

PostGresConf : Dev Track

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Modularizing computation via Common Table Expressions (CTEs)

Functional-declarative vs. Imperative styles of computation



Agenda

- Preliminaries
- CTE vs 'recursive' CTE
- The CTE template
- Realistic Example
- Fun Example
- Q&A (5 min)



Preliminaries – comment Nesting

The screenshot shows the pgAdmin interface with a SQL query editor and a Preferences dialog box. The query editor contains the following SQL code:

```
1  -- Harmonize single
2
3  --BEGIN TRANSACTION
4
5  SELECT 1;
6
7  -- comment|uncomment
8
9  COMMIT; /*
10 ROLLBACK; --*/
11
```

The Preferences dialog box is open, showing the following settings:

- Themes: Auto False
- User language: Auto False
- Paths: Binary paths, Help
- Query Tool: Auto completion, CSV/TXT Output, Display, Editor, Explain, Keyboard shortcuts
- Options: Results grid
- Schema Diff
- Auto commit? False. Set auto commit on or off by default in new Query Tool tabs.
- Auto rollback? False. Set auto rollback on or off by default in new Query Tool tabs.
- Prompt to commit/rollback active transactions? True. Specifies whether or not to prompt user to commit or rollback an active transaction on Query Tool exit.
- Prompt to save unsaved True. Specifies whether or not to prompt user to save unsaved data on data grid exit.

Buttons: ? (Help), X Cancel, Save



Preliminaries – comment Nesting

```
-- Harmonize single-line and multi-line Comments
```

```
BEGIN TRANSACTION; -- say 'TRANSACTION'
```

```
SELECT 1;
```

```
-- comment|uncomment to alternate between COMMIT|ROLLBACK
```

```
-- COMMIT; /*
```

```
ROLLBACK; --*/
```



Derived Table vs Common Table Expression

```
SELECT *
FROM -- derived table
  ( VALUES
    -- add lines here
    (1::int, '2014-01-01'::date)
  ) _startDate( "Nr", "Date" )
;

;WITH
-- Common Table Expression
_startDate( "Nr", "Date" ) AS ( VALUES
  -- add lines here
  (1::int, '2014-01-01'::date)
)
SELECT *
FROM _startDate
```



Make more data : Columns vs Rows

```
;WITH
_principal(principal) AS ( VALUES
    (1000::decimal(10,2))
    ...
) -- SELECT * FROM _principal /*
_rate(rate) AS ( VALUES
    ( 0.05::float)
    ...
) -- SELECT * FROM _rate /*
_term(term) AS ( VALUES
    (4::int)
    ...
) -- SELECT * FROM _term /*
,_product(option, principal, rate, term) AS (
    SELECT
        ROW_NUMBER() OVER ( --PARTITION BY ...
                            ORDER BY p.principal, r.rate, t.term
                            ) rnum
        ,p.principal, r.rate, t.term
    FROM _principal p, _rate r, _term t
) SELECT * FROM _product

--*/ --*/ --*/
```



Preliminaries – Style Guide|Conventions

- Naming : Table|View vs CTE|Derived table

LATERAL JOINS

- Position : “,” that separates CTEs
- Multi|single-line comments



Recursive CTE cf. other Products

- WITH vs WITH RECURSIVE
- UNION vs UNION ALL
- ... RETURNING ...
- ::Typed columns in Induction Base



CTE – the template

```
;WITH RECURSIVE
_startDate( "Nr", "Date" ) AS ( VALUES
    -- ad lines here
    (1::int, '2014-01-01'::date)
) -- SELECT * FROM _startDate /*
,_subsequentDate( "Nr", "Date" ) AS (
    SELECT
        "Nr", "Date"
    FROM _startDate
--/*
UNION ALL
    SELECT
        ("Nr"+1)
        , "Date" + 1::integer
    --FROM _startDate /* -- one iteration
    FROM _subsequentDate
    WHERE
        "Nr" < 365 --*/
--*/
) -- SELECT * FROM _subsequentDate /*
SELECT *
FROM _subsequentDate

--*/ --*/ -- one escape per CTE
```



CTE – 1 of 5

```
;WITH
_startDate( "Nr", "Date" ) AS ( VALUES
    -- add lines here
    (1::int, '2014-01-01'::date)
)
SELECT * FROM _startDate
```



CTE – 2 of 5

```
;WITH
_startDate( "Nr", "Date" ) AS ( VALUES
    -- add lines here
    (1::int, '2014-01-01'::date)
) -- SELECT * FROM _startDate /*
,_subsequentDate( "Nr", "Date" ) AS (
    SELECT
        "Nr", "Date"
    FROM _startDate
)
SELECT * FROM _subsequentDate
```



