Chapter 3: Introduction to SQL

Database System Concepts, 6th Ed.

(Modified by Hyo-Sang Lim)

Chapter 3: Introduction to SQL

- Overview of The SQL Query Language
- Data Definition
- Basic Query Structure
- Additional Basic Operations
- Set Operations
- Null Values
- Aggregate Functions
- Nested Subqueries
- Modification of the Database

History

- IBM Sequel language developed as part of System R project at the IBM San Jose Research Laboratory
- Renamed Structured Query Language (SQL)
- ANSI and ISO standard SQL:
  - SQL-86
  - SQL-89
  - SQL-92
  - SQL:1999 (language name became Y2K compliant!)
  - SQL:2003
- Commercial systems offer most, if not all, SQL-92 features, plus varying feature sets from later standards and special proprietary features.
  - Not all examples here may work on your particular system.

DDL(Data Definition Language)

Domain Types in SQL

- **char(n).** Fixed length character string, with user-specified length *n.*
- **varchar(n).** Variable length character strings, with user-specified maximum length *n.*
- **int.** Integer (a finite subset of the integers that is machine-dependent).
- **smallint.** Small integer (a machine-dependent subset of the integer domain type).
- **numeric(p,d).** Fixed point number, with user-specified precision of *p* digits, with *n* digits to the right of decimal point.
- **real, double precision.** Floating point and double-precision floating point numbers, with machine-dependent precision.
- **float(n).** Floating point number, with user-specified precision of at least *n* digits.
- More are covered in Chapter 4.

Create Table Construct

- An SQL relation is defined using the **create table** command:

  create table *r* (A_1 D_1, A_2 D_2, ..., A_n D_n,
  (integrity-constraint$_1$),
  ...,
  (integrity-constraint$_k$))

  - *r* is the name of the relation
  - each A_i is an attribute name in the schema of relation *r*
  - D_i is the data type of values in the domain of attribute A_i
- Example:

  create table *instructor* (
  ID **char**(5),
  name **varchar**(20) **not null,**
  dept_name **varchar**(20),
  salary **numeric**(8,2))
- **insert into** *instructor* **values** ('10211', 'Smith', 'Biology', 66000);
- **insert into** *instructor* **values** ('10211', null, 'Biology', 66000);

Integrity Constraints in Create Table

- **not null**
- **primary key** (A_1, ..., A_n)
- **foreign key** (A_m, ..., A_n) **references** *r*

Example: Declare *branch_name* as the primary key for *branch*

create table *instructor* (
ID **char**(5),
name **varchar**(20) **not null,**
dept_name **varchar**(20),
salary **numeric**(8,2),
primary key (*ID*),
foreign key *(dept_name)* **references** *department)*

primary key declaration on an attribute automatically ensures **not null**

And a Few More Relation Definitions

- **create table** *student* (
  ID **varchar**(5) **primary key**,
  name **varchar**(20) not null,
  dept_name **varchar**(20),
  tot_cred **numeric**(3,0),
  foreign key *(dept_name*) **references** *department)*);

- **create table** *takes* (
  ID **varchar**(5) **primary key**,
  course_id **varchar**(8),
  sec_id **varchar**(8),
  semester **varchar**(6),
  year **numeric**(4,0),
  grade **varchar**(2),
  foreign key (*ID*) **references** *student,*
  foreign key (*course_id, sec_id, semester, year*) **references** *section*);

And more still

- **create table** *course* (
  course_id **varchar**(8) **primary key**,
  title **varchar(**50),
  dept_name **varchar**(20),
  credits **numeric**(2,0),
  foreign key *(dept_name*) **references** *department)*);

Drop and Alter Table Constructs

- **drop table**
- **alter table**
  - **alter table** *r* **add** *A D*
    - where *A* is the name of the attribute to be added to relation *r* and *D* is the domain of *A.*
    - All tuples in the relation are assigned *null* as the value for the new attribute.
  - **alter table** *r* **drop** *A*
    - where *A* is the name of an attribute of relation *r*
    - Dropping of attributes not supported by many databases.

DML(Data Manipulation Language)

Basic Query Structure

- A typical SQL query has the form:

select A_1, A_2, ..., A_n
from r_1, r_2, ..., r_m
where P

  - A_i represents an attribute
  - r_i represents a relation
  - P is a predicate.
- The result of an SQL query is a relation.

The select Clause

- The **select** clause list the attributes desired in the result of a query
  - corresponds to the projection operation of the relational algebra
- Example: find the names of all instructors:

  select *name*
  from *instructor*
- NOTE: SQL names are case insensitive (i.e., you may use upper- or lower-case letters.)
  - E.g., *Name* ≡ *NAME* ≡ *name*
  - Some people use upper case wherever we use bold font.

