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Step 9 of 10

IBM Developer
SKILLS NETWORK

Hands-on Lab : Getting started with PostgreSQL command line

Estimated time needed: 20 minutes

In this lab, you will use the PostgreSQL command line interface (CLI) to create a database and to restore the structure and contents of the tables it contains. Then you will learn how to explore and query tables. Finally, you will learn how to dump/backup tables from a database.

Software Used in this Lab

In this lab, you will use a PostgreSQL Database. PostgreSQL is a Relational Database Management System (RDBMS) designed to efficiently store, manipulate, and retrieve the data.
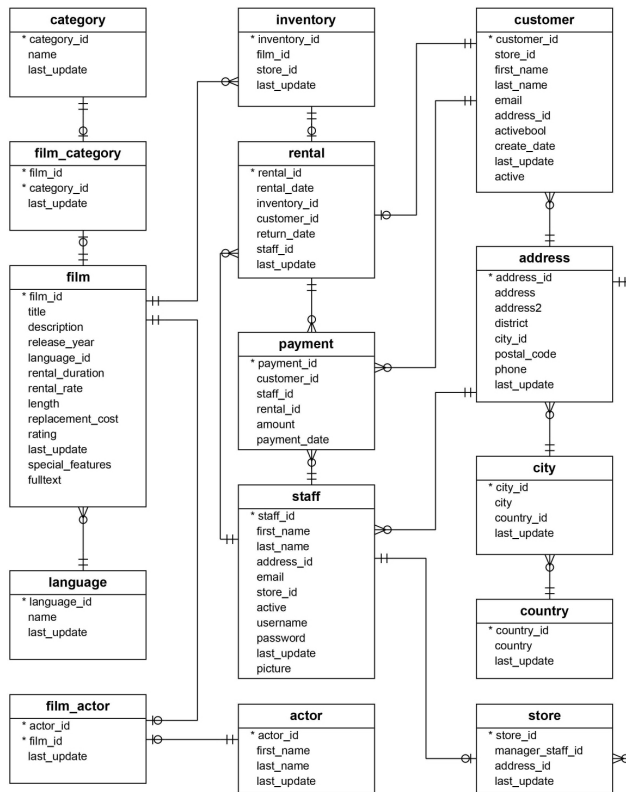
PostgreSQL

To complete this lab you will utilize the PostgreSQL relational database service available as part of IBM Skills Network Labs (SN Labs) Cloud IDE. SN Labs is a virtual lab environment used in this course.

Database Used in this Lab

The Sakila database used in this lab comes from the following source: https://dev.mysql.com/doc/sakila/en/ under New BSD license [Copyright 2021 - Oracle Corporation].

You will use a modified version of the database for the lab, so to follow the lab instructions successfully please use the database provided with the lab, rather than the database from the original source.

The following Entity Relation Diagram (ERD) diagram shows the structure of the schema of the Sakila database:

category
* category_id
name
last_update

inventory
* inventory_id
film_id
store_id
last_update

customer
* customer_id
store_id
first_name
last_name
email
address_id
activebool
create_date
last_update
active

film_category
* film_id
* category_id
last_update

rental
* rental_id
rental_date
inventory_id
customer_id
return_date
staff_id
last_update

film
* film_id
title
description
release_year
language_id
rental_duration
rental_rate
length
replacement_cost
rating
last_update
special_features
fulltext

payment
* payment_id
customer_id
staff_id
rental_id
amount
payment_date

address
* address_id
address
address2
district
city_id
postal_code
phone
last_update

city
* city_id
city
country_id
last_update

staff
* staff_id
first_name
last_name
address_id
email
store_id
active
username
password
last_update
picture

country
* country_id
country
last_update

language
* language_id
name
last_update

film_actor
* actor_id
* film_id
last_update

actor
* actor_id
first_name
last_name
last_update

store
* store_id
manager_staff_id
address_id
last_update

Objectives

After completing this lab, you will be able to use the PostgreSQL command line to:

- Create a database.
- Restore the structure and data of a table.
- Explore and query tables.
- Dump/backup tables from a database.

