



Merging Relational and Object Models

- Object-oriented models support interesting data types --- not just flat files.
 - Maps, multimedia, etc.
- The relational model supports very-high-level queries.
- Object-relational databases are an attempt to get the best of both.



Complex Data Types

- Motivation:
 - Permit non-atomic domains (atomic ≡ indivisible)
 - Example of non-atomic domain: set of integers, or set of tuples
 - Allows more intuitive modeling for applications with complex data
- Intuitive definition:
 - allow relations whenever we allow atomic (scalar) values

 relations within relations
 - Retains mathematical foundation of relational model
 - Violates first normal form.



Example of a Nested Relation

- Example: library information system
- Each book has
 - title,
 - a list (array) of authors,
 - Publisher, with subfields name and branch, and
 - a set of keywords
- Non-1NF relation books

title	author_array	publisher	keyword_set
		(name, branch)	
Compilers	[Smith, Jones]	(McGraw-Hill, NewYork)	(parsing, analysis)
Networks			



Complex Types and SQL

- Extensions introduced in SQL:1999 to support complex types:
- Collection and large object types
 - Nested relations are an example of collection types
 - Structured types
 - Nested record structures like composite attributes
 - Inheritance
 - Object orientation
 - Including object identifiers and references
- Not fully implemented in any database system currently
 - But some features are present in each of the major commercial database systems
 - Read the manual of your database system to see what it supports



User Defined Types

- A user-defined type, or UDT, is essentially a class definition, with a structure and methods.
- Two uses:
 - 1. As a *rowtype*, that is, the type of a relation.
 - 2. As the type of an attribute of a relation.

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Structured Types and Inheritance in

 $\begin{tabular}{lll} \textbf{Structured types} (a.k.a. \begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{user-defined types} \end{tabular}) can be declared and used in SQL \\ \end{tabular}$

create type Name as (first*name* va

varchar(20), varchar(20)) *lastname* final

create type Address as (street varchar(20), city varchar(20), zipcode varchar(20)) not final

- Note: final and not final indicate whether subtypes can be created
- Note: mai and not mai indicate whether subtypes can be create.

 Structured types can be used to create tables with composite attributes create table person (name Name, address, Address, dateCfBirth date)

 Dot notation used to reference components: name.firstname



Structured Types (cont.)

User-defined row types

create type PersonType as (name Name, address Address dateOfBirth date) not final

- Can then create a table whose rows are a user-defined type create table customer of CustomerType
- Alternative using unnamed row types.

create table person_r(
name row(firstname varchar(20),
lastname varchar(20)),
addressrow(street varchar(20),
city varchar(20),
zipcode varchar(20),
varchar(20),
zipcode varchar(20)),



Constructor Functions

- Constructor functions are used to create values of structured types
- E.g.

create function Name(firstname varchar(20), lastname varchar(20)) returns Name begin

set self.firstname = firstname;

set self.lastname = lastname;

- To create a value of type *Name,* we use **new** *Name*('John', 'Smith')
- Normally used in insert statements insert into Person values

(new Name('John', 'Smith),

new Address('20 Main St', 'New York', '11001'), date '1960-8-22');



Type Inheritance

Suppose that we have the following type definition for people:

create type Person (name varchar(20), address varchar(20))

Using inheritance to define the student and teacher types

create type Student
under Person
(degree varchar(20),
department varchar(20))
create type Teacher
under Person
(salary integer,
department varchar(20))

Subtypes can redefine methods by using **overriding method** in place of **method** in the method declaration



Multiple Type Inheritance

- SQL:1999 and SQL:2003 do not support multiple inheritance
- If our type system supports multiple inheritance, we can define a type for teaching assistant as follows:

create type Teaching Assistant under Student, Teacher

 To avoid a conflict between the two occurrences of department we can rename them

create type Teaching Assistant under Student with (department as student_dept), Teacher with (department as teacher_dept)

■ Each value must have a most-specific type



Array and Multiset Types in SQL

Example of array and multiset declaration:

create type Publisher as
(name varchar(20),
branch varchar(20));
create type Book as
(title varchar(20),

author_array varchar(20) array [10], pub_date date,

publisher Publisher,

keyword-set varchar(20) multiset);

create table books of Book;



Creation of Collection Values

Array construction

array ['Silberschatz', Korth', Sudarshan']

multiset ['computer', 'database', 'SQL']

 To insert the preceding tuple into the relation books insert into books

values ('Compilers', array[`Smith',`Jones'], new Publisher (`McGraw-Hill',`New York'), multiset [`parsing',`analysis']);



Unnesting

- The transformation of a nested relation into a form with fewer (or no) relation-valued attributes us called **unnesting**.

select title, A as author, publisher.name as pub_name, publisher.branch as pub_branch, K.keyword from books as B, unnest(B.author_array) as A (author), unnest (B.keyword_set) as K (keyword)

Result relation flat_books

title	author	pub_name	pub_branch	keyword
Compilers	Smith	McGraw-Hill	New York	parsing
Compilers	Jones	McGraw-Hill	New York	parsing
Compilers	Smith	McGraw-Hill	New York	analysis
Compilers	Jones	McGraw-Hill	New York	analysis
Networks	Jones	Oxford	London	Internet
Networks	Frick	Oxford	London	Internet
Networks	Jones	Oxford	London	Web
Networks	Frick	Oxford	London	Web
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Querying Collection-Valued Attributes

