



Carnegie Mellon University
15-415/615 Database Applications
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C. Faloutsos & A. Pavlo

HW7: Database Application

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Overview

- Design & implement a simple web application
- CMU Fictitious light-weight Twitter → Flitter
- Today:
 - Application specs
 - Homework deliverables
 - Very brief intro to PHP



Data requirements

- **Users**
 - Username (4-50 characters)
 - Password
 - Can follow or be followed
- **Tweets**
 - Up to 140 characters
 - Have to record **when** they were posted



Functionality requirements

1. Create user account
2. Reset database
3. Login
4. Timeline
5. Post a tweet
6. Search for user
7. Check if follows
8. Follow
9. Unfollow



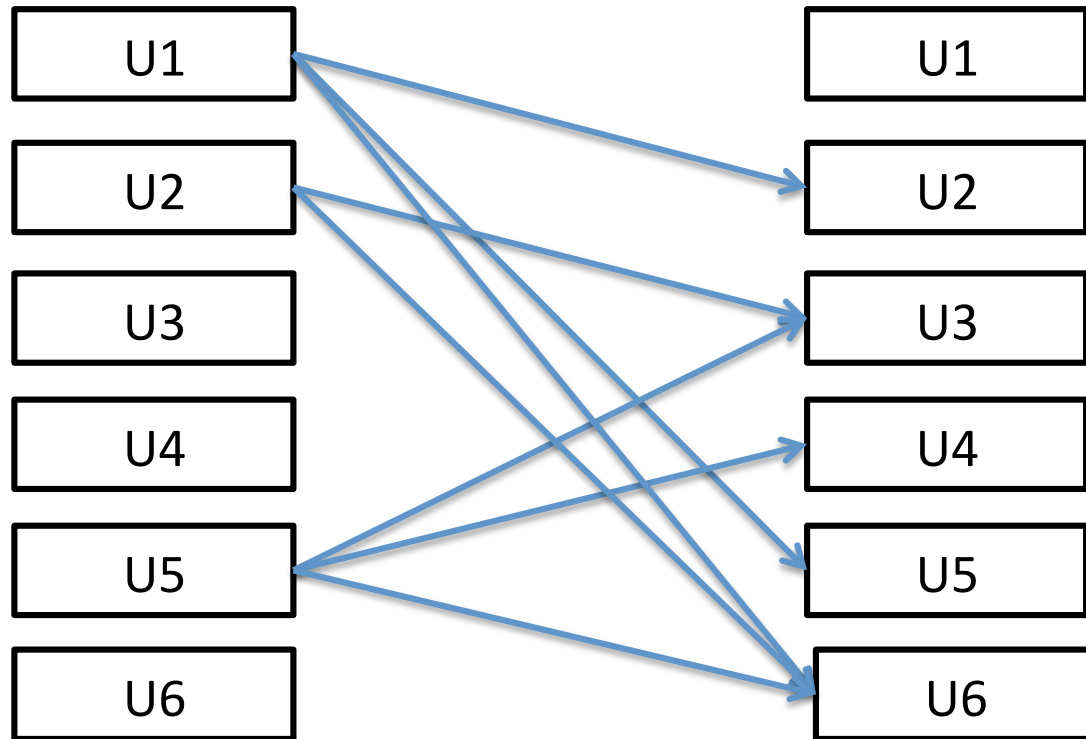
Functionality requirements

10. Recommend users to follow

- For user U recommend two-step away followees
- Users followed by the users that U follows
- Rank them according to how many users follow them
- Don't include users that U already follows



User recommendation example



Recommend users to U1

- U3, rank 2
- U4, rank 1

Note that U6 is not recommended!



Functionality requirements

11. List all followers & followees
12. List all tweets of a user
13. String search in tweets
14. User statistics
 - #followers
 - #followees
 - #tweets
15. Global statistics
 - Most popular user
 - Most active
 - Most connected



