

# **Chapter 5: Other Relational Languages**

**Database System Concepts, 5th Ed.** 

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# **Chapter 5: Other Relational Languages**

- Tuple Relational Calculus
- Domain Relational Calculus
- Query-by-Example (QBE)
- Datalog





## **Tuple Relational Calculus**

- A nonprocedural query language, where each query is of the form  $\{t \mid P(t)\}$
- It is the set of all tuples t such that predicate P is true for t
- $\blacksquare$  t is a tuple variable, t [A] denotes the value of tuple t on attribute A
- $t \in r$  denotes that tuple t is in relation r
- P is a formula similar to that of the predicate calculus





#### **Predicate Calculus Formula**

- 1. Set of attributes and constants
- 2. Set of comparison operators: (e.g.,  $\langle$ ,  $\leq$ , =,  $\neq$ ,  $\rangle$ )
- 3. Set of connectives: and  $(\land)$ , or  $(\lor)$ , not  $(\neg)$
- 4. Implication  $(\Rightarrow)$ :  $x \Rightarrow y$ , if x if true, then y is true

$$X \Rightarrow Y \equiv \neg X \lor Y$$

5. Set of quantifiers:

 $\exists t \in r(Q(t)) \equiv$  "there exists" a tuple in t in relation r such that predicate Q(t) is true

 $\forall t \in r(Q(t)) \equiv Q$  is true "for all" tuples t in relation r



## **Banking Example**

- branch (branch\_name, branch\_city, assets)
- customer (customer\_name, customer\_street, customer\_city)
- account (account\_number, branch\_name, balance)
- loan (loan\_number, branch\_name, amount)
- depositor (customer\_name, account\_number)
- borrower (customer\_name, loan\_number)



Find the *loan\_number*, *branch\_name*, and *amount* for loans of over \$1200

$$\{t \mid t \in loan \land t [amount] > 1200\}$$

Find the loan number for each loan of an amount greater than \$1200

```
\{t \mid \exists \ s \in \text{loan} \ (t [loan\_number] = s [loan\_number] \land s [amount] > 1200)\}
```

Notice that a relation on schema [loan\_number] is implicitly defined by the query



Find the names of all customers having a loan, an account, or both at the bank

```
\{t \mid \exists s \in borrower \ (t [customer_name] = s [customer_name]) \ \lor \exists u \in depositor \ (t [customer_name] = u [customer_name])
```

Find the names of all customers who have a loan and an account at the bank

```
\{t \mid \exists s \in borrower \ (t [customer_name] = s [customer_name]) \\ \land \exists u \in depositor \ (t [customer_name] = u [customer_name])
```



Find the names of all customers having a loan at the Perryridge branch

```
\{t \mid \exists s \in borrower (t [customer_name] = s [customer_name] \\ \land \exists u \in loan (u [branch_name] = "Perryridge" \\ \land u [loan_number] = s [loan_number]))\}
```

Find the names of all customers who have a loan at the Perryridge branch, but no account at any branch of the bank

```
\{t \mid \exists s \in borrower \ (t [customer_name] = s [customer_name] \ \land \exists u \in loan \ (u [branch_name] = "Perryridge" \ \land u [loan_number] = s [loan_number])) \ \land not \ \exists v \in depositor \ (v [customer_name] = t [customer_name])\}
```





Find the names of all customers having a loan from the Perryridge branch, and the cities in which they live

```
\{t \mid \exists s \in loan \ (s [branch\_name] = "Perryridge" \ \land \exists u \in borrower \ (u [loan\_number] = s [loan\_number] \ \land t [customer\_name] = u [customer\_name]) \ \land \exists v \in customer \ (u [customer\_name] = v [customer\_name] \ \land t [customer\_city] = v [customer\_city])))\}
```



Find the names of all customers who have an account at all branches located in Brooklyn:

```
\{t \mid \exists \ r \in customer\ (t [customer\_name] = r [customer\_name]) \land (\forall \ u \in branch\ (u [branch\_city] = "Brooklyn" \Rightarrow \exists \ s \in depositor\ (t [customer\_name] = s [customer\_name] \land \exists \ w \in account\ (\ w[account\_number] = s [account\_number] \land (\ w [branch\_name] = u [branch\_name]))))\}
```



## Safety of Expressions

- It is possible to write tuple calculus expressions that generate infinite relations.
- For example,  $\{t \mid \neg t \in r\}$  results in an infinite relation if the domain of any attribute of relation r is infinite
- To guard against the problem, we restrict the set of allowable expressions to safe expressions.
- An expression  $\{t \mid P(t)\}$  in the tuple relational calculus is *safe* if every component of t appears in one of the relations, tuples, or constants that appear in P
  - NOTE: this is more than just a syntax condition.
    - E.g.  $\{t \mid t[A] = 5 \lor true\}$  is not safe --- it defines an infinite set with attribute values that do not appear in any relation or tuples or constants in P.



