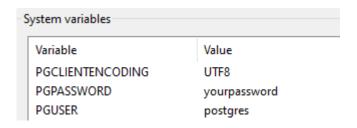**PostgreSQL Windows UTF-8 encoding issue solution**

Just a quick update that I just found online about how to set the encoding that the **psql** shell should use when started, check this SO thread: https://stackoverflow.com/questions/20952893/postgresql-encoding-problems-on-windows-when-using-psql-command-line-utility

So, similarly like we've set the PGUSER and PGPASSWORD system environment variables, we can also create PGCLIENTENCODING system environment variable and set its value to **UTF8**

System variables	
Variable	Value
PGCLIENTENCODING	UTF8
PGPASSWORD	yourpassword
PGUSER	postgres

As I mentioned in my Windows PostgreSQL instructions, if needed again - you can find tutorials on how to set environment variables on Windows online, for example: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bEroNNzqlF4

When I created that setting and restarted Powershell and tested things again, SELECT * FROM analytics; didn't cause an encoding issue (and I didn't have to manually set client_encoding again).

Related documentation page: https://www.postgresql.org/docs/12/multibyte.html#MULTIBYTE-TRANSLATION-TABLE

There, we can find this line: *Using PGCLIENTENCODING. If the environment variable PGCLIENTENCODING is defined in the client's environment,* **that client encoding is automatically selected** *when a connection to the server is made. (This can subsequently be overridden using any of the other methods mentioned above.)*

Kind regards,
Zarko – *course TA*