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10

Managing Data in Different Time Zones

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Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:

- Use data types similar to DATE that store fractional seconds and track time zones
- Use data types that store the difference between two datetime values
- Use the following datetime functions:
 - CURRENT_DATE
 - CURRENT_TIMESTAMP
 - LOCALTIMESTAMP
 - DBTIMEZONE
 - SESSIONTIMEZONE
 - EXTRACT
 - TZ_OFFSET
 - FROM_TZ
 - TO_TIMESTAMP
 - TO_YMINTERVAL
 - TO_DSINTERVAL



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In this lesson, you learn how to use data types similar to DATE that store fractional seconds and track time zones. This lesson addresses some of the datetime functions available in the Oracle database.

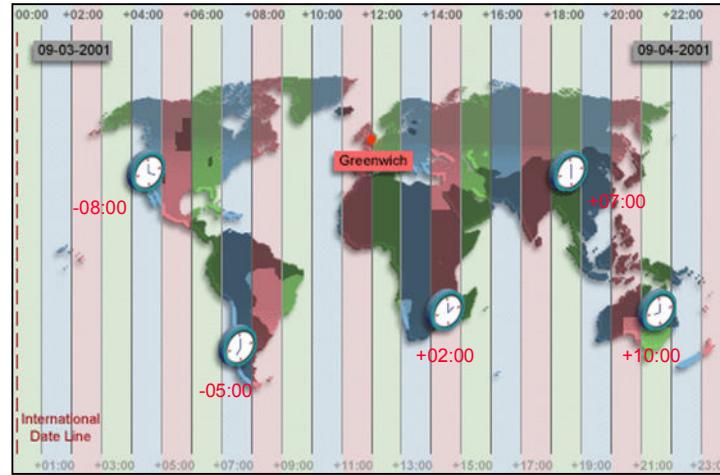
Lesson Agenda

- CURRENT_DATE, CURRENT_TIMESTAMP, and LOCALTIMESTAMP
- INTERVAL data types
- Using the following functions:
 - EXTRACT
 - TZ_OFFSET
 - FROM_TZ
 - TO_TIMESTAMP
 - TO_YMINTERVAL
 - TO_DSINTERVAL



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Time Zones



The image represents the time for each time zone when Greenwich time is 12:00.

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The hours of the day are measured by the turning of the earth. The time of day at any particular moment depends on where you are. When it is noon in Greenwich, England, it is midnight along the International Date Line. The earth is divided into 24 time zones, one for each hour of the day. The time along the prime meridian in Greenwich, England, is known as Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). GMT is now known as Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). UTC is the time standard against which all other time zones in the world are referenced. It is the same all year round and is not affected by summer time or daylight saving time. The meridian line is an imaginary line that runs from the North Pole to the South Pole. It is known as zero longitude and it is the line from which all other lines of longitude are measured. All time is measured relative to UTC and all places have a latitude (their distance north or south of the equator) and a longitude (their distance east or west of the Greenwich meridian).

TIME_ZONE Session Parameter

TIME_ZONE may be set to:

- An absolute offset
- Database time zone
- OS local time zone
- A named region

```
ALTER SESSION SET TIME_ZONE = '-05:00';
ALTER SESSION SET TIME_ZONE = dbtimezone;
ALTER SESSION SET TIME_ZONE = local;
ALTER SESSION SET TIME_ZONE = 'America/New_York';
```



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The Oracle database supports storing the time zone in your date and time data, as well as fractional seconds. The ALTER SESSION command can be used to change time zone values in a user's session. The time zone values can be set to an absolute offset, a named time zone, a database time zone, or the local time zone.

CURRENT_DATE, CURRENT_TIMESTAMP, and LOCALTIMESTAMP

- CURRENT_DATE:
 - Returns the current date from the user session
 - Has a data type of DATE
- CURRENT_TIMESTAMP:
 - Returns the current date and time from the user session
 - Has a data type of TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE
- LOCALTIMESTAMP:
 - Returns the current date and time from the user session
 - Has a data type of TIMESTAMP



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The CURRENT_DATE and CURRENT_TIMESTAMP functions return the current date and current time stamp, respectively. The data type of CURRENT_DATE is DATE. The data type of CURRENT_TIMESTAMP is TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE. The values returned display the time zone displacement of the SQL session executing the functions. The time zone displacement is the difference (in hours and minutes) between local time and UTC. The TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE data type has the format:

TIMESTAMP [(fractional_seconds_precision)] WITH TIME ZONE

where fractional_seconds_precision optionally specifies the number of digits in the fractional part of the SECOND datetime field and can be a number in the range 0 through 9. The default is 6.

The LOCALTIMESTAMP function returns the current date and time in the session time zone. The difference between LOCALTIMESTAMP and CURRENT_TIMESTAMP is that LOCALTIMESTAMP returns a TIMESTAMP value, whereas CURRENT_TIMESTAMP returns a TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE value.

These functions are national language support (NLS)-sensitive—that is, the results will be in the current NLS calendar and datetime formats.

Note: The SYSDATE function returns the current date and time as a DATE data type. You learned how to use the SYSDATE function in the course titled *Oracle Database: SQL Workshop I*.

Comparing Date and Time in a Session's Time Zone

The TIME_ZONE parameter is set to -5 : 00 and then SELECT statements for each date and time are executed to compare differences.

```
ALTER SESSION  
SET NLS_DATE_FORMAT = 'DD-MON-YYYY HH24:MI:SS';  
ALTER SESSION SET TIME_ZONE = '-5:00';
```

```
SELECT SESSIONTIMEZONE, CURRENT_DATE FROM DUAL;
```

1

```
SELECT SESSIONTIMEZONE, CURRENT_TIMESTAMP FROM DUAL;
```

2

```
SELECT SESSIONTIMEZONE, LOCALTIMESTAMP FROM DUAL;
```

3



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The ALTER SESSION command sets the date format of the session to 'DD-MON-YYYY HH24:MI:SS'—that is, day of month (1–31)-abbreviated name of month-4-digit year hour of day (0–23):minute (0–59):second (0–59).

The example in the slide illustrates that the session is altered to set the TIME_ZONE parameter to -5:00. Then the SELECT statement for CURRENT_DATE, CURRENT_TIMESTAMP, and LOCALTIMESTAMP is executed to observe the differences in format.

Note: The TIME_ZONE parameter specifies the default local time zone displacement for the current SQL session. TIME_ZONE is a session parameter only, not an initialization parameter. The TIME_ZONE parameter is set as follows:

TIME_ZONE = '[+ | -] hh:mm'

The format mask ([+ | -] hh:mm) indicates the hours and minutes before or after UTC.

Comparing Date and Time in a Session's Time Zone

Results of queries:

session SET altered.	
SESSIONTIMEZONE	CURRENT_DATE
1 -05:00	10-SEP-2012 23:08:16
SESSIONTIMEZONE	CURRENT_TIMESTAMP
1 -05:00	10-SEP-12 11.10.21.183775000 PM -05:00
SESSIONTIMEZONE	LOCALTIMESTAMP
1 -05:00	10-SEP-12 11.10.43.871626000 PM

1

2

3



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In this case, the CURRENT_DATE function returns the current date in the session's time zone, the CURRENT_TIMESTAMP function returns the current date and time in the session's time zone as a value of the data type TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE, and the LOCALTIMESTAMP function returns the current date and time in the session's time zone.

Note: The code example output may vary depending on when the command is run.

DBTIMEZONE and SESSIONTIMEZONE

- Display the value of the database time zone:

```
SELECT DBTIMEZONE FROM DUAL;
```

DBTIMEZONE
1 +00:00

- Display the value of the session's time zone:

```
SELECT SESSIONTIMEZONE FROM DUAL;
```

SESSIONTIMEZONE
1 -05:00



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The DBA sets the database's default time zone by specifying the `SET TIME_ZONE` clause of the `CREATE DATABASE` statement. If omitted, the default database time zone is the operating system time zone. The database time zone cannot be changed for a session with an `ALTER SESSION` statement.

The `DBTIMEZONE` function returns the value of the database time zone. The return type is a time zone offset (a character type in the format: '`[+ | -] TZH:TZM`') or a time zone region name, depending on how the user specified the database time zone value in the most recent `CREATE DATABASE` or `ALTER DATABASE` statement. The example in the slide shows that the database time zone is set to "`-05:00`," as the `TIME_ZONE` parameter is in the format:

```
TIME_ZONE = '[+ | -] hh:mm'
```

The `SESSIONTIMEZONE` function returns the value of the current session's time zone. The return type is a time zone offset (a character type in the format '`[+ | -] TZH:TZM`') or a time zone region name, depending on how the user specified the session time zone value in the most recent `ALTER SESSION` statement. The example in the slide shows that the session time zone is offset to UTC by `-5` hours. Observe that the database time zone is different from the current session's time zone.

TIMESTAMP Data Types

Data Type	Fields
TIMESTAMP	Year, Month, Day, Hour, Minute, Second with fractional seconds
TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE	Same as the TIMESTAMP data type; also includes: TIMEZONE_HOUR, and TIMEZONE_MINUTE or TIMEZONE_REGION
TIMESTAMP WITH LOCAL TIME ZONE	Same as the TIMESTAMP data type; also includes a time zone offset in its value



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The TIMESTAMP data type is an extension of the DATE data type.

`TIMESTAMP (fractional_seconds_precision)`

This data type contains the year, month, and day values of date, as well as hour, minute, and second values of time, where significant fractional seconds precision is the number of digits in the fractional part of the SECOND datetime field. The accepted values of significant fractional_seconds_precision are 0 through 9. The default is 6.

`TIMESTAMP (fractional_seconds_precision) WITH TIME ZONE`

This data type contains all values of TIMESTAMP as well as time zone displacement value.

`TIMESTAMP (fractional_seconds_precision) WITH LOCAL TIME ZONE`

This data type contains all values of TIMESTAMP, with the following exceptions:

- Data is normalized to the database time zone when it is stored in the database.
- When the data is retrieved, users see the data in the session time zone.

TIMESTAMP Fields

Datetime Field	Valid Values
YEAR	-4712 to 9999 (excluding year 0)
MONTH	01 to 12
DAY	01 to 31
HOUR	00 to 23
MINUTE	00 to 59
SECOND	00 to 59.9(N) where 9(N) is precision
TIMEZONE_HOUR	-12 to 14
TIMEZONE_MINUTE	00 to 59



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Each datetime data type is composed of several of these fields. Datetimes are mutually comparable and assignable only if they have the same datetime fields.

Difference Between DATE and TIMESTAMP

A

```
-- when hire_date is
of type DATE

SELECT hire_date
FROM emp4;
```

	HIRE_DATE
1	17-JUN-03
2	21-SEP-05
3	13-JAN-01
4	03-JAN-06
5	21-MAY-07
6	25-JUN-05
7	05-FEB-06
8	07-FEB-07
9	17-AUG-02
10	16-AUG-02

...

B

```
ALTER TABLE emp4
MODIFY hire_date
TIMESTAMP(7);
SELECT hire_date
FROM emp4;
```

	HIRE_DATE
1	17-JUN-03 12.00.00.000000000 AM
2	21-SEP-05 12.00.00.000000000 AM
3	13-JAN-01 12.00.00.000000000 AM
4	03-JAN-06 12.00.00.000000000 AM
5	21-MAY-07 12.00.00.000000000 AM
6	25-JUN-05 12.00.00.000000000 AM
7	05-FEB-06 12.00.00.000000000 AM
8	07-FEB-07 12.00.00.000000000 AM
9	17-AUG-02 12.00.00.000000000 AM
10	16-AUG-02 12.00.00.000000000 AM

...



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TIMESTAMP Data Type: Example

In the slide, example A shows the data from the `hire_date` column of the `EMP4` table when the data type of the column is `DATE`. In example B, the table is altered and the data type of the `hire_date` column is made into `TIMESTAMP`. The output shows the differences in display. You can convert from `DATE` to `TIMESTAMP` when the column has data, but you cannot convert from `DATE` or `TIMESTAMP` to `TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE` unless the column is empty.

You can specify the fractional seconds precision for time stamp. If none is specified, as in this example, it defaults to 6.

For example, the following statement sets the fractional seconds precision as 7:

```
ALTER TABLE emp4
MODIFY hire_date TIMESTAMP(7);
```

Note: The Oracle `DATE` data type by default looks like what is shown in this example. However, the date data type also contains additional information such as hours, minutes, seconds, AM, and PM. To obtain the date in this format, you can apply a format mask or a function to the date value.

Comparing TIMESTAMP Data Types

```
CREATE TABLE web_orders  
(order_date TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE,  
 delivery_time TIMESTAMP WITH LOCAL TIME ZONE);
```

```
INSERT INTO web_orders values  
(current_date, current_timestamp + 2);
```

```
SELECT * FROM web_orders;
```

ORDER_DATE	DELIVERY_TIME
10-SEP-12 11.30.20.000000000 PM	-05:00 12-SEP-12 11.30.20.000000000 PM



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In the example in the slide, a new table `web_orders` is created with a column of data type `TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE` and a column of data type `TIMESTAMP WITH LOCAL TIME ZONE`. This table is populated whenever a `web_order` is placed. The time stamp and time zone for the user placing the order are inserted based on the `CURRENT_DATE` value. The local time stamp and time zone are populated by inserting two days from the `CURRENT_TIMESTAMP` value into it every time an order is placed. When a web-based company guarantees shipping, it can estimate its delivery time based on the time zone of the person placing the order.

Note: The code example output may vary as per the time of run of the command.

Lesson Agenda

- CURRENT_DATE, CURRENT_TIMESTAMP, and LOCALTIMESTAMP
- INTERVAL data types
- Using the following functions:
 - EXTRACT
 - TZ_OFFSET
 - FROM_TZ
 - TO_TIMESTAMP
 - TO_YMINTERVAL
 - TO_DSINTERVAL



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INTERVAL Data Types

- INTERVAL data types are used to store the difference between two datetime values.
- There are two classes of intervals:
 - Year-month
 - Day-time
- The precision of the interval is:
 - The actual subset of fields that constitutes an interval
 - Specified in the interval qualifier

Data Type	Fields
INTERVAL YEAR TO MONTH	Year, Month
INTERVAL DAY TO SECOND	Days, Hour, Minute, Second with fractional seconds



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INTERVAL data types are used to store the difference between two datetime values. There are two classes of intervals: year-month intervals and day-time intervals. A year-month interval is made up of a contiguous subset of fields of YEAR and MONTH, whereas a day-time interval is made up of a contiguous subset of fields consisting of DAY, HOUR, MINUTE, and SECOND. The actual subset of fields that constitute an interval is called the precision of the interval and is specified in the interval qualifier. Because the number of days in a year is calendar-dependent, the year-month interval is NLS-dependent, whereas day-time interval is NLS-independent.

The interval qualifier may also specify the leading field precision, which is the number of digits in the leading or only field, and in case the trailing field is SECOND, it may also specify the fractional seconds precision, which is the number of digits in the fractional part of the SECOND value. If not specified, the default value for leading field precision is 2 digits, and the default value for fractional seconds precision is 6 digits.

INTERVAL YEAR (year_precision) TO MONTH

This data type stores a period of time in years and months, where `year_precision` is the number of digits in the `YEAR` datetime field. The accepted values are 0 through 9. The default is 6.

INTERVAL DAY (day_precision) TO SECOND (fractional_seconds_precision)

This data type stores a period of time in days, hours, minutes, and seconds, where `day_precision` is the maximum number of digits in the `DAY` datetime field (accepted values are 0 through 9; the default is 2), and `fractional_seconds_precision` is the number of digits in the fractional part of the `SECOND` field. The accepted values are 0 through 9. The default is 6.

INTERVAL Fields

INTERVAL Field	Valid Values for Interval
YEAR	Any positive or negative integer
MONTH	00 to 11
DAY	Any positive or negative integer
HOUR	00 to 23
MINUTE	00 to 59
SECOND	00 to 59.9(N) where 9(N) is precision



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INTERVAL YEAR TO MONTH can have fields of YEAR and MONTH.

INTERVAL DAY TO SECOND can have fields of DAY, HOUR, MINUTE, and SECOND.

The actual subset of fields that constitute an item of either type of interval is defined by an interval qualifier, and this subset is known as the precision of the item.

Year-month intervals are mutually comparable and assignable only with other year-month intervals, and day-time intervals are mutually comparable and assignable only with other day-time intervals.

INTERVAL YEAR TO MONTH: Example

```
CREATE TABLE warranty
(prod_id number, warranty_time INTERVAL YEAR(3) TO
MONTH);
INSERT INTO warranty VALUES (123, INTERVAL '8' MONTH);
INSERT INTO warranty VALUES (155, INTERVAL '200'
YEAR(3));
INSERT INTO warranty VALUES (678, '200-11');
SELECT * FROM warranty;
```

	PROD_ID	WARRANTY_TIME
1	123	0-8
2	155	200-0
3	678	200-11



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The Oracle database supports two interval data types: INTERVAL YEAR TO MONTH and INTERVAL DAY TO SECOND; the column type, PL/SQL argument, variable, and return type must be one of the two. However, for interval literals, the system recognizes other American National Standards Institute (ANSI) interval types such as INTERVAL '2' YEAR or INTERVAL '10' HOUR. In these cases, each interval is converted to one of the two supported types.

In the example in the slide, a WARRANTY table is created, which contains a warranty_time column that takes the INTERVAL YEAR (3) TO MONTH data type. Different values are inserted into it to indicate years and months for various products. When these rows are retrieved from the table, you see a year value separated from the month value by a (-).

INTERVAL DAY TO SECOND Data Type: Example

```
CREATE TABLE lab  
( exp_id number, test_time INTERVAL DAY(2) TO SECOND);  
  
INSERT INTO lab VALUES (100012, '90 00:00:00');  
INSERT INTO lab VALUES (56098,  
                      INTERVAL '6 03:30:16' DAY TO SECOND);
```

```
SELECT * FROM lab;
```

	EXP_ID	TEST_TIME
1	100012	90 0:0:0.0
2	56098	6 3:30:16.0



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In the example in the slide, you create the `lab` table with a `test_time` column of the `INTERVAL DAY TO SECOND` data type. You then insert into it the value `'90 00:00:00'` to indicate 90 days and 0 hours, 0 minutes, and 0 seconds, and `INTERVAL '6 03:30:16'` `DAY TO SECOND` to indicate 6 days, 3 hours, 30 minutes, and 16 seconds. The `SELECT` statement shows how this data is displayed in the database.

Lesson Agenda

- CURRENT_DATE, CURRENT_TIMESTAMP, and LOCALTIMESTAMP
- INTERVAL data types
- Using the following functions:
 - EXTRACT
 - TZ_OFFSET
 - FROM_TZ
 - TO_TIMESTAMP
 - TO_YMINTERVAL
 - TO_DSINTERVAL



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EXTRACT

- Display all employees who were hired after 2007.

```
SELECT last_name, employee_id, hire_date
  FROM employees
 WHERE EXTRACT(YEAR FROM TO_DATE(hire_date, 'DD-MON-RR')) > 2007
 ORDER BY hire_date;
```

- Display the MONTH component from the HIRE_DATE for those employees whose MANAGER_ID is 100.

```
SELECT last_name, hire_date,
       EXTRACT(MONTH FROM HIRE_DATE)
  FROM employees
 WHERE manager_id = 100;
```

	LAST_NAME	HIRE_DATE	EXTRACT(MONTHFROMHIRE_DATE)
1	Kochhar	21-SEP-05	9
2	De Haan	13-JAN-01	1
3	Raphaely	07-DEC-02	12
4	Weiss	18-JUL-04	7
5	Fripp	10-APR-05	4
6	Kaufling	01-MAY-03	5

...

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The EXTRACT expression extracts and returns the value of a specified datetime field from a datetime or interval value expression. You can extract any of the components mentioned in the following syntax using the EXTRACT function. The syntax of the EXTRACT function is:

```
SELECT EXTRACT( { YEAR | MONTH | DAY | HOUR | MINUTE |
SECOND
| TIMEZONE_HOUR
| TIMEZONE_MINUTE
| TIMEZONE_REGION
| TIMEZONE_ABBR } )
  FROM { expr } )
```

When you extract a TIMEZONE_REGION or TIMEZONE_ABBR (abbreviation), the value returned is a string containing the appropriate time zone name or abbreviation. When you extract any of the other values, the value returned is a date in the Gregorian calendar. When extracting from a datetime with a time zone value, the value returned is in UTC.

In the first example in the slide, the EXTRACT function is used to select all employees who were hired after 2007. In the second example in the slide, the EXTRACT function is used to extract the MONTH from the HIRE_DATE column of the EMPLOYEES table for those employees who report to the manager whose EMPLOYEE_ID is 100.

TZ_OFFSET

Display the time zone offset for the 'US/Eastern', 'Canada/Yukon' and 'Europe/London' time zones:

```
SELECT TZ_OFFSET('US/Eastern') ,  
       TZ_OFFSET('Canada/Yukon') ,  
       TZ_OFFSET('Europe/London')  
  FROM DUAL;
```

	TZ_OFFSET('US/EASTERN')	TZ_OFFSET('CANADA/YUKON')	TZ_OFFSET('EUROPE/LONDON')
1	-04:00	-07:00	+01:00



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The TZ_OFFSET function returns the time zone offset corresponding to the value entered. The return value is dependent on the date when the statement is executed. For example, if the TZ_OFFSET function returns a value -08:00, this value indicates that the time zone where the command was executed is eight hours behind UTC. You can enter a valid time zone name, a time zone offset from UTC (which simply returns itself), or the keyword SESSIONTIMEZONE or DBTIMEZONE. The syntax of the TZ_OFFSET function is:

```
TZ_OFFSET( { 'time_zone_name' | '{ + | - } hh : mi'  
          | SESSIONTIMEZONE  
          | DBTIMEZONE  
          } )
```

The Fold Motor Company has its headquarters in Michigan, USA, which is in the US/Eastern time zone. The company president, Mr. Fold, wants to conduct a conference call with the vice president of the Canadian operations and the vice president of European operations, who are in the Canada/Yukon and Europe/London time zones, respectively. Mr. Fold wants to find out the time in each of these places to make sure that his senior management will be available to attend the meeting. His secretary, Mr. Scott, helps by issuing the queries shown in the example and gets the following results:

- The 'US/Eastern' time zone is four hours behind UTC.
- The 'Canada/Yukon' time zone is seven hours behind UTC.
- The 'Europe/London' time zone is one hour ahead of UTC.

For a listing of valid time zone name values, you can query the V\$TIMEZONE_NAMES dynamic performance view.

```
SELECT * FROM V$TIMEZONE_NAMES;
```

TZNAME	TZABBREV	CON_ID
1 Africa/Abidjan	LMT	0
2 Africa/Abidjan	GMT	0
3 Africa/Accra	LMT	0
4 Africa/Accra	GMT	0
5 Africa/Accra	GHST	0

...

FROM_TZ

Display the TIMESTAMP value '2000-07-12 08:00:00' as a TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE value for the 'Australia/North' time zone region.

```
SELECT FROM_TZ(TIMESTAMP  
    '2000-07-12 08:00:00', 'Australia/North')  
FROM DUAL;
```

FROM_TZ(TIMESTAMP'2000-07-1208:00:00','AUSTRALIA/NORTH')
1 12-JUL-00 08.00.00.000000000 AM AUSTRALIA/NORTH



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The FROM_TZ function converts a TIMESTAMP value to a TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE value.

The syntax of the FROM_TZ function is as follows:

```
FROM_TZ(timestamp_value, time_zone_value)
```

where time_zone_value is a character string in the format 'TZH:TZM' or a character expression that returns a string in TZR (time zone region) with an optional TZD format. TZD is an abbreviated time zone string with daylight saving information. TZR represents the time zone region in datetime input strings. Examples are 'Australia/North', 'PST' for US/Pacific standard time, 'PDT' for US/Pacific daylight time, and so on.

The example in the slide converts a TIMESTAMP value to TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE.

Note: To see a listing of valid values for the TZR and TZD format elements, query the V\$TIMEZONE_NAMES dynamic performance view.

TO_TIMESTAMP

Display the character string '2007-03-06 11:00:00' as a TIMESTAMP value:

```
SELECT TO_TIMESTAMP ('2007-03-06 11:00:00',
                     'YYYY-MM-DD HH:MI:SS')
FROM DUAL;
```

TO_TIMESTAMP('2007-03-0611:00:00','YYYY-MM-DDHH:MI:SS')
1 06-MAR-07 11.00.00.000000000 AM



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The TO_TIMESTAMP function converts a string of CHAR, VARCHAR2, NCHAR, or NVARCHAR2 data type to a value of the TIMESTAMP data type. The syntax of the TO_TIMESTAMP function is:

```
TO_TIMESTAMP(char [, fmt [, 'nlsparam' ] ])
```

The optional `fmt` specifies the format of `char`. If you omit `fmt`, the string must be in the default format of the TIMESTAMP data type. The optional `nlsparam` specifies the language in which month and day names, and abbreviations, are returned. This argument can have this form:

```
'NLS_DATE_LANGUAGE = language'
```

If you omit `nlsparams`, this function uses the default date language for your session.

The example in the slide converts a character string to a value of TIMESTAMP.

Note: You use the TO_TIMESTAMP_TZ function to convert a string of CHAR, VARCHAR2, NCHAR, or NVARCHAR2 data type to a value of the TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE data type. For more information about this function, see *Oracle Database SQL Language Reference* for Oracle Database 12c.

TO_YMINTERVAL

Display a date that is one year and two months after the hire date for the employees working in the department with the DEPARTMENT_ID 20.

```
SELECT hire_date,
       hire_date + TO_YMINTERVAL('01-02') AS
       HIRE_DATE_YMININTERVAL
  FROM employees
 WHERE department_id = 20;
```

	HIRE_DATE	HIRE_DATE_YMININTERVAL
1	17-FEB-04	17-APR-05
2	17-AUG-05	17-OCT-06



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The TO_YMINTERVAL function converts a character string of CHAR, VARCHAR2, NCHAR, or NVARCHAR2 data type to an INTERVAL YEAR TO MONTH data type. The INTERVAL YEAR TO MONTH data type stores a period of time using the YEAR and MONTH datetime fields. The format of INTERVAL YEAR TO MONTH is as follows:

INTERVAL YEAR [(year_precision)] TO MONTH

where year_precision is the number of digits in the YEAR datetime field. The default value of year_precision is 2.

The syntax of the TO_YMINTERVAL function is:

TO_YMINTERVAL (char)

where char is the character string to be converted.

The example in the slide calculates a date that is one year and two months after the hire date for the employees working in the department 20 of the EMPLOYEES table.

TO_DSINTERVAL

Display a date that is 100 days and 10 hours after the hire date for all the employees.

```
SELECT last_name,
       TO_CHAR(hire_date, 'mm-dd-yy:hh:mi:ss') hire_date,
       TO_CHAR(hire_date +
               TO_DSINTERVAL('100 10:00:00'),
               'mm-dd-yy:hh:mi:ss') hiredate2
  FROM employees;
```

#	LAST_NAME	HIRE_DATE	HIREDATE2
1	King	06-17-03:12:00:00	09-25-03:10:00:00
2	Kochhar	09-21-05:12:00:00	12-30-05:10:00:00
3	De Haan	01-13-01:12:00:00	04-23-01:10:00:00
4	Hunold	01-03-06:12:00:00	04-13-06:10:00:00
5	Ernst	05-21-07:12:00:00	08-29-07:10:00:00
6	Austin	06-25-05:12:00:00	10-03-05:10:00:00
7	Pataballa	02-05-06:12:00:00	05-16-06:10:00:00
8	Lorentz	02-07-07:12:00:00	05-18-07:10:00:00
9	Greenberg	08-17-02:12:00:00	11-25-02:10:00:00
10	Faviet	08-16-02:12:00:00	11-24-02:10:00:00
11	Chen	09-28-05:12:00:00	01-06-06:10:00:00

...



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`TO_DSINTERVAL` converts a character string of the CHAR, VARCHAR2, NCHAR, or NVARCHAR2 data type to an INTERVAL DAY TO SECOND data type.

In the example in the slide, the date 100 days and 10 hours after the hire date is obtained.

Daylight Saving Time (DST)

- Start of Daylight Saving:
 - Time jumps from 01:59:59 AM to 03:00:00 AM.
 - Values from 02:00:00 AM to 02:59:59 AM are not valid.
- End of Daylight Saving:
 - Time jumps from 02:00:00 AM to 01:00:01 AM.
 - Values from 01:00:01 AM to 02:00:00 AM are ambiguous because they are visited twice.



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Most western nations advance the clock ahead one hour during the summer months. This period is called daylight saving time. Daylight saving time lasts from the start of Daylight Saving to the end of Daylight Saving in the most of the United States, Mexico, and Canada. The nations of the European Union observe daylight saving time, but they call it the summer time period. Europe's summer time period begins a week earlier than its North American counterpart, but ends at the same time.

The Oracle database automatically determines, for any given time zone region, whether daylight saving time is in effect and returns local time values accordingly. The datetime value is sufficient for the Oracle database to determine whether daylight saving time is in effect for a given region in all cases except boundary cases. A boundary case occurs during the period when daylight saving time goes into or out of effect. For example, in the US/Eastern region, when daylight saving time goes into effect, the time changes from 01:59:59 AM to 03:00:00 AM. The one-hour interval between 02:00:00 AM and 02:59:59 AM does not exist. When daylight saving time goes out of effect, the time changes from 02:00:00 AM back to 01:00:01 AM, and the one-hour interval between 01:00:01 AM and 02:00:00 AM is repeated.

ERROR_ON_OVERLAP_TIME

The `ERROR_ON_OVERLAP_TIME` is a session parameter to notify the system to issue an error when it encounters a datetime that occurs in the overlapped period and no time zone abbreviation was specified to distinguish the period.

For example, daylight saving time ends on October 31, at 02:00:01 AM. The overlapped periods are:

- 10/31/2004 01:00:01 AM to 10/31/2004 02:00:00 AM (EDT)
- 10/31/2004 01:00:01 AM to 10/31/2004 02:00:00 AM (EST)

If you input a datetime string that occurs in one of these two periods, you need to specify the time zone abbreviation (for example, EDT or EST) in the input string for the system to determine the period. Without this time zone abbreviation, the system does the following:

If the `ERROR_ON_OVERLAP_TIME` parameter is `FALSE`, it assumes that the input time is standard time (for example, EST). Otherwise, an error is raised.

Quiz

The TIME_ZONE session parameter may be set to:

- a. A relative offset
- b. Database time zone
- c. OS local time zone
- d. A named region



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Answer: b, c, d

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Use data types similar to DATE that store fractional seconds and track time zones
- Use data types that store the difference between two datetime values
- Use the following datetime functions:
 - CURRENT_DATE
 - CURRENT_TIMESTAMP
 - LOCALTIMESTAMP
 - DBTIMEZONE
 - SESSIONTIMEZONE
 - EXTRACT
 - TZ_OFFSET
 - FROM_TZ
 - TO_TIMESTAMP
 - TO_YMINTERVAL
 - TO_DSINTERVAL



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This lesson addressed some of the datetime functions available in the Oracle database.

Practice 10: Overview

This practice covers using the datetime functions.



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In this practice, you display time zone offsets, CURRENT_DATE, CURRENT_TIMESTAMP, and LOCALTIMESTAMP. You also set time zones and use the EXTRACT function.

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Table Descriptions

ORACLE

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Schema Description

Overall Description

The Oracle Database sample schemas portray a sample company that operates worldwide to fill orders for several different products. The company has three divisions:

- **Human Resources:** Tracks information about the employees and facilities
- **Order Entry:** Tracks product inventories and sales through various channels
- **Sales History:** Tracks business statistics to facilitate business decisions

Each of these divisions is represented by a schema. In this course, you have access to the objects in all the schemas. However, the emphasis of the examples, demonstrations, and practices is on the Human Resources (HR) schema.

All scripts necessary to create the sample schemas reside in the \$ORACLE_HOME/demo/schema/ folder.

Human Resources (HR)

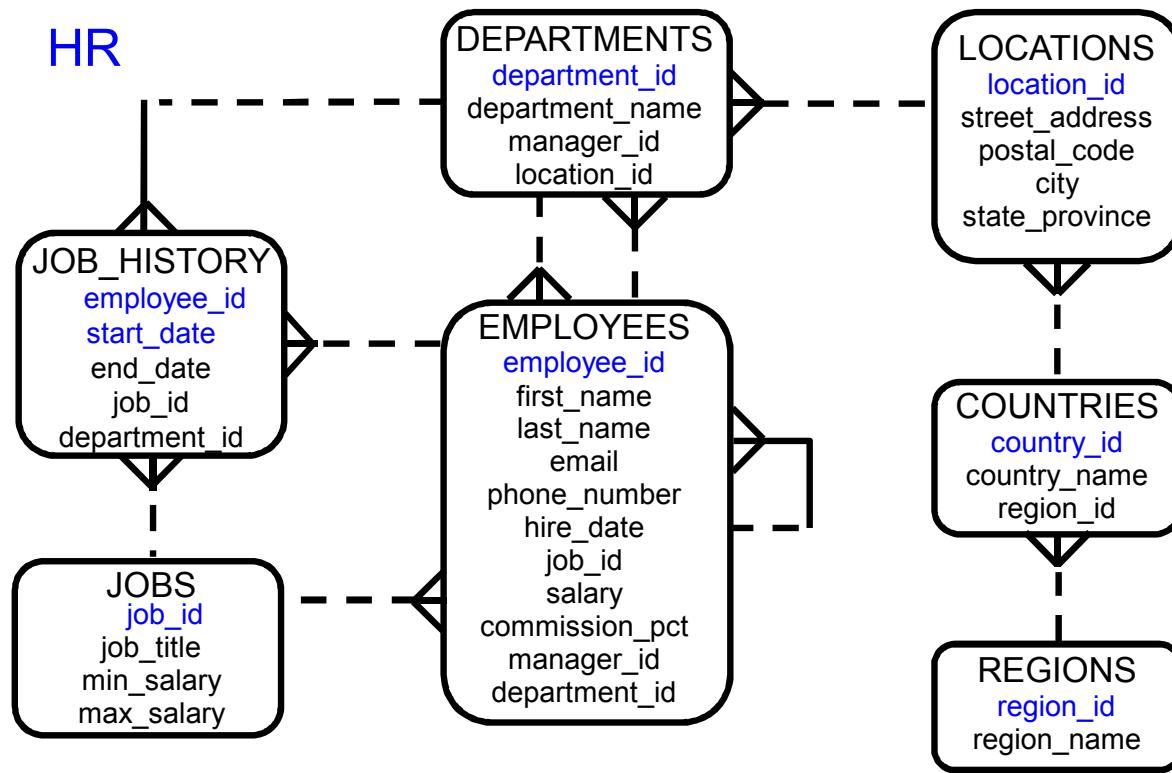
This is the schema that is used in this course. In the Human Resource (HR) records, each employee has an identification number, email address, job identification code, salary, and manager. Some employees earn commissions in addition to their salary.

The company also tracks information about jobs within the organization. Each job has an identification code, job title, and a minimum and maximum salary range for the job. Some employees have been with the company for a long time and have held different positions within the company. When an employee resigns, the duration the employee was working for, the job identification number, and the department are recorded.

The sample company is regionally diverse, so it tracks the locations of its warehouses and departments. Each employee is assigned to a department, and each department is identified either by a unique department number or a short name. Each department is associated with one location, and each location has a full address that includes the street name, postal code, city, state or province, and the country code.

In places where the departments and warehouses are located, the company records details such as the country name, currency symbol, currency name, and the region where the country is located geographically.

