

Advanced PL/SQL

Good Practices Series: Database Features, Tools & Techniques

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<https://www.salvis.com/blog>

05.05.2021

"Trust, but verify"

-- Russian Proverb

Featuring



Source: <https://vanyaland.com/2020/06/18/heres-the-first-footage-from-justice-league-the-snyder-cut/>

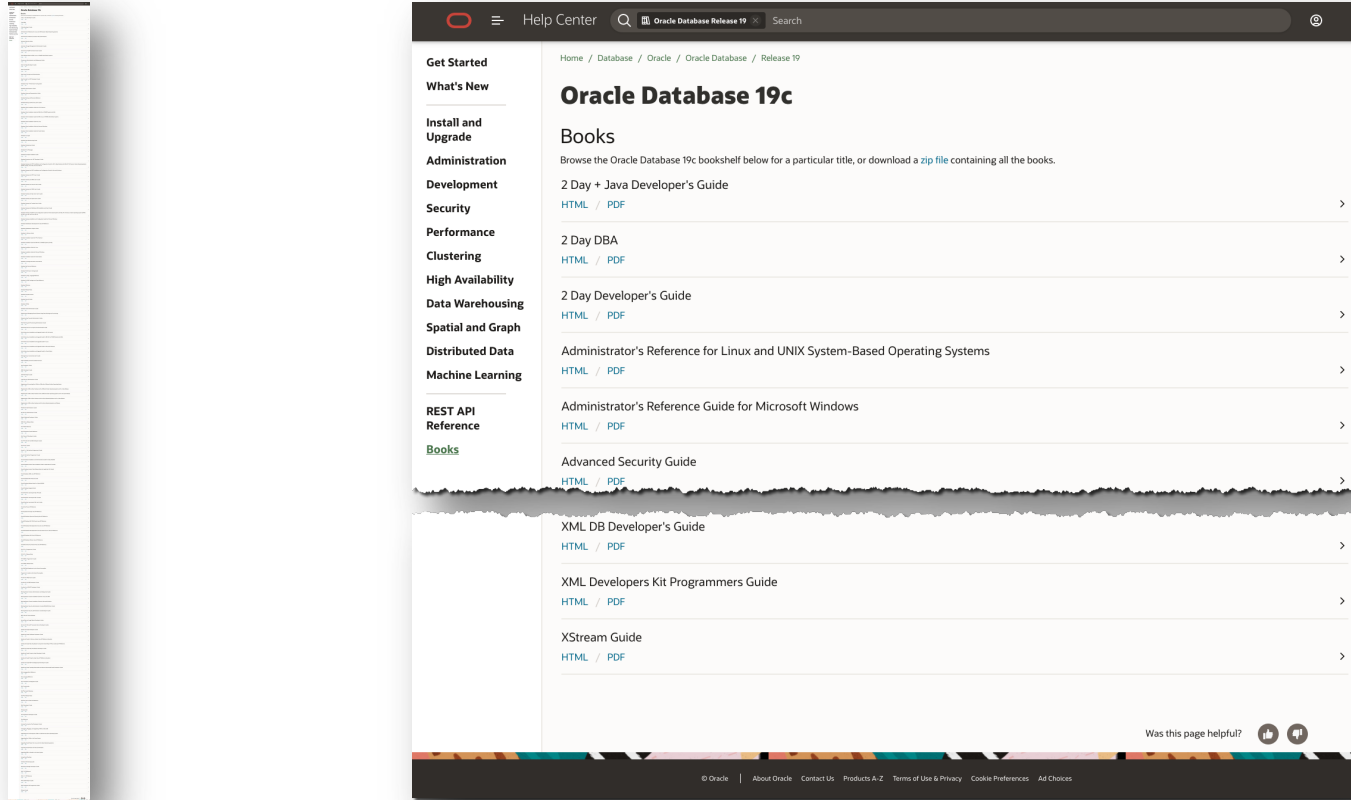


Sources:

- Zack Snyder's Justice League, 2021, 1:33:44
- <https://www.hiclipart.com/free-transparent-background-png-clipart-inpng>

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Oracle Database 19c – 164 Books – 2 GB



Source: <https://docs.oracle.com/en/database/oracle/oracle-database/19/books.html>

Database Concepts

Audience

Oracle Database Concepts is intended for technical users, primarily database administrators and **database application developers**, who are new to Oracle Database. Typically, the reader of this manual has had experience managing or developing applications for other relational databases.

To use this manual, you must know the following:

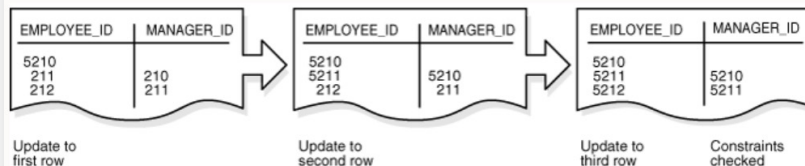
- Relational database concepts in general
- Concepts and terminology in [Introduction to Oracle Database](#)
- The operating system environment under which you

```
UPDATE employees SET employee_id = employee_id + 5000,  
manager_id = manager_id + 5000;
```

Copy

Although a constraint is defined to verify that each `manager_id` value matches an `employee_id` value, the preceding statement is valid because the database effectively checks constraints after the statement completes. [Figure 7-5](#) shows that the database performs the actions of the entire SQL statement before checking constraints.

