

Unit 2: SQL AND PL/SQL

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Outline

- SQL: Characteristics and advantages,
- SQL Data Types and Literals,
- DDL, DML, DCL, TCL,
- SQL Operators,
- Tables: Creating, Modifying, Deleting,
- Views: Creating, Dropping, Updating using Views,
- Indexes,
- SQL DML Queries: SELECT Query and clauses,
- Set Operations, Predicates and Joins, Set membership,
- Tuple Variables, Set comparison,
- Ordering of Tuples,
- Aggregate Functions,
- Nested Queries,
- Database Modification using SQL Insert, Update and Delete Queries.
- PL/SQL: concept of Stored Procedures & Functions, Cursors, Triggers, Assertions, roles and privileges, Embedded SQL, Dynamic SQL.



Introduction to SQL

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- Overview of The SQL Query Language
- Data Definition
- Basic Query Structure
- Additional Basic Operations
- Set Operations
- Null Values
- Aggregate Functions
- Nested Subqueries
- Modification of the Database





- IBM Sequel language developed as part of System R project at the IBM San Jose Research Laboratory
- Renamed Structured Query Language (SQL)
- ANSI and ISO standard SQL:
 - SQL-86
 - SQL-89
 - SQL-92
 - SQL:1999 (language name became Y2K compliant!)
 - SQL:2003
- Commercial systems offer most, if not all, SQL-92 features, plus varying feature sets from later standards and special proprietary features.
 - Not all examples here may work on your particular system.



Data Definition Language

The SQL data-definition language (DDL) allows the specification of information about relations, including:

- The schema for each relation.
- The domain of values associated with each attribute.
- Integrity constraints
- And as we will see later, also other information such as
 - The set of indices to be maintained for each relations.
 - Security and authorization information for each relation.
 - The physical storage structure of each relation on disk.



Domain Types in SQL

- **char(n).** Fixed length character string, with user-specified length *n*.
- varchar(n). Variable length character strings, with user-specified maximum length *n*.
- **int.** Integer (a finite subset of the integers that is machine-dependent).
- smallint. Small integer (a machine-dependent subset of the integer domain type).
- numeric(p,d). Fixed point number, with user-specified precision of p digits, with d digits to the right of decimal point. (ex., numeric(3,1), allows 44.5 to be stores exactly, but not 444.5 or 0.32)
- real, double precision. Floating point and double-precision floating point numbers, with machine-dependent precision.
- float(n). Floating point number, with user-specified precision of at least n digits.
- More are covered in Chapter 4.



Create Table Construct

An SQL relation is defined using the **create table** command:

...,

create table $r (A_1 D_1, A_2 D_2, ..., A_n D_n, (integrity-constraint_1),$

(integrity-constraint_k))

- *r* is the name of the relation
- each A_i is an attribute name in the schema of relation r
- D_i is the data type of values in the domain of attribute A_i

Example:

create table instructor (ID char(5), name varchar(20), dept_name varchar(20), salary numeric(8,2))



Integrity Constraints in Create Table

- not null
- **primary key** $(A_1, ..., A_n)$
- **foreign key** $(A_m, ..., A_n)$ references *r*

Example:

create table instructor (ID char(5), name varchar(20) not null, dept_name varchar(20), salary numeric(8,2), primary key (ID), foreign key (dept_name) references department);

primary key declaration on an attribute automatically ensures not null



And a Few More Relation Definitions

create table student (

IDvarchar(5),namevarchar(20) not null,dept_namevarchar(20),tot_crednumeric(3,0),primary key (ID),foreign key (dept_name) references department);

create table *takes* (

ID	varchar(5),				
course_id	varchar(8),				
sec_id	varchar(8),				
semester	varchar(6),				
year	numeric(4,0),				
grade	varchar(2),				
primary key (ID, course_id, sec_id, semester, year) ,					
foreign key (ID) references student,					
foreign key	(course_id, sec_id, semester, year) references section);				

 Note: sec_id can be dropped from primary key above, to ensure a student cannot be registered for two sections of the same course in the same semester



And more still

create table course (

course_idvarchar(8),titlevarchar(50),dept_namevarchar(20),creditsnumeric(2,0),primary key(course_id),foreign key(dept_name) referencesdepartment);



Updates to tables

- Insert
 - insert into instructor values ('10211', 'Smith', 'Biology', 66000);
- Delete
 - Remove all tuples from the *student* relation
 - delete from student
- Drop Table
 - drop table r
- Alter
 - alter table r add A D
 - where A is the name of the attribute to be added to relation
 r and D is the domain of A.
 - All exiting tuples in the relation are assigned *null* as the value for the new attribute.
 - alter table *r* drop *A*
 - where A is the name of an attribute of relation r
 - Dropping of attributes not supported by many databases.

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Basic Query Structure

• A typical SQL query has the form:

select $A_1, A_2, ..., A_n$ **from** $r_1, r_2, ..., r_m$ **where** P

- *A_i* represents an attribute
- *R_i* represents a relation
- *P* is a predicate.
- The result of an SQL query is a relation.



