Objective

This lab teaches you the power of subqueries, expressions, and value manipulation, and the mechanics crafting SQL queries that harness the power of these three to handle more complex use cases.

Prerequisites

Before attempting this lab, it is best to read the textbook and lecture material covering the objectives listed above. While this lab shows you how to create and use these constructs in SQL, the lab does not explain in full the theory behind the constructs, as does the lecture and textbook.

Required Software

The examples in this lab will execute in modern versions of Oracle, Microsoft SQL Server, and PostgreSQL as is. If you are using a different RDBMS, you may need to modify the SQL for successful execution.

Saving Your Data

If you choose to perform portions of the assignment in different sittings, it is important to *commit* your data at the end of each session. This way, you will be sure to make permanent any data changes you have made in your curent session, so that you can resume working without issue in your next session. To do so, simply issue this command:

COMMIT;

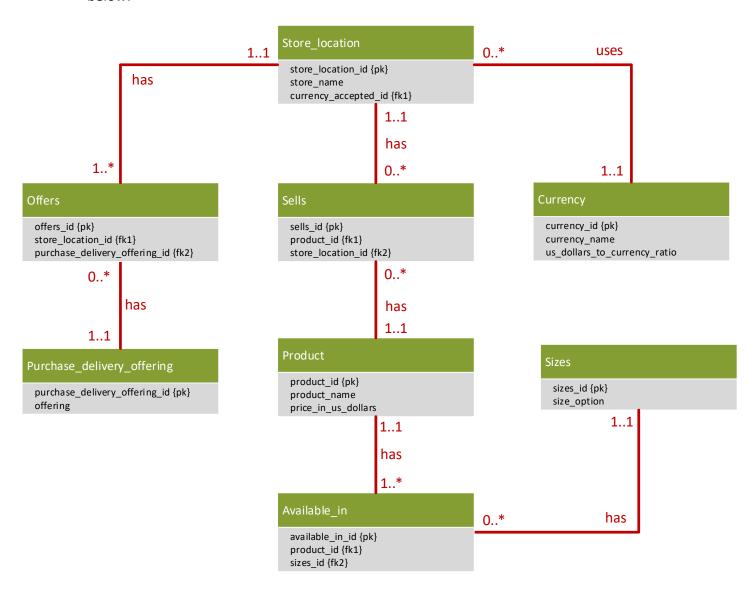
Data changes in one session will only be visible only in that session, unless they are committed, at which time the changes are made permanent in the database.

Lab Completion

Use the submission template provided in the assignment inbox to complete this lab.

Lab Overview

In this lab, we practice value manipulation and subqueries on the schema illustrated below.



This schema's structure supports basic product and currency information for an international organization, including store locations, the products they sell and their sizes, purchase and delivery offerings, the currency each location accepts, as well as conversion factors for converting from U.S. dollars into the accepted currency. This schema models prices and exchange rates at a specific point in time. While a real-world schema would make provision for changes to prices and exchange rates over time, the tables needed to support this have been intentionally excluded from our schema, because their addition would add unneeded complexity on your journey of learning

subqueries, expressions, and value manipulation. The schema has just the right amount of complexity for your learning.

The data for the tables is listed below.

Currencies

Name	Ratio
British Pound	0.66
Canadian Dollar	1.33
US Dollar	1.00
Euro	0.93
Mexican Peso	16.75

Store Locations

Name	Currency
Berlin Extension	Euro
Cancun Extension	Mexican Peso
London Extension	British Pound
New York Extension	US Dollar
Toronto Extension	Canadian Dollar

Product

Name	US Dollar Price
Cashmere Sweater	\$100
Designer Jeans	\$150
Flowing Skirt	\$125
Silk Blouse	\$200
Wool Overcoat	\$250

Sells

Store Location	Product
Berlin Extension	Cashmere Sweater
Berlin Extension	Designer Jeans
Berlin Extension	Silk Blouse
Berlin Extension	Wool Overcoat
Cancun Extension	Designer Jeans
Cancun Extension	Flowing Skirt
Cancun Extension	Silk Blouse
London Extension	Cashmere Sweater
London Extension	Designer Jeans
London Extension	Flowing Skirt
London Extension	Silk Blouse

London Extension	Wool Overcoat
New York Extension	Cashmere Sweater
New York Extension	Designer Jeans
New York Extension	Flowing Skirt
New York Extension	Silk Blouse
New York Extension	Wool Overcoat
Toronto Extension	Cashmere Sweater
Toronto Extension	Designer Jeans
Toronto Extension	Flowing Skirt
Toronto Extension	Silk Blouse
Toronto Extension	Wool Overcoat

Purchase_delivery_offering

Offering
Purchase In Store
Purchase Online, Ship to Home
Purchase Online, Pickup in Store

Offers

Store Location	Purchase Delivery Offering
Berlin Extension	Purchase In Store
Cancun Extension	Purchase In Store
London Extension	Purchase In Store
London Extension	Purchase Online, Ship to Home
London Extension	Purchase Online, Pickup in Store
New York Extension	Purchase In Store
New York Extension	Purchase Online, Pickup in Store
Toronto Extension	Purchase In Store

Sizes

Size Option
Small
Medium
Large
Various
2
4
6
8
10

12	
14	
16	

Available_in

Product	Size Option
Cashmere Sweater	Small
Cashmere Sweater	Medium
Cashmere Sweater	Large
Designer Jeans	Various
Flowing Skirt	2
Flowing Skirt	4
Flowing Skirt	6
Flowing Skirt	8
Flowing Skirt	10
Flowing Skirt	12
Flowing Skirt	14
Flowing Skirt	16
Silk Blouse	Small
Silk Blouse	Medium
Silk Blouse	Large
Wool Overcoat	Small
Wool Overcoat	Medium
Wool Overcoat	Large

DDL and DML to create and populate the tables in the schema is listed below.

```
DROP TABLE Sells;
DROP TABLE Offers;
DROP TABLE Available_in;
DROP TABLE Store_location;
DROP TABLE Product;
DROP TABLE Currency;
DROP TABLE Purchase_delivery_offering;
DROP TABLE Sizes;
CREATE TABLE Currency (
currency_id DECIMAL(12) NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY,
currency_name VARCHAR(255) NOT NULL,
us_dollars_to_currency_ratio DECIMAL(12,2) NOT NULL);
CREATE TABLE Store_location (
store_location_id DECIMAL(12) NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY,
store_name VARCHAR(255) NOT NULL,
currency_accepted_id DECIMAL(12) NOT NULL);
CREATE TABLE Product (
product_id DECIMAL(12) NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY,
```

```
product_name VARCHAR(255) NOT NULL,
price in us dollars DECIMAL(12,2) NOT NULL);
CREATE TABLE Sells (
sells id DECIMAL(12) NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY,
product id DECIMAL(12) NOT NULL,
store location id DECIMAL(12) NOT NULL);
CREATE TABLE Purchase delivery offering (
purchase delivery offering id DECIMAL(12) NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY,
offering VARCHAR(255) NOT NULL);
CREATE TABLE Offers (
offers id DECIMAL(12) NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY,
store_location_id DECIMAL(12) NOT NULL,
purchase_delivery_offering_id DECIMAL(12) NOT NULL);
CREATE TABLE Sizes (
sizes id DECIMAL(12) NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY,
size option VARCHAR(255) NOT NULL);
CREATE TABLE Available in (
available in id DECIMAL(12) NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY,
product_id DECIMAL(12) NOT NULL,
sizes_id DECIMAL(12) NOT NULL);
ALTER TABLE Store location
ADD CONSTRAINT fk_location_to_currency FOREIGN KEY(currency_accepted_id)
REFERENCES Currency(currency_id);
ALTER TABLE Sells
ADD CONSTRAINT fk sells to product FOREIGN KEY(product id) REFERENCES
Product(product_id);
ALTER TABLE Sells
ADD CONSTRAINT fk sells to location FOREIGN KEY(store location id) REFERENCES
Store location(store location id);
ALTER TABLE Offers
ADD CONSTRAINT fk_offers_to_location FOREIGN KEY(store_location_id) REFERENCES
Store_location(store_location_id);
ALTER TABLE Offers
ADD CONSTRAINT fk_offers_to_offering FOREIGN KEY(purchase_delivery_offering_id)
REFERENCES Purchase_delivery_offering(purchase_delivery_offering_id);
ALTER TABLE Available_in
ADD CONSTRAINT fk available to product FOREIGN KEY(product id)
REFERENCES Product(product id);
ALTER TABLE Available in
ADD CONSTRAINT fk_available_to_sizes FOREIGN KEY(sizes_id)
REFERENCES Sizes(sizes id);
INSERT INTO Currency (currency id, currency name, us dollars to currency ratio)
VALUES(1, 'Britsh Pound', 0.66);
INSERT INTO Currency(currency_id, currency_name, us_dollars_to_currency_ratio)
VALUES(2, 'Canadian Dollar', 1.33);
```

```
INSERT INTO Currency(currency_id, currency_name, us_dollars_to_currency_ratio)
VALUES(3, 'US Dollar', 1.00);
INSERT INTO Currency(currency id, currency name, us dollars to currency ratio)
VALUES(4, 'Euro', 0.93);
INSERT INTO Currency(currency_id, currency_name, us_dollars_to_currency_ratio)
VALUES(5, 'Mexican Peso', 16.75);
INSERT INTO Purchase delivery offering(purchase delivery offering id, offering)
VALUES (50, 'Purchase In Store');
INSERT INTO Purchase_delivery_offering(purchase_delivery_offering_id, offering)
VALUES (51, 'Purchase Online, Ship to Home');
INSERT INTO Purchase delivery offering(purchase delivery offering id, offering)
VALUES (52, 'Purchase Online, Pickup in Store');
INSERT INTO Sizes(sizes id, size option)
VALUES(1, 'Small');
INSERT INTO Sizes(sizes id, size option)
VALUES(2, 'Medium');
INSERT INTO Sizes(sizes id, size option)
VALUES(3, 'Large');
INSERT INTO Sizes(sizes_id, size_option)
VALUES(4, 'Various');
INSERT INTO Sizes(sizes_id, size_option)
VALUES(5, '2');
INSERT INTO Sizes(sizes id, size option)
VALUES(6, '4');
INSERT INTO Sizes(sizes id, size option)
VALUES(7, '6');
INSERT INTO Sizes(sizes_id, size_option)
VALUES(8, '8');
INSERT INTO Sizes(sizes id, size option)
VALUES(9, '10');
INSERT INTO Sizes(sizes_id, size_option)
VALUES(10, '12');
INSERT INTO Sizes(sizes_id, size_option)
VALUES(11, '14');
INSERT INTO Sizes(sizes_id, size_option)
VALUES(12, '16');
-- Cashmere Sweater
INSERT INTO Product(product_id, product_name, price_in_us_dollars)
VALUES(100, 'Cashmere Sweater', 100);
INSERT INTO Available_in(available_in_id, product_id, sizes_id)
VALUES(10000, 100, 1);
INSERT INTO Available_in(available_in_id, product_id, sizes_id)
VALUES(10001, 100, 2);
INSERT INTO Available_in(available_in_id, product_id, sizes_id)
VALUES(10002, 100, 3);
--Designer Jeans
INSERT INTO Product(product id, product name, price in us dollars)
VALUES(101, 'Designer Jeans', 150);
INSERT INTO Available in(available in id, product id, sizes id)
VALUES(10003, 101, 4);
--Flowing Skirt
INSERT INTO Product(product_id, product_name, price_in_us_dollars)
VALUES(102, 'Flowing Skirt', 125);
```

```
INSERT INTO Available_in(available_in_id, product_id, sizes_id)
VALUES(10004, 102, 5);
INSERT INTO Available in(available in id, product id, sizes id)
VALUES(10005, 102, 6);
INSERT INTO Available_in(available_in_id, product_id, sizes_id)
VALUES(10006, 102, 7);
INSERT INTO Available in(available in id, product id, sizes id)
VALUES(10007, 102, 8);
INSERT INTO Available in(available in id, product id, sizes id)
VALUES(10008, 102, 9);
INSERT INTO Available in(available in id, product id, sizes id)
VALUES(10009, 102, 10);
INSERT INTO Available in(available in id, product id, sizes id)
VALUES(10010, 102, 11);
INSERT INTO Available_in(available_in_id, product_id, sizes_id)
VALUES(10011, 102, 12);
--Silk Blouse
INSERT INTO Product(product id, product name, price in us dollars)
VALUES(103, 'Silk Blouse', 200);
INSERT INTO Available_in(available_in_id, product_id, sizes_id)
VALUES(10012, 103, 1);
INSERT INTO Available_in(available_in_id, product_id, sizes_id)
VALUES(10013, 103, 2);
INSERT INTO Available in(available in id, product id, sizes id)
VALUES(10014, 103, 3);
--Wool Overcoat
INSERT INTO Product(product_id, product_name, price_in_us_dollars)
VALUES(104, 'Wool Overcoat', 250);
INSERT INTO Available in(available in id, product id, sizes id)
VALUES(10015, 104, 1);
INSERT INTO Available_in(available_in_id, product_id, sizes_id)
VALUES(10016, 104, 2);
INSERT INTO Available_in(available_in_id, product_id, sizes_id)
VALUES(10017, 104, 3);
--Berlin Extension
INSERT INTO Store_location(store_location_id, store_name, currency_accepted_id)
VALUES(10, 'Berlin Extension', 4);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells_id, store_location_id, product_id)
VALUES(1000, 10, 100);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells_id, store_location_id, product_id)
VALUES(1001, 10, 101);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells_id, store_location_id, product_id)
VALUES(1002, 10, 103);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells_id, store_location_id, product_id)
VALUES(1003, 10, 104);
INSERT INTO Offers(offers id, store location id, purchase delivery offering id)
VALUES(150, 10, 50);
--Cancun Extension
INSERT INTO Store location(store location id, store name, currency accepted id)
VALUES(11, 'Cancun Extension', 5);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells id, store location id, product id)
VALUES(1004, 11, 101);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells_id, store_location_id, product_id)
VALUES(1005, 11, 102);
```

```
INSERT INTO Sells(sells_id, store_location_id, product_id)
VALUES(1006, 11, 103);
INSERT INTO Offers(offers id, store location id, purchase delivery offering id)
VALUES(151, 11, 50);
--London Extension
INSERT INTO Store location(store location id, store name, currency accepted id)
VALUES(12, 'London Extension', 1);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells id, store location id, product id)
VALUES(1007, 12, 100);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells id, store location id, product id)
VALUES(1008, 12, 101);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells id, store location id, product id)
VALUES(1009, 12, 102);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells_id, store_location_id, product_id)
VALUES(1010, 12, 103);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells id, store location id, product id)
VALUES(1011, 12, 104);
INSERT INTO Offers(offers_id, store_location_id, purchase_delivery_offering_id)
VALUES(152, 12, 50);
INSERT INTO Offers(offers_id, store_location_id, purchase_delivery_offering_id)
VALUES(153, 12, 51);
INSERT INTO Offers(offers_id, store_location_id, purchase_delivery_offering_id)
VALUES(154, 12, 52);
--New York Extension
INSERT INTO Store location(store location id, store name, currency accepted id)
VALUES(13, 'New York Extension', 3);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells_id, store_location_id, product_id)
VALUES(1012, 13, 100);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells id, store location id, product id)
VALUES(1013, 13, 101);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells_id, store_location_id, product_id)
VALUES(1014, 13, 102);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells_id, store_location_id, product_id)
VALUES(1015, 13, 103);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells id, store location id, product id)
VALUES(1016, 13, 104);
INSERT INTO Offers(offers_id, store_location_id, purchase_delivery_offering_id)
VALUES(155, 13, 50);
INSERT INTO Offers(offers_id, store_location_id, purchase_delivery_offering_id)
VALUES(156, 13, 52);
--Toronto Extension
INSERT INTO Store_location(store_location_id, store_name, currency_accepted_id)
VALUES(14, 'Toronto Extension', 2);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells_id, store_location_id, product_id)
VALUES(1017, 14, 100);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells id, store location id, product id)
VALUES(1018, 14, 101);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells id, store location id, product id)
VALUES(1019, 14, 102);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells id, store location id, product id)
VALUES(1020, 14, 103);
INSERT INTO Sells(sells id, store location id, product id)
VALUES (1021, 14, 104);
INSERT INTO Offers(offers_id, store_location_id, purchase_delivery_offering_id)
VALUES(157, 14, 50);
```

