

# **Chapter 4: Advanced SQL**

**Database System Concepts, 5th Ed.** 

©Silberschatz, Korth and Sudarshan See www.db-book.com for conditions on re-use





### **Chapter 4: Advanced SQL**

- SQL Data Types and Schemas
- Integrity Constraints
- Authorization
- Embedded SQL
- Dynamic SQL
- Functions and Procedural Constructs\*\*
- Recursive Queries\*\*
- Advanced SQL Features\*\*



#### **Built-in Data Types in SQL**

- date: Dates, containing a (4 digit) year, month and date
  - Example: date '2005-7-27'
- **time:** Time of day, in hours, minutes and seconds.
  - Example: time '09:00:30'time '09:00:30.75'
- timestamp: date plus time of day
  - Example: timestamp '2005-7-27 09:00:30.75'
- interval: period of time
  - Example: interval '1' day
  - Subtracting a date/time/timestamp value from another gives an interval value
  - Interval values can be added to date/time/timestamp values



# **Build-in Data Types in SQL (Cont.)**

- Can extract values of individual fields from date/time/timestamp
  - Example: extract (year from r.starttime)
- Can cast string types to date/time/timestamp
  - Example: cast <string-valued-expression> as date
  - Example: cast <string-valued-expression> as time



### **User-Defined Types**

create type construct in SQL creates user-defined type

create type Dollars as numeric (12,2) final

create domain construct in SQL-92 creates user-defined domain types

create domain person\_name char(20) not null

Types and domains are similar. Domains can have constraints, such as **not null**, specified on them.



#### **Domain Constraints**

- **Domain constraints** are the most elementary form of integrity constraint. They test values inserted in the database, and test queries to ensure that the comparisons make sense.
- New domains can be created from existing data types
  - Example: create domain Dollars numeric(12, 2)
     create domain Pounds numeric(12,2)
- We cannot assign or compare a value of type Dollars to a value of type Pounds.
  - However, we can convert type as below
     (cast r.A as Pounds)
     (Should also multiply by the dollar-to-pound conversion-rate)



## **Large-Object Types**

- Large objects (photos, videos, CAD files, etc.) are stored as a large object:
  - blob: binary large object -- object is a large collection of uninterpreted binary data (whose interpretation is left to an application outside of the database system)
  - clob: character large object -- object is a large collection of character data
  - When a query returns a large object, a pointer is returned rather than the large object itself.



### **Integrity Constraints**

- Integrity constraints guard against accidental damage to the database, by ensuring that authorized changes to the database do not result in a loss of data consistency.
  - A checking account must have a balance greater than \$10,000.00
  - A salary of a bank employee must be at least \$4.00 an hour
  - A customer must have a (non-null) phone number





# **Constraints on a Single Relation**

- not null
- primary key
- unique
- **check** (*P* ), where *P* is a predicate





#### **Not Null Constraint**

- Declare branch\_name for branch is not null branch\_name char(15) not null
- Declare the domain *Dollars* to be **not null**

create domain Dollars numeric(12,2) not null





## **The Unique Constraint**

- **unique** ( $A_1, A_2, ..., A_m$ )
- The unique specification states that the attributes

Candidate keys are permitted to be null (in contrast to primary keys).



#### The check clause

**check** (*P* ), where *P* is a predicate

Example: Declare *branch\_name* as the primary key for *branch* and ensure that the values of *assets* are non-negative.

```
create table branch
    (branch_name char(15),
    branch_city char(30),
    assets integer,
    primary key (branch_name),
    check (assets >= 0))
```



# The check clause (Cont.)

- The **check** clause in SQL-92 permits domains to be restricted:
  - Use check clause to ensure that an hourly\_wage domain allows only values greater than a specified value.

```
create domain hourly_wage numeric(5,2)
    constraint value_test check(hourly_wage > = 4.00)
```

- The domain has a constraint that ensures that the hourly\_wage is greater than 4.00
- The clause constraint value\_test is optional; useful to indicate which constraint an update violated.



