

# SQL: GROUP BY, Aggregation, Subqueries, Outer Joins

COSC 304 – Introduction to Database Systems



# Aggregate Queries and Functions

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Several queries cannot be answered using the simple form of the `SELECT` statement. These queries require a summary calculation to be performed. Examples:

- What is the maximum employee salary?
- What is the total number of hours worked on a project?
- How many employees are there in department 'D1'?

To answer these queries requires the use of aggregate functions. These functions operate on a single column of a table and return a single value.

# Aggregate Functions

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Five common aggregate functions are:

- COUNT - returns the # of values in a column
- SUM - returns the sum of the values in a column
- AVG - returns the average of the values in a column
- MIN - returns the smallest value in a column
- MAX - returns the largest value in a column

## Notes:

- 1) COUNT, MAX, and MIN apply to all types of fields, whereas SUM and AVG apply to only numeric fields.
- 2) Except for COUNT ( \* ) all functions ignore nulls. COUNT ( \* ) returns the number of rows in the table.
- 3) Use DISTINCT to eliminate duplicates.

# Aggregate Function Example

Return the number of employees and their average salary.

```
SELECT COUNT(eno) AS numEmp, AVG(salary) AS avgSalary  
FROM emp
```

Result

numEmp	avgSalary
8	38750

# GROUP BY Clause

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Aggregate functions are most useful when combined with the GROUP BY clause. The **GROUP BY** clause groups the tuples based on the values of the attributes specified.

When used in combination with aggregate functions, the result is a table where each tuple consists of unique values for the group by attributes and the result of the aggregate functions applied to the tuples of that group.

# GROUP BY Example

For each employee title, return the number of employees with that title, and the minimum, maximum, and average salary.

```
SELECT  title, COUNT(eno) AS numEmp,
        MIN(salary) as minSal,
        MAX(salary) as maxSal, AVG(salary) AS avgSal
FROM    emp
GROUP BY title
```

## Result

title	numEmp	minSal	maxSal	avgSal
EE	2	30000	30000	30000
SA	3	50000	50000	50000
ME	2	40000	40000	40000
PR	1	20000	20000	20000

# GROUP BY Clause Rules

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There are a few rules for using the `GROUP BY` clause:

- 1) A column name cannot appear in the `SELECT` part of the query unless it is part of an aggregate function or in the list of group by attributes.
  - Note that the reverse is allowed: a column can be in the `GROUP BY` without being in the `SELECT` part.
- 2) Any `WHERE` conditions are applied before the `GROUP BY` and aggregate functions are calculated.
- 3) You can group by multiple attributes. To be in the same group, all attribute values must be the same.



# GROUP BY Question

**Question:** Given this table and the query:

```
SELECT title, SUM(salary)
FROM emp
GROUP BY title
```

How many rows are returned?

- A) 1
- B) 2
- C) 4
- D) 8

Emp Relation

<u>eno</u>	ename	title	salary
E1	J. Doe	EE	30000
E2	M. Smith	SA	50000
E3	A. Lee	ME	40000
E4	J. Miller	PR	20000
E5	B. Casey	SA	50000
E6	L. Chu	EE	30000
E7	R. Davis	ME	40000
E8	J. Jones	SA	50000



# GROUP BY Question #2

**Question:** Given this table and the query:

```
SELECT resp, pno, SUM(hours)
FROM workson
WHERE hours > 10
GROUP BY resp, pno
```

How many rows are returned?

**A) 9 B) 7 C) 5 D) 1 E) 0**

workson Table

eno	pno	resp	hours
E1	P1	Manager	12
E2	P1	Analyst	24
E2	P2	Analyst	6
E3	P3	Consultant	10
E3	P4	Engineer	48
E4	P2	Programmer	18
E5	P2	Manager	24
E6	P4	Manager	48
E7	P3	Engineer	36

# HAVING Clause

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The **HAVING** clause is applied **AFTER** the GROUP BY clause and aggregate functions are calculated.

It is used to filter out entire *groups* that do not match certain criteria.

The **HAVING** clause can contain any condition that references aggregate functions and the group by attributes themselves.

- However, any conditions on the GROUP BY attributes should be specified in the WHERE clause if possible due to performance reasons.

