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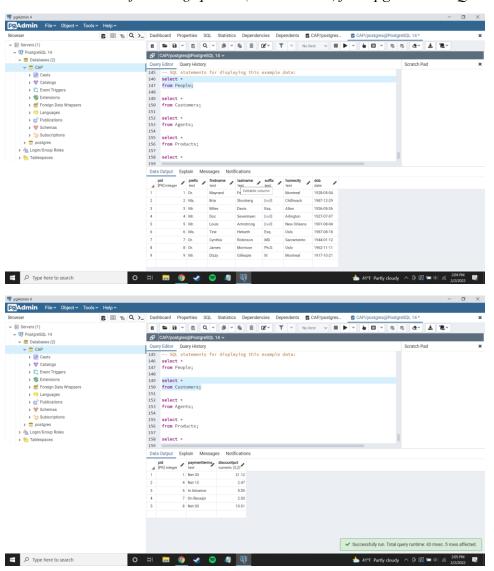
CMPT 308-111

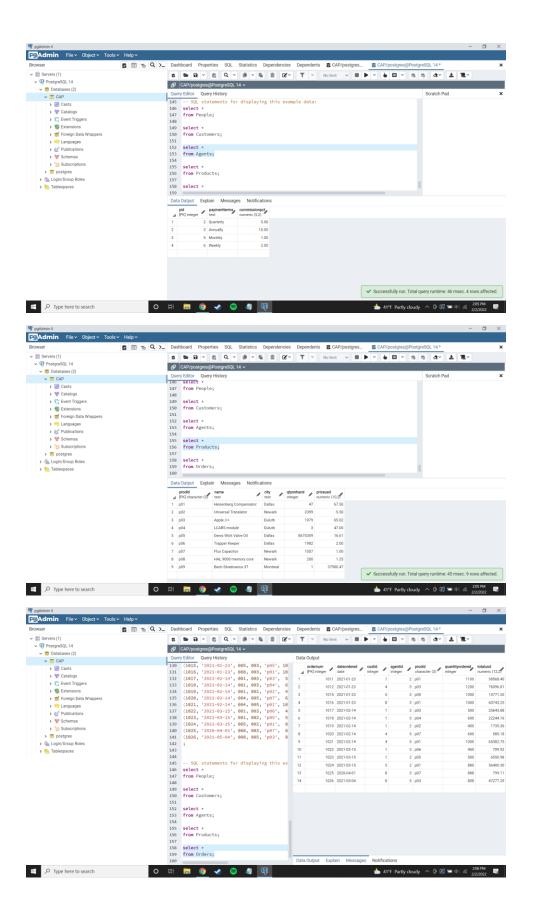
Labouseur

2/2/2022

Lab 2: CAP Database

1. Execute the following queries (one at a time) from pgAdmin's SQL Tool:





2. Explain the distinctions among the terms primary key, candidate key, and superkey.

A superkey is a column in the database which has a unique value for each row of the database, thus allowing a row to be identified by using the superkey. A candidate key is any colum which satisfies the requirements of a superkey and therefore is a candidate to be used as the table key. The primary key is the candidate key which was chosen to be the key for the table. This is an important process to go through because not all superkeys should be used as the primary key. Price, for example, is a column which can easily satisfy the requirements of a superkey, but is a poor primary key because there can be duplicates as the database grows.

3. Short essay on data types

Data types are used in databases (and computers as a whole) to allow for more efficient use of memory, and to help promote uniformity in inputs and outputs. For example, if a specific query is performed on a column "PriceUSD", we can expect a floating-point value with two decimal places to be returned for every row that is returned. This is uniform, and allows us to use this data more directly and efficiently. "PriceUSD" would be considered at floating-point field, and would not accept input that does not comply with this. This is vital because the string "Twenty-two dollars and sixty-seven cents" is also a price in USD but cannot be used by a program to perform arithmetic.

A table of cheeses

- "NumID" integer (not nullable)
- "Name" String (not nullable)
- "Country of origin" String (not nullable)
- "PriceUSD/pound" float (nullable)
- "Pounds on hand" float (nullable)
- "Years aged" integer (nullable)
- "Best wine pairing" String (nullable)

4. Three relational rules

The first relational rule is the "First Normal Form" rule and states that each cell of a table must be "atomic" or have only one value. If a category that is intended for use as a column would not satisfy this rule, another table can be made that exhibits it. This rule is important for ease of use, as having multiple values come up in a single location destroys the uniformity of the database and any queries performed on it. The second rule is "Access rows by content only" and is rather self-explanatory. Databases may not be stored sequentially in memory, so referencing them by order of entry, for example, may not yield the desired result. However, this rule is easily followed by using a primary key to reference distinct entries. The third rule is that "all rows must be unique." This rule also can be followed easily using a primary key, but it is important as to be sure that every entry can be accessed.