2024-11-11 DATABASES 2

LAB 7 - NOSQL DATA IN **POSTGRESQL**



INTRODUCTION

This lab focuses on using NoSQL features in PostgreSQL, specifically the ltree module for hierarchical data and PostGIS for geographical data. The following exercises covers hierarchical data queries, geographical queries, and additional tasks using the provided datasets.

EXERCISE 1: HIERARCHICAL DATA WITH LTREE

This exercise focuses on using PostgreSQL's ltree extension for hierarchical data management. The task involves creating a university dataset representing colleges, schools, and degrees as a hierarchical structure. We perform various operations such as adding, updating, querying, and deleting hierarchical data. Additionally, we compute CAO points for each degree and generate statistical insights using SQL queries.

The ltree extension simplifies working with hierarchical data by providing specialized data types (ltree) and functions for querying and manipulating tree-like structures. This exercise highlights how to efficiently model and work with hierarchical data in a relational database.

SETUP AND DATA INSERTION

Step 1: Enable the Itree Extension

To work with hierarchical data, we need to enable the ltree extension:

CREATE EXTENSION IF NOT EXISTS ltree;

Explanation:

The ltree extension introduces a new data type (ltree) and several operators to handle hierarchical data. Without enabling this extension, the functionality required for the task will not be available.

Step 2: Create the Hierarchical Table

The table tud tree will store the hierarchical paths and CAO points for degrees:

```
CREATE TABLE tud_tree (

path ltree, -- Column for hierarchical paths

cao_points INTEGER -- Column for CAO points
);
```

- The path column uses the ltree data type to store the hierarchy of colleges, schools, and degrees.
- The cao_points column stores the assigned CAO points for each degree, which are used for analysis.

Step 3: Insert the Initial Data

We populate the table with the initial university structure:

```
INSERT INTO tud_tree (path)

VALUES

('TUD'::ltree),

('TUD.Science'::ltree),

('TUD.Science.Computer_Science'::ltree),

('TUD.Science.Computer_Science.Software'::ltree),

('TUD.Science.Computer_Science.Al'::ltree),

('TUD.Science.BiologicalScience'::ltree),

('TUD.Science.BiologicalScience.MolecularBiology'::ltree),

('TUD.Art'::ltree),

('TUD.Art.Design'::ltree),

('TUD.Engineering'::ltree)

ON CONFLICT DO NOTHING;
```

Explanation:

- Each row represents a node in the hierarchy.
- The ON CONFLICT DO NOTHING clause ensures that re-running the script does not insert duplicate entries.
- The hierarchy follows a tree structure, starting with the root node (TUD).

TASKS AND QUERIES

Task 1: Add a New School Named Computer Science Under TUD. Science

INSERT INTO tud tree (path)

```
SELECT 'TUD.Science.Computer_Science'::ltree
WHERE NOT EXISTS (
    SELECT 1 FROM tud_tree WHERE path = 'TUD.Science.Computer_Science'::ltree
);
```

This query checks if the Computer_Science school already exists before inserting it, preventing duplicate entries.

Task 2: Add Two Degrees Software and AI Under Computer Science

```
INSERT INTO tud tree (path)
```

VALUES

```
('TUD.Science.Computer_Science.Software'::ltree),
('TUD.Science.Computer_Science.AI'::ltree)
```

ON CONFLICT DO NOTHING;

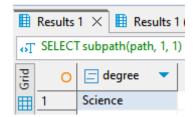
Explanation:

- Adds two degrees under the Computer Science school.
- Ensures that re-running the script does not create duplicates.

Task 3: Find Under Which Degree Molecular Biology Falls

```
SELECT subpath(path, 1, 1) AS degree FROM tud_tree WHERE path ~ '*.MolecularBiology';
```

Output Table:



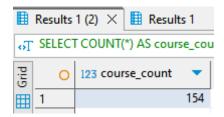
The subpath function extracts the parent node (Science) under which MolecularBiology falls. The ~ operator matches paths ending in MolecularBiology.

