

# Introduction to SQL

Joins

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## PostgreSQL Setup

```
pw = "your_password"
```

The examples in this presentation are based on the excellent book "A Beginner's Guide to Storytelling with Data" from Anthony DeBarros (2018).

## JOIN example: Departments & Employees

## CREATE the departments table:

```
CREATE TABLE departments (
    dept_id bigserial,
    dept varchar(100),
    city varchar(100),
    CONSTRAINT dept_key PRIMARY KEY (dept_id),
    CONSTRAINT dept_city_unique UNIQUE (dept, city)
);
```

- dept\_id column is the table's primary key
- Table includes a **UNIQUE** constraint
  - Guarantees that values in a column are unique.
  - It requires that each row have a unique pair of values for dept and city
- We add these constraints to avoid duplicate data.

#### PRIMARY KEY

A primary key is a column whose values uniquely identify each row in a table.

This column has certain contstraints: it must have a unique value for each row and it can't have missing values.

## CREATE employees table

```
CREATE TABLE employees (
    emp_id bigserial,
    first_name varchar(100),
    last_name varchar(100),
    salary integer,
    dept_id integer REFERENCES departments (dept_id),
    CONSTRAINT emp_key PRIMARY KEY (emp_id),
    CONSTRAINT emp_dept_unique UNIQUE (emp_id, dept_id)
);
```

### CREATE employees table

- emp\_id is the table's primary key: it uniquely identifies each row in the employees table
- dept\_id (we added it as a constraint when creating the table) is called a foreign key
  - It requires a value entered in a column to already exist in the primary key of the table it **references**.
  - Values in dept\_id in the employees table must exist in dept\_id in the departments table
- UNIQUE: each row must have a **unique** pair of emp\_id and dept\_id

### **FOREIGN KEY**

Unlike a primary key, a **foreign key** column can be empty or it can contain duplicate values

### **INSERT values**

```
INSERT INTO departments (dept, city)
VALUES
('Tax', 'Atlanta'),
('IT', 'Boston');

INSERT INTO employees (first_name, last_name, salary, dept_id)
VALUES
('Nancy', 'Jones', 62500, 1),
('Lee', 'Smith', 59300, 1),
('Soo', 'Nguyen', 83000, 2),
('Janet', 'King', 95000, 2);
```

#### **SELECT values**

```
SELECT * FROM departments;
```

<div id="htmlwidget-bfd044120f6fc72aa1b3" style="width:100%;height:auto;" class="datatables h
<script type="application/json" data-for="htmlwidget-bfd044120f6fc72aa1b3">{"x":{"filter":"none","f

#### **SELECT values**

SELECT \* FROM employees;

<div id="htmlwidget-27abbbd53045262ed4db" style="width:100%;height:auto;" class="datatables
<script type="application/json" data-for="htmlwidget-27abbbd53045262ed4db">{"x":{"filter":"none"

#### JOIN the tables

```
SELECT *
FROM employees JOIN departments
ON employees.dept_id = departments.dept_id;
```

<div id="htmlwidget-2f72ceffe6bb27a7bb32" style="width:100%;height:auto;" class="datatables h-<script type="application/json" data-for="htmlwidget-2f72ceffe6bb27a7bb32">{"x":{"filter":"none","f

## **JOIN Types**

Creating two tables to explore JOIN types

```
CREATE TABLE schools_left (
    id integer CONSTRAINT left_id_key PRIMARY KEY,
    left_school varchar(30)
);

CREATE TABLE schools_right (
    id integer CONSTRAINT right_id_key PRIMARY KEY,
    right_school varchar(30)
);
```

#### Insert values

```
INSERT INTO schools_left (id, left_school) VALUES
(1, 'Oak Street School'),
(2, 'Roosevelt High School'),
(5, 'Washington Middle School'),
(6, 'Jefferson High School');

INSERT INTO schools_right (id, right_school) VALUES
(1, 'Oak Street School'),
(2, 'Roosevelt High School'),
(3, 'Morrison Elementary'),
(4, 'Chase Magnet Academy'),
(6, 'Jefferson High School');
```

## **JOIN**

• we use JOIN or INNER JOIN, when we want to return rows that have a match in the columns we used for the join

SELECT \*
FROM schools\_left JOIN schools\_right
ON schools\_left.id = schools\_right.id;

id	left_school	id3	right_school
1	Oak Street School	1	Oak Street School
2	Roosevelt High School	2	Roosevelt High School
6	Jefferson High School	6	Jefferson High School

## **INNER JOIN**

SELECT \*
FROM schools\_left INNER JOIN schools\_right
ON schools\_left.id = schools\_right.id;

id	left_school	id3	right_school
1	Oak Street School	1	Oak Street School
2	Roosevelt High School	2	Roosevelt High School
6	Jefferson High School	6	Jefferson High School

### **JOIN or INNER JOIN**

- Here the join includes all columns in both tables (\*).
- Then we specify the two tables to join around the JOIN keyword.
- At last we specify which columns we're joining on, here the id columns of both tables.
- Three school IDs match in both tables, JOIN or INNER JOIN returns only the three rows of those IDs that match.
- Values (schools) that exist only in one of the two tables don't appear in the result.
- Notice that the columns from the left table display on the left of the result table.
- Use JOIN or INNER JOIN when you're working with well-structured, well-maintained data sets and only need to find rows that exist in all the tables you're joining.

