

Data And Applications

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Chapter 1

Lecture 1

1.1 Course Details

Textbook: Elmasri

Contents of Course:

1. Introduction/Database Concepts
2. Data Modeling
3. Relational Model
4. Normalization
5. Algebra/Calculus/SQL

1.1.1 Project

Database Design Project.

- Four phases - Rotation – group of 3 members
- 1 – Requirements Analysis 2 – Conceptual Design 3 – Logical Design 4 – Applications & SQL

1.1.2 Motivation for the course

- As a CS person, you are going to work with data and databases.
- Second Largest Software Sales is Database Systems Want a job? Do this course
- A lot more was said but i wasnt paying attention :(Overall a useful course.

1.2 What are Database Systems?

Any piece of information that can be captured is data.

There is birth of data and rarely a death of data. For example, you send a ping to another computer and ask "Are you alive?", the time and message is recorded. The time and message is data. The time is the birth of data.

Data \leftarrow Factual (undoubted) information that can be recorded and have implicit meaning.

A database is a collection of related data.

For example, what courses students of a batch are taking. This is related data. A database can be formed from this data and probably already exists in IIIT database.

1.2.1 What is a Database?

A database has the following implicit properties:

- A database represents some aspect of the real world. (Universe of Discourse)
- A database is a logically coherent (associated, related) collection of data with some inherent meaning.
- A database is designed, build, and populated with data for a specific purpose.
- It has an intended group of users and some preconceived (already thought of) applications in which these users are interested.

1.2.2 Database System

A database system (DBMS) is a collection of programs that enables users to create and maintain a database.

- Defining Databases – involves specifying the data types, structures, and constraints for the data to be stored in the database.
- Constructing Databases – storing the data itself (populating) on some storage medium that is controlled by the DBMS.
- Manipulating Databases – querying the database to retrieve specific data, updating the databases to reflect changes to mini-world.

Simplified Database System

(Figure)

1.2.3 Example of a Database

Consider a part of a University environment

We need data about: STUDENTs
COURSEs
SECTIONs (of COURSEs)
(academic) DEPARTMENTs
INSTRUCTORs

The above data is related as follows: SECTIONs are of specific COURSEs
STUDENTs take SECTIONs
COURSEs have prerequisite COURSEs