

Chapter 13:

Database Basics

Database Basics

In this chapter we will learn about databases and their uses within Java programming. We will work with a more sophisticated data verse a flat files.

We will explore an open source database from the Apache Organization called Derby. In addition we review the basics of JDBC (Java Database Connectivity) drivers and SQL (Structured Query Language).

Database Basics

Java Database Connectivity (JDBC) is a set of classes that can be used to develop client/server applications that work with databases developed by many vendors.

With JDBC, we can use the same methods and classes that we've looked at to read and write records as well as perform other tasks in the database.

A class called a driver acts as the bridge to the database source. Each of the popular databases have a driver in Java.

CLIENT/SERVER software connects a user of information with a provider of that information. We (client) request a web page from a source (server) and the server provides us the information we are requesting.

Database Basics

When we need to request information of database, we use a programming language called **Structured Query Language (SQL)**. When we request information from a database using SQL, (pronounced See-Quel), we ask the database a question to request information, such as “How many blue cars were made?”. This question is called a **QUERY**. Not only can we use SQL to request information, it is used to control the database in general such as Create, Update and Delete tables.

There are two types of SQL:

Data Manipulation Language (DML) and **Data Definition Language (DDL)**. DML is what we used to build, modify, delete and request information where as DDL is used by the **Database Administrator (DBA)** to build the database structures as well as control the security called **Access Controls**. SQL is the industry standard used to access a relational database.

Database Basics

The **JDBC library**, `java.sql` package, includes classes for each of the tasks commonly associated with database usage:

Making the connection to the database

Creating statements using SQL

Executing the SQL query in the database

Viewing the **RESULT SETS** (the records that are returned from the database)

Database Drivers

Since Java programs that use JDBC classes can follow the programming model standard for executing SQL statements and processing the result set, the format of the database and the platform it was created with is not of concern.

This is another reason why we call Java platform independent. As a result of the driver manager which keeps track of the drivers required for access to the database records we need a different driver for each database format that is used in a program.

We can also use the Open Database Connectivity driver (ODBC) to connect to other types of data sources such as Excel and the like.

Data Tools Platform (DTP)

- A cohesive set of frameworks and tools for creating, managing, and using data.
- Intended for use in data-centric development and administrative tasks
- Several projects, including Model Base, Enablement, Connectivity, and SQL Development Tools.

DTP Model Base

project provides the foundation for database development.

uses best practices, like model-driven development with UML, and the Eclipse Modeling Framework (EMF)

Database definition model

- Edit model
- SQL model
- SQL Query model
- SQL XML Query model

Connectivity

- includes components for defining, connecting to, and working with data sources
- Driver Management Framework: create driver definitions based on templates
- Connection Management Framework: is the basis for specific connection
- JDBC connection support: DTP includes a JDBC driver template
- Data Source Explorer: Data Source Explorer is an Eclipse view of connection instances
- Open Data Access:(ODA) is a data-access framework allowing applications to access data from standard and custom data sources

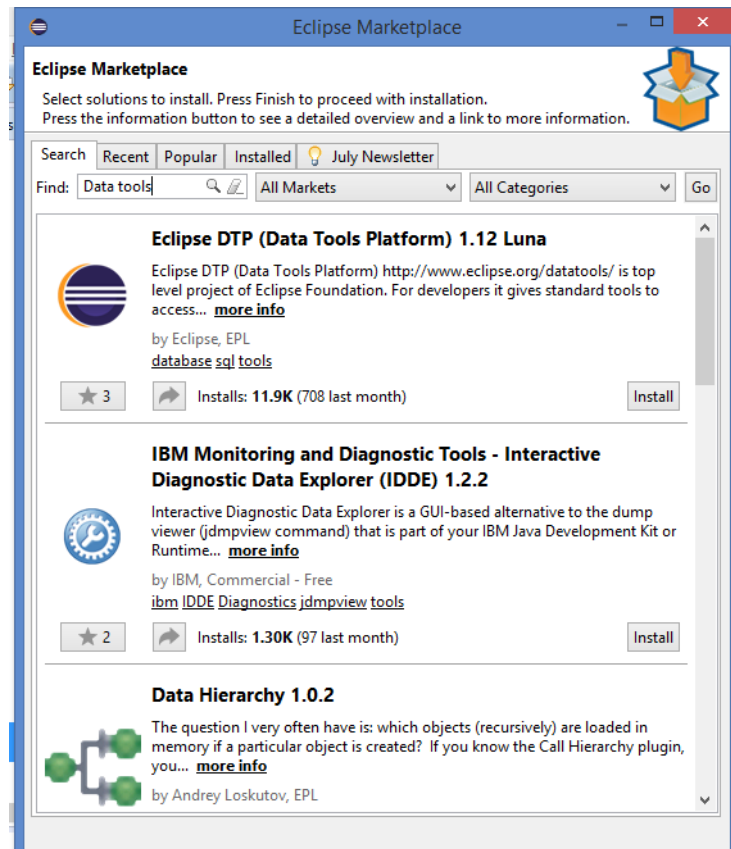
SQL Development Tools

- Editor Framework is an extensible framework for editing database routines and SQL statements.
- Debugger Framework provides an extensible support base enabling debugging
- SQL Query Parser provides an extensible framework enabling SQL components and tools
- SQL Query Builder enables you to create, edit, or run SQL statements using the SQL Query Builder graphical interface
- SQL Execution Plan Framework provides a means for capturing and presenting execution plans in a generic fashion

Apache Derby

1. Appropriate versions of Eclipse, Data Tools Platform, EMF, and GEFDownload or access these builds from <http://www.eclipse.org/datatools/downloads.php>
2. Apache Derby Download the appropriate version from <http://db.apache.org/derby/>

