

SQL In Financial Modeling And UX Streamlining Data Integration For Better User Experiences

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Citation: Supreeth Meka, et.al (2024). SQL In Financial Modeling And UX Streamlining Data Integration For Better User Experiences, *Educational Administration: Theory and Practice*, 30(11), 1510 - 1517
Doi: 10.53555/kuey.v30i11.9558

ARTICLE INFO

ABSTRACT

This study explores the transformative role of SQL in financial modeling and user experience (UX) streamlining, focusing on its ability to enhance data integration, computational efficiency, and user satisfaction. By leveraging SQL's robust querying capabilities, financial institutions can improve the accuracy and scalability of forecasting, risk analysis, and portfolio optimization models. Empirical results demonstrate that SQL-based financial models achieve high accuracy rates, with forecasting models reaching 92.5% accuracy, while significantly reducing computational times. Furthermore, SQL-driven data integration enhances UX, as evidenced by a System Usability Scale (SUS) score of 85.6 and a Net Promoter Score (NPS) of 72, indicating strong user satisfaction. Statistical analyses, including ANOVA, t-tests, and regression models, validate the reliability and efficiency of SQL in handling large datasets and complex queries. The study also highlights SQL's ability to streamline risk analysis, with metrics such as historical volatility (18.5%) and Value at Risk (VaR) (5.8%) providing critical insights for decision-making. Qualitative feedback from users underscores the importance of real-time data access and intuitive interfaces, with 78% of users praising the ease of use of SQL-driven applications. These findings have significant implications for financial institutions seeking to adopt data-driven strategies, as SQL enables both technical robustness and user-centric design. The study concludes by identifying limitations, such as the reliance on a single dataset, and proposing future research directions, including the integration of SQL with emerging technologies like artificial intelligence and blockchain. Overall, this research underscores SQL's pivotal role in driving innovation and efficiency in the financial sector.

Keywords: SQL, financial modeling, data integration, user experience, forecasting, risk analysis, portfolio optimization, scalability, usability, real-time data access.

Introduction

The role of SQL in financial modeling

Structured Query Language (SQL) has long been a cornerstone of data management and analysis, particularly in the realm of financial modeling. Financial modeling relies heavily on the ability to efficiently extract, manipulate, and analyze large datasets to forecast financial performance, assess risk, and inform decision-making (Smith, 2020). SQL's robust capabilities in querying relational databases make it an indispensable tool for financial analysts, enabling them to perform complex calculations, generate reports, and integrate data from multiple sources (Johnson et al., 2019). As financial datasets grow in size and complexity, the need for efficient data integration and processing becomes increasingly critical, and SQL provides a scalable solution to these challenges (Brown, 2021).

In financial modeling, SQL is often used to streamline data workflows, allowing analysts to automate repetitive tasks and focus on higher-level analysis (Taylor, 2018). For instance, SQL queries can be used to aggregate transactional data, calculate key financial metrics, and generate visualizations that support strategic decision-making (Lee & Park, 2022). Moreover, SQL's ability to handle structured data makes it

particularly well-suited for financial applications, where data integrity and accuracy are paramount (Harris, 2020). By leveraging SQL, financial institutions can improve the efficiency and reliability of their modeling processes, ultimately leading to better-informed business decisions (Clark, 2021).

Enhancing user experience through data integration

While SQL's technical capabilities are well-documented, its role in enhancing user experience (UX) in financial applications is often overlooked. UX design in financial software is critical, as users often interact with complex datasets and require intuitive interfaces to make sense of the information (Davis, 2019). SQL plays a pivotal role in streamlining data integration, ensuring that users have access to accurate and up-to-date information without unnecessary delays or complications (Wilson, 2020). By optimizing data retrieval and processing, SQL enables developers to create faster, more responsive applications that meet the needs of end-users (Martinez, 2021).

One of the key challenges in UX design for financial applications is balancing functionality with usability. Users often demand real-time access to data, but they also require interfaces that are easy to navigate and understand (Garcia, 2022). SQL's ability to efficiently query and filter data allows developers to design systems that deliver relevant information quickly, without overwhelming the user (Anderson, 2020). For example, SQL can be used to pre-process data and generate summaries or dashboards that provide users with actionable insights at a glance (Thompson, 2021). This not only improves the overall user experience but also enhances the decision-making process by presenting data in a clear and concise manner (White, 2022).

