1

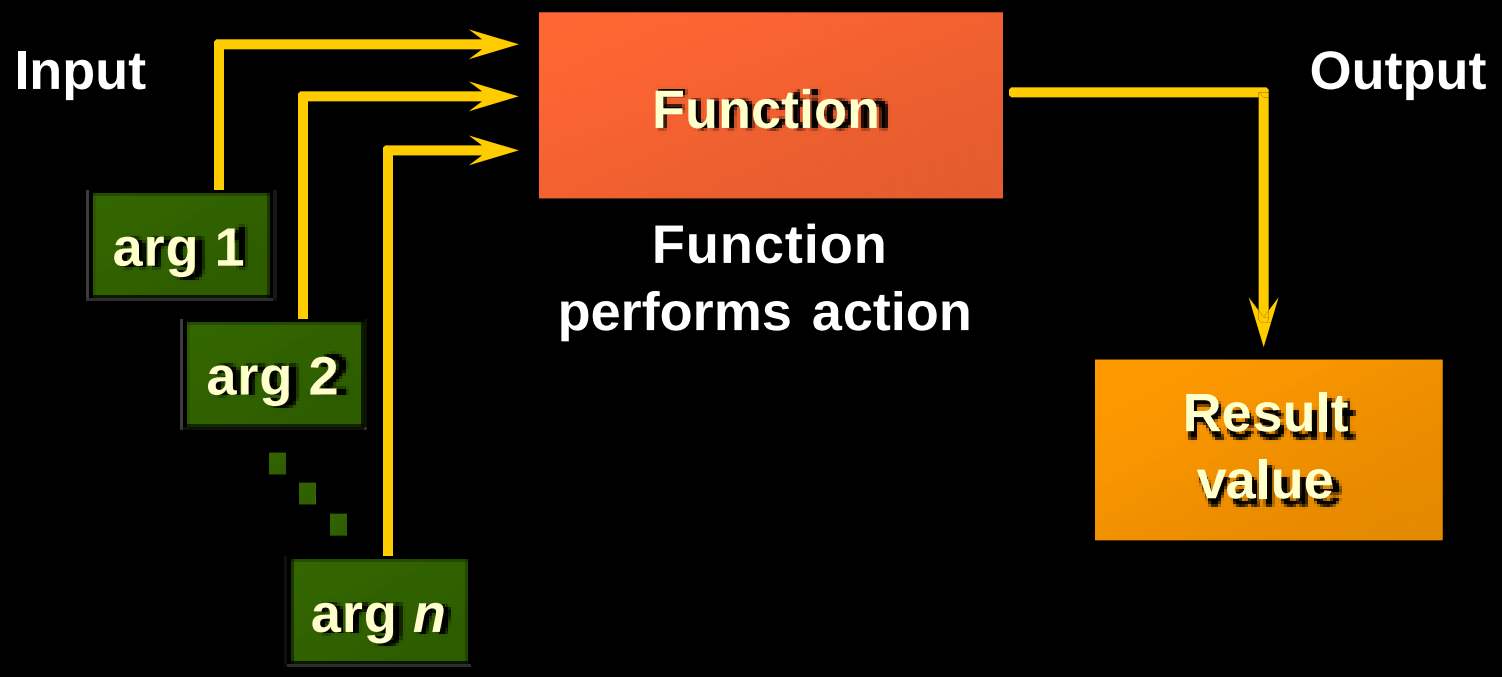
Single-Row Functions

Objectives

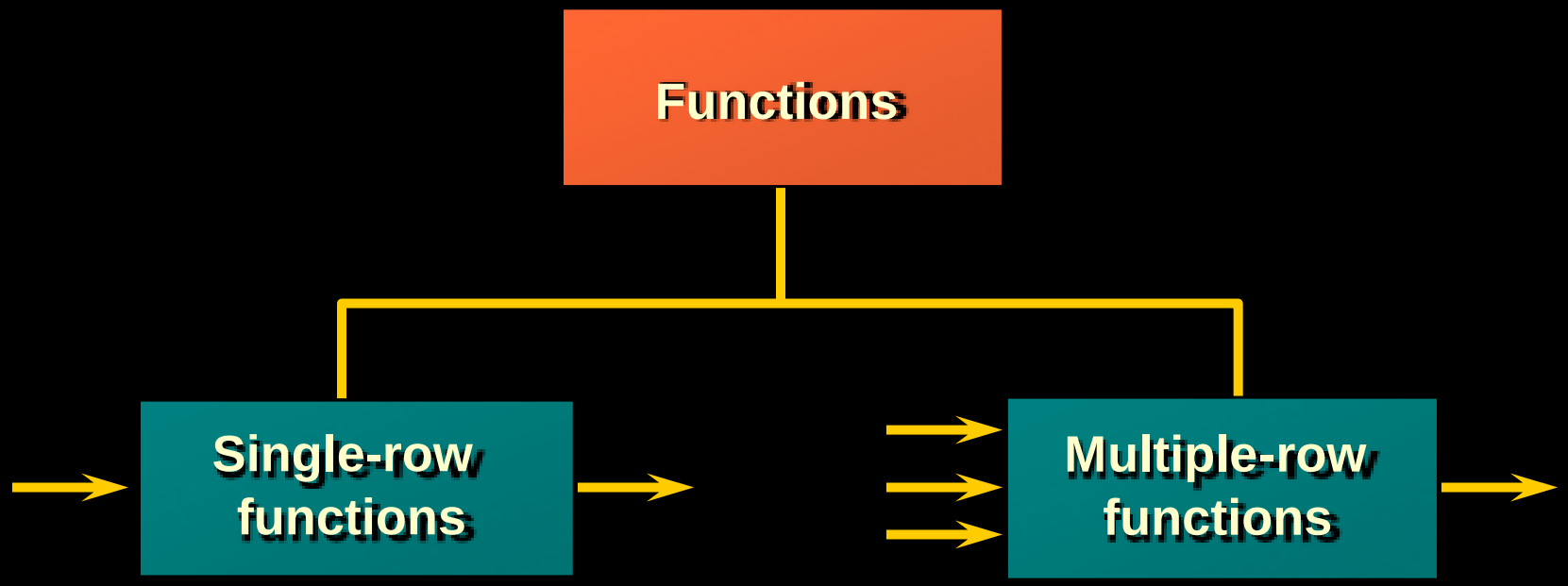
After completing this lesson, you should be able to do the following:

- Describe various types of functions available in SQL
- Use character, number, and date functions in `SELECT` statements
- Describe the use of conversion functions

