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# Mastering the Basics of Relational SQL Querying

# Welcome to O`reilly Live Online Training

- 6 Hours of training over 2 days
- Prerequisites
  - Familiar with IT terminology
  - Some programming background
- For beginners, and experienced SQL developers alike

### Goals

- Glimpse of Background what are SQL and RDM?
- Understand SQL query processing phases
- Get into a 'set mindset'
- Write basic SQL queries, and fully understand them
- Solid foundation, less focus on detail and syntax
- Passion for SQL

# Day 1 Agenda

- What is SQL?
- SQL, RDM, and RDBMS
- Development environment
- SQL language constructs
- The data query language (DQL)
- SELECT query clauses and Query logical processing
- FROM and JOIN

# Day 2 Agenda

- WHERE filtering
- GROUP BY and HAVING
- ORDER BY and LIMIT / FETCH
- Subqueries
- Set operators
- Conclusions

### Administrative

- Hours
- Breaks
- Hands-on exercises
- Safari platform
  - Questions
  - Help
- Course evaluation

# Questions



# Next

• What is SQL?

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# Mastering Relational SQL Querying

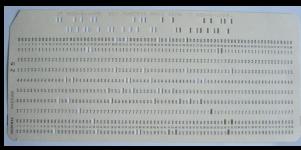
What is SQL?

# A brief history of data storage















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# Data access in the "good old days"

- Data was stored and accessed based on physical order
  - Books had page numbers
  - > File cabinet drawers had index labels
  - Punched cards had a physical order
  - Magnetic tapes had physical address pointers

Unfortunately, most still see it that way...



### Flat Files

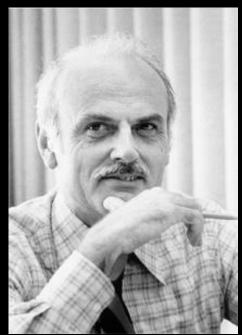
• CSV: Row Number, Customer, Date, Price, Item...

```
    Ami , 1/1/1965, $3, apple
    John, 1/2/1965, $4, sock
    Ami , 1/3/1965, $10, pencil
    Ed , 2/3/1965, $1, gum
```

- Challenges
  - Sequential access / ISAM
  - Data consistency
  - Update, Delete, and Insertion anomalies

# Dr. Edgar F. "Ted" Codd

- Born 1923 in England
- Studied Mathematics and chemistry at Oxford
- RAF Coastal Command pilot in WW2
- Moved to the USA in 1948
- 1953 1957, moved to Canada, angered by Sen. McCarthy
- In 1965 received doctorate in computer science
- 1967 Moved to IBM Research in San Jose, CA
- Received Turing award in 1981
- Died in 2003 from heart failure



## "A Relational Model of Data for Large Shared Data Banks"

- 1969 internal at IBM, 1970 public
- Codd's relational Alpha sub-language
- System R used non-relational SEQUEL
  - Developed by Chamberlin and Boyce
- SEQUEL was renamed to SQL
- Competitors were early to adopt

Information Retrieval

P. BAXENDALE, Editor

#### A Relational Model of Data for Large Shared Data Banks

E. F. Codd IBM Research Laboratory, San Jose, California

Future users of large data banks must be protected from having to know how the data is organized in the machine (the internal representation). A prompting service which supplies such information is not a satisfactory solution. Activities of users at terminals and most application programs should remain unaffected when the internal representation of data is changed and even when some aspects of the external representation are changed. Changes in data representation will often be needed as a result of changes in query, update, and report traffic and natural growth in the types of stored information.

Existing noninferential, formatted data systems provide users with tree-structured files or slightly more general network models of the data. In Section 1, inadequacies of these models are discussed. A model based on n-arry relations, a normal form for data base relations, and the concept of a universal data sublanguage are introduced. In Section 2, certain operations on relations (other than logical inference) are discussed and applied to the problems of redundancy and consistency in the user's model.

KEY WORDS AND PHRASES: data bank, data base, data structure, data organization, hierarchies of data, networks of data, relations, derivability, redundancy, consistency, composition, join, retrieval language, predicate calculus, security, data integrity

CR CATEGORIES: 3.70, 3.73, 3.75, 4.20, 4.22, 4.29

#### 1. Relational Model and Normal Form

#### 1.1. Introduction

This paper is concerned with the application of elementary relation theory to systems which provide shared access to large banks of formatted data. Except for a paper by Childs [1], the principal application of relations to data systems has been to deductive question-answering systems. Levein and Maron [2] provide numerous references to work in this area.

