INTRODUCTION

This document is geared toward a one-way movement of SQL from Oracle's PL/SQL syntax to Microsoft SQL Server's Transact-SQL (T-SQL). Therefore, focus is placed on converting certain PL/SQL constructs to their T-SQL equivalent.

(**Note**: Each of the following sections have PL/SQL and T-SQL source code files that accompany them. The names of the files are "<SectionTitle>.sql". For example, a section entitled SYNTAX would have two files accompanying it. Syntax.sql would appear in both a PL-SQL directory and a T-SQL directory. Also, if text is divided into two columns, the left column represents Oracle syntax and the right column represents SQL Server syntax.)

DELIMITERS

PL/SQL likes the use of delimiters. In fact, it can't live well without a lot of them. Examples are the IF...END IF construct and the ubiquitous use of the semi-colon delimiter. T-SQL is not so dependent upon delimiters. In T-SQL, prior statements are ended by the existence of a succeeding statement. In Oracle, the entire scope of a construct is self-delimiting. Therefore, T-SQL appears to be less verbose.

```
begin
                                                              begin
       IF
               0 > 1 THEN
                                                                             0 > 1
               dbms_output.put_line ('0 > 1');
                                                                             print '0 > 1'
       ELSIF
              0 > 2 THEN
                                                                                     0 > 2
               dbms_output.put_line ('0 > 2');
                                                                                     print '0 > 2'
       ELSE
               dbms_output.put_line ('None');
                                                                             ELSE
                                                                                     print 'None'
end;
```

The "THEN" and "END IF" portions of the "IF" statement have no SQL Server counterpart. The semicolon delimiter is not used in SQL Server, but may be allowed. Oracle requires a forward slash to execute the anonymous PL/SQL block. SQL server allows an optional "GO" statement.

Special Characters

In Oracle, object attributes are assigned based on datatype or object definition. SQL Server also uses a variety of special characters to more explicitly denote object attributes. These special characters are prepended to the object name.

<u>Ch</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Usage</u>	<u>Example</u>
@	single at sign	local variable	@Local_Variable1
@@	double at sign	global variables	@@Global_Variable2
#	single pound sign	local temporary object	#My_Local_Temporary_Table
##	double pound sign	global temporary object	##email (for sending e-mail)

This nomenclature is mandatory and signals SQL Server to treat these objects in certain ways implicitly. Therefore, object maintenance is simplified. Also, keep in mind that the '@' symbol in Oracle is prepended to a .sql file to execute the contents of the file in SQL*Plus.



ROWNUM

The Oracle pseudo-column, Rownum, has several uses. One of which is to ensure that a SELECT statement only returns one row for the purpose of using INTO implicit cursor processing, thereby simplifying cursor control. SQL Server has no direct equivalent to Rownum, but a work-around can be devised.

```
select distinct(job)
  from emp
order by 1
declare
       v_job varchar2(10);
begin
       select distinct(job)
         into v_job
         from emp
        where rownum < 2
        order by 1
       dbms_output.put_line('Job = ' || v_job);
       select distinct(job)
         into v_job
         from emp
        --where rownum < 2
        order by 1
       dbms_output.put_line('Job = ' | v_job);
end;
JOB
ANALYST
CLERK
MANAGER
PRESIDENT
SALESMAN
Input truncated to 1 characters
Job = CLERK
declare
ERROR at line 1:
ORA-01422: exact fetch returns more than requested
number of rows
ORA-06512: at line 12
```

```
select job_desc
  from jobs
 where job_desc like 'P%'
order by 1
declare
       @job_desc varchar(50)
select @job_desc = job_desc
 from jobs
where job_desc like 'P%'
order by 1
select 'Last entry = ' + @job_desc
select @job_desc = job_desc
 from jobs
where job_desc like 'P%'
order by 1 DESC
select 'First entry = ' + @job_desc
Productions Manager
Public Relations Manager
Publisher
Last entry = Publisher
First entry = Productions Manager
```

The work-around is to "Order By" the entire expected output set in "DESCending" order. Therefore, the variable is populated with the last value in the answer set, which is the first one that is desired.



HINTS

Oracle uses hints to assist with the control of join table sequencing and index selection. SQL Server hints perform these functions with the added availability of locking hints. Prevalent Oracle hints are listed with their SQL Server counterpart. Although the counterpart is listed, testing should be performed to verify the hint performs correctly. (**Note**: Due to the /*...*/ syntax of Oracle hints, they are regarded by SQL Server as a comment.)

```
select /*+ FIRST_ROWS */ ename "First Rows"
                                                            select fname "First Rows"
                                                            from employee (FastFirstRow)
 from emp
where ename < 'B';
                                                            where fname < 'B'
select /*+ INDEX (emp PK_EMP) */ ename "Index"
                                                           select fname "Index" -- SQL Server 7.0
                                                            from employee (Index = employee_ind)
 from emp
where ename < 'B';
                                                            where fname < 'B'
select /*+ RULE */ ename "Rule"
                                                            select /*+ RULE */ fname "Rule"
 from emp
                                                            from employee
where ename < 'B';
                                                            where fname < 'B'
```

There is no SQL Server equivalent to the Oracle RULE hint. However, if not removed, the code will still parse without error.