SQL Functions



Two Types of SQL Functions



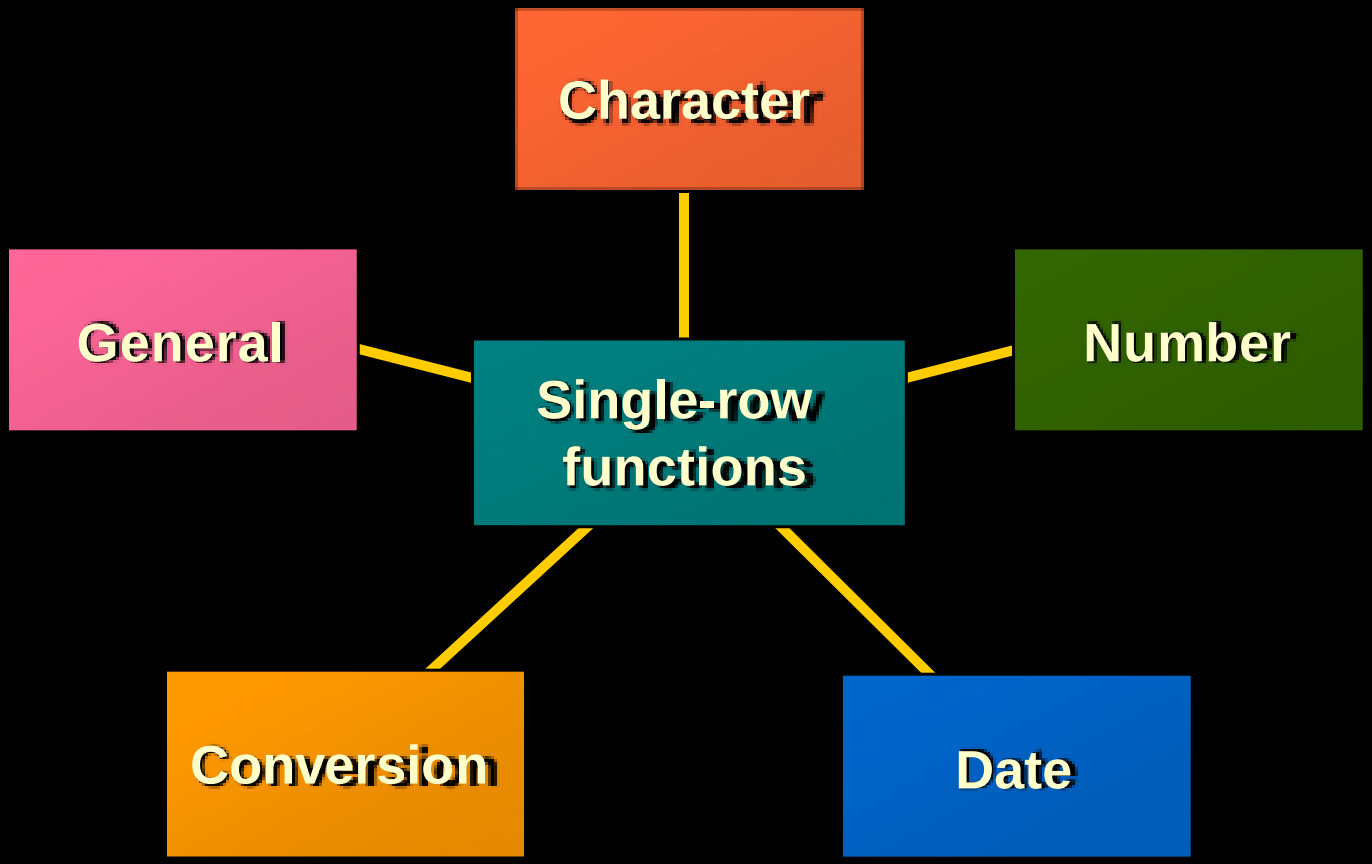
Single-Row Functions

Single row functions:

- Manipulate data items
- Accept arguments and return one value
- Act on each row returned
- Return one result per row
- May modify the data type
- Can be nested
- Accept arguments which can be a column or an expression

```
function_name [(arg1, arg2,...)]
```

Single-Row Functions



Character Functions

Character functions

Case-manipulation functions

LOWER
UPPER
INITCAP

Character-manipulation functions

CONCAT
SUBSTR
LENGTH
INSTR
LPAD | RPAD
TRIM
REPLACE

Case Manipulation Functions

These functions convert case for character strings.

Function	Result
LOWER('SQL Course')	sql course
UPPER('SQL Course')	SQL COURSE
INITCAP('SQL Course')	Sql Course

Using Case Manipulation Functions

Display the employee number, name, and department number for employee Higgins:

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, department_id
FROM employees
WHERE last_name = 'higgins';
no rows selected
```

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, department_id
FROM employees
WHERE  LOWER(last_name) = 'higgins';
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID
205	Higgins	110

Character-Manipulation Functions

These functions manipulate character strings:

Function	Result
CONCAT('Hello', 'World')	HelloWorld
SUBSTR('HelloWorld',1,5)	Hello
LENGTH('HelloWorld')	10
INSTR('HelloWorld', 'W')	6
LPAD(salary,10,'*')	*****24000
RPAD(salary, 10, '*')	24000*****
TRIM('H' FROM 'HelloWorld')	elloWorld

Using the Character-Manipulation Functions

```
SELECT employee_id, CONCAT(first_name, last_name)  NAME,
       job_id, LENGTH (last_name),
       INSTR(last_name, 'a') "Contains 'a'?"
FROM employees
WHERE  SUBSTR(job_id, 4) = 'REP';
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	NAME	JOB_ID	LENGTH(LAST_NAME)	Contains 'a'?
174	EllenAbel	SA_REP	4	0
