Google BigQuery Exercise 1 Questions

1	BIG	QUERY DOCUMENTATION	1
2	USIN	NG BIGQUERY SANDBOX	2
3	LAB	SETUP FOR EXERCISES	2
4	BAS	IC SELECT	4
	4.1	SELECT WITH EXPRESSIONS AND ALIASES	5
	4.2	SELECT WITH DISTINCT AND COUNT	6
	4.3	SELECT WITH LIMIT	7
5	SOR	TING ROWS WITH ORDER BY	8
6	SAV	ING QUERIES, QUERY RESULTS AND VIEWING QUERY HISTORY	9
7	FILT	ERING WITH WHERE	9
	7.1	USING THE AND, OR AND NOT OPERATORS	11
	7.2	USING BETWEEN FOR RANGE TESTS	
	7.3	USING IN TO CHECK FOR MATCHING WITH OTHER VALUES	
	7.4	USING LIKE TO MATCH STRING PATTERNS	13
8	USI	NG CASE TO IMPLEMENT CONDITIONAL LOGIC TO ADD COLUMNS	13
9	AGG	GREGATE FUNCTIONS: COUNT, SUM, AVG, MIN, MAX	13
	9.1	REFINING QUERIES WITH AGGREGATE FUNCTIONS FOR COLUMN DETAILS	14
	9.2	AGGREGATE FUNCTIONS WITH CASE CLAUSE	14
1(0 A	GGREGATING AND GROUPING WITH GROUP BY	15
	10.1	GROUPING MULTIPLE COLUMNS	
	10.2	USING GROUPING SETS FOR MULTIPLE SIMULTANEOUS GROUPINGS	
	10.3	USING CUBE FOR COMPREHENSIVE COMBINATION OF GROUPINGS	
	10.4	USING ROLLUP FOR HIERARCHICAL COMBINATION OF GROUPINGS	
	10.5	USING HAVING CLAUSE TO FILTER ON GROUPS	

1 BigQuery documentation

Main official documentation page for BigQuery.

Top level overview of BigQuery

Basics of <u>organization of resources</u> in BigQuery, including <u>datasets</u> and <u>tables</u>.

Basics of working with BigQuery via the console UI.

Quick start guide for working with loading and querying data as well as querying public datasets.

Official reference for BigQuery SQL query syntax

2 Using BigQuery Sandbox

We will be using the BigQuery sandbox here as well to explore BigQuery capabilities without providing a credit card or creating a billing account for your project.

3 Lab setup for exercises

We will start off by creating another dataset in the existing project which will hold the table that we will be using for this exercise.

We will **create a dataset** in the current project with the name: exercise_dataset

We will use the sampletransactions.csv file in the data subfolder of the downloaded workshop resources to populate the contents of a new table in this new dataset.

You can open sampletransactions.csv in Excel to quickly preview it first if you wish. This file contains dummy data for online trading transactions conducted by several users over several years. The fields / columns in this table are briefly explained as below. Note that the meaning of these fields / columns and their possible values may be different from a real life online trading transaction dataset.

Unique identifier for each user. There are currently five users			
nce 5 of the main global stock exchanges: k Exchange), LSE (London Stock Exchange),			
ons: USD, EUR, CNY, GBP			
The possible options include:			
s, CFD, forex, commodities, REITS, mutual			
ed			
d			
rade (buying stock, entering forex position,			
M:SS (this aligns with BigQuery's DateTime			
nat).			
osition is closed (existing forex, selling stock,			
M:SS (this aligns with BigQuery's DateTime nat).			

Create a table in the newly created dataset with the following values in the dialog box that appears.

Create table from: Upload

Select file*: sampletransactions.csv

File Format: CSV

Destination: first-bigquery-project-xxxxx

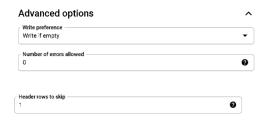
Dataset: exercise_dataset
Table: sampletransactions
Table type: Native table

Tick Auto detect for Schema.



BigQuery will scan the contents of each column and infer the <u>data type</u> for each column as it imports them into the table that it will create.

