

*CSIT115 Data Management and Security*  
*CSIT882 Data Management Systems*

# **SELECT statement (5)**

Subject Coordinators: Dr Chen Chen, Dr Thanh Le

School of Computing and Information Technology -  
University of Wollongong

# SELECT statement (5)

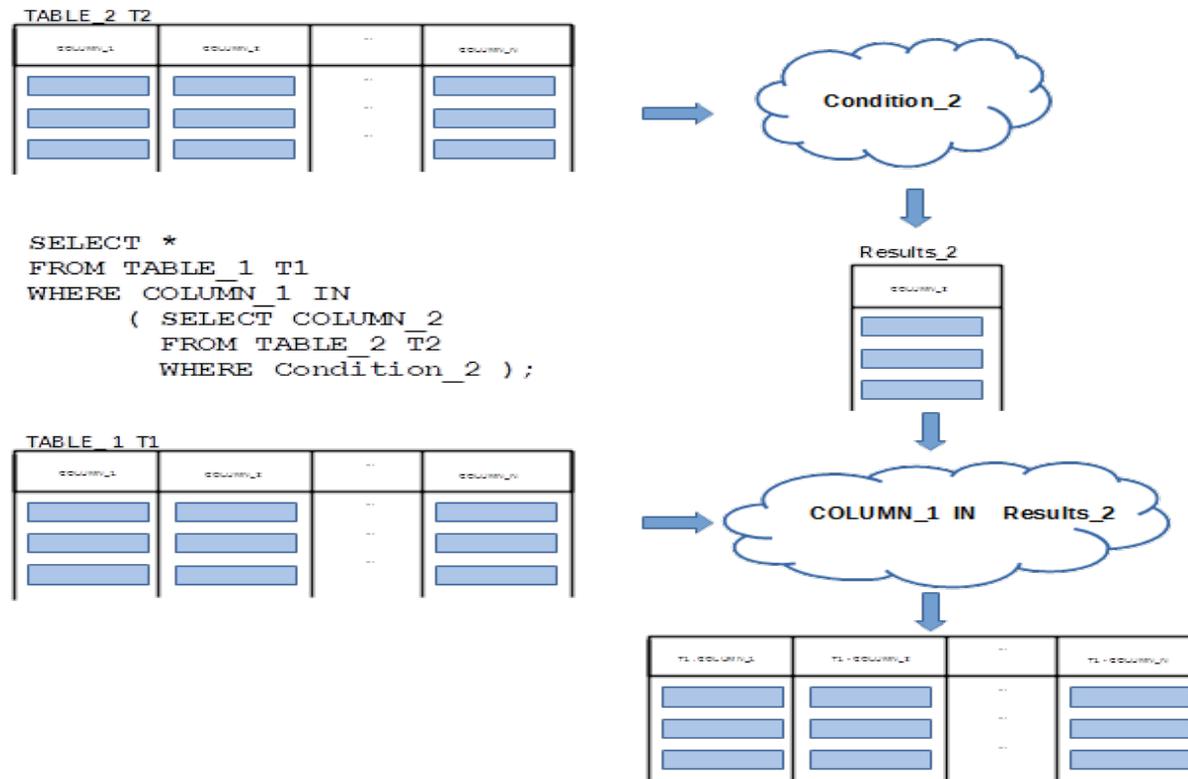
## Outline

Nested queries

Correlated nested queries

# Nested queries

**Nested query** is a query with another query embedded in **WHERE** or **SELECT** or **FROM** clauses



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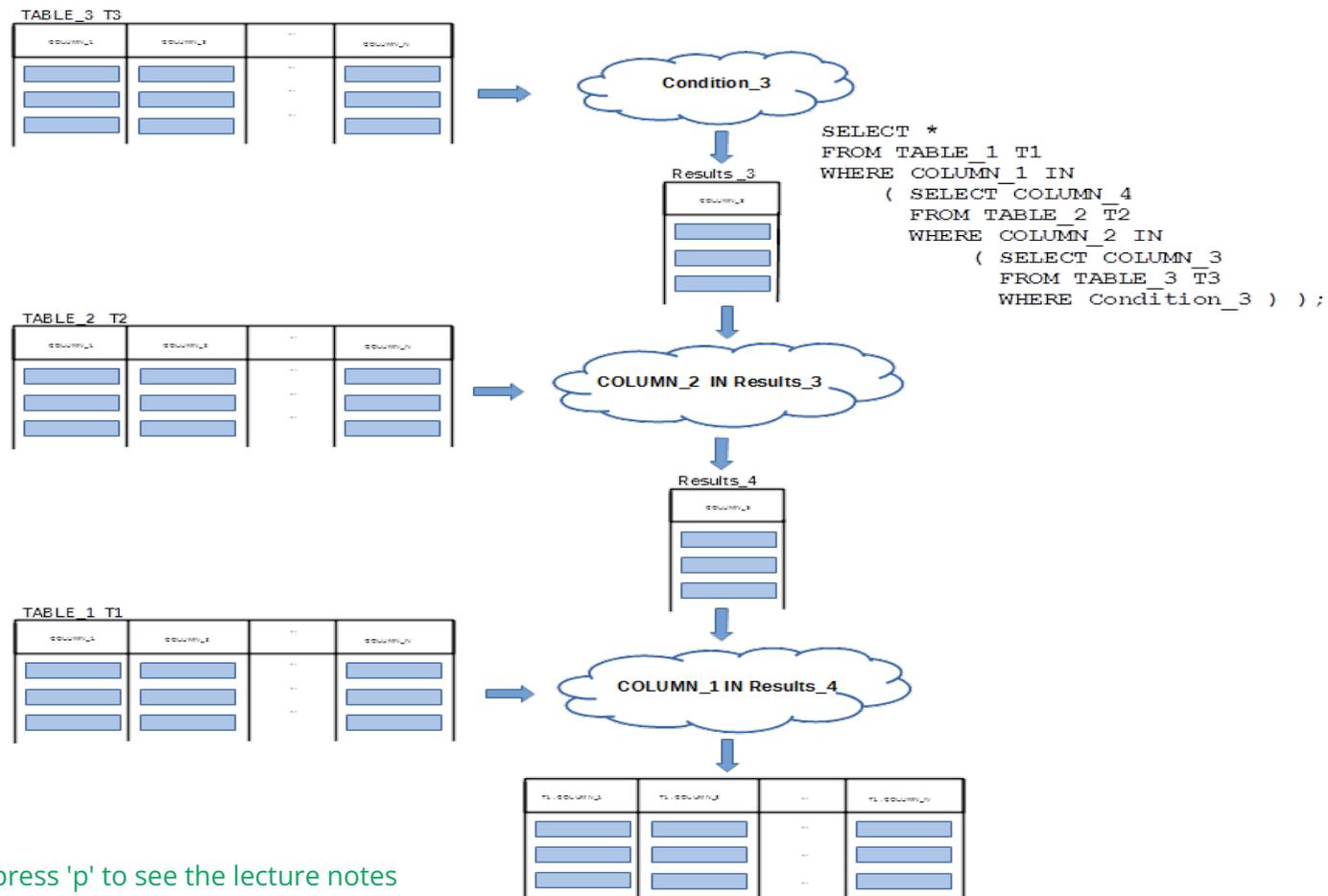
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# Nested queries

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# Nested queries

## Sample database

```
CREATE TABLE DEPARTMENT(  
  name          VARCHAR(50)      NOT NULL,  
  code          CHAR(5)          NOT NULL,  
  total_staff_number DECIMAL(2)  NOT NULL,  
  chair         VARCHAR(50)      NULL,  
  budget       DECIMAL(9,1)     NOT NULL,  
  CONSTRAINT dept_pkey PRIMARY KEY(name),  
  CONSTRAINT dept_cke1 UNIQUE(code),  
  CONSTRAINT dept_cke2 UNIQUE(chair),  
  CONSTRAINT dept_cke3 CHECK (total_staff_number BETWEEN 1 AND 50) );
```

CREATE TABLE statement

```
CREATE TABLE COURSE(  
  cnum          CHAR(7)          NOT NULL,  
  title         VARCHAR(200)     NOT NULL,  
  credits       DECIMAL(2)       NOT NULL,  
  offered_by   VARCHAR(50)      NULL,  
  CONSTRAINT course_pkey PRIMARY KEY(cnum),  
  CONSTRAINT course_cke1 CHECK (credits IN (6, 12)),  
  CONSTRAINT course_fke1 FOREIGN KEY(offered_by)  
    REFERENCES DEPARTMENT(name) ON DELETE CASCADE );
```

