Table Calculation Functions

Version: 2018.3 Applies to: Tableau Desktop, Tableau Online, Tableau Public, Tableau Server

This article introduces table calculation functions and their uses in Tableau. It also demonstrates how to create a table calculation using the calculation editor.

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Why use table calculation functions

Table calculation functions allow you to perform computations on values in a table.

For example, you can calculate the percent of total an individual sale is for the year, or for several years.

Table calculation functions available in Tableau

FIRST()

Returns the number of rows from the current row to the first row in the partition. For example, the view below shows quarterly sales. When FIRST() is computed within the Date partition, the offset of the first row from the second row is -1.

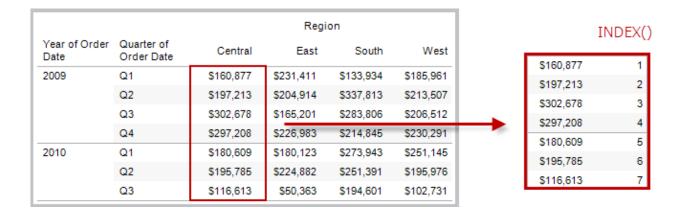
		Region				First()		
Year of Order Date	Quarter of Order Date	Central	East	South	West		\$160,877	0
2009	Q1	\$160,877	\$231,411	\$133,934	\$185,961	_	\$197,213	-1
	Q2	\$197,213	\$204,914	\$337,813	\$213,507		\$302,678	-2
	Q3	\$302,678	\$165,201	\$283,806	\$206,512		\$297,208	-3
	Q4	\$297,208	\$226,983	\$214,845	\$230,291		\$180,609	-4
2010	Q1	\$180,609	\$180,123	\$273,943	\$251,145		\$195,785	-5
	Q2	\$195,785	\$224,882	\$251,391	\$195,976		\$116,613	-6
	Q3	\$116,613	\$50,363	\$194,601	\$102,731			

Example

When the current row index is 3, FIRST() = -2.

INDEX()

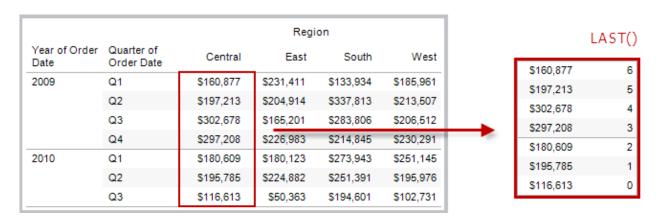
Returns the index of the current row in the partition, without any sorting with regard to value. The first row index starts at 1. For example, the table below shows quarterly sales. When INDEX() is computed within the Date partition, the index of each row is 1, 2, 3, 4..., etc.



For the third row in the partition, INDEX() = 3.

LAST()

Returns the number of rows from the current row to the last row in the partition. For example, the table below shows quarterly sales. When LAST() is computed within the Date partition, the offset of the last row from the second row is 5.

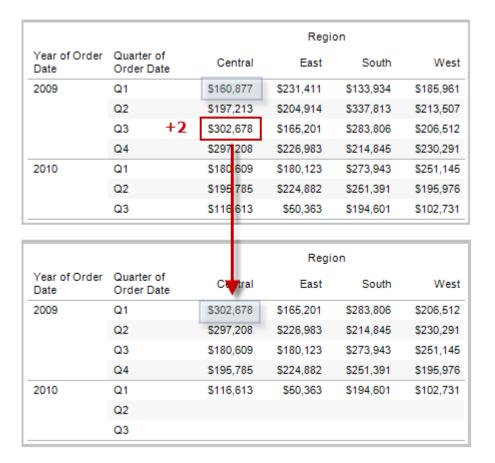


When the current row index is 3 of 7, LAST() = 4.

LOOKUP(expression, [offset])

Returns the value of the expression in a target row, specified as a relative offset from the current row. Use FIRST() + n and LAST() - n as part of your offset definition for a target relative to the first/last rows in the partition. If offset is omitted, the row to compare to can be set on the field menu. This function returns NULL if the target row cannot be determined.

The view below shows quarterly sales. When LOOKUP (SUM(Sales), 2) is computed within the Date partition, each row shows the sales value from 2 quarters into the future.



LOOKUP(SUM([Profit]), FIRST()+2) computes the SUM(Profit) in the third row of the partition.

PREVIOUS_VALUE(expression)

Returns the value of this calculation in the previous row. Returns the given expression if the current row is the first row of the partition.

Example

SUM([Profit]) * PREVIOUS_VALUE(1) computes the running product of SUM(Profit).

RANK(expression, ['asc' | 'desc'])

Returns the standard competition rank for the current row in the partition.

Identical values are assigned an identical rank. Use the optional 'asc' | 'desc' argument to specify ascending or descending order. The default is descending.

