

# Query Processing over Incomplete Autonomous Databases



Garrett Wolf (Arizona State University) Hemal Khatri (MSN Live Search) Bhaumik Chokshi (Arizona State University) Jianchun Fan (Amazon) Yi Chen (Arizona State University) Subbarao Kambhampati (Arizona State University)



## Introduction

- More and more data is becoming accessible via web servers which are supported by backend databases
  - E.g. Cars.com, Realtor.com, Google Base, Etc.



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#### ARIZONA STATE **Incompleteness in Web Databases** Title **Inaccurate Extraction /** 2006 Accord for Sale **Recognition** Details Include additional **Incomplete Entry** details Price: \$15000 per item Number-unit for your item Price type: Negotiable (Click a field name to Text include Quantity: 1 it with your item.) Number Year: 2006 **Heterogeneous Schemas** remove this Color Number Door count Vehicle Type: remove this Car Drivetrain Text Engine e.g. "Car" Latitude -Condition: Used remove this Longitude Text e.g. "Used" Mileage **User-defined Schemas** ✓ remove this Model: accord Transmissio Trim remove this Make: Vin Create your own. Website **# of Attributes** Incomplete % **Total Tuples Body Style % Engine %** AutoTrader.com 13 25127 33.67% 3.6% 8.1% 14 32564 98.74% 55.7% CarsDirect.com 55.8% **Google Base** 203 +580993 100% 83.36% 91.98%

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## Problem

High Precision Low Recall

 Current autonomous database systems only return *certain answers*, namely those which exactly satisfy all the user query constraints.



Want a 'Honda Accord' with a 'sedan' body style for under '\$12,000'







## **Possible Naïve Approaches**

## Query Q: (Body Style = Convt)

- 1. **CERTAINONLY:** Return certain answers only as in traditional databases, namely those having Body Style = Convt
- 2. ALLRETURNED: Null matches any concrete value, hence return all answers having Body Style = Convt along with answers having body style as null
- 3. ALLRANKED: Return all answers having Body Style = Convt. Additionally, rank all answers having body style as null by predicting the missing values and return them to the user











# Core Techniques

Peripheral Techniques

Implementation & Evaluation

Conclusion & Future Work

## **The QPIAD Solution**

### <u>Given a query Q:( *Body=Convt* ) retrieve all relevant tuples</u>

Id	Make	Model	Year	Body			Base F	Base Result Set			
1	Audi	A4	2001	Convt		Id	Make	Model	Year	Body	
2	BMW	Z4	2002	Convt		1	Audi	A4	2001	Convt	
3	Porsche	Boxster	2005	Convt		2	BMW	Z4	2002	Convt	
4	BMW	Z4	2003	NULL		3	Porsche	Boxster	2005	Convt	
5	Honda	Civic	2004	NULL			RN				
6	Toyota	Camry	2002	Sedan		FD: N	lodel~> Bo	dv style			
7	Audi	A4	2006	NULL							
Ranked Relevant Uncertain Answers			sed sion	Select	Top K Re	written A4	Queries REWRITE				
Id	Make	Model	Year	Body Co	nfide	ıce	Q <sub>2</sub>	$_{3}'$ : Model=	Boxster		
4	BMW	Z4	2003	NULL	0.7						
7	Audi	A4	2006	NULL	0.3			EXPLA	N		

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P(Model=Accord | Make=Honda, Body=Coupe)

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NULL

2001

Coupe

Honda

## **Rewriting to Retrieve Relevant Uncertain Results**

### What is hard?

- Retrieving relevant uncertain tuples with missing values
- Rewriting queries given the limited query access patterns

AFD: Model~> Body

- Given an AFD and Base Set, it is likely that tuples with
  - 1) Model of A4, Z4 or Boxster
  - 2) Body of NULL

are actually convertible.

