2023

MySQL Database Queries

Jelena Cekmeniova

Cohort: GLA 16

Submission Date: 18.08.2023

Contents

Table of Figures

1. My SQL Project – Overview

"MySQL is an open-source relational database management system" that employs "SQL (Structured Query Language) to access this database and extract stored data" (Oracle, 2023).

This assignment intends to illustrates database query writing process, filtering and creating Relational Database Schema utilising MySQL Workbench. Database 'store' contains six tables ('customers', 'order_items', 'order_statuses', 'orders', 'products' and 'shippers'), however, mainly 'customers' and 'orders' tables are used to complete demonstration.

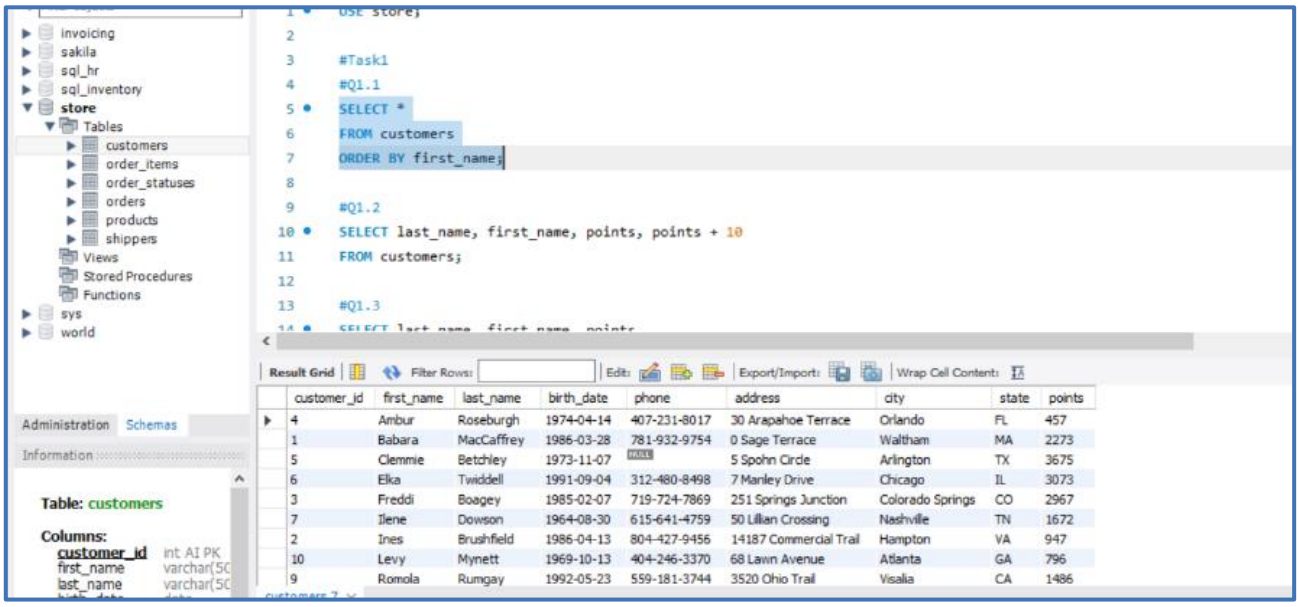
To load database file to MySQL Workbench, it was opened directly from software screen by clicking "Open a SQL Script File…" icon and selecting "create-db-store" file, then executing it. Schema representation of database and corresponding tables and fields can be seen in pane on left-hand side.

Finally, before starting querying, 'USE store' command was given in new query window to indicate which database is going to be utilised.

