

# Database Architecture and Data Model

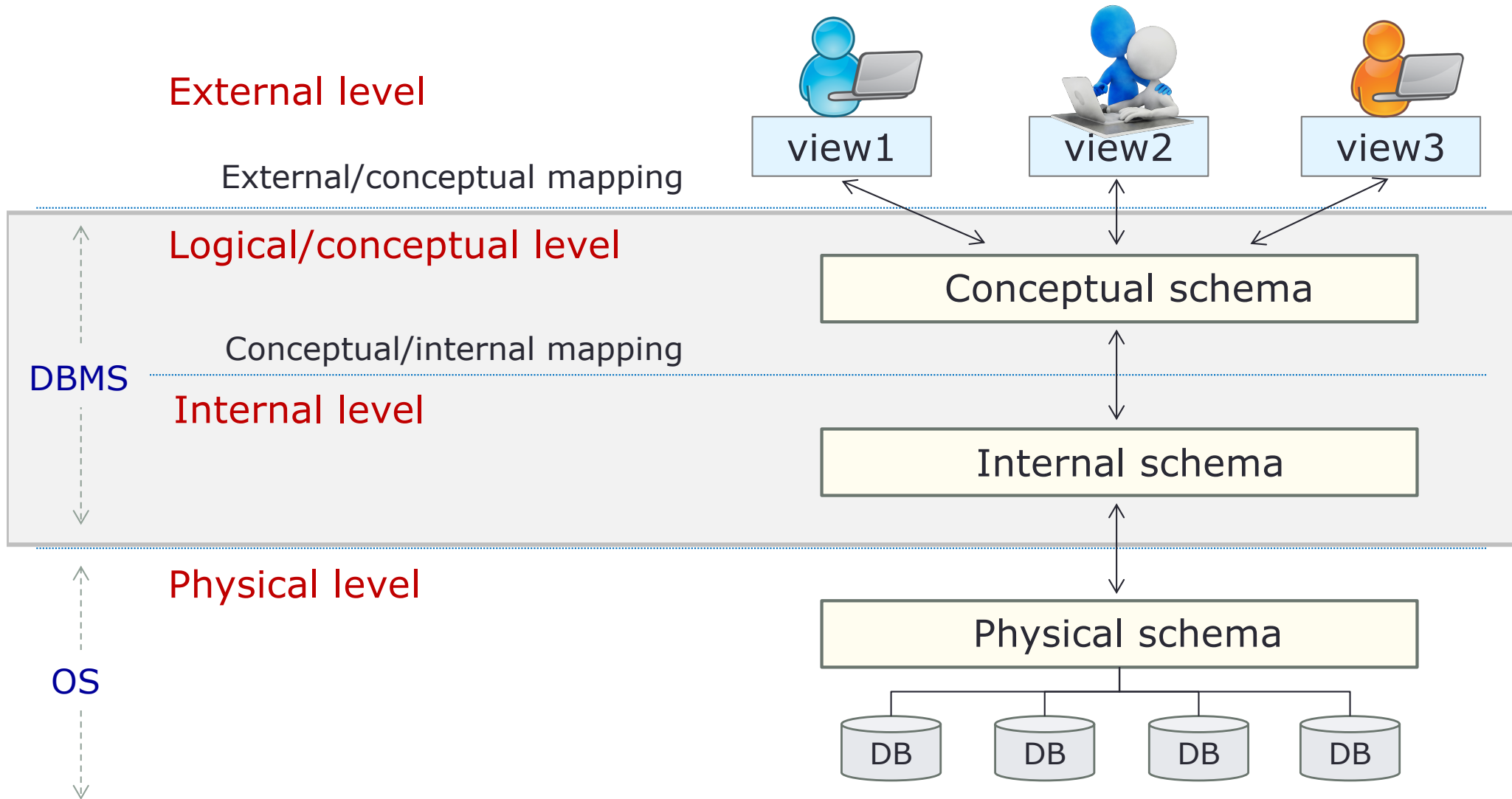
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## CS 4750 Database Systems

