

Chapter 3: Spatial Query Languages

3.1 Standard Database Query Languages

3.2 Relational Algebra

3.3 Basic SQL Primer

3.4 Extending SQL for Spatial Data

3.5 Example Queries that emphasize spatial aspects

3.6 Trends: Object-Relational SQL

Learning Objectives

☉ Learning Objectives (LO)

- ☒ LO1: Understand concept of a query language
 - What is a query language?
 - Why use query languages?
- ☒ LO2 : Learn to use standard query language (SQL)
- ☒ LO3: Learn to use spatial ADTs with SQL
- ☒ LO4: Learn about the trends in query languages

☉ Mapping Sections to learning objectives

- ☒ LO2 - 3.2, 3.3
- ☒ LO3 - 3.4, 3.5
- ☒ LO4 - 3.6

What is a query?

✦ What is a Query ?

- ✦ A query is a “question” posed to a database
- ✦ Queries are expressed in a high-level declarative manner
 - Algorithms needed to answer the query are not specified in the query

✦ Examples:

- ✦ Mouse click on a map symbol (e.g. road) may mean
 - What is the name of road pointed to by mouse cursor ?
- ✦ Typing a keyword in a search engine (e.g. google, yahoo) means
 - Which documents on web contain given keywords?
- ✦ `SELECT S.name FROM Senator S WHERE S.gender = 'F'` means
 - Which senators are female?

What is a query language?

⊕ What is a query language?

- ⊞ A language to express interesting questions about data
- ⊞ A query language restricts the set of possible queries

⊕ Examples:

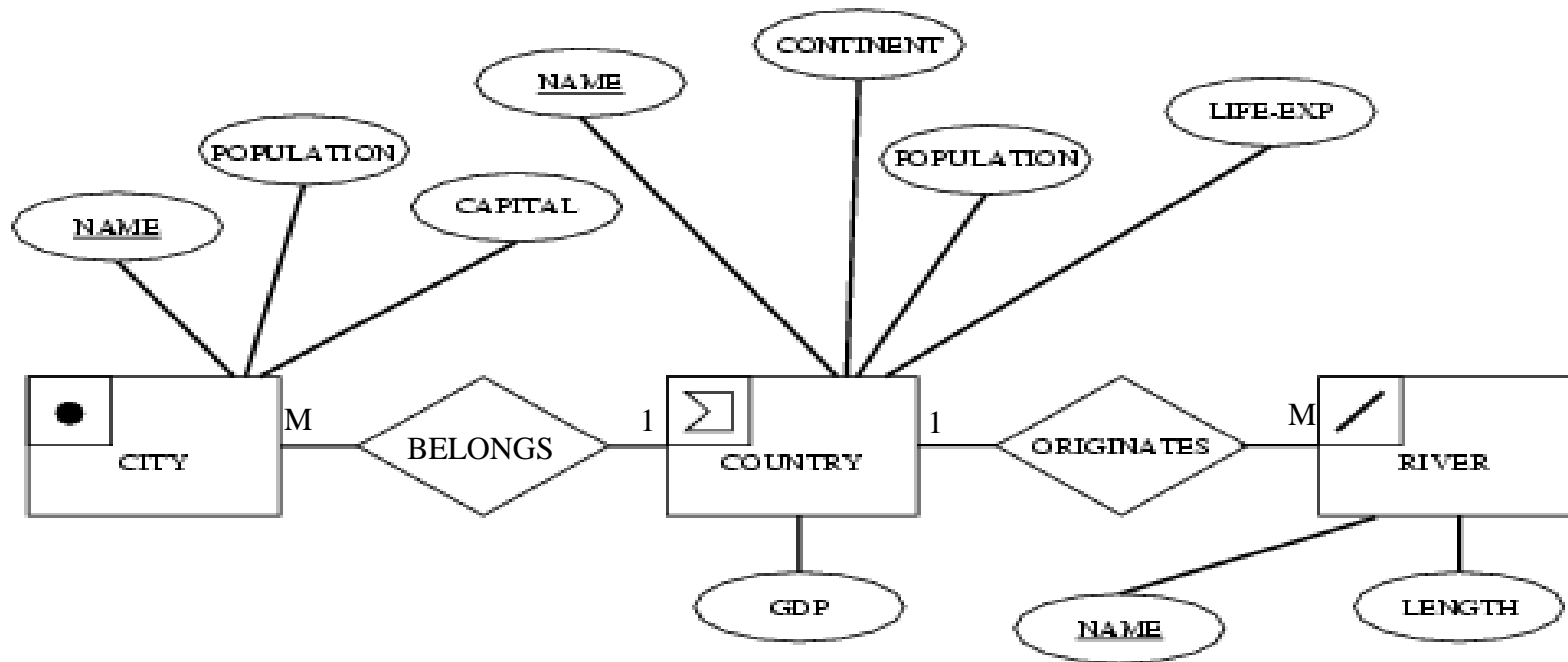
- ⊞ Natural language, e.g. English, can express almost all queries
- ⊞ Computer programming languages, e.g. Java,
 - can express computable queries
 - however algorithms to answer the query is needed
- ⊞ Structured Query Language(SQL)
 - Can express common data intensive queries
 - Not suitable for recursive queries
- ⊞ Graphical interfaces, e.g. web-search, mouse clicks on a map
 - can express few different kinds of queries

