

Exists clause

Let's use the example from the nested correlation:

```
mysql> Select * from Class;
```

```
+-----+-----+
| ClassID | TimeOffered |
+-----+-----+
| CS314   | 11-12:15    |
| CS575   | NULL        |
| CT320   | 11-12:15    |
+-----+-----+
3 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

```
mysql> Select * from Enrolled;
```

```
+-----+-----+-----+
| SID | ClassID | Grade |
+-----+-----+-----+
| 1   | CS314   | NULL  |
| 1   | CS575   | NULL  |
| 2   | CS575   | NULL  |
| 3   | CT320   | NULL  |
+-----+-----+-----+
4 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

```
mysql> Select * from Students;
```

```
+-----+-----+-----+
| SID | SName          | NumCredits |
+-----+-----+-----+
| 1   | Elmer Fudd     | 48         |
| 2   | Roger Ramjet   | 20         |
| 3   | Alice Wonderland | 72         |
+-----+-----+-----+
3 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

```
mysql> SELECT S.Sname
```

```
-> FROM Students S
-> WHERE S.SID IN
-> (SELECT E.SID
-> FROM Enrolled E, Class C
-> WHERE E.ClassID = C.ClassID
-> AND C.TimeOffered = '11-12:15'
-> AND E.SID = S.SID);
```

```
+-----+
| Sname          |
+-----+
| Elmer Fudd     |
| Alice Wonderland |
+-----+
2 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

In this example, we are using an inner and outer query to find all the people taking classes at 11-12:15. We can do the same with the where exists:

```
mysql> SELECT S.Sname
-> FROM Students S
-> WHERE EXISTS
-> (SELECT *
-> FROM Enrolled E, Class C
-> WHERE E.ClassID = C.ClassID
-> AND C.TimeOffered = '11-12:15'
-> AND E.SID = S.SID);
+-----+
| Sname          |
+-----+
| Elmer Fudd     |
| Alice Wonderland |
+-----+
```

In this case, if the subquery returns any rows, EXISTS is set to true, otherwise false. NOT EXISTS is a valid query as well.

```
mysql> SELECT S.Sname
-> FROM Students S
-> WHERE NOT EXISTS
-> (SELECT *
-> FROM Enrolled E, Class C
-> WHERE E.ClassID = C.ClassID
-> AND C.TimeOffered = '11-12:15'
-> AND E.SID = S.SID);
+-----+
| Sname          |
+-----+
| Roger Ramjet   |
+-----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)
```

In the above query, every time the inner query returns a false (i.e. when the student has no classes at 11-12:15), a true is returned to the outer query and the name is printed. How about if the student has multiple entries?

```
mysql> insert into Class values ("CS430", "12:30-1:45");
Query OK, 1 row affected (0.00 sec)
```

```
mysql> insert into Enrolled values (2, "CS430", NULL);
Query OK, 1 row affected (0.00 sec)
```

```
mysql> SELECT S.Sname
-> FROM Students S
-> WHERE NOT EXISTS
-> (SELECT *
-> FROM Enrolled E, Class C
-> WHERE E.ClassID = C.ClassID
-> AND C.TimeOffered = '11-12:15'
-> AND E.SID = S.SID);
```

```
+-----+
| Sname  |
+-----+
| Roger Ramjet |
+-----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)
```

No difference. Why is that?

Because the check on the inner loop can only return a TRUE or FALSE for each row it is checking.