CTE – 3 of 5

```
;WITH
_startDate( "Nr", "Date" ) AS ( VALUES
    -- add lines here
    (1::int, '2014-01-01'::date)
) -- SELECT * FROM _startDate /*
,_subsequentDate( "Nr", "Date" ) AS (
    SELECT
        "Nr", "Date"
    FROM _startDate
/*
UNION ALL
    SELECT
        ("Nr"+1)
        , "Date" + 1::integer
    FROM _startDate
--*/
)
SELECT * FROM _subsequentDate

--*/ -- one escape per CTE
```



CTE – 4 of 5

```
;WITH --RECURSIVE
_startDate( "Nr", "Date" ) AS ( VALUES
    -- add lines here
    (1::int, '2014-01-01'::date)
) -- SELECT * FROM _startDate /*
,_subsequentDate( "Nr", "Date" ) AS (
    SELECT
        "Nr", "Date"
    FROM _startDate
--/*
UNION ALL
    SELECT
        ("Nr"+1)
        , "Date" + 1::integer
    FROM _startDate /* -- one iteration
    FROM _subsequentDate
    WHERE
        "Nr" < 365 --*/
--*/
)
SELECT * FROM _subsequentDate

--*/ -- one escape per CTE
```



CTE – 5 of 5

```
;WITH RECURSIVE
_startDate( "Nr", "Date" ) AS ( VALUES
    -- add lines here
    (1::int, '2014-01-01'::date)
) -- SELECT * FROM _startDate /*
,_subsequentDate( "Nr", "Date" ) AS (
    SELECT
        "Nr", "Date"
    FROM _startDate
--/*
UNION ALL
    SELECT
        ("Nr"+1)
        , "Date" + 1::integer
    --FROM _startDate /* -- one iteration
    FROM _subsequentDate
    WHERE
        "Nr" < 365 --*/
--*/
) -- SELECT * FROM _subsequentDate /*
SELECT
    "Date"
FROM _subsequentDate
WHERE
    EXTRACT(DOW FROM "Date") IN (0, 6);

--*/ --*/ -- one escape per CTE
```



Amortization Schedule – 1 of 6

```
;WITH
_product(option, principal, rate, terms) AS ( VALUES
  -- add lines here
  (1::int, 1000::decimal(10,2), 0.05::float, 4::int)
, (2::int, 2000::decimal(10,2), 0.05::float, 8::int)
) -- SELECT * FROM _product /*
,_first_installment(option, period, opening_balance, payment, closing_balance) AS (
  SELECT p.option , 1, p.principal::float
    ,__payment.amount
    ,(p.principal*(1+p.rate)      -- accrue interest
     - __payment.amount)::float -- reduce principal & interest
  FROM _product p LEFT JOIN LATERAL ( SELECT
    -- PMT = principal*rate*(1/(1-e**(-term*ln(1+rate)))) round up
    (p.principal*p.rate*(1/(1-EXP(-p.terms*LOG(1+p.rate)/LOG(EXP(1))))))::float
    ) AS __payment(amount) ON true

  --WHERE
  --p.option = 1
)
SELECT * FROM _first_installment

--*/ -- one escape per CTE
```



Amortization Schedule – 2 of 6

```
;WITH
_product(option, principal, rate, terms) AS ( VALUES
  -- add lines here
  (1::int, 1000::decimal(10,2), 0.05::float, 4::int)
) -- SELECT * FROM _product /*
,_first_installment(option, period, opening_balance, payment, closing_balance) AS (
  SELECT p.option , 1, p.principal::float
    ,__payment.amount
    ,(p.principal*(1+p.rate)      -- accrue interest
     - __payment.amount)::float  -- reduce principal & interest
  FROM _product p LEFT JOIN LATERAL ( SELECT
    -- PMT = principal*rate*(1/(1-e**(-term*ln(1+rate)))) round up
    (p.principal*p.rate*(1/(1-EXP(-p.terms*LOG(1+p.rate)/LOG(EXP(1))))))::float
    ) AS __payment(amount) ON true

  --WHERE
  --p.option = 1
) -- SELECT * FROM _first_installment /*
,_amortization_schedule(option, period, opening_balance, payment, closing_balance) AS (
  SELECT
    option, period, opening_balance, payment, closing_balance
  FROM _first_installment
)
SELECT * FROM _amortization_schedule s ORDER BY s.option, s.period

--*/ -- one escape per CTE
```