The select Clause (Cont.)

- SQL allows duplicates in relations as well as in query results.
- To force the elimination of duplicates, insert the keyword **distinct** after select**.**
- Find the names of all departments with instructor, and remove duplicates

  select distinct *dept_name*
  from *instructor*
- The keyword **all** specifies that duplicates not be removed.

  select all *dept_name*
  from *instructor*

The select Clause (Cont.)

- An asterisk in the select clause denotes “all attributes”

  select *
  from *instructor*

- The **select** clause can contain arithmetic expressions involving the operation, +, –, ∗, and /, and operating on constants or attributes of tuples.
- The query:

  select *ID, name, salary/12*
  from *instructor*

  would return a relation that is the same as the *instructor* relation, except that the value of the attribute *salary* is divided by 12.

The where Clause

- The **where** clause specifies conditions that the result must satisfy
  - Corresponds to the selection predicate of the relational algebra.
- To find all instructors in Comp. Sci. dept with salary > 80000

  select *name*
  from *instructor*
  where *dept_name* = ‘Comp. Sci.' **and** *salary* > 80000

- Comparison results can be combined using the logical connectives **and, or,** and **not.**
- Comparisons can be applied to results of arithmetic expressions.

The from Clause

- The **from** clause lists the relations involved in the query
  - Corresponds to the Cartesian product operation of the relational algebra.
- Find the Cartesian product *instructor X teaches*

  select ∗
  from *instructor, teaches*
  - generates every possible instructor – teaches pair, with all attributes from both relations.
- Cartesian product not very useful directly, but useful combined with where-clause condition (selection operation in relational algebra).

Cartesian Product

instructor

ID	name	dept_name	salary
10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000
12121	Wu	Finance	90000
15151	Mozart	Music	40000
22222	Einstein	Physics	95000
32343	El Said	History	60000

teaches

ID	course_id	sec_id	semester	year
10101	CS-101	1	Fall	2009
10101	CS-315	1	Spring	2010
10101	CS-347	1	Fall	2009
12121	FIN-201	1	Spring	2010
15151	MU-199	1	Spring	2010
22222	PHY-101	1	Fall	2009

Inst.ID	name	dept_name	salary	teaches.ID	course_id	sec_id	semester	year
10101	Srinivasan	Physics	95000	10101	CS-101	1	Fall	2009
10101	Srinivasan	Physics	95000	10101	CS-315	1	Spring	2010
10101	Srinivasan	Physics	95000	10101	CS-347	1	Fall	2009
10101	Srinivasan	Physics	95000	10101	FIN-201	1	Spring	2010
10101	Srinivasan	Physics	95000	15151	MU-199	1	Spring	2010
10101	Srinivasan	Physics	95000	22222	PHY-101	1	Fall	2009
…	…	…	…	…	…	…	…	…
…	…	…	…	…	…	…	…	…
12121	Wu	Physics	95000	10101	CS-101	1	Fall	2009
12121	Wu	Physics	95000	10101	CS-315	1	Spring	2010
12121	Wu	Physics	95000	10101	CS-347	1	Fall	2009
12121	Wu	Physics	95000	10101	FIN-201	1	Spring	2010
12121	Wu	Physics	95000	15151	MU-199	1	Spring	2010
12121	Wu	Physics	95000	22222	PHY-101	1	Fall	2009
…	…	…	…	…	…	…	…	…
…	…	…	…	…	…	…	…	…

Joins

- For all instructors who have taught courses, find their names and the course ID of the courses they taught.

  select *name, course_id*
  from *instructor, teaches*
  where *instructor.ID = teaches.ID*

- Find the course ID, semester, year and title of each course offered by the Comp. Sci. department

  select *section.course_id, semester, year, title*
  from *section, course*
  where *section.course_id = course.course_id* **and**
  dept_name = 'Comp. Sci.'

Natural Join

- Natural join matches tuples with the same values for all common attributes, and retains only one copy of each common column
- **select** *
  from *instructor* **natural join** *teaches*;

ID	*name*	*dept_name*	*salary*	*course_id*	*sec_id*	*semester*	*year*
10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000	CS-101	1	Fall	2009
10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000	CS-315	1	Spring	2010
10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000	CS-347	1	Fall	2009
12121	Wu	Finance	90000	FIN-201	1	Spring	2010
15151	Mozart	Music	40000	MU-199	1	Spring	2010
22222	Einstein	Physics	95000	PHY-101	1	Fall	2009
32343	El Said	History	60000	HIS-351	1	Spring	2010
45565	Katz	Comp. Sci.	75000	CS-101	1	Spring	2010
45565	Katz	Comp. Sci.	75000	CS-319	1	Spring	2010
76766	Crick	Biology	72000	BIO-101	1	Summer	2009
76766	Crick	Biology	72000	BIO-301	1	Summer	2010

Natural Join (Cont.)