Find and install DTP



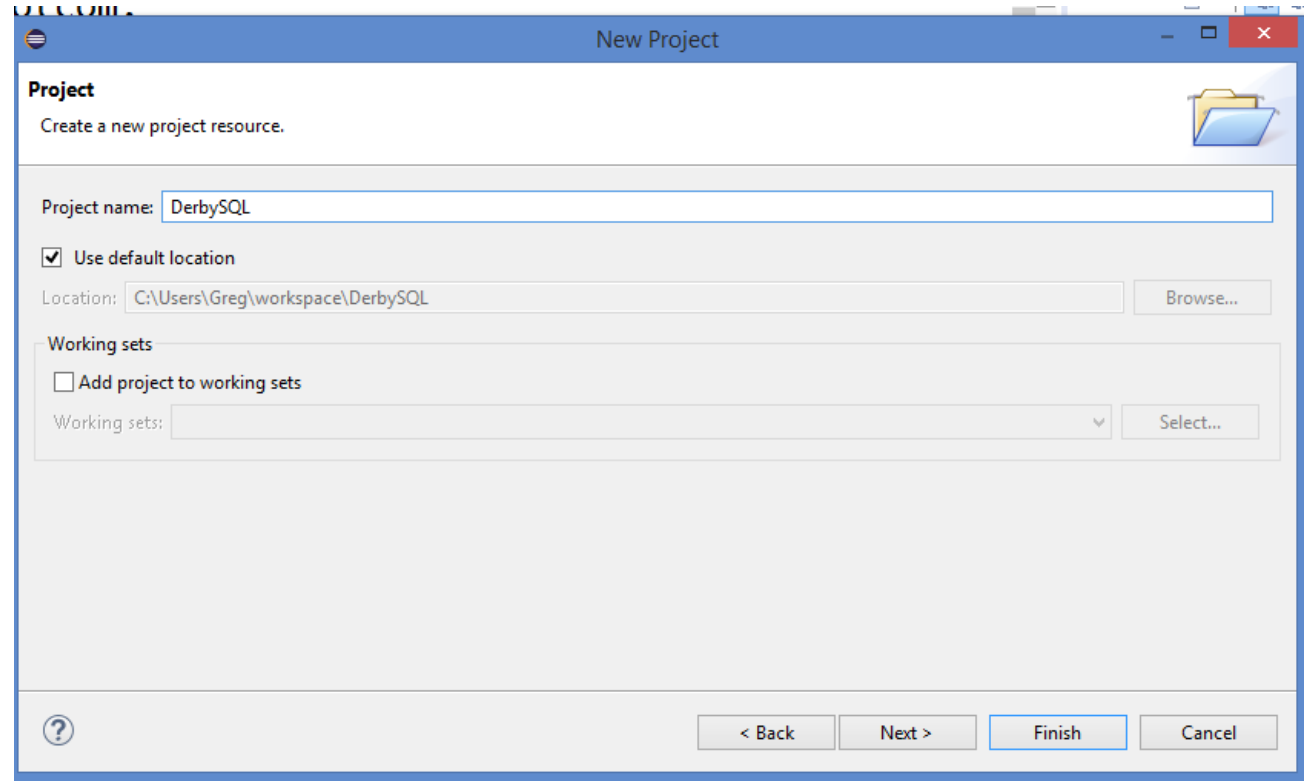
Find and Install Derby

<http://db.apache.org/derby/>

Download and Extract

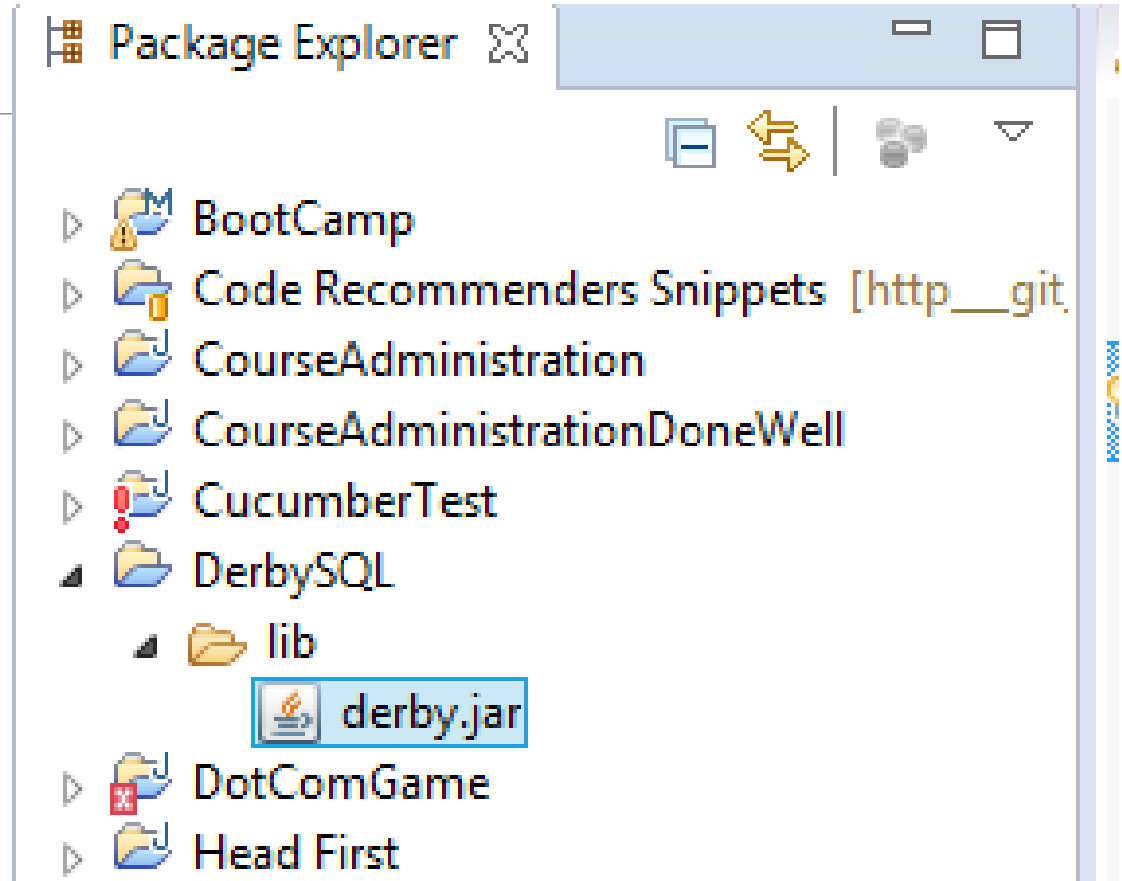
Create a new General Project

"DerbySQL" via File-> New ->
Other -> General -> Project.



Add Derby to Eclipse

