

INTRODUCTION TO HIGH VELOCITY ANALYTICS USING CLICKHOUSE ARRAYS

Altinity Engineering



Presenter Bios and Altinity Introduction

Robert Hodges - Altinity CEO

30+ years on DBMS plus
virtualization and security.
ClickHouse is DBMS #20

Alexander Zaitsev - Altinity CTO

Altinity founder with decades
of expertise on petabyte-scale
analytic systems



The #1 enterprise ClickHouse provider. Now offering [Altinity.Cloud](#)

Major committer and community sponsor for ClickHouse in US/EU

Key features of ClickHouse

Single C++ binary

SQL language

Shared nothing architecture

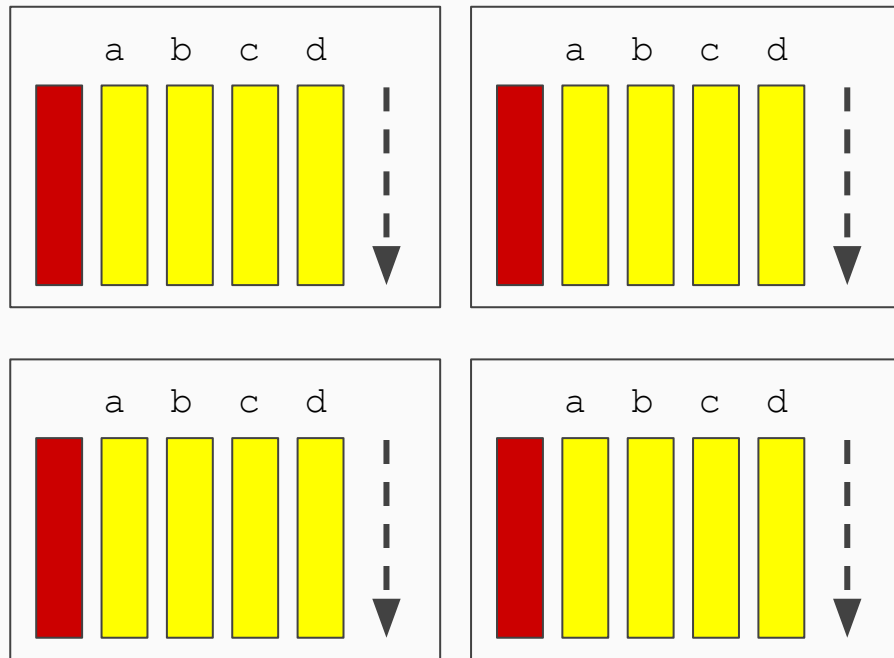
Column storage

Vectorized query execution

MPP-enabled (shards/replicas)