To find all books that have the word "database" as a keyword, select title from books

where 'database' in (unnest(keyword-set))

- We can access individual elements of an array by using indices
 - E.g.: If we know that a particular book has three authors, we could write:

select author_array[1], author_array[2], author_array[3]
from books
where title = `Database System Concepts'

To get a relation containing pairs of the form "title, author_name" for each book and each author of the book select B.title, A.author from books as B, unnest (B.author_array) as A (author)

To retain ordering information we add a with ordinality clause select B.title, A.author, A.position from books as B, unnest (B.author_array) with ordinality as A (author_nosition) A (author, position)

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Nesting

- Nesting is the opposite of unnesting, creating a collection-valued attribute
- Nesting can be done in a manner similar to aggregation, but using the function **colect()** in place of an aggregation operation, to create a multiset
- To nest the *flat_books* relation on the attribute *keyword*: select title, author, Publisher(pub_name, pub_branch) as publisher,

collect (keyword) as keyword_set from flat_books

groupby title, author, publisher

To nest on both authors and keywords:

select title, collect (author) as author_set,
Publisher (pub_name, pub_branch) as publisher,
collect (keyword) as keyword_set
from flat_books

group by title, publisher



Nesting (Cont.)

Another approach to creating nested relations is to use subqueries in the **select** clause, starting from the 4NF relation

select title,

array (select author
from authors as A
where A.title = B.title
order by A.position) as author_array,
Publisher (pub-name, pub-branch) as publisher,
multiset (select keyword

from keywords as K where K.title = B.title) as keyword_set

from books4 as B



Storing Nested Relations

- Oracle doesn't really store each nested table as a separate relation --- it just makes it look that way.
- Rather, there is one relation R in which all the tuples of all the nested tables for one attribute A are stored.
- Declare in CREATE TABLE by: NESTED TABLE A STORE AS R



Example: Storing Nested Tables

```
CREATE TABLE Manfs (
      name CHAR(30),
                    CHAR(50),
      addr
      beers beerTableType
NESTED TABLE beers STORE AS BeerTable;
```



References

- If T is a type, then REF T is the type of a reference to *T*, that is, a pointer to an object of
- Often called an "object ID" in OO systems.
- Unlike object ID's, a REF is visible, although it is gibberish.



Object-Identity and Reference Types

Define a type *Department* with a field *name* and a field *head* which is a reference to the type *Person*, with table *people* as scope:

create type Department (name varchar (20), head ref (Person) scope people)

- We can then create a table departments as follows create table departments of Department
- We can omit the declaration **scope** people from the type declaration and instead make an addition to the **create table** statement: **create table** departments of Department (head with options scope people)
- Referenced table must have an attribute that stores the identifier, called the self-referential attribute

create table people of Person ref is person_id system generated;



Initializing Reference-Typed Values

To create a tuple with a reference value, we can first create the tuple with a null reference and then set the reference separately:

insert into departments
values (`CS', null)
update departments set head = (select p.person_id from people as p where name = `John') where name = `CS'



Object Identifiers Using Reference **Types**

Reference type

- Create unique system-generated object identifiers
- Examples:
 - · REF IS SYSTEM GENERATED
 - · REF IS <OID_ATTRIBUTE> <VALUE_GENERATION_METHOD> ;



User Generated Identifiers

- The type of the object-identifier must be specified as part of the type definition of the referenced table, and
- The table definition must specify that the reference is user generated

create type Person
(name varchar(20)
address varchar(20))
ref using varchar(20)
create table people of Person
ref is person_id user generated

• When creating a tuple, we must provide a unique value for the

insert into people (person_id, name, address) values
('01284567', 'John', '23 Coyote Run')

We can then use the identifier value when inserting a tuple into

- departments
 - Avoids need for a separate query to retrieve the identifier: insert into departments values(`CS', `02184567')



User Generated Identifiers (Cont.)

Can use an existing primary key value as the identifier:

create type Person (name varchar (20) primary key, address varchar(20)) ref from (name) create table people of Person ref is person_id derived

 When inserting a tuple for departments, we can then use

insert into departments
 values(`CS',`John')



Path Expressions

 Find the names and addresses of the heads of all departments:

select head -> name, head -> address
from departments

- An expression such as "head->name" is called a path expression
- Path expressions help avoid explicit joins
 - If department head were not a reference, a join of departments with people would be required to get at the address
 - Makes expressing the query much easier for the user



Implementing O-R Features

- Similar to how E-R features are mapped onto relation schemas
- Subtable implementation
 - Each table stores primary key and those attributes defined in that table

or,

 Each table stores both locally defined and inherited attributes



Presentación

- Esta presentación fue armada utilizando, además de material propio, material provisto por los siguientes autores:
- Siblberschat, Korth, Sudarshan Database Systems Concepts, 6th Ed., Mc Graw Hill, 2010
- García Molina/Ullman/Widom Database Systems: The Complete Book, 2nd Ed., Prentice Hall, 2009
- Elmasri/Navathe Fundamentals of Database Systems, 6th Ed., Addison Wesley, 2011

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