# View-based query processing 

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EPIT 2019
Thursday, April, 11th

Introduction

## View-based query processing

 General setting

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Scenario : query optimization and caching


## View-based query processing



## View-based query procesing

Scenario : virtual data integration

Source databases
Virtual database

Views

## View definition, view image, view instance

Let $\sigma$ and $\tau$ be two database schemas.
■ View definition (or simply view): A view definition $\mathbf{V}$ from $\sigma$ to $\tau$ is a set of queries over $\sigma$ indexed by $\tau$ :

$$
\mathbf{V}=\left\{Q_{b} \mid b \in \tau\right\}
$$

such that:

$$
\forall b \in \tau, \quad \operatorname{arity}(b)=\operatorname{arity}\left(Q_{b}\right)
$$

■ View instance: A view instance $E$ is a database over $\tau$.

■ View image: Given a database $D$ over $\sigma$ and a view $\mathbf{V}$ from $\sigma$ to $\tau$, the view image of $D, \mathbf{V}(D)$, is a view instance such that:

$$
\forall b \in \tau, \bar{x} \in D, \quad \bar{x} \in b(\mathbf{V}(D)) \Leftrightarrow \bar{x} \in Q_{b}(D)
$$

## Example: view definition, view image, view instance

$$
\sigma=\{b, f, w\}
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Database $D$ over $\sigma$

## Example: view definition, view image, view instance

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$$
\tau=\{g, s\}
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Database $D$ over $\sigma$


View image $\mathbf{V}(D)$ over $\tau$

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View instance $E$ over $\tau$

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Is $E$ the image of some database $D$ through $\mathbf{V}$ ?


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We failed virtual data integration $\rightarrow$ the two myths are incompatible

## Testing view consistency

```
Problem : View consistency
Input : A view V from \sigma to }\tau\mathrm{ , a view instance E
Question : Is there some D over \sigma such that V (D)=E
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## Testing view consistency

## Problem : View consistency for language $\mathcal{L}$ Infut : An $\mathcal{L}$-view $\mathbf{V}$ from $\sigma$ to $\tau$, a view instance E Question : Is there some $D$ over $\sigma$ such that $\mathbf{V}(D)=E$ ?

## Testing view consistency

- Combined complexity:

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { Problem } & : \text { View Consistency for language } \mathcal{L} \\
\text { Input } & : \text { An } \mathcal{L} \text {-view } \mathbf{V} \text { from } \sigma \text { to } \tau \text {, a view instance } \mathrm{E} \\
\text { Question } & : \\
\text { Is there some } D \text { over } \sigma \text { such that } \mathbf{V}(D)=E \text { ? }
\end{array}
$$

- Data complexity:

Let $\mathbf{V}$ be a fixed view from $\sigma$ to $\tau$ in some language $\mathcal{L}$ :

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { Problem } & : \text { View Consistency }(\mathbf{V}) \\
\text { Input } & : \text { A view instance } \mathrm{E} \\
\text { Question } & : \text { Is there some } D \text { over } \sigma \text { such that } \mathbf{V}(D)=E \text { ? }
\end{array}
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## Example: how hard is testing consistency?

$$
\sigma=\{c, e, p\}
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\sigma=\{c, e, p\} \quad \mathbf{V}=\left\{\begin{array}{c}
Q_{\mathrm{edge}}(x, y)=e(x, y) \\
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$Q_{\text {error }}$ should show if there is a coloring error... but it is empty.

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$Q_{\text {error }}$ should show if there is a coloring error... but it is empty.
The view instance is consistent iff the graph is 3-colorable!

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Short answer: it's hard, even for simple languages and in data complexity.

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## Theorem [Abiteboul, Duschka]

There exists a fixed view $\mathbf{V}$ defined using conjunctive queries such that View Consistency(V) is NP-complete.

Our proof sketch easily extends to UCQ, RPQ, CRPQ...

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Theorem [Abiteboul, Duschka]
There exists a fixed view $\mathbf{V}$ defined using conjunctive queries such that View Consistency $(\mathbf{V})$ is NP-complete.

Our proof sketch easily extends to UCQ, RPQ, CRPQ...

The problem quickly becomes undecidable for more expressive languages.
Theorem [Abiteboul, Duschka]
There exists a fixed view $\mathbf{V}$ defined using Datalog queries such that View Consistency $(\mathbf{V})$ is undecidable.

This also holds for context-free path queries, first-order queries...

## Certain answers

## Example: answering queries using views

$$
\sigma=\{b, f, w\} \quad \mathbf{V}=\left\{\begin{array}{c}
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Can we answer $Q(x, y)=w(x, y)$ based on the view instance?
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- $w$ (Athena, Ares) $? \quad \rightarrow$ possible, but no guarantee...
- w(Rhea, Cronus)?
$\rightarrow$ she has to be the wife of some grandfather
$\rightarrow$ Cronus is a candidate; could there be another?


## Answering queries using views

Given: $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\mathbf{V}: \text { view from } \sigma \text { to } \tau \\ E: \text { view instance over } \tau \\ Q: \text { query over } \sigma\end{array}\right.$

- Certain answers:

$$
\operatorname{cert}_{Q, \mathbf{V}}(E)=\bigcap_{D \mid \mathbf{V}(D)=E} Q(D)
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## Answering queries using views

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- Certain answers under the exact view assumption:

$$
\operatorname{cert}_{Q, V}^{\text {exact }}(E)=\bigcap_{D \mid \vee(D)=E} Q(D)
$$

- Certain answers under the sound view assumption:

$$
\operatorname{cert}_{Q, \mathrm{~V}}^{\text {sound }}(E)=\bigcap_{D \mid \vee(D) \supseteq E} Q(D)
$$

## The problem(s) of computing certain answers