The select Clause

- The **select** clause lists the attributes desired in the result of a query
 - corresponds to the projection operation of the relational algebra
- Example: find the names of all instructors:

select name from instructor

- NOTE: SQL names are case insensitive (i.e., you may use upper- or lower-case letters.)
 - E.g., *Name* ≡ *NAME* ≡ *name*
 - Some people use upper case wherever we use bold font.



The select Clause (Cont.)

- SQL allows duplicates in relations as well as in query results.
- To force the elimination of duplicates, insert the keyword distinct after select.
- Find the department names of all instructors, and remove duplicates

select distinct dept_name
from instructor

The keyword **all** specifies that duplicates should not be removed.

select all *dept_name* **from** *instructor*



The select Clause (Cont.)

An asterisk in the select clause denotes "all attributes"

select *
from instructor

An attribute can be a literal with no from clause

select '437'

- Results is a table with one column and a single row with value "437"
- Can give the column a name using:

select '437' as FOO

An attribute can be a literal with **from** clause

select 'A' from instructor

 Result is a table with one column and N rows (number of tuples in the instructors table), each row with value "A"



The select Clause (Cont.)

- The select clause can contain arithmetic expressions involving the operation, +, -, *, and /, and operating on constants or attributes of tuples.
 - The query:

select *ID*, *name*, *salary/12* **from** *instructor*

would return a relation that is the same as the *instructor* relation, except that the value of the attribute *salary* is divided by 12.

• Can rename "salary/12" using the **as** clause:

select *ID*, *name*, *salary/12* **as** *monthly_salary*



The where Clause

- The **where** clause specifies conditions that the result must satisfy
 - Corresponds to the selection predicate of the relational algebra.
- To find all instructors in Comp. Sci. dept

select name
from instructor
where dept_name = 'Comp. Sci.'

Comparison results can be combined using the logical connectives and, or, and not

• To find all instructors in Comp. Sci. dept with salary > 80000

select name
from instructor
where dept_name = 'Comp. Sci.' and salary > 80000

Comparisons can be applied to results of arithmetic expressions.



The from Clause

- The **from** clause lists the relations involved in the query
 - Corresponds to the Cartesian product operation of the relational algebra.
- Find the Cartesian product *instructor X teaches*

select *
from instructor, teaches

- generates every possible instructor teaches pair, with all attributes from both relations.
- For common attributes (e.g., *ID*), the attributes in the resulting table are renamed using the relation name (e.g., *instructor.ID*)
- Cartesian product not very useful directly, but useful combined with where-clause condition (selection operation in relational algebra).



Cartesian Product

instructor

teaches

ID	name	dept_n	ame sala	iry	ID	course_i	d sec_	_id sem	ester	year
10101 12121 15151 22222 32343	Srinivasa Wu Mozart Einstein El Said		. Sci. 650 ce 900 400 cs 950)00)00)00)00)00	10101 10101 10101 12121 15151 22222	CS-315 CS-347 FIN-201 MU-199	1	Fall Spri Fall Spri Spri Fall	ing ing ing	2009 2010 2009 2010 2010 2010 2009
	Inst.ID	name	dept_name	salary	teaches.ID	course_id	sec_id	semester	year	
	10101 10101 10101 10101	Srinivasan Srinivasan Srinivasan Srinivasan	Comp. Sci. Comp. Sci. Comp. Sci. Comp. Sci. Comp. Sci. 	65000 65000 65000 65000	10101 10101 10101 12121 15151 22222 	CS-101 CS-315 CS-347 FIN-201 MU-199 PHY-101 	1 1 1 1 1 	Fall Spring Fall Spring Spring Fall 	2009 2010 2009 2010 2010 2009 	
	12121 12121 12121 12121 12121	 Wu Wu Wu Wu Wu 	 Finance Finance Pinance Finance Pinance 	 90000 90000 90000 90000 90000 	 10101 10101 10101 12121 15151 22222 	 CS-101 CS-315 CS-347 FIN-201 MU-199 PHY-101 	 1 1 1 1 1 	 Fall Spring Fall Spring Fall 	 2009 2010 2009 2010 2010 2009 	

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- Find the names of all instructors who have taught some course and the course_id
 - select name, course_id
 from instructor, teaches
 where instructor.ID = teaches.ID
- Find the names of all instructors in the Art department who have taught some course and the course_id
 - select name, course_id
 from instructor, teaches
 where instructor.ID = teaches.ID and instructor. dept_name = 'Art'



The Rename Operation

- The SQL allows renaming relations and attributes using the **as** clause: old-name **as** new-name
- Find the names of all instructors who have a higher salary than some instructor in 'Comp. Sci'.
 - select distinct *T.name* from instructor as *T*, instructor as *S* where *T.salary* > *S.salary* and *S.dept_name* = 'Comp. Sci.'
- Keyword as is optional and may be omitted instructor as T ≡ instructor T



Cartesian Product Example

Relation emp-super

person	supervisor			
Bob	Alice			
Mary	Susan			
Alice	David			
David	Mary			

- Find the supervisor of "Bob"
- Find the supervisor of the supervisor of "Bob"
- Find ALL the supervisors (direct and indirect) of "Bob



String Operations

- SQL includes a string-matching operator for comparisons on character strings. The operator like uses patterns that are described using two special characters:
 - percent (%). The % character matches any substring.
 - underscore (_). The _ character matches any character.
- Find the names of all instructors whose name includes the substring "dar".

select name from instructor where name like '%dar%'

Match the string "100%"

like '100 \%' escape '\'

in that above we use backslash (\) as the escape character.



