

Guide for qjanno v1.0.0.0 to v1.0.0.1

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1 Background

Qjanno started as a fork of the [qhs](#) software tool, which was, in turn, inspired by the command line tool [q](#). All of them enable SQL queries on delimiter-separated text files (e.g. `.csv` or `.tsv`). For **qjanno**, we copied the source code of qhs v0.3.3 (MIT-License) and adjusted it to provide a smooth experience with a special kind of `.tsv` file: The Poseidon `.janno` file.

Unlike **trident** or **xerxes**, **qjanno** does not have a complete understanding of the `.janno` file structure, and (mostly) treats `.janno` files like normal `.tsv` files. It does not validate them upon reading and takes them at face value. Still `.janno` files are given special consideration: With a set of pseudo-functions in the `FROM` field of the SQL query they can be searched recursively and loaded together into one table.

qjanno still supports most features of qhs, so it can still read arbitrary `.csv` and `.tsv` files independently or in conjunction with `.janno` files (e.g. for `JOIN` operations).

2 How does this work?

On startup, **qjanno** creates an [SQLite \[1\]](#) database [in memory](#). It then reads the requested, structured text files and attributes each column a type (either character or numeric). With this annotation it can write the contents of the files to tables in the in-memory database. **qjanno** finally sends the user-provided SQL query to said database, waits for the result, parses it and returns it on the command line.

The SQL query gets pre-parsed to extract file names and then forwarded to an SQLite database server via the

30 Haskell library [sqlite-simple](#). That means qjanno can parse and understand basic SQLite3 syntax, though not
31 everything. [PRAGMA functions](#), for example, are not available. The examples below show some of the available
32 syntax, but they are not exhaustive. Trial and error is recommended to see what does and what does not work.
33 Please report missing expected functionality at our [issue board on GitHub](#).

34 3 Installation

35 See the Poseidon website (<https://www.poseidon-adna.org/#/qjanno>) or the GitHub repository (<https://github.com/poseidon-framework/qjanno>) for up-to-date installation instructions.

37 4 The CLI interface

38 This is the CLI interface of qjanno:

```
Usage: qjanno [--version] [QUERY] [-q|--queryFile FILE] [-c|--showColumns]
          [-t|--tabSep] [--sep DELIM] [--noHeader] [--raw] [--noOutHeader]
```

Command line tool to allow SQL queries on .janno (and arbitrary .csv and .tsv) files.

Available options:

-h,--help	Show this help text
--version	Show qjanno version
QUERY	SQLite syntax query with paths to files for table names. See the online documentation for examples. The special table name syntax 'd(path1,path2,...)' treats the paths (path1, path2, ...) as base directories where .janno files are searched recursively. All detected .janno files are merged into one table and can thus be subjected to arbitrary queries.
-q,--queryFile FILE	Read query from the provided file.
-c,--showColumns	Don't run the query, but show all available columns in the input files.
-t,--tabSep	Short for --sep '\$\t'.
--sep DELIM	Input file field delimiter. Will be automatically detected if it's not specified.
--noHeader	Does the input file have no column names? They will be filled automatically with placeholders of the form c1,c2,c3,...
--raw	Return the output table as tsv.
--noOutHeader	Remove the header line from the output.

39 This help can be accessed with `qjanno -h`. Running qjanno without any parameters does not work: The QUERY
40 parameter is mandatory and without it the tool will fail with the exception `Query cannot be empty`.

4.1 A basic example

A basic, working `qjanno` query could look like this:

```
$ qjanno "SELECT package_title,Poseidon_ID,Country \
        FROM d(2010_RasmussenNature,2012_MeyerScience)"

.------.------.------.
| package_title | Poseidon_ID | Country |
:=====:=====:=====:
| 2010_RasmussenNature | Inuk.SG | Greenland |
| 2012_MeyerScience | A_Mbuti-5.DG | Congo |
| 2012_MeyerScience | A_Yoruba-4.DG | Nigeria |
| 2012_MeyerScience | A_Sardinian-4.DG | Italy |
| 2012_MeyerScience | A_French-4.DG | France |
| 2012_MeyerScience | A_Dinka-4.DG | Sudan |
| 2012_MeyerScience | A_Ju_hoan_North-5.DG | Namibia |
'------'------'-----'
```

Running `qjanno` with this query triggers the following process:

1. With `d(...)` in the `FROM` field, `qjanno` searches recursively for package-defining `POSEIDON.yml` files in the given base directories `2010_RasmussenNature` and `2012_MeyerScience`.
2. It finds the `.yaml` files and reads some of their fields, including the `title`, the `packageVersion` and the `jannoFile` path. It then selects the latest version of each package.
3. With the relevant `.janno` file paths available, `qjanno` reads them, appends the `package_title`, `package_version` and `source_file` columns, merges them (with a simple row-bind), and orders their columns.
4. It then writes the resulting `.janno` table to the SQLite database in memory.
5. Now the actual query gets sent to the database server to execute it. In this case the `SELECT` statement includes three variables (column names): `package_title`, `Poseidon_ID` and `Country`. The database server returns these three columns for the merged `.janno` table.
6. `qjanno` finally prints the result in a clean, human readable format to the standard output.

