

# COMP 3311

# Database Management Systems

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## Lab 5

Simple SQL DDL, DML and  
Constraint Statements

# Lab Topics

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- ❑ Specifying simple DDLs
  - `create`, `rename`, `drop`, `alter`
- ❑ Specifying simple DMLs
  - `insert`, `update`, `delete`
- ❑ Specifying simple integrity constraints.
  - `primary key`, `foreign key`, `unique`, `not null`, `check`

# Data Definition Language (DDL)

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- ❑ The Data Definition language (DDL) is used to specify/alter the database schema (i.e., the table definitions).
- ❑ The basic **SQL** DDL statements are:
  - **create table** - create a new table
  - **rename** - rename an existing table
  - **drop table** - drop an existing table
  - **alter table** - add/drop an attribute or change an attribute's data type;  
add/drop/change table constraints.

# Example SQL DDL (1)

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- ❑ Create a new table.

**create table** *table\_name* (*attribute1 datatype, attribute2 datatype, ...*);

Example: **create table** Facility (  
    departmentId       **char**(4) **not null**,  
    numberProjectors   **int default** 0,  
    numberComputers   **int default** 0);

- ❑ Rename an existing table.

**rename** *old\_table* **to** *new\_table*;

Example: **rename** Facility **to** RenameTest;

- ❑ Drop an existing table.

**drop table** *table\_name*;

Example: **drop table** RenameTest;

# Example SQL DDL (2)

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- ❑ Add new attributes to an existing table.

`alter table table_name add (attribute1 datatype, attribute2 datatype, ...);`

Example: `alter table Facility add (funding number(10,2));`

- ❑ Change the data type of table attributes.

`alter table table_name modify (attribute1 datatype, attribute2 datatype, ...);`

Example: `alter table Facility modify (funding varchar2(10));`

- ❑ Delete an attribute from an existing table.

`alter table table_name drop (attribute1, attribute2, ...);`

Example: `alter table Facility drop (funding);`

# Data Manipulation Language (DML)

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- ❑ The Data Manipulation language (DML) is used to manipulate data in a database.
- ❑ Besides the **select** DML statement for retrieving data, **SQL** also provides the following DML statements for modifying data:
  - **insert** - inserts tuples into an existing table
  - **update** - updates tuples of an existing table
  - **delete** - removes tuples from an existing table

# Example SQL DML (1)

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**insert into** *table\_name* (*attribute1, attribute2, ...*) **values** (*value1, value2, ...*)

Example: **insert into** Facility (departmentId, numberProjectors, numberComputers)  
**values** ('HUMA', 2, 10);

The attribute names can be omitted, if tuples are inserted with *values for all the attributes* present and *in the order in which the attributes are defined in the table*.

Example: **insert into** Facility **values** ('PHYS', 8, 12);

By stating explicitly the attributes, partial tuples can be inserted with some of the attributes being absent, if these attributes do not have the **not null** constraint (covered later in these lab notes).

Example: **insert into** Facility (departmentId) **values** ('test');

# Example SQL DML (2)

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**update** *table\_name* **set** *attribute=value* [**where** *conditions*];

Example: **update** Facility **set** numberComputers=200  
**where** departmentId='COMP';

**delete from** *table\_name* [**where** *conditions*];

Example: **delete from** Facility **where** departmentId='test';

The **delete** statement without a **where** clause removes all tuples from a table.

Example: **delete from** Facility;



# Integrity Constraints

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- ❑ Integrity constraints are used to ensure data consistency and can be declared at the **attribute level** or at the **table level**.
- ❑ Attribute-level constraints **apply to the attributes only** and only **involve one attribute**.
  - Most attribute-level constraints are placed right after the attribute definitions.
- ❑ Table-level constraints **apply to the whole table** and usually **involve multiple attributes**.
  - Table-level constraints must be placed after all the definitions of the attributes.

# Specifying Table Integrity Constraints

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- The basic integrity constraint keywords are:

**primary key** specifies the attribute(s) that are used to uniquely identify the tuples (records) in a table.

**foreign key** specifies the attribute(s) whose value refers to another table and which value must be present in that table.

**unique** indicates the attribute has unique values.

**not null** indicates the attribute must have a value.

**check** places conditions (in the form of a predicate) on the attribute.

- To list all constraints of a table, use the query:

```
select *  
from user_constraints  
where table_name='<table_name>';
```

**Important Note**  
<table\_name> must be all uppercase.

# Example Integrity Constraints (1)

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```
create table Staff (  
  staffId int primary key,  
  age int,  
  email varchar2(20) unique,  
  salary number(10,2) check (salary>0));  
  
create table WorksAt (  
  staffId int references Staff(staffId) on delete cascade,  
  firmName varchar2(100) not null,  
  primary key(staffId, firmName));
```

*Attribute-Level Constraints*

*Table-Level Constraint*

**Note:** `not null` can only be an attribute-level constraint.

# Example Integrity Constraints (2)

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```
create table WorksAt (  
    staffId      int references Staff (staffId) on delete cascade,  
    firmName     varchar2(100) not null,  
    primary key (staffId, firmName));
```

```
create table WorksAt (  
    staffId      int,  
    firmName     varchar2(100) constraint not_null_firmName not null,  
    constraint foreign_key foreign key (staffId) references Staff (staffId) on delete  
        cascade,  
    constraint primary_key primary key (staffId, firmName));
```

These two **create** statements are identical. The constraints in the second **create** statement were given names (in *italic font*).

**Note:** A constraint that refers to a table can only be defined **after** that table is created. Thus, the order in which tables and constraints are defined is important (e.g., the Staff table must be defined before the WorksAt table since the WorksAt table references the Staff table).

# Modifying Table Integrity Constraints

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- ❑ The `alter table` statement is used to add or modify constraints in a table.
  - Add a primary key  
`alter table WorksAt add new_primary_key primary key (staffId, firmName);`
  - Drop a primary key  
`alter table WorksAt drop primary key;`
  - Add a constraint  
`alter table Staff add constraint CHK_age check (age between 20 and 40);`
  - Drop a constraint  
`alter table WorksAt drop constraint not_null_firmName;`
  - Modify a constraint  
`alter table Staff modify (age not null);`