

```
1  /* *****
2      CUNY ACE UPSKILLING:  INTRODUCTION TO STRUCTURED QUERY LANGUAGE
3          SF21JOB#2, 2021/11/08 to 2021/12/13
4          https://folvera.commons.gc.cuny.edu/?cat=30
5  *****
6
7  SESSION #3 (2021/11/15): MANIPULATING DATA
8
9  1. Using built-in functions for strings
10 2. Querying two or more datasets (tables or views) using `INNER JOIN`,
11   `[OUTER] LEFT JOIN` and `[OUTER] RIGHT JOIN`
12 *****
13
14 1. A function, in any programming environment, lets you encapsulate reusable
15   logic and build software that is ``composable``, i.e. built of pieces that
16   can be reused and put together in a number of different ways to meet the
17   needs of the users. Functions hide the steps and the complexity from other
18   code.
19   https://www.simple-talk.com/sql/t-sql-programming/sql-server-functions-the- ↗
20   basics/
21
22 1.1. Go to https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/index_alpha.php
23   for a detailed list of functions.
24
25 1.1.1. As we mentioned before, so functions affect strings.
26
27   CONCAT() allows you to concatenate strings together ↗
28           https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/
29           concat.php
30           https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/ ↗
31           concat2.php
32   LEFT() allows you to extract a substring from a string,
33   starting from the left-most character
34           https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/ ↗
35           left.php
36   LTRIM() removes all space characters from the left-hand side
37   of a string
38           https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/ ↗
39           ltrim.php
40   LOWER() converts all letters in the specified string to
41   lowercase
42           https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/ ↗
43           lower.php
44   REPLACE() replaces a sequence of characters in a string with
45   another set of characters, not case-sensitive
46           https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/ ↗
47           replace.php
48   RIGHT() allows you to extract a substring from a string,
49   starting from the right-most character
50           https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/ ↗
51           right.php
52   RTRIM() removes all space characters from the right-hand
```

45 side of a string
46 [https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/
rtrim.php](https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/rtrim.php) ↗

47 SUBSTRING() allows you to extract a substring from a string
48 [https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/
substring.php](https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/substring.php) ↗

49 UPPER() converts all letters in the specified string to
50 uppercase
51 [https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/
upper.php](https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/upper.php) ↗

52
53 1.1.2. We also have functions that affect numeric values.
54

55 AVG() returns the average value of an expression
56 https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/avg.php

57 CEILING() returns the smallest integer value that is greater
58 than or equal to a number
59 [https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/
ceiling.php](https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/ceiling.php) ↗

60 COUNT() returns the count of an expression
61 [https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/
count.php](https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/count.php) ↗

62 FLOOR() returns the largest integer value that is equal to
63 or less than a number
64 [https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/
floor.php](https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/floor.php) ↗

65 LEN() returns the length of the specified string... does
66 not include trailing space characters at the end the
67 string when calculating the length
68 https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/len.php

69 MAX() returns the maximum value of an expression
70 https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/max.php

71 MIN() returns the minimum value of an expression
72 https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/min.php

73 RAND() returns a random number or a random number within a
74 range
75 [https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/
rand.php](https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/rand.php) ↗

76 ROUND() returns a number rounded to a certain number of
77 decimal places
78 [https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/
round.php](https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/round.php) ↗

79 SUM() returns the summed value of an expression
80 https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/sum.php

81

82 1.2. Note that every time you have a function, you need parenthesis. Go to
83 https://techonthenet.com/sql_server/functions/index_alpha.php for a
84 complete list of built-in functions.
85

