Introduction or background

Crimes in Boston is the dataset I will work with during the project. This dataset contains information about crimes committed in the Boston area during the years 2015-2018. The city of Boston uploads data pertaining to crimes in their city yearly (starting August 2015). Although the dataset I will work with only contains data compiled from 2015 to 2018, the city of Boston has more data from future years.

Crimes in Boston is an interesting dataset due to its depth of information despite being quite simple in its data and data fields. The dataset has many fields which can be used to look for correlations.

During this project the following questions will be explored with the use of the data set:

- 1) What time of the year has the most crime incidents?
- 2) What is the most common offense committed?

Dataset

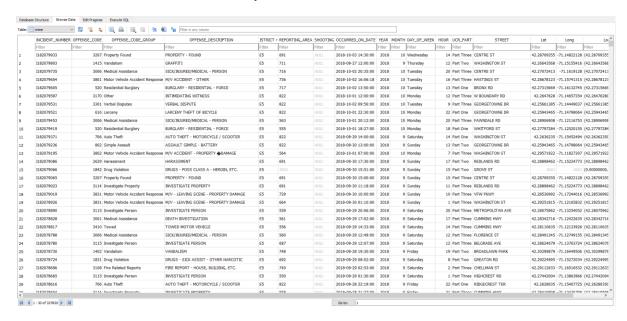
The dataset is named Crimes in Boston containing one .csv file with all the data of crimes committed in Boston from 2015-2018. The following data was compiled from yearly datasets provided by Boston Police Department (BPD). Within the Crimes in Boston dataset the following 17 fields are contained: incident id number, offense, district, reporting area, time of crime, and location.

In our dataset, there are 327821 entries, meaning there are 327821 different crime incidents reported during 2015-2018.

I think for a relational database, normalizing the table would be beneficial. For example, offense_code and offense_description is already in a separate table, RMS_OFFENSE_CODES provided by the Boston Police Department. Another is the location, lat(latitude), and long(longitude) fields, where the location field is simply a tuple of the lat and long fields.

Methods

This is what our table looks like in SQLite:



For SQLite:

- 1) Create a new database
- 2) Under File, Import>Table from CSV
- 3) Import the crime.csv file

For mySQL

- 1) Task>Import Data (this opens the import wizard)
- 2) Choose data source "Flat File Source" and choose crime.csv
- Choose Destination "SQL Server Native Client 11.0"
- 4) Finish import

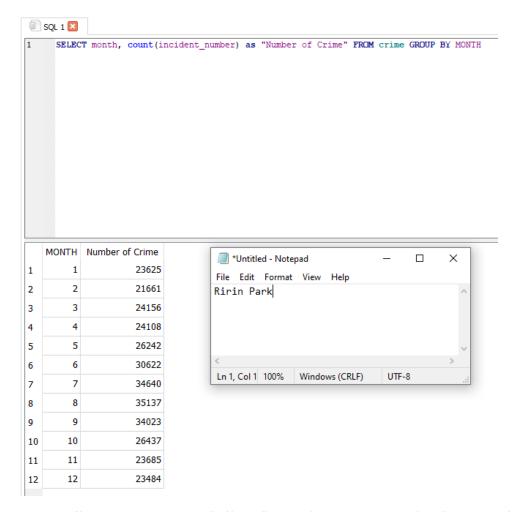
Results

Queries:

SELECT month, count(indicent_number) as "Number of Crime"

FROM crime

GROUP BY month;

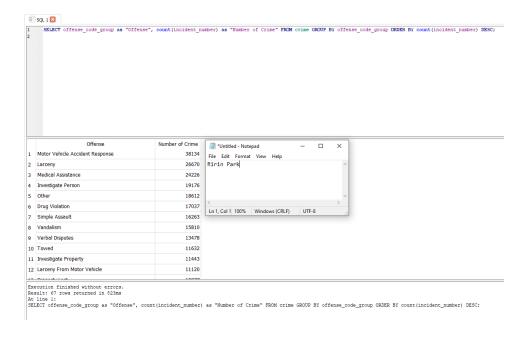


SELECT offense_code_group as "Offense", count(incident_number) as "Number of Crime"

FROM crime

GROUP BY offense_code_group

ORDEY BY count(incident_number) DESC;



When attempting to import the .csv flat file to the Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio, there occur some truncation errors. The table had all the fields, however none of the entities exist in the table.

After using MySQL through PHP from the IST webpage, the crime.csv file was too large for an import.



Discussion

Conceptually, SQLite and MySQL differ in how they store data. MySQL stores their data in servers while SQLite is embedded in the app.

As I was unable to find ways to fully import the .csv file to MySQL, from personal experience, SQLite had a much smoother experience with importing flat files such as .csv. However, my experience of the practicality of MySQL will not reflect how MySQL performs.