EXCEPTIONS

Oracle has a "DECLARE BEGIN EXCEPTION END" syntax for procedural execution control. If certain exceptions occur during processing, then control of logic is transferred directly to the Exception block with subsequent exit from the module. Also, there are several predefined exceptions in Oracle whose keywords are used to navigate exception block logic.

```
declare
  v_char varchar2(1);
begin
  select dummy
   into v_char
    from dual
 where dummy = 'Y'
dbms_output.put_line('OK');
EXCEPTION
  WHEN no_data_found THEN
      dbms_output.put_line('No data found');
end;
declare
  v_char varchar2(20);
  select ename
   into v_char
   from emp
dbms_output.put_line('OK');
EXCEPTION
  WHEN too_many_rows THEN
      dbms_output.put_line('Too many rows');
end;
No data found
Too many rows
```

```
declare
  @v_char varchar(1)
begin
 select @v_char = fname
   from employee
where fname = 'No Body'
if @@rowcount = 0 goto EXCEPTION
select 'OK'
return
EXCEPTION:
 IF @@rowcount = 0 -- reset by goto
      select 'No data found'
end
declare
  @v_char varchar(20),
  @rowcount integer
  select @v_char = fname
    from employee
set @rowcount = @@rowcount
if @rowcount > 0 goto EXCEPTION
select 'OK'
return
EXCEPTION:
  IF @rowcount > 0
      select 'Too many rows'
end
No data found
Too many rows
```

In the '@@rowcount = 0' conditional test, the GOTO function causes @@rowcount to be reset. It is then tested again after the EXCEPTION tag, allowing for error.

The second example shows a better way. The value of @@rowcount is captured by a local variable @rowcount.

Some Oracle predefined exceptions are: dup_val_on_index, no_data_found, too_many_rows, zero_divide, rowtype_mismatch, invalid_number, etc.



Implicit Cursor Attributes (Percent.sql)

Each cursor created in Oracle, either implicitly or explicitly, carries with it cursor attributes, %notfound, %found, %rowcount, %isopen. If the cursor is declared explicitly as Cursor1, for example, the attribute is available via "Cursor1%found" syntax. "SQL%found" syntax is also available for the most recently processed implicit or explicit cursor.

```
declare v_name varchar2(20);
begin
  select ename
    into v_name
    from emp
  where ename = 'ADAMS'
;
if SQL%found then
    dbms_output.put_line('It''s a hit');
end if;
end;
/
It's a hit
decl
begi

select
```

```
declare @v_name varchar(20)
begin
  select @v_name = fname

   from employee
   where fname = 'Diego'
;
   if @@rowcount > 0
      select 'It''s a hit'
end

It's a hit
```

END Tags

When defining Packages, Procedures, Functions, or named blocks of name "OracleObject" in Oracle, the last line of the definition is "END OracleObject;". This construct has no equivalent in SQL Server. But, the existence of the tag helps with documentation. So, the tag should be commented out by a double dash.

```
create or replace
procedure OracleObject IS
begin
  dbms_output.put_line('Hello, World!');
end OracleObject;
/
exec OracleObject;
Hello, World!
```

Also, notice the work-around for the "or replace" portion of the "create" statement. In addition, notice that SQL Server only supports "AS", not "IS".



PARAMETERS

Oracle named PL/SQL blocks can have parameters. The datatype for these parameters is referenced without length, precision and/or scale. These must be added to SQL Server parameters.

```
create or replace
                                                         create
function First5 (
                                                         function First5 (
  p_Char varchar2)
                                                            @p_Char varchar(20))
                                                        returnS varchar(5)
return varchar2
begin
                                                        begin
                                                          return substr<mark>ing</mark>(@p_Char,1,5);
 return substr(p_Char,1,5);
                                                        GO
show errors;
Select First5('Ticonderoga') from dual;
                                                        Select pubs.dbo.First5('Ticonderoga')
Function created.
                                                        Ticon
No errors.
FIRST5('TICONDEROGA')
Ticon
```

In the function header for SQL Server, the keyword "return" is used. Elsewhere, "return" is used as in PL/SQL.

Also notice here that the function call has a fully qualified function name.

First5 above is a deterministic function because for any set of input, it will always return the same output. Some system functions, like <code>GETDATE()</code>, are non-deterministic, in that they do not return the same value with the same input. Built-in non-deterministic functions are not allowed in the body of user-defined functions.



