

SEQUEL: A STRUCTURED ENGLISH QUERY LANGUAGE

by

Donald D. Chamberlin
Raymond F. Boyce

IBM Research Laboratory
San Jose, California

Mehr als eine Abfragesprache: SQL im 21. Jahrhundert

@MarkusWinand • @ModernSQL



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1974



1992

SEQUEL: A STRUCTURED ENGLISH GRAMMAR

by
D. Chamberlain
and F. Boyce

Research Laboratory
Los Angeles, California

SQL-92 — Tied to the Relational Idea

(Second Informal Review Draft) ISO/IEC 9075:1992, Database
Language SQL- July 30, 1992

SQL-92 — Tied to the Relational Idea

Relational Data Model

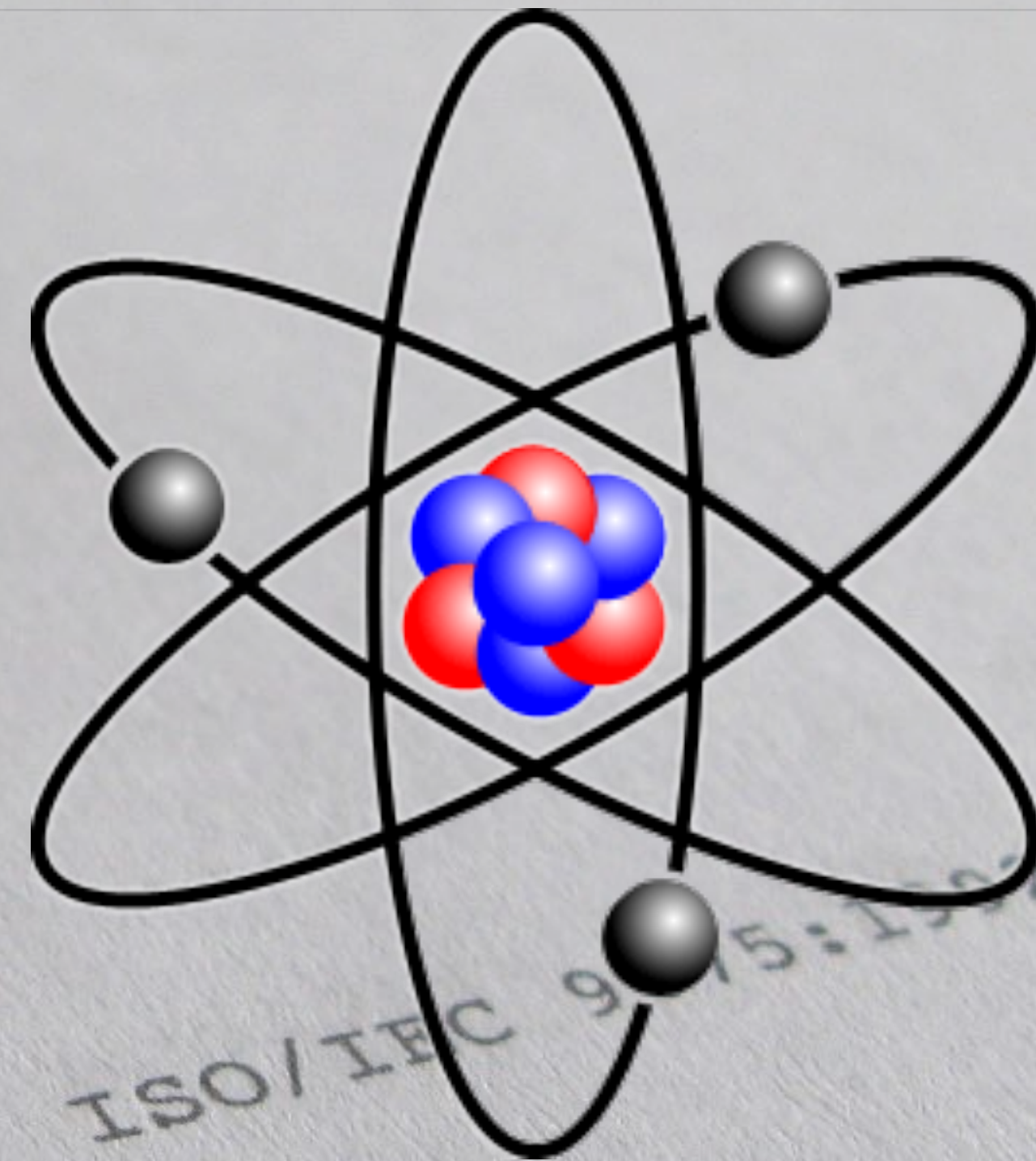
- ▶ “Atomic” types (domain)

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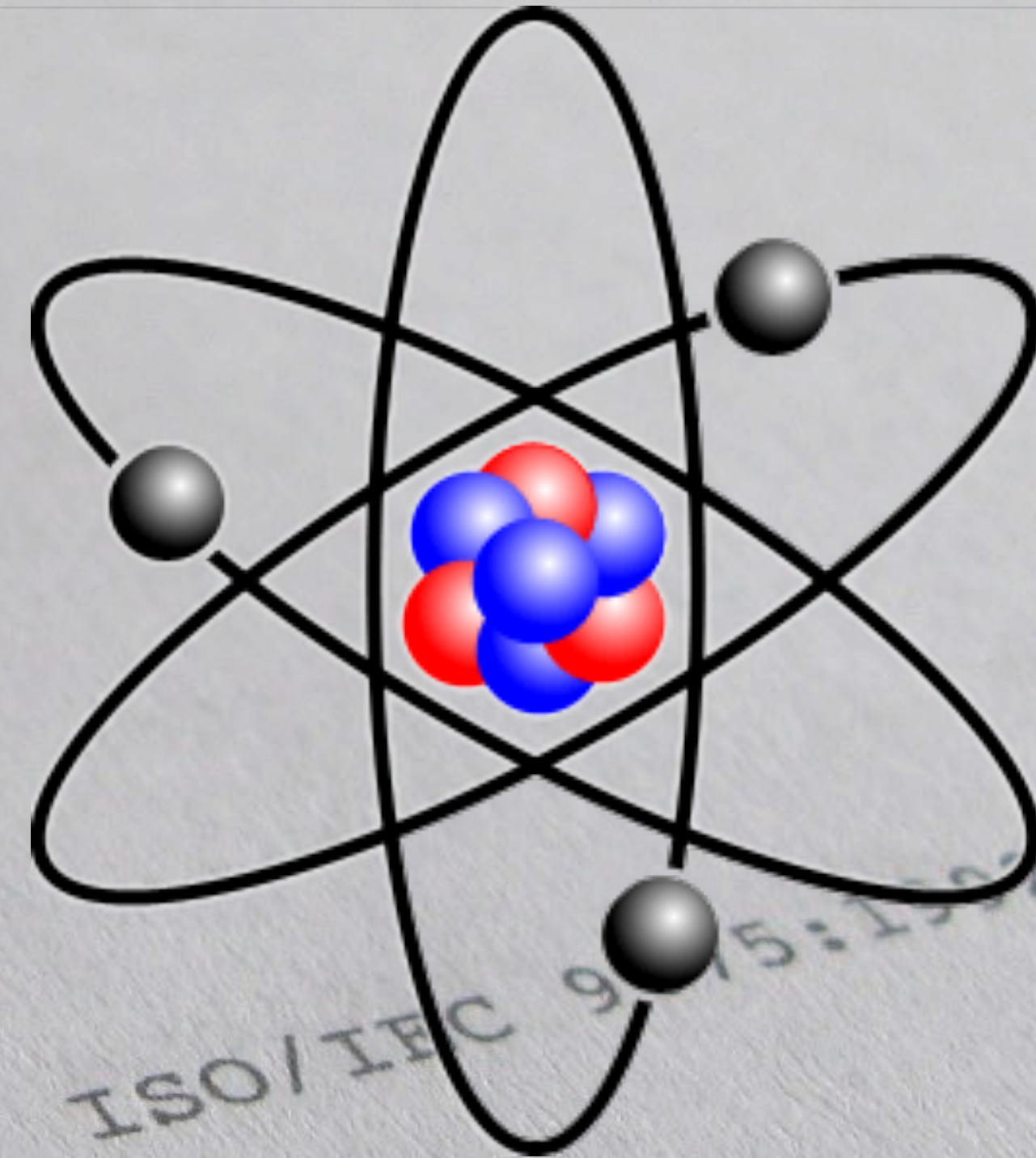
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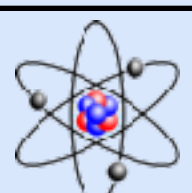
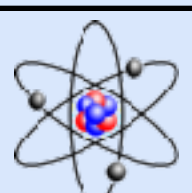
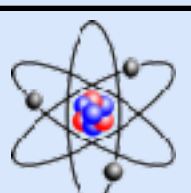
A	B	C



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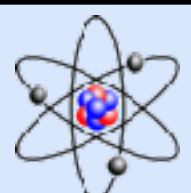

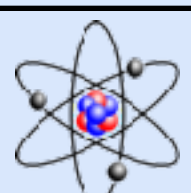
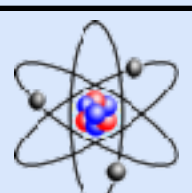
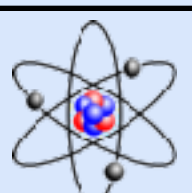
A	B	C
		
		
		

(S
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Informal Review Draft) ISO/IEC 9075:1992, Database
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SQL-92 — Tied to the Relational Idea

Relational Data Model

- ▶ “Atomic” types (domain)
- ▶ Schema independent of processing purposes
- ▶ “Normalization”




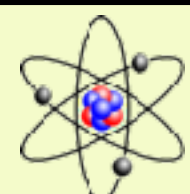
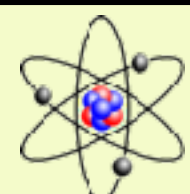
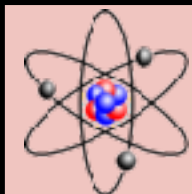
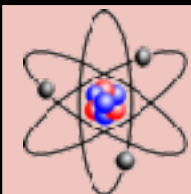