176	JonathonTaylor	SA_REP	6	2
178	KimberelyGrant	SA_REP	5	3
202	PatFay	MK_REP	3	2

Number Functions

- **ROUND: Rounds value to specified decimal**

  `ROUND(45.926, 2)` → `45.93`

- **TRUNC: Truncates value to specified decimal**

  `TRUNC(45.926, 2)` → `45.92`

- **MOD: Returns remainder of division**

  `MOD(1600, 300)` → `100`

Using the ROUND Function

```
SELECT ROUND(45.923,2), ROUND(45.923,0),
       ROUND(45.923,-1)
FROM   DUAL;
```

ROUND(45.923,2)	ROUND(45.923,0)	ROUND(45.923,-1)
45.92	46	50

DUAL is a dummy table you can use to view results from functions and calculations.

Using the TRUNC Function

```
SELECT   TRUNC(45.923,2), TRUNC(45.923),
         TRUNC(45.923,-2)
FROM     DUAL;
```

TRUNC(45.923,2)	TRUNC(45.923)	TRUNC(45.923,-2)
45.92	45	0

Using the MOD Function

Calculate the remainder of a salary after it is divided by 5000 for all employees whose job title is sales representative.

```
SELECT last_name, salary, MOD(salary, 5000)
FROM employees
WHERE  job_id = 'SA_REP';
```

LAST_NAME	SALARY	MOD(SALARY,5000)
Abel	11000	1000
Taylor	8600	3600
Grant	7000	2000

Working with Dates

- Oracle database stores dates in an internal numeric format: century, year, month, day, hours, minutes, seconds.
- The default date display format is DD-MON-RR.
  - Allows you to store 21st century dates in the 20th century by specifying only the last two digits of the year.
  - Allows you to store 20th century dates in the 21st century in the same way.

```
SELECT last_name, hire_date
FROM   employees
WHERE  last_name like 'G%';
```

LAST_NAME	HIRE_DATE
Gietz	07-JUN-94
Grant	24-MAY-99

Working with Dates

`SYSDATE` is a function that returns:

- Date
- Time

Arithmetic with Dates

- Add or subtract a number to or from a date for a resultant date value.
- Subtract two dates to find the number of days between those dates.
- Add hours to a date by dividing the number of hours by 24.

