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Subject: SQL/Temporal

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Title: Summary of Research Results On Implementing Temporal Support in Relational Databases

Source: ANSI Expert's Contribution

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Abstract: This document provides a summary of some of the extant research results concerning implementing temporal support in relational databases. This snapshot of the literature was taken in Spring, 1996; additional papers have appeared in the intervening six months. These results all assume either period or temporal element (a set of periods) timestamping. As can be seen, the research community has developed many techniques for representing and querying such data in an efficient manner. Most of these approaches are applicable to the valid-time and transaction-time proposals now under consideration. In contrast, there are only a handful of papers that consider how to implement queries on tables using datetime stamping, which result from the EXPANDING clause. Efficient representation and querying of tables using datetime stamping is still an open problem.

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