```
Problem : Certain answers
    A view V from }\sigma\mathrm{ to }\tau\mathrm{ ,
InPUT : A query Q over }\sigma\mathrm{ ,
    A view instance E and }\overline{u}\in
QUEStion : }\overline{u}\in\mp@subsup{\operatorname{cert}}{Q,v}{v}(E)\mathrm{ ?
```


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## The problem(s) of computing certain answers

- Combined complexity:

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Input : An \mathcal{L}
    A view instance E and }\overline{u}\in
Question : }\overline{u}\in\mp@subsup{\operatorname{cert}}{Q,V}{\mathrm{ exact }}(E)?\quad\overline{u}\in\mp@subsup{\operatorname{certr}}{Q,v}{\mathrm{ sound}}(E)
```

- Data complexity:

Let $\mathbf{V}$ be a fixed view from $\sigma$ to $\tau$ and $Q$ be a fixed query over $\sigma$ :

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { Problem } & : \\
\text { Certain answers }(Q, \mathbf{V}) \\
\text { Input } & : \\
\text { A view instance } E \text { and } \bar{u} \in E \\
\text { Question } & : \bar{u} \in \operatorname{cert}_{Q, V}^{\text {exact }}(E) ? \quad \bar{u} \in \operatorname{certr}_{Q, V}^{\text {sound }}(E) ?
\end{array}
$$

## Example: how hard is computing certain answers?

$$
\sigma=\{c, e, p\}
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$$
\mathbf{V}=\left\{\begin{array}{c}
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- Exact view: $Q_{\text {error }}$ is certain iff the graph is not 3-colorable!


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- Exact view: $Q_{\text {error }}$ is certain iff the graph is not 3-colorable!

■ Sound view: we can always invent more colors!

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- cert ${ }^{\text {exact }}$ is closely related to testing consistency. (it's usually equivalent to testing inconsistency)
- cert ${ }^{\text {sound }}$ is usually easier (but not strictly) than cert ${ }^{\text {exact }}$

Some results from [Abiteboul, Duschka'98]:

| quew | CQ | $\mathrm{CQ}^{\neq}$ | Datalog | FO |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| CQ | PTime/CoNP | CONP | PTime/CoNP | Undec. |
| CQ $\neq$ | PTime/coNP | CONP | PTime/coNP | Undec. |
| Datalog | CONP/Undec. | Undec. | Undec. | Undec. |
| FO | Undec. | Undec. | Undec. | Undec. |

Complexity of answering queries using sound or exact views.

## Determinacy and rewriting

## Example: determinacy and rewriting

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\sigma=\{b, f, w\} \quad \mathbf{V}=\left\{\begin{array}{c}
Q_{s 1}(x)=\exists z \cdot x \xrightarrow{w} z \\
Q_{s 2}(x)=\exists z \cdot z \xrightarrow{w} x \\
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Yes! Rhea is the grandmother of Athena.
And nothing else: possible and certain answers coincide.

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There is no way to match husbands and wives...
Nothing is certain and every match is possible.

## Example: determinacy and rewriting (2)

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\sigma=\{b, f, w\} \quad \mathbf{V}=\left\{\begin{array}{c}
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- Yes! Rhea is grandmother to Ares and Athena, and Hera to Phobos. And nothing else: possible and certain answers coincide.
- Better yet: this is a static property of $\mathbf{V}$ and $Q$.
- $Q$ can be rewritten as $R(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{w} z \xrightarrow{g f} y$ over $\tau$.


## Determinacy and rewriting

Let $\mathbf{V}$ be a view from $\sigma$ to $\tau$ and $Q$ be a query over $\sigma$.

