

# Assignment Project Exam Help

SQL: An Implementation of the Relational Algebra

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## SQL

## Development of Relational Database Systems

- Relation Model and Algebra proposed by C.J. Codd in 1970
- IBM developed a prototype relational database called **System R** with a query language **Structured English Query Language (SEQUEL)**
- SEQUEL later renamed **SQL**
- Various commercial versions of SQL launched in late 1970's/early 1980s
  - **DB2**
  - **Oracle**
  - **Sybase**
  - ...

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## SQL Language Components

**Data Definition Language (DDL):** a relational schema with data

**Data Manipulation Language (DML):** a relational query and update language

## SQL DML: Definition of Tables

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```
CREATE TABLE branch (
  sortcode INTEGER NOT NULL,
  bname VARCHAR(20) NOT NULL,
  cash DECIMAL(10,2) NOT NULL
)
```

branch
sortcode bname cash

```
CREATE TABLE account (
  no INTEGER NOT NULL,
  type VARCHAR(8) NOT NULL,
  cname VARCHAR(20) NOT NULL,
  rate DECIMAL(4,2) NOT NULL,
  sortcode INTEGER NOT NULL
)
```

account				
no	type	cname	rate	sortcode

## SQL DML: SQL Data Types

Some SQL Data Types

Keyword	Semantics
BOOLEAN	A logical value (TRUE, FALSE or UNKNOWN)
BIT	1 bit integer (0, 1, or NULL)
INTEGER	32 bit integer
BIGINT	64 bit integer
FLOAT( $n$ )	An $n$ bit mantissa floating point number
REAL	32 bit floating point number ( $\equiv$ FLOAT(24))
DOUBLE PRECISION	64 bit floating point number ( $\equiv$ FLOAT(53))
DECIMAL( $p,s$ )	A $p$ digit number with $s$ digits after the decimal point
CHAR( $n$ )	A fixed length string of $n$ characters
VARCHAR( $n$ )	A varying length string of upto $n$ characters
DATE	A calendar date (day, month, and year)
TIME	A time of day (seconds, minutes, hours)
TIMESTAMP	time and day together
ARRAY	An ordered list of a certain datatype
MULTISET	A bag ( <i>i.e.</i> unordered list) of a certain datatype
XML	XML text

## SQL DML: Definition of Keys

```
CREATE TABLE branch
(
  sortcode INTEGER NOT NULL,
  bname VARCHAR(20) NOT NULL,
  cash DECIMAL(10,2) NOT NULL,
  CONSTRAINT branch_pk PRIMARY KEY (sortcode)
)
```

branch		
sortcode	bname	cash

```
CREATE TABLE account
(
  no INTEGER NOT NULL,
  type VARCHAR(8) NOT NULL,
  cname VARCHAR(20) NOT NULL,
  rate DECIMAL(4,2) NOT NULL,
  sortcode INTEGER NOT NULL,
  CONSTRAINT account_pk PRIMARY KEY (no),
  CONSTRAINT account_fk FOREIGN KEY (sortcode)
  REFERENCES branch
)
```

account				
<u>no</u>	type	cname	rate	sortcode

account(sortcode)  $\xRightarrow{fk}$  branch(sortcode)

## Keys and the Primary Key

### Keys

The alternative keys of a table are called **candidate keys**

### Primary Key

- Choose the key most often used to access a table as the **primary key**
- Has no logical impact on the relational model
- Has an operation impact: index created that accesses the data faster
- All other keys are called **secondary keys**

### Declaring Primary Keys after table creation

```
ALTER TABLE branch
ADD CONSTRAINT branch_pk PRIMARY KEY (sortcode);
```

### Declaring Secondary Keys for a table

```
CREATE UNIQUE INDEX branch_bname_key ON branch(bname)
```

## SQL DML: Inserting, Updating and Deleting Data