86 1.3. As you might have noticed, some built-in functions manipulate strings.
87 When working with numerical values, first we would have to convert
88 them into strings as we will see later in the course.

```
89
90     1.4. Some other built-in functions ``return a single value, calculated from
91         values in a column``. These are referred to as aggregate functions
92         (https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms173454.aspx).
93
94     2. Understanding the concepts above, we can now use them.
95
96     2.1. In the example below, we concatenate (put strings together) columns
97         `FirstName` and `LastName` from table `AP1.ContactUpdates`.
98     ***** */
99
100    SELECT CONCAT (
101        FirstName,
102        ', ',
103        LastName
104    ) AS NAME
105    FROM AP1.ContactUpdates;
106
107
108    /* *****
109        2.2. In the example below, we concatenate (put strings together) columns
110            `WE `, `ARE `, `LEARNING `, `SQL!`.
111        ***** */
112
113    SELECT
114        CONCAT('WE ', 'ARE ', 'LEARNING ', 'SQL!'); -- returns `WE ARE LEARNING
115                                                    --           SQL!`
116
117
118    /* *****
119        2.3. In the example below, we concatenate (put strings together) columns
120            `FirstName` and `LastName` from table `AP1.ContactUpdates`, just like
121            the previous example.
122
123            2.3.1. We also use `LTRIM()` and `RTRIM()` to remove leading and
124                trailing spaces from `FirstName` with `LTRIM(RTRIM(FirstName))`
125                and `LastName` with `LTRIM(RTRIM(LastName))`.
126        ***** */
127
128    SELECT CONCAT (
129        LTRIM(RTRIM(LastName)),
130        ', ',
131        LTRIM(RTRIM(FirstName))
132    ) AS NAME
133    FROM AP1.ContactUpdates;
134
135
136    /* *****
137        2.4. In the examples below, we use `UPPER()` to change a string to upper
138            case.
139        ***** */
140
```

```
141 SELECT UPPER('this string is in upper case'); -- returns `THIS STRING SHOULD
142 -- IN UPPER CASE`
143
144
145 /* *****
146 2.5. In the examples below, we use `LOWER()` to change a string to lower
147 case.
148 ***** */
149
150 SELECT LOWER('BUT THIS STRING IS IN LOWER CASE.');
```

