CSCI 599: NewSQL Database Management Systems

Basic Information
Place and time: WPH 102, Spring 2013, Monday and Wednesdays 10-11:20 am
Instructor: Shahram Ghandeharizadeh, shahram@usc.edu, 213-740-4781, SAL 208
Prerequisites: Consent of the instructor

Course Description
The landscape of Database Management Systems (DBMSs) has expanded to include SQL, NoSQL and NewSQL systems. Some are hybrids that offer expressiveness of SQL extended with simple functionalities such as put, get, and delete calls of a key-value store. The purpose of this seminar is to provide an overview of these DBMSs and discuss their future. More specifically, we present and discuss:

1. Key-value stores such as Berkeley DB, LinkedIn’s Voldemort, Riak, Redis, and Amazon’s Dynamo,
2. Key-value SQL DBMSs such as USC’s COSAR and MIT’s CacheGenie and TxCache,
3. Document stores such as CouchDB, MongoDB, RavenDB, Jackrabbit, and SimpleDB,
4. Extensible record stores such as HBase, Facebook’s Cassandra, and Google’s BigTable,
5. Scalable RDBMS such as VoltDB, Clustrix, and ScaleDB.

In addition, we explore applications of these systems and their definition of consistency (strong, weak, and eventual).

Course Requirements and Grades
- There are no required text books. The reading material is based on recently published technical papers available via the ACM/IEEE/Springer digital libraries. All USC students have automatic access to these digital archives.
- Grading breakdown
  - Exam 1: 30%
  - Exam 2: 30%
  - Class project: 20%
  - Class attendance: 10%
  - Homework assignment: 10%

- In class attendance is mandatory due to the nature of the technical papers discussed and presented. Absence from lecture will almost certainly impact student performance for both exams.

Spring 2013 At a Glance
Here is an overview of the Spring 2013 semester calendar and its reading material. Papers covered by each topic are detailed below.

Jan 14, 16: Introduction
Jan 21: Martin Luther King Day
Jan 23: Introduction Continued
Jan 28, 30: Cache Augmented SQL Systems
Feb 4, 6: NewSQL
Feb 6: Projects start
Feb 11, 13: Benchmarks
Feb 18: President’s Day
Feb 20, 25: Web, Databases, and Caches
Feb 27: Key-Value Stores
March 4: Review for Exam 1
March 6: Exam 1 covers material presented from Jan 14 to Feb 27
March 11, 13: Scalable RDBMS
March 18, 20: Spring Break
March 25, 27: Data Center Scale Stores
April 1: In-Class presentation on projects
April 3, 8: Extensible Stores
April 10, 15: Application Transparent Mid-Tier Database Caching
April 17: Project reviews
April 22: Review for Exam 2
April 24: Exam 2 covers material presented from March 11 to April 17

Course Readings/Class Sessions
The reading material for the course is organized chronologically and based on a specific theme. This material is tentative and based on recent publications. We will make adjustments to the list as new manuscripts (currently under review) are accepted for publication.

Introduction
• R. Cattell. Scalable SQL and NoSQL Data Stores. White Paper, June 12, 2011.

Suggested reading:

Cache Augmented SQL Systems

Suggested readings:

NewSQL
• A. Narayan et. al. DJoin: Differentially Private Join Queries over Distributed Databases. OSDI 2012.
Suggested readings:

Benchmarks

Suggested Reading:
• A. Floratou, et. al. Can the Elephants Handle the NoSQL OnSlaught? VLDB 2012.

Web, Databases, and Caches

Key-Value Stores

Suggested Reading:
• B. Debnath, S. Sengupta, Jin Li. SkimpyStash: RAM Space Skimpy Key-Value Store on Flash-based Storage. SIGMOD 2011.

Data Center Scale Stores

Suggested reading:

Extensible Stores
• O. Kennedy, Y. Ahmad, C. Koch. DBToaster: Agile Views for a Dynamic Data Management System. CIDR 2011.

Application Transparent Mid-Tier Database Caching

Suggested Reading:
• The Times Ten Team. High Performance and Scalability Through Application-Tier In-Memory Data Management. VLDB 2000.
• Lou and J. Naughton. Form-Based Proxy Caching for Database Backed Web Sites. VLDB 2001.

Statement for Students with Disabilities
Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to TA) as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Website and contact information for DSP: http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html, (213) 740-0776 (Phone), (213) 740-6948 (TDD only), (213) 740-8216 (FAX) ability@usc.edu.

Statement on Academic Integrity
USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one’s own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another’s work as one’s own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. SCampus, the Student Guidebook, (www.usc.edu/scampus or http://scampus.usc.edu) contains the University Student Conduct Code (see University Governance, Section 11.00), while the recommended sanctions are located in Appendix A.

Emergency Preparedness/Course Continuity in a Crisis
In case of a declared emergency if travel to campus is not feasible, USC executive leadership will announce an electronic way for instructors to teach students in their residence halls or homes using a combination of Blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technologies.