SQL & Indexes

Lecture 17

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SQL

Structures Query Language is a special purpose language for interacting with (querying and modifying) indexed tabular data.

- ANSI Standard but with dialect divergence (MySql, Postgres, SQLite, etc.)
- This functionality maps very closely (but not exactly) with the data manipulation verbs present in dplyr.
- SQL is likely to be a foundational skill if you go into industry learn it and put it on your CV

Connecting via CLI

```
1 cr173@trig2 [class_2022_10_28]$ sqlite3 employees.sqlite
2
3 SQLite version 3.36.0 2021-06-18 18:36:39
4 Enter ".help" for usage hints.
5 Connected to a transient in-memory database.
6 Use ".open FILENAME" to reopen on a persistent database.
7 sqlite>
```

Table information

The following is specific to SQLite

```
1 sqlite> .tables
2
3 employees
```

```
1 sqlite> .schema employees
2
3 CREATE TABLE `employees` (
4   `name` TEXT,
5   `email` TEXT,
6   `salary` REAL,
7   `dept` TEXT
8 );
```

```
1 sqlite> .indices employees
2
```

SELECT Statements

```
1 sqlite> SELECT * FROM employees;
2
3 Alice|alice@company.com|52000.0|Accounting
4 Bob|bob@company.com|40000.0|Accounting
5 Carol|carol@company.com|30000.0|Sales
6 Dave|dave@company.com|33000.0|Accounting
7 Eve|eve@company.com|44000.0|Sales
8 Frank|frank@comany.com|37000.0|Sales
```

Pretty Output

We can make this table output a little nicer with some additional SQLite options:

```
1 sqlite> .mode column
2 sqlite> .headers on
   sqlite> SELECT * FROM employees;
 4
              email
                                 salary
                                             dept
   name
   Alice
              alice@company.com 52000.0
                                             Accounting
   Bob
              bob@company.com
                                 40000.0
                                             Accounting
   Carol
              carol@company.com
                                 30000.0
                                             Sales
              dave@company.com
                                 33000.0
                                             Accounting
   Dave
              eve@company.com
                                 44000.0
                                             Sales
   Eve
               frank@comany.com
12 Frank
                                 37000.0
                                             Sales
```

select() using SELECT

We can subset for certain columns (and rename them) using SELECT

arrange() using ORDER BY

We can sort our results by adding ORDER BY to our SELECT statement

```
1 sqlite> SELECT name AS first_name, salary FROM employees ORDER BY salary;
2
3 first_name salary
4 --------
5 Carol 30000.0
6 Dave 33000.0
7 Frank 37000.0
8 Bob 40000.0
9 Eve 44000.0
10 Alice 52000.0
```

We can sort in the opposite order by adding DESC

filter() using WHERE

We can filter rows by adding WHERE to our statements

group_by() using GROUP BY

We can create groups for the purpose of summarizing using GROUP BY. As with dplyr it is not terribly useful by itself.

```
1 sqlite> SELECT * FROM employees GROUP BY dept;
2
3 name    email    salary    dept
4 -------
5 Dave    dave@company.com    33000.0    Accounting
6 Frank    frank@comany.com    37000.0    Sales
```

```
sqlite> SELECT dept, COUNT(*) AS n FROM employees GROUP BY dept;

dept n
------
Accounting 3
Sales 3
```

head() using LIMIT

We can limit the number of rows we get by using LIMIT and order results with ORDER BY with or without DESC

```
1 sqlite> SELECT * FROM employees LIMIT 3;

2

3 name email salary dept

4 ------

5 Alice alice@company.com 52000.0 Accounting

6 Bob bob@company.com 40000.0 Accounting

7 Carol carol@company.com 30000.0 Sales
```

Exercise 1

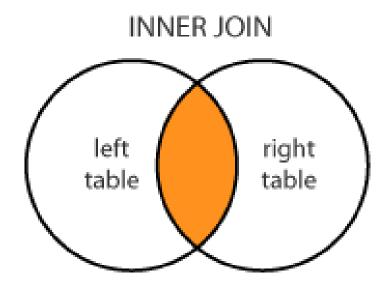
Using sqlite calculate the following quantities,

