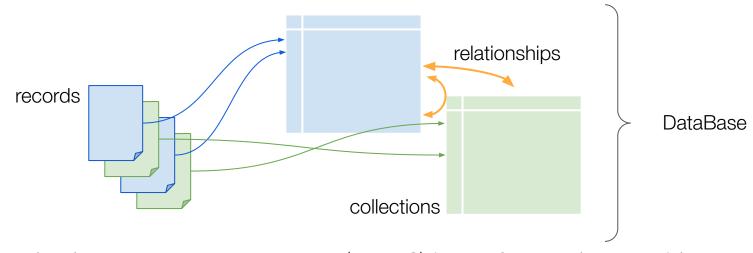


5 - RELATIONAL DATABASES

Management and Analysis of Physics Datasets - Module B
Physics of Data



A **database** can loosely be defined as a set of (often/generally related) **records** organized and managed by a dedicated **management system**



The database management system (DBMS) is a software that provides a number of basic functionalities to operate on the DB, including:

- defining / creating data
- querying / selecting data
- manipulating / processing data



DBs tend to improve the management of large datasets over (D)FSs:

DBs work with the granularity of individual records:
 (e.g. accessing single events of a dataset instead of all records in a file)
 ⇒ optimization over file-based operations

ALL data (and metadata) of a dataset is managed by the DBMS
 (e.g. data and detector configuration / banking wire transfers and users' data)
 ⇒ all dataset information is accessible, including relationships between records

Little-to-no replication is required to handle multiple "views" of the same data (e.g. store the whole dataset in a DB, and filter based on relations across records)
 ⇒ allows creating multiple subsets of the dataset without data replication



```
file_1.dat
file_2.dat
file_3.dat
file_4.dat
file_5.dat
file_6.dat
```

```
result = []

for single_file in file_list:
    single_file.open()
    for line in single_file:
        if 'something' is in line:
            result.append(line)
        single_file.close()
```

id	feat1	feat2	feat3
100	"foo"	12.3	[1.9, -2.0, 0.3]
101	"something"	1.3e-5	[1.3, 2.3, 5.4]
102	"bar"	-0.2	[5.3, 1.2, -3.4]

```
SELECT * FROM data WHERE feat1 = 'something';
```



In DBs it's often referred to the difference between the data "description" versus the data "content":

- Database Model (or Database Schema)
 - → the description of the data and the relationships across various parts of the dataset
- Database Instance (or Database State)
 - → the actual data contained in the database at a given moment in time

Recalling the various data models, it's clear that not all kinds of data can be described according to a simple formal logical schema

- → easy for structured data
- → not so much for semi- and un-structured data

DATABASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



The DB Management System (DBMS) is in charge of defining the schema, as well as updating/manipulating the instance of the DB

- Very often we (simplistically) refer to "a Database" to describe a "DB+DBMS"

A number of DBs can be defined based on various conditions:

- Data Model
- Type of User access (single/multi-user)
- Architecture (centralized/federated/...)
- -

Possibly the most relevant categorization from the users perspective is the one based on the data model, *i.e.* the way each record is represented

DATABASE MODELS

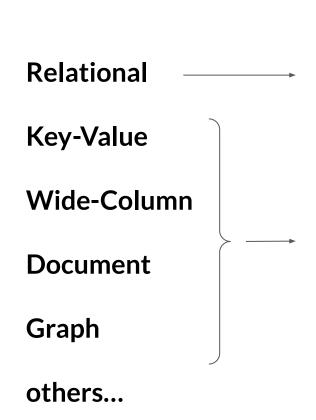


In simple terms, each DB record can be thought a given data **VALUE** indexed by a **KEY**, used as a unique data identifier

The data itself might be structured, semi-structured, or (less often) unstructured, depending on the application