- Generate rewritten queries for each distinct Model:
  - Q1': Model=A4
  - Q2': Model=Z4
  - Q3': Model=Boxster

### Base Set for Q:(Body=Convt)

Make	Model	Year	Body
Audi	A4	2001	Convt
BMW	<b>Z4</b> 2002		Convt
Porsche	Boxster	2005	Convt
BMW	Z4	2003	Convt

## **Selecting/Ordering Top-K Rewritten Queries**

- What is hard?
  - Retrieving precise, non-empty result sets
  - Working under source-imposed resource limitations
- Select top-k queries based on F-Measure

P – Estimated Precision R – Estimated Recall

$$F_{\alpha} = \frac{(1+\alpha) \cdot (P \cdot R)}{(\alpha \cdot P + R)}$$

Reorder queries based on Estimated precision

$$F_0 = \frac{P \cdot R}{R} = P$$

All tuples returned for a single query are ranked equally

- Retrieves tuples in order of their final ranks
  - No need to re-rank tuples after retrieving them!

## **Explaining Results to the Users**

- What is hard?
  - Gaining the user's trust
  - Generating meaningful explanations

### **Explanations based on AFDs.**

Make Honda	Model Accord	Year 2001	Price \$10,500	Color Silver	Body Sedan	Explanation	This ca Model Make=H	ar is 8 =Acco Ionda	3% likely to have ord given that its and Body=Sedan
Honda	Accord	2002	\$11,200	White	Coupe				
Honda	Accord	1999	\$9,000	Green	Sedan			<u>Prov</u>	vide to the user:
?	Accord	2001	\$11,700	Red	Sedan	This car is 100% likely to have that its Model=Accord	<mark>da</mark> given	$\checkmark$	Certain Answers
Honda	?	2000	\$10,100	Blue	Sedan	This car is <mark>83%</mark> likely to have <mark>Model=Acco</mark> that its <mark>Make=Honda</mark> and <mark>Body=Sedan</mark>	ord given	$\checkmark$	Relevant Uncertair
Honda	Accord	1999	?	Black	Sedan	This car is <mark>71%</mark> likely to have <mark>Price&lt;\$12,00</mark> that its <mark>Model=Accord</mark> and <mark>Year=1999</mark>	<mark>00</mark> given		Answers
Honda	?	2002	\$10,750	Silver	Coupe	This car is <mark>42%</mark> likely to have <mark>Model=Acco</mark> that its <mark>Make=Honda</mark> and <mark>Body=Coupe</mark>	<mark>ord</mark> given	$\checkmark$	Explanations

Make, Body ~> Model yields



Outline

Core Techniques

# Peripheral Techniques

Implementation & Evaluation

Conclusion & Future Work



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Outline

Core Techniques

✓ Peripheral Techniques

Implementation & Evaluation

Conclusion & Future Work

			A.	ARIZONA STAT UNIVERSITY
<b>QPIAD</b> Web	Interface	http://rakap	<u>oshi.eas.ası</u>	<u>u.edu/qpiad</u>
Welcome Configure Density	Search Results	Queries		Help About
	QUERY	BUILDER		
MYEAR:	MAKE: BODY: Convt	MODEL: 350z CERTIFIED:	PRICE:	
			Ν	lext >>
SAMPLE QUERIES	-			
<u>Model=Accord</u> <u>Model=350z and</u> <u>Body=Convt</u>				
<u>Model=645 and</u> <u>Year=2004</u>				
2004 nissan	350z 28388	32612 null	N <u>Why</u>	<u>.</u>

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# **Empirical Evaluation**

- Datasets:
  - Cars
    - Cars.com
    - 7 attributes, 55,000 tuples
  - Complaints
    - NHSTA Office of Defect Investigation
    - 11 attributes, 200,000 tuples
  - Census
    - US Census dataset, UCI repository
    - 12 attributes, 45,000 tuples
- Sample Size:
  - 3-15% of full database
- Incompleteness:
  - 10% of tuples contain missing values
  - Artificially introduced null values in order to compare with the ground truth
- Evaluation:
  - Ranking and Rewriting Methods (e.g. quality, efficiency, etc.)
  - General Queries (e.g. correlated sources, aggregates, joins, etc.)
  - Learning Methods (e.g. accuracy, sample size, etc.)



