

Lecture 6 Relational Algebra =====

1. Operators

1.1 Selection (= where clause in sql)

Selection Operator  
 $\sigma_{[c]}(R)$  selects all rows from the relation  $R$  that satisfies the selection condition  $c^*$ .

Although it is called 'selection', it actually maps to 'where' clause in sql.

▼ Examples

- Find the name (rname) and area of the different restaurants in London.

$\sigma[\text{area} = \text{'London'}](\text{restaurant})$

```
select * from restaurant r
where r.area = 'London'
```

1.2 Projection (= select clause in sql)

Projection Operator  
 $\pi_{[I]}(R)$  keeps only the columns specified in the ordered list  $I$  and in the same order<sup>\*</sup>.

▼ Example

- Find the different name (cname) of customers that like at least one pizza.

$\pi[\text{cname}](\text{likes})$

```
SELECT l.cname
FROM Likes l;
```

1.3 Renaming

Renaming Operator  
 $\rho_{[r]}(R)$  renames all the attributes mentioned in  $r^*$ .

1.4 Set Operations

Operation	Visualization	SQL
$R \cup S$		SELECT * FROM R UNION SELECT * FROM S
$R \cap S$		SELECT * FROM R INTERSECT SELECT * FROM S
$R - S$		SELECT * FROM R EXCEPT SELECT * FROM S

The two relations must be **union-compatible** (basically, they must have the same column types).

▼ Examples

Find the different pizza sold by both Bella Italia and Desert Diner.

$Q1 := \pi[\text{pizza}](\sigma[\text{rname} = \text{'Bella Italia'}](\text{sells}))$   
 $Q2 := \pi[\text{pizza}](\sigma[\text{rname} = \text{'Desert Diner'}](\text{sells}))$   
 $Q1 \cap Q2$

1.5 Cross Product (=Cartesian Products)

Product Operator  
Cross Product (Cartesian Product)  
 $R_1 \times R_2$  combine each row of  $R_1$  with each row of  $R_2$  and keep the  $n$  columns of  $R_1$  and the  $m$  columns of  $R_2$ .

$R_1$

a	b
1	2
3	4

$R_2$

c	d	e
A	B	C
D	E	F
G	H	I

$R_1 \times R_2$

a	b	c	d	e
1	2	A	B	C
1	2	D	E	F
1	2	G	H	I
3	4	A	B	C
3	4	D	E	F
3	4	G	H	I

1.6 Join (on condition c)

Join  
 $R_1 \bowtie_c R_2$  is simply defined as  $\sigma_{[c]}(R_1 \times R_2)$ . In other words, we include only tuples that satisfies the condition  $c$  after the cross product.

SELECT-FROM-WHERE

```
SELECT a1, a2, a3, ...
FROM r1, r2, r3, ...
WHERE c;
```

Two Relations ; Distinct Attributes

```
SELECT a1, a2, a3, ...
FROM r1, r2
WHERE c;
```

$\pi[a1, a2, a3, ...](\sigma[c](r1 \times r2 \times r3 \times ...))$

$\pi[a1, a2, a3, ...](r1 \bowtie_c r2)$

2. Examples

▼ Examples

- Find all the different pairs of customer name and restaurant name such that they are in the same area.

Relational Algebra	Result										
$\pi[\text{cname}, \text{rname}](\text{customer} \bowtie_{[\text{area} = \text{rarea}]} \rho[\text{area} \leftarrow \text{area}](\text{restaurant}))$	<table><tr><th>cname</th><th>rname</th></tr><tr><td>Alice</td><td>Bella Italia</td></tr><tr><td>Alice</td><td>Big Apple Bistro</td></tr><tr><td>Alice</td><td>Down Under Delights</td></tr><tr><td>...</td><td>...</td></tr></table>	cname	rname	Alice	Bella Italia	Alice	Big Apple Bistro	Alice	Down Under Delights	...	...
cname	rname										
Alice	Bella Italia										
Alice	Big Apple Bistro										
Alice	Down Under Delights										
...	...										
Note Still need renaming.	28 rows										

3. Writing Conventions

Extension

Written

Extended Algebra

For written algebra, we add the following capabilities to our relational algebra.

- Relation Renaming  $\rho_{[R_2]}(R_1)$  renames relation  $R_1$  into  $R_2$ .
- Dot Notation  $R.attr$  refers to the attribute  $attr$  of relation  $R$  which may come from a renamed relation.