Task 4: Count the Total Number of Courses

SELECT COUNT(*) AS course count

FROM tud tree;

Output Table:



Explanation:

This query counts all nodes in the hierarchy, representing the total number of courses, schools, and colleges.

Task 5: Find the Faculty with the Most Courses

SELECT subpath(path, 0, 1) AS faculty, COUNT(*) AS course_count

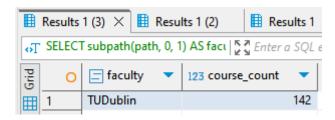
FROM tud_tree

GROUP BY faculty

ORDER BY course count DESC

LIMIT 1;

Output Table:



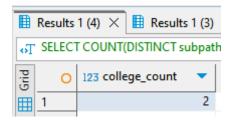
Explanation:

The query groups paths by the top-level faculty, counts the number of nodes for each faculty, and identifies the one with the highest count.

Task 6: Count the Number of Colleges

SELECT COUNT(DISTINCT subpath(path, 0, 1)) AS college_count FROM tud_tree;

Output Table:



Explanation:

This query counts distinct first-level nodes (Science, Art, Engineering) in the hierarchy.

Task 7: Rename the University from TUD to TUDublin

UPDATE tud_tree
SET path = regexp_replace(path::text, '^TUD', 'TUDublin')::ltree
WHERE path ~ 'TUD.*';

Explanation:

This query replaces TUD with TUDublin in all paths to update the university's name.

Task 8: Delete the Biological Science School and Its Courses

DELETE FROM tud tree

WHERE path < (a) 'TUDublin.Science.BiologicalScience'::ltree;

Explanation:

The <@ operator matches all descendants of Biological Science and deletes them.

Task 9: Add a Column for CAO Points

ALTER TABLE tud tree ADD COLUMN cao points INTEGER;

Explanation:

Adds a new column to store CAO points for each degree.

Task 10: Assign CAO Points Based on Faculty

```
UPDATE tud_tree

SET cao_points =

CASE

WHEN path ~ 'TUDublin.Art.*' THEN 300

WHEN path ~ 'TUDublin.Science.*' THEN 450

WHEN path ~ 'TUDublin.Engineering.*' THEN 400

ELSE 350

END;
```

Explanation:

Assigns CAO points based on the faculty type using a CASE statement.

Task 11: Assign 500 CAO Points to Computer Science Degrees

```
UPDATE tud_tree
SET cao_points = 500
WHERE path ~ 'TUDublin.Science.Computer Science.*';
```

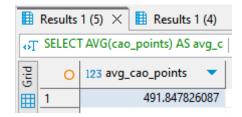
Explanation:

Specifically updates CAO points for all degrees under Computer Science to 500.

Task 12: Compute the Average CAO Points for the Science College

```
SELECT AVG(cao_points) AS avg_cao_points
FROM tud_tree
WHERE path ~ 'TUDublin.Science.*';
```

Output Table:



Calculates the average CAO points for all degrees under the Science college.

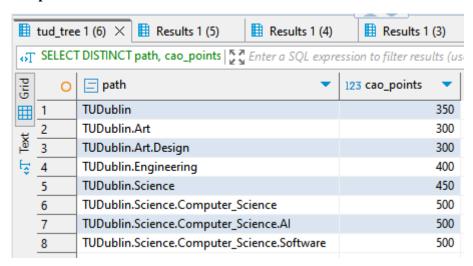
Task 13: Verify the Final Table State

SELECT DISTINCT path, cao points

FROM tud tree

ORDER BY path;

Output Table:



Explanation:

Displays the final state of the tud tree table for validation.

CONCLUSION

This exercise highlights the powerful capabilities of PostgreSQL's ltree extension for managing hierarchical data. The tasks demonstrated how to build, query, update, and analyse a hierarchical dataset efficiently.

