



CHAPTER 7

More SQL: Complex Queries, Triggers, Views, and Schema Modification

Chapter 7 Outline

- More Complex SQL Retrieval Queries
- Specifying Semantic Constraints as Assertions and Actions as Triggers
- Views (Virtual Tables) in SQL
- Schema Modification in SQL

More Complex SQL Retrieval Queries

- Additional features allow users to specify more complex retrievals from database:
 - Nested queries, joined tables, and outer joins (in the FROM clause), aggregate functions, and grouping

Comparisons Involving NULL and Three-Valued Logic

- Meanings of NULL
 - **Unknown value**
 - **Unavailable or withheld value**
 - **Not applicable attribute**
- Each individual NULL value considered to be different from every other NULL value
- SQL uses a three-valued logic:
 - TRUE, FALSE, and UNKNOWN (like Maybe)
- **NULL = NULL comparison is avoided**

Comparisons Involving NULL and Three-Valued Logic (cont'd.)

- SQL allows queries that check whether an attribute value is NULL
 - IS or IS NOT NULL

Those are the employees that have a direct supervisor

Query 18. Retrieve the names of all employees who do not have supervisors.

```
Q18:  SELECT  Fname, Lname
      FROM    EMPLOYEE
      WHERE   Super_ssn IS NULL;
```

Nested Queries, Tuples, and Set/Multiset Comparisons

- **Nested queries**

- Complete select-from-where blocks within WHERE clause of another query
- **Outer query and nested subqueries**

- **Comparison operator** `IN`

- Compares value v with a set (or multiset) of values V
- Evaluates to `TRUE` if v is one of the elements in V

`IN` == range function. Check the value of operator and check if the value is in set.
instead of set, we provide another query -> `SELECT` Query

Nested Queries (cont'd.)

```
Q4A:  SELECT DISTINCT Pnumber
      FROM PROJECT
      WHERE Pnumber IN
        ( SELECT Pnumber
          FROM PROJECT, DEPARTMENT, EMPLOYEE
          WHERE Dnum=Dnumber AND
                Mgr_ssn=Ssn AND Lname='Smith' )

      OR
      Pnumber IN
        ( SELECT Pno
          FROM WORKS_ON, EMPLOYEE
          WHERE Essn=Ssn AND Lname='Smith' );
```


Nested Queries (cont'd.)

- Use tuples of values in comparisons
 - Place them within parentheses

```
SELECT    DISTINCT Essn
FROM      WORKS_ON
WHERE     (Pno, Hours) IN ( SELECT    Pno, Hours
                           FROM      WORKS_ON
                           WHERE     Essn='123456789' );
```

Gives us the list of SSN of employees that are working on same project and hours as the guy whose Essn is 123456789

Nested Queries (cont'd.)

- Use other comparison operators to compare a single value v
 - $=$ ANY (or $=$ SOME) operator
 - Returns TRUE if the value v is equal to some value in the set V and is hence equivalent to IN
 - Other operators that can be combined with ANY (or SOME): $>$, $>=$, $<$, $<=$, and $<>$ <---- 'not equal to' operator
 - ALL: value must exceed all values from nested query

```
SELECT  Lname, Fname
FROM    EMPLOYEE
WHERE   Salary > ALL ( SELECT  Salary
                       FROM    EMPLOYEE
                       WHERE   Dno=5 );
```

Don't need to make them complex; we can use join to solve it.

Nested Queries (cont'd.)

- Avoid potential errors and ambiguities
 - Create tuple variables (aliases) for all tables referenced in SQL query

Query 16. Retrieve the name of each employee who has a dependent with the same first name and is the same sex as the employee.

```
Q16:  SELECT    E.Fname, E.Lname
      FROM      EMPLOYEE AS E
      WHERE     E.Ssn IN ( SELECT    Essn
                          FROM      DEPENDENT AS D
                          WHERE     E.Fname=D.Dependent_name
                          AND E.Sex=D.Sex );
```

Correlated Nested Queries

- **Queries that are nested using the = or IN comparison operator** can be collapsed into one single block: E.g., Q16 can be written as:

EXISTS and not EXISTS -> It will calculate the inner query, we will only check if inner query returns any result or not.

