

# Database Theory

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## 3. Codd's Theorem

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# Outline

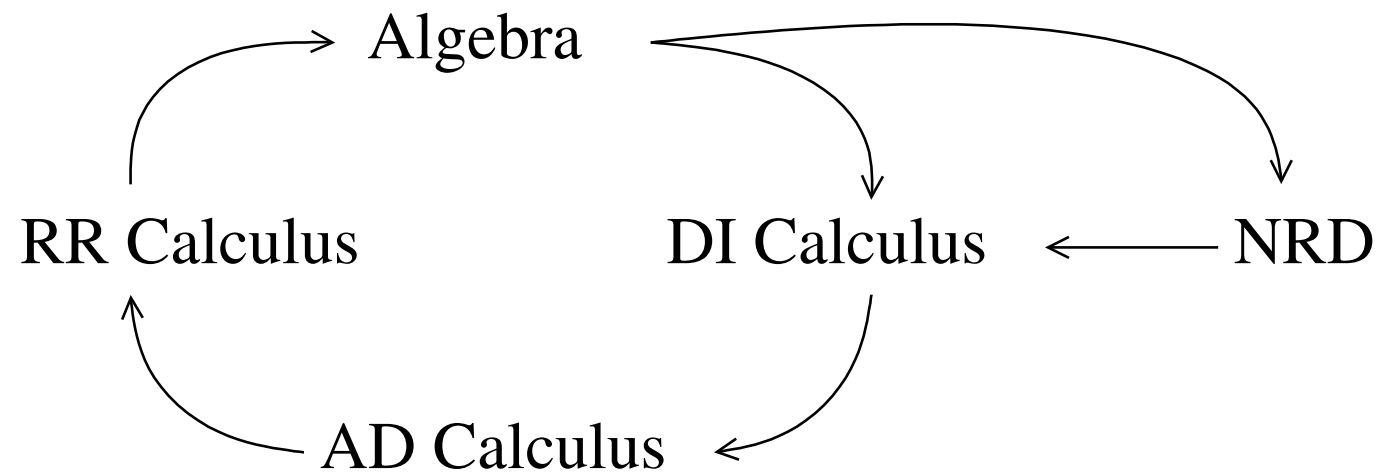
## 3. Codd's Theorem

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# What is Codd's Theorem?

- Several query languages have been considered for relational databases:
  - some are more convenient for query specification
  - some are easier to optimize
  - some are more succcint
- (Original) **Codd's Theorem** shows that the most important of the above languages, the so-called **domain-independent, relational calculus** and relational algebra, are **equally expressive**.
- By a set of translations we prove here a **stronger** result. The following languages are equally expressive:
  - domain-independent relational calculus,
  - relational calculus under the active domain semantics,
  - range-restricted relational calculus,
  - relational algebra,
  - non-recursive Datalog with negation,

# Proof Strategy



# Domain Independence

Some queries are “unsafe” and must be avoided:

- **Domain Independence:** Given a query and a database, the query must evaluate to the same result on the database no matter what the domain is assumed to be.
- Idea: exclude “unsafe” queries, i.e., in particular, queries that may yield an infinite answer.
- Let  $Q_B(\mathcal{A})$  denote the result of evaluating query  $Q$  on database  $\mathcal{A}$  assuming domain  $B$ .

## Definition (domain-independence)

A query  $Q$  is *domain-independent* iff there do **not** exist

- a database instance  $\mathcal{A}$  and
- two sets  $B, C$  that contain all constants that appear in  $\mathcal{A}$  or in  $Q$  (also known as the **active domain**),

such that  $Q_B(\mathcal{A}) \neq Q_C(\mathcal{A})$ .

# Queries Violating Domain Independence

## Example (Unsafe Queries)

- $\{x \mid \neg R(x)\}$ 
  - $R = \emptyset, 1 \in B, 1 \notin C: 1 \in Q_B(R), 1 \notin Q_C(R).$
- $\{x \mid R(x) \vee R(y)\}$
- $\{y \mid R(x)\}$
- $\{x \mid R(x) \vee \neg R(x)\}$

**Remark.** Over infinite domains, these queries may yield an **infinite result**.

# Undecidability of Domain Independence

## Definition

For a domain-independent query  $Q$  and a database  $\mathcal{A}$ , we may define  $Q(\mathcal{A}) := Q_B(\mathcal{A})$  for an arbitrary domain  $B$  that contains the active domain (the choice is irrelevant due to domain-independence).

- We would like to require domain-independence in queries.
- Domain-independence is an **undecidable** property for FO queries.
- Possible solutions:
  - semantic restriction on quantification
  - syntactic restriction on queries

## Theorem

*For every relational algebra expression there exists a domain-independent, relational calculus query.*

