



# Chapter 5: Advanced SQL

Database System Concepts, 7<sup>th</sup> Ed.

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# Outline

- Accessing SQL From a Programming Language
- Functions and Procedures
- Triggers
- Recursive Queries
- Advanced Aggregation Features



# Accessing SQL from a Programming Language

A database programmer must have access to a general-purpose programming language for at least two reasons

- Not all queries can be expressed in SQL, since SQL does not provide the full expressive power of a general-purpose language.
- Non-declarative actions -- such as printing a report, interacting with a user, or sending the results of a query to a graphical user interface -- cannot be done from within SQL.



# Accessing SQL from a Programming Language (Cont.)

There are ~~two~~ approaches to accessing SQL from a general-purpose programming language

- A general-purpose program -- can connect to and communicate with a database server using a collection of functions
- Embedded SQL -- provides a means by which a program can interact with a database server.
  - The ~~SQL statements~~ are translated at compile time into ~~function calls~~.
  - At runtime, these function calls connect to the ~~database~~ using an API that provides dynamic SQL facilities.



# JDBC



# JDBC

- JDBC is a Java API for communicating with database systems supporting SQL.
- JDBC supports a variety of features for querying and updating data, and for retrieving query results.
- JDBC also supports metadata retrieval, such as querying about relations present in the database and the names and types of relation attributes.
- Model for communicating with the database:
  - Open a connection
  - Create a “statement” object
  - Execute queries using the statement object to send queries and fetch results
  - Exception mechanism to handle errors



# JDBC Code

```
public static void JDBCExample(String dbid, String userid, String passwd)
{
    try (Connection conn = DriverManager.getConnection(
        "jdbc:oracle:thin:@db.yale.edu:2000:univdb", userid, passwd);
        Statement stmt = conn.createStatement();
    )
    {
        ... Do Actual Work ....
    }
    catch (SQLException sqle) {
        System.out.println("SQLException : " + sqle);
    }
}
```

**NOTE: Above syntax works with Java 7, and JDBC 4 onwards.**

**Resources opened in “try (...)” syntax (“try with resources”) are automatically closed at the end of the try block**



# JDBC Code for Older Versions of Java/JDBC

```
public static void JDBCexample(String dbid, String userid, String passwd)
{
    try {
        Class.forName ("oracle.jdbc.driver.OracleDriver");
        Connection conn = DriverManager.getConnection(
            "jdbc:oracle:thin:@db.yale.edu:2000:univdb", userid, passwd);
        Statement stmt = conn.createStatement();
        ... Do Actual Work ....
        stmt.close();
        conn.close();
    }
    catch (SQLException sqle) {
        System.out.println("SQLException : " + sqle);
    }
}
```

**NOTE:** `Class.forName` is not required from JDBC 4 onwards. The try with resources syntax in prev slide is preferred for Java 7 onwards.



# JDBC Code (Cont.)

- Update to database

```
try {
    stmt.executeUpdate(
        "insert into instructor values('77987', 'Kim', 'Physics', 98000)");
} catch (SQLException sqle)
{
    System.out.println("Could not insert tuple. " + sqle);
}
```

- Execute query and fetch and print results

```
ResultSet rset = stmt.executeQuery(
    "select dept_name, avg (salary)
     from instructor
     group by dept_name");
while (rset.next()) {
    System.out.println(rset.getString("dept_name") + " " +
                       rset.getFloat(2));
}
```



# JDBC SUBSECTIONS

- Connecting to the Database
- Shipping SQL Statements to the Database System
- Exceptions and Resource Management
- Retrieving the Result of a Query
- Prepared Statements
- Callable Statements
- Metadata Features
- Other Features
- Database Access from Python



# JDBC Code Details

- Getting result fields:
  - **rs.getString("dept\_name") and rs.getString(1) equivalent if dept\_name is the first argument of select result.**
- Dealing with Null values

```
int a = rs.getInt("a");
if (rs.wasNull()) System.out.println("Got null value");
```