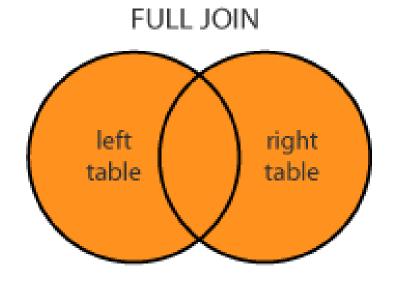
- 1. The total costs in payroll for this company
- 2. The average salary within each department

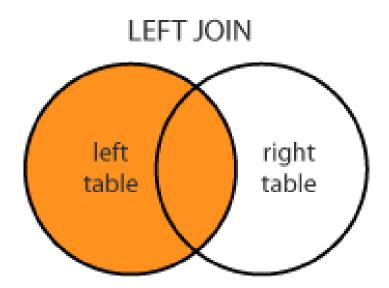
Import CSV files

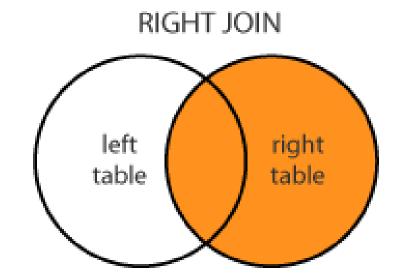
```
1 sqlite> .mode csv
2 sqlite> .import phone.csv phone
3 sqlite> .tables
  employees phone
 6
  sqlite> .mode column
8 sqlite> SELECT * FROM phone;
  name phone
12 Bob 919 555-1111
13 Carol 919 555-2222
14 Eve 919 555-3333
15 Frank 919 555-4444
```

