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Assignment 07

Introduction

For this assignment I will explain when I would use SQL UDF, and the differences between Scalar functions, Inline functions and Multi-Statements functions.

1. Explain when you would use a SQL UDF.

A UDF or User Defined Function lets you create a function by using a SQL expression. A UDF accepts columns of input, performs actions on the input, and returns the result of those actions as a value. For example when I want to add a value and then multiply by another value, I'll create a user defined function.

2. Explain the differences between a Scalar, Inline, and Multi-Statement function.

The differences between SCALAR , INLINE and MULTI-STATEMENT Functions are: A scalar function helps us to get a single value. An INLINE function helps us to get a table of the values that we want. MULTI-STATEMENT function returns a table and this table structure can be defined by the user. MULTI-STATEMENT function can contain only one statement or more than one statement. Also, we can modify and aggregate the output table in the function body.

Summary

With the help of the User Defined Functions (UDFs) as SCALAR, INLINE and MULTI-STATEMENT Functions we can make groups with the codes and we can execute these groups of codes with parameters. These functions allow us to re-use the packages of codes many times instead of writing the entire code again. Although these UDF do not always work in the way that we would like.