In contrast, the problems treated here are those of data independence—the independence of application programs and terminal activities from growth in data types and changes in data representation—and certain kinds of data inconsistency which are expected to become troublesome even in nondeductive systems. The relational view (or model) of data described in Section I appears to be superior in several respects to the graph or network model [3, 4] presently in vogue for noninferential systems. It provides a means of describing data with its natural structure only—that is, without superimposing any additional structure for machine representation purposes. Accordingly, it provides a basis for a high level data language which will yield maximal independence between programs on the one hand and machine representation and organization of data on the other.

A further advantage of the relational view is that it forms a sound basis for treating derivability, redundancy, and consistency of relations—these are discussed in Section 2. The network model, on the other hand, has spawned a number of contissions, not the least of which is mistaking the derivation of connections for the derivation of relations (see remarks in Section 2 on the "connection trap").

Finally, the relational view permits a clearer evaluation of the scope and logical limitations of present formatted data systems, and also the relative merits (from a logical standpoint) of competing representations of data within a single system. Examples of this clearer perspective are cited in various parts of this paper. Implementations of systems to support the relational model are not discussed.

#### 1.2. Data Dependencies in Present Systems

The provision of data description tables in recently developed information systems represents a major advance toward the goal of data independence [5, 6, 7]. Such tables facilitate changing certain characteristics of the data representation stored in a data bank. However, the variety of data representation characteristics which can be changed without logically impairing some application programs is still quite limited. Further, the model of data with which users internet is still cluttered with representational properties, particularly in regard to the representation of collections of data (as opposed to individual times). Three of the principal kinds of data dependencies which still need to be removed are: ordering dependence, indexing dependence, and access path dependence. In some systems these dependencies are not clearly separable from one another.

1.2.1. Ordering Dependence. Elements of data in a data bank may be stored in a variety of ways, some involving no concern for ordering, some permitting each element to participate in one ordering only, others permitting each element to participate in several orderings. Let us consider those existing systems which either require or permit data elements to be stored in at least one total ordering which is closely associated with the hardware-determined ordering of addresses. For example, the records of a file concerning parts might be stored in ascending order by part serial number. Such systems normally permit application programs to assume that the order of presentation of records from such a file is identical to (or is a subordering of) the

# Technology Survival

The RDM and SQL survived unscathed for nearly 5 decades...

# Questions



# Next

• SQL, RDM, and RDBMS

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SQL, RDM, and RDBMS

### The Relational Model

# Declarative method for specifying data and queries

- Set Theory
- First Order Predicate Logic (FOPL)
- Relational Algebra
- Tuple Relational Calculus

# Relations and Tuples

- A tuple is a finite ordered list (sequence) of elements
- A relation is a set of tuples, where each set of corresponding elements (keys / attributes), are of a data domain

Order ID	Customer	Date	Price	ltem
1	Ami	1/1/1965	<b>\$</b> 3	Apple
2	John	1/2/1965	\$4	Sock
3	Ami	1/3/1965	\$10	Pencil
4	Ed	2/3/1965	\$1	Gum
				<b>\</b>

# Sets in the Relational Model

- Unique tuples
- Uniquely referenceable attributes
- No tuple or attribute order
- Atomic values
- "All at once" operations

## SQL Tables

An engineering approximation to the relational model

- A SQL table (definition) corresponds to the predicate variable
- A single SQL row corresponds to a tuple
- A set of SQL table rows correspond to a relation
- Constraints and queries correspond to predicates

**Orders** 

Order ID	Customer	Date	Price	Item
1	Ami	1/1/1965	\$3	Apple
2	John	1/2/1965	\$4	Sock
3	Ami	1/3/1965	\$10	Pencil
4	Ed	2/3/1965	\$1	Gum

## SQL != Relational

### SQL is not truly relational, but close enough

- Duplicate rows
- Column order significance
- Unnamed columns
- Column-less tables
- NULL
- Physical Data Independence (PDI)