$\text{SELECT } r.a1, s.a2$   
 $\text{FROM } rel1 r, rel2 s$   
 $\text{WHERE } c;$   
 $\Leftrightarrow$   
 $\pi[r.a1, s.a2](\sigma[c](\rho[r](rel1) \times \rho[s](rel2)))$

Lecture 8 Functional Dependencies=====

1. Closure Algorithm

Algorithm #1: Attribute Closure

input  $S, \Sigma$   
output  $S^+$   
begin  
 $\Omega := \Sigma;$  //  $\Omega$  stands for "unused"  
 $\Gamma := S;$  //  $\Gamma$  stands for "closure"  
while  $(X \rightarrow Y \in \Omega \text{ and } (X \subseteq \Gamma))$  do  
 $\Omega := \Omega - \{X \rightarrow Y\};$   
 $\Gamma := \Gamma \cup Y;$   
return  $\Gamma$

2. Trivialities

2.1 Trivial

Definition

An fd  $\sigma : X \rightarrow Y$  is **trivial** if and only if  $Y \subseteq X$ .

Let  $R = \{A, B, C\}$

$\{A\} \rightarrow \{A\}$  is trivial  
 $\{A, B\} \rightarrow \{A\}$  is trivial  
 $\{A, B\} \rightarrow \{\}$  is trivial (also denoted as  $\{A, B\} \rightarrow \emptyset$ )

2.2 Non-Trivial

Triviality

Non-Trivial

Definition

An fd  $\sigma : X \rightarrow Y$  is **non-trivial** if and only if  $Y \not\subseteq X$ .

*Superset/Disjoint*

Let  $R = \{A, B, C\}$

$\{A\} \rightarrow \{B\}$  is non-trivial  
 $\{A, C\} \rightarrow \{B, C\}$  is non-trivial  
 $\{\} \rightarrow \{A, B\}$  is non-trivial (also denoted as  $\emptyset \rightarrow \{A, B\}$ )

*completely*  
*Must be a constant*

2.3 Completely non-trivial

Completely

Definition

An fd  $\sigma : X \rightarrow Y$  is **completely non-trivial** if and only if  $Y \neq \emptyset$  and  $Y \cap X = \emptyset$ .

*Disjoint set*

Let  $R = \{A, B, C\}$

$\{A\} \rightarrow \{B\}$  is completely non-trivial  
 $\{A, C\} \rightarrow \{B, C\}$  is **not** completely non-trivial

*Only split the RHS*  
*Never LHS*  
*Completely non-trivial*  
*Trivial*

Theorem #1

A non-trivial (but not completely non-trivial) functional dependency can be split into a trivial functional dependency and a completely non-trivial functional dependency.

3. Keys & other definitions

3.1 Super Key

Using **more than enough columns** to **uniquely identify tuples** in a table (CPT103)

Definition

Let  $R$  be a relation. Let  $S \subseteq R$  be a set of attributes of  $R$ .  $S$  is a **superkey** of  $R$  if and only if  $S \rightarrow R$ .

In Other Words

A **superkey** is a set of attributes of a relation whose knowledge determines the value of the entire tuple.

Theorem #2

A relation  $R$  have **at least 1 superkey**.

$R \rightarrow R$

3.2 Candidate Key

All these possible primary keys are called candidate keys. The PK is just a CK chosen by the table designer. (CPT103)

In Other Words

A **candidate key** is a **minimal superkey**.  
The **primary key** is the candidate key that the designed prefers.

3.3 Compare and contrast

**Super key:** Collection of PK (**NON**-minimal)  
**Candidate key:** Collection of PK that **must be minimal** (you **can't remove any of them**)

3.4 Prime Attributes (Lecture 1)

**Each column composing the candidate key** is said to be a prime attribute.  
E.g. For candidate keys AC, CD, CE, the prime attributes are ACDE.

4. Closures

es

Closure

Closure of  $\Sigma$

Definition

Let  $\Sigma$  be a set of functional dependencies of a relation schema  $R$ . The **closure** of  $\Sigma$  --denoted by  $\Sigma^+$ -- is the set of all functional dependencies logically entailed by the functional dependencies in  $\Sigma$ .

