W04 Paper

The importance of joining tables is that it allows us to connect information between tables that is otherwise not connected. If we want to write a query that involves information that exceeds a single table, it is necessary to join said tables. This allows us to reduce redundancy when attempting to relay information through writing a query.

This is most commonly done through an inner join, which is written as follows:

SELECT a.first\_name, a.last\_name, c.city

FROM actor a

INNER JOIN city c

ON a.city\_id = c.city\_id

This connects the two tables and will now be able to return any desired values belonging to the select statement. It also included aliases, which is also important, not just in inner joins, but self joins as well.

Self joins allow you to reference a foreign key that may exist in a specific table. This would be useful if the table only has foreign keys and has a reference to itself. These aren’t always necessary if this is not the case.