

# Writing queries in BigQuery

INTRODUCTION TO BIGQUERY



**Matt Forrest**  
Field CTO

# Writing simple queries

A simple query in BigQuery

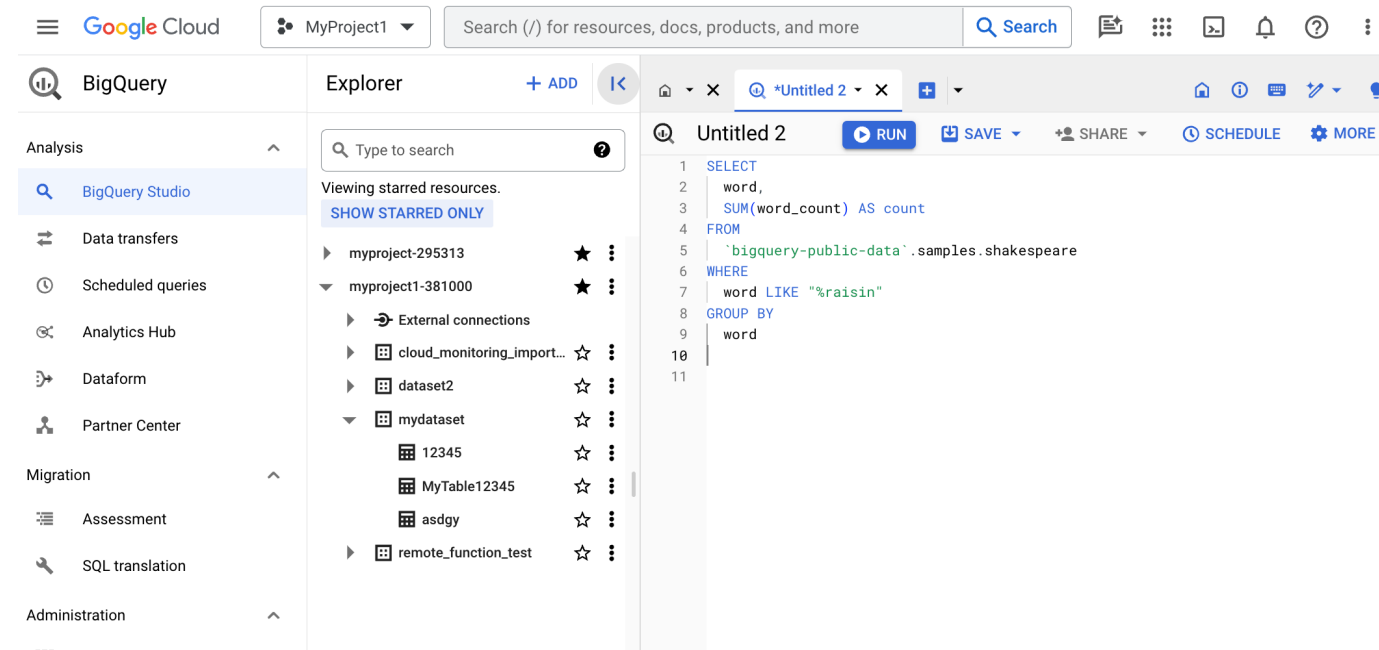
```
-- Note the table name structure

SELECT
  *
FROM
  `project.ecommerce.order_items`
```

# Running queries in BigQuery

We can run queries in BigQuery via:

- BigQuery Studio
- Client libraries (e.g., Python)
- Google Cloud command line tool
- Pandas



# Using correct table names

```
-- Using the full table name structure
```

```
SELECT
```

```
    *
```

```
FROM
```

```
    `dataset.ecommerce.order_items`
```

```
/* Using the shorthand  
table name structure */
```

```
SELECT
```

```
    *
```

```
FROM
```

```
    ecommerce.order_items
```

# GoogleSQL

Legacy SQL	GoogleSQL	Notes
BOOL	BOOL	
INTEGER	INT64	
FLOAT	FLOAT64	
STRING	STRING	
BYTES	BYTES	
RECORD	STRUCT	

# Our datasets: Olist E-Commerce

- **Orders:** Order number and order item information
- **Order details:** Customer id, order and shipping dates
- **Payments:** Payment type, split payments, amounts
- **Products:** Product category, description, dimensions