- **Q16A:**
SELECT E.Fname, E.Lname
FROM EMPLOYEE **AS** E, DEPENDENT **AS** D
WHERE E.Ssn=D.Essn **AND** E.Sex=D.Sex
AND
E.Fname=D.Dependent_name;

- **Correlated nested query**
 - Evaluated once for each tuple in the outer query

The EXISTS and UNIQUE Functions in SQL for correlating queries

- **EXISTS function**
 - Check whether the result of a correlated nested query is empty or not. They are Boolean functions that return a TRUE or FALSE result.
- **EXISTS and NOT EXISTS**
 - Typically used in conjunction with a correlated nested query
- **SQL function UNIQUE (Q)**
 - Returns TRUE if there are no duplicate tuples in the result of query Q

USE of EXISTS

Q7:

```
SELECT Fname, Lname
FROM Employee
WHERE EXISTS (SELECT *
                FROM DEPENDENT
                WHERE Ssn= Essn)

        AND EXISTS (SELECT *
                    FROM Department
                    WHERE Ssn= Mgr_Ssn)
```

should appear in the dependent table and shall be manager SSN

There'd be no NULL in these sort of queries. So, is NULL won't work.

We use decision where we have every OR all, we use division.

USE OF NOT EXISTS

To achieve the “for all” (universal quantifier- see Ch.8) effect, we use double negation this way in SQL:

Query: List first and last name of employees who work on ALL projects controlled by Dno=5.

```
SELECT Fname, Lname
FROM Employee
WHERE NOT EXISTS ( (SELECT Pnumber
                     FROM PROJECT
                     WHERE Dno=5)

                   EXCEPT (SELECT Pno
                              FROM WORKS_ON
                              WHERE Ssn= ESsn)
```

The above is equivalent to double negation: List names of those employees for whom there does NOT exist a project managed by department no. 5 that they do NOT work on.

Explicit Sets and Renaming of Attributes in SQL

- Can use explicit set of values in WHERE clause

Q17: SELECT DISTINCT Essn
 FROM WORKS_ON
 WHERE Pno IN (1, 2, 3);

- Use qualifier AS followed by desired new name
 - Rename any attribute that appears in the result of a query

Q8A: SELECT E.Lname AS Employee_name, S.Lname AS Supervisor_name
 FROM EMPLOYEE AS E, EMPLOYEE AS S
 WHERE E.Super_ssn=S.Ssn;

Specifying Joined Tables in the FROM Clause of SQL

■ Joined table

- Permits users to specify a table resulting from a join operation in the FROM clause of a query

■ The FROM clause in Q1A

- Contains a single joined table. JOIN may also be called INNER JOIN

```
Q1A:  SELECT  Fname, Lname, Address
      FROM    (EMPLOYEE JOIN DEPARTMENT ON Dno=Dnumber)
      WHERE   Dname='Research';
```

Different Types of JOINed Tables in SQL

- Specify different types of join
 - NATURAL JOIN
 - Various types of OUTER JOIN (LEFT, RIGHT, FULL)
- NATURAL JOIN on two relations R and S
 - No join condition specified
 - Is equivalent to an implicit EQUIJOIN condition for each pair of attributes with same name from R and S

NATURAL JOIN

- Rename attributes of one relation so it can be joined with another using NATURAL JOIN:

```
Q1B:  SELECT      Fname, Lname, Address
      FROM      (EMPLOYEE NATURAL JOIN
                  (DEPARTMENT AS DEPT (Dname, Dno, Mssn,
                                         Msdate)))
      WHERE      Dname='Research';
```

