

LABORATORY OF DATA SCIENCE

Data Access: Relational Data Bases

RDBMS data access

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- Protocols and API
 - ODBC, OLE DB, ADO, ADO.NET, JDBC
- Python DBAPI with ODBC protocol

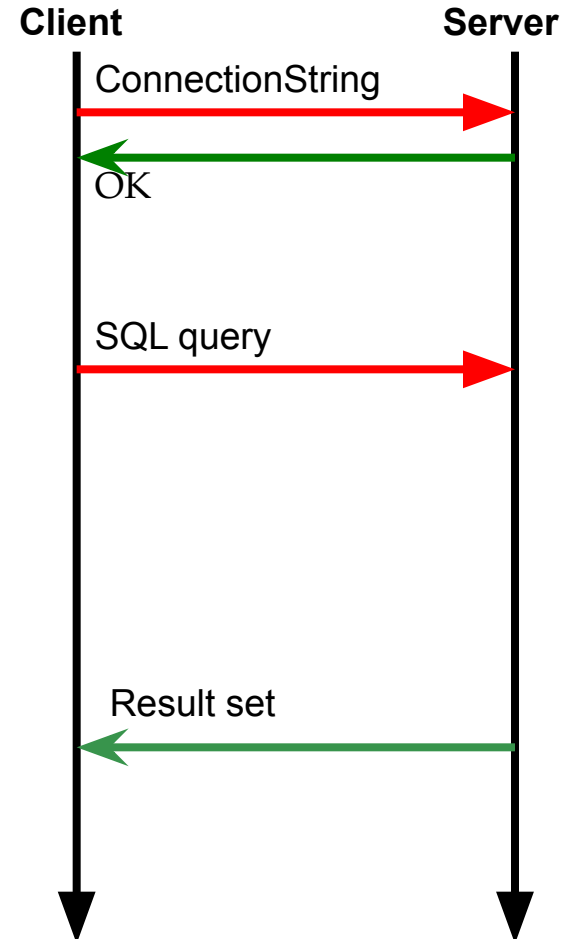
Connecting to a RDBMS

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- **Connection protocol**
 - locate the RDBMS server
 - open a connection
 - user authentication

- **Querying**
 - query SQL
 - SELECT
 - UPDATE/INSERT/CREATE
 - stored procedures
 - prepared query SQL