HR Entity Relationship Diagram



Human Resources (HR) Table Descriptions

DESCRIBE countries

Name	Null	Type
COUNTRY_ID	NOT NULL	CHAR(2)
COUNTRY_NAME		VARCHAR2(40)
REGION_ID		NUMBER

SELECT * FROM countries

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

```
DESCRIBE departments
```

Name	Null	Type
DEPARTMENT_ID	NOT NULL	NUMBER(4)
DEPARTMENT_NAME	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(30)
MANAGER_ID		NUMBER(6)
LOCATION_ID		NUMBER(4)

```
SELECT * FROM departments
```

DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME	MANAGER_ID	LOCATION_ID
1	10 Administration	200	1700
2	20 Marketing	201	1800
3	50 Shipping	124	1500
4	60 IT	103	1400
5	80 Sales	149	2500
6	90 Executive	100	1700
7	110 Accounting	205	1700
8	190 Contracting	(null)	1700

DESCRIBE employees

Name	Null	Type
EMPLOYEE_ID	NOT NULL	NUMBER(6)
FIRST_NAME		VARCHAR2(20)
LAST_NAME	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(25)
EMAIL	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(25)
PHONE_NUMBER		VARCHAR2(20)
HIRE_DATE	NOT NULL	DATE
JOB_ID	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(10)
SALARY		NUMBER(8,2)
COMMISSION_PCT		NUMBER(2,2)
MANAGER_ID		NUMBER(6)
DEPARTMENT_ID		NUMBER(4)

SELECT * FROM employees

EMPLOYEE_ID	FIRST_NAME	LAST_NAME	EMAIL	PHONE_NUMBER	HIRE_DATE	JOB_ID	SALARY	COMMISSION_PCT	MANAGER_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID
100 Steven	King	SKING	515.123.4567	17-JUN-03	AD_PRES		24000	(null)	(null)	90
101 Neena	Kochhar	NKOCHHAR	515.123.4568	21-SEP-05	AD_VP		17000	(null)	100	90
102 Lex	De Haan	LDEHAAN	515.123.4569	13-JAN-01	AD_VP		17000	(null)	100	90
103 Alexander	Hunold	AHUNOLD	590.423.4567	03-JAN-06	IT_PROG		9000	(null)	102	60
104 Bruce	Ernst	BERNST	590.423.4568	21-MAY-07	IT_PROG		6000	(null)	103	60
107 Diana	Lorentz	DLORENTZ	590.423.5567	07-FEB-07	IT_PROG		4200	(null)	103	60
124 Kevin	Mourgos	KMOURGOS	650.123.5234	16-NOV-07	ST_MAN		5800	(null)	100	50
141 Trenna	Rajs	TRAJS	650.121.8009	17-OCT-03	ST_CLERK		3500	(null)	124	50
142 Curtis	Davies	CDAVIES	650.121.2994	29-JAN-05	ST_CLERK		3100	(null)	124	50
143 Randall	Matos	RMATOS	650.121.2874	15-MAR-06	ST_CLERK		2600	(null)	124	50
144 Peter	Vargas	PVARGAS	650.121.2004	09-JUL-06	ST_CLERK		2500	(null)	124	50
149 Eleni	Zlotkey	EZLOTKEY	011.44.1644.429018	29-JAN-08	SA_MAN		10500	0.2	100	80
174 Ellen	Abel	EABEL	011.44.1644.429267	11-MAY-04	SA REP		11000	0.3	149	80
176 Jonathon	Taylor	JTAYLOR	011.44.1644.429265	24-MAR-06	SA REP		8600	0.2	149	80
178 Kimberely	Grant	KGRANT	011.44.1644.429263	24-MAY-07	SA REP		7000	0.15	149	(null)
200 Jennifer	Whalen	JWHALEN	515.123.4444	17-SEP-03	AD_ASST		4400	(null)	101	10
201 Michael	Hartstein	MHARTSTE	515.123.5555	17-FEB-04	MK_MAN		13000	(null)	100	20
202 Pat	Fay	PFAY	603.123.6666	17-AUG-05	MK REP		6000	(null)	201	20
205 Shelley	Higgins	SHIGGINS	515.123.8080	07-JUN-02	AC_MGR		12008	(null)	101	110
206 William	Gietz	WGIETZ	515.123.8181	07-JUN-02	AC_ACCOUNT		8300	(null)	205	110

```
DESCRIBE job_history
```

Name	Null	Type
EMPLOYEE_ID	NOT NULL	NUMBER(6)
START_DATE	NOT NULL	DATE
END_DATE	NOT NULL	DATE
JOB_ID	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(10)
DEPARTMENT_ID		NUMBER(4)

```
SELECT * FROM job_history
```

#	EMPLOYEE_ID	START_DATE	END_DATE	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID
1	102	13-JAN-01	24-JUL-06	IT_PROG	60
2	101	21-SEP-97	27-OCT-01	AC_ACCOUNT	110
3	101	28-OCT-01	15-MAR-05	AC_MGR	110
4	201	17-FEB-04	19-DEC-07	MK_REP	20
5	114	24-MAR-06	31-DEC-07	ST_CLERK	50
6	122	01-JAN-07	31-DEC-07	ST_CLERK	50
7	200	17-SEP-95	17-JUN-01	AD_ASST	90
8	176	24-MAR-06	31-DEC-06	SA_REP	80
9	176	01-JAN-07	31-DEC-07	SA_MAN	80
10	200	01-JUL-02	31-DEC-06	AC_ACCOUNT	90

```
DESCRIBE jobs
```

Name	Null	Type
JOB_ID	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(10)
JOB_TITLE	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(35)
MIN_SALARY		NUMBER(6)
MAX_SALARY		NUMBER(6)

```
SELECT * FROM jobs
```

#	JOB_ID	JOB_TITLE	MIN_SALARY	MAX_SALARY
1	AD_PRES	President	20080	40000
2	AD_VP	Administration Vice President	15000	30000
3	AD_ASST	Administration Assistant	3000	6000
4	AC_MGR	Accounting Manager	8200	16000
5	AC_ACCOUNT	Public Accountant	4200	9000
6	SA_MAN	Sales Manager	10000	20080
7	SA_REP	Sales Representative	6000	12008
8	ST_MAN	Stock Manager	5500	8500
9	ST_CLERK	Stock Clerk	2008	5000
10	IT_PROG	Programmer	4000	10000
11	MK_MAN	Marketing Manager	9000	15000
12	MK_REP	Marketing Representative	4000	9000

```
DESCRIBE locations
```

Name	Null	Type
LOCATION_ID	NOT NULL	NUMBER(4)
STREET_ADDRESS		VARCHAR2(40)
POSTAL_CODE		VARCHAR2(12)
CITY	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(30)
STATE_PROVINCE		VARCHAR2(25)
COUNTRY_ID		CHAR(2)

```
SELECT * FROM locations
```

#	LOCATION_ID	STREET_ADDRESS	POSTAL_CODE	CITY	STATE_PROVINCE	COUNTRY_ID
1	1400	2014 Jabberwocky Rd	26192	Southlake	Texas	US
2	1500	2011 Interiors Blvd	99236	South San Francisco	California	US
3	1700	2004 Charade Rd	98199	Seattle	Washington	US
4	1800	460 Bloor St. W.	ON M5S 1X8	Toronto	Ontario	CA
5	2500	Magdalen Centre, The Oxford Science Park	OX9 9ZB	Oxford	Oxford	UK

DESCRIBE regions

Name	Null	Type
REGION_ID	NOT NULL	NUMBER
REGION_NAME		VARCHAR2(25)

SELECT * FROM regions

	REGION_ID	REGION_NAME
1	1	Europe
2	2	Americas
3	3	Asia
4	4	Middle East and Africa

Using SQL Developer

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Objectives

After completing this appendix, you should be able to:

- List the key features of Oracle SQL Developer
- Identify the menu items of Oracle SQL Developer
- Create a database connection
- Manage database objects
- Use SQL Worksheet
- Save and run SQL scripts
- Create and save reports
- Browse the Data Modeling options in SQL Developer

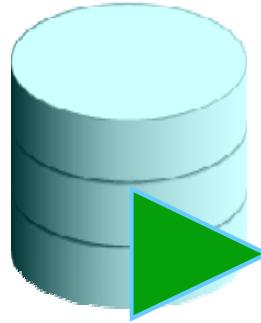


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In this appendix, you are introduced to the graphical tool called SQL Developer. You learn how to use SQL Developer for your database development tasks. You learn how to use SQL Worksheet to execute SQL statements and SQL scripts.

What Is Oracle SQL Developer?

- Oracle SQL Developer is a graphical tool that enhances productivity and simplifies database development tasks.
- You can connect to any target Oracle database schema by using standard Oracle database authentication.



SQL Developer

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Oracle SQL Developer is a free graphical tool designed to improve your productivity and simplify the development of everyday database tasks. With just a few clicks, you can easily create and debug stored procedures, test SQL statements, and view optimizer plans.

SQL Developer, which is the visual tool for database development, simplifies the following tasks:

- Browsing and managing database objects
- Executing SQL statements and scripts
- Editing and debugging PL/SQL statements
- Creating reports

You can connect to any target Oracle database schema by using standard Oracle database authentication. When connected, you can perform operations on objects in the database.

SQL Developer is the interface to administer the Oracle Application Express Listener. The new interface enables you to specify global settings and multiple database settings with different database connections for the Application Express Listener. SQL Developer provides the option to drag and drop objects by table or column name onto the worksheet. It provides improved DB Diff comparison options, GRANT statements support in the SQL editor, and DB Doc reporting. Additionally, SQL Developer includes support for Oracle Database 12c features.

Specifications of SQL Developer

- Is shipped along with Oracle Database 12c Release 1
- Is developed in Java
- Supports Windows, Linux, and Mac OS X platforms
- Enables default connectivity using the JDBC Thin driver
- Connects to Oracle Database version 9.2.0.1 and later



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Oracle SQL Developer is shipped along with Oracle Database 12c Release 1 by default. SQL Developer is developed in Java, leveraging the Oracle JDeveloper integrated development environment (IDE). Therefore, it is a cross-platform tool. The tool runs on Windows, Linux, and Mac operating system (OS) X platforms.

The default connectivity to the database is through the Java Database Connectivity (JDBC) Thin driver, and therefore, no Oracle Home is required. SQL Developer does not require an installer and you need to simply unzip the downloaded file. With SQL Developer, users can connect to Oracle Databases 9.2.0.1 and later, and all Oracle database editions, including Express Edition.

Note

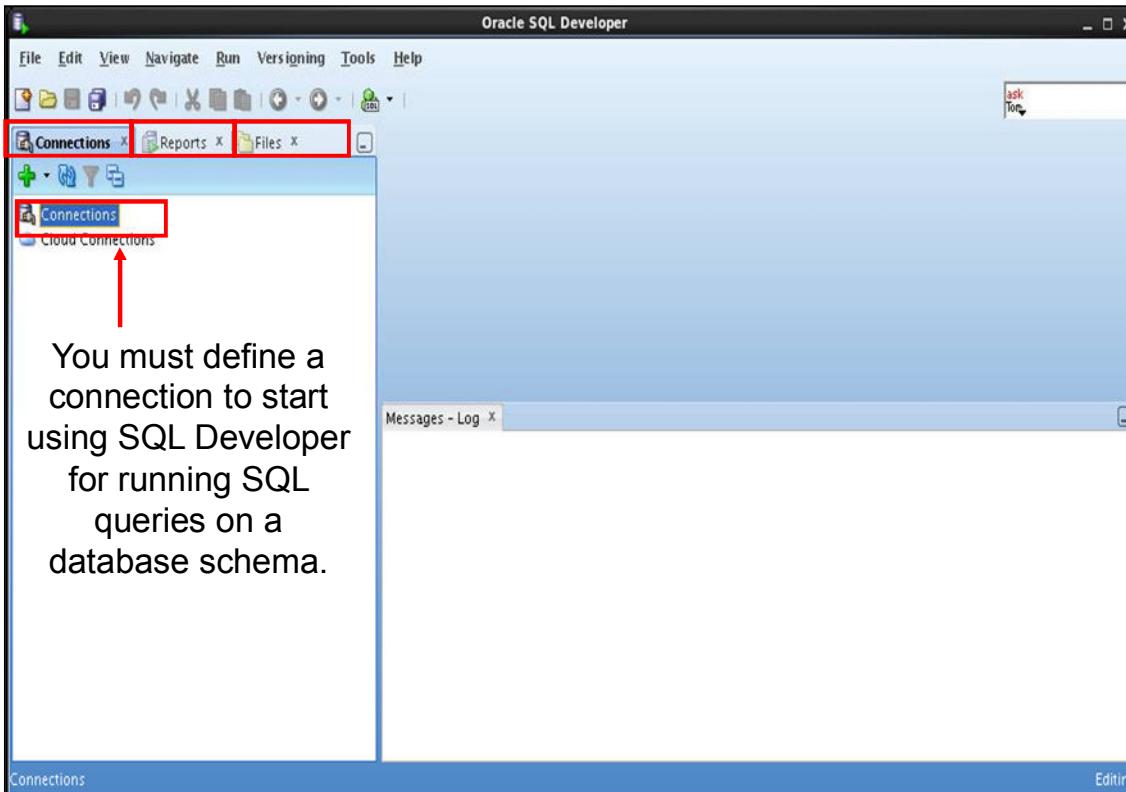
For Oracle Database 12c Release 1, you will have to download and install SQL Developer. SQL Developer is freely downloadable from the following link:

<http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/developer-tools/sql-developer/downloads/index.html>

For instructions on how to install SQL Developer, see the website at:

<http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/developer-tools/sql-developer/overview/index.html>

SQL Developer 3.2 Interface



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The SQL Developer interface contains three main navigation tabs, from left to right:

- **Connections tab:** By using this tab, you can browse database objects and users to which you have access.
- **Reports tab:** Identified by the Reports icon, this tab enables you to run predefined reports or create and add your own reports.
- **Files tab:** Identified by the Files folder icon, this tab enables you to access files from your local machine without having to use the File > Open menu.

General Navigation and Use

SQL Developer uses the left side for navigation to find and select objects, and the right side to display information about selected objects. You can customize many aspects of the appearance and behavior of SQL Developer by setting preferences.

Note: You need to define at least one connection to be able to connect to a database schema and issue SQL queries or run procedures and functions.

Menus

The following menus contain standard entries, plus entries for features that are specific to SQL Developer:

- **View:** Contains options that affect what is displayed in the SQL Developer interface
- **Navigate:** Contains options for navigating to panes and for executing subprograms
- **Run:** Contains the Run File and Execution Profile options that are relevant when a function or procedure is selected, and also debugging options
- **Versioning:** Provides integrated support for the following versioning and source control systems – Concurrent Versions System (CVS) and Subversion
- **Tools:** Invokes SQL Developer tools such as SQL*Plus, Preferences, and SQL Worksheet. It also contains options related to migrating third-party databases to Oracle.

Note: The Run menu also contains options that are relevant when a function or procedure is selected for debugging.

Creating a Database Connection

- You must have at least one database connection to use SQL Developer.
- You can create and test connections for:
 - Multiple databases
 - Multiple schemas
- SQL Developer automatically imports any connections defined in the `tnsnames.ora` file on your system.
- You can export connections to an Extensible Markup Language (XML) file.
- Each additional database connection created is listed in the Connections Navigator hierarchy.



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A connection is a SQL Developer object that specifies the necessary information for connecting to a specific database as a specific user of that database. To use SQL Developer, you must have at least one database connection, which may be existing, created, or imported.

You can create and test connections for multiple databases and for multiple schemas.

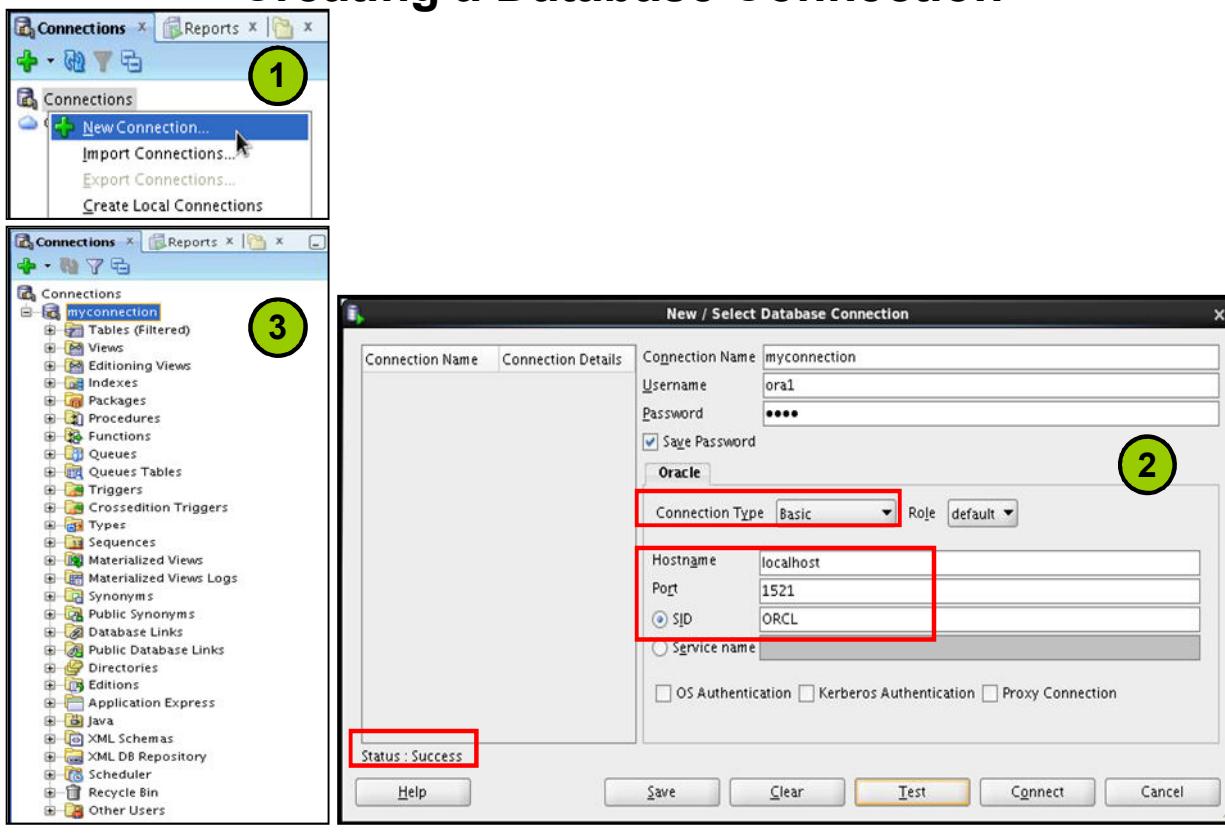
By default, the `tnsnames.ora` file is located in the `$ORACLE_HOME/network/admin` directory, but it can also be in the directory specified by the `TNS_ADMIN` environment variable or registry value. When you start SQL Developer and open the Database Connections dialog box, SQL Developer automatically imports any connections defined in the `tnsnames.ora` file on your system.

Note: On Windows, if the `tnsnames.ora` file exists, but its connections are not being used by SQL Developer, define `TNS_ADMIN` as a system environment variable.

You can export connections to an XML file so that you can reuse it.

You can create additional connections as different users to the same database or to connect to the different databases.

Creating a Database Connection



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To create a database connection, perform the following steps:

1. On the Connections tabbed page, right-click Connections and select New Connection.
2. In the New/Select Database Connection window, enter the connection name. Enter the username and password of the schema that you want to connect to.
 - a. From the Role drop-down list, you can select either *default* or *SYSDBA*. (You choose *SYSDBA* for the *sys* user or any user with database administrator privileges.)
 - b. You can select the connection type as:
 - Basic:** In this type, enter host name and SID for the database that you want to connect to. Port is already set to 1521. You can also choose to enter the Service name directly if you use a remote database connection.
 - TNS:** You can select any one of the database aliases imported from the *tnsnames.ora* file.
 - LDAP:** You can look up database services in Oracle Internet Directory, which is a component of Oracle Identity Management.
 - Advanced:** You can define a custom Java Database Connectivity (JDBC) URL to connect to the database.

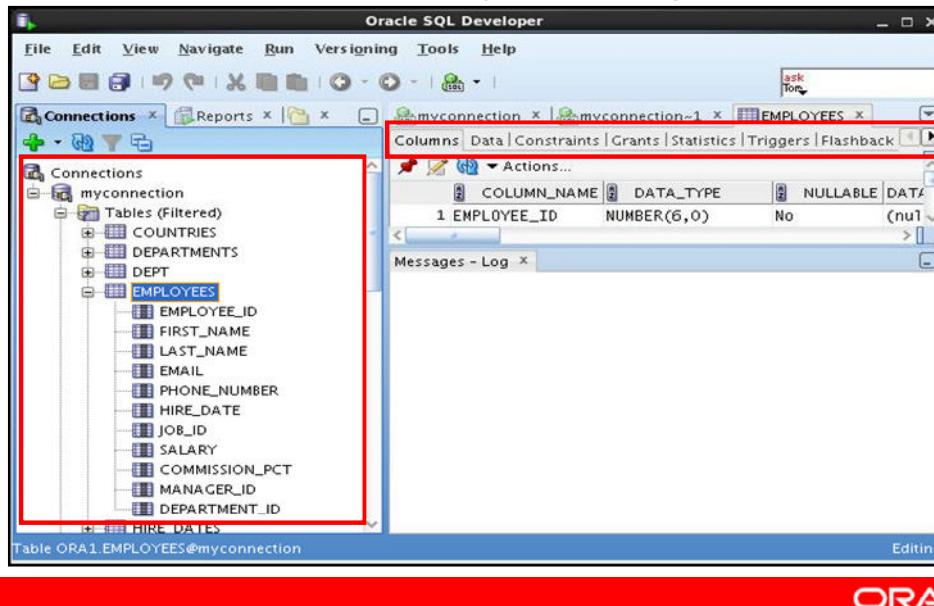
- Local/Bequeath:** If the client and database exist on the same computer, a client connection can be passed directly to a dedicated server process without going through the listener.
- c. Click Test to ensure that the connection has been set correctly.
 - d. Click Connect.
If you select the Save Password check box, the password is saved to an XML file. So, after you close the SQL Developer connection and open it again, you are not prompted for the password.
 3. The connection gets added in the Connections Navigator. You can expand the connection to view the database objects and view object definitions (dependencies, details, statistics, and so on).

Note: From the same New>Select Database Connection window, you can define connections to non-Oracle data sources using the Access, MySQL, and SQL Server tabs. However, these connections are read-only connections that enable you to browse objects and data in that data source.

Browsing Database Objects

Use the Connections Navigator to:

- Browse through many objects in a database schema
- Review the definitions of objects at a glance



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After you create a database connection, you can use the Connections Navigator to browse through many objects in a database schema, including Tables, Views, Indexes, Packages, Procedures, Triggers, and Types.

SQL Developer uses the left side for navigation to find and select objects, and the right side to display information about the selected objects. You can customize many aspects of the appearance of SQL Developer by setting preferences.

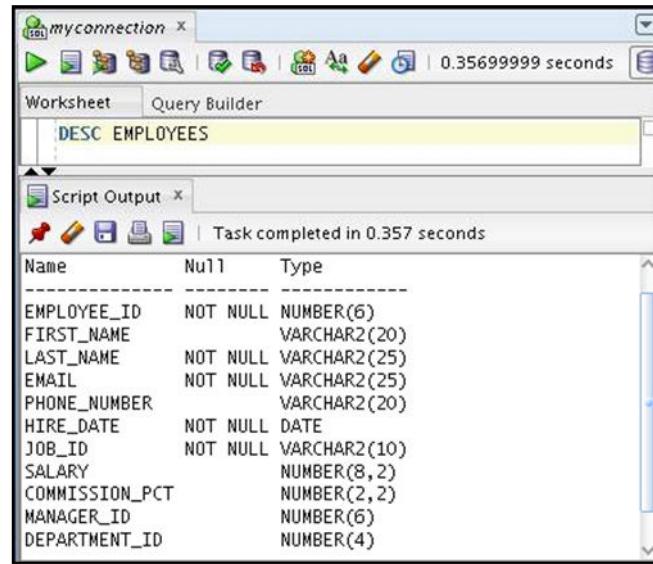
You can see the definition of the objects broken into tabs of information that is pulled out of the data dictionary. For example, if you select a table in the Navigator, details about columns, constraints, grants, statistics, triggers, and so on are displayed on an easy-to-read tabbed page.

If you want to see the definition of the EMPLOYEES table as shown in the slide, perform the following steps:

1. Expand the Connections node in the Connections Navigator.
2. Expand Tables.
3. Click EMPLOYEES. By default, the Columns tab is selected. It shows the column description of the table. Using the Data tab, you can view the table data and also enter new rows, update data, and commit these changes to the database.

Displaying the Table Structure

Use the DESCRIBE command to display the structure of a table:



The screenshot shows the Oracle SQL Developer interface. In the top-left corner, there's a connection named "myconnection". Below it, the "Worksheet" tab is active, showing the command "DESC EMPLOYEES" in the text area. To the right of the worksheet is a "Script Output" tab which displays the results of the query. The results are presented as a table with three columns: "Name", "Null", and "Type". The data rows are as follows:

Name	Null	Type
EMPLOYEE_ID	NOT NULL	NUMBER(6)
FIRST_NAME		VARCHAR2(20)
LAST_NAME	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(25)
EMAIL	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(25)
PHONE_NUMBER		VARCHAR2(20)
HIRE_DATE	NOT NULL	DATE
JOB_ID	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(10)
SALARY		NUMBER(8,2)
COMMISSION_PCT		NUMBER(2,2)
MANAGER_ID		NUMBER(6)
DEPARTMENT_ID		NUMBER(4)

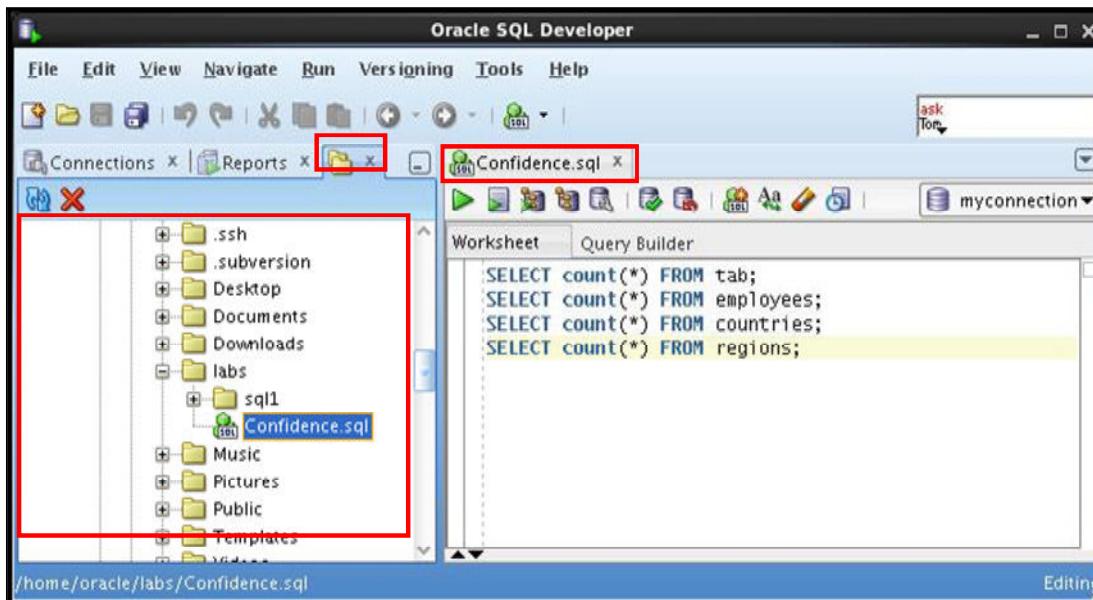
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In SQL Developer, you can also display the structure of a table using the DESCRIBE command. The result of the command is a display of column names and data types, as well as an indication of whether a column must contain data.

Browsing Files

Use the File Navigator to explore the file system and open system files.



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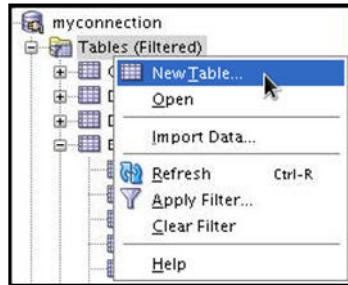
Browsing Database Objects

You can use the File Navigator to browse and open system files.

- To view the File Navigator, click the View tab and select Files, or select View > Files.
- To view the contents of a file, double-click a file name to display its contents in the SQL Worksheet area.

Creating a Schema Object

- SQL Developer supports the creation of any schema object by:
 - Executing a SQL statement in SQL Worksheet
 - Using the context menu
- Edit the objects by using an edit dialog box or one of the many context-sensitive menus.
- View the data definition language (DDL) for adjustments such as creating a new object or editing an existing schema object.



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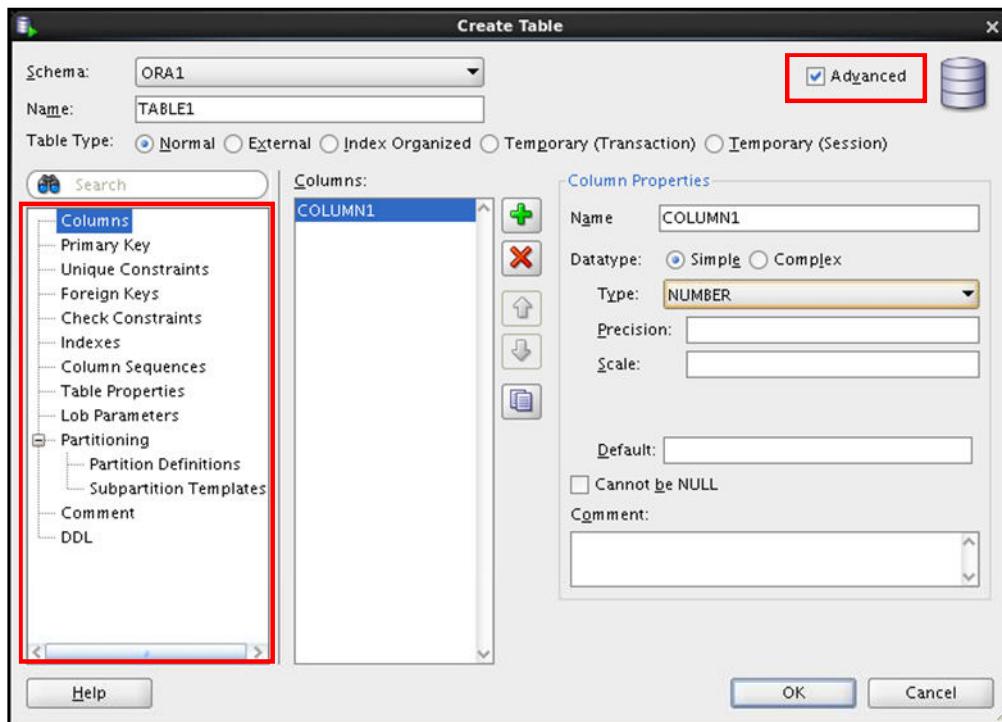
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SQL Developer supports the creation of any schema object by executing a SQL statement in SQL Worksheet. Alternatively, you can create objects by using the context menus. When created, you can edit objects using an edit dialog box or one of the many context-sensitive menus.

As new objects are created or existing objects are edited, the DDL for those adjustments is available for review. An Export DDL option is available if you want to create the full DDL for one or more objects in the schema.

The slide shows how to create a table using the context menu. To open a dialog box for creating a new table, right-click Tables and select New Table. The dialog boxes to create and edit database objects have multiple tabs, each reflecting a logical grouping of properties for that type of object.

Creating a New Table: Example



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In the Create Table dialog box, if you do not select the Advanced check box, you can create a table quickly by specifying columns and some frequently used features.

If you select the Advanced check box, the Create Table dialog box changes to one with multiple options, in which you can specify an extended set of features while you create the table.

The example in the slide shows how to create the `DEPENDENTS` table by selecting the Advanced check box.

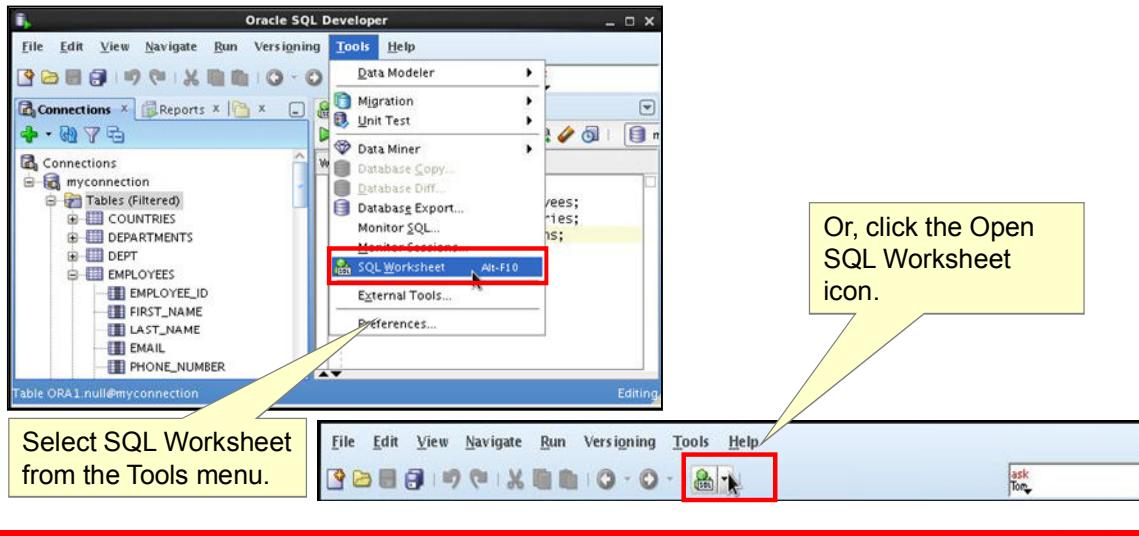
To create a new table, perform the following steps:

1. In the Connections Navigator, right-click Tables and select Create TABLE.
2. In the Create Table dialog box, select Advanced.
3. Specify the column information.
4. Click OK.

Although it is not required, you should also specify a primary key by using the Primary Key tab in the dialog box. Sometimes, you may want to edit the table that you have created; to do so, right-click the table in the Connections Navigator and select Edit.

Using the SQL Worksheet

- Use the SQL Worksheet to enter and execute SQL, PL/SQL, and SQL *Plus statements.
- Specify any actions that can be processed by the database connection associated with the worksheet.



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When you connect to a database, a SQL Worksheet window for that connection automatically opens. You can use the SQL Worksheet to enter and execute SQL, PL/SQL, and SQL*Plus statements. The SQL Worksheet supports SQL*Plus statements to a certain extent. SQL*Plus statements that are not supported by the SQL Worksheet are ignored and not passed to the database.

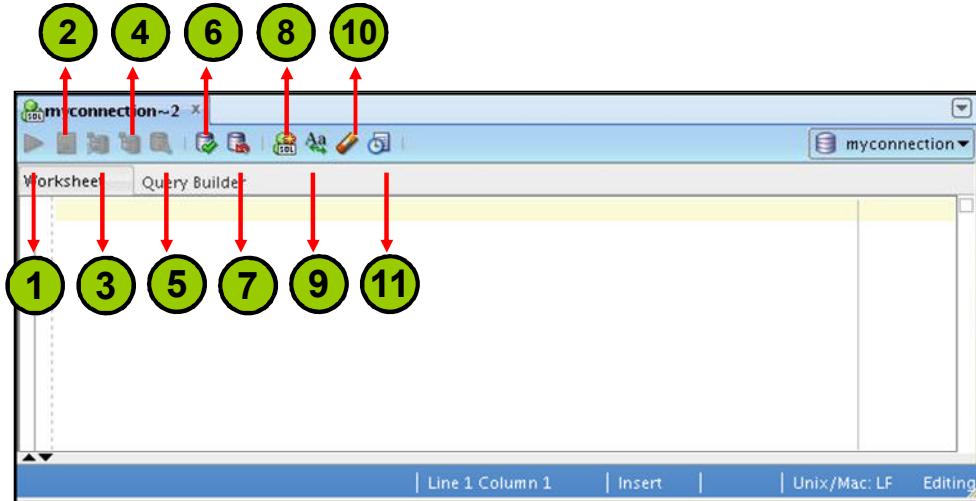
You can specify the actions that can be processed by the database connection associated with the worksheet, such as:

- Creating a table
- Inserting data
- Creating and editing a trigger
- Selecting data from a table
- Saving the selected data to a file

You can display a SQL Worksheet by using one of the following:

- Select Tools > SQL Worksheet.
- Click the Open SQL Worksheet icon.

Using the SQL Worksheet

The Oracle logo, which consists of the word "ORACLE" in white capital letters on a red horizontal bar.

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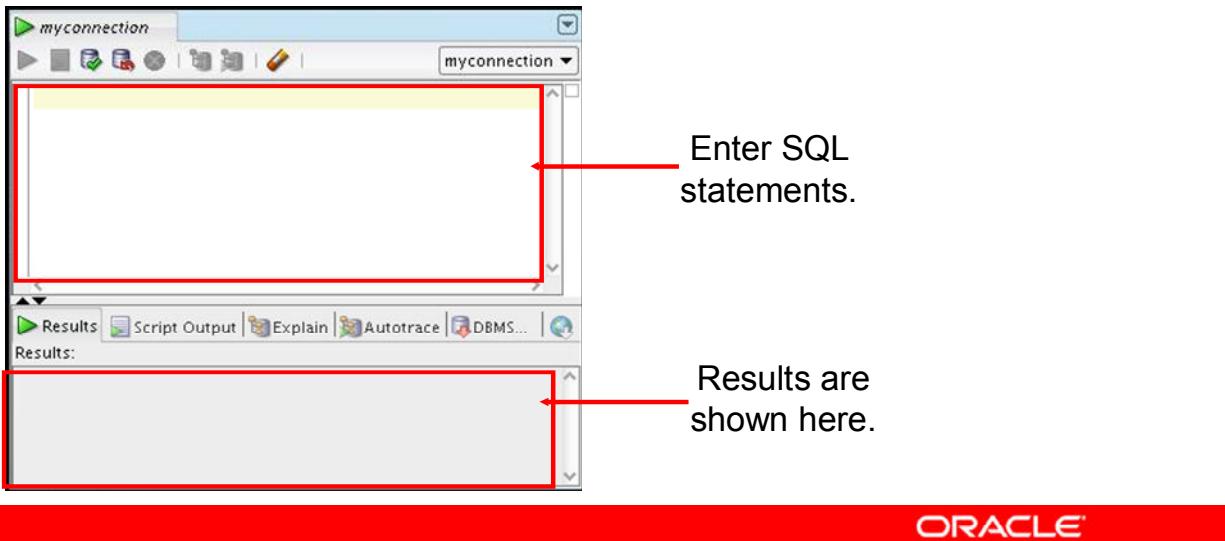
You may want to use the shortcut keys or icons to perform certain tasks such as executing a SQL statement, running a script, and viewing the history of the SQL statements that you have executed. You can use the SQL Worksheet toolbar that contains icons to perform the following tasks:

1. **Run Statement:** Executes the statement where the cursor is located in the Enter SQL Statement box. You can use bind variables in the SQL statements, but not substitution variables.
2. **Run Script:** Executes all the statements in the Enter SQL Statement box by using the Script Runner. You can use substitution variables in the SQL statements, but not bind variables.
3. **Autotrace:** Generates trace information for the statement
4. **Explain Plan:** Generates the execution plan, which you can see by clicking the Explain tab
5. **SQL Tuning Advisory:** Analyzes high-volume SQL statements and offers tuning recommendations
6. **Commit:** Writes any changes to the database and ends the transaction
7. **Rollback:** Discards any changes to the database, without writing them to the database, and ends the transaction

8. **Unshared SQL Worksheet:** Creates a separate unshared SQL Worksheet for a connection
9. **To Upper/Lower/InitCap:** Changes the selected text to uppercase, lowercase, or initcap, respectively
10. **Clear:** Erases the statement or statements in the Enter SQL Statement box
11. **SQL History:** Displays a dialog box with information about the SQL statements that you have executed

Using the SQL Worksheet

- Use the SQL Worksheet to enter and execute SQL, PL/SQL, and SQL*Plus statements.
- Specify any actions that can be processed by the database connection associated with the worksheet.



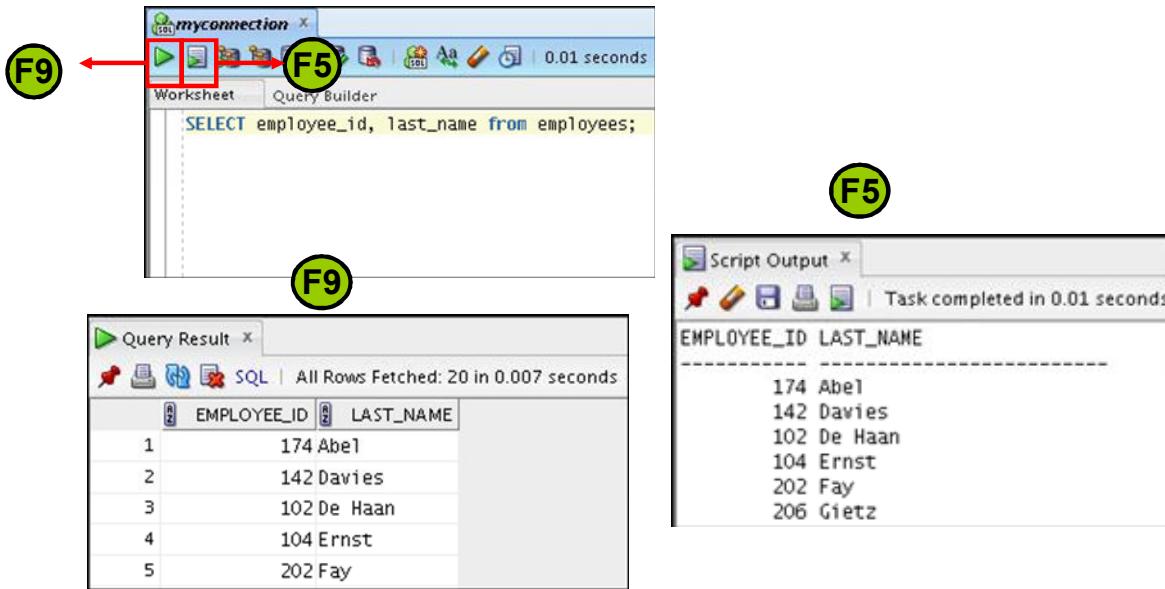
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When you connect to a database, a SQL Worksheet window for that connection automatically opens. You can use the SQL Worksheet to enter and execute SQL, PL/SQL, and SQL*Plus statements. All SQL and PL/SQL commands are supported as they are passed directly from the SQL Worksheet to the Oracle database. The SQL*Plus commands that are used in SQL Developer must be interpreted by the SQL Worksheet before being passed to the database.

