

## Relational Algebra

- Relational algebra is the basic set of operations for the relational model
- These operations enable a user to specify basic retrieval requests (or queries)




## SELECT

- The SELECT operation (denoted by $\sigma$ (sigma)) is used to select a subset of tha tuples from a relation based on a selection condition
- The selection condition acts as a filter
- Keeps only those tuples that satisfy the qualifying condition
- Tuples satisfying the condition are selected whereas the other tuples are discarded (filtered out)



## SELECT

- The Boolean expression specified in sselection condition> is made up of a nume of clauses of the form:
<attribute name> <comparison op> <constant value> or
<attribute name> <comparison op> <attribute name>
Where <attribute name> is the name of an attribute of $R$, «comparison op> is normally one of the operations $\{=,>,>=,,<,=!,!\}$
Clauses can be arbitrarily connected by the Boolean operators and, or and not



## SELECT

- For example, to select the tuples for all employees who either work in department 4 and make over K25,000 per year, or work in department 5 and make over K3O,000, the select operation should be:
$\sigma_{\text {(DNO }}=4$ AND Salary>25000) OR (DNO=5 AND Salary 30000 ) (EMPLOYEE)



## PROJECT

- PROJECT Operation is denoted by $\pi$ (pi)
- If we are interested in only certain attributes of relation, we use PROJECT
- This operation keeps certain columns (attributes) from a relation and discards the other columns.



## PROJECT

- Example: To list each employee's first and last name and salary, the following is used:



## Duplicate elimination

- If the attribute list includes only non-key attributes, duplicate tuples are likely to occur
- The PROJECT operation removes any duplicate tuples



## Single expression versus sequence of relational operations

- To retrieve the first name, last name, and salary of all employees who work in department number 5 .
- We can write a single relational algebra expression as follows:
$\pi_{\text {FNAME, LNAME, SALARY }}(\sigma$
DNO $=5$ (EMPLOYEE))


## Single expression versus sequence of relational operations

- OR We can explicitly show the sequence of operations, giving a name to each intermediate relation:
- DEP5_EMPS $\leftarrow \sigma_{\text {DNO }}$ (EMPLOYEE)
- RESULT $\leftarrow \pi_{\text {FNAME, LNAME, SALARY }}$ (DEP5_EMPS)



## UNION

- It is a Binary operation, denoted by
- Union
- Intersection
- The result of $R \cup S$, is a relation that includes all tuples that are either in $R$ or in $S$ or in both $R$ and $S$
- Duplicate tuples are eliminated
- Cartesian Product




## INTERSECTION

- INTERSECTION is denoted by $\cap$
- The result of the operation $R \cap S$, is a relation that includes all tuples that are in both $R$ and $S$
- The attribute names in the result will be the same as the attribute names in $R$
- The two operand relations $R$ and $S$ must be "type compatible"


## SET DIFFERENCE

- SET DIFFERENCE (also called MINUS or EXCEPT) is denoted by -
- The result of $R-S$, is a relation that includes all tuples that are in $R$ but not in $S$
- The attribute names in the result will be the same as the attribute names in $R$
- The two operand relations $R$ and $S$ must be "type compatible"



## (1)



## CARTESIAN PRODUCT

- CARTESIAN PRODUCT Operation
- This operation is used to combine tuples from two relations in a combinatorial fashion.
- Denoted by R(A1, A2, ... An $x$ S(B1, B2, ..., Bm)
- Result is a relation $Q$ with degree $\underline{n}$ +m attributes:
- Q(A1, A2, ..., An, B1, B2, ..., $\mathrm{Bm})$, in that order.



## CARTESIAN PRODUCT

- The resulting relation state has one tuple for each combination of tuples-one from $R$ and one from $S$.
- Hence, if $R$ has $n_{R}$ tuples (denoted as $|R|=n_{R}$ ), and $S$ has $n_{S}$ tuples, then $R \times S$ will have $\underline{n}_{R}{ }^{*} n_{S}$ tuples.
- The two operands do NOT have to be "type compatible"



## CARTESIAN PRODUCT

- Generally, CROSS PRODUCT is not a meaningful operation
- Can become meaningful when followed by other operations
- Example (not meaningful):
- FEMALE_EMPS $\leftarrow \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\text {SEX }}{ }^{\prime} F^{\prime}($ (EMPLOYEE)
- EMPNAMES $\leftarrow \boldsymbol{\pi}_{\text {fNAME, LNAME, SSN }}$ (FEMALE_EMPS)
- EMP_DEPENDENTS $\leftarrow$ EMPNAMES $x$ DEPENDENT



