

SQL For Dummies

NoSQL

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NoSQL (originally meaning "Not only SQL" or "non-relational") refers to a type of database design that stores and retrieves data differently from the traditional table-based structure of relational databases. Unlike relational databases, which organize data into rows and columns like a spreadsheet, NoSQL databases use a single data structure—such as key–value pairs, wide columns, graphs, or documents—to hold information. Since this non-relational design does not require a fixed schema, it scales easily to manage large, often unstructured datasets. NoSQL systems are sometimes called "Not only SQL" because they can support SQL-like query languages or work alongside SQL databases in polyglot-persistent setups, where multiple database types are combined. Non-relational databases date back to the late 1960s, but the term "NoSQL" emerged in the early 2000s, spurred by the needs of Web 2.0 companies like social media platforms.

NoSQL databases are popular in big data and real-time web applications due to their simple design, ability to scale across clusters of machines (called horizontal scaling), and precise control over data availability. These structures can speed up certain tasks and are often considered more adaptable than fixed database tables. However, many NoSQL systems prioritize speed and availability over strict consistency (per the CAP theorem), using eventual consistency—where updates reach all nodes eventually, typically within milliseconds, but may cause brief delays in accessing the latest data, known as stale reads. While most lack full ACID transaction support, some, like MongoDB, include it as a key feature.

CAP theorem

long run. Retrieved 1 February 2019. Fowler, Adam (2015). NoSQL For Dummies. For Dummies. ISBN 978-8126554904. Kleppmann, Martin (2015-09-18). A Critique

In database theory, the CAP theorem, also named Brewer's theorem after computer scientist Eric Brewer, states that any distributed data store can provide at most two of the following three guarantees:

Consistency

Every read receives the most recent write or an error. Consistency as defined in the CAP theorem is quite different from the consistency guaranteed in ACID database transactions.

Availability

Every request received by a non-failing node in the system must result in a response. This is the definition of availability in CAP theorem as defined by Gilbert and Lynch. Availability as defined in CAP theorem is different from high availability in software architecture.

Partition tolerance

The system continues to operate despite an arbitrary number of messages being dropped (or delayed) by the network between nodes.

When a network partition failure happens, it must be decided whether to do one of the following:

cancel the operation and thus decrease the availability but ensure consistency

proceed with the operation and thus provide availability but risk inconsistency. This does not necessarily mean that system is highly available to its users.

Thus, if there is a network partition, one has to choose between consistency or availability.

Sleepycat Software

Software Design Computer Systems Research Group Fowler, Adam (2015). NoSQL For Dummies. John Wiley & Sons. p. 125. ISBN 9781118905623. Brunelli, Mark (March

Sleepycat Software, Inc. was the software company primarily responsible for maintaining the Berkeley DB packages from 1996 to 2006.

MarkLogic

in NoSQL DBMSs (G00252015 ed.). Gartner. Fowler, Adam. "NoSQL for Dummies";. ISBN 1118905628, 9781118905623. Taylor, Allen. "Semantics for Dummies";. ISBN 9781119112204

MarkLogic is an American software business that develops and provides an enterprise NoSQL database, which is also named MarkLogic. They have offices in the United States, Europe, Asia, and Australia.

In February 2023, MarkLogic was acquired by Progress Software for \$355 million.

DUAL table

column called DUMMY that has a value of 'X'. It is suitable for use in selecting a pseudo column such as SYSDATE or USER. Oracle's SQL syntax requires

The DUAL table is a special one-row, one-column table present by default in Oracle and other database installations. In Oracle, the table has a single VARCHAR2(1) column called DUMMY that has a value of 'X'. It is suitable for use in selecting a pseudo column such as SYSDATE or USER.

Microsoft Power BI

application was originally conceived by Thierry D'Hers and Amir Netz of the SQL Server Reporting Services team at Microsoft. It was originally designed by

Microsoft Power BI is an interactive data visualization software product developed by Microsoft with a primary focus on business intelligence (BI). It is part of the Microsoft Power Platform.

Power BI is a collection of software services, apps, and connectors that work together to turn various sources of data into static and interactive data visualizations. Data may be input by reading directly from a database, webpage, PDF, or structured files such as spreadsheets, CSV, XML, JSON, XLSX, and SharePoint.

Crystal Reports

2021-08-16. G. Taylor, Allen (June 3, 2008). Crystal Reports 2008 For Dummies (1st ed.). For Dummies. p. 396. ISBN 978-0-470-29077-4. Peck, George (June 19, 2008)

Crystal Reports is a business intelligence application marketed to small- and medium-sized businesses by SAP.

Geeklog

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Geeklog is open-source software that works as a Weblog, CMS or Web Portal." It is written in PHP and during its history has supported MySQL/MariaDB, PostgreSQL, or Microsoft SQL Server as a database backend.

Metasyntactic variable

Alex (2008). SQL bible. Indianapolis, Ind: Wiley. ISBN 978-0-470-22906-4. OCLC 402446308. Ruel, Chris (2014). Oracle 12c for dummies (in Danish). Hoboken

A metasyntactic variable is a specific word or set of words identified as a placeholder in computer science and specifically computer programming. These words are commonly found in source code and are intended to be modified or substituted before real-world usage. For example, foo and bar are used in over 330 Internet Engineering Task Force Requests for Comments, the documents which define foundational internet technologies like HTTP (web), TCP/IP, and email protocols.

By mathematical analogy, a metasyntactic variable is a word that is a variable for other words, just as in algebra letters are used as variables for numbers.

Metasyntactic variables are used to name entities such as variables, functions, and commands whose exact identity is unimportant and serve only to demonstrate a concept, which is useful for teaching programming.

Column (database)

(information). "Columnar databases in a big data environment"; dummies.com (Big dummies book). Retrieved 2015-11-05. "What is Database Column?"

Definition - In a relational database, a column is a set of data values of a particular type, one value for each row of a table. A column may contain text values, numbers, or even pointers to files in the operating system. Columns typically contain simple types, though some relational database systems allow columns to contain more complex data types, such as whole documents, images, or even video clips. A column can also be called an attribute.

Each row would provide a data value for each column and would then be understood as a single structured data value. For example, a database that represents company contact information might have the following columns: ID, Company Name, Address Line 1, Address Line 2, City, and Postal Code. More formally, a row is a tuple containing a specific value for each column, for example: (1234, 'Big Company Inc.', '123 East Example Street', '456 West Example Drive', 'Big City', 98765).

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