DATABASE MODELS





Easily the most widely used

Designed for **structured data** and their relationship

Also (improperly) known as SQL DB

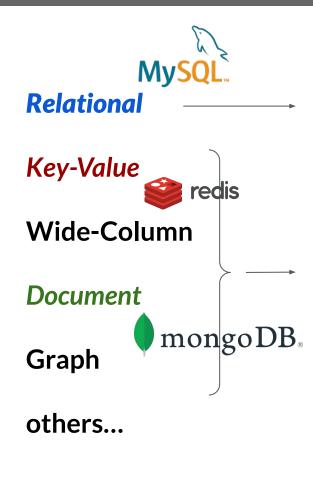
NoSQL (Not Only SQL) DB

Different implementations depending on the data-model

Mostly designed for **non structured data** and horizontal scalability

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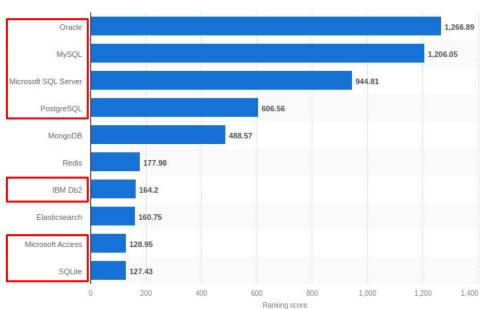
Different implementations depending on the data-model

Mostly designed for **non structured data** and horizontal scalability



Extremely common DB choice behind most real-life services and applications

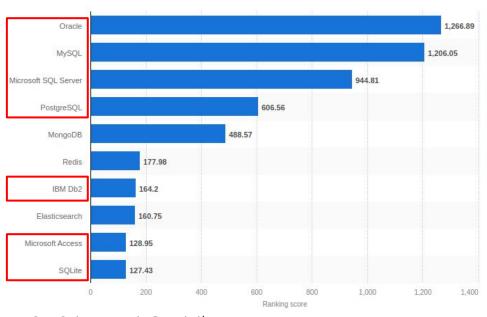
Ideal to have a mapping of relationships across multiple records of the dataset





Extremely common DB choice behind most real-life services and applications

Ideal to have a mapping of relationships across multiple records of the dataset



Based on relational algebra (introduced in 1970 by Ted Codd)

A Relational DB requires a well-known and predefined schema

 \rightarrow structured datasets only

RDBMS organizes the data in **tables**, allowing for a **mapping of relations across** records of different tables



Motorbike(bike id, model, model_id)

bike_id	model	model_id
100	Goldwing	999
101	AfricaTwin	12
102	CBR1000	455



Motorbike(bike id, model, model_id)

bike_id	model	model_id
100	Goldwing	999
101	AfricaTwin	12
102	CBR1000	455

Valve(valve id, part_n)

valve_id	part_n	
96	vlv_1256	
97	vlv_1286	
98	vlv_1193	



Motorbike(bike id, model, model_id)

bike_id	model	model_id
100	Goldwing	999
101	AfricaTwin	12
102	CBR1000	455

Model (model id, year, engine_id, chassis_id)

model_id	year	engine_id	chassis_id
75	1989	56	90
12	2016	82	97
86	2011	83	112

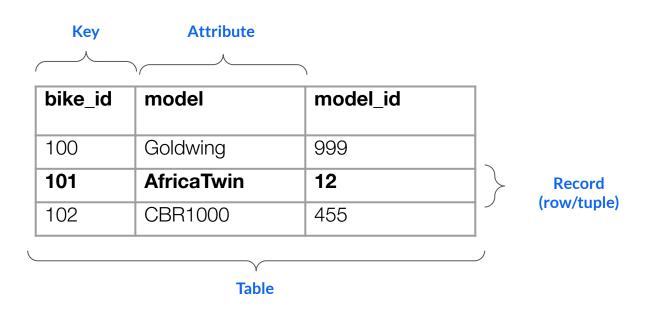
Valve(valve id, part_n)

valve_id	part_n	
96	vlv_1256	
97	vlv_1286	
98	vlv_1193	

Engine(<u>engine id</u>, engine_name, num_cylinders, num_valves, valve_type)

engine_id	engine name	num cylinders	num valves	valve type
81	699F	4	3	128
82	1000L	2	4	96
83	350X	1	2	622





A **primary key** is an attribute or a combination of multiple attributes which identifies univocally a record

- PKs must be **unique** ⇒ different tuples *must not* have identical keys
- PKs must be **minimal** ⇒ use the bare minimum attributes to define the key (only attributes that cannot be null or "useless")



Primary Key		Foreign Key	Foreign Key
	`		
model_id	year	engine_id	chassis_id
75	1989	56	90
12	2016	82	97
86	2011	83	112

When assessing relationships across multiple tables, we do refer to the **primary key** and to the **foreign key(s)**