[A. Silberschatz, H. F. Korth, S. Sudarshan, Database System Concepts, Ch.2]  
[C.M. Ricardo and S.D. Urban, Database Illuminated, Ch. 2.6-2.7]

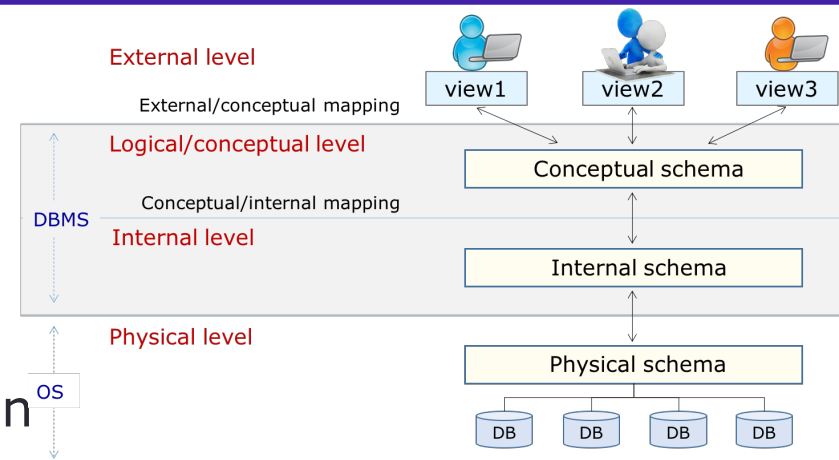
# Levels of Database Architecture

Databases are stored as files of records stored on disks



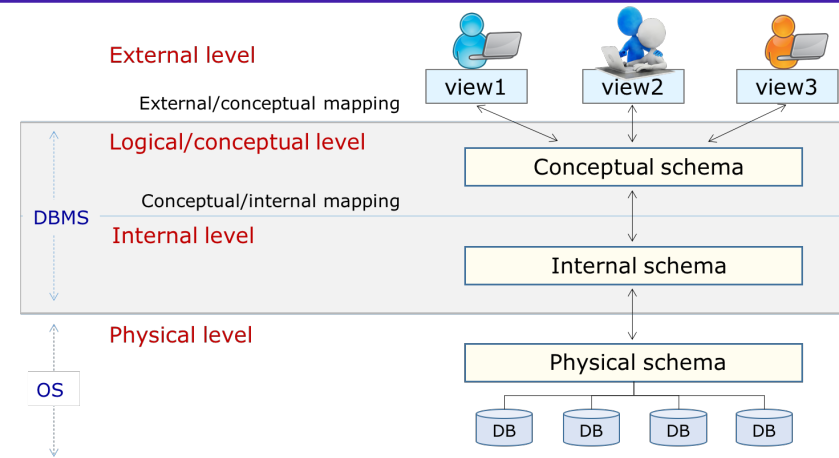
# External Level

- Different users see different views
- Different views may consist of
  - Different contents, or
  - Same contents, different representation
- Some views may include **virtual data** (or **calculated data**)
  - Calculated age on demand
- **External view** – a collection of external records
- **External record** – a record as seen by a particular user
- **External schema** – describes an external view
- DBMS uses the external schema to create a user interface



# Logical Level

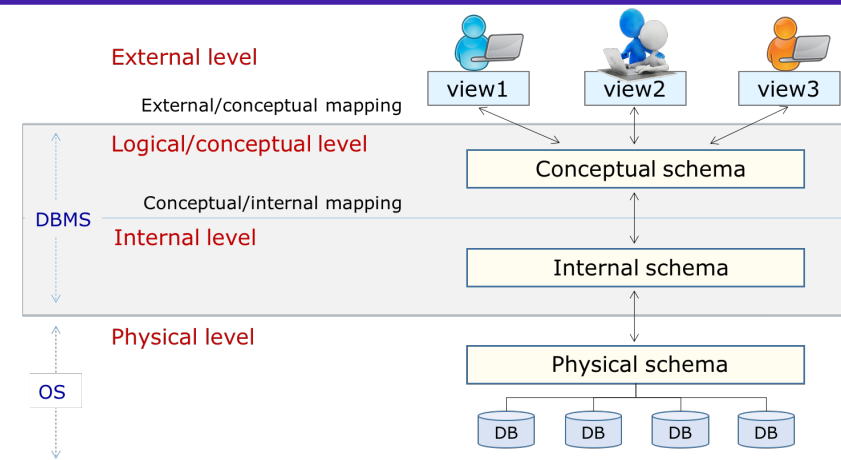
- Include description of all the data that is available to be shared