The SQL Worksheet currently supports a number of SQL*Plus commands. Commands that are not supported by the SQL Worksheet are ignored and not sent to the Oracle database. Through the SQL Worksheet, you can execute the SQL statements and some of the SQL*Plus commands.

Executing SQL Statements

Use the Enter SQL Statement box to enter single or multiple SQL statements.

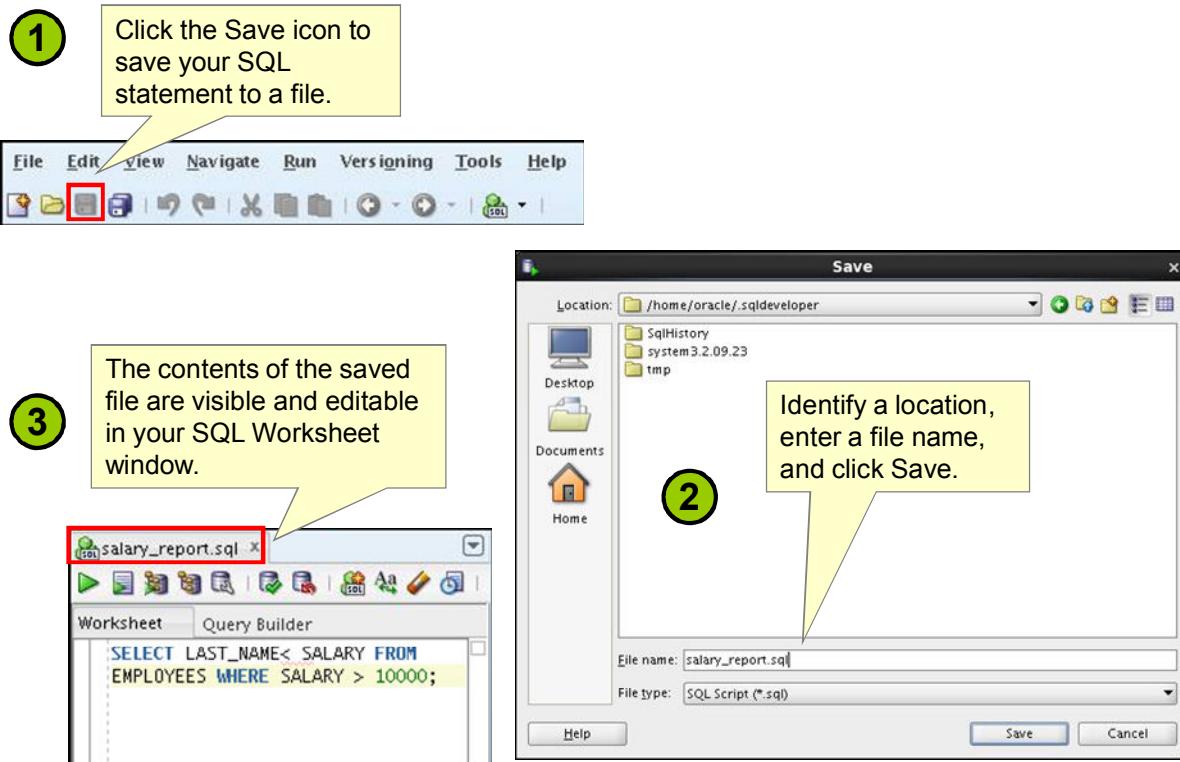


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The example in the slide shows the difference in output for the same query when the F9 key or Execute Statement is used versus the output when F5 or Run Script is used.

Saving SQL Scripts



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You can save your SQL statements from the SQL Worksheet to a text file. To save the contents of the Enter SQL Statement box, perform the following steps:

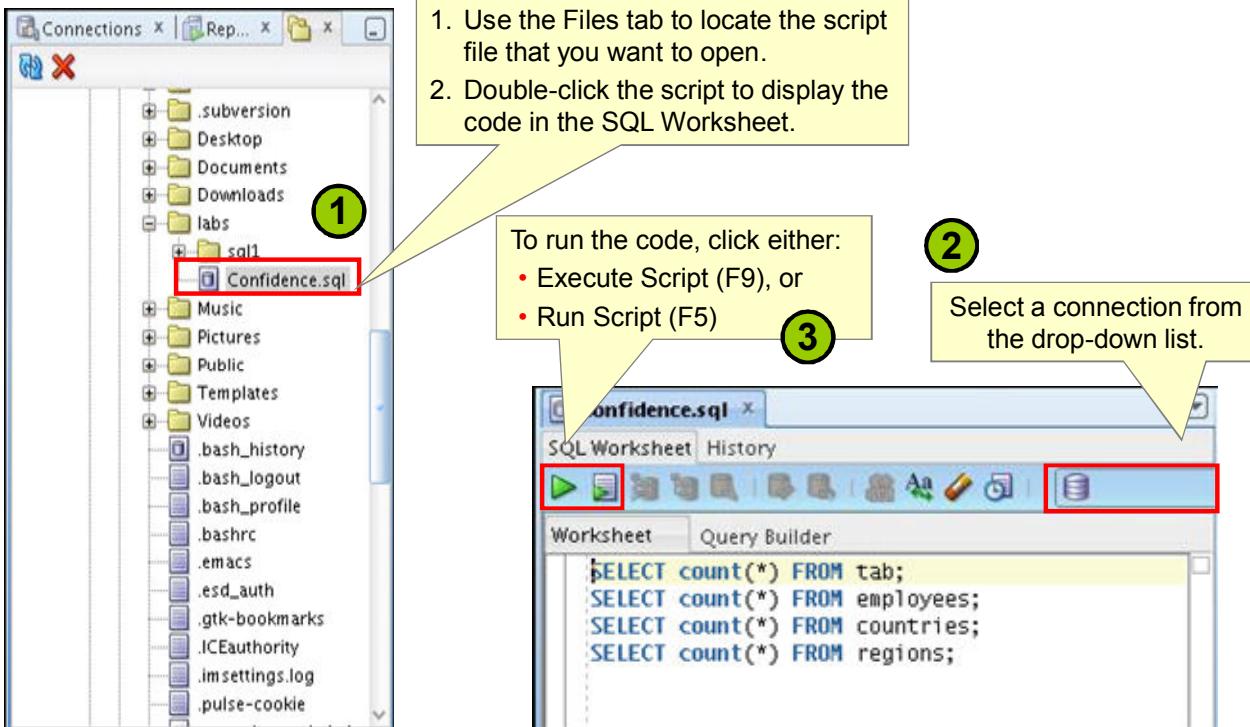
1. Click the Save icon or use the File > Save menu item.
2. In the Save dialog box, enter a file name and the location where you want the file saved.
3. Click Save.

After you save the contents to a file, the Enter SQL Statement window displays a tabbed page of your file contents. You can have multiple files open at the same time. Each file displays as a tabbed page.

Script Pathing

You can select a default path to look for scripts and to save scripts. Under Tools > Preferences > Database > Worksheet Parameters, enter a value in the “Select default path to look for scripts” field.

Executing Saved Script Files: Method 1



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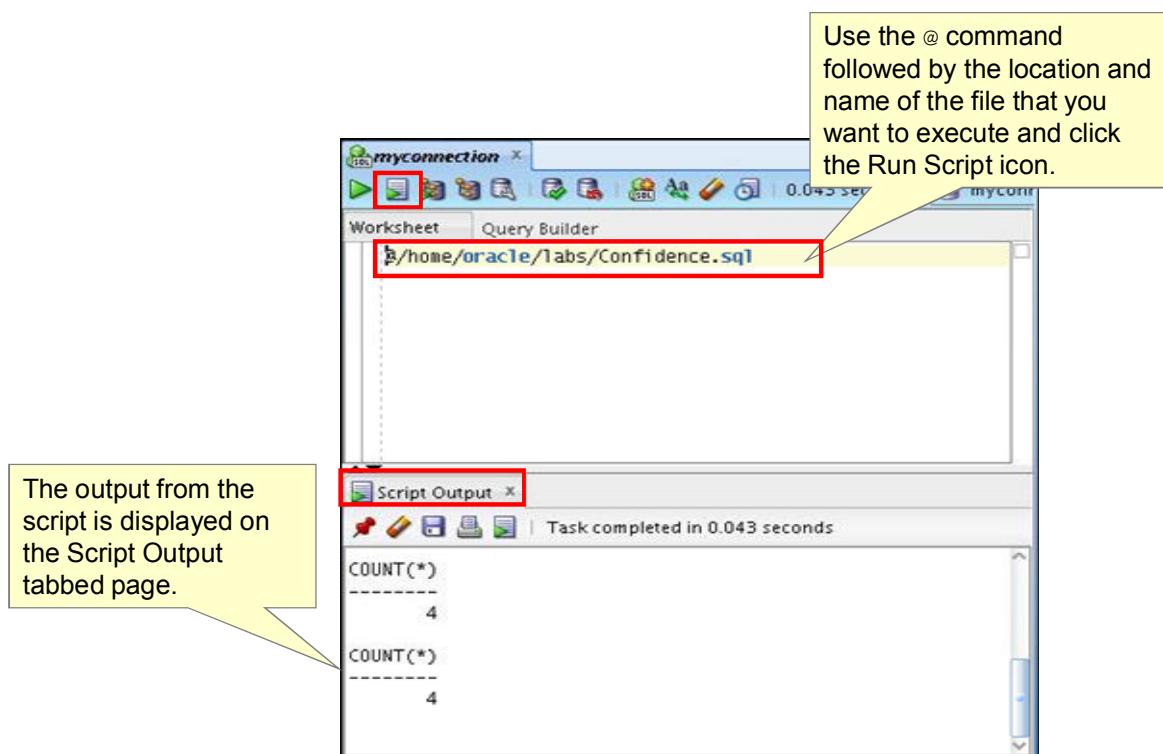
To open a script file and display the code in the SQL Worksheet area, perform the following steps:

1. In the files navigator, select (or navigate to) the script file that you want to open.
2. Double-click the file to open it. The code of the script file is displayed in the SQL Worksheet area.
3. Select a connection from the connection drop-down list.
4. To run the code, click the Run Script (F5) icon on the SQL Worksheet toolbar. If you have not selected a connection from the connection drop-down list, a connection dialog box will appear. Select the connection that you want to use for the script execution.

Alternatively, you can also do the following:

1. Select File > Open. The Open dialog box is displayed.
2. In the Open dialog box, select (or navigate to) the script file that you want to open.
3. Click Open. The code of the script file is displayed in the SQL Worksheet area.
4. Select a connection from the connection drop-down list.
5. To run the code, click the Run Script (F5) icon on the SQL Worksheet toolbar. If you have not selected a connection from the connection drop-down list, a connection dialog box will appear. Select the connection that you want to use for the script execution.

Executing Saved Script Files: Method 2



Use the @ command followed by the location and name of the file that you want to execute and click the Run Script icon.

The output from the script is displayed on the Script Output tabbed page.

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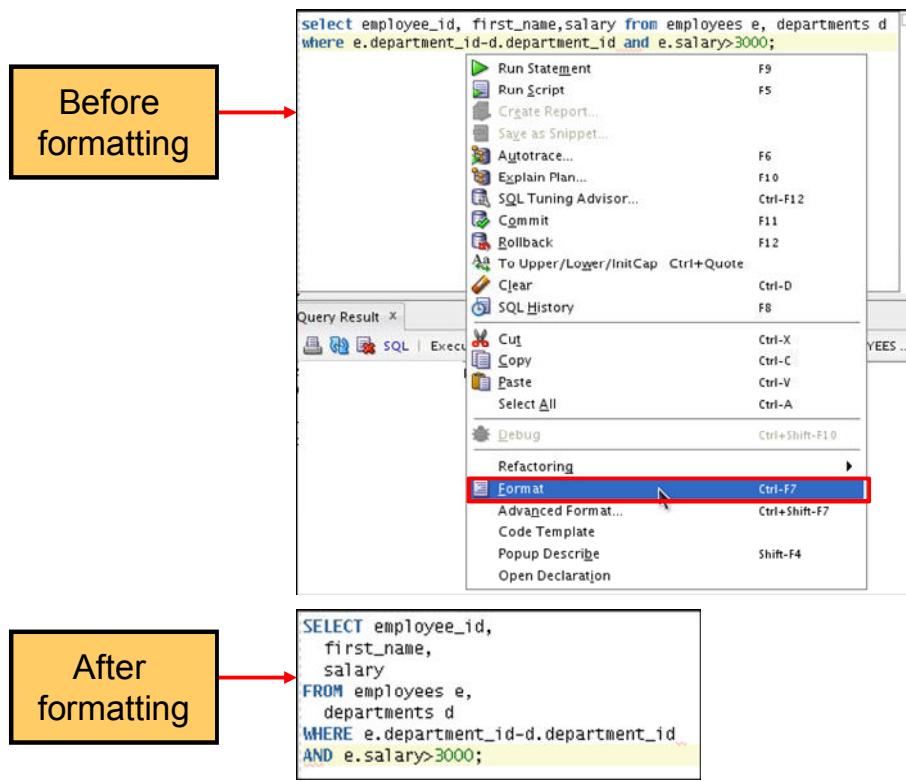
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To run a saved SQL script, perform the following steps:

1. Use the @ command followed by the location and the name of the file that you want to run in the Enter SQL Statement window.
2. Click the Run Script icon.

The results from running the file are displayed on the Script Output tabbed page. You can also save the script output by clicking the Save icon on the Script Output tabbed page. The File Save dialog box appears and you can identify a name and location for your file.

Formatting the SQL Code



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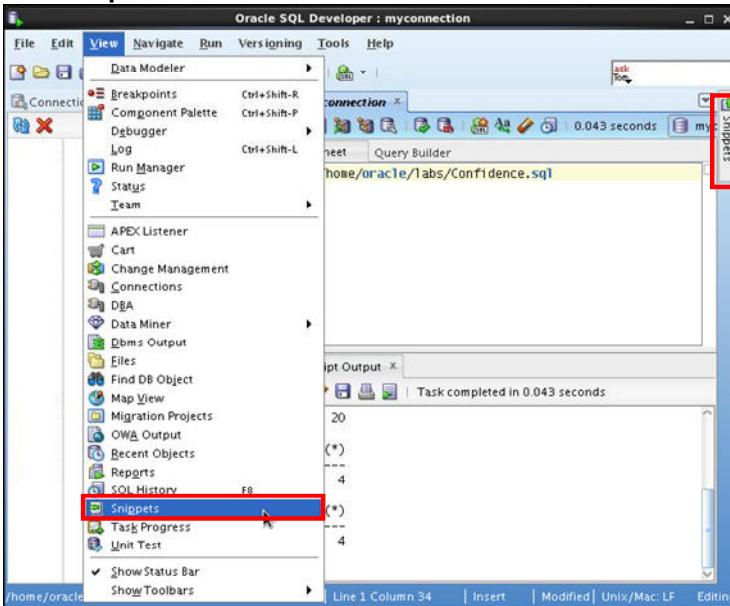
You may want to format the indentation, spacing, capitalization, and line separation of the SQL code. SQL Developer has a feature for formatting SQL code.

To format the SQL code, right-click in the statement area and select Format.

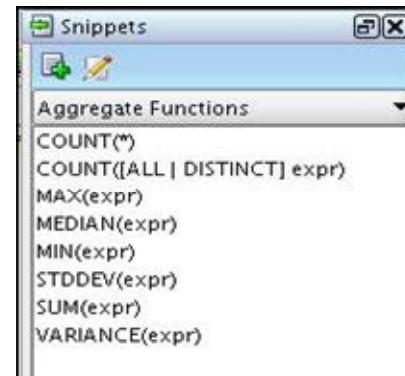
In the example in the slide, before formatting, the SQL code has the keywords not capitalized and the statement not properly indented. After formatting, the SQL code is beautified with the keywords capitalized and the statement properly indented.

Using Snippets

Snippets are code fragments that may be just syntax or examples.



When you place your cursor here, it shows the Snippets window. From the drop-down list, you can select the functions category that you want.



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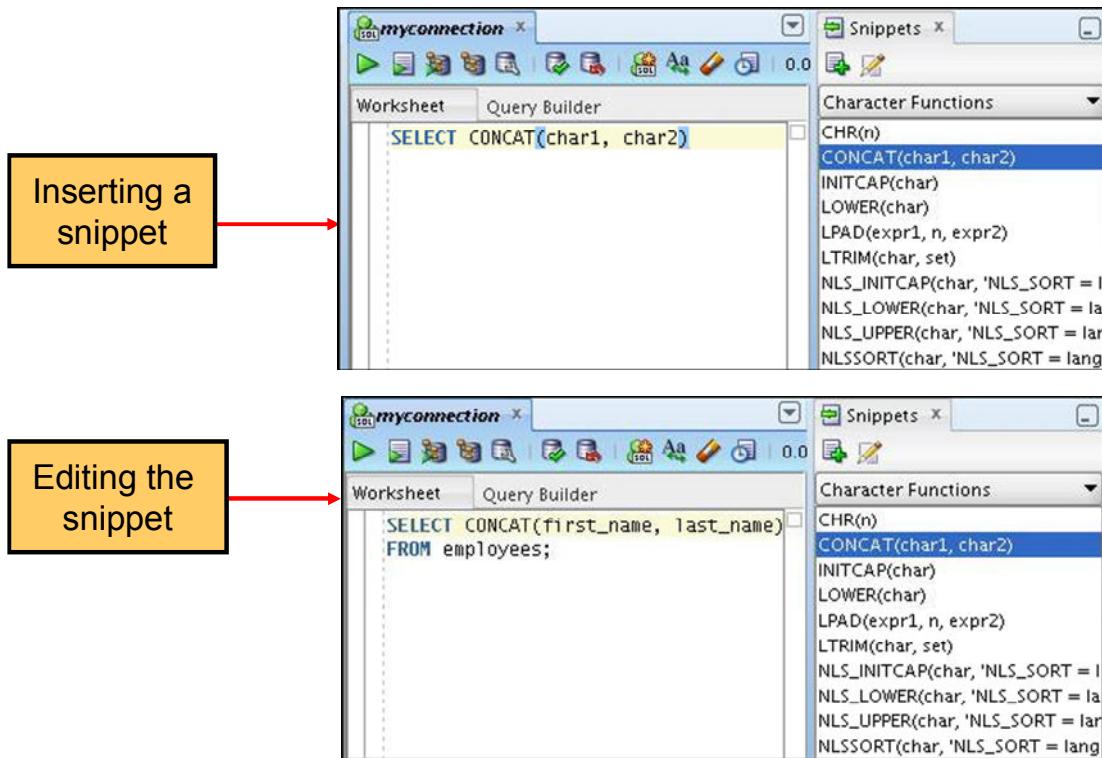
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You may want to use certain code fragments when you use the SQL Worksheet or create or edit a PL/SQL function or procedure. SQL Developer has a feature called Snippets. Snippets are code fragments such as SQL functions, optimizer hints, and miscellaneous PL/SQL programming techniques. You can drag snippets to the Editor window.

To display Snippets, select View > Snippets.

The Snippets window is displayed on the right. You can use the drop-down list to select a group. A Snippets button is placed in the right window margin, so that you can display the Snippets window if it becomes hidden.

Using Snippets: Example



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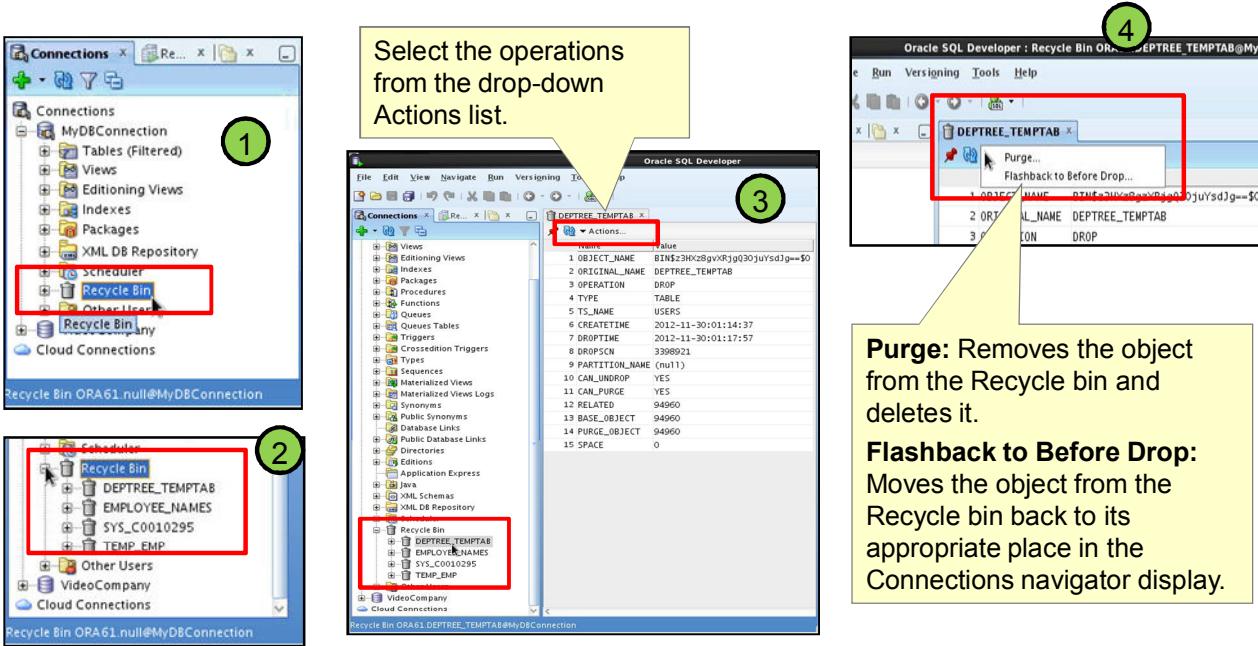
To insert a Snippet into your code in a SQL Worksheet or in a PL/SQL function or procedure, drag the snippet from the Snippets window to the desired place in your code. Then you can edit the syntax so that the SQL function is valid in the current context. To see a brief description of a SQL function in a tool tip, place the cursor over the function name.

The example in the slide shows that `CONCAT (char1, char2)` is dragged from the Character Functions group in the Snippets window. Then the `CONCAT` function syntax is edited and the rest of the statement is added as in the following:

```
SELECT CONCAT(first_name, last_name)
FROM employees;
```

Using Recycle Bin

The Recycle bin holds objects that have been dropped.



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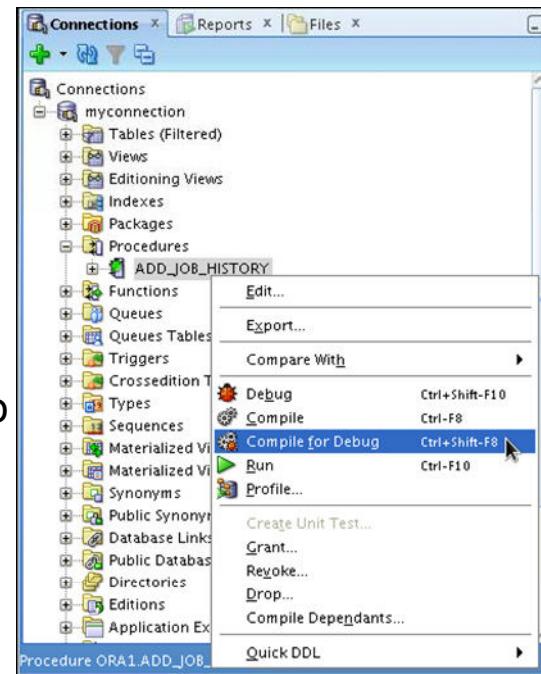
The recycle bin is a data dictionary table containing information about dropped objects. Dropped tables and any associated objects such as indexes, constraints, nested tables, and the likes are not removed and still occupy space. They continue to count against user space quotas, until specifically purged from the recycle bin or the unlikely situation where they must be purged by the database because of tablespace space constraints.

To use the Recycle Bin, perform the following steps:

1. In the Connections navigator, select (or navigate to) the Recycle Bin.
2. Expand Recycle Bin and click the object name. The object details are displayed in the SQL Worksheet area.
3. Click the Actions drop-down list and select the operation you want to perform on the object.

Debugging Procedures and Functions

- Use SQL Developer to debug PL/SQL functions and procedures.
- Use the Compile for Debug option to perform a PL/SQL compilation so that the procedure can be debugged.
- Use the Debug menu options to set breakpoints, and to perform step into, step over tasks.



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In SQL Developer, you can debug PL/SQL procedures and functions. Using the Debug menu options, you can perform the following debugging tasks:

- **Find Execution Point** goes to the next execution point.
- **Resume** continues execution.
- **Step Over** bypasses the next method and goes to the next statement after the method.
- **Step Into** goes to the first statement in the next method.
- **Step Out** leaves the current method and goes to the next statement.
- **Step to End of Method** goes to the last statement of the current method.
- **Pause** halts execution, but does not exit, thus allowing you to resume execution.
- **Terminate** halts and exits the execution. You cannot resume execution from this point; instead, to start running or debugging from the beginning of the function or procedure, click the Run or Debug icon on the Source tab toolbar.
- **Garbage Collection** removes invalid objects from the cache in favor of more frequently accessed and more valid objects.

These options are also available as icons on the Debugging tab of the output window.

Database Reporting

SQL Developer provides a number of predefined reports about the database and its objects.

Owner	Name	Type	Referenced_Owner	Referenced_Name	Referenced_Type
APEX_040100	APEX	PROCEDURE	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW	PACKAGE
APEX_040100	APEX	PROCEDURE	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_ISC	PACKAGE
APEX_040100	APEX	PROCEDURE	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_SECURITY	PACKAGE
APEX_040100	APEX	PROCEDURE	SYS	STANDARD	PACKAGE
APEX_040100	APEX	PROCEDURE	SYS	SYS_STUB_FOR_PURITY_ANALYSIS	PACKAGE
APEX_040100	APEXWS	PACKAGE	SYS	STANDARD	PACKAGE
APEX_040100	APEXADMIN	PROCEDURE	APEX_040100	F	PROCEDURE
APEX_040100	APEX_ADMIN	PROCEDURE	SYS	STANDARD	PACKAGE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	NV	FUNCTION
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOWS	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_APPLICATION_GROUPS	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_AUTHENTIFICATIONS	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_COMPANIES	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_COMPANY_SCHEMAS	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_COMPUTATIONS	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_ICON_BAR	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_INSTALL_SCRIPTS	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_ITEMS	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_LANGUAGE_MAP	TABLE



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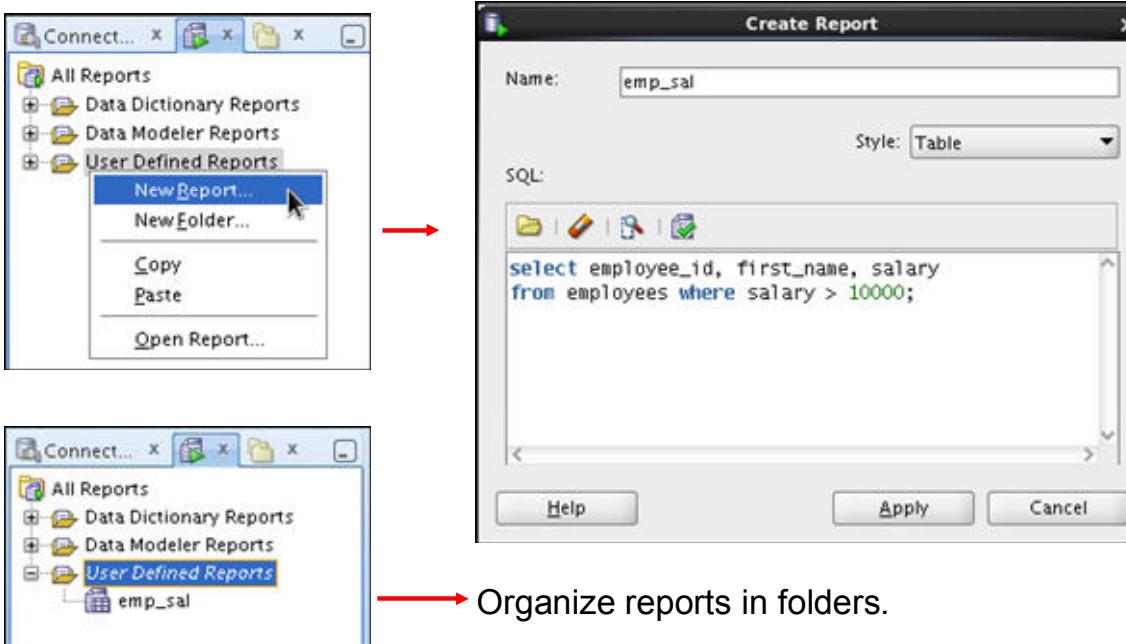
SQL Developer provides many reports about the database and its objects. These reports can be grouped into the following categories:

- About Your Database reports
- Database Administration reports
- Table reports
- PL/SQL reports
- Security reports
- XML reports
- Jobs reports
- Streams reports
- All Objects reports
- Data Dictionary reports
- User-Defined reports

To display reports, click the Reports tab on the left of the window. Individual reports are displayed in tabbed panes on the right of the window; and for each report, you can select (using a drop-down list) the database connection for which to display the report. For reports about objects, the objects shown are only those visible to the database user associated with the selected database connection, and the rows are usually ordered by Owner. You can also create your own user-defined reports.

Creating a User-Defined Report

Create and save user-defined reports for repeated use.



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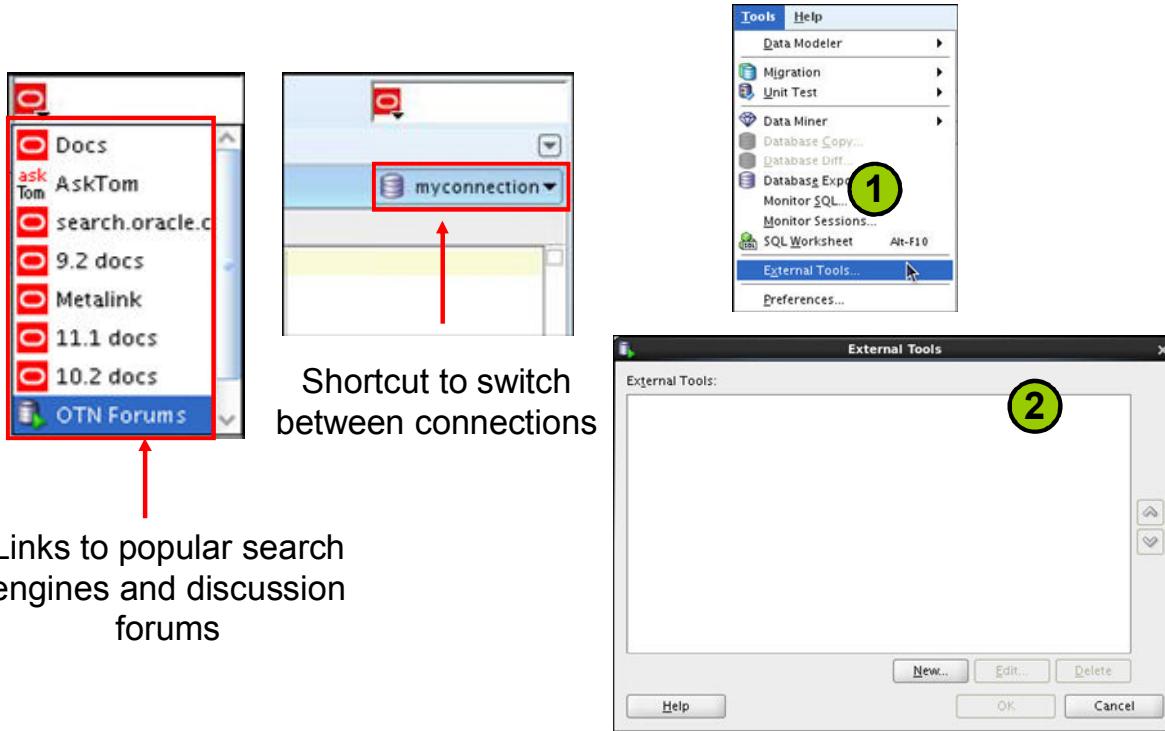
User-defined reports are reports created by SQL Developer users. To create a user-defined report, perform the following steps:

1. Right-click the User Defined Reports node under Reports and select Add Report.
2. In the Create Report dialog box, specify the report name and the SQL query to retrieve information for the report. Then click Apply.

In the example in the slide, the report name is specified as `emp_sal`. An optional description is provided indicating that the report contains details of employees with `salary >= 10000`. The complete SQL statement for retrieving the information to be displayed in the user-defined report is specified in the SQL box. You can also include an optional tool tip to be displayed when the cursor stays briefly over the report name in the Reports navigator display.

You can organize user-defined reports in folders and you can create a hierarchy of folders and subfolders. To create a folder for user-defined reports, right-click the User Defined Reports node or any folder name under that node and select Add Folder. Information about user-defined reports, including any folders for these reports, is stored in a file named `UserReports.xml` in the directory for user-specific information.

Search Engines and External Tools



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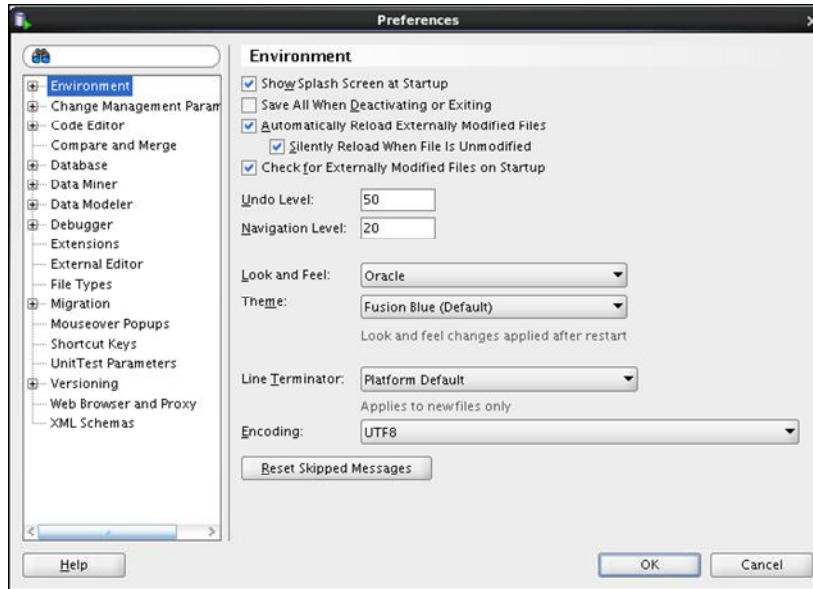
To enhance the productivity of developers, SQL Developer has added quick links to popular search engines and discussion forums such as AskTom, Google, and so on. Also, you have shortcut icons to some of the frequently used tools such as Notepad, Microsoft Word, and Dreamweaver, available to you.

You can add external tools to the existing list or even delete shortcuts to the tools that you do not use frequently. To do so, perform the following steps:

1. From the Tools menu, select External Tools.
2. In the External Tools dialog box, select New to add new tools. Select Delete to remove any tool from the list.

Setting Preferences

- Customize the SQL Developer interface and environment.
- In the Tools menu, select Preferences.



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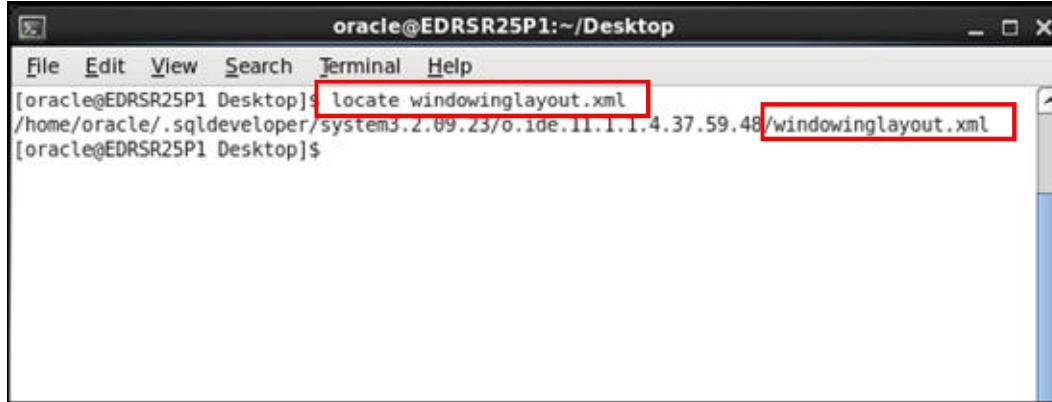
You can customize many aspects of the SQL Developer interface and environment by modifying SQL Developer preferences according to your needs. To modify SQL Developer preferences, select Tools, and then Preferences.

The preferences are grouped into the following categories:

- Environment
- Change Management parameter
- Code Editors
- Compare and Merge
- Database
- Data Miner
- Data Modeler
- Debugger
- Extensions
- External Editor
- File Types
- Migration

- Mouseover Popups
- Shortcut Keys
- Unit Test Parameters
- Versioning
- Web Browser and Proxy
- XML Schemas

Resetting the SQL Developer Layout



A screenshot of a terminal window titled "oracle@EDRSR25P1:~/Desktop". The window shows the command "locate windowinglayout.xml" being run, and the output is "/home/oracle/.sqldeveloper/system3.2.09.23/o.ide.11.1.1.4.37.59.48/windowinglayout.xml". The line containing the file path is highlighted with a red rectangle.