# HAVING Example

Return the title and number of employees of that title where the number of employees of the title is at least 2.

```

SELECT    title, COUNT(eno) AS numEmp
FROM      emp
GROUP BY  title
HAVING    COUNT(eno) >= 2

```

## Result

title	numEmp
EE	2
SA	3
ME	2

# GROUP BY/HAVING Example

For employees born after December 1, 1965, return the average salary by department where the average is > 40,000.

```

SELECT    dname, AVG(salary) AS avgSal
FROM      emp JOIN dept ON emp.dno = dept.dno
WHERE      emp.bdate > DATE '1965-12-01'
GROUP BY  dname
HAVING     AVG(salary) > 40000
    
```

Step #1: Perform Join and Filter in WHERE clause

eno	ename	bdate	title	salary	supereno	dno	dname	mgreno
E2	M. Smith	1966-06-04	SA	50000	E5	D3	Accounting	E5
E3	A. Lee	1966-07-05	ME	40000	E7	D2	Consulting	E7
E5	B. Casey	1971-12-25	SA	50000	E8	D3	Accounting	E5
E7	R. Davis	1977-09-08	ME	40000	E8	D1	Management	E8
E8	J. Jones	1972-10-11	SA	50000	null	D1	Management	E8

# GROUP BY/HAVING Example (2)

Step #2: GROUP BY on dname

eno	ename	bdate	title	salary	supereno	dno	dname	mgreno
E2	M. Smith	1966-06-04	SA	50000	E5	D3	Accounting	E5
E5	B. Casey	1971-12-25	SA	50000	E8	D3	Accounting	E5
E3	A. Lee	1966-07-05	ME	40000	E7	D2	Consulting	E7
E7	R. Davis	1977-09-08	ME	40000	E8	D1	Management	E8
E8	J. Jones	1972-10-11	SA	50000	null	D1	Management	E8



Step #3: Calculate aggregate functions

dname	avgSal
Accounting	50000
Consulting	40000
Management	45000

Step #4: Filter groups using HAVING clause

dname	avgSal
Accounting	50000
Management	45000

# GROUP BY Examples

Return the average budget per project:

```
SELECT AVG(budget) FROM proj
```

Return the average # of hours worked on each project:

```
SELECT pno, AVG(hours) FROM workson GROUP BY pno
```

Return the departments that have projects with at least 2 'EE's working on them:

```
SELECT    DISTINCT proj.dno
FROM      proj JOIN workson ON workson.pno = proj.pno
           JOIN emp ON workson.eno=emp.eno
WHERE      emp.title = 'EE' GROUP BY proj.dno, proj.pno
HAVING     COUNT(*) >=2
```

# GROUP BY/HAVING

## Multi-Attribute Example



Return the employee number, department number and hours the employee worked per department where the hours is  $\geq 10$ .

```
SELECT    W.eno, D.dno, SUM(hours)
FROM      workson AS W JOIN proj AS P ON W.pno = P.pno
            JOIN dept AS D ON P.dno = D.dno
GROUP BY  W.eno, D.dno
HAVING    SUM(hours)  $\geq$  10
```

Result:

eno	dno	SUM(hours)
E1	D1	12
E2	D1	24
E3	D2	48
E3	D3	10
E4	D2	18
E5	D2	24
E6	D2	48
E7	D3	36

Question:

1) How would you only return records for departments D2 and D3?



# SQL Querying with GROUP BY

**Question:** Of the following queries, select one which is **invalid**.

- A)**

```
SELECT  dname
FROM    dept
GROUP BY dno
```
- B)**

```
SELECT  COUNT (*)
FROM    dept
```
- C)**

```
SELECT  dno, COUNT (*)
FROM    dept
```
- D)**

```
SELECT  dno, COUNT (*)
FROM    dept WHERE mgreno > 'A'
GROUP BY dno, dname
```

# Try it: SQL GROUP BY Practice Questions

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**Question:** Write these queries:

- 1) Return the highest salary of any employee.
- 2) Return the smallest project budget.
- 3) Return the department number and average budget for its projects.
- 4) For each project, return its name and the total number of hours employees have worked on it.
- 5) For each employee, return the total number of hours they have worked. Only show employees with more than 30 hours.

# Subqueries

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SQL allows a single query to have multiple subqueries nested inside of it. This allows for more complex queries to be written.

