**Assignment1** (Chapter 1 -3 Connolly & Begg) Each question is worth 10 points each

1. Discuss the differences between DDL and DML. What operations would you typically expect to be available in each language?

Answer:

* Data definition language (DDL) is used for defining and creating a database schema or modifying an existing one. DDL cannot be used to manipulate data.
* The operations expected to be available in DDL are CREATE, ALTER, DROP, TRUNCATE, RENAME, etc.
* Data manipulation language (DML) is used for supporting the basic data manipulation operations.
* The operations expected to be available in DML are INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE, SELECT, etc., so modification, insertion, retrieval, and deletion.

1. Describe the difference between data security and data integrity.

Answer:

* Data security uses controlled access mechanisms to prevent data corruption.
* Data security makes sure that the data can only be accessed by intended users.
* Data integrity defines the quality of data. It refers to the validity of data.
* Data integrity makes sure that the data stored in the database is not altered by unauthorized parties.

1. Describe the main characteristics of the database approach and contrast it with the file-based approach.

Answer:

Main characteristics of the database approach:

* Control of data redundancy
  + File-based approach has a lot of data redundancy
  + Usually database approach stores data item in only one place
* Sharing of data
  + Database system allows multiple users to access to the data in the database at the same time
  + Database system therefore must have concurrency control
  + File-based approach does not provide data sharing with multiple users
* Multiple views of data
  + Particular users can use a subset of the database
  + Different users may have different view of the database
  + File-based approach does not have multiple views
* Insulation between program and data
  + File-based approach defines all the data files in application programs, so changing the structure means that all the programs need to be changed, too.
  + Database approach stores the data structure in the system catalog; therefore, no need to change all the programs.
* Provides meta-data
  + Database approach provides meta-data to describe the data structure and constraints
  + In file-based approach, the data definition is part of application programs.
* Improved data security
  + Database approach has better security control of the user accounts
* Data independence
  + In file-based approach, file structure is defined in the program code.
  + In database approach, the system data are separate from the programs.

1. Provide a definition for a data administrator and a database administrator. What types of interactions would these two users of the database have?

Answer:

* Data administrator definition:
  + Someone who manages the data resource, which includes database planning, development, and maintenance of standards, policies and procedures, and conceptual and logical database design.
* Database administrator definition:
  + Someone who manages the physical realization of a database system, which includes physical database design and implementation, setting security and integrity controls, monitoring system performance, and reorganizing the database, as necessary.
* Data administrator does the early stage logical database design.
* Database administrator does the later stage application and physical database design.
* Data administrator deals with the corporate data resource, which includes non-computerized data.
* Database administrator is more technical.
* DBA can assist DA by providing technical information about the DBMS, such as the system performance, security and integrity constraints, etc.

1. Name three record-based data models. Discuss the main differences between these data models.

Answer:

* Relational data model
* Network data model
* Hierarchical data model

1. What are the advantages of a relational database when compared to the file-based approach to storing data?

Answer:

1. What is concurrency control and why does a DBMS need a concurrency control facility?
2. What is a transaction? Give an example of a transaction.
3. What is meant by the term ‘client-server architecture’ and what are the advantages of this approach? Compare the client-server architecture with two other architectures.
4. What is a Transaction Processing Monitor? What advantages does a TP Monitor bring to an OLTP environment?