<sup>1</sup> <https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/olistbr/brazilian-ecommerce>

# Products

- `product_id` - unique product ID
- `product_photos_qty` - number of product photos
- `product_weight_g` - weight of the product
- `product_category_name_english` - product category name



# Orders

- `order_id` - Order unique ID
- `order_items` - `STRUCT` containing information about the order items
  - `order_item_id` - Item number in the order
  - `product_id` - Unique product ID
  - `seller_id` - Unique seller ID
  - `price` - Price of the order item





# Order details

- `order_id` - unique order ID
- `customer_id` - unique customer ID
- `order_status` - current order status
- `order_purchase_timestamp` - Timestamp when order was purchased
- `order_approved_at` - Timestamp when order was approved
- `order_delivered_carrier_date` - Timestamp when order was accepted by the carrier
- `order_delivered_customer_date` - Timestamp when order delivered
- `order_estimated_delivery_date` - Timestamp of estimated delivery date

# Payments

- `order_id` - unique order ID
- `payment_type` - type of payment
- `payment_sequential` - payment number
- `payment_installments` - number of payment installments
- `payment_value` - value of that payment



# Review of aggregations and joins

```
-- Count of orders per customers
```

```
SELECT
```

```
  d.customer_id,  
  COUNT(o.order_id)
```

```
FROM
```

```
  dataset.order_details d
```

```
JOIN
```

```
  dataset.orders o
```

```
USING (order_id)
```

```
GROUP BY
```

```
  d.customer_id
```

Five key components:

1. Aggregate function
2. The left dataset
3. The right dataset
4. Join condition
5. Grouping condition

# Let's practice!

INTRODUCTION TO BIGQUERY

# Data ingestion in BigQuery

INTRODUCTION TO BIGQUERY



**Matt Forrest**  
Field CTO

# Methods of loading data

1. Loading data in the BigQuery Studio
2. Using the `bq` command line tools
3. Using the `LOAD DATA` command in SQL

# Using the BigQuery Studio

Create table ✕

Source

Create table from  
Upload

Select file \* BROWSE ?

File format  
CSV  
JSONL (Newline delimited JSON)  
Avro  
Parquet  
ORC

Dataset

Table \*  
Maximum name size is 1,024 UTF-8 bytes. Unicode letters, marks, numbers, connectors, dashes, and spaces are allowed.

Table type  
Native table

Schema

i

Source file defines the schema.

# Using the BigQuery Studio

## Destination

Project \*

my-project

BROWSE

Dataset \*

my\_dataset

Table \*

my-table

Maximum name size is 1,024 UTF-8 bytes. Unicode letters, marks, numbers, connectors, dashes, and spaces are allowed.

Table type

Native table

▼ ?



# Using the BigQuery Studio

## Schema

☐ Auto detect

☒ Edit as text

1	<div>Field name *</div> <div></div>	<div>Type *</div> <div>STRING</div>	<div>Mode</div> <div>NULLABLE</div>	<div>Max len...</div>	<div>Description</div>	<div></div>
2	<div>+ ADD FIELD</div>					

# Using the bq command line tools

Example using the `bq` command line

```
bq load \  
  dataset.table \  
  gs://mybucket/mydata.csv \  
  --source_format=CSV \  
  --autodetect
```

<sup>1</sup> [https://cloud.google.com/bigquery/docs/bq-command-line-tool#loading\\_data](https://cloud.google.com/bigquery/docs/bq-command-line-tool#loading_data)

# Using LOAD DATA in SQL

An example `LOAD DATA` statement:

```
LOAD DATA INTO dataset.table
FROM FILES(
  uris = ['gs://mybucket/mydata.csv']
  format='CSV',
  skip_leading_rows=1
)
```

# Data ingestion considerations

## Using `LOAD DATA`

1. Cannot use local data.
2. Subject to load data limits.

## Using `bq` and BigQuery Studio

1. Local data can be used, but files must be under 100 MB.
2. Subject to load data limits.

<sup>1</sup> [https://cloud.google.com/bigquery/quotas#load\\_jobs](https://cloud.google.com/bigquery/quotas#load_jobs)

