CS660: Intro to Database Systems

Class 4: SQL, The Query Language – Part II

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https://bu-disc.github.io/CS660/

Nested Queries

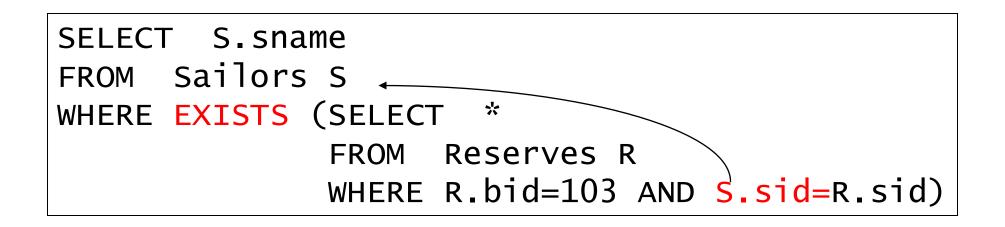
WHERE clause can itself contain an SQL query!

SELECT S.sname FROM Sailors S WHERE S.sid IN (SELECT R.sid FROM Reserves R WHERE R.bid=103)

Nested Queries with Correlation

Subquery must be recomputed for each Sailors tuple.

Think of subquery as a function call that runs a query!



Let's revisit Query #3

3. Find all sailors who have <u>not</u> reserved a red boat

```
SELECT S.sid
FROM Sailors S
EXCEPT
SELECT R.sid
FROM Boats B,Reserves R
WHERE R.bid=B.bid
AND B.color='red'
```

Reserves (sid, bid, day)Sailors (sid, sname, rating, age)Boats (bid, bname, color)

Set-Difference using NOT IN

Find all sailors who have <u>not</u> reserved a red boat

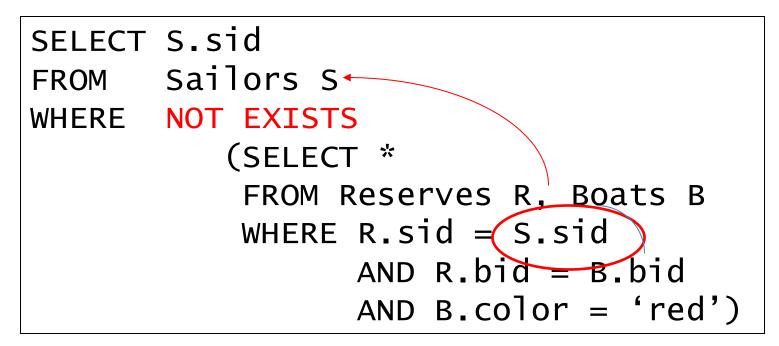
```
SELECT S.sid
FROM Sailors S
WHERE S.sid NOT IN
   (SELECT R.sid
    FROM Reserves R, Boats B
    WHERE R.bid = B.bid
    AND B.color = 'red')
```

Reserves (sid, bid, day)Sailors (sid, sname, rating, age)Boats (bid, bname, color)

Nested – NO correlation!

Set-Difference using NOT EXISTS

Find all sailors who have <u>not</u> reserved a red boat



Reserves (sid, bid, day)Sailors (sid, sname, rating, age)Boats (bid, bname, color)

Nested – correlation!

Set Operations

```
SELECT R.sid
FROM Boats B, Reserves R
WHERE R.bid=B.bid
AND B.color='red'
UNION
SELECT R.sid
FROM Boats B, Reserves R
WHERE R.bid=B.bid
AND B.color='green'
```

```
SELECT S.sid
FROM Sailors S, Boats B,
     Reserves R
WHERE S.sid=R.sid
      AND R.bid=B.bid
      AND B.color='red'
INTERSECT
SELECT S.sid
FROM Sailors S, Boats B,
     Reserves R
WHERE S.sid=R.sid
     AND R.bid=B.bid
     AND B.color='green'
```

Let's revisit UNION

we said they are equivalent

but do they always give the same result?





SELECT R.sid
FROM Boats B,Reserves R
WHERE R.bid=B.bid AND
(B.color='red' OR B.color='green')

VS.