Amortization Schedule – 3 of 6

```
;WITH
_product(option, principal, rate, terms) AS ( VALUES
    ...
) -- SELECT * FROM _product /*
_first_installment(option, period, opening_balance, payment, closing_balance) AS (
    SELECT p.option , ...
    FROM _product p ...
    ...
) -- SELECT * FROM _first_installment /*
_amortization_schedule(option, period, opening_balance, payment, closing_balance) AS (
    SELECT
        option, period, opening_balance, payment, closing_balance
    FROM _first_installment
--/*
UNION ALL
    SELECT
        s.option, s.period+1
        ,s.closing_balance           -- previous period closing is subsequent opening
        ,s.payment
        ,(s.closing_balance*(1+p.rate) - s.payment) -- subsequent closing
    FROM _first_installment s INNER JOIN _product p ON s.option = p.option
--*/
)
SELECT * FROM _amortization_schedule s ORDER BY s.option, s.period

--*/ --*/ --*/ --*/
```



Amortization Schedule – 4 of 6

```
;WITH --RECURSIVE
_product(option, principal, rate, terms) AS ( VALUES
    ...
) -- SELECT * FROM _product /*
,_first_installment(option, period, opening_balance, payment, closing_balance) AS (
    ...
) -- SELECT * FROM _first_installment /*
,_amortization_schedule(option, period, opening_balance, payment, closing_balance) AS (
    SELECT
        option, period, opening_balance, payment, closing_balance
    FROM _first_installment
--/*
UNION ALL
    SELECT
        s.option, s.period+1
        ,s.closing_balance -- previous period closing is subsequent opening
        ,s.payment
        ,(s.closing_balance*(1+p.rate) - s.payment) -- subsequent closing
--FROM _first_installment s INNER JOIN _product p ON s.option = p.option /* -- one iteration
FROM _amortization_schedule s INNER JOIN _product p ON s.option = p.option
WHERE
    s.period < p.terms --*/
--*/
)
SELECT * FROM _amortization_schedule s ORDER BY s.option, s.period

--*/ --*/ --*/ --*/
```



Amortization Schedule – 5 of 6

```
;WITH RECURSIVE
_product(option, principal, rate, terms) AS ( VALUES
    ...
) -- SELECT * FROM _product /*
,_first_installment(option, period, opening_balance, payment, closing_balance) AS (
    ...
) -- SELECT * FROM _first_installment /*
,_amortization_schedule(option, period, opening_balance, payment, closing_balance) AS (
    ...
) -- SELECT * FROM _amortization_schedule s ORDER BY s.option, s.period /*
,_amortization_schedule_adjusted_last_period (option, period, opening_balance, payment, closing_balance) AS (
    SELECT
        s.option, period, opening_balance::decimal(10,2), payment::decimal(10,2), closing_balance::decimal(10,2)
    FROM _amortization_schedule s INNER JOIN _product p ON p.option = s.option
    WHERE
        s.period < p.terms
UNION
    SELECT
        s.option, period, opening_balance::decimal(10,2), payment::decimal(10,2)
        -- force
        ,0.00 AS closing_balance
    FROM _amortization_schedule s INNER JOIN _product p ON p.option = s.option
    WHERE
        s.period = p.terms
)
SELECT * FROM _amortization_schedule_adjusted_last_period
--*/ --*/ --*/ --*/
```



Amortization Schedule – 6 of 6

```
;WITH RECURSIVE
_product(option, principal, rate, terms) AS ( VALUES
    ...
) -- SELECT * FROM _product /*
,_first_installment(option, period, opening_balance, payment, closing_balance) AS (
    ...
) -- SELECT * FROM _first_installment /*
,_amortization_schedule(option, period, opening_balance, payment, closing_balance) AS (
    ...
) -- SELECT * FROM _amortization_schedule s ORDER BY s.option, s.period /*
,_amortization_schedule_adjusted_last_period (option, period, opening_balance, payment, closing_balance) AS (
    ...
) -- SELECT * FROM _amortization_schedule_adjusted_last_period /*
,_amortization_schedule_split_payment( option, period, opening_balance, payment
    ,principal, interest, closing_balance ) AS (
    SELECT
        option, period, opening_balance, payment
        ,(opening_balance - closing_balance) AS principal
        -- sacrifice on interest
        ,(payment - (opening_balance - closing_balance)) AS interest
        ,closing_balance
    FROM _amortization_schedule_adjusted_last_period
) SELECT * FROM _amortization_schedule_split_payment ORDER BY option /*

--*/ --*/ --*/ --*/
```



References

From models to hosted OpenAPI Specification (OAS).

Karel van der Walt, PostgresConf South Africa 2019

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VwbjkaOG2YE>

Modern SQL: A lot has changed since SQL-92.

<https://modern-sql.com>

The Mother of all Query Languages: SQL in Modern Times.

Markus Winand

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=swR33jlhW8Q>

