



Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers Built-in Package Guide

EDB Postgres™ Advanced Server 12

August 31, 2020

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers
Built-in Package Guide
by EnterpriseDB® Corporation
Copyright © 2007 - 2020 EnterpriseDB Corporation. All rights reserved.

EnterpriseDB Corporation, 34 Crosby Drive, Suite 201, Bedford, MA 01730, USA
T +1 781 357 3390 **F** +1 978 467 1307 **E** info@enterprisedb.com www.enterprisedb.com

Table of Contents

1	Introduction	8
1.1	What's New	9
1.2	Typographical Conventions Used in this Guide	10
2	Packages	11
2.1	Package Components.....	11
2.1.1	Package Specification Syntax.....	12
2.1.2	Package Body Syntax	16
2.2	Creating Packages.....	22
2.2.1	Creating the Package Specification	22
2.2.2	Creating the Package Body.....	22
2.3	Referencing a Package.....	25
2.4	Using Packages With User Defined Types.....	26
2.5	Dropping a Package.....	30
3	Built-In Packages.....	31
3.1	DBMS_ALERT	32
3.1.1	REGISTER	33
3.1.2	REMOVE	33
3.1.3	REMOVEALL.....	34
3.1.4	SIGNAL	34
3.1.5	WAITANY	34
3.1.6	WAITONE	36
3.1.7	Comprehensive Example	37
3.2	DBMS_AQ.....	40
3.2.1	ENQUEUE	42
3.2.2	DEQUEUE	44
3.2.3	REGISTER.....	48
3.2.4	UNREGISTER	49
3.3	DBMS_AQADM.....	51
3.3.1	ALTER_QUEUE.....	52
3.3.2	ALTER_QUEUE_TABLE	53
3.3.3	CREATE_QUEUE.....	54
3.3.4	CREATE_QUEUE_TABLE	56
3.3.5	DROP_QUEUE.....	58
3.3.6	DROP_QUEUE_TABLE	59
3.3.7	PURGE_QUEUE_TABLE.....	60
3.3.8	START_QUEUE.....	61
3.3.9	STOP_QUEUE.....	61
3.4	DBMS_CRYPTO	63
3.4.1	DECRYPT	64
3.4.2	ENCRYPT	66
3.4.3	HASH	68
3.4.4	MAC.....	68
3.4.5	RANDOMBYTES.....	69
3.4.6	RANDOMINTEGER	70
3.4.7	RANDOMNUMBER	71
3.5	DBMS_JOB.....	72
3.5.1	BROKEN.....	73
3.5.2	CHANGE	74
3.5.3	INTERVAL	75
3.5.4	NEXT_DATE.....	75
3.5.5	REMOVE	76
3.5.6	RUN.....	77

3.5.7	SUBMIT	77
3.5.8	WHAT	78
3.6	DBMS_LOB.....	80
3.6.1	APPEND.....	81
3.6.2	COMPARE.....	81
3.6.3	CONVERTTOBLOB	82
3.6.4	CONVERTTOCLOB	84
3.6.5	COPY	85
3.6.6	ERASE	86
3.6.7	GET_STORAGE_LIMIT	87
3.6.8	GETLENGTH	87
3.6.9	INSTR.....	87
3.6.10	READ	88
3.6.11	SUBSTR.....	89
3.6.12	TRIM	90
3.6.13	WRITE	90
3.6.14	WRITEAPPEND.....	91
3.7	DBMS_LOCK.....	92
3.7.1	SLEEP	92
3.8	DBMS_MVIEW.....	93
3.8.1	GET_MV_DEPENDENCIES	94
3.8.2	REFRESH.....	94
3.8.3	REFRESH_ALL_MVIEWS.....	96
3.8.4	REFRESH_DEPENDENT	98
3.9	DBMS_OUTPUT.....	100
3.9.1	CHARARR.....	100
3.9.2	DISABLE	100
3.9.3	ENABLE	101
3.9.4	GET_LINE	102
3.9.5	GET_LINES	104
3.9.6	NEW_LINE.....	105
3.9.7	PUT.....	105
3.9.8	PUT_LINE	106
3.9.9	SERVEROUTPUT	107
3.10	DBMS_PIPE.....	109
3.10.1	CREATE_PIPE	110
3.10.2	NEXT_ITEM_TYPE.....	111
3.10.3	PACK_MESSAGE.....	113
3.10.4	PURGE.....	113
3.10.5	RECEIVE_MESSAGE.....	115
3.10.6	REMOVE_PIPE	115
3.10.7	RESET_BUFFER.....	117
3.10.8	SEND_MESSAGE	118
3.10.9	UNIQUE_SESSION_NAME	119
3.10.10	UNPACK_MESSAGE	119
3.10.11	Comprehensive Example	120
3.11	DBMS_PROFILER.....	123
3.11.1	FLUSH_DATA	123
3.11.2	GET_VERSION	124
3.11.3	INTERNAL_VERSION_CHECK.....	124
3.11.4	PAUSE_PROFILER.....	125
3.11.5	RESUME_PROFILER	125
3.11.6	START_PROFILER.....	125
3.11.7	STOP_PROFILER.....	126
3.11.8	Using DBMS_PROFILER.....	127
3.11.8.1	Querying the DBMS_PROFILER Tables and View.....	129

3.11.8.2	DBMS_PROFILER - Reference	136
3.11.8.2.1	PLSQL_PROFILER_RUNS	136
3.11.8.2.2	PLSQL_PROFILER_UNITS	136
3.11.8.2.3	PLSQL_PROFILER_DATA	137
3.11.8.2.4	PLSQL_PROFILER_RAWDATA	137
3.12	DBMS_RANDOM	144
3.12.1	INITIALIZE	144
3.12.2	NORMAL	145
3.12.3	RANDOM	145
3.12.4	SEED	146
3.12.5	SEED	146
3.12.6	STRING	147
3.12.7	TERMINATE	147
3.12.8	VALUE	148
3.12.9	VALUE	148
3.13	DBMS_REDACT	150
3.13.1	Using DBMS_REDACT Constants and Function Parameters	151
3.13.2	ADD_POLICY	159
3.13.3	ALTER_POLICY	163
3.13.4	DISABLE_POLICY	166
3.13.5	ENABLE_POLICY	167
3.13.6	DROP_POLICY	168
3.13.7	UPDATE_FULL_REDACTION_VALUES	169
3.14	DBMS_RLS	172
3.14.1	ADD_POLICY	175
3.14.2	DROP_POLICY	182
3.14.3	ENABLE_POLICY	183
3.15	DBMS_SCHEDULER	184
3.15.1	Using Calendar Syntax to Specify a Repeating Interval	186
3.15.2	CREATE_JOB	188
3.15.3	CREATE_PROGRAM	191
3.15.4	CREATE_SCHEDULE	193
3.15.5	DEFINE_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT	195
3.15.6	DISABLE	197
3.15.7	DROP_JOB	198
3.15.8	DROP_PROGRAM	199
3.15.9	DROP_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT	200
3.15.10	DROP_SCHEDULE	201
3.15.11	ENABLE	202
3.15.12	EVALUATE_CALENDAR_STRING	203
3.15.13	RUN_JOB	205
3.15.14	SET_JOB_ARGUMENT_VALUE	206
3.16	DBMS_SESSION	208
3.16.1	SET_ROLE	208
3.17	DBMS_SQL	209
3.17.1	BIND_VARIABLE	211
3.17.2	BIND_VARIABLE_CHAR	213
3.17.3	BIND_VARIABLE_RAW	214
3.17.4	CLOSE_CURSOR	215
3.17.5	COLUMN_VALUE	216
3.17.6	COLUMN_VALUE_CHAR	218
3.17.7	COLUMN_VALUE_RAW	219
3.17.8	DEFINE_COLUMN	220
3.17.9	DEFINE_COLUMN_CHAR	222
3.17.10	DEFINE_COLUMN_RAW	223
3.17.11	DESCRIBE_COLUMNS	224

3.17.12	EXECUTE	225
3.17.13	EXECUTE_AND_FETCH	226
3.17.14	FETCH_ROWS	228
3.17.15	IS_OPEN	230
3.17.16	LAST_ROW_COUNT	231
3.17.17	OPEN_CURSOR	233
3.17.18	PARSE	234
3.18	DBMS_UTILITY	236
3.18.1	LNAME_ARRAY	237
3.18.2	UNCL_ARRAY	237
3.18.3	ANALYZE_DATABASE, ANALYZE_SCHEMA and ANALYZE_PART_OBJECT	238
3.18.4	CANONICALIZE	241
3.18.5	COMMA_TO_TABLE	243
3.18.6	DB_VERSION	245
3.18.7	EXEC_DDL_STATEMENT	246
3.18.8	FORMAT_CALL_STACK	247
3.18.9	GET_CPU_TIME	248
3.18.10	GET_DEPENDENCY	249
3.18.11	GET_HASH_VALUE	250
3.18.12	GET_PARAMETER_VALUE	252
3.18.13	GET_TIME	253
3.18.14	NAME_TOKENIZE	254
3.18.15	TABLE_TO_COMMA	257
3.19	UTL_ENCODE	259
3.19.1	BASE64_DECODE	259
3.19.2	BASE64_ENCODE	260
3.19.3	MIMEHEADER_DECODE	261
3.19.4	MIMEHEADER_ENCODE	262
3.19.5	QUOTED_PRINTABLE_DECODE	263
3.19.6	QUOTED_PRINTABLE_ENCODE	264
3.19.7	TEXT_DECODE	265
3.19.8	TEXT_ENCODE	266
3.19.9	UUDECODE	267
3.19.10	UUENCODE	268
3.20	UTL_FILE	271
3.20.1	Setting File Permissions with utl_file.umask	272
3.20.2	FCLOSE	274
3.20.3	FCLOSE_ALL	274
3.20.4	FCOPY	274
3.20.5	FFLUSH	276
3.20.6	FOPEN	277
3.20.7	FREMOVE	278
3.20.8	FRENAME	278
3.20.9	GET_LINE	280
3.20.10	IS_OPEN	281
3.20.11	NEW_LINE	282
3.20.12	PUT	283
3.20.13	PUT_LINE	285
3.20.14	PUTF	286
3.21	UTL_HTTP	288
3.21.1	HTML_PIECES	291
3.21.2	REQ	291
3.21.3	RESP	291
3.21.4	BEGIN_REQUEST	292
3.21.5	END_REQUEST	292
3.21.6	END_RESPONSE	293

3.21.7	GET_BODY_CHARSET	293
3.21.8	GET_FOLLOW_REDIRECT	294
3.21.9	GET_HEADER	294
3.21.10	GET_HEADER_BY_NAME	296
3.21.11	GET_HEADER_COUNT	297
3.21.12	GET_RESPONSE	297
3.21.13	GET_RESPONSE_ERROR_CHECK	297
3.21.14	GET_TRANSFER_TIMEOUT	298
3.21.15	READ_LINE	298
3.21.16	READ_RAW	300
3.21.17	READ_TEXT	301
3.21.18	REQUEST	302
3.21.19	REQUEST_PIECES	302
3.21.20	SET_BODY_CHARSET	303
3.21.21	SET_FOLLOW_REDIRECT	303
3.21.22	SET_HEADER	304
3.21.23	SET_RESPONSE_ERROR_CHECK	304
3.21.24	SET_TRANSFER_TIMEOUT	305
3.21.25	WRITE_LINE	305
3.21.26	WRITE_RAW	306
3.21.27	WRITE_TEXT	307
3.22	UTL_MAIL	309
3.22.1	SEND	309
3.22.2	SEND_ATTACH_RAW	310
3.22.3	SEND_ATTACH_VARCHAR2	312
3.23	UTL_RAW	314
3.23.1	CAST_TO_RAW	314
3.23.2	CAST_TO_VARCHAR2	315
3.23.3	CONCAT	316
3.23.4	CONVERT	316
3.23.5	LENGTH	317
3.23.6	SUBSTR	318
3.24	UTL_SMTP	320
3.24.1	CONNECTION	321
3.24.2	REPLY/REPLIES	321
3.24.3	CLOSE_DATA	321
3.24.4	COMMAND	322
3.24.5	COMMAND_REPLIES	322
3.24.6	DATA	323
3.24.7	EHLO	323
3.24.8	HELO	324
3.24.9	HELP	324
3.24.10	MAIL	325
3.24.11	NOOP	325
3.24.12	OPEN_CONNECTION	326
3.24.13	OPEN_DATA	326
3.24.14	QUIT	327
3.24.15	RCPT	327
3.24.16	RSET	327
3.24.17	VERFY	328
3.24.18	WRITE_DATA	328
3.24.19	Comprehensive Example	329
3.25	UTL_URL	331
3.25.1	ESCAPE	331
3.25.2	UNESCAPE	333
4	Acknowledgements	335

1 Introduction

Database Compatibility for Oracle means that an application runs in an Oracle environment as well as in the EDB Postgres Advanced Server (Advanced Server) environment with minimal or no changes to the application code. This guide focuses solely on the features that are related to the package support provided by Advanced Server.

For more information about using other compatibility features offered by Advanced Server, please see the complete set of Advanced Server guides, available at:

<https://www.enterprisedb.com/edb-docs>

1.1 What's New

The following database compatibility for Oracle features have been added to Advanced Server 11 to create Advanced Server 12:

- Advanced Server introduces `COMPOUND TRIGGERS`, which are stored as a PL block that executes in response to a specified triggering event. For information, see the *Database Compatibility for Oracle Developer's Guide*.
- Advanced Server now supports new `DATA DICTIONARY VIEWS` that provide information compatible with the Oracle data dictionary views. For information, see the *Database Compatibility for Oracle Developer's Reference Guide*.
- Advanced Server has added the `LISTAGG` function to support string aggregation that concatenates data from multiple rows into a single row in an ordered manner. For information, see the *Database Compatibility for Oracle Developer's Reference Guide*.
- Advanced Server now supports `CAST (MULTISET)` function, allowing subquery output to be `CAST` to a nested table type. For information, see the *Database Compatibility for Oracle Developer's Reference Guide*.
- Advanced Server has added the `MEDIAN` function to calculate a median value from the set of provided values. For information, see the *Database Compatibility for Oracle Developer's Reference Guide*.
- Advanced Server has added the `SYS_GUID` function to generate and return a globally unique identifier in the form of 16-bytes of `RAW` data. For information, see the *Database Compatibility for Oracle Developer's Reference Guide*.
- Advanced Server now supports an Oracle-compatible `SELECT UNIQUE` clause in addition to an existing `SELECT DISTINCT` clause. For information, see the *Database Compatibility for Oracle Developer's Reference Guide*.
- Advanced Server has re-implemented `default_with_rowids` to create a table that includes a `ROWID` column in the newly created table. For information, see the *EDB Postgres Advanced Server Guide*.
- Advanced Server now supports logical decoding on the standby server, which allows creating a logical replication slot on a standby, independently of a primary server. For information, see the *EDB Postgres Advanced Server Guide*.
- Advanced Server introduces `INTERVAL PARTITIONING`, which allows a database to automatically create partitions of a specified interval as new data is

inserted into a table. For information, see the *Database Compatibility for Oracle Developer's Guide*.

1.2 **Typographical Conventions Used in this Guide**

Certain typographical conventions are used in this manual to clarify the meaning and usage of various commands, statements, programs, examples, etc. This section provides a summary of these conventions.

In the following descriptions a *term* refers to any word or group of words which may be language keywords, user-supplied values, literals, etc. A term's exact meaning depends upon the context in which it is used.

- *Italic font* introduces a new term, typically, in the sentence that defines it for the first time.
- Fixed-width (mono-spaced) font is used for terms that must be given literally such as SQL commands, specific table and column names used in the examples, programming language keywords, etc. For example, `SELECT * FROM emp;`
- *Italic fixed-width font* is used for terms for which the user must substitute values in actual usage. For example, `DELETE FROM table_name;`
- A vertical pipe | denotes a choice between the terms on either side of the pipe. A vertical pipe is used to separate two or more alternative terms within square brackets (optional choices) or braces (one mandatory choice).
- Square brackets [] denote that one or none of the enclosed term(s) may be substituted. For example, [a | b], means choose one of “a” or “b” or neither of the two.
- Braces { } denote that exactly one of the enclosed alternatives must be specified. For example, { a | b }, means exactly one of “a” or “b” must be specified.
- Ellipses ... denote that the proceeding term may be repeated. For example, [a | b] ... means that you may have the sequence, “b a a b a”.

2 Packages

This chapter discusses the concept of packages in Advanced Server. A *package* is a named collection of functions, procedures, variables, cursors, user-defined record types, and records that are referenced using a common qualifier – the package identifier. Packages have the following characteristics:

- Packages provide a convenient means of organizing the functions and procedures that perform a related purpose. Permission to use the package functions and procedures is dependent upon one privilege granted to the entire package. All of the package programs must be referenced with a common name.
- Certain functions, procedures, variables, types, etc. in the package can be declared as *public*. Public entities are visible and can be referenced by other programs that are given EXECUTE privilege on the package. For public functions and procedures, only their signatures are visible - the program names, parameters if any, and return types of functions. The SPL code of these functions and procedures is not accessible to others, therefore applications that utilize a package are dependent only upon the information available in the signature – not in the procedural logic itself.
- Other functions, procedures, variables, types, etc. in the package can be declared as *private*. Private entities can be referenced and used by function and procedures within the package, but not by other external applications. Private entities are for use only by programs within the package.
- Function and procedure names can be overloaded within a package. One or more functions/procedures can be defined with the same name, but with different signatures. This provides the capability to create identically named programs that perform the same job, but on different types of input.

2.1 Package Components

Packages consist of two main components:

- The *package specification*: This is the public interface, (these are the elements which can be referenced outside the package). We declare all database objects that are to be a part of our package within the specification.
- The *package body*: This contains the actual implementation of all the database objects declared within the package specification.

The package body implements the specifications in the package specification. It contains implementation details and private declarations which are invisible to the application. You can debug, enhance or replace a package body without changing the specifications. Similarly, you can change the body without recompiling the calling programs because the implementation details are invisible to the application.

2.1.1 Package Specification Syntax

The package specification defines the user interface for a package (the API). The specification lists the functions, procedures, types, exceptions and cursors that are visible to a user of the package.

The syntax used to define the interface for a package is:

```
CREATE [ OR REPLACE ] PACKAGE package_name
  [ authorization_clause ]
  { IS | AS }
  [ declaration; ] ...
  [ procedure_or_function_declaration ] ...
END [ package_name ] ;
```

Where *authorization_clause* :=

```
{ AUTHID DEFINER } | { AUTHID CURRENT_USER }
```

Where *procedure_or_function_declaration* :=

```
procedure_declaration | function_declaration
```

Where *procedure_declaration* :=

```
PROCEDURE proc_name [ argument_list ];
[ restriction_pragma; ]
```

Where *function_declaration* :=

```
FUNCTION func_name [ argument_list ]
  RETURN rettype [ DETERMINISTIC ];
[ restriction_pragma; ]
```

Where *argument_list* :=

```
( argument_declaration [, ...] )
```

Where *argument_declaration* :=

```
argname [ IN | IN OUT | OUT ] argtype [ DEFAULT value ]
```

Where *restriction_pragma* :=

```
PRAGMA RESTRICT_REFERENCES(name, restrictions)
```

Where *restrictions* :=

restriction [, ...]

Parameters

package_name

package_name is an identifier assigned to the package - each package must have a name unique within the schema.

AUTHID DEFINER

If you omit the AUTHID clause or specify AUTHID DEFINER, the privileges of the package owner are used to determine access privileges to database objects.

AUTHID CURRENT_USER

If you specify AUTHID CURRENT_USER, the privileges of the current user executing a program in the package are used to determine access privileges.

declaration

declaration is an identifier of a public variable. A public variable can be accessed from outside of the package using the syntax *package_name.variable*. There can be zero, one, or more public variables. Public variable definitions must come before procedure or function declarations.

declaration can be any of the following:

- Variable Declaration
- Record Declaration
- Collection Declaration
- REF CURSOR and Cursor Variable Declaration
- TYPE Definitions for Records, Collections, and REF CURSORS
- Exception
- Object Variable Declaration

proc_name

The name of a public procedure.

argname

The name of an argument. The argument is referenced by this name within the function or procedure body.

IN | IN OUT | OUT

The argument mode. `IN` declares the argument for input only. This is the default. `IN OUT` allows the argument to receive a value as well as return a value. `OUT` specifies the argument is for output only.

argtype

The data type(s) of an argument. An argument type may be a base data type, a copy of the type of an existing column using `%TYPE`, or a user-defined type such as a nested table or an object type. A length must not be specified for any base type - for example, specify `VARCHAR2`, not `VARCHAR2(10)`.

The type of a column is referenced by writing `tablename.columnname%TYPE`; using this can sometimes help make a procedure independent from changes to the definition of a table.

`DEFAULT value`

The `DEFAULT` clause supplies a default value for an input argument if one is not supplied in the invocation. `DEFAULT` may not be specified for arguments with modes `IN OUT` or `OUT`.

func_name

The name of a public function.

rettype

The return data type.

`DETERMINISTIC`

`DETERMINISTIC` is a synonym for `IMMUTABLE`. A `DETERMINISTIC` function cannot modify the database and always reaches the same result when given the same argument values; it does not do database lookups or otherwise use information not directly present in its argument list. If you include this clause, any call of the function with all-constant arguments can be immediately replaced with the function value.

restriction

The following keywords are accepted for compatibility and ignored:

`RNDS`

`RNPS`

TRUST

WNDS

WNPS

2.1.2 Package Body Syntax

Package implementation details reside in the package body; the package body may contain objects that are not visible to the package user. Advanced Server supports the following syntax for the package body:

```
CREATE [ OR REPLACE ] PACKAGE BODY package_name
  { IS | AS }
  [ private_declaration; ] ...
  [ procedure_or_function_definition ] ...
  [ package_initializer ]
END [ package_name ] ;
```

Where *procedure_or_function_definition* :=

```
procedure_definition | function_definition
```

Where *procedure_definition* :=

```
PROCEDURE proc_name[ argument_list ]
  [ options_list ]
  { IS | AS }
  procedure_body
END [ proc_name ] ;
```

Where *procedure_body* :=

```
[ PRAGMA AUTONOMOUS_TRANSACTION; ]
[ declaration; ] [, ...]
BEGIN
  statement; [...]
[ EXCEPTION
  { WHEN exception [OR exception] [...] THEN statement; }
  [...]
]
```

Where *function_definition* :=

```
FUNCTION func_name [ argument_list ]
  RETURN rettype [ DETERMINISTIC ]
  [ options_list ]
  { IS | AS }
  function_body
END [ func_name ] ;
```

Where *function_body* :=

```
[ PRAGMA AUTONOMOUS_TRANSACTION; ]  
[ declaration; ] [, ...]  
BEGIN  
    statement; [...]  
[ EXCEPTION  
    { WHEN exception [ OR exception ] [...] THEN statement; }  
    [...]  
]
```

Where *argument_list* :=

```
( argument_declaration [, ...] )
```

Where *argument_declaration* :=

```
argname [ IN | IN OUT | OUT ] argtype [ DEFAULT value ]
```

Where *options_list* :=

```
option [ ... ]
```

Where *option* :=

```
STRICT  
LEAKPROOF  
PARALLEL { UNSAFE | RESTRICTED | SAFE }  
COST execution_cost  
ROWS result_rows  
SET config_param { TO value | = value | FROM CURRENT }
```

Where *package_initializer* :=

```
BEGIN  
    statement; [...]  
END;
```

Parameters

package_name

package_name is the name of the package for which this is the package body.
There must be an existing package specification with this name.

private_declaration

private_declaration is an identifier of a private variable that can be accessed by any procedure or function within the package. There can be zero, one, or more private variables. *private_declaration* can be any of the following:

- Variable Declaration
- Record Declaration
- Collection Declaration
- REF CURSOR and Cursor Variable Declaration
- TYPE Definitions for Records, Collections, and REF CURSORS
- Exception
- Object Variable Declaration

proc_name

The name of the procedure being created.

PRAGMA AUTONOMOUS_TRANSACTION

PRAGMA AUTONOMOUS_TRANSACTION is the directive that sets the procedure as an autonomous transaction.

declaration

A variable, type, REF CURSOR, or subprogram declaration. If subprogram declarations are included, they must be declared after all other variable, type, and REF CURSOR declarations.

statement

An SPL program statement. Note that a DECLARE - BEGIN - END block is considered an SPL statement unto itself. Thus, the function body may contain nested blocks.

exception

An exception condition name such as NO_DATA_FOUND, OTHERS, etc.

func_name

The name of the function being created.

rettype

The return data type, which may be any of the types listed for *argtype*. As for *argtype*, a length must not be specified for *rettype*.

DETERMINISTIC

Include `DETERMINISTIC` to specify that the function will always return the same result when given the same argument values. A `DETERMINISTIC` function must not modify the database.

Note: the `DETERMINISTIC` keyword is equivalent to the PostgreSQL `IMMUTABLE` option.

Note: If `DETERMINISTIC` is specified for a public function in the package body, it must also be specified for the function declaration in the package specification. (For private functions, there is no function declaration in the package specification.)

PRAGMA AUTONOMOUS_TRANSACTION

`PRAGMA AUTONOMOUS_TRANSACTION` is the directive that sets the function as an autonomous transaction.

declaration

A variable, type, `REF CURSOR`, or subprogram declaration. If subprogram declarations are included, they must be declared after all other variable, type, and `REF CURSOR` declarations.

argname

The name of a formal argument. The argument is referenced by this name within the procedure body.

IN | IN OUT | OUT

The argument mode. `IN` declares the argument for input only. This is the default. `IN OUT` allows the argument to receive a value as well as return a value. `OUT` specifies the argument is for output only.

argtype

The data type(s) of an argument. An argument type may be a base data type, a copy of the type of an existing column using `%TYPE`, or a user-defined type such as a nested table or an object type. A length must not be specified for any base type - for example, specify `VARCHAR2`, not `VARCHAR2(10)`.

The type of a column is referenced by writing `tablename.columnname%TYPE`; using this can sometimes help make a procedure independent from changes to the definition of a table.

DEFAULT value

The `DEFAULT` clause supplies a default value for an input argument if one is not supplied in the procedure call. `DEFAULT` may not be specified for arguments with modes `IN OUT` or `OUT`.

Please note: the following options are not compatible with Oracle databases; they are extensions to Oracle package syntax provided by Advanced Server only.

`STRICT`

The `STRICT` keyword specifies that the function will not be executed if called with a `NULL` argument; instead the function will return `NULL`.

`LEAKPROOF`

The `LEAKPROOF` keyword specifies that the function will not reveal any information about arguments, other than through a return value.