#### **Domain Relational Calculus**

- A nonprocedural query language equivalent in power to the tuple relational calculus
- Each query is an expression of the form:

$$\{ \langle x_1, x_2, ..., x_n \rangle \mid P(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n) \}$$

- $x_1, x_2, ..., x_n$  represent domain variables
- P represents a formula similar to that of the predicate calculus





Find the *loan\_number*, *branch\_name*, and *amount* for loans of over \$1200

$$\{ < l, b, a > | < l, b, a > \in loan \land a > 1200 \}$$

Find the names of all customers who have a loan of over \$1200

$$\{ < c > | \exists l, b, a (< c, l > \in borrower \land < l, b, a > \in loan \land a > 1200) \}$$

Find the names of all customers who have a loan from the Perryridge branch and the loan amount:

$$\{ \langle c, a \rangle \mid \exists \ l \ (\langle c, l \rangle \in borrower \land \exists b \ (\langle l, b, a \rangle \in loan \land b = "Perryridge")) \}$$
  
 $\{ \langle c, a \rangle \mid \exists \ l \ (\langle c, l \rangle \in borrower \land \langle l, "Perryridge", a \rangle \in loan) \}$ 





Find the names of all customers having a loan, an account, or both at the Perryridge branch:

$$\{ \langle c \rangle \mid \exists \ l \ (\langle c, l \rangle \in borrower \\ \land \exists \ b, a \ (\langle l, b, a \rangle \in loan \land b = "Perryridge") \} \\ \lor \exists \ a \ (\langle c, a \rangle \in depositor \\ \land \exists \ b, n \ (\langle a, b, n \rangle \in account \land b = "Perryridge") \} \}$$

Find the names of all customers who have an account at all branches located in Brooklyn:

```
\{ \langle c \rangle \mid \exists s, n \ (\langle c, s, n \rangle \in \text{customer}) \land \\ \forall x, y, z \ (\langle x, y, z \rangle \in branch \land y = \text{``Brooklyn''}) \Rightarrow \\ \exists a, b \ (\langle x, y, z \rangle \in account \land \langle c, a \rangle \in depositor) \}
```





## Safety of Expressions

The expression:

$$\{ \langle X_1, X_2, ..., X_n \rangle \mid P(X_1, X_2, ..., X_n) \}$$

is safe if all of the following hold:

- 4. All values that appear in tuples of the expression are values from *dom* (*P*) (that is, the values appear either in *P* or in a tuple of a relation mentioned in *P*).
- 5. For every "there exists" subformula of the form  $\exists x (P_1(x))$ , the subformula is true if and only if there is a value of x in  $dom(P_1)$  such that  $P_1(x)$  is true.
- 6. For every "for all" subformula of the form  $\forall_x (P_1(x))$ , the subformula is true if and only if  $P_1(x)$  is true for all values x from  $dom(P_1)$ .





## **Query-by-Example (QBE)**

- Basic Structure
- Queries on One Relation
- Queries on Several Relations
- The Condition Box
- The Result Relation
- Ordering the Display of Tuples
- Aggregate Operations
- Modification of the Database





#### **QBE** — Basic Structure

- A graphical query language which is based (roughly) on the domain relational calculus
- Two dimensional syntax system creates templates of relations that are requested by users
- Queries are expressed "by example"





### **QBE Skeleton Tables for the Bank Example**

branch	branch-name	branch-city	assets

customer	customer-name	customer-street	customer-city

Ioan	Ioan-number	branch-name	amount





# **QBE Skeleton Tables (Cont.)**

	bran	ch	branch_name	e bro	ınch_city	assets	
		1		ı	ı		I
custo	omer	cust	tomer_name	custon	1er_street	custome	r_city
						l	
į	loan	le	oan_number	branci	h_name	amount	
		ı		ı	I		I
	b	orrowei	r custom	er_name	loan_n	umber	
			1		ı	ı	
	account	а	iccount_numbe	r br	anch_name	balanc	re
		I		I		I	I
	dej	positor	customer	_name	account_	number	
L							





#### **Queries on One Relation**

Find all loan numbers at the Perryridge branch.

loan	loan_number	branch_name	amount
	P <i>x</i>	Perryridge	

- \_x is a variable (optional; can be omitted in above query)
- P. means print (display)
- duplicates are removed by default
- To retain duplicates use P.ALL

loan	loan_number	branch_name	amount
	P.ALL.	Perryridge	



## **Queries on One Relation (Cont.)**

- Display full details of all loans
  - Method 1:

loan	loan-number	branch-name	amount
	Px	Py	Pz

Method 2: Shorthand notation

loan	loan_number	branch_name	amount
P.			