Figure 7-5 Constraint Checking



Description of "Figure 7-5 Constraint Checking"

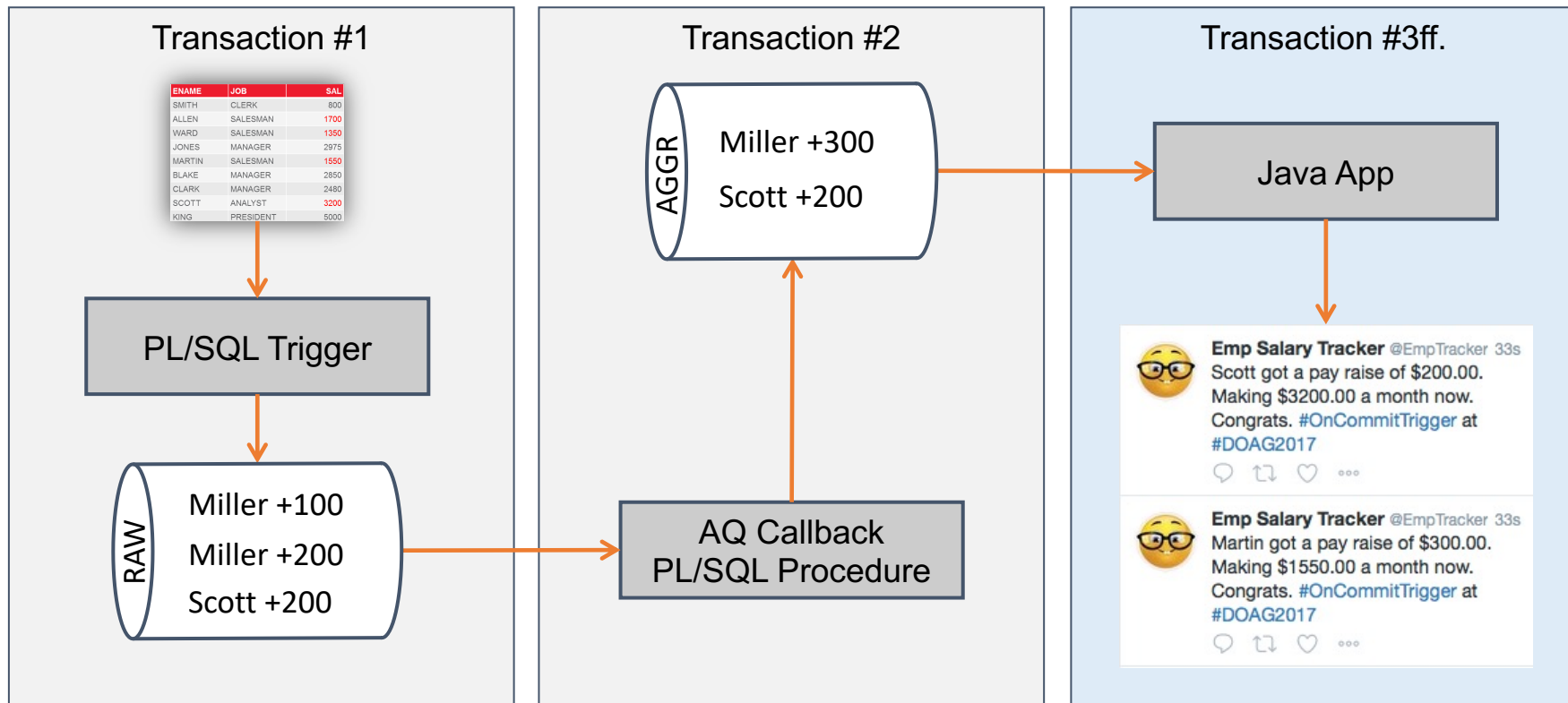


Omnilingualism

Source: <https://www.hiclipart.com/free-transparent-background-png-clipart-dsmxh>

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Advanced Queuing Example ("On-Commit-Trigger")



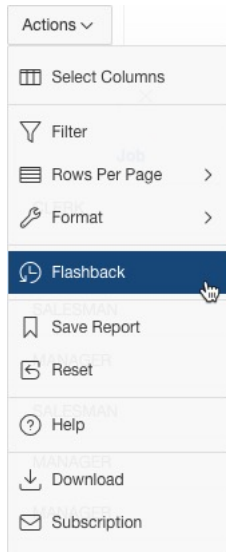
Why Advanced Queuing?

- Transactions
 - Message processing is part of the database transaction
- Asynchronous
 - Limit the impact on original transaction (performance, robustness)
- Control
 - Limit the number of concurrent dequeue processes
 - Set message priority to override default FIFO behavior
- Comprehensive API
 - PL/SQL and Java (JMS)
- Standardized Interoperability
 - With other classic messaging systems (incl. propagation between database instances)
 - With Apache Kafka based systems (via Transactional Event Queues, 21c feature)



Travel in Time

Flashback Query in APEX

A screenshot of the 'Flashback' dialog box. It has a title bar 'Flashback' with a close button. The main text says 'A flashback query allows you to view the data as it existed at a previous point in time.' Below this is a section 'Flashback Duration' with a clock icon and a text input field containing '1' followed by 'minutes'. At the bottom right are buttons for 'Cancel', 'Delete', and 'Apply'.

```
select ...  
from ... as of timestamp(systimestamp-(:apex$flashback_min/1440))  
...
```

Flashback Data Archive – Create Table

```
create table t (  
    oid    number(4, 0) not null primary key,  
    c1     varchar2(10) not null,  
    c2     varchar2(10) not null  
) flashback archive fba;
```

Created
delayed.

