

Chapter 5: Advanced SQL

Database System Concepts, 7th Ed.

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Outline

- Accessing SQL From a Programming Language
- Functions and Procedures
- Triggers
- Recursive Queries
- Advanced Aggregation Features



Accessing SQL from a Programming Language

A database programmer must have access to a general-purpose programming language for at least two reasons

- Not all queries can be expressed in SQL, since SQL does not provide the full expressive power of a general-purpose language.
- Non-declarative actions -- such as printing a report, interacting with a user, or sending the results of a query to a graphical user interface -cannot be done from within SQL.



Accessing SQL from a Programming Language (Cont.)

There are two approaches to accessing SQL from a general-purpose programming language

- A general-purpose program -- can connect to and communicate with a database server using a collection of functions
- Embedded SQL -- provides a means by which a program can interact with a database server.
 - The SQL statements are translated at compile time into function calls.
 - At runtime, these function calls connect to the database using an API that provides dynamic SQL facilities.



The May

Datobase **JDBC**

Java



JDBC

- 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

Sollow 4 step



```
JDBC Code
                                            https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MOQfTuOiBys
public static void JDBCexample(String dbid, String userid, String passwd)
  try (Connection conn = DriverManager.getConnection(
       "jdbc:oracle:thin:@db.yale.edu:2000:univdb", userid, passwd)
       Statement stmt = conn.createStatement();
                                           https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lp-g6UJSxtk
       ... Do Actual Work ....
  catch (SQLException sqle) {
    System.out.println("SQLException: " + sqle);
```

NOTE: Above syntax works with Java 7, and JDBC 4 onwards.

Resources opened in "try (....)" syntax ("try with resources") are automatically closed at the end of the try block



JDBC Code for Older Versions of Java/JDBC

```
public static void JDBCexample(String dbid, String userid, String passwd)
    try {
      Class.forName ("oracle.jdbc.driver.OracleDriver")
      Connection conn = DriverManager.getConnection(
           "jdbc:oracle:thin:@db.yale.edu:2000:univdb", userid, passwd);
     Statement stmt = conn.createStatement();
        ... Do Actual Work ....
     stmt.close();
     conn.close();
  catch (SQLException sqle) {
     System.out.println("SQLException: " + sqle);
NOTE: Class.forName is not required from JDBC 4 onwards. The try with
resources syntax in prev slide is preferred for Java 7 onwards.
```



JDBC Code (Cont.)

Update to database try { stmt.executeUpdate("insert into instructor values('77987', 'Kim', 'Physics', 98000)"); } catch (SQLException sqle) System.out.println("Could not insert tuple. " + sqle); 3>5.1NON-0105t Execute query and fetch and print results ResultSet rset = stmt.executeQuery("select dept name, avg (salary) from instructor group by dept_name"); while (rset.next()) { System.out.println(rset.getString("dept_name") + " " + rset.getFloat(2));



JDBC SUBSECTIONS

- Connecting to the Database
- Shipping SQL Statements to the Database System
- Exceptions and Resource Management /
- Retrieving the Result of a Query
- Prepared Statements
- Callable Statements
- Metadata Features
- Other Features
- Database Access from Python



JDBC Code Details

- Getting result fields:
 - rs.getString("dept_name") and rs.getString(1) equivalent if dept_name is the first argument of select result.
- Dealing with Null values

```
int a = rs.getInt("a");
if (rs.wasNull()) Systems.out.println("Got null value");

Osc Sout ("vartue of a is' + o');
```



Prepared Statement

PreparedStatement pStmt = conn.prepareStatement(

"insert into instructor values(?,?,?,?)");
pStmt.setString(1, "88877");
pStmt.setString(2, "Perry");
pStmt.setString(3, "Finance");
pStmt.setInt(4, 125000);
pStmt.executeUpdate();
pStmt.setString(1, "88878");
pStmt.executeUpdate();

- WARNING: always use prepared statements when taking an input from the user and adding it to a query
 - NEVER create a query by concatenating strings
 - "insert into instructor values(' " + ID + " ', ' " + name + " ', " + " ' + dept name + " ', " ' balance + ')"
 - What if name is "D'Souza"?



