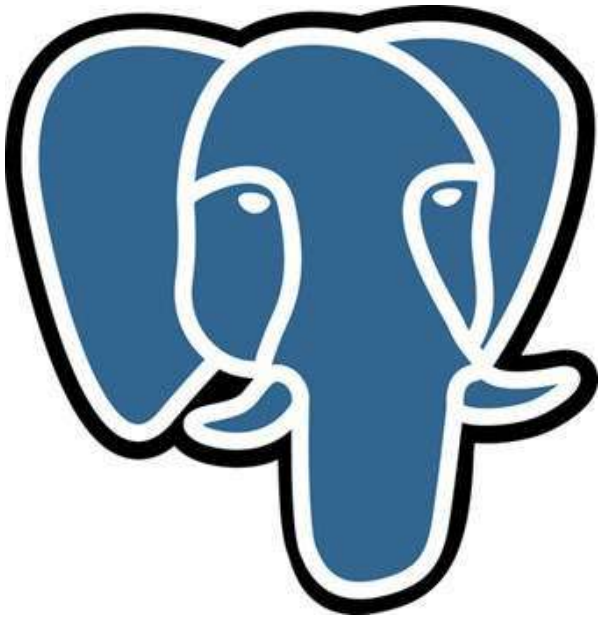
# Introduction to PostgreSQL

## The Open Source Object-Relational Database Management System



*Varlena, LLC*

*A. Elein Mustain*

*www.varlena.com*

*elein@varlena.com*

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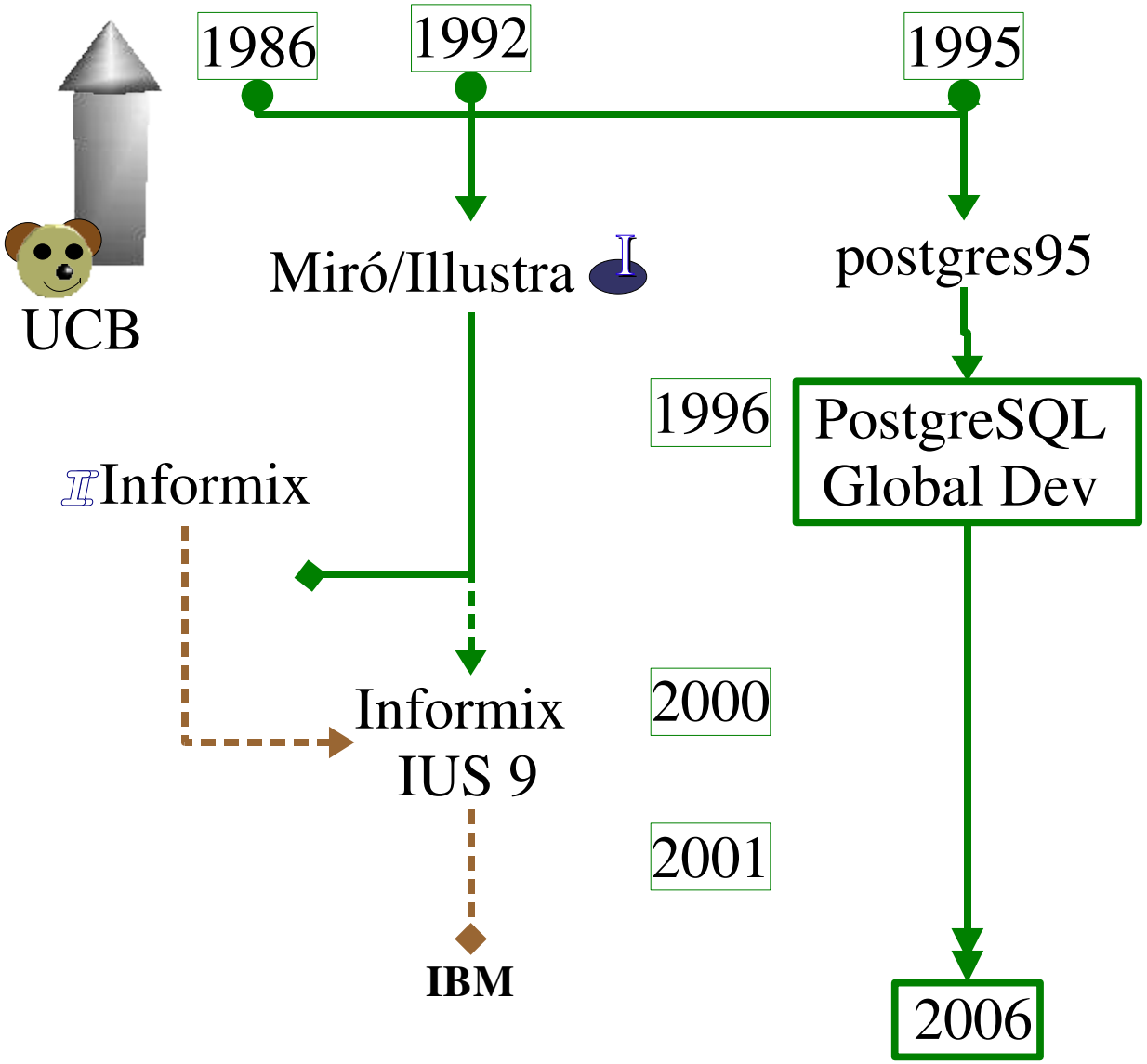
# Agenda

