

# Security Issues

- Defining authorized access to data / privileges  
*(who may access/change what?)*
- Enforcing authorized access (efficiently)  
*Both with internal logical controls (intra system)*  
*and against unauthorized access to system itself*
- Privilege hierarchy
- Access logs – audit trail
- Encryption
- Statistical databases

# Privileges

- Ability to:
  - Access
  - Add
  - Change
  - Referenceobjects in the database
- *May be:*
  - *Granted*
  - *Revoked*
  - *Inherited (recursively)*

# SQL Syntax for Privilege Control

**Data Control Language (DCL):**

**GRANT** <Privilege\_List>

**ON** <Object> ← Table name (or domain)

**TO** <User\_List> ← List of login ID's or **PUBLIC**

**[ WITH GRANT OPTION ]** ← Ability to grant to others  
(default is no secondary granting)

SELECT  
DELETE  
INSERT (attribute list)  
UPDATE (attribute list)  
REFERENCES (attribute list)

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## For Example:

**GRANT** SELECT

**ON** PRODUCT

**TO** PUBLIC

---

**GRANT** UPDATE (BonusPct)

**ON** SALES

**TO** SALES\_MGR

---

**GRANT** DELETE

**ON** EMPLOYEE

**TO** PERSONNEL\_MGR

# Additional Privileges

**CREATE INDEX** ← Why should this be a separate privilege?

**CREATE TABLE**

**CREATE VIEW**



**CREATE TABLESPACE** ← Space allocation (DBA)

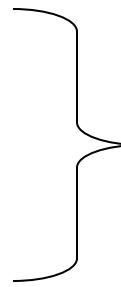
**CREATE USER**

**CREATE PROCEDURE** ← Restricted separately because others  
can use with privileges of owner

ALSO **ALTER**, **DROP**, ...

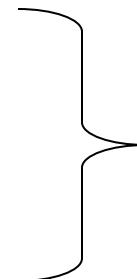
# Granting Power to Grant Privileges

```
GRANT UPDATE (Bonus_Pct)  
ON      SALES  
TO      SALES_MGR  
WITH GRANT OPTION
```



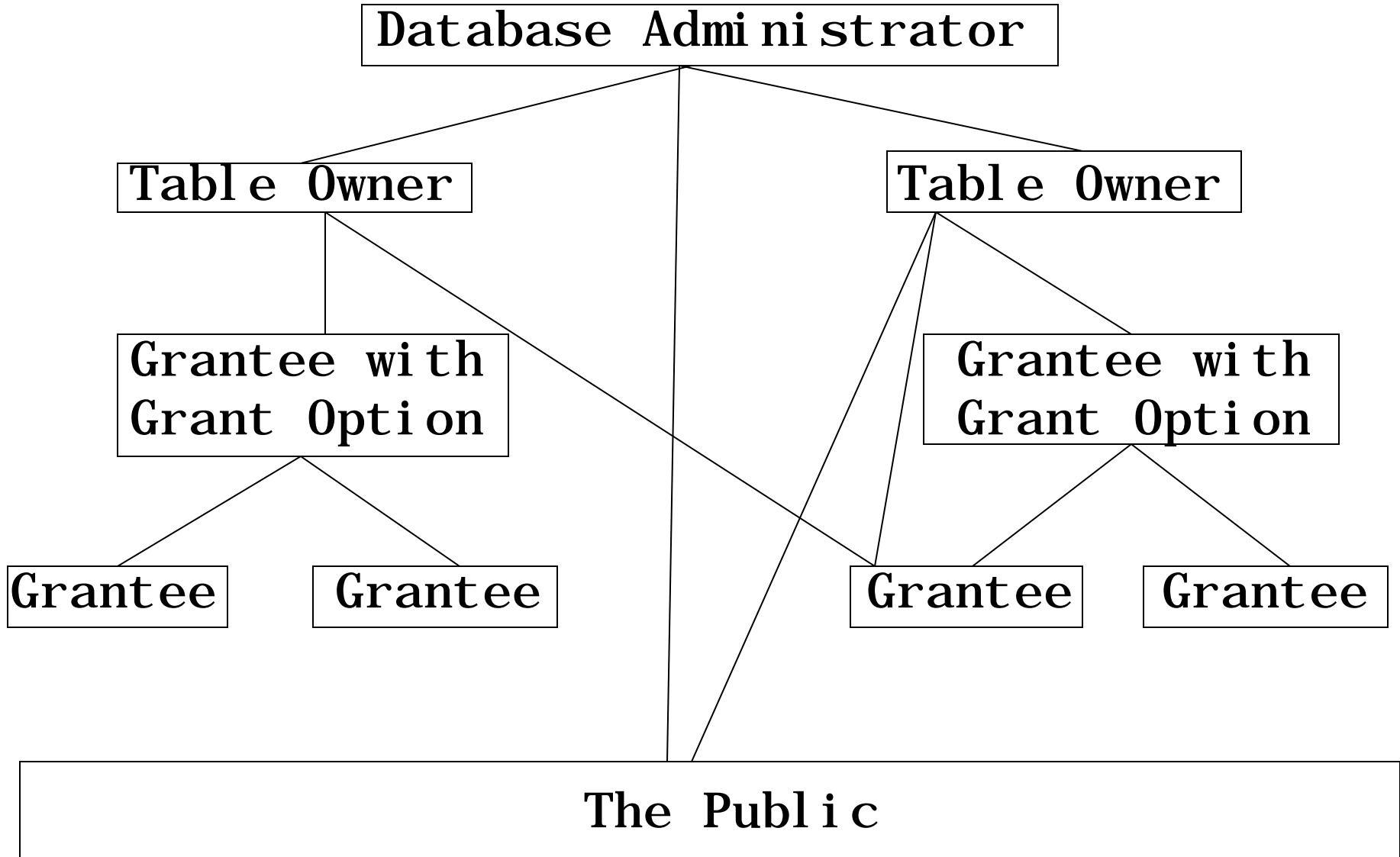
Executed by database administrator (DBA)

```
GRANT UPDATE (Bonus_Pct)  
ON      SALES  
TO      ASST_SALES_MGR
```