SQL Injection

- Suppose query is constructed using
 - "select * from instructor where name = "" + name + """
- Suppose the user, instead of entering a name, enters:
 - X' or 'Y' = 'Y
- then the resulting statement becomes:
 - "select * from instructor where name = "" + "X' or 'Y' = 'Y" + """
 - which is:
 - select * from instructor where name = 'X' or 'Y' = 'Y'
 - User could have even used
 - X'; update instructor set salary = salary + 10000; --
- Prepared stament internally uses: "select * from instructor where name = 'X\' or \'Y\' = \'Y'
 - Always use prepared statements, with user inputs as parameters





Metadata Features

- ResultSet metadata
- E.g.after executing query to get a ResultSet rs:
 - ResultSetMetaData rsmd = rs.getMetaData();
 for(int i = 1; i <= rsmd.getColumnCount(); i++) {
 System.out.println(rsmd.getColumnName(i));
 System.out.println(rsmd.getColumnTypeName(i));
 }

How is this useful?



Metadata (Cont)

- Database metadata
- DatabaseMetaData dbmd = conn.getMetaData();/ // Arguments to getColumns: Catalog, Schema-pattern, Table-pattern, // and Column-Pattern // Returns: One row for each column; row has a number of attributes // such as COLUMN NAME, TYPE NAME // The value null indicates all Catalogs/Schemas. // The value "" indicates current catalog/schema // The value "%" has the same meaning as SQL like clause ResultSet rs = dbmd.getColumns(null, "univdb", "department", "%"); while(rs.next()) { System.out.println(rs.getString("COLUMN NAME"), rs.getString("TYPE NAME");

And where is this useful?



Metadata (Cont)

- Database metadata
- DatabaseMetaData dbmd = conn.getMetaData();

```
// Arguments to getTables: Catalog, Schema-pattern, Table-pattern,
// and Table-Type
// Returns: One row for each table; row has a number of attributes
// such as TABLE NAME, TABLE CAT, TABLE TYPE, ...
// The value null indicates all Catalogs/Schemas.
// The value "" indicates current catalog/schema
// The value "%" has the same meaning as SQL like clause
// The last attribute is an array of types of tables to return.
   TABLE means only regular tables
ResultSet rs = dbmd.getTables ("", "", "%", new String[] {"TABLES"});
while( rs.next()) {
    System.out.println(rs.getString("TABLE_NAME"));
```

And where is this useful?



Finding Primary Keys

DatabaseMetaData dmd = connection.getMetaData();



Transaction Control in JDBC

- By default, each SQL statement is treated as a separate transaction that is committed automatically
 - bad idea for transactions with multiple updates
- Can turn off automatic commit on a connection
 - conn.setAutoCommit(false);
- Transactions must then be committed or rolled back explicitly
 - conn.commit(); or
 - conn.rollback();
- conn.setAutoCommit(true) turns on automatic commit.



Other JDBC Features

- Calling functions and procedures
 - CallableStatement cStmt1 = conn.prepareCall("{? = call some function(?)}");
 - CallableStatement cStmt2 = conn.prepareCall("{call some procedure(?,?)}");
- Handling large object types
 - getBlob() and getClob() that are similar to the getString() method, but return objects of type Blob and Clob, respectively
 - get data from these objects by getBytes()
 - associate an open stream with Java Blob or Clob object to update large objects
 - blob.setBlob(int parameterIndex, InputStream inputStream).



JDBC Resources

- JDBC Basics Tutorial
 - https://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/jdbc/index.html



SQLJ

- JDBC is overly dynamic, errors cannot be caught by compiler
- SQLJ: embedded SQL in Java



ODBC



ODBC

- 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 in the host language 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



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
```



Functions and Procedures



Functions and Procedures

- Functions and procedures allow "business logic" to be stored in the database and executed from SQL statements.
- These can be defined either by the procedural component of SQL or by an external programming language such as Java, C, or C++.
- The syntax we present here is defined by the SQL standard.
 - Most databases implement nonstandard versions of this syntax.



Declaring 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;
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
```





- The SQL standard supports functions that can return tables as results; such functions are called table functions
- Example: Return all instructors in a given department

```
returns table (

//D 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'))



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
    where dept_name = 'Music'
do
    set n = n + r.budget
end for
```



