

#### Algorithms for answering queries using views

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- Step 1: we'll bound the space of possible query rewritings we need to consider (no comparisons)
- Step 2: we'll find efficient methods for searching the space of rewritings
  - Bucket Algorithm, MiniCon Algorithm
- Step 2b: we consider "logical approaches" to the problem:
  - The Inverse-Rules Algorithm



# Bounding the Rewriting Length ILLINOIS INSTITUTE

Theorem: if there is an equivalent rewriting, there is one with at most *n* subgoals.

 $Q(\overline{X}):-p_1(\overline{X_1}),...,p_n(\overline{X_n})$ Query:

Rewriting:  $Q'(\overline{X}):-V_1(\overline{X_1}),...,V_m(\overline{X_m})$ 

 $Q''(\overline{X}): -g_1^1,...,g_k^1,...,g_1^m,...,g_j^m$ Expansion:

Proof: Only *n* subgoals in Q can contribute to the image of the containment mapping  $\varphi$ 



### Complexity Result [LMSS, 1995]

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- · Applies to queries with no interpreted predicates.
- · Finding an equivalent rewriting of a query using views is NP-complete
- Need only consider rewritings of query length or
- · Maximally-contained rewriting:
  - Union of all conjunctive rewritings of length n or



# The Bucket Algorithm

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#### Key idea:

- Create a bucket for each subgoal g in the query.
- The bucket contains views that contribute to g.
- Create rewritings from the Cartesian product of the buckets (select one view for each goal)
- Step 1: assign views with renamed vars to buckets
- Step 2: create rewritings, refine them, until equivalent/all contained rewriting(s) are found



# The Bucket Algorithm

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#### Step 1:

- We want to construct buckets with views that have partially mapped variables
- For each goal g = R in query
- For each view V
- For each goal v = R in V
  - If the goal has head variables in the same places as g
    - rename the view head variables to match the query goal vars
    - choose a new unique name for each other var
    - add the resulting view atom to the bucket



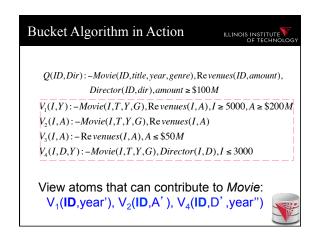
# The Bucket Algorithm

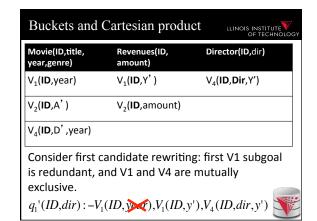
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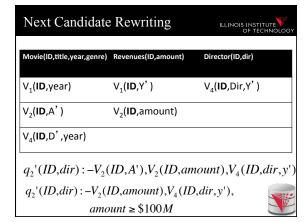
#### Step 1 Intuition

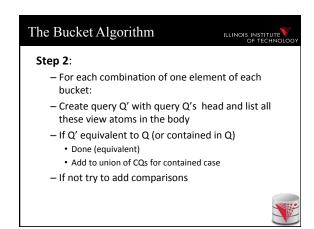
- A view can only be used to provide information about a goal R(X) if it has a goal R(Y)
  - Q(X) :- R(X,Y)
  - V(X) :- S(X,Y)
- If the query goal contains variables that are in the head of the guery, then the view is only useful if it gives access to these values (they are in the head)
  - Q(X) :- R(X,Y)
  - V(X) :- S(X,Y), R(Y,Z)



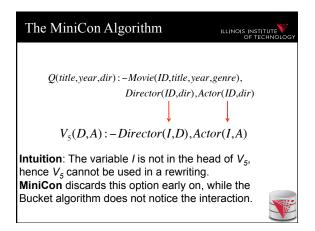








# Cuts down the number of rewriting that need to be considered, especially if views apply many interpreted predicates. The search space can still be large because the algorithm does not consider the interactions between different subgoals. See next example.



#### MinCon Algorithm Steps

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- 1) Create MiniCon descriptions (MCDs):
  - Homomorphism on view heads
  - Each MCD covers a set of subgoals in the query with a set of subgoals in a view
- 2) Combination step:
  - Any set of MCDs that covers the query subgoals (without overlap) is a rewriting
  - No need for an additional containment check!