→ attribute (or list of attributes) acting as the link to the key to other tables

E.g. **engine_id** is primary key in the **Engine** table, AND a foreign key in the **Model** table



Each set of operations on a Relational DB is referred to as a **Transaction**



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Transactions are



meaning that are operations characterized by:

Atomicity —

Consistency \rightarrow

Isolation \rightarrow

Durability —



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Atomicity

→ Either all operations in a transaction are executed in full or aborted (all-or-nothing)

Consistency \rightarrow

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Durability —



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Consistency

Transactions must always move the DB from one valid state into another, preserving all the DB constraints (not the same "C" as in the CAP theorem)

Isolation

 \longrightarrow

Durability –



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→ Transactions must always move the DB from one valid state into another, preserving all the DB constraints (not the same "C" as in the CAP theorem)

Isolation

→ Every transaction (even if executed concurrently with multiple other users) must generate the same results as in a single-user environment (unaware of other transactions happening at the same time)

Durability



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Isolation

→ Every transaction (even if executed concurrently with multiple other users) must generate the same results as in a single-user environment (unaware of other transactions happening at the same time)

Durability

→ After a transaction, the DB state persists until it is changed by another transaction

SQL



The "de facto" standard for transactions on RDBs is **SQL (Structured Query Language)**

It was developed starting from 1974 and become a standard in 1987

SQL is a declarative language which contains the features of:

- Data Definition Language (DDL)
 - \rightarrow to define the DB schemas
- Data Manipulation Language (DML)
 - \rightarrow to query and modify data
- Data Control Language (DCL)
 - → to perform authorization and access control

SQL (DDL) - CREATE TABLE



To create a table a **schema** is required \rightarrow all attributes must be specified beforehand

```
CREATE TABLE Users (
    UserID varchar(30),
    BadgeNum int(16),
    FirstName varchar(255),
    LastName varchar(255),
    Age int,
    OtherAttr float
);
```

Upon creation of a table, the instance (the actual data contained) is empty

SQL (DDL) - CREATE TABLE



Data Type	Description
CHAR(n)	Holds a fixed length string with size n
VARCHAR(n)	Holds a variable length string with maximum size n
SMALLINT	Small integer (no decimal) between -32768 to 32767
INT	Integer (no decimal) between -2147483648 to 2147483647
FLOAT(n,d)	Small number with a floating decimal point. The total maximum number of digits is n with a maximum of d digits to
	the right of the decimal point.
DOUBLE(n,d)	Large number with a floating decimal point. The total maximum number of digits is n with a maximum of d digits to
	the right of the decimal point.
DATE	Date in format YYYY-MM-DD
DATETIME	Date and time in format YYYY-MM-DD HH:MI:SS
TIME	Time in format HH:MI:SS
BOOLEAN	True or False



One primary key can be specified at most for each table, either inline



One primary key can be specified at most for each table, either inline

```
CREATE TABLE Users (
    UserID     varchar(30) PRIMARY KEY,
    BadgeNum    int(16),
    FirstName varchar(255),
    LastName varchar(255),
    Age     int,
    OtherAttr float
):
AUTO_INCREMENT could be added to increment an Integer
KEY by 1 with every new record added to the table
):
```

Or as a combination of multiple attributes

```
CREATE TABLE Test (
    AttrOne varchar(255),
    AttrTwo varchar(255),
    PRIMARY KEY (AttrOne, AttrTwo)
);
```

CHECK



Additionally, a number of constraints can be assigned to the attributes:

 \rightarrow defines a constraint on the column values

All SQL conditions (CHECK and others, see later...) are stated between parentheses, e.g.:

(Attr. condition Value)



Additionally, a number of constraints can be assigned to the attributes:

- **FOREIGN KEY** → defines a foreign key of a table to reference attributes of other tables

```
CREATE TABLE Table1
   ThisKey varchar(8) PRIMARY KEY,
   Feat1 varchar(30)
CREATE TABLE Table2 (
   PrimKey varchar(10) PRIMARY KEY,
             int(16),
   Feat2
   ForKey varchar(8) UNIQUE,
   FOREIGN KEY (ForKey) REFERENCES Table1(ThisKey)
```

SQL (DDL) - TABLE ALTERATION



Once created, the schema of a table can be modified, keeping in mind all the constraints previously defined.

```
ALTER TABLE Users
ADD COLUMN Role CHAR(1) DEFAULT 'A' CHECK (Role IN ('A', 'B', 'C'));
```