-- returns `but this string is
-- in lower case.`

```
153
154
155 /* *****
156 2.6. In the examples below, we use `RIGHT()` to extract characters from the
157 right.
158 ***** */
159
160 SELECT RIGHT('apple', 2); -- returns `le`
161
162
163 /* *****
164 2.7. In the examples below, we use `LEFT()` to extract characters from the
165 left.
166 ***** */
167
168 SELECT LEFT('apple', 2); -- returns `ap`
169
170
171 /* *****
172 2.8. In the examples below, we use `SUBSTRING()` to extract characters from
173 the middle -- same as built-in function `MID()` in other database
174 management systems like Oracle.
175 ***** */
176
177 SELECT SUBSTRING('apple tree #5', 6, 10); -- returns ` tree #5`
178
179
180 /* *****
181 2.9. In the example below, we use `LEN()` to retrieve the length of a
182 string.
183 ***** */
184
185 SELECT LEN('tree #5'); -- returns 12
186
187
188 /* *****
189 2.10. In the examples below, we use `LTRIM()` and `RTRIM()` to remove any
190 leading and/or trailing spaces from the strings in single quotes.
191
192 2.10.1. Function `TRIM()` has not been implemented although
```

```
193 advertised by Microsoft
194 (https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/sql/t-sql/functions/trim-
transact-sql).
195 ***** */
196
197 SELECT LTRIM(' tree'), -- 1. trimming leading spaces
198 RTRIM('tree '), -- 2. trimming trailing spaces
199 LTRIM(RTRIM(' tree ')); -- 3. trimming leading and
200 -- trailing spaces
201
202
203 /* *****
204 2.11. In the example below, we use `REPLACE()` to replace pattern `mstake`
205 with `mistake`. Since `mstake` exists in string `This is a mstake`,
206 `REPLACE()` returns `This is a mistake`.
207 ***** */
208
209 SELECT REPLACE('This is a mstake', 'mstake', 'mistake');
210
211
212 /* *****
213 2.11.1. In the example below, we use `REPLACE()` to replace pattern
214 `gg` with `mistake`. Since `gg` does not exist in `This is a
215 mstake`, `REPLACE()` returns the original value.
216 ***** */
217
218 SELECT REPLACE('This is a mstake', 'gg', 'mistake');
219
220
221 /* *****
222 2.12. In the example below, since there is no function to make the first
223 letter of a string upper case and the rest lower case, we can use
224 a combination of functions `UPPER()`, `LOWER()`, `RIGHT()`, `LEFT()`
225 and `CONCAT()` working from the inside out.
226 ***** */
227
228 SELECT CONCAT (
229 UPPER(LEFT('HELLO', 1)) -- 1. retrieving first
230 -- character from `HELLO`;
231 -- returns `h`
232 ) -- 2. making `h` upper case;
233 -- returns `H`
234 ,
235 LOWER(SUBSTRING('HELLO', 2, LEN('HELLO'))) -- 3. retrieving variable
236 -- number of characters
237 -- from character two (2)
238 -- to the length of the
239 -- string (integer value
240 -- of 5); returns `ELLO`
241 ) -- 4. making `ELLO` lower
242 -- case; returns `ello`
243 ); -- 5. concatenating all
```

```

244                                     -- previous sections;
245                                     -- returns `Hello`
246
247
248 /* *****
249    2.13. In the example below, we use `REPLACE()` to change pattern ` ` (two
250       spaces, `CHAR(32)+CHAR(32)`) with ` ` (a single space, `CHAR(32)`).
251
252           SELECT REPLACE('tree      #5', ' ', ' ');
253
254    2.12.1. Since string `tree      #5` has more than two spaces, we need
255           run several passes of `REPLACE()`.
256
257    2.12.2. The statement runs from the inside out (3, 2, 1, 2, 3).
258
259           function 3           -- 3. beginning of function #3:
260                               -- * receiving value of
261                               --   function #2
262           function 2           -- 2. beginning of function #2:
263                               -- * receiving value of
264                               --   function #1
265           function 1           -- 1. function #1:
266                               -- * receiving original
267                               --   value #0
268                               -- * returning new value #1
269           function 2           -- 2. end function of #2:
270                               -- * returning new value #2
271           function 3           -- 3. end function of #3:
272                               -- * returning new value #3
273                               --   (final value)
274 ***** */
275
276
277 SELECT
278     REPLACE(
279         REPLACE(
280             REPLACE('tree      #5',
281                 ' ', ' '),
282                 ' ', ' '),
283             ' ', ' '),
284         ' ', ' '),
285         ' ', ' '),
286         ' ', ' '),
287         ' ', ' '),
288         ' ', ' '),
289         ' ', ' '),
290         ' ', ' '),
291         ' ', ' '),
292         ' ', ' '),
293         ' ', ' '),
294         ' ', ' '),
295         ' ', ' '),

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```
296 ' ', ' '); -- 3. end of pass #3
297
298
299 /* *****
300 2.13. In the example below, we use `REPLACE()` to replace pattern `tree`
301 for `fruit`.
302
303 2.13.1. Since pattern `tree` exists in ` tree ` with
304 leading and trailing spaces around `tree`, `REPLACE()`
305 returns ` fruit ` with leading and trailing
306 spaces around word `fruit`.
307
308 2.13.2. We also use `RTRIM()` and `LTRIM()` to remove trailing and
309 leading spaces respectively to get `fruit` without leading
310 and trailing spaces.
311 ***** */
312
313 SELECT RTRIM(LTRIM(REPLACE(' tree ', 'tree', 'fruit')));
314
315
316 /* *****
317 2.14. In the example below, we use `REPLACE()` to replace pattern `Box` for
318 `PO Box`.
319
320 2.14.1. The first pass (inner) of `REPLACE()` changes some fields to
321 `PO PO Box`.
322
323 2.14.2. The second pass (outer) of `REPLACE()` changes the previous
324 error (`PO PO Box`) to `PO Box`.
325 ***** */
326
327 SELECT AP1.Vendors.VendorID, -- 1. fields using format
328 AP1.Vendors.VendorName, -- `schema.table.field`
329 REPLACE( -- 2. second pass of
330 -- `REPLACE()` working from
331 -- inside out
332 REPLACE(AP1.Vendors.VendorAddress1, -- 3. first pass of `REPLACE()`
333 'Box', 'PO Box'), -- working from inside out
334 'PO PO Box', 'PO Box') AS VendorAddress1,
335 AP1.Vendors.VendorAddress2,
336 AP1.Vendors.VendorCity,
337 AP1.Vendors.VendorState,
338 AP1.Vendors.VendorZipCode,
339 AP1.Vendors.VendorPhone,
340 AP1.Vendors.VendorContactLName,
341 AP1.Vendors.VendorContactFName,
342 AP1.Vendors.DefaultTermsID,
343 AP1.Vendors.DefaultAccountNo,
344 AP1.Terms.TermsID,
345 AP1.Terms.TermsDescription,
346 AP1.Terms.TermsDueDays
347 FROM AP1.Vendors
```

```

348 INNER JOIN AP1.Terms -- 4. `INNER JOIN` to retrieve
349 -- data in the first (left)
350 -- table (`AP1.Vendors`)
351 -- that is also in the
352 -- second (right) table
353 -- (`AP1.Terms`)
354 ON AP1.Vendors.DefaultTermsID = AP1.Terms.TermsID;
355 -- 5. `ON` two fields with the
356 -- same values/data, but in
357 -- this case NOT the same
358 -- name (`DefaultTermsID`
359 -- and `TermsID`)
360
361
362 /* *****
363 2.14. In the example below, we use the functions that we have covered to
364 manipulate strings (any array of characters, such as letters and
365 numbers).
366 ***** */
367
368 SELECT VendorID,
369 LEFT(VendorName, 8) AS VendorNameL, -- 1. retrieving eight (8)
370 -- characters from the left
371 -- of each string value in
372 -- column `VendorName`;
373 -- returns `US Posta`
374 -- (row 1)
375 RIGHT(VendorName, 8) AS VendorNameR, -- 2. retrieving eight (8)
376 -- characters from the right
377 -- of each string value in
378 -- column `VendorName`;
379 -- returns `Service`
380 -- including the leading
381 -- space (row 1)
382 CONCAT ( -- 3. concatenating the string
383 VendorAddress1, -- value in column
384 ' ', -- `VendorAddress1`, a space
385 VendorAddress2 -- and the value in
386 ) AS VendorAddress, -- column `VendorAddress2`;
387 -- returns `PO Box 96621`
388 -- including the space since
389 -- there was no value in
390 -- `VendorAddress2` (row 2)
391 UPPER(VendorCity) AS VendorCity, -- 4. changing the the string
392 -- value in column
393 -- `VendorCity` to upper
394 -- case; returns `MADISON`
395 -- (row 1)
396 LOWER(VendorState) AS VendorState, -- 5. changing the the string
397 -- value in column
398 -- `VendorState` to lower
399 -- case; returns `dc`

