Database Systems Introduction

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2002-2016

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Topics

Introduction

Problem Record Files

Database Management Systems

Introduction Client / Server SQL

Problem

- store and process large amounts of data effectively
- add new data
- change existing data
- delete data
- query data: planned ad hoc
- ► CRUD: create read update delete

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Data

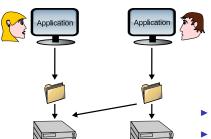
- persistent data: data that must be stored due to the nature of the information
- temporary data
- output data: data that can be derived from persistent data (query results, reports, etc.)
- ▶ input data: unprocessed data that just entered the system

Example: University student data

- ➤ Student Affairs: student name, number, department, courses taken, internships, . . .
- ► Library: student name, number, department, books lent, ...
- common data: student name, number, department, . . .
- application specific data: courses, internships, books,

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Record Files



- every application has its own data
- every application keeps its data in the files that it manages itself

Redundancy

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- ▶ same data kept in multiple places
- waste of disk space

example

► names, numbers and departments of students are kept both in Student Affairs and in the Library

Inconsistency

▶ multiple copies of the same data can become different

example

name of same person can be recorded as "Andy Wachowski" in some place and as "Lily Wachowski" in another

Integrity

▶ it is difficult to keep the data correct

example

► "Control and Computer Engineering" department is closed but the department data of its students remains the same

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Duplicated Work

▶ a lot of work must be duplicated for every new application

example

▶ a new application will be developed for the Scholarship Office

Policy Gaps

- ▶ no standards in the applications of the institution
- ▶ different paradigms, methods, programming languages
- ▶ data transfer between applications
- each department considers only its own requirements

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Security

- ▶ hard to define detailed security permissions
- security depends only on the operating system

Data Dependence

- ▶ data dependence: application code depends on the organization of the data and the access method
- ▶ hard to make changes in the code

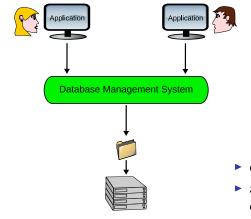
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Data Dependence Example

- ► student number is a string in Student Affairs but a number in the Library
- ► Student Affairs application keeps a B-tree index on the student number
- ▶ B-tree search algorithms are used for queries
- what if we decide to switch to a hashed index?

Database Management Systems



- ▶ data is kept in a shared system
- applications access data over a common interface

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External Level

- external level from the end user's perspective:
- ▶ data needed by that end user
- ▶ interface of the application
- external level from the application programmer's perspective:
- programming language
- ▶ database extensions to this language: data sublanguage

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Conceptual Level

- ▶ conceptual level: the entire data
- where data independence is achieved
- ► catalogue: definitions that describe the data
- databases
- data types, integrity constraints
- users, privileges, security constraints

Internal Level

- ▶ internal level: implementation details
- ▶ how the data is represented
- ► files, records
- ▶ how the data is accessed
- pointers, indexes, B-trees

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Conversions

conversions between levels for data independence

example: conceptual - external

present the student number
 as a string to the Student Affairs application, and
 as a number to the Library application

example: conceptual - internal

generate an index on the student number

Administrator Roles

- data administator: makes the decisions
- which data will be stored?
- who can access which data?
- database administrator: applies the decisions
- ▶ defines the conceptual external/internal conversions
- adjusts system performance
- guarantees system availability

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DBMS Functions

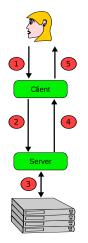
- ► data definition language
- ► data manipulation language
- checking data manipulation requests for security constraints
- checking data manipulation requests for integrity constraints
- processing simultaneous requests properly
- performance

Client / Server Architecture

- server: provides the DBMS functions
- client: provides the interaction between the user and the server
- vendor supplied tools (query processors, report generators, . . .)
- ► applications developed by application programmers

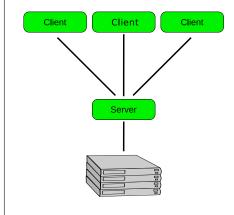
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Architecture



► client and server can be on the same computer or on different computers

Multiple Clients / Single Server



- ▶ many clients can connect to a single server
- server is a bottleneck
- replication

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SQL

- ► Structured Query Language
- ► data definition language
- ► data manipulation language
- ▶ interaction with general purpose programming languages
- ▶ started by IBM in the 1970s
- ▶ standards: 1992, 1999, 2003

SQL Products

- ► Oracle, IBM DB2, MS-SQL, ...
- open source: PostgreSQL, MySQL, . . .
- ▶ embedded: SQLite, . . .

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References

Required Reading: Date

- ► Chapter 1: An Overview of Database Management
 - ▶ 1.4. Why Database?
 - ▶ 1.5. Data Independence
- ► Chapter 2: Database System Architecture