### Queries on One Relation (Cont.)

Find the loan number of all loans with a loan amount of more than \$700

loan	loan_number	branch_name	amount
	Р.		>700

Find names of all branches that are not located in Brooklyn

branch	branch_name	branch_city	assets
	P.	¬ Brooklyn	



## Queries on One Relation (Cont.)

Find the loan numbers of all loans made jointly to Smith and Jones.

borrower	customer_name	loan_number
	Smith	P <i>x</i>
	Jones	$_{-}\chi$

Find all customers who live in the same city as Jones

customer	customer_name	customer_street	customer_city
	Px Iones		_y _y



#### **Queries on Several Relations**

Find the names of all customers who have a loan from the Perryridge branch.

loan	loan_number	branch_name	amount
	_x	Perryridge	

borrower	customer_name	loan_number
	P <i>y</i>	$_{-}\chi$



## Queries on Several Relations (Cont.)

Find the names of all customers who have both an account and a loan at the bank.

depositor	customer_name	account_number
	P <i>x</i>	
borrower	customer_name	loan_number
	_X	





## **Negation in QBE**

Find the names of all customers who have an account at the bank, but do not have a loan from the bank.

depositor	customer_name	account_number	
	P <i>x</i>		
borrower	customer_name	loan_number	

¬ means "there does not exist"



# **Negation in QBE (Cont.)**

Find all customers who have at least two accounts.

depositor	customer_name	account_number
	P <i>x</i>	_y
	$-\mathcal{X}$	$\neg y$

¬ means "not equal to"





#### **The Condition Box**

- Allows the expression of constraints on domain variables that are either inconvenient or impossible to express within the skeleton tables.
- Complex conditions can be used in condition boxes
- Example: Find the loan numbers of all loans made to Smith, to Jones, or to both jointly

borrower		customer_name	loan_number		
		_n	P <i>x</i>		
_					
conditions					
$\_n = Smith or \_n = Jone$			nes		



## **Condition Box (Cont.)**

QBE supports an interesting syntax for expressing alternative values

branch	branch_name	branch_city	assets			
	P.	_X				
	conditions					
	$_{x} = (Brooklyn)$	or Queens)				



## **Condition Box (Cont.)**

Find all account numbers with a balance greater than \$1,300 and less than \$1,500

account	account_nu	mber bro	ınch_name	balance
	P.			_X
	_			
		conditions	<u>]</u>	
		$_{x} \ge 1300$		
		$_x \le 1500$		

Find all account numbers with a balance greater than \$1,300 and less than \$2,000 but not exactly \$1,500.

account	account_number	branch_name	balance
	P.		_X
[			
Ī	$_{x} = ( \ge 1300 \text{ and } \le 2$	2000 <b>and</b> ¬ 1500)	





## **Condition Box (Cont.)**

Find all branches that have assets greater than those of at least one branch located in Brooklyn

branch	branch_name	branch_city	assets
	P <i>x</i>	Brooklyn	_y _z
	condita _y >	ions _z	



#### **The Result Relation**

- Find the *customer\_name*, *account\_number*, and *balance* for all customers who have an account at the Perryridge branch.
  - We need to:
    - Join depositor and account.
    - Project customer\_name, account\_number and balance.
  - To accomplish this we:
    - Create a skeleton table, called result, with attributes customer\_name, account\_number, and balance.
    - Write the query.





# The Result Relation (Cont.)

■ The resulting query is:

ас	count	асс	account_number		anch_name	balance
		<b>-</b> <i>y</i>		P	erryridge	<b>_</b> Z
,	depositor customer_n		name	account_n	umher	
	шере	751101	_X		_y	
					'	
res	sult	custo	mer_name	ассои	nt_number	balance
]	Р.		_X		_y	_Z





## **Ordering the Display of Tuples**

- AO = ascending order; DO = descending order.
- Example: list in ascending alphabetical order all customers who have an account at the bank

depositor customer_name		account_number
P.AO.		