Apache 2.0 license

Really fast



Arrays are a ClickHouse SQL extension

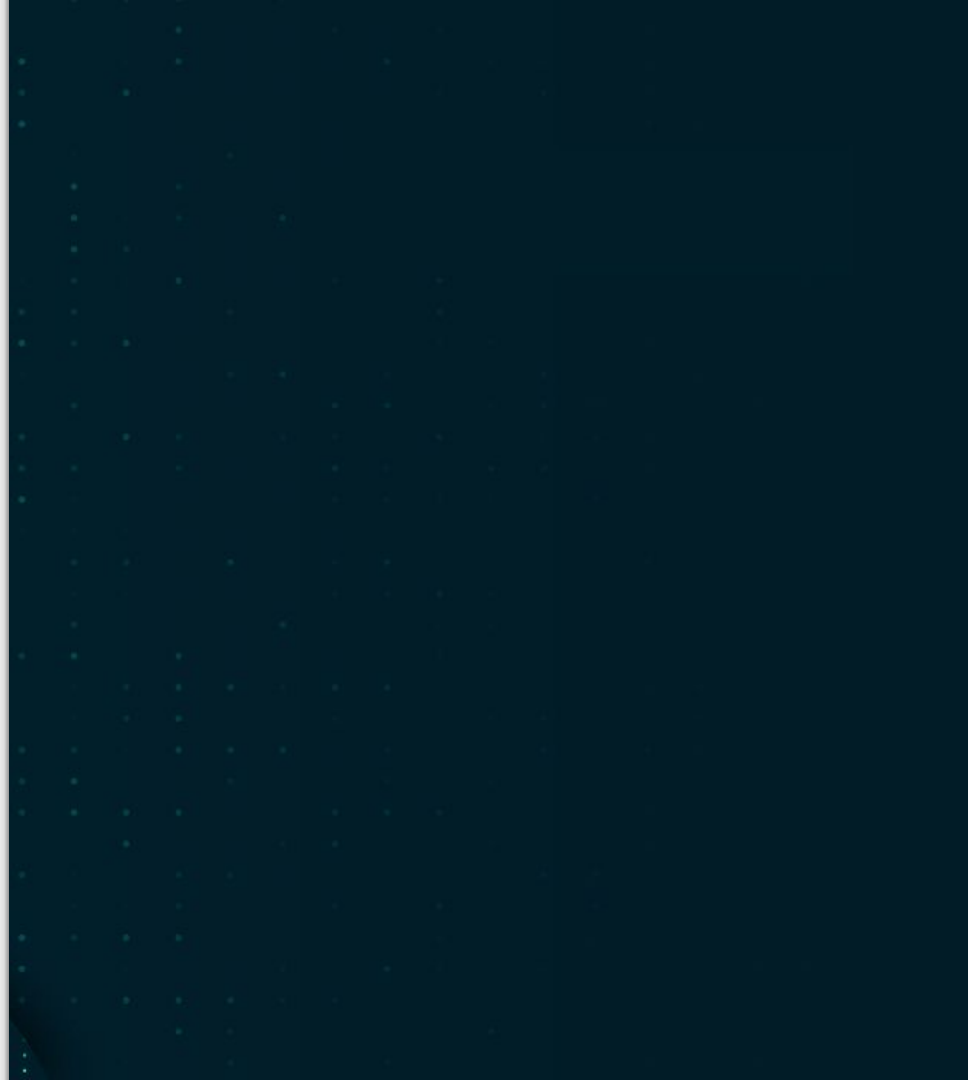
**Array
datatype**

**Array
functions**

**ARRAY
JOIN and
arrayJoin()**

**Functional
programming
and lambdas**

Modeling structured data using arrays



Use case: Monitoring VMs with differing attributes

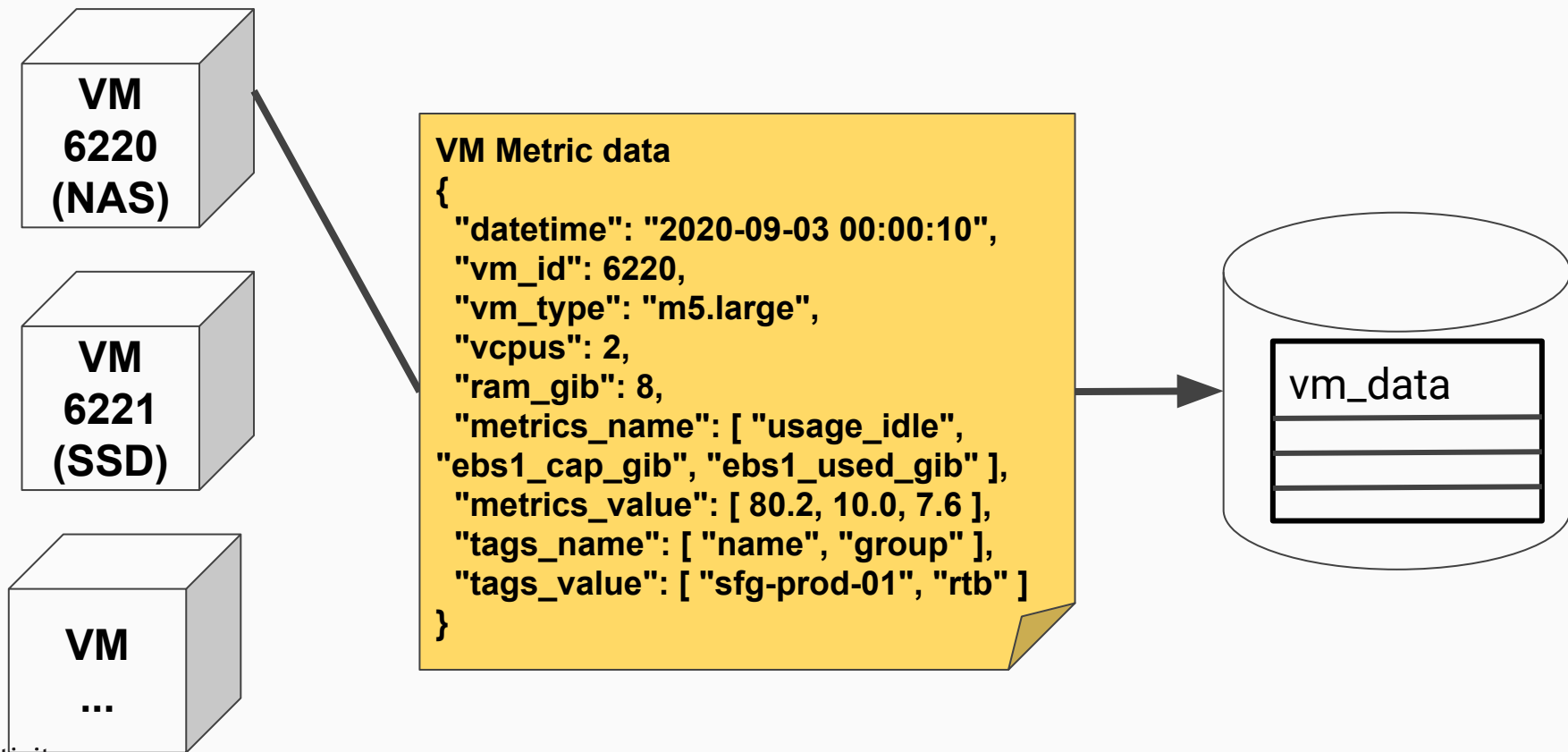
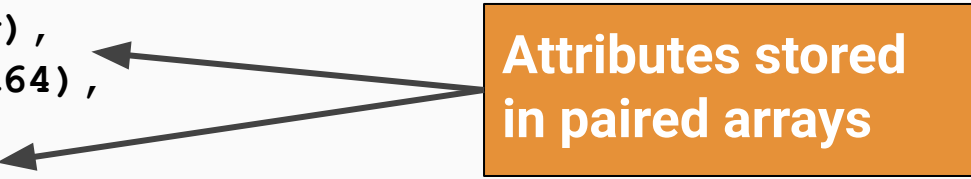


