Chapter 1: Introduction

Database System Concepts, 5th Ed.

Chapter 1: Introduction

- Purpose of Database Systems
- View of Data
- Database Languages
- Relational Databases
- Database Design
- Object-based and semistructured databases
- Data Storage and Querying
- Transaction Management
- Database Architecture
- Database Users and Administrators
- Overall Structure
- History of Database Systems

Database Management System (DBMS)

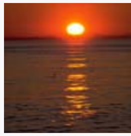
- DBMS contains information about a particular enterprise
  - Collection of interrelated data
  - Set of programs to access the data
  - An environment that is both *convenient* and *efficient* to use
- Database Applications:
  - Banking: all transactions
  - Airlines: reservations, schedules
  - Universities: registration, grades
  - Sales: customers, products, purchases
  - Online retailers: order tracking, customized recommendations
  - Manufacturing: production, inventory, orders, supply chain
  - Human resources: employee records, salaries, tax deductions
- Databases touch all aspects of our lives

Purpose of Database Systems

- In the early days, database applications were built directly on top of file systems
- Drawbacks of using file systems to store data:
  - Data redundancy and inconsistency
    - Multiple file formats, duplication of information in different files
  - Difficulty in accessing data
    - Need to write a new program to carry out each new task
  - Data isolation — multiple files and formats
  - Integrity problems
    - Integrity constraints (e.g. account balance > 0) become “buried” in program code rather than being stated explicitly
    - Hard to add new constraints or change existing ones

Purpose of Database Systems (Cont.)

- Drawbacks of using file systems (cont.)
  - Atomicity of updates
    - Failures may leave database in an inconsistent state with partial updates carried out
    - Example: Transfer of funds from one account to another should either complete or not happen at all
  - Concurrent access by multiple users
    - Concurrent accessed needed for performance
    - Uncontrolled concurrent accesses can lead to inconsistencies
      - Example: Two people reading a balance and updating it at the same time
  - Security problems
    - Hard to provide user access to some, but not all, data
- Database systems offer solutions to all the above problems



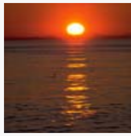
Levels of Abstraction

- **Physical level:** describes how a record (e.g., customer) is stored.
- **Logical level:** describes data stored in database, and the relationships among the data.