When queries are nested, the outer statement determines the contents of the final result, while the inner `SELECT` statements are used by the outer statement (often to lookup values for `WHERE` clauses).

```
SELECT      ename, salary, bdate
FROM        emp
WHERE       salary > (SELECT AVG(salary) FROM emp)
```

A subquery can be in the `SELECT`, `FROM`, `WHERE` or `HAVING` clause.

# Types of Subqueries

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There are three types of subqueries:

- 1) *scalar subqueries* - return a single value. Often value is then used in a comparison.
  - If query is written so that it expects a subquery to return a single value, and if it returns multiple values or no values, a run-time error occurs.
- 2) *row subquery* - returns a single row which may have multiple columns.
- 3) *table subquery* - returns one or more columns and multiple rows.

# Scalar Subquery Examples

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Return the employees that are in the 'Accounting' department:

```
SELECT  ename
FROM    emp
WHERE    dno = (SELECT dno FROM dept
                WHERE dname = 'Accounting')
```

Return all employees who work more hours than average on a single project:

```
SELECT  ename
FROM    emp JOIN workson ON workson.eno = emp.eno
WHERE    workson.hours > (SELECT AVG(hours) FROM workson)
```

# Table Subqueries

A table subquery returns a relation. There are several operators that can be used:

- `EXISTS R` - true if  $R$  is not empty
- `s IN R` - true if  $s$  is equal to one of the values of  $R$
- `s > ALL R` - true if  $s$  is greater than **every** value in  $R$
- `s > ANY R` - true if  $s$  is greater than **any** value in  $R$

## Notes:

- 1) Any of the comparison operators ( $<$ ,  $<=$ ,  $=$ , etc.) can be used.
- 2) The keyword `NOT` can proceed any of the operators.
  - Example: `s NOT IN R`

# Table Subquery Examples

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Return all departments who have a project with a budget greater than \$300,000:

```
SELECT dname FROM dept WHERE dno IN  
  (SELECT dno FROM proj WHERE budget > 300000)
```

Return all projects that 'J. Doe' works on:

```
SELECT pname FROM proj WHERE pno IN  
  (SELECT pno FROM workson WHERE eno =  
    (SELECT eno FROM emp WHERE ename = 'J. Doe'))
```



# EXISTS Example

The EXISTS function is used to check whether the result of a nested query is empty or not.

- EXISTS returns true if the nested query has 1 or more tuples.

Example: Return all employees who have the same name as someone else in the company.

```
SELECT  ename
FROM    emp as E
WHERE   EXISTS (SELECT * FROM emp as E2
                WHERE E.ename = E2.ename AND
                       E.eno <> E2.eno)
```

# ANY and ALL Example

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ANY means that any value returned by the subquery can satisfy the condition.

ALL means that all values returned by the subquery must satisfy the condition.

Example: Return the employees who make more than all the employees with title 'ME' make.

```
SELECT  ename
FROM    emp as E
WHERE   salary > ALL (SELECT salary FROM emp
                      WHERE title = 'ME')
```

# Subquery Syntax Rules

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- 1) The `ORDER BY` clause may not be used in a subquery.
- 2) The number of attributes in the `SELECT` clause in the subquery must match the number of attributes compared to with the comparison operator.
- 3) Column names in a subquery refer to the table name in the `FROM` clause of the subquery by default. You must use aliasing if you want to access a table that is present in both the inner and outer queries.

# Correlated Subqueries

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Most queries involving subqueries can be rewritten so that a subquery is not needed.

- This is normally beneficial because query optimizers may not do a good job at optimizing queries containing subqueries.

A nested query is **correlated** with the outside query if it must be re-computed for every tuple produced by the outside query. Otherwise, it is **uncorrelated**, and the nested query can be converted to a non-nested query using joins.

A nested query is correlated with the outer query if it contains a reference to an attribute in the outer query.

# Correlated Subquery Example

Return all employees who have the same name as another employee:

```
SELECT  ename
FROM    emp as E
WHERE    EXISTS ( SELECT eno FROM emp as E2
                   WHERE E.ename = E2.ename AND
                   E.eno <> E2.eno)
```

A more efficient solution with joins:

```
SELECT  E.ename
FROM    emp as E JOIN emp as E2 ON
         E.ename = E2.ename AND E.eno <> E2.eno
```

# Types of Joins

A **equijoin** only contains the equality operator (=).