CREATE TABLE statement

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# Nested queries

A class of **nested queries** is based on a concept of **inline views**

**Inline views** can be used to reduce the complexity of query implementation

An **inner query** is created first and its outcomes are used as a relational table (**inline view**) in an **outer query**

For example, a query **find the titles of courses offered by a department chaired by Peter** is decomposed into the following two queries:

- **Q1**: Find a department chaired by Peter
- **Q2**: Find the titles of courses offered by a department found in **Q1**

A query **Q1** is implemented first and then it is used in **WHERE** clause of query **Q2**

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# Nested queries

In **nested queries** **SELECT** statements are nested to theoretically unlimited level in **WHERE** clause

```
SELECT title
FROM COURSE
WHERE offered_by IN ( SELECT name
                      FROM DEPARTMENT
                      WHERE chair = 'Peter' );
```

Nested query with a set membership operation **IN**

If an inner query returns more than one row then we must use **IN** instead of **=**

However, it does not mean that we can always use **IN** instead of **=**

If an inner query returns zero or at most one row then using **=** instead of **IN** allows a query processor to find more efficient query processing plan

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# Nested queries

Implementation of a query **find the titles of courses offered by a department chaired by Peter** consists of the following steps

Create an inner query as **inline view Q**

```
( SELECT name
  FROM DEPARTMENT
 WHERE chair = 'Peter' ) Q
```

Inline view

Create a temporary outer query, that references an **inline view Q** created earlier

```
SELECT title
FROM COURSE
WHERE offered_by IN Q.name
```

Query that references an inline view Q

Replace a reference **Q** to an **inline view** with the **inline view** itself

```
SELECT title
FROM COURSE
WHERE offered_by IN ( SELECT name
                      FROM DEPARTMENT
                      WHERE chair = 'Peter' );
```

Nested query with a set membership operation IN

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# Nested queries

Another example, find the chairs of all departments, that offer 12 credit point courses

Create an inner query as inline view Q

```
( SELECT offered_by  
FROM COURSE  
WHERE credits = 12) Q;
```

Inline view

Next, create an intermediate from of outer query, that references an inline view Q created earlier

```
SELECT chair  
FROM DEPARTMENT  
WHERE name IN Q.offered_by
```

Query that references an inline view Q

Replace a reference to an inline view Q with the inline view itself

```
SELECT chair  
FROM DEPARTMENT  
WHERE name IN ( SELECT offered_by  
FROM COURSE  
WHERE credits = 12 );
```

Nested query with a set membership operation IN

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# Nested queries

A query **find the chairs of all departments that offer no courses** is an example of **ANTIJOIN** operation

It is equivalent to a query **find all rows in a relational table DEPARTMENT that cannot be joined with any row in a relational table COURSE**

An inner query is implemented as an **inline view** finds all departments, that offer at least one course

```
( SELECT offered_by  
FROM COURSE ) Q;
```

Inline view

An outer query **finds all chairs of departments that are NOT included in the results of an inner query**

```
SELECT chair  
FROM DEPARTMENT  
WHERE name NOT IN Q.offered_by
```

Query that references an inline view

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# Nested queries

Finally, we replace a reference to an **inline view q** with the **inline view** itself

Nested query with a negated set membership operation **IN**

```
SELECT chair
FROM DEPARTMENT
WHERE name NOT IN ( SELECT offered_by
                    FROM COURSE );
```

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# SELECT statement (5)