Considered only when
flashback_query_clause
is used

T	
P * OID	NUMBER (4)
* C1	VARCHAR2 (10 BYTE)
* C2	VARCHAR2 (10 BYTE)
T_PK (OID)	

SYS_FBA_HIST_107038	
RID	VARCHAR2 (4000 BYTE)
STARTSCN	NUMBER
ENDSCN	NUMBER
XID	RAW (8)
OPERATION	VARCHAR2 (1 BYTE)
OID	NUMBER (4)
C1	VARCHAR2 (10 BYTE)
C2	VARCHAR2 (10 BYTE)

SYS_FBA_TCRV_107038	
RID	VARCHAR2 (4000 BYTE)
STARTSCN	NUMBER
ENDSCN	NUMBER
XID	RAW (8)
OP	VARCHAR2 (1 BYTE)
SYS_FBA_TCRV_IDX_107038 (RID)	

SYS_FBA_DDL_COLMAP_107038	
STARTSCN	NUMBER
ENDSCN	NUMBER
XID	RAW (8)
OPERATION	VARCHAR2 (1 BYTE)
COLUMN_NAME	VARCHAR2 (255 BYTE)
TYPE	VARCHAR2 (255 BYTE)
HISTORICAL_COLUMN_NAME	VARCHAR2 (255 BYTE)

Flashback Data Archive Tables

More:

- <https://docs.oracle.com/en/database/oracle/oracle-database/21/sqlrf/CREATE-TABLE.html>
- <https://docs.oracle.com/en/database/oracle/oracle-database/21/sqlrf/CREATE-FLASHBACK-ARCHIVE.html>

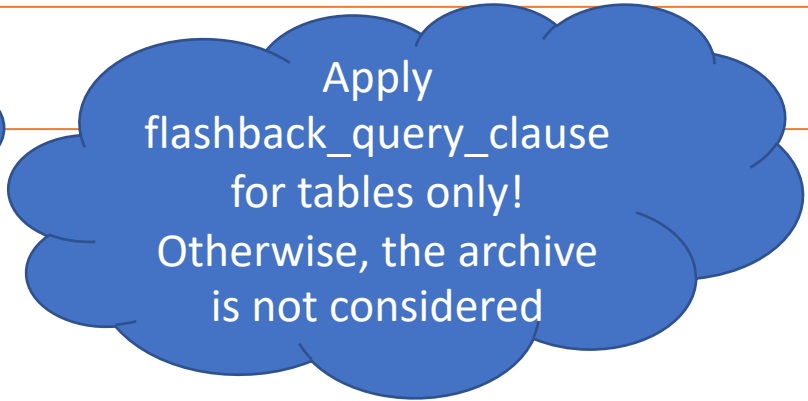
Flashback Data Archive – Querying Data

Point in time

```
select *  
  from t as of timestamp systimestamp - interval '30' minute;
```

Full history

```
select versions_startscn,  
       versions_endscn,  
       versions_starttime,  
       versions_endtime,  
       versions_xid,  
       versions_operation,  
       t.*  
  from t versions between scn minvalue and maxvalue;
```



Apply
flashback_query_clause
for tables only!
Otherwise, the archive
is not considered

More:

- <https://docs.oracle.com/en/database/oracle/oracle-database/21/sqlrf/SELECT.html>
- <https://docs.oracle.com/en/database/oracle/oracle-database/21/sqlrf/Version-Query-Pseudocolumns.html>
- <https://github.com/oddgen/bitemp>



Shield

Source: <https://pngimg.com/image/60364>

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Virtual Private Database

Policy

	EMPNO	ENAME	JOB	MGR	HIREDATE	SAL	COMM	DEPTNO
1	7369	SMITH	CLERK	7902	17.12.1980	800	(null)	20
2	7499	ALLEN	SALESMAN	7698	20.02.1981	1600	300	30
3	7521	WARD	SALESMAN	7698	22.02.1981	1250	500	30
4	7566	JONES	MANAGER	7839	02.04.1981	2975	(null)	20
5	7654	MARTIN	SALESMAN	7698	28.09.1981	1250	1400	30
6	7698	BLAKE	MANAGER	7839	01.05.1981	2850	(null)	30
7	7782	CLARK	MANAGER	7839	09.06.1981	2450	(null)	10
8	7788	SCOTT	ANALYST	7566	19.04.1987	3000	(null)	20
9	7839	KING	PRESIDENT	(null)	17.11.1981	5000	(null)	10
10	7844	TURNER	SALESMAN	7698	08.09.1981	1500	0	30
11	7876	ADAMS	CLERK	7788	23.05.1987	1100	(null)	20
12	7900	JAMES	CLERK	7698	03.12.1981	950	(null)	30
13	7902	FORD	ANALYST	7566	03.12.1981	3000	(null)	20
14	7934	MILLER	CLERK	7782	23.01.1982	1300	(null)	10

Policy Functions

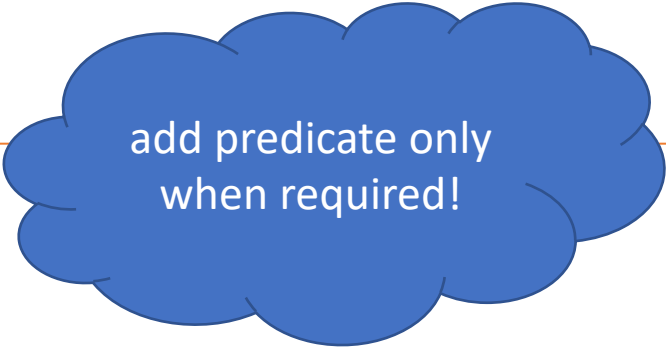
- Rows/columns in tables/views
- Produce filter predicates at runtime
- Applicable for
 - SELECT
 - INSERT
 - UPDATE
 - DELETE
 - MERGE

More:

- <https://docs.oracle.com/en/database/oracle/oracle-database/21/dbseg/using-oracle-vpd-to-control-data-access.html>
- <https://docs.oracle.com/en/database/oracle/oracle-database/21/dbfsg/introducing-oracle-database-real-application-security.html>

Create Policy Function

```
create or replace function emp_predicate(  
    in_schema in varchar2,  
    in_table  in varchar2  
) return varchar2 is  
    l_predicate varchar2(1000);  
begin  
    if user = 'PLSCOPE' THEN  
        l_predicate := q'[job not in ('MANAGER', 'PRESIDENT')]';  
    end if;  
    return l_predicate;  
end;  
/
```



add predicate only
when required!

