

# 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**



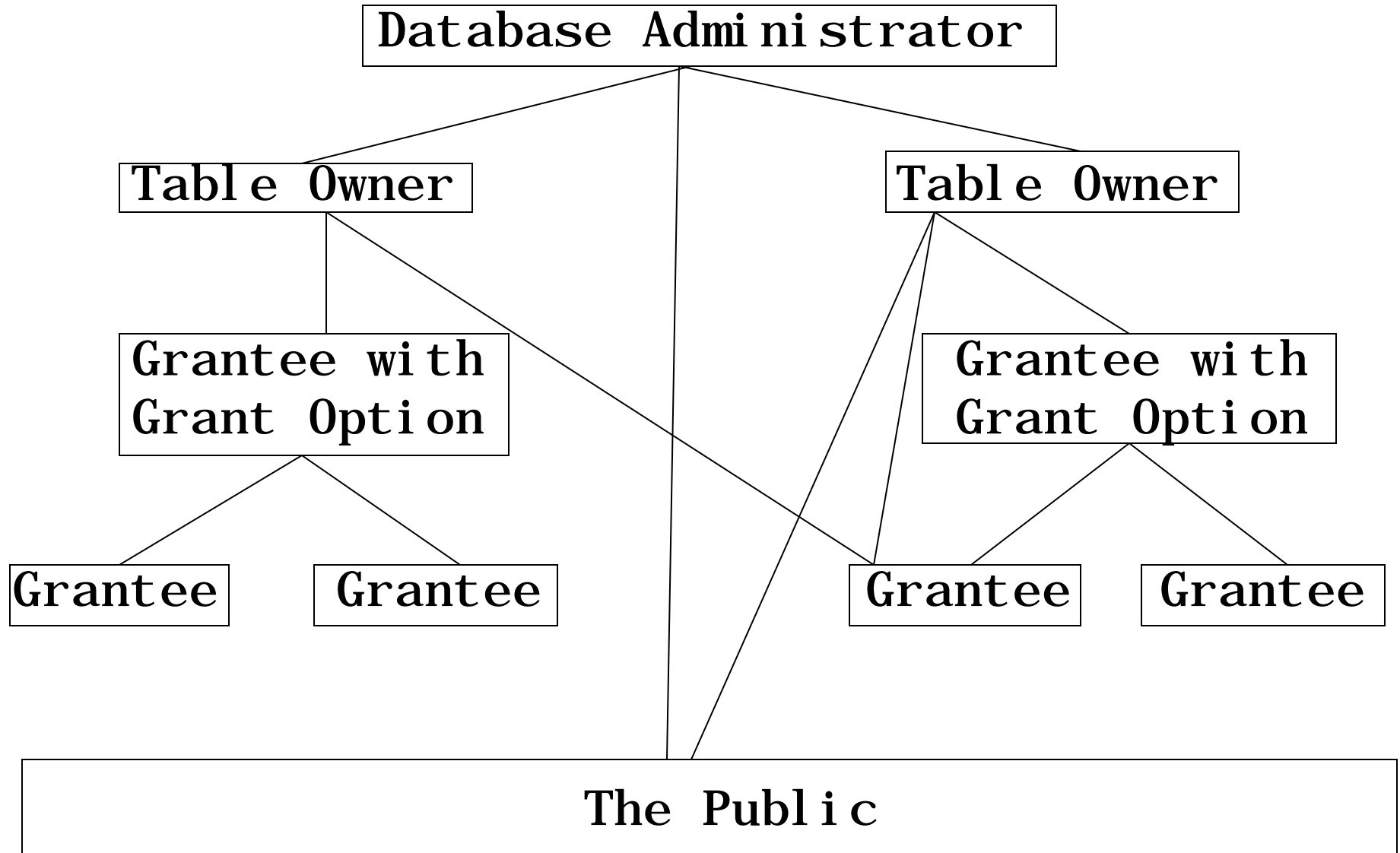
Executed by database administrator (DBA)

**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** lname, 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

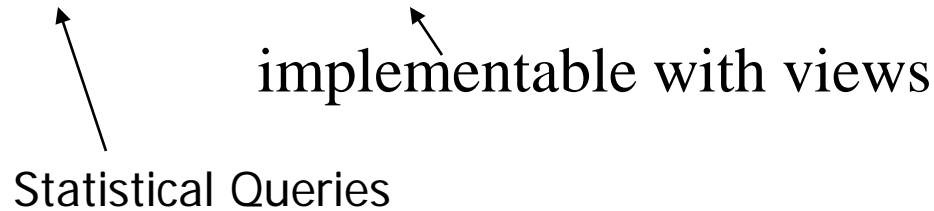
- Logical privilege mechanisms may not be enough (especially against external intruders)
- Selection/Deletion/Projection etc. on individually encrypted attributes may work transparently without modification of database internals
- Problem:  
    sorting / indexing

# Statistical Databases

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

Statistical Queries

implementable with views



The diagram consists of two text labels with arrows pointing upwards towards the list item. The label 'Statistical Queries' is on the left, with an arrow pointing to the word 'Averages'. The label 'implementable with views' is on the right, with an arrow pointing to the word 'Counts'.

- 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: ???

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SELECT Average(Income)
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Problem:

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

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```

- 
- 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: Sum(income) where Sex='F' and Degree='PhD' and age<30 and (Zip=21238 OR State='CA')
  - Q2: Sum(income) where Sex='F' and Degree='PhD' and age<30 and (State='CA')
  - $Q1 \cap Q2 = 1$  tuple (zip=21238)
- Introduce minor noise in data to complicate solution by simultaneous equations