



Oracle11g: PL/SQL Programming

Chapter 4

Cursors and Exception Handling



Chapter Objectives


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- After completing this lesson, you should be able to understand:
 - Manipulating data with cursors
 - Using bulk-processing features
 - Managing errors with exception handlers
 - Addressing exception-handling issues, such as `RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR` and propagation
 - Documenting code with comments




Brewbean's Challenge


- Processing multiple data rows



Brewbean's Coffee Shop


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Item Code	Name	Options	Qty	Price	Total	
7	Columbia	1 lb., Whole Bean	<input type="text" value="1"/>	\$10.80	\$10.80	Remove
9	Ethiopia	1 lb., Whole Bean	<input type="text" value="1"/>	\$10.00	\$10.00	Remove

Subtotal: \$20.80

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Cursors

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- Work area in which SQL statement is processed
- Implicit cursor – declared automatically for DML and SELECT statements
- Explicit cursor – declared and managed programmatically to handle a set of rows returned by a SELECT statement
- Cursor variable – reference or pointer to a work area or cursor



Cursor Attributes

Attribute Name	Data type	Description
%ROWCOUNT	Number	Number of rows affected by the SQL statement
%FOUND	Boolean	TRUE if at least one row is affected by the SQL statement, otherwise FALSE
%NOTFOUND	Boolean	TRUE if no rows are affected by the SQL statement, otherwise FALSE



Implicit Cursor

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The screenshot displays the Oracle SQL Developer environment. The main window is titled 'XE_plbook' and shows a PL/SQL script in the 'Worksheet' tab. The script is as follows:

```
1 BEGIN
2   UPDATE bb_product
3     SET stock = stock + 25
4     WHERE idProduct = 15;
5   DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(SQL%ROWCOUNT);
6   IF SQL%NOTFOUND THEN
7     DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Not Found');
8   END IF;
9 END;
```

Below the script, the 'Script Output' pane shows the message 'Task completed in 0.031 seconds' and 'anonymous block completed'. The 'Dbms Output' pane shows the output of the script, which is '0' followed by 'Not Found' on the next line. The 'XE_plbook' window is also visible at the bottom.