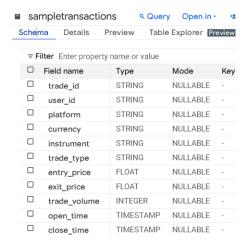
In Advanced Options, type 1 for Header Rows to skip as the first row in our CSV file is essentially a header row containing the names of the columns/fields for the table we are creating. You can leave the other options as they are.



Finally, click Create Table.

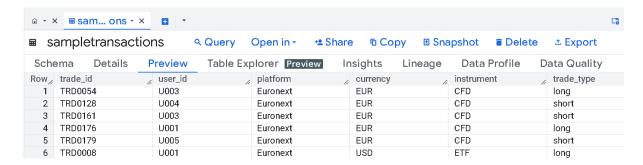
A message about load job running should appear followed by notification about successful creation of the sampletransactions table.

Selecting this table in the Explorer pane should show its Schema in the details pane, where you can see the data types that BigQuery has automatically assigned to each of the fields in the imported CSV file. The Nullable mode indicates this column can contain null values (to be covered in a later lab topic)



Notice that the data type assigned to <code>open_time</code> and <code>close_time</code> column is the <code>TIMESTAMP</code> datatype, which includes reference to time zones.

Click on Preview tab in the Details pane to view the first 50 rows in this table.



You will see that the <code>open_time</code> and <code>close_time</code> column both have the UTC time zone (the default time zone or GMT) assigned to them as no time zone data was specified in the original CSV data file.

If you need to specify time zone for date / time values in Google BigQuery, below are some examples of valid time zone values:

```
2025-05-12 09:00:00+08:00 (UTC+8)

2024-10-01 12:00:00-07:00 (UTC-7)

2024-08-10 13:00:00 America/New_York (EST)

2024-09-11 15:00:00 America/Los_Angeles (PST)

2023-08-04 22:00:00 Asia/Shanghai (CST)

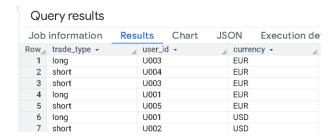
2023-08-04 22:00:00 Asia/Kuala_Lumpur (CST)
```

Notice that the rows in this table (based on the TRDxxx sequences) do not appear in the same sequence as the initial data in sampletransactions.csv

This is because the job executed by BigQuery to load the data from this file executes in parallel to populate the table with the data, resulting in rows appearing out of the original sequence, just as in the case of the lab session.

4 Basic SELECT

Q1 Display the following columns for all rows in the table: trade_type, user_id and currency in that specific order.



4.1 SELECT with expressions and aliases

Q2 In evaluating a transaction, the price difference is computed as the difference between the exit and entry prices for a particular transaction. Compute this value for all rows in the table and give it a meaningful column name: difference

Sample result:



Q3 The trade duration is the length of time a trade is held open, essentially the difference between the closing time (close_time) and opening time (open_time) of a trade transaction. Compute the duration in terms of total hours or total minutes or total seconds for all rows in the table. You will need to write a separate query to compute the duration for each of these (i.e. total of 3 queries).

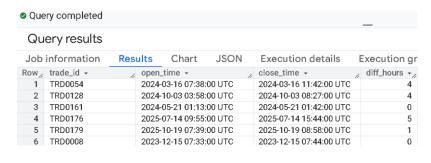
HINT: Both columns <code>close_time</code> and opening time <code>open_time</code> are of the <code>TIMESTAMP</code> data type in Google BigQuery. For this particular data type, BigQuery offers a <code>large</code> number of functions to work on values from this type. We can use the <code>TIMESTAMP_DIFF</code> function to specify the granularity (HOUR, MINUTE, SECOND, etc) between closing time (<code>close_time</code>) and opening time (<code>open_time</code>) For e.g.

```
TIMESTAMP_DIFF(close_time, open_time, HOUR)....

TIMESTAMP_DIFF(close_time, open_time, MINUTE)....

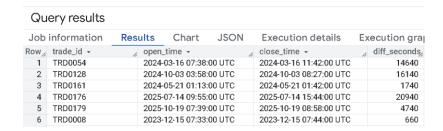
TIMESTAMP_DIFF(close_time, open_time, SECOND)....
```

Sample result:



Query results

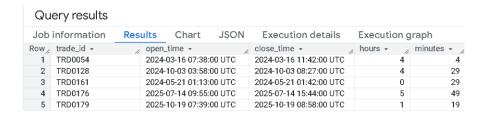
Job	information	Resu	ılts	Chart	JSON	Execution details	s Execution
Row	trade_id +	11	open_	time +	//	close_time +	/ diff_minutes/
1	TRD0054		2024-0	3-16 07:38	3:00 UTC	2024-03-16 11:42:00 UT	C 244
2	TRD0128		2024-1	10-03 03:58	3:00 UTC	2024-10-03 08:27:00 UT	C 269
3	TRD0161		2024-0	05-21 01:13	3:00 UTC	2024-05-21 01:42:00 UT	C 29
4	TRD0176		2025-0	07-14 09:55	5:00 UTC	2025-07-14 15:44:00 UT	C 349
5	TRD0179		2025-1	10-19 07:39	9:00 UTC	2025-10-19 08:58:00 UT	C 79
6	TRD0008		2023-1	12-15 07:33	3:00 UTC	2023-12-15 07:44:00 UT	C 11



Q4. The previous queries provided the duration in terms of total hours or total minutes or total seconds. This is accurate for mathematical expressions, but may not be so intuitive for human comprehension. Write another query which adds on to your previous queries by using the MOD function in BigQuery to display the duration in terms of both hours and minutes (so for e.g. a duration of 269 minutes is displayed as 4 hours and 29 minutes instead).

Hint: You can nest the ${\tt TIMESTAMP_DIFF}$ function within the ${\tt MOD}$ function so that the result from the ${\tt TIMESTAMP_DIFF}$ function is used by the MOD function.

Sample result:



Alternatively, you could make it more readable by concatenating results together into a single string.



4.2 SELECT with DISTINCT and COUNT

Q5. Find all the distinct values possible for the platform column:



Q6. Select all the unique combination of values possible for the columns currency and instrument.

Sample result:



Notice that there is no repetition of values for the instrument column, which means that each particular category of currency has a set of instruments associated with it that are not found in other currency category. This is important to note when we do hierarchical grouping later on.

Q7. Count how many distinct values are available in the currency and instrument columns, without viewing these values.

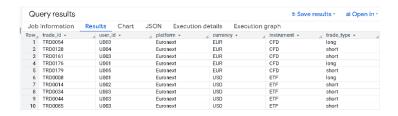
Sample result:



4.3 SELECT with LIMIT

Q8. Show the first 10 rows with all the columns present from this table.

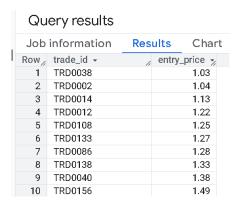
Sample result:



5 Sorting rows with ORDER BY

Q1. Sort the rows in ascending order of the <code>entry_price</code> and show only the <code>trade_id</code> and <code>entry_price</code> columns. Limit the result returned to the first 10 rows.

Sample result:



Q2. Earlier we had computed price difference as the difference between the exit and entry prices for a particular trade. Sort the rows in descending order based on the magnitude of the difference (i.e. we are not interested in the sign + or -, just the absolute value). Limit your result to the first 10 rows.

Hint: Google BigQuery has a large number of <u>mathematical functions</u> we can use in our queries. We can use the <u>ABS function</u> to get the magnitude of a number, regardless of its sign. The queries below are examples:

```
SELECT ABS(10) AS result;
SELECT ABS(-10) AS result;
```



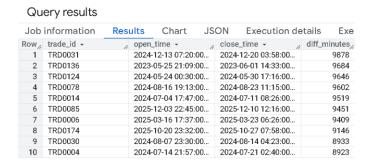
Q3. Sort the rows in descending order of the currency name. For transactions using the same currency, sort on ascending order of the trade volume.

Sample result:

See file Topic 5 Q3 Results.csv in exercise-solutions.

Q4. Earlier we had computed the trade duration as the difference between the closing time (close_time) and opening time (open_time) in terms of total hours or total minutes or total seconds. Sort the rows in descending order of the trade duration in total minutes. Limit your result to the first 10 rows.

Sample result:



6 Saving queries, query results and viewing query history

7 Filtering with WHERE

Q1. Identify all the transactions that were made in EUR currency.