Section One – Expressions and Value Manipulation

Overview

While it is certainly useful to directly extract values as they are stored in a database, it is more useful in some contexts to manipulate these values to derive a different result. In this section we practice using value manipulation techniques to transform data values in useful ways. For example, what if we want to tell a customer exactly how much money they need to give for a purchase? We could extract a price and sales tax from the database, but it would be more useful to compute a price with tax as a single value by multiplying the two together and rounding appropriately, and formatting it as a currency, as illustrated in the figure below.

Less Useful to Customer	
price	tax_percent
7.99	8.5

More Useful to Customer	
price_with_tax	
\$8.67	

We do not need to store the price with tax, because we can derive it when we need it. As another example, what if we need to send an email communication to a customer by name? We could extract the prefix, first name, and last name of the customer, but it would be more useful to properly format the name by combining them in proper order, as illustrated below.

Less Useful to Customer		
prefix	first_name	last_name
Mr.	Seth	Nemes

More Useful to Customer	
name	
Mr. Seth Nemes	

Again, we do not need to store the formatted name, because we can derive it when we need it from its constituent parts. Manipulating raw data values stored in database tables can yield a variety of useful results we need without adding the burden of storing every such result.

Steps

- Execute the DDL and DML listed in the lab overview section in order to create and populate the currency schema in your database. There is no need to provide screenshots of executing this DDL and DML.
- 2. If we were asked to give the price of the Cashmere sweater in Euros, how would we do it using SQL? In looking in the Product table, we see that we easily pull out the

price of the sweater in U.S. Dollars with a simple query:

```
SELECT price_in_us_dollars
FROM Product
WHERE product_name = 'Cashmere Sweater'
```

The results of this query tell us that the price is \$100:

```
price_in_us_dollars
1 100.00
```

This is a good first step, but still does not give us the price in Euros, only in U.S. Dollars. Taking a look at the Currency table, we see that there is a column named **us_dollars_to_currency_ratio** that has the conversion factor needed convert from U.S. Dollars into the target currency. We can again write a simply query to list out the conversion factor for Euros:

```
SELECT us_dollars_to_currency_ratio
FROM Currency
WHERE currency_name = 'Euro'
```

This tells us that the conversion factor is 0.93:

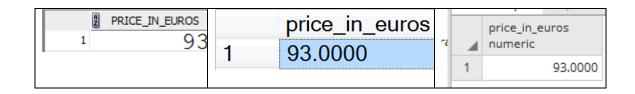
```
us_dollars_to_currency_ratio

0.93
```

We then manually hardcode 0.93 into our first query in order to obtain the price in Euros as follows:

```
SELECT price_in_us_dollars * 0.93 AS price_in_euros
FROM Product
WHERE product_name = 'Cashmere Sweater'
```

In the query, we have taken the price in U.S. Dollars and multiplied it times the conversion factor of 0.93, then aliased the result as price_in_euros, which gives us the result of €93, as shown in the side-by-side screenshots of Oracle, SQL Server and PostgreSQL below.



You could have quickly answered the question of the price of a Cashmere sweater in Euros by eyeballing the values in the tables and doing some basic math, so why did we use SQL? Perhaps the most significant reason is that when we are developing a database and surrounding I.T. system, we are not actually asking for a single answer, but are asking for logic that is capable of answering that same question repeatedly for the entire life of the database, whether it is years or decades. Answering the question just once is not useful given our goal. We want to know the price of the Cashmere sweater today, tomorrow, and next year, even if the prices or exchange rates change. A second reason is that our goal is to give an I.T. system the ability to answer this question, not a human being. I.T. systems and surrounding databases are all about automation, performing repeated tasks much more quickly than human beings, freeing us from the responsibility of doing tedious tasks ourselves. Obviously, I.T. systems are not capable of eyeballing, and need formal SQL logic in order to access relational databases. Lastly, many real-world relational database schemas contain too many tables, relationships, and values for us to practically keep track them ourselves, so even if we want to answer a question ourselves, we still need to use SQL to obtain the values we need from the database. We develop SQL queries to answer our data questions in today's world.

3. What if you are asked to give the price of a flowing skirt in Cancun? Just like in step 2, you need two queries. Your first query retrieves the currency ratio for the currency accepted in Cancun. Your second query hardcodes the currency ratio retrieved in the first query, in order to determine the price in Cancun. Note that unlike the use case in step 2, which asks for a currency by name, this use case asks for the store location by name in order to retrieve whatever currency is accepted by that location. This requires slightly different logic, so your first query will be similar to the first query in step 2, but will need to include the store location in order to retrieve the correct currency ratio.

Capture a screenshots of both queries and the results of their execution.

4. Later we'll explore directly embedding the second query inside the first. After all, you may have already insightfully objected to hardcoding the value of 0.93 in step 2, noticing that the resulting query will yield incorrect results as soon as the ratio changes, and likewise for step 3. You may be eager to fix this problem, but let's first talk about money. How can we learn about subqueries when we are talking about values such as 93.0000 Euros as indicated by SQL Server? This does not look right!

Each step is important in the learning process, and let us not rush this complex subject of subqueries.

SQL clients are sophisticated applications, but are not so sophisticated that they always display values in the format we expect. You may notice that the result from step 2 lists out no decimal points for Oracle and 4 decimal points for SQL Server and Postgres, both without the Euro symbol (€). This is not what we are accustomed to seeing for monetary amounts in Euros. We would expect to see the monetary result as €93.00 in the United States or United Kingdom, or €93,00 in other European countries. Listing out 4 decimal points is nothing more than the default for the SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) and pgAdmin clients when displaying numbers that are not whole numbers; SSMS and pgAdmin does not understand that we are displaying a currency. The default for the Oracle SQL Developer client is to remove trailing 0 digits that occur to the right of the decimal point, hence the result of 93 with no decimal points. Other SQL clients may have different defaults for SQL Server and other databases. SQL clients oftentimes display a value from a basic SQL query in a nonconventional format.

The discrepancy between the value displayed and the value we conventionally expect shows us that there is something more involved. There are actually four significant components that determine how a value is displayed -- the raw value stored in a database table, manipulations on the value performed by the SQL query, formatting constructs applied in the SQL query, and how the particular SQL client displays the value. These components all collectively determine how a value will be displayed to us when we execute SQL in a SQL client. There is a tremendous amount of depth for each of these components, and while we will not be able to cover every detail, it is important that we explore each in more depth. Doing so will help give you the ability to craft queries that display values in whatever format you deem appropriate. Controlling how a value is displayed is an intricate subject.

Different kinds of data have different limits that present a challenge for database designers as they consider how to store the data. Some kinds of values have no theoretical limit, for example, fractions that result in infinitely repeating decimals. How do we store these infinitely long values? Some kinds of values have theoretical limits, but we cannot determine them. For example, how would we determine how much storage we need for the text of the lengthiest book in the world? Even if we determine the lengthiest book known, we could always discover a new, lengthier book, or someone could write a lengthier one in the future. Some kinds of values have known limits, but their limits are too big for practical storage. For example, a business may know all websites visited by its employees while at work in the prior year, but would it practical for the business to store the full content of every website every time it is visited? We need to think about these kinds of limits before we store the data in our database.

All values stored in a relational database column have size limits, and interestingly datatypes, which we learned in prior labs determine the set of legal values for database columns, also establish size limits. All exact numeric datatypes have a precision, which is the maximum number of digits allowed in the number, and a scale, which is the maximum number of digits allowed to the right of the decimal point. For example, if we want to store the number 12.34, we need a precision of at least 4 since there are 4 digits in total, and a scale of at least 2 since there are 2 digits to the right of the decimal point. All inexact numeric datatypes used for storing fractional numbers are constrained by a maximum number of bytes. All text datatypes have a maximum limit of either characters or bytes. Date and time datatypes have limits on the number of digits used to store fractions of a second. Data stored in a relational database is limited in size in various ways as specified in the datatype for each table column.