## Proof.

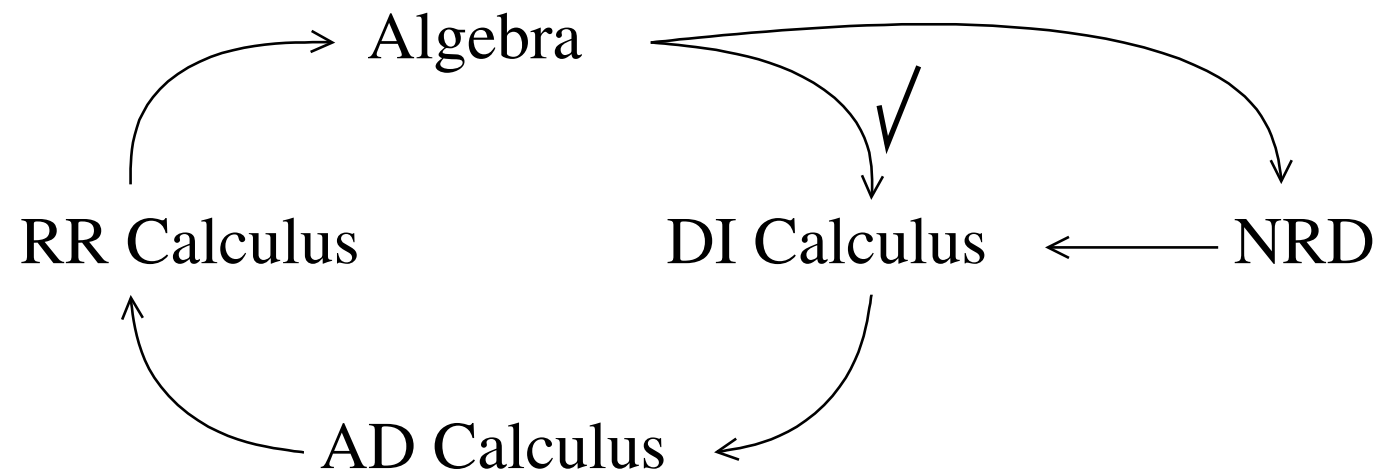
Almost by definition:

$$\begin{aligned}
 R &:= \{\vec{x} \mid R(\vec{x})\} \\
 \sigma_{x=y}(\{\vec{x} \mid \varphi(\vec{x})\}) &:= \{\vec{x} \mid \varphi(\vec{x}) \wedge x = y\} \\
 \pi_{\vec{y}}(\{\vec{x} \mid \varphi(\vec{x})\}) &:= \{\vec{y} \mid \exists \vec{z} \varphi(\vec{x})\} \quad (\vec{x} = \vec{y}\vec{z}) \\
 \{\vec{x} \mid \varphi(\vec{x})\} \times \{\vec{y} \mid \psi(\vec{y})\} &:= \{\vec{x}\vec{y} \mid \varphi(\vec{x}) \wedge \psi(\vec{y})\} \\
 \{\vec{x} \mid \varphi(\vec{x})\} \cup \{\vec{x} \mid \psi(\vec{x})\} &:= \{\vec{x} \mid \varphi(\vec{x}) \vee \psi(\vec{x})\} \\
 \{\vec{x} \mid \varphi(\vec{x})\} - \{\vec{x} \mid \psi(\vec{x})\} &:= \{\vec{x} \mid \varphi(\vec{x}) \wedge \neg\psi(\vec{x})\}
 \end{aligned}$$

It can be shown by an easy induction argument that the resulting relational calculus query is domain-independent. □



# Current Status



# Active Domain Interpretation

## Definition

Active domain semantics for relational calculus query  $q$  over DB  $\mathcal{A}$ : variables range over the **active domain**, i.e. over values occurring in the database  $\mathcal{A}$  and the query  $q$ , denoted by  $adom(q, \mathcal{A})$ .

## Example

- Assume a database  $\mathcal{A}$  with  $R = \{\langle 1, 1 \rangle\}$  and  $dom(R) = \{1, 2\}$ .
- Consider the Boolean query  $q = \{\langle \rangle \mid \forall x, y. R(x, y)\}$ :
  - $q$  is false in  $\mathcal{A}$  under the standard semantics, but
  - $q$  is true in  $\mathcal{A}$  under the active domain semantics.

## Theorem

*For every domain-independent relational calculus query there is an equivalent relational calculus query under the active domain semantics.*

## Proof.

Assume a domain-independent query  $Q$ . We claim that  $Q$  itself is the desired query, such that its evaluation under standard semantics and under active domain semantics coincides.

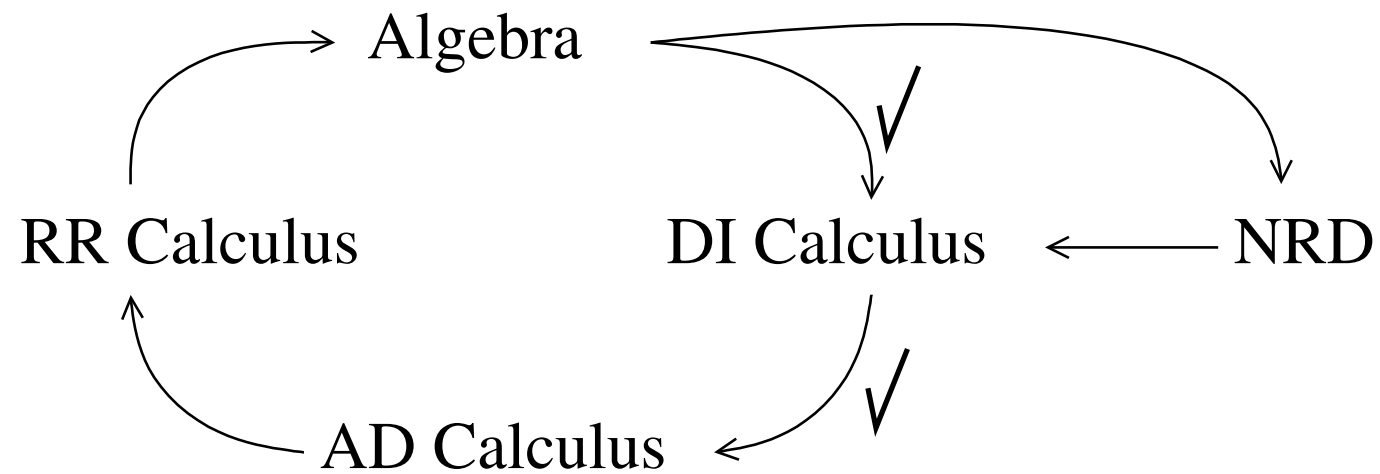
Consider an arbitrary database  $\mathcal{A}$ .

