PostgreSQL Notes

by Anchal

Database Fundamentals What is a Database?

A structured system for storing, managing, and retrieving data efficiently.



PostgreSQL Essentials PostgreSQL Overview

PostgreSQL, or Postgres, is a powerful open-source relational database system known for advanced features and modern design.



psql Command-Line

- \? Help
- \I List databases
- \psql --help psql help

Connecting to a Database ℰ

Two ways:

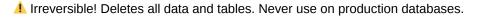
- 1. psql -h localhost -p 5432 -U username database_name
- 2. Within psql shell: \l, \c database_name

Danger Zone 📉



SQL

DROP DATABASE name



Creating Tables

Use CREATE TABLE. Define columns, data types, and constraints.

CREATE TABLE person (
id BIGSERIAL NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY,
first_name VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,
last_name VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,
gender VARCHAR(6) NOT NULL,

```
date_of_birth DATE NOT NULL
);
```

Describing Tables

\d or \d table_name to describe tables.

Data Manipulation

Inserting Data

Use

INSERT INTO for data insertion:

```
INSERT INTO person (first_name, last_name, gender, date_of_birth)
VALUES
(1, 'John', 'Doe', 'MALE', DATE '1990-05-15'), (2, 'Jane', 'Smith', 'FEMALE', DATE '1988-03-22'), (3, 'Michael', 'Johnson', 'MALE', DATE '1995-09-10'), (4, 'Emily', 'Brown', 'FEMALE', DATE '1992-07-03'), (5, 'David', 'Lee', 'MALE', DATE '1987-11-28'), (6, 'Olivia', 'Garcia', 'FEMALE', DATE '1998-02-19'), (7, 'Daniel', 'Martinez', 'MALE', DATE '1986-12-14'), (8, 'Sophia', 'Anderson', 'FEMALE', DATE '1991-04-27'), (9, 'Ethan', 'Taylor', 'MALE', DATE '1996-06-05'), (10, 'Ava', 'Clark', 'FEMALE', DATE '1989-08-08');
```

Querying Data Selecting Data

Use SELECT:

```
SELECT * FROM person;
SELECT first_name, last_name FROM person;
```

id	first_name	last_name	gender	date_of_birth
1	John	Doe	MALE	1990-05-15
2	Jane	Smith	FEMALE	1988-03-22
3	Michael	Johnson	MALE	1995-09-10
4	Emily	Brown	FEMALE	1992-07-03
5	David	Lee	MALE	1987-11-28
6	Olivia	Garcia	FEMALE	1998-02-19
7	Daniel	Martinez	MALE	1986-12-14

id	first_name	last_name	gender	date_of_birth
8	Sophia	Anderson	FEMALE	1991-04-27
9	Ethan	Taylor	MALE	1996-06-05
10	Ava	Clark	FEMALE	1989-08-08

Sorting Data

• Ascending: SELECT * FROM person ORDER BY last_name

• Descending: SELECT* FROM person ORDER BY last_name DESC

DATA TYPES

Data Type	Description Signed eight-byte integer
bigint integer	Signed four-byte integer Signed two-
smallint	byte integer Exact numeric with p digits,
numeric(p,s) real	s of them Four-byte floating-point Eight-
double precision	byte floating-point Exact numeric with p
decimal(p,s) text	digits, s of them Variable-length
char(n) varchar(n)	character string Fixed-length character
date time	string Variable-length character string
timestamp	Date (year, month, day) Time of day (no
timestamptz	time zone) Date and time (no time
interval boolean	zone) Date and time with time zone
enum uuid json	Time interval True/False values
jsonb bytea point	Enumerated (enum) types Universally
line Iseg box path	unique identifier JSON data type Binary
polygon	JSON data type Binary data Point on a
	plane Infinite line on a plane Line
	segment on a plane Rectangular box on
	a plane Closed path on a plane Polygon
	on a plane

Data Type	Description
circle inet cidr	Circle on a plane
macaddr bit(n)	IPv4 or IPv6 host address
bit varying(n)	IPv4 or IPv6 network address
tsvector tsquery	MAC address
hstore oid pg_lsn	Fixed-length bit string
uuid money xml	Variable-length bit string
interval	Text search vector (full-text search)
oidvector	Text search query (full-text search)
	Key-value store
	Object identifier (system use)
	Log sequence number
	Universally unique identifier
	Currency amount
	XML data
	Time interval
	Array of object identifiers

Distinct Values

SELECT DISTINCT gender FROM person;

Output:

gender
MALE
FEMALE

Filtering Data

SELECT * FROM person WHERE gender = 'FEMALE';

id	first_name	last_name	gender	date_of_birth
2	Jane	Smith	FEMALE	1988-03-22
4	Emily	Brown	FEMALE	1992-07-03
6	Olivia	Garcia	FEMALE	1998-02-19
8	Sophia	Anderson	FEMALE	1991-04-27
10	Ava	Clark	FEMALE	1989-08-08

Comparison Operators

```
Use < , > , = , <= , and >=.
```

Limiting Results

```
SELECT * FROM person LIMIT 5;

SELECT * FROM person OFFSET 5 LIMIT 5;

SELECT * FROM person OFFSET 5 FETCH 5 ROW ONLY;
```