5. The legal form and size limitation of a value is one significant component that determines how a value will be displayed in the result of a SQL query, and you get a chance to explore it for yourself in this step. We now know it is the datatype that constrains to a set of legal values and a size limitation.

Identify any one of the datatypes referred to in step 4, or even one of another of your own choosing, that has a size limitation that you can control. Then do the following:

- a. Explain the datatype in a few sentences the set of legal values allowed by the datatype, the syntax of specifying the maximum size allowed for the column, and what the size limitation means for that particular datatype.
- b. Create a table with a name of your choosing that has just one column, and give the column the datatype you identified along with a size limitation of your choosing.
- c. Attempt to insert a value that exceeds the size limitation on the column and see what error message your DBMS gives you.

Make sure to capture screenshots for parts b and c.

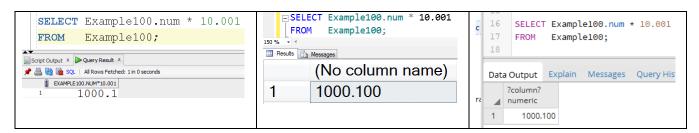
6. A SQL query always gives us a value in the same form as it is stored in the database, right? Wrong! Many SQL queries manipulate values, and the results have changes in the datatypes or size limits. For example, imagine we start with the number "100" in a column like so:

```
CREATE TABLE Example100 (num DECIMAL(3));
INSERT INTO Example100 (num) VALUES (100);
```

Further imagine that we multiply the value times 10 and 1 thousandth like so:

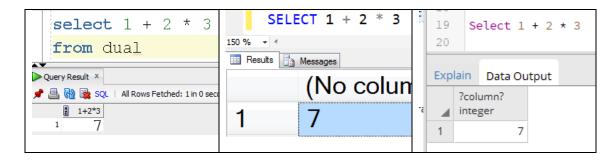
```
SELECT Example100.num * 10.001
FROM Example100;
```

The number "100" is stored as a DECIMAL(3) datatype, which means that it supports 3 digits total with no digits allowed to the right of the decimal point. So should we expect that the result is also of that same form? Let's find out! The screenshots below show the query executed in Oracle, SQL Server and PostgreSQL, respectively.

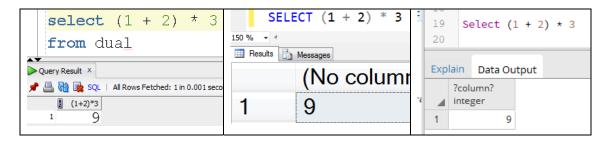


Whoa! The result in Oracle has 5 digits total, with four the left of the decimal point and one to the right, and the result in SQL Server and PostgreSQL both have seven digits total, with four to the left of the decimal point and three to the right of the decimal point. This looks more like a DECIMAL(5,1) or DECIMAL(7,3) than a DECIMAL(4). As demonstrated, a SQL query can yield a result in a form different from that of the raw stored value.

Manipulations on a value in a SQL query affect how the results are displayed, and these manipulations are defined more technically as *expressions* in a SQL query. Expressions consist of *operands*, which are values from the database or hard-coded values, and *operators*, which are SQL keywords or symbols that derive results from one or more operands in a predefined way. For example, the simple expression "Example100.num * 10.001" we used earlier has two operands – Example100.num and 10.001 – and makes use of the "*" operator, which derives a new result by multiplying the values of two operands. The act of deriving the new result is termed an *operation*, so we say that operators perform operations on operands. Expressions give us the ability to transform raw database values in a variety of ways. We expect the expression "Example100.num * 10.001" to multiply the values together, but we may not expect that the expression "1 + 2 * 3" gives us a result of 7, instead of a result of 9. Look at the side-by-side screenshots from Oracle, SQL Server and PostgreSQL, respectively, below.



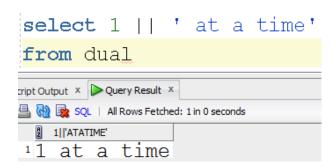
On the surface, we would think that 1+2=3, then 3*3=9, so why is the result 7? It is important to note the order in which the operations occur is strictly defined by the DBMS' operator precedence, which is set of rules that indicates which operations will be evaluated before other operations. Each DBMS evaluate multiplication and division operators before addition and subtraction operators (Microsoft, 2016a; Oracle, 2015; The PostgreSQL Global Development Group, 2018), so the expression "1+2*3" yields 7 in each DBMS, rather than 9, because the multiplication operation occurs before the addition operation. In this example, 2*3=6, then 6+1=7. Parentheses can be used in an expression to override operator precedence. If we use parentheses judiciously in the expression, changing it to (1+2)*3, we can change the result to 9, as shown in the results below:



Operator precedence is applied to all expressions in all SQL queries without variation, so within the context of a particular DBMS and version, we know that the same set of rules applies everywhere. Each DBMS follows a strict set of rules to determine the results of an expression, and we can use these rules judiciously to ensure we obtain the results we expect.

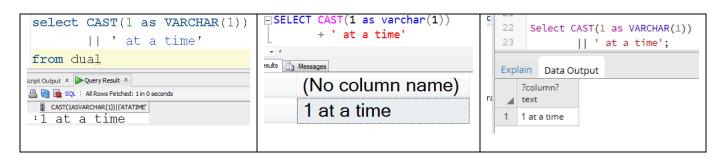
- 7. In your own words, explain what an expression is, and how operator precedence plays a role in determining what the result of an expression is.
- 8. While operator precedence determines the order of operations in an expression, datatype precedence determines the datatype that results from an expression. The result of each expression has a datatype, such as a VARCHAR, DATE, and so on, and this helps determine how the SQL client will display the result. For example, if we add an integer value and a floating-point value, such as "1 + 2.33", the datatype precedence of many modern relational DBMS will cause the datatype of that expression to be a floating point number rather than an integer. This makes sense,

because if the result were an integer, the result could only be 3 if rounded down, or 4 if rounded up. But a floating point number datatype supports the expected result of 3.33. Many modern relational DBMS also support conversion to character values. For example, the expression "1 || ' at a time'" in oracle will produce a result of "1 at a time", as shown below.



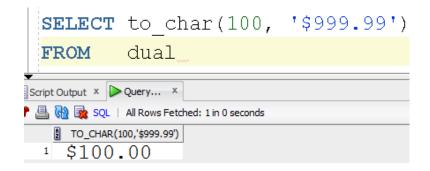
Even though 1 is an integer, 'at a time' is a character string, and Oracle's datatype precedence rules dictate the result to be a character string. Modern relational DBMS have strict sets of rules that determine both the result and the datatype of the result from expressions.

Carefully combining operands with different datatypes in an expression will get you the resulting datatype you want, but using *explicit* datatype conversions is more production-worthy and maintainable. When we simply use operands and operators, we are relying on *implicit* datatype conversion. Even when that works, it is less clear to the reader how it is working, and implicit conversions are subject to change when the database is upgraded. Thankfully we can also use specific constructs to explicitly convert the datatypes. For example, if we want to concatenate an integer with a character sequence, we can explicitly cast the integer to a character sequence using the CAST function. Look at the equivalent examples below in Oracle, SQL Server and PostgreSQL respectively.



Notice that the integer 1 was explicitly cast to a Varchar datatype, and that Varchar is then concatenated to the character sequence "at a time". Oracle and PostgreSQL use the characters | | as a concatenation operator, while SQL Server uses + as a concatenation operator. With this expression, we do not rely not on implicit datatype conversion. There is much detail involved with datatype conversion, so much so that we could go on exploring it with this entire lab, or even an entire book, but so that we do not lose the focus of this lab, let us move on. Suffice it to say, expressions in modern relational DBMS support operands that have different datatypes, and we explicitly or implicitly convert between datatypes to arrive at a final datatype for the expression's result.

- 9. In your own words, explain how datatype precedence plays a role in determining what the result of an expression is.
- 10. While we can use expressions to transform data values into other values, we can use formatting constructs to explicitly form the structure and appearance of the results. These constructs typically come in the form of formatting functions, which tend to be vendor specific; formatting functions for Oracle tend not to be available in SQL Server and vice versa. For example, suppose we want to display the raw number "100" as a currency, indicating it is 100 dollars. In Oracle, we can use the to_char function, as shown in the screenshot below.



The first argument to to_char is the number we want to format, in this case, 100, and the second argument is a series of characters that describes exactly how we want to format the number, which Oracle documentation refers to as a format model (Oracle, 2016). In this case, the "\$" symbol indicates we want to prefix the number with our currency symbol, the "." symbol indicates we want to make use of a decimal point, the initial three "9" digits indicate we want to display up to three digits to the left of the decimal point, and last two "9" digits indicate we want to display two digits to the right of the decimal point.

The formatting for PostgreSQL is similar to Oracle as seen below.

```
SELECT to_char(100, '$999.99');

25
26

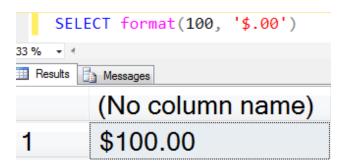
Explain Data Output

to_char
text

1 $ 100.00
```

In this case like with Oracle, the "\$" symbol indicates we want to prefix the number with our currency symbol, the "." symbol indicates we want to make use of a decimal point, the initial three "9" digits indicate we want to display up to three digits to the left of the decimal point, and last two "9" digits indicate we want to display two digits to the right of the decimal point.

In SQL Server, we can use the format function, as shown in the screenshot below.



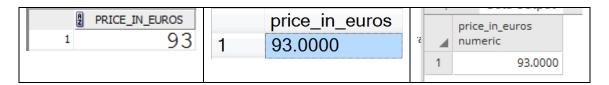
Similar to Oracle's to_char function, the first argument to format is the number and the second argument is a series of characters that describes how we want to format the number (Microsoft, 2016b). The "\$" symbol indicates the dollar sign symbol should prefix the result, the "." symbol indicates we want to make use of a decimal point, and the two "0" digits indicate we want to display two digits to the right of the decimal point. The results for Oracle, SQL server, and Postgres are conventionally what we expect to see for a currency — \$100.00. Note that your database's region settings determine what currency symbol, digit group separator symbol, and decimal-point indicator symbol your database will use when formatting a currency, so your results may vary if your region is not the United States. Formatting functions are useful for displaying results in patterns human beings conventionally expect.

11. Following the examples in step 9, format the raw number "10500.37" as a currency using your database, so that the result is "\$10,500.37". Notice that the digits to the left of the decimal point are grouped in threes (termed a *period* in mathematics), so you will need to research how to do this in your database. Capture a screenshot of the SQL command and the results of its execution.

12. Let us end our exploration of the significant components that determine how a value is displayed by reviewing SQL client differences. In step 2 you observe Oracle SQL Developer and SSMS displaying the result of the same query differently. The query:

```
SELECT price_in_us_dollars * 0.93 AS price_in_euros
FROM Product
WHERE product_name = 'Cashmere Sweater'
```

has results in Oracle, SQL Server and PostgreSQL, respectively, as follows:



Additionally, in step 8, you learn that a whole number operand and a floating point number operand results in a floating point number, due to datatype precedence. Oracle SQL Developer is displaying the result "93" as if it is a whole number. Why? Because Oracle SQL Developer's default is to automatically truncate 0 digits after the decimal points since they have no numerical value. So if Oracle SQL Developer receives a value of "93.0" or "93.00", or presumably any number with multiple 0 digits to the right of the decimal point, it will remove the 0 digits. However, you notice that SSMS displays the results as "93.0000", with 4 digits to the right of the decimal point. Clearly, SSMS does *not* truncate 0 digits to the right of the decimal point, at least not the first 4. pgAdmin follows the same path as SSMS. This small example highlights the important point that different SQL clients may display the same results differently.