String Operations (Cont.)

- Patterns are case sensitive.
- Pattern matching examples:
 - 'Intro%' matches any string beginning with "Intro".
 - '%Comp%' matches any string containing "Comp" as a substring.
 - '___' matches any string of exactly three characters.
 - '___%' matches any string of at least three characters.
- SQL supports a variety of string operations such as
 - concatenation (using "||")
 - converting from upper to lower case (and vice versa)
 - finding string length, extracting substrings, etc.



Ordering the Display of Tuples

List in alphabetic order the names of all instructors

select distinct name from instructor order by name

- We may specify desc for descending order or asc for ascending order, for each attribute; ascending order is the default.
 - Example: order by name desc
- Can sort on multiple attributes
 - Example: order by dept_name, name



Where Clause Predicates

- SQL includes a **between** comparison operator
- Example: Find the names of all instructors with salary between \$90,000 and \$100,000 (that is, ≥ \$90,000 and ≤ \$100,000)
 - select name
 from instructor
 where salary between 90000 and 100000
- Tuple comparison
 - select name, course_id
 from instructor, teaches
 where (instructor.ID, dept_name) = (teaches.ID, 'Biology');



Duplicates

- In relations with duplicates, SQL can define how many copies of tuples appear in the result.
- Multiset versions of some of the relational algebra operators given multiset relations r_1 and r_2 :
 - 1. $\sigma_{\theta}(r_1)$: If there are c_1 copies of tuple t_1 in r_1 , and t_1 satisfies selections σ_{θ} , then there are c_1 copies of t_1 in $\sigma_{\theta}(r_1)$.
 - 2. $\Pi_A(r)$: For each copy of tuple t_1 in r_1 , there is a copy of tuple $\Pi_A(t_1)$ in $\Pi_A(r_1)$ where $\Pi_A(t_1)$ denotes the projection of the single tuple t_1 .
 - 3. $r_1 \ge r_2$: If there are c_1 copies of tuple t_1 in r_1 and c_2 copies of tuple t_2 in r_2 , there are $c_1 \ge c_2$ copies of the tuple t_1 . t_2 in $r_1 \ge r_2$



Duplicates (Cont.)

Example: Suppose multiset relations r₁ (A, B) and r₂ (C) are as follows:

 $r_1 = \{(1, a) (2, a)\} \qquad r_2 = \{(2), (3), (3)\}$

Then $\Pi_B(r_1)$ would be {(a), (a)}, while $\Pi_B(r_1) \ge r_2$ would be

 $\{(a,2), (a,2), (a,3), (a,3), (a,3), (a,3)\}$

SQL duplicate semantics:

select $A_{1, r_{2}}, A_{2}, ..., A_{n}$ from $r_{1}, r_{2}, ..., r_{m}$ where P

is equivalent to the *multiset* version of the expression:

$$\prod_{A_1,A_2,\ldots,A_n} (\sigma_P(r_1 \times r_2 \times \ldots \times r_m))$$



Set Operations

Find courses that ran in Fall 2009 or in Spring 2010

(select course_id from section where sem = 'Fall' and year = 2009)
union
(select course_id from section where sem = 'Spring' and year = 2010)

Find courses that ran in Fall 2009 and in Spring 2010

(select course_id from section where sem = 'Fall' and year = 2009)
intersect
(select course_id from section where sem = 'Spring' and year = 2010)

Find courses that ran in Fall 2009 but not in Spring 2010

(select course_id from section where sem = 'Fall' and year = 2009)
except
(select course_id from section where sem = 'Spring' and year = 2010)



Set Operations (Cont.)

Find the salaries of all instructors that are less than the largest salary.

- select distinct *T.salary* from instructor as *T*, instructor as *S* where *T.salary < S.salary*
- Find all the salaries of all instructors
 - select distinct salary from instructor
- Find the largest salary of all instructors.
 - (select "second query")
 except (select "first query")



Set Operations (Cont.)

- Set operations union, intersect, and except
 - Each of the above operations automatically eliminates duplicates
- To retain all duplicates use the corresponding multiset versions union all, intersect all and except all.
- Suppose a tuple occurs *m* times in *r* and *n* times in *s*, then, it occurs:
 - m + n times in r union all s
 - min(*m*,*n*) times in *r* intersect all *s*
 - max(0, m n) times in *r* except all *s*



Null Values

- It is possible for tuples to have a null value, denoted by *null*, for some of their attributes
- *null* signifies an unknown value or that a value does not exist.
- The result of any arithmetic expression involving null is null
 - Example: 5 + *null* returns null
- The predicate **is null** can be used to check for null values.
 - Example: Find all instructors whose salary is null.

select name from instructor where salary is null



Null Values and Three Valued Logic

- Three values true, false, unknown
- Any comparison with *null* returns *unknown*
 - Example: 5 < null or null <> null or null = null
- Three-valued logic using the value *unknown*:
 - OR: (unknown or true) = true, (unknown or false) = unknown (unknown or unknown) = unknown
 - AND: (true and unknown) = unknown, (false and unknown) = false, (unknown and unknown) = unknown
 - NOT: (not unknown) = unknown
 - "*P* is unknown" evaluates to true if predicate *P* evaluates to unknown
- Result of where clause predicate is treated as *false* if it evaluates to unknown



Aggregate Functions

These functions operate on the multiset of values of a column of a relation, and return a value

avg: average valuemin: minimum valuemax: maximum valuesum: sum of valuescount: number of values



Aggregate Functions (Cont.)