The intersection of SQL, financial modeling, and UX

The integration of SQL into financial modeling and UX design represents a powerful synergy that can drive innovation in the financial sector. By leveraging SQL's capabilities, organizations can create systems that are both technically robust and user-friendly, bridging the gap between data analysis and end-user experience (Robinson, 2021). This intersection is particularly important in an era where data-driven decision-making is becoming increasingly prevalent, and users expect seamless access to information (Green, 2020).

Furthermore, the use of SQL in financial modeling and UX design can lead to significant cost savings for organizations. By automating data integration and processing tasks, SQL reduces the need for manual intervention, minimizing the risk of errors and improving operational efficiency (Hall, 2022). This, in turn, allows organizations to allocate resources more effectively, focusing on strategic initiatives rather than routine data management tasks (Baker, 2021). As financial institutions continue to embrace digital transformation, the role of SQL in enabling these changes cannot be overstated (Parker, 2020).

SQL is a critical tool in both financial modeling and UX design, offering unparalleled capabilities in data integration, processing, and analysis. Its ability to streamline workflows and enhance user experiences makes it an essential component of modern financial systems. As the financial industry continues to evolve, the importance of SQL in driving innovation and improving decision-making processes will only grow. By understanding and leveraging the full potential of SQL, organizations can create systems that are not only technically advanced but also user-centric, ultimately leading to better outcomes for both businesses and their customers.

Methodology

Research design and approach

This research adopts a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative and qualitative techniques to explore the role of SQL in financial modeling and UX streamlining for data integration. The study is divided into two primary phases: (1) an empirical analysis of SQL's impact on financial modeling efficiency and accuracy, and (2) a user experience evaluation of SQL-driven data integration in financial applications. The quantitative phase involves statistical analysis of financial datasets, while the qualitative phase includes user surveys and interviews to assess UX improvements. This dual approach ensures a comprehensive understanding of SQL's capabilities and its practical implications for both financial analysts and end-users (Creswell & Clark, 2017).

Data collection and sources

The study utilizes a combination of publicly available financial datasets and proprietary data from a leading financial institution. The datasets include historical stock prices, transactional data, and financial statements, which are stored in a relational database managed using SQL. Additionally, user interaction data from a financial application prototype is collected to evaluate UX improvements. The financial datasets are chosen for their relevance to common financial modeling tasks, such as forecasting, risk assessment, and portfolio optimization (Smith, 2020). User data is collected through controlled experiments and surveys, ensuring a diverse sample of participants with varying levels of technical expertise (Johnson et al., 2019).

SQL-based financial modeling techniques

The financial modeling phase focuses on three key areas: forecasting, risk analysis, and portfolio optimization. SQL queries are designed to extract and preprocess data for each task. For forecasting, time-series data is aggregated and analyzed using SQL window functions to calculate moving averages and growth rates (Brown, 2021). Risk analysis involves querying historical volatility and correlation coefficients, while portfolio optimization relies on SQL to calculate returns and risk metrics for different asset combinations (Lee & Park, 2022). Statistical techniques such as regression analysis and Monte Carlo simulations are applied to the SQL-processed data to generate insights and validate models (Harris, 2020).

Statistical Analysis

The statistical analysis is conducted using R and Python, with SQL serving as the primary tool for data preparation. Descriptive statistics are computed to summarize the datasets, followed by inferential statistics to test hypotheses about financial performance and risk. For example, t-tests and ANOVA are used to compare the performance of different portfolios, while chi-square tests assess the significance of correlations between financial variables (Clark, 2021). Advanced techniques, such as machine learning algorithms, are applied to the SQL-processed data to enhance predictive accuracy and identify patterns in financial markets (Taylor, 2018). The results are validated using cross-validation and out-of-sample testing to ensure robustness (Robinson, 2021).

UX streamlining through SQL-driven data integration

The UX evaluation phase focuses on the impact of SQL-driven data integration on user satisfaction and efficiency. A financial application prototype is developed, incorporating SQL queries to retrieve and display data in real-time. User interactions with the prototype are recorded and analyzed to measure metrics such as task completion time, error rates, and user satisfaction scores (Davis, 2019). Surveys and interviews are conducted to gather qualitative feedback on the usability and intuitiveness of the application. The results are analyzed using thematic analysis to identify common themes and areas for improvement (Wilson, 2020).

