



CS520

Data Integration, Warehousing, and Provenance

8. Provenance

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8. What is Data Provenance?

- **Metadata describing the origin and creation process of data**
 - **Data items**
 - Data item **granularity**
 - **A File**
 - **A Database**
 - **An Attribute value**
 - **A Row**
 - **Transformations**
 - Transformation **granularity**
 - **A program**
 - **A query**
 - **An operator in a query**
 - **A line in a program**



8. What is Data Provenance?

- **Provenance records dependencies**
 - **Data dependencies**
 - Data item x was used to generate data item y
 - **Dependencies between transformations and data**
 - Transformations generated a data item
 - Transformations used a data item

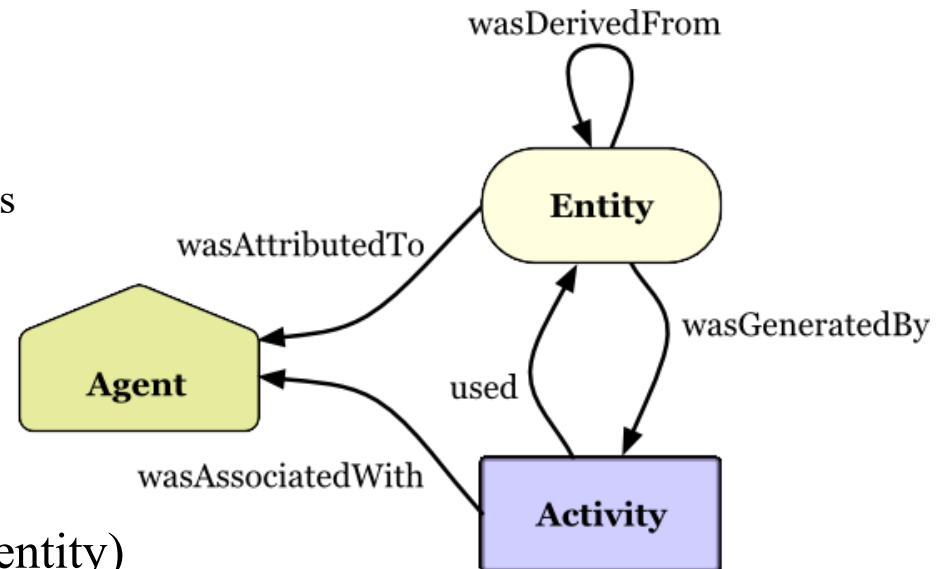


8. Provenance as graphs

- **Provenance graphs (W3C PROV standard)**
 - <https://www.w3.org/TR/2013/NOTE-prov-primer-20130430/>

- **Nodes**

- **Entities**
 - what we call data items
- **Activities**
 - what we call transformations
- **Agents**
 - Trigger / control activities
 - E.g., users and machines



