SQL – Part 1

SQL and Data Definition Language

What is SQL?

- SQL stands for Structured Query Language.
- SQL was initially developed at IBM (SEQUEL → SQL), as one of the first commercial languages for the relational data model.
  - 1986 – SQL was standardised by ANSI and ISO (⤳ SQL-86).
  - 1989 – SQL was revised (⤳ SQL-89).
  - 1992 – SQL was strengthened and much expanded (⤳ SQL-92).
  - 1999 – SQL was expanded and divided into a core specification plus optional specialised packages (⤳ SQL:1999).
  - 2003 – SQL was further expanded, e.g., XML support (⤳ SQL:2003).
  - 2011 — SQL was further expanded, e.g., improved support for temporal databases (⤳ SQL:2011).

What is SQL?

SQL provides an interface to relational database systems, including:

- Data Definition Language (DDL);

- Data Manipulation Language (DML);

- Data Control Language (DCL);

- Transaction Control Language (TCL).

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Relational Data Model and SQL

- Unlike the relational data model that is based on **sets**, SQL is based on **multisets**. It means that SQL allows a relation to have duplicate tuples.

Data Definition Language

StudentID	Name	CourseNo	Semester

Data Definition Language – Create Table

- The `CREATE TABLE` statement is used to create a new relation schema by specifying its name, its attributes and, *optionally*, its constraints.

```
CREATE TABLE table_name
    (attribute_name data_type [attribute constraints],
    ...,
     attribute_name data_type [attribute constraints],
    [table constraints]);
```
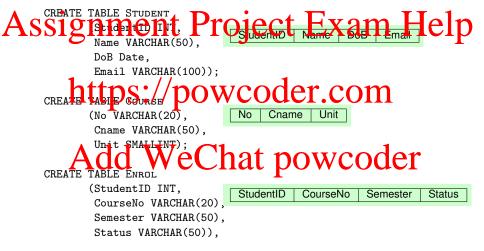
- For each attribute in a relation, we specify its name, its type and, *optionally,* a constraint specific to the attribute (i.e., attribute constraint).

```
attribute_name data_type [attribute_constraint]
```

Create Table – Example

```
CREATE TABLE Student
       (StudentID INT,
        Name VARCHAR(50),
        DoB Date,
        Email VARCHAR(100));
```

StudentID	Name	DoB	Email

```
CREATE TABLE Course
       (No VARCHAR(20),
        Cname VARCHAR(50),
        Unit SMALLINT);
```

No	Cname	Unit

```
CREATE TABLE Enrol
       (StudentID INT,
        CourseNo VARCHAR(20),
        Semester VARCHAR(50),
        Status VARCHAR(50)),
```

StudentID	CourseNo	Semester	Status

Attribute Data Types

- **Numeric types**:
  - `INT` and `SMALLINT` provide domains of integer numbers of various sizes.
  - `FLOAT` or `REAL`, and `DOUBLE PRECISION` provide floating point numbers of various precision.
  - `NUMERIC(i,j)` or `DECIMAL(i,j)` provide fixed point numbers with parameters *precision i* and *scale j*.
    - *precision* for the total number of digits;
    - *scale* for the number of digits following the decimal point.
- **String types**:
  - `CHAR(n)` allows character strings of fixed length, where *n* is the number of characters.
  - `VARCHAR(n)` allows character strings of varying length, where *n* is the maximum number of characters.
  - `BIT(n)` allows bit strings of fixed length, where *n* is the number of bits.
  - `BIT VARYING(n)` allows bit strings of varying length, where *n* is the maximum number of bits.

