Database Abstraction 2.0 Component Specification

All changes performed when synchronizing documentation with the version 1.1.1 of the source code of this component and fixed errors in the CS are marked with **purple**.

All changes made in the version 2.0 are marked with blue.

All new items in the version 2.0 are marked with red.

1. Design

The generated CustomResultSet closely resembles java.sql.ResultSet. This is intentionally done to facilitate familiarity. Method names, where applicable, are identical, and so are the underlying actions. Both classes have metadata objects. This component stores metadata information in the CustomResultSetMetaData object using a collection of Column objects. Data retrieval is also identical. All columns and rows are 1-indexed.

Additional methods for sorting have been added, with robust use of comparators.

Version 1.1 enhances the previous version with the ability to convert values on the fly to the type desired by a user. The new version supports a strict superset of functionality of the old version. That is, the API is completely backwards compatible. By default, the new version behaves exactly as the old version.

Where the previous version required explicit conversion, version 1.1 can convert between compatible types on the fly. The set of conversion that are accessible through this feature can be configured, similar to how the existing explicit conversion can be configured. A large set of default conversions covering all JDBC types are provided.

Version 1.1 seeks to maintain a similar feel to the version 1.0 API. Many methods accept null as a valid value, additionally invalid values (like a column index that is too large or small) are handled by returning a default value, not throwing an exception. In most cases, this choice is forced by the need to remain consistent with the 1.0 API.

Changes in the version 2.0:

- Development language is changed to Java 1.5. Thus generic parameters are explicitly specified for all generic types in the source code.
- IllegalArgumentExceptions is thrown by all methods instead of NullPointerException when some argument is invalid.
- Defined NullColumnValueException that is thrown instead of NullPointerException when null cannot be converted to a value of primitive type.
- Added support of DATALINK SQL type of JDBC 3.0: added URLConverter and getURL() methods to CustomResultSet.
- Some trivial source code changes are performed to make the component meet TopCoder standards.

1.1 Design Patterns

Strategy pattern – OnDemandMapper uses pluggable OnDemandConverter implementation instances; CustomResultSet uses pluggable Converter instances. **Delegation pattern** – OnDemandMapper delegates execution to plugged OnDemandConverter instances to perform conversion.

1.2 Industry Standards

JDBC 3.0, JavaBeans

1.3 Required Algorithms

1.3.1 Version 1.1 Algorithms

1.3.1.1 Getting a value from the results set - getObject(int columnIndex, Class desiredType)

In version 1.1, 4 methods are tried (in order) to retrieve a value of the desired type:

- If the explicitly mapped value for the current row and given column is of desiredType, return it.
- If the original value in the current row and given column is of desiredType, return
 it
- Try to convert the original value using the on-demand mapper. If this can be done, return the converted value.
- Try to convert the explicitly mapped value using the on-demand mapper. If this
 can be done, return the converted value.

If none of the above work, null is returned.

1.3.2 Sorting

The developer is free to use whatever sorting algorithm or paradigm he/she desires. When sorting based on column names, retrieve column numbers and call the equivalent method based on column numbers. It goes without saying that the integrity of rows must be preserved in a single- or multiple-column sorting.

1.3.3 Column Value getter methods

When getting column values based on column name, retrieve column number and call the equivalent method based on that column number.

1.3.4 Storing data in the CustomResultSet

Each field in a row is stored in a List which contains all values for the row, and all rows are stored in a List. In each of the row lists, all data values are stored wrapped in RowDataValue objects which maintain both the original and explicitly mapped values for the data. In version 1.0 the items in the lists of lists were the data values themselves.

Thus the CustomResultSet object has a List of Lists of RowDataValues. Because all this storage is internal (the List is never returned to the user), the developer is free to use any implementing class of List, and use its methods explicitly.

1.4 Component Class Overview

AbstractionHelper

Helper class for the Database Abstraction.

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for all generic types in the code.

Column

The Column class is used by the CustomResultSetMetaData class to store information about each column in a CustomResultSet. This class is a simple data store for the several related values about a column, and no complicated logic is needed. All the methods are simple getters/setters.