```



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400 -- (row 2)
401 VendorZipCode,
402 SUBSTRING(VendorPhone, 4, 3) AS VendorPhone, -- 6. retrieving three (3)
403 -- characters starting from
404 -- the character four (4)
405 -- of each string value in
406 -- column `VendorName`;
407 -- returns `555` (row 1) and
408 -- `255` (row 73)
409 REPLACE(VendorContactLName, 'en', 'XX') -- 7. replacing pattern `en` in
410 AS VendorContactLName, -- each string value in
411 -- column
412 -- `VendorContactLName` with
413 -- pattern `XX` when found;
414 -- returns `MaegXX` (row 7)
415 -- and `AileXX` (row 16)
416 VendorContactFName,
417 LEN(VendorContactFName) -- 8. retrieving the length as
418 AS VendorContactFNameLEN, -- an integer of each string
419 -- value in column
420 -- `VendorContactFName`;
421 -- returns 9 (row 1)
422 DefaultTermsID,
423 DefaultAccountNo
424 FROM AP1.Vendors;
425
426
427 /* *****
428 2.14. In the example below, we write a query (`SELECT` statement) calling
429 all shared data (`INNER JOIN`) from tables `AP1.Vendors`,
430 `AP1.Invoices` and `AP1.InvoiceLineItems` using the following syntax.
431
432 SELECT table1.field1,
433 table1.field2 ...
434 table2.field1,
435 table2.field2 ...
436 table3.field1,
437 table3.field2 ...
438 FROM table1
439 INNER JOIN table2
440 ON table1.common_field1(id1) = table2.common_field1(id1)
441 INNER JOIN table3
442 ON table1.common_field2(id2) = table3.common_field2(id2);
443
444 Then we can delete or rename using an alias the duplicate name of the
445 columns.
446 ***** */
447
448 SELECT AP1.Vendors.VendorID,
449 AP1.Vendors.VendorName,
450 AP1.Vendors.VendorAddress1,
451 AP1.Vendors.VendorAddress2,

