
Introduction to Oracle9i: SQL

Student Guide • Volume 1

40049GC10
Production 1.0
June 2001
D33051

ORACLE®

Authors

Nancy Greenberg
Priya Nathan

Technical Contributors and Reviewers

Josephine Turner
Anna Atkinson
Don Bates
Marco Berbeek
Andrew Brannigan
Michael Gerlach
Sharon Gray
Rosita Hanoman
Mozhe Jalali
Sarah Jones
Charbel Khouri
Christopher Lawless
Diana Lorentz
Nina Minchen
Cuong Nguyen
Daphne Nougier
Patrick Odell
Laura Pezzini
Stacey Procter
Maribel Renau
Bryan Roberts
Sunshine Salmon
Casa Sharif
Bernard Soleillant
Ruediger Steffan
Karla Villasenor
Andree Wheeley
Lachlan Williams

Publisher

Sheryl Domingue

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2000, 2001. All rights reserved.

This documentation contains proprietary information of Oracle Corporation. It is provided under a license agreement containing restrictions on use and disclosure and is also protected by copyright law. Reverse engineering of the software is prohibited. If this documentation is delivered to a U.S. Government Agency of the Department of Defense, then it is delivered with Restricted Rights and the following legend is applicable:

Restricted Rights Legend

Use, duplication or disclosure by the Government is subject to restrictions for commercial computer software and shall be deemed to be Restricted Rights software under Federal law, as set forth in subparagraph (c)(1)(ii) of DFARS 252.227-7013, Rights in Technical Data and Computer Software (October 1988).

This material or any portion of it may not be copied in any form or by any means without the express prior written permission of Oracle Corporation. Any other copying is a violation of copyright law and may result in civil and/or criminal penalties.

If this documentation is delivered to a U.S. Government Agency not within the Department of Defense, then it is delivered with "Restricted Rights," as defined in FAR 52.227-14, Rights in Data-General, including Alternate III (June 1987).

The information in this document is subject to change without notice. If you find any problems in the documentation, please report them in writing to Education Products, Oracle Corporation, 500 Oracle Parkway, Box SB-6, Redwood Shores, CA 94065. Oracle Corporation does not warrant that this document is error-free.

Oracle and all references to Oracle products are trademarks or registered trademarks of Oracle Corporation.

All other products or company names are used for identification purposes only, and may be trademarks of their respective owners.

Contents

Preface

Curriculum Map

Introduction

Objectives I-2

Oracle9i I-3

Oracle9i Application Server I-5

Oracle9i Database I-6

Oracle9i: Object Relational Database Management System I-8

Oracle Internet Platform I-9

System Development Life Cycle I-10

Data Storage on Different Media I-12

Relational Database Concept I-13

Definition of a Relational Database I-14

Data Models I-15

Entity Relationship Model I-16

Entity Relationship Modeling Conventions I-17

Relating Multiple Tables I-19

Relational Database Terminology I-20

Relational Database Properties I-21

Communicating with a RDBMS Using SQL I-22

Relational Database Management System I-23

SQL Statements I-24

Tables Used in the Course I-25

Summary I-26

1 Writing Basic SQL SELECT Statements

Objectives 1-2

Capabilities of SQL SELECT Statements 1-3

Basic SELECT Statement 1-4

Selecting All Columns	1-5
Selecting Specific Columns	1-6
Writing SQL Statements	1-7
Column Heading Defaults	1-8
Arithmetic Expressions	1-9
Using Arithmetic Operators	1-10
Operator Precedence	1-11
Using Parentheses	1-13
Defining a Null Value	1-14
Null Values in Arithmetic Expressions	1-15
Defining a Column Alias	1-16
Using Column Aliases	1-17
Concatenation Operator	1-18
Using the Concatenation Operator	1-19
Literal Character Strings	1-20
Using Literal Character Strings	1-21
Duplicate Rows	1-22
Eliminating Duplicate Rows	1-23
SQL and iSQL*Plus Interaction	1-24
SQL Statements versus iSQL*Plus Commands	1-25
Overview of iSQL*Plus	1-26
Logging In to iSQL*Plus	1-27
The iSQL*Plus Environment	1-28
Displaying Table Structure	1-29
Interacting with Script Files	1-31
Summary	1-34
Practice 1 Overview	1-35

2 Restricting and Sorting Data

Objectives 2-2

Limiting Rows Using a Selection 2-3

Limiting the Rows Selected 2-4

Using the WHERE Clause 2-5

Character Strings and Dates 2-6

Comparison Conditions 2-7

Using Comparison Conditions 2-8

Other Comparison Conditions 2-9

Using the BETWEEN Condition 2-10

Using the IN Condition 2-11

Using the LIKE Condition 2-12

Using the NULL Conditions 2-14

Logical Conditions 2-15

Using the AND Operator 2-16

Using the OR Operator 2-17

Using the NOT Operator 2-18

Rules of Precedence 2-19

ORDER BY Clause 2-22

Sorting in Descending Order 2-23

Sorting by Column Alias 2-24

Sorting by Multiple Columns 2-25

Summary 2-26

Practice 2 Overview 2-27

3 Single-Row Functions

Objectives 3-2

SQL Functions 3-3

Two Types of SQL Functions 3-4

Single-Row Functions 3-5

Character Functions 3-7

Case Manipulation Functions 3-9

Using Case Manipulation Functions 3-10

Character-Manipulation Functions 3-11

Using the Character-Manipulation Functions 3-12

Number Functions 3-13

Using the ROUND Function 3-14

Using the TRUNC Function 3-15

Using the MOD Function 3-16

Working with Dates 3-17

Arithmetic with Dates 3-19

Using Arithmetic Operators with Dates 3-20

Date Functions 3-21

Using Date Functions 3-22

Practice 3, Part 1 Overview 3-24

Conversion Functions 3-25

Implicit Data-Type Conversion 3-26

Explicit Data-Type Conversion 3-28

Using the TO_CHAR Function with Dates 3-31

Elements of the Date Format Model 3-32

Using the TO_CHAR Function with Dates 3-36

Using the TO_CHAR Function with Numbers	3-37
Using the TO_NUMBER and TO_DATE Functions	3-39
RR Date Format	3-40
Example of RR Date Format	3-41
Nesting Functions	3-42
General Functions	3-44
NVL Function	3-45
Using the NVL Function	3-46
Using the NVL2 Function	3-47
Using the NULLIF Function	3-48
Using the COALESCE Function	3-49
Conditional Expressions	3-51
The CASE Expression	3-52
Using the CASE Expression	3-53
The DECODE Function	3-54
Using the DECODE Function	3-55
Summary	3-57
Practice 3, Part 2 Overview	3-58

4 Displaying Data from Multiple Tables

Objectives	4-2
Obtaining Data from Multiple Tables	4-3
Cartesian Products	4-4
Generating a Cartesian Product	4-5
Types of Joins	4-6
Joining Tables Using Oracle Syntax	4-7

What Is an Equijoin?	4-8
Retrieving Records with Equijoins	4-9
Additional Search Conditions Using the AND Operator	4-10
Qualifying Ambiguous Column Names	4-11
Using Table Aliases	4-12
Joining More than Two Tables	4-13
Nonequijoins	4-14
Retrieving Records with Nonequijoins	4-15
Outer Joins	4-16
Outer Joins Syntax	4-17
Using Outer Joins	4-18
Self Joins	4-19
Joining a Table to Itself	4-20
Practice 4, Part 1 Overview	4-21
Joining Tables Using SQL: 1999 Syntax	4-22
Creating Cross Joins	4-23
Creating Natural Joins	4-24
Retrieving Records with Natural Joins	4-25
Creating Joins with the USING Clause	4-26
Retrieving Records with the USING Clause	4-27
Creating Joins with the ON Clause	4-28
Retrieving Records with the ON Clause	4-29
Creating Three-Way Joins with the ON Clause	4-30
INNER versus OUTER Joins	4-31
LEFT OUTER JOIN	4-32
RIGHT OUTER JOIN	4-33

FULL OUTER JOIN 4-34
Additional Conditions 4-35
Summary 4-36
Practice 4, Part 2 Overview 4-37

5 Aggregating Data Using Group Functions

Objectives 5-2
What Are Group Functions? 5-3
Types of Group Functions 5-4
Group Functions Syntax 5-5
Using the AVG and SUM Functions 5-6
Using the MIN and MAX Functions 5-7
Using the COUNT Function 5-8
Using the DISTINCT Keyword 5-10
Group Functions and Null Values 5-11
Using the NVL Function with Group Functions 5-12
Creating Groups of Data 5-13
Creating Groups of Data: GROUP BY Clause Syntax 5-14
Using the GROUP BY Clause 5-15
Grouping by More Than One Column 5-17
Using the GROUP BY Clause on Multiple Columns 5-18
Illegal Queries Using Group Functions 5-19
Excluding Group Results 5-21
Excluding Group Results: The HAVING Clause 5-22
Using the HAVING Clause 5-23
Nesting Group Functions 5-25
Summary 5-26
Practice 5 Overview 5-27

6 Subqueries

Objectives 6-2

Using a Subquery to Solve a Problem 6-3

Subquery Syntax 6-4

Using a Subquery 6-5

Guidelines for Using Subqueries 6-6

Types of Subqueries 6-7

Single-Row Subqueries 6-8

Executing Single-Row Subqueries 6-9

Using Group Functions in a Subquery 6-10

The HAVING Clause with Subqueries 6-11

What Is Wrong with This Statement? 6-12

Will This Statement Return Rows? 6-13

Multiple-Row Subqueries 6-14

Using the ANY Operator in Multiple-Row Subqueries 6-15

Using the ALL Operator in Multiple-Row Subqueries 6-16

Null Values in a Subquery 6-17

Summary 6-18

Practice 6 Overview 6-19

7 Producing Readable Output with iSQL*Plus

Objectives 7-2

Substitution Variables 7-3

Using the & Substitution Variable 7-5

Character and Date Values with Substitution Variables 7-7

Specifying Column Names, Expressions, and Text 7-8

Defining Substitution Variables	7-10
DEFINE and UNDEFINE Commands	7-11
Using the DEFINE Command with & Substitution Variable	7-12
Using the VERIFY Command	7-14
Customizing the iSQL*Plus Environment	7-15
SET Command Variables	7-16
iSQL*Plus Format Commands	7-17
The COLUMN Command	7-18
Using the COLUMN Command	7-19
COLUMN Format Models	7-20
Using the BREAK Command	7-21
Using the TTITLE and BTITLE Commands	7-22
Creating a Script File to Run a Report	7-23
Sample Report	7-25
Summary	7-26
Practice 7 Overview	7-27

8 Manipulating Data

Objectives	8-2
Data Manipulation Language	8-3
Adding a New Row to a Table	8-4
The INSERT Statement Syntax	8-5
Inserting New Rows	8-6
Inserting Rows with Null Values	8-7
Inserting Special Values	8-8
Inserting Specific Date Values	8-9

Creating a Script 8-10

Copying Rows from Another Table 8-11

Changing Data in a Table 8-12

The UPDATE Statement Syntax 8-13

Updating Rows in a Table 8-14

Updating Two Columns with a Subquery 8-15

Updating Rows Based on Another Table 8-16

Updating Rows: Integrity Constraint Error 8-17

Removing a Row from a Table 8-18

The DELETE Statement 8-19

Deleting Rows from a Table 8-20

Deleting Rows Based on Another Table 8-21

Deleting Rows: Integrity Constraint Error 8-22

Using a Subquery in an INSERT Statement 8-23

Using the WITH CHECK OPTION Keyword on DML Statements 8-25

Overview of the Explicit Default Feature 8-26

Using Explicit Default Values 8-27

The MERGE Statement 8-28

MERGE Statement Syntax 8-29

Merging Rows 8-30

Database Transactions 8-32

Advantages of COMMIT and ROLLBACK Statements 8-34

Controlling Transactions 8-35

Rolling Back Changes to a Marker 8-36

Implicit Transaction Processing 8-37

State of the Data Before COMMIT or ROLLBACK 8-38

State of the Data After COMMIT 8-39

Committing Data 8-40
State of the Data After ROLLBACK 8-41
Statement-Level Rollback 8-42
Read Consistency 8-43
Implementation of Read Consistency 8-44
Locking 8-45
Implicit Locking 8-46
Summary 8-47
Practice 8 Overview 8-48

9 Creating and Managing Tables

Objectives 9-2
Database Objects 9-3
Naming Rules 9-4
The CREATE TABLE Statement 9-5
Referencing Another User's Tables 9-6
The DEFAULT Option 9-7
Creating Tables 9-8
Tables in the Oracle Database 9-9
Querying the Data Dictionary 9-10
Data Types 9-11
Datetime Data Types 9-13
TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE Data Type 9-15
TIMESTAMP WITH LOCAL TIME Data Type 9-16
INTERVAL YEAR TO MONTH Data Type 9-17
Creating a Table by Using a Subquery Syntax 9-18

Creating a Table by Using a Subquery 9-19
The ALTER TABLE Statement 9-20
Adding a Column 9-22
Modifying a Column 9-24
Dropping a Column 9-25
The SET UNUSED Option 9-26
Dropping a Table 9-27
Changing the Name of an Object 9-28
Truncating a Table 9-29
Adding Comments to a Table 9-30
Summary 9-31
Practice 9 Overview 9-32

10 Including Constraints

Objectives 10-2
What Are Constraints? 10-3
Constraint Guidelines 10-4
Defining Constraints 10-5
The NOT NULL Constraint 10-7
The UNIQUE Constraint 10-9
The PRIMARY KEY Constraint 10-11
The FOREIGN KEY Constraint 10-13
FOREIGN KEY Constraint Keywords 10-15
The CHECK Constraint 10-16
Adding a Constraint Syntax 10-17
Adding a Constraint 10-18
Dropping a Constraint 10-19

Disabling Constraints 10-20
Enabling Constraints 10-21
Cascading Constraints 10-22
Viewing Constraints 10-24
Viewing the Columns Associated with Constraints 10-25
Summary 10-26
Practice 10 Overview 10-27

11 Creating Views

Objectives 11-2
Database Objects 11-3
What Is a View? 11-4
Why Use Views? 11-5
Simple Views and Complex Views 11-6
Creating a View 11-7
Retrieving Data from a View 11-10
Querying a View 11-11
Modifying a View 11-12
Creating a Complex View 11-13
Rules for Performing DML Operations on a View 11-14
Using the WITH CHECK OPTION Clause 11-17
Denying DML Operations 11-18
Removing a View 11-20
Inline Views 11-21
Top-n Analysis 11-22
Performing Top-n Analysis 11-23

Example of Top-n Analysis 11-24

Summary 11-25

Practice 11 Overview 11-26

12 Other Database Objects

Objectives 12-2

Database Objects 12-3

What Is a Sequence? 12-4

The CREATE SEQUENCE Statement Syntax 12-5

Creating a Sequence 12-6

Confirming Sequences 12-7

NEXTVAL and CURRVAL Pseudocolumns 12-8

Using a Sequence 12-10

Modifying a Sequence 12-12

Guidelines for Modifying a Sequence 12-13

Removing a Sequence 12-14

What Is an Index? 12-15

How Are Indexes Created? 12-16

Creating an Index 12-17

When to Create an Index 12-18

When Not to Create an Index 12-19

Confirming Indexes 12-20

Function-Based Indexes 12-21

Removing an Index 12-22

Synonyms 12-23

Creating and Removing Synonyms 12-24

Summary 12-25

Practice 12 Overview 12-26

13 Controlling User Access

Objectives 13-2

Controlling User Access 13-3

Privileges 13-4

System Privileges 13-5

Creating Users 13-6

User System Privileges 13-7

Granting System Privileges 13-8

What Is a Role? 13-9

Creating and Granting Privileges to a Role 13-10

Changing Your Password 13-11

Object Privileges 13-12

Granting Object Privileges 13-14

Using the WITH GRANT OPTION and PUBLIC Keywords 13-15

Confirming Privileges Granted 13-16

How to Revoke Object Privileges 13-17

Revoking Object Privileges 13-18

Database Links 13-19

Summary 13-21

Practice 13 Overview 13-22

14 SQL Workshop Workshop Overview

Workshop Overview 14-2

15 Using SET Operators

- Objectives 15-2
- The SET Operators 15-3
- Tables Used in This Lesson 15-4
- The UNION SET Operator 15-7
- Using the UNION Operator 15-8
- The UNION ALL Operator 15-10
- Using the UNION ALL Operator 15-11
- The INTERSECT Operator 15-12
- Using the INTERSECT Operator 15-13
- The MINUS Operator 15-14
- SET Operator Guidelines 15-16
- The Oracle Server and SET Operators 15-17
- Matching the SELECT Statements 15-18
- Controlling the Order of Rows 15-20
- Summary 15-21
- Practice 15 Overview 15-22

16 Oracle 9i Datetime Functions

- Objectives 16-2
- TIME ZONES 16-3
- Oracle 9i Datetime Support 16-4
- CURRENT_DATE 16-6
- CURRENT_TIMESTAMP 16-7
- LOCALTIMESTAMP 16-8
- DBTIMEZONE and SESSIONTIMEZONE 16-9

EXTRACT 16-10
FROM_TZ 16-11
TO_TIMESTAMP and TO_TIMESTAMP_TZ 16-12
TO_YMINTERVAL 16-13
TZ_OFFSET 16-14
Summary 16-16
Practice 16 Overview 16-17

17 Enhancements to the GROUP BY Clause

Objectives 17-2
Review of Group Functions 17-3
Review of the GROUP BY Clause 17-4
Review of the HAVING Clause 17-5
GROUP BY with ROLLUP and CUBE Operators 17-6
ROLLUP Operator 17-7
ROLLUP Operator Example 17-8
CUBE Operator 17-9
CUBE Operator: Example 17-10
GROUPING Function 17-11
GROUPING Function: Example 17-12
GROUPING SETS 17-13
GROUPING SETS: Example 17-15
Composite Columns 17-17
Composite Columns: Example 17-19
Concatenated Groupings 17-21

Concatenated Groupings Example 17-22

Summary 17-23

Practice 17 Overview 17-24

18 Advanced Subqueries

Objectives 18-2

What Is a Subquery? 18-3

Subqueries 18-4

Using a Subquery 18-5

Multiple-Column Subqueries 18-6

Column Comparisons 18-7

Pairwise Comparison Subquery 18-8

Nonpairwise Comparison Subquery 18-9

Using a Subquery in the FROM Clause 18-10

Scalar Subquery Expressions 18-11

Correlated Subqueries 18-14

Using Correlated Subqueries 18-16

Using the EXISTS Operator 18-18

Using the NOT EXISTS Operator 18-20

Correlated UPDATE 18-21

Correlated DELETE 18-24

The WITH Clause 18-26

WITH Clause: Example 18-27

Summary 18-29

Practice 18 Overview 18-31

19 Hierarchical Retrieval

- Objectives 19-2
- Sample Data from the EMPLOYEES Table 19-3
- Natural Tree Structure 19-4
- Hierarchical Queries 19-5
- Walking the Tree 19-6
- Walking the Tree: From the Bottom Up 19-8
- Walking the Tree: From the Top Down 19-9
- Ranking Rows with the LEVEL Pseudocolumn 19-10
- Formatting Hierarchical Reports Using LEVEL and LPAD 19-11
- Pruning Branches 19-13
- Summary 19-14
- Practice 19 Overview 19-15

20 Oracle 9i Extensions to DML and DDL Statements

- Objectives 20-2
- Review of the INSERT Statement 20-3
- Review of the UPDATE Statement 20-4
- Overview of Multitable INSERT Statements 20-5
- Types of Multitable INSERT Statements 20-7
- Multitable INSERT Statements 20-8
- Unconditional INSERT ALL 20-10
- Conditional INSERT ALL 20-11
- Conditional FIRST INSERT 20-13
- Pivoting INSERT 20-15
- External Tables 20-18

Creating an External Table 20-19
Example of Creating an External Table 20-20
Querying External Tables 20-23
CREATE INDEX with CREATE TABLE Statement 20-24
Summary 20-25
Practice 20 Overview 20-26

- A Practice Solutions**
- B Table Descriptions and Data**
- C Using SQL* Plus**
- D Writing Advanced Scripts**
- E Oracle Architectural Components**

Index

Additional Practices

Additional Practice Solutions

Table and Descriptions

Preface

Profile

Before You Begin This Course

Before you begin this course, you should be able to use a graphical user interface (GUI). Required prerequisites are familiarity with data processing concepts and techniques.

How This Course Is Organized

Introduction to Oracle9i: SQL is an instructor-led course featuring lectures and hands-on exercises. Online demonstrations and written practice sessions reinforce the concepts and skills introduced.

Related Publications

Oracle Publications

Title	Part Number
<i>Oracle9i Reference, Release 1 (9.0.1)</i>	A90190-01
<i>Oracle9i SQL Reference, Release 1 (9.0.1)</i>	A90125-01
<i>Oracle9i Concepts, Release 1 (9.0.0)</i>	A88856-01
<i>Oracle9i Server Application Developer's Guide Fundamentals, Release 1 (9.0.1)</i>	A88876-01
<i>iSQL*Plus User's Guide and Reference, Release 9.0.0</i>	
<i>SQL*Plus User's Guide and Reference, Release 9.0.1</i>	A88827-01

Additional Publications

- System release bulletins
- Installation and user's guides
- read.me files
- International Oracle User's Group (IOUG) articles
- *Oracle Magazine*

Typographic Conventions

What follows are two lists of typographical conventions used specifically within text or within code.

Typographic Conventions within Text

Convention	Object or Term	Example
Uppercase	Commands, functions, column names, table names, PL/SQL objects, schemas	Use the <code>SELECT</code> command to view information stored in the <code>LAST_NAME</code> column of the <code>EMPLOYEES</code> table.
Lowercase, italic	Filenames, syntax variables, usernames, passwords	where: <i>role</i> is the name of the role to be created.
Initial cap	Trigger and button names	Assign a When-Validate-Item trigger to the ORD block. Choose Cancel.
Italic	Books, names of courses and manuals, and emphasized words or phrases	For more information on the subject see the <i>Oracle Server SQL Language Reference Manual</i> Do <i>not</i> save changes to the database.
Quotation marks	Lesson module titles referenced within a course	This subject is covered in Lesson 3, “Working with Objects.”

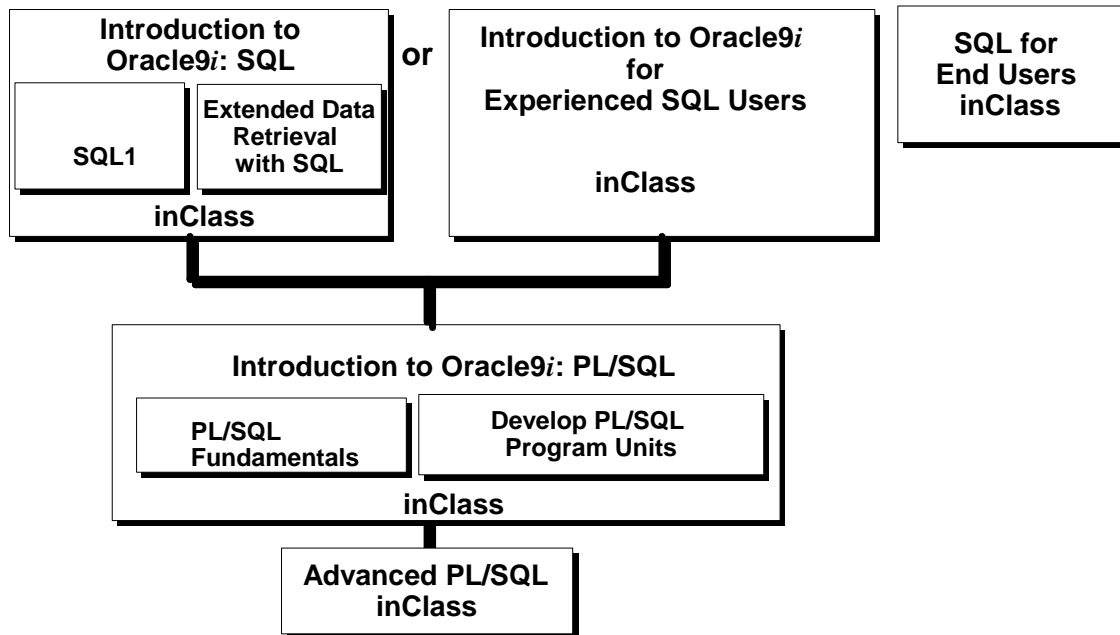
Typographic Conventions (continued)

Typographic Conventions within Code

Convention	Object or Term	Example
Uppercase	Commands, functions	<code>SELECT employee_id FROM employees;</code>
Lowercase, italic	Syntax variables	<code>CREATE ROLE <i>role</i>;</code>
Initial cap	Forms triggers	<code>Form module: ORD Trigger level: S_ITEM.QUANTITY item Trigger name: When-Validate-Item . . .</code>
Lowercase	Column names, table names, filenames, PL/SQL objects	<code>. . . OG_ACTIVATE_LAYER (OG_GET_LAYER ('prod_pie_layer')) . . . SELECT last_name FROM employees;</code>
Bold	Text that must be entered by a user	<code>CREATE USER scott IDENTIFIED BY tiger;</code>

Curriculum Map

Languages Curriculum for Oracle9i



ORACLE

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Integrated Languages Curriculum

Introduction to Oracle9i: SQL consists of two modules, *SQL1* and *Extended Data Retrieval with SQL*. *SQL1* covers creating database structures and storing, retrieving, and manipulating data in a relational database. *Extended Data Retrieval with SQL* covers advanced SELECT statements, Oracle SQL, and iSQL*Plus Reporting.

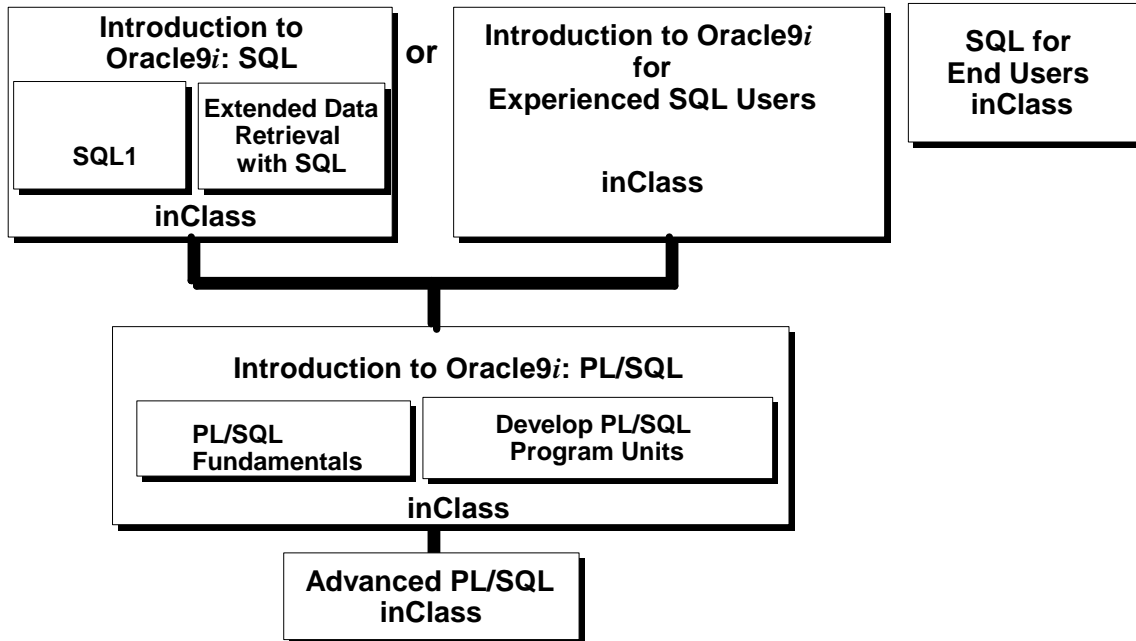
For people who have worked with other relational databases and have knowledge of SQL, another course, called *Introduction to Oracle9i for Experienced SQL Users* is offered. This course covers the SQL statements that are not part of ANSI SQL but are specific to Oracle.

Introduction to Oracle9i: PL/SQL consists of two modules, *PL/SQL Fundamentals* and *Develop PL/SQL Program Units*. *PL/SQL Fundamentals* covers PL/SQL basics including the PL/SQL language structure, flow of execution and interface with SQL. *Develop PL/SQL Program Units* covers how to create stored procedures, functions, packages, and triggers as well as maintaining and debugging program code.

SQL for End Users is geared towards individuals with little programming background and covers the basic SQL statements. This course is for end users that need to know some basic SQL programming.

Advanced PL/SQL is appropriate individuals who have experience in PL/SQL programming, and covers coding efficiency topics, object-oriented programming, working with external code, and the advanced features of Oracle-supplied packages.

Languages Curriculum for Oracle9i



ORACLE

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Integrated Languages Curriculum

The slide lists various modules and courses that are available in the languages curriculum. The following table lists the modules and courses with their equivalent TBTs.

Course or Module	Equivalent TBT
<i>SQL1</i>	<i>Oracle SQL: Basic SELECT Statements</i> <i>Oracle SQL: Data Retrieval Techniques</i> <i>Oracle SQL: DML and DDL</i>
<i>Extended Data Retrieval with SQL</i>	<i>Oracle SQL and SQL*Plus: Advanced SELECT Statements</i> <i>Oracle SQL and SQL*Plus: SQL*Plus and Reporting</i>
<i>Introduction to Oracle9i for Experienced SQL Users</i>	<i>Oracle SQL Specifics: Retrieving and Formatting Data</i> <i>Oracle SQL Specifics: Creating and Managing Database Objects</i>
<i>PL/SQL Fundamentals</i>	<i>PL/SQL: Basics</i>
<i>Develop PL/SQL Program Units</i>	<i>PL/SQL: Procedures, Functions, and Packages</i> <i>PL/SQL: Database Programming</i>
<i>SQL for End Users</i>	<i>SQL for End Users: Part 1</i> <i>SQL for End Users: Part 2</i>
<i>Advanced PL/SQL</i>	<i>Advanced PL/SQL: Implementation and Advanced Features</i> <i>Advanced PL/SQL: Design Considerations and Object Types</i>

I Introduction

ORACLE

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Objectives

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

- **List the features of Oracle9i**
- **Discuss the theoretical and physical aspects of a relational database**
- **Describe the Oracle implementation of the RDBMS and ORDBMS**

ORACLE

I-2

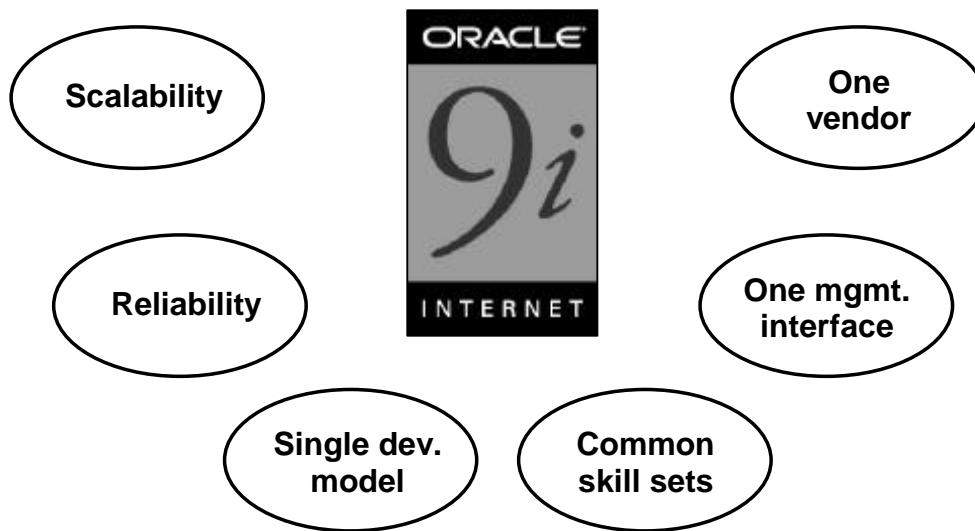
Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Lesson Aim

In this lesson, you gain an understanding of the relational database management system (RDBMS) and the object relational database management system (ORDBMS). You are also introduced to the following:

- SQL statements that are specific to the Oracle Server
- *iSQL*Plus*, which is used for executing SQL and for formatting and reporting purposes

Oracle9i



ORACLE

I-3

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

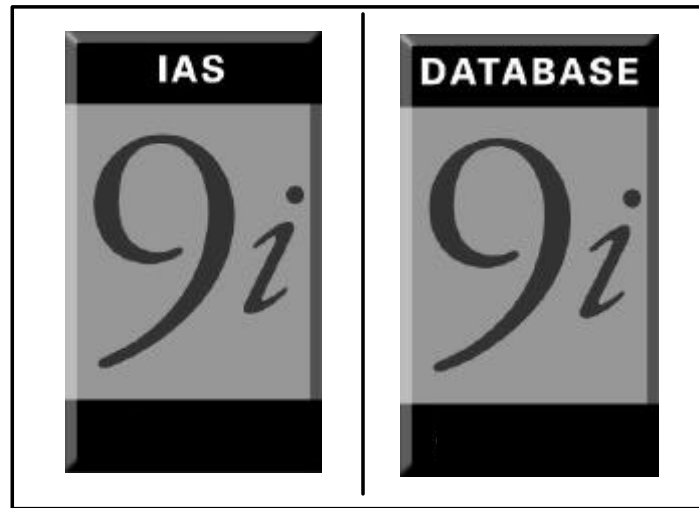
Oracle9i Features

Oracle offers a comprehensive high-performance infrastructure for e-business. It is called Oracle9i. Oracle9i includes everything needed to develop, deploy, and manage Internet applications.

Benefits include:

- Scalability from departments to enterprise e-business sites
- Robust reliable, available, secure architecture
- One development model, easy deployment options
- Leverage an organization's current skillset throughout the Oracle platform (including SQL, PL/SQL, Java, and XML)
- One management interface for all applications
- Industry standard technologies, no proprietary lock-in

Oracle9i



ORACLE

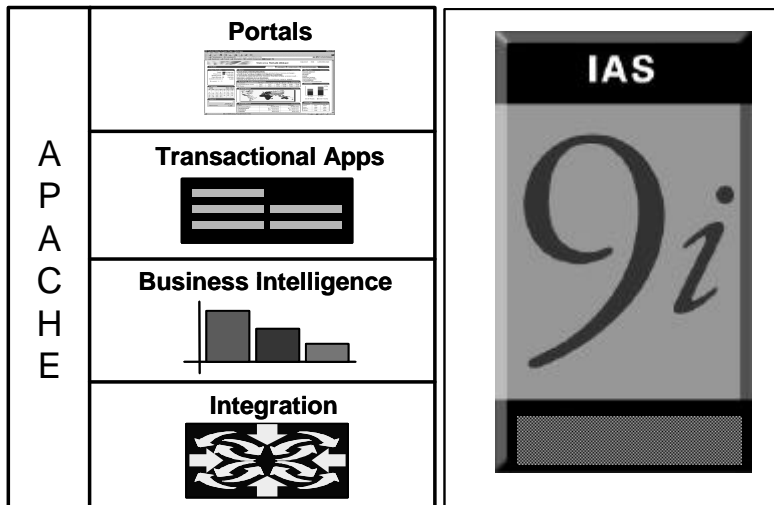
I-4

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Oracle9i

There are two products, Oracle9i Application Server and Oracle9i Database, that provide a complete and simple infrastructure for Internet applications.

Oracle9i Application Server



ORACLE

I-5

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Oracle9i Application Server

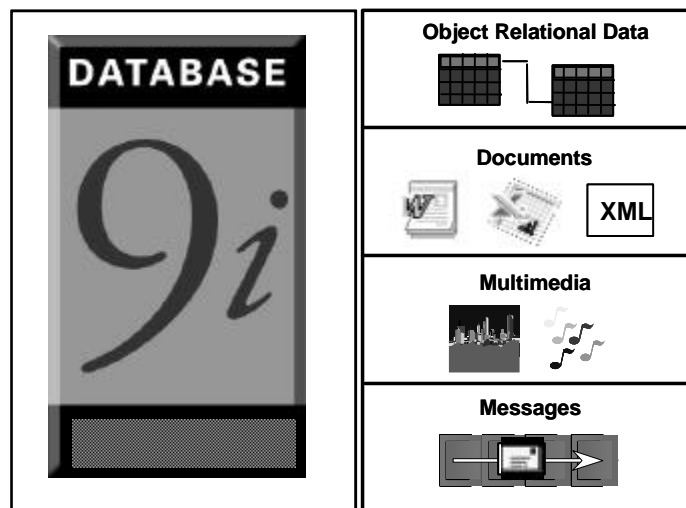
The Oracle9i Application Server (Oracle9iAS) runs all your applications. The Oracle9i Database stores all your data.

Oracle9i Application Server is the only application server to include services for all the different server applications you'll want to run. Oracle9iAS can run your:

- Portals or Web sites
- Java transactional applications
- Business intelligence applications

It also provides integration between users, applications, and data throughout your organization.

Oracle9i Database



ORACLE

I-6

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Oracle9i Database

The roles of the two products are very straightforward. Oracle9i Database manages all your data. This is not just the object relational data that you expect an enterprise database to manage. It can also be unstructured data like:

- Spreadsheets
- Word documents
- Powerpoint presentations
- XML
- Multimedia data types like MP3, graphics, video, and more

The data does not even have to be in the database. Oracle9i Database has services through which you can store metadata about information stored in file systems. You can use the database server to manage and serve information wherever it is located.

Oracle9i Database



- Performance and availability leader
- Richest feature set

ORACLE

I-7

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Oracle9i Database

The starting point for any discussion about application deployment is the database. Oracle9i Database is the new flagship product from Oracle. It has an incredibly rich feature set.

Oracle9i Database is the only database specifically designed as an Internet development and deployment platform, extending Oracle's long-standing technology leadership in the areas of data management, transaction processing, and data warehousing to the new medium of the Internet. Built directly inside the database, breakthrough Internet features help companies and developers build Internet-savvy applications that lower costs, enhance customer and supplier interaction, and provide global information access across platforms and across the enterprise.

The Oracle9i Database is an object relational database management system. It has the full capabilities and functionality of a relational database, plus the features of an object database.

Oracle9i: Object Relational Database Management System

- **User-defined data types and objects**
- **Fully compatible with relational database**
- **Support of multimedia and large objects**
- **High-quality database server features**

ORACLE

I-8

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

About Oracle9i

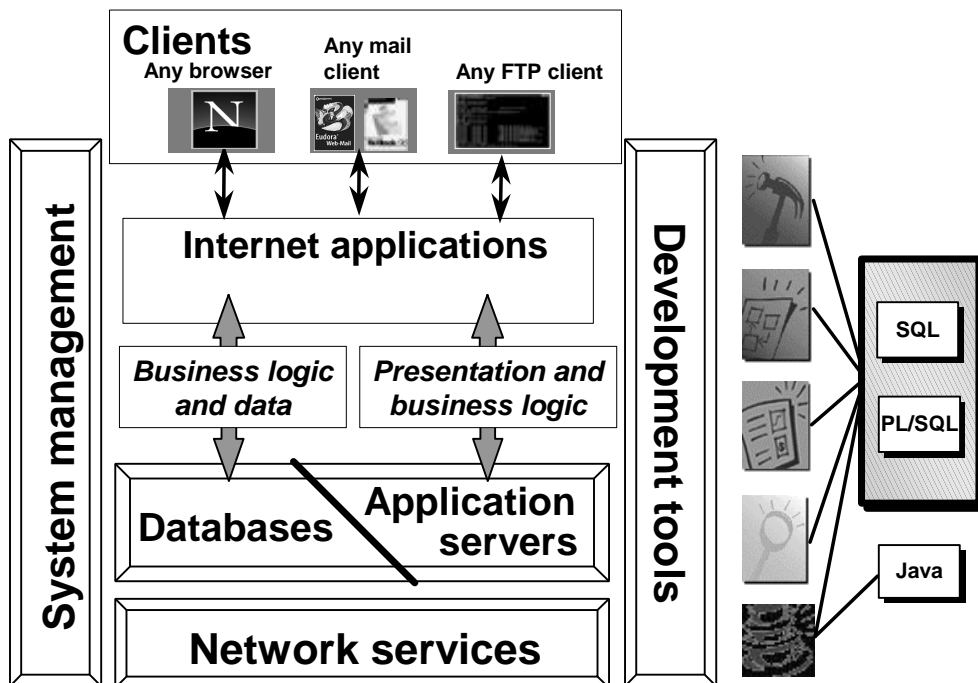
The Oracle server extends the data modeling capabilities to support an object relational database model that brings object-oriented programming, complex data types, complex business objects, and full compatibility with the relational world.

It includes several features for improved performance and functionality of online transaction processing (OLTP) applications, such as better sharing of run-time data structures, larger buffer caches, and deferrable constraints. Data warehouse applications will benefit from enhancements such as parallel execution of insert, update, and delete operations; partitioning; and parallel-aware query optimization. Operating within the Network Computing Architecture (NCA) framework, Oracle9i supports client-server and Web-based applications that are distributed and multitiered.

Oracle9i can scale tens of thousands of concurrent users, support up to 512 petabytes of data (a petabyte is 1,000 terabytes), and can handle any type of data, including text, spatial, image, sound, video, and time series as well as traditional structured data.

For more information, see *Oracle9i Concepts*.

Oracle Internet Platform



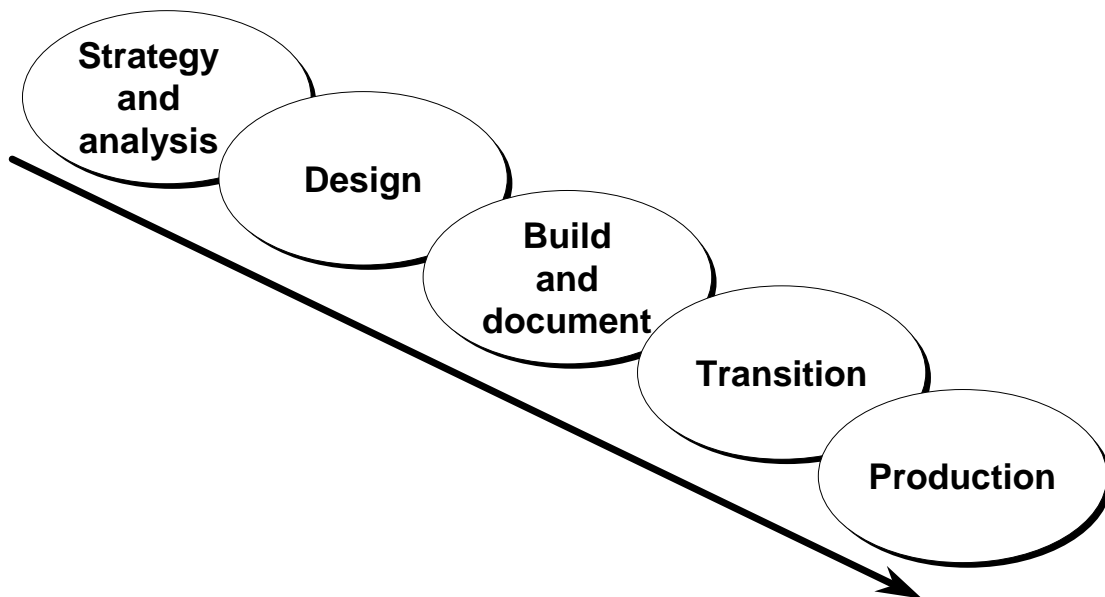
Oracle Internet Platform

Oracle Corporation offers a comprehensive high-performance Internet platform for e-commerce and data warehousing. This integrated platform includes everything needed to develop, deploy, and manage Internet applications. The Oracle Internet Platform is built on three core pieces:

- Browser-based clients to process presentation
- Application servers to execute business logic and serve presentation logic to browser-based clients
- Databases to execute database-intensive business logic and serve data

Oracle Corporation offers a wide variety of the most advanced graphical user interface (GUI) driven development tools to build business applications, as well as a large suite of software applications for many areas of business and industry. Stored procedures, functions, and packages can be written by using SQL, PL/SQL, or Java.

System Development Life Cycle



ORACLE

I-10

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

System Development Life Cycle

From concept to production, you can develop a database by using the system development life cycle, which contains multiple stages of development. This top-down, systematic approach to database development transforms business information requirements into an operational database.

Strategy and Analysis

- Study and analyze the business requirements. Interview users and managers to identify the information requirements. Incorporate the enterprise and application mission statements as well as any future system specifications.
- Build models of the system. Transfer the business narrative into a graphical representation of business information needs and rules. Confirm and refine the model with the analysts and experts.

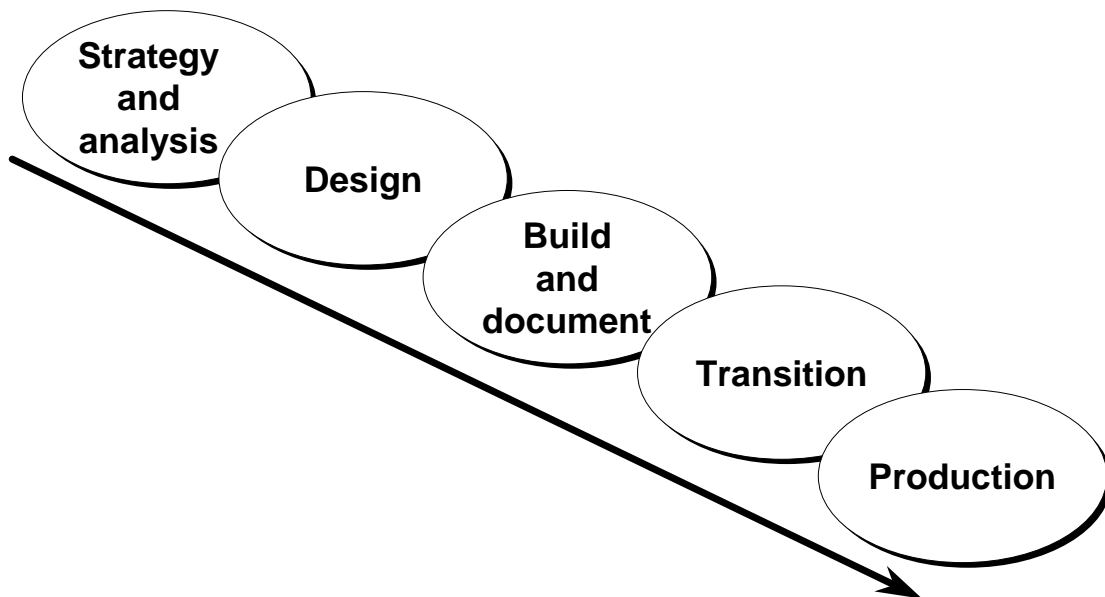
Design

Design the database based on the model developed in the strategy and analysis phase.

Build and Document

- Build the prototype system. Write and execute the commands to create the tables and supporting objects for the database.
- Develop user documentation, Help text, and operations manuals to support the use and operation of the system.

System Development Life Cycle



ORACLE

I-11

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

System Development Life Cycle (continued)

Transition

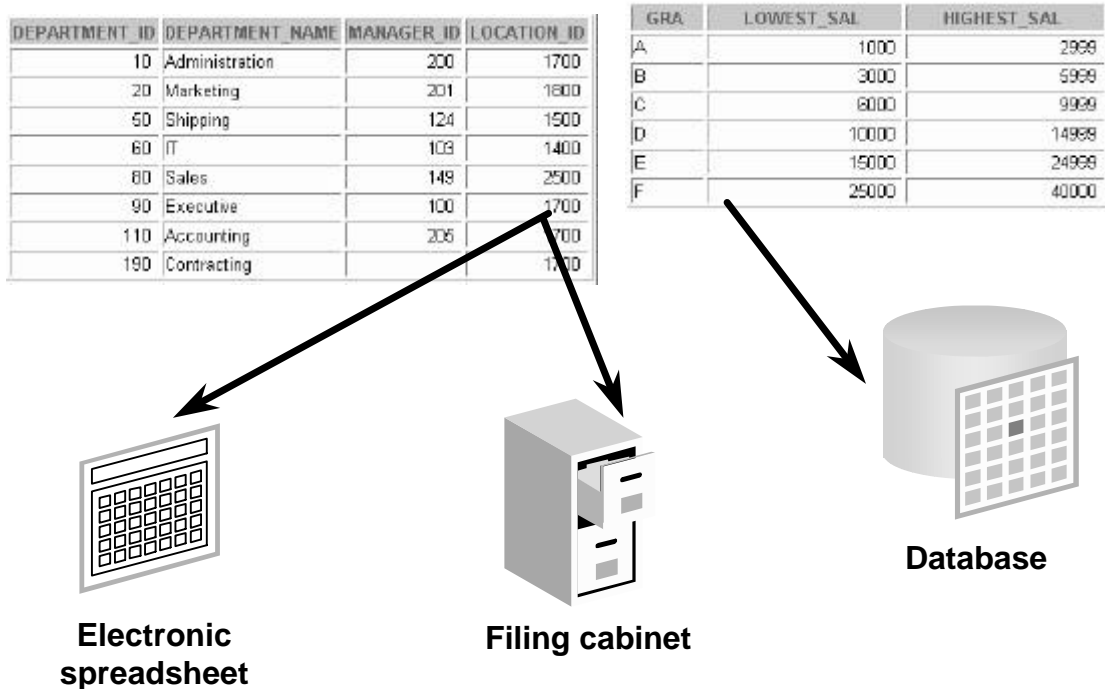
Refine the prototype. Move an application into production with user acceptance testing, conversion of existing data, and parallel operations. Make any modifications required.

Production

Roll out the system to the users. Operate the production system. Monitor its performance, and enhance and refine the system.

Note: The various phases of the system development life cycle can be carried out iteratively. This course focuses on the build phase of the system development life cycle.

Data Storage on Different Media



ORACLE

I-12

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Storing Information

Every organization has some information needs. A library keeps a list of members, books, due dates, and fines. A company needs to save information about employees, departments, and salaries. These pieces of information are called *data*.

Organizations can store data on various media and in different formats—for example, a hard-copy document in a filing cabinet or data stored in electronic spreadsheets or in databases.

A *database* is an organized collection of information.

To manage databases, you need database management systems (DBMS). A DBMS is a program that stores, retrieves, and modifies data in the database on request. There are four main types of databases: *hierarchical*, *network*, *relational*, and more recently *object relational*.

Note: Oracle7 is a relational database management system and Oracle8, 8i, and 9i are object relational database management systems.

Relational Database Concept

- **Dr. E.F. Codd proposed the relational model for database systems in 1970.**
- **It is the basis for the relational database management system.**
- **The relational model consists of the following:**
 - **Collection of objects or relations**
 - **Set of operators to act on the relations**
 - **Data integrity for accuracy and consistency**

ORACLE

I-13

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Relational Model

The principles of the relational model were first outlined by Dr. E. F. Codd in a June 1970 paper called “A Relational Model of Data for Large Shared Data Banks.” In this paper, Dr. Codd proposed the relational model for database systems.

The more popular models used at that time were hierarchical and network, or even simple flat file data structures. Relational database management systems (RDBMS) soon became very popular, especially for their ease of use and flexibility in structure. In addition, a number of innovative vendors, such as Oracle, supplemented the RDBMS with a suite of powerful application development and user products, providing a total solution.

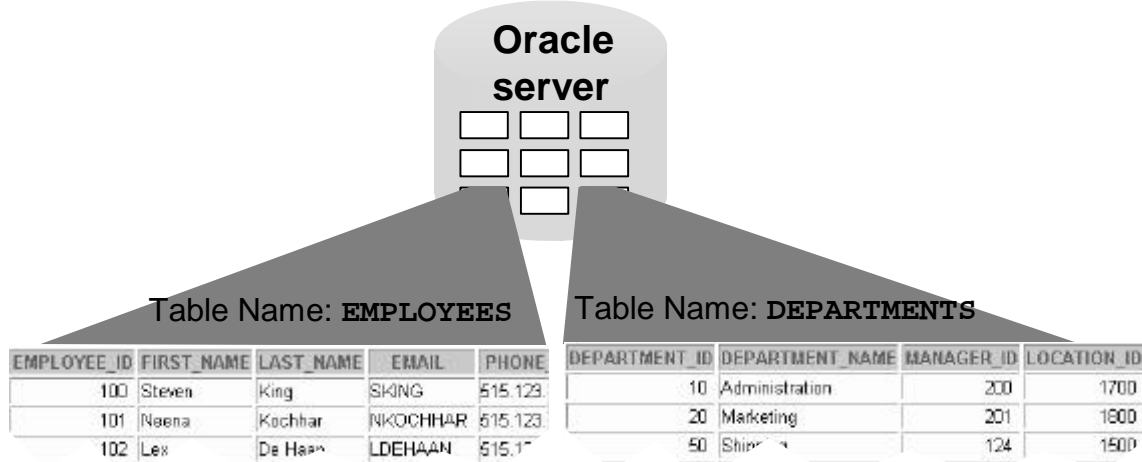
Components of the Relational Model

- Collections of objects or relations that store the data
- A set of operators that can act on the relations to produce other relations
- Data integrity for accuracy and consistency

For more information, see E. F. Codd, *The Relational Model for Database Management, Version 2* (Reading, Mass.: Addison-Wesley, 1990).