Explicit Cursor

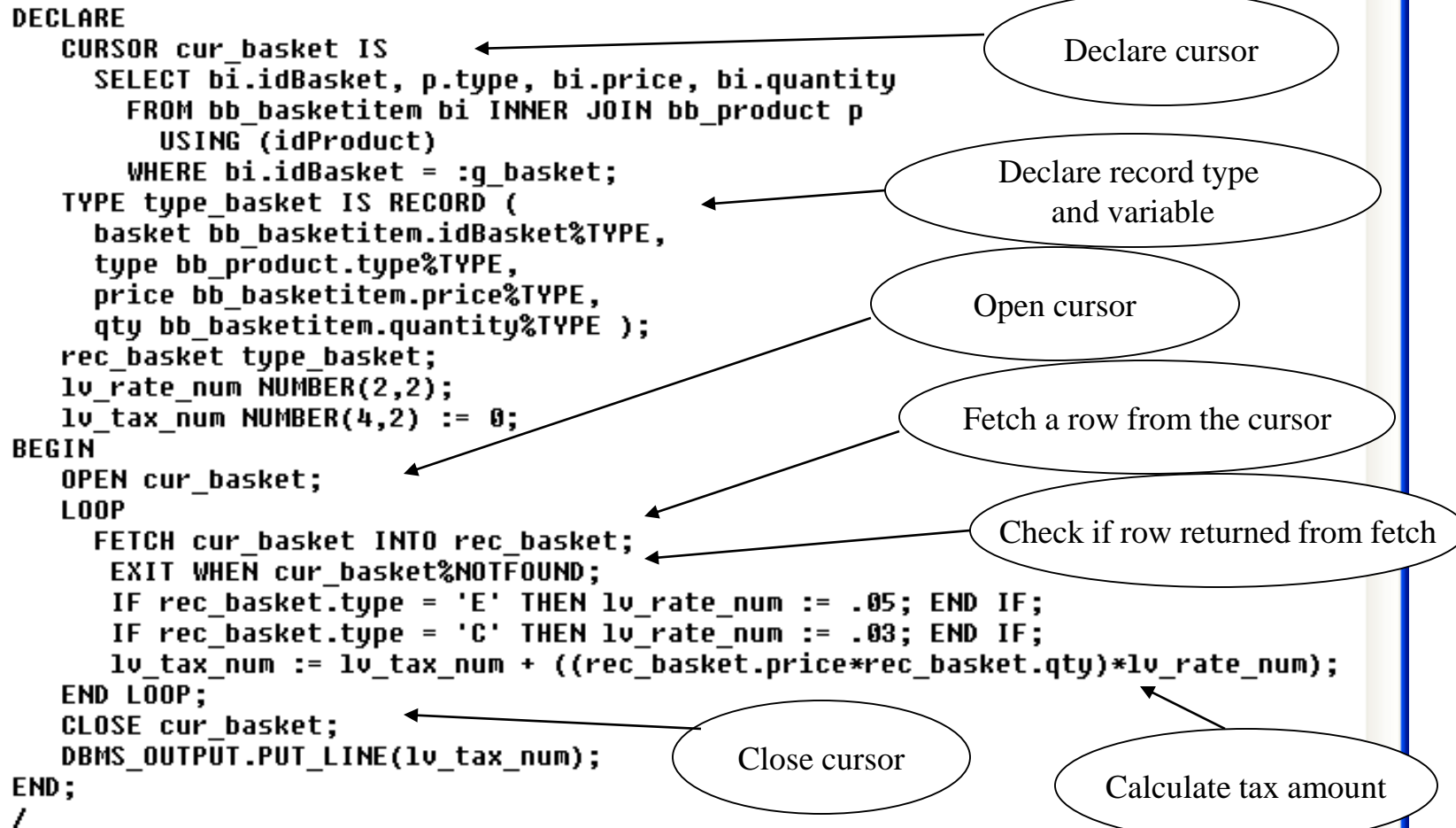
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Step	Step Activity	Activity Description
1	DECLARE	Creates a named cursor identified by a SELECT statement. The SELECT statement does not include an INTO clause. Values in the cursor are moved to PL/SQL variables with the FETCH step.
2	OPEN	Processes the query and creates the active set of rows available in the cursor.
3	FETCH	Retrieves a row from the cursor into block variables. Each consecutive FETCH issued will retrieve the next row in the cursor until all rows have been retrieved.
4	CLOSE	Clears the active set of rows and frees the memory area used for the cursor.



Explicit Cursor Example

PL/SQL





Cursor FOR Loop

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- Handles tasks automatically for processing each row returned by a cursor (record declaration, fetch, ending loop)
- Use FOR UPDATE and WHERE CURRENT OF clauses for record locking



Cursor FOR Loop Example

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```
DECLARE
  CURSOR cur_prod IS
    SELECT type, price
      FROM bb_product
     WHERE active = 1
    FOR UPDATE NOWAIT;
  lv_sale bb_product.saleprice%TYPE;
BEGIN
  FOR rec_prod IN cur_prod LOOP
    IF rec_prod.type = 'C' THEN lv_sale := rec_prod.price * .9;
    ELSIF rec_prod.type = 'E' THEN lv_sale := rec_prod.price * .95;
    END IF;
    UPDATE bb_product
      SET saleprice = lv_sale
      WHERE CURRENT OF cur_prod;
  END LOOP;
COMMIT;
END;
```



Cursors with Parameters

- Use parameters to make dynamic
- Parameters are values passed to the cursor when it is opened
- Enables the cursor to retrieve different data based on the input values



Cursors with Parameters

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```
DECLARE
    CURSOR cur_order (p_basket NUMBER) IS
        SELECT idBasket, idProduct, price, quantity
        FROM bb_basketitem
        WHERE idBasket = p_basket;
    lv_bask1_num bb_basket.idbasket%TYPE := 6;
    lv_bask2_num bb_basket.idbasket%TYPE := 10;
BEGIN
    FOR rec_order IN cur_order(lv_bask1_num) LOOP
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(rec_order.idBasket || ' - ' ||
                               rec_order.idProduct || ' - ' || rec_order.price);
    END LOOP;
    FOR rec_order IN cur_order(lv_bask2_num) LOOP
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(rec_order.idBasket || ' - ' ||
                               rec_order.idProduct || ' - ' || rec_order.price);
    END LOOP;
END;
```