Lab Structure

In this exercise, you will go through several subtasks where you will use the PostgreSQL command line interface (CLI) to a create database and to restore the structure and contents of tables. Then you will learn how to explore and query tables. Finally, you will learn how to dump/backup tables from a database.

Task A: Create a database

To get started with this lab, launc`h PostgreSQL using the Cloud IDE. You can do this by following these steps:

1. Click on the Skills Network extension button on the left side of the window.

2. Open the **DATABASES** drop down menu and click on **PostgreSQL**

3. Click on the **Start** button. PostgreSQL may take a few moments to start.

4. Open up a new command terminal by clicking on the **New Terminal** button.

5. Copy the command below by clicking on the little copy button on the bottom right of the codeblock and then paste it into the terminal using **Ctrl + V** (Mac: ⌘ + V) to fetch the sakila*pgsql*dump.sql file to the Cloud IDE.

   ```
   wget https://cf-courses-data.s3.us.cloud-object-storage.appdomain.cloud/IBM-DB0110EN-SkillsNetwork/datasets/sakila/sakila_pgsql_dump.sql
   ```

6. Now open up the PostgreSQL Command Line Interface (CLI) by clicking on the **PostgreSQL CLI** button.

7. Create a new database **sakila** using the command below in the terminal and proceed to Task B:

   ```
   create database sakila;
   ```

   Note: You are using **create database** command to create a new database within the PostgreSQL CLI. To create a new database named sakila outside the command line interface, you can use the following command command directly in a terminal window: `createdb --username=postgres --host=localhost --password sakila` after quitting the psql command prompt session with command `\q`.

Task B: Restore the structure and data of a table

1. To connect to the newly created empty sakila database, use the command below in the terminal and enter your PostgreSQL service session password:

   `\connect sakila;`

2. Restore the sakila PostgreSQL dump file (containing the sakila database table definitions and data) to the newly created empty sakila database using the command below in the terminal:

   `\include sakila_pgsql_dump.sql;`

   > **Note:** You are using the **\include** command to restore the database dump file within the PostgreSQL CLI. To restore the database dump file outside of the Command Line Interface, you can use the command `pg_restore --username=postgres --host=localhost -- password --dbname=sakila < sakila_pgsql_dump.tar` after quitting the CLI prompt session with command `\q`. Non-text format **.tar** dumps are restored using the **pg***restore command. So, before the using mentioned **pg***restore command, first fetch the .tar version of this dump file using the command `wget https://cf-courses-data.s3.us.cloud-object-storage.appdomain.cloud/IBM-DB0110EN-SkillsNetwork/datasets/sakila/sakila_pgsql_dump.tar`

3. Repeat Step 1 to reconnect to the sakila database after restoring the dump file. Proceed to Task C.

Task C: Explore and query tables

1. To list all the tables names from the sakila database, use the command below in the terminal:

   `\dt`

2. Explore the structure of the **store** table using the command below in the terminal:

   `\d store;`

3. Retrieve all the records from the **store** table using the command below in the terminal:

   `SELECT * FROM store;`

4. Quit the PostgreSQL command prompt session using the command below in the terminal and proceed to Task D:

   `\q`

Task D: Dump/backup tables from a database

1. Finally, to dump/backup the **store** table from the database, use the command below in the terminal and enter your PostgreSQL service session password:

   `pg_dump --username=postgres --host=localhost --password --dbname=sakila --table=store --format=plain > sakila_store_pgsql_dump.sql`

   > **Note:** To only dump/backup the table **store** from the database in non-text format **.tar**, you can use command `pg_dump -- username=postgres --host=localhost --password --dbname=sakila --table=store --format=tar > sakila_store_pgsql_dump.tar`

2. To view the dump file within the terminal, use the command below in the terminal:

   `cat sakila_store_pgsql_dump.sql`

Conclusion

Congratulations! You have completed this lab, and you are ready for the next topic.

Author

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Other Contributors

- David Pasternak

Changelog

Date	Version	Changed by	Change Description
2021-03-15	1.0	Sandip Saha Joy	Created initial version
2021-10-18	1.1	David Pasternak	Updated lab instructions

Previous

Continue