Executed by SALES\_MGR

## (Example) Privilege Hierarchy



# Revoking Privileges

*Optionally revokes just grant option*

*CREATE / INSERT /  
UPDATE / DELETE etc.*

**REVOKE [ GRANT OPTION FOR ] <Privilege\_List>**

**ON <Object>**

**FROM <User\_List> [ CASCADE ]**

*Also revoke privileges granted to user  
by others (recursively)*

# Use of Views in Access Control

**CREATE VIEW** Directory **AS**

```
SELECT Iname, fname, address, phone  
FROM Employee  
WHERE unlisted = 'F'
```

**GRANT**    **SELECT**  
**ON**        DIRECTORY  
**TO**        PUBLIC

*Note previous discussion on  
**Updates** with views  
(anomalies, null values, etc.)*

# Use of Views in Access Control

Assume GRADES relation with attributes Fname, Lname, SSN, AS1, AS2 etc.

**CREATE VIEW** Cucerzan\_Grades **AS**

```
SELECT  *, SUM(AS1 * .07 + AS2 * .07 + MIDTRM * .15) AVG
FROM    GRADES
WHERE   Lname = 'Cucerzan'
```

---

**GRANT** SELECT

**ON** Cucerzan\_Grades

**TO** Cucerzan

---

**GRANT** UPDATE

**ON** Grades

**TO** Kalowsky

# Encryption

- Logical privilege mechanisms may not be enough (especially against external intruders)
- Selection/Deletion/Projection etc. may work transparently without modification of database internals
- Problem:

# Encryption

- Logical privilege mechanisms may not be enough (especially against external intruders)
- Selection/Deletion/Projection etc. on individually encrypted attributes may work transparently without modification of database internals
- Problem:
  - sorting / indexing

# Statistical Databases

- Protect confidentiality by only allowing access to statistical / aggregate information on *Averages, Counts, Sums, Std Deviations, etc.*

Statistical Queries

implementable with views



```
graph TD; SQ[Statistical Queries] --> AGG[Averages, Counts, Sums, Std Deviations, etc.]; IM[implementable with views] --> V[views]
```

- Problem:

Multiple queries can be formulated on aggregate values that enable **deduction of information about an individual**

# Deduction of Individual Info from Statistical DBs

**Person (relation):**

Name	SSN	Income	Address	City	State	Zip	Sex	Last_Degree
not included in statistical DB					Aggregate values for these attributes are queryable			

*Example Query:*

```
SELECT Average(Income)  
FROM Person  
WHERE Sex='F' AND LAST_DEGREE='PHD'
```

Problem: ???

# Deduction of Individual Info from Statistical DBs

Person (relation):

Name	SSN	Income	Address	City	State	Zip	Sex	Last_Degree
not included in statistical DB		Aggregate values for these attributes are queryable						

**SELECT** Average(Income)

**FROM** Person

**WHERE** Sex='F' **AND** LAST\_DEGREE='PHD'

Problem:

- As selectional constraints become more specific, statistics may refer only to a few or one individual

# Deduction of Individual Info from Statistical DBs

Person (relation):

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not included in  
statistical DB

Aggregate values for these attributes are queryable

**SELECT** Average(Income)

**FROM** Person

**WHERE** Sex='F' **AND** LAST\_DEGREE='PHD'

---

- As selectional constraints become more specific,  
statistics may refer only to a few or one individual
- **SELECT** Average(Income)  
**FROM** Person  
**WHERE** Sex='F' **AND** ZIP='21238' **AND** LAST\_DEGREE='PHD'
- **SELECT** Count(\*)  
**FROM** Person  
**WHERE** Sex='F' **AND** ZIP='21238' **AND** LAST\_DEGREE='PHD' *If count=1 then average is equal to individual*

# Deduction of Individual Info from Statistical DBs

- Don't return answer if population on which the result is based is less than a threshold
- Don't allow multiple queries on the same tuple population if  $(\text{Previous result} \cap \text{Current result}) > m$  values
  - Q1:  $\text{Sum(income) where Sex='F' and Degree='PhD' and age < 30 and (Zip=21238 OR State='CA')}$
  - Q2:  $\text{Sum(income) where Sex='F' and Degree='PhD' and age < 30 and (State='CA')}$
  - $Q1 \cap Q2 = 1 \text{ tuple (zip=21238)}$
- Introduce minor noise in data to complicate solution by simultaneous equations