



CSL303/MAL505 — Database Management Systems

Module I: Relational Foundations & SQL

Lecture 1: Why Databases?

Amit Kumar Dhar

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IIT Bhilai

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- **Architecture** — the three-schema view & data independence
- **What's inside** — a peek at the components we'll build this term

Course Logistics

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- By the end you will have **written parts of a database engine** yourself:
A page store, a B+tree, a buffer pool, and a write-ahead log.

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(Course website to be notified later.)

Suggested grading

Component	Weight
Mid-Sem exam	20%
End-Sem exam	30%
Lab work (incl. 4 build labs)	30%
Quizzes (may be Projects/Assignments)	15%
Attendance	5%

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The **labs are 30%** — this is a hands-on course. Do them yourself.

- Silberschatz, Korth, Sudarshan — *Database System Concepts* (primary)
- Garcia-Molina, Ullman, Widom — *Database Systems: The Complete Book*
- Elmasri, Navathe — *Fundamentals of Database Systems*
- Petrov — *Database Internals* (for the internals module)
- Sibsankar Haldar — *Inside SQLite* (storage internals)

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Setup guide: Install them. **Do this before Lab 1.**

Part 1 — Motivation

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- The value isn't the raw bytes — it's the ability to **store, protect, and answer questions about** them reliably.
- Databases are the technology that makes that possible.

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These are among the most in-demand, well-paid roles in tech — and they all rest on the concepts in this course.

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A DBMS is one of the most sophisticated pieces of software ever built.

Part 2 — Core concepts

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- Examples: a customer's name, a product's price, a transaction's timestamp.
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- Data by itself has little value — it becomes useful when it is **organized, related, and queryable**.

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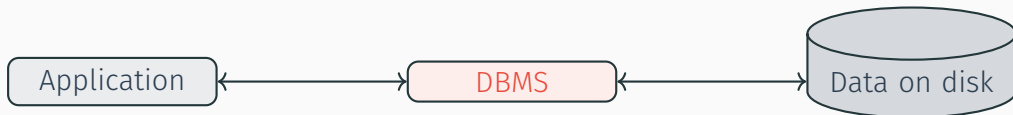
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Example:

A *University* database holds related data about students, instructors, courses, sections, and grades. We'll use exactly this University database all term.

What is a DBMS?

- A **Database Management System** is the software that lets us **define, store, manage, and query** a database.
- It sits as a **layer between the user/application and the physical data**.
- Examples: PostgreSQL, MySQL, SQLite, Oracle, SQL Server, MongoDB.



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- "Database" is often used loosely to mean both — but the distinction matters.

Real-world example: Amazon

A single order touches a lot of data the DBMS manages:

- **Products** — names, descriptions, prices, inventory.
- **Customers** — logins, addresses, payment methods.
- **Orders** — items, quantities, shipping status.
- **Reviews** — ratings, comments.

Millions of users, all at once, expecting it to be **fast, correct, and safe**.

Part 3 — The old way

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- This is how things worked **before** DBMSs — and it breaks down fast.
- Let's use a simple **bank** application to see why.

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- Consequences: bills to the wrong address, missed fraud alerts, bad decisions.

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- With files you must hand-write code to:
parse each file → join by customer → filter by state → count accounts → sum.
- Slow to write, easy to get wrong, thrown away after one use.

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Problem 4: Integrity problems

- Business rules are hard to enforce in files:
 - a balance must never be negative;
 - account type must be *Checking*, *Savings*, or *Loan*;
- In a file system, **every application** must re-implement these checks.

Problem 5 & 6

Problem 5: Atomicity failures

- Transfer ₹100 from A to B: 1. debit ₹100 from A, 2. credit ₹100 to B.
- Crash **after step 1, before step 2** → ₹100 vanishes.
- Operation must be **all-or-nothing (atomic)**. Files don't do this.

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Problem 6: Concurrent-access anomalies

- Teller 1 & 2 read ₹500 at the same time.
- Teller 1 deposits ₹100 → writes ₹600.
- Teller 2 withdraws ₹50 → writes ₹450.
- Final balance ₹450 — **Teller 1's deposit was lost** (Lost update).

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- File-system permissions are too coarse to express this.
- You need **fine-grained, data-level** access control.

