



Carnegie Mellon Univ.
Dept. of Computer Science
15-415 - Database Applications

Lecture#6: *Relational calculus*



General Overview - rel. model

- history
- concepts
- Formal query languages
 - relational algebra
 - **rel. tuple calculus**
 - rel. domain calculus

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Overview - detailed

- rel. tuple calculus
 - why?
 - details
 - examples
 - equivalence with rel. algebra
 - more examples; ‘safety’ of expressions
- re. domain calculus + QBE

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Motivation

- Q: weakness of rel. algebra?
- A: procedural
 - describes the steps (ie., ‘how’)
 - (still useful, for query optimization)

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Solution: rel. calculus

- describes **what** we want
- two equivalent flavors: ‘tuple’ and ‘domain’ calculus
- basis for SQL and QBE, resp.

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Rel. tuple calculus (RTC)

- first order logic

$$\{t \mid P(t)\}$$

‘Give me tuples ‘t’, satisfying predicate P - eg:

$$\{t \mid t \in STUDENT\}$$

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#6



Details

- symbols allowed:
 - $\wedge, \vee, \neg, \Rightarrow$
 - $>, <, =, \neq, \leq, \geq$
 - $(,), \in$
- quantifiers \forall, \exists

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Specifically

- Atom
 - $t \in TABLE$
 - $t.attr \leq const$
 - $t.attr \leq s.attr'$

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Specifically

- Formula:
 - atom
 - if $P1, P2$ are formulas, so are $P1 \wedge P2; P1 \vee P2...$
 - if $P(s)$ is a formula, so are $\exists s(P(s))$
 - $\forall s(P(s))$

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Specifically

- Reminders:
 - DeMorgan $P1 \wedge P2 \equiv \neg(\neg P1 \vee \neg P2)$
 - implication: $P1 \Rightarrow P2 \equiv \neg P1 \vee P2$
 - double negation: $\forall s \in TABLE (P(s)) \equiv \neg \exists s \in TABLE (\neg P(s))$
 - ‘every human is mortal : no human is immortal’

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Reminder: our Mini-U db

STUDENT			CLASS		
Ssn	Name	Address	c-id	c-name	units
123	smith	main str	15-413	s.e.	2
234	jones	forbes ave	15-412	o.s.	2

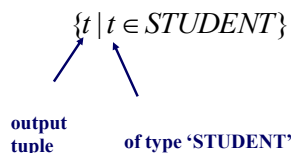
TAKES		
SSN	c-id	grade
123	15-413	A
234	15-413	B

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Examples

- find all student records



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Examples

- (selection) find student record with ssn=123

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Examples

- (selection) find student record with ssn=123

$$\{t \mid t \in STUDENT \wedge t.ssn = 123\}$$

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Examples

- (projection) find **name** of student with ssn=123

~~$$\{t \mid t \in STUDENT \wedge t.ssn = 123\}$$~~

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Examples

- (projection) find name of student with ssn=123

$$\{t \mid \exists s \in STUDENT (s.ssn = 123 \wedge t.name = s.name)\}$$



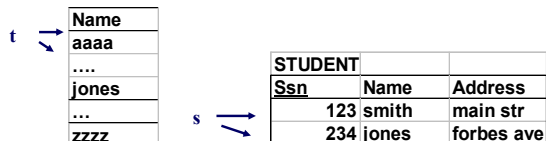
't' has only one column

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'Tracing'

$$\{t \mid \exists s \in STUDENT (s.ssn = 123 \wedge t.name = s.name)\}$$



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Examples cont'd

- (union) get records of both PT and FT students

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Examples cont'd

- (union) get records of both PT and FT students

$$\{t \mid t \in FT_STUDENT \vee t \in PT_STUDENT\}$$

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Examples

- difference: find students that are not staff

(assuming that STUDENT and STAFF are union-compatible)