```

INSERT INTO account
VALUES (100, 'current', 'McBrien, P.', NULL, 67),
(101, 'deposit', 'McBrien, P.', 5.25, 67),
(103, 'current', 'Boyd, M.', NULL, 34),
(107, 'current', 'Poulovassilis, A.', NULL, 56),
(119, 'deposit', 'Poulovassilis, A.', 5.50, 56),
(125, 'current', 'Bailey, J.', NULL, 56)

```

```

UPDATE account
SET type='deposit'
WHERE no=100

```

```

DELETE
FROM account
WHERE no=100

```

account				
no	type	cname	rate	sortcode
100	'current'	'McBrien, P.'	NULL	67
101	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	5.25	67
103	'current'	'Boyd, M.'	NULL	34
107	'current'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	NULL	56
119	'deposit'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	5.50	56
125	'current'	'Bailey, J.'	NULL	56

account				
no	type	cname	rate	sortcode
100	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	NULL	67
101	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	5.25	67
103	'current'	'Boyd, M.'	NULL	34
107	'current'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	NULL	56
119	'deposit'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	5.50	56
125	'current'	'Bailey, J.'	NULL	56

account				
no	type	cname	rate	sortcode
101	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	5.25	67
103	'current'	'Boyd, M.'	NULL	34
107	'current'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	NULL	56
119	'deposit'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	5.50	56
125	'current'	'Bailey, J.'	NULL	56

## SQL DML: An Implementation of the RA

## SQL SELECT statements: Rough Equivalence to RA

SELECT  $A_1, \dots, A_n$   
 FROM  $R_1, \dots, R_m$   
 WHERE  $P_1$   
 AND ...  
 AND  $P_k$

$\Leftrightarrow \pi_{A_1, \dots, A_n} \sigma_{P_1 \wedge \dots \wedge P_k} R_1 \times \dots \times R_m$

SQL SELECT implements RA  $\pi, \sigma$  and  $\times$

$\pi_{\text{bname}, \text{no}} \sigma_{\text{branch.sortcode}=\text{account.sortcode} \wedge \text{account.type}='current'} (\text{branch} \times \text{account})$

SELECT  $\text{branch.bname},$   
 $\text{account.no}$   
 FROM  $\text{account}, \text{branch}$   
 WHERE  $\text{account.sortcode}=\text{branch.sortcode}$   
 AND  $\text{account.type}='current'$



## Naming columns in SQL

### Column naming rules in SQL

- You must never have an ambiguous column name in an SQL statement
- You can use **SELECT \*** to indicate all columns (i.e. have no projection)
- You can use **tablename.\*** to imply all columns from a table

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✓

```
SELECT branch.bname,
       account.sortcode
FROM   account, branch
WHERE  account.sortcode=
       branch.sortcode
AND    account.type='current'
```

✗

```
SELECT bname,
       sortcode
FROM   account, branch
WHERE  account.sortcode=
       branch.sortcode
AND    type='current'
```

✓

```
SELECT bname,
       account.sortcode
FROM   account, branch
WHERE  account.sortcode=
       branch.sortcode
AND    type='current'
```

✓

```
SELECT branch.*,
       no
FROM   account, branch
WHERE  account.sortcode=
       branch.sortcode
AND    type='current'
```



sortcode	bname	cash	no
67	'Strand'	34005.00	100
34	'Goodge St'	8900.67	103
56	'Wimbledon'	94340.45	107
56	'Wimbledon'	94340.45	125

## Quiz 1: Translating RA into SQL

Which SQL query implements  $\pi_{\text{bname}, \text{no}} \sigma_{\text{type}='deposit'}(\text{account} \bowtie \text{branch})$ ?

A

```
SELECT *
FROM account, branch
WHERE type='deposit'
```

B

```
SELECT bname, no
FROM account, branch
WHERE type='deposit'
```

C

```
SELECT bname, no
FROM branch, account
WHERE branch.sortcode=
       account.sortcode
AND type='deposit'
```

D