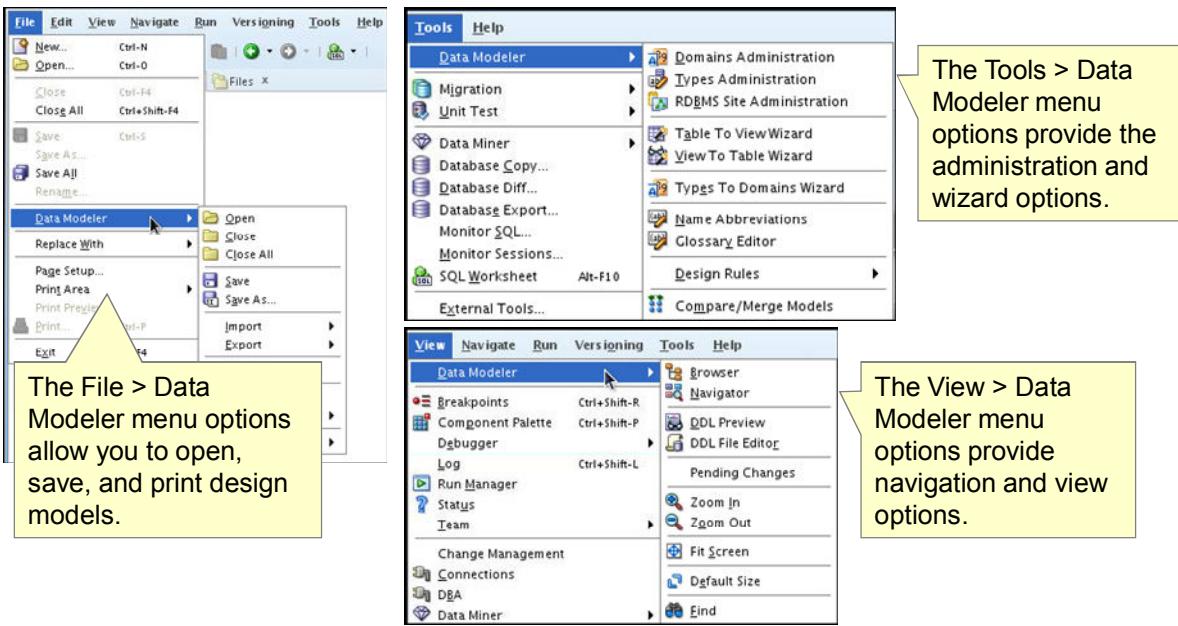
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While working with SQL Developer, if the Connections Navigator disappears or if you cannot dock the Log window in its original place, perform the following steps to fix the problem:

1. Exit SQL Developer.
2. Open a terminal window and use the locate command to find the location of `windowinglayout.xml`.
3. Go to the directory that has `windowinglayout.xml` and delete it.
4. Restart SQL Developer.

Data Modeler in SQL Developer

SQL Developer includes an integrated version of SQL Developer Data Modeler.



The Tools > Data Modeler menu options provide the administration and wizard options.

The View > Data Modeler menu options provide navigation and view options.

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Using the integrated version of the SQL Developer Data Modeler, you can:

- Create, open, import, and save a database design
- Create, modify, and delete Data Modeler objects

To display Data Modeler in a pane, click Tools, and then Data Modeler. The Data Modeler menu under Tools includes additional commands, for example, that enable you to specify design rules and preferences.

Summary

In this appendix, you should have learned how to use SQL Developer to do:

- Browse, create, and edit database objects
- Execute SQL statements and scripts in SQL Worksheet
- Create and save custom reports
- Browse the Data Modeling options in SQL Developer



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SQL Developer is a free graphical tool to simplify database development tasks. Using SQL Developer, you can browse, create, and edit database objects. You can use SQL Worksheet to run SQL statements and scripts. SQL Developer enables you to create and save your own special set of reports for repeated use.

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Using SQL*Plus



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Objectives

After completing this appendix, you should be able to:

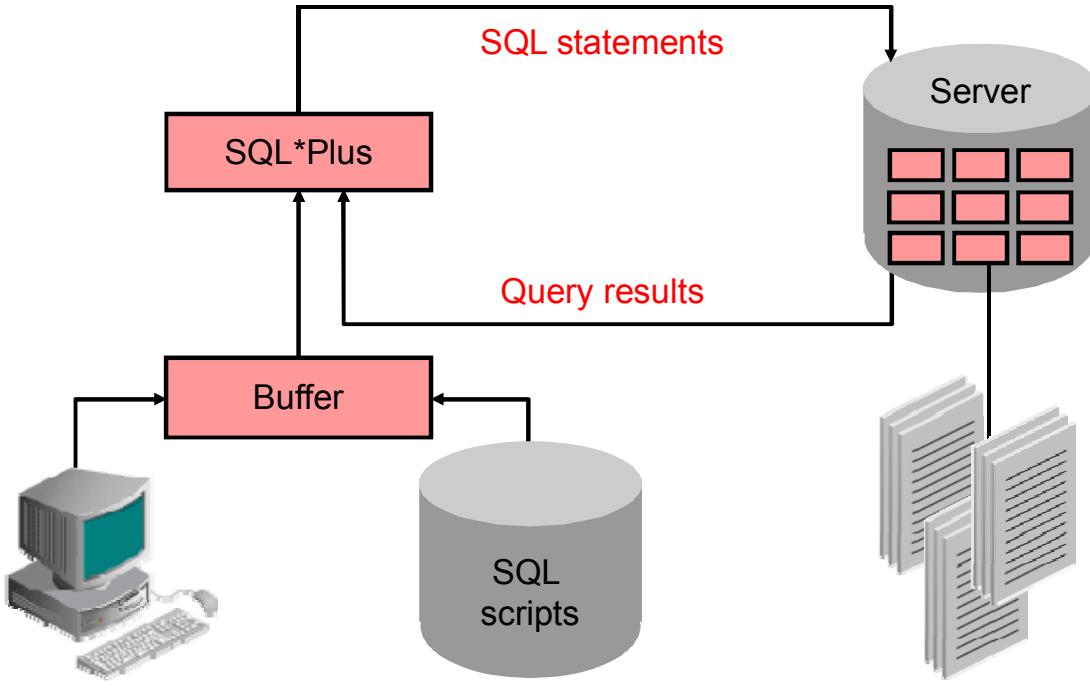
- Log in to SQL*Plus
- Edit SQL commands
- Format the output using SQL*Plus commands
- Interact with script files



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You might want to create `SELECT` statements that can be used again and again. This appendix also covers the use of SQL*Plus commands to execute SQL statements. You learn how to format output using SQL*Plus commands, edit SQL commands, and save scripts in SQL*Plus.

SQL and SQL*Plus Interaction



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SQL and SQL*Plus

SQL is a command language used for communication with the Oracle server from any tool or application. Oracle SQL contains many extensions. When you enter a SQL statement, it is stored in a part of memory called the *SQL buffer* and remains there until you enter a new SQL statement. SQL*Plus is an Oracle tool that recognizes and submits SQL statements to the Oracle Server for execution. It contains its own command language.

Features of SQL

- Can be used by a range of users, including those with little or no programming experience
- Is a nonprocedural language
- Reduces the amount of time required for creating and maintaining systems
- Is an English-like language

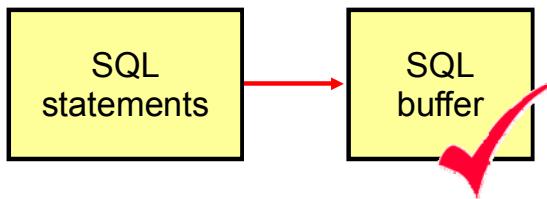
Features of SQL*Plus

- Accepts ad hoc entry of statements
- Accepts SQL input from files
- Provides a line editor for modifying SQL statements
- Controls environmental settings
- Formats query results into basic reports
- Accesses local and remote databases

SQL Statements Versus SQL*Plus Commands

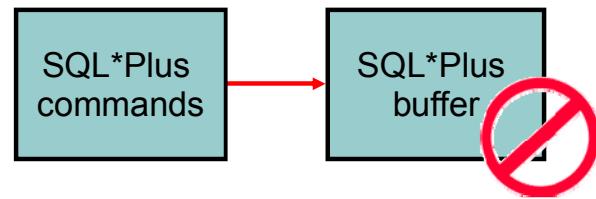
SQL

- A language
- ANSI-standard
- Keywords cannot be abbreviated.
- Statements manipulate data and table definitions in the database.



SQL*Plus

- An environment
- Oracle-proprietary
- Keywords can be abbreviated.
- Commands do not allow manipulation of values in the database.



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The following table compares SQL and SQL*Plus:

SQL	SQL*Plus
Is a language for communicating with the Oracle server to access data	Recognizes SQL statements and sends them to the server
Is based on American National Standards Institute (ANSI)-standard SQL	Is the Oracle-proprietary interface for executing SQL statements
Manipulates data and table definitions in the database	Does not allow manipulation of values in the database
Is entered into the SQL buffer on one or more lines	Is entered one line at a time, not stored in the SQL buffer
Does not have a continuation character	Uses a dash (-) as a continuation character if the command is longer than one line
Cannot be abbreviated	Can be abbreviated
Uses a termination character to execute commands immediately	Does not require termination characters; executes commands immediately
Uses functions to perform some formatting	Uses commands to format data

Overview of SQL*Plus

- Log in to SQL*Plus.
- Describe the table structure.
- Edit your SQL statement.
- Execute SQL from SQL*Plus.
- Save SQL statements to files and append SQL statements to files.
- Execute saved files.
- Load commands from the file to buffer to edit.



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SQL*Plus

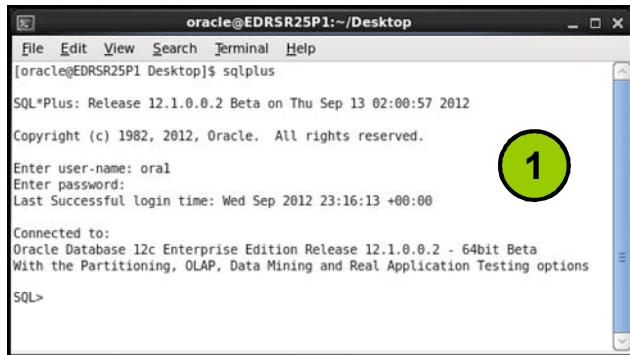
SQL*Plus is an environment in which you can:

- Execute SQL statements to retrieve, modify, add, and remove data from the database
- Format, perform calculations on, store, and print query results in the form of reports
- Create script files to store SQL statements for repeated use in the future

SQL*Plus commands can be divided into the following main categories:

Category	Purpose
Environment	Affect the general behavior of SQL statements for the session
Format	Format query results
File manipulation	Save, load, and run script files
Execution	Send SQL statements from the SQL buffer to the Oracle server
Edit	Modify SQL statements in the buffer
Interaction	Create and pass variables to SQL statements, print variable values, and print messages to the screen
Miscellaneous	Connect to the database, manipulate the SQL*Plus environment, and display column definitions

Logging In to SQL*Plus



```
sqlplus [username [/password[@database]] ]
```



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How you invoke SQL*Plus depends on which type of operating system you are running Oracle Database.

To log in from a Linux environment, perform the following steps:

1. Right-click your Linux desktop and select terminal.
2. Enter the `sqlplus` command shown in the slide.
3. Enter the username, password, and database name.

In the syntax:

<code>username</code>	Your database username
<code>password</code>	Your database password (Your password is visible if you enter it here.)
<code>@database</code>	The database connect string

Note: To ensure the integrity of your password, do not enter it at the operating system prompt. Instead, enter only your username. Enter your password at the password prompt.

Displaying the Table Structure

Use the SQL*Plus DESCRIBE command to display the structure of a table:

```
DESC [RIBE] tablename
```



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In SQL*Plus, you can display the structure of a table by using the DESCRIBE command. The result of the command is a display of column names and data types as well as an indication of whether a column must contain data.

In the syntax:

tablename The name of any existing table, view, or synonym that is accessible to the user

To describe the DEPARTMENTS table, use this command:

```
SQL> DESCRIBE DEPARTMENTS
      Name          Null    Type
----- 
DEPARTMENT_ID           NOT NULL NUMBER(4)
DEPARTMENT_NAME          NOT NULL VARCHAR2(30)
MANAGER_ID                NUMBER(6)
LOCATION_ID                 NUMBER(4)
```

Displaying the Table Structure

```
DESCRIBE departments
```

Name	Null	Type
DEPARTMENT_ID	NOT NULL	NUMBER (4)
DEPARTMENT_NAME	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2 (30)
MANAGER_ID		NUMBER (6)
LOCATION_ID		NUMBER (4)



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The example in the slide displays the information about the structure of the DEPARTMENTS table. In the result:

Null: Specifies whether a column must contain data (NOT NULL indicates that a column must contain data.)

Type: Displays the data type for a column

SQL*Plus Editing Commands

- A [PPEND] *text*
- C [HANGE] / *old* / *new*
- C [HANGE] / *text* /
- CL [EAR] BUFF [ER]
- DEL
- DEL *n*
- DEL *m n*



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SQL*Plus commands are entered one line at a time and are not stored in the SQL buffer.

Command	Description
A [PPEND] <i>text</i>	Adds <i>text</i> to the end of the current line
C [HANGE] / <i>old</i> / <i>new</i>	Changes <i>old</i> text to <i>new</i> in the current line
C [HANGE] / <i>text</i> /	Deletes <i>text</i> from the current line
CL [EAR] BUFF [ER]	Deletes all lines from the SQL buffer
DEL	Deletes current line
DEL <i>n</i>	Deletes line <i>n</i>
DEL <i>m n</i>	Deletes lines <i>m</i> to <i>n</i> inclusive

Guidelines

- If you press Enter before completing a command, SQL*Plus prompts you with a line number.
- You terminate the SQL buffer either by entering one of the terminator characters (semicolon or slash) or by pressing Enter twice. The SQL prompt appears.

SQL*Plus Editing Commands

- I [NPUT]
- I [NPUT] *text*
- L [IST]
- L [IST] *n*
- L [IST] *m n*
- R [UN]
- *n*
- *n text*
- 0 *text*



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Command	Description
I [NPUT]	Inserts an indefinite number of lines
I [NPUT] <i>text</i>	Inserts a line consisting of <i>text</i>
L [IST]	Lists all lines in the SQL buffer
L [IST] <i>n</i>	Lists one line (specified by <i>n</i>)
L [IST] <i>m n</i>	Lists a range of lines (<i>m</i> to <i>n</i>) inclusive
R [UN]	Displays and runs the current SQL statement in the buffer
<i>n</i>	Specifies the line to make the current line
<i>n text</i>	Replaces line <i>n</i> with <i>text</i>
0 <i>text</i>	Inserts a line before line 1

Note: You can enter only one SQL*Plus command for each SQL prompt. SQL*Plus commands are not stored in the buffer. To continue a SQL*Plus command on the next line, end the first line with a hyphen (-).

Using LIST, n, and APPEND

```
LIST
 1  SELECT last_name
 2* FROM employees
```

```
1
1* SELECT last_name
```

```
A , job_id
1* SELECT last_name, job_id
```

```
LIST
 1  SELECT last_name, job_id
 2* FROM employees
```



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- Use the L [IST] command to display the contents of the SQL buffer. The asterisk (*) beside line 2 in the buffer indicates that line 2 is the current line. Any edits that you made apply to the current line.
- Change the number of the current line by entering the number (n) of the line that you want to edit. The new current line is displayed.
- Use the A [PPEND] command to add text to the current line. The newly edited line is displayed. Verify the new contents of the buffer by using the LIST command.

Note: Many SQL*Plus commands, including LIST and APPEND, can be abbreviated to just their first letter. LIST can be abbreviated to L; APPEND can be abbreviated to A.

Using the CHANGE Command

```
LIST  
1* SELECT * from employees
```

```
c/employees/departments  
1* SELECT * from departments
```

```
LIST  
1* SELECT * from departments
```



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- Use `L [IST]` to display the contents of the buffer.
- Use the `C [HANGE]` command to alter the contents of the current line in the SQL buffer. In this case, replace the `employees` table with the `departments` table. The new current line is displayed.
- Use the `L [IST]` command to verify the new contents of the buffer.

SQL*Plus File Commands

- `SAVE filename`
- `GET filename`
- `START filename`
- `@ filename`
- `EDIT filename`
- `SPOOL filename`
- `EXIT`



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SQL statements communicate with the Oracle server. SQL*Plus commands control the environment, format query results, and manage files. You can use the commands described in the following table:

Command	Description
<code>SAV [E] filename [.ext]</code> <code>[REP [LACE] APP [END]]</code>	Saves the current contents of SQL buffer to a file. Use APPEND to add to an existing file; use REPLACE to overwrite an existing file. The default extension is .sql.
<code>GET filename [.ext]</code>	Writes the contents of a previously saved file to the SQL buffer. The default extension for the file name is .sql.
<code>STA [RT] filename [.ext]</code>	Runs a previously saved command file
<code>@ filename</code>	Runs a previously saved command file (same as START)
<code>ED [IT]</code>	Invokes the editor and saves the buffer contents to a file named afiedt.buf
<code>ED [IT] [filename [.ext]]</code>	Invokes the editor to edit the contents of a saved file
<code>SPO [OL] [filename [.ext]] OFF OUT</code>	Stores query results in a file. OFF closes the spool file. OUT closes the spool file and sends the file results to the printer.
<code>EXIT</code>	Quits SQL*Plus

Using the **SAVE**, **START** Commands

```
LIST
```

```
1  SELECT last_name, manager_id, department_id  
2* FROM employees
```

```
SAVE my_query
```

```
Created file my_query
```

```
START my_query
```

LAST_NAME	MANAGER_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID
King		90
Kochhar	100	90
...		
107 rows selected.		



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SAVE

Use the **SAVE** command to store the current contents of the buffer in a file. In this way, you can store frequently used scripts for use in the future.

START

Use the **START** command to run a script in SQL*Plus. You can also, alternatively, use the symbol @ to run a script.

```
@my_query
```

SERVEROUTPUT Command

- Use the SET SERVEROUT [PUT] command to control whether to display the output of stored procedures or PL/SQL blocks in SQL*Plus.
- The DBMS_OUTPUT line length limit is increased from 255 bytes to 32767 bytes.
- The default size is now unlimited.
- Resources are not preallocated when SERVEROUTPUT is set.
- Because there is no performance penalty, use UNLIMITED unless you want to conserve physical memory.

```
SET SERVEROUT [PUT] {ON | OFF} [SIZE {n | UNL [IMITED]}]
[FOR [MAT] {WRA [PPED] | WOR [D_WWRAPPED] | TRU [NCATED]}]
```



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Most of the PL/SQL programs perform input and output through SQL statements, to store data in database tables or query those tables. All other PL/SQL input/output is done through APIs that interact with other programs. For example, the DBMS_OUTPUT package has procedures, such as PUT_LINE. To see the result outside of PL/SQL requires another program, such as SQL*Plus, to read and display the data passed to DBMS_OUTPUT.

SQL*Plus does not display DBMS_OUTPUT data unless you first issue the SQL*Plus command SET SERVEROUTPUT ON as follows:

```
SET SERVEROUTPUT ON
```

Note

- SIZE sets the number of bytes of the output that can be buffered within the Oracle Database server. The default is UNLIMITED. n cannot be less than 2000 or greater than 1,000,000.
- For additional information about SERVEROUTPUT, see *Oracle Database PL/SQL User's Guide and Reference 12c*.

Using the SQL*Plus SPOOL Command

```
SPO [OL] [file_name [.ext]] [CRE [ATE] | REP [LACE] |
APP [END]] | OFF | OUT]
```

Option	Description
file_name [.ext]	Spools output to the specified file name
CRE [ATE]	Creates a new file with the name specified
REP [LACE]	Replaces the contents of an existing file. If the file does not exist, REPLACE creates the file.
APP [END]	Adds the contents of the buffer to the end of the file you specify
OFF	Stops spooling
OUT	Stops spooling and sends the file to your computer's standard (default) printer



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The SPOOL command stores query results in a file or optionally sends the file to a printer. The SPOOL command has been enhanced. You can now append to, or replace an existing file, where previously you could only use SPOOL to create (and replace) a file. REPLACE is the default.

To spool output generated by commands in a script without displaying the output on the screen, use SET TERMOUT OFF. SET TERMOUT OFF does not affect output from commands that run interactively.

You must use quotation marks around file names containing white space. To create a valid HTML file using SPOOL APPEND commands, you must use PROMPT or a similar command to create the HTML page header and footer. The SPOOL APPEND command does not parse HTML tags. SET SQLPLUSCOMPAT [IBILITY] to 9.2 or earlier to disable the CREATE, APPEND and SAVE parameters.

Using the AUTOTRACE Command

- It displays a report after the successful execution of SQL DML statements such as SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE, or DELETE.
- The report can now include execution statistics and the query execution path.

```
SET AUTOT [RACE] {ON | OFF | TRACE [ONLY] } [EXP [LAIN] ]  
[STATISTICS]
```

```
SET AUTOTRACE ON  
-- The AUTOTRACE report includes both the optimizer  
-- execution path and the SQL statement execution  
-- statistics
```



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EXPLAIN shows the query execution path by performing an EXPLAIN PLAN. STATISTICS displays SQL statement statistics. The formatting of your AUTOTRACE report may vary depending on the version of the server to which you are connected and the configuration of the server. The DBMS_XPLAN package provides an easy way to display the output of the EXPLAIN PLAN command in several predefined formats.

Note

- For additional information about the package and subprograms, refer to *Oracle Database PL/SQL Packages and Types Reference 12c*.
- For additional information about the EXPLAIN PLAN, refer to *Oracle Database SQL Reference 12c*.
- For additional information about Execution Plans and the statistics, refer to *Oracle Database Performance Tuning Guide 12c*.

Summary

In this appendix, you should have learned how to use SQL*Plus as an environment to do the following:

- Execute SQL statements
- Edit SQL statements
- Format the output
- Interact with script files



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SQL*Plus is an execution environment that you can use to send SQL commands to the database server and to edit and save SQL commands. You can execute commands from the SQL prompt or from a script file.

Commonly Used SQL Commands

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Objectives

After completing this appendix, you should be able to:

- Execute a basic SELECT statement
- Create, alter, and drop a table using the data definition language (DDL) statements
- Insert, update, and delete rows from one or more tables using data manipulation language (DML) statements
- Commit, roll back, and create save points using the transaction control statements
- Perform join operations on one or more tables



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This lesson explains how to obtain data from one or more tables using the SELECT statement, how to use DDL statements to alter the structure of data objects, how to manipulate data in the existing schema objects by using the DML statements, how to manage the changes made by DML statements, and how to use joins to display data from multiple tables using SQL:1999 join syntax.

Basic SELECT Statement

- Use the **SELECT** statement to:
- Identify the columns to be displayed
 - Retrieve data from one or more tables, object tables, views, object views, or materialized views
- A **SELECT** statement is also known as a query because it queries a database.
- Syntax:

```
SELECT { * | [DISTINCT] column|expression [alias], ... }  
FROM      table;
```



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In its simplest form, a **SELECT** statement must include the following:

- A **SELECT** clause, which specifies the columns to be displayed
- A **FROM** clause, which identifies the table containing the columns that are listed in the **SELECT** clause

In the syntax:

SELECT	Is a list of one or more columns
*	Selects all columns
DISTINCT	Suppresses duplicates
column / expression	Selects the named column or the expression
alias	Gives different headings to the selected columns
FROM table	Specifies the table containing the columns

Note: Throughout this course, the words *keyword*, *clause*, and *statement* are used as follows:

- A *keyword* refers to an individual SQL element—for example, **SELECT** and **FROM** are keywords.
- A *clause* is a part of a SQL statement (for example, **SELECT employee_id, last_name**).
- A *statement* is a combination of two or more clauses (for example, **SELECT * FROM employees**).

SELECT Statement

- Select all columns:

```
SELECT *
FROM job_history;
```

	EMPLOYEE_ID	START_DATE	END_DATE	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID
1	102	13-JAN-01	24-JUL-06	IT_PROG	60
2	101	21-SEP-97	27-OCT-01	AC_ACCOUNT	110
3	101	28-OCT-01	15-MAR-05	AC_MGR	110
4	201	17-FEB-04	19-DEC-07	MK_REP	20
5	114	24-MAR-06	31-DEC-07	ST_CLERK	50
6	122	01-JAN-07	31-DEC-07	ST_CLERK	50
7	200	17-SEP-95	17-JUN-01	AD_ASST	90
8	176	24-MAR-06	31-DEC-06	SA REP	80
9	176	01-JAN-07	31-DEC-07	SA_MAN	80
10	200	01-JUL-02	31-DEC-06	AC_ACCOUNT	90

- Select specific columns:

```
SELECT manager_id, job_id
FROM employees;
```

	MANAGER_ID	JOB_ID
1	(null)	AD_PRES
2	100	AD_VP
3	100	AD_VP
4	102	IT_PROG
5	103	IT_PROG
6	103	IT_PROG
7	100	ST_MAN
8	124	ST_CLERK
9	124	ST_CLERK
10	124	ST_CLERK

...

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You can display all columns of data in a table by following the `SELECT` keyword with an asterisk (*) or by listing all the column names after the `SELECT` keyword. The first example in the slide displays all the rows from the `job_history` table. Specific columns of the table can be displayed by specifying the column names, separated by commas. The second example in the slide displays the `manager_id` and `job_id` columns from the `employees` table.

In the `SELECT` clause, specify the columns in the order in which you want them to appear in the output. For example, the following SQL statement displays the `location_id` column before displaying the `department_id` column:

```
SELECT location_id, department_id FROM departments;
```

Note: You can enter your SQL statement in a SQL Worksheet and click the Run Statement icon or press F9 to execute a statement in SQL Developer. The output displayed on the Results tabbed page appears as shown in the slide.

WHERE Clause

- Use the optional WHERE clause to:
 - Filter rows in a query
 - Produce a subset of rows
- Syntax:

```
SELECT * FROM table  
[WHERE condition];
```

- Example:

```
SELECT location_id from departments  
WHERE department_name = 'Marketing';
```



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The WHERE clause specifies a condition to filter rows, producing a subset of the rows in the table. A condition specifies a combination of one or more expressions and logical (Boolean) operators. It returns a value of TRUE, FALSE, or NULL. The example in the slide retrieves the location_id of the marketing department.

The WHERE clause can also be used to update or delete data from the database.

For example:

```
UPDATE departments  
SET department_name = 'Administration'  
WHERE department_id = 20;  
and  
DELETE from departments  
WHERE department_id =20;
```

ORDER BY Clause

- Use the optional ORDER BY clause to specify the row order.
- Syntax:

```
SELECT * FROM table  
[WHERE condition]  
[ORDER BY {<column>|<position>} [ASC|DESC] [, ...] ];
```

- Example:

```
SELECT last_name, department_id, salary  
FROM employees  
ORDER BY department_id ASC, salary DESC;
```



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The ORDER BY clause specifies the order in which the rows should be displayed. The rows can be sorted in ascending or descending fashion. By default, the rows are displayed in ascending order.

The example in the slide retrieves rows from the `employees` table ordered first by ascending order of `department_id`, and then by descending order of `salary`.

GROUP BY Clause

- Use the optional GROUP BY clause to group columns that have matching values into subsets.
- Each group has no two rows having the same value for the grouping column or columns.
- Syntax:

```
SELECT <column1, column2, ... column_n>
  FROM table
  [WHERE condition]
  [GROUP BY <column> [, ...] ]
  [ORDER BY <column> [, ...] ] ;
```

- Example:

```
SELECT department_id, MIN(salary), MAX (salary)
  FROM employees
 GROUP BY department_id ;
```



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The GROUP BY clause is used to group selected rows based on the value of expr (s) for each row. The clause groups rows but does not guarantee order of the result set. To order the groupings, use the ORDER BY clause.

Any SELECT list elements that are not included in aggregation functions must be included in the GROUP BY list of elements. This includes both columns and expressions. The database returns a single row of summary information for each group.

The example in the slide returns the minimum and maximum salaries for each department in the employees table.

Data Definition Language

- DDL statements are used to define, structurally change, and drop schema objects.
- The commonly used DDL statements are:
 - CREATE TABLE, ALTER TABLE, and DROP TABLE
 - GRANT, REVOKE
 - TRUNCATE



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DDL statements enable you to alter the attributes of an object without altering the applications that access the object. You can also use DDL statements to alter the structure of objects while database users are performing work in the database. These statements are most frequently used to:

- Create, alter, and drop schema objects and other database structures, including the database itself and database users
- Delete all the data in schema objects without removing the structure of these objects
- Grant and revoke privileges and roles

Oracle Database implicitly commits the current transaction before and after every DDL statement.

CREATE TABLE Statement

- Use the CREATE TABLE statement to create a table in the database.
- Syntax:

```
CREATE TABLE tablename (
{column-definition | Table-level constraint}
[ , {column-definition | Table-level constraint} ] * )
```

- Example:

```
CREATE TABLE teach_dept (
department_id NUMBER(3) PRIMARY KEY,
department_name VARCHAR2(10));
```



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Use the CREATE TABLE statement to create a table in the database. To create a table, you must have the CREATE TABLE privilege and a storage area in which to create objects.

The table owner and the database owner automatically gain the following privileges on the table after it is created:

- INSERT
- SELECT
- REFERENCES
- ALTER
- UPDATE

The table owner and the database owner can grant the preceding privileges to other users.

ALTER TABLE Statement

- Use the ALTER TABLE statement to modify the definition of an existing table in the database.
- Example1:

```
ALTER TABLE teach_dept  
ADD location_id NUMBER NOT NULL;
```

- Example 2:

```
ALTER TABLE teach_dept  
MODIFY department_name VARCHAR2(30) NOT NULL;
```



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The ALTER TABLE statement allows you to make changes to an existing table.

You can:

- Add a column to a table
- Add a constraint to a table
- Modify an existing column definition
- Drop a column from a table
- Drop an existing constraint from a table
- Increase the width of the VARCHAR and CHAR columns
- Change a table to have read-only status

Example 1 in the slide adds a new column called `location_id` to the `teach_dept` table.

Example 2 updates the existing `department_name` column from `VARCHAR2(10)` to `VARCHAR2(30)`, and adds a `NOT NULL` constraint to it.

DROP TABLE Statement

- The **DROP TABLE** statement removes the table and all its data from the database.
- Example:

```
DROP TABLE teach_dept;
```

- **DROP TABLE** with the **PURGE** clause drops the table and releases the space that is associated with it.

```
DROP TABLE teach_dept PURGE;
```

- The **CASCADE CONSTRAINTS** clause drops all referential integrity constraints from the table.

```
DROP TABLE teach_dept CASCADE CONSTRAINTS;
```



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The **DROP TABLE** statement allows you to remove a table and its contents from the database, and pushes it to the recycle bin. Dropping a table invalidates dependent objects and removes object privileges on the table.

Use the **PURGE** clause along with the **DROP TABLE** statement to release back to the tablespace the space allocated for the table. You cannot roll back a **DROP TABLE** statement with the **PURGE** clause, nor can you recover the table if you have dropped it with the **PURGE** clause.

The **CASCADE CONSTRAINTS** clause allows you to drop the reference to the primary key and unique keys in the dropped table.

GRANT Statement

- The GRANT statement assigns privilege to perform the following operations:
 - Insert or delete data
 - Create a foreign key reference to the named table or to a subset of columns from a table
 - Select data, a view, or a subset of columns from a table
 - Create a trigger on a table
 - Execute a specified function or procedure
- Example:

```
GRANT SELECT any table to PUBLIC;
```



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You can use the GRANT statement to:

- Assign privileges to a specific user or role, or to all users, to perform actions on database objects
- Grant a role to a user, to PUBLIC, or to another role

Before you issue a GRANT statement, check that the derby.database.sqlAuthorization property is set to True. This property enables the SQL Authorization mode. You can grant privileges on an object if you are the owner of the database.

You can grant privileges to all users by using the PUBLIC keyword. When PUBLIC is specified, the privileges or roles affect all current and future users.

Privilege Types

- Assign the following privileges using the GRANT statement:
 - ALL PRIVILEGES
 - DELETE
 - INSERT
 - REFERENCES
 - SELECT
 - UPDATE



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Oracle Database provides a variety of privilege types to grant privileges to a user or role:

- Use the ALL PRIVILEGES privilege type to grant all privileges to the user or role for the specified table.
- Use the DELETE privilege type to grant permission to delete rows from the specified table.
- Use the INSERT privilege type to grant permission to insert rows into the specified table.
- Use the REFERENCES privilege type to grant permission to create a foreign key reference to the specified table.
- Use the SELECT privilege type to grant permission to perform SELECT statements on a table or view.
- Use the UPDATE privilege type to grant permission to use the UPDATE statement on the specified table.

REVOKE Statement

- Use the REVOKE statement to remove privileges from a user to perform actions on database objects.
- Revoke a *system privilege* from a user:

```
REVOKE DROP ANY TABLE  
FROM hr;
```

- Revoke a *role* from a user:

```
REVOKE dw_manager  
FROM sh;
```



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The REVOKE statement removes privileges from a specific user (or users) or role to perform actions on database objects. It performs the following operations:

- Revokes a role from a user, from PUBLIC, or from another role
- Revokes privileges for an object if you are the owner of the object or the database owner

Note: To revoke a role or system privilege, you must have been granted the privilege with the ADMIN OPTION.

TRUNCATE TABLE Statement

- Use the TRUNCATE TABLE statement to remove all the rows from a table.
- Example:

```
TRUNCATE TABLE employees_demo;
```

- By default, Oracle Database performs the following tasks:
 - Deallocates space used by the removed rows
 - Sets the NEXT storage parameter to the size of the last extent removed from the segment by the truncation process



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The TRUNCATE TABLE statement deletes all the rows from a specific table. Removing rows with the TRUNCATE TABLE statement can be more efficient than dropping and re-creating a table.

Dropping and re-creating a table:

- Invalidates the dependent objects of the table
- Requires you to re-grant object privileges
- Requires you to re-create indexes, integrity constraints, and triggers.
- Re-specify its storage parameters

The TRUNCATE TABLE statement spares you from these efforts.

Note: You cannot roll back a TRUNCATE TABLE statement.

Data Manipulation Language

- DML statements query or manipulate data in the existing schema objects.
- A DML statement is executed when:
 - New rows are added to a table by using the `INSERT` statement
 - Existing rows in a table are modified using the `UPDATE` statement
 - Existing rows are deleted from a table by using the `DELETE` statement
- A *transaction* consists of a collection of DML statements that form a logical unit of work.



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Data Manipulation Language (DML) statements enable you to query or change the contents of an existing schema object. These statements are most frequently used to:

- Add new rows of data to a table or view by specifying a list of column values or using a subquery to select and manipulate existing data
- Change column values in the existing rows of a table or view
- Remove rows from tables or views

A collection of DML statements that forms a logical unit of work is called a transaction. Unlike DDL statements, DML statements do not implicitly commit the current transaction.

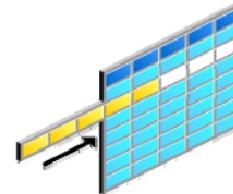
INSERT Statement

- Use the **INSERT** statement to add new rows to a table.
- Syntax:

```
INSERT INTO table [(column [, column...])]  
VALUES      (value [, value...]);
```

- Example:

```
INSERT INTO departments  
VALUES      (200, 'Development', 104, 1400);  
1 rows inserted.
```



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The **INSERT** statement adds rows to a table. Make sure to insert a new row containing values for each column and to list the values in the default order of the columns in the table. Optionally, you can also list the columns in the **INSERT** statement.

For example:

```
INSERT INTO job_history (employee_id, start_date, end_date,  
                      job_id)  
VALUES (120, '25-JUL-06', '12-FEB-08', 'AC_ACCOUNT');
```

The syntax discussed in the slide allows you to insert a single row at a time. The **VALUES** keyword assigns the values of expressions to the corresponding columns in the column list.

UPDATE Statement Syntax

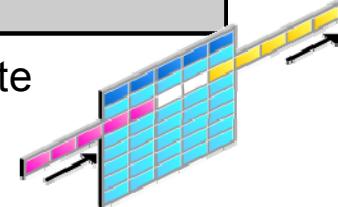
- Use the UPDATE statement to modify the existing rows in a table.
- Update more than one row at a time (if required).

```
UPDATE      table  
SET         column = value [, column = value, ...]  
[WHERE      condition];
```

- Example:

```
UPDATE      copy_emp  
SET  
22 rows updated
```

- Specify SET *column_name*= NULL to update a column value to NULL.



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The UPDATE statement modifies the existing values in a table. Confirm the update operation by querying the table to display the updated rows. You can modify a specific row or rows by specifying the WHERE clause.

For example:

```
UPDATE employees  
SET     salary = 17500  
WHERE   employee_id = 102;
```

In general, use the primary key column in the WHERE clause to identify the row to update. For example, to update a specific row in the employees table, use employee_id to identify the row instead of employee_name, because more than one employee may have the same name.

Note: Typically, the condition keyword is composed of column names, expressions, constants, subqueries, and comparison operators.

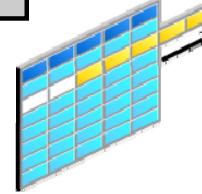
DELETE Statement

- Use the DELETE statement to delete the existing rows from a table.
- Syntax:

```
DELETE      [FROM]      table  
[WHERE]      condition ;
```

- Write the DELETE statement using the WHERE clause to delete specific rows from a table.

```
DELETE FROM departments  
WHERE department_name = 'Finance';  
1 rows deleted
```



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The DELETE statement removes existing rows from a table. You must use the WHERE clause to delete a specific row or rows from a table based on the condition. The condition identifies the rows to be deleted. It may contain column names, expressions, constants, subqueries, and comparison operators.

The first example in the slide deletes the finance department from the departments table. You can confirm the delete operation by using the SELECT statement to query the table.

```
SELECT *  
FROM   departments  
WHERE  department_name = 'Finance';
```

If you omit the WHERE clause, all rows in the table are deleted. For example:

```
DELETE FROM copy_emp;
```

The preceding example deletes all the rows from the copy_emp table.

Transaction Control Statements

- Transaction control statements are used to manage the changes made by DML statements.
- The DML statements are grouped into transactions.
- Transaction control statements include:
 - COMMIT
 - ROLLBACK
 - SAVEPOINT



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A transaction is a sequence of SQL statements that Oracle Database treats as a single unit. Transaction control statements are used in a database to manage the changes made by DML statements and to group these statements into transactions.

Each transaction is assigned a unique `transaction_id` and it groups SQL statements so that they are either all committed, which means they are applied to the database, or all rolled back, which means they are undone from the database.

COMMIT Statement

- Use the COMMIT statement to:
 - Permanently save the changes made to the database during the current transaction
 - Erase all savepoints in the transaction
 - Release transaction locks
- Example:

```
INSERT INTO departments
VALUES      (201, 'Engineering', 106, 1400);
COMMIT;

1 rows inserted.
committed.
```



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The COMMIT statement ends the current transaction by making all the pending data changes permanent. It releases all row and table locks, and erases any savepoints that you may have marked since the last commit or rollback. The changes made using the COMMIT statement are visible to all users.

Oracle recommends that you explicitly end every transaction in your application programs with a COMMIT or ROLLBACK statement, including the last transaction, before disconnecting from Oracle Database. If you do not explicitly commit the transaction and the program terminates abnormally, the last uncommitted transaction is automatically rolled back.

Note: Oracle Database issues an implicit COMMIT before and after any data definition language (DDL) statement.

ROLLBACK Statement

- Use the ROLLBACK statement to undo changes made to the database during the current transaction.
- Use the TO SAVEPOINT clause to undo a part of the transaction after the savepoint.
- Example:

```
UPDATE      employees
SET          salary = 7000
WHERE        last_name = 'Ernst';
SAVEPOINT   Ernst_sal;

UPDATE      employees
SET          salary = 12000
WHERE        last_name = 'Mourgos';

ROLLBACK TO SAVEPOINT Ernst_sal;
```



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The ROLLBACK statement undoes work done in the current transaction. To roll back the current transaction, no privileges are necessary.

