Course Wrap-up

csc343, Introduction to Databases
Renée J. Miller and Fatemeh Nargesian and Sina Meraji
Winter 2018
csc343 admin stuff

- We will post when A3 results are available.
- Sina will post extra pre-exam office hours. See Piazza for a schedule
Preparing for the final

- For topics you aren’t fully confident in, re-do the lecture prep and in-class exercises.
- Solve old tests and finals
  - [http://www.teach.cs.toronto.edu/~csc343h/winter/tests.html](http://www.teach.cs.toronto.edu/~csc343h/winter/tests.html)
About using old finals

- The website has several
- If solutions aren’t posted, it’s because we don’t have them
  - but we’re happy to review them in class or office hours
- If you find old exams elsewhere, beware of coverage mismatches
  - e.g., we did not cover XML this year
- Some old E/R questions may use a different notation with arrows rather than cardinality constraints
The final

- Comprehensive (covers the whole term), including:
  - relational model and RA
  - SQL and JDBC
  - FD theory and normalization
  - ER modeling and DB design
The final

- You need to know the semantics and basic syntax of relational algebra and SQL
- JDBC on exam
  - Java syntax is not important
  - You do need to know how to open/close db connections, how to prepare/invoke sql queries and updates and how to use the results of these methods
- Comments are not necessary, but may help us give you part marks.
The final

- You need 50% on the final to pass the course, but
  - If the exam is unexpectedly long or difficult, we will raise the marks on it
  - We apply that rule with great care
“Database System Technology”
Takes the perspective of the DBMS builder.
Topics like:
- indices; query optimization
- managing storage; concurrency control
- transaction management
- tuning for performance
- data mining, data warehousing
Trends in DB Research

- managing huge amounts of data: approximate querying, statistical methods, self-tuning, power management
- managing uncertainty
- data privacy and security
- different kinds of data, e.g., temporal, spatial, data from sensors, social network data
- visualization of massive data
- data science (analysis and prediction over massive data)
- Check out the VLDB and SIGMOD conferences
fin