Complements of Database Views: Uniqueness and Optimality Issues

Stephen J. Hegner Umeå University Department of Computing Science SE-901 87 Umeå, Sweden hegner@cs.umu.se http://www.cs.umu.se/~hegner Context: State-based database schemata: A *database schema* **D** is characterized by a set LDB(**D**) of *legal databases*.

Schemata, Databases, and Schema Morphisms

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 - However, the results are not limited to the relational model in any way.

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 - For the purposes of this work, views with identical congruences are considered to be *isomorphic*.

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- Support for this approach is the main focus of this presentation.

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Realization: A *realization* of (M_1, N_2) along Γ is a translation of $(\gamma(M_1), N_2)$ with respect to M_1 .

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- Familiar example: $\mathbf{E}_0 = (R[ABC], \{B \to C\}).$ View to be updated: $\Pi_{AB}^{\mathbf{E}_0} = (\mathbf{E}_0^{AB}, \pi_{AB}^{\mathbf{E}_0}).$ Natural complement: $\Pi_{BC}^{\mathbf{E}_0} = (\mathbf{E}_0^{BC}, \pi_{BC}^{\mathbf{E}_0}).$



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Observation: These three conditions are in general independent of one another.

Recall: $\mathbf{E}_0 = (R[ABC], \{B \to C\}).$ View to be updated: $\Pi_{AB}^{\mathbf{E}_0} = (\mathbf{E}_0^{AB}, \pi_{AB}^{\mathbf{E}_0}).$ Natural complement: $\Pi_{BC}^{\mathbf{E}_0} = (\mathbf{E}_0^{BC}, \pi_{BC}^{\mathbf{E}_0}).$

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- With the addition of A → C, a cover of the dependencies no longer embeds in the views, so these dependencies cannot be checked on a view-bv-view basis.

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- Theorem: Commuting congruences identifies precisely the conditions under which state invariance holds. \Box
 - A complement with commuting congruences is called a *meet complement*.

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Example: $\mathbf{E}_1 = (R[ABCDE], \{A \to D, B \to D, CD \to A, A \to E\}).$ View to be updated: $\Pi_{ABCF}^{\mathbf{E}_1} = (\mathbf{E}_1^{ABCE}, \pi_{ABCF}^{\mathbf{E}_1}).$

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R[A]	<i>S</i> [<i>A</i>]
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· · ·	
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New state of \mathbf{E}_2 : $M_2 = \{R(\mathbf{a}), R(\mathbf{a}')\}$ with constant complement $\Pi_{R\Delta S}^{\mathbf{E}_2}$.

 $\{R(a), R(a'), S(\pi')\}$ R[A] S[A] $\pi \frac{E_2}{R} \qquad \pi \frac{E_2}{R\Delta S}$ $R[A] \qquad R\Delta S[A]$ $R(a')\} \qquad \{T(a), T(a')\}$

 $\{R(\mathbf{a}), R(\mathbf{a}'), S(\mathbf{a}')\}$

R[A] S[A]

 $\pi_S^{\mathbf{E}_2}$

S[A]

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A Simple Example of the Nonuniqueness of Complements

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 But note that *update-set invariance* is satisfied — both complements support all view updates.

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 - In the relational model, morphisms which are defined without using negation (explicitly or implicitly) are order morphisms.

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Order-based update: An update which is representable as a composition of insertions and deletions.

The Uniqueness Theorem for Order-Based Updates

Order complement: $\Gamma' = (\mathbf{V}', \gamma')$ is an *order complement* of $\Gamma = (\mathbf{V}, \gamma)$ if $\gamma \times \gamma' : \text{LDB}(\mathbf{D}) \to \text{LDB}(\mathbf{V}) \times \text{LDB}(\mathbf{V}')$

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Theorem: Reflection invariance holds for order-based updates in an order-based context: the realization of an order-based view update is independent of the choice of order complement. \Box

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- Extend the schemata using null values.

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Reflection invariance: Updates which are possible with both complements must keep both constant R[A] only may change, with the same reflections in each case.

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- Clearly, there are tradeoffs.

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- Such a view consisting of multiple projections is called a $\sqrt{\Pi}$ -view.

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The Context of $\Partial \square$ -Views

 $\{B \rightarrow D, C \rightarrow D\}$

R[ABCD]

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- The two minimal complements $\Pi_{AB}^{\mathbf{E}_4}$ and $\Pi_{BC}^{\mathbf{E}_4}$ are related by an attribute equivalence $A \leftrightarrow B$ of keys.
- This is the only way that such non-isomorphic minimal complements can occur.



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Corollary If \mathcal{F} does not contain any nontrivial FD-equivalences $(\mathbf{Y} \neq \mathbf{Z})$, then $\Pi^{\mathbf{D}}_{\{\mathbf{W}_1,\mathbf{W}_2,...\mathbf{W}_m\}}$ has a unique optimal meet $\bigvee \Pi$ -complement. \Box

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• Certain useful cases of non-unary IDs can also be handled.

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Further Directions:

• Pursue a more general theory of optimal meet complements which is not dependent upon specific constraints and the relational model.