The alteration of the schema is going to be propagated to the entire table
→ all records are going to be affected ⇒ it might take a really long time

SQL (DDL) - TABLE ALTERATION



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The alteration of the schema is going to be propagated to the entire table → all records are going to be affected ⇒ it might take a really long time

In the case a new NOT NULL attribute is added, all records contained in the table must now contain a valid value, hence a DEFAULT must be specified

This is one of the (many) issues related to the maintenance of a Relational DB. The process of defining and maintaining the schema of a RDB is referred to as **Database normalization**

SQL (DML)



SQL offers all CRUD operations:

```
    Create → INSERT → Insert new records in a Table
    Read → SELECT → Performs queries on the DB
    Update → UPDATE → Modifies records
    Delete → DELETE → Deletes records
```

In addition to the list of basic operations, it offers a number of additional features, e.g.:

- Conditional queries
- Table joins
- Aggregations
- Renaming and aliases
- Range operations
- Views

SQL (DML) - INSERT



Adding values to a table, with all limits and constraints provided by the table definition

Attributes which can be NULL or have a DEFAULT can be omitted

```
INSERT INTO Users (UserId, BadgeNum, FirstName, LastName, OtherAttr)
VALUES ('usr:00001',100,'Jacopo','Pazzini',1.8);
```

Multiple records can be inserted separated by a comma

```
INSERT INTO Users (UserId, BadgeNum, FirstName, LastName, OtherAttr)
VALUES
    ('usr:00002',101,'Matteo','Migliorini',3.5),
    ('usr:00003',102,'Stefano','Campese',2.9),
    ('usr:00004',103,'Federico','Agostini',4.7);
```

SQL (DML) - UPDATE



UPDATE allows to modify individual or multiple records by means of the WHERE statement.

```
UPDATE Users
SET Role = 'C'
WHERE (LastName = 'Pazzini');
```

```
WHERE defines a condition, e.g.:
Attr = 'value'
Attr > 'value'
Att <= 'value'
```

SQL (DML) - UPDATE



UPDATE allows to modify individual or multiple records by means of the WHERE statement

```
UPDATE Users
SET Role = 'C'
WHERE (LastName = 'Pazzini');
```

```
WHERE defines a condition, e.g.:
Attr = 'value'
Attr > 'value'
Att <= 'value'
```

```
UPDATE Users
SET Role = 'B'
WHERE (LastName LIKE '%i');
```

LIKE is used in a **WHERE** clause to search for a specified pattern:

 \rightarrow char wildcard

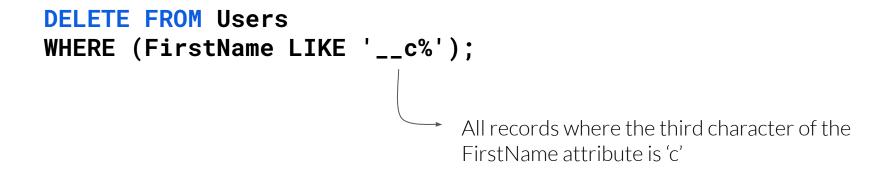
% → string wildcard

All records where LastName ends with 'i'

SQL (DML) - DELETE



DELETE allows to remove all records from a table, or a selection of records based on a condition



SQL (DML) - SELECT



The most powerful (and used) statement in SQL is SELECT

SELECT allows to query an entire table and extract the records fulfilling specific conditional statements

* is the notation used to indicate ALL the records of a table

SELECT * FROM Users;

Select all attributes of all records

SELECT FirstName, BadgeNum FROM Users;

Select specific attributes of all records

SELECT FirstName, BadgeNum FROM Users
WHERE (OtherAttr > 3);

Select specific attributes of records matching a condition

SQL (DML) - SELECT - ATTRIBUTE MODIFIERS



A SELECT statement can also contain operations on the attributes

→ the operations will not change the record, but only the value returned by the query

```
SELECT FirstName,OtherAttr*2,POWER(BadgeNum,2)
FROM Users
WHERE (OtherAttr > 3);
```

SQL (DML) - SELECT - ATTRIBUTE MODIFIERS



A SELECT statement can also contain operations on the attributes

→ the operations will not change the record, but only the value returned by the query

```
SELECT FirstName, OtherAttr*2, POWER(BadgeNum, 2)
FROM Users
WHERE (OtherAttr > 3);
```