- When sorting on multiple attributes, the sorting order is specified by including with each sort operator (AO or DO) an integer surrounded by parentheses.
- Example: List all account numbers at the Perryridge branch in ascending alphabetic order with their respective account balances in descending order.

account	account_number	branch_name	balance
	P.AO(1).	Perryridge	P.DO(2).





## **Aggregate Operations**

- The aggregate operators are AVG, MAX, MIN, SUM, and CNT
- The above operators must be postfixed with "ALL" (e.g., SUM.ALL. or AVG.ALL.\_x) to ensure that duplicates are not eliminated.
- Example: Find the total balance of all the accounts maintained at the Perryridge branch.

account	account_number	branch_name	balance
		Perryridge	P.SUM.ALL.



## **Aggregate Operations (Cont.)**

- UNQ is used to specify that we want to eliminate duplicates
- Find the total number of customers having an account at the bank.

depositor	customer_name	account_number
P.CNT.UNQ.		





## **Query Examples**

Find the average balance at each branch.

account	account_number	branch_name	balance
		P.G.	P.AVG.ALL <i>x</i>

- The "G" in "P.G" is analogous to SQL's **group by** construct
- The "ALL" in the "P.AVG.ALL" entry in the *balance* column ensures that all balances are considered
- To find the average account balance at only those branches where the average account balance is more than \$1,200, we simply add the condition box:

conditions
$$AVG.ALL._x > 1200$$



## **Query Example**

- Find all customers who have an account at all branches located in Brooklyn.
  - Approach: for each customer, find the number of branches in Brooklyn at which they have accounts, and compare with total number of branches in Brooklyn
  - QBE does not provide subquery functionality, so both above tasks have to be combined in a single query.
    - Can be done for this query, but there are queries that require subqueries and cannot always be expressed in QBE.
- In the query on the next page

CNT.UNQ.ALL.\_w specifies the number of distinct branches in Brooklyn. Note: The variable \_w is not connected to other variables in the query

CNT.UNQ.ALL.\_z specifies the number of distinct branches in Brooklyn at which customer x has an account.



# **Query Example (Cont.)**

	deposit	or	customer_name		account_number		
		P.G <i>x</i>			_y		
а	iccount	account_number			anch_name	balance	
		_1/			_Z		〓
Ι.				'		'	
	branch	ranch branch_name		bro	inch_city	assets	
			_Z		rooklyn		
	_70		_700	Bı	rooklyn		

conditions

 $CNT.UNQ._z = CNT.UNQ._w$ 





#### **Modification of the Database - Deletion**

- Deletion of tuples from a relation is expressed by use of a D. command. In the case where we delete information in only some of the columns, null values, specified by —, are inserted.
- Delete customer Smith

customer	customer_name	customer_street	customer_city
D.	Smith		

Delete the branch\_city value of the branch whose name is "Perryridge".

branch	branch_name	branch_city	assets
	Perryridge	D.	



## **Deletion Query Examples**

- Delete all loans with a loan amount greater than \$1300 and less than \$1500.
  - For consistency, we have to delete information from loan and borrower tables

loan	loan_number	branch_name	amount
D.	_1/		_X

borrower	customer_name	loan_number	
D.		_ <i>y</i>	
conditions			
$-x = (\ge 1300 \text{ and } \le 1500)$			





## **Deletion Query Examples (Cont.)**

Delete all accounts at branches located in Brooklyn.

C	account	account_number		br	anch_name	balance	е
	D.	_y					
	deposi	tor	customer_na	те	account_	number	
	D.				_1_	/	
j	branch		branch_name	bra	nch_city	assets	]
			_X	Bı	rooklyn		



#### **Modification of the Database – Insertion**

- Insertion is done by placing the I. operator in the query expression.
- Insert the fact that account A-9732 at the Perryridge branch has a balance of \$700.

account	account_number	branch_name	balance
I.	A-9732	Perryridge	700



#### **Modification of the Database – Insertion (Cont.)**

Provide as a gift for all loan customers of the Perryridge branch, a new \$200 savings account for every loan account they have, with the loan number serving as the account number for the new savings account.