CONNECT

Tree traversal in Oracle is facilitated by "CONNECT BY...PRIOR" syntax. This type of syntax is not available in SQL Server. SQL Server Books Online recommends the following solution.

```
create table Region (
         ID
                number not null,
         Parent varchar 2(20),
         Child varchar 2(20),
  primary key (ID)
insert into Region values (0,'World',
                                             'Europe');
insert into Region values (1,'World',
                                             'North America');
insert into Region values (2, 'Europe',
insert into Region values (3, 'France'
                                             'Paris');
insert into Region values (4, 'North America',
insert into Region values (5,'North America', insert into Region values (6,'United States',
                                             'Canada');
                                             'New York');
insert into Region values (7,'United States',
insert into Region values (8,'New York',
                                             'Washington');
                                             'New York City');
insert into Region values (9,'Washington',
                                             'Redmond');
insert into Region values (10,NULL,
column Hierarchy format a50;
select lpad(' ',3*(level-1)) || child "Hierarchy"
  from region
 start with child = 'World'
connect by Parent = PRIOR child;
         ID PARENT
                                      CHILD
                       World
                                  Europe
          0 World
          1 World
                                      North America
                                     France
          2 Europe
          3 France
                                    Paris
                                   United States
          4 North America
                                     Canada
          5 North America
          6 United States
                                    New York
          7 United States
                                    Washington
           8 New York
                                      New York City
          9 Washington
                                      Redmond
Hierarchy
World
   Europe
      France
          Paris
   North America
       United States
          New York
              New York City
          Washington
              Redmond
       Canada
```

```
create table Region (
         TD
                   numeric not null,
          Parent varchar(20),
         Child varchar(20),
  primary key (ID)
insert into Region values (0,'World',
                                                  'Europe');
insert into Region values (1,'World',
                                                  'North America');
insert into Region values (2, Europe
insert into Region values (3. 'France'
                                                  'Paris');
insert into Region values (4, 'North America',
insert into Region values (5,'North America',
                                                  'Canada');
insert into Region values (6, 'United States',
                                                  'New York');
insert into Region values (7, 'United States',
                                                  'Washington');
                                                  'New York City');
insert into Region values (8.'New York'.
insert into Region values (9, 'Washington',
                                                  'Redmond');
CREATE PROCEDURE expand (@current char(20)) as
SET NOCOUNT ON DECLARE
  @level int
  @line char(20)
CREATE TABLE #stack (
  item char(20).
  level int)
INSERT INTO #stack
  VALUES (@current, 1)
SELECT @level = 1
WHILE @level > 0
  IF EXISTS (SELECT * FROM #stack WHERE level=@level)
      SELECT @current = item
        FROM #stack
       WHERE level = @level
       SELECT @line = space(3*(@level - 1))+@current
      DELETE FROM #stack
WHERE level = @level
         AND item = @current
      INSERT #stack
         SELECT child, @level + 1
           FROM
          FROM region
WHERE parent = @current
      TF @@ROWCOINT > 0
         SELECT @level = @level + 1
   END
 ELSE
    SELECT @level = @level - 1
END -- WHILE
expand @current = 'World'
World
   North America
       Canada
       United States
            Washington
               Redmond
           New York
               New York
    Europe
       France
           Paris
```

The above solution uses a **WHILE** loop. Although SQL Server will support recursive functions, recursion is not ideal here for two reasons:

- Recurson is very resource-intensive (due to multiple function instantiation)
- SQL Server "only" supports nesting to 32 levels (4,294,967,296 binary entries)



SQLERRM

The Oracle Communications Area populates several global variables upon execution of each SQL statement. SQLCODE contains an error number and SQLERRM a text error message. SQLCODE's equivalent is @@ERROR. The equivalent to SQLERRM is a lookup to the <u>master.dbo.sysmessages</u> table.

as

declare

insert

select *

into employee

from employee

create procedure SQLERRM

@ERROR int

@description varchar(200),

insert duplicate key in object '%.*ls'.

```
begin
    insert
    into emp (empno)
    values (7369); -- already there
exception
    when others then
        dbms_output.put_line('SQLCODE = '|| SQLCODE);
        dbms_output.put_line('SQLERRM = '|| SQLERRM);
end;
//
```

```
where emp_id = 'PMA42628M'
                                                           set @ERROR = @@ERROR
                                                           print '@ERROR = ' + convert(varchar, @ERROR)
                                                            select @description = description
                                                             from master.dbo.sysmessages
                                                            where error = @ERROR
                                                           print 'DESC = ' + @description
                                                           SOLERRM
                                                            Server: Msg 2627, Level 14, State 1, Procedure
                                                            SQLERRM, Line 6
                                                            Violation of PRIMARY KEY constraint 'PK_emp_id'.
                                                            Cannot insert duplicate key in object 'employee'.
                                                            The statement has been terminated.
                                                            @@ERROR = 2627
                                                            DESC = Violation of %ls constraint '%.*ls'. Cannot
QLERRM = ORA-00001: unique constraint(SCOTT.PK_EMP)
```

Even though there is error processing in SQL Server, the **system** generates an **error message**, then continues processing. Oracle exception handling transfers control to the exception block without generating system messages.



Constants

The value of a declared Oracle constant cannot be subsequently modified.

```
declare
       pi constant number := 3.14159;
begin
       pi := 1.4142135;
end;
declare
                   number := 3.14159;
begin
       pi := 1.4142135;
       dbms_output.put_line('pi = ' || pi);
end;
        pi := 1.4142135;
ERROR at line 4:
ORA-06550: line 4, column 2:
PLS-00363: expression 'PI' cannot be used as an
assignment target
ORA-06550: line 4, column 2:
PL/SQL: Statement ignored
pi = 1.4142135
```

```
declare
       @pi float
set
       @pi = 3.14159
begin
              @pi = 1.4142135
       set.
       select 'Local pi ', @pi
end
drop function pi
create function pi()
returns float
AS
begin
       declare @pi float
       set @pi = 3.14159
       return(@pi)
end
select 'System pi', pi()
select 'My pi', pubs.dbo.pi()
Local pi
               3.1415926535897931
System pi
My pi
               3.1415899999999999
```

There is no equivalent constant function in SQL Server. However, a user-defined function can be created to return a constant value. In the case above, a local user-defined function "pi" was created, despite the existence of a system-provided function of the same name. Please note that the user-defined "pi" must be fully qualified.

Chr (tab and newline)

When concatenating strings, it is sometimes convenient to embed display control characters for the purpose of visual presentation.

```
select
'A tab'
'separates this'
'line.' "Tab newline"
from dual
;

Tab newline

A tab separates this
line.
```

```
select
                         + char(9) +
'A tab'
'separates this'
                         + char(10) +
'line.' "Tab newline"
        @line varchar(200)
<mark>select</mark> @line =
'A tab'
                        + char(9) +
'separates this'
                       + char(10) +
'line.'
<mark>print</mark> @line
Tab Newline
A tab separates this line.
       separates this
A tab
line.
```

Notice that the Select has no visual effect until the print statement is executed.



