

intro_sql

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Introduction to SQL

1 1. What is SQL?

- Structured Query Language
- Often pronounced “sequel” or by simply saying the letters (i.e., “ess cue el”)
- Programming language for relational databases
- Absolutely ubiquitous
- Used by industry, government, academia, everyone!

1.1 1.1 History, Motivations, and Standardization of SQL

- Relational model proposed by Ted Codd in 1970
- First software developed in the 70s and 80s by IBM and Oracle
- First ANSI standard in 1986
- Declarative language for querying relational databases

1.1.1 1.1.1 What makes SQL a Declarative Language?

- We don’t have variables in the traditional sense
- We don’t specify steps to take, or operations to perform
 - We don’t have explicit loops for iteration
 - Instead we only what the “result set” should contain
 - The only “objects” we can create are TABLE objects, which are basically dataframes

1.2 1.2 Relational Databases

- Collection of 1 or more tables
- Tables have columns and rows
 - Rows represent “records”; columns represent “fields” or variables

1.2.1 1.2.1 Example Database Schema

1.2.2 1.2.2 Relational Database Management Systems (RDBMS)

- Software that implements a relational database
- Allow us to:

- create databases
- create tables in databases
- create users and control their access
- query tables to extract data
- add new data in to tables

1.2.3 1.2.3 Varieties of SQL and RDBMS

- Different RDBMS implement slightly different dialects of SQL
- RDBMS also provide features not in SQL standard
- Examples of RDBMS:
 - Microsoft SQL Server
 - Oracle
 - MySQL
 - PostgreSQL
 - Sqlite

2 2. Typical SQL Query

- Commands that query table(s) in a DB and return some output (often in tabular form)

2.1 2.1 The SELECT Statement

- Often the start of a query
- Specifies the columns we want

2.1.1 2.1.1 Motivating Example

- Suppose we run an online retailer (e.g., Amazon)
- We have a database with these tables:
 - customers
 - orders
 - products

```
In [1]: %load data/amzn.db
```

2.1.2 2.1.2 Query the products Table

```
In [2]: SELECT
        product,          -- these are the columns we want to include
        price,
        product_id
      FROM
        products          -- this is the table we are querying from
      ;
```

```
Out [2]: +-----+-----+-----+
| product | price | product_id |
+-----+-----+-----+
| rake    | 19.99 | 44          |
+-----+-----+-----+
| shoe horn | 5.99  | 33          |
+-----+-----+-----+
| potato   | 0.99  | 22          |
+-----+-----+-----+
| bike     | 123.5  | 12          |
+-----+-----+-----+
| table    | 78.55  | 123         |
+-----+-----+-----+
| cup      | 2.5    | 232         |
+-----+-----+-----+
| ball     | 5.5    | 28          |
+-----+-----+-----+
| pencil   | 2.99   | 22          |
+-----+-----+-----+
| teapot   | 12.49  | 11          |
+-----+-----+-----+
| fork     | 1.99   | 13          |
+-----+-----+-----+
| shoelace | 0.5    | 14          |
+-----+-----+-----+
| hammer   | 17.49  | 555         |
+-----+-----+-----+
| door     | 159.99 | 66          |
+-----+-----+-----+
```

2.1.3 2.1.3 Query the orders Table

```
In [3]: SELECT
        order_id,
        customer,
        date
FROM
    orders
;
```

```
Out [3]: +-----+-----+-----+
| order_id | customer | date       |
+-----+-----+-----+
| 1        | lee      | 2018-12-23 |
+-----+-----+-----+
| 2        | smith    | 2020-03-12 |
+-----+-----+-----+
| 3        | jones    | 2019-05-01 |
+-----+-----+-----+
```

4	yang	2020-09-12
5	guerra	2020-08-03
6	diaz	2020-11-28
7	riley	2019-05-18
8	chan	2018-10-03

2.1.4 2.1.3 Query using SELECT *

```
In [4]: SELECT
        *
        FROM
        orders
        ;
```

```
Out [4]:
```

order_id	customer	date	product_id	quantity
1	lee	2018-12-23	44	1
2	smith	2020-03-12	33	1
3	jones	2019-05-01	212	2
4	yang	2020-09-12	12	1
5	guerra	2020-08-03	12	2
6	diaz	2020-11-28	123	2
7	riley	2019-05-18	232	4
8	chan	2018-10-03	28	1

2.1.5 2.1.4 Query Without Formatting

- Capitalization, indentation, and other formatting often doesn't matter in SQL
- But you should use good standards, so others can read your code

```
In [5]: select * from orders;
```

```
Out [5]:
```

order_id	customer	date	product_id	quantity
----------	----------	------	------------	----------

1	lee	2018-12-23	44	1
2	smith	2020-03-12	33	1
3	jones	2019-05-01	212	2
4	yang	2020-09-12	12	1
5	guerra	2020-08-03	12	2
6	diaz	2020-11-28	123	2
7	riley	2019-05-18	232	4
8	chan	2018-10-03	28	1

2.2 3. The WHERE Clause

- We can use WHERE to set filtering criteria
- Similar to the `filter()` function *dplyr* in R

2.3 3.1 Using WHERE in Query

```
In [6]: SELECT
        order_id,
        customer,
        date,
        quantity
FROM
    orders
WHERE
    quantity > 1
;
```

```
Out [6]: +-----+-----+-----+-----+
| order_id | customer | date       | quantity |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 3        | jones    | 2019-05-01 | 2        |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 5        | guerra   | 2020-08-03 | 2        |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 6        | diaz     | 2020-11-28 | 2        |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 7        | riley    | 2019-05-18 | 4        |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
```

2.3.1 3.1.1 More Conditions in WHERE Clause

- We can actually specify quite a bit of criteria for rows we want to include using our WHERE
 - This includes testing for a columns equality to some value (or set of values)

```
In [7]: SELECT
        order_id,
        customer,
        date,
        quantity
FROM
    orders
WHERE
    quantity > 1
    OR customer = 'lee'
;
```

```
Out [7]: +-----+-----+-----+-----+
| order_id | customer | date       | quantity |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 1        | lee      | 2018-12-23 | 1        |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 3        | jones    | 2019-05-01 | 2        |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 5        | guerra   | 2020-08-03 | 2        |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 6        | diaz     | 2020-11-28 | 2        |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 7        | riley    | 2019-05-18 | 4        |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
```