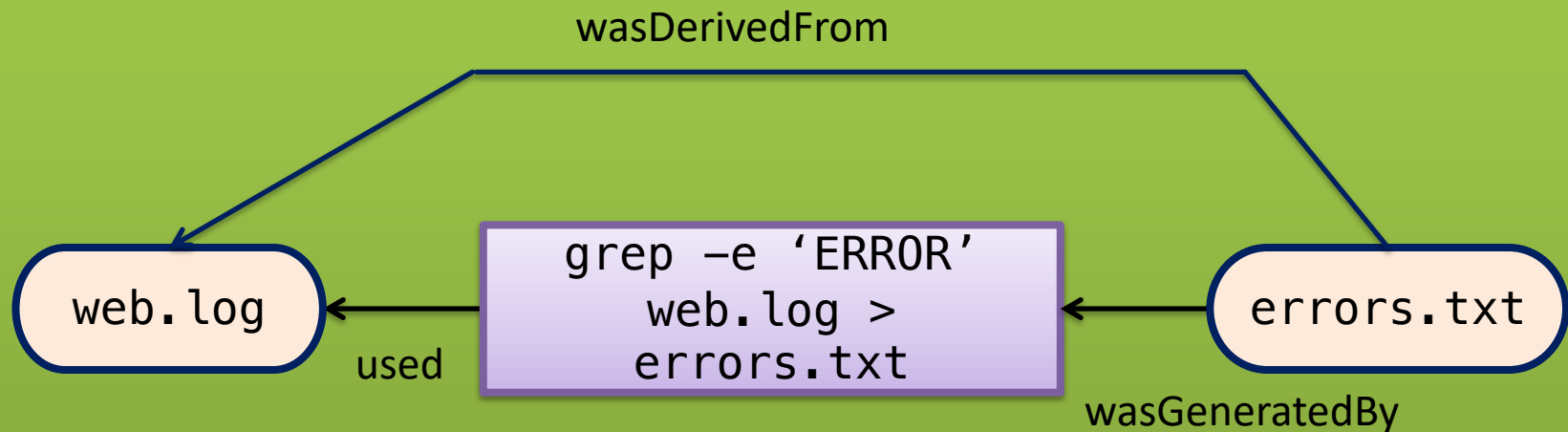
- **Edges**

- **wasDerivedFrom** (entity – entity)
 - Data dependencies
- **wasGeneratedBy** (activity – entity)
 - Transformation generated an output data item
- **used** (entity – activity)
 - Transformation read and input data item



8. PROV example

Example: find errors in a weblog with grep



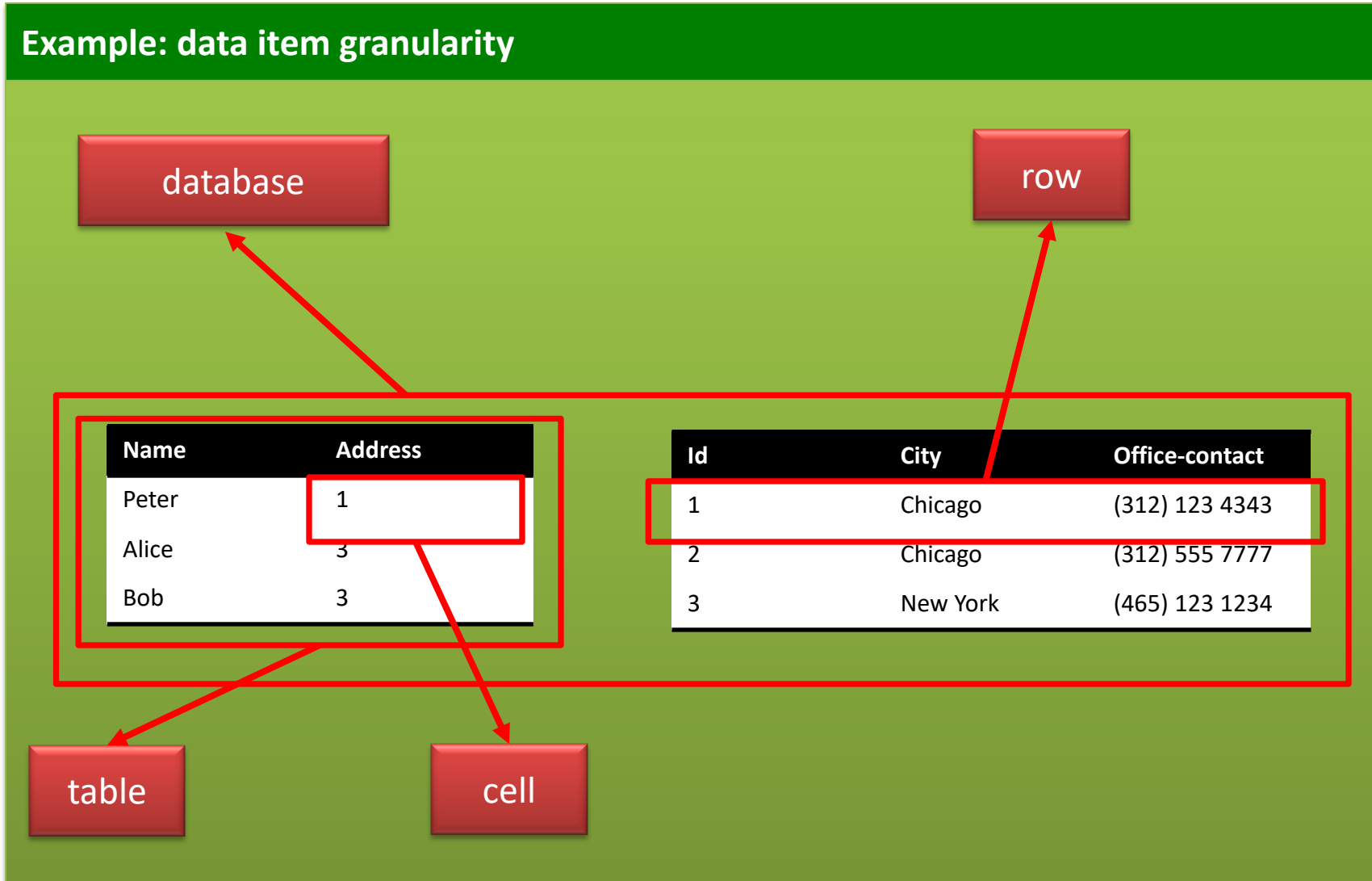
8. Provenance for Databases

- **Transformations**
 - SQL queries
 - Updates and transactions
 - Procedural code
- **Data items**
 - Databases
 - Tables
 - Rows
 - Cells (attribute value of a row)