With this function, the set of values (6, 9, 9, 14) would be ranked (4, 2, 2, 1).

Nulls are ignored in ranking functions. They are not numbered and they do not count against the total number of records in percentile rank calculations.

For information on different ranking options, see <u>Rank calculation</u> (<u>calculations_tablecalculations_definebasic_runningtotal.htm#Rank)</u>.

Example

The following image shows the effect of the various ranking functions (RANK, RANK_DENSE, RANK_MODIFIED, RANK_PERCENTILE, and RANK_UNIQUE) on a set of values. The data set contains information on 14 students (StudentA through StudentN); the **Age** column shows the current age of each student (all students are between 17 and 20 years of age). The remaining columns show the effect of each rank function on the set of age values, always assuming the default order (ascending or descending) for the function.

Student	Age	RANKofAge	RANK_DENSEofAge	RANK_MODIFIEDofAge	RANK_PERCENTILEofAge	RANK_UNIQUEofAge
StudentA	19	4	2	7	79%	4
StudentB	18	8	3	12	50%	8
StudentC	19	4	2	7	79%	5
StudentD	18	8	3	12	50%	9
StudentE	17	13	4	14	14%	13
StudentF	18	8	3	12	50%	10
StudentG	19	4	2	7	79%	6
StudentH	20	1	1	3	100%	1
Studentl	19	4	2	7	79%	7
StudentJ	20	1	1	3	100%	2
StudentK	20	1	1	3	100%	3
StudentL	17	13	4	14	14%	14
StudentM	18	8	3	12	50%	11
StudentN	18	8	3	12	50%	12

RANK_DENSE(expression, ['asc' | 'desc'])

Returns the dense rank for the current row in the partition. Identical values are assigned an identical rank, but no gaps are inserted into the number sequence. Use the optional 'asc' | 'desc' argument to specify ascending or descending order. The default is descending.

With this function, the set of values (6, 9, 9, 14) would be ranked (3, 2, 2, 1).

Nulls are ignored in ranking functions. They are not numbered and they do not count against the total number of records in percentile rank calculations.

For information on different ranking options, see <u>Rank calculation</u> (<u>calculations_tablecalculations_definebasic_runningtotal.htm#Rank)</u>.

RANK_MODIFIED(expression, ['asc' | 'desc'])

Returns the modified competition rank for the current row in the partition.

Identical values are assigned an identical rank. Use the optional 'asc' | 'desc' argument to specify ascending or descending order. The default is descending.

With this function, the set of values (6, 9, 9, 14) would be ranked (4, 3, 3, 1).

Nulls are ignored in ranking functions. They are not numbered and they do not count against the total number of records in percentile rank calculations.

For information on different ranking options, see <u>Rank calculation</u> (<u>calculations_tablecalculations_definebasic_runningtotal.htm#Rank)</u>.

RANK_PERCENTILE(expression, ['asc' | 'desc'])

Returns the percentile rank for the current row in the partition. Use the optional 'asc' | 'desc' argument to specify ascending or descending order. The default is ascending.

With this function, the set of values (6, 9, 9, 14) would be ranked (0.25, 0.75, 0.75, 1.00).

Nulls are ignored in ranking functions. They are not numbered and they do not count against the total number of records in percentile rank calculations.

For information on different ranking options, see <u>Rank calculation</u> (<u>calculations_tablecalculations_definebasic_runningtotal.htm#Rank)</u>.

RANK_UNIQUE(expression, ['asc' | 'desc'])

Returns the unique rank for the current row in the partition. Identical values are assigned different ranks. Use the optional 'asc' | 'desc' argument to specify ascending or descending order. The default is descending.

With this function, the set of values (6, 9, 9, 14) would be ranked (4, 2, 3, 1).

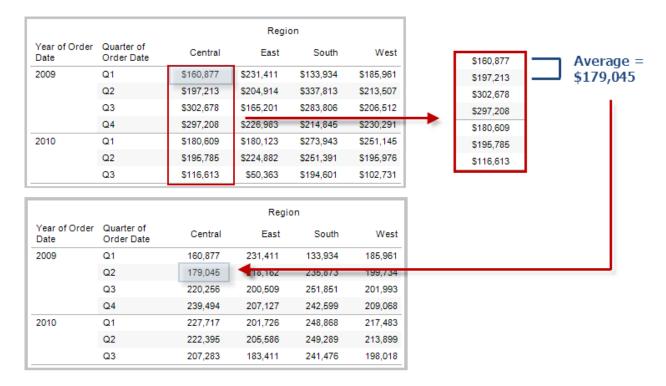
Nulls are ignored in ranking functions. They are not numbered and they do not count against the total number of records in percentile rank calculations.

For information on different ranking options, see <u>Rank calculation</u> (<u>calculations_tablecalculations_definebasic_runningtotal.htm#Rank)</u>.

