CS3402 : Chapter 5
Relational Algebra

Relational Algebra

- Relational algebra: a formal language for the relational model
- The operations in relational algebra enable a user to specify basic retrieval requests (or queries)

- Relational algebra consists of a set of operations on relations to generate relations
- The result of an operation is a *new relation*
  - They can be further manipulated using operations

- A sequence of relational algebra operations forms a relational algebra expression

Importance of Relational Algebra

- Relational algebra provides a formal foundation for relational model
- It is used as a basis for implementing and optimizing queries in query processing and optimization
- Its concepts are incorporated into SQL standard language for relational database management systems
  - The internal modules of most commercial RDBMS are based on relational algebra

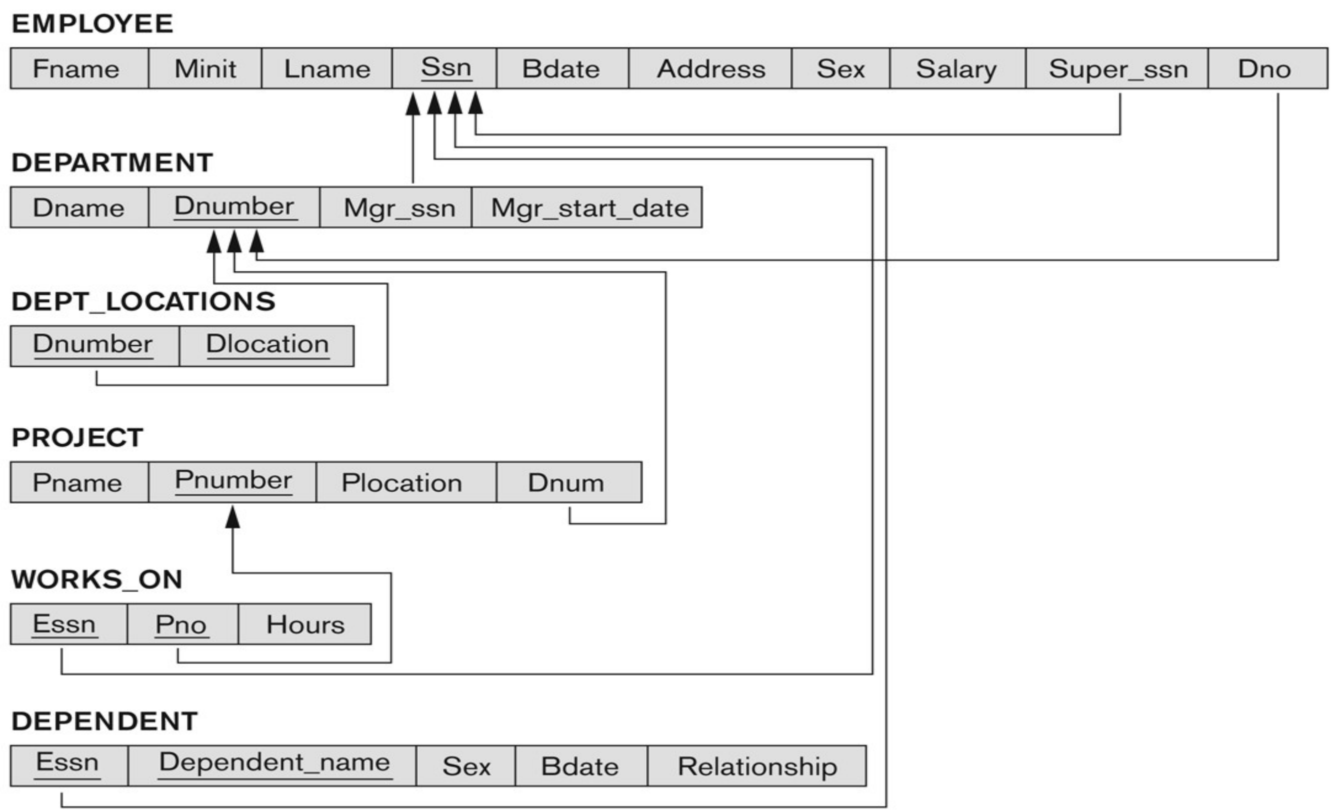
Relational Algebra Overview

- Relational algebra consists of several groups of operations
  - Relational algebra operations from set theory
    - UNION ($\cup$), INTERSECTION ($\cap$), DIFFERENCE (or MINUS, –)
    - CARTESIAN PRODUCT (**x**)
  - Unary Relational Operations
    - SELECT (symbol: σ (sigma))
    - PROJECT (symbol: π (pi))
    - RENAME (symbol: ρ (rho))
  - Binary Relational Operations
    - JOIN (several variations of JOIN exist)
    - DIVISION
  - Additional Relational Operations
    - OUTER JOINS, OUTER UNION
    - AGGREGATE FUNCTIONS (These compute summary of information: for example, SUM, COUNT, AVG, MIN, MAX)

Database State for COMPANY

- All examples discussed below refer to the COMPANY database shown here

Figure 5.7
Referential integrity constraints displayed on the COMPANY relational database schema.