## **Experimental Results – Ranking & Rewriting**

• QPIAD vs. ALLRETURNED - *Quality* 



ALLRETURNED – all certain answers + all answers with nulls on constrained attributes

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probability above a threshold





## **Experimental Results – Learning Methods**





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# **Experimental Summary**

- Rewriting / Ranking
  - <u>Quality</u> QPIAD achieves higher precision than ALLRETURNED by only retrieving the relevant tuples
  - <u>Efficiency</u> QPIAD requires fewer tuples to be retrieved to obtain the same level of recall as ALLRANKED
- Learning Methods
  - AFDs for feature selection improved accuracy
- General Queries
  - Aggregate queries achieve higher accuracy when missing value prediction is used
  - QPIAD achieves higher levels of recall for join queries while trading off only a small bit of precision
- Additional Experiments
  - Robustness of learning methods w.r.t. sample size
  - Effect of alpha value on F-measure
  - Effectiveness of using correlation between sources









Outline

Core Techniques

Peripheral Techniques

✓ Implementation & Evaluation

**Conclusion & Future Work** 

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## **Related Work**

All citations found in paper

Our work fits here

- Querying Incomplete Databases
  - Possible World Approaches tracks the completions of incomplete tuples (Codd Tables, V-Tables, Conditional Tables)
  - Probabilistic Approaches quantify distribution over completions to distinguish between likelihood of various possible answers
- Probabilistic Databases
  - Tuples are associated with an attribute describing the probability of its existence
  - However, in our work, the mediator does not have the capability to modify the underlying autonomous databases
- Query Reformulation / Relaxation
  - Aims to return similar or approximate answers to the user after returning or in the absence of exact answers
  - Our focus is on retrieving tuples with missing values on constrained attributes
- Learning Missing Values
  - Common imputation approaches replace missing values by substituting the mean, most common value, default value, or using kNN, association rules, etc.
  - Our work requires schema level dependencies between attributes as well as distribution information over missing values



## Contributions

- Efficiently retrieve relevant uncertain answers from autonomous sources given only limited query access patterns
  - Query Rewriting
- Retrieves answers with missing values on constrained attributes without modifying the underlying databases
  - AFD-Enhanced Classifiers
- Rewriting & ranking considers the natural tension between precision and recall
  - F-Measure based ranking
- AFDs play a major role in:
  - Query Rewriting
  - Feature Selection
  - Explanations



## Current Directions – *QUIC (CIDR `07 Demo)*

http://rakaposhi.eas.asu.edu/quic

### **Incomplete Data**

Databases are often populated by:

- Lay users entering data
- **Automated extraction**

### **Imprecise Queries**

User's needs are not clearly defined:

- Queries may be too general
- Queries may be too specific

Density Function  $\mathcal{ER}(\hat{t}|Q, U, D) = \sum_{t \in C(\hat{t})} \mathcal{R}(t|Q, U) \mathcal{P}(t|\hat{t}, D)$  Relevance Function  $\mathcal{P}(t|\hat{t}, D)$ 

General Solution: "Expected Relevance Ranking"

Challenge: Automated & Non-intrusive assessment of Relevance and Density functions

### **Estimating Relevance (R):**

### Learn relevance for user population as a whole in terms of value similarity

- Sum of weighted similarity for each constrained attribute
  - **Content Based Similarity**
  - Co-click Based Similarity
  - Co-occurrence Based Similarity

$\sigma_{Model \approx Civic}$	Civic	Accord	Prelude
Relevance	1.0	0.78	0.59
Density	0.62	0.21	0.17

 $\mathcal{P}(t|\hat{t}, D)$ 

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## Problem

 Current mediator systems only return *certain answers*, namely those which exactly satisfy all the user query constraints.