By domain-independence,  $Q_B(\mathcal{A}) = Q_{\text{adom}(Q, \mathcal{A})}(\mathcal{A})$  under standard semantics for every domain  $B$  with  $\text{adom}(Q, \mathcal{A}) \subseteq B$ .

Likewise, under active domain semantics,  $Q_B(\mathcal{A}) = Q_{\text{adom}(Q, \mathcal{A})}(\mathcal{A})$  for every domain  $B$  with  $\text{adom}(Q, \mathcal{A}) \subseteq B$ .

Finally,  $Q_{\text{adom}(Q, \mathcal{A})}(\mathcal{A})$  yields the same result under standard semantics and under active domain semantics. Hence, for arbitrary domain  $B$  with  $\text{adom}(Q, \mathcal{A}) \subseteq B$ , the set  $Q_B(\mathcal{A})$  is the same under standard semantics and under active domain semantics. □

# Current Status



# Range-restricted Queries: a sufficient condition for DI

Preprocessing. A formula is turned into **safe-range normal form (SRNF)** by the following steps:

- 1 Variable substitution: no distinct pair of quantifiers may employ the same variable and no variable may occur both bound and free.  
**Example:**  $(\exists x \varphi(x)) \vee (\exists x \psi(x)) \vdash (\exists x \varphi(x)) \vee (\exists x' \psi(x'))$ .
- 2 Remove universal quantifiers:  $\forall x \varphi \vdash \neg \exists x \neg \varphi$ .
- 3 Remove implications:  $\varphi \Rightarrow \psi \vdash \neg \varphi \vee \psi$ .
- 4 Remove double negation:  $\neg \neg \varphi \vdash \varphi$ .
- 5 Flatten and/or, e.g.:  $(\varphi \wedge \psi) \wedge \pi \vdash \varphi \wedge \psi \wedge \pi$ .

# Range-restriction Check

## Definition

Given: Input formula  $\pi$  in SRNF.

$$\begin{aligned}
 rr(x = a) &:= \{x\} \\
 rr(R(t_1, \dots, t_n)) &:= \text{Vars}(\{t_1, \dots, t_n\}) \\
 rr(\varphi \wedge \psi) &:= rr(\varphi) \cup rr(\psi) \\
 rr(\varphi \vee \psi) &:= rr(\varphi) \cap rr(\psi) \\
 rr(\varphi \wedge x = y) &:= \begin{cases} rr(\varphi) & \dots \{x, y\} \cap rr(\varphi) = \emptyset \\ rr(\varphi) \cup \{x, y\} & \dots \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\
 rr(\neg\varphi) &:= \emptyset \\
 rr(\exists x \varphi) &:= \begin{cases} rr(\varphi) - \{x\} & \dots x \in rr(\varphi) \\ \text{fail} & \dots \text{otherwise} \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

If  $\text{free}(\pi) \subseteq rr(\pi)$ , then  $\pi$  is **range-restricted (RR)**.

# Range-restriction Examples

## Example (in SRNF)

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \overbrace{\hspace{15em}}^{rr(\cdot)=\{x,y\}} \\
 \underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{rr(\cdot)=\{x,y,z\}} \\
 \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{rr(\cdot)=\{x,y,z\}} \\
 \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{rr(\cdot)=\{z\}} \\
 \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{rr(\cdot)=\{z\}} \\
 \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{rr(\cdot)=\{z\}} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{rr(\cdot)=\emptyset} \\
 \exists z : \overbrace{P(x,y,z)}^{rr(\cdot)=\{x,y,z\}} \vee ( \overbrace{R(x,y)}^{rr(\cdot)=\{x,y\}} \wedge ( ( \overbrace{S(z)}^{rr(\cdot)=\{z\}} \wedge \overbrace{\neg T(x,z)}^{rr(\cdot)=\emptyset} ) \vee T(y,z) ) )
 \end{array}$$

$rr(*) = free(*) = \{x, y\} \Rightarrow \text{range-restricted!}$

# Range-restricted Queries Capture AD Calculus

## Theorem

*For every relational calculus query under the active domain semantics there is an equivalent range-restricted relational calculus query.*

## Preparation of the proof.

### Idea.

- define a predicate  $D$  that captures exactly the active domain,
- use it to effectively restrict the quantification to the active domain (relativization)

For an  $n$ -ary predicate  $R$ , let  $dom(R, i)$  denote the formula  $\exists y_1, \dots, \exists y_{i-1}, \exists y_{i+1}, \dots, \exists y_n R(y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}, x, y_{i+1}, \dots, \exists y_n)$ .