The following query results refer to this database state

Figure 5.6
One possible database state for the COMPANY relational database schema.

EMPLOYEE

Fname	Minit	Lname	Ssn	Bdate	Address	Sex	Salary	Super_ssn	Dno
John	B	Smith	123456789	1965-01-09	731 Fondren, Houston, TX	M	30000	333445555	5
Franklin	T	Wong	333445555	1955-12-08	638 Voss, Houston, TX	M	40000	888665555	5
Alicia	J	Zelaya	999887777	1968-01-19	3321 Castle, Spring, TX	F	25000	987654321	4
Jennifer	S	Wallace	987654321	1941-06-20	291 Berry, Bellaire, TX	F	43000	888665555	4
Ramesh	K	Narayan	666884444	1962-09-15	975 Fire Oak, Humble, TX	M	38000	333445555	5
Joyce	A	English	453453453	1972-07-31	5631 Rice, Houston, TX	F	25000	333445555	5
Ahmad	V	Jabbar	987987987	1969-03-29	980 Dallas, Houston, TX	M	25000	987654321	4
James	E	Borg	888665555	1937-11-10	450 Stone, Houston, TX	M	55000	NULL	1

DEPARTMENT

Dname	Dnumber	Mgr_ssn	Mgr_start_date
Research	5	333445555	1988-05-22
Administration	4	987654321	1995-01-01
Headquarters	1	888665555	1981-06-19

DEPT_LOCATIONS

Dnumber	Dlocation
1	Houston
4	Stafford
5	Bellaire
5	Sugarland
5	Houston

WORKS_ON

Essn	Pno	Hours
123456789	1	32.5
123456789	2	7.5
666884444	3	40.0
453453453	1	20.0
453453453	2	20.0
333445555	2	10.0
333445555	3	10.0
333445555	10	10.0
333445555	20	10.0
999887777	30	30.0
999887777	10	10.0
987987987	10	35.0
987987987	30	5.0
987654321	30	20.0
987654321	20	15.0
888665555	20	NULL

PROJECT

Pname	Pnumber	Plocation	Dnum
ProductX	1	Bellaire	5
ProductY	2	Sugarland	5
ProductZ	3	Houston	5
Computerization	10	Stafford	4
Reorganization	20	Houston	1
Newbenefits	30	Stafford	4

DEPENDENT

Essn	Dependent_name	Sex	Bdate	Relationship
333445555	Alice	F	1986-04-05	Daughter
333445555	Theodore	M	1983-10-25	Son
333445555	Joy	F	1958-05-03	Spouse
987654321	Abner	M	1942-02-28	Spouse
123456789	Michael	M	1988-01-04	Son
123456789	Alice	F	1988-12-30	Daughter
123456789	Elizabeth	F	1967-05-05	Spouse

Unary Relational Operations: SELECT

- The SELECT operation (denoted by σ (sigma)) is used to select a *subset* of the tuples from a relation based on a selection condition
  - The selection condition acts as a filter
  - Keeps only those tuples that satisfy the qualifying condition
  - Horizontal partitioning
  - Tuples satisfying the condition are *selected* whereas the other tuples are discarded (*filtered out*)

```
SELECT *
FROM   EMPLOYEE
WHERE DNO=4
```

- Examples:
  - Select the EMPLOYEE tuples whose department number is 4:

$$\sigma_{DNO = 4} (EMPLOYEE)$$

  - Select the employee tuples whose salary is greater than $30,000:

$$\sigma_{SALARY > 30,000} (EMPLOYEE)$$

Unary Relational Operations: SELECT

- SELECT Operation Properties
  - The SELECT operation $\sigma_{\text{<selection condition>}}(R)$ produces a relation S that has the same schema (same attributes) as R
  - SELECT σ is commutative:
    - $\sigma_{\text{<condition1>}}(\sigma_{\text{< condition2>}}(R)) = \sigma_{\text{<condition2>}}(\sigma_{\text{< condition1>}}(R))$
  - Because of commutativity property, a cascade (sequence) of SELECT operations may be applied in any order:
    - $\sigma_{\text{<cond1>}}(\sigma_{\text{<cond2>}}(\sigma_{\text{<cond3>}}(R)) = \sigma_{\text{<cond2>}}(\sigma_{\text{<cond3>}}(\sigma_{\text{<cond1>}}(R)))$