RUNNING_AVG(expression)

Returns the running average of the given expression, from the first row in the partition to the current row.

The view below shows quarterly sales. When RUNNING_AVG(SUM([Sales]) is computed within the Date partition, the result is a running average of the sales values for each quarter.



RUNNING_AVG(SUM([Profit])) computes the running average of SUM(Profit).

RUNNING_COUNT(expression)

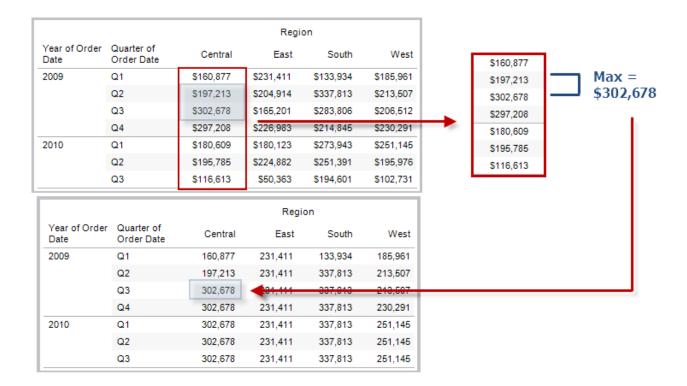
Returns the running count of the given expression, from the first row in the partition to the current row.

Example

RUNNING COUNT (SUM ([Profit])) computes the running count of SUM (Profit).

RUNNING_MAX(expression)

Returns the running maximum of the given expression, from the first row in the partition to the current row.



RUNNING MAX(SUM([Profit])) computes the running maximum of SUM(Profit).

RUNNING_MIN(expression)

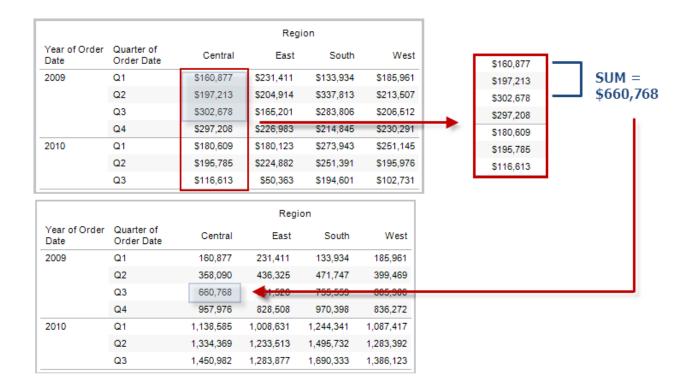
Returns the running minimum of the given expression, from the first row in the partition to the current row.



RUNNING_MIN(SUM([Profit])) computes the running minimum of SUM(Profit).

RUNNING_SUM(expression)

Returns the running sum of the given expression, from the first row in the partition to the current row.



RUNNING SUM(SUM([Profit])) computes the running sum of SUM(Profit)

SIZE()

Returns the number of rows in the partition. For example, the view below shows quarterly sales. Within the Date partition, there are seven rows so the Size() of the Date partition is 7.



SIZE() = 5 when the current partition contains five rows.

SCRIPT_BOOL

Returns a Boolean result from the specified expression. The expression is passed directly to a running external service instance.

In R expressions, use .argn (with a leading period) to reference parameters (.arg1, .arg2, etc.).

In Python expressions, use _argn (with a leading underscore).

Examples

In this R example, .arg1 is equal to SUM([Profit]):

```
SCRIPT BOOL("is.finite(.arg1)", SUM([Profit]))
```

The next example returns True for store IDs in Washington state, and False otherwise. This example could be the definition for a calculated field titled IsStoreInWA.

```
SCRIPT_BOOL('grepl(".*_WA", .arg1, perl=TRUE)',ATTR([Store ID]))
```

A command for Python would take this form:

```
SCRIPT_BOOL("return map(lambda x : x > 0, _arg1)", SUM([Profit]))
```

SCRIPT_INT

Returns an integer result from the specified expression. The expression is passed directly to a running external service instance.

In R expressions, use .argn (with a leading period) to reference parameters (.arg1, .arg2, etc.)

In Python expressions, use _argn (with a leading underscore).

Examples

In this R example, .arg1 is equal to SUM([Profit]):

```
SCRIPT_INT("is.finite(.arg1)", SUM([Profit]))
```

In the next example, k-means clustering is used to create three clusters:

```
SCRIPT_INT('result <- kmeans(data.frame(.arg1,.arg2,.arg3,.arg4),
3);result$cluster;', SUM([Petal length]), SUM([Petal width]),SUM([Sepal length]),SUM([Sepal width]))</pre>
```

A command for Python would take this form:

```
SCRIPT_INT("return map(lambda x : int(x * 5), _arg1)", SUM([Profit]))
```

SCRIPT_REAL

Returns a real result from the specified expression. The expression is passed directly to a running external service instance. In

R expressions, use .argn (with a leading period) to reference parameters (.arg1, .arg2, etc.)