# Prepared Statement

- ```
PreparedStatement pStmt = conn.prepareStatement(
        "insert into instructor values(?, ?, ?, ?)");
pStmt.setString(1, "88877");
pStmt.setString(2, "Perry");
pStmt.setString(3, "Finance");
pStmt.setInt(4, 125000);
pStmt.executeUpdate();
pStmt.setString(1, "88878");
pStmt.executeUpdate();
```
- **WARNING: always use prepared statements when taking an input from the user and adding it to a query**
  - NEVER create a query by concatenating strings
  - "insert into instructor values(' " + ID + " ', ' " + name + " ', " + " ' + dept  
name + " ', " ' balance + ')"
  - What if name is “D’Souza”?



# SQL Injection

- Suppose query is constructed using
  - "select \* from instructor where name = "" + name + """
- Suppose the user, instead of entering a name, enters:
  - X' or 'Y' = 'Y
- then the resulting statement becomes:
  - "select \* from instructor where name = "" + "X' or 'Y' = 'Y" + """
  - which is:
    - select \* from instructor where name = 'X' or 'Y' = 'Y'
  - User could have even used
    - X'; update instructor set salary = salary + 10000; --
- Prepared statement internally uses:  
"select \* from instructor where name = 'X\' or \'Y\' = \'Y'"
  - **Always use prepared statements, with user inputs as parameters**



# Metadata Features

- ResultSet metadata
- E.g. after executing query to get a ResultSet rs:
  - ```
ResultSetMetaData rsmd = rs.getMetaData();
for(int i = 1; i <= rsmd.getColumnCount(); i++) {
    System.out.println(rsmd.getColumnName(i));
    System.out.println(rsmd.getColumnTypeName(i));
}
```
- How is this useful?



# Metadata (Cont)

- Database metadata

```
■ DatabaseMetaData dbmd = conn.getMetaData();  
// Arguments to getColumns: Catalog, Schema-pattern, Table-pattern,  
// and Column-Pattern  
// Returns: One row for each column; row has a number of attributes  
// such as COLUMN_NAME, TYPE_NAME  
// The value null indicates all Catalogs/Schemas.  
// The value "" indicates current catalog/schema  
// The value "%" has the same meaning as SQL like clause
```

```
ResultSet rs = dbmd.getColumns(null, "univdb", "department", "%");  
while( rs.next()) {  
    System.out.println(rs.getString("COLUMN_NAME"),  
                      rs.getString("TYPE_NAME"));  
}
```

- And where is this useful?



# Metadata (Cont)

- Database metadata

```
▪ DatabaseMetaData dbmd = conn.getMetaData();  
  
// Arguments to getTables: Catalog, Schema-pattern, Table-pattern,  
// and Table-Type  
// Returns: One row for each table; row has a number of attributes  
// such as TABLE_NAME, TABLE_CAT, TABLE_TYPE, ..  
// The value null indicates all Catalogs/Schemas.  
// The value "" indicates current catalog/schema  
// The value "%" has the same meaning as SQL like clause  
// The last attribute is an array of types of tables to return.  
// TABLE means only regular tables
```

```
ResultSet rs = dbmd.getTables ("", "", "%", new String[] {"TABLES"});  
while( rs.next()) {  
    System.out.println(rs.getString("TABLE_NAME"));  
}
```

- And where is this useful?



# Finding Primary Keys

- DatabaseMetaData dmd = connection.getMetaData();  
  
// Arguments below are: Catalog, Schema, and Table  
// The value "" for Catalog/Schema indicates current catalog/schema  
// The value null indicates all catalogs/schemas  
ResultSet rs = dmd.getPrimaryKeys("", "", tableName);  
  
while(rs.next()) {  
 // KEY\_SEQ indicates the position of the attribute in  
 // the primary key, which is required if a primary key has multiple  
 // attributes  
 System.out.println(rs.getString("KEY\_SEQ"),  
 rs.getString("COLUMN\_NAME"));  
}



# Transaction Control in JDBC

- By default, each SQL statement is treated as a separate transaction that is committed automatically
  - bad idea for transactions with multiple updates
- Can turn off automatic commit on a connection
  - `conn.setAutoCommit(false);`
- Transactions must then be committed or rolled back explicitly
  - `conn.commit();` or
  - `conn.rollback();`
- `conn.setAutoCommit(true)` turns on automatic commit.