Table definition for VM data

```
CREATE TABLE vm_data (  
  datetime DateTime,  
  date Date default toDate(datetime),  
  vm_id UInt32,  
  vm_type LowCardinality(String),  
  vcpus UInt16,  
  ram_gib Float32,  
  metrics_name Array(String),  
  metrics_value Array(Float64),  
  tags_name Array(String),  
  tags_value Array(String)  
)  
ENGINE = MergeTree()  
PARTITION BY date  
ORDER BY (vm_type, vm_id, datetime)
```



Attributes stored
in paired arrays

Arrays work similar to Python, etc.

WITH [1, 2, 4] AS array

SELECT

```
array[1] AS First,  
array[2] AS Second,  
array[3] AS Third,  
array[-1] AS Last,  
length(array) AS Length
```

OK, this is SQL so we
have to start with 1

First	Second	Third	Last	Length
1	2	4	4	3

ARRAY JOIN “unrolls” arrays to rows

```
SELECT date, vm_id, vm_type, name, value
FROM vm_data
ARRAY JOIN tags_name AS name, tags_value AS value
ORDER BY vm_id, name
```

date	vm_id	vm_type	name	value
2020-09-03	6220	m5.large	group	rtb
2020-09-03	6220	m5.large	name	sfg-prod-01
2020-09-03	6221	m5ad.xlarge	group	marketing
2020-09-03	6221	m5ad.xlarge	name	mt-prod-65
2020-09-03	6221	m5ad.xlarge	owner	casey

Put this in a subquery to answer questions using normal SQL

ClickHouse has other ways to join arrays

```
SELECT 1, 2,  
arrayJoin(['a', 'b']) a1
```

1	2	a1
1	2	a
1	2	b

```
SELECT 1, 2,  
arrayJoin(['a', 'b']) a1,  
arrayJoin(['i', 'ii']) a2
```

1	2	a1	a2
1	2	a	i
1	2	a	ii
1	2	b	i
1	2	b	ii

Cartesian join between arrays!

Fun with groupBy and sortBy

Reporting on airline flights

Q: What is the highest number of hops per day for a single aircraft using the same flight number? What does the itinerary look like?



Find the maximum hops on a single day

```
SELECT Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum, count(*) AS Hops
FROM ontime
WHERE (FlightDate = toDate('2017-01-15')) AND (DepTime < ArrTime)
GROUP BY Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum
ORDER BY Hops DESC, Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum
LIMIT 5
```

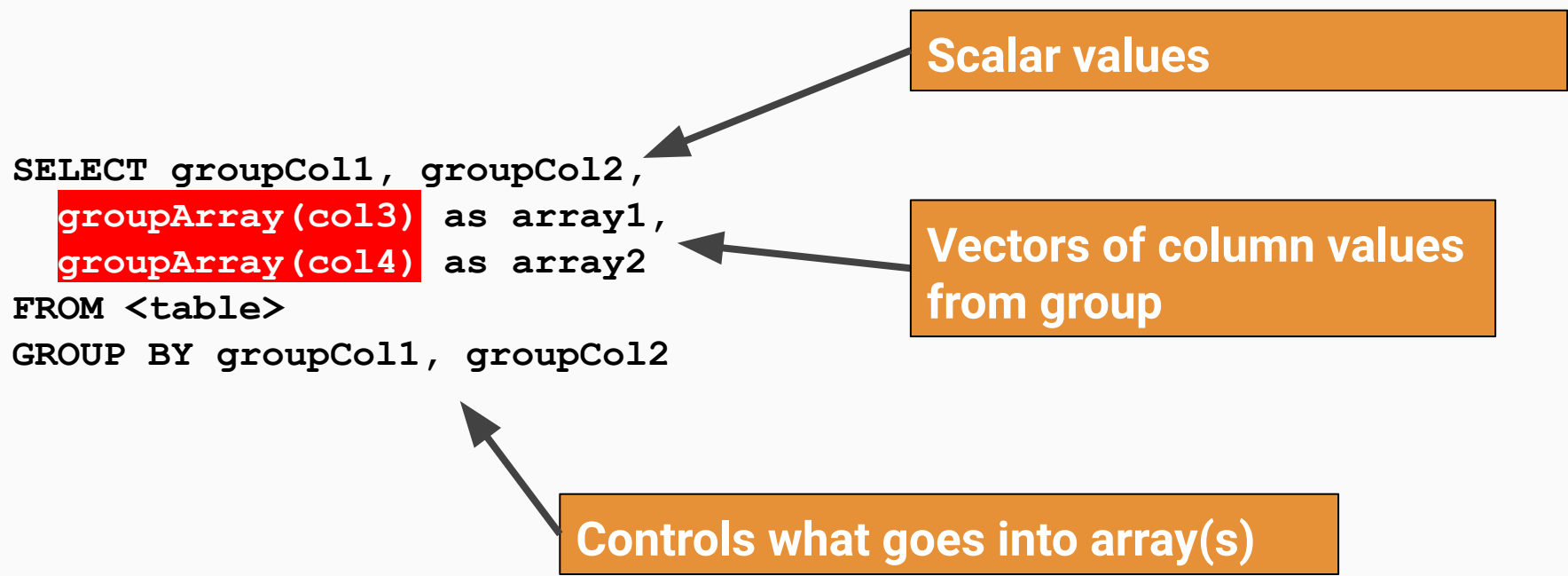
Carrier	TailNum	FlightNum	Hops
WN	N963WN	5663	7
WN	N223WN	4315	6
WN	N438WN	4415	6
WN	N445WN	3462	6
WN	N451WN	4362	6