Attribute Data Types

- **Date and time types**:
  - `DATE` provides date values (year, month, day).
  - `TIME` provides time values (hour, minute, second).
  - `TIMESTAMP` includes the `DATE` and `TIME` fields, plus a minimum of six positions for seconds and an optional `WITH TIME ZONE` qualifier.
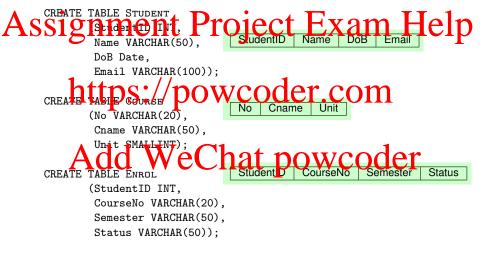 - `INTERVAL` specifies a relative value that can be used to increment or decrement a value of a date, time or timestamp.

- **Boolean type**: has the values of `TRUE` or `FALSE`.

- The `CREATE DOMAIN` statement is used to create a domain that is essentially a specific data type.

```
CREATE DOMAIN domain_name AS data_type
       [default expression][constraint,...,constraint];
```

Example: `CREATE DOMAIN ssn_type AS CHAR(9);`

Attribute Data Types – Example

```
CREATE TABLE Student
      (StudentID INT,
      Name VARCHAR(50),
      DoB Date,
      Email VARCHAR(100));
```

StudentID	Name	DoB	Email

```
CREATE TABLE Course
      (No VARCHAR(20),
      Cname VARCHAR(50),
      Unit SMALLINT);
```

No	Cname	Unit

```
CREATE TABLE Enrol
      (StudentID INT,
      CourseNo VARCHAR(20),
      Semester VARCHAR(50),
      Status VARCHAR(50));
```

StudentID	CourseNo	Semester	Status

Attribute Constraints

- The following constraints can be specified in SQL:

NOT NULL: specify that `NULL` is not allowed for an attribute.

DEFAULT: set a default value for an attribute.

CHECK: limit the values taken from the domain of an attribute.

UNIQUE: ensure that uniqueness of the values for an attribute or a set of attribute in a table.

PRIMARY KEY: uniquely identify each tuple in a table.

FOREIGN KEY: enforce referential integrity between two tables.

INDEX: provides accelerated access to the rows of table.

Attribute Constraints – Not Null, Default and Check

```sql
CREATE TABLE COURSE
    (No VARCHAR(20) PRIMARY KEY,
     Cname VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,
     Unit SMALLINT NOT NULL Default 6);

CREATE TABLE ENROL
    (StudentID INT NOT NULL CHECK (StudentID>0),
     CourseNo VARCHAR(20) NOT NULL,
     Semester VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,
     Status VARCHAR(50),
     ...);
```

- If we don't want to have missing and unknown data, we can specify NOT NULL for attributes to forbid NULL values.
- Unit of any new tuple in COURSE is set to 6 if no explicit value is provided.
- CHECK() for StudentID excludes the student IDs such as 0 and -37.

Attribute Constraints – Unique and Primary Key

```
CREATE TABLE Course
        (No VARCHAR(20) PRIMARY KEY,
        Cname VARCHAR(50) UNIQUE,
        Unit SMALLINT NOT NULL Default 6);

CREATE TABLE ENROL
        (StudentID INT NOT NULL CHECK (StudentID>0),
        CourseNo VARCHAR(20) NOT NULL,
        Semester VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,
        Status VARCHAR(5),
        PRIMARY KEY(StudentID, CourseNo, Semester),
        ...);
```

- If a primary key contains only one attribute, PRIMARY KEY can be defined as an attribute constraint (e.g., in COURSE); otherwise it is defined as a table constraint (e.g., in ENROL).
- PRIMARY KEY specifies a key while UNIQUE specifies additional keys.

Attribute Constraints – Foreign Key

```
CREATE TABLE STUDENT
       (StudentID INT PRIMARY KEY,
        Name VARCHAR(50),
        DoB Date,
        Email VARCHAR(100));

CREATE TABLE COURSE
       (No VARCHAR(20) PRIMARY KEY,
        Cname VARCHAR(50),
        Unit SMALLINT);

CREATE TABLE ENROL
       (StudentID INT,
        CourseNo VARCHAR(20),
        Semester VARCHAR(50),
        Status VARCHAR(50));
```

- Every StudentID appearing in ENROL must exist in STUDENT.
- Every CourseNo appearing in ENROL must exist in COURSE.