ассоит	nt	account_number		r br	anch_nam	e l	palance
I.			_X	P	Perryridge		200
l	deposi	itor	customer_	_name	ассоип	t_numb	er
	I.	_y					
loa	ın	loan	_number	branci	h_name	amor	unt
			_X	Perry	yridge		
	borr	rower customer_		r_name	loan_	number	
			_1	ſ		_X	





# **Modification of the Database – Updates**

- Use the U. operator to change a value in a tuple without changing all values in the tuple. QBE does not allow users to update the primary key fields.
- Update the asset value of the Perryridge branch to \$10,000,000.

branch	branch_name	branch_city	assets
	Perryridge		U.10000000

Increase all balances by 5 percent.

account	account_number	branch_name	balance
			Ux * 1.05



#### Microsoft Access QBE

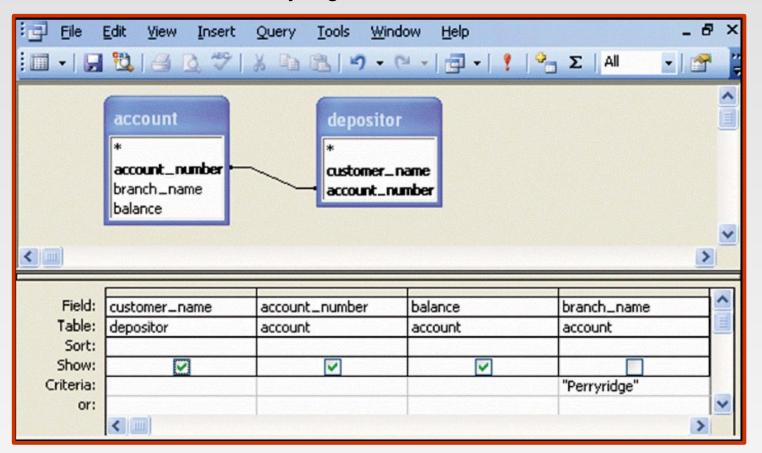
- Microsoft Access supports a variant of QBE called Graphical Query By Example (GQBE)
- GQBE differs from QBE in the following ways:
  - Attributes of relations are listed vertically, one below the other, instead of horizontally
  - Instead of using variables, lines (links) between attributes are used to specify that their values should be the same.
    - Links are added automatically on the basis of attribute name, and the user can then add or delete links
    - By default, a link specifies an inner join, but can be modified to specify outer joins.
  - Conditions, values to be printed, as well as group by attributes are all specified together in a box called the design grid





#### An Example Query in Microsoft Access QBE

Example query: Find the customer\_name, account\_number and balance for all accounts at the Perryridge branch

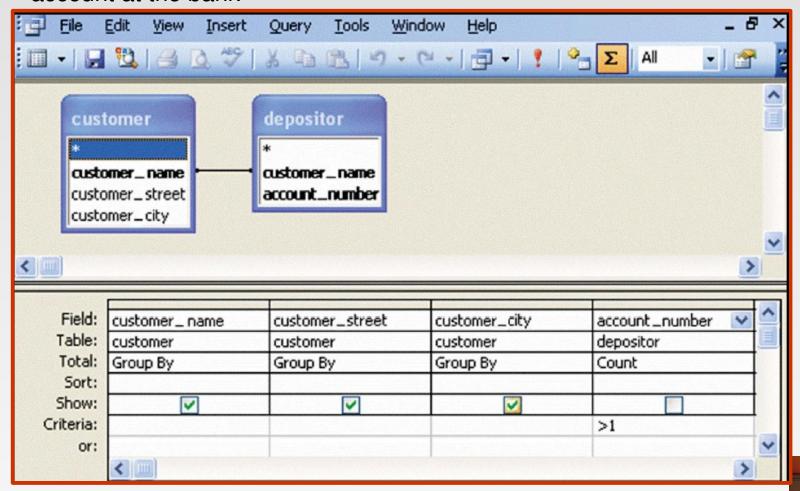






#### An Aggregation Query in Access QBE

Find the *name*, *street* and *city* of all customers who have more than one account at the bank





#### **Aggregation in Access QBE**

- The row labeled **Total** specifies
  - which attributes are group by attributes
  - which attributes are to be aggregated upon (and the aggregate function).
  - For attributes that are neither group by nor aggregated, we can still specify conditions by selecting where in the Total row and listing the conditions below
- As in SQL, if group by is used, only group by attributes and aggregate results can be output





## **Datalog**

- Basic Structure
- Syntax of Datalog Rules
- Semantics of Nonrecursive Datalog
- Safety
- Relational Operations in Datalog
- Recursion in Datalog
- The Power of Recursion



#### **Basic Structure**

- Prolog-like logic-based language that allows recursive queries; based on first-order logic.
- A Datalog program consists of a set of rules that define views.
- Example: define a view relation *v1* containing account numbers and balances for accounts at the Perryridge branch with a balance of over \$700.

Retrieve the balance of account number "A-217" in the view relation *v1*.