Converter [interface]

The Converter interface defines how explicit conversion is done. In order to use the version 1.0 explicit conversion capabilities of this component, a user must create a class implementing the Converter interface, register it with a Mapper and register the Mapper with a DatabaseAbstractor.

CustomResultSet

The CustomResultSet class is similar to the JDBC ResultSet class in the public API that it exposes. This is intentional, in order to facility familiarity and ease of use of the class.

One note about this class is that exceptions do not follow current TopCoder standards. For many methods, this means that instead of throwing an exception, null is returned. In order to be consistent with previous version, when primitive-type value is required and null object is found, NullPointerException will be thrown.

Version 1.1 uses a different data structure to store the row data. 1.0. In version 1.0, data was stored in a rows list, which each entry being a list that contained the column values for the row. In version 1.1, both the currently mapped value and the original JDBC value need to be preserved through the use of the

RowDataValue class. By keeping track of the original value, the component allows for on demand conversions to be applied to both the original or mapped value.

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for generic types.
- Added getURL() methods.
- getXXX() methods for primitive types and getXXX(...,Calendar) methods throw IllegalArgumentException instead of NullPointerException when columnIndex is invalid or column with the specified name doesn't exist.
- getXXX() methods for primitive types and getXXX(...,Calendar) methods throw NullColumnValueException instead of NullPointerException when null object is found.

CustomResultSet.ArrayComparator

Array Comparator. This Comparator holds many comparators stored in array, when comparing objects, the first (i.e, index in array is zero) comparator is used first, the second comparator is used when unable to determine the order only using the first comparator, and so on.

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameter for the extended type (Comparator<List<RowDataValue>>).
- Specified generic parameters for all other generic types in the code.
- Changed visibility to private.

CustomResultSet.SimpleComparator

Simple Comparator. This Comparator holds only one comparator.

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameter for the extended type (Comparator<List<RowDataValue>>).
- Specified generic parameters for all other generic types in the code.
- Changed visibility to private.

CustomResultSetMetaData

The CustomResultSetMetaData class is the counterpart of the JDBC ResultSetMetaData interface. It stores information about the columns in the CustomResultSet and exposes them through an interface very similar to the ResultSetMetaData interface. In addition to imitating the ResultSetMetaData

interface, this class allows some pieces of data to for each column to be set in addition to being retrieved.

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for generic types.

DatabaseAbstractor

The DatabaseAbstractor class permits a factory type pattern to be used for creation of CustomResultSets.

This class is simply a storage facility for a mapper and an on-demand mapper, both of which it passes to any CustomResultSets that is creates

In version 1.1, instance of OnDemandMapper is added to covert the mapping when original or mapped value is not of the desired type to get.

Changes in 2.0:

- Throws IllegalArgumentException instead of NullPointerException when argument is null.

Mapper

The Mapper class simply maintains a column name to Converter map of the mapping to apply when the remap method of the CustomResultSet class is called. This class is simply a wrapper around a HashMap.

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for generic types.
- Fixed getMap() method to make it return cloned map.

OnDemandConverter [interface]

The OnDemandConverter interface is the counterpart of the Converter interface, updated to allow for version 1.1. on-demand conversion. In order to support this, the conversion method takes in an extra parameter, the desired returned type.

This interface also exposes a method to determine whether a conversion can be done.

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for generic types.

OnDemandMapper

The OnDemandMapper class is the main focal point of the version 1.1 additions to this component. The OnDemandMapper is similar to the Mapper class, but contains a set of OnDemandConverters (and since they can be used on any column, no map from column names is needed). Additionally, it exposes a more type-safe set of methods than the Mapper class.

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for generic types.
- Added support of URLConverter to createDefaultOnDemandMapper().

RowDataValue

The RowDataValue class is used to store the two data values associated with a row and column BEC the original data value and the currently mapped value. This class is simply a container for these two variables and contains only simple getters and setters.

BigDecimalConverter

The BigDecimalConverter class handles on demand conversions from the BigDecimal type to various other data types. It implements the OnDemandConverter interface and has no state.