- PostgreSQL  Features
- Installation and Configuration
- Maintenance and Monitoring
- Command Line Interface
- Database Basics in PostgreSQL

# Not the Agenda

- Client Interfaces
- Inheritance
- Comparisons to other Databases
- Replication,  Point in Time Recovery
- Full Text Search

# History of Postgres



# What is PostgreSQL?

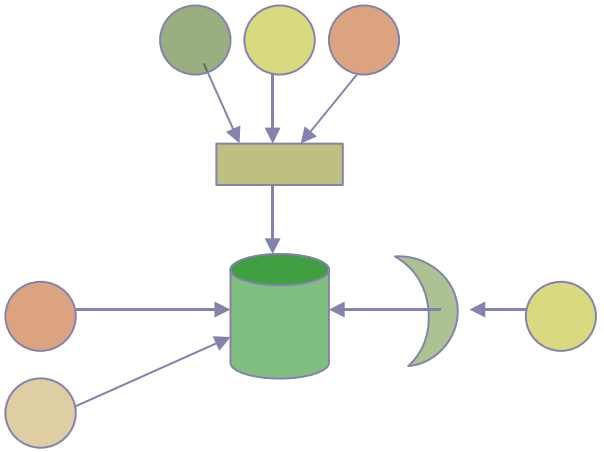
- Relational Database Management System
- Object-Relational Database
  - Ability to add First Class simple and complex objects, with methods, that can be used **in a Relational Context (SQL)**

# PostgreSQL Relational Features

- Foreign keys
- Triggers
- Views
- Transactional Integrity
  - ACID compliance
- Complex Queries

# Data Centricity

- Data stands on its own
  - Data is money
  - Many applications one database
- Database centric logic
  - Integrity cannot be circumvented by applications



# ACID Compliance

- Atomic
  - transactions seen in full or not at all
- Consistent
  - system enforced contraints
- Isolated
  - transactions do not interfere with each other transactions
- Durable
  - On Commit, result will not be lost

# Multi-Version Concurrency Control

- Snapshot of data for command or transaction
- Virtually eliminates need for locking
- Reading does not block writing and vice versa

```
SET TRANSACTION ISOLATION LEVEL
   READ COMMITTED
   SERIALIZABLE
```

# SQL and PostgreSQL

- Excellent Standards Compliance
  - SQL89, SQL92, SQL98, SQL2003
- Documentation includes Compliance
- Design Issues decided by Standards

# Object Relational Features

- Data types
- Functions
- Operators
- Rules
- Aggregates
- Index Methods

# PostgreSQL Queries with Objects

```
select hotel_name, hotel_address
from hotels h, airports a
where a.name = 'OAK' and
   h.loc @ Circle(a.loc, '5 miles');

select name, num_kids from people;

select pdf( doc, '/home/me')
from doc d
where dnameget(doc) = 'myresume';
```

# Client GUI Interfaces

- PgAdmin III
  - www.pgadmin.org
- phppgadmin
  - phppgadmin.sourceforge.net
- DbVisualizer
  - www.minq.se/products/dbvis/
- Others, e.g. pgaccess
  - See sourceforge.net

# Client Programming Interfaces

- psql - Command Line
- libpq – C library
- ECPG – Embedded SQL
- pgtcl – Tcl binding library
- Drivers
  - JDBC
  - ODBC
  - DBI: Perl, Python, PHP, etc.
  - .NET

# Server Side Languages

- PL/pgsql
- SQL
- C
- Other server side languages
  - PL/perl, PL/pythonu,
  - PL/R, PL/Tcl, PL/Ruby,
  - PL/bash, PL/Java
  - etc.

# Downloading PostgreSQL

**http://www.postgresql.org**

- By Source: ftp, bittorrent
- By CVS tree
- In Packages: RPM, Debian
- Company Distributions

# Operating System Distributions

- Most Linux like OS distributions
- MacOSX:
  - www.entropy.ch/software/macosx/ postgresql
- 8.1 Native Win32 Version
  - pginstaller at pgfoundry.org
- Cygwin:
  - www.cygwin.com

# Configuration Points

- **Build Time**
  - Build directives
  - Installation directory
  - PL Language options
- **Server Environment**
  - postgresql.conf, pg_hba.conf
- **Runtime/Client Environment**
  - PG environment variables