## SQL Tables

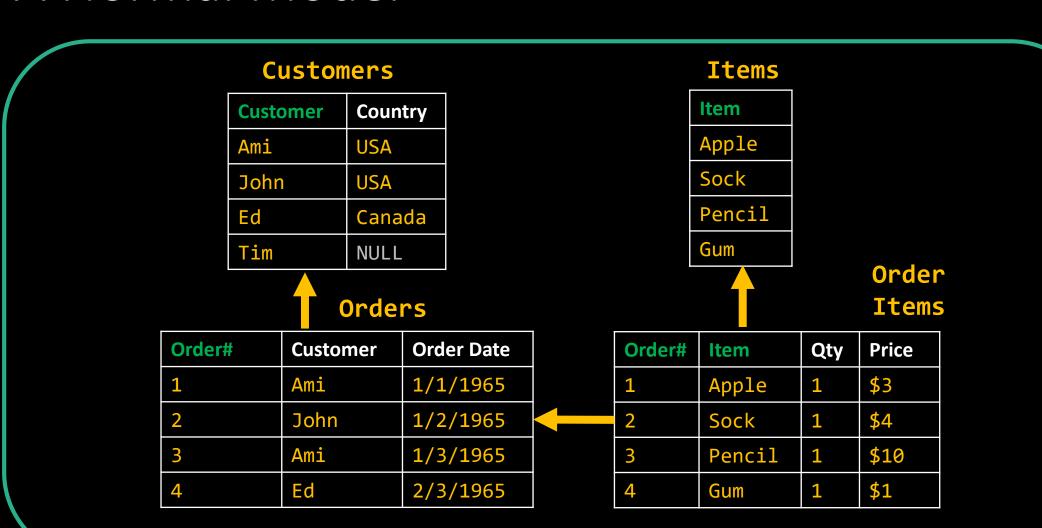
- Constraints
- Candidate and Primary Keys
- Declarative Referential Integrity (DRI)



### Normalization - An oft-abused term

- Normal forms are out of scope for this training
- Normalization Rules' goals:
  - To free the collection of relations from undesirable insertion, update and deletion dependencies;
  - To reduce the need for restructuring the collection of relations, as new types of data are introduced
  - To make the relational model more informative to users;
  - To make the collection of relations neutral to the query statistics

### A Normal Model



# Relational Database Management Systems

















# ANSI/ISO SQL Standard

- First ANSI standard published in 1986 (SQL:86)
- Latest (9<sup>th</sup> generation) published in 2016 (SQL:2016)
  - Adds JSON, pattern recognition, polymorphic table functions
- SQL conformance levels: Entry, Intermediate, and Full
- Every vendor uses custom 'extensions' to the standard to form SQL 'dialects'
  - T-SQL, PL/SQL, PL/pgSQL, SPL, SQL PL etc.

# Questions



# Next

Development Environment

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Development Environment

# Free and Open Source

Platform	Tools	O/S
SQLite	DB Browser	4
MySQL Community	MySQL Workbench	
PostgreSQL	pgAdmin	
SQL Server Express	Azure Data Studio SSMS	
Oracle Express	Oracle Developer	
Online resources	Browser	4

# Our Demo Database

### **Customers**

Customer	Country
Ami	USA
John	USA
Ed	Canada
Tim	NULL

### **Orders**

Order#	Customer	Order Date
1	Ami	1/1/1965
2	John	1/2/1965
3	Ami	1/3/1965
4	Ed	2/3/1965

### **Items**

Item
Pencil
Pen
Marker
Notebook
Ruler

### Order Items

Order#	Item	Qty	Price
1	Apple	1	\$3
2	Sock	1	\$4
3	Pencil	1	\$10
4	Gum	1	\$1

## SQLite

- Download and install SQLite DB Browser
  - http://sqlitebrowser.org/
- Download demo DB from [TBD]
- Launch DB Browser
- File -> Open Database -> [downloaded file]
- In 'Execute SQL', type SELECT 'Hello World' and execute

### Next

 Hands-on exercise: Install or configure development environment

Break (10 minutes)

• Q&A

SQL Language Constructs

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**SQL Language Constructs** 

### SQL Language Constructs

- DDL Data Definition Language
- DCL Data Control Language
- DML Data Manipulation Language
- DQL Data Query Language
- Vendor specific extensions
- Imperative constructs

