Indexes

Indexes are used to quickly locate data without having to search every row in a database table every time a database table is accessed. Indexes can be created using one or more columns of a database table, providing the basis for both rapid random lookups and efficient access of ordered records.

-http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Database_index



Select Statements

- List out desired columns in your select statement instead of selecting all columns.
- Instead of:

```
select *
from prod_saturn.ssbsect
;
```

```
select ssbsect_term_code, ssbsect_crn, ssbsect_subj_code,
ssbsect_crse_numb
from prod_saturn.ssbsect
;
```



Limit Returned Rows

- If you are simply exploring values, limit the number of rows returned. Your DBA will thank you.
- Use:

```
select *
from prod_saturn.ssbsect
where rownum < 100
;</pre>
```



Having clause

The having clause filters after all rows have been selected. Only use having when filtering transformation such as group by.

```
select ssbsect_term_code, ssbsect_subj_code,
count(ssbsect_crn)
from prod_saturn.ssbsect
group by ssbsect_term_code, ssbsect_subj_code
having count(ssbsect_crn) > 100
```



Minimize subquery blocks

- Subqueries process the outer query before processing the inner query. Use sparingly.
- Instead of:

```
SELECT name
FROM employee
WHERE salary = (SELECT MAX(salary) FROM employee_details)
AND age = (SELECT MAX(age) FROM employee_details)
AND dept = 'Psychology';
```

```
SELECT name
FROM employee
WHERE (salary, age ) = (SELECT MAX (salary), MAX (age)
FROM employee_details)
AND dept = 'Psychology';
```



EXISTS and IN

- Usually IN has the slowest performance.
- ❖ IN is efficient when most of the filter criteria is in the sub-query.
- EXISTS is efficient when most of the filter criteria is in the main query.

Instead of:

```
select szrcbm1_pidm, szrcbm1_first_name
from prod_txcnmgr.szrcbm1
where szrcbm1_pidm in(select szrcbm8_pidm from
prod_txcnmgr.szrcbm8);
```



UNION and UNION ALL

Instead of:

```
select program, courses
from txir.cat_programs
join dw_prog conc
  on bnr_conc = conc.dap_block_value
  and conc.dap_block_type = 'CONC'
union
select *
from txir.cat_programs
join dw_prog cert
  on bnr_cert = cert.dap_block_value
  and cert.dap_block_type = 'SPEC'
```

```
select program, courses
from txir.cat_programs
join dw_prog conc
  on bnr_conc = conc.dap_block_value
  and conc.dap_block_type = 'CONC'
union all
select *
from txir.cat_programs
join dw_prog cert
  on bnr_cert = cert.dap_block_value
and cert.dap block type = 'SPEC'
```



Avoid NOT

- ❖ When possible, use logic operators as opposed to NOT
- Instead of:

```
select first_name, last_name
from person
where age != 18
```

```
select first_name, last_name
from person
where age < 18</pre>
```



Substrings instead of LIKE

- LIKE requires the processor to look through the entire string. Use substrings instead.
- Instead of:

```
select first_name, last_name
from person
where last_name like 'Smi%'
```

```
select first_name, last_name
from person
where substr(last_name,1,3) = `Smi'
```



Use views efficiently

- Check your select statement to see if variables truly need to be pulled from a view.
- If all variables in the select exist in a single table, use the table instead of the view.



Check for unintentional Cartesian products

Cartesian products or cross-joins return all rows in all tables listed in the query. They are usually a result of no relationship being defined between tables.

```
select ID, classification
from person, student
```

```
classification
ID
Α1
     FR
Α1
     SO
Α1
     JR
Α1
     SR
Α2
     FR
Α2
     SO
Α2
     JR
Α2
     SR
```



Avoid transformed columns in the WHERE clause

Instead of:

```
where
to_number(substring(ssbsect_term_code,instr(ssbsect_term_c
ode,2)) =
to_number(substring(szrcbm4_term_code,instr(ssbsect_term_c
ode,2))
```

Use:

where ssbsect_term_code = szrcbm4_term_code



Use binary logic instead of BETWEEN

Instead of:

where age between(18 and 24)

Use:

where age >=18 AND <=24



Define Select Statements

<u>Instead of:</u> <u>Use:</u>

SELECT * SELECT col1, col2, col3
FROM schema.table; FROM schema.table;

Avoid IN

<u>Instead of:</u>

SELECT name
FROM student

WHERE classification in('FR', 'SO');

Use:

SELECT name
FROM student
WHERE (classification = 'FR'
OR classification = 'SO');

Avoid NOT

When filtering on a column with few options, list out the desired variables instead using NOT.

Instead of:

SELECT name
FROM student
WHERE level != 'UG';

Use:

SELECT name
FROM student
WHERE level = 'GR' OR level = 'DR'

Avoid BETWEEN

Instead of:

SELECT name FROM person WHERE age BETWEEN(18 AND 24);

Use:

SELECT name
FROM person
WHERE age >=18 AND age <=24;

SUBSTR instead of LIKE

Instead of:

SELECT first_name, last_name
FROM person
WHERE last_name like 'Smi%';

Use:
SELECT first_name, last_name
FROM person

WHERE substr(last_name,1,3) = 'Smi';

Limit Returned Rows

When exploring data, limit the rows returned.

SELECT *

FROM schema.table WHERE rownum <= 100;

Use UNION ALL

UNION will analyze data for duplicates.
UNION ALL simply appends the additional rows.
SELECT name
FROM student
UNION ALL
SELECT name
FROM employee;

Use JOIN to avoid Cartesian Products

Instead of:

```
SELECT first_name, last_name, major
FROM person, student
WHERE person.id = student.id;

<u>Use:</u>
SELECT first_name, last_name, major
FROM person
JOIN student
ON person.id = student.id;
```

Minimize Subquery Blocks

Use sparingly and pull all variables in a single subquery, if possible.

Instead of:

```
SELECT name
FROM person
WHERE sch = (SELECT SUM(sch) FROM student)
AND gpa = (SELECT MAX(gpa) FROM student);
```

Use:

```
SELECT name
FROM person
WHERE (sch,gpa) = (SELECT SUM(sch),MAX(gpa)
FROM student);
```

Use Indexes

Use VIEWS efficiently

If all variables in the select exist in a single table,
use the table instead of the view.
To see the SQL behind a view:
SELECT text
FROM all_views
WHERE view_name = '<view_name>';

```
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March 12, 2015
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