# Component 4: Introduction to Information and Computer Science

Unit 6a
Databases and SQL

### Topics In This Unit

Topic I: Define and describe the purpose of databases

Topic II: Define a relational database

Topic III: Describe the SQL querying language

Topic IV: Design a simple relational database using data modeling and normalization

Topic V: Define the basic data operations for databases and how to implement them in SQL

Topic VI: Create simple querying statements for the database

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## Topic I Define and Describe the Purpose of Databases

Storage prior to databases
Other forms of storing data
Purposes of databases
Database hierarchy and terminology
Deletion anomaly

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#### Data Storage Prior to Databases

#### Disk file storage Lists stored on disk

Problems/shortcomings of disk file storage
Data was repeated in multiple disk files (each file
needed to have customer identification data)

Only key data is repeated in a database.

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#### Data Storage Prior to Databases Cont.

- A change to repeated data meant that all locations of the data had to be updated.
  - A change to data in a database is usually only done in one place.
- Security risks were relatively high
  - Database security, while still being a problem provided less risk than disk files.
- Conflicting data storage was relatively high
  - Conflicting data in a database is rare

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### Problems with Data Storage Prior to Databases Cont.

- If you kept more than one kind of data in a file and you deleted one type, you deleted the other type along with it
  - Database provided a way to delete each kind of data without deleting any other types.
- Required transaction fields for a new potential customer might mean that you couldn't add new customer information without there being a transaction.
  - Database splits the information so that the new customer information can be added.

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### Problems with Data Storage Prior to Databases Cont.

- All data on a disk file record had to be input even if you didn't need all the data. I/O is the slowest thing that the computer does.
  - Data from a database can be input selectively
- Data from a disk file often required special programming code to be processed.
  - Databases require less special coding

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### Other Methods of Data Storage

- Arrays are used in programs to store relatively small amounts of repetitive data
  - Databases can store large amounts of repetitive
- Spreadsheets store data that must be visible all the time.
  - Data in a database is not visible all the time.
- Conclusion: Databases are a powerful way to store data

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### **Spreadsheet Business Example**

|           | Name  |        |                               | Co Address          |           |      |       | Phone            |                    |
|-----------|-------|--------|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|------|-------|------------------|--------------------|
| SSN       | Last  | First  | Company Street City State Zip | Zip                 | Email     |      |       |                  |                    |
| 123456789 | Leaf  | Letice | AAA<br>Nursery                | 22 SW<br>Barbur Blv | Portland  | OR   | 97219 | (503)<br>7186542 | Ileaf@anursery.com |
| 135798642 | Lace  | Fancy  | AAA<br>Nursery                | 22 SW<br>Barbur Blv | Portland  | OR   | 97219 | (503)<br>7186542 | flace@anursery.com |
| 148624862 | Ulous | Redic  | Amboy<br>Const                | 14 S.<br>Barney Rd. | Beaverton | OR   | 97318 | (503)<br>3254871 | rulous@amboyc.com  |
| 159515951 | Basse | Data   | CD<br>Software                | 405 NW<br>Kinney    | Portland  | OR   | 97503 | (503)<br>2423224 | dbasse@cdsoft.com  |
| 172839405 | Tnea  | Coma   | Soda                          | 55 N.<br>Marinn     | Portland  | O.B. | 97503 | (503)<br>4454447 | ctose@sdawrks.com  |

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### Purpose of a Database

- Receive data
- Store data in a unique repetitive fashion
- Retrieve data on command
- Provide internal security

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## Hierarchy and Terminology of a Database

Data field
File Record Elementary data
Database Table Row Column
Tuple Attribute

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### Fixing the Deletion Anomaly

