

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich



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Computational Thinking Exercise 7 (Databases)

1 Journal Article Database

The relation depicted in the following table contains information on articles published in scientific journals. Each article has a unique identifier (ID), a title, a name, issue and page number of the journal within which it was published. Also, if results of an article previously appeared in a technical report, the unique identifier (TR-ID) of this technical report is given. Each journal is published once a year. A new article always starts on a new page within a journal. You can assume that the endpage of an article is never smaller than the startpage. Answer the following questions based on the data in the table below.

| ID | title | journal | issue | year | startpage | endpage | TR-ID |
|----|----------------------------|---------|-------|------|-----------|---------|-------|
| 42 | Cuckoo Hashing | JAlg | 51 | 2004 | 121 | 133 | 87 |
| 33 | Deterministic Dictionaries | JAlg | 41 | 2001 | 69 | 85 | 62 |
| 33 | Deterministic Dictionaries | JAlg | 41 | 2001 | 69 | 85 | 56 |
| 39 | Dictionaries in less space | SICOMP | 31 | 2001 | 111 | 133 | 47 |
| 57 | P vs NP resolved | JACM | 51 | 2008 | 1 | 3 | 99 |
| 77 | What Gödel missed | SICOMP | 51 | 2008 | 1 | 5 | 98 |
| 78 | What Gödel missed | Nature | 2222 | 2008 | 22 | 22 | 98 |

a) A superkey is a set of columns whose entries uniquely identify every row in the table. A candidate key is a minimal superkey, i.e. if you remove any column from the candidate key, you will not be able to uniquely identify every row.

Which of the sets below are candidate keys for the given table?

- 1. {ID}
- 2. {ID,TR-ID}
- 3. {title}
- 4. {title, year, journal}
- 5. {ID,title,TR-ID}
- 6. {startpage,journal,issue}
- b) Which of these SQL statements are invalid?
 - SELECT * FROM Articles WHERE endpage startpage > 10;
 - 2. SELECT * FROM Articles WHERE endpage startpage < 0;
 - SELECT SUM(title) FROM Articles;
 - 4. SELECT AVG(year) FROM Articles WHERE title LIKE 'C%';
 - 5. SELECT COUNT(*) FROM Articles GROUP BY year;
 - 6. SELECT year, COUNT(*) FROM Articles WHERE COUNT(*) > 10 GROUP BY year;
- c) How many rows does this query return for the given table?

SELECT DISTINCT ID FROM Articles WHERE year < 2006;

2 Database Design

Swiss cat and dog owners are required by law to microchip their pets. This greatly improves the chances of successful pet discovery in case the pet has run away or was stolen. The Animal Identity Service (ANIS) is a company that operates the Swiss animal database and allows veterinarians, animal shelters and police stations access if they are trying to find owners of lost pets. Unfortunately, the ANIS website was vulnerable to SQL injection attacks and an evil attacker managed to delete the entire database including all backups. Let's help them reconstruct their lost data!

- For each animal ANIS wishes to provide name and microchip id
- Every animal has exactly one owner. For each owner ANIS wishes to provide a name, an address, a phone number, and an email address
- To ensure the safety of a found animal at a shelter, ANIS provides additional information by recording any number of allergies the animal may have. We store a unique identifier for every possible allergy including its name and a number from 1 to 5 which indicates how strongly the allergy in question afflicts the animal.
- To help protect against animal microchip tampering and replacement, ANIS provides information about the type (cat, dog or other) and about any possible breed (Rottweiler, Norwegian Forest Cat, etc.) of the animal in question (note that some animals may belong to multiple breeds). For every distinct animal type or breed we store a unique identifier including the type or breed's name.

Draw an Entity Relationship Diagram for the data set described above. Make sure that you specify all cardinality constraints and that the resulting tables do not contain redundant entity sets, relationships, or attributes. Please include all made assumptions in your answer. Don't forget to assign primary key and foreign key constraints and mark attributes as unique wherever necessary.