# MiniCon Descriptions (MCDs)

An atomic fragment of the ultimate containment mappin

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Q(title, act, dir): -Movie(ID, title, year, genre),

Director(ID,dir),Actor(ID,act)

V(I,D,A): - Director(I,D), Actor(I,A)

MCD:  $ID \rightarrow I$  mapping:  $dir \rightarrow D$ 

 $act \rightarrow A$ 

covered subgoals of Q: {2,3}



#### MCDs: Detail 1

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Q(title, year, dir): -Movie(ID, title, year, genre),

Director(ID, dir), Actor(ID, dir)

V(I,D,A): - Director(I,D), Actor(I,A)

Need to specialize the view first:

V'(I,D,D): - Director(I,D), Actor(I,D)

MCD:  $ID \rightarrow I$  mapping:

 $dir \rightarrow D$ 

covered subgoals of Q: {2,3}



#### MCDs: Detail 2

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Q(title, year, dir): -Movie(ID, title, year, genre),

Director(ID,dir),Actor(ID,dir)

V(I,D,D): -Director(I,D), Actor(I,D),

Movie(I,T,Y,G)

Note: the third subgoal of the view is *not* included

in the MCD.

MCD:  $ID \rightarrow I$ 

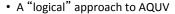
mapping:  $dir \rightarrow D$ 

covered subgoals of Q still: {2,3}



#### Inverse-Rules Algorithm

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- Produces maximally-contained rewriting in polynomial time
  - To check whether the rewriting is equivalent to the query, you still need a containment check.
- · Conceptually simple and elegant
  - Depending on your comfort with Skolem functions...



#### Inverse Rules by Example

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Given the following view:

 $V_7(I,T,Y,G)$ : - Movie(I,T,Y,G), Director(I,D), Actor(I,D)

And the following tuple in  $V_7$ :

V<sub>7</sub>(79, Manhattan, 1979, Comedy)

Then we can infer the tuple:

Movie(79, Manhattan, 1979, Comedy)

Hence, the following 'rule' is sound:

 $IN_1$ :  $Movie(I,T,Y,G) := V_7(I,T,Y,G)$ 



#### **Skolem Functions**

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 $V_7(I,T,Y,G)$ : - Movie(I,T,Y,G), Director(I,D), Actor(I,D)

Now suppose we have the tuple  $V_7(79,Manhattan,1979,Comedy)$ 

Then we can infer that there exists *some* director. Hence, the following rules hold (note that they both use the same Skolem function):

IN<sub>2</sub>: Director( $I, f_1(I, T, Y, G)$ ):-  $V_7(I, T, Y, G)$ IN<sub>3</sub>: Actor( $I, f_1(I, T, Y, G)$ ):-  $V_7(I, T, Y, G)$ 



#### Inverse Rules in General Rewriting = Inverse Rules + Query

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 $Q_2(title, year, genre) : -Movie(ID, title, year, genre)$ 

Given Q2, the rewriting would include:

 $IN_1$ ,  $IN_2$ ,  $IN_3$ ,  $Q_2$ .

Given input: V<sub>7</sub>(79,Manhattan,1979,Comedy) Inverse rules produce:

Movie(79,Manhattan,1979,Comedy)
Director(79, $f_1$ (79,Manhattan,1979,Comedy))
Actor(79, $f_1$ (79,Manhattan,1979,Comedy))
Movie(Manhattan,1979,Comedy)
(the last tuple is produced by applying  $Q_2$ ).



# Comparing Algorithms

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- · Bucket algorithm:
  - Good if there are many interpreted predicates
  - Requires containment check. Cartesian product can be big
- MiniCon:
  - Good at detecting interactions between subgoals



# Algorithm Comparison (Continued)

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- Inverse-rules algorithm:
  - Conceptually clean
  - Can be used in other contexts (see later)
  - But may produce inefficient rewritings because it "undoes" the joins in the views (see next slide)
- Experiments show MiniCon is most efficient.
- Even faster:

Konstantinidis, G. and Ambite, J.L., Scalable query rewriting: a graph-based approach. SIGMOD '11



#### Inverse Rules Inefficiency Example

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Query and view:

 $Q(X,Y):-e_1(X,Z),e_2(Z,Y)$ 

 $V(A,B): -e_1(A,C), e_2(C,B)$ 

Inverse rules:

 $e_1(A, f_1(A, B)) : -V(A, B)$ 

 $e_2(f_1(A,B),B):-V(A,B)$ 

Now we need to re-compute the join...



# View-Based Query Answering

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- Maximally-contained rewritings are parameterized by query language.
- More general question:
  - Given a set of view definitions, view instances and a query, what are all the answers we can find?
- We introduce certain answers as a mechanism for providing a formal answer.