To find account number and balance of all accounts in *v1* that have a balance greater than 800

? 
$$v1(A,B), B > 800$$





#### **Example Queries**

- Each rule defines a set of tuples that a view relation must contain.
  - E.g. v1 (A, B): account (A, "Perryridge", B), B > 700 is read as

```
for all A, B
if (A, "Perryridge", B) \in account and <math>B > 700
then (A, B) \in v1
```

- The set of tuples in a view relation is then defined as the union of all the sets of tuples defined by the rules for the view relation.
- Example:

$$interest\_rate(A, 5) := account(A, N, B), B < 10000$$
  
 $interest\_rate(A, 6) := account(A, N, B), B >= 10000$ 





#### **Negation in Datalog**

■ Define a view relation *c* that contains the names of all customers who have a deposit but no loan at the bank:

```
c(N) :- depositor (N, A), not is_borrower (N). is borrower (N) :-borrower (N,L).
```

- NOTE: using **not** borrower (N, L) in the first rule results in a different meaning, namely there is some loan L for which N is not a borrower.
  - To prevent such confusion, we require all variables in negated "predicate" to also be present in non-negated predicates



#### **Named Attribute Notation**

- Datalog rules use a positional notation that is convenient for relations with a small number of attributes
- It is easy to extend Datalog to support named attributes.
  - E.g., v1 can be defined using named attributes as

```
v1 (account_number A, balance B):—
account (account_number A, branch_name "Perryridge", balance B),
B > 700.
```





# Formal Syntax and Semantics of Datalog

- We formally define the syntax and semantics (meaning) of Datalog programs, in the following steps
  - 1. We define the syntax of predicates, and then the syntax of rules
  - 2. We define the semantics of individual rules
  - 3. We define the semantics of non-recursive programs, based on a layering of rules
  - 4. It is possible to write rules that can generate an infinite number of tuples in the view relation. To prevent this, we define what rules are "safe". Non-recursive programs containing only safe rules can only generate a finite number of answers.
  - 5. It is possible to write recursive programs whose meaning is unclear. We define what recursive programs are acceptable, and define their meaning.





## **Syntax of Datalog Rules**

A positive literal has the form

$$p(t_1, t_2 ..., t_n)$$

- p is the name of a relation with n attributes
- $\bullet$  each  $t_i$  is either a constant or variable
- A negative literal has the form

**not** 
$$p(t_1, t_2, ..., t_n)$$

- Comparison operations are treated as positive predicates
  - E.g. X > Y is treated as a predicate >(X,Y)
  - ">" is conceptually an (infinite) relation that contains all pairs of values such that the first value is greater than the second value
- Arithmetic operations are also treated as predicates
  - E.g. A = B + C is treated as +(B, C, A), where the relation "+" contains all triples such that the third value is the sum of the first two





## Syntax of Datalog Rules (Cont.)

**Rules** are built out of literals and have the form:

p 
$$(t_1, t_2, ..., t_n) := L_1, L_2, ..., L_m$$
.

head body

- each  $L_i$  is a literal
- head the literal  $p(t_1, t_2, ..., t_n)$
- body the rest of the literals
- A fact is a rule with an empty body, written in the form:

$$p(v_1, v_2, ..., v_n).$$

- indicates tuple  $(v_1, v_2, ..., v_n)$  is in relation p
- A Datalog program is a set of rules



#### **Semantics of a Rule**

- A ground instantiation of a rule (or simply instantiation) is the result of replacing each variable in the rule by some constant.
  - Eg. Rule defining v1
     v1(A,B): account (A,"Perryridge", B), B > 700.
  - An instantiation above rule:

- The body of rule instantiation R' is satisfied in a set of facts (database instance) / if
  - 1. For each positive literal  $q_i(v_{i,1}, ..., v_{i,ni})$  in the body of R', I contains the fact  $q_i(v_{i,1}, ..., v_{i,ni})$ .
  - 2. For each negative literal **not**  $q_j(v_{j,1}, ..., v_{j,nj})$  in the body of R', I does not contain the fact  $q_i(v_{j,1}, ..., v_{j,nj})$ .