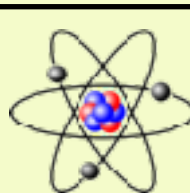
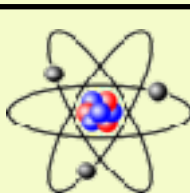
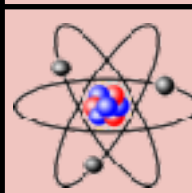
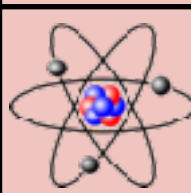
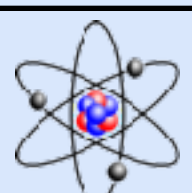
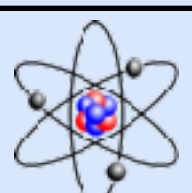
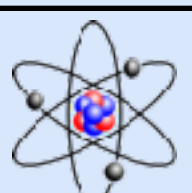
A	B	C
		
		
		

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SQL- July 30, 1992

SQL-92 — Tied to the Relational Idea

Relational Data Model

- ▶ “Atomic” types (domain)
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A	B	C	C	D	B	E
						
						
						

(SQL Language) SQL-92 (Draft) ISO/IEC 9075:1992, Database

SQL-92 — Tied to the Relational Idea

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Relational Operations

- ▶ Transform data for each particular processing purposes
 - ▶ JOIN, UNION, nesting, ...

A	B	C
⊕	⊕	⊕
⊕	⊕	
⊕	⊕	⊕

C	D
⊕	⊕
⊕	⊕

B	E
⊕	⊕
⊕	⊕



A	B	C	D	E
⊕	⊕	⊕	⊕	
⊕	⊕		⊕	⊕
⊕	⊕	⊕		⊕

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A	B	C
⚛	⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛	
⚛	⚛	⚛

C	D
⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛

B	E
⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛



A	B	C	D	E
⚛	⚛	⚛	⚛	
⚛	⚛		⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛	⚛		⚛

A	B	E
⚛	⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛	⚛

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A	B	C
⚛	⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛	
⚛	⚛	⚛

C	D
⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛

B	E
⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛



A	B	C	D	E
⚛	⚛	⚛	⚛	
⚛	⚛		⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛	⚛		⚛

A	B	E
⚛	⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛	⚛

C	D	E
⚛	⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛	⚛

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A	B	C
⚛	⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛	
⚛	⚛	⚛

C	D
⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛

B	E
⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛



A	B	C	D	E
⚛	⚛	⚛	⚛	
⚛	⚛		⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛	⚛		⚛

A	B	E
⚛	⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛	⚛

C	D	E
⚛	⚛	⚛
⚛	⚛	⚛

1992



1999

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Research Laboratory
Los Angeles, California



Whitemarsh
Information Systems Corporation

Great News,
The Relational Data Model is Dead!

SQL:1999 — Escaping the Relational Cage

To say that these SQL:1999 extensions are mere “extended interpretations” of the relational data model is like saying that an intercontinental ballistic missile is merely an “extended interpretation” of a spear.

SQL:1999 — Escaping the Relational Cage

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With SQL/99 you can get the best of both worlds and of course, you can get the worst of both worlds. It's up to the database practitioners to do the right thing.

SQL:1999 — Escaping the Relational Cage



Wolfram Research
Information Systems Department

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SQL:1999 — Escaping the Relational Cage

Relational Model?

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Relational Model?

I was as confused as anyone else

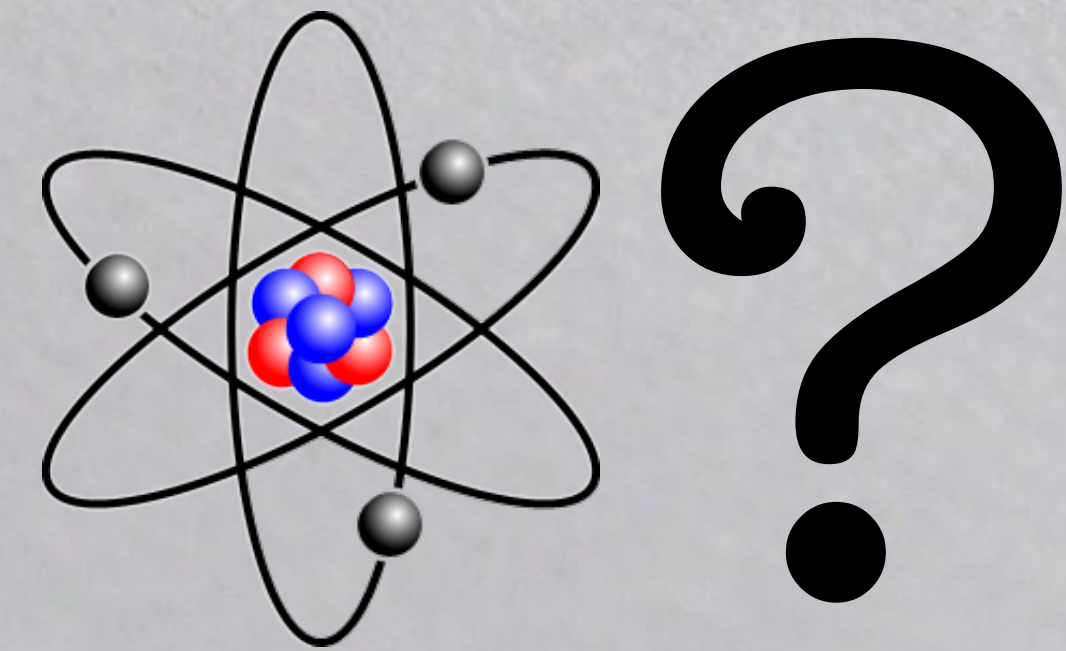


Date on Database: Writings 2000-2006

Chris Date

SQL:1999 — Escaping the Relational Cage

Relational Model?



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SQL:1999 — Escaping the Relational Cage

Relational Model?

*I was as confused as anyone else 🤖?
By the early 1990s, however,
I'd seen the light*



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Domains Can Contain Anything!



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Relational Model?

- ▶ Introduced rich types

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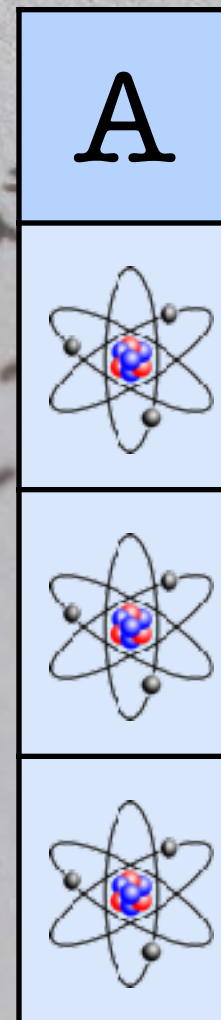


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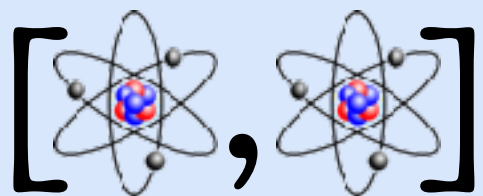
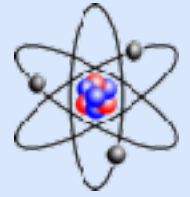
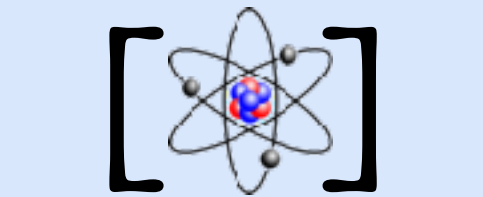

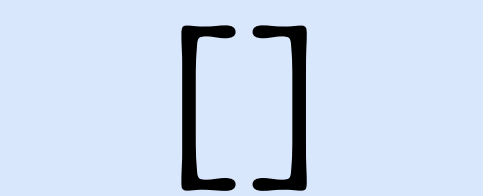


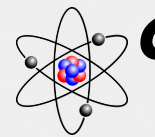
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SQL:1999 — Escaping the Relational Cage

Relational Model?

- ▶ Introduced rich types
 - ▶ arrays

A	B
	
	
	