Definition of a Relational Database

A relational database is a collection of relations or two-dimensional tables.

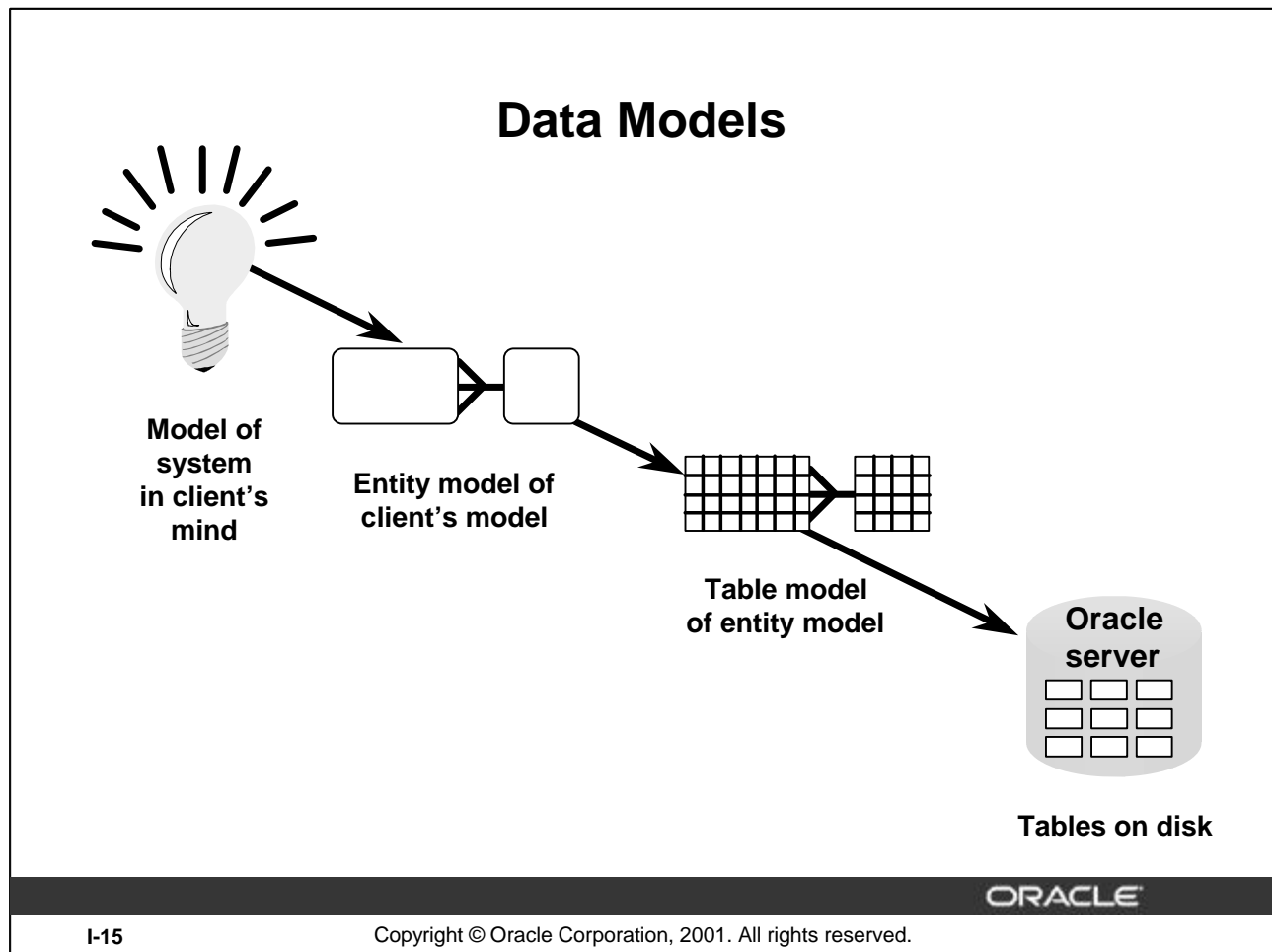


ORACLE

Definition of a Relational Database

A relational database uses relations or two-dimensional tables to store information.

For example, you might want to store information about all the employees in your company. In a relational database, you create several tables to store different pieces of information about your employees, such as an employee table, a department table, and a salary table.



Data Models

Models are a cornerstone of design. Engineers build a model of a car to work out any details before putting it into production. In the same manner, system designers develop models to explore ideas and improve the understanding of the database design.

Purpose of Models

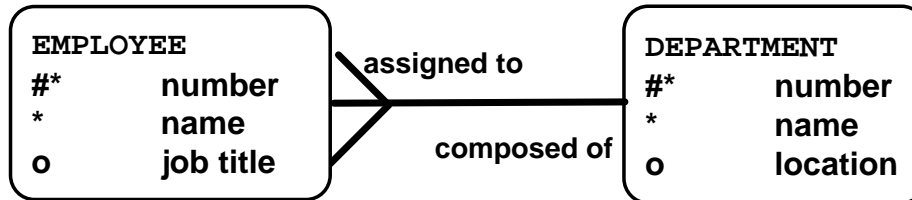
Models help communicate the concepts in people's minds. They can be used to do the following:

- Communicate
- Categorize
- Describe
- Specify
- Investigate
- Evolve
- Analyze
- Imitate

The objective is to produce a model that fits a multitude of these uses, can be understood by an end user, and contains sufficient detail for a developer to build a database system.

Entity Relationship Model

- **Create an entity relationship diagram from business specifications or narratives**



- **Scenario**
 - “... Assign one or more employees to a department ...”
 - “... Some departments do not yet have assigned employees ...”

ORACLE

I-16

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

ER Modeling

In an effective system, data is divided into discrete categories or entities. An entity relationship (ER) model is an illustration of various entities in a business and the relationships between them. An ER model is derived from business specifications or narratives and built during the analysis phase of the system development life cycle. ER models separate the information required by a business from the activities performed within a business. Although businesses can change their activities, the type of information tends to remain constant. Therefore, the data structures also tend to be constant.

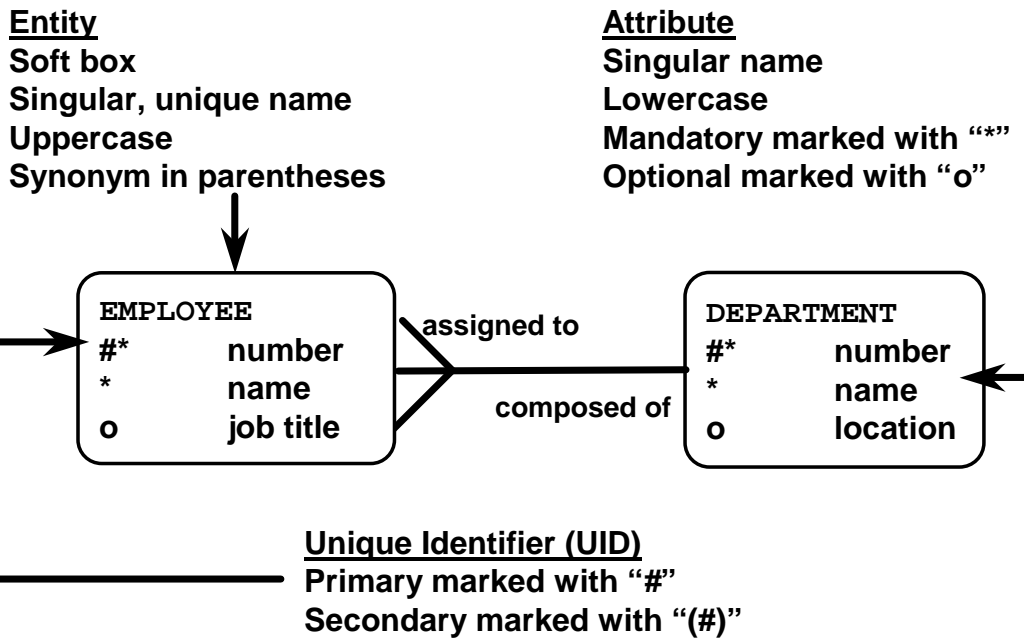
Benefits of ER Modeling

- Documents information for the organization in a clear, precise format
- Provides a clear picture of the scope of the information requirement
- Provides an easily understood pictorial map for the database design
- Offers an effective framework for integrating multiple applications

Key Components

- **Entity:** A thing of significance about which information needs to be known. Examples are departments, employees, and orders.
- **Attribute:** Something that describes or qualifies an entity. For example, for the employee entity, the attributes would be the employee number, name, job title, hire date, department number, and so on. Each of the attributes is either required or optional. This state is called *optionality*.
- **Relationship:** A named association between entities showing optionality and degree. Examples are employees and departments, and orders and items.

Entity Relationship Modeling Conventions



Unique Identifier (UID)
Primary marked with “#”
Secondary marked with “(#)”

ORACLE

ER Modeling (continued)

Entities

To represent an entity in a model, use the following conventions:

- Soft box with any dimensions
- Singular, unique entity name
- Entity name in uppercase
- Optional synonym names in uppercase within parentheses: ()

Attributes

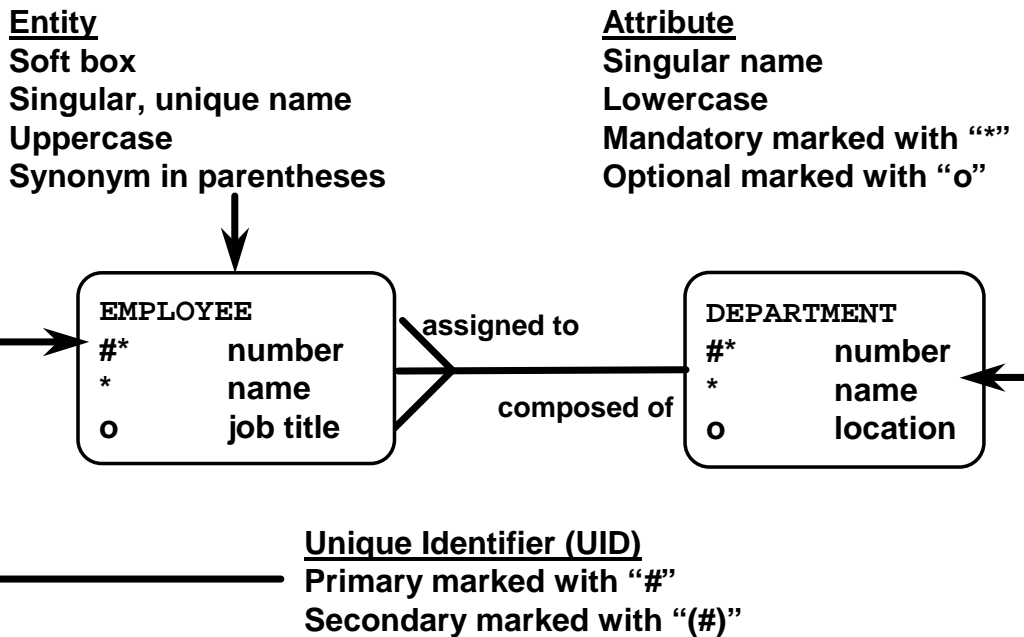
To represent an attribute in a model, use the following conventions:

- Use singular names in lowercase.
- Tag mandatory attributes, or values that must be known, with an asterisk: *.
- Tag optional attributes, or values that may be known, with the letter o.

Relationships

Symbol	Description
Dashed line	Optional element indicating “may be”
Solid line	Mandatory element indicating “must be”
Crow’s foot	Degree element indicating “one or more”
Single line	Degree element indicating “one and only one”

Entity Relationship Modeling Conventions



ORACLE

ER Modeling (continued)

Relationships

Each direction of the relationship contains:

- A label, for example, *taught by* or *assigned to*
- An optionality, either *must be* or *may be*
- A degree, either *one and only one* or *one or more*

Note: The term *cardinality* is a synonym for the term *degree*.

Each source entity {may be | must be} relationship name {one and only one | one or more} destination entity.

Note: The convention is to read clockwise.

Unique Identifiers

A unique identifier (UID) is any combination of attributes or relationships, or both, that serves to distinguish occurrences of an entity. Each entity occurrence must be uniquely identifiable.

- Tag each attribute that is part of the UID with a number symbol: #
- Tag secondary UIDs with a number sign in parentheses: (#)

Relating Multiple Tables

- Each row of data in a table is uniquely identified by a primary key (PK).
- You can logically relate data from multiple tables using foreign keys (FK).

Table Name: **EMPLOYEES**

EMPLOYEE_ID	FIRST_NAME	LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID
174	Ellen	Abel	80
142	Curtis	Davies	50
102	Lex	De Haan	90
104	Bruce	Ernst	60
202	Pat	Fay	20
206	William	Gietz	110

Table Name: **DEPARTMENTS**

DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME	MANAGER_ID	LOCATION_ID
10	Administration	200	1700
20	Marketing	201	1800
50	Shipping	124	1900
60	IT	103	1400
80	Sales	149	2500
90	Executive	100	1700
110	Accounting	205	1700
190	Contracting		1700

↑ Primary key ↑ Foreign key ↑ Primary key

ORACLE

I-19

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Relating Multiple Tables

Each table contains data that describes exactly one entity. For example, the EMPLOYEES table contains information about employees. Categories of data are listed across the top of each table, and individual cases are listed below. Using a table format, you can readily visualize, understand, and use information.

Because data about different entities is stored in different tables, you may need to combine two or more tables to answer a particular question. For example, you may want to know the location of the department where an employee works. In this scenario, you need information from the EMPLOYEES table (which contains data about employees) and the DEPARTMENTS table (which contains information about departments). With an RDBMS you can relate the data in one table to the data in another by using the foreign keys. A foreign key is a column or a set of columns that refer to a primary key in the same table or another table.

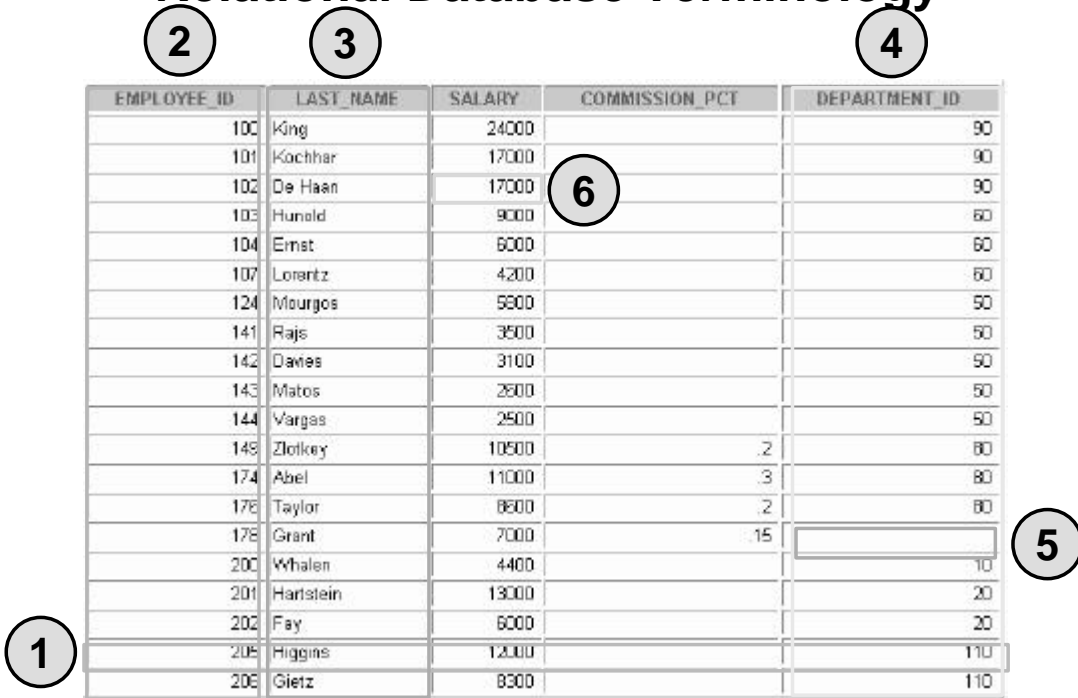
You can use the ability to relate data in one table to data in another to organize information in separate, manageable units. Employee data can be kept logically distinct from department data by storing it in a separate table.

Guidelines for Primary Keys and Foreign Keys

- You can not use duplicate values in a primary key.
- Primary keys generally cannot be changed.
- Foreign keys are based on data values and are purely logical, not physical, pointers.
- A foreign key value must match an existing primary key value or unique key value, or else be null.
- A foreign key must reference either a primary key or unique key column.

Relational Database Terminology

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	SALARY	COMMISSION_PCT	DEPARTMENT_ID
100	King	24000		90
101	Kochhar	17000		90
102	De Haan	17000		90
103	Hunold	9000		60
104	Ernst	6000		60
107	Lorentz	4200		60
124	Mourgos	5800		50
141	Rajs	3500		50
142	Davies	3100		50
143	Matos	2800		50
144	Vargas	2500		50
149	Zlotkey	10500	.2	60
174	Abel	11000	.3	80
176	Taylor	8800	.2	80
178	Grant	7000	.15	
200	Whalen	4400		10
201	Hartstein	13000		20
202	Fay	6000		20
203	Higgins	12000		110
206	Gietz	8300		110



ORACLE

Terminology Used in a Relational Database

A relational database can contain one or many tables. A table is the basic storage structure of an RDBMS. A table holds all the data necessary about something in the real world: for example, employees, invoices, or customers.

The slide shows the contents of the EMPLOYEES table or *relation*. The numbers indicate the following:

1. A single row or tuple representing all data required for a particular employee. Each row in a table should be identified by a primary key, which allows no duplicate rows. The order of rows is insignificant; specify the row order when the data is retrieved.
2. A column or attribute containing the employee number. The employee number identifies a unique employee in the EMPLOYEES table. In this example, the employee number column is designated as the *primary key*. A primary key must contain a value, and the value must be unique.
3. A column that is not a key value. A column represents one kind of data in a table; in the example, the salary of all the employees. Column order is insignificant when storing data; specify the column order when the data is retrieved.
4. A column containing the department number, which is also a foreign key. A *foreign key* is a column that defines how tables relate to each other. A foreign key refers to a primary key or a unique key in the same table or in another table. In the example, DEPARTMENT_ID *uniquely* identifies a department in the DEPARTMENTS table.
5. A field may have no value in it. This is called a null value. In the EMPLOYEES table, only employees who have a role of sales representative have a value in the COMMISSION_PCT (commission) field.
6. A field can be found at the intersection of a row and a column. There can be only one value in it.

Relational Database Properties

A relational database:

- **Can be accessed and modified by executing structured query language (SQL) statements**
- **Contains a collection of tables with no physical pointers**
- **Uses a set of operators**

ORACLE

I-21

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Properties of a Relational Database

In a relational database, you do not specify the access route to the tables, and you do not need to know how the data is arranged physically.

To access the database, you execute a structured query language (SQL) statement, which is the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard language for operating relational databases. The language contains a large set of operators for partitioning and combining relations. The database can be modified by using SQL statements.

Communicating with a RDBMS Using SQL

SQL statement
is entered.

```
SELECT department_name  
FROM departments;
```

Statement is sent to
Oracle Server.

Oracle
server

Data is displayed.

DEPARTMENT_NAME
Administration
Marketing
Shipping
IT
Sales
Executive
Accounting
Contracting

8 rows selected.

ORACLE

I-22

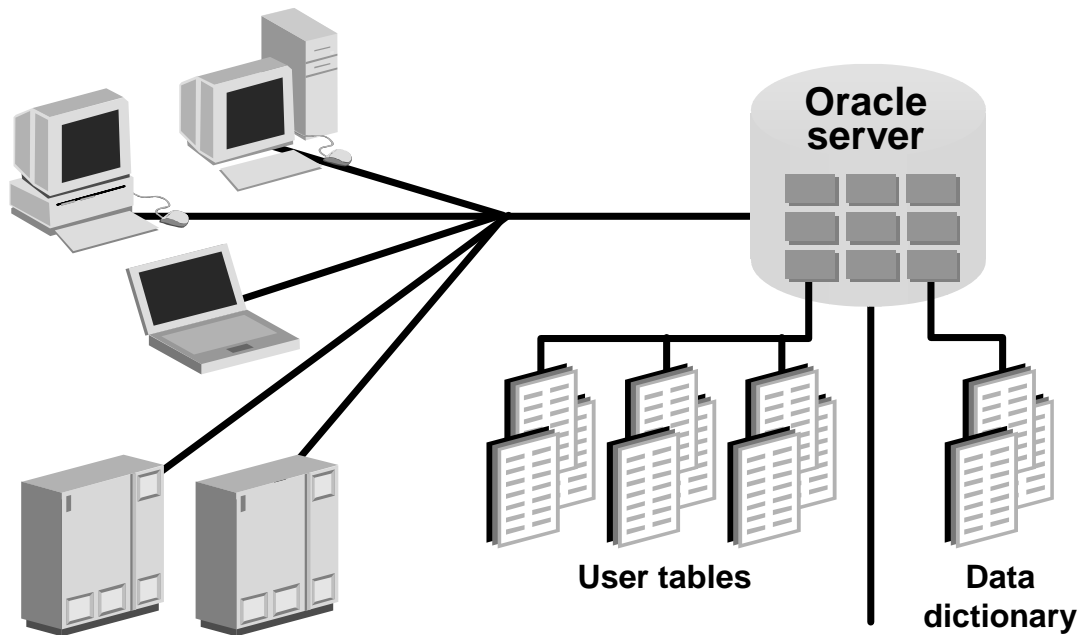
Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Structured Query Language

Using SQL, you can communicate with the Oracle server. SQL has the following advantages:

- Efficient
- Easy to learn and use
- Functionally complete (With SQL, you can define, retrieve, and manipulate data in the tables.)

Relational Database Management System



I-23

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

ORACLE

Relational Database Management System

Oracle provides a flexible RDBMS called Oracle9i. Using its features, you can store and manage data with all the advantages of a relational structure plus PL/SQL, an engine that provides you with the ability to store and execute program units. Oracle9i also supports Java and XML. The Oracle server offers the options of retrieving data based on optimization techniques. It includes security features that control how a database is accessed and used. Other features include consistency and protection of data through locking mechanisms.

The Oracle9i server is an object-relational database management system that provides an open, comprehensive, and integrated approach to information management. An Oracle server consists of an Oracle database and an Oracle server instance. Every time a database is started, a system global area (SGA) is allocated, and Oracle background processes are started. The system global area is an area of memory used for database information shared by the database users. The combination of the background processes and memory buffers is called an Oracle instance.

SQL Statements

SELECT	Data retrieval
INSERT UPDATE DELETE MERGE	Data manipulation language (DML)
CREATE ALTER DROP RENAME TRUNCATE	Data definition language (DDL)
COMMIT ROLLBACK SAVEPOINT	Transaction control
GRANT REVOKE	Data control language (DCL)

ORACLE

I-24

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

SQL Statements

Oracle SQL complies with industry-accepted standards. Oracle Corporation ensures future compliance with evolving standards by actively involving key personnel in SQL standards committees. Industry-accepted committees are the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the International Standards Organization (ISO). Both ANSI and ISO have accepted SQL as the standard language for relational databases.

Statement	Description
SELECT	Retrieves data from the database
INSERT UPDATE DELETE MERGE	Enters new rows, changes existing rows, and removes unwanted rows from tables in the database, respectively. Collectively known as <i>data manipulation language (DML)</i> .
CREATE ALTER DROP RENAME TRUNCATE	Set up, change, and remove data structures from tables. Collectively known as <i>data definition language (DDL)</i> .
COMMIT ROLLBACK SAVEPOINT	Manage the changes made by DML statements. Changes to the data can be grouped together into logical transactions.
GRANT REVOKE	Give or remove access rights to both the Oracle database and the structures within it. Collectively known as <i>data control language (DCL)</i> .

Tables Used in the Course

EMPLOYEES

EMPLOYEE_ID	FIRST_NAME	LAST_NAME	EMAIL	HIRE_DATE	JOB_ID	SALARY	COMMISSION_PCT
100	Steven	King	SKING	17-JUN-87	AD_PRES	24000	
101	Neena	Kochhar	NKOCHHAR	21-SEP-89	AD_VP	17000	
102	Lex	De Haan	LDEHAAN	13-JAN-88	AD_VP	17000	
103	Alexander	Hunold	AHUNOLD	03-JAN-90	IT_PROG	9000	
104	Bruce	Ernst	BERNST	21-MAY-91	IT_PROG	8000	
107	Diana	Lorentz	DLORENTZ	07-FEB-99	IT_PROG	4200	
124	Kevin	Mourgos	KMOURGOS	16-NOV-89	ST_MAN	5800	
141	Trenna	Rajs	TRAJS	17-OCT-95	ST_CLERK	3500	
142	Curtis	Davies	CDAVIES	29-JAN-97	ST_CLERK	3100	
143	Randall	Matos	RMATOS	15-MAR-98	ST_CLERK	2600	
144	Peter	Vargas	PVARGAS	09-JUL-98	ST_CLERK	2500	
149	Eleni	Zlotkey	EZLOTKEY	29-JAN-00	SA_MAN	10500	

DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME	MANAGER_ID	LOCATION_ID
10	Administration	200	1700
20	Marketing	201	1800
50	Shipping	124	1500
60	IT	103	1400
90	Sales	149	2500
90	Executive	100	1700
110	Accounting	205	1700
190	Contracting		1700

DATE	GRADE	LOWEST_SAL	HIGHEST_SAL
MAY-95	SA_REP	11000	3
MAR-98	SA_REP	8600	2
MAY-98	A	1000	2999
SEP-87	B	3000	5999
FEB-91	C	6000	9999
AUG-91	D	10000	14999
JUN-91	E	15000	24999
JUN-91	F	25000	40000

DEPARTMENTS

JOB_GRADES

ORACLE

Tables Used in the Course

The following main tables are used in this course:

- EMPLOYEES table, which gives details of all the employees
- DEPARTMENTS table, which gives details of all the departments
- JOB_GRADES table, which gives details of salaries for various grades

Note: The structure and data for all the tables are provided in Appendix B.

Summary

- **The Oracle9i Server is the database for Internet computing.**
- **Oracle9i is based on the object relational database management system.**
- **Relational databases are composed of relations, managed by relational operations, and governed by data integrity constraints.**
- **With the Oracle Server, you can store and manage information by using the SQL language and PL/SQL engine.**

ORACLE

I-26

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Summary

Relational database management systems are composed of objects or relations. They are managed by operations and governed by data integrity constraints.

Oracle Corporation produces products and services to meet your relational database management system needs. The main products are the Oracle9i Database Server, with which you can store and manage information by using SQL, and the Oracle9i Application Server with which you can run all of your applications.

SQL

The Oracle Server supports ANSI standard SQL and contains extensions. SQL is the language used to communicate with the server to access, manipulate, and control data.

1

Writing Basic SQL `SELECT` Statements

ORACLE

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Objectives

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

- **List the capabilities of SQL `SELECT` statements**
- **Execute a basic `SELECT` statement**
- **Differentiate between SQL statements and `iSQL*Plus` commands**

ORACLE

1-2

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Lesson Aim

To extract data from the database, you need to use the structured query language (SQL) `SELECT` statement. You may need to restrict the columns that are displayed. This lesson describes all the SQL statements that you need to perform these actions.

You may want to create `SELECT` statements that can be used more than once. This lesson also covers the `iSQL*Plus` environment where you execute SQL statements.

Note: `iSQL*Plus` is new in the Oracle9i product. It is a browser environment where you execute SQL commands. In prior releases of Oracle, `SQL*Plus` was the default environment where you executed SQL commands. `SQL*Plus` is still available and is described in Appendix C.

Capabilities of SQL `SELECT` Statements

Projection

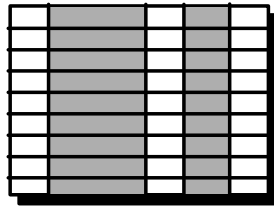


Table 1

Selection

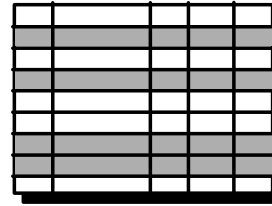


Table 1

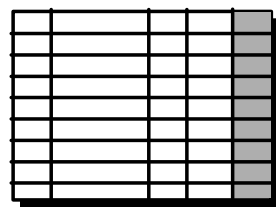


Table 1

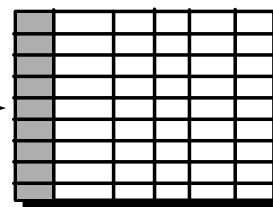


Table 2

ORACLE

Capabilities of SQL `SELECT` Statements

A `SELECT` statement retrieves information from the database. Using a `SELECT` statement, you can do the following:

- **Projection:** You can use the projection capability in SQL to choose the columns in a table that you want returned by your query. You can choose as few or as many columns of the table as you require.
- **Selection:** You can use the selection capability in SQL to choose the rows in a table that you want returned by a query. You can use various criteria to restrict the rows that you see.
- **Joining:** You can use the join capability in SQL to bring together data that is stored in different tables by creating a link between them. You learn more about joins in a later lesson.

Basic SELECT Statement

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

- **SELECT** identifies *what* columns
- **FROM** identifies *which* table

ORACLE

1-4

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Basic SELECT Statement

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 specifies the table containing the columns listed in the SELECT clause

In the syntax:

SELECT	is a list of one or more columns
*	selects all columns
DISTINCT	suppresses duplicates
<i>column/expression</i>	selects the named column or the expression
<i>alias</i>	gives selected columns different headings
FROM <i>table</i>	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, ... is a clause.
- A *statement* is a combination of two or more clauses.
For example, SELECT * FROM employees is a SQL statement.

Selecting All Columns

```
SELECT *  
FROM departments;
```

DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME	MANAGER_ID	LOCATION_ID
10	Administration	200	1700
20	Marketing	201	1800
50	Shipping	124	1500
60	IT	103	1400
80	Sales	149	2500
90	Executive	100	1700
110	Accounting	205	1700
190	Contracting		1700

8 rows selected.

ORACLE

1-5

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Selecting All Columns of All Rows

You can display all columns of data in a table by following the `SELECT` keyword with an asterisk (*). In the example on the slide, the department table contains four columns: `DEPARTMENT_ID`, `DEPARTMENT_NAME`, `MANAGER_ID`, and `LOCATION_ID`. The table contains seven rows, one for each department.

You can also display all columns in the table by listing all the columns after the `SELECT` keyword. For example, the following SQL statement, like the example on the slide, displays all columns and all rows of the `DEPARTMENTS` table:

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

Selecting Specific Columns

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

DEPARTMENT_ID	LOCATION_ID
10	1700
20	1800
50	1500
60	1400
80	2500
90	1700
110	1700
190	1700

8 rows selected.

ORACLE

1-6

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Selecting Specific Columns of All Rows

You can use the `SELECT` statement to display specific columns of the table by specifying the column names, separated by commas. The example on the slide displays all the department numbers and location numbers from the `DEPARTMENTS` table.

In the `SELECT` clause, specify the columns that you want, in the order in which you want them to appear in the output. For example, to display location before department number going from left to right, you use the following statement:

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

LOCATION_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID
1700	10
1800	20
1500	50

8 rows selected.

Writing SQL Statements

- **SQL statements are not case sensitive.**
- **SQL statements can be on one or more lines.**
- **Keywords cannot be abbreviated or split across lines.**
- **Clauses are usually placed on separate lines.**
- **Indents are used to enhance readability.**

ORACLE

1-7

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Writing SQL Statements

Using the following simple rules and guidelines, you can construct valid statements that are both easy to read and easy to edit:

- SQL statements are not case sensitive, unless indicated.
- SQL statements can be entered on one or many lines.
- Keywords cannot be split across lines or abbreviated.
- Clauses are usually placed on separate lines for readability and ease of editing.
- Indents should be used to make code more readable.
- Keywords typically are entered in uppercase; all other words, such as table names and columns, are entered in lowercase.

Executing SQL Statements

Using *iSQL*Plus*, click the Execute button to run the command or commands in the editing window.

Column Heading Defaults

- **iSQL*Plus:**
 - Default heading justification: Center
 - Default heading display: Uppercase
- **SQL*Plus:**
 - Character and Date column headings are left-justified
 - Number column headings are right-justified
 - Default heading display: Uppercase

ORACLE

1-8

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Column Heading Defaults

In *iSQL*Plus*, column headings are displayed in uppercase and centered.

```
SELECT last_name, hire_date, salary
FROM employees;
```

LAST_NAME	HIRE_DATE	SALARY
King	17-JUN-87	24000
Kochhar	21-SEP-89	17000
De Haan	13-JAN-93	17000
Hunold	03-JAN-90	9000
Ernst	21-MAY-91	6000
Higgins	07-JUN-94	12000
Gietz	07-JUN-94	8300

20 rows selected.

You can override the column heading display with an alias. Column aliases are covered later in this lesson.

Arithmetic Expressions

Create expressions with number and date data by using arithmetic operators.

Operator	Description
+	Add
-	Subtract
*	Multiply
/	Divide

ORACLE

1-9

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Arithmetic Expressions

You may need to modify the way in which data is displayed, perform calculations, or look at what-if scenarios. These are all possible using arithmetic expressions. An arithmetic expression can contain column names, constant numeric values, and the arithmetic operators.

Arithmetic Operators

The slide lists the arithmetic operators available in SQL. You can use arithmetic operators in any clause of a SQL statement except in the FROM clause.

Using Arithmetic Operators

```
SELECT last_name, salary, salary + 300
FROM employees;
```

LAST_NAME	SALARY	SALARY+300
King	24000	24300
Kochhar	17000	17300
De Haan	17000	17300
Hunold	9000	9300
Ernst	6000	6300
Lorentz	4200	4500

Gietz	8300	8600
-------	------	------

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

1-10

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using Arithmetic Operators

The example in the slide uses the addition operator to calculate a salary increase of \$300 for all employees and displays a new `SALARY+300` column in the output.

Note that the resultant calculated column `SALARY+300` is not a new column in the `EMPLOYEES` table; it is for display only. By default, the name of a new column comes from the calculation that generated it—in this case, `salary+300`.

Note: The Oracle9i server ignores blank spaces before and after the arithmetic operator.

Operator Precedence



- **Multiplication and division take priority over addition and subtraction.**
- **Operators of the same priority are evaluated from left to right.**
- **Parentheses are used to force prioritized evaluation and to clarify statements.**

ORACLE

Operator Precedence

If an arithmetic expression contains more than one operator, multiplication and division are evaluated first.

If operators within an expression are of same priority, then evaluation is done from left to right.

You can use parentheses to force the expression within parentheses to be evaluated first.

Operator Precedence

```
SELECT last_name, salary, 12*salary+100
FROM employees;
```

LAST_NAME	SALARY	12*SALARY+100
King	24000	288100
Kochhar	17000	204100
De Haan	17000	204100
Hunold	9000	108100
Ernst	6000	72100
Lorentz	4200	50500
Gietz	8300	99700

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

1-12

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Operator Precedence (continued)

The example in the slide displays the last name, salary, and annual compensation of each employee. It calculates the annual compensation as 12 multiplied by the monthly salary, plus a one-time bonus of \$100. Notice that multiplication is performed before addition.

Note: Use parentheses to reinforce the standard order of precedence and to improve clarity. For example, the expression on the slide can be written as $(12 * salary) + 100$ with no change in the result.

Using Parentheses

```
SELECT last_name, salary, 12*(salary+100)
FROM employees;
```

LAST_NAME	SALARY	12*(SALARY+100)
King	24000	289200
Kochhar	17000	205200
De Haan	17000	205200
Hunold	9000	109200
Ernst	6000	73200
Lorentz	4200	51600

Gietz	8300	100800
-------	------	--------

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

1-13

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using Parentheses

You can override the rules of precedence by using parentheses to specify the order in which operators are executed.

The example in the slide displays the last name, salary, and annual compensation of each employee. It calculates the annual compensation as monthly salary plus a monthly bonus of \$100, multiplied by 12. Because of the parentheses, addition takes priority over multiplication.

Defining a Null Value

- A null is a value that is unavailable, unassigned, unknown, or inapplicable.
- A null is not the same as zero or a blank space.

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, salary, commission_pct
FROM employees;
```

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY	COMMISSION_PCT
King	AD_PRES	24000	
Kochhar	AD_VP	17000	
Zlotkey	SA_MAN	10500	.2
Abel	SA_REP	11000	.3
Taylor	SA_REP	8500	.2
Figgins	AD_MGR	11500	
Gietz	AC_ACCOUNT	8300	

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

Null Values

If a row lacks the data value for a particular column, that value is said to be *null*, or to contain a null.

A null is a value that is unavailable, unassigned, unknown, or inapplicable. A null is not the same as zero or a space. Zero is a number, and a space is a character.

Columns of any data type can contain nulls. However, some constraints, `NOT NULL` and `PRIMARY KEY`, prevent nulls from being used in the column.

In the `COMMISSION_PCT` column in the `EMPLOYEES` table, notice that only a sales manager or sales representative can earn a commission. Other employees are not entitled to earn commissions. A null represents that fact.

Null Values in Arithmetic Expressions

Arithmetic expressions containing a null value evaluate to null.

```
SELECT last_name, 12*salary*commission_pct  
FROM employees;
```

LAST_NAME	12*SALARY*COMMISSION_PCT
King	
Kochhar	
Zlotkey	25200
Abel	39600
Taylor	20640
Higgins	
Gietz	

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

1-15

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Null Values (continued)

If any column value in an arithmetic expression is null, the result is null. For example, if you attempt to perform division with zero, you get an error. However, if you divide a number by null, the result is a null or unknown.

In the example on the slide, employee King does not get any commission. Because the `COMMISSION_PCT` column in the arithmetic expression is null, the result is null.

For more information, see *Oracle9i SQL Reference*, “Basic Elements of SQL.”

Defining a Column Alias

A column alias:

- **Renames a column heading**
- **Is useful with calculations**
- **Immediately follows the column name: there can also be the optional `AS` keyword between the column name and alias**
- **Requires double quotation marks if it contains spaces or special characters or is case sensitive**

ORACLE

1-16

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Column Aliases

When displaying the result of a query, *iSQL*Plus* normally uses the name of the selected column as the column heading. This heading may not be descriptive and hence may be difficult to understand. You can change a column heading by using a column alias.

Specify the alias after the column in the `SELECT` list using a space as a separator. By default, alias headings appear in uppercase. If the alias contains spaces or special characters (such as `#` or `$`), or is case sensitive, enclose the alias in double quotation marks (" ").

Using Column Aliases

```
SELECT last_name AS name, commission_pct comm
FROM employees;
```

NAME	COMM
King	
Kochhar	
Higgins	
Gietz	

20 rows selected.

```
SELECT last_name "Name",
       salary*12 "Annual Salary"
FROM employees;
```

Name	Annual Salary
King	288000
Kochhar	204000
Higgins	144000
Gietz	96600

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

Column Aliases (continued)

The first example displays the names and the commission percentages of all the employees. Notice that the optional AS keyword has been used before the column alias name. The result of the query is the same whether the AS keyword is used or not. Also notice that the SQL statement has the column aliases, name and comm, in lowercase, whereas the result of the query displays the column headings in uppercase. As mentioned in a previous slide, column headings appear in uppercase by default.

The second example displays the last names and annual salaries of all the employees. Because Annual Salary contains a space, it has been enclosed in double quotation marks. Notice that the column heading in the output is exactly the same as the column alias.

Concatenation Operator

A concatenation operator:

- Concatenates columns or character strings to other columns
- Is represented by two vertical bars (||)
- Creates a resultant column that is a character expression

ORACLE

1-18

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Concatenation Operator

You can link columns to other columns, arithmetic expressions, or constant values to create a character expression by using the concatenation operator (||). Columns on either side of the operator are combined to make a single output column.

Using the Concatenation Operator

```
SELECT last_name || job_id AS "Employees"  
FROM employees;
```

Employees
KingAD_PRES
KochharAD_VP
De HaanAD_VP
HunoldIT_PROG

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

Using the Concatenation Operator

In the example, LAST_NAME and JOB_ID are concatenated, and they are given the alias Employees. Notice that the employee last name and job code are combined to make a single output column.

The AS keyword before the alias name makes the SELECT clause easier to read.

Literal Character Strings

- A literal value is a character, a number, or a date included in the `SELECT` list.
- Date and character literal values must be enclosed within single quotation marks.
- Each character string is output once for each row returned.

ORACLE

1-20

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Literal Character Strings

A literal value is a character, a number, or a date that is included in the `SELECT` list and that is not a column name or a column alias. It is printed for each row returned. Literal strings of free-format text can be included in the query result and are treated the same as a column in the `SELECT` list.

Date and character literals *must* be enclosed within single quotation marks (' '); number literals need not.

Using Literal Character Strings

```
SELECT last_name || ' is a ' || job_id
       AS "Employee Details"
FROM   employees;
```

Employee Details
King is a AD_PRES
Kochhar is a AD_VP
De Haan is a AD_VP
Hunold is a IT_PROG
Ernst is a IT_PROG

Gietz is a AC_ACCOUNT

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

1-21

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using Literal Character Strings

The example on the slide displays last names and job codes of all employees. The column has the heading Employee Details. Notice the spaces between the single quotation marks in the SELECT statement. The spaces improve the readability of the output.

In the following example, the last name and salary for each employee are concatenated with a literal to give the returned rows more meaning.

```
SELECT last_name || ': 1 Month salary = ' || salary Monthly
FROM   employees;
```

MONTHLY
King: 1 Month salary = 24000
Kochhar: 1 Month salary = 17000
De Haan: 1 Month salary = 17000
Hunold: 1 Month salary = 9000
Ernst: 1 Month salary = 6000
Lorentz: 1 Month salary = 4200
Mourgos: 1 Month salary = 5800
Rajs: 1 Month salary = 3500

20 rows selected.

Duplicate Rows

The default display of queries is all rows, including duplicate rows.

```
SELECT department_id
FROM employees;
```

DEPARTMENT_ID
90
90
90
60
60
60
50
50

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

Duplicate Rows

Unless you indicate otherwise, *iSQL*Plus* displays the results of a query without eliminating duplicate rows. The example on the slide displays all the department numbers from the `EMPLOYEES` table. Notice that the department numbers are repeated.

Eliminating Duplicate Rows

Eliminate duplicate rows by using the **DISTINCT** keyword in the **SELECT** clause.

```
SELECT DISTINCT department_id  
FROM employees;
```

DEPARTMENT_ID
10
20
50
60
80
90
110

8 rows selected.

ORACLE

1-23

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Eliminating Duplicate Rows

To eliminate duplicate rows in the result, include the **DISTINCT** keyword in the **SELECT** clause immediately after the **SELECT** keyword. In the example on the slide, the **EMPLOYEES** table actually contains 20 rows but there are only seven unique department numbers in the table.

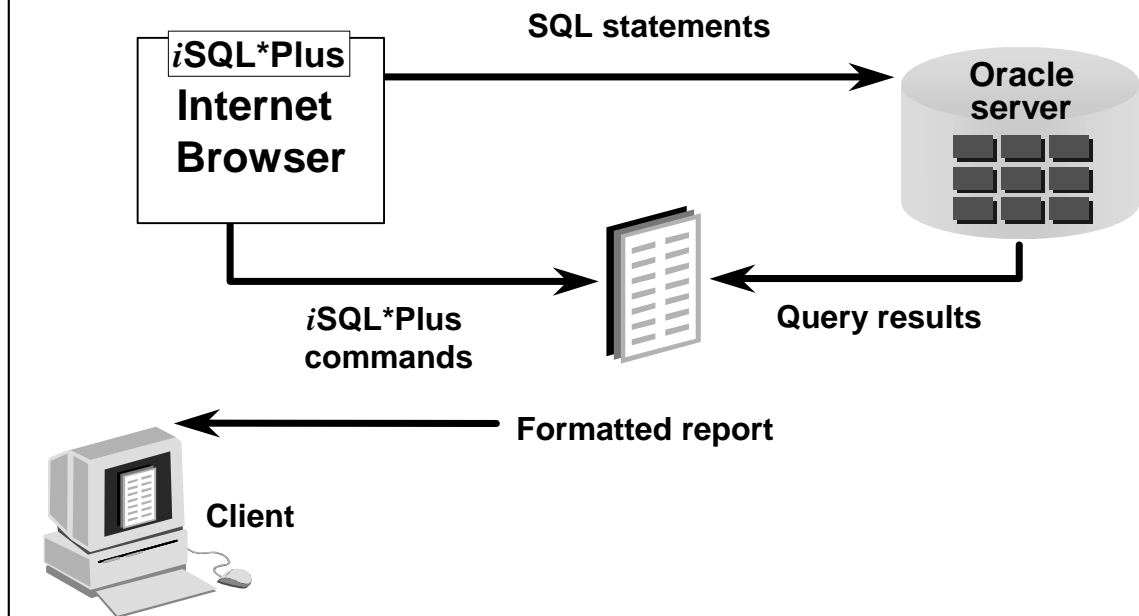
You can specify multiple columns after the **DISTINCT** qualifier. The **DISTINCT** qualifier affects all the selected columns, and the result is every distinct combination of the columns.

```
SELECT DISTINCT department_id, job_id  
FROM employees;
```

DEPARTMENT_ID	JOB_ID
10	AD_ASST
20	MK_MAN
20	MK_REP
50	ST_CLERK
50	ST_MAN
60	IT_PROG
80	SA_MAN
80	SA_REP

13 rows selected.

SQL and *iSQL*Plus* Interaction



1-24

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

ORACLE

SQL and *iSQL*Plus*

SQL is a command language for communication with the Oracle server from any tool or application. Oracle *SQL* contains many extensions.

*iSQL*Plus* is an Oracle tool that recognizes and submits *SQL* statements to the Oracle server for execution and 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 *iSQL*Plus*

- Accessed from a browser
- Accepts ad hoc entry of statements
- Provides online editing for modifying *SQL* statements
- Controls environmental settings
- Formats query results into a basic report
- Accesses local and remote databases

SQL Statements versus *i*SQL*Plus Commands

SQL

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

**SQL
statements**

*i*SQL*Plus

- An environment
- Oracle proprietary
- Keywords can be abbreviated
- Commands do not allow manipulation of values in the database
- Runs on a browser
- Centrally loaded, does not have to be implemented on each machine

***i*SQL*Plus
commands**

ORACLE

1-25

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

SQL and *i*SQL*Plus (continued)

The following table compares SQL and *i*SQL*Plus:

SQL	<i>i</i> 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
Does not have a continuation character	Has a dash (-) as a continuation character if the command is longer than one line
Cannot be abbreviated	Can be abbreviated
Uses functions to perform some formatting	Uses commands to format data

Overview of *iSQL*Plus*

After you log into *iSQL*Plus*, you can:

- Describe the table structure
- Edit your SQL statement
- Execute SQL from *iSQL*Plus*
- Save SQL statements to files and append SQL statements to files
- Execute statements stored in saved files
- Load commands from a text file into the *iSQL*Plus* Edit window

ORACLE

1-26

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

*iSQL*Plus*

*iSQL*Plus* is an environment in which you can do the following:

- 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 repetitive use in the future

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

Category	Purpose
Environment	Affects the general behavior of SQL statements for the session
Format	Formats query results
File manipulation	Saves statements into text script files, and runs statements from text script files
Execution	Sends SQL statements from the browser to Oracle server
Edit	Modifies SQL statements in the Edit window
Interaction	Allows you to create and pass variables to SQL statements, print variable values, and print messages to the screen
Miscellaneous	Has various commands to connect to the database, manipulate the <i>iSQL*Plus</i> environment, and display column definitions

Logging In to *iSQL*Plus*

From your Windows browser environment:

ORACLE *iSQL*Plus* Help

Username:

Password:

Connection Identifier:

Privilege: User

Log In Clear

1-27

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Logging In to *iSQL*Plus*

To log in through a browser environment:

1. Start the browser.
2. Enter the URL address of the *iSQL*Plus* environment.
3. Fill in the username, password, Oracle Connection Identifier fields.

After you have successfully logged in to *iSQL*Plus*, you see the following:

ORACLE *iSQL*Plus* Password Log Out Help

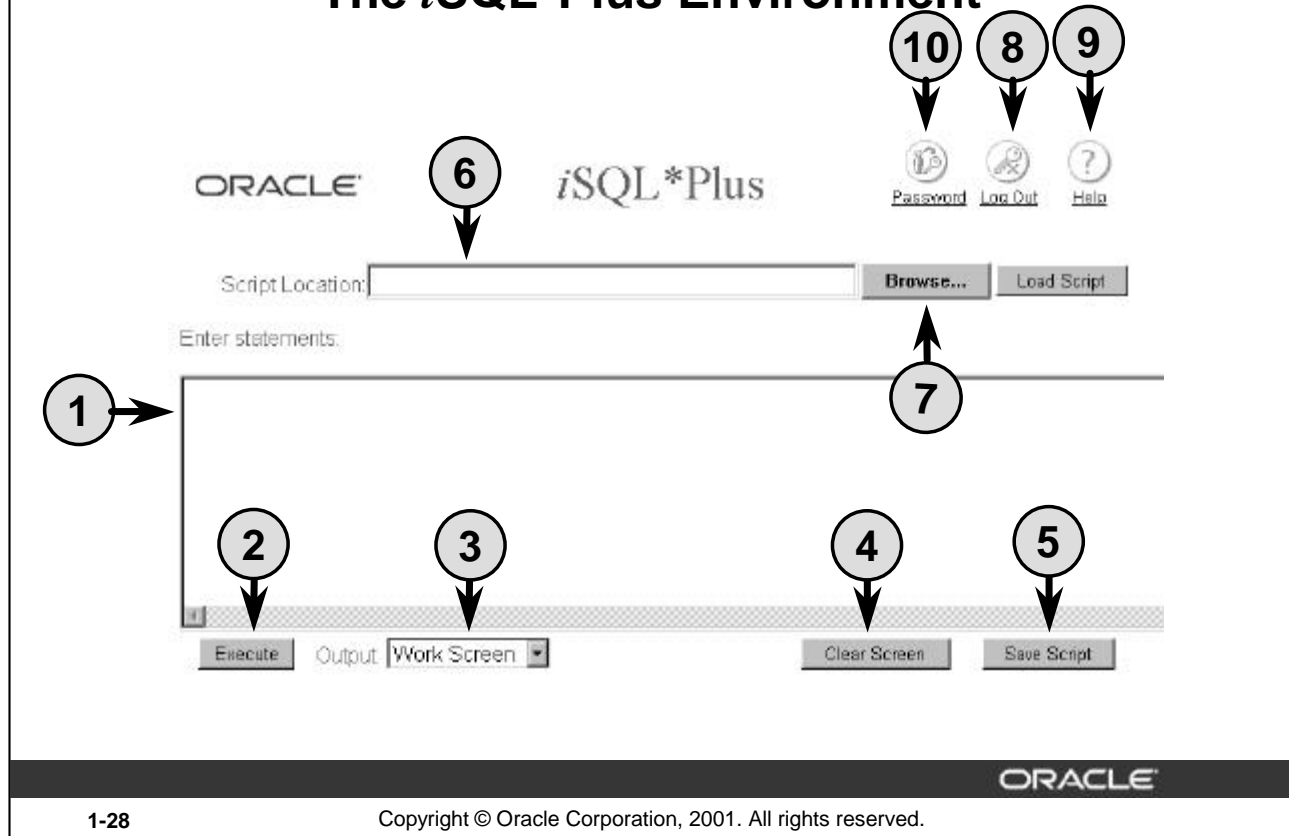
Script Location Browse... Load

Enter statements:

Execute Output: WorkScreen Clear Screen Save Script

Connected.

The *iSQL*Plus* Environment



The *iSQL*Plus* Environment

Within the Windows browser, the *iSQL*Plus* window has several key areas:

1. Enter statements field: The area where you type the SQL statements and *iSQL*Plus* commands.
2. Execute button: Click to execute the statements and commands in the Enter statements field.
3. Output drop-down list: Defaults to Work Screen, which displays the results of the SQL statement beneath the Enter statements field. The other options are File or Window. File saves the contents to a specified file. Window places the output on the screen, but in a separate window.
4. Clear Screen button: Click it to clear text from the Enter statements field.
5. Save Script button: Saves the contents of the Enter statements field to a file.
6. Script Location field: Identifies the name and location of a script file that you want to execute.
7. Browse button: Click it to search for a script file using the Windows File Open dialog box.
8. Exit icon: Click it to end the *iSQL*Plus* session and return to the *iSQL*Plus* LogOn window.
9. Help icon: Click it to access *iSQL*Plus* Help documentation.
10. Password icon: Click it to change your password.

Displaying Table Structure

Use the *iSQL*Plus* `DESCRIBE` command to display the structure of a table.