- Find the average salary of instructors in the Computer Science department
 - select avg (salary)
 from instructor
 where dept_name= 'Comp. Sci.';
- Find the total number of instructors who teach a course in the Spring 2010 semester
 - select count (distinct *ID*)
 from teaches
 where semester = 'Spring' and year = 2010;
- Find the number of tuples in the *course* relation
 - select count (*) from course;



Aggregate Functions – Group By

- Find the average salary of instructors in each department
 - select dept_name, avg (salary) as avg_salary from instructor group by dept_name;

ID	name	dept_name	salary
76766	Crick	Biology	72000
45565	Katz	Comp. Sci.	75000
10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000
83821	Brandt	Comp. Sci.	92000
98345	Kim	Elec. Eng.	80000
12121	Wu	Finance	90000
76543	Singh	Finance	80000
32343	El Said	History	60000
58583	Califieri	History	62000
15151	Mozart	Music	40000
33456	Gold	Physics	87000
22222	Einstein	Physics	95000

dept_name	avg_salary
Biology	72000
Comp. Sci.	77333
Elec. Eng.	80000
Finance	85000
History	61000
Music	40000
Physics	91000



Aggregation (Cont.)

- Attributes in select clause outside of aggregate functions must appear in group by list
 - /* erroneous query */ select dept_name, ID, avg (salary) from instructor group by dept_name;



Aggregate Functions – Having Clause

Find the names and average salaries of all departments whose average salary is greater than 42000

select dept_name, avg (salary)
from instructor
group by dept_name
having avg (salary) > 42000;

Note: predicates in the **having** clause are applied after the formation of groups whereas predicates in the **where** clause are applied before forming groups



Null Values and Aggregates

Total all salaries

select sum (salary)
from instructor

- Above statement ignores null amounts
- Result is *null* if there is no non-null amount
- All aggregate operations except count(*) ignore tuples with null values on the aggregated attributes
- What if collection has only null values?
 - count returns 0
 - all other aggregates return null



Nested Subqueries

- SQL provides a mechanism for the nesting of subqueries. A subquery is a select-from-where expression that is nested within another query.
- The nesting can be done in the following SQL query

select $A_1, A_2, ..., A_n$ **from** $r_1, r_2, ..., r_m$ **where** P

as follows:

- A_i can be replaced be a subquery that generates a single value.
- r_i can be replaced by any valid subquery
- *P* can be replaced with an expression of the form:

B <operation> (subquery)

Where *B* is an attribute and <operation> to be defined later.



Subqueries in the Where Clause



Subqueries in the Where Clause

- A common use of subqueries is to perform tests:
 - For set membership
 - For set comparisons
 - For set cardinality.



Set Membership

Find courses offered in Fall 2009 and in Spring 2010

Find courses offered in Fall 2009 but not in Spring 2010

select distinct course_id
from section
where semester = 'Fall' and year= 2009 and
 course_id not in (select course_id
 from section
 where semester = 'Spring' and year= 2010);



Set Membership (Cont.)

Find the total number of (distinct) students who have taken course sections taught by the instructor with ID 10101

select count (distinct ID)
from takes
where (course_id, sec_id, semester, year) in
 (select course_id, sec_id, semester, year
 from teaches
 where teaches.ID= 10101);

Note: Above query can be written in a much simpler manner. The formulation above is simply to illustrate SQL features.

Set Comparison – "some" Clause

Find names of instructors with salary greater than that of some (at least one) instructor in the Biology department.

select distinct T.name
from instructor as T, instructor as S
where T.salary > S.salary and S.dept name = 'Biology';

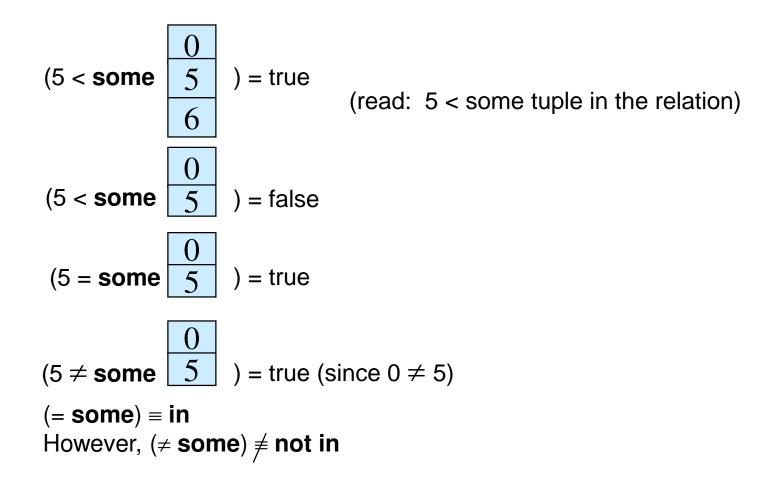
Same query using > some clause

select name from instructor where salary > some (select salary from instructor where dept name = 'Biology');



