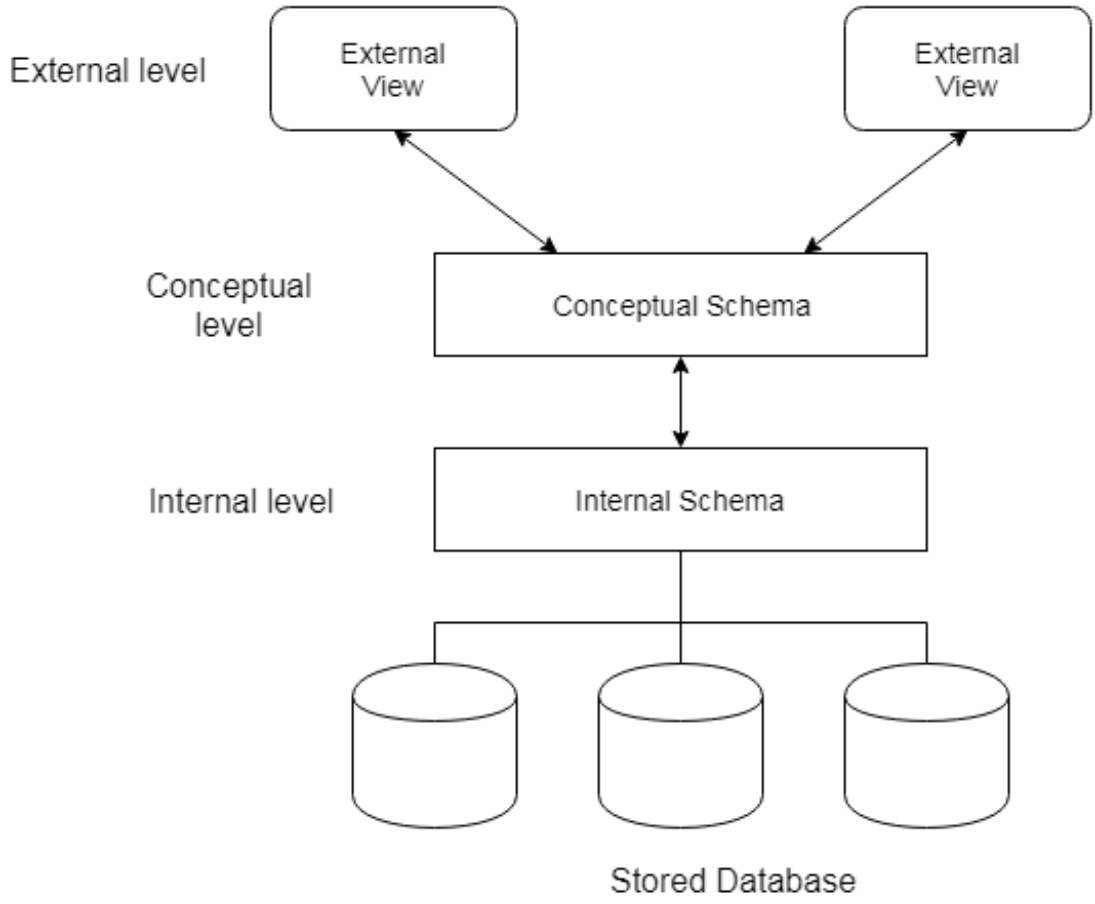
Three schema Architecture

The three schema architecture is used to separate the user applications and physical database. The three schema architecture contains three-levels. It breaks the database down in three different categories.

The three-schema architecture is as follows:



1. Internal Level

- Internal level has an internal schema which describes the physical storage structure of the database.
- Internal schema is also known as physical schema.
- It uses the physical data model. It is used to define that how the data will be stored in a block.
- The physical level is used to describe complex low level data structures in detail.

2. Conceptual Level

- Conceptual schema describes the design of database at the conceptual level. Conceptual level is also known as logical level.
- The conceptual schema describes the structure of whole database.
- The conceptual level describes what data are to be stored in the database and also describes what relationship exists among those data.
- In the conceptual level, internal details such as implementation of data structure is hidden.
- Programmers and database administrators work at this level.

3. External Level

- At the external level, a database contains several schemas that sometimes called as subschema. The subschema is used to describe different view of the database.
- External schema is also known as view schema.
- Each view schema describes the database part that a particular user group is interested and hides the remaining database from that user group.
- The view schema describes the end user interaction with database systems.