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Assignment 6 - Views

Introduction

This section is about views, functions, and stored procedures. Upon reading about these components of SQL, they seem to make the language more efficient and faster to leverage. The following will compare and contrast using views, functions, and stored procedures.

Using Views

Rendering rows and columns, views are a temporary, simple way to query a result set of your data without pulling the entire table. These windows of data can be more efficient, digestible, and performant queries because they represent a subset of data rather than the entire table. Not to mention, views are inherently flexible as joins, statements, and other functions can all be added to the view. You would use a view to pull an up-to-date, tailored result set for any given query, without having to pull or alter the entire underlying table.

Views, Functions, and Stored Procedures

<u>Similarities:</u>

Efficiency is an underlying similarity between the above components of SQL. Views are efficient because they allow you to pull a more specified result set instead of an entire table. Functions are efficient because it is a bust in command for certain desired actions on the data. Stored procedures are efficient because it is a saved command, which can be used in a copy/paste like fashion instead of re-creating the wheel.

Aside from efficiency similarities, views, functions, and stored procedures are also similar because they are all connected within one another. Views can contain functions or stored procedures as part of the result set. For example, you could create a stored procedure to encompass multiple functions, then use a view to render that stored procedure in your rows and columns.

Differences:

Although they often include one another, views, functions, and stored procedures can still be run independently. Additionally, views show data, functions alter data, and stored procedures condense code. The previous are inherently different tasks.

Conclusion

In Lehmans terms, you can summarize views, functions, and stored procedures as ways to simplify SQL. They are tools within the broader code base which give you more power, but also make it easier to find and replicate the results you need.