Even more interesting is the reason *why* different clients display results differently. Primarily, these discrepancies occur because each team or vendor creating its SQL client decides independently how results should be displayed, and different teams make different choices. There is no requirement or enforcement that different teams must make the same choices. This holds true even for SQL clients for the *same* database. For example, Oracle SQL Developer may display a result one way, the Toad client another, the PL/SQL Developer client another, all for the same Oracle instance! PL/SQL Developer, for example, gives you the option to "zoom in" on any particular value, where you can view the value as text, in binary as hexadecimal, in XML, and even as a picture (assuming the result is a picture). The same goes for SQL Server or Postgres, where Toad, SSMS, pgAdmin, DataGrip, for example, may display results differently. The key observation here is that *each SQL client is an application*, and is not bound to mechanically display a value in its raw form, but the client displays it in a way more useful to us. If we were to author our own application, such as a series of

web pages that display values from our database, we would need to make our own choices as to how these values would be displayed. SQL clients are merely applications developed by application teams, and these teams decide how results are displayed.

13. Explain in your own words why different SQL clients may display the same results differently.

Section Two – Subqueries

Overview

In this section we learn to work with subqueries, which significantly extend the expressional power of queries. Through the use of subqueries, a single query can extract result sets that could not be extracted without subqueries. Subqueries enable the query creator to ask the database for many complex structures in a single query.

The foundation for learning how subqueries work lies in the expressional nature of the relational model. We learned previously that the operations in the relational model, such as SELECT, PROJECT, and UNION, perform operations on relations *and* yield a new relation as the result. That is, when one operation operates on a relation, and yields a new relation, we can use a second operation to operate on the result of the first operation.

We will take a look at these relational operations in a moment, but first let us look at a simple mathematical example. If we add two plus two to obtain a result of 4, 2 + 2 = 4, we have applied the plus operation to two numbers. Interestingly, the result of the plus operation is another number. So we can say that the plus operator operates on two numbers, and results in a new number.

Because the result is a number, there is no reason why we cannot use that result in another operation. For example, if we wanted to subtract one from the result, we *nest* the operations like so: (2+2)-1=3. That is, the plus operation adds two plus two to arrive at a result of 4, then the minus operation subtracts one from that result, to arrive at a final result of 3.

Now that we have seen a simple example of nesting operations, let us look at a concrete example in the relational model. Imagine that we have a Person relation which has two columns – first name and last name.

 Person
 =
 first_name
 last_name

 Bill
 Glass

 Jane
 Smith

We can use the PROJECT operation to create a new relation consisting of only the last_name column from Person, denoted as PROJECT_{last_name}(Person).

 $\begin{array}{cccc} & & & & & & & & \\ \textbf{PROJECT}_{last_name}(\textbf{Person}) & = & & & & \\ \textbf{Glass} & & & & \\ \textbf{Smith} & & & & \\ \end{array}$

Because the PROJECT operation creates a new relation, there is no reason why we cannot apply a second operation to that new relation. In this example, we can apply the SELECT operation to the result of the PROJECT in order to retrieve only the rows where the last name is Smith, denoted as SELECT_{last_name=Smith}(PROJECT_{last_name}(Person)).

In other words, wherever a particular operation expects a relation, we can give it an existing relation, or we can give it the result of another operation. When we have operations that operate on the results of other operations, we term this as *nesting* the operations. It is this nesting ability that gives the relational model, and therefore relational databases, their expressional power. Think about the concept of nesting operations until you are sure you understand it well, for it is the foundation of understanding subqueries.

Relational databases allow queries to be nested inside of other queries. Wherever a SQL statement expects a table, we can give it an existing table, or we can give it the result of another query. This is because all queries in relational databases yield result sets which are of the same form as a relational table -- a two-dimensional set of rows and columns.

Let us look at a concrete example of a subquery using a Person table with the same rows as the Person relation just described. When we issue a **SELECT * FROM Person** command, we see the initial Person table with Bill Glass and Jane Smith as row values.



To perform the PROJECT_{last_name}(Person) operation in SQL, we specify the last_name column in the command -- SELECT last_name FROM Person -- and the database returns for us the values in the last name column.



Now if we would like to perform the equivalent of the SELECT_{last_name=Smith}(PROJECT_{last_name}(Person)) operation in our database. We can do so through the use of a subquery, illustrated in the command below.

```
SELECT * FROM (SELECT last_name from Person)
WHERE last_name = 'Glass'
```

Did you see what we did in this command? The SELECT last_name FROM Person query has been put in place of an existing table, in order to perform the PROJECT operation. We usually see the name of a table in the FROM clause, but here we see the placement of the subquery. And then the additional WHERE last_name = 'Glass' restriction has been placed on the outer query, which performs the relational SELECT operation. Thus, we have used the results from one query in another query, nesting one query inside the other. This use of subqueries is powerful and allows us to obtain and manipulate data in a variety of ways.

In the screenshot below, you can see that we obtain the result we expect.



Steps

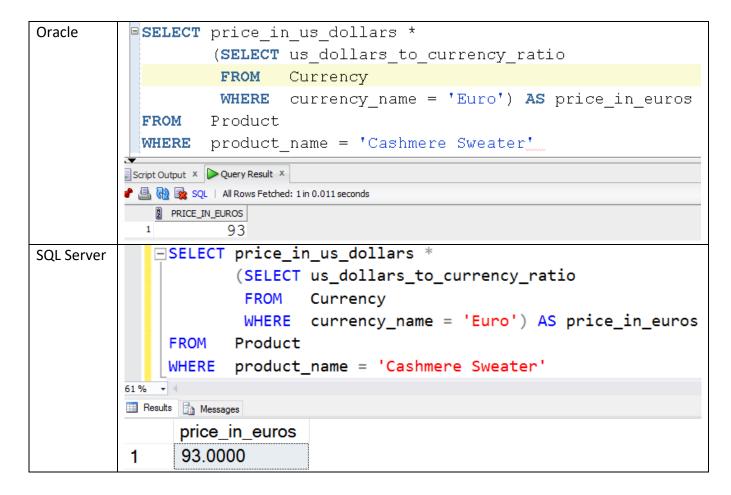
14. In step 2 we determine the price of a Cashmere sweater in Euros by using two independent queries, but in this step we learn to use the superior method of combining both queries into one. In step 2 we use this query to find out that the ratio is 0.93:

```
SELECT us_dollars_to_currency_ratio
FROM Currency
WHERE currency_name = 'Euro'
```

Then we manually hardcode that value into the next query to obtain the price in Euros, €93.00:

```
SELECT price_in_us_dollars * 0.93 AS price_in_euros
FROM Product
WHERE product_name = 'Cashmere Sweater'
```

Executing two queries independently gives us the results we want, but there is a better way. Embedding one query inside the other is more concise and productionworthy. Let us try it out in Oracle, SQL Server and PostgreSQL to see if we still get the same result.



```
PostgreSQL
                  SELECT price_in_us_dollars *
             36
                       (SELECT us_dollars_to_currency_ratio
             37
                      FROM
                              Currency
                      WHERE currency_name = 'Euro') as price_in_euros
             39
                  FROM
                          Product
             40
                  WHERE product_name = 'Cashmere Sweater'
             41
             Explain
                     Data Output
                 price_in_euros
                 numeric
                         93.0000
             1
```

The result is the same in these databases, except for formatting of course. It is possible to embed one query in another! Let us explore how the two-in-one combination yields its results by examining the query line-by-line.

On lines 2-4, we embed the query that retrieves the ratio for Euros. The embedded query is termed a *subquery* because it resides inside of another query. The subquery has the advantage that should the ratio change over time, the overall query will always retrieve the correct results. A significant property of this particular subquery is that it retrieves one column from one row, so it retrieves *one single value* (in this case, the ratio). Not all subqueries retrieve a single value, but this one does, so we can use this subquery wherever a single value is expected. This two-in-one combination is superior because it is more concise and survives changes over time.

Knowing how to retrieve a single value from a subquery is useful, but knowing where to place the subquery is just as important. Placing a subquery in the column list of a SELECT statement gives us the ability to directly manipulate values from every row returned in the outer query. On line 5, we indicate we want to select from the Product table, on line 6, we indicate we only want the Product named "Cashmere Sweater", and on line 1 we indicate we want the U.S. Dollar price of the sweater. The result of our subquery is thus used to manipulate the U.S. Dollar price for the one row returned from the outer query. However, if the WHERE clause on line 6 were to

allow for multiple products, the result of the subquery would be used to manipulate the U.S. Dollar price of all products returned. The principle is that the result of a subquery placed in the column list is used for every row returned from the outer query.

Placing a subquery correctly is important, but understanding how the SQL engine executes a subquery empowers us to make the best use subqueries to solve a wider variety of problems. In our example, the result of the subquery does not depend on which product price is retrieved. That is, the ratio of the Euro is the ratio of the Euro; the ratio does not vary if the prices of the products vary. Therefore the SQL engine executes the subquery on its own to retrieve its result. We could state that a subquery will be executed before the outer query is executed, but that is not entirely correct. A subquery may be executed in parallel with the outer query depending upon the DBMS and its configuration, but we do know that a subquery's result must be available before it is used in the expression in the column list. To be more specific, this type of subquery is termed an uncorrelated subquery, which means that the subquery does not reference a table or value in the outer query, and that its results can be retrieved with or without the existence of the outer query. An uncorrelated subquery can always be extracted and executed as a query in its own right. In fact, a simple test to determine whether a subquery is correlated or not is to try and execute it on its own outside of the outer query. The SQL engine executes an uncorrelated subquery independently of the outer query, before it needs the subquery's results.

For completeness, let us format the result so that we see it as a monetary amount. In Oracle, we would modify the query as the following screenshot illustrates:

```
SELECT to_char(price_in_us_dollars *

(SELECT us_dollars_to_currency_ratio

FROM Currency

WHERE currency_name = 'Euro'),

'FML999.00', 'NLS_CURRENCY=€') AS price_in_euros

FROM Product

WHERE product_name = 'Cashmere Sweater'

Script Output x Query... x

PRICE_IN_BUROS

1 € 93.00
```

Notice that the result is now "€93.00" instead of "93". Just as in step 10, we use the to_char function to format our result. What is different than step 10 is the format string, "FML999.00" and the fact that a parameter list follows. The "FM" in the format string instructs the SQL engine to display only as many digits are as necessary (in this example, displaying "93" instead of "093" or the number prefixed with

spaces), the "L" indicates to use the local currency symbol (which is specified as a parameter in the next argument), the "999" indicates there may be up to three digits to the left of the decimal point, and the ".00" indicates that there must always be two digits to the right of the decimal point. The parameter list "NLS_CURRENCY=€" indicates the local currency symbol is the Euro symbol. In Windows, holding the Alt key followed by the numbers 0128 on the number pad inserts the Euro symbol. Alternatively, the function UNISTR('\20ac') can be used to insert the Euro symbol without the need to hardcode it by using the Alt key combination, as illustrated below.

```
SELECT to_char(price_in_us_dollars *

(SELECT us_dollars_to_currency_ratio
FROM Currency
WHERE currency_name = 'Euro'),

'FML999.00', 'NLS_CURRENCY=' || UNISTR('\20ac')) AS price_in_euros
FROM Product
WHERE product_name = 'Cashmere Sweater'

Script Output x  Query Result x

Script Output x  Query Result x

RRICE_IN_EUROS
1 € 93.00
```

In SQL Server, we would modify the query as the following screenshot indicates:

```
SELECT format(price_in_us_dollars *

(SELECT us_dollars_to_currency_ratio
FROM Currency
WHERE currency_name = 'Euro'),
'€.00') AS price_in_euros
FROM Product
WHERE product_name = 'Cashmere Sweater'

Results Messages

price_in_euros

1 €93.00
```

In PostgreSQL we modify the query as so. FM suppresses padding so the symbol used is next to the numeric value and D is used as the decimal point and pulled from the local setting.

```
42
43
     SELECT to_char(price_in_us_dollars *
44
         (SELECT us_dollars_to_currency_ratio
45
                 Currency
         FROM
46
         WHERE currency_name = 'Euro'),
47
           'FM€99D00') as price_in_euros
48
            Product
     FROM
49
     WHERE product_name = 'Cashmere Sweater'
50
Explain
       Data Output
   price_in_euros

    text

   €93.00
1
```

Just like with Oracle, we hold the Alt key followed by the numbers 0128 on the number pad inserts the Euro symbol. The result is now €93.00 instead of 93.0000. We use the format function as illustrated in step 9 with one difference – we use the "€" symbol instead of the "\$" symbol. To avoid hardcoding the Euro symbol as a character, we could also concatenate the result of the function nchar(8364), as shown below.

```
SELECT format(price_in_us_dollars *

(SELECT us_dollars_to_currency_ratio
FROM Currency
WHERE currency_name = 'Euro'),
nchar(8364) + '.00') AS price_in_euros
FROM Product
WHERE product_name = 'Cashmere Sweater'

Results Messages

price_in_euros

1 €93.00
```

In this step, we place the subquery in the column list of the outer query, but there are other options for placement. If the situation were to merit it, we could also place the subquery in the WHERE clause, the FROM clause, the ORDER BY clause, and in several other locations in a SQL query. We could also place a subquery inside of

another subquery! Where we place a subquery determines the role its results play in the outer query. We explore additional placements in other steps. Nevertheless, you already have a taste of the flexibility and power of that subqueries give you.