8. Databases Prov. – Data items

Example: data item granularity



8. Provenance for Queries

- **Data dependencies**
 - For each **output tuple (cell)** of the query determine which **input tuples (cells)** of the query it depends on
- **Formally (kind of)**
 - Given database **D** and query **Q** and tuple **t** in **Q(D)**
 - **Prov(Q,D,t)** = the subset of **D** that was used to derive **t** through **Q**



8. Databases Prov. – Data items

Example: data item granularity

Name	City
Peter	Chicago
Alice	New York
Bob	New York

t

```
SELECT name, city  
FROM Person p, Address a  
WHERE p.address = a.id
```

Prov(Q,D,t)

Name	Address
Peter	1
Alice	3
Bob	3

Id	City	Office-contact
1	Chicago	(312) 123 4343
2	Chicago	(312) 555 7777
3	New York	(465) 123 1234



8. Formalizing data dependencies

- **How to formalize data dependencies?**
 - **Access**: query did read the data
 - **No! Everything depends on everything!**
 - **Sufficiency**: the provenance is enough to produce the result tuple t
 - t is in $Q(\text{Prov}(Q,D,t))$
 - Guarantees that everything that was needed to produce t is in the provenance



8. Sufficiency - Example

$\{p_1, a_1\}, \{p_1, a_1, a_2\}, \{p_1, a_1, a_3\},$
...
 $\{p_1, p_2, p_3, a_1, a_2, a_3\}$

Name	City
Peter	Chicago
Alice	New York
Bob	New York

t

```
SELECT name, city
FROM Person p, Address a
WHERE p.address = a.id
```

	Name	Address
p1	Peter	1
p2	Alice	3
p3	Bob	3

	Id	City	Office-contact
a1	1	Chicago	(312) 123 4343
a2	2	Chicago	(312) 555 7777
a3	3	New York	(465) 123 1234



8. Sufficiency cont.

- **Is sufficiency enough?**
 - No, sufficiency does not prevent irrelevant inputs to be included in the provenance!
 - Sufficiency does not uniquely define provenance
- **Monotone Queries**
 - A query Q is monotone if
$$\forall D, D' : D \subseteq D' \Rightarrow Q(D) \subseteq Q(D')$$
- **For all monotone queries Q :**
 - If D is sufficient then so is any superset of D
 - in particular the input database D is sufficient



8. Why provenance

- **Rationale:** define provenance as the set of all sufficient subsets of the input
 - this uniquely defines provenance
 - this does not solve the redundancy issue!
- **Why provenance:**

$$\text{Why}(Q, D, t) = \{D' \mid D' \subseteq D \wedge t \in Q(D')\}$$

- Each sufficient subset of D in the why provenance is called a witness



- **Rationale:**

- Remove tuples that do not contribute to the result
- If a subset of a witness is already sufficient then everything not in the subset is unnecessary and should be removed

- **Definition**

witness D' is minimal if $\forall D'' \subset D' : Q(D'') \neq Q(D)$



8. Minimal Why provenance

- **Minimal Why provenance:**
- Only include minimal witnesses

$$MWhy(Q, D, t) = \{D' \mid D' \in Why(Q, D, t) \wedge \nexists D'' \subset D' : D'' \in Why(Q, D, t)\}$$



8. Sufficiency - Example

$$MWhy(Q, D, T) = \{p_1, a_1\}$$

Name	City
Peter	Chicago
Alice	New York
Bob	New York

t

```
SELECT name, city  
FROM Person p, Address a  
WHERE p.address = a.id
```

	Name	Address
p1	Peter	1
p2	Alice	3
p3	Bob	3

	Id	City	Office-contact
a1	1	Chicago	(312) 123 4343
a2	2	Chicago	(312) 555 7777
a3	3	New York	(465) 123 1234