$\{A\} \rightarrow \{B\}$   
 $\{C\} \rightarrow \{A\}$   
 $\{C\} \rightarrow \{B\}$

5. Armstrong Rules

es

Reflexivity

Augmentation

Transitivity

Armstrong Rules

Armstrong Axioms

Let  $R$  be a set of attributes. The following inference rules are the **Armstrong Axiom**.

- Reflexivity**  
 $\forall X \subseteq R \forall Y \subseteq R ((Y \subseteq X) \Rightarrow (X \rightarrow Y))$
- Augmentation**  
 $\forall X \subseteq R \forall Y \subseteq R \forall Z \subseteq R ((X \rightarrow Y) \Rightarrow ((X \cup Z) \rightarrow (Y \cup Z)))$
- Transitivity**  
 $\forall X \subseteq R \forall Y \subseteq R \forall Z \subseteq R ((X \rightarrow Y \wedge Y \rightarrow Z) \Rightarrow (X \rightarrow Z))$

$\{A, B\} \rightarrow X$   
 $X \rightarrow \{B\}$   
**then**  $\{A, B\} \rightarrow \{B\}$

$\{A\} \rightarrow \{B\}$   
 $\{B\} \rightarrow \{C, D\}$   
**then**  $\{A\} \rightarrow \{C, D\}$

$\{A\} \rightarrow \{B\}$   
 $\{B, C\} \rightarrow \{D, E, F\}$   
**then**  $\{A\} \rightarrow \{D, E, F\}$

6. Minimal Cover and Canonical Cover Algorithm

Algorithm #3: Canonical Cover

input  $\Sigma$

output  $\Sigma_c$

- Simplify (**minimize**) the right hand side of every functional dependency in  $\Sigma$  produce  $\Sigma_1$
- Simplify (**minimize**) the left hand side of every functional dependency in  $\Sigma_1$  produce  $\Sigma_2$
- Simplify (**minimize**) the set  $\Sigma_2$  to produce  $\Sigma_3$
- Regroup** all functional dependencies with the same left hand side in  $\Sigma_3$  produce  $\Sigma_4$
- Return  $\Sigma_4$

Step #2: Simplifying Left Hand Side

Let  $X \rightarrow \{A\}$  be a functional dependency in  $\Sigma$ . Attribute  $B \in X$  can be removed from  $X$  if

$(X - \{B\}) \rightarrow \{A\}$  is **logically entailed** by  $\Sigma$

Then we can replace  $X \rightarrow Y$  by  $(X - \{B\}) \rightarrow \{A\}$  in  $\Sigma$

Step #3: Simplifying the Set

Let  $X \rightarrow Y$  be a functional dependency in  $\Sigma$ . It can be removed from  $\Sigma$  if

$X \rightarrow Y$  is **logically entailed** by  $(\Sigma - \{X \rightarrow Y\})$

Then we can replace  $\Sigma$  by  $(\Sigma - \{X \rightarrow Y\})$ .

Lecture 9 Boyce-Codd Normal Form

1. Definition & Checking

Definition

Boyce-Codd Normal Form

A relation  $R$  with a set of functional dependencies  $\Sigma$  is in **BCNF** if and only if for **every** functional dependency  $X \rightarrow \{A\} \in \Sigma$ :

- $X \rightarrow \{A\}$  is trivial, or
- $X$  is a **superkey**

Note

For relation  $R$  **before decomposition**, it is sufficient only to look at  $\Sigma$ .

Check for violation. find  $x \rightarrow \{A\}$  s.t.

- $x \rightarrow \{A\}$  is non-trivial and
- $x$  is not a super key

\*Although this is a theorem, we omit the proof so we do not give it a number.

2. Lossless Join & Checking

Lossless-Join Decomposition

A binary decomposition is **lossless-join** if and only if the full outer natural join of its two **fragments** (i.e., the two tables resulting from the decomposition) **equals** the initial table. Otherwise, the decomposition is **lossy**.

position

$\text{Input: } R_1, R_2$   
 $\text{Find } R_1 \cap R_2$ , call this  $R_n$   
 $\text{compute } R_n^+$  w.r.t  $\Sigma$   
**Either on both**  $R_1 \subseteq R_n^+$ ,  $R_2 \subseteq R_n^+$   
 $\Rightarrow$  **Binary lossless join**

