

Advanced Management of Data

Exercise 3 Topic 2:

Extensions of SQL

Control statements

IF, THEN, ELSE

- the `hello(name)` function doesn't return anything, if the *name* is NULL
- Task: rewrite the function and check the input parameter
 - if it is NULL then return the same as the `hello()` function without parameter does

Control statements

IF, THEN, ELSE

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION hello(name VARCHAR) RETURNS VARCHAR AS $$  
BEGIN  
    IF name IS NULL THEN    -- also possible: IF name ISNULL THEN  
        RETURN hello();  
    ELSE  
        RETURN format('Hello, %s!', name);  
    END IF;  
END;  
$$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
```

- this is much better, but empty strings still look ugly
- Task: rewrite your function to use “Anonymous” as name for empty strings

Control statements

IF, THEN, ELSE

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION hello(name VARCHAR) RETURNS VARCHAR AS $$
BEGIN
    IF name IS NULL THEN
        RETURN hello();
    ELSEIF name = '' THEN
        RETURN hello('Anonymous');
    ELSE
        RETURN format('Hello, %s!', name);
    END IF;
END;
$$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
```

- Task: now, also check for “Bob” and use “Robert” instead and change “Bill” to “William”, too

Control statements

IF, THEN, ELSE

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION hello(name VARCHAR) RETURNS VARCHAR AS $$
BEGIN
    IF name IS NULL THEN
        name = 'World';
    ELSEIF name = ' ' THEN
        name = 'Anonymous';
    ELSEIF name = 'Bob' THEN
        name = 'Robert';
    ELSEIF name = 'Bill' THEN
        name = 'William';
    END IF;
    RETURN format('Hello, %s!', name);
END;
$$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
```

- Task: rewrite it and try to use the CASE control structure instead

Control statements

CASE, WHEN, THEN, ELSE

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION hello(name VARCHAR) RETURNS VARCHAR AS $$
BEGIN
    CASE                                -- using CASE name WHEN ... WHEN ... is not possible here
        WHEN name IS NULL THEN -- because you can't check for NULL with this construct
            name = 'World';
        WHEN name = '' THEN
            name = 'Anonymous';
        WHEN name = 'Bob' THEN
            name = 'Robert';
        WHEN name = 'Bill' THEN
            name = 'William';
        ELSE                            -- without this ELSE only the mentioned cases would work and all other cases would result in an error
            NULL;
    END CASE;
    RETURN format('Hello, %s!', name);
END;
$$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
```

Control statements

CASE, WHEN, THEN, ELSE

- use CASE just in case you want to test something for different values and don't want to check for NULL
- else it is more complicated than IF
- Task: write a new rating function that
 - takes an integer as input parameter
 - and returns a rating string
 - “poor” for 1, 2 and 3
 - “average” for 4, 5 and 6
 - “good” for 7, 8 and 9
 - “excellent” for 10
 - “out of range” for anything else
 - and uses the CASE construct

Control statements

CASE, WHEN, THEN, ELSE

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION rating(score INTEGER) RETURNS VARCHAR AS $$
BEGIN
    CASE score
        WHEN 1, 2, 3 THEN
            return 'poor';
        WHEN 4, 5, 6 THEN
            return 'average';
        WHEN 7, 8, 9 THEN
            return 'good';
        WHEN 10 THEN
            return 'excellent';
        ELSE
            return 'out of range';
    END CASE;
END;
$$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
```

- Task: write a new function that executes this rating function with input values in range from 0 to 20 and use the FOR control construct

Control statements

FOR

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION rating_test() RETURNS SETOF VARCHAR AS $$  
BEGIN  
    FOR score IN 0..20 LOOP -- score is defined as local INTEGER  
        RETURN NEXT rating(score); -- NEXT can return multiple rows  
    END LOOP;  
    RETURN; -- this indicates that there are no more rows  
END; -- but as we have already reached the END this is not needed  
$$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
```

- Task: now write another function that returns random INTEGER values in a range of 1 to 100 and exits when the number 42 is returned
 - each number should be returned at its own row
 - hint: the built-in function `random()` returns DOUBLE PRECISION values in a range of [0.0 .. 1.0)

Control statements

LOOP

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION random42() RETURNS SETOF INTEGER AS $$
DECLARE
    rnd INTEGER;
BEGIN
    LOOP
        rnd = ceil(random() * 100)::INTEGER; -- INTEGER casts are rounding
        RETURN NEXT rnd;
        EXIT WHEN rnd = 42; -- the same as: IF rnd = 42 THEN EXIT; END IF;
                           -- also possible: IF rnd = 42 THEN RETURN; END IF;
    END LOOP;
END;
$$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
```

- Task: let's write another function, that
 - counts the number of random numbers (number of rows) returned by our last function and
 - if this count doesn't equal to 42, increases another counter that indicates how many tries it took to get 42 random numbers and
 - returns this counter

Control statements

WHILE

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION count42() RETURNS INTEGER AS $$  
  DECLARE  
    c INTEGER = 1;  
  BEGIN  
    WHILE (SELECT COUNT(*) FROM random42()) != 42 LOOP  
      c = c + 1; -- there is no c++ or ++c  
    END LOOP;  
    RETURN c;  
  END;  
$$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
```