EXERCISE 2: GEOGRAPHICAL DATA WITH POSTGIS

This exercise demonstrates the capabilities of PostGIS, a PostgreSQL extension for managing and analysing geographical data. Using datasets representing NYC streets, stations, and neighbourhoods, the tasks cover a range of spatial queries to extract insights such as street intersections, neighbourhood statistics, and road measurements.

Step 1: Activating PostGIS

Before performing any spatial queries, the PostGIS extension must be activated in the database.

CREATE EXTENSION IF NOT EXISTS postgis;

Explanation:

- **Purpose**: This enables the use of geographical and geometrical data types (geometry, geography) and spatial functions in PostgreSQL.
- Functionality Enabled:
 - o Spatial relationships (e.g., intersections, containment).
 - o Measurement functions (e.g., length, area).
 - o Advanced geometry operations.

Step 2: Queries

(a) Streets inside or crossing the East Village

SELECT ns.name AS street name

FROM nycstreet ns

WHERE ST_Crosses(ns.geom, (SELECT geom FROM nycnb WHERE name = 'East Village' LIMIT 1))

OR ST_Contains(ns.geom, (SELECT geom FROM nycnb WHERE name = 'East Village' LIMIT 1))

ORDER BY ns.name;

Explanation:

- **Objective**: Identify streets that either cross the boundary of or are fully contained within the "East Village" neighborhood.
- Functions Used:
 - o ST_Crosses: Checks if a street's geometry intersects the neighborhood's geometry.
 - o ST_Contains: Verifies if the entire street geometry is within the neighborhood.
- Result:
 - o A list of street names in or crossing the East Village, sorted alphabetically.
- This query relies on accurate geometries in both the nycstreet and nychb tables.

Output Table:

Street name



(b) Neighbourhood with the most tube stations

SELECT nb.name AS neighborhood, COUNT(st.gid) AS station_count FROM nycstation st JOIN nycnb nb ON ST_Contains(nb.geom, st.geom) GROUP BY nb.name ORDER BY station_count DESC LIMIT 1;

Explanation:

- **Objective**: Determine which neighborhood has the highest number of tube stations.
- Process:
 - Each station point is checked to see if it is contained within a neighborhood polygon using ST_Contains.
 - o The stations are grouped by neighborhood, and the count is calculated.
- Result:
 - The neighborhood with the highest count is displayed along with the total number of stations.

Output Table:

Neighbourhood name and station count



(c) Longest road

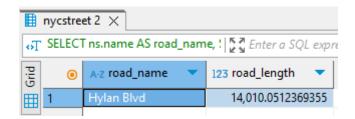
SELECT ns.name AS road_name, ST_Length(ns.geom) AS road_length FROM nycstreet ns ORDER BY road_length DESC LIMIT 1;

Explanation:

- **Objective**: Identify the longest road in the dataset.
- **Function Used**:
 - o ST_Length: Computes the length of a geometry in meters.
- Process:
 - The length of each street is calculated, and the streets are sorted in descending order of length.
- Result:
 - o The name and length of the longest road are displayed.

Output Table:

Road name and its length



(d) Smallest neighborhood

SELECT nb.name AS neighborhood, ST_Area(nb.geom) AS area FROM nycnb nb ORDER BY area ASC LIMIT 1;

Explanation:

- **Objective**: Find the smallest neighborhood by area.
- Function Used:
 - o ST_Area: Computes the area of a polygon in square meters.
- Process:
 - The areas of all neighborhoods are calculated, and the neighborhoods are sorted in ascending order of area.
- Result:
 - o The name and area of the smallest neighborhood are displayed.

Output Table:

Neighborhood name and its area



(e) Total length of Broadway in Manhattan

SELECT 'Broadway' AS street_name,
 SUM(ST_Length(ns.geom)) AS total_length
FROM nycstreet ns
JOIN nycnb nb ON ST_Within(ns.geom, nb.geom)
WHERE ns.name = 'Broadway' AND nb.boroname = 'Manhattan';

- **Objective**: Calculate the total length of all segments of Broadway within Manhattan.
- Functions Used:
 - o ST_Length: Measures the length of each geometry.
 - o ST_Within: Checks if a street segment lies entirely within Manhattan.
- Process:
 - o Filters for segments of Broadway within Manhattan and sums their lengths.
- Result:
 - o The total length of Broadway in Manhattan.