Add a folder "lib" to your project. Copy the file derby.jar from your Derby download into this folder.



Define the driver for the Derby access

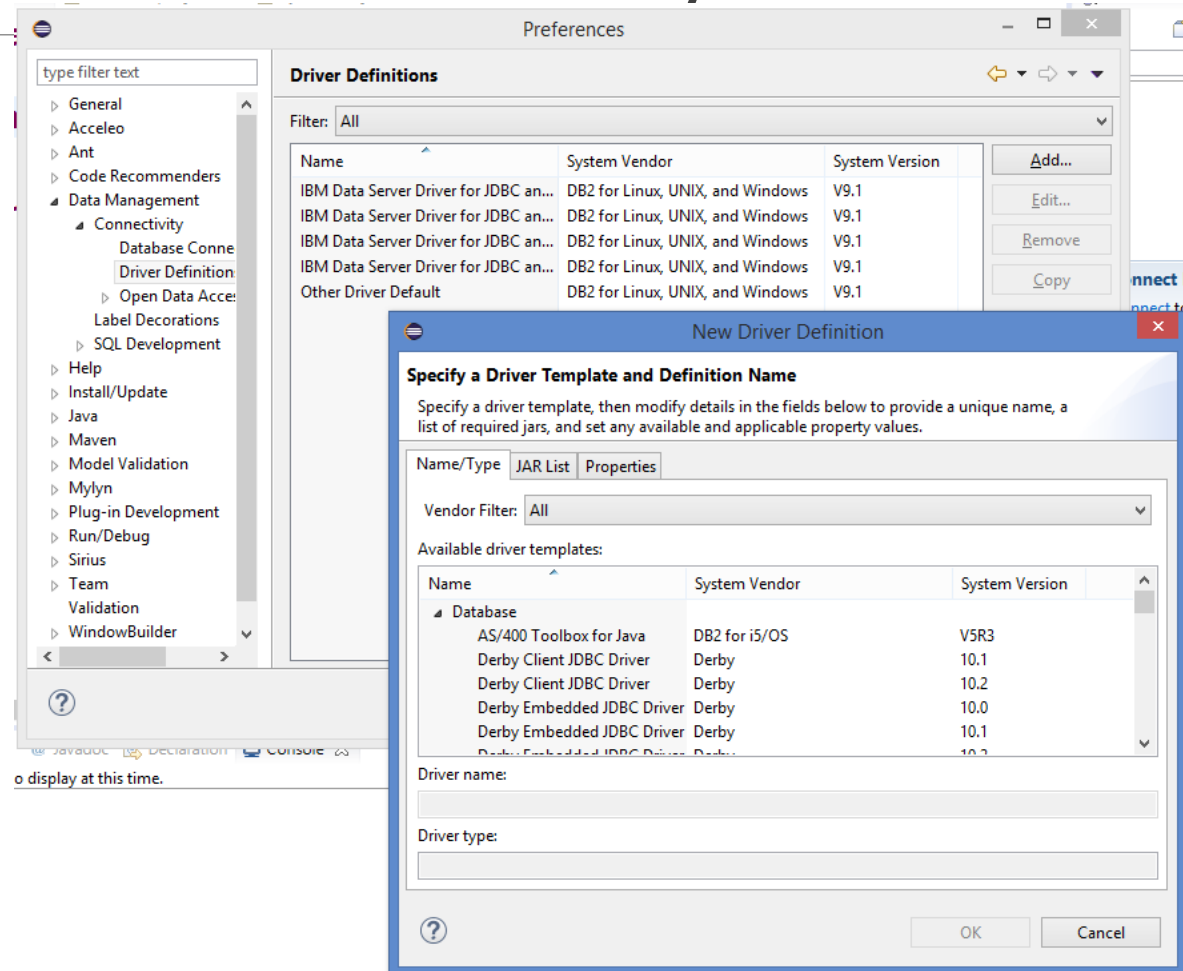
Go to Window-> Preferences

select "Data Management" ->
Connectivity ->

Driver Definition.

Press Add.