2. Task 1 – Working with 'customers' Table

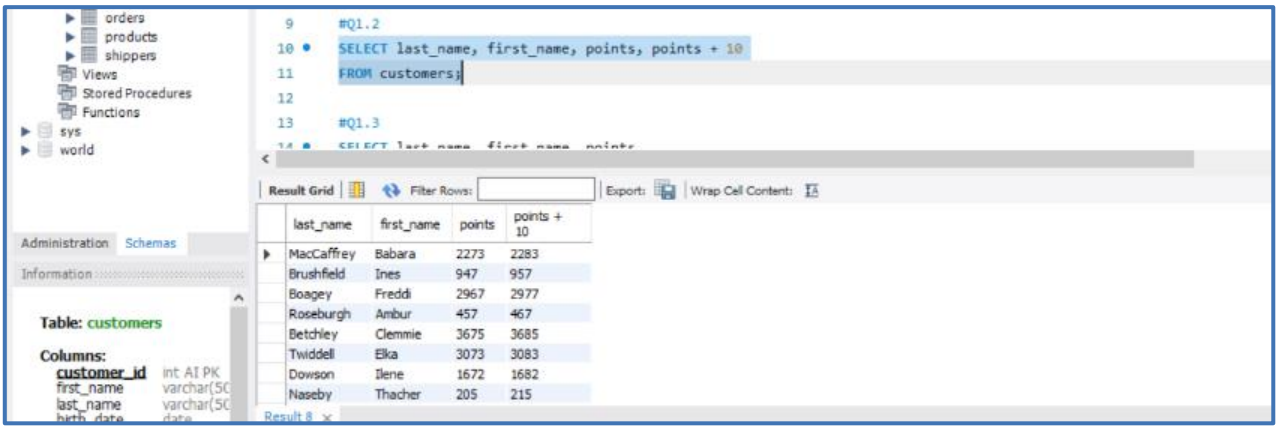
To select all data from 'customers' table and order it by customers' 'first_name', the following input was given, using "SELECT" statement and "*" to select "all" (Fig. 1).

Fig.1 – Selecting All Data from Table



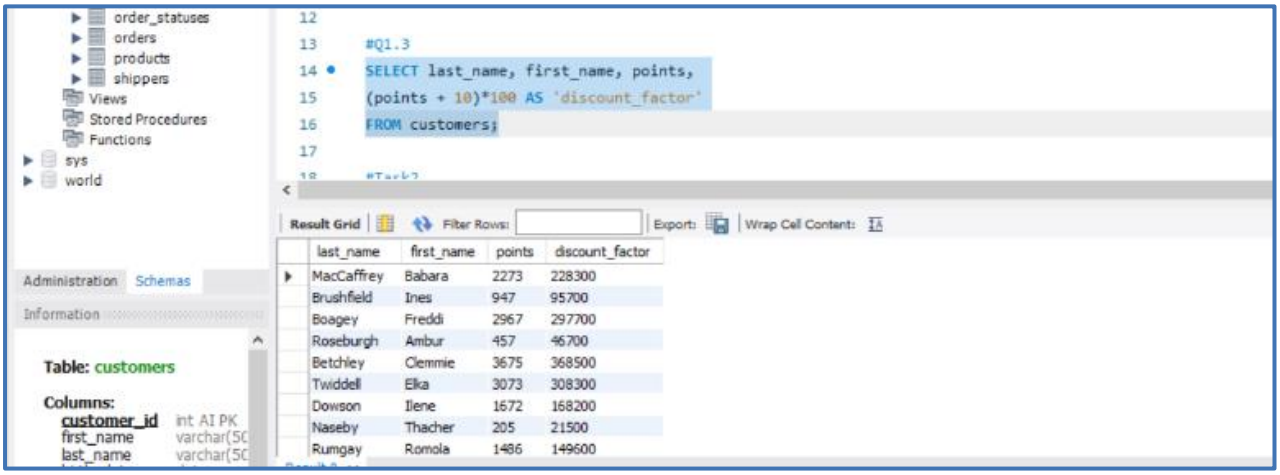
Further, to select specific columns from ‘customers’ table and add additional column with calculation based on numeric data in another column, “*” was replaced with specific columns’ names. Additionally, “+” operator was used to add “10” to numeric data in column ‘points’ to create additional field ‘point + 10’ (Fig.2) ((MySQL, 2023).

Fig. 2 – Selecting Specific Columns



To give temporary, but more meaningful name to the newly created column or so-called alias (Knowles, 2022) - “discount_factor” was used with statement “AS” (Fig. 3).