### **Referential Integrity**

- Ensures that a value that appears in one relation for a given set of attributes also appears for a certain set of attributes in another relation.
  - Example: If "Perryridge" is a branch name appearing in one of the tuples in the account relation, then there exists a tuple in the branch relation for branch "Perryridge".
- Primary and candidate keys and foreign keys can be specified as part of the SQL create table statement:
  - The primary key clause lists attributes that comprise the primary key.
  - The unique key clause lists attributes that comprise a candidate key.
  - The foreign key clause lists the attributes that comprise the foreign key and the name of the relation referenced by the foreign key. By default, a foreign key references the primary key attributes of the referenced table.



## Referential Integrity in SQL – Example

```
create table customer
  (customer_name char(20),
  customer_street char(30),
  customer_city char(30),
  primary key (customer_name ))

create table branch
  (branch_name char(15),
  branch_city char(30),
  assets numeric(12,2),
  primary key (branch_name ))
```



#### Referential Integrity in SQL – Example (Cont.)

```
create table account
   (account_number char(10),
   branch_name char(15),
   balance integer,
   primary key (account_number),
   foreign key (branch_name) references branch)

create table depositor
   (customer_name char(20),
   account_number char(10),
   primary key (customer_name, account_number),
   foreign key (account_number) references account,
   foreign key (customer_name) references customer)
```



#### **Assertions**

- An assertion is a predicate expressing a condition that we wish the database always to satisfy.
- An assertion in SQL takes the form
  create assertion <assertion-name> check check check
- When an assertion is made, the system tests it for validity, and tests it again on every update that may violate the assertion
  - This testing may introduce a significant amount of overhead;
     hence assertions should be used with great care.
- Asserting for all X, P(X) is achieved in a round-about fashion using not exists X such that not P(X)



- create assertion <assertion-name> check check
- STUDENT(Roll no, name, Batch)



### **Assertion Example**

Every loan has at least one borrower who maintains an account with a minimum balance or \$1000.00



### **Assertion Example**

The sum of all loan amounts for each branch must be less than the sum of all account balances at the branch.



#### **Authorization**

Forms of authorization on parts of the database:

- Read allows reading, but not modification of data.
- Insert allows insertion of new data, but not modification of existing data.
- Update allows modification, but not deletion of data.
- Delete allows deletion of data.

Forms of authorization to modify the database schema (covered in Chapter 8):

- Index allows creation and deletion of indices.
- Resources allows creation of new relations.
- Alteration allows addition or deletion of attributes in a relation.
- Drop allows deletion of relations.



### **Authorization Specification in SQL**

- The grant statement is used to confer authorization grant <pri>privilege list> on <relation name or view name> to <user list>
- <user list> is:
  - a user-id
  - public, which allows all valid users the privilege granted
  - A role (more on this in Chapter 8)
- Granting a privilege on a view does not imply granting any privileges on the underlying relations.
- The grantor of the privilege must already hold the privilege on the specified item (or be the database administrator).



## **Privileges in SQL**

- select: allows read access to relation, or the ability to query using the view
  - Example: grant users  $U_1$ ,  $U_2$ , and  $U_3$  **select** authorization on the *branch* relation:

grant select on branch to  $U_1$ ,  $U_2$ ,  $U_3$ 

- insert: the ability to insert tuples
- update: the ability to update using the SQL update statement
- delete: the ability to delete tuples.
- all privileges: used as a short form for all the allowable privileges
- more in Chapter 8



## Revoking Authorization in SQL

■ The revoke statement is used to revoke authorization.

```
revoke <privilege list>
```

on <relation name or view name> from <user list>

Example:

revoke select on branch from  $U_1$ ,  $U_2$ ,  $U_3$ 

- All privileges that depend on the privilege being revoked are also revoked.
- <pr
- If the same privilege was granted twice to the same user by different grantees, the user may retain the privilege after the revocation.