External Language Routines

- SQL allows us to define functions in a programming language such as Java, C#, C or C++.
 - 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'
```



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.



Triggers



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



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' > r orow.grade is null) begin atomic update student set tot cred= tot_cred + select credits from course **where** *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



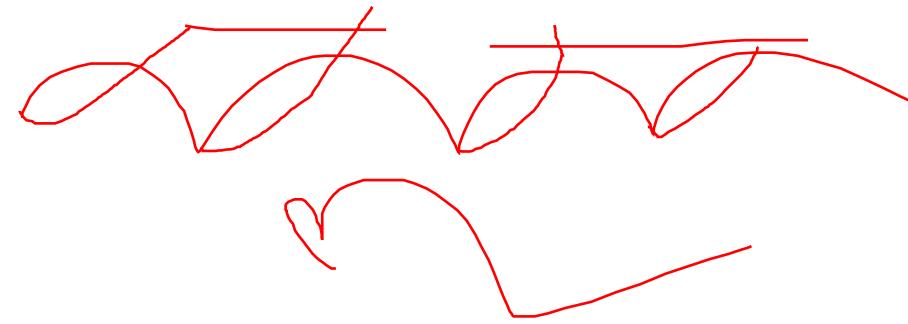
When Not To Use Triggers

- 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





Recursive Queries



Recursion in SQL

- SQL:1999 permits recursive view definition
- Example: find which courses are a prerequisite, whether directly or indirectly, for a specific course with recursive rec_prereq(course_id, prereq_id) as (select course_id, prereq_id from prereq union select rec_prereq.course_id, prereq.prereq_id, from rec_rereq, prereq where rec_prereq.prereq_id = prereq.course_id) select * from rec_prereq;

This example view, *rec_prereq*, is called the *transitive closure* of the *prereq* relation



The Power of Recursion

- Recursive views make it possible to write queries, such as transitive closure queries, that cannot be written without recursion or iteration.
 - Intuition: Without recursion, a non-recursive non-iterative program can perform only a fixed number of joins of *prereq* with itself
 - This can give only a fixed number of levels of managers
 - Given a fixed non-recursive query, we can construct a database with a greater number of levels of prerequisites on which the query will not work
 - Alternative: write a procedure to iterate as many times as required
 - See procedure findAllPreregs in book



Example of Fixed-Point Computation

course_id	prereq_id
BIO-301	BIO-101
BIO-399	BIO-101
CS-190	CS-101
CS-315	CS-190
CS-319	CS-101
CS-319	CS-315
CS-347	CS-319

Iteration Number	Tuples in c1
0	
1	(CS-319)
2	(CS-319), (CS-315), (CS-101)
3	(CS-319), (CS-315), (CS-101), (CS-190)
4	(CS-319), (CS-315), (CS-101), (CS-190)
5	done



Advanced Aggregation Features



Ranking

- Ranking is done in conjunction with an order by specification.
- Suppose we are given a relation student_grades(ID, GPA) giving the grade-point average of each student
- Find the rank of each student.
- select ID, rank() over (order by GPA desc) as s_rank from student_grades
- An extra order by clause is needed to get them in sorted order select ID, rank() over (order by GPA desc) as s_rank from student_grades order by s_rank
- Ranking may leave gaps: e.g. if 2 students have the same top GPA, both have rank 1, and the next rank is 3
 - dense_rank does not leave gaps, so next dense rank would be 2



Ranking

 Ranking can be done using basic SQL aggregation, but resultant query is very inefficient



Ranking (Cont.)

- Ranking can be done within partition of the data.
- "Find the rank of students within each department."

```
select ID, dept_name,
    rank () over (partition by dept_name order by GPA desc)
        as dept_rank
from dept_grades
    order by dept_name, dept_rank;
```

- Multiple rank clauses can occur in a single select clause.
- Ranking is done after applying group by clause/aggregation
- Can be used to find top-n results
 - More general than the **limit** n clause supported by many databases, since it allows top-n within each partition



Ranking (Cont.)

- Other ranking functions:
 - percent_rank (within partition, if partitioning is done)
 - cume_dist (cumulative distribution)
 - fraction of tuples with preceding values
 - row_number (non-deterministic in presence of duplicates)
- SQL:1999 permits the user to specify nulls first or nulls last select ID,

rank () over (order by GPA desc nulls last) as s_rank from student_grades



Ranking (Cont.)

- For a given constant *n*, the ranking the function *ntile*(*n*) takes the tuples in each partition in the specified order, and divides them into *n* buckets with equal numbers of tuples.
- E.g.,

select ID, ntile(4) over (order by GPA desc) as quartile
from student_grades;



Windowing

- Used to smooth out random variations.
- E.g., moving average: "Given sales values for each date, calculate for each date the average of the sales on that day, the previous day, and the next day"
- Window specification in SQL:
 - Given relation sales(date, value)