An Example World Database

- ➊ Design ER with pictograms for a *World* database:
 - ❑ The world has countries
 - ❑ Countries have cities
 - ❑ A country has a capital city
 - ❑ Rivers cross countries
- ➋ Since water management is a big issue:
 - ❑ Each river belongs to a single country (we say that a river *originates* from a country)

An Example World Database

⊕ The pictogram



An Example Database - Logical Model

- 3 Relations

Country(*Name, Cont, Pop, GDP, Life-Exp, Shape*)

City(*Name, Country, Pop, Capital, Shape*)

River(*Name, Origin, Length, Shape*)

- Keys

- Primary keys are Country.Name, City.Name, River.Name

- Foreign keys are River.Origin, City.Country

World database data tables

COUNTRY	Name	Cont	Pop (millions)	GDP (billions)	Life-Exp	Shape
	Canada	NAM	30.1	658.0	77.08	Polygonid-1
	Mexico	NAM	107.5	694.3	69.36	Polygonid-2
	Brazil	SAM	183.3	1004.0	65.60	Polygonid-3
	Cuba	NAM	11.7	16.9	75.95	Polygonid-4
	USA	NAM	270.0	8003.0	75.75	Polygonid-5
	Argentina	SAM	36.3	348.2	70.75	Polygonid-6

(a) Country

CITY	Name	Country	Pop (millions)	Capital	Shape
	Havana	Cuba	2.1	Y	Pointid-1
	Washington, D.C.	USA	3.2	Y	Pointid-2
	Monterrey	Mexico	2.0	N	Pointid-3
	Toronto	Canada	3.4	N	Pointid-4
	Brasilia	Brazil	1.5	Y	Pointid-5
	Rosario	Argentina	1.1	N	Pointid-6
	Ottawa	Canada	0.8	Y	Pointid-7
	Mexico City	Mexico	14.1	Y	Pointid-8
	Buenos Aires	Argentina	10.75	Y	Pointid-9

(b) City

RIVER	Name	Origin	Length (kilometers)	Shape
	Rio Parana	Brazil	2600	LineStringid-1
	St. Lawrence	USA	1200	LineStringid-2
	Rio Grande	USA	3000	LineStringid-3
	Mississippi	USA	6000	LineStringid-4

(c) River

Relational Algebra

✦ Select-Project

- ✦ Retrieve selected rows - columns of a relations

$\sigma_{\langle \text{selection operator} \rangle}(\text{Relation})$

$\pi_{\text{Name}}(\text{Country})$

✦ Examples:

- ✦ List all data of all countries in North America (NAM)
- ✦ List all names of countries in the Country table
- ✦ List all names of countries in North America



