**Data:** Almost any kind of unorganized fact(s).

**Signal** is the encoding of the data that is needed for transmission.

Data becomes **information** when it is processed and organized and thereby it becomes useful.

**Management:** The process of dealing with things (or people)!

**A Database Management System (DBMS**) is a software package

designed to store and manage databases.

A **data model** is a collection of concepts for describing data. (highlevel).

A **schema** is a description of a particular collection of data, using the given data model.

**The relational model of data** is the most widely used model today. Main concept: **relation**, basically a table with rows and columns. Every relation has a **schema,** which describes the columns, or fields. Schema is defined by: name of schema, the name of each **field** (or **attribute** or **column**) and type of each field.

e.g. Students(**sid:**string, **name:**string, **login:**string, **age:**integer, **gpa:**real).