Cursor Variable

- More efficiently handles data returned by query by returning a pointer to the work area rather than the actual result set
- The same cursor variable can be used for different query statements



Cursor Variable Example

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```
DECLARE
    cv_prod SYS_REFCURSOR;
    rec_item bb_basketitem%ROWTYPE;
    rec_status bb_basketstatus%ROWTYPE;
    lv_input1_num NUMBER(2) := 2;
    lv_input2_num NUMBER(2) := 3;
BEGIN
    IF lv_input1_num = 1 THEN
        OPEN cv_prod FOR SELECT * FROM bb_basketitem
            WHERE idBasket = lv_input2_num;
        LOOP
            FETCH cv_prod INTO rec_item;
            EXIT WHEN cv_prod%NOTFOUND;
            DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(rec_item.idProduct);
        END LOOP;
    
```



Example (continued)

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```
ELSIF lv_input1_num = 2 THEN
    OPEN cv_prod FOR SELECT * FROM bb_basketstatus
                        WHERE idBasket = lv_input2_num;

    LOOP
        FETCH cv_prod INTO rec_status;
        EXIT WHEN cv_prod%NOTFOUND;
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(rec_status.idStage || ' - '
                                || rec_status.dtstage);
    END LOOP;
END IF;
END;
```



Bulk-processing

- Improve performance of multirow queries and DML statements
- Processes groups of rows without context switching between the SQL and PL/SQL processing engine
- Use in FETCH with LIMIT clause
- FORALL option with DML activity



Bulk-processing (Query)

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```
DECLARE
    CURSOR cur_item IS
        SELECT *
        FROM bb_basketitem;
    TYPE type_item IS TABLE OF cur_item%ROWTYPE
        INDEX BY PLS_INTEGER;
    tbl_item type_item;
BEGIN
    OPEN cur_item;
    LOOP
        FETCH cur_item BULK COLLECT INTO tbl_item LIMIT 1000;
        FOR i IN 1..tbl_item.COUNT LOOP
            DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(tbl_item(i).idBasketitem || ' - '
                                || tbl_item(i).idProduct);
        END LOOP;
        EXIT WHEN cur_item%NOTFOUND;
    END LOOP;
    CLOSE cur_item;
END;
```



Bulk-processing (DML)

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```
DECLARE
    TYPE emp_type IS TABLE OF NUMBER INDEX
        BY BINARY_INTEGER;
    emp_tbl emp_type;
BEGIN
    SELECT empID
        BULK COLLECT INTO emp_tbl
    FROM employees
        WHERE classtype = '100';
    FORALL i IN d_emp_tbl.FIRST .. emp_tbl.LAST
        UPDATE employees
            SET raise = salary * .06
            WHERE empID = emp_tbl(i);
    COMMIT;
END;
```



Exception Handlers

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- Used to capture error conditions and handle the processing to allow the application to continue
- Placed in the EXCEPTION section of a PL/SQL block
- Two types of errors
 1. Oracle errors (Predefined and Non-Predefined)
 2. User-defined errors
- `RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR`



Predefined Oracle Errors

Exception Name	Description
NO_DATA_FOUND	A SELECT statement in a PL/SQL block retrieves no rows or a nonexistent row of an index-by table is referenced
TOO_MANY_ROWS	A SELECT statement in a PL/SQL block retrieves more than one row
CASE_NOT_FOUND	No WHEN clause in the CASE statement is processed
ZERO_DIVIDE	Attempted division by zero
DUP_VAL_ON_INDEX	Attempted violation of a unique or primary key column constraint



Predefined Error Example

PL/SQL

The screenshot shows the Oracle SQL Developer interface. The main window is titled 'XE_plbook' and contains a 'Query Builder' tab. The script being executed is as follows:

```
22 EXCEPTION
23 WHEN NO_DATA_FOUND THEN
24     DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('You have no saved baskets!');
25 WHEN TOO_MANY_ROWS THEN
26     DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('A problem has occurred in retrieving your saved basket. ');
27     DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Tech Support will be notified and contact you via email. ');
28 END;
```

Below the script editor, there are two output windows. The 'Script Output' window shows the message 'anonymous block completed'. The 'Dbms Output' window shows the message 'You have no saved baskets!'. A red arrow points from the 'DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('You have no saved baskets!');' line in the script to the corresponding output in the 'Dbms Output' window.