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Thus possible and certain answers coincide both with $Q(D)$.

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- Rewriting: A rewriting of $Q$ using $\mathbf{V}$ is a query $R$ over $\tau$ such that:
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The existence of a rewriting immediately implies that $\mathbf{V} \rightarrow Q$.

## Example: proving non-determinacy

$$
\sigma=\{a\} \quad \mathbf{V}=\left\{Q_{a_{3}}(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a} z \xrightarrow{a} z^{\prime} \xrightarrow{a} y\right\} \quad \tau=\left\{a_{3}\right\}
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$$
\mathbf{V}(D)=\mathbf{V}\left(D^{\prime}\right) \text { but } Q(D)=\{(\bullet, \bullet)\} \text { and } Q\left(D^{\prime}\right)=\emptyset
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## Example: proving determinacy

$$
\sigma=\{a\} \quad \mathbf{V}=\left\{Q_{\mathrm{a}_{2}}(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a^{2}} y\right\} \quad \tau=\left\{a_{2}\right\}
$$

How to prove that $\mathbf{V}$ determines $Q(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a^{4}} y$ ?
$\rightarrow$ By providing a rewriting of $Q$ using $\mathbf{V}$

$$
R(x, y)=\exists z \cdot a_{2}(x, z) \wedge a_{2}(z, y)
$$

$Q(D) \subseteq R(\mathbf{V}(D))$
$R(\mathbf{V}(D)) \subseteq Q(D) \checkmark$


## Example: it's not always that simple...

$$
\sigma=\{a\} \quad \mathbf{V}=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
Q_{a_{3}}(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a^{3}} y \\
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\end{array}\right\} & \tau=\left\{a_{3}, a_{4}\right\} \\
\text { Does } \mathbf{V} \text { determine } Q(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a^{5}} y ?
\end{array}
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$a_{4}$

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## On the relationship between determinacy and rewriting(s)

Let $\mathbf{V}$ be a view from $\sigma$ to $\tau$ and $Q$ be a query over $\sigma$.
Reminder: if there exists $R$ such that $Q(D)=R(\mathbf{V}(D))$, then $\mathbf{V} \rightarrow Q$. What about the converse?

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But there can be more, as we have seen in previous examples.

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Does there always exist one?
Yes! cert ${ }_{Q, v}$ is always a rewriting.
But there can be more, as we have seen in previous examples.
Rewritings can differ in behavior and complexity outside of view images.

## Example: different rewritings of varying complexity

$$
\sigma=\{c, e, p\} \quad \mathbf{V}=\left\{\begin{array}{c}
Q_{\text {edge }}(x, y)=e(x, y) \\
Q_{\text {peletel }}(x)=p(x) \\
Q_{\text {color }}(x)=\exists z \cdot p(z) \wedge c(x, z) \\
Q_{\text {error }}(x, y)=\exists z \cdot c(x, z) \wedge c(y, z) \wedge e(x, y)
\end{array}\right\}
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$$
R_{1}(x)=x \in \operatorname{cert}_{Q, v}(E)
$$

$$
R_{2}(x)=\operatorname{palette}(x) \wedge \operatorname{error}()
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$R_{1}(x)=x \in \operatorname{cert}_{Q, \mathbf{v}}(E)$
(check if the graph is 3 -colorable)
$R_{2}(x)=\operatorname{palette}(x) \wedge$ error ()
(trust the view instance)

