LEC-2: DBMS Architecture

View of Data (Three Schema Architecture)

- a. The major purpose of DBMS is to provide users with an **abstract view** of the data. That is, the system hides certain details of how the data is stored and maintained.
- b. To simplify user interaction with the system, abstraction is applied through several levels of abstraction.
- c. The **main objective** of three level architecture is to enable multiple users to access the same data with a personalized view while storing the underlying data only once

d. Physical level / Internal level

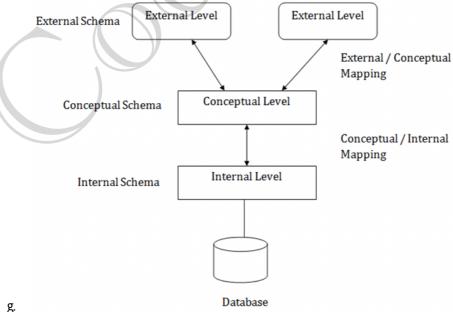
- i. The lowest level of abstraction describes how the data are stored.
- ii. Low-level data structures used.
- iii. It has **Physical schema** which describes physical storage structure of DB.
- iv. Talks about: Storage allocation (N-ary tree etc), Data compression & encryption etc.
- v. **Goal**: We must define algorithms that allow efficient access to data.

e. Logical level / Conceptual level:

- The conceptual schema describes the design of a database at the conceptual level, describes what data are stored in DB, and what relationships exist among those data.
- ii. User at logical level does not need to be aware about physical-level structures.
- iii. **DBA**, who must decide what information to keep in the DB use the logical level of abstraction.
- iv. **Goal**: ease to use.

f. View level / External level:

- i. Highest level of abstraction aims to simplify users' interaction with the system by providing different view to different **end**-user.
- ii. Each **view schema** describes the database part that a particular user group is interested and hides the remaining database from that user group.
- iii. At the external level, a database contains several schemas that sometimes called as **subschema**. The subschema is used to describe the different view of the database.
- iv. At views also provide a **security** mechanism to prevent users from accessing certain parts of DB.



2. Instances and Schemas

a. The collection of information stored in the DB at a particular moment is called an **instance** of DB.

- b. The overall design of the DB is called the DB **schema**.
- c. Schema is **structural** description of data. Schema **doesn't change frequently**. Data may change frequently.
- d. **DB schema** corresponds to the variable declarations (along with type) in a program.
- e. We have 3 types of **Schemas**: **Physical**, **Logical**, several **view schemas** called subschemas.
- f. Logical schema is most **important** in terms of its effect on application programs, as programmers construct apps by using logical schema.
- g. **Physical data independence**, physical schema change should not affect logical schema/application programs.

3. Data Models:

- a. Provides a way to describe the **design** of a DB at **logical level**.
- b. Underlying the structure of the DB is the Data Model; a collection of conceptual tools for describing data, data relationships, data semantics & consistency constraints.
- c. E.g., ER model, Relational Model, object-oriented model, object-relational data model etc.

4. Database Languages:

- a. **Data definition language (DDL)** to specify the database schema.
- b. Data manipulation language (DML) to express database queries and updates.
- c. **Practically**, both language features are present in a single DB language, e.g., SQL language.
- d. DDL
 - i. We specify consistency constraints, which must be checked, every time DB is updated.
- e. DML
- i. Data manipulation involves
 - 1. Retrieval of information stored in DB.
 - 2. **Insertion** of new information into DB.
 - 3. **Deletion** of information from the DB.
 - 4. **Updating** existing information stored in DB.
- ii. **Query language**, a part of DML to specify statement requesting the retrieval of information.

5. How is Database accessed from Application programs?

- a. Apps (written in host languages, C/C++, Java) interacts with DB.
- b. E.g., Banking system's module generating payrolls access DB by executing DML statements from the host language.
- c. API is provided to send DML/DDL statements to DB and retrieve the results.
 - i. Open Database Connectivity (ODBC), Microsoft "C".
 - ii. Java Database Connectivity (JDBC), Java.

6. Database Administrator (DBA)

- a. A person who has **central control** of both the data and the programs that access those data.
- b. **Functions** of DBA
 - i. Schema Definition
 - ii. Storage structure and access methods.
 - iii. Schema and physical organization modifications.
 - iv. Authorization control.
 - v. Routine maintenance
 - 1. Periodic backups.
 - 2. Security patches.
 - 3. Any upgrades.
- 7. **DBMS Application Architectures**: Client machines, on which remote DB users work, and server machines on which DB system runs.
 - a. T1 Architecture
 - i. The client, server & DB all present on the same machine.

b. T2 Architecture

- i. App is partitioned into 2-components.
- ii. Client machine, which invokes DB system functionality at server end through query language statements.
- iii. API standards like **ODBC** & **JDBC** are used to interact between client and server.

c. **T3** Architecture

- i. App is partitioned into 3 logical components.
- ii. Client machine is just a frontend and doesn't contain any direct DB calls.
- iii. Client machine communicates with App server, and App server communicated with DB system to access data.
- iv. Business logic, what action to take at that condition is in App server itself.
- v. T3 architecture are best for WWW Applications.
- vi. Advantages:
 - 1. **Scalability** due to distributed application servers.
 - 2. **Data integrity**, App server acts as a middle layer between client and DB, which minimize the chances of data corruption.
 - Security, client can't directly access DB, hence it is more secure.