  type *customer* = **record**

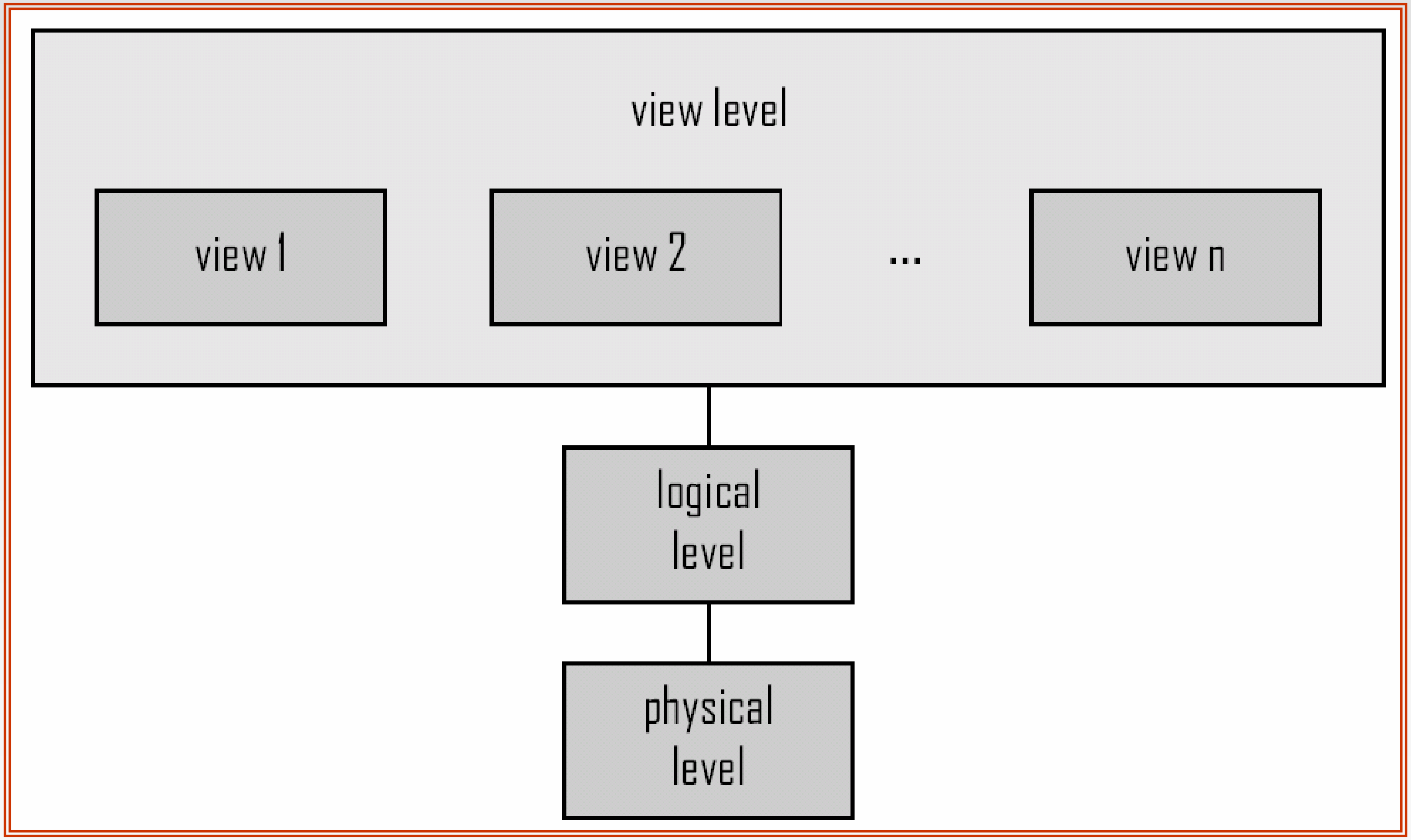
  customer_id : string;
  customer_name : string;
  customer_street : string;
  customer_city : integer;

  end;
- **View level:** application programs hide details of data types. Views can also hide information (such as an employee's salary) for security purposes.



View of Data

An architecture for a database system



Instances and Schemas

- Similar to types and variables in programming languages
- **Schema** – the logical structure of the database
  - Example: The database consists of information about a set of customers and accounts and the relationship between them)
  - Analogous to type information of a variable in a program
  - **Physical schema**: database design at the physical level
  - **Logical schema**: database design at the logical level
- **Instance** – the actual content of the database at a particular point in time
  - Analogous to the value of a variable
- **Physical Data Independence** – the ability to modify the physical schema without changing the logical schema
  - Applications depend on the logical schema
  - In general, the interfaces between the various levels and components should be well defined so that changes in some parts do not seriously influence others.

Data Models

- A collection of tools for describing
  - Data
  - Data relationships
  - Data semantics
  - Data constraints
- Relational model
- Entity-Relationship data model (mainly for database design)
- Object-based data models (Object-oriented and Object-relational)
- Semistructured data model (XML)
- Other older models:
  - Network model
  - Hierarchical model

Data Manipulation Language (DML)

- Language for accessing and manipulating the data organized by the appropriate data model
  - DML also known as query language
- Two classes of languages
  - **Procedural** – user specifies what data is required and how to get those data
  - **Declarative (nonprocedural)** – user specifies what data is required without specifying how to get those data
- SQL is the most widely used query language

Data Definition Language (DDL)

- Specification notation for defining the database schema

  Example: **create table** *account* (
  account-number **char**(10),
  balance **integer**)

- DDL compiler generates a set of tables stored in a *data dictionary*
- Data dictionary contains metadata (i.e., data about data)
  - Database schema
  - Data *storage and definition* language
    - Specifies the storage structure and access methods used
  - Integrity constraints
    - Domain constraints
    - Referential integrity (**references** constraint in SQL)
    - Assertions
  - Authorization