Unary Relational Operations: SELECT

- SELECT Operation Properties
  - A cascade of SELECT operations may be replaced by a single selection with a conjunction (and) of all the conditions:
    - $\sigma_{<cond1>}(\sigma_{< cond2>} (\sigma_{<cond3>}(R)) = \sigma_{<cond1> \text{ AND } < cond2> \text{ AND } < cond3>}(R)))$
  - The number of tuples in the result of a SELECT is less than (or equal to) the number of tuples in the input relation R
  - The fraction of tuples selected by a selection condition is called the selectivity of the condition

Unary Relational Operations: PROJECT

- PROJECT Operation is denoted by π (pi)
- This operation keeps certain attributes from a relation and discards the other attributes
  - PROJECT creates a vertical partitioning
    - The list of specified attributes is kept in each tuple
    - The other attributes in each tuple are discarded
- Example: To list each employee's first and last name and salary, the following is used:

$$\pi_{LNAME,\ FNAME,SALARY}(EMPLOYEE)$$

```
SELECT LNAME, FNAME, SALARY
 FROM   EMPLOYEE
```

Unary Relational Operations: PROJECT

- The general form of the *project* operation is:

$$\pi_{\text{<attribute list>}}(R)$$

  - π (pi) is the symbol used to represent the *project* operation
  - <attribute list> is the desired list of attributes from relation R

- The project operation *removes any duplicate tuples*
  - This is because the result of the *project* operation must be a *set of tuples*
    - Mathematical sets *do not allow* duplicate elements
    - SQL does not - one difference between formal and actual query languages

Examples of applying SELECT and PROJECT operations

Figure 8.1 Results of SELECT and PROJECT operations. (a) $\sigma_{(\text{Dno}=4 \textbf{ AND } \text{Salary}>25000) \text{ OR } (\text{Dno}=5 \textbf{ AND } \text{Salary}>30000)}$ (EMPLOYEE). (b) $\pi_{\text{Lname, Fname, Salary}}$(EMPLOYEE). (c) $\pi_{\text{Sex, Salary}}$(EMPLOYEE).

(a)

Fname	Minit	Lname	Ssn	Bdate	Address	Sex	Salary	Super_ssn	Dno
Franklin	T	Wong	333445555	1955-12-08	638 Voss, Houston, TX	M	40000	888665555	5
Jennifer	S	Wallace	987654321	1941-06-20	291 Berry, Bellaire, TX	F	43000	888665555	4
Ramesh	K	Narayan	666884444	1962-09-15	975 Fire Oak, Humble, TX	M	38000	333445555	5

(b)

Lname	Fname	Salary
Smith	John	30000
Wong	Franklin	40000
Zelaya	Alicia	25000
Wallace	Jennifer	43000
Narayan	Ramesh	38000
English	Joyce	25000
Jabbar	Ahmad	25000
Borg	James	55000

(c)

Sex	Salary
M	30000
M	40000
F	25000
F	43000
M	38000
M	25000
M	55000

Unary Relational Operations: PROJECT

- PROJECT Operation Properties
  - The number of tuples in the result of projection $\pi_{\text{<list>}}(R)$ is always less (duplicates are removed) or equal (unique values) to the number of tuples in R
    - If the list of attributes includes a *key* of R, then the number of tuples in the result of PROJECT is *equal* to the number of tuples in R
  - PROJECT is *not* commutative
    - $\pi_{\text{<list1>}} (\pi_{\text{<list2>}} (R)) \neq \pi_{\text{<list2>}} (\pi_{\text{<list1>}} (R))$
    - $\pi_{\text{<list1>}} (\pi_{\text{<list2>}} (R)) = \pi_{\text{<list1>}} (R)$ as long as <list2> contains the attributes in <list1>

List1 = LNAME, FNAME

List2 = LNAME, FNAME, SALARY

Relational Algebra Expressions

- We may want to apply several relational algebra operations one after the other
  - Either we can write the operations as a single relational algebra expression by nesting the operations, or
  - We can apply one operation at a time and create intermediate result relations
- In the latter case, we must give names (rename) to the relations that hold the intermediate results

Single expression versus sequence of relational operations

- To retrieve the first name, last name, and salary of all employees who work in department number 5, we must apply a select and a project operation

- We can write a *single relational algebra expression* as follows:
  - $\pi_{\text{FNAME, LNAME, SALARY}}(\sigma_{\text{DNO=5}}(\text{EMPLOYEE}))$

- OR We can explicitly show the *sequence of operations*, giving a name to each intermediate relation:
  - $\text{TEMP} \leftarrow \sigma_{\text{DNO=5}}(\text{EMPLOYEE})$
  - $\pi_{\text{FNAME, LNAME, SALARY}}(\text{TEMP})$

  - Note: the $\leftarrow$ symbol is an assignment operator

Example of applying multiple operations and RENAME

Figure 8.2 Results of a sequence of operations. (a) $\pi_{\text{Fname, Lname, Salary}}(\sigma_{\text{Dno}=5}(\text{EMPLOYEE}))$.
(b) Using intermediate relations and renaming of attributes.

