Overview of the Course
Databases and DBMS in a nutshell

Data

Views of data:

- **conceptual**: captures relationships in the data. (CPE 366)
- **logical**: captures the format of the data as understood by DBMS. (CPE 365)
- **physical**: represents the exact way the data is stored and accessed by DBMS. (CPE 468)

Logical View of data

Data models

- **historical**
  - *network*
  - *hierarchical*

- **modern**
  - *relational*
  - *object-oriented*
  - *object-relational*

- **emerging**
  - *key-value/non-relational* ("NoSQL")
  - *semistructured* (XML)
Steps of Database Design

Step 1: Requirements analysis. Collect information from customer about

- data;
- desired features of the database;
- information needs.

Step 2: Conceptual Database Design. Develop high-level description of data, describe constraints.

- High-level design: often done using Entity-Relationship diagrams (E-R diagrams).

Step 3: Logical Database Design. Select a DBMS, convert high-level design into (relational) database design (database schema) in Data Definition Language (DDL) of the DBMS.

- DDL for relational databases is a part of SQL.

Steps 1–3 are main steps in database design. Thee more steps, enhance the Logical design.

Step 4: Schema Refinement. Logical database design is analyzed and (potentially) improved.

- Goal of schema refinement: have database schema in one of normal forms.

Step 5: Physical Database Design. Tailor the database schema to expected workloads (queries, information needs).

- Choose indexes.
- Tune database design.

Step 6: Security Design. Identify user groups, information (parts of the database) to be made available to different user groups. Represent security information in DDL.

- SQL has some mechanisms to maintain security of the data.
Querying Databases

For relational databases, the main query language is

\[ \text{SQL} = \text{Structured Query Language}. \]

SQL consists of the following:

- SQL DDL - data definition language: define/manipulate relational schemas.
- SQL QL - query language: request information from the database.
- SQL/PL - programming language: create complex sequences of instructions for DBMS to execute.

History of SQL:

- SQL’77 — first standard, many DBMS used their version of SQL even after it.
- SQL-92 — first real standard. We will mostly study SQL-92.
- SQL:1999 — new standard. Includes new features for different types of databases, expands to cover object-relational databases.

DBMS

The purpose of DBMS:

- Allow users to describe data format (database schema).
- Store very large amounts of data.
- Answer to user information needs (queries).
- Control access to data from multiple users.

DBMS organization in a nutshell

- Query Parser: parses the incoming SQL statement.
- Query Compiler: recognizes the query, finds the best way to execute it.
  - Query Translator
  - Logical Plan Generator
  - Physical Plan Generator
- Query operations: used in query plans, execute queries.
- **Buffer Manager**: efficiently handles disk I/O.
- **Transaction Manager**: schedules data accesses for different users.
- **Recovery Manager**: ensures that database state can be recovered after severe crashes.

**In This Course**

- We study **relational data model**.
- We learn **SQL** (including SQL/PL).
- We use **Oracle version 10g DBMS**.
- We use Oracle’s **sqlplus** client to access databases interactively or in a batch mode.
- We use **JDBC** (Java Database Connectivity) API to build database applications programs in Java.