# Other JDBC Features

- Calling functions and procedures
  - `CallableStatement cStmt1 = conn.prepareCall("{? = call some function(?)}");`
  - `CallableStatement cStmt2 = conn.prepareCall("{call some procedure(?,?)}");`
- Handling large object types
  - `getBlob()` and `getClob()` that are similar to the `getString()` method, but return objects of type Blob and Clob, respectively
  - get data from these objects by `getBytes()`
  - associate an open stream with Java Blob or Clob object to update large objects
    - `blob.setBlob(int parameterIndex, InputStream inputStream).`



# JDBC Resources

- JDBC Basics Tutorial
  - <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/jdbc/index.html>



# SQLJ

- JDBC is overly dynamic, errors cannot be caught by compiler
- SQLJ: embedded SQL in Java

```
• [#sql iterator deptInfoIter ( String dept name, int avgSal);]  
deptInfoIter iter = null;  
[#sql iter = { select dept_name, avg(salary) from instructor  
group by dept name };]  
while (iter.next()) {  
    String deptName = iter.dept_name();  
    int avgSal = iter.avgSal();  
    System.out.println(deptName + " " + avgSal);  
}  
iter.close();
```



# ODBC



# ODBC

- Open DataBase Connectivity (ODBC) standard
  - standard for application program to communicate with a database server.
  - application program interface (API) to
    - open a connection with a database,
    - send queries and updates,
    - get back results.
- Applications such as GUI, spreadsheets, etc. can use ODBC



# Embedded SQL

- The SQL standard defines embeddings of SQL in a variety of programming languages such as C, C++, Java, Fortran, and PL/1,
- A language to which SQL queries are embedded is referred to as a **host language**, and the SQL structures permitted in the host language comprise **embedded SQL**.
- The basic form of these languages follows that of the **System R** embedding of SQL into **PL/1**.
- **EXEC SQL** statement is used in the host language to identify embedded SQL request to the preprocessor

EXEC SQL <embedded SQL statement>;

Note: this varies by language:

- In some languages, like COBOL, the semicolon is replaced with END-EXEC
- In Java embedding uses # SQL { .... };



# Embedded SQL (Cont.)

- Before executing any SQL statements, the program must first connect to the database. This is done using:

```
EXEC-SQL connect to server user user-name using password;
```

Here, *server* identifies the server to which a connection is to be established.

- Variables of the host language can be used within embedded SQL statements. They are preceded by a colon (:) to distinguish from SQL variables (e.g., :*credit\_amount*)
- Variables used as above must be declared within **DECLARE** section, as illustrated below. The syntax for declaring the variables, however, follows the usual host language syntax.

```
EXEC-SQL BEGIN DECLARE SECTION}
```

```
    int credit-amount ;
```

```
EXEC-SQL END DECLARE SECTION;
```



# Embedded SQL (Cont.)

- To write an embedded SQL query, we use the

**declare c cursor for <SQL query>**

statement. The variable c is used to identify the query

- Example:

From within a host language, find the ID and name of students who have completed more than the number of credits stored in variable `credit_amount` in the host language

- Specify the query in SQL as follows:

EXEC SQL

**declare c cursor for  
select ID, name  
from student  
where tot\_cred > :credit\_amount**

**END\_EXEC**



# Embedded SQL (Cont.)

- The **open** statement for our example is as follows:

```
EXEC SQL open c ;
```

This statement causes the database system to execute the query and to save the results within a temporary relation. The query uses the value of the host-language variable *credit-amount* at the time the **open** statement is executed.

