COM 1001
Introduction to Software Engineering

Professor Phil McMinn

Introduction to Relational Databases and SQL

Transience vs Persistence

When a program terminates, the memory containing program data (i.e., values in variables) is **erased**. We say that this data is **transient**.

Most useful programs – including web applications – will need certain data to **persist**.

Commerce application:
Customer information, current orders, stock levels, etc.

Online learning environment:
Student logins and information, details of learning materials, assessments and marks.

One way to achieve persistence, as well as a means to efficiently store and retrieve information, is to store data in a database.

Databases

A database consists of **data** and **rules** pertaining to its organisation.

Access and modification of the data is handled by a **Database Management System (DBMS)**.

A DBMS can run as a server, accepting multiple connections at once involving requests for data and/or updates to that data.

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NoSQL

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MongoDB, Cassandra, HBase, Neo4J … and literally tens to hundreds of others

SQLite

Simple and self-contained, **little to no configuration** required

Often the choice for web developers for developing web applications

> For deployment, developers tend to prefer an enterprise database that is better optimised for heavy concurrent access, such as PostgreSQL

Forms the basis of many desktop and mobile applications

> e.g. Chrome and Safari, and numerous other well-known applications

Pre-installed on Mac OS and Linux.
For other types of OS see https://www.sqlite.org

Using SQLite

```
codio@north-mister:~/workspace$ sqlite3
SQLite version 3.22.0 2018-01-22 18:45:57
Enter ".help" for usage hints.
Connected to a transient in-memory database.
Use ".open FILENAME" to reopen on a persistent database.
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We can specify a file in two ways:

1. Supply a file name at the terminal:

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codio@north-mister:~/workspace$ sqlite3 my_database.sqlite3
SQLite version 3.22.0 2018-01-22 18:45:57
Enter ".help" for usage hints.
sqlite>
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2. Use the `.open` command in SQLite:

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Use ".open FILENAME" to reopen on a persistent database.
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```

To exit, and get back to the shell, we use the `.quit` command:

