



# Database and its Applications

## Data Models and Mathematical Foundations

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Pooja T S  
Computer Applications

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**Data Models and Mathematical Foundations**

**Introduction to Databases and Applications**

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Computer Applications



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## What is Data?

- ▶ Data is a collection of raw facts, figures, or observations stored electronically.
- ▶ Characteristics:
  - Raw and unprocessed
  - Uninterpreted until context is added
  - Exists in various forms: text, numbers, images, multimedia
- ▶ Example:
  - Student ID: 10234
  - Name: Rahul
  - Marks: 88
- ▶ Data vs Information:
  - Data = raw facts (e.g., “88”)
  - Information = processed data with meaning (e.g., “Rahul scored 88 in Mathematics”)



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## Introduction to Databases

### ► Definition of Database

- A structured collection of data, stored and managed electronically.
- Supports efficient storage, retrieval, and manipulation of information.
- Example: Student records in a university.

### ► Key Features:

- Organized
- Accessible
- Manageable

### ► Real-life Analogy: A library with categorized books → a database with structured data.



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## Introduction to Databases



**Figure:** Databases can be stored and accessed through the cloud



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## Key Terms in DBMS

### ► Important Definitions:

- **Database** – Organized collection of structured data.
- **DBMS** – Software to manage and operate databases.
- **Schema** – Blueprint/structure of the database.
- **Instance** – Actual data at a specific point in time.
- **Tuple (Record)** – A row in a table.
- **Attribute (Field)** – A column in a table.
- **Primary Key** – Unique identifier for a record.
- **Foreign Key** – Attribute linking two tables.
- **Normalization** – Process to reduce redundancy.
- **ACID Properties** – Atomicity, Consistency, Isolation, Durability.



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## Applications of Databases



Figure: Real World Applications



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## Why Do We Need Databases?

### ► Problems with Traditional File Systems:

- Data redundancy
- Inconsistency
- Difficulty in retrieval
- Lack of security

### ► How Databases Solve These Issues:

- Centralized control and consistency
- Efficient querying
- Stronger security





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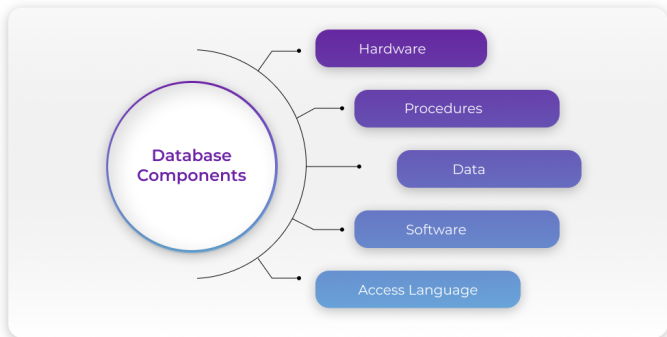
## Why Use Databases?

- ▶ Data Integrity – consistency across operations
- ▶ Security – controlled access
- ▶ Scalability – handles large datasets
- ▶ Concurrency – supports multiple users simultaneously
- ▶ Data Independence
- ▶ Reduced Redundancy
- ▶ Efficient Querying



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## Database Components



**Figure:** Components of a Database



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## Database Components

- ▶ **Hardware** – Physical devices where the database runs. Example: Servers, storage devices, hard disks.
- ▶ **Software** – Programs that manage the database. Example: DBMS like MySQL, Oracle.
- ▶ **Data** – The actual information stored in the database. Example: Student records, employee details, sales transactions.
- ▶ **Access Language** – The language used to interact with the database. Example: SQL (Structured Query Language).
- ▶ **Procedures** – Rules and methods to use/manage the database. Example: Backup procedures, security policies, user guidelines.



