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Course: IT FDN 130 A
GitHub URL: https://github.com/ramr24/db-fdn-mod-07

Assignment 07 – Write-up

Details:
1. Explain when you would use a SQL UDF.
2. Explain the differences between Scalar, Inline, and Multi-Statement Functions.

Introduction

In this assignment, I will explain when to use a SQL UDF. Finally, I will explain the differences between Scalar, Inline, and Multi-Statement Functions.

SQL UDF

User Defined Functions (UDFs) are custom functions created by the user. There are two basic types of functions which return a table of values or return a single value. UDFs are very useful to use when you are outputting values due to repetitive lines of code. A function can be created with parameters to reduce redundancy in your code. The UDF can be used to output different results by changing a different value to the parameter rather than write large statements to return the same output.

Differences between Scalar, Inline and Multi-Statement Functions

Scalar user defined functions return a single value. An inline function would have returned a scalar value in the form of a single statement. A multi-statement function can return any data type and would return a series of statements that return a single value.

Summary

UDFs are custom functions created by the user to return a table of values or return a single value. Scalar UDFs return a single value, inline functions return a single statement and multi-statement functions returns a table.