(a)

Fname	Lname	Salary
John	Smith	30000
Franklin	Wong	40000
Ramesh	Narayan	38000
Joyce	English	25000

$(\alpha)\ \pi_{\text{FNAME, LNAME, SALARY}}(\sigma_{\text{DNO=5}}(\text{EMPLOYEE}))$

(b) $\text{TEMP} \leftarrow \sigma_{\text{DNO=5}}(\text{EMPLOYEE})$

$\pi_{\text{FNAME, LNAME, SALARY}}(\text{TEMP})$

(b)

TEMP

Fname	Minit	Lname	Ssn	Bdate	Address	Sex	Salary	Super_ssn	Dno
John	B	Smith	123456789	1965-01-09	731 Fondren, Houston,TX	M	30000	333445555	5
Franklin	T	Wong	333445555	1955-12-08	638 Voss, Houston,TX	M	40000	888665555	5
Ramesh	K	Narayan	666884444	1962-09-15	975 Fire Oak, Humble,TX	M	38000	333445555	5
Joyce	A	English	453453453	1972-07-31	5631 Rice, Houston, TX	F	25000	333445555	5

R

First_name	Last_name	Salary
John	Smith	30000
Franklin	Wong	40000
Ramesh	Narayan	38000
Joyce	English	25000

Unary Relational Operations: RENAME

- The RENAME operator is denoted by ρ (rho)

- The general RENAME operation ρ can be expressed by any of the following forms:
  - $\rho_{S\ (B1,\ B2,\ \ldots,\ Bn\ )}(R)$ changes both:
    - the relation name to S, *and*
    - the attribute names to B1, B1, …..Bn
  - $\rho_S(R)$ changes:
    - the *relation name* only to S
  - $\rho_{(B1,\ B2,\ \ldots,\ Bn\ )}(R)$ changes:
    - the *attribute names* only to B1, B1, …..Bn

```
SELECT   E.Fname AS F_Name, E.Lname AS L_Name, E.Salary AS Salary
FROM     EMPLOYEE AS E
WHERE    E.Dno = 5
```

Unary Relational Operations: RENAME

- For convenience, we also use a *shorthand* for renaming attributes in an intermediate relation:
  - If we write:
    - RESULT $\leftarrow \pi_{\text{FNAME, LNAME, SALARY}}$ (DEP5_EMPS)
    - RESULT will have the *same attribute names* as DEP5_EMPS (same attributes as EMPLOYEE)
  - If we write:
    - RESULT $\leftarrow \rho_{\text{RESULT (F,M,L,S,B,A,SX,SAL,SU, DNO)}}$(DEP5_EMPS)
    - The 10 attributes of DEP5_EMPS are *renamed* to F, M, L, S, B, A, SX, SAL, SU, DNO, respectively

Set Theory: UNION

- UNION Operation
  - Binary operation, denoted by $\cup$
  - The result of $R \cup S$, is a relation that includes all tuples that are either in R or in S or in both R and S
  - Duplicate tuples are eliminated
  - The two operand relations R and S must be "type compatible" (or UNION compatible)
    - R and S must have same number of attributes
    - Each pair of corresponding attributes must be type compatible (have same or compatible domains)

Relational Algebra Operations from Set Theory: UNION

- Example:
  - To retrieve the social security numbers of all employees who either *work in department 5* (RESULT1 below) or *directly supervise an employee who works in department 5* (RESULT2 below)

  - We can use the UNION operation as follows:

$$\text{DEP5\_EMPS} \leftarrow \sigma_{\text{DNO=5}} (\text{EMPLOYEE})$$
$$\text{RESULT1} \leftarrow \pi_{\text{SSN}}(\text{DEP5\_EMPS})$$
$$\text{RESULT2(SSN)} \leftarrow \pi_{\text{SUPERSSN}}(\text{DEP5\_EMPS})$$
$$\text{RESULT} \leftarrow \text{RESULT1} \cup \text{RESULT2}$$

  - The union operation produces the tuples that are in either RESULT1 or RESULT2 or both

Figure 8.3 Result of the UNION operation RESULT ← RESULT1 ∪ RESULT2.