```
DESC[RIBE] tablename
```

ORACLE

1-29

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Displaying Table Structure

In *iSQL*Plus*, you can display the structure of a table using the `DESCRIBE` command. The command shows the column names and data types, as well as whether a column *must* contain data.

In the syntax:

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

Displaying Table Structure

```
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)

ORACLE

1-30

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Displaying Table Structure (continued)

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

In the result:

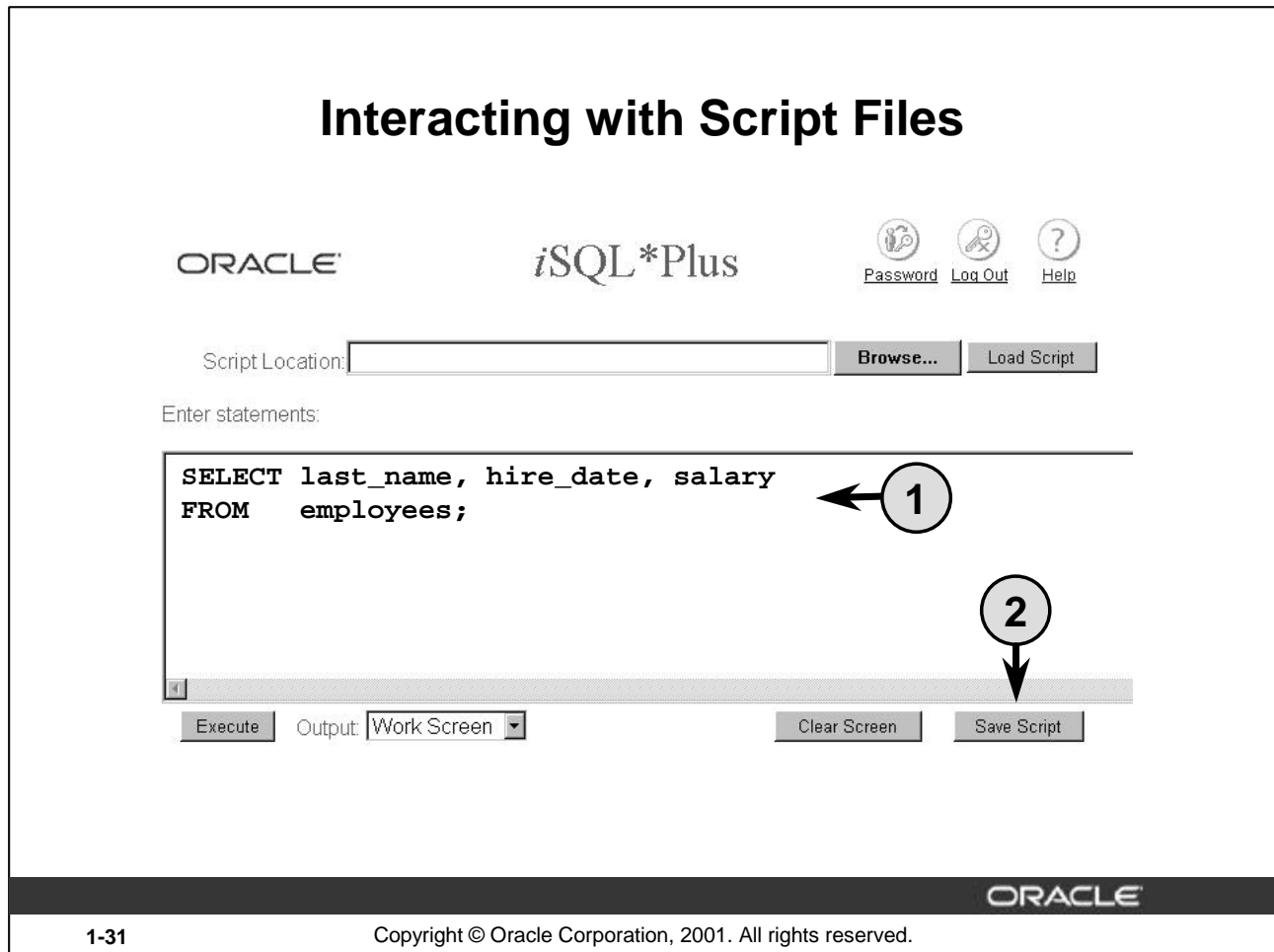
Null? indicates whether a column *must* contain data; NOT NULL indicates that a column must contain data

Type displays the data type for a column

The data types are described in the following table:

Data Type	Description
NUMBER (<i>p</i> , <i>s</i>)	Number value having a maximum number of digits <i>p</i> , with <i>s</i> digits to the right of the decimal point
VARCHAR2 (<i>s</i>)	Variable-length character value of maximum size <i>s</i>
DATE	Date and time value between January 1, 4712 B.C., and A.D. December 31, 9999
CHAR (<i>s</i>)	Fixed-length character value of size <i>s</i>

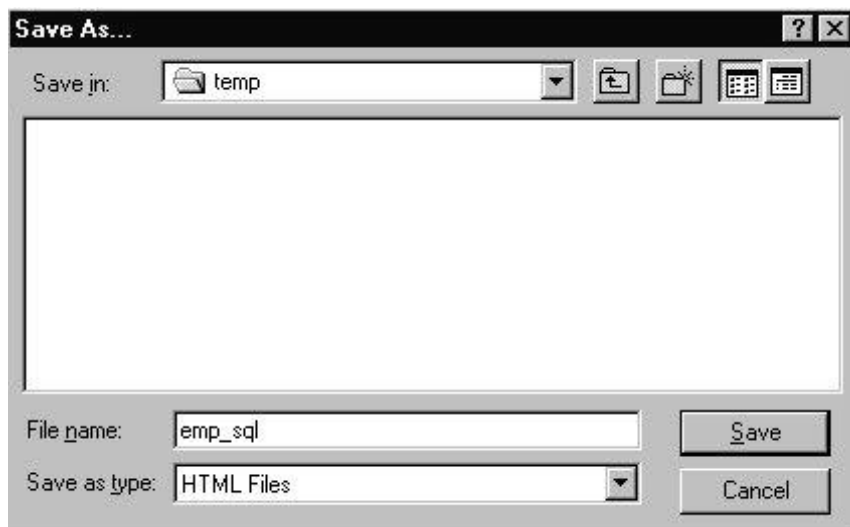
Interacting with Script Files



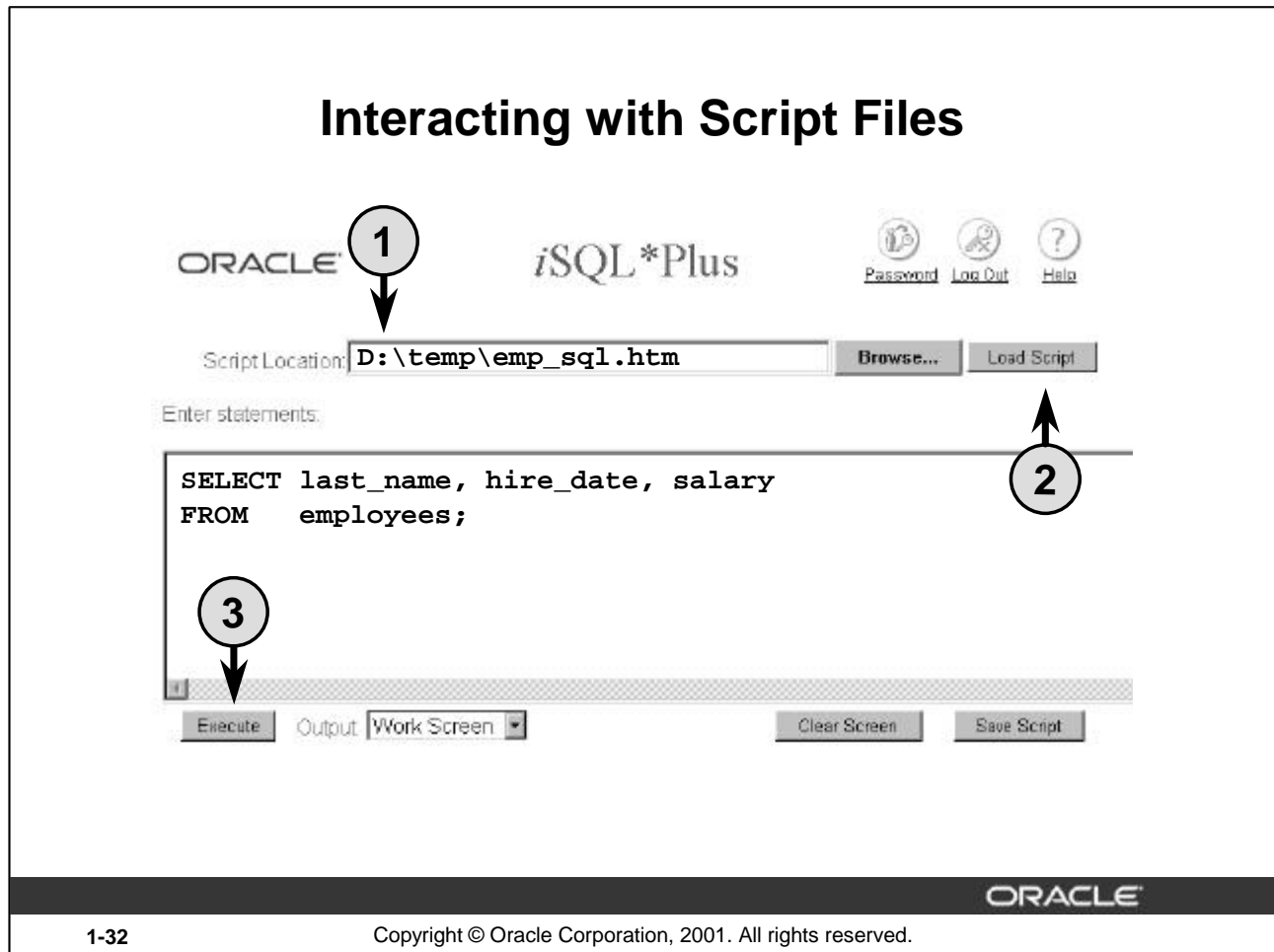
Interacting with Script Files

You can save commands and statements from the Enter statements fields in *iSQL*Plus* to a text script file as follows:

1. Enter the SQL statements into the Enter statements fields in *iSQL*Plus*.
2. Click the Save Script button. This opens the Windows File Save dialog box. Identify the name of the file. It defaults to .html extension. You can change the file type to a text file or save it as a .sql file.



Interacting with Script Files

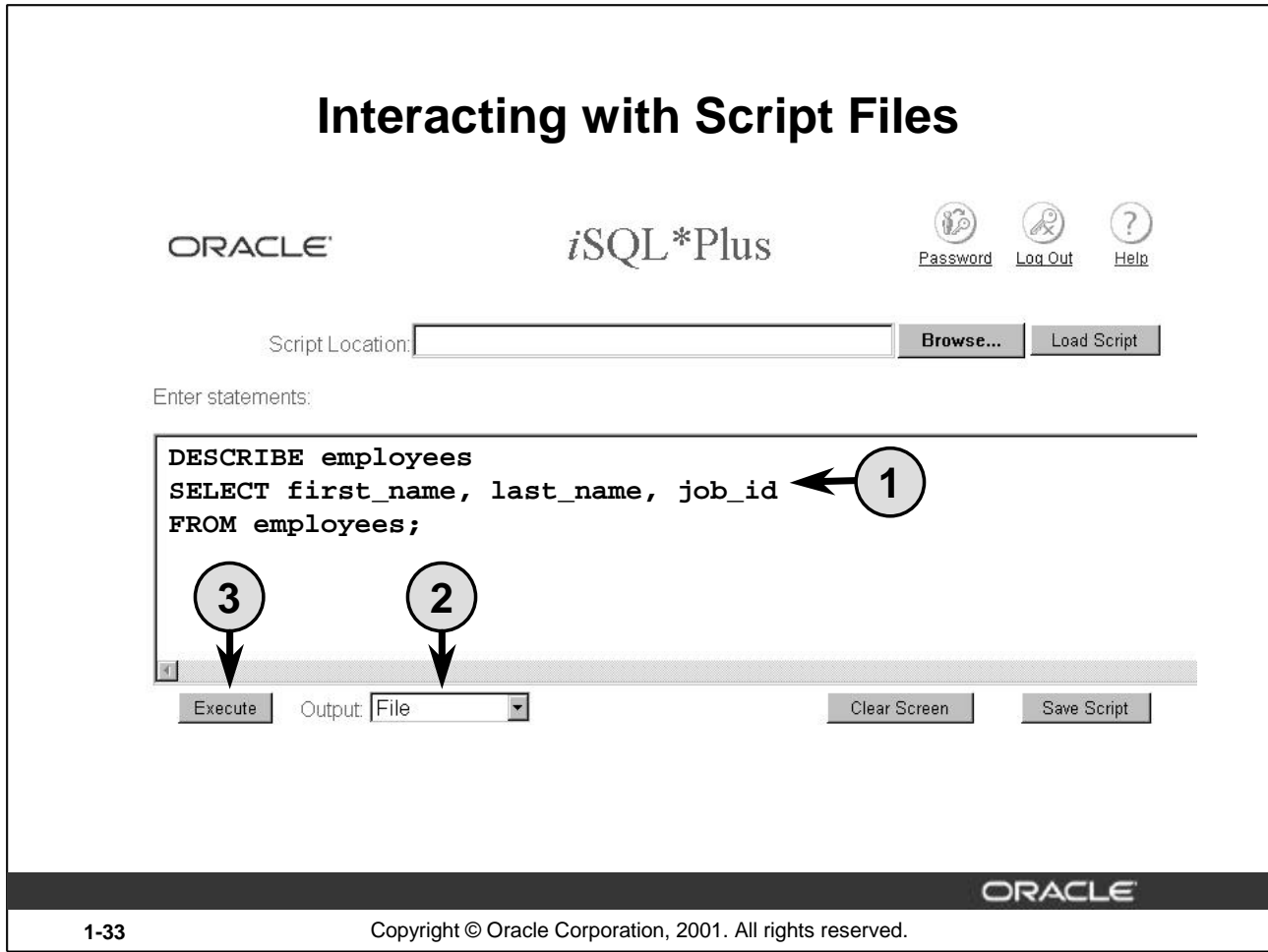


Interacting with Script Files

You can use previously saved commands and statements from a script file in *iSQL*Plus* as follows:

1. Enter the script name and location. Or, click the Browse button to find the script name and location.
2. Click the Load Script button. The file contents are loaded into the *iSQL*Plus* Enter statements field.
3. Click the Execute button to run the contents of the *iSQL*Plus* Enter statements field.

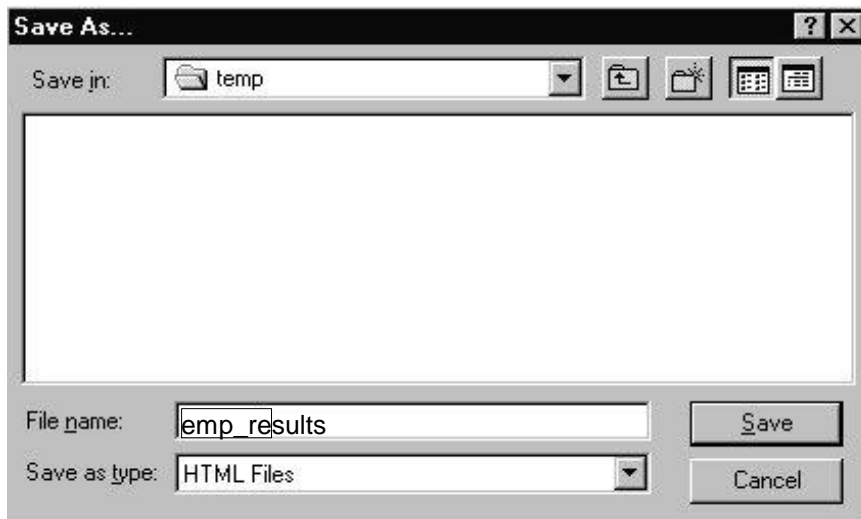
Interacting with Script Files



Interacting with Script Files

You can save the results generated from a SQL statement or *iSQL*Plus* command to a file:

1. Enter the SQL statements and *iSQL*Plus* commands in the Enter statements field in *iSQL*Plus*.
2. Change the output option to Save.
3. Click the Execute button to run the contents of the *iSQL*Plus* Enter statements field. This opens the Windows File Save dialog box. Identify the name of the file. It defaults to a `.html` extension. You can change the file type. The results are sent to the file specified.



Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Write a **SELECT** statement that:
 - Returns all rows and columns from a table
 - Returns specified columns from a table
 - Uses column aliases to give descriptive column headings
- Use the **iSQL*Plus** environment to write, save, and execute SQL statements and **iSQL*Plus** commands.

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

ORACLE

1-34

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

SELECT Statement

In this lesson, you should have learned about retrieving data from a database table with the **SELECT** statement.

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

In the syntax:

SELECT	is a list of one or more columns
*	selects all columns
DISTINCT	suppresses duplicates
<i>column/expression</i>	selects the named column or the expression
<i>alias</i>	gives selected columns different headings
FROM <i>table</i>	specifies the table containing the columns

iSQL*Plus

iSQL*Plus is an execution environment that you can use to send SQL statements to the database server and to edit and save SQL statements. Statements can be executed from the SQL prompt or from a script file.

Note: The **SQL*Plus** environment is covered in Appendix C.

Practice 1 Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

- **Selecting all data from different tables**
- **Describing the structure of tables**
- **Performing arithmetic calculations and specifying column names**
- **Using *iSQL*Plus***

ORACLE

1-35

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Practice 1 Overview

This is the first of many practices. The solutions (if you require them) can be found in Appendix A. Practices are intended to introduce all topics covered in the lesson. Questions 2–4 are paper-based.

In any practice, there may be “if you have time” or “if you want an extra challenge” questions. Do these only if you have completed all other questions within the allocated time and would like a further challenge to your skills.

Perform the practices slowly and precisely. You can experiment with saving and running command files. If you have any questions at any time, attract the instructor’s attention.

Paper-Based Questions

For questions 2–4, circle either True or False.

Practice 1

1. Initiate an *iSQL*Plus* session using the user ID and password provided by the instructor.
2. *iSQL*Plus* commands access the database.
True/False

3. The following `SELECT` statement executes successfully:

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, salary AS Sal
FROM employees;
```

True/False

4. The following `SELECT` statement executes successfully:

```
SELECT *
FROM job_grades;
```

True/False

5. There are four coding errors in this statement. Can you identify them?

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name
sal x 12 ANNUAL SALARY
FROM employees;
```

6. Show the structure of the `DEPARTMENTS` table. Select all data from the table.

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

DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME	MANAGER_ID	LOCATION_ID
10	Administration	200	1700
20	Marketing	201	1800
50	Shipping	124	1500
60	IT	103	1400
80	Sales	149	2500
90	Executive	100	1700
110	Accounting	205	1700
190	Contracting		1700

8 rows selected.

Practice 1 (continued)

7. Show the structure of the EMPLOYEES table. Create a query to display the last name, job code, hire date, and employee number for each employee, with employee number appearing first. Save your SQL statement to a file named lab1_7.sql.

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)

8. Run your query in the file lab1_7.sql.

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	StartDate
100	King	AD_PRES	17-JUN-87
101	Kochhar	AD_VP	21-SEP-89
102	De Haan	AD_VP	13-JAN-93
103	Hunold	IT_PROG	03-JAN-90
104	Ernst	IT_PROG	21-MAY-91
107	Lorentz	IT_PROG	07-FEB-99
124	Mourgos	ST_MAN	16-NOV-99
141	Rajs	ST_CLERK	17-OCT-95
142	Davies	ST_CLERK	29-JAN-97
143	Matos	ST_CLERK	15-MAR-98
144	Vargas	ST_CLERK	09-JUL-98
149	Zlotkey	SA_MAN	29-JAN-00
205	Higgins	AC_MGR	07-JUN-94
206	Gietz	AC_ACCOUNT	07-JUN-94

20 rows selected.

Practice 1 (continued)

9. Create a query to display unique job codes from the EMPLOYEES table.

JOB_ID
AC_ACCOUNT
AC_MGR
AD_ASST
AD_PRES
AD_VP
IT_PROG
MK_MAN
MK_REP
SA_MAN
SA_REP
ST_CLERK
ST_MAN

12 rows selected.

If you have time, complete the following exercises:

10. Copy the statement from lab1_7.sql into the iSQL*Plus Edit window. Name the column headings Emp #, Employee, Job, and Hire Date, respectively. Run your query again.

Emp #	Employee	Job	Hire Date
100	King	AD_PRES	17-JUN-87
101	Kochhar	AD_VP	21-SEP-89
102	De Haan	AD_VP	13-JAN-93
103	Hunold	IT_PROG	03-JAN-90
104	Ernst	IT_PROG	21-MAY-91
107	Lorentz	IT_PROG	07-FEB-99
124	Mourgos	ST_MAN	16-NOV-99
141	Rajs	ST_CLERK	17-OCT-95
142	Davies	ST_CLERK	29-JAN-97
143	Matos	ST_CLERK	15-MAR-98
144	Vargas	ST_CLERK	09-JUL-98
206	Gietz	AC_ACCOUNT	07-JUN-94

20 rows selected.

Practice 1 (continued)

11. Display the last name concatenated with the job ID, separated by a comma and space, and name the column `Employee` and `Title`.

Employee and Title
King, AD_PRES
Kochhar, AD_VP
De Haan, AD_VP
Hunold, IT_PROG
Ernst, IT_PROG
Lorentz, IT_PROG
Mourgos, ST_MAN
Rajs, ST_CLERK
Davies, ST CLERK
Gietz, AC_ACCOUNT

20 rows selected.

If you want an extra challenge, complete the following exercise:

12. Create a query to display all the data from the `EMPLOYEES` table. Separate each column by a comma. Name the column `THE_OUTPUT`.

THE_OUTPUT
100,Steven,King,SKING,515.123.4567,AD_PRES,,17-JUN-87,24000,,90
101,Neena,Kochhar,NKOCHHAR,515.123.4568,AD_VP,100,21-SEP-89,17000,,90
102,Lex,De Haan,LDEHAAN,515.123.4569,AD_VP,100,13-JAN-93,17000,,90
103,Alexander,Hunold,AHUNOLD,590.423.4567,IT_PROG,102,03-JAN-90,9000,,60
104,Bruce,Ernst,BERNST,590.423.4568,IT_PROG,103,21-MAY-91,6000,,60
107,Diana,Lorentz,DLORENTZ,590.423.5567,IT_PROG,103,07-FEB-99,4200,,60
124,Kevin,Mourgos,KMOURGOS,650.123.5234,ST_MAN,100,16-NOV-99,5800,,50
141,Trenna,Rajs,TRAJS,650.121.8009,ST_CLERK,124,17-OCT-95,3500,,50
206,William,Gietz,WGIETZ,515.123.8181,AC_ACCOUNT,205,07-JUN-94,8300,,110

20 rows selected.

2

Restricting and Sorting Data

ORACLE

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Objectives

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

- **Limit the rows retrieved by a query**
- **Sort the rows retrieved by a query**

ORACLE

2-2

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Lesson Aim

While retrieving data from the database, you may need to restrict the rows of data that are displayed or specify the order in which the rows are displayed. This lesson explains the SQL statements that you use to perform these actions.

Limiting Rows Using a Selection

EMPLOYEES

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID
100	King	AD_PRES	90
101	Kochhar	AD_VP	90
102	De Haan	AD_VP	90
103	Hunold	IT_PROG	60
104	Ernst	IT_PROG	60
107	Lorentz	IT_PROG	60
124	Mouras	ST_MAN	50

20 rows selected.

**“retrieve all
employees
in department 90”**



EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID
100	King	AD_PRES	90
101	Kochhar	AD_VP	90
102	De Haan	AD_VP	90

ORACLE

2-3

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Limiting Rows Using a Selection

In the example in the slide, assume that you want to display all the employees in department 90. The rows with a value of 90 in the DEPARTMENT_ID column are the only ones returned. This method of restriction is the basis of the WHERE clause in SQL.

Limiting the Rows Selected

- Restrict the rows returned by using the **WHERE** clause.

```
SELECT    * | { [DISTINCT] column/expression [alias], ... }  
FROM      table  
[WHERE    condition(s)];
```

- The **WHERE** clause follows the **FROM** clause.

ORACLE

Limiting the Rows Selected

You can restrict the rows returned from the query by using the **WHERE** clause. A **WHERE** clause contains a condition that must be met, and it directly follows the **FROM** clause. If the condition is true, the row meeting the condition is returned.

In the syntax:

WHERE	restricts the query to rows that meet a condition
<i>condition</i>	is composed of column names, expressions, constants, and a comparison operator

The **WHERE** clause can compare values in columns, literal values, arithmetic expressions, or functions. It consists of three elements:

- Column name
- Comparison condition
- Column name, constant, or list of values

Using the WHERE Clause

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, job_id, department_id
FROM   employees
WHERE  department_id = 90;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID
100	King	AD_PRES	90
101	Kochhar	AD_VP	90
102	De Haan	AD_VP	90

ORACLE

Using the WHERE Clause

In the example, the `SELECT` statement retrieves the name, job ID, and department number of all employees whose job ID is `SA_REP`.

Note that the job title `SA_REP` has been specified in uppercase to ensure that it matches the job ID column in the `EMPLOYEES` table. Character strings are case sensitive.

Character Strings and Dates

- Character strings and date values are enclosed in single quotation marks.
- Character values are case sensitive, and date values are format sensitive.
- The default date format is DD-MON-RR.

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, department_id
FROM   employees
WHERE  last_name = 'Goyal';
```

ORACLE

2-6

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Character Strings and Dates

Character strings and dates in the WHERE clause must be enclosed in single quotation marks (' '). Number constants, however, should not be enclosed in single quotation marks.

All character searches are case sensitive. In the following example, no rows are returned because the EMPLOYEES table stores all the last names in the proper case:

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, department_id
FROM   employees
WHERE  last_name = 'GOYAL';
```

Oracle databases store dates in an internal numeric format, representing the century, year, month, day, hours, minutes, and seconds. The default date display is DD-MON-RR.

Note: Changing the default date format is covered in a subsequent lesson.

Comparison Conditions

Operator	Meaning
=	Equal to
>	Greater than
>=	Greater than or equal to
<	Less than
<=	Less than or equal to
<>	Not equal to

ORACLE

2-7

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Comparison Conditions

Comparison conditions are used in conditions that compare one expression to another value or expression. They are used in the WHERE clause in the following format:

```
... WHERE expr operator value
```

Example

```
... WHERE hire_date='01-JAN-95'  
... WHERE salary>=6000  
... WHERE last_name='Smith'
```

An alias cannot be used in the WHERE clause.

Note: The symbol != and ^= can also represent the *not equal to* condition.

Using Comparison Conditions

```
SELECT last_name, salary
FROM   employees
WHERE  salary <= 3000;
```

LAST_NAME	SALARY
Matos	2600
Vargas	2500

ORACLE

Using the Comparison Conditions

In the example, the `SELECT` statement retrieves the last name and salary from the `EMPLOYEES` table, where the employee salary is less than or equal to \$3000. Note that there is an explicit value supplied to the `WHERE` clause. The explicit value of \$3000 is compared to the salary value in the `SALARY` column of the `EMPLOYEES` table.

Other Comparison Conditions

Operator	Meaning
BETWEEN ...AND...	Between two values (inclusive)
IN(set)	Match any of a list of values
LIKE	Match a character pattern
IS NULL	Is a null value

ORACLE

Using the BETWEEN Condition

Use the BETWEEN condition to display rows based on a range of values.

```
SELECT last_name, salary
FROM employees
WHERE salary BETWEEN 2500 AND 3500;
```

Lower limit Upper limit

LAST_NAME	SALARY
Rajs	3500
Davies	3100
Mates	2800
Vargas	2500

ORACLE

2-10

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The BETWEEN Condition

You can display rows based on a range of values using the BETWEEN range condition. The range that you specify contains a lower limit and an upper limit.

The SELECT statement on the slide returns rows from the EMPLOYEES table for any employee whose salary is between \$2,500 and \$3,500.

Values specified with the BETWEEN condition are inclusive. You must specify the lower limit first.

Using the IN Condition

Use the IN membership condition to test for values in a list.

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, salary, manager_id
FROM   employees
WHERE  manager_id IN (100, 101, 201);
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	SALARY	MANAGER_ID
202	Fay	6000	201
200	Whalen	4400	101
205	Higgins	12000	101
101	Kochhar	17000	100
102	De Haan	17000	100
124	Mourgos	5800	100
149	Zlotkey	10500	100
201	Hartstein	13000	100

8 rows selected.

ORACLE

The IN Condition

To test for values in a specified set of values, use the IN condition. The IN condition is also known as the membership condition.

The example displays employee numbers, last names, salaries, and manager's employee numbers for all the employees whose manager's employee number is 100, 101, or 201.

The IN condition can be used with any data type. The following example returns a row from the EMPLOYEES table for any employee whose last name is included in the list of names in the WHERE clause:

```
SELECT employee_id, manager_id, department_id
FROM   employees
WHERE  last_name IN ('Hartstein', 'Vargas');
```

If characters or dates are used in the list, they must be enclosed in single quotation marks (' ').

Using the LIKE Condition

- Use the LIKE condition to perform wildcard searches of valid search string values.
- Search conditions can contain either literal characters or numbers:
 - % denotes zero or many characters.
 - _ denotes one character.

```
SELECT first_name
FROM employees
WHERE first_name LIKE 'S%';
```

ORACLE

2-12

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The LIKE Condition

You may not always know the exact value to search for. You can select rows that match a character pattern by using the LIKE condition. The character pattern-matching operation is referred to as a wildcard search. Two symbols can be used to construct the search string.

Symbol	Description
%	Represents any sequence of zero or more characters
_	Represents any single character

The SELECT statement on the slide returns the employee first name from the EMPLOYEES table for any employee whose first name begins with an S. Note the uppercase S. Names beginning with an s are not returned.

The LIKE condition can be used as a shortcut for some BETWEEN comparisons. The following example displays the last names and hire dates of all employees who joined between January 1995 and December 1995:

```
SELECT last_name, hire_date
FROM employees
WHERE hire_date LIKE '%95';
```

Using the LIKE Condition

- You can combine pattern-matching characters.

```
SELECT last_name
FROM   employees
WHERE  last_name LIKE '_o%';
```

LAST_NAME
Kochhar
Lorentz
Mourgos

- You can use the ESCAPE identifier to search for the actual % and _ symbols.

ORACLE

2-13

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Combining Wildcard Characters

The % and _ symbols can be used in any combination with literal characters. The example on the slide displays the names of all employees whose last name has an *o* as the second character.

The ESCAPE Option

When you need to have an exact match for the actual % and _ characters, use the ESCAPE option. This option specifies what the escape character is. If you want to search for strings that contain SA_, you can search for it using the following SQL statement:

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, job_id
FROM   employees
WHERE  job_id LIKE '%SA\_%' ESCAPE '\\';
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID
149	Zlotkey	SA_MAN
174	Abel	SA_REP
176	Taylor	SA_REP
178	Grant	SA_REP

The ESCAPE option identifies the backslash (\) as the escape character. In the pattern, the escape character precedes the underscore (_). This causes the Oracle Server to interpret the underscore literally.

Using the NULL Conditions

Test for nulls with the IS NULL operator.

```
SELECT last_name, manager_id
FROM employees
WHERE manager_id IS NULL;
```

LAST_NAME	MANAGER_ID
King	

ORACLE

2-14

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The NULL Conditions

The NULL conditions include the IS NULL condition and the IS NOT NULL condition.

The IS NULL condition tests for nulls. A null value means the value is unavailable, unassigned, unknown, or inapplicable. Therefore, you cannot test with = because a null cannot be equal or unequal to any value. The slide example retrieves the last names and managers of all employees who do not have a manager.

For another example, to display last name, job ID, and commission for all employees who are *not* entitled to get a commission, use the following SQL statement:

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, commission_pct
FROM employees
WHERE commission_pct IS NULL;
```

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	COMMISSION_PCT
King	AD_PRES	
Kochhar	AD_VP	
De Haan	AD_VP	
Gietz	AC_ACCOUNT	

16 rows selected.

Logical Conditions

Operator	Meaning
AND	Returns TRUE if <i>both</i> component conditions are true
OR	Returns TRUE if <i>either</i> component condition is true
NOT	Returns TRUE if the following condition is false

ORACLE

2-15

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Logical Conditions

A logical condition combines the result of two component conditions to produce a single result based on them or inverts the result of a single condition. A row is returned only if the overall result of the condition is true. Three logical operators are available in SQL:

- AND
- OR
- NOT

All the examples so far have specified only one condition in the WHERE clause. You can use several conditions in one WHERE clause using the AND and OR operators.

Using the AND Operator

AND requires both conditions to be true.

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, job_id, salary
FROM   employees
WHERE  salary >=10000
AND    job_id LIKE '%MAN%';
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY
149	Zlotkey	SA_MAN	10500
201	Hartstein	MK_MAN	13000

ORACLE

2-16

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The AND Operator

In the example, both conditions must be true for any record to be selected. Therefore, only employees who have a job title that contains the string MAN *and* earn more than \$10,000 are selected.

All character searches are case sensitive. No rows are returned if MAN is not in uppercase. Character strings must be enclosed in quotation marks.

AND Truth Table

The following table shows the results of combining two expressions with AND:

AND	TRUE	FALSE	NULL
TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	NULL
FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE
NULL	NULL	FALSE	NULL

Using the OR Operator

OR requires either condition to be true.

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, job_id, salary
FROM   employees
WHERE  salary >= 10000
OR     job_id LIKE '%MAN%';
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY
100	King	AD_PRES	24000
101	Kochhar	AD_VP	17000
102	De Haan	AD_VP	17000
124	Mourgos	ST_MAN	5800
149	Zlotkey	SA_MAN	10500
174	Abel	SA_REP	11000
201	Hartstein	MK_MAN	13000
205	Higgins	AC_MGR	12000

8 rows selected.

ORACLE

2-17

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The OR Operator

In the example, either condition can be true for any record to be selected. Therefore, any employee who has a job ID containing *MAN* *or* earns more than \$10,000 is selected.

The OR Truth Table

The following table shows the results of combining two expressions with OR:

OR	TRUE	FALSE	NULL
TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE
FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	NULL
NULL	TRUE	NULL	NULL

Using the NOT Operator

```
SELECT last_name, job_id
FROM employees
WHERE job_id NOT IN ('IT_PROG', 'ST_CLERK', 'SA_REP');
```

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID
King	AD_PRES
Kochhar	AD_VP
De Haan	AD_VP
Mourgos	ST_MAN
Zlotkey	SA_MAN
Whalen	AD_ASST
Hartstein	MK_MAN
Fay	MK_REP
Higgins	AC_MGR
Gietz	AC_ACCOUNT

10 rows selected.

ORACLE

2-18

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The NOT Operator

The slide example displays the last name and job ID of all employees whose job ID *is not* IT_PROG, ST_CLERK, or SA_REP.

The NOT Truth Table

The following table shows the result of applying the NOT operator to a condition:

NOT	TRUE	FALSE	NULL
	FALSE	TRUE	NULL

Note: The NOT operator can also be used with other SQL operators, such as BETWEEN, LIKE, and NULL.

```
... WHERE job_id NOT IN ('AC_ACCOUNT', 'AD_VP')
... WHERE salary NOT BETWEEN 10000 AND 15000
... WHERE last_name NOT LIKE '%A%'
... WHERE commission_pct IS NOT NULL
```

Rules of Precedence

Order Evaluated	Operator
1	Arithmetic operators
2	Concatenation operator
3	Comparison conditions
4	IS [NOT] NULL, LIKE, [NOT] IN
5	[NOT] BETWEEN
6	NOT logical condition
7	AND logical condition
8	OR logical condition

Override rules of precedence by using parentheses.

ORACLE

Rules of Precedence

The rules of precedence determine the order in which expressions are evaluated and calculated. The table lists the default order of precedence. You can override the default order by using parentheses around the expressions you want to calculate first.

Rules of Precedence

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, salary
FROM employees
WHERE job_id = 'SA_REP'
OR job_id = 'AD_PRES'
AND salary > 15000;
```

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY
King	AD_PRES	24000
Abel	SA_REP	11000
Taylor	SA_REP	8600
Grant	SA_REP	7000

ORACLE

2-20

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Example of the Precedence of the AND Operator

In the slide example, there are two conditions:

- The first condition is that the job ID is AD_PRES *and* the salary is greater than \$15,000.
- The second condition is that the job ID is SA_REP.

Therefore, the SELECT statement reads as follows:

“Select the row if an employee is a president *and* earns more than \$15,000, *or* if the employee is a sales representative.”

Rules of Precedence

Use parentheses to force priority.

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, salary
FROM employees
WHERE (job_id = 'SA_REP'
OR job_id = 'AD_PRES')
AND salary > 15000;
```

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY
King	AD_PRES	24000

ORACLE

Using Parentheses

In the example, there are two conditions:

- The first condition is that the job ID is AD_PRES *or* SA_REP.
- The second condition is that salary is greater than \$15,000.

Therefore, the SELECT statement reads as follows:

“Select the row if an employee is a president *or* a sales representative, *and* if the employee earns more than \$15,000.”

ORDER BY Clause

- **Sort rows with the ORDER BY clause**
 - **ASC: ascending order (the default order)**
 - **DESC: descending order**
- **The ORDER BY clause comes last in the SELECT statement.**

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, department_id, hire_date
FROM employees
ORDER BY hire_date;
```

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID	HIRE_DATE
King	AD_PRES	90	17-JUN-87
Whalen	AD_ASST	10	17-SEP-87
Kochhar	AD_VP	90	21-SEP-89
Hunold	IT_PROG	60	03-JAN-90
Ernst	IT_PROG	60	21-MAY-91
De Haan	AD_VP	90	13-JAN-93

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

2-22

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The ORDER BY Clause

The order of rows returned in a query result is undefined. The ORDER BY clause can be used to sort the rows. If you use the ORDER BY clause, it must be the last clause of the SQL statement. You can specify an expression, or an alias, or column position as the sort condition.

Syntax

```
SELECT      expr
FROM        table
[WHERE      condition(s)]
[ORDER BY {column, expr} [ASC|DESC]];
```

In the syntax:

ORDER BY specifies the order in which the retrieved rows are displayed
ASC orders the rows in ascending order (this is the default order)
DESC orders the rows in descending order

If the ORDER BY clause is not used, the sort order is undefined, and the Oracle server may not fetch rows in the same order for the same query twice. Use the ORDER BY clause to display the rows in a specific order.

Sorting in Descending Order

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, department_id, hire_date
FROM employees
ORDER BY hire_date DESC;
```

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID	HIRE_DATE
Zlotkey	SA_MAN	80	29-JAN-00
Mourgos	ST_MAN	50	16-NOV-99
Grant	SA_REP		24-MAY-99
Lorentz	IT_PROG	60	07-FEB-99
Vargas	ST_CLERK	50	09-JUL-98
Taylor	SA_REP	80	24-MAR-98
Matos	ST_CLERK	50	15-MAR-98
Fay	MK_REP	20	17-AUG-97
Davies	ST_CLERK	50	29-JAN-97
Abel	SA_REP	80	11-MAY-96
King	AD_PRES	90	17-JUN-87

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

2-23

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Default Ordering of Data

The default sort order is ascending:

- Numeric values are displayed with the lowest values first: for example, 1–999.
- Date values are displayed with the earliest value first: for example, 01-JAN-92 before 01-JAN-95.
- Character values are displayed in alphabetical order: for example, A first and Z last.
- Null values are displayed last for ascending sequences and first for descending sequences.

Reversing the Default Order

To reverse the order in which rows are displayed, specify the `DESC` keyword after the column name in the `ORDER BY` clause. The slide example sorts the result by the most recently hired employee.

Sorting by Column Alias

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, salary*12 annsal
FROM employees
ORDER BY annsal;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	ANNSAL
144	Vargas	30000
143	Matos	31200
142	Davies	37200
141	Raja	42000
107	Lorentz	50400
200	Whalen	52800
124	Mourgos	69600
104	Ernst	72000
202	Fay	72000
178	Grant	84000
206	Gietz	99600
100	King	288000

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

Sorting by Column Aliases

You can use a column alias in the ORDER BY clause. The slide example sorts the data by annual salary.

Sorting by Multiple Columns

- The order of `ORDER BY` list is the order of sort.

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

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID	SALARY
Whalen	10	4400
Hartstein	20	13000
Fay	20	6000
Mourgos	50	5800
Rajs	50	3500
Higgins	110	12000
Gietz	110	8300
Grant		7000

20 rows selected.

- You can sort by a column that is not in the `SELECT` list.

ORACLE

Sorting by Multiple Columns

You can sort query results by more than one column. The sort limit is the number of columns in the given table.

In the `ORDER BY` clause, specify the columns, and separate the column names using commas. If you want to reverse the order of a column, specify `DESC` after its name. You can also order by columns that are not included in the `SELECT` clause.

Example

Display the last names and salaries of all employees. Order the result by department number, and then in descending order by salary.

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

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Use the **WHERE** clause to restrict rows of output
 - Use the comparison conditions
 - Use the **BETWEEN**, **IN**, **LIKE**, and **NULL** conditions
 - Apply the logical **AND**, **OR**, and **NOT** operators
- Use the **ORDER BY** clause to sort rows of output

```
SELECT      * | {[DISTINCT] column/expression [alias],...}  
FROM        table  
[WHERE      condition(s)]  
[ORDER BY  {column, expr, alias} [ASC|DESC]];
```

ORACLE

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned about restricting and sorting rows returned by the **SELECT** statement. You should also have learned how to implement various operators and conditions.

Practice 2 Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

- Selecting data and changing the order of rows displayed
- Restricting rows by using the `WHERE` clause
- Sorting rows by using the `ORDER BY` clause

ORACLE

2-27

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Practice 2 Overview

This practice gives you a variety of exercises using the `WHERE` clause and the `ORDER BY` clause.

Practice 2

1. Create a query to display the last name and salary of employees earning more than \$12,000. Place your SQL statement in a text file named `lab2_1.sql`. Run your query.

LAST_NAME	SALARY
King	24000
Kochhar	17000
De Haan	17000
Hartstein	13000

2. Create a query to display the employee last name and department number for employee number 176.

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID
Taylor	80

3. Modify `lab2_1.sql` to display the last name and salary for all employees whose salary is not in the range of \$5,000 and \$12,000. Place your SQL statement in a text file named `lab2_3.sql`.

LAST_NAME	SALARY
King	24000
Kochhar	17000
De Haan	17000
Lorentz	4200
Rajs	3500
Davies	3100
Matos	2600
Vargas	2500
Whalen	4400
Hartstein	13000

10 rows selected.

Practice 2 (continued)

4. Display the employee last name, job ID, and start date of employees hired between February 20, 1998, and May 1, 1998. Order the query in ascending order by start date.

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	HIRE_DATE
Matos	ST_CLERK	15-MAR-98
Taylor	SA_REP	24-MAR-98

5. Display the last name and department number of all employees in departments 20 and 50 in alphabetical order by name.

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID
Davies	50
Fay	20
Hartstein	20
Matos	50
Mourgos	50
Rajs	50
Vargas	50

7 rows selected.

6. Modify lab2_3.sql to list the last name and salary of employees who earn between \$5,000 and \$12,000, and are in department 20 or 50. Label the columns Employee and Monthly Salary, respectively. Resave lab2_3.sql as lab2_6.sql. Run the statement in lab2_6.sql.

Employee	Monthly Salary
Mourgos	5800
Fay	6000

Practice 2 (continued)

7. Display the last name and hire date of every employee who was hired in 1994.

LAST_NAME	HIRE_DATE
Higgins	07-JUN-94
Gietz	07-JUN-94

8. Display the last name and job title of all employees who do not have a manager.

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID
King	AD_PRES

9. Display the last name, salary, and commission for all employees who earn commissions. Sort data in descending order of salary and commissions.

LAST_NAME	SALARY	COMMISSION_PCT
Abel	11000	.3
Zlotkey	10500	.2
Taylor	8600	.2
Grant	7000	.15

If you have time, complete the following exercises:

10. Display the last names of all employees where the third letter of the name is an *a*.

LAST_NAME
Grant
Whalen

11. Display the last name of all employees who have an *a* and an *e* in their last name.

LAST_NAME
De Haan
Davies
Whalen
Hartstein

Practice 2 (continued)

If you want an extra challenge, complete the following exercises:

12. Display the last name, job, and salary for all employees whose job is sales representative or stock clerk and whose salary is not equal to \$2,500, \$3,500, or \$7,000.

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY
Davies	ST_CLERK	3100
Matos	ST_CLERK	2600
Abel	SA_REP	11000
Taylor	SA_REP	8600

13. Modify `lab2_6.sql` to display the last name, salary, and commission for all employees whose commission amount is 20%. Resave `lab2_6.sql` as `lab2_13.sql`. Rerun the statement in `lab2_13.sql`.

Employee	Monthly Salary	COMMISSION_PCT
Zlotkey	10500	.2
Taylor	8600	.2

3

Single-Row Functions

ORACLE

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Objectives

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

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

ORACLE

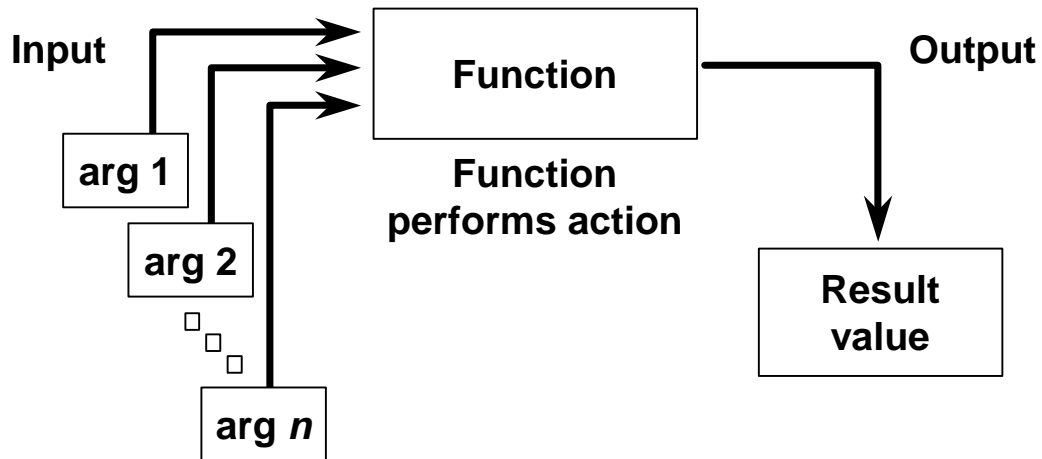
3-2

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Lesson Aim

Functions make the basic query block more powerful and are used to manipulate data values. This is the first of two lessons that explore functions. It focuses on single-row character, number, and date functions, as well as those functions that convert data from one type to another: for example, character data to numeric data.

SQL Functions



ORACLE

3-3

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

SQL Functions

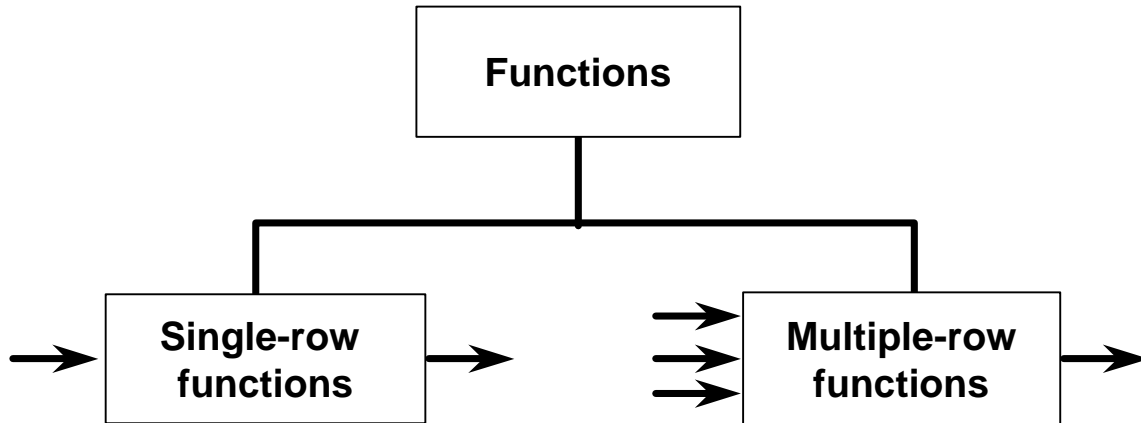
Functions are a very powerful feature of SQL and can be used to do the following:

- Perform calculations on data
- Modify individual data items
- Manipulate output for groups of rows
- Format dates and numbers for display
- Convert column data types

SQL functions sometimes take arguments and always return a value.

Note: Most of the functions described in this lesson are specific to Oracle Corporation's version of SQL.

Two Types of SQL Functions



ORACLE

3-4

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Types of SQL Functions

There are two distinct types of functions:

- Single-row functions
- Multiple-row functions

Single-Row Functions

These functions operate on single rows only and return one result per row. There are different types of single-row functions. This lesson covers the following ones:

- Character
- Number
- Date
- Conversion

Multiple-Row Functions

Functions can manipulate groups of rows to give one result per group of rows. These functions are known as group functions. This is covered in a later lesson.

For more information, see *Oracle9i SQL Reference* for the complete list of available functions and their syntax.

Single-Row Functions

Single row functions:

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

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

ORACLE

3-5

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Single-Row Functions

Single-row functions are used to manipulate data items. They accept one or more arguments and return one value for each row returned by the query. An argument can be one of the following:

- User-supplied constant
- Variable value
- Column name
- Expression

Features of single-row functions include:

- Acting on each row returned in the query
- Returning one result per row
- Possibly returning a data value of a different type than that referenced
- Possibly expecting one or more arguments
- Can be used in SELECT, WHERE, and ORDER BY clauses; can be nested

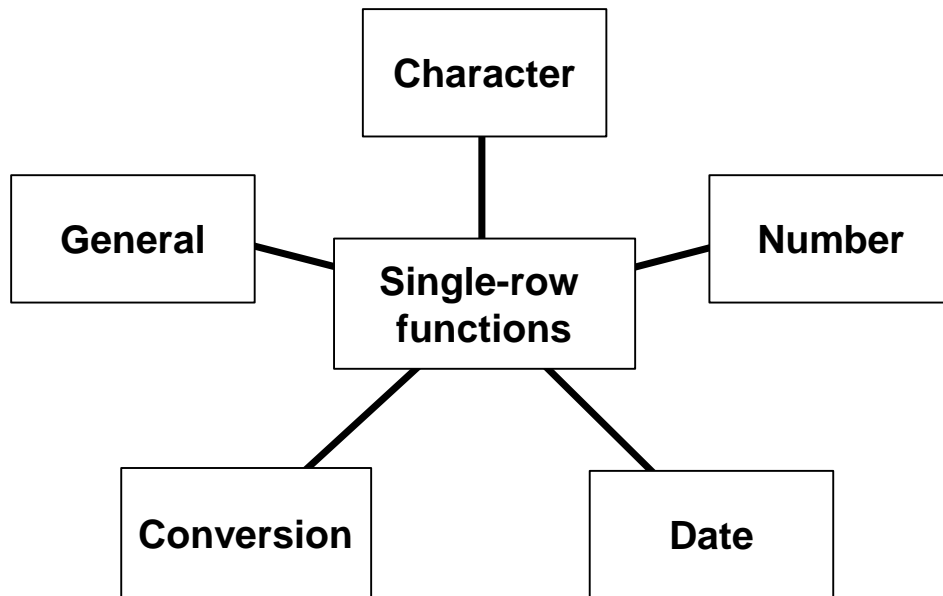
In the syntax:

function_name is the name of the function.

arg1, *arg2* is any argument to be used by the function.

This can be represented by a column name or expression.

Single-Row Functions



ORACLE

3-6

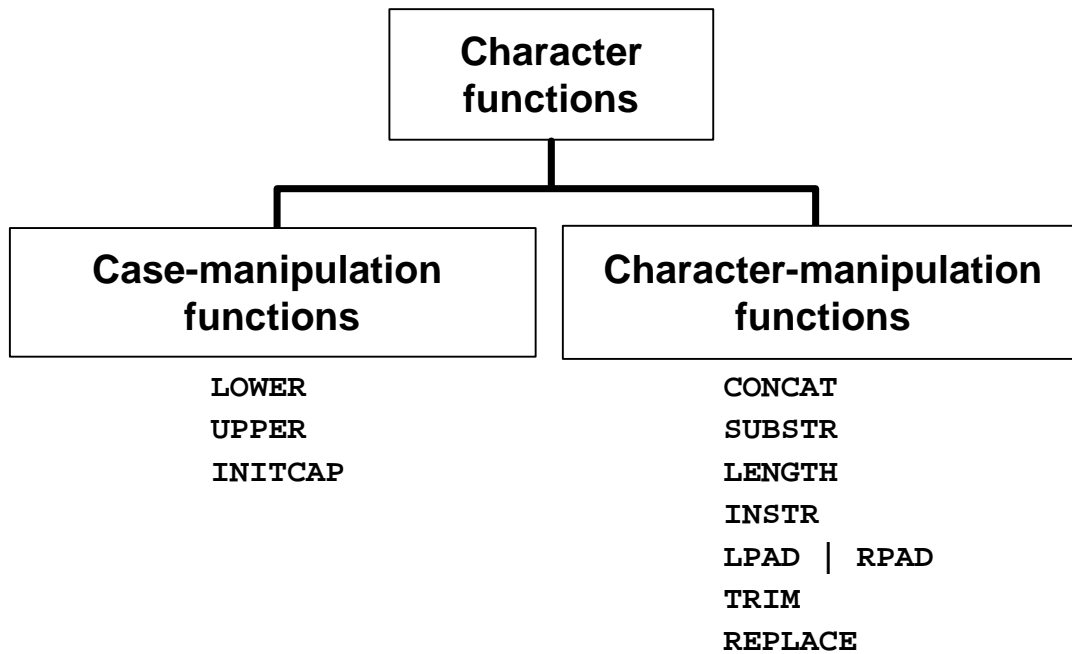
Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Single-Row Functions (continued)

This lesson covers the following single-row functions:

- Character functions: Accept character input and can return both character and number values
- Number functions: Accept numeric input and return numeric values
- Date functions: Operate on values of the DATE data type (All date functions return a value of DATE data type except the MONTHS_BETWEEN function, which returns a number.)
- Conversion functions: Convert a value from one data type to another
- General functions:
 - NVL
 - NVL2
 - NULLIF
 - COALSECE
 - CASE
 - DECODE

Character Functions



ORACLE

3-7

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Character Functions

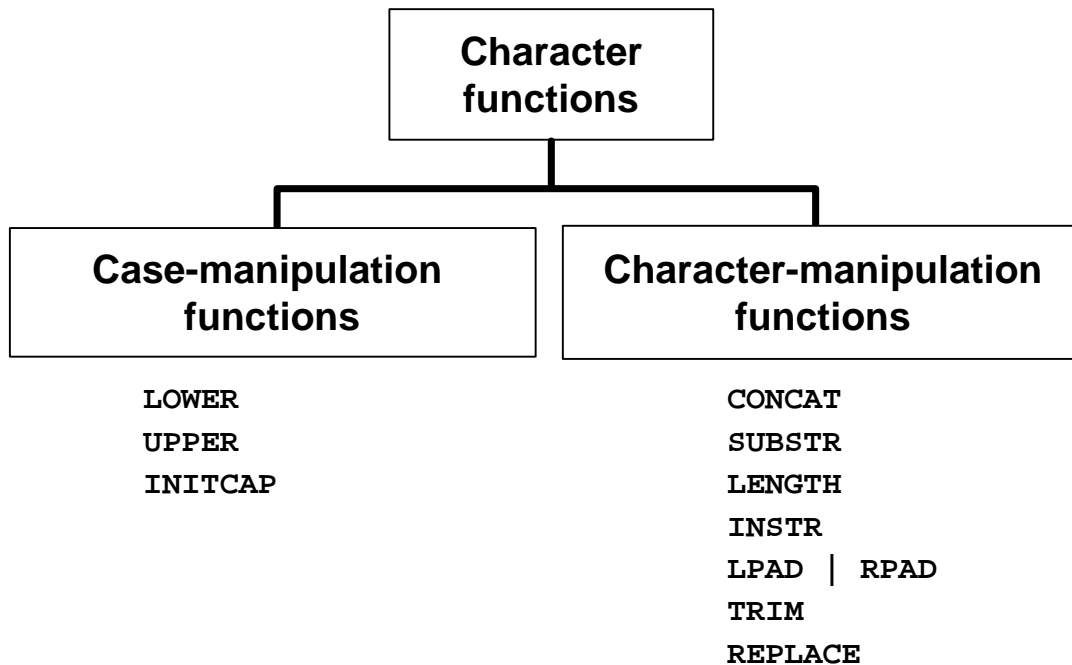
Single-row character functions accept character data as input and can return both character and numeric values. Character functions can be divided into the following:

- Case-manipulation functions
- Character-manipulation functions

Function	Purpose
LOWER(<i>column/expression</i>)	Converts alpha character values to lowercase
UPPER(<i>column/expression</i>)	Converts alpha character values to uppercase
INITCAP(<i>column/expression</i>)	Converts alpha character values to uppercase for the first letter of each word, all other letters in lowercase
CONCAT(<i>column1/expression1</i> , <i>column2/expression2</i>)	Concatenates the first character value to the second character value; equivalent to concatenation operator ()
SUBSTR(<i>column/expression</i> , <i>m</i> [, <i>n</i>])	Returns specified characters from character value starting at character position <i>m</i> , <i>n</i> characters long (If <i>m</i> is negative, the count starts from the end of the character value. If <i>n</i> is omitted, all characters to the end of the string are returned.)

Note: The functions discussed in this lesson are only some of the available functions.

Character Functions



ORACLE

3-8

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Character Functions (continued)

Function	Purpose
LENGTH(<i>column</i> / <i>expression</i>)	Returns the number of characters in the expression
INSTR(<i>column</i> / <i>expression</i> , ' <i>string</i> ', [, <i>m</i>], [<i>n</i>])	Returns the numeric position of a named string. Optionally, you can provide a position <i>m</i> to start searching, and the occurrence <i>n</i> of the string. <i>m</i> and <i>n</i> default to 1, meaning start the search at the beginning of the search and report the first occurrence.
LPAD(<i>column</i> <i>expression</i> , <i>n</i> , ' <i>string</i> ') RPAD(<i>column</i> <i>expression</i> , <i>n</i> , ' <i>string</i> ')	LPAD: Pads the character value right-justified to a total width of <i>n</i> character positions RPAD: Pads the character value left-justified to a total width of <i>n</i> character positions
TRIM(<i>leading</i> / <i>trailing</i> / <i>both</i> , <i>trim_character</i> FROM <i>trim_source</i>)	Enables you to trim heading or trailing characters (or both) from a character string. If <i>trim_character</i> or <i>trim_source</i> is a character literal, you must enclose it in single quotes. This is a feature available from Oracle8i and later.
REPLACE(<i>text</i> , <i>search_string</i> , <i>replacement_string</i>)	Searches a text expression for a character string and, if found, replaces it with a specified replacement string

Case Manipulation Functions

These functions convert case for character strings.

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

ORACLE

3-9

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Case Manipulation Functions

LOWER, UPPER, and INITCAP are the three case-conversion functions.

- LOWER: Converts mixed case or uppercase character strings to lowercase
- UPPER: Converts mixed case or lowercase character strings to uppercase
- INITCAP: Converts the first letter of each word to uppercase and remaining letters to lowercase