Cursor FOR LOOP with inline Select (CursorFor.sql)

Oracle allows implicit cursor management with the Cursor FOR LOOP. However, cursor management in SQL Server is explicit. The following is an example of a Cursor FOR LOOP with an in-line Select.

```
begin
FOR r IN (
    SELECT ename
    from emp
    where ename < 'C'
    order by 1) LOOP
        dbms_output.put_line(r.ename);
END LOOP;
end;
/
ADAMS
ALLEN
BLAKE</pre>
```

```
declare @lname varchar(30)
DECLARE c1 cursor FOR
  select lname
   from employee
   where lname < 'C'
   order by 1
OPEN cl
FETCH cl into @lname
WHILE @@FETCH_STATUS = 0
begin
       print @lname
       FETCH cl into @lname
end
CLOSE c1
DEALLOCATE cl
Accorti
Afonso
Ashworth
Bennett
Brown
```

Initializing

In Oracle, variables can be initialized in the Declare statement. However, SQL Server requires separate Declare and Set statements.

```
declare
    pie float := 3.14159;
begin
        dbms_output.put_line('pie = ' || pie);
end;
/
pie = 3.14159
```



Sequences

Oracle has a separate object used for incrementing unique values. Uniqueness within the sequence is guaranteed. However, the sequence is not associated with and is independent of any other object. Therefore, its use is at the discretion of the user. The SQL Server equivalent is more directly associated with and dependent upon other objects. The SQL Server IDENTITY property creates an identity column in a table. The IDENTITY function is used for SELECT INTO operations. IDENT_SEED and IDENT_INCR functions will return the initial value and the increment for each table identity. IDENT_CURRENT is the equivalent of Currval. @@IDENTITY global variable and SCOPE_IDENTITY also return values with scope functionality more robust than Oracle.

```
create sequence NewID increment by 1 start with 1776;
Prompt Nextval not set, so Curryal is undefined
select NewID.currval from dual;
Prompt Nextval is incremented
select NewID.nextval from dual;
Prompt Currval is now defined
Prompt Nextval is used for Insert
insert into emp (empno) values ({\tt NewID.nextval});
select NewID.currval from dual;
           v curr integer := 0;
          v_emp integer := 0;
begin
          select NewID.currval
            from dual
          select empno
             into v_emp
            from emp
           where empno = v_curr
          rollback;
dbms_output.put_line('v_curr = ' || v_curr);
dbms_output.put_line('v_emp = ' || v_emp);
Sequence created.
select NewID.currval from dual
ERROR at line 1:
ORA-08002: sequence NEWID.CURRVAL is not yet defined in this session
Nextval is incremented
   NEXTVAL
      1776
Currval is now defined
   CURRVAL
      1776
Nextval is used for Insert
1 row created.
  CURRVAL
     1777
v_curr = 1777
v_emp = 1777
```

```
Drop table new_employees
Create table new employees (
   id int IDENTITY(1776,1),
fname varchar(20),
   minit char(1)
   lname varchar(30)
insert new_employees
  (fname, minit, lname) --identity not mentioned
  ('George','W','Bush')
insert new_employees
  (fname, minit, lname) -- identity not mentioned
 ('Al','','Gore')
select ident seed('new employees').
       ident_incr('new_employees'),
       ident_current('new_employees'),
       scope identity(),
  from new_employees
delete from new_employees
Seed Incr
                Current Scope @@Identity
1776
         1
                   1777
                             1777
                                         1777
         fname
                 minit
                             lname
          George
                   W
                              Bush
```

If a globally unique value is required, then the uniqueidentifier data type used with the ROWGUIDCOL property is available.



USERENV

The built-in Oracle SQL function, USERENV, is used to access system-specific data for a session.

```
select @@LANGUAGE "Language",

@@LANGID "LangID",

@@REMSERVER "Remote",

@@SERVERNAME "Local",

@@SERVICENAME "Service",

@@SPID "SessionID"

Language
-----
us_English

LangID Remote Local Service SessionID

0 NULL ONE\GBDB GBDB 51
```



ROWID

RowID is an Oracle-provided pseudo-column (like RowNum). It is implicit with each row in a table and is a representation of that row's physical relative byte address. As such, in single server systems, ROWID could be unique. It has no implicit SQL Server equivalent. However, if RowID-like functionality is required, then a work-around is available at table definition time using the uniqueidentifier data type with the ROWGUIDCOL property and the NEWID function as the default.

```
ROWID
AAAADDAABAAAAHSAAA
```

```
create table #RowGuid (
  ROWID
   uniqueidentifier
   Primary Key
   ROWGUIDCOL
   default NEWID() ,
 RowName varchar(30)
alter table #RowGuid
  ADD ROWID2
   uniqueidentifier
   default NEWID()
insert into #RowGuid
    (RowName)
   values
      ('Test Row')
select *
 from #RowGuid
RowID
904CD193-0203-4274-BB42-AB1B807E5D46
RowName
_____
Test Row
RowID2
8CC7448E-2B49-4C6F-A638-2C9B925B40CD
```

The combination of uniqueidentifier data type with the ROWGUIDCOL property and the NEWID function as the default causes each row to behave very similarly to the Oracle RowID pseudocolumn. However, the SQL Server value derived will have no relationship to physical layout of the data. The main drawback of this work-around is that it should be done with CREATE TABLE. However, ALTER TABLE syntax also allows a new column to be added with this functionality. Only one ROWGUIDCOL column is allowed per table.

Also, you may wish to contrast this with IDENTITY columns which are sequential integers unique only to the table itself used to mimic Oracle sequences. Wherein uniqueidentifier columns are globally unique (also non-sequential and not necessarily increasing in value).



