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# **YamSql Documentation**

***Release***

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YamSql is a language to describe SQL schemas (i.e. database structures) based on [YAML](#).

This project contains the joined documentation and definition of YamSql available via [yamsql.readthedocs.io](https://yamsql.readthedocs.io).

## 1.1 Implementation

The reference implementation of YamSql is [HamSql](#). It currently supports deployment on PostgreSQL servers and generating documentations of the SQL schemas.



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## Language Constructs

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### 2.1 Files

#### 2.1.1 Config Load Directory

Only files ending with an alphanumeric character and not beginning with a dot are considered.

#### 2.1.2 Front Matter

YAML front matter is a method to add YAML content to a document [originally defined by Jekyll](#). The YAML part is added to the beginning of the document between triple-dashed lines.

Listing 2.1: General structure of a document with YAML front matter

```
---  
<YAML>  
---  
<CONTENT>
```

### 2.2 Value Types

#### 2.2.1 List

Lists are just YAML Lists

Listing 2.2: Different ways for providing lists

```
# recommended  
list1:  
- this  
- is a  
- list  
dlist1:  
-  
  a: list with  
  b: sub structure  
# this variant saves a line
```

```
- a: x
  b: y

# mostly discused for YamSql
list2: [this, is a, list]
dlist2: [{a: list with, b: sub structure}, {a: x, b: y}]
```

## 2.2.2 SQL Identifier

Internally, if no double quote character is present, the parts seperated by periods are escaped or enquoted. If a double quote character is present, it is assumed that the identifier is properly enquoted.

## 2.2.3 SQL Type

The following characters prevent processing of the string:

- " double quotes
- % percent sign
- ( . . . ) pair of parenthesis

as does the occurence of no period (.).

Listing 2.3: Examples of the processing algorithm

```
varchar      -> varchar
a.b          -> "a"."b"
"a".b        -> "a".b
"a.b"        -> "a.b"
a.b(10)      -> a.b(10)
a.b%ROWTYPE  -> a.b%ROWTYPE
```

## 2.2.4 String

Strings are YAML strings. In most cases they can be given unquoted. However, there are some special cases, where things go wrong.

1. Inputs like true or false are interpreted as *Bool* and have to be en-quoted.
2. Quotes are used to mark strings. If you need the string "string", you can use ""string"".

```
key1a: this is a string.
# also possible but not required
key1b: "this is a string."
# this one needs quoting
key2: "true"
# this represents the string "string"
key3: ""string""
```

## 2.2.5 Bool

Bools are Yaml boolean values. Values can be true or false



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## Function

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The *Config Load Directory* is `functions.d`. For functions two allowed formats for giving the functions body exist. The usual variant is to give the following YAML structure including the `body` value. The second variant is to give the following YAML structure as *Front Matter* (i. e. fenced with `---` lines) providing the body as content following the frontmatter. The *Examples* include both variants.

The recommended practice is to use the *Front Matter* style while using a filename extension that matches the used language (`.pgsql`, `.sql`, `.py`) to enable syntax highlighting in editors.

**name** *SQL Identifier* Function name

**description** *String* Function description

**returns** *SQL Type* Return type of the function, the value `TABLE` is special (see `return_table`)

**parameters** *List [Variable]* parameters the function takes

**templates** *List [SQL Identifier]* list of template names, from which this function derives definitions (see `FunctionTpl`)

**returns\_columns** *List [Parameter]* If the value of `return` is `TABLE` (case sensitive), this options defines the columns that are returned

**priv\_execute** *List [SQL Identifier]* Role that has the privilege to execute the function

**security\_definer** *Bool* If true, the function is executed with the privileges of the owner! Owner has to be given, if this is true

**owner** *SQL Identifier* owner of the function

**language** *String*: language in which the body is written.

**variables** *List [Variable]* Variables

**body** *String* The code of the function (body)

### 3.1 Parameter

**name** *SQL Identifier* Name

**type** *SQL Type* Type

**description** *String* Description

## 3.2 Variable

**name** *SQL Identifier* Name

**type** *SQL Type* Type

**description** *String* Description

**default** *String* Default

## 3.3 Examples

Listing 3.1: Usual definition using plain YAML

```
name: f
description: |
  Always returns ``1``
returns: int
body: |

  RETURN 1;
```

Listing 3.2: Same function with the function body following a *Front Matter*

```
---
name: f
description: |
  Always returns ``1``
returns: int
---

RETURN 1;
```

Listing 3.3: Same function written in Python 3

```
---
name: f
description: |
  Always returns ``1``
returns: int
language: plpython3u
---

return 1
```

## 3.4 External Resources

- PostgreSQL’s CREATE FUNCTION statement

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## Role

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Roles are a unification of the concept of users and groups.