- The fetch statement causes the values of one tuple in the query result to be placed on host language variables.

```
EXEC SQL fetch c into :si, :sn END_EXEC
```

Repeated calls to fetch get successive tuples in the query result



# Embedded SQL (Cont.)

- A variable called `SQLSTATE` in the SQL communication area (SQLCA) gets set to `'02000'` to indicate no more data is available
- The **close** statement causes the database system to delete the temporary relation that holds the result of the query.

```
EXEC SQL close c;
```

Note: above details vary with language. For example, the Java embedding defines Java iterators to step through result tuples.



# Updates Through Embedded SQL

- Embedded SQL expressions for database modification (**update**, **insert**, and **delete**)
- Can update tuples fetched by cursor by declaring that the cursor is for update

## EXEC SQL

```
declare c cursor for
    select *
        from instructor
        where dept_name = 'Music'
        for update
```

- We then iterate through the tuples by performing **fetch** operations on the cursor (as illustrated earlier), and after fetching each tuple we execute the following code:

```
update instructor
    set salary = salary + 1000
    where current of c
```



# Functions and Procedures



# Functions and Procedures

- Functions and procedures allow “business logic” to be stored in the database and executed from SQL statements.
- These can be defined either by the procedural component of SQL or by an external programming language such as Java, C, or C++.
- The syntax we present here is defined by the SQL standard.
  - Most databases implement nonstandard versions of this syntax.



# Declaring SQL Functions

- Define a function that, given the name of a department, returns the count of the number of instructors in that department.

```
create function dept_count (dept_name varchar(20))
    returns integer
begin
    declare d_count integer;
    select count (*) into d_count
        from instructor
        where instructor.dept_name = dept_name
    return d_count;
end
```

- The function *dept\_count* can be used to find the department names and budget of all departments with more than 12 instructors.

```
select dept_name, budget
from department
where dept_count (dept_name ) > 12
```



# Table Functions

- The SQL standard supports functions that can return tables as results; such functions are called **table functions**

- Example: Return all instructors in a given department

```
create function instructor_of (dept_name char(20))
```

```
    returns table (
```

```
        ID varchar(5),  
        name varchar(20),  
        dept_name varchar(20),  
        salary numeric(8,2))
```

```
return table
```

```
(select ID, name, dept_name, salary  
     from instructor  
   where instructor.dept_name = instructor_of.dept_name)
```

- Usage

```
select *  
from table (instructor_of ('Music'))
```



# Language Constructs (Cont.)

- **For loop**
  - Permits iteration over all results of a query
- Example: Find the budget of all departments

```
declare n integer default 0;  
for r as  
    select budget from department  
    where dept_name = 'Music'  
do  
    set n = n + r.budget  
end for
```



# External Language Routines

- SQL allows us to define functions in a programming language such as Java, C#, C or C++.
  - Can be more efficient than functions defined in SQL, and computations that cannot be carried out in SQL\can be executed by these functions.
- Declaring external language procedures and functions

```
create procedure dept_count_proc(in dept_name varchar(20),  
                                out count integer)
```

**language C**

**external name** '/usr/avi/bin/dept\_count\_proc'

```
create function dept_count(dept_name varchar(20))
```

**returns integer**

**language C**

**external name** '/usr/avi/bin/dept\_count'



# Security with External Language Routines

- To deal with security problems, we can do one of the following:
  - Use **sandbox** techniques
    - That is, use a safe language like Java, which cannot be used to access/damage other parts of the database code.
  - Run external language functions/procedures in a separate process, with no access to the database process' memory.
    - Parameters and results communicated via inter-process communication
- Both have performance overheads
- Many database systems support both above approaches as well as direct executing in database system address space.