```
SELECT bname, no
FROM account, branch
WHERE branch.sortcode=
       account.no
AND type='deposit'
```

## Connectives Between SQL SELECT statements

## Binary operators between SELECT statements

- SQL UNION implements RA  $\cup$
- SQL EXCEPT implements RA  $-$
- SQL INTERSECT implements RA  $\cap$

Note that two tables must be **union compatible**: have the same number and type of columns

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$\pi_{\text{noaccount}} - \pi_{\text{nomovement}}$

```
SELECT no
FROM account
EXCEPT
SELECT no
FROM movement
```

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## SQL Joins: Four ways of asking branch $\bowtie$ account

### 'Classic' SQL Join Syntax

```
SELECT branch.*, no, type, cname, rate
FROM branch, account
WHERE branch.sortcode=account.sortcode
```

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### Modern SQL Join Syntax

```
SELECT branch.*, no, type, cname, rate
FROM branch JOIN account ON branch.sortcode=account.sortcode
```

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### Special Syntax for Natural Join

```
SELECT *
FROM branch NATURAL JOIN account
```

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### Another Special Syntax for Natural Join

```
SELECT branch.*, no, type, cname, rate
FROM branch JOIN account USING (sortcode)
```

## Overview of RA and SQL correspondences

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RA and SQL	
RA Operator	SQL Operator
$\pi$	SELECT
$\sigma$	WHERE
$R_1 \times R_2$	FROM $R_1, R_2$ <i>or</i> FROM $R_1$ CROSS JOIN $R_2$
$R_1 \bowtie R_2$	FROM $R_1$ NATURAL JOIN $R_2$
$R_1 \bowtie_{\theta} R_2$	FROM $R_1$ JOIN $R_2$ ON $\theta$
$R_1 - R_2$	$R_1$ EXCEPT $R_2$
$R_1 \cup R_2$	$R_1$ UNION $R_2$
$R_1 \cap R_2$	$R_1$ INTERSECT $R_2$

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Try some examples yourself ...

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```

redsa@s2(pw)-4$ psql -i db -U lab -d bank -c 'branch -W'
Password:
bank_branch=> SELECT *
bank_branch-> FROM branch NATURAL JOIN account;

```

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sortcode	branch	cash	mv	type	clerk	rate
67	Strand	34005.00	100	current	McBrien, P.	
67	Strand	34005.00	101	deposit	McBrien, P.	5.25
34	Goodge St	8900.67	103	current	Boyd, M.	
56	Wimbledon	94340.45	107	current	Poulovassilis, A.	
56	Wimbledon	94340.45	119	deposit	Poulovassilis, A.	5.50
56	Wimbledon	94340.45	125	current	Bailey, J.	

...and find out that not all DBMSs are the same

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```
medusa-s2(pjm)-4$ sqsh -S sqlserver -X -U lab -D bank_branch
Password:
[21] sqlserver.bank_branch.1> SELECT *
[21] sqlserver.bank_branch.2> FROM branch NATURAL JOIN account
[21] sqlserver.bank_branch.3> \g
```

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```
Msg 102, Level 15, State 1
Server 'DOWITCHER', Line 2
Line 2: Incorrect syntax near 'account'.
```

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## SQL: Bags and Sets

```
SELECT ALL sortcode
FROM account
```

sortcode
67
67
56
56
56
34

```
SELECT DISTINCT sortcode
FROM account
```

sortcode
34
56
67

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## SQL SELECT: Bag semantics

- By default, an SQL SELECT (equivalent to an RA  $\pi$ ) does *not* eliminate duplicates, and returns a **bag** (or **multiset**) rather than a set.
- Any SELECT that does not cover a key of the input relation, and requires a set based answer, should use DISTINCT.



## Quiz 2: Correct use of SELECT DISTINCT (1)

```
branch(sortcode,bname,cash)
```

```
key branch(sortcode)
```

```
key branch(bname)
```

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Which SQL query requires the use of DISTINCT in order to avoid the possibility of a bag being produced?