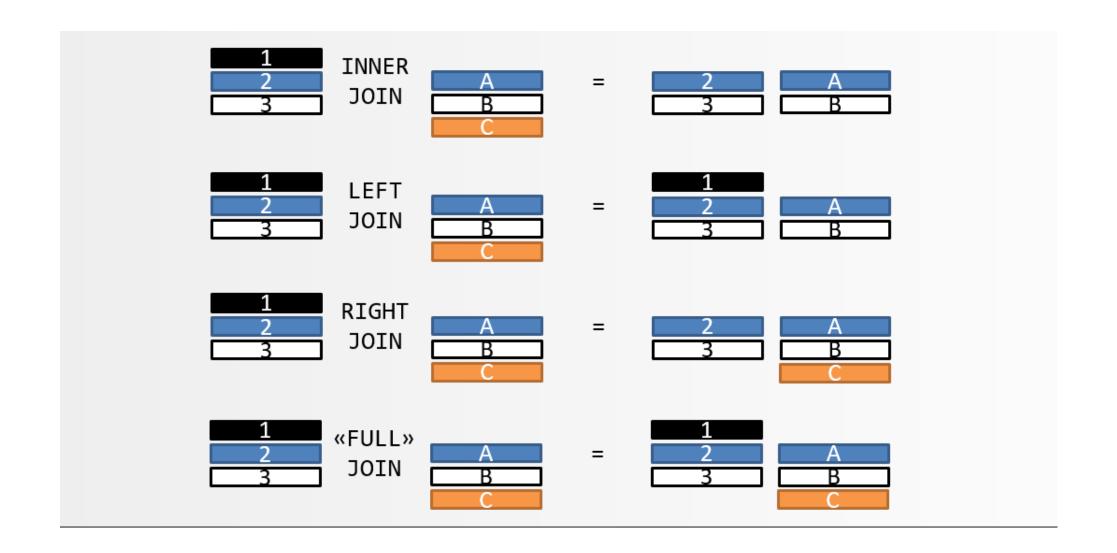
SQL Joins

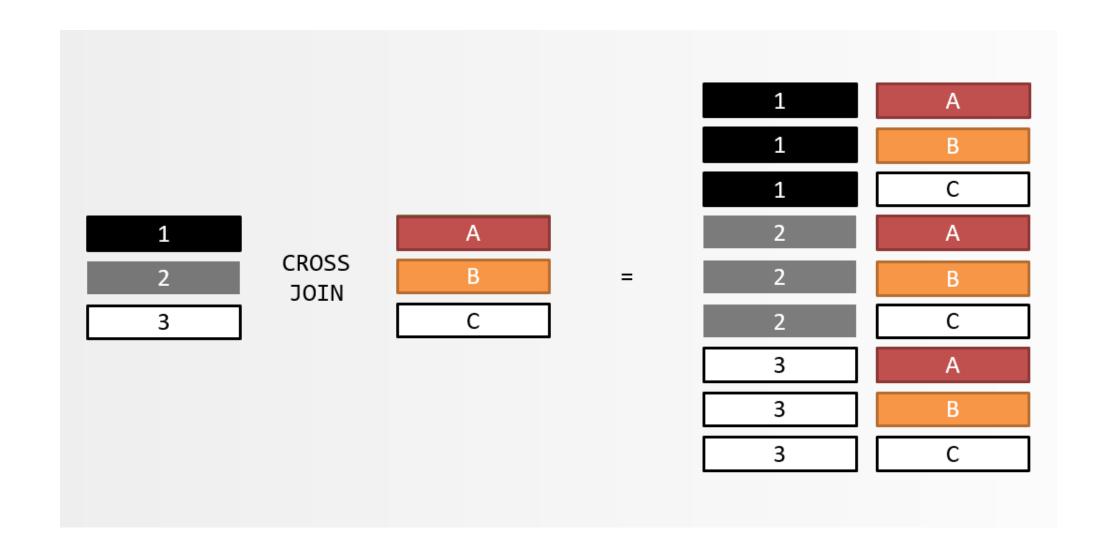












Joins - Default

By default SQLite uses a CROSS JOIN which is not terribly useful most of the time (similar to R's expand.grid())

1	sqlite> SEL	ECT * FROM employee	s JOIN pho	one;		
2	name	email	salary	dept	name	phone
4						
5	Alice	alice@company.com	52000.0	Accounting	Bob	919 555-1111
6	Alice	alice@company.com	52000.0	Accounting	Carol	919 555-2222
7	Alice	alice@company.com	52000.0	Accounting	Eve	919 555-3333
8	Alice	alice@company.com	52000.0	Accounting	Frank	919 555-4444
9	Bob	bob@company.com	40000.0	Accounting	Bob	919 555-1111
0	Bob	bob@company.com	40000.0	Accounting	Carol	919 555-2222
1	Bob	bob@company.com	40000.0	Accounting	Eve	919 555-3333
2	Bob	bob@company.com	40000.0	Accounting	Frank	919 555-4444
3	Carol	carol@company.com	30000.0	Sales	Bob	919 555-1111
4	Carol	carol@company.com	30000.0	Sales	Carol	919 555-2222
5	Carol	carol@company.com	30000.0	Sales	Eve	919 555-3333
6	Carol	carol@company.com	30000.0	Sales	Frank	919 555-4444
7	Dave	dave@company.com	33000.0	Accounting	Bob	919 555-1111
8	Dave	dave@company.com	33000.0	Accounting	Carol	919 555-2222
. 9	Dave	dave@company.com	33000.0	Accounting	Eve	919 555-3333
20	Dave	dave@company.com	33000.0	Accounting	Frank	919 555-4444
21	Eve	eve@company.com	44000.0	Sales	Bob	919 555-1111
22	Eve	eve@company.com	44000.0	Sales	Carol	919 555-2222
23	Eve	eve@company.com	44000.0	Sta 523 - Fall 20	Eve	919 555-3333

Inner Join

If you want SQLite to find the columns to merge on automatically then we prefix the join with NATURAL.

```
sqlite> SELECT * FROM employees NATURAL JOIN phone;
           email
                           salary
                                      dept
                                                 phone
name
           bob@company.com 40000.0
                                      Accounting 919 555-1111
Bob
Carol
           carol@company.c 30000.0
                                      Sales
                                                 919 555-2222
           eve@company.com 44000.0
Eve
                                      Sales
                                                 919 555-3333
           frank@comany.co 37000.0
Frank
                                      Sales
                                                 919 555-4444
```