Definition of "some" Clause

F <comp> some $r \Leftrightarrow \exists t \in r$ such that (F <comp> t) Where <comp> can be: <, \leq , >, =, \neq





Set Comparison – "all" Clause

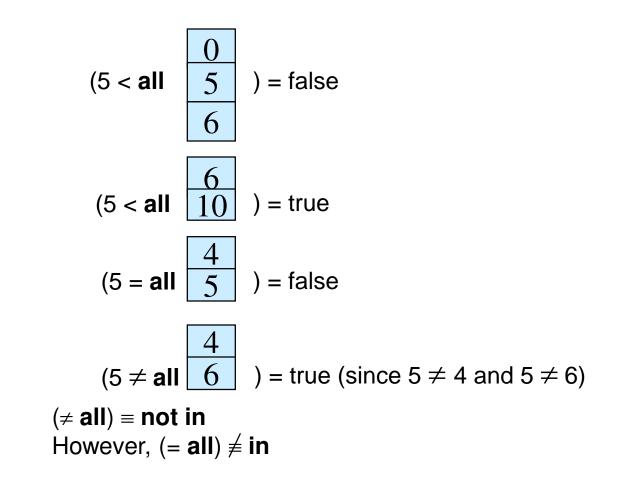
Find the names of all instructors whose salary is greater than the salary of all instructors in the Biology department.

select name from instructor where salary > all (select salary from instructor where dept name = 'Biology');



Definition of "all" Clause

■ F <comp> **all** $r \Leftrightarrow \forall t \in r$ (F <comp> t)



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Test for Empty Relations

- The exists construct returns the value true if the argument subquery is nonempty.
- exists $r \Leftrightarrow r \neq \emptyset$
- not exists $r \Leftrightarrow r = \emptyset$



Use of "exists" Clause

Yet another way of specifying the query "Find all courses taught in both the Fall 2009 semester and in the Spring 2010 semester"

select course_id
from section as S
where semester = 'Fall' and year = 2009 and
 exists (select *
 from section as T
 where semester = 'Spring' and year= 2010
 and S.course_id = T.course_id);

- Correlation name variable S in the outer query
- **Correlated subquery** the inner query



Use of "not exists" Clause

Find all students who have taken all courses offered in the Biology department.

- First nested query lists all courses offered in Biology
- Second nested query lists all courses a particular student took
- Note that $X Y = \emptyset \iff X \subseteq Y$
- Note: Cannot write this query using = all and its variants

Test for Absence of Duplicate Tuples

- The unique construct tests whether a subquery has any duplicate tuples in its result.
- The unique construct evaluates to "true" if a given subquery contains no duplicates.
- Find all courses that were offered at most once in 2009

```
select T.course_id
from course as T
where unique (select R.course_id
            from section as R
            where T.course_id= R.course_id
            and R.year = 2009);
```



Subqueries in the Form Clause



Subqueries in the Form Clause

- SQL allows a subquery expression to be used in the **from** clause
- Find the average instructors' salaries of those departments where the average salary is greater than \$42,000."

select dept_name, avg_salary
from (select dept_name, avg (salary) as avg_salary
 from instructor
 group by dept_name)
where avg_salary > 42000;

- Note that we do not need to use the having clause
- Another way to write above query

select dept_name, avg_salary
from (select dept_name, avg (salary)
 from instructor
 group by dept_name) as dept_avg (dept_name, avg_salary)
where avg_salary > 42000;



With Clause

- The with clause provides a way of defining a temporary relation whose definition is available only to the query in which the with clause occurs.
- Find all departments with the maximum budget

with max_budget (value) as
 (select max(budget)
 from department)
select department.name
from department, max_budget
where department.budget = max_budget.value;

Complex Queries using With Clause

Find all departments where the total salary is greater than the average of the total salary at all departments

with dept_total (dept_name, value) as
 (select dept_name, sum(salary)
 from instructor
 group by dept_name),
dept_total_avg(value) as
 (select avg(value)
 from dept_total)
select dept_name
from dept_total, dept_total_avg
where dept_total.value > dept_total_avg.value;



Subqueries in the Select Clause



Scalar Subquery

- Scalar subquery is one which is used where a single value is expected
- List all departments along with the number of instructors in each department

select dept_name,
 (select count(*)
 from instructor
 where department.dept_name = instructor.dept_name)
 as num_instructors
from department;

Runtime error if subquery returns more than one result tuple



Modification of the Database

- Deletion of tuples from a given relation.
- Insertion of new tuples into a given relation
- Updating of values in some tuples in a given relation





Delete all instructors

delete from instructor

Delete all instructors from the Finance department delete from instructor where dept_name= 'Finance';

Delete all tuples in the *instructor* relation for those instructors associated with a department located in the Watson building.

delete from *instructor* where *dept name* in (select *dept name* from *department* where *building* = 'Watson');



Deletion (Cont.)