Example web application

<http://gs11696.sp.cs.cmu.edu/~abeutel/flitter/>



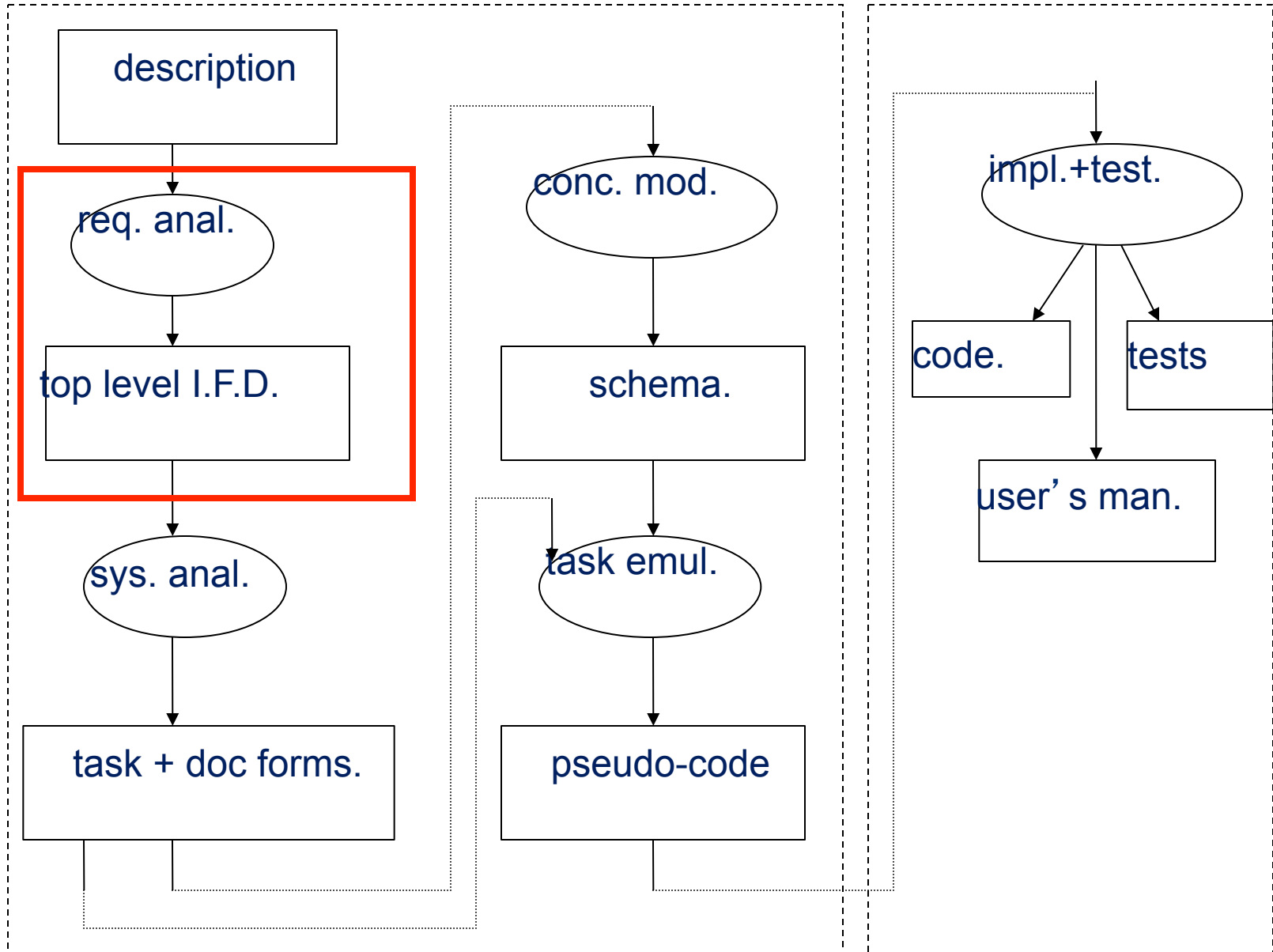
Homework Specifics

- Follow the design methodology from **Lecture 19**
- Organized in 2 Phases
 - Phase 1 – Design: **due 4/1**
 - Phase 2 – Implementation: **due 4/10**