RESULT1

Ssn
123456789
333445555
666884444
453453453

RESULT2

Ssn
333445555
888665555

RESULT

Ssn
123456789
333445555
666884444
453453453
888665555

$RESULT \leftarrow RESULT1 \cup RESULT2$

Relational Algebra Operations from Set Theory

- Type compatibility of operands is required for the binary set operation UNION $\cup$, (also for INTERSECTION $\cap$, and SET DIFFERENCE –)

- R1(A1, A2, ..., An) and R2(B1, B2, ..., Bn) are type compatible if:
  - they have the same number of attributes, and
  - the domains of corresponding attributes are type compatible (i.e. dom(Ai)=dom(Bi) for i=1, 2, ..., n)

- The resulting relation for $R1 \cup R2$ (also for $R1 \cap R2$, or R1–R2) has the same attribute names as the *first* operand relation R1

Relational Algebra Operations from Set Theory: INTERSECTION

- INTERSECTION is denoted by $\cap$
- The result of the operation $R \cap S$, is a relation that includes all tuples that are in both R and S
  - The attribute names in the result will be the same as the attribute names in R
- The two operand relations R and S must be "type compatible"

Relational Algebra Operations from Set Theory: SET DIFFERENCE

- SET DIFFERENCE (also called MINUS or EXCEPT) is denoted by –
- The result of R – S, is a relation that includes all tuples that are in R but not in S
  - The attribute names in the result will be the same as the attribute names in R
- The two operand relations R and S must be "type compatible"
- $R \cap S = (R \cup S) - (R - S)) - (S - R)$

Example to illustrate the result of UNION, INTERSECT, and DIFFERENCE

Figure 8.4 The set operations UNION, INTERSECTION, and MINUS. (a) Two union-compatible relations. (b) STUDENT ∪ INSTRUCTOR. (c) STUDENT ∩ INSTRUCTOR. (d) STUDENT – INSTRUCTOR. (e) INSTRUCTOR – STUDENT.

(a) STUDENT

Fn	Ln
Susan	Yao
Ramesh	Shah
Johnny	Kohler
Barbara	Jones
Amy	Ford
Jimmy	Wang
Ernest	Gilbert

INSTRUCTOR

Fname	Lname
John	Smith
Ricardo	Browne
Susan	Yao
Francis	Johnson
Ramesh	Shah

(b)

Fn	Ln
Susan	Yao
Ramesh	Shah
Johnny	Kohler
Barbara	Jones
Amy	Ford
Jimmy	Wang
Ernest	Gilbert
John	Smith
Ricardo	Browne
Francis	Johnson

Two union-compatible relations

STUDENT ∪ INSTRUCTOR

STUDENT ∩ INSTRUCTOR

STUDENT – INSTRUCTOR

INSTRUCTOR – STUDENT

(c)

Fn	Ln
Susan	Yao
Ramesh	Shah

(d)

Fn	Ln
Johnny	Kohler
Barbara	Jones
Amy	Ford
Jimmy	Wang
Ernest	Gilbert

(e)

Fname	Lname
John	Smith
Ricardo	Browne
Francis	Johnson

Some properties of UNION, INTERSECT, and DIFFERENCE

- Notice that both union and intersection are *commutative* operations; that is
  - $R \cup S = S \cup R$, and $R \cap S = S \cap R$

- Both union and intersection can be treated as n-ary operations applicable to any number of relations as both are *associative* operations; that is
  - $R \cup (S \cup T) = (R \cup S) \cup T$
  - $(R \cap S) \cap T = R \cap (S \cap T)$

- The minus operation is not commutative
  - $R - S \neq S - R$

Relational Algebra Operations from Set Theory: CARTESIAN PRODUCT

- CARTESIAN (or CROSS) PRODUCT Operation
  - This operation is used to combine tuples from two relations in a combinatorial fashion
  - Denoted by R(A1, A2, . . ., An) x S(B1, B2, . . ., Bm)
  - Result is a relation Q with degree n + m attributes:
    - Q(A1, A2, . . ., An, B1, B2, . . ., Bm), in that order
  - The resulting relation state has one tuple for each combination of tuples - one from R and one from S
  - Hence, if R has n_R tuples (denoted as $|R| = n_R$), and S has n_S tuples, then R x S will have $n_R * n_S$ tuples
  - The two operands do NOT have to be "type compatible"

Relational Algebra Operations from Set Theory: CARTESIAN PRODUCT

- Generally, CARTESIAN PRODUCT is not a meaningful operation
  - Some relations do not exist in the mini-world
  - Can become meaningful when followed by other operations
- Example (not meaningful):
  - FEMALE_EMPS $\leftarrow \sigma_{SEX='F'}$(EMPLOYEE)
  - EMPNAMES $\leftarrow \pi_{FNAME,\ LNAME,\ SSN}$ (FEMALE_EMPS)
  - EMP_DEPENDENTS $\leftarrow$ EMPNAMES x DEPENDENT
- EMP_DEPENDENTS will contain every combination of EMPNAMES and DEPENDENT
  - whether or not they are actually related