Delete all instructors whose salary is less than the average salary of instructors

delete from *instructor* where *salary* < (select avg (*salary*) from *instructor*);

- Problem: as we delete tuples from deposit, the average salary changes
- Solution used in SQL:
 - 1. First, compute **avg** (salary) and find all tuples to delete
 - Next, delete all tuples found above (without recomputing avg or retesting the tuples)



Insertion

Add a new tuple to *course*

insert into *course* values ('CS-437', 'Database Systems', 'Comp. Sci.', 4);

or equivalently

insert into course (course_id, title, dept_name, credits)
values ('CS-437', 'Database Systems', 'Comp. Sci.', 4);

Add a new tuple to student with tot_creds set to null insert into student values ('3003', 'Green', 'Finance', null);



Insertion (Cont.)

Add all instructors to the *student* relation with tot_creds set to 0

insert into student select ID, name, dept_name, 0 from instructor

The select from where statement is evaluated fully before any of its results are inserted into the relation.

Otherwise queries like

insert into table1 select * from table1

would cause problem





Increase salaries of instructors whose salary is over \$100,000 by 3%, and all others by a 5%

• Write two **update** statements:

update instructor
set salary = salary * 1.03
where salary > 100000;
update instructor
set salary = salary * 1.05
where salary <= 100000;</pre>

- The order is important
- Can be done better using the **case** statement (next slide)

Case Statement for Conditional Updates

Same query as before but with case statement

```
update instructor
set salary = case
when salary <= 100000 then salary * 1.05
else salary * 1.03
end
```



Updates with Scalar Subqueries

Recompute and update tot_creds value for all students

```
update student S
set tot_cred = (select sum(credits)
    from takes, course
    where takes.course_id = course.course_id and
        S.ID= takes.ID.and
        takes.grade <> 'F' and
        takes.grade is not null);
```

Sets tot_creds to null for students who have not taken any course

Instead of sum(credits), use:

```
case
  when sum(credits) is not null then sum(credits)
  else 0
end
```



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- Accessing SQL From a Programming Language
- Functions and Procedural Constructs
- Triggers
- Recursive Queries
- Advanced Aggregation Features
- OLAP



Accessing SQL From a Programming Language

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Accessing SQL From a Programming Language

- API (application-program interface) for a program to interact with a database server
- Application makes calls to
 - Connect with the database server
 - Send SQL commands to the database server
 - Fetch tuples of result one-by-one into program variables
- Various tools:
 - JDBC (Java Database Connectivity) works with Java
 - ODBC (Open Database Connectivity) works with C, C++, C#, and Visual Basic. Other API's such as ADO.NET sit on top of ODBC
 - Embedded SQL





- JDBC is a Java API for communicating with database systems supporting SQL.
- JDBC supports a variety of features for querying and updating data, and for retrieving query results.
- JDBC also supports metadata retrieval, such as querying about relations present in the database and the names and types of relation attributes.
- Model for communicating with the database:
 - Open a connection
 - Create a "statement" object
 - Execute queries using the Statement object to send queries and fetch results
 - Exception mechanism to handle errors





- Open DataBase Connectivity (ODBC) standard
 - standard for application program to communicate with a database server.
 - application program interface (API) to
 - > open a connection with a database,
 - send queries and updates,
 - get back results.
- Applications such as GUI, spreadsheets, etc. can use ODBC



Embedded SQL

- The SQL standard defines embeddings of SQL in a variety of programming languages such as C, C++, Java, Fortran, and PL/1,
- A language to which SQL queries are embedded is referred to as a host language, and the SQL structures permitted in the host language comprise *embedded* SQL.
- The basic form of these languages follows that of the System R embedding of SQL into PL/1.
- EXEC SQL statement is used to identify embedded SQL request to the preprocessor

EXEC SQL <embedded SQL statement >;

Note: this varies by language:

- In some languages, like COBOL, the semicolon is replaced with END-EXEC
- In Java embedding uses # SQL { };



Before executing any SQL statements, the program must first connect to the database. This is done using:

EXEC-SQL connect to server user user-name using password;

Here, *server* identifies the server to which a connection is to be established.

- Variables of the host language can be used within embedded SQL statements. They are preceded by a colon (:) to distinguish from SQL variables (e.g., :credit_amount)
- Variables used as above must be declared within DECLARE section, as illustrated below. The syntax for declaring the variables, however, follows the usual host language syntax.

EXEC-SQL BEGIN DECLARE SECTION}

int credit-amount;

EXEC-SQL END DECLARE SECTION;



To write an embedded SQL query, we use the

declare *c* cursor for <SQL query>

statement. The variable *c* is used to identify the query

- Example:
 - From within a host language, find the ID and name of students who have completed more than the number of credits stored in variable credit_amount in the host langue
 - Specify the query in SQL as follows:

EXEC SQL

declare c cursor for select ID, name from student where tot_cred > :credit_amount END_EXEC



- Example:
 - From within a host language, find the ID and name of students who have completed more than the number of credits stored in variable credit_amount in the host langue
- Specify the query in SQL as follows:

EXEC SQL

```
declare c cursor for
select ID, name
from student
where tot_cred > :credit_amount
END_EXEC
```

The variable c (used in the cursor declaration) is used to identify the query



The open statement for our example is as follows:

EXEC SQL **open** *c*;

This statement causes the database system to execute the query and to save the results within a temporary relation. The query uses the value of the host-language variable *credit-amount* at the time the **open** statement is executed.