A

```
SELECT *  
FROM branch  
WHERE cash > 10000
```

B

```
SELECT sortcode  
FROM branch  
WHERE cash > 10000
```

C

```
SELECT bname, cash  
FROM branch
```

D

```
SELECT cash  
FROM branch  
WHERE cash > 10000
```

## Quiz 3: Correct use of SELECT DISTINCT (2)

branch(sortcode,bname,cash)

account(no,type,cname,rate,sortcode)

key branch(sortcode)

key branch(bname)

key account(no)

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Which SQL query requires the use of DISTINCT in order to avoid the possibility of a bag being produced?

A

```
SELECT *  
FROM branch NATURAL JOIN  
account
```

B

```
SELECT branch.sortcode , type , rate  
FROM branch NATURAL JOIN  
account
```

C

```
SELECT branch.sortcode , no  
FROM branch NATURAL JOIN  
account
```

D

```
SELECT branch.sortcode , no , cash  
FROM branch NATURAL JOIN  
account
```

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## Quiz 4: Operators that might produce bags

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If  $R$  and  $S$  are sets, which RA operator could produce a bag result if the implementation did not check for duplicates?

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A

$\sigma R$

B

$R \cup S$

C

$R - S$

D

$R \times S$

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# Bag and Set operations in SQL

RA Operator	Set Based SQL	Bag Based SQL
$\pi_{A_1, \dots, A_n}$	SELECT DISTINCT $A_1, \dots, A_n$	SELECT ALL $A_1, \dots, A_n$
$R_1 \times \dots \times R_m$	FROM $R_1, \dots, R_m$	FROM $R_1, \dots, R_m$
$\sigma_{P_1 \dots P_k}$	WHERE $P_1$ AND ... AND $P_k$	WHERE $P_1$ AND ... AND $P_k$
$R_1 \cup R_2$	$R_1$ UNION DISTINCT $R_2$	$R_1$ UNION ALL $R_2$
$R_1 - R_2$	$R_1$ EXCEPT DISTINCT $R_2$	$R_1$ EXCEPT ALL $R_2$
$R_1 \cap R_2$	$R_1$ INTERSECT DISTINCT $R_2$	$R_1$ INTERSECT ALL $R_2$

Choosing between set and bag semantics

If you omit DISTINCT or ALL, then the defaults are:

SELECT ALL

UNION DISTINCT

EXCEPT DISTINCT

INTERSECT DISTINCT

No FROM DISTINCT or WHERE DISTINCT?

There is no need for DISTINCT or ALL around FROM ( $\times$ ) and WHERE ( $\sigma$ ) cannot introduce any duplicates, and any existing duplicates can be removed in the SELECT

## Project-Select-Product Queries

## SQL SELECT statements: Exact Equivalence to RA

```
SELECT DISTINCT A1, ..., An
```

```
FROM R1, ..., Rm
```

```
WHERE P1
```

```
AND
```

```
AND
```

$$\equiv \pi_{A_1, \dots, A_n} \sigma_{P_1 \wedge \dots \wedge P_k} R_1 \times \dots \times R_m$$

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- SQL SELECT implements RA  $\pi, \sigma$  and  $\times$

- Omit DISTINCT when either:

- you know  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  cover a key
- you want a bag (rather than set) answer

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## Quiz 5: SQL EXCEPT

```

SELECT no
FROM movement
EXCEPT
SELECT no
FROM account

```

movement			
mid	no	amount	tdate
1000	100	2300.00	5/1/1999
1001	101	4000.00	5/1/1999
1002	100	22.45	8/1/1999
1003	107	100.00	11/1/1999
1005	103	145.88	12/1/1999
1006	100	10.23	15/1/1999
1007	107	345.56	15/1/1999
1008	101	1230.00	15/1/1999
1009	119	5600.00	18/1/1999

account				
no	type	cname	rate	sortcode
100	'current'	'McBrien, P.'	NULL	67
101	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	5.50	67
103	'current'	'Evyl, L.'	NULL	3
107	'current'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	NULL	56
119	'deposit'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	5.50	56
125	'current'	'Bailey, J.'	NULL	56

What is the result of the above SQL query?

