Lectures 2:
Introduction to SQL Part I

Announcements!

1. If you still have Jupyter trouble, let us know!

2. Problem Set #1 is released!

Today's Lecture

1. SQL introduction & schema definitions
   - ACTIVITY: Table creation
2. Basic single-table queries
   - ACTIVITY: Single-table queries!
3. Multi-table queries
   - ACTIVITY: Multi-table queries!

1. SQL Introduction & Definitions

What you will learn about in this section

1. What is SQL?
2. Basic schema definitions
3. Keys & constraints intro
4. ACTIVITY: CREATE TABLE statements

SQL Motivation

- Dark times 5 years ago.
  - Are databases dead?

- Now, as before: everyone sells SQL
  - Pig, Hive, Impala

- "Not-Yet-SQL?"

Basic SQL

SQL Introduction

- SQL is a standard language for querying and manipulating data
- SQL is a **very high-level** programming language
  - This works because it is optimized well!
- Many standards out there:
  - ANSI SQL, SQL92 (a.k.a. SQL2), SQL99 (a.k.a. SQL3), ….
  - Vendors support various subsets

SQL stands for
Structured Query Language

NB: Probably the world's most successful **parallel** programming language (multicore?)

SQL is a…

- Data Definition Language (DDL)
  - Define relational *schemata*
  - Create/alter/delete tables and their attributes

- Data Manipulation Language (DML)
  - Insert/delete/modify tuples in tables
  - Query one or more tables – discussed next!

Tables in SQL

Product

PName	Price	Manufacturer
Gizmo	$19.99	GizmoWorks
Powergizmo	$29.99	GizmoWorks
SingleTouch	$149.99	Canon
MultiTouch	$203.99	Hitachi

A **relation** or **table** is a multiset of tuples having the attributes specified by the schema

Let's break this definition down

Tables in SQL

Product

PName	Price	Manufacturer
Gizmo	$19.99	GizmoWorks
Powergizmo	$29.99	GizmoWorks
SingleTouch	$149.99	Canon
MultiTouch	$203.99	Hitachi

A **multiset** is an unordered list (or: a set with multiple duplicate instances allowed)

List: [1, 1, 2, 3]
Set: {1, 2, 3}
Multiset: {1, 1, 2, 3}

i.e. no *next()*, etc. methods!

Tables in SQL

Product

PName	Price	Manufacturer
Gizmo	$19.99	GizmoWorks
Powergizmo	$29.99	GizmoWorks
SingleTouch	$149.99	Canon
MultiTouch	$203.99	Hitachi

An **attribute** (or **column**) is a typed data entry present in each tuple in the relation

*NB: Attributes must have an **atomic** type in standard SQL, i.e. not a list, set, etc.*

Tables in SQL

Product

PName	Price	Manufacturer
Gizmo	$19.99	GizmoWorks
Powergizmo	$29.99	GizmoWorks
SingleTouch	$149.99	Canon
MultiTouch	$203.99	Hitachi

*Also referred to sometimes as a **record***

A tuple or row is a single entry in the table having the attributes specified by the schema

Tables in SQL

Product

PName	Price	Manufacturer
Gizmo	$19.99	GizmoWorks
Powergizmo	$29.99	GizmoWorks
SingleTouch	$149.99	Canon
MultiTouch	$203.99	Hitachi

The number of tuples is the **cardinality** of the relation

The number of attributes is the **arity** of the relation

Data Types in SQL

- Atomic types:
  - Characters: CHAR(20), VARCHAR(50)
  - Numbers: INT, BIGINT, SMALLINT, FLOAT
  - Others: MONEY, DATETIME, …

- Every attribute must have an atomic type
  - Hence tables are flat

Table Schemas

- The **schema** of a table is the table name, its attributes, and their types:

```
Product(Pname: string, Price: float, Category:
string, Manufacturer: string)
```

- A **key** is an attribute whose values are unique; we underline a key

```
Product(Pname: string, Price: float, Category:
string, Manufacturer: string)
```

Key constraints

A **key** is a **minimal subset of attributes** that acts as a unique identifier for tuples in a relation

- A key is an implicit constraint on which tuples can be in the relation
  - i.e. if two tuples agree on the values of the key, then they must be the same tuple!

```
Students(sid:string, name:string, gpa: float)
```

1. Which would you select as a key?
2. Is a key always guaranteed to exist?
3. Can we have more than one key?

NULL and NOT NULL

- To say "don't know the value" we use NULL
  - NULL has (sometimes painful) semantics, more detail later

```
Students(sid:string, name:string, gpa: float)
```

sid	name	gpa
123	Bob	3.9
143	Jim	NULL

Say, Jim just enrolled in his first class.