Create Policy

```
begin
  sys.dbms_rls.add_policy(
    object_name      => 'emp',
    policy_name      => 'emp_policy',
    policy_function   => 'emp_predicate',
    statement_types  => 'select insert update delete',
    sec_relevant_cols => 'sal comm',
    update_check      => true
  );
end;
/
```

Query Unsensitive Columns Only

```
select empno, ename, job, mgr, hiredate, deptno from emp;
```

EMPNO	ENAME	JOB	MGR	HIREDATE	DEPTNO
7369	SMITH	CLERK	7902	17.12.1980	20
7499	ALLEN	SALESMAN	7698	20.02.1981	30
7521	WARD	SALESMAN	7698	22.02.1981	30
7566	JONES	MANAGER	7839	02.04.1981	20
7654	MARTIN	SALESMAN	7698	28.09.1981	30
7698	BLAKE	MANAGER	7839	01.05.1981	30
7782	CLARK	MANAGER	7839	09.06.1981	10
7788	SCOTT	ANALYST	7566	19.04.1987	20
7839	KING	PRESIDENT		17.11.1981	10
7844	TURNER	SALESMAN	7698	08.09.1981	30
7876	ADAMS	CLERK	7788	23.05.1987	20

14 rows selected.

Query All Columns

```
select * from emp;
```

EMPNO	ENAME	JOB	MGR	HIREDATE	SAL	COMM	DEPTNO
7369	SMITH	CLERK	7902	17.12.1980	800		20
7499	ALLEN	SALESMAN	7698	20.02.1981	1600	300	30
7521	WARD	SALESMAN	7698	22.02.1981	1250	500	30
7654	MARTIN	SALESMAN	7698	28.09.1981	1250	1400	30
7788	SCOTT	ANALYST	7566	19.04.1987	3000		20
7844	TURNER	SALESMAN	7698	08.09.1981	1500	0	30
7876	ADAMS	CLERK	7788	23.05.1987	1100		20
7900	JAMES	CLERK	7698	03.12.1981	950		30
7902	FORD	ANALYST	7566	03.12.1981	3000		20
7934	MILLER	CLERK	7782	23.01.1982	1300		10

10 rows selected.

Execution Plan

Id	Operation	Name	Rows	Bytes	Cost (%CPU)	Time
0	SELECT STATEMENT				2 (100)	
* 1	TABLE ACCESS STORAGE FULL	EMP	10	380	2 (0)	00:00:01

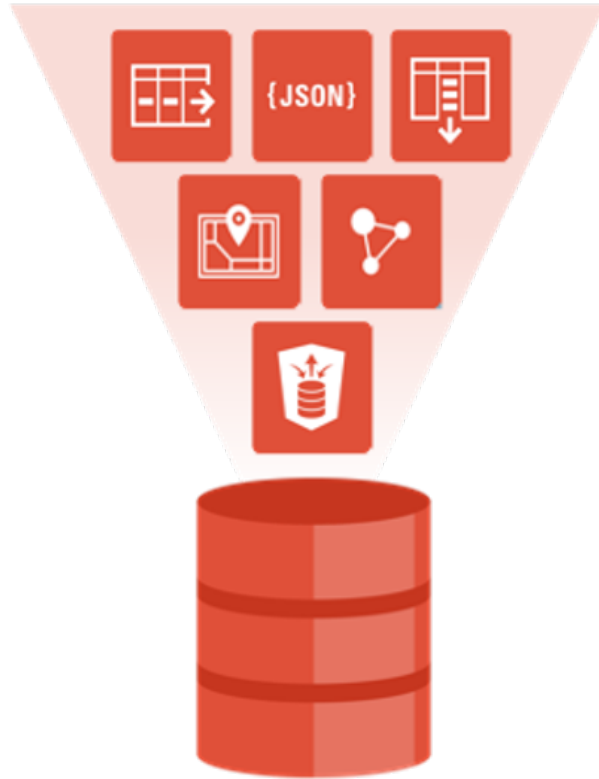
Predicate Information (identified by operation id):

```
1 - storage(("JOB"<>'MANAGER' AND "JOB"<>'PRESIDENT'))
      filter(("JOB"<>'MANAGER' AND "JOB"<>'PRESIDENT'))
```