# Let's practice!

INTRODUCTION TO BIGQUERY

# Data/time types in BigQuery

INTRODUCTION TO BIGQUERY



**Matt Forrest**  
Field CTO

# Why date and times matter

1. Easily filter long datasets
2. Extract parts of dates/times
3. Partitioning strategies

# Dates

Example of the DATE data type

```
SELECT
```

```
    DATE(2010, 05, 19) as launch
```

```
/*-----*  
| launch  |  
+-----+  
| 2010-05-19 |  
*-----*/
```



# Timestamps

Example timestamp:

```
SELECT
```

```
    TIMESTAMP("2010-05-19 00:00:00+00") as launch
```

```
/*-----*
| launch                                     |
+-----+
| 2010-05-19 00:00:00 UTC |
*-----*/
```

# Datetime and Time

Examples of time and datetime:

```
SELECT
```

```
  TIME(12, 00, 00) as noon,
```

```
  DATETIME(2019, 05, 19, 00, 00, 00) as launch
```

```
/*-----+-----*
| noon      | launch      |
+-----+-----+
| 12:00:00  | 2019-05-19T00:00:00 |
*-----+-----*/
```

# Date and timestamp parts

## Day

- `DAY` , `DAYOFWEEK` , `DAYOFYEAR` .

## Week

- `WEEK` , `WEEKDAY` , `ISOWEEK` .

## Month/Year

- `MONTH` , `QUARTER` , `YEAR` , `ISOYEAR` .

## Time

- `hour` , `minute` , `second` , `millisecond` , `microsecond` .

<sup>1</sup> [https://cloud.google.com/bigquery/docs/reference/standard-sql/timestamp\\_functions#timestamp\\_trunc](https://cloud.google.com/bigquery/docs/reference/standard-sql/timestamp_functions#timestamp_trunc)

# ADD, SUBTRACT, and DIFF

## Adding five days

```
SELECT
    DATE_ADD(DATE '2010-05-19',
              INTERVAL 5 DAY)
    AS five_days_later;
```

```
/*-----*
| five_days_later |
+-----+
| 2010-05-24      |
*-----*/
```

## Finding the difference

```
SELECT
    DATE_DIFF(DATE '2010-05-24',
              DATE '2010-05-19', DAY)
    AS difference;
```

```
/*-----*
| difference |
+-----+
| 5          |
*-----*/
```

# EXTRACT

## Finding the day of the week

```
SELECT
```

```
  EXTRACT(DAYOFWEEK FROM DATE '2010-05-19')
```

```
    AS day_of_week;
```

```
/*-----*
```

```
| day_of_week |
```

```
+-----+
```

```
| 4           |
```

```
*-----*/
```

# FORMAT

**SELECT**

```
FORMAT_DATE(  
    '%x', DATE '2010-05-19')  
AS with_slashes;
```

```
/*-----*  
| with_slashes |  
+-----+  
| 05/19/10     |  
*-----*/
```

**SELECT**

```
FORMAT_DATE(  
    '%A', DATE '2010-05-19')  
AS dow;
```

```
/*-----*  
| dow          |  
+-----+  
| Wednesday    |  
*-----*/
```

<sup>1</sup> [https://cloud.google.com/bigquery/docs/reference/standard-sql/format-elements#format\\_elements\\_date\\_time](https://cloud.google.com/bigquery/docs/reference/standard-sql/format-elements#format_elements_date_time)

# Current date/timestamp

Finding the current timestamp:

```
SELECT
```

```
  CURRENT_TIMESTAMP();
```

```
/*-----*  
| current_timestamp |  
+-----+  
| 2023-11-13 17:35:25.951432 UTC |  
*-----*/
```

Finding the current date:

```
SELECT
```

```
  CURRENT_DATE();
```

```
/*-----*  
| current_date |  
+-----+  
| 2023-11-13 |  
*-----*/
```

# Cheat sheet

## Data types

- Dates are exact days, timestamps are absolute dates and times

## Date/timestamp parts

- Parts of a date/timestamp (e.g. `MONTH` , or `HOUR` )