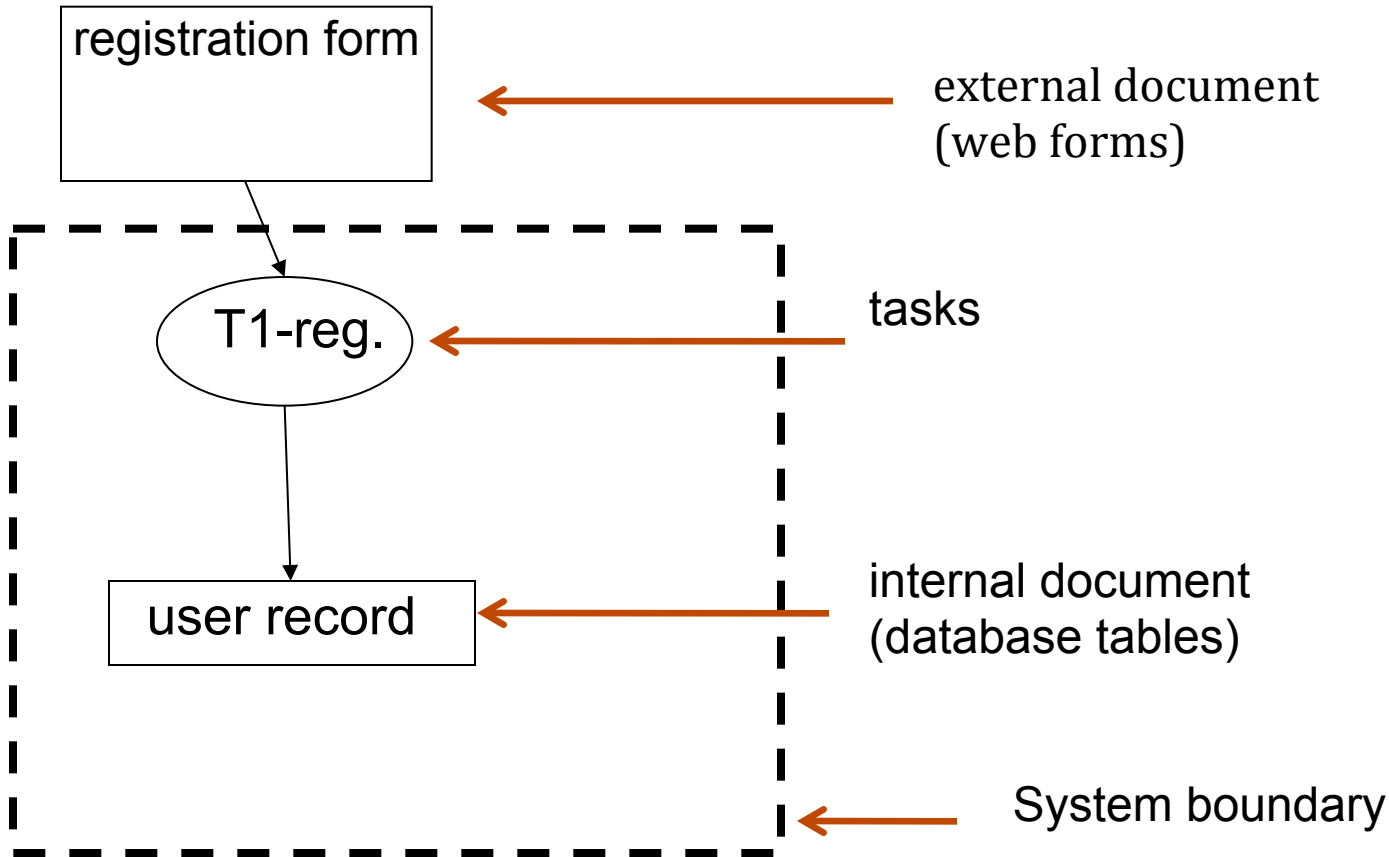
Phase 1

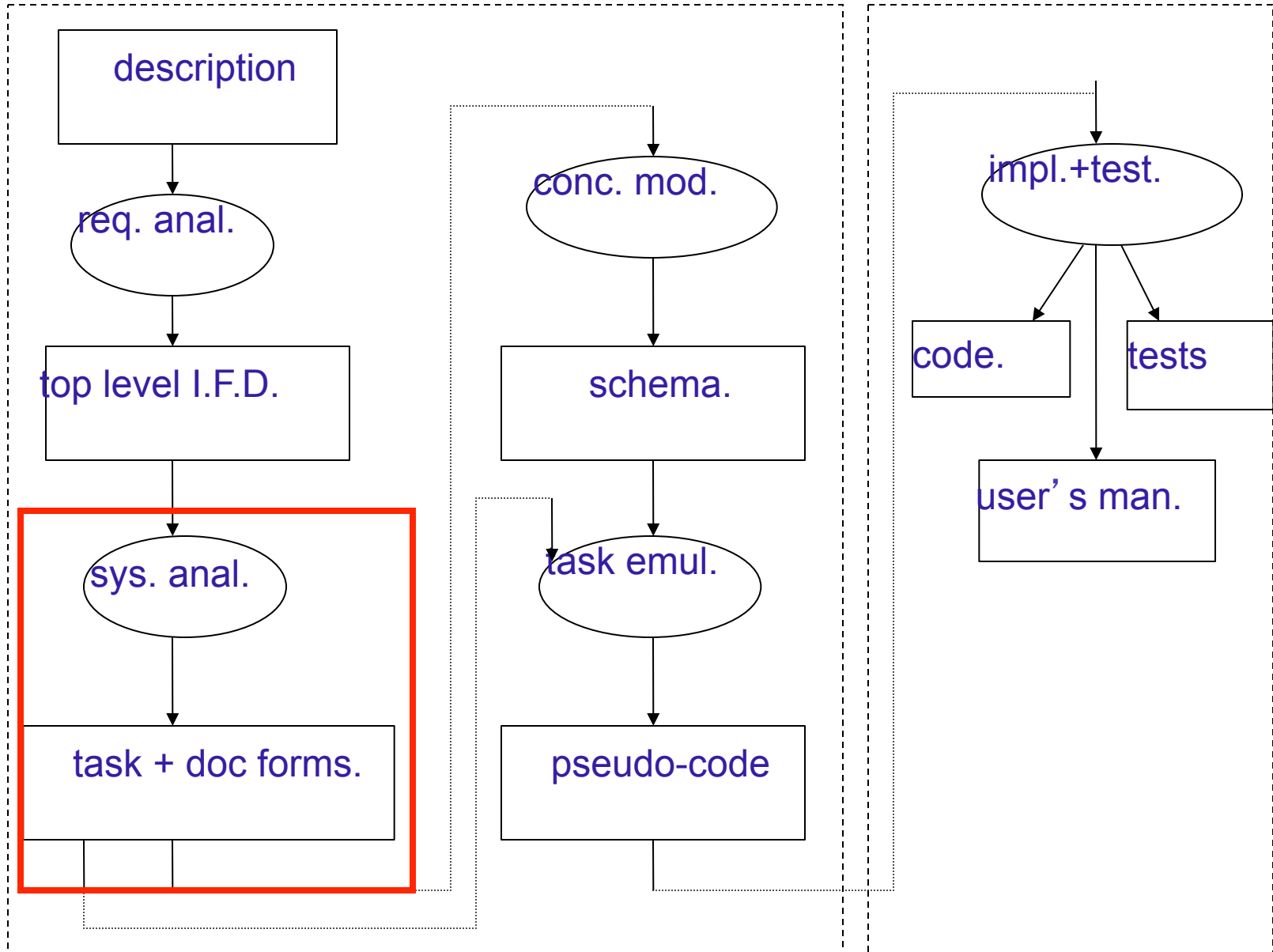
- You are free to come up with your own design choices as long as
 - they follow the methodology
 - they are reasonable
 - you are able to justify unconventional choices





