Constraints Overview:

- Definition: Constraints are rules used for optimizing databases and ensuring data integrity during updates, deletes, or inserts into a table.
- Purpose: Maintain data integrity by setting limits on data or types of data that can be manipulated in a table.

Types of Constraints:

1. NOT NULL:

- Purpose: Ensures a column cannot have NULL values.
- Example: If a column has a NOT NULL constraint, it means you cannot leave it empty when adding a new record.

2. UNIQUE:

- Purpose: Requires a column or set of columns to have unique values.
- Example: If a column has a UNIQUE constraint, no two records in the table can have the same value in that column.

3. DEFAULT:

- Purpose: Provides a default value to a column if none is specified during an insert.
- Example: If a DEFAULT constraint is set for a column with a default value of 0, if no value is provided during an insert, it will automatically be set to 0.

4. CHECK:

- Purpose: Defines a range of acceptable values for a column.
- Example: If a CHECK constraint is set for a column with a range of 1 to 100, any value outside this range will be rejected.

5. Key Constraints:

a. Primary Key:

- Purpose: Uniquely identifies each record in a table.
- Conditions: Must have unique values and cannot contain NULL.
- Example: Social Security Number in an employee database.

b. Foreign Key:

- Purpose: Establishes a link between tables by referencing the primary key of another table.
- Example: If there's a foreign key in an "Orders" table pointing to the "CustomerID" in a "Customers" table, it creates a relationship between them.

6. Domain Constraints:

- Purpose: Enforces the data type for each column.
- Example: If a column is set to store only integers, it won't accept values like text or dates.

Related posts:

- 1. What is database management system (DBMS)? What are the tasks performed by users in DBMS?
- 2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of DBMS?
- 3. What do you understand by database users? Describe the different types of database users.
- 4. Who are data administrators? What are the functions of database administrator? OR Discuss the role of database administrator.
- 5. What is data abstraction? Explain different levels of abstraction.
- 6. Explain the differences between physical level, conceptual level and view level of data abstraction.
- 7. Explain the difference between database management system (DBMS) and file system.
- 8. Discuss the architecture of DBMS. What are the types of DBMS architecture?
- 9. What are data models? Briefly explain different types of data models.
- 10. Describe data schema and instances.
- 11. Describe data independence with its types
- 12. Describe the classification of database language. Which type of language is SQL?
- 13. Explain DBMS interfaces. What are the various DBMS interfaces?
- 14. What is ER model? What are the elements of ER model? What are the notations of ER diagram?
- 15. What do you understand by attributes and domain ?Explain various types of attributes used in conceptual data model.
- 16. Construct an ER diagram for University system.
- 17. Construct an ER diagram for the registrar's office
- 18. Explain the primary key, super key, foreign key and candidate key with example. OR Define key. Explain various types of keys.

- 19. What do you mean by a key to the relation? Explain the differences between super key, candidate key and primary key.
- 20. Explain generalization, specialization and aggregation. OR Compare generalization, specialization and aggregation with suitable examples.
- 21. What is Unified Modeling Language? Explain different types of UML.
- 22. What is relational model? Explain with example.
- 23. Consider the following relations:
- 24. What are the additional operations in relational algebra?
- 25. Explain integrity constraints.
- 26. Explain the following constraints: i. Entity integrity constraint. ii. Referential integrity constraint. iii. Domain constraint.
- 27. Describe mapping constraints with its types.
- 28. Explain how a database is modified in SQL. OR Explain database modification.
- 29. Discuss join and types with suitable example. Define join. Explain different types of join.
- 30. Describe the SQL set operations