Using ROLLBACK with the TO SAVEPOINT clause performs the following operations:

- Rolls back only the portion of the transaction after the savepoint
- Erases all savepoints created after that savepoint. The named savepoint is retained, so you can roll back to the same savepoint multiple times.

Using ROLLBACK without the TO SAVEPOINT clause performs the following operations:

- Ends the transaction
- Undoes all the changes in the current transaction
- Erases all savepoints in the transaction

SAVEPOINT Statement

- Use the SAVEPOINT statement to name and mark the current point in the processing of a transaction.
- Specify a name to each savepoint.
- Use distinct savepoint names within a transaction to avoid overriding.
- Syntax:

```
SAVEPOINT savepoint;
```



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The SAVEPOINT statement identifies a point in a transaction to which you can later roll back. You must specify a distinct name for each savepoint. If you create a second savepoint with the same identifier as an earlier savepoint, the earlier savepoint is erased.

After a savepoint has been created, you can either continue processing, commit your work, roll back the entire transaction, or roll back to the savepoint.

A simple rollback or commit erases all savepoints. When you roll back to a savepoint, any savepoints marked after that savepoint are erased. The savepoint to which you have rolled back is retained.

When savepoint names are reused within a transaction, the Oracle Database moves (overrides) the save point from its old position to the current point in the transaction.

Joins

Use a join to query data from more than one table:

```
SELECT      table1.column, table2.column  
FROM        table1, table2  
WHERE       table1.column1 = table2.column2;
```

- Write the join condition in the WHERE clause.
- Prefix the column name with the table name when the same column name appears in more than one table.



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When data from more than one table in the database is required, a *join* condition is used. Rows in one table can be joined to rows in another table according to common values that exist in the corresponding columns (usually primary and foreign key columns).

To display data from two or more related tables, write a simple join condition in the WHERE clause.

In the syntax:

<i>table1.column</i>	Denotes the table and column from which data is retrieved
<i>table1.column1</i> = <i>table2.column2</i>	Is the condition that joins (or relates) the tables together

Guidelines

- When writing a SELECT statement that joins tables, precede the column name with the table name for clarity and to enhance database access.
- If the same column name appears in more than one table, the column name must be prefixed with the table name.
- To join n tables together, you need a minimum of $n-1$ join conditions. For example, to join four tables, a minimum of three joins is required. This rule may not apply if your table has a concatenated primary key, in which case more than one column is required to uniquely identify each row.

Types of Joins

- Natural join
- Equijoin
- Nonequijoin
- Outer join
- Self-join
- Cross join



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To join tables, you can use Oracle's join syntax.

Note: Before the Oracle9i release, the join syntax was proprietary. The SQL:1999-compliant join syntax does not offer any performance benefits over the Oracle-proprietary join syntax.

Qualifying Ambiguous Column Names

- Use table prefixes to qualify column names that are in multiple tables.
- Use table prefixes to improve performance.
- Use table aliases, instead of full table name prefixes.
- Table aliases give a table a shorter name.
 - This keeps SQL code smaller and uses less memory.
- Use column aliases to distinguish columns that have identical names, but reside in different tables.



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When joining two or more tables, you need to qualify the names of the columns with the table name to avoid ambiguity. Without the table prefixes, the DEPARTMENT_ID column in the SELECT list could be from either the DEPARTMENTS table or the EMPLOYEES table. Therefore, it is necessary to add the table prefix to execute your query. If there are no common column names between the two tables, there is no need to qualify the columns. However, using a table prefix improves performance, because you tell the Oracle server exactly where to find the columns.

Qualifying column names with table names can be very time consuming, particularly if table names are lengthy. Therefore, you can use *table aliases*, instead of table names. Just as a column alias gives a column another name, a table alias gives a table another name. Table aliases help to keep SQL code smaller, thereby using less memory.

The table name is specified in full, followed by a space, and then the table alias. For example, the EMPLOYEES table can be given an alias of *e*, and the DEPARTMENTS table an alias of *d*.

Guidelines

- Table aliases can be up to 30 characters in length, but shorter aliases are better than longer ones.
- If a table alias is used for a particular table name in the `FROM` clause, that table alias must be substituted for the table name throughout the `SELECT` statement.
- Table aliases should be meaningful.
- A table alias is valid only for the current `SELECT` statement.

Natural Join

- The NATURAL JOIN clause is based on all the columns in the two tables that have the same name.
- It selects rows from tables that have the same names and data values of columns.
- Example:

```
SELECT country_id, location_id, country_name, city  
FROM countries NATURAL JOIN locations;
```

	COUNTRY_ID	LOCATION_ID	COUNTRY_NAME	CITY
1	US	1400	United States of America	Southlake
2	US	1500	United States of America	South San Francisco
3	US	1700	United States of America	Seattle
4	CA	1800	Canada	Toronto
5	UK	2500	United Kingdom	Oxford



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You can join tables automatically based on the columns in the two tables that have matching data types and names. You do this by using the NATURAL JOIN keywords.

Note: The join can happen only on those columns that have the same names and data types in both tables. If the columns have the same name but different data types, the NATURAL JOIN syntax causes an error.

In the example in the slide, the COUNTRIES table is joined to the LOCATIONS table by the COUNTRY_ID column, which is the only column of the same name in both tables. If other common columns were present, the join would have used them all.

Equijoins

EMPLOYEES

	EMPLOYEE_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID
1	200	10
2	201	20
3	202	20
4	205	110
5	206	110
6	100	90
7	101	90
8	102	90
9	103	60
10	104	60
...		

DEPARTMENTS

	DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME
1	10	Administration
2	20	Marketing
3	50	Shipping
4	60	IT
5	80	Sales
6	90	Executive
7	110	Accounting
8	190	Contracting

Foreign key

Primary key



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An **equijoin** is a join with a join condition containing an equality operator. An equijoin combines rows that have equivalent values for the specified columns. To determine an employee's department name, you compare the values in the `DEPARTMENT_ID` column in the `EMPLOYEES` table with the `DEPARTMENT_ID` values in the `DEPARTMENTS` table. The relationship between the `EMPLOYEES` and `DEPARTMENTS` tables is an *equijoin*; that is, values in the `DEPARTMENT_ID` column in both tables must be equal. Often, this type of join involves primary and foreign key complements.

Note: Equijoins are also called *simple joins*.

Retrieving Records with Equijoins

```
SELECT e.employee_id, e.last_name, e.department_id,  
       d.department_id, d.location_id  
  FROM employees e JOIN departments d  
 WHERE e.department_id = d.department_id;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID_1	LOCATION_ID
1	200 Whalen	10	10	1700
2	201 Hartstein	20	20	1800
3	202 Fay	20	20	1800
4	144 Vargas	50	50	1500
5	143 Matos	50	50	1500
6	142 Davies	50	50	1500
7	141 Rajs	50	50	1500
8	124 Mourgos	50	50	1500
9	103 Hunold	60	60	1400
10	104 Ernst	60	60	1400
11	107 Lorentz	60	60	1400
...				



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In the example in the slide:

- **The SELECT clause specifies the column names to retrieve:**
 - Employee last name, employee ID, and department ID, which are columns in the EMPLOYEES table
 - Department ID and location ID, which are columns in the DEPARTMENTS table
- **The FROM clause specifies the two tables that the database must access:**
 - EMPLOYEES table
 - DEPARTMENTS table
- **The WHERE clause specifies how the tables are to be joined:**
`e.department_id = d.department_id`

Because the DEPARTMENT_ID column is common to both tables, it must be prefixed with the table alias to avoid ambiguity. Other columns that are not present in both the tables need not be qualified by a table alias, but it is recommended for better performance.

Note: When you use the Execute Statement icon to run the query, SQL Developer suffixes a “_1” to differentiate between the two DEPARTMENT_IDS.

Additional Search Conditions Using the AND and WHERE Operators

```
SELECT d.department_id, d.department_name, l.city
FROM departments d JOIN locations l
ON d.location_id = l.location_id
AND d.department_id IN (20, 50);
```

DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME	CITY
1	20 Marketing	Toronto
2	50 Shipping	South San Francisco

```
SELECT d.department_id, d.department_name, l.city
FROM departments d JOIN locations l
ON d.location_id = l.location_id
WHERE d.department_id IN (20, 50);
```



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In addition to the join, you may have criteria for your WHERE clause to restrict the rows in consideration for one or more tables in the join. The example in the slide performs a join on the DEPARTMENTS and LOCATIONS tables and, in addition, displays only those departments with ID equal to 20 or 50. To add additional conditions to the ON clause, you can add AND clauses. Alternatively, you can use a WHERE clause to apply additional conditions.

Both queries produce the same output.

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME
Matos	50	Shipping

Retrieving Records with Nonequijoins

```
SELECT e.last_name, e.salary, j.grade_level
FROM   employees e JOIN job_grades j
ON    e.salary
      BETWEEN j.lowest_sal AND j.highest_sal;
```

#	LAST_NAME	SALARY	GRADE_LEVEL
1	Vargas	2500	A
2	Matos	2600	A
3	Davies	3100	B
4	Rajs	3500	B
5	Lorentz	4200	B
6	Whalen	4400	B
7	Fay	6000	C

...



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The example in the slide creates a nonequijoin to evaluate an employee's salary grade. The salary must be *between* any pair of the low and high salary ranges.

It is important to note that all employees appear exactly once when this query is executed. No employee is repeated in the list. There are two reasons for this:

- None of the rows in the job grade table contain grades that overlap. That is, the salary value for an employee can lie only between the low salary and high salary values of one of the rows in the salary grade table.
- All of the employees' salaries lie within the limits that are provided by the job grade table. That is, no employee earns less than the lowest value contained in the LOWEST_SAL column or more than the highest value contained in the HIGHEST_SAL column.

Note: Other conditions (such as `<=` and `>=`) can be used, but `BETWEEN` is the simplest. Remember to specify the low value first and the high value last when using the `BETWEEN` condition. The Oracle server translates the `BETWEEN` condition to a pair of `AND` conditions. Therefore, using `BETWEEN` has no performance benefits, but should be used only for logical simplicity.

Table aliases have been specified in the example in the slide for performance reasons, not because of possible ambiguity.

Retrieving Records by Using the USING Clause

- You can use the USING clause to match only one column when more than one column matches.
- You cannot specify this clause with a NATURAL join.
- Do not qualify the column name with a table name or table alias.
- Example:

```
SELECT country_id, country_name, location_id, city
FROM   countries JOIN locations
USING (country_id) ;
```

	COUNTRY_ID	COUNTRY_NAME	LOCATION_ID	CITY
1	US	United States of America	1400	Southlake
2	US	United States of America	1500	South San Francisco
3	US	United States of America	1700	Seattle
4	CA	Canada	1800	Toronto
5	UK	United Kingdom	2500	Oxford



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In the example in the slide, the COUNTRY_ID columns in the COUNTRIES and LOCATIONS tables are joined and thus the LOCATION_ID of the location where an employee works is shown.

Retrieving Records by Using the ON Clause

- The join condition for the natural join is basically an equijoin of all columns with the same name.
- Use the ON clause to specify arbitrary conditions or specify columns to join.
- The ON clause makes code easy to understand.

```
SELECT e.employee_id, e.last_name, j.department_id,  
      FROM employees e JOIN job_history j  
      ON (e.employee_id = j.employee_id);
```

	EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID
1	101	Kochhar	110
2	101	Kochhar	110
3	102	De Haan	60
4	176	Taylor	80
5	176	Taylor	80
6	200	Whalen	90
7	200	Whalen	90
8	201	Hartstein	20



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Use the ON clause to specify a join condition. With this, you can specify join conditions separate from any search or filter conditions in the WHERE clause.

In this example, the EMPLOYEE_ID columns in the EMPLOYEES and JOB_HISTORY tables are joined using the ON clause. Wherever an employee ID in the EMPLOYEES table equals an employee ID in the JOB_HISTORY table, the row is returned. The table alias is necessary to qualify the matching column names.

You can also use the ON clause to join columns that have different names. The parentheses around the joined columns, as in the example in the slide, (e.employee_id = j.employee_id), is optional. So, even ON e.employee_id = j.employee_id will work.

Note: When you use the Execute Statement icon to run the query, SQL Developer suffixes a '_1' to differentiate between the two employee_ids.

Left Outer Join

- A join between two tables that returns all matched rows, as well as the unmatched rows from the left table is called a LEFT OUTER JOIN.
- Example:

```
SELECT c.country_id, c.country_name, l.location_id, l.city
FROM   countries c LEFT OUTER JOIN locations l
ON    (c.country_id = l.country_id) ;
```

	COUNTRY_ID	COUNTRY_NAME	LOCATION_ID	CITY
1	CA	Canada	1800	Toronto
2	DE	Germany	(null)	(null)
3	UK	United Kingdom	2500	Oxford
4	US	United States of America	1400	Southlake
5	US	United States of America	1500	South San Francisco
6	US	United States of America	1700	Seattle



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This query retrieves all the rows in the COUNTRIES table, which is the left table, even if there is no match in the LOCATIONS table.

Right Outer Join

- A join between two tables that returns all matched rows, as well as the unmatched rows from the right table is called a RIGHT OUTER JOIN.
- Example:

```
SELECT e.last_name, d.department_id, d.department_name
FROM   employees e RIGHT OUTER JOIN departments d
ON     (e.department_id = d.department_id) ;
```

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME
1 Whalen	10	Administration
2 Hartstein	20	Marketing
3 Fay	20	Marketing
4 Davies	50	Shipping
...		
18 Higgins	110	Accounting
19 Gietz	110	Accounting
20 (null)	190	Contracting



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This query retrieves all the rows in the DEPARTMENTS table, which is the table at the right, even if there is no match in the EMPLOYEES table.

Full Outer Join

- A join between two tables that returns all matched rows, as well as the unmatched rows from both tables is called a FULL OUTER JOIN.
- Example:

```
SELECT e.last_name, d.department_id, d.manager_id,
       d.department_name
  FROM employees e FULL OUTER JOIN departments d
     ON (e.manager_id = d.manager_id) ;
```

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID	MANAGER_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME
1 King	(null)	(null)	(null)
2 Kochhar	90	100	Executive
3 De Haan	90	100	Executive
4 Hunold	(null)	(null)	(null)
...			
19 Higgins	(null)	(null)	(null)
20 Gietz	110	205	Accounting
21 (null)	190	(null)	Contracting
22 (null)	10	200	Administration



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This query retrieves all the rows in the EMPLOYEES table, even if there is no match in the DEPARTMENTS table. It also retrieves all the rows in the DEPARTMENTS table, even if there is no match in the EMPLOYEES table.

Self-Join: Example

```
SELECT worker.last_name || ' works for '
    || manager.last_name
FROM employees worker JOIN employees manager
ON worker.manager_id = manager.employee_id
ORDER BY worker.last_name;
```

WORKER.LAST_NAME 'WORKSFOR' MANAGER.LAST_NAME
1 Abel works for Zlotkey
2 Davies works for Mourgos
3 De Haan works for King
4 Ernst works for Hunold
5 Fay works for Hartstein
6 Gietz works for Higgins
7 Grant works for Zlotkey
8 Hartstein works for King
9 Higgins works for Kochhar

...



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Sometimes you need to join a table to itself. To find the name of each employee's manager, you need to join the EMPLOYEES table to itself, or perform a self-join. The example in the slide joins the EMPLOYEES table to itself. To simulate two tables in the FROM clause, there are two aliases, namely worker and manager, for the same table, EMPLOYEES.

In this example, the WHERE clause contains the join that means “where a worker's manager ID matches the employee ID for the manager.”

Cross Join

- A CROSS JOIN is a JOIN operation that produces the Cartesian product of two tables.
- Example:

```
SELECT department_name, city  
FROM department CROSS JOIN location;
```

DEPARTMENT_NAME	CITY
1 Administration	Oxford
2 Administration	Seattle
3 Administration	South San Francisco
4 Administration	Southlake
5 Administration	Toronto
6 Marketing	Oxford
7 Marketing	Seattle
8 Marketing	South San Francisco
9 Marketing	Southlake
10 Marketing	Toronto

...



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The CROSS JOIN syntax specifies the cross product. It is also known as a Cartesian product. A cross join produces the cross product of two relations, and is essentially the same as the comma-delimited Oracle Database notation.

You do not specify any WHERE condition between the two tables in the CROSS JOIN.

Summary

In this appendix, you should have learned how to use:

- The SELECT statement to retrieve rows from one or more tables
- DDL statements to alter the structure of objects
- DML statements to manipulate data in the existing schema objects
- Transaction control statements to manage the changes made by DML statements
- Joins to display data from multiple tables



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There are many commonly used commands and statements in SQL. It includes the DDL statements, DML statements, transaction control statements, and joins.

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Generating Reports by Grouping Related Data

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Objectives

After completing this appendix, you should be able to use the:

- ROLLUP operation to produce subtotal values
- CUBE operation to produce cross-tabulation values
- GROUPING function to identify the row values created by ROLLUP or CUBE
- GROUPING SETS to produce a single result set



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In this appendix, you learn how to:

- Group data to obtain subtotal values by using the ROLLUP operator
- Group data to obtain cross-tabulation values by using the CUBE operator
- Use the GROUPING function to identify the level of aggregation in the result set produced by a ROLLUP or CUBE operator
- Use GROUPING SETS to produce a single result set that is equivalent to a UNION ALL

Review of Group Functions

- Group functions operate on sets of rows to give one result per group.

```
SELECT      [column,] group_function(column) . . .
FROM        table
[WHERE      condition]
[GROUP BY   group_by_expression]
[ORDER BY   column] ;
```

- Example:

```
SELECT AVG(salary), STDDEV(salary),
       COUNT(commission_pct), MAX(hire_date)
  FROM employees
 WHERE job_id LIKE 'SA%';
```



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You can use the GROUP BY clause to divide the rows in a table into groups. You can then use group functions to return summary information for each group. Group functions can appear in select lists and in ORDER BY and HAVING clauses. The Oracle server applies the group functions to each group of rows and returns a single result row for each group.

Types of group functions: Each of the group functions—AVG, SUM, MAX, MIN, COUNT, STDDEV, and VARIANCE—accepts one argument. The AVG, SUM, STDDEV, and VARIANCE functions operate only on numeric values. MAX and MIN can operate on numeric, character, or date data values. COUNT returns the number of non-NULL rows for the given expression. The example in the slide calculates the average salary, standard deviation on the salary, number of employees earning a commission, and the maximum hire date for those employees whose JOB_ID begins with SA.

Guidelines for Using Group Functions

- The data types for the arguments can be CHAR, VARCHAR2, NUMBER, or DATE.
- All group functions except COUNT (*) ignore null values. To substitute a value for null values, use the NVL function. COUNT returns either a number or zero.
- The Oracle server implicitly sorts the result set in ascending order of the grouping columns specified, when you use a GROUP BY clause. To override this default ordering, you can use DESC in an ORDER BY clause.

Review of the GROUP BY Clause

- Syntax:

```
SELECT      [column,] group_function(column) . . .
FROM        table
[WHERE       condition]
[GROUP BY   group_by_expression]
[ORDER BY   column];
```

- Example:

```
SELECT      department_id, job_id, SUM(salary),
            COUNT(employee_id)
  FROM        employees
 GROUP BY   department_id, job_id ;
```



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The example illustrated in the slide is evaluated by the Oracle server as follows:

- The SELECT clause specifies that the following columns be retrieved:
 - Department ID and job ID columns from the EMPLOYEES table
 - The sum of all the salaries and the number of employees in each group that you have specified in the GROUP BY clause
- The GROUP BY clause specifies how the rows should be grouped in the table. The total salary and the number of employees are calculated for each job ID within each department. The rows are grouped by department ID and then grouped by job within each department.

Review of the HAVING Clause

- Use the HAVING clause to specify which groups are to be displayed.
- You further restrict the groups on the basis of a limiting condition.

```
SELECT      [column,] group_function(column)...
FROM        table
[WHERE       condition]
[GROUP BY   group_by_expression]
[HAVING     having_expression]
[ORDER BY   column];
```



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HAVING Clause

Groups are formed and group functions are calculated before the HAVING clause is applied to the groups. The HAVING clause can precede the GROUP BY clause, but it is recommended that you place the GROUP BY clause first, because the GROUP BY clause is more logical than the HAVING clause.

The Oracle server performs the following steps when you use the HAVING clause:

1. It groups rows.
2. It applies the group functions to the groups and displays the groups that match the criteria in the HAVING clause.

GROUP BY with ROLLUP and CUBE Operators

- Use ROLLUP or CUBE with GROUP BY to produce superaggregate rows by cross-referencing columns.
- ROLLUP grouping produces a result set containing the regular grouped rows and the subtotal values.
- CUBE grouping produces a result set containing the rows from ROLLUP and cross-tabulation rows.



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You specify ROLLUP and CUBE operators in the GROUP BY clause of a query. ROLLUP grouping produces a result set containing the regular grouped rows and subtotal rows. The ROLLUP operator also calculates a grand total. The CUBE operation in the GROUP BY clause groups the selected rows based on the values of all possible combinations of expressions in the specification and returns a single row of summary information for each group. You can use the CUBE operator to produce cross-tabulation rows.

Note: When working with ROLLUP and CUBE, make sure that the columns following the GROUP BY clause have meaningful, real-life relationships with each other; otherwise, the operators return irrelevant information.

ROLLUP Operator

- ROLLUP is an extension to the GROUP BY clause.
- Use the ROLLUP operation to produce cumulative aggregates, such as subtotals.

```
SELECT      [column, ]group_function(column) . . .
FROM        table
[WHERE      condition]
[GROUP BY   ROLLUP group_by_expression]
[HAVING     having_expression];
[ORDER BY   column];
```



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The ROLLUP operator delivers aggregates and superaggregates for expressions within a GROUP BY statement. The ROLLUP operator can be used by report writers to extract statistics and summary information from result sets. The cumulative aggregates can be used in reports, charts, and graphs.

The ROLLUP operator creates groupings by moving in one direction, from right to left, along the list of columns specified in the GROUP BY clause. It then applies the aggregate function to these groupings.

Note

- To produce subtotals in n dimensions (that is, n columns in the GROUP BY clause) without a ROLLUP operator, $n+1$ SELECT statements must be linked with UNION ALL. This makes the query execution inefficient because each of the SELECT statements causes table access. The ROLLUP operator gathers its results with just one table access. The ROLLUP operator is useful when there are many columns involved in producing the subtotals.
- Subtotals and totals are produced with ROLLUP. CUBE produces totals as well but effectively rolls up in each possible direction, producing cross-tabular data.

ROLLUP Operator: Example

```
SELECT department_id, job_id, SUM(salary)
FROM employees
WHERE department_id < 60
GROUP BY ROLLUP(department_id, job_id);
```

	DEPARTMENT_ID	JOB_ID	SUM(SALARY)
1	10	AD_ASST	4400
2	10	(null)	4400
3	20	MK_MAN	13000
4	20	MK_REP	6000
5	20	(null)	19000
6	30	PU_MAN	11000
7	30	PU_CLERK	13900
8	30	(null)	24900
9	40	HR_REP	6500
10	40	(null)	6500
11	50	ST_MAN	36400
12	50	SH_CLERK	64300
13	50	ST_CLERK	55700
14	50	(null)	156400
15	(null)	(null)	211200

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In the example in the slide:

- Total salaries for every job ID within a department for those departments whose department ID is less than 60 are displayed by the GROUP BY clause
- The ROLLUP operator displays:
 - The total salary for each department whose department ID is less than 60
 - The total salary for all departments whose department ID is less than 60, irrespective of the job IDs

In this example, 1 indicates a group totaled by both DEPARTMENT_ID and JOB_ID, 2 indicates a group totaled only by DEPARTMENT_ID, and 3 indicates the grand total.

The ROLLUP operator creates subtotals that roll up from the most detailed level to a grand total, following the grouping list specified in the GROUP BY clause. First, it calculates the standard aggregate values for the groups specified in the GROUP BY clause (in the example, the sum of salaries grouped on each job within a department). Then it creates progressively higher-level subtotals, moving from right to left through the list of grouping columns. (In the example, the sum of salaries for each department is calculated, followed by the sum of salaries for all departments.)

- Given n expressions in the ROLLUP operator of the GROUP BY clause, the operation results in $n + 1$ (in this case, $2 + 1 = 3$) groupings.
- Rows based on the values of the first n expressions are called rows or regular rows, and the others are called superaggregate rows.

CUBE Operator

- CUBE is an extension to the GROUP BY clause.
- You can use the CUBE operator to produce cross-tabulation values with a single SELECT statement.

```
SELECT      [column, ] group_function(column)...
FROM        table
[WHERE      condition]
[GROUP BY   CUBE group_by_expression]
[HAVING     having_expression]
[ORDER BY   column];
```



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The CUBE operator is an additional switch in the GROUP BY clause in a SELECT statement. The CUBE operator can be applied to all aggregate functions, including AVG, SUM, MAX, MIN, and COUNT. It is used to produce result sets that are typically used for cross-tabular reports. ROLLUP produces only a fraction of possible subtotal combinations, whereas CUBE produces subtotals for all possible combinations of groupings specified in the GROUP BY clause, and a grand total.

The CUBE operator is used with an aggregate function to generate additional rows in a result set. Columns included in the GROUP BY clause are cross-referenced to produce a superset of groups. The aggregate function specified in the select list is applied to these groups to produce summary values for the additional superaggregate rows. The number of extra groups in the result set is determined by the number of columns included in the GROUP BY clause.

In fact, every possible combination of the columns or expressions in the GROUP BY clause is used to produce superaggregates. If you have n columns or expressions in the GROUP BY clause, there will be 2^n possible superaggregate combinations. Mathematically, these combinations form an n -dimensional cube, which is how the operator got its name.

By using application or programming tools, these superaggregate values can then be fed into charts and graphs that convey results and relationships visually and effectively.

CUBE Operator: Example

```
SELECT      department_id, job_id, SUM(salary)
FROM        employees
WHERE       department_id < 60
GROUP BY CUBE (department_id, job_id) ;
```

	DEPARTMENT_ID	JOB_ID	SUM(SALARY)
1	(null) (null)		211200
2	(null) HR_REP		6500
	(null) MK_MAN		13000
	(null) MK_REP		6000
	(null) PU_MAN		11000
	(null) ST_MAN		36400
	(null) AD_ASST		4400
	(null) PU_CLERK		13900
	(null) SH_CLERK		64300
	(null) ST_CLERK		55700
3	10 (null)		4400
	10 AD_ASST		4400
4	20 (null)		19000
	20 MK_MAN		13000
	20 MK_REP		6000
	30 (null)		24900

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The output of the `SELECT` statement in the example can be interpreted as follows:

- The total salary for every job within a department (for those departments whose department ID is less than 60)
- The total salary for each department whose department ID is less than 60
- The total salary for each job irrespective of the department
- The total salary for those departments whose department ID is less than 60, irrespective of the job titles

In this example, 1 indicates the grand total, 2 indicates the rows totaled by `JOB_ID` alone, 3 indicates some of the rows totaled by `DEPARTMENT_ID` and `JOB_ID`, and 4 indicates some of the rows totaled by `DEPARTMENT_ID` alone.

The `CUBE` operator has also performed the `ROLLUP` operation to display the subtotals for those departments whose department ID is less than 60 and the total salary for those departments whose department ID is less than 60, irrespective of the job titles. Further, the `CUBE` operator displays the total salary for every job irrespective of the department.

Note: Similar to the `ROLLUP` operator, producing subtotals in n dimensions (that is, n columns in the `GROUP BY` clause) without a `CUBE` operator requires that 2^n `SELECT` statements be linked with `UNION ALL`. Thus, a report with three dimensions requires $2^3 = 8$ `SELECT` statements to be linked with `UNION ALL`.

GROUPING Function

The GROUPING function:

- Is used with either the CUBE or ROLLUP operator
- Is used to find the groups forming the subtotal in a row
- Is used to differentiate stored NULL values from NULL values created by ROLLUP or CUBE
- Returns 0 or 1

```
SELECT      [column,] group_function(column) . . ,
            GROUPING(expr)
  FROM       table
  [WHERE     condition]
  [GROUP BY [ROLLUP] [CUBE] group_by_expression]
  [HAVING   having_expression]
  [ORDER BY column];
```



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The GROUPING function can be used with either the CUBE or ROLLUP operator to help you understand how a summary value has been obtained.

The GROUPING function uses a single column as its argument. The *expr* in the GROUPING function must match one of the expressions in the GROUP BY clause. The function returns a value of 0 or 1.

The values returned by the GROUPING function are useful to:

- Determine the level of aggregation of a given subtotal (that is, the group or groups on which the subtotal is based)
- Identify whether a NULL value in the expression column of a row of the result set indicates:
 - A NULL value from the base table (stored NULL value)
 - A NULL value created by ROLLUP or CUBE (as a result of a group function on that expression)

A value of 0 returned by the GROUPING function based on an expression indicates one of the following:

- The expression has been used to calculate the aggregate value.
- The NULL value in the expression column is a stored NULL value.

A value of 1 returned by the GROUPING function based on an expression indicates one of the following:

- The expression has not been used to calculate the aggregate value.
- The NULL value in the expression column is created by ROLLUP or CUBE as a result of grouping.

GROUPING Function: Example

```

SELECT      department_id DEPTID, job_id JOB,
            SUM(salary),
            GROUPING(department_id) GRP_DEPT,
            GROUPING(job_id) GRP_JOB
FROM        employees
WHERE       department_id < 50
GROUP BY    ROLLUP(department_id, job_id);

```

	DEPTID	JOB	SUM(SALARY)	GRP_DEPT	GRP_JOB
1	10	AD_ASST	4400	0	0
2	10	(null)	4400	0	1
3	20	MK_MAN	13000	0	0
4	20	MK_REP	6000	0	0
5	20	(null)	19000	0	1
6	30	PU_MAN	11000	0	0
7	30	PU_CLERK	13900	0	0
8	30	(null)	24900	0	1
9	40	HR_REP	6500	0	0
10	40	(null)	6500	0	1
11	(null)	(null)	54800	1	1

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In the example in the slide, consider the summary value 4400 in the first row (labeled 1). This summary value is the total salary for the job ID of AD_ASST within department 10. To calculate this summary value, both the DEPARTMENT_ID and JOB_ID columns have been taken into account. Thus, a value of 0 is returned for both the GROUPING(department_id) and GROUPING(job_id) expressions.

Consider the summary value 4400 in the second row (labeled 2). This value is the total salary for department 10 and has been calculated by taking into account the DEPARTMENT_ID column; thus, a value of 0 has been returned by GROUPING(department_id). Because the JOB_ID column has not been taken into account to calculate this value, a value of 1 has been returned for GROUPING(job_id). You can observe similar output in the fifth row.

In the last row, consider the summary value 54800 (labeled 3). This is the total salary for those departments whose department ID is less than 50 and all job titles. To calculate this summary value, neither of the DEPARTMENT_ID and JOB_ID columns have been taken into account. Thus, a value of 1 is returned for both the GROUPING(department_id) and GROUPING(job_id) expressions.

GROUPING SETS

- The GROUPING SETS syntax is used to define multiple groupings in the same query.
- All groupings specified in the GROUPING SETS clause are computed and the results of individual groupings are combined with a UNION ALL operation.
- Grouping set efficiency:
 - Only one pass over the base table is required.
 - There is no need to write complex UNION statements.
 - The more elements GROUPING SETS has, the greater is the performance benefit.



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GROUPING SETS is a further extension of the GROUP BY clause that you can use to specify multiple groupings of data. Doing so facilitates efficient aggregation and, therefore, facilitates analysis of data across multiple dimensions.

A single SELECT statement can now be written using GROUPING SETS to specify various groupings (which can also include ROLLUP or CUBE operators), rather than multiple SELECT statements combined by UNION ALL operators. For example:

```
SELECT department_id, job_id, manager_id, AVG(salary)
  FROM employees
 GROUP BY
    GROUPING SETS
    ((department_id, job_id, manager_id),
     (department_id, manager_id), (job_id, manager_id));
```

This statement calculates aggregates over three groupings:

(department_id, job_id, manager_id), (department_id, manager_id) and (job_id, manager_id)

Without this feature, multiple queries combined together with UNION ALL are required to obtain the output of the preceding SELECT statement. A multiquery approach is inefficient because it requires multiple scans of the same data.

Compare the previous example with the following alternative:

```
SELECT department_id, job_id, manager_id, AVG(salary)
FROM employees
GROUP BY CUBE(department_id, job_id, manager_id);
```

This statement computes all the 8 ($2^2 * 2^2$) groupings, though only the (department_id, job_id, manager_id), (department_id, manager_id), and (job_id, manager_id) groups are of interest to you.

Another alternative is the following statement:

```
SELECT department_id, job_id, manager_id, AVG(salary)
FROM employees
GROUP BY department_id, job_id, manager_id
UNION ALL
SELECT department_id, NULL, manager_id, AVG(salary)
FROM employees
GROUP BY department_id, manager_id
UNION ALL
SELECT NULL, job_id, manager_id, AVG(salary)
FROM employees
GROUP BY job_id, manager_id;
```

This statement requires three scans of the base table, which makes it inefficient.

CUBE and ROLLUP can be thought of as grouping sets with very specific semantics and results. The following equivalencies show this fact:

CUBE(a, b, c) is equivalent to	GROUPING SETS ((a, b, c), (a, b), (a, c), (b, c), (a), (b), (c), ())
ROLLUP(a, b, c) is equivalent to	GROUPING SETS ((a, b, c), (a, b), (a), ())

GROUPING SETS: Example

```
SELECT      department_id, job_id,
            manager_id, AVG(salary)
FROM        employees
GROUP BY   GROUPING SETS
((department_id,job_id), (job_id,manager_id));
```

	DEPARTMENT_ID	JOB_ID	MANAGER_ID	Avg(Salary)
1	(null)	SH_CLERK	122	3200
2	(null)	AC_MGR	101	12000
3	(null)	ST_MAN	100	7280
4	...	ST_CLERK	121	2675

1

	DEPARTMENT_ID	JOB_ID	MANAGER_ID	Avg(Salary)
39	110	AC_MGR	(null)	12000
40	90	AD_PRES	(null)	24000
41	60	IT_PROG	(null)	5760
42	100	FI_MGR	(null)	12000

2

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The query in the slide calculates aggregates over two groupings. The table is divided into the following groups:

- Department ID, Job ID
- Job ID, Manager ID

The average salaries for each of these groups are calculated. The result set displays the average salary for each of the two groups.

In the output, the group marked as 1 can be interpreted as the following:

- The average salary of all employees with the SH_CLERK job ID under manager 122 is 3,200.
- The average salary of all employees with the AC_MGR job ID under manager 101 is 12,000, and so on.

The group marked as 2 in the output is interpreted as the following:

- The average salary of all employees with the AC_MGR job ID in department 110 is 12,000.
- The average salary of all employees with the AD_PRES job ID in department 90 is 24,000, and so on.

The example in the slide can also be written as:

```
SELECT department_id, job_id, NULL as manager_id,  
      AVG(salary) as AVGSAL  
  FROM employees  
 GROUP BY department_id, job_id  
UNION ALL  
SELECT NULL, job_id, manager_id, avg(salary) as AVGSAL  
  FROM employees  
 GROUP BY job_id, manager_id;
```

In the absence of an optimizer that looks across query blocks to generate the execution plan, the preceding query would need two scans of the base table, EMPLOYEES. This could be very inefficient. Therefore, the usage of the GROUPING SETS statement is recommended.

Composite Columns

- A composite column is a collection of columns that are treated as a unit.
`ROLLUP (a, (b, c), d)`
- Use parentheses within the GROUP BY clause to group columns, so that they are treated as a unit while computing ROLLUP or CUBE operations.
- When used with ROLLUP or CUBE, composite columns would require skipping aggregation across certain levels.



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A composite column is a collection of columns that are treated as a unit during the computation of groupings. You specify the columns in parentheses as in the following statement: `ROLLUP (a, (b, c), d)`

Here, `(b, c)` forms a composite column and is treated as a unit. In general, composite columns are useful in ROLLUP, CUBE, and GROUPING SETS. For example, in CUBE or ROLLUP, composite columns would require skipping aggregation across certain levels.

That is, GROUP BY `ROLLUP(a, (b, c))` is equivalent to:

```
GROUP BY a, b, c UNION ALL  
GROUP BY a UNION ALL  
GROUP BY ()
```

Here, `(b, c)` is treated as a unit and ROLLUP is not applied across `(b, c)`. It is as though you have an alias—for example, `z` as an alias for `(b, c)`, and the GROUP BY expression reduces to: GROUP BY `ROLLUP(a, z)`.

Note: GROUP BY `()` is typically a SELECT statement with NULL values for the columns `a` and `b` and only the aggregate function. It is generally used for generating grand totals.

