

Chapter 8 - Objectives

- How to use the SQL programming language
- How to use SQL cursors
- How to create stored procedures
- How to create triggers
- How to use triggers to enforce integrity constraints
- The advantages and disadvantages of triggers
- How to use recursive queries

The SQL Programming Language

- Impedance mismatch
 - Mixing different programming paradigms
 - SQL is a declarative language
 - High-level language such as C is a procedural language
 - SQL and 3GLs use different models to represent data

The SQL Programming Language

- SQL/PSM (Persistent Stored Modules)
- PL/SQL (Procedural Language/SQL)
 - Oracle's procedural extension to SQL
 - Two versions

Declarations

- Variables and constant variables must be declared before they can be referenced
- Possible to declare a variable as NOT NULL
- %TYPE – variable same type as a column
 - vStaffNo Staff.staffNo%TYPE;
- %ROWTYPE – variable same type as an entire row
 - vStaffNo1 Staff%ROWTYPE;

Declarations

[DECLARE	<i>Optional</i>
— declarations]	
BEGIN	<i>Mandatory</i>
— executable statements	
[EXCEPTION	<i>Optional</i>
— exception handlers]	
END:	<i>Mandatory</i>

Assignments

- Variables can be assigned in two ways:
 - Using the normal assignment statement (:=):

```
vStaffNo := 'SG14';
```

- Using an SQL SELECT or FETCH statement:

```
SELECT COUNT(*) INTO x  
FROM PropertyForRent  
WHERE staffNo = vStaffNo;
```

Control Statements

- Conditional IF statement
- Conditional CASE statement
- Iteration statement (LOOP)
- Iteration statement (WHILE and REPEAT)
- Iteration statement (FOR)

Conditional IF Statement

```
IF (position = 'Manager') THEN  
    salary := salary*1.05;  
ELSE  
    salary := salary*1.05;  
END IF;
```

Conditional CASE Statement

UPDATE Staff

SET salary = CASE

WHEN position = 'Manager'

THEN salary * 1.05

ELSE

salary * 1.02

END;

Iteration Statement (LOOP)

```
x:=1;  
myLoop:  
LOOP  
    x := x+1;  
    IF (x > 3) THEN  
        EXIT myLoop; --- exit loop now  
END LOOP myLoop;  
--- control resumes here  
y := 2;
```

Iteration Statement (WHILE and REPEAT)

```
WHILE (condition) DO
    <SQL statement list>
END WHILE [labelName];
```

```
REPEAT
    <SQL statement list>
UNTIL (condition)
END REPEAT [labelName];
```

Iteration Statement (FOR)

myLoop1:

```
FOR iStaff AS SELECT COUNT(*) FROM  
PropertyForRent WHERE staffNo = 'SG14' DO
```

.....

```
END FOR myLoop1;
```

Exceptions in PL/SQL

- Exception
 - Identifier in PL/SQL
 - Raised during the execution of a block
 - Terminates block's main body of actions
- Exception handlers
 - Separate routines that handle raised exceptions
- User-defined exception
 - Defined in the declarative part of a PL/SQL block

Example of Exception Handling in PL/SQL

```
DECLARE
    vpCount      NUMBER;
    vStaffNo PropertyForRent.staffNo%TYPE := 'SG14';
    -- define an exception for the enterprise constraint that prevents a member of staff
    -- managing more than 100 properties
    e_too_many_properties EXCEPTION;
    PRAGMA EXCEPTION_INIT(e_too_many_properties, -20000);

BEGIN
    SELECT COUNT(*) INTO vpCount
    FROM PropertyForRent
    WHERE staffNo = vStaffNo;
    IF vpCount = 100
        -- raise an exception for the general constraint
        RAISE e_too_many_properties;
    END IF;
    UPDATE PropertyForRent SET staffNo = vStaffNo WHERE propertyNo = 'PG4';

EXCEPTION
    -- handle the exception for the general constraint
    WHEN e_too_many_properties THEN
        dbms_output.put_line('Member of staff ' || staffNo || ' already managing 100 properties');

END;
```

Condition Handling

- Define a handler by:
 - Specifying its type
 - Exception and completion conditions it can resolve
 - Action it takes to do so
- Handler is activated:
 - When it is the most appropriate handler for the condition that has been raised by the SQL statement