The above works with $EMPLOYEE.Dno = DEPT.Dno$ as an implicit join condition

INNER and OUTER Joins

- INNER JOIN (**versus** OUTER JOIN)
 - Default type of join in a joined table
 - Tuple is included in the result only if a matching tuple exists in the other relation
- LEFT OUTER JOIN
 - Every tuple in left table must appear in result
 - If no matching tuple
 - Padded with NULL values for attributes of right table
- RIGHT OUTER JOIN
 - Every tuple in right table must appear in result
 - If no matching tuple
 - Padded with NULL values for attributes of left table

Example: LEFT OUTER JOIN

```
SELECT E.Lname AS Employee_Name  
       S.Lname AS Supervisor_Name  
  
FROM Employee AS E LEFT OUTER JOIN EMPLOYEE AS S  
       ON E.Super_ssn = S.Ssn)
```

ALTERNATE SYNTAX: May not be supported by every system.

```
SELECT E.Lname , S.Lname  
FROM EMPLOYEE E, EMPLOYEE S  
WHERE E.Super_ssn + = S.Ssn
```

Only gives employees with supervisor

Multiway JOIN in the FROM clause

- FULL OUTER JOIN – combines result if LEFT and RIGHT OUTER JOIN
- Can nest JOIN specifications for a multiway join:

```
Q2A:      SELECT Pnumber, Dnum, Lname, Address, Bdate
FROM      ((PROJECT JOIN DEPARTMENT ON
              Dnum=Dnumber) JOIN EMPLOYEE ON
              Mgr_ssn=Ssn)
WHERE     Plocation='Stafford';
```

Aggregate Functions in SQL

- Used to summarize information from multiple tuples into a single-tuple summary
- Built-in aggregate functions
 - **COUNT**, **SUM**, **MAX**, **MIN**, and **AVG**
- **Grouping**
 - Create subgroups of tuples before summarizing
- To select entire groups, **HAVING** clause is used
- Aggregate functions can be used in the **SELECT** clause or in a **HAVING** clause

Renaming Results of Aggregation

- Following query returns a single row of computed values from EMPLOYEE table:

Q19:

```
SELECT SUM (Salary), MAX (Salary), MIN (Salary), AVG  
      (Salary)  
FROM EMPLOYEE;
```

- The result can be presented with new names:

```
Q19A:      SELECT    SUM (Salary) AS Total_Sal, MAX (Salary) AS
                Highest_Sal, MIN (Salary) AS Lowest_Sal, AVG
                (Salary) AS Average_Sal
FROM    EMPLOYEE;
```


Aggregate Functions in SQL (cont'd.)

- NULL values are discarded when aggregate functions are applied to a particular column

Query 20. Find the sum of the salaries of all employees of the 'Research' department, as well as the maximum salary, the minimum salary, and the average salary in this department.

```
Q20:  SELECT    SUM (Salary), MAX (Salary), MIN (Salary), AVG (Salary)
      FROM      (EMPLOYEE JOIN DEPARTMENT ON Dno=Dnumber)
      WHERE     Dname='Research';
```

Queries 21 and 22. Retrieve the total number of employees in the company (Q21) and the number of employees in the 'Research' department (Q22).

```
Q21:  SELECT    COUNT (*)
      FROM      EMPLOYEE;
```

```
Q22:  SELECT    COUNT (*)
      FROM      EMPLOYEE, DEPARTMENT
      WHERE     DNO=DNUMBER AND DNAME='Research';
```

Grouping: The GROUP BY Clause

- **Partition** relation into subsets of tuples
 - Based on **grouping attribute(s)**
 - Apply function to each such group independently
- **GROUP BY** clause
 - Specifies grouping attributes
- **COUNT (*)** counts the number of rows in the group

Examples of GROUP BY

- The grouping attribute must appear in the SELECT clause:

```
Q24:      SELECT      Dno, COUNT (*), AVG (Salary)
           FROM        EMPLOYEE
           GROUP BY    Dno;
```

- If the grouping attribute has NULL as a possible value, then a separate group is created for the null value (e.g., null Dno in the above query)
- GROUP BY may be applied to the result of a JOIN:

```
Q25:      SELECT      Pnumber, Pname, COUNT (*)
           FROM        PROJECT, WORKS_ON
           WHERE        Pnumber=Pno
           GROUP BY    Pnumber, Pname;
```

Grouping: The GROUP BY and HAVING Clauses (cont'd.)