```
SELECT    NULL, NULL, aggregate_col  
FROM      <table_name>  
GROUP BY  () ;
```

Compare this with the normal ROLLUP as in:

```
GROUP BY ROLLUP(a, b, c)
```

This would be:

```
GROUP BY a, b, c UNION ALL
GROUP BY a, b UNION ALL
GROUP BY a UNION ALL
GROUP BY ()
```

Similarly:

```
GROUP BY CUBE((a, b), c)
```

This would be equivalent to:

```
GROUP BY a, b, c UNION ALL
GROUP BY a, b UNION ALL
GROUP BY c UNION ALL
GROUP BY ()
```

The following table shows the GROUPING SETS specification and the equivalent GROUP BY specification.

GROUPING SETS Statements	Equivalent GROUP BY Statements
GROUP BY GROUPING SETS(a, b, c)	GROUP BY a UNION ALL GROUP BY b UNION ALL GROUP BY c
GROUP BY GROUPING SETS(a, b, (b, c)) <i>(The GROUPING SETS expression has a composite column.)</i>	GROUP BY a UNION ALL GROUP BY b UNION ALL GROUP BY b, c
GROUP BY GROUPING SETS((a, b, c))	GROUP BY a, b, c
GROUP BY GROUPING SETS(a, (b), ())	GROUP BY a UNION ALL GROUP BY b UNION ALL GROUP BY ()
GROUP BY GROUPING SETS (a, ROLLUP(b, c)) <i>(The GROUPING SETS expression has a composite column.)</i>	GROUP BY a UNION ALL GROUP BY ROLLUP(b, c)

Composite Columns: Example

```
SELECT      department_id, job_id, manager_id,
            SUM(salary)
FROM        employees
GROUP BY   ROLLUP( department_id, (job_id, manager_id));
```

The diagram illustrates the output of the provided SQL query. It shows two result sets. The first result set (top) has 7 rows and is grouped by department_id. The second result set (bottom) has 6 rows and is grouped by department_id and (job_id, manager_id). Green circles numbered 1 through 4 point to specific rows in each set.

DEPARTMENT_ID	JOB_ID	MANAGER_ID	SUM(SALARY)
1	(null) SA_REP	149	7000
2	(null) (null)	(null)	7000
3	10 AD_ASST	101	4400
4	10 (null)	(null)	4400
5	20 MK_MAN	100	13000
6	20 MK_REP	201	6000
7	20 (null)	(null)	19000

DEPARTMENT_ID	JOB_ID	MANAGER_ID	SUM(SALARY)
40	100 FL_MGR	101	12000
41	100 FL_ACCOUNT	108	39600
42	100 (null)	(null)	51600
43	110 AC_MGR	101	12000
44	110 AC_ACCOUNT	205	6300
45	110 (null)	(null)	20300
46	(null) (null)	(null)	691400

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Consider the example:

```
SELECT department_id, job_id, manager_id, SUM(salary)
      FROM employees
 GROUP BY ROLLUP( department_id, job_id, manager_id);
```

This query results in the Oracle server computing the following groupings:

- (job_id, manager_id)
- (department_id, job_id, manager_id)
- (department_id)
- Grand total

If you are interested only in specific groups, you cannot limit the calculation to those groupings without using composite columns. With composite columns, this is possible by treating JOB_ID and MANAGER_ID columns as a single unit while rolling up. Columns enclosed in parentheses are treated as a unit while computing ROLLUP and CUBE. This is illustrated in the example in the slide. By enclosing the JOB_ID and MANAGER_ID columns in parentheses, you indicate to the Oracle server to treat JOB_ID and MANAGER_ID as a single unit—that is, a composite column.

The example in the slide computes the following groupings:

- (department_id, job_id, manager_id)
- (department_id)
- ()

The example in the slide displays the following:

- Total salary for every job and manager (labeled 1)
- Total salary for every department, job, and manager (labeled 2)
- Total salary for every department (labeled 3)
- Grand total (labeled 4)

The example in the slide can also be written as:

```
SELECT      department_id, job_id, manager_id, SUM(salary)
FROM        employees
GROUP       BY department_id,job_id, manager_id
UNION      ALL
SELECT      department_id, TO_CHAR(NULL),TO_NUMBER(NULL),
            SUM(salary)
FROM        employees
GROUP BY    department_id
UNION ALL
SELECT    TO_NUMBER(NULL), TO_CHAR(NULL),TO_NUMBER(NULL),  SUM(salary)
FROM      employees
GROUP BY  () ;
```

In the absence of an optimizer that looks across query blocks to generate the execution plan, the preceding query would need three scans of the base table, EMPLOYEES. This could be very inefficient. Therefore, the use of composite columns is recommended.

Concatenated Groupings

- Concatenated groupings offer a concise way to generate useful combinations of groupings.
- To specify concatenated grouping sets, you separate multiple grouping sets, ROLLUP, and CUBE operations with commas so that the Oracle server combines them into a single GROUP BY clause.
- The result is a cross-product of groupings from each GROUPING SET.

```
GROUP BY GROUPING SETS(a, b), GROUPING SETS(c, d)
```



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Concatenated groupings offer a concise way to generate useful combinations of groupings. The concatenated groupings are specified by listing multiple grouping sets, CUBEs, and ROLLUPs, and separating them with commas. The following is an example of concatenated grouping sets:

```
GROUP BY GROUPING SETS(a, b), GROUPING SETS(c, d)
```

This SQL example defines the following groupings:

(a, c), (a, d), (b, c), (b, d)

Concatenation of grouping sets is very helpful for these reasons:

- **Ease of query development:** You need not manually enumerate all groupings.
- **Use by applications:** SQL generated by online analytical processing (OLAP) applications often involves concatenation of grouping sets, with each GROUPING SET defining groupings needed for a dimension.

Concatenated Groupings: Example

```
SELECT      department_id, job_id, manager_id,
            SUM(salary)
FROM        employees
GROUP BY    department_id,
            ROLLUP(job_id),
            CUBE(manager_id);
```

	DEPARTMENT_ID	JOB_ID	MANAGER_ID	SUM(SALARY)
1	(null)	SA_REP	149	7000
2	10	AD_ASST	101	4400
3	20	MK_MAN	100	13000
4	20	MK_REP	201	6000
...				
1				
90 AD_VP				
90 AD_PRES				
...				
2				
90 (null)				
90 (null)				
90 (null)				
...				
3				
110 (null)				
110 (null)				
110 (null)				
...				
4				
110 (null)				
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Summary

In this appendix, you should have learned how to use the:

- ROLLUP operation to produce subtotal values
- CUBE operation to produce cross-tabulation values
- GROUPING function to identify the row values created by ROLLUP or CUBE
- GROUPING SETS syntax to define multiple groupings in the same query
- GROUP BY clause to combine expressions in various ways:
 - Composite columns
 - Concatenated grouping sets



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- ROLLUP and CUBE are extensions of the GROUP BY clause.
- ROLLUP is used to display subtotal and grand total values.
- CUBE is used to display cross-tabulation values.
- The GROUPING function enables you to determine whether a row is an aggregate produced by a CUBE or ROLLUP operator.
- With the GROUPING SETS syntax, you can define multiple groupings in the same query. GROUP BY computes all the groupings specified and combines them with UNION ALL.
- Within the GROUP BY clause, you can combine expressions in various ways:
 - To specify composite columns, you group columns within parentheses so that the Oracle server treats them as a unit while computing ROLLUP or CUBE operations.
 - To specify concatenated grouping sets, you separate multiple grouping sets, ROLLUP, and CUBE operations with commas so that the Oracle server combines them into a single GROUP BY clause. The result is a cross-product of groupings from each grouping set.

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Hierarchical Retrieval

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Objectives

After completing this appendix, you should be able to:

- Interpret the concept of a hierarchical query
- Create a tree-structured report
- Format hierarchical data
- Exclude branches from the tree structure



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In this appendix, you learn how to use hierarchical queries to create tree-structured reports.

Sample Data from the EMPLOYEES Table

	EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	MANAGER_ID
1	100	King	AD_PRES	(null)
2	101	Kochhar	AD_VP	100
3	102	De Haan	AD_VP	100
4	103	Hunold	IT_PROG	102
5	104	Ernst	IT_PROG	103
6	107	Lorentz	IT_PROG	103
...				
16	200	Whalen	AD_ASST	101
17	201	Hartstein	MK_MAN	100
18	202	Fay	MK_REP	201
19	205	Higgins	AC_MGR	101
20	206	Gietz	AC_ACCOUNT	205



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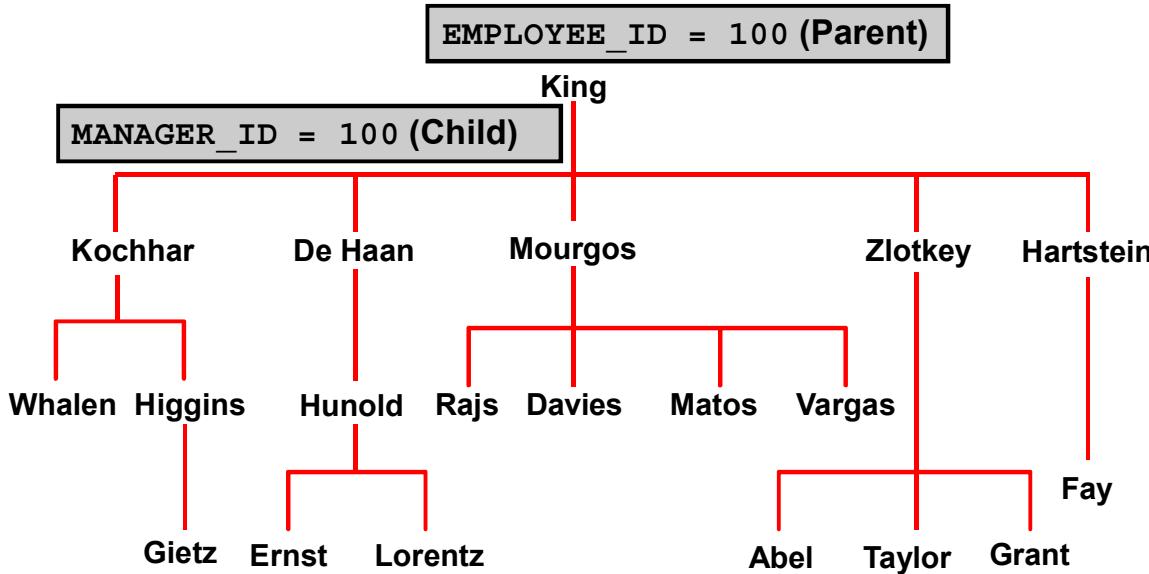
Using hierarchical queries, you can retrieve data based on a natural hierarchical relationship between the rows in a table. A relational database does not store records in a hierarchical way. However, where a hierarchical relationship exists between the rows of a single table, a process called *tree walking* enables the hierarchy to be constructed. A hierarchical query is a method of reporting, with the branches of a tree in a specific order.

Imagine a family tree with the eldest members of the family found close to the base or trunk of the tree and the youngest members representing branches of the tree. Branches can have their own branches, and so on.

A hierarchical query is possible when a relationship exists between rows in a table. For example, in the slide, you see that Kochhar, De Haan, and Hartstein report to MANAGER_ID 100, which is King's EMPLOYEE_ID.

Note: Hierarchical trees are used in various fields such as human genealogy (family trees), livestock (breeding purposes), corporate management (management hierarchies), manufacturing (product assembly), evolutionary research (species development), and scientific research.

Natural Tree Structure



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The `EMPLOYEES` table has a tree structure representing the management reporting line. The hierarchy can be created by looking at the relationship between equivalent values in the `EMPLOYEE_ID` and `MANAGER_ID` columns. This relationship can be exploited by joining the table to itself. The `MANAGER_ID` column contains the employee number of the employee's manager.

The parent-child relationship of a tree structure enables you to control:

- The direction in which the hierarchy is walked
- The starting point inside the hierarchy

Note: The slide displays an inverted tree structure of the management hierarchy of the employees in the `EMPLOYEES` table.

Hierarchical Queries

```
SELECT [LEVEL], column, expr...
FROM table
[WHERE condition(s)]
[START WITH condition(s)]
[CONNECT BY PRIOR condition(s)];
```

condition:

```
expr comparison_operator expr
```



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Keywords and Clauses

Hierarchical queries can be identified by the presence of the CONNECT BY and START WITH clauses.

In the syntax:

SELECT	Is the standard SELECT clause
LEVEL	For each row returned by a hierarchical query, the LEVEL pseudocolumn returns 1 for a root row, 2 for a child of a root, and so on.
FROM <i>table</i>	Specifies the table, view, or snapshot containing the columns. You can select from only one table.
WHERE	Restricts the rows returned by the query without affecting other rows of the hierarchy
<i>condition</i>	Is a comparison with expressions
START WITH	Specifies the root rows of the hierarchy (where to start). This clause is required for a true hierarchical query.
CONNECT BY	Specifies the columns in which the relationship between parent and child PRIOR rows exist. This clause is required for a hierarchical query.
PRIOR	

Walking the Tree

Starting Point

- Specifies the condition that must be met
- Accepts any valid condition

```
START WITH column1 = value
```

Using the EMPLOYEES table, start with the employee whose last name is Kochhar.

```
...START WITH last_name = 'Kochhar'
```



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The row or rows to be used as the root of the tree are determined by the START WITH clause. The START WITH clause can contain any valid condition.

Examples

Using the EMPLOYEES table, start with King, the president of the company.

```
... START WITH manager_id IS NULL
```

Using the EMPLOYEES table, start with employee Kochhar. A START WITH condition can contain a subquery.

```
... START WITH employee_id = (SELECT employee_id  
                           FROM   employees  
                           WHERE  last_name = 'Kochhar')
```

If the START WITH clause is omitted, the tree walk is started with all the rows in the table as root rows.

Note: The CONNECT BY and START WITH clauses are not American National Standards Institute (ANSI) SQL standard.

Walking the Tree

```
CONNECT BY PRIOR column1 = column2
```

Walk from the top down, using the EMPLOYEES table.

```
... CONNECT BY PRIOR employee_id = manager_id
```

Direction

Top down → Column1 = Parent Key
Column2 = Child Key

Bottom up → Column1 = Child Key
Column2 = Parent Key



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The direction of the query is determined by the CONNECT BY PRIOR column placement. For top-down, the PRIOR operator refers to the parent row. For bottom-up, the PRIOR operator refers to the child row. To find the child rows of a parent row, the Oracle server evaluates the PRIOR expression for the parent row and the other expressions for each row in the table. Rows for which the condition is true are the child rows of the parent. The Oracle server always selects child rows by evaluating the CONNECT BY condition with respect to a current parent row.

Examples

Walk from the top down using the EMPLOYEES table. Define a hierarchical relationship in which the EMPLOYEE_ID value of the parent row is equal to the MANAGER_ID value of the child row:

```
... CONNECT BY PRIOR employee_id = manager_id
```

Walk from the bottom up using the EMPLOYEES table:

```
... CONNECT BY PRIOR manager_id = employee_id
```

The PRIOR operator does not necessarily need to be coded immediately following CONNECT BY. Thus, the following CONNECT BY PRIOR clause gives the same result as the one in the preceding example:

```
... CONNECT BY employee_id = PRIOR manager_id
```

Note: The CONNECT BY clause cannot contain a subquery.

Walking the Tree: From the Bottom Up

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, job_id, manager_id  
FROM employees  
START WITH employee_id = 101  
CONNECT BY PRIOR manager_id = employee_id ;
```

	EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	MANAGER_ID
1	101	Kochhar	AD_VP	100
2	100	King	AD_PRES	(null)



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The example in the slide displays a list of managers starting with the employee whose employee ID is 101.

Walking the Tree: From the Top Down

```
SELECT last_name||' reports to '||  
PRIOR last_name "Walk Top Down"  
FROM employees  
START WITH last_name = 'King'  
CONNECT BY PRIOR employee_id = manager_id ;
```

```
Walk Top Down  
1 King reports to  
2 King reports to  
3 Kochhar reports to King  
4 Greenberg reports to Kochhar  
5 Faviet reports to Greenberg  
...  
105 Grant reports to Zlotkey  
106 Johnson reports to Zlotkey  
107 Hartstein reports to King  
108 Fay reports to Hartstein
```



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Walking from the top down, display the names of the employees and their manager. Use employee King as the starting point. Print only one column.

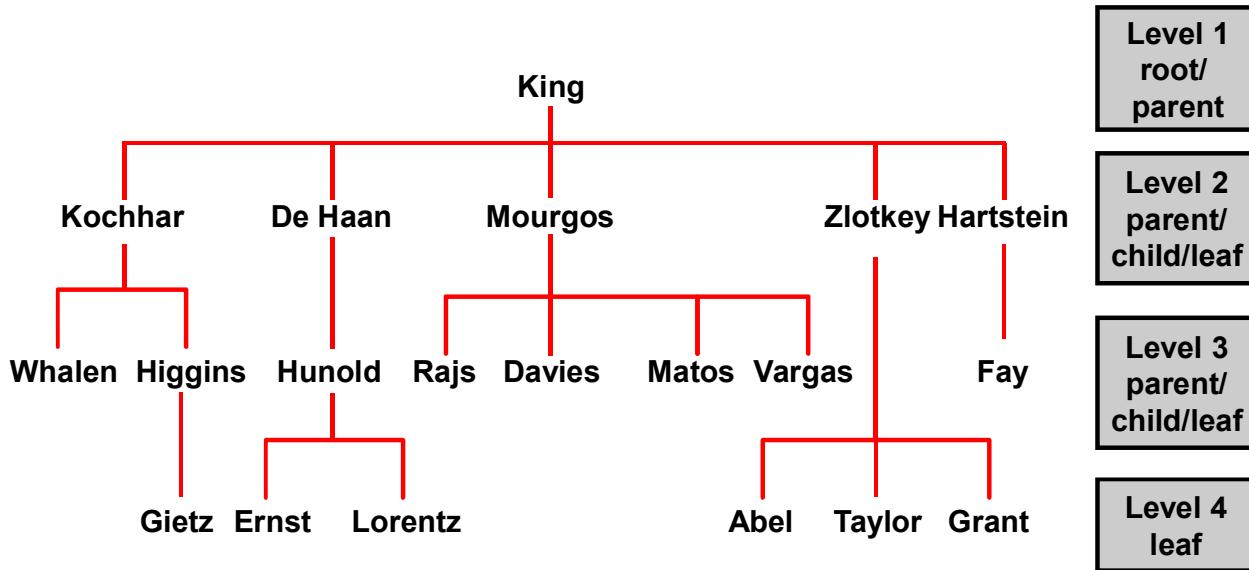
Example

In the following example, EMPLOYEE_ID values are evaluated for the parent row and MANAGER_ID and SALARY values are evaluated for the child rows. The PRIOR operator applies only to the EMPLOYEE_ID value.

```
... CONNECT BY PRIOR employee_id = manager_id  
AND salary > 15000;
```

To qualify as a child row, a row must have a MANAGER_ID value equal to the EMPLOYEE_ID value of the parent row and must have a SALARY value greater than \$15,000.

Ranking Rows with the LEVEL Pseudocolumn



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You can explicitly show the rank or level of a row in the hierarchy by using the `LEVEL` pseudocolumn. This will make your report more readable. The forks where one or more branches split away from a larger branch are called nodes, and the very end of a branch is called a leaf or leaf node. The graphic in the slide shows the nodes of the inverted tree with their `LEVEL` values. For example, employee Higgins is a parent and a child, whereas employee Davies is a child and a leaf.

LEVEL Pseudocolumn

Value	Level for Top Down	Level for Bottom up
1	A root node	A root node
2	A child of a root node	The parent of a root node
3	A child of a child, and so on	A parent of a parent, and so on

In the slide, King is the root or parent (`LEVEL = 1`). Kochhar, De Haan, Mourgos, Zlotkey, Hartstein, Higgins, and Hunold are children and also parents (`LEVEL = 2`). Whalen, Rajs, Davies, Matos, Vargas, Gietz, Ernst, Lorentz, Abel, Taylor, Grant, and Fay are children and leaves (`LEVEL = 3` and `LEVEL = 4`).

Note: A *root node* is the highest node within an inverted tree. A *child node* is any nonroot node. A *parent node* is any node that has children. A *leaf node* is any node without children. The number of levels returned by a hierarchical query may be limited by available user memory.

Formatting Hierarchical Reports Using LEVEL and LPAD

Create a report displaying company management levels, beginning with the highest level and indenting each of the following levels.

```
COLUMN org_chart FORMAT A12
SELECT LPAD(last_name, LENGTH(last_name)+(LEVEL*2)-2, '_')
       AS org_chart
  FROM employees
 START WITH first_name='Steven' AND last_name='King'
CONNECT BY PRIOR employee_id=manager_id
```



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The nodes in a tree are assigned level numbers from the root. Use the LPAD function in conjunction with the LEVEL pseudocolumn to display a hierarchical report as an indented tree.

In the example in the slide:

- LPAD(*char1, n [, char2]*) returns *char1*, left-padded to length *n* with the sequence of characters in *char2*. The argument *n* is the total length of the return value as it is displayed on your terminal screen.
- LPAD(*last_name, LENGTH(last_name)+(LEVEL*2)-2, '_'*) defines the display format
- *char1* is the LAST_NAME, *n* the total length of the return value, is length of the LAST_NAME + (LEVEL*2) - 2, and *char2* is '_'

That is, this tells SQL to take the LAST_NAME and left-pad it with the '_' character until the length of the resultant string is equal to the value determined by LENGTH(last_name) + (LEVEL*2) - 2.

For King, LEVEL = 1. Therefore, $(2 * 1) - 2 = 2 - 2 = 0$. So King does not get padded with any '_' character and is displayed in column 1.

For Kochhar, LEVEL = 2. Therefore, $(2 * 2) - 2 = 4 - 2 = 2$. So Kochhar gets padded with 2 ' _ ' characters and is displayed indented.

The rest of the records in the EMPLOYEES table are displayed similarly.

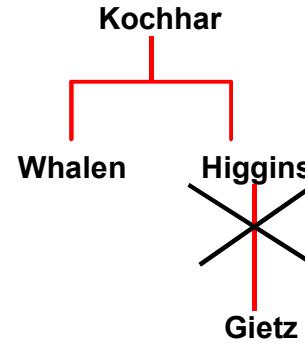
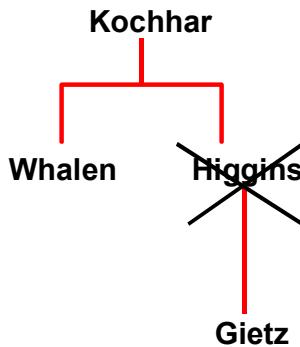
ORG_CHART	
1	King
2	Kochhar
3	Greenberg
4	Faviet
5	Chen
6	Sciarra
7	Urman
8	Popp
9	Whalen
10	Mavris
11	Baer
12	Higgins
13	Gietz
14	De Haan
15	Hunold
16	Ernst
17	Austin

Pruning Branches

Use the WHERE clause to eliminate a node.

Use the CONNECT BY clause to eliminate a branch.

```
WHERE last_name != 'Higgins' CONNECT BY PRIOR
      employee_id = manager_id
      AND last_name != 'Higgins'
```



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You can use the WHERE and CONNECT BY clauses to prune the tree (that is, to control which nodes or rows are displayed). The predicate you use acts as a Boolean condition.

Examples

Starting at the root, walk from the top down, and eliminate employee Higgins in the result, but process the child rows.

```
SELECT department_id, employee_id, last_name, job_id, salary
  FROM employees
 WHERE last_name != 'Higgins'
 START WITH manager_id IS NULL
 CONNECT BY PRIOR employee_id = manager_id;
```

Starting at the root, walk from the top down, and eliminate employee Higgins and all child rows.

```
SELECT department_id, employee_id, last_name, job_id, salary
  FROM employees
 START WITH manager_id IS NULL
 CONNECT BY PRIOR employee_id = manager_id
 AND last_name != 'Higgins';
```

Summary

In this appendix, you should have learned how to:

- Use hierarchical queries to view a hierarchical relationship between rows in a table
- Specify the direction and starting point of the query
- Eliminate nodes or branches by pruning



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You can use hierarchical queries to retrieve data based on a natural hierarchical relationship between rows in a table. The `LEVEL` pseudocolumn counts how far down a hierarchical tree you have traveled. You can specify the direction of the query using the `CONNECT BY PRIOR` clause. You can specify the starting point using the `START WITH` clause. You can use the `WHERE` and `CONNECT BY` clauses to prune the tree branches.

G

Writing Advanced Scripts

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Objectives

After completing this appendix, you should be able to:

- Describe the type of problems that are solved by using SQL to generate SQL
- Create a basic SQL script
- Capture the output in a file
- Dump the contents of a table to a file
- Generate a dynamic predicate

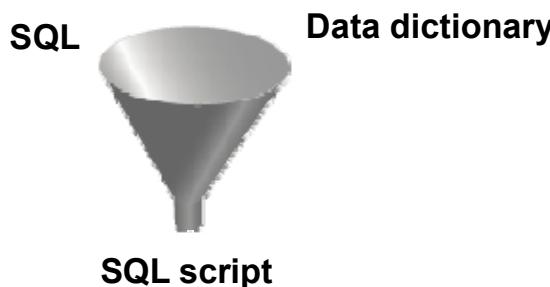


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In this appendix, you learn how to write a SQL script to generate a SQL script.

Using SQL to Generate SQL

- SQL can be used to generate scripts in SQL.
- The data dictionary is:
 - A collection of tables and views that contain database information
 - Created and maintained by the Oracle server



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SQL can be a powerful tool to generate other SQL statements. In most cases, this involves writing a script file. You can use SQL from SQL to:

- Avoid repetitive coding
- Access information from the data dictionary
- Drop or re-create database objects
- Generate dynamic predicates that contain run-time parameters

The examples used in this appendix involve selecting information from the data dictionary. The data dictionary is a collection of tables and views that contain information about the database. This collection is created and maintained by the Oracle server. All data dictionary tables are owned by the `SYS` user. Information stored in the data dictionary includes names of Oracle server users, privileges granted to users, database object names, table constraints, and audit information. There are four categories of data dictionary views. Each category has a distinct prefix that reflects its intended use.

Prefix	Description
<code>USER_</code>	Contains details of objects owned by the user
<code>ALL_</code>	Contains details of objects to which the user has been granted access rights, in addition to objects owned by the user
<code>DBA_</code>	Contains details of users with DBA privileges to access any object in the database
<code>V\$</code>	Stores information about database server performance and locking; available only to the DBA

Creating a Basic Script

```
SELECT 'CREATE TABLE ' || table_name ||  
      '_test' || 'AS SELECT * FROM '  
     || table_name || ' WHERE 1=2;'  
   AS "Create Table Script"  
FROM user_tables;
```

Create Table Script
1 CREATE TABLE REGIONS_test AS SELECT * FROM REGIONS WHERE 1=2; 2 CREATE TABLE LOCATIONS_test AS SELECT * FROM LOCATIONS WHERE 1=2; 3 CREATE TABLE DEPARTMENTS_test AS SELECT * FROM DEPARTMENTS WHERE 1=2; 4 CREATE TABLE JOBS_test AS SELECT * FROM JOBS WHERE 1=2; 5 CREATE TABLE EMPLOYEES_test AS SELECT * FROM EMPLOYEES WHERE 1=2; 6 CREATE TABLE JOB_HISTORY_test AS SELECT * FROM JOB_HISTORY WHERE 1=2;



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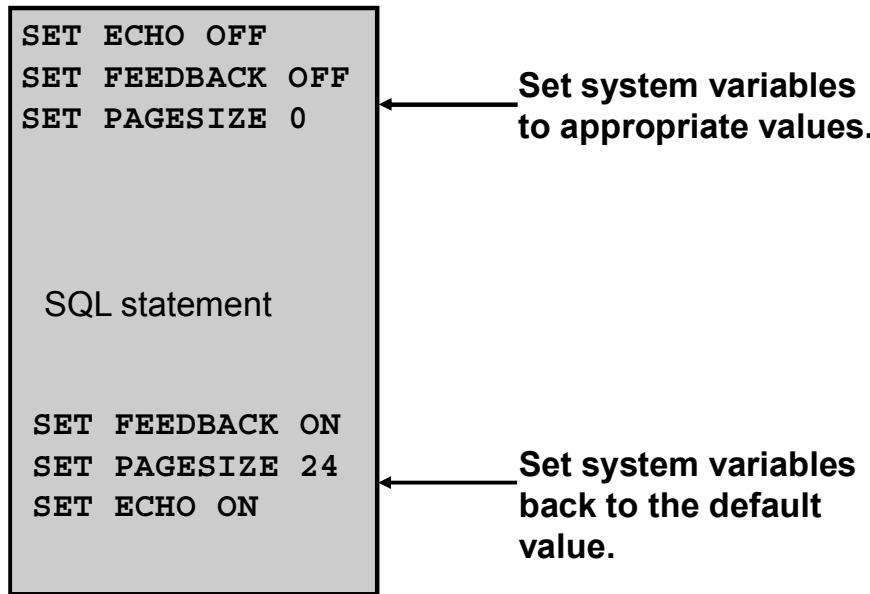
The example in the slide produces a report with CREATE TABLE statements from every table you own. Each CREATE TABLE statement produced in the report includes the syntax to create a table using the table name with a suffix of _test and having only the structure of the corresponding existing table. The old table name is obtained from the TABLE_NAME column of the data dictionary view USER_TABLES.

The next step is to enhance the report to automate the process.

Note: You can query the data dictionary tables to view various database objects that you own. The data dictionary views frequently used include:

- USER_TABLES: Displays description of the user's own tables
- USER_OBJECTS: Displays all the objects owned by the user
- USER_TAB_PRIVS_MADE: Displays all grants on objects owned by the user
- USER_COL_PRIVS_MADE: Displays all grants on columns of objects owned by the user

Controlling the Environment



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To execute the SQL statements that are generated, you must capture them in a file that can then be run. You must also plan to clean up the output that is generated and make sure that you suppress elements such as headings, feedback messages, top titles, and so on. In SQL Developer, you can save these statements to a script. To save the contents of the Enter SQL Statement box, click the Save icon or select Save from the File menu. Alternatively, you can right-click in the Enter SQL Statement box and select the Save File option from the drop-down menu.

Note: Some of the SQL*Plus statements are not supported by SQL Worksheet. For the complete list of SQL*Plus statements that are supported, and not supported by SQL Worksheet, refer to the topic titled *SQL*Plus Statements Supported and Not Supported in SQL Worksheet* in the SQL Developer online Help.

The Complete Picture

```
SET ECHO OFF
SET FEEDBACK OFF
SET PAGESIZE 0

SELECT 'DROP TABLE ' || object_name || ';' 
FROM user_objects
WHERE object_type = 'TABLE'
/

SET FEEDBACK ON
SET PAGESIZE 24
SET ECHO ON
```



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The output of the command in the slide is saved into a file called `dropem.sql` in SQL Developer. To save the output into a file in SQL Developer, you use the Save File option under the Script Output pane. The `dropem.sql` file contains the following data. This file can now be started from SQL Developer by locating the script file, loading it, and executing it.

'DROPTABLE' OBJECT_NAME ';'
1 DROP TABLE REGIONS;
2 DROP TABLE COUNTRIES;
3 DROP TABLE LOCATIONS;
4 DROP TABLE DEPARTMENTS;
5 DROP TABLE JOBS;
6 DROP TABLE EMPLOYEES;
7 DROP TABLE JOB_HISTORY;
8 DROP TABLE JOB_GRADES;

Dumping the Contents of a Table to a File

```
SET HEADING OFF ECHO OFF FEEDBACK OFF
SET PAGESIZE 0

SELECT
  'INSERT INTO departments_test VALUES
  (' || department_id || ', "' || department_name || "
   '', '' || location_id || ''');'
  AS "Insert Statements Script"
FROM   departments
/

SET PAGESIZE 24
SET HEADING ON ECHO ON FEEDBACK ON
```



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Sometimes, it is useful to have the values for the rows of a table in a text file in the format of an `INSERT INTO VALUES` statement. This script can be run to populate the table in case the table has been dropped accidentally.

The example in the slide produces `INSERT` statements for the `DEPARTMENTS_TEST` table, captured in the `data.sql` file using the Save File option in SQL Developer.

The contents of the `data.sql` script file are as follows:

```
INSERT INTO departments_test VALUES
  (10, 'Administration', 1700);
INSERT INTO departments_test VALUES
  (20, 'Marketing', 1800);
INSERT INTO departments_test VALUES
  (50, 'Shipping', 1500);
INSERT INTO departments_test VALUES
  (60, 'IT', 1400);
...
```

Dumping the Contents of a Table to a File

Source	Result
' '' X '' '	'X'
' '' '' '	'
' '' '' department_name '' '' '	'Administration'
' '' , '' '' '	', '
' '' ') ; '	') ;



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You may have noticed the large number of single quotation marks in the previous slide. A set of four single quotation marks produces one single quotation mark in the final statement. Also remember that character and date values must be enclosed within quotation marks.

Within a string, to display one quotation mark, you need to prefix it with another single quotation mark. For example, in the fifth example in the slide, the surrounding quotation marks are for the entire string. The second quotation mark acts as a prefix to display the third quotation mark. Thus, the result is a single quotation mark followed by the parenthesis, followed by the semicolon.

Generating a Dynamic Predicate

```
COLUMN my_col NEW_VALUE dyn_where_clause

SELECT DECODE('&&deptno', null,
DECODE ('&&hiredate', null, ' ',
'WHERE hire_date=TO_DATE('' || '&&hiredate'', ''DD-MON-YYYY'' )'),
DECODE ('&&hiredate', null,
'WHERE department_id = ' || '&&deptno',
'WHERE department_id = ' || '&&deptno' ||
' AND hire_date = TO_DATE('' || '&&hiredate'', ''DD-MON-YYYY'' )')
AS my_col FROM dual;
```

```
SELECT last_name FROM employees &dyn_where_clause;
```



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The example in the slide generates a `SELECT` statement that retrieves data of all employees in a department who were hired on a specific day. The script generates the `WHERE` clause dynamically.

Note: After the user variable is in place, you must use the `UNDEFINE` command to delete it.

The first `SELECT` statement prompts you to enter the department number. If you do not enter any department number, the department number is treated as null by the `DECODE` function, and the user is then prompted for the hire date. If you do not enter any hire date, the hire date is treated as null by the `DECODE` function and the dynamic `WHERE` clause that is generated is also a null, which causes the second `SELECT` statement to retrieve all the rows from the `EMPLOYEES` table.

Note: The `NEW_V[ALUE]` variable specifies a variable to hold a column value. You can reference the variable in `TTITLE` commands. Use `NEW_VALUE` to display column values or the date in the top title. You must include the column in a `BREAK` command with the `SKIP PAGE` action. The variable name cannot contain a pound sign (#). `NEW_VALUE` is useful for master/detail reports in which there is a new master record for each page.

Note: Here, the hire date must be entered in the DD-MON-YYYY format.

The SELECT statement in the slide can be interpreted as follows:

```
IF      (<<deptno>> is not entered)  THEN
    IF  (<<hiredate>> is not entered)   THEN
        return empty string
    ELSE
        return the string 'WHERE hire_date =
TO_DATE(''<<hiredate>>'', 'DD-MON-YYYY')'
    ELSE
        IF (<<hiredate>> is not entered)  THEN
            return the string 'WHERE department_id =
<<deptno>> entered'
        ELSE
            return the string 'WHERE department_id =
<<deptno>> entered
                                AND hire_date =
TO_DATE(''<<hiredate>>'', 'DD-MON-YYYY')'
        END IF
```

The returned string becomes the value of the DYN_WHERE_CLAUSE variable, which will be used in the second SELECT statement.

Note: Use SQL*Plus for these examples.

When the first example in the slide is executed, the user is prompted for the values for DEPTNO and HIREDATE:

Enter the values of DEPTNO and HIREDATE: 10 and 17-SEP-2007

The following value for MY_COL is generated:

```
MY_COL
1 WHERE department_id = 10 AND hire_date = TO_DATE('17-SEP-2007', 'DD-MON-YYYY')
```

When the second example in the slide is executed, the following output is generated

LAST_NAME

Whalen

Summary

In this appendix, you should have learned how to:

- Create a basic SQL script
- Capture the output in a file
- Dump the contents of a table to a file
- Generate a dynamic predicate



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SQL can be used to generate SQL scripts. These scripts can be used to avoid repetitive coding, drop or re-create objects, get help from the data dictionary, and generate dynamic predicates that contain run-time parameters.

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Oracle Database Architectural Components



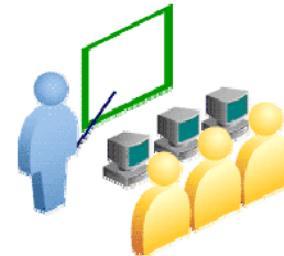
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Objectives

After completing this appendix, you should be able to:

- List the major database architectural components
- Describe the background processes
- Explain the memory structures
- Correlate the logical and physical storage structures



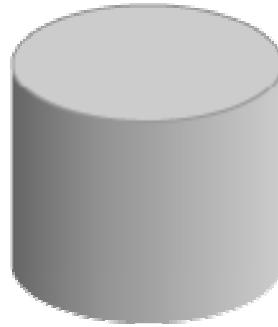
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This appendix provides an overview of the Oracle Database architecture. You learn about the physical and logical structures and various components of Oracle Database and their functions.

Oracle Database Architecture: Overview

The Oracle Relational Database Management System (RDBMS) is a database management system that provides an open, comprehensive, integrated approach to information management.



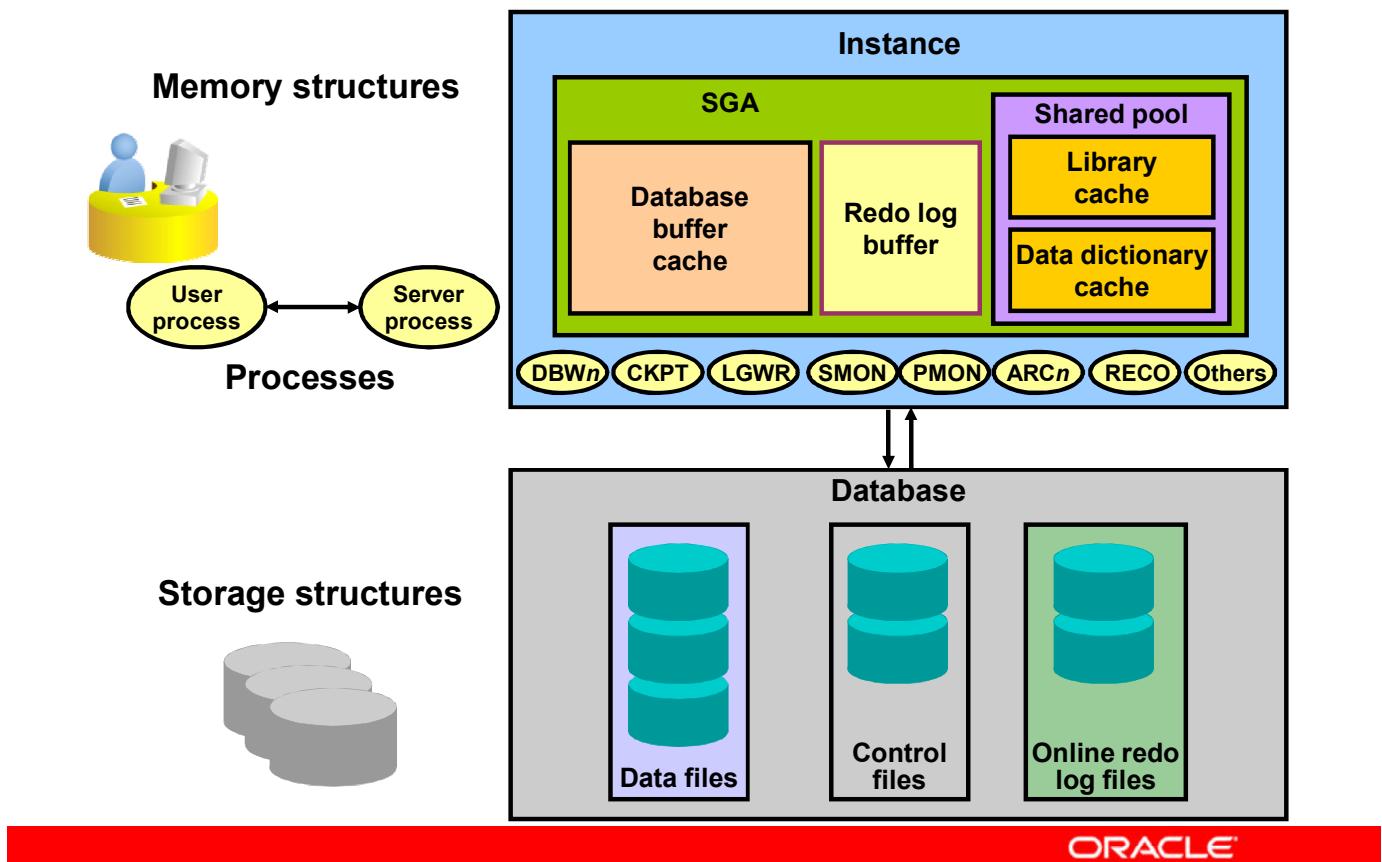
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A database is a collection of data treated as a unit. The purpose of a database is to store and retrieve related information.