The fetch statement causes the values of one tuple in the query result to be placed on host language variables.

EXEC SQL fetch c into :si, :sn END_EXEC

Repeated calls to fetch get successive tuples in the query result



- A variable called SQLSTATE in the SQL communication area (SQLCA) gets set to '02000' to indicate no more data is available
- The close statement causes the database system to delete the temporary relation that holds the result of the query.

EXEC SQL **close** *c*;

Note: above details vary with language. For example, the Java embedding defines Java iterators to step through result tuples.



Updates Through Embedded SQL

- Embedded SQL expressions for database modification (update, insert, and delete)
- Can update tuples fetched by cursor by declaring that the cursor is for update

EXEC SQL

```
declare c cursor for
select *
from instructor
where dept_name = 'Music'
for update
```

We then iterate through the tuples by performing fetch operations on the cursor (as illustrated earlier), and after fetching each tuple we execute the following code:

```
update instructor
set salary = salary + 1000
where current of c
```



Extensions to SQL

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Functions and Procedures

SQL:1999 supports functions and procedures

- Functions/procedures can be written in SQL itself, or in an external programming language (e.g., C, Java).
- Functions written in an external languages are particularly useful with specialized data types such as images and geometric objects.
 - Example: functions to check if polygons overlap, or to compare images for similarity.
- Some database systems support table-valued functions, which can return a relation as a result.
- SQL:1999 also supports a rich set of imperative constructs, including
 - Loops, if-then-else, assignment
- Many databases have proprietary procedural extensions to SQL that differ from SQL:1999.



SQL Functions

Define a function that, given the name of a department, returns the count of the number of instructors in that department.

```
create function dept_count (dept_name varchar(20))
    returns integer
    begin
    declare d_count integer;
        select count (*) into d_count
        from instructor
        where instructor.dept_name = dept_name
        return d_count;
        ond
```

end

The function dept_count can be used to find the department names and budget of all departments with more that 12 instructors.

```
select dept_name, budget
from department
where dept_count (dept_name) > 12
```



SQL functions (Cont.)

- Compound statement: **begin ... end**
 - May contain multiple SQL statements between **begin** and **end**.
- returns -- indicates the variable-type that is returned (e.g., integer)
- return -- specifies the values that are to be returned as result of invoking the function
- SQL function are in fact parameterized views that generalize the regular notion of views by allowing parameters.



Table Functions

- SQL:2003 added functions that return a relation as a result
- Example: Return all instructors in a given department create function instructor_of (dept_name char(20))

returns table (

```
ID varchar(5),
name varchar(20),
dept_name varchar(20),
salary numeric(8,2))
```

return table

(select ID, name, dept_name, salary
from instructor
where instructor.dept_name = instructor_of.dept_name)

Usage

select *
from table (instructor_of ('Music'))



SQL Procedures

The *dept_count* function could instead be written as procedure: **create procedure** *dept_count_proc* (**in** *dept_name* **varchar**(20), **out** *d_count* **integer**)

begin

select count(*) into d_count
from instructor
where instructor.dept_name = dept_count_proc.dept_name

end

Procedures can be invoked either from an SQL procedure or from embedded SQL, using the call statement.

declare d_count integer; call dept_count_proc('Physics', d_count);

Procedures and functions can be invoked also from dynamic SQL

SQL:1999 allows more than one function/procedure of the same name (called name overloading), as long as the number of arguments differ, or at least the types of the arguments differ

Language Constructs for Procedures & Functions

- SQL supports constructs that gives it almost all the power of a generalpurpose programming language.
 - Warning: most database systems implement their own variant of the standard syntax below.
- Compound statement: **begin ... end**,
 - May contain multiple SQL statements between **begin** and **end**.
 - Local variables can be declared within a compound statements
- While and repeat statements:
 - while boolean expression do sequence of statements;
 end while
 - repeat

sequence of statements ; until boolean expression end repeat



Language Constructs (Cont.)

- For loop
 - Permits iteration over all results of a query
- Example: Find the budget of all departments

```
declare n integer default 0;
for r as
    select budget from department
do
    set n = n + r.budget
end for
```



Language Constructs (Cont.)