Using Arithmetic Operators with Dates

```
SELECT last_name, (SYSDATE-hire_date)/7 AS WEEKS
FROM  employees
WHERE  department_id = 90;
```

LAST_NAME	WEEKS
King	744.245395
Kochhar	626.102538
De Haan	453.245395

Date Functions

Function	Description
MONTHS_BETWEEN	Number of months between two dates
ADD_MONTHS	Add calendar months to date
NEXT_DAY	Next day of the date specified
LAST_DAY	Last day of the month
ROUND	Round date
TRUNC	Truncate date

Using Date Functions

- `MONTHS_BETWEEN ('01-SEP-95','11-JAN-94')` → `19.6774194`
- `ADD_MONTHS ('11-JAN-94',6)` → `'11-JUL-94'`
- `NEXT_DAY ('01-SEP-95','FRIDAY')` → `'08-SEP-95'`
- `LAST_DAY('01-FEB-95')` → `'28-FEB-95'`

Using Date Functions

Assume `SYSDATE = '25-JUL-95'`:

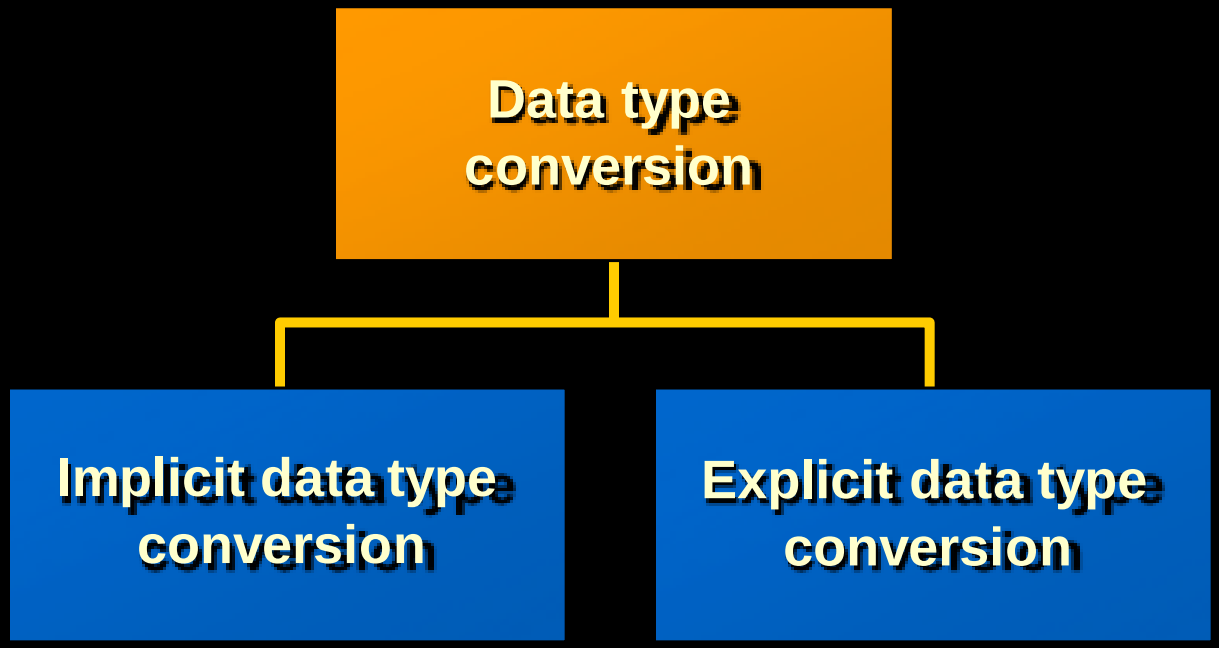
- `ROUND(SYSDATE,'MONTH')` → `01-AUG-95`
- `ROUND(SYSDATE ,'YEAR')` → `01-JAN-96`
- `TRUNC(SYSDATE ,'MONTH')` → `01-JUL-95`
- `TRUNC(SYSDATE ,'YEAR')` → `01-JAN-95`