Relational Algebra

✚ Results

$\sigma_{\text{cont}='North-America'}(\textit{Country})$

Name	Cont	Pop (millions)	GDP (billions)	Life-Exp	Shape
Canada	NAM	30.1	658.0	77.08	Polygonid-1
Mexico	NAM	107.5	694.3	69.36	Polygonid-2
Cuba	NAM	11.7	16.9	75.95	Polygonid-4
USA	NAM	270.0	8003.0	75.75	Polygonid-5

$\pi_{\text{Name}}(\textit{Country})$

Name
Canada
Mexico
Brazil
Cuba
USA
Argentina

$\pi_{\text{Name}}(\sigma_{\text{Cont}='North-America'}(\textit{Country}))$

Name
Canada
Mexico
Cuba
USA

Relational Algebra

☛ Set operations (for two Union-compatible relations R, S)

- ☛ Union $R \cup S$
- ☛ Difference $R - S$
- ☛ Intersection $R \cap S = R - (R - S)$

☛ Examples:

- ☛ List all countries either in N. America or with an originating river
- ☛ List all countries in N. America without an originating river
- ☛ List all countries both in S. America and with an originating river



Relational Algebra

✦ Results:

1. $R = \pi_{\text{Name}}(\sigma_{\text{Cont}='North-America'}(\text{Country}))$
2. $S = \pi_{\text{Origin}}(\text{River})$
3. $R \cup S$.

NAME
Canada
Mexico
Brazil
Cuba
USA

1. $R = \pi_{\text{Name}}(\sigma_{\text{Cont}='North-America'}(\text{Country}))$
2. $S = \pi_{\text{Origin}}(\text{River})$
3. $R - S$.

NAME
Canada
Mexico
Cuba

1. $R = \pi_{\text{Name}}(\sigma_{\text{Cont}='South America'}(\text{Country}))$
2. $R = \pi_{\text{Origin}}(\text{River})$
3. $R \cap S$.

NAME
Brazil



Relational Algebra

✚ Join

✚ Conditional join

$$R \bowtie_c S = \sigma_c(R \times S)$$

✚ Natural join

$$R \bowtie S$$

✚ Examples:

- ✚ List the names of countries with population larger than Mexico's
- ✚ List the population of countries with an originating river

Relational Algebra

✚ Results (conditional join)

1. $R = \pi_{\text{Name, Pop}}(\text{Country})$
2. $S = R$. (S is duplicate copy of R)
3. Form the cross-product $R \times S$. The schema of the $R \times S$ relation is

$R \times S$	R.Name	R.Pop	S.Name	S.Pop
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4. Apply condition; that is, the population of a country in relation S is greater than the population of Mexico.

$$U = R \bowtie S = \sigma_{(R.\text{Name} = \text{'Mexico'}) \wedge (R.\text{Pop} > S.\text{Pop})}(R \times S)$$

Relational Algebra

✚ Results (conditional join)

$R \times S$	R.Name	R.Pop	S.Name	S.Pop
	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
	Mexico	107.5	Canada	30.1
	Mexico	107.5	Mexico	107.5
	Mexico	107.5	Brazil	183.3
	Mexico	107.5	Cuba	11.7
	Mexico	107.5	USA	270.0
	Mexico	107.5	Argentina	36.3
	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

(a) A portion of $R \times S$

R.Name	R.Pop	S.Name	S.Pop
Mexico	107.5	Canada	30.1
Mexico	107.5	Cuba	11.7
Mexico	107.5	Argentina	36.3

(b) The select operation on $R \times S$

Relational Algebra

✦ Results (natural join)

1. Rename the **Country** relation C and the **River** relation R .
2. Form the cross-product $C \times R$.
3. Join the two relations on the attributes $C.Name$ and $R.Origin$. The domains of these two attributes are identical,

$$C \bowtie_{C.Name = R.Origin} R.$$

4. In a natural join the selection condition is unambiguous; therefore, it does not have to be explicitly subscripted in the join formula.
5. The final result is obtained by projecting onto the $Name$ and Pop attributes:

$$\pi_{Name, Pop}(C \bowtie R).$$

Learning Objectives

⊗ Learning Objectives (LO)