Output Table:

Total length of Broadway in Manhattan



(f) Other streets named Broadway and their lengths

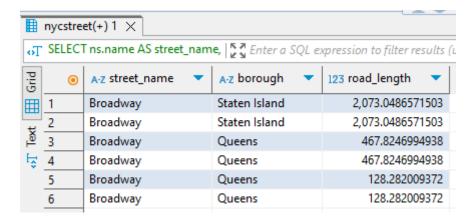
SELECT ns.name AS street_name,
 nb.boroname AS borough,
 ST_Length(ns.geom) AS road_length
FROM nycstreet ns
JOIN nycnb nb ON ST_Within(ns.geom, nb.geom)
WHERE ns.name = 'Broadway' AND nb.boroname != 'Manhattan'
ORDER BY road_length DESC;

Explanation:

- Objective: Find all other streets named Broadway outside Manhattan and list their lengths.
- **■** Functions Used:
 - o ST_Length: Measures the length of each geometry.
 - o ST_Within: Ensures the streets are correctly assigned to a borough.
- Process:
 - Filters for streets named Broadway outside Manhattan and sorts them by length.
- Result:
 - o A list of other Broadway streets with their boroughs and lengths.

Output Table:

Broadway streets outside Manhattan



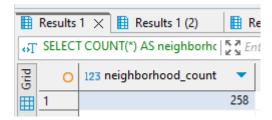
VALIDATION QUERIES

To verify dataset completeness:

1. Neighborhood Count:

SELECT COUNT(*) AS neighborhood_count FROM nycnb;

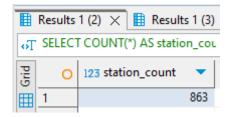
Output Table:



2. Station Count:

SELECT COUNT(*) AS station_count FROM nycstation;

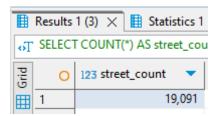
Output Table:



3. Street Count:

SELECT COUNT(*) AS street_count FROM nycstreet;

Output Table:



CONCLUSION

This exercise highlights the capabilities of PostGIS for spatial data analysis, including identifying relationships between geometries, calculating measurements, and summarizing spatial features.

EXERCISE 3: EUROPEAN CAPITALS WITH POSTGIS

This exercise explores the PostgreSQL PostGIS extension's capabilities for managing and analysing geographical data. The dataset includes European capitals' names, latitudes, and longitudes. The objective is to create a table with a geography column, load data, and perform spatial queries to extract insights.

SETUP AND DATA PREPARATION

Step 1: Enable the PostGIS Extension

CREATE EXTENSION IF NOT EXISTS postgis;

Explanation:

This enables spatial data types (geometry, geography) and spatial functions for analysis.

Step 2: Drop and Create the Table

DROP TABLE IF EXISTS capital cities;

```
CREATE TABLE capital_cities (
id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
country VARCHAR(100),
capital VARCHAR(100),
latitude FLOAT,
longitude FLOAT,
coord GEOGRAPHY(Point, 4326)
);
```

Explanation:

The coord column stores geographical points using latitude and longitude with SRID 4326 (Earth's coordinate system).

Step 3: Load Data into the Table

COPY capital_cities (country, capital, latitude, longitude)

FROM 'C:\\Program Files\\PostgreSQL\\17\\europe capitals.csv'

```
DELIMITER ','
CSV HEADER;
```

Imports the dataset into PostgreSQL.

