

Crystal Reports 9.0

Creating Formulas (Lesson 8)

Lesson 8

Introduction

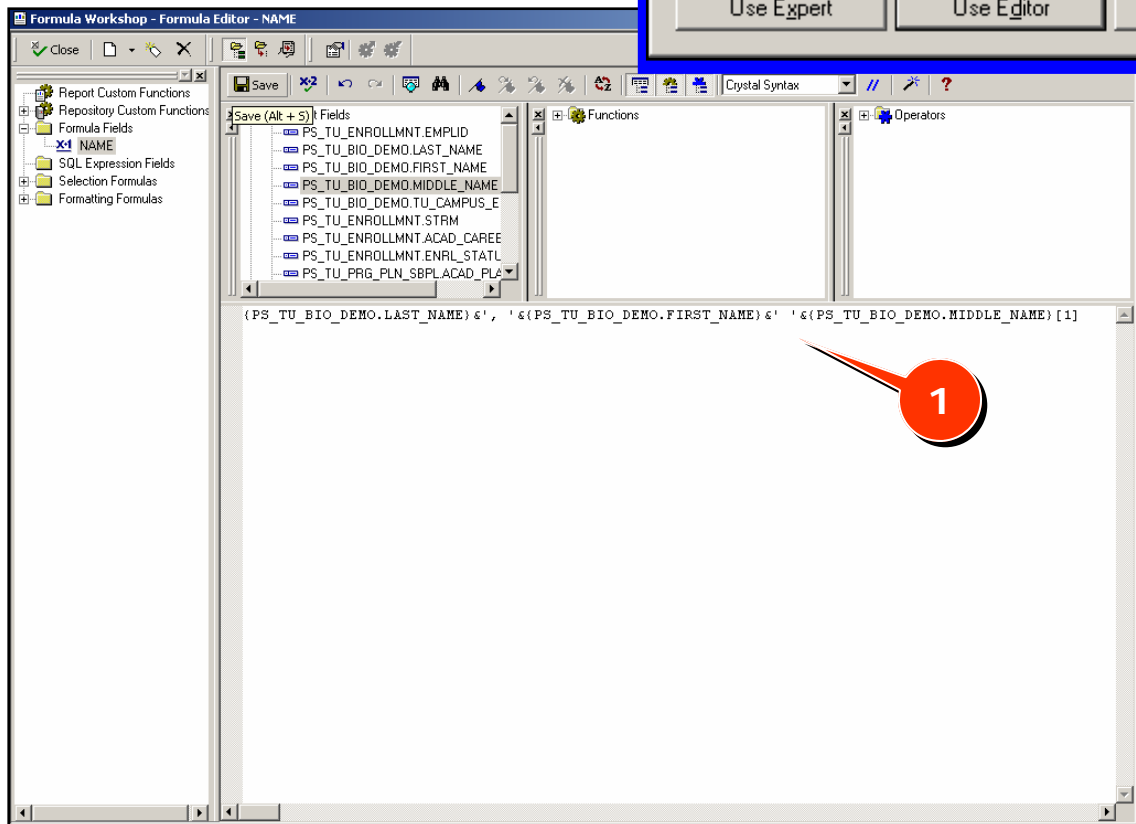
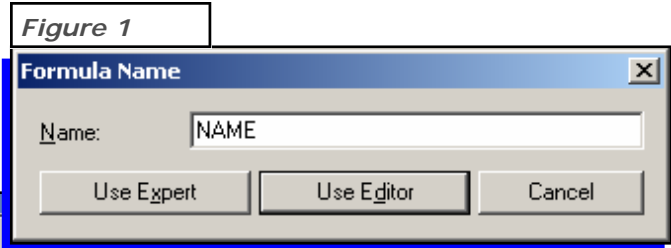
You may find that you want a field or fields to appear differently in your report, rather than to display the fields as they are in the table. Though formulas can be very complex, we will create a simple formula to display our name fields differently.

Process Summary

- Introduction
- Creating Formulas
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Creating Formulas

Open the *Training.rpt* report. Return to Design Mode. Select **Formula Fields** from the Field Explorer window and either click on the **New** icon at the top of the box, or right-click and select **New**. Give the formula a name and click "Use Editor".



We want to create a formula that shows Last Name, First Name, and Middle Initial. Since the fields we want to use in our formula already appear in the report, we can select them by expanding the "Report Fields". Double-clicking on the fields will automatically place them in the editor's window.

This is the formula we want to create:

```
{PS_TU_BIO_DEMO.LAST_NAME}&' '&{PS_TU_BIO_DEMO.FIRST_NAME}&' '&{PS_TU_BIO_DEMO.MIDDLE_NAME}[1] (Figure 1, 1)
```



Note:

- Ampersands concatenate (join) the fields.
- Single (or double) quotes are necessary when adding characters and/or spaces.