Let  $D(x)$  be the disjunction of

- $dom(R, i)$  for all  $n$ -ary predicates of the schema and all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , and
- $x = a$  for every constant of  $\varphi$ .



# Range-restricted Queries Capture AD Calculus (continued)

## Proof.

We now translate  $\varphi$  into an rr query  $\varphi'$  such that answering  $\varphi$  under the active domain semantics is equivalent to evaluating  $\varphi'$  under the standard semantics. (We write  $tr(\psi)$  to denote the translation of a formula  $\psi$ .)

- 1 Turn  $\varphi$  into SRNF.
- 2 We build  $\varphi'$  from  $\varphi$  as follows:

$$\varphi' := D(x_1) \wedge \dots \wedge D(x_n) \wedge tr(\varphi),$$

where  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} = free(\varphi)$  and

$$tr(A) := A \quad (A \text{ is an atom})$$

$$tr(\varphi \wedge \psi) := tr(\varphi) \wedge tr(\psi)$$

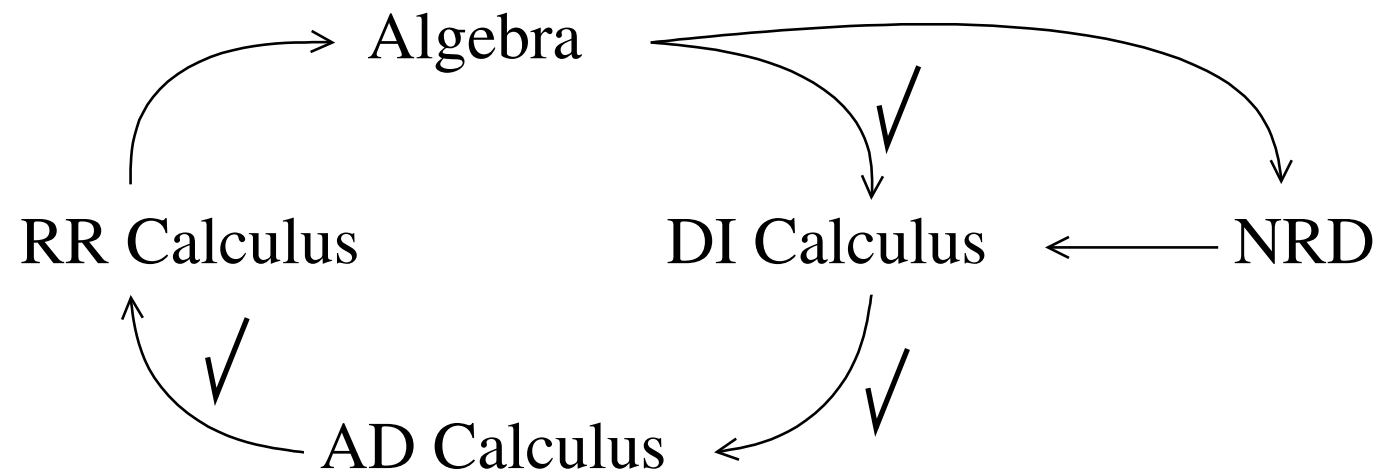
$$tr(\varphi \vee \psi) := tr(\varphi) \vee tr(\psi)$$

$$tr(\neg\varphi) := \neg tr(\varphi)$$

$$tr(\exists x \varphi) := (\exists x) (D(x) \wedge tr(\varphi))$$

□

# Current Status



## Theorem

*For every range-restricted relational calculus query there exists an equivalent relational algebra expression.*

## Proof idea.

- 1 Put the query into SRNF.
- 2 Put the query into **Relational-Algebra NF (RANF)**:
  - RANF: Each subformula is **range-restricted**. (Exception: In a subformula  $\pi = \varphi_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \varphi_k \wedge \neg\psi$ ,  $\pi$  has to be RR and the  $\varphi_i$  and  $\psi$  have to be in RANF, but  $\neg\psi$  does not need to be RR).
- 3 Translate the RANF formula into relational algebra. This can be done inductively from the leaves to the root of the parse tree of the formula.

# From SRNF to RANF

Given a formula in SRNF.

- The formula is in RANF if each subformula is range-restricted.
- Possible obstacles: subformulae of the form  $\varphi \vee \psi$  or  $\neg\varphi$ .
- Only these remove possibly relevant variables from  $rr$ .
- Solution: relativize using the active domain relation  $D$ :

$$\varphi \vee \psi \vdash \underbrace{(\varphi \wedge \bigwedge_{x \in (\text{free}(\psi) - \text{free}(\varphi))} D(x)) \vee (\psi \wedge \bigwedge_{x \in (\text{free}(\varphi) - \text{free}(\psi))} D(x))}_{rr(*) = \text{free}(\varphi) \cup \text{free}(\psi)}$$

$$\neg\varphi \vdash (\neg\varphi \wedge \bigwedge_{x \in \text{free}(\varphi)} D(x))$$

- Shorter (=better) RANF queries can be achieved by rewriting the input formula using equivalences we already know.