Relational Model

Attributes

- Example of tabular data in the relational model

customer_id	*customer_name*	*customer_street*	*customer_city*	*account_number*
192-83-7465	Johnson	12 Alma St.	Palo Alto	A-101
192-83-7465	Johnson	12 Alma St.	Palo Alto	A-201
677-89-9011	Hayes	3 Main St.	Harrison	A-102
182-73-6091	Turner	123 Putnam St.	Stamford	A-305
321-12-3123	Jones	100 Main St.	Harrison	A-217
336-66-9999	Lindsay	175 Park Ave.	Pittsfield	A-222
019-28-3746	Smith	72 North St.	Rye	A-201

A Sample Relational Database

customer_id	*customer_name*	*customer_street*	*customer_city*
192-83-7465	Johnson	12 Alma St.	Palo Alto
677-89-9011	Hayes	3 Main St.	Harrison
182-73-6091	Turner	123 Putnam Ave.	Stamford
321-12-3123	Jones	100 Main St.	Harrison
336-66-9999	Lindsay	175 Park Ave.	Pittsfield
019-28-3746	Smith	72 North St.	Rye

(a) The *customer* table

account_number	*balance*
A-101	500
A-215	700
A-102	400
A-305	350
A-201	900
A-217	750
A-222	700

(b) The *account* table

customer_id	*account_number*
192-83-7465	A-101
192-83-7465	A-201
019-28-3746	A-215
677-89-9011	A-102
182-73-6091	A-305
321-12-3123	A-217
336-66-9999	A-222
019-28-3746	A-201

(c) The *depositor* table

SQL

- **SQL**: widely used non-procedural language
  - Example: Find the name of the customer with customer-id 192-83-7465
    select *customer.customer_name*
    from *customer*
    where *customer.customer_id* = ‘192-83-7465’
  - Example: Find the balances of all accounts held by the customer with customer-id 192-83-7465
    select *account.balance*
    from *depositor*, *account*
    where *depositor.customer_id* = ‘192-83-7465’ **and**
    depositor.account_number = *account.account_number*
- Application programs generally access databases through one of
  - Language extensions to allow embedded SQL
  - Application program interface (e.g., ODBC/JDBC) which allow SQL queries to be sent to a database

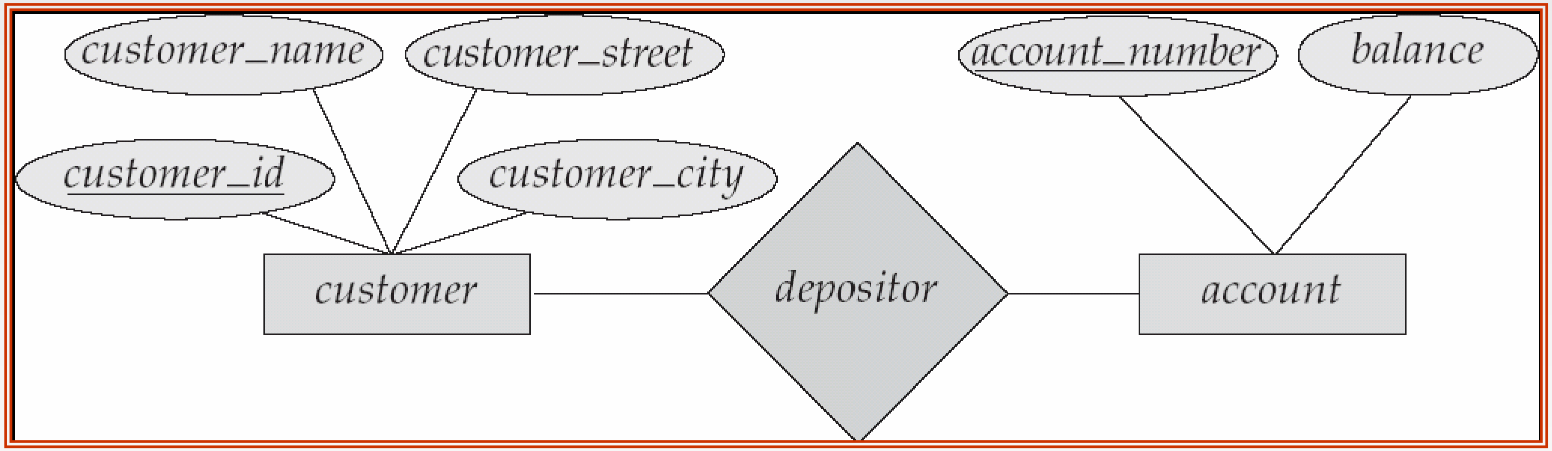
Database Design

The process of designing the general structure of the database:

- Logical Design – Deciding on the database schema. Database design requires that we find a "good" collection of relation schemas.
  - Business decision – What attributes should we record in the database?
  - Computer Science decision – What relation schemas should we have and how should the attributes be distributed among the various relation schemas?
- Physical Design – Deciding on the physical layout of the database

The Entity-Relationship Model

- Models an enterprise as a collection of *entities* and *relationships*
  - Entity: a “thing” or “object” in the enterprise that is distinguishable from other objects
    - Described by a set of *attributes*
  - Relationship: an association among several entities
- Represented diagrammatically by an *entity-relationship diagram:*



Object-Relational Data Models

- Extend the relational data model by including object orientation and constructs to deal with added data types.
- Allow attributes of tuples to have complex types, including non-atomic values such as nested relations.
- Preserve relational foundations, in particular the declarative access to data, while extending modeling power.
- Provide upward compatibility with existing relational languages.

XML: Extensible Markup Language

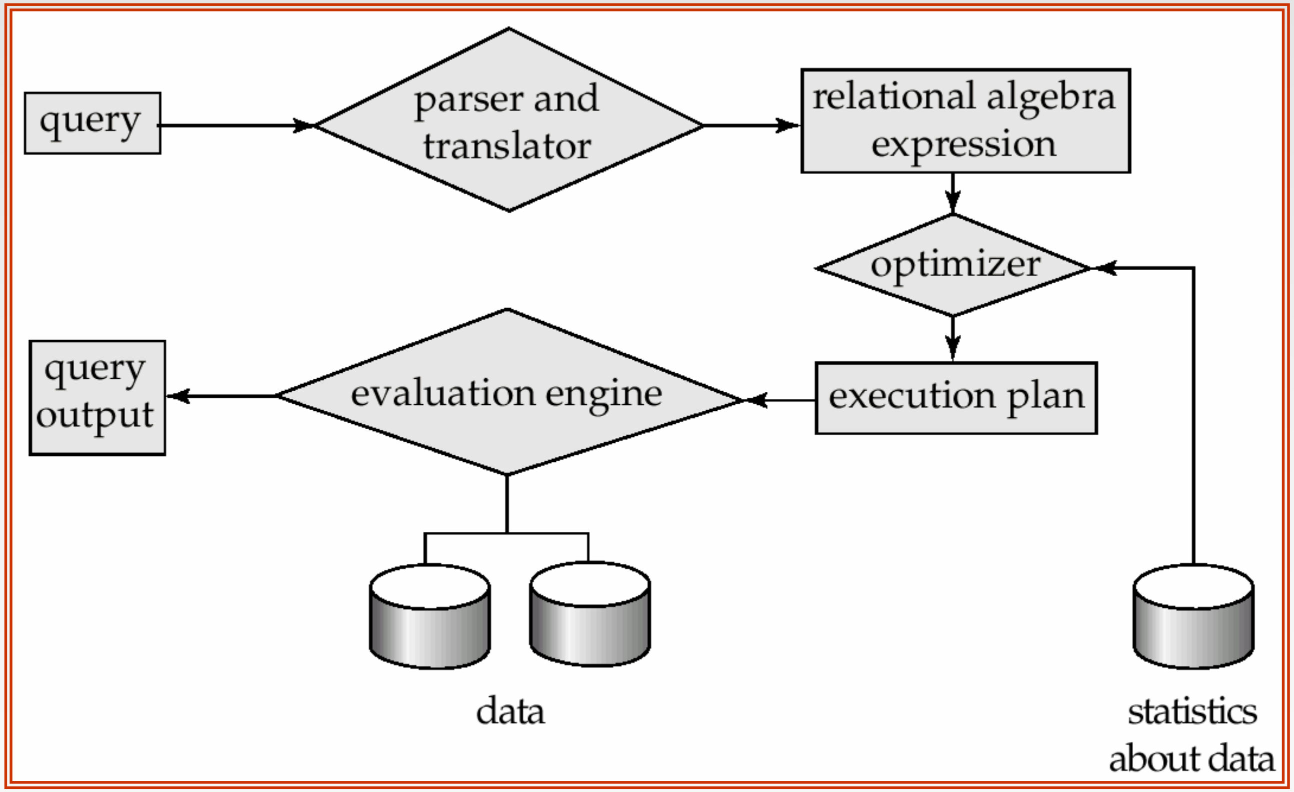
- Defined by the WWW Consortium (W3C)
- Originally intended as a document markup language not a database language
- The ability to specify new tags, and to create nested tag structures made XML a great way to exchange **data**, not just documents
- XML has become the basis for all new generation data interchange formats.
- A wide variety of tools is available for parsing, browsing and querying XML documents/data

