**My understanding of ODBC**

What I understand about ODBC.

ODBC stands for open database connectivity.

What exactly is ODBC?

Well this what Wikipedia had to say about ODBC:

"In computing, ODBC (Open Database Connectivity) is a standard programming language middleware API for accessing database management systems (DBMS). The designers of ODBC aimed to make it independent of database systems and operating systems. An application written using ODBC can be ported to other platforms, both on the client and server side, with few changes to the data access code.

ODBC accomplishes DBMS independence by using an ODBC driver as a translation layer between the application and the DBMS. The application uses ODBC functions through an ODBC driver manager with which it is linked, and the driver passes the query to the DBMS. An ODBC driver can be thought of as analogous to a printer or other driver, providing a standard set of functions for the application to use, and implementing DBMS-specific functionality. An application that can use ODBC is referred to as "ODBC-compliant". Any ODBC-compliant application can access any DBMS for which a driver is installed. Drivers exist for all major DBMSs, many other data sources like address book systems and Microsoft Excel, and even for text or CSV files."

Hmm, in Python by using the same ODBC library and driver I was able to connect to both a MSSQL database and a Hive databse. No, your were using a different ODBC drivers for connecting to the two databases. It wasn't the same ODBC driver.

You were using the same Python library- pyodbc, with different params of which one was the ODBC driver, which is different for each database platform.

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