# Configuration Points
# Build Time

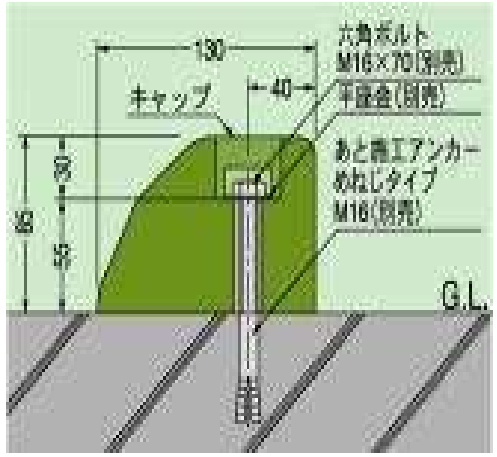
As user postgres ...

```
$ ./configure \
  --prefix=/local/pgsql81 \
  --with-perl \
  --with-python \
  --with-tcl \
  --enable-depend
$ make
$ sudo make install
```

# Initdb -D $PGDATA

Creates Data Directory with:

- configuration files
  - postgresql.conf
  - pg_hba.conf
- template databases
  - template0
  - template1
  - super user database



# Configuration Points
# Server Environment

- Global User Configuration
  - $PGDATA/postgresql.conf
  - Environment variables for server startup
- Access Security
  - $PGDATA/pg_hba.conf
  - Host, user and database access.

# Configuration Points
# Global User Configuration

- Environment Variables for Server Startup
- postgresql.conf
- See also:
  - www.varlena.com/GeneralBits/Tidbits/#Performance

# Configuration Points
# Global User Configuration

| Variable | Default | @ 2G RAM |
|---|---|---|
| max_connections | 100 | 100 |
| shared_buffers | 1000 | 25000 |
| work_mem | 1024 | 16384 |
| maintenance_work_mem | 16384 | 16384 |
| max_fsm_pages | 20000 | * |
| max_fsm_relations | 1000 | * |
| effective_cache_size | 1000 | 82500 |
| log_destination | stderr | stderr |
| redirect_stderr | off | on |

# Configuration Points
# Global User Configuration

| Variable | Default | @ 2G RAM |
|---|---|---|
| log_directory | pg_log | /varl/log/pgsql |
| log_min_duration_statem | -1 | 500 |
| log_line_prefix | | [%p - %t ] |
| log_statement | none | ddl |
| stats_start_collector | on | on |
| stats_command_string | off | on |
| stats_block_level | off | on |
| stats_row_level | off | on |
| autovacuum | off | on |

# Configuration Points Basic Security

```
# Host            DB       USER       ADDRESS      METHOD
# "local" is for Unix domain socket connections only
local             all      all                          trust
# IPv4 local:
host              all      all       127.0.0.1/32       trust
# IPv6 local:
host              all      all       ::1/128            trust
# bad bernie
host              all      bernie    163.555.9.9        reject
# demo
host              demo     varlena   163.555.9.9     trust
# users
host              all      all          163.555.9.9     md5
```

# Configuration Points
# Runtime/Client Environment

- Environment Variables
  - PGHOST – default localhost
  - PGPORT – default 5432
  - PGUSER – default $USER
  - PGDATABASE – default $PGUSER
- Different for multiple installations

# Configuration Points
# Session Setting

- View: pg_settings
- Show values and descriptions

```
SELECT name, setting, short_desc
FROM pg_settings
ORDER BY name;
```

- What can be set in a session?

```
SELECT name
FROM pg_settings
where context='user';
```

# Housekeeping PostgreSQL Start and Stop

- Starting & Stopping PostgreSQL
  - Installation Specific Script (/etc/init.d)

```
$ pg_ctl start -D $PGDATA
$ pg_ctl stop
```

- Windows PostgreSQL--> Programs

# Housekeeping PostgreSQL Logging

- Log Maintenance
  - Rotate Log Settings in **postgresql.conf**
  - Alternative:

```
$ pg_ctl start -D $PGDATA |\
rotatelogs $PGDATA/pglog 86400 2>&1;
```

- **Always know where your log file is!**

# Housekeeping PostgreSQL Vacuuming

- Autovacuum
  - Configure in postgresql.conf
- Vacuum

```
$ vacuumdb --analyze --full
```

- Updates Statistics
  - Improves Performance
- Recovers Disk Space
- Frequency tuning required