Evaluation metrics and results interpretation

The study employs a range of evaluation metrics to assess the effectiveness of SQL in financial modeling and UX streamlining. For financial modeling, metrics such as model accuracy, computational efficiency, and error rates are used to evaluate performance (Baker, 2021). In the UX evaluation, metrics such as System Usability Scale (SUS) scores, Net Promoter Score (NPS), and task success rates are analyzed to measure user satisfaction and application usability (Martinez, 2021). The results are interpreted in the context of existing literature, with a focus on identifying best practices for SQL implementation in financial applications (Green, 2020).

Limitations and future research

While this study provides valuable insights into the role of SQL in financial modeling and UX streamlining, it is not without limitations. The reliance on a single financial institution's data may limit the generalizability of the findings. Additionally, the UX evaluation is based on a prototype, which may not fully replicate real-world usage scenarios. Future research could explore the application of SQL in other industries or investigate the integration of SQL with emerging technologies such as blockchain and artificial intelligence (Parker, 2020). Longitudinal studies could also be conducted to assess the long-term impact of SQL-driven data integration on user behavior and financial decision-making (Hall, 2022).

Results

Table 1 evaluates the performance of SQL-based financial modeling techniques in forecasting, risk analysis, and portfolio optimization. The results show high model accuracy across all tasks, with forecasting achieving the highest accuracy at 92.5%. Computational times were fastest for risk analysis (3.8 seconds), while portfolio optimization took slightly longer due to its complexity. Error rates remained low, ranging from 1.8% to 2.5%, indicating reliable performance. Statistical analysis using ANOVA and paired t-tests confirmed significant differences in accuracy and computational times across tasks, with regression analysis revealing a linear relationship between data volume and processing time.

Table 1: Financial modeling performance metrics

Metric	Forecasting	Risk Analysis	Portfolio Optimization	Statistical Analysis
Model Accuracy (%)	92.5	88.7	90.3	ANOVA test ($p < 0.05$) shows significant differences in accuracy across tasks.
Computational Time (s)	4.2	3.8	5.1	Paired t-test ($p < 0.01$) indicates faster processing for risk analysis vs. optimization.

Error Rate (%)	1.8	2.5	1.9	Chi-square test ($p < 0.05$) confirms error rates are within acceptable limits.
Data Volume (GB)	10.5	8.7	12.3	Regression analysis shows a linear relationship between data volume and computational time.

Table 2 presents user experience metrics collected from the SQL-driven financial application prototype. Users reported high satisfaction, with a mean System Usability Scale (SUS) score of 85.6, significantly above the industry average of 68. The Net Promoter Score (NPS) of 72 further underscores strong user satisfaction, with 72% of users likely to recommend the application. Task completion times averaged 45.3 seconds, and error rates were low at 3.2%. ANOVA tests revealed significant differences in task completion times across different tasks, while chi-square tests confirmed the low error rates. These results demonstrate that SQL-driven data integration enhances usability and efficiency.

Table 2: User experience metrics for sql-driven applications

Metric	Mean Score	Standard Deviation	Statistical Analysis
System Usability Scale (SUS)	85.6	6.2	SUS scores are significantly higher than the industry average of 68 ($p < 0.01$).
Net Promoter Score (NPS)	72	8.5	NPS indicates strong user satisfaction, with 72% of users likely to recommend the app.
Task Completion Time (s)	45.3	10.7	ANOVA test ($p < 0.05$) shows significant differences in task completion times across tasks.
Error Rate (%)	3.2	1.8	Chi-square test ($p < 0.05$) confirms low error rates across all user tasks.

Table 3 assesses the performance of SQL queries in data integration and processing. Simple SELECT queries had the fastest execution time at 120 milliseconds, while complex JOINS took longer at 450 milliseconds. Aggregation queries and window functions performed efficiently, with execution times of 320 milliseconds and 280 milliseconds, respectively. Statistical analysis using linear regression and ANOVA tests confirmed that execution times were strongly correlated with data volume and query complexity. These findings highlight SQL's ability to handle large datasets efficiently, even for complex operations.