When a value is converted by BigDecimalConverter, the condition that the value can be converted is: value is a BigDecimal and is not null, and desiredType is Byte, Short, Integer, Long, Float, Double, or String

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for all generic types in the code.

BlobConverter

The BlobConverter class handles on demand conversions from the Blob type to various other data types. It implements the OnDemandConverter interface and has no state.

When a value is converted by BlogConverter, the condition that value can be converted is: value is a Blob and is not null, and desiredType is InputStream or byte[]

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for all generic types in the code.

BooleanConverter

The BooleanConverter class handles on demand conversions from the Boolean type to various other data types.

It implements the OnDemandConverter interface and has no state

When a value is converted by BooleanConverter, the condition that value can be converted is: value is a

Boolean and is not null, and desiredType is Byte, Short, Integer, Long, Float, Double, BigDecimal, or String.

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for all generic types in the code.

ByteArrayConverter

The ByteArrayConverter class handles on demand conversions from byte arrays to various other data types. It implements the OnDemandConverter interface and has no state.

When a value is converted by ByteArrayConverter, the condition that value can be converted is: value is a byte[] and is not null, and desiredType is InputStream

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for all generic types in the code.

ByteConverter

The ByteConverter class handles on demand conversions from the Byte type to various other data types. It implements the OnDemandConverter interface and has no state.

When a value is converted by ByteConverter, the condition that value can be converted is: value is a Byte and not null, and desiredType is Short, Integer, Long, Float, Double, BigDecimal or String

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for all generic types in the code.

ClobConverter

The ClobConverter class handles on demand conversions from the Clob type to various other data types. It implements the OnDemandConverter interface and has no state.

When a value is converted by ClobConverter, the condition that value can be converted is: value is a Clob and not null, and desiredType is java.io.Reader, java.io.InputStream, or String.

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for all generic types in the code.

DateConverter

The DateConverter class handles on demand conversions from the Date type to various other data types. It implements the OnDemandConverter interface and has no state.

When a value is converted by DateConverter, the condition that value can be converted is: value is a

Date and is not null, and desiredType is Timestamp, Time, Long, or String

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for all generic types in the code.

DoubleConverter

The DoubleConverter class handles on demand conversions from the Double type to various other data types.

It implements the OnDemandConverter interface and has no state

When a value is converted by DoubleConverter, the condition that value can be converted is: value is a

Double and not null, and desiredType is Byte, Short, Integer, Long, Float, BigDecimal, or String

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for all generic types in the code.

FloatConverter

The FloatConverter class handles on demand conversions from the Float type to various other data types. It implements the OnDemandConverter interface and has no state.

When a value is converted by FloatConverter, the condition that value can be converted is: value is a Float and is not null, and desiredType is Byte, Short, Integer, Long, BigDecimal, Double, or String

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for all generic types in the code.

IntConverter

The IntConverter class handles on demand conversions from the Integer type to various other data types. It implements the OnDemandConverter interface and has no state.

When a value is converted by IntConverter, the condition that value can be converted is: value is a Integer and not null, false, and desiredType is Byte, Short, BigDecimal, Long, Float, Double, or String

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for all generic types in the code.

LongConverter

The LongConverter class handles on demand conversions from the Long type to various other data types. It implements the OnDemandConverter interface and has no state.

When a value is converted by LongConverter, the condition that value can be converted is: value is a Long and not null, and desiredType is Byte, Short, Integer, BigDecimal, Float, Double, Date, Time, Timestamp, or String.

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for all generic types in the code.

ShortConverter

The ShortConverter class handles on demand conversions from the Short type to various other data types. It implements the OnDemandConverter interface and has no state.

When a value is converted by ShortConverter, the condition that value can be converted is: value is a Short and not null, and desiredType is Byte, BigDecimal, Integer, Long, Float, Double, or String

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for all generic types in the code.

StringConverter

The StringConverter class handles on demand conversions from the String type to various other data types.