Lossless-Join Lemma

Lemma #1: Lossless-Join Binary Decomposition

A binary decomposition of  $R$  into  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  is **lossless-join** if  $R = R_1 \cup R_2$  and  $(R_1 \cap R_2) \rightarrow R_1$  or  $(R_1 \cap R_2) \rightarrow R_2$

3. Projection of Functional Dependencies

Projected Functional Dependencies

Consider a relation  $R$  with a set of functional dependencies  $\Sigma$ . A set  $\Sigma'$  of **projected functional dependencies** on  $R'$  from  $R$  with  $\Sigma$ , where  $R' \subseteq R$ , is the set of functional dependencies equivalent to the set of functional dependencies  $X \rightarrow Y$  in  $\Sigma'$  such that  $X \subseteq R'$  and  $Y \subseteq R'$ .

$X \rightarrow Y$   
 $X \subseteq R'$   $Y \subseteq R'$

Have to look at the closure

4. Dependency Preserving

Definition

A decomposition of  $R$  with  $\sigma$  into  $\delta = \{R_1, \dots, R_n\}$  with the respective sets of functional dependencies  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$  is **dependency preserving** if and only if

$\Sigma^+ = (\sigma_1 \cup \dots \cup \sigma_n)^+$

**\*\*!!! Caution: in BCNF, a lossless join decomposition doesn't guarantee that it's dependency preserving!!!\*\***  
**In 3NF this can be guaranteed.**

5. BCNF Decomposition

position

Guarantees Lossless join

Find any violations  $X \rightarrow Y$

Compute  $X^+$  w.r.t  $\Sigma$

$X \rightarrow X^+ \supseteq Y$   
 $R_1$

Algorithm

BCNF Decomposition

Algorithm #3: BCNF Decomposition

Let  $X \rightarrow Y$  be a functional dependency in  $\Sigma$  that violates the BCNF definition (i.e., non trivial and  $X$  is not a superkey). We use  $X \rightarrow Y$  to **decompose**  $R$  into two relations  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  in the following way:

$R_1 = X^+$   
 $R_2 = (R - X^+) \cup X$

$R_1 \cap R_2 = X$   
 $X \rightarrow X^+$  } lemma 1

We must now check whether  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  with the respective sets of **projected functional dependencies**  $\Sigma_1$  and  $\Sigma_2$  are in BCNF. If they are not, we recursively continue the decomposition.

Lecture 10 Third Normal Form

1. Definition & Checking

Normal Form

Based on the concept of transitive dependency.

3NF Theorem

A relation  $R$  with a set of functional dependencies  $\Sigma$  is in **3NF** if and only if for **every** functional dependency  $X \rightarrow \{A\} \in \Sigma$ :

- $X \rightarrow \{A\}$  is trivial, or
- $X$  is a superkey, or
- $A$  is a **prime attribute**

$\Rightarrow$  **Negation Violation**

$\exists$  FD  $X \rightarrow \{A\} \in \Sigma^+$  s.t.

- $X \rightarrow \{A\}$  is non-trivial 1stND
- $X$  is not a superkey 1stND
- $A$  is not a prime attribute

**LEMMA 4.** A relation  $R$  is 3NF iff for every elementary FD of  $R$ , sdy,  $X \rightarrow A$ ,

- $X$  is a key for  $R$ , or
- $A$  is a key attribute for  $R$ .

**PROOF:** Easy.

**Note**  
For relation  $R$  **before decomposition**, it is sufficient only to look at  $\Sigma$ .

2. 3NF Decomposition (Bernstein's Algorithm)

Normal Form

Minimal Cover ( $\Sigma^+$ )

$X \rightarrow Y$

Algorithm

Synthesis

Algorithm #5: 3NF Synthesis (Bernstein Algorithm)

When a relation is not in 3NF, we can **synthesize** a schema in 3NF from a **minimal cover** of the set of functional dependencies.

- For each functional dependency  $X \rightarrow Y$  in the minimal cover, create a relation  $R_i = X \cup Y$  Unless it already exists or is **subsumed** by another relation (with some exceptions...).
- If none of the created relations contain one of the keys, **pick any candidate key** and create a relation with that candidate key.

"Synthesizing Third Normal Form relations from functional dependencies"

\*We still call the synthesis method a decomposition because we decompose a relation into multiple relations.