In Python expressions, use _argn (with a leading underscore).

Examples

In this R example, .arg1 is equal to SUM([Profit]):

```
SCRIPT REAL("is.finite(.arg1)", SUM([Profit]))
```

The next example converts temperature values from Celsius to Fahrenheit.

```
SCRIPT_REAL('library(udunits2);ud.convert(.arg1, "celsius",
   "degree fahrenheit")',AVG([Temperature]))
```

A command for Python would take this form:

```
SCRIPT_REAL("return map(lambda x : x * 0.5, _arg1)", SUM([Profit]))
```

SCRIPT_STR

Returns a string result from the specified expression. The expression is passed directly to a running external service instance.

In R expressions, use .argn (with a leading period) to reference parameters (.arg1, .arg2, etc.)

In Python expressions, use _argn (with a leading underscore).

Examples

In this R example, .arg1 is equal to SUM([Profit]):

```
SCRIPT_STR("is.finite(.arg1)", SUM([Profit]))
```

The next example extracts a state abbreviation from a more complicated string (in the original form 13XSL_CA, A13_WA):

```
SCRIPT_STR('gsub(".*_", "", .arg1)',ATTR([Store ID]))
```

A command for Python would take this form:

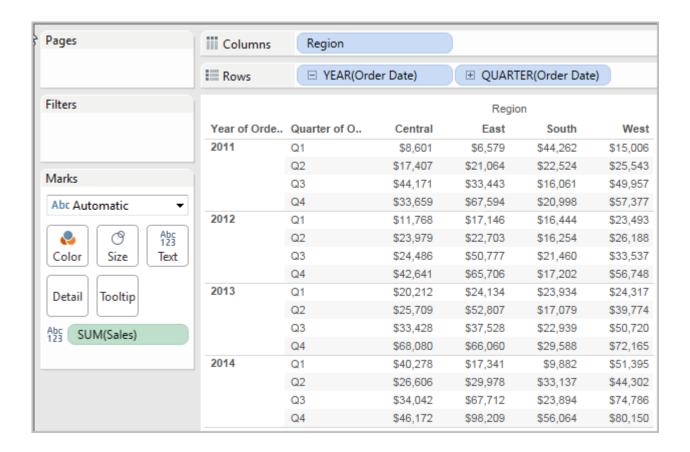
```
SCRIPT_STR("return map(lambda x : x[:2], _arg1)", ATTR([Region]))
```

TOTAL(expression)

Returns the total for the given expression in a table calculation partition.

Example

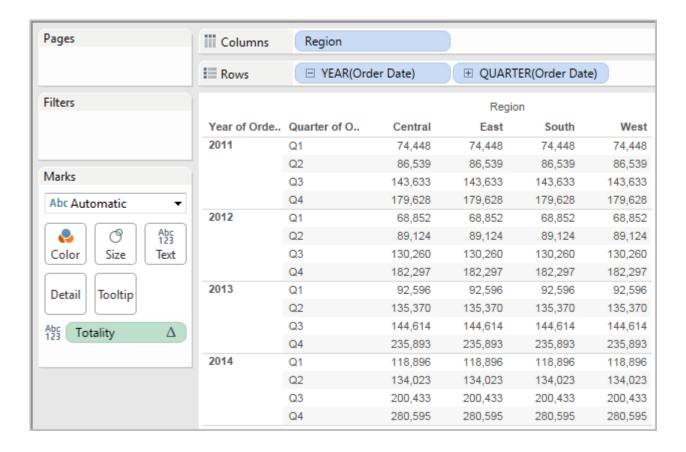
Assume you are starting with this view:



You open the calculation editor and create a new field which you name **Totality**:



You then drop **Totality** on Text, to replace **SUM(Sales)**. Your view changes such that it sums values based on the default **Compute Using** value:



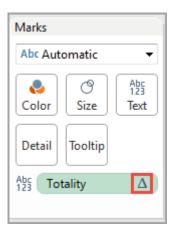
This raises the question, What is the default **Compute Using** value? If you right-click (Control-click on a Mac) **Totality** in the Data pane and choose **Edit**, there is now an additional bit of information available:



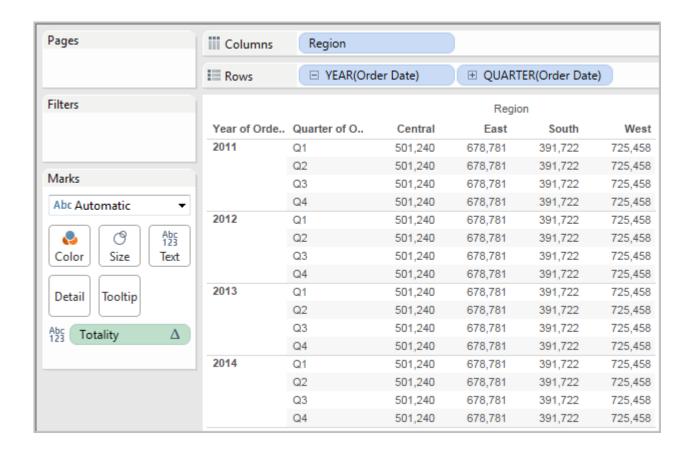
The default **Compute Using** value is **Table (Across)**. The result is that **Totality** is summing the values across each row of your table. Thus, the value that you see across each row is the sum of the values from the original version of the table.

The values in the 2011/Q1 row in the original table were \$8601, \$6579, \$44262, and \$15006. The values in the table after **Totality** replaces **SUM(Sales)** are all \$74,448, which is the sum of the four original values.

Notice the triangle next to Totality after you drop it on Text:



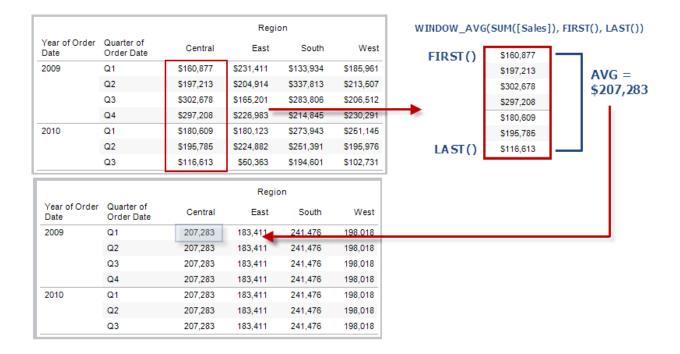
This indicates that this field is using a table calculation. You can right-click the field and choose **Edit Table Calculation** to redirect your function to a different **Compute Using** value. For example, you could set it to **Table (Down)**. In that case, your table would look like this:



WINDOW_AVG(expression, [start, end])

Returns the average of the expression within the window. The window is defined by means of offsets from the current row. Use FIRST()+n and LAST()-n for offsets from the first or last row in the partition. If the start and end are omitted, the entire partition is used.

For example, the view below shows quarterly sales. A window average within the Date partition returns the average sales across all dates.



WINDOW_AVG(SUM([Profit]), FIRST()+1, 0) computes the average of SUM(Profit) from the second row to the current row.

WINDOW_CORR(expression1, expression2, [start, end])

Returns the Pearson correlation coefficient of two expressions within the window. The window is defined as offsets from the current row. Use FIRST()+n and LAST()-n for offsets from the first or last row in the partition. If start and end are omitted, the entire partition is used.

The Pearson correlation measures the linear relationship between two variables. Results range from -1 to +1 inclusive, where 1 denotes an exact positive linear relationship, as when a positive change in one variable implies a

positive change of corresponding magnitude in the other, o denotes no linear relationship between the variance, and -1 is an exact negative relationship.

There is an equivalent aggregation fuction: CORR. See <u>Tableau Functions</u> (<u>Alphabetical</u>) (<u>functions all alphabetical.htm</u>).

Example

The following formula returns the Pearson correlation of **SUM(Profit)** and **SUM(Sales)** from the five previous rows to the current row.

```
WINDOW_CORR(SUM[Profit]), SUM([Sales]), -5, 0)
```

WINDOW_COUNT(expression, [start, end])

Returns the count of the expression within the window. The window is defined by means of offsets from the current row. Use FIRST()+n and LAST()-n for offsets from the first or last row in the partition. If the start and end are omitted, the entire partition is used.

Example

WINDOW_COUNT(SUM([Profit]), FIRST()+1, 0) computes the count of SUM(Profit) from the second row to the current row

WINDOW_COVAR(expression1, expression2, [start, end])

Returns the *sample covariance* of two expressions within the window. The window is defined as offsets from the current row. Use FIRST()+n and LAST()-n for offsets from the first or last row in the partition. If the start and end arguments are omitted, the window is the entire partition.

Sample covariance uses the number of non-null data points n-1 to normalize the covariance calculation, rather than n, which is used by the population covariance (with the WINDOW_COVARP function). Sample covariance is the appropriate choice when the data is a random sample that is being used to estimate the covariance for a larger population.

There is an equivalent aggregation fuction: COVAR. See <u>Tableau Functions</u> (<u>Alphabetical</u>) (<u>functions_all_alphabetical.htm</u>).