Practice 3, Part One: Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

- Writing a query that displays the current date
- Creating queries that require the use of numeric, character, and date functions
- Performing calculations of years and months of service for an employee

Conversion Functions



Implicit Data Type Conversion

For assignments, the Oracle server can automatically convert the following:

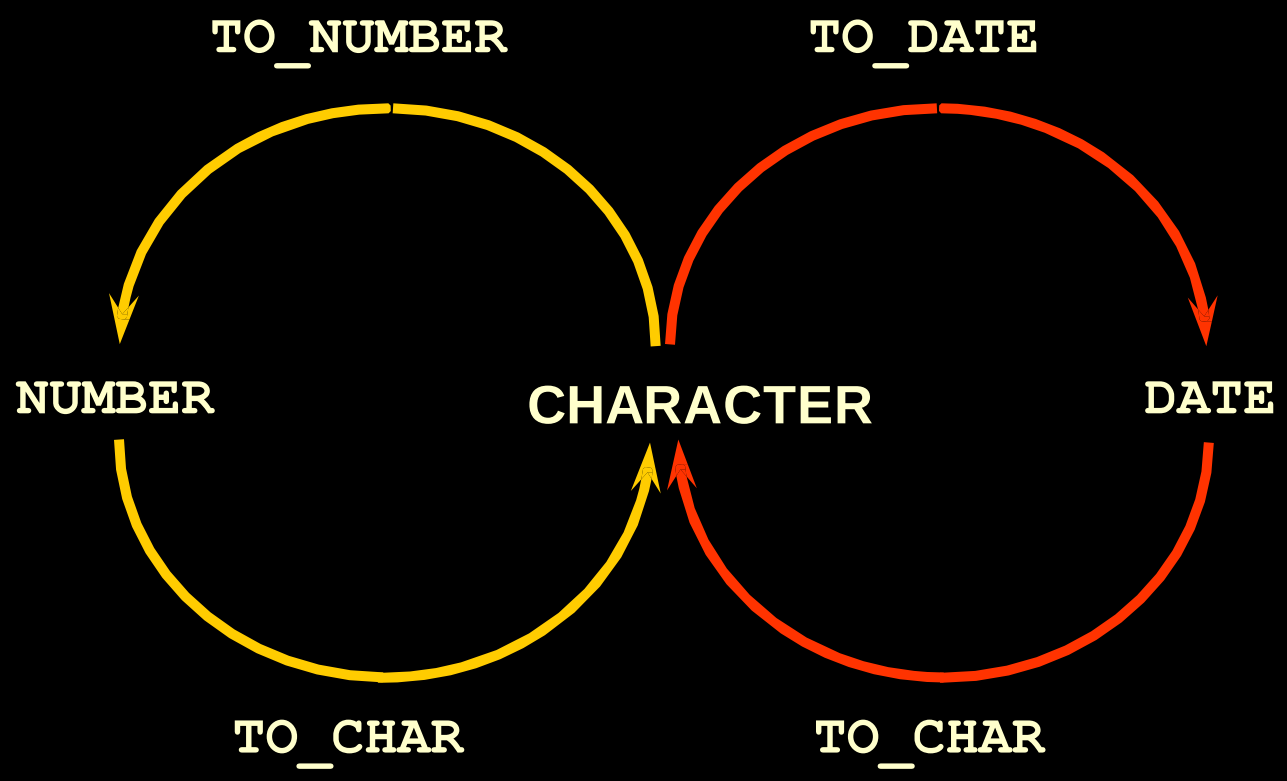
From	To
VARCHAR2 or CHAR	NUMBER
VARCHAR2 or CHAR	DATE
NUMBER	VARCHAR2
DATE	VARCHAR2