# From RANF to Relational Algebra

RANF formulae can be translated to relational algebra using the following rules:

$$\text{Alg}(\varphi \wedge \psi) \quad := \quad \text{Alg}(\varphi) \bowtie \text{Alg}(\psi)$$

$$\text{Alg}(\varphi \wedge \neg\psi) \quad := \quad \text{Alg}(\varphi) - \text{Alg}(\psi)$$

...  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  have the same schema

$$\text{Alg}(\exists y \varphi(\vec{x}, y)) \quad := \quad \pi_{\vec{x}} \text{Alg}(\varphi(\vec{x}, y))$$

$$\text{Alg}(\varphi \wedge x \vartheta t) \quad := \quad \sigma_{x \vartheta t} \text{Alg}(\varphi)$$

...  $\vartheta$  is either  $=$  or  $\neq$  and  $t$  is a term.

$$\text{Alg}(R(x_1, \dots, x_k)) \quad := \quad \rho_{A_1 \dots A_k \rightarrow x_1 \dots x_k} R$$

... relation  $R$  has schema  $R(A_1, \dots, A_k)$

# From RR Queries to the Algebra

## Example

Let  $D$  be the active domain relation with schema  $D(D)$  and let  $R$  have schema  $R(A, B)$ . The formula

$$\exists x \left( D(x) \wedge \exists y (D(y) \wedge \neg R(x, y)) \right)$$

corresponds to the **RANF formula**

$$\exists x \exists y \left( (D(x) \wedge D(y)) \wedge \neg R(x, y) \right).$$

An **equivalent relational algebra expression** looks as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} & Alg(\exists x \exists y ((D(x) \wedge D(y)) \wedge \neg R(x, y))) \\ \vdash & \pi_{\emptyset} (Alg((D(x) \wedge D(y)) - Alg(R(x, y))) \\ \vdash & \pi_{\emptyset} ((\rho_x D \bowtie \rho_y D) - \rho_{xy} R) \end{aligned}$$

# From RR Queries to the Algebra

## Example

Range-restricted but not in RANF (i.e., not locally range-restricted):

$$\{(x, y) \mid \exists z : P(x, y, z) \vee (R(x, y) \wedge \overbrace{((S(z) \wedge \neg T(x, z)) \vee T(y, z))}^{rr(*)=\{z\}})\}$$

We transform this formula using the rewrite rule

$$\varphi \wedge (\psi_1 \vee \psi_2) \vdash (\varphi \wedge \psi_1) \vee (\varphi \wedge \psi_2)$$

into RANF:

$$\{(x, y) \mid \exists z : P(x, y, z) \vee (R(x, y) \wedge S(z) \wedge \neg T(x, z)) \vee (R(x, y) \wedge T(y, z))\}$$

# From RR Queries to the Algebra

## Example (in RANF)

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \overbrace{e_1 = \rho_{xyz} P} \\
 \{(x, y) \mid \exists z : P(x, y, z) \vee \\
 \overbrace{e_2 = (\cdot) - ((\rho_y D) \bowtie (\cdot))} \\
 \overbrace{(\cdot) \bowtie (\cdot)} \\
 \overbrace{\rho_{xy} R} \quad \overbrace{\rho_z S} \quad \overbrace{e_{21} = \rho_{xz} T} \quad \overbrace{\rho_{xy} R} \quad \overbrace{\rho_{yz} T} \\
 \left. \left( \underbrace{(R(x, y) \wedge S(z))}_{\rho_{xy} R \quad \rho_z S} \wedge \neg \underbrace{T(x, z)}_{e_{21} = \rho_{xz} T} \right) \vee \left( \underbrace{(R(x, y) \wedge T(y, z))}_{\rho_{xy} R \quad \rho_{yz} T} \right) \right\}
 \end{array}$$

Equivalent relational algebra expression:  $\pi_{xy}(e_1 \cup e_2 \cup e_3)$ .



# From RR Queries to the Algebra

## Example

“Select all professors ( $P$ ) who only give lectures ( $L$ ) in the field of computer science ( $C$ ).” The schemata are  $P(P)$ ,  $L(P, C)$ ,  $C(C)$  and the active domain is given by a relation  $D$  with schema  $D(D)$ .

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \{x \mid P(x) \wedge \forall y(L(x, y) \rightarrow C(y))\} \\
 \text{to SRNF} \\
 \vdash \\
 \{x \mid P(x) \wedge \neg \exists y(L(x, y) \wedge \neg C(y))\} \\
 \text{to RANF} \\
 \vdash \\
 \{x \mid P(x) \wedge \neg \exists y(L(x, y) \wedge \underbrace{(D(y) \wedge \neg C(y))}_{(\rho_C D) - C})\} \\
 \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{L \bowtie ((\rho_C D) - C)} \\
 \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\pi_P(L \bowtie ((\rho_C D) - C))} \\
 \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{P - \pi_P(L \bowtie ((\rho_C D) - C))}
 \end{array}$$