Table 3: SQL query performance for data integration

Query Type	Execution Time (ms)	Data Volume (GB)	Statistical Analysis
Simple SELECT	120	5.0	Linear regression shows a strong correlation between data volume and execution time.
Complex JOIN	450	10.5	ANOVA test ($p < 0.01$) indicates significant differences in execution times across query types.
Aggregation (GROUP BY)	320	8.7	Paired t-test ($p < 0.05$) shows aggregation queries are faster than complex JOINS.
Window Functions	280	7.2	Chi-square test ($p < 0.05$) confirms consistent performance across varying data volumes.

Table 4 compares the accuracy of SQL-based financial forecasting models with traditional methods. SQL-based models achieved a lower mean absolute error (MAE) of 1.8 and a root mean squared error (RMSE) of 2.5, outperforming traditional models, which had an MAE of 2.5 and an RMSE of 3.2. Paired t-tests and ANOVA tests confirmed that SQL-based models were significantly more accurate, demonstrating their superiority in financial forecasting tasks.

Table 4: Financial forecasting accuracy

Model Type	Mean Absolute Error (MAE)	Root Squared Error (RMSE)	Mean Error	Statistical Analysis
SQL-Based Model	1.8	2.5		Paired t-test ($p < 0.01$) shows SQL-based models outperform traditional methods.
Traditional Model	2.5	3.2		ANOVA test ($p < 0.05$) confirms significant differences in accuracy between the two models.

Table 5 presents risk analysis metrics calculated using SQL queries. Historical volatility was measured at 18.5%, and the correlation coefficient between asset pairs was 0.72, indicating strong relationships. Value at Risk (VaR) was calculated at 5.8%, providing critical insights for portfolio management. Regression and chi-square tests confirmed the reliability of these metrics, while ANOVA tests revealed significant differences in VaR across asset classes. These results underscore SQL's effectiveness in generating accurate risk analysis metrics.

Table 5: Risk analysis metrics

Metric	Value	Statistical Analysis
Historical Volatility	18.5%	Regression analysis shows a strong relationship between volatility and asset returns.
Correlation Coefficient	0.72	Chi-square test ($p < 0.05$) confirms significant correlations between asset pairs.
Value at Risk (VaR)	5.8%	ANOVA test ($p < 0.01$) indicates significant differences in VaR across asset classes.

Table 6 summarizes qualitative feedback from user surveys and interviews. Ease of use was the most frequently mentioned positive theme, cited by 78% of users. Real-time data access was also highly valued, mentioned by 65% of participants. Customization options were important to 52% of users, while performance issues were a minor concern, cited by only 12%. Thematic analysis and chi-square tests confirmed the importance of ease of use and real-time data access, while ANOVA tests highlighted variations in user preferences for customization. These findings emphasize the importance of user-centric design in SQL-driven financial applications.

Table 6: User feedback themes

Theme	Frequency (%)	Statistical Analysis
Ease of Use	78	Thematic analysis highlights ease of use as the most frequently mentioned positive theme.
Real-Time Data Access	65	Chi-square test ($p < 0.05$) confirms the importance of real-time data access for users.
Customization Options	52	ANOVA test ($p < 0.01$) shows significant differences in user preferences for customization.
Performance Issues	12	Thematic analysis identifies performance issues as a minor concern among users.

Discussion

SQL's impact on financial modeling efficiency

The results of this study demonstrate that SQL significantly enhances the efficiency and accuracy of financial modeling tasks, such as forecasting, risk analysis, and portfolio optimization. As shown in Table 1, SQL-based models achieved high accuracy rates, with forecasting models reaching 92.5% accuracy. This aligns with prior research by Zhang et al. (2021), who found that SQL's ability to handle large datasets efficiently improves the precision of financial predictions. Furthermore, the low computational times for risk analysis (3.8 seconds) and portfolio optimization (5.1 seconds) highlight SQL's scalability, which is critical for handling the growing complexity of financial data (Kumar & Singh, 2020). These findings are consistent with studies by Patel et al. (2019), who emphasized SQL's role in automating repetitive tasks and reducing manual errors in financial workflows.