Relational Algebra Operations from Set Theory: CARTESIAN PRODUCT

- To keep only combinations where the DEPENDENT is related to the EMPLOYEE, we add a SELECT operation as follows

- Example (meaningful):
  - $\text{FEMALE\_EMPS} \leftarrow \sigma_{\text{SEX='F'}}(\text{EMPLOYEE})$
  - $\text{EMPNAMES} \leftarrow \pi_{\text{FNAME, LNAME, SSN}}(\text{FEMALE\_EMPS})$
  - $\text{EMP\_DEPENDENTS} \leftarrow \text{EMPNAMES x DEPENDENT}$
  - $\text{ACTUAL\_DEPS} \leftarrow \sigma_{\text{SSN=ESSN}}(\text{EMP\_DEPENDENTS})$
  - $\text{RESULT} \leftarrow \pi_{\text{FNAME, LNAME, DEPENDENT\_NAME}}(\text{ACTUAL\_DEPS})$

- RESULT will now contain the name of female employees and their dependents

Figure 8.5 The CARTESIAN PRODUCT (CROSS PRODUCT) operation

FEMALE_EMPS

Fname	Minit	Lname	Ssn	Bdate	Address	Sex	Salary	Super_ssn	Dno
Alicia	J	Zelaya	999887777	1968-07-19	3321Castle, Spring, TX	F	25000	987654321	4
Jennifer	S	Wallace	987654321	1941-06-20	291Berry, Bellaire, TX	F	43000	888665555	4
Joyce	A	English	453453453	1972-07-31	5631 Rice, Houston, TX	F	25000	333445555	5

EMPNAMES

Fname	Lname	Ssn
Alicia	Zelaya	999887777
Jennifer	Wallace	987654321
Joyce	English	453453453

Figure 8.5 The CARTESIAN PRODUCT (CROSS PRODUCT) operation

EMP_DEPENDENTS

Fname	Lname	Ssn	Essn	Dependent_name	Sex	Bdate	...
Alicia	Zelaya	999887777	333445555	Alice	F	1986-04-05	...
Alicia	Zelaya	999887777	333445555	Theodore	M	1983-10-25	...
Alicia	Zelaya	999887777	333445555	Joy	F	1958-05-03	...
Alicia	Zelaya	999887777	987654321	Abner	M	1942-02-28	...
Alicia	Zelaya	999887777	123456789	Michael	M	1988-01-04	...
Alicia	Zelaya	999887777	123456789	Alice	F	1988-12-30	...
Alicia	Zelaya	999887777	123456789	Elizabeth	F	1967-05-05	...
Jennifer	Wallace	987654321	333445555	Alice	F	1986-04-05	...
Jennifer	Wallace	987654321	333445555	Theodore	M	1983-10-25	...
Jennifer	Wallace	987654321	333445555	Joy	F	1958-05-03	...
Jennifer	Wallace	987654321	987654321	Abner	M	1942-02-28	...
Jennifer	Wallace	987654321	123456789	Michael	M	1988-01-04	...
Jennifer	Wallace	987654321	123456789	Alice	F	1988-12-30	...
Jennifer	Wallace	987654321	123456789	Elizabeth	F	1967-05-05	...
Joyce	English	453453453	333445555	Alice	F	1986-04-05	...
Joyce	English	453453453	333445555	Theodore	M	1983-10-25	...
Joyce	English	453453453	333445555	Joy	F	1958-05-03	...
Joyce	English	453453453	987654321	Abner	M	1942-02-28	...
Joyce	English	453453453	123456789	Michael	M	1988-01-04	...
Joyce	English	453453453	123456789	Alice	F	1988-12-30	...
Joyce	English	453453453	123456789	Elizabeth	F	1967-05-05	...

The CARTESIAN PRODUCT (CROSS PRODUCT) operation

ACTUAL_DEPENDENTS

Fname	Lname	Ssn	Essn	Dependent_name	Sex	Bdate	. . .
Jennifer	Wallace	987654321	987654321	Abner	M	1942-02-28	. . .

RESULT

Fname	Lname	Dependent_name
Jennifer	Wallace	Abner

Binary Relational Operations: JOIN

- JOIN Operation (denoted by $\bowtie$)
  - The sequence of CARTESIAN PRODECT followed by SELECT is used quite commonly to identify and select related tuples from two relations
  - A special operation, called JOIN combines this sequence into a single operation
  - The general form of a join operation on two relations R(A1, A2, . . ., An) and S(B1, B2, . . ., Bm) is:

$$R \bowtie_{\text{<join condition>}} S$$

  - R and S can be any relations that result from general *relational algebra expressions*