```
SELECT 'The job id for '||UPPER(last_name)||' is '  
       ||LOWER(job_id) AS "EMPLOYEE DETAILS"  
FROM employees;
```

EMPLOYEE DETAILS
The job id for KING is ad_pres
The job id for KOCHHAR is ad_vp
The job id for DE HAAN is ad_vp
The job id for HUNOLD is it_prog
The job id for ERNST is it_prog
The job id for ... is ac_mgr
The job id for GIETZ is ac_account

20 rows selected.

Using Case Manipulation Functions

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

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

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

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID
205	Higgins	110

ORACLE

3-10

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Case Manipulation Functions (continued)

The slide example displays the employee number, name, and department number of employee Higgins.

The WHERE clause of the first SQL statement specifies the employee name as `higgins`. Because all the data in the `EMPLOYEES` table is stored in proper case, the name `higgins` does not find a match in the table, and as a result no rows are selected.

The WHERE clause of the second SQL statement specifies that the employee name in the `EMPLOYEES` table is compared to `higgins`, converting the `LAST_NAME` column to lowercase for comparison purposes. Since both the names are lowercase now, a match is found and one row is selected. The WHERE clause can be rewritten in the following manner to produce the same result:

```
...WHERE last_name = 'Higgins'
```

The name in the output appears as it was stored in the database. To display the name capitalized, use the `UPPER` function in the `SELECT` statement.

```
SELECT employee_id, UPPER(last_name), department_id
FROM   employees
WHERE  INITCAP(last_name) = 'Higgins';
```

Character-Manipulation Functions

These functions manipulate character strings:

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

ORACLE

3-11

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Character Manipulation Functions

CONCAT, SUBSTR, LENGTH, INSTR, LPAD, RPAD, and TRIM are the character manipulation functions covered in this lesson.

- **CONCAT:** Joins values together (you are limited to using two parameters with CONCAT)
- **SUBSTR:** Extracts a string of determined length
- **LENGTH:** Shows the length of a string as a numeric value
- **INSTR:** Finds numeric position of a named character
- **LPAD:** Pads the character value right-justified
- **RPAD:** Pads the character value left-justified
- **TRIM:** Trims heading or trailing characters (or both) from a character string (If *trim_character* or *trim_source* is a character literal, you must enclose it in single quotes.)

Using the Character-Manipulation Functions

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

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

ORACLE

3-12

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Character-Manipulation Functions (continued)

The example in the slide displays employee first names and last names joined together, the length of the employee last name, and the numeric position of the letter *a* in the employee last name for all employees who have the string REP contained in the job ID starting at the fourth position of the job ID.

Example

Modify the SQL statement on the slide to display the data for those employees whose last names end with an *n*.

```
SELECT employee_id, CONCAT(first_name, last_name) NAME,
       LENGTH (last_name), INSTR(last_name, 'a') "Contains 'a'?"
FROM   employees
WHERE  SUBSTR(last_name, -1, 1) = 'n';
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	NAME	LENGTH(LAST_NAME)	Contains 'a'?
102	LexDe Haan	7	5
200	JenniferWhalen	6	3
201	MichaelHartstein	9	2

Number Functions

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

`ROUND(45.926, 2)` → 45.93

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

`TRUNC(45.926, 2)` → 45.92

- **MOD: Returns remainder of division**

`MOD(1600, 300)` → 100

ORACLE

3-13

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Number Functions

Number functions accept numeric input and return numeric values. This section describes some of the number functions.

Function	Purpose
<code>ROUND(column expression, n)</code>	Rounds the column, expression, or value to <i>n</i> decimal places, or, if <i>n</i> is omitted, no decimal places. (If <i>n</i> is negative, numbers to left of the decimal point are rounded.)
<code>TRUNC(column expression, n)</code>	Truncates the column, expression, or value to <i>n</i> decimal places, or, if <i>n</i> is omitted, then <i>n</i> defaults to zero
<code>MOD(m, n)</code>	Returns the remainder of <i>m</i> divided by <i>n</i>

Note: This list contains only some of the available number functions.

For more information, see *Oracle9i SQL Reference*, “Number Functions.”

Using the ROUND Function

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

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

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

ORACLE

3-14

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

ROUND Function

The ROUND function rounds the column, expression, or value to *n* decimal places. If the second argument is 0 or is missing, the value is rounded to zero decimal places. If the second argument is 2, the value is rounded to two decimal places. Conversely, if the second argument is -2, the value is rounded to two decimal places to the left.

The ROUND function can also be used with date functions. There are examples of this later in this lesson.

The DUAL Table

The DUAL table is owned by the user SYS and can be accessed by all users. It contains one column, DUMMY, and one row with the value X. The DUAL table is useful when you want to return a value once only: for instance, the value of a constant, pseudocolumn, or expression that is not derived from a table with user data. The DUAL table is generally used for SELECT clause syntax completeness, because both SELECT and FROM clauses are mandatory, and several calculations do not need to select from actual tables.

Using the TRUNC Function

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

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

ORACLE

TRUNC Function

The TRUNC function truncates the column, expression, or value to *n* decimal places.

The TRUNC function works with arguments similar to those of the ROUND function. If the second argument is 0 or is missing, the value is truncated to zero decimal places. If the second argument is 2, the value is truncated to two decimal places. Conversely, if the second argument is -2, the value is truncated to two decimal places to the left.

Like the ROUND function, the TRUNC function can be used with date functions.

Using the MOD Function

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

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

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

ORACLE

3-16

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

MOD Function

The MOD function finds the remainder of value1 divided by value2. The slide example calculates the remainder of the salary after dividing it by 5,000 for all employees whose job ID is SA_REP.

Note: The MOD function is often used to determine if a value is odd or even.

Working with Dates

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

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

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

ORACLE

3-17

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Oracle Date Format

The Oracle database stores dates in an internal numeric format, representing the century, year, month, day, hours, minutes, and seconds.

The default display and input format for any date is DD-MON-RR. Valid Oracle dates are between January 1, 4712 B.C. and A.D. December 31, 9999.

In the example in the slide, the HIRE_DATE for the employee Gietz is displayed in the default format DD-MON-RR. However, dates are not stored in the database in this format. All the components of the date and time are stored. So, although a HIRE_DATE such as 07-JUN-94 is displayed as day, month, and year, there is also *time* and *century* information associated with it. The complete data might be June 7th, 1994 5:10:43 p.m.

This data is stored internally as follows:

CENTURY	YEAR	MONTH	DAY	HOURL	MINUTE	SECOND
19	94	06	07	5	10	43

Centuries and the Year 2000

The Oracle Server is year 2000 compliant. When a record with a date column is inserted into a table, the century information is picked up from the SYSDATE function. However, when the date column is displayed on the screen, the century component is not displayed by default.

The DATE data type always stores year information as a four-digit number internally, two digits for the century and two digits for the year. For example, the Oracle database stores the year as 1996 or 2001, and not just as 96 or 01.

Working with Dates

SYSDATE is a function that returns:

- **Date**
- **Time**

ORACLE

3-18

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The **SYSDATE** Function

SYSDATE is a date function that returns the current database server date and time. You can use **SYSDATE** just as you would use any other column name. For example, you can display the current date by selecting **SYSDATE** from a table. It is customary to select **SYSDATE** from a dummy table called **DUAL**.

Example

Display the current date using the **DUAL** table.

```
SELECT SYSDATE
FROM   DUAL;
```

SYSDATE
08-MAR-01

Arithmetic with Dates

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

ORACLE

3-19

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Arithmetic with Dates

Because the database stores dates as numbers, you can perform calculations using arithmetic operators such as addition and subtraction. You can add and subtract number constants as well as dates.

You can perform the following operations:

Operation	Result	Description
date + number	Date	Adds a number of days to a date
date - number	Date	Subtracts a number of days from a date
date - date	Number of days	Subtracts one date from another
date + number/24	Date	Adds a number of hours to a date

Using Arithmetic Operators with Dates

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

LAST_NAME	WEEKS
King	716.227563
Kochhar	598.064706
De Haan	425.227563

ORACLE

3-20

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using Arithmetic Operators with Dates

The example in the slide displays the last name and the number of weeks employed for all employees in department 90. It subtracts the date on which the employee was hired from the current date (SYSDATE) and divides the result by 7 to calculate the number of weeks that a worker has been employed.

Note: SYSDATE is a SQL function that returns the current date and time. Your results may differ from the example.

If a more current date is subtracted from an older date, the difference is a negative number.

Date Functions

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

ORACLE

3-21

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Date Functions

Date functions operate on Oracle dates. All date functions return a value of DATE data type except MONTHS_BETWEEN, which returns a numeric value.

- MONTHS_BETWEEN(*date1*, *date2*): Finds the number of months between *date1* and *date2*. The result can be positive or negative. If *date1* is later than *date2*, the result is positive; if *date1* is earlier than *date2*, the result is negative. The noninteger part of the result represents a portion of the month.
- ADD_MONTHS(*date*, *n*): Adds *n* number of calendar months to *date*. The value of *n* must be an integer and can be negative.
- NEXT_DAY(*date*, '*char*'): Finds the date of the next specified day of the week ('*char*') following *date*. The value of *char* may be a number representing a day or a character string.
- LAST_DAY(*date*): Finds the date of the last day of the month that contains *date*.
- ROUND(*date* [, '*fmt*']): Returns *date* rounded to the unit specified by the format model *fmt*. If the format model *fmt* is omitted, *date* is rounded to the nearest day.
- TRUNC(*date* [, '*fmt*']): Returns *date* with the time portion of the day truncated to the unit specified by the format model *fmt*. If the format model *fmt* is omitted, *date* is truncated to the nearest day.

This list is a subset of the available date functions. The format models are covered later in this lesson. Examples of format models are month and year.

Using Date Functions

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

ORACLE

3-22

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using Date Functions

For example, display the employee number, hire date, number of months employed, six-month review date, first Friday after hire date, and last day of the month when hired for all employees employed for fewer than 36 months.

```
SELECT employee_id, hire_date,  
       MONTHS_BETWEEN (SYSDATE, hire_date) TENURE,  
       ADD_MONTHS (hire_date, 6) REVIEW,  
       NEXT_DAY (hire_date, 'FRIDAY'), LAST_DAY(hire_date)  
FROM   employees  
WHERE  MONTHS_BETWEEN (SYSDATE, hire_date) < 36;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	HIRE_DATE	TENURE	REVIEW	NEXT_DAY(LAST_DAY(
107	07-FEB-99	25.0548529	07-AUG-99	12-FEB-99	28-FEB-99
124	16-NOV-99	15.7645303	16-MAY-00	19-NOV-99	30-NOV-99
143	15-MAR-98	35.7967884	15-SEP-98	20-MAR-98	31-MAR-98
144	09-JUL-98	31.9903368	09-JAN-99	10-JUL-98	31-JUL-98
149	29-JAN-00	13.3451755	29-JUL-00	04-FEB-00	31-JAN-00
176	24-MAR-98	35.5064658	24-SEP-98	27-MAR-98	31-MAR-98
178	24-MAY-99	21.5064658	24-NOV-99	28-MAY-99	31-MAY-99

7 rows selected.

Using Date Functions

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

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

ORACLE

3-23

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using Date Functions (continued)

The `ROUND` and `TRUNC` functions can be used for number and date values. When used with dates, these functions round or truncate to the specified format model. Therefore, you can round dates to the nearest year or month.

Example

Compare the hire dates for all employees who started in 1997. Display the employee number, hire date, and month started using the `ROUND` and `TRUNC` functions.

```
SELECT employee_id, hire_date,  
       ROUND(hire_date, 'MONTH'), TRUNC(hire_date, 'MONTH')  
FROM   employees  
WHERE  hire_date LIKE '%97';
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	HIRE_DATE	ROUND(HIR	TRUNC(HIR
142	29-JAN-97	01-FEB-97	01-JAN-97
202	17-AUG-97	01-SEP-97	01-AUG-97

Practice 3, Part 1 Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

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

ORACLE

3-24

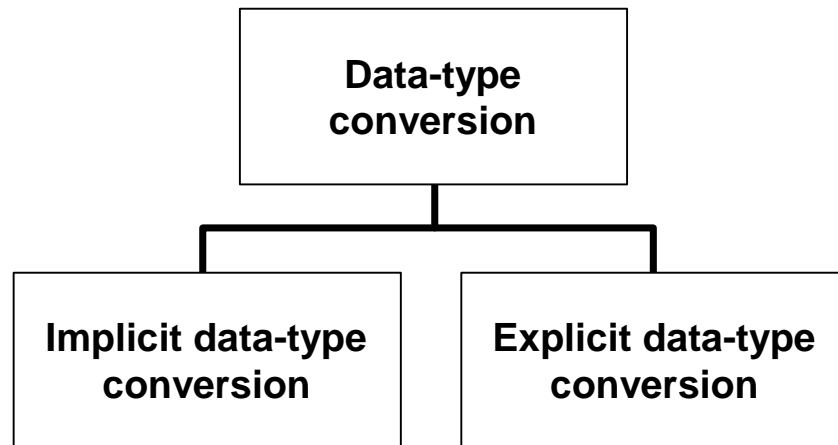
Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Practice 3, Part 1

This practice is designed to give you a variety of exercises using different functions available for character, number, and date data types.

Complete questions 1 through 5 of Practice 3, found at the end of this lesson.

Conversion Functions



ORACLE

3-25

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Conversion Functions

In addition to Oracle data types, columns of tables in an Oracle9i database can be defined using ANSI, DB2, and SQL/DS data types. However, the Oracle Server internally converts such data types to Oracle8 data types.

In some cases, the Oracle Server uses data of one data type where it expects data of a different data type. This can happen when the Oracle Server can automatically convert the data to the expected data type. This data type conversion can be done implicitly by the Oracle Server, or explicitly by the user.

Implicit data-type conversions work according to the rules explained in the next two slides.

Explicit data-type conversions are done by using the conversion functions. Conversion functions convert a value from one data type to another. Generally, the form of the function names follows the convention *data type TO data type*. The first data type is the input data type; the last data type is the output.

Note: Although implicit data-type conversion is available, it is recommended that you do explicit data type conversion to ensure the reliability of your SQL statements.

Implicit Data-Type Conversion

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

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

ORACLE

Implicit Data Type Conversion

The assignment succeeds if the Oracle Server can convert the data type of the value used in the assignment to that of the assignment target.

Implicit Data-Type Conversion

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

From	To
VARCHAR2 or CHAR	NUMBER
VARCHAR2 or CHAR	DATE

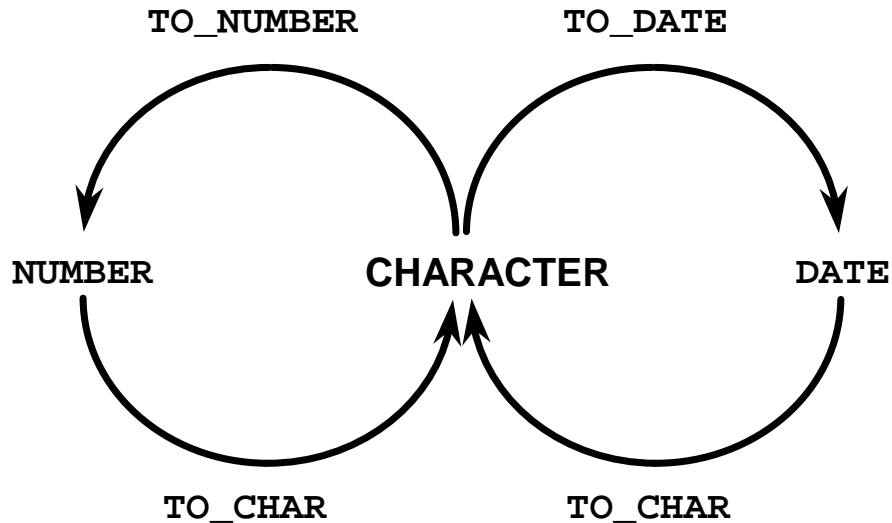
ORACLE

Implicit Data Type Conversion

In general, the Oracle Server uses the rule for expressions when a data-type conversion is needed in places not covered by a rule for assignment conversions.

Note: CHAR to NUMBER conversions succeed only if the character string represents a valid number.

Explicit Data-Type Conversion



ORACLE

3-28

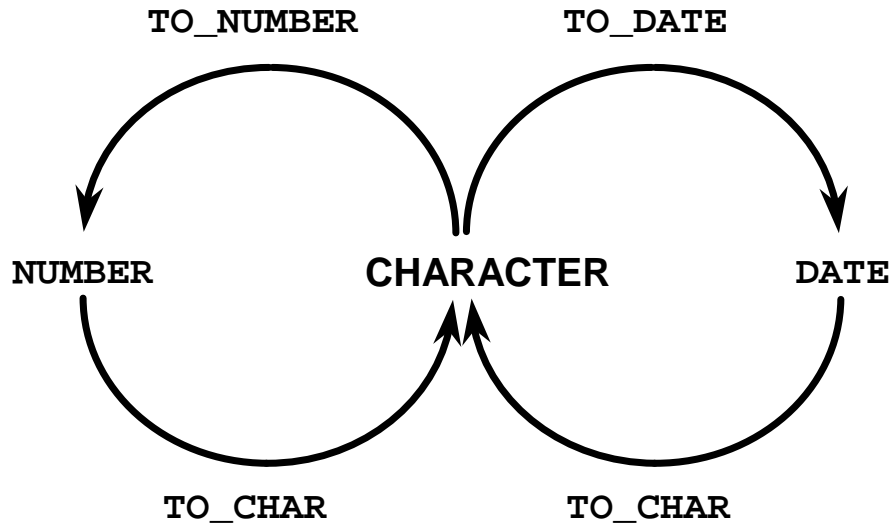
Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Explicit Data-Type Conversion

SQL provides three functions to convert a value from one data type to another:

Function	Purpose
<code>TO_CHAR(<i>number</i> <i>date</i>, [<i>fmt</i>], [<i>nlsparams</i>])</code>	<p>Converts a number or date value to a VARCHAR2 character string with format model <i>fmt</i>.</p> <p>Number Conversion: The <i>nlsparams</i> parameter specifies the following characters, which are returned by number format elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decimal character • Group separator • Local currency symbol • International currency symbol <p>If <i>nlsparams</i> or any other parameter is omitted, this function uses the default parameter values for the session.</p>

Explicit Data-Type Conversion



ORACLE

3-29

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Explicit Data-Type Conversion (continued)

Function	Purpose
<code>TO_CHAR(number date, [fmt], [nlsparams])</code>	Specifies the language in which month and day names and abbreviations are returned. If this parameter is omitted, this function uses the default date languages for the session.
<code>TO_NUMBER(char, [fmt], [nlsparams])</code>	Converts a character string containing digits to a number in the format specified by the optional format model <i>fmt</i> . The <i>nlsparams</i> parameter has the same purpose in this function as in the <code>TO_CHAR</code> function for number conversion.
<code>TO_DATE(char, [fmt], [nlsparams])</code>	Converts a character string representing a date to a date value according to the <i>fmt</i> specified. If <i>fmt</i> is omitted, the format is DD-MON-YY. The <i>nlsparams</i> parameter has the same purpose in this function as in the <code>TO_CHAR</code> function for date conversion.

Explicit Data-Type Conversion (continued)

Note: The list of functions mentioned in this lesson includes only some of the available conversion functions.

For more information, see *Oracle9i SQL Reference*, “Conversion Functions.”

Using the TO_CHAR Function with Dates

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

The format model:

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

ORACLE

3-31

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Displaying a Date in a Specific Format

Previously, all Oracle date values were displayed in the DD-MON-YY format. You can use the TO_CHAR function to convert a date from this default format to one specified by you.

Guidelines

- The format model must be enclosed in single quotation marks and is case sensitive.
- The format model can include any valid date format element. Be sure to separate the date value from the format model by a comma.
- The names of days and months in the output are automatically padded with blanks.
- To remove padded blanks or to suppress leading zeros, use the fill mode *fm* element.
- You can format the resulting character field with the *iSQL*Plus* COLUMN command covered in a later lesson.

```
SELECT employee_id, TO_CHAR(hire_date, 'MM/YY') Month_Hired
FROM   employees
WHERE  last_name = 'Higgins';
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	MONTH
205	06/94

Elements of the Date Format Model

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

ORACLE

Sample Format Elements of Valid Date Formats

Element	Description
SCC or CC	Century; server prefixes B.C. date with -
Years in dates YYYY or SYYYY	Year; server prefixes B.C. date with -
YYY or YY or Y	Last three, two, or one digits of year
Y,YYY	Year with comma in this position
IYYY, IYY, IY, I	Four, three, two, or one digit year based on the ISO standard
SYEAR or YEAR	Year spelled out; server prefixes B.C. date with -
BC or AD	B.C.A.D. indicator
B.C. or A.D.	B.C./A.D. indicator with periods
Q	Quarter of year
MM	Month: two-digit value
MONTH	Name of month padded with blanks to length of nine characters
MON	Name of month, three-letter abbreviation
RM	Roman numeral month
WW or W	Week of year or month
DDD or DD or D	Day of year, month, or week
DAY	Name of day padded with blanks to a length of nine characters
DY	Name of day; three-letter abbreviation
J	Julian day; the number of days since 31 December 4713 B.C.

Elements of the Date Format Model

- Time elements format the time portion of the date.

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

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

DD "of" MONTH	12 of OCTOBER
---------------	---------------

- Number suffixes spell out numbers.

ddspth	fourteenth
--------	------------

ORACLE

Date Format Elements: Time Formats

Use the formats listed in the following tables to display time information and literals and to change numerals to spelled numbers.

Element	Description
AM or PM	Meridian indicator
A.M. or P.M.	Meridian indicator with periods
HH or HH12 or HH24	Hour of day, or hour (1–12), or hour (0–23)
MI	Minute (0–59)
SS	Second (0–59)
SSSSS	Seconds past midnight (0–86399)

Other Formats

Element	Description
/ . ,	Punctuation is reproduced in the result
“of the”	Quoted string is reproduced in the result

Specifying Suffixes to Influence Number Display

Element	Description
TH	Ordinal number (for example, DDTH for 4TH)
SP	Spelled-out number (for example, DDSF for FOUR)
SPTH or THSP	Spelled-out ordinal numbers (for example, DDSPTH for FOURTH)

Using the TO_CHAR Function with Dates

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

LAST_NAME	HIREDATE
King	17 June 1987
Kochhar	21 September 1989
De Haan	13 January 1993
Hunold	3 January 1990
Ernst	21 May 1991
Lorentz	7 February 1999
Mourgos	16 November 1999
Rais	17 October 1995
...	...
Gietz	7 June 1984

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

3-36

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The TO_CHAR Function with Dates

The SQL statement on the slide displays the last names and hire dates for all the employees. The hire date appears as 17 June 1987.

Example

Modify the slide example to display the dates in a format that appears as Seventh of June 1994 12:00:00 AM.

```
SELECT last_name,  
       TO_CHAR(hire_date,  
               'fmDdspth "of" Month YYYY fmHH:MI:SS AM')  
       HIREDATE  
FROM   employees;
```

LAST_NAME	HIREDATE
King	Seventeenth of June 1987 12:00:00 AM
Kochhar	Twenty-First of September 1989 12:00:00 AM
De Haan	Thirteenth of January 1993 12:00:00 AM
...	...
Gietz	Seventh of June 1984 12:00:00 AM

20 rows selected.

Notice that the month follows the format model specified: in other words, the first letter is capitalized and the rest are lowercase.

Using the TO_CHAR Function with Numbers

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

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

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

ORACLE

3-37

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The TO_CHAR Function with Numbers

When working with number values such as character strings, you should convert those numbers to the character data type using the TO_CHAR function, which translates a value of NUMBER data type to VARCHAR2 data type. This technique is especially useful with concatenation.

Number Format Elements

If you are converting a number to the character data type, you can use the following format elements:

Element	Description	Example	Result
9	Numeric position (number of 9s determine display width)	999999	1234
0	Display leading zeros	099999	001234
\$	Floating dollar sign	\$999999	\$1234
L	Floating local currency symbol	L999999	FF1234
.	Decimal point in position specified	999999.99	1234.00
,	Comma in position specified	999,999	1,234
MI	Minus signs to right (negative values)	999999MI	1234-
PR	Parenthesize negative numbers	999999PR	<1234>
EEEE	Scientific notation (format must specify four Es)	99.999EEEE	1.234E+03
V	Multiply by 10 <i>n</i> times (<i>n</i> = number of 9s after V)	9999V99	123400
B	Display zero values as blank, not 0	B9999.99	1234.00

Using the TO_CHAR Function with Numbers

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

SALARY
\$9,000.00

ORACLE

Guidelines

- The Oracle Server displays a string of hash signs (#) in place of a whole number whose digits exceed the number of digits provided in the format model.
- The Oracle Server rounds the stored decimal value to the number of decimal spaces provided in the format model.

Using the TO_NUMBER and TO_DATE Functions

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

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

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

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

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

ORACLE

3-39

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The TO_NUMBER and TO_DATE Functions

You may want to convert a character string to either a number or a date. To accomplish this task, you use the TO_NUMBER or TO_DATE functions. The format model you choose is based on the previously demonstrated format elements.

The `fx` modifier specifies exact matching for the character argument and date format model of a TO_DATE function:

- Punctuation and quoted text in the character argument must exactly match (except for case) the corresponding parts of the format model.
- The character argument cannot have extra blanks. Without `fx`, the Oracle Server ignores extra blanks.
- Numeric data in the character argument must have the same number of digits as the corresponding element in the format model. Without `fx`, numbers in the character argument can omit leading zeroes.

Example

Display the names and hire dates of all the employees who joined on May 24, 1999. Because the `fx` modifier is used, an exact match is required and the spaces after the word “May” are not recognized.

```
SELECT last_name, hire_date
FROM employees
WHERE hire_date = TO_DATE('May      24, 1999', 'fxMonth DD, YYYY')
```

ERROR at line 3:

ORA-01858: a non-numeric character was found where a numeric was expected

RR Date Format

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

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

ORACLE

3-40

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The RR Date Format Element

The RR date format is similar to the YY element, but you can use it to specify different centuries. You can use the RR date format element instead of YY, so that the century of the return value varies according to the specified two-digit year and the last two digits of the current year. The table on the slide summarizes the behavior of the RR element.

Current Year	Given Date	Interpreted (RR)	Interpreted (YY)
1994	27-OCT-95	1995	1995
1994	27-OCT-17	2017	1917
2001	27-OCT-17	2017	2017

Example of RR Date Format

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

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

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

ORACLE

3-41

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The RR Date Format Element Example

To find employees who were hired prior to 1990, the RR format can be used. Because the year is now greater than 1999, the RR format interprets the year portion of the date from 1950 to 1999.

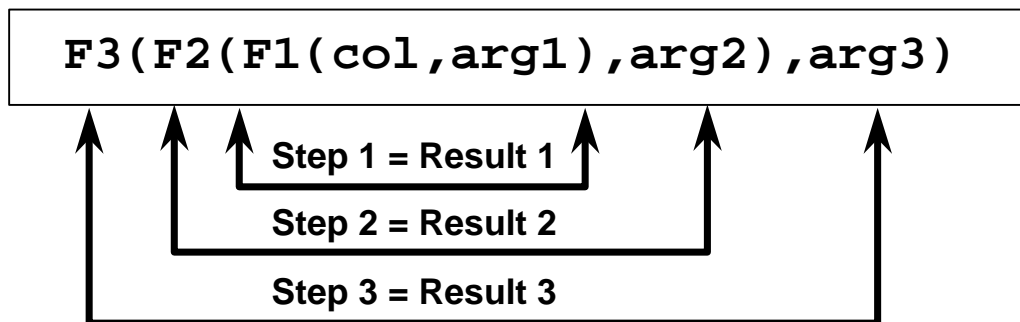
The following command, on the other hand, results in no rows being selected because the YY format interprets the year portion of the date in the current century (2090).

```
SELECT last_name, TO_CHAR(hire_date, 'DD-Mon-yyyy')
FROM   employees
WHERE  TO_DATE(hire_date, 'DD-Mon-yy') < '01-Jan-1990';
```

no rows selected

Nesting Functions

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



Nesting Functions

Single-row functions can be nested to any depth. Nested functions are evaluated from the innermost level to the outermost level. Some examples follow to show you the flexibility of these functions.

Nesting Functions

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

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

ORACLE

3-43

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Nesting Functions (continued)

The slide example displays the head of the company, who has no manager. The evaluation of the SQL statement involves two steps:

1. Evaluate the inner function to convert a number value to a character string.
 - Result1 = TO_CHAR(manager_id)
2. Evaluate the outer function to replace the null value with a text string.
 - NVL(Result1, 'No Manager')

The entire expression becomes the column heading because no column alias was given.

Example

Display the date of the next Friday that is six months from the hire date. The resulting date should appear as Friday, August 13th, 1999. Order the results by hire date.

```
SELECT TO_CHAR(NEXT_DAY(ADD_MONTHS  
                (hire_date, 6), 'FRIDAY'),  
            'fmDay, Month DDth, YYYY')  
       "Next 6 Month Review"  
FROM   employees  
ORDER BY hire_date;
```

General Functions

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

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

ORACLE

3-44

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

General Functions

These functions work with any data type and pertain to the use of null values in the expression list.

Function	Description
NVL	Converts a null value to an actual value
NVL2	If expr1 is not null, NVL2 returns expr2. If expr1 is null, NVL2 returns expr3. The argument expr1 can have any data type.
NULLIF	Compares two expressions and returns null if they are equal, or the first expression if they are not equal
COALESCE	Returns the first non-null expression in the expression list

Note: For more information on the hundreds of functions available, see *Oracle9i SQL Reference*, “Functions.”

NVL Function

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

ORACLE

3-45

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The NVL Function

To convert a null value to an actual value, use the NVL function.

Syntax

```
NVL (expr1, expr2)
```

In the syntax:

expr1 is the source value or expression that may contain a null

expr2 is the target value for converting the null

You can use the NVL function to convert any data type, but the return value is always the same as the data type of *expr1*.

NVL Conversions for Various Data Types

Data Type	Conversion Example
NUMBER	<code>NVL(<i>number_column</i>, 9)</code>
DATE	<code>NVL(<i>date_column</i>, '01-JAN-95')</code>
CHAR or VARCHAR2	<code>NVL(<i>character_column</i>, 'Unavailable')</code>

Using the NVL Function

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

LAST_NAME	SALARY	NVL(COMMISSION_PCT,0)	AN_SAL
King	24000	0	288000
Kochhar	17000	0	204000
De Haan	17000	0	204000
Hunold	9000	0	108000
Ernst	6000	0	72000
Lorentz	4200	0	50400
Mourgos	5800	0	69600
Rajs	3500	0	42000
Davies	3100	0	37200
Matos	2600	0	31200
Vargas	2500	0	30000
Zlotkey	10500	.2	151200
Abel	11000	.3	171600

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

3-46

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The NVL Function

To calculate the annual compensation of all employees, you need to multiply the monthly salary by 12 and then add the commission percentage to it.

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

LAST_NAME	SALARY	COMMISSION_PCT	AN_SAL
Vargas	2500		
Zlotkey	10500	.2	151200
Abel	11000	.3	171600
Taylor	8600	.2	123840

20 rows selected.

Notice that the annual compensation is calculated only for those employees who earn a commission. If any column value in an expression is null, the result is null. To calculate values for all employees, you must convert the null value to a number before applying the arithmetic operator. In the example in the slide, the NVL function is used to convert null values to zero.

Using the NVL2 Function

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

LAST_NAME	SALARY	COMMISSION_PCT	INCOME
Zlotkey	10500	.2	SAL+COMM
Abel	11000	.3	SAL+COMM
Taylor	8600	.2	SAL+COMM
Mourgos	5000		SAL
Rajs	3500		SAL
Davies	3100		SAL
Matos	2600		SAL
Vargas	2500		SAL

8 rows selected.

ORACLE

3-47

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The NVL2 Function

The NVL2 function examines the first expression. If the first expression is not null, then the NVL2 function returns the second expression. If the first expression is null, then the third expression is returned.

Syntax

```
NVL(expr1, expr2, expr3)
```

In the syntax:

expr1 is the source value or expression that may contain null

expr2 is the value returned if *expr1* is not null

expr3 is the value returned if *expr2* is null

In the example shown, the COMMISSION_PCT column is examined. If a value is detected, the second expression of SAL+COMM is returned. If the COMMISSION_PCT column holds a null values, the third expression of SAL is returned.

The argument *expr1* can have any data type. The arguments *expr2* and *expr3* can have any data types except LONG. If the data types of *expr2* and *expr3* are different, The Oracle Server converts *expr3* to the data type of *expr2* before comparing them unless *expr3* is a null constant. In that case, a data type conversion is not necessary.

The data type of the return value is always the same as the data type of *expr2*, unless *expr2* is character data, in which case the return value's data type is VARCHAR2.

Using the NULLIF Function

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

FIRST_NAME	expr1	LAST_NAME	expr2	RESULT
William	7	Gietz	5	7
Shelley	7	Higgins	7	
Pat	3	Fay	3	
Michael	7	Hartstein	9	7
Jennifer	8	Whalen	6	8
Kimberely	9	Grant	5	9
Jonathon	8	Taylor	6	8
Ellen	5	Abel	4	5
Eleni	5	Zlotkey	7	5
Peter	5	Vargas	6	5
Randall	7	Matos	5	7
Curtis	6	Davies	6	
Trenna	6	Rajs	4	6

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

3-48

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The NULLIF Function

The NULLIF function compares two expressions. If they are equal, the function returns null. If they are not equal, the function returns the first expression. You cannot specify the literal NULL for first expression.

Syntax

```
NULLIF (expr1, expr2)
```

In the syntax:

expr1 is the source value compared to *expr2*

expr2 is the source value compared with *expr1*. (If it is not equal to *expr1*, *expr1* is returned.)

In the example shown, the job ID in the EMPLOYEES table is compared to the job ID in the JOB_HISTORY table for any employee who is in both tables. The output shows the employee's current job. If the employee is listed more than once, that means the employee has held at least two jobs previously.

Note: The NULLIF function is logically equivalent to the following CASE expression. The CASE expression is discussed in a subsequent page:

```
CASE WHEN expr1 = expr2 THEN NULL ELSE expr1 END
```

Using the COALESCE Function

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

ORACLE

3-49

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using The COALESCE Function

The COALESCE function returns the first nonnull expression in the list.

Syntax

```
COALESCE (expr1, expr2, ... exprn)
```

In the syntax:

<i>expr1</i>	returns this expression if it is not null
<i>expr2</i>	returns this expression if the first expression is null and this expression is not null
<i>exprn</i>	returns this expression if the preceding expressions are null

Using the COALESCE Function

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

LAST_NAME	COMM
Grant	.15
Zlotkey	.2
Taylor	.2
Abel	.3
King	24000
Kochhar	17000
De Haan	17000
Hunold	9000
Matos	2600
Vargas	2500

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

3-50

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using the COALESCE Function (continued)

In the example in the slide, if the COMMISSION_PCT value is not null, it is shown. If the COMMISSION_PCT value is null, then the SALARY is shown. If the COMMISSION_PCT and SALARY values are null, then the value 10 is shown.

Conditional Expressions

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

ORACLE

3-51

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Conditional Expressions

Two methods used to implement conditional processing (IF-THEN-ELSE logic) within a SQL statement are the CASE expression and the DECODE function.

Note: The CASE expression is new in the Oracle9i Server release. The CASE expression complies with ANSI SQL, DECODE is specific to Oracle syntax.

The CASE Expression

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

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

ORACLE

3-52

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The CASE Expression

CASE expressions let you use IF-THEN-ELSE logic in SQL statements without having to invoke procedures.

In a simple CASE expression, the Oracle Server searches for the first WHEN . . . THEN pair for which *expr* is equal to *comparison_expr* and returns *return_expr*. If none of the WHEN . . . THEN pairs meet this condition, and an ELSE clause exists, then Oracle returns *else_expr*. Otherwise, the Oracle Server returns null. You cannot specify the literal NULL for all the *return_exprs* and the *else_expr*.

All of the expressions (*expr*, *comparison_expr*, and *return_expr*) must be of the same data type, which can be CHAR, VARCHAR2, NCHAR, or NVARCHAR2.

Using the CASE Expression

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

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

Lorentz	IT_PROG	4200	4620
Mourgos	ST_MAN	5800	5800
Rajs	ST_CLERK	3600	4025
Gietz	AC_ACCOUNT	6300	6300

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

Using the CASE Expression

In the preceding SQL statement, the value of JOB_ID is decoded. If JOB_ID is IT_PROG, the salary increase is 10%; if JOB_ID is ST_CLERK, the salary increase is 15%; if JOB_ID is SA_REP, the salary increase is 20%. For all other job roles, there is no increase in salary.

The same statement can be written with the DECODE function.

The DECODE Function

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

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

ORACLE

The DECODE Function

The DECODE function decodes an expression in a way similar to the IF-THEN-ELSE logic used in various languages. The DECODE function decodes *expression* after comparing it to each *search* value. If the expression is the same as *search*, *result* is returned.

If the default value is omitted, a null value is returned where a search value does not match any of the result values.

Using the DECODE Function

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

Lorentz	IT_PROG	4200	4620
Mourgos	ST_MAN	5800	5800
Rajs	ST_CLERK	3600	4026
Gietz	AC_ACCOUNT	8300	8300

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

Using the DECODE Function

In the preceding SQL statement, the value of `JOB_ID` is tested. If `JOB_ID` is `IT_PROG`, the salary increase is 10%; if `JOB_ID` is `ST_CLERK`, the salary increase is 15%; if `JOB_ID` is `SA_REP`, the salary increase is 20%. For all other job roles, there is no increase in salary.

The same statement can be expressed in pseudocode as an `IF-THEN-ELSE` statement:

```
IF job_id = 'IT_PROG'      THEN salary = salary*1.10
IF job_id = 'ST_CLERK'    THEN salary = salary*1.15
IF job_id = 'SA_REP'      THEN salart = salary*1.20
ELSE salary = salary
```

Using the DECODE Function

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

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

ORACLE

3-56

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Example

This slide shows another example using the DECODE function. In this example, we determine the tax rate for each employee in department 80 based on the monthly salary. The tax rates are as per the values mentioned in the following data.

<i>Monthly Salary Range</i>	<i>Rate</i>
\$0.00 - 1999.99	00%
\$2,000.00 - 3,999.99	09%
\$4,000.00 - 5,999.99	20%
\$6,000.00 - 7,999.99	30%
\$8,000.00 - 9,999.99	40%
\$10,000.00 - 11,999.99	42%
\$12,200.00 - 13,999.99	44%
\$14,000.00 or greater	45%

LAST_NAME	SALARY	TAX_RATE
Zlotkey	10500	.42
Abel	11000	.42
Taylor	8600	.4

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

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

ORACLE

3-57

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Single-Row Functions

Single-row functions can be nested to any level. Single-row functions can manipulate the following:

- Character data: LOWER, UPPER, INITCAP, CONCAT, SUBSTR, INSTR, LENGTH
- Number data: ROUND, TRUNC, MOD
- Date data: MONTHS_BETWEEN, ADD_MONTHS, NEXT_DAY, LAST_DAY, ROUND, TRUNC
- Date values can also use arithmetic operators.
- Conversion functions can convert character, date, and numeric values: TO_CHAR, TO_DATE, TO_NUMBER
- There are several functions that pertain to nulls, including NVL, NVL2, NULLIF, and COALESCE.
- IF-THEN-ELSE logic can be applied within a SQL statement by using the CASE expression or the DECODE function.

SYSDATE and DUAL

SYSDATE is a date function that returns the current date and time. It is customary to select SYSDATE from a dummy table called DUAL.

Practice 3, Part 2 Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

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

ORACLE

3-58

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Practice 3, Part 2 Overview

This practice is designed to give you a variety of exercises using different functions available for character, number, and date data types.

Remember that for nested functions, the results are evaluated from the innermost function to the outermost function.

Practice 3, Part 1

1. Write a query to display the current date. Label the column Date.

Date
08-MAR-01

2. For each employee, display the employee ID number, last_name, salary, and salary increased by 15% and expressed as a whole number. Label the column New Salary. Place your SQL statement in a text file named lab3_2.sql.
3. Run your query in the file lab3_2.sql.

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	SALARY	New Salary
100	King	24000	27600
101	Kochhar	17000	19550
102	De Haan	17000	19550
103	Hunold	9000	10350
104	Ernst	6000	6900
206	Gietz	8300	9545

20 rows selected.

4. Modify your query lab3_2.sql to add a column that subtracts the old salary from the new salary. Label the column Increase. Save the contents of the file as lab3_4.sql. Run the revised query.

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	SALARY	New Salary	Increase
100	King	24000	27600	3600
101	Kochhar	17000	19550	2550
102	De Haan	17000	19550	2550
103	Hunold	9000	10350	1350
104	Ernst	6000	6900	900
107	Lorentz	4200	4830	630
124	Mourgos	5800	6670	870
141	Rajs	3500	4025	525
142	Davies	3100	3565	465
143	Matos	2600	2990	390
144	Vargas	2500	2875	375
149	Zlotkey	10500	12075	1575
206	Gietz	8300	9545	1245

20 rows selected.

Practice 3, Part 1 (continued)

5. Write a query that displays the employee's last names with the first letter capitalized and all other letters lowercase and the length of the names, for all employees whose name starts with *J*, *A*, or *M*. Give each column an appropriate label. Sort the results by the employees' last names.

Name	Length
Abel	4
Matos	5
Mourgos	7

Practice 3, Part 2

- For each employee, display the employee's last name, and calculate the number of months between today and the date the employee was hired. Label the column MONTHS_WORKED. Order your results by the number of months employed. Round the number of months up to the closest whole number.

Note: Your results will differ.

LAST_NAME	MONTHS_WORKED
Zlotkey	13
Mourgos	16
Grant	22
Lorentz	25
Vargas	32
Taylor	36
Matos	36
Fay	43
Davies	49
Abel	58
Hartstein	61
Rajs	65
Higgins	81
Gietz	81
LAST_NAME	MONTHS_WORKED
De Haan	98
Ernst	118
Hunold	134
Kochhar	138
Whalen	162
King	165

20 rows selected.

Practice 3, Part 2 (continued)

7. Write a query that produces the following for each employee:
 <employee last name> earns <salary> monthly but wants <3 times salary>. Label the column Dream Salaries.

Dream Salaries
King earns \$24,000.00 monthly but wants \$72,000.00.
Kochhar earns \$17,000.00 monthly but wants \$51,000.00.
De Haan earns \$17,000.00 monthly but wants \$51,000.00.
Hunold earns \$9,000.00 monthly but wants \$27,000.00.
Ernst earns \$6,000.00 monthly but wants \$18,000.00.
Lorentz earns \$4,200.00 monthly but wants \$12,600.00.
Mourgos earns \$5,800.00 monthly but wants \$17,400.00.
Rajs earns \$3,500.00 monthly but wants \$10,500.00.
Davies earns \$3,100.00 monthly but wants \$9,300.00.

Gietz earns \$8,300.00 monthly but wants \$24,900.00.

20 rows selected.

If you have time, complete the following exercises:

8. Create a query to display the last name and salary for all employees. Format the salary to be 15

LAST_NAME	SALARY
King	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$24000
Kochhar	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$17000
De Haan	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$17000
Hunold	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$9000
Ernst	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$6000
Lorentz	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$4200
Mourgos	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$5800
Rajs	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$3500
Davies	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$3100
Matos	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$2600
Vargas	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$2500
Zlotkey	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$10500
Abel	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$11000
Taylor	\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$8600

Gietz \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$8300

20 rows selected.

Practice 3, Part 2 (continued)

9. Display each employee's last name, hire date, and salary review date, which is the first Monday after six months of service. Label the column REVIEW. Format the dates to appear similar to "Monday, the Thirty-First of July, 2000."

LAST_NAME	HIRE_DATE	REVIEW
King	17-JUN-87	Monday, the Twenty-First of December, 1987
Kochhar	21-SEP-89	Monday, the Twenty-Sixth of March, 1990
De Haan	13-JAN-93	Monday, the Nineteenth of July, 1993
Hunold	03-JAN-90	Monday, the Ninth of July, 1990
Ernst	21-MAY-91	Monday, the Twenty-Fifth of November, 1991
Lorentz	07-FEB-99	Monday, the Ninth of August, 1999
Mourgos	16-NOV-99	Monday, the Twenty-Second of May, 2000

Gietz	07-JUN-94	Monday, the Twelfth of December, 1994
-------	-----------	---------------------------------------

20 rows selected.

10. Display the last name, hire date, and day of the week on which the employee started. Label the column DAY. Order the results by the day of the week starting with Monday.

LAST_NAME	HIRE_DATE	DAY
Grant	24-MAY-99	MONDAY
Ernst	21-MAY-91	TUESDAY
Mourgos	16-NOV-99	TUESDAY
Taylor	24-MAR-98	TUESDAY
Rajs	17-OCT-95	TUESDAY
Gietz	07-JUN-94	TUESDAY
Higgins	07-JUN-94	TUESDAY
King	17-JUN-87	WEDNESDAY
De Haan	13-JAN-93	WEDNESDAY
Davies	29-JAN-97	WEDNESDAY
Hunold	03-JAN-90	WEDNESDAY
Kochhar	21-SEP-89	THURSDAY
Whalen	17-SEP-87	THURSDAY
Vargas	09-JUL-98	THURSDAY

Matos	15-MAR-98	SUNDAY
-------	-----------	--------

20 rows selected.

Practice 3, Part 2 (continued)

If you want an extra challenge, complete the following exercises:

11. Create a query that displays the employees' last names and commission amounts. If an employee does not earn commission, put "No Commission." Label the column COMM.

LAST_NAME	COMM
King	No Commission
Kochhar	No Commission
De Haan	No Commission
Hunold	No Commission
Ernst	No Commission
Lorentz	No Commission
Mourgos	No Commission
Rajs	No Commission
Davies	No Commission
Matos	No Commission
Vargas	No Commission
Zlotkey	.2
Abel	.3
Taylor	.2
Gietz	No Commission

20 rows selected.

12. Create a query that displays the employees' last names and indicates the amounts of their annual salaries with asterisks. Each asterisk signifies a thousand dollars. Sort the data in descending order of salary. Label the column EMPLOYEES_AND_THEIR_SALARIES.

EMPLOYEE_AND_THEIR_SALARIES
King *****
Kochhar *****
De Haan *****
Hartstei *****
Higgins *****
Abel *****
Zlotkey *****
Hunold *****
Taylor *****
Gietz *****
Vargas **

20 rows selected.

Practice 3, Part 2 (continued)

13. Using the DECODE function, write a query that displays the grade of all employees based on the value of the column JOB_ID, as per the following data:

Job	Grade
AD_PRES	A
ST_MAN	B
IT_PROG	C
SA_REP	D
ST_CLERK	E
None of the above	0

JOB_ID	G
AD_PRES	A
AD_VP	D
AD_VP	D
IT_PROG	C
IT_PROG	C
IT_PROG	C
ST_MAN	B
ST_CLERK	E

AC_ACCOUNT	D
------------	---

20 rows selected.

14. Rewrite the statement in the preceding question using the CASE syntax.

4

Displaying Data from Multiple Tables

ORACLE

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Objectives

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

- Write **SELECT** statements to access data from more than one table using equality and nonequality joins
- View data that generally does not meet a join condition by using outer joins
- Join a table to itself by using a self join

ORACLE

4-2

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Lesson Aim

This lesson covers obtaining data from more than one table.

Obtaining Data from Multiple Tables

EMPLOYEES

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID
100	King	90
101	Kochhar	90
205	Higgins	110
206	Gietz	110

20 rows selected.

DEPARTMENTS

DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME	LOCATION_ID
10	Administration	1700
20	Marketing	1800
50	Shipping	1500
190	Contracting	1700

8 rows selected.

EMPLOYEE_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME
200	10	Administration
201	20	Marketing
202	20	Marketing
124	50	Shipping
141	50	Shipping
205	110	Accounting
206	110	Accounting

19 rows selected.

ORACLE

4-3

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Obtaining Data from Multiple Tables

Sometimes you need to use data from more than one table. In the example, the report displays data from two separate tables.

- Employee IDs exist in the EMPLOYEES table.
- Department IDs exist in both the EMPLOYEES and DEPARTMENTS tables.
- Location IDs exist in the DEPARTMENTS table.

To produce the report, you need to link the EMPLOYEES and DEPARTMENTS tables and access data from both of them.

Cartesian Products

- **A Cartesian product is formed when:**
 - A join condition is omitted
 - A join condition is invalid
 - All rows in the first table are joined to all rows in the second table
- **To avoid a Cartesian product, always include a valid join condition in a `WHERE` clause.**

ORACLE

4-4

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Cartesian Products

When a join condition is invalid or omitted completely, the result is a *Cartesian product*, in which all combinations of rows are displayed. All rows in the first table are joined to all rows in the second table.

A Cartesian product tends to generate a large number of rows, and its result is rarely useful. You should always include a valid join condition in a `WHERE` clause, unless you have a specific need to combine all rows from all tables.

Cartesian products are useful for some tests when you need to generate a large number of rows to simulate a reasonable amount of data.

Generating a Cartesian Product

EMPLOYEES (20 rows)

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID
100	King	90
101	Kochhar	90
...
205	Higgins	110
206	Gietz	110

20 rows selected.

DEPARTMENTS (8 rows)

DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME	LOCATION_ID
10	Administration	1700
20	Marketing	1800
50	Shipping	1500
...
190	Contracting	1700

8 rows selected.

Cartesian product: →
20x8=160 rows

EMPLOYEE_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME
200	10	Administration
201	20	Marketing
202	20	Marketing
124	50	Shipping
141	50	Shipping
...
206	110	Contracting

160 rows selected.

ORACLE

Generating Cartesian Products

A Cartesian product is generated if a join condition is omitted. The example in the slide displays employee last name and department name from the EMPLOYEES and DEPARTMENTS tables. Because no WHERE clause has been specified, all rows (20 rows) from the EMPLOYEES table are joined with all rows (8 rows) in the DEPARTMENTS table, thereby generating 160 rows in the output.