- **Scan Result set**
 - scan row by row
 - access result meta-data



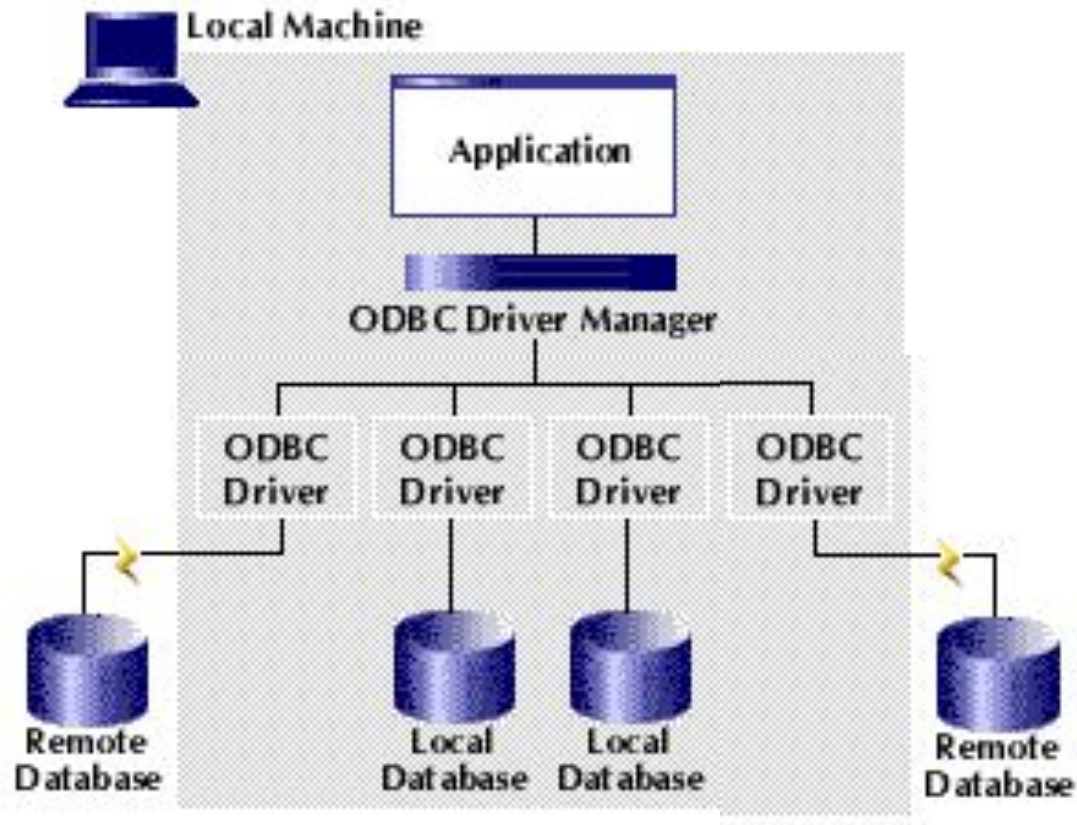
Connection Standards

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- ODBC - Open DataBase Connectivity
 - Windows: [odbc](#) Linux: [unixodbc](#), [iodbc](#)
 - Tabular Data
- JDBC – Java DataBase Connectivity
- [OLE DB](#) (Microsoft) – Object Linking and Embedding
 - Tabular data, XML, multi-dimensional data
- [ADO](#) (Microsoft) – ActiveX Data Objects
 - Object-oriented API on top of OLE DB
- [ADO.NET](#)
 - evolution of ADO in the .NET framework

ODBC Open DataBase Connectivity

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ODBC Demo

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- Registering an ODBC data source
 - pubs on access
 - pubs on SQL Server (driver SQL Server)
- Data access
 - copy Access table to Excel
- Linked tables
 - Linking SQL Server Table from Access

OLE DB Demo

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- Creating .udl data links
- Data access
 - accessing Access data from Excel
- Linked tables
 - accessing Excel data from Access
- OLE DB Drivers
 - By Microsoft

RDBMS data access

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- **Python DBAPI** is a standard specification for modules that interfaces with databases
- Most of Python database interfaces adhere to this standard
- **Functions:**
 - Connecting to a database
 - Submitting SQL queries
 - Scanning the results of queries
 - Accessing meta-data on tables

Support of Different RDBMS

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- **Portable across several relational and non-relational databases:**
 - Microsoft SQL Server
 - Oracle
 - MySQL
 - IBM DB2
 - PostgreSQL
 - Firebird (and Interbase)
 - Cassandra
 - MongoDB
 -

Different Modules for a DB

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Given a database we have various module options. For example, MySQL has the following interface modules:

- ❑ MySQL for Python (import MySQLdb)
- ❑ PyMySQL (import pymysql)
- ❑ pyODBC (import pyodbc)
- ❑ MySQL Connector/Python (import mysql.connector)
- ❑ mypysql (import mypysql)
- ❑ etc ...

DBAPI Specification

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- Most of database modules conform to the specification
- no matter which kind of database and/or module you choose, the code will likely look very similar
- See details here:
<https://www.python.org/dev/peps/pep-0249/>

DBAPI Specification

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- Each module interface is required to have the following functions
- `connect (args)` : a constructor for **Connection objects**, that makes the access available. **Arguments** are **database-dependent**
- `conn.close ()` – close connection
- `conn.commit ()` – commit pending transaction
-

DBAPI Specification

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- `conn.cursor()` – return a Cursor object for the connection. Cursors are used fetch operations
- `c.execute(op, [params])` –prepare and execute an operation with parameters where the second argument may be a list of parameter sequences
- `c.fetch[one|many|all]([s])` – fetch next row, next *s* rows, or all remaining rows of result set
- `c.close()` – close cursor.
- and others.

