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IT FDN 130 A

Assignment 07

Mmanjares/DBFoundations-Module07 (github.com)

SQL UDF

Introduction

This week, I focused and learned about the various functions. With a focus on referring to sets of rows in SQL, I utilized different types of functions, Scalar, Inline, and Multi-Statement, using each one respectively to certain situations.

User Defined Functions

A User Defined Function, otherwise known as UDFs, are custom functions that either return a table of values or a single value (Module07Notes). UDFs are used for "check constraints because you cannot otherwise reference a column in another table" (Module07Notes). This helps connect data that otherwise cannot be connected as they are in different tables.

Scalar, Inline, and Multi-Statement Functions

A scalar function is a UDF that returns a single (scalar) value as an expression (Module07Notes). With a scalar function, you must include the schema name. An inline function "returns a single set of rows" (Table-valued functions in SQL, article). Multi-Statement Function is "a function which returns a table of data, but only after some additional processing" (Table-valued functions in SQL, article). The difference between these three different types of functions is the total value that each respective function returns.

Summary

In conclusion, the type of function to use is very situational depending on what values you would like to refer to. These User Defined Functions, otherwise known as UDFs, are used for check constraints referencing columns in different tables. Scalar function refers to a single value, Inline returns a single set of rows, and Multi-Statement returns a table of data.