## Outline

Nested queries

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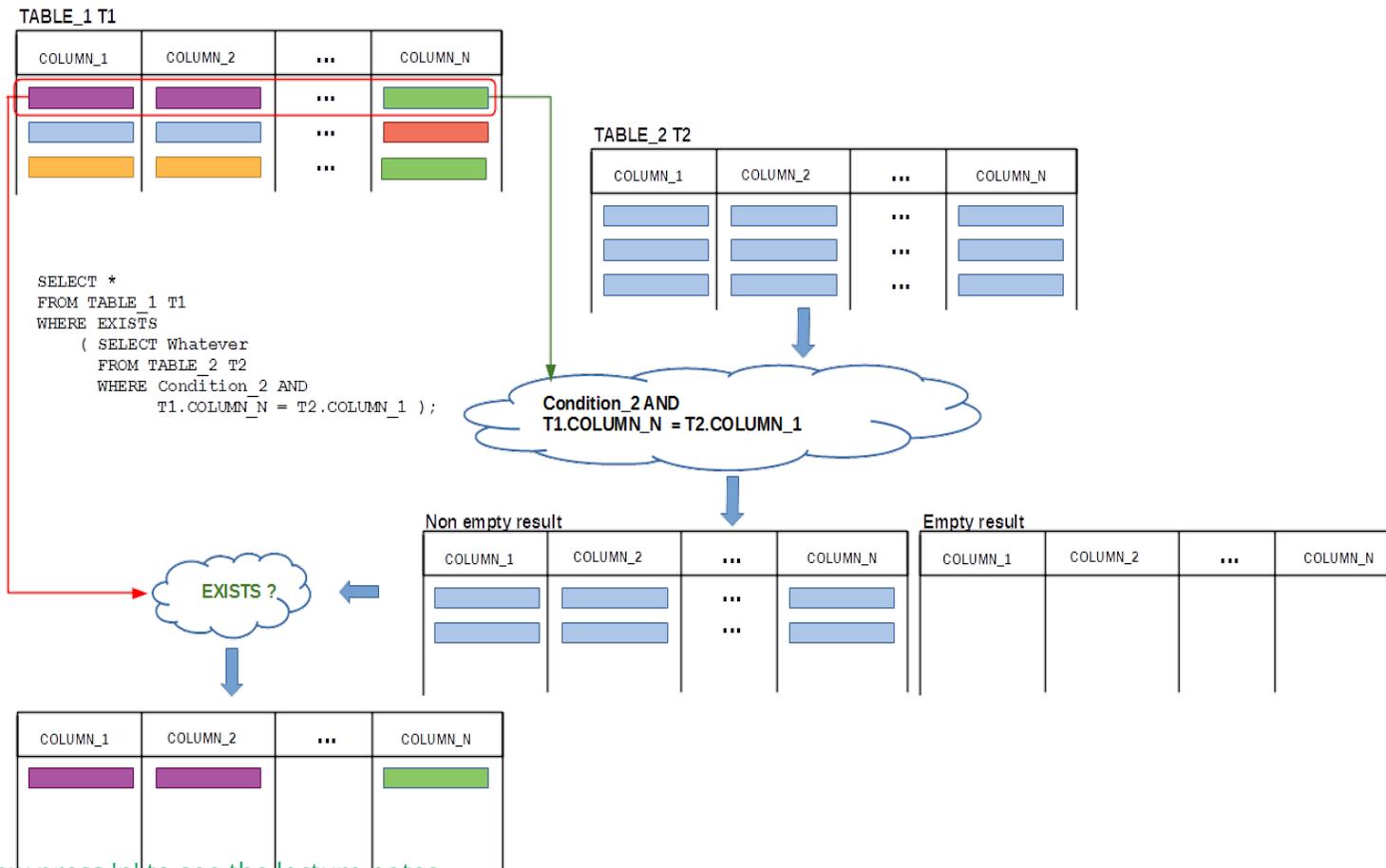
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# Correlated nested queries

In a **correlated nested query** an **inline view** may reference the names of relational tables used in **SELECT** statements outer to the **inline view**



