

# Database Theory and Applications for Biomedical Research and Practice

BMIN 502 / EPID 635  
Week 10: More database implementation

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## Agenda for today

- Joins, revisited
- Complex queries
- The Entity-Attribute-Value model

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## Joins, revisited

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## Relationships between tables

- **Join**
  - Association between a field in one table and its counterpart in another table
- **View (or Dynaset)**
  - Sets (virtual tables) created dynamically as the result of joining two or more tables

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## Types of joins

- **Equijoin (Inner join)**
  - Records are combined and added to dynaset only when values are equal for the join fields
- **Left outer join**
  - Records from “left-hand” table are added to dynaset even if none in “right-hand” table match
- **Right outer join**
  - Records from “right-hand” table are added to dynaset even if none in “left-hand” table match

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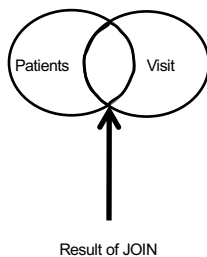
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## INNER JOIN (or JOIN)



```
SELECT Patients.ID, Visit.VISITDATE  
FROM Patients  
JOIN Visit on Patients.ID = Visit.ID
```

| Patients |          | Visit |           |
|----------|----------|-------|-----------|
| ID       | NAME     | ID    | VISITDATE |
| 1        | Smith    | 1     | 1/1/95    |
| 1        | Smith    | 1     | 1/2/95    |
| 1        | Smith    | 1     | 1/7/95    |
| 2        | Jones    | 2     | 12/14/94  |
| 2        | Jones    | 2     | 12/22/94  |
| 3        | Williams | 2     | 1/8/95    |
| 2        | Jones    | 2     | 1/9/95    |
| 4        | Peterson | 4     | 3/14/95   |
|          |          | 5     | 4/1/95    |

| Dynaset |          |           |
|---------|----------|-----------|
| ID      | NAME     | VISITDATE |
| 1       | Smith    | 1/1/95    |
| 1       | Smith    | 1/2/95    |
| 1       | Smith    | 1/7/95    |
| 2       | Jones    | 12/14/94  |
| 2       | Jones    | 12/22/94  |
| 2       | Jones    | 1/8/95    |
| 2       | Jones    | 1/9/95    |
| 4       | Peterson | 3/14/95   |

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Patients

Visit

Result of LEFT JOIN

| Patients |          |
|----------|----------|
| ID       | NAME     |
| 1        | Smith    |
| 2        | Jones    |
| 3        | Williams |
| 4        | Peterson |

| Visit |           |
|-------|-----------|
| ID    | VISITDATE |
| 1     | 1/1/95    |
| 1     | 1/2/95    |
| 1     | 1/7/95    |
| 2     | 12/14/94  |
| 2     | 12/22/94  |
| 2     | 1/8/95    |
| 2     | 1/9/95    |
| 4     | 3/14/95   |
| 5     | 4/1/95    |

| Dynaset |          |           |
|---------|----------|-----------|
| ID      | NAME     | VISITDATE |
| 1       | Smith    | 1/1/95    |
| 1       | Smith    | 1/2/95    |
| 1       | Smith    | 1/7/95    |
| 2       | Jones    | 12/14/94  |
| 2       | Jones    | 12/22/94  |
| 2       | Jones    | 1/8/95    |
| 2       | Jones    | 1/9/95    |
| 3       | Williams |           |
| 4       | Peterson | 3/14/95   |

SELECT Patients.ID, Visit.VISITDATE  
FROM Patients  
LEFT JOIN Visit on Patients.ID = Visit.ID

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Patients

Visit

Result of RIGHT JOIN

| Patients |          |
|----------|----------|
| ID       | NAME     |
| 1        | Smith    |
| 2        | Jones    |
| 3        | Williams |
| 4        | Peterson |

| Visit |           |
|-------|-----------|
| ID    | VISITDATE |
| 1     | 1/1/95    |
| 1     | 1/2/95    |
| 1     | 1/7/95    |
| 2     | 12/14/94  |
| 2     | 12/22/94  |
| 2     | 1/8/95    |
| 2     | 1/9/95    |
| 4     | 3/14/95   |
| 5     | 4/1/95    |

| Dynaset |          |           |
|---------|----------|-----------|
| ID      | NAME     | VISITDATE |
| 1       | Smith    | 1/1/95    |
| 1       | Smith    | 1/2/95    |
| 1       | Smith    | 1/7/95    |
| 2       | Jones    | 12/14/94  |
| 2       | Jones    | 12/22/94  |
| 2       | Jones    | 1/8/95    |
| 2       | Jones    | 1/9/95    |
| 4       | Williams | 3/14/95   |
| 5       |          | 4/1/95    |

SELECT Patients.ID, Visit.VISITDATE  
FROM Patients  
RIGHT JOIN Visit on Patients.ID = Visit.ID

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Complex queries

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## Complex queries

- Most commonly used to retrieve data from two or more tables
- Typically accomplished with JOINS
  - Left join of two tables:

```
SELECT Patients.ID, Admission.admitdate  
FROM Patients  
LEFT JOIN Admission on Patients.ID = Admission.ID
```

- Left join of three tables:

```
SELECT Patients.ID, Admission.admitdate, Radiology.normal  
FROM Patients  
LEFT JOIN Admission on Patients.ID = Admission.ID  
LEFT JOIN Radiology on Admission.ID = Radiology.ID
```

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Let's try it!