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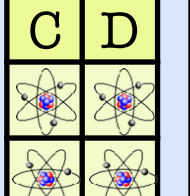
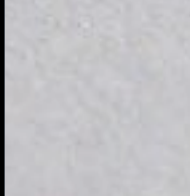
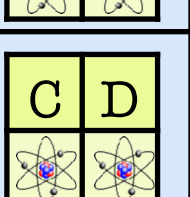
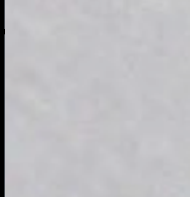
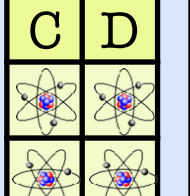
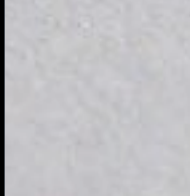
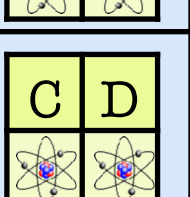
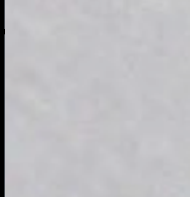
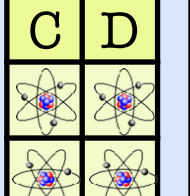
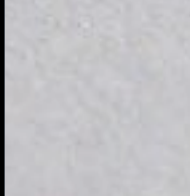
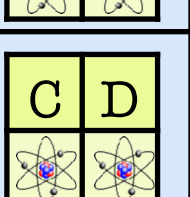
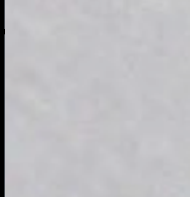
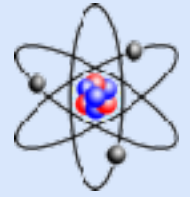
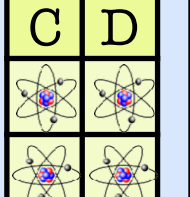
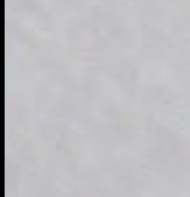
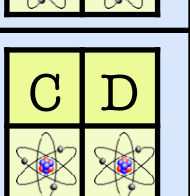
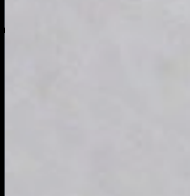
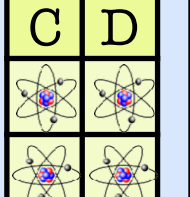
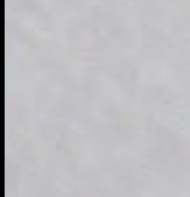
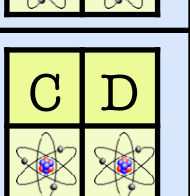
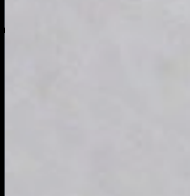
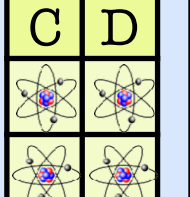
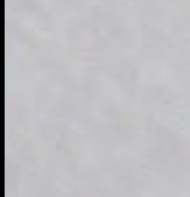
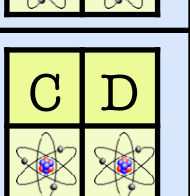
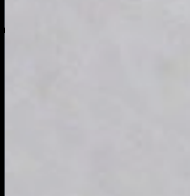

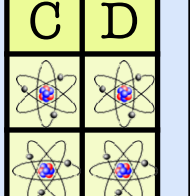
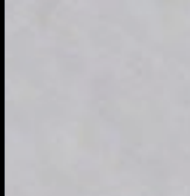

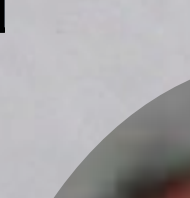
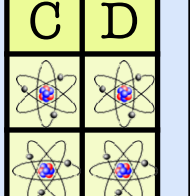
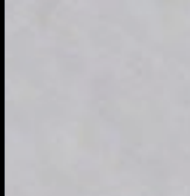

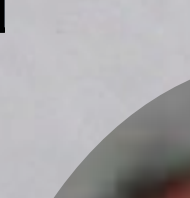
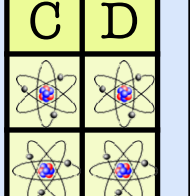
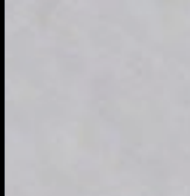

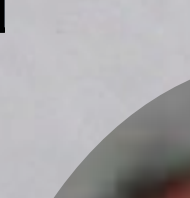


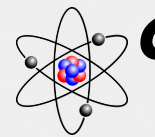
Chris Date

SQL:1999 — Escaping the Relational Cage

Relational Model?

- ▶ Introduced rich types
 - ▶ arrays
 - ▶ Nested tables (multiset)

A	B	C						
	$[\text{atom}, \text{atom}]$	<table border="1"><tr><td>C</td><td>D</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	C	D				
C	D							
								
								
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Domains Can Contain Anything!


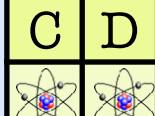
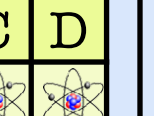
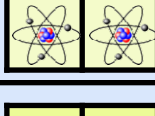
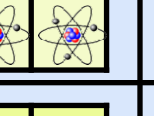
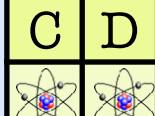
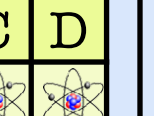
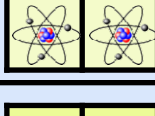
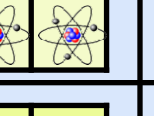
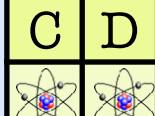
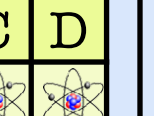
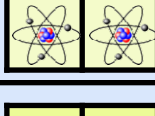
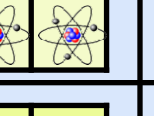
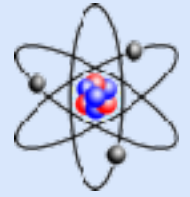
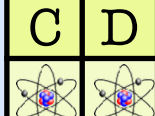
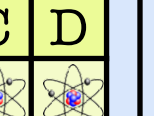
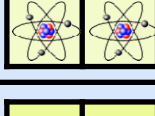
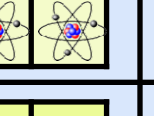
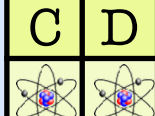
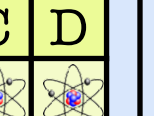
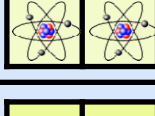
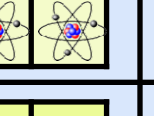
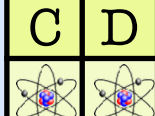
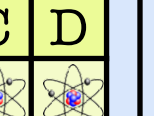
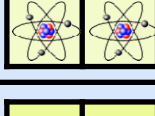
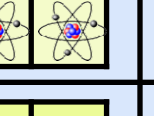

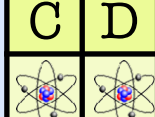
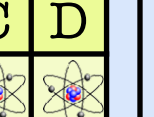

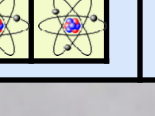
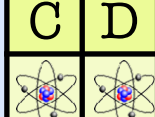
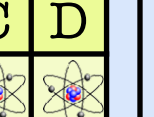

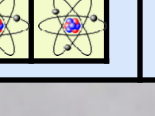
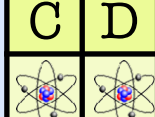
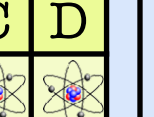

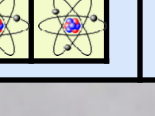


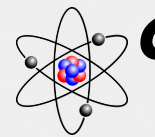
Chris Date

SQL:1999 — Escaping the Relational Cage

Relational Model?

- ▶ Introduced rich types
 - ▶ arrays
 - ▶ Nested tables (multiset)
 - ▶ composite types (objects)

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Domains Can Contain Anything!



Chris Date

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- ▶ Introduced rich types
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 - ▶ composite types (objects)

Non-Relational Operations

- ▶ Introduced recursive queries that process their own output
 - ▶ Transitive closure