Q2. Count the total number of transactions which involve the instrument of type futures.

Sample result:



Q3. List all the transactions whose trade volume is more or equals to 3000

Sample result:

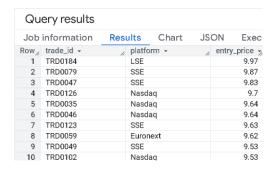
See file Topic 7 Q3 Results.csv in exercise-solutions.

Q4. Earlier we had computed price difference as the difference between the exit and entry prices for a particular trade. List all the rows where the price difference is more than 6.0

Sample result:

See file Topic 7 Q4 Results.csv in exercise-solutions.

Q5. Show all the transactions which were not made on the NYSE platform and sort them in descending order based on their <code>entry_price</code>. Limit your results to the top 10.



Q6. Earlier we had computed the trade duration as the difference between the closing time (close_time) and opening time (open_time) in terms of total hours or total minutes or total seconds. Find all the trades whose duration is 5 hours or longer, and sort them in descending order. Limit your result to the first 10 rows.

Sample result:



Q7. Show all the rows where the closing time (close_time) and opening time (open_time) occur on the same day (YYYY-MM-DD), irrespective of the time of the day.

Hint: You can use the <u>DATE function</u> to return the date portion (YYYY-MM-DD) of the entire time stamp value for both these columns.

Sample result:

Query results

Job information		Results	Chart	JSON	E	xecution details	Exe
Row_	trade_id -	/ op	en_time +		11	close_time →	
1	TRD0054	20:	24-03-16 07:38	3:00 UTC		2024-03-16 11:42:00	UTC
2	TRD0128	20:	24-10-03 03:58	3:00 UTC		2024-10-03 08:27:00	UTC
3	TRD0161	20:	24-05-21 01:13	3:00 UTC		2024-05-21 01:42:00	UTC

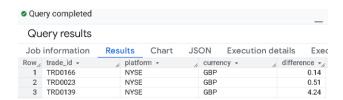
7.1 Using the AND, OR and NOT operators

Q8. Show the top 10 highest transactions in terms of trade_volume that were made in any of these 3 currencies: USD, EUR, GBP. Give two possible alternative forms of the query that you can write.



Q9. Earlier we had computed price difference as the difference between the exit and entry prices for a particular trade. Show the lowest 3 transactions in terms of this difference for trades that were transacted in GBP on the NYSE.

Sample result:



7.2 Using BETWEEN for range tests

Q10. Find all transactions whose trade volume is between 20000 and 40000. Sort your results on the trade volume in descending order.

Sample result:

See file Topic 7 Q10 Results.csv in exercise-solutions.

Q11. List all transactions that took place between June 2024 and June 2025. We consider the transaction to have taken place when it was initiated, not when it closed.

Sample result:

See file Topic 7 Q11 Results.csv in exercise-solutions.

7.3 Using IN to check for matching with other values

Q12. Show the top 10 highest transactions in terms of $trade_volume$ that were made in any of these 4 platforms: NYSE, Nasdaq, LSE. Give two possible alternative forms of the query that you can write.

Sample result:



7.4 Using LIKE to match string patterns

8 Using CASE to implement conditional logic to add columns

Q1. Assume we want to categorize the transactions into 3 categories based on the trade volume.

Trade Volume	Category
10,000 and below	Low
10,001 – 30,000	Medium
30,001 and above	High

Create a new category column according to the table above.

Sample result:

See file Topic 8 Q1 Results.csv in exercise-solutions.

Q2. We will create a new column called result which determines whether a particular transaction results in a profit or loss.

In a long trade (trade_type = long), an asset is bought with an expectation that its price will increase – the goal is to buy low at entry and sell high when exiting. For this trade type, a profit occurs when the exit price > entry price.

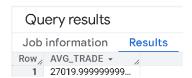
In a short trade (trade_type = short), a borrowed asset is sold with an expectation that its price will fall – the goal is to sell high at entry and buy low when exiting. For this trade type, a profit occurs when the exit price < entry price

Sample result:

See file Topic 8 Q2 Results.csv in exercise-solutions.

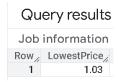
9 Aggregate functions: COUNT, SUM, AVG, MIN, MAX

Q1. Calculate the average volume of transactions that were performed using the USD currency.



