Views

- In some cases, it is not desirable for all users to see the entire logical model (that is, all the actual relations stored in the database.)
- Consider a person who needs to know an instructors name and department, but not the salary. This person should see a relation described, in SQL, by

  select *ID*, *name*, *dept_name*
  from *instructor*

- A **view** provides a mechanism to hide certain data from the view of certain users.
- Any relation that is not of the conceptual model but is made visible to a user as a "virtual relation" is called a **view**.

View Definition

- A view is defined using the **create view** statement which has the form

  create view *v* **as** < query expression >

  where <query expression> is any legal SQL expression. The view name is represented by *v.*

- Once a view is defined, the view name can be used to refer to the virtual relation that the view generates.
- View definition is not the same as creating a new relation by evaluating the query expression
  - Rather, a view definition causes the saving of an expression; the expression is substituted into queries using the view.

Example Views

- A view of instructors without their salary

  create view *faculty* **as**
  select *ID*, *name*, *dept_name*
  from *instructor*

- Find all instructors in the Biology department

  select *name*
  from *faculty*
  where *dept_name* = 'Biology'

- Create a view of department salary totals

  create view *departments_total_salary*(*dept_name*, *total_salary*) **as**
  select *dept_name*, **sum** (*salary*)
  from *instructor*
  group by *dept_name*;

Views Defined Using Other Views

- **create view** *physics_fall_2009* **as**
  select *course.course_id*, *sec_id*, *building*, *room_number*
  from *course*, *section*
  where *course.course_id* = *section.course_id*
  and *course.dept_name* = 'Physics'
  and *section.semester* = 'Fall'
  and *section.year* = '2009';
- **create view** *physics_fall_2009_watson* **as**
  select *course_id*, *room_number*
  from *physics_fall_2009*
  where *building*= 'Watson';

View Expansion

- Expand use of a view in a query/another view

```
create view physics_fall_2009_watson as
(select course_id, room_number
from (select course.course_id, building, room_number
        from course, section
        where course.course_id = section.course_id
            and course.dept_name = 'Physics'
            and section.semester = 'Fall'
            and section.year = '2009')
where building= 'Watson';
```

Views Defined Using Other Views

- One view may be used in the expression defining another view
- A view relation v_1 is said to *depend directly* on a view relation v_2 if v_2 is used in the expression defining v_1
- A view relation v_1 is said to *depend on* view relation v_2 if either v_1 depends directly to v_2 or there is a path of dependencies from v_1 to v_2
- A view relation v is said to be *recursive* if it depends on itself.

View Expansion

- A way to define the meaning of views defined in terms of other views.
- Let view v_1 be defined by an expression e_1 that may itself contain uses of view relations.
- View expansion of an expression repeats the following replacement step:

  repeat
  Find any view relation v_i in e_1
  Replace the view relation v_i by the expression defining v_i
  until no more view relations are present in e_1

- As long as the view definitions are not recursive, this loop will terminate

Update of a View

- Add a new tuple to *faculty* view which we defined earlier

  insert into *faculty* **values** ('30765', 'Green', 'Music');

  This insertion must be represented by the insertion of the tuple

  ('30765', 'Green', 'Music', null)

  into the *instructor* relation

Some Updates cannot be Translated Uniquely

- **create view** *instructor_info* **as**
  select *ID*, *name*, *building*
  from *instructor*, *department*
  where *instructor.dept_name= department.dept_name*;
- **insert into** *instructor_info* **values** ('69987', 'White', 'Taylor');
  - which department, if multiple departments in Taylor?
  - what if no department is in Taylor?
- Most SQL implementations allow updates only on simple views
  - The **from** clause has only one database relation.
  - The **select** clause contains only attribute names of the relation, and does not have any expressions, aggregates, or **distinct** specification.
  - Any attribute not listed in the **select** clause can be set to null
  - The query does not have a **group** by or **having** clause.

And Some Not at All

- **create view** *history_instructors* **as**
  select *
  from *instructor*
  where *dept_name*= ’History’;
- What happens if we insert (’25566’, ’Brown’, ’Biology’, 100000) into *history_instructors?*

Materialized Views

- **Materializing a view**: create a physical table containing all the tuples in the result of the query defining the view
- If relations used in the query are updated, the materialized view result becomes out of date
  - Need to **maintain** the view, by updating the view whenever the underlying relations are updated.

Transactions

- Unit of work
- Atomic transaction
  - either fully executed or rolled back as if it never occurred
- Isolation from concurrent transactions
- Transactions begin implicitly
  - Ended by **commit work** or **rollback work**
- But default on most databases: each SQL statement commits automatically
  - Can turn off auto commit for a session (e.g. using API)
  - In SQL:1999, can use: **begin atomic** .... **end**
    - Not supported on most databases

Integrity Constraints

- Integrity constraints guard against accidental damage to the database, by ensuring that authorized changes to the database do not result in a loss of data consistency.
  - A checking account must have a balance greater than $10,000.00
  - A salary of a bank employee must be at least $4.00 an hour
  - A customer must have a (non-null) phone number

Integrity Constraints on a Single Relation

- **not null**
- **primary key**
- **unique**
- **check** (P), where P is a predicate

Not Null and Unique Constraints

- **not null**
  - Declare *name* and *budget* to be **not null**

    name **varchar**(20) **not null**
    budget **numeric**(12,2) **not null**
- **unique** (A_1, A_2, …, A_m)
  - The unique specification states that the attributes *A*1, *A*2, … *A*m
    form a candidate key.
  - Candidate keys are permitted to be null (in contrast to primary keys).