## Some problems around determinacy and rewritings

```
Problem : Determinacy for languages }\mathcal{L}\mathrm{ and }\mp@subsup{\mathcal{L}}{}{\prime
Input: An \mathcal{L}\mathrm{ -view V and an }\mp@subsup{\mathcal{L}}{}{\prime}\mathrm{ -query }Q
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\text { Question } & : \text { Does } \mathbf{V} \rightarrow Q \text { ? }
\end{array}
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Problem : $\mathcal{P}$-Rewriting for languages $\mathcal{L}$ and $\mathcal{L}^{\prime}$
Input : An $\mathcal{L}$-view $\mathbf{V}$ and an $\mathcal{L}^{\prime}$-query $Q$ st $\mathbf{V} \rightarrow Q$
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## Example:

■ Is there a rewriting that can be expressed in first-order logic?

- Is there a rewriting with PTime evaluation complexity?
- Is there a rewriting that is monotone?


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Short answer: it's hard, even for simple query and view languages.

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Some results over graphs:

- [Gluch et al'19]: Determinacy is undecidable for finite RPQs.
- [F., Segoufin, Sirangelo'15]: Monotone rewritings of RPQ queries using RPQ views can be expressed in Datalog.
(Existence is ExpSpace-complete, using [Calvanese et al'02])


## Some open problems

## Question 1

In which language can we rewrite CQ queries using CQ views?

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## Question 2

In which language can we rewrite RPQ queries using RPQ views?

## Question 3

Is determinacy decidable for chain queries and disjunctive chain views?

## One last example

## Example: disjunctive chain queries - the Chase

$$
\begin{gathered}
\sigma=\{a\} \\
\tau=\{(2),(1,2)\}
\end{gathered} \quad \mathbf{V}=\left\{\begin{array}{c}
Q_{2}(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a^{2}} y \\
Q_{1,2}(x, y)=(x \xrightarrow{a} y) \vee\left(x \xrightarrow{a^{2}} y\right)
\end{array}\right\}
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\tau=\{(2),(1,2)\} \quad \mathbf{V}=\left\{\begin{array}{c}
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Q_{1,2}(x, y)=(x \xrightarrow{a} y) \vee\left(x \xrightarrow{a^{2}} y\right)
\end{array}\right\}, ~
\end{gathered}
$$

Does $\mathbf{V}$ determine $Q(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a} y$ ?

## Example: disjunctive chain queries - the Chase

$$
\begin{gathered}
\sigma=\{a\} \\
\tau=\{(2),(1,2)\}
\end{gathered} \quad \mathbf{V}=\left\{\begin{array}{c}
Q_{2}(x, y)=x \stackrel{a^{2}}{\longrightarrow} y \\
Q_{1,2}(x, y)=(x \xrightarrow{a} y) \vee\left(x \xrightarrow{a^{2}} y\right)
\end{array}\right\}
$$

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Does $\mathbf{V}$ determine $Q(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a^{5}} y$ ?

## Example: disjunctive chain queries - a rewriting

$$
\begin{gathered}
\sigma=\{a\} \\
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\end{gathered}
$$

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$$

$$
\text { Does } \mathbf{V} \text { determine } Q(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a^{5}} y \text { ? }
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& R\left(x_{0}, x_{5}\right)=\exists x_{2}, x_{3} \cdot \\
& a_{2}\left(x_{0}, x_{2}\right) \wedge a_{2}\left(x_{3}, x_{5}\right) \\
& \cdot a_{2,3}\left(x_{2}, x_{5}\right) \\
& \cdot \forall z \cdot a_{1,2}\left(z, x_{2}\right) \Rightarrow\left(a_{2}\left(z, x_{2}\right) \vee a_{2}\left(z, x_{3}\right)\right)
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## Example: disjunctive chain queries - homework

$$
\mathbf{V}=\left\{\begin{array}{c}
Q_{2}(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a^{2}} y \\
Q_{1,2}(x, y)=(x \xrightarrow{a} y) \vee\left(x \xrightarrow{a^{2}} y\right) \\
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\end{array}\right\}
$$

Can you prove that $\mathbf{V}$ does not determine $Q(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a^{9}} y$ ?

## Example: disjunctive chain queries - homework

$$
\mathbf{V}=\left\{\begin{array}{c}
Q_{2}(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a^{2}} y \\
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\end{array}\right\}
$$

Can you prove that $\mathbf{V}$ does not determine $Q(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a^{9}} y$ ?

I know a proof...

## Example: disjunctive chain queries - homework

$$
\mathbf{V}=\left\{\begin{array}{c}
Q_{2}(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a^{2}} y \\
Q_{1,2}(x, y)=(x \xrightarrow{a} y) \vee\left(x \xrightarrow{a^{2}} y\right) \\
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\end{array}\right\}
$$

Can you prove that $\mathbf{V}$ does not determine $Q(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a^{9}} y$ ?

I know a proof...
...and it's ugly...

## Example: disjunctive chain queries - homework

$$
\tau=\left\{a_{2}, a_{1,2}, a_{2,5}\right\} \quad \mathbf{V}=\left\{\begin{array}{c}
Q_{2}(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a^{2}} y \\
Q_{1,2}(x, y)=(x \xrightarrow{a} y) \vee\left(x \xrightarrow{a^{2}} y\right) \\
Q_{2,5}(x, y)=\left(x \xrightarrow{a^{2}} y\right) \vee\left(x \xrightarrow{a^{5}} y\right)
\end{array}\right\}
$$

Can you prove that $\mathbf{V}$ does not determine $Q(x, y)=x \xrightarrow{a^{9}} y$ ?

I know a proof...
...and it's ugly...
If you think you have an elegant proof, come talk to me!

## Announcement

If you want to know more...

## Announcement

If you want to know more... come work with us!

## Announcement

If you want to know more... come work with us!
1 -year postdoc funding at Marne-la-Vallée

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## Thank you!


[^0]:    $y^{\circ}$