Advanced Queries \(\bigcirc \) IN Clause

Filter with IN:

SELECT * FROM person WHERE last_name IN ('Doe', 'Smith', 'Anderson');

Output:

id	first_name	last_name	gender	date_of_birth
1	John	Doe	MALE	1990-05-15
2	Jane	Smith	FEMALE	1988-03-22
8	Sophia	Anderson	FEMALE	1991-04-27

BETWEEN Clause

```
SELECT * FROM person
WHERE date_of_birth BETWEEN DATE '1990-01-01' AND '1995-12-31';
```

Output:

id	first_name	last_name	gender	date_of_birth
1	John	Doe	MALE	1990-05-15
4	Emily	Brown	FEMALE	1992-07-03
8	Sophia	Anderson	FEMALE	1991-04-27

LIKE Operator

The LIKE operator allows you to perform pattern matching within strings.

- _ matches any single character.
- %p% matches any string containing 'p'.
- ILIKE can be used for case-insensitive matching.

Examples:

Match names starting with 'J':

```
SELECT * FROM person WHERE first_name LIKE 'J%';
```

Output:

id	first_name	last_name	gender	date_of_birth
1	John	Doe	MALE	1990-05-15
2	Jane	Smith		

| FEMALE | 1988-03-22 |

• Match names containing 'an':

```
SELECT * FROM person WHERE last_name LIKE '%an%';
```

Case-insensitive match for 'john':

```
SELECT * FROM person WHERE first_name ILIKE 'john';
```

GROUP BY Clause

The GROUP Byclause is used to group rows with similar values in specified columns, often used with aggregate functions.

Example:

SELECT country_of_birth, COUNT(*) FROM person GROUP BY country_of_birth;

Output:

country_of_birth	count
USA	3
Canada	2
UK	2
France	1
Germany	2

GROUP BY HAVING Clause

The GROUP BYClause can be combined with HAVING to filter grouped results based on aggregate functions.

Example:

SELECT country_of_birth, COUNT(*) FROM person GROUP BY country_of_birth HAVING COUNT(*) > 1;

country_of_birth	count
USA	3 2 2
Canada	2
UK	
Germany	

Useful Aggregate Functions Sample Car Table ←

Let's create a sample car table with 10 values:

id	make	model	price
1	Ford	Mustang	50000
2	Honda	Civic	25000
3	Ford	Fusion	30000
4	Toyota	Camry	28000
5	Honda	Accord	32000
6	Toyota	Corolla	22000
7	Ford	Focus	27000
8	Honda	Fit	18000
9	Toyota	RAV4	35000
10	Ford	Escape	31000

MAX

To find the maximum value in a column:

```
SELECT MAX(price) FROM car;
```

Output:

```
max
------50000.00
(1 row)
```

To find the maximum value per category (e.g., make):

```
SELECT make, MAX(price) FROM car GROUP BY make;
```

```
make | max
------|-----
```

```
Ford | 50000.00 Honda | 32000.00 Toyota | 35000.00 (3 rows)
```

MIN

To find the minimum value in a column:

```
SELECT MIN(price) FROM car;
```

Output:

```
min
------
18000.00
(1 row)
```

To find the minimum value per category (e.g., make):

```
SELECT make, MIN(price) FROM car GROUP BY make;
```

Output:

AVERAGE

To calculate the average value in a column:

```
SELECT AVG(price) FROM car;
```

Output:

```
avg
-------
29500.000000000
(1 row)
```

To round the average value:

```
SELECT ROUND(AVG(price)) FROM car;
```

Output:

```
round
------
29500
(1 row)
```

SUM

To find the total sum of values in a column:

```
SELECT SUM(price) FROM car;
```

Output:

```
sum
-------
295000.00
(1 row)
```

To find the total sum per category (e.g., make):

```
SELECT make, SUM(price) FROM car GROUP BY make;
```

Output:

Arithmetic Operators■

Arithmetic operators allow you to perform calculations on columns in your queries.

• For applying a percentage discount:

```
SELECT id, make, model, price * 0.10 AS discount FROM car;
```

To round the calculated discount:

```
SELECT id, make, model, price, ROUND(price * 0.10, 2) AS discount FROM car;
```

Calculating discounted price:

```
SELECT id, make, model, price, (price - (price * 0.10)) AS discounted_price FROM car;
```



You can use the

AS keyword to assign aliases to columns or expressions in your query results.

```
SELECT id, make, model, price * 0.10 AS discount FROM car;
```

In this example, price * 0.10 is given the alias "discount."

COALESCE

The COALESCE function returns the first non-null argument.

To provide a default value if a column is null:

```
SELECT COALESCE(email, 'email not provided') FROM person;
```

In this example, if the email column is null, it returns 'email not provided.'

NULLIF

The NULLIF function compares two expressions and returns null if they are equal; otherwise, it returns the first expression.

To avoid division by zero:

```
SELECT NULLIF(10 / 0, 10);
```

Here, it returns null to avoid division by zero.