Exception handler specifies displaying this string



Undefined Error

PL/
SQL

- Identify possible errors for statements in a block

The screenshot shows the Oracle SQL Developer interface. At the top, there are two tabs: 'Worksheet' and 'Query Builder'. Below the tabs, a SQL statement is entered in a text area:

```
1 DELETE FROM bb_basket
2 WHERE idBasket = 4;
```

Below the SQL statement, there is a 'Script Output' window. It shows the execution of the command and the resulting error. The error message is:

```
Error starting at line 1 in command:
DELETE FROM bb_basket
  WHERE idBasket = 4
Error report:
SQL Error: ORA-02292: integrity constraint (PLBOOK.BSKTITEM_BSKTID_FK) violated - child record found
02292. 00000 - "integrity constraint (%s.%s) violated - child record found"
*Cause:      attempted to delete a parent key value that had a foreign
              dependency.
*Action:     delete dependencies first then parent or disable constraint.
```

An arrow points from the 'Error report:' section of the script output to the 'Error starting at line 1 in command:' section.



Handler Added

PL/SQL

```
1 DECLARE
2   ex_basket_fk EXCEPTION;
3   PRAGMA EXCEPTION_INIT(ex_basket_fk, -2292);
4 BEGIN
5   DELETE FROM bb_basket
6   WHERE idBasket = 4;
7 EXCEPTION
8   WHEN ex_basket_fk THEN
9     DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Items still in the basket!');
10 END;
```

Script Output x

Task completed in 0.125 seconds

anonymous block completed

Dbms Output x

Buffer Size: 20000

Items still in the basket!

XE_plbook x

Declare an exception name

Associate an Oracle error number with the exception name

Foreign key error occurs because of existing rows in the BB_BASKETITEM table

Exception handler runs if the DELETE statement raises foreign key error -2292



User-Defined Exception

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- No system error is raised
- Raise errors to enforce business rules
- Once error is raised, the remaining statements in the executable sections are not executed
- Processing moves to the exception area of the block



User-Defined Exception Example

PL/SQL

```
1 DECLARE
2   ex_prod_update EXCEPTION;
3 BEGIN
4   UPDATE bb_product
5     SET description = 'Mill grinder with 5 grind settings!'
6     WHERE idProduct = 30;
7   IF SQL%NOTFOUND THEN
8     RAISE ex_prod_update;
9   END IF;
10 EXCEPTION
11   WHEN ex_prod_update THEN
12     DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Invalid product ID entered');
13 END;
```

Script Output x

Task completed in 0.046 seconds

anonymous block completed

Dbms Output x

Buffer Size: 20000

Invalid product ID entered

XE_plbook x

Declare an exception name

If no rows are updated, raise the exception

Establish an exception handler



User-Defined Exception Example

PL/SQL

```
1 DECLARE
2   lv_ordqty_num NUMBER(2) := 20;
3   lv_stock_num  bb_product.stock%TYPE;
4   ex_prod_stk EXCEPTION;
5 BEGIN
6   SELECT stock
7   INTO lv_stock_num
8   FROM bb_product
9   WHERE idProduct = 2;
10  IF lv_ordqty_num > lv_stock_num THEN
11    RAISE ex_prod_stk;
12  END IF;
13 EXCEPTION
14  WHEN ex_prod_stk THEN
15    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Requested quantity beyond stock level');
16    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Req qty = ' || lv_ordqty_num ||
17                          'Stock qty = ' || lv_stock_num);
18 END;
```

The screenshot shows the Oracle SQL Developer interface. The top window is the 'Query Builder' for a worksheet named 'XE_plbook'. It contains a PL/SQL script that declares an exception named 'ex_prod_stk', selects a stock quantity from a table, and raises the exception if the requested quantity is greater than the stock quantity. The script also includes an exception handler that outputs the requested and stock quantities. The bottom window is the 'Script Output' window, which shows the message 'anonymous block completed'. The 'Dbms Output' window shows the output of the exception handler: 'Requested quantity beyond stock level' and 'Req qty = 20Stock qty = 15'.

