Using aggregation functions over windows

TIME SERIES ANALYSIS IN SQL SERVER



Kevin Feasel CTO, Envizage



Ranking functions

ROW_NUMBER()

Unique, ascending integer value starting from 1.

RANK()

Ascending integer value starting from 1. Can have ties. Can skip numbers.

DENSE_RANK()

Ascending integer value starting from 1. Can have ties. Will not skip numbers.

All ranking functions require an 'OVER()' clause with an 'ORDER BY' clause inside it.

RunsScored 8 6 6 3

Calculating row numbers

```
SELECT
    s.RunsScored,
    ROW_NUMBER() OVER (
        ORDER BY s.RunsScored DESC
    ) AS rn
FROM dbo.Scores s
ORDER BY
    s.RunsScored DESC;
```

RunsScored	rn	
8	1	
7	2	
7	3	
6	4	
6	5	
3	6	

Calculating ranks and dense ranks

```
SELECT
    s.RunsScored,
    RANK() OVER (
      ORDER BY s.RunsScored DESC
    ) AS rk,
    DENSE_RANK() OVER (
      ORDER BY s.RunsScored DESC
    ) AS dr
FROM dbo.Scores s
ORDER BY
    s.RunsScored DESC;
```

RunsScored	rk	dr
8	1	1
7	2	2
7	2	2
6	4	3
6	4	3
3	6	4

Partitions

In addition to an 'ORDER BY' clause, the 'OVER()' clause in a window function can accept a 'PARTITION BY' clause which splits up the window by some column or a set of columns.

```
SELECT
    s.Team,
    s.RunsScored,
    ROW_NUMBER() OVER (
      PARTITION BY s. Team
      ORDER BY s.RunsScored DESC
    ) AS rn
FROM dbo.Scores s
ORDER BY
    s.RunsScored DESC;
```

Team	RunsScored	rn	
AZ	8	1	
AZ	6	2	
AZ	3	3	
FLA	7	1	
FLA	7	2	
FLA	6	3	

Aggregate functions

```
SELECT
    s.Team,
    s.RunsScored,
    MAX(s.RunsScored) OVER (
      PARTITION BY s.Team
    ) AS MaxRuns
FROM dbo.Scores s
ORDER BY
    s.RunsScored DESC;
```

Team	RunsScored	MaxRuns
AZ	8	8
AZ	6	8
AZ	3	8
FLA	7	7
FLA	7	7
FLA	6	7

Aggregations with empty windows

```
SELECT
    s.Team,
    s.RunsScored,
    MAX(s.RunsScored) OVER() AS MaxRuns
FROM dbo.Scores s
ORDER BY
    s.RunsScored DESC;
```

Team	RunsScored	MaxRuns
AZ	8	8
AZ	6	8
AZ	3	8
FLA	7	8
FLA	7	8
FLA	6	8

Let's practice!

TIME SERIES ANALYSIS IN SQL SERVER



Calculating running totals and moving averages

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Calculating running totals

Team	Game	RunsScored
AZ	1	8
AZ	2	6
AZ	3	3
FLA	1	7
FLA	2	7
FLA	3	6

Team	Game	RunsScored	TotalRuns
AZ	1	8	8
AZ	2	6	14
AZ	3	3	17
FLA	1	7	7
FLA	2	7	14
FLA	3	6	20

Running totals

```
SELECT
    s.Team,
    s.Game,
    s.RunsScored,
    SUM(s.RunsScored) OVER (
        PARTITION BY s. Team
        ORDER BY s.Game ASC
        RANGE BETWEEN
              UNBOUNDED PRECEDING
              AND CURRENT ROW
    ) AS TotalRuns
FROM #Scores s;
```

- Team , Game , RunsScored columns
- SUM(s.RunsScored)
- OVER() We will get both the detail records and the aggregated running total in the same query.
- PARTITION BY s.Team
- ORDER BY s.Game ASC
- RANGE BETWEEN
- UNBOUNDED PRECEDING How far back do we want to look?
- AND CURRENT ROW

RANGE and **ROWS**

RANGE

- Specify a range of results
- "Duplicates" processed all at once
- Only supports UNBOUNDED and CURRENT ROW

ROWS

- Specify number of rows to include
- "Duplicates" processed a row at a time
- Supports UNBOUNDED, CURRENT ROW, and number of rows

Calculating moving averages

```
SELECT
    s.Team,
    s.Game,
    s.RunsScored,
    AVG(s.RunsScored) OVER (
        PARTITION BY s.Team
        ORDER BY s.Game ASC
        ROWS BETWEEN 1 PRECEDING
            AND CURRENT ROW
    ) AS AvgRuns
FROM #Scores s;
```

Team	Game	RunsScored	AvgRuns
AZ	1	8	8
AZ	2	6	7
AZ	3	3	4
FLA	1	7	7
FLA	2	7	7
FLA	3	6	6

Let's practice!