```
SELECT last_name, department_name dept_name
FROM employees, departments;
```

LAST_NAME	DEPT_NAME
King	Administration
Kochhar	Administration
De Haan	Administration
...	...
Gietz	Contracting

160 rows selected.

Types of Joins

Oracle Proprietary Joins (8i and prior):

- Equijoin
- Nonequijoin
- Outer join
- Self join

SQL: 1999 Compliant Joins:

- Cross joins
- Natural joins
- Using clause
- Full or two sided outer joins
- Arbitrary join conditions for outer joins

ORACLE

Types of Joins

The Oracle9i database offers join syntax that is SQL: 1999 Compliant. Prior to release 9i, the join syntax was different from the ANSI standards. The new SQL: 1999 Compliant join syntax does not offer any performance benefits over the Oracle proprietary join syntax that existed in prior releases.

Joining Tables Using Oracle Syntax

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.

ORACLE

4-7

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Defining Joins

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 existing in corresponding columns, that is, 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:

table1.column denotes the table and column from which data is retrieved

table1.column1 = table2.column2 is the condition that joins (or relates) the tables together

table2.column2

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.

For more information, see *Oracle9i SQL Reference*, “**SELECT**.”

Retrieving Records with Equijoins

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

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID	LOCATION_ID
200	Whalen	10	10	1700
201	Hartstein	20	20	1800
202	Fay	20	20	1800
124	Mourgos	50	50	1500
141	Rajs	50	50	1500
142	Davies	50	50	1500
143	Matys	50	50	1500
205	Higgins	110	110	1700
206	Gietz	110	110	1700

19 rows selected.

ORACLE

4-9

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Retrieving Records with Equijoins

In the slide:

- The **SELECT** clause specifies the column names to retrieve:
 - Employee last name, employee number, and department number, which are columns in the **EMPLOYEES** table
 - Department number, department name, 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:

```
EMPLOYEES.DEPARTMENT_ID = DEPARTMENTS.DEPARTMENT_ID
```

Because the **DEPARTMENT_ID** column is common to both tables, it must be prefixed by the table name to avoid ambiguity.

Qualifying Ambiguous Column Names

- **Use table prefixes to qualify column names that are in multiple tables.**
- **Improve performance by using table prefixes.**
- **Distinguish columns that have identical names but reside in different tables by using column aliases.**

ORACLE

4-11

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Qualifying Ambiguous Column Names

You need to qualify the names of the columns in the `WHERE` clause with the table name to avoid ambiguity. Without the table prefixes, the `DEPARTMENT_ID` column could be from either the `DEPARTMENTS` table or the `EMPLOYEES` table. 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 the table prefix improves performance, because you tell the Oracle Server exactly where to find the columns.

The requirement to qualify ambiguous column names is also applicable to columns that may be ambiguous in other clauses, such as the `SELECT` clause or the `ORDER BY` clause.

Using Table Aliases

- Simplify queries by using table aliases
- Improve performance by using table prefixes

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

ORACLE

4-12

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Table Aliases

Qualifying column names with table names can be very time consuming, particularly if table names are lengthy. 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, therefore using less memory.

Notice how table aliases are identified in the FROM clause in the example. The table name is specified in full, followed by a space and then the table alias. The EMPLOYEES table has been given an alias of e, and the DEPARTMENTS table has an alias of d.

Guidelines

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

Joining More than Two Tables

EMPLOYEES

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID
King	90
Kochhar	90
De Haan	90
Hunold	60
Ernst	60
Lorentz	60
Grant	
Whalen	10
Hartstein	20
Fay	20
Higgins	110
Gietz	110

20 rows selected.

DEPARTMENTS

DEPARTMENT_ID	LOCATION_ID
10	1700
20	1800
50	1500
60	1400
60	2500
90	1700
110	1700
190	1700

8 rows selected

LOCATIONS

LOCATION_ID	CITY
1400	Southlake
1500	South San Francisco
1700	Seattle
1800	Toronto
2500	Oxford

To join n tables together, you need a minimum of $n-1$ join conditions. For example, to join three tables, a minimum of two joins is required.

ORACLE

4-13

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Additional Search Conditions

Sometimes you may need to join more than two tables. For example, to display the last name, the department name, and the city for each employee, you have to join the EMPLOYEES, DEPARTMENTS, and LOCATIONS tables.

```
SELECT e.last_name, d.department_name, l.city
FROM   employees e, departments d, locations l
WHERE  e.department_id = d.department_id
AND    d.location_id = l.location_id;
```

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_NAME	CITY
Hunold	IT	Southlake
Ernst	IT	Southlake
Lorentz	IT	Southlake
Mourgos	Shipping	South San Francisco
Rais	Shipping	South San Francisco

Taylor	Sales	Oxford
--------	-------	--------

19 rows selected.

Nonequijoins

EMPLOYEES

LAST_NAME	SALARY
King	24000
Kochhar	17000
De Haan	17000
Hunold	9000
Ernst	6000
Lorentz	4200
Mourgos	5800
Rajs	3500
Davies	3100
Matos	2600
Vargas	2500
...	...
Ray	11000
Higgins	12000
Gietz	8300

20 rows selected.

JOB_GRADES

GRA	LOWEST_SAL	HIGHEST_SAL
A	1000	2999
B	3000	5999
C	6000	9999
D	10000	14999
E	15000	24999
F	25000	40000

6 rows selected.

← **Salary in the EMPLOYEES table must be between lowest salary and highest salary in the JOB_GRADES table.**

ORACLE

Nonequijoins

A nonequijoin is a join condition containing something other than an equality operator.

The relationship between the EMPLOYEES table and the JOB_GRADES table has an example of a nonequijoin. A relationship between the two tables is that the SALARY column in the EMPLOYEES table must be between the values in the LOWEST_SALARY and HIGHEST_SALARY columns of the JOB_GRADES table. The relationship is obtained using an operator other than equals (=).

Retrieving Records with Nonequijoins

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

LAST_NAME	SALARY	GRA
Matos	2800	A
Vargas	2500	A
Lorentz	4200	B
Mourgos	5800	B
Rajs	3500	B
Dawies	3100	B
Kochhar	17000	E
De Haan	17000	E

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

4-15

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Retrieving Records with Nonequijoins

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 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 `BETWEEN`.

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

Outer Joins

DEPARTMENTS

DEPARTMENT_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID
Administration	10
Marketing	20
Shipping	50
IT	60
Sales	80
Executive	90
Accounting	110
Contracting	190

8 rows selected.

EMPLOYEES

DEPARTMENT_ID	LAST_NAME
90	King
90	Kochhar
90	De Haan
60	Hunold
60	Ernst
10	Whalen
20	Hartstein
20	Fay
110	Higgins
110	Gietz

20 rows selected.



There are no employees in department 190.

ORACLE

Returning Records with No Direct Match with Outer Joins

If a row does not satisfy a join condition, the row will not appear in the query result. For example, in the equijoin condition of EMPLOYEES and DEPARTMENTS tables, employee Grant does not appear because there is no department ID recorded for her in the EMPLOYEES table. Instead of seeing 20 employees in the result set, you see 19 records.

```
SELECT e.last_name, e.department_id, d.department_name
FROM employees e, departments d
WHERE e.department_id = d.department_id;
```

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME
Whalen	10	Administration
Hartstein	20	Marketing
Fay	20	Marketing
Mourgos	50	Shipping
Higgins	110	Accounting
Gietz	110	Accounting

19 rows selected.

Outer Joins Syntax

- You use an outer join to also see rows that do not meet the join condition.
- The outer join operator is the plus sign (+).

```
SELECT table1.column, table2.column
FROM   table1, table2
WHERE  table1.column(+) = table2.column;
```

```
SELECT table1.column, table2.column
FROM   table1, table2
WHERE  table1.column = table2.column(+);
```

ORACLE

Using Outer Joins to Return Records with No Direct Match

The missing rows can be returned if an outer join operator is used in the join condition. The operator is a plus sign enclosed in parentheses (+), and it is placed on the side of the join that is deficient in information. This operator has the effect of creating one or more null rows, to which one or more rows from the nondeficient table can be joined.

In the syntax:

table1.column = is the condition that joins (or relates) the tables together.
table2.column (+) is the outer join symbol, which can be placed on either side of the WHERE clause condition, but not on both sides. (Place the outer join symbol following the name of the column in the table without the matching rows.)

Using Outer Joins

```
SELECT e.last_name, e.department_id, d.department_name
FROM employees e, departments d
WHERE e.department_id(+) = d.department_id;
```

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME
Whalen	10	Administration
Hartstein	20	Marketing
Fay	20	Marketing
Mourgos	50	Shipping
Rajs	50	Shipping
Trigg	110	Accounting
Gietz	110	Accounting
		Contracting

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

4-18

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using Outer Joins

The slide example displays employee last names, department ID's and department names. The Contracting department does not have any employees. The empty value is shown in the output shown.

Outer Join Restrictions

- The outer join operator can appear on only *one* side of the expression: the side that has information missing. It returns those rows from one table that have no direct match in the other table.
- A condition involving an outer join cannot use the *IN* operator or be linked to another condition by the *OR* operator.

Self Joins

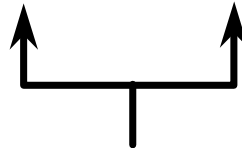
EMPLOYEES (WORKER)

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	MANAGER_ID
101	Kochhar	100
102	De Haan	100
124	Mourgos	100
149	Zlotkey	100
201	Hartstein	100
200	Whalen	101
206	Baerz	205

EMPLOYEES (MANAGER)

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME
100	King
100	King
100	King
100	King
100	King
100	King
101	Kochhar
205	Higgins

19 rows selected.



**MANAGER_ID in the WORKER table is equal to
EMPLOYEE_ID in the MANAGER table.**

ORACLE

Joining a Table to Itself

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. For example, to find the name of Whalen's manager, you need to:

- Find Whalen in the EMPLOYEES table by looking at the LAST_NAME column.
- Find the manager number for Whalen by looking at the MANAGER_ID column. Whalen's manager number is 101.
- Find the name of the manager with EMPLOYEE_ID 101 by looking at the LAST_NAME column. Kochhar's employee number is 101, so Kochhar is Whalen's manager.

In this process, you look in the table twice. The first time you look in the table to find Whalen in the LAST_NAME column and MANAGER_ID value of 101. The second time you look in the EMPLOYEE_ID column to find 101 and the LAST_NAME column to find Kochhar.

Joining a Table to Itself

```
SELECT worker.last_name || ' works for '
       || manager.last_name
FROM   employees worker, employees manager
WHERE  worker.manager_id = manager.employee_id;
```

W.LAST_NAME 'WORKSFOR' M.LAST_NAME
Kochhar works for King
De Haan works for King
Mourgos works for King
Zlotkey works for King
Hartstein works for King
Whalen works for Kochhar
Higgins works for Kochhar
Unold works for De Haan
...
Ray works for Hartstein
Gietz works for Higgins

19 rows selected.

ORACLE

Joining a Table to Itself (continued)

The example in the slide joins the EMPLOYEES table to itself. To simulate two tables in the FROM clause, there are two aliases, namely w and m, for the same table, EMPLOYEES.

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

Practice 4, Part 1 Overview

This practice covers writing queries to join tables together using Oracle syntax.

ORACLE

4-21

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Practice 4, Part 1

This practice is designed to give you a variety of exercises that join tables together. You can use the Oracle syntax shown thus far in the lesson.

Complete questions 1 through 4 at the end of this lesson.

Joining Tables Using SQL: 1999 Syntax

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

```
SELECT  table1.column, table2.column
FROM    table1
[CROSS JOIN table2] |
[NATURAL JOIN table2] |
[JOIN table2 USING (column_name)] |
[JOIN table2
  ON(table1.column_name = table2.column_name)] |
[LEFT|RIGHT|FULL OUTER JOIN table2
  ON (table1.column_name = table2.column_name)];
```

ORACLE

4-22

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Defining Joins

Using the SQL: 1999 syntax, you can obtain the same results as what was shown in the prior pages.

In the syntax:

<i>table1.column</i>	Denotes the table and column from which data is retrieved
CROSS JOIN	Returns a Cartesian product from the two tables
NATURAL JOIN	Joins two tables based on the same column name
JOIN <i>table</i>	
USING <i>column_name</i>	Performs an equijoin based on the column name
JOIN <i>table</i> ON	
<i>table1.column_name</i>	Performs an equijoin based on the condition in the ON clause
= <i>table2.column_name</i>	
LEFT/RIGHT/FULL OUTER	

For more information, see *Oracle9i SQL Reference*, “SELECT.”

Creating Cross Joins

- The **CROSS JOIN** clause produces the cross-product of two tables.
- This is the same as a Cartesian product between the two tables.

```
SELECT last_name, department_name
FROM employees
CROSS JOIN departments;
```

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_NAME
Versteeg	Contracting
Fay	Contracting
Higgins	Contracting
Gietz	Contracting

160 rows selected.

ORACLE

4-23

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Creating Cross Joins

The example in the slide gives the same results as the following:

```
SELECT last_name, department_name
FROM employees, departments;
```

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_NAME
King	Administration
Kochhar	Administration
De Haan	Administration
Higgins	Contracting
Gietz	Contracting

160 rows selected.

Creating Natural Joins

- The `NATURAL JOIN` clause is based on all columns in the two tables that have the same name.
- It selects rows from the two tables that have equal values in all matched columns.
- If the columns having the same names have different data types, then an error is returned.

ORACLE

Creating Natural Joins

It was not possible to do a join without explicitly specifying the columns in the corresponding tables in prior releases of the Oracle Server. In Oracle9i, it is possible to let the join be completed automatically based on columns in the two tables which have matching data types and names, using the keywords `NATURAL JOIN` keywords.

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

Retrieving Records with Natural Joins

```
SELECT department_id, department_name,  
       location_id, city  
FROM   departments  
NATURAL JOIN locations;
```

DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME	LOCATION_ID	CITY
60	IT	1400	Southlake
50	Shipping	1500	South San Francisco
10	Administration	1700	Seattle
90	Executive	1700	Seattle
110	Accounting	1700	Seattle
190	Contracting	1700	Seattle
20	Marketing	1800	Toronto
80	Sales	2500	Oxford

8 rows selected.

ORACLE

4-25

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Retrieving Records with Natural Joins

In the example in the slide, the LOCATIONS table is joined to the DEPARTMENT table by the LOCATION_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

The natural join can also be written as an equijoin:

```
SELECT department_id, department_name,  
       departments.location_id, city  
FROM   departments, locations  
WHERE  departments.location_id = locations.location_id;
```

Natural Joins with a WHERE Clause

Additional restrictions on a natural join are implemented by using a WHERE clause. The example below limits the rows of output to those with a department ID equal to 20 or 50.

```
SELECT  department_id, department_name,  
        location_id, city  
FROM    departments  
NATURAL JOIN locations  
WHERE   department_id IN (20, 50);
```

Creating Joins with the USING Clause

- **If several columns have the same names but the data types do not match, the `NATURAL JOIN` clause can be modified with the `USING` clause to specify the columns that should be used for an equijoin.**
Note: Use the `USING` clause to match only one column when more than one column matches.
- **Do not use a table name or alias in the referenced columns.**
- **The `NATURAL JOIN` and `USING` clauses are mutually exclusive.**

ORACLE

4-26

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The USING Clause

Natural joins use all columns with matching names and data types to join the tables. The `USING` clause can be used to specify only those columns that should be used for an equijoin. The columns referenced in the `USING` clause should not have a qualifier (table name or alias) anywhere in the SQL statement.

For example, this statement is valid:

```
SELECT l.city, d.department_name
FROM   locations l JOIN departments d USING (location_id)
WHERE  location_id = 1400;
```

This statement is invalid because the `LOCATION_ID` is qualified in the where clause:

```
SELECT l.city, d.department_name
FROM   locations l JOIN departments d USING (location_id)
WHERE  d.location_id = 1400;
ORA-25154: column part of USING clause cannot have qualifier
```

The same restriction applies to `NATURAL` joins also. Therefore columns that have the same name in both tables have to be used without any qualifiers.

Retrieving Records with the USING Clause

```
SELECT e.employee_id, e.last_name, d.location_id
FROM employees e JOIN departments d
USING (department_id);
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	LOCATION_ID
200	Whalen	1700
201	Hartstein	1800
202	Fay	1800
124	Mourgos	1500
141	Rajs	1500
142	Davies	1500
205	Higgins	1700
206	Gietz	1700

19 rows selected.

ORACLE

Retrieving Records with the USING Clause

The example shown joins the DEPARTMENT_ID column in the EMPLOYEES and DEPARTMENTS tables, and thus shows the location where an employee works.

This can also be written as an equijoin:

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

Creating Joins with the ON Clause

- The join condition for the natural join is basically an equijoin of all columns with the same name.
- To specify arbitrary conditions or specify columns to join, the ON clause is used.
- Separates the join condition from other search conditions.
- The ON clause makes code easy to understand.

ORACLE

4-28

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The ON Condition

Use the ON clause to specify a join condition. Doing so lets you specify join conditions separate from any search or filter conditions in the WHERE clause.

Retrieving Records with the ON Clause

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

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID	LOCATION_ID
200	Whalen	10	10	1700
201	Hartstein	20	20	1800
202	Fay	20	20	1800
124	Mourgos	50	50	1500
141	Rajs	50	50	1500
142	Davies	50	50	1500
205	Higgins	110	110	1700
206	Gietz	110	110	1700

19 rows selected.

ORACLE

4-29

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Creating Joins with the ON Clause

The ON clause can also be used as follows to join columns that have different names:

```
SELECT e.last_name emp, m.last_name mgr  
FROM   employees e JOIN employees m  
ON     (e.manager_id = m.employee_id);
```

EMP	MGR
Kochhar	King
De Haan	King
Mourgos	King
Gietz	Higgins

19 rows selected.

The preceding example is a self join of the EMPLOYEE table to itself, based on the EMPLOYEE_ID and MANAGER_ID columns.

Creating Three-Way Joins with the ON Clause

```
SELECT employee_id, city, department_name
FROM   employees e
JOIN   departments d
ON     d.department_id = e.department_id
JOIN   locations l
ON     d.location_id = l.location_id;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	CITY	DEPARTMENT_NAME
100	Seattle	Executive
101	Seattle	Executive
102	Seattle	Executive
103	Southlake	IT
104	Southlake	IT
107	Southlake	IT
121	South San Francisco	Marketing
206	Seattle	Marketing

19 rows selected.

ORACLE

4-30

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Three-Way Joins

A three-way join is a join of three tables. In SQL: 1999 compliant syntax, joins are performed from left to right, so the first join to be performed is EMPLOYEES JOIN DEPARTMENTS. The first join condition can reference columns in EMPLOYEES and DEPARTMENTS but cannot reference columns in LOCATIONS. The second join condition can reference columns from all three tables.

This can also be written as a three-way equijoin:

```
SELECT employee_id, city, department_name
FROM   employees, departments, locations
WHERE  employees.department_id = departments.department_id
AND    departments.location_id = locations.location_id;
```

INNER versus OUTER Joins

- In SQL: 1999, the join of two tables returning only matched rows is an inner join.
- A join between two tables that returns the results of the inner join as well as unmatched rows left (or right) tables is a left (or right) outer join.
- A join between two tables that returns the results of an inner join as well as the results of a left and right join is a full outer join.

ORACLE

4-31

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Joins: Comparing SQL: 1999 to Oracle Syntax

Oracle	SQL: 1999
Equijoin	Natural or Inner Join
Outerjoin	Left Outer Join
Selfjoin	Join ON
Nonequijoin	Join USING
Cartesian Product	Cross Join

LEFT OUTER JOIN

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

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME
King	90	Executive
Kochhar	90	Executive
Ernst	60	IT
Grant		
Whalen	10	Administration
Hartstein	20	Marketing
Fay	20	Marketing
Higgins	110	Accounting
Gietz	110	Accounting

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

4-32

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Example of LEFT OUTER JOIN

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

This query was completed in earlier releases as follows:

```
SELECT e.last_name, e.department_id, d.department_name
FROM employees e, departments d
WHERE d.department_id (+) = e.department_id;
```

RIGHT OUTER JOIN

```
SELECT e.last_name, e.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
Whalen	10	Administration
Hartstein	20	Marketing
Fay	20	Marketing
Mourgos	50	Shipping
Rajs	50	Shipping
Davies	50	Shipping
Matos	50	Shipping
Gietz	110	Accounting
		Contracting

20 rows selected.

ORACLE

4-33

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Example of RIGHT OUTER JOIN

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

This query was completed in earlier releases as follows:

```
SELECT e.last_name, e.department_id, d.department_name
FROM employees e, departments d
WHERE d.department_id = e.department_id (+);
```

FULL OUTER JOIN

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

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME
Abel	60	Sales
Davies	50	Shipping
De Haan	90	Executives
Ernst	60	IT
Fay	20	Marketing
Gietz	110	Accounting
Grant		
Hartstein	20	Marketing
Zlotkey	80	Sales
		Contracting

21 rows selected.

ORACLE

Example of FULL OUTER JOIN

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

Additional Conditions

```
SELECT e.employee_id, e.last_name, e.department_id,  
       d.department_id, d.location_id  
FROM   employees e JOIN departments d  
ON     (e.department_id = d.department_id)  
AND    e.manager_id = 149;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID	LOCATION_ID
174	Abel	80	80	2500
176	Taylor	80	80	2500

ORACLE

Applying Additional Conditions

You can apply additional conditions in the WHERE clause. The example shown performs a join on the EMPLOYEES and DEPARTMENTS tables, and, in addition, displays only employees with a manager ID equal to 149.

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to use joins to display data from multiple tables in:

- **Oracle proprietary syntax for versions 8*i* and earlier**
- **SQL: 1999 compliant syntax for version 9*i***

ORACLE

4-36

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Summary

There are multiple ways to join tables.

Types of Joins

- Equijoins
- Nonequijoins
- Outer joins
- Self joins
- Cross joins
- Natural joins
- Full or outer joins

Cartesian Products

A Cartesian product results in all combinations of rows displayed. This is done by either omitting the WHERE clause or specifying the CROSS JOIN clause.

Table Aliases

- Table aliases speed up database access.
- Table aliases can help to keep SQL code smaller, by conserving memory.

Practice 4, Part 2 Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

- **Joining tables using an equijoin**
- **Performing outer and self joins**
- **Adding conditions**

ORACLE

4-37

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Practice 4, Part 2 Overview

This practice is intended to give you practical experience in extracting data from more than one table. Try using both the Oracle proprietary syntax and the SQL: 1999 compliant syntax.

In Part 2, questions 5 through 8, try writing the join statements using ANSI syntax.

In Part 2, questions 9 through 11, try writing the join statements using both the Oracle syntax and the ANSI syntax.

Practice 4, Part 1

- Write a query to display the last name, department number, and department name for all employees.

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME
Whalen	10	Administration
Hartstein	20	Marketing
Fay	20	Marketing
Mourgos	50	Shipping
Rajs	50	Shipping
Davies	50	Shipping
Matos	50	Shipping
Vargas	50	Shipping
Abel	30	Sales
Turner	30	Sales
King	30	Sales
De Haan	90	Executive
Cooper	110	Accounting
Figgins	110	Accounting
Gietz	110	Accounting

19 rows selected.

- Create a unique listing of all jobs that are in department 30. Include the location of department 90 in the output.

JOB_ID	LOCATION_ID
SA_MAN	2500
SA_REP	2500

- Write a query to display the employee last name, department name, location ID, and city of all employees who earn a commission.

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_NAME	LOCATION_ID	CITY
Zlotkey	Sales	2500	Oxford
Abel	Sales	2500	Oxford
Taylor	Sales	2500	Oxford

Practice 4, Part 1 (continued)

4. Display the employee last name and department name for all employees who have an *a* (lowercase) in their last names. Place your SQL statement in a text file named `lab4_4.sql`.

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_NAME
Whalen	Administration
Hartstein	Marketing
Fay	Marketing
Rajs	Shipping
Davies	Shipping
Matos	Shipping
Vargas	Shipping
Taylor	Sales
Kochhar	Executive
De Haan	Executive

10 rows selected.

Practice 4, Part 2

5. Write a query to display the last name, job, department number, and department name for all employees who work in Toronto.

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME
Hartstein	MK_MAN	20	Marketing
Fay	MK_REP	20	Marketing

6. Display the employee last name and employee number along with their manager's last name and manager number. Label the columns Employee, Emp#, Manager, and Mgr#, respectively. Place your SQL statement in a text file named lab4_6.sql.

Employee	EMP#	Manager	Mgr#
Kochhar	101	King	100
De Haan	102	King	100
Mourgos	124	King	100
Zlotkey	149	King	100

Abel	174	Zlotkey	149
Taylor	176	Zlotkey	149
Grant	178	Zlotkey	149
Fay	202	Hartstein	201
Gietz	206	Higgins	205

19 rows selected.

Practice 4, Part 2 (continued)

- Modify lab4_6.sql to display all employees including King, who has no manager. Order the results by the employee number.

Place your SQL statement in a text file named lab4_7.sql. Run the query in lab4_7.sql.

Employee	EMP#	Manager	Mgr#
King	100		
Kochhar	101	King	100
De Haan	102	King	100
Hunold	103	De Haan	102
Ernst	104	Hunold	103
Lorentz	107	Hunold	103
Mourgos	124	King	100
Higgins	205	Kochhar	101
Gietz	206	Higgins	205

20 rows selected.

If you have time, complete the following exercises:

- Create a query that displays employee last names, department numbers, and all the employees who work in the same department as a given employee. Give each column an appropriate label.

DEPARTMENT	EMPLOYEE	COLLEAGUE
20	Fay	Hartstein
20	Hartstein	Fay
50	Davies	Matos
50	Davies	Mourgos
50	Davies	Rajs
50	Davies	Vargas
50	Matos	Davies
50	Matos	Mourgos
50	Matos	Rajs
50	Matos	Vargas
110	Gietz	Higgins
110	Higgins	Gietz

42 rows selected.

Practice 4, Part 2 (continued)

9. Show the structure of the `JOB_GRADES` table. Create a query that displays the name, job, department name, salary, and grade for all employees.

Name	Null?	Type
GRADE_LEVEL		VARCHAR2(3)
LOWEST_SAL		NUMBER
HIGHEST_SAL		NUMBER

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME	SALARY	GRA
Matos	ST_CLERK	Shipping	2600	A
Vargas	ST_CLERK	Shipping	2500	A
Lorentz	IT_PROG	IT	4200	B
Mourgos	ST_MAN	Shipping	5800	B
Rajs	ST_CLERK	Shipping	3500	B
Davies	ST_CLERK	Shipping	3100	B
Whalen	AD_ASST	Administration	4400	B

De Haan	AD_VP	Executive	17000	E
---------	-------	-----------	-------	---

19 rows selected.

If you want an extra challenge, complete the following exercises:

10. Create a query to display the name and hire date of any employee hired after employee Davies.

LAST_NAME	HIRE_DATE
Lorentz	07-FEB-99
Mourgos	16-NOV-99
Matos	15-MAR-98
Vargas	09-JUL-98
Zlotkey	29-JAN-00
Taylor	24-MAR-98
Grant	24-MAY-99
Fay	17-AUG-97

8 rows selected.

Practice 4, Part 2 (continued)

11. Display the names and hire dates for all employees who were hired before their managers, along with their manager's names and hire dates. Label the columns Employee, Emp Hired, Manager, and Mgr Hired, respectively.

Employee	Emp Hired	Manager	Mgr Hired
Whalen	17-SEP-87	Kochhar	21-SEP-89
Hunold	03-JAN-90	De Haan	13-JAN-93
Rajs	17-OCT-95	Mourgos	16-NOV-99
Davies	29-JAN-97	Mourgos	16-NOV-99
Matos	15-MAR-98	Mourgos	16-NOV-99
Vargas	09-JUL-98	Mourgos	16-NOV-99
Abel	11-MAY-96	Zlotkey	29-JAN-00
Taylor	24-MAR-98	Zlotkey	29-JAN-00
Grant	24-MAY-99	Zlotkey	29-JAN-00

9 rows selected.

5

Aggregating Data Using Group Functions

ORACLE

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Objectives

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

- **Identify the available group functions**
- **Describe the use of group functions**
- **Group data using the `GROUP BY` clause**
- **Include or exclude grouped rows by using the `HAVING` clause**

ORACLE

5-2

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Lesson Aim

This lesson further addresses functions. It focuses on obtaining summary information, such as averages, for groups of rows. It discusses how to group rows in a table into smaller sets and how to specify search criteria for groups of rows.

What Are Group Functions?

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

EMPLOYEES

DEPARTMENT_ID	SALARY
90	24000
90	17000
90	17000
60	9000
60	6000
60	4200
50	5800
50	3500
50	3100
50	2600
50	2500
2	3000
110	12000
110	8300

20 rows selected.

The maximum salary in the **EMPLOYEES** table.

MAX(SALARY)
24000

ORACLE

Group Functions

Unlike single-row functions, group functions operate on sets of rows to give one result per group. These sets may be the whole table or the table split into groups.

Types of Group Functions

- **AVG**
- **COUNT**
- **MAX**
- **MIN**
- **STDDEV**
- **SUM**
- **VARIANCE**

ORACLE

5-4

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Types of Group Functions

Each of the functions accepts an argument. The following table identifies the options that you can use in the syntax:

Function	Description
AVG ([DISTINCT <u>ALL</u>] <i>n</i>)	Average value of <i>n</i> , ignoring null values
COUNT ({ * [DISTINCT <u>ALL</u>] <i>expr</i> })	Number of rows, where <i>expr</i> evaluates to something other than null (count all selected rows using *, including duplicates and rows with nulls)
MAX ([DISTINCT <u>ALL</u>] <i>expr</i>)	Maximum value of <i>expr</i> , ignoring null values
MIN ([DISTINCT <u>ALL</u>] <i>expr</i>)	Minimum value of <i>expr</i> , ignoring null values
STDDEV ([DISTINCT <u>ALL</u>] <i>x</i>)	Standard deviation of <i>n</i> , ignoring null values
SUM ([DISTINCT <u>ALL</u>] <i>n</i>)	Sum values of <i>n</i> , ignoring null values
VARIANCE ([DISTINCT <u>ALL</u>] <i>x</i>)	Variance of <i>n</i> , ignoring null values

Group Functions Syntax

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

ORACLE

5-5

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Guidelines for Using Group Functions

- DISTINCT makes the function consider only nonduplicate values; ALL makes it consider every value including duplicates. The default is ALL and therefore does not need to be specified.
- The data types for the functions with an `expr` argument may be CHAR, VARCHAR2, NUMBER, or DATE.
- All group functions ignore null values. To substitute a value for null values, use the NVL, NVL2, or COALESCE functions.
- The Oracle Server implicitly sorts the result set in ascending order when using a GROUP BY clause. To override this default ordering, DESC can be used in an ORDER BY clause.

Using the AVG and SUM Functions

You can use AVG and SUM for numeric data.

```
SELECT AVG(salary), MAX(salary),  
       MIN(salary), SUM(salary)  
FROM   employees  
WHERE  job_id LIKE '%REP%';
```

AVG(SALARY)	MAX(SALARY)	MIN(SALARY)	SUM(SALARY)
8150	11000	6000	32600

ORACLE

Group Functions

You can use AVG, SUM, MIN, and MAX functions against columns that can store numeric data. The example in the slide displays the average, highest, lowest, and sum of monthly salaries for all sales representatives.

Using the MIN and MAX Functions

You can use MIN and MAX for any data type.

```
SELECT MIN(hire_date), MAX(hire_date)
FROM   employees;
```

MIN(HIRE_	MAX(HIRE_
17-JUN-87	29-JAN-00

ORACLE

5-7

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Min and Max Function

You can use the MIN and MAX functions for any data type. The slide example displays the most junior and most senior employee.

The following example displays the employee last name that is first and the employee last name that is the last in an alphabetized list of all employees.

```
SELECT MIN(last_name), MAX(last_name)
FROM   employees;
```

MIN(LAST_NAME)	MAX(LAST_NAME)
Abel	Zlotkey

Note: AVG, SUM, VARIANCE, and STDDEV functions can be used only with numeric data types.

Using the COUNT Function

COUNT(*) returns the number of rows in a table.

```
SELECT COUNT(*)  
FROM   employees  
WHERE  department_id = 50;
```

COUNT(*)
5

ORACLE

5-8

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The COUNT Function

The COUNT function has three formats:

- COUNT(*)
- COUNT(*expr*)
- COUNT(DISTINCT *expr*)

COUNT(*) returns the number of rows in a table that satisfy the criteria of the SELECT statement, including duplicate rows and rows containing null values in any of the columns. If a WHERE clause is included in the SELECT statement, COUNT(*) returns the number of rows that satisfies the condition in the WHERE clause.

In contrast, COUNT(*expr*) returns the number of nonnull values in the column identified by *expr*.

COUNT(DISTINCT *expr*) returns the number of unique, non-null values in the column identified by *expr*.

The example in the slide displays the number of employees in department 50.

Using the COUNT Function

- **COUNT(*expr*)** returns the number of rows with non-null values for the *expr*.
- **Display the number of department values in the EMPLOYEES table, excluding the null values.**

```
SELECT COUNT(commission_pct)
FROM employees
WHERE department_id = 80;
```

COUNT(COMMISSION_PCT)
3

ORACLE

5-9

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using the COUNT Function

The example in the slide displays the number of employees in department 80 who can earn a commission.

Example

Display the number of department values in the EMPLOYEES table.

```
SELECT COUNT(department_id)
FROM employees;
```

COUNT(DEPARTMENT_ID)
19

Using the DISTINCT Keyword

- `COUNT(DISTINCT expr)` returns the number of distinct nonnull values of the *expr*.
- Display the number of distinct department values in the `EMPLOYEES` table.

```
SELECT COUNT(DISTINCT department_id)
FROM   employees;
```

COUNT(DISTINCTDEPARTMENT_ID)
7

ORACLE

Using the DISTINCT Keyword

Use the `DISTINCT` keyword to suppress the counting of any duplicate values within a column.

The example in the slide displays the number of distinct department values in the `EMPLOYEES` table.

Group Functions and Null Values

Group functions ignore null values in the column.

```
SELECT AVG(commission_pct)
FROM employees;
```

AVG(COMMISSION_PCT)
.2125

ORACLE

Group Functions and Null Values

All group functions ignore null values in the column. In the example in the slide, the average is calculated based *only* on the rows in the table where a valid value is stored in the COMMISSION_PCT column. The average is calculated as the total commission paid to all employees divided by the number of employees receiving a commission.

Using the NVL Function with Group Functions

The NVL function forces group functions to include null values.

```
SELECT AVG(NVL(commission_pct, 0))  
FROM   employees;
```

AVG(NVL(COMMISSION_PCT,0))
.0425

ORACLE

Using the NVL Function with Group Functions

The NVL function forces group functions to include null values. In the example in the slide, the average is calculated based on *all* rows in the table, regardless of whether null values are stored in the COMMISSION_PCT column. The average is calculated as the total commission paid to all employees divided by the total number of employees in the company.

Creating Groups of Data

EMPLOYEES

DEPARTMENT_ID	SALARY
10	4400
20	13000
20	6000
50	5800
50	3500
50	3100
50	2500
50	2600
60	9000
60	6000
60	4200
80	10500

11	8300
	7000

20 rows selected.

4400
9500
3500
6400

The average salary in EMPLOYEES table for each department.

DEPARTMENT_ID	AVG(SALARY)
10	4400
20	9500
50	3500
60	6400
80	10500

8 rows selected.

ORACLE

Creating Groups of Data

Until now, all group functions have treated the table as one large group of information. At times, you need to divide the table of information into smaller groups. This can be done by using the GROUP BY clause.

Creating Groups of Data: GROUP BY Clause Syntax

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

Divide rows in a table into smaller groups by using the GROUP BY clause.

ORACLE

5-14

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The GROUP BY Clause

You can use the GROUP BY clause to divide the rows in a table into groups. You can then use the group functions to return summary information for each group.

In the syntax:

group_by_expression specifies columns whose values determine the basis for grouping rows

Guidelines

- If you include a group function in a SELECT clause, you cannot select individual results as well, *unless* the individual column appears in the GROUP BY clause. You receive an error message if you fail to include the column list in the GROUP BY clause.
- Using a WHERE clause, you can exclude rows before dividing them into groups.
- You must include the columns in the GROUP BY clause.
- You cannot use a column alias in the GROUP BY clause.
- By default, rows are sorted by ascending order of the columns included in the GROUP BY list. You can override this by using the ORDER BY clause.

Using the GROUP BY Clause

All columns in the SELECT list that are not in group functions must be in the GROUP BY clause.

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

DEPARTMENT_ID	AVG(SALARY)
10	4400
20	9500
50	3500
60	6400
80	10033.3333
90	19333.3333
110	10150
	7000

8 rows selected.

ORACLE

5-15

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using the GROUP BY Clause

When using the GROUP BY clause, make sure that all columns in the SELECT list that are not group functions are included in the GROUP BY clause. The example in the slide displays the department number and the average salary for each department. Here is how this SELECT statement, containing a GROUP BY clause, is evaluated:

- The SELECT clause specifies the columns to be retrieved:
 - The department number column in the EMPLOYEES table
 - The average of all the salaries in the group you specified in the GROUP BY clause
- The FROM clause specifies the tables that the database must access: the EMPLOYEES table.
- The WHERE clause specifies the rows to be retrieved. Because there is no WHERE clause, all rows are retrieved by default.
- The GROUP BY clause specifies how the rows should be grouped. The rows are being grouped by department number, so the AVG function that is being applied to the salary column will calculate the average salary for each department.

Using the GROUP BY Clause

The GROUP BY column does not have to be in the SELECT list.

```
SELECT  AVG(salary)
FROM    employees
GROUP BY department_id;
```

AVG(SALARY)
4400
9500
3500
6400
10033.3333
19333.3333
10150
7000

8 rows selected.

ORACLE

5-16

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using the GROUP BY Clause (continued)

The GROUP BY column does not have to be in the SELECT clause. For example, the SELECT statement on the slide displays the average salaries for each department without displaying the respective department numbers. Without the department numbers, however, the results do not look meaningful.

You can use the group function in the ORDER BY clause.

```
SELECT  department_id, AVG(salary)
FROM    employees
GROUP BY department_id
ORDER BY AVG(salary);
```

DEPARTMENT_ID	AVG(SALARY)
50	3500
10	4400
60	6400

8 rows selected.

Grouping by More Than One Column

EMPLOYEES

DEPARTMENT_ID	JOB_ID	SALARY
10	AD_ASST	4400
20	MK_MAN	13000
20	MK_REP	6000
50	ST_CLERK	3500
50	ST_CLERK	3100
50	ST_CLERK	2600
50	ST_CLERK	2500
50	ST_MAN	5800
60	IT_PROG	9000
60	IT_PROG	6000
60	IT_PROG	4200
80	SA_MAN	10500
80	SA_REP	11000
110	AC_MGR	12000
110	SA_REP	7000

20 rows selected.

Add up the salaries in the EMPLOYEES table for each job, grouped by department.

DEPARTMENT_ID	JOB_ID	SUM(SALARY)
10	AD_ASST	4400
20	MK_MAN	13000
20	MK_REP	6000
50	ST_CLERK	11700
50	ST_MAN	5800
60	IT_PROG	19200
80	SA_MAN	10500
80	SA_REP	19600
90	AD_PRES	24000
90	AD_VP	34000
110	AC_ACCOUNT	8300
110	AC_MGR	12000
	SA_REP	7000

13 rows selected.

ORACLE

Groups within Groups

Sometimes you need to see results for groups within groups. The slide shows a report that displays the total salary being paid to each job title, within each department.

The EMPLOYEES table is grouped first by department number and, within that grouping, by job title. For example, the four stock clerks in department 50 are grouped together and a single result (total salary) is produced for all stock clerks within the group.

Using the GROUP BY Clause on Multiple Columns

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

DEPT_ID	JOB_ID	SUM(SALARY)
10	AD_ASST	4400
20	MK_MAN	13000
20	MK_REP	6000
50	ST_CLERK	11700
50	ST_MAN	5800
60	IT_PROG	19200
80	SA_MAN	10500
80	SA_REP	19600
90	AD_PRES	24000

13 rows selected.

ORACLE

5-18

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using the Group By Clause on Multiple Columns

You can return summary results for groups and subgroups by listing more than one GROUP BY column. You can determine the default sort order of the results by the order of the columns in the GROUP BY clause. Here is how the SELECT statement on the slide, containing a GROUP BY clause, is evaluated:

- The SELECT clause specifies the column to be retrieved:
 - Department number in the EMPLOYEES table
 - Job ID in the EMPLOYEES table
 - The sum of all the salaries in the group that you specified in the GROUP BY clause
- The FROM clause specifies the tables that the database must access: the EMPLOYEES table
- The GROUP BY clause specifies how you must group the rows:
 - First, the rows are grouped by department number
 - Second, within the department number groups, the rows are grouped by job ID

So the SUM function is being applied to the salary column for all job IDs within each department number group.

Illegal Queries Using Group Functions

Any column or expression in the `SELECT` list that is not an aggregate function must be in the `GROUP BY` clause.

```
SELECT department_id, COUNT(last_name)
FROM employees;
```

Column missing in the GROUP BY clause

```
SELECT department_id, COUNT(last_name)
      *
ERROR at line 1:
ORA-00937: not a single-group group function
```

ORACLE

5-19

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Illegal Queries Using Group Functions

Whenever you use a mixture of individual items (`DEPARTMENT_ID`) and group functions (`COUNT`) in the same `SELECT` statement, you must include a `GROUP BY` clause that specifies the individual items (in this case, `DEPARTMENT_ID`). If the `GROUP BY` clause is missing, then the error message `not a single-group group function` appears and an asterisk (*) points to the offending column. You can correct the error on the slide by adding the `GROUP BY` clause.

```
SELECT department_id, count(last_name)
FROM employees
GROUP BY department_id;
```

DEPARTMENT_ID	COUNT(LAST_NAME)
10	1
20	2

8 rows selected.

Any column or expression in the `SELECT` list that is not an aggregate function must be in the `GROUP BY` clause.

Illegal Queries Using Group Functions

- You cannot use the `WHERE` clause to restrict groups.
- You use the `HAVING` clause to restrict groups.
- You cannot use group functions in the `WHERE` clause.

```
SELECT department_id, AVG(salary)
FROM   employees
WHERE  AVG(salary) > 8000
GROUP BY department_id;
```

```
WHERE  AVG(salary) > 8000
      *
ERROR at line 3:
ORA-00934: group function is not allowed here
```

Cannot use the WHERE clause
to restrict groups

ORACLE

5-20

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Illegal Queries Using Group Functions (continued)

The `WHERE` clause cannot be used to restrict groups. The `SELECT` statement in the slide results in an error because it uses the `WHERE` clause to restrict the display of average salaries of those departments that have an average salary greater than \$8,000.

You can correct the slide error by using the `HAVING` clause to restrict groups.

```
SELECT department_id, AVG(salary)
FROM   employees
HAVING AVG(salary) > 8000
GROUP BY department_id;
```

DEPARTMENT_ID	AVG(SALARY)
20	9500
80	10033.3333
90	19333.3333
110	10150

Excluding Group Results

EMPLOYEES

DEPARTMENT_ID	SALARY
10	4400
20	13000
20	6000
50	5800
50	3500
50	3100
50	2500
50	2600
60	9000
60	6000
60	4200
80	10500
80	8600

1.	8300
	7000

20 rows selected.

The maximum salary per department when it is greater than \$10,000.

DEPARTMENT_ID	MAX(SALARY)
20	13000
80	11000
90	24000
110	12000

ORACLE

5-21

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Restricting Group Results

In the same way that you use the WHERE clause to restrict the rows that you select, you use the HAVING clause to restrict groups. To find the maximum salary of each department, but show only the departments that have a maximum salary of more than \$10,000, you need to do the following:

1. Find the average salary for each department by grouping by department number.
2. Restrict the groups to those departments with a maximum salary greater than \$10,000.

Excluding Group Results: The HAVING Clause

Use the HAVING clause to restrict groups:

1. Rows are grouped.
2. The group function is applied.
3. Groups matching the HAVING clause are displayed.