In SQL, we may constrain a column to be NOT NULL, e.g., "name" in this table

General Constraints

- We can actually specify arbitrary assertions
  - E.g. "*There cannot be 25 people in the DB class*"

- In practice, we don't specify many such constraints. Why?
  - Performance!

Whenever we do something ugly (or avoid doing something convenient) it's for the sake of performance

Summary of Schema Information

- Schema and Constraints are how databases understand the semantics (meaning) of data
- They are also useful for optimization
- SQL supports general constraints:
  - Keys and foreign keys are most important
  - We'll give you a chance to write the others

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2. Single-table queries

What you will learn about in this section

1. The SFW query
2. Other useful operators: LIKE, DISTINCT, ORDER BY
3. ACTIVITY: Single-table queries

SQL Query

- Basic form (there are many many more bells and whistles)

```
SELECT <attributes>
FROM   <one or more relations>
WHERE  <conditions>
```

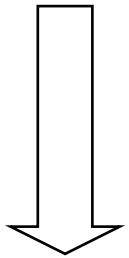
Call this a **SFW** query.

Simple SQL Query: Selection

Selection is the operation of filtering a relation's tuples on some condition

PName	Price	Category	Manufacturer
Gizmo	$19.99	Gadgets	GizmoWorks
Powergizmo	$29.99	Gadgets	GizmoWorks
SingleTouch	$149.99	Photography	Canon
MultiTouch	$203.99	Household	Hitachi

```
SELECT *
FROM   Product
WHERE  Category = 'Gadgets'
```



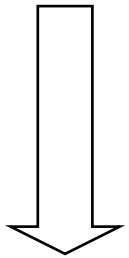
PName	Price	Category	Manufacturer
Gizmo	$19.99	Gadgets	GizmoWorks
Powergizmo	$29.99	Gadgets	GizmoWorks

Simple SQL Query: Projection

Projection is the operation of producing an output table with tuples that have a subset of their prior attributes

PName	Price	Category	Manufacturer
Gizmo	$19.99	Gadgets	GizmoWorks
Powergizmo	$29.99	Gadgets	GizmoWorks
SingleTouch	$149.99	Photography	Canon
MultiTouch	$203.99	Household	Hitachi

```
SELECT Pname, Price, Manufacturer
FROM   Product
WHERE  Category = 'Gadgets'
```



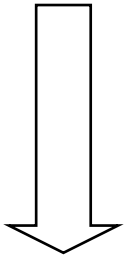
PName	Price	Manufacturer
Gizmo	$19.99	GizmoWorks
Powergizmo	$29.99	GizmoWorks

Notation

Input schema

Product(PName, Price, Category, Manfacturer)

```
SELECT Pname, Price, Manufacturer
FROM   Product
WHERE  Category = 'Gadgets'
```



Output schema

Answer(PName, Price, Manfacturer)

A Few Details

- SQL **commands** are case insensitive:
  - Same: SELECT, Select, select
  - Same: Product, product
- **Values** are **not:**
  - Different: 'Seattle', 'seattle'
- Use single quotes for constants:
  - 'abc' - yes
  - "abc" - no

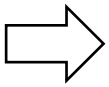
LIKE: Simple String Pattern Matching

```
SELECT *
FROM   Products
WHERE  PName LIKE '%gizmo%'
```

- s **LIKE** p: pattern matching on strings
- p may contain two special symbols:
  - % = any sequence of characters
  - _ = any single character

DISTINCT: Eliminating Duplicates

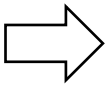
```
SELECT DISTINCT Category
FROM   Product
```



Category
Gadgets
Photography
Household

Versus

```
SELECT Category
FROM   Product
```



Category
Gadgets
Gadgets
Photography
Household

ORDER BY: Sorting the Results

```
SELECT    PName, Price, Manufacturer
FROM      Product
WHERE     Category='gizmo' AND Price > 50
ORDER BY  Price, PName
```

Ties are broken by the second attribute on the ORDER BY list, etc.

Ordering is ascending, unless you specify the DESC keyword.