## Add and subtract

- Functions to add or subtract date parts (e.g. `DATE_ADD` )

## Difference

- Difference between two dates by date part (e.g. `TIMESTAMP_SUB` )

## Extract and format

- Extract a part of a date using date parts, format a date (e.g. `EXTRACT` and `FORMAT` )

## Current date/timestamp

- Return the current date or timestamp (e.g. `CURRENT_TIMESTAMP` )



# Let's practice!

INTRODUCTION TO BIGQUERY

# Unstructured data

INTRODUCTION TO BIGQUERY



**Matt Forrest**  
Field CTO

# Why unstructured data is important

Example with unstructured data:

```
/*-----+-----*  
| customer_id | emails |  
+-----+-----+  
| 12345       | ['mark@google.com', 'mark@gmail.com'] |  
*-----+-----*/
```

# ARRAYs

## SELECT ARRAY

```
(SELECT 'bigquery' UNION ALL  
SELECT 'analytics' UNION ALL  
SELECT 'sql') AS new_array;
```

```
/*-----*  
| new_array |  
+-----+  
| ['bigquery', 'analytics', 'sql'] |  
*-----*/
```

## SELECT ARRAY

```
(SELECT 'bigquery' UNION ALL  
SELECT 'analytics' UNION ALL  
SELECT 'sql')[1] as result;
```

```
/*-----*  
| result |  
+-----+  
| 'analytics' |  
*-----*/
```

# STRUCTs

## SELECT

STRUCT

<skill string, learning bool>

('big query', true)

as skills;

```
/*-----+-----*  
| skills.skill | learning      |  
+-----+-----+  
| 'big query'  | true          |  
*-----+-----*/
```

## SELECT

STRUCT

<skill string, learning bool>

('big query', true).skill

as key;

```
/*-----+  
| key.          |  
+-----+  
| 'big query'   |  
*-----*/
```

# ARRAY\_LENGTH and ARRAY\_CONCAT

SELECT

```
ARRAY_LENGTH(  
  [  
    'mark@google.com',  
    'mark@gmail.com'  
  ]) as len;
```

```
/*-----*  
| len  |  
+-----+  
| 2    |  
*-----*/
```

SELECT

```
ARRAY_CONCAT(  
  ['one'], ['two']) as new_array;
```

```
/*-----*  
| new_array      |  
+-----+  
| ['one', 'two'] |  
*-----*/
```

# UNNEST

Unnest-ing our email data:

```
SELECT
```

```
    *
```

```
FROM
```

```
    UNNEST(['mark@google.com', 'mark@gmail.com']) as emails;
```

```
/*-----+
| emails      |
+-----+
| 'mark@google.com' |
| 'mark@gmail.com'  |
*-----*/
```

# UNNEST with STRUCTs

Example data - STRUCT inside an ARRAY:

```
[
  {'big query': true},
  {'sql': true}
]
```

**SELECT**

```
my_skills.skill,
my_skills.learned
```

**FROM**

```
UNNEST(skills) as my_skills
```

```
/*-----+-----*/
| skill          | learned        |
+-----+-----+
| 'big query'    | true           |
+-----+-----+
| 'sql'          | true           |
*-----+-----*/
```



# SEARCH

Using search with email data:

```
SELECT
```

```
  SEARCH(['mark@google.com', 'mark@gmail.com'], 'gmail.com') as results;
```

```
/*-----*  
| results |  
+-----+  
| true    |  
*-----*/
```

# Unstructured data cheat sheet

## ARRAYs

- Similar to lists with ordered values
- Values can be accessed via a base 0 index (e.g., `my_array[0]` )

## STRUCTs

- Similar to JSON or a dictionary
- Can have any structure with multiple data types
- Structure must be the same for all rows in that column

## ARRAY\_CONCAT/ARRAY\_LENGTH

- Concatenate two or more arrays and measure an array length

## UNNEST

- Allows you to flatten ARRAY data

## SEARCH

- Search across ARRAYs or STRUCTs to find matching values

# Let's practice!

INTRODUCTION TO BIGQUERY