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```

452 AP1.Vendors.VendorCity,
453 AP1.Vendors.VendorState,
454 AP1.Vendors.VendorZipCode,
455 AP1.Vendors.VendorPhone,
456 AP1.Vendors.VendorContactLName,
457 AP1.Vendors.VendorContactFName,
458 AP1.Vendors.DefaultTermsID,
459 AP1.Vendors.DefaultAccountNo,
460 AP1.Invoices.InvoiceID,
461 -- AP1.Invoices.VendorID, -- 1. duplicate column name
462 -- ('VendorID`), which can --
463 -- be removed (commented --
464 -- out, in this case) --
465 -- without affecting the --
466 -- query output; could also --
467 -- be renamed
468 AP1.Invoices.InvoiceNumber,
469 AP1.Invoices.InvoiceDate,
470 AP1.Invoices.InvoiceTotal,
471 AP1.Invoices.PaymentTotal,
472 AP1.Invoices.CreditTotal,
473 AP1.Invoices.TermsID,
474 AP1.Invoices.InvoiceDueDate,
475 AP1.Invoices.PaymentDate,
476 -- AP1.InvoiceLineItems.InvoiceID, -- 2. duplicate column name
477 -- ('InvoiceID`), which can --
478 -- be removed (commented --
479 -- out, in this case) --
480 -- without affecting the --
481 -- query output; could also --
482 -- be renamed
483 AP1.InvoiceLineItems.InvoiceSequence,
484 AP1.InvoiceLineItems.AccountNo,
485 AP1.InvoiceLineItems.InvoiceLineItemAmount,
486 AP1.InvoiceLineItems.InvoiceLineItemDescription
487 FROM AP1.Vendors -- 3. from table `AP1.Vendors`
488 INNER JOIN AP1.Invoices -- 4. `INNER JOIN` to retrieve
489 -- data in the first (left)
490 -- table (`AP1.Vendors`)
491 -- that is also in the
492 -- second (right) table
493 -- (`AP1.Invoices`)
494 ON AP1.Vendors.VendorID = AP1.Invoices.VendorID
495 -- 5. `ON` two fields with the
496 -- same values/data and the
497 -- same name (`VendorID`);
498 -- specifying the relation
499 -- between tables
500 -- `AP1.Vendors` and
501 -- `AP1.Invoices`
502 INNER JOIN AP1.InvoiceLineItems -- 6. `INNER JOIN` to retrieve
503 -- data in the first (left)

```

```
504 -- table (`AP1.Invoices`)
505 -- that is also in the
506 -- second (right) table
507 -- (`AP1.InvoiceLineItems`)
508 ON AP1.Invoices.InvoiceID = AP1.InvoiceLineItems.InvoiceID;
509 -- 7. `ON` two fields with the
510 -- same values/data and the
511 -- same name (`InvoiceID`);
512 -- specifying the relation
513 -- between tables
514 -- `AP1.Invoices` and
515 -- `AP1.InvoiceLineItems`
516
517
518 /* *****
519 4. LAB #2
520 Write a query without duplicate rows (`SELECT DISTINCT`)
521 4.1. to call all columns from `AP1.Vendors` and `AP1.Invoices`, shared data
522 only (`INNER JOIN`)
523 4.2. to present `VendorPhone` in `(123) 456-7890` structure.
524 ***** */
525
526 SELECT DISTINCT -- 1. to retrieve unique rows
527 AP1.Vendors.VendorID,
528 AP1.Vendors.VendorName,
529 AP1.Vendors.VendorAddress1,
530 AP1.Vendors.VendorAddress2,
531 AP1.Vendors.VendorCity,
532 AP1.Vendors.VendorState,
533 AP1.Vendors.VendorZipCode,
534 CONCAT (
535 '(', -- 1. concatenation of a
536 LEFT(AP1.Vendors.VendorPhone, 3), -- opening parenthesis,
537 -- three (3) characters from
538 ') ', -- the left of
539 -- `VendorPhone`, closing
540 -- parenthesis, the
541 SUBSTRING(AP1.Vendors.VendorPhone, 4, 3), -- substring from character
542 -- four (4) taking three (3)
543 -- characters of
544 '- ', -- `VendorPhone`, a hyphen
545 -- between branch and the
546 RIGHT(AP1.Vendors.VendorPhone, 4) -- subscriber number and
547 -- four (4) characters from
548 -- the right of
549 -- `VendorPhone` with alias
550 AS VendorPhone, -- `VendorPhone`
551 AP1.Vendors.VendorContactLName,
552 AP1.Vendors.VendorContactFName,
553 AP1.Vendors.DefaultTermsID,
554 AP1.Vendors.DefaultAccountNo,
555 AP1.Invoices.InvoiceID,
```

```
556 -- AP1.Invoices.VendorID AS Expr1, -- 2. commenting out duplicate
557 -- field `VendorID`
558 AP1.Invoices.InvoiceNumber,
559 AP1.Invoices.InvoiceDate,
560 AP1.Invoices.InvoiceTotal,
561 AP1.Invoices.PaymentTotal,
562 AP1.Invoices.CreditTotal,
563 AP1.Invoices.TermsID,
564 AP1.Invoices.InvoiceDueDate,
565 AP1.Invoices.PaymentDate
566 FROM AP1.Vendors
567 INNER JOIN AP1.Invoices
568 ON AP1.Vendors.VendorID = AP1.Invoices.VendorID;
569
570
571 /* *****
572 https://folvera.commons.gc.cuny.edu/?p=1009
573 ***** */
```