#### **Embedded SQL**

- The SQL standard defines embeddings of SQL in a variety of programming languages such as C, Java, and Cobol.
- 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/I.
- EXEC SQL statement is used to identify embedded SQL request to the preprocessor

EXEC SQL <embedded SQL statement > END\_EXEC

Note: this varies by language (for example, the Java embedding uses # SQL { .... }; )



Specify the query in SQL and declare a *cursor* for it
 Eg: To find the customer names and their city

EXEC SQL

declare c cursor for select name, city from customer

END\_EXEC



#### **Example Query**

- From within a host language, find the names and cities of customers with more than the variable amount dollars in some account.
- Specify the query in SQL and declare a cursor for it
   EXEC SQL

```
declare c cursor for
select depositor.customer_name, customer_city
from depositor, customer, account
where depositor.customer_name = customer.customer_name
    and depositor account_number = account.account_number
    and account.balance > :amount
```

END\_EXEC



### **Embedded SQL (Cont.)**

■ The open statement causes the query to be evaluated

EXEC SQL open c END\_EXEC

■ 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** :*cn*, :*cc* 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 END\_EXEC

Note: above details vary with language. For example, the Java embedding defines Java iterators to step through result tuples.



### **Updates Through Cursors**

 Can update tuples fetched by cursor by declaring that the cursor is for update

```
declare c cursor for
    select *
    from account
    where branch_name = 'Perryridge'
for update
```

To update tuple at the current location of cursor c

```
update account
set balance = balance + 100
where current of c
```



### **Dynamic SQL**

- Allows programs to construct and submit SQL queries at run time.
- Example of the use of dynamic SQL from within a C program.

The dynamic SQL program contains a ?, which is a place holder for a value that is provided when the SQL program is executed.



#### **ODBC** and **JDBC**

- API (application-program interface) for a program to interact with a database server
- Application makes calls to
  - Connect with the database server
  - Send SQL commands to the database server
  - Fetch tuples of result one-by-one into program variables
- ODBC (Open Database Connectivity) works with C, C++, C#, and Visual Basic
- JDBC (Java Database Connectivity) works with Java



#### **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



## **ODBC** (Cont.)

- Each database system supporting ODBC provides a "driver" library that must be linked with the client program.
- When client program makes an ODBC API call, the code in the library communicates with the server to carry out the requested action, and fetch results.
- ODBC program first allocates an SQL environment, then a database connection handle.
- Opens database connection using SQLConnect(). Parameters for SQLConnect:
  - connection handle,
  - the server to which to connect
  - the user identifier,
  - password
- Must also specify types of arguments:
  - SQL\_NTS denotes previous argument is a null-terminated string.





#### **ODBC** Code

int ODBCexample() **RETCODE** error; HENV env; /\* environment \*/ HDBC conn; /\* database connection \*/ SQLAllocEnv(&env); SQLAllocConnect(env, &conn); SQLConnect(conn, "aura.bell-labs.com", SQL\_NTS, "avi", SQL\_NTS, "avipasswd", SQL NTS); { .... Do actual work ... } SQLDisconnect(conn); SQLFreeConnect(conn); SQLFreeEnv(env);



## **ODBC Code (Cont.)**

- Program sends SQL commands to the database by using SQLExecDirect
- Result tuples are fetched using SQLFetch()
- SQLBindCol() binds C language variables to attributes of the query result
  - When a tuple is fetched, its attribute values are automatically stored in corresponding C variables.
  - Arguments to SQLBindCol()
    - ODBC stmt variable, attribute position in query result
    - The type conversion from SQL to C.
    - The address of the variable.
    - For variable-length types like character arrays,
      - The maximum length of the variable
      - Location to store actual length when a tuple is fetched.
      - Note: A negative value returned for the length field indicates null value
- Good programming requires checking results of every function call for errors; we have omitted most checks for brevity.