Boolean

Oracle has a Boolean data type for handling two-state data. However, NULLs are allowed with Oracle Boolean data types, which allows for three-state behavior. A near equivalent in SQL Server is the BIT datatype.

Since @Choice is NULL, then "@Choice <> 1" evaluates to false.

Even though occupation is set to a value of 3, its data type accepts the assignment without error but retains the value as 1.



%ROWTYPE

SQL Server does not have equivalents to %ROWTYPE and %TYPE. The following procedure will produce text that can be pasted into the middle of a source code file "Declare" statement to minimize typing. For %TYPE, only the column name of interest should be pasted.

```
declare
           r_emp emp%ROWTYPE;
           r_hold emp%ROWTYPE;
begin
  r emp.empno
                      := 9999;
                     := 'WTT.T.TAMS';
  r emp.ename
  r_emp.job
                     := 'COMEDIAN';
                     := 7902;
  r_emp.hiredate := trunc(sysdate) + 1/3;
  r_emp.sal := 800;
r_emp.comm := 0;
r_emp.deptno := 20;
  r_emp.deptno
  dbms_output.put_line ('Hold: Name = ' | | r_hold.ename);
Hold: Name = WILLIAMS
```

```
@TableName varchar(20)
AS
select
                     -- for individual "Declare" statements
  c.name
  space(15-len(c.name)) +
  t.name +
    case t.name
      when 'binary' then '(' + convert(varchar,c.length) + ')'
when 'varbinary' then '(' + convert(varchar,c.length) + ')'
      convert(varchar, c.scale) + ')'
      else
    end
             -- for one "Declare" statement
                                "Declare"
           --c.length,
           --c.prec,
          --c.scale
  from syscolumns c
  join systypes t on c.xusertype=t.xusertype
 where id=object_id(@tableName)
 order by colorder
GO
Rowtype @TableName = 'employee'
  (alternative syntax below)
Declare @emp_id
Declare @fname
                         empid
varchar(20)
Declare @minit
                          char(1)
Declare @lname
                         varchar(30)
Declare @job_id
Declare @job_lvl
                         smallint
                         tinvint
Declare @pub_id
                          char(4)
Declare @hire_date
                         datetime
```

"TYPE...is RECORD"

SQL Server does not support syntax similar to Oracle's "TYPE...is RECORD" feature. The above technique may be used as a work-around.



"TYPE...is TABLE" (Table.sql)

Oracle's array processing feature is useful. A lot of code may exist utilizing this feature. While SQL Server may not have a direct counterpart, SCROLL cursor processing may be substituted in an effort to preserve the legacy logic. This work-around uses a SQL Server temporary table. Please notice below the difference in data sequence of the PL/SQL Table (array) and a SQL Server temporary table.

```
declare
                                                                                   create table #name array (
  TYPE name_record IS RECORD (
                                                                                      ix numeric,
    fname varchar2(20).
                                                                                      fname varchar(20).
    lname varchar2(20)
                                                                                     lname varchar(20)
  TYPE name_table IS TABLE OF name_record
    index by binary integer;
  name array name table;
  ix integer := 0;
                                                                                   insert into #name_array values (13,
  name array(13).fname := '13 Robin';
                                                                                      'Robin'.
  name_array(13).lname := 'Williams';
                                                                                      'Williams')
                                                                                   insert into #name array values (-7,
  name_array(-7).fname := '-7 Jane';
name_array(-7).lname := 'Austen';
                                                                                      'Austen')
                                                                                   insert into #name array values (00.
  name_array(00).fname := '00 Grace';
                                                                                     'Grace',
'Hopper')
  name_array(0).lname := 'Hopper';
                                                                                   declare name_cursor CURSOR LOCAL SCROLL for
                                                                                     select
                                                                                       from #name_array
ix := name arrav.FIRST;
{\tt dbms\_output\_line(name\_array(ix).fname \ ||' \ '|| \ name\_array(ix).lname);}
                                                                                   fetch FIRST from name cursor
ix := name_array.NEXT(ix);
                                                                                   fetch NEXT from name_cursor
dbms_output.put_line(name_array(ix).fname ||' '|| name_array(ix).lname);
ix := name array.LAST;
                                                                                   fetch LAST from name_cursor
dbms_output.put_line(name_array(ix).fname ||' '|| name_array(ix).lname);
end;
                                                                                   close name_cursor
   Jane Austen
                                                                                                        Williams
  Grace Hopper
Robin Williams
                                                                                              Jane
                                                                                                         Austen
                                                                                             Grace Hopper
```

Note that PL/SQL table keys are not necessarily sequential. However, FIRST/NEXT processing arranges them that way.

SQL Server SCROLL cursors cannot duplicate the array index. Therefore, any non-sequential value must be captured in the table.

(**Caution**: Ensure that the differences in sequential processing mentioned above are properly remediated in the legacy code.)



Functions

Transact-SQL functions can only call other deterministic functions or extended stored procedures.

```
create function Now ()
returns datetime
  return getdate()
Server: Msg 443, Level 16, State 1, Procedure Now, Line 6 Invalid use of 'getdate' within a function.
-- One may be tempted to call a procedure from a function:
create procedure Now2 @Date2 datetime OUTPUT
set @Date2 = getdate()
create function Now ()
returns datetime
begin
  declare
    @Now2 datetime
  execute Now2 @Now2 OUTPUT
  return @Now2
end
-- This will compile OK
The command(s) completed successfully.
-- However, upon execution:
select pubs.dbo.Now()
 Only functions and within a function.
```

Extended stored procedures are registered via sp_addextendedproc procedure.



