

# Relational DB & SQL - C11

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## Window Functions

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### Ranking Window Functions

In this part, we'll learn ranking window functions. Ranking window functions return a ranking value for each row in a partition. Here are the window functions and their description used for ranking purposes.

### Ranking Window Functions

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| CUME_DIST    | Compute the cumulative distribution of a value in an ordered set of values.                                |
| DENSE_RANK   | Compute the rank for a row in an ordered set of rows with no gaps in rank values.                          |
| NTILE        | Divide a result set into a number of buckets as evenly as possible and assign a bucket number to each row. |
| PERCENT_RANK | Calculate the percent rank of each row in an ordered set of rows.  |
| RANK         | Assign a rank to each row within the partition of the result set.  |
| ROW_NUMBER   | Assign a sequential integer starting from one to each row within the current partition.                    |

We'll not cover all of them in our course. However, you can easily try them on your own. Let me remind you of the general window function syntax.

```
1 window function (column_name)
2 OVER ( [ PARTITION BY expr_list ] [ ORDER BY orders_list frame-clause ] )
3
```

Let's rank the employees based on their hire date.

"departments" table:

| 1  | id    | name      | dept_name         | seniority   | graduation | salary |       |
|----|-------|-----------|-------------------|-------------|------------|--------|-------|
| 2  | ----- | hire_date | -----             | -----       | -----      | -----  |       |
| 3  | 10238 | Eric      | Economics         | Experienced | MSc        | 72000  | 01-12 |
| 4  | 13378 | Karl      | Music             | Candidate   | BSc        | 42000  | 01-01 |
| 5  | 23493 | Jason     | Philosophy        | Candidate   | MSc        | 45000  | 01-01 |
| 6  | 36299 | Jane      | Computer Science  | Senior      | PhD        | 91000  | 15-05 |
| 7  | 30766 | Jack      | Economics         | Experienced | BSc        | 68000  | 06-04 |
| 8  | 40284 | Mary      | Psychology        | Experienced | MSc        | 78000  | 22-10 |
| 9  | 43087 | Brian     | Physics           | Senior      | PhD        | 93000  | 18-08 |
| 10 | 53695 | Richard   | Philosophy        | Candidate   | PhD        | 54000  | 17-12 |
| 11 | 58248 | Joseph    | Political Science | Experienced | BSc        | 58000  | 25-09 |
| 12 | 63172 | David     | Art History       | Experienced | BSc        | 65000  | 11-03 |
| 13 | 64378 | Elvis     | Physics           | Senior      | MSc        | 87000  | 23-11 |
| 14 | 96945 | John      | Computer Science  | Experienced | MSc        | 80000  | 20-04 |
| 15 | 99231 | Santosh   | Computer Science  | Experienced | BSc        | 74000  | 07-05 |

query:

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | SELECT name,  |  |
| 2 | RANK() OVER(ORDER BY hire_date DESC) AS rank_duration |  |
| 3 | FROM departments;                                     |  |

result:

| 1  | name    | rank_duration |
|----|---------|---------------|
| 2  | -----   | -----         |
| 3  | Karl    | 1             |
| 4  | Jason   | 1             |
| 5  | Richard | 3             |
| 6  | Joseph  | 4             |
| 7  | David   | 5             |
| 8  | Jack    | 6             |
| 9  | Santos  | 7             |
| 10 | Eric    | 8             |
| 11 | Mary    | 9             |
| 12 | John    | 10            |
| 13 | Elvis   | 11            |
| 14 | Jane    | 12            |
| 15 | Brian   | 13            |

**RANK()** function assigns the same rank number if the hire\_date value is same.

👉 **Note:** **RANK()** function assigns the row numbers of the values in the list created by the ordering rule. For the same values assigns their smallest row number.

Now, let's apply the same scenario by using the `DENSE_RANK` function.

query:

```
1 SELECT name,  
2     DENSE_RANK() OVER(ORDER BY hire_date DESC) AS rank_duration  
3 FROM departments;
```

result:

|    | name    | rank_duration |
|----|---------|---------------|
| 1  |         |               |
| 2  | -----   | -----         |
| 3  | Karl    | 1             |
| 4  | Jason   | 1             |
| 5  | Richard | 2             |
| 6  | Joseph  | 3             |
| 7  | David   | 4             |
| 8  | Jack    | 5             |
| 9  | Santos  | 6             |
| 10 | Eric    | 7             |
| 11 | Mary    | 8             |
| 12 | John    | 9             |
| 13 | Elvis   | 10            |
| 14 | Jane    | 11            |
| 15 | Brian   | 12            |

👉 Note: `DENSE_RANK()` returns the sequence numbers of the values in the list created by the ordering rule. For the same values assigns their smallest sequential integer.

Let's continue with another ranking function, `ROW_NUMBER()`.

`ROW_NUMBER()` assigns a sequential integer to each row. The row number starts with 1 for the first row.

If used with `PARTITION BY`, `ROW_NUMBER()` assigns a sequential integer to each row within the partition. The row number starts with 1 for the first row in each partition.

Let's give a sequence number to the employees in each seniority category according to their hire dates.

query:

```
1 SELECT name, seniority, hire_date,  
2     ROW_NUMBER() OVER(PARTITION BY seniority ORDER BY hire_date DESC) AS  
3     row_number  
3 FROM departments
```

result:

| 1  | name    | seniority   | hire_date  | row_number |
|----|---------|-------------|------------|------------|
| 2  | -----   | -----       | -----      | -----      |
| 3  | Karl    | Candidate   | 2022-01-01 | 1          |
| 4  | Jason   | Candidate   | 2022-01-01 | 2          |
| 5  | Richard | Candidate   | 2021-12-17 | 3          |
| 6  | Joseph  | Experienced | 2021-09-25 | 1          |
| 7  | David   | Experienced | 2021-03-11 | 2          |
| 8  | Jack    | Experienced | 2020-06-04 | 3          |
| 9  | Santosh | Experienced | 2020-05-07 | 4          |
| 10 | Eric    | Experienced | 2019-12-01 | 5          |
| 11 | Mary    | Experienced | 2019-10-22 | 6          |
| 12 | John    | Experienced | 2019-04-20 | 7          |
| 13 | Elvis   | Senior      | 2018-11-23 | 1          |
| 14 | Jane    | Senior      | 2018-05-15 | 2          |
| 15 | Brian   | Senior      | 2017-08-18 | 3          |
| 16 |         |             |            |            |

👉 Note: We must use **ORDER BY** with ranking window functions.

Alright, you've got the logic of how a ranking window function works. You can easily apply other ranking window functions on your own. Let's continue with the last category of window function: Value Window Functions.

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