Implicit Data Type Conversion

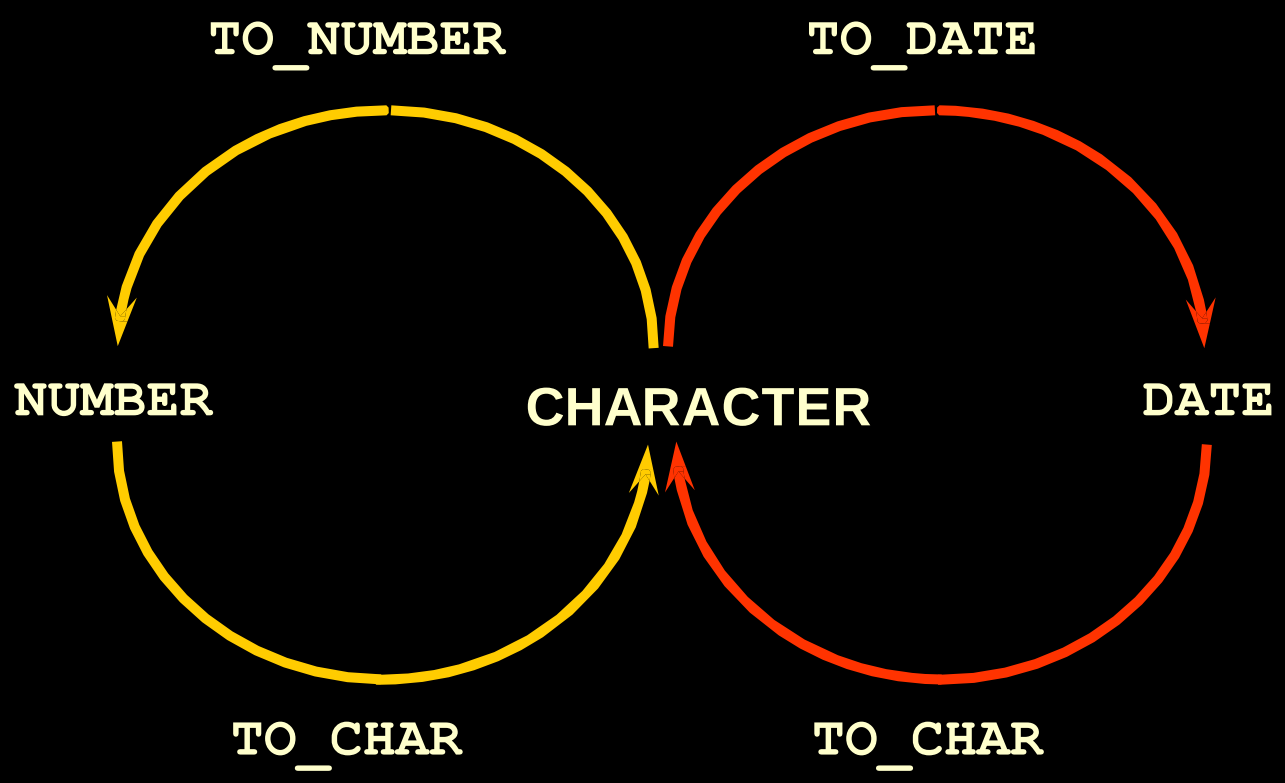
For expression evaluation, the Oracle Server can automatically convert the following:

From	To
VARCHAR2 or CHAR	NUMBER
VARCHAR2 or CHAR	DATE

Explicit Data Type Conversion



Explicit Data Type Conversion



Using the `TO_CHAR` Function with Dates

```
TO_CHAR(date, 'format_model')
```

The format model:

- Must be enclosed in single quotation marks and is case sensitive
- Can include any valid date format element
- Has an *fm* element to remove padded blanks or suppress leading zeros
- Is separated from the date value by a comma

Elements of the Date Format Model

YYYY	Full year in numbers
YEAR	Year spelled out
MM	Two-digit value for month
MONTH	Full name of the month
MON	Three-letter abbreviation of the month
DY	Three-letter abbreviation of the day of the week
DAY	Full name of the day of the week
DD	Numeric day of the month

Elements of the Date Format Model

- Time elements format the time portion of the date.

HH24:MI:SS AM	15:45:32 PM

- Add character strings by enclosing them in double quotation marks.

DD "of" MONTH	12 of OCTOBER

- Number suffixes spell out numbers.

ddspth	fourteenth

Using the TO_CHAR Function with Dates

```
SELECT last_name,
       TO_CHAR(hire_date, 'fmDD Month YYYY')
       AS HIREDATE
FROM   employees;
```

LAST_NAME	HIREDATE
King	17 June 1987
Kochhar	21 September 1989
De Haan	13 January 1993
Hunold	3 January 1990
Ernst	21 May 1991
Lorentz	7 February 1999
Mourgos	16 November 1999

...

20 rows selected.

Using the TO_CHAR Function with Numbers

```
TO_CHAR(number, 'format_model')
```

These are some of the format elements you can use with the TO_CHAR function to display a number value as a character:

9	Represents a number
0	Forces a zero to be displayed
$	Places a floating dollar sign
L	Uses the floating local currency symbol
.	Prints a decimal point
,	Prints a thousand indicator

Using the TO_CHAR Function with Numbers

```
SELECT TO_CHAR(salary, '$99,999.00') SALARY
FROM   employees
WHERE  last_name = 'Ernst';
```

SALARY
$6,000.00

Using the TO_NUMBER and TO_DATE Functions

- Convert a character string to a number format using the TO_NUMBER function:

```
TO_NUMBER(char[, 'format_model'])
```