## Example of applying CARTESIAN PRODUCT

- To keep only combinations where the DEPENDENT is related to the EMPLOYEE, we add a SELECT operation as follows
- Add:

ACTUAL_DEPS $\leftarrow \sigma$
SSN=ESSN(EMP_DEPENDENTS)
R RESULT $\leftarrow \pi_{\text {FNAME, LNAME, DEPENDENT_NAME }}$ (ACTUAL_DEPS)

## Binary Relational Operations

- Join
- Division



## JOIN

- JOIN Operation (denoted by - The sequence of CARTESIAN PRODECT followed by SELECT is used quite commonly to identify and select related tuples from two relations
- This operation is very important for any relational database with more than a single relation, because it allows us combine related tuples from various

- The general form of a join operation on two relations $R(A 1$, $A 2, \ldots, A n)$ and $S(B 1, B 2, \ldots, B m)$ is:

$$
R \triangleleft{ }_{\text {<join condition }} S
$$

- where $R$ and $S$ can be any relations that result from general relational algebra expressions.



## JOIN



## JOIN

- The general case of JOIN operation is called a Theta-join: $R \rtimes$ theta $S$
- The join condition is called theta
- Theta can be any general boolean expression on the attributes of $R$ and S: for example:
- R.Ai<S.Bj AND (R.Ak=S.BI OR R.Ap<S.Bq)


## EQUIJOIN

- The most common use of join involves join conditions with equality comparisons only
- Such a join, where the only comparison operator used is $=$, is called an EQUIJOIN
- The JOIN seen in the previous example was an EQUIJOIN



## NATURAL JOIN

- Another variation of JOIN called NATURAL JOIN - denoted by *
- It was created to get rid of the second (superfluous) attribute in an EQUIJOIN condition.



## NATURAL JOIN

- Only attribute with the same name is DNUMBER
- An implicit join condition is created based on this attribute:

DEPARTMENT.DNUMBER=DEPT_LO CATIONS.DNUMBER



Aggregate Functions and Grouping

- Common functions applied to collections of numeric values include
- SUM, AVERAGE, MAXIMUM, and MINIMUM.
- The COUNT function is used for counting tuples or values.



## Aggregate Functions and

 Grouping- Use of the Aggregate Functional operation 3
- 3 max salar (EMPLOYEE) retrieves the maximum salary value from the EMPLOYEE relation
$-3_{\text {MIN salary }}$ (EMPLOYEE) retrieves the minimum Salary value from the EMPLOYEE relation

Aggregate Functions and Grouping
-3 sum salary (EMPLOYEE) retrieves the sum of the Salary from the EMPLOYEE relation

- 3 count ssn average salary (EMPLOYEE) Computes the count (number) of employees and their average salary
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Aggregate Functions and Grouping

- A variation of aggregate operation 3 allows this:
- Grouping attribute placed to left of symbol
- Aggregate functions to right of symbol
- dno 3 count ssn, average salary (EMPLOYEE)


| Figure 8.6 <br> Results of G <br> (a) | Illustrating aggregate functions and grouping |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Fname | Mint | Lname | Ssn | Salary | Super_ssn | Dno | Dno | Count (*) | Avg (Salary) |
|  | John | B | Smith | 123456789 | 30000 | 333445555 | 5 | $\rightarrow 5$ | 4 | 33250 |
|  | Franklin | T | Wong | 333445555 | 40000 | 888665555 | 5 | $\rightarrow 4$ | 3 | 31000 |
|  | Ramesh | K | Narayan | 666884444 | 38000 | 333445555 | 5 | $\rightarrow 1$ | 1 | 55000 |
|  | Joyce | A | English | 453453453 | 25000 | 33344555 | 5 | Result | of Q24 |  |
|  | Alicia | J | Zelaya | 999887777 | 25000 | 987654321 | 4 |  |  |  |
|  | Jennifer | S | Wallace | 987654321 | 43000 | 888665555 | 4 |  |  |  |
|  | Ahmad | V | Jabaar | 987887987 | 25000 | 987654321 | 4 |  |  |  |
|  | James | E | Bong | 888665555 | 55000 | NULL | 1 |  |  |  |
| Grouping EMPLOYEE tuples by the value of Dno |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