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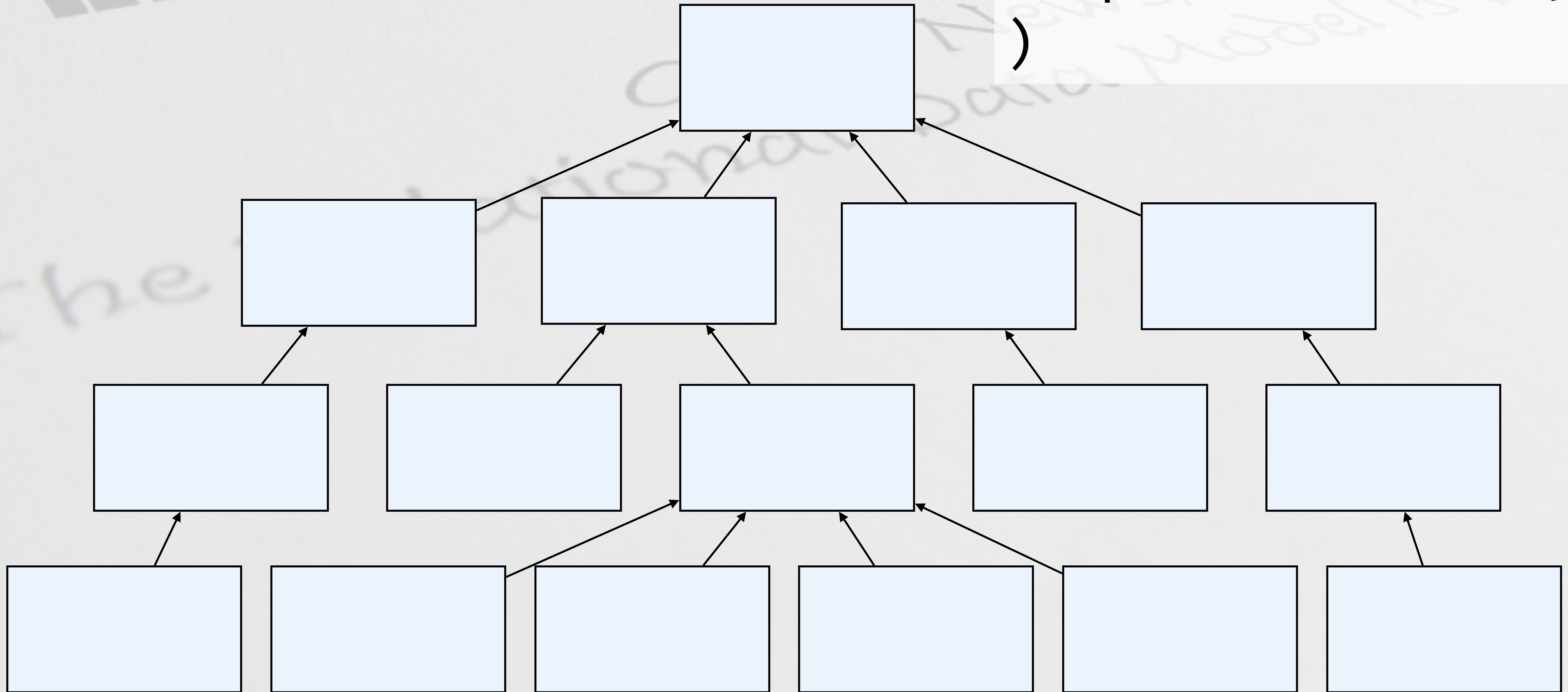
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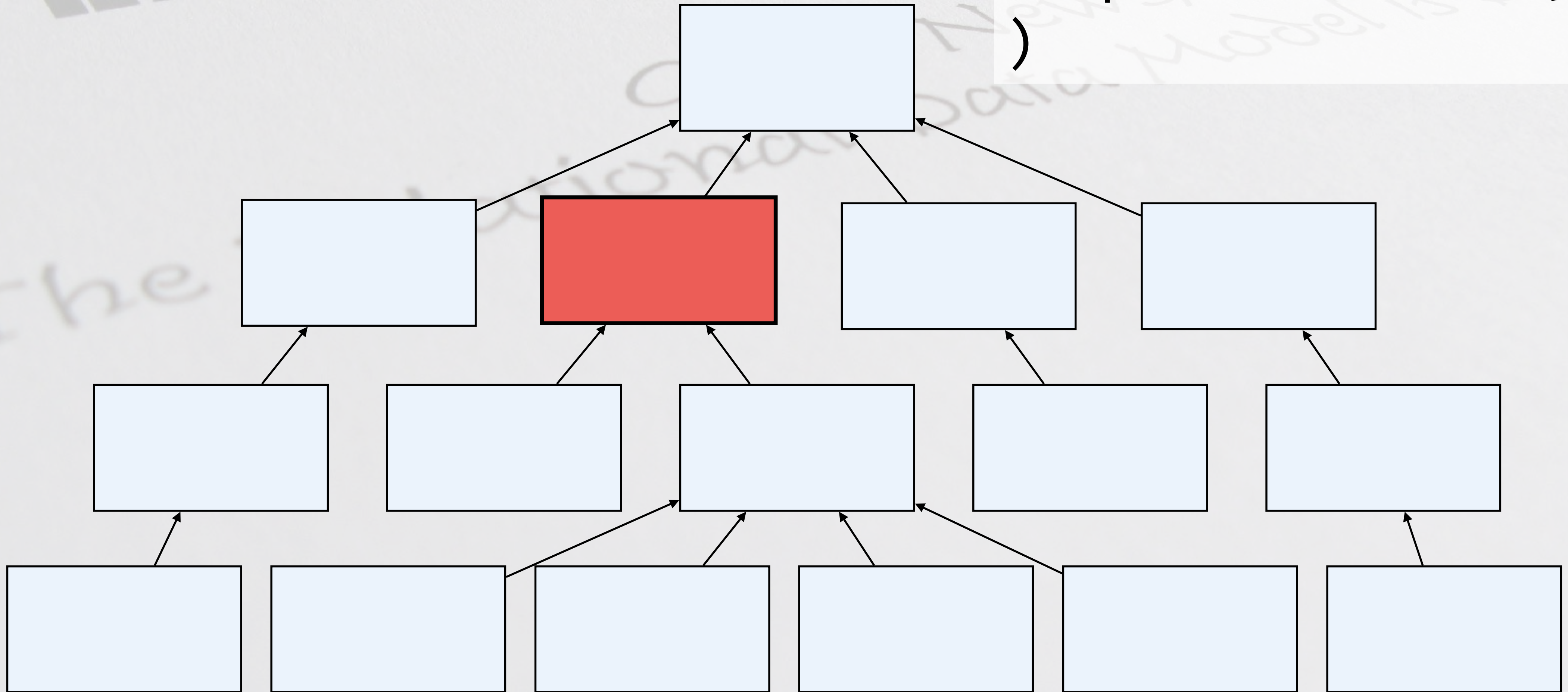
SQL:1999 — Recursion

```
CREATE TABLE t (  
  id      INTEGER,  
  parent  INTEGER,  
)
```



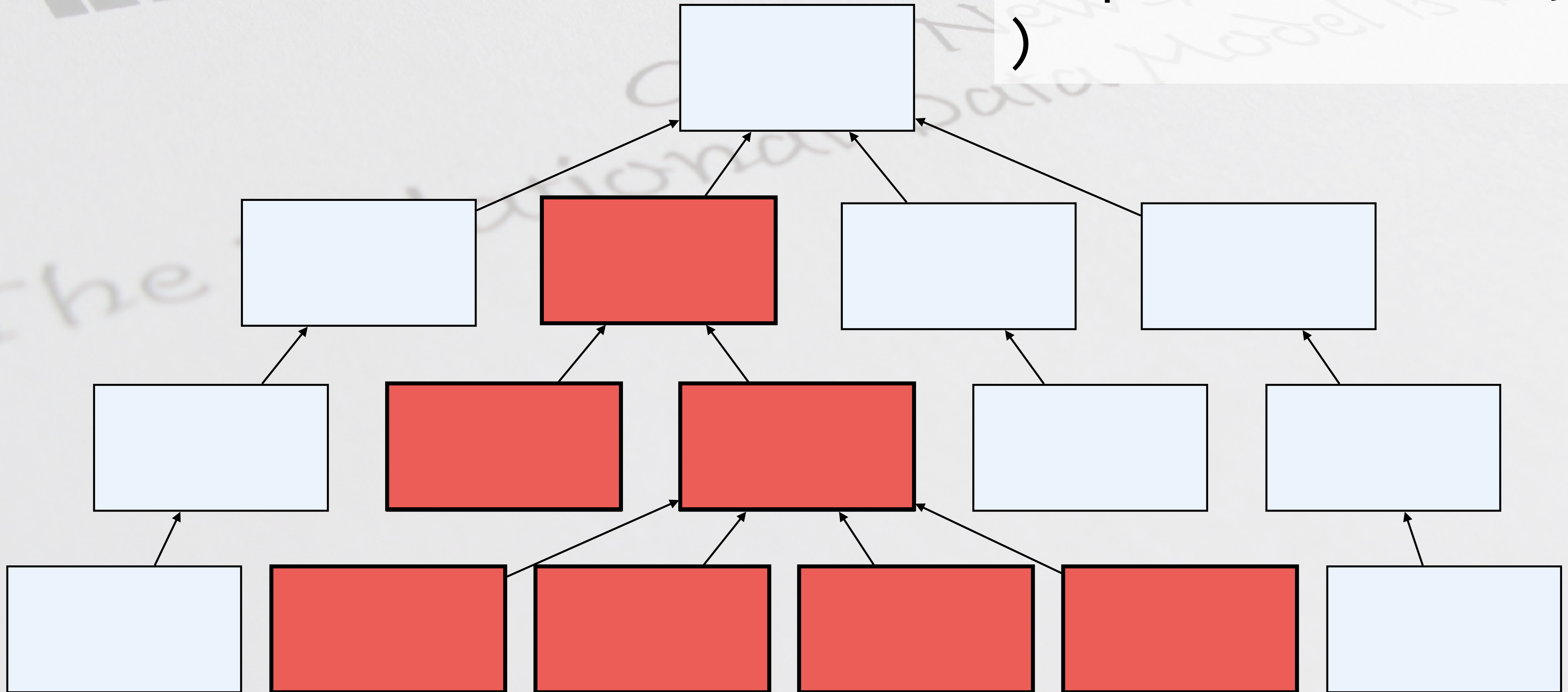
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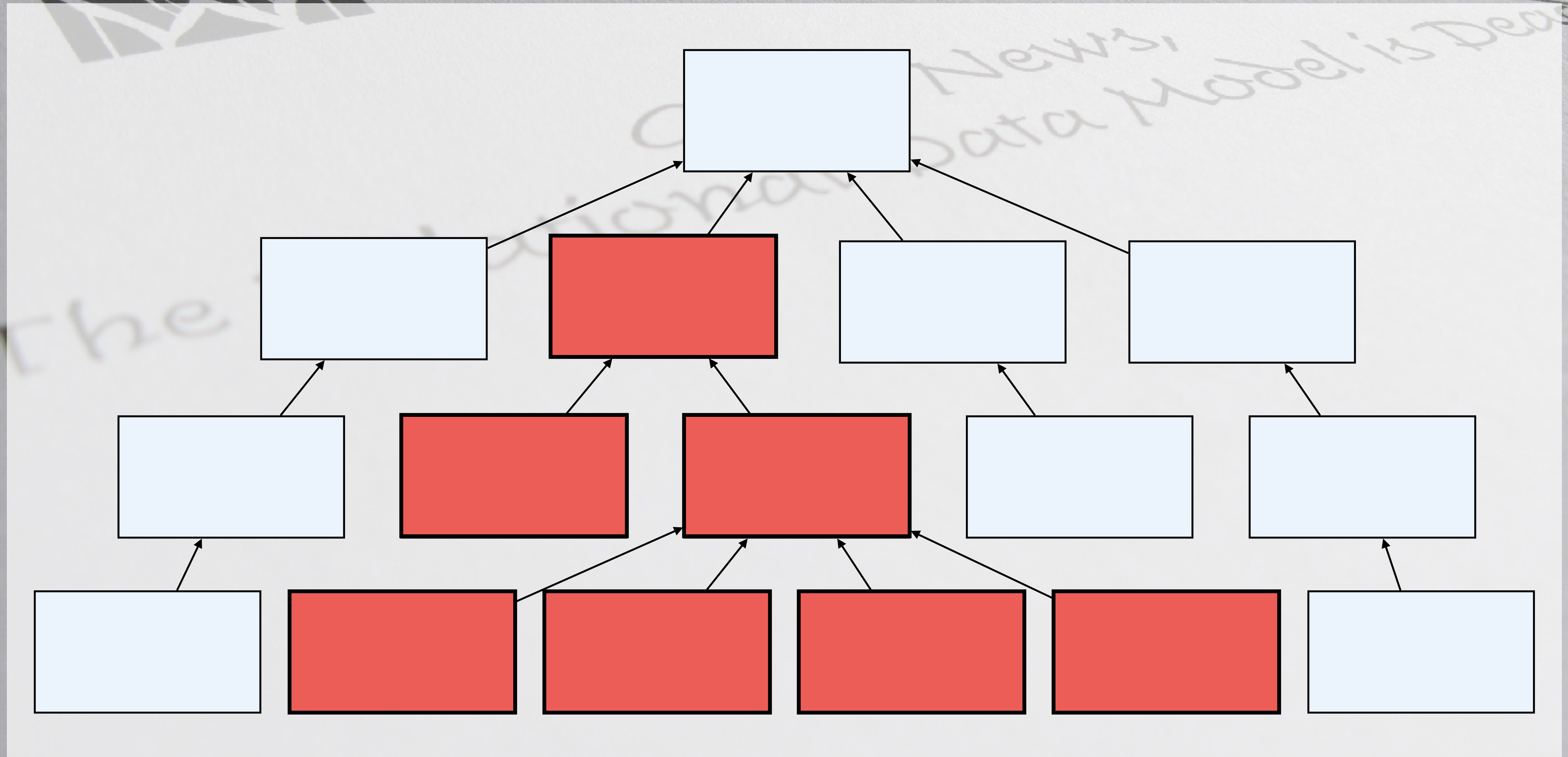