TopN

To give the Top 3 answers from a result set, include "TOP 3" immediately preceding the SELECT list columns. After all other processing is done (grouping, sorts, etc.), SQL Server only shows the first n rows of the result set. Notice that the data is in sequence by OrderID as dictated by the GROUP BY clause.

```
select top 3 --PERCENT
OrderID, sum(Quantity) "Pieces"
from [Order Details]
group by OrderID
OrderID Pieces
```

Orderid	FIECES
10248	27
10249	49
10250	60

Let's add an ORDER BY clause:

```
select top 3
    OrderID, sum(Quantity) "Pieces"
from [Order Details]
group by OrderID
order by Pieces
```

OrderID	Pieces
10782	1
10807	1
10422	2

10847

However, this output looks more like the "bottom 3" than the "top 3". This is because ORDER BY is ASCending by default. Let's make the sort order DESC ending and see if we get "top 3".

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Sometimes, there are many equal values such that "top 3" is too restrictive. In this case, add "with ties" to show values that tie with the third entry of the top 3.

```
select top 3
    OrderID, sum(Quantity) "Pieces"
 from [Order Details]
group by OrderID having sum(Quantity) = 20
order by Pieces DESC
OrderID
        Pieces
______
10292
         20
10317
          20
10322 20
select top 3 with ties
             OrderID, sum(Quantity) "Pieces"
 from [Order Details]
group by OrderID having sum(Quantity) = 20
order by Pieces DESC
OrderID Pieces
______
10292
          20
10317
          20
10322
          20
. . . [some rows removed for brevity]
11040
          20
11069
         20
(27 row(s) affected)
```



GroupByAll

Here is a list of supervisor IDs with a count of the number of people who report to each supervisor:

```
select ReportsTo "Supervisor#", count(1) "Supervisee Count"
  from Employees
  group by ReportsTo

Supervisor# Supervisee Count
------
NULL 1
2 5
5 3
```

There are a total of nine employees. Eight have supervisors while one is his own boss and has no supervisor.

Let's just look at the Supervisee Count for Supervisor #2:

We are now interested in seeing the other supervisors without their respective counts (via ALL):

Warning: Null value is eliminated by an aggregate or other SET operation.



CUBE

For analytical processing, ROLLUP and CUBE operators behave much the same as in Oracle. However, the syntax is slightly different.

```
select o.OrderID, o.ProductID, sum(o.Quantity) "Pieces"
  from [Order Details] o
 where o.OrderID in (10847,10895)
 group by o.OrderID, o.ProductID
 order by o.OrderID, o.ProductID
        ProductID Pieces
OrderID
10847
            1
                         80
10847
            19
                         12
                         60
10847
            37
10847
            45
                         36
10847
            60
                         45
10847
            71
                         55
           24
                         110
10895
10895
           39
                         45
10895
            40
                         91
10895
            60
                         100
select o.OrderID, o.ProductID, sum(o.Quantity) "Pieces"
  from [Order Details] o
 where o.OrderID in (10847,10895)
 group by o.OrderID, o.ProductID with ROLLUP
 order by o.OrderID, o.ProductID
     [Note: Oracle syntax is "group by ROLLUP(o.OrderID, o.ProductID)".]
            ProductID Pieces
OrderID
                         634←Total for all orders
NULL
            NULL
                         288
10847
           NULL
                         80
10847
            1
10847
           19
                         12
10847
            37
                         60
                         36
10847
            45
10847
            60
                         45
            71
                         55
10847
                         346 ← Total for each order
10895
            NULL
10895
            24
                         110
10895
            39
                         45
                               Totals are at the beginning of each group
10895
            40
                         91
10895
            60
                         100
```



The "order by" clause should be removed.

Ordering will be handled implicitly by the "group by" clause.

```
select o.OrderID, o.ProductID, sum(o.Quantity) "Pieces"
  from [Order Details] o
  where o.OrderID in (10847,10895)
  group by o.OrderID, o.ProductID with ROLLUP
  --order by o.OrderID, o.ProductID
```

OrderID	ProductID	Piece	es
10847	 1	80	
10847	19	12	
10847	37	60	
10847	45	36	
10847	60	45	
10847	71	55	
10847	NULL	<mark>288</mark>	←Total is at the end of each group, improving usability
10895	24	110	
10895	39	45	
10895	40	91	
10895	60	100	
10895	NULL	<mark>346</mark>	←
NULL	NULL	<mark>634</mark>	←

```
select o.OrderID, o.ProductID, sum(o.Quantity) "Pieces"
from [Order Details] o
where o.OrderID in (10847,10895)
group by o.OrderID, o.ProductID with CUBE
```

OrderID	ProductID	Piece	s
10847	1	80	
10847	19	12	
10847	37	60	
10847	45	36	
10847	60	45	
10847	71	55	
10847	NULL	288	
10895	24	110	
10895	39	45	
10895	40	91	
10895	60	100	
10895	NULL	346	
NULL	NULL	634	
NULL	1	80	
NULL	19	12	
NULL	24	110	
NULL	37	60	
NULL	39	45	
NULL	40	91	
NULL	45	36	
NULL	<mark>60</mark>	145	←CUBE also inlcudes sums on the other dimensi
NULL	71	55	



GROUPING will add a 0 or 1 column to the output. A 1 represents a row added by CUBE/ROLLUP. A 0 represents an original data row.

```
select
    o.OrderID,         GROUPING(o.OrderID),
    o.ProductID,         GROUPING(o.ProductID),
    sum(o.Quantity) "Pieces"
    from [Order Details] o
    where o.OrderID in (10847,10895)
    group by o.OrderID, o.ProductID with ROLLUP
```

OrderID		ProductID		Pieces
10847	0	1	0	80
10847	0	19	0	12
10847	0	37	0	60
10847	0	45	0	36
10847	0	60	0	45
10847	0	71	0	55
10847	0	NULL	1	288
10895	0	24	0	110
10895	0	39	0	45
10895	0	40	0	91
10895	0	60	0	100
10895	0	NULL	1	346
NULL	1	NULL	1	634

Another Oracle difference is that instead of using NULLs as shown above, Oracle will replace the column value with the following grammar: "**All** <column heading>s".