Inner Join - Explicit

```
sqlite> SELECT * FROM employees JOIN phone ON employees.name = phone.name;
                             salary
             email
                                        dept
                                                               phone
  name
                                                    name
             bob@company.com 40000.0
                                        Accounting Bob
                                                               919 555-1111
  Bob
  Carol
             carol@company.c 30000.0
                                        Sales
                                                    Carol
                                                               919 555-2222
             eve@company.com 44000.0
  Eve
                                        Sales
                                                    Eve
                                                               919 555-3333
             frank@comany.co 37000.0
8 Frank
                                        Sales
                                                    Frank
                                                               919 555-4444
```

to avoid the duplicate name column we can use USING instead of ON

```
sqlite> SELECT * FROM employees JOIN phone USING(name);
2
                          salary
                                  dept
  name
        email
                                              phone
        bob@company.com 40000.0 Accounting 919 555-1111
  Bob
  Carol carol@company.com 30000.0 Sales
                                              919 555-2222
        eve@company.com
                          44000.0 Sales
  Eve
                                              919 555-3333
8 Frank frank@comany.com 37000.0 Sales
                                              919 555-4444
```

As a rule, the USING (or NATURAL) clause is used if the column names match between tables, otherwise ON is needed.

Left Join - Natural

```
sqlite> SELECT * FROM employees NATURAL LEFT JOIN phone;
 2
              email
                               salary
                                          dept
                                                     phone
   name
              alice@company.com 52000.0
  Alice
                                          Accounting
  Bob
              bob@company.com
                               40000.0
                                          Accounting 919 555-11
   Carol
              carol@company.com 30000.0
                                          Sales
                                                     919 555-22
              dave@company.com
   Dave
                               33000.0
                                          Accounting
              eve@company.com
                                          Sales
  Eve
                               44000.0
                                                    919 555-33
              frank@comany.com
  Frank
                               37000.0
                                          Sales
                                                     919 555-44
10
```

Left Join - Explicit

```
sqlite> SELECT * FROM employees LEFT JOIN phone ON employees.name = phone.name;
 2
                               salary
              email
                                           dept
                                                                 phone
   name
                                                      name
              alice@company.com 52000.0
 5 Alice
                                           Accounting
                                40000.0 Accounting Bob
             bob@company.com
   Bob
                                                                 919 555-11
 6
              carol@company.com
                               30000.0
   Carol
                                           Sales
                                                      Carol
                                                                 919 555-22
              dave@company.com
                                           Accounting
   Dave
                                33000.0
              eve@company.com
   Eve
                                44000.0
                                           Sales
                                                      Eve
                                                                 919 555-33
              frank@comany.com
                                37000.0
                                           Sales
                                                      Frank
10 Frank
                                                                 919 555-44
```

As above to avoid the duplicate name column we can use USING, or can be more selective about our returned columns,

```
sglite > SELECT employees.*, phone FROM employees LEFT JOIN phone ON employees.name = phone.name;
                        salary dept
      email
                                           phone
name
Alice alice@company.com 52000.0 Accounting
      bob@company.com 40000.0 Accounting 919 555-1111
Bob
Carol carol@company.com 30000.0 Sales
                                           919 555-2222
      dave@company.com 33000.0 Accounting
Dave
      eve@company.com 44000.0 Sales
Eve
                                           919 555-3333
Frank frank@comany.com 37000.0 Sales
                                           919 555-4444
```

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Other Joins

Note that SQLite does not support directly support an OUTER JOIN (e.g a full join in dplyr) or a RIGHT JOIN.

- A RIGHT JOIN can be achieved by switch the two tables (i.e. A right join B is equivalent to B left join A)
- An OUTER JOIN can be achieved via using UNION ALL with both left joins (A on B and B on A)

Creating an index

```
1 sqlite> CREATE INDEX index_name ON employees (name);
2 sqlite> .indices
3
4 index_name
5
6 sqlite> CREATE INDEX index_name_email ON employees (name,email);
7 sqlite> .indices
8
9 index_name
10 index_name_email
```

Subqueries

We can nest tables within tables for the purpose of queries.

