MySQL RDBMS

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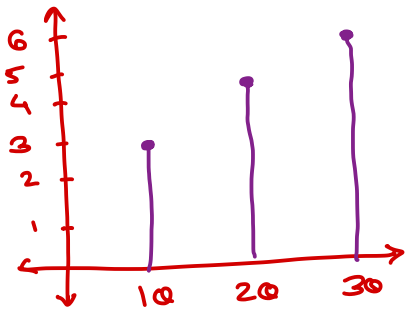
Group functions

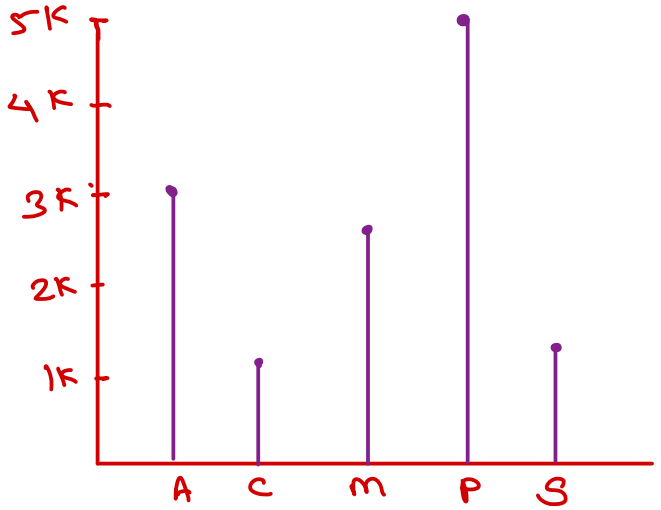
- Work on group of rows of table.
- Input to function is data from multiple rows & then output is single row. Hence these functions are called as "Multi Row Function“ or "Group Functions“.
- These functions are used to perform aggregate ops like sum, avg, max, min, count or std dev, etc. Hence these fns are also called as "Aggregate Functions".
- Example: SUM(), AVG(), MAX(), MIN(), COUNT().
- NULL values are ignored by group functions.
- Limitations of GROUP functions:
  - Cannot select group function along with a column.
  - Cannot select group function along with a single row fn.
  - Cannot use group function in WHERE clause/condition.
  - Cannot nest a group function in another group fn.

GROUP BY clause

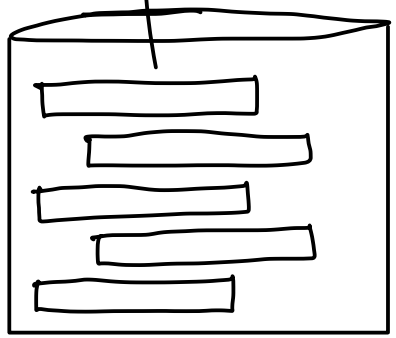
- GROUP BY is used for analysis of data i.e. generating reports & charts.
- When GROUP BY single column, generated output can be used to plot 2-D chart.
  When GROUP BY two column, generated output can be used to plot 3-D chart and so on.
- GROUP BY queries are also called as Multi-dimensional / Spatial queries.
- Syntactical Characteristics:
  - If a column is used for GROUP BY, then it may or may not be used in SELECT clause.
  - If a column is in SELECT, it must be in GROUP BY.
- When GROUP BY query is fired on database server, it does following:
  - Load data from server disk into server RAM.
  - Sort data on group by columns.
  - Group similar records by group columns.
  - Perform given aggregate ops on each column.
  - Send result to client.

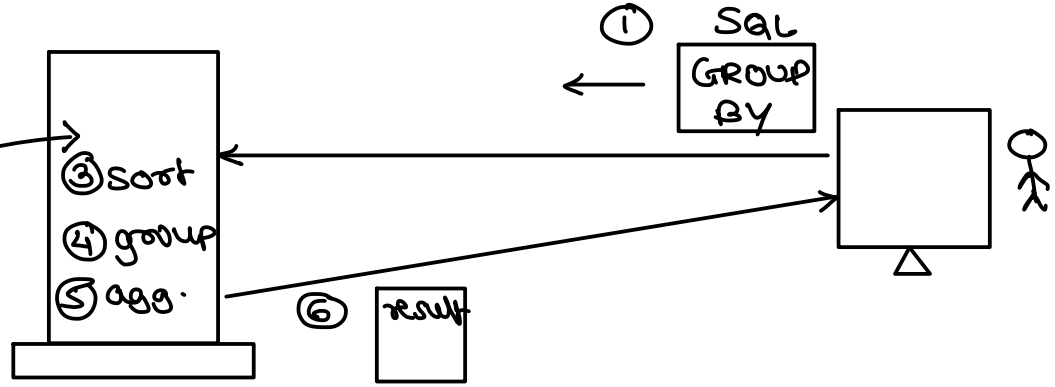



```
SELECT deptno, COUNT(empno)
FROM emp
GROUP BY deptno;
```




```
SELECT job, AVG(sal)
FROM emp
GROUP BY job;
```





Group by on multiple columns and/or too many rows slow down execution.

Thank you!

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