Programming pattern

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1. Import the DB module
2. Connect to the RDBMS
3. Submit a SQL query
4. Process query results
5. Close the connection

DB Module: Pyodbc

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- Pyodbc is an **open source** Python module ODBC and implementing the DBAPI 2.0 specification.
- Enables an easily connection of Python applications to data sources with an ODBC driver
- Python program along with the pyodbc module will use an **ODBC driver manager** and **ODBC driver**
- The ODBC driver manager is **platform-specific**
- The ODBC driver is **database-specific**
- The ODBC driver manager and driver will connect, typically over a network, to the database server.

Connect to the RDBMS

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- Access the database via the **connection object**
- Use connect constructor to create a **connection** with database

```
conn = pyodbc.connect(parameters...)
```

- Create cursor via the connection

```
cur = conn.cursor()
```

- Connect function requires the “connection string”
- The connection string depends on the driver

Connection String

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□ The connection strings:

```
DRIVER=Driver name;  SERVER=hostname;  
DATABASE=DBname;    UID=user;  
PWD=password
```

□ In Python:

```
conn = pyodbc.connect(  
    'DRIVER={ODBC Driver 17 for SQL Server};  
SERVER=tcp:apa.di.unipi.it;  
DATABASE=Foodmart;  
UID=lbi;  
PWD=pisa')
```

ODBC DRIVER

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- Microsoft have written and distributed multiple ODBC drivers for **SQL Server**:
 - {SQL Server} - released with SQL Server 2000
 - {SQL Native Client} - released with SQL Server 2005 (also known as version 9.0)
 - {SQL Server Native Client 10.0} - released with SQL Server 2008
 -

ODBC DRIVER

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- {SQL Server Native Client 11.0} - released with SQL Server 2012
- {ODBC Driver 11 for SQL Server} - supports SQL Server 2005 through 2014
- {ODBC Driver 13 for SQL Server} - supports SQL Server 2005 through 2016
- {ODBC Driver 13.1 for SQL Server} - supports SQL Server 2008 through 2016
- {ODBC Driver 17 for SQL Server} - supports SQL Server 2008 through 2017

Submit a SQL query

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Select String:

```
query = "SELECT name, age FROM students"
```

Submit the SQL query and get the result

```
cursor.execute(query)
```

UPDATE String:

```
update = "UPDATE students SET age = age + 1";
```

```
cursor.execute(update )
```

```
Conn.commit()
```

Scan query results

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FETCHALL:

```
cursor.execute("SELECT TOP 10 education, gender FROM  
customer")  
rows = cursor.fetchall() // all rows in memory!!!  
for row in rows:  
    print (row[0], row[1]) //access by index  
    print(row.gender, row.education) //access by name
```

CURSOR AS ITERATOR:

```
cursor.execute("SELECT TOP 10 education, gender FROM  
customer;"):  
for row in cursor:  
    print(row.gender, row.education)
```

Update and Delete

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- Updating and deleting work passing the SQL to **execute**

```
deleted = cursor.execute("delete from products where  
id <> 0001").rowcount  
conn.commit()
```

`deleted` represents the number of affected rows

Close the connection

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...

```
// close the cursor
```

```
    cursor.close();
```

```
// close connection to the database
```

```
    conn.close();
```

...

Prepared commands with parameters

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- **Problem:** read N rows from a CSV file, and insert each one into a database table

- N SQL queries?

```
INSERT INTO names (id, name) VALUES (1, 'Luigi Rossi')
INSERT INTO names (id, name) VALUES (2, 'Mario Bianchi')
...
```

- **Inefficiency:** an execution plan has to be computed for every query, yet all of them share a common structure

- Use ? as a placeholder for parameters

```
INSERT INTO names (id, name) VALUES (?, ?)
```


Prepared commands with parameters

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```
.....  
conn = ..... //connection  
cursor = conn.cursor()  
lines = fileIn.readlines()  
sql = "INSERT INTO name_table(id,name)  
      VALUES (?, ?) "  
i=0  
for var in lines:  
    rows = cursor.execute(sql, (i, var))  
    i+=1  
conn.commit()
```

Prepared commands with parameters

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```
conn = ..... //connection
cursor = conn.cursor()
list = ['USA', 'Canada']
query = `SELECT education, country FROM
        customer WHERE country=?`
for el in list:
    rows =
    cursor.execute(query,el).fetchall()
    print ('Start ', el)
    for row in rows:
        print(row)
        print('\n')
```

DATA TYPE MAPPING

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How Python objects passed to `cursor.execute()` as parameters are formatted and passed to the driver/database.

