

SQL INTERVIEW PREPARATION PART 4.1

WINDOWS FUNCTIONS QUESTIONS:

1. Find the Second Highest Salary

Scenario:

You have an Employees table with columns EmpID, EmpName, and Salary.

Question:

Write a query to find the second highest salary in the table using window functions.

Solution:

```
WITH RankedSalary AS (  
    SELECT Salary,  
           DENSE_RANK() OVER (ORDER BY Salary DESC) AS Salary_Rank  
    FROM Employees  
)  
SELECT Salary  
FROM RankedSalary  
WHERE Salary_Rank = 2;
```

2. Running Total

Scenario:

You have a Sales table with columns SaleID, Product, Amount, and SaleDate.

Question:

Write a query to calculate the running total of sales amount ordered by SaleDate.

Solution:

```
SELECT SaleDate,  
       Amount,  
       SUM(Amount) OVER (ORDER BY SaleDate) AS Sales_Running_Total  
FROM Sales;
```

3. Find Top N Percent of Salaries

Scenario:

You have an Employees table.

Question:

Write a query to find the top 10% of salaries in the table using window functions.

Solution:

Query using NTILE():

```
WITH RankedSalary AS(  
    SELECT EmpID,
```

```

        EmpName,
        Salary,
        NTILE(10) OVER( ORDER BY Salary DESC) AS Salary_Tile
    FROM Employees
)
SELECT EmpID, EmpName, Salary
FROM RankedSalary
WHERE Salary_Tile = 1;

```

Query using PERCENT_RANK():

```

WITH RankedSalary AS(
    SELECT EmpID,
           EmpName,
           Salary,
           PERCENT_RANK() OVER( ORDER BY Salary DESC) AS Percent_Rank
    FROM Employees
)
SELECT Empl, EmpName, Salary
FROM RankedSalary
WHERE Percentile_Rank <= 0.10;

```

Explanation:

1. PERCENT_RANK():

- This window function calculates the relative rank of each row as a percentage of the total rows, ranging from 0 to 1.
- The ORDER BY Salary DESC ranks the rows based on descending salaries, with the highest salary having the smallest rank value.

2. WITH RankedSalaries:

- A common table expression (CTE) is used to calculate the percentage rank of each employee's salary.

3. WHERE Percent_Rank <= 0.10:

- Filters out the rows that fall in the top 10% of salaries.

4. Average Salary by Department

Scenario:

You have an Employees table with columns EmpID, EmpName, Salary, and DepartmentID.

Question:

Write a query to calculate each employee's salary compared to their department's average salary.

Solution:

```
WITH AverageSalary AS(
    SELECT
        DepartmentID,
        AVG(Salary) OVER(PARTITION BY DepartmentID) AS Average_Salary
    FROM Employees
)
SELECT
    e.EmpID,
    e.EmpName,
    e.DepartmentID,
    e.Salary,
    a.Average_Salary
FROM Employees e
LEFT JOIN AverageSalary a
ON e.DepartmentID = a.DepartmentID;
```

5. Rank Products by Sales

Scenario:

You have a Sales table with columns ProductID, ProductName, and SaleAmount.

Question:

Write a query to rank products by their sales amount within each category.

Solution:

```
SELECT ProductID,
    ProductName,
    SaleAmount,
    DENSE_RANK() OVER(PARTITION BY Category ORDER BY SaleAmount DESC) AS
    Product_Rank
FROM Sales;
```

6. Lag and Lead

Scenario:

You have a Stocks table with columns StockID, StockPrice, and StockDate.

Question:

Write a query to calculate the price difference between the current day and the previous day for each stock.

Solution:

```
SELECT
    StockID,
    StockDate,
```

```

    StockPrice,
    LAG(StockPrice) OVER (PARTITION BY StockID ORDER BY StockDate) AS Prev_Price,
    StockPrice - LAG(StockPrice) OVER (PARTITION BY StockID ORDER BY StockDate) AS
Price_Difference
FROM Stocks;

```

7. Nth Highest Value

Scenario:

You have a Scores table with columns StudentID, Subject, and Score.

Question:

Write a query to find the 3rd highest score in each subject.

Solution:

```

WITH RankedScores AS(
    SELECT StudentID,
           Subject,
           Score,
           RANK() OVER( PARTITION BY Subject ORDER BY Score DESC) AS Score_Rank
    FROM Scores
)
SELECT StudentID,
       Subject,
       Score
FROM RankedScores
WHERE Score_Rank = 3;

```

8. Detect Consecutive Attendance

Scenario:

You have an Attendance table with columns EmpID, Date, and Status (Present/Absent).

Question:

Write a query to find employees who were absent for three or more consecutive days.

Solution:

```

WITH AttendanceWithLag AS(
    SELECT EmpID,
           Date,
           Status,
           LAG(Date) OVER (PARTITION BY EmpID ORDER BY Date) AS Prev_Date
    FROM Attendance
),
ConsecutiveAbsences AS(
    SELECT EmpID,
           Date,
           Status,

```

```

        CASE
            WHEN Status = 'Absent' AND DATEDIFF(Date, Prev_Date) = 1 THEN 1
            ELSE 0
        END AS Is_Consecutive
    FROM AttendanceWithLag
),
AbsenceGroups AS(
    SELECT EmpID,
           Date,
           Status,
           SUM(Is_Consecutive) OVER (PARTITION BY EmpID ORDER BY Date ROWS
                                     BETWEEN UNBOUNDED PRECEDING AND CURRENT ROW) AS Absence_Streak
    FROM ConsecutiveAbsences
)
SELECT DISTINCT EmpID
FROM AbsenceGroups
WHERE AbsenceStreak >= 3;

```

9. Find Customers with Consecutive Purchases

Scenario:

You have an Orders table with columns OrderID, CustomerID, and OrderDate.

Question:

Write a query to find customers who placed orders on consecutive days.

Solution:

```

WITH OrdersWithLag AS (
    SELECT OrderID,
           CustomerID,
           OrderDate,
           LAG(OrderDate) OVER (PARTITION BY CustomerID ORDER BY OrderDate) AS
           Prev_Date
    FROM Orders
)
SELECT DISTINCT CustomerID
FROM OrdersWithLag
WHERE DATEDIFF(OrderDate, Prev_Date) = 1;

```

10. Percent Rank

Scenario:

You have a Scores table with columns StudentID and Score.

Question:

Write a query to calculate the percentile rank of each student's score.

Solution:

```
SELECT StudentID,  
       Score,  
       PERCENT_RANK() OVER( ORDERBY Score DESC) AS Rank_Percent  
FROM Scores;
```