## Data Definition Language

Create and modify objects

- CREATE
- ALTER
- DROP

#### CREATE TABLE

```
CREATE TABLE Customers
(
Customer VARCHAR(20) NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY,
Country VARCHAR(20) NULL
);
```

#### ALTER TABLE

ALTER TABLE Customers
ADD StateCode CHAR(2) NULL;

ALTER TABLE Users

ADD CONSTRAINT CheckEmailFormat

CHECK (Email LIKE '%@%'); \*

ALTER TABLE Customers DROP StateCode \*

\* Not supported in SQLite

#### DROP TABLE

**DROP TABLE Users** 

DROP TABLE Users, Orders

## Data Control Language

Manage access to objects

- GRANT
- REVOKE
- DENY (SQL Server)

#### GRANT

**GRANT SELECT ON Users TO Ami** 

**GRANT DELETE ON Orders TO Guest** 

**GRANT ALL ON Customers TO Administrator** 

#### REVOKE

REVOKE SELECT ON Users FROM Ami

REVOKE DELETE ON Orders FROM Guest

REVOKE ALL ON CreditCards FROM Administrators

## Data Manipulation Language

Add, modify, and delete data

- INSERT INTO
- UPDATE
- DELETE FROM

## Data Query Language

- SELECT
- OUTPUT / RETURNING

#### Vendor Extensions

- Additional / enhanced SQL functionality
- Additional Languages
- Data formats
- Controlling session and default behavior
- Flow control, variables, performance objects
- Server administration

## Questions



## Next

Data Query Language

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Data Query & Manipulation Language

#### **SELECT**

SELECT 'Hello World';

SELECT \* FROM Customers;

SELECT Customer, Country FROM Customers;

#### INSERT INTO

INSERT INTO Customers (Customer, Country) VALUES ('Dave', 'USA'), ('John', 'USA');

INSERT INTO CustomersBackup (Customer, Country)
SELECT \* FROM Customers

#### CREATE TABLE AS SELECT

DDL + DML in one statement

CREATE TABLE CustomersBackup AS SELECT Customer, Country FROM Customers

#### UPDATE

UPDATE Customers

SET Country = 'Costa Rica'

WHERE Customer = 'Dave'

#### DELETE FROM

DELETE FROM Customers
WHERE Customer = 'Dave';

## Questions



#### Next

- Hands-on exercise: INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE and RETRIEVE data
- SELECT query logical processing

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**SELECT Query Logical Processing** 

## Query Logical Processing

6

**5** SELECT [DISTINCT] Customer, COUNT(\*) AS NumOrders

**1** FROM *Orders* 

**2** WHERE OrderDate > '20180101'

**3** GROUP BY Customer

4 HAVING COUNT(\*) > 1

7 ORDER BY NumOrders DESC

8 LIMIT 10 OFFSET 0

#### **Orders**

Order ID	Customer	Order Date
4	John	9/1/2018
2		2/1/2018

#### FROM Clause

- Defines the source set for the query
- May be a single table, multiple tables, or nested queries that produce a valid set

#### WHERE Clause

Predicate filters eliminate rows from the source set

SELECT Customer AS Client,

Country AS CountryOfOrigin

FROM Customers

WHERE Country = 'USA'

#### GROUP BY Clause

Combine rows from the filtered source set into groups based on the grouping expression(s) value

Grouping expressions will determine the shape of the row, and the details that we 'lose'

SELECT Country, COUNT(\*)

FROM Customers

**GROUP BY Country** 

#### HAVING Clause

- Uses predicate filters to eliminate whole groups
- Can use aggregate functions on 'lost detail' columns

SELECT Country, COUNT(\*)

FROM Customers

**GROUP BY Country** 

HAVING COUNT(\*) > 2

#### SELECT List

Aliasing and removing duplicate rows

SELECT ALL | DISTINCT

Customer AS Client,

Country AS CountryOfOrigin

FROM Customers

## "All at Once" Principal

SELECT Customer AS Client,

Client + 'From ' + Country AS ExtendedName

FROM Customers

**UPDATE** Table

SET Column1 = Column2, Column2 = Column1

#### ORDER BY Clause

Guarantees row order for presentation purposes Not necessarily deterministic...