Assignment 8: Exercise 1

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## Subqueries

- Also called nested queries
- You can nest any number of queries
- The inner-most query is executed first, then in succession each in turn to the outer-most
- Queries can be nested inside a SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE, or DELETE statement or inside another subquery.
- A subquery is usually added within the WHERE Clause of another SQL SELECT statement

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## Example of a nested query

| Patients   |            |     |
|------------|------------|-----|
| patient_ID | dob        | sex |
| 1          | 10/1/1998  | 1   |
| 2          | 4/16/2004  | 2   |
| 3          | 3/7/1995   | 1   |
| 4          | 9/1/2000   | 1   |
| 5          | 11/15/1993 | 2   |

| Admissions |            |          |
|------------|------------|----------|
| patient_ID | adm_date   | hospital |
| 1          | 10/1/1998  | HUP      |
| 2          | 4/16/2004  | PUPMC    |
| 3          | 3/7/1995   | PAH      |
| 3          | 9/1/2000   | PAH      |
| 4          | 11/15/1993 | HUP      |
| 5          | 11/15/1993 | PAH      |
| 5          | 8/1/1999   | HUP      |
| 5          | 3/15/2003  | PAH      |

SELECT patient\_ID, dob FROM Patients WHERE  
patientID=(SELECT patientID FROM Admissions WHERE year(adm\_date) >= 2000);



| Patients   |            |
|------------|------------|
| patient_ID | dob        |
| 2          | 4/16/2004  |
| 3          | 3/7/1995   |
| 5          | 11/15/1993 |

Let's try it!

Assignment 8: Exercise 2

## Functions

NB: x=a literal or a field

- Numeric
  - Performs arithmetic operations on a single value, but not across rows in a table
  - Example: ROUND(x,d) rounds x to d decimal places
- String
  - Example: LENGTH(x) returns the length of x
- Date/Time
  - Example: DATE(x1, x2, INTERVAL y) returns the difference between the later date (x1) and the more recent (x2), in the units expressed in y

Let's try it!

Assignment 8: Exercise 3

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## Aggregate Functions

Perform across records

- Examples:
  - COUNT()
  - AVG()
  - STD()
  - MAX()
  - MIN()
  - SUM()
- Used with SELECT
  - SELECT COUNT(\*) FROM Patients
    - Returns number of records in the Patient table

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Let's try it!

Assignment 8: Exercise 4

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## The Entity-Attribute-Value model

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### “Typical” relational tables

| Patients   |            |     |
|------------|------------|-----|
| patient_ID | dob        | sex |
| 1          | 10/1/1998  | 1   |
| 2          | 4/16/2004  | 2   |
| 3          | 3/7/1995   | 1   |
| 4          | 9/1/2000   | 1   |
| 5          | 11/15/1993 | 2   |

| Admissions |            |          |
|------------|------------|----------|
| patient_ID | adm_date   | hospital |
| 1          | 10/1/1998  | HUP      |
| 2          | 4/16/2004  | PUPMC    |
| 3          | 3/7/1995   | PAH      |
| 3          | 9/1/2000   | PAH      |
| 4          | 11/15/1993 | HUP      |
| 5          | 11/15/1993 | PAH      |
| 5          | 8/1/1999   | HUP      |
| 5          | 3/15/2003  | PAH      |

- Tables = Entities
- Rows represent an instance of an entity
- Columns represent specific attributes

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### However, sometimes this is a problem

- When you don't know how many columns to fix in a table
- When the data are likely to be sparse
- When you don't know how to model a relational database 😊

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## The Entity-Attribute-Value model

- Minimum of three columns in a single table!
  - Entity (table)
  - Attribute (name of the data element)
  - Value (the value of the attribute)
- Thus:

| Entity  | Attribute  | Value     |
|---------|------------|-----------|
| Patient | Gender     | Female    |
| Patient | BirthDate  | 3/10/1990 |
| Lab     | Hemoglobin | 12.1      |
| Lab     | Hematocrit | 35.7      |
| Lab     | Glucose    | 92        |
| Lab     | Potassium  | 4.3       |