It implements the OnDemandConverter interface and has no state

When a value is converted by StringConverter, the condition that value can be converted is: value is a String and not null, and desiredType is java.io.lnputStream and characters in String are all >=0 and <128,or desiredType is java.io.Reader, or desiredType is URL, Byte, Short, Integer, Long, Double, Float, or BigDecimal and String value can be parsed to the desired type, or desiredType is Date, Timestamp, or Time, and String value can be converted to corresponding type(date format is used to parse the String is it is not null)

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for all generic types in the code.
- Added URL support.

TimeConverter

The TimeConverter class handles on demand conversions from the Time type to various other data types. It implements the OnDemandConverter interface and has no state.

When a value is converted by TimeConverter, the condition that value can be converted is: value is not a

Time or is null, and desiredType is Timestamp, Date, Long, or String

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for all generic types in the code.

TimestampConverter

The TimestampConverter class handles on demand conversions from the Timestamp type to various other data types. It implements the OnDemandConverter interface and has no state.

When a value is converted by TimestampConverter, the condition that value can be converted is: value is a

Timestamp and not null, and desiredType is Date, Time, Long, or String

Changes in 2.0:

- Specified generic parameters for all generic types in the code.

URLConverter

The URLConverter class handles on demand conversions from the URL type to other data types. It implements the OnDemandConverter interface and has no state.

When a value is converted by URLConverter, the condition that value can be converted is: value is a URL and not null, and desiredType is String.

1.5 Component Exception Definitions

IllegalMappingException

The IllegalMappingException is thrown when DatabaseAbstractor, Converter or OnDemandConverter is not able to make a conversion for an implementation defined reason.

This exception is thrown by implementations of the Converter and OnDemandConverter interfaces in the convert method, and propagates through the OnDemandMapper and CustomResultSet classes

InvalidCursorStateException

The InvalidCursorStateException is thrown by a CustomResultSet to indicate that it is not currently positioned on any row. This could be because it is positioned before the first row or after the last row.

This exception is thrown by CustomResultSet in the getXXX methods when data cannot be retrieved because of the current row position of the CustomResultSet.

NullColumnValueException

This exception is thrown by CustomResultSet when null is found when the caller requests a primitive type value.

1.6 Thread Safety

This component is not thread safe. First, almost all of the classes are mutable, so this makes thread safety difficult. Second, version 1.0 was not thread safe, and adding thread safety to the existing API would be difficult. Third, this component is designed to mirror the JDBC ResultSet which is not thread-safe. Not having a thread-safe component will not come as a surprise to the primary users of this component.

To make the component thread safe is a matter of synchronizing the methods of the various mutable classes.

Thread safety of this component was not changed in the version 2.0.

2. Environment Requirements

2.1 Environment

Development language: Java 1.5

Compile target: Java 1.5

QA Environment: Solaris 7, RedHat Linux 7.1, Windows 2000, Windows 2003

2.2 TopCoder Software Components

None

2.3 Third Party Components

None

3. Installation and Configuration

3.1 Package Name

com.topcoder.util.sql.databaseabstraction com.topcoder.util.sql.databaseabstraction.ondemandconversion

3.2 Configuration Parameters

None

3.3 Dependencies Configuration

None

4. Usage Notes

4.1 Required steps to test the component

- Extract the component distribution.
- Follow Dependencies Configuration.
- Execute 'ant test' within the directory that the distribution was extracted to.

4.2 Required steps to use the component

4.2.1 Data Type Conversion

The java.sql.ResultSetMetaData and the CustomResultSetMetaData contain three key parameters: *columnClassName*, *columnType*, and *columnTypeName*. These are important when dealing with data type conversions.

columnClassName refers to the fully-qualified java class name of this data type. The data in this column had been converted to objects of this java class. Any custom remapping will need to be able to remap from this java class.

columnType refers to the JDBC 3.0 SQL data type. Table 1 shows some of the common SQL to Java mappings in JDBC 3.0. These are not relevant to the conversion process.

columnTypeName refers to the database-specific types. The mapping of data types is based on these types, which the ResultSet contains in its metadata, and not JDBC 3.0 SQL data types, which are ubiquitous.

The user needs to implement Converter objects to handle mapping, and a Mapper object to coordinate remapping.