- **Logical schema** – a complete description of the information content of the database
- DBMS uses the logical schema to create logical record interface
- Logical record interface – **conceptual level** and **internal level** (defines what are visible / invisible to external level and physical level)
- **Logical model** – a collection of logical records (“comprehensive view of the user’s mini-world”)

# Internal and Physical Levels

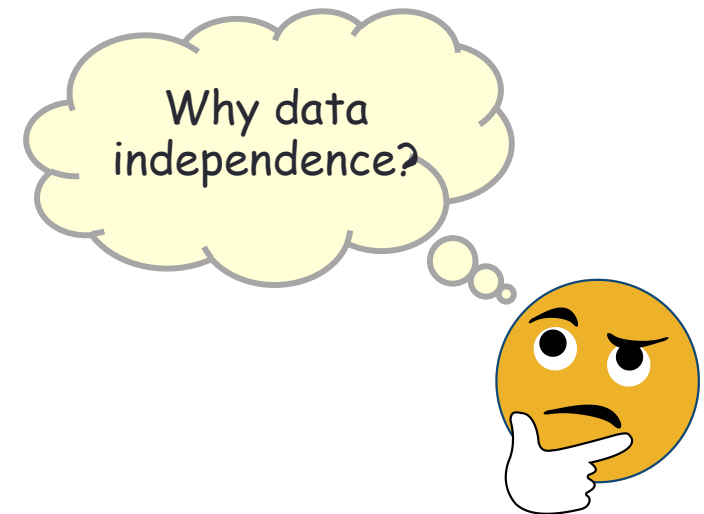
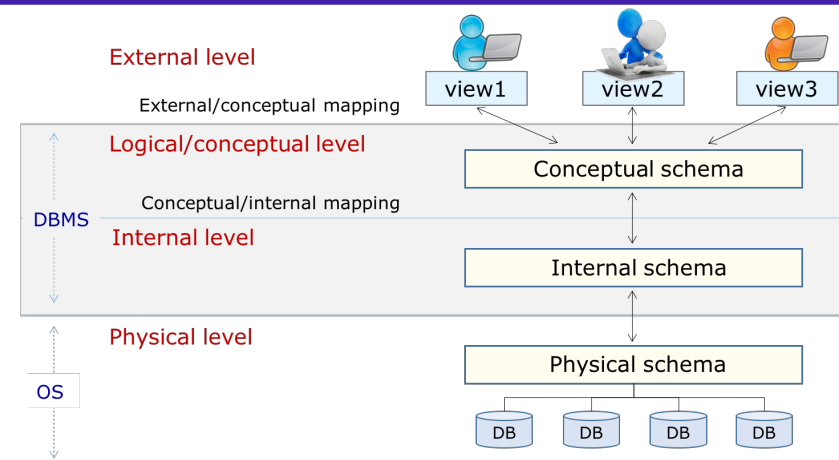
- **Internal level** deals with physical implementation of the database, responsible by DBMS
- **Physical level** is managed by operating system
- **Internal schema** – a complete description of the internal model
  - Describe how data are represented, how records are sequenced, what indexes exist, ...