# Housekeeping PostgreSQL Backing Up

- **Backup**

```
pg_dumpall > \
    .../`date +%Y%m%d`dump.sql
```

- **Restore**

```
psql -f 20061231dump.sql
```

**Backup! Now!**

**No excuses! Really!**

# Monitoring PostgreSQL

## Client Server Architecture

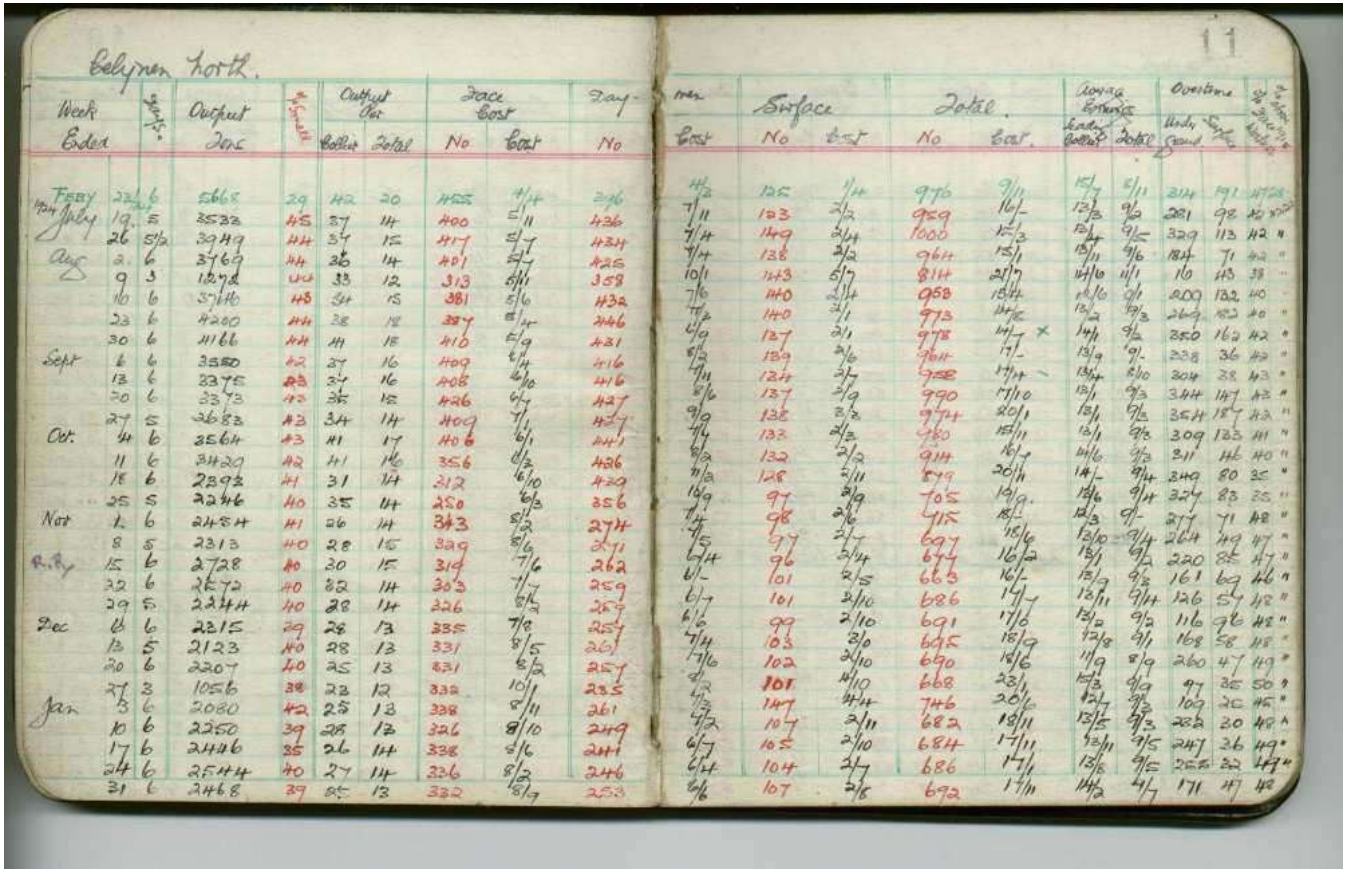
- pg_stat_activity
  - Set pg_stats_command in postgresql.conf
- ps -alx
- Log files
  - check pgfoundry for log parsers

# Documentation and Help

- Online & Downloadable Docs
- Mailing Lists: www.postgresql.org
- IRC #postgresql freenode.net
- PostgreSQL General Bits :-)
  - http://www.varlena.com/GeneralBits


# Creating Databases

```
$ createdb accounts
```



# Adding Users

```
$ createuser bob

Shall the new role be a superuser?
  (y/n) n

Shall the new role be allowed to create
  databases? (y/n) y

Shall the new role be allowed to create
  more new roles? (y/n) y

CREATE ROLE
```

# psql Basics


## Always learn help first.

- Command Line options

```
$ psql --help
```

- Backslash Command Help

```
$ psql db
db=# \?
```

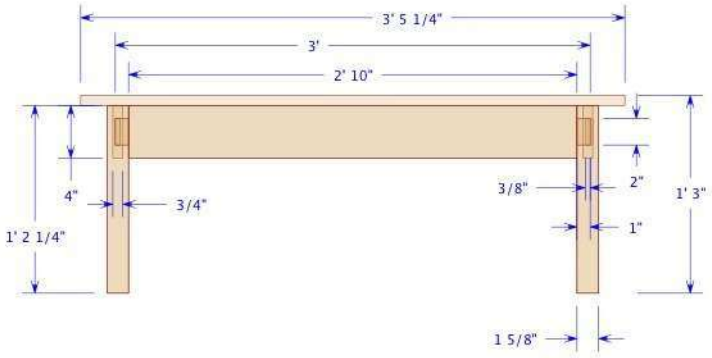
- SQL Help

```
$ psql db
db=# \help [SQL command]
```