Additional conditions can be applied with operators such as BETWEEN, IN, and with boolean operators

```
SELECT FirstName, BadgeNum
FROM Users
WHERE (OtherAttr BETWEEN 1 AND 2)
OR (Role IN ('A', 'C'));
```

```
BETWEEN → check if in range
IN → check if in list of values
```

SQL (DML) - SELECT - AGGREGATORS AND ORDERING



A number of other operators are defined in SQL to refine queries manipulating the results

```
MIN(attr)

MAX(attr)

COUNT(attr)

AVG(attr)

SELECT MAX(LastName)

FROM Users

WHERE FirstName LIKE ('%t%');

SUM(attr)
```

Ordering is defined in SQL with the ORDER BY clause, with default ordering being ascending (ASC) wrt the chosen attribute

To show only a given number of records after the query, LIMIT can be used

```
ORDER BY attr (DESC) LIMIT n
```

SELECT FirstName
FROM Users
ORDER BY BadgeNum DESC
LIMIT 2;

SQL (DML) - SELECT - ALIASES



Very often is useful to rename the attributes of the result of a query to simplify further access to the records

```
SELECT DISTINCT FirstName AS UniqueNames FROM Users
WHERE LastName LIKE ('%i');
```

DISTINCT check for unique values as attribute (similar to unique in other languages)

SQL (DML) - SELECT - ALIASES



Very often is useful to rename the attributes of the result of a query to simplify further access to the records

```
SELECT DISTINCT FirstName AS UniqueNames
FROM Users
WHERE LastName LIKE ('%i');
```

DISTINCT check for unique values as attribute

The same can be done for entire tables

```
SELECT DISTINCT U.FirstName UniqueNames FROM Users U
WHERE LastName LIKE ('%i');
```

table.attr can be also used to refer to a specific attribute

SQL (DML) - SELECT



The most powerful RDB feature is the ability to map relationships across records of multiple tables

Orders(OrderID, CustomerID, OrderDate, ShipperID)

OrderID	CustomerID	OrderDate	ShipperID
1001	94	2019-02-22	2
1002	22	2020-01-17	9
1003	94	2021-05-23	9

Customers(<u>CustomerID</u>, Name, Contact, Country, Address)

CustomerID	Name	Contact	Country	Address
92	ABC Inc	some@email.com	France	
93	This S.P.A	this@email.com	Italy	
94	That Inc	that@mail.com	Spain	

Shippers(ShipperID, Name, Phone)

ShipperID	Name	Phone
2	DHL	123456789
3	UPS	987654321
4	SDA	123454321

SQL (DML) - SELECT - GROUP BY



A SELECT query with aggregators which returns a number of subset of records can be issued with a GROUP BY statement.

```
SELECT COUNT(Country), Country FROM customers GROUP BY Country;
```

SQL (DML) - SELECT - GROUP BY



A SELECT query with aggregators which returns a number of subset of records can be issued with a GROUP BY statement

```
SELECT COUNT(Country), Country FROM customers GROUP BY Country;
```

The HAVING statement allows to filter the results by the aggregated attribute:

```
SELECT COUNT(Country) AS nCountry, Country FROM customers
GROUP BY Country
HAVING nCountry > 5
ORDER BY Country;
```

HAVING only applies to the <u>aggregate</u> values, not to the plain attributes

SQL (DML) - SELECT - JOINS



The DB schema will reflect the relationships across multiple tables, which can be retrieved with **join** operations on the keys

Join is a central feature for mapping relationships, and can used to perform a number of relational operations

SQL (DML) - SELECT - JOINS



The DB schema will reflect the relationships across multiple tables, which can be retrieved with **join** operations on the keys

Join is a central feature for mapping relationships, and can used to perform a number of relational operations

OrderID	CustomerID	OrderDate	ShipperID
1001	94	2019-02-22	2
1002	22	2020-01-17	9
1003	94	2021-05-23	9

CustomerID	Name	Contact	Country	Address
92	ABC Inc	some@email.com	France	
93	This S.P.A	this@email.com	Italy	
94	That Inc	that@mail.com	Spain	

