

Some tricks for psql

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psql

- Basic client
- Old interface (from 70era)
- Fast
-

Variables

- `\set name value`
- `\unset varname`
- `\gset prefix`
- `\prompt text varname`
- `\getenv varname envvarname`
- `:varname, : 'varname', : "varname"`

Using variables like macro

```
=# \set pwd '\\echo `pwd`'  
=# :pwd  
/home/pavel/src/dbms_sql
```

```
=# \set lsize 'select datname, pg_database_size(oid) from pg_database order by 2 desc;'  
=# :lsize
```

datname	pg_database_size
template1	7989135
postgres	7890831
template0	7725571

(3 rows)

Using shell

```
postgres=# \! date
Út 17. května 2022, 08:41:09 CEST

postgres=# \set myhome `echo $HOME`
postgres=# \echo :myhome
/home/pavel
```

Command \g

- \g opts file
- \g opts |pipe
- \gdesc
- \gexec
- \gx

Using clipboard from psql

```
select * from obce \g (format=csv)
| cat > tmpfile.csv; libreoffice --view --calc tmpfile.csv
"--infilter='Text - txt - csv (StarCalc)':44,34,0,1"; rm tmpfile.csv

select * from pg_class limit 10 \g (format=csv tuples_only=off csv_fieldsep='\t')
| wl-copy -t application/x-libreoffice-tsvc

\set gclip '\g (format=csv tuples_only=off csv_fieldsep='\t\')
| wl-copy -t application/x-libreoffice-tsvc'

select * from pg_class limit 10 :gclip
```

\gexec

```
SELECT format('CREATE TABLE %I(a int)', 'foo' || i)
       FROM generate_series(1,100) g(i) \gexec
```


Pager in Unix

- Called by application when output is longer, wider than screen
- More, less, pspg, ...

pspg

- Correct display wide table
- Fixing columns
- Sort rows by some column
- Supports searching
- Supports clipboard