SELECT Customer AS Client,

Country AS CountryOfOrigin

FROM Customers

**ORDER BY Country** 

## LIMIT / OFFSET

Limits the number of rows returned from the SELECT list, based on the ORDER BY clause

No support in SQL yet for a presentation order other than the LIMIT order...

### A full SQL Statement

SELECT Country, COUNT(\*) AS NumCustomers

FROM Customers

WHERE Country <> 'USA'

**GROUP BY Country** 

HAVING COUNT(\*) > 2

ORDER BY COUNT(\*) DESC

LIMIT 10 OFFSET 0

## Questions



#### Next

- Break (10 minutes)
- Q&A
- The FROM clause and JOINs

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FROM and JOIN

#### ANSI 89 "Old" Join Syntax

```
FROM <Table Source 1>,
  <Table Source 2>,
  <Table Source 3>
WHERE <Join Predicate 1> AND <Join Predicate 2>...
```

## Recommended Join Syntax

```
<Table Source 1>
[CROSS / INNER / [LEFT/RIGHT/FULL] OUTER] JOIN
<Table Source 2>
ON/USING < Join Predicate 1>
[CROSS / INNER / [LEFT/RIGHT/FULL] OUTER] JOIN
<Table Source 3> ...
```

## Join Processing

Phase 1: Cartesian product

Phase 2: Matching rows ON/USING join condition

Phase 3: Add rows from reserved (outer) table

## Join Processing – Cartesian Product

#### **Customers**

## CustomerCountryDaveUSAJohnUSAGeraldCanadaJosePeru

#### JOIN

#### **Orders**

Order ID	Customer	Order Date
1	Dave	1/1/2018
2	John	2/1/2018
3	Gerald	3/1/2018
4	John	9/1/2018



Customer	Order ID	Customer	Order Date
Dave	1	Dave	1/1/2018
Dave	2	John	2/1/2018
Dave	3	Gerald	3/1/2018
Dave	4	John	9/1/2018
John	1	Dave	1/1/2018
John	2	John	2/1/2018
John	3	Gerald	3/1/2018
John	4	John	9/1/2018
Gerald	1	Dave	1/1/2018
Gerald	2	John	2/1/2018
Gerald	3	Gerald	3/1/2018
Gerald	4	John	9/1/2018
Jose	1	Dave	1/1/2018
Jose	2	John	2/1/2018
Jose	3	Gerald	3/1/2018
Jose	4	John	9/1/2018

## Join Processing – Matching Rows

Customer	Country	Order ID	Customer	Order Date
Dave	USA	1	Dave	1/1/2018
<del>Dave</del>	USA	<del>2</del>	<del>John</del>	2/1/2018
<del>Dave</del>	USA	3	Gerald	3/1/2018
<del>Dave</del>	USA	4	<del>John</del>	9/1/2018
<del>John</del>	USA	1	<del>Dave</del>	1/1/2018
John	USA	2	John	2/1/2018
<del>John</del>	USA	3	Gerald	3/1/2018
John	USA	4	John	9/1/2018
Gerald	Canada	1	<del>Dave</del>	1/1/2018
Gerald	Canada	<del>2</del>	<del>John</del>	2/1/2018
Gerald	Canada	3	Gerald	3/1/2018
Gerald	Canada	4	<del>John</del>	9/1/2018
<del>Jose</del>	Peru	1	Dave	1/1/2018
<del>Jose</del>	Peru	2	<del>John</del>	2/1/2018
<del>Jose</del>	Peru	3	Gerald	3/1/2018
<del>Jose</del>	Peru	4	<del>John</del>	9/1/2018

**Customers INNER JOIN Orders ON** 

**Customers.Customer = Orders.Customer** 

## Join Processing – Reserved Tables

Customer	Country	Order ID	Customer	Order Date
Dave	USA	1	Dave	1/1/2018
John	USA	2	John	2/1/2018
John	USA	4	John	9/1/2018
Gerald	Canada	3	Gerald	3/1/2018
Jose	Peru	NULL	NULL	NULL
Tim	NULL	NULL	NULL	NULL

