

## GROUP BY and HAVING

So far, we've applied aggregate operators to all (qualifying) tuples. Sometimes, we want to apply them to each of several *groups* of tuples.

Consider: *Find the age of the youngest student for each group.*

- In general, we don't know how many groups exist
- Suppose we know that group values go from 110 to 119, we can write 10 similar queries. But when another group is added, a new query should be created.

*Group By* and *Having* clauses allow us to solve problems like this in only one SQL query. General syntax is:

```
SELECT [DISTINCT] target-list
FROM   relation-list
WHERE  qualification
GROUP BY grouping-list
HAVING group-qualification
```

The *target-list* contains

- attribute names (the attribute names must be a subset of *grouping-list*);
- terms with aggregate operations (e.g., MIN (*S.age*)).

Intuitively, each answer tuple corresponds to a *group*, and these attributes must have a single value per group. (A *group* is a set of tuples that have the same value for all attributes in *grouping-list*.)

*Group By / Having* conceptual evaluation:

- The cross-product of *relation-list* is computed, tuples that fail *qualification* are discarded, '*unnecessary*' fields are deleted, and the remaining tuples are partitioned into groups by the value of attributes in *grouping-list*.
- The *group-qualification* is then applied to eliminate some groups. Expressions in *group-qualification* must have a single value per group!
  - o In effect, an attribute in *group-qualification* that is not an argument of an aggregate op also appears in *grouping-list*. (SQL does not exploit primary key semantics here!)
- One answer tuple is generated per qualifying group.

Sample: *Find the age of the youngest student with age  $\geq 20$  for each group with at least 2 such students*

```
SELECT S.gr, MIN (S.age)
FROM   Students S
WHERE  S.age >= 20
GROUP BY S.gr
HAVING COUNT (*) > 1
```

- Only S.gr and S.age are mentioned in the SELECT, GROUP BY or HAVING clauses; other attributes '*unnecessary*'.
- 2nd column of result is unnamed. (Use AS to name it.)

Sample: *Find the number of enrolled students and the grade average for each course with 6 credits*

```
SELECT C.cid, COUNT (*) AS scount, AVG(grade)
FROM   Students S, Enrolled E, Courses C
```

```
WHERE S.sid=E.sid AND E.cid=C.cid AND C.credits=6
GROUP BY C.cid
```

## Sorting the result of a query

ORDER BY *column* [ASC | DESC] [, ...]

```
SELECT cname, sname, grade
FROM Courses C
      INNER JOIN Enrolled E ON C.cid = E.cid
      INNER JOIN Students S ON E.sid = S.sid
ORDER BY cname, grade DESC, sname
```

Can order by any column in SELECT list, including expressions or aggregates:

```
SELECT gr, Count(*) as StudNo
FROM Students C
GROUP BY gr
ORDER BY StudNo
```

## Course 3. Schema Refinement

### Good designs / bad designs

Data represented by schemas generally have application-dependent constraints relating to attribute values.

Example: Consider the following *MovieList* relation:

<i>Title</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>Cinema</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Time</i>
The Hobbit	Jackson	Cinema City	441111	11:30
The Lord of the Rings 3	Jackson	Cinema City	441111	14:30
Adventures of Tintin	Spielberg	Odeon	442222	11:00
The Lord of the Rings 3	Jackson	Odeon	442222	14:00
War Horse	Spielberg	Odeon	442222	16:30

Figure 3.1 *MovieList* relation instance

Data stored by this relation respect the following constraints:

- Each movie has one director
- Each cinema has one phone number
- Each cinema screens one movie at a time

Common problems if a design is bad:

- **Insertion anomaly:** We can't store information about a new movie if the screening place and time are not known
- **Deletion anomaly:** If we delete all movies directed by Peter Jackson, we lose information about *Cinema City* cinema

- **Update anomaly:** If the phone number of a cinema changes, we have to be careful of inconsistent updates

Usually, we can refine a bad schema by *decomposing* it into multiple “good” ones.

<i>Movies</i>		<i>Cinema</i>	
<i>Title</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>Cinema</i>	<i>Phone</i>
The Hobbit	Jackson	Cinema City	441111
The Lord of the Rings 3	Jackson	Odeon	442222
Adventures of Tintin	Spielberg		
War Horse	Spielberg		

<i>Screens</i>		
<i>Cinema</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Title</i>
Cinema City	11:30	The Hobbit
Cinema City	14:30	The Lord of the Rings 3
Odeon	11:00	Adventures of Tintin
Odeon	14:00	The Lord of the Rings 3
Odeon	16:30	War Horse

Figure 3.2 Decomposition of *MovieList* relation

Refined schema allows:

- insertions of new movies without knowing their screening details
- deletions of movies without losing information about cinemas
- a single record to be updated to change a cinema’s phone number

There are two main questions:

- How to determine whether a schema design is “good” or “bad”?
- How to transform a bad design into a *good* one?

