



# SECD2523 DATABASE

FROM  
RELATIONAL ALGEBRA TO SQL

Week 4

# RELATIONAL ALGEBRA I & II

- σ Select
- π Projection
- ∪ Union
- ∩ Intersection
- Difference
- × Product
- ⋈ Join

Fundamental operations to retrieve and manipulate tuples in a relation.

- Based on set algebra (unordered lists with no duplicates).

Each operator takes one or more relations as its inputs and outputs a new relation.

- We can “chain” operators together to create more complex operations.

# RELATIONAL ALGEBRA I: SELECTION

Choose a subset of the tuples from a relation that satisfies a selection predicate.

- Predicate acts as a filter to retain only tuples that fulfill its qualifying requirement.
- Can combine multiple predicates using conjunctions / disjunctions.

Syntax:  $\sigma_{\text{predicate}}(R)$

**SELECT \* FROM R  
WHERE a\_id='a2' AND  
b\_id>102;**

**R(a\_id,b\_id)**

a_id	b_id
a1	101
a2	102
a2	103
a3	104

$\sigma_{a\_id='a2'}(R)$

a_id	b_id
a2	102
a2	103

$\sigma_{a\_id='a2' \wedge b\_id>102}(R)$

a_id	b_id
a2	103



# RELATIONAL ALGEBRA I : PROJECTION

Generate a relation with tuples that contains only the specified attributes.

- Rearrange attributes' ordering.
- Remove unwanted attributes.
- Manipulate values to create derived attributes.

**Syntax:**  $\Pi_{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n}(R)$

```
SELECT b_id-100, a_id
FROM R WHERE a_id =
  'a2' ;
```

a_id	b_id
a1	101
a2	102
a2	103
a3	104

$R(a\_id, b\_id)$

$\Pi_{b\_id-100, a\_id}(\sigma_{a\_id='a2'}(R))$

b_id-100	a_id
2	a2
3	a2

# RELATIONAL ALGEBRA I : UNION

Generate a relation that contains all tuples that appear in either only one or both input relations.

**Syntax: (R  $\cup$  S)**

(**SELECT \* FROM R**)  
**UNION**

(**SELECT \* FROM S**) ;

**R(a\_id,b\_id)**

a_id	b_id
a1	101
a2	102
a3	103

**S(a\_id,b\_id)**

a_id	b_id
a3	103
a4	104
a5	105

**(R  $\cup$  S)**

a_id	b_id
a1	101
a2	102
a3	103
a4	104
a5	105

# RELATIONAL ALGEBRA I : INTERSECTION

Generate a relation that contains only the tuples that appear in both of the input relations.

**Syntax:  $(R \cap S)$**

```
(SELECT * FROM R)
INTERSECT
(SELECT * FROM S);
```

**R(a\_id,b\_id)**

a_id	b_id
a1	101
a2	102
a3	103

**S(a\_id,b\_id)**

a_id	b_id
a3	103
a4	104
a5	105

**$(R \cap S)$**

a_id	b_id
a3	103

# RELATIONAL ALGEBRA I : SET DIFFERENCE

Generate a relation that contains only the tuples that appear in the first and not the second of the input relations.

**Syntax:  $(R - S)$**

**(SELECT \* FROM R)  
EXCEPT  
(SELECT \* FROM S) ;**

**R(a\_id,b\_id)**

a_id	b_id
a1	101
a2	102
a3	103

**S(a\_id,b\_id)**

a_id	b_id
a3	103
a4	104
a5	105

**$(R - S)$**

a_id	b_id
a1	101
a2	102

# RELATIONAL ALGEBRA I : CARTESIAN PRODUCT

Generate a relation that contains all possible combinations of tuples from the input relations.

**Syntax:  $(R \times S)$**

**SELECT \* FROM R CROSS JOIN S;**

**SELECT \* FROM R, S;**

**R(a\_id,b\_id)**

a_id	b_id
a1	101
a2	102
a3	103

**S(a\_id,b\_id)**

a_id	b_id
a3	103
a4	104
a5	105

**$(R \times S)$**

R.a_id	R.b_id	S.a_id	S.b_id
a1	101	a3	103
a1	101	a4	104
a1	101	a5	105
a2	102	a3	103
a2	102	a4	104
a2	102	a5	105
a3	103	a3	103
a3	103	a4	104
a3	103	a5	105

# RELATIONAL ALGEBRA II : JOIN

Generate a relation that contains all tuples that are a combination of two tuples (one from each input relation) with a common value(s) for one or more attributes.