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A

no
100
101
103
107
119
125

B

no
100
101
103
107
119

C

no
100
100
101
101
107

D

no
----

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## Quiz 6: SQL EXCEPT ALL

```

SELECT no
FROM movement
EXCEPT ALL
SELECT no
FROM account

```

movement			
mid	no	amount	tdate
1000	100	2300.00	5/1/1999
1001	101	4000.00	5/1/1999
1002	100	22.45	8/1/1999
1003	107	100.00	11/1/1999
1005	103	145.88	12/1/1999
1006	100	10.23	15/1/1999
1007	107	345.56	15/1/1999
1008	101	1230.00	15/1/1999
1009	119	5600.00	18/1/1999

account				
no	type	cname	rate	sortcode
100	'current'	'McBrien, P.'	NULL	67
101	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	5.50	67
103	'current'	'Evyl, L.'	NULL	3
107	'current'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	NULL	56
119	'deposit'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	5.50	56
125	'current'	'Bailey, J.'	NULL	56

What is the result of the above SQL query?

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A

no
100
101
103
107
119
125

B

no
100
101
103
107
119

C

no
100
100
101
107

D

no
----

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## Table Aliases and Self Joins

### Table and Column Aliases

The SQL operator **AS** allows a column or table name to be renamed.

Essential when needing to join a table with itself

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List people with a current and a deposit account

```
SELECT current_account.cname,  
       current_account.no AS current_no,  
       deposit_account.no AS deposit_no  
FROM   account AS current_account  
       JOIN account AS deposit_account  
ON     current_account.cname=deposit_account.cname  
AND    current_account.type='current'  
AND    deposit_account.type='deposit'
```



cname	current_no	deposit_no
'McBrien, P.'	100	101
'Poulovassilis, A.'	107	119



## Table Aliases

current_account				
no	type	cname	rate	sortcode
100	'current'	'McBrien, P.'	NULL	67
101	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	5.25	67
103	'current'	'Boyd, M.'	NULL	34
107	'current'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	NULL	56
119	'deposit'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	5.50	56
125	'current'	'Bailey, J.'	NULL	56

deposit_account				
no	type	cname	rate	sortcode
100	'current'	'McBrien, P.'	NULL	67
101	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	5.25	67
103	'current'	'Boyd, M.'	NULL	34
107	'current'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	NULL	56
119	'deposit'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	5.50	56
125	'current'	'Bailey, J.'	NULL	56

## Worksheet: Translating Between Relational Algebra and SQL

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account				
no	type	clname	rate	sortcode
100	'current'	'McBrien, P.'	NULL	67
101	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	5.25	67
103	'current'	'Boyd, M.'	NULL	34
107	'current'	'Poulouvasilis, A.'	NULL	56
119	'deposit'	'Poulouvasilis, A.'	5.50	56
125	'current'	'Bailey, J.'	NULL	56

movement			
mid	no	amount	tdate
1000	100	2300.00	5/1/1999
1001	101	4000.00	5/1/1999
1002	100	-223.45	8/1/1999
1004	107	-100.00	11/1/1999
1005	103	145.50	12/1/1999
1006	100	10.23	15/1/1999
1007	107	345.56	15/1/1999
1008	101	1230.00	15/1/1999
1009	119	5600.00	18/1/1999

$\text{movement}(\text{no}) \xrightarrow{fk} \text{account.no}$

## Set Operations: IN

IN operator tests for membership of a set

```
SELECT *
FROM   account
WHERE  type='current'
AND    no IN (100,101)
```

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Can use nested SELECT to generate set

```
SELECT no
FROM   account
WHERE  type='current'
AND    no IN (SELECT no
               FROM   movement
               WHERE  amount > 500)
```

≡

```
SELECT DISTINCT account.no
FROM   account JOIN movement
      ON account.no=movement.no
WHERE  type='current'
AND    amount > 500
```

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## Quiz 7: SQL Set Membership Testing

SELECT no  
 FROM account  
 WHERE type='current'  
 AND no NOT IN  
 ( SELECT no  
 FROM movement  
 WHERE amount>500)

SELECT DISTINCT account.no  
 FROM account  
 JOIN movement  
 ON account.no=movement.no  
 WHERE type='current'  
 AND NOT amount>500

$\neq$

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What is the result of the above SQL query?