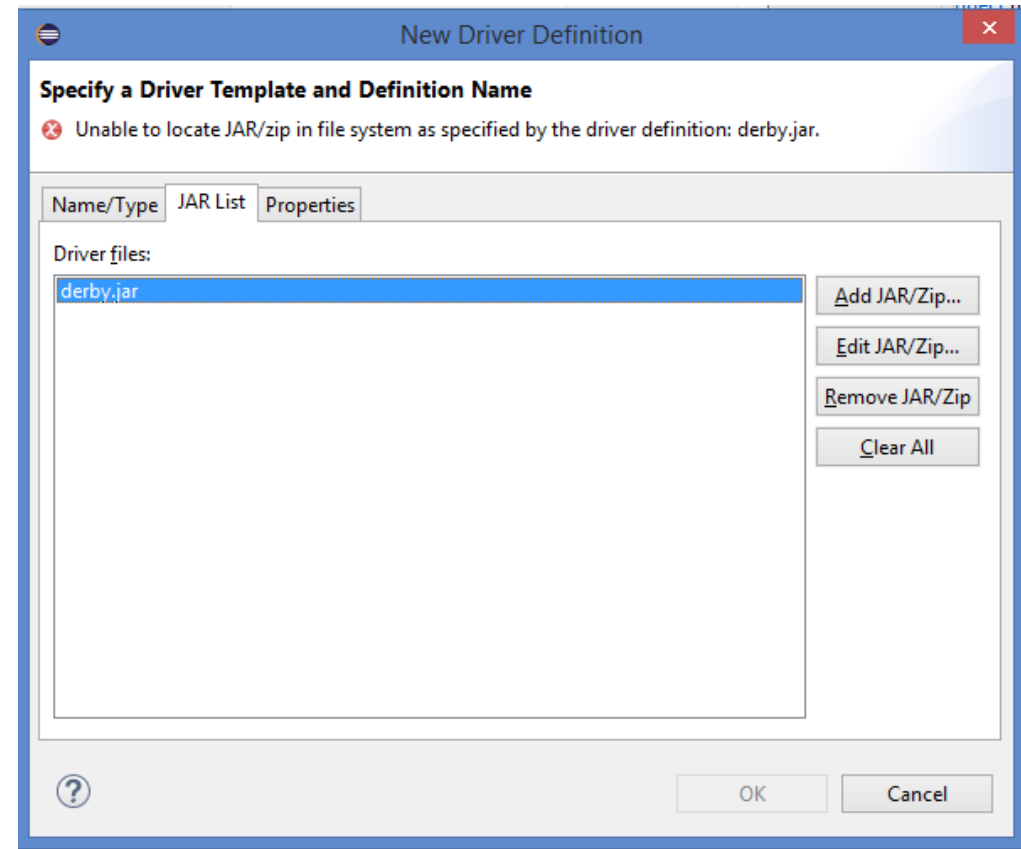
Select Derby



Add Jar file from Lib

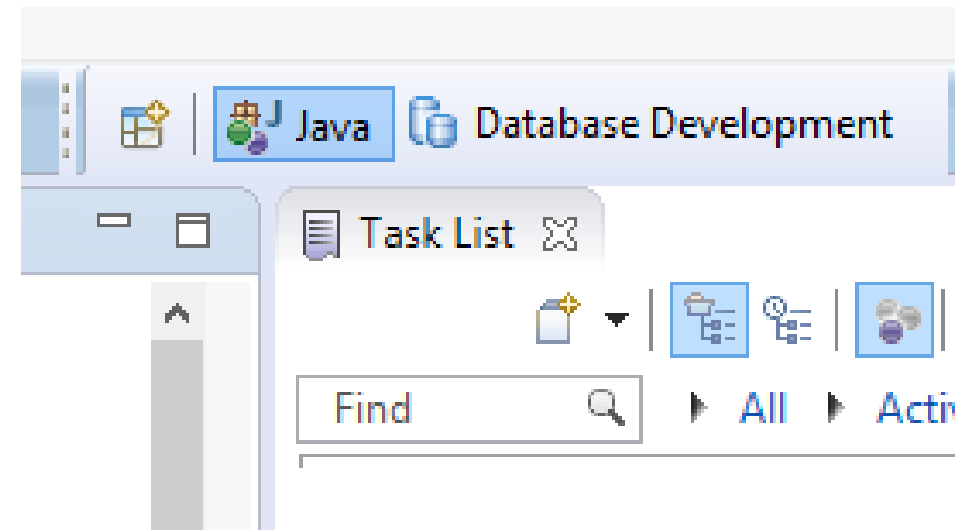
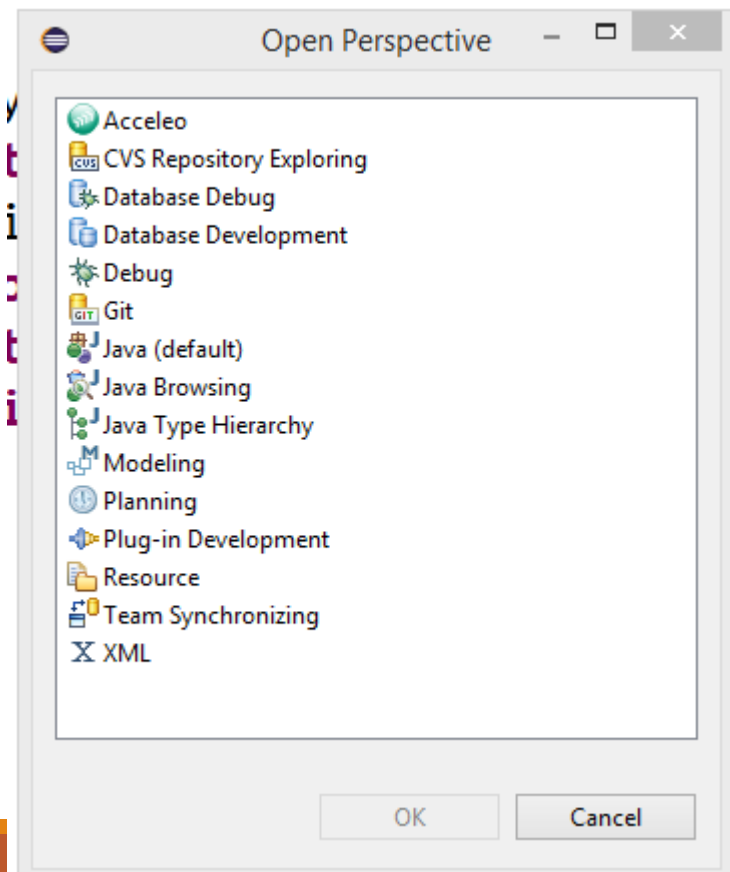
Select then the tab jar press Add... and select the derby.jar from your project folder "lib"