For the middle name, we only want to select the first character of the name, not the entire middle name, hence the reason for the "[1]". The result of this formula would look like this:

Smith, John J



If you wanted to force the last name to upper case, use the UCASE function.

```
UCASE({PS_TU_BIO_DEMO.LAST_NAME})
```

When using functions, the field must be encased in parenthesis.

Click on **Save** and close the window. If there are no errors, you will be returned to the report page.

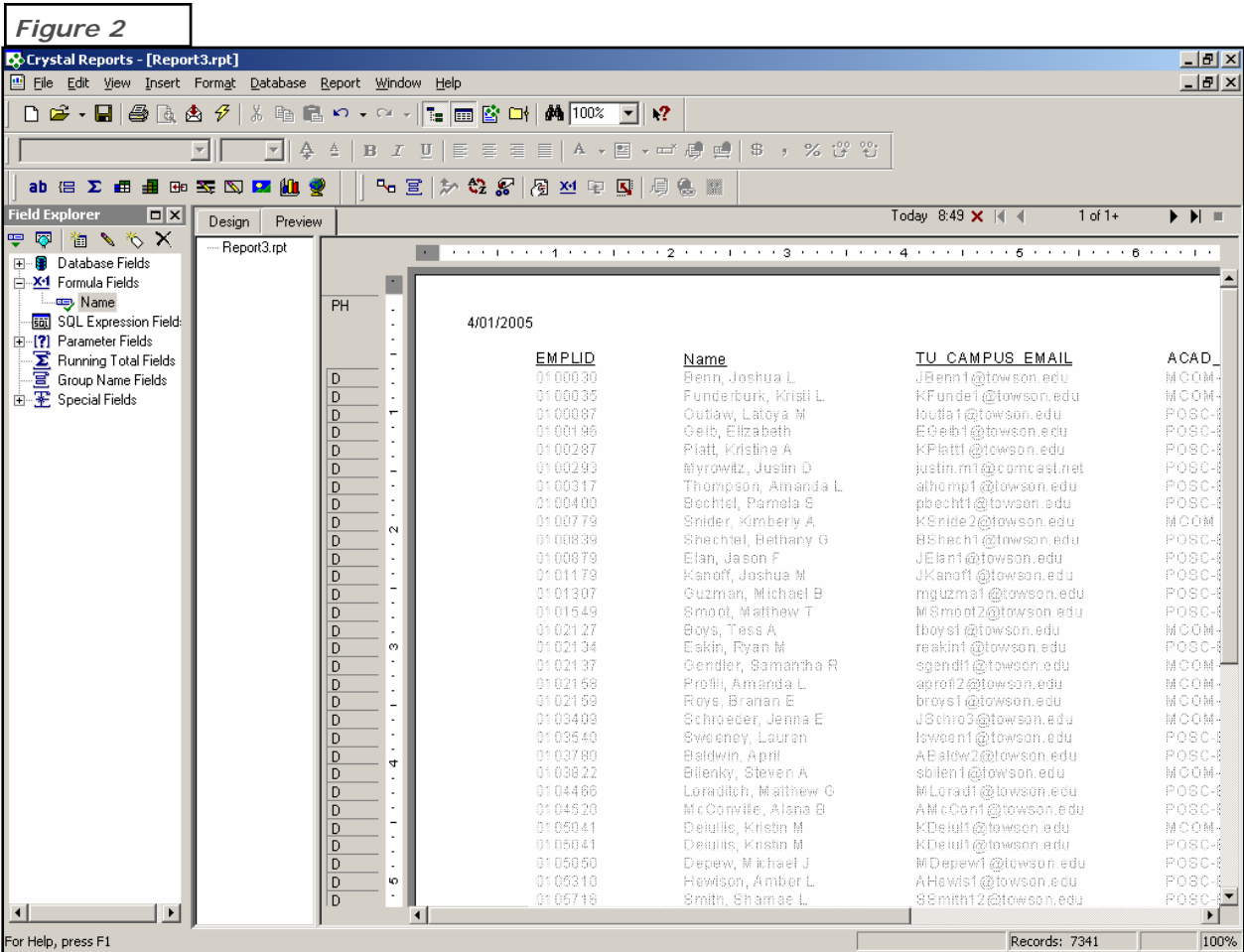


If the formula contains errors, a window will appear saying so, asking if you still want to save it. You can also check the formula for errors by clicking "X-2" to the right of the Save button.

Be sure you are in Design Mode and delete the three name fields in the report, by highlighting the field name in the details section. When you select the field in the details section and hit the delete key, the field header will also be deleted.

If it is not already visible, expand "Formula Fields" in the "Field Explorer" window. Highlight and drag the "NAME" formula into the report.

Move the fields so that they are closer together. Preview the report.



NOTE: If a field is too long for the width of the column, and there is no room to expand the field, right-click on the field and select **Format Field > Common**. Check the box next to "Can Grow". This will allow the field to expand to another line. The default value is "0", which means it can expand an unlimited number of lines.

Save the report (*Training.rpt*).

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