PostgreSQL - SELECT Database

This chapter explains various methods of accessing the database. Assume that we have already created a database in our previous chapter. You can select the database using either of the following methods −

- Database SQL Prompt
- OS Command Prompt

Database SQL Prompt

Assume you have already launched your PostgreSQL client and you have landed at the following SQL prompt −

```
postgres=#
```

You can check the available database list using \l, i.e., backslash el command as follows −

```
postgres-# \l
                         List of databases
    Name    |   Owner   | Encoding | Collate | Ctype |   Access privileges
-----------+-----------+----------+---------+-------+----------------------
 postgres   | postgres  | UTF8     | C       | C     |
 template0  | postgres  | UTF8     | C       | C     | =c/postgres          +
            |           |          |         |       | postgres=CTc/postgres
 template1  | postgres  | UTF8     | C       | C     | =c/postgres          +
            |           |          |         |       | postgres=CTc/postgres
 testdb     | postgres  | UTF8     | C       | C     |
(4 rows)

postgres-#
```

Now, type the following command to connect/select a desired database; here, we will connect to the *testdb* database.

```
postgres=# \c testdb;
psql (9.2.4)
Type "help" for help.
You are now connected to database "testdb" as user "postgres".
testdb=#
```

OS Command Prompt

You can select your database from the command prompt itself at the time when you login to your database. Following is a simple example −

```
psql -h localhost -p 5432 -U postgress testdb
Password for user postgress: ****
psql (9.2.4)
Type "help" for help.

You are now connected to database "testdb" as user "postgres".
testdb=#
```

You are now logged into PostgreSQL testdb and ready to execute your commands inside testdb. To exit from the database, you can use the command \q.