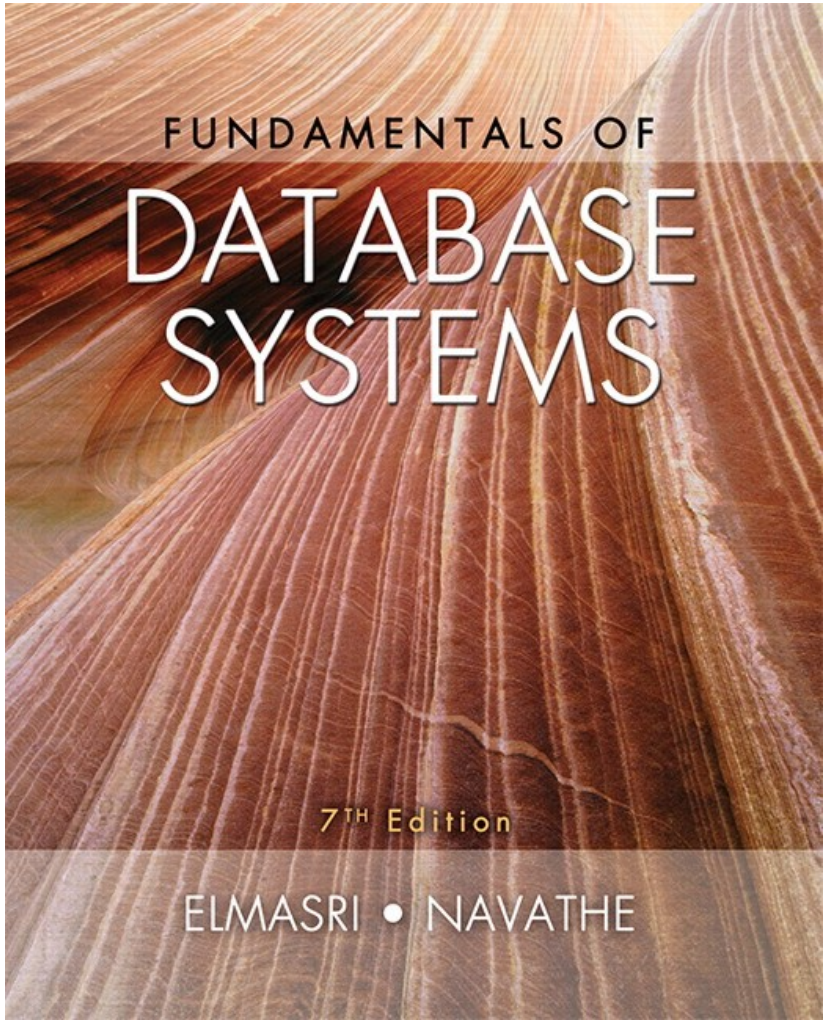


CHAPTER 2

Database System Concepts and Architecture

Outline

- Data Models and Their Categories
- History of Data Models
- Schemas, Instances, and States
- Three-Schema Architecture
- Data Independence
- DBMS Languages and Interfaces

Data Models

- **Data Model:**
  - A set of concepts (abstraction) to describe the ***structure*** of a database, the ***operations*** for manipulating these structures, and certain ***constraints*** that the database should obey.
- **Data Model Structure and Constraints:**
  - Constructs are used to define the database structure
  - Constructs typically include ***elements*** (and their ***data types***) as well as groups of elements (e.g. ***entity, record, table***), and ***relationships*** among such groups
  - Constraints specify some restrictions on valid data; these constraints must be enforced at all times

Data Models (continued)

- **Data Model Operations:**
  - These operations are used for specifying database *retrievals* and *updates* by referring to the constructs of the data model.
  - Operations on the data model may include ***basic model operations*** (e.g. insert, delete, update) and ***user-defined operations*** (e.g. compute_avg_grade, update_inventory)

Categories of Data Models

- **Conceptual (high-level, semantic) data models:**
  - Provide concepts that are close to the way many users perceive data.
    - (Also called ***entity-based*** or ***object-based*** data models)
- **Physical (low-level, internal) data models:**
  - Provide concepts that describe details of how data is stored in the computer. These are usually specified in an ad-hoc manner through DBMS design and administration manuals
- **Implementation (representational) data models:**
  - Provide concepts that fall between the above two, used by many commercial DBMS implementations (e.g. relational data models used in many commercial systems).
- **Self-Describing Data Models:**
  - Combine the description of data with the data values, e.g. XML, key-value stores and some NOSQL systems.

