DATABASE SUMMARY (PART 1)

Summary

When I write this blog, the semester will be over soon. Many seniors told us that database concept is not only a lesson full of challenge, but also a most rewarding course at the beginning of this semester. We must spend time and effort learning it well. The brave Swallow flied proudly between the roar of the sea and lightning. The prophet shouts victory: Let the storm come more violent. We go through the adventure in the database, and now we will achieve victory. Just like through a long night, when the sun comes out, new lives start to grow. And now let's see what is left. It's the time to show what we have already gotten in this adventure.

There are too many things to be summarized and memorized on the learning activities on database concept this semester. What I learned is more than my imagination at the beginning of this course. I really want to say thank you. Professor Ben Koo, TA and all of my classmates, thank you very much. I learned a lot from you.

Depressed, helpless, nervous, delightful, spiritual fulfillment of achievement, all of these kinds of feelings have been acting as a whole to make my learning process rich and colorful. I have to say that such felling is not only about database course, and also about my daily life.

To me, who am an absolute rookie to database, the lectures in our class are really fantastic and attractive. To summarize my learning activities into just one sentence, I want to say that what I have learnt in this semester from the class is not just database concept itself, but also the way to learn, to teach and to develop good habits in learning knowledge and in controlling a project.

And these lectures help me to get a clear structure of database concepts, from the basic parts like set theory and ER-Model to the complicated parts like transaction processing and system architecture. Besides, at the guide of Professor Koo, we come into contact with a new way of learning First is the brilliant character learned from my classmates; second is the prior knowledge shown by teachers which help me to find another way of learning; and then is the self- control and adjustment. Last but not least, we learn the fundamental how the database really change our life.

Learning in class

I sat in the front seat almost every week, listening carefully to my classmates and impressed by their brilliant character. All of them prepare their lecture for a long time to let it interesting and easier understood. There are some notes coming from my notebook.

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Database is an important branch of applied computer science, but its foundation is mathematics, definitely the set theory. After knowing what is relational model and E-R model, we learn how to design a database and how to develop an application. We also learn some advanced concepts, such as data storage and querying which deals with the basic, elementary and physical issues of a database. Transaction, which is a collection of operations that form a logic unit of work either being finished all or annulled all.

All of the concepts mentioned above construct the basic structure of database, and make it easier for me to learn other new concepts.

Learning from lecture

Prof. Koo told us that the best way of learning is teaching, because you have to know many relevant things clearly before you express it to other people in a simplify and easy understood way. Several days and nights hard work in toy house gives me a deep impression. Our group's lecture topic is XML, which is a relative technical concept. The most important thing I learned is how to find the useful information through the internet.

I remember when I took days reading through the knowledge of HTML and XML on W3CSchools.com in which offers plenty of examples and clear interface with understandable words without obscurity professional jargons.

It's hardly to understand the inner truth about the computer science without really practice, especially such technical knowledge like XML. Like in later website design, I tried to build up a small scale of website for practice, I began to realize the flexible way of using variables in JavaScript and a better understanding of the difference between Hyper Text Markup Language and Extensible Markup Language not from theory book, but real editing.

I felt a little nervous in rehearsal of our lecture. Although I took a long time to memorize the content which I want to introduce to my classmates, I still couldn't express it fluently and always forgot what I want to say next. My teammates gave a lot of encouragement and I became more confident. Imaging that I just wanted to tell an interesting story about my learning experience about XML to one of my friends, I threw away the script and gave the lecture in class successfully.

Besides the knowledge itself, how to make students concentrate on what you said is really important. According to Prof.Koo's recommend, building a smooth storyline is very important. It can make the lecture more interesting and attractive. If the students don't what to listen to you, everything what you said means nothing.