# Data Independence

**Data independence** – upper levels are unaffected by changes to lower levels

- **Logical data independence** – changes to logical model do not impact external models
- **Physical data independence** – changes to internal model or physical do not impact logical model



[Ref: emoji by Ekarin Apirakthanakorn]

# How do we describe information?

Imagine we are working on a reservation system, where users schedule time slots for some centralized resource. There are several parts involved in the system. Let's focus on an appointment scheduler for vaccinations, where the users are patients and caregivers keeping track of vaccine stock and appointments.

Suppose we want to keep track of the patient IDs, names, vaccine and dose numbers, and the appointments.

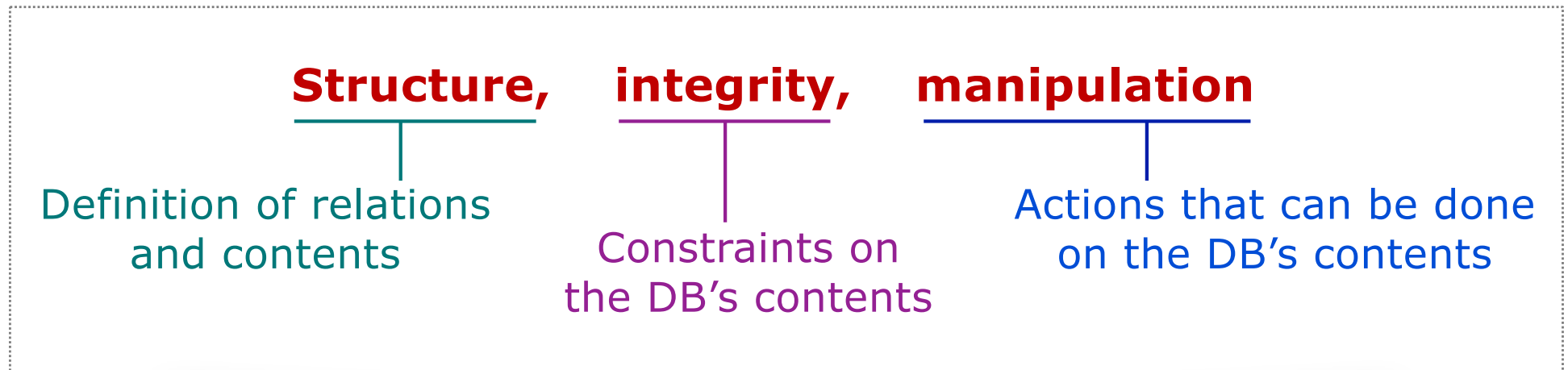
How do we describe the information?

PatientID	Name	Vaccine	Dose_number	Date	Time
123	Humpty	Pfizer	3	01/20/2024	9:00am-9:20am
345	Dumpty	Pfizer	2	01/24/2024	9:00am-9:20am
567	Wacky	Moderna	1	01/24/2024	9:20am-9:40am
...	...	...	...	...	...

# Data Model

**Data model** = a collection of concepts or notations for describing the data in a database

Three parts of a data model:



Allow us to deal with data **conceptually** without having to think about implementation