Look Ma! No arrays!

groupBy() turns grouped values to arrays

```
SELECT groupCol1, groupCol2,  
  groupArray(col3) as array1,  
  groupArray(col4) as array2  
FROM <table>  
GROUP BY groupCol1, groupCol2
```

Scalar values



Vectors of column values
from group

Controls what goes into array(s)

Let's build up a list of stops

```
SELECT Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum,  
  groupArray (DepTime) as Departures,  
  length (groupArray (DepTime)) as Hops  
FROM ontime  
WHERE (FlightDate = toDate('2017-01-15')) AND (DepTime < ArrTime)  
GROUP BY Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum  
ORDER BY Hops DESC, Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum  
LIMIT 5
```

All values in group

How many values

Not sorted!

Carrier	TailNum	FlightNum	Departures	Hops
WN	N963WN	5663	[1224,1923,1003,745,1616,2140,1439]	7
WN	N223WN	4315	[1529,2105,1237,1041,1920,1722]	6
WN	N438WN	4415	[1922,1748,629,2127,1200,1436]	6
WN	N445WN	3462	[1512,1334,1635,1008,651,1827]	6
WN	N451WN	4362	[843,1724,1240,1058,1945,600]	6

Introducing the arraySort function

```
SELECT arraySort([1224, 1923, 1003, 745]) AS s
```

```
s  
[745,1003,1224,1923]
```

Sort array in ascending order

```
SELECT arraySort((x) -> -x,  
                 [1224, 1923, 1003, 745]) AS s
```

```
-- (OR)
```

```
SELECT arraySort((x, y) -> y,  
                 [1224, 1923, 1003, 745],  
                 [2,1,3,4]) AS s
```

Lambda reverses order

Lambda applies new keys

```
s  
[1923,1224,1003,745]
```

We can now coordinate array ordering

```
SELECT Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum,  
       arraySort(groupArray(DepTime)) as Departures,  
       arraySort((x,y) -> y, groupArray(Origin), groupArray(DepTime)) as Origins,  
       length(groupArray(DepTime)) as Hops  
FROM ontime  
WHERE (FlightDate = toDate('2017-01-15')) AND (DepTime < ArrTime)  
GROUP BY Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum  
ORDER BY Hops DESC, Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum  
LIMIT 5
```

Carrier	TailNum	FlightNum	Departures	Origins	Hops
WN	N963WN	5663	[745,1003,1224,1439,1616,1923,2140]	['OMA','MDW','GRR','BWI','PIT','MCO','ATL']	7
WN	N223WN	4315	[1041,1237,1529,1722,1920,2105]	['CLE','BWI','OKC','DAL','MSY','BNA']	6
WN	N438WN	4415	[629,1200,1436,1748,1922,2127]	['SAN','AUS','BNA','LAX','LAS','SMF']	6
WN	N445WN	3462	[651,1008,1334,1512,1635,1827]	['MSY','MCO','GRR','DEN','LAS','SJC']	6
WN	N451WN	4362	[600,843,1058,1240,1724,1945]	['CLT','HOU','SNA','LAS','ICT','STL']	6

Let's put the routes into a nice tabular form

```
SELECT Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum, Depart, Arr, Origin, Dest
FROM
(
  SELECT Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum,
    arraySort(groupArray(DepTime)) AS Departures,
    arraySort(groupArray(ArrTime)) AS Arrivals,
    arraySort((x, y) -> y, groupArray(Origin), groupArray(ArrTime)) AS Origins,
    arraySort((x, y) -> y, groupArray(Dest), groupArray(ArrTime)) AS Destinations,
    length(groupArray(DepTime)) AS Hops
  FROM ontime
  WHERE (FlightDate = toDate('2017-01-15')) AND (DepTime < ArrTime)
  GROUP BY Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum
  ORDER BY Hops DESC, Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum
)
ARRAY JOIN Departures AS Depart, Arrivals AS Arr,
  Origins AS Origin, Destinations AS Dest
```

And here is our winner!

