Lab 7 : SQL/XPath/XQuery

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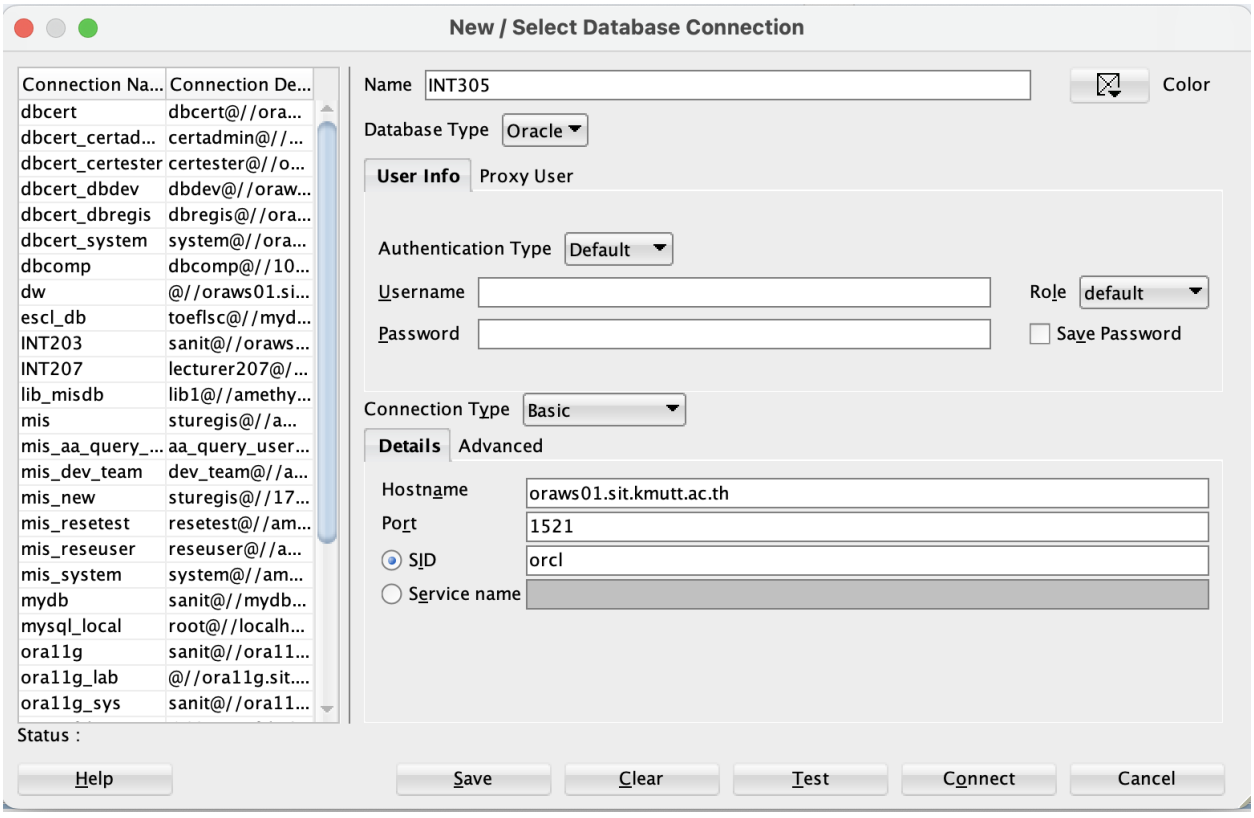
SID : orcl



Download the script StaffXML.sql and run it.

```
<staffs>
  <staff staffno="SA9" branchno="B007">
    <name>
      <firstname>Mary</firstname>
      <lastname>Howe</lastname>
    </name>
    <position>Assistant</position>
    <sex>F</sex>
    <salary>9000</salary>
  </staff>
  <staff>
   …….
  </staff>
</staff>
```

XPath Expression

XPath uses a path expression to select nodes or list of node from a XML document.