Top level information flow diagram







Document + Task forms

Task forms and task list

- not required for this homework

Document forms and document list

- D1: registration form
- D2: login form
- D3: timeline form
- ...
- Dx: user record
- ...

} external

} internal



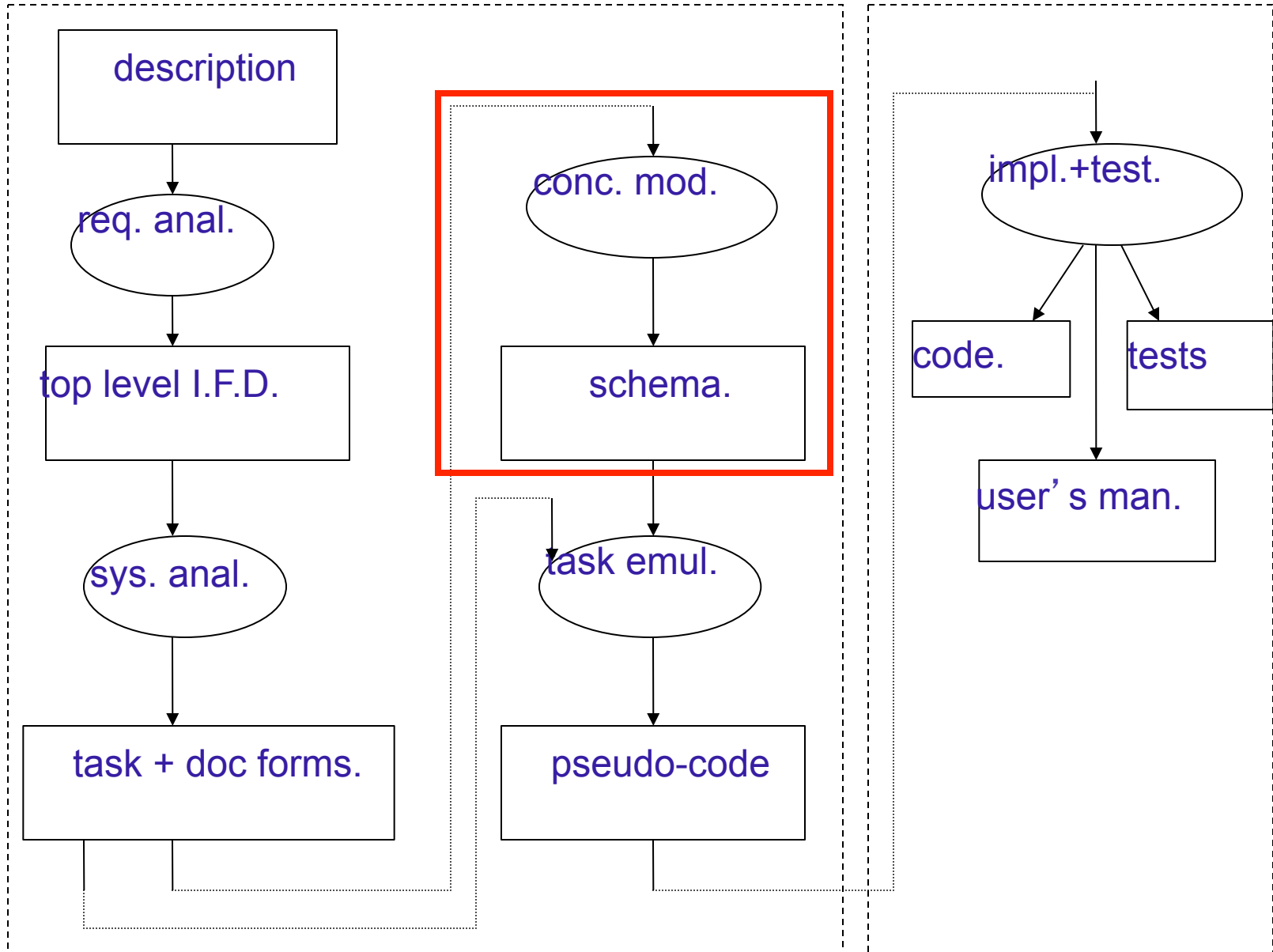
Document forms

D1: registration form

- username
- Password

Dx: user record

- username
- Password





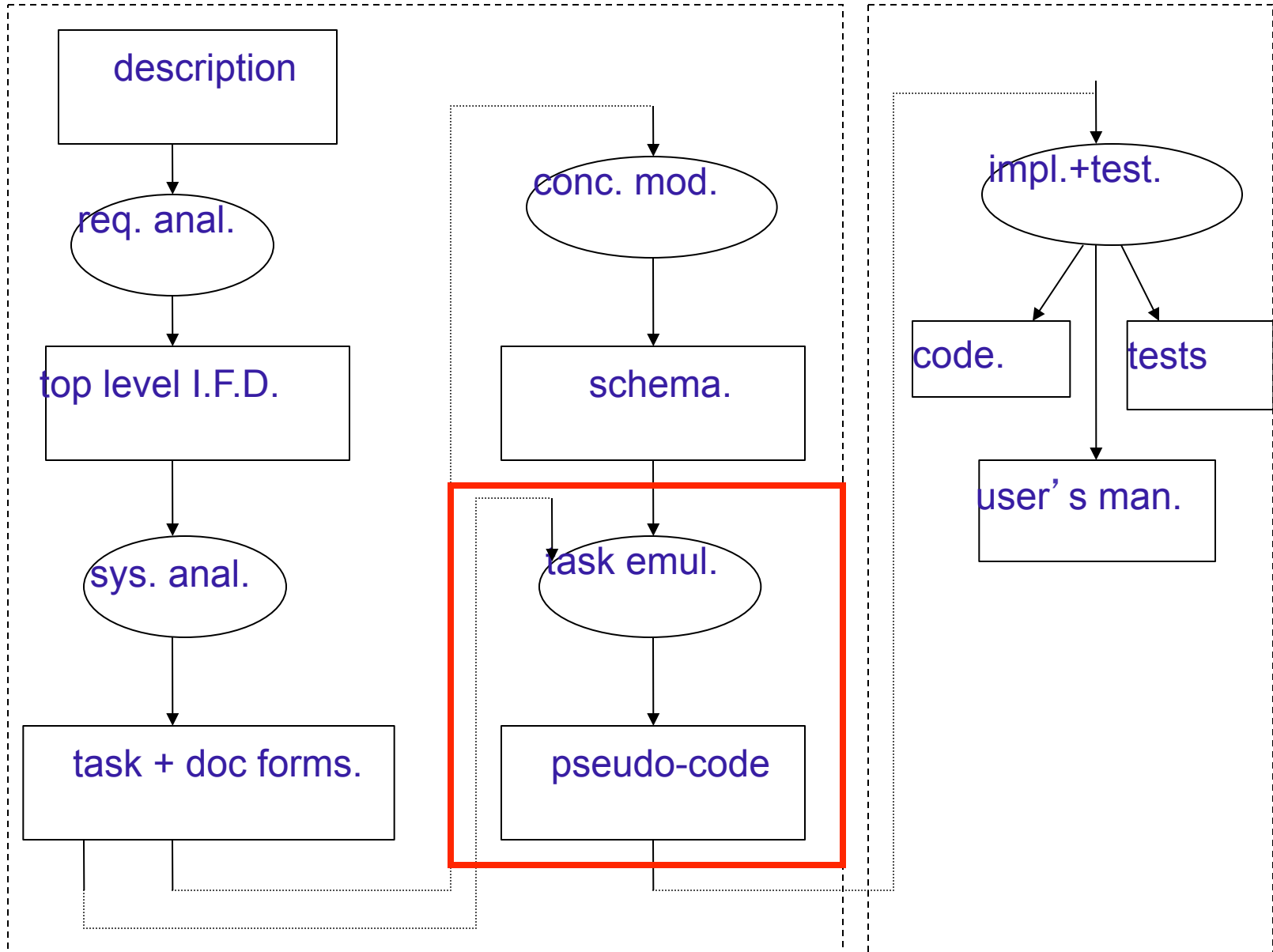
E-R diagram

- Specify cardinalities
- Think about weak/strong entities
- Justify unconventional choices