OK

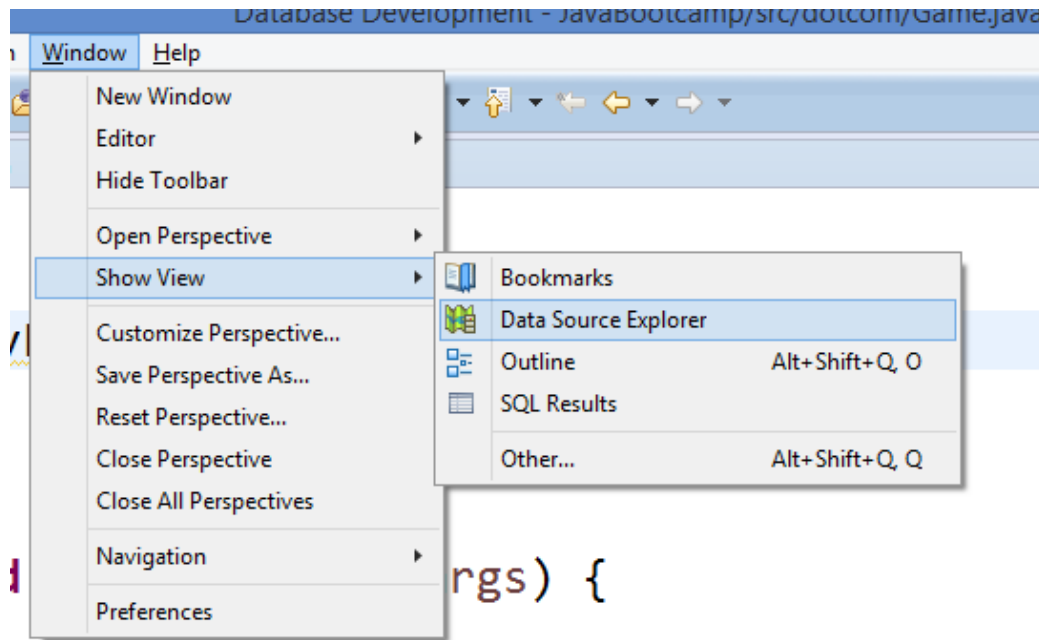


Open Database Perspective

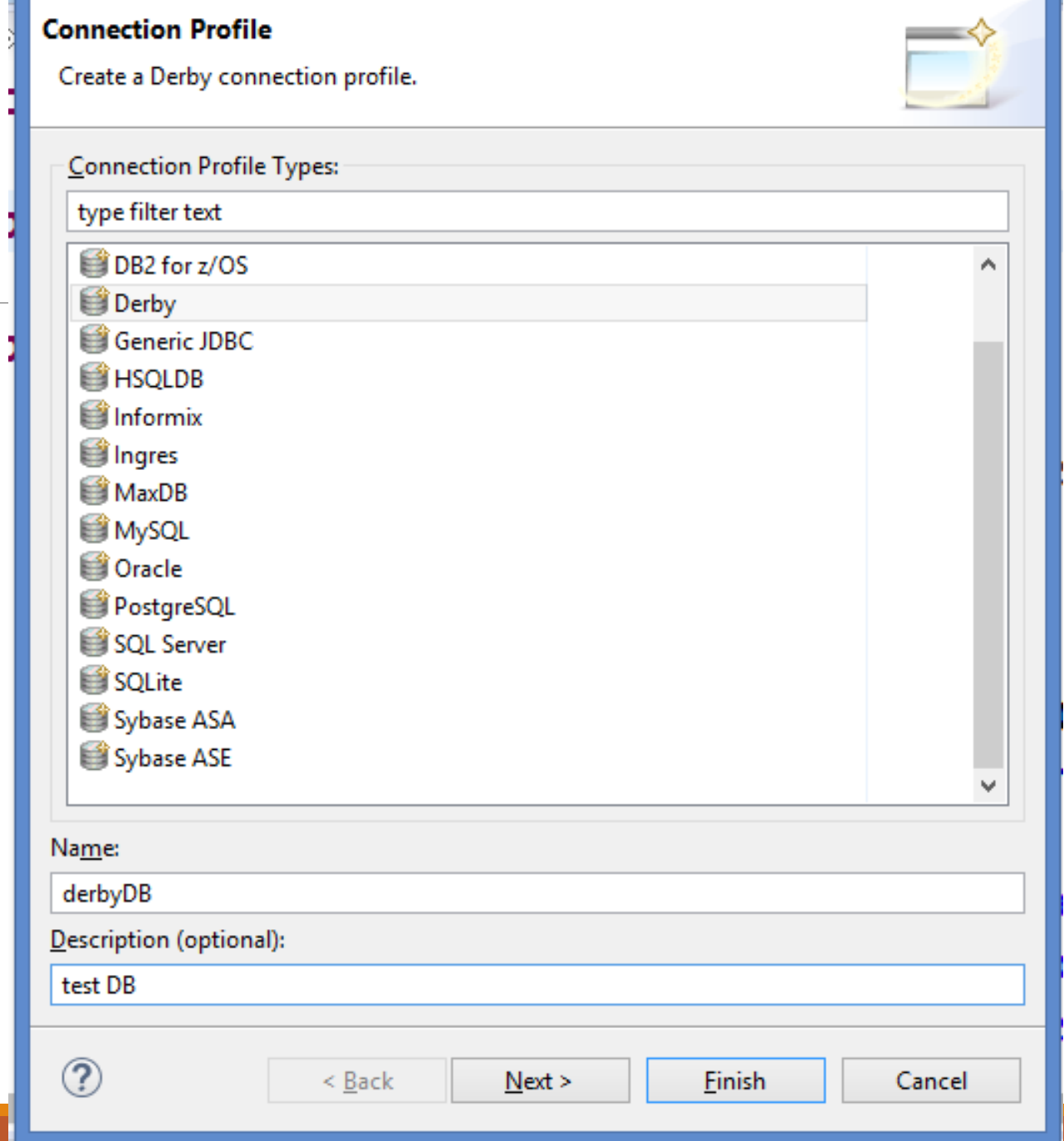
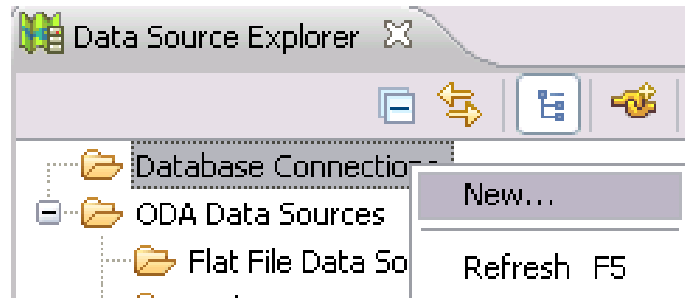
Open New Perspective