Carrier	TailNum	FlightNum	Depart	Arr	Origin	Dest
WN	N963WN	5663	745	909	OMA	MDW
WN	N963WN	5663	1003	1145	MDW	GRR
WN	N963WN	5663	1224	1346	GRR	BWI
WN	N963WN	5663	1439	1535	BWI	PIT
WN	N963WN	5663	1616	1821	PIT	MCO
WN	N963WN	5663	1923	2037	MCO	ATL
WN	N963WN	5663	2140	2333	ATL	DTW
WN	N223WN	4315	1041	1150	CLE	BWI
WN	N223WN	4315	1237	1451	BWI	OKC
WN	N223WN	4315	1529	1618	OKC	DAL
WN	N223WN	4315	1722	1844	DAL	MSY
WN	N223WN	4315	1920	2040	MSY	BNA
WN	N223WN	4315	2105	2334	BNA	DCA
...						

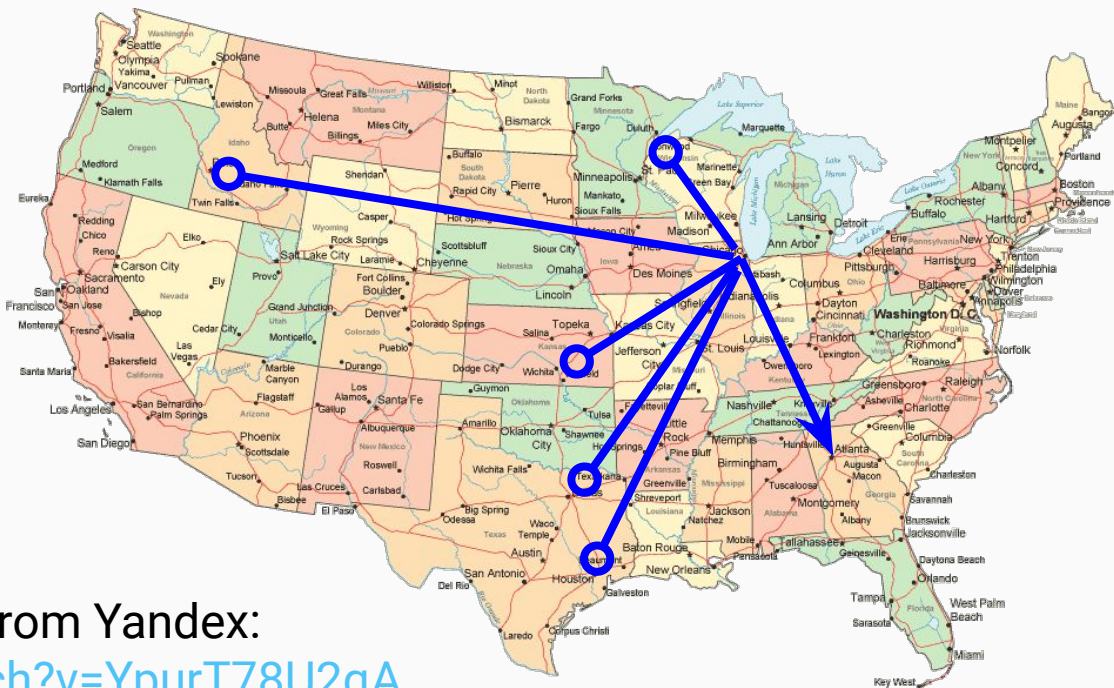
Building funnels with arrays

More questions about airplanes

How many planes fly each day?

How many of those fly to Chicago (MDW)?

How many of those then fly to Atlanta (ATL) the same day?



See talk by Mariya Mansurova from Yandex:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YpurT78U2qA>

Start with a base query

```
SELECT FlightDate, Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum,  
       arraySort(groupArray(ArrTime)) AS Arrivals,  
       arraySort((x, y) -> y, groupArray(Dest), groupArray(ArrTime)) AS Dests  
FROM ontime  
WHERE toYYYYMM(FlightDate) = toYYYYMM(toDate('2017-01-01'))  
      AND (DepTime < ArrTime)  
GROUP BY FlightDate, Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum  
ORDER BY FlightDate, Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum  
LIMIT 15
```

FlightDate	Carrier	TailNum	FlightNum	Arrivals	Dests
2017-01-01	AA	N001AA	1446	[2213]	['ATL']
2017-01-01	AA	N003AA	2528	[1514,1914]	['HDN','DFW']
2017-01-01	AA	N005AA	2569	[1238,1757]	['JAC','ORD']
2017-01-01	AA	N006AA	1287	[850]	['ORD']
2017-01-01	AA	N006AA	2193	[2230]	['MIA']
2017-01-01	AA	N006AA	2635	[1209,1730]	['EGE','ORD']
. . .					

We can filter values using arrayFilter

```
WITH ['a', 'bc', 'def', 'g'] AS array
SELECT arrayFilter(v -> (length(v) > 1), array) AS filtered
```

```
filtered
['bc', 'def']
```

```
WITH
  ['name', 'owner', 'account'] AS tags,
  ['joe', 'susie', 'website'] AS values
SELECT arrayFilter((v, t) -> (t = 'name'), values, tags)[1] AS name
```

```
name
joe
```

