

# *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
- ⊗ LO2 : Learn to use standard query language (SQL)
- ⊗ LO3: Learn to use spatial ADTs with SQL
  - Learn about OGIS standard spatial data types and operations
  - Learn to use OGIS 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

## 3.4 Extending SQL for Spatial Data

### ⊕ Motivation

- ⊞ SQL has simple atomic data-types, like integer, dates and string
- ⊞ Not convenient for spatial data and queries
  - Spatial data (e.g. polygons) is complex
  - Spatial operation: topological, euclidean, directional, metric

### ⊕ SQL 3 allows user defined data types and operations

- ⊞ Spatial data types and operations can be added to SQL3

### ⊕ Open Geodata Interchange Standard (OGIS)

- ⊞ Half a dozen spatial data types
- ⊞ Several spatial operations
- ⊞ Supported by major vendors, e.g. ESRI, Intergraph, Oracle, IBM,...

# OGIS Spatial Data Model

- ⊕ Consists of base-class `Geometry` and four sub-classes:
  - ⊕ `Point`, `Curve`, `Surface` and `GeometryCollection`
  
- ⊕ Operations fall into three categories:
  - ⊕ Apply to all geometry types
    - `SpatialReference`, `Envelope`, `Export`, `IsSimple`, `Boundary`
  - ⊕ Predicates for Topological relationships
    - `Equal`, `Disjoint`, `Intersect`, `Touch`, `Cross`, `Within`, `Contains`
  - ⊕ Spatial Data Analysis
    - `Distance`, `Buffer`, `Union`, `Intersection`, `ConvexHull`, `SymDiff`
  - ⊕ Table in next slide details spatial operations



Basic Functions	SpatialReference()	Returns the underlying coordinate system of the geometry
	Envelope()	Returns the minimum orthogonal bounding rectangle of the geometry
	Export()	Returns the geometry in a different representation
	IsEmpty()	Returns true if the geometry is a null set.
	IsSimple()	Returns true if the geometry is simple (no self-intersection)
	Boundary()	Returns the boundary of the geometry
Topological/ Set Operators	Equal	Returns true if the interior and boundary of the two geometries are spatially equal
	Disjoint	Returns true if the boundaries and interior do not intersect.
	Intersect	Returns true if the geometries are not disjoint
	Touch	Returns true if the boundaries of two surfaces intersect but the interiors do not.
	Cross	Returns true if the interior a surface intersects with a curve
	Within	Returns true if the interior of the given geometry does not intersect with the exterior of another geometry.
	Contains	Tests if the given geometry contains another given geometry
Spatial Analysis	Distance	Returns the shortest distance between two geometries
	Buffer	Returns a geometry that consists of all points whose distance from the given geometry is less than or equal to the specified distance
	ConvexHull	Returns the smallest convex geometric set enclosing the geometry
	Intersection	Returns the geometric intersection of two geometries
	Union	Returns the geometric union of two geometries
	Difference	Returns the portion of a geometry which does not intersect with another given geometry
	SymmDiff	Returns the portions of two geometries which do not intersect with each other



## List of Spatial Query Examples

- Simple SQL SELECT\_FROM\_WHERE examples
  - Spatial analysis operations
    - Unary operator: Area (Q5, pp.68)
    - Binary operator: Distance (Q3)
  - Boolean Topological spatial operations - WHERE clause
    - Touch (Q1, pp. 67)
    - Cross (Q2, pp. 68)
  - Using spatial analysis and topological operations
    - Buffer, overlap (Q4)
- Complex SQL examples
  - Aggregate SQL queries
  - Nested queries

## Example schema

```
CREATE TABLE Country(  
  Name varchar(30),  
  Cont varchar(30),  
  Pop Integer,  
  GDP Number,  
  Shape Polygon);
```

(a)

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

(b)

```
CREATE TABLE City (  
  Name varchar(30),  
  Country varchar(30),  
  Pop integer,  
  Shape Point );
```

(c)