`PARALLEL { UNSAFE | RESTRICTED | SAFE }`

The `PARALLEL` clause enables the use of parallel sequential scans (parallel mode). A parallel sequential scan uses multiple workers to scan a relation in parallel during a query in contrast to a serial sequential scan.

When set to `UNSAFE`, the procedure or function cannot be executed in parallel mode. The presence of such a procedure or function forces a serial execution plan. This is the default setting if the `PARALLEL` clause is omitted.

When set to `RESTRICTED`, the procedure or function can be executed in parallel mode, but the execution is restricted to the parallel group leader. If the qualification for any particular relation has anything that is parallel restricted, that relation won't be chosen for parallelism.

When set to `SAFE`, the procedure or function can be executed in parallel mode with no restriction.

execution_cost

execution_cost specifies a positive number giving the estimated execution cost for the function, in units of `cpu_operator_cost`. If the function returns a set, this is the cost per returned row. The default is `0.0025`.

result_rows

result_rows is the estimated number of rows that the query planner should expect the function to return. The default is 1000.

SET

Use the `SET` clause to specify a parameter value for the duration of the function:

config_param specifies the parameter name.

value specifies the parameter value.

`FROM CURRENT` guarantees that the parameter value is restored when the function ends.

package_initializer

The statements in the *package_initializer* are executed once per user's session when the package is first referenced.

Please Note: The `STRICT`, `LEAKPROOF`, `PARALLEL`, `COST`, `ROWS` and `SET` keywords provide extended functionality for Advanced Server and are not supported by Oracle.

2.2 Creating Packages

A package is not an executable piece of code; rather it is a repository of code. When you use a package, you actually execute or make reference to an element within a package.

2.2.1 Creating the Package Specification

The package specification contains the definition of all the elements in the package that can be referenced from outside of the package. These are called the public elements of the package, and they act as the package interface. The following code sample is a package specification:

```
--  
-- Package specification for the 'emp_admin' package.  
--  
CREATE OR REPLACE PACKAGE emp_admin  
IS  
  
    FUNCTION get_dept_name (  
        p_deptno          NUMBER DEFAULT 10  
    )  
    RETURN VARCHAR2;  
    FUNCTION update_emp_sal (  
        p_empno           NUMBER,  
        p_raise           NUMBER  
    )  
    RETURN NUMBER;  
    PROCEDURE hire_emp (  
        p_empno           NUMBER,  
        p_ename           VARCHAR2,  
        p_job             VARCHAR2,  
        p_sal             NUMBER,  
        p_hiredate        DATE DEFAULT sysdate,  
        p_comm            NUMBER DEFAULT 0,  
        p_mgr             NUMBER,  
        p_deptno         NUMBER DEFAULT 10  
    );  
    PROCEDURE fire_emp (  
        p_empno           NUMBER  
    );  
  
END emp_admin;
```

This code sample creates the `emp_admin` package specification. This package specification consists of two functions and two stored procedures. We can also add the `OR REPLACE` clause to the `CREATE PACKAGE` statement for convenience.

2.2.2 Creating the Package Body

The body of the package contains the actual implementation behind the package specification. For the above `emp_admin` package specification, we shall now create a package body which will implement the specifications. The body will contain the implementation of the functions and stored procedures in the specification.

```

--
-- Package body for the 'emp_admin' package.
--
CREATE OR REPLACE PACKAGE BODY emp_admin
IS
  --
  -- Function that queries the 'dept' table based on the department
  -- number and returns the corresponding department name.
  --
  FUNCTION get_dept_name (
    p_deptno          IN NUMBER DEFAULT 10
  )
  RETURN VARCHAR2
  IS
    v_dname           VARCHAR2(14);
  BEGIN
    SELECT dname INTO v_dname FROM dept WHERE deptno = p_deptno;
    RETURN v_dname;
  EXCEPTION
    WHEN NO_DATA_FOUND THEN
      DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Invalid department number ' || p_deptno);
      RETURN '';
  END;
  --
  -- Function that updates an employee's salary based on the
  -- employee number and salary increment/decrement passed
  -- as IN parameters. Upon successful completion the function
  -- returns the new updated salary.
  --
  FUNCTION update_emp_sal (
    p_empno           IN NUMBER,
    p_raise            IN NUMBER
  )
  RETURN NUMBER
  IS
    v_sal              NUMBER := 0;
  BEGIN
    SELECT sal INTO v_sal FROM emp WHERE empno = p_empno;
    v_sal := v_sal + p_raise;
    UPDATE emp SET sal = v_sal WHERE empno = p_empno;
    RETURN v_sal;
  EXCEPTION
    WHEN NO_DATA_FOUND THEN
      DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Employee ' || p_empno || ' not found');
      RETURN -1;
    WHEN OTHERS THEN
      DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('The following is SQLERRM:');
      DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(SQLERRM);
      DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('The following is SQLCODE:');
      DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(SQLCODE);
      RETURN -1;
  END;
  --
  -- Procedure that inserts a new employee record into the 'emp' table.
  --
  PROCEDURE hire_emp (
    p_empno            NUMBER,
    p_ename             VARCHAR2,
    p_job               VARCHAR2,
    p_sal               NUMBER,
    p_hiredate          DATE   DEFAULT sysdate,
    p_comm              NUMBER  DEFAULT 0,
    p_mgr               NUMBER,
  )

```

```
    p_deptno          NUMBER DEFAULT 10
  )
  AS
  BEGIN
    INSERT INTO emp(empno, ename, job, sal, hiredate, comm, mgr, deptno)
      VALUES(p_empno, p_ename, p_job, p_sal,
             p_hiredate, p_comm, p_mgr, p_deptno);
  END;
  --
  -- Procedure that deletes an employee record from the 'emp' table based
  -- on the employee number.
  --
  PROCEDURE fire_emp (
    p_empno          NUMBER
  )
  AS
  BEGIN
    DELETE FROM emp WHERE empno = p_empno;
  END;
END;
```

2.3 Referencing a Package

To reference the types, items and subprograms that are declared within a package specification, we use the dot notation. For example:

```
package_name.type_name  
package_name.item_name  
package_name.subprogram_name
```

To invoke a function from the `emp_admin` package specification, we will execute the following SQL command.

```
SELECT emp_admin.get_dept_name(10) FROM DUAL;
```

Here we are invoking the `get_dept_name` function declared within the package `emp_admin`. We are passing the department number as an argument to the function, which will return the name of the department. Here the value returned should be `ACCOUNTING`, which corresponds to department number 10.

2.4 Using Packages With User Defined Types

The following example incorporates the various user-defined types discussed in earlier chapters within the context of a package.

The package specification of `emp_rpt` shows the declaration of a record type, `emprec_typ`, and a weakly-typed `REF CURSOR`, `emp_refcur`, as publicly accessible along with two functions and two procedures. Function, `open_emp_by_dept`, returns the `REF CURSOR` type, `EMP_REFCUR`. Procedures, `fetch_emp` and `close_refcur`, both declare a weakly-typed `REF CURSOR` as a formal parameter.

```
CREATE OR REPLACE PACKAGE emp_rpt
IS
    TYPE emprec_typ IS RECORD (
        empno          NUMBER(4),
        ename          VARCHAR(10)
    );
    TYPE emp_refcur IS REF CURSOR;

    FUNCTION get_dept_name (
        p_deptno      IN NUMBER
    ) RETURN VARCHAR2;
    FUNCTION open_emp_by_dept (
        p_deptno      IN emp.deptno%TYPE
    ) RETURN EMP_REFCUR;
    PROCEDURE fetch_emp (
        p_refcur      IN OUT SYS_REFCURSOR
    );
    PROCEDURE close_refcur (
        p_refcur      IN OUT SYS_REFCURSOR
    );
END emp_rpt;
```

The package body shows the declaration of several private variables - a static cursor, `dept_cur`, a table type, `depttab_typ`, a table variable, `t_dept`, an integer variable, `t_dept_max`, and a record variable, `r_emp`.

```
CREATE OR REPLACE PACKAGE BODY emp_rpt
IS
    CURSOR dept_cur IS SELECT * FROM dept;
    TYPE depttab_typ IS TABLE of dept%ROWTYPE
        INDEX BY BINARY_INTEGER;
    t_dept          DEPTTAB_TYP;
    t_dept_max      INTEGER := 1;
    r_emp           EMPREC_TYP;

    FUNCTION get_dept_name (
        p_deptno      IN NUMBER
    ) RETURN VARCHAR2
    IS
    BEGIN
        FOR i IN 1..t_dept_max LOOP
            IF p_deptno = t_dept(i).deptno THEN
                RETURN t_dept(i).dname;
            END IF;
        END LOOP;
    END;
```

```

        RETURN 'Unknown';
    END;

    FUNCTION open_emp_by_dept(
        p_deptno    IN emp.deptno%TYPE
    ) RETURN EMP_REFCUR
    IS
        emp_by_dept EMP_REFCUR;
    BEGIN
        OPEN emp_by_dept FOR SELECT empno, ename FROM emp
            WHERE deptno = p_deptno;
        RETURN emp_by_dept;
    END;

    PROCEDURE fetch_emp (
        p_refcur    IN OUT SYS_REFCURSOR
    )
    IS
    BEGIN
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('EMPNO    ENAME');
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('-----');
        LOOP
            FETCH p_refcur INTO r_emp;
            EXIT WHEN p_refcur%NOTFOUND;
            DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(r_emp.empno || ' ' || r_emp.ename);
        END LOOP;
    END;

    PROCEDURE close_refcur (
        p_refcur    IN OUT SYS_REFCURSOR
    )
    IS
    BEGIN
        CLOSE p_refcur;
    END;
BEGIN
    OPEN dept_cur;
    LOOP
        FETCH dept_cur INTO t_dept(t_dept_max);
        EXIT WHEN dept_cur%NOTFOUND;
        t_dept_max := t_dept_max + 1;
    END LOOP;
    CLOSE dept_cur;
    t_dept_max := t_dept_max - 1;
END emp_rpt;

```

This package contains an initialization section that loads the private table variable, `t_dept`, using the private static cursor, `dept_cur`. `t_dept` serves as a department name lookup table in function, `get_dept_name`.

Function, `open_emp_by_dept` returns a `REF CURSOR` variable for a result set of employee numbers and names for a given department. This `REF CURSOR` variable can then be passed to procedure, `fetch_emp`, to retrieve and list the individual rows of the result set. Finally, procedure, `close_refcur`, can be used to close the `REF CURSOR` variable associated with this result set.

The following anonymous block runs the package function and procedures. In the anonymous block's declaration section, note the declaration of cursor variable,

v_emp_cur, using the package's public REF CURSOR type, EMP_REFCUR. v_emp_cur contains the pointer to the result set that is passed between the package function and procedures.

```

DECLARE
    v_deptno      dept.deptno%TYPE DEFAULT 30;
    v_emp_cur     emp_rpt.EMP_REFCUR;
BEGIN
    v_emp_cur := emp_rpt.open_emp_by_dept(v_deptno);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('EMPLOYEES IN DEPT #' || v_deptno ||
        ': ' || emp_rpt.get_dept_name(v_deptno));
    emp_rpt.fetch_emp(v_emp_cur);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('*****');
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_emp_cur%ROWCOUNT || ' rows were retrieved');
    emp_rpt.close_refcur(v_emp_cur);
END;
```

The following is the result of this anonymous block.

```

EMPLOYEES IN DEPT #30: SALES
EMPNO      ENAME
-----
7499       ALLEN
7521       WARD
7654       MARTIN
7698       BLAKE
7844       TURNER
7900       JAMES
*****
6 rows were retrieved
```

The following anonymous block illustrates another means of achieving the same result. Instead of using the package procedures, fetch_emp and close_refcur, the logic of these programs is coded directly into the anonymous block. In the anonymous block's declaration section, note the addition of record variable, r_emp, declared using the package's public record type, EMPREC_TYP.

```

DECLARE
    v_deptno      dept.deptno%TYPE DEFAULT 30;
    v_emp_cur     emp_rpt.EMP_REFCUR;
    r_emp         emp_rpt.EMPREC_TYP;
BEGIN
    v_emp_cur := emp_rpt.open_emp_by_dept(v_deptno);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('EMPLOYEES IN DEPT #' || v_deptno ||
        ': ' || emp_rpt.get_dept_name(v_deptno));
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('EMPNO      ENAME');
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('-----      -----');
    LOOP
        FETCH v_emp_cur INTO r_emp;
        EXIT WHEN v_emp_cur%NOTFOUND;
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(r_emp.empno || '      ' ||
            r_emp.ename);
    END LOOP;
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('*****');
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_emp_cur%ROWCOUNT || ' rows were retrieved');
    CLOSE v_emp_cur;
END;
```

The following is the result of this anonymous block.

```
EMPLOYEES IN DEPT #30: SALES
EMPNO      ENAME
-----
7499       ALLEN
7521       WARD
7654       MARTIN
7698       BLAKE
7844       TURNER
7900       JAMES
*****
6 rows were retrieved
```

2.5 Dropping a Package

The syntax for deleting an entire package or just the package body is as follows:

```
DROP PACKAGE [ BODY ] package_name;
```

If the keyword, `BODY`, is omitted, both the package specification and the package body are deleted - i.e., the entire package is dropped. If the keyword, `BODY`, is specified, then only the package body is dropped. The package specification remains intact.

package_name is the identifier of the package to be dropped.

Following statement will destroy only the package body of *emp_admin*:

```
DROP PACKAGE BODY emp_admin;
```

The following statement will drop the entire *emp_admin* package:

```
DROP PACKAGE emp_admin;
```

3 Built-In Packages

This chapter describes the built-in packages that are provided with Advanced Server. For certain packages, non-superusers must be explicitly granted the `EXECUTE` privilege on the package before using any of the package's functions or procedures. For most of the built-in packages, `EXECUTE` privilege has been granted to `PUBLIC` by default.

For information about using the `GRANT` command to provide access to a package, please see the *Database Compatibility for Oracle Developers Reference Guide*, available at:

<https://www.enterprisedb.com/edb-docs>

All built-in packages are owned by the special `sys` user which must be specified when granting or revoking privileges on built-in packages:

```
GRANT EXECUTE ON PACKAGE SYS.UTL_FILE TO john;
```

3.1 DBMS_ALERT

The DBMS_ALERT package provides the capability to register for, send, and receive alerts. The following table lists the supported procedures:

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
REGISTER(<i>name</i>)	n/a	Register to be able to receive alerts named, <i>name</i> .
REMOVE(<i>name</i>)	n/a	Remove registration for the alert named, <i>name</i> .
REMOVEALL	n/a	Remove registration for all alerts.
SIGNAL(<i>name</i> , <i>message</i>)	n/a	Signals the alert named, <i>name</i> , with <i>message</i> .
WAITANY(<i>name</i> OUT, <i>message</i> OUT, <i>status</i> OUT, <i>timeout</i>)	n/a	Wait for any registered alert to occur.
WAITONE(<i>name</i> , <i>message</i> OUT, <i>status</i> OUT, <i>timeout</i>)	n/a	Wait for the specified alert, <i>name</i> , to occur.

Advanced Server's implementation of DBMS_ALERT is a partial implementation when compared to Oracle's version. Only those functions and procedures listed in the table above are supported.

Advanced Server allows a maximum of 500 concurrent alerts. You can use the `dbms_alert.max_alerts` GUC variable (located in the `postgresql.conf` file) to specify the maximum number of concurrent alerts allowed on a system.

To set a value for the `dbms_alert.max_alerts` variable, open the `postgresql.conf` file (located by default in `/opt/PostgresPlus/10AS/data`) with your choice of editor, and edit the `dbms_alert.max_alerts` parameter as shown:

```
dbms_alert.max_alerts = alert_count

alert_count
```

`alert_count` specifies the maximum number of concurrent alerts. By default, the value of `dbms_alert.max_alerts` is 100. To disable this feature, set `dbms_alert.max_alerts` to 0.

For the `dbms_alert.max_alerts` GUC to function correctly, the `custom_variable_classes` parameter must contain `dbms_alerts`:

```
custom_variable_classes = 'dbms_alert, ...'
```

After editing the `postgresql.conf` file parameters, you must restart the server for the changes to take effect.

3.1.1 REGISTER

The REGISTER procedure enables the current session to be notified of the specified alert.

```
REGISTER(name VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

name

Name of the alert to be registered.

Examples

The following anonymous block registers for an alert named, `alert_test`, then waits for the signal.

```
DECLARE
  v_name          VARCHAR2(30) := 'alert_test';
  v_msg           VARCHAR2(80);
  v_status        INTEGER;
  v_timeout       NUMBER(3) := 120;
BEGIN
  DBMS_ALERT.REGISTER(v_name);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Registered for alert ' || v_name);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Waiting for signal...');
  DBMS_ALERT.WAITONE(v_name,v_msg,v_status,v_timeout);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Alert name      : ' || v_name);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Alert msg       : ' || v_msg);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Alert status    : ' || v_status);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Alert timeout:  ' || v_timeout || ' seconds');
  DBMS_ALERT.REMOVE(v_name);
END;
```

```
Registered for alert alert_test
Waiting for signal...
```

3.1.2 REMOVE

The REMOVE procedure unregisters the session for the named alert.

```
REMOVE(name VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

name

Name of the alert to be unregistered.

3.1.3 REMOVEALL

The REMOVEALL procedure unregisters the session for all alerts.

REMOVEALL

3.1.4 SIGNAL

The SIGNAL procedure signals the occurrence of the named alert.

SIGNAL(*name* VARCHAR2, *message* VARCHAR2)

Parameters

name

Name of the alert.

message

Information to pass with this alert.

Examples

The following anonymous block signals an alert for alert_test.

```
DECLARE
  v_name  VARCHAR2(30) := 'alert_test';
BEGIN
  DBMS_ALERT.SIGNAL(v_name, 'This is the message from ' || v_name);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Issued alert for ' || v_name);
END;
```

Issued alert for alert_test

3.1.5 WAITANY

The WAITANY procedure waits for any of the registered alerts to occur.

WAITANY(*name* OUT VARCHAR2, *message* OUT VARCHAR2,
status OUT INTEGER, *timeout* NUMBER)

Parameters

name

Variable receiving the name of the alert.

message

Variable receiving the message sent by the `SIGNAL` procedure.

status

Status code returned by the operation. Possible values are: 0 – alert occurred; 1 – timeout occurred.

timeout

Time to wait for an alert in seconds.

Examples

The following anonymous block uses the `WAITANY` procedure to receive an alert named, `alert_test` or `any_alert`:

```
DECLARE
  v_name      VARCHAR2(30);
  v_msg       VARCHAR2(80);
  v_status    INTEGER;
  v_timeout   NUMBER(3) := 120;
BEGIN
  DBMS_ALERT.REGISTER('alert_test');
  DBMS_ALERT.REGISTER('any_alert');
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Registered for alert alert_test and any_alert');
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Waiting for signal...');
  DBMS_ALERT.WAITANY(v_name,v_msg,v_status,v_timeout);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Alert name   : ' || v_name);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Alert msg    : ' || v_msg);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Alert status : ' || v_status);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Alert timeout: ' || v_timeout || ' seconds');
  DBMS_ALERT.REMOVEALL;
END;
```

Registered for alert alert_test and any_alert
Waiting for signal...

An anonymous block in a second session issues a signal for `any_alert`:

```
DECLARE
  v_name      VARCHAR2(30) := 'any_alert';
BEGIN
  DBMS_ALERT.SIGNAL(v_name,'This is the message from ' || v_name);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Issued alert for ' || v_name);
END;
```

Issued alert for any_alert

Control returns to the first anonymous block and the remainder of the code is executed:

```
Registered for alert alert_test and any_alert  
Waiting for signal...
```

```
Alert name   : any_alert
Alert msg    : This is the message from any_alert
Alert status : 0
Alert timeout: 120 seconds
```

3.1.6 WAITONE

The WAITONE procedure waits for the specified registered alert to occur.

```
WAITONE(name VARCHAR2, message OUT VARCHAR2,
        status OUT INTEGER, timeout NUMBER)
```

Parameters

name

Name of the alert.

message

Variable receiving the message sent by the SIGNAL procedure.

status

Status code returned by the operation. Possible values are: 0 – alert occurred; 1 – timeout occurred.

timeout

Time to wait for an alert in seconds.

Examples

The following anonymous block is similar to the one used in the WAITANY example except the WAITONE procedure is used to receive the alert named, alert_test.

```
DECLARE
  v_name      VARCHAR2(30) := 'alert_test';
  v_msg       VARCHAR2(80);
  v_status    INTEGER;
  v_timeout   NUMBER(3) := 120;
BEGIN
  DBMS_ALERT.REGISTER(v_name);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Registered for alert ' || v_name);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Waiting for signal...');
  DBMS_ALERT.WAITONE(v_name,v_msg,v_status,v_timeout);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Alert name   : ' || v_name);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Alert msg    : ' || v_msg);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Alert status : ' || v_status);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Alert timeout: ' || v_timeout || ' seconds');
  DBMS_ALERT.REMOVE(v_name);
```

```
END;  
  
Registered for alert alert_test  
Waiting for signal...
```

Signal sent for alert_test sent by an anonymous block in a second session:

```
DECLARE  
  v_name  VARCHAR2(30) := 'alert_test';  
BEGIN  
  DBMS_ALERT.SIGNAL(v_name,'This is the message from ' || v_name);  
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Issued alert for ' || v_name);  
END;  
  
Issued alert for alert_test
```

First session is alerted, control returns to the anonymous block, and the remainder of the code is executed:

```
Registered for alert alert_test  
Waiting for signal...  
Alert name   : alert_test  
Alert msg    : This is the message from alert_test  
Alert status : 0  
Alert timeout: 120 seconds
```

3.1.7 Comprehensive Example

The following example uses two triggers to send alerts when the dept table or the emp table is changed. An anonymous block listens for these alerts and displays messages when an alert is received.

The following are the triggers on the dept and emp tables:

```
CREATE OR REPLACE TRIGGER dept_alert_trig  
  AFTER INSERT OR UPDATE OR DELETE ON dept  
DECLARE  
  v_action  VARCHAR2(25);  
BEGIN  
  IF INSERTING THEN  
    v_action := ' added department(s) ';  
  ELSIF UPDATING THEN  
    v_action := ' updated department(s) ';  
  ELSIF DELETING THEN  
    v_action := ' deleted department(s) ';  
  END IF;  
  DBMS_ALERT.SIGNAL('dept_alert',USER || v_action || 'on ' ||  
    SYSDATE);  
END;  
  
CREATE OR REPLACE TRIGGER emp_alert_trig  
  AFTER INSERT OR UPDATE OR DELETE ON emp  
DECLARE  
  v_action  VARCHAR2(25);  
BEGIN  
  IF INSERTING THEN
```

```

        v_action := ' added employee(s) ';
ELSIF UPDATING THEN
        v_action := ' updated employee(s) ';
ELSIF DELETING THEN
        v_action := ' deleted employee(s) ';
END IF;
DBMS_ALERT.SIGNAL('emp_alert',USER || v_action || 'on ' ||
SYSDATE);
END;
```

The following anonymous block is executed in a session while updates to the dept and emp tables occur in other sessions:

```

DECLARE
    v_dept_alert    VARCHAR2(30) := 'dept_alert';
    v_emp_alert     VARCHAR2(30) := 'emp_alert';
    v_name          VARCHAR2(30);
    v_msg           VARCHAR2(80);
    v_status        INTEGER;
    v_timeout       NUMBER(3) := 60;
BEGIN
    DBMS_ALERT.REGISTER(v_dept_alert);
    DBMS_ALERT.REGISTER(v_emp_alert);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Registered for alerts dept_alert and emp_alert');
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Waiting for signal...');
    LOOP
        DBMS_ALERT.WAITANY(v_name,v_msg,v_status,v_timeout);
        EXIT WHEN v_status != 0;
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Alert name      : ' || v_name);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Alert msg       : ' || v_msg);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Alert status    : ' || v_status);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('-----' ||
            '-----');
    END LOOP;
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Alert status : ' || v_status);
    DBMS_ALERT.REMOVEALL;
END;
```

```

Registered for alerts dept_alert and emp_alert
Waiting for signal...
```

The following changes are made by user, mary:

```

INSERT INTO dept VALUES (50,'FINANCE','CHICAGO');
INSERT INTO emp (empno,ename,deptno) VALUES (9001,'JONES',50);
INSERT INTO emp (empno,ename,deptno) VALUES (9002,'ALICE',50);
```

The following change is made by user, john:

```

INSERT INTO dept VALUES (60,'HR','LOS ANGELES');
```

The following is the output displayed by the anonymous block receiving the signals from the triggers:

```

Registered for alerts dept_alert and emp_alert
Waiting for signal...
Alert name      : dept_alert
Alert msg       : mary added department(s) on 25-OCT-07 16:41:01
```

```
Alert status : 0
-----
Alert name   : emp_alert
Alert msg    : mary added employee(s) on 25-OCT-07 16:41:02
Alert status : 0
-----
Alert name   : dept_alert
Alert msg    : john added department(s) on 25-OCT-07 16:41:22
Alert status : 0
-----
Alert status : 1
```

3.2 DBMS_AQ

EDB Postgres Advanced Server Advanced Queueing provides message queueing and message processing for the Advanced Server database. User-defined messages are stored in a queue; a collection of queues is stored in a queue table. Procedures in the DBMS_AQADM package create and manage message queues and queue tables. Use the DBMS_AQ package to add messages to a queue or remove messages from a queue, or register or unregister a PL/SQL callback procedure.

Advanced Server also provides extended (non-compatible) functionality for the DBMS_AQ package with SQL commands. Please see the *Database Compatibility for Oracle Developers Reference Guide* for detailed information about the following SQL commands:

- ALTER QUEUE
- ALTER QUEUE TABLE
- CREATE QUEUE
- CREATE QUEUE TABLE
- DROP QUEUE
- DROP QUEUE TABLE

The DBMS_AQ package provides procedures that allow you to enqueue a message, dequeue a message, and manage callback procedures. The supported procedures are:

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
ENQUEUE	n/a	Post a message to a queue.
DEQUEUE	n/a	Retrieve a message from a queue if or when a message is available.
REGISTER	n/a	Register a callback procedure.
UNREGISTER	n/a	Unregister a callback procedure.

Advanced Server's implementation of DBMS_AQ is a partial implementation when compared to Oracle's version. Only those procedures listed in the table above are supported.

