

Preface

The present supplementary course material (referred to as: course material) is related to the Software Laboratory 5 subject that is a mandatory subject in the 6th semester of the Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Technical Informatics course offered by the BUTE Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Informatics. The aim of these workshops is to provide practical insight into the topics covered by the subject "Databases". The present course material supplements these four, databases related workshops.

Of course these workshops familiarize the students with only a limited part of the material covered during lectures: namely relational database maintenance and parts of application development. However, students are expected to capitalize on the technologies and methods learnt during the "Databases" lectures, such as relational data modeling, data modeling, relational schema design, query languages and transaction handling. As the database management main focus points shift continuously over the years, so the workshop topics evolve. That is the reason why in 1998 a new workshop illustrating the connection between Java language and databases was introduced; and in 2003 students got the chance to discover the opportunities behind XML-based data handling and application development as part of the new XQSL servlet workshop. Our primary goal is not to develop technical skills - except SQL, where this is also an objective - but to provide an opportunity for the students to explore the practical aspects of database management related technologies.

The Databases workshops are implemented using the (9i version of the) Oracle relational database management system. Due to the limited workshop and supplementary course material resources no attempts were made to transfer all the knowledge related to the widespread Oracle capabilities. Thus, putting together the workshop materials was a compromise situation.

Even though the editors and authors of the present supplementary course material have made considerable efforts to be exact, there might be minor errors in the published document. In these cases all feedbacks and remarks are welcomed in mail form to the following email address: gajdos@db.bme.hu.

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