Architecture of DBMS

Mrs. Maninder Kaur professormaninder@gmail.com



Mrs. Maninder Kaur

Introduction to DBMS Architecture

- DBMS is a collection of programs that enable the users to create and maintain the database .
- Purpose of DBMS is to provide the user with the abstract view of database i.e. system does not provide all the details of the data, rather it hides the details how data is stored & maintained.
- In order to use the system, data must be retrieved efficiently.
- This leads to the design of complex data structures in the database.

DBMS Architecture



Three levels of the architecture

- *External* individual user view
- *Conceptual* community user view
- Internal physical or storage view

The three level database architecture allows a clear separation of the information meaning (conceptual view) from the external data representation and from the physical data structure layout. A database system that is able to separate the three different views of data is likely to be flexible and adaptable. This flexibility and adaptability is data independence

Mrs. Maninder Kaur

External View / Level / Schema / User View / Global View

- Highest or Top level of data abstraction (No knowledge of DBMS S/W and H/W or physical storage).
- This level is concerned with the user.
- Each external schema describes the part of the database that a particular user is interested in and hides the rest of the database from user.
- There can be n number of external views for database where n is the number of users.
- For example, a accounts department may only be interested in the student fee details. It would not be expected to have any interest in the personal information about students.

Conceptual View

- This level is in between the user level and physical storage view.
- There is only one conceptual view for single database.
- It hides the details of physical storage structures and concentrates on describing entities, data types, relationships, user operations, and constraints.

Internal View / Physical View

- It is the lowest level of data abstraction. (it has the knowledge about s/w and h/w)
- At this level, it keeps the information about the actual representation of the entire database i.e. the actual storage of the data on the disk in the form of records or blocks.
- It is close to the physical storage method.
- The internal view is the view that tells us what data is stored in the database and how. At least the following aspects are considered at this level: Storage allocation, Access paths etc.
- The internal view does not deal with the physical devices directly. Instead it views a physical device as a collection of physical pages and allocates space in terms of logical pages.

TYPES OF DATA INDEPENDENCE

LOGICAL DATA INDEPENDENCE

PHYSICAL DATA INDEPENDENCE

Mrs. Maninder Kaur

LOGICAL DATA INDEPENDENCE

- Whenever, there is a change or modification at the conceptual level without affecting the user level or external level, it is known as logical data independence.
- E.g. The name field in conceptual view is stored as first name, middle name and last name whereas in external view, it remains to be as a single name field.

PHYSICAL DATA INDEPENDENCE

- Whenever, the changes are made at the internal level without affecting the above layers, it is known as physical data independence.
- E.g. The location of the database, if changed from C drive to D drive will not affect the conceptual view or external view as the commands are independent of the location of the database.

Difference between Logical Data Independence & Physical Data Independence

Logical Data Independence	Physical Data Independence
It is concerned with the structure of the data or changing the data definition.	It is concerned with storage of the data.
It is very difficult as the retrieving of data are heavily dependent on logical structure of data.	It is easy to retrieve.
Application program need not be changed if new fields are added or deleted from the database.	Physical database is concerned with the change of the storage device.
It is concerned with the conceptual schema.	It is concerned with the internal schema.

Thank You VG Have a Nice Day

Mrs. Maninder Kaur