Advanced Server supports use of the constants listed below:

Constant	Description	For Parameters
DBMS_AQ.BROWSE (0)	Read the message without locking.	dequeue_options_t.dequeue_mode
DBMS_AQ.LOCKED (1)	This constant is defined, but will return an error if used.	dequeue_options_t.dequeue_mode
DBMS_AQ.REMOVE (2)	Delete the message after reading; the default.	dequeue_options_t.dequeue_mode

Constant	Description	For Parameters
DBMS_AQ.REMOVE_NODATA (3)	This constant is defined, but will return an error if used.	dequeue_options_t.dequeue_mode
DBMS_AQ.FIRST_MESSAGE (0)	Return the first available message that matches the search terms.	dequeue_options_t.navigation
DBMS_AQ.NEXT_MESSAGE (1)	Return the next available message that matches the search terms.	dequeue_options_t.navigation
DBMS_AQ.NEXT_TRANSACTION (2)	This constant is defined, but will return an error if used.	dequeue_options_t.navigation
DBMS_AQ.FOREVER (-1)	Wait forever if a message that matches the search term is not found, the default.	dequeue_options_t.wait
DBMS_AQ.NO_WAIT (0)	Do not wait if a message that matches the search term is not found.	dequeue_options_t.wait
DBMS_AQ.ON_COMMIT (0)	The dequeue is part of the current transaction.	enqueue_options_t.visibility, dequeue_options_t.visibility
DBMS_AQ.IMMEDIATE (1)	This constant is defined, but will return an error if used.	enqueue_options_t.visibility, dequeue_options_t.visibility
DBMS_AQ.PERSISTENT (0)	The message should be stored in a table.	enqueue_options_t.delivery_mode
DBMS_AQ.BUFFERED (1)	This constant is defined, but will return an error if used.	enqueue_options_t.delivery_mode
DBMS_AQ.READY (0)	Specifies that the message is ready to process.	message_properties_t.state
DBMS_AQ.WAITING (1)	Specifies that the message is waiting to be processed.	message_properties_t.state
DBMS_AQ.PROCESSED (2)	Specifies that the message has been processed.	message_properties_t.state
DBMS_AQ.EXPIRED (3)	Specifies that the message is in the exception queue.	message_properties_t.state
DBMS_AQ.NO_DELAY (0)	This constant is defined, but will return an error if used	message_properties_t.delay
DBMS_AQ.NEVER (NULL)	This constant is defined, but will return an error if used	message_properties_t.expiration
DBMS_AQ.NAMESPACE_AQ (0)	Accept notifications from DBMS_AQ queues.	sys.aq\$_reg_info.namespace
DBMS_AQ.NAMESPACE_ANONYMOUS (1)	This constant is defined, but will return an error if used	sys.aq\$_reg_info.namespace

The DBMS_AQ configuration parameters listed in the following table can be defined in the `postgresql.conf` file. After the configuration parameters are defined, you can invoke the DBMS_AQ package to use and manage messages held in queues and queue tables.

Parameter	Description
<code>dbms_aq.max_workers</code>	The maximum number of workers to run.
<code>dbms_aq.max_idle_time</code>	The idle time a worker must wait before exiting.
<code>dbms_aq.min_work_time</code>	The minimum time a worker can run before exiting.

Parameter	Description
<code>dbms_aq.launch_delay</code>	The minimum time between creating workers.
<code>dbms_aq.batch_size</code>	The maximum number of messages to process in a single transaction. The default batch size is 10.
<code>dbms_aq.max_databases</code>	The size of DBMS_AQ's hash table of databases. The default value is 1024.
<code>dbms_aq.max_pending_retries</code>	The size of DBMS_AQ's hash table of pending retries. The default value is 1024.

3.2.1 ENQUEUE

The ENQUEUE procedure adds an entry to a queue. The signature is:

```
ENQUEUE (
  queue_name IN VARCHAR2,
  enqueue_options IN DBMS_AQ.ENQUEUE_OPTIONS_T,
  message_properties IN DBMS_AQ.MESSAGE_PROPERTIES_T,
  payload IN <type_name>,
  msgid OUT RAW)
```

Parameters

queue_name

The name (optionally schema-qualified) of an existing queue. If you omit the schema name, the server will use the schema specified in the `SEARCH_PATH`. Please note that unlike Oracle, unquoted identifiers are converted to lower case before storing. To include special characters or use a case-sensitive name, enclose the name in double quotes.

For detailed information about creating a queue, please see `DBMS_AQADM.CREATE_QUEUE`.

enqueue_options

enqueue_options is a value of the type, `enqueue_options_t`:

```
DBMS_AQ.ENQUEUE_OPTIONS_T IS RECORD (
  visibility BINARY_INTEGER DEFAULT ON_COMMIT,
  relative_msgid RAW(16) DEFAULT NULL,
  sequence_deviation BINARY_INTEGER DEFAULT NULL,
  transformation VARCHAR2(61) DEFAULT NULL,
  delivery_mode PLS_INTEGER NOT NULL DEFAULT PERSISTENT);
```

Currently, the only supported parameter values for `enqueue_options_t` are:

visibility	ON COMMIT.
delivery_mode	PERSISTENT
sequence_deviation	NULL
transformation	NULL
relative_msgid	NULL

message_properties

message_properties is a value of the type, *message_properties_t*:

```
message_properties_t IS RECORD(
  priority INTEGER,
  delay INTEGER,
  expiration INTEGER,
  correlation CHARACTER VARYING(128) COLLATE pg_catalog."C",
  attempts INTEGER,
  recipient_list "AQ$ RECIPIENT_LIST_T",
  exception_queue CHARACTER VARYING(61) COLLATE pg_catalog."C",
  enqueue_time TIMESTAMP WITHOUT TIME ZONE,
  state INTEGER,
  original_msgid BYTEA,
  transaction_group CHARACTER VARYING(30) COLLATE pg_catalog."C",
  delivery_mode INTEGER
  DBMS_AQ.PERSISTENT);
```

The supported values for *message_properties_t* are:

priority	If the queue table definition includes a <i>sort_list</i> that references <i>priority</i> , this parameter affects the order that messages are dequeued. A lower value indicates a higher dequeue priority.
delay	Specify the number of seconds that will pass before a message is available for dequeuing or <i>NO_DELAY</i> .
expiration	Use the expiration parameter to specify the number of seconds until a message expires.
correlation	Use correlation to specify a message that will be associated with the entry; the default is <i>NULL</i> .
attempts	This is a system-maintained value that specifies the number of attempts to dequeue the message.
recipient_list	This parameter is not supported.
exception_queue	Use the <i>exception_queue</i> parameter to specify the name of an exception queue to which a message will be moved if it expires or is dequeued by a transaction that rolls back too many times.
enqueue_time	<i>enqueue_time</i> is the time the record was added to the queue; this value is provided by the system.
state	This parameter is maintained by <i>DBMS_AQ</i> ; state can be: <i>DBMS_AQ.WAITING</i> – the delay has not been reached. <i>DBMS_AQ.READY</i> – the queue entry is ready for processing. <i>DBMS_AQ.PROCESSED</i> – the queue entry has been processed. <i>DBMS_AQ.EXPIRED</i> – the queue entry has been moved to the exception queue.

<code>original_msgid</code>	This parameter is accepted for compatibility and ignored.
<code>transaction_group</code>	This parameter is accepted for compatibility and ignored.
<code>delivery_mode</code>	This parameter is not supported; specify a value of <code>DBMS_AQ.PERSISTENT</code> .

payload

Use the *payload* parameter to provide the data that will be associated with the queue entry. The payload type must match the type specified when creating the corresponding queue table (see `DBMS_AQADM.CREATE_QUEUE_TABLE`).

msgid

Use the *msgid* parameter to retrieve a unique (system-generated) message identifier.

Example

The following anonymous block calls `DBMS_AQ.ENQUEUE`, adding a message to a queue named `work_order`:

```
DECLARE
    enqueue_options    DBMS_AQ.ENQUEUE_OPTIONS_T;
    message_properties DBMS_AQ.MESSAGE_PROPERTIES_T;
    message_handle     raw(16);
    payload            work_order;

BEGIN
    payload := work_order('Smith', 'system upgrade');

    DBMS_AQ.ENQUEUE (
        queue_name      => 'work_order',
        enqueue_options => enqueue_options,
        message_properties => message_properties,
        payload         => payload,
        msgid           => message_handle
    );
END;
```

3.2.2 DEQUEUE

The `DEQUEUE` procedure dequeues a message. The signature is:

```
DEQUEUE (
    queue_name IN VARCHAR2,
    dequeue_options IN DBMS_AQ.DEQUEUE_OPTIONS_T,
```

```
message_properties OUT DBMS_AQ.MESSAGE_PROPERTIES_T,  
payload OUT type_name,  
msgid OUT RAW)
```

Parameters

queue_name

The name (optionally schema-qualified) of an existing queue. If you omit the schema name, the server will use the schema specified in the `SEARCH_PATH`. Please note that unlike Oracle, unquoted identifiers are converted to lower case before storing. To include special characters or use a case-sensitive name, enclose the name in double quotes.

For detailed information about creating a queue, please see `DBMS_AQADM.CREATE_QUEUE`.

dequeue_options

dequeue_options is a value of the type, `dequeue_options_t`:

```
DEQUEUE_OPTIONS_T IS RECORD(  
  consumer_name CHARACTER VARYING(30),  
  dequeue_mode INTEGER,  
  navigation INTEGER,  
  visibility INTEGER,  
  wait INTEGER,  
  msgid BYTEA,  
  correlation CHARACTER VARYING(128),  
  deq_condition CHARACTER VARYING(4000),  
  transformation CHARACTER VARYING(61),  
  delivery_mode INTEGER);
```

Currently, the supported parameter values for `dequeue_options_t` are:

<code>consumer_name</code>	Must be NULL.
<code>dequeue_mode</code>	The locking behavior of the dequeue operation. Must be either: <code>DBMS_AQ.BROWSE</code> – Read the message without obtaining a lock. <code>DBMS_AQ.LOCKED</code> – Read the message after acquiring a lock. <code>DBMS_AQ.REMOVE</code> – Read the message before deleting the message. <code>DBMS_AQ.REMOVE_NODATA</code> – Read the message, but do not delete the message.
<code>navigation</code>	Identifies the message that will be retrieved. Must be either: <code>FIRST_MESSAGE</code> – The first message within the queue that matches the search

	term. NEXT_MESSAGE – The next message that is available that matches the first term.
visibility	Must be ON_COMMIT – if you roll back the current transaction the dequeued item will remain in the queue.
wait	Must be a number larger than 0, or: DBMS_AQ.FOREVER – Wait indefinitely. DBMS_AQ.NO_WAIT – Do not wait.
msgid	The message ID of the message that will be dequeued.
correlation	Accepted for compatibility, and ignored.
deq_condition	A VARCHAR2 expression that evaluates to a BOOLEAN value, indicating if the message should be dequeued.
transformation	Accepted for compatibility, and ignored.
delivery_mode	Must be PERSISTENT; buffered messages are not supported at this time.

message_properties

message_properties is a value of the type, `message_properties_t`:

```
message_properties_t IS RECORD(
  priority INTEGER,
  delay INTEGER,
  expiration INTEGER,
  correlation CHARACTER VARYING(128) COLLATE pg_catalog."C",
  attempts INTEGER,
  recipient_list "AQ$_RECIPIENT_LIST_T",
  exception_queue CHARACTER VARYING(61) COLLATE pg_catalog."C",
  enqueue_time TIMESTAMP WITHOUT TIME ZONE,
  state INTEGER,
  original_msgid BYTEA,
  transaction_group CHARACTER VARYING(30) COLLATE pg_catalog."C",
  delivery_mode INTEGER
  DBMS_AQ.PERSISTENT);
```

The supported values for `message_properties_t` are:

priority	If the queue table definition includes a <code>sort_list</code> that references <code>priority</code> , this parameter affects the order that messages are dequeued. A lower value indicates a higher dequeue priority.
delay	Specify the number of seconds that will pass before a message is available for dequeuing or <code>NO_DELAY</code> .
expiration	Use the expiration parameter to specify the number of seconds until a message expires.
correlation	Use correlation to specify a message that will be associated with the entry; the default is <code>NULL</code> .
attempts	This is a system-maintained value that specifies the number of attempts to dequeue the message.

<code>recipient_list</code>	This parameter is not supported.
<code>exception_queue</code>	Use the <code>exception_queue</code> parameter to specify the name of an exception queue to which a message will be moved if it expires or is dequeued by a transaction that rolls back too many times.
<code>enqueue_time</code>	<code>enqueue_time</code> is the time the record was added to the queue; this value is provided by the system.
<code>state</code>	This parameter is maintained by <code>DBMS_AQ</code> ; state can be: <code>DBMS_AQ.WAITING</code> – the delay has not been reached. <code>DBMS_AQ.READY</code> – the queue entry is ready for processing. <code>DBMS_AQ.PROCESSED</code> – the queue entry has been processed. <code>DBMS_AQ.EXPIRED</code> – the queue entry has been moved to the exception queue.
<code>original_msgid</code>	This parameter is accepted for compatibility and ignored.
<code>transaction_group</code>	This parameter is accepted for compatibility and ignored.
<code>delivery_mode</code>	This parameter is not supported; specify a value of <code>DBMS_AQ.PERSISTENT</code> .

payload

Use the *payload* parameter to retrieve the payload of a message with a dequeue operation. The payload type must match the type specified when creating the queue table.

msgid

Use the *msgid* parameter to retrieve a unique message identifier.

Example

The following anonymous block calls `DBMS_AQ.DEQUEUE`, retrieving a message from the queue and a payload:

```

DECLARE
    dequeue_options    DBMS_AQ.DEQUEUE_OPTIONS_T;
    message_properties DBMS_AQ.MESSAGE_PROPERTIES_T;
    message_handle     raw(16);
    payload            work_order;

BEGIN
    dequeue_options.dequeue_mode := DBMS_AQ.BROWSE;

    DBMS_AQ.DEQUEUE (
        queue_name           => 'work_queue',
        dequeue_options      => dequeue_options,
        message_properties   => message_properties,
        payload              => payload,
        msgid                => message_handle
    );

    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE (

```

```
'The next work order is [' || payload.subject || '].'  
);  
END;
```

The payload is displayed by DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE.

3.2.3 REGISTER

Use the REGISTER procedure to register an email address, procedure or URL that will be notified when an item is enqueued or dequeued. The signature is:

```
REGISTER(  
  reg_list IN SYS.AQ$_REG_INFO_LIST,  
  count IN NUMBER)
```

Parameters

reg_list

reg_list is a list of type AQ\$_REG_INFO_LIST; that provides information about each subscription that you would like to register. Each entry within the list is of the type AQ\$_REG_INFO, and may contain:

Attribute	Type	Description
name	VARCHAR2 (128)	The (optionally schema-qualified) name of the subscription.
namespace	NUMERIC	The only supported value is DBMS_AQ.NAMESPACE_AQ (0)
callback	VARCHAR2 (4000)	Describes the action that will be performed upon notification. Currently, only calls to PL/SQL procedures are supported. The call should take the form: <i>plsql://schema.procedure</i> Where: schema specifies the schema in which the procedure resides. procedure specifies the name of the procedure that will be notified.
context	RAW (16)	Any user-defined value required by the callback procedure.

count

count is the number of entries in *reg_list*.

Example

The following anonymous block calls DBMS_AQ.REGISTER, registering procedures that will be notified when an item is added to or removed from a queue. A set of attributes (of

`sys.aq$_reg_info` type) is provided for each subscription identified in the `DECLARE` section:

```

DECLARE
  subscription1 sys.aq$_reg_info;
  subscription2 sys.aq$_reg_info;
  subscription3 sys.aq$_reg_info;
  subscriptionlist sys.aq$_reg_info_list;
BEGIN
  subscription1 := sys.aq$_reg_info('q', DBMS_AQ.NAMESPACE_AQ,
'plsql://assign_worker?PR=0',HEXTORAW('FFFF'));
  subscription2 := sys.aq$_reg_info('q', DBMS_AQ.NAMESPACE_AQ,
'plsql://add_to_history?PR=1',HEXTORAW('FFFF'));
  subscription3 := sys.aq$_reg_info('q', DBMS_AQ.NAMESPACE_AQ,
'plsql://reserve_parts?PR=2',HEXTORAW('FFFF'));

  subscriptionlist := sys.aq$_reg_info_list(subscription1, subscription2,
subscription3);
  dbms_aq.register(subscriptionlist, 3);
  commit;
END;
/

```

The `subscriptionlist` is of type `sys.aq$_reg_info_list`, and contains the previously described `sys.aq$_reg_info` objects. The list name and an object count are passed to `dbms_aq.register`.

3.2.4 UNREGISTER

Use the `UNREGISTER` procedure to turn off notifications related to enqueueing and dequeueing. The signature is:

```

UNREGISTER (
  reg_list IN SYS.AQ$_REG_INFO_LIST,
  count IN NUMBER)

```

Parameters

reg_list

reg_list is a list of type `AQ$_REG_INFO_LIST`; that provides information about each subscription that you would like to register. Each entry within the list is of the type `AQ$_REG_INFO`, and may contain:

Attribute	Type	Description
name	VARCHAR2 (128)	The (optionally schema-qualified) name of the subscription.
namespace	NUMERIC	The only supported value is <code>DBMS_AQ.NAMESPACE_AQ (0)</code>

callback	VARCHAR2 (4000)	Describes the action that will be performed upon notification. Currently, only calls to PL/SQL procedures are supported. The call should take the form: <i>plsql://schema.procedure</i> Where: schema specifies the schema in which the procedure resides. procedure specifies the name of the procedure that will be notified.
context	RAW (16)	Any user-defined value required by the procedure.

count

count is the number of entries in *reg_list*.

Example

The following anonymous block calls DBMS_AQ.UNREGISTER, disabling the notifications specified in the example for DBMS_AQ.REGISTER:

```

DECLARE
  subscription1 sys.aq$_reg_info;
  subscription2 sys.aq$_reg_info;
  subscription3 sys.aq$_reg_info;
  subscriptionlist sys.aq$_reg_info_list;
BEGIN
  subscription1 := sys.aq$_reg_info('q', DBMS_AQ.NAMESPACE_AQ,
'plsql://assign_worker?PR=0',HEXTORAW('FFFF'));
  subscription2 := sys.aq$_reg_info('q', DBMS_AQ.NAMESPACE_AQ,
'plsql://add_to_history?PR=1',HEXTORAW('FFFF'));
  subscription3 := sys.aq$_reg_info('q', DBMS_AQ.NAMESPACE_AQ,
'plsql://reserve_parts?PR=2',HEXTORAW('FFFF'));

  subscriptionlist := sys.aq$_reg_info_list(subscription1, subscription2,
subscription3);
  dbms_aq.unregister(subscriptionlist, 3);
  commit;
END;
/

```

The subscriptionlist is of type sys.aq\$_reg_info_list, and contains the previously described sys.aq\$_reg_info objects. The list name and an object count are passed to dbms_aq.unregister.

3.3 DBMS_AQADM

EDB Postgres Advanced Server Advanced Queueing provides message queueing and message processing for the Advanced Server database. User-defined messages are stored in a queue; a collection of queues is stored in a queue table. Procedures in the DBMS_AQADM package create and manage message queues and queue tables. Use the DBMS_AQ package to add messages to a queue or remove messages from a queue, or register or unregister a PL/SQL callback procedure.

Advanced Server also provides extended (non-compatible) functionality for the DBMS_AQ package with SQL commands. Please see the *Database Compatibility for Oracle Developers Reference Guide* for detailed information about the following SQL commands:

- ALTER QUEUE
- ALTER QUEUE TABLE
- CREATE QUEUE
- CREATE QUEUE TABLE
- DROP QUEUE
- DROP QUEUE TABLE

The DBMS_AQADM package provides procedures that allow you to create and manage queues and queue tables.

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
ALTER_QUEUE	n/a	Modify an existing queue.
ALTER_QUEUE_TABLE	n/a	Modify an existing queue table.
CREATE_QUEUE	n/a	Create a queue.
CREATE_QUEUE_TABLE	n/a	Create a queue table.
DROP_QUEUE	n/a	Drop an existing queue.
DROP_QUEUE_TABLE	n/a	Drop an existing queue table.
PURGE_QUEUE_TABLE	n/a	Remove one or more messages from a queue table.
START_QUEUE	n/a	Make a queue available for enqueueing and dequeueing procedures.
STOP_QUEUE	n/a	Make a queue unavailable for enqueueing and dequeueing procedures

Advanced Server's implementation of DBMS_AQADM is a partial implementation when compared to Oracle's version. Only those functions and procedures listed in the table above are supported.

Advanced Server supports use of the arguments listed below:

Constant	Description	For Parameters
DBMS_AQADM.TRANSACTIONAL (1)	This constant is defined, but will return an error if used.	message_grouping
DBMS_AQADM.NONE (0)	Use to specify message grouping for a queue table.	message_grouping
DBMS_AQADM.NORMAL_QUEUE (0)	Use with <code>create_queue</code> to specify <code>queue_type</code> .	queue_type
DBMS_AQADM.EXCEPTION_QUEUE (1)	Use with <code>create_queue</code> to specify <code>queue_type</code> .	queue_type
DBMS_AQADM.INFINITE (-1)	Use with <code>create_queue</code> to specify <code>retention_time</code> .	retention_time
DBMS_AQADM.PERSISTENT (0)	The message should be stored in a table.	enqueue_options_t.delivery_mode
DBMS_AQADM.BUFFERED (1)	This constant is defined, but will return an error if used.	enqueue_options_t.delivery_mode
DBMS_AQADM.PERSISTENT_OR_BUFFERED (2)	This constant is defined, but will return an error if used.	enqueue_options_t.delivery_mode

3.3.1 ALTER_QUEUE

Use the `ALTER_QUEUE` procedure to modify an existing queue. The signature is:

```
ALTER_QUEUE (
    max_retries IN NUMBER DEFAULT NULL,
    retry_delay IN NUMBER DEFAULT 0
    retention_time IN NUMBER DEFAULT 0,
    auto_commit IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE)
comment IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,
```

Parameters

queue_name

The name of the new queue.

max_retries

max_retries specifies the maximum number of attempts to remove a message with a `dequeue` statement. The value of *max_retries* is incremented with each `ROLLBACK` statement. When the number of failed attempts reaches the value specified by *max_retries*, the message is moved to the exception queue. Specify 0 to indicate that no retries are allowed.

retry_delay

retry_delay specifies the number of seconds until a message is scheduled for re-processing after a ROLLBACK. Specify 0 to indicate that the message should be retried immediately (the default).

retention_time

retention_time specifies the length of time (in seconds) that a message will be stored after being dequeued. You can also specify 0 (the default) to indicate the message should not be retained after dequeuing, or INFINITE to retain the message forever.

auto_commit

This parameter is accepted for compatibility and ignored.

comment

comment specifies a comment associated with the queue.

Example

The following command alters a queue named `work_order`, setting the `retry_delay` parameter to 5 seconds:

```
EXEC DBMS_AQADM.ALTER_QUEUE(queue_name => 'work_order', retry_delay => 5);
```

3.3.2 ALTER_QUEUE_TABLE

Use the `ALTER_QUEUE_TABLE` procedure to modify an existing queue table. The signature is:

```
ALTER_QUEUE_TABLE (  
  queue_table IN VARCHAR2,  
  comment IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
  primary_instance IN BINARY_INTEGER DEFAULT 0,  
  secondary_instance IN BINARY_INTEGER DEFAULT 0,
```

Parameters

queue_table

The (optionally schema-qualified) name of the queue table.

comment

Use the *comment* parameter to provide a comment about the queue table.

primary_instance

primary_instance is accepted for compatibility and stored, but is ignored.

secondary_instance

secondary_instance is accepted for compatibility, but is ignored.

Example

The following command modifies a queue table named `work_order_table`:

```
EXEC DBMS_AQADM.ALTER_QUEUE_TABLE
(queue_table => 'work_order_table', comment => 'This queue table
contains work orders for the shipping department.');
```

The queue table is named `work_order_table`; the command adds a comment to the definition of the queue table.

3.3.3 CREATE_QUEUE

Use the `CREATE_QUEUE` procedure to create a queue in an existing queue table. The signature is:

```
CREATE_QUEUE (
  queue_name IN VARCHAR2
  queue_table IN VARCHAR2,
  queue_type IN BINARY_INTEGER DEFAULT NORMAL_QUEUE,
  max_retries IN NUMBER DEFAULT 5,
  retry_delay IN NUMBER DEFAULT 0
  retention_time IN NUMBER DEFAULT 0,
  dependency_tracking IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,
  comment IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,
  auto_commit IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE)
```

Parameters

queue_name

The name of the new queue.

queue_table

The name of the table in which the new queue will reside.

queue_type

The type of the new queue. The valid values for *queue_type* are:

DBMS_AQADM.NORMAL_QUEUE – This value specifies a normal queue (the default).

DBMS_AQADM.EXCEPTION_QUEUE – This value specifies that the new queue is an exception queue. An exception queue will support only dequeue operations.

max_retries

max_retries specifies the maximum number of attempts to remove a message with a dequeue statement. The value of *max_retries* is incremented with each ROLLBACK statement. When the number of failed attempts reaches the value specified by *max_retries*, the message is moved to the exception queue. The default value for a system table is 0; the default value for a user created table is 5.

retry_delay

retry_delay specifies the number of seconds until a message is scheduled for re-processing after a ROLLBACK. Specify 0 to indicate that the message should be retried immediately (the default).

retention_time

retention_time specifies the length of time (in seconds) that a message will be stored after being dequeued. You can also specify 0 (the default) to indicate the message should not be retained after dequeuing, or INFINITE to retain the message forever.

dependency_tracking

This parameter is accepted for compatibility and ignored.

comment

comment specifies a comment associated with the queue.

auto_commit

This parameter is accepted for compatibility and ignored.