<u>example</u>

example

SELECT R.sid
FROM Boats B, Reserves R
WHERE R.bid=B.bid AND B.color='red'
UNION SELECT R.sid
FROM Boats B, Reserves R
WHERE R.bid=B.bid AND
B.color='green'

ANY and ALL Set-Comparison Operators

Find sailors with rating greater than the rating of at least one sailor called 'Horatio':

Find sailors with rating greater than the rating of all 20-year old sailors:

```
SELECT *
FROM Sailors S
WHERE S.rating > ALL (SELECT S2.rating
FROM Sailors S2
WHERE S2.age = 20)
```

Division ("for all") in SQL

Find sailors who have reserved all boats.

Sailors S for which ...

SELECT S.sname FROM Sailors S

there is no boat B without ... WHERE NOT EXISTS (SELECT B.bid FROM Boats B WHERE NOT EXISTS (SELECT R.bid FROM Reserves R WHERE R.bid=B.bid a Reserves tuple AND R.sid=S.sid)) showing S reserved B

Division ("for all") in SQL - alternative

Find sailors who have reserved all boats.

Sailors S for which ...

SELECT S.sname FROM Sailors S

```
there is no boat B without ...
WHERE NOT EXISTS (SELECT B.bid
                           Boats B
                      FROM
                                          (SELECT R.bid
                      EXCEPT
                                           FROM Reserves R
                                           WHERE R.bid=B.bid
                                 a Reserves tuple AND R.sid=S.sid))
```

showing S reserved B

Aggregate Operators

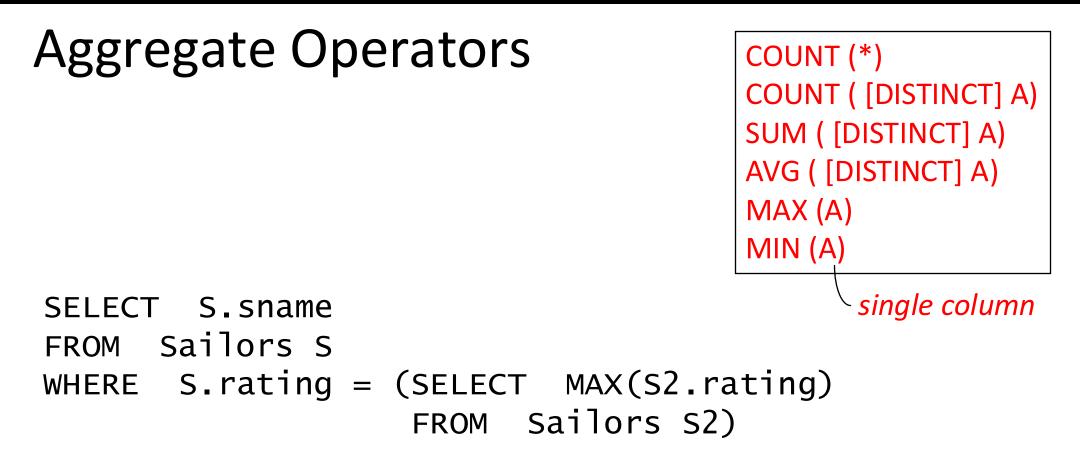
Significant extension of relational algebra.

COUNT (*) COUNT ([DISTINCT] A) SUM ([DISTINCT] A) AVG ([DISTINCT] A) MAX (A) MIN (A) *single column*

SELECT COUNT (*) FROM Sailors S

SELECT AVG (S.age) FROM Sailors S WHERE S.rating=10

SELECT COUNT (DISTINCT S.rating) FROM Sailors S WHERE S.sname='Bob'



SELECT AVG (DISTINCT S.age) FROM Sailors S WHERE S.rating=10



Find name and age of the oldest sailor(s)

The first query is incorrect!



SELECTS.sname, S.ageThird query equivalent to second queryFROMSailors Sallowed in SQL/92 standard, but notWHERES.age =supported in some systems.(SELECTMAX (S2.age)FROMSailors S2)

ARGMAX?

The Sailor with the highest rating

What about ties for highest?

SELECT *	<	SELECT *
FROM S	Sailors S	FROM Sailors S
WHERE S	S.rating >= ALL	WHERE S.rating =
(SELE	CT S2.rating	(SELECT MAX(S2.rating)
FROM	A Sailors S2)	FROM Sailors S2)

SELECT * FROM Sailors S ORDER BY rating DESC LIMIT 1;

JOINS

Joins

INNER is default

SELECT sname FROM sailors S JOIN reserves R ON S.sid=R.sid;

SELECT sname FROM sailors S NATURAL JOIN reserves R WHERE R.bid = 102;

Inner Joins

```
SELECT s.sid, s.sname, r.bid
FROM Sailors s, Reserves r
WHERE s.sid = r.sid
```

```
SELECT s.sid, s.sname, r.bid
FROM Sailors s INNER JOIN Reserves r
ON s.sid = r.sid
```

They are equivalent!