- Convert a character string to a date format using the TO_DATE function:

```
TO_DATE(char[, 'format_model'])
```

- These functions have an fx modifier. This modifier specifies the exact matching for the character argument and date format model of a TO_DATE function

Using the TO_NUMBER and TO_DATE Functions

- Convert a character string to a number format using the TO_NUMBER function:

```
TO_NUMBER(char[, 'format_model'])
```

- Convert a character string to a date format using the TO_DATE function:

```
TO_DATE(char[, 'format_model'])
```

- These functions have an fx modifier. This modifier specifies the exact matching for the character argument and date format model of a TO_DATE function

RR Date Format

Current Year	Specified Date	RR Format	YY Format
1995	27-OCT-95	1995	1995
1995	27-OCT-17	2017	1917
2001	27-OCT-17	2017	2017
2001	27-OCT-95	1995	2095

		If the specified two-digit year is:	
		0–49	50–99
If two digits of the current year are:	0–49	The return date is in the current century	The return date is in the century before the current one
	50–99	The return date is in the century after the current one	The return date is in the current century

Example of RR Date Format

To find employees hired prior to 1990, use the RR format, which produces the same results whether the command is run in 1999 or now:

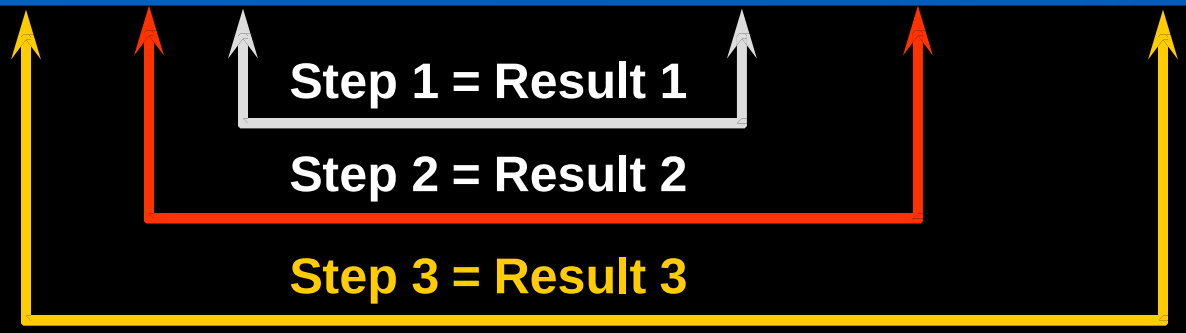
```
SELECT last_name, TO_CHAR(hire_date, 'DD-Mon-YYYY')
FROM  employees
WHERE hire_date < TO_DATE('01-Jan-90', 'DD-Mon-RR');
```

LAST_NAME	TO_CHAR(HIR
King	17-Jun-1987
Kochhar	21-Sep-1989
Whalen	17-Sep-1987

Nesting Functions

- Single-row functions can be nested to any level.
- Nested functions are evaluated from deepest level to the least deep level.

```
F3(F2(F1(col,arg1),arg2),arg3)
```



Nesting Functions

```
SELECT last_name,
       NVL(TO_CHAR(manager_id), 'No Manager')
FROM   employees
WHERE  manager_id IS NULL;
```

LAST_NAME	NVL(TO_CHAR(MANAGER_ID),'NOMANAGER')
King	No Manager

General Functions

These functions work with any data type and pertain to using nulls.

- `NVL (expr1, expr2)`
- `NVL2 (expr1, expr2, expr3)`
- `NULLIF (expr1, expr2)`
- `COALESCE (expr1, expr2, ..., exprn)`

NVL Function

Converts a null to an actual value.

- Data types that can be used are date, character, and number.
- Data types must match:
  - `NVL(commission_pct,0)`
  - `NVL(hire_date,'01-JAN-97')`
  - `NVL(job_id,'No Job Yet')`

Using the NVL Function

```
SELECT last_name, salary, NVL(commission_pct, 0),
   (salary*12) + (salary*12*NVL(commission_pct, 0)) AN_SAL
FROM employees;
```

1

2

LAST_NAME	SALARY	NVL(COMMISSION_PCT,0)	AN_SAL
King	24000	0	288000
Kochhar	17000	0	204000
De Haan	17000	0	204000
Hunold	9000	0	108000
Ernst	6000	0	72000
Lorentz	4200	0	50400
Mourgos	5800	0	69600
Rajs	3500	0	42000

...

20 rows selected.