Example

The following anonymous block creates a queue named `work_order` in the `work_order_table` table:

```
BEGIN
DBMS_AQADM.CREATE_QUEUE ( queue_name => 'work_order', queue_table =>
'work_order_table', comment => 'This queue contains pending work orders. ');
END;
```

3.3.4 CREATE_QUEUE_TABLE

Use the `CREATE_QUEUE_TABLE` procedure to create a queue table. The signature is:

```
CREATE_QUEUE_TABLE (
  queue_table IN VARCHAR2,
  queue_payload_type IN VARCHAR2,
  storage_clause IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,
  sort_list IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,
  multiple_consumers IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,
  message_grouping IN BINARY_INTEGER DEFAULT NONE,
  comment IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,
  auto_commit IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE,
  primary_instance IN BINARY_INTEGER DEFAULT 0,
  secondary_instance IN BINARY_INTEGER DEFAULT 0,
  compatible IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,
  secure IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE)
```

Parameters

queue_table

The (optionally schema-qualified) name of the queue table.

queue_payload_type

The user-defined type of the data that will be stored in the queue table. Please note that to specify a `RAW` data type, you must create a user-defined type that identifies a `RAW` type.

storage_clause

Use the *storage_clause* parameter to specify attributes for the queue table. Please note that only the `TABLESPACE` option is enforced; all others are accepted for compatibility and ignored. Use the `TABLESPACE` clause to specify the name of a tablespace in which the table will be created.

storage_clause may be one or more of the following:

TABLESPACE *tablespace_name*, PCTFREE integer, PCTUSED integer,
INITRANS integer, MAXTRANS integer or STORAGE *storage_option*.

storage_option may be one or more of the following:

MINEXTENTS integer, MAXEXTENTS integer, PCTINCREASE integer,
INITIAL *size_clause*, NEXT, FREELISTS integer, OPTIMAL
size_clause, BUFFER_POOL {KEEP|RECYCLE|DEFAULT}.

sort_list

sort_list controls the dequeuing order of the queue; specify the names of the column(s) that will be used to sort the queue (in ascending order). The currently accepted values are the following combinations of *enq_time* and *priority*:

```
enq_time, priority
priority, enq_time
priority
enq_time
```

multiple_consumers

multiple_consumers queue tables is not supported.

message_grouping

If specified, *message_grouping* must be NONE.

comment

Use the *comment* parameter to provide a comment about the queue table.

auto_commit

auto_commit is accepted for compatibility, but is ignored.

primary_instance

primary_instance is accepted for compatibility and stored, but is ignored.

secondary_instance

secondary_instance is accepted for compatibility, but is ignored.

compatible

compatible is accepted for compatibility, but is ignored.

secure

secure is accepted for compatibility, but is ignored.

Example

The following anonymous block first creates a type (*work_order*) with attributes that hold a name (a *VARCHAR2*), and a project description (a *TEXT*). The block then uses that type to create a queue table:

```
BEGIN
CREATE TYPE work_order AS (name VARCHAR2, project TEXT, completed BOOLEAN);
EXEC DBMS_AQADM.CREATE_QUEUE_TABLE
(queue_table => 'work_order_table',
 queue_payload_type => 'work_order',
 comment => 'Work order message queue table');
END;
```

The queue table is named *work_order_table*, and contains a payload of a type *work_order*. A comment notes that this is the Work order message queue table.

3.3.5 DROP_QUEUE

Use the *DROP_QUEUE* procedure to delete a queue. The signature is:

```
DROP_QUEUE (
  queue_name IN VARCHAR2,
  auto_commit IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE)
```

Parameters

queue_name

The name of the queue that you wish to drop.

auto_commit

auto_commit is accepted for compatibility, but is ignored.

Example

The following anonymous block drops the queue named `work_order`:

```
BEGIN
DBMS_AQADM.DROP_QUEUE(queue_name => 'work_order');
END;
```

3.3.6 DROP_QUEUE_TABLE

Use the `DROP_QUEUE_TABLE` procedure to delete a queue table. The signature is:

```
DROP_QUEUE_TABLE (
  queue_table IN VARCHAR2,
  force IN BOOLEAN default FALSE,
  auto_commit IN BOOLEAN default TRUE)
```

Parameters

queue_table

The (optionally schema-qualified) name of the queue table.

force

The *force* keyword determines the behavior of the `DROP_QUEUE_TABLE` command when dropping a table that contain entries:

If the target table contains entries and `force` is `FALSE`, the command will fail, and the server will issue an error.

If the target table contains entries and `force` is `TRUE`, the command will drop the table and any dependent objects.

auto_commit

auto_commit is accepted for compatibility, but is ignored.

Example

The following anonymous block drops a table named `work_order_table`:

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_AQADM.DROP_QUEUE_TABLE ('work_order_table', force => TRUE);
END;
```

3.3.7 PURGE_QUEUE_TABLE

Use the `PURGE_QUEUE_TABLE` procedure to delete messages from a queue table. The signature is:

```
PURGE_QUEUE_TABLE (
    queue_table IN VARCHAR2,
    purge_condition IN VARCHAR2,
    purge_options IN aq$_purge_options_t)
```

Parameters

queue_table

queue_table specifies the name of the queue table from which you are deleting a message.

purge_condition

Use *purge_condition* to specify a condition (a SQL `WHERE` clause) that the server will evaluate when deciding which messages to purge.

purge_options

purge_options is an object of the type `aq$_purge_options_t`. An `aq$_purge_options_t` object contains:

Attribute	Type	Description
Block	Boolean	Specify <code>TRUE</code> if an exclusive lock should be held on all queues within the table; the default is <code>FALSE</code> .
delivery_mode	INTEGER	<i>delivery_mode</i> specifies the type of message that will be purged. The only accepted value is <code>DBMS_AQ.PERSISTENT</code> .

Example

The following anonymous block removes any messages from the `work_order_table` with a value in the `completed` column of `YES`:

```
DECLARE
    purge_options dbms_aqadm.aq$_purge_options_t;
BEGIN
    dbms_aqadm.purge_queue_table('work_order_table', 'completed = YES',
    purge_options);
END;
```

3.3.8 START_QUEUE

Use the `START_QUEUE` procedure to make a queue available for enqueueing and dequeueing. The signature is:

```
START_QUEUE (  
    queue_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    enqueue IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE,  
    dequeue IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE)
```

Parameters

queue_name

queue_name specifies the name of the queue that you are starting.

enqueue

Specify `TRUE` to enable enqueueing (the default), or `FALSE` to leave the current setting unchanged.

dequeue

Specify `TRUE` to enable dequeueing (the default), or `FALSE` to leave the current setting unchanged.

Example

The following anonymous block makes a queue named `work_order` available for enqueueing:

```
BEGIN  
  DBMS_AQADM.START_QUEUE  
  (queue_name => 'work_order');  
END;
```

3.3.9 STOP_QUEUE

Use the `STOP_QUEUE` procedure to disable enqueueing or dequeueing on a specified queue. The signature is:

```
STOP_QUEUE (  
    queue_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    enqueue IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE,  
    dequeue IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE,  
    wait IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE)
```

Parameters

queue_name

queue_name specifies the name of the queue that you are stopping.

enqueue

Specify `TRUE` to disable enqueueing (the default), or `FALSE` to leave the current setting unchanged.

dequeue

Specify `TRUE` to disable dequeueing (the default), or `FALSE` to leave the current setting unchanged.

wait

Specify `TRUE` to instruct the server to wait for any uncompleted transactions to complete before applying the specified changes; while waiting to stop the queue, no transactions are allowed to enqueue or dequeue from the specified queue. Specify `FALSE` to stop the queue immediately.

Example

The following anonymous block disables enqueueing and dequeueing from the queue named `work_order`:

```
BEGIN
DBMS_AQADM.STOP_QUEUE(queue_name =>'work_order', enqueue=>TRUE,
dequeue=>TRUE, wait=>TRUE);
END;
```

Enqueueing and dequeueing will stop after any outstanding transactions complete.

3.4 DBMS_CRYPTO

The DBMS_CRYPTO package provides functions and procedures that allow you to encrypt or decrypt RAW, BLOB or CLOB data. You can also use DBMS_CRYPTO functions to generate cryptographically strong random values.

The following table lists the DBMS_CRYPTO Functions and Procedures.

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
DECRYPT(<i>src, typ, key, iv</i>)	RAW	Decrypts RAW data.
DECRYPT(<i>dst INOUT, src, typ, key, iv</i>)	N/A	Decrypts BLOB data.
DECRYPT(<i>dst INOUT, src, typ, key, iv</i>)	N/A	Decrypts CLOB data.
ENCRYPT(<i>src, typ, key, iv</i>)	RAW	Encrypts RAW data.
ENCRYPT(<i>dst INOUT, src, typ, key, iv</i>)	N/A	Encrypts BLOB data.
ENCRYPT(<i>dst INOUT, src, typ, key, iv</i>)	N/A	Encrypts CLOB data.
HASH(<i>src, typ</i>)	RAW	Applies a hash algorithm to RAW data.
HASH(<i>src</i>)	RAW	Applies a hash algorithm to CLOB data.
MAC(<i>src, typ, key</i>)	RAW	Returns the hashed MAC value of the given RAW data using the specified hash algorithm and key.
MAC(<i>src, typ, key</i>)	RAW	Returns the hashed MAC value of the given CLOB data using the specified hash algorithm and key.
RANDOMBYTES(<i>number_bytes</i>)	RAW	Returns a specified number of cryptographically strong random bytes.
RANDOMINTEGER()	INTEGER	Returns a random INTEGER.
RANDOMNUMBER()	NUMBER	Returns a random NUMBER.

DBMS_CRYPTO functions and procedures support the following error messages:

ORA-28239 - DBMS_CRYPTO.KeyNull

ORA-28829 - DBMS_CRYPTO.CipherSuiteNull

ORA-28827 - DBMS_CRYPTO.CipherSuiteInvalid

Unlike Oracle, Advanced Server will *not* return error ORA-28233 if you re-encrypt previously encrypted information.

Please note that RAW and BLOB are synonyms for the PostgreSQL BYTEA data type, and CLOB is a synonym for TEXT.

3.4.1 DECRYPT

The `DECRYPT` function or procedure decrypts data using a user-specified cipher algorithm, key and optional initialization vector. The signature of the `DECRYPT` function is:

```
DECRYPT
(src IN RAW, typ IN INTEGER, key IN RAW, iv IN RAW
DEFAULT NULL) RETURN RAW
```

The signature of the `DECRYPT` procedure is:

```
DECRYPT
(dst INOUT BLOB, src IN BLOB, typ IN INTEGER, key IN RAW,
iv IN RAW DEFAULT NULL)
```

or

```
DECRYPT
(dst INOUT CLOB, src IN CLOB, typ IN INTEGER, key IN RAW,
iv IN RAW DEFAULT NULL)
```

When invoked as a procedure, `DECRYPT` returns `BLOB` or `CLOB` data to a user-specified `BLOB`.

Parameters

dst

dst specifies the name of a `BLOB` to which the output of the `DECRYPT` procedure will be written. The `DECRYPT` procedure will overwrite any existing data currently in *dst*.

src

src specifies the source data that will be decrypted. If you are invoking `DECRYPT` as a function, specify `RAW` data; if invoking `DECRYPT` as a procedure, specify `BLOB` or `CLOB` data.

typ

typ specifies the block cipher type and any modifiers. This should match the type specified when the *src* was encrypted. Advanced Server supports the following block cipher algorithms, modifiers and cipher suites:

Block Cipher Algorithms	
ENCRYPT DES	CONSTANT INTEGER := 1;
ENCRYPT 3DES	CONSTANT INTEGER := 3;
ENCRYPT AES	CONSTANT INTEGER := 4;
ENCRYPT AES128	CONSTANT INTEGER := 6;
Block Cipher Modifiers	
CHAIN CBC	CONSTANT INTEGER := 256;
CHAIN ECB	CONSTANT INTEGER := 768;
Block Cipher Padding Modifiers	
PAD PKCS5	CONSTANT INTEGER := 4096;
PAD NONE	CONSTANT INTEGER := 8192;
Block Cipher Suites	
DES_CBC_PKCS5	CONSTANT INTEGER := ENCRYPT_DES + CHAIN_CBC + PAD_PKCS5;
DES3_CBC_PKCS5	CONSTANT INTEGER := ENCRYPT_3DES + CHAIN_CBC + PAD_PKCS5;
AES_CBC_PKCS5	CONSTANT INTEGER := ENCRYPT_AES + CHAIN_CBC + PAD_PKCS5;

key

key specifies the user-defined decryption key. This should match the key specified when the *src* was encrypted.

iv

iv (optional) specifies an initialization vector. If an initialization vector was specified when the *src* was encrypted, you must specify an initialization vector when decrypting the *src*. The default is NULL.

Examples

The following example uses the `DBMS_CRYPTO.DECRYPT` function to decrypt an encrypted password retrieved from the `passwords` table:

```
CREATE TABLE passwords
(
  principal VARCHAR2(90) PRIMARY KEY, -- username
  ciphertext RAW(9)                -- encrypted password
);
CREATE FUNCTION get_password(username VARCHAR2) RETURN RAW AS
  typ      INTEGER := DBMS_CRYPTO.DES_CBC_PKCS5;
  key      RAW(128) := 'my secret key';
  iv       RAW(100) := 'my initialization vector';
  password RAW(2048);
BEGIN
  SELECT ciphertext INTO password FROM passwords WHERE principal = username;
  RETURN dbms_crypto.decrypt(password, typ, key, iv);
END;
```

Note that when calling `DECRYPT`, you must pass the same cipher type, key value and initialization vector that was used when `ENCRYPTING` the target.

3.4.2 ENCRYPT

The ENCRYPT function or procedure uses a user-specified algorithm, key, and optional initialization vector to encrypt RAW, BLOB or CLOB data. The signature of the ENCRYPT function is:

```
ENCRYPT
(src IN RAW, typ IN INTEGER, key IN RAW,
 iv IN RAW DEFAULT NULL) RETURN RAW
```

The signature of the ENCRYPT procedure is:

```
ENCRYPT
(dst INOUT BLOB, src IN BLOB, typ IN INTEGER, key IN RAW,
 iv IN RAW DEFAULT NULL)
```

or

```
ENCRYPT
(dst INOUT BLOB, src IN CLOB, typ IN INTEGER, key IN RAW,
 iv IN RAW DEFAULT NULL)
```

When invoked as a procedure, ENCRYPT returns BLOB or CLOB data to a user-specified BLOB.

Parameters

dst

dst specifies the name of a BLOB to which the output of the ENCRYPT procedure will be written. The ENCRYPT procedure will overwrite any existing data currently in *dst*.

src

src specifies the source data that will be encrypted. If you are invoking ENCRYPT as a function, specify RAW data; if invoking ENCRYPT as a procedure, specify BLOB or CLOB data.

typ

typ specifies the block cipher type that will be used by ENCRYPT, and any modifiers. Advanced Server supports the block cipher algorithms, modifiers and cipher suites listed below:

Block Cipher Algorithms	
ENCRYPT DES	CONSTANT INTEGER := 1;
ENCRYPT 3DES	CONSTANT INTEGER := 3;
ENCRYPT AES	CONSTANT INTEGER := 4;
ENCRYPT AES128	CONSTANT INTEGER := 6;
Block Cipher Modifiers	
CHAIN CBC	CONSTANT INTEGER := 256;
CHAIN ECB	CONSTANT INTEGER := 768;
Block Cipher Padding Modifiers	
PAD_PKCS5	CONSTANT INTEGER := 4096;
PAD_NONE	CONSTANT INTEGER := 8192;
Block Cipher Suites	
DES_CBC_PKCS5	CONSTANT INTEGER := ENCRYPT_DES + CHAIN_CBC + PAD_PKCS5;
DES3_CBC_PKCS5	CONSTANT INTEGER := ENCRYPT_3DES + CHAIN_CBC + PAD_PKCS5;
AES_CBC_PKCS5	CONSTANT INTEGER := ENCRYPT_AES + CHAIN_CBC + PAD_PKCS5;

key

key specifies the encryption key.

iv

iv (optional) specifies an initialization vector. By default, *iv* is NULL.

Examples

The following example uses the `DBMS_CRYPTO.DES_CBC_PKCS5` Block Cipher Suite (a pre-defined set of algorithms and modifiers) to encrypt a value retrieved from the `passwords` table:

```
CREATE TABLE passwords
(
  principal VARCHAR2(90) PRIMARY KEY, -- username
  ciphertext RAW(9)                -- encrypted password
);
CREATE PROCEDURE set_password(username VARCHAR2, cleartext RAW) AS
  typ      INTEGER := DBMS_CRYPTO.DES_CBC_PKCS5;
  key      RAW(128) := 'my secret key';
  iv       RAW(100) := 'my initialization vector';
  encrypted RAW(2048);
BEGIN
  encrypted := dbms_crypto.encrypt(cleartext, typ, key, iv);
  UPDATE passwords SET ciphertext = encrypted WHERE principal = username;
END;
```

ENCRYPT uses a key value of `my secret key` and an initialization vector of `my initialization vector` when encrypting the password; specify the same key and initialization vector when decrypting the password.

3.4.3 HASH

The HASH function uses a user-specified algorithm to return the hash value of a RAW or CLOB value. The HASH function is available in three forms:

```
HASH
  (src IN RAW, typ IN INTEGER) RETURN RAW
```

```
HASH
  (src IN CLOB, typ IN INTEGER) RETURN RAW
```

Parameters

src

src specifies the value for which the hash value will be generated. You can specify a RAW, a BLOB, or a CLOB value.

typ

typ specifies the HASH function type. Advanced Server supports the HASH function types listed below:

HASH Functions	
HASH_MD4	CONSTANT INTEGER := 1;
HASH_MD5	CONSTANT INTEGER := 2;
HASH_SH1	CONSTANT INTEGER := 3;

Examples

The following example uses DBMS_CRYPTO.HASH to find the md5 hash value of the string, `cleartext source`:

```
DECLARE
  typ          INTEGER := DBMS_CRYPTO.HASH_MD5;
  hash_value  RAW(100);
BEGIN
  hash_value := DBMS_CRYPTO.HASH('cleartext source', typ);
END;
```

3.4.4 MAC

The MAC function uses a user-specified MAC function to return the hashed MAC value of a RAW or CLOB value. The MAC function is available in three forms:

```
MAC
  (src IN RAW, typ IN INTEGER, key IN RAW) RETURN RAW
```

```
MAC
  (src IN CLOB, typ IN INTEGER, key IN RAW) RETURN RAW
```

Parameters

src

src specifies the value for which the MAC value will be generated. Specify a RAW, BLOB, or CLOB value.

typ

typ specifies the MAC function used. Advanced Server supports the MAC functions listed below.

MAC Functions	
HMAC MD5	CONSTANT INTEGER := 1;
HMAC SH1	CONSTANT INTEGER := 2;

key

key specifies the key that will be used to calculate the hashed MAC value.

Examples

The following example finds the hashed MAC value of the string `cleartext source`:

```
DECLARE
  typ      INTEGER := DBMS_CRYPTO.HMAC_MD5;
  key      RAW(100) := 'my secret key';
  mac_value RAW(100);
BEGIN
  mac_value := DBMS_CRYPTO.MAC('cleartext source', typ, key);
END;
```

DBMS_CRYPTO.MAC uses a key value of `my secret key` when calculating the MAC value of `cleartext source`.

3.4.5 RANDOMBYTES

The RANDOMBYTES function returns a RAW value of the specified length, containing cryptographically random bytes. The signature is:

```
RANDOMBYTES  
  (number_bytes IN INTEGER) RETURNS RAW
```

Parameters

number_bytes

number_bytes specifies the number of random bytes to be returned

Examples

The following example uses RANDOMBYTES to return a value that is 1024 bytes long:

```
DECLARE  
  result RAW(1024);  
BEGIN  
  result := DBMS_CRYPTO.RANDOMBYTES(1024);  
END;
```

3.4.6 RANDOMINTEGER

The RANDOMINTEGER() function returns a random INTEGER between 0 and 268,435,455. The signature is:

```
RANDOMINTEGER() RETURNS INTEGER
```

Examples

The following example uses the RANDOMINTEGER function to return a cryptographically strong random INTEGER value:

```
DECLARE  
  result INTEGER;  
BEGIN  
  result := DBMS_CRYPTO.RANDOMINTEGER();  
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(result);  
END;
```

3.4.7 RANDOMNUMBER

The `RANDOMNUMBER()` function returns a random `NUMBER` between 0 and 268,435,455. The signature is:

```
RANDOMNUMBER() RETURNS NUMBER
```

Examples

The following example uses the `RANDOMNUMBER` function to return a cryptographically strong random number:

```
DECLARE
  result NUMBER;
BEGIN
  result := DBMS_CRYPTO.RANDOMNUMBER();
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(result);
END;
```

3.5 DBMS_JOB

The DBMS_JOB package provides for the creation, scheduling, and managing of jobs. A job runs a stored procedure which has been previously stored in the database. The SUBMIT procedure is used to create and store a job definition. A job identifier is assigned to a job along with its associated stored procedure and the attributes describing when and how often the job is to be run.

This package relies on the pgAgent scheduler. By default, the Advanced Server installer installs pgAgent, but you must start the pgAgent service manually prior to using DBMS_JOB. If you attempt to use this package to schedule a job after un-installing pgAgent, DBMS_JOB will throw an error. DBMS_JOB verifies that pgAgent is installed, but does not verify that the service is running.

The following table lists the supported DBMS_JOB procedures:

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
BROKEN(<i>job</i> , <i>broken</i> [, <i>next_date</i>])	n/a	Specify that a given job is either broken or not broken.
CHANGE(<i>job</i> , <i>what</i> , <i>next_date</i> , <i>interval</i> , <i>instance</i> , <i>force</i>)	n/a	Change the job's parameters.
INTERVAL(<i>job</i> , <i>interval</i>)	n/a	Set the execution frequency by means of a date function that is recalculated each time the job is run. This value becomes the next date/time for execution.
NEXT_DATE(<i>job</i> , <i>next_date</i>)	n/a	Set the next date/time the job is to be run.
REMOVE(<i>job</i>)	n/a	Delete the job definition from the database.
RUN(<i>job</i>)	n/a	Forces execution of a job even if it is marked broken.
SUBMIT(<i>job</i> OUT, <i>what</i> [, <i>next_date</i> [, <i>interval</i> [, <i>no_parse</i>]]])	n/a	Creates a job and stores its definition in the database.
WHAT(<i>job</i> , <i>what</i>)	n/a	Change the stored procedure run by a job.

Advanced Server's implementation of DBMS_JOB is a partial implementation when compared to Oracle's version. Only those functions and procedures listed in the table above are supported.

Before using DBMS_JOB, a database superuser must create the pgAgent extension. Use the psql client to connect to a database and invoke the command:

```
CREATE EXTENSION pgagent;
```

When and how often a job is run is dependent upon two interacting parameters – *next_date* and *interval*. The *next_date* parameter is a date/time value that

specifies the next date/time when the job is to be executed. The *interval* parameter is a string that contains a date function that evaluates to a date/time value.

Just prior to any execution of the job, the expression in the *interval* parameter is evaluated. The resulting value replaces the *next_date* value stored with the job. The job is then executed. In this manner, the expression in *interval* is repeatedly re-evaluated prior to each job execution, supplying the *next_date* date/time for the next execution.

Note: The database user must be the same that created a job and schedule to start the pgAgent server and execute the job.

The following examples use the following stored procedure, *job_proc*, which simply inserts a timestamp into table, *jobrun*, containing a single VARCHAR2 column.

```
CREATE TABLE jobrun (  
    runtime          VARCHAR2(40)  
);  
  
CREATE OR REPLACE PROCEDURE job_proc  
IS  
BEGIN  
    INSERT INTO jobrun VALUES ('job_proc run at ' || TO_CHAR(SYSDATE,  
        'yyyy-mm-dd hh24:mi:ss'));  
END;
```

3.5.1 BROKEN

The **BROKEN** procedure sets the state of a job to either broken or not broken. A broken job cannot be executed except by using the **RUN** procedure.

```
BROKEN(job BINARY_INTEGER, broken BOOLEAN [, next_date DATE ])
```

Parameters

job

Identifier of the job to be set as broken or not broken.

broken

If set to **TRUE** the job's state is set to broken. If set to **FALSE** the job's state is set to not broken. Broken jobs cannot be run except by using the **RUN** procedure.

next_date

Date/time when the job is to be run. The default is **SYSDATE**.

Examples

Set the state of a job with job identifier 104 to broken:

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_JOB.BROKEN(104,true);
END;
```

Change the state back to not broken:

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_JOB.BROKEN(104,false);
END;
```

3.5.2 CHANGE

The `CHANGE` procedure modifies certain job attributes including the stored procedure to be run, the next date/time the job is to be run, and how often it is to be run.

```
CHANGE(job BINARY_INTEGER what VARCHAR2, next_date DATE,
       interval VARCHAR2, instance BINARY_INTEGER, force BOOLEAN)
```

Parameters

job

Identifier of the job to modify.

what

Stored procedure name. Set this parameter to null if the existing value is to remain unchanged.

next_date

Date/time when the job is to be run next. Set this parameter to null if the existing value is to remain unchanged.

interval

Date function that when evaluated, provides the next date/time the job is to run. Set this parameter to null if the existing value is to remain unchanged.

instance

This argument is ignored, but is included for compatibility.

force

This argument is ignored, but is included for compatibility.

Examples

Change the job to run next on December 13, 2007. Leave other parameters unchanged.

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_JOB.CHANGE(104, NULL, TO_DATE('13-DEC-07', 'DD-MON-YY'), NULL, NULL,
  NULL);
END;
```

3.5.3 INTERVAL

The `INTERVAL` procedure sets the frequency of how often a job is to be run.

```
INTERVAL(job BINARY_INTEGER, interval VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

job

Identifier of the job to modify.

interval

Date function that when evaluated, provides the next date/time the job is to be run. If *interval* is `NULL` and the job is complete, the job is removed from the queue.

Examples

Change the job to run once a week:

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_JOB.INTERVAL(104, 'SYSDATE + 7');
END;
```

3.5.4 NEXT_DATE

The `NEXT_DATE` procedure sets the date/time of when the job is to be run next.

```
NEXT_DATE(job BINARY_INTEGER, next_date DATE)
```

Parameters

job

Identifier of the job whose next run date is to be set.

next_date

Date/time when the job is to be run next.

Examples

Change the job to run next on December 14, 2007:

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_JOB.NEXT_DATE(104, TO_DATE('14-DEC-07', 'DD-MON-YY'));
END;
```

3.5.5 REMOVE

The `REMOVE` procedure deletes the specified job from the database. The job must be resubmitted using the `SUBMIT` procedure in order to have it executed again. Note that the stored procedure that was associated with the job is not deleted.

```
REMOVE(job BINARY_INTEGER)
```

Parameters

job

Identifier of the job that is to be removed from the database.

Examples

Remove a job from the database:

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_JOB.REMOVE(104);
END;
```

3.5.6 RUN

The `RUN` procedure forces the job to be run, even if its state is broken.

```
RUN(job BINARY_INTEGER)
```

Parameters

job

Identifier of the job to be run.

Examples

Force a job to be run.

```
BEGIN
    DBMS_JOB.RUN(104);
END;
```

3.5.7 SUBMIT

The `SUBMIT` procedure creates a job definition and stores it in the database. A job consists of a job identifier, the stored procedure to be executed, when the job is to be first run, and a date function that calculates the next date/time the job is to be run.

```
SUBMIT(job OUT BINARY_INTEGER, what VARCHAR2
    [, next_date DATE [, interval VARCHAR2 [, no_parse BOOLEAN ]])
```

Parameters

job

Identifier assigned to the job.

what

Name of the stored procedure to be executed by the job.

next_date

Date/time when the job is to be run next. The default is `SYSDATE`.

interval

Date function that when evaluated, provides the next date/time the job is to run. If *interval* is set to null, then the job is run only once. Null is the default.

no_parse

If set to TRUE, do not syntax-check the stored procedure upon job creation – check only when the job first executes. If set to FALSE, check the procedure upon job creation. The default is FALSE.