## Query 1

**Query:** Find the names of all countries which are neighbors of *USA* in the Country table.

```
SELECT  C1.Name AS "Neighbors of USA"  
FROM    Country C1, Country C2  
WHERE   Touch(C1.Shape, C2.Shape) = 1 AND  
        C2.Name = 'USA'
```



## Query 2

**Query:** For all the rivers listed in the River table, find the countries through which they pass.

```
SELECT R.Name C.Name
FROM   River R, Country C
WHERE  Cross(R.Shape, C.Shape) = 1
```

## Query 3

**Query:** For each river, find its closest city.

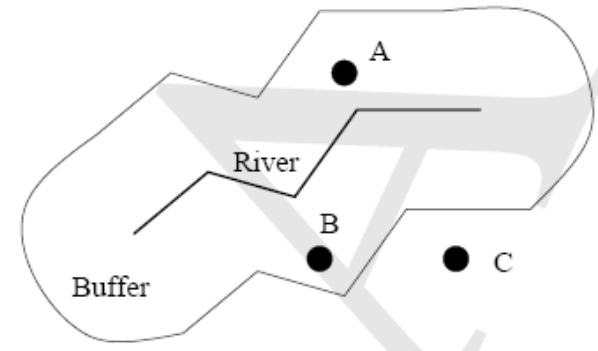
```
SELECT C1.Name, R1.Name
FROM   City C1, River R1
WHERE  Distance (C1.Shape, R1.Shape) <
        ALL (SELECT Distance (C2.Shape, R1.Shape)
              FROM   City C2
              WHERE  C1.Name <> C2.Name
              )
```

Comments: How is Distance computed between line and point?

Operator overloading or multiple redefinitions?

## Query 4

**Query:** The St. Lawrence river can supply water to cities which are within 300 km.  
List the cities which can use water from the St. Lawrence.



```
SELECT Ci.Name
FROM City Ci, River R
WHERE Overlap(Ci.Shape, Buffer(R.Shape,300)) = 1 AND
R.Name = 'St. Lawrence'
```

## Query 5

**Query:** List the name, population, and area of each country listed in the Country table.

**Use:** Area(O.Shape)

```
SELECT  C.Name, C.Pop, Area(C.Shape) AS "Area"  
FROM    Country C
```

## Query 6

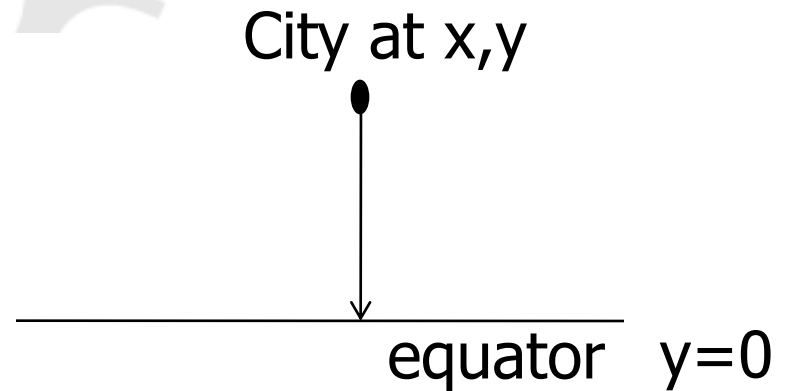
**Query:** List the length of the rivers in each of the countries they pass through.

```
SELECT R.Name, C.Name , Length(Intersection(R.Shape, C.Shape))
      AS "Length"
FROM   River R, Country C
WHERE  Cross(R.Shape, C.Shape) = 1
```

## Query 7

**Query:** List the GDP and the distance of a country's capital city to the equator for all countries.

**Use:** Point(x,y) to construct new points and C.x or C.y to get coordinates of points



```
SELECT  Co.GDP, Distance(Point(0,Ci.y),Ci.Shape) AS "Distance"
FROM    Country Co, City Ci
WHERE   Co.Name = Ci.Country AND
        Ci.Capital = 'Y'
```