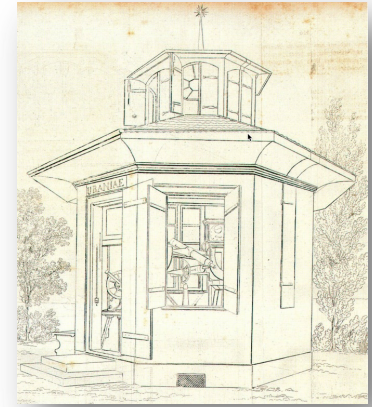
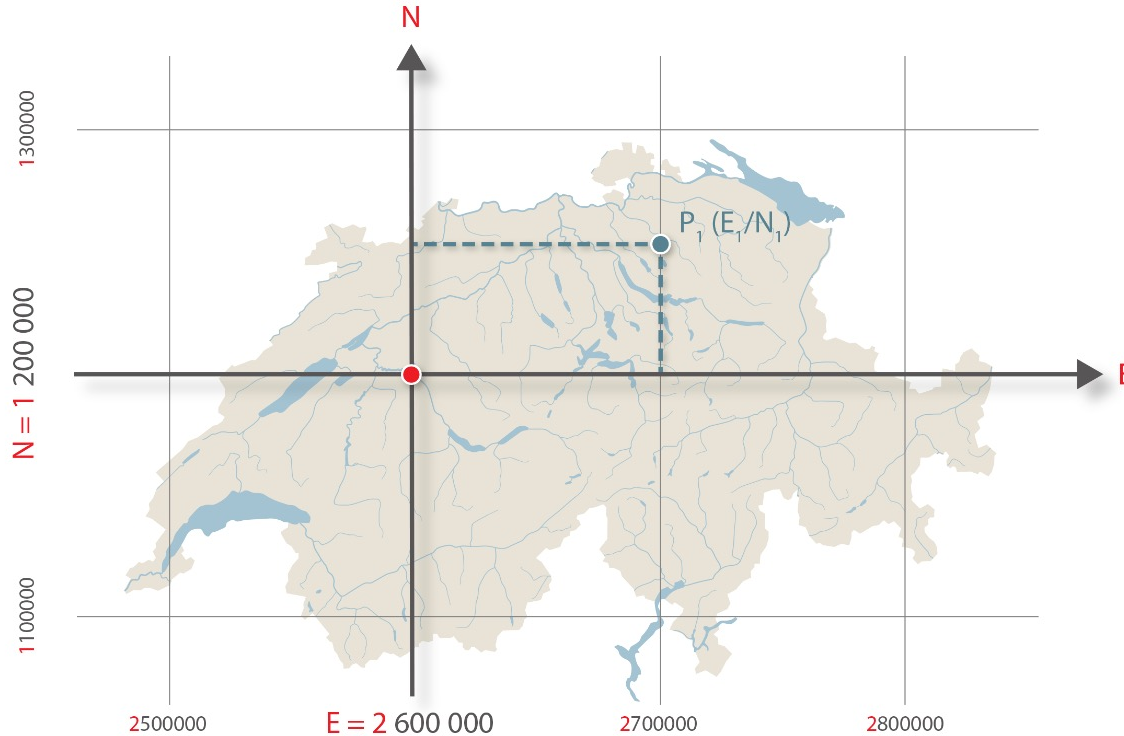

Half Human Half Atlantean

Converged Database



- Relational
- Documents
- Spatial
- Graph

Swiss Grid LV95



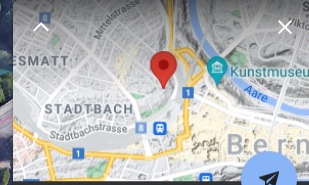
Old Observatory in Bern
Institute of Exact Sciences
($2'600'000, 1'200'000$)

Sources:

- <https://www.swisstopo.admin.ch/en/knowledge-facts/surveying-geodesy/reference-frames/local/lv95.html>
- <https://www.e-periodica.ch/cntmng?pid=chl-001:2004:29::135>
- https://www.unibe.ch/universitaet/portraet/geschichte/geschichte_und_architektur/exakte_wissenschaften/index_ger.html

Convert to Word Geodetic System (GPS)

```
select sdo_cs.transform(  
    geom      => sdo_geometry(  
        sdo_gtype      => 2001, -- point  
        sdo_srid       => 2056, -- LV95  
        sdo_point      => sdo_point_type(2600000, 1200000, null),  
        sdo_elem_info  => null,  
        sdo_ordinates => null  
    ),  
    to_srid => 4326 -- WGS 84, see table sdo_coord_ref_sys  
    ) wsg84_coord  
from dual;  
  
WGS84_COORD(SDO_GTYPE, SDO_SRID, SDO_POINT(X, Y, Z), SDO_ELEM_INFO, SDO_ORDINATES)  
-----  
SDO_GEOMETRY(2001, 4326, SDO_POINT_TYPE(7.43863242, 46.95108277, NULL), NULL, NULL)
```

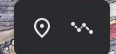



46°57'03.9"N 7°26'19.1"E

46.951083, 7.438632

[More info](#)

[Add to project](#)





X-Ray Vision

Source: <https://www.hiclipart.com/free-transparent-background-png-clipart-dsbbm>

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Create Table with JSON Column

```
create table jtabs (view_name, jdoc) as
select v.view_name,
       json_serialize (
         json_object(
           'viewName' value v.view_name,
           'description' value tc.comments,
           'columns' value json_arrayagg(
             json_object(
               'columnName' value c.column_name,
               'dataType' value c.data_type,
               'mandatory' value case when c.nullable = 'Y' then 'false' else 'true' end format json,
               'description' value cc.comments absent on null
             ) order by c.column_id returning clob
           ) absent on null returning clob
         ) returning json pretty
       ) as jdoc
from all_views v
join all_tab_columns c on c.owner = v.owner and c.table_name = v.view_name
left join all_tab_comments tc on tc.owner = v.owner and tc.table_name = v.view_name
left join all_col_comments cc on cc.owner = c.owner and cc.table_name = c.table_name
                                and cc.column_name = c.column_name

where v.owner = 'APEX_200200'
group by v.view_name, tc.comments;

alter table jtabs modify (jdoc constraint jdoc_json_chk check (jdoc is json));
```

```
1  {
2    "viewName" : "APEX_PKG_APP_AUTHENTICATIONS",
3    "description" : "List of authentication schemes that can be used in packaged applications",
4    "columns" :
5    [
6      {
7        "columnName" : "SCHEME_NAME",
8        "dataType" : "VARCHAR2",
9        "mandatory" : false,
10       "description" : "Identifies the authentication scheme name"
11      },
12      {
13        "columnName" : "SCHEME_TYPE",
14        "dataType" : "VARCHAR2",
15        "mandatory" : false,
16        "description" : "Identifies the internal code of scheme_name"
17      }
18    ]
19  }
```

