

BT5110: Tutorial 7 — Aggregate and Nested Queries

Pratik Karmakar

School of Computing,
National University of Singapore

AY25/26 S1



Scenario

Students at the **National University of Ngendipura (NUN)** buy, lend, and borrow books.

NUNStA commissions *Apasaja Private Limited* to implement an online book exchange system that records:

- Students: name, faculty, department, **email** (identifier), join year.
- Books: title, authors, publisher, year, edition, **ISBN10**, **ISBN13**.
- Loans: borrowed date, returned date (may be NULL).

Auditing preserves data for graduated students and copies with loan records. This tutorial uses the schema/data created in “Creating and Populating Tables”.

Important Constraints

This tutorial:

Focus on **aggregate** and **nested** queries.

Practice writing equivalent formulations and ensure readability.

Questions — Aggregate

1. Aggregate Queries

- (a) How many loans involve an owner and a borrower from the same department?
- (b) For each faculty, print the number of loans that involve an owner and borrower from this faculty.
- (c) What are the average and standard deviation of loan duration (in days)?

Questions — Nested

2. Nested Queries

- (a) Print titles of books that have never been borrowed (use nested query).
- (b) Print names of students who own a copy of a book never lent.
- (c) For each department, print names of students who lent the most.
- (d) Print emails and names of students who borrowed all books authored by Adam Smith.

1(a). Number of loans in same department

```
1 SELECT COUNT(*)
2 FROM loan l, student s1, student s2
3 WHERE l.owner = s1.email
4       AND l.borrower = s2.email
5       AND s1.department = s2.department;
```

1(b). Number of loans within faculty

```
1 SELECT d1.faculty, COUNT(*)
2 FROM loan l, student s1, student s2,
3      department d1, department d2
4 WHERE l.owner = s1.email
5       AND l.borrower = s2.email
6       AND s1.department = d1.department
7       AND s2.department = d2.department
8       AND d1.faculty = d2.faculty
9 GROUP BY d1.faculty;
```

1(c). Average and Stddev of Loan Duration

Alternative #1 (inline CASE):

```
1 SELECT CEIL(AVG((CASE
2     WHEN l.returned ISNULL
3         THEN CURRENT_DATE
4     ELSE l.returned END) - l.borrowed + 1)),
5 CEIL(STDDEV_POP((CASE
6     WHEN l.returned ISNULL
7         THEN CURRENT_DATE
8     ELSE l.returned END) - l.borrowed + 1))
9 FROM loan l;
```


1(c). Alternative Query (Subquery)

```
1 SELECT CEIL(AVG(temp.duration)),  
2         CEIL(STDDEV_POP(temp.duration))  
3 FROM (  
4     SELECT ((CASE  
5         WHEN l.returned ISNULL THEN CURRENT_DATE  
6         ELSE l.returned END) - l.borrowed + 1) AS duration  
7     FROM loan l  
8 ) AS temp;
```

2(a). Books never borrowed

Option #1 (NOT IN):

```
1 SELECT b.title
2 FROM book b
3 WHERE b.ISBN13 NOT IN (
4     SELECT l.book
5     FROM loan l);
```

2(a). Alternative (<> ALL)

```
1 SELECT b.title
2 FROM book b
3 WHERE b.ISBN13 <> ALL (
4     SELECT l.book
5     FROM loan l);
```

2(b). Students who never lent their copy

```
1 SELECT s.name
2 FROM student s
3 WHERE s.email IN (
4     SELECT c.owner
5     FROM copy c
6     WHERE NOT EXISTS (
7         SELECT *
8         FROM loan l
9         WHERE l.owner = c.owner
10            AND l.book = c.book
11            AND l.copy = c.copy));
```

2(c). Top lenders in each department

```
1 SELECT s.department, s.name, COUNT(*)
2 FROM student s, loan l
3 WHERE l.owner = s.email
4 GROUP BY s.department, s.email, s.name
5 HAVING COUNT(*) >= ALL (
6     SELECT COUNT(*)
7     FROM student s1, loan l1
8     WHERE l1.owner = s1.email
9         AND s.department = s1.department
10    GROUP BY s1.email);
```

2(d). Borrowed all Adam Smith books

```
1 SELECT s.email, s.name
2 FROM student s
3 WHERE NOT EXISTS (
4     SELECT *
5     FROM book b
6     WHERE authors = 'Adam Smith'
7     AND NOT EXISTS (
8         SELECT *
9         FROM loan l
10        WHERE l.book = b.ISBN13
11              AND l.borrower = s.email));
```

2(d). Borrowed all Adam Smith books

| Student | Truth Value |
|---------|-------------|
| s1 | T |
| s2 | T |
| s3 | F |
| s4 | F |
| s5 | T |
| s6 | F |
| s7 | T |

Students who have borrowed all books by Adam Smith - Students who have truth value T in the table shown - But how do we assign the truth values?

The logical statement to evaluate:

If there is a book by Adam Smith, the student has borrowed it.

P

Q

The Boolean Logic Form:

$P \rightarrow Q$ (P implies Q) $\equiv \neg P \vee Q$

| P | Q | $P \rightarrow Q$ | $\neg P \vee Q$ |
|---|---|-------------------|-----------------|
| F | F | T | T |
| F | T | T | T |
| T | F | F | F |
| T | T | T | T |

2(d). Borrowed all Adam Smith books

```
SELECT s.email, s.name
FROM student s
WHERE NOT EXISTS (
    SELECT *
    FROM book b
    WHERE authors = 'Adam Smith'
    AND NOT EXISTS (
        SELECT *
        FROM loan l
        WHERE l.book = b.isbn13
        AND l.borrower = s.email));
```

NOT Gate (\neg)

A book by Adam Smith exists (P)

AND Gate (\wedge)

The student borrows the book (Q)

$$\neg(P \wedge \neg Q) \equiv \neg P \vee \neg(\neg Q) \equiv \neg P \vee Q \equiv P \rightarrow Q$$

Guidelines & Marking Tips

- **No hardcoding.** Queries must work on any dataset consistent with the schema.
- Use **quantifiers** (ALL/ANY) explicitly in subqueries.
- Avoid using **TOP N / LIMIT** for max/min — prefer ALL with GROUP BY.
- Be cautious of duplicate elimination; use DISTINCT only when needed.
- Write queries in **readable, indented style**.

Questions?

Drop a mail at: pratik.karmakar@u.nus.edu