Q2. Find the lowest entry price for all transactions on either the LSE and SSE platform.

Sample result:



9.1 Refining queries with aggregate functions for column details

Q3. Find the trade_id and user_id for the transaction with the lowest entry price for all transactions on either the LSE and SSE platform

Hint: You can use a subquery from the previous query.

Sample result:



9.2 Aggregate functions with CASE clause

Q4. Earlier we had categorized the transactions into 3 categories based on the trade volume.

Trade Volume	Category		
10,000 and below	Low		
10,001 – 30,000	Medium		
30,001 and above	High		

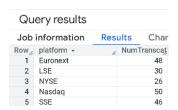
These 3 new values were placed in a new category column. Find the total number of transactions in each of these categories (Low, Medium and High)



10 Aggregating and grouping with GROUP BY

Q1. Count the number of transactions performed in each of the 5 platforms.

Sample result:



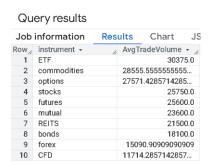
Q2. Find the transaction with the highest entry price for each currency type. Sort these transactions in descending order based on these entry prices.

Sample result:



Q3. Find the average trade volume for all long trade transactions for each particular instrument type. Sort these results in descending order of the average trade volume.

Sample result:



10.1 Grouping multiple columns

Q4. Find the lowest exit price of transactions for all groupings of currency and instrument.

Query results Job information Results Chart Row currency instrument - LowestPrice CNY REITS 1.26 mutual EUR CFD 4 EUR futures 1.43 FUR options 1.11 commodities GBP 1.05 GBP 1.02 forex LISD bonds 1.56 10 USD stocks 2.67

NOTE: In this simulated example, you will note that each currency category has a unique set of instruments associated with it which are not found in any other currency category. This is for the purpose of facilitating the demonstration of the queries and does not reflect real life trading scenarios.

Q5. Find the total trade volume for short trades on all groupings of platform and currency. Your result should show list the platforms first with all the currencies associated with that platform listed in descending order of the total trade volume.

Sample result:

See file Topic 10 Q5 Results.csv in exercise-solutions.

10.2 Using GROUPING SETS for multiple simultaneous groupings

Q6. The previous queries provided the duration in terms of total hours or total minutes or total seconds. Write a query that locates the transaction with the shortest duration (in terms of total minutes) for the following 3 groupings:

- currency and instrument
- platform
- the entire table

You can add additional sorting to the result so that it is easier to read and interpret.

Hint: To get the shortest duration, you will need to use the ABS function in combination with MIN, since the MIN function will consider a high negative value (for e.g. -1200) to be lower than a low positive value (for e.g. 2), whereas for this query we are interested in the magnitude of the time duration, and not its sign (i.e. 2 is considered to be lower than 1200).

Sample result:

See file Topic 10 Q6 Results.csv in exercise-solutions.

10.3 Using CUBE for comprehensive combination of groupings

Q7. Find the total of the trade volume for all possible groupings of platform, currency and instrument. You can add appropriate sorting to the result so that it is easier to read and interpret.

See file Topic 10 Q7 Results.csv in exercise-solutions.

10.4 Using ROLLUP for hierarchical combination of groupings

Q8. Each currency category has a unique set of instruments associated with it which are not found in any other currency category. There is therefore a hierarchical relationship between currency and instrument. Write a query to find the total of the trade volume for transactions for each currency and subtotals for each instrument in that particular currency.

Sample result:

See file Topic 10 Q8 Results.csv in exercise-solutions.

10.5 Using HAVING clause to filter on groups

Q9. Find the highest exit price for transactions on all the different instruments. Exclude the instruments whose transaction with the highest exit price is less than 9.5

Sample result:



Q10. Earlier we have seen that the price difference is computed as the difference between the exit and entry prices for a particular transaction

We want to compute the total trade volume for transactions for all instruments, but exclude transactions whose price difference is 2.0 or less. For the final list, we only want to list instruments whose total trade volume is more than .

Hint: As we are interested in the magnitude of the price difference (rather than the sign), we will need to use the ABS function since the exit price can be lower than the entry price in many situations.