4.1.1 The `.janno-crawling` pseudo-functions

`d(...)` is one of four pseudo-functions to search and load `.janno` files in the `FROM` field of the query:

- `d(<path_to_directory1>,<path_to_directory2>,...)`: With `d()`, `qjanno` (recursively) searches all package-defining `POSEIDON.yml` files in all listed directories and reads them to determine the latest package version. It then reads the `.janno` files associated with these latest package versions.
- `da(<path_to_directory1>,<path_to_directory2>,...)`: `da()` behaves just as `d()`, but it does not filter for the latest package version: It loads all packaged `.janno` files.
- `j(<path_to_directory1>,<path_to_directory2>,...)`: `j()` simply searches for files with the extension `.janno` in all listed directories and loads them regardless of whether they are part of a Poseidon package or not.
- `<path_to_one_janno_file>.janno`: Specific `.janno` files can be listed individually. They are identified as such by their `.janno` extension.

Multiple of these methods can be combined as a comma-separated list. Each respective mechanism then yields a list of `.janno` file paths, and the list of lists is flattened to a simple list of paths. `qjanno` then reads all files in

70 this combined list, merges them and makes them available for querying in the in-memory SQLite database.

71 Note that the `FROM` field must not include any spaces – even in a comma-separated list. `qjanno` parses the `QUERY`

72 using space as a separator.

73 4.2 CLI details

74 `qjanno` can not just read `.janno` files, but also arbitrary `.csv` and `.tsv` files. This option is triggered by providing

75 file names (relative paths) in the `FROM` field of the query.

```
$ echo -e "Col1,Col2\nVal1,Val2\nVal3,Val4\n" > test.csv
$ qjanno "SELECT * FROM test.csv"
.----- .----- .-----
| source_file | Col1 | Col2 |
:=====:=====:=====:
| test.csv    | Val1 | Val2 |
| test.csv    | Val3 | Val4 |
'-----'-----'-----'
```

76 For these non-`.janno` files `qjanno` tries to automatically determine the relevant delimiter. With `--sep` a delimiter

77 can be specified explicitly, and the shortcut `-t` sets `--sep '$\t'` for tab-separated files.

```
$ echo -e "Col1\tCol2\nVal1\tVal2\nVal3\tVal4\n" > test.tsv
$ qjanno "SELECT * FROM test.tsv" -t
.----- .----- .-----
| source_file | Col1 | Col2 |
:=====:=====:=====:
| test_tab.csv | Val1 | Val2 |
| test_tab.csv | Val3 | Val4 |
'-----'-----'-----'
```

78 The `--noHeader` option allows to read files without headers, so column names. The columns are then automatically

79 named `c1, c2, ... cN`:

```
$ echo -e "Val1,Val2\nVal3,Val4\n" > test.csv
$ qjanno "SELECT c1,c2 FROM test.csv" --noHeader
.----- .-----
| c1  | c2  |
:=====:=====:
| Val1 | Val2 |
| Val3 | Val4 |
'-----'-----'
```

80 The remaining options concern the output: `--raw` returns the output table not in the ornate, human-readable

81 ASCII table layout, but in a simple tab-separated format. `--noOutHeader` omits the header line in the output.

```
$ echo -e "Col1,Col2\nVal1,Val2\nVal3,Val4\n" > test.csv
$ qjanno "SELECT * FROM test.csv" --raw --noOutHeader
test.csv Val1 Val2
test.csv Val3 Val4
```

82 Note that these output options can be combined to directly prepare individual lists in **trident**'s **forge** selection
83 language format:

```
$ qjanno "SELECT '<||Poseidon_ID||>' FROM d(2012_MeyerScience)" --raw --noOutHeader
<A_Mbuti-5.DG>
<A_Yoruba-4.DG>
<A_Sardinian-4.DG>
<A_French-4.DG>
<A_Dinka-4.DG>
<A_Ju_hoan_North-5.DG>
```