Lambda

Input arrays

Input arrays

Filter the aircraft that fly via MDW, ATL

```
SELECT FlightDate, Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum,  
       arraySort(groupArray(ArrTime)) AS Arrivals,  
       arraySort((x, y) -> y, groupArray(Dest), groupArray(ArrTime)) AS Dests,  
       arrayFilter((arr, dest) -> (dest = 'MDW'), Arrivals, Dests)[1] as MDW_Arr,  
       arrayFilter((arr, dest) -> (dest = 'ATL' AND arr > MDW_Arr And MDW_Arr !=  
0), Arrivals, Dests)[1] as ATL_arr,  
       length(Arrivals) as Hops  
FROM ontime  
WHERE toYYYYMM(FlightDate) = toYYYYMM(toDate('2017-01-15'))  
      AND (DepTime < ArrTime)  
GROUP BY FlightDate, Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum  
HAVING has(Dests, 'MDW') AND has(Dests, 'ATL') AND Hops > 3  
ORDER BY FlightDate, Hops DESC, Carrier, TailNum, FlightNum  
LIMIT 15
```

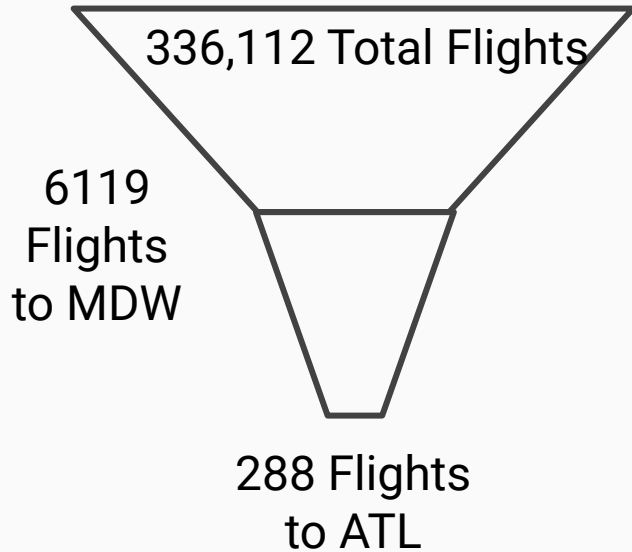
Now we see the daily pattern for all flights

```
SELECT
  FlightDate,
  count(*) AS Total,
  sum(MDW_Arr != 0) AS MDW_tot,
  sum(ATL_Arr != 0) AS ATL_tot
FROM (
  -- (Query from previous slide)
) GROUP BY FlightDate ORDER BY FlightDate
```

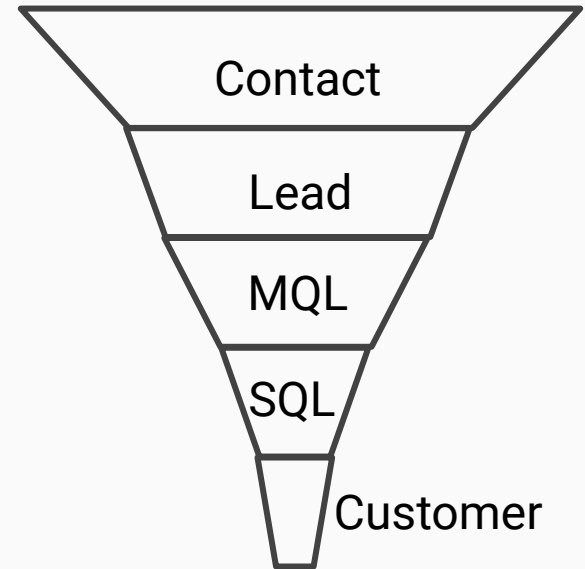
FlightDate	Total	MDW_tot	ATL_tot
2017-01-01	10636	202	6
2017-01-02	11378	192	7
2017-01-03	11243	213	8
2017-01-04	10881	218	8
2017-01-05	11035	211	13
. . .			

The result looks like a funnel!

Flight Funnel



Sales Funnel



ClickHouse Functional Programming

Higher-Order Functions

Classic set:

- `arrayFilter: array(T) -> array(T)`
- `arrayMap: array(T1) -> array(T2)`
- `arrayReduce: array(T) -> N`

Some extras:

- `arrayExists`
- `arrayFirst/arrayFirstIndex`
- `arraySort/arrayReverseSort`
- `arraySum/arrayCumSum`

```
function( T -> V, array(T) )
```

```
function( (T1, ... , Tn) -> V,  
          array(T1), ... ,array(Tn) )
```

e.g.

```
arrayFilter(x -> x>0, coll)
```

Introducing the versatile arrayMap function

```
WITH ['tiny', 'longer', 'longest'] AS array  
SELECT arrayMap(v -> substr(v, 1, 4), array) AS map
```

```
map  
['tiny', 'long', 'long']
```

```
WITH  
  ['tiny', 'longer', 'longest'] AS array,  
  [1, 2, 3] AS length  
SELECT arrayMap((v, l) -> substr(v, 1, l), array, length) AS map
```

```
map  
['t', 'lo', 'lon']
```

Lambda

Input arrays

Plus some other handy array functions

```
WITH ['tiny', 'longer', 'longest'] AS array
SELECT
    arrayReverse(array) AS reversed,
    arrayEnumerate(array) AS indexes,
    arrayFirstIndex(s -> (length(s) > 5), array) AS longest,
    length(array) AS length
```

reversed	indexes	longest	length
['longest', 'longer', 'tiny']	[1,2,3]	2	3

Weighted sum? Lambdas can do it!