# Triggers



# Triggers

- A **trigger** is a statement that is executed automatically by the system as a side effect of a modification to the database.
- To design a trigger mechanism, we must:
  - Specify the conditions under which the trigger is to be executed.
  - Specify the actions to be taken when the trigger executes.
- Triggers introduced to SQL standard in SQL:1999, but supported even earlier using non-standard syntax by most databases.
  - Syntax illustrated here may not work exactly on your database system; check the system manuals



# Trigger to Maintain credits\_earned value

- create trigger *credits\_earned* after update of *takes* on (*grade*) referencing new row as *nrow* referencing old row as *orow* for each row  
**when** *nrow.grade* <> 'F' **and** *nrow.grade* is not null  
    **and** (*orow.grade* = 'F' **or** *orow.grade* is null)  
**begin atomic**  
    **update** *student*  
    **set** *tot\_cred*= *tot\_cred* +  
        (**select** *credits*  
         **from** *course*  
         **where** *course.course\_id*= *nrow.course\_id*)  
    **where** *student.id* = *nrow.id*;  
**end;**



# Statement Level Triggers

- Instead of executing a separate action for each affected row, a single action can be executed for all rows affected by a transaction
  - Use **for each statement** instead of **for each row**
  - Use **referencing old table** or **referencing new table** to refer to temporary tables (called **transition tables**) containing the affected rows
  - Can be more efficient when dealing with SQL statements that update a large number of rows



# When Not To Use Triggers

- Triggers were used earlier for tasks such as
  - Maintaining summary data (e.g., total salary of each department)
  - Replicating databases by recording changes to special relations (called **change** or **delta** relations) and having a separate process that applies the changes over to a replica
- There are better ways of doing these now:
  - Databases today provide built in materialized view facilities to maintain summary data
  - Databases provide built-in support for replication
- Encapsulation facilities can be used instead of triggers in many cases
  - Define methods to update fields
  - Carry out actions as part of the update methods instead of through a trigger



# When Not To Use Triggers (Cont.)

- Risk of unintended execution of triggers, for example, when
  - Loading data from a backup copy
  - Replicating updates at a remote site
  - Trigger execution can be disabled before such actions.
- Other risks with triggers:
  - Error leading to failure of critical transactions that set off the trigger
  - Cascading execution



# Recursive Queries



# Recursion in SQL

- SQL:1999 permits recursive view definition
- Example: find which courses are a prerequisite, whether directly or indirectly, for a specific course

```
with recursive rec_prereq(course_id, prereq_id) as (
    select course_id, prereq_id
    from prereq
    union
    select rec_prereq.course_id, prereq.prereq_id,
    from rec_rereq, prereq
    where rec_prereq.prereq_id = prereq.course_id
)
select *
from rec_prereq;
```

This example view, *rec\_prereq*, is called the *transitive closure* of the *prereq* relation



# The Power of Recursion

- Recursive views make it possible to write queries, such as transitive closure queries, that cannot be written without recursion or iteration.
  - Intuition: Without recursion, a non-recursive non-iterative program can perform only a fixed number of joins of *prereq* with itself
    - This can give only a fixed number of levels of managers
    - Given a fixed non-recursive query, we can construct a database with a greater number of levels of prerequisites on which the query will not work
  - Alternative: write a procedure to iterate as many times as required
    - See procedure *findAllPrereqs* in book



# Example of Fixed-Point Computation

<i>course_id</i>	<i>prereq_id</i>
BIO-301	BIO-101
BIO-399	BIO-101
CS-190	CS-101
CS-315	CS-190
CS-319	CS-101
CS-319	CS-315
CS-347	CS-319

<i>Iteration Number</i>	<i>Tuples in cI</i>
0	
1	(CS-319)
2	(CS-319), (CS-315), (CS-101)
3	(CS-319), (CS-315), (CS-101), (CS-190)
4	(CS-319), (CS-315), (CS-101), (CS-190)
5	done