Binary Relational Operations: JOIN

- Example: Suppose that we want to retrieve the name of the manager of each department
  - To get the manager's name, we need to combine each DEPARTMENT tuple with the EMPLOYEE tuple whose SSN value matches the MGRSSN value in the department tuple.
  - DEPT_MGR $\leftarrow$ DEPARTMENT $\bowtie_{\text{MGRSSN=SSN}}$ EMPLOYEE
- MGRSSN=SSN is the join condition
  - Combines each department record with the employee who manages the department

Figure 8.6 Result of the JOIN operation

DEPT_MGR

Dname	Dnumber	Mgr_ssn	. . .	Fname	Minit	Lname	Ssn	. . .
Research	5	333445555	. . .	Franklin	T	Wong	333445555	. . .
Administration	4	987654321	. . .	Jennifer	S	Wallace	987654321	. . .
Headquarters	1	888665555	. . .	James	E	Borg	888665555	. . .

$$\text{DEPT\_MGR} \leftarrow \text{DEPARTMENT} \bowtie_{\text{Mgr\_ssn}=\text{Ssn}} \text{EMPLOYEE}$$

Some properties of JOIN

- Consider the following JOIN operation:
  - R(A1, A2, . . ., An) $\bowtie_{R.Ai=S.Bj}$ S(B1, B2, . . ., Bm)
  - Result is a relation Q with degree n + m attributes:
    - Q(A1, A2, . . ., An, B1, B2, . . ., Bm), in that order
  - The resulting relation state has one tuple for each combination of tuples: r from R and s from S, but *only if they satisfy the join condition* r[Ai]=s[Bj]
  - Hence, if R has n_R tuples, and S has n_S tuples, then the join result will generally have *less than* n_R x n_S tuples

Some properties of JOIN

- The general case of JOIN operation is called a Theta-join:
- $R \bowtie S$
- The join condition is called *theta*

- *Theta* can be any general boolean expression on the attributes of R and S; for example:
  - R.Ai < S.Bj AND (R.Ak=S.Bl OR R.Ap<S.Bq)

- Most join conditions involve one or more equality conditions “AND”ed together; for example:
  - R.Ai=S.Bj AND R.Ak=S.Bl AND R.Ap=S.Bq

Binary Relational Operations: EQUIJOIN

- EQUIJOIN Operation

- The most common use of join involves join conditions with *equality comparisons* only

- Such a join, where the only comparison operator used is =, is called an EQUIJOIN
  - In the result of an EQUIJOIN we always have one or more pairs of attributes (whose names need not be identical) that have identical values in every tuple
  - The JOIN seen in the previous example was an EQUIJOIN

Binary Relational Operations: NATURAL JOIN Operation

- NATURAL JOIN Operation
  - Another variation of JOIN called NATURAL JOIN — denoted by * was created to get rid of the second (superfluous) attribute in an EQUIJOIN condition
    - because one of each pair of attributes with identical values is superfluous
  - The standard definition of natural join requires that the two join attributes, or each pair of corresponding join attributes, *have the same name* in both relations
  - If this is not the case, a renaming operation is applied first

Binary Relational Operations
NATURAL JOIN

- Example: To apply a natural join on the DNUMBER attributes of DEPARTMENT and DEPT_LOCATIONS, it is sufficient to write:
  - DEPT_LOCS ← DEPARTMENT * DEPT_LOCATIONS

- Only attribute with the same name is DNUMBER
- An implicit join condition is created based on this attribute:
  DEPARTMENT.DNUMBER=DEPT_LOCATIONS.DNUMBER

- Another example: Q ← R(A,B,C,D) * S(C,D,E)
  - The implicit join condition includes *each pair* of attributes with the same name, "AND"ed together:
    - R.C=S.C AND R.D.S.D
  - Result keeps only one attribute of each such pair:
    - Q(A,B,C,D,E)

Example of NATURAL JOIN operation

Figure 8.7 Results of two natural join operations. (a) proj_dept ← project * dept. (b) dept_locs ← department * dept_locations.

(a) PROJ_DEPT ← PROJECT * DEPT

PROJ_DEPT

Pname	Pnumber	Plocation	Dnum	Dname	Mgr_ssn	Mgr_start_date
ProductX	1	Bellaire	5	Research	333445555	1988-05-22
ProductY	2	Sugarland	5	Research	333445555	1988-05-22
ProductZ	3	Houston	5	Research	333445555	1988-05-22
Computerization	10	Stafford	4	Administration	987654321	1995-01-01
Reorganization	20	Houston	1	Headquarters	888665555	1981-06-19
Newbenefits	30	Stafford	4	Administration	987654321	1995-01-01

(b) DEPT_LOCS ← DEPARTMENT * DEPT_LOCATIONS

DEPT_LOCS

Dname	Dnumber	Mgr_ssn	Mgr_start_date	Location
Headquarters	1	888665555	1981-06-19	Houston
Administration	4	987654321	1995-01-01	Stafford
Research	5	333445555	1988-05-22	Bellaire
Research	5	333445555	1988-05-22	Sugarland
Research	5	333445555	1988-05-22	Houston