Declare an exception name

If the quantity requested is greater than the quantity in stock, raise the exception

Establish an exception handler



Additional Exception Concepts

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- WHEN OTHERS – traps all errors not specifically addressed by an exception handler and used for handling unanticipated errors
- SQLCODE and SQLERRM – functions used to identify the error code and message, especially in application, testing to identify unanticipated errors



Example

PL/SQL

The screenshot shows the Oracle SQL Developer interface. The main window is titled "XE_plbook" and contains a "Query Builder" tab. The script being edited is as follows:

```
24 EXCEPTION
25 WHEN NO_DATA_FOUND THEN
26     DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('You have no saved baskets!');
27 WHEN OTHERS THEN
28     lv_errmsg_txt := SUBSTR(SQLERRM,1,80);
29     lv_errnum_txt := SQLCODE;
30     INSERT INTO bb_trans_log (shopper, appaction, errcode, errmsg)
31     VALUES (lv_shopper_num, 'Get saved basket', lv_errnum_txt, lv_errmsg_txt);
32     DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('A problem has occurred');
33     DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Tech support will be notified and contact you');
34 END;
```

Two arrows point to the error handling logic: one to the "WHEN NO_DATA_FOUND THEN" block and another to the "WHEN OTHERS THEN" block.

Below the script editor, there are two panes. The "Script Output" pane shows the message "anonymous block completed" and indicates the task was completed in 0.016 seconds. The "Dbms Output" pane shows the output of the script, which is:

```
A problem has occurred
Tech support will be notified and contact you
```



Exception Propagation

- Exception handling in nested blocks
- Exception raised in a block will first look for handler in the exception section of that block, if no handler found, execution will move to the exception section of the enclosing block
- Error in DECLARE section propagates directly to exception section of the enclosing block
- Error in exception handler propagates to exception section of the enclosing block



Exception Propagation

PL/SQL

The screenshot displays the Oracle SQL Developer environment. The main window, titled 'XE_plbook', shows a PL/SQL script in the 'Worksheet' tab. The script is as follows:

```
13  EXCEPTION
14      WHEN NO_DATA_FOUND THEN
15          DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('No data error in nested block');
16  END;
17  lv_junk_num := 3;
18  EXCEPTION
19      WHEN OTHERS THEN
20          DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Error Code = ' || SQLCODE);
21          DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Error Message = ' || SQLERRM);
22  END;
```

Two horizontal arrows point from the right margin to the 'EXCEPTION' keywords on lines 13 and 18. Below the script, the 'Script Output' tab shows the message 'anonymous block completed'. The 'Dbms Output' tab shows the error details:

```
Error Code = -1422
Error Message = ORA-01422: exact fetch returns more than requested number of rows
```

The bottom of the window shows the 'XE_plbook' tab.



Commenting Code

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- Add comments within code to identify code purpose and processing steps
- Use `/* */` to enclose a multiline comment
- Use `--` to add a single or partial line comment



Comment Examples

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```
DECLARE
    ex_prod_update EXCEPTION;  --For UPDATE of no rows
    exception
BEGIN
    /* This block is used to update product descriptions
       Constructed to support the Prod_desc.frm app screen
       Exception raised if no rows updated */
    UPDATE bb_product
        SET description = 'Mill grinder with 5 grind settings!'
        WHERE idProduct = 30;
    --Check if any rows updated
    IF SQL%NOTFOUND THEN
        RAISE ex_prod_update;
    END IF;
EXCEPTION
    WHEN ex_prod_update THEN
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Invalid product id entered');
END;
```




Summary

- Implicit cursors are automatically created for SQL statements
- Explicit cursors are declared
- Cursors allow the processing of a group of rows
- CURSOR FOR Loops simplify cursor coding
- Parameters make cursors more dynamic
- A REF CURSOR acts like a pointer
- BULK processing options can improve performance for queries and DML activity



Summary (continued)

- Add error handlers in the EXCEPTION area to manage Oracle and user-defined errors
- Exception propagation is the flow of error handling processing
- Use comments in code for documentation