Left Outer Join

Returns all matched rows, plus all unmatched rows from the table on the left of the join clause

(use nulls in fields of non-matching tuples)

```
SELECT s.sid, s.sname, r.bid
FROM Sailors s LEFT OUTER JOIN
Reserves r
ON s.sid = r.sid;
```

Returns all sailors & bid for boat in any of their reservations Note: no match for s.sid? r.sid IS NULL! CAS CS 660 [Fall 2024] - https://bu-disc.github.io/CS660/ - Manos Athanassoulis

SELECT s.sid, s.sname, r.bid
FROM Sailors s LEFT OUTER JOIN Reserves r
ON s.sid = r.sid;

sid	sname	rating	age
22	Dustin	7	45.0
31	Lubber	8	55.5
95	Bob	3	63.5

sid	<u>bid</u>	<u>day</u>
22	101	10/10/96
95	103	11/12/96

s.sid	s.name	r.bid	
22	Dustin	101	
95	Bob	103	
31	Lubber	+	- NULL

Right Outer Join

Returns all matched rows, plus all unmatched rows from the table on the **right** of the join clause

```
(use nulls in fields of non-matching tuples)
```

```
SELECT r.sid, b.bid, b.bname
FROM Reserves r RIGHT OUTER JOIN
Boats b
ON r.bid = b.bid;
```

Returns all boats & information on which ones are reserved Note: no match for b.bid? r.bid IS NULL!

Full Outer Join

Full Outer Join returns all (matched or unmatched) rows from the tables on both sides of the join clause

```
SELECT r.sid, b.bid, b.bname
FROM Reserves2 r FULL OUTER JOIN
Boats2 b
ON r.bid = b.bid;
```

Returns all boats & all information on reservations

No match for r.bid?

– b.bid IS NULL AND b.bname is NULL

No match for b.bid?

- r.sid is NULL

GROUP BY AND HAVING

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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 sailor for each rating level.

In general, we don't know how many rating levels exist, and what the rating values for these levels are!

Suppose we know that rating values go from 1 to 10; we can write 10 queries that look like this (!):

F ' 1 O 10	SELECT	MIN (S.age)
For <i>i</i> = 1, 2, , 10:	FROM	Sailors S
	WHERE	S.rating = i

Queries With GROUP BY and HAVING

SELECT	[DISTINCT] <i>target-list</i>
FROM	relation-list
WHERE	qualification
GROUP BY	grouping-list
[HAVING	group-qualification]

Group rows by columns in *grouping-list*

Every column from *target-list* mast appear in the *grouping-list* HAVING restricts through an *aggregate* which group-rows are part of the result

Conceptual Evaluation

(1) Cross-product of *relation-list* (2) Select only tuples that follow the where clause *qualification*)

(3) Partition rows by the value of attributes in *grouping-list*

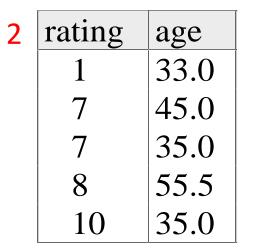
(4) Select only groups that follow the *group-qualification*

Attributes in *target-list* must also be in *grouping-list*.

(5) One answer tuple is generated per qualifying group, showing *target-list*

Expressions in *group-qualification* must have a <u>single value</u> <u>per group</u>! That is, attributes in group-qualification must be part of an aggregate op / must appear in the grouping-list.