The check clause

- **check** (P)

  where P is a predicate

  Example: ensure that semester is one of fall, winter, spring or summer:

```
create table section (
    course_id varchar (8),
    sec_id varchar (8),
    semester varchar (6),
    year numeric (4,0),
    building varchar (15),
    room_number varchar (7),
    time slot id varchar (4),
    primary key (course_id, sec_id, semester, year),
    check (semester in ('Fall', 'Winter', 'Spring', 'Summer'))
);
```

Referential Integrity

- Ensures that a value that appears in one relation for a given set of attributes also appears for a certain set of attributes in another relation.
  - Example: If "Biology" is a department name appearing in one of the tuples in the *instructor* relation, then there exists a tuple in the *department* relation for "Biology".
- Let A be a set of attributes. Let R and S be two relations that contain attributes A and where A is the primary key of S. A is said to be a **foreign key** of R if for any values of A appearing in R these values also appear in S.

Cascading Actions in Referential Integrity

- **create table** *course (*
  course_id **char**(5) **primary key**,
  title **varchar**(20),
  dept_name **varchar**(20) **references** *department*
)
- **create table** *course* (
  …
  dept_name **varchar**(20),
  foreign key (*dept_name*) **references** *department*
  on delete cascade
  on update cascade,
  . . .
)
- alternative actions to cascade: **set null**, **set default**

Integrity Constraint Violation During Transactions

- E.g.

  create table *person* (
  ID **char**(10),
  name **char**(40),
  mother **char**(10),
  father **char**(10),
  primary key *ID,*
  foreign key *father* **references** *person,*
  foreign key *mother* **references** *person*)

- How to insert a tuple without causing constraint violation ?
  - insert father and mother of a person before inserting person
  - OR, set father and mother to null initially, update after inserting all persons (not possible if father and mother attributes declared to be **not null**)
  - OR defer constraint checking (next slide)

Complex Check Clauses

- **check** (*time_slot_id* **in** (**select** *time_slot_id* **from** *time_slot*))
  - why not use a foreign key here?
- Every section has at least one instructor teaching the section.
  - how to write this?
- Unfortunately: subquery in check clause not supported by pretty much any database
  - Alternative: triggers (later)
- **create assertion** <assertion-name> **check** <predicate>;
  - Also not supported by anyone

Built-in Data Types in SQL

- **date:** Dates, containing a (4 digit) year, month and date
  - Example: **date** '2005-7-27'
- **time:** Time of day, in hours, minutes and seconds.
  - Example: **time** '09:00:30' **time** '09:00:30.75'
- **timestamp**: date plus time of day
  - Example: **timestamp** '2005-7-27 09:00:30.75'
- **interval:** period of time
  - Example: interval '1' day
  - Subtracting a date/time/timestamp value from another gives an interval value
  - Interval values can be added to date/time/timestamp values

Index Creation

- **create table** *student*
  (*ID* **varchar** (5),
  name **varchar** (20) **not null**,
  dept_name **varchar** (20),
  tot_cred **numeric** (3,0) **default** 0,
  primary key (*ID*))
- **create index** *studentID_index* **on** *student*(*ID*)
- Indices are data structures used to speed up access to records with specified values for index attributes
  - e.g. **select** *
    from *student*
    where *ID* = '12345'

  can be executed by using the index to find the required record, without looking at all records of *student*

  More on indices in Chapter 11

User-Defined Types

- **create type** construct in SQL creates user-defined type

  create type *Dollars* **as numeric (12,2) final**

  - **create table** *department*
    (*dept_name* **varchar** (20),
    building **varchar** (15),
    budget Dollars);

Domains

- **create domain** construct in SQL-92 creates user-defined domain types

  create domain *person_name* **char**(20) **not null**

- Types and domains are similar. Domains can have constraints, such as **not null**, specified on them.
- **create domain** *degree_level* **varchar**(10)
  constraint *degree_level_test*
  check (**value in** ('Bachelors', 'Masters', 'Doctorate'));

Large-Object Types

- Large objects (photos, videos, CAD files, etc.) are stored as a *large object*:
  - **blob**: binary large object -- object is a large collection of uninterpreted binary data (whose interpretation is left to an application outside of the database system)
  - **clob**: character large object -- object is a large collection of character data
  - When a query returns a large object, a pointer is returned rather than the large object itself.

Authorization

Forms of authorization on parts of the database:

- **Read** - allows reading, but not modification of data.
- **Insert** - allows insertion of new data, but not modification of existing data.
- **Update** - allows modification, but not deletion of data.
- **Delete** - allows deletion of data.

Forms of authorization to modify the database schema

- **Index** - allows creation and deletion of indices.
- **Resources** - allows creation of new relations.
- **Alteration** - allows addition or deletion of attributes in a relation.
- **Drop** - allows deletion of relations.

Authorization Specification in SQL

- The **grant** statement is used to confer authorization

  grant <privilege list>

  on <relation name or view name> **to** <user list>

- <user list> is:
  - a user-id
  - **public**, which allows all valid users the privilege granted
  - A role (more on this later)
- Granting a privilege on a view does not imply granting any privileges on the underlying relations.
- The grantor of the privilege must already hold the privilege on the specified item (or be the database administrator).

Privileges in SQL

- **select:** allows read access to relation,or the ability to query using the view
  - Example: grant users U_1, U_2, and U_3 **select** authorization on the *instructor* relation:

    grant select on *instructor* **to** U_1, U_2, U_3
- **insert**: the ability to insert tuples
- **update**: the ability to update using the SQL update statement
- **delete**: the ability to delete tuples.
- **all privileges**: used as a short form for all the allowable privileges