Syntax: **(R  $\bowtie$  S)**

**R(a\_id,b\_id)**    **S(a\_id,b\_id,val)**

a_id	b_id
a1	101
a2	102
a3	103

a_id	b_id	val
a3	103	XXX
a4	104	YYY
a5	105	ZZZ

**(R  $\bowtie$  S)**

a_id	b_id	val
a3	103	XXX

# RELATIONAL ALGEBRA II : JOIN

Generate a relation that contains all tuples that are a combination of two tuples (one from each input relation) with a common value(s) for one or more attributes.

**Syntax:**  $(R \bowtie S)$

$R(a\_id, b\_id)$      $S(a\_id, b\_id, val)$

a_id	b_id
a1	101
a2	102
a3	103

a_id	b_id	val
a3	103	XXX
a4	104	YYY
a5	105	ZZZ

R.a_id	R.b_id	S.a_id	S.b_id	S.val
a3	103	a3	103	XXX



$(R \bowtie S)$

a_id	b_id	val
a3	103	XXX

# RELATIONAL ALGEBRA II : JOIN

Generate a relation that contains all tuples that are a combination of two tuples (one from each input relation) with a common value(s) for one or more attributes.

Syntax:  $(R \bowtie S)$

$R(a\_id,b\_id)$      $S(a\_id,b\_id,val)$

a_id	b_id
a1	101
a2	102
a3	103

a_id	b_id	val
a3	103	XXX
a4	104	YYY
a5	105	ZZZ

$(R \bowtie S)$

R.a_id	R.b_id	S.a_id	S.b_id	S.val
a3	103	X	X	XXX

a_id	b_id	val
a3	103	XXX

# RELATIONAL ALGEBRA II : JOIN

Generate a relation that contains all tuples that are a combination of two tuples (one from each input relation) with a common value(s) for one or more attributes.

<b>(R <math>\bowtie</math> S)</b>			<b>R(a_id,b_id)</b>	<b>S(a_id,b_id,val)</b>	
<b>a_id</b>	<b>b_id</b>	<b>val</b>	<b>a_id</b>	<b>b_id</b>	<b>val</b>
a3	103	XXX	a1	101	
a2			a2	102	
a3	103		a3	103	XXX

**SELECT \* FROM R NATURAL JOIN S;**

**SELECT \* FROM R JOIN S USING (a\_id, b\_id);**

**SELECT \* FROM R JOIN S  
ON R.a\_id = S.a\_id AND R.b\_id = S.b\_id;**

# RELATIONAL ALGEBRA III

## AGGREGATION: $\Sigma$ AL(R)

- **Identify the attributes in AL that are not aggregate functions:** These attributes will form the basis for grouping the data. They will be included in the SELECT clause and the GROUP BY clause.
- **Identify the aggregate functions in AL:** These will be applied to specific columns to produce a single summary value for each group. Common aggregate functions include COUNT(), SUM(), AVG(), MIN(), and MAX().

Example:

```
SELECT MIN(HireDate) FROM Employees;
```

```
SELECT Department, AVG(Salary) FROM Employees GROUP BY Department;
```

**GROUPING :  $\Sigma$ AL(R)**

# RELATIONAL ALGEBRA III

## DIVISION : R÷S

Relational division ( $R \div S$ ) in relational algebra, which identifies tuples in R that are associated with all tuples in S, does not have a direct, single operator equivalent in SQL.

SQL does not have a direct division operator, but it can be implemented using combinations of NOT EXISTS, EXCEPT (or MINUS), COUNT, and GROUP BY.

Here's an example using the NOT EXISTS and EXCEPT approach, which is a common way to simulate relational division.

**SELECT DISTINCT** S.StudentID, S.StudentName **FROM** Students **AS** S

**WHERE NOT EXISTS**

*Subquery 1: Find courses NOT taken by the current student*

**SELECT** C.CourseID **FROM** Courses **AS** C

**EXCEPT**

**SELECT** E.CourseID

**FROM** Enrollments **AS** E

**WHERE** E.StudentID = S.StudentID);



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