## Comparing traditional relational and EAV models

| Relational | Patients   |            |     | Admissions |            |          |
|------------|------------|------------|-----|------------|------------|----------|
|            | patient_ID | dob        | sex | patient_ID | adm_date   | hospital |
|            | 1          | 10/1/1998  | 1   | 1          | 10/1/1998  | HUP      |
|            | 2          | 4/16/2004  | 2   | 2          | 4/16/2004  | PUPMC    |
|            | 3          | 3/7/1995   | 1   | 3          | 3/7/1995   | PAH      |
|            | 4          | 9/1/2000   | 1   | 3          | 9/1/2000   | PAH      |
|            | 5          | 11/15/1993 | 2   | 4          | 11/15/1993 | HUP      |
|            |            |            |     | 5          | 11/15/1993 | PAH      |
|            |            |            |     | 5          | 8/1/1999   | HUP      |
|            |            |            |     | 5          | 3/15/2003  | PAH      |

| EAV | Entity     | Attribute | Value     |
|-----|------------|-----------|-----------|
|     | Patient    | patientID | 1         |
|     | Patient    | dob       | 10/1/1998 |
|     | Patient    | sex       | 1         |
|     | Admissions | adm_date  | 10/1/1998 |
|     | Admissions | hospital  | HUP       |
|     | Admissions | adm_date  | 4/16/2004 |
|     | Admissions | hospital  | PUPMC     |
|     | ...        | ...       | ...       |

## An example of a table in EAV format

| Patient ID | Age (years) | Gender | Event Type      | Event Name    | Event Code    | Start Date | End Date | Relevant Data                          |
|------------|-------------|--------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|------------|----------|--|
| 1031926    | 33          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | Platelet      | Platelet      | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: 251 THO/L.                     |
| 1031926    | 33          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | rrRBCPOP      | rrRBCPOP      | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: Unit of Measure Not Available. |
| 1031926    | 33          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | % Neutro Auto | % Neutro Auto | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: 85 %.                          |
| 1031926    | 33          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | MCVC          | MCVC          | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: 34 µL.                         |
| 1031926    | 33          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | AMC           | AMC           | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: 0 THO/L.                       |
| 1031926    | 33          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | Chloride      | Chloride      | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: 100 mmol/L.                    |
| 1031926    | 33          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | Alk Phos      | Alk Phos      | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: 47 U/L.                        |
| 1031926    | 33          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | % Mono Auto   | % Mono Auto   | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: 6 %.                           |
| 1031926    | 33          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | ALT           | ALT           | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: 13 U/L.                        |

If you wanted to obtain mean platelet counts across all patients,  
How would you do it?



## Here are the issues for this query

- There is a record for each component of a lab test
- You would need many joins to retrieve each platelet instance, because they are spread out in separate rows
- The values have to be parsed from the units of measurement

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## Steps to success: 1

1. Import the table as-is into platelets\_EAV

2. Create a new table:

```
CREATE TABLE platelets_new (  
  patient_ID INT NOT NULL,  
  start_date DATETIME,  
  event_name VARCHAR(30),  
  platelet_count FLOAT,  
  PRIMARY KEY (patient_ID, lab_date));
```

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## Steps to success: 2

3. Convert and transfer the data:

```
INSERT INTO platelets_new  
(patient_ID, start_date, event_name, platelet_count)  
SELECT patient_ID,  
  start_date,  
  event_name,  
  CASE WHEN event_name='Platelet' THEN  
    CAST(relevant_data) AS  
    FLOAT( SUBSTR(relevant_data,8,LOCATE(relevant_data,'',9)  
    IN relevant_data))  
FROM platelets_EAV
```

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## How did SUBSTR and LOCATE work?

| Patient ID | Age (years) | Gender | Event Type      | Event Name    | Event Code    | Start Date | End Date | Relevant Data                         |
|------------|-------------|--------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|------------|----------|---------------------------------------|
| 1031926    | 31          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | Platelet      | Platelet      | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: 251 THO/uL                    |
| 1031926    | 31          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | rrRBCPOP      | rrRBCPOP      | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: Unit of Measure Not Available |
| 1031926    | 31          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | % Neutro Auto | % Neutro Auto | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: 65 %                          |
| 1031926    | 31          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | MCHC          | MCHC          | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: 34 g/dL                       |
| 1031926    | 31          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | AMC           | AMC           | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: 0 THO/uL                      |
| 1031926    | 31          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | Chloride      | Chloride      | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: 100 mmol/L                    |
| 1031926    | 31          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | Alk Phos      | Alk Phos      | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: 47 U/L                        |
| 1031926    | 31          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | % Mono Auto   | % Mono Auto   | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: 6 %                           |
| 1031926    | 31          | FEMALE | Diagnostic Test | hct           | hct           | 3/19/2012  |          | Result: 33 U/L                        |

Result: 251 THO/uL  
123456789012345678

1. SUBSTR(relevant\_data,9,LOCATE(relevant\_data,' ',9))  
⇒ 251 THO/uL
2. SUBSTR(relevant\_data,9,LOCATE(relevant\_data,' ',9))  
⇒ 251

## For Assignment 9

1. Get the PennOmics data in EAV format .csv file from the Files folder on Canvas
2. The tasks for Assignment 9 are on Canvas
3. Try completing the assignment- it's not due until April 9, but we will discuss it in class on March 26 and April 2