WITH

```
[1, 2, 3, 4, 5] AS arr_v,  
[0.5, 0.5, 0.3, 0.2, 0.2] AS arr_w  
SELECT arraySum(arrayMap((v, w) -> (v * w), arr_v, arr_w))
```

```
arraySum(arrayMap(lambda(tuple(v, w), multiply(v, w)), arr_v, arr_w))  
4.2
```

WITH

```
[1, 2, 3, 4, 5] AS arr_v,  
[0.5, 0.5, 0.3, 0.2, 0.2] AS arr_w  
SELECT arraySum((v, w) -> (v * w), arr_v, arr_w)
```

arraySum may take
lambda as well

```
arraySum(lambda(tuple(v, w), multiply(v, w)), arr_v, arr_w)  
4.2
```

arrayReduce offers processing that is flexible

```
WITH [1, 2, 3, 4, 5] AS arr  
SELECT arraySum(arr)
```

arraySum(arr)
15

```
WITH [1, 2, 3, 4, 5] AS arr  
SELECT arrayReduce('sum', arr)
```

arrayReduce('sum', arr)
15

**arrayReduce applies
aggregation function
to fold the array**

...and fast, as arrayReduce is vectorised

```
SELECT arraySum(range(1, 100000000))
```

```
arraySum(range(1, 100000000))  
4999999950000000
```

1 rows in set. Elapsed: 0.991 sec.

```
SELECT arrayReduce('sum', range(1, 100000000))
```

```
arrayReduce('sum', range(1, 100000000))  
4999999950000000
```

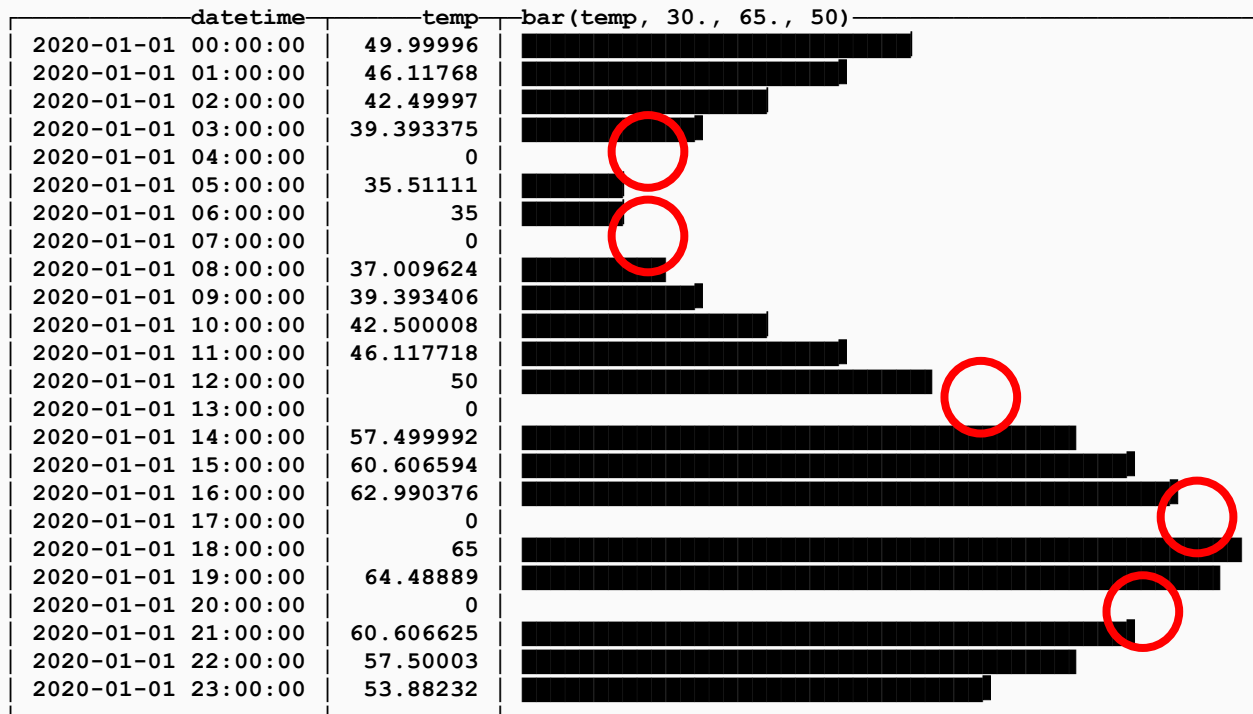
1 rows in set. Elapsed: 0.305 sec.