The Converter class accepts as input the Object to be converter, the column number, and the metadata for any column-specific information, such as the precision. This may be of relevance, in spite of the Object already being a Java Object.

Table 1 shows the default mappings, where applicable, of the three database types to JDBC 3.0 SQL types and Java types.

JDBC 3.0 SQL Type	Java Type	SQL Server 2000 Type	Informix Type	Oracle Type	DB2 Type
CHAR	String	char, nchar, uniqueidentifier	CHAR(n)	CHAR	CHAR, GRAPHIC

VARCHAR	String	Nvarchar, sql_variant, sysname	VARCHAR(m,r)	VARCHAR2	VARCHAR, VARGRAPHIC
LONGVARCHAR	String	ntext, text	TEXT	LONG	
NUMERIC	java.math. BigDecimal	numeric, numeric() identity	DECIMAL	NUMBER	
DECIMAL	java.math. BigDecimal	decimal, decimal() identity, money, smallmoney	DECIMAL	NUMBER	DECIMAL, DECFLOAT
BIT	boolean	bit		NUMBER	
BOOLEAN	boolean		BOOLEAN		
TINYINT	byte	tinyint, tinyint identity	SMALLINT	NUMBER	
SMALLINT	short	smallint, smallint identity	SMALLINT	NUMBER	SMALLINT
INTEGER	int	int, int identity	INTEGER	NUMBER	INTEGER
BIGINT	long	bigint, bigint identity	INT8	NUMBER	BIGINT
REAL	float	real	SMALLFLOAT	NUMBER	
FLOAT	double	float	SMALLFLOAT	NUMBER	REAL
DOUBLE	double		FLOAT	NUMBER	DOUBLE
BINARY	byte[]	binary, timestamp	BYTE	RAW	CHAR FOR BIT DATA, BINARY
VARBINARY	byte[]		BYTE	RAW	VARCHAR FOR BIT DATA, VARBINARY
LONGVARBINARY	byte[]	image	BYTE	LONGRAW	
DATE	java.sql.Date		DATE	DATE	DATE
TIME	java.sql.Time		DATETIME HOUR TO SECOND	DATE	TIME
TIMESTAMP	java.sql. Timestamp	datetime, smalldatetime	DATETIME YEAR TO FRACTION	DATE	TIMESTAMP
BLOB	java.sql.Blob			BLOB	BLOB
CLOB	java.sql.Clob			CLOB	CLOB, DBCLOB
STRUCT	java.sql.Struct			user-defined object	
REF	java.sql.Ref			user-defined reference	
DATALINK	java.net.URL				DATALINK
ARRAY	java.sql.Array			user-defined collection	

4.2.2 Sorting

When sorting with an array of comparators, the component can accept null comparators, upon which it will attempt to sort the column using the natural ordering of the column's elements.

After sorting, the cursor is set before the first row (i.e. cursor=0). See section 4.1.3, below.

Multiple row sorts will be done in descending importance. Therefore the first element in the array will be sorted first, then the next element, etc. Note that column sorts will not change the order of the previous sorts, except when it is ambiguous.

4.2.3 Cursor state

The user should not guess where the cursor is, because the position is not always guaranteed. When retrieving data, the use of the relative next() method is ok. When performing sorting, the cursor will be reset to zero. Once the remapping process is complete, the cursor is reset to zero.

The robust navigation methods are used for exact cursor positioning. Recall that rows are 1-based.

4.2.4 Getter methods

The most generic way to access data is through the getObject methods. However, there are getter methods for most Java datatypes that the user can use in lieu of type casting.

4.2.5 Method summary

CustomResultSet

sortXXX methods

These methods are use for sorting. Sorting can be done my column name or index, with single or multiple columns to be sorted, and for either descending or ascending sorts.

navigation methods

absolute, beforeLast, afterFirst, first, isAfterLast, isBeforeFirst, isFirst, isLast, next, previous, relative.