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## Handling Aggregate and Join Queries

Aggregate Queries



- Join Queries
  - Refer to the paper for details

# Learning Statistics to Support Ranking & Rewriting

### • What is hard?

- Learning correlations useful for rewriting
- Efficiently assessing the probability distribution
- Cannot modify the underlying autonomous sources
- Attribute Correlations Approximate Functional Dependencies (AFDs) & Approximate Keys (AKeys)



Value Distributions - Naïve Bayes Classifiers (NBC)

 $EstPrec(Q|R) = (A_m = v_m | dtrSet(A_m))$ 

Selectivity Estimates – Sample Size, Ratio, Percent Incomplete

EstSel(Q|R) = SmplSel(Q) \* SmplRatio(R) \* PerInc(R)

## **Incompleteness in Web Databases**



### **Inaccurate Extraction/Recognition**

 Imperfections in segmenting of web pages or scanning and converting handwritten forms

### **Incomplete Entry**

 User leaves the *Make* attribute blank assuming it is obvious as the *Model* is *Accord*

### **Heterogeneous Schemas**

 Global schema provided by the mediator often contains attributes not present in all the local schemas

### **User-defined Schemas**

 Redundant attributes (e.g. Make vs. Manufacturer) and the proliferation of null values (e.g. tuples with Make are unlikely to provide Manufacturer)

	Title			
	2006 Accor	d for Sale		
	Details			Include additional
′	Price: Number-unit Price type: Text Quantity: Number	\$15000 per item Negotiable	]	details for your item (Click a field name to include it with your item.)
	<b>Year:</b> Number	2006	remove this	Color Door count
	Vehicle Type: Text	Car e.g. "Car"	✓ remove this	Drivetrain Engine
	Condition: Text	Used e.g. "Used"	⊥ <u>remove this</u>	Latitude Longitude Mileage
	Model:	accord	✓ remove this	Transmission
¢	Make:		⊥ <u>remove this</u>	Vin
	Техі			
				Create your own

Website	# of Attributes	Total Tuples	Incomplete %	Body Style %	Engine %
AutoTrader.com	13	25127	33.67%	3.6%	8.1%
CarsDirect.com	14	32564	98.74%	55.7%	55.8%
Google Base	203+	580993	100%	83.36%	91.98%

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## Introduction

- More and more data is becoming accessible via web servers which are supported by backend databases
  - E.g. Cars.com, Realtor.com, Google Base, Etc.
- As a result, mediator systems are being developed to provide a single point of access to multiple databases



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## Problem

 Current mediator systems only return *certain answers*, namely those which exactly satisfy all the user query constraints.



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## RANK



- Sources may impose resource limitations on the # of queries we can issue
- Therefore, we should select only the top-K queries while ensuring the proper balance between precision and recall
- SOLUTION: Use F-Measure based selection with configurable alpha parameter
  - $\alpha = 1$  P = R
  - $\alpha < 1 \qquad P > R$
  - $-\alpha > 1$  P < R
- NOTE: F-Measure is used for selecting the top-K queries but does not determine the order in which they are sent

P – Estimated Precision

R – Estimated Recall (based on P & Est. Sel.)

 $F_{\alpha} = \frac{(1+\alpha) \cdot (P \cdot R)}{(\alpha \cdot P + R)}$ 

We still want the most precise tuples first!



**Ordering Top-K Queries using Estimated Precision** 

- Once we've selected the top-K rewritten queries, we must reorder them in order of their estimated precision
  - Use the precision estimates we already have

$$F_0 = \frac{P \cdot R}{R} = P$$

- Issuing the queries in order of estimated precision allows us to retrieve tuples in order of their final ranks
  - No need to re-rank tuples after retrieving them, simply show them to the user!

NOTE: All tuples returned for a single query are ranked equally



## Problem

 Current autonomous database systems only return *certain answers*, namely those which exactly satisfy all the user query constraints.



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## Problem

 Current autonomous database systems only return *certain answers*, namely those which exactly satisfy all the user query constraints.