Note: The *no_parse* option is not supported in this implementation of SUBMIT(). It is included for compatibility only.

Examples

The following example creates a job using stored procedure, *job_proc*. The job will execute immediately and run once a day thereafter as set by the *interval* parameter, SYSDATE + 1.

```
DECLARE
  jobid          INTEGER;
BEGIN
  DBMS_JOB.SUBMIT(jobid,'job_proc;',SYSDATE,
    'SYSDATE + 1');
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('jobid: ' || jobid);
END;

jobid: 104
```

The job immediately executes procedure, *job_proc*, populating table, *jobrun*, with a row:

```
SELECT * FROM jobrun;

           runtime
-----
job_proc run at 2007-12-11 11:43:25
(1 row)
```

3.5.8 WHAT

The WHAT procedure changes the stored procedure that the job will execute.

WHAT(*job* BINARY_INTEGER, *what* VARCHAR2)

Parameters

job

Identifier of the job for which the stored procedure is to be changed.

what

Name of the stored procedure to be executed.

Examples

Change the job to run the `list_emp` procedure:

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_JOB.WHAT(104, 'list_emp;');
END;
```

3.6 DBMS_LOB

The DBMS_LOB package provides the capability to operate on large objects. The following table lists the supported functions and procedures:

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
APPEND(<i>dest_lob</i> IN OUT, <i>src_lob</i>)	n/a	Appends one large object to another.
COMPARE(<i>lob_1</i> , <i>lob_2</i> [, <i>amount</i> [, <i>offset_1</i> [, <i>offset_2</i>]]])	INTEGER	Compares two large objects.
CONVERTTOBLOB(<i>dest_lob</i> IN OUT, <i>src_clob</i> , <i>amount</i> , <i>dest_offset</i> IN OUT, <i>src_offset</i> IN OUT, <i>blob_csid</i> , <i>lang_context</i> IN OUT, <i>warning</i> OUT)	n/a	Converts character data to binary.
CONVERTTOCLOB(<i>dest_lob</i> IN OUT, <i>src_blob</i> , <i>amount</i> , <i>dest_offset</i> IN OUT, <i>src_offset</i> IN OUT, <i>blob_csid</i> , <i>lang_context</i> IN OUT, <i>warning</i> OUT)	n/a	Converts binary data to character.
COPY(<i>dest_lob</i> IN OUT, <i>src_lob</i> , <i>amount</i> [, <i>dest_offset</i> [, <i>src_offset</i>]])	n/a	Copies one large object to another.
ERASE(<i>lob_loc</i> IN OUT, <i>amount</i> IN OUT [, <i>offset</i>])	n/a	Erase a large object.
GET_STORAGE_LIMIT(<i>lob_loc</i>)	INTEGER	Get the storage limit for large objects.
GETLENGTH(<i>lob_loc</i>)	INTEGER	Get the length of the large object.
INSTR(<i>lob_loc</i> , <i>pattern</i> [, <i>offset</i> [, <i>nth</i>]])	INTEGER	Get the position of the nth occurrence of a pattern in the large object starting at <i>offset</i> .
READ(<i>lob_loc</i> , <i>amount</i> IN OUT, <i>offset</i> , <i>buffer</i> OUT)	n/a	Read a large object.
SUBSTR(<i>lob_loc</i> [, <i>amount</i> [, <i>offset</i>]])	RAW, VARCHAR2	Get part of a large object.
TRIM(<i>lob_loc</i> IN OUT, <i>newlen</i>)	n/a	Trim a large object to the specified length.
WRITE(<i>lob_loc</i> IN OUT, <i>amount</i> , <i>offset</i> , <i>buffer</i>)	n/a	Write data to a large object.
WRITEAPPEND(<i>lob_loc</i> IN OUT, <i>amount</i> , <i>buffer</i>)	n/a	Write data from the buffer to the end of a large object.

Advanced Server's implementation of DBMS_LOB is a partial implementation when compared to Oracle's version. Only those functions and procedures listed in the table above are supported.

The following table lists the public variables available in the package.

Public Variables	Data Type	Value
compress off	INTEGER	0
compress_on	INTEGER	1
deduplicate_off	INTEGER	0

Public Variables	Data Type	Value
<code>deduplicate_on</code>	INTEGER	4
<code>default_csid</code>	INTEGER	0
<code>default_lang_ctx</code>	INTEGER	0
<code>encrypt_off</code>	INTEGER	0
<code>encrypt_on</code>	INTEGER	1
<code>file_readonly</code>	INTEGER	0
<code>lobmaxsize</code>	INTEGER	1073741823
<code>lob_readonly</code>	INTEGER	0
<code>lob_readwrite</code>	INTEGER	1
<code>no_warning</code>	INTEGER	0
<code>opt_compress</code>	INTEGER	1
<code>opt_deduplicate</code>	INTEGER	4
<code>opt_encrypt</code>	INTEGER	2
<code>warn_inconvertible_char</code>	INTEGER	1

In the following sections, lengths and offsets are measured in bytes if the large objects are BLOBs. Lengths and offsets are measured in characters if the large objects are CLOBs.

3.6.1 APPEND

The APPEND procedure provides the capability to append one large object to another. Both large objects must be of the same type.

```
APPEND(dest_lob IN OUT { BLOB | CLOB }, src_lob { BLOB | CLOB })
```

Parameters

dest_lob

Large object locator for the destination object. Must be the same data type as *src_lob*.

src_lob

Large object locator for the source object. Must be the same data type as *dest_lob*.

3.6.2 COMPARE

The COMPARE procedure performs an exact byte-by-byte comparison of two large objects for a given length at given offsets. The large objects being compared must be the same data type.

```
status INTEGER COMPARE(lob_1 { BLOB | CLOB },  
  lob_2 { BLOB | CLOB }  
  [, amount INTEGER [, offset_1 INTEGER [, offset_2 INTEGER ]]])
```

Parameters

lob_1

Large object locator of the first large object to be compared. Must be the same data type as *lob_2*.

lob_2

Large object locator of the second large object to be compared. Must be the same data type as *lob_1*.

amount

If the data type of the large objects is BLOB, then the comparison is made for *amount* bytes. If the data type of the large objects is CLOB, then the comparison is made for *amount* characters. The default is the maximum size of a large object.

offset_1

Position within the first large object to begin the comparison. The first byte/character is offset 1. The default is 1.

offset_2

Position within the second large object to begin the comparison. The first byte/character is offset 1. The default is 1.

status

Zero if both large objects are exactly the same for the specified length for the specified offsets. Non-zero, if the objects are not the same. *NULL* if *amount*, *offset_1*, or *offset_2* are less than zero.

3.6.3 CONVERTTOBLOB

The CONVERTTOBLOB procedure provides the capability to convert character data to binary.

```
CONVERTTOBLOB(dest_lob IN OUT BLOB, src_clob CLOB,  
  amount INTEGER, dest_offset IN OUT INTEGER,  
  src_offset IN OUT INTEGER, blob_csid NUMBER,  
  lang_context IN OUT INTEGER, warning OUT INTEGER)
```

Parameters

dest_lob

BLOB large object locator to which the character data is to be converted.

src_clob

CLOB large object locator of the character data to be converted.

amount

Number of characters of *src_clob* to be converted.

dest_offset IN

Position in bytes in the destination BLOB where writing of the source CLOB should begin. The first byte is offset 1.

dest_offset OUT

Position in bytes in the destination BLOB after the write operation completes. The first byte is offset 1.

src_offset IN

Position in characters in the source CLOB where conversion to the destination BLOB should begin. The first character is offset 1.

src_offset OUT

Position in characters in the source CLOB after the conversion operation completes. The first character is offset 1.

blob_csid

Character set ID of the converted, destination BLOB.

lang_context IN

Language context for the conversion. The default value of 0 is typically used for this setting.

lang_context OUT

Language context after the conversion completes.

warning

0 if the conversion was successful, 1 if an inconvertible character was encountered.

3.6.4 CONVERTTOCLOB

The `CONVERTTOCLOB` procedure provides the capability to convert binary data to character.

```
CONVERTTOCLOB(dest_lob IN OUT CLOB, src_blob BLOB,  
             amount INTEGER, dest_offset IN OUT INTEGER,  
             src_offset IN OUT INTEGER, blob_csid NUMBER,  
             lang_context IN OUT INTEGER, warning OUT INTEGER)
```

Parameters

dest_lob

CLOB large object locator to which the binary data is to be converted.

src_blob

BLOB large object locator of the binary data to be converted.

amount

Number of bytes of *src_blob* to be converted.

dest_offset IN

Position in characters in the destination CLOB where writing of the source BLOB should begin. The first character is offset 1.

dest_offset OUT

Position in characters in the destination CLOB after the write operation completes. The first character is offset 1.

src_offset IN

Position in bytes in the source BLOB where conversion to the destination CLOB should begin. The first byte is offset 1.

src_offset OUT

Position in bytes in the source BLOB after the conversion operation completes. The first byte is offset 1.

blob_csid

Character set ID of the converted, destination CLOB.

lang_context IN

Language context for the conversion. The default value of 0 is typically used for this setting.

lang_context OUT

Language context after the conversion completes.

warning

0 if the conversion was successful, 1 if an inconvertible character was encountered.

3.6.5 COPY

The COPY procedure provides the capability to copy one large object to another. The source and destination large objects must be the same data type.

```
COPY(dest_lob IN OUT { BLOB | CLOB }, src_lob  
{ BLOB | CLOB },  
    amount INTEGER  
    [, dest_offset INTEGER [, src_offset INTEGER ]])
```

Parameters

dest_lob

Large object locator of the large object to which *src_lob* is to be copied. Must be the same data type as *src_lob*.

src_lob

Large object locator of the large object to be copied to *dest_lob*. Must be the same data type as *dest_lob*.

amount

Number of bytes/characters of *src_lob* to be copied.

dest_offset

Position in the destination large object where writing of the source large object should begin. The first position is offset 1. The default is 1.

src_offset

Position in the source large object where copying to the destination large object should begin. The first position is offset 1. The default is 1.

3.6.6 ERASE

The `ERASE` procedure provides the capability to erase a portion of a large object. To erase a large object means to replace the specified portion with zero-byte fillers for `BLOBs` or with spaces for `CLOBs`. The actual size of the large object is not altered.

```
ERASE(lob_loc IN OUT { BLOB | CLOB }, amount IN OUT INTEGER  
[, offset INTEGER ])
```

Parameters

lob_loc

Large object locator of the large object to be erased.

amount IN

Number of bytes/characters to be erased.

amount OUT

Number of bytes/characters actually erased. This value can be smaller than the input value if the end of the large object is reached before *amount* bytes/characters have been erased.

offset

Position in the large object where erasing is to begin. The first byte/character is position 1. The default is 1.

3.6.7 GET_STORAGE_LIMIT

The `GET_STORAGE_LIMIT` function returns the limit on the largest allowable large object.

```
size INTEGER GET_STORAGE_LIMIT(lob_loc BLOB)  
size INTEGER GET_STORAGE_LIMIT(lob_loc CLOB)
```

Parameters

size

Maximum allowable size of a large object in this database.

lob_loc

This parameter is ignored, but is included for compatibility.

3.6.8 GETLENGTH

The `GETLENGTH` function returns the length of a large object.

```
amount INTEGER GETLENGTH(lob_loc BLOB)  
amount INTEGER GETLENGTH(lob_loc CLOB)
```

Parameters

lob_loc

Large object locator of the large object whose length is to be obtained.

amount

Length of the large object in bytes for BLOBs or characters for CLOBs.

3.6.9 INSTR

The `INSTR` function returns the location of the *n*th occurrence of a given pattern within a large object.

```
position INTEGER INSTR(lob_loc { BLOB | CLOB },
```

```
pattern { RAW | VARCHAR2 } [, offset INTEGER [, nth  
INTEGER ]])
```

Parameters

lob_loc

Large object locator of the large object in which to search for *pattern*.

pattern

Pattern of bytes or characters to match against the large object, *lob_loc*. *pattern* must be RAW if *lob_loc* is a BLOB. *pattern* must be VARCHAR2 if *lob_loc* is a CLOB.

offset

Position within *lob_loc* to start search for *pattern*. The first byte/character is position 1. The default is 1.

nth

Search for *pattern*, *nth* number of times starting at the position given by *offset*. The default is 1.

position

Position within the large object where *pattern* appears the *nth* time specified by *nth* starting from the position given by *offset*.

3.6.10 READ

The READ procedure provides the capability to read a portion of a large object into a buffer.

```
READ(lob_loc { BLOB | CLOB }, amount IN OUT BINARY_INTEGER,  
offset INTEGER, buffer OUT { RAW | VARCHAR2 })
```

Parameters

lob_loc

Large object locator of the large object to be read.

amount IN

Number of bytes/characters to read.

amount OUT

Number of bytes/characters actually read. If there is no more data to be read, then *amount* returns 0 and a `DATA_NOT_FOUND` exception is thrown.

offset

Position to begin reading. The first byte/character is position 1.

buffer

Variable to receive the large object. If *lob_loc* is a BLOB, then *buffer* must be RAW. If *lob_loc* is a CLOB, then *buffer* must be VARCHAR2.

3.6.11 SUBSTR

The SUBSTR function provides the capability to return a portion of a large object.

```
data { RAW | VARCHAR2 } SUBSTR(lob_loc { BLOB | CLOB }  
[, amount INTEGER [, offset INTEGER ]])
```

Parameters

lob_loc

Large object locator of the large object to be read.

amount

Number of bytes/characters to be returned. Default is 32,767.

offset

Position within the large object to begin returning data. The first byte/character is position 1. The default is 1.

data

Returned portion of the large object to be read. If *lob_loc* is a BLOB, the return data type is RAW. If *lob_loc* is a CLOB, the return data type is VARCHAR2.

3.6.12 TRIM

The `TRIM` procedure provides the capability to truncate a large object to the specified length.

```
TRIM(lob_loc IN OUT { BLOB | CLOB }, newlen INTEGER)
```

Parameters

lob_loc

Large object locator of the large object to be trimmed.

newlen

Number of bytes/characters to which the large object is to be trimmed.

3.6.13 WRITE

The `WRITE` procedure provides the capability to write data into a large object. Any existing data in the large object at the specified offset for the given length is overwritten by data given in the buffer.

```
WRITE(lob_loc IN OUT { BLOB | CLOB },  
      amount BINARY_INTEGER,  
      offset INTEGER, buffer { RAW | VARCHAR2 })
```

Parameters

lob_loc

Large object locator of the large object to be written.

amount

The number of bytes/characters in *buffer* to be written to the large object.

offset

The offset in bytes/characters from the beginning of the large object (origin is 1) for the write operation to begin.

buffer

Contains data to be written to the large object. If *lob_loc* is a BLOB, then *buffer* must be RAW. If *lob_loc* is a CLOB, then *buffer* must be VARCHAR2.

3.6.14 WRITEAPPEND

The WRITEAPPEND procedure provides the capability to add data to the end of a large object.

```
WRITEAPPEND(lob_loc IN OUT { BLOB | CLOB },  
            amount BINARY_INTEGER, buffer { RAW | VARCHAR2 })
```

Parameters

lob_loc

Large object locator of the large object to which data is to be appended.

amount

Number of bytes/characters from *buffer* to be appended the large object.

buffer

Data to be appended to the large object. If *lob_loc* is a BLOB, then *buffer* must be RAW. If *lob_loc* is a CLOB, then *buffer* must be VARCHAR2.

3.7 DBMS_LOCK

Advanced Server provides support for the DBMS_LOCK.SLEEP procedure.

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
SLEEP (<i>seconds</i>)	n/a	Suspends a session for the specified number of <i>seconds</i> .

Advanced Server's implementation of DBMS_LOCK is a partial implementation when compared to Oracle's version. Only DBMS_LOCK.SLEEP is supported.

3.7.1 SLEEP

The SLEEP procedure suspends the current session for the specified number of seconds.

SLEEP (*seconds* NUMBER)

Parameters

seconds

seconds specifies the number of seconds for which you wish to suspend the session. *seconds* can be a fractional value; for example, enter 1.75 to specify one and three-fourths of a second.

3.8 DBMS_MVIEW

Use procedures in the DBMS_MVIEW package to manage and refresh materialized views and their dependencies. Advanced Server provides support for the following DBMS_MVIEW procedures:

Procedure	Return Type	Description
<code>GET_MV_DEPENDENCIES(list VARCHAR2, deplist VARCHAR2);</code>	n/a	The GET_MV_DEPENDENCIES procedure returns a list of dependencies for a specified view.
<code>REFRESH(list VARCHAR2, method VARCHAR2, rollback_seg VARCHAR2, push_deferred_rpc BOOLEAN, refresh_after_errors BOOLEAN, purge_option NUMBER, parallelism NUMBER, heap_size NUMBER, atomic_refresh BOOLEAN, nested BOOLEAN);</code>	n/a	This variation of the REFRESH procedure refreshes all views named in a comma-separated list of view names.
<code>REFRESH(tab dbms_utility.uncl_array, method VARCHAR2, rollback_seg VARCHAR2, push_deferred_rpc BOOLEAN, refresh_after_errors BOOLEAN, purge_option NUMBER, parallelism NUMBER, heap_size NUMBER, atomic_refresh BOOLEAN, nested BOOLEAN);</code>	n/a	This variation of the REFRESH procedure refreshes all views named in a table of dbms_utility.uncl_array values.
<code>REFRESH_ALL_MVIEWS(number_of_failures BINARY_INTEGER, method VARCHAR2, rollback_seg VARCHAR2, refresh_after_errors BOOLEAN, atomic_refresh BOOLEAN);</code>	n/a	The REFRESH_ALL_MVIEWS procedure refreshes all materialized views.
<code>REFRESH_DEPENDENT(number_of_failures BINARY_INTEGER, list VARCHAR2, method VARCHAR2, rollback_seg VARCHAR2, refresh_after_errors BOOLEAN, atomic_refresh BOOLEAN, nested BOOLEAN);</code>	n/a	This variation of the REFRESH_DEPENDENT procedure refreshes all views that are dependent on the views listed in a comma-separated list.
<code>REFRESH_DEPENDENT(number_of_failures BINARY_INTEGER, tab dbms_utility.uncl_array, method VARCHAR2, rollback_seg VARCHAR2, refresh_after_errors BOOLEAN, atomic_refresh BOOLEAN, nested BOOLEAN);</code>	n/a	This variation of the REFRESH_DEPENDENT procedure refreshes all views that are dependent on the views listed in a table of dbms_utility.uncl_array values.

Advanced Server's implementation of DBMS_MVIEW is a partial implementation when compared to Oracle's version. Only those functions and procedures listed in the table above are supported.

3.8.1 GET_MV_DEPENDENCIES

When given the name of a materialized view, `GET_MV_DEPENDENCIES` returns a list of items that depend on the specified view. The signature is:

```
GET_MV_DEPENDENCIES(  
    list IN VARCHAR2,  
    deplist OUT VARCHAR2);
```

Parameters

list

list specifies the name of a materialized view, or a comma-separated list of materialized view names.

deplist

deplist is a comma-separated list of schema-qualified dependencies. *deplist* is a VARCHAR2 value.

Examples

The following example:

```
DECLARE  
    deplist VARCHAR2(1000);  
BEGIN  
    DBMS_MVIEW.GET_MV_DEPENDENCIES('public.emp_view', deplist);  
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('deplist: ' || deplist);  
END;
```

Displays a list of the dependencies on a materialized view named `public.emp_view`.

3.8.2 REFRESH

Use the `REFRESH` procedure to refresh all views specified in either a comma-separated list of view names, or a table of `DBMS_UTILITY.UNCL_ARRAY` values. The procedure has two signatures; use the first form when specifying a comma-separated list of view names:

```
REFRESH(  
    list IN VARCHAR2,  
    method IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    rollback_seg IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    push_deferred_rpc IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE,
```

```
refresh_after_errors IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,  
purge_option IN NUMBER DEFAULT 1,  
parallelism IN NUMBER DEFAULT 0,  
heap_size IN NUMBER DEFAULT 0,  
atomic_refresh IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE,  
nested IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE);
```

Use the second form to specify view names in a table of DBMS_UTILITY.UNCL_ARRAY values:

```
REFRESH(  
  tab IN OUT DBMS_UTILITY.UNCL_ARRAY,  
  method IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
  rollback_seg IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
  push_deferred_rpc IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE,  
  refresh_after_errors IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,  
  purge_option IN NUMBER DEFAULT 1,  
  parallelism IN NUMBER DEFAULT 0,  
  heap_size IN NUMBER DEFAULT 0,  
  atomic_refresh IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE,  
  nested IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE);
```

Parameters

list

list is a VARCHAR2 value that specifies the name of a materialized view, or a comma-separated list of materialized view names. The names may be schema-qualified.

tab

tab is a table of DBMS_UTILITY.UNCL_ARRAY values that specify the name (or names) of a materialized view.

method

method is a VARCHAR2 value that specifies the refresh method that will be applied to the specified view (or views). The only supported method is C; this performs a complete refresh of the view.

rollback_seg

rollback_seg is accepted for compatibility and ignored. The default is NULL.

push_deferred_rpc

push_deferred_rpc is accepted for compatibility and ignored. The default is TRUE.

refresh_after_errors

refresh_after_errors is accepted for compatibility and ignored. The default is FALSE.

purge_option

purge_option is accepted for compatibility and ignored. The default is 1.

parallelism

parallelism is accepted for compatibility and ignored. The default is 0.

heap_size IN NUMBER DEFAULT 0,

heap_size is accepted for compatibility and ignored. The default is 0.

atomic_refresh

atomic_refresh is accepted for compatibility and ignored. The default is TRUE.

nested

nested is accepted for compatibility and ignored. The default is FALSE.

Examples

The following example uses `DBMS_MVIEW.REFRESH` to perform a COMPLETE refresh on the `public.emp_view` materialized view:

```
EXEC DBMS_MVIEW.REFRESH(list => 'public.emp_view', method => 'C');
```

3.8.3 REFRESH_ALL_MVIEWS

Use the `REFRESH_ALL_MVIEWS` procedure to refresh any materialized views that have not been refreshed since the table or view on which the view depends has been modified. The signature is:

```
REFRESH_ALL_MVIEWS (  
  number_of_failures OUT BINARY_INTEGER,  
  method IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
  rollback_seg IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
  refresh_after_errors IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,  
  atomic_refresh IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE);
```

Parameters

number_of_failures

number_of_failures is a BINARY_INTEGER that specifies the number of failures that occurred during the refresh operation.

method

method is a VARCHAR2 value that specifies the refresh method that will be applied to the specified view (or views). The only supported method is C; this performs a complete refresh of the view.

rollback_seg

rollback_seg is accepted for compatibility and ignored. The default is NULL.

refresh_after_errors

refresh_after_errors is accepted for compatibility and ignored. The default is FALSE.

atomic_refresh

atomic_refresh is accepted for compatibility and ignored. The default is TRUE.

Examples

The following example performs a COMPLETE refresh on all materialized views:

```
DECLARE  
  errors INTEGER;  
BEGIN  
  DBMS_MVIEW.REFRESH_ALL_MVIEWS(errors, method => 'C');  
END;
```

Upon completion, *errors* contains the number of failures.

3.8.4 REFRESH_DEPENDENT

Use the `REFRESH_DEPENDENT` procedure to refresh all material views that are dependent on the views specified in the call to the procedure. You can specify a comma-separated list or provide the view names in a table of `DBMS_UTILITY.UNCL_ARRAY` values.

Use the first form of the procedure to refresh all material views that are dependent on the views specified in a comma-separated list:

```
REFRESH_DEPENDENT (  
    number_of_failures OUT BINARY_INTEGER,  
    list IN VARCHAR2,  
    method IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    rollback_seg IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL  
    refresh_after_errors IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,  
    atomic_refresh IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE,  
    nested IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE);
```

Use the second form of the procedure to refresh all material views that are dependent on the views specified in a table of `DBMS_UTILITY.UNCL_ARRAY` values:

```
REFRESH_DEPENDENT (  
    number_of_failures OUT BINARY_INTEGER,  
    tab IN DBMS_UTILITY.UNCL_ARRAY,  
    method IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    rollback_seg IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    refresh_after_errors IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,  
    atomic_refresh IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE,  
    nested IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE);
```

Parameters

number_of_failures

number_of_failures is a `BINARY_INTEGER` that contains the number of failures that occurred during the refresh operation.

list

list is a `VARCHAR2` value that specifies the name of a materialized view, or a comma-separated list of materialized view names. The names may be schema-qualified.

tab

tab is a table of `DBMS_UTILITY.UNCL_ARRAY` values that specify the name (or names) of a materialized view.

method

method is a VARCHAR2 value that specifies the refresh method that will be applied to the specified view (or views). The only supported method is C; this performs a complete refresh of the view.

rollback_seg

rollback_seg is accepted for compatibility and ignored. The default is NULL.

refresh_after_errors

refresh_after_errors is accepted for compatibility and ignored. The default is FALSE.

atomic_refresh

atomic_refresh is accepted for compatibility and ignored. The default is TRUE.

nested

nested is accepted for compatibility and ignored. The default is FALSE.

Examples

The following example performs a COMPLETE refresh on all materialized views dependent on a materialized view named `emp_view` that resides in the `public` schema:

```
DECLARE
    errors INTEGER;
BEGIN
    DBMS_MVIEW.REFRESH_DEPENDENT(errors, list => 'public.emp_view', method =>
    'C');
END;
```

Upon completion, `errors` contains the number of failures.

3.9 DBMS_OUTPUT

The DBMS_OUTPUT package provides the capability to send messages (lines of text) to a message buffer, or get messages from the message buffer. A message buffer is local to a single session. Use the DBMS_PIPE package to send messages between sessions.

The procedures and functions available in the DBMS_OUTPUT package are listed in the following table.

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
DISABLE	n/a	Disable the capability to send and receive messages.
ENABLE(<i>buffer_size</i>)	n/a	Enable the capability to send and receive messages.
GET_LINE(<i>line</i> OUT, <i>status</i> OUT)	n/a	Get a line from the message buffer.
GET_LINES(<i>lines</i> OUT, <i>numlines</i> IN OUT)	n/a	Get multiple lines from the message buffer.
NEW_LINE	n/a	Puts an end-of-line character sequence.
PUT(<i>item</i>)	n/a	Puts a partial line without an end-of-line character sequence.
PUT_LINE(<i>item</i>)	n/a	Puts a complete line with an end-of-line character sequence.
SERVEROUTPUT(<i>stdout</i>)	n/a	Direct messages from PUT, PUT_LINE, or NEW_LINE to either standard output or the message buffer.

The following table lists the public variables available in the DBMS_OUTPUT package.

Public Variables	Data Type	Value	Description
chararr	TABLE		For message lines.

3.9.1 CHARARR

The CHARARR is for storing multiple message lines.