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Examples

- difference: find students that are not staff

$$\{t \mid t \in STUDENT \wedge t \notin STAFF\}$$

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Cartesian product

- eg., dog-breeding: MALE x FEMALE
- gives all possible couples

MALE		FEMALE	
name	x	name	=
spike	⊗	lassie	M.name
spot		shiba	F.name
			spike
			shiba
			spot
			lassie
			shiba

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Cartesian product

- find all the pairs of (male, female)

$$\{t \mid \exists m \in MALE \wedge \exists f \in FEMALE t.m-name = m.name \wedge t.f-name = f.name\}$$

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'Proof' of equivalence

- rel. algebra <-> rel. tuple calculus

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Overview - detailed

- rel. tuple calculus
 - why?
 - details
 - examples
 - equivalence with rel. algebra
 - **more examples**; ‘safety’ of expressions
- re. domain calculus + QBE

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More examples

- join: find names of students taking 15-415

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Reminder: our Mini-U db

STUDENT			CLASS		
Ssn	Name	Address	c-id	c-name	units
123	smith	main str	15-413	s.e.	2
234	jones	forbes ave	15-412	o.s.	2

TAKES		
SSN	c-id	grade
123	15-413	A
234	15-413	B

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More examples

- join: find names of students taking 15-415

$$\{t \mid \exists s \in STUDENT$$

$$\wedge \exists e \in TAKES (s.ssn = e.ssn \wedge$$

$$t.name = s.name \wedge$$

$$e.c-id = 15-415)\}$$

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More examples

- join: find names of students taking 15-415

$$\{t \mid \exists s \in STUDENT$$

$$\wedge \exists e \in TAKES (s.ssn = e.ssn \wedge$$

$$t.name = s.name \wedge$$

$$e.c-id = 15-415)\}$$

join
projection
selection

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More examples

- 3-way join: find names of students taking a 2-unit course

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Reminder: our Mini-U db

STUDENT			CLASS		
Ssn	Name	Address	c-id	c-name	units
123	smith	main str	15-413	s.e.	2
234	jones	forbes ave	15-412	o.s.	2

TAKES		
SSN	c-id	grade
123	15-413	A
234	15-413	B

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More examples

- 3-way join: find names of students taking a 2-unit course

$$\{t \mid \exists s \in STUDENT \wedge \exists e \in TAKES$$

$$\exists c \in CLASS (s.ssn = e.ssn \wedge$$

$$e.c-id = c.c-id \wedge$$

$$t.name = s.name \wedge$$

$$c.units = 2)\}$$

| join
| projection
| selection

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More examples

- 3-way join: find names of students taking a 2-unit course - in rel. algebra??

$$\pi_{name}(\sigma_{units=2}(STUDENT \bowtie TAKES \bowtie CLASS))$$

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Even more examples:

- self -joins: find Tom's grandparent(s)

PC	p-id	c-id
Mary	Tom	
Peter	Mary	
John	Tom	

PC	p-id	c-id
Mary	Tom	
Peter	Mary	
John	Tom	

| (arrow from first table to second table)

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Even more examples:

- self -joins: find Tom's grandparent(s)

$$\{t \mid \exists p \in PC \wedge \exists q \in PC$$

$$(p.c-id = q.p-id \wedge$$

$$p.p-id = t.p-id \wedge$$

$$q.c-id = "Tom")\}$$

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Hard examples: DIVISION

- find suppliers that shipped all the ABOMB parts

SHIPMENT	s#	p#
s1	p1	
s2	p1	
s1	p2	
s3	p1	
s5	p3	

$$\div$$

ABOMB	p#
p1	
p2	

$$=$$

BAD_S	s#
s1	

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Hard examples: DIVISION

- find suppliers that shipped all the ABOMB parts

$$\{t \mid \forall p(p \in ABOMB \Rightarrow (\exists s \in SHIPMENT(t.s\# = s.s\# \wedge s.p\# = p.p\#)))\}$$



General pattern

- three equivalent versions:
 - 1) if it's bad, he shipped it $\{t \mid \forall p(p \in ABOMB \Rightarrow (P(t)))\}$
 - 2) either it was good, or he shipped it $\{t \mid \forall p(p \notin ABOMB \vee (P(t)))\}$
 - 3) there is no bad shipment that he missed $\{t \mid \neg \exists p(p \in ABOMB \wedge (\neg P(t)))\}$



$a \Rightarrow b$ is the same as $\neg a \vee b$

	b	
	T	F
a	T	F
F	T	T

- If a is true, b must be true for the implication to be true. If a is true and b is false, the implication evaluates to false.
- If a is not true, we don't care about b, the expression is always true.



