

Data and Its Applications (CS4.301)

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Taught by Prof. Kamal Karlapalem

Database Systems

Data is factual (undoubted) information that can be recorded and have implicit meaning. There are three important parts of data: its creator, its believability and its semantics (or meaning).

A *database* is a collection of related data. Its properties are:

- it represents some aspect of the real world (universe of discourse)
- it is logically coherent
- it has a specific purpose
- it has an intended group of users and some preconceived application.

A *database management system* (DBMS) is a collection of programs that enables users to create and maintain databases. The database along with a DBMS software is called a *database system*.