Enhancing user experience through SQL-driven data integration

The user experience metrics presented in Table 2 reveal that SQL-driven data integration significantly improves usability and satisfaction in financial applications. The high System Usability Scale (SUS) score of

85.6 and Net Promoter Score (NPS) of 72 indicate that users find SQL-based applications intuitive and reliable. This is supported by research from Gupta et al. (2021), who argued that real-time data access and efficient query processing are key drivers of user satisfaction in financial software. Additionally, the low error rates (3.2%) and task completion times (45.3 seconds) underscore SQL's ability to streamline data retrieval and presentation, making it easier for users to interact with complex datasets (Wang & Li, 2022). These findings align with the work of Chen et al. (2020), who highlighted the importance of responsive and user-friendly interfaces in financial applications.

SQL query performance and scalability

Table 3 highlights SQL's robust performance in handling various types of queries, from simple SELECT statements to complex JOIN operations. The execution times for aggregation queries (320 milliseconds) and window functions (280 milliseconds) demonstrate SQL's ability to process large datasets efficiently. This is consistent with findings by Adams et al. (2021), who noted that SQL's optimization techniques, such as indexing and query caching, significantly reduce computational overhead. Moreover, the linear relationship between data volume and execution time, as revealed by regression analysis, underscores SQL's scalability, which is essential for financial institutions dealing with ever-increasing data volumes (Roberts & Thompson, 2020).

Superiority of SQL-based financial forecasting

The comparison of SQL-based and traditional forecasting models in Table 4 reveals that SQL-based models outperform traditional methods in terms of accuracy. The lower mean absolute error (MAE) and root mean squared error (RMSE) values for SQL-based models (1.8 and 2.5, respectively) highlight their superior predictive capabilities. These results are supported by research from Lee et al. (2021), who found that SQL's ability to integrate and preprocess data from multiple sources enhances the accuracy of financial forecasts. Additionally, the use of advanced statistical techniques, such as regression analysis and Monte Carlo simulations, further validates the reliability of SQL-based models (Harris & Clark, 2020).

Reliability of SQL-driven risk analysis

Table 5 demonstrates SQL's effectiveness in generating accurate risk analysis metrics, such as historical volatility (18.5%) and Value at Risk (VaR) (5.8%). These metrics are critical for portfolio management and decision-making, as they provide insights into potential risks and returns. The strong correlation coefficients (0.72) between asset pairs further validate SQL's ability to identify relationships within financial datasets. These findings are consistent with studies by Brown et al. (2022), who emphasized the importance of SQL in calculating risk metrics for complex financial instruments. Additionally, the use of ANOVA tests to compare VaR across asset classes highlights SQL's versatility in handling diverse datasets (Taylor & White, 2021).

User-centric design in SQL-driven applications

The qualitative feedback summarized in Table 6 underscores the importance of user-centric design in SQL-driven financial applications. The high frequency of positive themes, such as ease of use (78%) and real-time data access (65%), aligns with research by Martinez et al. (2021), who argued that intuitive interfaces and efficient data retrieval are key to user satisfaction. The relatively low frequency of performance issues (12%) further validates SQL's ability to deliver consistent and reliable performance. These findings are supported by studies from Anderson et al. (2020), who highlighted the role of SQL in enabling customization options that cater to diverse user needs.

Implications for financial institutions

The results of this study have significant implications for financial institutions seeking to leverage SQL for data integration and modeling. By adopting SQL-driven workflows, organizations can improve the accuracy and efficiency of their financial models, leading to better-informed decision-making. Additionally, the enhanced user experience provided by SQL-based applications can increase user adoption and satisfaction, ultimately driving business growth. These findings are consistent with research by Green et al. (2021), who emphasized the strategic importance of SQL in digital transformation initiatives within the financial sector.

Limitations and future research

While this study provides valuable insights, it is not without limitations. The reliance on a single financial institution's data may limit the generalizability of the findings. Future research could explore the application of SQL in other industries or investigate the integration of SQL with emerging technologies, such as blockchain and artificial intelligence. Additionally, longitudinal studies could assess the long-term impact of SQL-driven data integration on user behavior and financial decision-making. These avenues for future research are supported by studies from Parker et al. (2022), who called for more comprehensive investigations into the role of SQL in modern data ecosystems.

Conclusion

The results of this study demonstrate that SQL is a powerful tool for enhancing financial modeling efficiency, improving user experience, and enabling scalable data integration. The findings highlight SQL's ability to handle complex datasets, generate accurate forecasts, and provide actionable insights for decision-making. By leveraging SQL's capabilities, financial institutions can create systems that are both technically robust and user-centric, ultimately driving innovation and growth in the financial sector.

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