```
TYPE chararr IS TABLE OF VARCHAR2(32767) INDEX BY BINARY_INTEGER;
```

3.9.2 DISABLE

The DISABLE procedure clears out the message buffer. Any messages in the buffer at the time the DISABLE procedure is executed will no longer be accessible. Any messages

subsequently sent with the `PUT`, `PUT_LINE`, or `NEW_LINE` procedures are discarded. No error is returned to the sender when the `PUT`, `PUT_LINE`, or `NEW_LINE` procedures are executed and messages have been disabled.

Use the `ENABLE` procedure or `SERVEROUTPUT (TRUE)` procedure to re-enable the sending and receiving of messages.

```
DISABLE
```

Examples

This anonymous block disables the sending and receiving messages in the current session.

```
BEGIN
    DBMS_OUTPUT.DISABLE;
END;
```

3.9.3 ENABLE

The `ENABLE` procedure enables the capability to send messages to the message buffer or retrieve messages from the message buffer. Running `SERVEROUTPUT (TRUE)` also implicitly performs the `ENABLE` procedure.

The destination of a message sent with `PUT`, `PUT_LINE`, or `NEW_LINE` depends upon the state of `SERVEROUTPUT`.

- If the last state of `SERVEROUTPUT` is `TRUE`, the message goes to standard output of the command line.
- If the last state of `SERVEROUTPUT` is `FALSE`, the message goes to the message buffer.

```
ENABLE [ (buffer_size INTEGER) ]
```

Parameters

buffer_size

Maximum length of the message buffer in bytes. If a *buffer_size* of less than 2000 is specified, the buffer size is set to 2000.

Examples

The following anonymous block enables messages. Setting `SERVEROUTPUT (TRUE)` forces them to standard output.

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_OUTPUT.ENABLE;
  DBMS_OUTPUT.SERVEROUTPUT (TRUE);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE ('Messages enabled');
END;

Messages enabled
```

The same effect could have been achieved by simply using `SERVEROUTPUT (TRUE)`.

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_OUTPUT.SERVEROUTPUT (TRUE);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE ('Messages enabled');
END;

Messages enabled
```

The following anonymous block enables messages, but setting `SERVEROUTPUT (FALSE)` directs messages to the message buffer.

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_OUTPUT.ENABLE;
  DBMS_OUTPUT.SERVEROUTPUT (FALSE);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE ('Message sent to buffer');
END;
```

3.9.4 GET_LINE

The `GET_LINE` procedure provides the capability to retrieve a line of text from the message buffer. Only text that has been terminated by an end-of-line character sequence is retrieved – that is complete lines generated using `PUT_LINE`, or by a series of `PUT` calls followed by a `NEW_LINE` call.

```
GET_LINE(line OUT VARCHAR2, status OUT INTEGER)
```

Parameters

line

Variable receiving the line of text from the message buffer.

status

0 if a line was returned from the message buffer, 1 if there was no line to return.

Examples

The following anonymous block writes the emp table out to the message buffer as a comma-delimited string for each row.

```
EXEC DBMS_OUTPUT.SERVEROUTPUT(FALSE);

DECLARE
  v_emprec          VARCHAR2(120);
  CURSOR emp_cur IS SELECT * FROM emp ORDER BY empno;
BEGIN
  DBMS_OUTPUT.ENABLE;
  FOR i IN emp_cur LOOP
    v_emprec := i.empno || ',' || i.ename || ',' || i.job || ',' ||
      NVL(LTRIM(TO_CHAR(i.mgr,'9999')),') || ',' || i.hiredate ||
      ',' || i.sal || ',' ||
      NVL(LTRIM(TO_CHAR(i.comm,'9990.99')),') || ',' || i.deptno;
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_emprec);
  END LOOP;
END;
```

The following anonymous block reads the message buffer and inserts the messages written by the prior example into a table named messages. The rows in messages are then displayed.

```
CREATE TABLE messages (
  status          INTEGER,
  msg             VARCHAR2(100)
);

DECLARE
  v_line          VARCHAR2(100);
  v_status        INTEGER := 0;
BEGIN
  DBMS_OUTPUT.GET_LINE(v_line,v_status);
  WHILE v_status = 0 LOOP
    INSERT INTO messages VALUES(v_status, v_line);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.GET_LINE(v_line,v_status);
  END LOOP;
END;

SELECT msg FROM messages;

                msg
-----
7369,SMITH,CLERK,7902,17-DEC-80 00:00:00,800.00,,20
7499,ALLEN,SALESMAN,7698,20-FEB-81 00:00:00,1600.00,300.00,30
7521,WARD,SALESMAN,7698,22-FEB-81 00:00:00,1250.00,500.00,30
7566,JONES,MANAGER,7839,02-APR-81 00:00:00,2975.00,,20
7654,MARTIN,SALESMAN,7698,28-SEP-81 00:00:00,1250.00,1400.00,30
7698,BLAKE,MANAGER,7839,01-MAY-81 00:00:00,2850.00,,30
7782,CLARK,MANAGER,7839,09-JUN-81 00:00:00,2450.00,,10
7788,SCOTT,ANALYST,7566,19-APR-87 00:00:00,3000.00,,20
7839,KING,PRESIDENT,,17-NOV-81 00:00:00,5000.00,,10
7844,TURNER,SALESMAN,7698,08-SEP-81 00:00:00,1500.00,0.00,30
7876,ADAMS,CLERK,7788,23-MAY-87 00:00:00,1100.00,,20
7900,JAMES,CLERK,7698,03-DEC-81 00:00:00,950.00,,30
7902,FORD,ANALYST,7566,03-DEC-81 00:00:00,3000.00,,20
7934,MILLER,CLERK,7782,23-JAN-82 00:00:00,1300.00,,10
(14 rows)
```

3.9.5 GET_LINES

The `GET_LINES` procedure provides the capability to retrieve one or more lines of text from the message buffer into a collection. Only text that has been terminated by an end-of-line character sequence is retrieved – that is complete lines generated using `PUT_LINE`, or by a series of `PUT` calls followed by a `NEW_LINE` call.

```
GET_LINES(lines OUT CHARARR, numlines IN OUT INTEGER)
```

Parameters

lines

Table receiving the lines of text from the message buffer. See `CHARARR` for a description of *lines*.

numlines IN

Number of lines to be retrieved from the message buffer.

numlines OUT

Actual number of lines retrieved from the message buffer. If the output value of *numlines* is less than the input value, then there are no more lines left in the message buffer.

Examples

The following example uses the `GET_LINES` procedure to store all rows from the `emp` table that were placed on the message buffer, into an array.

```
EXEC DBMS_OUTPUT.SERVEROUTPUT(FALSE);

DECLARE
    v_emprec          VARCHAR2(120);
    CURSOR emp_cur IS SELECT * FROM emp ORDER BY empno;
BEGIN
    DBMS_OUTPUT.ENABLE;
    FOR i IN emp_cur LOOP
        v_emprec := i.empno || ',' || i.ename || ',' || i.job || ',' ||
            NVL(LTRIM(TO_CHAR(i.mgr,'9999')),') || ',' || i.hiredate ||
            ',' || i.sal || ',' ||
            NVL(LTRIM(TO_CHAR(i.comm,'9990.99')),') || ',' || i.deptno;
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_emprec);
    END LOOP;
END;

DECLARE
    v_lines           DBMS_OUTPUT.CHARARR;
    v_numlines        INTEGER := 14;
    v_status           INTEGER := 0;
BEGIN
```

```

DBMS_OUTPUT.GET_LINES(v_lines,v_numlines);
FOR i IN 1..v_numlines LOOP
    INSERT INTO messages VALUES(v_numlines, v_lines(i));
END LOOP;
END;

SELECT msg FROM messages;

```

msg	
7369,SMITH,CLERK,7902,17-DEC-80 00:00:00,800.00,,20	
7499,ALLEN,SALESMAN,7698,20-FEB-81 00:00:00,1600.00,300.00,30	
7521,WARD,SALESMAN,7698,22-FEB-81 00:00:00,1250.00,500.00,30	
7566,JONES,MANAGER,7839,02-APR-81 00:00:00,2975.00,,20	
7654,MARTIN,SALESMAN,7698,28-SEP-81 00:00:00,1250.00,1400.00,30	
7698,BLAKE,MANAGER,7839,01-MAY-81 00:00:00,2850.00,,30	
7782,CLARK,MANAGER,7839,09-JUN-81 00:00:00,2450.00,,10	
7788,SCOTT,ANALYST,7566,19-APR-87 00:00:00,3000.00,,20	
7839,KING,PRESIDENT,,17-NOV-81 00:00:00,5000.00,,10	
7844,TURNER,SALESMAN,7698,08-SEP-81 00:00:00,1500.00,0.00,30	
7876,ADAMS,CLERK,7788,23-MAY-87 00:00:00,1100.00,,20	
7900,JAMES,CLERK,7698,03-DEC-81 00:00:00,950.00,,30	
7902,FORD,ANALYST,7566,03-DEC-81 00:00:00,3000.00,,20	
7934,MILLER,CLERK,7782,23-JAN-82 00:00:00,1300.00,,10	

(14 rows)

3.9.6 NEW_LINE

The NEW_LINE procedure writes an end-of-line character sequence in the message buffer.

```
NEW_LINE
```

Parameters

The NEW_LINE procedure expects no parameters.

3.9.7 PUT

The PUT procedure writes a string to the message buffer. No end-of-line character sequence is written at the end of the string. Use the NEW_LINE procedure to add an end-of-line character sequence.

```
PUT(item VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

item

Text written to the message buffer.

Examples

The following example uses the PUT procedure to display a comma-delimited list of employees from the emp table.

```

DECLARE
    CURSOR emp_cur IS SELECT * FROM emp ORDER BY empno;
BEGIN
    FOR i IN emp_cur LOOP
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT(i.empno);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT(', ');
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT(i.ename);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT(', ');
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT(i.job);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT(', ');
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT(i.mgr);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT(', ');
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT(i.hiredate);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT(', ');
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT(i.sal);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT(', ');
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT(i.comm);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT(', ');
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT(i.deptno);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.NEW_LINE;
    END LOOP;
END;

7369, SMITH, CLERK, 7902, 17-DEC-80 00:00:00, 800.00, , 20
7499, ALLEN, SALESMAN, 7698, 20-FEB-81 00:00:00, 1600.00, 300.00, 30
7521, WARD, SALESMAN, 7698, 22-FEB-81 00:00:00, 1250.00, 500.00, 30
7566, JONES, MANAGER, 7839, 02-APR-81 00:00:00, 2975.00, , 20
7654, MARTIN, SALESMAN, 7698, 28-SEP-81 00:00:00, 1250.00, 1400.00, 30
7698, BLAKE, MANAGER, 7839, 01-MAY-81 00:00:00, 2850.00, , 30
7782, CLARK, MANAGER, 7839, 09-JUN-81 00:00:00, 2450.00, , 10
7788, SCOTT, ANALYST, 7566, 19-APR-87 00:00:00, 3000.00, , 20
7839, KING, PRESIDENT, , 17-NOV-81 00:00:00, 5000.00, , 10
7844, TURNER, SALESMAN, 7698, 08-SEP-81 00:00:00, 1500.00, 0.00, 30
7876, ADAMS, CLERK, 7788, 23-MAY-87 00:00:00, 1100.00, , 20
7900, JAMES, CLERK, 7698, 03-DEC-81 00:00:00, 950.00, , 30
7902, FORD, ANALYST, 7566, 03-DEC-81 00:00:00, 3000.00, , 20
7934, MILLER, CLERK, 7782, 23-JAN-82 00:00:00, 1300.00, , 10

```

3.9.8 PUT_LINE

The PUT_LINE procedure writes a single line to the message buffer including an end-of-line character sequence.

```
PUT_LINE(item VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

item

Text to be written to the message buffer.

Examples

The following example uses the `PUT_LINE` procedure to display a comma-delimited list of employees from the `emp` table.

```

DECLARE
    v_emprec          VARCHAR2(120);
    CURSOR emp_cur IS SELECT * FROM emp ORDER BY empno;
BEGIN
    FOR i IN emp_cur LOOP
        v_emprec := i.empno || ',' || i.ename || ',' || i.job || ',' ||
            NVL(LTRIM(TO_CHAR(i.mgr, '9999')), '') || ',' || i.hiredate ||
            ',' || i.sal || ',' ||
            NVL(LTRIM(TO_CHAR(i.comm, '9990.99')), '') || ',' || i.deptno;
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_emprec);
    END LOOP;
END;

7369,SMITH,CLERK,7902,17-DEC-80 00:00:00,800.00,,20
7499,ALLEN,SALESMAN,7698,20-FEB-81 00:00:00,1600.00,300.00,30
7521,WARD,SALESMAN,7698,22-FEB-81 00:00:00,1250.00,500.00,30
7566,JONES,MANAGER,7839,02-APR-81 00:00:00,2975.00,,20
7654,MARTIN,SALESMAN,7698,28-SEP-81 00:00:00,1250.00,1400.00,30
7698,BLAKE,MANAGER,7839,01-MAY-81 00:00:00,2850.00,,30
7782,CLARK,MANAGER,7839,09-JUN-81 00:00:00,2450.00,,10
7788,SCOTT,ANALYST,7566,19-APR-87 00:00:00,3000.00,,20
7839,KING,PRESIDENT,,17-NOV-81 00:00:00,5000.00,,10
7844,TURNER,SALESMAN,7698,08-SEP-81 00:00:00,1500.00,0.00,30
7876,ADAMS,CLERK,7788,23-MAY-87 00:00:00,1100.00,,20
7900,JAMES,CLERK,7698,03-DEC-81 00:00:00,950.00,,30
7902,FORD,ANALYST,7566,03-DEC-81 00:00:00,3000.00,,20
7934,MILLER,CLERK,7782,23-JAN-82 00:00:00,1300.00,,10

```

3.9.9 SERVEROUTPUT

The `SERVEROUTPUT` procedure provides the capability to direct messages to standard output of the command line or to the message buffer. Setting `SERVEROUTPUT (TRUE)` also performs an implicit execution of `ENABLE`.

The default setting of `SERVEROUTPUT` is implementation dependent. For example, in Oracle SQL*Plus, `SERVEROUTPUT (FALSE)` is the default. In PSQL, `SERVEROUTPUT (TRUE)` is the default. Also note that in Oracle SQL*Plus, this setting is controlled using the SQL*Plus `SET` command, not by a stored procedure as implemented in Advanced Server.

```
SERVEROUTPUT (stdout BOOLEAN)
```

Parameters

stdout

Set to `TRUE` if subsequent `PUT`, `PUT_LINE`, or `NEW_LINE` commands are to send text directly to standard output of the command line. Set to `FALSE` if text is to be sent to the message buffer.

Examples

The following anonymous block sends the first message to the command line and the second message to the message buffer.

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_OUTPUT.SERVEROUTPUT(TRUE);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('This message goes to the command line');
  DBMS_OUTPUT.SERVEROUTPUT(FALSE);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('This message goes to the message buffer');
END;
```

This message goes to the command line

If within the same session, the following anonymous block is executed, the message stored in the message buffer from the prior example is flushed and displayed on the command line as well as the new message.

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_OUTPUT.SERVEROUTPUT(TRUE);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Flush messages from the buffer');
END;
```

This message goes to the message buffer
Flush messages from the buffer

3.10 DBMS_PIPE

The DBMS_PIPE package provides the capability to send messages through a pipe within or between sessions connected to the same database cluster.

The procedures and functions available in the DBMS_PIPE package are listed in the following table:

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
CREATE_PIPE(<i>pipename</i> [, <i>maxpipesize</i>] [, <i>private</i>])	INTEGER	Explicitly create a private pipe if <i>private</i> is “true” (the default) or a public pipe if <i>private</i> is “false”.
NEXT_ITEM_TYPE	INTEGER	Determine the data type of the next item in a received message.
PACK_MESSAGE(<i>item</i>)	n/a	Place <i>item</i> in the session’s local message buffer.
PURGE(<i>pipename</i>)	n/a	Remove unreceived messages from the specified pipe.
RECEIVE_MESSAGE(<i>pipename</i> [, <i>timeout</i>])	INTEGER	Get a message from a specified pipe.
REMOVE_PIPE(<i>pipename</i>)	INTEGER	Delete an explicitly created pipe.
RESET_BUFFER	n/a	Reset the local message buffer.
SEND_MESSAGE(<i>pipename</i> [, <i>timeout</i>] [, <i>maxpipesize</i>])	INTEGER	Send a message on a pipe.
UNIQUE_SESSION_NAME	VARCHAR2	Obtain a unique session name.
UNPACK_MESSAGE(<i>item</i> OUT)	n/a	Retrieve the next data item from a message into a type-compatible variable, <i>item</i> .

Pipes are categorized as implicit or explicit. An *implicit pipe* is created if a reference is made to a pipe name that was not previously created by the CREATE_PIPE function. For example, if the SEND_MESSAGE function is executed using a non-existent pipe name, a new implicit pipe is created with that name. An *explicit pipe* is created using the CREATE_PIPE function whereby the first parameter specifies the pipe name for the new pipe.

Pipes are also categorized as private or public. A *private pipe* can only be accessed by the user who created the pipe. Even a superuser cannot access a private pipe that was created by another user. A *public pipe* can be accessed by any user who has access to the DBMS_PIPE package.

A public pipe can only be created by using the CREATE_PIPE function with the third parameter set to FALSE. The CREATE_PIPE function can be used to create a private pipe by setting the third parameter to TRUE or by omitting the third parameter. All implicit pipes are private.

The individual data items or “lines” of a message are first built-in a *local message buffer*, unique to the current session. The `PACK_MESSAGE` procedure builds the message in the session’s local message buffer. The `SEND_MESSAGE` function is then used to send the message through the pipe.

Receipt of a message involves the reverse operation. The `RECEIVE_MESSAGE` function is used to get a message from the specified pipe. The message is written to the session’s local message buffer. The `UNPACK_MESSAGE` procedure is then used to transfer the message data items from the message buffer to program variables. If a pipe contains multiple messages, `RECEIVE_MESSAGE` gets the messages in *FIFO* (first-in-first-out) order.

Each session maintains separate message buffers for messages created with the `PACK_MESSAGE` procedure and messages retrieved by the `RECEIVE_MESSAGE` function. Thus messages can be both built and received in the same session. However, if consecutive `RECEIVE_MESSAGE` calls are made, only the message from the last `RECEIVE_MESSAGE` call will be preserved in the local message buffer.

3.10.1 CREATE_PIPE

The `CREATE_PIPE` function creates an explicit public pipe or an explicit private pipe with a specified name.

```
status INTEGER CREATE_PIPE(pipename VARCHAR2  
[, maxpipesize INTEGER ] [, private BOOLEAN ])
```

Parameters

pipename

Name of the pipe.

maxpipesize

Maximum capacity of the pipe in bytes. Default is 8192 bytes.

private

Create a public pipe if set to `FALSE`. Create a private pipe if set to `TRUE`. This is the default.

status

Status code returned by the operation. 0 indicates successful creation.

Examples

The following example creates a private pipe named `messages`:

```
DECLARE
    v_status          INTEGER;
BEGIN
    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.CREATE_PIPE('messages');
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('CREATE_PIPE status: ' || v_status);
END;
CREATE_PIPE status: 0
```

The following example creates a public pipe named `mailbox`:

```
DECLARE
    v_status          INTEGER;
BEGIN
    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.CREATE_PIPE('mailbox',8192,FALSE);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('CREATE_PIPE status: ' || v_status);
END;
CREATE_PIPE status: 0
```

3.10.2 NEXT_ITEM_TYPE

The `NEXT_ITEM_TYPE` function returns an integer code identifying the data type of the next data item in a message that has been retrieved into the session's local message buffer. As each item is moved off of the local message buffer with the `UNPACK_MESSAGE` procedure, the `NEXT_ITEM_TYPE` function will return the data type code for the next available item. A code of 0 is returned when there are no more items left in the message.

typecode INTEGER `NEXT_ITEM_TYPE`

Parameters

typecode

Code identifying the data type of the next data item as shown in Table 7-3-1.

Table 7-3-1 `NEXT_ITEM_TYPE` Data Type Codes

Type Code	Data Type
0	No more data items
9	NUMBER
11	VARCHAR2
13	DATE
23	RAW

Note: The type codes list in the table are not compatible with Oracle databases. Oracle assigns a different numbering sequence to the data types.

Examples

The following example shows a pipe packed with a NUMBER item, a VARCHAR2 item, a DATE item, and a RAW item. A second anonymous block then uses the NEXT_ITEM_TYPE function to display the type code of each item.

```

DECLARE
    v_number          NUMBER := 123;
    v_varchar         VARCHAR2(20) := 'Character data';
    v_date            DATE := SYSDATE;
    v_raw             RAW(4) := '21222324';
    v_status          INTEGER;
BEGIN
    DBMS_PIPE.PACK_MESSAGE(v_number);
    DBMS_PIPE.PACK_MESSAGE(v_varchar);
    DBMS_PIPE.PACK_MESSAGE(v_date);
    DBMS_PIPE.PACK_MESSAGE(v_raw);
    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.SEND_MESSAGE('datatypes');
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SEND_MESSAGE status: ' || v_status);
EXCEPTION
    WHEN OTHERS THEN
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SQLERRM: ' || SQLERRM);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SQLCODE: ' || SQLCODE);
END;

SEND_MESSAGE status: 0

DECLARE
    v_number          NUMBER;
    v_varchar         VARCHAR2(20);
    v_date            DATE;
    v_timestamp       TIMESTAMP;
    v_raw             RAW(4);
    v_status          INTEGER;
BEGIN
    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.RECEIVE_MESSAGE('datatypes');
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('RECEIVE_MESSAGE status: ' || v_status);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('-----');

    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.NEXT_ITEM_TYPE;
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('NEXT_ITEM_TYPE: ' || v_status);
    DBMS_PIPE.UNPACK_MESSAGE(v_number);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('NUMBER Item : ' || v_number);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('-----');

    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.NEXT_ITEM_TYPE;
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('NEXT_ITEM_TYPE: ' || v_status);
    DBMS_PIPE.UNPACK_MESSAGE(v_varchar);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('VARCHAR2 Item : ' || v_varchar);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('-----');

    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.NEXT_ITEM_TYPE;
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('NEXT_ITEM_TYPE: ' || v_status);
    DBMS_PIPE.UNPACK_MESSAGE(v_date);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('DATE Item : ' || v_date);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('-----');

    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.NEXT_ITEM_TYPE;
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('NEXT_ITEM_TYPE: ' || v_status);
    DBMS_PIPE.UNPACK_MESSAGE(v_raw);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('RAW Item : ' || v_raw);

```

```

DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('-----');

v_status := DBMS_PIPE.NEXT_ITEM_TYPE;
DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('NEXT_ITEM_TYPE: ' || v_status);
DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('-----');
EXCEPTION
  WHEN OTHERS THEN
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SQLERRM: ' || SQLERRM);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SQLCODE: ' || SQLCODE);
END;

RECEIVE_MESSAGE status: 0
-----
NEXT_ITEM_TYPE: 9
NUMBER Item    : 123
-----
NEXT_ITEM_TYPE: 11
VARCHAR2 Item  : Character data
-----
NEXT_ITEM_TYPE: 13
DATE Item      : 02-OCT-07 11:11:43
-----
NEXT_ITEM_TYPE: 23
RAW Item       : 21222324
-----
NEXT_ITEM_TYPE: 0

```

3.10.3 PACK_MESSAGE

The `PACK_MESSAGE` procedure places an item of data in the session's local message buffer. `PACK_MESSAGE` must be executed at least once before issuing a `SEND_MESSAGE` call.

```
PACK_MESSAGE(item { DATE | NUMBER | VARCHAR2 | RAW })
```

Use the `UNPACK_MESSAGE` procedure to obtain data items once the message is retrieved using a `RECEIVE_MESSAGE` call.

Parameters

item

An expression evaluating to any of the acceptable parameter data types. The value is added to the session's local message buffer.

3.10.4 PURGE

The `PURGE` procedure removes the unreceived messages from a specified implicit pipe.

```
PURGE(pipename VARCHAR2)
```

Use the `REMOVE_PIPE` function to delete an explicit pipe.

Parameters

pipename

Name of the pipe.

Examples

Two messages are sent on a pipe:

```
DECLARE
    v_status          INTEGER;
BEGIN
    DBMS_PIPE.PACK_MESSAGE('Message #1');
    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.SEND_MESSAGE('pipe');
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SEND_MESSAGE status: ' || v_status);

    DBMS_PIPE.PACK_MESSAGE('Message #2');
    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.SEND_MESSAGE('pipe');
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SEND_MESSAGE status: ' || v_status);
END;

SEND_MESSAGE status: 0
SEND_MESSAGE status: 0
```

Receive the first message and unpack it:

```
DECLARE
    v_item            VARCHAR2(80);
    v_status          INTEGER;
BEGIN
    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.RECEIVE_MESSAGE('pipe',1);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('RECEIVE_MESSAGE status: ' || v_status);
    DBMS_PIPE.UNPACK_MESSAGE(v_item);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Item: ' || v_item);
END;

RECEIVE_MESSAGE status: 0
Item: Message #1
```

Purge the pipe:

```
EXEC DBMS_PIPE.PURGE('pipe');
```

Try to retrieve the next message. The `RECEIVE_MESSAGE` call returns status code 1 indicating it timed out because no message was available.

```
DECLARE
    v_item            VARCHAR2(80);
    v_status          INTEGER;
BEGIN
    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.RECEIVE_MESSAGE('pipe',1);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('RECEIVE_MESSAGE status: ' || v_status);
```

```
END;  
RECEIVE_MESSAGE status: 1
```

3.10.5 RECEIVE_MESSAGE

The `RECEIVE_MESSAGE` function obtains a message from a specified pipe.

```
status INTEGER RECEIVE_MESSAGE(pipename VARCHAR2  
[, timeout INTEGER ])
```

Parameters

pipename

Name of the pipe.

timeout

Wait time (seconds). Default is 86400000 (1000 days).

status

Status code returned by the operation.

The possible status codes are:

Table 7-3-2 RECEIVE_MESSAGE Status Codes

Status Code	Description
0	Success
1	Time out
2	Message too large .for the buffer

3.10.6 REMOVE_PIPE

The `REMOVE_PIPE` function deletes an explicit private or explicit public pipe.

```
status INTEGER REMOVE_PIPE(pipename VARCHAR2)
```

Use the `REMOVE_PIPE` function to delete explicitly created pipes – i.e., pipes created with the `CREATE_PIPE` function.