84 4.3 The **-c|--showColumns** option

85 **-c|--showColumns** is a special option that, when activated, makes **qjanno** return not the result of a given query,
86 but an overview table with the columns available in all selected files for said query. That is helpful to get an
87 overview what could actually be queried.

```
$ echo -e "Col1,Col2\nVal1,Val2\nVal3,Val4\n" > test.csv
$ qjanno "SELECT * FROM test.csv" -c

.------.------.------.
| Column | Path | qjanno Table name |
:=====:=====:=====:
| source_file | test.csv | test |
| Col1 | test.csv | test |
| Col2 | test.csv | test |
'-----'-----'-----'
```

88 This summary also includes the artificial, structurally cleaned table names assigned by **qjanno** before writing
89 to the SQLite database. Often we can not simply use the file names as table names, because SQLite has strict
90 naming requirements. File names or relative paths are generally invalid as table names and therefore need to be
91 replaced with an adjusted string. These artificially generated names are mostly irrelevant from a user perspective
92 – except a query involves multiple files, e.g. in a **JOIN** operation. See below for an example.

93 5 Query examples

94 The following examples show some of the functionality of the SQLite query language available through **qjanno**.
95 See the [SQLite syntax documentation](#) for more details. The examples were prepared and tested in a clone of the
96 Poseidon community archive.

97 Sub-setting with **WHERE**

98 Get all individuals/samples (.janno rows) in two Poseidon packages where **UDG** is set to 'minus'. That means
99 the underlying aDNA libraries were subjected to a lab protocol without **UDG** (USER enzyme) treatment before
100 sequencing.

```
$ qjanno " \
SELECT package_title,Poseidon_ID,UDG \
FROM d(2010_RasmussenNature,2012_MeyerScience) \
WHERE UDG = 'minus' \
```

```
"
.------.-----
| Poseidon_ID | UDG |
:=====:=====
| Inuk.SG      | minus |
'-----'-----'
```

101 Note that rows where the UDG entry is missing (NULL) are silently dropped here.

102 Get all individuals where Genetic_Sex is not 'F' (female) **and** Country is 'Sudan'.

```
$ qjanno " \
SELECT Poseidon_ID,Country \
FROM d(2010_RasmussenNature,2012_MeyerScience) \
WHERE Genetic_Sex <> 'F' AND Country = 'Sudan' \
"
.------.-----
| Poseidon_ID | Country |
:=====:=====
| A_Dinka-4.DG | Sudan   |
'-----'-----'
```

103 Get all individuals where the UDG column is not NULL (not missing) **or** the Country is 'Sudan'.

```
$ qjanno " \
SELECT Poseidon_ID,Country \
FROM d(2010_RasmussenNature,2012_MeyerScience) \
WHERE UDG IS NOT NULL OR Country = 'Sudan' \
"
.------.-----
| Poseidon_ID | Country |
:=====:=====
| Inuk.SG      | Greenland |
| A_Dinka-4.DG | Sudan     |
'-----'-----'
```

104 Get all individuals where Nr_SNPs is equal to or bigger than 600,000.

```
$ qjanno " \
SELECT Poseidon_ID,Nr_SNPs \
FROM d(2010_RasmussenNature,2012_MeyerScience) \
WHERE Nr_SNPs >= 600000 \
"
.------.-----
| Poseidon_ID | Nr_SNPs |
:=====:=====
| Inuk.SG      | 1101700 |
'-----'-----'
```

105 **Ordering with ORDER BY**

106 Order all individuals by Nr_SNPs.

```
$ qjanno " \  
SELECT Poseidon_ID,Nr_SNPs \  
FROM d(2010_RasmussenNature,2012_MeyerScience) \  
ORDER BY Nr_SNPs \  
"  
  
.-----.  
| Poseidon_ID | Nr_SNPs |  
:=====:  
| A_French-4.DG | 592535 |  
| A_Ju_hoan_North-5.DG | 593045 |  
| A_Mbuti-5.DG | 593057 |  
| A_Dinka-4.DG | 593076 |  
| A_Yoruba-4.DG | 593097 |  
| A_Sardinian-4.DG | 593109 |  
| Inuk.SG | 1101700 |  
'-----'
```

107 Order all individuals by Date_BC_AD_Median in a descending (DESC) order. Date_BC_AD_Median includes
108 missing values.

```
$ qjanno " \  
SELECT Poseidon_ID,Date_BC_AD_Median \  
FROM d(2010_RasmussenNature,2012_MeyerScience) \  
ORDER BY Date_BC_AD_Median DESC \  
"  
  
.-----.  
| Poseidon_ID | Date_BC_AD_Median |  
:=====:  
| Inuk.SG | -1935 |  
| A_Sardinian-4.DG | |  
| A_Yoruba-4.DG | |  
| A_Dinka-4.DG | |  
| A_Mbuti-5.DG | |  
| A_Ju_hoan_North-5.DG | |  
| A_French-4.DG | |  
'-----'
```