```
sqlite> .quit
codio@north-mister:~/workspace$
```

SQLite is a Relational Database

Data in a relational database is organised into **tables**

Each **row** represents a **record** of information

Each **column** denotes a named **field** of the **record**

first_name	surname	gender	date_of_birth	country	position	club
Dominic	Calvert-Lewin	M	1997-03-16	England	Forward	Everton
Sam	Kerr	F	1993-09-10	Australia	Forward	Chelsea
Harry	Kane	M	1993-07-28	England	Forward	Tottenham
Rose	Lavelle	F	1995-05-14	USA	Midfielder	Manchester City
Son	Heung-min	M	1992-07-08	South Korea	Forward	Tottenham
Pernille	Harder	F	1992-11-15	Denmark	Forward	Chelsea
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Kevin	De Bruyne	M	1991-06-28	Belgium	Midfielder	Manchester City
Vivianne	Miedema	F	1996-07-15	Netherlands	Forward	Arsenal
Michael	Keane	M	1993-01-11	England	Defender	Everton
Ellie	Roebuck	F	1999-09-23	England	Goalkeeper	Manchester City

Each Table Requires a “Key”

Each table requires one or more columns whose rows will contain unique values, and so can uniquely identify a row. These column(s) are called the **primary key** of the table.

A primary key could be a name in table of people, for example, but often a name is not unique enough – two people may share the same name.

We could combine names with other pieces of information, e.g. a date of birth, but this may also not be unique.

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Try to think of some real world examples of this… (e.g., your UCard number)

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Creating a Table with SQL

We “talk” to relational databases using a language called **SQL** (**S**tructured **Q**uery **L**anguage)

All relational databases use SQL. However, each DBMS implements SQL slightly differently.

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CREATE TABLE players (
    id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY,
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`databases/football_players.sql`

Although SQLite is case insensitive, by convention SQL keywords appear in `UPPERCASE` and entity names in `lowercase`. Entity names are separated with `under_scores`.

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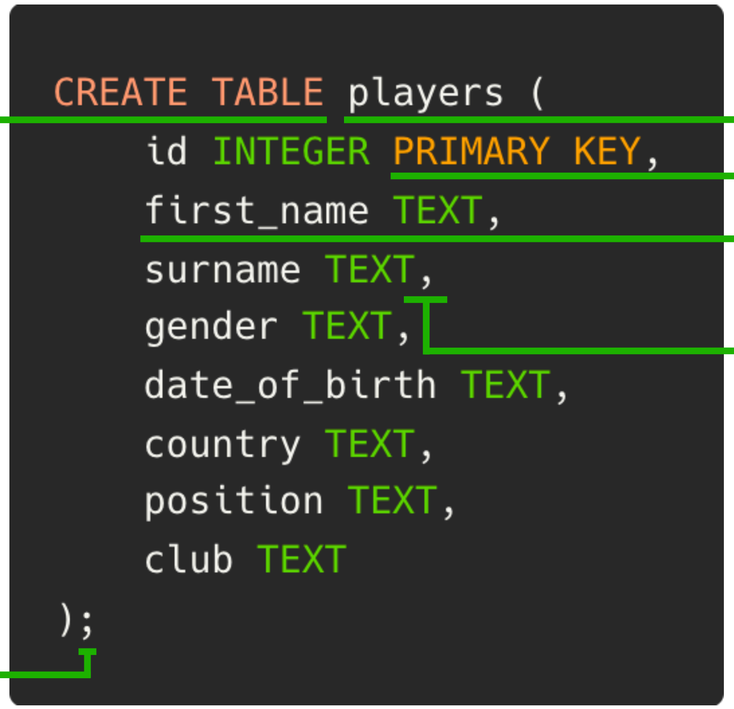

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SQL statements are terminated with a semicolon

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Data Types in SQLite

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SQLite has **five** main data types:

`INTEGER`

`NUMERIC` — The difference between `NUMERIC` and `INTEGER` and `REAL` is subtle, and partly exists to maintain compatibility with other DBMSs. It's ignorable from the point of view of this module.

`REAL` — Floating point numbers

`TEXT` — Strings

`BLOB` — `BLOB` stands for Binary Large OBject. `BLOB` database fields store binary data like images and other types of document in a database. We won't be using them in this module.

What's missing?

`INTEGER`

`NUMERIC`

`REAL`

`TEXT`

`BLOB`

There is no `BOOLEAN` type.

We need to use an `INTEGER` instead, where `0` = `FALSE` and 1 = `TRUE`

SQLite does not have special types to manage date and time.

(This is in contrast to many other DBMSs.) Instead we must use the `TEXT` field. SQLite does have a number of built-in functions that can manipulate these date/time `TEXT` fields, but we have the option of using Ruby for that anyway.

Compatibility With Other DBMSs

INTEGER

NUMERIC

REAL

TEXT

BLOB

Other DBMSs offer many more data types, but usually they're just synonyms of one of SQLite's five main types, or restricted versions of them.

For example:

SQLite	Other DBMSs
INTEGER	INT
INTEGER	SMALLINT
INTEGER	MEDIUMINT
INTEGER	BIGINT
TEXT	VARCHAR
TEXT	NCHAR
TEXT	NVARCHAR

SQLite will often let you use these names, to preserve compatibility with these DBMSs, converting them internally to one of its own types.

The Database Schema

The tables, columns, types and other specifics like their primary keys are collectively referred to as the database's **schema**. More on database schemas later in the module.

SQLite will give us back the schema for our database, in SQL, if we use the `.schema` command:

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sqlite> .schema
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sqlite> .tables
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`.schema`, `.tables`, `.open`, and any command that starts with a period are special SQLite commands.

They are not part of SQL and will not necessarily work with other DBMSs.

Create, Read, Update, Delete (CRUD)

```sql
INSERT INTO players VALUES(1, "Dominic", "Calvert-Lewin",
                           "M", "1997-03-16", "England",
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SELECT * FROM players WHERE id = 1;

UPDATE players SET club = "Everton" WHERE surname = "Kane";

DELETE FROM players WHERE position = "Midfielder";
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Create. Rows are added to a table using the `INSERT` SQL statement as shown here

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The "*" here means "all columns". We can specify certain column names instead and get back partial records with only the field values for those columns.

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For any CRUD SQL statement, **omitting** the `WHERE` clause is equivalent to **requesting all the records in the table**.

So guess what happens with "`DELETE from players`"?