# Advanced Aggregation Features



# Ranking

- Ranking is done in conjunction with an order by specification.
- Suppose we are given a relation  
 $student\_grades(ID, GPA)$   
giving the grade-point average of each student
- Find the rank of each student.
- **`select ID, rank() over (order by GPA desc) as s_rank  
from student_grades`**
- An extra **order by** clause is needed to get them in sorted order  
**`select ID, rank() over (order by GPA desc) as s_rank  
from student_grades  
order by s_rank`**
- Ranking may leave gaps: e.g. if 2 students have the same top GPA, both have rank 1, and the next rank is 3
  - **dense\_rank** does not leave gaps, so next dense rank would be 2



# Ranking

- Ranking can be done using basic SQL aggregation, but resultant query is very inefficient

```
select ID, (1 + (select count(*)
                     from student_grades B
                     where B.GPA > A.GPA)) as s_rank
      from student_grades A
     order by s_rank;
```



# Ranking (Cont.)

- Ranking can be done within partition of the data.
- “Find the rank of students within each department.”

```
select ID, dept_name,
       rank () over (partition by dept_name order by GPA desc)
           as dept_rank
  from dept_grades
  order by dept_name, dept_rank;
```

- Multiple **rank** clauses can occur in a single **select** clause.
- Ranking is done *after* applying **group by** clause/aggregation
- Can be used to find top-n results
  - More general than the **limit n** clause supported by many databases, since it allows top-n within each partition



# Ranking (Cont.)

- Other ranking functions:
  - **percent\_rank** (within partition, if partitioning is done)
  - **cume\_dist** (cumulative distribution)
    - fraction of tuples with preceding values
  - **row\_number** (non-deterministic in presence of duplicates)
- SQL:1999 permits the user to specify **nulls first** or **nulls last**

**select** *ID*,

**rank ( ) over (order by GPA desc nulls last) as s\_rank**

**from student\_grades**



# Ranking (Cont.)

- For a given constant  $n$ , the ranking function  $ntile(n)$  takes the tuples in each partition in the specified order, and divides them into  $n$  buckets with equal numbers of tuples.
- E.g.,

```
select /D, ntile(4) over (order by GPA desc) as quartile  
from student_grades;
```



# Windowing

- Used to smooth out random variations.
- E.g., **moving average**: “Given sales values for each date, calculate for each date the average of the sales on that day, the previous day, and the next day”
- **Window specification** in SQL:
  - Given relation *sales(date, value)*  
**select date, sum(value) over  
(order by date between rows 1 preceding and 1 following)  
from sales**



# Windowing

- Examples of other window specifications:
  - **between rows unbounded preceding and current**
  - **rows unbounded preceding**
  - **range between 10 preceding and current row**
    - All rows with values between current row value –10 to current value
  - **range interval 10 day preceding**
    - Not including current row



# Windowing (Cont.)

- Can do windowing within partitions
- E.g., Given a relation *transaction* (*account\_number*, *date\_time*, *value*), where value is positive for a deposit and negative for a withdrawal
  - “Find total balance of each account after each transaction on the account”

```
select account_number, date_time,  
       sum (value) over  
              (partition by account_number  
               order by date_time  
               rows unbounded preceding)  
        as balance  
from transaction  
order by account_number, date_time
```



# OLAP



# Data Analysis and OLAP

- **Online Analytical Processing (OLAP)**
  - Interactive analysis of data, allowing data to be summarized and viewed in different ways in an online fashion (with negligible delay)
- Data that can be modeled as dimension attributes and measure attributes are called **multidimensional data**.
  - **Measure attributes**
    - measure some value
    - can be aggregated upon
    - e.g., the attribute *number* of the *sales* relation
  - **Dimension attributes**
    - define the dimensions on which measure attributes (or aggregates thereof) are viewed
    - e.g., attributes *item\_name*, *color*, and *size* of the *sales* relation



# Example sales relation

item_name	color	clothes_size	quantity
skirt	dark	small	2
skirt	dark	medium	5
skirt	dark	large	1
skirt	pastel	small	11
skirt	pastel	medium	9
skirt	pastel	large	15
skirt	white	small	2
skirt	white	medium	5
skirt	white	large	3
dress	dark	small	2
dress	dark	medium	6
dress	dark	large	12
dress	pastel	small	4
dress	pastel	medium	3
dress	pastel	large	3
dress	white	small	2
dress	white	medium	3
dress	white	large	0
shirt	dark	small	2
shirt	dark	medium	2
...	...	...	...