# Database Design Elements

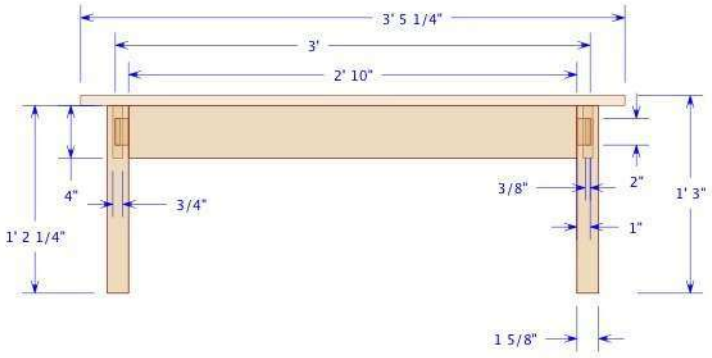
- Data Types & Sequences
- Nulls
- Keys
- Constraints & Defaults
- Triggers, Functions & Operators
- Tablespaces
- Simple domains
- Rules

# Create Table




- AS, LIKE
- WITH OIDS
  - Current default WITH may change
  - See default_with_oids
- Temporary Tables
  - PRESERVE ROWS, DELETE ROWS, DROP
- INHERITS
- CONSTRAINTS
- TABLESPACE

# Create Table




```
CREATE TABLE people (
id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
name text,
dept_no int REFERENCES dept(dept_no)
);


CREATE temp TABLE ships_temp as
SELECT ship_id, cargo_no, voyage
FROM ships;
```

# Data Types

- Integers, big and small
- Serials
- Arbitrary precision–numeric
- Floating points
- Serial Types–Identity
- Character Types
- Binary Data, big and small
- Date/Time/Timestamp
- Boolean
- Geometric
- Network Addresses
- Bit Types
- Arrays
- Oids
- Pseudo Types

# Data Type Mapping

- Integers..... 2, 4, 8 bytes
- Serials..... Identity, Autoincrement
- Numeric..... Money
- Floats..... Arithmetic
- Text..... Character Types
- Date/Time/Interval... Dates & Times
- Timestamp..... Timestamps
- Boolean..... Boolean
- bytea..... Byte stream, images

# Keys

## Primary Keys

- Implemented as B-Tree Unique indexes

## Foreign Keys

- Implement Referential Integrity.
- A FK in table A says that this value references a unique value in table B.
- Cascading updates, deletes
- Nulls OK

# Defaults & Constraints

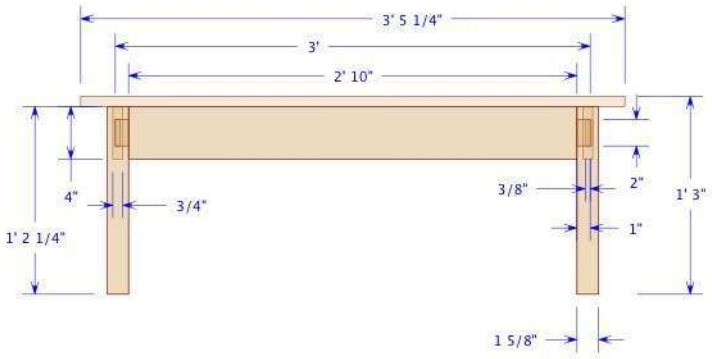
- Initialize column with constants
- Check value for validity
- UNIQUE, [NOT] NULL, KEYS

```
CREATE TABLE players (
nick_name text PRIMARY KEY,
team_name text REFERENCES teams(team_name),
age integer CHECK (age > 15) NOT NULL,
games_played integer DEFAULT 0
);
```

# Nulls

- A NULL is a NULL is a NULL
- NULLS are not equal to each other
- NULLS are not equivalent to an empty string
- NULLS are not equivalent to 0
- NULLS are not indexed

# TableSpaces




- Creating a tablespace

```
CREATE TABLESPACE bd LOCATION
```

- Using a tablespace

```
CREATE TABLE FOO (...) TABLESPACE bd;
```

- Altering a tablespace
  - alter owner, alter name
- Alter a table's tablespace

```
ALTER TABLE SET TABLE SPACE TO bd;
```

# SELECT

- Target List – list of columns to be returned
  - any expression,
  - aggregate,
  - subquery,
  - function,
  - columns from FROM clause data sources

# SELECT

- FROM – data sources
  - Tables,
  - Views,
  - Set Returning Functions,
  - SubQueries,
  - JOINS,
  - UNIONS

# SELECT

- WHERE – boolean expression qualifying data
  - Expressions,
  - Columns,
  - Functions,
  - SubQueries

# SELECT

- GROUP BY – scope of Aggregate
  - Elements of Target List not involved in aggregation.
  - Determines Break columns

```
select tname, count(match_id)
from tmatches
group by tname;
```