8. Why provenance - discussion

- **Independent of query syntax**
 - Queries are treated as blackbox functions
 - Equivalent queries have the same provenance!
- How to compute this efficiently?
 - The discussion so far only gives a brute force exponential time algorithm
 - For each subset D' of D test whether it is a witness
 - Then for every witness test whether it is minimal by testing for a subset relationship with all other witnesses
 - Top-down rules that calculate MWhy in a syntax driven manner



8. MWhy – top-down recursion

- Define top-down syntax-driven rules
 - calculate a set of witnesses
 - Minimizing the result of these rules returns MWhy

$$W(R, t, I) = \{\{t\}\}$$

$$W(\sigma_\theta(Q), t, I) = W(Q, t, I)$$

$$W(\pi_A(Q), t, I) = \bigcup_{u \in Q(I): u.A=t} W(Q, u, I)$$

$$W(Q_1 \bowtie_\theta Q_2, t, I) = \{(w_1 \cup w_2) \mid w_1 \in W(Q_1, t_1, I) \wedge w_2 \in W(Q_2, t_2, I) \wedge t = (t_1, t_2)\}$$

$$W(Q_1 \cup Q_2, t, I) = W(Q_1, t, I) \cup W(Q_2, t, I)$$



- **This works well for set semantics, but not bag semantics**
 - Minimization can lead to incorrect results with bag semantics
 - Treating the provenance as sets of tuples does not align well with bags
- **This only encodes data dependencies**
 - We know from which tuples we have derived a result, but not how the tuples were combined to produce the result



8. Semiring annotations - Agenda

- **We will now discuss a model that ...**
 - Provides provenance for both sets and bags
 - Allows us to track how tuples were combined
 - Can express many other provenance models including MWhy
 - Can also express bag and set semantics and other extensions of the relational model such as the incomplete databases we discussed earlier



- **Annotations**
 - Allow data to be associated with additional metadata
 - Comments from users
 - Trust annotations
 - Provenance
 - ...
 - Here we are interested in annotations on the tuples of a table



- **Annotation domain**

- We fix a set K of possible annotations

- Examples

- Powerset(Powerset(D)) = all possible sets of witnesses
 - We can annotate each tuple with its Why or MWhy provenance
 - Natural numbers
 - We can simulate bag semantics by annotating each tuple with its multiplicity
 - A set of possible world identifiers D_1 to D_n
 - Incomplete databases



- **K-relations**

- We fix a set \mathbf{K} of possible annotations
- \mathbf{K} has to have a distinguished element $\mathbf{0}_{\mathbf{K}}$
- Assume some data domain \mathbf{U}
- An n -ary \mathbf{K} -relation is a function

$$\mathcal{U}^n \rightarrow K$$

- We associate an annotation with every possible n -ary tuple
- $\mathbf{0}_{\mathbf{K}}$ is used to annotate tuples that are not in the relation
- Only finitely many tuples are allowed to be mapped to a non-zero annotation



8. Example – bag semantics

Bag Semantics

Name	Address
Peter	1
Peter	1
Peter	1
Alice	3
Alice	3
Bob	3

N-relation

Name	Address	Annotation
Peter	1	3
Alice	3	2
Bob	3	1



8. Example – set semantics

Bag Semantics

Name	Address
Peter	1
Peter	1
Peter	1
Alice	3
Alice	3
Bob	3

B-relation

Name	Address	Annotation
Peter	1	true
Alice	3	true
Bob	3	true

$$\mathbb{B} = \{false, true\}$$



8. Example – incomplete DBs

Incomplet Database

D_1

Name	Address
Peter	1
Peter	2
Bob	3

D_2

Name	Address
Peter	1
Alice	2
Bob	3

Ω -relation

Name	Address	Annotation
Peter	1	{D1,D2}
Peter	2	{D1}
Alice	2	{D2}
Bob	3	{D1,D2}

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega &= \mathcal{P}(\{D_1, D_2\}) \\ &= \{\emptyset, \{D_1\}, \{D_2\}, \{D_1, D_2\}\}\end{aligned}$$



8. Example – MWhy

MWhy

Name	Address
Peter	1
Peter	2
Bob	3

$$MWhy(p1) = \{\{x1\}\}$$

$$MWhy(p2) = \{\{x2,a1\},\{x3\}\}$$

$$Mwhy(p3) = \{\{x4,a1\},\{x4,a2\}\}$$

PosBool[X]-relation

Name	Address	Annotation
Peter	1	$\{\{x1\}\}$
Peter	2	$\{\{x2,a1\},\{x3\}\}$
Bob	3	$\{\{x4,a1\},\{x4,a2\}\}$

$$X = D$$

$$PosBool[X] = \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(X))$$



- **Annotated Databases are powerful**
 - We can many different types of information
 - However, what is the right query semantics?
 - e.g., bag and set semantics queries do not have the same semantics, let along queries over incomplete databases or calculating provenance
- **Query Semantics**
 - Split the query semantics into two parts
 - One part is generic and independent of the choice of K
 - One part is specific to the choice of K
 - \Rightarrow every K has to be paired with operations that define how annotations propagate through queries
 - The generic semantics uses these operations to calculate query result annotations