Seven problems, one conclusion

1. Redundancy & inconsistency
2. Difficulty accessing data
3. Data isolation
4. Integrity problems
5. Atomicity failures
6. Concurrency anomalies
7. Security problems

A DBMS exists to solve **all seven** — that's its reason to exist.

Part 4 — The DBMS solution

Feature 1: A data model

- Structures data with a **model** — e.g. the **relational model** (tables).
- Reduces redundancy; makes relationships explicit.

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Feature 2: A high-level query language

- Ask **what** you want, not **how** to compute it — *declarative*.

```
SELECT c.name, SUM(a.balance)
FROM   customer c JOIN account a ON c.cust_id = a.cust_id
WHERE  c.state = 'California'
GROUP BY c.cust_id, c.name HAVING COUNT(*) > 2;
```

Feature 3 & 4

Feature 3: Integrity constraints

- Declare rules once; the DBMS enforces them for **every** application.

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    account_no    INTEGER PRIMARY KEY,  
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Feature 4: Transactions & ACID

- Atomicity, Consistency, Isolation, Durability.
- The fund transfer becomes safe: both steps commit together or neither does.

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Feature 7: Security & administration

- Users, roles, and privileges: **GRANT SELECT ON ...**

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Every DBMS feature maps to a real requirement.

Part 5 — Architecture

Data abstraction: three levels

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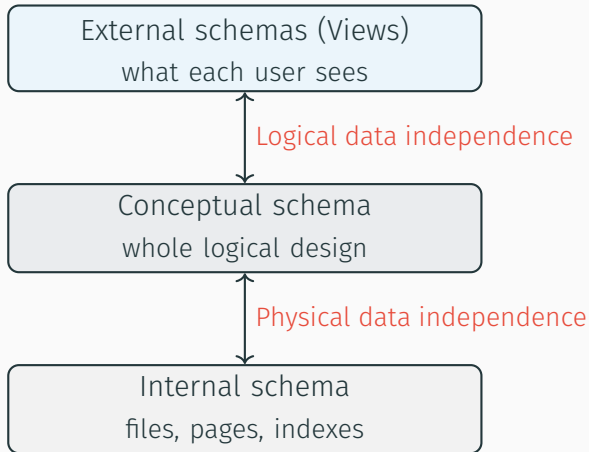
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Users work at the logical/view level; the DBMS handles the physical level.

The three-schema architecture & Data independence



- **Data independence** makes systems maintainable over decades.

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Analogy: schema is a **type/class**; instance is a **value/object**.

Languages

- **DDL:** Define schema (**CREATE**)
- **DML:** Query/change data (**SELECT**, **INSERT**)
- **DCL:** Privileges (**GRANT**)
- **TCL:** Transactions (**COMMIT**)

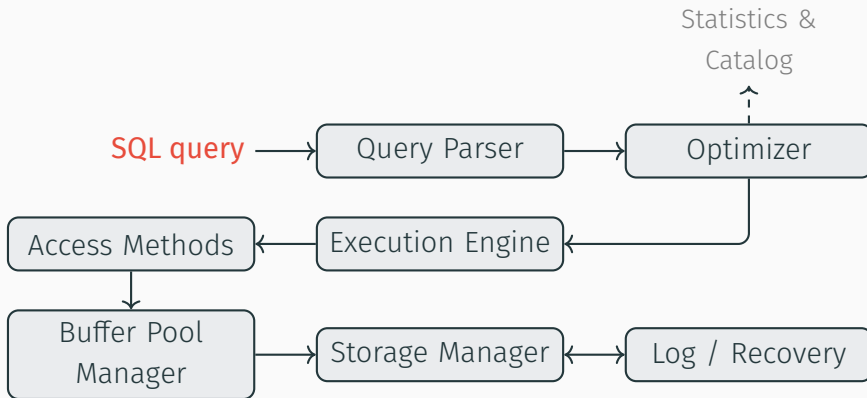
SQL bundles all of these.

Users

- **Naive users:** via apps
- **App programmers:** embed SQL
- **Analysts:** ad-hoc SQL
- **DBAs:** schema, tuning, security

Part 6 — Under the hood

Inside a DBMS (bird's-eye view)



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- **OLAP**: Few, huge analytical queries (e.g. revenue by region). Throughput matters.

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SQL vs NoSQL (preview)

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- Not "better/worse" — different tools for different jobs.

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- We will both **use** databases and **build** their core components.

Questions?

See you in the lab.