## **Query Rewriting in QPIAD**

## <u>Given a query Q:(Body Style=Convt) retrieve all relevant tuples</u>

Id	Make	Model	Year	Body				Base F	Result Se	t			
1	Audi	A4	2001	Convt			Id	Make	Model	Year	Body		
2	BMW	Z4	2002	Convt		,	1	Audi	A4	2001	Convt		
3	Porsche	Boxster	2005	Convt		$\rightarrow$	2	BMW	Z4	2002	Convt		
4	BMW	Z4	2003	Null			3	Porsche	Boxster	2005	Convt		
5	Honda	Civic	2004	Null	Null AFD: M		Model~> Bo	ody style					
6	Toyota	Camry	2002	Sedan				4					
7	Audi	A4	2006	Null	Null			Select	Select Top K Rewritten Queries				
Ranl Unco	ked Relev ertain Ans	ant swers		Re-order quer on Estimated	ies Pre	bas ecisi	ed ion	$Q_1$ $Q_2$ $Q_3$	': Model= 3': Model= 3': Model=	Z4 Boxster			
Id	Make	Model	Year	Body Cor	nfic	len	се	We can sel	We can select top K rewritten queries using F-				
4	BMW	Z4	2003	Null	0.7			F-Measure	F-Measure = $(1+\alpha)*P*R/(\alpha*P+R)$				
7	Audi	A4	2006	Null	Vull 0.3				P – Estimated Precision R – Estimated Recall based on P and Estimated				
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## Handling Aggregate Queries

- As the fraction of incomplete tuples increases, the aggregates such as SUM and COUNT become increasingly inaccurate
  - SOLUTION: Use query rewriting and missing value prediction to improve the accuracy of such aggregates
- 1. Issue the original query to the database and retrieve the base set.
- 2. Compute the certain aggregate over the base set tuples.
- 3. Use the base set to generate rewritten queries according to the QPIAD algorithm.
- 4. Issue the rewritten queries and retrieve the extended result set.
- 5. For each tuple in the extended result set the value most likely to be the tuple's missing value.
- 6. If the most likely value is equal to the value specified in the original query, then include the tuple in the running uncertain aggregate total.
- 7. Return to the user the certain aggregate along with the uncertain aggregate.



## **Rewriting to Retrieve Relevant Uncertain Results**

 An AFD tells us that for some fraction of the tuples, a car's Model can be used to determine its Body

AFD: Model~> Body

Id	Make	Make <mark>Model</mark> Yea		Body
1	Audi	A4	2001	Convt
2	BMW	Z4	2002	Convt
3	Porsche	Boxster	2005	Convt
4	BMW	Z4	2003	Convt

### Base Set for Q:(Body=Convt)

- Base set tuples are known to have Body=Convt therefore if we:
  - 1) Encounter a tuple having a Model in the base set
  - 2) And the tuple has a missing value for Body,

then it is likely that the tuple's Body is in fact Convt

- Given a query on attribute A, and an AFD B~>A, we generate rewritten queries by:
  - Determine the set of distinct values for the attributes contained in B
  - For each distinct value, generate a rewritten query constraining the corresponding attributes with the values from the distinct set

## **Selecting/Ordering Top-K Rewritten Queries**

- Sources may impose resource limitations on the # of queries we can issue
- SOLUTION: Use F-Measure based selection with configurable alpha parameter
- NOTE: F-Measure is used for selecting the top-K queries but does not determine the order in which they are sent
- Once we've selected the top-K rewritten queries, we must reorder them in order of their **estimated precision**
- Issuing the queries in order of estimated precision allows us to retrieve tuples in order of their final ranks
  - No need to re-rank tuples after retrieving them, simply show them to the user!

 $F_0 = \frac{P \cdot R}{R} = P$ 

P – Estimated Precision

 $F_{\alpha} = \frac{(1+\alpha) \cdot (P \cdot R)}{(\alpha \cdot P + R)}$ 

R – Estimated Recall

NOTE: All tuples returned for a single query are ranked equally

## **Explaining Results to the Users**

### **Problem:**

How to gain users trust when showing them incomplete tuples?