Categories of Data Models

- **Conceptual (high-level, semantic) data models:**
  - Provide concepts that are close to the way many users perceive data.
    - (Also called ***entity-based*** or ***object-based*** data models)
- They use the concepts of:
  - **Entity:** object/concept of the real world (e.g. employee, project)
  - **Attribute:** property of interest for an entity (e.g. name, salary)
  - **Relationship:** link between entities (e.g. employee-project)
- Example: Entity-Relationship data model

Categories of Data Models

- **Physical (low-level, internal) data models:**
  - Provide concepts that describe details of how data is stored in the computer. These are usually specified in an ad-hoc manner through DBMS design and administration manuals
- They use:
  - **Access path: proper structure for efficient data access**
  - **Index:** example of access path for direct data access through a term/keyword

Categories of Data Models

- **Implementation (representational) data models:**
  - Provide concepts that fall between conceptual and physical data models, used by many commercial DBMS implementations (e.g. relational data models used in many commercial systems).
- They use:
  - **Records (or tuples):** proper structure for data representation, in terms of fields, each containing one item of information, e.g. (name, address, phone).
- Example: Relational, Hierarchical, Object data models.

Categories of Data Models

- **Self-Describing Data Models:**
  - Combine the description of data with the data values (contrarily to traditional data models.
- Example: XML, key-value stores, NOSQL systems

Schemas versus Instances

- Database Schema:
  - The ***description*** of a database, specified during the database design phase.
  - Includes descriptions of the database structure, data types, and the constraints on the database.
- Schema Diagram:
  - An ***illustrative*** display of (most aspects of) a database schema (i.e. records structure).
  - No data types, file associations, complex constraints are tipically shown in schema diagrams.
- Schema Construct:
  - A ***component*** of the schema or an object within the schema, e.g., STUDENT, COURSE.

Schemas versus Instances

- Database State:
  - The actual data stored in a database at a ***particular moment in time***. This includes the collection of all the data in the database.
  - Also called database instance (or occurrence or snapshot).
    - The term *instance* is also applied to individual database components, e.g. *record instance, table instance, entity instance*
  - Everytime a record is inserted/deleted/updated, there is a database state change.

Database Schema vs. Database State

- Database State:
  - Refers to the ***content*** of a database at a moment in time.
- Initial Database State:
  - Refers to the database state when it is initially loaded into the system.
  - Note that, right after the schema definition, the initial database state is the *empty* state.
- Valid State:
  - A state that satisfies the structure and constraints of the database.

Database Schema vs. Database State (continued)

- Distinction
  - The ***database schema*** changes (evolves) very infrequently.
  - The ***database state*** changes every time the database is updated (e.g. a record is created or deleted).
- **Schema** is also called **intension**.
- **State** is also called **extension**.

