Learning SQL Window Functions

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What is Window Function?

 Window functions in SQL perform calculations across a set of table rows related to the current row.

Why Use Window Functions?

- Enhanced Data Analysis: Perform complex calculations while still being able to see each row of data.
- Efficient Queries: Avoid multiple joins and subqueries, making your SQL queries cleaner and faster.
- Advanced Insights: Gain deeper insights by comparing data across rows within a result set

How Do They Work?

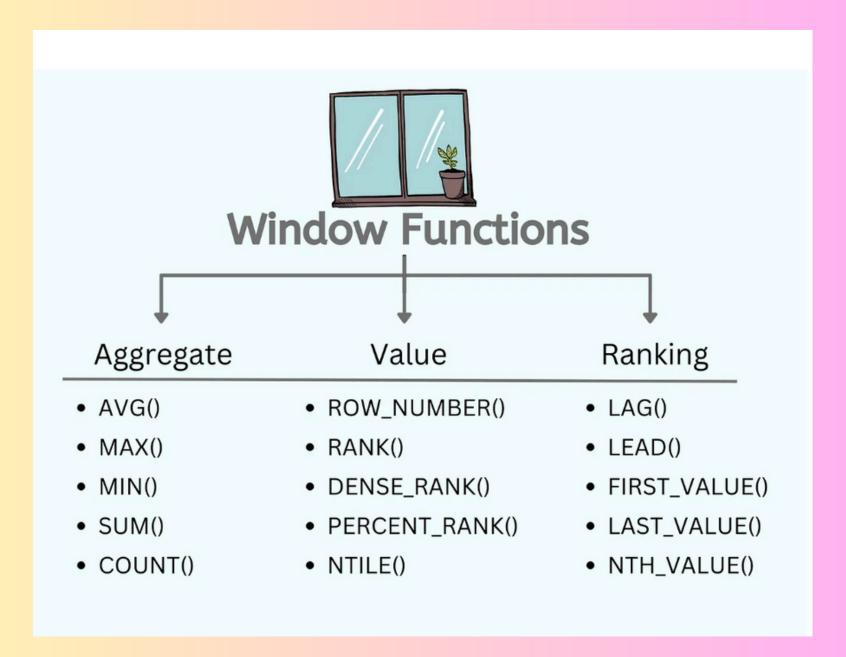
- Function: The operation you want to perform (e.g., SUM(), RANK()).
- OVER clause: Specifies that the function is a window function and defines the window.
- Optional PARTITION BY and ORDER BY:
 Used to group and sort the data within the window.

Types of Window Functions

- Aggregate Functions: Like SUM(), AVG(), COUNT() – used over specific partitions or entire datasets.
- Ranking Functions: Such as RANK(), ROW_NUMBER(), DENSE_RANK() – used for assigning ranks to rows.
- Value Functions: Including LAG(), LEAD(),
 FIRST_VALUE() used for retrieving
 specific values from the window.

Basic Syntax:

```
function(column) OVER (
    [PARTITION BY expr_list]
    [ORDER BY order_list]
)
```





Examples

Suppose you have a sales table with columns salesperson, sale_amount, and sale_date. You want to calculate the total sales amount for each salesperson over a specific period, say a month.

```
SELECT
    student_name,
    dep_name,
    score,
    SUM(score) OVER (PARTITION BY dep_name ORDER BY score DESC) AS cumulative_score
FROM student_score;
```

 You want to rank the salespersons based on their total sales amount in descending order.

```
SELECT
    student_name,
    dep_name,
    score,
    RANK() OVER (PARTITION BY dep_name ORDER BY score DESC) AS rank_within_department
FROM student_score;
```

 You want to find the difference between the current sales amount and the previous sales amount for each salesperson.

Thank You

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