Database Systems
Lecture04 – Introduction to SQL

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Nested Subqueries

- SQL provides a mechanism for the nesting of subqueries.
- A **subquery** is a **select-from-where** expression that is nested within another query.
- A common use of subqueries is to perform tests for set membership, set comparisons, and set cardinality.

Example Query

- Find courses offered in Fall 2009 and in Spring 2010

```
select distinct course_id
from section
where semester = 'Fall' and year= 2009 and
        course_id in (select course_id
                      from section
                      where semester = 'Spring' and year= 2010);
```

- Find courses offered in Fall 2009 but not in Spring 2010

```
select distinct course_id
from section
where semester = 'Fall' and year= 2009 and
        course_id  not in (select course_id
                           from section
                           where semester = 'Spring' and year= 2010);
```

Example Query

- Find the total number of (distinct) students who have taken course sections taught by the instructor with *ID* 10101

```
select count (distinct ID)
from takes
where (course_id, sec_id, semester, year) in
                    (select course_id, sec_id, semester, year
                      from teaches
                      where teaches.ID= 10101);
```

- Note: Above query can be written in a much simpler manner. The formulation above is simply to illustrate SQL features.

Set Comparison

- Find names of instructors with salary greater than that of some (at least one) instructor in the Biology department.

```
select distinct T.name
from instructor as T, instructor as S
where T.salary > S.salary and S.dept_name = 'Biology';
```

- Same query using > **some** clause

```
select name
from instructor
where salary > some (select salary
                     from instructor
                     where dept_name = 'Biology');
```

Definition of Some Clause

- F <comp> **some** $r \Leftrightarrow \exists\, t \in r$ such that (F <comp> t)
  Where <comp> can be: $<,\ \leq,\ >,\ =,\ \neq$

(5 < **some** | 0 / 5 / 6 |) = true (read: 5 < some tuple in the relation)

(5 < **some** | 0 / 5 |) = false

(5 = **some** | 0 / 5 |) = true

(5 ≠ **some** | 0 / 5 |) = true (since 0 ≠ 5)

(= **some**) ≡ **in**

However, (≠ **some**) ≢ **not in**

Example Query

- Find the names of all instructors whose salary is greater than the salary of all instructors in the Biology department.

```
select name
from instructor
where salary > all (select salary
                    from instructor
                    where dept_name = 'Biology');
```

Definition of all Clause

- F <comp> **all** $r \Leftrightarrow \forall\ t \in r$ (F <comp> *t)*

(5 < **all** | 0, 5, 6 |) = false

(5 < **all** | 6, 10 |) = true

(5 = **all** | 4, 5 |) = false

(5 ≠ **all** | 4, 6 |) = true (since 5 ≠ 4 and 5 ≠ 6)

(≠ **all**) ≡ **not in**

However, (= **all**) ≢ **in**

Test for Empty Relations

- The **exists** construct returns the value **true** if the argument subquery is nonempty.
- **exists** $r \Leftrightarrow r \neq \emptyset$
- **not exists** $r \Leftrightarrow r = \emptyset$

Correlation Variables

- Yet another way of specifying the query "Find all courses taught in both the Fall 2009 semester and in the Spring 2010 semester"

```
select course_id
from section as S
where semester = 'Fall' and year= 2009 and
        exists (select *
                from section as T
                where semester = 'Spring' and year= 2010
                        and S.course_id= T.course_id);
```

- **Correlated subquery**
- **Correlation name** or **correlation variable**

Not Exists

- Find all students who have taken **all** courses offered in the Biology department.

```
select distinct S.ID, S.name
from student as S
where not exists ( (select course_id
                    from course
                    where dept_name = 'Biology')
                   except
                    (select T.course_id
                     from takes as T
                     where S.ID = T.ID));
```

- Note that $X - Y = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow X \subseteq Y$
- *Note:* Cannot write this query using = **all** and its variants

Test for Absence of Duplicate Tuples

- The **unique** construct tests whether a subquery has any duplicate tuples in its result.
  - (Evaluates to “true” on an empty set)
- Find all courses that were offered at most once in 2009

```
select T.course_id
from course as T
where unique (select R.course_id
                from section as R
                where T.course_id= R.course_id
                      and R.year = 2009);
```

Subqueries in the From Clause

- SQL allows a subquery expression to be used in the **from** clause
- Find the average instructors' salaries of those departments where the average salary is greater than $42,000.

```
 select dept_name, avg_salary
from (select dept_name, avg (salary) as avg_salary
        from instructor
        group by dept_name)
where avg_salary > 42000;
```