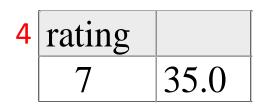
Find the age of the youngest sailor with age ≥ 18 , for each rating with at least 2 such sailors SELECT S.rating, MIN (S.age) FROM Sailors S sid rating sname age WHERE S.age >= 18GROUP BY S.rating COUNT (*) > 1HAVING



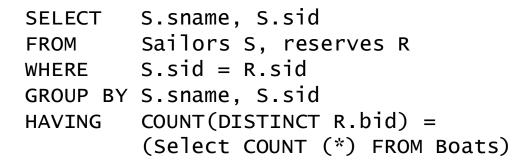
3

rating	m-age	count
1	33.0	1
7	35.0	2
8	55.0	1
10	35.0	1

31lubber855.571zorba1016.064horatio735.029brutus133.0	<u>51u</u>	Shanc	raung	age
71zorba1016.064horatio735.029brutus133.0	22	dustin	7	45.0
64horatio735.029brutus133.0	31	lubber	8	55.5
29 brutus 1 33.0	71	zorba	10	16.0
	64	horatio	7	35.0
58 rusty 10 35.0	29	brutus	1	33.0
	58	rusty	10	35.0



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s.sname	s.sid	r.sid	r.bid	
Dustin	22	22		101
Lubber	31	22		101
Bob	95	22		101
Dustin	22	95		102
Lubber	31	95		102
Bob	95	95		102

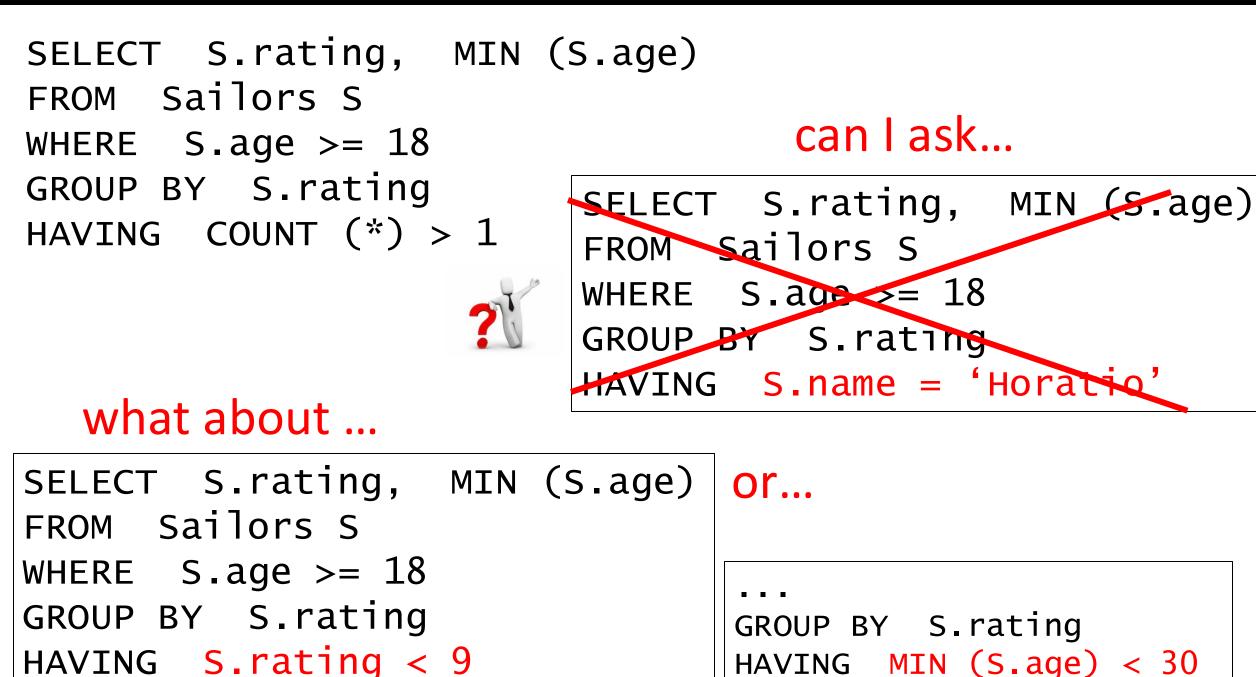
bid	bname	color
101	Interlake	blue
102	Interlake	red
103	Clipper	green
104	Marine	red

Count (*) from boats = 4

s.sname	s.sid	bcount
Dustin	22	1
Bob	95	1

Apply having clause to groups

s.sname	s.sid



Sorting the Results of a Query

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

SELECT	S.rating, S.sname, S.age		
FROM	Sailors S, Boats B, Reserves R		
WHERE	S.sid=R.sid AND R.bid=B.bid		
	AND B.color='red'		
ORDER BY	S.rating, S.sname;		

Extra reporting power obtained by combining with aggregation.