- Danger in natural join: beware of unrelated attributes with same name which get equated incorrectly
- List the names of instructors along with the the titles of courses that they teach
- Incorrect version (equates course.dept_name with instructor.dept_name)
  - **select** *name*, *title*
    from *instructor* **natural join** *teaches* **natural join** *course*;
- Correct version
  - **select** *name*, *title*
    from *instructor* **natural join** *teaches*, *course*
    where *teaches.course_id= course.course_id*;
- Another correct version
  - **select** *name*, *title*
    from (*instructor* **natural join** *teaches*) **join** *course* **using**(*course_id*);

The Rename Operation

- The SQL allows renaming relations and attributes using the **as** clause:

  old-name **as** *new-name*
- E.g.,
  - **select** *ID, name, salary/12* **as** *monthly_salary*
    from *instructor*
- Find the names of all instructors who have a higher salary than some instructor in 'Comp. Sci'.
  - **select distinct** *T. name*
    from *instructor* **as** *T, instructor* **as** *S*
    where *T.salary > S.salary* **and** *S.dept_name = 'Comp. Sci.'*
- Keyword **as** is optional and may be omitted

  instructor **as** *T* ≡ *instructor T*

String Operations

- SQL includes a string-matching operator for comparisons on character strings. The operator “like” uses patterns that are described using two special characters:
  - percent (%). The % character matches any substring.
  - underscore (_). The _ character matches any character.
- Find the names of all instructors whose name includes the substring “an”.

```
select name
from instructor
where name like '%an%'
```


Ordering the Display of Tuples

- List in alphabetic order the names of all instructors

```
select distinct name
from    instructor
order by name
```

- We may specify **desc** for descending order or **asc** for ascending order, for each attribute; ascending order is the default.
  - Example: **order by** *name* **desc**
- Can sort on multiple attributes
  - Example: **order by** *dept_name, name*

Where Clause Predicates

- SQL includes a **between** comparison operator
- Example: Find the names of all instructors with salary between $90,000 and $100,000 (that is, ≥ $90,000 and ≤ $100,000)
  - **select** *name*
    from *instructor*
    where *salary* **between** 90000 **and** 100000
- Tuple comparison
  - **select** *name*, *course_id*
    from *instructor*, *teaches*
    where (*instructor.ID*, *dept_name*) = (*teaches.ID*, 'Biology');

Set Operations

- Find courses that ran in Fall 2009 or in Spring 2010

  (**select** *course_id* **from** *section* **where** *sem* = 'Fall' **and** *year* = 2009)
  union
  (**select** *course_id* **from** *section* **where** *sem* = 'Spring' **and** *year* = 2010)

- Find courses that ran in Fall 2009 and in Spring 2010

  (**select** *course_id* **from** *section* **where** *sem* = 'Fall' **and** *year* = 2009)
  intersect
  (**select** *course_id* **from** *section* **where** *sem* = 'Spring' **and** *year* = 2010)

- Find courses that ran in Fall 2009 but not in Spring 2010

  (**select** *course_id* **from** *section* **where** *sem* = 'Fall' **and** *year* = 2009)
  except
  (**select** *course_id* **from** *section* **where** *sem* = 'Spring' **and** *year* = 2010)

Set Operations

- Set operations **union**, **intersect**, and **except**
  - Each of the above operations automatically eliminates duplicates
- To retain all duplicates use **union all**, **intersect all** and **except all**.
- Suppose a tuple occurs *m* times in *r* and *n* times in *s,* then, it occurs:
  - *m* + *n* times in *r* **union all** *s*
  - min(*m,n)* times in *r* **intersect all** *s*
  - max(0, *m* – *n)* times in *r* **except all** *s*

Null Values

- It is possible for tuples to have a null value, denoted by *null*, for some of their attributes
- *null* signifies an unknown value or that a value does not exist.
- The result of any arithmetic expression involving *null* is *null*
  - Example: 5 + *null* returns null
- The predicate **is null** can be used to check for null values.
  - Example: Find all instructors whose salary is null.

```
select name
from instructor
where salary is null
```