OrderID ProductID		Pieces
10847	1	80
10847	19	12
10847	37	60
10847	45	36
10847	60	45
10847	71	55
10847	All ProductIDs	288
10895	24	110
10895	39	45
10895	40	91
10895	60	100
10895	All ProductIDs	346
All OrderIDs	All ProductIDs	<u>634</u>

Rather than pursue analytical functions here, (and training the GUI to use them,) it would be better to use Analysis Services.



CURSOR

Steven

By default, SQL Server cursors are SENSITIVE to changes that take place to the underlying tables. This means that changes that are committed to the database by a (different) user before a subsequent fetch are accurately reflected at fetch time. There is no keyword in the cursor definition to choose this behavior. However, this can be turned off with the INSENSITIVE keyword. Insensitive cursors populate a temporary object in tempdb in order to insulate it from base object changes. Subsequent fetches from an insensitive cursor are done from tempdb, not the user database. Therefore, INSENSITIVE and FOR UPDATE OF are mutually exclusive syntax.

(Note: as in Oracle, FOR UPDATE OF cursor syntax is paired with WHERE CURRENT OF DML syntax with subsequent INSERT or DELETE.)

```
declare C1 INSENSITIVE CURSOR for
  select FirstName
    from Employees
  where LastName < 'D'
    order by FirstName
  FOR UPDATE OF FirstName

Server: Msg 1048, Level 15, State 1, Line 7
Conflicting cursor options FOR UPDATE and INSENSITIVE.</pre>
```

A cursor can be CLOSEd to release the current result set and free any locks. However, its data structure and definition is still available and can be reactivated with an OPEN statement. If a closed cursor's data structure and definition is no longer needed, it can be removed with a DEALLOCATE command. A cursor can be deallocated before it is closed. But, a deallocated cursor cannot be opened again without an appropriate declare.

```
SCROLL must be specified if fetch options other than NEXT are desired, (i.e., FIRST, LAST,
PRIOR, RELATIVE +/- n, ABSOLUTE +/- n).

declare C1 INSENSITIVE SCROLL CURSOR for
    select FirstName
    from Employees
    where LastName < 'D'
    order by FirstName
    --FOR UPDATE of FirstName
declare @First varchar(10)
open C1
fetch LAST from C1 into @First
print @First
--close C1
deallocate C1</pre>
```



FOR UPDATE is mutually exclusive with READ ONLY. However, this does not affect cursor sensitivity. A READ ONLY cursor can still be sensitive, and therefore hold a share lock.

The most benign (inexpensive) cursor is the INSENSITIVE . . . READ ONLY cursor especially if the transaction isolation level is set to READ UNCOMMITTED.

```
set transaction isolation level READ UNCOMMITTED -- dirty reads allowed begin transaction T1

[with mark 'Update Commission percentages'] -- for distributed transaction recovery declare C1 INSENSITIVE CURSOR for . . .
```

The above cursor functionality is based on SQL-92 syntax. However, additional Transaction-SQL extensions are given below. SQL-92 syntax has keywords before the CURSOR keyword. Extended syntax occurs between the CURSOR and FOR keywords. These two forms are mutually exclusive.

Cursors can be either LOCAL or GLOBAL. Neither is the default. Default behavior is shown by the IsLocalCursorsDefault database property of DATABASEPROPERTYEX system function. The value should be set by the ALTER DATABASE...CURSOR_DEFAULT command. Sp_dboption should no longer be used.

Cursors are either FORWARD_ONLY or SCROLL. If forward_only is specified only FETCH NEXT is allowed.

Cursors can be one of STATIC, KEYSET, DYNAMIC, or FAST_FORWARD.

STATIC is the extended way specifying INSENSITIVE.

KEYSET freezes primary keys into tempdb. Negative @@fetch_status becomes possible.

DYNAMIC is the extended way of explicitly specifying sensitive behavior.

FAST_FORWARD is a FORWARD_ONLY, READ_ONLY cursor. No SCROLL or FOR UPDATE.

Cursors can be READ_ONLY, SCROLL_LOCKS, or OPTIMISTIC.

READ_ONLY is extended syntax similar to FOR READ ONLY SQL-92 syntax.

SCROLL_LOCKS locks rows as they are read into the cursor, thereby assuring update/delete.

OPTIMISTIC does not lock rows read into the cursor, it compares timestamps for updateability.

@@FETCH_STATUS system function can have the following values:

- 0 = Immediately previous Fetch was successful.
- -1 = Immediately previous Fetch failed.
- -2 = The requested row was deleted outside of the current KEYSET cursor.
- -9 = The cursor may have been declared or opened, but has not yet been fetched.

Beware that @@FETCH_STATUS is reset by intermediate cursor logic even if disguised within called stored procedures. A practice like the following mimics Oracle functionality (C1%found is not reset but SQL%found is) and adds processing flexibility:

```
fetch last from C1 into @First
set @C1@@fetch status = @@FETCH STATUS
```



LockWaitfor

WAITFOR can be used in two sessions simultaneously to control the timing of locks. Delay is used for relative time positioning. Time is used for absolute time positioning.

