SQL Overview
Defining a Schema

CPSC 315 – Programming Studio

Project 1, Lecture 3

Slides adapted from those used by Jeffrey Ullman, via Jennifer Welch

Generations of Programming Languages

- 1st generation
  - Machine code
- 2nd generation
  - Human-readable but directly related to processor
    - Assembly language, C (sort of)
- 3rd generation
  - Abstraction from processor, easier for humans
    - Fortran, C/C++, Java, etc.
- 4th generation
  - Programming Language for specific task
    - e.g. SQL, Matlab
- 5th generation
  - Give constraints (goal), and result follows logically
    - e.g. Prolog

SQL

- Structured Query Language
- Database language used to manage and query relational databases
- A well-known, commonly used standard
  - Regularly updated
- Many extensions, variations
  - Platform-specific versions, etc.

SQL Elements

- Data Definition Language (DDL)
  - Supports creation of database schema
- Data Manipulation Language (DML)
  - Supports entering/removing data
- Querying Language
  - Supports query operations (don’t change data itself)
- Others:
  - Transaction control, Data control
Our Discussion of SQL

- Will highlight some of the structures and features of SQL
- Give you an idea of the basics of how it works
  - Reflects how relational databases work
  - Not meant to make you SQL programmers
- You will need to implement equivalent functions for parts of what we discuss

Database Schema

- The set of relations (tables) in the database.
- Create, delete, change tables

CREATE

- Define a relation

  CREATE TABLE <name> ( 
    <element list> 
  );

  element = <name> <type>

Element Types

- INT, INTEGER
  - Integers
- FLOAT, REAL
  - Floating-Point numbers
- CHAR(n)
  - Fixed-length string of n characters
- VARCHAR(n)
  - Variable-length string of up to n characters
- DATE
  - yyyy-mm-dd
- TIME
  - hh:mm:ss
CREATE TABLE HouseRep (  
    Name VARCHAR(80),  
    Party CHAR(10),  
    Birthdate DATE,  
    YearsInCongress INT,  
    Salary REAL  
);  

Example

CREATE TABLE HouseRep (  
    Name VARCHAR(80),  
    Party CHAR(10),  
    Birthdate DATE,  
    YearsInCongress INT,  
    Salary REAL,  
    PRIMARY KEY (Name)  
);  

Example

CREATE TABLE HouseRep (  
    Name VARCHAR(80),  
    Party CHAR(10),  
    Birthdate DATE,  
    YearsInCongress INT,  
    Salary REAL,  
    PRIMARY KEY (Name, Birthdate)  
);  

Example

Declaring Keys

• Keys declared within CREATE statement
• Key attributes functionally determine all other attributes in the relation
• List under PRIMARY KEY
  − Elements of primary key can not be NULL

Example

Declaring Keys

CREATE TABLE HouseRep (  
    Name VARCHAR(80),  
    Party CHAR(10),  
    Birthdate DATE,  
    YearsInCongress INT,  
    Salary REAL  
);
Other Element Modifiers

- UNIQUE
  - Placed after type
  - Only one tuple in that relation for each value (except NULL)
  - Can imply key if no primary key given
  - Can be NULL

- NOT NULL
  - Cannot take value NULL

- DEFAULT
  - Default value specified

Example

CREATE TABLE HouseRep (
    Name VARCHAR(80) UNIQUE,
    Party CHAR(10),
    Birthdate DATE NOT NULL,
    YearsInCongress INT
            DEFAULT 0,
    Salary REAL
            DEFAULT 120000.00
);

Other Table Modifications

- DROP <name>
  - Deletes that table

- ALTER TABLE <name> ADD <attribute>
  - Adds a new column to table

- ALTER TABLE <name> DROP <attribute>
  - Removes the column from the table

Views

- Views are a sort of “virtual table”, usually created as the result of a query
  - We'll discuss queries later

- Format:
  CREATE VIEW <name> AS <query>