SELECT S.sid, COUNT (*) AS redrescnt
FROM Sailors S, Boats B, Reserves R
WHERE S.sid=R.sid AND R.bid=B.bid
AND B.color='red'
GROUP BY S.sid
ORDER BY redrescnt DESC;

Summary: The SQL Query

SELECT	[DISTINCT] <i>target-list</i>		
FROM	relation-list		
WHERE	qualification		
GROUP BY	grouping-list		
HAVING	group-qualification		
ORDER BY	attribute-list		

Remember? Division ("for all") in SQL

Find sailors who have reserved all boats.

Sailors S for which ...

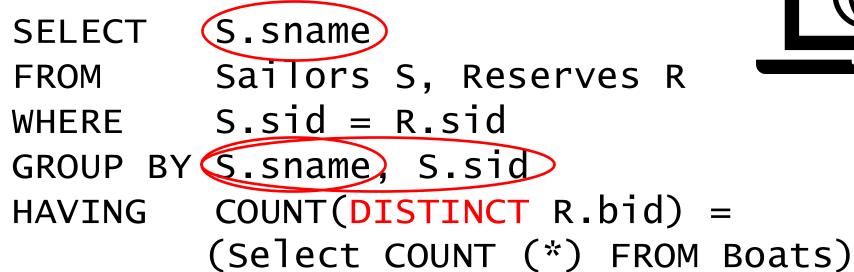
SELECT S.sname FROM Sailors S

there is no boat B without ... WHERE NOT EXISTS (SELECT B.bid FROM Boats B WHERE NOT EXISTS (SELECT R.bid FROM Reserves R WHERE R.bid=B.bid a Reserves tuple AND R.sid=S.sid)) showing S reserved B

Can you do this using Group By and Having?

Find sailors who have reserved all boats.





Note: must have both sid and name in the GROUP BY clause. Why?

(1) Attributes in *target-list* must also be in *grouping-list*.

(2) Expressions in group-qualification must have a single value per group!

(3) Without sid we are grouping together sailors with the same name!

An Illustration

FROM Sailors S, reserves R

SELECT S.name



WHERE S.sid = \hat{R} .sid					Z	BIIDO		
GROUP BY S.name, S.sid					3	Sam		
-HAVING		•	STINCT R. COUNT (-			Boa	ts
				В	oats)		bid	bnam
							101	Nina
sname	sid	bid			\backslash		102	Pinta
Frodo	1	102					103	Santa
Bilbo	2	101						Res
Bilbo	2	102	sname	sid	count			
Frodo	1	102	Frodo	1	1		count	_
Bilbo	2	103	Bilbo	2	3	ļ	3	

-	sname sid		bid	
	Frodo	1	102,102	
	Bilbo	2	101, 102, 103	

bid	bname	color
101	Nina	red
102	Pinta	blue
103	Santa Maria	red

serves

sid	bid	day
1	102	9/12
2	102	9/12
2	101	9/14
1	102	9/10
2	103	9/13

REVISITING DDL, NULL, AND MORE

INSERT [INTO] *table_name* [(*column_list*)] VALUES (value_list)

INSERT [INTO] table_name [(column_list)]
<select statement>

INSERT INTO Boats VALUES (105, 'Clipper', 'purple') INSERT INTO Boats (bid, color) VALUES (99, 'yellow')

You can also do a "bulk insert" of values from one table into another:

INSERT INTO TEMP(bid) SELECT r.bid FROM Reserves R WHERE r.sid = 22; (must be type compatible) DELETE [FROM] *table_name* [WHERE *qualification*]

DELETE FROM Boats WHERE color = 'red'

DELETE FROM Boats b WHERE b. bid = (SELECT r.bid FROM Reserves R WHERE r.sid = 22)

Can also modify tuples using UPDATE statement. UPDATE Boats SET Color = "green" WHERE bid = 103;

Null Values

Field values in a tuple are sometimes *unknown* (e.g., a rating has not been assigned) or *inapplicable* (e.g., no spouse's name).

- SQL provides a special value <u>*null*</u> for such situations.