### **ODBC Code (Cont.)**

Main body of program

```
char branchname[80];
float balance;
int lenOut1, lenOut2;
HSTMT stmt;
SQLAllocStmt(conn, &stmt);
char * sqlquery = "select branch_name, sum (balance)
               from account
               group by branch_name";
error = SQLExecDirect(stmt, sqlquery, SQL NTS);
if (error == SQL_SUCCESS) {
   SQLBindCol(stmt, 1, SQL_C_CHAR, branchname, 80,
&lenOut1);
   SQLBindCol(stmt, 2, SQL C FLOAT, &balance,
&lenOut2);
   while (SQLFetch(stmt) >= SQL_SUCCESS) {
      printf (" %s %g\n", branchname, balance);
SQLFreeStmt(stmt, SQL DROP);
```



## **More ODBC Features**

#### Prepared Statement

- SQL statement prepared: compiled at the database
- Can have placeholders: E.g. insert into account values(?,?,?)
- Repeatedly executed with actual values for the placeholders

#### Metadata features

- finding all the relations in the database and
- finding the names and types of columns of a query result or a relation in the database.
- By default, each SQL statement is treated as a separate transaction that is committed automatically.
  - Can turn off automatic commit on a connection
    - SQLSetConnectOption(conn, SQL\_AUTOCOMMIT, 0)}
  - transactions must then be committed or rolled back explicitly by
    - SQLTransact(conn, SQL\_COMMIT) or
    - SQLTransact(conn, SQL\_ROLLBACK)



## **ODBC Conformance Levels**

- Conformance levels specify subsets of the functionality defined by the standard.
  - Core
  - Level 1 requires support for metadata querying
  - Level 2 requires ability to send and retrieve arrays of parameter values and more detailed catalog information.
- SQL Call Level Interface (CLI) standard similar to ODBC interface, but with some minor differences.



## **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



### JDBC Code

```
public static void JDBCexample(String dbid, String userid, String passwd)
  try {
     Class.forName ("oracle.jdbc.driver.OracleDriver");
     Connection conn = DriverManager.getConnection(
      "jdbc:oracle:thin:@aura.bell-labs.com:2000:bankdb", userid, passwd);
    Statement stmt = conn.createStatement();
       ... Do Actual Work ....
    stmt.close();
    conn.close();
 catch (SQLException sqle) {
    System.out.println("SQLException: " + sqle);
```



# JDBC Code (Cont.)

Update to database try { stmt.executeUpdate( "insert into account values ('A-9732', 'Perryridge', 1200)"); } catch (SQLException sqle) { System.out.println("Could not insert tuple. " + sqle); Execute query and fetch and print results ResultSet rset = stmt.executeQuery( "select branch name, avg(balance) from account group by branch\_name"); while (rset.next()) { System.out.println( rset.getString("branch\_name") + " " + rset.getFloat(2));



## **JDBC Code Details**

- Getting result fields:
  - rs.getString("branchname") and rs.getString(1) equivalent if branchname 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");
```



### **Procedural Extensions and Stored Procedures**

- SQL provides a module language
  - Permits definition of procedures in SQL, with if-then-else statements, for and while loops, etc.
  - more in Chapter 9
- Stored Procedures
  - Can store procedures in the database
  - then execute them using the call statement
  - permit external applications to operate on the database without knowing about internal details
- These features are covered in Chapter 9 (Object Relational Databases)



## **Functions and Procedures**

- SQL:1999 supports functions and procedures
  - Functions/procedures can be written in SQL itself, or in an external programming language
  - Functions are particularly useful with specialized data types such as images and geometric objects
    - Example: functions to check if polygons overlap, or to compare images for similarity
  - Some database systems support table-valued functions, which can return a relation as a result
- SQL:1999 also supports a rich set of imperative constructs, including
  - Loops, if-then-else, assignment
- Many databases have proprietary procedural extensions to SQL that differ from SQL:1999



## **SQL Functions**

■ Define a function that, given the name of a customer, returns the count of the number of accounts owned by the customer.

```
create function account_count (customer_name varchar(20))
returns integer
begin
    declare a_count integer;
    select count (*) into a_count
    from depositor
    where depositor.customer_name = customer_name
    return a_count;
end
```

Find the name and address of each customer that has more than one account.