- ⊗ LO1: Understand concept of a query language
- ⊗ LO2 : Learn to use standard query language (SQL)
 - How to create and populate tables?
 - How to query given tables?
- ⊗ LO3: Learn to use spatial ADTs with SQL
- ⊗ LO4: Learn about the trends in query languages

⊗ Mapping Sections to learning objectives

- ⊗ LO2 - 3.2, 3.3
- ⊗ LO3 - 3.4, 3.5
- ⊗ LO4 - 3.6

What is SQL?

✦ SQL - General Information

- ✦ is a standard query language for relational databases
- ✦ It support logical data model concepts, such as relations, keys, ...
- ✦ Supported by major brands, e.g. IBM DB2, Oracle, MS SQL Server, Sybase, ...
- ✦ 3 versions: SQL1 (1986), SQL2 (1992), SQL 3 (1999)
- ✦ Can express common data intensive queries
- ✦ SQL 1 and SQL 2 are not suitable for recursive queries

✦ SQL and spatial data management

- ✦ ESRI Arc/Info included a custom relational DBMS named Info
- ✦ Other GIS software can interact with DBMS using SQL
 - using open database connectivity (ODBC) or other protocols
- ✦ In fact, many software use SQL to manage data in back-end DBMS
- ✦ And a vast majority of SQL queries are generated by other software
- ✦ Although we will be writing SQL queries manually!

Three Components of SQL?

- ❁ Data Definition Language (DDL)
 - ❁ Creation and modification of relational schema
 - ❁ Schema objects include relations, indexes, etc.
- ❁ Data Manipulation Language (DML)
 - ❁ Insert, delete, update rows in tables
 - ❁ Query data in tables
- ❁ Data Control Language (DCL)
 - ❁ Concurrency control, transactions
 - ❁ Administrative tasks, e.g. set up database users, security permissions
- ❁ Focus for now
 - ❁ A little bit of table creation (DDL) and population (DML)
 - ❁ Primarily Querying (DML)

Creating Tables in SQL

- Table definition
 - “CREATE TABLE” statement
 - Specifies table name, attribute names and data types
 - Create a table with no rows.
 - See an example at the bottom
- Related statements
 - ALTER TABLE statement modifies table schema if needed
 - DROP TABLE statement removes an empty table

```
CREATE TABLE River(  
    Name    varchar(30),  
    Origin  varchar(30),  
    Length  number,  
    Shape   LineString );
```

Populating Tables in SQL

- Adding a row to an existing table

- “INSERT INTO” statement
- Specifies table name, attribute names and values
- Example:

```
INSERT INTO River(Name, Origin, Length) VALUES('Mississippi', 'USA', 6000)
```

- Related statements

- SELECT statement with INTO clause can insert multiple rows in a table
- Bulk load, import commands also add multiple rows
- DELETE statement removes rows
- UPDATE statement can change values within selected rows

Querying populated Tables in SQL

- **SELECT statement**
 - The commonly used statement to query data in one or more tables
 - Returns a relation (table) as result
 - Has many clauses
 - Can refer to many operators and functions
 - Allows nested queries which can be hard to understand
- **Scope of our discussion**
 - Learn enough SQL to appreciate spatial extensions
 - Observe example queries
 - Read and write simple SELECT statement
 - Understand frequently used clauses, e.g. SELECT, FROM, WHERE
 - Understand a few operators and function

SELECT Statement- General Information

- Clauses
 - SELECT specifies desired columns
 - FROM specifies relevant tables
 - WHERE specifies qualifying conditions for rows
 - ORDER BY specifies sorting columns for results
 - GROUP BY, HAVING specifies aggregation and statistics
- Operators and functions
 - arithmetic operators, e.g. +, -, ...
 - comparison operators, e.g. =, <, >, BETWEEN, LIKE...
 - logical operators, e.g. AND, OR, NOT, EXISTS,
 - set operators, e.g. UNION, IN, ALL, ANY, ...
 - statistical functions, e.g. SUM, COUNT, ...
 - many other operators on strings, date, currency, ...