Open Database Explorer



New Connection



New Derby Database

New Derby Connection Profile

Specify a Driver and Connection Details

Select a driver from the drop-down and provide login details for the connection.

Drivers: **Derby Embedded JDBC Driver**

Properties

General Optional

Database location: **C:\Users\Greg\MyDB** **Browse...**

User name:

Password:

URL: **jdbc:derby:C:\Users\Greg\MyDB;create=true**

☒ Create database (if required)

☐ Ugrade database to current version

☒ Save password

☒ Connect when the wizard completes **Test Connection**

☐ Connect every time the workbench is started

? **< Back** **Next >** **Finish** **Cancel**

Summary

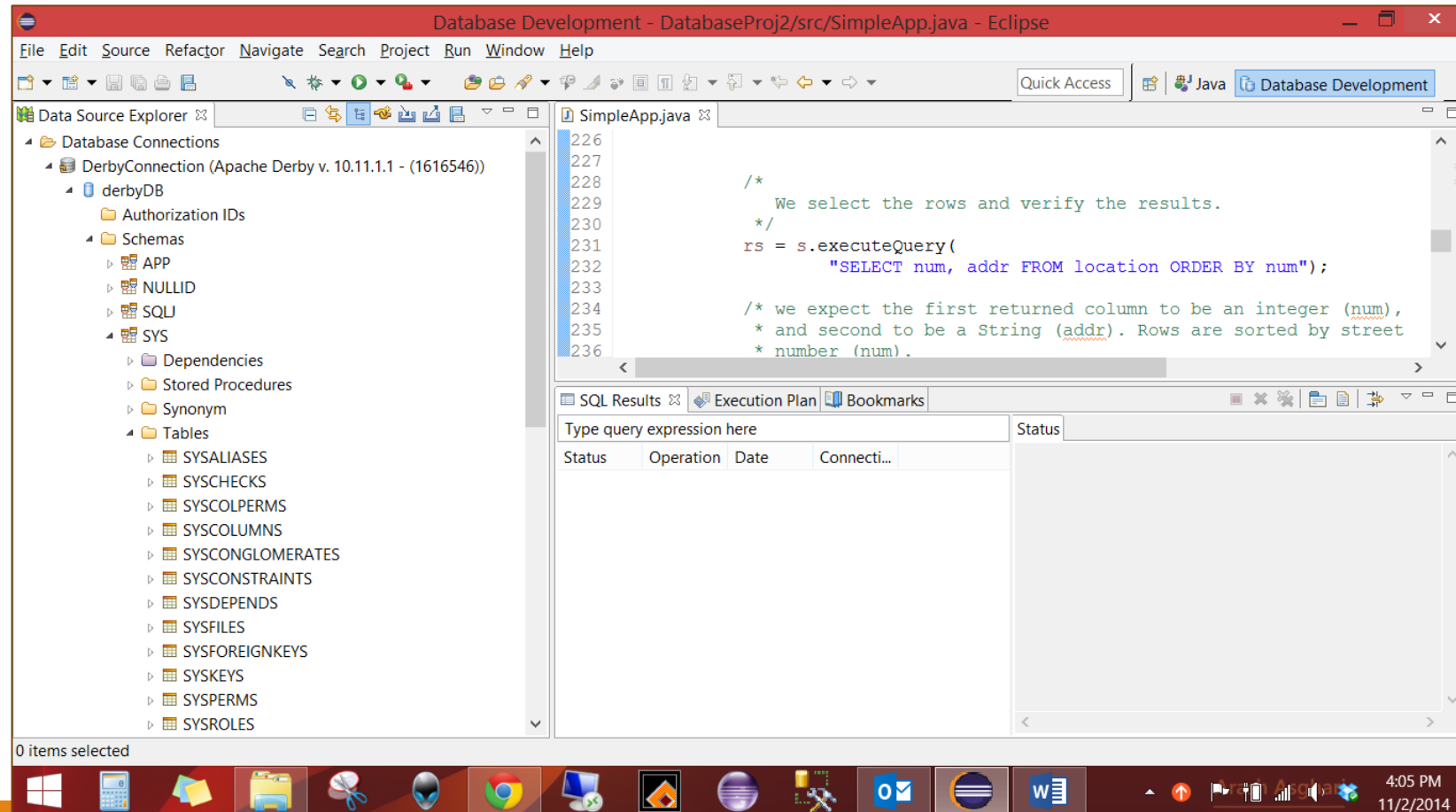
Information gathered from previous pages.