Combining COALESCE and NULLIF:

```
SELECT COALESCE(10 / NULLIF(0, 0), 0);
```

Date and Time 17

You can work with date and time values in PostgreSQL.

• To get the current date and time:

```
SELECT NOW();
```

To extract specific components from dates:

```
SELECT EXTRACT(YEAR FROM NOW());

SELECT EXTRACT(MONTH FROM NOW());

SELECT EXTRACT(DAY FROM NOW()); -- Day of the week

SELECT EXTRACT(CENTURY FROM NOW());
```

To calculate age based on date of birth:

Primary Key 🥕

A primary key is a column or set of columns that uniquely identifies each row in a table. It enforces the uniqueness of values and ensures that the column(s) cannot contain null values.

ALTER TABLE person ADD PRIMARY KEY (id);

UNIQUE Constraint

A UNIQUE constraint ensures that all values in a column or a group of columns are distinct. It en

forces the uniqueness of values but allows null values.

ALTER TABLE person ADD CONSTRAINT unique_email UNIQUE (email);

Foreign Key

A foreign key is a column or a set of columns in a table that is used to establish and enforce a link between the data in two tables. It creates a relationship between the tables.

ALTER TABLE orders
ADD CONSTRAINT fk_customer_id
FOREIGN KEY (customer_id)
REFERENCES customers (id);

Indexing **=**

Indexes are database objects used to speed up data retrieval. They are created on columns to quickly locate and access data rows.

CREATE INDEX idx_last_name ON person (last_name);

Subqueries 😉

A subquery is a query nested within another query. It can be used to retrieve data needed for the main query or for filtering results.

Example: Find all customers who have placed an order:

SELECT * FROM customers
WHERE id IN (SELECT DISTINCT customer_id FROM orders);



Joins are used to combine rows from two or more tables based on related columns between them.

INNER JOIN

An INNER JOIN returns only the rows that have matching values in both tables.

```
SELECT customers.name, orders.order_date
FROM customers
INNER JOIN orders ON customers.id = orders.customer_id;
```

LEFT JOIN (or LEFT OUTER JOIN)

A LEFT JOIN returns all rows from the left table and the matched rows from the right table. If there is no match, it returns NULL values for right table columns.

```
SELECT customers.name, orders.order_date
FROM customers

LEFT JOIN orders ON customers.id = orders.customer_id;
```

RIGHT JOIN (or RIGHT OUTER JOIN)

A RIGHT JOIN returns all rows from the right table and the matched rows from the left table. If there is no match, it returns NULL values for left table columns.

```
SELECT customers.name, orders.order_date
FROM customers
RIGHT JOIN orders ON customers.id = orders.customer_id;
```

FULL OUTER JOIN

A FULL OUTER JOIN returns all rows when there is a match in either the left or the right table. If there is no match, it returns NULL values for columns from the table without a match.

```
SELECT customers.name, orders.order_date
FROM customers
FULL OUTER JOIN orders ON customers.id = orders.customer_id;
```



```
CREATE TABLE people (
id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
first_name VARCHAR(50),
last_name VARCHAR(50),
gender VARCHAR(10),
date_of_birth DATE
```

```
CREATE TABLE cars (
id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
make VARCHAR(50),
model VARCHAR(50),
price DECIMAL(10, 2),
owner_id INT,
FOREIGN KEY (owner_id) REFERENCES people(id),
UNIQUE (owner_id, id)
);
```

Sample Data:

```
INSERT INTO people (first_name, last_name, gender, date_of_birth) VALUES ('Alice', 'Johnson', 'Female', '1990-05-15'), ('Bob', 'Smith', 'Male', '1985-02-10');

INSERT INTO cars (make, model, price, owner_id) VALUES ('Toyota', 'Camry', 25000.00, 1), ('Honda', 'Civic', 22000.00, 2), ('Ford', 'Mustang', 45000.00, 1);
```

Querying Data:

```
SELECT people.first_name, people.last_name, cars.make, cars.model
FROM people
JOIN cars ON people.id = cars.owner_id;
```

Output:

first_name	last_name	make	model
Alice	Johnson	Toyota	Camry
Bob	Smith	Honda	Civic
Alice	Johnson	Ford	Mustang

Handling Constraints and Operations

DELETE Data

The DELETE statement removes rows:

```
DELETE FROM person WHERE id = 1;
```



The UPDATE statement modifies data:

UPDATE person SET gender = 'Other' WHERE gender = 'Unknown';



INSERT adds new rows:

INSERT INTO person (name, age) VALUES ('John', 30);

Upsert and Excluded ■ ≛

An upsert operation combines INSERT and UPDATE:

INSERT INTO person (id, name) VALUES (1, 'Alice')
ON CONFLICT (id) DO UPDATE SET name = EXCLUDED.name;

Exporting to CSV

To export data to a CSV file:

\COPY (SELECT * FROM people) TO 'people.csv' WITH CSV HEADER;

Additional PostgreSQL Features

- Serial Sequences
- PostgreSQL Extensions **
- PL/v8 **
- UUIDs as Primary Keys