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Foundations of Database Management

Modual07

<https://github.com/HuskieoverCougs/ITFnd100-Mod07/tree/master/docs>

⦁ Explain when you would use a SQL UDF.

⦁ Explain are the differences between Scalar, Inline, and Multi-Statement Functions.

Purpose of Functions

Introduction

Functions are a way to retrieve data from the data base. There are built-in functions that have specific evaluations and there are user defined functions. The use of functions make the extraction of data easier and repeatable with less coding.

UDF

User defined functions are very similar to views except they have a bit more flexability. UDF’s can have parameters connected to it so the functions can return data based on the value of the parameter. Since views and functions are very similar, it is important to use them correctly. View return values connected to the query request where the data itself cannont be altered. Functions allow the same request of information but a parameter can be connected with it so the final output is dependant on the value of the parameter.

Scalars, Inline, and Multi-Statement Functions

There are three basic functions to choose from when writing a funciton. Scalar funcitons return a single expression. Inline table functions are functions with several lines to query the data but no begin and end state ment is required. WIth a multi-statement function , the function must be encapsulated with a begin and end phrase.

Summary

Functions, whether built in or user defined, are important to use to help extract the data from a database correctly and quickly. All of the built in functions can be used alone or together in a complex fashion but in the end, the result is the data that is wanted.