TIME SERIES ANALYSIS IN SQL SERVER



Working with LAG() and LEAD()

TIME SERIES ANALYSIS IN SQL SERVER



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The LAG() window function

```
SELECT
```

```
dsr.CustomerID,
  dsr.MonthStartDate,
  LAG(dsr.NumberOfVisits) OVER (PARTITION BY dsr.CustomerID ORDER BY dsr.MonthStartDate) AS Prior,
  dsr.NumberOfVisits
FROM dbo.DaySpaRollup dsr;
```

CustomerID	MonthStartDate	Prior	NumberOfVisits
1	2018-12-01	NULL	49
1	2019-01-01	49	117
1	2019-02-01	117	104

The LEAD() window function

```
SELECT
```

```
dsr.CustomerID,
  dsr.MonthStartDate,
  dsr.NumberOfVisits,
  LEAD(dsr.NumberOfVisits) OVER (PARTITION BY dsr.CustomerID ORDER BY dsr.MonthStartDate) AS Next
FROM dbo.DaySpaRollup dsr;
```

CustomerID	MonthStartDate	NumberOfVisits	Next
1	2018-12-01	49	117
1	2019-01-01	117	104
1	2019-02-01	104	108

Specifying number of rows back

```
SELECT

dsr.CustomerID,

dsr.MonthStartDate,

LAG(dsr.NumberOfVisits, 2) OVER (PARTITION BY dsr.CustomerID ORDER BY dsr.MonthStartDate) AS Prior

LAG(dsr.NumberOfVisits, 1) OVER (PARTITION BY dsr.CustomerID ORDER BY dsr.MonthStartDate) AS Prior

dsr.NumberOfVisits

FROM dbo.DaySpaRollup dsr;
```

CustomerID	MonthStartDate	Prior2	Prior	NumberOfVisits
1	2018-12-01	NULL	NULL	49
1	2019-01-01	NULL	49	117
1	2019-02-01	49	117	104

```
SELECT

Date,

LAG(Val, 1) AS PriorVal,

Val

FROM t;
```

```
SELECT
Date,
LAG(Val, 1) AS PriorVal,
Val
FROM t
WHERE
t.Date > '2019-01-02';
```

Date	PriorVal	Val
2019-01-01	NULL	3
2019-01-02	3	6
2019-01-03	6	4
Date	PriorVal	Val
2019-01-03	NULL	4

Windows and filters and CTEs

```
WITH records AS (
  SELECT
      Date,
      LAG(Val, 1) AS PriorVal,
      Val
  FROM t
SELECT
    r.Date,
    r.PriorVal,
    r.Val
FROM records r
WHERE
    r.Date > '2019-01-02';
```

Date	PriorVal	Val	
2019-01-03	6	4	

Let's practice!

TIME SERIES ANALYSIS IN SQL SERVER



Finding maximum levels of overlap

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Start with some data

StartTime	EndTime	ProductsOrdered
2019-07-08 14:35:00	2019-07-08 16:01:00	13
2019-07-08 15:35:00	2019-07-08 17:01:00	13
2019-07-08 16:35:00	2019-07-08 18:01:00	17
2019-07-08 17:35:00	2019-07-08 19:01:00	15
2019-07-08 17:55:00	2019-07-08 17:57:00	1
2019-07-08 20:35:00	2019-07-08 22:01:00	13



Reasoning through the problem

StartTime	EndTime	ProductsOrdered
2019-07-08 14:35:00	2019-07-08 16:01:00	13
2019-07-08 15:35:00	2019-07-08 17:01:00	13
2019-07-08 16:35:00	2019-07-08 18:01:00	17
2019-07-08 17:35:00	2019-07-08 19:01:00	15
2019-07-08 17:55:00	2019-07-08 17:57:00	1
2019-07-08 20:35:00	2019-07-08 22:01:00	13



Reasoning through the problem

StartTime	EndTime	ProductsOrdered
2019-07-08 14:35:00	2019-07-08 16:01:00	13
2019-07-08 15:35:00	2019-07-08 17:01:00	13
2019-07-08 16:35:00	2019-07-08 18:01:00	17
2019-07-08 17:35:00	2019-07-08 19:01:00	15
2019-07-08 17:55:00	2019-07-08 17:57:00	1
2019-07-08 20:35:00	2019-07-08 22:01:00	13



CTE StartStopPoints:

We would like to make use of the data to determine how many staff we should have in our stores. The way we determine this is to count the maximum number of people in the store at any one time.

```
SELECT
     o.StartTime AS TimeUTC,
     1 AS EntryCount,
     ROW_NUMBER() OVER (ORDER BY o.StartTime) AS StartOrdinal
                     Entry count helps us keep track of the number of people in the store at a given time
FROM #Orders o
                    and decrements whenever a person leaves.
                    StartOrdinal gives us the order of entry, so it will be NULL for any exit.
UNION ALL
SELECT
     o.EndTime AS TimeUTC,
     -1 AS EntryCount,
     NULL AS StartOrdinal
FROM #Orders o
```

It represents the starting and stopping points for each customer visit.

TimeUTC	EntryCount	StartOrdinal
14:35:00	1	1
15:35:00	1	2
16:35:00	1	3
17:35:00	1	4
17:55:00	1	5
20:35:00	1	6

TimeUTC	EntryCount	StartOrdinal
16:01:00	-1	NULL
17:01:00	-1	NULL
18:01:00	-1	NULL
19:01:00	-1	NULL
17:57:00	-1	NULL
22:01:00	-1	NULL

CTE StartStopOrder:

```
SELECT
    s.TimeUTC,
    s.EntryCount,
    s.StartOrdinal,
    ROW_NUMBER() OVER (ORDER BY TimeUTC, StartOrdinal) AS StartOrEndOrdinal
FROM StartStopPoints s
```

TimeUTC	EC	SO	StartEndOrdinal
14:35:00	1	1	1
15:35:00	1	2	2
16:01:00	-1	NULL	3
16:35:00	1	3	4
17:01:00	-1	NULL	5
17:35:00	1	4	6

TimeUTC	EC	SO	StartEndOrdinal
17:55:00	1	5	7
17:57:00	-1	NULL	8
18:01:00	-1	NULL	9
19:01:00	-1	NULL	10
20:35:00	1	6	11
22:01:00	-1	NULL	12

If we see positive entry counts start to outnumber negative entry counts, we have more people in the store.

TimeUTC	EC	SO	StartEndOrdinal
14:35:00	1	1	1
15:35:00	1	2	2
16:01:00	-1	NULL	3
16:35:00	1	3	4
17:01:00	-1	NULL	5
17:35:00	1	4	6

TimeUTC	EC	SO	StartEndOrdinal
17:55:00	1	5	7
17:57:00	-1	NULL	8
18:01:00	-1	NULL	9
19:01:00	-1	NULL	10
20:35:00	1	6	11
22:01:00	-1	NULL	12

TimeUTC	StartOrdinal	StartEndOrdinal	Calc	Result
14:35:00	1	1	(2*1) - 1	1
15:35:00	2	2	(2*2) - 2	2
16:01:00	NULL	3	NULL	NULL
16:35:00	3	4	(2*3) - 4	2
17:01:00	NULL	5	NULL	NULL
17:35:00	4	6	(2*4) - 6	2

```
SELECT
   MAX(2 * s.StartOrdinal - s.StartOrEndOrdinal) AS MaxConcurrentVisitors
FROM StartStopOrder s
WHERE s.EntryCount = 1;
```

MaxConcurrentVisitors

3



Let's practice!

TIME SERIES ANALYSIS IN SQL SERVER



Wrapping up

TIME SERIES ANALYSIS IN SQL SERVER



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Working with dates

- Combine DATEADD() and DATEDIFF() to round dates and times.
- Format with CAST() and CONVERT() when performance matters. FORMAT() is useful but slow.
- Calendar tables are a valuable asset.

Building dates

- CAST(), CONVERT(), and PARSE() can all turn strings into dates.
- Use TRY_CAST(), TRY_CONVERT(), and TRY_PARSE() for safe date conversions.
- SWITCHOFFSET() and TODATETIMEOFFSET() are useful functions for working with offsets.

Time-based aggregates

- Aggregate functions include COUNT(), MIN(), MAX(), and SUM().
- Statistical aggregate functions include AVG(), STDEV(), VAR(), STDEVP(), and VARP().
- ROLLUP, CUBE, and GROUPING SETS allow you to refine your aggregations.

Common (and uncommon) time series problems

- Windows work over ranking functions (ROW_NUMBER(), RANK(), DENSE_RANK(), and NTILE()) as well as aggregate functions (including statistical functions).
- Running totals are a use of SUM() over a window.
- Moving averages are a use of AVG() over a window.
- LAG() and LEAD() let us peek backward and forward in time.
- Pivot and transform date data to calculate concurrency.

Grazie!

TIME SERIES ANALYSIS IN SQL SERVER