Data independence



# Data Model

- Relational

← Most DBMSs

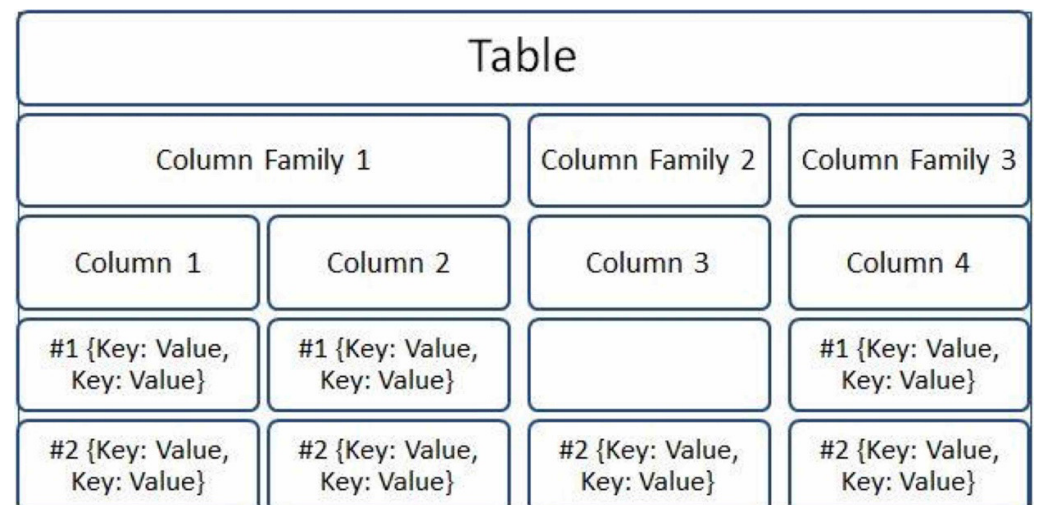
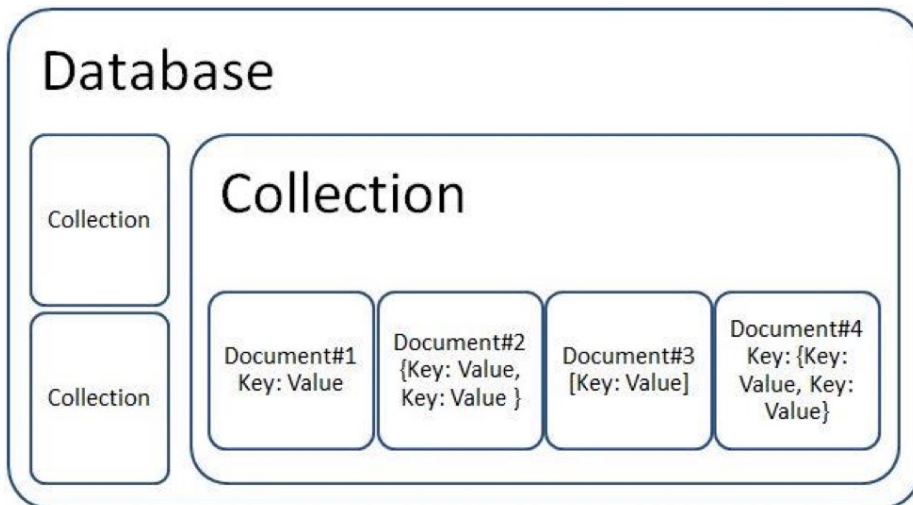
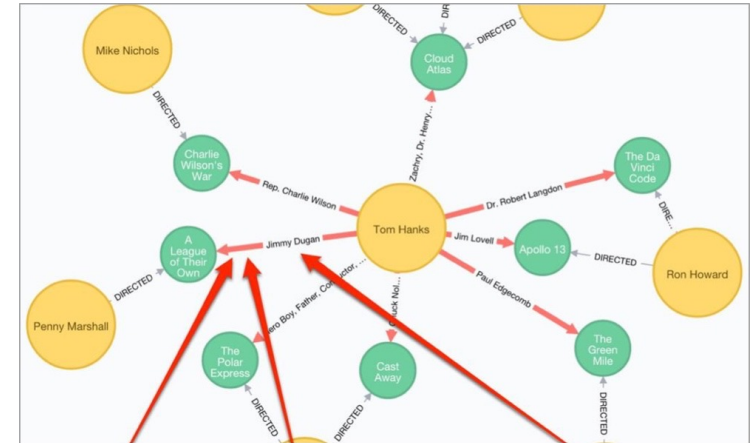
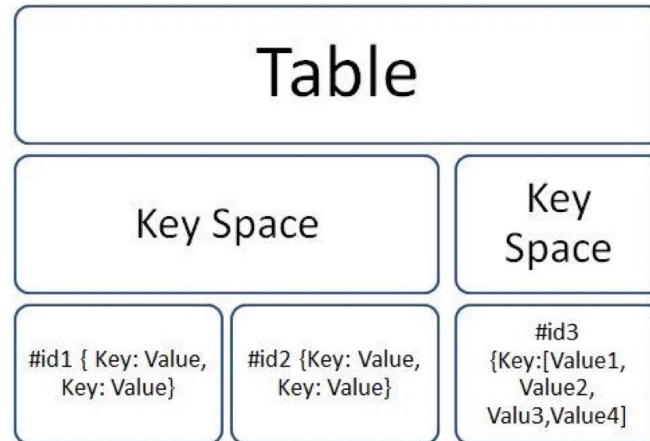
- Key/value
- Graph
- Document
- Column-family
- Array / matrix
- Hierarchical
- Network