Storage Management

- **Storage manager** is a program module that provides the interface between the low-level data stored in the database and the application programs and queries submitted to the system.
- The storage manager is responsible to the following tasks:
  - Interaction with the file manager
  - Efficient storing, retrieving and updating of data
- Issues:
  - Storage access
  - File organization
  - Indexing and hashing

Query Processing

1. Parsing and translation
2. Optimization
3. Evaluation



Query Processing (Cont.)

- Alternative ways of evaluating a given query
  - Equivalent expressions
  - Different algorithms for each operation
- Cost difference between a good and a bad way of evaluating a query can be enormous
- Need to estimate the cost of operations
  - Depends critically on statistical information about relations which the database must maintain
  - Need to estimate statistics for intermediate results to compute cost of complex expressions

Transaction Management

- A **transaction** is a collection of operations that performs a single logical function in a database application
- **Transaction-management component** ensures that the database remains in a consistent (correct) state despite system failures (e.g., power failures and operating system crashes) and transaction failures.
- **Concurrency-control manager** controls the interaction among the concurrent transactions, to ensure the consistency of the database.

Database Architecture

The architecture of a database systems is greatly influenced by the underlying computer system on which the database is running:

- Centralized
- Client-server
- Parallel (multi-processor)
- Distributed

Database Users