An Oracle database reliably manages a large amount of data in a multiuser environment so that many users can concurrently access the same data. This is accomplished while delivering high performance. At the same time, it prevents unauthorized access and provides efficient solutions for failure recovery.

Oracle Database Server Structures



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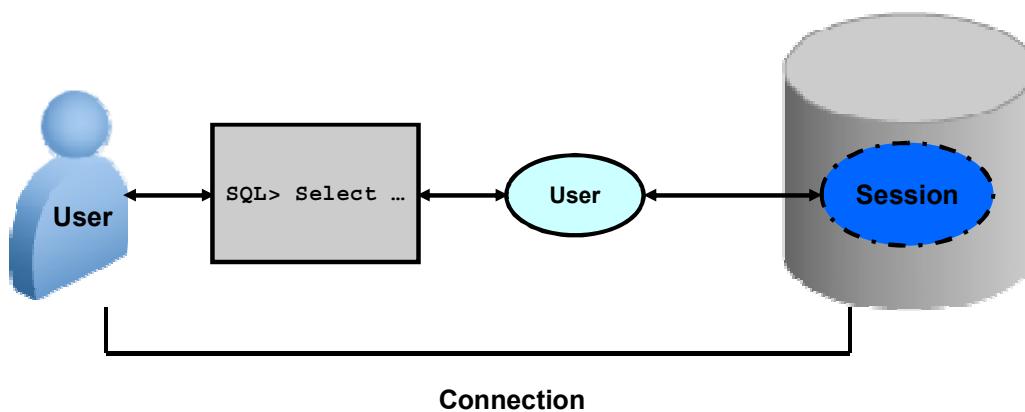
The Oracle Database consists of two main components—the instance and the database.

- The instance consists of the System Global Area (SGA), which is a collection of memory structures, and the background processes that perform tasks within the database. Every time an instance is started, the SGA is allocated and the background processes are started.
- The database consists of both physical structures and logical structures. Because the physical and logical structures are separate, the physical storage of data can be managed without affecting access to logical storage structures. The physical storage structures include:
 - The control files where the database configuration is stored
 - The redo log files that have information required for database recovery
 - The data files where all data is stored

An Oracle instance uses memory structures and processes to manage and access the database storage structures. All memory structures exist in the main memory of the computers that constitute the database server. Processes are jobs that work in the memory of these computers. A process is defined as a “thread of control” or a mechanism in an operating system that can run a series of steps.

Connecting to the Database

- Connection: Communication pathway between a user process and a database instance
- Session: A specific connection of a user to a database instance through a user process



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To access information in the database, the user needs to connect to the database using a tool (such as SQL*Plus). After the user establishes connection, a session is created for the user. Connection and session are closely related to user process but are very different in meaning.

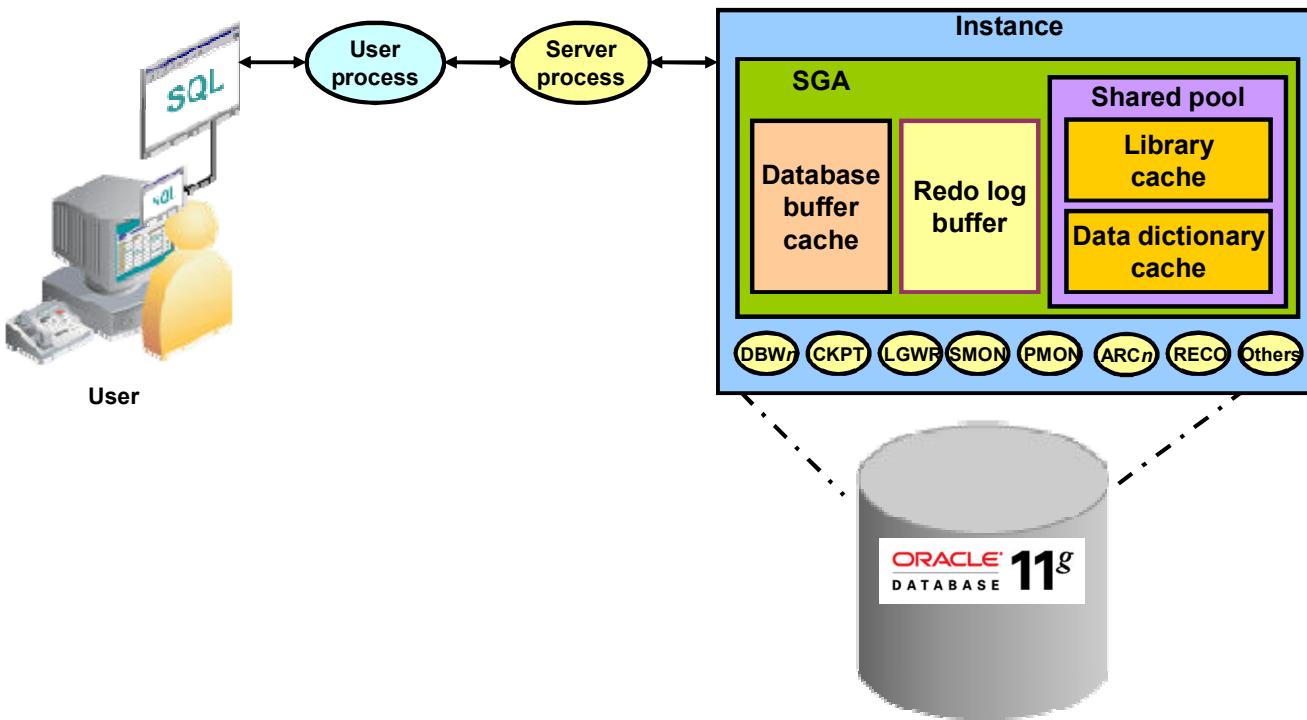
A connection is a communication pathway between a user process and an Oracle Database instance. A communication pathway is established using available interprocess communication mechanisms or network software (when different computers run the database application and Oracle Database, and communicate through a network).

A session represents the state of a current user login to the database instance. For example, when a user starts SQL*Plus, the user must provide a valid username and password, and then a session is established for that user. A session lasts from the time the user connects until the time the user disconnects or exits the database application.

In the case of a dedicated connection, the session is serviced by a permanent dedicated process. In the case of a shared connection, the session is serviced by an available server process selected from a pool, either by the middle tier or by Oracle shared server architecture.

Multiple sessions can be created and exist concurrently for a single Oracle Database user using the same username, but through different applications, or multiple invocations of the same application.

Interacting with an Oracle Database



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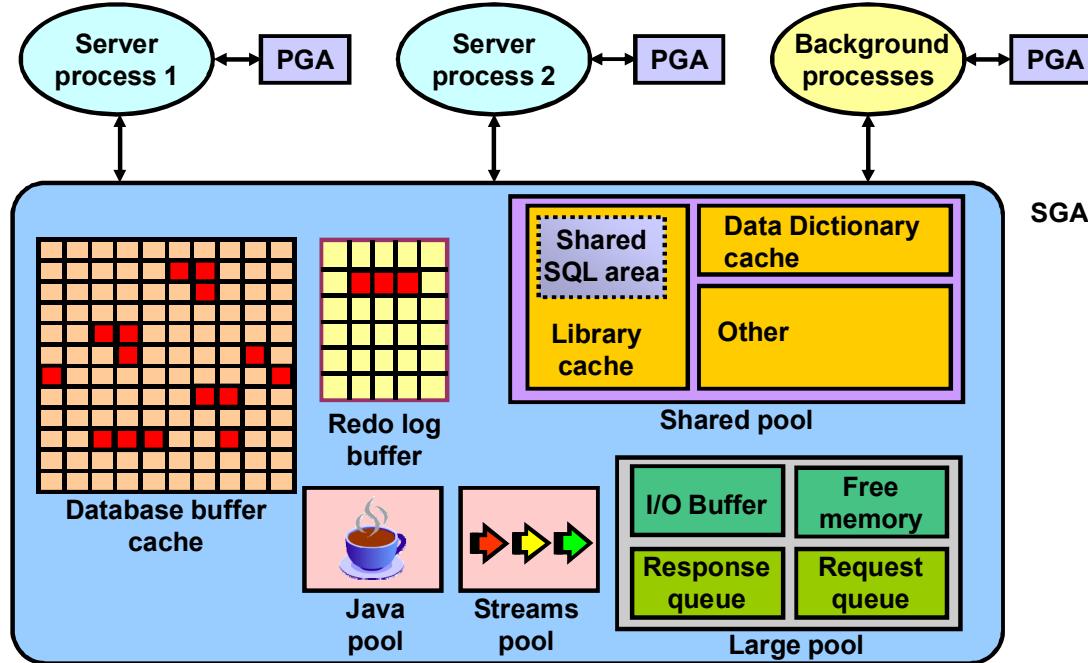
The following example describes Oracle Database operations at the most basic level. It illustrates an Oracle Database configuration where the user and associated server process are on separate computers, connected through a network.

1. An instance has started on a node where Oracle Database is installed, often called the host or database server.
2. A user starts an application spawning a user process. The application attempts to establish a connection to the server. (The connection may be local, client server, or a three-tier connection from a middle tier.)
3. The server runs a listener that has the appropriate Oracle Net Services handler. The server detects the connection request from the application and creates a dedicated server process on behalf of the user process.
4. The user runs a DML-type SQL statement and commits the transaction. For example, the user changes the address of a customer in a table and commits the change.
5. The server process receives the statement and checks the shared pool (an SGA component) for any shared SQL area that contains a similar SQL statement. If a shared SQL area is found, the server process checks the user's access privileges to the requested data, and the existing shared SQL area is used to process the statement. If not, a new shared SQL area is allocated for the statement, so it can be parsed and processed.

6. The server process retrieves any necessary data values, either from the actual data file (in which the table is stored) or those cached in the SGA.
7. The server process modifies data in the SGA. Because the transaction is committed, the log writer process (LGWR) immediately records the transaction in the redo log file. The database writer process (DBW n) writes modified blocks permanently to disk when doing so is efficient.
8. If the transaction is successful, the server process sends a message across the network to the application. If it is not successful, an error message is transmitted.
9. Throughout this entire procedure, the other background processes run, watching for conditions that require intervention. In addition, the database server manages other users' transactions and prevents contention between transactions that request the same data.

Oracle Memory Architecture

DB structures → Memory
 - Process
 - Storage



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Oracle Database creates and uses memory structures for various purposes. For example, memory stores program code being run, data shared among users, and private data areas for each connected user.

Two basic memory structures are associated with an instance:

- The System Global Area (SGA) is a group of shared memory structures, known as SGA components, that contain data and control information for one Oracle Database instance. The SGA is shared by all server and background processes. Examples of data stored in the SGA include cached data blocks and shared SQL areas.
- The Program Global Areas (PGA) are memory regions that contain data and control information for a server or background process. A PGA is nonshared memory created by Oracle Database when a server or background process is started. Access to the PGA is exclusive to the server process. Each server process and background process has its own PGA.

The SGA is the memory area that contains data and control information for the instance. The SGA includes the following data structures:

- **Database buffer cache:** Caches blocks of data retrieved from the database
- **Redo Log buffer:** Caches redo information (used for instance recovery) until it can be written to the physical redo log files stored on the disk
- **Shared pool:** Caches various constructs that can be shared among users
- **Large pool:** Is an optional area that provides large memory allocations for certain large processes, such as Oracle backup and recovery operations, and input/output (I/O) server processes
- **Java pool:** Is used for all session-specific Java code and data within the Java Virtual Machine (JVM)
- **Streams pool:** Is used by Oracle Streams to store information required by capture and apply

When you start the instance by using Enterprise Manager or SQL*Plus, the amount of memory allocated for the SGA is displayed.

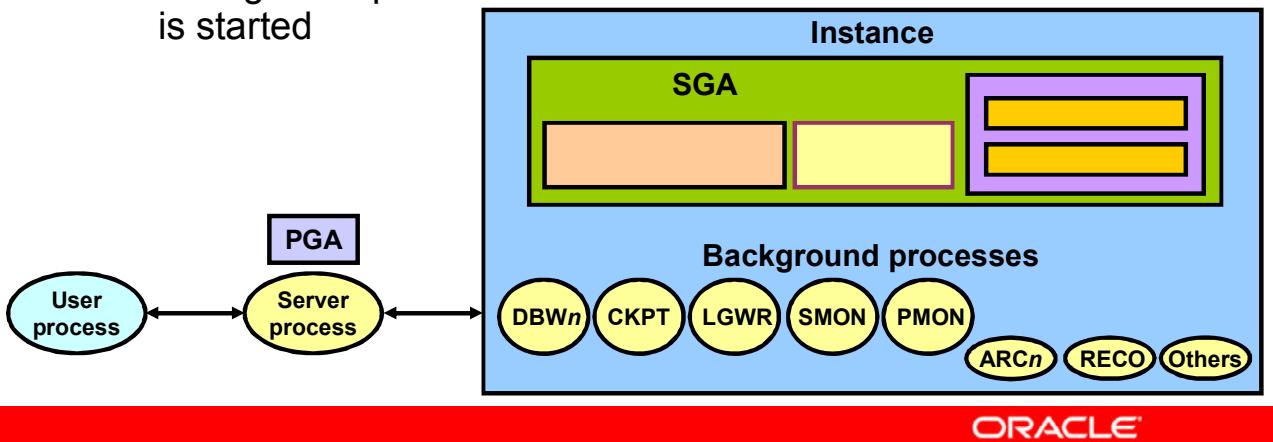
With the dynamic SGA infrastructure, the size of the database buffer cache, the shared pool, the large pool, the Java pool, and the Streams pool changes without shutting down the instance.

Oracle Database uses initialization parameters to create and configure memory structures. For example, the `SGA_TARGET` parameter specifies the total size of the SGA components. If you set `SGA_TARGET` to 0, Automatic Shared Memory Management is disabled.

Process Architecture

DB structures
 - Memory
 → Process
 - Storage

- User process:
 - Is started when a database user or a batch process connects to the Oracle Database
- Database processes:
 - Server process: Connects to the Oracle instance and is started when a user establishes a session
 - Background processes: Are started when an Oracle instance is started



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The processes in an Oracle Database server can be categorized into two major groups:

- User processes that run the application or Oracle tool code
- Oracle Database processes that run the Oracle database server code. These include server processes and background processes.

When a user runs an application program or an Oracle tool such as SQL*Plus, Oracle Database creates a *user process* to run the user's application. The Oracle Database also creates a *server process* to execute the commands issued by the user process. In addition, the Oracle server also has a set of *background processes* for an instance that interact with each other and with the operating system to manage the memory structures and asynchronously perform I/O to write data to disk, and perform other required tasks.

The process structure varies for different Oracle Database configurations, depending on the operating system and the choice of Oracle Database options. The code for connected users can be configured as a dedicated server or a shared server.

- With a dedicated server, for each user, the database application is run by a different process (a user process) than the one that runs the Oracle server code (a dedicated server process).
- A shared server eliminates the need for a dedicated server process for each connection. A dispatcher directs multiple incoming network session requests to a pool of shared server processes. A shared server process serves any client request.

Server Processes

Oracle Database creates server processes to handle the requests of user processes connected to the instance. In some situations when the application and Oracle Database operate on the same computer, it is possible to combine the user process and the corresponding server process into a single process to reduce system overhead. However, when the application and Oracle Database operate on different computers, a user process always communicates with Oracle Database through a separate server process.

Server processes created on behalf of each user's application can perform one or more of the following:

- Parse and run SQL statements issued through the application.
- Read necessary data blocks from data files on disk into the shared database buffers of the SGA, if the blocks are not already present in the SGA.
- Return results in such a way that the application can process the information.

Background Processes

To maximize performance and accommodate many users, a multiprocess Oracle Database system uses some additional Oracle Database processes called background processes. An Oracle Database instance can have many background processes.

The following background processes are required for a successful startup of the database instance:

- Database writer (DBW n)
- Log writer (LGWR)
- Checkpoint (CKPT)
- System monitor (SMON)
- Process monitor (PMON)

The following background processes are a few examples of optional background processes that can be started if required:

- Recoverer (RECO)
- Job queue
- Archiver (ARC n)
- Queue monitor (QM n)

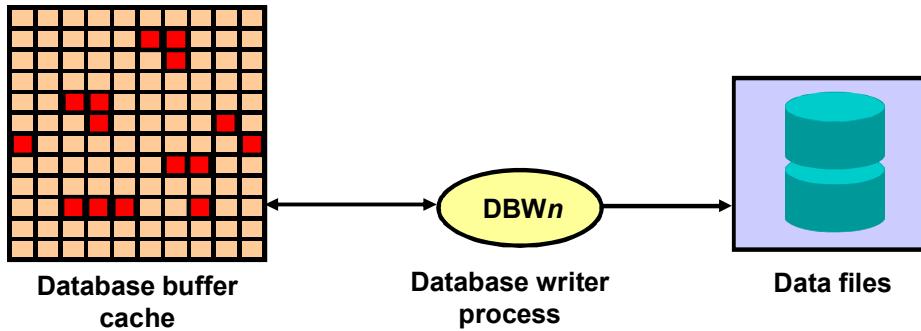
Other background processes may be found in more advanced configurations such as Real Application Clusters (RAC). See the V\$BGPPROCESS view for more information about the background processes.

On many operating systems, background processes are created automatically when an instance is started.

Database Writer Process

Writes modified (dirty) buffers in the database buffer cache to disk:

- Asynchronously while performing other processing
- Periodically to advance the checkpoint



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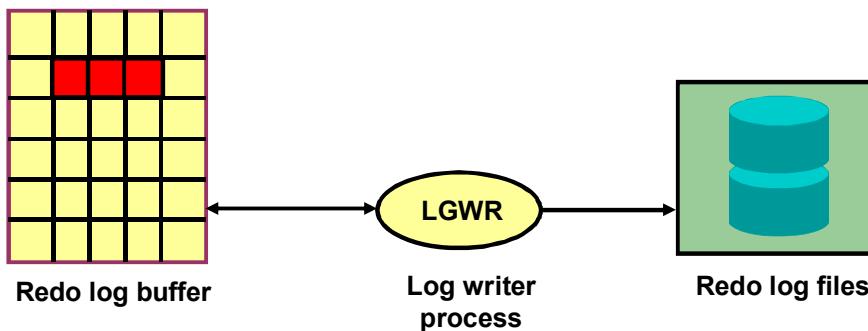
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The database writer (DBW n) process writes the contents of buffers to data files. The DBW n processes are responsible for writing modified (dirty) buffers in the database buffer cache to disk. Although one database writer process (DBW0) is adequate for most systems, you can configure additional processes (DBW1 through DBW9 and DBWa through DBWj) to improve write performance if your system modifies data heavily. These additional DBW n processes are not useful on uniprocessor systems.

When a buffer in the database buffer cache is modified, it is marked “dirty” and is added to the LRUW list of dirty buffers that is kept in system change number (SCN) order, thereby matching the order of Redo corresponding to these changed buffers that is written to the Redo logs. When the number of available buffers in the buffer cache falls below an internal threshold such that server processes find it difficult to obtain available buffers, DBW n writes dirty buffers to the data files in the order that they were modified by following the order of the LRUW list.

Log Writer Process

- Writes the redo log buffer to a redo log file on disk
- LGWR writes:
 - A process commits a transaction
 - When the redo log buffer is one-third full
 - Before a DBW n process writes modified buffers to disk



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The log writer (LGWR) process is responsible for redo log buffer management by writing the redo log buffer entries to a redo log file on disk. LGWR writes all redo entries that have been copied into the buffer since the last time it wrote.

The redo log buffer is a circular buffer. When LGWR writes redo entries from the redo log buffer to a redo log file, server processes can then copy new entries over the entries in the redo log buffer that have been written to disk. LGWR normally writes fast enough to ensure that space is always available in the buffer for new entries, even when access to the redo log is heavy.

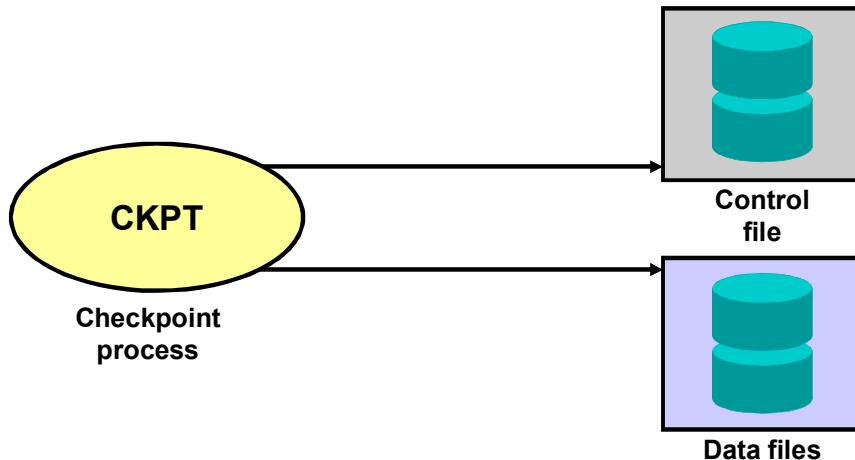
LGWR writes one contiguous portion of the buffer to disk. LGWR writes:

- When a user process commits a transaction
- When the redo log buffer is one-third full
- Before a DBW n process writes modified buffers to disk, if necessary

Checkpoint Process

Records checkpoint information in:

- The control file
- Each datafile header



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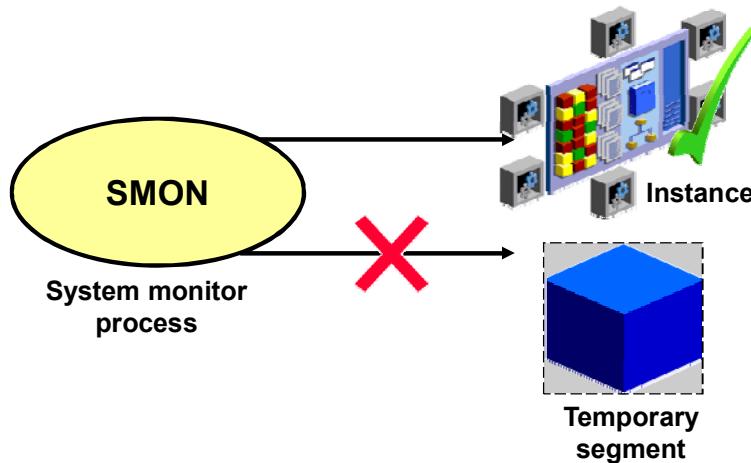
A checkpoint is a data structure that defines an SCN in the redo thread of a database. Checkpoints are recorded in the control file and each data file header, and are a crucial element of recovery.

When a checkpoint occurs, Oracle Database must update the headers of all data files to record the details of the checkpoint. This is done by the CKPT process. The CKPT process does not write blocks to disk; DBW n always performs that work. The SCNs recorded in the file headers guarantee that all the changes made to database blocks before that SCN have been written to disk.

The statistic DBWR checkpoints displayed by the SYSTEM_STATISTICS monitor in Oracle Enterprise Manager indicate the number of checkpoint requests completed.

System Monitor Process

- Performs recovery at instance startup
- Cleans up unused temporary segments



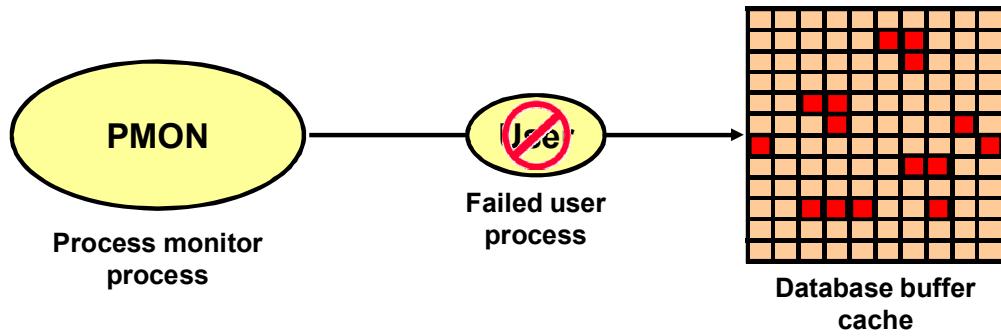
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The system monitor (SMON) process performs recovery, if necessary, at instance startup. SMON is also responsible for cleaning up temporary segments that are no longer in use. If any terminated transactions were skipped during instance recovery because of file-read or offline errors, SMON recovers them when the tablespace or file is brought back online. SMON checks regularly to see whether it is needed. Other processes can call SMON if they detect a need for it.

Process Monitor Process

- Performs process recovery when a user process fails:
 - Cleans up the database buffer cache
 - Frees resources used by the user process
- Monitors sessions for idle session timeout
- Dynamically registers database services with listeners



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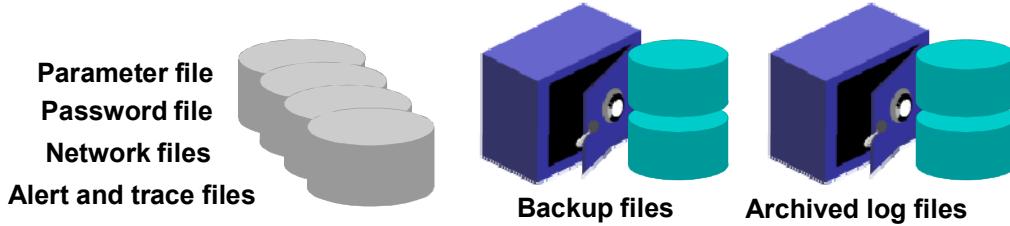
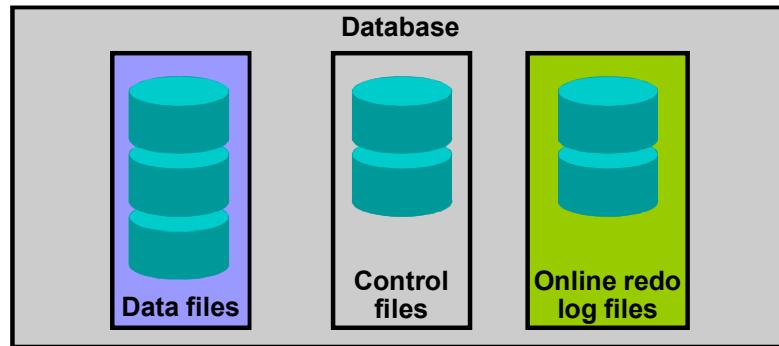
The process monitor (PMON) performs process recovery when a user process fails. PMON is responsible for cleaning up the database buffer cache and freeing resources that the user process was using. For example, it resets the status of the active transaction table, releases locks, and removes the process ID from the list of active processes.

PMON periodically checks the status of dispatcher and server processes, and restarts any that have stopped running (but not any that Oracle Database has terminated intentionally). PMON also registers information about the instance and dispatcher processes with the network listener.

Like SMON, PMON checks regularly to see whether it is needed and can be called if another process detects the need for it.

Oracle Database Storage Architecture

DB structures
 - Memory
 - Process
 → **Storage**



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The files that constitute an Oracle database are organized into the following:

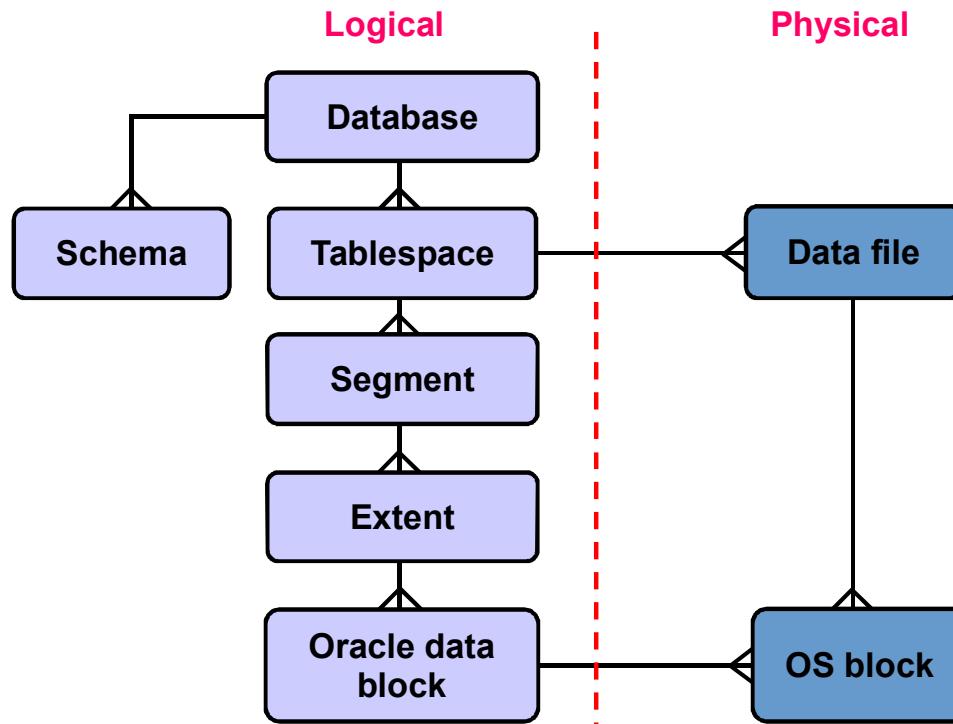
- **Control files:** Contain data about the database itself (that is, physical database structure information). These files are critical to the database. Without them, you cannot open data files to access the data within the database.
- **Data files:** Contain the user or application data of the database, as well as metadata and the data dictionary
- **Online redo log files:** Allow for instance recovery of the database. If the database server crashes and does not lose any data files, the instance can recover the database with the information in these files.

The following additional files are important to the successful running of the database:

- **Backup files:** Are used for database recovery. You typically restore a backup file when a media failure or user error has damaged or deleted the original file.
- **Archived log files:** Contain an ongoing history of the data changes (redo) that are generated by the instance. Using these files and a backup of the database, you can recover a lost data file. That is, archive logs enable the recovery of restored data files.
- **Parameter file:** Is used to define how the instance is configured when it starts up
- **Password file:** Allows sysdba/sysoper/sysasm to connect remotely to the database and perform administrative tasks

- **Network files:** Are used for starting the database listener and store information required for user connections
- **Trace files:** Each server and background process can write to an associated trace file. When an internal error is detected by a process, the process dumps information about the error to its trace file. Some of the information written to a trace file is intended for the database administrator, whereas other information is for Oracle Support Services.
- **Alert log files:** These are special trace entries. The alert log of a database is a chronological log of messages and errors. Each instance has one alert log file. Oracle recommends that you review this alert log periodically.

Logical and Physical Database Structures



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An Oracle database has logical and physical storage structures.

Tablespaces

A database is divided into logical storage units called tablespaces, which group related logical structures together. For example, tablespaces commonly group all of an application's objects to simplify some administrative operations. You may have a tablespace for application data and an additional one for application indexes.

Databases, Tablespaces, and Data Files

The relationship among databases, tablespaces, and data files is illustrated in the slide. Each database is logically divided into one or more tablespaces. One or more data files are explicitly created for each tablespace to physically store the data of all logical structures in a tablespace. If it is a TEMPORARY tablespace, instead of a data file, the tablespace has a temporary file.

Schemas

A schema is a collection of database objects that are owned by a database user. Schema objects are the logical structures that directly refer to the database's data. Schema objects include such structures as tables, views, sequences, stored procedures, synonyms, indexes, clusters, and database links. In general, schema objects include everything that your application creates in the database.

Data Blocks

At the finest level of granularity, an Oracle database's data is stored in data blocks. One data block corresponds to a specific number of bytes of physical database space on the disk. A data block size is specified for each tablespace when it is created. A database uses and allocates free database space in Oracle data blocks.

Extents

The next level of logical database space is called an extent. An extent is a specific number of contiguous data blocks (obtained in a single allocation) that are used to store specific type of information.

Segments

The level of logical database storage above an extent is called a segment. A segment is a set of extents allocated for a certain logical structure. For example, the different types of segments include:

- **Data segments:** Each nonclustered, non-indexed-organized table has a data segment with the exception of external tables, global temporary tables, and partitioned tables, where each table has one or more segments. All of the table's data is stored in the extents of its data segment. For a partitioned table, each partition has a data segment. Each cluster has a data segment. The data of every table in the cluster is stored in the cluster's data segment.
- **Index segments:** Each index has an index segment that stores all of its data. For a partitioned index, each partition has an index segment.
- **Undo segments:** One UNDO tablespace is created per database instance that contains numerous undo segments to temporarily store *undo* information. The information in an undo segment is used to generate read-consistent database information and, during database recovery, to roll back uncommitted transactions for users.
- **Temporary segments:** Temporary segments are created by the Oracle Database when a SQL statement needs a temporary work area to complete execution. When the statement finishes execution, the temporary segment's extents are returned to the instance for future use. Specify a default temporary tablespace for every user or a default temporary tablespace, which is used databasewide.

The Oracle Database dynamically allocates space. When the existing extents of a segment are full, additional extents are added. Because extents are allocated as needed, the extents of a segment may or may not be contiguous on the disk.

Processing a SQL Statement

- Connect to an instance using:
 - The user process
 - The server process
- The Oracle server components that are used depend on the type of SQL statement:
 - Queries return rows.
 - Data manipulation language (DML) statements log changes.
 - Commit ensures transaction recovery.
- Some Oracle server components do not participate in SQL statement processing.



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Not all the components of an Oracle instance are used to process SQL statements. The user and server processes are used to connect a user to an Oracle instance. These processes are not part of the Oracle instance, but are required to process a SQL statement.

Some of the background processes, SGA structures, and database files are used to process SQL statements. Depending on the type of SQL statement, different components are used:

- Queries require additional processing to return rows to the user.
- DML statements require additional processing to log the changes made to the data.
- Commit processing ensures that the modified data in a transaction can be recovered.

Some required background processes do not directly participate in processing a SQL statement, but are used to improve performance and to recover the database. For example, the optional Archiver background process, ARCn, is used to ensure that a production database can be recovered.

Processing a Query

- Parse:
 - Search for an identical statement.
 - Check the syntax, object names, and privileges.
 - Lock the objects used during parse.
 - Create and store the execution plan.
- Execute: Identify the rows selected.
- Fetch: Return the rows to the user process.



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Queries are different from other types of SQL statements because, if successful, they return data as results. Other statements simply return success or failure, whereas a query can return one row or thousands of rows.

There are three main stages in the processing of a query:

- Parse
- Execute
- Fetch

During the *parse* stage, the SQL statement is passed from the user process to the server process, and a parsed representation of the SQL statement is loaded into a shared SQL area.

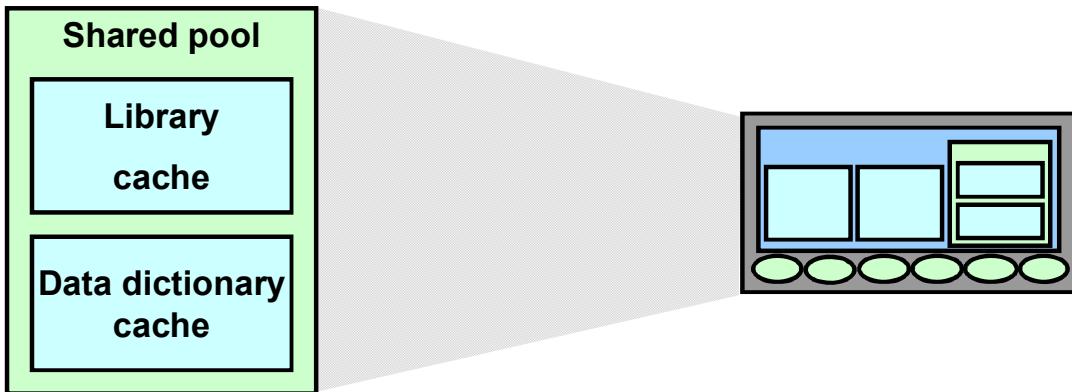
During parse, the server process performs the following functions:

- Searches for an existing copy of the SQL statement in the shared pool
- Validates the SQL statement by checking its syntax
- Performs data dictionary lookups to validate table and column definitions

The execute stage executes the statement using the best optimizer approach and the fetch retrieves the rows back to the user.

Shared Pool

- The library cache contains the SQL statement text, parsed code, and execution plan.
- The data dictionary cache contains table, column, and other object definitions and privileges.
- The shared pool is sized by `SHARED_POOL_SIZE`.



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During the parse stage, the server process uses the area in the SGA known as the shared pool to compile the SQL statement. The shared pool has two primary components:

- Library cache
- Data dictionary cache

Library Cache

The library cache stores information about the most recently used SQL statements in a memory structure called a shared SQL area. The shared SQL area contains:

- The text of the SQL statement
- The parse tree, which is a compiled version of the statement
- The execution plan, with steps to be taken when executing the statement

The optimizer is the function in the Oracle server that determines the optimal execution plan.

If a SQL statement is reexecuted and a shared SQL area already contains the execution plan for the statement, the server process does not need to parse the statement. The library cache improves the performance of applications that reuse SQL statements by reducing parse time and memory requirements. If the SQL statement is not reused, it is eventually aged out of the library cache.

Data Dictionary Cache

The data dictionary cache, also known as the dictionary cache or row cache, is a collection of the most recently used definitions in the database. It includes information about database files, tables, indexes, columns, users, privileges, and other database objects.

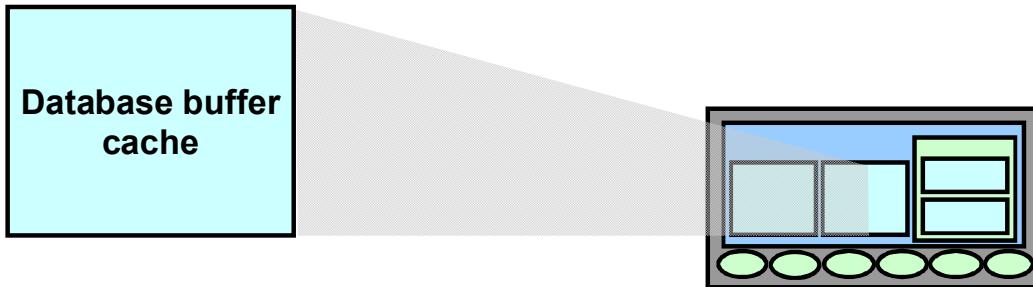
During the parse phase, the server process looks for the information in the dictionary cache to resolve the object names specified in the SQL statement and to validate the access privileges. If necessary, the server process initiates the loading of this information from the data files.

Sizing the Shared Pool

The size of the shared pool is specified by the `SHARED_POOL_SIZE` initialization parameter.

Database Buffer Cache

- The database buffer cache stores the most recently used blocks.
- The size of a buffer is based on DB_BLOCK_SIZE.
- The number of buffers is defined by DB_BLOCK_BUFFERS.