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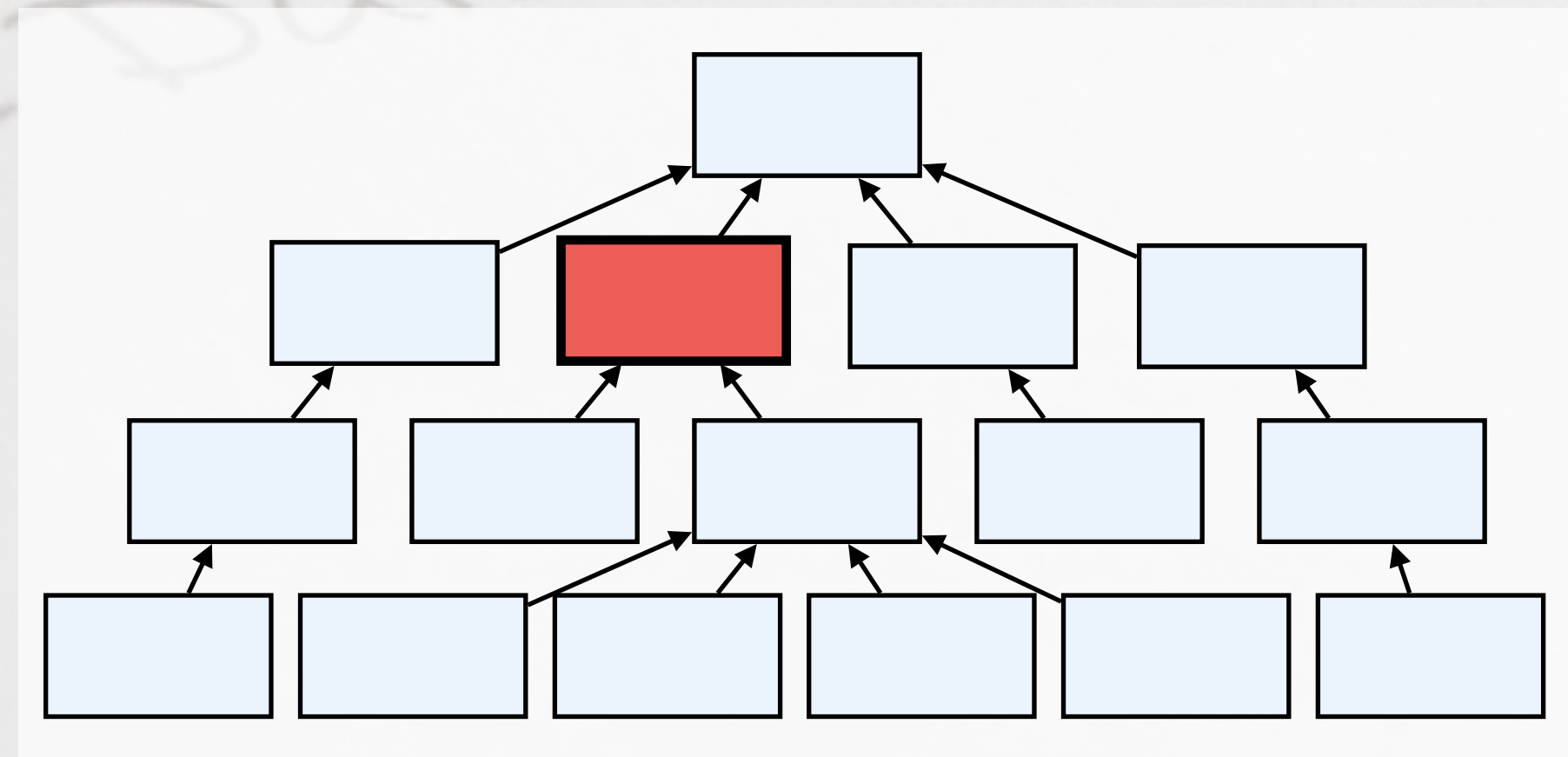