Search JSON Document

```
select t.view_name, c.columnname, c.description
  from jtabs t
 nested jdoc.columns[*] columns(columnName, description) c
  where c.description like '%jQuery%';
```

VIEW_NAME	COLUMNNAME	DESCRIPTION
APEX_APPLICATIONS	CONTENT_DELIVERY_NETWORK	Specifies the Content Delivery Network which is used to load the 3rd party libraries jQuery and jQuery Mobile. (obsolete)
APEX_APPLICATION_PAGE_DA	WHEN_EVENT_STATIC_CONTAINER	Identifies a jQuery selector to select the Static Container element, that can be used to delegate the event handling to
APEX_APPL_USER_INTERFACES	CONTENT_DELIVERY_NETWORK	Specifies the Content Delivery Network which is used to load the 3rd party libraries jQuery and jQuery Mobile.
APEX_APPL_USER_INTERFACES	INCLUDE_JQUERY_MIGRATE	Specified whether the jQuery Migrate plug-in is included in the application.

More:

- <https://docs.oracle.com/en/database/oracle/oracle-database/21/adjsn/simple-dot-notation-access-to-json-data.html>
- <https://docs.oracle.com/en/database/oracle/oracle-database/21/adjsn/json-path-expressions.html>
- https://docs.oracle.com/en/database/oracle/oracle-database/21/sqlrf/JSON_TABLE.html

Execution Plan

Id	Operation	Name	Rows	Bytes	Cost (%CPU)	Time
0	SELECT STATEMENT				690 (100)	
1	NESTED LOOPS		1679	10M	690 (1)	00:00:01
* 2	TABLE ACCESS STORAGE FULL	JTABS	4	25440	683 (0)	00:00:01
3	JSONTABLE EVALUATION					

Predicate Information (identified by operation id):

```
2 - storage(JSON_EXISTS2("T"."JDOC" /*+ LOB_BY_VALUE */ FORMAT JSON ,
    '$?(@.columns[*].description"%jQuery%")' FALSE ON ERROR)=1)
    filter(JSON_EXISTS2("T"."JDOC" /*+ LOB_BY_VALUE */ FORMAT JSON ,
    '$?(@.columns[*].description"%jQuery%")' FALSE ON ERROR)=1)
```

Create Search Index & Re-Run Query

```
create search index jtabs_search_i on jtabs (jdoc) for json;

select t.view_name, c.columnname, c.description
  from jtabs t
 nested jdoc.columns[*] columns(columnName, description) c
 where c.description like '%jQuery%';
```

Execution Plan with Index

Id	Operation	Name	Rows	Bytes	Cost (%CPU)	Time
0	SELECT STATEMENT				7 (100)	
1	NESTED LOOPS		84	522K	7 (0)	00:00:01
2	TABLE ACCESS BY INDEX ROWID	JTABS	1	6371	4 (0)	00:00:01
* 3	DOMAIN INDEX	JTABS_SEARCH_I			4 (0)	00:00:01
4	JSONTABLE EVALUATION					

Predicate Information (identified by operation id):

```
3 - access("CTXSYS"."CONTAINS"("T"."JDOC",'(%jQuery% INPATH
      (/columns/description))')>0)
```

More:

- <https://docs.oracle.com/en/database/oracle/oracle-database/21/ccapp/understanding-oracle-text-application-development.html>
- [https://www.doag.org/formes/pubfiles/11859860/2019-Dev-Niall Mc Phillips-A Deeper Dive Into Developing With Oracle Text-Presentation.pdf](https://www.doag.org/formes/pubfiles/11859860/2019-Dev-Niall%20Mc%20Phillips-A%20Deeper%20Dive%20Into%20Developing%20With%20Oracle%20Text-Presentation.pdf)
- <https://blogs.oracle.com/searchtech/oracle-text-query-parser>