# Cross Tabulation of sales by *item\_name* and color

*clothes\_size* all

		color		
		dark	pastel	white
<i>item_name</i>	skirt	8	35	10
	dress	20	10	5
	shirt	14	7	28
	pants	20	2	5
	total	62	54	48
		total		
		53	35	49
		27	164	

- The table above is an example of a **cross-tabulation (cross-tab)**, also referred to as a **pivot-table**.
  - Values for one of the dimension attributes form the row headers
  - Values for another dimension attribute form the column headers
  - Other dimension attributes are listed on top
  - Values in individual cells are (aggregates of) the values of the dimension attributes that specify the cell.



# Data Cube

- A **data cube** is a multidimensional generalization of a cross-tab
- Can have  $n$  dimensions; we show 3 below
- Cross-tabs can be used as views on a data cube

		item_name					clothes_size			
		skirt	dress	shirt	pants	all	all	large	medium	small
		color	dark	pastel	white	all	16	45	18	9
		dark	8	20	14	20	62	34	4	16
		pastel	35	10	7	2	54	21	9	18
		white	10	8	28	5	48	42	45	77
		all	53	38	49	27	164	all	large	medium



# Cross Tabulation With Hierarchy

- Cross-tabs can be easily extended to deal with hierarchies
  - Can drill down or roll up on a hierarchy

*clothes\_size:* all

	<i>category</i>	<i>item_name</i>	<i>color</i>			
			dark	pastel	white	total
womenswear	skirt	8	8	10	53	88
	dress	20	20	5	35	
	subtotal	28	28	15		
menswear	pants	14	14	28	49	76
	shirt	20	20	5	27	
	subtotal	34	34	33		
total		62	62	48		164



# Relational Representation of Cross-tabs

- Cross-tabs can be represented as relations
  - We use the value **all** is used to represent aggregates.
  - The SQL standard actually uses null values in place of **all** despite confusion with regular null values.

<i>item_name</i>	<i>color</i>	<i>clothes_size</i>	<i>quantity</i>
skirt	dark	<b>all</b>	8
skirt	pastel	<b>all</b>	35
skirt	white	<b>all</b>	10
skirt	<b>all</b>	<b>all</b>	53
dress	dark	<b>all</b>	20
dress	pastel	<b>all</b>	10
dress	white	<b>all</b>	5
dress	<b>all</b>	<b>all</b>	35
shirt	dark	<b>all</b>	14
shirt	pastel	<b>all</b>	7
shirt	White	<b>all</b>	28
shirt	<b>all</b>	<b>all</b>	49
pant	dark	<b>all</b>	20
pant	pastel	<b>all</b>	2
pant	white	<b>all</b>	5
pant	<b>all</b>	<b>all</b>	27
<b>all</b>	dark	<b>all</b>	62
<b>all</b>	pastel	<b>all</b>	54
<b>all</b>	white	<b>all</b>	48
<b>all</b>	<b>all</b>	<b>all</b>	164



# Extended Aggregation to Support OLAP

- The **cube** operation computes union of **group by**'s on every subset of the specified attributes
- Example relation for this section  
 $\text{sales}(\text{item\_name}, \text{color}, \text{clothes\_size}, \text{quantity})$
- E.g., consider the query

```
select item_name, color, size, sum(number)
from sales
group by cube(item_name, color, size)
```

This computes the union of eight different groupings of the *sales* relation:

```
{ (item_name, color, size), (item_name, color),
  (item_name, size),      (color, size),
  (item_name),           (color),
  (size),                () }
```

where ( ) denotes an empty **group by** list.