Null Values and Three Valued Logic

- Any comparison with *null* returns *unknown*
  - Example*: 5 < null or null <> null or null = null*
- Three-valued logic using the truth value *unknown*:
  - OR: (*unknown* **or** *true*) = *true*,
    (*unknown* **or** *false*) = *unknown*
    (*unknown* **or** *unknown*) = *unknown*
  - AND: *(true* **and** *unknown) = unknown,*
    (false **and** *unknown) = false,*
    (unknown **and** *unknown) = unknown*
  - NOT*: (***not** *unknown) = unknown*
  - "*P* **is unknown**" evaluates to true if predicate *P* evaluates to *unknown*
- Result of **where** clause predicate is treated as *false* if it evaluates to *unknown*

Aggregate Functions

- These functions operate on the set of values of a column of a relation, and return a value

avg: average value
min: minimum value
max: maximum value
sum: sum of values
count: number of values

Aggregate Functions (Cont.)

- Find the average salary of instructors in the Computer Science department
  - **select avg** (*salary*)
    from *instructor*
    where *dept_name*= 'Comp. Sci.';
- Find the total number of instructors who teach a course in the Spring 2010 semester
  - **select count** (**distinct** *ID*)
    from *teaches*
    where *semester* = 'Spring' **and** *year* = 2010
- Find the number of tuples in the *course* relation
  - **select count** (*)
    from *course*;

Aggregate Functions – Group By

- Find the average salary of instructors in each department
  - **select** *dept_name*, **avg** (*salary*)
    from *instructor*
    group by *dept_name*;

ID	*name*	*dept_name*	*salary*
76766	Crick	Biology	72000
45565	Katz	Comp. Sci.	75000
10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000
83821	Brandt	Comp. Sci.	92000
98345	Kim	Elec. Eng.	80000
12121	Wu	Finance	90000
76543	Singh	Finance	80000
32343	El Said	History	60000
58583	Califieri	History	62000
15151	Mozart	Music	40000
33456	Gold	Physics	87000
22222	Einstein	Physics	95000

dept_name	*avg_salary*
Biology	72000
Comp. Sci.	77333
Elec. Eng.	80000
Finance	85000
History	61000
Music	40000
Physics	91000

Aggregation (Cont.)

- Attributes in **select** clause outside of aggregate functions must appear in **group by** list
  - /* erroneous query */
    select *dept_name*, *ID*, **avg** (*salary*)
    from *instructor*
    group by *dept_name*;

Aggregate Functions – Having Clause

- Find the names and average salaries of all departments whose average salary is greater than 42000

select *dept_name*, **avg** (*salary*)
from *instructor*
group by *dept_name*
having avg (*salary*) > 42000;

Note: predicates in the **having** clause are applied after the formation of groups whereas predicates in the **where** clause are applied before forming groups

Null Values and Aggregates

- Total all salaries

  select sum (*salary*)
  from *instructor*

  - Above statement ignores null amounts
  - Result is *null* if there is no non-null amount
- All aggregate operations except **count(*)** ignore tuples with null values on the aggregated attributes
- What if collection has only null values?
  - count returns 0
  - all other aggregates return null

Nested Subqueries

- SQL provides a mechanism for the nesting of subqueries.
- A **subquery** is a **select-from-where** expression that is nested within another query.
- A common use of subqueries is to perform tests for set membership, set comparisons, and set cardinality.

Example Query

- Find courses offered in Fall 2009 and in Spring 2010

```
select distinct course_id
from section
where semester = 'Fall' and year= 2009 and
        course_id in (select course_id
                      from section
                      where semester = 'Spring' and year= 2010);
```

- Find courses offered in Fall 2009 but not in Spring 2010

```
select distinct course_id
from section
where semester = 'Fall' and year= 2009 and
        course_id  not in (select course_id
                           from section
                           where semester = 'Spring' and year= 2010);
```


Example Query

- Find the total number of (distinct) students who have taken course sections taught by the instructor with *ID* 10101

```
select count (distinct ID)
from takes
where (course_id, sec_id, semester, year) in
                    (select course_id, sec_id, semester, year
                     from teaches
                     where teaches.ID= 10101);
```

- Note: Above query can be written in a much simpler manner. The formulation above is simply to illustrate SQL features.