- 15. Explain in your own words:
 - a. why using a subquery is superior to executing two independent queries and hardcoding the results of the first in the second.
 - b. what it means for a subquery to be uncorrelated, including how and when an uncorrelated subquery is executed in the context of the outer query.
- 16. In step 3, you are asked to give the price of a flowing skirt in Cancun by writing two queries. You now have the skills to retrieve this in a single query! Do so now, making sure to format the result as a currency. It is convention to use either "\$" or "Mex\$" as the currency symbol for Mexican Pesos.
 - a. Capture the results of the query and its execution.
 - b. Explain how your solution makes use of a subquery to help retrieve the result, and the advantages of your new solution over your solution in step 3.
- 17. We know how convert currencies in our example schema for display purposes, but what about making a decision based off the conversion? Imagine that a Mexican customer wants to know the names and prices of all products that cost less than 2,750 Mexican Pesos. Following the same methodology as in step 14, we can start by calculating that for all products with the following query.

```
SELECT product_name,
    price_in_us_dollars *
    (SELECT us_dollars_to_currency_ratio
        FROM Currency
        WHERE currency_name = 'Mexican Peso') AS price_in_pesos
FROM Product
```

We use a subquery in the column list to obtain the ratio for Mexican Pesos in order to calculate the product price in Mexican Pesos. The results in Oracle, SQL Server and PostgreSQL respectively, are below.

```
SELECT product name,
        price_in_us_dollars *
        (SELECT us dollars to currency ratio
               Currency
         WHERE currency name = 'Mexican Peso') AS price in pesos
FROM
        Product
Script Output × Query Result ×
🚇 🙀 🗽 SQL | All Rows Fetched: 5 in 0.004 seconds
  PRODUCT_NAME PRICE_IN_PESOS
 <sup>1</sup>Cashmere Sweater 1675
 <sup>2</sup> Designer Jeans
                        2512.5
3 Flowing Skirt
4 Silk Blouge
                      2093.75
 <sup>4</sup>Silk Blouse
                          3350
                    4187.5
<sup>5</sup>Wool Overcoat

☐SELECT product_name,

          price_in_us_dollars *
          (SELECT us_dollars_to_currency_ratio
           FROM
                   Currency
           WHERE currency_name = 'Mexican Peso') AS price_in_pesos
  FROM
          Product
sults 🔓 Messages
                         price_in_pesos
   product name
   Cashmere Sweater 1675.0000
   Designer Jeans
                         2512.5000
   Flowing Skirt
                         2093.7500
   Silk Blouse
                         3350.0000
   Wool Overcoat
                         4187.5000
```

```
53
     SELECT product_name,
         price_in_us_dollars *
54
55
         (SELECT us_dollars_to_currency_ratio
56
         FROM
                Currency
57
         WHERE currency_name = 'Mexican Peso') as price_in_pesos
58
     FROM
            Product
59
60
Explain
       Data Output
   product_name
                           price_in_pesos
 numeric
1
   Cashmere Sweater
                                 1675.0000
2
  Designer Jeans
                                 2512,5000
3 Flowing Skirt
                                 2093,7500
4
  Silk Blouse
                                 3350.0000
5
   Wool Overcoat
                                 4187.5000
```

We have obtained the price of *all* products, and now we need to restrict the list to the products costing less than Mex\$2,750, which we can do by adding a subquery to the WHERE clause, as shown below.

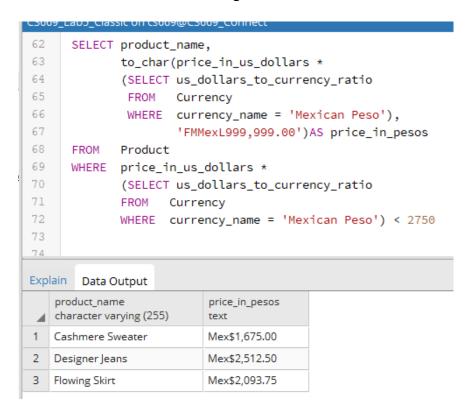
```
1: SELECT product_name,
         price_in_us_dollars *
2:
         (SELECT us_dollars_to_currency_ratio
3:
4:
         FROM Currency
         WHERE currency_name = 'Mexican Peso') AS price_in_pesos
5:
6: FROM Product
7: WHERE price in us dollars *
8:
         (SELECT us_dollars_to_currency_ratio
9:
          FROM Currency
10:
          WHERE currency_name = 'Mexican Peso') < 2750
```

The formatted results are shown for Oracle below.

```
SELECT product name,
        to char(price in us dollars *
                 (SELECT us dollars to currency ratio
                  FROM
                          Currency
                  WHERE currency_name = 'Mexican Peso'),
                  'FML999,999.00', 'NLS CURRENCY=Mex$') AS price in pesos
        Product
FROM
WHERE
      price in us dollars *
        (SELECT us dollars to currency ratio
         FROM
                 Currency
         WHERE
                 currency name = 'Mexican Peso') < 2750
ript Output X Query... X
🖺 🙌 🗽 SQL | All Rows Fetched: 3 in 0.003 seconds
 PRODUCT_NAME
              PRICE_IN_PESOS
1 Cashmere Sweater Mex$1,675.00
Posigner Jeans Mex$2,512.50
Flowing Skirt Mex$2,093.75
```

Notice that, because the results are in the thousands, we use three additional 9 digits with a comma separator in the format string, to properly format the result. We also use "Mex\$" instead of the U.S. Dollar or Euro symbol.

The formatted results for PostgreSQL are shown below.



The formatted results for SQL Server are shown below.

```
□SELECT product_name,
         format(price_in_us_dollars *
                 (SELECT us dollars to currency ratio
                  FROM
                         Currency
                  WHERE currency_name = 'Mexican Peso'),
                  'Mex$0,0.00') AS price in pesos
         Product
  FROM
  WHERE price_in_us_dollars *
         (SELECT us_dollars_to_currency_ratio
          FROM
                  Currency
          WHERE
                  currency_name = 'Mexican Peso') < 2750</pre>
esults 🔓 Messages
                      price_in_pesos
   product name
   Cashmere Sweater | Mex$1,675.00
                      Mex$2,512.50
   Designer Jeans
                      Mex$2,093.75
   Flowing Skirt
```

The only formatting change for SQL Server compared to prior steps is that we use "Mex\$" in the format string, and add "0,0" to the left of the decimal point so that each group of 3 numbers is separated by a comma.

Notice that in the results, each product in the list cost less then Mex\$2,750. It is possible to add a subquery to a WHERE clause in order to make decisions based on the result of the subquery.

This example illustrates a construct we have seen — a subquery — used in a clause we have not seen — the WHERE clause. Let us examine the query line by line. Lines 1-6 need no additional explanation beyond the fact that a subquery is used in the column list to calculate the price in Mexican Pesos for each product. Lines 7-10 contain the same subquery used in lines 3-5. That subquery is executed before its result must be used in the WHERE clause, and the subquery's result takes the place of a literal value. The results of that subquery are used to restrict (filter) rows in the result, because it is located in the WHERE clause. Recall that the conditions specified in the WHERE clause are applied to each row, and rows that do not meet the conditions are excluded from the result set. In this specific example, products whose prices are not less than Mex\$2,750 are excluded. Stated differently, products whose prices are greater than or equal to Mex\$2,750 are excluded. Subqueries placed in different

clauses are used for different purposes, but the methodology behind how and when they are executed does not change.

This example illustrates another important point, which is that *more than one* subquery can be embedded in a single query. In this example, the first subquery is used to retrieve the price in Mexican Pesos, and the second subquery is to restrict the products retrieved. Each subquery has a useful purpose, and the use of one does not preclude the use of another.

- 18. Now that you know how to use subqueries in the WHERE clause, let us use your skills to address a slightly more involved use case. Imagine that a Canadian store manager wants to know which products are on the cheaper end and which products are on the more expensive end. The manager asks you to retrieve the names and prices of all products that are less than 150 Canadian Dollars or more than 300 Canadian Dollars. Retrieve the results needed for this use case using a single query, and capture a screenshot of the query and its execution. Make sure to format the results in Canadian Dollars. The currency symbol for Canadian Dollars is the same as for U.S. Dollars, the "\$" symbol.
- 19. Deciding where to place a subquery is important, yet deciding how many values to retrieve in the subquery is equally important. In prior steps our subqueries always retrieve a single value, but single-valued subqueries cannot practically address all use cases. We need, and thankfully have, more options! In this step we examine retrieving a list of values, and in subsequent steps we examine retrieving results in tabular form. Using subqueries to address use cases requires skill and necessitates making many decisions.

Understanding the concept of a single value is straightforward, but what about a list of values? Simply put, a list of values in a relational database is a tabular construct that consists of exactly one column with the one or more rows. In contrast, a single value consists of exactly one column and exactly one row. When we create a subquery, we decide the maximum number of rows and columns it may retrieve. If a subquery retrieves one column, then we have the option to retrieve a single value by ensuring the subquery always retrieves exactly one row, and we have the option to retrieve a list of values by allowing it to retrieve as many rows as are needed. For example, the subquery

SELECT last_name FROM Person WHERE person_id = 5

would presumably retrieve a single value, because it restricts the number of rows retrieved by a single primary key value. But the subquery

SELECT last_name FROM Person WHERE weight_in_pounds < 130

would presumably retrieve a list of values, because there would be many people that weigh less than 130 pounds. We control whether a subquery retrieves a list of values or not by how we write it.

Whatever our decision, we must ensure that the outer query uses the correct construct to handle the result of the subquery based upon the number of values returned. The equality operator generally is only used to compare single values. For example, the test "Does the value in column X equal 5?" makes sense, but the test "Does the value in column X equal the list of numbers 5, 10, and 20?" does not make sense. Using SQL syntax, we would say that "WHERE X = 5" makes sense, but "WHERE X = (1, 2, 3, 4)" does not make sense. We can however use the IN operator instead, "WHERE X IN (5, 10, 20)". The IN operator tests whether a single value is found in a list of values. If X is 5 or 10 or 20, then "X IN (5, 10, 20)" is true; otherwise, it is false. Some constructs in SQL only work with single values, and some work with lists of values, and we must use the correct class of constructs with each subquery we create.

Subqueries in conjunction with appropriate SQL constructs can oftentimes be used to address use cases that have distinct and dissimilar parts. Let's look at one such example.

Jill travels internationally and is considering purchasing some items from some of the store locations while on her travels. She wants flexibility in how she can order and receive the items, so she would like to see the list of products and prices (in U.S. Dollars) *only* for store locations that offer more than one purchase and delivery option.

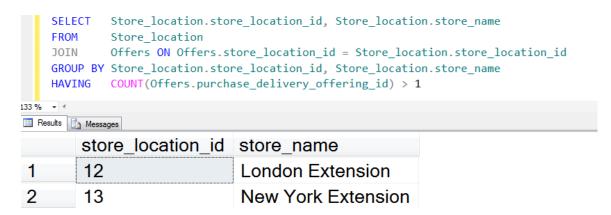
This use case is a challenge because it has two parts that require different SQL strategies. In order to determine which locations are suitable for Jill, we need to count the number of purchase and delivery options offered by each location, which means we need to aggregate results. However, because aggregation hides line-by-line details in favor of summarized results, we need to avoid it in order to obtain line-by-line product information for each store. So what do we do about this apparent conflict? You guessed it. Use a subquery! More complex use cases require more complex SQL strategies.