The theory of *functional dependencies* provides a systematic approach to address these questions. This theory was introduced by E.F. Codd in: “A *relational model for large shared data banks*”, Com. of the ACM, 13(6), 1970, pp.377-387.

## Functional dependencies

Functional dependencies (FDs) are constraints on schemas that specify that the values for a certain set of attributes determine unique values for another set of attributes

Let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  denote subsets of attributes of a relational schema R. We use:

$$\alpha \rightarrow \beta$$

to denote that  $\alpha$  functionally determines  $\beta$  (or  $\beta$  functionally depends on  $\alpha$ )

In our previous example (*MovieList* relation) we can identify the following functional dependencies:

1. Title  $\rightarrow$  Director

2. Cinema  $\rightarrow$  Phone
3. Cinema, Time  $\rightarrow$  Title

**Definition.** The functional dependency  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$  holds on  $R$  if and only if for any relation instance of  $R$ , whenever two tuples  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  agree on the attributes  $\alpha$ , they also agree on the attributes  $\beta$ .

That is,

$$\pi_{\alpha}(t_1) = \pi_{\alpha}(t_2) \Rightarrow \pi_{\beta}(t_1) = \pi_{\beta}(t_2)$$

*Note:*  $\pi_{\alpha}(t)$  denote the projection of attributes  $\alpha$  of tuple  $t$

Let  $r$  be a relation instance of relation schema  $R$

We are saying that  $r$  **satisfies FD**  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$  if for every pair of tuples  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  in  $r$  such that  $\pi_{\alpha}(t_1) = \pi_{\alpha}(t_2)$ , it is also true that  $\pi_{\beta}(t_1) = \pi_{\beta}(t_2)$ . Thus, a **FD  $f$  holds on  $R$**  if and only if for any relation instance  $r$  of  $R$ ,  $r$  satisfies  $f$

$r$  is said to **violate** a FD  $f$  if  $r$  does not satisfy  $f$ .  $r$  is said to be a **legal instance of  $R$**  if  $r$  satisfies all FDs that hold on  $R$ .

A FD  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$  is a **trivial FD** if  $\alpha \supseteq \beta$ ; otherwise it is a **non-trivial FD**

Example. Relation **Movie**(Title, Director, Composer). Let  $r$  be a legal relation instance of **Movie** as shown:

<i>Title</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>Composer</i>
Schindler's List	Spielberg	Williams
Saving Private Ryan	Spielberg	Williams
North by Northwest	Hitchcock	Herrmann
Angela's Ashes	Parker	Williams
Vertigo	Hitchcock	Herrmann

Figure 3.3. **Movie** relation instance

The functional dependency  $composer \rightarrow director$  does not hold on **Movie**. At the same time,  $r$  satisfies the FD  $director \rightarrow composer$ , but we cannot conclude that  $director \rightarrow composer$  holds on **Movie**!

Conclusion: based on legal instances of  $R$  we can tell which FDs do not hold on  $R$ , but we can't deduce which non-trivial FDs hold.

**Implication Problem:** Given a set of functional dependencies  $F$  (that hold on  $R$ ) and a functional dependency  $f$ , does  $f$  also hold on  $R$ ?  $F$  **logically implies (or implies)**  $f$ , denoted by  $F \Rightarrow f$ , if every relation instance  $r$  of  $R$  that satisfies the FDs  $F$  also satisfies the FD  $f$

**Example:** In **MovieList**, we have the following predefined set of functional dependencies:

$$F = \{ \text{Title} \rightarrow \text{Director} \}$$

$$\text{Cinema} \rightarrow \text{Phone}$$

Cinema, Time  $\rightarrow$  Title }

Does *Cinema, Time  $\rightarrow$  Director* or *Time  $\rightarrow$  Director* also hold?

Let  $F$  &  $G$  denote sets of functional dependencies, and  $f$  denote a functional dependency. More generally,  $F \Rightarrow G$  if  $F \Rightarrow g$  for each  $g \in G$ .