- **HAVING** clause

- Provides a condition to select or reject an entire group:

- **Query 26.** For each project *on which more than two employees work*, retrieve the project number, the project name, and the number of employees who work on the project.

```
Q26:      SELECT      Pnumber, Pname, COUNT (*)
          FROM        PROJECT, WORKS_ON
          WHERE        Pnumber=Pno
          GROUP BY     Pnumber, Pname
          HAVING       COUNT (*) > 2;
```

Combining the WHERE and the HAVING Clause

- Consider the query: we want to count the *total* number of employees whose salaries exceed \$40,000 in each department, but only for departments where more than five employees work.
- **INCORRECT QUERY:**

```
SELECT      Dno, COUNT (*)  
FROM        EMPLOYEE  
WHERE       Salary>40000  
GROUP BY    Dno  
HAVING      COUNT (*) > 5;
```

DNo shall be one of the department numbers.

Combining the WHERE and the HAVING Clause (continued)

Correct Specification of the Query:

- Note: the WHERE clause applies tuple by tuple whereas HAVING applies to entire group of tuples

Query 28. For each department that has more than five employees, retrieve the department number and the number of its employees who are making more than \$40,000.

```
Q28:  SELECT  Dnumber, COUNT (*)
      FROM    DEPARTMENT, EMPLOYEE
      WHERE   Dnumber=Dno AND Salary>40000 AND
            ( SELECT      Dno
              FROM        EMPLOYEE
              GROUP BY Dno
              HAVING      COUNT (*) > 5)
```

Use of WITH

- The WITH clause allows a user to define a table that will only be used in a particular query (not available in all SQL implementations)
- Used for convenience to create a temporary “View” and use that immediately in a query
- Allows a more straightforward way of looking a step-by-step query

Example of WITH

- See an alternate approach to doing Q28:

- Q28':

```
WITH BIGDEPTS (Dno) AS
( SELECT Dno
  FROM EMPLOYEE
  GROUP BY Dno
  HAVING COUNT (*) > 5)
SELECT Dno, COUNT (*)
FROM EMPLOYEE
WHERE Salary > 40000 AND Dno IN BIGDEPTS
GROUP BY Dno;
```


Use of CASE

- SQL also has a CASE construct
- Used when a value can be different based on certain conditions.
- Can be used in any part of an SQL query where a value is expected
- Applicable when querying, inserting or updating tuples

EXAMPLE of use of CASE

- The following example shows that employees are receiving different raises in different departments (A variation of the update U6)

- **U6':**

UPDATE	EMPLOYEE
SET	Salary =
CASE	
WHEN Dno = 5	THEN Salary + 2000
WHEN Dno = 4	THEN Salary + 1500
WHEN Dno = 1	THEN Salary + 3000

EXPANDED Block Structure of SQL Queries

```
SELECT <attribute and function list>  
FROM <table list>  
[ WHERE <condition> ]  
[ GROUP BY <grouping attribute(s)> ]  
[ HAVING <group condition> ]  
[ ORDER BY <attribute list> ];
```

Specifying Constraints as Assertions and Actions as Triggers

- Semantic Constraints: The following are beyond the scope of the EER and relational model
- **CREATE ASSERTION**
 - Specify additional types of constraints outside scope of built-in relational model constraints
- **CREATE TRIGGER**
 - Specify automatic actions that database system will perform when certain events and conditions occur

Specifying General Constraints as Assertions in SQL

■ CREATE ASSERTION

- Specify a query that selects any tuples that violate the desired condition
- Use only in cases where it goes beyond a simple CHECK which applies to individual attributes and domains

```
CREATE ASSERTION SALARY_CONSTRAINT
CHECK ( NOT EXISTS ( SELECT *
                     FROM   EMPLOYEE E, EMPLOYEE M,
                     WHERE  E.Salary>M.Salary
                           AND E.Dno=D.Dnumber
                           AND D.Mgr_ssn=M.Ssn ) );
```

Introduction to Triggers in SQL

- CREATE TRIGGER statement
 - Used to monitor the database
- Typical trigger has three components which make it a rule for an “active database “ (more on active databases in section 26.1) :
 - **Event(s)**
 - **Condition**
 - **Action**

USE OF TRIGGERS

- AN EXAMPLE with standard Syntax.(Note : other SQL implementations like PostgreSQL use a different syntax.)