SQL (DML) - SELECT - JOINS



The DB schema will reflect the relationships across multiple tables, which can be retrieved with **join** operations on the keys

Join is a central feature for mapping relationships, and can used to perform a number of relational operations

OrderID	CustomerID	OrderDate	ShipperID
1001	94	2019-02-22	2
1002	22	2020-01-17	9
1003	94	2021-05-23	9

CustomerID	Name	Contact	Country	Address
92	ABC Inc	some@email.com	France	
93	This S.P.A	this@email.com	Italy	
94	That Inc	that@mail.com	Spain	

SELECT DISTINCT c.CustomerName, c.Country, c.ContactName
FROM customers c, orders o
WHERE c.CustomerID = o.CustomerID
AND o.ShipperID = 3;

SQL (DML) - SELECT - NESTED QUERIES



The same query could have been "combined" with another query via a **nested query**

E.g.: "what's that shipper name...? It's something like Federal whatever..."

```
SELECT s.ShipperID
FROM shippers s
WHERE s.ShipperName LIKE 'Federal%';
```

Combining the two queries:

```
SELECT DISTINCT c.CustomerName, c.Country, c.ContactName
FROM customers c, orders o
WHERE c.CustomerID = o.CustomerID
AND o.ShipperID = (SELECT s.ShipperID
FROM shippers s
WHERE s.ShipperName LIKE 'Federal%');
```

When possible, one should avoid nesting queries and JOIN tables explicitly beforehand!

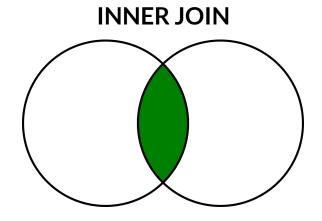
SQL (DML) - SELECT - INNER JOIN



In SQL, and depending on the DBMS, we have 4 main type of explicit JOIN operations

ID	Attr_A1
1	
2	
3	

ID	Attr_B1	Attr_B2
2		
3		
7		



ID	Attr_A1	Attr_B1	Attr_B2
2			
3			

SQL (DML) - SELECT - INNER JOIN



In SQL, and depending on the DBMS, we have 4 main type of explicit JOIN operations

ID	Attr_A1
1	
2	
3	

SELECT DISTINCT c.CustomerName, c.Country, c.ContactName FROM customers c
INNER JOIN orders o ON c.CustomerID = o.CustomerID
WHERE o.ShipperID = 3;

ID	Attr_B1	Attr_B2
2		
3		
7		

SQL (DML) - SELECT - INNER JOIN



In SQL, and depending on the DBMS, we have 4 main type of explicit JOIN operations

ID	Attr_A1
1	
2	
3	

SELECT DISTINCT c.CustomerName, c.Country, c.ContactName FROM customers c
INNER JOIN orders o ON c.CustomerID = o.CustomerID
WHERE o.ShipperID = 3;

ID	Attr_B1	Attr_B2
2		
3		
7		

The same result as obtained before with the "implicit" join on the keys

SELECT DISTINCT c.CustomerName, c.Country, c.ContactName FROM customers c, orders o WHERE c.CustomerID = o.CustomerID AND o.ShipperID = 3;

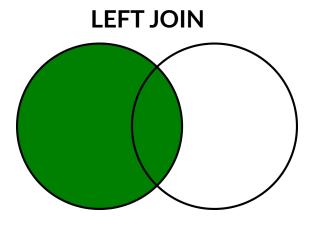
SQL (DML) - SELECT - LEFT JOIN



In SQL, and depending on the DBMS, we have 4 main type of explicit JOIN operations

ID	Attr_A1
1	
2	
3	

ID	Attr_B1	Attr_B2
2		
3		
7		



ID	Attr_A1	Attr_B1	Attr_B2
1		NULL	NULL
2			
3			

SQL (DML) - SELECT - LEFT JOIN



In SQL, and depending on the DBMS, we have 4 main type of explicit JOIN operations

ID	Attr_A1
1	
2	
3	

SELECT c.CustomerID, c.CustomerName, o.OrderID FROM customers c LEFT JOIN orders o ON c.CustomerID = o.CustomerID;

ID	Attr_B1	Attr_B2
2		
3		
7		

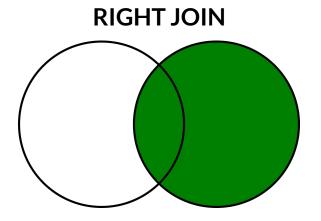
SQL (DML) - SELECT - RIGHT JOIN



In SQL, and depending on the DBMS, we have 4 main type of explicit JOIN operations