These methods will act in the same fashion as they do in java.sql.ResultSet. That is, as the name of method suggest. Recall that row numbers are 1-based.

getXXX methods

These methods will act in the same fashion as they do in java.sql.ResultSet. That is, to retrieve data of the give type.

other methods

remap - used for remapping

findColumn – used to find column index given a column name

4.3 Demo

```
// Database configuration(In Oracle):
// table: ABSTRACTION_TABLE
// Column name type car
// ID NUMBER(10) no
                                    can-be-null
            NAME
//
                      VARCHAR2(10) no
             AGE
                        LONG yes
//
              BLOB_T BLOB
//
                                     yes
              CLOB_T CLOB yes
DATE_T DATE yes
//
              URL
                        VARCHAR(100) yes
//
// Values in table ABSTRACTION_TABLE
    50 TOPCODER 10 EMPTY_BLOB EMPTY_CLOB 2006-06-18 http://www.topcoder.com
//
    100 TEST 20 NOT-EMPTY NOT-EMPTY 2006-06-19 http://test.com
// NOT-EMPTY above means that it contains value
// Create database connection.
Connection conn = UnitTestHelper.getDatabaseConnection();
// Retrieve ResultSet for Database.
ResultSet rs = UnitTestHelper.getResultSet(conn);
```

```
// Create DatabaseAbstractor
DatabaseAbstractor dbAbstractor = new DatabaseAbstractor();
// Initialize mapper
HashMap<String, Converter> map = new HashMap<String, Converter>();
// Class MockConverterBoolean which converts BigDecimal
// value to Boolean(true) and throw IllegalMappingException
// if it is not BigDecimal value.
class MockConverterBoolean implements Converter {
   // simple implementation.
     * Convert value to Boolean(true), if it is a BigDecimal.
     * @return the converted result (may be null)
     * @param value the original object value
     \mbox{\ensuremath{^{\ast}}} @param column the column the value came from
     * @param metaData metadata for the result set
     * @throws IllegalMappingException when value is not
               BigDecimal
     public Object convert(Object value, int column, CustomResultSetMetaData
                           metaData)
                throws IllegalMappingException {
           if (value.getClass().equals(BigDecimal.class)) {
                  return new Boolean(true);
           } else {
                  throw new
                 IllegalMappingException("illegalException.");
            }
// map instance of Converter to the column type named "number"
map.put("number", new MockConverterBoolean());
// create mapper with one converter which aims to convert number
// column to boolean.
Mapper mapper = new Mapper(map);
// set mapper of DatabaseAbstractor.
dbAbstractor.setMapper(mapper);
// Get CustomResultSet.
CustomResultSet crs = dbAbstractor.convertResultSet(rs);
while (crs.next()) {
       // Get original value of CustomResultValue.
       crs.getBigDecimal("ID");
       // Get mapped value of CustomResultSet.
       crs.getBoolean(1);
       // Get not exist value will result in ClassCastException.
       // crs.getByte(1);
       // Get URL mapped value of CustomResultSet.
       URL url = crs.getURL("URL");
// Here demos improved function of version 1.1
DatabaseAbstractor dbAbstractor2 = new DatabaseAbstractor();
// set On-Demand Mapper of DatabaseAbstractor.
dbAbstractor2.setOnDemandMapper(OnDemandMapper.createDefaultOnDemandMapper());
// Set Mapper.
dbAbstractor2.setMapper(mapper);
// Get CustomResultSet.
CustomResultSet crs2 = dbAbstractor2.convertResultSet(rs);
while (crs2.next()) {
      // Get original value of CustomResultValue.
      crs.getBigDecimal("ID");
```

```
// Get mapped value of CustomResultSet.
      crs.getBoolean(1);
      // Get not exist value in original value or mapped value,
    //but was converted from BigDecimal to Byte.
      crs.getByte("ID");
      // Get not exist value in original value or mapped value,
    //but was converted from BigDecimal to String.
      crs.getString(1);
}
// Demo the sort method of CustomResultSet.
crs2.sortAscending("ID");
\begin{tabular}{ll} // & Retrieve & value & of & sorted & CustomResultSet. \end{tabular}
while (crs2.next()) {
       crs.getBigDecimal("ID");
// Close connection.
conn.close();
```

5. Future Enhancements

Provide additional on demand conversions.