Property	Value
Name	derbyDB
Description	test DB
Auto connect at startup	false
Auto connect on finish	true
Driver name	Derby Embedded JDBC Driver
Database location	C:\Users\Greg\MyDB
User name	
URL	jdbc:derby:C:\Users\Greg\MyDB;create=tr...
Create database (if required)	true
Upgrade database to current	false
Save password	true
Optional properties	

< Back Next > **Finish** Cancel

Examining a database

To look at a database in Luna, we must first open the perspective Data Source Explorer. Then if not already present, we add our database into the database connections as shown in the graphic below:



Database drivers

A couple of terms to define:

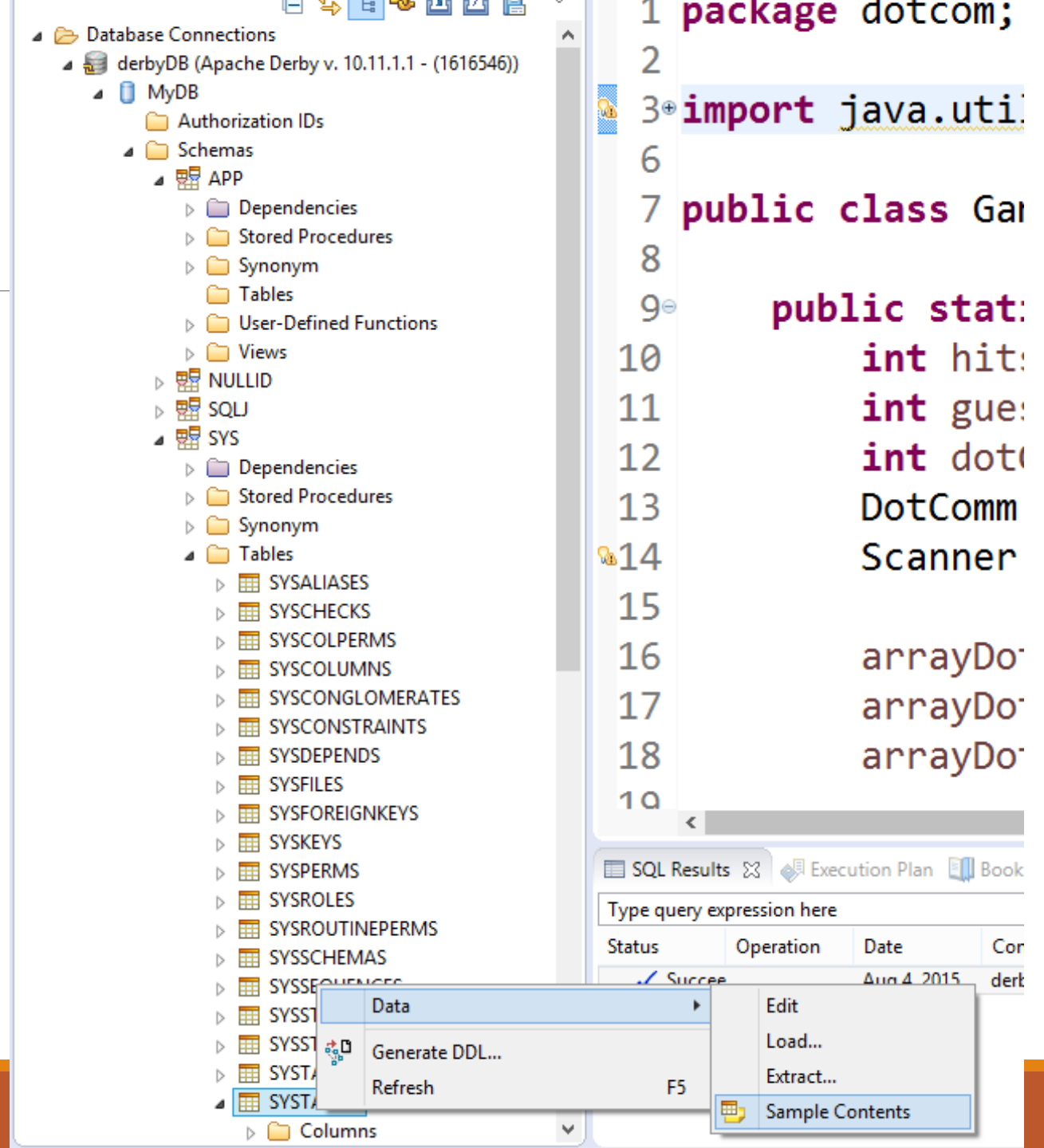
TABLE: A container for some related data such as customers, invoices, or items

ROW: Also known as a record. This is one unique instance of an element in a table. For example a record for customer John Smith would be one 1 of data that must uniquely identify John Smith and only John Smith.