Fig.3 – Aliases



3. Task 2 – Working with ‘products’ Table

Fig. 4 – Querying ‘product’ Table and Adding Alias

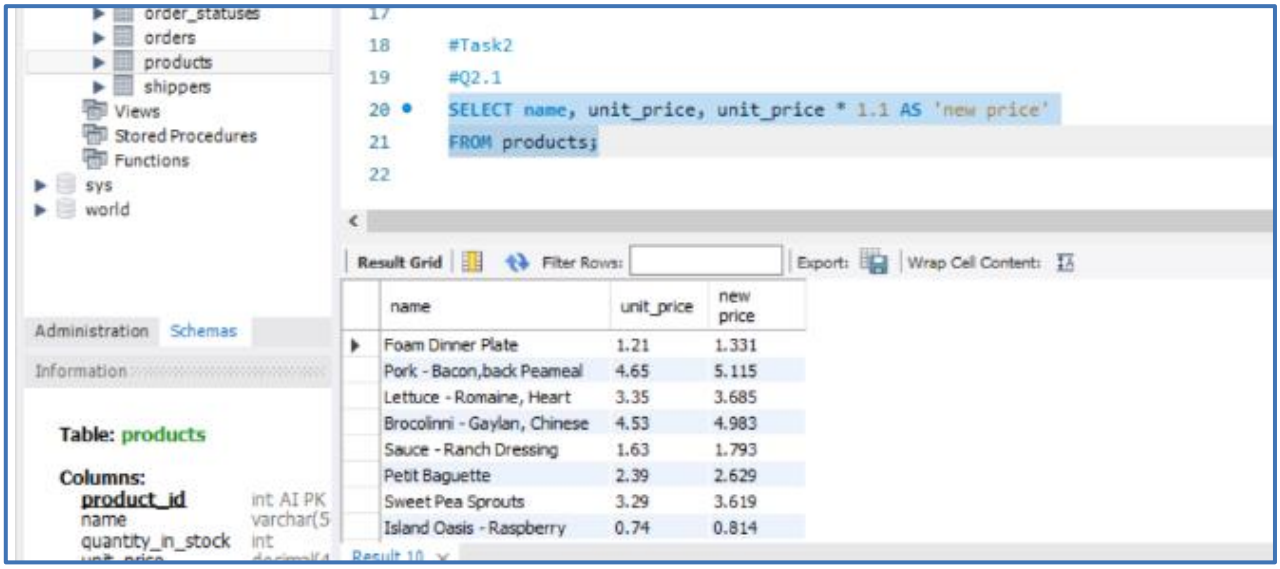
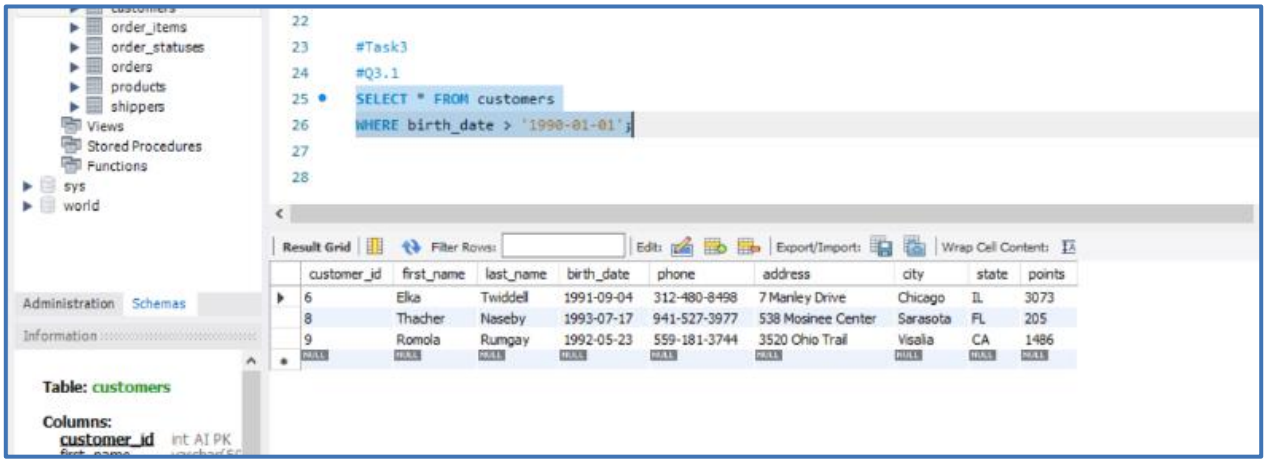


Fig. 4 above shows that to complete Task 2 the similar set of statements was used as in Task 1. “SELECT“ statement is followed by specific columns’ names (‘name’, ‘unit_price’ and ‘unit_price * 1.1’, with the last temporary renamed as ‘new price’ with statement “AS”. All information was taken from ‘products’ table.