**name** *SQL Identifier* Role name

**description** *String* Description

**login** *Bool* Can role login, non-login roles are groups (default: *false*)

**password** *String* password in plain text

**member\_in** *List [SQL Identifier]* List of roles the role is member of

### 4.1 External Resources

- PostgreSQL's CREATE ROLE



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## Schema

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A database can contain several *schemas* where each schema can contain objects like tables and functions potentially with identical names without conflicting. Thus, schemas share similarities with the concept of namespaces.

YamSql schema definitions consist of a folder which shares its name with the schema. The folder must contain a `schema.yml` file.

### 5.1 Syntax of schema.yml

**name** *SQL Identifier* Schema name.

**description** *String* Schema description. It is recommended to use *reStructuredText* for adding markup to this field's content.

**dependencies** *List* [*SQL Identifier*] Other schemas required for this schema to work.

### 5.2 Examples

```
name: my_app
description: |
  Main structure for MyApp

dependencies:
  - other_app
```

### 5.3 External Resources

- PostgreSQL Schemas
- PostgreSQL's CREATE SCHEMA statement



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## Table

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The *Config Load Directory* is `tables.d` and must contain files with the following structure.

**name** *SQL Identifier* table name

**description** *String* what this table is good for

**columns** *List [Column]* columns contained in this table

**primary\_key** *List [SQL Identifier]* list of column names that define the primary key

**foreign\_keys** *List [Foreign Key]* contains values via foreign keys

**checks** *List [Check]* validity checks applied to the table

**inherits** (*List [SQL Identifier]*) Inherits

**priv\_select** *List [SQL Identifier]* grant SELECT to given roles for this table

**priv\_insert** *List [SQL Identifier]* grant INSERT

**priv\_update** *List [SQL Identifier]* grant UPDATE

**priv\_delete** *List [SQL Identifier]* grant DELETE

**templates** *List [SQL Identifier]* (see TableTpl)

## 6.1 Column

**name** *SQL Identifier* column name

**type** *SQL Type* column type (see also *Type*, *Domain*)

**description** *String* description

**template** *SQL Identifier* if a ColumnTpl is used, `_type_` and `_description_` can be omitted

**default** *String* default value (sql code)

**null** *Bool* Sql `_NULL_` is allowed as value (default `_false_`)

**references** *SQL Identifier* References

**on\_ref\_delete** *String* On Ref Delete

**on\_ref\_update** *String* On Ref Update

**unique** *Bool* Unique

**checks** *List [Check]* Checks

## 6.2 Foreign Key

*name* *SQL Identifier* Just a name

*columns* *List* [*SQL Identifier*] Columns in this table

*ref\_table* *SQL Identifier* Table to reference

*ref\_columns* *List* [*SQL Identifier*] Columns in referenced table (order must match the one in *columns*)

*on\_delete* *String* Action when entry in foreign table is deleted

*on\_update* *String* Action when entry in foreign table is update

## 6.3 External Resources

- PostgreSQL's CREATE TABLE statement



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**Check**

---

*name* *SQL Identifier* Name

*description* *String* Description

*check* *String* SQL code



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## Domain

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Domains are basically semantic aliases for build in types with some extra constraints called *Checks*.

The *Config Load Directory* is `domains.d` and must contain files with the following structure.

**name** *SQL Identifier* Name

**description** *String* Description

**type** *SQL Type* Type

**default** *String* Default

**checks** *List [Check]* Checks

### 8.1 Examples

```
name: email_address
description: Valid email address
type: varying(254)

checks:
-
  name: email_regex
  description: |
    Ensures that the address contains an ``@`` and something before the ``@``
  check: |
    POSITION('@' IN VALUE) > 1
```

### 8.2 External Resources

- PostgreSQL's CREATE DOMAIN statement



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## Type

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Composite Type

*name* *SQL Identifier* Type Name

*description* *String* Description

*elements* *List* [*Type Element*] TypeElements

### 9.1 Type Element

*name* *SQL Identifier* Name

*type* *SQL Type* Type

### 9.2 Examples

```
name: plant
description: |
  Stores numbers of ``flowers`` and ``leaves`` of a plant.
elements:
  -
    name: flowers
    type: integer
  -
    name: leaves
    type: integer
```

### 9.3 External Resources

- PostgreSQL's CREATE TYPE statement