**Customers LEFT OUTER JOIN Orders ON Customers.Customer = Orders.Customer** 

Customer	Country	Order ID	Customer	Order Date
NULL	NULL	1	Dave	1/1/2018
John	USA	2	John	2/1/2018
John	USA	4	John	9/1/2018
Gerald	Canada	3	Gerald	3/1/2018
Jose	Peru	NULL	NULL	NULL
Tim	NULL	NULL	NULL	NULL
Dave	USA	NULL	NULL	NULL

Customers FULL OUTER JOIN Orders
ON Customers.Customer = Orders.Customer
AND OrderDate > '20180101' \*

\* Not supported by SQLite

#### Join Order

```
A (

JOIN B ON ...

(A JOIN B ON ...)

JOIN C ON ...

JOIN C ON ...)
```

## Questions



#### Next

- Hands-on exercise: Using JOIN
- Q&A
- See you tomorrow morning...

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Filtering with WHERE

#### NULL - A very controversial concept...

- Codd introduced the concept to support missing and inapplicable data points first in 1975 and argued for having 2 distinct types of NULLs (4VL)
- NULL is a state, not a value!

#### WHERE Clause

- SQL implements ternary Logic
  - 3 Value Logic TRUE, FALSE, UNKNOWN
- WHERE filters out rows for which the predicate does not evaluate to TRUE
- NULL comparison is always UNKNOWN
  - IS NULL is a state predicate, not a comparison

## IN predicates

SELECT \*
FROM Customers
WHERE Customer IN ('Dave', 'John');

SELECT \*

FROM Customers

WHERE Customer IN (SELECT Customer FROM Orders);

## Questions



#### Next

- Hands-on exercise: Filtering Rows
- GROUP BY and HAVING

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## Mastering Relational SQL Querying

**GROUP BY and HAVING** 

## GROUP BY

#### **GROUP BY Customer**

#### **Orders**

Order ID	Customer	Order Date
1	Dave	1/1/2018
2	John	2/1/2018
3	Gerald	3/1/2018
4	John	9/1/2018

#### **Orders**

Order ID	Customer	Order Date
1	Dave	1/1/2018
3	Gerald	3/1/2018
2 4	John	2/1/2018 9/1/2018

#### GROUP BY

- Items in following phases can only refer to:
  - The GROUP BY Columns
  - Aggregate function on any other column
- SQLite allows 'bare columns', a mortal sin
- Can group by multiple columns
- Can group by expressions based on these columns

#### Aggregate Functions

- MIN(), MAX(), AVG()
- SUM()
- COUNT
  - COUNT (\*)
  - COUNT (Expression)
  - COUNT (DISTINCT Expression)
- NULL Handling

#### HAVING

#### HAVING COUNT(\*) > 1

#### **Orders**

Order ID	Customer	Order Date
1	Dave	1/1/2018
2	John	2/1/2018
3	Gerald	3/1/2018
4	John	9/1/2018

#### **Orders**

Order ID	Customer	Order Date
1	Dave	1/1/2018
3	Gerald	3/1/2018
2 4	John John	2/1/2018 9/1/2018

## Questions



#### Next

Hands-on exercise: Grouping data

Break (10 minutes)

• ORDER BY and LIMIT / OFFSET

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**ORDER BY and LIMIT** 

#### ORDER BY

- Used for presentation order
- Performed after SELECT list is evaluated
  - Therefor, can use aliases
- Returns a CURSOR; no longer a set

## LIMIT / OFFSET

- Typically used for pagination
- Performed after ORDER BY
- Filters out rows based on order

## Questions



#### Next

Hands-on exercise: Order and page data

• Q&A

Sub queries

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Subqueries

#### Expression Subquery

- Allowed instead of an expression
- Must return a set of one row, one column
  - Some RDBMS provide "discounts" beware!

SELECT Item, Quantity,

(SELECT MAX(Quantity) FROM OrderItems)

FROM OrderItems AS OI

#### Derived Tables and IN Lists

#### Can be used as table source in FROM clause

Join aggregates to source rows

#### A list for IN predicates

Returns one column, except for row value constructors

## Correlated Subqueries

- Not self-contained
- Typically used for expression sub queries, IN, and EXISTS
- Subquery references a column from the outer query

