

firstNonNull

Description

Return the first non-null value from a list of arguments, in the order they are provided.

NOTE

Works only on scalar values such as `number`, `string`, or `timestamp`. Does not work on objects.

Syntax

Like many functions in DataPrime, `firstNonNull` supports [two notations](#), **function** and **method** notation. These interchangeable forms allow flexibility in how you structure expressions.

Function notation

```
firstNonNull(value: any, ...values: any): any
```

Method notation

```
(value: any).firstNonNull(...values: any): any
```

Arguments

Name	Type	Required	Description
value	any	true	The first argument to check for a non-null value
...values	any	true	Subsequent arguments to check, in order

Example

Use case: Consolidate inconsistent field names for the same logical value

Logs may contain a user identifier under different field names (`userId`, `user_id`, `user_identifier`). Instead of writing complex conditionals, `firstNonNull` returns the first populated value across these fields, creating schema-on-read consistency.

Example data

```
{
  "userId": "123",
  "user_id": null,
  "user_identifier": null
},
{
  "userId": null,
  "user_id": "456",
  "user_identifier": null
},
{
  "userId": null,
  "user_id": null,
  "user_identifier": "789"
}
```

Example query

Function notation

```
choose canonical_user_id from firstNonNull(userId, user_id,
user_identifier)
```

Method notation

```
choose canonical_user_id from userId.firstNonNull(user_id, user_identifier)
```

Example output

```
{
  "canonical_user_id": "123"
},
{
  "canonical_user_id": "456"
},
{
  "canonical_user_id": "789"
}
```

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