```
SELECT      column, group_function
FROM        table
[WHERE      condition]
[GROUP BY   group_by_expression]
[HAVING     group_condition]
[ORDER BY   column];
```

ORACLE

5-22

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The HAVING Clause

You use the HAVING clause to specify which groups are to be displayed, and thus, you further restrict the groups on the basis of aggregate information.

In the syntax:

group_condition restricts the groups of rows returned to those groups for which the specified condition is true

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

1. Rows are grouped.
2. The group function is applied to the group.
3. The groups that match the criteria in the HAVING clause are displayed.

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

Using the HAVING Clause

```
SELECT  department_id, MAX(salary)
FROM    employees
GROUP BY department_id
HAVING  MAX(salary)>10000;
```

DEPARTMENT_ID	MAX(SALARY)
20	13000
80	11000
90	24000
110	12000

ORACLE

5-23

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using the HAVING Clause

The example in the slide displays department numbers and maximum salaries for those departments whose maximum salary is greater than \$10,000.

You can use the GROUP BY clause without using a group function in the SELECT list.

If you restrict rows based on the result of a group function, you must have a GROUP BY clause as well as the HAVING clause.

The following example displays the department numbers and average salaries for those departments whose maximum salary is greater than \$10,000:

```
SELECT  department_id, AVG(salary)
FROM    employees
GROUP BY department_id
HAVING  max(salary)>10000;
```

DEPARTMENT_ID	AVG(SALARY)
20	9500
80	10033.3333
90	19333.3333
110	10150

Using the HAVING Clause

```
SELECT  job_id, SUM(salary) PAYROLL
FROM    employees
WHERE   job_id NOT LIKE '%REP%'
GROUP BY job_id
HAVING  SUM(salary) > 13000
ORDER BY SUM(salary);
```

JOB_ID	PAYROLL
IT_PROG	19200
AD_PRES	24000
AD_VP	34000

ORACLE

5-24

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using the HAVING Clause (continued)

The example in the slide displays the job ID and total monthly salary for each job with a total payroll exceeding \$13,000. The example excludes sales representatives and sorts the list by the total monthly salary.

Nesting Group Functions

Display the maximum average salary.

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

MAX(AVG(SALARY))
19333.3333

ORACLE

Nesting Group Functions

Group functions can be nested to a depth of two. The example in the slide displays the maximum average salary.

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Use the group functions COUNT, MAX, MIN, AVG
- Write queries that use the GROUP BY clause
- Write queries that use the HAVING clause

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

ORACLE

5-26

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Summary

Seven group functions are available in SQL:

- AVG
- COUNT
- MAX
- MIN
- SUM
- STDDEV
- VARIANCE

You can create subgroups by using the GROUP BY clause. Groups can be excluded using the HAVING clause.

Place the HAVING and GROUP BY clauses after the WHERE clause in a statement. Place the ORDER BY clause last.

The Oracle Server evaluates the clauses in the following order:

1. If the statement contains a WHERE clause, the server establishes the candidate rows.
2. The server identifies the groups specified in the GROUP BY clause.
3. The HAVING clause further restricts result groups that do not meet the group criteria in the HAVING clause.

Practice 5 Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

- Writing queries that use the group functions
- Grouping by rows to achieve more than one result
- Excluding groups by using the `HAVING` clause

ORACLE

5-27

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Practice 5 Overview

At the end of this practice, you should be familiar with using group functions and selecting groups of data.

Paper-Based Questions

For questions 1 through 3, circle either True or False.

Note: Column aliases are used for the queries.

Practice 5

Determine the validity of the following three statements. Circle either True or False.

1. Group functions work across many rows to produce one result per group.
True/False
2. Group functions include nulls in calculations.
True/False
3. The WHERE clause restricts rows prior to inclusion in a group calculation.
True/False
4. Display the highest, lowest, sum, and average salary of all employees. Label the columns Maximum, Minimum, Sum, and Average, respectively. Round your results to the nearest whole number. Place your SQL statement in a text file named lab5_6.sql.

Maximum	Minimum	Sum	Average
24000	2500	175500	8775

5. Modify the query in lab5_4.sql to display the minimum, maximum, sum, and average salary for each job type. Resave lab5_4.sql to lab5_5.sql. Run the statement in lab5_5.sql.

JOB_ID	Maximum	Minimum	Sum	Average
AC_ACCOUNT	8300	8300	8300	8300
AC_MGR	12000	12000	12000	12000
AD_ASST	4400	4400	4400	4400
AD_PRES	24000	24000	24000	24000
AD_VP	17000	17000	34000	17000
IT_PROG	9000	4200	19200	6400
MK_MAN	13000	13000	13000	13000
MK_REP	6000	6000	6000	6000
SA_MAN	10500	10500	10500	10500
SA_REP	11000	7000	26600	8867
ST_CLERK	3500	2500	11700	2925
ST_MAN	5800	5800	5800	5800

12 rows selected.

Practice 5 (continued)

6. Write a query to display the number of people with the same job.

JOB_ID	COUNT(*)
AC_ACCOUNT	1
AC_MGR	1
AD_ASST	1
AD PRES	1
AD_VP	2
IT_PROG	3
MK_MAN	1
MK_REP	1
SA_MAN	1
SA_REP	3
ST_CLERK	4
ST_MAN	1

12 rows selected.

7. Determine the number of managers without listing them. Label the column Number of Managers. **Hint:** Use the MANAGER_ID column to determine the number of managers.

Number of Managers
8

8. Write a query that displays the difference between the highest and lowest salaries. Label the column DIFFERENCE.

DIFFERENCE
21500

If you have time, complete the following exercises:

9. Display the manager number and the salary of the lowest paid employee for that manager. Exclude anyone whose manager is not known. Exclude any groups where the minimum salary is less than \$6,000. Sort the output in descending order of salary.

MANAGER_ID	MIN(SALARY)
102	9000
205	8300
149	7000

Practice 5 (continued)

10. Write a query to display each department's name, location, number of employees, and the average salary for all employees in that department. Label the columns Name, Location, Number of People, and Salary, respectively. Round the average salary to two decimal places.

Name	Location	Number of People	Salary
Accounting	1700	2	10150
Administration	1700	1	4400
Executive	1700	3	19333.33
IT	1400	3	6400
Marketing	1800	2	9500
Sales	2500	3	10033.33
Shipping	1500	5	3500

7 rows selected.

If you want an extra challenge, complete the following exercises:

11. Create a query that will display the total number of employees and, of that total, the number of employees hired in 1995, 1996, 1997, and 1998. Create appropriate column headings.

TOTAL	1995	1996	1997	1998
20	1	2	2	3

12. Create a matrix query to display the job, the salary for that job based on department number, and the total salary for that job, for departments 20, 50, 80, and 90, giving each column an appropriate heading.

Job	Dept 20	Dept 50	Dept 80	Dept 90	Total
AC_ACCOUNT					8300
AC_MGR					12000
AD_ASST					4400
AD_PRES				24000	24000
AD_VP				34000	34000
IT_PROG					19200
MK_MAN	13000				13000
MK_REP	6000				6000
SA_MAN			10500		10500
SA_REP			19600		26600
ST_CLERK		11700			11700
ST_MAN		5800			5800

12 rows selected.

6

Subqueries

ORACLE

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Objectives

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

- **Describe the types of problem that subqueries can solve**
- **Define subqueries**
- **List the types of subqueries**
- **Write single-row and multiple-row subqueries**

ORACLE

6-2

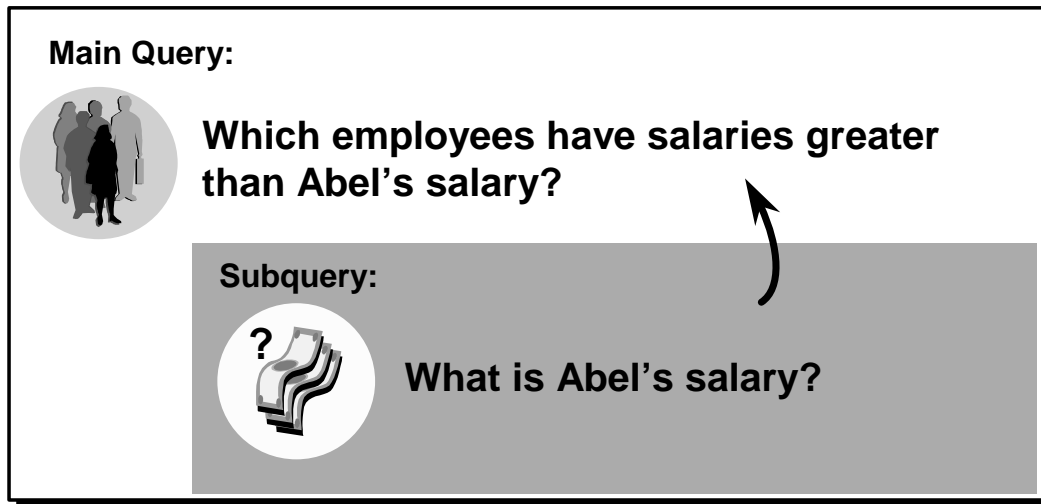
Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Lesson Aim

In this lesson, you will learn about more advanced features of the `SELECT` statement. You can write subqueries in the `WHERE` clause of another SQL statement to obtain values based on an unknown conditional value. This lesson covers single-row subqueries and multiple-row subqueries.

Using a Subquery to Solve a Problem

Who has a salary greater than Abel's?



Using a Subquery to Solve a Problem

Suppose you want to write a query to find out who earns a salary greater than Abel's salary.

To solve this problem, you need two queries: one to find what Abel earns, and a second query to find who earns more than that amount.

You can solve this problem by combining the two queries, placing one query *inside* the other query.

The inner query, also called the *subquery*, returns a value that is used by the outer query or the main query. Using a subquery is equivalent to performing two sequential queries and using the result of the first query as the search value in the second query.

Subquery Syntax

```
SELECT  select_list
FROM    table
WHERE   expr operator
        (SELECT  select_list
         FROM    table);
```

- The subquery (inner query) executes once before the main query.
- The result of the subquery is used by the main query (outer query).

ORACLE

6-4

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Subqueries

A subquery is a `SELECT` statement that is embedded in a clause of another `SELECT` statement. You can build powerful statements out of simple ones by using subqueries. They can be very useful when you need to select rows from a table with a condition that depends on the data in the table itself.

You can place the subquery in a number of SQL clauses, including:

- The `WHERE` clause
- The `HAVING` clause
- The `FROM` clause

In the syntax:

operator includes a comparison condition such as `>`, `=`, or `IN`

Note: Comparison conditions fall into two classes: single-row operators (`>`, `=`, `>=`, `<`, `<>`, `<=`) and multiple-row operators (`IN`, `ANY`, `ALL`).

The subquery is often referred to as a nested `SELECT`, sub-`SELECT`, or inner `SELECT` statement. The subquery generally executes first, and its output is used to complete the query condition for the main or outer query.

Using a Subquery

```
SELECT last_name
FROM employees
WHERE salary > 11000
      (SELECT salary
       FROM employees
       WHERE last_name = 'Abel');
```

LAST_NAME
King
Kochhar
De Haan
Hartstein
Higgins

ORACLE

Using a Subquery

In the slide, the inner query determines the salary of employee Abel. The outer query takes the result of the inner query and uses this result to display all the employees who earn more than this amount.

Guidelines for Using Subqueries

- **Enclose subqueries in parentheses.**
- **Place subqueries on the right side of the comparison condition.**
- **The `ORDER BY` clause in the subquery is not needed unless you are performing top-*n* analysis.**
- **Use single-row operators with single-row subqueries and use multiple-row operators with multiple-row subqueries.**

ORACLE

Guidelines for Using Subqueries

- A subquery must be enclosed in parentheses.
- Place the subquery on the right side of the comparison condition for readability.
- Prior to release Oracle8i, subqueries could not contain an `ORDER BY` clause. Only one `ORDER BY` clause can be used for a `SELECT` statement, and if specified it must be the last clause in the main `SELECT` statement. Starting with release Oracle8i, an `ORDER BY` clause can be used and is required in the subquery to perform top-*n* analysis. Top-*n* analysis is covered in a later lesson.
- Two classes of comparison conditions are used in subqueries: single-row operators and multiple-row operators.

Types of Subqueries

- **Single-row subquery**



- **Multiple-row subquery**



ORACLE

Types of Subqueries

- Single-row subqueries: Queries that return only one row from the inner `SELECT` statement
- Multiple-row subqueries: Queries that return more than one row from the inner `SELECT` statement

Note: There are also multiple-column subqueries: queries that return more than one column from the inner `SELECT` statement. This is discussed in a subsequent lesson.

Single-Row Subqueries

- Return only one row
- Use single-row comparison operators

Operator	Meaning
=	Equal to
>	Greater than
>=	Greater than or equal to
<	Less than
<=	Less than or equal to
<>	Not equal to

ORACLE

6-8

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Single-Row Subqueries

A single-row subquery is one that returns one row from the inner `SELECT` statement. This type of subquery uses a single-row operator. The slide gives a list of single-row operators.

Example

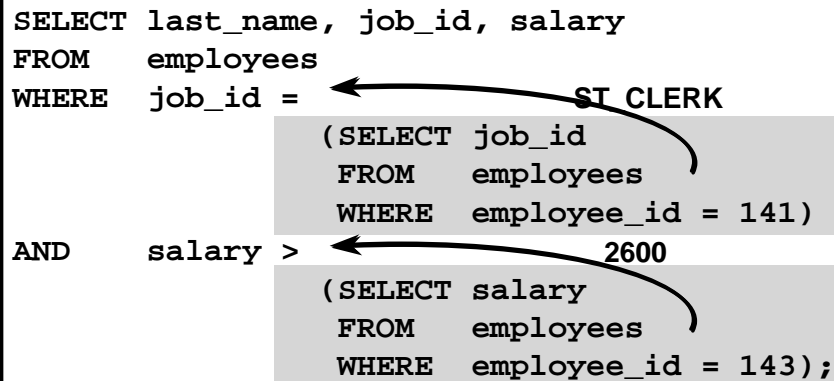
Display the employees whose job ID is the same as that of employee 141.

```
SELECT last_name, job_id
FROM employees
WHERE job_id =
      (SELECT job_id
       FROM employees
       WHERE employee_id = 141);
```

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID
Rajs	ST_CLERK
Davies	ST_CLERK
Matos	ST_CLERK
Vargas	ST_CLERK

Executing Single-Row Subqueries

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, salary
FROM   employees
WHERE  job_id = (SELECT job_id
                FROM   employees
                WHERE  employee_id = 141)
AND    salary > (SELECT salary
                FROM   employees
                WHERE  employee_id = 143);
```



LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY
Rajs	ST_CLERK	3600
Davis	ST_CLERK	3100

ORACLE

6-9

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Executing Single-Row Subqueries

A SELECT statement can be considered as a query block. The example on the slide displays employees whose job ID is the same as that of employee 141 and whose salary is greater than that of employee 143.


The example consists of three query blocks: the outer query and two inner queries. The inner query blocks are executed first, producing the query results ST_CLERK and 2600, respectively. The outer query block is then processed and uses the values returned by the inner queries to complete its search conditions.

Both inner queries return single values (ST_CLERK and 2600, respectively), so this SQL statement is called a single-row subquery.

Note: The outer and inner queries can get data from different tables.

Using Group Functions in a Subquery

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, salary
FROM   employees
WHERE  salary =
      (SELECT MIN(salary)
       FROM   employees);
```



LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY
Vargas	ST_CLERK	2500

ORACLE

6-10

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using Group Functions in a Subquery

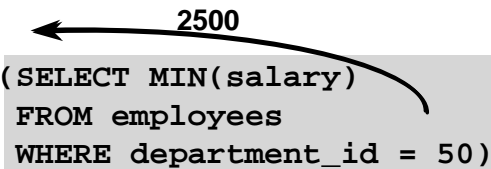
You can display data from a main query by using a group function in a subquery to return a single row. The subquery is in parentheses and is placed after the comparison condition.

The example on the slide displays the employee last name, job ID, and salary of all employees whose salary is equal to the minimum salary. The MIN group function returns a single value (2500) to the outer query.

The HAVING Clause with Subqueries

- The Oracle Server executes subqueries first.
- The Oracle Server returns results into the HAVING clause of the main query.

```
SELECT  department_id, MIN(salary)
FROM    employees
GROUP BY department_id
HAVING  MIN(salary) > (SELECT MIN(salary)
                       FROM employees
                       WHERE department_id = 50);
```



A diagram shows a curved arrow pointing from the subquery result '2500' to the comparison '>' in the HAVING clause. The subquery is highlighted in a grey box.

ORACLE

6-11

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The HAVING Clause with Subqueries

You can use subqueries not only in the WHERE clause, but also in the HAVING clause. The Oracle Server executes the subquery, and the results are returned into the HAVING clause of the main query.

The SQL statement on the slide displays all the departments that have a minimum salary greater than that of department 50.

DEPARTMENT_ID	MIN(SALARY)
10	4400
20	6000
30	7500
40	9000
50	10000
60	11500
70	13000

7 rows selected.

Example

Find the job with the lowest average salary.

```
SELECT  job_id, AVG(salary)
FROM    employees
GROUP BY job_id
HAVING  AVG(salary) = (SELECT  MIN(AVG(salary))
                       FROM    employees
                       GROUP BY job_id);
```

What Is Wrong with This Statement?

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name
FROM employees
WHERE salary =
      (SELECT MIN(salary)
       FROM employees
       GROUP BY department_id);
```

```
ERROR at line 4:
ORA-01427: single-row subquery returns more than
one row
```

Single-row operator with
multiple-row subquery

ORACLE

6-12

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Errors with Subqueries

One common error with subqueries is more than one row returned for a single-row subquery.

In the SQL statement in the slide, the subquery contains a `GROUP BY` clause, which implies that the subquery will return multiple rows, one for each group it finds. In this case, the result of the subquery will be 4400, 6000, 2500, 4200, 7000, 17000, and 8300.

The outer query takes the results of the subquery (4400, 6000, 2500, 4200, 7000, 17000, 8300) and uses these results in its `WHERE` clause. The `WHERE` clause contains an equal (`=`) operator, a single-row comparison operator expecting only one value. The `=` operator cannot accept more than one value from the subquery and hence generates the error.

To correct this error, change the `=` operator to `IN`.

Will This Statement Return Rows?

```
SELECT last_name, job_id
FROM employees
WHERE job_id =
      (SELECT job_id
       FROM employees
       WHERE last_name = 'Haas');
```

no rows selected

Subquery returns no values

ORACLE

6-13

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Problems with Subqueries

A common problem with subqueries is that no rows are returned by the inner query.

In the SQL statement on the slide, the subquery contains a `WHERE` clause. Presumably, the intention is to find the employee whose name is Haas. The statement is correct but selects no rows when executed.

There is no employee named Haas. So the subquery returns no rows. The outer query takes the results of the subquery (null) and uses these results in its `WHERE` clause. The outer query finds no employee with a job ID equal to null, and so returns no rows. If a job existed with a value of null, the row is not returned because comparison of two null values yields a null, hence the `WHERE` condition is not true.

Multiple-Row Subqueries

- Return more than one row
- Use multiple-row comparison operators

Operator	Meaning
IN	Equal to any member in the list
ANY	Compare value to each value returned by the subquery
ALL	Compare value to every value returned by the subquery

ORACLE

6-14

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Multiple-Row Subqueries

Subqueries that return more than one row are called multiple-row subqueries. You use a multiple-row operator, instead of a single-row operator, with a multiple-row subquery. The multiple-row operator expects one or more values.

```
SELECT last_name, salary, department_id
FROM employees
WHERE salary IN (SELECT MIN(salary)
                 FROM employees
                 GROUP BY department_id);
```

Example

Find the employees who earn the same salary as the minimum salary for each department.

The inner query is executed first, producing a query result. The main query block is then processed and uses the values returned by the inner query to complete its search condition. In fact, the main query would look like the following to the Oracle Server:

```
SELECT last_name, salary, department_id
FROM employees
WHERE salary IN (2500, 4200, 4400, 6000, 7000, 8300, 8600, 17000);
```

Using the ANY Operator in Multiple-Row Subqueries

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, job_id, salary
FROM employees 9000, 6000, 4200
WHERE salary < ANY
      (SELECT salary
       FROM employees
       WHERE job_id = 'IT_PROG')
AND job_id <> 'IT_PROG';
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY
124	Mourgos	ST_MAN	5800
141	Rajs	ST_CLERK	3500
142	Davies	ST_CLERK	3100
143	Matos	ST_CLERK	2600
205	Gietz	AV_ACCOUNT	4300

10 rows selected.

ORACLE

6-15

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Multiple-Row Subqueries (continued)

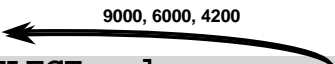
The ANY operator (and its synonym the SOME operator) compares a value to *each* value returned by a subquery. The slide example displays employees who are not IT programmers and whose salary is less than that of any IT programmer. The maximum salary that a programmer earns is \$9,000.

<ANY means less than the maximum. >ANY means more than the minimum. =ANY is equivalent to IN.

<ALL means less than the maximum. >ALL means more than the minimum.

Using the ALL Operator in Multiple-Row Subqueries

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, job_id, salary
FROM   employees
WHERE  salary < ALL
      (SELECT salary
       FROM   employees
       WHERE  job_id = 'IT_PROG')
AND    job_id <> 'IT_PROG';
```



EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY
141	Rajs	ST_CLERK	3500
142	Davies	ST_CLERK	3100
143	Matos	ST_CLERK	2800
144	Vargas	ST_CLERK	2500

ORACLE

6-16

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Multiple-Row Subqueries (continued)

The ALL operator compares a value to *every* value returned by a subquery. The example in the slide displays employees whose salary is less than the salary of all employees with a job ID of IT_PROG and whose job is not IT_PROG.

>ALL means more than the maximum, and <ALL means less than the minimum.

The NOT operator can be used with IN, ANY, and ALL operators.

Null Values in a Subquery

```
SELECT emp.last_name
FROM   employees emp
WHERE  emp.employee_id NOT IN
                                (SELECT mgr.manager_id
                                FROM   employees mgr);

no rows selected
```

ORACLE

6-17

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Returning Nulls in the Resulting Set of a Subquery

The SQL statement in the slide attempts to display all the employees who do not have any subordinates. Logically, this SQL statement should have returned 12 rows. However, the SQL statement does not return any rows. One of the values returned by the inner query is a null value, and hence the entire query returns no rows. The reason is that all conditions that compare a null value result in a null. So whenever null values are likely to be part of the results set of a subquery, do not use the NOT IN operator. The NOT IN operator is equivalent to <> ALL.

Notice that the null value as part of the results set of a subquery is not a problem if you use the IN operator. The IN operator is equivalent to =ANY. For example, to display the employees who have subordinates, use the following SQL statement:

```
SELECT emp.last_name
FROM   employees emp
WHERE  emp.employee_id IN
                                (SELECT mgr.manager_id
                                FROM   employees mgr);
```

Alternatively, a WHERE clause can be included in the subquery to display all the employees who do not have any subordinates:

```
SELECT last_name FROM   employees
WHERE  employee_id NOT IN
                                (SELECT manager_id FROM   employees
                                WHERE manager_id IS NOT NULL);
```

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Identify when a subquery can help solve a question
- Write subqueries when a query is based on unknown values

```
SELECT  select_list
FROM    table
WHERE   expr operator
        (SELECT select_list
        FROM  table);
```

ORACLE

6-18

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to use subqueries. A subquery is a SELECT statement that is embedded in a clause of another SQL statement. Subqueries are useful when a query is based on a search criteria with unknown intermediate values.

Subqueries have the following characteristics:

- Can pass one row of data to a main statement that contains a single-row operator, such as =, <>, >, >=, <, or <=
- Can pass multiple rows of data to a main statement that contains a multiple-row operator, such as IN
- Are processed first by the Oracle Server, and the WHERE or HAVING clause uses the results
- Can contain group functions

Practice 6 Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

- Creating subqueries to query values based on unknown criteria
- Using subqueries to find out which values exist in one set of data and not in another

ORACLE

6-19

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Practice 6 Overview

In this practice, you write complex queries using nested `SELECT` statements.

Paper-Based Questions

You may want to create the inner query first for these questions. Make sure that it runs and produces the data that you anticipate before coding the outer query.

Practice 6

1. Write a query to display the last name and hire date of any employee in the same department as Zlotkey. Exclude Zlotkey.

LAST_NAME	HIRE_DATE
Abel	11-MAY-96
Taylor	24-MAR-98

2. Create a query to display the employee numbers and last names of all employees who earn more than the average salary. Sort the results in ascending order of salary.

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	SALARY
103	Hunold	9000
149	Zlotkey	10500
174	Abel	11000
205	Higgins	12000
201	Hartstein	13000
101	Kochhar	17000
102	De Haan	17000
100	King	24000

8 rows selected.

3. Write a query that displays the employee numbers and last names of all employees who work in a department with any employee whose last name contains a *u*. Place your SQL statement in a text file named lab6_3.sql. Run your query.

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME
124	Mourgos
141	Rajs
142	Davies
143	Matos
144	Vargas
103	Hunold
104	Ernst
107	Lorentz

8 rows selected.

Practice 6 (continued)

4. Display the last name, department number, and job ID of all employees whose department location ID is 1700.

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID	JOB_ID
Whalen	10	AD_ASST
King	90	AD_PRES
Kochhar	90	AD_VP
De Haan	90	AD_VP
Higgins	110	AC_MGR
Gietz	110	AC_ACCOUNT

6 rows selected.

5. Display the last name and salary of every employee who reports to King.

LAST_NAME	SALARY
Kochhar	17000
De Haan	17000
Mourgos	5800
Zlotkey	10500
Hartstein	13000

6. Display the department number, last name, and job ID for every employee in the Executive department.

DEPARTMENT_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID
90	King	AD_PRES
90	Kochhar	AD_VP
90	De Haan	AD_VP

If you have time, complete the following exercises:

7. Modify the query in lab6_3.sql to display the employee numbers, last names, and salaries of all employees who earn more than the average salary and who work in a department with any employee with a *u* in their name. Resave lab6_3.sql to lab6_7.sql. Run the statement in lab6_7.sql.

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	SALARY
103	Hunold	9000



**Producing Readable Output
with *i*SQL*Plus**

ORACLE

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Objectives

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

- **Produce queries that require a substitution variable**
- **Customize the *iSQL*Plus* environment**
- **Produce more readable output**
- **Create and execute script files**

ORACLE

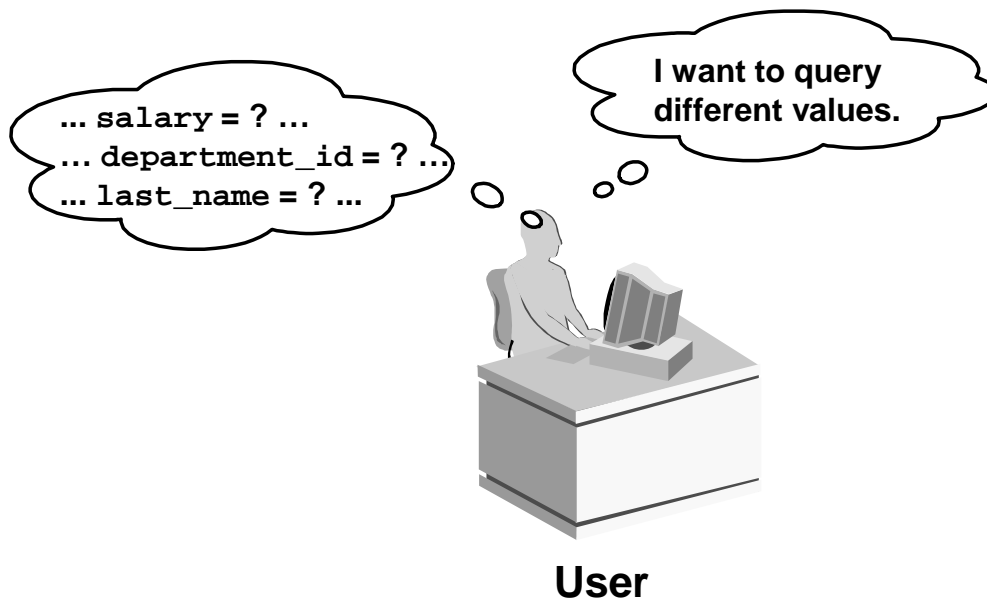
7-2

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Lesson Aim

In this lesson, you will learn how to include *iSQL*Plus* commands to produce more readable SQL output. You can create a command file containing a `WHERE` clause to restrict the rows displayed. To change the condition each time the command file is run, you use substitution variables. Substitution variables can replace values in the `WHERE` clause, a text string, and even a column or a table name.

Substitution Variables



ORACLE

7-3

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Substitution Variables

The examples so far have been hard-coded. In a finished application, the user would trigger the report, and the report would run without further prompting. The range of data would be predetermined by the fixed `WHERE` clause in the `iSQL*Plus` script file.

Using `iSQL*Plus`, you can create reports that prompt the user to supply their own values to restrict the range of data returned by using substitution variables. You can embed substitution variables in a command file or in a single SQL statement. A variable can be thought of as a container in which the values are temporarily stored. When the statement is run, the value is substituted.

Substitution Variables

Use *iSQL*Plus* substitution variables to:

- **Store values temporarily**
 - Single ampersand (&)
 - Double ampersand (&&)
 - `DEFINE` command
- **Pass variable values between SQL statements**
- **Dynamically alter headers and footers**

ORACLE

7-4

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Substitution Variables

In *iSQL*Plus*, you can use single ampersand (&) substitution variables to temporarily store values.

You can predefine variables in *iSQL*Plus* by using the `DEFINE` command. `DEFINE` creates and assigns a value to a variable.

Examples of Restricted Ranges of Data

- Reporting figures only for the current quarter or specified date range
- Reporting on data relevant only to the user requesting the report
- Displaying personnel only within a given department

Other Interactive Effects

Interactive effects are not restricted to direct user interaction with the `WHERE` clause. The same principles can be used to achieve other goals. For example:

- Dynamically altering headers and footers
- Obtaining input values from a file rather than from a person
- Passing values from one SQL statement to another

*iSQL*Plus* does not support validation checks (except for data type) on user input.

Using the & Substitution Variable

Use a variable prefixed with an ampersand (&) to prompt the user for a value.

```
SELECT  employee_id, last_name, salary, department_id
FROM    employees
WHERE   employee_id = &employee_num;
```

ORACLE iSQL*Plus Password Log Out Help

Define Substitution Variables

"employee_num"

Submit for Execution Cancel

Single-Ampersand Substitution Variable

When running a report, users often want to restrict the data returned dynamically. *iSQL*Plus* provides this flexibility by means of user variables. Use an ampersand (&) to identify each variable in your SQL statement. You do not need to define the value of each variable.

Notation	Description
<i>&user_variable</i>	Indicates a variable in a SQL statement; if the variable does not exist, <i>iSQL*Plus</i> prompts the user for a value (<i>iSQL*Plus</i> discards a new variable once it is used.)

The example in the slide creates an *iSQL*Plus* substitution variable for an employee number. When the statement is executed, *iSQL*Plus* prompts the user for an employee number and then displays the employee number, last name, salary, and department number for that employee.

With the single ampersand, the user is prompted every time the command is executed, if the variable does not exist.

Using the & Substitution Variable

Define Substitution Variables

"employee_num" 101

Submit for Execution Cancel

old 3: WHERE employee_id = &employee_num
new 3: WHERE employee_id = 101

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	SALARY	DEPARTMENT_ID
101	Kochhar	17000	90

Single-Ampersand Substitution Variable

When *iSQL*Plus* detects that the SQL statement contains an `&`, you are prompted to enter a value for the substitution variable named in the SQL statement. Once you enter a value and click the Submit for Execution button, the results are displayed in the output area of your *iSQL*Plus* session.

Character and Date Values with Substitution Variables

Use single quotation marks for date and character values.

```
SELECT last_name, department_id, salary*12
FROM employees
WHERE job_id = '&job_title';
```

Define Substitution Variables

job_title IT_PROG

Submit for Execution

Cancel

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID	SALARY*12
Hunold	60	106000
Ernst	60	72000
Lorentz	60	60400

ORACLE

7-7

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Specifying Character and Date Values with Substitution Variables

In a WHERE clause, date and character values must be enclosed within single quotation marks. The same rule applies to the substitution variables.

Enclose the variable in single quotation marks within the SQL statement itself.

The slide shows a query to retrieve the employee names, department numbers, and annual salaries of all employees based on the job title value of the *iSQL*Plus* substitution variable.

Note: You can also use functions such as UPPER and LOWER with the ampersand. Use UPPER('&job_title') so that the user does not have to enter the job title in uppercase.

Specifying Column Names, Expressions, and Text

Use substitution variables to supplement the following:

- WHERE conditions
- ORDER BY clauses
- Column expressions
- Table names
- Entire SELECT statements

ORACLE

7-8

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Specifying Column Names, Expressions, and Text

Not only can you use the substitution variables in the WHERE clause of a SQL statement, but these variables can also be used to substitute for column names, expressions, or text.

Example

Display the employee number and any other column and any condition of employees.

```
SELECT employee_id, &column_name
FROM employees
WHERE &condition;
```

"column_name"
"condition"

EMPLOYEE_ID	JOB_ID
200	AD_ASST

If you do not enter a value for the substitution variable, you will get an error when you execute the preceding statement.

Note: A substitution variable can be used anywhere in the SELECT statement, except as the first word entered at the command prompt.

Specifying Column Names, Expressions, and Text

```
SELECT      employee_id, last_name, job_id,
            &column_name
FROM        employees
WHERE       &condition
ORDER BY    &order_column;
```

column_name salary
condition salary > 15000
order_column last_name

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY
102	De Haan	AD_VP	17000
100	King	AD_PRES	24000
101	Kochhar	AD_VP	17000

ORACLE

7-9

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Specifying Column Names, Expressions, and Text (continued)

The example in the slide displays the employee number, name, job title, and any other column specified by the user at run time, from the EMPLOYEES table. You can also specify the condition for retrieval of rows and the column name by which the resultant data has to be ordered.

Defining Substitution Variables

- You can predefine variables using the *iSQL*Plus* **DEFINE** command.

`DEFINE variable = value` creates a user variable with the CHAR data type.

- If you need to predefine a variable that includes spaces, you must enclose the value within single quotation marks when using the **DEFINE** command.
- A defined variable is available for the session

ORACLE

7-10

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Defining Substitution Variables

You can predefine user variables before executing a **SELECT** statement. *iSQL*Plus* provides the **DEFINE** command for defining and setting substitution variables:

Command	Description
<code>DEFINE variable = value</code>	Creates a user variable with the CHAR data and assigns a value to it
<code>DEFINE variable</code>	Displays the variable, its value, and its data type
<code>DEFINE</code>	Displays all user variables with their values and data types

DEFINE and UNDEFINE Commands

- A variable remains defined until you either:
 - Use the UNDEFINE command to clear it
 - Exit *iSQL*Plus*
- You can verify your changes with the DEFINE command.

```
DEFINE job_title = IT_PROG
DEFINE job_title
DEFINE JOB_TITLE          = "IT_PROG" (CHAR)
```

```
UNDEFINE job_title
DEFINE job_title
SP2-0135: symbol job_title is UNDEFINED
```

ORACLE

The DEFINE and UNDEFINE Commands

Variables are defined until you either:

- Issue the UNDEFINE command on a variable
- Exit *iSQL*Plus*

When you undefine variables, you can verify your changes with the DEFINE command. When you exit *iSQL*Plus*, variables defined during that session are lost.

Using the DEFINE Command with & Substitution Variable

- Create the substitution variable using the `DEFINE` command.

```
DEFINE employee_num = 200
```

- Use a variable prefixed with an ampersand (&) to substitute the value in the SQL statement.

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, salary, department_id
FROM   employees
WHERE  employee_id = &employee_num;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	SALARY	DEPARTMENT_ID
200	Whalen	4400	10

ORACLE

7-12

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Using the DEFINE Command

The example in the slide creates an *iSQL*Plus* substitution variable for an employee number by using the `DEFINE` command, and at run time displays the employee number, name, salary, and department number for that employee.

Because the variable is created using the *iSQL*Plus* `DEFINE` command, the user is not prompted to enter a value for the employee number. Instead, the defined variable value is automatically substituted in the `SELECT` statement.

The `EMPLOYEE_NUM` substitution variable is present in the session until the user undefines it or exits the *iSQL*Plus* session.

Using the && Substitution Variable

Use the double-ampersand (&&) if you want to reuse the variable value without prompting the user each time.

```
SELECT  employee_id, last_name, job_id, &&column_name
FROM    employees
ORDER BY &column_name;
```

column_name department_id

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID
200	Whalen	AD_ASST	10
201	Hartstein	MK_MAN	20
202	Fay	MK_REP	20
114	Raphealy	AC_MGR	30
124	Mourgos	ST_MAN	90
141	Rajs	ST_CLERK	90

ORACLE

Double-Ampersand Substitution Variable

You can use the double-ampersand (&&) substitution variable if you want to reuse the variable value without prompting the user each time. The user will see the prompt for the value only once. In the example on the slide, the user is asked to give the value for the *column_name* variable only once. The value supplied by the user (*department_id*) is used both for display and ordering of data.

*iSQL*Plus* stores the value supplied by using the `DEFINE` command; it uses it again whenever you reference the variable name. Once a user variable is in place, you need to use the `UNDEFINE` command to delete it.

Using the VERIFY Command

Use the VERIFY command to toggle the display of the substitution variable, before and after *iSQL*Plus* replaces substitution variables with values.

```
SET VERIFY ON
SELECT employee_id, last_name, salary, department_id
FROM   employees
WHERE  employee_id = &employee_num;
```

"employee_num" 200

```
old   3: WHERE  employee_id = &employee_num
new   3: WHERE  employee_id = 200
```

ORACLE

7-14

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The VERIFY Command

To confirm the changes in the SQL statement, use the *iSQL*Plus* VERIFY command. Setting SET VERIFY ON forces *iSQL*Plus* to display the text of a command before and after it replaces substitution variables with values.

The example in the slide displays the old as well as the new value of the EMPLOYEE_ID column.

Customizing the *iSQL*Plus* Environment

- Use **SET** commands to control current session.

```
SET system_variable value
```

- Verify what you have set by using the **SHOW** command.

```
SET ECHO ON
```

```
SHOW ECHO  
echo ON
```

ORACLE

7-15

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Customizing the *iSQL*Plus* Environment

You can control the environment in which *iSQL*Plus* is currently operating by using the **SET** commands.

Syntax

```
SET system_variable value
```

In the syntax:

system_variable is a variable that controls one aspect of the session environment

value is a value for the system variable

You can verify what you have set by using the **SHOW** command. The **SHOW** command on the slide checks whether **ECHO** had been set on or off.

To see all **SET** variable values, use the **SHOW ALL** command.

For more information, see *iSQL*Plus User's Guide and Reference*, "Command Reference."

SET Command Variables

- **ARRAYSIZE** {20 | *n*}
- **FEEDBACK** {6 | *n* | OFF | ON}
- **HEADING** {OFF | ON}
- **LONG** {80 | *n*} | ON | *text*}

```
SET HEADING OFF
```

```
SHOW HEADING  
HEADING OFF
```

ORACLE

7-16

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

SET Command Variables

SET Variable and Values	Description
ARRAY[SIZE] { <u>20</u> <i>n</i> }	Sets the database data fetch size
FEED[BACK] { <u>6</u> <i>n</i> OFF ON}	Displays the number of records returned by a query when the query selects at least <i>n</i> records
HEA[DING] {OFF <u>ON</u> }	Determines whether column headings are displayed in reports
LONG { <u>80</u> <i>n</i> }	Sets the maximum width for displaying LONG values

Note: The value *n* represents a numeric value. The underlined values indicate default values. If you enter no value with the variable, *iSQL**Plus assumes the default value.

iSQL*Plus Format Commands

- COLUMN [*column option*]
- TTITLE [*text* | OFF | ON]
- BTITLE [*text* | OFF | ON]
- BREAK [ON *report_element*]

ORACLE

7-17

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Obtaining More Readable Reports

You can control the report features by using the following commands:

Command	Description
COL[UMN] [<i>column option</i>]	Controls column formats
TTI[TLE] [<i>text</i> OFF ON]	Specifies a header to appear at the top of each page of the report
BTI[TLE] [<i>text</i> OFF ON]	Specifies a footer to appear at the bottom of each page of the report
BRE[AK] [ON <i>report_element</i>]	Suppresses duplicate values and divides rows of data into sections by using line breaks

Guidelines

- All format commands remain in effect until the end of the iSQL*Plus session or until the format setting is overwritten or cleared.
- Remember to reset your iSQL*Plus settings to the default values after every report.
- There is no command for setting an iSQL*Plus variable to its default value; you must know the specific value or log out and log in again.
- If you give an alias to your column, you must reference the alias name, not the column name.

The COLUMN Command

Controls display of a column:

```
COL[UMN] [{column|alias} [option]]
```

- **CLE[AR]: Clears any column formats**
- **HEA[DING] *text*: Sets the column heading**
- **FOR[MAT] *format*: Changes the display of the column using a format model**
- **NOPRINT | PRINT**
- **NULL**

ORACLE

7-18

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

COLUMN Command Options

Option	Description
CLE[AR]	Clears any column formats
HEA[DING] <i>text</i>	Sets the column heading (a vertical line () forces a line feed in the heading if you do not use justification.)
FOR[MAT] <i>format</i>	Changes the display of the column data
NOPRI[NT]	Hides the column
NUL[L] <i>text</i>	Specifies text to be displayed for null values
PRI[NT]	Shows the column

Using the COLUMN Command

- Create column headings.

```
COLUMN last_name HEADING 'Employee|Name'  
COLUMN salary JUSTIFY LEFT FORMAT $99,990.00  
COLUMN manager FORMAT 999999999 NULL 'No manager'
```

- Display the current setting for the LAST_NAME column.

```
COLUMN last_name
```

- Clear settings for the LAST_NAME column.

```
COLUMN last_name CLEAR
```

ORACLE

7-19

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Displaying or Clearing Settings

To show or clear the current COLUMN command settings, use the following commands:

Command	Description
COL[UMN] <i>column</i>	Displays the current settings for the specified column
COL[UMN]	Displays the current settings for all columns
COL[UMN] <i>column</i> CLE[AR]	Clears the settings for the specified column
CLE[AR] COL[UMN]	Clears the settings for all columns

COLUMN Format Models

Element	Description	Example	Result
9	Single zero-suppression digit	999999	1234
0	Enforces leading zero	099999	001234
\$	Floating dollar sign	\$9999	\$1234
L	Local currency	L9999	L1234
.	Position of decimal point	9999.99	1234.00
,	Thousand separator	9,999	1,234

ORACLE

7-20

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

COLUMN Format Models

The slide displays sample COLUMN format models.

The Oracle Server displays a string of pound signs (#) in place of a whole number whose digits exceed the number of digits provided in the format model. It also displays pound signs in place of a value whose format model is alphanumeric but whose actual value is numeric.

Using the BREAK Command

Use the BREAK command to suppress duplicates

```
BREAK ON job_id
```

ORACLE

7-21

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The BREAK Command

Use the BREAK command to divide rows into sections and suppress duplicate values. To ensure that the BREAK command works effectively, use the ORDER BY clause to order the columns that you are breaking on.

Syntax

```
BREAK on column[ |alias|row]
```

In the syntax:

column[|alias|row] suppresses the display of duplicate values for a given column.

Clear all BREAK settings by using the CLEAR command:

```
CLEAR BREAK
```

Using the TTITLE and BTITLE Commands

- Display headers and footers.

```
TTI[TLE] [text|OFF|ON]
```

- Set the report header.

```
TTITLE 'Salary|Report'
```

- Set the report footer.

```
BTITLE 'Confidential'
```

ORACLE

7-22

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The TTITLE and BTITLE Commands

Use the TTITLE command to format page headers and the BTITLE command for footers. Footers appear at the bottom of the page.

The syntax for BTITLE and TTITLE is identical. Only the syntax for TTITLE is shown. You can use the vertical bar (|) to split the text of the title across several lines.

Syntax

```
TTI[TLE] | BTI[TLE] [text|OFF|ON]
```

In the syntax:

text represents the title text (enter single quotes if the text is more than one word).

OFF|ON toggles the title either off or on. It is not visible when turned off.

The TTITLE example on the slide sets the report header to display Salary centered on one line and Report centered below it. The BTITLE example sets the report footer to display “Confidential.” TTITLE automatically puts the date and a page number on the report.

Note: The slide gives an abridged syntax for TTITLE and BTITLE. Various options for TTITLE and BTITLE are covered in another SQL course.

Creating a Script File to Run a Report

1. Create and test the SQL `SELECT` statement.
2. Save the `SELECT` statement into a script file.
3. Load the script file into an editor.
4. Add formatting commands before the `SELECT` statement.
5. Verify that the termination character follows the `SELECT` statement.

ORACLE

7-23

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Creating a Script File to Run a Report

You can either enter each of the *iSQL*Plus* commands at the SQL prompt or put all the commands, including the `SELECT` statement, in a command (or script) file. A typical script consists of at least one `SELECT` statement and several *iSQL*Plus* commands.

How to Create a Script File

1. Create the SQL `SELECT` statement at the SQL prompt. Ensure that the data required for the report is accurate before you save the statement to a file and apply formatting commands. Ensure that the relevant `ORDER BY` clause is included if you intend to use breaks.
2. Save the `SELECT` statement to a script file.
3. Edit the script file to enter the *iSQL*Plus* commands.
4. Add the required formatting commands before the `SELECT` statement. Be certain not to place *iSQL*Plus* commands within the `SELECT` statement.
5. Verify that the `SELECT` statement is followed by a run character, either a semicolon (`;`) or a slash (`/`).

Creating a Script File to Run a Report

6. Clear formatting commands after the `SELECT` statement.
7. Save the script file.
8. Load the script file into the *iSQL*Plus* text window, and click the Execute button.

ORACLE

7-24

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

How to Create a Script File (continued)

6. Add the format-clearing *iSQL*Plus* commands after the run character. Alternatively, you can store all the format-clearing commands in a reset file.
7. Save the script file with your changes.
8. Load the script file into the *iSQL*Plus* text window, and click the Execute button

Guidelines

- You can include blank lines between *iSQL*Plus* commands in a script.
- If you have a lengthy *iSQL*Plus* or *SQL*Plus* command, you can continue it on the next line by ending the current line with a hyphen (-).
- You can abbreviate *iSQL*Plus* commands.
- Include reset commands at the end of the file to restore the original *iSQL*Plus* environment.

Note: REM represents a remark or comment in *iSQL*Plus*.

Sample Report

Job Category	Employee	Salary
AC_ACCOUNT	Gietz	\$8,300.00
AC_MGR	Higgins	\$12,000.00
AD_ASST	Whalen	\$4,400.00
IT_PROG	Emet	\$6,000.00
	Hunold	\$9,000.00
	Lorentz	\$4,200.00
MK_MAN	Hartstein	\$13,000.00
MK_REP	Fay	\$6,000.00
SA_MAN	Zlotkey	\$10,500.00
SA_REP	Abel	\$11,000.00
	Grant	\$7,000.00
	Taylor	\$8,600.00

Confidential

ORACLE

7-25

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Example

Create a script file to create a report that displays the job ID, last name, and salary for every employee whose salary is less than \$15,000. Add a centered, two-line header that reads “Employee Report” and a centered footer that reads “Confidential”. Rename the job title column to read “Job Category” split over two lines. Rename the employee name column to read “Employee”. Rename the salary column to read “Salary” and format it as \$2,500.00.

```
SET FEEDBACK OFF
TTITLE 'Employee|Report'
BTITLE 'Confidential'
BREAK ON job_id
COLUMN job_id HEADING 'Job|Category'
COLUMN last_name HEADING 'Employee'
COLUMN salary HEADING 'Salary' FORMAT $99,999.99
REM ** Insert SELECT statement
SELECT job_id, last_name, salary
FROM employees
WHERE salary < 15000
ORDER BY job_id, last_name
/
REM clear all formatting commands ...
SET FEEDBACK ON
COLUMN job_id CLEAR
COLUMN last_name CLEAR
COLUMN salary CLEAR
CLEAR BREAK
```

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Use *iSQL*Plus* substitution variables to store values temporarily
- Use `SET` commands to control the current *iSQL*Plus* environment
- Use the `COLUMN` command to control the display of a column
- Use the `BREAK` command to suppress duplicates and divide rows into sections
- Use the `TTITLE` and `BTITLE` commands to display headers and footers

ORACLE

7-26

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned about substitution variables and how they are useful for running reports. They give you the flexibility to replace values in a `WHERE` clause, column names, and expressions.

You can customize reports by writing script files with:

- Single ampersand substitution variables
- Double ampersand substitution variables
- The `DEFINE` command
- The `UNDEFINE` command
- Substitution variables in the command line

You can create a more readable report by using the following commands:

- `COLUMN`
- `TTITLE`
- `BTITLE`
- `BREAK`

Practice 7 Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

- **Creating a query to display values using substitution variables**
- **Starting a command file containing variables**

ORACLE

7-27

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Practice 7 Overview

This practice gives you the opportunity to create files that can be run interactively by using substitution variables to create run-time selection criteria.

Practice 7

Determine whether the following two statements are true or false:

1. The following statement is valid:

```
DEFINE & p_val = 100
```

True/False

2. The `DEFINE` command is a SQL command.

True/False

3. Write a script file to display the last names, job IDs, and hire dates for all employees who started within a given range of dates. Concatenate the name and job together, separated by a space and comma, and label the column `Employees`. Use the `DEFINE` command to provide the two ranges. Use the format `MM/DD/YYYY`. Save the script file as `lab7_3.sql`.

```
DEFINE low_date = 01/01/1998
DEFINE high_date = 01/01/1999
```

EMPLOYEES	HIRE_DATE
Matos, ST_CLERK	15-MAR-98
Vargas, ST_CLERK	09-JUL-98
Taylor, SA_REP	24-MAR-98

4. Write a script to display the last names, job IDs, and department names for every employee in a given location. The search condition should allow for case-insensitive searches of the department location. Save the script file as `lab7_4.sql`.

EMPLOYEE NAME	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT NAME
Whalen	AD_ASST	Administration
King	AD_PRES	Executive
Kochhar	AD_VP	Executive
De Haan	AD_VP	Executive
Higgins	AC_MGR	Accounting
Gietz	AC_ACCOUNT	Accounting

6 rows selected.

Practice 7 (continued)

5. Modify the code in `lab7_4.sql` to create a report containing the department name, employee last name, hire date, salary, and annual salary for each employee in a given location. Label the columns `DEPARTMENT NAME`, `EMPLOYEE NAME`, `START DATE`, `SALARY`, and `ANNUAL SALARY`, placing the labels on multiple lines. Resave the script as `lab7_5.sql`, and execute the commands in the script.

DEPARTMENT NAME	EMPLOYEE NAME	START DATE	SALARY	ANNUAL SALARY
Accounting	Higgins	07-JUN-94	\$12,000.00	\$144,000.00
	Gietz	07-JUN-94	\$8,300.00	\$99,600.00
Administration	Whalen	17-SEP-87	\$4,400.00	\$52,800.00
Executive	King	17-JUN-87	\$24,000.00	\$288,000.00
	Kochhar	21-SEP-89	\$17,000.00	\$204,000.00
	De Haan	13-JAN-93	\$17,000.00	\$204,000.00

8

Manipulating Data

ORACLE

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Objectives

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

- Describe each DML statement
- Insert rows into a table
- Update rows in a table
- Delete rows from a table
- Merge rows in a table
- Control transactions

ORACLE

8-2

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Lesson Aim

In this lesson, you learn how to insert rows into a table, update existing rows in a table, and delete existing rows from a table. You also learn how to control transactions with the COMMIT, SAVEPOINT, and ROLLBACK statements.

Data Manipulation Language

- **A DML statement is executed when you:**
 - Add new rows to a table
 - Modify existing rows in a table
 - Remove existing rows from a table
- **A transaction consists of a collection of DML statements that form a logical unit of work.**

ORACLE

8-3

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Data Manipulation Language

Data manipulation language (DML) is a core part of SQL. When you want to add, update, or delete data in the database, you execute a DML statement. A collection of DML statements that form a logical unit of work is called a transaction.

Consider a banking database. When a bank customer transfers money from a savings account to a checking account, the transaction might consist of three separate operations: decrease the savings account, increase the checking account, and record the transaction in the transaction journal. The Oracle Server must guarantee that all three SQL statements are performed to maintain the accounts in proper balance. When something prevents one of the statements in the transaction from executing, the other statements of the transaction must be undone.

Adding a New Row to a Table


DEPARTMENTS

70	Public Relations	100	1700
----	------------------	-----	------

New row

DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME	MANAGER_ID	LOCATION_ID
10	Administration	200	1700
20	Marketing	201	1800
50	Shipping	124	1500
60	IT	103	1400
80	Sales	149	2500
90	Executive	100	1700
110	Accounting	205	1700
190	Contracting		1700

Insert a new row into the DEPARTMENTS table.



DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME	MANAGER_ID	LOCATION_ID
10	Administration	200	1700
20	Marketing	201	1800
50	Shipping	124	1500
60	IT	103	1400
80	Sales	149	2500
90	Executive	100	1700
110	Accounting	205	1700
190	Contracting		1700
70	Public Relations	100	1700

ORACLE

Adding a New Row to a Table

The graphic in the slide illustrates adding a new department to the DEPARTMENTS table.

The INSERT Statement Syntax

- Add new rows to a table by using the INSERT statement.

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

- Only one row is inserted at a time with this syntax.

ORACLE

8-5

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Adding a New Row to a Table (continued)

You can add new rows to a table by issuing the INSERT statement.

In the syntax:

<i>table</i>	is the name of the table
<i>column</i>	is the name of the column in the table to populate
<i>value</i>	is the corresponding value for the column

Note: This statement with the VALUES clause adds only one row at a time to a table.

Inserting New Rows

- **Insert a new row containing values for each column.**
- **List values in the default order of the columns in the table.**
- **Optionally, list the columns in the INSERT clause.**

```
INSERT INTO departments(department_id, department_name,  
                        manager_id, location_id)  
VALUES      (70, 'Public Relations', 100, 1700);  
1 row created.
```

- **Enclose character and date values within single quotation marks.**

ORACLE

8-6

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Adding a New Row to a Table (continued)

Because you can insert a new row that contains values for each column, the column list is not required in the INSERT clause. However, if you do not use the column list, the values must be listed according to the default order of the columns in the table, and a value must be provided for each column.

```
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)

For clarity, use the column list in the INSERT clause.

Enclose character and date values within single quotation marks; it is not recommended to enclose numeric values within single quotation marks.

Number values should not be enclosed in single quotes, because implicit conversion may take place for numeric values assigned to NUMBER data type columns if single quotes are included.

Inserting Rows with Null Values

- **Implicit method: Omit the column from the column list.**

```
INSERT INTO departments (department_id,  
                        department_name )  
VALUES (30, 'Purchasing');  
1 row created.
```

- **Explicit method: Specify the NULL keyword in the VALUES clause.**

```
INSERT INTO departments  
VALUES (100, 'Finance', NULL, NULL);  
1 row created.
```

ORACLE

8-7

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Methods for Inserting Null Values

Method	Description
Implicit	Omit the column from the column list.
Explicit	Specify the NULL keyword in the VALUES list, specify the empty string (' ') in the VALUES list for character strings and dates.

Be sure that you can use null values in the targeted column by verifying the Null? status with the `iSQL*Plus DESCRIBE` command.

The Oracle Server automatically enforces all data types, data ranges, and data integrity constraints. Any column that is not listed explicitly obtains a null value in the new row.

Common errors that can occur during user input:

- Mandatory value missing for a NOT NULL column
- Duplicate value violates uniqueness constraint
- Foreign key constraint violated
- CHECK constraint violated
- Data type mismatch
- Value too wide to fit in column

Inserting Special Values

The `SYSDATE` function records the current date and time.

```
INSERT INTO employees (employee_id,
                       first_name, last_name,
                       email, phone_number,
                       hire_date, job_id, salary,
                       commission_pct, manager_id,
                       department_id)
VALUES (113,
       'Louis', 'Popp',
       'LPOPP', '515.124.4567',
       SYSDATE, 'AC_ACCOUNT', 6900,
       NULL, 205, 100);

1 row created.
```

ORACLE

8-8

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Inserting Special Values by Using SQL Functions

You can use functions to enter special values in your table.