# From RR Queries to the Algebra

## Example

The schemata are  $L(P, C)$ ,  $C(C)$  and the domain is given by  $D(D)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \{\langle x, y \rangle \mid L(x, y) \wedge \neg C(y)\} &\equiv \{\langle x, y \rangle \mid \underbrace{L(x, y) \wedge (D(y) \wedge \neg C(y))}_{L \bowtie ((\rho_C D) - C)}\} \\ &\equiv \{\langle x, y \rangle \mid \underbrace{L(x, y) \wedge \neg(D(x) \wedge C(y))}_{L - ((\rho_C D) \times C)}\} \end{aligned}$$

| $D$ | $D$ |
|-----|-----|
|     | 1   |
|     | 2   |
|     | 3   |
|     | 4   |

| $L$ | $P$ | $C$ |
|-----|-----|-----|
|     | 1   | 2   |
|     | 3   | 4   |

| $C$ | $C$ |
|-----|-----|
|     | 2   |

| $(\rho_C D) - C$ | $C$ |
|------------------|-----|
|                  | 1   |
|                  | 3   |
|                  | 4   |

| $L \bowtie ((\rho_C D) - C)$ | $P$ | $C$ |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|
|                              | 3   | 4   |

| $(\rho_C D) \times C$ | $P$ | $C$ |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|
|                       | 1   | 2   |
|                       | 2   | 2   |
|                       | 3   | 2   |
|                       | 4   | 2   |

# From RR Queries to the Algebra

## Example

Schema  $R(AB)$ ,  $S(C)$ ,  $T(AC)$ ; active domain  $D(D)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \{ \langle x, y, z \rangle \mid R(x, y) \wedge (S(z) \wedge \neg T(x, z)) \} \\
 \vdash & \{ \langle x, y, z \rangle \mid R(x, y) \wedge \underbrace{((D(x) \wedge S(z)))}_{D \times S} \wedge \neg T(x, z) \} \\
 & \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{(D \times S) - T} \\
 & \underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{R \bowtie ((D \times S) - T)}
 \end{aligned}$$

# From RR Queries to the Algebra

## Example

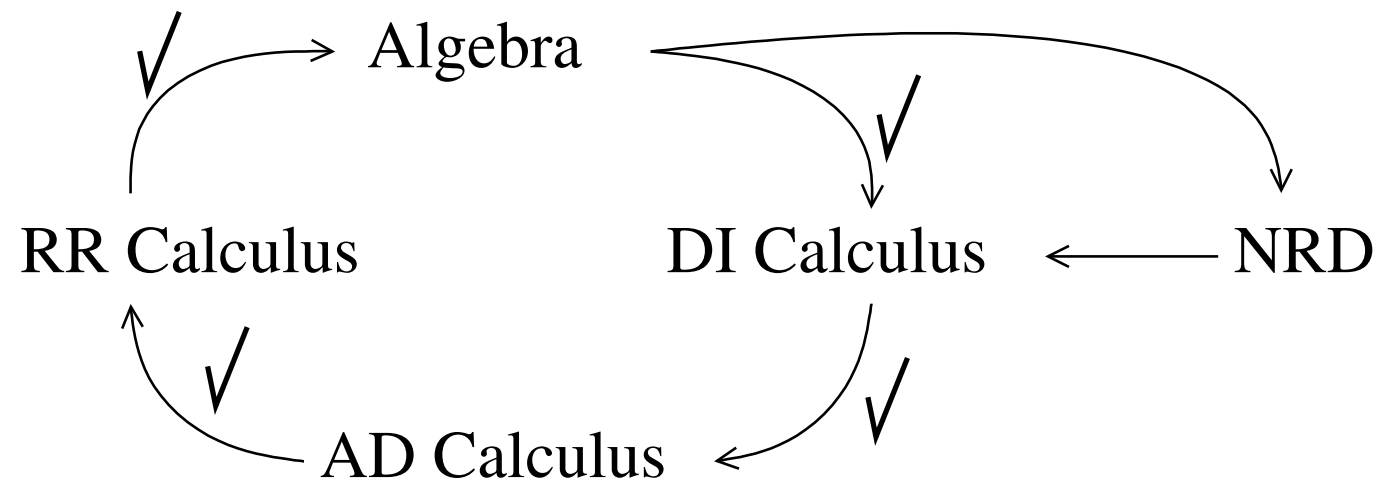
Schema  $R(AB)$ ,  $S(AC)$ ,  $T(BC)$ ; active domain  $D(D)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \{\langle x, y, z \rangle \mid R(x, y) \wedge (S(x, z) \vee T(y, z))\} \\
 \vdash & \{\langle x, y, z \rangle \mid \underbrace{(R(x, y) \wedge S(x, z))}_{R \bowtie S} \vee \underbrace{(R(x, y) \wedge T(y, z))}_{R \bowtie T}\} \\
 & \qquad \qquad \qquad \underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{(R \bowtie S) \cup (R \bowtie T)} \\
 \text{or} & \{\langle x, y, z \rangle \mid R(x, y) \wedge (S(x, z) \vee T(y, z))\} \\
 \vdash & \{\langle x, y, z \rangle \mid \underbrace{R(x, y) \wedge ((S(x, z) \wedge D(y)) \vee (T(y, z) \wedge D(x)))}_{R \bowtie ((S \times \rho_B D) \cup (T \times \rho_A D))}\}
 \end{aligned}$$

This is correct because

$$\begin{aligned}
 R(x, y) \wedge (\varphi \vee \psi) &\equiv R(x, y) \wedge D(x) \wedge D(y) \wedge (\varphi \vee \psi) \equiv \\
 R(x, y) \wedge ((D(x) \wedge D(y) \wedge \varphi) &\vee (D(x) \wedge D(y) \wedge \psi)).
 \end{aligned}$$

# Current Status



# Non-recursive Datalog with negation

## Definition

Non-recursive Datalog with negation ( $nr\text{-Datalog}^-$ ) prohibits cycles in the dependency graph  $DEP(P)$  of a program  $P$ .