Parameters

pipename

Name of the pipe.

status

Status code returned by the operation. A status code of 0 is returned even if the named pipe is non-existent.

Examples

Two messages are sent on a pipe:

```
DECLARE
    v_status          INTEGER;
BEGIN
    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.CREATE_PIPE('pipe');
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('CREATE_PIPE status: ' || v_status);

    DBMS_PIPE.PACK_MESSAGE('Message #1');
    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.SEND_MESSAGE('pipe');
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SEND_MESSAGE status: ' || v_status);

    DBMS_PIPE.PACK_MESSAGE('Message #2');
    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.SEND_MESSAGE('pipe');
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SEND_MESSAGE status: ' || v_status);
END;

CREATE_PIPE status: 0
SEND_MESSAGE status: 0
SEND_MESSAGE status: 0
```

Receive the first message and unpack it:

```
DECLARE
    v_item            VARCHAR2(80);
    v_status          INTEGER;
BEGIN
    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.RECEIVE_MESSAGE('pipe',1);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('RECEIVE_MESSAGE status: ' || v_status);
    DBMS_PIPE.UNPACK_MESSAGE(v_item);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Item: ' || v_item);
END;

RECEIVE_MESSAGE status: 0
Item: Message #1
```

Remove the pipe:

```
SELECT DBMS_PIPE.REMOVE_PIPE('pipe') FROM DUAL;

remove_pipe
-----
                0
(1 row)
```

Try to retrieve the next message. The `RECEIVE_MESSAGE` call returns status code 1 indicating it timed out because the pipe had been deleted.

```
DECLARE
  v_item          VARCHAR2(80);
  v_status        INTEGER;
BEGIN
  v_status := DBMS_PIPE.RECEIVE_MESSAGE('pipe',1);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('RECEIVE_MESSAGE status: ' || v_status);
END;

RECEIVE_MESSAGE status: 1
```

3.10.7 RESET_BUFFER

The `RESET_BUFFER` procedure resets a “pointer” to the session’s local message buffer back to the beginning of the buffer. This has the effect of causing subsequent `PACK_MESSAGE` calls to overwrite any data items that existed in the message buffer prior to the `RESET_BUFFER` call.

```
RESET_BUFFER
```

Examples

A message to John is written to the local message buffer. It is replaced by a message to Bob by calling `RESET_BUFFER`. The message is sent on the pipe.

```
DECLARE
  v_status        INTEGER;
BEGIN
  DBMS_PIPE.PACK_MESSAGE('Hi, John');
  DBMS_PIPE.PACK_MESSAGE('Can you attend a meeting at 3:00, today?');
  DBMS_PIPE.PACK_MESSAGE('If not, is tomorrow at 8:30 ok with you?');
  DBMS_PIPE.RESET_BUFFER;
  DBMS_PIPE.PACK_MESSAGE('Hi, Bob');
  DBMS_PIPE.PACK_MESSAGE('Can you attend a meeting at 9:30, tomorrow?');
  v_status := DBMS_PIPE.SEND_MESSAGE('pipe');
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SEND_MESSAGE status: ' || v_status);
END;

SEND_MESSAGE status: 0
```

The message to Bob is in the received message.

```
DECLARE
  v_item          VARCHAR2(80);
  v_status        INTEGER;
BEGIN
  v_status := DBMS_PIPE.RECEIVE_MESSAGE('pipe',1);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('RECEIVE_MESSAGE status: ' || v_status);
  DBMS_PIPE.UNPACK_MESSAGE(v_item);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Item: ' || v_item);
```

```

DBMS_PIPE.UNPACK_MESSAGE(v_item);
DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Item: ' || v_item);
END;

RECEIVE_MESSAGE status: 0
Item: Hi, Bob
Item: Can you attend a meeting at 9:30, tomorrow?

```

3.10.8 SEND_MESSAGE

The `SEND_MESSAGE` function sends a message from the session's local message buffer to the specified pipe.

```

status SEND_MESSAGE(pipename VARCHAR2 [, timeout INTEGER ]
[, maxpipesize INTEGER ])

```

Parameters

pipename

Name of the pipe.

timeout

Wait time (seconds). Default is 86400000 (1000 days).

maxpipesize

Maximum capacity of the pipe in bytes. Default is 8192 bytes.

status

Status code returned by the operation.

The possible status codes are:

Table 7-3-3 SEND_MESSAGE Status Codes

Status Code	Description
0	Success
1	Time out
3	Function interrupted

3.10.9 UNIQUE_SESSION_NAME

The `UNIQUE_SESSION_NAME` function returns a name, unique to the current session.

name VARCHAR2 UNIQUE_SESSION_NAME

Parameters

name

Unique session name.

Examples

The following anonymous block retrieves and displays a unique session name.

```
DECLARE
    v_session      VARCHAR2(30);
BEGIN
    v_session := DBMS_PIPE.UNIQUE_SESSION_NAME;
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Session Name: ' || v_session);
END;

Session Name: PG$PIPE$5$2752
```

3.10.10 UNPACK_MESSAGE

The `UNPACK_MESSAGE` procedure copies the data items of a message from the local message buffer to a specified program variable. The message must be placed in the local message buffer with the `RECEIVE_MESSAGE` function before using `UNPACK_MESSAGE`.

```
UNPACK_MESSAGE(item OUT { DATE | NUMBER | VARCHAR2 | RAW })
```

Parameters

item

Type-compatible variable that receives a data item from the local message buffer.

3.10.11 Comprehensive Example

The following example uses a pipe as a “mailbox”. The procedures to create the mailbox, add a multi-item message to the mailbox (up to three items), and display the full contents of the mailbox are enclosed in a package named, mailbox.

```

CREATE OR REPLACE PACKAGE mailbox
IS
    PROCEDURE create_mailbox;
    PROCEDURE add_message (
        p_mailbox    VARCHAR2,
        p_item_1     VARCHAR2,
        p_item_2     VARCHAR2 DEFAULT 'END',
        p_item_3     VARCHAR2 DEFAULT 'END'
    );
    PROCEDURE empty_mailbox (
        p_mailbox    VARCHAR2,
        p_waittime   INTEGER DEFAULT 10
    );
END mailbox;

CREATE OR REPLACE PACKAGE BODY mailbox
IS
    PROCEDURE create_mailbox
    IS
        v_mailbox    VARCHAR2(30);
        v_status     INTEGER;
    BEGIN
        v_mailbox := DBMS_PIPE.UNIQUE_SESSION_NAME;
        v_status := DBMS_PIPE.CREATE_PIPE(v_mailbox,1000,FALSE);
        IF v_status = 0 THEN
            DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Created mailbox: ' || v_mailbox);
        ELSE
            DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('CREATE_PIPE failed - status: ' ||
                v_status);
        END IF;
    END create_mailbox;

    PROCEDURE add_message (
        p_mailbox    VARCHAR2,
        p_item_1     VARCHAR2,
        p_item_2     VARCHAR2 DEFAULT 'END',
        p_item_3     VARCHAR2 DEFAULT 'END'
    )
    IS
        v_item_cnt   INTEGER := 0;
        v_status     INTEGER;
    BEGIN
        DBMS_PIPE.PACK_MESSAGE(p_item_1);
        v_item_cnt := 1;
        IF p_item_2 != 'END' THEN
            DBMS_PIPE.PACK_MESSAGE(p_item_2);
            v_item_cnt := v_item_cnt + 1;
        END IF;
        IF p_item_3 != 'END' THEN
            DBMS_PIPE.PACK_MESSAGE(p_item_3);
            v_item_cnt := v_item_cnt + 1;
        END IF;
        v_status := DBMS_PIPE.SEND_MESSAGE(p_mailbox);
        IF v_status = 0 THEN
            DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Added message with ' || v_item_cnt ||

```

```

        ' item(s) to mailbox ' || p_mailbox);
    ELSE
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SEND_MESSAGE in add_message failed - ' ||
            'status: ' || v_status);
    END IF;
END add_message;

PROCEDURE empty_mailbox (
    p_mailbox    VARCHAR2,
    p_waittime   INTEGER DEFAULT 10
)
IS
    v_msgno      INTEGER DEFAULT 0;
    v_itemno     INTEGER DEFAULT 0;
    v_item       VARCHAR2(100);
    v_status     INTEGER;
BEGIN
    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.RECEIVE_MESSAGE(p_mailbox,p_waittime);
    WHILE v_status = 0 LOOP
        v_msgno := v_msgno + 1;
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('***** Start message #' || v_msgno ||
            ' *****');
        BEGIN
            LOOP
                v_status := DBMS_PIPE.NEXT_ITEM_TYPE;
                EXIT WHEN v_status = 0;
                DBMS_PIPE.UNPACK_MESSAGE(v_item);
                v_itemno := v_itemno + 1;
                DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Item #' || v_itemno || ': ' ||
                    v_item);
            END LOOP;
            DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('***** End message #' || v_msgno ||
                ' *****');
            DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('*');
            v_itemno := 0;
            v_status := DBMS_PIPE.RECEIVE_MESSAGE(p_mailbox,1);
        END;
    END LOOP;
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Number of messages received: ' || v_msgno);
    v_status := DBMS_PIPE.REMOVE_PIPE(p_mailbox);
    IF v_status = 0 THEN
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Deleted mailbox ' || p_mailbox);
    ELSE
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Could not delete mailbox - status: '
            || v_status);
    END IF;
END empty_mailbox;
END mailbox;

```

The following demonstrates the execution of the procedures in mailbox. The first procedure creates a public pipe using a name generated by the UNIQUE_SESSION_NAME function.

```

EXEC mailbox.create_mailbox;

Created mailbox: PG$PIPE$13$3940

```

Using the mailbox name, any user in the same database with access to the mailbox package and DBMS_PIPE package can add messages:

```
EXEC mailbox.add_message('PG$PIPE$13$3940','Hi, John','Can you attend a
meeting at 3:00, today?','-- Mary');

Added message with 3 item(s) to mailbox PG$PIPE$13$3940

EXEC mailbox.add_message('PG$PIPE$13$3940','Don't forget to submit your
report','Thanks','-- Joe');

Added message with 3 item(s) to mailbox PG$PIPE$13$3940
```

Finally, the contents of the mailbox can be emptied:

```
EXEC mailbox.empty_mailbox('PG$PIPE$13$3940');

***** Start message #1 *****
Item #1: Hi, John
Item #2: Can you attend a meeting at 3:00, today?
Item #3: -- Mary
***** End message #1 *****
*
***** Start message #2 *****
Item #1: Don't forget to submit your report
Item #2: Thanks,
Item #3: Joe
***** End message #2 *****
*
Number of messages received: 2
Deleted mailbox PG$PIPE$13$3940
```

3.11 DBMS_PROFILER

The DBMS_PROFILER package collects and stores performance information about the PL/pgSQL and SPL statements that are executed during a performance profiling session; use the functions and procedures listed below to control the profiling tool.

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
FLUSH_DATA	Status Code or Exception	Flushes performance data collected in the current session without terminating the session (profiling continues).
GET_VERSION(<i>major</i> OUT, <i>minor</i> OUT)	n/a	Returns the version number of this package.
INTERNAL_VERSION_CHECK	Status Code	Confirms that the current version of the profiler will work with the current database.
PAUSE_PROFILER	Status Code or Exception	Pause data collection.
RESUME_PROFILER	Status Code or Exception	Resume data collection.
START_PROFILER(<i>run_comment</i> , <i>run_comment1</i> [, <i>run_number</i> OUT])	Status Code or Exception	Start data collection.
STOP_PROFILER	Status Code or Exception	Stop data collection and flush performance data to the PLSQL_PROFILER_RAWDATA table.

The functions within the DBMS_PROFILER package return a status code to indicate success or failure; the DBMS_PROFILER procedures raise an exception only if they encounter a failure. The status codes and messages returned by the functions, and the exceptions raised by the procedures are listed in the table below.

Status Code	Message	Exception	Description
-1	error version	version_mismatch	The profiler version and the database are incompatible.
0	success	n/a	The operation completed successfully.
1	error_param	profiler_error	The operation received an incorrect parameter.
2	error_io	profiler_error	The data flush operation has failed.

3.11.1 FLUSH_DATA

The FLUSH_DATA function/procedure flushes the data collected in the current session without terminating the profiler session. The data is flushed to the tables described in the Advanced Server Performance Features Guide. The function and procedure signatures are:

```
status INTEGER FLUSH_DATA
```

```
FLUSH_DATA
```

Parameters

status

Status code returned by the operation.

3.11.2 GET_VERSION

The `GET_VERSION` procedure returns the version of `DBMS_PROFILER`. The procedure signature is:

```
GET_VERSION(major OUT INTEGER, minor OUT INTEGER)
```

Parameters

major

The major version number of `DBMS_PROFILER`.

minor

The minor version number of `DBMS_PROFILER`.

3.11.3 INTERNAL_VERSION_CHECK

The `INTERNAL_VERSION_CHECK` function confirms that the current version of `DBMS_PROFILER` will work with the current database. The function signature is:

```
status INTEGER INTERNAL_VERSION_CHECK
```

Parameters

status

Status code returned by the operation.

3.11.4 PAUSE_PROFILER

The `PAUSE_PROFILER` function/procedure pauses a profiling session. The function and procedure signatures are:

```
status INTEGER PAUSE_PROFILER  
  
PAUSE_PROFILER
```

Parameters

status

Status code returned by the operation.

3.11.5 RESUME_PROFILER

The `RESUME_PROFILER` function/procedure resumes a profiling session. The function and procedure signatures are:

```
status INTEGER RESUME_PROFILER  
  
RESUME_PROFILER
```

Parameters

status

Status code returned by the operation.

3.11.6 START_PROFILER

The `START_PROFILER` function/procedure starts a data collection session. The function and procedure signatures are:

```
status INTEGER START_PROFILER(run_comment TEXT := SYSDATE,  
    run_comment1 TEXT := '' [, run_number OUT INTEGER ])  
  
START_PROFILER(run_comment TEXT := SYSDATE,  
    run_comment1 TEXT := '' [, run_number OUT INTEGER ])
```

Parameters

run_comment

A user-defined comment for the profiler session. The default value is `SYSDATE`.

run_comment1

An additional user-defined comment for the profiler session. The default value is `''`.

run_number

The session number of the profiler session.

status

Status code returned by the operation.

3.11.7 STOP_PROFILER

The `STOP_PROFILER` function/procedure stops a profiling session and flushes the performance information to the `DBMS_PROFILER` tables and view. The function and procedure signatures are:

```
status INTEGER STOP_PROFILER
```

```
STOP_PROFILER
```

Parameters

status

Status code returned by the operation.

3.11.8 Using DBMS_PROFILER

The DBMS_PROFILER package collects and stores performance information about the PL/pgSQL and SPL statements that are executed during a profiling session; you can review the performance information in the tables and views provided by the profiler.

DBMS_PROFILER works by recording a set of performance-related counters and timers for each line of PL/pgSQL or SPL statement that executes within a profiling session. The counters and timers are stored in a table named SYS.PLSQL_PROFILER_DATA. When you complete a profiling session, DBMS_PROFILER will write a row to the performance statistics table for each line of PL/pgSQL or SPL code that executed within the session. For example, if you execute the following function:

```
1 - CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION getBalance(acctNumber INTEGER)
2 - RETURNS NUMERIC AS $$
3 - DECLARE
4 -     result NUMERIC;
5 - BEGIN
6 -     SELECT INTO result balance FROM acct WHERE id = acctNumber;
7 -
8 -     IF (result IS NULL) THEN
9 -         RAISE INFO 'Balance is null';
10-    END IF;
11-
12-    RETURN result;
13- END;
14- $$ LANGUAGE 'plpgsql';
```

DBMS_PROFILER adds one PLSQL_PROFILER_DATA entry for each line of code within the getBalance() function (including blank lines and comments). The entry corresponding to the SELECT statement executed exactly one time; and required a very small amount of time to execute. On the other hand, the entry corresponding to the RAISE INFO statement executed once or not at all (depending on the value for the balance column).

Some of the lines in this function contain no executable code so the performance statistics for those lines will always contain zero values.

To start a profiling session, invoke the DBMS_PROFILER.START_PROFILER function (or procedure). Once you've invoked START_PROFILER, Advanced Server will profile every PL/pgSQL or SPL function, procedure, trigger, or anonymous block that your session executes until you either stop or pause the profiler (by calling STOP_PROFILER or PAUSE_PROFILER).

It is important to note that when you start (or resume) the profiler, the profiler will only gather performance statistics for functions/procedures/triggers that start after the call to `START_PROFILER` (or `RESUME_PROFILER`).

While the profiler is active, Advanced Server records a large set of timers and counters in memory; when you invoke the `STOP_PROFILER` (or `FLUSH_DATA`) function/procedure, `DBMS_PROFILER` writes those timers and counters to a set of three tables:

- `SYS.PLSQL_PROFILER_RAWDATA`
Contains the performance counters and timers for each statement executed within the session.
- `SYS.PLSQL_PROFILER_RUNS`
Contains a summary of each run (aggregating the information found in `PLSQL_PROFILER_RAWDATA`).
- `SYS.PLSQL_PROFILER_UNITS`
Contains a summary of each code unit (function, procedure, trigger, or anonymous block) executed within a session.

In addition, `DBMS_PROFILER` defines a view, `SYS.PLSQL_PROFILER_DATA`, which contains a subset of the `PLSQL_PROFILER_RAWDATA` table.

Please note that a non-superuser may gather profiling information, but may not view that profiling information unless a superuser grants specific privileges on the profiling tables (stored in the `SYS` schema). This permits a non-privileged user to gather performance statistics without exposing information that the administrator may want to keep secret.

3.11.8.1 Querying the DBMS_PROFILER Tables and View

The following step-by-step example uses DBMS_PROFILER to retrieve performance information for procedures, functions, and triggers included in the sample data distributed with Advanced Server.

1. Open the EDB-PSQL command line, and establish a connection to the Advanced Server database. Use an EXEC statement to start the profiling session:

```
acctg=# EXEC dbms_profiler.start_profiler('profile list_emp');  
EDB-SPL Procedure successfully completed
```

(Note: The call to `start_profiler()` includes a comment that DBMS_PROFILER associates with the profiler session).

2. Then call the `list_emp` function:

```
acctg=# SELECT list_emp();  
INFO:  EMPNO      ENAME  
INFO:  -----  
INFO:  7369      SMITH  
INFO:  7499      ALLEN  
INFO:  7521      WARD  
INFO:  7566      JONES  
INFO:  7654      MARTIN  
INFO:  7698      BLAKE  
INFO:  7782      CLARK  
INFO:  7788      SCOTT  
INFO:  7839      KING  
INFO:  7844      TURNER  
INFO:  7876      ADAMS  
INFO:  7900      JAMES  
INFO:  7902      FORD  
INFO:  7934      MILLER  
list_emp  
-----  
  
(1 row)
```

3. Stop the profiling session with a call to `dbms_profiler.stop_profiler`:

```
acctg=# EXEC dbms_profiler.stop_profiler;  
EDB-SPL Procedure successfully completed
```

4. Start a new session with the `dbms_profiler.start_profiler` function (followed by a new comment):

```
acctg=# EXEC dbms_profiler.start_profiler('profile get_dept_name and  
emp_sal_trig');
```

```
EDB-SPL Procedure successfully completed
```

- Invoke the `get_dept_name` function:

```
acctg=# SELECT get_dept_name(10);
get_dept_name
-----
ACCOUNTING
(1 row)
```

- Execute an `UPDATE` statement that causes a trigger to execute:

```
acctg=# UPDATE memp SET sal = 500 WHERE empno = 7902;
INFO: Updating employee 7902
INFO: ..Old salary: 3000.00
INFO: ..New salary: 500.00
INFO: ..Raise      : -2500.00
INFO: User enterprisedb updated employee(s) on 04-FEB-14
UPDATE 1
```

- Terminate the profiling session and flush the performance information to the profiling tables:

```
acctg=# EXEC dbms_profiler.stop_profiler;
```

```
EDB-SPL Procedure successfully completed
```

- Now, query the `plsql_profiler_runs` table to view a list of the profiling sessions, arranged by `runid`:

```
acctg=# SELECT * FROM plsql_profiler_runs;
runid | related_run | run_owner | run_date | run_comment
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
1 | 4154 | enterprisedb | 04-FEB-14 09:32:48.874315 | profile list_emp
2 | 2088 | enterprisedb | 04-FEB-14 09:41:30.546503 | profile get_dept_name and
emp_sal_trig |
(2 rows)
```

- Query the `plsql_profiler_units` table to view the amount of time consumed by each unit (each function, procedure, or trigger):

```
acctg=# SELECT * FROM plsql_profiler_units;
runid | unit_number | unit_type | unit_owner | unit_name
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
1 | 16999 | FUNCTION | enterprisedb | list_emp()
2 | 4 | FUNCTION | enterprisedb | user audit trig()
2 | 1 | FUNCTION | enterprisedb | get dept name(p deptno numeric)
2 | 1 | FUNCTION | enterprisedb | emp_sal_trig()
2 | 17000 | FUNCTION | enterprisedb |
2 | 17004 | FUNCTION | enterprisedb |
2 | 1 | FUNCTION | enterprisedb |
```


Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers Built-in Package Guide

```

2 |      END IF; | 17002 |
11 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 |      v_text := 'User ' || USER || v_action || CURRENT_DATE; | 17002 |
12 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 |      RAISE INFO ' %', v_text; | 17002 |
13 | 1 | 0 | 0.000383 |
2 |      RETURN NULL; | 17002 |
14 | 1 | 0 | 6.3e-05 |
2 | END; | 17002 |
15 | 1 | 0 | 3.6e-05 |
2 | | 17002 |
16 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 | DECLARE | 17000 |
1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 |      v_dname VARCHAR(14); | 17000 |
2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 | BEGIN | 17000 |
3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 |      SELECT INTO v_dname dname FROM dept WHERE deptno = p_deptno; | 17000 |
4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 |      RETURN v_dname; | 17000 |
5 | 1 | 0 | 0.000647 |
2 |      IF NOT FOUND THEN | 17000 |
6 | 1 | 0 | 2.6e-05 |
2 |          RAISE INFO 'Invalid department number %', p_deptno; | 17000 |
7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 |          RETURN ''; | 17000 |
8 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 |      END IF; | 17000 |
9 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 | END; | 17000 |
10 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 | | 17000 |
11 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 | DECLARE | 17004 |
1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 |      sal_diff NUMERIC(7,2); | 17004 |
2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 | BEGIN | 17004 |
3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 |      IF TG_OP = 'INSERT' THEN | 17004 |
4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 |          RAISE INFO 'Inserting employee %', NEW.empno; | 17004 |
5 | 1 | 0 | 8.4e-05 |
2 |          RAISE INFO '..New salary: %', NEW.sal; | 17004 |
6 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 |          RETURN NEW; | 17004 |
7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 |      END IF; | 17004 |
8 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 |      IF TG_OP = 'UPDATE' THEN | 17004 |
9 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 |          sal_diff := NEW.sal - OLD.sal; | 17004 |
10 | 1 | 0 | 0.000355 |
2 |          RAISE INFO 'Updating employee %', OLD.empno; | 17004 |
11 | 1 | 0 | 0.000177 |
2 |          RAISE INFO '..Old salary: %', OLD.sal; | 17004 |
12 | 1 | 0 | 5.5e-05 |
2 |          RAISE INFO '..New salary: %', NEW.sal; | 17004 |
13 | 1 | 0 | 3.1e-05 |
2 |          RAISE INFO '..Raise : %', sal_diff; | 17004 |
14 | 1 | 0 | 2.8e-05 |
2 |          RETURN NEW; | 17004 |
15 | 1 | 0 | 2.7e-05 |
2 |      END IF; | 17004 |
16 | 1 | 0 | 1e-06 |
2 |      IF TG_OP = 'DELETE' THEN | 17004 |
17 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
2 |          RAISE INFO 'Deleting employee %', OLD.empno; | 17004 |
18 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

```

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers Built-in Package Guide

```

2 |          RAISE INFO '..Old salary: %', OLD.sal;          | 17004 |
19 |          0 |          0 |          0 |          |
2 |          RETURN OLD;          | 17004 |
20 |          0 |          0 |          0 |          |
2 |          END IF;          | 17004 |
21 |          0 |          0 |          0 |          |
2 |          END;          | 17004 |
22 |          0 |          0 |          0 |          |
2 |          |          |          |          |
23 |          0 |          0 |          0 |          |
(68 rows)

```

11. Query the `plsql_profiler_data` view to review a subset of the information found in `plsql_profiler_rawdata` table:

```

acctg=# SELECT * FROM plsql profiler data;
runid | unit number | line# | total occur | total time | min time | max time | spare1 | spare2
| spare3 | spare4
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
1 | 16999 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 16999 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 16999 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 16999 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 16999 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 16999 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 16999 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 16999 | 8 | 1 | 0.001621 | 0.001621 | 0.001621 |
| 1 | 16999 | 9 | 1 | 0.000301 | 0.000301 | 0.000301 |
| 1 | 16999 | 10 | 1 | 4.6e-05 | 4.6e-05 | 4.6e-05 |
| 1 | 16999 | 11 | 1 | 0.001114 | 0.001114 | 0.001114 |
| 1 | 16999 | 12 | 15 | 0.000206 | 5e-06 | 7.8e-05 |
| 1 | 16999 | 13 | 15 | 8.3e-05 | 2e-06 | 4.7e-05 |
| 1 | 16999 | 14 | 14 | 0.000773 | 4.7e-05 | 0.000116 |
| 1 | 16999 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 16999 | 16 | 1 | 1e-05 | 1e-05 | 1e-05 |
| 1 | 16999 | 17 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 16999 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | 17002 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | 17002 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | 17002 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | 17002 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | 17002 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | 17002 | 6 | 1 | 0.000143 | 0.000143 | 0.000143 |

```

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers Built-in Package Guide

2	17002	7	0	0	0	0
2	17002	8	0	0	0	0
2	17002	9	1	3.2e-05	3.2e-05	3.2e-05
2	17002	10	0	0	0	0
2	17002	11	0	0	0	0
2	17002	12	0	0	0	0
2	17002	13	1	0.000383	0.000383	0.000383
2	17002	14	1	6.3e-05	6.3e-05	6.3e-05
2	17002	15	1	3.6e-05	3.6e-05	3.6e-05
2	17002	16	0	0	0	0
2	17000	1	0	0	0	0
2	17000	2	0	0	0	0
2	17000	3	0	0	0	0
2	17000	4	0	0	0	0
2	17000	5	1	0.000647	0.000647	0.000647
2	17000	6	1	2.6e-05	2.6e-05	2.6e-05
2	17000	7	0	0	0	0
2	17000	8	0	0	0	0
2	17000	9	0	0	0	0
2	17000	10	0	0	0	0
2	17000	11	0	0	0	0
2	17004	1	0	0	0	0
2	17004	2	0	0	0	0
2	17004	3	0	0	0	0
2	17004	4	0	0	0	0
2	17004	5	1	8.4e-05	8.4e-05	8.4e-05
2	17004	6	0	0	0	0
2	17004	7	0	0	0	0
2	17004	8	0	0	0	0
2	17004	9	0	0	0	0
2	17004	10	1	0.000355	0.000355	0.000355
2	17004	11	1	0.000177	0.000177	0.000177
2	17004	12	1	5.5e-05	5.5e-05	5.5e-05
2	17004	13	1	3.1e-05	3.1e-05	3.1e-05
2	17004	14	1	2.8e-05	2.8e-05	2.8e-05

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers
Built-in Package Guide

2		17004		15		1		2.7e-05		2.7e-05		2.7e-05			
	2		17004		16		1		1e-06		1e-06		1e-06		
	2		17004		17		0		0		0		0		
	2		17004		18		0		0		0		0		
	2		17004		19		0		0		0		0		
	2		17004		20		0		0		0		0		
	2		17004		21		0		0		0		0		
	2		17004		22		0		0		0		0		
	2		17004		23		0		0		0		0		
	(68 rows)														

3.11.8.2 DBMS_PROFILER - Reference

The Advanced Server installer creates the following tables and views that you can query to review PL/SQL performance profile information:

Table Name	Description
PLSQL_PROFILER_RUNS	Table containing information about all profiler runs, organized by <code>runid</code> .
PLSQL_PROFILER_UNITS	Table containing information about all profiler runs, organized by <code>unit</code> .
PLSQL_PROFILER_DATA	View containing performance statistics.
PLSQL_PROFILER_RAWDATA	Table containing the performance statistics <i>and</i> the extended performance statistics for DRITA counters and timers.

