



Learning Objectives

- Describe how the problems of managing data resources in a traditional file environment are solved by a database management system
- Describe the capabilities and value of a database management system
- Apply important database design principles
- Evaluate tools and technologies for accessing information from databases to improve business performance and decision making
- Assess the role of information policy, data administration, and data quality assurance in the management of a firm's data resources

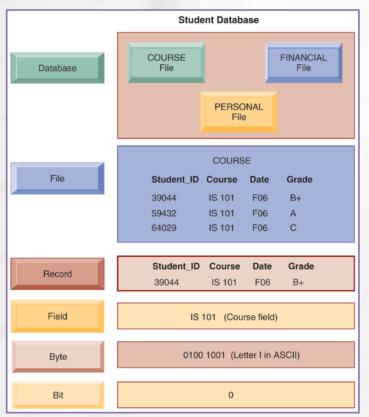
RR Donnelley Tries to Master Its Data

- Problem: Explosive growth created information management challenges.
- Solutions: Use MDM to create an enterprise-wide set of data, preventing unnecessary data duplication.
- Master data management (MDM) enables companies like R.R.
 Donnelley to eliminate outdated, incomplete or incorrectly formatted data.
- Demonstrates IT's role in successful data management.
- Illustrates digital technology's role in storing and organizing data.

- File organization concepts
- Database: Group of related files
- File: Group of records of same type
- Record: Group of related fields
- Field: Group of characters as word(s) or number
- Describes an entity (person, place, thing on which we store information)
- Attribute: Each characteristic, or quality, describing entity
- E.g., Attributes Date or Grade belong to entity COURSE

THE DATA HIERARCHY

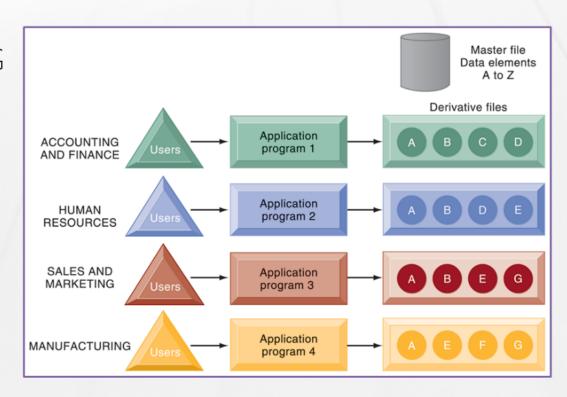
A computer system organizes data in a hierarchy that starts with the bit, which represents either a O or a l. Bits can be grouped to form a byte to represent one character, number, or symbol. Bytes can be grouped to form a field, and related fields can be grouped to form a record. Related records can be collected to form a file, and related files can be organized into a database.



- Problems with the traditional file environment (files maintained separately by different departments)
- -- Data redundancy:
- Presence of duplicate data in multiple files
- -- Data inconsistency:
- · Same attribute has different values
- --Program-data dependence:
- When changes in program requires changes to data accessed by program
- ---Lack of flexibility
- ---Poor security
- ---Lack of data sharing and availability

TRADITIONAL FILE PROCESSING

The use of a traditional approach to file processing encourages each functional area in a corporation to develop specialized applications. Each application requires a unique data file that is likely to be a subset of the master file. These subsets of the master file lead to data redundancy and inconsistency, processing inflexibility, and wasted storage resources.



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The Database Approach to Data Management

- Database
- --Serves many applications by centralizing data and controlling redundant data
 - Database management system (DBMS)
- --Interfaces between applications and physical data files
- --Separates logical and physical views of data
- --Solves problems of traditional file environment
 - -Controls redundancy
 - -Eliminates inconsistency
 - -Uncouples programs and data
 - -Enables organization to centrally manage data and data security