ICS 321 Fall 2009 A Toy Course Project

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Book Catalog for Internet Store

- Requirements:
 - Read-intensive workload.
 - Many concurrent users.
 - Reasonably responsive browsing experience
- Query features:
 - Keyword search
 - Multi-faceted browsing
 - Hierarchical topic navigation

- Measures:
 - Latency of processing the various query features
 - Throughput: number of concurrent users
- Cost ?

Possible Questions for Investigation

- DBMS vs file-system + text indexer ?
- Using a DBMS what are the different ways of supporting
 - keyword search,
 - multi-faceted search,
 - hierarchical navigation ?
- What table/schema design is needed for multifaceted search ?
- MySQL: which storage engine is suitable ?
 Too many questions?

Just pick a couple to tackle for the project!

DBMS vs FS+Indexer

- Pick a DBMS software. Say DB2.
- Pick an FS+indexer. Say Win FS + Apache Lucene
- Implement the required query features for these two setups.
- Setup a testbed
 - Get some real data or generate synthetic and load the data into our setup
 - Get a "driver" to simulate users browsing books, i.e. a multi-threaded program that fires queries against our system.
 - Instrument a way to measure the latency and throughput.
- Run the driver and collect measurements over the two setups possibly over different parameters.

Analyze the results

- Analyze the results
- If something is not right,
 - investigate,
 - tweak your setup,
 - rerun,
 - re-analyze.
- Based on your results what are your conclusions and recommendations ?