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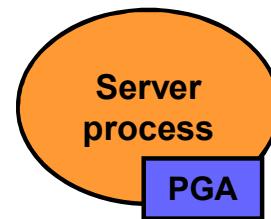
When a query is processed, the server process looks in the database buffer cache for any blocks it needs. If the block is not found in the database buffer cache, the server process reads the block from the data file and places a copy in the buffer cache. Because subsequent requests for the same block may find the block in memory, the requests may not require physical reads. The Oracle server uses a least recently used algorithm to age out buffers that have not been accessed recently to make room for new blocks in the buffer cache.

Sizing the Database Buffer Cache

The size of each buffer in the buffer cache is equal to the size of an Oracle block, and it is specified by the DB_BLOCK_SIZE parameter. The number of buffers is equal to the value of the DB_BLOCK_BUFFERS parameter.

Program Global Area (PGA)

- Is not shared
- Is writable only by the server process
- Contains:
 - Sort area
 - Session information
 - Cursor state
 - Stack space



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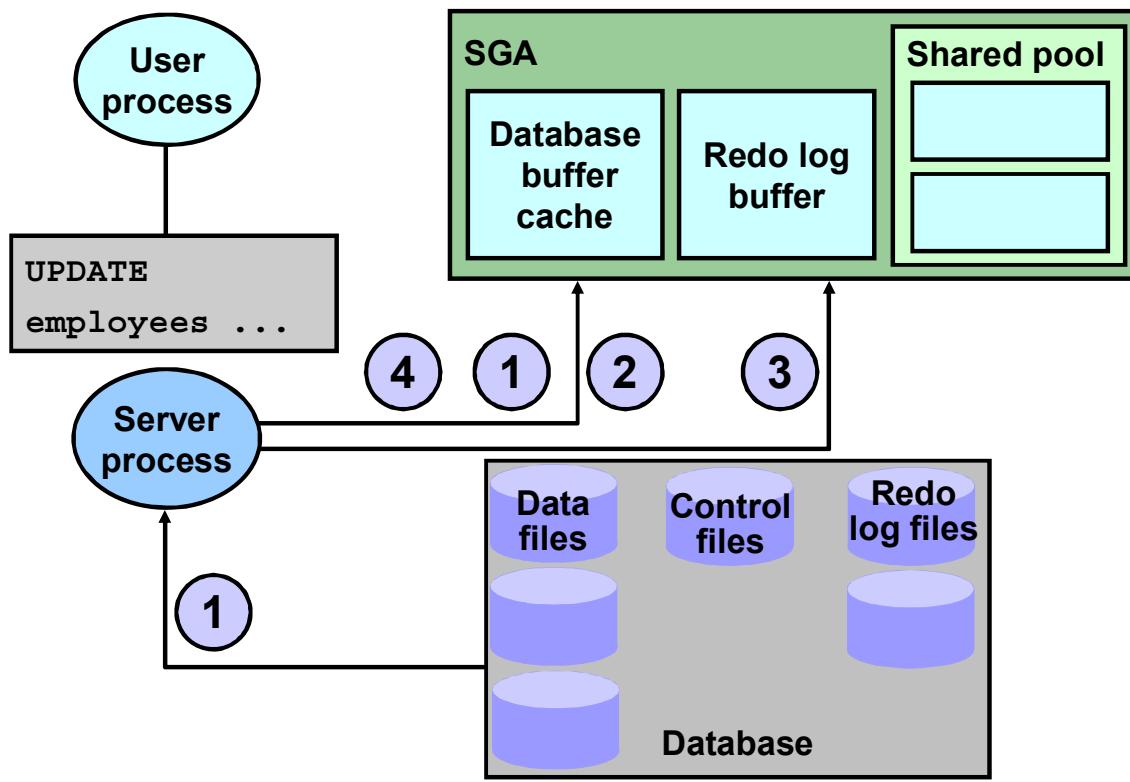
A Program Global Area (PGA) is a memory region that contains data and control information for a server process. It is a nonshared memory created by Oracle when a server process is started. Access to it is exclusive to that server process, and is read and written only by the Oracle server code acting on behalf of it. The PGA memory allocated by each server process attached to an Oracle instance is referred to as the aggregated PGA memory allocated by the instance.

In a dedicated server configuration, the PGA of the server includes the following components:

- **Sort area:** Is used for any sorts that may be required to process the SQL statement
- **Session information:** Includes user privileges and performance statistics for the session
- **Cursor state:** Indicates the stage in the processing of the SQL statements that are currently used by the session
- **Stack space:** Contains other session variables

The PGA is allocated when a process is created, and deallocated when the process is terminated.

Processing a DML Statement



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A data manipulation language (DML) statement requires only two phases of processing:

- Parse is the same as the parse phase used for processing a query.
- Execute requires additional processing to make data changes.

DML Execute Phase

To execute a DML statement:

- If the data and rollback blocks are not already in the buffer cache, the server process reads them from the data files into the buffer cache.
- The server process places locks on the rows that are to be modified.
- In the redo log buffer, the server process records the changes to be made to the rollback and data blocks.
- The rollback block changes record the values of the data before it is modified. The rollback block is used to store the “before image” of the data, so that the DML statements can be rolled back if necessary.
- The data block changes record the new values of the data.

The server process records the “before image” to the rollback block and updates the data block. Both of these changes are done in the database buffer cache. Any changed blocks in the buffer cache are marked as dirty buffers (that is, buffers that are not the same as the corresponding blocks on the disk).

The processing of a `DELETE` or `INSERT` command uses similar steps. The “before image” for a `DELETE` contains the column values in the deleted row, and the “before image” of an `INSERT` contains the row location information.

Because the changes made to the blocks are only recorded in memory structures and are not written immediately to disk, a computer failure that causes the loss of the SGA can also lose these changes.

Redo Log Buffer

- Has its size defined by `LOG_BUFFER`
- Records changes made through the instance
- Is used sequentially
- Is a circular buffer



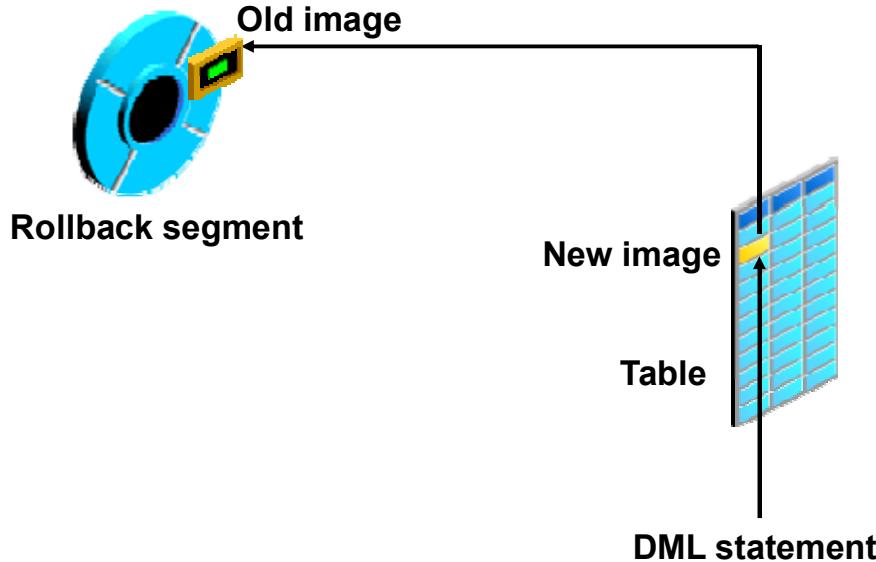
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The server process records most of the changes made to data file blocks in the redo log buffer, which is a part of the SGA. The redo log buffer has the following characteristics:

- Its size in bytes is defined by the `LOG_BUFFER` parameter.
- It records the block that is changed, the location of the change, and the new value in a redo entry. A redo entry makes no distinction between the types of block that is changed; it only records which bytes are changed in the block.
- The redo log buffer is used sequentially, and changes made by one transaction may be interleaved with changes made by other transactions.
- It is a circular buffer that is reused after it is filled, but only after all the old redo entries are recorded in the redo log files.

Rollback Segment



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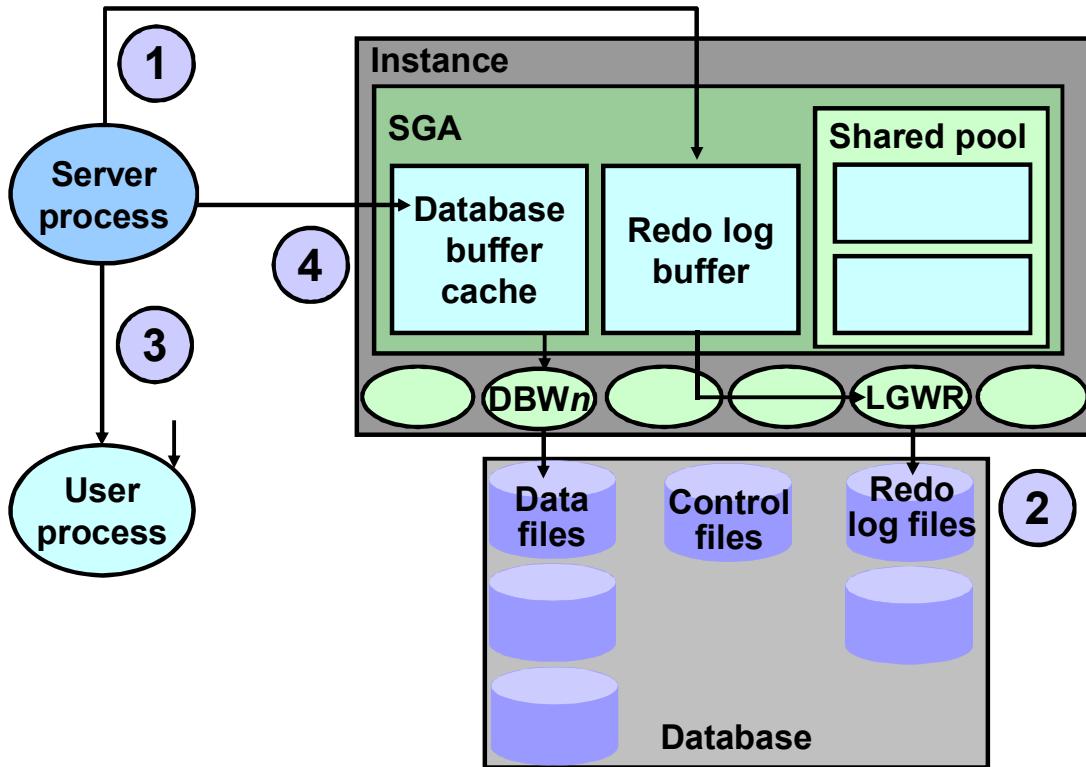
Before making a change, the server process saves the old data value in a rollback segment. This “before image” is used to:

- Undo the changes if the transaction is rolled back
- Provide read consistency by ensuring that other transactions do not see uncommitted changes made by the DML statement
- Recover the database to a consistent state in case of failures

Rollback segments, such as tables and indexes, exist in data files, and rollback blocks are brought into the database buffer cache as required. Rollback segments are created by the DBA.

Changes to rollback segments are recorded in the redo log buffer.

COMMIT Processing



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The Oracle server uses a fast COMMIT mechanism that guarantees that the committed changes can be recovered in case of instance failure.

System Change Number

Whenever a transaction commits, the Oracle server assigns a commit SCN to the transaction. The SCN is monotonically incremented and is unique within the database. It is used by the Oracle server as an internal time stamp to synchronize data and to provide read consistency when data is retrieved from the data files. Using the SCN enables the Oracle server to perform consistency checks without depending on the date and time of the operating system.

Steps in Processing COMMITS

When a COMMIT is issued, the following steps are performed:

1. The server process places a commit record, along with the SCN, in the redo log buffer.
2. LGWR performs a contiguous write of all the redo log buffer entries up to and including the commit record to the redo log files. After this point, the Oracle server can guarantee that the changes will not be lost even if there is an instance failure.

3. The user is informed that the COMMIT is complete.
4. The server process records information to indicate that the transaction is complete and that resource locks can be released.

Flushing of the dirty buffers to the data file is performed independently by DBW0 and can occur either before or after the commit.

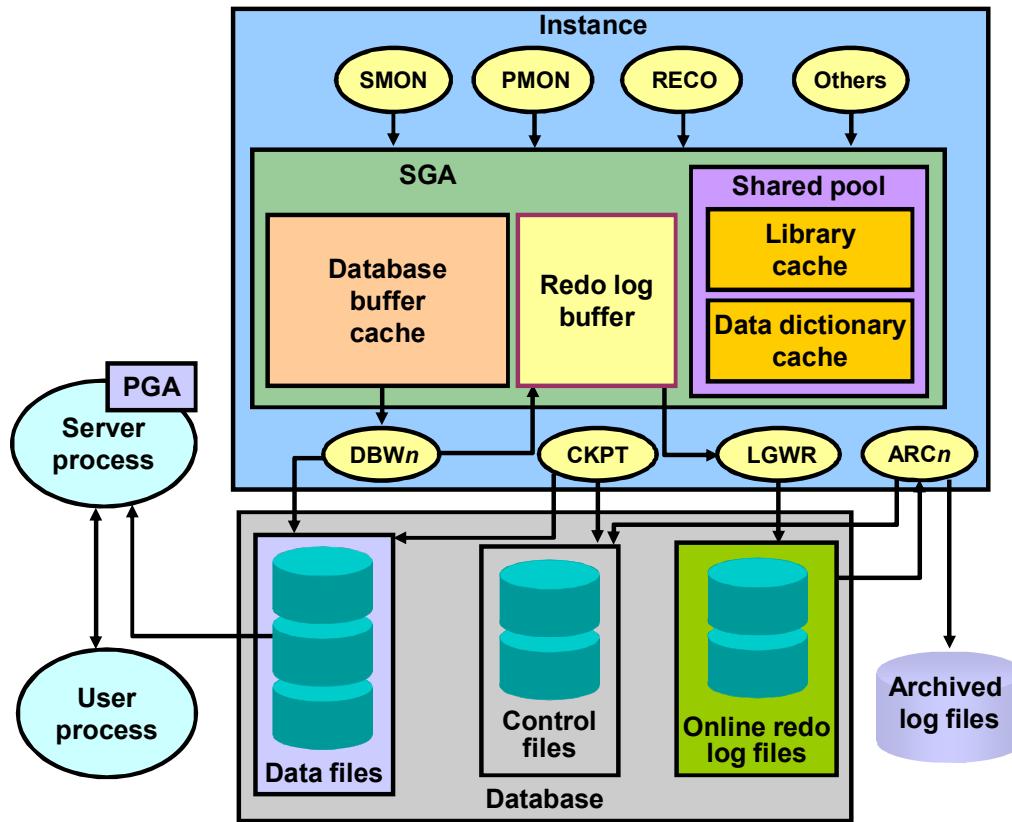
Advantages of the Fast COMMIT

The fast COMMIT mechanism ensures data recovery by writing changes to the redo log buffer instead of the data files. It has the following advantages:

- Sequential writes to the log files are faster than writing to different blocks in the data file.
- Only the minimal information that is necessary to record changes is written to the log files; writing to the data files would require whole blocks of data to be written.
- If multiple transactions request to commit at the same time, the instance piggybacks redo log records into a single write.
- Unless the redo log buffer is particularly full, only one synchronous write is required per transaction. If piggybacking occurs, there can be less than one synchronous write per transaction.
- Because the redo log buffer may be flushed before the COMMIT, the size of the transaction does not affect the amount of time needed for an actual COMMIT operation.

Note: Rolling back a transaction does not trigger LGWR to write to disk. The Oracle server always rolls back uncommitted changes when recovering from failures. If there is a failure after a rollback, before the rollback entries are recorded on disk, the absence of a commit record is sufficient to ensure that the changes made by the transaction are rolled back.

Summary of the Oracle Database Architecture



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An Oracle database comprises an instance and its associated database:

- An instance comprises the SGA and the background processes
 - **SGA:** Database buffer cache, redo log buffer, shared pool, and so on
 - **Background processes:** SMON, PMON, DBW n , CKPT, LGWR, and so on
- A database comprises storage structures:
 - **Logical:** Tablespaces, schemas, segments, extents, and Oracle block
 - **Physical:** Data files, control files, redo log files

When a user accesses the Oracle database through an application, a server process communicates with the instance on behalf of the user process.

Summary

In this appendix, you should have learned how to:

- List the major database architectural components
- Describe the background processes
- Explain the memory structures
- Correlate the logical and physical storage structures



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I Regular Expression Support

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Objectives

After completing this appendix, you should be able to:

- List the benefits of using regular expressions
- Use regular expressions to search for, match, and replace strings



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In this appendix, you learn to use the regular expression support feature. Regular expression support is available in both SQL and PL/SQL.

What Are Regular Expressions?

- You use regular expressions to search for (and manipulate) simple and complex patterns in string data by using standard syntax conventions.
- You use a set of SQL functions and conditions to search for and manipulate strings in SQL and PL/SQL.
- You specify a regular expression by using:
 - Metacharacters, which are operators that specify the search algorithms
 - Literals, which are the characters for which you are searching



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Oracle Database provides support for regular expressions. The implementation complies with the Portable Operating System for UNIX (POSIX) standard, controlled by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), for ASCII data-matching semantics and syntax. Oracle's multilingual capabilities extend the matching capabilities of the operators beyond the POSIX standard. Regular expressions are a method of describing both simple and complex patterns for searching and manipulating.

String manipulation and searching contribute to a large percentage of the logic within a web-based application. Usage ranges from the simple, such as finding the words "San Francisco" in a specified text, to the complex task of extracting all URLs from the text and the more complex task of finding all words whose every second character is a vowel.

When coupled with native SQL, the use of regular expressions allows for very powerful search and manipulation operations on any data stored in an Oracle database. You can use this feature to easily solve problems that would otherwise involve complex programming.

Benefits of Using Regular Expressions

Regular expressions enable you to implement complex match logic in the database with the following benefits:

- By centralizing match logic in Oracle Database, you avoid intensive string processing of SQL result sets by middle-tier applications.
- Using server-side regular expressions to enforce constraints, you eliminate the need to code data validation logic on the client.
- The built-in SQL and PL/SQL regular expression functions and conditions make string manipulations more powerful and easier than in previous releases of Oracle Database.



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Regular expressions are a powerful text-processing component of programming languages such as PERL and Java. For example, a PERL script can process each HTML file in a directory, read its contents into a scalar variable as a single string, and then use regular expressions to search for URLs in the string. One reason for many developers writing in PERL is that it has a robust pattern-matching functionality. Oracle's support of regular expressions enables developers to implement complex match logic in the database. Regular expressions were introduced in Oracle Database 10g.

Using the Regular Expressions Functions and Conditions in SQL and PL/SQL

Function or Condition Name	Description
REGEXP_LIKE	Is similar to the LIKE operator, but performs regular expression matching instead of simple pattern matching (condition)
REGEXP_REPLACE	Searches for a regular expression pattern and replaces it with a replacement string
REGEXP_INSTR	Searches a string for a regular expression pattern and returns the position where the match is found
REGEXP_SUBSTR	Searches for a regular expression pattern within a given string and extracts the matched substring
REGEXP_COUNT	Returns the number of times a pattern match is found in an input string



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Oracle Database provides a set of SQL functions that you use to search and manipulate strings by using regular expressions. You use these functions on a text literal, bind variable, or any column that holds character data such as CHAR, NCHAR, CLOB, NCLOB, NVARCHAR2, and VARCHAR2 (but not LONG). A regular expression must be enclosed within single quotation marks. This ensures that the entire expression is interpreted by the SQL function and can improve the readability of your code.

- REGEXP_LIKE: This condition searches a character column for a pattern. Use this condition in the WHERE clause of a query to return rows matching the regular expression that you specify.
- REGEXP_REPLACE: This function searches for a pattern in a character column and replaces each occurrence of that pattern with the pattern that you specify.
- REGEXP_INSTR: This function searches a string for a given occurrence of a regular expression pattern. You specify which occurrence you want to find and the start position to search from. This function returns an integer indicating the position in the string where the match is found.
- REGEXP_SUBSTR: This function returns the actual substring matching the regular expression pattern that you specify.
- REGEXP_COUNT: This function returns the number of times a pattern match is found in the input string.

What Are Metacharacters?

- Metacharacters are special characters that have a special meaning such as a wildcard, a repeating character, a nonmatching character, or a range of characters.
- You can use several predefined metacharacter symbols in the pattern matching.
- For example, the `^ (f | ht) tps? : $` regular expression searches for the following from the beginning of the string:
 - The literals `f` or `ht`
 - The `t` literal
 - The `p` literal, optionally followed by the `s` literal
 - The colon “`:`” literal at the end of the string



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The regular expression in the slide matches the `http:`, `https:`, `ftp:`, and `ftps:` strings.

Note: For a complete list of the regular expressions' metacharacters, see the *Oracle Database Advanced Application Developer's Guide* for Oracle Database 12c.

Using Metacharacters with Regular Expressions

Syntax	Description
.	Matches any character in the supported character set, except NULL
+	Matches one or more occurrences
?	Matches zero or one occurrence
*	Matches zero or more occurrences of the preceding subexpression
{m}	Matches exactly m occurrences of the preceding expression
{m, }	Matches at least m occurrences of the preceding subexpression
{m, n}	Matches at least m , but not more than n , occurrences of the preceding subexpression
[...]	Matches any single character in the list within the brackets
	Matches one of the alternatives
(...)	Treats the enclosed expression within the parentheses as a unit. The subexpression can be a string of literals or a complex expression containing operators.



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Any character, “ . ” : `a.b` matches the strings `abb`, `acb`, and `adb`, but not `acc`.

One or more, “ + ” : `a+` matches the strings `a`, `aa`, and `aaa`, but does not match `bbb`.

Zero or one, “ ? ”: `ab?c` matches the strings `abc` and `ac`, but does not match `abbc`.

Zero or more, “ * ”: `ab*c` matches the strings `ac`, `abc`, and `abbc`, but does not match `abb`.

Exact count, “ {m} ”: `a{3}` matches the strings `aaa`, but does not match `aa`.

At least count, “ {m,} ”: `a{3,}` matches the strings `aaa` and `aaaa`, but not `aa`.

Between count, “ {m,n} ”: `a{3,5}` matches the strings `aaa`, `aaaa`, and `aaaaa`, but not `aa`.

Matching character list, “ [...] ”: `[abc]` matches the first character in the strings `all`, `bill`, and `cold`, but does not match any characters in `do11`.

Or, “ | ”: `a|b` matches character `a` or character `b`.

Subexpression, “ (...) ”: `(abc)?def` matches the optional string `abc`, followed by `def`. The expression matches `abcdefghi` and `def`, but does not match `ghi`. The subexpression can be a string of literals or a complex expression containing operators.

Using Metacharacters with Regular Expressions

Syntax	Description
<code>^</code>	Matches the beginning of a string
<code>\$</code>	Matches the end of a string
<code>\</code>	Treats the subsequent metacharacter in the expression as a literal
<code>\n</code>	Matches the <i>n</i> th (1–9) preceding subexpression of whatever is grouped within parentheses. The parentheses cause an expression to be remembered; a backreference refers to it.
<code>\d</code>	A digit character
<code>[:class:]</code>	Matches any character belonging to the specified POSIX character class
<code>[^ :class:]</code>	Matches any single character <i>not</i> in the list within the brackets



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Beginning/end of line anchor, “ ^ ” and “\$”: `^def` matches `def` in the string `defghi` but does not match `def` in `abcdef`. `def$` matches `def` in the string `abcdef` but does not match `def` in the string `defghi`.

Escape character “ \ ”: `\+` searches for a `+`. It matches the plus character in the string `abc+def`, but does not match `Abcdef`.

Backreference, “ \n ”: `(abc|def)xy\1` matches the strings `abcyxyabc` and `defxydef`, but does not match `abcxydef` or `abcxy`. A backreference enables you to search for a repeated string without knowing the actual string ahead of time. For example, the expression `^(.*)\1$` matches a line consisting of two adjacent instances of the same string.

Digit character, “ \d ”: The expression `^\[\d{3}\]\ \d{3}-\d{4}\$` matches [650] 555-1212 but does not match 650-555-1212.

Character class, “ [:class:] ”: `[[:upper:]]+` searches for one or more consecutive uppercase characters. This matches `DEF` in the string `abcDEFghi` but does not match the string `abcdefghi`.

Nonmatching character list (or class), “ [^ . . .] ”: `[^abc]` matches the character `d` in the string `abcdef`, but not `a`, `b`, or `c`.

Regular Expressions Functions and Conditions: Syntax

```
REGEXP_LIKE (source_char, pattern [,match_option])
```

```
REGEXP_INSTR (source_char, pattern [, position  
[, occurrence [, return_option  
[, match_option [, subexpr]]]])
```

```
REGEXP_SUBSTR (source_char, pattern [, position  
[, occurrence [, match_option  
[, subexpr]]]])
```

```
REGEXP_REPLACE(source_char, pattern [,replacestr  
[, position [, occurrence  
[, match_option]]]])
```

```
REGEXP_COUNT (source_char, pattern [, position  
[, occurrence [, match_option]]])
```



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The syntax for the regular expressions functions and conditions is as follows:

- **source_char:** A character expression that serves as the search value
- **pattern:** A regular expression, a text literal
- **occurrence:** A positive integer indicating which occurrence of pattern in source_char Oracle Server should search for. The default is 1.
- **position:** A positive integer indicating the character of source_char where Oracle Server should begin the search. The default is 1.
- **return_option:**
 - 0: Returns the position of the first character of the occurrence (default)
 - 1: Returns the position of the character following the occurrence
- **Replacestr:** Character string replacing pattern
- **match_parameter:**
 - “c”: Uses case-sensitive matching (default)
 - “i”: Uses non-case-sensitive matching
 - “n”: Allows match-any-character operator
 - “m”: Treats source string as multiple lines
- **subexpr:** Fragment of pattern enclosed in parentheses. You learn more about subexpressions later in this appendix.

Performing a Basic Search by Using the REGEXP_LIKE Condition

```
REGEXP_LIKE(source_char, pattern [, match_parameter ])
```

```
SELECT first_name, last_name  
FROM employees  
WHERE REGEXP_LIKE (first_name, '^Ste(v|ph)en$');
```

	FIRST_NAME	LAST_NAME
1	Steven	King
2	Steven	Markle
3	Stephen	Stiles



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REGEXP_LIKE is similar to the LIKE condition, except that REGEXP_LIKE performs regular-expression matching instead of the simple pattern matching performed by LIKE. This condition evaluates strings by using characters as defined by the input character set.

Example of REGEXP_LIKE

In this query, against the EMPLOYEES table, all employees with first names containing either Steven or Stephen are displayed. In the expression used '^Ste(v|ph)en\$':

- ^ indicates the beginning of the expression
- \$ indicates the end of the expression
- | indicates either/or

Replacing Patterns by Using the REGEXP_REPLACE Function

```
REGEXP_REPLACE(source_char, pattern [, replacestr  
[, position [, occurrence [, match_option]]]])
```

```
SELECT last_name, REGEXP_REPLACE(phone_number, '\.', '-')  
      AS phone  
  FROM employees;
```

Original

	LAST_NAME	PHONE
1	OConnell	650.507.9833
2	Grant	650.507.9844
3	Whalen	515.123.4444
4	Hartstein	515.123.5555

Partial results

	LAST_NAME	PHONE
1	OConnell	650-507-9833
2	Grant	650-507-9844
3	Whalen	515-123-4444
4	Hartstein	515-123-5555



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Using the REGEXP_REPLACE function, you reformat the phone number to replace the period (.) delimiter with a dash (-) delimiter. Here is an explanation of each of the elements used in the regular expression example:

- phone_number is the source column.
- '\.' is the search pattern.
 - Use single quotation marks (' ') to search for the literal character period (.).
 - Use a backslash (\) to search for a character that is normally treated as a metacharacter.
- '-' is the replace string.

Finding Patterns by Using the REGEXP_INSTR Function

```
REGEXP_INSTR  (source_char, pattern [, position [, occurrence [, return_option [, match_option]]]])
```

```
SELECT street_address,
       REGEXP_INSTR(street_address,'[[[:alpha:]]') AS
          First_Alpha_Position
    FROM locations;
```

STREET_ADDRESS	FIRST_ALPHA_POSITION
1 1297 Via Cola di Rie	6
2 93091 Calle della Testa	7
3 2017 Shinjuku-ku	6
4 9450 Kamiya-cho	6



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In this example, the REGEXP_INSTR function is used to search the street address to find the location of the first alphabetic character, regardless of whether it is in uppercase or lowercase. Note that `[:<class>:]` implies a character class and matches any character from within that class; `[:alpha:]` matches with any alphabetic character. The partial results are displayed.

In the expression used in the query '`'[[[:alpha:]]'`:

- [starts the expression
- `[:alpha:]` indicates alphabetic character class
-] ends the expression

Note: The POSIX character class operator enables you to search for an expression within a character list that is a member of a specific POSIX character class. You can use this operator to search for specific formatting, such as uppercase characters, or you can search for special characters such as digits or punctuation characters. The full set of POSIX character classes is supported. Use the syntax `[:class:]`, where `class` is the name of the POSIX character class to search for. The following regular expression searches for one or more consecutive uppercase characters: `'[[[:upper:]]'] +`.

Extracting Substrings by Using the REGEXP_SUBSTR Function

```
REGEXP_SUBSTR (source_char, pattern [, position  
[, occurrence [, match_option]]])
```

```
SELECT REGEXP_SUBSTR(street_address , ' [^ ]+ ') AS Road  
FROM locations;
```

ROAD
1 Via
2 Calle
3 (null)
4 (null)
5 Jabberwocky



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In this example, the road names are extracted from the LOCATIONS table. To do this, the contents in the STREET_ADDRESS column that are after the first space are returned by using the REGEXP_SUBSTR function. In the expression used in the query ' [^]+ ':

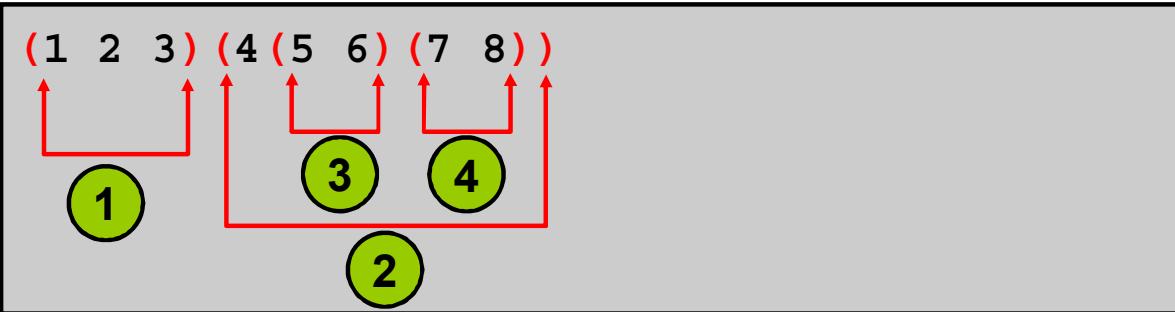
- [starts the expression
- ^ indicates NOT
- ' ' indicates space
-] ends the expression
- + indicates 1 or more

Subexpressions

Examine this expression:

```
(1 2 3) (4 (5 6) (7 8))
```

The subexpressions are:



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Oracle Database provides regular expression support parameters to access a subexpression. In the slide example, a string of digits is shown. The parentheses identify the subexpressions within the string of digits. Reading from left to right, and from outer parentheses to the inner parentheses, the subexpressions in the string of digits are:

1. 123
2. 45678
3. 56
4. 78

You can search for any of those subexpressions with the `REGEXP_INSTR` and `REGEXP_SUBSTR` functions.

Using Subexpressions with Regular Expression Support

```
SELECT
  REGEXP_INSTR
  (1) ('0123456789',          -- source char or search value
  (2) '(123)(4(56)(78))',   -- regular expression patterns
  (3) 1,                      -- position to start searching
  (4) 1,                      -- occurrence
  (5) 0,                      -- return option
  (6) 'i',                   -- match option (case insensitive)
  (7) 1)                     -- subexpression on which to search
    "Position"
  FROM dual;
```

Position
1
2



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REGEXP_INSTR and REGEXP_SUBSTR have an optional SUBEXPR parameter that lets you target a particular substring of the regular expression being evaluated.

In the example shown in the slide, you may want to search for the first subexpression pattern in your list of subexpressions. The example shown identifies several parameters for the REGEXP_INSTR function.

1. The string you are searching is identified.
2. The subexpressions are identified. The first subexpression is 123. The second subexpression is 45678, the third is 56, and the fourth is 78.
3. The third parameter identifies from which position to start searching.
4. The fourth parameter identifies the occurrence of the pattern you want to find. 1 means find the first occurrence.
5. The fifth parameter is the return option. This is the position of the first character of the occurrence. (If you specify 1, the position of the character following the occurrence is returned.)
6. The sixth parameter identifies whether your search should be case-sensitive or not.
7. The last parameter specifies which subexpression you want to find. In the example shown, you are searching for the first subexpression, which is 123.

Why Access the *n*th Subexpression?

- A more realistic use: DNA sequencing
- You may need to find a specific subpattern that identifies a protein needed for immunity in mouse DNA.

```
SELECT
    REGEXP_INSTR('ccacctttccactcctcacgttccatggtagagtaggctagaaaccaggagactccaagc
    tccatctgtggagaggtgcacatcctggctgcagagagaggagaattgccccaaagctgcc
    tgcaagacttcaccacccttagtctcacaagccttgatgtcatagcattcttgatttca
    ccctgcccagcaggacactgcagcacccaaagggttccaggagttagggttgcctcaagag
    gctctgggtctgatggccacatcctgaaattgtttcaagttgatggtcacagccctgaggc
    atgttagggcgatggatgcctctgctctcctcctgaaccctgaaccctctggc
    taccggcacttagagccag',
        '(gtc(tcac)(aaag))',
        1, 1, 0, 'i',
        1) "Position"
FROM dual;
```

	Position
1	195

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In life sciences, you may need to extract the offsets of subexpression matches from a DNA sequence for further processing. For example, you may need to find a specific protein sequence, such as the begin offset for the DNA sequence preceded by `gtc` and followed by `tcac` followed by `aaag`. To accomplish this goal, you can use the `REGEXP_INSTR` function, which returns the position where a match is found.

In the slide example, the position of the first subexpression (`gtc`) is returned. `gtc` appears starting in position 195 of the DNA string.

If you modify the slide example to search for the second subexpression (`tcac`), the query results in the following output. `tcac` appears starting in position 198 of the DNA string.

	Position
1	198

If you modify the slide example to search for the third subexpression (`aaag`), the query results in the following output. `aaag` appears starting in position 202 of the DNA string.

	Position
1	202

REGEXP_SUBSTR: Example

```
SELECT
  REGEXP_SUBSTR
  (
    'acgctgcactgca', -- source char or search value
    'acg(.* )gca',   -- regular expression pattern
    1,                -- position to start searching
    1,                -- occurrence
    'i',              -- match option (case insensitive)
    1)                -- sub-expression
  "Value"
FROM dual;
```

Value
1 ctgact



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In the example shown in the slide:

1. acgctgcactgca is the source to be searched.
2. acg(.*)gca is the pattern to be searched. Find acg followed by gca with potential characters between the acg and the gca.
3. Start searching at the first character of the source.
4. Search for the first occurrence of the pattern.
5. Use non-case-sensitive matching on the source.
6. Use a nonnegative integer value that identifies the *n*th subexpression to be targeted. This is the subexpression parameter. In this example, 1 indicates the first subexpression. You can use a value from 0–9. A zero means that no subexpression is targeted. The default value for this parameter is 0.

Using the REGEXP_COUNT Function

```
REGEXP_COUNT (source_char, pattern [, position  
           [, occurrence [, match_option]]])
```

```
SELECT REGEXP_COUNT(
    'ccacccctccactcgttccatccccatgcccccttaccctgcaggtagactggagggctgcagagagaggaaattggcccaagctgcgtcgagagcttcaccacccctagtctcacaagccttgagttcatagcattttgattttcacccctgcccagcaggacactgcagcacccaaagggttccaggagtagggttgcctcaagaggcttgggtctatggccacatcctgaaattttcaagttgtatggcacagccctgaggcatgttagggcgtgggatgcgtctgctgtgtctccctctctgaacccctgaacctctggctacccagagcacttagagccag',
    'gtc') AS Count

FROM dual;
```

COUNT

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The `REGEXP_COUNT` function evaluates strings by using characters as defined by the input character set. It returns an integer indicating the number of occurrences of the pattern. If no match is found, the function returns 0.

In the slide example, the number of occurrences for a DNA substring is determined by using the REGEXP_COUNT function.

The following example shows that the number of times the pattern 123 occurs in the string 123123123123 is three times. The search starts from the second position of the string.

```
SELECT REGEXP_COUNT
      ('123123123123', -- source char or search value
       '123',           -- regular expression pattern
       2,                -- position where the search should start
       'i')              -- match option (case insensitive)
      As Count
FROM dual;
```

A Z	COUNT
1	3

Regular Expressions and Check Constraints: Examples

```
ALTER TABLE emp8
ADD CONSTRAINT email_addr
CHECK (REGEXP_LIKE(email,'@')) NOVALIDATE;
```

```
INSERT INTO emp8 VALUES
(500,'Christian','Patel','ChrisP2creme.com',
1234567890,'12-Jan-2004','HR REP',2000,null,102,40);
```

```
Error starting at line 1 in command:
INSERT INTO emp8 VALUES
(500,'Christian','Patel',
'ChrisP2creme.com', 1234567890,
'12-Jan-2004', 'HR REP', 2000, null, 102, 40)
Error report:
SQL Error: ORA-02290: check constraint (TEACH_B.EMAIL_ADDR) violated
02290. 00000 - "check constraint (%s.%s) violated"
*Cause:   The values being inserted do not satisfy the named check
*Action:  do not insert values that violate the constraint.
```



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Regular expressions can also be used in CHECK constraints. In this example, a CHECK constraint is added on the EMAIL column of the EMPLOYEES table. This ensures that only strings containing an "@" symbol are accepted. The constraint is tested. The CHECK constraint is violated because the email address does not contain the required symbol. The NOVALIDATE clause ensures that existing data is not checked.

For the slide example, the emp8 table is created by using the following code:

```
CREATE TABLE emp8 AS SELECT * FROM employees;
```

Note: The example in the slide is executed by using the Execute Statement option in SQL Developer. The output format differs if you use the Run Script option.

Quiz

With the use of regular expressions in SQL and PL/SQL, you can:

- a. Avoid intensive string processing of SQL result sets by middle-tier applications
- b. Avoid data validation logic on the client
- c. Enforce constraints on the server



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Answer: a, b, c

Summary

In this appendix, you should have learned how to use regular expressions to search for, match, and replace strings.



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In this appendix, you have learned to use the regular expression support features. Regular expression support is available in both SQL and PL/SQL.

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