- non-recursiveness means that negation is trivially stratified!

## Theorem

*For every relational algebra query there exists an equivalent  $nr\text{-Datalog}^-$  query.*

## Proof idea.

- Inductively, for each algebra expression  $E$ , we construct the program  $P_E$  that defines the predicate  $Q_E$  of the same arity as  $E$ .
- We proceed by a bottom-up traversal of the syntax tree of algebra expression  $E$ , introducing a new predicate for each subexpression of  $E$ . Hence, the resulting program is clearly non-recursive.

# From Algebra to nr-*Datalog*<sup>¬</sup>

## Proof.

$$P_E := \{Q_E(\vec{x}) :- R(\vec{x})\} \quad \text{if } E \text{ is a relation } R$$

$$P_{\sigma_{x=y}(E)} := \{Q_{\sigma_{x=y}(E)}(\vec{x}) :- Q_E(\vec{x}) \wedge x = y\} \cup P_E$$

$$P_{\pi_{\vec{y}}(E)} := \{Q_{\pi_{\vec{y}}(E)}(\vec{y}) :- Q_E(\vec{x})\} \cup P_E$$

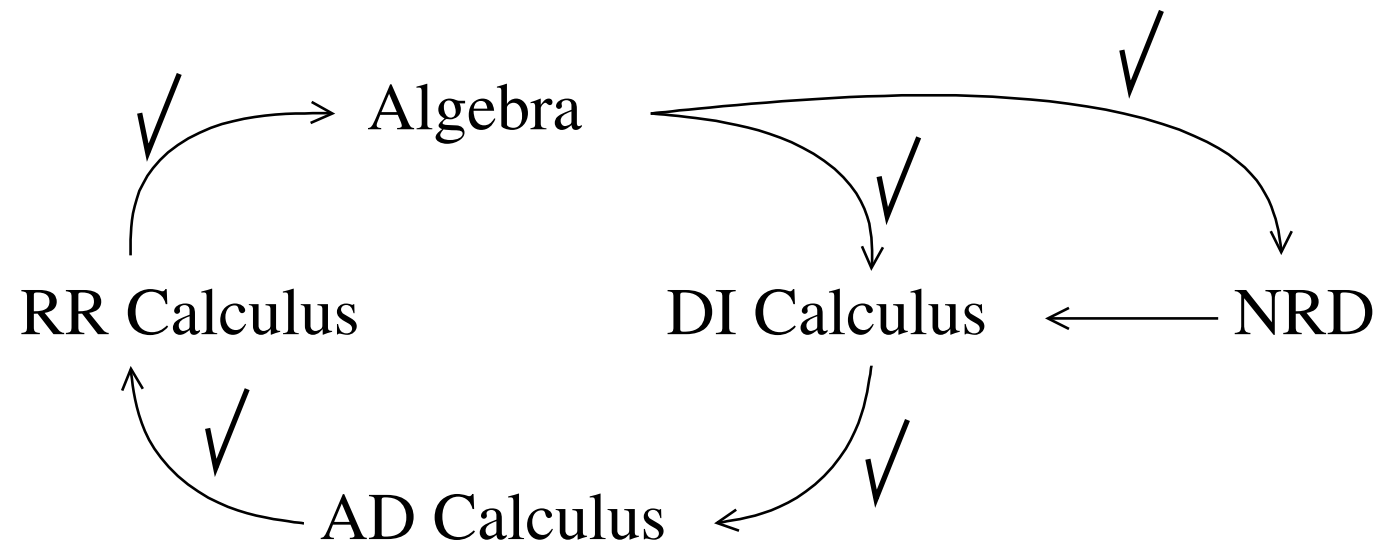
$$P_{E_1 \times E_2} := \{Q_{E_1 \times E_2}(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) :- Q_{E_1}(\vec{x}), Q_{E_2}(\vec{y})\} \cup P_{E_1} \cup P_{E_2}$$

$$P_{E_1 \cup E_2} := \{Q_{E_1 \cup E_2}(\vec{x}) :- Q_{E_1}(\vec{x})\} \cup \\ \{Q_{E_1 \cup E_2}(\vec{x}) :- Q_{E_2}(\vec{x})\} \cup P_{E_1} \cup P_{E_2}$$

$$P_{E_1 - E_2} := \{Q_{E_1 - E_2}(\vec{x}) :- Q_{E_1}(\vec{x}), \text{not } Q_{E_2}(\vec{x})\} \cup P_{E_1} \cup P_{E_2}$$

Clearly,  $E$  and  $P_E$  have the same answer, i.e. for any database  $DB$  and any constant tuple  $\vec{c}$ , we have  $\vec{c} \in M[E](DB)$  iff  $P_E^* \wedge DB^* \models Q_E(\vec{c})$ .  $\square$

# Current Status





# From nr-*Datalog*<sup>¬</sup> to DI Calculus

## Theorem

*For every query in non-recursive Datalog with negation there exists an equivalent domain-independent relational calculus query.*

## Proof idea.

- Let us assume an nr-*Datalog*<sup>¬</sup> program  $P$ .
- For every predicate  $R$  occurring in  $P$  we define a formula  $\varphi_{P,R}$ .
- $\varphi_{P,R}$  captures the query defined by the program  $P$  “restricted to predicate  $R$ ”, i.e., for any database  $DB$  the following are equal:
  - the answer to  $\{\vec{x} \mid \varphi_{P,R}(\vec{x})\}$ , where  $\vec{x}$  are the free variables of  $\varphi_{P,R}$ ;
  - the set of constant tuples  $\vec{c}$  with  $P^* \wedge DB^* \models R(\vec{c})$ .