Step 4: Update the coord Column

```
UPDATE capital_cities

SET coord = ST SetSRID(ST MakePoint(longitude, latitude), 4326);
```

Explanation:

- Converts longitude and latitude into geographical points using ST_MakePoint.
- Sets the SRID (Spatial Reference Identifier) to 4326 for compatibility with Earth-based coordinates.

QUERIES AND OUTPUTS

Query 1: Distance Between Dublin and London

```
SELECT
```

```
ST_Distance(

(SELECT coord FROM capital_cities WHERE capital = 'Dublin' LIMIT 1),

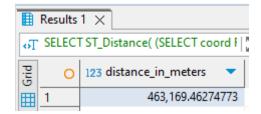
(SELECT coord FROM capital_cities WHERE capital = 'London' LIMIT 1)

) AS distance in meters;
```

Explanation:

Computes the geographical distance between Dublin and London.

Output Table:



Query 2: Capitals Within 1000 km of Dublin

SELECT

c1.capital AS origin,

c2.capital AS destination,

ST_Distance(c1.coord, c2.coord) AS distance_in_meters

FROM capital cities c1

JOIN capital cities c2 ON c1.capital <> c2.capital

WHERE

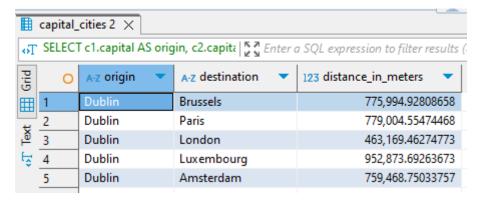
c1.capital = 'Dublin' AND

ST_Distance(c1.coord, c2.coord) < 1000000;

Explanation:

Identifies capitals within 1000 km of Dublin using ST_Distance.

Output Table:



Query 3: Most Distant Capital From Dublin

SELECT

c1.capital AS origin,

c2.capital AS destination,

ST Distance(c1.coord, c2.coord) AS distance in meters

FROM capital cities c1

JOIN capital_cities c2 ON c1.capital <> c2.capital

WHERE c1.capital = 'Dublin'

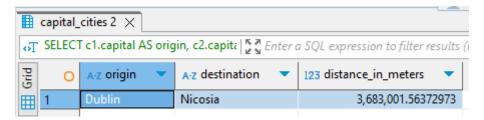
ORDER BY distance_in_meters DESC

LIMIT 1;

Explanation:

Determines the capital farthest from Dublin using ST_Distance and ORDER BY.

Output Table:



Query 4: Capital With the Most Reachable Capitals Within 500 km

SELECT

c1.capital AS origin,

COUNT(c2.capital) AS reachable capitals

FROM capital cities c1

JOIN capital_cities c2 ON ST_Distance(c1.coord, c2.coord) < 500000 AND c1.capital <> c2.capital

GROUP BY c1.capital

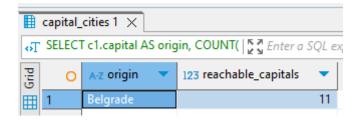
ORDER BY reachable capitals DESC

LIMIT 1;

Explanation:

Counts capitals reachable within 500 km for each capital using ST Distance.

Output Table:



Query 5: Capital With Minimum Average Distance to All Others

SELECT

c1.capital AS origin,

AVG(ST_Distance(c1.coord, c2.coord)) AS avg_distance

FROM capital cities c1

JOIN capital_cities c2 ON c1.capital <> c2.capital

GROUP BY c1.capital

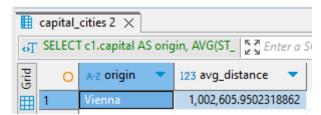
ORDER BY avg distance ASC

LIMIT 1;

Explanation:

Finds the capital with the minimum average distance to all other capitals using AVG and GROUP BY.