Users are differentiated by the way they expect to interact with

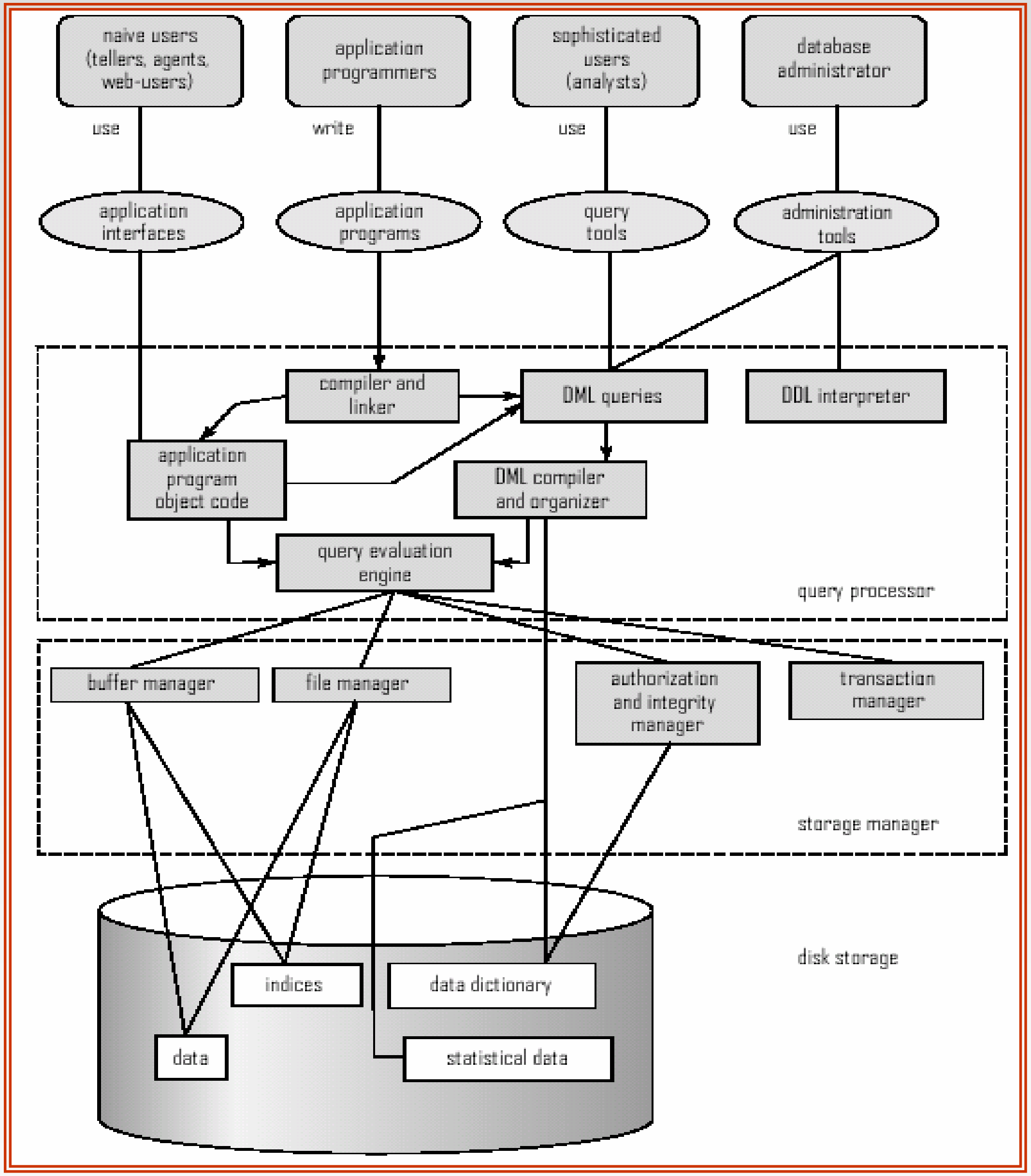
the system

- **Application programmers** – interact with system through DML calls
- **Sophisticated users** – form requests in a database query language
- **Specialized users** – write specialized database applications that do not fit into the traditional data processing framework
- **Naïve users** – invoke one of the permanent application programs that have been written previously
  - Examples, people accessing database over the web, bank tellers, clerical staff

Database Administrator

- Coordinates all the activities of the database system; the database administrator has a good understanding of the enterprise's information resources and needs.
- Database administrator's duties include:
  - Schema definition
  - Storage structure and access method definition
  - Schema and physical organization modification
  - Granting user authority to access the database
  - Specifying integrity constraints
  - Acting as liaison with users
  - Monitoring performance and responding to changes in requirements

Overall System Structure



History of Database Systems

- 1950s and early 1960s:
  - Data processing using magnetic tapes for storage
    - Tapes provide only sequential access
  - Punched cards for input
- Late 1960s and 1970s:
  - Hard disks allow direct access to data
  - Network and hierarchical data models in widespread use
  - Ted Codd defines the relational data model
    - Would win the ACM Turing Award for this work
    - IBM Research begins System R prototype
    - UC Berkeley begins Ingres prototype
  - High-performance (for the era) transaction processing

History (cont.)