## Semantics of a Rule (Cont.)

We define the set of facts that can be inferred from a given set of facts / using rule R as:

```
infer(R, I) = \{ p(t_1, ..., t_n) \mid \text{there is a ground instantiation } R' \text{ of } R \}
 \text{where } p(t_1, ..., t_n) \text{ is the head of } R', \text{ and } 
 \text{the body of } R' \text{ is satisfied in } I \}
```

Given an set of rules  $\Re = \{R_1, R_2, ..., R_n\}$ , we define

```
infer(\mathfrak{R}, I) = infer(R_1, I) \cup infer(R_2, I) \cup ... \cup infer(R_n, I)
```





## **Layering of Rules**

Define the interest on each account in Perryridge

```
interest(A, I) := perryridge\_account (A,B),

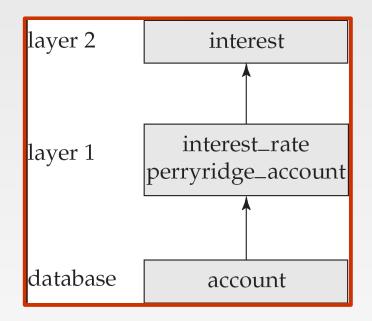
interest\_rate(A,R), I = B * R/100.

perryridge\_account(A,B) := account (A, "Perryridge", B).

interest\_rate (A,5) := account (N, A, B), B < 10000.

interest\_rate (A,6) := account (N, A, B), B >= 10000.
```

Layering of the view relations





## **Layering Rules (Cont.)**

#### Formally:

- A relation is a layer 1 if all relations used in the bodies of rules defining it are stored in the database.
- A relation is a layer 2 if all relations used in the bodies of rules defining it are either stored in the database, or are in layer 1.
- A relation p is in layer i + 1 if
  - it is not in layers 1, 2, ..., *i*
  - all relations used in the bodies of rules defining a p are either stored in the database, or are in layers 1, 2, ..., i



## Semantics of a Program

Let the layers in a given program be 1, 2, ..., n. Let  $\Re_i$  denote the set of all rules defining view relations in layer i.

- Define  $I_0$  = set of facts stored in the database.
- Recursively define  $I_{i+1} = I_i \cup infer(\Re_{i+1}, I_i)$
- The set of facts in the view relations defined by the program (also called the semantics of the program) is given by the set

Note: Can instead define semantics using the highest layer n in relational algebra, but above definition is better for handling extensions such as recursion.





## **Safety**

It is possible to write rules that generate an infinite number of answers.

$$gt(X, Y) := X > Y$$
  
 $not_in_loan(B, L) := not_loan(B, L)$ 

To avoid this possibility Datalog rules must satisfy the following conditions.

- Every variable that appears in the head of the rule also appears in a non-arithmetic positive literal in the body of the rule.
  - This condition can be weakened in special cases based on the semantics of arithmetic predicates, for example to permit the rule

$$p(A) := q(B), A = B + 1$$

 Every variable appearing in a negative literal in the body of the rule also appears in some positive literal in the body of the rule.



## **Relational Operations in Datalog**

Project out attribute account\_name from account.

Cartesian product of relations  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ .

query 
$$(X_1, X_2, ..., X_n, Y_1, Y_1, Y_2, ..., Y_m) := r_1(X_1, X_2, ..., X_n), r_2(Y_1, Y_2, ..., Y_m).$$

Union of relations  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ .

query 
$$(X_1, X_2, ..., X_n) := r_1(X_1, X_2, ..., X_n),$$
  
query  $(X_1, X_2, ..., X_n) := r_2(X_1, X_2, ..., X_n),$ 

Set difference of  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ .

query 
$$(X_1, X_2, ..., X_n) := r_1(X_1, X_2, ..., X_n),$$
  
**not**  $r_2(X_1, X_2, ..., X_n),$ 





#### **Recursion in Datalog**

- Suppose we are given a relation manager (X, Y) containing pairs of names X, Y such that Y is a manager of X (or equivalently, X is a direct employee of Y).
- Each manager may have direct employees, as well as indirect employees
  - Indirect employees of a manager, say Jones, are employees of people who are direct employees of Jones, or recursively, employees of people who are indirect employees of Jones
- Suppose we wish to find all (direct and indirect) employees of manager
   Jones. We can write a recursive Datalog program.

```
empl_jones (X) :- manager (X, Jones).
empl_jones (X) :- manager (X, Y), empl_jones (Y).
```





## Semantics of Recursion in Datalog

- Assumption (for now): program contains no negative literals
- The view relations of a recursive program containing a set of rules **ℜ** are defined to contain exactly the set of facts *I* computed by the iterative procedure *Datalog-Fixpoint*

```
procedure Datalog-Fixpoint

l = \text{set of facts in the database}

repeat

Old\_l = l

l = l \cup infer(\Re, l)

until l = Old\_l
```

- At the end of the procedure, infer  $(\Re, I) \subseteq I$ 
  - Infer  $(\Re, I) = I$  if we consider the database to be a set of facts that are part of the program
- / is called a fixed point of the program.