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3. Multi-table queries

What you will learn about in this section

1. Foreign key constraints
2. Joins: basics
3. Joins: SQL semantics
4. ACTIVITY: Multi-table queries

Foreign Key constraints

- Suppose we have the following schema:

```
Students(sid: string, name: string, gpa: float)
Enrolled(student_id: string, cid: string, grade: string)
```

- And we want to impose the following constraint:
  - 'Only bona fide students may enroll in courses' i.e. a student must appear in the Students table to enroll in a class

Students

sid	name	gpa
101	Bob	3.2
123	Mary	3.8

Enrolled

student_id	cid	grade
123	564	A
123	537	A+

student_id alone is not a key- what is?

We say that student_id is a **foreign key** that refers to Students

Declaring Foreign Keys

```
Students(sid: string, name: string, gpa: float)
Enrolled(student_id: string, cid: string, grade: string)

CREATE TABLE Enrolled(
      student_id CHAR(20),
      cid        CHAR(20),
      grade      CHAR(10),
      PRIMARY KEY (student_id, cid),
      FOREIGN KEY (student_id) REFERENCES Students(sid)
)
```

Foreign Keys and update operations

```
Students(sid: string, name: string, gpa: float)
Enrolled(student_id: string, cid: string, grade: string)
```

- What if we insert a tuple into Enrolled, but no corresponding student?
  - INSERT is rejected (foreign keys are constraints)!

- What if we delete a student?

DBA chooses (syntax in the book)

  1. Disallow the delete
  2. Remove all of the courses for that student
  3. *SQL allows a third via NULL (not yet covered)*

Keys and Foreign Keys

Company

CName	StockPrice	Country
GizmoWorks	25	USA
Canon	65	Japan
Hitachi	15	Japan

What is a foreign key vs. a key here?

Product

PName	Price	Category	Manufacturer
Gizmo	$19.99	Gadgets	GizmoWorks
Powergizmo	$29.99	Gadgets	GizmoWorks
SingleTouch	$149.99	Photography	Canon
MultiTouch	$203.99	Household	Hitachi

Joins

```
Product(PName, Price, Category, Manufacturer)
Company(CName, StockPrice, Country)
```

Ex: Find all products under $200 manufactured in Japan; return their names and prices.

```
SELECT PName, Price
FROM   Product, Company
WHERE  Manufacturer = CName
       AND Country='Japan'
       AND Price <= 200
```

Note: we will often omit attribute types in schema definitions for brevity, but assume attributes are always atomic types

Joins

```
Product(PName, Price, Category, Manufacturer)
Company(CName, StockPrice, Country)
```

Ex: Find all products under $200 manufactured in Japan; return their names and prices.

```
SELECT PName, Price
FROM   Product, Company
WHERE  Manufacturer = CName
       AND Country='Japan'
       AND Price <= 200
```

A **join** between tables returns all unique combinations of their tuples **which meet some specified join condition**

Joins

```
Product(PName, Price, Category, Manufacturer)
Company(CName, StockPrice, Country)
```

Several equivalent ways to write a basic join in SQL:

```
SELECT PName, Price
FROM   Product, Company
WHERE  Manufacturer = CName
       AND Country='Japan'
       AND Price <= 200
```

```
SELECT PName, Price
FROM   Product
JOIN   Company ON Manufacturer = Cname
                  AND Country='Japan'
WHERE  Price <= 200
```

A few more later on…

Joins

Product

PName	Price	Category	Manuf
Gizmo	$19	Gadgets	GWorks
Powergizmo	$29	Gadgets	GWorks
SingleTouch	$149	Photography	Canon
MultiTouch	$203	Household	Hitachi

Company

Cname	Stock	Country
GWorks	25	USA
Canon	65	Japan
Hitachi	15	Japan

```
SELECT PName, Price
FROM   Product, Company
WHERE  Manufacturer = CName
       AND Country='Japan'
       AND Price <= 200
```

PName	Price
SingleTouch	$149.99

Tuple Variable Ambiguity in Multi-Table

```
Person(name, address, worksfor)
Company(name, address)
```

```
SELECT DISTINCT name, address
FROM            Person, Company
WHERE           worksfor = name
```

Which "address" does this refer to?

Which "name"s??