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A

no
100
103
107
125

B

no
100
103
107

C

no
103
107
125

D

no
103
107

## Set Operations: EXISTS

## Testing for Existence

- IN can be used to test if some value is in a relation, either listed, or produced by some SELECT statement
- EXISTS can be used to test if a SELECT statement returns any rows

List people without a deposit account

```

SELECT DISTINCT cname
FROM account
WHERE cname NOT IN
( SELECT cname
  FROM account
  WHERE type='deposit' )

SELECT DISTINCT cname
FROM account
WHERE NOT EXISTS
( SELECT *
  FROM account A1, deposit_account A2
  WHERE A1.type='deposit'
    AND A1.account.cname=A2.cname )

```

cname
'Boyd, M.'
'Bailey, J.'

## Correlated Subquery

### Correlated Subquery

- A correlated subquery contains a reference to the columns of the outer query in which the subquery is contained
- Conceptually, result is as if the subquery were executed for each row considered by the WHERE clause

List people without a deposit account

```
SELECT DISTINCT cname
FROM   account
WHERE NOT EXISTS
( SELECT *
  FROM   account AS deposit_account
 WHERE   type='deposit'
 AND     account.cname=deposit_account.cname )
```

cname

'Boyd, M.'

'Bailey, J.'

## Set Operations: EXISTS

## NOT EXISTS and EXCEPT

- Most queries involving EXCEPT can be also written using NOT EXISTS
- EXCEPT relatively recent addition to SQL

$$\pi_{no,account} - \pi_{no,movement}$$

SELECT no FROM account EXCEPT SELECT no FROM movement

$\equiv$

SELECT no FROM account WHERE NOT EXISTS (SELECT no FROM movement WHERE no=account.no)

## Set Operations: SOME and ALL

Can test a value against members of a set

- $V \text{ op SOME } S$  is TRUE if there is at least one  $V_s \in S$  such that  $V \text{ op } V_s$
- $V \text{ op ALL } S$  is TRUE if there are no values  $V_s \in S$  such that NOT  $V \text{ op } V_s$

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names of branches that only have current accounts

```
SELECT bname
FROM branch
WHERE 'current'=ALL (SELECT type
                     FROM account
                     WHERE branch.sortcode=account.sortcode)
```

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names of branches that have deposit accounts

```
SELECT bname
FROM branch
WHERE 'deposit'=SOME (SELECT type
                      FROM account
                      WHERE branch.sortcode=account.sortcode)
```



## Worksheet: Set Operations

branch	sortcode	branch	cash
56	'Wimbledon'	94340.45	
34	'Goodge St'	8900.67	
67	'Strand'	34005.00	

movement	mid	no	amount	tdate
1000	100	2300.00	5/1/1999	
1001	101	4000.00	5/1/1999	
1002	100	-223.45	8/1/1999	
1004	107	-100.00	11/1/1999	
1005	103	145.50	12/1/1999	
1006	100	1123	15/1/1999	
1007	107	345.56	15/1/1999	
1008	101	1230.00	15/1/1999	
1009	119	5600.00	18/1/1999	

account	no	type	name	rate	sortcode
100	'current'	'McBrien, P.'	NULL	67	
101	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	5.25	67	
103	'current'	'Boyd, M.'	NULL	34	
107	'current'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	NULL	56	
119	'deposit'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	5.50	56	
125	'current'	'Bailey, J.'	NULL	56	

key branch(sortcode)

key branch(bname)

key movement(mid)

key account(no)

movement(no)  $\xRightarrow{fk}$  account(no)account(sortcode)  $\xRightarrow{fk}$  branch(sortcode)

## Worksheet: Set Operations (3)

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Write an SQL query without using any negation (*i.e.* without the use of NOT or EXCEPT) that list accounts with no movements on or before the 11-Jan-1999.

```
SELECT  
FROM  
WHERE
```