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## Database Management System (DBMS)

- ▶ Software that manages databases
- ▶ Provides interface between users/applications and the database
- ▶ Ensures data independence and abstraction





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## Metadata in DBMS

- ▶ Definition: Metadata is “data about data.”
- ▶ Purpose:
  - Describes the structure of the database.
  - Defines tables, attributes, data types, and constraints.
  - Includes indexing, storage details, and relationships.
- ▶ Stored in: **Data Dictionary** or **System Catalog**.
- ▶ Example:
  - Table: Students
  - Metadata: {Name: VARCHAR(50), ID: INT PRIMARY KEY, Marks: INT}



## Database State / Instance

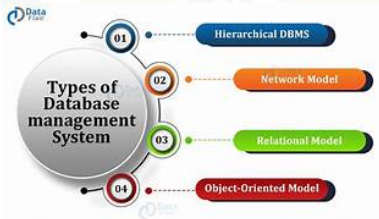
- ▶ The data stored in the database at a **particular moment in time**.
- ▶ Characteristics:
  - Represents a snapshot of the database.
  - Can change frequently as updates, insertions, and deletions occur.
  - Must always conform to the database schema.
- ▶ Difference:
  - **Schema** – The structure (remains mostly unchanged).
  - **Instance/State** – The actual content (changes over time).
- ▶ Example:
  - Schema: `Students(id, name, marks)`
  - Instance: `{(101, 'Rahul', 88), (102, 'Anita', 92)}`



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## Types of DBMS

- ▶ Relational DBMS (RDBMS) – based on tables (e.g., PostgreSQL, MySQL)
- ▶ NoSQL DBMS – flexible, schema-less (e.g., MongoDB)
- ▶ Hierarchical/Network DBMS – legacy models





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## Database Users

- ▶ **End Users**
  - ▶ People who use applications to interact with the database.
  - ▶ Example: Students checking results, customers shopping online.
- ▶ **Application Programmers**
  - ▶ Write software that uses the database.
  - ▶ Example: Developers creating apps for banking or e-commerce.
- ▶ **Database Administrators (DBA)**
  - ▶ Manage the database system, ensure security, backup, and performance.
  - ▶ Example: IT staff handling university or hospital databases.
- ▶ **System Analysts / Designers**
  - ▶ Design the database structure and define how data should be stored and accessed.
  - ▶ Example: Planning how student data is organized.

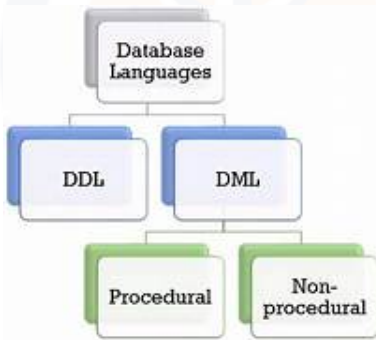




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## Database Languages

- ▶ Data Definition Language (DDL) – schema creation
- ▶ Data Manipulation Language (DML) – insert, update, delete
- ▶ Data Query Language (DQL) – SELECT queries





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## Databases in Modern Applications

- ▶ Cloud Databases – scalable, managed, cost-effective (e.g., AWS RDS, Google Firestore, MongoDB Atlas)
- ▶ Big Data Integration – works with Hadoop/Spark to handle volume, velocity, and variety of data
- ▶ AI/ML-ready Databases – support vector search, predictive analytics, and recommendations (e.g., Pinecone, Oracle AI features)
- ▶ Multi-Model Databases – support relational, document, graph, and key-value models in one system
- ▶ Edge Databases – enable real-time processing close to IoT devices
- ▶ Serverless Databases – auto-scale and charge only for usage



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## Summary

- ▶ Databases store and manage structured data
- ▶ DBMS provides tools for secure and efficient use
- ▶ Different models serve different applications
- ▶ Databases are critical in nearly all modern domains



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## Food for thought!!!!

- ▶ Think of an application you use daily (e.g., Zomato, Instagram, Banking App). Identify:
  - What kind of data is stored?
  - How is it organized?



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