Relational schema

- Give the definition of the schema
- Give SQL DDL statements **including constraints.**





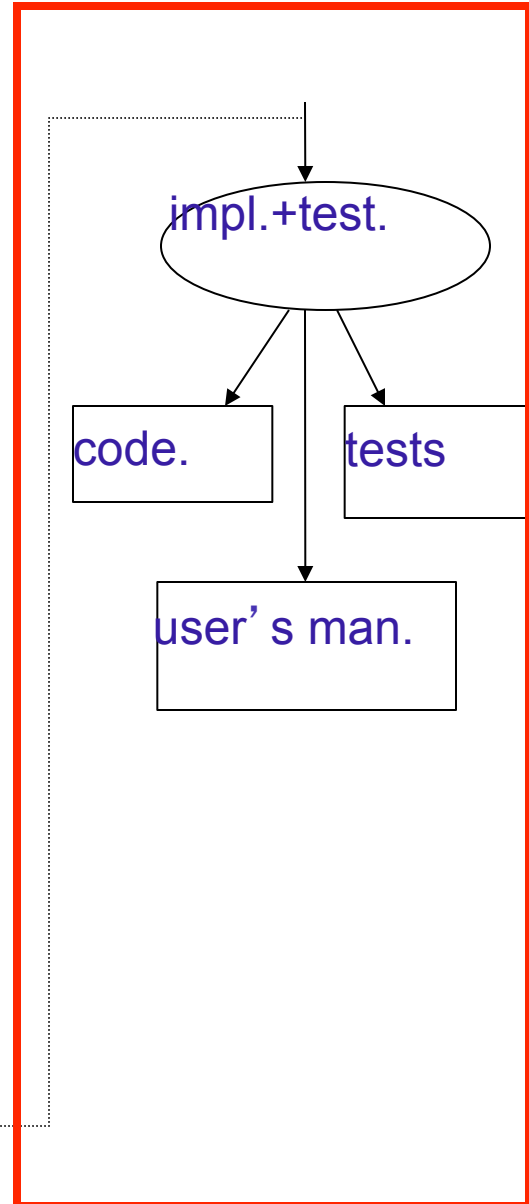
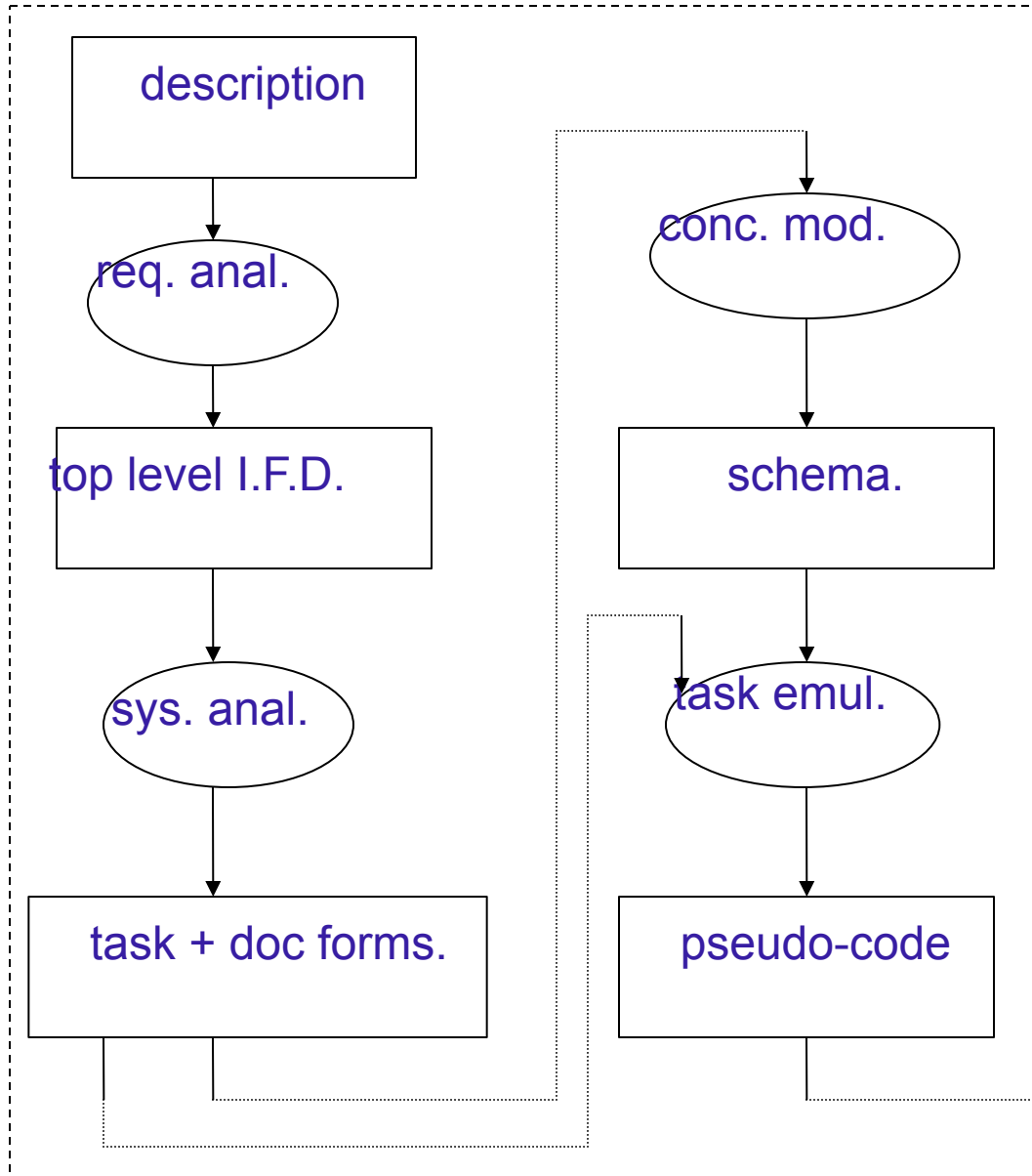
Task emulation/pseudo-code