ID	Attr_A1
1	
2	
3	

ID	Attr_B1	Attr_B2
2		
3		
7		



ID	Attr_A1	Attr_B1	Attr_B2
2			
3			
7	NULL		

SQL (DML) - SELECT - RIGHT JOIN



In SQL, and depending on the DBMS, we have 4 main type of explicit JOIN operations

ID	Attr_A1
1	
2	
3	

SELECT c.CustomerID, c.CustomerName, o.OrderID FROM customers c RIGHT JOIN orders o ON c.CustomerID = o.CustomerID;

ID	Attr_B1	Attr_B2
2		
3		
7		

SQL (DML) - SELECT - RIGHT JOIN



In SQL, and depending on the DBMS, we have 4 main type of explicit JOIN operations

ID	Attr_A1
1	
2	
3	

SELECT c.CustomerID, c.CustomerName, o.OrderID FROM customers c RIGHT JOIN orders o ON c.CustomerID = o.CustomerID;

ID	Attr_B1	Attr_B2
2		
3		
7		

In this specific example, the RIGHT table is the Orders:

- 1 Customer might be associated to 0, 1 or more Orders
- 1 Order is associated to 1 and only 1 Customer

SQL (DML) - SELECT - FULL JOIN



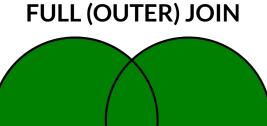
In SQL, and depending on the DBMS, we have 4 main type of explicit JOIN operations

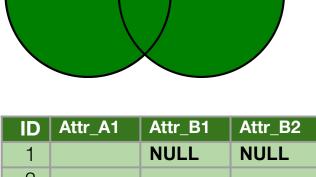
3

NULL

ID	Attr_A1
1	
2	
3	

ID	Attr_B1	Attr_B2
2		
3		
7		





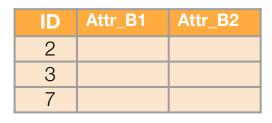
SQL (DML) - SELECT - FULL JOIN



In SQL, and depending on the DBMS, we have 4 main type of explicit JOIN operations

ID	Attr_A1
1	
2	
3	

No FULL/OUTER JOIN syntax in MySQL...



SELECT c.CustomeTD, customerName, o.OrderID FROM customers c FULL JOIN orders c.CustomerID = o.CustomerID;

SQL (DML) - SELECT - FULL JOIN



In SQL, and depending on the DBMS, we have 4 main type of explicit JOIN operations

ID	Attr_A1
1	
2	
3	

ID	Attr_B1	Attr_B2
2		
3		
7		

However, it can still be performed... with a workaround

SELECT c.CustomerID, c.CustomerName, o.OrderID FROM customers c LEFT JOIN orders o ON c.CustomerID = o.CustomerID

UNION — Combines together the tables resulting from multiple SELECT statements

SELECT c.CustomerID, c.CustomerName, o.OrderID FROM customers c RIGHT JOIN orders o ON c.CustomerID = o.CustomerID;

SQL (DML) - SELECT - VIEWS



In some cases, complex queries can be simplified by means of intermediate "virtual" tables, hosting the DB instance after a specific transaction

The View is kept up-to-date by the DBMS

⇒ every new query to a View will reflect the most recent DB instance

```
CREATE VIEW ItalianCustomers AS
SELECT *
FROM customers
WHERE customers.Country = 'Italy';
```

SELECT * FROM ItalianCustomers;

SQL (DCL)



The DCL component of the SQL language is extremely powerful, as it allows to:

- Create/remove users
- Assign/update passwords

CREATE USER 'my_new_user'@'localhost' IDENTIFIED BY 'user_new_password';

- Assign/update/remove privileges to users

GRANT SELECT, UPDATE ON db_name.table_name TO 'my_new_user'@'localhost';

REVOKE UPDATE ON db_name.table_name TO 'my_new_user'@'localhost';

- Create/maintain/roll-back DB transitions

Albeit this is arguably the most important component of the DBMS for the development, maintenance and deployment of a DB, we'll not focus on it as it is less "user-oriented" and more "administrator-related"