```
select date, sum(value) over
(order by date between rows 1 preceding and 1 following)
from sales
```



Windowing

- Examples of other window specifications:
 - between rows unbounded preceding and current
 - rows unbounded preceding
 - range between 10 preceding and current row
 - All rows with values between current row value –10 to current value
 - range interval 10 day preceding
 - Not including current row



Windowing (Cont.)

- Can do windowing within partitions
- E.g., Given a relation transaction (account_number, date_time, value),
 where value is positive for a deposit and negative for a withdrawal
 - "Find total balance of each account after each transaction on the account"



OLAP



Data Analysis and OLAP

- Online Analytical Processing (OLAP)
 - Interactive analysis of data, allowing data to be summarized and viewed in different ways in an online fashion (with negligible delay)
- Data that can be modeled as dimension attributes and measure attributes are called multidimensional data.
 - Measure attributes
 - measure some value
 - can be aggregated upon
 - e.g., the attribute *number* of the *sales* relation
 - Dimension attributes
 - define the dimensions on which measure attributes (or aggregates thereof) are viewed
 - e.g., attributes item_name, color, and size of the sales relation



Example sales relation

item_name	color	clothes_size	quantity
skirt	dark	small	2
skirt	dark	medium	5
skirt	dark	large	1
skirt	pastel	small	11
skirt	pastel	medium	9
skirt	pastel	large	15
skirt	white	small	2
skirt	white	medium	5
skirt	white	large	3
dress	dark	small	2
dress	dark	medium	6
dress	dark	large	12
dress	pastel	small	4
dress	pastel	medium	3
dress	pastel	large	3
dress	white	small	2
dress	white	medium	3
dress	white	large	0
shirt	dark	small	2
ehirt	dark	medium	4

...



Cross Tabulation of sales by item_name and color

color

item_name

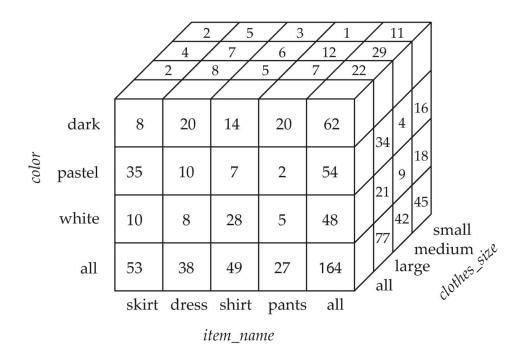
	dark	pastel	white	total
skirt	8	35	10	53
dress	20	10	5	35
shirt	14	7	28	49
pants	20	2	5	27
total	62	54	48	164

- The table above is an example of a cross-tabulation (cross-tab), also referred to as a pivot-table.
 - Values for one of the dimension attributes form the row headers
 - Values for another dimension attribute form the column headers
 - Other dimension attributes are listed on top
 - Values in individual cells are (aggregates of) the values of the dimension attributes that specify the cell.



Data Cube

- A data cube is a multidimensional generalization of a cross-tab
- Can have n dimensions; we show 3 below
- Cross-tabs can be used as views on a data cube





Cross Tabulation With Hierarchy

- Cross-tabs can be easily extended to deal with hierarchies
 - Can drill down or roll up on a hierarchy

clothes_size: all

category item_name co	olor
-----------------------	------

		dark	pastel	white	tot	al
womenswear	skirt	8	8	10	53	
	dress	20	20	5	35	
	subtotal	28	28	15		88
menswear	pants	14	14	28	49	
	shirt	20	20	5	27	
	subtotal	34	34	33		76
total		62	62	48		164



Relational Representation of Cross-tabs

- Cross-tabs can be represented as relations
 - We use the value all is used to represent aggregates.
 - The SQL standard actually uses null values in place of all despite confusion with regular null values.

item_name	color	clothes_size	quantity
skirt	dark	all	8
skirt	pastel	all	35
skirt	white	all	10
skirt	all	all	53
dress	dark	all	20
dress	pastel	all	10
dress	white	all	5
dress	all	all	35
shirt	dark	all	14
shirt	pastel	all	7
shirt	White	all	28
shirt	all	all	49
pant	dark	all	20
pant	pastel	all	2
pant	white	all	5
pant	all	all	27
all	dark	all	62
all	pastel	all	54
all	white	all	48
all	all	all	164



Extended Aggregation to Support OLAP

- The cube operation computes union of group by's on every subset of the specified attributes
- Example relation for this section
 sales(item_name, color, clothes_size, quantity)
- E.g., consider the query