- No need to write pseudocode
- Simply give all SQL DML statements for all tasks



Phase 1: What to hand-in

- **Due 4/1**
- **Hard copy** (in class)
- **Electronic copy** (Blackboard)





Phase 2

- We provide an API in **PHP**
- Implements the web site functionality
- Has empty calls to the database
- write PHP code that
 - wraps the SQL statements
 - returns the output to the rest of the given code (PHP arrays)
- No need to provide user manual



Phase 2

- Unzip `hw7.zip`
- You need to edit 2 files
 - `config.php`
 - add **your** login & url info
 - `functions.php`
 - Contains empty definitions of the functions that you have to implement



PHP & Postgres

```
<?php
// Connecting, selecting database
$dbconn = pg_connect("host=localhost dbname=publishing user=www password=foo")
    or die('Could not connect: ' . pg_last_error());

// Performing SQL query
$query = 'SELECT * FROM authors';
$result = pg_query($query) or die('Query failed: ' . pg_last_error());

// Printing results in HTML
echo "<table>\n";
while ($line = pg_fetch_array($result, null, PGSQL_ASSOC)) {
    echo "\t<tr>\n";
    foreach ($line as $col_value) {
        echo "\t\t<td>$col_value</td>\n";
    }
    echo "\t</tr>\n";
}
echo "</table>\n";

// Free resultset
pg_free_result($result);

// Closing connection
pg_close($dbconn);
?>
```

Start connection

Issue query & read results

See more at: <http://www.php.net/manual/en/book.pgsql.php>



PHP arrays

Array creation:

```
$array = array(  
    "foo" => "bar",  
    "bar" => "foo",  
);
```

Bulk insertion (like stack):

```
<?php  
$stack = array("orange", "banana");  
array_push($stack, "apple", "raspberry");  
print_r($stack);  
?>
```

See more at: <http://www.php.net/manual/en/language.types.array.php>



Securing your application

- SQL injection

```
statement = "SELECT * FROM users WHERE name ='" + userName + "';"
```

- Set name equal to `' or '1'='1`
- The SQL statement that gets executed is

```
SELECT * FROM users WHERE name = '' OR '1'='1';
```

- **Results in un-authorized log-in!!!!**
- Your code has to account for that
 - Hint: `pg_escape_string()`

