

Lecture Notes

Physical Structure of DBs

- DBs generally accessed using web applications or other intermediate programs
- SSMS is just a tool to work with the SQL server
- DBs are distributed between multiple harddrives etc – something we need to think about
- the physical database should be considered when designing the database system – some implementations can be faster than others on certain types of hardware
- data that is spread across multiple hard drives will be seen as one logical unit for the SQL server
- stuff is organized in file groups
- the actual data is organized in data pages – which are organized in data files
- a table can be made up of many data pages
- a data page has a size of 8KB – 10% of that is meta data, 90% actual data
- info about what tables we have is stored in sys.tables, sys.columns, sys.foreign_keys ... database structure
- primary file group
 - .mdf, .ndf data files
 - * extents (8 pages)
 - 8 pages a 8KB
- .ldf log files
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