The **closure of  $F$**  (denoted by  $F^+$ ) is the set of all functional dependencies implied by  $F$ ; that is,

$$F^+ = \{f / F \Rightarrow f\}$$

Two sets of functional dependencies,  $F$  and  $G$ , are **equivalent** (denoted by  $F \equiv G$ ) if  $F^+ = G^+$  (i.e.,  $F \Rightarrow G$  and  $G \Rightarrow F$ )

### Axioms for Functional Dependencies

= a collection of formal rules used to derive a functional dependency from a set of functional dependencies

Armstrong's Axioms: Let  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \subseteq R$

**Reflexivity:** If  $\beta \subseteq \alpha$ , then  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$

**Augmentation:** If  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ , then  $\alpha\gamma \rightarrow \beta\gamma$

**Transitivity:** If  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$  and  $\beta \rightarrow \gamma$ , then  $\alpha \rightarrow \gamma$

Armstrong's Axioms are both *sound* and *complete*

**Sound:** Any derived FD is implied by  $F$

**Complete:** All FDs in  $F^+$  can be derived

*Problem:* Consider  $R(A, B, C, D, E)$  with 3 functional dependencies:

$$F = \{A \rightarrow C; B \rightarrow C; CD \rightarrow E\}.$$

Show that  $F \Rightarrow AD \rightarrow E$

*Solution:*

1.  $A \rightarrow C$  (given)
2.  $AD \rightarrow CD$  (augmentation with (1))
3.  $CD \rightarrow E$  (given)
4.  $AD \rightarrow E$  (transitivity with (2) and (3))

Additional Inference Rules

**Union:** If  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$  and  $\alpha \rightarrow \gamma$ , then  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta\gamma$

**Decomposition:** If  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ , then  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta'$  for any  $\beta' \subseteq \beta$

### Superkeys, Keys & Prime Attributes

A set of attributes  $\alpha$  is a superkey of schema R (with FDs F) if  $F \Rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow R$ .

A set of attributes is a key of schema R if

- (1)  $\alpha$  is a superkey, and
- (2) no proper subset of  $\alpha$  is a superkey  
(i.e., for each  $\beta \subset \alpha$ ,  $\beta \rightarrow R \notin F^+$ )

An attribute  $A \in R$  is a prime attribute if A is contained in some key of R; otherwise, it is a nonprime attribute.

*Example:* Consider again **MovieList** (Title, Director, Cinema, Phone, Time) with functional dependencies set:

- (1) Cinema, Time  $\rightarrow$  Title
- (2) Cinema  $\rightarrow$  Phone
- (3) Title  $\rightarrow$  Director

{Cinema, Time} is the only key of **MovieList**.

Cinema and Time are the only prime attributes in **MovieList**.

Any superset of {Cinema; Time} in R is a superkey of **MovieList**.

### Attribute Closure

Computing  $F^+$  for a set of FDs F is not efficient as the size of  $F^+$  could be exponentially large!

More efficient to compute the closure of a set of attributes

Let  $\alpha \subseteq R$  and F be a set of FDs that hold on R. The closure of  $\alpha$  (with respect to F), denoted by  $\alpha^+$ , is the set of attributes that are functionally determined by  $\alpha$  with respect to F; i.e.,

$$\alpha^+ = \{A \in R \mid F \Rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow A\}$$

Note that  $F \Rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \beta$  if and only if  $\beta \subseteq \alpha^+$  (w.r.t. F)

### Algorithm to compute attribute closure:

**Input:**  $\alpha, F$

**Output:**  $\alpha^+$  (w.r.t. F)

Compute a sequence of sets of attrs  $\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k, \alpha_{k+1}$  as follows:

$$\alpha_0 = \alpha$$

$$\alpha_{i+1} = \alpha_i \cup \gamma \text{ such that there is some FD}$$

$$\beta \rightarrow \gamma \in F \text{ and } \beta \subseteq \alpha_i$$

Terminate the computation once  $\alpha_{k+1} = \alpha_k$  for some k Return  $\alpha_k$

*Problem:* Given  $F = \{A \rightarrow C; B \rightarrow C; CD \rightarrow E\}$ , show that  $F \Rightarrow AD \rightarrow E$ .

