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Week 5



## DB1102 / PGR 111 - DATABASES

## Today's topics

(Today's chapters: 5.1-5.3 in Norwegian book, 3.8 & 4.2 in English book)

- Exercise walkthrough of task 5 from last week
- Subqueries
- VIEWs



# Exercise walkthrough

## Exercise walkthrough, 1 task from week 4

- We're looking into task 5 from the previous week:
  - Retrieve all the countries in the world, and all their cities, where the population of the country is less than 1000 people. We want to retrieve the name of the country (AS CountryName), the population of the country (AS CountryPop), which continent the country belongs to, the name of all cities (AS CityName) and the population of the cities (AS CityPop). We want the result sorted alphabetically by the country names. (Hint: My answer returns 10 rows, is that the same number of rows you get?)

# Subqueries

## Subqueries

- As mentioned in previous lessons, the result of a SELECT is presented as an SQL table.
  - It forms columns and rows the same way as existing tables in the database do.
- Therefore, it is ok to use the result of one SELECT as part of another SQL statement. Using a SELECT statement inside another SQL statement in this way is called a subquery.
  - (For the exercises on table mail and person in a previous week, you used a SELECT as part of an INSERT INTO statement.)

- Sometimes we need the answer from one query to complete another SQL statement.
  - We have already done this regarding insert into / update / delete from.
  - We can also do this when only SELECT statements are involved.

- Example: We want to figure out how many cities that have a population equal to or greater than the average population.
  - Before we can complete this query, we need to figure out what the average city population is.

- Task: "How many cities have a population equal to or greater than the average city population?"
  - We can solve it with a subquery (a SELECT) inside a SELECT, like this:

```
SELECT COUNT(*)
FROM city
WHERE Population >=
  (SELECT AVG(Population) FROM city);
```

- Another one: "List all European cities"
  - We can solve it like this:

```
SELECT Name
FROM city
WHERE CountryCode IN
(SELECT Code
FROM country
WHERE Continent = 'Europe');
```

- Explanation of IN: Lets us compare a column with a group of values.
- (Note: This one could have been solved with a JOIN as well.)

- Yet another example: "What size, as a percentage of the world's largest country, does each country have?"
  - We can solve it with a subquery (a SELECT) inside a SELECT, like this:

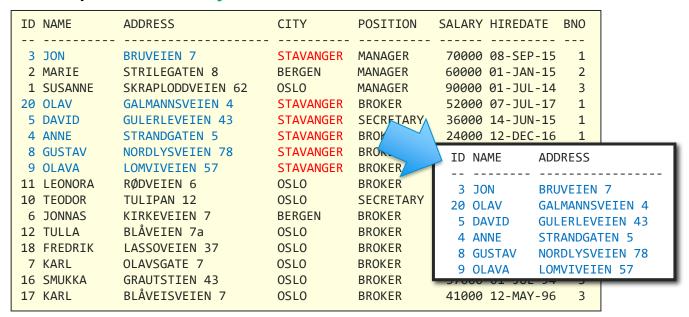
```
SELECT Name, SurfaceArea / (SELECT MAX(SurfaceArea) FROM country) * 100
FROM country
ORDER BY SurfaceArea DESC;
```

- Or what about: "We want to see what percentage the inhabitants of a country make up of the total population of Earth."
  - This is one of today's exercises. :-)

## VIEW

## What is view?

- A VIEW is a pre-created query for one or more tables.
  - Example: We only want ID, NAME, and ADDRESS, for "STAVANGER"



## Why use views?

Security: Restrict data access in the database.

- Reduce complexity when writing SQL queries later:
  - Can make complex queries easier.
  - Reduces the amount of data for the user.

- Customization: Achieve different views of the database.
  - user groups / applications

## Disadvantages of views

- More complexity related to updates and changes:
  - There are restrictions on when you can change underlying data through a view.
  - The structure is determined when the VIEW is created, and will not automatically change later (VIEW based on SELECT \* FROM ...)

#### Performance:

- A view can join many tables, and thus be a relatively heavy query.
- This is not always easy to see for the user.

## Create a view

```
CREATE [OR REPLACE] VIEW view_name AS SELECT subquery;
```

OR REPLACE → overwrites a VIEW if it already exists

subquery → the SELECT query we want to store

## Example, the world schema

```
CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW EuropeCountry_view AS
SELECT Code, Name, Population
FROM country
WHERE Continent = 'Europe';
```

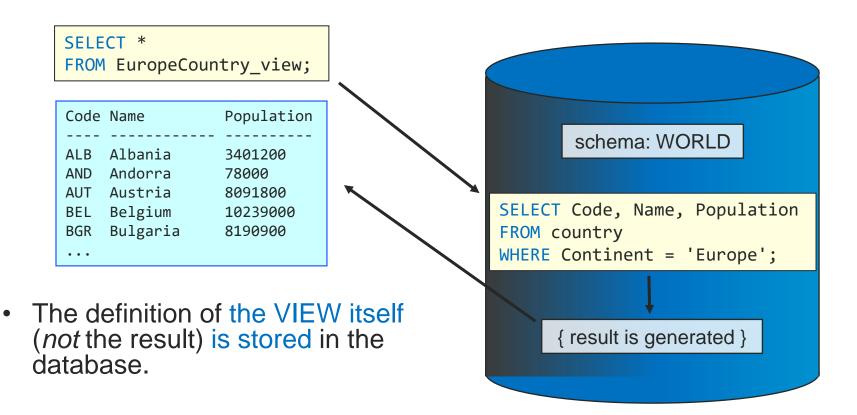
SELECT \*
FROM EuropeCountry\_view;



 Views are treated the same way as tables are.

