

## Databases and Web Applications (320302)

# Final Exam Fall 2013

## Logistics

- You have **120 minutes** for the test.
- You can achieve a maximum of **53** points, from which only **50** are needed for a perfect score.
- Don't forget to enter your name – we cannot grade if you if it is not present or illegible!
- *Different problems test different skills and knowledge, so do not get stuck on one problem.*

Name:

(To be used for correcting, do not write into box below)

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# 1 Indexing

Consider the B+ tree index shown in the Figure 1. Each intermediate node can hold up to five pointers and four key values. Each leaf can hold up to four records, and leaf nodes are doubly linked as usual, although these links are not shown in the figure. I1 is the root node of the tree.

**Task 1.1 (1 pts):** Name all the tree nodes that must be fetched to answer the following query: "Get all records with search key greater than 38."

**Task 1.2 (3 pt):** Name a search key value such that inserting it into the (original) tree would cause an increase in the height of the tree. Explain why the height will increase.

**Task 1.3 (5 pts):** Note that subtrees A, B, and C are not fully specified. Nonetheless, what can you infer about the contents and the shape of these subtrees? Consider the height, range of search keys, and the minimum number of key values and pointers that each intermediate node has.

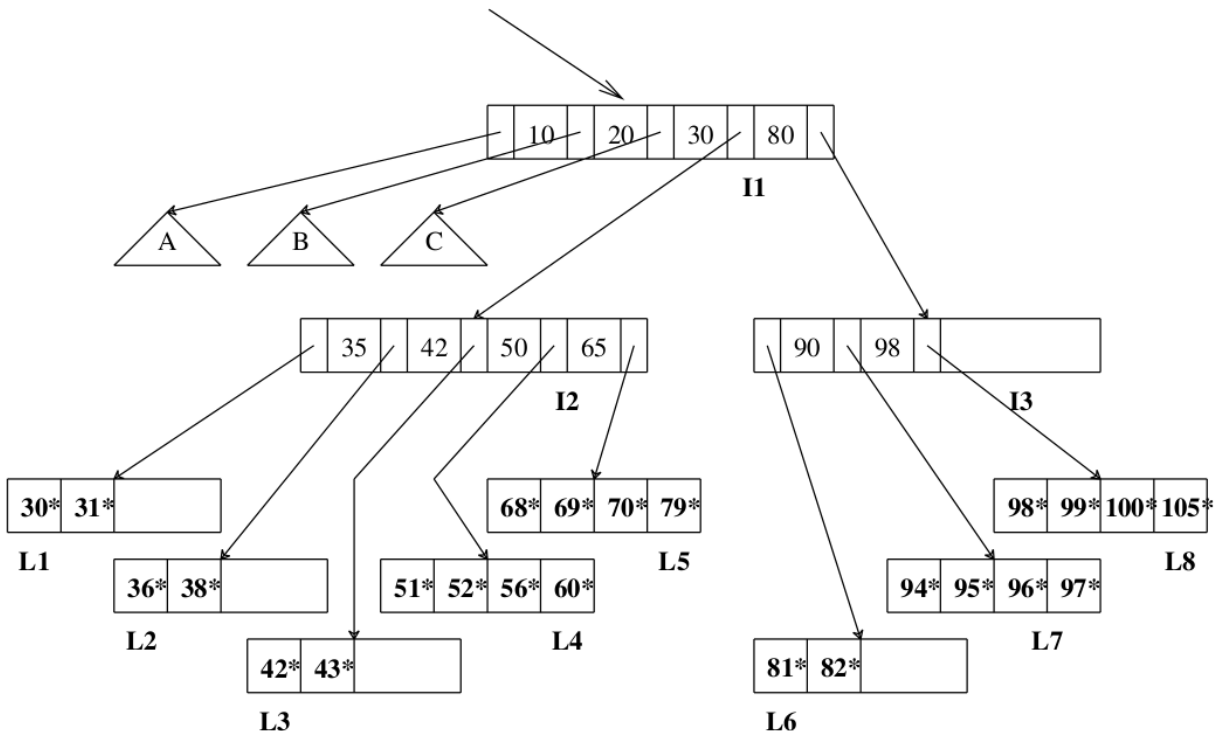


Figure 1: B+ tree

## 2 Security

**Task 2.1 (3 pts):** Privileges in Role-Based Access Control (Discretionary Access Control):

(a) Ann creates a table *SECRET1* and executes the following command:

*GRANT SELECT, INSERT ON SECRET1 TO Bill.*

Sometime later she enters this command:

*GRANT DELETE ON SECRET1 TO Bill.*

What rights on *SECRET1* does Bill now have?