The slide example records information for employee Popp in the `EMPLOYEES` table. It supplies the current date and time in the `HIRE_DATE` column. It uses the `SYSDATE` function for current date and time.

You can also use the `USER` function when inserting rows in a table. The `USER` function records the current username.

Confirming Additions to the Table

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, job_id, hire_date, commission_pct
FROM   employees
WHERE  employee_id = 113;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	HIRE_DATE	COMMISSION_PCT
113	Popp	AC_ACCOUNT	12-MAR-01	

Inserting Specific Date Values

- Add a new employee.

```
INSERT INTO employees
VALUES      (114,
            'Den', 'Raphealy',
            'DRAPHEAL', '515.127.4561',
            TO_DATE('FEB 3, 1999', 'MON DD, YYYY'),
            'AC_ACCOUNT', 11000, NULL, 100, 30);
1 row created.
```

- Verify your addition.

EMPLOYEE_ID	FIRST_NAME	LAST_NAME	EMAIL	PHONE_NUMBER	HIRE_DATE	JOB_ID	SALARY	COMMISSION
114	Den	Raphealy	DRAPHEAL	515.127.4561	03-FEB-99	AC_ACCOUNT	11000	

ORACLE

8-9

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Inserting Specific Date and Time Values

The DD-MON-YY format is usually used to insert a date value. With this format, recall that the century defaults to the current century. Because the date also contains time information, the default time is midnight (00:00:00).

If a date must be entered in a format other than the default format (for example, with another century, or a specific time), you must use the TO_DATE function.

The example on the slide records information for employee Raphealy in the EMPLOYEES table. It sets the HIRE_DATE column to be February 3, 1999. If you use the following statement instead of the one shown on the slide, the year of the hire_date is interpreted as 2099.

```
INSERT INTO employees
VALUES      (114,
            'Den', 'Raphealy',
            'DRAPHEAL', '515.127.4561',
            '03-FEB-99',
            'AC_ACCOUNT', 11000, NULL, 100, 30);
```

If the RR format is used, the system provides the correct century automatically, even if it is not the current one.

Creating a Script

- Use & substitution in a SQL statement to prompt for values.
- & is a placeholder for the variable value.

```
INSERT INTO departments
      (department_id, department_name, location_id)
VALUES  (&department_id, '&department_name',&location);
```

Define Substitution Variables

"department_id"

"department_name"

"location"

```
1 row created.
```

ORACLE

8-10

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Creating a Script to Manipulate Data

You can save commands with substitution variables to a file and execute the commands in the file. The example above records information for a department in the DEPARTMENTS table.

Run the script file and you are prompted for input for the & substitution variables. The values you input are then substituted into the statement. This allows you to run the same script file over and over, but supply a different set of values each time you run it.

Copying Rows from Another Table

- Write your **INSERT** statement with a subquery.

```
INSERT INTO sales_reps(id, name, salary, commission_pct)
  SELECT employee_id, last_name, salary, commission_pct
  FROM   employees
  WHERE  job_id LIKE '%REP%';
4 rows created.
```

- Do not use the **VALUES** clause.
- Match the number of columns in the **INSERT** clause to those in the subquery.

ORACLE

8-11

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Copying Rows from Another Table

You can use the **INSERT** statement to add rows to a table where the values are derived from existing tables. In place of the **VALUES** clause, you use a subquery.

Syntax

```
INSERT INTO table [ column (, column) ] subquery;
```

In the syntax:

<i>table</i>	is the table name
<i>column</i>	is the name of the column in the table to populate
<i>subquery</i>	is the subquery that returns rows into the table

The number of columns and their data types in the column list of the **INSERT** clause must match the number of values and their data types in the subquery. To create a copy of the rows of a table, use **SELECT *** in the subquery.

```
INSERT INTO copy_emp
  SELECT *
  FROM employees;
```

For more information, see *Oracle9i SQL Reference*, “**SELECT**,” section on subqueries.

Changing Data in a Table

EMPLOYEES

EMPLOYEE_ID	FIRST_NAME	LAST_NAME	EMAIL	HIRE_DATE	JOB_ID	SALARY	DEPARTMENT_ID	COMM.
100	Steven	King	SKING	17-JUN-87	AD_PRES	24000	90	
101	Neena	Kochhar	NKOCHHAR	21-SEP-89	AD_VP	17000	90	
102	Lex	De Haan	LDEHAAN	13-JAN-93	AD_VP	17000	90	
103	Alexander	Hunold	AHUNOLD	03-JAN-90	IT_PROG	9000	60	
104	Bruce	Ernst	BERNST	21-MAY-91	IT_PROG	6000	60	
107	Diana	Lorentz	DLORENTZ	07-FEB-99	IT_PROG	4200	60	
124	Kevin	Mourgos	KMOURGOS	16-NOV-99	ST_MAN	5800	50	

Update rows in the **EMPLOYEES** table.



EMPLOYEE_ID	FIRST_NAME	LAST_NAME	EMAIL	HIRE_DATE	JOB_ID	SALARY	DEPARTMENT_ID	COMM.
100	Steven	King	SKING	17-JUN-87	AD_PRES	24000	90	
101	Neena	Kochhar	NKOCHHAR	21-SEP-89	AD_VP	17000	90	
102	Lex	De Haan	LDEHAAN	13-JAN-93	AD_VP	17000	90	
103	Alexander	Hunold	AHUNOLD	03-JAN-90	IT_PROG	9000	30	
104	Bruce	Ernst	BERNST	21-MAY-91	IT_PROG	6000	30	
107	Diana	Lorentz	DLORENTZ	07-FEB-99	IT_PROG	4200	30	
124	Kevin	Mourgos	KMOURGOS	16-NOV-99	ST_MAN	5800	50	

Changing Data in a Table

The graphic in the slide illustrates changing the department number for employees in department 60 to department 30.

The UPDATE Statement Syntax

- Modify existing rows with the UPDATE statement.

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

- Update more than one row at a time, if required.

ORACLE

8-13

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Updating Rows

You can modify existing rows by using the UPDATE statement.

In the syntax:

<i>table</i>	is the name of the table
<i>column</i>	is the name of the column in the table to populate
<i>value</i>	is the corresponding value or subquery for the column
<i>condition</i>	identifies the rows to be updated and is composed of column names expressions, constants, subqueries, and comparison operators

Confirm the update operation by querying the table to display the updated rows.

For more information, see *Oracle9i SQL Reference*, “UPDATE.”

Note: In general, use the primary key to identify a single row. Using other columns can unexpectedly cause several rows to be updated. For example, identifying a single row in the EMPLOYEES table by name is dangerous, because more than one employee may have the same name.

Updating Rows in a Table

- **Specific row or rows are modified if you specify the WHERE clause.**

```
UPDATE employees
SET    department_id = 70
WHERE  employee_id = 113;
1 row updated.
```

- **All rows in the table are modified if you omit the WHERE clause.**

```
UPDATE  copy_emp
SET     department_id = 110;
22 rows updated.
```

ORACLE

8-14

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Updating Rows (continued)

The UPDATE statement modifies specific rows if the WHERE clause is specified. The example in the slide transfers employee 113 (Popp) to department 70.

If you omit the WHERE clause, all the rows in the table are modified.

```
SELECT last_name, department_id
FROM   copy_emp;
```

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID
King	110
Kochhar	110
De Haan	110
Hunold	110
Ernst	110
Lorentz	110
Mourgos	110
Gietz	110

22 rows selected.

Note: The COPY_EMP table has the same data as the EMPLOYEES table.

Updating Two Columns with a Subquery

Update employee 114's job and department to match that of employee 205.

```
UPDATE employees
SET   job_id = (SELECT job_id
                FROM   employees
                WHERE  employee_id = 205),
      salary = (SELECT salary
                FROM   employees
                WHERE  employee_id = 205)
WHERE employee_id = 114;
1 row updated.
```

ORACLE

8-15

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Updating Two Columns with a Subquery

You can update multiple columns in the SET clause of an UPDATE statement by writing multiple subqueries.

Syntax

```
UPDATE table
SET   column =
      (SELECT column
       FROM table
       WHERE condition)
[ ,
  column =
      (SELECT column
       FROM table
       WHERE condition)]
[WHERE condition] ;
```

Note: If no rows are updated, a message "0 rows updated." is returned.

Updating Rows Based on Another Table

Use subqueries in UPDATE statements to update rows in a table based on values from another table.

```
UPDATE copy_emp
SET    department_id = (SELECT department_id
                        FROM employees
                        WHERE employee_id = 100)
WHERE  job_id        = (SELECT job_id
                        FROM employees
                        WHERE employee_id = 200);

1 row updated.
```

ORACLE

Updating Rows Based on Another Table

You can use subqueries in UPDATE statements to update rows in a table. The example on the slide updates the COPY_EMP table based on the values from the EMPLOYEES table. It changes the department number of all employees with employee 200's job ID to employee 100's current department number.

Updating Rows: Integrity Constraint Error

```
UPDATE employees
SET    department_id = 55
WHERE  department_id = 110;
```

```
UPDATE employees
*
ERROR at line 1:
ORA-02291: integrity constraint (HR.EMP_DEPT_FK)
violated - parent key not found
```

Department number 55 does not exist

ORACLE

8-17

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Integrity Constraint Error

If you attempt to update a record with a value that is tied to an integrity constraint, an error is returned.

In the example on the slide, department number 55 does not exist in the parent table, DEPARTMENTS, and so you receive the parent key violation ORA-02291.

Note: Integrity constraints ensure that the data adheres to a predefined set of rules. A subsequent lesson covers integrity constraints in greater depth.

Removing a Row from a Table

DEPARTMENTS

DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME	MANAGER_ID	LOCATION_ID
10	Administration	200	1700
20	Marketing	201	1800
70	Public Relations	100	1700
30	Purchasing		
50	Shipping	124	1500
60	IT	103	1400
100	Finance		
80	Sales	149	2500

Delete a row from the DEPARTMENTS table.

DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME	MANAGER_ID	LOCATION_ID
10	Administration	200	1700
20	Marketing	201	1800
70	Public Relations	100	1700
30	Purchasing		
50	Shipping	124	1500
60	IT	103	1400
80	Sales	149	2500

ORACLE

Removing a Row from a Table

The graphic in the slide removes the Finance department from the DEPARTMENTS table (assuming that there are no constraints defined on the DEPARTMENTS table).

The DELETE Statement

You can remove existing rows from a table by using the DELETE statement.

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

ORACLE

8-19

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Deleting Rows

You can remove existing rows by using the DELETE statement.

In the syntax:

<i>table</i>	is the table name
<i>condition</i>	identifies the rows to be deleted and is composed of column names, expressions, constants, subqueries, and comparison operators

Note: If no rows are deleted, a message “0 rows deleted.” is returned:

For more information, see *Oracle9i SQL Reference*, “DELETE.”

Deleting Rows from a Table

- **Specific rows are deleted if you specify the WHERE clause.**

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

- **All rows in the table are deleted if you omit the WHERE clause.**

```
DELETE FROM copy_emp;
22 rows deleted.
```

ORACLE

8-20

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Deleting Rows from the Table

You can delete specific rows by specifying the WHERE clause in the DELETE statement. The example in the slide deletes the Finance department from the DEPARTMENTS table. You can confirm the delete operation by displaying the deleted rows using the SELECT statement.

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

no rows selected.

If you omit the WHERE clause, all rows in the table are deleted. The second example on the slide deletes all the rows from the COPY_EMP table, because no WHERE clause has been specified.

Example

Remove rows identified in the WHERE clause.

```
DELETE FROM employees
WHERE employee_id = 114;
```

1 row deleted.

```
DELETE FROM departments
WHERE department_id IN (30, 40);
```

2 rows deleted.

Deleting Rows Based on Another Table

Use subqueries in `DELETE` statements to remove rows from a table based on values from another table.

```
DELETE FROM employees
WHERE department_id =
           (SELECT department_id
            FROM departments
            WHERE department_name LIKE '%Public%');
1 row deleted.
```

ORACLE

8-21

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Deleting Rows Based on Another Table

You can use subqueries to delete rows from a table based on values from another table. The example in the slide deletes all the employees who are in a department where the department name contains the Public string. The subquery searches the `DEPARTMENTS` table to find the department number based on the department name containing the Public string. The subquery then feeds the department number to the main query, which deletes rows of data from the `EMPLOYEES` table based on this department number.

Deleting Rows: Integrity Constraint Error

```
DELETE FROM departments
WHERE      department_id = 60;
```

```
DELETE FROM departments
          *
ERROR at line 1:
ORA-02292: integrity constraint (HR.EMP_DEPT_FK)
violated - child record found
```

*You cannot delete a row
that contains a primary key
that is used as a foreign key
in another table.*

ORACLE

8-22

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Integrity Constraint Error

If you attempt to delete a record with a value that is tied to an integrity constraint, an error is returned.

The example in the slide tries to delete department number 60 from the DEPARTMENTS table, but it results in an error because department number is used as a foreign key in the EMPLOYEES table. If the parent record that you attempt to delete has child records, then you receive the child record found violation ORA-02292.

The following statement works because there are no employees in department 70:

```
DELETE FROM departments
WHERE      department_id = 70;
```

1 row deleted.

Using a Subquery in an INSERT Statement

```
INSERT INTO
  (SELECT employee_id, last_name,
          email, hire_date, job_id, salary,
          department_id
   FROM   employees
   WHERE  department_id = 50)
VALUES (99999, 'Taylor', 'DTAYLOR',
        TO_DATE('07-JUN-99', 'DD-MON-RR'),
        'ST_CLERK', 5000, 50);

1 row created.
```

ORACLE

Using a Subquery in an INSERT Statement

You can use a subquery in place of the table name in the INTO clause of the INSERT statement.

The select list of this subquery must have the same number of columns as the column list of the VALUES clause. Any rules on the columns of the base table must be followed in order for the INSERT statement to work successfully. For example, you could not put in a duplicate employee ID, nor leave out a value for a mandatory not null column.

Using a Subquery in an INSERT Statement

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, email, hire_date,  
       job_id, salary, department_id  
FROM   employees  
WHERE  department_id = 50;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	EMAIL	HIRE_DATE	JOB_ID	SALARY	DEPARTMENT_ID
124	Mourgos	KMOURGOS	16-NOV-99	ST_MAN	5900	50
141	Rajs	TRAJS	17-OCT-95	ST_CLERK	3500	50
142	Davies	CDAVIES	29-JAN-97	ST_CLERK	3100	50
143	Matos	RMATOS	15-MAR-98	ST_CLERK	2800	50
144	Vargas	PVARGAS	09-JUL-98	ST_CLERK	2900	50
99999	Taylor	DTAYLOR	07-JUN-99	ST_CLERK	5000	50

6 rows selected.

ORACLE

Using a Subquery in an INSERT Statement

The example shows the results of the subquery that was used to identify the table for the INSERT statement.

Using the WITH CHECK OPTION Keyword on DML Statements

- A subquery is used to identify the table and columns of the DML statement.
- The WITH CHECK OPTION keyword prohibits you from changing rows that are not in the subquery.

```
INSERT INTO (SELECT employee_id, last_name, email,
                hire_date, job_id, salary
            FROM employees
            WHERE department_id = 50 WITH CHECK OPTION)
VALUES (99998, 'Smith', 'JSMITH',
        TO_DATE('07-JUN-99', 'DD-MON-RR'),
        'ST_CLERK', 5000);
INSERT INTO
*
ERROR at line 1:
ORA-01402: view WITH CHECK OPTION where-clause violation
```

ORACLE

The WITH CHECK OPTION Keyword

Specify WITH CHECK OPTION to indicate that, if the subquery is used in place of a table in an INSERT, UPDATE, or DELETE statement, no changes that would produce rows that are not included in the subquery are permitted to that table.

In the example shown, the WITH CHECK OPTION keyword is used. The subquery identifies rows that are in department 50, but the department ID is not in the SELECT list, and a value is not provided for it in the VALUES list. Inserting this row would result in a department ID of null, which is not in the subquery.

Overview of the Explicit Default Feature

- With the explicit default feature, you can use the **DEFAULT** keyword as a column value where the column default is desired.
- The addition of this feature is for compliance with the **SQL: 1999 Standard**.
- This allows the user to control where and when the default value should be applied to data.
- Explicit defaults can be used in **INSERT** and **UPDATE** statements.

ORACLE

8-26

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Explicit Defaults

The **DEFAULT** keyword can be used in **INSERT** and **UPDATE** statements to identify a default column value. If no default value exists, a null value is used.

Using Explicit Default Values

- **DEFAULT with INSERT:**

```
INSERT INTO departments
  (department_id, department_name, manager_id)
VALUES (300, 'Engineering', DEFAULT);
```

- **DEFAULT with UPDATE:**

```
UPDATE departments
SET manager_id = DEFAULT WHERE department_id = 10;
```

ORACLE

Using Explicit Default Values

Specify `DEFAULT` to set the column to the value previously specified as the default value for the column. If no default value for the corresponding column has been specified, Oracle sets the column to null.

In the first example shown, the `INSERT` statement uses a default value for the `MANAGER_ID` column. If there is no default value defined for the column, a null value is inserted instead.

The second example uses the `UPDATE` statement to set the `MANAGER_ID` column to a default value for department 10. If no default value is defined for the column, it changes the value to null.

Note: When creating a table, you can specify a default value for a column. This is discussed in the lesson “Creating and Managing Tables.”

The MERGE Statement

- Provides the ability to conditionally update or insert data into a database table
- Performs an UPDATE if the row exists and an INSERT if it is a new row:
 - Avoids separate updates
 - Increases performance and ease of use
 - Is useful in data warehousing applications

ORACLE

8-28

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

MERGE Statements

SQL has been extended to include the MERGE statement. Using this statement, you can update or insert a row conditionally into a table, thus avoiding multiple UPDATE statements. The decision whether to update or insert into the target table is based on a condition in the ON clause.

Because the MERGE command combines the INSERT and UPDATE commands, you need both INSERT and UPDATE privileges on the target table and the SELECT privilege on the source table.

The MERGE statement is deterministic. You cannot update the same row of the target table multiple times in the same MERGE statement.

An alternative approach is to use PL/SQL loops and multiple DML statements. The MERGE statement, however, is easy to use and more simply expressed as a single SQL statement.

The MERGE statement is suitable in a number of data warehousing applications. For example, in a data warehousing application, you may need to work with data coming from multiple sources, some of which may be duplicates. With the MERGE statement, you can conditionally add or modify rows.

MERGE Statement Syntax

You can conditionally insert or update rows in a table by using the MERGE statement.

```
MERGE INTO table_name AS table_alias
  USING (table/view/sub_query) AS alias
  ON (join condition)
  WHEN MATCHED THEN
    UPDATE SET
      col1 = col_val1,
      col2 = col2_val
  WHEN NOT MATCHED THEN
    INSERT (column_list)
    VALUES (column_values);
```

ORACLE

8-29

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Merging Rows

You can update existing rows and insert new rows conditionally by using the MERGE statement.

In the syntax:

INTO clause	specifies the target table you are updating or inserting into
USING clause	identifies the source of the data to be updated or inserted; can be a table, view, or subquery
ON clause	the condition upon which the MERGE operation either updates or inserts
WHEN MATCHED WHEN NOT MATCHED	instructs the server how to respond to the results of the join condition

For more information, see *Oracle9i SQL Reference*, “MERGE.”

Merging Rows

Insert or update rows in the COPY_EMP table to match the EMPLOYEES table.

```
MERGE INTO copy_emp AS c
  USING employees e
  ON (c.employee_id = e.employee_id)
WHEN MATCHED THEN
  UPDATE SET
    c.first_name      = e.first_name,
    c.last_name       = e.last_name,
    ...
    c.department_id  = e.department_id
WHEN NOT MATCHED THEN
  INSERT VALUES(e.employee_id, e.first_name, e.last_name,
                e.email, e.phone_number, e.hire_date, e.job_id,
                e.salary, e.commission_pct, e.manager_id,
                e.department_id);
```

ORACLE

8-30

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Merging Rows: Example

```
MERGE INTO copy_emp AS c
  USING employees e
  ON (c.employee_id = e.employee_id)
WHEN MATCHED THEN
  UPDATE SET
    c.first_name      = e.first_name,
    c.last_name       = e.last_name,
    c.email            = e.email,
    c.phone_number    = e.phone_number,
    c.hire_date       = e.hire_date,
    c.job_id          = e.job_id,
    c.salary           = e.salary,
    c.commission_pct  = e.commission_pct,
    c.manager_id      = e.manager_id,
    c.department_id   = e.department_id
WHEN NOT MATCHED THEN
  INSERT VALUES(e.employee_id, e.first_name, e.last_name,
                e.email, e.phone_number, e.hire_date, e.job_id,
                e.salary, e.commission_pct, e.manager_id,
                e.department_id);
```

The example shown matches the EMPLOYEE_ID in the COPY_EMP table to the EMPLOYEE_ID in the EMPLOYEES table. If a match is found, the row in the COPY_EMP table is updated to match the row in the EMPLOYEES table. If the row is not found, it is inserted into the COPY_EMP table.

Merging Rows

```
SELECT *  
FROM COPY_EMP;  
  
no rows selected
```

```
MERGE INTO copy_emp c  
  USING employees e  
  ON (c.employee_id = e.employee_id)  
WHEN MATCHED THEN  
  UPDATE SET  
  ...  
WHEN NOT MATCHED THEN  
  INSERT VALUES...;
```

```
SELECT *  
FROM COPY_EMP;  
  
20 rows selected.
```

ORACLE

Example of Merging Rows

The condition `c.employee_id = e.employee_id` is evaluated. Because the `COPY_EMP` table is empty, the condition returns false: there are no matches. The logic falls into the `WHEN NOT MATCHED` clause, and the `MERGE` command inserts the rows of the `EMPLOYEES` table into the `COPY_EMP` table.

If rows existed in the `COPY_EMP` table and employee IDs matched in both tables (the `COPY_EMP` and `EMPLOYEES` tables), the existing rows in the `COPY_EMP` table would be updated to match the `EMPLOYEES` table.

Database Transactions

A database transaction consists of one of the following:

- **DML statements which constitute one consistent change to the data**
- **One DDL statement**
- **One DCL statement**

ORACLE

8-32

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Database Transactions

The Oracle Server ensures data consistency based on transactions. Transactions give you more flexibility and control when changing data, and they ensure data consistency in the event of user process failure or system failure.

Transactions consist of DML statements that make up one consistent change to the data. For example, a transfer of funds between two accounts should include the debit to one account and the credit to another account in the same amount. Both actions should either fail or succeed together; the credit should not be committed without the debit.

Transaction Types

Type	Description
Data manipulation language (DML)	Consists of any number of DML statements that the Oracle Server treats as a single entity or a logical unit of work
Data definition language (DDL)	Consists of only one DDL statement
Data control language (DCL)	Consists of only one DCL statement

Database Transactions

- **Begin when the first DML SQL statement is executed**
- **End with one of the following events:**
 - **A COMMIT or ROLLBACK statement is issued**
 - **A DDL or DCL statement executes (automatic commit)**
 - **The user exits *iSQL*Plus***
 - **The system crashes**

ORACLE

8-33

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

When Does a Transaction Start and End?

A transaction begins when the first DML statement is encountered and ends when one of the following occurs:

- A COMMIT or ROLLBACK statement is issued
- A DDL statement, such as CREATE, is issued
- A DCL statement is issued
- The user exits *iSQL*Plus*
- A machine fails or the system crashes

After one transaction ends, the next executable SQL statement automatically starts the next transaction.

A DDL statement or a DCL statement is automatically committed and therefore implicitly ends a transaction.

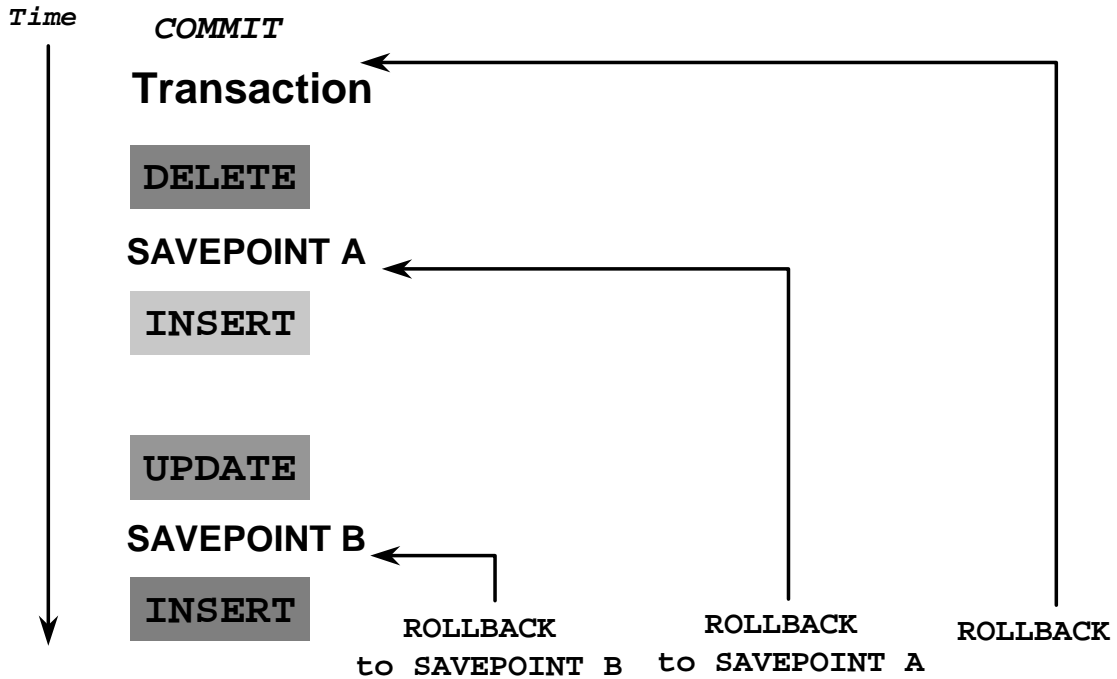
Advantages of COMMIT and ROLLBACK Statements

With COMMIT and ROLLBACK statements, you can:

- **Ensure data consistency**
- **Preview data changes before making changes permanent**
- **Group logically related operations**

ORACLE

Controlling Transactions



ORACLE

8-35

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Explicit Transaction Control Statements

You can control the logic of transactions by using the COMMIT, SAVEPOINT, and ROLLBACK statements.

Statement	Description
COMMIT	Ends the current transaction by making all pending data changes permanent
SAVEPOINT <i>name</i>	Marks a savepoint within the current transaction
ROLLBACK	ROLLBACK ends the current transaction by discarding all pending data changes
ROLLBACK TO <i>SAVEPOINT name</i>	ROLLBACK TO SAVEPOINT rolls back the current transaction to the specified savepoint, thereby discarding any changes and or savepoints created after the savepoint to which you are rolling back. If you omit the TO SAVEPOINT clause, the ROLLBACK statement rolls back the entire transaction. As savepoints are logical, there is no way to list the savepoints you have created.

Note: SAVEPOINT is not ANSI standard SQL.

Rolling Back Changes to a Marker

- Create a marker in a current transaction by using the `SAVEPOINT` statement.
- Roll back to that marker by using the `ROLLBACK TO SAVEPOINT` statement.

```
UPDATE...  
SAVEPOINT update_done;  
Savepoint created.  
INSERT...  
ROLLBACK TO update_done;  
Rollback complete.
```

ORACLE

Rolling Back Changes to a Savepoint

You can create a marker in the current transaction by using the `SAVEPOINT` statement which divides the transaction into smaller sections. You can then discard pending changes up to that marker by using the `ROLLBACK TO SAVEPOINT` statement.

If you create a second savepoint with the same name as an earlier savepoint, the earlier savepoint is deleted.

Implicit Transaction Processing

- **An automatic commit occurs under the following circumstances:**
 - DDL statement is issued
 - DCL statement is issued
 - Normal exit from *iSQL*Plus*, without explicitly issuing `COMMIT` or `ROLLBACK` statements
- **An automatic rollback occurs under an abnormal termination of *iSQL*Plus* or a system failure.**

ORACLE

8-37

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Implicit Transaction Processing

Status	Circumstances
Automatic commit	DDL statement or DCL statement is issued. <i>iSQL*Plus</i> exited normally, without explicitly issuing <code>COMMIT</code> or <code>ROLLBACK</code> commands.
Automatic rollback	Abnormal termination of <i>iSQL*Plus</i> or system failure.

Note: A third command is available in *iSQL*Plus*. The `AUTOCOMMIT` command can be toggled on or off. If set to on, each individual DML statement is committed as soon as it is executed. You cannot roll back the changes. If set to off, the `COMMIT` statement can still be issued explicitly. Also, the `COMMIT` statement is issued when a DDL statement is issued or when you exit from *iSQL*Plus*.

System Failures

When a transaction is interrupted by a system failure, the entire transaction is automatically rolled back. This prevents the error from causing unwanted changes to the data and returns the tables to their state at the time of the last commit. In this way, the Oracle Server protects the integrity of the tables.

From *iSQL*Plus*, a normal exit from the session is accomplished by clicking the Exit button. With *SQL*Plus*, a normal exit is accomplished by typing the command `EXIT` at the prompt. Closing the window is interpreted as an abnormal exit.

State of the Data Before COMMIT or ROLLBACK

- The previous state of the data can be recovered.
- The current user can review the results of the DML operations by using the `SELECT` statement.
- Other users *cannot* view the results of the DML statements by the current user.
- The affected rows are *locked*; other users cannot change the data within the affected rows.

ORACLE

8-38

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Committing Changes

Every data change made during the transaction is temporary until the transaction is committed.

State of the data before COMMIT or ROLLBACK statements are issued:

- Data manipulation operations primarily affect the database buffer; therefore, the previous state of the data can be recovered.
- The current user can review the results of the data manipulation operations by querying the tables.
- Other users cannot view the results of the data manipulation operations made by the current user. The Oracle Server institutes read consistency to ensure that each user sees data as it existed at the last commit.
- The affected rows are locked; other users cannot change the data in the affected rows.

State of the Data After COMMIT

- **Data changes are made permanent in the database.**
- **The previous state of the data is permanently lost.**
- **All users can view the results.**
- **Locks on the affected rows are released; those rows are available for other users to manipulate.**
- **All savepoints are erased.**

ORACLE

8-39

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Committing Changes (continued)

Make all pending changes permanent by using the COMMIT statement. Following a COMMIT statement:

- Data changes are written to the database.
- The previous state of the data is permanently lost.
- All users can view the results of the transaction.
- The locks on the affected rows are released; the rows are now available for other users to perform new data changes.
- All savepoints are erased.

Committing Data

- **Make the changes.**

```
DELETE FROM employees
WHERE  employee_id = 99999;
1 row deleted.

INSERT INTO departments
VALUES (290, 'Corporate Tax', NULL, 1700);
1 row inserted.
```

- **Commit the changes.**

```
COMMIT;
Commit complete.
```

ORACLE

8-40

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Committing Changes (continued)

The example in the slide deletes a row from the EMPLOYEES table and inserts a new row into the DEPARTMENTS table. It then makes the change permanent by issuing the COMMIT statement.

Example

Remove departments 290 and 300 in the DEPARTMENTS table, and update a row in the COPY_EMP table. Make the data change permanent.

```
DELETE FROM departments
WHERE  department_id IN (290, 300);

2 rows deleted.
```

```
UPDATE copy_emp
  SET department_id = 80
  WHERE employee_id = 206;

1 row updated.
```

```
COMMIT;
```

```
Commit Complete.
```

State of the Data After ROLLBACK

Discard all pending changes by using the ROLLBACK statement:

- Data changes are undone.
- Previous state of the data is restored.
- Locks on the affected rows are released.

```
DELETE FROM copy_emp;  
22 rows deleted.  
ROLLBACK;  
Rollback complete.
```

ORACLE

8-41

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Rolling Back Changes

Discard all pending changes by using the ROLLBACK statement. Following a ROLLBACK statement:

- Data changes are undone.
- The previous state of the data is restored.
- The locks on the affected rows are released.

Example

While attempting to remove a record from the TEST table, you can accidentally empty the table. You can correct the mistake, reissue the proper statement, and make the data change permanent.

```
DELETE FROM test;  
25,000 rows deleted.  
  
ROLLBACK;  
Rollback complete.  
  
DELETE FROM test  
WHERE id = 100;  
1 row deleted.  
  
SELECT *  
FROM test  
WHERE id = 100;  
No rows selected.  
  
COMMIT;  
Commit complete.
```

Statement-Level Rollback

- **If a single DML statement fails during execution, only that statement is rolled back.**
- **The Oracle Server implements an implicit savepoint.**
- **All other changes are retained.**
- **The user should terminate transactions explicitly by executing a COMMIT or ROLLBACK statement.**

ORACLE

8-42

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Statement-Level Rollbacks

Part of a transaction can be discarded by an implicit rollback if a statement execution error is detected. If a single DML statement fails during execution of a transaction, its effect is undone by a statement-level rollback, but the changes made by the previous DML statements in the transaction are not discarded. They can be committed or rolled back explicitly by the user.

The Oracle Server issues an implicit commit before and after any data definition language (DDL) statement. So, even if your DDL statement does not execute successfully, you cannot roll back the previous statement because the server issued a commit.

Terminate your transactions explicitly by executing a COMMIT or ROLLBACK statement.

Read Consistency

- **Read consistency guarantees a consistent view of the data at all times.**
- **Changes made by one user do not conflict with changes made by another user.**
- **Read consistency ensures that on the same data:**
 - **Readers do not wait for writers**
 - **Writers do not wait for readers**

ORACLE

8-43

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Read Consistency

Database users access the database in two ways:

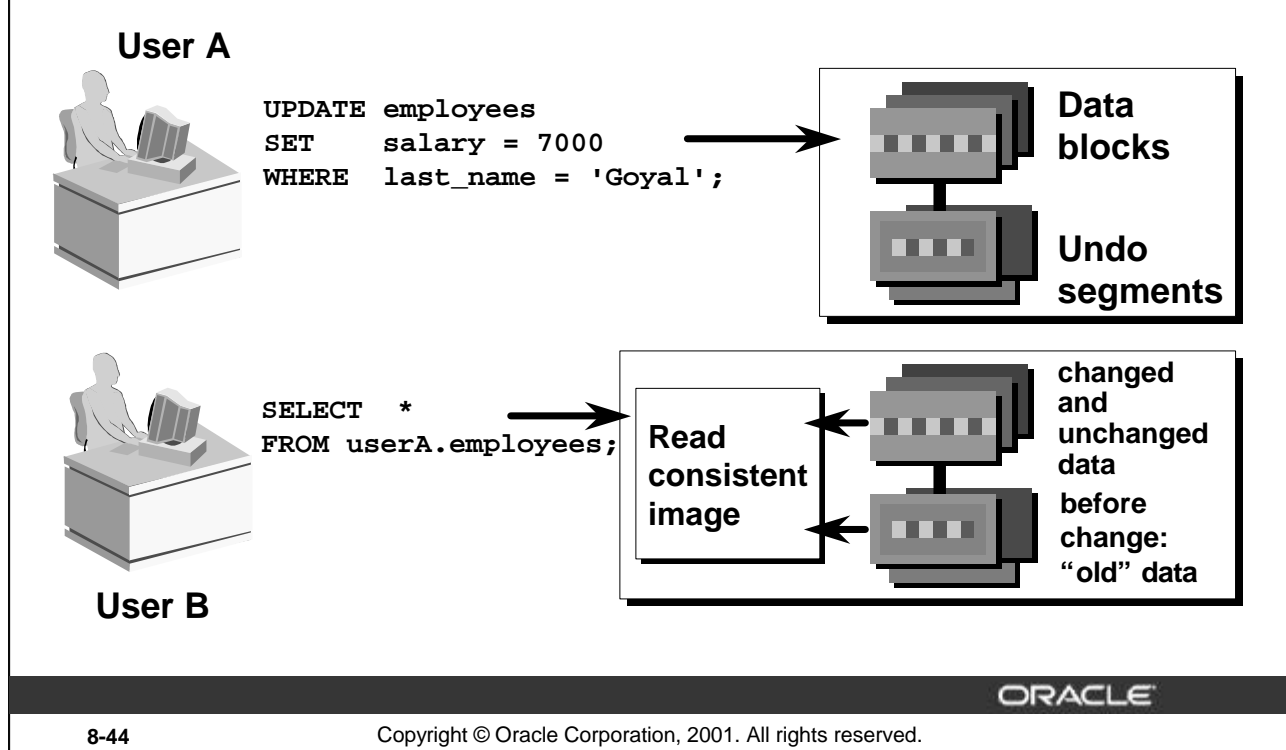
- Read operations (SELECT statement)
- Write operations (INSERT, UPDATE, and DELETE statements)

You need read consistency so that the following occur:

- The database reader and writer are ensured a consistent view of the data.
- Readers do not view data that is in the process of being changed.
- Writers are ensured that the changes to the database are done in a consistent way.
- Changes made by one writer do not disrupt or conflict with changes another writer is making.

The purpose of read consistency is to ensure that each user sees data as it existed at the last commit, before a DML operation started.

Implementation of Read Consistency



Implementation of Read Consistency

Read consistency is an automatic implementation. It keeps a partial copy of the database in undo segments.

When an insert, update, or delete operation is made to the database, the Oracle Server takes a copy of the data before it is changed and writes it to a undo segment.

All readers, except the one who issued the change, still see the database as it existed before the changes started; they view the undo segment's snapshot of the data.

Before changes are committed to the database, only the user who is modifying the data sees the database with the alterations; everyone else sees the snapshot in the undo segment. This guarantees that readers of the data read consistent data that is not currently undergoing change.

When a DML statement is committed, the change made to the database becomes visible to anyone executing a SELECT statement. The space occupied by the "old" data in the undo segment file is freed for reuse.

If the transaction is rolled back, the changes are undone:

- The original, older version, of the data in the undo segment is written back to the table.
- All users see the database as it existed before the transaction began.

Locking

In an Oracle database, locks:

- **Prevent destructive interaction between concurrent transactions**
- **Require no user action**
- **Use the lowest level of restrictiveness**
- **Are held for the duration of the transaction**
- **Are of two types: explicit locking and implicit locking**

ORACLE

8-45

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

What Are Locks?

Locks are mechanisms that prevent destructive interaction between transactions accessing the same resource, either a user object (such as tables or rows) or a system object not visible to users (such as shared data structures and data dictionary rows).

How the Oracle Database Locks Data

Locking is performed automatically and requires no user action. Implicit locking occurs for SQL statements as necessary, depending on the action requested. Implicit locking occurs for all SQL statements except `SELECT`.

The users can also lock data manually, which is called explicit locking.

Implicit Locking

- **Two lock modes:**
 - **Exclusive: Locks out other users**
 - **Share: Allows other users to access the server**
- **High level of data concurrency:**
 - **DML: Table share, row exclusive**
 - **Queries: No locks required**
 - **DDL: Protects object definitions**
- **Locks held until commit or rollback**

ORACLE

8-46

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

DML Locking

When performing data manipulation language (DML) operations, the Oracle Server provides data concurrency through DML locking. DML locks occur at two levels:

- A share lock is automatically obtained at the table level during DML operations. With share lock mode, several transactions can acquire share locks on the same resource.
- An exclusive lock is acquired automatically for each row modified by a DML statement. Exclusive locks prevent the row from being changed by other transactions until the transaction is committed or rolled back. This lock ensures that no other user can modify the same row at the same time and overwrite changes not yet committed by another user.

Note: DDL locks occur when you modify a database object such as a table.

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to use DML statements and control transactions.

Statement	Description
INSERT	Adds a new row to the table
UPDATE	Modifies existing rows in the table
DELETE	Removes existing rows from the table
MERGE	Conditionally inserts or updates data in a table
COMMIT	Makes all pending changes permanent
SAVEPOINT	It is used to rollback to the savepoint marker
ROLLBACK	Discards all pending data changes

ORACLE

8-47

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to manipulate data in the Oracle Database by using the INSERT, UPDATE, and DELETE statements. Control data changes by using the COMMIT, SAVEPOINT, and ROLLBACK statements.

The Oracle Server guarantees a consistent view of data at all times.

Locking can be implicit or explicit.

Practice 8 Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

- **Inserting rows into the tables**
- **Updating and deleting rows in the table**
- **Controlling transactions**

ORACLE

8-48

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Practice 8 Overview

In this practice, you add rows to the MY_EMPLOYEE table, update and delete data from the table, and control your transactions.

Practice 8

Insert data into the MY_EMPLOYEE table.

1. Run the statement in the lab8_1.sql script to build the MY_EMPLOYEE table to be used for the lab.
2. Describe the structure of the MY_EMPLOYEE table to identify the column names.

Name	Null?	Type
ID	NOT NULL	NUMBER(4)
LAST_NAME		VARCHAR2(25)
FIRST_NAME		VARCHAR2(25)
USERID		VARCHAR2(8)
SALARY		NUMBER(9,2)

3. Add the first row of data to the MY_EMPLOYEE table from the following sample data. Do not list the columns in the INSERT clause.

ID	LAST_NAME	FIRST_NAME	USERID	SALARY
1	Patel	Ralph	rpatel	895
2	Dancs	Betty	bdancs	860
3	Biri	Ben	bbiri	1100
4	Newman	Chad	cnewman	750
5	Ropeburn	Audrey	aropebur	1550

4. Populate the MY_EMPLOYEE table with the second row of sample data from the preceding list. This time, list the columns explicitly in the INSERT clause.
5. Confirm your addition to the table.

ID	LAST_NAME	FIRST_NAME	USERID	SALARY
1	Patel	Ralph	rpatel	895
2	Dancs	Betty	bdancs	860

Practice 8 (continued)

- Write an `INSERT` statement in a text file named `loademp.sql` to load rows into the `MY_EMPLOYEE` table. Concatenate the first letter of the first name and the first seven characters of the last name to produce the user ID.
- Populate the table with the next two rows of sample data by running the `INSERT` statement in the script that you created.
- Confirm your additions to the table.

ID	LAST_NAME	FIRST_NAME	USERID	SALARY
1	Patel	Ralph	rpatel	895
2	Dancs	Betty	bdancs	860
3	Biri	Ben	bbiri	1100
4	Newman	Chad	cnewman	750

- Make the data additions permanent.

Update and delete data in the `MY_EMPLOYEE` table.

- Change the last name of employee 3 to Drexler.
- Change the salary to 1000 for all employees with a salary less than 900.
- Verify your changes to the table.

ID	LAST_NAME	FIRST_NAME	USERID	SALARY
1	Patel	Ralph	rpatel	1000
2	Dancs	Betty	bdancs	1000
3	Drexler	Ben	bbiri	1100
4	Newman	Chad	cnewman	1000

- Delete Betty Dancs from the `MY_EMPLOYEE` table.
- Confirm your changes to the table.

ID	LAST_NAME	FIRST_NAME	USERID	SALARY
1	Patel	Ralph	rpatel	1000
3	Drexler	Ben	bbiri	1100
4	Newman	Chad	cnewman	1000

Practice 8 (continued)

15. Commit all pending changes.

Control data transaction to the MY_EMPLOYEE table.

16. Populate the table with the last row of sample data by modifying the statements in the script that you created in step 6. Run the statements in the script.
17. Confirm your addition to the table.

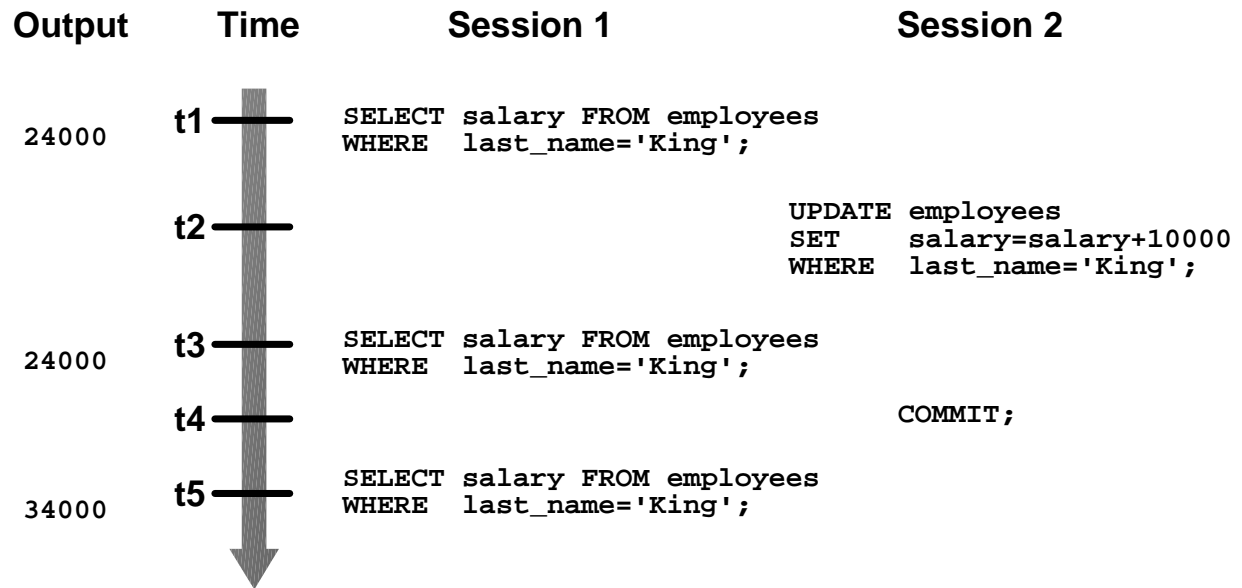
ID	LAST_NAME	FIRST_NAME	USERID	SALARY
1	Patel	Ralph	rpatel	1000
3	Drexler	Ben	bbiri	1100
4	Newman	Chad	cnewman	1000
5	Ropeburn	Audrey	aropebur	1550

18. Mark an intermediate point in the processing of the transaction.
19. Empty the entire table.
20. Confirm that the table is empty.
21. Discard the most recent DELETE operation without discarding the earlier INSERT operation.
22. Confirm that the new row is still intact.

ID	LAST_NAME	FIRST_NAME	USERID	SALARY
1	Patel	Ralph	rpatel	1000
3	Drexler	Ben	bbiri	1100
4	Newman	Chad	cnewman	1000
5	Ropeburn	Audrey	aropebur	1550

23. Make the data addition permanent.

Read Consistency Example



ORACLE

9 Creating and Managing Tables

ORACLE

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Objectives

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

- **Describe the main database objects**
- **Create tables**
- **Describe the data types that can be used when specifying column definition**
- **Alter table definitions**
- **Drop, rename, and truncate tables**

ORACLE

9-2

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Lesson Aim

In this lesson, you will learn about tables, the main database objects, and the relationships to each other. You will also learn how to create, alter, and drop tables.

Database Objects

Object	Description
Table	Basic unit of storage; composed of rows and columns
View	Logically represents subsets of data from one or more tables
Sequence	Numeric value generator
Index	Improves the performance of some queries
Synonym	Gives alternative names to objects

ORACLE

9-3

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Database Objects

An Oracle database can contain multiple data structures. Each structure should be outlined in the database design so that it can be created during the build stage of database development.

- Table: Stores data
- View: Subset of data from one or more tables
- Sequence: Numeric value generator
- Index: Improves the performance of some queries
- Synonym: Gives alternative names to objects

Oracle9i Table Structures

- Tables can be created at any time, even while users are using the database.
- You do not need to specify the size of any table. The size is ultimately defined by the amount of space allocated to the database as a whole. It is important, however, to estimate how much space a table will use over time.
- Table structure can be modified online.

Note: More database objects are available but are not covered in this course.

Naming Rules

Table names and column names:

- **Must begin with a letter**
- **Must be 1 to 30 characters long**
- **Must contain only A–Z, a–z, 0–9, _, \$, and #**
- **Must not duplicate the name of another object owned by the same user**
- **Must not be an Oracle Server reserved word**

ORACLE

9-4

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Naming Rules

Name database tables and columns according to the standard rules for naming any Oracle database object:

- Table names and column names must begin with a letter and be 1–30 characters long.
- Names must contain only the characters A–Z, a–z, 0–9, _ (underscore), \$, and # (legal characters, but their use is discouraged).
- Names must not duplicate the name of another object owned by the same Oracle Server user.
- Names must not be an Oracle Server reserved word.

Naming Guidelines

Use descriptive names for tables and other database objects.

Note: Names are case insensitive. For example, EMPLOYEES is treated as the same name as eMPloyees or eMpLOYEES.

For more information, see *Oracle9i SQL Reference*, “Object Names and Qualifiers.”

The CREATE TABLE Statement

- **You must have:**
 - CREATE TABLE privilege
 - A storage area

```
CREATE TABLE [schema.]table
              (column datatype [DEFAULT expr][, ...]);
```

- **You specify:**
 - Table name
 - Column name, column data type, and column size

ORACLE

9-5

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The CREATE TABLE Statement

Create tables to store data by executing the SQL CREATE TABLE statement. This statement is one of the data definition language (DDL) statements, which are covered in subsequent lessons. DDL statements are a subset of SQL statements used to create, modify, or remove Oracle9i database structures. These statements have an immediate effect on the database, and they also record information in the data dictionary.

To create a table, a user must have the CREATE TABLE privilege and a storage area in which to create objects. The database administrator uses data control language (DCL) statements, which are covered in a later lesson, to grant privileges to users.

In the syntax:

<i>schema</i>	is the same as the owner's name
<i>table</i>	is the name of the table
DEFAULT <i>expr</i>	specifies a default value if a value is omitted in the INSERT statement
<i>column</i>	is the name of the column
<i>datatype</i>	is the column's data type and length

Referencing Another User's Tables

- Tables belonging to other users are not in the user's schema.
- You should use the owner's name as a prefix to those tables.

ORACLE

9-6

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Referencing Another User's Tables

A *schema* is a collection of objects. Schema objects are the logical structures that directly refer to the data in a database. Schema objects include tables, views, synonyms, sequences, stored procedures, indexes, clusters, and database links.

If a table does not belong to the user, the owner's name must be prefixed to the table. For example, if there is a schema named USER_B, and USER_B has an EMPLOYEES table, then specify the following to retrieve data from that table:

```
SELECT *  
FROM user_b.employees;
```

The DEFAULT Option

- Specify a default value for a column during an INSERT operation.

```
... hire_date DATE DEFAULT SYSDATE, ...
```

- Literal values, expressions, or SQL functions are legal values.
- Another column's name or a pseudocolumn are illegal values.
- The default data type must match the column data type.

ORACLE

The DEFAULT Option

A column can be given a default value by using the DEFAULT option. This option prevents null values from entering the columns if a row is inserted without a value for the column. The default value can be a literal value, an expression, or a SQL function, such as SYSDATE and USER, but the value cannot be the name of another column or a pseudocolumn, such as NEXTVAL or CURRVAL. The default expression must match the data type of the column.

Note: CURRVAL and NEXTVAL are explained later.

Creating Tables

- **Create the table.**

```
CREATE TABLE dept
      (deptno NUMBER(2),
       dname  VARCHAR2(14),
       loc    VARCHAR2(13));
Table created.
```

- **Confirm creation of the table.**

```
DESCRIBE dept
```

Name	Null?	Type
DEPTNO		NUMBER(2)
DNAME		VARCHAR2(14)
LOC		VARCHAR2(13)

ORACLE

9-8

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Creating Tables

The example on the slide creates the DEPT table, with three columns: namely, DEPTNO, DNAME, and LOC. It further confirms the creation of the table by issuing the DESCRIBE command.

Because creating a table is a DDL statement, an automatic commit takes place when this statement is executed.

Tables in the Oracle Database

- **User tables:**
 - Are a collection of tables created and maintained by the user
 - Contain user information
- **Data dictionary:**
 - Is a collection of tables created and maintained by the Oracle Server
 - Contain database information

ORACLE

9-9

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Tables in the Oracle Database

User tables are tables created by the user, such as EMPLOYEES. There is another collection of tables and views in the Oracle Database known as the *data dictionary*. This collection is created and maintained by the Oracle Server and contains information about the database.

All data dictionary tables are owned by the SYS user. The base tables are rarely accessed by the user because the information in them is not easy to understand. Therefore, users typically access data dictionary views because the information is presented in a format that is easier to understand. Information stored in the data dictionary includes names of the Oracle Server users, privileges granted to users, database object names, table constraints, and auditing information.

There are four categories of data dictionary views; each category has a distinct prefix that reflects its intended use.