Tuple Variable Ambiguity in Multi-Table

```
Person(name, address, worksfor)
Company(name, address)
```

Both equivalent ways to resolve variable ambiguity

```
SELECT DISTINCT Person.name, Person.address
FROM            Person, Company
WHERE           Person.worksfor = Company.name
```

```
SELECT DISTINCT p.name, p.address
FROM            Person p, Company c
WHERE           p.worksfor = c.name
```

Meaning (Semantics) of SQL Queries

```
SELECT x1.a1, x1.a2, …, xn.ak
FROM   R1 AS x1, R2 AS x2, …, Rn AS xn
WHERE  Conditions(x1,…, xn)
```

Almost never the *fastest* way to compute it!

```
Answer = {}
for x1 in R1 do
    for x2 in R2 do
        …..
            for xn in Rn do
                if Conditions(x1,…, xn)
                    then Answer = Answer ∪ {(x1.a1, x1.a2, …, xn.ak)}
return Answer
```

Note: this is a *multiset* union

An example of SQL semantics

```
SELECT R.A
FROM   R, S
WHERE  R.A = S.B
```

Output

A
3
3

A
1
3

B	C
2	3
3	4
3	5

Cross Product

A	B	C
1	2	3
1	3	4
1	3	5
3	2	3
3	3	4
3	3	5

Apply Selections / Conditions

A	B	C
3	3	4
3	3	5

Apply Projection

Note the *semantics* of a join

```
SELECT R.A
FROM   R, S
WHERE  R.A = S.B
```

1. Take **cross product**:

$$X = R \times S$$

Recall: Cross product (A X B) is the set of all unique tuples in A,B

Ex: {a,b,c} X {1,2}
= {(a,1), (a,2), (b,1), (b,2), (c,1), (c,2)}

2. Apply **selections / conditions**:

$$Y = \{(r, s) \in X \mid r.A == r.B\}$$

= Filtering!

3. Apply **projections** to get final output:

$$Z = (y.A,) \; for \; y \in Y$$

= Returning only *some* attributes

Remembering this order is critical to understanding the output of certain queries (see later on…)

Note: we say “semantics” not “execution order”

- The preceding slides show *what a join means*
- Not actually how the DBMS executes it under the covers

A Subtlety about Joins

```
Product(PName, Price, Category, Manufacturer)
Company(CName, StockPrice, Country)
```

Find all countries that manufacture some product in the 'Gadgets' category.

```
SELECT Country
FROM   Product, Company
WHERE  Manufacturer=CName AND Category='Gadgets'
```

A subtlety about Joins

Product

PName	Price	Category	Manuf
Gizmo	$19	Gadgets	GWorks
Powergizmo	$29	Gadgets	GWorks
SingleTouch	$149	Photography	Canon
MultiTouch	$203	Household	Hitachi

Company

Cname	Stock	Country
GWorks	25	USA
Canon	65	Japan
Hitachi	15	Japan

```
SELECT Country
FROM   Product, Company
WHERE  Manufacturer=Cname
   AND Category='Gadgets'
```

Country
?
?

What is the problem ?
What's the solution ?

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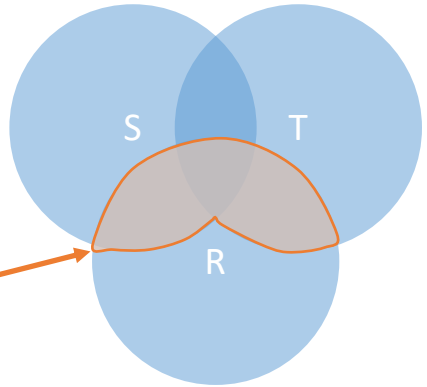
An Unintuitive Query

```
SELECT DISTINCT R.A
FROM   R, S, T
WHERE  R.A=S.A OR R.A=T.A
```

What does it compute?

An Unintuitive Query

```
SELECT DISTINCT R.A
FROM   R, S, T
WHERE  R.A=S.A OR R.A=T.A
```



Computes R ∩ (S ∪ T)

But what if S = ϕ?

Go back to the semantics!

An Unintuitive Query

```
SELECT DISTINCT R.A
FROM   R, S, T
WHERE  R.A=S.A OR R.A=T.A
```

- Recall the semantics!
  1. Take cross-product
  2. Apply selections / conditions
  3. Apply projection
- If S = {}, then the cross product of R, S, T = {}, and the query result = {}!

Must consider semantics here.
Are there more explicit way to do set operations like this?

Summary

SQL is a rich programming language
that handles the way data is processed
declaratively