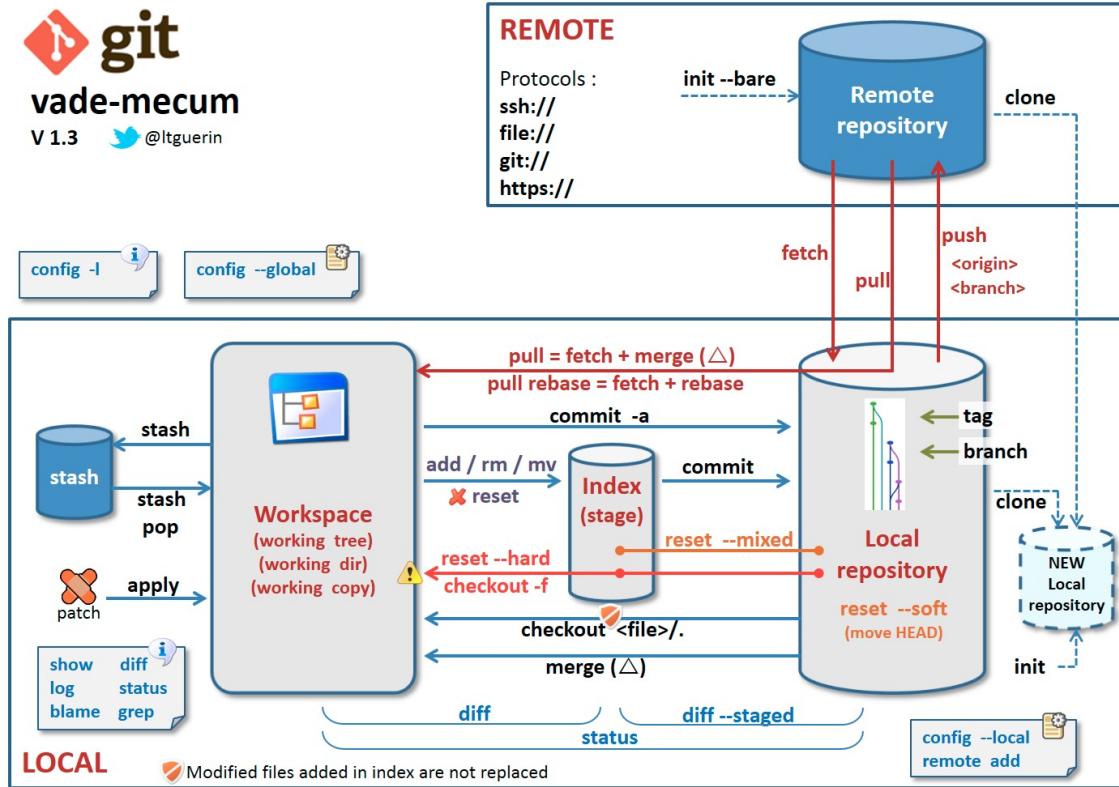
Good Manners



Sources:

- <https://jeremyironsno1fan.files.wordpress.com/2016/08/alfredpennyworthbyclayenos.jpg>
- <https://www.hiclipart.com/free-transparent-background-png-clipart-dwmzh>

File-based Development – VCS



Source: <https://labs.sogeti.com/git-overview-in-a-single-image/git-vademecum/>

More: <https://jlcfp.mjit.io/de/apex2021/public/events/180>

utPLSQL & Friends for Test Automation

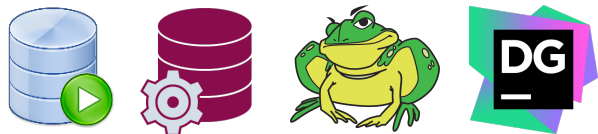
Core Testing Framework

- Schema in the database
- No repository
- Annotation based tests



Development

- Realtime Reporter
- Code Coverage, Code Templates, etc.



Test Automation

- Command Line Client
- Maven Plugin **Maven**
- Various Reporters



Code Quality

The screenshot shows the GitHub repository for 'trivadis/plsql-and-sql-coding-guidelines'. The page includes a sidebar with navigation links, a search bar, and a list of contributors. Two callout bubbles are overlaid on the page:

- A large blue bubble on the right side contains the text: "Every line you don't write, is a line you don't have to maintain".
- A smaller blue bubble in the center contains the text: "Code is more often read than written".

The repository page content includes:

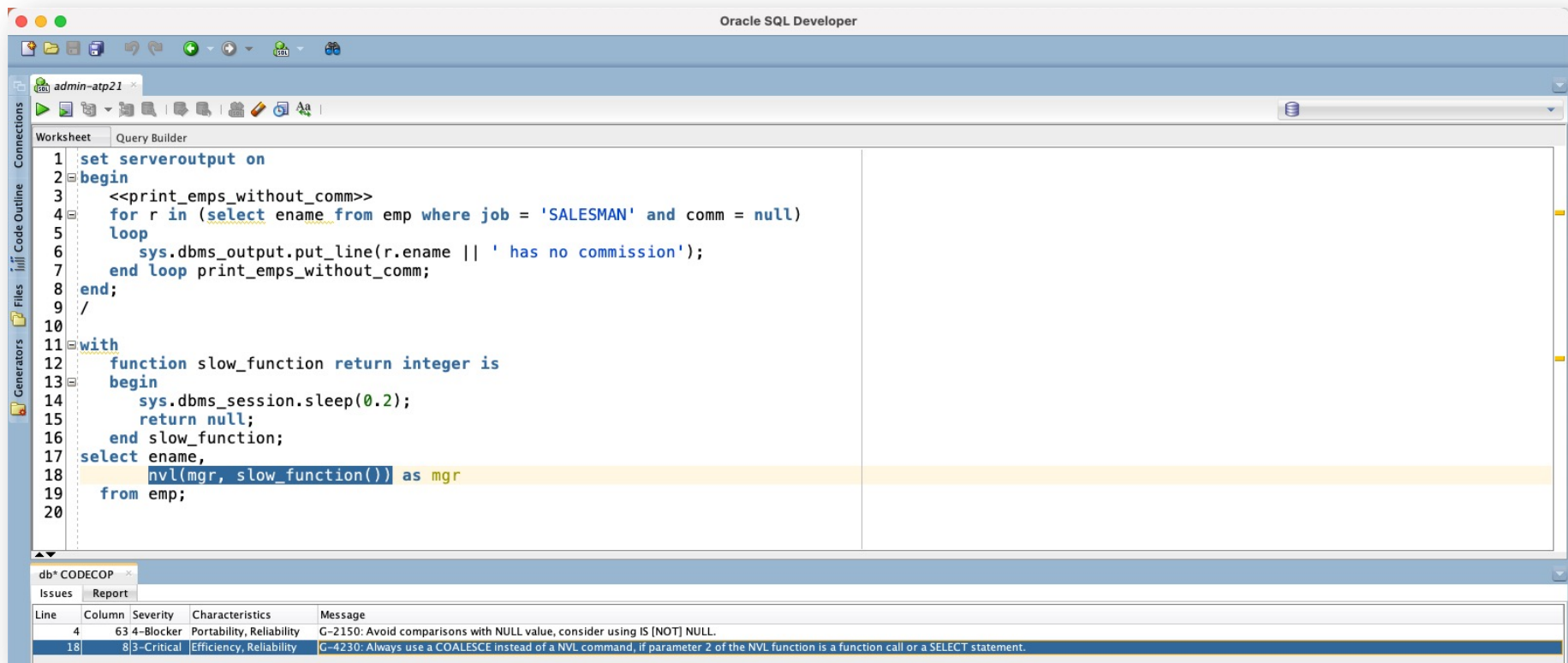
- PL/SQL & SQL Coding Guidelines** v4.0
- About** (selected)
- Introduction
- Naming Conventions
- Coding Style
- Language Usage
- Complexity Analysis
- Code Reviews
- Tool Support
- Appendix