Expression	Description
nodename	Selects all nodes with the name "nodename"
/	Selects from the root node
//	Selects nodes in the document from the current node that match the selection no matter where they are
@	Selects attributes
employee	Selects all node with the name "employee"
employees/employee	Selects all employee elements that are children of employees
//employee	Selects all employee elements no matter where they are in the document
/employees/employee[1]	Selects the first employee element that is the child of the employees element
/employees/employee[last()]	Selects the last employee element that is the child of the employees element
//employee[@type='admin']	Select all the employee elements that have an attribute named type with a value of 'admin'

XMLQuery Syntax

```
XMLQuery( '<xquery string>'
        PASSING    <xmltype column>
        RETURNING  CONTENT
        NULL ON EMPTY  )
```

xquery string	XQuery expression including XPath and FLWOR expressions.
xmltype column	the column with XMLType where to get the XML for querying
RETURNING CONTENT	is mandatory (not support RETURNING SEQUENCE)
NULL ON EMPTY	is optional that tells Oracle to do if the XQuery expression returns to nothing

Example : Display the first name of the first employee

```
SELECT XMLCAST(  XMLQUERY('/staffs/staff[1]/name/firstname'
                    PASSING    data
                    RETURNING CONTENT  )  AS VARCHAR2(100))   T
FROM  staffs ;
```

Try to replace the xquery string with /staffs/staff[1]//firstname

XMLCAST syntax

```
XMLCAST(  value_expresion    AS      datatype   )
```

XMLCAST casts value expression to the scalar SQL datatype (NUMBER, VARCHAR2)

XMLQuery with FLWOR expression

FLWOR is the most general expression syntax in XQuery. FLWOR (pronounced “flower”) stands for FOR, LET, WHERE, ORDER BY and RETURN.

Syntax of FLWOR expression:

```
FOR       forVar IN  inExpression
LET       letVar := letExpression
[WHERE     filterExpression]
[ORDER BY  orderSpec  [ascending | descending]
RETURN   expression
```

Example : List the first name of all staffs who work in the branch no B003. The result should be ordered by first name.

```
SET LONG 1000 -- set column long to avoid truncating the column

SELECT  XMLQUERY('for  $i  in  /staffs/staff

                  where $i/@branchno="B003"

                  order by $i/name/firstname

                  return <row> {$i/name/firstname}</row>'

                  PASSING  data

                  RETURNING CONTENT)  T

FROM staffs ;
```

```
SELECT  XMLQUERY('for  $i  in  /staffs/staff[@branchno="B003"]

                  order by $i//firstname

                  return <row> {$i//firstname}</row>'

                  PASSING  data

                  RETURNING CONTENT)  T

FROM staffs ;
```

```
SELECT  XMLQUERY('for  $i  in  /staffs/staff[@branchno="B003"]

                  order by $i//firstname

                  return <Name>{$i//firstname/text()} {" "} {$i//lastname/text()}</Name>'

                  PASSING  data

                  RETURNING CONTENT)  T

FROM staffs ;
```

XMLTABLE Syntax

```
XMLTABLE  ( '<xquery string>'
                    PASSING   <xml column>
                    COLUMNS  <column name>  <column type>     PATH  <xquery path>,
                                  <column name>  <column type>     PATH  <xquery path> [, …]  )
```

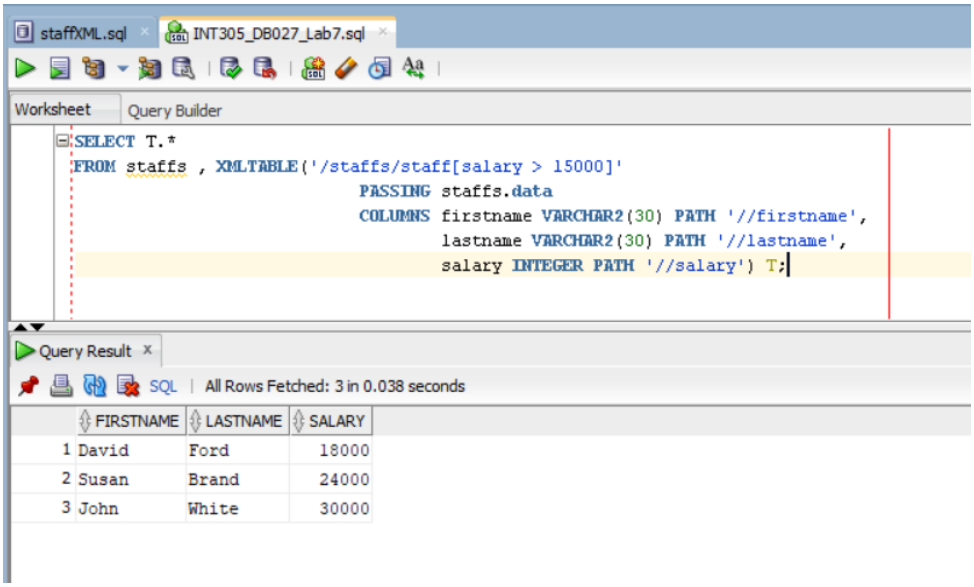
XMLTABLE function is used to produce a virtual SQL table containing data derived from XML values on which the function operates.

