‘As mentioned in the introduction section; there are many brands of relational database, enterprise and open source. However; as per the document title this document will cover the basics of <a id=“t-sql”>Transact Structured Query Language or T-SQL</a>.’

‘<i><b>What is T-SQL?</i></b>’

’T-SQL is Microsoft’s implementation of SQL in their proprietary brand of RDBMS called <a id=“”>Microsoft SQL Server</a>.’

‘<i><b>Microsoft SQL Server is a enterprise RDBMS, I don’t need enterprise RDBMS to learn the basics.<i><b>’

‘And you indeed do not need it, Microsoft have a scaled down version of the mighty enterprise version specifically for learning T-SQL in a Microsoft environment called Microsoft SQL Server Express, MS SQL Express.’

‘This version may also be used for to implement application that does not require enterprise scaling. The next section <a href=“#Getting\_started”>Getting Started</a> will point you to the resources you need to acquire the software as well as instructions on installation thereof.’

‘<i><b>What are “The Basics”?</b><i>’

‘The great thing about SQL is that knowing the basics can go a long way.‘

‘For instance, say you are a data analyst that uses excel to analyse and maintain data. Excel is a great tool and works very well for creating reports, but although it can in theory handle 1 million plus a bit records. Anything above 200 000 and it will just be a frustration to use.’

‘The content of this document will place you in a position to administer data using the power of Microsofts Powerful Database engine without having to acquire an expensive more efficient alternative to Excel.’

‘<i><b>What is covered in this document?<i><b>'

‘Even though the basics can take you a long way, the road to learning advanced SQL is even longer as it covers multiple disciplines like distributed database administration, database design and implementation, database security etc.’

‘If you are a software developer, solutions architect or database administrator and you already know some SQL; this document is unfortunately not appropriate for you. Feel free to go to the <a href=“#Advanced\_topics”>Advanced topics</a> section of this page which might guide you toward the appropriate material.’

‘If you are brand new to RDBMS and you wish to get certified, there is a link to the Microsoft Virtual Academy in the <a href=“#Additional\_resources”>Additional resources</a> section of this document.’

‘Here is a list of a few general features that this document will not cover:’

‘<ul>’

‘<li>Merge</li>’

‘<li>Unions</li>’

‘<li>Cursors</li>’

‘<li>Triggers</li>'

‘<li>Declaring and using variables</li>’

‘<li>Stored procedures</li>’

‘<li>Common table expressions</li>’

‘<li>Conditional operations (IF, CASE)</li>’

‘<li>Loops in T-SQL</li>’

‘<li>Data control language</li>'

‘<li></li>’

‘<li></li>’

‘<li></li>’

‘</ul>’

t-sql: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transact-SQL>

mssql: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/sql/database-engine/install-windows/installation-for-sql-server?view=sql-server-2017>