- 1980s:
  - Research relational prototypes evolve into commercial systems
    - SQL becomes industrial standard
  - Parallel and distributed database systems
  - Object-oriented database systems
- 1990s:
  - Large decision support and data-mining applications
  - Large multi-terabyte data warehouses
  - Emergence of Web commerce
- 2000s:
  - XML and XQuery standards
  - Automated database administration

End of Chapter 1

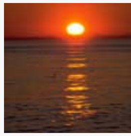


Figure 1.4

customer_id	*account_number*	*balance*
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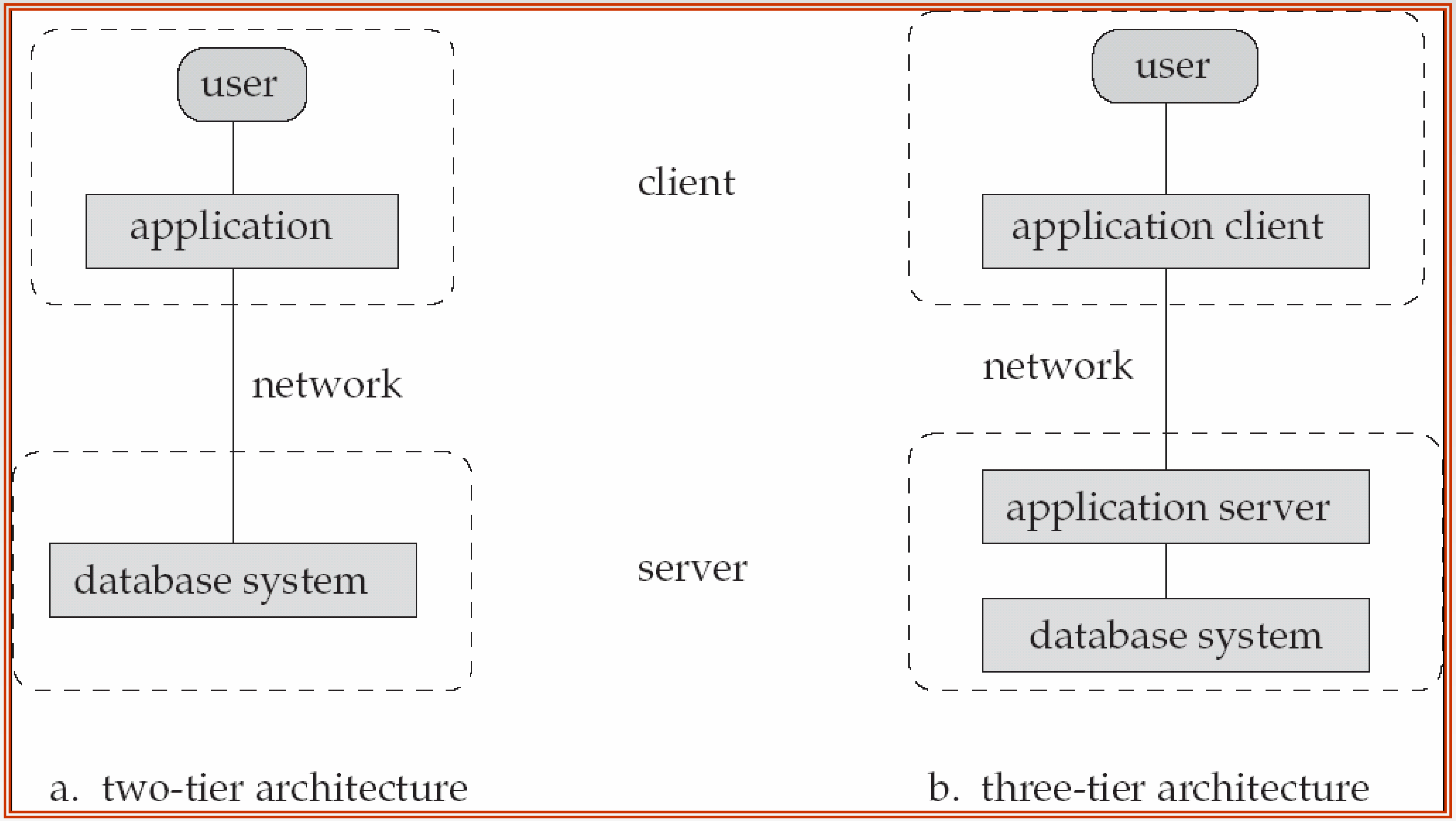
Figure 1.7


user
application
client
network
database system
server
a. two-tier architecture
user
application client
network
application server
database system
b. three-tier architecture