

# Database users

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## Introduction

- Actors on the scene
- Different types of End users
  - Casual
  - Naïve or Parametric
  - Sophisticated:
  - Stand-alone:
- Database Administrators
- Functions of DBA
- Functions of DBA
- WORKERS BEHIND THE SCENE

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## Characteristics of the Database Approach

- Self-Describing Nature of a Database System
- Insulation between Programs and Data, and Data Abstraction
- Support of Multiple Views of the Data
- Sharing of Data and Multiuser Transaction Processing

# Database users

## Database users

- 1 A primary goal of a database system is to retrieve information from and store new information in the database.
- 2 People who work with a database can be categorized as database users or database administrators.

# DB users

- Users may be divided into Those who actually use and control the database content, and those who design, develop and maintain database applications (called **“Actors on the Scene”** and
- Those who design and develop the DBMS software and related tools and the computer systems operators called **“Workers Behind the Scene”**

# Actors on the scene

- Database administrators
- Database Designers
- End users

# Different types of End users

They use the data for queries, reports and some of them update the database content. End-users can be categorized into

- Casual
- Naive users or Parametric
- Application Programmers
- Sophisticated Users

**Casual End users** access database occasionally when needed, but they need different information each time.

They use a sophisticated database query interface to specify their requests are typically middle level or high level managers or occasional browsers.

**Naive or Parametric** They make up a large section of the end-user population. They use previously well-defined functions in the form of **canned transactions** against the database. Examples are **bank tellers or reservation clerks** who do this activity for an entire shift of operations.



## Sophisticated

These include business analysts, scientists, engineers, others thoroughly familiar with the system capabilities. Many use tools in the form of software packages that work closely with the stored database.

## Stand-alone:

Mostly maintain personal databases using ready-to-use packaged applications. An example is a tax program user that creates its own internal database. Another example is a user that maintains an address book

A person who has such central control over the system is called a database administrator (DBA).

**Schema definition** The DBA creates the original database schema by executing a set of data definition statements in the DDL.

**Storage structure and access-method definition.** The DBA may specify some parameters pertaining to the physical organization of the data and the indices to be created.

**Schema and physical-organization modification** The DBA carries out changes to the schema and physical organization to reflect the changing needs of the organization or to alter the physical organization to improve performance

**Granting of authorization for data access.** The authorization information is kept in a special system structure that the database system consults whenever a user tries to access the data in the system.

# WORKERS BEHIND THE SCENE

The people who work to maintain the database system environment but who are not actively interested in the database contents as part of their daily job are called as the workers behind the scene

- 1 DBMS system designers and implementers
- 2 Tool developers
- 3 Operators and maintenance personnel (system administration personnel)