# SELECT

- HAVING – boolean expression qualifying aggregates
  - Expressions usually involving aggregates

```
select team1, count(matid)
from tmatches
group by team1
having count(matid) > 5;
```

# Conditional Statements

- COALESCE

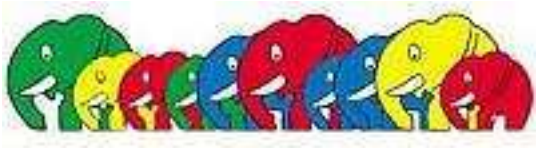
```
coalesce( description,
 short_description, 'N/A')
```

- CASE

```
(select case when $1 is null then
   '#ffffff'
else
   '#000000'
end)
```

- NULLIF (value1, value2)
  - NULL if values are equal else value1

# SubQuery Expressions



- Expressions and Lists
- EXISTS

```
WHERE EXISTS (select id from bigtable)
```

- IN

```
WHERE thisid IN (select id from bigtable)
```

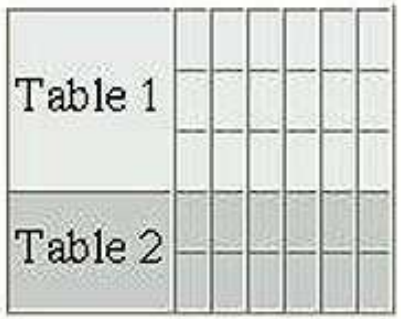
- ANY (SOME)

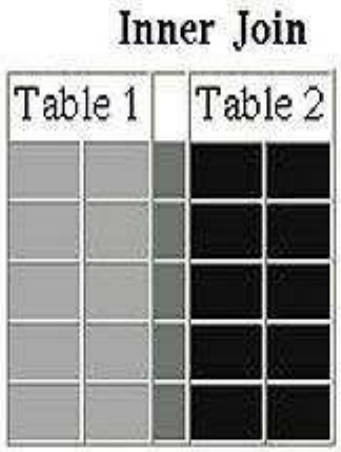
```
name = ANY (select user from users)
```

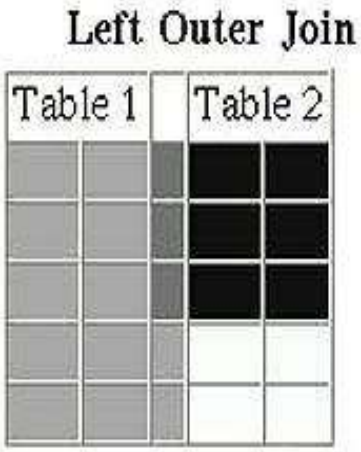
- ALL

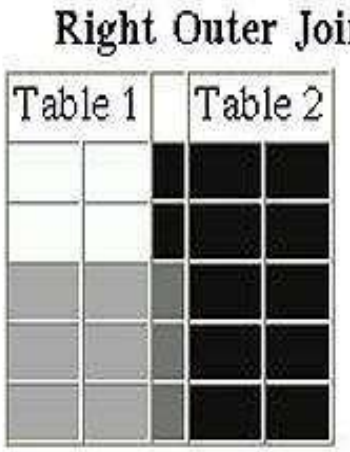
```
due_date > ALL (select milestones from
  projects)
```

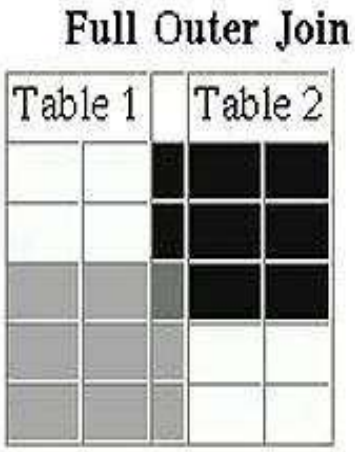
# UNIONS & JOINS



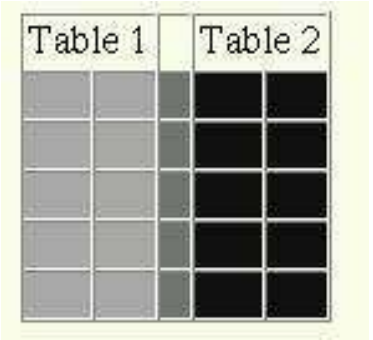




# JOINS: ON, USING, WHERE

```
SELECT ...
FROM matches m JOIN events e
   USING (matchid)


SELECT ...
FROM matches m JOIN events e
   ON (m.matchid = e.m_id)


SELECT ...
FROM matches m, events e
   WHERE m.matchid = e.matchid
```




# INSERT

- Target Table
- (Column Names)
- VALUES
- (Column Values)
  - Expressions

```
INSERT INTO tmatches
(matid, team1, team2, score1, score2)
VALUES
(DEFAULT, 'Berkeley', 'KC', 40,2);
```