Output Table:

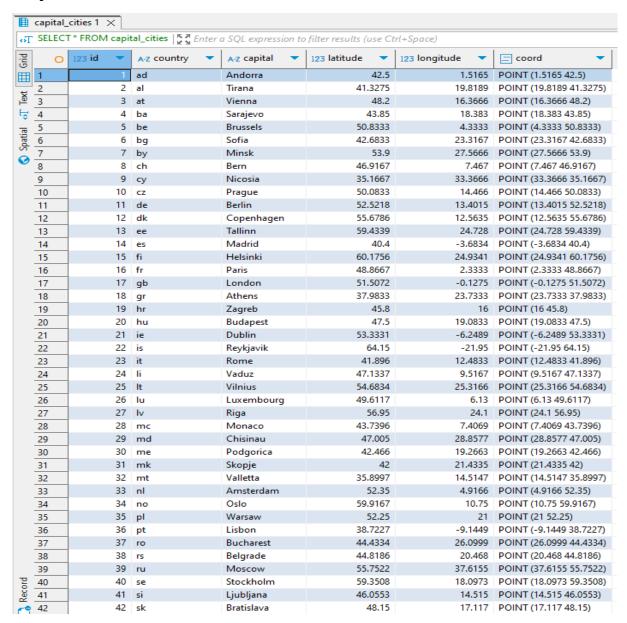


VALIDATION

Check Table Data and coord Column

SELECT * FROM capital cities;

Output Table:



CONCLUSION

This exercise highlighted the capabilities of PostgreSQL's PostGIS extension for geographical analysis. Key learnings included:

- i. Managing spatial data in a database using the geography data type.
- ii. Executing spatial queries to calculate distances and relationships.
- iii. Extracting insights from geographical data using advanced queries.

EXERCISE 4: VISUALIZING QUERIES WITH QGIS

This exercise involves visualizing spatial queries using QGIS connected to a PostgreSQL database with PostGIS extension. The tasks include writing SQL queries, loading results as layers, and capturing visual outputs for neighborhoods, streets, and stations in NYC datasets.

QUERIES AND VISUALIZATIONS

Query A: Streets Crossing or Inside East Village

SELECT ns.gid, ns.name AS street name, ns.geom

FROM nycstreet ns

WHERE ST_Crosses(ns.geom, (SELECT geom FROM nycnb WHERE name = 'East Village' LIMIT 1))

OR ST_Contains(ns.geom, (SELECT geom FROM nycnb WHERE name = 'East Village' LIMIT 1));

Explanation:

This query identifies streets that either intersect or are fully contained within the East Village neighborhood.

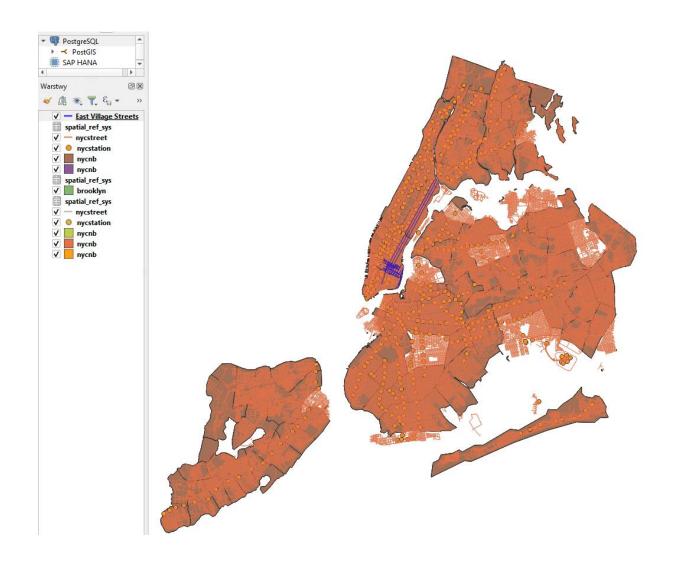
Functions Used:

- ST_Crosses: Checks for intersections between street geometries and the neighborhood boundary.
- ST Contains: Checks if the entire street geometry is inside the neighborhood.