Co. Name	Co. GDP	Dist-to-Eq (in Km).
Havana	16.9	2562
Washington, D.C.	8003	4324
Brasilia	1004	1756
Ottawa	658	5005
Mexico City	694.3	2161
Buenos Aires	348.2	3854

## Query 8

Query: List all countries, ordered by number of neighboring countries.

```
SELECT    Co.Name, Count(Co1.Name)
FROM      Country Co, Country Co1
WHERE     Touch(Co.Shape, Co1.Shape)
GROUP BY  Co.Name
ORDER BY  Count(Co1.Name)
```

What about countries with no neighbors (Island)?

## Query 9

**Query:** List the countries with only one neighboring country. A country is a neighbor of another country if their land masses share a boundary.

```
SELECT    Co.Name
FROM      Country Co, Country Co1
WHERE     Touch(Co.Shape, Co1.Shape))
GROUP BY Co.Name
HAVING    Count(Co1.Name) = 1
```



## Query 10

**Query:** Which country has the maximum number of neighbors?

```
CREATE VIEW Neighbor AS
SELECT          Co.Name, Count(Co1.Name) AS num_neighbors
FROM           Country Co, Country Co1
WHERE          Touch(Co.Shape, Co1.Shape)
GROUP BY      Co.Name
```

```
SELECT Co.Name, num_neighbors
FROM   Neighbor
WHERE  num_neighbor = (SELECT Max(num_neighbors)
FROM Neighbor)
```

# Learning Objectives

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- ⊗ LO4: Learn about the trends in query languages
  - Facilities for user defined data types in SQL3

## ⊗ Mapping Sections to learning objectives

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

## *Defining Spatial Data Types in SQL3*

- SQL3 User defined data type - Overview
  - CREATE TYPE statements
  - Defines a new data types
  - Attributes and methods are defined
  - Separate statements for interface and implementation
    - Examples of interface in Table 3.12 (pp. 74)
- Additional effort is needed at physical data model level

## Examples (Point)

```
CREATE TYPE Point AS OBJECT (  
  x NUMBER,  
  y NUMBER,  
  MEMBER FUNCTION Distance(P2 IN Point) RETURN NUMBER,  
  PRAGMA RESTRICT_REFERENCES(Distance, WNDS);
```

```
CREATE TABLE City (  
  Name varchar(30),  
  Pop int,  
  Capital char(1),  
  Shape Point );
```

```
INSERT INTO CITY('Brasilia', 'Brazil', 1.5, 'Y',  
  Point(-55.4,-23.2));
```

## Examples (LineString)

```
CREATE TYPE LineType AS VARRAY(500) OF Point;
```

```
CREATE TYPE LineString AS OBJECT (  
    Num_of_Points INT,  
    Geometry LineType,  
    MEMBER FUNCTION Length(SELF IN) RETURN NUMBER,  
    PRAGMA RESTRICT_REFERENCES(Length, WNDS);
```

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

```
INSERT INTO RIVER('Mississippi', 'USA', 6000,  
    LineString(3, LineType(Point(1,1),Point(1,2),Point(2,3)))
```

## Examples (Polygon)

```
CREATE TYPE PolyType AS VARRAY(500) OF Point
```

```
CREATE TYPE Polygon AS OBJECT (  
    Num_of_Points INT,  
    Geometry PolyType ,  
    MEMBER FUNCTION Area(SELF IN) RETURN NUMBER,  
    PRAGMA RESTRICT_REFERENCES(Length, WNDS);
```

```
CREATE TABLE Country(  
    Name          varchar(30),  
    Cont          varchar(30),  
    Pop           int,  
    GDP           number,  
    Life-Exp      number,  
    Shape         LineString );
```

```
INSERT INTO Country('Mexico', 'NAM', 107.5, 694.3, 1004.0,  
    Polygon(23, Polytype(Point(1,1), ..., Point(1,1)))
```