The presence of *null* complicates many issues. E.g.:

- Special operators needed to check if value is/is not *null*. IS NULL/IS NOT NULL
- Is rating>8 true or false when rating is equal to null? What about AND, OR and NOT connectives?
- We need a <u>3-valued logic</u> (true, false and *unknown*).
- Meaning of constructs must be defined carefully. (e.g., WHERE clause eliminates rows that don't evaluate to true.)
- New operators (in particular, *outer joins*) possible/needed.

NULLs

example	bname	bcity	assets
champic	Downtown	Boston	9M
la ma mada O	Perry	Horse	1.7M
branch2=	Mianus	Horse	.4M
	Kenmore	Boston	NULL

What does this mean?

We don't know Kenmore's assets? Kenmore has no assets?

Effect on Queries:

SELECT * FROM branch2 WHERE assets = NULL

SELECT * FROM branch2 WHERE assets IS NULL

bname	bcity	assets
-------	-------	--------

bname	bcity	assets
Kenmore	Boston	NULL

NULLs

Arithmetic with nulls:

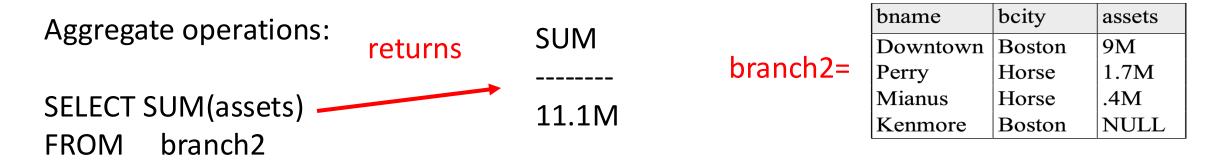
- n <op> null = null
 - <op>: +, -, *, /, mod, ...

"Booleans" with nulls: One can write: 3-valued logic (true, false, unknown) SELECT FROM WHERE boolexpr IS UNKNOWN

What expressions evaluate to UNKNOWN?

- 1. Comparisons with NULL (e.g., assets = NULL)
- 2. FALSE OR UNKNOWN (but: TRUE OR UNKNOWN = TRUE)
- 3. TRUE AND UNKNOWN
- 4. UNKNOWN AND/OR UNKNOWN

NULLs



NULL is ignored Same for AVG, MIN, MAX

Let branch3 an empty relation

Then: SELECT SUM(assets)

FROM branch3 returns NULL

but SELECT COUNT(*) FROM branch3 returns 0

Views

Makes development **simpler** Often used for **security Not instantiated** - makes updates tricky

CREATE VIEW view_name AS select_statement

CREATE VIEW Reds AS SELECT B.bid, COUNT (*) AS scount FROM Boats B, Reserves R WHERE R.bid=B.bid AND B.color='red' GROUP BY B.bid

An illustration

CREATE VIEW Reds AS SELECT B.bid, COUNT (*) AS scount FROM Boats B, Reserves R WHERE R.bid=B.bid AND B.color='red' GROUP BY B.bid

bid	bname	color
101	Interlake	blue
102	Interlake	red
103	Clipper	green
104	Marine	red

b.bid		scount		Dede
	102		1	Reds

Views Instead of Relations in Queries

CREATE VIEW Reds AS SELECT B.bid, COUNT (*) AS scount FROM Boats B, Reserves R WHERE R.bid=B.bid AND B.color='red' GROUP BY B.bid

SELECT bname, scount FROM Reds R, Boats B WHERE R.bid=B.bid AND scount < 10

b.bid		scount		Dede
	102		1	Reds

Views vs INTO

(1) SELECT bname, bcity
 FROM branch vs
 INTO branch2
 SELECT bname, bcity
 FROM branch2
 FROM branch4

(1) creates a new table that gets stored on disk

(2) creates a "virtual table" (materialized when needed)

Therefore: **changes** in branch are **seen** in (2) but **not** in (1)

Discretionary Access Control

GRANT *privileges* ON *object* TO *users* [WITH GRANT OPTION]

Object can be a **Table** or a View

Privileges can be:

- Select/Insert/Delete
- References (cols) to create a foreign key references to <cols>
- All

Can later be **REVOKED**

Users can be single users or groups

See <u>Chapter 17</u> for more details.

