CS 155A: Agenda 05

User-defined Variables and Intrinsic Functions

The material in this unit is too much for one week, so we will do this over two weeks. The assignment will be posted in the download page for next week.

But, please, do not think of this as taking a week off; that would be a disaster. Get about half of these functions down this week and half next week.

This week we look at the use of variables to write more efficient queries.

We are also working through the major intrinsic functions. There are a lot of functions- you do not need to memorize them all but you should be able to look them up and use them. . For example, the document on Math function includes: Abs, Power, Sign, and Sqrt. But we have never calculate the square root of an ex_fee. We do use the rounding functions. I do want you to get a feel for the types of functions available.

The major topics in this unit are
- User-defined variables
- Using intrinsic functions
- String functions
- Numeric functions
- Conversion functions
- Null functions
- Temporal functions
- Regular expression operators
- Case expressions

To Do: Reading
- Download the notes for this unit from the DownloadPage.
- In the van der Lans book : Some scalar functions are discussed on pages 107-114.
  The scalar function are listed and briefly described in Appendix B. This include a lot more functions than I expect you to work with.

To Do: Assignment_05

Download the assignment directions and any sql files needed from the DownloadPage. Complete the assignment. Upload the required files via the assignment tool.