Complete Set of Relational Operations

- The set of operations including SELECT σ, PROJECT π , UNION $\cup$, DIFFERENCE $-$, RENAME ρ, and CARTESIAN PRODUCT X is called a *complete set* because any other relational algebra expression can be expressed by a combination of these five operations
- For example:
  - $R \cap S = (R \cup S) - ((R - S) \cup (S - R))$
  - $R \bowtie_{\text{<join condition>}} S = \sigma_{\text{<join condition>}} (R \times S)$

Binary Relational Operations: DIVISION

- DIVISION Operation
  - The division operation is applied to two relations
  - $R(Z) \div S(X)$, where X subset Z
  - Let $Y = Z - X$ (and hence $Z = X \cup Y$); that is, let Y be the set of attributes of R that are not attributes of S

  - The result of DIVISION is a relation T(Y) that includes a tuple t if tuples t_R appear in R with $t_R [Y] = t$, and with
    - $t_R [X] = t_s$ *for every tuple* t_s in S

  - For a tuple t to appear in the result T of the DIVISION, the values in t must appear in R in combination with *every* tuple in S

Example of DIVISION

Z = Essn + Pno
X = Pno
Y = Essn
Z = X ∪ Y

Figure 8.8 The DIVISION operation. (a) Dividing SSN_PNOS by SMITH_PNOS. (b) T ← R ÷ S.

(a)

R(Z)

SSN_PNOS

Essn	Pno
123456789	1
123456789	2
666884444	3
453453453	1
453453453	2
333445555	2
333445555	3
333445555	10
333445555	20
999887777	30
999887777	10
987987987	10
987987987	30
987654321	30
987654321	20
888665555	20

S(X)

SMITH_PNOS

Pno
1
2

T(Y)

SSNS

Ssn
123456789
453453453

(b)

R

A	B
a1	b1
a2	b1
a3	b1
a4	b1
a1	b2
a3	b2
a2	b3
a3	b3
a4	b3
a1	b4
a2	b4
a3	b4

S

A
a1
a2
a3

T

B
b1
b4

Table 8.1 Operations of Relational Algebra

Table 8.1 Operations of Relational Algebra

OPERATION	PURPOSE	NOTATION
SELECT	Selects all tuples that satisfy the selection condition from a relation R.	$\sigma_{\text{<selection condition>}}(R)$
PROJECT	Produces a new relation with only some of the attributes of R, and removes duplicate tuples.	$\pi_{\text{<attribute list>}}(R)$
THETA JOIN	Produces all combinations of tuples from R_1 and R_2 that satisfy the join condition.	$R_1 \bowtie_{\text{<join condition>}} R_2$
EQUIJOIN	Produces all the combinations of tuples from R_1 and R_2 that satisfy a join condition with only equality comparisons.	$R_1 \bowtie_{\text{<join condition>}} R_2$, OR $R_1 \bowtie_{\text{(<join attributes 1>),}}$ $_{\text{(<join attributes 2>)}} R_2$
NATURAL JOIN	Same as EQUIJOIN except that the join attributes of R_2 are not included in the resulting relation; if the join attributes have the same names, they do not have to be specified at all.	$R_1 *_{\text{<join condition>}} R_2$, OR $R_1 *_{\text{(<join attributes 1>),}}$ $_{\text{(<join attributes 2>)}}$ R_2 OR $R_1 * R_2$

Table 8.1 Operations of Relational Algebra

Table 8.1 Operations of Relational Algebra

OPERATION	PURPOSE	NOTATION
UNION	Produces a relation that includes all the tuples in R_1 or R_2 or both R_1 and R_2; R_1 and R_2 must be union compatible.	$R_1 \cup R_2$
INTERSECTION	Produces a relation that includes all the tuples in both R_1 and R_2; R_1 and R_2 must be union compatible.	$R_1 \cap R_2$
DIFFERENCE	Produces a relation that includes all the tuples in R_1 that are not in R_2; R_1 and R_2 must be union compatible.	$R_1 - R_2$
CARTESIAN PRODUCT	Produces a relation that has the attributes of R_1 and R_2 and includes as tuples all possible combinations of tuples from R_1 and R_2.	$R_1 \times R_2$
DIVISION	Produces a relation $R(X)$ that includes all tuples $t[X]$ in $R_1(Z)$ that appear in R_1 in combination with every tuple from $R_2(Y)$, where $Z = X \cup Y$.	$R_1(Z) \div R_2(Y)$

References

- *6e*
  - *Ch. 6, p. 141-157, 167-170*