## Questions



#### Next

- Hands-on exercise: Sub queries
- Break
- Set Operators

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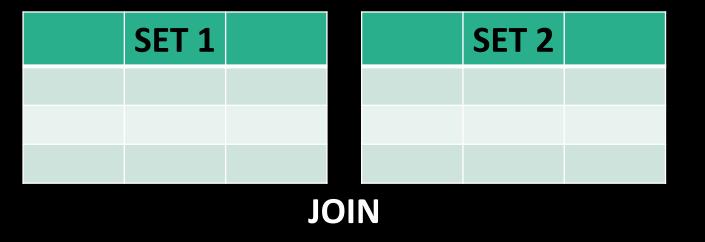
# Mastering Relational SQL Querying

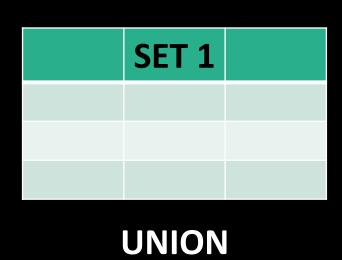
Set Operators

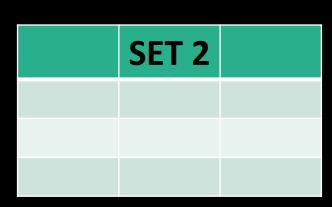
## Set Operators

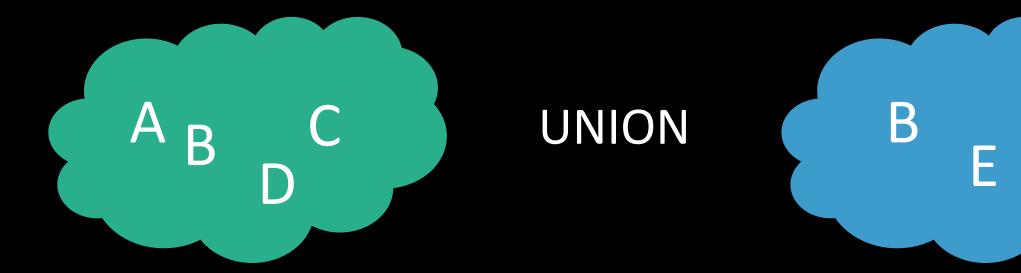
- UNION
- UNION ALL
- INTERSECT
- EXCEPT

