

1 BigQuery vs Teradata SQL

This listing was inspired by Coursera specialization *From Data to Insights with Google Cloud Platform*. I have observed there usage of different SQL statements. I decided to extract some of them and show here, how similar queries look like in Standard/BigQuery SQL comparing to syntax commonly used in Teradata. Then, concept of arrays will be briefly mentioned.

BigQuery	Teradata
Sample selection	
SELECT * FROM <i>table</i> LIMIT 10 ;	SELECT TOP 10 * FROM <i>table</i> ;
Table creation	
CREATE OR REPLACE <i>table</i> AS SELECT * FROM ...;	CREATE <i>table</i> AS (SELECT * FROM ...) WITH (NO) DATA ;
WITH clause order	
WITH set1 AS (SELECT '0' as num), set2 AS (SELECT num FROM set1) SELECT * FROM set2 ;	WITH set2 AS (SELECT num FROM set1), set1 AS (SELECT '0' as num) SELECT * FROM set2 ; -- works also in reverse order

Different Select functions

SELECT CONCAT ('part1','part2');	SELECT 'part1' 'part2';
SELECT SAFE_DIVIDE (value_to_divide, divisor);	SELECT value_to_divide / NULLIFZERO (divisor); -- <i>this solution does not work for non-numeric divisors</i>
SELECT * EXCEPT (col_to_exclude) FROM table;	N/A
SELECT IF (condition, value_when_true, value_when_false) FROM table;	SELECT CASE WHEN condition THEN value_when_true ELSE value_when_false FROM table;
SELECT FORMAT ("fmt", col) FROM table;	SELECT CAST (col AS "fmt") FROM table;
SELECT EXTRACT (DATE FROM date_col) FROM table;	SELECT CAST (date_col AS DATE) FROM table;
SELECT DATE_TRUNC (date_col, MONTH) FROM table;	SELECT EXTRACT (MONTH FROM date.col) FROM table;
SELECT SAFE_CAST (col AS INT64) FROM table;	N/A
SELECT * FROM table1 UNION DISTINCT SELECT * FROM table2;	SELECT * FROM table1 UNION SELECT * FROM table2;
SELECT ANY_VALUE (col) FROM table;	N/A

Concept of arrays as type in Teradata is not as flexible as in BigQuery. Before it can be used, explicit type of an array needs to be defined.

Aggregate functions	
SELECT ARRAY_AGG (col [LIMIT num]) FROM table;	CREATE TYPE <i>type_name</i> as VARCHAR(20) ARRAY[5]; SELECT ARRAY_AGG (col, NEW <i>type_name</i>) FROM table;
SELECT STRING_AGG (col [LIMIT num]) FROM table;	N/A

In Teradata, arrays are of given, predefined length. In BigQuery it is flexible and it is possible to check length of array created using following syntax:

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SELECT ARRAY_LENGTH(array_col) FROM table;
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