Example

The following formula returns the sample covariance of **SUM(Profit)** and **SUM(Sales)** from the two previous rows to the current row.

```
WINDOW COVAR(SUM([Profit]), SUM([Sales]), -2, 0)
```

WINDOW_COVARP(expression1, expression2, [start, end])

Returns the *population covariance* of two expressions within the window. The window is defined as offsets from the current row. Use FIRST()+n and LAST()-n for offsets from the first or last row in the partition. If start and end are omitted, the entire partition is used.

Population covariance is sample covariance multiplied by (n-1)/n, where n is the total number of non-null data points. Population covariance is the appropriate choice when there is data available for all items of interest as opposed to when there is only a random subset of items, in which case sample covariance (with the WINDOW_COVAR function) is appropriate.

There is an equivalent aggregation fuction: COVARP. <u>Tableau Functions</u> (<u>Alphabetical</u>) (<u>functions all alphabetical.htm</u>).

Example

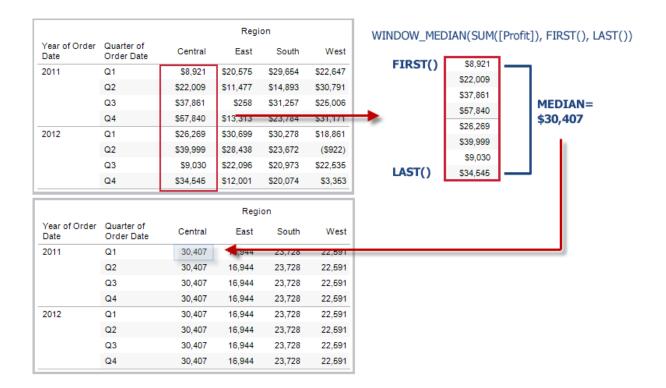
The following formula returns the population covariance of **SUM(Profit)** and **SUM(Sales)** from the two previous rows to the current row.

```
WINDOW COVARP(SUM([Profit]), SUM([Sales]), -2, 0)
```

WINDOW_MEDIAN(expression, [start, end])

Returns the median of the expression within the window. The window is defined by means of offsets from the current row. Use FIRST()+n and LAST()-n for offsets from the first or last row in the partition. If the start and end are omitted, the entire partition is used.

For example, the view below shows quarterly profit. A window median within the Date partition returns the median profit across all dates.

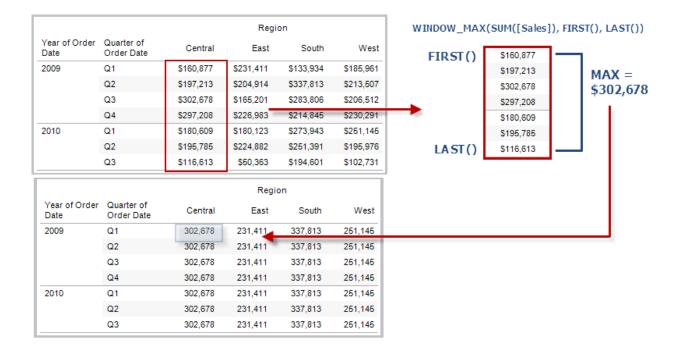


WINDOW_MEDIAN(SUM([Profit]), FIRST()+1, 0) computes the median of SUM(Profit) from the second row to the current row.

WINDOW_MAX(expression, [start, end])

Returns the maximum of the expression within the window. The window is defined by means of offsets from the current row. Use FIRST()+n and LAST()-n for offsets from the first or last row in the partition. If the start and end are omitted, the entire partition is used.

For example, the view below shows quarterly sales. A window maximum within the Date partition returns the maximum sales across all dates.

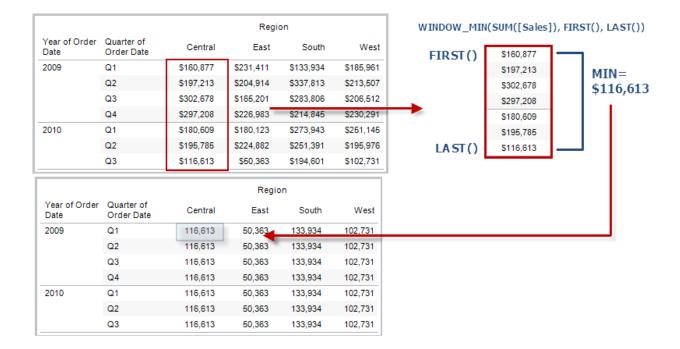


WINDOW_MAX(SUM([Profit]), FIRST()+1, 0) computes the maximum of SUM(Profit) from the second row to the current row.

WINDOW_MIN(expression, [start, end])

Returns the minimum of the expression within the window. The window is defined by means of offsets from the current row. Use FIRST()+n and LAST()-n for offsets from the first or last row in the partition. If the start and end are omitted, the entire partition is used.

For example, the view below shows quarterly sales. A window minimum within the Date partition returns the minimum sales across all dates.