More on division

- find (SSNs of) students that take all the courses that ssn=123 does (and maybe even more)
find students 's' so that if 123 takes a course => so does 's'



More on division

- find students that take all the courses that ssn=123 does (and maybe even more)

$$\{o \mid \forall t((t \in TAKES \wedge t.ssn = 123) \Rightarrow \exists l \in TAKES(l.l.c - id = t.c - id \wedge l.l.ssn = o.ssn))\}$$



Safety of expressions

- FORBIDDEN: ~~$\{t \mid t \notin STUDENT\}$~~

It has infinite output!!

- Instead, always use

$$\{t \mid \dots t \in SOME - TABLE\}$$



Overview - conclusions

- rel. tuple calculus: DECLARATIVE
 - dfn
 - details
 - equivalence to rel. algebra
- **rel. domain calculus + QBE**

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General Overview

- relational model
- Formal query languages
 - relational algebra
 - rel. tuple calculus
 - **rel. domain calculus**

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Overview - detailed

- rel. tuple calculus
 - dfn
 - details
 - equivalence to rel. algebra
- **rel. domain calculus + QBE**

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Rel. domain calculus (RDC)

- Q: why?
- A: slightly easier than RTC, although equivalent - basis for QBE.
- idea: domain variables (w/ F.O.L.) - eg:
- ‘find STUDENT record with ssn=123’

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Rel. Dom. Calculus

- find STUDENT record with ssn=123’

$$\{ \langle s, n, a \rangle \mid \langle s, n, a \rangle \in STUDENT \wedge s = 123 \}$$

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Details

- Like R.T.C - symbols allowed:

$$\wedge, \vee, \neg, \Rightarrow$$

$$>, <, =, \neq, \leq, \geq$$

$$(,), \in$$

- quantifiers \forall, \exists

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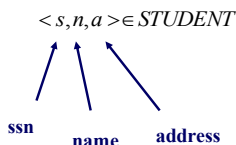
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Details

- but: domain (= column) variables, as opposed to tuple variables, eg:



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Reminder: our Mini-U db

STUDENT			CLASS		
Ssn	Name	Address	c-id	c-name	units
123	smith	main str	15-413	s.e.	2
234	jones	forbes ave	15-412	o.s.	2

TAKES		
SSN	c-id	grade
123	15-413	A
234	15-413	B

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Examples

- find all student records

$$\{ \langle s, n, a \rangle \mid \langle s, n, a \rangle \in STUDENT \}$$

RTC: $\{ t \mid t \in STUDENT \}$

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Examples

- (selection) find student record with ssn=123

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Examples

- (selection) find student record with ssn=123

$$\{ \langle 123, n, a \rangle \mid \langle 123, n, a \rangle \in STUDENT \}$$

or

$$\{ \langle s, n, a \rangle \mid \langle s, n, a \rangle \in STUDENT \wedge s = 123 \}$$

RTC: $\{ t \mid t \in STUDENT \wedge t.ssn = 123 \}$

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Examples

- (projection) find name of student with ssn=123

$$\{ \langle n \rangle \mid \langle 123, n, a \rangle \in STUDENT \}$$

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Examples

- (projection) find name of student with ssn=123

$$\{ \langle n \rangle \mid \exists a (\langle 123, n, a \rangle \in STUDENT) \}$$

↑ need to 'restrict' "a"