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```
no  
account  
'11-jan-1999'<ALL (SELECT tdate  
FROM movement  
WHERE movement.no=account.no)
```

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## Worksheet: Set Operations (4)

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Write an SQL query that lists the name of customers that have every type of account that appears in account

SELECT DISTINCT cname  
FROM account AS cust\_account  
WHERE NOT EXISTS ( SELECT type  
FROM account  
EXCEPT  
SELECT type  
FROM account  
WHERE account.cname=cust\_account.cname  
)

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## Set Operations: NOT SOME NOT and ALL

Equivalence between *exists* and *for all*In first order classical logic  $\neg\exists\neg \equiv \forall$ 

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accounts with all movements less than or equal to 500

```
SELECT no
FROM account
WHERE 500 >= ALL (SELECT amount
                  FROM movement
                  WHERE account.no=movement.no)
```

≡

```
SELECT no
FROM account
WHERE NOT 500 < SOME (SELECT amount
                     FROM movement
                     WHERE account.no=movement.no)
```

# Null

*Several definitions of null have been proposed, including:*

- 1 null represents something that is not present in the UoD
- 2 null represents something that might be present in the UoD, but we do not know its value at present
- 3 null represents something that is present in the UoD, but we do not know its value at present

## SQL handling of NULL

- SQL uses a three-valued logic to process WHERE predicate
- Truth values are TRUE, FALSE, and UNKNOWN
- SQL standard vague, but handling of NULL is nearest to option 2

## Quiz 8: SQL handling of NULL (1)

account				
no	type	cname	rate	sortcode
100	'current'	'McBrien, P.'	NULL	67
101	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	5.25	67
103	'current'	'Floyd, M.'	NULL	3
107	'current'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	NULL	56
119	'deposit'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	5.50	56
125	'current'	'Bailey, J.'	NULL	56

```
SELECT no
FROM account
WHERE rate=NULL
```

What is the result of the SQL query above?

A

no
100
101
103
107
119
125

B

no
100
103
107
125

C

no
101
119

D

no
----

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## Quiz 9: SQL handling of NULL (2)

account				
no	type	cname	rate	sortcode
100	'current'	'McBrien, P.'	NULL	67
101	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	5.25	67
103	'current'	'Floyd, M.'	NULL	3
107	'current'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	NULL	56
119	'deposit'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	5.50	56
125	'current'	'Bailey, J.'	NULL	56

```
SELECT no
FROM account
WHERE rate=null
OR      rate<>null
```

What is the result of the SQL query above?

A

no
100
101
103
107
119
125

B

no
100
103
107
125

C

no
101
119

D

no
----

# SQL implements three valued logic

## AND

 $P_1 \text{ AND } P_2$ 

	TRUE	UNKNOWN	FALSE
TRUE	TRUE	UNKNOWN	FALSE
UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	FALSE
FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE

## NOT

	TRUE	UNKNOWN	FALSE
TRUE	FALSE	UNKNOWN	TRUE
UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN
FALSE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE

## OR

 $P_1 \text{ OR } P_2$ 

	TRUE	UNKNOWN	FALSE
TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE
UNKNOWN	TRUE	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN
FALSE	TRUE	UNKNOWN	FALSE

## Truth values of SQL Formulae

Formula	Result
$x = \text{null}$	UNKNOWN
$\text{null} = \text{null}$	UNKNOWN
$x \text{ IS NULL}$	TRUE if $x$ has a null value, FALSE otherwise
$x \text{ IS NOT NULL}$	TRUE if $x$ does not have a null value, FALSE otherwise



## 'Correct' SQL Queries Using null

### Correct testing for NULL

```
SELECT no
FROM account
WHERE rate=NULL
```



```
SELECT no
FROM account
WHERE rate IS NULL
```

```
SELECT no
FROM account
WHERE rate=NULL
OR
rate<>NULL
```



```
SELECT no
FROM account
WHERE rate IS NULL
OR
rate IS NOT NULL
```

### Testing for logical truth value