A good way to craft a query to address a more complex use case is to create one independent query for each distinct part, then put them together. For this example, we first create a query that finds the right stores, then create a query that lists the names and prices of products of all stores, then combine the two.

Determining which store locations offer more than one purchase and delivery option is solvable by use of a GROUP BY coupled with a HAVING clause as shown below.

```
1: SELECT Store_location.store_location_id, Store_location.store_name
2: FROM Store_location
3: JOIN Offers ON Offers.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
4: GROUP BY Store_location.store_location_id, Store_location.store_name
5: HAVING COUNT(Offers.purchase_delivery_offering_id) > 1
```

On line 4, the GROUP BY groups the result set by the store_location_id and secondarily by the store_name, and the HAVING limits the results returned to those stores with more than one purchase and delivery option. Executing this query yields results similar to the screenshot below in both Oracle, SQL Server and PostgreSQL, illustrating that the London Extension and the New York Extension both have more than one purchase and delivery offering.



Listing the products and prices for all stores is straightforward and only requires basic joins, as illustrated below.

Notice that we join Store_location to Sells to Product, and list out each store's name, product name, and product price. The query's execution is illustrated below, and the results are truncated for brevity.

```
|SELECT Store_location.store_name,
        Product.product_name,
   Product.price_in_us_dollars
FROM
        Store_location
        Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
JOIN
        Product ON Product.product_id = Sells.product_id
JOIN
lts 🚹 Messages
                      product name
                                          price_in_us_dollars
 store_name
  Berlin Extension
                      Cashmere Sweater
                                          100.00
  Berlin Extension
                      Designer Jeans
                                          150.00
  Berlin Extension
                      Silk Blouse
                                          200.00
  Berlin Extension
                      Wool Overcoat
                                          250.00
  Cancun Extension
                      Designer Jeans
                                          150.00
  Cancun Extension
                      Flowing Skirt
                                          125.00
  Cancun Extension
                      Silk Blouse
                                          200.00
  London Extension
                      Cashmere Sweater | 100.00
  London Extension
                      Designer Jeans
                                          150.00
  London Extension
                      Flowing Skirt
                                          125.00
  London Extension
                      Silk Blouse
                                          200.00
```

Finally, we embed the first query into the second another to retrieve the results we need, as illustrated below.

Cachmara Sweater 100 00

Wool Overcoat

London Extension

New York Extension

```
1: SELECT Store_location.store_name,
        Product.product_name,
2:
        Product.price_in_us_dollars
3:
4: FROM Store location
5: JOIN
        Sells ON Sells.store location id = Store location.store location id
6: JOIN
        Product ON Product.product_id = Sells.product_id
7: WHERE Store_location.store_location_id IN
8:
        (SELECT Store_location.store_location_id
9:
         FROM
                 Store_location
10:
         JOIN
                 Offers
                 ON Offers.store location id = Store location.store location id
11:
         GROUP BY Store location.store location id
12:
13:
```

250.00

On lines 8-13, the first query is embedded as a subquery with one change: the name of the store is not retrieved. This is because when we use the query in a standalone fashion, we want to see the name of the stores (seeing the store ID alone is not helpful), but when we embed the query, we want only to retrieve the store IDs so that the outer query can limit what it retrieves by those IDs. On lines 1-6 you see the

second query, the one that lists all products, is present without any changes compared to the original. Line 7 is where this query gets interesting; it is the glue that causes the two queries to work together. The outer query only retrieves the products of stores returned by the subquery by ensuring that the outer query's store_location_id is in the list of the ids returned by the subquery. The "Store_location.store_location_id IN" part of line 7 sets up the condition that the store_location_id must be in the list of values that follow, and the list of values that follow are determined by the subquery. Think about the last two sentences until you are sure you understand how these queries work together; it is essential you understand how to glue two queries together as illustrated in this example. Combining queries to solve complex use cases is powerful, but also requires skilled knowledge of SQL constructs and mechanisms.

Execution of the combined query is shown for Oracle below, with the price formatted as a monetary amount.

```
SELECT Store location.store name,
        Product.product name,
        to char (Product.price in us dollars, 'FM$999.00') as price
        Store location
FROM
        Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
JOIN
        Product ON Product.product id = Sells.product id
JOIN
WHERE Store location.store location id IN
         (SELECT
                    Store location.store location id
         FROM
                    Store location
          JOIN
                   Offers
                    ON Offers.store location id = Store location.store location id
          GROUP BY Store location.store location id
                   COUNT(Offers.purchase delivery offering id) > 1)
          HAVING
Script Output X Query Result X
🖺 🙀 🗽 SQL | All Rows Fetched: 10 in 0.015 seconds
               PRODUCT_NAME PRICE
STORE_NAME
London Extension Cashmere Sweater $100.00
London Extension Designer Jeans $150.00
London Extension Flowing Skirt $125.00
London Extension Silk Blouse $200.00
 5 London Extension Wool Overcoat $250.00
 6 New York Extension Cashmere Sweater $100.00
 New York Extension Designer Jeans $150.00
 8 New York Extension Flowing Skirt $125.00
 9 New York Extension Silk Blouse
                                          $200.00
10 New York Extension Wool Overcoat $250.00
```

Notice that only the products and prices for the London Extension and New York Extension are list in the results. Execution in SQL Server is shown below, and the results are the same.

```
SELECT Store_location.store_name,
       Product.product_name,
       format(Product.price_in_us_dollars, '$.00') as price
       Store_location
FROM
JOIN
       Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
       Product ON Product.product_id = Sells.product_id
JOIN
WHERE Store_location.store_location_id IN
                 Store_location.store_location_id
       (SELECT
        FROM
                 Store_location
        JOIN
                 Offers
                 ON Offers.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
        GROUP BY Store location.store location id
        ults 🔓 Messages
 store_name
                    product_name
                                      price
  London Extension
                    Cashmere Sweater
                                      $100.00
  London Extension
                    Designer Jeans
                                      $150.00
  London Extension
                    Flowing Skirt
                                      $125.00
  London Extension
                    Silk Blouse
                                      $200.00
  London Extension
                    Wool Overcoat
                                      $250.00
  New York Extension | Cashmere Sweater | $100.00
  New York Extension Designer Jeans
                                      $150.00
  New York Extension Flowing Skirt
                                      $125.00
  New York Extension | Silk Blouse
                                      $200.00
  New York Extension | Wool Overcoat
                                      $250.00
```

Execution in PostgreSQL is shown below, and the results are the same.

```
92
       SELECT Store_location.store_name,
93
               Product_product_name,
94
               to_char(Product.price_in_us_dollars, 'FML999.00') as price
95
       FROM
               Store_location
96
       JOIN
               Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
97
               Product ON Product.product_id = Sells.product_id
       JOIN
98
       WHERE Store_location.store_location_id IN
99
               (SELECT
                          Store_location.store_location_id
100
                          Store_location
               FROM
101
               JOIN
                         Offers
102
                         ON Offers.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
103
               GROUP BY Store_location.store_location_id
104
               HAVING COUNT(Offers.purchase_delivery_offering_id) > 1)
105
Explain
        Data Output
     store_name
                              product_name
                                                       price
                              character varying (255)
    character varying (255)
                                                       text
     London Extension
                              Cashmere Sweater
                                                       $100.00
 2
     London Extension
                              Designer Jeans
                                                       $150.00
                              Flowing Skirt
 3
    London Extension
                                                       $125.00
 4
    London Extension
                              Silk Blouse
                                                       $200.00
    London Extension
                              Wool Overcoat
 5
                                                       $250.00
    New York Extension
                              Cashmere Sweater
                                                       $100.00
 6
 7
    New York Extension
                                                       $150.00
                              Designer Jeans
 8
    New York Extension
                              Flowing Skirt
                                                       $125.00
 q
    New York Extension
                              Silk Blouse
                                                       $200.00
10
    New York Extension
                              Wool Overcoat
                                                       $250.00
```

This query gives Jill what she wants! We have successfully addressed Jill's use case using a subquery embedded in an outer query, and she now knows about all products that are sold in locations that offer more than one purchase and delivery option.

20. Now it is time for another, more complex use case.

Like Jill, Marcus also travels internationally, and he is interested in considering some products to purchase. Because his employer sends him to various locations throughout the world with little notice, he only wants to consider a product if it is available in all store locations, and is not interested in products that are available in some but not all store locations. This way, should he decide to purchase a product, he has the assurance that can purchase it at any of the locations. Lastly, he is interested in viewing the sizing options for each product that meets his criteria.

This use case can be solved using a similar methodology as in step 19. You can create different queries to solve different parts, then put them together to address the entire use case. For example, one of the subqueries can be put into the WHERE clause to limit what is returned. In your thinking about how to address this use case, one item should be brought to your attention – the phrase "all store locations". By eyeballing the data, we can see that there are 5 locations. Retrieving products that are sold at exactly 5 locations addresses Marcus' request *at this present time*, but even better is to dynamically determine the total number of locations in the query itself so that it returns correct results over time, even if the number of locations changes. For example, if one store location closes, there would be 4 locations instead of 5. Likewise, if a new store location is opens, there would be 6 locations. Dynamically retrieving the number of locations is a superior solution.

- a. Think about which parts can be solved with independent queries, then identify and briefly explain them here.
- b. Write an independent query for each part you identified, and capture a screenshot of the execution and results of each query. Explain the role each result will play in the final query.
- c. Write the full query to address the use case by combining your independent queries into a single, larger query. Capture a screenshot of its execution and results.
- d. Explain how you combined the independent queries to get your results, in terms of what SQL constructs you used, and the mechanics of how they work together.
- 21. Some SQL constructs work with the single values, some with lists of values, and some with tables of values. Recall that all queries, subqueries included, return tabular results in the form of rows and columns. If a subquery returns one column and one row, the result can be treated as a single value. Likewise, results with one column and one or more rows can be treated as a list of values. However, there are no restrictions on the number of rows or columns when tabular results are expected, since the results are by definition tabular. In particular, the FROM clause always expects tabular elements, so a subquery can be used in the FROM clause without regard to the number of columns and rows it retrieves. Constructs that expect tables of values allow for flexible subquery creation.

Let us review how a subquery placed in the WHERE clause can filter rows in advanced ways by reviewing the use case provided in step 19.

Jill travels internationally and is considering purchasing some items from some of the store locations while on her travels. She wants flexibility in how she can order and receive the items, so she would like to see the list of

products and prices (in U.S. Dollars) *only* for store locations that offer more than one purchase and delivery option.

Next, let us review the solution from step 19 which makes use of a subquery in the WHERE clause.

```
1: SELECT Store_location.store_name,
        Product.product name,
2:
        Product.price in us dollars
3:
4: FROM Store_location
5: JOIN Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
6: JOIN Product ON Product.product id = Sells.product id
7: WHERE Store_location.store_location id IN
8: (SELECT Store location.store location id
     FROM
                 Store location
9:
        JOIN
10:
               Offers
                ON Offers.store location id = Store location.store location id
11:
       GROUP BY Store_location.store_location_id
12:
         13:
```

We include the Store_location table on line 4 so that we can retrieve the store name and also match up the locations to the products they sell. We restrict the store locations retrieved based upon the results in the subquery on lines 8-13, thus employing the subquery as a filtering mechanism. The combined query correctly addresses the use case.