- For each grouping, the result contains the null value for attributes not present in the grouping.



# Online Analytical Processing Operations

- Relational representation of cross-tab that we saw earlier, but with *null* in place of **all**, can be computed by
  - ```
select item_name, color, sum(number)
      from sales
     group by cube(item_name, color)
```
- The function **grouping()** can be applied on an attribute
  - Returns 1 if the value is a null value representing all, and returns 0 in all other cases.

```
select item_name, color, size, sum(number),
       grouping(item_name) as item_name_flag,
       grouping(color) as color_flag,
       grouping(size) as size_flag,
  from sales
 group by cube(item_name, color, size)
```



# Online Analytical Processing Operations

- Can use the function **decode()** in the **select** clause to replace such nulls by a value such as **all**
  - E.g., replace *item\_name* in first query by  
**decode( grouping(item\_name), 1, 'all', item\_name)**



# Extended Aggregation (Cont.)

- The **rollup** construct generates union on every prefix of specified list of attributes
- E.g.,

```
select item_name, color, size, sum(number)
from sales
group by rollup(item_name, color, size)
```

- Generates union of four groupings:

```
{ (item_name, color, size), (item_name, color), (item_name), () }
```

- Rollup can be used to generate aggregates at multiple levels of a hierarchy.
- E.g., suppose table *itemcategory*(*item\_name*, *category*) gives the category of each item. Then

```
select category, item_name, sum(number)
from sales, itemcategory
where sales.item_name = itemcategory.item_name
group by rollup(category, item_name)
```

would give a hierarchical summary by *item\_name* and by *category*.



# Extended Aggregation (Cont.)

- Multiple rollups and cubes can be used in a single group by clause
  - Each generates set of group by lists, cross product of sets gives overall set of group by lists
- E.g.,

```
select item_name, color, size, sum(number)
from sales
group by rollup(item_name), rollup(color, size)
```

generates the groupings

$$\begin{aligned} & \{item\_name, ()\} \times \{(color, size), (color), ()\} \\ &= \{ (item\_name, color, size), (item\_name, color), (item\_name), \\ & \quad (color, size), (color), () \} \end{aligned}$$



# Online Analytical Processing Operations

- **Pivoting:** changing the dimensions used in a cross-tab is called
- **Slicing:** creating a cross-tab for fixed values only
  - Sometimes called **dicing**, particularly when values for multiple dimensions are fixed.
- **Rollup:** moving from finer-granularity data to a coarser granularity
- **Drill down:** The opposite operation - that of moving from coarser-granularity data to finer-granularity data



# OLAP Implementation

- The earliest OLAP systems used multidimensional arrays in memory to store data cubes, and are referred to as **multidimensional OLAP (MOLAP)** systems.
- OLAP implementations using only relational database features are called **relational OLAP (ROLAP)** systems
- Hybrid systems, which store some summaries in memory and store the base data and other summaries in a relational database, are called **hybrid OLAP (HOLAP)** systems.



# OLAP Implementation (Cont.)

- Early OLAP systems precomputed *all* possible aggregates in order to provide online response
  - Space and time requirements for doing so can be very high
    - $2^n$  combinations of **group by**
  - It suffices to precompute some aggregates, and compute others on demand from one of the precomputed aggregates
    - Can compute aggregate on  $(item\_name, color)$  from an aggregate on  $(item\_name, color, size)$ 
      - For all but a few “non-decomposable” aggregates such as *median*
      - is cheaper than computing it from scratch
- Several optimizations available for computing multiple aggregates
  - Can compute aggregate on  $(item\_name, color)$  from an aggregate on  $(item\_name, color, size)$
  - Can compute aggregates on  $(item\_name, color, size)$ ,  $(item\_name, color)$  and  $(item\_name)$  using a single sorting of the base data



# End of Chapter 5