Assertions and Triggers

CONSTRAINTS

Integrity Constraints

- predicates on the database
- must always be true (checked whenever db gets updated)

There are the following 4 types of IC's:

Key constraints (1 table)

e.g., 2 accts can't share the same acct_no

Attribute constraints (1 table)

e.g., 2 accts must have nonnegative balance

Referential Integrity constraints (2 tables)

E.g. bnames associated w/ loans must be names of real branches

Global Constraints (n tables)

E.g., a loan must be carried by at least 1 customer with a svngs acct

Global Constraints

Idea: two kinds

- 1) **single relation** (constraints spans multiple columns)
 - E.g.: CHECK (total = svngs + check) declared in the CREATE TABLE
- 2) multiple relations: CREATE ASSERTION

SQL examples:

1) **single relation**: All BOSTON branches must have assets > 5M

CREATE TABLE branch (

```
bcity CHAR(15),
assets INT,
CHECK (NOT(bcity = 'BOS') OR assets > 5M))
```

Affects:

insertions into branch
updates of bcity or assets in branch

Global Constraints

SQL example:

2) Multiple relations: every loan has a borrower with a savings account

```
CHECK (NOT EXISTS (

SELECT *

FROM loan AS L

WHERE NOT EXISTS(

SELECT *

FROM borrower B, depositor D, account A

WHERE B.cname = D.cname AND

D.acct_no = A.acct_no AND L.lno = B.lno)))
```

Problem: Where to put this constraint? At depositor? Loan?

```
Ans: None of the above:
CREATE ASSERTION loan-constraint
CHECK( ..... )
```

Checked with EVERY DB update! very expensive.....

Global Constraints

Issues:

How does one decide what global constraint to impose?
 How does one minimize the cost of checking the global constraints?

Ans: Semantics of application and Functional dependencies.

Summary: Integrity Constraints

Constraint Type	Where declared	Affects	Expense
Key Constraints	CREATE TABLE (PRIMARY KEY, UNIQUE)	Insertions, Updates	Moderate
Attribute Constraints	CREATE TABLE CREATE DOMAIN (Not NULL, CHECK)	Insertions, Updates	Cheap
Referential Integrity	Table Tag (FOREIGN KEY REFERENCES)	 1.Insertions into referencing rel'n 2. Updates of referencing rel'n of relevant attrs 3. Deletions from referenced rel'n 4. Update of referenced rel'n 	 1,2: like key constraints. Another reason to index/sort on the primary keys 3,4: depends on a. update/delete policy chosen b. existence of indexes on foreign key
Global Constraints	Table Tag (CHECK) or outside table (CREATE ASSERTION)	 For single rel'n constraint, with insertion, deletion of relevant attrs For assesrtions w/ every db modification 	1. cheap 2. very expensive

Triggers (Active database)

- Trigger: A procedure that starts automatically if specified changes occur to the DBMS
- Analog to a "daemon" that monitors a database for certain events to occur
- Three parts:
 - Event (activates the trigger)
 - Condition (tests whether the triggers should run) [Optional]
 - Action (what happens if the trigger runs)
- Semantics:
 - When event occurs, and condition is satisfied, the action is performed.

An example of Trigger

CREATE TRIGGER minSalary BEFORE INSERT ON Professor

FOR EACH ROW

WHEN (new.salary < 100,000)

BEGIN

RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR (-20004, 'Violation of Minimum Professor Salary'); END;

Conditions can refer to **old/new** values of tuples modified by the statement activating the trigger.

Triggers – Event, Condition, Action

Events could be :

BEFORE | AFTER INSERT | UPDATE | DELETE ON <tableName>

e.g.: BEFORE INSERT ON Professor

Condition is SQL expression or even an SQL query (query with non-empty result means TRUE)

Action can be many different choices :

– SQL statements, and even DDL and transaction-oriented statements like "commit".

Assume our DB has a relation schema :

Professor (pNum, pName, salary)

We want to write a trigger that :

Ensures that any new professor inserted has salary >= 70000

CREATE TRIGGER minSalary BEFORE INSERT ON Professor

for what context ?

BEGIN

check for violation here ?

CREATE TRIGGER minSalary BEFORE INSERT ON Professor

FOR EACH ROW

BEGIN

check for violation here ?

CREATE TRIGGER minSalary BEFORE INSERT ON Professor

FOR EACH ROW

BEGIN

IF (:new.salary < 70000)
 THEN RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR (-20004,
 'Violation of Minimum Professor Salary');
END IF;</pre>

Details of Trigger Example

BEFORE INSERT ON Professor

- This trigger is checked before the tuple is inserted

FOR EACH ROW

specifies that trigger is performed for each row inserted

:new

refers to the new tuple inserted

If (:new.salary < 70000)

 then an application error is raised and hence the row is not inserted; otherwise the row is inserted.