Attribute Constraints – Foreign Key

```
CREATE TABLE STUDENT
    (StudentID INT PRIMARY KEY,
    Name VARCHAR(50),
    DoB Date,
    Email VARCHAR(100));

CREATE TABLE COURSE
    (No VARCHAR(20) PRIMARY KEY,
    Cname VARCHAR(50),
    Unit SMALLINT);

CREATE TABLE ENROL
    (StudentID INT,
    CourseNo VARCHAR(20),
    Semester VARCHAR(50),
    Status VARCHAR(50),
    FOREIGN KEY(StudentID) REFERENCES STUDENT(StudentID),
    FOREIGN KEY(CourseNo) REFERENCES COURSE(No));
```

- StudentID in ENROL references StudentID in STUDENT.
- CourseNo in ENROL references No in COURSE.

Attribute Constraints – Foreign Key

```
CREATE TABLE ENROL
        (StudentID INT,
        CourseNo VARCHAR(20),
        Semester VARCHAR(50),
        Status VARCHAR(50),
        FOREIGN KEY(StudentID) REFERENCES STUDENT(StudentID),
        FOREIGN KEY(CourseNo) REFERENCES COURSE(No));

CREATE TABLE STUDENT
        (StudentID INT PRIMARY KEY,
        Name VARCHAR(50),
        DoB Date,
        Email VARCHAR(100));

CREATE TABLE COURSE
        (No VARCHAR(20) PRIMARY KEY,
        Cname VARCHAR(50),
        Unit SMALLINT);
```

- Can we define ENROL before STUDENT and COURSE?

  Answer: No. ENROL has the foreign keys that reference STUDENT and COURSE.

Attribute Constraints – Index

- Indexes are used for fast retrieval based on columns other than the primary key.

```
CREATE TABLE Customer
       (CustomerID INT NOT NULL,
        Name VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,
        DOB DATE NOT NULL,
        Address VARCHAR(80),
        Phone INT CHECK (Phone>0),
        PRIMARY KEY(CustomerID))

CREATE INDEX index1 ON  Customer (Name, DOB);

CREATE UNIQUE INDEX index2 ON Customer (Phone);
```

Data Definition Language – Alter and Drop Table

- The `ALTER TABLE` statement is used to modify an existing relation schema, including:
    - changing the name of a table;
    - adding or dropping an attribute;
    - changing the definition of an attribute;
    - adding or dropping table constraints.

- The `DROP TABLE` statement is used to remove an existing relation schema from a database schema.

Data Definition Language – Alter and Drop Table

- Add a NOT NULL constraint:

  ```
  ALTER TABLE Customer ALTER COLUMN Address SET NOT NULL;
  ```

- Add a UNIQUE constraint:

  ```
  ALTER TABLE Customer ADD UNIQUE(Phone);
  ```

- Add a check() constraint:

  ```
  ALTER TABLE Customer
  ADD CONSTRAINT positive_id CHECK (CustomerID > 0);
  ```

- Add a Foreign Key constraint:

  ```
  ALTER TABLE Enrol
  ADD FOREIGN KEY(StudentID) REFERENCES Student(StudentID);
  ```

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- Add an attribute EMAIL into the table CUSTOMER:

  ```
  ALTER TABLE Customer ADD Email VARCHAR(100);
  ```

- Drop the attribute EMAIL in the table CUSTOMER:

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  ```
  ALTER TABLE Customer DROP COLUMN Email;
  ```

- Drop the table ENROL:

  ```
  DROP TABLE Enrol;
  ```

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- Drop the table CUSTOMER (if exists):

  ```
  DROP TABLE IF EXISTS Customer;
  ```