Outputs:

- Attributes Table showing the names of the streets.
- A map layer showing the streets inside or crossing East Village.

	gid	street_name	geom
1	107	NULL	0105000020E61
2	129	NULL	0105000020E61
3	17843	Bleecker St	0105000020E61
4	18057	Bowery	0105000020E61
5	18142	E 10th St	0105000020E61
6	18148	Bond St	0105000020E61
7	18179	Great Jones St	0105000020E61
8	18187	E 12th St	0105000020E61
9	18201	E 4th St	0105000020E61
10	18207	E 13th St	0105000020E61
11	18221	E 14th St	0105000020E61
12	18284	Cooper Sq	0105000020E61
13	18248	Astor PI	0105000020E61
14	18262	E 1st St	0105000020E61
15	18292	2nd Ave	0105000020E61
16	18299	E 6th St	0105000020E61
17	18307	E 7th St	0105000020E61
18	18313	Astor PI	0105000020E61
19	18324	E 9th St	0105000020E61
20	18342	E 11th St	0105000020E61
21	18356	3rd Ave	0105000020E61
22	18422	1st Ave	0105000020E61
23	18459	E 2nd St	0105000020E61
24	18531	Avenue A	0105000020E61
25	18629	Avenue B	0105000020E61
26	18732	Avenue C	0105000020E61
27	18772	FDR Dr	0105000020E61
28	18779	Stuyvesant Loo	0105000020E61
29	18843	Avenue D	0105000020E61
30	18889	FDR Dr	0105000020E61
31	18923	Lillian Wald Dr	0105000020E61
32	19040	FDR Dr	0105000020E61



Query B: All Tube Stations in Brooklyn

SELECT st.gid, st.name AS station name, st.geom

FROM nycstation st

JOIN nycnb nb ON ST_Contains(nb.geom, st.geom)

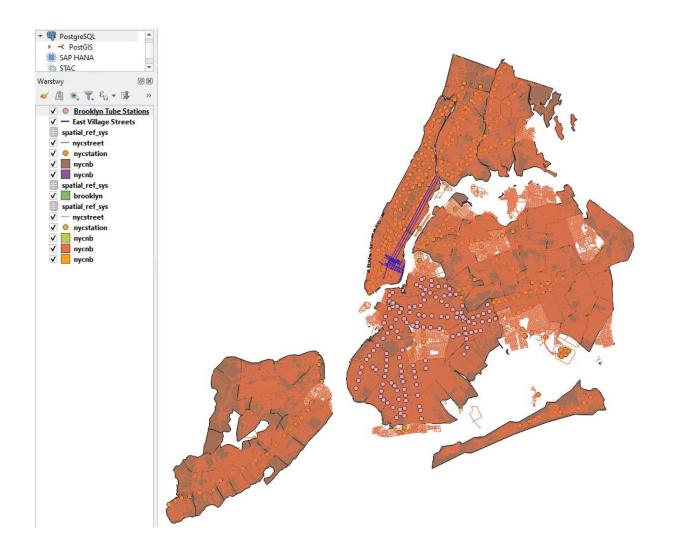
WHERE nb.boroname = 'Brooklyn';

Explanation:

- Lists all tube stations in Brooklyn by checking if the station geometry is contained within the Brooklyn neighborhood polygons.
- Function Used: ST_Contains.

Outputs:

A map layer visualizing the tube stations in Brooklyn.



Query C: 5th Avenue and Broadway in Manhattan

SELECT ns.gid, ns.name AS street_name, ns.geom

FROM nycstreet ns

JOIN nycnb nb ON ST Within(ns.geom, nb.geom)

WHERE ns.name IN ('Broadway', '5th Avenue') AND nb.boroname = 'Manhattan';

Explanation:

Filters street segments named Broadway and 5th Avenue that are completely contained within Manhattan.