### Q:(Make=Honda and Model=Accord and Price<\$12,000)

Make	Model	Year	Price	Color	Body	Explanation
Honda	Accord	2001	\$10,500	Silver	Sedan	
Honda	Accord	2002	\$11,200	White	Coupe	
Honda	Accord	1999	\$9,000	Green	Sedan	
?	Accord	2001	\$11,700	Red	Sedan	This car is <mark>100%</mark> likely to have <mark>Make=Honda</mark> given hat its <mark>Model=Accord</mark>
Honda	?	2000	\$10,100	Blue	Sedan	This car is <mark>83%</mark> likely to have <mark>Model=Accord</mark> given hat its <mark>Make=Honda</mark> and <mark>Body=Sedan</mark>
Honda	Accord	1999	?	Black	Sedan	This car is <mark>71%</mark> likely to have <mark>Price&lt;\$12,000</mark> given hat its <mark>Model=Accord</mark> and <mark>Year=1999</mark>
Honda	?	2002	\$10,750	Silver	Coupe	This car is <mark>42%</mark> likely to have <mark>Model=Accord</mark> given hat its <mark>Make=Honda</mark> and <mark>Body=Coupe</mark>

### Provide to the user:

- Certain Answers
- Relevant Uncertain Answers
- Explanations

## **Experimental Results – Learning Methods**

Accuracy of Classifiers

Using AFDs during feature selection improves accuracy

Accuracy of AFD-Enhanced NBC is comparable with BayesNet

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Robustness w.r.t. Sample Size

QPIAD is robust even when faced with a relatively small data sample

Similar results were obtained on the Census database







## Handling Aggregate and Join Queries

- Aggregate Queries
  - As the fraction of incomplete tuples increases, the aggregates such as SUM and COUNT become increasingly inaccurate
    - SOLUTION: Use query rewriting and missing value prediction to improve the accuracy of such aggregates
- Join Queries
  - A join query can be thought of as individual queries over each source, the results of which are joined at the mediator
  - Estimated precision and estimated selectivity must be considered when deciding which queries to issue
  - When estimating precision/selectivity, estimates should be made for a query pair rather than for each individual query
    - We must ensure that the results of each of the individual queries agree on their join attribute values



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**Experimental Results – Ranking & Rewriting QPIAD vs. ALLRETURNED - Quality ALLRETURNED** has **low precision** because not all tuples with missing values on the constrained attributes are relevant to the query **QPIAD** has a much **higher precision** than **ALLRETURNED** as it aims to retrieve tuples with missing values on the constrained attributes which are very likely to be relevant to the query Ava. of 10 Queries (Body Style and Mileage) 0.8 0.8 Querv Q:(Body Style=Convt) AllReturned 0.6 0.6



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## **Experimental Results – Ranking & Rewriting**

• QPIAD vs. ALLRANKED - *Efficiency* 

**ALLRANKED** approach is often **infeasible** as direct retrieval of null values is not often allowed

**ALLRANKED** approach must retrieve all tuples w/ missing Body Style in order to achieve any nonzero recall

**QPIAD** only retrieves a subset of the tuples having missing values on constrained attributes, namely those which are highly likely to be relevant to the query

**QPIAD** is able to achieve the same level of recall as **ALLRANKED** while requiring much **fewer tuples** to be retrieved



## **Experimental Results – Learning Methods**

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Accuracy of AFD-Enhanced NBC is comparable with BayesNet

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QPIAD is robust even when faced with a relatively small data sample

Similar results were obtained on the Census database







## **Experimental Results - Extensions**

Aggregates

Prediction of missing values increases the fraction of queries that achieve higher levels of accuracy

Approximately 20% more queries achieve 100% accuracy when prediction is used



Joins

As alpha is increased, we obtain a higher recall without sacrificing much precision

