

Querying Spatial Data

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Outlook: Beyond Relational Data

- Graph data
- Data streams
- Spatial data

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- **Spatial data**

Reading Material

- ISO 19125-2:2004
*Geographic information - Simple feature access -
Part 2: SQL Option*
<https://www.iso.org/standard/40115.html>

Building Geography Values

- **ST_GEOGPOINT(longitude, latitude)**
Builds new point with given coordinates
- **ST_MAKELINE(Geo_1, Geo_2)**
Connect two geography values by line

Calculating Boundaries

- ST_BOUNDARY(geography expression)
 - Returns the **union of boundaries** of given objects
 - **Points** have no boundaries
 - The boundary of a **line** are the endpoints
 - **Polygons** are bounded by lines

Calculating Centroids

- ST_CENTROID(geography expression)
- Returns the **weighted average** of component centroids
 - Centroid of **point** coordinates is arithmetic mean
 - Centroid of **line** segment is the middle point
 - Centroid of a **polygon** is its center of mass

Access to Specific Properties

- **ST_X(geography expression)**
Returns the longitude
- **ST_Y(geography expression)**
Returns the latitude
- **ST_DIMENSION(geography expression)**
Returns dimension (of highest-dimensional element)

Predicates Expressions

- **ST_CONTAINS(geo_1, geo_2)**
TRUE if geo_1 contains geo_2
- **ST_DWITHIN(geo_1, geo_2, distance)**
TRUE if distance of at least one point from geo_1 and one point from geo_2 is below the distance (in meters)

Calculating Measurements

- **ST_AREA(geography expression)**
Calculates the covered area in square meters
- **ST_MAXDISTANCE(geo_1, geo_2)**
Longest distance between any two points in meters

(Demo)

Spatial Data Summary

- Various applications require **spatial data**
- Standard **data structures** are a bad match
 - Saw specialized data structures like **R trees**
- SQL query languages requires **extensions**
 - Saw extensions supported by **BigQuery Geo Viz**