Notice that it takes a little bit of time for each statement to be processed.

LockRead

An UPDATE performed before a SELECT causes the SELECT to wait until the UPDATE is committed (or rolled back).

use pubs

```
use pubs
begin transaction
 WAITFOR time '15:47'
  select current_timestamp "Before Update"
  UPDATE employee
    set minit = 'x'
   where emp_id = 'PMA42628M'
 WAITFOR delay '000:00:15'
  select current_timestamp "After Update"
  WAITFOR delay '000:00:05'
rollback transaction
select current_timestamp "After Rollback"
Before Update
2002-02-19 15:47:00.007
After Update
2002-02-19 15:47:15.010
After Rollback
2002-02-19 15:47:20.017
```



LockIsol

READ UNCOMMITTED allows the reading of dirty data without waiting.

```
use pubs
set transaction isolation level
  READ UNCOMMITTED
       --READ COMMITTED
WAITFOR time '16:05:02'
select current_timestamp "Before Select"
select * from employee where emp_id like 'PM%'
select current_timestamp "After Select"
Before Select
2002-02-19 16:05:02.003
                            minit lname
emp_id fname
PMA42628M Paolo
                                 Accorti
After Select
______
2002-02-19 16:05:02.003
```

READ COMMITTED requires the read to wait until the update is complete to get a clean read.

```
use pubs
set transaction isolation level
 READ UNCOMMITTED
      --READ COMMITTED
WAITFOR time '16:05:02'
select current_timestamp "Before Select"
select * from employee where emp_id like 'PM%'
select current_timestamp "After Select"
Before Select
2002-02-19 16:13:02.003
emp_id fname
                          minit lname
-------
PMA42628M Paolo
                               Accorti
After Select
2002-02-19 16:13:05.017
```



LockDead

SQL Server handles deadlocks automatically. One transaction is chosen as a victim even though it is the earlier transaction. The remedy is to lock resources in the same order (and unlock in reverse order).

```
use pubs
set transaction isolation level READ COMMITTED
begin transaction
  WAITFOR time '16:23:01'
  select current_timestamp "Before First"
  UPDATE employee
set minit = 'x' where emp_id = 'PMA42628M'
  WAITFOR delay '000:00:05'
  select current_timestamp "Before Second"
  UPDATE jobs
    set job_desc = 'Sr. ' + job_desc where job_id = 14
  WAITFOR delay '000:00:05'
rollback transaction
select current_timestamp "After Rollback"
Before First
2002-02-19 16:23:01.003
Before Second
2002-02-19 16:23:06.010
After Rollback
2002-02-19 16:23:12.520
```

```
use pubs
set transaction isolation level READ COMMITTED
begin transaction
 WAITFOR time '16:23'
  select current_timestamp "Before First"
  UPDATE jobs
  set job_desc = 'Sr. ' + job_desc where job_id = 14
  WAITFOR delay '000:00:05'
  select current_timestamp "Before Second"
 UPDATE employee
set minit = 'x' where emp_id = 'PMA42628M'
 WAITFOR delay '000:00:05'
rollback transaction
select current_timestamp "After Rollback"
Before First
2002-02-19 16:23:00.003
Before Second
_____
2002-02-19 16:23:05.010
Server: Msg 1205, Level 13, State 50, Line 1
Transaction (Process ID 55) was deadlocked on {lock}
resources with another process and has been chosen as
the deadlock victim. Rerun the transaction.
```



LockCursor

SCROLL_LOCKS delays the direct update:

```
use pubs
--dbcc useroptions --to show isolation level
set transaction isolation level READ COMMITTED
WAITFOR time '08:32:00'
declare C1 cursor Local Forward_Only Dynamic
       SCROLL_LOCKS --Direct update delayed
       --OPTIMISTIC --Positioned update disallowed
    for
  select * from employee where emp_id = 'PMA42628M'
order by 1
 FOR UPDATE
begin transaction
open C1
fetch C1
WAITFOR delay '000:00:05'
update employee set minit = 'z' where CURRENT OF C1
commit transaction
close C1
deallocate C1
emp id fname
                              minit lname
PMA42628M Paolo
                                    Accorti
```

```
use pubs
set transaction isolation level READ COMMITTED
begin transaction
WAITFOR time '08:32:02'
update employee set minit = 'x' where emp_id =
'PMA42628M'
select current_timestamp 'After x'
commit transaction
WAITFOR delay '000:00:10'
begin tran
update employee set minit = 'M' where emp_id =
'PMA42628M'
commit tran

After x

2002-02-20 08:32:05.330
```

OPTIMISTIC does not lock rows (no delay), but it disallows the CURRENT OF update:

```
set transaction isolation level READ COMMITTED
WAITFOR time '08:44:00
declare C1 cursor Local Forward_Only Dynamic
       --SCROLL_LOCKS --Direct update delayed
      OPTIMISTIC --Positioned update disallowed
 select * from employee where emp_id = 'PMA42628M'
order by 1
 FOR UPDATE
begin transaction
open C1
fetch C1
WAITFOR delay '000:00:05'
update employee set minit = 'z' where CURRENT OF C1
commit transaction
close C1
deallocate C1
emp_id fname
                           minit lname
_____ ___
PMA42628M Paolo
                          M Accorti
Server: Msg 16947, Level 10, State 1, Line 15
No rows were updated or deleted.
The statement has been terminated.
```