Example: List all staffs who are females. The result should include staff No, first name and last name and show data in virtual table.

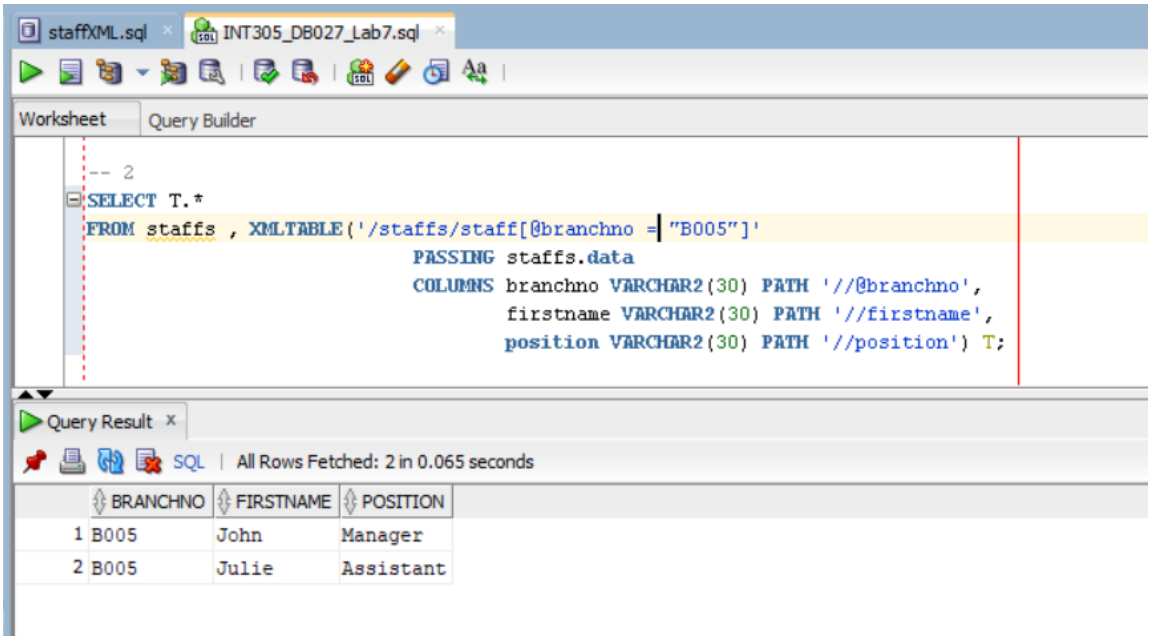
```
SELECT T.*
FROM staffs , XMLTABLE('/staffs/staff[sex="F"]'
                    PASSING staffs.data
                    COLUMNS  staffno   VARCHAR2(6)  PATH '@staffno',
                                firstname VARCHAR2(30) PATH '//firstname',
                                lastname  VARCHAR2(30) PATH '//lastname')   T ;
```

Write an SQL/XML statement by using FLWOR expression for each following query.

