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| **Proposed functionality** | **Transact-SQL or CLR managed code?** | **Why** |
| Table-valued function that returns a list of files in a folder. | CLR managed code | This is a candidate for CLR managed code as there is no direct alternative in Transact-SQL. However, it is probably better implemented outside of SQL Server so it does not slow down the database engine. Consider using SQL Server Integration Services (SSIS). |
| Function that formats string fields into a specific telephone number format. | CLR managed code | This is a candidate for CLR managed code as there is no direct alternative in Transact-SQL. However, consider implementing this in the presentation layer. Culture-specific information should generally not be formatted at the data layer, but handled in the presentation layer so it can be formatted depending on who is viewing the data. |
| Trigger that runs when a difference between two fields is greater than, or equal to, 1,000. | Transact-SQL | This is handled efficiently using Transact-SQL, and there is no reason to use CLR managed code. |
| Function that returns the number of rows in a table | Transact-SQL | This is handled efficiently using Transact-SQL, and there is no reason to use CLR managed code. |
| Stored procedure that writes XML data for a given XML parameter. | Transact-SQL | This is handled efficiently using Transact-SQL, and there is no reason to use CLR managed code. |
| A new customer data type. | CLR managed code | This is a candidate for CLR managed code as there is no direct alternative in Transact-SQL. Transact-SQL allows you to create user-defined types which creates an alias for an existing data type. |
| A new aggregate that count names that start with a lower case letter. | CLR managed code | This is a candidate for CLR managed code as there is no direct alternative in Transact-SQL. |