```
select item_name, color, size, sum(number)
from sales
group by cube(item_name, color, size)
```

This computes the union of eight different groupings of the *sales* relation:

```
{ (item_name, color, size), (item_name, color), (item_name, size), (color, size), (item_name), (color), (size), () }
```

where () denotes an empty group by list.

 For each grouping, the result contains the null value for attributes not present in the grouping.



Online Analytical Processing Operations

- Relational representation of cross-tab that we saw earlier, but with null in place of all, can be computed by
- select item_name, color, sum(number) from sales group by cube(item_name, color)
- The function grouping() can be applied on an attribute
 - Returns 1 if the value is a null value representing all, and returns 0 in all other cases.

```
select item_name, color, size, sum(number),
    grouping(item_name) as item_name_flag,
    grouping(color) as color_flag,
    grouping(size) as size_flag,
from sales
group by cube(item_name, color, size)
```



Online Analytical Processing Operations

- Can use the function decode() in the select clause to replace such nulls by a value such as all
 - E.g., replace item_name in first query by
 decode(grouping(item_name), 1, 'all', item_name)



Extended Aggregation (Cont.)

- The rollup construct generates union on every prefix of specified list of attributes
- E.g.,

```
select item_name, color, size, sum(number) from sales group by rollup(item_name, color, size)
```

Generates union of four groupings:

```
{ (item_name, color, size), (item_name, color), (item_name), () }
```

- Rollup can be used to generate aggregates at multiple levels of a hierarchy.
- E.g., suppose table itemcategory(item_name, category) gives the category of each item. Then

```
select category, item_name, sum(number)
from sales, itemcategory
where sales.item_name = itemcategory.item_name
group by rollup(category, item_name)
```

would give a hierarchical summary by item_name and by category.



Extended Aggregation (Cont.)

- Multiple rollups and cubes can be used in a single group by clause
 - Each generates set of group by lists, cross product of sets gives overall set of group by lists
- E.g.,

```
select item_name, color, size, sum(number)
from sales
group by rollup(item_name), rollup(color, size)
generates the groupings
{item_name, ()} X {(color, size), (color), ()}
= { (item_name, color, size), (item_name, color), (item_name), (color, size), (color), () }
```



Online Analytical Processing Operations

- Pivoting: changing the dimensions used in a cross-tab is called
- Slicing: creating a cross-tab for fixed values only
 - Sometimes called dicing, particularly when values for multiple dimensions are fixed.
- Rollup: moving from finer-granularity data to a coarser granularity
- Drill down: The opposite operation that of moving from coarsergranularity data to finer-granularity data



OLAP Implementation

- The earliest OLAP systems used multidimensional arrays in memory to store data cubes, and are referred to as multidimensional OLAP (MOLAP) systems.
- OLAP implementations using only relational database features are called relational OLAP (ROLAP) systems
- Hybrid systems, which store some summaries in memory and store the base data and other summaries in a relational database, are called hybrid OLAP (HOLAP) systems.



OLAP Implementation (Cont.)

- Early OLAP systems precomputed all possible aggregates in order to provide online response
 - Space and time requirements for doing so can be very high
 - 2ⁿ combinations of group by
 - It suffices to precompute some aggregates, and compute others on demand from one of the precomputed aggregates
 - Can compute aggregate on (item_name, color) from an aggregate on (item_name, color, size)
 - For all but a few "non-decomposable" aggregates such as median
 - is cheaper than computing it from scratch
- Several optimizations available for computing multiple aggregates
 - Can compute aggregate on (item_name, color) from an aggregate on (item_name, color, size)
 - Can compute aggregates on (item_name, color, size), (item_name, color) and (item_name) using a single sorting of the base data



End of Chapter 5