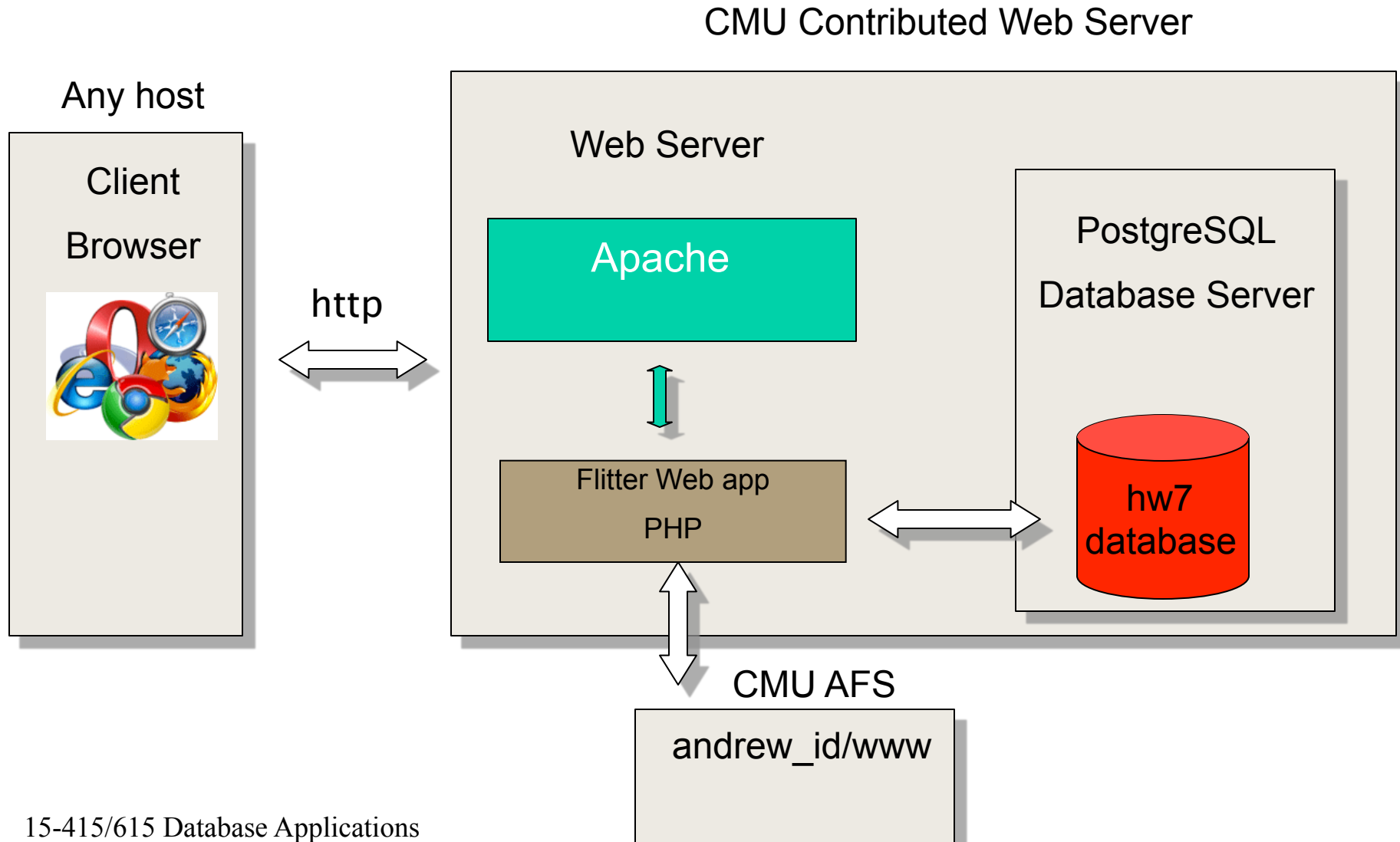


Phase 2: What to hand-in

- **Due 4/10**
- **Website (IMPORTANT):** See hw7.pdf for details
- **Hard copy** (in class): ONLY new/changed code (save the trees 😊)
- **Electronic copy:** A .zip with all the code



Homework 7: Architecture





Access to web server

- You will use the Computer Club Contributed Web Server
- Apache server + Postgres DB server
- Publishes *.php code in your AFS 'www' directory
- More details
 - <http://www.club.cc.cmu.edu/doc/contribweb.php>
 - HW7 description (read carefully)



Publishing your web app

- **Please do the following ASAP and let us know if it doesn't work!**
 1. Sign up for the web server here
<http://my.contrib.andrew.cmu.edu>
 2. Create DB user account here
<http://www.club.cc.cmu.edu/doc/contribweb/sql.php>
 3. Unzip hw7.zip and copy contents on folder 'flutter_s14' under your AFS www directory
 4. Edit config.php with your own db+server parameters
 5. Edit folder content permissions: `chmod +rx`
 6. Go to
http://www.contrib.andrew.cmu.edu/~andrew_id/flutter_s14



Questions?

- Come to **office hours** (4 TAs + 2 instructors)
- Post your questions on **blackboard**.