4. Task 3 – Using Comparison Operator

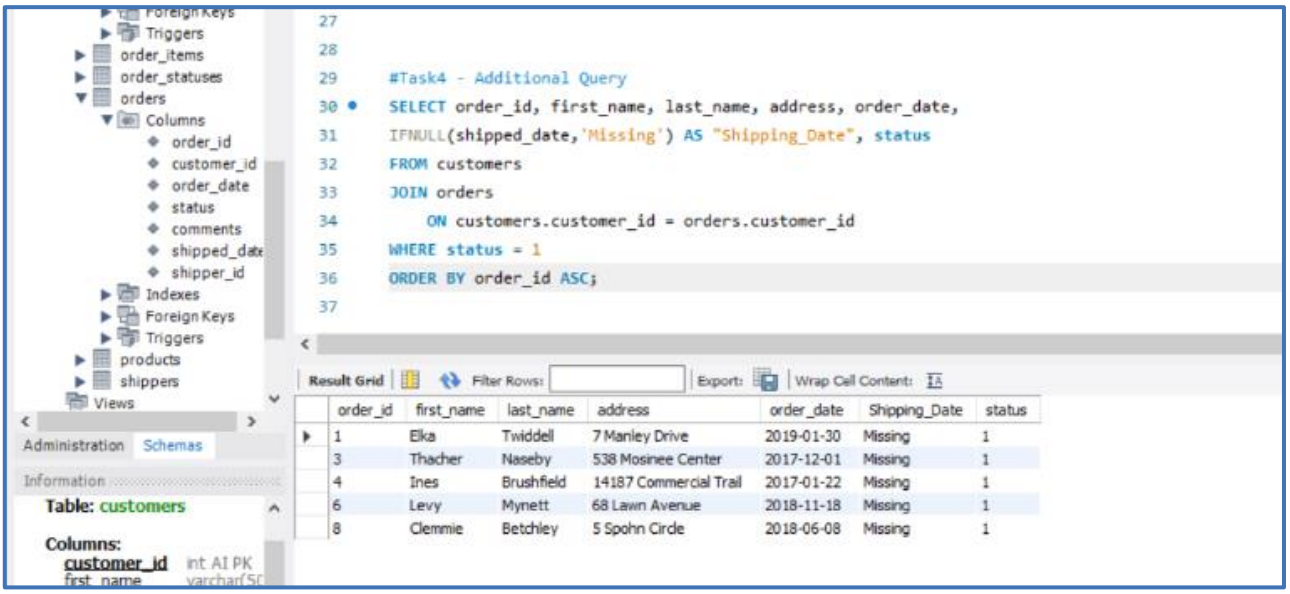
Task 3 required to utilise comparison operator “greater than” in conjunction with WHERE statement (MySQL, 2023), in order to find all available data for customers with date of birth that is greater than “1990-01-01” (Fig. 5).

Fig. 5 – Using “WHERE” Statement and Comparison Operator



5. Task 4 - Writing More Complex Query

Fig. 6 – Joining Two Tables



Above query, (Fig. 6), demonstrates how function “JOIN” works connecting columns from two different tables – ‘customers’ and ‘orders.

Good to note that order, in which tables are displayed on the screen, correspond to order in which columns are selected after “SELECT” statement, mixing columns from both tables in desired by user order (‘order_id’, ‘first_name’, ‘last_name’, ‘order_date’, ‘Shipping_Date’, ‘status’) (Knowles, 2022).

Furthermore, since original ‘shipped_date’ column contains many NULL values, they are replaced with alias “missing” and new column given temporary name ‘Shipping_Date’ (MySQL, 2023).

“JOIN“ function allows to join two tables together, based on fact that both have common column – ‘customer_id’, which represent Primary Key for ‘customers’ table and Foreign Key for ‘orders’ table (W3Schools, 2023).

Finally, WHERE statement is utilised to select just records where ‘status’ is equal 1, and whole table is ordered by ‘order_id’ in ascending order (Knowles, 2022).

Other queries can be found in ‘store_sql_assignment’ script, emailed together with this assignment document.