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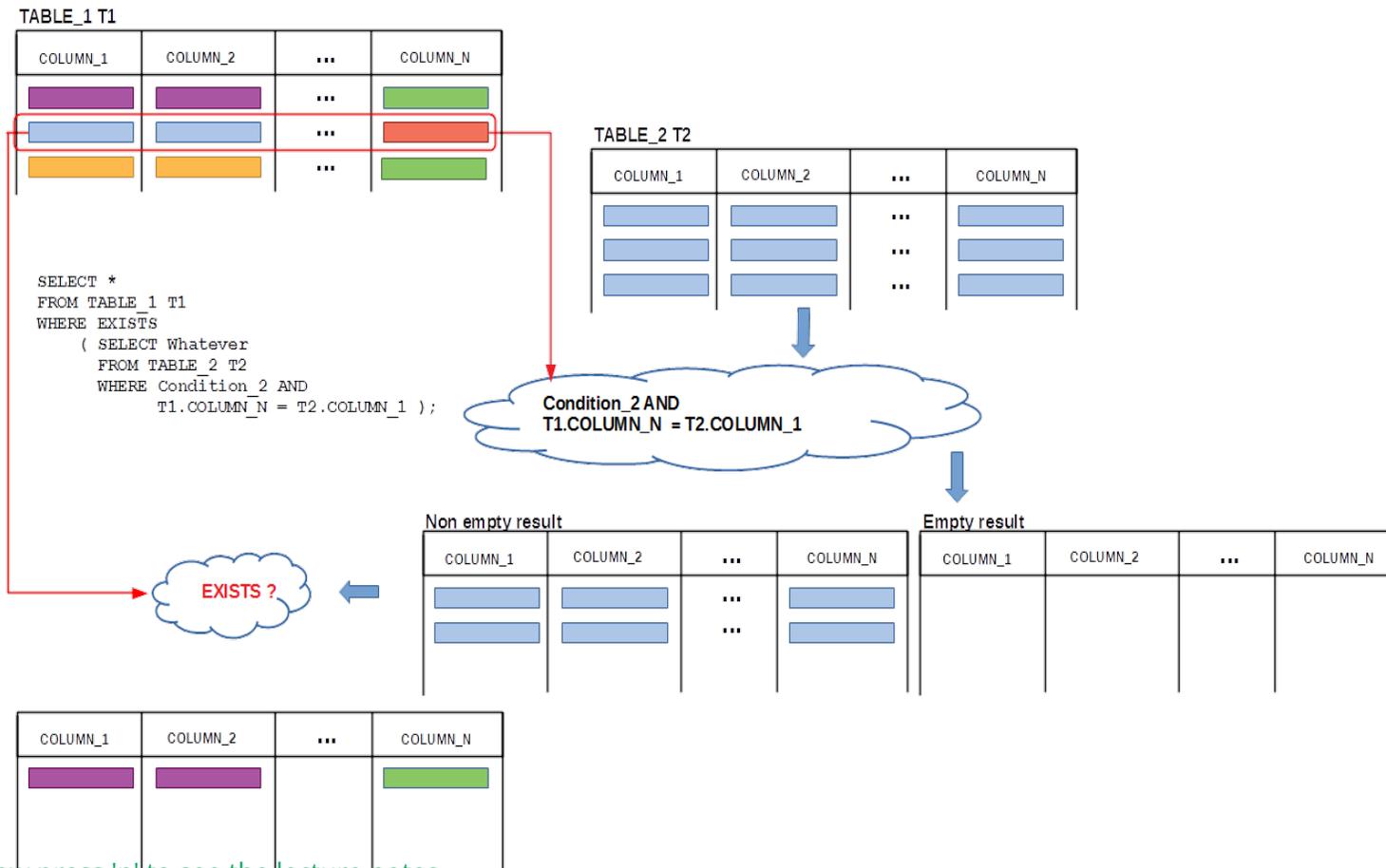
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