# From nr-*Datalog*<sup>¬</sup> to DI Calculus (continued)

## Proof

W.l.o.g., we assume:

- $P$  has no constants and no multiple occurrences of variables in rule heads: this can be simulated using (fresh) variables and  $=$ .
- for every pair  $H_1(\vec{x}_1)$ ,  $H_2(\vec{x}_2)$  of head atoms in  $P$ ,  $H_1 = H_2$  implies  $\vec{x}_1 = \vec{x}_2$  (can be achieved by variable renaming)

Inductive definition of  $\varphi_{P,R}$ :

- (Base case) If  $R$  is a predicate that does not appear in the head of any rule in  $P$ , then  $\varphi_{P,R} = R(\vec{x})$ .
- (Inductive step) Choose a predicate  $Q$  in  $P$ , s.t. for all predicates  $W$  occurring in the body of some rule with head predicate  $Q$ , the formula  $\varphi_{P,W}$  has already been defined.

## Proof.

Suppose that the following are the rules with head predicate  $Q$ :

$$\begin{aligned} Q(\vec{x}) & :- \alpha_{0,0}, \dots, \alpha_{0,n_0} \\ & \vdots \\ Q(\vec{x}) & :- \alpha_{m,0}, \dots, \alpha_{m,n_m} \end{aligned}$$

Then we set

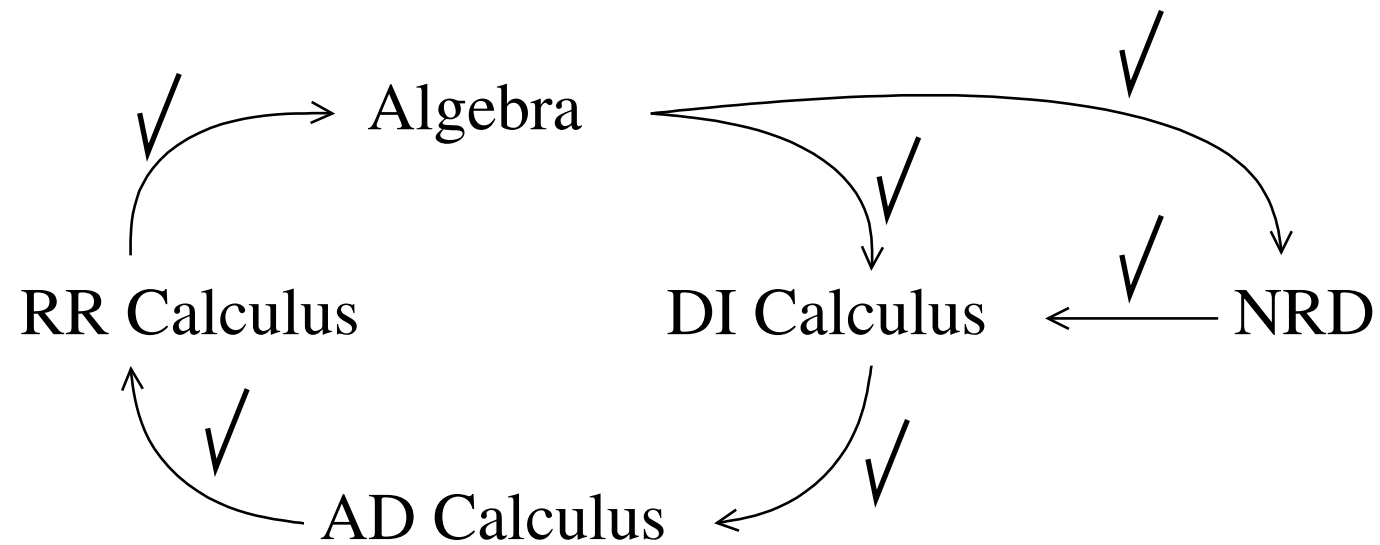
$$\varphi_{P,Q} = \bigvee_{i \in \{0, \dots, m\}} (\exists \vec{y}_i : \bigwedge_{j \in \{0, \dots, n_i\}} \beta_{i,j}),$$

where  $\vec{y}_i$  are the existential variables of the  $i$ th rule (i.e. the variables not occurring in the rule head), and

$$\beta_{i,j} = \begin{cases} \varphi_{P,W}(v) & \text{if } \alpha_{i,j} \text{ is an atom } W(v). \\ \neg \varphi_{P,W}(v) & \text{if } \alpha_{i,j} \text{ is an atom not } W(v). \end{cases}$$

□

# Current Status



# Aggregation-free SQL

Aggregation-free SQL is just a different format for expressing relational algebra queries:

## Theorem

*Relational algebra and aggregation-free SQL queries are equally expressive.*

# Learning objectives

## Understanding:

- the notion of domain-independence,
- the active domain semantics,
- the notion of range restricted queries,
- Codd's Theorem: equivalence of various relational query languages in terms expressive power.

More details: Serge Abiteboul, Richard Hull, Victor Vianu: Foundations of Databases. Chapter 5. Addison-Wesley 1995,