- e.g. `workson JOIN Proj ON workson.pno=proj.pno`

A **natural join** is equijoin of two tables with commonly named fields.

- Removes the “extra copies” of the join attributes.
- The attributes must have the same name in both relations.
- e.g. `workson NATURAL JOIN Proj`

**Left outer join** – contains all tuples of first table even if no match

**Right outer join** – contains all tuples of second table even if no match

**Full outer join** – contains all tuples of either table even if no match.

For a tuple that does not have a match, missing fields are `NULL`.

# Specifying Outer Joins in SQL

Types: NATURAL JOIN, FULL OUTER JOIN, LEFT OUTER JOIN, RIGHT OUTER JOIN, INNER JOIN, JOIN

- The keyword "outer" can be omitted for outer joins. Same with "inner".

Example: Return all departments (even those without projects) and their projects.

```
SELECT dname, pname
FROM dept LEFT OUTER JOIN proj ON dept.dno = proj.dno
```

```
SELECT dname, pname
FROM dept LEFT OUTER JOIN proj USING (dno)
```

```
SELECT dname, pname
FROM dept NATURAL LEFT JOIN proj
```



# Equijoin Example

workson Table

eno	pno	resp	dur
E1	P1	Manager	12
E2	P1	Analyst	24
E2	P2	Analyst	6
E3	P4	Engineer	48
E5	P2	Manager	24
E6	P4	Manager	48
E7	P3	Engineer	36
E7	P4	Engineer	23

proj table

pno	pname	budget
P1	Instruments	150000
P2	DB Develop	135000
P3	CAD/CAM	250000
P4	Maintenance	310000
P5	CAD/CAM	500000

```
SELECT *
FROM workson JOIN proj
ON workson.pno = proj.pno
```

eno	pno	resp	dur	P.pno	pname	budget
E1	P1	Manager	12	P1	Instruments	150000
E2	P1	Analyst	24	P1	Instruments	150000
E2	P2	Analyst	6	P2	DB Develop	135000
E3	P4	Engineer	48	P4	Maintenance	310000
E5	P2	Manager	24	P2	DB Develop	135000
E6	P4	Manager	48	P4	Maintenance	310000
E7	P3	Engineer	36	P3	CAD/CAM	250000
E7	P4	Engineer	23	P4	Maintenance	310000

What is the meaning of this join?

# Natural Join Example

workson Table

eno	pno	resp	dur
E1	P1	Manager	12
E2	P1	Analyst	24
E2	P2	Analyst	6
E3	P4	Engineer	48
E5	P2	Manager	24
E6	P4	Manager	48
E7	P3	Engineer	36
E7	P4	Engineer	23

proj table

pno	pname	budget
P1	Instruments	150000
P2	DB Develop	135000
P3	CAD/CAM	250000
P4	Maintenance	310000
P5	CAD/CAM	500000

**SELECT** \*  
**FROM** workson **NATURAL JOIN** proj

eno	pno	resp	dur	pname	budget
E1	P1	Manager	12	Instruments	150000
E2	P1	Analyst	24	Instruments	150000
E2	P2	Analyst	6	DB Develop	135000
E3	P4	Engineer	48	Maintenance	310000
E5	P2	Manager	24	DB Develop	135000
E6	P4	Manager	48	Maintenance	310000
E7	P3	Engineer	36	CAD/CAM	250000
E7	P4	Engineer	23	Maintenance	310000

Natural join is performed by comparing *pno* in both tables.

# Right Outer Join Example

workson Table

eno	pno	resp	dur
E1	P1	Manager	12
E2	P1	Analyst	24
E2	P2	Analyst	6
E3	P4	Engineer	48
E5	P2	Manager	24
E6	P4	Manager	48
E7	P3	Engineer	36
E7	P4	Engineer	23

proj table

pno	pname	budget
P1	Instruments	150000
P2	DB Develop	135000
P3	CAD/CAM	250000
P4	Maintenance	310000
P5	CAD/CAM	500000