```
select customer_name, customer_street, customer_city
from customer
where account_count (customer_name ) > 1
```



### **Table Functions**

- SQL:2003 added functions that return a relation as a result
- Example: Return all accounts owned by a given customer

```
create function accounts_of (customer_name char(20))
     returns table ( account_number char(10),
                     branch_name char(15)
                     balance numeric(12,2))
return table
     (select account number, branch name, balance
     from account A
     where exists (
        select *
       from depositor D
        where D.customer_name = accounts_of.customer_name
             and D.account_number = A.account_number ))
```



# **Table Functions (cont'd)**

Usage

```
select *
from table (accounts_of ('Smith'))
```



# **SQL Procedures**

■ The *author\_count* function could instead be written as procedure:

```
create procedure account_count_proc (in title varchar(20), out a_count integer)
```

#### begin

```
select count(author) into a_count
from depositor
where depositor.customer_name = account_count_proc.customer_name
```

#### end

Procedures can be invoked either from an SQL procedure or from embedded SQL, using the call statement.

```
declare a_count integer;
call account_count_proc( 'Smith', a_count);
```

Procedures and functions can be invoked also from dynamic SQL

 SQL:1999 allows more than one function/procedure of the same name (called name overloading), as long as the number of arguments differ, or at least the types of the arguments differ



## **Procedural Constructs**

- Compound statement: begin ... end,
  - May contain multiple SQL statements between begin and end.
  - Local variables can be declared within a compound statements
- While and repeat statements:

end repeat

```
declare n integer default 0;

while n < 10 do

set n = n + 1

end while

repeat

set n = n - 1

until n = 0
```



# **Procedural Constructs (Cont.)**

- For loop
  - Permits iteration over all results of a query
  - Example: find total of all balances at the Perryridge branch

```
declare n integer default 0;
for r as
    select balance from account
    where branch_name = 'Perryridge'
do
    set n = n + r.balance
end for
```



# **Procedural Constructs (cont.)**

Conditional statements (if-then-else)
 E.g. To find sum of balances for each of three categories of accounts (with balance <1000, >=1000 and <5000, >= 5000)

```
if r.balance < 1000

then set I = I + r.balance

elseif r.balance < 5000

then set m = m + r.balance

else set h = h + r.balance

end if
```

- SQL:1999 also supports a case statement similar to C case statement
- Signaling of exception conditions, and declaring handlers for exceptions

```
declare out_of_stock condition
declare exit handler for out_of_stock
begin
```

.. **signal** out-of-stock **end** 

- The handler here is exit -- causes enclosing begin..end to be exited
- Other actions possible on exception



## **External Language Functions/Procedures**

- SQL:1999 permits the use of functions and procedures written in other languages such as C or C++
- Declaring external language procedures and functions

