Alfred Acosta

Database Management

2/13/17

Prof Alan

Lab 4 – Check Constraint

A check constraint is used to limit the value range that can be placed in a column. They can be named and have different CHECK values such as integers and strings. An example is using it on a column named “Number of occupants” and putting in a check constraint as “Constraint CHECK Occupant>0” to make it so that the value inside the column must be greater than zero since having a negative number of occupants will be a logical error. As demonstrated are good for is for preventing errors in the database and prevent any inconsistencies. A bad example of a check constraint is doing the opposite of the previous example and having the constraint be “Occupant<0” so that only negative numbers are in that column of the database. Another bad example is for example in the NYC Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), the people who live in New York gets an extra amount of money towards school. But, what if the check constraint in the TAP database for cities as “CONSTRAINT CHECK city = ‘NEW YORK’”, then it the database would only work for people who live in New York, but will completely exclude people who live in other cities that can still apply for the regular TAP. Check Constraints can be a powerful organization tool for our database, but it must be used correctly or bad, terrible, and unfortunate events will happen to our hard work.