SQL:1999 — Recursion

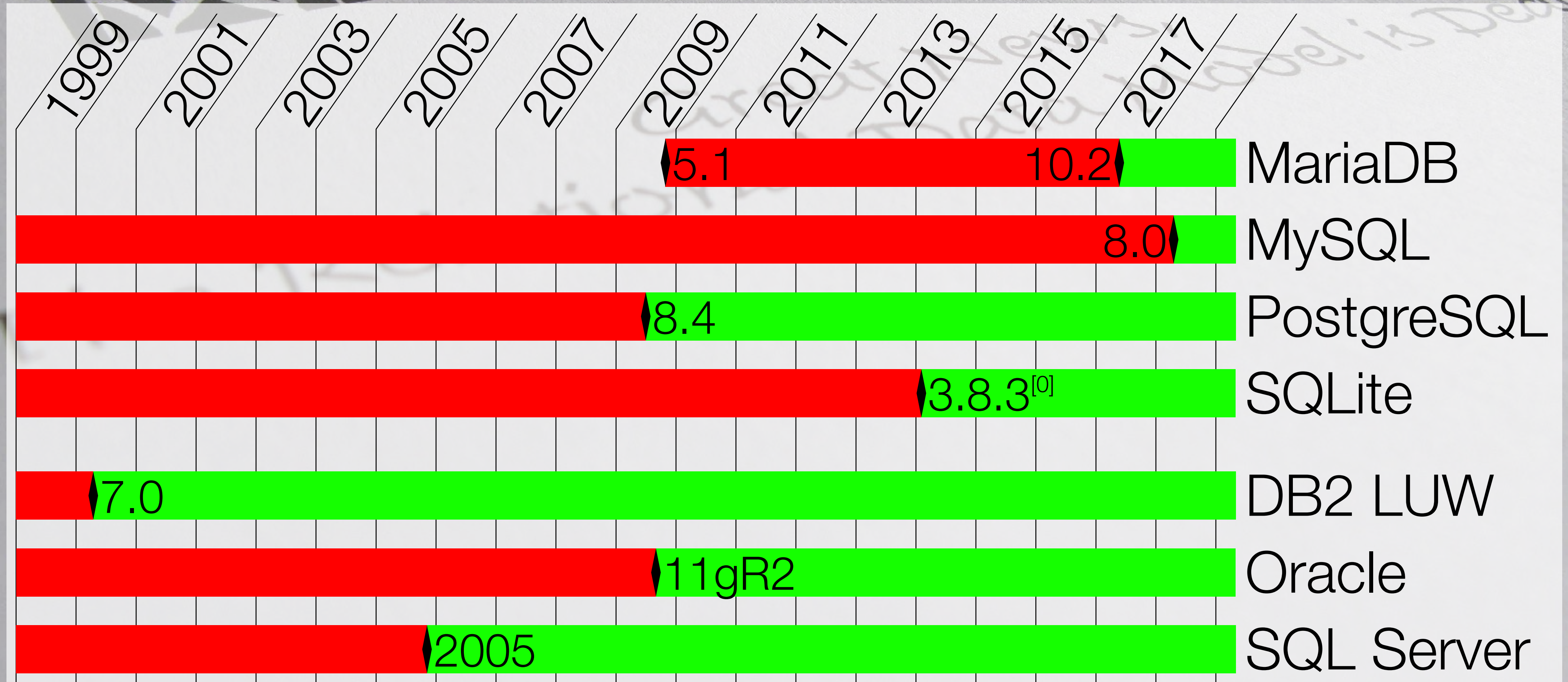


SQL:1999 — Recursion

```
SELECT t.id, t.parent
FROM t
WHERE t.id = ?
```



SQL:1999 — Recursion

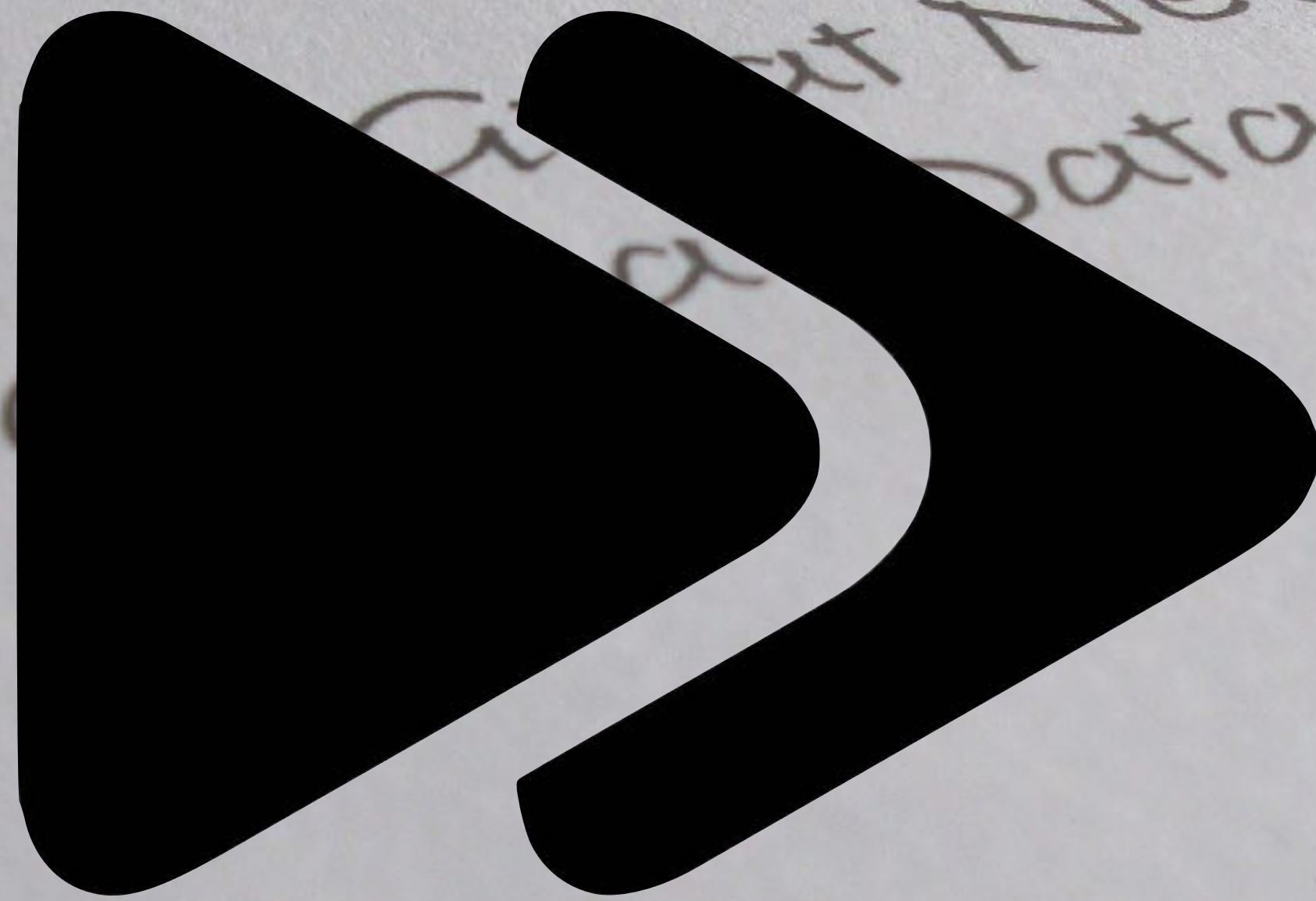


^[0]Only for top-level SELECT statements



Whitemarsh
Information Systems Corporation

1999



2003

Great News,
Data Model is Dead!

The Rel...

SOL/XML is Making Good Progress

Andrew Eisenberg
IBM, Westford, MA 01886
andrew.eisenberg@us.ibm.com

Jim Vahan
Oracle Corp. - Santa
Jim Vahan

as its source
schemas

the creation of a
applications
time, w

SQL:2003 — Schemaless & Analytical

Schemaless

- ▶ Introduced XML
 - ▶ Non-uniform documents in a single column

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Later:

- ▶ JSON added with SQL:2016
- ▶ Proprietary JSON support:
 - ▶ 2012: PostgreSQL
 - ▶ 2014: Oracle
 - ▶ 2015: MySQL
 - ▶ 2016: SQL Server

SQL:2003 — Schemaless & Analytical

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Analytical

- ▶ Introduced window functions
 - ▶ Accessing other rows of the current result

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Analytical

- ▶ Introduced window functions
 - ▶ Accessing other rows of the current result

Later:

- ▶ Extended in SQL:2011
- ▶ Popular among “New SQLs”
 - ▶ 2013: BigQuery, Hive
 - ▶ 2014: Impala
 - ▶ 2015: Spark SQL
 - ▶ 2016: NuoDB, MemSQL, Cockroach DB, VoltDB

SQL:2003 — Analytical

```
SELECT id, value
```

```
FROM t
```

id	value
1	+10
2	+20
3	-10
4	+50
5	-30
6	-20

SQL:2003 — Analytical

```
SELECT id, value
```

```
FROM t
```

id	value	bal
1	+10	
2	+20	
3	-10	
4	+50	
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SQL:2003 — Analytical

```
SELECT id, value  
       , SUM(value)  
       OVER (  
  
       ) bal  
FROM t
```

id	value	bal
1	+10	+10
2	+20	+30
3	-10	+20
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SQL:2003 — Analytical

```
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       , SUM(value)
```

```
OVER (
```

```
ORDER BY id
```

```
ROWS BETWEEN
```

```
UNBOUNDED PRECEDING
```

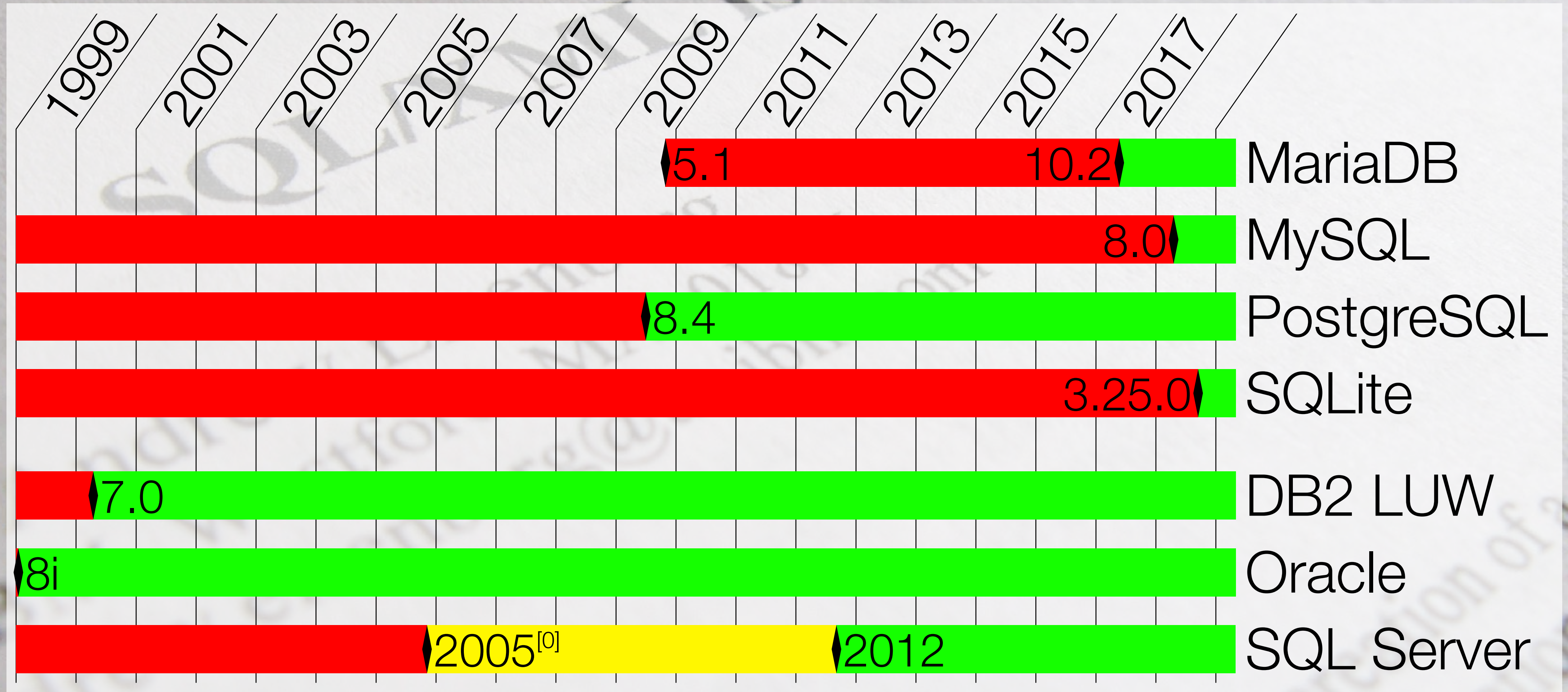
```
AND CURRENT ROW
```

```
) bal
```

```
FROM t
```

id	value	bal
1	+10	+10
2	+20	+30
3	-10	+20
4	+50	+70
5	-30	+40
6	-20	+20

SQL:2003 — Analytical



^[0]No framing

2003



2016

SOLIXMIL is Making Good Progress

Jim Vella
Oracle Corp. - ...
Jim ...

as its sou
sche

Andrew Eis
IBM, Westford
andrew.eisenberg@us.ibm.com

the creation of a
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time, w

SQL:2016 — JSON

Information technology — Database
languages — SQL Technical Reports —
Part 6:
SQL support for JavaScript Object
Notation (JSON)

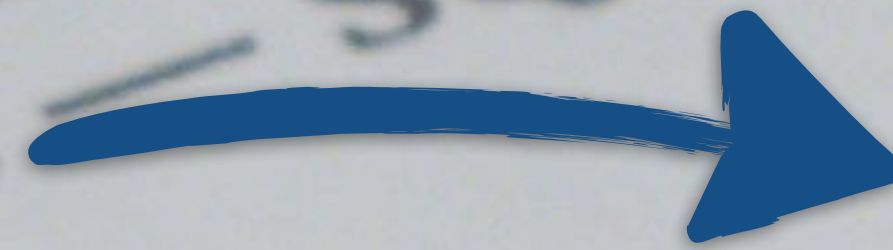
Technologies de l'information — Langages de base de données
techniques —
Part 6: SQL pour JavaScript Object Notation

SQL:2016 — JSON

```
[  
  {  
    "id": 42,  
    "a1": "foo"  
  },  
  {  
    "id": 43,  
    "a1": "bar"  
  }  
]
```


SQL:2016 — JSON

```
[  
  {  
    "id": 42,  
    "a1": "foo"  
  },  
  {  
    "id": 43,  
    "a1": "bar"  
  }  
]
```



id	a1
42	foo
43	bar

SQL:2016 — JSON_TABLE

```
SELECT *
FROM JSON_TABLE
( ?
, '$[*]'
COLUMNS
( id INT          PATH '$.id'
, a1 VARCHAR(...) PATH '$.a1'
)
) r
```

```
[
  {
    "id": 42,
    "a1": "foo"
  },
  {
    "id": 43,
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  }
]
```

id	a1
42	foo
43	bar

SQL:2016 — JSON_TABLE

```
SELECT *  
FROM JSON_TABLE  
  ( ?  
  '[$[*]'  
  COLUMNS  
  ( id INT          PATH '$.id'  
    , a1 VARCHAR(...) PATH '$.a1'  
  )  
 ) r
```

*Bind
Parameter*

```
[  
  {  
    "id": 42,  
    "a1": "foo"  
  },  
  {  
    "id": 43,  
    "a1": "bar"  
  }  
]
```

id	a1
42	foo
43	bar

SQL:2016 — JSON_TABLE

```
SELECT *  
FROM JSON_TABLE
```

(?