COLUMN: Also known as a field. This is a single element in a table of data such as a Customer Id or Product Number.

Database Drivers

With these terms in mind, when we want to see the contents of a table such as SYSTABLES as shown in the above graphic, we can use Luna to do this as well as write a query against the table. In Luna, we right click on the table (SYSTABLES) -> Data -> Sample Contents. This is shown below.



Database Drivers

By using this method of seeing data, Luna is executing a SQL statement on our behalf which is basically the following:

Select * from SYS.SYSTABLES;

This statement selects all fields (*) from the table called **SYS.SYSTABLES**. SYS is the database name and SYSTABLES is the table name.

Exercise 1: SysTableReporter.java

P. 290-4

In this example we pull data from the systables table. Make sure the database is stopped since only one connection at a time can be used in embedded mode. Not doing so will cause a connection exception.

Writing records from a database

In SysTableReporter, we retrieved records from the database using SQL prepared as a string. This is a common method to call use SQL. The java.sql package supports the prepared statement as well. A **PREPARED STATEMENT** is represented by the **PreparedStatement** class is a pre-compiled statement. This enables the statement to return data more quickly and is often the preferred method in programming. We create the prepared statement by calling the connection's **prepareStatement(String)** method with the string that indicates the structure of the SQL statement. To indicate the structure, we write the SQL statement in which parameters have been replaced with question marks as shown below to serve as a sort of placeholder.

```
PreparedStatement ps = cc.prepareStatement("select * from SYS.TABLES where (TABLETYPE = ?)" ordered by TABLENAME");
```

Writing records from a database

When we execute, we pass the data we need to the placeholders. We can do this with the **setString(int, String)** method: `ps.setString(1, "abcde");` -- where the first argument indicates the placeholder's position and the is data to put in the statement. We have many methods available to us to set the variety of data types we that have such as integer, bytes, dates and so on. For example, the following statement puts a null value in the fifth position in a prepared statement called ps: `ps.setNull(5, Types.Char);`

Exercise 1: QuoteData.java, P. 294-6

Yahoo! offers a downloadable spreadsheet link on its home page for each ticker symbol. This link can be found at <http://quote.yahoo.com/q?s=fb&d=v1>. Below the price chart, there is a download data link. The file has the data stored in a single line of data of the latest close information. The data is in order by ticker symbol. It contains the symbol, closing price, date, time, price change since last close, daily low, daily high, daily open and the volume.

The application we are about to develop, QuoteData.java, uses each of these fields except one, the time, to load our stock data.

Exercise 1: QuoteData.java

The following actions take place:

A stock ticker symbol is used as a command-line argument

A QuoteData object is created with the ticker symbol as an instance variable called ticker

The object's retrieveQuote() method is called to download the stock data from Yahoo! and returns it as a String

The object's storeQuote() method is called with that String as an argument. It saves the data to a database.

Before we can begin, we must create a table in our database to hold the data. Please run the AddATable.java file in your student files to create the STOCKS table under the derbyDB for the USER1 schema.

Once we have the STOCKS table, code the following module and test it accordingly.

output

Problems @ Javadoc Declaration Console Data Source Explorer Execution Plan SQL Results

Type query expression here

StatusResult1

Status	Operation	Date	Connectio		TICKER	PRICE	DATE	CHANGE	LOW	HIGH	PRICEOPEN	VOLUME
✓ Succe		Nov 2, 20...	DerbyConr	1	GOOG	559.08	10/31/2014	+8.77	559.57	559.57	554.75	2032887
✓ Succe		Nov 2, 20...	DerbyConr									
✓ Succe		Nov 2, 20...	DerbyConr									

< > Total 1 records shown

Let's examine the code

This application stores data but does not produce output per se. We can use the extract feature in Luna to see that GOOG was entered in the database table STOCKS.

Lines 13 – 34: Download the Yahoo! data and save it as a string

Lines 36 – 69: Use SQL to store the data to the database. We use StringTokenizer to split the data into its tokens on the comma character that is between each token. We then store this in a String array with nine elements. The array contains the same elements as the table we created.

Lines 42 – 46: Connect to the database

Lines 49 – 53: Prepare our statements – an insert statement is used to store the data

Lines 54 – 61: Put the elements of the String array into the prepared statement using a series of setString() method. They must be put in the statement in the order of the database columns

Line 62: Execute the statements after the prepared statement has been filled using the executeUpdate() – it will either add it to the database or throw a SQL error.

Line 40: Strip any excess quotes from the data using the stripQuotes() private method

Moving through a result set

Since we used prepared statements we have the following methods available to us to help navigate the set. This is because the result set's policies have been specified as arguments to the connection's **createStatement()** and **prepareStatement()** methods. The **ResultSet** class includes many class variables to give us more flexibility when working with sets.

- **afterLast()** – go to the place immediately after the last record
- **beforeFirst()** – go to the place immediately before the first record
- **first()** – go to the first record
- **last()** – go to the last record
- **previous()** – go to the previous record in the set

Summary

We've learned to read and write database records using classes that work with the most popular relational database products. The only difference is that the database driver must be specific to the product we are using.

We also received a very brief view into database technologies and how a program communicates with it to retrieve and store data.

Independent exercises, P. 297

- A. Modify the SysTableReporter application to pull fields from another table in SYS. You will have to make modifications to the connection strings and the drivers for this application. The Access database is in the student files.
- B. Write an application that reads and displays records from Yahoo! Stock quote database.