*Solution*

$i$	$\alpha_i$	$FD\ used$
0	AD	given input
1	ACD	$A \rightarrow C$
2	ACDE	$CD \rightarrow E$
3	ACDE	none

So  $AD^+ = ACDE$ . Since  $E \in AD^+$ , therefore  $F \Rightarrow AD \rightarrow E$

## Schema Decompositions

The **decomposition of schema  $R$**  is a set of schemas  $\{R_1, R_2, \dots, R_n\}$  such that each  $R_i \subseteq R$  and  $R = \bigcup R_i$ . If  $r$  is a relation of  $R$ , then  $r$  is decomposed into  $\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n\}$ , where each  $r_i = \pi_{R_i}(r)$

*Example:*

{ (Cinema, Time, Title),  
(Title, Director),  
(Cinema, Phone)}

is a decomposition of: **MovieList**(Title, Director, Cinema, Phone, Time)

Properties of schema decomposition:

1. Decomposition must preserve information
  - Data in original relation  $\equiv$  Data in decomposed relations
  - Crucial for correctness!
2. Decomposition should preserve FDs
  - Functional dependencies in original schema  $\equiv$  functional dependencies in decomposed schemas
  - Facilitates checking of functional dependency violations

## Lossless - Join Decomposition

It is important that a decomposition preserves information; i.e., we can reconstruct  $r$  from joining its projections  $\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n\}$ . Note that if  $\{R_1, R_2, \dots, R_n\}$  is a decomposition of  $R$ , then for any relation  $r$  of  $R$ , it is always true that

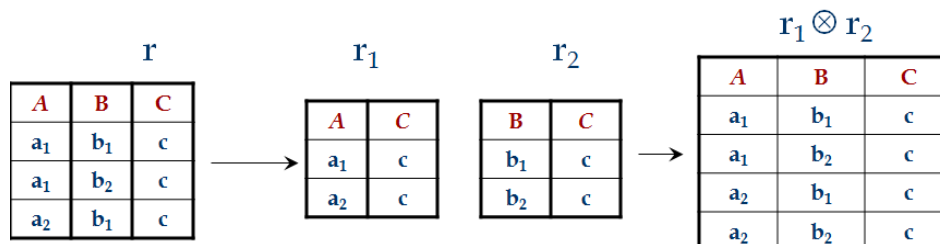
$$r \subseteq \pi_{R_1}(r) \otimes \pi_{R_2}(r) \otimes \dots \otimes \pi_{R_n}(r)$$

A decomposition of  $R$  (with functional dependencies set  $F$ ) into  $\{R_1, R_2, \dots, R_n\}$  is a lossless-join decomposition with respect to  $F$  if

$$\pi_{R_1}(r) \otimes \pi_{R_2}(r) \otimes \dots \otimes \pi_{R_n}(r) = r$$

for every relation  $r$  of  $R$  that satisfies  $F$ .

Example. Consider the decomposition of  $R(A,B,C)$  into  $\{R_1(AC), R_2(BC)\}$



Since  $r \subset r_1 \otimes r_2$ , the above decomposition is not lossless-join. A decomposition that is not lossless-join is called a lossy decomposition.

How to determine if  $\{R_1, R_2\}$  is a lossless-join decomposition of  $R$ ?

**Theorem:** The decomposition of  $R$  (with FDs  $F$ ) into  $\{R_1, R_2\}$  is lossless with respect to  $F$  if and only if:

$$F \Rightarrow R_1 \cap R_2 \rightarrow R_1 \quad \text{or} \quad F \Rightarrow R_1 \cap R_2 \rightarrow R_2$$

How to decompose  $R$  into  $\{R_1, R_2\}$  such that it is a lossless-join decomposition?

**Corollary:** If  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$  holds on  $R$  and  $\alpha \cap \beta = \emptyset$ , then the decomposition of  $R$  into  $\{R - \beta, \alpha\beta\}$  is a lossless-join decomposition.

Example. Consider  $R(A,B,C)$  with FDs  $F = \{A \rightarrow B\}$ .

The decomposition  $\{AB, AC\}$  has a lossless join since  $AB \cap AC = A$  and  $A \rightarrow AB$ .

The decomposition  $\{AB, BC\}$  is not lossless join w.r.t.  $F$  since  $AB \cap BC = B$  and neither  $B \rightarrow AB$  nor  $B \rightarrow BC$  holds on  $R$ .

**Theorem:** If  $\{R_1, R_2\}$  is a lossless-join decomposition of  $R$ , and if  $\{R_{1,1}, R_{1,2}\}$  is a lossless-join decomposition of  $R_1$ , then  $\{R_{1,1}, R_{1,2}, R_2\}$  is a lossless-join decomposition of  $R$ .