1	sqlite> SEL	ECT * FROM (SELEC	T * FROM emp	Toyees NATUR	AL LEFT JOIN phone) WHERE phone I	
2						
3	name	email	salary	dept	phone	
4						
5	Bob	bob@company.com	40000.0	Accounting	919 555-1111	
6	Carol	carol@company.c	30000.0	Sales	919 555-2222	
7	Eve	eve@company.com	44000.0	Sales	919 555-3333	
8	Frank	frank@comany.co	37000.0	Sales	919 555-4444	

Exercise 2

Lets try to create a table that has a new column - abv_avg which contains how much more (or less) than the average, for their department, each person is paid.

Hint - This will require joining a subquery.

employees.sqlite is available in the exercises repo.

Query performance

Setup

To give us a bit more variety, we have created another SQLite database flights.sqlite that contains both nycflights13::planes and nycflights13::planes, the latter of which has details on the characteristics of the planes in the dataset as identified by their tail numbers.

```
db = DBI::dbConnect(RSQLite::SQLite(), "flights.sqlite")
dplyr::copy_to(db, nycflights13::flights, name = "flights", temporary = FALSI
dplyr::copy_to(db, nycflights13::planes, name = "planes", temporary = FALSE)
DBI::dbDisconnect(db)
```

All of the following code will be run in the SQLite command line interface, make sure you've created the database and copied both the flights and planes tables into the db.

Opening flights.sqlite

The database can then be opened from the terminal tab using,

```
1 > sqlite3 flights.sqlite
```

As before we should set a couple of configuration options so that our output is readable, we include .timer on so that we get time our queries.

```
1 sqlite> .headers on
2 sqlite> .mode column
3 sqlite> .timer on
```

flights

	sqlite> SELECT * FROM flights LIMIT 10; year month day dep time sched dep time dep delay arr time sched arr time arr delay carrier fl										
2	year	month	day	dep_time	sched_dep_time	dep_delay	arr_time	sched_arr_time	arr_delay	carrier	fl
3											
	2013	1	1	517	515	2.0	830	819	11.0	UA	15
	2013	1	1	533	529	4.0	850	830	20.0	UA	17
5	2013	1	1	542	540	2.0	923	850	33.0	AA	11
7	2013	1	1	544	545	-1.0	1004	1022	-18.0	В6	72
3	2013	1	1	554	600	-6.0	812	837	-25.0	DL	46
)	2013	1	1	554	558	-4.0	740	728	12.0	UA	16
)	2013	1	1	555	600	-5.0	913	854	19.0	В6	50
1	2013	1	1	557	600	-3.0	709	723	-14.0	EV	57
2	2013	1	1	557	600	-3.0	838	846	-8.0	В6	79
3	2013	1	1	558	600	-2.0	753	745	8.0	AA	30

planes

1	sqlite> SELECT * FROM planes LIMIT 10;												
2	tailnum	year	type				manufac	cturer	model	engines	seats	speed	engine
3													
4	N10156	2004	Fixed	wing	multi	engine	EMBRAEI	₹	EMB-145XR	2	55		Turbo-fan
5	N102UW	1998	Fixed	wing	multi	engine	AIRBUS	INDUSTRIE	A320-214	2	182		Turbo-fan
6	N103US	1999	Fixed	wing	multi	engine	AIRBUS	INDUSTRIE	A320-214	2	182		Turbo-fan
7	N104UW	1999	Fixed	wing	multi	engine	AIRBUS	INDUSTRIE	A320- <mark>214</mark>	2	182		Turbo-fan
8	N10575	2002	Fixed	wing	multi	engine	EMBRAEI	2	EMB-145LR	2	55		Turbo-fan
9	N105UW	1999	Fixed	wing	multi	engine	AIRBUS	INDUSTRIE	A320-214	2	182		Turbo-fan
10	N107US	1999	Fixed	wing	multi	engine	AIRBUS	INDUSTRIE	A320- <mark>214</mark>	2	182		Turbo-fan
11	N108UW	1999	Fixed	wing	multi	engine	AIRBUS	INDUSTRIE	A320-214	2	182		Turbo-fan
12	N109UW	1999	Fixed	wing	multi	engine	AIRBUS	INDUSTRIE	A320-214	2	182		Turbo-fan
13	N110UW	1999	Fixed	wing	multi	engine	AIRBUS	INDUSTRIE	A320-214	2	182		Turbo-fan
14	Run Time	: real	0.001	user	0.0001	59 sys	0.000106	5					