Example of a Database Schema

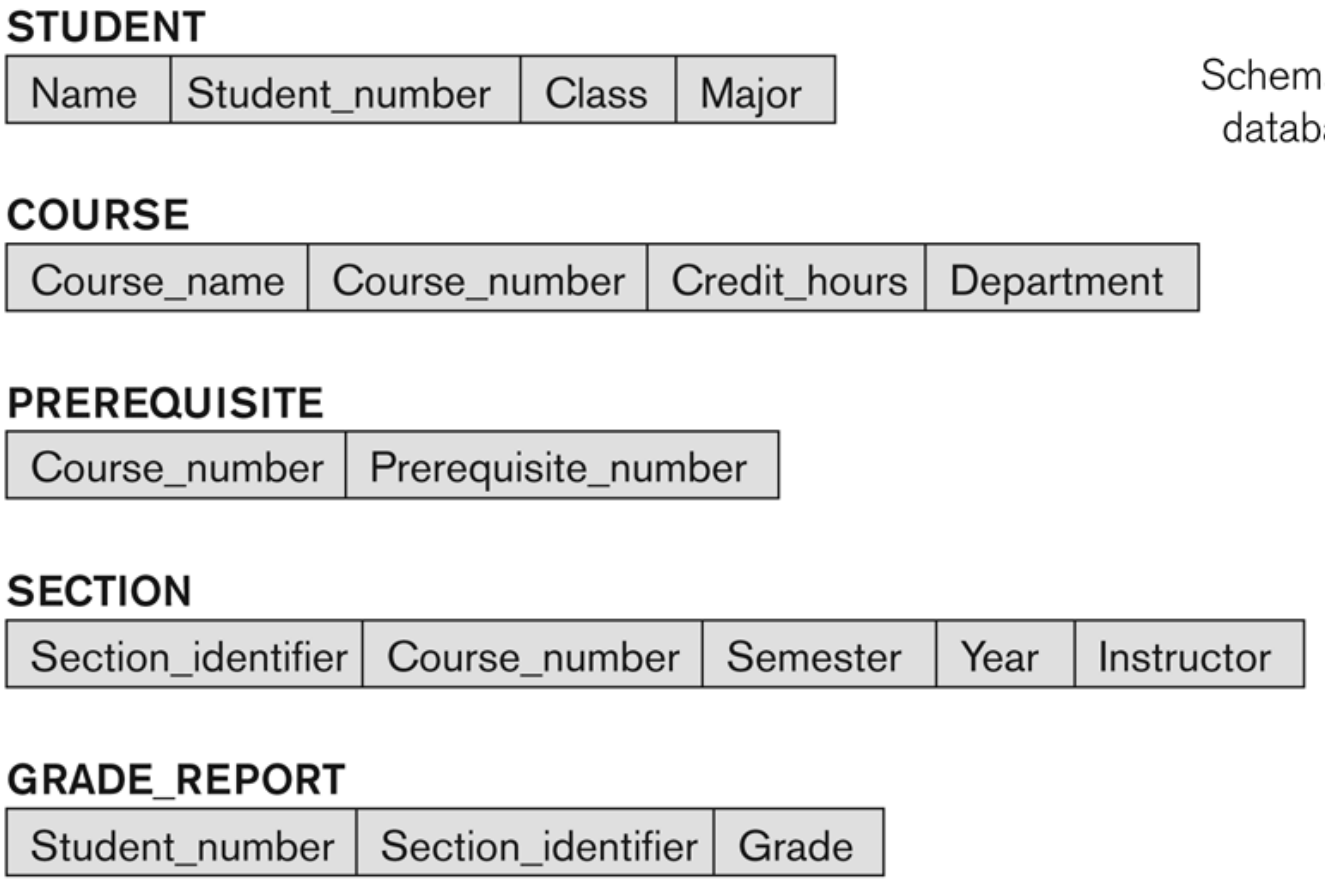


Figure 2.1
Schema diagram for the database in Figure 1.2.

Example of a database state

COURSE

Course_name	Course_number	Credit_hours	Department
Intro to Computer Science	CS1310	4	CS
Data Structures	CS3320	4	CS
Discrete Mathematics	MATH2410	3	MATH
Database	CS3380	3	CS

SECTION

Section_identifier	Course_number	Semester	Year	Instructor
85	MATH2410	Fall	04	King
92	CS1310	Fall	04	Anderson
102	CS3320	Spring	05	Knuth
112	MATH2410	Fall	05	Chang
119	CS1310	Fall	05	Anderson
135	CS3380	Fall	05	Stone

GRADE_REPORT

Student_number	Section_identifier	Grade
17	112	B
17	119	C
8	85	A
8	92	A
8	102	B
8	135	A

PREREQUISITE

Course_number	Prerequisite_number
CS3380	CS3320
CS3380	MATH2410
CS3320	CS1310

Figure 1.2
A database that stores student and course information.