Python Datatype	Description	ODBC Datatype
None	varies	varies (1)
str	UTF-16LE (2)	SQL_VARCHAR or SQL_LONGVARCHAR (2)(3)
bytes, bytearray	binary	SQL_VARBINARY or SQL_LONGVARBINARY (3)
bool	bit	BIT
datetime.date	date	SQL_TYPE_DATE
datetime.time	time	SQL_TYPE_TIME
datetime.datetime	timestamp	SQL_TIMESTAMP
int	integer	SQL_BIGINT
float	floating point	SQL_DOUBLE
decimal	numeric	SQL_NUMERIC
UUID.uuid	UUID / GUID	SQL_GUID

DATA TYPE MAPPING

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How database results are converted to Python objects

Description	ODBC Datatype	Python Datatype
NULL	any	None
1-byte text	SQL_CHAR	str via UTF-8 (1)
2-byte text	SQL_WCHAR	str via UTF-16LE (1)
UUID / GUID	SQL_GUID	str or UUID.uuid (2)
XML	SQL_XML	str via UTF-16LE (1)
binary	SQL_BINARY, SQL_VARBINARY	bytes
decimal, numeric	SQL_DECIMAL	decimal.Decimal
bit	SQL_BIT	bool
integers	SQL_TINYINT, SQL_SMALLINT, SQL_INTEGER, SQL_BIGINT	int
floating point	SQL_REAL, SQL_FLOAT, SQL_DOUBLE	float
time	SQL_TYPE_TIME	datetime.time
SQL Server time	SS_TIME2	datetime.time
date	SQL_TYPE_DATE	datetime.date
timestamp	SQL_TIMESTAMP	datetime.datetime

Meta-data on ResultSet

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Meta-data: column names and types of a resultset

```
for attributes in cursor.description:  
    print("Name: %s, Type: %s " %  
          (attributes[0], attributes[1]))
```

Meta-data on DB Tables

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- `tables (table=None, catalog=None, schema=None, tableType=None)`
- Returns an iterator for generating information about the tables in the database.
- Each row has the columns:
 - `Table_cat`: catalog name
 - `Table-schem`: schema name
 - `Table_name`: table name
 - `table_type`: TABLE, VIEW, SYSTEM TABLE, GLOBAL TEMPORARY, LOCAL TEMPORARY, ALIAS, SYNONYM
 - A description of the table

Meta-data on DB Tables

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```
cnxn = ...  
cursor = cnxn.cursor()  
for table in cursor.tables():  
    print(table)
```

Or

```
for table in cursor.tables(table='sys%'):  
    print(table)
```

Tables starting with «sys»



Columns meta-data

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```
columns (table=None, catalog=None, schema=None, column=None)
```

- Creates a result set of column information on a table
- Each row has the following columns:
 - table_cat
 - table_schem
 - table_name
 - column_name
 - data_type
 - type_name
 - column_size
 - buffer_length
 - decimal_digits
 - num_prec_radix
 - nullable
 - remarks
 - column_def
 - sql_data_type
 - sql_datetime_sub
 - char_octet_length
 - ordinal_position
 - is_nullable: One of SQL_NULLABLE, SQL_NO_NULLS, SQL_NULLS_UNKNOWN.

Exercise: Stratified subsampling

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- DATABASE NAME = Ibi
- Let T be a database table (e.g., census), and A a column in T (e.g., sex)
- Develop a Python program that exports on a CSV file a subset of 30% of rows of T:
 - the subset is randomly chosen;
 - but it must preserve the proportion of distinct values of column A
 - e.g., if there are 65% of male students, the subset must contain 65% of males and 35% of females.

