University of Central Florida CGS 2545 Database Concepts

Overview

Data

- represents recordable facts
- aids in producing information, which is based on facts
- For example, if we have data about marks obtained by all students, we can then conclude about toppers and average marks.

Database

- collection of interrelated data
- is a collection of facts and figures that can be processed to produce information
- contains information relevant to an enterprise
- used to retrieve, insert and delete the data efficiently
- used to organize the data in the form of
 - table
 - schema
 - view
 - report

Database-management system (DBMS)

- software which is used to manage the database
- a set of programs to access those data
- stores data in such a way that it becomes easier to retrieve, manipulate, and produce information
- provides an interface to perform various operations like database creation, storing data, updating data, creating a table in the database
- provides protection and security to the database
- in the case of multiple users, it maintains data consistency

- DBMS allows users the following tasks
 - Data Definition: used for creation, modification, and removal of definition that defines the organization of data in the database
 - Data Updation: used for the insertion,
 modification, and deletion of the actual data in the database
 - Data Retrieval: used to retrieve the data from the database which can be used by applications for various purposes

- DBMS allows users the following tasks
 - User Administration: used for registering and monitoring users, maintain data integrity, enforcing data security, dealing with concurrency control, monitoring performance and recovering information corrupted by unexpected failure.
- Primary goal of a DBMS is to provide
 - a way to store and retrieve database information
 - convenient
 - efficient

Characteristics

- traditionally, data was organized in file formats
- DBMS as a new concept then focused on research to overcome the deficiencies file format data management
- uses a digital repository established on a server to store and manage data and metadata
- can provide a clear and logical view of the process that manipulates data
- contains automatic backup and recovery procedures

Characteristics

- contains ACID properties which maintain data in a healthy state in case of failure
- can reduce the complex relationship between data
- used to support manipulation and processing of data
- used to provide security of data.
- can view the database from different viewpoints according to the requirements of the user

- Characteristics
 - A modern DBMS has the following characteristics
 - Real-world entity
 - Relation-based tables
 - Isolation of data and application
 - Less redundancy
 - Consistency
 - Query Language
 - ACID Properties
 - Multiuser and Concurrent Access
 - Multiple views
 - Security

Characteristics

Real-world entity

- A modern DBMS is more realistic and uses real-world entities to design its architecture.
- It uses the behavior and attributes too.
- For example, a school database may use students as an entity and their age as an attribute.

Relation-based tables

- DBMS allows entities and relations among them to form tables.
- A user can understand the architecture of a database just by looking at the table names.

Characteristics

Isolation of data and application

- A database system is entirely different than its data.
- A database is an active entity, whereas data is said to be passive, on which the database works and organizes.
- DBMS also stores metadata, which is data about data, to ease its own process.

Less redundancy

- DBMS follows the rules of normalization, which splits a relation when any of its attributes is having redundancy in values.
- Normalization is a mathematically rich and scientific process that reduces data redundancy.

Characteristics

Consistency

- Consistency is a state where every relation in a database remains consistent.
- There exist methods and techniques, which can detect attempt of leaving database in inconsistent state.
- A DBMS can provide greater consistency as compared to earlier forms of data storing applications like file-processing systems.

Query Language

- DBMS is equipped with query language, which makes it more efficient to retrieve and manipulate data.
- A user can apply as many and as different filtering options as required to retrieve a set of data.
- Traditionally it was not possible where file-processing system was used.

Characteristics

ACID Properties

- DBMS follows the concepts of Atomicity, Consistency, Isolation, and Durability (normally shortened as ACID).
- These concepts are applied on transactions, which manipulate data in a database.
- ACID properties help the database stay healthy in multitransactional environments and in case of failure.

Multiuser and Concurrent Access

- DBMS supports multi-user environment and allows them to access and manipulate data in parallel.
- Though there are restrictions on transactions when users attempt to handle the same data item, but users are always unaware of them.

Characteristics

- Multiple views
 - DBMS offers multiple views for different users.
 - A user who is in the Sales department will have a different view of database than a person working in the Production department.
 - This feature enables the users to have a concentrate view of the database according to their requirements.

Characteristics

Security

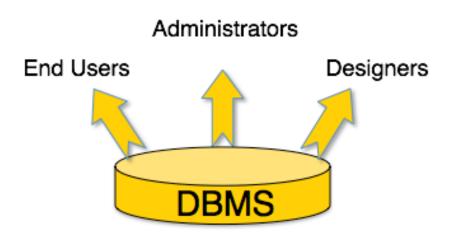
- Features like multiple views offer security to some extent where users are unable to access data of other users and departments.
- DBMS offers methods to impose constraints while entering data into the database and retrieving the same at a later stage.
- DBMS offers many different levels of security features, which enables multiple users to have different views with different features.

Characteristics

Security

- For example, a user in the Sales department cannot see the data that belongs to the Purchase department.
- Additionally, it can also be managed how much data of the Sales department should be displayed to the user.
- Since a DBMS is not saved on the disk as traditional file systems, it is very hard for miscreants to break the code.

- Users
 - A typical DBMS has users with different rights and permissions who use it for different purposes.
 - Some users retrieve data and some back it up.
 - The users of a DBMS can be broadly categorized as
 - Administrators
 - Designers
 - End Users



Users

Administrators

- Administrators maintain the DBMS and are responsible for administrating the database.
- They are responsible to look after its usage and by whom it should be used.
- They create access profiles for users and apply limitations to maintain isolation and force security.
- Administrators also look after DBMS resources like system license, required tools, and other software and hardware related maintenance.

Users

Designers

- Designers are the group of people who actually work on the designing part of the database.
- They keep a close watch on what data should be kept and in what format.
- They identify and design the whole set of entities, relations, constraints, and views.

Users

- End Users
 - End users are those who actually reap the benefits of having a DBMS.
 - End users can range from
 - simple viewers who pay attention to the logs or market rates
 - sophisticated users such as business analysts

Users

—End Users

- End users are those who actually reap the benefits of having a DBMS.
- End users can range from
 - –simple viewers who pay attention to the logs or market rates
 - –sophisticated users such as business analysts

Advantages

- Controls database redundancy: can control data redundancy because it stores all the data in one single database file and that recorded data is placed in the database
- Data sharing: authorized users of an organization can share the data among multiple user
- Easily Maintained: can be easily maintainable due to the centralized nature of the database system

Advantages

- Reduce time: reduces development time and maintenance needed
- Backup: provides backup and recovery subsystems which create automatic backup of data from hardware and software failures and restores the data if required
- Multiple user interface: provides different types of user interfaces like graphical user interfaces, application program interfaces

Advantages

- Reduce time: reduces development time and maintenance need
- Backup: provides backup and recovery subsystems which create automatic backup of data from hardware and software failures and restores the data if required
- Multiple user interface: provides different types of user interfaces like graphical user interfaces, application program interfaces

Disadvantages

- Cost of Hardware and Software: requires a high speed data processor and large memory size to run DBMS software
- Size: occupies a large space of disks and large memory to run them efficiently
- Complexity: creates additional complexity and requirements

Disadvantages

- Higher impact of failure:
 - failure is highly impacted using a database because in most organizations all the data is stored in a single database
 - if the database is damaged due to electric failure or database corruption then the data may be lost forever