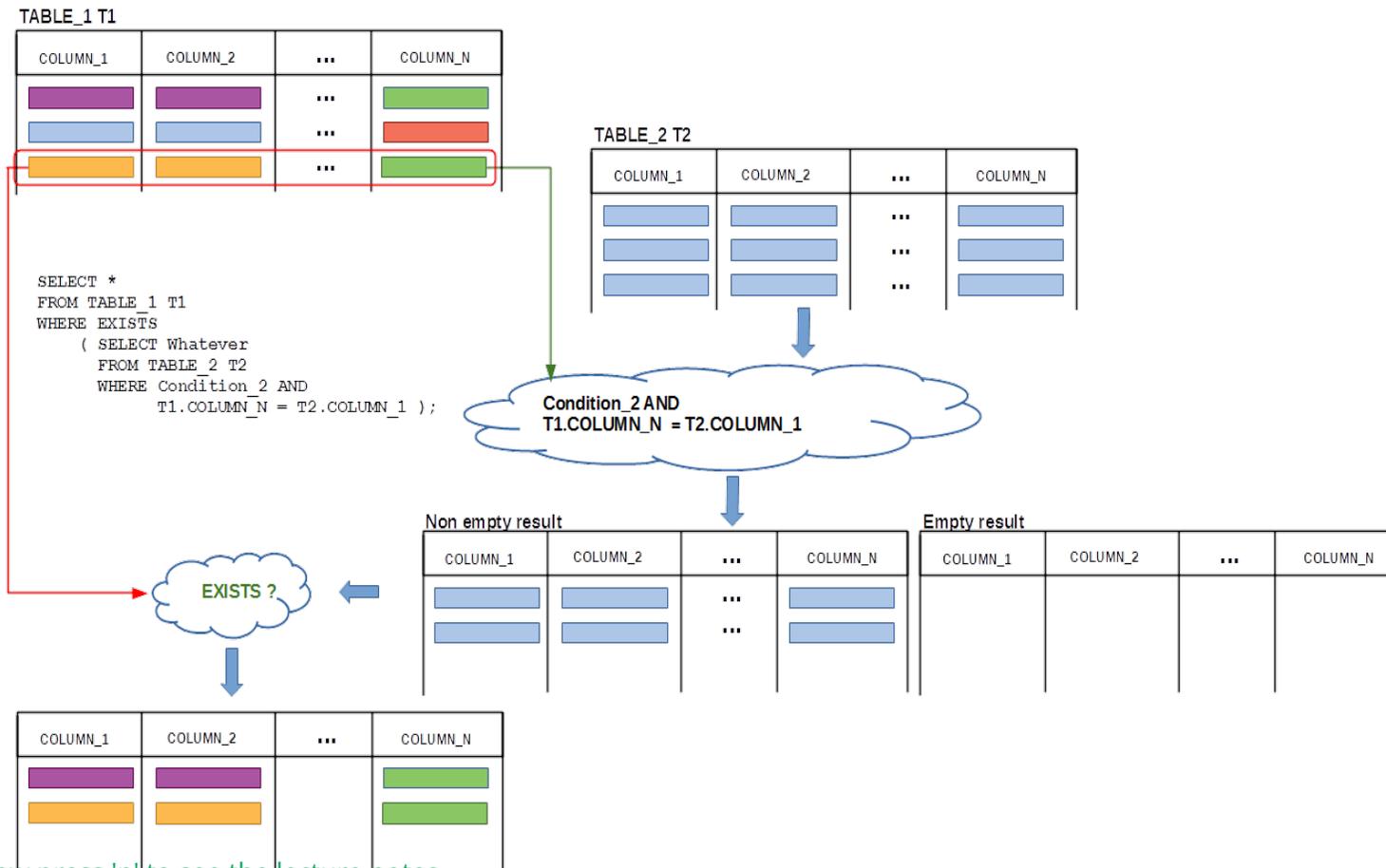
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# Correlated nested queries