Title	Year	Length	Genre
Gone with the wind	1939	231	drama
Star wars	1977	124	sciFi
Wayne's World	1992	95	comedy

# Data Model

- Relational
- ← NoSQL

- Key/value
- Graph
- Document
- Column-family



# Data Model

- Relational
- Key/value
- Graph
- Document
- Column-family

• Array / matrix

← Machine learning

• Hierarchical

• Network

← Obsolete / rare

	<i>Joe</i>	<i>Ann</i>	<i>Bob</i>
<i>Joe</i>	0	1	0
<i>Ann</i>	1	0	1
<i>Bob</i>	0	1	0

# Data Model

- Relational

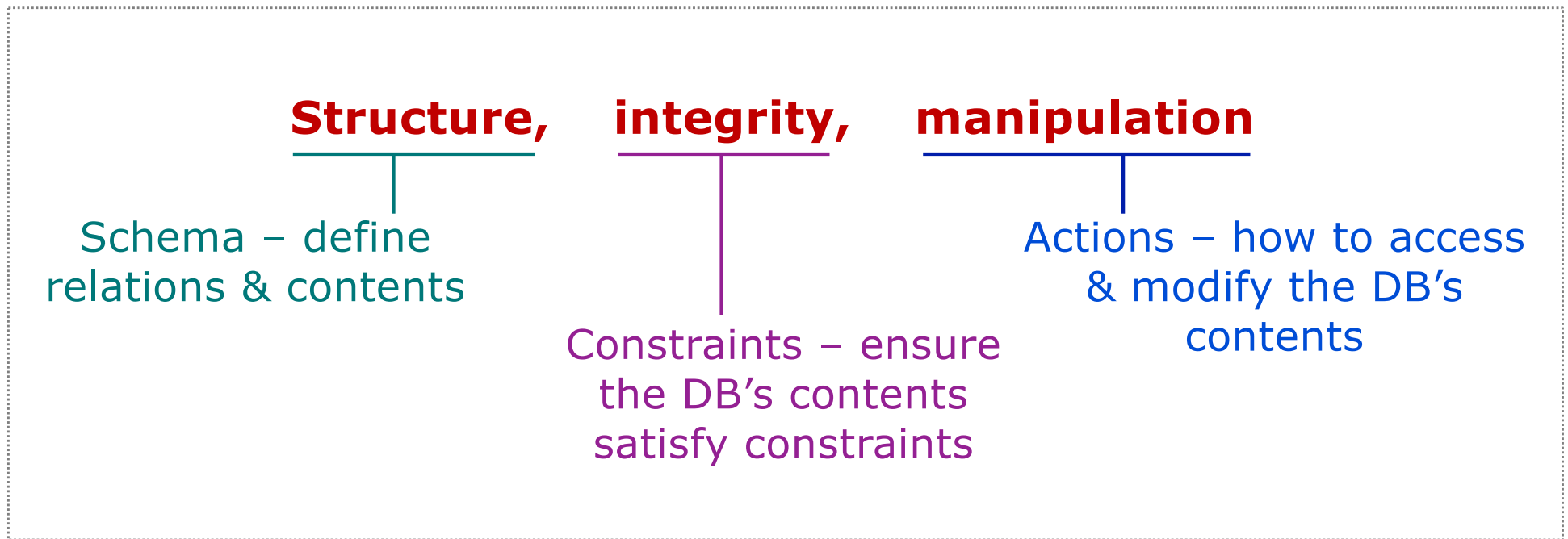
← This course

- Key/value
- Graph
- Document
- Column-family
- Array / matrix
- Hierarchical
- Network

title	year	length	genre
Gone with the wind	1939	231	drama
Star wars	1977	124	sciFi
Wayne's World	1992	95	comedy