Exercise 3

Write a query that determines the total number of seats available on all of the planes that flew out of New York in 2013.

Incorrect

```
1 sqlite> SELECT sum(seats) FROM flights NATURAL LEFT JOIN planes;
2
3 sum(seats)
4 ------
5 614366
6 Run Time: real 0.148 user 0.139176 sys 0.007804
```

Why?

Correct

Join and select:

```
1 sqlite> SELECT sum(seats) FROM flights LEFT JOIN planes USING (tailnum);
2
3 sum(seats)
4 ------
5 38851317
6 Run Time: real 0.176 user 0.167993 sys 0.007354
```

Select then join:

```
sqlite> SELECT sum(seats) FROM (SELECT tailnum FROM flights) LEFT JOIN (SELECT tailnum, seats FROM plan sum(seats)
------
38851317
Run Time: real 0.174 user 0.166085 sys 0.007122
```

EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN

```
sqlite> EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN SELECT sum(seats) FROM flights LEFT JOIN planes USING (tail)

QUERY PLAN

|--SCAN flights

--SEARCH planes USING AUTOMATIC COVERING INDEX (tailnum=?)

sqlite> EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN SELECT sum(seats) FROM (SELECT tailnum FROM flights) LFET of the seats of
```

```
2

QUERY PLAN

QUERY PLAN

|--MATERIALIZE SUBQUERY 2

| `--SCAN planes

| --SCAN flights

| --SCAN SUBQUERY 2 USING AUTOMATIC COVERING INDEX (tailnum=?)
```

Key things to look for:

- SCAN indicates that a full table scan is occurring
- SEARCH indicates that only a subset of the table rows are visited
- AUTOMATIC COVERING INDEX indicates that a temporary index has been created for this query

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Adding indexes

```
1 sqlite> CREATE INDEX flight_tailnum ON flights (tailnum);
2 Run Time: real 0.241 user 0.210099 sys 0.027611

1 sqlite> CREATE INDEX plane_tailnum ON planes (tailnum);
2 Run Time: real 0.003 user 0.001407 sys 0.001442

1 sqlite> .indexes
2 flight_tailnum plane_tailnum
```

Improvements?

```
sqlite> EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN SELECT sum(seats) FROM flights LEFT JOIN planes USING (tail QUERY PLAN
| --SCAN flights USING COVERING INDEX flight_tailnum
| --SEARCH planes USING INDEX plane_tailnum (tailnum=?)
```

Filtering

```
1 sqlite> SELECT origin, count(*) FROM flights WHERE origin = "EWR";
2 origin count(*)
  _____
  EWR 120835
5 Run Time: real 0.034 user 0.028124 sys 0.005847
1 sqlite> EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN SELECT origin, count(*) FROM flights WHERE origin = "EWR"
2 OUERY PLAN
3 \ --SCAN flights
1 sqlite> SELECT origin, count(*) FROM flights WHERE origin != "EWR";
2 origin count(*)
  _____
  LGA 215941
5 Run Time: real 0.036 user 0.029798 sys 0.006171
1 sqlite> EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN SELECT origin, count(*) FROM flights WHERE origin != "EWR
  QUERY PLAN
 `--SCAN flights
```

Nested indexes

```
1 sqlite> CREATE INDEX flights_orig_dest ON flights (origin, dest);
2 Run Time: real 0.267 user 0.232886 sys 0.030270
```