1

2

Using the NVL2 Function

```
SELECT last_name,  salary, commission_pct,
       NVL2(commission_pct,
            'SAL+COMM', 'SAL') income
FROM   employees WHERE department_id IN (50, 80);
```

1

2

LAST_NAME	SALARY	COMMISSION_PCT	INCOME
Zlotkey	10500	.2	SAL+COMM
Abel	11000	.3	SAL+COMM
Taylor	8600	.2	SAL+COMM
Mourgos	5800		SAL
Rajs	3500		SAL
Davies	3100		SAL
Matos	2600		SAL
Vargas	2500		SAL

8 rows selected.

1

2

Using the NULLIF Function

```
SELECT first_name,  LENGTH(first_name) "expr1",
       last_name,   LENGTH(last_name)  "expr2",
       NULLIF(LENGTH(first_name), LENGTH(last_name)) result
FROM   employees;
```

FIRST_NAME	expr1	LAST_NAME	expr2	RESULT
Steven	6	King	4	6
Neena	5	Kochhar	7	5
Lex	3	De Haan	7	3
Alexander	9	Hunold	6	9
Bruce	5	Ernst	5	
Diana	5	Lorentz	7	5
Kevin	5	Mourgos	7	5
Trenna	6	Rajs	4	6
Curtis	6	Davies	6	

...

20 rows selected.

Using the COALESCE Function

- The advantage of the COALESCE function over the NVL function is that the COALESCE function can take multiple alternate values.
- If the first expression is not null, it returns that expression; otherwise, it does a COALESCE of the remaining expressions.

Using the COALESCE Function

```
SELECT   last_name,
         COALESCE(commission_pct, salary, 10) comm
FROM     employees
ORDER BY commission_pct;
```

LAST_NAME	COMM
Grant	.15
Zlotkey	.2
Taylor	.2
Abel	.3
King	24000
Kochhar	17000
De Haan	17000
Hunold	9000

...

20 rows selected.

Conditional Expressions

- Provide the use of IF-THEN-ELSE logic within a SQL statement
- Use two methods:
  - `CASE` expression
  - `DECODE` function

The CASE Expression

Facilitates conditional inquiries by doing the work of an IF-THEN-ELSE statement:

```
CASE  expr  WHEN  comparison_expr1  THEN  return_expr1
          [WHEN  comparison_expr2  THEN  return_expr2
          WHEN  comparison_exprn  THEN  return_exprn
          ELSE  else_expr]
END
```

Using the CASE Expression

Facilitates conditional inquiries by doing the work of an IF-THEN-ELSE statement:

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, salary,
       CASE job_id WHEN 'IT_PROG'  THEN  1.10*salary
                   WHEN 'ST_CLERK' THEN 1.15*salary
                   WHEN 'SA_REP'   THEN  1.20*salary
       ELSE      salary END     "REVISED_SALARY"
FROM   employees;
```

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY	REVISED_SALARY
...			
Lorentz	IT_PROG	4200	4620
Mourgos	ST_MAN	5800	5800
Rajs	ST_CLERK	3500	4025
...			
Gietz	AC_ACCOUNT	8300	8300

20 rows selected.

The DECODE Function

Facilitates conditional inquiries by doing the work of a CASE or IF-THEN-ELSE statement:

```
DECODE(col|expression, search1, result1
                        [, search2, result2,...,]
                        [, default])
```

Using the DECODE Function

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, salary,
       DECODE(job_id, 'IT_PROG',  1.10*salary,
                      'ST_CLERK', 1.15*salary,
                      'SA_REP',   1.20*salary,
              salary)
       REVISED_SALARY
FROM   employees;
```

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY	REVISED_SALARY
...			
Lorentz	IT_PROG	4200	4620
Mourgos	ST_MAN	5800	5800
Rajs	ST_CLERK	3500	4025
...			
Gietz	AC_ACCOUNT	8300	8300

20 rows selected.

Using the DECODE Function

Display the applicable tax rate for each employee in department 80.

```
SELECT last_name, salary,
       DECODE (TRUNC(salary/2000, 0),
                          0, 0.00,
                          1, 0.09,
                          2, 0.20,
                          3, 0.30,
                          4, 0.40,
                          5, 0.42,
                          6, 0.44,
                             0.45) TAX_RATE
FROM   employees
WHERE  department_id = 80;
```

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Perform calculations on data using functions
- Modify individual data items using functions
- Manipulate output for groups of rows using functions
- Alter date formats for display using functions
- Convert column data types using functions
- Use NVL functions
- Use IF-THEN-ELSE logic

Practice 3, Part Two: Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

- Creating queries that require the use of numeric, character, and date functions
- Using concatenation with functions
- Writing case-insensitive queries to test the usefulness of character functions
- Performing calculations of years and months of service for an employee
- Determining the review date for an employee