

### ### Using The Default Clause ==> =====

\* If while inserting a record in the table ,we don't provide any value for a column , then Oracle automatically inserts NULL value in it.

\* In order, to change this behavior Oracle allows us to use DEFAULT clause to specify DEFAULT VALUE for a column while creating the table.

\* This value can be literal value, an expression, or an SQL Function, such as SYSDATE .

\* Oracle will insert it in the column when INSERT INTO statement does not provide a specific value.

# Syntax ==>  
- CREATE TABLE table\_name (  
Column1 datatype (size) ,  
Column2 datatype (size) ,  
Column3 datatype (size) DEFAULT <value>;

### ## Renaming Constraints ==> =====

\* We can use the RENAME CONSTRAINT command to change constraint name to a more descriptive name.

\* To rename a constraint name we use the following command:  
- ALTER TABLE Students RENAME CONSTRAINT ST\_NM\_NN TO STD\_NAME\_NN

### ## Disabling/Enabling Constraint ==> =====

\* We can enable and disable constraints as necessary by using the ALTER TABLE command.

\* By default, when a constraint is created, it is enabled, unless we explicitly disable it.

\* We might want to disable constraints when updating massive volumes of data or inserting large amounts of data at once to decrease overall time for these operations.

\* After the data manipulation is performed, we can re-enable the constraint.

\* Syntax:  
- ALTER TABLE <table\_name> ENABLE/DISABLE Constraint <constraint\_name>;

\* Example: The following statement disables an existing primary key constraint named OD\_ID\_PK on the ORDERS table.

- ALTER TABLE Orders DISABLE CONSTRAINT OD\_ID\_PK;

## Validate / NoValidate Clause ==>

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\* By default ,when a constraint is applied on a table which already contains data , then Oracle verifies the existing data also before adding/enabling the constraint.

\* Now if we want that Oracle should ignore existing data and apply constraint only on future data,then we can use a special clause called NOVALIDATE while enabling/adding the constraint.

\* Overall , there are 4 combinations for this and they are:

- ENABLE VALIDATE
- ENABLE NOVALIDATE
- DISABLE VALIDATE
- DISABLE NOVALIDATE

\* Syntax:

- ALTER TABLE <table\_name> ENABLE/DISABLE VALIDATE/NOVALIDATE Constraint <constraint\_name>;

\* Example:

- The following statement enables an existing CHECK CONSTRAINT named VM\_CT\_CH on the VENDOR\_MASTER table forcing it not to validate existing data.

- ALTER TABLE Vendor\_Master ENABLE NOVALIDATE CONSTRAINT VM\_CT\_CH;

# Enable Validate: ==>

- This means that Oracle will validate the existing data and only if the data satisfies the condition of the constraint , the constraint will get enabled . This is also the default option for ENABLE clause.

# Enable NoValidate: ==>

- Forces Oracle not to validate the existing data but only apply the constraint on future data. However it only works with NOT NULL, CHECK and REFERENTIAL CONSTRAINT.

# Disable NoValidate: ==>

- This is the default option for DISABLE clause and by doing this we will disable the constraint and prohibit any kind of check on the incoming data.

# Disable Validate: ==>

- This is a special case in Oracle where the constraint is disabled but kept valid . In this situation no DML operation is allowed on the table because Oracle is not in a position to validate the data. Thus by doing this we make the table read only.

## Simple Way Of Making Table Read Only ==>

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\* For any table we own, we can modify the data or alter the object.

\* Oracle 11g introduced the ability to make a table read-only; this prevents us from performing any data manipulations or issuing any changes to the structure of the table.

\* To make a table read-only or return it to write mode, we use the following syntax options.

- ALTER TABLE tablename READ ONLY;
- ALTER TABLE tablename READ WRITE;

## Obtaining Details About Constraints ==>  
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\* Whenever we apply constraints on a table , then Oracle internally maintains it's details in it's DATA DICTIONARIES.

\* For constraints , Oracle has 4 DATA DICTIONARIES:

- ALL\_CONSTRAINTS
- ALL\_CONS\_COLUMNS
- USER\_CONSTRAINTS
- USER\_CONS\_COLUMNS

\* The first two contain details of all the constraints in the Oracle database , while the next two contain the details of the constraints of the current user only.

# USER\_CONSTRAINTS: ==>  
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\* It contains the following useful columns:

\* CONSTRAINT\_NAME: Stores the name of the constraint

\* CONSTRAINT\_TYPE: Stores a single character to indicate the type of the constraint . These characters are :

- P -> Primary Key
- U -> Unique
- C -> Check
- R -> Referential
- C -> Not Null

\* SEARCH\_CONDITION: Contains the condition of the constraint and only contains an entry for the Check Constraint.

\* TABLE\_NAME: Name of the table on which constraint is applied □

DELETE\_RULE: Contains the deletion rule for Referential Constraint.

# WAQ to display name and type of all the constraints applied on EMP table.

- select table\_name, constraint\_name
- 2 from user\_constraint
- 3 where table\_name = 'VENDOR\_MASTER';

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# USER_CONS_COLUMNS: ==>
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\* It contains the following useful columns:

- CONSTRAINT\_NAME: Stores the name of the constraint
- COLUMN\_NAME: Stores a name of column on which the constraint has been applied
- POSITION: Contains the position of the column in the constraint
- TABLE\_NAME: Name of the table on which constraint is applied

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## Removing Constraints ====>
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\* When a constraint is no longer needed, we can drop it with the ALTER TABLE command and the DROP clause.

\* Syntax:

- ALTER TABLE <table\_name> DROP CONSTRAINT <constraint\_name>;

\* Example:

\* Dropping Check Constraint called EMP\_SAL\_CH applied on Emp table:

- ALTER TABLE Emp DROP CONSTRAINT EMP\_SAL\_CH;

\* Dropping Foreign Constraint called EMP\_DNO\_FK applied on Emp table:

- ALTER TABLE Emp DROP CONSTRAINT EMP\_DNO\_FK;

\* Dropping Primary Key Constraint called DEPT\_DNO\_PK applied on Dept table:

- ALTER TABLE Dept DROP CONSTRAINT DEPT\_DNO\_PK;

# Important Note

- We cannot drop a PRIMARY KEY or UNIQUE KEY constraint that is part of a REFERENTIAL INTEGRITY constraint without also dropping the FOREIGN KEY.

- To drop the referenced key and the foreign key together, we use the CASCADE clause., while dropping the constraint.

- If we omit CASCADE, then Oracle Database does not drop the PRIMARY KEY or UNIQUE constraint if any foreign key references it.