



COM106: Introduction to Databases

**Stored Procedures
and Triggers**

Stored Procedures and Triggers

Stored Procedure

SQL Server normally processes SQL queries sent from a client machine across a network

An SQL statement (or a group of related SQL statements) can be stored on the server as a **Stored Procedure** and used for repetitive tasks

In SQL Server SET NOCOUNT ON is often set to stop number of rows affected being output (reduced network traffic - @@ROWCOUNT can be used if number of rows affected is required)

Advantages

Improves performance

- Precompiled
- Allows INPUT & OUTPUT values to be used
- Reduced network traffic

Improves security

- Prevents alteration of clauses (minimises SQL injection attack) due to precompilation

Ease of maintenance

- Modular
- Easily changed (Stored logic independent of application)

Stored Procedures

SQL server has several commands for Stored Procedure

- CREATE PROCEDURE
- ALTER PROCEDURE
- DROP PROCEDURE
- A Stored Procedure is called by the **EXEC**(UTE) command

The list of stored created procedures is kept in *sys.procedures*

SQL server has two types of Stored Procedure:

System Stored Procedure (built-in)

- Stored in master database and prefixed by sp_
- For example:
 - *sp_helpdbfixedrole* - returns a list of fixed database roles
 - *sp_who* - returns information about which users are running which processes
 - *sp_helptext objectname* - returns the definition of any object (e.g. function, trigger, stored procedure, view)

User Defined Stored Procedures

- Created by the user via SQL code....

Stored Procedures

Create Procedure Syntax

```
CREATE PROCEDURE procedurename
[INPUT @parameter1 datatype [length] ]
[OUTPUT @parameter2 datatype [length] ]
AS
[BEGIN]
    [@parameter1 datatype [length] ]
    SQL statement(s)
[END]
```

Drop Procedure Syntax

```
DROP PROCEDURE procedurename
```

SQL Server acts as a DB server - calls are made in front end programs (C#, Visual Basic, Java etc) to run the stored procedures

A stored procedure for an INSERT, UPDATE or DELETE query just requires **INPUT** parameters

A stored procedure for a retrieval query requires:

- **INPUT** parameters (to send input values from calling program)
- **OUTPUT** parameters (to return result values to calling program)

Stored Procedures

For example, consider the following database schema:

EMP (enum, ename, salary, dnum*)

DEPT (dnum, dname, numemp)

Where: *numemp* is number of employees

enum, *dnum* and *numemp* are defined as **tinyint**

ename and *dname* defined as **char(15)**

salary is defined as **int**

Example of an INSERT Procedure

Write a Stored Procedure to:

*insert a new department with input values for
department number, name and number of employees*

```
CREATE PROCEDURE InsDept (@dnum tinyint, @dname char(15), @numemp tinyint )
AS
INSERT INTO DEPT
VALUES (@dnum, @dname, @numemp);
```

To insert a new record in the DEPT table - execute the stored procedure InsDept with the input data required. For example:

```
EXEC InsDept @dnum = 41, @dname = 'finance', @numemp = 0;
```

```
EXEC InsDept @dnum = 51, @dname = 'personnel', @numemp = 0;
```

Stored Procedure

Example of an UPDATE Procedure

Change the salary of a named employee to a new value

```
CREATE PROCEDURE UpdateEmp (@ename char(15), @sal int)
AS UPDATE emp
SET salary = @sal
WHERE ename = @ename;
```

To update the salary of a named employee - execute the stored procedure **UpdateEmp** with the input data required. For example:

```
EXEC UpdateEmp @enam = 'anderson', @sal = 33333;
```

Example of a RETREVAL Procedure

Get the salary of an employee for an input employee number

```
CREATE PROCEDURE GetSalByEnum (@enum tinyint, @sal int OUTPUT)
AS SELECT @sal = salary
FROM emp
WHERE enum = @enum;
```

*For queries returning multiple row result tables, the DBMS provides methods for moving through each row
- CURSOR, OFFSET and FETCH*

To get the salary of employee number 5:

```
DECLARE @salary int
EXEC GetSalByEnum @enum = 5, @sal=@salary OUTPUT
SELECT @salary /* displays salary value where enum = 5 */
```



Triggers

Triggers are special **stored procedures** which are automatically implemented (fired) in response to a database **event** such as:

- A database manipulation (DML) statement (**DELETE**, **INSERT**, or **UPDATE**).
- A database definition (DDL) statement (CREATE, ALTER, or DROP).
- A database operation (SERVERERROR, LOGON, LOGOFF, STARTUP, or SHUTDOWN)

Examples of Trigger use

- Archive a copy of data that is being deleted
- Maintain a log of the updates made to the database (audit trail)
- Automatically perform important updates (e.g. decrement the stock level whenever an order is processed)
- Prevent invalid transactions
- Execute rules (e.g. send an email to management whenever changes are made to certain records)
- Impose security authorisations
- **Trigger Commands**
 - CREATE TRIGGER
 - ALTER TRIGGER
 - DISABLE TRIGGER
 - DROP TRIGGER
 - ENABLE TRIGGER

Triggers

Create Trigger Syntax

```
CREATE TRIGGER triggername ON table  
INSTEAD OF |AFTER    INSERT|DELETE|UPDATE  
AS BEGIN  
SQL statement(s)  
END
```

In SQL Server, a list of triggers can be examined using
`SELECT * FROM sys.triggers;`

AFTER Triggers

Trigger statements are automatically executed **after** a data modification occurs
Uses two virtual tables, **Inserted** and **Deleted** (containing new and old values of objects being modified)

Inserted holds all new rows

Deleted holds all deleted (old) rows

Example of Trigger use

Consider a database for a bank with an account table

ACCOUNT (accnum, balance) where *accnum* is the account number and
balance is the account balance

Details of any deleted account should be **automatically** archived

Details of any transactions on an account should be **automatically** logged

Triggers

This can be achieved using two Triggers:

tr1 copies any deleted account details into an archive table ARCHACC (accnum, balance)

tr2 copies any updated balance values (old and new) into

AUDIT (ID, accnum, old_balance, new_balance, atime)

where *ID* is autoincrement , *old_balance* and *new_balance* are the old and new balances and *atime* is the time the transaction occurred

Trigger tr1:

```
CREATE TRIGGER tr1 ON ACCOUNT AFTER DELETE AS
BEGIN
    INSERT INTO ARCHACC (accnum, balance)
    SELECT deleted.accnum, deleted.balance
    FROM deleted
END;
```

***deleted** is the old value of the record*

***inserted** is the new value of the record*

Trigger tr2:

```
CREATE TRIGGER tr2 ON ACCOUNT AFTER UPDATE AS
BEGIN
    INSERT INTO AUDIT (accnum, old_balance, new_balance, atime)
    SELECT deleted.accnum, deleted.balance, inserted.balance, getdate()
    FROM deleted, inserted
END;
```

Triggers

Consider the schema from earlier:

EMP (enum, ename, salary, dnum*)

DEPT (dnum, dname, numemp)

Where: *numemp* is number of employees

numemp should be updated **automatically** whenever a new employee is inserted in EMP

This can be achieved with Trigger **tr3**:

```
CREATE TRIGGER tr3 ON EMP AFTER INSERT
```

```
AS
```

```
BEGIN
```

```
    UPDATE DEPT
```

```
    SET numemp = (SELECT count(*)
```

```
                    FROM EMP
```

```
                    WHERE EMP.dnum = DEPT.dnum)
```

```
END;
```

Exercise:

Write a Trigger to update *numemp* whenever an employee leaves.

Triggers

INSTEAD OF Triggers

Allows examination of changes before they happen

As with AFTER Triggers, two virtual tables are used - Inserted and Deleted

Except - Deleted holds all rows that would have been deleted

Inserted holds all rows that would have been inserted

Example of an INSTEAD OF Trigger

Update all salaries by 10% unless they are above £50,000

```
CREATE TRIGGER tr4 ON EMP INSTEAD OF UPDATE
```

```
AS BEGIN
```

```
  BEGIN
```

```
    IF (Salary > 50000) ROLLBACK;
```

```
  END
```

```
ELSE
```

```
  BEGIN
```

```
    UPDATE EMP
```

```
    SET Salary = Salary * 1.1;
```

```
    COMMIT;
```

```
  END;
```

```
END;
```

*We will see **ROLLBACK** and **COMMIT** later in
the semester when we look at Transaction
Management*