Use error code: -20004;

 $_{\rm 67}-$ this is in the valid range

Example Trigger Using Condition

CREATE TRIGGER minSalary BEFORE INSERT ON Professor

FOR EACH ROW

WHEN (new.salary < 70000)

BEGIN

```
RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR (-20004,
'Violation of Minimum Professor Salary');
```

END;

Conditions can refer to **old/new** values of tuples modified by the statement activating the trigger.

Triggers: REFERENCING

CREATE TRIGGER minSalary BEFORE INSERT ON Professor

REFERENCING NEW as newTuple

FOR EACH ROW

WHEN (newTuple.salary < 70000)

BEGIN

RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR (-20004,
 'Violation of Minimum Professor Salary');
END;

```
CREATE TRIGGER updSalary

BEFORE UPDATE ON Professor

REFERENCING OLD AS oldTuple NEW as newTuple

FOR EACH ROW

WHEN (newTuple.salary < oldTuple.salary)

BEGIN

RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR (-20004, 'Salary

Decreasing !!');

END;
```

Ensure that salary does not decrease

(SQL:99)

CREATE TRIGGER youngSailorUpdate AFTER INSERT ON SAILORS **REFERENCING NEW TABLE AS NewSailors** FOR EACH STATEMENT **INSERT** INTO YoungSailors(sid, name, age, rating) SELECT sid, name, age, rating FROM NewSailors N WHERE N.age <= 18

Row vs Statement Level Trigger

- Row level: activated once per modified tuple
- Statement level: activate once per SQL statement

- Row level triggers can access new data, statement level triggers cannot always do that (depends on DBMS).
- Statement level triggers will be more efficient if we do not need to make row-specific decisions

Row vs Statement Level Trigger

Example: Consider a relation schema

Account (num, amount)

where we will allow creation of new accounts only during normal business hours.

Example: Statement level trigger

CREATE TRIGGER MYTRIG1

BEFORE INSERT ON Account

FOR EACH STATEMENT --- is default

BEGIN

```
IF (TO CHAR(SYSDATE, 'dy') IN (`sat', 'sun'))
```

OR

(TO CHAR(SYSDATE, 'hh24:mi') NOT BETWEEN '08:00' AND '17:00')

THEN

RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR(-20500,'Cannot create new account now !!'); END IF;

When to use **BEFORE/AFTER**

Based on efficiency considerations or semantics.

Suppose we perform statement-level after insert,
→all the rows are inserted first,
→if the condition fails → all inserts must be "rolled back"

Not very efficient !!

Combining multiple events into one trigger

CREATE TRIGGER salaryRestrictions

AFTER INSERT OR UPDATE ON Professor

FOR EACH ROW

BEGIN

IF (INSERTING AND :new.salary < 70000) THEN
 RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR (-20004, 'below min salary');</pre>

END IF;

IF (UPDATING AND :new.salary < :old.salary) THEN
 RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR (-20004, 'Salary Decreasing !!');
END IF;</pre>

Summary : Trigger Syntax

CREATE TRIGGER <triggerName>

BEFORE | AFTER INSERT | DELETE | UPDATE

[OF <columnList>] ON <tableName>|<viewName>

[REFERENCING [OLD AS <oldName>] [NEW AS <newName>]]

[FOR EACH ROW] (default is "FOR EACH STATEMENT")

[WHEN (<condition>)]

<PSM body>;

Constraints versus Triggers

- Constraints are useful for database consistency
 - Use IC when sufficient
 - More opportunity for optimization
 - Not restricted into insert/delete/update
- Triggers are flexible and powerful
 - Alerters
 - Event logging for auditing
 - Security enforcement
 - Analysis of table accesses (statistics)
 - Workflow and business intelligence ...

But can be **hard** to understand

- Several triggers (Arbitrary order \rightarrow unpredictable!)
- Chain triggers (When to stop ?)
- Recursive triggers (Termination?)

Links for Examples

Schema is available at:

https://gist.github.com/manathan1984/35b189ae92fd996cce7816e2d7f9e40f

Lightweight online SQL frontend:

http://sqlfiddle.com/