# Relational Model

Three parts:



Relational model gives us a single way to represent data as a two-dimensional table called a “**relation**”

# Relational Model

## Relational model

Relational Algebra

*relation name* →

*attribute* ↓

title	year	length	genre
Gone with the wind	1939	231	drama
Star wars	1977	124	sciFi
Wayne's world	1992	95	comedy

← *tuple*

Relation = **set** of tuples (thus no duplicate), has no order

## Actual DB / SQL

SQL

*table name* →

*column* ↓

title	year	length	genre
Gone with the wind	1939	231	drama
Star wars	1977	124	sciFi
Wayne's world	1992	95	comedy

← *row / record*

Table = **list** of rows (thus can have duplicates), has order

# Relational Model

*relation name* → **movies**

*attribute* ↓

<b>title</b>	<b>year</b>	<b>length</b>	<b>genre</b>
Gone with the wind	1939	231	drama
Star wars	1977	124	sciFi
Wayne's world	1992	95	comedy

← *tuple*

**Relation** = unordered set of tuples that contain the relationship of attributes

n-ary relation = table with n columns

**Tuple** = set of attribute values ("**domain**") in the relation

- Values are (normally) **atomic**
- The special value **NULL** is a member of every domain

# Schema

**Schema** – logical design of the database (describe the tables),  
not generally change (note order of attributes)

movies

title	year	length	genre
Gone with the wind	1939	231	drama
Star wars	1977	124	sciFi
Wayne's world	1992	95	comedy

Write a **schema statement** for the above relation

```
schema    movies(title, year, length, genre)
          movies(title:string, year:integer, length:integer, genre:string)
```



# Instance

**Instance** – data stored in the database at a given time (set of tuples), change from time to time

movies

tuple →	title	year	length	genre	← instance
	Gone with the wind	1939	231	drama	
	Star wars	1977	124	sciFi	
	Wayne's world	1992	95	comedy	

Write the selected tuple

tuple      (Star wars, 1977, 124, sciFi)

Write the selected instance

instance    {(Star wars, 1977, 124, sciFi),(Wayne's world, 1992, 95, comedy) }

# Keys of Relations

To specify which tuple, use the attribute values of a tuple to distinguish (uniquely identify the tuple)

movies

title	year	length	genre
Gone with the wind	1939	231	drama
Star wars	1977	124	sciFi
Wayne's world	1992	95	comedy

Make use of the real-world fact

Assumption:

- A movie may be remade in different years
- For each year, many movies may be made

Write a **schema statement** for the above relation, indicate the key of the relation

movies(title, year, length, genre)

# Super Key – Candidate Key – Primary Key

**Super key** – any attribute(s) that can uniquely identify a tuple

**Candidate key** – minimal super key

**Primary key** – a candidate key that is the most important key

Students\_info

computingID	SSN	name
mi1y	111-11-1111	Mickey
mi2e	222-22-2222	Minnie
do3d	333-33-3333	Donald
da4y	444-44-4444	Daisy
do5d	555-55-5555	Donald

Identify **super key**

computingID  
SSN  
computingID+SSN  
computingID+name  
SSN+name  
computingID+SSN+name

Start with  
assumptions

# Super Key – Candidate Key – Primary Key

**Super key** – any attribute(s) that can uniquely identify a tuple

**Candidate key** – **minimal** super key

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Students\_info

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do3d	333-33-3333	Donald
da4y	444-44-4444	Daisy
do5d	555-55-5555	Donald

Identify **candidate key**

computingID  
SSN

# Super Key – Candidate Key – Primary Key

**Super key** – any attribute(s) that can uniquely identify a tuple

**Candidate key** – minimal super key

**Primary key** – a candidate key that is the **most important** key

Students\_info

computingID	SSN	name
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do3d	333-33-3333	Donald
da4y	444-44-4444	Daisy
do5d	555-55-5555	Donald

