# Nearly Final SQL: Triggers; WITH; Views

### Important Midterm Announcement

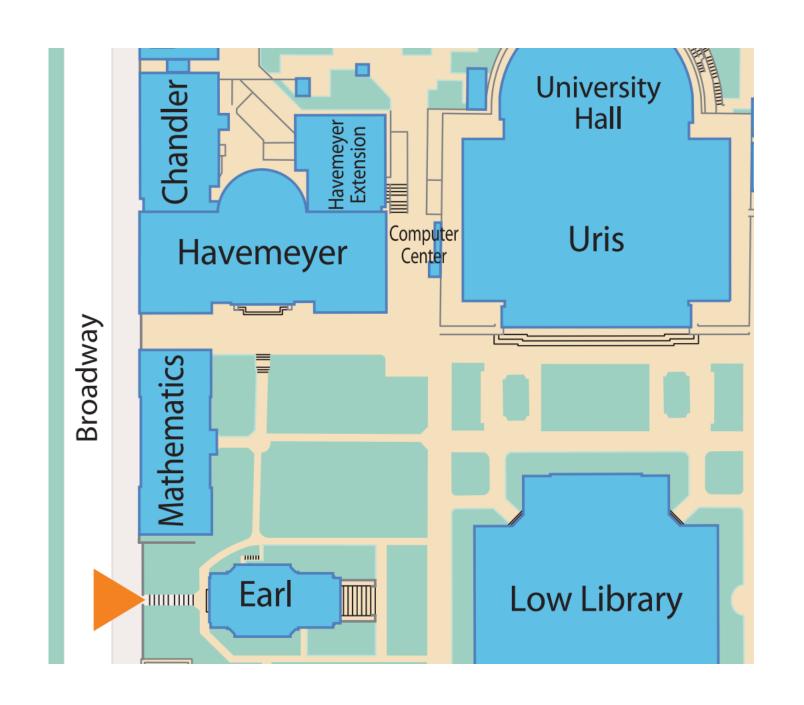
If your Uni ends in an odd digit (1, 3, 5, 7, 9):

Go to **312 Math** for the Midterm

In Math, up stairs, turn right

(This is to give you more space)

Notes: One 8.5x11" sheet, both sides Starts at 8:40 ends at 9:55
Review today and Thursday



## Many things we can't express

#### Nested queries in CHECK constraints



Procedure that runs automatically if specified changes in DBMS happen

CREATE TRIGGER name

Event activates the trigger

Condition tests if triggers should run

Action what to do

### Triggers: Uses

Constraints (e.g. at least one)

Copy/fill data based on other tables (e.g. purchase an item; copy the current price into the purchase)

Record history of every update

## Triggers: Capabilities

Prevent an insert/update/delete (constraint)

Change the value being updated

Execute arbitrary user defined functions

CREATE TRIGGER name

[BEFORE | AFTER | INSTEAD OF] event\_list ON table

Event activates the trigger

Condition tests if triggers should run

Action what to do

```
CREATE TRIGGER name
[BEFORE | AFTER | INSTEAD OF] event_list ON table

WHEN trigger_qualifications
```

Event activates the trigger

Condition tests if triggers should run

Action what to do

```
CREATE TRIGGER name

[BEFORE | AFTER | INSTEAD OF] event_list ON table

[FOR EACH ROW]

WHEN trigger_qualifications

EXECUTE PROCEDURE procedure
```

Event activates the trigger

Condition tests if triggers should run

Action what to do

```
CREATE TABLE log(
    sid int NOT NULL REFERENCES Sailors,
    t timestamp NOT NULL,
    oldAge int NOT NULL,
    newAge int NOT NULL
);
```

```
CREATE FUNCTION logFunc() RETURNS trigger AS
$$
BEGIN
   INSERT INTO log VALUES
      (NEW.sid, now(), OLD.age, NEW.age);
   RETURN NEW;
END;
$$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
```

```
CREATE TRIGGER logChanges
AFTER UPDATE OF age ON Sailors
FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE logFunc();
```

Can be complicated to reason about

Triggers may cause other triggers to run (recursive)

(e.g. trigger on sailors inserts into sailors?)

If > I trigger match an action, which is run first?

Arbitrary code: can't be optimized by DB

## Triggers vs Constraints

#### Constraint

Statement about state of database

Doesn't modify the database state

Somewhat "understood" by the database

#### **Triggers**

Operational: X should run when Y

Very flexible

Must be executed on every matching statement

### WITH (Common Table Expressions)

Large queries can get very complicated Useful to name parts of these queries (Rare but useful to know this exists)

#### WITH

#### Names of unpopular red boats

#### Views

CREATE VIEW view\_name
AS select\_statement

"tables" defined as query results rather than inserted base data

Development: continue to run old apps

Security: Grant limited access

References to view\_name replaced with select\_statement

Similar to WITH, lasts longer than one query

Updates: Tricky (Postgres: not permitted without triggers)

### Names of popular boats

```
CREATE VIEW boat_counts

AS SELECT bid, count(*)

FROM Reserves R

GROUP BY bid

HAVING count(*) > 10
```

#### Used like a normal table

```
SELECT B.name
FROM boat_counts bc, Boats B
WHERE bc.bid = B.bid

SELECT B.name
FROM

(SELECT bid, count(*)
FROM Reserves R
GROUP BY bid
HAVING count(*) > 10) bc,
Boats B
WHERE bc.bid = B.bid
```

Names of popular boats

Rewritten expanded query

#### **CREATE TABLE AS**

#### Create table from a query

```
CREATE TABLE used_boats1 AS

SELECT r.bid

FROM Sailors s,

Reservations r

WHERE s.sid = r.sid

CREATE TABLE used_boats2 AS

SELECT r.bid as foo

FROM Sailors s,

Reservations r

WHERE s.sid = r.sid

used_boats1(bid int)

used_boats2 (foo int)
```

How is this different than views?

What if we insert a new record into Reservations?