8. Semirings

- **A semiring** $\mathcal{K} = (K, \oplus_{\mathcal{K}}, \otimes_{\mathcal{K}}, 0_{\mathcal{K}}, 1_{\mathcal{K}})$
 - K is the set of elements of semiring
 - We use them as annotations
 - There are two binary operations
$$\oplus_{\mathcal{K}}, \otimes_{\mathcal{K}} : K \times K \rightarrow K$$
 - We will use them to combine annotations of input tuples
 - Addition will be used to model operations that are disjunctive in nature (union, projection)
 - Multiplication will be used to model operations that are conjunctive (join)
 - Two distinguished elements $0_{\mathcal{K}}, 1_{\mathcal{K}}$



8. Semiring Laws

• **A semiring** $\mathcal{K} = (K, \oplus_{\mathcal{K}}, \otimes_{\mathcal{K}}, 0_{\mathcal{K}}, 1_{\mathcal{K}})$

$$k_1 \oplus_{\mathcal{K}} k_2 = k_2 \oplus_{\mathcal{K}} k_1 \quad (\text{commutativity})$$

$$k_1 \oplus_{\mathcal{K}} (k_2 \oplus_{\mathcal{K}} k_3) = (k_1 \oplus_{\mathcal{K}} k_2) \oplus_{\mathcal{K}} k_3 \quad (\text{associativity})$$

$$k_1 \otimes_{\mathcal{K}} k_2 = k_2 \otimes_{\mathcal{K}} k_1 \quad (\text{commutativity})$$

$$k_1 \otimes_{\mathcal{K}} (k_2 \otimes_{\mathcal{K}} k_3) = (k_1 \otimes_{\mathcal{K}} k_2) \otimes_{\mathcal{K}} k_3 \quad (\text{associativity})$$

$$k \oplus_{\mathcal{K}} 0_{\mathcal{K}} = k \quad (\text{neutral element})$$

$$k \otimes_{\mathcal{K}} 1_{\mathcal{K}} = k \quad (\text{neutral element})$$

$$k \otimes_{\mathcal{K}} 0_{\mathcal{K}} = 0_{\mathcal{K}} \quad (\text{annihilation by zero})$$

$$k_1 \otimes_{\mathcal{K}} (k_2 \oplus_{\mathcal{K}} k_3) = (k_1 \otimes_{\mathcal{K}} k_2) \oplus (k_1 \otimes_{\mathcal{K}} k_3) \quad (\text{distributivity})$$



8. Semirings - Examples

$$\mathbb{N} = (\mathbb{N}, +, \cdot, 0, 1)$$

$$\mathbb{B} = (\mathbb{B}, \vee, \wedge, \textit{false}, \textit{true})$$

$$\mathcal{K}_{MWhy}[X] = (\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(X)), \cup, \uplus, \emptyset, \{\emptyset\})$$

$$\mathcal{K}_{\Omega}[X] = (\mathcal{P}(\Omega), \cup, \cap, \emptyset, \Omega)$$

$$\mathbb{N}[X] = (\mathbb{N}[X], +, \cdot, 0, 1)$$



8. Provenance Polynomials

- **Semiring** $\mathbb{N}[X] = (\mathbb{N}[X], +, \cdot, 0, 1)$
 - $\mathbb{N}[X]$ is the set of all polynomials over variables X
 - Intuitively X are tuple identifiers
 - **Provenance polynomials** are used to track provenance for **bag semantics!**
 - Provenance polynomials record how a result has been derived by combining input tuples
 - Multiplication means conjunctive use (as in join)
 - Addition means disjunctive use



- **Positive relational algebra (RA⁺)**

- Selection, projection, cross-product, renaming, union

Union: $(R_1 \cup R_2)(t) = R_1(t) \oplus_{\mathcal{K}} R_2(t)$

Join: $(R_1 \bowtie R_2)(t) = R_1(t[R_1]) \otimes_{\mathcal{K}} R_2(t[R_2])$

Projection: $(\pi_A(R))(t) = \bigoplus_{t=t'[A]} R(t')$

Selection: $(\sigma_{\theta}(R))(t) = R(t) \otimes_{\mathcal{K}} \theta(t)$

$$\theta(t) = \begin{cases} 0_{\mathcal{K}} & \text{if } t \models \theta \\ 1_{\mathcal{K}} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