It makes sense that a subquery in the WHERE clause can be employed as an advanced filtering mechanism since filtering conditions in general are placed in the WHERE clause, but you may be surprised to know that a *subquery in the FROM clause can serve the same purpose*. This is more easily explained by example, so let us look at an alternative solution to Jill's use case.

```
1: SELECT locations.store name,
           Product.product name,
2:
           Product.price_in_us_dollars
3:
4: FROM (SELECT Store_location.store_location_id,
5:
                      Store_location.store_name
           FROM Store_location
6:
7:
            JOIN
                    Offers
                     ON Offers.store location id = Store location.store location id
8:
9: GROUP BY Store_location.store_location_id, Store_location.store_name
10: HAVING COUNT(Offers.purchase_delivery_offering_id) > 1) locations
11: JOIN Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = locations.store_location_id
12: JOIN Product ON Product.product_id = Sells.product_id
```

Notice that the WHERE clause subquery in the original solution is moved to the FROM clause, to lines 4-10. The subquery retrieves the id and name of each store location that matches Jill's criteria, which are locations that have more than one purchase and delivery option. The word "locations" on line 10 is an *alias* which provides a name for the subquery's results. Once defined, the alias can be used as if it were a table, and that table consists of whatever rows and columns are retrieved by the subquery. On line 11, the "locations" alias is used as a part of the join condition, to join the results from the subquery into the Sells table. Because the subquery only retrieves locations matching Jill's criteria, the overall query does the same, and filtering has been achieved in the FROM clause rather than the WHERE clause. Subqueries placed in the FROM clause can be flexible and powerful constructs.

The screenshot below shows execution of the query in Oracle with a formatted price.

```
SELECT locations.store name,
        Product.product name,
        to char(Product.price in us dollars, 'FM$999.00') as price
FROM
        (SELECT Store location.store location id,
                   Store location.store name
                   Store location
         FROM
         JOIN
                   Offers
                   ON Offers.store location id = Store location.store location id
         GROUP BY Store location.store location id, Store location.store name
                   COUNT (Offers.purchase delivery offering id) > 1) locations
        Sells ON Sells.store location id = locations.store location id
JOIN
        Product ON Product.product id = Sells.product id
JOIN
Script Output × Query Result ×
🚇 🙀 🗽 SQL | All Rows Fetched: 10 in 0.015 seconds
 STORE_NAME
                     PRODUCT_NAME
 New York Extension Wool Overcoat $250.00
<sup>2</sup> New York Extension Silk Blouse $200.00
<sup>3</sup> New York Extension Flowing Skirt $125.00
 4 New York Extension Designer Jeans $150.00
 New York Extension Cashmere Sweater $100.00
<sup>6</sup> London Extension Wool Overcoat $250.00

<sup>7</sup> London Extension Silk Blouse $200.00
8 London Extension Flowing Skirt
                                         $125.00
9 London Extension Designer Jeans $150.00
10 London Extension Cashmere Sweater $100.00
```

The same results are retrieved as in the original solution with the exception of row ordering, which is insignificant.

The screenshot below shows execution of the query in PostgreSQL.

```
92
        SELECT locations.store_name,
 93
                Product.product_name,
 94
                to_char(Product.price_in_us_dollars, 'FML999.00') as price
 95
                           Store_location.store_location_id,
        FROM
 96
                           Store_location.store_name
 97
                 FROM
                           Store location
 98
                 JOIN
                           Offers
 99
                         ON Offers.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
100
                GROUP BY Store_location.store_location_id, Store_location.store_name
101
                HAVING COUNT(Offers.purchase_delivery_offering_id) > 1) locations
               Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = locations.store_location_id
102
       JOIN
103
               Product ON Product.product_id = Sells.product_id
       JOIN
Data Output Explain Messages Query History
     store_name
                              product_name
                                                       price

▲ character varying (255)

                              character varying (255)
                                                       text
                                                       $100.00
    London Extension
                              Cashmere Sweater
 2
    London Extension
                              Designer Jeans
                                                       $150.00
                                                       $125.00
 3
    London Extension
                              Flowing Skirt
                              Silk Blouse
                                                       $200.00
    London Extension
 5
    London Extension
                              Wool Overcoat
                                                       $250.00
    New York Extension
                              Cashmere Sweater
                                                       $100.00
 7
    New York Extension
                              Designer Jeans
                                                       $150.00
 8
     New York Extension
                              Flowing Skirt
                                                       $125.00
 9
    New York Extension
                              Silk Blouse
                                                       $200.00
10
    New York Extension
                              Wool Overcoat
                                                       $250.00
```

The screenshot below shows execution of the query in SQL Server.

```
∃SELECT locations.store_name,

        Product.product_name,
        format(Product.price_in_us_dollars, '$.00') as price
                 Store_location.store_location_id,
 FROM
                 Store_location.store_name
        FROM
                 Store_location
                 Offers
        JOIN
                 ON Offers.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
        GROUP BY Store_location.store_location_id, Store_location.store_name
        Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = locations.store_location_id
 JOIN
 JOIN
       Product ON Product.product_id = Sells.product_id
sults 📑 Messages
  store name
                     product name
                                      price
  London Extension
                     Cashmere Sweater
                                      $100.00
  London Extension
                     Designer Jeans
                                      $150.00
  London Extension
                     Flowing Skirt
                                      $125.00
  London Extension
                     Silk Blouse
                                      $200.00
  London Extension
                     Wool Overcoat
                                      $250.00
  New York Extension | Cashmere Sweater | $100.00
  New York Extension
                    Designer Jeans
                                      $150.00
  New York Extension | Flowing Skirt
                                      $125.00
  New York Extension Silk Blouse
                                      $200.00
  New York Extension | Wool Overcoat
                                      $250.00
```

The results are the same as in the original solution. Both screenshots illustrate that we can successfully filter rows by using a subquery in the FROM clause.

Subqueries in the FROM clause are useful for more than just filtering. The columns retrieved by the subquery can actually be returned in the outer query directly! Notice in the new solution, the Store_location table is no longer directly used in the FROM clause; the results from the subquery actually *take the place of* using the Store_location table. On line 1, the store_name column is used directly from the subquery through use of the "locations" alias, and there is no need to additionally join into the Store_location table in order to retrieve the name of the store. A subquery placed in the FROM clause sometimes take the place of a table.

The fact that two solutions address the same use case, one in step 19 and one in this step, demonstrates that the same results can be retrieved from different queries. Given that many queries address a particular use case correctly, is one better, and if so, which one? There is no universal answer. Typically we choose the query that performs the best by selecting the one that outperforms the others. If several queries

perform well, we typically choose the one that is the least complex. Sometimes two or more queries work equally as well, and we just need to select one of them. With enough experience, we discern one of the better strategies before we write the query, and only change strategies if the query we write has a problem we did not foresee. For Jill's use case, given the small data set in our schema, either solution — the one in step 19 with a subquery in the WHERE clause, and the one in this step with a subquery in the FROM clause — works fine. One solution could outperform the other if we add millions of products into the schema, but even that depends upon the particular DBMS used and the particular execution plan the DBMS selects. Some DBMS would discern that the two queries are functionally equivalent, and choose the same execution plan for both of them. Which solution is better for a particular use case depends upon many factors.

- 22. You provided a solution to Marcus' use case in step 20 by using a subquery in the WHERE clause. Using a similar methodology as in the prior step, step 21, create an alternative solution by using a subquery in the FROM clause.
 - a. Capture a screenshot of your new query and the results of its execution.
 - b. Explain in your own words the mechanics of how your new query works to address Marcus' use case.
- 23. Some use cases have a distinct part that requires the existence of a particular item. Below is one such example.

Adina travels regularly, has already decided she wants to purchase a Cashmere sweater from one of the store locations, and is considering purchasing other products as well. For each location that sells Cashmere sweaters, she wants to see all products and their prices in U.S. Dollars. Then she can make an informed decision of where the purchase the sweater in addition to any other products she may want.

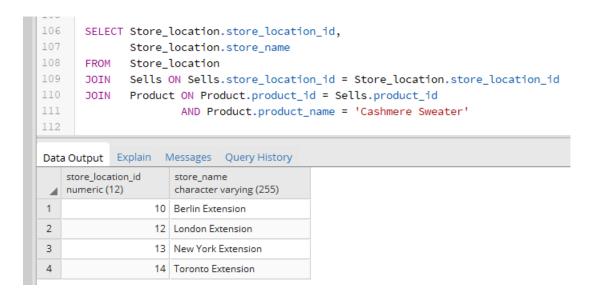
Just as in prior steps, we can identify the parts, write queries for them, and then put them together. One part comes from this sentence fragment in the use case, "she wants to see all products and their prices in U.S. Dollars". This is straightforward and we can steal a query from step 19 to address this part, shown below.

The other part comes from this sentence fragment, "she wants to purchase a Cashmere sweater from one of the store locations"; this use case has a distinct part that requires a location to sell Cashmere sweaters in order to be considered. The SQL for this part is similar to the SQL for the prior part, differing by an extra condition that accepts only the "Cashmere Sweater" product, and retrieving only columns related to the Store_location table.

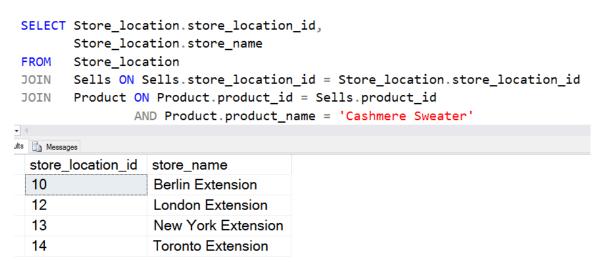
```
1: SELECT Store_location.store_location_id,
2: Store_location.store_name
3: FROM Store_location
4: JOIN Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
5: JOIN Product ON Product.product_id = Sells.product_id
6: AND Product.product_name = 'Cashmere Sweater'
```

Only store locations that sell Cashmere sweaters are retrieved by this query, as illustrated in the screenshot from Oracle below.

Notice that the Cancun Extension is excluded because it does not sell Cashmere sweaters. This is also illustrated in the PostgreSQL screenshot below.



Notice that the Cancun Extension is excluded because it does not sell Cashmere sweaters. This is also illustrated in the SQL Server screenshot below.



The initial strategy to solve this use case is similar to the initial strategies used to solve use cases in other steps.

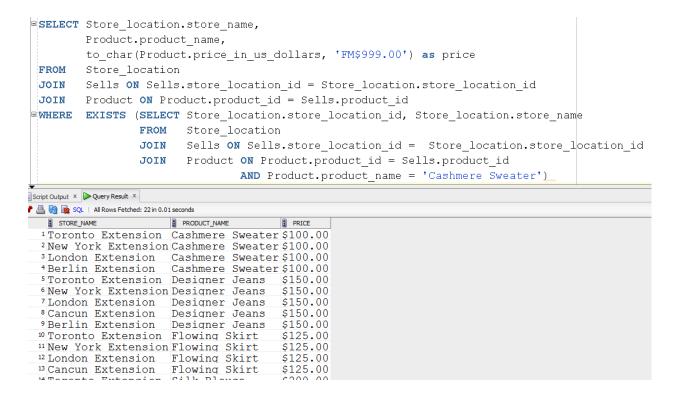
The SQL construct used when combining the queries for each part for this use case, however, is quite different than those used in other steps. The *EXISTS* clause is useful to address use cases such as this that test for the existence of a certain item. Unlike some SQL constructs that work with a single value, a list of values, or a table of values, the EXISTS clause only works with a subquery. An EXISTS clause is a Boolean expression that returns only true and false, true if the subquery returns any rows at all, and false if the subquery returns no rows. EXISTS does *not* consider the number of columns or the column's datatypes retrieved by the subquery, and even does not consider whether any values are NULL; rather, EXISTS only tests the existence of at least one row. So if we were to provide an English description of what EXISTS tests, it

could be "Is any row retrieved from this subquery?" EXISTS is different than most other SQL constructs because it is designed specifically for subqueries.

At this point we would expect to simply combine the two independent queries with EXISTS, but this will not get us the results we need for Adina's use case. Let us try it so we see what happens with the query below.

```
1: SELECT Store_location.store_name,
2:
          Product.product name,
3:
          Product.price_in_us_dollars
4: FROM Store location
5: JOIN Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
   JOIN Product ON Product.product_id = Sells.product_id
6:
7: WHERE EXISTS (SELECT Store_location.store_location_id, Store_location.store_name
8:
                  FROM Store_location
9:
                  JOIN Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
10:
                  JOIN Product ON Product.product_id = Sells.product_id
11:
                                 AND Product.product name = 'Cashmere Sweater')
```

You will notice that the first query is found on lines 1-6, and the second is found on lines 7-11 embedded inside of the EXISTS clause. The screenshot below shows part of the items returned in Oracle (there are too many rows to show them all).



