Other Bits of SQL

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Changelog

v26.0 Initial version

Ordering

ORDER BY ⟨column$_1$⟩ [**DESC**], . . . , ⟨column$_n$⟩ [**DESC**]

Sorts the output rows according to the values of column$_1$

If two rows have the same value for column$_1$,
they are sorted by the values of column$_2$ and so on . . .

- Default ordering is **ascending** (can be specified with **ASC**)
- **Descending** ordering is specified by **DESC**

Ordering example (1)

Account

Number	Branch	CustID	Balance
111	London	1	1330.00
222	London	2	1756.00
333	Edinburgh	1	450.00

```
SELECT   *
FROM     Account
ORDER BY custid ASC, balance DESC ;
```

Number	Branch	CustID	Balance
111	London	1	1330.00
333	Edinburgh	1	450.00
222	London	2	1756.00

Ordering example (2)

Account

Number	Branch	CustID	Balance
111	London	1	1330.00
222	London	2	1756.00
333	Edinburgh	1	450.00

```
SELECT   *
FROM     Account
ORDER BY custid DESC, balance ASC ;
```

Number	Branch	CustID	Balance
222	London	2	1756.00
333	Edinburgh	1	450.00
111	London	1	1330.00

Casting

CAST(term **AS** ⟨type⟩)

Rounding

CAST(102.4675 **AS NUMERIC**(5,2)) gives 102.47
Useful also to produce values in a specific format

Aggregation

AVG(**CAST**(term **AS NUMERIC**(p, s)))
avoids rounding errors in some systems

Conditional expressions (1)

```
CASE WHEN ⟨bool-expr⟩
     THEN ⟨value-expr⟩
     ...
     WHEN ⟨bool-expr⟩
     THEN ⟨value-expr⟩
     ELSE ⟨value-expr⟩
END
```

- Each bool-expr is evaluated in order (from top to bottom)
- When bool-expr is true, then the value produced by the corresponding value-expr is returned and the **CASE** ends (subsequent **WHEN** are not evaluated)
- If no **WHEN** evaluates to true,
  the value produced by value-expr in **ELSE** is returned
- **ELSE** is optional (if missing, the default value is **NULL**)

Conditional expressions (2)

Can be used in **SELECT**, **WHERE** and **HAVING**

Return the values of column A replacing **NULL** values with 0

```
SELECT CASE WHEN R.A IS NULL THEN 0
            ELSE R.A END
FROM R ;
```

Join R and S on column A (don't do this!)

```
SELECT *
FROM   R, S
WHERE  CASE WHEN R.A = S.A THEN TRUE
            ELSE FALSE END ;
```

Pattern matching

New comparison: term **LIKE** pattern

where pattern is a string consisting of

- characters (case-sensitive!)
- _ (underscore) wildcard matching any one character
- % (percent) wildcard matching any substring (including empty)

Example

Customers with a name that **begins with 'K'**
and has **at least 5 characters**

```
SELECT *
FROM   Customer
WHERE  name LIKE 'K____%' ;
```