```
SELECT no
FROM account
WHERE (rate=5.50) IS NOT TRUE
```

## Quiz 10: SQL 'Might Be'

```
SELECT no
FROM account
WHERE (rate=5.25) IS NOT FALSE
```

account				
no	type	cname	rate	sortcode
100	'current'	'McBrien, P.'	NULL	67
101	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	5.25	67
103	'current'	'Boyd, M.'	NULL	34
107	'current'	'Poulouvassilis, A.'	NULL	56
119	'deposit'	'Poulouvassilis, A.'	5.50	56
125	'current'	'Bailey, J.'	NULL	56

What is the result of the above SQL query?

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A

no
100
101
103
107
125

B

no
100
103
107
119
125

C

no
100
103
107
125

D

no
----

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## Worksheet: Null values in SQL

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movement			
mid	no	amount	tdate
0999	119	45.00	null
1000	100	2300.00	5/1/1999
1001	101	4000.00	5/1/1999
1002	100	223.45	8/1/1999
1004	101	100.00	11/1/1999
1005	103	145.50	12/1/1999
1006	100	10.23	15/1/1999
1008	101	1230.00	15/1/1999
1009	119	5600.00	18/1/1999
1010	100	null	20/1/1999
1011	null	null	20/1/1999
1012	null	600.00	20/1/1999
1013	null	-46.00	20/1/1999

account			
no	type	name	sortcode
100	'current'	'McBrien, P.'	null
101	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	5.25
119	'deposit'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	5.50
125	'current'	'Bailey, J.'	null

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## Quiz 11: SQL EXCEPT and NULL

```

SELECT rate
FROM account
WHERE acctno=105
EXCEPT
SELECT rate
FROM account
WHERE sortcode=56

```

acctno	type	owner	rate	sortcode
100	'current'	'McBrien, P.'	NULL	67
101	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	5.25	67
103	'current'	'Boyd, M.'	NULL	34
107	'current'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	NULL	56
119	'deposit'	'Poulovassilis, A.'	5.50	56
125	'current'	'Bailey, J.'	NULL	56

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What is the result of the above SQL query?

A

rate

B

rate  
5.25

C

rate  
5.25  
null

D

rate  
5.25  
null  
null

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# Equivalences Between EXCEPT, NOT IN and NOT EXISTS

R(A) and S(B), A and B are not nullable

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R(A) and S(B), A or B are nullable

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## Quiz 12: SQL EXCEPT and NOT IN

```
SELECT rate
FROM account
WHERE no < 105
AND rate NOT IN
```

```
(SELECT rate
FROM account
WHERE sortcode=56)
```

account				
no	type	cname	rate	sortcode
100	'current'	'McBrien, P.'	NULL	67
101	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	5.25	67
103	'current'	'Boyd, M.'	NULL	34
107	'current'	'Poullovassilis, A.'	NULL	56
119	'deposit'	'Poullovassilis, A.'	5.50	56
125	'current'	'Bailey, J.'	NULL	56

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What is the result of the above SQL query?

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A

rate

B

rate

5.25

C

rate

5.25

null

D

rate

5.25

null

null

## Quiz 13: SQL EXCEPT and NOT EXISTS

```

SELECT rate
FROM account
WHERE no=105
AND NOT EXISTS

```

```

(SELECT *
FROM account AS account_56
WHERE sortcode=56
AND account_56.rate=account.rate)

```

account				
no	type	cname	rate	sortcode
100	'current'	'McBrien, P.'	NULL	67
101	'deposit'	'McBrien, P.'	5.25	67
103	'current'	'Boyd, M.'	NULL	34
107	'current'	'Poulouvassilis, A.'	NULL	56
119	'deposit'	'Poulouvassilis, A.'	5.50	56
125	'current'	'Bailey, J.'	NULL	56

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What is the result of the above SQL query?

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A

rate

B

rate

5.25

C

rate

5.25

null

D

rate

5.25

null

null