Set Comparison

- Find names of instructors with salary greater than that of some (at least one) instructor in the Biology department.

```
select distinct T.name
from instructor as T, instructor as S
where T.salary > S.salary and S.dept name = 'Biology';
```

- Same query using > **some** clause

```
select name
from instructor
where salary > some (select salary
from instructor
where dept name = 'Biology');
```


Example Query

- Find the names of all instructors whose salary is greater than the salary of all instructors in the Biology department.

```
select name
from instructor
where salary > all (select salary
                    from instructor
                    where dept name = 'Biology');
```

Test for Empty Relations

- The **exists** construct returns the value **true** if the argument subquery is nonempty.
- **exists** $r \Leftrightarrow r \neq \emptyset$
- **not exists** $r \Leftrightarrow r = \emptyset$

Not Exists

- Find all studentswho have taken all courses offered in the Biology department.

```
select distinct S.ID, S.name
from student as S
where not exists ( (select course_id
                    from course
                    where dept_name = 'Biology')
                   except
                    (select T.course_id
                     from takes as T
                     where S.ID = T.ID));
```

- Note that $X - Y = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow X \subseteq Y$
- *Note:* Cannot write this query using = **all** and its variants

Test for Absence of Duplicate Tuples

- The **unique** construct tests whether a subquery has any duplicate tuples in its result.
- Find all courses that were offered at most once in 2009

```
select T.course_id
from course as T
where unique (select R.course_id
              from section as R
              where T.course_id= R.course_id
                    and R.year = 2009);
```


Derived Relations

- SQL allows a subquery expression to be used in the **from** clause
- Find the average instructors' salaries of those departments where the average salary is greater than $42,000."

```
select dept_name, avg_salary
from (select dept_name, avg (salary) as avg_salary
      from instructor
      group by dept_name)
where avg_salary > 42000;
```

- Note that we do not need to use the **having** clause
- Another way to write above query

```
select dept_name, avg_salary
from (select dept_name, avg (salary)
      from instructor
      group by dept_name) as dept_avg (dept_name, avg_salary)
where avg_salary > 42000;
```

With Clause

- The **with** clause provides a way of defining a temporary view whose definition is available only to the query in which the **with** clause occurs.
- Find all departments with the maximum budget

```
with max_budget (value) as
    (select max(budget)
      from department)
select budget
from department, max_budget
where department.budget = max_budget.value;
```


Complex Queries using With Clause

- Find all departments where the total salary is greater than the average of the total salary at all departments

```
with dept _total (dept_name, value) as
        (select dept_name, sum(salary)
         from instructor
         group by dept_name),
dept_total_avg(value) as
       (select avg(value)
       from dept_total)
select dept_name
from dept_total, dept_total_avg
where dept_total.value >= dept_total_avg.value;
```

Scalar Subquery

```
select dept_name,
        (select count(*)
           from instructor
          where department.dept_name = instructor.dept_name)
        as num_instructors
from department;
```


Modification of the Database – Deletion

- Delete all instructors

```
delete from instructor
```

- Delete all instructors from the Finance department

```
delete from instructor
where dept_name= 'Finance';
```

- Delete all tuples in the *instructor* relation for those instructors associated with a department located in the Watson building.

```
delete from instructor
where dept name in (select dept name
                    from department
                    where building = 'Watson');
```

Example Query

- Delete all instructors whose salary is less than the average salary of instructors

delete from *instructor*
where *salary*< (**select avg** (*salary*) **from** *instructor*);

Modification of the Database – Insertion

- Add a new tuple to *course*

insert into *course*
values ('CS-437', 'Database Systems', 'Comp. Sci.', 4);

- or equivalently

insert into *course* (*course_id*, *title*, *dept_name*, *credits*)
values ('CS-437', 'Database Systems', 'Comp. Sci.', 4);

- Add a new tuple to *student* with *tot_creds* set to null

insert into *student*
values ('3003', 'Green', 'Finance', *null*);

Modification of the Database – Insertion

- Add all instructors to the *student* relation with tot_creds set to 0

```
insert into student
    select ID, name, dept_name, 0
    from   instructor
```


Modification of the Database – Updates

- Increase salaries of instructors whose salary is over $100,000 by 3%, and all others receive a 5% raise
  - Write two **update** statements:

```
update instructor
   set salary = salary * 1.03
   where salary > 100000;
update instructor
    set salary = salary * 1.05
    where salary <= 100000;
```

  - The order is important
  - Can be done better using the **case** statement (next slide)

Case Statement for Conditional Updates

- Same query as before but with case statement

```
update instructor
   set salary = case
                  when salary <= 100000 then salary * 1.05
                  else salary * 1.03
                end
```


Updates with Scalar Subqueries

- Recompute and update tot_creds value for all students

```
update student S
   set tot_cred = ( select sum(credits)
                    from takes natural join course
                    where S.ID= takes.ID and
                          takes.grade <> 'F' and
                          takes.grade is not null);
```

- Sets *tot_creds* to null for students who have not taken any course
- Instead of **sum**(*credits*), use:

```
case
   when sum(credits) is not null then sum(credits)
   else 0
end
```