**SELECT \***

**FROM** workson **RIGHT OUTER JOIN** proj P  
**USING** (pno)

eno	pno	resp	dur	P.pno	pname	budget
E1	P1	Manager	12	P1	Instruments	150000
E2	P1	Analyst	24	P1	Instruments	150000
E2	P2	Analyst	6	P2	DB Develop	135000
E3	P4	Engineer	48	P4	Maintenance	310000
E5	P2	Manager	24	P2	DB Develop	135000
E6	P4	Manager	48	P4	Maintenance	310000
E7	P3	Engineer	36	P3	CAD/CAM	250000
E7	P4	Engineer	23	P4	Maintenance	310000
null	null	null	null	P5	CAD/CAM	500000

# Outer Join Question

**Question:** Given this table and the query:

```
SELECT *
FROM workson LEFT OUTER JOIN proj P
ON workson.pno = proj.pno
```

How many rows are returned?

- A) 10
- B) 9
- C) 8
- D) 7

workson

eno	pno	resp	dur
E1	P1	Manager	12
E2	P1	Analyst	24
E2	P2	Analyst	6
E3	P4	Engineer	48
E5	P2	Manager	24
E6	P4	Manager	48
E7	P4	Engineer	36
E7	P4	Engineer	23

proj

pno	pname	budget
P1	Instruments	150000
P2	DB Develop	135000
P3	CAD/CAM	250000
P4	Maintenance	310000
P5	CAD/CAM	500000

# Subqueries in FROM Clause

Subqueries are used in the FROM clause to produce temporary table results for use in the current query.

Example: Return the departments that have an employee that makes more than \$40,000.

```
SELECT  dname
FROM    Dept D, (SELECT ename, dno FROM Emp
                  WHERE salary > 40000) E
WHERE   D.dno = E.dno
```

- Note: The alias for the derived table is required.

# SQL Querying with Subqueries

**Question:** What query below is equivalent to:

```
SELECT  ename
FROM    emp as E
WHERE   salary > ALL (SELECT salary
                      FROM emp WHERE title = 'EE')
```

**A)**

```
SELECT  ename
FROM    emp as E
WHERE   salary > (SELECT MAX(salary) FROM emp
                  WHERE title = 'EE')
```

**B)**

```
SELECT  ename
FROM    emp as E
WHERE   salary > (SELECT SUM(salary) FROM emp
                  WHERE title = 'EE')
```

# SQL Functions

Databases have many built-in functions that can be used when writing queries. Syntax and support varies between systems.

- Date: DATEDIFF, YEAR, GETDATE
- String: CONCAT, UPPER, LEFT, SUBSTRING
- Logical: CASE, IIF, ISNULL
- Aggregate: SUM, COUNT, AVG
- Note: Case-insensitive function names.

Example: `SELECT eno, UPPER(ename),  
CASE title WHEN 'EE' THEN 'Engineer'  
WHEN 'SA' THEN 'Admin' ELSE 'Other' END as role,  
year(bdate) as birthYear  
FROM emp  
WHERE salary * 2 > 60000`



# Try-it: Subquery Practice Questions

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**Question:** Write these queries:

- 1) List all departments that have at least one project.
- 2) List the employees who are not working on any project.
- 3) List the employees with title 'EE' that make more than all employees with title 'PR'.
- 4) Find all employees who work on some project that 'J. Doe' works on.



# SQL Queries using SELECT

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A query in SQL has the form:

**SELECT** (list of columns or expressions)

**FROM** (list of tables)

**WHERE** (filter *conditions*)

**GROUP BY** (columns)

**HAVING** (group filter *conditions*)

**ORDER BY** (columns)

**LIMIT** (count) **OFFSET** (start)

# Conclusion

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**SQL** is the standard language for querying relational databases.

The **SELECT** statement is used to query data and combines the relational algebra operations of selection, projection, and join into one statement

- There are often many ways to specify the same query.

Queries may involve aggregate functions, outer joins, and subqueries.

# Objectives

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- Write SQL queries containing aggregate functions and calculated fields.
- Write SQL queries requiring nested subqueries and the use of the appropriate operators such as comparison operators for single value subqueries, `IN`, `NOT IN`, `ANY`, `ALL` for table result subqueries, and `EXISTS` and `NOT EXISTS` for multiple result subqueries which may or may not contain results.
- Lookup documentation on SQL functions supported by a particular database and use them as required in queries.
- Explain the purpose of `OUTER` and `NATURAL` joins and use them for queries.



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