In a **correlated nested query** an **inline view** may reference the names of relational tables used in **SELECT** statements outer to the **inline view**



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## Correlated nested queries

For example, consider a query, that finds the chairs of departments, that offer 12 credit point courses

Such query can be expressed as an equivalent query, that finds the chairs of departments, such that there exists at least one course worth 12 credit points offered by a department we are looking for

An inner query ... course worth 12 credit points offered by a department we are looking for is implemented as the following inline view Q

```
( SELECT *  
FROM COURSE  
WHERE credits = 12 AND offered_by = DEPARTMENT.name ) Q
```

Inline view

A temporary outer query, that finds the chairs of departments such that there exists at least one course found in the inner query is implemented in the following way

```
SELECT chair  
FROM DEPARTMENT  
WHERE EXISTS Q
```

Query with an existential quantifier EXISTS that references an inline view

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# Correlated nested queries

Finally, we replace a reference to an **inline view q** with the **inline view** itself

Correlated nested query with an existential quantifier EXISTS

```
SELECT chair
FROM DEPARTMENT
WHERE EXISTS ( SELECT *
                FROM COURSE
                WHERE credits = 12 AND offered_by = DEPARTMENT.name );
```

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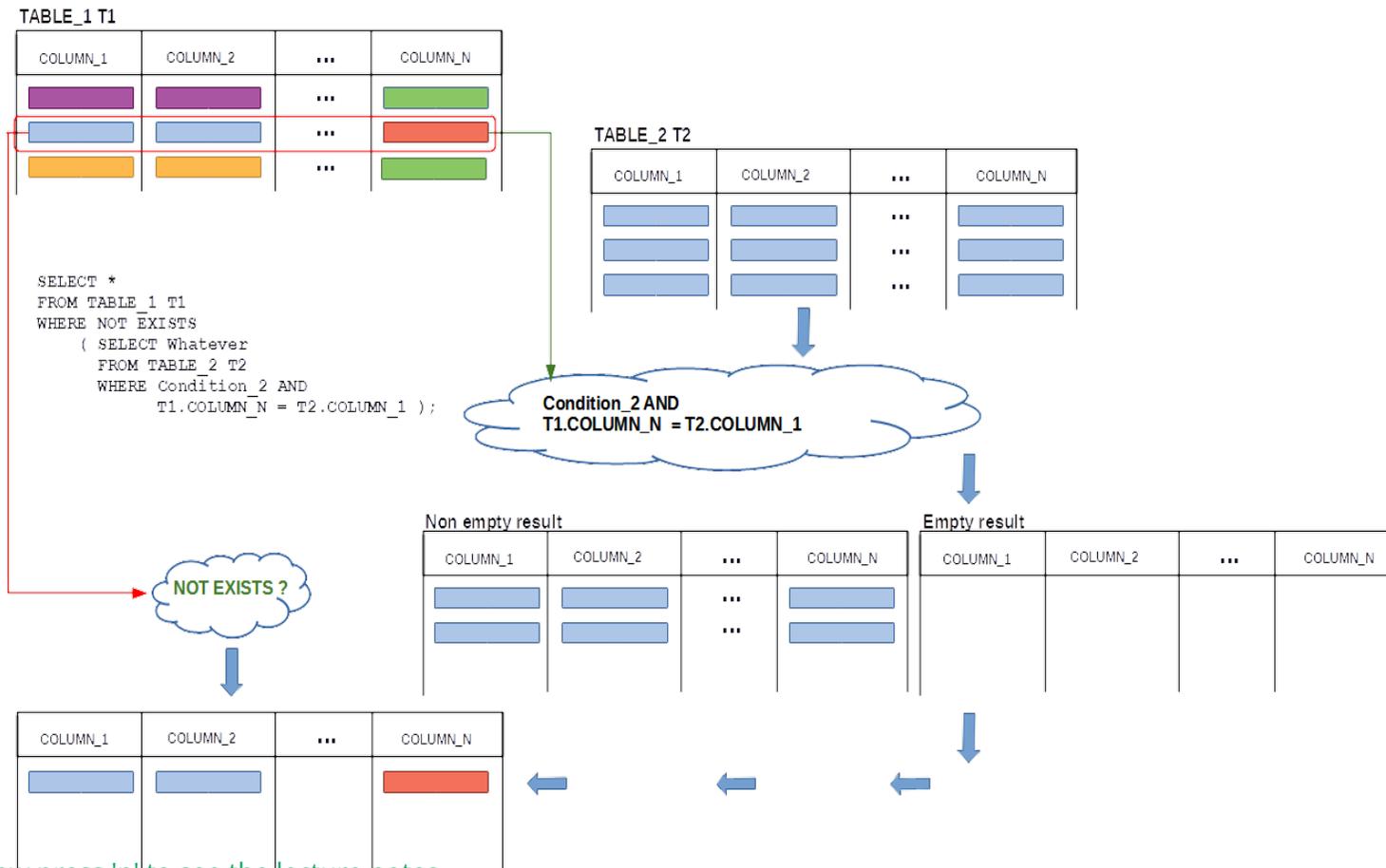
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# Correlated nested queries

In a **correlated nested query** an **inline view** may reference the names of relational tables used in **SELECT** statement outer to the **inline view**



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# Correlated nested queries

Another example where **inline view** references a name of relational table used in **SELECT** statement outer to the **inline view** is the following

Find the chairs of all departments, that offer no courses

It is equivalent to a query find the chairs of departments, such that does not exist a course offered by a department we are looking for

An inner query finds ... a course offered by a department we are looking for and it is implemented as an **inline view Q**

```
( SELECT *  
FROM COURSE  
WHERE offered_by = DEPARTMENT.name ) Q;
```

Inline view

A temporary outer query finds all chairs of departments such that does not exist a course found by an inner query

```
SELECT chair  
FROM DEPARTMENT  
WHERE NOT EXISTS Q
```

Query with a negated existential quantifier EXISTS that references an inline view

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# Correlated nested queries

Finally, we replace a reference to an **inline view q** with the **inline view** itself

Correlated nested query with a negated existential quantifier EXISTS

```
SELECT chair
FROM DEPARTMENT
WHERE NOT EXISTS( SELECT *
                  FROM COURSE
                  WHERE offered_by = DEPARTMENT.name );
```

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# References

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[How to ... ? Cookbook, How to implement queries in SQL ? \(Part 2\) Recipe 6.3 How to implement nested queries ?](#)

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