- Conditional statements (if-then-else)
 SQL:1999 also supports a case statement similar to C case statement
- Example procedure: registers student after ensuring classroom capacity is not exceeded
 - Returns 0 on success and -1 if capacity is exceeded
 - See book (page 177) for details

Signaling of exception conditions, and declaring handlers for exceptions

declare out_of_classroom_seats condition
declare exit handler for out_of_classroom_seats
begin

.. signal out_of_classroom_seats end

- The handler here is **exit** -- causes enclosing **begin..end** to be exited
- Other actions possible on exception



External Language Routines

- SQL:1999 permits the use of functions and procedures written in other languages such as C or C++
- Declaring external language procedures and functions

```
create procedure dept_count_proc(in dept_name varchar(20),
out count integer)
```

language C external name '/usr/avi/bin/dept_count_proc'

create function dept_count(*dept_name* varchar(20)) returns integer language C external name '/usr/avi/bin/dept_count'



External Language Routines

- SQL:1999 allows the definition of procedures in an imperative programming language, (Java, C#, C or C++) which can be invoked from SQL queries.
- Functions defined in this fashion can be more efficient than functions defined in SQL, and computations that cannot be carried out in SQL can be executed by these functions.
- Declaring external language procedures and functions

```
create procedure dept_count_proc(in dept_name varchar(20),
out count integer)
```

```
language C
external name '/usr/avi/bin/dept_count_proc'
```

create function dept_count(*dept_name* varchar(20)) returns integer language C external name '/usr/avi/bin/dept_count'

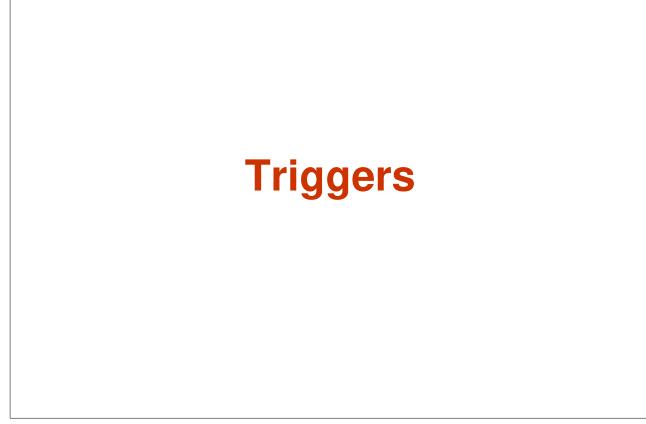
External Language Routines (Cont.)

- Benefits of external language functions/procedures:
 - more efficient for many operations, and more expressive power.
- Drawbacks
 - Code to implement function may need to be loaded into database system and executed in the database system's address space.
 - risk of accidental corruption of database structures
 - security risk, allowing users access to unauthorized data
 - There are alternatives, which give good security at the cost of potentially worse performance.
 - Direct execution in the database system's space is used when efficiency is more important than security.

Security with External Language Routines

- To deal with security problems, we can do on of the following:
 - Use **sandbox** techniques
 - That is, use a safe language like Java, which cannot be used to access/damage other parts of the database code.
 - Run external language functions/procedures in a separate process, with no access to the database process' memory.
 - Parameters and results communicated via inter-process communication
- Both have performance overheads
- Many database systems support both above approaches as well as direct executing in database system address space.





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Triggers

- A **trigger** is a statement that is executed automatically by the system as a side effect of a modification to the database.
- To design a trigger mechanism, we must:
 - Specify the conditions under which the trigger is to be executed.
 - Specify the actions to be taken when the trigger executes.
- Triggers introduced to SQL standard in SQL:1999, but supported even earlier using non-standard syntax by most databases.
 - Syntax illustrated here may not work exactly on your database system; check the system manuals

Triggering Events and Actions in SQL

- Triggering event can be **insert**, **delete** or **update**
- Triggers on update can be restricted to specific attributes
 - For example, after update of takes on grade
- Values of attributes before and after an update can be referenced
 - referencing old row as : for deletes and updates
 - referencing new row as : for inserts and updates
- Triggers can be activated before an event, which can serve as extra constraints. For example, convert blank grades to null.

```
create trigger setnull_trigger before update of takes
referencing new row as nrow
for each row
when (nrow.grade = ``)
begin atomic
    set nrow.grade = null;
end;
```

Trigger to Maintain credits_earned value

create trigger credits earned after update of takes on (grade) referencing new row as nrow referencing old row as *orow* for each row when *nrow.grade* <> 'F' and *nrow.grade* is not null and (orow.grade = 'F' or orow.grade is null) begin atomic update student **set** tot cred= tot cred + (select credits from course where course.course id= nrow.course id) where student.id = nrow.id; end;



Statement Level Triggers

- Instead of executing a separate action for each affected row, a single action can be executed for all rows affected by a transaction
 - Use for each statement instead of for each row
 - Use referencing old table or referencing new table to refer to temporary tables (called *transition tables*) containing the affected rows
 - Can be more efficient when dealing with SQL statements that update a large number of rows



When Not To Use Triggers

- Triggers were used earlier for tasks such as
 - Maintaining summary data (e.g., total salary of each department)
 - Replicating databases by recording changes to special relations (called change or delta relations) and having a separate process that applies the changes over to a replica

There are better ways of doing these now:

- Databases today provide built in materialized view facilities to maintain summary data
- Databases provide built-in support for replication
- Encapsulation facilities can be used instead of triggers in many cases
 - Define methods to update fields
 - Carry out actions as part of the update methods instead of through a trigger



When Not To Use Triggers (Cont.)

- Risk of unintended execution of triggers, for example, when
 - Loading data from a backup copy
 - Replicating updates at a remote site
 - Trigger execution can be disabled before such actions.
- Other risks with triggers:
 - Error leading to failure of critical transactions that set off the trigger
 - Cascading execution