RTC: $\{ t \mid \exists s \in STUDENT (s.ssn = 123 \wedge t.name = s.name) \}$

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Examples cont'd

- (union) get records of both PT and FT students

RTC: $\{ t \mid t \in FT_STUDENT \vee t \in PT_STUDENT \}$

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Examples cont'd

- (union) get records of both PT and FT students

$$\{ \langle s, n, a \rangle \mid \langle s, n, a \rangle \in FT_STUDENT \vee \langle s, n, a \rangle \in PT_STUDENT \}$$

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Examples

- difference: find students that are not staff

RTC: $\{ t \mid t \in STUDENT \wedge t \notin STAFF \}$

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Examples

- difference: find students that are not staff

$$\{ \langle s, n, a \rangle \mid \langle s, n, a \rangle \in STUDENT \wedge \langle s, n, a \rangle \notin STAFF \}$$

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Cartesian product

- eg., dog-breeding: MALE x FEMALE
- gives all possible couples

MALE		FEMALE	
name	x	name	=
spike	⊗	lassie	M.name
spot		shiba	F.name
			spike
			lassie
			spike
			shiba
			spot
			lassie
			spot
			shiba

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Cartesian product

- find all the pairs of (male, female) - RTC:

$$\{t \mid \exists m \in MALE \wedge \exists f \in FEMALE \\ t.m - name = m.name \wedge t.f - name = f.name\}$$

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Cartesian product

- find all the pairs of (male, female) - RDC:

$$\{ \langle m, f \rangle \mid \langle m \rangle \in MALE \wedge \langle f \rangle \in FEMALE \}$$

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'Proof' of equivalence

- rel. algebra \leftrightarrow rel. domain calculus
- \leftrightarrow rel. tuple calculus

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Overview - detailed

- rel. domain calculus
 - why?
 - details
 - examples
 - equivalence with rel. algebra
 - **more examples**; 'safety' of expressions

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More examples

- join: find names of students taking 15-415

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Reminder: our Mini-U db

STUDENT			CLASS		
Ssn	Name	Address	c-id	c-name	units
123	smith	main str	15-413	s.e.	2
234	jones	forbes ave	15-412	o.s.	2

TAKES		
SSN	c-id	grade
123	15-413	A
234	15-413	B

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More examples

- join: find names of students taking 15-415 - in RTC

$$\{t \mid \exists s \in STUDENT \wedge \exists e \in TAKES (s.ssn = e.ssn \wedge t.name = s.name \wedge e.c-id = 15-415)\}$$


More examples

- join: find names of students taking 15-415 - in RDC

$$\{<n> \mid \exists s \exists a \exists g (<s,n,a> \in STUDENT \wedge <s,15-415,g> \in TAKES)\}$$


Sneak preview of QBE:

$$\{<n> \mid \exists s \exists a \exists g (<s,n,a> \in STUDENT \wedge <s,15-415,g> \in TAKES)\}$$

STUDENT		
Ssn	Name	Address
<u>x</u>	P.	

TAKES		
SSN	c-id	grade
<u>x</u>	15-415	



Sneak preview of QBE:

- very user friendly
- heavily based on RDC
- very similar to MS Access interface

STUDENT		
Ssn	Name	Address
<u>x</u>	P.	

TAKES		
SSN	c-id	grade
<u>x</u>	15-415	



More examples

- 3-way join: find names of students taking a 2-unit course - in RTC:

$$\{t \mid \exists s \in STUDENT \wedge \exists e \in TAKES \wedge \exists c \in CLASS (s.ssn = e.ssn \wedge e.c-id = c.c-id \wedge t.name = s.name \wedge c.units = 2)\}$$

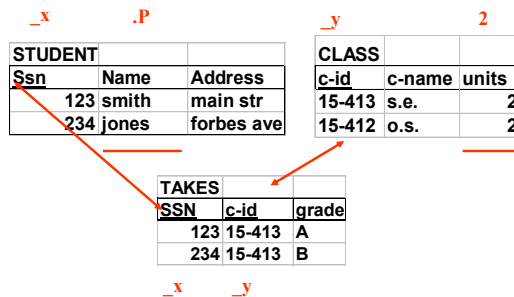
| join

| projection

| selection



Reminder: our Mini-U db





More examples

- 3-way join: find names of students taking a 2-unit course
- $$\{ \langle n \rangle \mid \dots \wedge \langle s, n, a \rangle \in STUDENT \wedge \langle s, c, g \rangle \in TAKES \wedge \langle c, cn, 2 \rangle \in CLASS \}$$

