W05 Paper

Unions allow us to connect data from two or more tables. This is done using commands like UNION and UNION ALL. The commands INTERSECT and EXCEPT aren’t supported in MySQL 8.0, so “workarounds” must be done in order to accomplish what they would do.

A union is different from a join in that it creates new, distinct rows instead of potentially repeating new columns. For example, when UNION is used in a query, it will look for whatever specifications are given in previous statements and connect two tables together. Once again, it will be returning rows that match the criteria based on the query.

SELECT 'CUST' typ, c.first\_name, c.last\_name

FROM customer c

UNION ALL

SELECT 'ACTR' typ, a.first\_name, a.last\_name

FROM actor a;

For example, the command above will look at both the customer and actor tables and return the first names and last names from each table. If UNION were used instead UNION ALL, then it would remove any duplicates that potentially exist between the two tables and display all distinct row values.