R5:

```
CREATE TRIGGER SALARY_VIOLATION  
BEFORE INSERT OR UPDATE OF Salary, Supervisor_ssn ON  
EMPLOYEE  
  
FOR EACH ROW  
WHEN (NEW.SALARY > ( SELECT Salary FROM EMPLOYEE  
                        WHERE Ssn = NEW. Supervisor_Ssn))  
INFORM_SUPERVISOR (NEW.Supervisor.Ssn, New.Ssn)
```

Views (Virtual Tables) in SQL

- Concept of a view in SQL
 - Single table derived from other tables called the **defining tables**
 - Considered to be a virtual table that is not necessarily populated

Specification of Views in SQL

■ **CREATE VIEW** command

- Give table name, list of attribute names, and a query to specify the contents of the view
- In V1, attributes retain the names from base tables. In V2, attributes are assigned names

```
V1:  CREATE VIEW  WORKS_ON1
      AS SELECT   Fname, Lname, Pname, Hours
      FROM        EMPLOYEE, PROJECT, WORKS_ON
      WHERE       Ssn=Essn AND Pno=Pnumber;
```

```
V2:  CREATE VIEW  DEPT_INFO(Dept_name, No_of_emps, Total_sal)
      AS SELECT   Dname, COUNT (*), SUM (Salary)
      FROM        DEPARTMENT, EMPLOYEE
      WHERE       Dnumber=Dno
      GROUP BY    Dname;
```

Specification of Views in SQL (cont'd.)

- Once a View is defined, SQL queries can use the View relation in the FROM clause
- View is always up-to-date
 - Responsibility of the DBMS and not the user
- **DROP VIEW** command
 - Dispose of a view

View Implementation, View Update, and Inline Views

- Complex problem of efficiently implementing a view for querying
- **Strategy1: Query modification** approach
 - Compute the view as and when needed. Do not store permanently
 - Modify view query into a query on underlying base tables
 - Disadvantage: inefficient for views defined via complex queries that are time-consuming to execute

View Materialization

- **Strategy 2: View materialization**
 - Physically create a temporary view table when the view is first queried
 - Keep that table on the assumption that other queries on the view will follow
 - Requires efficient strategy for automatically updating the view table when the base tables are updated
- **Incremental update strategy for materialized views**
 - DBMS determines what new tuples must be inserted, deleted, or modified in a materialized view table

View Materialization (contd.)

- Multiple ways to handle materialization:
 - **immediate update** strategy updates a view as soon as the base tables are changed
 - **lazy update** strategy updates the view when needed by a view query
 - **periodic update** strategy updates the view periodically (in the latter strategy, a view query may get a result that is not up-to-date). This is commonly used in Banks, Retail store operations, etc.

View Update

- Update on a view defined on a single table without any aggregate functions
 - Can be mapped to an update on underlying base table- possible if the primary key is preserved in the view

- Update not permitted on aggregate views. E.g.,

```
UV2:      UPDATE      DEPT_INFO
          SET          Total_sal=100000
          WHERE        Dname='Research';
```

cannot be processed because Total_sal is a computed value in the view definition

Views as authorization mechanism

- SQL query authorization statements (GRANT and REVOKE) are described in detail in Chapter 30
- Views can be used to hide certain attributes or tuples from unauthorized users
- E.g., For a user who is only allowed to see employee information for those who work for department 5, he may only access the view

DEPT5EMP:

```
CREATE VIEW      DEPT5EMP AS  
SELECT          *  
FROM            EMPLOYEE  
WHERE           Dno = 5;
```

Schema Change Statements in SQL

- **Schema evolution commands**
 - DBA may want to change the schema while the database is operational
 - Does not require recompilation of the database schema

The DROP Command

- DROP command
 - Used to drop named schema elements, such as tables, domains, or constraint
- Drop behavior options:
 - CASCADE and RESTRICT
- Example:
 - DROP SCHEMA COMPANY CASCADE;
 - This removes the schema and all its elements including tables, views, constraints, etc.