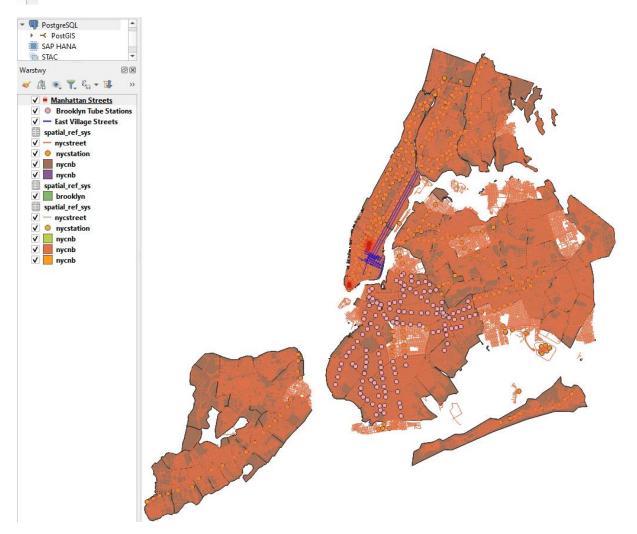
Functions Used:

ST Within: Ensures the street geometry is inside Manhattan polygons.

Outputs:

- Attributes Table listing the names of street segments.
- A map layer highlighting the selected streets in Manhattan.

	gid	street_name	geom
1	18337	Broadway	0105000020E61
2	18375	Broadway	0105000020E61
3	17332	Broadway	0105000020E61



Query D: Neighbourhoods in Manhattan Crossed by Broadway

SELECT

ROW_NUMBER() OVER () AS id, nb.name AS neighborhood, nb.geom

FROM nycnb nb

JOIN nycstreet ns

ON ST_Crosses(nb.geom, ns.geom)

WHERE ns.name = 'Broadway' AND nb.boroname = 'Manhattan';

Explanation:

Finds neighbourhoods in Manhattan intersected by Broadway.

Functions Used:

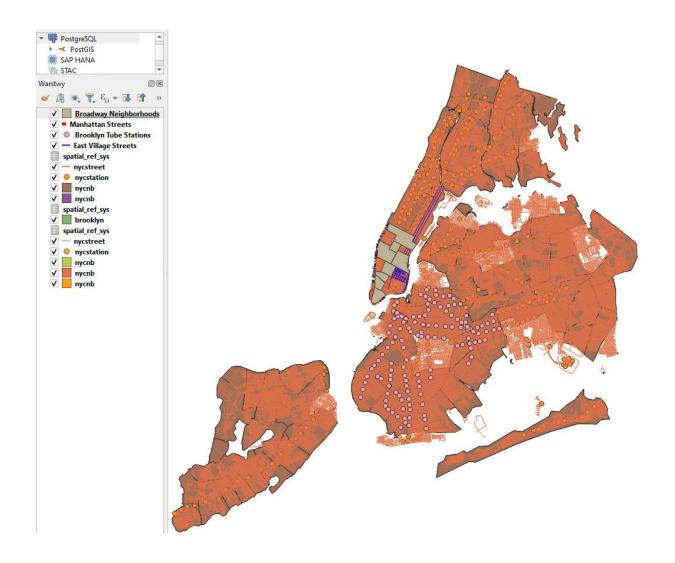
ST_Crosses: Identifies geometries that intersect.

Outputs:

• Attributes Table listing neighbourhood names.

• A map layer showing the neighbourhoods crossed by Broadway.

	id	neighborhood	geom
1	1	Gramercy	0106000020E61
2	2	Gramercy	0106000020E61
3	3	Soho	0106000020E61
4	4	Greenwich	0106000020E61
5	5	Midtown	0106000020E61
6	6	Tribeca	0106000020E61
7	7	Financial District	0106000020E61
8	8	Chelsea	0106000020E61
9	9	Chelsea	0106000020E61
10	10	Garment District	0106000020E61



CONCLUSION

The PostGIS extension in PostgreSQL allows efficient spatial data management.

QGIS provides powerful visualization tools for spatial data queries.

The queries helped identify streets, tube stations, and neighbourhoods relevant to Manhattan and Brooklyn.