6. Task 5 – Creating Relational Database Schema Diagram

EER (Enhanced Entity – Relationship) diagram for “store” database (Fig.7) represents relationship and cardinality between the tables within database (MySQL, 2023). As indicated in the beginning of assignment, there are six tables in total – ‘customers’, ‘orders’, ‘order_statuses’, ‘shippers’, ‘order_items’ and ‘products.

Relationships between tables are mainly established on Primary (PK) and Foreign Keys (FK) as a common column within both tables (MySQL, 2023). For example, Primary Key in ‘customers’ table is ‘customer_id’ is also Foreign Key in ‘orders’ table. Other relationships can be identified as following:

- ‘orders’ table: ‘order_id’ - PK, ‘customer_id’ and ‘status’ – FKs;
- ‘order_statuses’ table: ‘order_status_id’ – PK;
- ‘shippers’ table: ‘shipper_id’ – PK;
- ‘products’ table: ‘product_id’ – PK;
- ‘order_items’ table – ‘order_id’ and ‘product_id’ – Composite Keys (CKs).

Cardinality explains how tables are related in numerical aspect, with main ones one-to-one, one-to-many and many-to many. Specific rules are usually set by the company (Lucidchart, 2023). For instance, according to below EER diagram, orders can have one and only one status (1 or 2) at the same time, while order statuses are allocated to multiple orders. Same situation with ‘shippers’ and ‘orders’, where multiple orders might be allocated to one shipper, but specific order can be shipped by one and only one shipper. However, company may change the rules and orders can be split and delivered my different shippers.

This EER diagram also illustrates use of Composite Keys that can utilise multiple columns for each record identification. These are also usually used to describe many-to-many relationship through additional column between them (Knowles, 2022). For example, ‘order_items’ connects ‘orders’ and ‘products’ into many-to-many relationship, taking both Primary key – ‘order_id’ from ‘orders and Primary Key – ‘product_id’ from ‘products’ and using them as Composite Key.

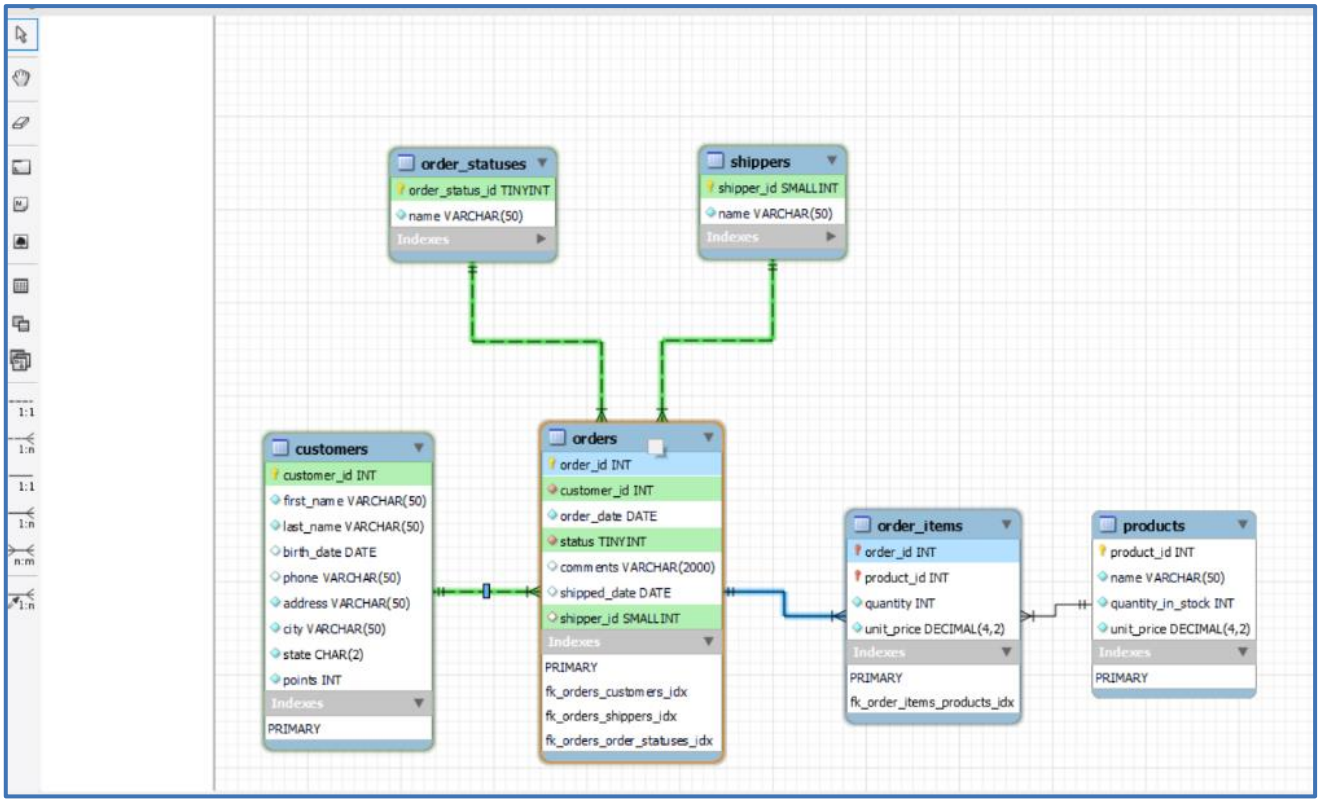
Additionally, solid and dotted lines between tables describe magnitude of such relationships. Therefore, solid lines represent “identified relationship”, where child table cannot be recognised without parents table and often used to highlight many to many relationships, mentioned above. On another hand, dotted line signifies that child table might be identified from parent table indipendantly (Lucidchart, 2023).