# **Example of Datalog-FixPoint Iteration**

employee_name	manager_name
Alon	Barinsky
Barinsky	Estovar
Corbin	Duarte
Duarte	Jones
Estovar	Jones
Jones	Klinger
Rensal	Klinger

Iteration number	Tuples in <i>empl_jones</i>
0	
1	(Duarte), (Estovar)
2	(Duarte), (Estovar), (Barinsky), (Corbin)
3	(Duarte), (Estovar), (Barinsky), (Corbin), (Alon)
4	(Duarte), (Estovar), (Barinsky), (Corbin), (Alon)





#### **A More General View**

Create a view relation *empl* that contains every tuple (X, Y) such that X is directly or indirectly managed by Y.

$$empl(X, Y) := manager(X, Y).$$
  
 $empl(X, Y) := manager(X, Z), empl(Z, Y)$ 

Find the direct and indirect employees of Jones.

Can define the view empl in another way too:

```
empl(X, Y) := manager(X, Y).

empl(X, Y) := empl(X, Z), manager(Z, Y).
```



#### The Power of Recursion

- Recursive views make it possible to write queries, such as transitive closure queries, that cannot be written without recursion or iteration.
  - Intuition: Without recursion, a non-recursive non-iterative program can perform only a fixed number of joins of manager with itself
    - This can give only a fixed number of levels of managers
    - Given a program we can construct a database with a greater number of levels of managers on which the program will not work





#### **Recursion in SQL**

- Starting with SQL:1999, SQL permits recursive view definition
- E.g. query to find all employee-manager pairs



#### **Monotonicity**

- A view V is said to be **monotonic** if given any two sets of facts  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  such that  $I_1 \subseteq I_2$ , then  $E_v(I_1) \subseteq E_v(I_2)$ , where  $E_v$  is the expression used to define V.
- A set of rules R is said to be monotonic if  $I_1 \subseteq I_2$  implies infer (R,  $I_1$ )  $\subseteq$  infer (R,  $I_2$ ),
- Relational algebra views defined using only the operations:  $\Pi$ ,  $\sigma$ ,  $\times$ ,  $\cup$ ,  $\mid$   $X\mid$ ,  $\cap$ , and  $\rho$  (as well as operations like natural join defined in terms of these operations) are monotonic.
- Relational algebra views defined using set difference (–) may not be monotonic.
- Similarly, Datalog programs without negation are monotonic, but Datalog programs with negation may not be monotonic.





#### Non-Monotonicity

- Procedure Datalog-Fixpoint is sound provided the rules in the program are monotonic.
  - Otherwise, it may make some inferences in an iteration that cannot be made in a later iteration. E.g. given the rules

```
a :- not b. b :- c.
```

C.

Then a can be inferred initially, before b is inferred, but not later.

■ We can extend the procedure to handle negation so long as the program is "stratified": intuitively, so long as negation is not mixed with recursion



#### Non-Monotonicity (Cont.)

- There are useful queries that cannot be expressed by a stratified program
  - Example: given information about the number of each subpart in each part, in a part-subpart hierarchy, find the total number of subparts of each part.
  - A program to compute the above query would have to mix aggregation with recursion
  - However, so long as the underlying data (part-subpart) has no cycles, it is possible to write a program that mixes aggregation with recursion, yet has a clear meaning
  - There are ways to evaluate some such classes of non-stratified programs





## **End of Chapter 5**

**Database System Concepts, 5th Ed.** 

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## customer\_name

# Adams Hayes





	bran	ch	br	anch_name	e bi	anch_city	assets	
		ı			ı		ı	ı
custoi	ner	cus	tome	er_name	custo	mer_street	custo	mer_city
				I			I	
	loan	1	loan_	_number	bran	ch_name	amoun	t
_								
		I			l		I	l
	borrower		er	customer_name loan_		number_		
				l		ı		
account acc		accoi	ount_number b		ranch_nam	e bala	псе	
		I			I		I	
	depositor			customer	_name	ассоип	t_number	





account_number	branch_name	balance
A-101	Downtown	500
A-215	Mianus	700
A-102	Perryridge	400
A-305	Round Hill	350
A-201	Perryridge	900
A-222	Redwood	700
A-217	Perryridge	750



account_number	balance
A-201	900
A-217	750



account_number	balance
A-201	900
A-217	750



loan	loan_number	branch_name	amount
	P.	Perryridge	



$$x - = Jones$$





conditions

 $_{y} \geq 2 * _{z}$ 





branch	branch_name	branch_city	assets
	Perryridge	D.	





branch	branch_name	branch_city	assets
I.	Capital	Queens	