TIM 50 – Winter 2015
Final Exam Study Guide

The final exam will cover all the material in the course with an emphasis on topics covered in the last half of the class. Please review all topics on the midterm review guide in addition to the topics below.

**Messerschmitt Ch. 6 – Modularity and Layering**
- Modularity – What does it mean? Why do we design systems this way?
- Granularity
- Hierarchy
- Interfaces – action invocation: parameters, and returns
- The layering principles
  -> Layers of computing infrastructure
    - Applications, components, middleware, operating system, networks
  -> Data and information in layers
- Abstraction & Encapsulation
- Data Types

Sample Questions
- Why is it best for modules to communicate only through well-defined interfaces?
- Should data storage infrastructure be sensitive to the applications that create the data?

**Messerschmitt Ch. 7 - Computer and Comm. Industries**
- Infrastructure and applications
- Decomposition and Assembly
- Components and Custom development
- Interoperability
- Outsourcing
- System Integration
- Products and Services
- Stovepipe (turn-key) and integrated infrastructure
- Vertical integration and diversification
- Standardization
  - why do we need standards?
  - why do companies participate?
  - reference models and interfaces
  - de facto / de jure standards
  - Standards Bodies
  - Open Standards

Sample questions:
- If a company acquires its suppliers, is that a move toward diversification or vertical integration?
**Vertical integration**
- What are the advantages of selling software as a service instead of as a product?
- What are some examples of infrastructure products?

**Messerschmitt Ch. 9 – Applications and the Organization**
- Buy vs. Make vs. Outsource
- Application Lifecycle Model of Development

Sample questions:
- What are the advantages of buying an enterprise application instead of developing it yourself?
  
  *In most cases, it will be less expensive to buy an enterprise application instead of developing it oneself. Moreover, an enterprise application developed by a specialized vendor will be more mature in its evolution of features and elimination of bugs than something made from scratch. Such a product will also have a larger base of people in the labor market who know how to use an enterprise application product rather than one that is custom made.*

**Laudon and Laudon Chapter 5**

- Database
- Entity
- Attributes
- Fields
- Key Field
- Primary Key
- Relational Databases
- One-to-one, one-to-many, and many-to-many relationships
- Normalization
- DBMS
- SQL
- Select, join, project
- Data dictionary
- OODBMS
- Data Warehouses and Marts
- Business intelligence
- Online Analytical Processing
- Data Mining

Sample Questions:
- T or F: Every record in a file should contain at least one key field.
  *True*
- T or F: A data warehouse may include information from legacy systems.
  *True*
- T or F: In normalization, complex groupings of data are streamlined to eliminate awkward many-to-many relationships.
Laudon & Laudon Chapter 6 + Networking

- Basic Concepts of:
  - Hosts/Routers/Links
  - What is a packet? Packet Switching?
  - Difference between IP / MAC address?
  - Main idea of what a routing table does
  - Hierarchical addressing – How is it analogous to post office routing?
  - Error Detection – what is a parity bit? Why might it not work?
  - Congestion in network
  - Flow Control
  - DNS, WWW, HTTP

- Layering of architecture
  - Physical Layer
  - Link Layer
    - Ethernet, MAC addresses, Hubs/Switches
  - Network Layer
    - Routing Table, Packet Forwarding, IP Addresses
  - Transport Protocols – TCP/UDP
  - Statistical Multiplexing
  - Typical Network Topologies (home, ISP, small business, large e-biz)
  - Web Caching
  - Distributed Denial of Service Attack

Sample Questions:

Describe how an IP packet is sent over an Ethernet to a gateway router.

The packet is encapsulated by an Ethernet frame and this frame is sent to the gateway. The Ethernet frame has a header which will have a destination MAC address field set to be the MAC address of the gateway router. The encapsulated packet will have a header with a destination IP address set to be the IP address of Bob’s computer.

What responsibilities does the link layer have?

The link layer is responsible for turning a “bit link” provided by the physical layer into a “frame” link that sends groupings of bits called frames. The link layer also is responsible for medium access control to allow multiple hosts to share a medium like a wire or radio channel. Finally the link layer does error correction and/or detection.

Does the IP address of your laptop remain the same wherever you go?

No. The IP address changes when the computer is connected to different parts of the network. This is necessary since the IP addressing scheme is hierarchical – so that information about the location of the IP address can be discerned by reading the beginning parts of the address. This structure could not be maintained if hosts moved around the network without changing addresses.
What is a distributed denial of service attack?

A distributed denial of service (DDOS) attack involves sending traffic from a large number of hosts to a target system in attempt to overwhelm that system, diminishing its ability to serve legitimate users. Often DDOS attacks are launched by networks of infected computers known as “botnets.”

Cloud Computing

- SaaS
- Cloud Computing
- Utility Computing
- Public Cloud vs. Private Cloud
- MapReduce and Hadoop
- EC2, App Engine, EC2
- Advantages for users
  - “Pay as you go”
  - Scalability
  - better economies of scale
- Challenges
  - Lock-in
  - Confidentiality + auditability
  - Availability
  - Data transfer bottlenecks
- Reasons to become a cloud provider

Sample Questions:

- Why are software infrastructures for distributed systems important for cloud computing?

  The hardware infrastructure of the cloud consists of a very large number of inexpensive PCs networked together in data centers. To take advantage of the computing power of this large number of machines, tasks need to be distributed so that different parts of the tasks can run in parallel on different machines. It is important to have a software infrastructure for spreading out and recollecting the results from these tasks so that developers can easily use these tools when developing application/analysis software.

- Is there an economy of scale advantage for very large data centers versus medium sized data centers?

  Yes, our reading ("A Berkeley View of Cloud Computing") cited a study that said that very large datacenters with tens of thousands of computer can have costs for power, bandwidth, and hardware, that are a fraction of those for a medium sized datacenter.

- Can application developed for one cloud be easily made to run on a different cloud provider’s cloud?
In most cases, no it is difficult. The different cloud providers have very different models of how they sell utility computing. For instance Amazon EC2 presents developers with an “instance” that looks like a machine. Azure presents developers with an environment to run programs developed with Microsoft’s .NET framework.

**Zhejiang Telecom**
- How was the telecom industry in China in 98 restructured?
- What businesses was Zhejiang telecom in after this restructuring?
- What trend was causing Zhejiang telecom to loose business?
- What major IT investment did they make to support their marketing efforts?
- How did it help?
- What is ARPU?
- How was the industry restructured in 2008? What changes in strategy did this necessitate for Zhejiang Telecom?

**Amazon Web Services**
- What prior investments did amazon make for its other businesses that enabled to launch AWS?
- What differences are there between EC2 and Microsoft Azure?
- How is EC2 priced?