

# Databases

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- support persistent storage of large amounts of data
- enable durability and recovery from failure
- control access to the data by many users in parallel
  - without unexpected interactions among users (**isolation**)
  - actions on the data should never be partial (**atomicity**)



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  - searching through a large file can take hours
- no or limited protection from data loss
- no access control for parallel manipulation of data

# Motivation for Database Management Systems

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- **data independence**

- logical view on the data independent of physical storage
- user interacts with a simple view on the data
- behind the scenes (invisible for the user) are complex storage structures that allow rapid access and manipulation



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  - for different users or different applications
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- high-level **declarative query languages**

- query tells what you want, independent of storage structure
- efficient data access (automatic query optimisation)

# Relational Model

**Schema:** structure of the database = relations + constraints

## Example Schema

- customer(id, name, street, city)  
Primary key constraint on id
- account(depositor → customer, accountnr)  
Foreign key constraint on depositor

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customer			
<u>id</u>	name	street	city
192837465	Johnson	12 Alma	Palo Alto
019283746	Smith	4 North	Rye

account	
depositor	<u>accountnr</u>
19283465	101343
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Various types of constraints:

- data types, constrained data types (domains), nullability
- columns constraints (e.g. unique, counter, time stamp, . . .)
- check constraints (logical expression for domain integrity)  
(e.g. age  $\geq$  18 AND age  $\leq$  150)

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192837465	Johnson	3 Alma	Palo Alto
321123123	Jones	34 Main	Harisson
019283746	Smith	7 South	Rye

account	
depositor	<u>accountnr</u>
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In the **pure relational model**, a table is a **set** of tuples:

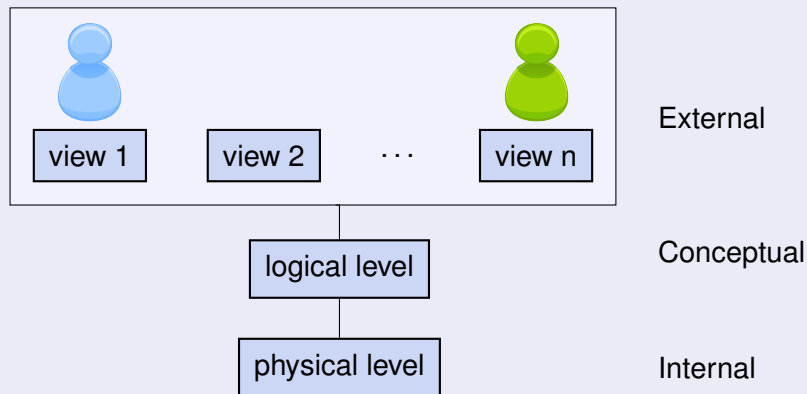
- has no duplicate tuples (rows)
- no order on the tuples



# View of Data

- Different applications might use different views
- Data is stored only once at the physical level
  - good for consistency

## ANSI SPARC Architecture: 3 levels



# ANSI SPARC Architecture: 3 levels

- **Physical level:** how a record (e.g. information about some product) is stored
  - disk pages, index structures, byte layout, record order
- **Logical level:** also called 'conceptual schema'
  - describes data stored in the database, and
  - relations among the data

## SQL DDL (Data Definition Language)

```
CREATE TABLE SOLVED (STUDENT VARCHAR(40),  
                     HOMEWORK NUMERIC(2),  
                     POINTS NUMERIC(2));
```

```
CREATE VIEW SOLVED_HOMEWORK AS  
  SELECT STUDENT, HOMEWORK FROM SOLVED;
```

- **View level:**
  - application programs hide details of data types
  - hide information (e.g. exam grade) for privacy or security

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**Physical data independence:** ability to modify the physical schema without changing the logical schema

- e.g. a change in workload might cause the need for
  - different indexing structures
  - different database engine
  - distributing the database on multiple machines
  - ...

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Declarative/non-procedural languages:

- implicit control
- explicit logic
- e.g. logic programming (Prolog), functional programming (Haskell), markup languages (HTML), . . .

# SQL = Structure Query Language

SQL is a declarative data manipulation language. The user describes conditions the requested data is required to fulfil.

## SQL Query

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SELECT POINTS  
FROM SOLVED  
WHERE STUDENT = 'Ann Smith'  
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  - decides how to execute the query as fast as possible
- (usually) users do not need to think about efficiency

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  - relational model
    - e.g. SQL table and constraint definitions

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  - meta language for describing
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    - data relationships
    - data semantics
    - data constraints

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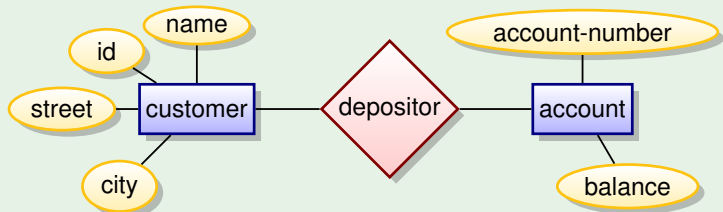
### Other models:

- object-oriented models (e.g. ODL)
- semi-structured data models (DTD, XML Schema)
- ...

# Entity Relationship Model

## Entity relationship model

- entities = objects
  - e.g. customers, accounts, bank branches
- relationship between entities
  - e.g. account 101343 is held by customer Johnson
  - **relationship set descriptor** associates customers with accounts



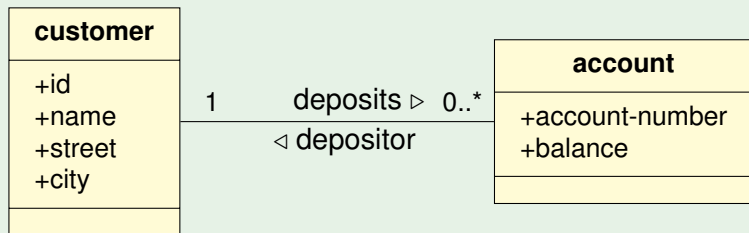
- widely used for database design
- usually converted to the relational model

# UML Class Diagram

UML class diagrams

- frequently used in database design
- similar to E/R diagrams  
(**Entities/Relationships**  $\implies$  **Classes/Associations**)

## Example Schema as UML Class diagram



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- **Durability:** once a transaction is committed successfully, the modified data is persistent, regardless of disk crashes

## Why Database Management Systems?

- **data independence**
  - logical view on the data independent of physical storage
- **avoidance of duplication**
  - different views on the same database
- high-level **declarative query languages** (what, not how)
  - efficient data access, automatic query optimisation
- **data models & data integrity (consistency)**
- multiple users, **concurrent access**
  - transactions with ACID properties
- **persistent storage, safety and high availability**
  - safety against failure (backup/restore)
- **scalability** (data could be much larger than main memory)
  - indexing, scalable algorithms
- **security**