Prefix	Description
USER_	These views contain information about objects owned by the user.
ALL_	These views contain information about all of the tables (object tables and relational tables) accessible to the user.
DBA_	These views are restricted views, which can be accessed only by people who have been assigned the DBA role.
V\$	These views are dynamic performance views, database server performance, memory, and locking.

Querying the Data Dictionary

- See the names of tables owned by the user.

```
SELECT table_name
FROM user_tables;
```

- View distinct object types owned by the user.

```
SELECT DISTINCT object_type
FROM user_objects;
```

- View tables, views, synonyms, and sequences owned by the user.

```
SELECT *
FROM user_catalog;
```

ORACLE

9-10

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Querying the Data Dictionary

You can query the data dictionary tables to view various database objects owned by you. The data dictionary tables frequently used are these:

- USER_TABLES
- USER_OBJECTS
- USER_CATALOG

Note: USER_CATALOG has a synonym called CAT. You can use this synonym instead of USER_CATALOG in SQL statements.

```
SELECT *
FROM CAT;
```

Data Types

Data Type	Description
<code>VARCHAR2(size)</code>	Variable-length character data
<code>CHAR(size)</code>	Fixed-length character data
<code>NUMBER(p,s)</code>	Variable-length numeric data
<code>DATE</code>	Date and time values
<code>LONG</code>	Variable-length character data up to 2 gigabytes
<code>CLOB</code>	Character data up to 4 gigabytes
<code>RAW</code> and <code>LONG RAW</code>	Raw binary data
<code>BLOB</code>	Binary data up to 4 gigabytes
<code>BFILE</code>	Binary data stored in an external file; up to 4 gigabytes
<code>ROWID</code>	Hexadecimal string representing the unique address of a row in its table

ORACLE

9-11

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Data Types

Data type	Description
<code>VARCHAR2(size)</code>	Variable-length character data (a maximum <i>size</i> must be specified: Minimum <i>size</i> is 1; maximum <i>size</i> is 4000)
<code>CHAR(size)</code>	Fixed-length character data of length <i>size</i> bytes (default and minimum <i>size</i> is 1; maximum <i>size</i> is 2000)
<code>NUMBER(p,s)</code>	Number having precision <i>p</i> and scale <i>s</i> (The precision is the total number of decimal digits, and the scale is the number of digits to the right of the decimal point; the precision can range from 1 to 38 and the scale can range from -84 to 127)
<code>DATE</code>	Date and time values to the nearest second between January 1, 4712 B.C., and A.D. December 31, 9999
<code>LONG</code>	Variable-length character data up to 2 gigabytes
<code>CLOB</code>	Character data up to 4 gigabytes

Data Types (continued)

Data type	Description
RAW(<i>size</i>)	Raw binary data of length <i>size</i> (a maximum <i>size</i> must be specified. maximum <i>size</i> is 2000)
LONG RAW	Raw binary data of variable length up to 2 gigabytes
BLOB	Binary data up to 4 gigabytes
BFILE	Binary data stored in an external file; up to 4 gigabytes
ROWID	Hexadecimal string representing the unique address of a row in its table. This datatype is primarily for values returned by the ROWID pseudocolumn.

- A LONG column is not copied when a table is created using a subquery.
- A LONG column cannot be included in a GROUP BY or an ORDER BY clause.
- Only one LONG column can be used per table.
- No constraints can be defined on a LONG column.
- You may want to use a CLOB column rather than a LONG column.

Datetime Data Types

Datetime enhancements with Oracle9i:

- New datetime data types have been introduced.
- New data type storage is available.
- Enhancements have been made to time zones and local time zone.

Data Type	Description
TIMESTAMP	Date with fractional seconds
INTERVAL YEAR TO MONTH	Stored as an interval of years and months
INTERVAL DAY TO SECOND	Stored as an interval of days to hours minutes and seconds

ORACLE

9-13

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Other Datetime Data Types

Data Type	Description
TIMESTAMP	Allows the time to be stored as a date with fractional seconds. There are several variations of the data type.
INTERVAL YEAR TO MONTH	Allows time to be stored as an interval of years and months.
INTERVAL DAY TO SECOND	Allows time to be stored as an interval of days to hours minutes and seconds.

Datetime Data Types

- The **TIMESTAMP** data type is an extension of the **DATE** data type.
- It stores the year, month, and day of the **DATE** data type, plus hour, minute, and second values as well as the fractional second value.
- The **TIMESTAMP** data type is specified as follows:

```
TIMESTAMP[(fractional_seconds_precision)]
```

ORACLE

9-14

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Datetime Data Types

The `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 to 9. The default is 6.

Example

```
CREATE TABLE new_employees
(employee_id NUMBER,
 first_name VARCHAR2(15),
 last_name VARCHAR2(15),
 ...
 start_date TIMESTAMP(7),
 ...);
```

In the preceding example, we created a table `NEW_EMPLOYEES` with a column `start_date` with a data type of `TIMESTAMP`. The precision of `'7'` indicates the fractional seconds precision which if not specified defaults to `'6'`.

Assume that two rows are inserted into the `NEW_EMPLOYEES` table. The output shows the differences in the display. (A `DATE` data type defaults to display the format of `DD-MON-RR`):

```
SELECT start_date FROM new_employees;

17-JUN-87 12.00.00.000000 AM
21-SEP-89 12.00.00.000000 AM
```

TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE Data Type

- **TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE is a variant of TIMESTAMP that includes a time zone displacement in its value.**
- **The time zone displacement is the difference, in hours and minutes, between local time and UTC.**

```
TIMESTAMP[(fractional_seconds_precision)]  
WITH TIME ZONE
```

ORACLE

9-15

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Datetime Data Types

UTC stand for Coordinated Universal Time: formerly Greenwich Mean Time. Two `TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE` values are considered identical if they represent the same instant in UTC, regardless of the `TIME ZONE` offsets stored in the data.

For example,

```
TIMESTAMP '1999-04-15 8:00:00 -8:00'
```

is the same as

```
TIMESTAMP '1999-04-15 11:00:00 -5:00'
```

That is, 8:00 a.m. Pacific Standard Time is the same as 11:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time.

This can also be specified as

```
TIMESTAMP '1999-04-15 8:00:00 US/Pacific'
```

Note: `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 to 9. The default is 6.

TIMESTAMP WITH LOCAL TIME Data Type

- **TIMESTAMP WITH LOCAL TIME ZONE is another variant of TIMESTAMP that includes a time zone displacement in its value.**
- **Data stored in the database is normalized to the database time zone**
- **The time zone displacement is not stored as part of the column data; the server returns the data in the users' local session time zone.**
- **TIMESTAMP WITH LOCAL TIME ZONE data type is specified as follows:**

```
TIMESTAMP[(fractional_seconds_precision)]  
WITH LOCAL TIME ZONE
```

ORACLE

9-16

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Datetime Data Types

Unlike `TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE`, you can specify columns of type `TIMESTAMP WITH LOCAL TIME ZONE` as part of a primary or unique key. The time zone displacement is the difference (in hours and minutes) between local time and UTC. There is no literal for `TIMESTAMP WITH LOCAL TIME ZONE`.

Note: `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 to 9. The default is 6.

Example

```
CREATE TABLE time_example as (order_date TIMESTAMP  
WITH LOCAL TIME ZONE);  
  
INSERT INTO time_example VALUES('15-NOV-00 09:34:28 AM');  
  
SELECT * FROM time_example;  
order_date  
-----  
15-NOV-00 09.34.28 AM
```

INTERVAL YEAR TO MONTH Data Type

- **INTERVAL YEAR TO MONTH stores a period of time using the YEAR and MONTH datetime fields.**

```
INTERVAL YEAR [(year_precision)] TO MONTH
```

- **Example:**

```
INTERVAL '312-2' YEAR(3) TO MONTH
Indicates an interval of 312 years and 2 months

INTERVAL '312' YEAR(3)
Indicates 312 years and 0 months

INTERVAL '300' MONTH(3)
Indicates an interval of 300 months
```

ORACLE

INTERVAL YEAR TO MONTH Data Type

INTERVAL YEAR TO MONTH stores a period of time using the YEAR and MONTH datetime fields. Specify INTERVAL YEAR TO MONTH as follows:

```
INTERVAL YEAR [(year_precision)] TO MONTH
```

In the syntax:

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

Restriction

The leading field must be more significant than the trailing field. For example, INTERVAL '0-1' MONTH TO YEAR is not valid.

Creating a Table by Using a Subquery Syntax

- **Create a table and insert rows by combining the `CREATE TABLE` statement and the `AS subquery` option.**

```
CREATE TABLE table
      [(column, column...)]
AS subquery;
```

- **Match the number of specified columns to the number of subquery columns.**
- **Define columns with column names and default values.**

ORACLE

9-18

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Creating a Table from Rows in Another Table

A second method for creating a table is to apply the `AS subquery` clause, which both creates the table and inserts rows returned from the subquery.

In the syntax:

<i>table</i>	is the name of the table
<i>column</i>	is the name of the column, default value, and integrity constraint
<i>subquery</i>	is the <code>SELECT</code> statement that defines the set of rows to be inserted into the new table

Guidelines

- The table is created with the specified column names, and the rows retrieved by the `SELECT` statement are inserted into the table.
- The column definition can contain only the column name and default value.
- If column specifications are given, the number of columns must equal the number of columns in the subquery `SELECT` list.
- If no column specifications are given, the column names of the table are the same as the column names in the subquery.
- The integrity rules are not passed onto the new table, only the column data type definitions.

Creating a Table by Using a Subquery

```
CREATE TABLE dept80
AS
  SELECT  employee_id, last_name,
          salary*12 ANNSAL,
          hire_date
  FROM    employees
  WHERE   department_id = 80;
```

Table created.

```
DESCRIBE dept80
```

Name	Null?	Type
EMPLOYEE_ID		NUMBER(6)
LAST_NAME	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(25)
ANNSAL		NUMBER
HIRE_DATE	NOT NULL	DATE

ORACLE

Creating a Table from Rows in Another Table (continued)

The example creates a table named DEPT80, which contains details of all the employees working in department 80. Notice that the data for the DEPT80 table comes from the EMPLOYEES table.

You can verify the existence of a database table and check column definitions by using the *iSQL*Plus* DESCRIBE command.

Be sure to give a column alias when selecting an expression. The expression SALARY*12 is given the alias ANNSAL. Without the alias, this error is generated:

```
ERROR at line 3:
```

```
ORA-00998: must name this expression with a column alias
```

The ALTER TABLE Statement

Use the ALTER TABLE statement to:

- Add a new column
- Modify an existing column
- Define a default value for the new column
- Drop a column

ORACLE

9-20

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The ALTER TABLE Statement

After you create a table, you may need to change the table structure because you omitted a column or your column definition needs to be changed or you need to remove columns. You can do this by using the ALTER TABLE statement.

The ALTER TABLE Statement

Use the ALTER TABLE statement to add, modify or drop columns.

```
ALTER TABLE table
ADD          (column datatype [DEFAULT expr]
             [, column datatype]...);
```

```
ALTER TABLE table
MODIFY      (column datatype [DEFAULT expr]
             [, column datatype]...);
```

```
ALTER TABLE table
DROP        (column);
```

ORACLE

9-21

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The ALTER TABLE Statement (continued)

You can add, modify, and drop columns to a table by using the ALTER TABLE statement.

In the syntax:

<i>table</i>	is the name of the table
ADD MODIFY DROP	is the type of modification
<i>column</i>	is the name of the new column
<i>datatype</i>	is the data type and length of the new column
DEFAULT <i>expr</i>	specifies the default value for a new column

Note: The slide gives the abridged syntax for ALTER TABLE. More about ALTER TABLE is covered in a subsequent lesson.

Adding a Column

DEPT80

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	ANNSAL	HIRE_DATE
149	Zlotkey	126000	29-JAN-00
174	Abel	132000	11-MAY-96
175	Taylor	103200	24-MAR-98

New column

JOB_ID

Add a new column to the DEPT80 table.

DEPT80

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	ANNSAL	HIRE_DATE	JOB_ID
149	Zlotkey	126000	29-JAN-00	
174	Abel	132000	11-MAY-96	
175	Taylor	103200	24-MAR-98	

ORACLE

Adding a Column

The graphic in the slide adds the `JOB_ID` column to the `DEPT80` table. Notice that the new column becomes the last column in the table.

Adding a Column

- Use the **ADD** clause to add columns.

```
ALTER TABLE dept80
ADD      (job_id VARCHAR2(9));
Table altered.
```

- The new column becomes the last column.

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	ANNSAL	HIRE_DATE	JOB_ID
149	Zotkey	129000	29-JAN-00	
174	Abel	132000	11-MAY-96	
176	Taylor	103200	24-MAR-98	

ORACLE

9-23

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Guidelines for Adding a Column

- You can add or modify columns.
- You cannot specify where the column is to appear. The new column becomes the last column.

The example in the slide adds a column named `JOB_ID` to the `DEPT80` table. The `JOB_ID` column becomes the last column in the table.

Note: If a table already contains rows when a column is added, then the new column is initially null for all the rows.

Modifying a Column

- You can change a column's data type, size, and default value.

```
ALTER TABLE dept80
MODIFY      (last_name VARCHAR2(30));
Table altered.
```

- A change to the default value affects only subsequent insertions to the table.

ORACLE

9-24

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Modifying a Column

You can modify a column definition by using the `ALTER TABLE` statement with the `MODIFY` clause. Column modification can include changes to a column's data type, size, and default value.

Guidelines

- You can increase the width or precision of a numeric column.
- You can increase the width of numeric or character columns.
- You can decrease the width of a column only if the column contains only null values or if the table has no rows.
- You can change the data type only if the column contains null values.
- You can convert a `CHAR` column to the `VARCHAR2` data type or convert a `VARCHAR2` column to the `CHAR` data type only if the column contains null values or if you do not change the size.
- A change to the default value of a column affects only subsequent insertions to the table.

Dropping a Column

Use the `DROP COLUMN` clause to drop columns you no longer need from the table.

```
ALTER TABLE dept80
DROP COLUMN job_id;
Table altered.
```

ORACLE

9-25

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Dropping a Column

You can drop a column from a table by using the `ALTER TABLE` statement with the `DROP COLUMN` clause. This is a feature available in Oracle8i and later release.

Guidelines

- The column may or may not contain data.
- Using the `ALTER TABLE` statement, only one column can be dropped at a time.
- The table must have at least one column remaining in it after it is altered.
- Once a column is dropped, it cannot be recovered.

The SET UNUSED Option

- You use the SET UNUSED option to mark one or more columns as unused.
- You use the DROP UNUSED COLUMNS option to remove the columns that are marked as unused.

```
ALTER TABLE  table
SET  UNUSED  (column);

                OR

ALTER      TABLE  table
SET UNUSED COLUMN column;
```

```
ALTER TABLE table
DROP  UNUSED COLUMNS;
```

ORACLE

9-26

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The SET UNUSED Option

The SET UNUSED option marks one or more columns as unused so that they can be dropped when the demand on system resources is lower. This is a feature available in Oracle8i and later release. Specifying this clause does not actually remove the target columns from each row in the table (that is, it does not restore the disk space used by these columns). Therefore, the response time is faster than if you executed the DROP clause. Unused columns are treated as if they were dropped, even though their column data remains in the table's rows. After a column has been marked as unused, you have no access to that column. A SELECT * query will not retrieve data from unused columns. In addition, the names and types of columns marked unused will not be displayed during a DESCRIBE, and you can add to the table a new column with the same name as an unused column. SET UNUSED information is stored in the USER_UNUSED_COL_TABS dictionary view.

The DROP UNUSED COLUMNS Option

DROP UNUSED COLUMNS removes from the table all columns currently marked as unused. You can use this statement when you want to reclaim the extra disk space from unused columns in the table. If the table contains no unused columns, the statement returns with no errors.

```
ALTER TABLE dept80
SET UNUSED (last_name);
Table altered.
```

```
ALTER TABLE dept80
DROP  UNUSED COLUMNS;
Table altered.
```

Dropping a Table

- All data and structure in the table is deleted.
- Any pending transactions are committed.
- All indexes are dropped.
- You *cannot* roll back the `DROP TABLE` statement.

```
DROP TABLE dept80;  
Table dropped.
```

ORACLE

9-27

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Dropping a Table

The `DROP TABLE` statement removes the definition of an Oracle table. When you drop a table, the database loses all the data in the table and all the indexes associated with it.

Syntax

```
DROP TABLE table
```

In the syntax:

table is the name of the table

Guidelines

- All data is deleted from the table.
- Any views and synonyms remain but are invalid.
- Any pending transactions are committed.
- Only the creator of the table or a user with the `DROP ANY TABLE` privilege can remove a table.

Note: The `DROP TABLE` statement, once executed, is irreversible. The Oracle Server does not question the action when you issue the `DROP TABLE` statement. If you own that table or have a high-level privilege, then the table is immediately removed. As with all DDL statements, `DROP TABLE` is committed automatically.

Changing the Name of an Object

- To change the name of a table, view, sequence, or synonym, execute the RENAME statement.

```
RENAME dept TO detail_dept;  
Table renamed.
```

- You must be the owner of the object.

ORACLE

9-28

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Renaming a Table

Additional DDL statements include the RENAME statement, which is used to rename a table, view, sequence, or a synonym.

Syntax

```
RENAME old_name TO new_name;
```

In the syntax:

old_name is the old name of the table, view, sequence, or synonym.

new_name is the new name of the table, view, sequence, or synonym.

You must be the owner of the object that you rename.

Truncating a Table

- **The TRUNCATE TABLE statement:**
 - Removes all rows from a table
 - Releases the storage space used by that table

```
TRUNCATE TABLE detail_dept;  
Table truncated.
```

- **You cannot roll back row removal when using TRUNCATE.**
- **Alternatively, you can remove rows by using the DELETE statement.**

ORACLE

9-29

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Truncating a Table

Another DDL statement is the TRUNCATE TABLE statement, which is used to remove all rows from a table and to release the storage space used by that table. When using the TRUNCATE TABLE statement, you cannot rollback row removal.

Syntax

```
TRUNCATE TABLE table;
```

In the syntax:

table is the name of the table

You must be the owner of the table or have DELETE TABLE system privileges to truncate a table.

The DELETE statement can also remove all rows from a table, but it does not release storage space. The TRUNCATE command is faster. Removing rows with the TRUNCATE statement is faster than removing them with the DELETE statement for the following reasons:

- The TRUNCATE statement is a data definition language (DDL) statement and generates no rollback information.
- Truncating a table does not fire the delete triggers of the table.
- If the table is the parent of a referential integrity constraint, you cannot truncate the table. Disable the constraint before issuing the TRUNCATE statement.

Adding Comments to a Table

- You can add comments to a table or column by using the **COMMENT** statement.

```
COMMENT ON TABLE employees  
IS 'Employee Information';  
Comment created.
```

- Comments can be viewed through the data dictionary views:
 - ALL_COL_COMMENTS
 - USER_COL_COMMENTS
 - ALL_TAB_COMMENTS
 - USER_TAB_COMMENTS

ORACLE

9-30

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Adding a Comment to a Table

You can add a comment of up to 2,000 bytes about a column, table, view, or snapshot by using the **COMMENT** statement. The comment is stored in the data dictionary and can be viewed in one of the following data dictionary views in the **COMMENTS** column:

- ALL_COL_COMMENTS
- USER_COL_COMMENTS
- ALL_TAB_COMMENTS
- USER_TAB_COMMENTS

Syntax

```
COMMENT ON TABLE table | COLUMN table.column  
IS 'text';
```

In the syntax:

<i>table</i>	is the name of the table
<i>column</i>	is the name of the column in a table
<i>text</i>	is the text of the comment

You can drop a comment from the database by setting it to empty string (' '):

```
COMMENT ON TABLE employees IS ' ';
```

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to use DDL statements to create, alter, drop, and rename tables.

Statement	Description
CREATE TABLE	Creates a table
ALTER TABLE	Modifies table structures
DROP TABLE	Removes the rows and table structure
RENAME	Changes the name of a table, view, sequence, or synonym
TRUNCATE	Removes all rows from a table and releases the storage space
COMMENT	Adds comments to a table or view

ORACLE

9-31

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to use DDL commands to create, alter, drop, and rename tables. You also learned how to truncate a table and add comments to a table.

CREATE TABLE

- Create a table
- Create a table based on another table by using a subquery

ALTER TABLE

- Modify table structures
- Change column widths, change column data types, and add columns

DROP TABLE

- Remove rows and a table structure
- Once executed, this statement cannot be rolled back

RENAME

- Rename a table, view, sequence, or synonym

TRUNCATE

- Remove all rows from a table and release the storage space used by the table
- The DELETE statement removes only rows

COMMENT

- Add a comment to a table or a column
- Query the data dictionary to view the comment

Practice 9 Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

- Creating new tables
- Creating a new table by using the `CREATE TABLE AS` syntax
- Modifying column definitions
- Verifying that the tables exist
- Adding comments to tables
- Dropping tables
- Altering tables

ORACLE

9-32

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Practice 9 Overview

Create new tables by using the `CREATE TABLE` statement. Confirm that the new table was added to the database. Create the syntax in the command file, and then execute the command file to create the table.

Practice 9

1. Create the DEPT table based on the following table instance chart. Place the syntax in a script called lab9_1.sql, then execute the statement in the script to create the table. Confirm that the table is created.

Column Name	ID	NAME
Key Type		
Nulls/Unique		
FK Table		
FK Column		
Data type	NUMBER	VARCHAR2
Length	7	25

Name	Null?	Type
ID		NUMBER(7)
NAME		VARCHAR2(25)

2. Populate the DEPT table with data from the DEPARTMENTS table. Include only columns that you need.
3. Create the EMP table based on the following table instance chart. Place the syntax in a script called lab9_3.sql, and then execute the statement in the script to create the table. Confirm that the table is created.

Column Name	ID	LAST_NAME	FIRST_NAME	DEPT_ID
Key Type				
Nulls/Unique				
FK Table				
FK Column				
Data type	NUMBER	VARCHAR2	VARCHAR2	NUMBER
Length	7	25	25	7

Name	Null?	Type
ID		NUMBER(7)
LAST_NAME		VARCHAR2(25)
FIRST_NAME		VARCHAR2(25)
DEPT_ID		NUMBER(7)

Practice 9 (continued)

4. Modify the EMP table to allow for longer employee last names. Confirm your modification.

Name	Null?	Type
ID		NUMBER(7)
LAST_NAME		VARCHAR2(50)
FIRST_NAME		VARCHAR2(25)
DEPT_ID		NUMBER(7)

5. Confirm that both the DEPT and EMP tables are stored in the data dictionary. (**Hint:** USER_TABLES)

TABLE_NAME
DEPT
EMP

6. Create the EMPLOYEES2 table based on the structure of the EMPLOYEES table. Include only the EMPLOYEE_ID, FIRST_NAME, LAST_NAME, SALARY, and DEPARTMENT_ID columns. Name the columns in your new table ID, FIRST_NAME, LAST_NAME, SALARY, and DEPT_ID, respectively.
7. Drop the EMP table.
8. Rename the EMPLOYEES2 table as EMP.
9. Add a comment to the DEPT and EMP table definitions describing the tables. Confirm your additions in the data dictionary.
10. Drop the FIRST_NAME column from the EMP table. Confirm your modification by checking the description of the table.
11. In the EMP table, mark the DEPT_ID column in the EMP table as UNUSED. Confirm your modification by checking the description of the table.
12. Drop all the UNUSED columns from the EMP table. Confirm your modification by checking the description of the table.

10

Including Constraints

ORACLE

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Objectives

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

- **Describe constraints**
- **Create and maintain constraints**

ORACLE

10-2

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Lesson Aim

In this lesson, you will learn how to implement business rules by including integrity constraints.

What Are Constraints?

- **Constraints enforce rules at the table level.**
- **Constraints prevent the deletion of a table if there are dependencies.**
- **The following constraint types are valid:**
 - NOT NULL
 - UNIQUE
 - PRIMARY KEY
 - FOREIGN KEY
 - CHECK

ORACLE

10-3

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Constraints

The Oracle Server uses *constraints* to prevent invalid data entry into tables.

You can use constraints to do the following:

- Enforce rules on the data in a table whenever a row is inserted, updated, or deleted from that table. The constraint must be satisfied for the operation to succeed.
- Prevent the deletion of a table if there are dependencies from other tables
- Provide rules for Oracle tools, such as Oracle Developer

Data Integrity Constraints

Constraint	Description
NOT NULL	Specifies that the column cannot contain a null value
UNIQUE	Specifies a column or combination of columns whose values must be unique for all rows in the table
PRIMARY KEY	Uniquely identifies each row of the table
FOREIGN KEY	Establishes and enforces a foreign key relationship between the column and a column of the referenced table
CHECK	Specifies a condition that must be true

For more information, see *Oracle9i SQL Reference*, "CONSTRAINT."

Constraint Guidelines

- **Name a constraint or the Oracle server generates a name by using the `SYS_Cn` format.**
- **Create a constraint either:**
 - **At the same time as the table is created, or**
 - **After the table has been created.**
- **Define a constraint at the column or table level.**
- **View a constraint in the data dictionary.**

ORACLE

10-4

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Constraint Guidelines

All constraints are stored in the data dictionary. Constraints are easy to reference if you give them a meaningful name. Constraint names must follow the standard object-naming rules. If you do not name your constraint, the Oracle server generates a name with the format `SYS_Cn`, where *n* is an integer so that the constraint name is unique.

Constraints can be defined at the time of table creation or after the table has been created.

You can view the constraints defined for a specific table by looking at the `USER_CONSTRAINTS` data dictionary table.

Defining Constraints

```
CREATE TABLE [schema.]table
  (column datatype [DEFAULT expr]
   [column_constraint],
   ...
   [table_constraint][, ...]);
```

```
CREATE TABLE employees(
  employee_id  NUMBER(6),
  first_name   VARCHAR2(20),
  ...
  job_id       VARCHAR2(10) NOT NULL,
  CONSTRAINT emp_emp_id_pk
             PRIMARY KEY (EMPLOYEE_ID));
```

ORACLE

10-5

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Defining Constraints

The slide gives the syntax for defining constraints while creating a table.

In the syntax:

<i>schema</i>	is the same as the owner's name
<i>table</i>	is the name of the table
DEFAULT <i>expr</i>	specifies a default value to use if a value is omitted in the INSERT statement
<i>column</i>	is the name of the column
<i>datatype</i>	is the column's data type and length
<i>column_constraint</i>	is an integrity constraint as part of the column definition
<i>table_constraint</i>	is an integrity constraint as part of the table definition

For more information, see *Oracle9i SQL Reference*, "CREATE TABLE."

Defining Constraints

- **Column constraint level:**

```
column [CONSTRAINT constraint_name] constraint_type,
```

- **Table constraint level:**

```
column,...  
[CONSTRAINT constraint_name] constraint_type  
(column, ...),
```

ORACLE

10-6

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Defining Constraints (continued)

Constraints are usually created at the same time as the table. Constraints can be added to a table after its creation and also temporarily disabled.

Constraints can be defined at one of two levels.

Constraint Level	Description
Column	References a single column and is defined within a specification for the owning column; can define any type of integrity constraint
Table	References one or more columns and is defined separately from the definitions of the columns in the table; can define any constraints except NOT NULL

In the syntax:

constraint_name is the name of the constraint
constraint_type is the type of the constraint

The NOT NULL Constraint

Ensures that null values are not permitted for the column

100	King	SKING	515.123.4567	17-JUN-87	AD_PRES	24000		
101	Kochhar	NKOCHHAR	515.123.4568	21-SEP-89	AD_VP	17000		100
102	De Haan	LDEHAAN	515.123.4569	13-JAN-93	AD_VP	17000		100
103	Hunold	AHUNOLD	590.423.4567	03-JAN-90	IT_PROG	9000		102
104	Ernst	BERNST	590.423.4568	21-MAY-91	IT_PROG	6000		103
205	Stiles	SSTILES	515.123.8080	07-JUN-94	AC_ACCOUNT	8300		201
206	Gietz	WGIEZT	515.123.8181	07-JUN-94	AC_ACCOUNT	8300		205

20 rows selected.

↑
NOT NULL constraint
(No row can contain
a null value for
this column.)

↑
**NOT NULL
constraint**

↑
**Absence of NOT NULL
constraint**
(Any row can contain
null for this column.)

ORACLE

10-7

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The NOT NULL Constraint

The NOT NULL constraint ensures that the column contains no null values. Columns without the NOT NULL constraint can contain null values by default.

The NOT NULL Constraint

Is defined at the column level

```
CREATE TABLE employees(  
  employee_id    NUMBER(6),  
  last_name      VARCHAR2(25) NOT NULL,  
  salary         NUMBER(8,2),  
  commission_pct NUMBER(2,2),  
  hire_date      DATE  
                CONSTRAINT emp_hire_date_nn  
                NOT NULL,  
  ...
```

← System named

← User named

ORACLE

10-8

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The NOT NULL Constraint (continued)

The NOT NULL constraint can be specified only at the column level, not at the table level.

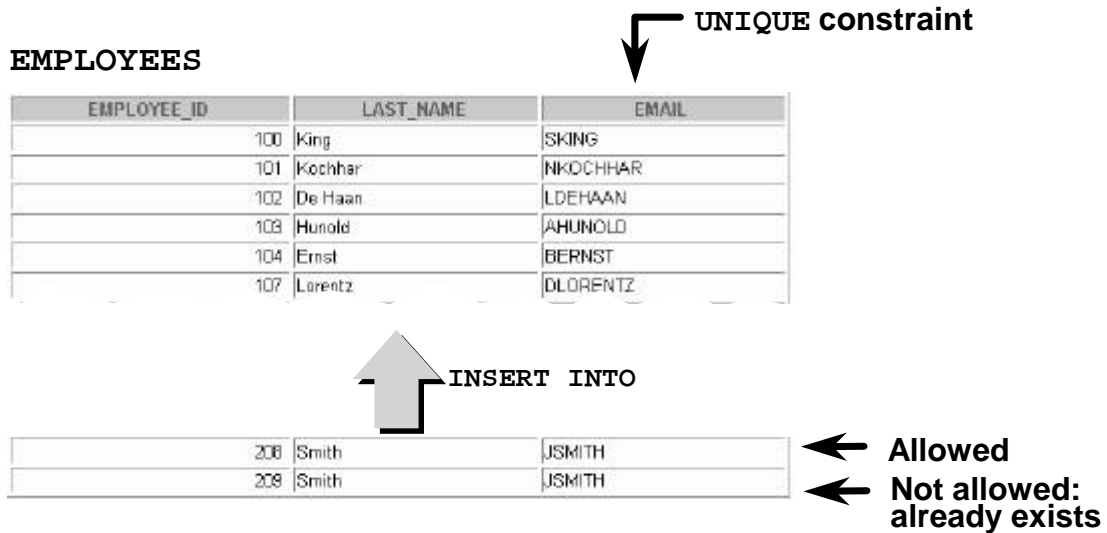
The example applies the NOT NULL constraint to the LAST_NAME and HIRE_DATE columns of the EMPLOYEES table. Because these constraints are unnamed, the Oracle Server creates names for them.

You can specify the name of the constraint when you specify the constraint:

```
... last_name VARCHAR2(25)  
    CONSTRAINT emp_last_name_nn NOT NULL...
```

Note: The constraint examples described in this lesson may not be present in the sample tables provided with the course. If desired, these constraints can be added to the tables.

The UNIQUE Constraint



ORACLE

10-9

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The UNIQUE Constraint

A UNIQUE key integrity constraint requires that every value in a column or set of columns (key) be unique: that is, no two rows of a table can have duplicate values in a specified column or set of columns. The column (or set of columns) included in the definition of the UNIQUE key constraint is called the *unique key*. If the UNIQUE constraint comprises more than one column, that group of columns is called a *composite unique key*.

UNIQUE constraints allow the input of nulls unless you also define NOT NULL constraints for the same columns. In fact, any number of rows can include nulls for columns without NOT NULL constraints because nulls are not considered equal to anything. A null in a column (or in all columns of a composite UNIQUE key) always satisfies a UNIQUE constraint.

Note: Because of the search mechanism for UNIQUE constraints on more than one column, you cannot have identical values in the non-null columns of a partially null composite UNIQUE key constraint.

The UNIQUE Constraint

Is defined at either the table level or the column level

```
CREATE TABLE employees(  
    employee_id      NUMBER(6),  
    last_name        VARCHAR2(25) NOT NULL,  
    email            VARCHAR2(25),  
    salary           NUMBER(8,2),  
    commission_pct   NUMBER(2,2),  
    hire_date        DATE NOT NULL,  
    ...  
    CONSTRAINT emp_email_uk UNIQUE(email));
```

ORACLE

10-10

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The UNIQUE Constraint (continued)

UNIQUE constraints can be defined at the column or table level. A composite unique key is created by using the table level definition.

The example on the slide applies the UNIQUE constraint to the EMAIL column of the EMPLOYEES table. The name of the constraint is EMP_EMAIL_UK.

Note: The Oracle Server enforces the UNIQUE constraint by implicitly creating a unique index on the unique key column or columns.

The PRIMARY KEY Constraint

DEPARTMENTS

PRIMARY KEY

DEPARTMENT_ID	DEPARTMENT_NAME	MANAGER_ID	LOCATION_ID
10	Administration	200	1700
20	Marketing	201	1800
50	Shipping	124	1500
60	IT	103	1400
80	Sales	149	2500

Not allowed
(null value)



INSERT INTO

	Public Accounting		1400
50	Finance	124	1500

Not allowed
(50 already exists)



ORACLE

The PRIMARY KEY Constraint

A PRIMARY KEY constraint creates a primary key for the table. Only one primary key can be created for a each table. The PRIMARY KEY constraint is a column or set of columns that uniquely identifies each row in a table. This constraint enforces uniqueness of the column or column combination and ensures that no column that is part of the primary key can contain a null value.

The PRIMARY KEY Constraint

Is defined at either the table level or the column level

```
CREATE TABLE departments(  
    department_id      NUMBER(4),  
    department_name    VARCHAR2(30)  
        CONSTRAINT dept_name_nn NOT NULL,  
    manager_id        NUMBER(6),  
    location_id       NUMBER(4),  
        CONSTRAINT dept_id_pk PRIMARY KEY(department_id));
```

ORACLE

10-12

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The PRIMARY KEY Constraint (continued)

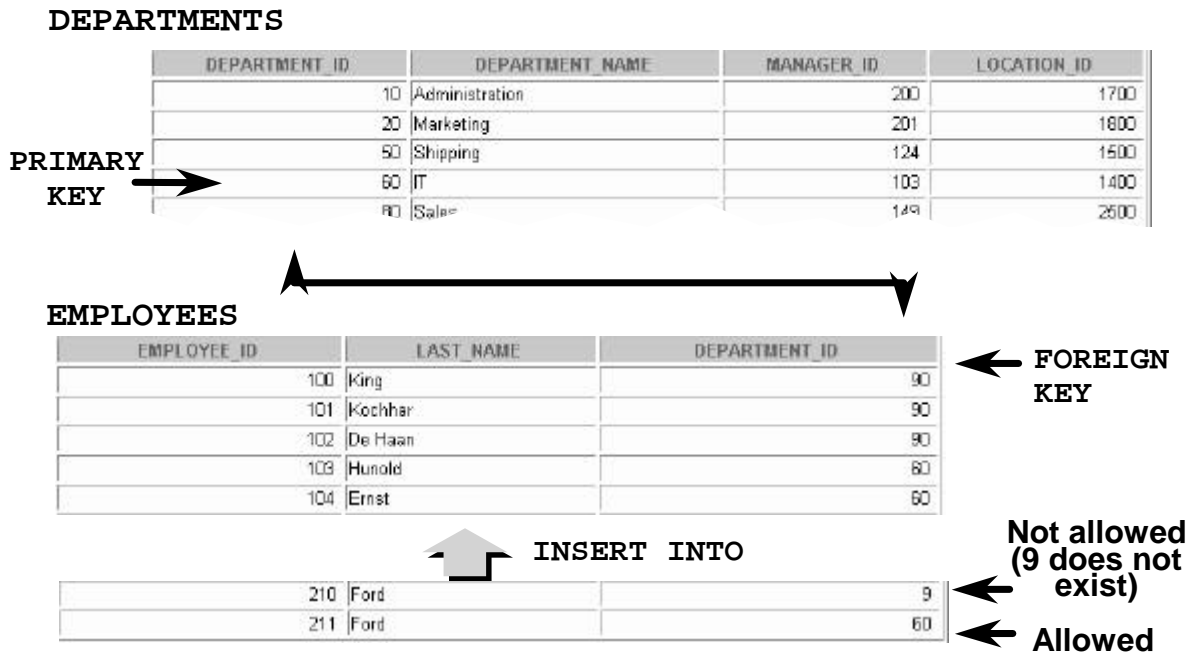
PRIMARY KEY constraints can be defined at the column level or table level. A composite PRIMARY KEY is created by using the table-level definition.

A table can have only one PRIMARY KEY constraint but can have several UNIQUE constraints.

The example on the slide defines a PRIMARY KEY constraint on the DEPARTMENT_ID column of the DEPARTMENTS table. The name of the constraint is DEPT_ID_PK.

Note: A UNIQUE index is created automatically for a PRIMARY KEY column.

The FOREIGN KEY Constraint



ORACLE

10-13

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The FOREIGN KEY Constraint

The FOREIGN KEY, or referential integrity constraint, designates a column or combination of columns as a foreign key and establishes a relationship between a primary key or a unique key in the same table or a different table. In the example on the slide, DEPARTMENT_ID has been defined as the foreign key in the EMPLOYEES table (dependent or child table); it references the DEPARTMENT_ID column of the DEPARTMENTS table (the referenced or parent table).

A foreign key value must match an existing value in the parent table or be NULL.

Foreign keys are based on data values and are purely logical, not physical, pointers.

The FOREIGN KEY Constraint

Is defined at either the table level or the column level

```
CREATE TABLE employees(  
  employee_id      NUMBER(6),  
  last_name        VARCHAR2(25) NOT NULL,  
  email            VARCHAR2(25),  
  salary           NUMBER(8,2),  
  commission_pct   NUMBER(2,2),  
  hire_date        DATE NOT NULL,  
  ...  
  department_id    NUMBER(4),  
  CONSTRAINT emp_dept_fk FOREIGN KEY (department_id)  
    REFERENCES departments(department_id),  
  CONSTRAINT emp_email_uk UNIQUE(email));
```

ORACLE

10-14

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The FOREIGN KEY Constraint (continued)

FOREIGN KEY constraints can be defined at the column or table constraint level. A composite foreign key must be created by using the table-level definition.

The example on the slide defines a FOREIGN KEY constraint on the DEPARTMENT_ID column of the EMPLOYEES table, using table-level syntax. The name of the constraint is EMP_DEPTID_FK.

The foreign key can also be defined at the column level, provided the constraint is based on a single column. The syntax differs in that the keywords FOREIGN KEY do not appear. For example:

```
CREATE TABLE employees  
(  
  ...  
  department_id NUMBER(4) CONSTRAINT emp_deptid_fk  
    REFERENCES departments(department_id),  
  ...  
)
```

FOREIGN KEY Constraint Keywords

- **FOREIGN KEY:** Defines the column in the child table at the table constraint level
- **REFERENCES:** Identifies the table and column in the parent table
- **ON DELETE CASCADE:** Deletes the dependent rows in the child table when a row in the parent table is deleted
- **ON DELETE SET NULL:** Converts dependent foreign key values to null

ORACLE

10-15

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The FOREIGN KEY Constraint (continued)

The foreign key is defined in the child table, and the table containing the referenced column is the parent table. The foreign key is defined using a combination of the following keywords:

- **FOREIGN KEY** is used to define the column in the child table at the table constraint level.
- **REFERENCES** identifies the table and column in the parent table.
- **ON DELETE CASCADE** indicates that when the row in the parent table is deleted, the dependent rows in the child table will also be deleted.
- **ON DELETE SET NULL** converts foreign key values to null when the parent value is removed.

The default behavior is called the restrict rule, which disallows the update or deletion of referenced data.

Without the **ON DELETE CASCADE** or the **ON DELETE SET NULL** options, the row in the parent table cannot be deleted if it is referenced in the child table.

The CHECK Constraint

- Defines a condition that each row must satisfy
- The following expressions are not allowed:
 - References to CURRVAL, NEXTVAL, LEVEL, and ROWNUM pseudocolumns
 - Calls to SYSDATE, UID, USER, and USERENV functions
 - Queries that refer to other values in other rows

```
..., salary NUMBER(2)
      CONSTRAINT emp_salary_min
             CHECK (salary > 0),...
```

ORACLE

10-16

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

The CHECK Constraint

The CHECK constraint defines a condition that each row must satisfy. The condition can use the same constructs as query conditions, with the following exceptions:

- References to the CURRVAL, NEXTVAL, LEVEL, and ROWNUM pseudocolumns
- Calls to SYSDATE, UID, USER, and USERENV functions
- Queries that refer to other values in other rows

A single column can have multiple CHECK constraints which reference the column in its definition. There is no limit to the number of CHECK constraints which you can define on a column.

CHECK constraints can be defined at the column level or table level.

```
CREATE TABLE employees
  (...
  salary NUMBER(8,2) CONSTRAINT emp_salary_min
                        CHECK (salary > 0),
  ...
```

Adding a Constraint Syntax

Use the `ALTER TABLE` statement to:

- Add or drop a constraint, but not modify its structure
- Enable or disable constraints
- Add a `NOT NULL` constraint by using the `MODIFY` clause

```
ALTER TABLE table
ADD [CONSTRAINT constraint] type (column);
```

ORACLE

10-17

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Adding a Constraint

You can add a constraint for existing tables by using the `ALTER TABLE` statement with the `ADD` clause.

In the syntax:

<i>table</i>	is the name of the table
<i>constraint</i>	is the name of the constraint
<i>type</i>	is the constraint type
<i>column</i>	is the name of the column affected by the constraint

The constraint name syntax is optional, although recommended. If you do not name your constraints, the system will generate constraint names.

Guidelines

- You can add, drop, enable, or disable a constraint, but you cannot modify its structure.
- You can add a `NOT NULL` constraint to an existing column by using the `MODIFY` clause of the `ALTER TABLE` statement.

Note: You can define a `NOT NULL` column only if the table is empty or if the column has a value for every row.

Adding a Constraint

Add a FOREIGN KEY constraint to the EMPLOYEES table to indicate that a manager must already exist as a valid employee in the EMPLOYEES table.

```
ALTER TABLE      employees
ADD CONSTRAINT    emp_manager_fk
                 FOREIGN KEY(manager_id)
                 REFERENCES employees(employee_id);
Table altered.
```

ORACLE

10-18

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Adding a Constraint (continued)

The example in the slide creates a FOREIGN KEY constraint on the EMPLOYEES table. The constraint ensures that a manager exists as a valid employee in the EMPLOYEES table.

Dropping a Constraint

- Remove the manager constraint from the **EMPLOYEES** table.

```
ALTER TABLE      employees
DROP CONSTRAINT   emp_manager_fk;
Table altered.
```

- Remove the **PRIMARY KEY** constraint on the **DEPARTMENTS** table and drop the associated **FOREIGN KEY** constraint on the **EMPLOYEES.DEPARTMENT_ID** column.

```
ALTER TABLE      departments
DROP PRIMARY KEY CASCADE;
Table altered.
```

ORACLE

10-19

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Dropping a Constraint

To drop a constraint, you can identify the constraint name from the `USER_CONSTRAINTS` and `USER_CONS_COLUMNS` data dictionary views. Then use the `ALTER TABLE` statement with the `DROP` clause. The `CASCADE` option of the `DROP` clause causes any dependent constraints also to be dropped.

Syntax

```
ALTER TABLE table
DROP PRIMARY KEY | UNIQUE (column) |
CONSTRAINT constraint [CASCADE];
```

In the syntax:

<i>table</i>	is the name of the table
<i>column</i>	is the name of the column affected by the constraint
<i>constraint</i>	is the name of the constraint

When you drop an integrity constraint, that constraint is no longer enforced by the Oracle Server and is no longer available in the data dictionary.

Disabling Constraints

- Execute the **DISABLE** clause of the **ALTER TABLE** statement to deactivate an integrity constraint.
- Apply the **CASCADE** option to disable dependent integrity constraints.

```
ALTER TABLE      employees
DISABLE CONSTRAINT emp_emp_id_pk CASCADE;
Table altered.
```

ORACLE

10-20

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Disabling a Constraint

You can disable a constraint without dropping it or re-creating it by using the **ALTER TABLE** statement with the **DISABLE** clause.

Syntax

```
ALTER TABLE table
DISABLE CONSTRAINT constraint [CASCADE];
```

In the syntax:

table is the name of the table
constraint is the name of the constraint

Guidelines

- You can use the **DISABLE** clause in both the **CREATE TABLE** statement and the **ALTER TABLE** statement.
- The **CASCADE** clause disables dependent integrity constraints.
- Disabling a unique or primary key constraint removes the unique index.

Enabling Constraints

- **Activate an integrity constraint currently disabled in the table definition by using the ENABLE clause.**

```
ALTER TABLE      employees
ENABLE CONSTRAINT  emp_emp_id_pk;
Table altered.
```

- **A UNIQUE or PRIMARY KEY index is automatically created if you enable a UNIQUE key or PRIMARY KEY constraint.**

ORACLE

10-21

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Enabling a Constraint

You can enable a constraint without dropping it or re-creating it by using the ALTER TABLE statement with the ENABLE clause.

Syntax

```
ALTER TABLE      table
ENABLE CONSTRAINT constraint;
```

In the syntax:

table is the name of the table
constraint is the name of the constraint

Guidelines

- If you enable a constraint, that constraint applies to all the data in the table. All the data in the table must fit the constraint.
- If you enable a UNIQUE key or PRIMARY KEY constraint, a UNIQUE or PRIMARY KEY index is created automatically.
- You can use the ENABLE clause in both the CREATE TABLE statement and the ALTER TABLE statement.
- Enabling a primary key constraint that was disabled with the CASCADE option does not enable any foreign keys that are dependent upon the primary key.

Cascading Constraints

- The **CASCADE CONSTRAINTS** clause is used along with the **DROP COLUMN** clause.
- The **CASCADE CONSTRAINTS** clause drops all referential integrity constraints that refer to the primary and unique keys defined on the dropped columns.
- The **CASCADE CONSTRAINTS** clause also drops all multicolumn constraints defined on the dropped columns.

ORACLE

10-22

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Cascading Constraints

This statement illustrates the use of the **CASCADE CONSTRAINTS** clause. Assume table **TEST1** is created as follows:

```
CREATE TABLE test1 (  
  pk NUMBER PRIMARY KEY,  
  fk NUMBER,  
  col1 NUMBER,  
  col2 NUMBER,  
  CONSTRAINT fk_constraint FOREIGN KEY (fk) REFERENCES test1,  
  CONSTRAINT ck1 CHECK (pk > 0 and col1 > 0),  
  CONSTRAINT ck2 CHECK (col2 > 0));
```

An error is returned for the following statements:

```
ALTER TABLE test1 DROP (pk); (pk is a parent key)  
ALTER TABLE test1 DROP (col1); (col1 is referenced by multicolumn  
  constraint ck1)
```

Cascading Constraints

Example

```
ALTER TABLE test1  
DROP (pk) CASCADE CONSTRAINTS;  
Table altered.
```

```
ALTER TABLE test1  
DROP (pk, fk, coll) CASCADE CONSTRAINTS;  
Table altered.
```

ORACLE

10-23

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Cascading Constraints (continued)

Submitting the following statement drops column PK, the primary key constraint, the fk_constraint foreign key constraint, and the check constraint, CK1:

```
ALTER TABLE test1 DROP (pk) CASCADE CONSTRAINTS;
```

If all columns referenced by the constraints defined on the dropped columns are also dropped, then CASCADE CONSTRAINTS is not required. For example, assuming that no other referential constraints from other tables refer to column PK, it is valid to submit the following statement without the CASCADE CONSTRAINTS clause:

```
ALTER TABLE test1 DROP (pk, fk, coll);
```

Viewing Constraints

Query the `USER_CONSTRAINTS` table to view all constraint definitions and names.

```
SELECT  constraint_name, constraint_type,  
        search_condition  
FROM    user_constraints  
WHERE   table_name = 'EMPLOYEES';
```

CONSTRAINT_NAME	C	SEARCH_CONDITION
EMP_LAST_NAME_NN	C	"LAST_NAME" IS NOT NULL
EMP_EMAIL_NN	C	"EMAIL" IS NOT NULL
EMP_HIRE_DATE_NN	C	"HIRE_DATE" IS NOT NULL
EMP_JOB_NN	C	"JOB_ID" IS NOT NULL
EMP_SALARY_MIN	C	salary > 0
EMP_EMAIL_UK	U	
EMP_EMP_ID_PK	P	
EMP_DEPT_FK	R	

ORACLE

10-24

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Viewing Constraints

After creating a table, you can confirm its existence by issuing a `DESCRIBE` command. The only constraint that you can verify is the `NOT NULL` constraint. To view all constraints on your table, query the `USER_CONSTRAINTS` table.

The example in the slide displays the constraints on the `EMPLOYEES` table.

Note: Constraints that are not named by the table owner receive the system-assigned constraint name. In constraint type, C stands for `CHECK`, P for `PRIMARY KEY`, R for referential integrity, and U for `UNIQUE` key. Notice that the `NOT NULL` constraint is really a `CHECK` constraint.

Viewing the Columns Associated with Constraints

View the columns associated with the constraint names in the `USER_CONS_COLUMNS` view.

```
SELECT  constraint_name, column_name
FROM    user_cons_columns
WHERE   table_name = 'EMPLOYEES';
```

CONSTRAINT_NAME	COLUMN_NAME
EMP_DEPT_FK	DEPARTMENT_ID
EMP_EMAIL_NN	EMAIL
EMP_EMAIL_UK	EMAIL
EMP_EMP_ID_PK	EMPLOYEE_ID
EMP_HIRE_DATE_NN	HIRE_DATE
EMP_JOB_FK	JOB_ID
EMP_JOB_NN	JOB_ID
EMP_LAST_NAME_NN	LAST_NAME
EMP_MANAGER_FK	MANAGER_ID
EMP_SALARY_MIN	SALARY

ORACLE

10-25

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Viewing Constraints (continued)

You can view the names of the columns involved in constraints by querying the `USER_CONS_COLUMNS` data dictionary view. This view is especially useful for constraints that use system-assigned names.

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to create constraints.

- **There are the following types of constraints:**
 - NOT NULL
 - UNIQUE
 - PRIMARY KEY
 - FOREIGN KEY
 - CHECK
- **You can query the USER_CONSTRAINTS table to view all constraint definitions and names.**

ORACLE

10-26

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how the Oracle Server uses constraints to prevent invalid data entry into tables. You also learned how to implement the constraints in DDL statements.

The following constraint types are valid:

- NOT NULL
- UNIQUE
- PRIMARY KEY
- FOREIGN KEY
- CHECK

You can query the USER_CONSTRAINTS table to view all constraint definitions and names.

Practice 10 Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

- Adding constraints to existing tables
- Adding more columns to a table
- Displaying information in data dictionary views

ORACLE

10-27

Copyright © Oracle Corporation, 2001. All rights reserved.

Practice 10 Overview

In this practice, you will create constraints and add more columns to a table using the statements covered in this lesson.

Note: It is recommended that you name the constraints that you define during the practices.

Practice 10

1. Add a table-level PRIMARY KEY constraint to the EMP table on the ID column. The constraint should be named at creation. Name the constraint my_emp_id_pk.
Hint: The constraint is enabled as soon as the ALTER TABLE command executes successfully.
2. Create a PRIMARY KEY constraint to the DEPT table using the ID column. The constraint should be named at creation. Name the constraint my_deptid_pk.
Hint: The constraint is enabled as soon as the ALTER TABLE command executes successfully.
3. Add a column DEPT_ID to the EMP table. Add a foreign key reference on the EMP table that ensures that the employee is not assigned to a nonexistent department. Name the constraint my_emp_dept_id_fk.
4. Confirm that the constraints were added by querying the USER_CONSTRAINTS view. Note the types and names of the constraints. Save your statement text in a file called lab10_4.sql.

CONSTRAINT_NAME	C
MY_DEPT_ID_PK	P
SYS_C002541	C
MY_EMP_ID_PK	P
MY_EMP_DEPT_ID_FK	R

5. Display the object names and types from the USER_OBJECTS data dictionary view for the EMP and DEPT tables. Notice that the new tables and a new index were created.

If you have time, complete the following exercise:

6. Modify the EMP table. Add a COMMISSION column of NUMBER data type, precision 2, scale 2. Add a constraint to the commission column that ensures that a commission value is greater than zero.

