Searching a Database

James Condron

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Abstract

In this we shall learn how to connect to our database, search for data and figure out what does what.

0.1 Connecting

We use the mysql command; we can give it a username, a password and a database name as per:

```
mysql -uUSERNAME -pPASSWORD DATABASE
```

By specifying '-p' without giving a password asks us for our password. So:

```
mysql -ueli -p our_game_company
```

Will connect you to our database and ask for your password.

At this point use the command

```
show tables
```

To see what tables we have in our database. You can see what each of these tables looks like with:

```
describe table_name
```

0.2 Searching

1. How many scoring games have been played? (Hint: use `select count(*)`)

2. How many people have signed up with `hotmail.com` accounts?

3. Which username is alphabetically first in our database?

4. How many users do we have from Albania?

0.3 Extra Credit

1. Why would we use `count` to count rows?

2. How does doing a `select` on a single column compare to doing a `select *` ?