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More examples

- 3-way join: find names of students taking a 2-unit course
- $$\{ \langle n \rangle \mid \exists s, a, c, g, cn (\langle s, n, a \rangle \in STUDENT \wedge \langle s, c, g \rangle \in TAKES \wedge \langle c, cn, 2 \rangle \in CLASS) \}$$

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Even more examples:

- self -joins: find Tom's grandparent(s)

PC		PC	
p-id	c-id	p-id	c-id
Mary	Tom	Mary	Tom
Peter	Mary	Peter	Mary
John	Tom	John	Tom

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Even more examples:

- self -joins: find Tom's grandparent(s)

$$\{ t \mid \exists p \in PC \wedge \exists q \in PC (p.c-id = q.p-id \wedge p.p-id = t.p-id \wedge q.c-id = "Tom") \}$$

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Even more examples:

- self -joins: find Tom's grandparent(s)

$$\{ \langle g \rangle \mid \exists p (\langle g, p \rangle \in PC \wedge \langle p, "Tom" \rangle \in PC) \}$$

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Even more examples:

- self -joins: find Tom's grandparent(s)

$$\{ \langle g \rangle \mid \exists p (\langle g, p \rangle \in PC \wedge \langle p, "Tom" \rangle \in PC) \}$$

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Hard examples: DIVISION

- find suppliers that shipped all the ABOMB parts

SHIPMENT	
s#	p#
s1	p1
s2	p1
s1	p2
s3	p1
s5	p3

 \div

ABOMB
p#
p1
p2

 $=$

BAD_S
s#
s1

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Hard examples: DIVISION

- find suppliers that shipped all the ABOMB parts

$$\{t \mid \forall p(p \in ABOMB \Rightarrow (\exists s \in SHIPMENT(t.s\# = s.s\# \wedge s.p\# = p.p\#)))\}$$

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Hard examples: DIVISION

- find suppliers that shipped all the ABOMB parts

$$\{t \mid \forall p(p \in ABOMB \Rightarrow (\exists s \in SHIPMENT(t.s\# = s.s\# \wedge s.p\# = p.p\#)))\} \quad \{<s> \mid \forall p(<p> \in ABOMB \Rightarrow <s, p> \in SHIPMENT)\}$$

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More on division

- find students that take all the courses that ssn=123 does (and maybe even more)

$$\{o \mid \forall t((t \in TAKES \wedge t.ssn = 123) \Rightarrow \exists t1 \in TAKES(t1.c - id = t.c - id \wedge t1.ssn = o.ssn))\}$$

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More on division

- find students that take all the courses that ssn=123 does (and maybe even more)

$$\{<s> \mid \forall c(\exists g(<123, c, g> \in TAKES) \Rightarrow \exists g'(<s, c, g'> \in TAKES))\}$$

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Safety of expressions

- similar to RTC
- FORBIDDEN:

$$\{<s, n, a> \mid <s, n, a> \notin STUDENT\}$$

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Overview - detailed

- **rel. domain calculus + QBE**
 - dfn
 - details
 - equivalence to rel. algebra

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Fun Drill: Your turn ...

- Schema:
 - Movie(title, year, studioName)
 - ActsIn(movieTitle, starName)
 - Star(name, gender, birthdate, salary)

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Your turn ...

- Queries to write in TRC:
 - Find all movies by Paramount studio
 - ... movies starring Kevin Bacon
 - Find stars who have been in a film w/Kevin Bacon
 - Stars within six degrees of Kevin Bacon*
 - Stars connected to K. Bacon via any number of films**

* Try *two* degrees for starters ** Good luck with this one!

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Answers ...