Filtering w/ indexes

```
sqlite> SELECT origin, count(*) FROM flights WHERE origin = "EWR";
  origin count(*)
  EWR
       120835
6 Run Time: real 0.007 user 0.006419 sys 0.000159
  sqlite> SELECT origin, count(*) FROM flights WHERE origin != "EWR";
  origin count(*)
  JFK
          215941
6 Run Time: real 0.020 user 0.019203 sys 0.000497
  sqlite> EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN SELECT origin, count(*) FROM flights WHERE origin = "EWR";
  OUERY PLAN
  `--SEARCH flights USING COVERING INDEX flights orig dest (origin=?)
  sqlite> EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN SELECT origin, count(*) FROM flights WHERE origin != "EWR";
  OUERY PLAN
  `--SCAN flights USING COVERING INDEX flights orig dest
```

!= alternative

```
1 sqlite> SELECT origin, count(*) FROM flights
2  WHERE origin > "EWR" OR origin < "EWR";
3
4 origin count(*)
5 -----
6 JFK 215941
7 Run Time: real 0.022 user 0.021148 sys 0.001290</pre>
```

What about dest?

```
1 sqlite> SELECT dest, count(*) FROM flights WHERE dest = "LAX";
  dest count(*)
  LAX
       16174
6 Run Time: real 0.017 user 0.016513 sys 0.000237
  sqlite> EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN SELECT dest, count(*) FROM flights WHERE dest = "LAX";
  QUERY PLAN
4 `--SCAN flights USING COVERING INDEX flights_orig_dest
1 sqlite> SELECT dest, count(*) FROM flights WHERE dest = "LAX" AND origin = "EWR";
  dest count(*)
  LAX
        4912
6 Run Time: real 0.003 user 0.000729 sys 0.000778
  sqlite> EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN SELECT dest, count(*) FROM flights WHERE dest = "LAX" AND origin = "EWR";
  OUERY PLAN
4 `--SEARCH flights USING COVERING INDEX flights orig dest (origin=? AND dest=?)
```

Group bys

```
sqlite> SELECT carrier, count(*) FROM flights
 2 GROUP BY carrier;
 3
   carrier count(*)
   _____
   9E
           18460
   AA
           32729
           714
 8 AS
   В6
           54635
           48110
   DL
10
           54173
11 EV
12 F9
           685
13 FL
            3260
            342
14 HA
           26397
15 MQ
            32
16 00
   UA
            58665
17
   US
           20536
18
19 VX
            5162
           12275
20
   WN
            601
21 YV
22 Run Time: real 0.172 user 0.114274 sys 0.018946
```

```
1 sqlite> EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN SELECT carrier, count
2 QUERY PLAN
3 |--SCAN flights
4 `--USE TEMP B-TREE FOR GROUP BY
```

GROUP with index

```
1 sqlite> CREATE INDEX flight_carrier ON flights (carrier);
2 Run Time: real 0.131 user 0.113260 sys 0.014691
```

```
1 sqlite> SELECT carrier, count(*) FROM flights
 2 GROUP BY carrier;
   carrier count(*)
   9E
            18460
   AA
            32729
             714
 8 AS
   В6
             54635
   \mathsf{DL}
            48110
10
             54173
11 EV
12 F9
             685
13 FL
             3260
             342
14 HA
            26397
   MQ
15
16 00
             32
             58665
17 UA
             20536
18
   US
             5162
19 VX
   WN
             12275
2.0
21
   ΥV
             601
22 Run Time: real 0.023 user 0.022521 sys 0.000411
```

```
1 sqlite> EXPLAIN QUERY PLAN SELECT carrier, count
2 GROUP BY carrier;
3
4 QUERY PLAN
5 `--SCAN flights USING COVERING INDEX flight_carr
```

Why not index all the things?

- As mentioned before, creating an index requires additional storage (memory or disk)
- Additionally, when adding or updating data indexes also need to be updated, making these processes slower (read vs. write tradeoffs)
- Index order matters flights (origin, dest), flights (dest, origin) are not the same and similarly are not the same as separate indexes on dest and origin.