```
create procedure account_count_proc(in customer_name varchar(20), out count integer)
```

language C
external name '/usr/avi/bin/account\_count\_proc'

create function account\_count(customer\_name varchar(20))
returns integer
language C
external name '/usr/avi/bin/author count'



# **External Language Routines (Cont.)**

- Benefits of external language functions/procedures:
  - more efficient for many operations, and more expressive power
- Drawbacks
  - Code to implement function may need to be loaded into database system and executed in the database system's address space
    - risk of accidental corruption of database structures
    - security risk, allowing users access to unauthorized data
  - There are alternatives, which give good security at the cost of potentially worse performance
  - Direct execution in the database system's space is used when efficiency is more important than security



# Security with External Language Routines

- To deal with security problems
  - Use sandbox techniques
    - that is use a safe language like Java, which cannot be used to access/damage other parts of the database code
  - Or, 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



# **Recursion in SQL**

- SQL:1999 permits recursive view definition
- Example: find all employee-manager pairs, where the employee reports to the manager directly or indirectly (that is manager's manager, manager's manager, etc.)

This example view, *empl*, is called the *transitive closure* of the *manager* 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 manager with itself
    - This can give only a fixed number of levels of managers
    - Given a program we can construct a database with a greater number of levels of managers on which the program will not work
- Computing transitive closure
  - The next slide shows a manager relation
  - Each step of the iterative process constructs an extended version of empl from its recursive definition.
  - The final result is called the fixed point of the recursive view definition.
- Recursive views are required to be monotonic. That is, if we add tuples to manger the view contains all of the tuples it contained before, plus possibly more



# **Example of Fixed-Point Computation**

employee_name	manager_name
Alon	Barinsky
Barinsky	Estovar
Corbin	Duarte
Duarte	Jones
Estovar	Jones
Jones	Klinger
Rensal	Klinger

Iteration number	Tuples in empl
0	
1	(Duarte), (Estovar)
2	(Duarte), (Estovar), (Barinsky), (Corbin)
3	(Duarte), (Estovar), (Barinsky), (Corbin), (Alon)
4	(Duarte), (Estovar), (Barinsky), (Corbin), (Alon)



# **Advanced SQL Features\*\***

- Create a table with the same schema as an existing table:
  create table temp\_account like account
- SQL:2003 allows subqueries to occur anywhere a value is required provided the subquery returns only one value. This applies to updates as well
- SQL:2003 allows subqueries in the from clause to access attributes of other relations in the from clause using the lateral construct:

```
select C.customer_name, num_accounts
from customer C,
    lateral (select count(*)
        from account A
        where A.customer_name = C.customer_name )
    as this customer (num accounts)
```



# Advanced SQL Features (cont'd)

- Merge construct allows batch processing of updates.
- Example: relation funds\_received (account\_number, amount) has batch of deposits to be added to the proper account in the account relation

```
merge into account as A
using (select *
from funds_received as F)
on (A.account_number = F.account_number)
when matched then
update set balance = balance + F.amount
```



## **TRIGGERS**

CREATE OR REPLACE TRIGGER t
 BEFORE

INSERT OR UPDATE OF salary, department\_id OR DELETE ON employees BEGIN CASE

WHEN **INSERTING** THEN DBMS\_OUTPUT.PUT\_LINE('Inserting');

WHEN **UPDATING('salary')** THEN DBMS\_OUTPUT.PUT\_LINE('Updating salary');

WHEN **UPDATING('department\_id')** THEN DBMS\_OUTPUT.PUT\_LINE('Updating department ID');

WHEN **DELETING** THEN DBMS\_OUTPUT.PUT\_LINE('Deleting'); END CASE; END; /





creates a log table and a trigger that inserts a row in the log table after any **UPDATE** statement affects the **SALARY** column of the **EMPLOYEES** table, and then pdates **EMPLOYEES**.**SALARY** and shows the log table.

- CREATE TABLE Emp\_log ( Emp\_id NUMBER, Log\_date DATE, New\_salary NUMBER, Action VARCHAR2(20));
- Create trigger that inserts row in log table after EMPLOYEES.SALARY is update
- CREATE OR REPLACE TRIGGER log\_salary\_increase

  AFTER UPDATE OF salary ON employees

  FOR EACH ROW BEGIN INSERT INTO Emp\_log (Emp\_id, Log\_date,
  New\_salary, Action) VALUES (:NEW.employee\_id, SYSDATE, :NEW.salary,
  'New Salary');

  END;



Update EMPLOYEES.SALARY:

UPDATE employees SET salary = salary + 1000.0 WHERE Department\_id = 20; Result:

- 2 rows updated. Show log table:
- SELECT \* FROM Emp\_log;
- Result:

EMP\_ID LOG\_DATE NEW\_SALARY ACTION 201 28-APR-10 15049.13 New Salary 202 28-APR-10 6945.75 New Salary 2 rows selected.



# **End of Chapter**

**Database System Concepts, 5th Ed.** 

©Silberschatz, Korth and Sudarshan See www.db-book.com for conditions on re-use