- Another way to write above query

```
 select dept_name, avg_salary
from (select dept_name, avg (salary)
        from instructor
        group by dept_name)
        as dept_avg (dept_name,  avg_salary)
 where avg_salary > 42000;
```

With Clause

- The **with** clause provides a way of defining a temporary **view** whose definition is available only to the query in which the **with** clause occurs.
- Find all departments with the maximum budget

```
with max_budget (value) as
        (select max(budget)
          from department)
select budget
from department, max_budget
where department.budget = max_budget.value;
```

Complex Queries using With Clause

- With clause is very useful for writing complex queries
- Supported by most database systems, with minor syntax variations
- Find all departments where the total salary is greater than the average of the total salary at all departments

```
with dept _total (dept_name, value) as
        (select dept_name, sum(salary)
         from instructor
         group by dept_name),
     dept_total_avg(value) as
        (select avg(value)
         from dept_total)
select dept_name
from dept_total, dept_total_avg
where dept_total.value >= dept_total_avg.value;
```

Scalar Subquery

- Scalar subquery is one which is used where a single value is expected
- E.g. **select** *dept_name*,
  (**select count**(*)
  from *instructor*
  where *department*.*dept_name* = *instructor*.*dept_name*)
  as *num_instructors*
  from *department*;

- E.g. **select** *name*
  from *instructor*
  where *salary * 10 >*
  (**select** *budget* **from** *department*
  where *department*.*dept_name* = *instructor*.*dept_name*)

- Runtime error if subquery returns more than one result tuple

Modification of the Database

- Deletion of tuples from a given relation
- Insertion of new tuples into a given relation
- Updating values in some tuples in a given relation

Modification of the Database – Deletion

- Delete all instructors

  delete from *instructor*

- Delete all instructors from the Finance department

  delete from *instructor*
  where *dept_name*= ’Finance’;

- Delete all tuples in the *instructor* relation for those instructors associated with a department located in the Watson building.

```
delete from instructor
where dept_name in (select dept_name
                    from department
                    where building = ’Watson’);
```

Deletion (Cont.)

- Delete all instructors whose salary is less than the average salary of instructors

```
delete from instructor
where salary< (select avg (salary) from instructor);
```

- Problem: as we delete tuples from deposit, the average salary changes
- Solution used in SQL:
  1. First, compute **avg** salary and find all tuples to delete
  2. Next, delete all tuples found above (without recomputing **avg** or retesting the tuples)

Modification of the Database – Insertion

- Add a new tuple to *course*

```
insert into course
        values ('CS-437', 'Database Systems', 'Comp. Sci.', 4);
```

- or equivalently

```
insert into course (course_id, title, dept_name, credits)
        values ('CS-437', 'Database Systems', 'Comp. Sci.', 4);
```

- Add a new tuple to *student* with *tot_creds* set to null

```
insert into student
        values ('3003', 'Green', 'Finance', null);
```

Insertion (Cont.)

- Add all instructors to the *student* relation with tot_creds set to 0

```
insert into student
        select ID, name, dept_name, 0
        from   instructor
```

- The **select from where** statement is evaluated fully before any of its results are inserted into the relation
  - otherwise queries like
    insert into *table*1 **select** * **from** *table*1
    would cause problems. (*table1* did not have any primary key defined)

Modification of the Database – Updates

- Increase salaries of instructors whose salary is over $100,000 by 3%, and all others receive a 5% raise
  - Write two **update** statements:

```
update instructor
  set salary = salary * 1.03
  where salary > 100000;

update instructor
    set salary = salary * 1.05
    where salary <= 100000;
```

  - What if we change the order of the two statements?
    - The order is important
  - Can be done better using the **case** statement (next slide)

Case Statement for Conditional Updates

- Same query as before but with case statement

```
update instructor
    set salary = case
                 when salary <= 100000 then salary * 1.05
                 else salary * 1.03
                 end
```

Updates with Scalar Subqueries

- Recompute and update tot_creds value for all students

```
update student S
   set tot_cred = ( select sum(credits)
                    from takes natural join course
                    where S.ID= takes.ID and
                          takes.grade <> 'F' and
                          takes.grade is not null);
```

- Sets *tot_creds* to null for students who have not taken any course
- Instead of **sum**(*credits*), use:

```
   case
  when sum(credits) is not null then sum(credits)
  else 0
end
```