More about WHERE

WHERE clauses can contain multiple conditions

```
WHERE club = "Manchester City" AND position = "Midfielder";

WHERE club = "Manchester City" OR club = "Manchester United"

WHERE club LIKE "%Manchester%"
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WHERE club LIKE "%Manchester%"
```

`LIKE` is an operator for `TEXT` columns. It will return rows of the table where the value of a field matches the following specifier (i.e., “`%Manchester%`”)

The `%` symbols are wildcards – they can match any character. So this `WHERE` clause matches players with clubs with “`Manchester`” in their name.

Counting Numbers of Records

```
SELECT COUNT(*) FROM players WHERE country = "England";
```

COUNT counts the number of records matching the WHERE clause.
If we omit the WHERE clause, it will count the number of records in the table.

```
sqlite> SELECT * FROM players WHERE id = 1;
1|Dominic|Calvert-Lewin|M|1997-03-16|England|Forward|Everton
```

```
sqlite> SELECT * FROM players WHERE id = 1;
1|Dominic|Calvert-Lewin|M|1997-03-16|England|Forward|Everton
```

```
sqlite> SELECT * FROM players WHERE club = "Manchester City" AND position= "Midfielder";
4|Rose|Lavelle|F|1995-05-14|USA|Midfielder|Manchester City
9|Kevin|De Bruyne|M|1991-06-28|Belgium|Midfielder|Manchester City
```

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9|Kevin|De Bruyne|M|1991-06-28|Belgium|Midfielder|Manchester City
```

```
sqlite> SELECT * FROM players WHERE club = "Manchester City" OR club = "Manchester United";
4|Rose|Lavelle|F|1995-05-14|USA|Midfielder|Manchester City
7|Bruno|Fernandes|M|1994-09-08|Portugal|Midfielder|Manchester United
9|Kevin|De Bruyne|M|1991-06-28|Belgium|Midfielder|Manchester City
12|Ellie|Roebuck|F|1999-09-23|England|Goalkeeper|Manchester City
```

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9|Kevin|De Bruyne|M|1991-06-28|Belgium|Midfielder|Manchester City
12|Ellie|Roebuck|F|1999-09-23|England|Goalkeeper|Manchester City
```

```
sqlite> SELECT COUNT(*) FROM players WHERE country = "England";
4
```

```
sqlite> SELECT * FROM players WHERE id = 1;
1|Dominic|Calvert-Lewin|M|1997-03-16|England|Forward|Everton
```

```
sqlite> SELECT * FROM players WHERE club = "Manchester City" AND position= "Midfielder";
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9|Kevin|De Bruyne|M|1991-06-28|Belgium|Midfielder|Manchester City
```

```
sqlite> SELECT * FROM players WHERE club = "Manchester City" OR club = "Manchester United";
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9|Kevin|De Bruyne|M|1991-06-28|Belgium|Midfielder|Manchester City
12|Ellie|Roebuck|F|1999-09-23|England|Goalkeeper|Manchester City
```

```
sqlite> SELECT COUNT(*) FROM players WHERE country = "England";
4
```

```
sqlite> SELECT COUNT(*) FROM players;
12
```

id	first_name	surname	gender	date_of_birth	country	position	club
1	Dominic	Calvert-Lewin	M	1997-03-16	England	Forward	Everton
2	Sam	Kerr	F	1993-09-10	Australia	Forward	Chelsea
3	Harry	Kane	M	1993-07-28	England	Forward	Tottenham
4	Rose	Lavelle	F	1995-05-14	USA	Midfielder	Manchester City
5	Son	Heung-min	M	1992-07-08	South Korea	Forward	Tottenham
6	Pernille	Harder	F	1992-11-15	Denmark	Forward	Chelsea
7	Bruno	Fernandes	M	1994-09-08	Portugal	Midfielder	Manchester
8	Hayley	Raso	F	1994-09-05	Austrailia	Midfielder	Everton
9	Kevin	De Bruyne	M	1991-06-28	Belgium	Midfielder	Manchester City
10	Vivianne	Miedema	F	1996-07-15	Netherlands	Forward	Arsenal
11	Michael	Keane	M	1993-01-11	England	Defender	Everton
12	Ellie	Roebuck	F	1999-09-23	England	Goalkeeper	Manchester City

databases/football_players.sqlite3