Refining Selections

* Distinct – doesn’t list any duplicates
  + SELECT DISTINCT author\_lname FROM books;
  + Can nest string manipulation
  + SELECT DISTINCT author\_fname, author\_lname FROM books;
    - Applies distinct to both rows – combo of first and last name to be distinct.
* Order by – order output
  + SELECT author\_lname FROM books ORDER BY author\_lname;
  + “DESC” = descending
  + “ASC” = ascending
  + SELECT title, author\_fname, author\_lname FROM books ORDER BY 2;
    - The ‘2’ is shortcut to the 2nd thing selected.
  + SELECT author\_name, author\_lname FROM books ORDER BY author\_lname, author\_fname
    - Multiple arguments to order by sets the tiebreakers
* LIMIT – allows us to specify a number for how many results we want to select
  + SELECT title FROM books ORDER BY stock\_quantity LIMIT 5
    - Prints the title of the 5 books with most stock quantity
  + 2 arguments passed to limit = “start point”, “amount”
  + To select from a starting point to the end, you have to just use a gigantic number as the limit
    - IE: SELECT title FROM books LIMIT 5, 18446744073709551615;
* LIKE – allows us to perform better searching for our data
  + WHERE allowed us to find exact matches, LIKE is like ‘contains’ or ‘starts with’. Use in combination.
  + SELECT title FROM books WHERE author\_fname LIKE ‘%da%’;
    - This outputs any books with author first name that contains ‘da’
  + ‘%’ symbols are known as ‘wild cards’ for any amount of characters
    - Kinda like regular expressions
  + ‘\_’ symbols are for ‘wild cards’ for a specific amount of characters. Each ‘\_’ = 1 wild card character. It’s also a way to match specific patterns.
    - Ex: SELECT number FROM phone\_book WHERE number LIKE (\_\_\_)\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_
  + Use an escape character to include actual percentage signs or underscores in searches
  + SELECT title FROM books WHERE title LIKE ‘%\%%’