Code	Name Popul	lation
ALB AND AUT BEL BGR BIH BLR CHE CZE DEU DNK	Albania Andorra Austria Belgium Bulgaria Bosnia and Herzegovina Belarus Switzerland Czech Republic Germany Denmark	3401200 78000 8091800 10239000 8190900 3972000 10236000 7160400 10278100 82164700 5330000
ESP	Spain	39441700

## This is how querying a view works



## Example, some variations

We can give views their own column names:

```
CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW EuropeCountry_view AS
SELECT Code AS ID, Name AS Country, Population
FROM country
WHERE Continent = 'Europe';

CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW EuropeCountry_view
(ID, Country, Population) AS
SELECT Code, Name, Population
FROM country
WHERE Continent = 'Europe';

SELECT *
```

FROM EuropeCountry view;



ID	Country	Population
ALB	Albania	3401200
AND	Andorra	78000
AUT	Austria	8091800
BEL	Belgium	10239000
BGR	Bulgaria	8190900
BIH	Bosnia and Herzegovina	3972000
BLR	Belarus	10236000
CHE	Switzerland	7160400
CZE	Czech Republic	10278100
DEU	Germany	82164700
DNK	Denmark	5330000
ESP	Spain	39441700
• • •		

## Group functions used in views

```
CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW ContinentPopulation view AS
SELECT Continent, SUM(Population) AS Population
FROM country
GROUP BY Continent
                                              Continent
                                                              Population
ORDER BY SUM(Population) ASC;
                                              Antarctica
                                              Oceania
                                                              30401150
                                              South America
                                                              345780000
    SELECT *
                                              North America
                                                              482993000
    FROM ContinentPopulation view;
                                              Europe
                                                              730074600
                                              Africa
                                                              784475000
                                              Asia
                                                              3705025700
```

- Group functions can be used in views.
  - It is a good idea to use AS (alias) to customize the column names.

## Exercise

- Create a view to display the cities in the world with population > 5 million.
  - It should display city, population and which country the city is located in.
  - It should be sorted on population descending.

```
CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW LargeCities_view

(city, population, country) AS

SELECT city.name, city.population, country.name

FROM city

JOIN country ON CountryCode = Code

WHERE city.Population > 5000000

ORDER BY city.Population DESC;
```

city population country Mumbai (Bombay) 10500000 India Seoul 9981619 South Korea São Paulo 9968485 Brazil Shanghai 9696300 China Jakarta 9604900 Indonesia Karachi 9269265 Pakistan Istanbul 8787958 Turkey

Then, lets retrieve the 7 largest cities:

SELECT \*
FROM largeCities\_view
LIMIT 7;

## New SQL word: LIMIT

• LIMIT limits (d'oh!) the number of rows in your result.

- Example:
  - I want to find the three physically largest countries in the world.



## Tips for using CREATE VIEW

- Same tip for creating VIEW as for doing insert / update / delete based on queries:
  - Always test the SELECT first, so you know if it works before you use it in the view!

```
CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW largeCities
(city, population, country)
AS SELECT ci.name, ci.population, co.name
FROM city ci LEFT JOIN country co ON ci.countryCode = co.Code
WHERE ci.Population>5000000
ORDER BY population DESC;
```

## Updates through views

- Views can be used to update data in an underlying table.
- Note: There are ISO restrictions that must be followed before a view can be used for updates:
  - The view can only reference one table.
  - DISTINCT cannot be part of the view.
  - All elements in the select part of the view must be columns (not constants, summations, etc.)
  - No GROUP BY or HAVING.
  - Rows that are added must follow the integrity rules for the underlying table (not null, etc.).

## Updates through views – cont.

Note that a view updates the data in the table! (Not just the view itself.)

```
UPDATE EuropeCountry view
                                                  Country
                                             ID
SET ID = 'A Z'
WHERE Country = 'Austria';
                                                  Albania
                                             ALB
                                             AND
                                                  Andorra
                                                  Austria
                                             BEL
                                                  Belgium
        SELECT ID, Country
                                             BGR
                                                  Bulgaria
        FROM EuropeCountry view;
                                             . . .
    SELECT Code, Name, Population
                                            CODE Name
                                                            Population
    FROM country
    WHERE Name = 'Austria';
                                            A Z Austria
                                                            8091800
```

## Deleting views

- Syntax to delete a view is almost the same as for a table:
  - Just replace the word "table" with "view".

DROP VIEW EuropeCountry\_view;

## Today's exercises & next lesson

- Now: 2 hours of exercises.
- Exercises are found on Canvas. Short summary:
  - Try to make some subqueries on your own.
  - Combine what we just learned about VIEW with SQL knowledge syntax from our earlier lessons.
- Main contents for the next lesson:
  - Not new content, but a sum-up of what we have learned so far!
  - Walkthrough of exercises YOU want to see solved form previous weeks. Send me those week- & task-numbers. :-)