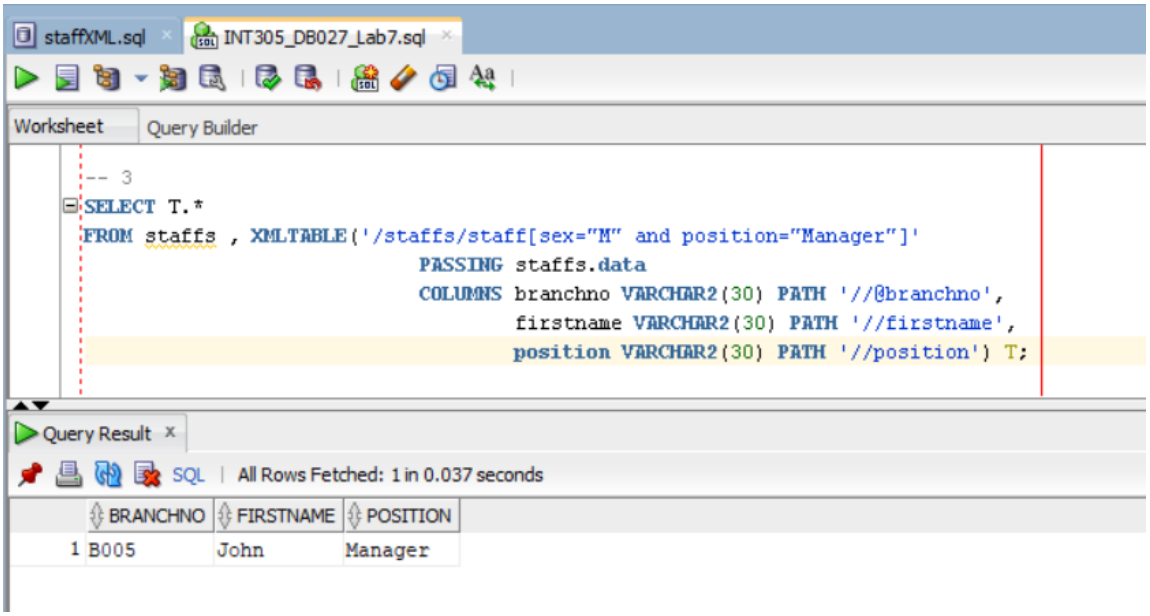
1. Show staffs whose salary is greater than 15,000.



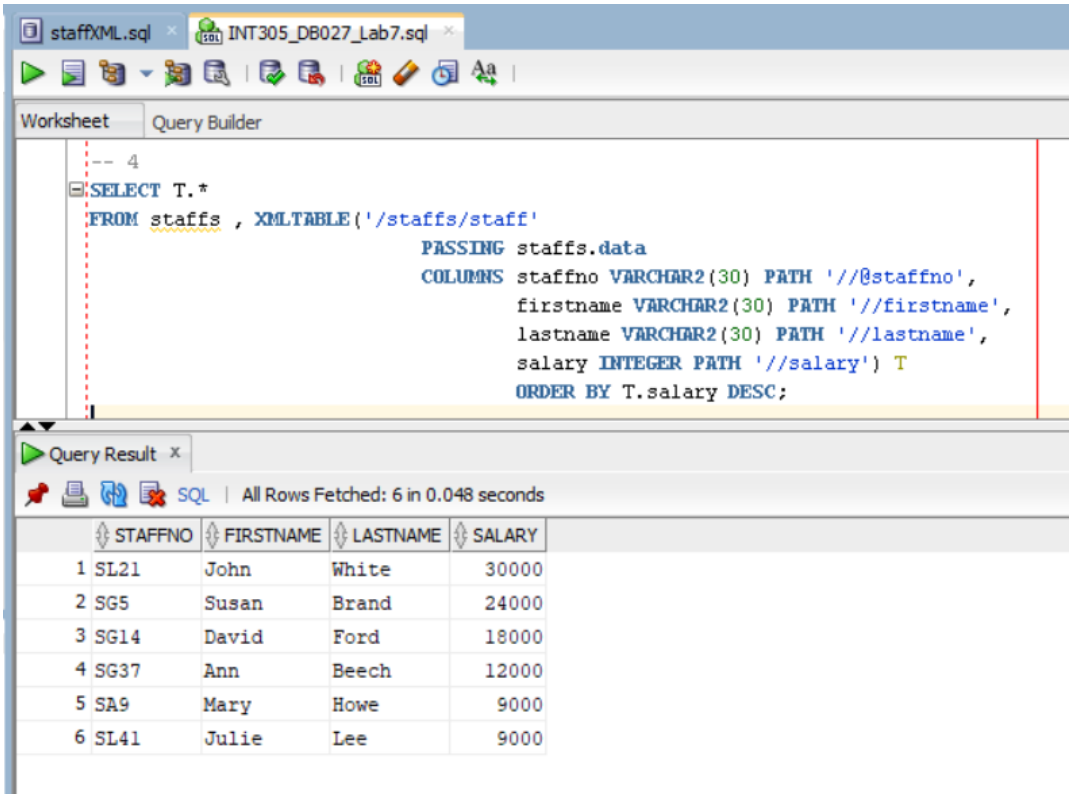
2. Show the first name and position of staffs who works in the branch number B005.



3. Show staffs who are males and whose position is manager.



4. Show the staff number, first name, last name and salary of all staffs. Arrange the result in descending order by salary.



5. Show the staff whose staff number is SG14. The result should show as follows:

<data><staff staffno="SG14" position="Supervisor">David Ford</staff></data>