WINDOW_MIN(SUM([Profit]), FIRST()+1, 0) computes the minimum of SUM(Profit) from the second row to the current row.

WINDOW_PERCENTILE(expression, number, [start, end])

Returns the value corresponding to the specified percentile within the window. The window is defined by means of offsets from the current row. Use FIRST()+n and LAST()-n for offsets from the first or last row in the partition. If the start and end are omitted, the entire partition is used.

Example

WINDOW_PERCENTILE(SUM([Profit]), 0.75, -2, 0) returns the 75th percentile for SUM(Profit) from the two previous rows to the current row.

WINDOW_STDEV(expression, [start, end])

Returns the sample standard deviation of the expression within the window. The window is defined by means of offsets from the current row. Use FIRST()+n and LAST()-n for offsets from the first or last row in the partition. If the start and end are omitted, the entire partition is used.

Example

window_stdev(sum([Profit]), first()+1, 0) computes the standard deviation of SUM(Profit) from the second row to the current row.

WINDOW_STDEVP(expression, [start, end])

Returns the biased standard deviation of the expression within the window. The window is defined by means of offsets from the current row. Use FIRST()+n and LAST()-n for offsets from the first or last row in the partition. If the start and end are omitted, the entire partition is used.

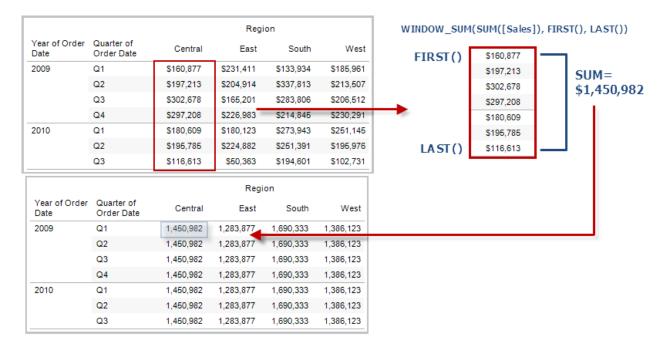
Example

window_stdevp(sum([Profit]), first()+1, 0) computes the standard deviation of SUM(Profit) from the second row to the current row.

WINDOW_SUM(expression, [start, end])

Returns the sum of the expression within the window. The window is defined by means of offsets from the current row. Use FIRST()+n and LAST()-n for offsets from the first or last row in the partition. If the start and end are omitted, the entire partition is used.

For example, the view below shows quarterly sales. A window sum computed within the Date partition returns the summation of sales across all quarters.



Example

WINDOW_SUM(SUM([Profit]), FIRST()+1, 0) computes the sum of SUM(Profit) from the second row to the current row.

WINDOW_VAR(expression, [start, end])

Returns the sample variance of the expression within the window. The window is defined by means of offsets from the current row. Use FIRST()+n and LAST()-n for offsets from the first or last row in the partition. If the start and end are omitted, the entire partition is used.

Example

WINDOW_VAR((SUM([Profit])), FIRST()+1, 0) computes the variance of SUM(Profit) from the second row to the current row.

WINDOW_VARP(expression, [start, end])

Returns the biased variance of the expression within the window. The window is defined by means of offsets from the current row. Use FIRST()+n and LAST()-n for offsets from the first or last row in the partition. If the start and end are omitted, the entire partition is used.

Example

WINDOW_VARP(SUM([Profit]), FIRST()+1, 0) computes the variance of SUM(Profit) from the second row to the current row.

Create a table calculation using the calculation editor

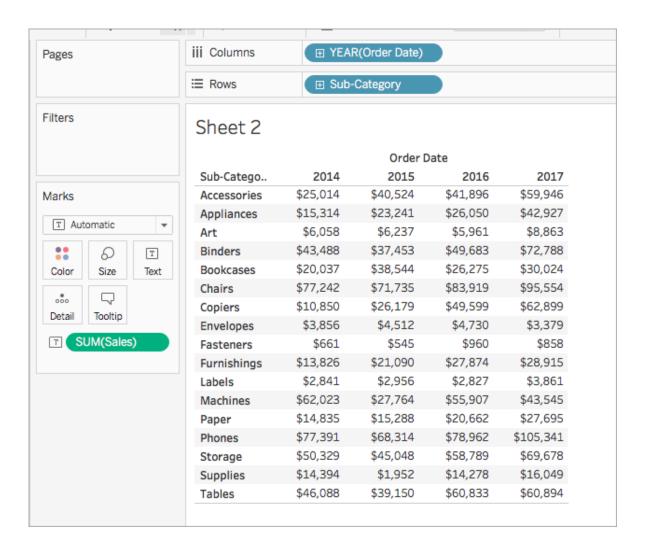
Follow along with the steps below to learn how to create a table calculation using the calculation editor.