109 **Reducing the number of return values with LIMIT**

110 Only return the first three result individuals.

```
$ qjanno " \  
SELECT Poseidon_ID,Group_Name \  
FROM d(2010_RasmussenNature,2012_MeyerScience) \  
LIMIT 3 \  
"  
  
.-----.
```

```
| Poseidon_ID | Group_Name |
:=====:
| Inuk.SG | Greenland_Saqqaq.SG |
| A_Mbuti-5.DG | Ignore_Mbuti(discovery).DG |
| A_Yoruba-4.DG | Ignore_Yoruba(discovery).DG |
'-----'
```

111 Combining tables with JOIN

112 For JOIN operations, SQLite requires table names to specify which columns are meant when combining multiple
113 tables with overlapping column names. See the option `-c|--showColumns` to get the relevant table names as
114 generated from the input file paths.

```
$ echo -e "Poseidon_ID,MoreInfo\nInuk.SG,5\nA_French-4.DG,3\n" > test.csv

$ qjanno "SELECT * FROM d(2010_RasmussenNature,2012_MeyerScience)" -c
.------.------.
| Column | Path |
:=====:
| package_title | d(2010_RasmussenNature,2012_MeyerScience) |
| package_version | d(2010_RasmussenNature,2012_MeyerScience) |
| source_file | d(2010_RasmussenNature,2012_MeyerScience) |
| Poseidon_ID | d(2010_RasmussenNature,2012_MeyerScience) |
...

-----.
qjanno Table name |
=====:
d2010RasmussenNature2012MeyerScience |
d2010RasmussenNature2012MeyerScience |
d2010RasmussenNature2012MeyerScience |
d2010RasmussenNature2012MeyerScience |
...

$ qjanno "SELECT * FROM test.csv" -c
.------.------.------.
| Column | Path | qjanno Table name |
:=====:=====:=====:
| source_file | test.csv | test |
| Poseidon_ID | test.csv | test |
...
```

115 Join the `.janno` files with the information in the `test.csv` file (by the `Poseidon_ID` column).

```
$ qjanno " \
SELECT d2010RasmussenNature2012MeyerScience.Poseidon_ID,Country,MoreInfo \
FROM d(2010_RasmussenNature,2012_MeyerScience) \
INNER JOIN test.csv \
ON d2010RasmussenNature2012MeyerScience.Poseidon_ID = test.Poseidon_ID \
```



```
"
.------.------.------.
| Poseidon_ID | Country | MoreInfo |
:=====:=====:=====:
| Inuk.SG      | Greenland | 5         |
| A_French-4.DG | France   | 3         |
'------'-----'-----'
```

116 Grouping data and applying aggregate functions

117 SQLite provides a number of aggregation functions: `avg(X)`, `count(*)`, `count(X)`, `group_concat(X)`,
 118 `group_concat(X,Y)`, `max(X)`, `min(X)` and `sum(X)`. See the documentation [here](#). These functions shine especially
 119 when combined with the `GROUP BY` operation.

120 Determine the minimal number of SNPs across all individuals.

```
$ qjanno "SELECT min(Nr_SNPs) AS n FROM d(2010_RasmussenNature,2012_MeyerScience)"
.------.
|    n    |
:=====:
| 592535  |
'-----'
```

121 Count the number of individuals per `Date_Type` group and calculate the average `Nr_SNPs` for both groups.

```
$ qjanno " \
SELECT Date_Type,count(*),avg(Nr_SNPs) \
FROM d(2010_RasmussenNature,2012_MeyerScience) \
GROUP BY Date_Type \
"
.------.------.------.
| Date_Type | count(*) | avg(Nr_SNPs) |
:=====:=====:=====:
| C14       | 1        | 1101700.0     |
| modern    | 6        | 592986.5      |
'------'-----'-----'
```

122

- 123 [1] K. P. Gaffney, M. Prammer, L. Brasfield, D. R. Hipp, D. Kennedy, and J. M. Patel, "SQLite: Past, present, and future," *Proceedings of the VLDB Endowment*, vol. 15, no. 12, pp. 3535–3547, Aug. 2022, doi: [10.14778/3554821.3554842](https://doi.org/10.14778/3554821.3554842).