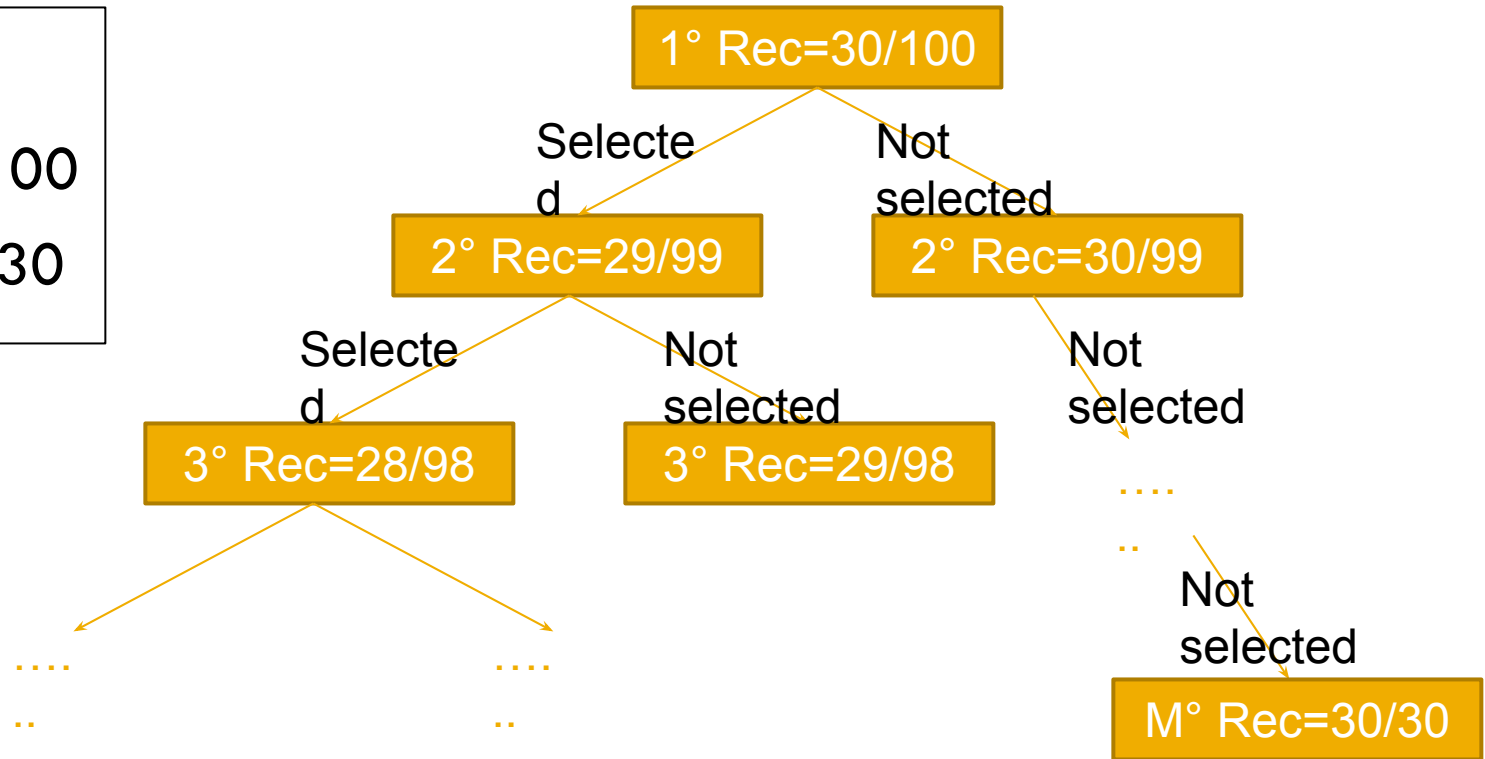
Intuition on the solution!

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Males

Nrows=100

SelRow=30



**All records
selected!!!**

How to generate an element with probability x/y ?

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- Generate a number n in the range $[0 \dots Y]$
- The element is selected if $n < x$ the record is selected
- For random selection of a number in the above range

```
(int) (Math.random() * Y)
```