And the screenshot below is for PostgreSQL screenshot below.

```
SELECT Store_location.store_name,
116
                Product.product_name,
117
                to_char(Product.price_in_us_dollars, 'FML999D00') as price
118
        FROM
               Store_location
119
                Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
        JOIN
                Product ON Product.product_id = Sells.product_id
        JOIN
        WHERE EXISTS (SELECT Store_location.store_location_id, Store_location.store_name
                         FROM
                                 Store_location
                         JOIN Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
124
                        JOIN Product ON Product.product_id = Sells.product_id
                                         AND Product_product_name = 'Cashmere Sweater')
126
Data Output Explain Messages Query History
                              product_name
     store_name
                                                       price
    character varying (255)
                              character varying (255)
                                                       text
     Berlin Extension
                              Cashmere Sweater
                                                      $100.00
 2
     Berlin Extension
                              Designer Jeans
                                                      $150.00
 3
     Berlin Extension
                              Silk Blouse
                                                      $200.00
 4
     Berlin Extension
                              Wool Overcoat
                                                      $250.00
 5
    Cancun Extension
                              Designer Jeans
                                                      $150.00
 6
     Cancun Extension
                              Flowing Skirt
                                                      $125.00
 7
     Cancun Extension
                              Silk Blouse
                                                      $200.00
 8
     London Extension
                              Cashmere Sweater
                                                      $100.00
 9
     London Extension
                              Designer Jeans
                                                      $150.00
   London Extension
                             Flowing Skirt
                                                       $125.00
```

And the screenshot below is for SQL Server.

```
□SELECT Store location.store name,

          Product.product_name,
          format(Product.price_in_us_dollars, '$.00') as price
  FROM
          Store_location
          Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
  JOIN
  JOIN
          Product ON Product.product_id = Sells.product_id
  WHERE
         EXISTS (SELECT Store_location.store_location_id, Store_location.store_name
                  FROM
                          Store_location
                  JOIN
                          Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
                  JOIN
                          Product ON Product.product_id = Sells.product_id
                                  AND Product.product name = 'Cashmere Sweater')
Results 🔓 Messages
    store name
                        product name
                                           price
    Berlin Extension
                        Cashmere Sweater
                                           $100.00
    Berlin Extension
                        Designer Jeans
                                           $150.00
    Berlin Extension
                        Silk Blouse
                                           $200.00
    Berlin Extension
                        Wool Overcoat
                                           $250.00
    Cancun Extension
                        Designer Jeans
                                           $150.00
    Cancun Extension
                        Flowing Skirt
                                           $125.00
    Cancun Extension
                        Silk Blouse
                                           $200.00
    London Extension
                        Cashmere Sweater
                                           $100.00
    London Extension
                        Designer Jeans
                                           $150.00
    Landan Extension
                        Elaurina Clairt
                                           $12E 00
```

You will immediately notice the problem with the results in either screenshot. The products for Cancun Extension are included in the results, but Adina only wants products for locations that sell Cashmere sweaters! We can see what is wrong with the query's logic by summarizing in English what the query does, "Retrieve all products and their prices for all locations if *any* location sells Cashmere sweaters." Therein lies the problem. EXISTS only checks for the existence of any row, so if *any* location sells a Cashmere sweater, EXISTS indicates a true value, and the products for all locations are retrieved. Simple combining does not work in this case.

EXISTS usually demands a more complex method of combining the queries for each part. The subquery usually must be *correlated* with the outer query to get the results we want. A correlated subquery references at least one table from the outer query, which means that conceptually, the subquery is not an independent query. Unlike subqueries in prior steps, which are termed *uncorrelated* subqueries, we cannot execute correlated subqueries on their own; correlated subqueries only make sense in the context of the outer query into which they are embedded. And unlike uncorrelated subqueries which are executed once and retrieve results once, correlated subqueries are executed *once for each row* in the outer query and therefore retrieve *one result set for each row* in the outer query. We can say that during the execution of an overall query, the results of an uncorrelated subquery are fixed, and the results of a correlated subquery are relative to each row in the outer query. EXISTS is typically coupled with a correlated subquery to achieve meaningful results.

Altering our subquery for Adina's use case by correlating the subquery gives us the logic we want.

```
1: SELECT Store location.store name,
          Product.product name,
2:
          Product.price in us dollars
3:
4: FROM Store location
5: JOIN Sells ON Sells.store location id = Store location.store location id
6: JOIN Product ON Product.product id = Sells.product id
7: WHERE EXISTS (SELECT Cashmere location.store location id, Cashmere location.store name
8:
                  FROM
                         Store_location Cashmere_location
                  JOIN
                         Sells ON Sells.store location id = Cashmere location.store location id
9:
                  JOIN
                         Product ON Product.product id = Sells.product id
10:
11:
                                 AND Product.product name = 'Cashmere Sweater'
                   WHERE Cashmere_location.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id)
12:
```

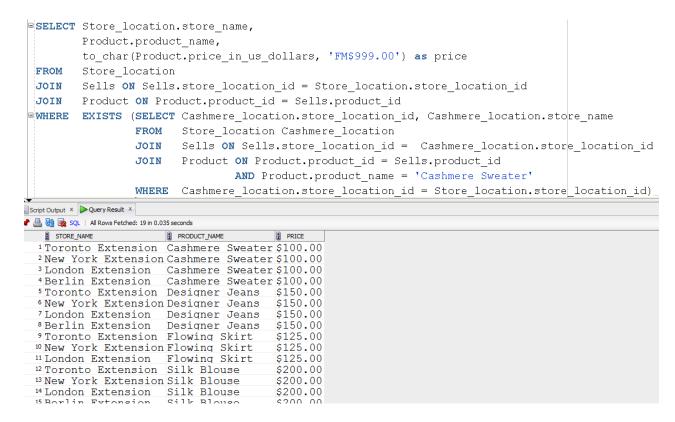
Lines 1-6 are the same as in the first solution, but lines 7-12 are different. The first difference you may notice is that there is the alias Cashmere_location for the Store_location table introduced the subquery. This is necessary to eliminate any ambiguity between the Store_location table introduced in the outer query on line 4, and the Store_location introduced in the subquery on line 8. With the alias, it is clear

that a reference to Store_location is a reference to the table introduced in the outer query, and a reference to Cashmere_location is a reference to the table introduced in the subquery. We use the identifier Cashmere_location to highlight the fact that locations in the subquery are only those that sell Cashmere sweaters. The second difference is found on line 12, WHERE

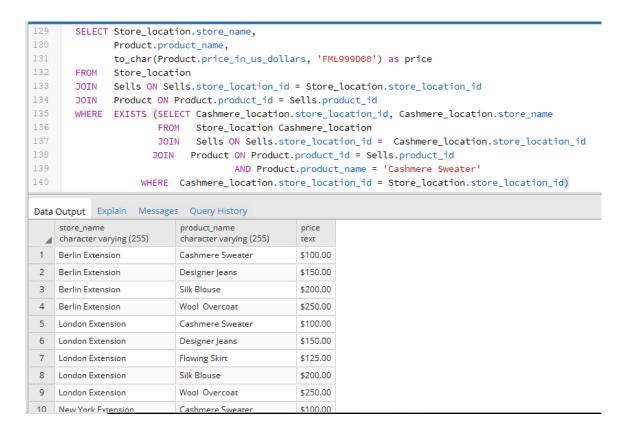
Cashmere_location.store_location_id =

store_location.store_location_id. It is this line that correlates the subquery with the outer query! Notice that the ID of Cashmere_location must equal the ID of Store_location, and it is this equality that forces the subquery into correlation. In English, we could summarize the logic of the subquery as follows: "Retrieve the store location found in the current row of the outer query only if that store location sells Cashmere sweaters". This logic, coupled with the EXISTS keyword, means that if the current row in the outer query does not contain a store location that sells Cashmere sweaters, it is excluded from the result set. This is exactly what we want!

The modified solution containing a correlated subquery gives us the results we want. Below is the screenshot for Oracle, which shows enough rows to see that our query works, but excludes some rows for brevity.



And below is the screenshot for PostgreSQL for the same.



And below is the screenshot for SQL Server for the same.

```
SELECT Store_location.store_name,
       Product.product name,
       format(Product.price_in_us_dollars, '$.00') as price
FROM
       Store_location
JOIN
       Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id
JOIN
       Product ON Product.product_id = Sells.product_id
WHERE EXISTS (SELECT Cashmere_location.store_location_id, Cashmere_location.store_name
                FROM
                       Store_location Cashmere_location
                JOIN
                       Sells ON Sells.store_location_id = Cashmere_location.store_location_id
                       Product ON Product.product_id = Sells.product_id
                JOTN
                                AND Product_product_name = 'Cashmere Sweater'
                       Cashmere_location.store_location_id = Store_location.store_location_id)
                WHERE
ts 🚹 Messages
 store_name
                      product_name
                                         price
 Berlin Extension
                                        $100.00
                      Cashmere Sweater
 Berlin Extension
                      Designer Jeans
                                         $150.00
 Berlin Extension
                      Silk Blouse
                                         $200.00
 Berlin Extension
                      Wool Overcoat
                                         $250.00
                      Cashmere Sweater
                                        $100.00
 London Extension
 London Extension
                      Designer Jeans
                                         $150.00
 London Extension
                      Flowing Skirt
                                         $125.00
 London Extension
                      Silk Blouse
                                         $200.00
 London Extension
                      Wool Overcoat
                                         $250.00
 New York Extension | Cashmere Sweater | $100.00
 New York Extension | Designer Jeans
                                         $150.00
```

Notice that Cancun Extension, which does not sell Cashmere sweaters, has been excluded from the result set. This is exactly what Adina wants! She now has a list of all products and their prices for store locations that sell Cashmere sweaters.

Since the topic of correlated subqueries is complex, let us summarize the steps we go through to solve Adina's use case, and any use case requiring a correlated subquery. First, we identify the distinct parts of the use case that require different SQL queries and constructs. Second, we write independent queries that address each part. Third, we combine the independent queries in such a way that the subquery is correlated to the outer query. Correlating the subquery involves changing it from an independent (uncorrelated) subquery to one that references at least one table introduced in the outer query, thus ensuring the subquery retrieves results based upon the current row of the outer query. The steps needed to solve all use cases requiring subqueries are similar, but those that require correlated subqueries necessitate a different method of combining the queries that make up the parts.

It should be noted that use of EXISTS combined with a correlated subquery is not limited to addressing use cases that test for the existence of a single item. This EXISTS combination can be used to test for the existence of mostly any set of conditions. In fact, many use cases that make use of uncorrelated subqueries in the WHERE clause can be rewritten to use a correlated subquery with EXISTS. EXISTS may perform better in some situations, and an uncorrelated subquery may perform better in others. Knowing how to use EXISTS gives us another tool we can use to help address more complex use cases.

Lastly, correlated subqueries can be used with other constructs, such as the IN construct. However, it is difficult to think of use cases where using correlated subqueries with other constructs makes for the best solution. Correlated subqueries commonly are coupled with EXISTS.

- 24. Explain in your own words the differences between a correlated subquery and an uncorrelated subquery.
- 25. In step 20, you created a solution to Marcus' use case, which is reproduced again below.

Like Jill, Marcus also travels internationally, and he is interested in considering some products to purchase. Because his employer sends him to various locations throughout the world with little notice, he only wants to consider a product if it is available in all store locations, and is not interested in products that are only available in some but not all store locations. This way, should he decide to purchase a product, he has the assurance that can purchase it at any of the locations. Lastly, he is interested in viewing the sizing options for each product that meets his criteria.

You identified the distinct parts, wrote queries for them, and then combined them to solve the use case. For this step, modify your solution to make use of the EXISTS clause and a correlated subquery.

- a. Capture a screenshot of the query and the results of its execution.
- b. Explain what changes you needed to make to your solution to make use of a correlated subquery.
- c. Explain which solution, the one in step 20 or the one in this step, you believe to be more appropriate to solve Marcus' use case, and why. There is no one correct answer, but it is useful to know why you would choose one solution over the other.

Lab Summary

Congratulations! You have learned how to transform values from their original form in the database by using expressions and other techniques. You have also learned how to solve more complex use cases by using subqueries. You are now better equipped to address the wide variety of demanding use cases presented to database designers and developers.

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