ORACLE Academy

Database Programming with SQL

1-2

Relational Database Technology





Objectives

This lesson covers the following objectives:

- -Define and give an example of a relational database
- Identify table-key terms, including row, column, field, primary key, and foreign key
- -Relate the importance of databases to everyday life



Purpose

- Databases are part of our everyday lives even though most of the time we don't even think about them
- If you have ever made an airline reservation, used an ATM machine, or made a mobile-phone call, you've used a database
- In fact, many cities use intelligent traffic guiding system databases to control stoplights
- So the next time you're waiting at a red light, it may be a database that is responsible for your delay!
- In this lesson, you will learn more about databases and how they're organized and created



- A relational database allows tables to be related by means of a common field
- As few as two tables can be considered a relational database if they share a common field

COUNTRY_ID	COUNTRY_NAME	REGION_ID
CA	Canada	2
DE	Germany	1
UK	United Kingdom	1
US	United States of America	2



- Realistically, databases used in business have many tables, each table sharing a common field with another table
- The "countries" table shown is one of several tables in the Employees database and just one example of the many tables that will be used in this course

COUNTRY_ID	COUNTRY_NAME	REGION_ID
CA	Canada	2
DE	Germany	1
UK	United Kingdom	1
US	United States of America	2



- To understand how important databases have become in today's world, consider the following statistics:
 - -Currently 20% of the world's data resides in RDBMSs
 - In the next two years, databases are expected to grow larger than 100 terabytes
 - A database this big would be able to store 100,000 copies of the Encyclopedia Britannica or 200,000 hours of music or about 10 billion web pages



- Some of the top 10 world's largest databases using the Oracle RDBMS are:
 - -France Telecom, 29.2TB -- a communications company (a TB is a terabyte equivalent to 1,000 gigabytes)
 - -Amazon.com with, 13 TB -- selling books and merchandise
 - The Claria Corporation, 12TB -- Internet behavioral marketing company tracking Internet user behavior





Review Key Terms

- Let's review the following key terms:
 - table -- basic storage structure
 - -column -- one kind of data in a table
 - -row -- data for one table instance
 - -field -- the one value found at the intersection of a row and a column
 - -primary key -- unique identifier for each row
 - foreign key -- column that refers to a primary-key column in another table



Properties of Tables

- There are six properties of tables in a relational database:
 - -Property 1: Entries in columns are single-valued
 - -Property 2: Entries in columns are of the same kind
 - -Property 3: Each row is unique
 - -Property 4: Sequence of columns is insignificant
 - -Property 5: Sequence of rows is insignificant
 - -Property 6: Each column has a unique name



Accessing Data in an RDBMS

- A relational database-management system (RDBMS) organizes data into related rows and columns
- To access the data in a database, you do not need to know where the data is located physically, nor do you need to specify an access route to the tables
- You simply use structured query language (SQL) statements and operators



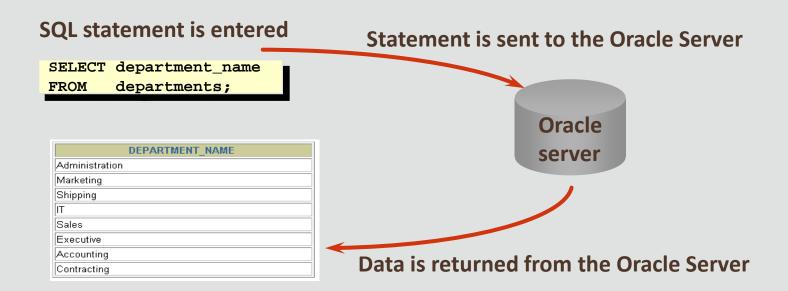
Communicating with Databases

- Working with the database is very similar to calling up and talking to a friend on the phone
 - -First, you must choose a method to communicate (the phone)
 - Once connected, you ask your friend a question (a query)
 - In response to your question, your friend answers (return of data)
- Pretty simple, and most of us are experts at this
- In this class, our method of communication with the database will be through Oracle Application Express
- When you ask a question using SQL, the application will return an answer



Communicating With Databases

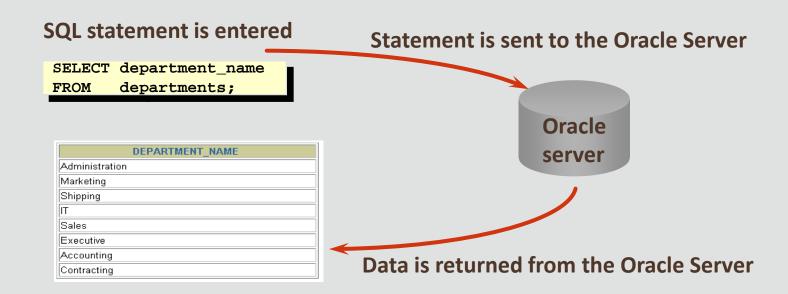
 As shown in the diagram, communicating with an RDBMS is accomplished by entering a SQL statement in Oracle Application Express





Communicating With Databases

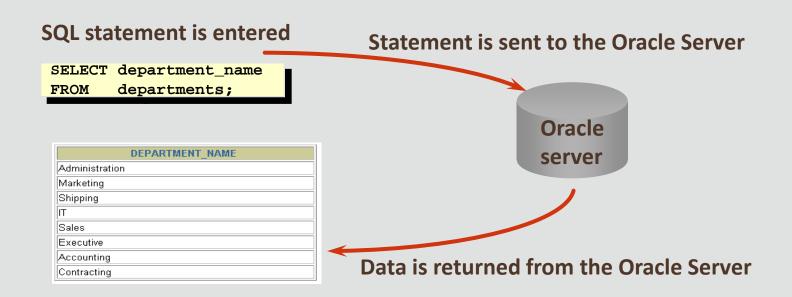
 The request is then sent to the Oracle Server (a database running on a computer), the request is processed and the data returned is displayed





Communicating With Databases

 In very large database systems, many users, servers, and tables make up the RDBMS





- SQL statements are grouped into several categories depending on the functions they perform
- During this course, you will learn how to use SQL to execute these statements
- The data retrieval statement retrieves data from the database using the keyword SELECT



- There are four main categories of SQL statements:
 - -Data manipulation language (DML)
 - Data definition language (DDL)
 - -Transaction control language (TCL)
 - Data control language (DCL)





- Data manipulation language (DML)
 - -DML statements begin with INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE, or MERGE and are used to modify the table data by entering new rows, changing existing rows, or removing existing rows
- Data definition language (DDL)
 - DDL statements create, change, and remove data structures from the database
 - -The keywords CREATE, ALTER, DROP, RENAME, and TRUNCATE begin DDL statements



- Transaction control language (TCL)
 - TCL statements are used to manage the changes made by DML statements
 - Changes to the data are executed using COMMIT, ROLLBACK, and SAVEPOINT
 - -TCL changes can be grouped together into logical transactions
- Data control language (DCL)
 - -DCL keywords GRANT and REVOKE are used to give or remove access rights to the database and the structures within it



Terminology

Key terms used in this lesson included:

- Data control language (DCL)
- Data definition language (DDL)
- -Data manipulation language (DML)
- -Field
- -Foreign key
- -RDBMS



Terminology

Key terms used in this lesson included:

- -Primary key
- -Relational database
- -Row
- -Table
- -Transaction control (TCL)



Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- -Define and give an example of a relational database
- Identify table-key terms, including row, column, field, primary key, and foreign key
- -Relate the importance of databases to everyday life



ORACLE Academy