Three-Schema Architecture

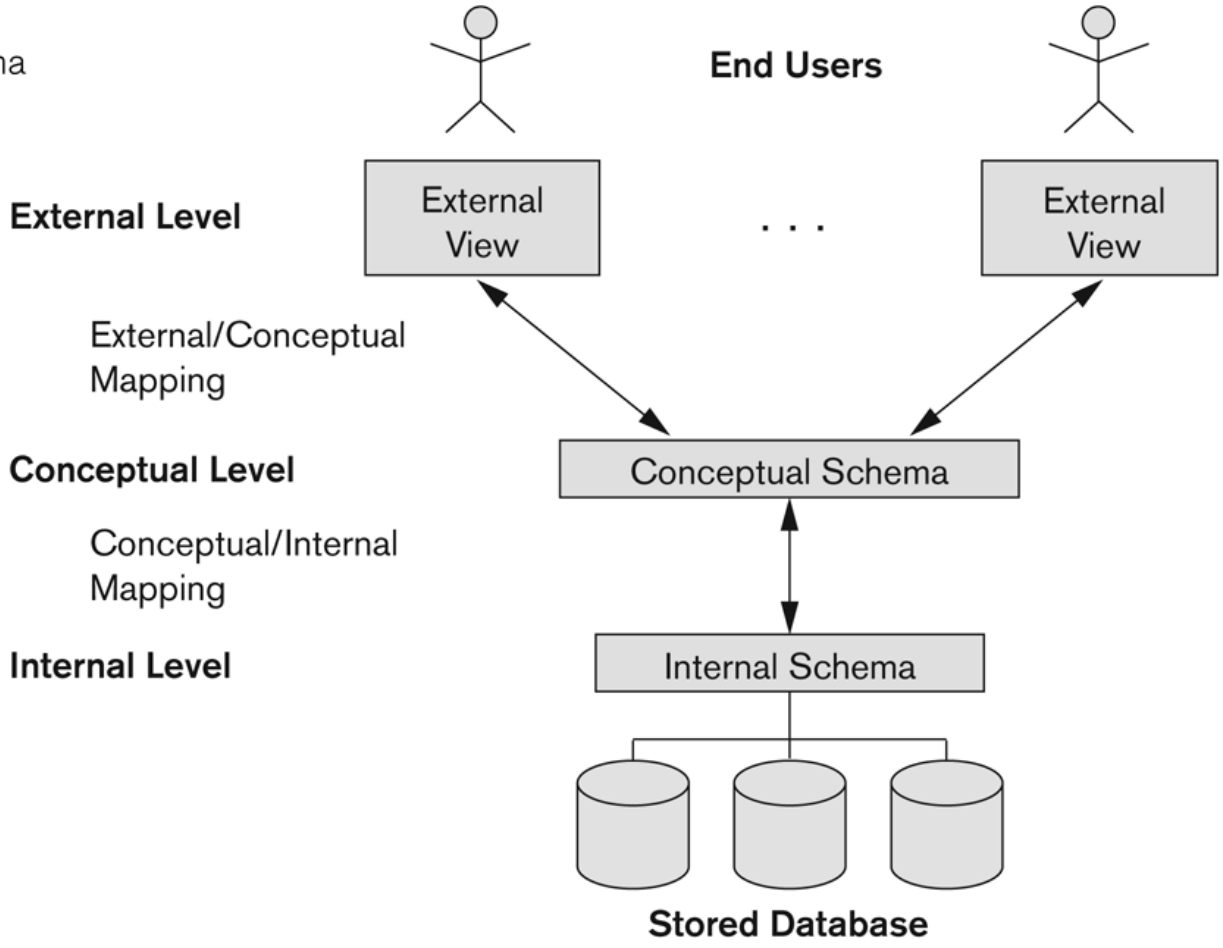
- Proposed to support DBMS characteristics of:
  - **Program-data independence.**
  - Support of **multiple views** of the data.
- Not explicitly used in commercial DBMS products, but has been useful in explaining database system organization

Three-Schema Architecture

- Defines DBMS schemas at ***three*** levels:
  - **Internal schema** at the internal level to describe physical storage structures and access paths (e.g indexes).
    - Typically uses a **physical** data model.
  - **Conceptual schema** at the conceptual level to describe the structure and constraints for the whole database for a community of users.
    - Uses a **conceptual** or an **implementation** data model.
  - **External schemas** at the external level to describe the various user views.
    - Usually uses the same data model as the conceptual schema.

The three-schema architecture

Figure 2.2
The three-schema architecture.



Three-Schema Architecture

- Mappings among schema levels are needed to transform requests and data.
  - Programs refer to an external schema, and are mapped by the DBMS to the internal schema for execution.
  - Data extracted from the internal DBMS level is reformatted to match the user's external view (e.g. formatting the results of an SQL query for display in a Web page)

Data Independence

- **Logical Data Independence:**
  - The capacity to change the conceptual schema without having to change the external schemas and their associated application programs.
- **Physical Data Independence:**
  - The capacity to change the internal schema without having to change the conceptual schema.
  - For example, the internal schema may be changed when certain file structures are reorganized or new indexes are created to improve database performance

Data Independence (continued)

- When a schema at a lower level is changed, only the **mappings** between this schema and higher-level schemas need to be changed in a DBMS that fully supports data independence.
- The higher-level schemas themselves are **unchanged**.
  - Hence, the application programs need not be changed since they refer to the external schemas.

DBMS Languages

- Data Definition Language (DDL)
- Data Manipulation Language (DML)
  - High-Level or Non-procedural Languages: These include the relational language SQL
    - May be used in a standalone way or may be embedded in a programming language
  - Low Level or Procedural Languages:
    - These must be embedded in a programming language

DBMS Languages

- **Data Definition Language (DDL):**
  - Used by the DBA and database designers to specify the conceptual schema of a database.
  - In many DBMSs, the DDL is also used to define internal and external schemas (views).
  - In some DBMSs, separate **storage definition language (SDL)** and **view definition language (VDL)** are used to define internal and external schemas.
    - SDL is typically realized via DBMS commands provided to the DBA and database designers

DBMS Languages

- **Data Manipulation Language (DML):**
  - Used to specify database retrievals and updates
  - DML commands (data sublanguage) can be *embedded* in a general-purpose programming language (host language), such as COBOL, C, C++, or Java.
    - A library of functions can also be provided to access the DBMS from a programming language
  - Alternatively, stand-alone DML commands can be applied directly (called a *query language*).