SELECT Example 1.

- Simplest Query has SELECT and FROM clauses
 - Query 1: List all the cities and the country they belong to

SELECT Name, Country

FROM CITY

Result



Name	Country
Havana	Cuba
Washington, D.C.	USA
Monterrey	Mexico
Toronto	Canada
Brasilia	Brazil
Rosario	Argentina
Ottawa	Canada
Mexico City	Mexico
Buenos Aires	Argentina

SELECT Example 2.

- Commonly 3 clauses (SELECT, FROM, WHERE) are used
 - **Query 2:** List the names of the capital cities in the CITY table.

SELECT *

FROM CITY

WHERE CAPITAL='Y'

Name	Country	Pop(millions)	Capital	Shape
Havana	Cuba	2.1	Y	Point
Washington, D.C.	USA	3.2	Y	Point
Brasilia	Brazil	1.5	Y	Point
Ottawa	Canada	0.8	Y	Point
Mexico City	Mexico	14.1	Y	Point
Buenos Aires	Argentina	10.75	Y	Point

Result →

Query Example...Where clause

Query 3: List the attributes of countries in the Country relation where the life-expectancy is less than seventy years.

```
SELECT Co.Name,Co.Life-Exp  
FROM Country Co  
WHERE Co.Life-Exp <70
```

Note: use of alias 'Co' for Table 'Country'

Result →

Name	Life-exp
Mexico	69.36
Brazil	65.60



Multi-table Query Examples

Query 4: List the capital cities and populations of countries whose GDP exceeds one trillion dollars.

Note: Tables City and Country are joined by matching “City.Country = Country.Name”. This simulates relational operator “join” discussed in 3.2

```
SELECT Ci.Name,Co.Pop  
FROM City Ci,Country Co  
WHERE Ci.Country =Co.Name  
AND Co.GDP >1000.0  
AND Ci.Capital='Y '
```

Ci.Name	Co.Pop
Brasilia	183.3
Washington, D.C.	270.0

Multi-table Query Example

Query 5: What is the name and population of the capital city in the country where the St. Lawrence River originates?

```
SELECT Ci.Name, Ci.Pop  
FROM City Ci, Country Co, River R  
WHERE R.Origin =Co.Name  
AND Co.Name =Ci.Country  
AND R.Name ='St.Lawrence '  
AND Ci.Capital='Y '
```

Ci.Name	Ci.Pop
Washington, D.C.	3.2

Note: Three tables are joined together pair at a time. River.Origin is matched with Country.Name and City.Country is matched with Country.Name. The order of join is decided by query optimizer and does not affect the result.

Query Examples...Aggregate Statistics

Query 6: What is the average population of the noncapital cities listed in the City table?

```
SELECT AVG(Ci.Pop)  
FROM City Ci  
WHERE Ci.Capital='N '
```

Average-Pop
2.2

Query Examples...Aggregate Statistics

Query 7: For each continent, find the average GDP.

```
SELECT Co.Cont,Avg(Co.GDP)AS Continent-GDP  
FROM Country Co  
GROUP BY Co.Cont
```

Cont	AVG GDP
NAM	2343.05
SAM	676.1

Query Example..Having clause, Nested queries

Query 8: For each country in which at least two rivers originate, find the length of the smallest river.

```
SELECT R.Origin, MIN(R.length) AS Min-length  
FROM River  
GROUP BY R.Origin  
HAVING COUNT(*) > 1
```

Origin	Min-length
USA	1200

Query Example..Having clause, Nested queries

Query 9: List the countries whose GDP is greater than that of Canada.

```
SELECT Co.Name  
FROM Country Co  
WHERE Co.GDP > ANY(SELECT Co1.GDP  
                     FROM Country Co1  
                     WHERE Co1.Name = 'Canada ')
```

Co.Name
Mexico
Brazil
USA