Finally, EER diagram also shows constraints imposed by author of original ‘store’ database script.

CONSTRAINT `fk_orders_order_statuses` FOREIGN KEY (`status`) REFERENCES `order_statuses` (`order_status_id`) ON UPDATE CASCADE

Line above describes constrain attached to Foreign Key - ‘status’ in ‘orders’ table, referencing Primary Key – ‘order_status_id’ in ‘order_statuses’ table. ‘ON UPDATE CASCADE’ statement requests to update records in child table ‘orders’, when corresponding records are updated in parent table ‘order_statuses’ (JavaTpoint, 2021).

Fig. 7 – EER (Enhanced Entity – Relationship) Diagram



7. Summary

In sum, using MySQL database management system is an essential tool that allows data analyst to extract information about various entities from company's database. Author of this assignment believes that MySQL system is relatively easy to learn and to use, as it has rather limited number of functions/ operators, however, tend to have inbuilt scalability and robust performance, especially in conjunction with other programming languages.

8. References

JavaTpoint (2021) *MySQL ON DELETE CASCADE*. JavaTpoint. Available from: https://www.javatpoint.com/mysql-on-delete-cascade#:~:text=MySQL%20ON%20UPDATE%20CASCADE,rows%20in%20the%20parent%20table. [Accessed 17 August 2023].

Knowles, C. (2022) *SQL for Beginners: An Informative and In-depth Guide to SQL Programming*. Independently published.

Lucidchart (2023) *What is an Entity Relationship Diagram (ERD)?* Lucid Software Inc. Available from: https://www.lucidchart.com/pages/er-diagrams [Accessed 17 August 2023].

MySQL (2023) *Arithmetic Operators*. Oracle. Available from: https://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/8.0/en/arithmetic-functions.html#operator_plus [Accessed 17 August 2023].

MySQL (2023) *Comparison Functions and Operators*. Oracle. Available from: https://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/8.0/en/comparison-operators.html#operator_greater-than [Accessed 17 August 2023].

MySQL (2023) *EER Diagrams*. Oracle. Available from: https://dev.mysql.com/doc/workbench/en/wb-eer-diagrams-section.html#:~:text=Enhanced%20Entity%2DRelationship%20(EER),shown%20in%20the%20associated%20diagram. [Accessed 17 August 2023].

MySQL (2023) *Problems with Column Aliases*. Oracle. Available from: https://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/8.0/en/problems-with-alias.html [Accessed 17 August 2023].

Oracle (2023) *What is MySQL?* Oracle. Available from: https://www.oracle.com/mysql/what-is-mysql/ [Accessed 17 August 2023].

W3Schools (2023) *SQL Joins*. W3Schools. Available from: https://www.w3schools.com/sql/sql_join.asp [Accessed 17 August 2023].