# INSERT

- Target Table
- SubQuery

```
INSERT INTO events (ename, year, descr)
    SELECT lower(ename), 2006, description
    FROM events2006
    WHERE lower(ename) not in
        (select ename from events);
```

# UPDATE

- Target Table
- SET Column_Name = Value,
  Column_Name = Value
  - expression, value from Target Table, FROM list
- FROM
  - Other Tables
- WHERE
  - *DON'T FORGET THE WHERE CLAUSE!*

# UPDATE

```
UPDATE teams
SET descr = nt.longdescr
FROM newteam_names nt
WHERE teams.sname = nt.sname;
```

# DELETE

- Table Name
- USING
  - Data Sources (i.e. table list)
- WHERE
  - *DON'T FORGET THE WHERE CLAUSE!*

```
DELETE FROM daily_log
where log_ts < (current_date -1)
 + '12:00pm'::time
```

# Views

- Named Queries
- Implemented Using Rules
- Can do Updates, Inserts, Deletes via Rules
- Usability

```
CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW phonelist AS
SELECT t.team, p.player, p.name, p.phone
   FROM teams t, p.players
   WHERE t.team = p.team;
```

# Blobs, Slobs and TOAST

- Large Objects
  - special interface lo_
  - seek, read, write
- TOAST
  - automatic and invisible promotion
  - INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE
  - no seek

# Simple Domains

- Subtype Inherits Parent Type
  - Attributes and
  - Operators, Functions
- May Over Ride
  - DEFAULT, CHECK
  - CONSTRAINT, [NOT] NULL
  - Operators, Functions

# Simple Domains

- May Not Over Ride
  - Casts
  - LIKE
  - AS PRIMARY KEY use UNIQUE INDEX

```
CREATE DOMAIN degrees float CHECK
(degrees > -180 and degrees <= 180);
```

# Built-in Functions & Operators

- Logical & Comparison Operators
- Math Functions, Aggregates & Operators
- Type Conversions
- Date, Time & Interval Arithmetic
- String and pattern matching
- Conditional Statements

# Functions & Operators

```
SELECT (('1/1/' || 2006)+ 7*( week - 1 ),
    SUM(cookies), scout_name
FROM cookie_sales c JOIN scouts s
USING (s.name),
    generate_series(1,53) g(week)
WHERE
    date_part('week',c.sales_date) = week
GROUP BY week, scout_name;
```

# Functions & Operators: Casts

- INTERVAL '2 days 3 hours'
- TIMESTAMP '12/31/59'
- 'gotta wanna'::text
- 16::bigint
- '(1.5,2.7)'::point
- 123.456::numeric(6,3)

# Input/Output Functions

- Output Format
  - to_char( ----, text)
  - timestamp, integer, double precision, numeric

```
to_char( idate, 'dd-Mon-YYYY');
to_char( price, '999D99');
```

# Input/Output Functions

- Input Format
  - to_date(text, text)
  - to_timestamp(text,text)
  - to_number(text, text)

```
to_date( '31 Dec 2006', 'DD Mon YYYY')
to_timestamp( '5/24/06', 'DD/MM/YY');
to_number( '543', '999D99')
```

# Functions & Operators
## Interval Arithmetic

- Regular Arithmetic Expressions

```
current_date + INTERVAL '5 days'
start_date + duration
```

- Regular Comparison Operators

```
item_date > due_date
start_date + INTERVAL '5 days' <= due_date
logtime <> last_log
```

# Functions & Operators
# Date, Time Arithmetic

- extract( field FROM src)

```
extract(epoch FROM
   TIMESTAMP '2004-12-31 01:43:03');
extract(hours FROM
   INTERVAL '2 days 5 hours');
```

- age( timestamp )

```
age('12/31/1959');
```

# Functions & Operators
## Interval Arithmetic

- (start, end) OVERLAPS (start2, end2)

```
(proposed_start, proposed_end)
 OVERLAPS
('12/23/06'::date, '1/4/06'::date)

(sessiontime, INTERVAL '1 hour')
 OVERLAPS
(breaktime, INTERVAL '15 minutes')
```

# Functions & Operators
## String and Pattern matching

- LIKE, ILIKE or ~~, ~~*

```
city LIKE   'San_%'
city ~~     'San_%'
city ILIKE  'oak%'
city ~~*    'oak%'
```

- SIMILAR TO or ~, ~*

```
name SIMILAR TO
  '(Mr.|Ms.) [A-Z]([ a-z])*'
```

# Indexing Operators

```
create index uname_idx
   on users (user_name);

create index ttnotes_idx
   on trouble_tickets(ticket_id, note_id);

create index range_idx
   on cows USING RTREE (range);
```

# Functional Indexing

- Functional indexes
  - Result of any immutable procedure

```
create index tsdate_idx on
   log_table date(createtimestamp);
create name_idx on
   users lower(user_name);
```

- Expressional indexes
  - Result of any immutable expression

```
create overdue_idx
   on books duedate + '30 days'
```

# Partial Indexing

- Indexes over parts of tables

```
create index active_clients on clients
    where status = 'A';

create index currentyear on accounts
    where reg_date = '2005';
```

# Server Side Languages

- PL/pgsql and SQL Primary languages
- Query & Trigger enabled
- Trusted vs. untrusted languages
- Available server side languages
  - PL/perl, PL/pythonu,
  - PL/R, PL/Tcl, PL/Ruby,
  - PL/bash
  - C, etc.