(b) Ann creates a table *SECRET2* and executes the following command:

*GRANT SELECT ON SECRET2 TO BILL WITH GRANT OPTION.*

Then Bill executes:

*GRANT SELECT ON SECRET2 TO Chris.*

Later Ann enters:

*REVOKE SELECT ON SECRET2 FROM Bill.*

Who will lose the *SELECT* right?

(c) Now Ann creates a table *SECRET3* and executes the following command:

*GRANT SELECT ON SECRET3 TO Bill.*

Bill executes the command

*CREATE VIEW MY\_SECRET AS SELECT \* FROM SECRET3*

and then

*GRANT SELECT ON MY\_SECRET TO CHRIS.*

Is it possible to share the secret in this way with Chris? Explain why.

**Task 2.2 (3 pts):** Describe what JavaScript Injection attack is. Provide one example and explain the security issue.

**Task 2.3 (3 pts):** Email security concerns several different risks. Provide 2 examples of risks to which users expose when they use plain, unsecured email. For each risk, describe a technical mitigation.

### 3 Query Processing

**Task 3.1 (3+3 pts):** Consider the following database at MusicStoreDotCom:

CUSTOMER (Cid, Cname, Ccity, Cemail)  
ALBUM (Album#, Author, Price, Genre, Year)  
ORDER (Order#, Cid, Album#, Order\_date, Payment\_type)

and the following query: "*Customer\_email, Album#, Year for customers who ordered albums released after 1991*"

```
SELECT C.Cemail, A.Album#, A.Year  
FROM Customer C, Album A, Order O  
WHERE A.Album# = O.Album# AND O.Cid = C.Cid AND A.Year > 1991
```

- Draw the logical query tree for the query.
- Use a heuristics for algebraic query optimization to transform/restructure the query tree you generated at a) above into a more efficient query tree. Explain why your revised query plan is better.

**Task 3.2 (3+3 pts):** Assume you create a join between table T1 and T2 using the columns *T1.id* and *T2.id*. We run two experiments: first, *simple nested loop join* is used. Then, alternatively an index is created on column *T1.id* and *index nested loop join* is used.

- Compare efficiency of both algorithms in detail, based on their pseudo code.
- Derive a rule which, based on the ratio of join-matching tuples in T1 and T2, determines whether "T1 join T2" or "T2 join T1" will be more efficient.

### 4 Transactions

**Task 4.1 (4 pts):** Name and briefly explain the four core properties the transaction concept offers.

**Task 4.2 (2+2 pts):** Consider a database with objects X and Y and assume that there are two transactions T1 and T2. Transaction T1 reads objects X and Y and then writes object X. Transaction T2 reads objects X and Y and then writes objects X and Y.

- Give an example schedule with actions of transactions T1 and T2 on objects X and Y that results in a write-read conflict.
- Show that *Strict 2PL* disallows the above schedule.

## 5 Normal Forms

**Task 5.1 ( 1.5 + 1.5 pts):**

- a) What does the functional dependency (FD)  $X \rightarrow Y$  mean?
- b) How are primary keys related to FDs?

**Task 5.2 (3 pts):** You have the table  $T = (\text{name}, \text{ssn}, \text{phone number})$  representing a person. Each name is uniquely identified by ssn, but the same name can have multiple phone numbers. Suppose you break the table into two tables  $T1 = (\text{name}, \text{ssn})$  and  $T2 = (\text{name}, \text{phone number})$ .

- a) What are the candidate keys of  $T$ ,  $T1$ , and  $T2$ , respectively?
- b) Does the decomposition remove redundancy? If so, why?
- c) Which problems (i.e. operation anomalies) can appear in table  $T$ ? Explain your answer.

## 6 Web Services

**Task 6.1 (3 pts):** Briefly describe REST, mentioning its advantages and disadvantages. Give one example of a RESTful request.

**Task 6.2 (3 pts):** Briefly describe AJAX, mentioning its advantages and disadvantages. Give one example. Hint: you do not have to specify what happens on server side; describing the client side mechanism is sufficient.

## 7 Big Data

**Task 7.1 (1.5 + 1.5 pts):** How is the term “Big Data” commonly defined? (Hint: use the Four V's). Describe one technical solution for processing large data sets in detail.

--end of exam--