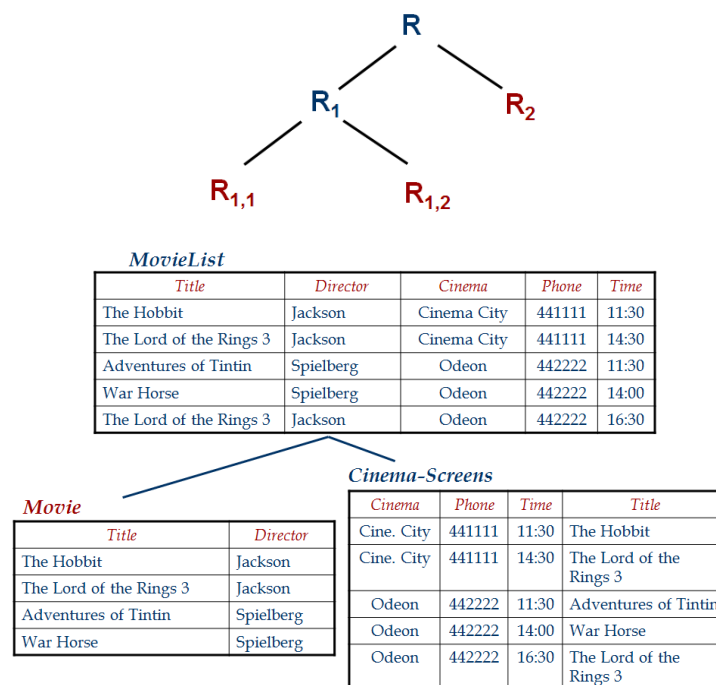


Figure 3.4 First step of decomposing **MovieList** relation, based on  $Title \rightarrow Director$  functional dependency



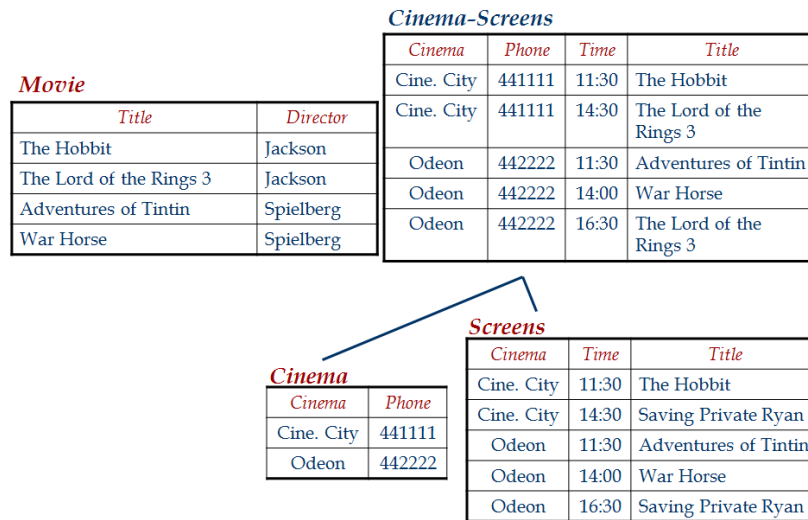


Figure 3.5 Last step of decomposing **MovieList** relation, based on  $Cinema \rightarrow Phone$  functional dependency

### Preserve Functional Dependencies

The projection of  $F$  on  $\alpha$  (denote by  $F_\alpha$ ) is the set of FDs in  $F^+$  that involves only attributes in  $\alpha$ ; i.e.,  $F_\alpha = \{ \beta \rightarrow \gamma \in F^+ \mid \beta\gamma \subseteq \alpha \}$

Computing FD Projections:

```

Input:  $\alpha, F$ 
Output:  $F_\alpha$ 
result =  $\emptyset$ ;
for each  $\beta \subseteq \alpha$  do
     $T = \beta^+$  (w.r.t.  $F$ )
    result = result  $\cup \{ \beta \rightarrow T \cap \alpha \}$ 
return result

```

If  $R$  is decomposed into  $X, Y$  and  $Z$ , and we enforce the FDs that hold on  $X$ , on  $Y$  and on  $Z$ , then all FDs that were given to hold on  $R$  must also hold.

**Definition.** The decomposition  $\{R_1, R_2, \dots, R_n\}$  of  $R$  is dependency preserving if

$(F_{R_1} \cup F_{R_2} \cup \dots \cup F_{R_n})$  and  $F$  are equivalent, i.e.:

$(F_{R_1} \cup F_{R_2} \cup \dots \cup F_{R_n}) \Rightarrow F$  and  $F \Rightarrow (F_{R_1} \cup F_{R_2} \cup \dots \cup F_{R_n})$