Identify **primary key**

computingID

# Primary Keys

A relation's **primary key** uniquely identifies a single tuple

movies

title	year	length	genre
Gone with the wind	1939	231	drama
Star wars	1977	124	sciFi
Wayne's world	1992	95	comedy

**The characteristics of  
primary keys**



Unique

Every tuple has

Not empty,  
not NULL

No change

Most important  
candidate key

Meaningful

# Primary Keys

Some DBMSs automatically create an internal primary key if none is defined for the relation

Auto-generation of unique integer primary keys:

- **SEQUENCE** (SQL: 2003)

movies

id	title	year	length	genre
123	Gone with the wind	1939	231	drama
456	Star wars	1977	124	sciFi
789	Wayne's world	1992	95	comedy

- **AUTO\_INCREMENT** (MySQL)

# Foreign Keys

A **foreign key** specifies that an attribute from one relation has to map to a tuple in another relation

Attribute(s) that uniquely identify a row in another table

Artist(id, name, year, country)

id	name	year	country
123	Mickey	1992	USA
456	Minnie	1992	USA
789	Donald	1994	USA

Primary key

Album(id, name, artists, year)

id	name	artists	year
11	Mickey's Club House	123	1993
22	Awesome Minnie	456	1994
33	Most wanted	789	1995

Foreign key

How about 2 artists (123 and 789)?

33	Most wanted	123	1995
33	Most wanted	789	1995



# Foreign Keys

ArtistAlbum(artist\_id, album\_id)

artist_id	album_id
123	11
123	33
789	33
456	22

PK

Artist(id, name, year, country)

id	name	year	country
123	Mickey	1992	USA
456	Minnie	1992	USA
789	Donald	1994	USA

PK

Album(id, name, year)

id	name	year
11	Mickey's Club House	1993
22	Awesome Minnie	1994
33	Most wanted	1995

PK

How about a primary key?

# Characteristics of Relational Model

- Originally defined with **Set semantics** (no duplicate tuples)
- Attributes are typed and **static** (INTEGER, FLOAT, ...)
- Tables are **flat**
- Attribute values are **atomic**
- Order of tuples doesn't matter

id	name	year	country
123	Mickey	1992	USA
456	Minnie	1992	USA
789	Donald	1994	USA

=

id	name	year	country
456	Minnie	1992	USA
789	Donald	1994	USA
123	Mickey	1992	USA

# Recap: Relational Model

**Does the following table satisfy the characteristics of relational model?**

id	name	year	country
123	Mickey	1992	USA
456	Minnie	1992	USA
789	Donald	1994	USA
567	Humpty	2016	USA
567	Humpty	2016	USA

No. Violates set semantics

# Recap: Relational Model (2)

**Does the following table satisfy the characteristics of relational model?**

id	name	year	country
123	Mickey	1992	USA
456	Minney	1992	USA
789	Donald	1994	USA
567	Humpty	banana	USA

No. Violates attribute type, assuming INT

# Recap: Relational Model (3)

**Does the following table satisfy the characteristics of relational model?**

id	name	year	country	
123	Mickey	1992	country	note
			USA	Some info
			USA	Another info
456	Minnie	1992	USA	
789	Donald	1994	USA	
567	Humpty	2016	USA	

No. No sub-tables allowed;  
must be flat and atomic

# Recap: Relational Model (4)

How are these data actually stored?

id	name	year	country
123	Mickey	1992	USA
456	Minnie	1992	USA
789	Donald	1994	USA
567	Humpty	2016	USA

Don't know. Don't care.

**“Physical Data Independence”**

# Wrap-Up

- Database architecture – separation of concerns
- Data independence – physical and logical
- Data model – schema, integrity, manipulation
- Relational model
- Key constraints – super key, candidate key, primary key, foreign key

## What's next?

- DB design – using E-R model
- Mapping E-R model to schemas