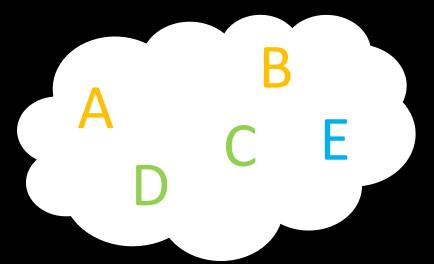
## Union vs. Join



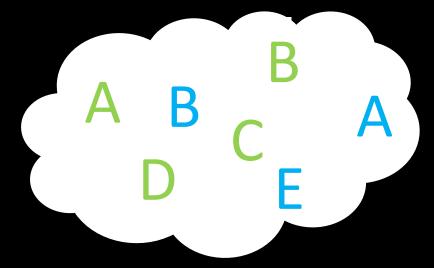


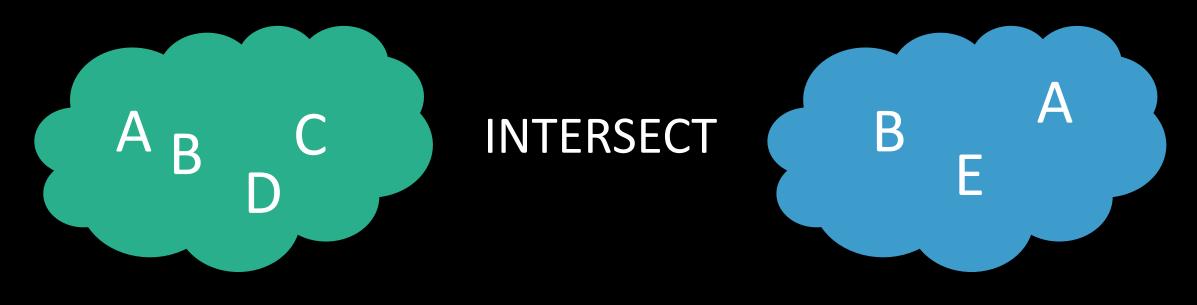


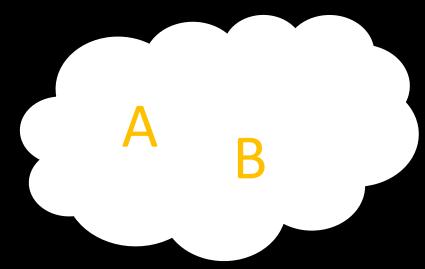


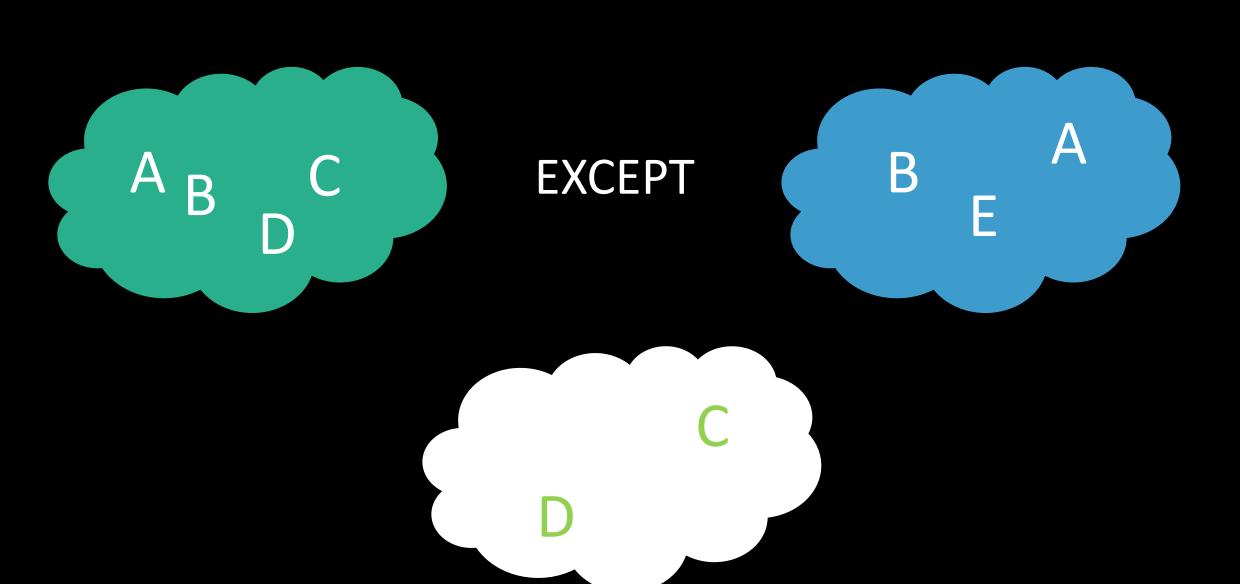












B **EXCEPT** 

## Questions



### Next

- Hands-on exercise: Using set operators
- Q&A
- Conclusions

# Mastering Relational SQL Querying

**Course Conclusion** 

## Day 1 Agenda

- What is SQL?
- SQL, RDM, and RDBMS
- Installing the development environment
- SQL language constructs
- The data query language (DQL)
- SELECT query clauses and Query logical processing
- FROM and JOIN

## Day 2 Agenda

- WHERE filtering
- GROUP BY and HAVING
- ORDER BY and LIMIT / FETCH
- Subqueries
- Set operators
- Conclusions

#### Goals

- Background what are SQL and RDM?
- Understand SQL query processing phases
- Think sets, not procedural
- Write basic SQL queries, and fully understand them
- Solid foundation; less focus on detail and syntax
- Passion for SQL

#### What Next?

- Master the relational model
- Advanced Courses
- Advanced Books
- Product Documentation
- Use <u>www.wikipedia.org</u>
  - And please consider donating annually

#### Get involved!

- Local User Groups and meetups
- Online Communities
- Trade Conferences
- Blogs
- Twitter #sql #sqlhelp ...

## Course Evaluations



## Questions



#### Take Home Exercise

#### Write a query that returns

- All USA customers with all the different items they have ordered
- The average quantity per item they have ordered across all orders
- The average quantity ordered for that item, for all other customers (US or not) across all orders
- Exclude customers who ordered less than 3 distinct items total

Send me your solutions at <a href="https://www.amilevin.com">www.amilevin.com</a> or on GitHub