Contributors:

- Steven Feuerstein**
Senior Advisor
Insum Solutions
The Oracle Database Developer community is made stronger by resources freely shared by experts around the world, such as the Trivadis Coding Guidelines. If you have not yet adopted standards for writing SQL and PL/SQL in your applications, this is a great place to start.
- Roger Troller**
Senior Consultant
finnova AG Bankware
Coding Guidelines... fact, that code... efforts to ease the work of... I am convinced that this standard may be a good starting point for your own guidelines.

Source: <https://trivadis.github.io/plsql-and-sql-coding-guidelines/>

db* CODECOP for SQL Developer



The screenshot shows the Oracle SQL Developer interface. The main window displays a PL/SQL script with the following code:

```
1 set serveroutput on
2 begin
3   <<print_ems_without_comm>>
4   for r in (select ename from emp where job = 'SALESMAN' and comm = null)
5   loop
6     sys.dbms_output.put_line(r.ename || ' has no commission');
7   end loop print_ems_without_comm;
8 end;
9 /
10
11 with
12 function slow_function return integer is
13 begin
14   sys.dbms_session.sleep(0.2);
15   return null;
16 end slow_function;
17 select ename,
18        nvl(mgr, slow_function()) as mgr
19 from emp;
20
```

The bottom panel shows the db* CODECOP Issues window with the following table:

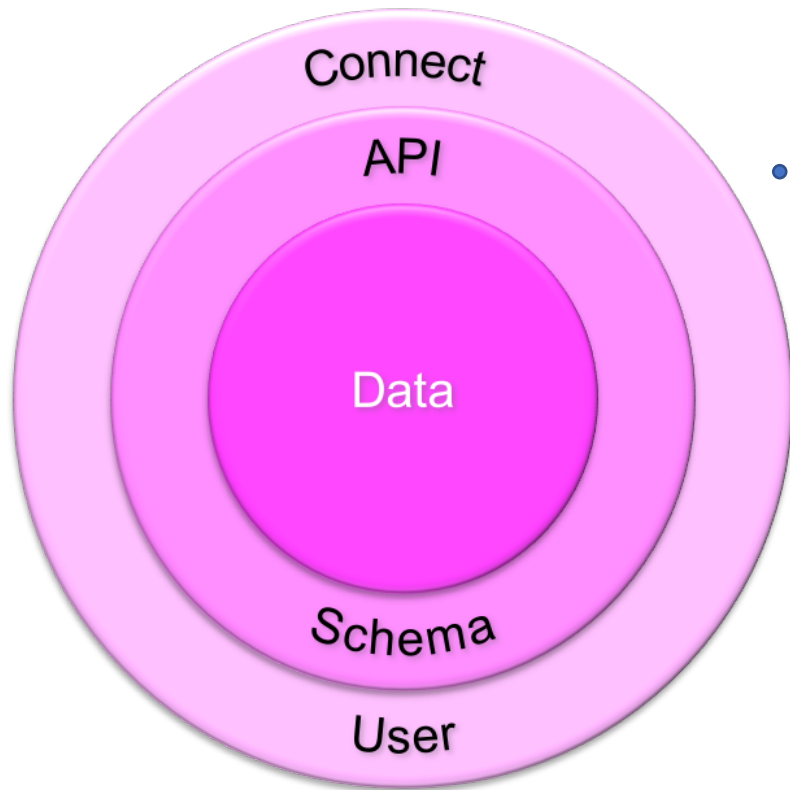
Line	Column	Severity	Characteristics	Message
4	63	4-Blocker	Portability, Reliability	G-2150: Avoid comparisons with NULL value, consider using IS [NOT] NULL.
18	83	3-Critical	Efficiency, Reliability	G-4230: Always use a COALESCE instead of a NVL command, if parameter 2 of the NVL function is a function call or a SELECT statement.

More: <https://github.com/Trivadis/plsql-cop-sqldev>

My Top 10 Guidelines / Checks

- [G-2150](#): Avoid comparisons with NULL value, consider using IS [NOT] NULL.
- [G-4230](#): Always use a COALESCE instead of a NVL command, if parameter 2 of the NVL function is a function call or a SELECT statement.
- [G-4240](#): Always use a CASE instead of a NVL2 command if parameter 2 or 3 of NVL2 is either a function call or a SELECT statement.
- [G-5020](#): Never handle unnamed exceptions using the error number.
- [G-1060](#): Avoid storing ROWIDs or UROWIDs in database tables.
- [G-9501](#): Never use parameter in string expression of dynamic SQL. Use asserted local variable instead.
- [G-9600](#): Never define more than one comment with hints.
- [G-9601](#): Never use unknown hints.
- [G-9602](#): Always use the alias name instead of the table name.
- [G-9603](#): Never reference an unknown table/alias.

Think Pink



Data is more often
read than written

Consistent data
simplifies the work of
consumers



Making a **WORLD** possible
in which **intelligent IT**
facilitates **LIFE and WORK** as a
matter of course.