The DECLARE . . . HANDLER Statement

```
DECLARE {CONTINUE | EXIT | UNDO} HANDLER  
FOR SQLSTATE {sqlstateValue | conditionName |  
SQLEXCEPTION | SQLWARNING | NOT FOUND}  
handlerAction;
```

Cursors in PL/SQL

• Cursor

- Allows the rows of a query result to be accessed one at a time
- Must be declared and opened before use
- Must be closed to deactivate it after it is no longer required
- Updating rows through a cursor

Using Cursors in PL/SQL to Process a Multirow Query

```
DECLARE
    vPropertyNo      PropertyForRent.propertyNo%TYPE;
    vStreet          PropertyForRent.street%TYPE;
    vCity            PropertyForRent.city%TYPE;
    vPostcode        PropertyForRent.postcode%TYPE;
    CURSOR propertyCursor IS
        SELECT propertyNo, street, city, postcode
        FROM PropertyForRent
        WHERE staffNo = 'SG14'
        ORDER by propertyNo;
BEGIN
    -- Open the cursor to start of selection, then loop to fetch each row of the result table
    OPEN propertyCursor;
    LOOP
        -- Fetch next row of the result table
        FETCH propertyCursor
        INTO vPropertyNo, vStreet, vCity, vPostcode;
        EXIT WHEN propertyCursor%NOTFOUND;

        -- Display data
        dbms_output.put_line('Property number: ' || vPropertyNo);
        dbms_output.put_line('Street: ' || vStreet);
        dbms_output.put_line('City: ' || vCity);
        IF postcode IS NOT NULL THEN
            dbms_output.put_line('Post Code: ' || vPostcode);
        ELSE
            dbms_output.put_line('Post Code: NULL');
        END IF;
    END LOOP;
    IF propertyCursor%ISOPEN THEN CLOSE propertyCursor END IF;

    -- Error condition - print out error
EXCEPTION
    WHEN OTHERS THEN
        dbms_output.put_line('Error detected');
        IF propertyCursor%ISOPEN THEN CLOSE propertyCursor; END IF;
END;
```

Subprograms, Stored Procedures, Functions, and Packages

- **Package**

- Collection of procedures, functions, variables, and SQL statements that are grouped together and stored as a single program unit

- **Specification**

- Declares all public constructs of the package

- **Body**

- Defines all constructs (public and private) of the package

Triggers

- Trigger

- Defines an action that the database should take when some event occurs in the application
- Based on Event-Condition-Action (ECA) model

- Types

- Row-level
- Statement-level

- Event: INSERT, UPDATE or DELETE

- Timing: BEFORE, AFTER or INSTEAD OF

- Advantages and disadvantages of triggers

Trigger Format

```
CREATE TRIGGER TriggerName  
  BEFORE | AFTER | INSTEAD OF  
  INSERT | DELETE | UPDATE [OF TriggerColumnList]  
  
  ON TableName  
  [REFERENCING {OLD | NEW} AS {OldName | NewName}]  
  [FOR EACH {ROW | STATEMENT}]  
  [WHEN Condition]  
  <trigger action>
```

Using a BEFORE Trigger

```
CREATE TRIGGER StaffNotHandlingTooMuch
BEFORE INSERT ON PropertyForRent
REFERENCING NEW AS newrow
FOR EACH ROW
DECLARE
    vpCount      NUMBER;
BEGIN
    SELECT COUNT(*) INTO vpCount
    FROM PropertyForRent
    WHERE staffNo = :newrow.staffNo;
    IF vpCount = 100
        raise_application_error(-20000, ('Member' || :newrow.staffNo || 'already managing 100 properties'));
    END IF;
END;
```

Triggers – Disadvantages

- Performance overhead
- Cascading effects
- Cannot be scheduled
- Less portable

Recursion

- Extremely difficult to handle recursive queries
 - Queries about relationships that a relation has with itself (directly or indirectly)
- WITH RECURSIVE statement handles this
- Infinite loop can occur unless the cycle can be detected
 - CYCLE clause

Recursion - Example

WITH RECURSIVE

```
AllManagers (staffNo, managerStaffNo) AS  
(SELECT staffNo, managerStaffNo  
FROM Staff  
UNION  
SELECT in.staffNo, out.managerStaffNo  
FROM AllManagers in, Staff out  
WHERE in.managerStaffNo = out.staffNo);  
SELECT * FROM AllManagers  
ORDER BY staffNo, managerStaffNo;
```