*Bind
Parameter*

'\$[*]'

COLUMNS

(id INT

, a1 VARCHAR(...) PATH '\$.a1'

)

) r

SQL/JSON Path

- ▶ Query language to select elements from a JSON document
- ▶ Defined in the SQL standard

```
[  
  {  
    "id": 42,  
    "a1": "foo"  
  },  
  {  
    "id": 43,  
    "a1": "bar"  
  }  
]
```

id	a1
42	foo
43	bar

SQL:2016 — JSON_TABLE

```
SELECT *  
FROM JSON_TABLE
```

(?

*Bind
Parameter*

'\$[*]'

COLUMNS

(id INT

, a1 VARCHAR(...) PATH '\$.a1'

)

) r

SQL/JSON Path

- ▶ Query language to select elements from a JSON document
- ▶ Defined in the SQL standard

```
[  
  {  
    "id": 42,  
    "a1": "foo"  
  },  
  {  
    "id": 43,  
    "a1": "bar"  
  }  
]
```

id	a1
42	foo
43	bar

SQL:2016 — JSON_TABLE

```
SELECT *  
FROM JSON_TABLE  
(  
  ?  
  '$[*]'  
  COLUMNS  
  ( id INT  
    , a1 VARCHAR(...)  
  )  
) r
```

*Bind
Parameter*

SQL/JSON Path

- ▶ Query language to select elements from a JSON document
- ▶ Defined in the SQL standard

PATH '\$.id'

PATH '\$.a1'

```
[  
  {  
    "id": 42,  
    "a1": "foo"  
  },  
  {  
    "id": 43,  
    "a1": "bar"  
  }  
]
```

id	a1
42	foo
43	bar

SQL:2016 — JSON_TABLE — Use Case

```
SELECT *
FROM JSON_TABLE
( ?
, '$[*]'
COLUMNS
( id INT          PATH '$.id'
, a1 VARCHAR(...) PATH '$.a1'
)
) r
```

```
[
  {
    "id": 42,
    "a1": "foo"
  },
  {
    "id": 43,
    "a1": "bar"
  }
]
```

id	a1
42	foo
43	bar

SQL:2016 — JSON_TABLE — Use Case

```
INSERT INTO target_table  
SELECT *  
FROM JSON_TABLE  
( ?  
  , '$[*]'  
  COLUMNS  
    ( id INT PATH '$.id'  
      , a1 VARCHAR(...) PATH '$.a1'  
    )  
) r
```

```
[  
  {  
    "id": 42,  
    "a1": "foo"  
  },  
  {  
    "id": 43,  
    "a1": "bar"  
  }  
]
```

id	a1
42	foo
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SQL:2016 — JSON_TABLE — Use Case

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INSERT INTO target_table  
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, '$[*]'  
COLUMNS  
( id INT PATH '$.id'  
, a1 VARCHAR(...) PATH '$.a1'  
)  
) r
```

Session tip:

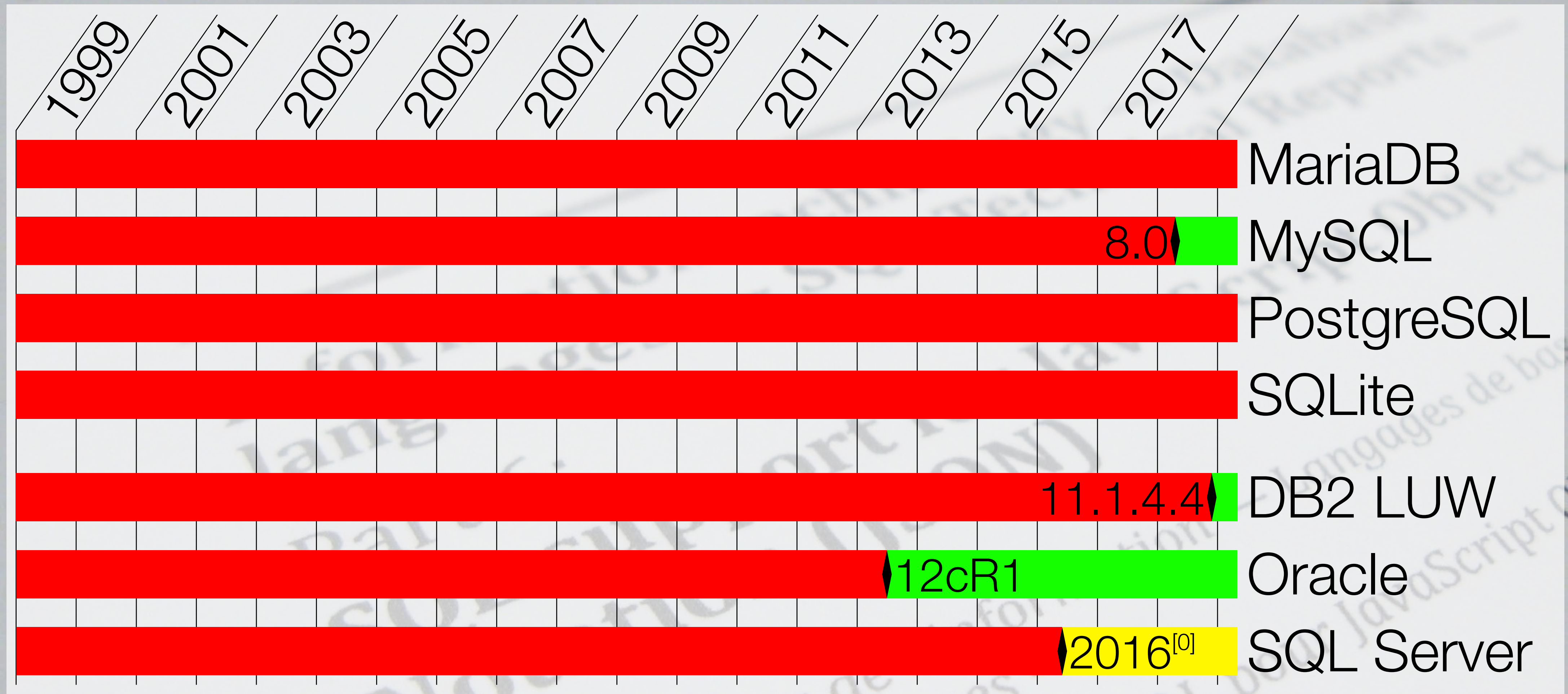
*How Well Do Relational Database
Engines Support JSON?*

Today 15:30!

```
},  
{  
  "id": 43,  
  "a1": "bar"  
}  
]
```

id	a1
42	foo
43	bar

SQL:2016 — JSON_TABLE



^[0]OPENJSON provides similar functionality

TECHNICAL
REPORT

— Database
Technical Reports —

2011



2016

Informa
language

Part 6:
SQL support
Notation (ISO/IEC)

JavaScript Object

Langages de base de don

Technologies de l'information —
Techniques —
SQL pour JavaScript Object No

SQL:2011 — Time Travelling

Temporal Features in SQL:2011
Krishna Kulkarni, Jan-Erik Michels (IBM Corporation)
(krishnak, jmicke)@us.ibm.com

ABSTRACT

SQL:2011 was published in December of 2011. This paper covers the most important features and manipulations temporal tables.

implement temporal support as part of the application logic, which often resulted in expensive development cycles and complex, hard-to-maintain code. In 1995, the ISO SQL committee initiated a new part of SQL standards language extensions for the TSQ2 (8) time...

SQL:2011 — Time Travelling

Application Versioning

- ▶ Dedicated syntax added
 - ▶ When did something happen in the real world?

SQL:2011 — Time Travelling

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New syntax (excerpt)

- ▶ FOR PORTION OF in UPDATE and DELETE
- ▶ WITHOUT OVERLAPS in UNIQUE constraints & PRIMARY KEYS
- ▶ [IMMEDIATELY] PRECEDES, OVERLAPS in WHERE, HAVING, ...

SQL:2011 — Time Travelling

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System Versioning

- ▶ Fully automatic and (almost) transparent
 - ▶ When did we learn about something

New syntax (excerpt)

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System Versioning

- ▶ Fully automatic and (almost) transparent
 - ▶ When did we learn about something

Transparent changes, new syntax for queries

- ▶ INSERT, UPDATE & DELETE use the system time automatically
- ▶ SELECT can use FOR SYSTEM_TIME AS OF

SQL:2011 — System Versioning

Temporal Features in SQL:2011
Krishna Kulkarni, Janet Kerschbich (IBM Corporation)
(krishnak, janetk@ibm.com)

ABSTRACT

SQL:2011 was published in December of 2011, replacing SQL:2008 as the most recent revision of the SQL standard. This paper covers the most important new feature that is part of SQL:2011: the ability to create and manipulate temporal tables.

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SQL:2011 — System Versioning

```
CREATE TABLE t (  
    ...  
    , from TIMESTAMP(9) GENERATED ALWAYS  
AS ROW START  
    , till TIMESTAMP(9) GENERATED ALWAYS  
AS ROW END  
  
