Data Models, Queries, Evaluation (Chapter 1)

Peter Revesz

CSCE 413/813
Computer Science and Engineering
University of Nebraska – Lincoln

What are Database Systems?

Database systems are software that provide

- abstract data models,
- easy-to-use queries
- good query evaluation performance.

Example Database System

- MySQL
- Oracle
- MLPQ

Data Abstraction

Data Abstraction Features:

- Hides some parts of the data that are unimportant.
- Makes queries easier.

Data Abstraction Increases over Time

1960s – Hierarchical Databases and Network Databases

Tables represented as linked lists, queries used pointers to search for data.

1970 – Relational Databases introduced by Edgar F. Codd at IBM research

IBM, which already marketed Hierarchical Databases, did not embrace the idea. Many experts thought that Relational Databases will never be practical because they require more computer memory than other databases. Larry Ellison, founder of Oracle, saw an opportunity to develop commercial Relational Databases.

- 1980s Oracle first to market Relational Databases
- 2000s practical Geographic Information Systems

Data Models

Some examples of different types of data:

- Tax records
- Maps
- Photos
- Music
- Genomes

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- B) Maps
- C) Photos
- D) Music
- E) Genomes

Out of the above, what type of data can relational databases handle?

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