Note: There are several ways to create table calculations in Tableau. This example demonstrates only one of those ways. For more information, see Transform Values with Table Calculations
(calculations_tablecalculations.htm).

Step 1: Create the visualization

- 1. In Tableau Desktop, connect to the **Sample-Superstore** saved data source, which comes with Tableau.
- 2. Navigate to a worksheet.
- 3. From the **Data** pane, under Dimensions, drag **Order Date** to the **Columns** shelf.
- 4. From the **Data** pane, under Dimensions, drag **Sub-Category** to the **Rows** shelf.
- 5. From the **Data** pane, under Measures, drag **Sales** to **Text** on the Marks card.

Your visualization updates to a text table.



Step 2: Create the table calculation

- 1. Select **Analysis** > **Create Calculated Field**.
- 2. In the calculation editor that opens, do the following:
 - Name the calculated field, Running Sum of Profit.
 - Enter the following formula:

```
RUNNING_SUM(SUM([Profit]))
```

This formula calculates the running sum of profit sales. It is computed across the entire table.

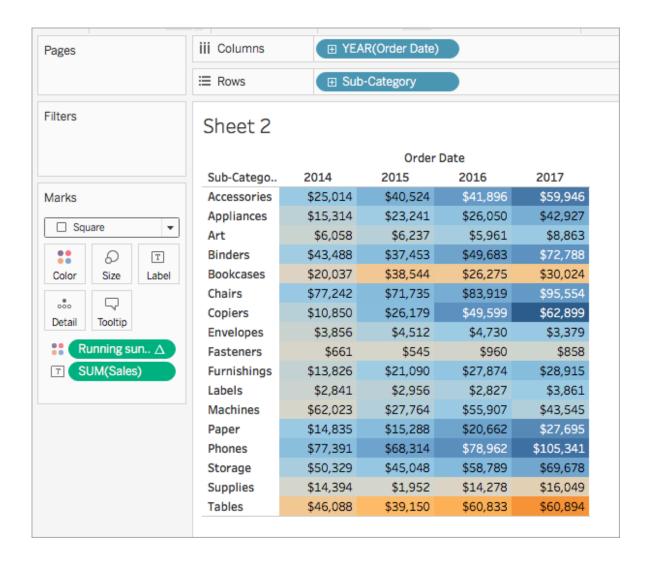
• When finished, click **OK**.

The new table calculation field appears under Measures in the Data pane. Just like your other fields, you can use it in one or more visualizations.

Step 3: Use the table calculation in the visualization

- From the Data pane, under Measures, drag Running Sum of Profit to Color on the Marks card.
- 2. On the Marks card, click the Mark Type drop-down and select **Square**.

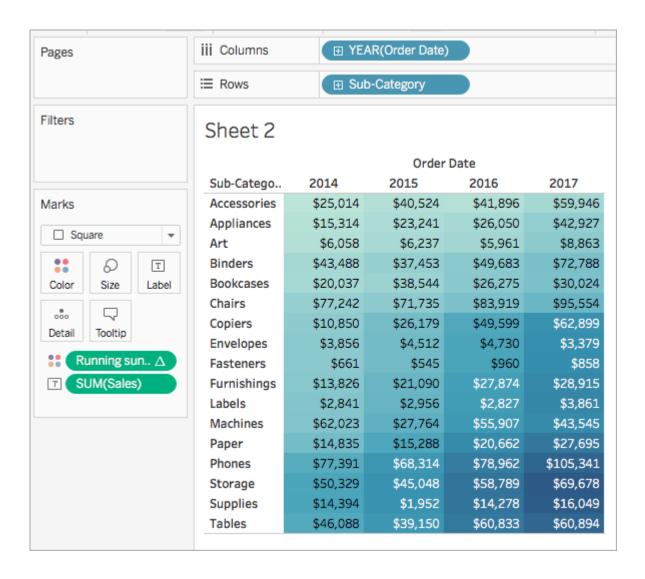
The visualization updates to a highlight table:



Step 4: Edit the table calculation

- On the Marks card, right-click Running Sum of Profit and select Edit
 Table Calculation.
- 2. In the Table Calculation dialog box that opens, under Compute Using, select **Table (down)**.

The visualization updates to the following:



See Also

<u>Create a table calculation (calculations_tablecalculations.htm#Create)</u>

Table Calculation Types

 $\underline{(calculations_table calculations_define basic_running total.htm)}$

<u>Customize Table Calculations (calculations tablecalculations custom.htm)</u>

Quick Table Calculations (calculations tablecalculations quick.htm)

Functions in Tableau (functions.htm)

<u>Tableau Functions (by Category) (functions_all_categories.htm)</u>

<u>Tableau Functions (Alphabetical) (functions_all_alphabetical.htm)</u>