The ALTER table command

- **Alter table actions** include:
 - Adding or dropping a column (attribute)
 - Changing a column definition
 - Adding or dropping table constraints
- **Example:**
 - `ALTER TABLE COMPANY.EMPLOYEE ADD
COLUMN Job VARCHAR(12) ;`

Adding and Dropping Constraints

- Change constraints specified on a table
 - Add or drop a named constraint

```
ALTER TABLE COMPANY.EMPLOYEE  
DROP CONSTRAINT EMPSUPERFK CASCADE;
```

Dropping Columns, Default Values

- To drop a column
 - Choose either **CASCADE** or **RESTRICT**
 - **CASCADE** would drop the column from views etc.
RESTRICT is possible if no views refer to it.

```
ALTER TABLE COMPANY.EMPLOYEE DROP COLUMN  
Address CASCADE;
```

- Default values can be dropped and altered :

```
ALTER TABLE COMPANY.DEPARTMENT ALTER COLUMN Mgr_ssn  
DROP DEFAULT;
```

```
ALTER TABLE COMPANY.DEPARTMENT ALTER COLUMN Mgr_ssn  
SET DEFAULT '333445555';
```

Table 7.2 Summary of SQL Syntax

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```
CREATE TABLE <table name> ( <column name> <column type> [ <attribute constraint> ]
                             { , <column name> <column type> [ <attribute constraint> ] }
                             [ <table constraint> { , <table constraint> } ] )
```

```
DROP TABLE <table name>
ALTER TABLE <table name> ADD <column name> <column type>
```

```
SELECT [ DISTINCT ] <attribute list>
FROM ( <table name> { <alias> } | <joined table> ) { , ( <table name> { <alias> } | <joined table> ) }
[ WHERE <condition> ]
[ GROUP BY <grouping attributes> [ HAVING <group selection condition> ] ]
[ ORDER BY <column name> [ <order> ] { , <column name> [ <order> ] } ]
```

```
<attribute list> ::= ( * | ( <column name> | <function> ( ( [ DISTINCT ] <column name> | * ) ) )
                        { , ( <column name> | <function> ( ( [ DISTINCT ] <column name> | * ) ) ) } ) )
```

```
<grouping attributes> ::= <column name> { , <column name> }
```

```
<order> ::= ( ASC | DESC )
```

```
INSERT INTO <table name> [ ( <column name> { , <column name> } ) ]
( VALUES ( <constant value> , { <constant value> } ) { , ( <constant value> { , <constant value> } ) }
| <select statement> )
```

continued on next slide

Table 7.2 (continued)

Summary of SQL Syntax

Table 7.2 Summary of SQL Syntax

DELETE FROM <table name>

[WHERE <selection condition>]

UPDATE <table name>

SET <column name> = <value expression> { , <column name> = <value expression> }

[WHERE <selection condition>]

CREATE [UNIQUE] INDEX <index name>

ON <table name> (<column name> [<order>] { , <column name> [<order>] })

[CLUSTER]

DROP INDEX <index name>

CREATE VIEW <view name> [(<column name> { , <column name> })]

AS <select statement>

DROP VIEW <view name>

NOTE: The commands for creating and dropping indexes are not part of standard SQL.

Summary

- Complex SQL:
 - Nested queries, joined tables (in the FROM clause), outer joins, aggregate functions, grouping
- Handling semantic constraints with CREATE ASSERTION and CREATE TRIGGER
- CREATE VIEW statement and materialization strategies
- Schema Modification for the DBAs using ALTER TABLE , ADD and DROP COLUMN, ALTER CONSTRAINT etc.