8. Query Semantics - Bags

City	N
Chicago	1
New York	$1*1+1*1 = 2$

$\pi_{City}(\sigma_{address=id}(person \times address))$

Name	Address	N
Peter	1	1
Alice	3	1
Bob	3	1

Id	City	Office-contact	N
1	Chicago	(312) 123 4343	1
2	Chicago	(312) 555 7777	1
3	New York	(465) 123 1234	1



8. Query Semantics - MWhy

City	MWhy
Chicago	$\{\{x_1, x_4\}\}$
New York	$\{\{x_2, x_6\}, \{x_2, x_6\}\}$

$$\pi_{City}(\sigma_{address=id}(person \times address))$$

Name	Address	MWhy
Peter	1	$\{\{x_1\}\}$
Alice	3	$\{\{x_2\}\}$
Bob	3	$\{\{x_3\}\}$

Id	City	Office-contact	MWhy
1	Chicago	(312) 123 4343	$\{\{x_4\}\}$
2	Chicago	(312) 555 7777	$\{\{x_5\}\}$
3	New York	(465) 123 1234	$\{\{x_6\}\}$



8. Query Semantics - PP

City	N[x]
Chicago	$x_1 * x_4$
New York	$x_2 * x_6 + x_3 * x_6$

$\pi_{City}(\sigma_{address=id}(person \times address))$

Name	Address	N[X]
Peter	1	x_1
Alice	3	x_2
Bob	3	x_3

Id	City	Office-contact	N[X]
1	Chicago	(312) 123 4343	x_4
2	Chicago	(312) 555 7777	x_5
3	New York	(465) 123 1234	x_6



8. Provenance Polynomials - Computability

- Recall our requirements of sufficiency and minimality
- Provenance polynomials fulfill a stronger requirement: **computability**
 - Given the result of a query in $N[X]$, we can compute the query result in any other semiring K under a given assignment of input tuples (variables of the polynomials) to annotations from K



8. Query Semantics - PP

If (Peter,1) appears twice and (1,Chicao,312123434) appears once, then Chicago appears twice in the result

City	N[x]
Chicago	$x_1 * x_4 = 2 * 1 = 2$
New York	$x_2 * x_6 + x_3 * x_6 = 1 * 2 + 3 * 2 = 8$

$\pi_{City}(\sigma_{address=id}(person \times address))$

Name	Address	N[X]
Peter	1	$X_1 = 2$
Alice	3	$X_2 = 1$
Bob	3	$X_3 = 3$

Id	City	Office-contact	N[X]
1	Chicago	(312) 123 4343	$X_4 = 1$
2	Chicago	(312) 555 7777	$X_5 = 3$
3	New York	(465) 123 1234	$X_6 = 2$



8. Homomorphisms

- A function h from semiring K_1 to K_2 is a homomorphism if

$$h(k_1 \oplus_{\mathcal{K}_1} k_2) = h(k_1) \oplus_{\mathcal{K}_2} h(k_2)$$

$$h(k_1 \otimes_{\mathcal{K}_1} k_2) = h(k_1) \otimes_{\mathcal{K}_2} h(k_2)$$

$$h(0_{\mathcal{K}_1}) = 0_{\mathcal{K}_2}$$

$$h(1_{\mathcal{K}_1}) = 1_{\mathcal{K}_2}$$

- **Theorem:** Homomorphism commute with queries

$$Q(h(D)) = h(Q(D))$$

- **Proof Sketch:** queries are defined using semiring operations which commute with homomorphisms



8. Fundamental theorem

- **Theorem:** Homomorphism commute with queries

$$Q(h(D)) = h(Q(D))$$

- **Proof Sketch:** queries are defined using semiring operations which commute with homomorphisms
- **Theorem:** Any assignment $X \rightarrow K$ induces a semiring homomorphism $N[X] \rightarrow K$



- **Provenance is information about the origin and creation process of data**
 - Data dependencies
 - Dependencies between data and the transformations that generated it
- **Provenance for Queries**
 - **Correctness criteria:**
 - sufficiency, minimality, computability
 - **Provenance models:**
 - Why, MWhy, Provenance polynomials