    , PERIOD FOR SYSTEM_TIME (from, till)  
) WITH SYSTEM VERSIONING
```


SQL:2011 — System Versioning

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SQL:2011 — System Versioning

```
INSERT INTO t (id, data)
VALUES (1, 'X')
```

id	data	from	till
1	X	10:00	

SQL:2011 — System Versioning

```
INSERT INTO t (id, data)
VALUES (1, 'X')
```

id	data	from	till
1	X	10:00	

```
UPDATE t
SET data = 'Y'
WHERE id = 1
```

id	data	from	till
1	X	10:00	11:00
1	Y	11:00	

SQL:2011 — System Versioning

```
INSERT INTO t (id, data)
VALUES (1, 'X')
```

id	data	from	till
1	X	10:00	

```
UPDATE t
SET data = 'Y'
WHERE id = 1
```

id	data	from	till
1	X	10:00	11:00
1	Y	11:00	

```
DELETE FROM t
WHERE id = 1
```

id	data	from	till
1	X	10:00	11:00
1	Y	11:00	12:00

SQL:2011 — System Versioning

id	data	from	till
1	X	10:00	11:00
1	Y	11:00	12:00

SQL:2011 — System Versioning

id	data	from	till
1	X	10:00	11:00
1	Y	11:00	12:00

```
SELECT *  
FROM t
```

id	data	from	till
----	------	------	------

SQL:2011 — System Versioning

id	data	from	till
1	X	10:00	11:00
1	Y	11:00	12:00

```
SELECT *  
FROM t
```

id	data	from	till
----	------	------	------

```
SELECT *  
FROM t  
FOR SYSTEM_TIME AS OF  
TIMESTAMP '...10:30:00'
```

id	data	from	till
1	X	10:00	11:00

SQL:2011 — System Versioning



^[0]Short term using Flashback.
^[1]Flashback Archive. Proprietary syntax.

INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD

ISO/IEC
9075-2

**Information technology — Database
languages — SQL —
Part 2:
Foundation (SQL/Foundation)**

Technologies de l'information — Langages de base de données —
SQL —
Partie 2: Fondations (SQL/Fondations)

A **lot** has
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SQL has evolved
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If you use SQL for
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INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD

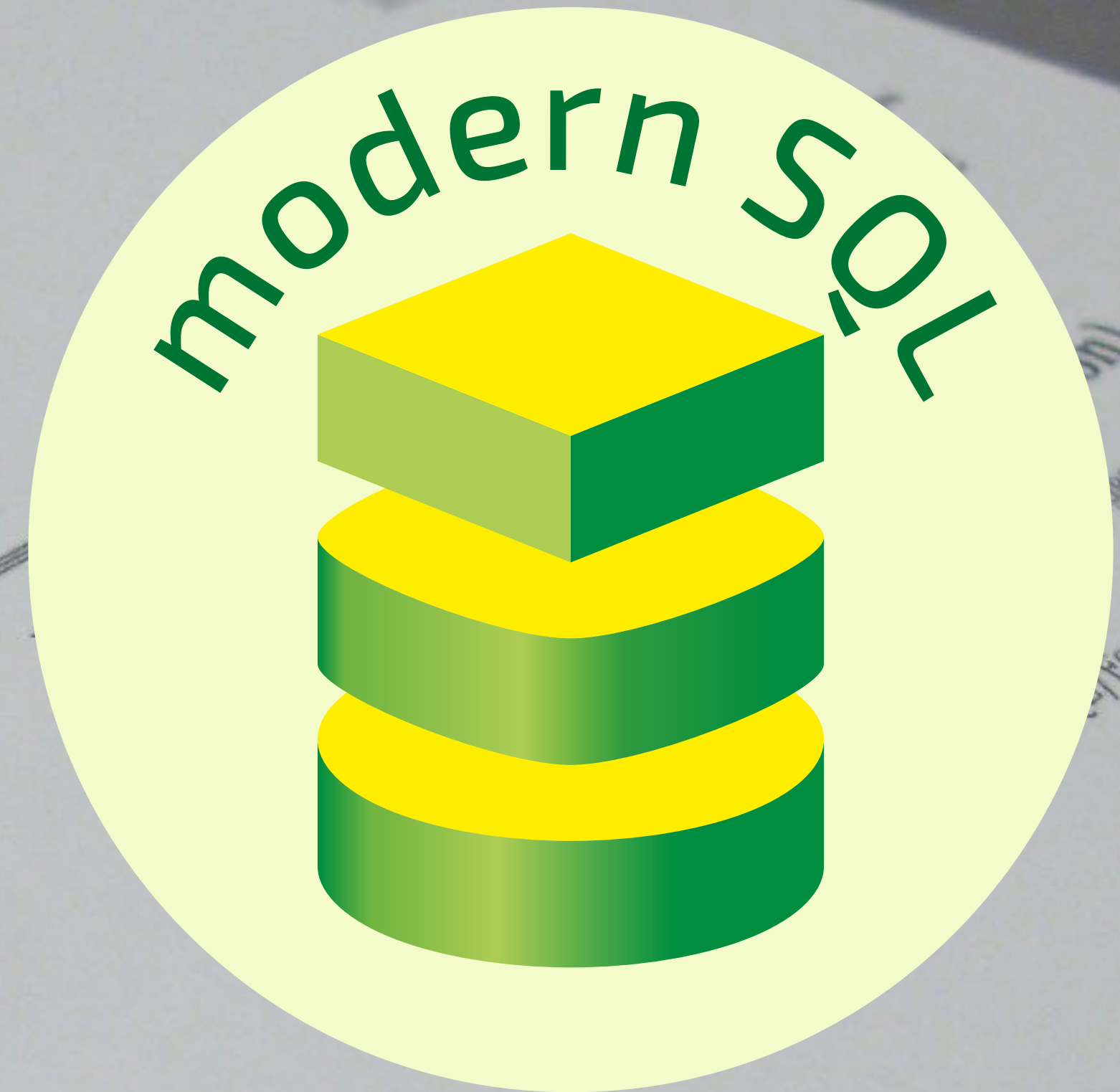
ISO/IEC
9075-2

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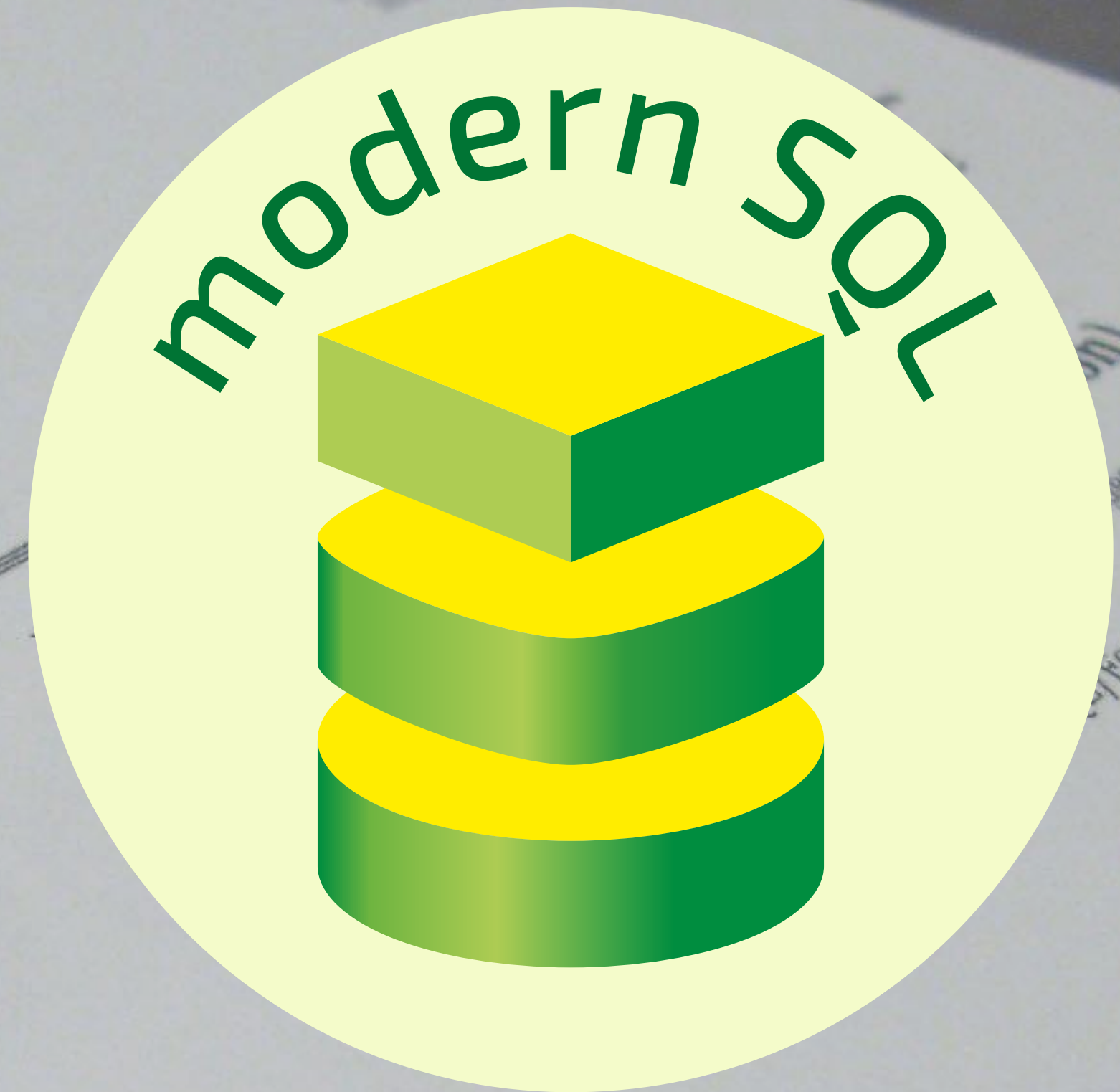
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<https://modern-sql.com>

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