- Find all movies by Paramount studio

$$\{M \mid M \in \text{Movie} \wedge M.\text{studioName} = \text{'Paramount'}\}$$

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Answers ...

- Movies starring Kevin Bacon

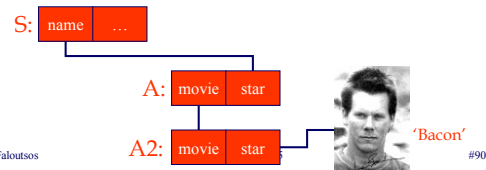
$$\{M \mid M \in \text{Movie} \wedge \exists A \in \text{ActsIn}(A.\text{movieTitle} = M.\text{title} \wedge A.\text{starName} = \text{'Bacon'})\}$$

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Answers ...

- Stars who have been in a film w/Kevin Bacon
- $$\{S \mid S \in \text{Star} \wedge \exists A \in \text{ActsIn}(A.\text{starName} = S.\text{name} \wedge \exists A2 \in \text{ActsIn}(A2.\text{movieTitle} = A.\text{movieTitle} \wedge A2.\text{starName} = \text{'Bacon'}))\}$$



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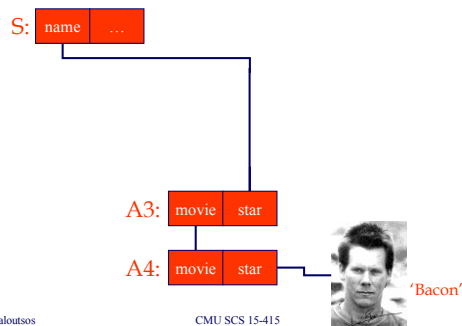


Answers ...

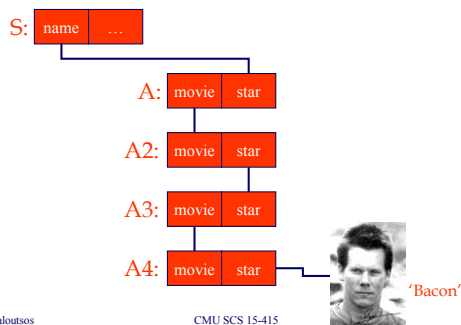
- Stars within ~~six~~^{two} degrees of Kevin Bacon

$$\{S \mid S \in \text{Star} \wedge \exists A \in \text{ActsIn}(A.\text{starName} = S.\text{name} \wedge \exists A2 \in \text{ActsIn}(A2.\text{movieTitle} = A.\text{movieTitle} \wedge \exists A3 \in \text{ActsIn}(A3.\text{starName} = A2.\text{starName} \wedge \exists A4 \in \text{ActsIn}(A4.\text{movieTitle} = A3.\text{movieTitle} \wedge A4.\text{starName} = \text{'Bacon'}))\})$$


Two degrees:



Two degrees:



Answers ...

- Stars connected to K. Bacon via any number of films
- Sorry ... that was a trick question
 - Not expressible in relational calculus!!
- What about in relational algebra?
 - We will be able to answer this question shortly ...



Expressive Power

- Expressive Power (Theorem due to Codd):
 - Every query that can be expressed in relational algebra can be expressed as a safe query in DRC / TRC; the converse is also true.
- Relational Completeness:**
 - Query language (e.g., SQL) can express every query that is expressible in relational algebra/calculus. (actually, SQL is more powerful, as we will see...)



Question:

- Can we express previous query ('any # steps') in relational algebra?
- A: If we could, then by Codd's theorem we could also express it in relational calculus. However, we know the latter is not possible, so the answer is no.



Summary

- The relational model has rigorously defined query languages — simple and powerful.
- Relational algebra is more operational/procedural
 - useful as internal representation for query evaluation plans
- Relational calculus is **declarative**
 - users define queries in terms of what they want, not in terms of how to compute it.

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Summary - cnt'd

- Several ways of expressing a given query
 - a *query optimizer* should choose the most efficient version.
- Algebra and safe calculus have same **expressive power**
 - leads to the notion of *relational completeness*.

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