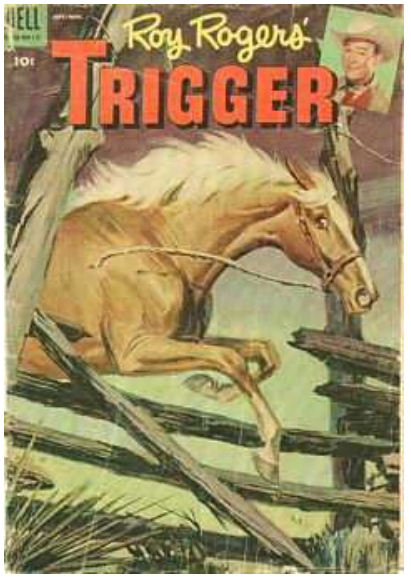
# Server Side Functions

```
CREATE FUNCTION foo(text, integer)
RETURNS integer AS
$$
...
$$
LANGUAGE 'plpgsql' [OPTIONS...]
```

# PlPgSQL Trigger Functions

- Executes once per row
- Often Used for
  - complex or dynamic defaults
  - logging

# Triggers




- Function executed per Row
- Before or After Event
- Insert, Update or Delete

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION lastmod
RETURNS TRIGGER AS $$
   BEGIN
      NEW.last_modified = now();
      RETURN NEW;
   END;
$$ LANGUAGE 'plpgsql';

CREATE TRIGGER team_upd
BEFORE INSERT OR UPDATE on teams
FOR EACH ROW EXECUTE PROCEDURE lastmod();
```

# Rules


- Re-Write a Query
- Action On a Table or View
- Select Rules Implement Views
- Updateable Views Implemented via Rules

# Rules View

Example View:

```
CREATE VIEW matches_v
SELECT m.matchname, m.matchid,
  t1.team AS team1, t2.team AS team2,
  t1.teamid as t1id, t2.teamid as
   t2id,
  e.eventname, m.eventid
FROM matches m JOIN teams t1 USING
 (t1.id=teamid)
  JOIN teams t2 USING (t2.id=teamid)
  JOIN event e ON (eventid);
```

# Rules Implement a View

(Implicit)

```
CREATE RULE "_RETURN" AS ON
SELECT TO matches_v DO INSTEAD
  SELECT...;
```

# Rules Implement a View

```
CREATE RULE upd_matches
AS ON UPDATE TO matches_v
DO INSTEAD
UPDATE matches
SET matchname=NEW.matchname,
  eventid=NEW.eventid,
  t1id=NEW.t1id, t2id=NEW.t2id
WHERE matchid=OLD.matchid;
```

# Rules

```
CREATE RULE ins_matches
AS ON INSERT TO matches_v
DO INSTEAD
INSERT INTO matches
(matchid, eventid, t1id, t2id,
 matchname)
VALUES
(default, NEW.eventid, NEW.t1id,
 NEW.t2id, NEW.matchname);
```

# Rules

```
CREATE RULE del_matches
AS ON DELETE TO matches_v
DO INSTEAD
DELETE FROM tmatches
WHERE matchid=OLD.matchid
```

# Operators

- Create first class operators
- Implemented by functions
- Use the same way as ordinary built-in operators.
- Natural cost overhead.

# Tuning Queries

The usual suspects

- DID YOU VACUUM?
- Type mismatch
- Indexing Expressions
- GUC configurations
- Explaining Explain
- plpgsql-performance@postgresql.org

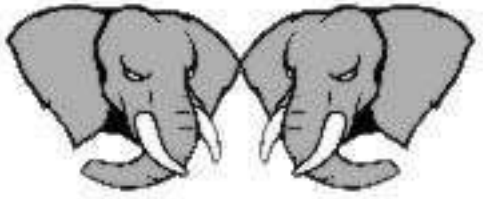
# Explain

- Explain [analyze] [verbose]

```
OP (cost=n...n rows=n width=n)
     (actual time=t..t rows=n loops=n)
   OP cond: (...)
   -> OP (cost=...)(actual time=...)
      OP cond: (...)
```

- Look for
  - Seq Scan, Hash Join,
  - Subquery, Hash,
  - Index Scan
  - Index usage

# Replication Products



- SLONY-1
- Mammoth Replicator Command Prompt, Inc.
- pgpool (client side)
- postgres-r, dbmirror async, Rserv async, clustgres, pglcluster, osogres (client side replication)

# References

- www.postgresql.org
- www.varlena.com/GeneralBits
- Mailing Lists
  - general, sql, novice, interfaces
  - hackers
  - advocacy
  - performance, bugs
  - docs
- IRC #postgresql freenode.net