Interpolation with `arrayMap`

(Some people don't know how to
quit when they are ahead)

How do you deal with broken data?

```
SELECT datetime, temp, bar(temp, 30., 65., 50) FROM readings
```

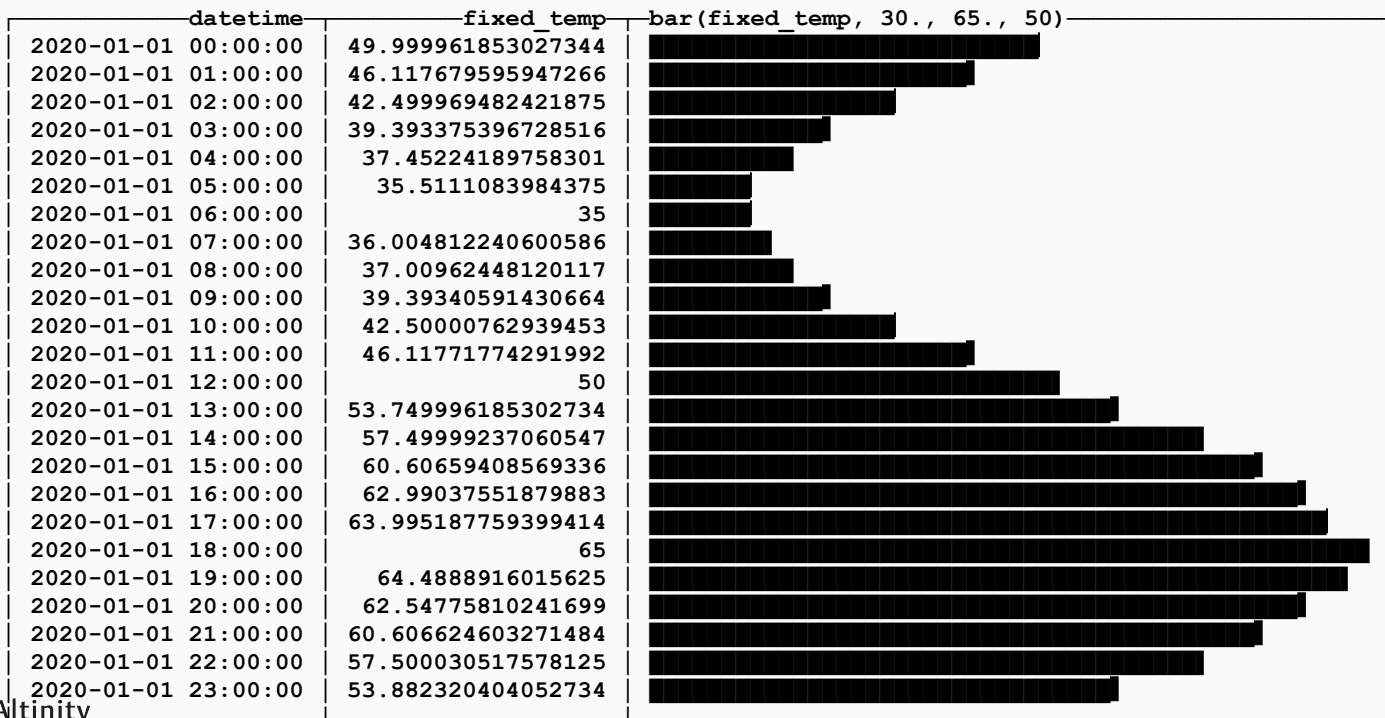


Let's fix up the data using interpolation

```
SELECT toDate(datetime) as day,  
  groupArray(datetime) as datetimeA, groupArray(temp) as tempA,  
  length(tempA) as length, arrayReverse(tempA) as tempAReverse,  
  /* Indexes of arrays. */  
  arrayEnumerate(datetimeA) as indexes,  
  /* For each tempA[i], find first k such that k >= i and tempA[k] > 0 */  
  arrayMap(i ->  
    arrayFirstIndex(s-> s >= i AND tempA[s] > 0, indexes), indexes) as aA,  
  /* For each tempA[i], find last l such that l <= i and tempA[l] > 0 */  
  arrayReverse(arrayMap(i -> length + 1 - arrayFirstIndex(s-> s >= i AND  
tempAReverse[s] > 0, indexes), indexes)) as bA,  
  /* Finally...put an interpolated value in any temperature that is 0. */  
  arrayMap(i ->  
    if(tempA[i] > 0,  
      tempA[i],  
      tempA[bA[i]] + (tempA[aA[i]] - tempA[bA[i]])/(aA[i] - bA[i])),  
    indexes) AS tempAFixed  
FROM readings GROUP BY day order by day FORMAT Vertical
```

Now our data looks better...

```
SELECT datetime, fixed_temp, bar(fixed_temp, 30., 65., 50) FROM  
( -- ) ARRAY JOIN datetimeA AS datetime, tempAFixed as fixed_temp
```



Almost done...

Wrap-up

- Use arrays to model vectors or matrices
 - Including paired key/value pairs
- ARRAY JOIN unrolls arrays into rows
- groupArray creates arrays from GROUPed values
- Rich library of array functions in ClickHouse
- Higher order functions with lambdas allow versatile behavior

ClickHouse arrays have many more capabilities!

More information

- ClickHouse documentation: <https://clickhouse.tech/>
- Talk by Mariya Mansurova from Yandex at 2017 ClickHouse Meetup in Berlin: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YpurT78U2qA>
- Altinity blog:
<https://altinity.com/blog/clickhouse-vs-redshift-performance-for-fintech-risk-management>

Thank you!

We're hiring

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ClickHouse:

<https://github.com/ClickHouse/ClickHouse>

Altinity.Cloud:

<https://altinity.com/cloud-database/>