## INNER JOIN with USING

SELECT \*
FROM schools\_left INNER JOIN schools\_right USING (id);

id	left_school	right_school
1	Oak Street School	Oak Street School
2	Roosevelt High School	Roosevelt High School
6	Jefferson High School	Jefferson High School

### **LEFT JOIN**

• LEFT JOIN returns all rows from the left table and displays blank rows from the right table if no matching values are found in the joined columns.

SELECT \*
FROM schools\_left LEFT JOIN schools\_right
ON schools\_left.id = schools\_right.id;

id	left_school	id3	right_school
1	Oak Street School	1	Oak Street School
2	Roosevelt High School	2	Roosevelt High School
5	Washington Middle School	NA	NA
6	Jefferson High School	6	Jefferson High School

#### RIGHT JOIN & LEFT JOIN

Use either of these join types when you want your query results to contain **all** the rows from one of the tables...

... or when you want to look for **missing values** in one of the tables.

### **RIGHT JOIN**

• RIGHT JOIN returns all rows from the right table and displays blank rows from the left table if no matching values are found in the joined columns

SELECT \*
FROM schools\_left RIGHT JOIN schools\_right
ON schools\_left.id = schools\_right.id;

id	left_school	id3	right_school
1	Oak Street School	1	Oak Street School
2	Roosevelt High School	2	Roosevelt High School
NA	NA	3	Morrison Elementary
NA	NA	4	Chase Magnet Academy
6	Jefferson High School	6	Jefferson High School

## Aliasing (AS)

• Hint: Instead of writing the full table name, you can use table aliasing as a shortcut:

SELECT e.salary, d.city FROM employees AS e INNER JOIN departments AS d ON e.dept\_id = d.dept\_id;

salary	city
62500	Atlanta
59300	Atlanta
83000	Boston
95000	Boston

### **FULL OUTER JOIN**

• Shows **all** rows from both tables in a join, regardless of whether any match:

SELECT \*
FROM schools\_left FULL OUTER JOIN schools\_right
ON schools\_left.id = schools\_right.id;

id	left_school	id3	right_school
1	Oak Street School	1	Oak Street School
2	Roosevelt High School	2 Roosevelt High School	
5	Washington Middle School	NA	NA
6	Jefferson High School	6 Jefferson High School	
NA	NA	4	Chase Magnet Academy
NA	NA	3	Morrison Elementary

### **FULL OUTER JOIN**

SELECT \*
FROM schools\_right FULL OUTER JOIN schools\_left
ON schools\_right.id = schools\_left.id;

id	right_school	id3	left_school
1	Oak Street School	1	Oak Street School
2	Roosevelt High School	2	Roosevelt High School
3	Morrison Elementary	NA	NA
4	Chase Magnet Academy	NA	NA
6	Jefferson High School	6	Jefferson High School
NA	NA	5	Washington Middle School

## FULL OUTER JOIN with USING

SELECT \*
FROM schools\_left FULL OUTER JOIN schools\_right
USING (id);

id	left_school	right_school
1	Oak Street School	Oak Street School
2	Roosevelt High School	Roosevelt High School
5	Washington Middle School	NA
6	Jefferson High School	Jefferson High School
4	NA	Chase Magnet Academy
3	NA	Morrison Elementary

### **CROSS JOIN**

SELECT \*
FROM schools\_left CROSS JOIN schools\_right;

- Lines up each row in the left table with each row in the right table to present all possible combinations of row.
- Because the join doesn't need to find matches between key fields, there is no need to provide the clause using ON or USING.

id	left_school	id3	right_school
1	Oak Street School	1	Oak Street School
1	Oak Street School	2	Roosevelt High School
1	Oak Street School	3	Morrison Elementary
1	Oak Street School	4	Chase Magnet Academy
1	Oak Street School	6	Jefferson High School
2	Roosevelt High School	1	Oak Street School
2	Roosevelt High School	2	Roosevelt High School
2	Roosevelt High School	3	Morrison Elementary
2	Roosevelt High School	4	Chase Magnet Academy
2	Roosevelt High School	6	Jefferson High School
5	Washington Middle School	1	Oak Street School
5	Washington Middle School	2	Roosevelt High School
5	Washington Middle School	3	Morrison Elementary
5	Washington Middle School	4	Chase Magnet Academy
5	Washington Middle School	6	Jefferson High School
6	Jefferson High School	1	Oak Street School
6	Jefferson High School	2	Roosevelt High School

ntroduction to SOL LProf. Dr. Jan Kirenz

## Using NULL to find missing values

SELECT \*
FROM schools\_left LEFT JOIN schools\_right
ON schools\_left.id = schools\_right.id
WHERE schools\_right.id IS NULL;

id	left_school	id3	right_school
5	Washington Middle School	NA	NA

• The result shows only the one row from the left table that didn't have a match on the right side.

## Thank you!

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