CSC 261/461 – Database Systems
Lecture 4

Spring 2017
MW 3:25 pm – 4:40 pm
January 18 – May 3
Dewey 1101

- You can now form a team of:

FOUR!

Topics Covered

1. NULLs

2. Outer Joins

3. With and Case

4. Constraint

5. Schema Change Statements

Comparisons Involving NULL and Three-Valued Logic (cont'd.)

Table 7.1 Logical Connectives in Three-Valued Logic

(a)	AND	TRUE	FALSE	UNKNOWN
	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	UNKNOWN
	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE
	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	FALSE	UNKNOWN
(b)	OR	TRUE	FALSE	UNKNOWN
	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE
	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	UNKNOWN
	UNKNOWN	TRUE	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN
(c)	NOT			
	TRUE	FALSE		
	FALSE	TRUE		
	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN		

NULLS in SQL

- Whenever we don't have a value, we can put a NULL

- Can mean many things:
  - Value does not exists
  - Value exists but is unknown
  - Value not applicable
  - Etc.

- The schema specifies for each attribute if can be null (*nullable* attribute) or not
- Each individual `NULL` value considered to be different from every other `NULL` value
- SQL uses a three-valued logic:
  - `TRUE`, `FALSE`, and `UNKNOWN` (like Maybe)
- **NULL = NULL comparison is avoided**

- How does SQL cope with tables that have NULLs?

Null Values

Unexpected behavior:

```
SELECT *
FROM   Person
WHERE  age < 25 OR age >= 25
```

Some Persons are not included !

Null Values

Can test for NULL explicitly:
- x IS NULL
- x IS NOT NULL

```
SELECT  *
FROM    Person
WHERE   age < 25 OR age >= 25
    OR age IS NULL
```

Now it includes all Persons!

RECAP: Inner Joins

By default, joins in SQL are **"inner joins":**

```
Product(name, category)
Purchase(prodName, store)
```

```
SELECT Product.name, Purchase.store
FROM   Product
  JOIN Purchase ON Product.name = Purchase.prodName
```

```
SELECT Product.name, Purchase.store
FROM   Product, Purchase
WHERE  Product.name = Purchase.prodName
```

Both equivalent:
Both INNER JOINS!

Inner Joins + NULLS = Lost data?

By default, joins in SQL are **"inner joins"**:

```
Product(name, category)
Purchase(prodName, store)
```

```
SELECT Product.name, Purchase.store
FROM   Product
  JOIN Purchase ON Product.name = Purchase.prodName
```

```
SELECT Product.name, Purchase.store
FROM   Product, Purchase
WHERE  Product.name = Purchase.prodName
```

However: Products that never sold (with no Purchase tuple) will be lost!

Outer Joins

- An **outer join** returns tuples from the joined relations that don't have a corresponding tuple in the other relations
  - I.e. If we join relations A and B on a.X = b.X, and there is an entry in A with X=5, but none in B with X=5...
    - A LEFT OUTER JOIN will return a tuple (a, NULL)!

- Left outer joins in SQL:

```
SELECT  Product.name, Purchase.store
FROM    Product
  LEFT OUTER JOIN Purchase ON
          Product.name = Purchase.prodName
```

Now we'll get products even if they didn't sell

INNER JOIN:

Product

name	category
Gizmo	gadget
Camera	Photo
OneClick	Photo

Purchase

prodName	store
Gizmo	Wiz
Camera	Ritz
Camera	Wiz

```
SELECT Product.name, Purchase.store
FROM   Product
  INNER JOIN Purchase
        ON Product.name = Purchase.prodName
```

Note: another equivalent way to write an INNER JOIN!

name	store
Gizmo	Wiz
Camera	Ritz
Camera	Wiz

LEFT OUTER JOIN:

Product

name	category
Gizmo	gadget
Camera	Photo
OneClick	Photo

Purchase

prodName	store
Gizmo	Wiz
Camera	Ritz
Camera	Wiz

```
SELECT  Product.name, Purchase.store
FROM    Product
  LEFT OUTER JOIN Purchase
        ON Product.name = Purchase.prodName
```

name	store
Gizmo	Wiz
Camera	Ritz
Camera	Wiz
OneClick	NULL

Other Outer Joins

- Left outer join:
  - Include the left tuple even if there's no match

- Right outer join:
  - Include the right tuple even if there's no match

- Full outer join:
  - Include the both left and right tuples even if there's no match

Acknowledgement

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