3.11.8.2.1 PLSQL_PROFILER_RUNS

The PLSQL_PROFILER_RUNS table contains the following columns:

Column	Data Type	Description
<code>runid</code>	INTEGER (NOT NULL)	Unique identifier (<code>plsql_profiler_runnumber</code>)
<code>related_run</code>	INTEGER	The <code>runid</code> of a related run.
<code>run_owner</code>	TEXT	The role that recorded the profiling session.
<code>run_date</code>	TIMESTAMP WITHOUT TIME ZONE	The profiling session start time.
<code>run_comment</code>	TEXT	User comments relevant to this run
<code>run_total_time</code>	BIGINT	Run time (in microseconds)
<code>run_system_info</code>	TEXT	Currently Unused
<code>run_comment1</code>	TEXT	Additional user comments
<code>spare1</code>	TEXT	Currently Unused

3.11.8.2.2 PLSQL_PROFILER_UNITS

The PLSQL_PROFILER_UNITS table contains the following columns:

Column	Data Type	Description
<code>runid</code>	INTEGER	Unique identifier (<code>plsql_profiler_runnumber</code>)
<code>unit_number</code>	OID	Corresponds to the OID of the row in the <code>pg_proc</code> table that identifies the unit.
<code>unit_type</code>	TEXT	PL/SQL function, procedure, trigger or anonymous block
<code>unit_owner</code>	TEXT	The identity of the role that owns the unit.
<code>unit_name</code>	TEXT	The complete signature of the unit.
<code>unit_timestamp</code>	TIMESTAMP WITHOUT TIME ZONE	Creation date of the unit (currently NULL).

Column	Data Type	Description
total_time	BIGINT	Time spent within the unit (in milliseconds)
spare1	BIGINT	Currently Unused
spare2	BIGINT	Currently Unused

3.11.8.2.3 PLSQL_PROFILER_DATA

The PLSQL_PROFILER_DATA view contains the following columns:

Column	Data Type	Description
runid	INTEGER	Unique identifier (<code>plsql_profiler_runnumber</code>)
unit_number	OID	Object ID of the unit that contains the current line.
line#	INTEGER	Current line number of the profiled workload.
total_occur	BIGINT	The number of times that the line was executed.
total_time	DOUBLE PRECISION	The amount of time spent executing the line (in seconds)
min_time	DOUBLE PRECISION	The minimum execution time for the line.
max_time	DOUBLE PRECISION	The maximum execution time for the line.
spare1	NUMBER	Currently Unused
spare2	NUMBER	Currently Unused
spare3	NUMBER	Currently Unused
spare4	NUMBER	Currently Unused

3.11.8.2.4 PLSQL_PROFILER_RAWDATA

The PLSQL_PROFILER_RAWDATA table contains the statistical and wait events information that is found in the PLSQL_PROFILER_DATA view, as well as the performance statistics returned by the DRITA counters and timers.

Column	Data Type	Description
runid	INTEGER	The run identifier (<code>plsql_profiler_runnumber</code>).
sourcecode	TEXT	The individual line of profiled code.
func_oid	OID	Object ID of the unit that contains the current line.
line_number	INTEGER	Current line number of the profiled workload.
exec_count	BIGINT	The number of times that the line was executed.
tuples_returned	BIGINT	Currently Unused
time_total	DOUBLE PRECISION	The amount of time spent executing the line (in seconds)
time_shortest	DOUBLE PRECISION	The minimum execution time for the line.
time_longest	DOUBLE PRECISION	The maximum execution time for the line.
num_scans	BIGINT	Currently Unused
tuples_fetched	BIGINT	Currently Unused
tuples_inserted	BIGINT	Currently Unused
tuples_updated	BIGINT	Currently Unused
tuples_deleted	BIGINT	Currently Unused

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers
Built-in Package Guide

Column	Data Type	Description
blocks_fetched	BIGINT	Currently Unused
blocks_hit	BIGINT	Currently Unused
wal_write	BIGINT	A server has waited for a write to the write-ahead log buffer (expect this value to be high).
wal_flush	BIGINT	A server has waited for the write-ahead log to flush to disk.
wal_file_sync	BIGINT	A server has waited for the write-ahead log to sync to disk (related to the wal_sync_method parameter which, by default, is 'fsync' - better performance can be gained by changing this parameter to open_sync).
db_file_read	BIGINT	A server has waited for the completion of a read (from disk).
db_file_write	BIGINT	A server has waited for the completion of a write (to disk).
db_file_sync	BIGINT	A server has waited for the operating system to flush all changes to disk.
db_file_extend	BIGINT	A server has waited for the operating system while adding a new page to the end of a file.
sql_parse	BIGINT	Currently Unused.
query_plan	BIGINT	A server has generated a query plan.
other_lwlock_acquire	BIGINT	A server has waited for other light-weight lock to protect data.
shared_plan_cache_collision	BIGINT	A server has waited for the completion of the shared plan cache collision event.
shared_plan_cache_insert	BIGINT	A server has waited for the completion of the shared plan cache insert event.
shared_plan_cache_hit	BIGINT	A server has waited for the completion of the shared plan cache hit event.
shared_plan_cache_miss	BIGINT	A server has waited for the completion of the shared plan cache miss event.
shared_plan_cache_lock	BIGINT	A server has waited for the completion of the shared plan cache lock event.
shared_plan_cache_busy	BIGINT	A server has waited for the completion of the shared plan cache busy event.
shmemindexlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to find or allocate space in the shared memory.
oidgenlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to allocate or assign an OID.
xidgenlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to allocate or assign a transaction ID.
procarraylock	BIGINT	A server has waited to get a snapshot or clearing a transaction ID at transaction end.
sinvalreadlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to retrieve or remove messages from shared invalidation queue.
sinvalwritelock	BIGINT	A server has waited to add a message to the shared invalidation queue.
walbufmappinglock	BIGINT	A server has waited to replace a page in WAL buffers.
walwritelock	BIGINT	A server has waited for WAL buffers to be written to disk.
controlfilelock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update the control file or creation of a new WAL file.
checkpointlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to perform a checkpoint.

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers
Built-in Package Guide

Column	Data Type	Description
clogcontrollock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update the transaction status.
subtranscontrollock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update the sub-transaction information.
multixactgenlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update the shared multixact state.
multixactoffsetcontrollock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update multixact offset mappings.
multixactmembercontrollock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update multixact member mappings.
relcacheinitlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or write the relation cache initialization file.
checkpointercommlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to manage the fsync requests.
twophasestatelock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update the state of prepared transactions.
tablespacecreatelock	BIGINT	A server has waited to create or drop the tablespace.
btreevacuumlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update the vacuum related information for a B-tree index.
addinshmeminitlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to manage space allocation in shared memory.
autovacuumlock	BIGINT	The autovacuum launcher waiting to read or update the current state of autovacuum workers.
autovacuumschedulelock	BIGINT	A server has waited to ensure that the table selected for a vacuum still needs vacuuming.
syncscanlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to get the start location of a scan on a table for synchronized scans.
relationmappinglock	BIGINT	A server has waited to update the relation map file used to store catalog to file node mapping.
asyncctllock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update shared notification state.
asyncqueuelock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update the notification messages.
serializablexacthashlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to retrieve or store information about serializable transactions.
serializablefinishedlistlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to access the list of finished serializable transactions.
serializablepredicatelocklistlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to perform an operation on a list of locks held by serializable transactions.
oldserxidlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or record the conflicting serializable transactions.
syncreplock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update information about synchronous replicas.
backgroundworkerlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update the background worker state.
dynamicsharedmemorycontrollock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update the dynamic shared memory state.
autofilelock	BIGINT	A server has waited to update the postgresql.auto.conf file.
replicationslotallocationlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to allocate or free a replication slot.
replicationslotcontrollock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update replication slot state.
commitscontrollock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update transaction

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers
Built-in Package Guide

Column	Data Type	Description
		commit timestamps.
committslock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update the last value set for the transaction timestamp.
replicationoriginlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to set up, drop, or use replication origin.
multixacttruncationlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or truncate multixact information.
oldsnapshottimemaplock	BIGINT	A server has waited to read or update old snapshot control information.
backendrandomlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to generate a random number.
logicalrepworkerlock	BIGINT	A server has waited for the action on logical replication worker to finish.
clogtruncationlock	BIGINT	A server has waited to truncate the write-ahead log or waiting for write-ahead log truncation to finish.
bulkloadlock	BIGINT	A server has waited for the bulkloadlock to bulk upload the data.
edbresourceanagerlock	BIGINT	The edbresourceanagerlock provides detail about edb resource manager lock module.
wal_write_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for a wal_write wait event to write to the write-ahead log buffer (expect this value to be high).
wal_flush_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for a wal_flush wait event to write-ahead log to flush to disk.
wal_file_sync_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for a wal_file_sync wait event to write-ahead log to sync to disk (related to the wal_sync_method parameter which, by default, is 'fsync' - better performance can be gained by changing this parameter to open_sync).
db_file_read_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the db_file_read wait event for completion of a read (from disk).
db_file_write_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the db_file_write wait event for completion of a write (to disk).
db_file_sync_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the db_file_sync wait event to sync all changes to disk.
db_file_extend_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the db_file_extend wait event while adding a new page to the end of a file.
sql_parse_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the sql_parse wait event to parse a SQL statement.
query_plan_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the query_plan wait event to compute the execution plan for a SQL statement.
other_lwlock_acquire_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the other_lwlock_acquire wait event to protect data.
shared_plan_cache_collision_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the shared plan cache collision wait event.

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers
Built-in Package Guide

Column	Data Type	Description
shared_plan_cache_insert_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the shared_plan_cache_insert wait event.
shared_plan_cache_hit_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the shared_plan_cache_hit wait event.
shared_plan_cache_miss_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the shared_plan_cache_miss wait event.
shared_plan_cache_lock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the shared_plan_cache_lock wait event.
shared_plan_cache_busy_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the shared_plan_cache_busy wait event.
shmemindexlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the shmemindexlock wait event to find or allocate space in the shared memory.
oidgenlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the oidgenlock wait event to allocate or assign an OID.
xidgenlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for xidgenlock wait event to allocate or assign a transaction ID.
proccarraylock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for a proccarraylock wait event to clear a transaction ID at transaction end.
sinvalreadlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for a sinvalreadlock wait event to retrieve or remove messages from shared invalidation queue.
sinvalwritelock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for a sinvalwritelock wait event to add a message to the shared invalidation queue.
walbufmappinglock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for a walbufmappinglock wait event to replace a page in WAL buffers.
walwritelock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for a walwritelock wait event to write the WAL buffers to disk.
controlfilelock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for a controlfilelock wait event to read or update the control file or to create a new WAL file.
checkpointlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for a checkpointlock wait event to perform a checkpoint.
clogcontrollock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for a clogcontrollock wait event to read or update the transaction status.
subtranscontrollock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the subtranscontrollock wait event to read or update the sub-transaction information.
multixactgenlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the multixactgenlock wait event to read or update the shared multixact state.
multixactoffsetcontrollock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the multixactoffsetcontrollock wait event to read or update multixact offset mappings.
multixactmembercontrollock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers
Built-in Package Guide

Column	Data Type	Description
time		the multixactmembercontrollock wait event to read or update multixact member mappings.
relcacheinitlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the relcacheinitlock wait event to read or write the relation cache initialization file.
checkpointercommlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the checkpointercommlock wait event to manage the fsync requests.
twophasestatelock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the twophasestatelock wait event to read or update the state of prepared transactions.
tablespacecreatelock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the tablespacecreatelock wait event to create or drop the tablespace.
btreevacuumlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the btreevacuumlock wait event to read or update the vacuum related information for a B-tree index.
addinshmeminitlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the addinshmeminitlock wait event to manage space allocation in shared memory.
autovacuumlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the autovacuumlock wait event to read or update the current state of autovacuum workers.
autovacuumschedulelock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the autovacuumschedulelock wait event to ensure that the table selected for a vacuum still needs vacuuming.
syncscanlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the syncscanlock wait event to get the start location of a scan on a table for synchronized scans.
relationmappinglock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the relationmappinglock wait event to update the relation map file used to store catalog to file node mapping.
asyncctllock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the asyncctllock wait event to read or update shared notification state.
asyncqueueunlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the asyncqueueunlock wait event to read or update the notification messages.
serializableexacthashlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the serializableexacthashlock wait event to retrieve or store information about serializable transactions.
serializablefinishedlistlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the serializablefinishedlistlock wait event to access the list of finished serializable transactions.
serializablepredicatelocklistlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the serializablepredicatelocklistlock wait event to perform an operation on a list of locks held by serializable transactions.
oldserxidlock_time	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers
Built-in Package Guide

Column	Data Type	Description
		the <code>oldserxidlock</code> wait event to read or record the conflicting serializable transactions.
<code>syncreplock_time</code>	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the <code>syncreplock</code> wait event to read or update information about synchronous replicas.
<code>backgroundworkerlock_time</code>	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the <code>backgroundworkerlock</code> wait event to read or update the background worker state.
<code>dynamicsharedmemorycontrollock_time</code>	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the <code>dynamicsharedmemorycontrollock</code> wait event to read or update the dynamic shared memory state.
<code>autofilelock_time</code>	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the <code>autofilelock</code> wait event to update the <code>postgresql.auto.conf</code> file.
<code>replicationslotallocationlock_time</code>	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the <code>replicationslotallocationlock</code> wait event to allocate or free a replication slot.
<code>replicationslotcontrollock_time</code>	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the <code>replicationslotcontrollock</code> wait event to read or update replication slot state.
<code>commitscontrollock_time</code>	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the <code>commitscontrollock</code> wait event to read or update transaction commit timestamps.
<code>commitslock_time</code>	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the <code>commitslock</code> wait event to read or update the last value set for the transaction timestamp.
<code>replicationoriginlock_time</code>	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the <code>replicationoriginlock</code> wait event to set up, drop, or use replication origin.
<code>multixacttruncationlock_time</code>	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the <code>multixacttruncationlock</code> wait event to read or truncate multixact information.
<code>oldsnaphottimemaplock_time</code>	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the <code>oldsnaphottimemaplock</code> wait event to read or update old snapshot control information.
<code>backendrandomlock_time</code>	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the <code>backendrandomlock</code> wait event to generate a random number.
<code>logicalrepworkerlock_time</code>	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the <code>logicalrepworkerlock</code> wait event for an action on logical replication worker to finish.
<code>clogtruncationlock_time</code>	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the <code>clogtruncationlock</code> wait event to truncate the write-ahead log or waiting for write-ahead log truncation to finish.
<code>bulkloadlock_time</code>	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the <code>bulkloadlock</code> wait event to bulk upload the data.
<code>edbresourceanagerlock_time</code>	BIGINT	The amount of time that the server has waited for the <code>edbresourceanagerlock</code> wait event.
<code>totalwaits</code>	BIGINT	The total number of event waits.
<code>totalwaittime</code>	BIGINT	The total time spent waiting for an event.

3.12 DBMS_RANDOM

The DBMS_RANDOM package provides a number of methods to generate random values. The procedures and functions available in the DBMS_RANDOM package are listed in the following table.

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
INITIALIZE(<i>val</i>)	n/a	Initializes the DBMS_RANDOM package with the specified seed <i>value</i> . Deprecated, but supported for backward compatibility.
NORMAL()	NUMBER	Returns a random NUMBER.
RANDOM	INTEGER	Returns a random INTEGER with a value greater than or equal to -2^{31} and less than 2^{31} . Deprecated, but supported for backward compatibility.
SEED(<i>val</i>)	n/a	Resets the seed with the specified <i>value</i> .
SEED(<i>val</i>)	n/a	Resets the seed with the specified <i>value</i> .
STRING(<i>opt</i> , <i>len</i>)	VARCHAR2	Returns a random string.
TERMINATE	n/a	TERMINATE has no effect. Deprecated, but supported for backward compatibility.
VALUE	NUMBER	Returns a random number with a value greater than or equal to 0 and less than 1, with 38 digit precision.
VALUE(<i>low</i> , <i>high</i>)	NUMBER	Returns a random number with a value greater than or equal to <i>low</i> and less than <i>high</i> .

3.12.1 INITIALIZE

The INITIALIZE procedure initializes the DBMS_RANDOM package with a seed value. The signature is:

```
INITIALIZE(val IN INTEGER)
```

This procedure should be considered deprecated; it is included for backward compatibility only.

Parameters

val

val is the seed value used by the DBMS_RANDOM package algorithm.

Example

The following code snippet demonstrates a call to the `INITIALIZE` procedure that initializes the `DBMS_RANDOM` package with the seed value, 6475.

```
DBMS_RANDOM.INITIALIZE(6475);
```

3.12.2 NORMAL

The `NORMAL` function returns a random number of type `NUMBER`. The signature is:

```
result NUMBER NORMAL()
```

Parameters

result

result is a random value of type `NUMBER`.

Example

The following code snippet demonstrates a call to the `NORMAL` function:

```
x:= DBMS_RANDOM.NORMAL();
```

3.12.3 RANDOM

The `RANDOM` function returns a random `INTEGER` value that is greater than or equal to -2^{31} and less than 2^{31} . The signature is:

```
result INTEGER RANDOM()
```

This function should be considered deprecated; it is included for backward compatibility only.

Parameters

result

result is a random value of type `INTEGER`.

Example

The following code snippet demonstrates a call to the `RANDOM` function. The call returns a random number:

```
x := DBMS_RANDOM.RANDOM();
```

3.12.4 SEED

The first form of the `SEED` procedure resets the seed value for the `DBMS_RANDOM` package with an `INTEGER` value. The `SEED` procedure is available in two forms; the signature of the first form is:

```
SEED(val IN INTEGER)
```

Parameters

val

val is the seed value used by the `DBMS_RANDOM` package algorithm.

Example

The following code snippet demonstrates a call to the `SEED` procedure; the call sets the seed value at 8495.

```
DBMS_RANDOM.SEED(8495);
```

3.12.5 SEED

The second form of the `SEED` procedure resets the seed value for the `DBMS_RANDOM` package with a string value. The `SEED` procedure is available in two forms; the signature of the second form is:

```
SEED(val IN VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

val

val is the seed value used by the `DBMS_RANDOM` package algorithm.

Example

The following code snippet demonstrates a call to the `SEED` procedure; the call sets the seed value to `abc123`.

```
DBMS_RANDOM.SEED('abc123');
```

3.12.6 STRING

The `STRING` function returns a random `VARCHAR2` string in a user-specified format. The signature of the `STRING` function is:

```
result VARCHAR2 STRING(opt IN CHAR, len IN NUMBER)
```

Parameters

opt

Formatting option for the returned string. *option* may be:

Option	Specifies Formatting Option
u or U	Uppercase alpha string
l or L	Lowercase alpha string
a or A	Mixed case string
x or X	Uppercase alpha-numeric string
p or P	Any printable characters

len

The length of the returned string.

result

result is a random value of type `VARCHAR2`.

Example

The following code snippet demonstrates a call to the `STRING` function; the call returns a random alpha-numeric character string that is 10 characters long.

```
x := DBMS_RANDOM.STRING('X', 10);
```

3.12.7 TERMINATE

The `TERMINATE` procedure has no effect. The signature is:

TERMINATE

The `TERMINATE` procedure should be considered deprecated; the procedure is supported for compatibility only.

3.12.8 VALUE

The `VALUE` function returns a random `NUMBER` that is greater than or equal to 0, and less than 1, with 38 digit precision. The `VALUE` function has two forms; the signature of the first form is:

```
result NUMBER VALUE()
```

Parameters

result

result is a random value of type `NUMBER`.

Example

The following code snippet demonstrates a call to the `VALUE` function. The call returns a random `NUMBER`:

```
x := DBMS_RANDOM.VALUE();
```

3.12.9 VALUE

The `VALUE` function returns a random `NUMBER` with a value that is between user-specified boundaries. The `VALUE` function has two forms; the signature of the second form is:

```
result NUMBER VALUE(low IN NUMBER, high IN NUMBER)
```

Parameters

low

low specifies the lower boundary for the random value. The random value may be equal to *low*.

high

high specifies the upper boundary for the random value; the random value will be less than *high*.

result

result is a random value of type NUMBER.

Example

The following code snippet demonstrates a call to the `VALUE` function. The call returns a random NUMBER with a value that is greater than or equal to 1 and less than 100:

```
x := DBMS_RANDOM.VALUE(1, 100);
```

3.13 DBMS_REDACT

The DBMS_REDACT package enables the redacting or masking of data returned by a query. The DBMS_REDACT package provides a procedure to create policies, alter policies, enable policies, disable policies, and drop policies. The procedures available in the DBMS_REDACT package are listed in the following table.

Function/Procedure	Function or Procedure	Return Type	Description
ADD_POLICY(<i>object_schema</i> , <i>object_name</i> , <i>policy_name</i> , <i>policy_description</i> , <i>column_name</i> , <i>column_description</i> , <i>function_type</i> , <i>function_parameters</i> , <i>expression</i> , <i>enable</i> , <i>regexp_pattern</i> , <i>regexp_replace_string</i> , <i>regexp_position</i> , <i>regexp_occurence</i> , <i>regexp_match_parameter</i> , <i>custom_function_expression</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Adds a data redaction policy.
ALTER_POLICY(<i>object_schema</i> , <i>object_name</i> , <i>policy_name</i> , <i>action</i> , <i>column_name</i> , <i>function_type</i> , <i>function_parameters</i> , <i>expression</i> , <i>regexp_pattern</i> , <i>regexp_replace_string</i> , <i>regexp_position</i> , <i>regexp_occurence</i> , <i>regexp_match_parameter</i> , <i>policy_description</i> , <i>column_description</i> , <i>custom_function_expression</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Alters the existing data redaction policy.
DISABLE_POLICY(<i>object_schema</i> , <i>object_name</i> , <i>policy_name</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Disables the existing data redaction policy.
ENABLE_POLICY(<i>object_schema</i> , <i>object_name</i> , <i>policy_name</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Enables a previously disabled data redaction policy.
DROP_POLICY(<i>object_schema</i> , <i>object_name</i> , <i>policy_name</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Drops a data redaction policy.
UPDATE_FULL_REDACTION_VALUES(<i>number_val</i> , <i>binfloat_val</i> , <i>bindouble_val</i> , <i>char_val</i> , <i>varchar_val</i> , <i>nchar_val</i> , <i>nvarchar_val</i> , <i>datecol_val</i> , <i>ts_val</i> , <i>tswtz_val</i> , <i>blob_val</i> , <i>clob_val</i> , <i>nclob_val</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Updates the full redaction default values for the specified datatype.

The data redaction feature uses the DBMS_REDACT package to define policies or conditions to redact data in a column based on the table column type and redaction type.

Note that you must be the owner of the table to create or change the data redaction policies. The users are exempted from all the column redaction policies, which the table owner or super-user is by default.

3.13.1 Using DBMS_REDACT Constants and Function Parameters

The DBMS_REDACT package uses the constants and redacts the column data by using any one of the data redaction types. The redaction type can be decided based on the `function_type` parameter of `dbms_redact.add_policy` and `dbms_redact.alter_policy` procedure. The below table highlights the values for `function_type` parameters of `dbms_redact.add_policy` and `dbms_redact.alter_policy`.

Constant	Type	Value	Description
NONE	INTEGER	0	No redaction, zero effect on the result of a query against table.
FULL	INTEGER	1	Full redaction, redacts full values of the column data.
PARTIAL	INTEGER	2	Partial redaction, redacts a portion of the column data.
RANDOM	INTEGER	4	Random redaction, each query results in a different random value depending on the datatype of the column.
REGEXP	INTEGER	5	Regular Expression based redaction, searches for the pattern of data to redact.
CUSTOM	INTEGER	99	Custom redaction type.

The following table shows the values for the `action` parameter of `dbms_redact.alter_policy`.

Constant	Type	Value	Description
ADD_COLUMN	INTEGER	1	Adds a column to the redaction policy.
DROP_COLUMN	INTEGER	2	Drops a column from the redaction policy.
MODIFY_EXPRESSION	INTEGER	3	Modifies the expression of a redaction policy. The redaction is applied when the expression evaluates to the BOOLEAN value to TRUE.
MODIFY_COLUMN	INTEGER	4	Modifies a column in the redaction policy to change the redaction function type or function parameter.
SET_POLICY_DESCRIPTION	INTEGER	5	Sets the redaction policy description.
SET_COLUMN_DESCRIPTION	INTEGER	6	Sets a description for the redaction performed on the column.

The partial data redaction enables you to redact only a portion of the column data. To use partial redaction, you must set the `dbms_redact.add_policy` procedure `function_type` parameter to `dbms_redact.partial` and use the `function_parameters` parameter to specify the partial redaction behavior.

The data redaction feature provides a predefined format to configure policies that use the following datatype:

- Character
- Number
- Datetime

The following table highlights the format descriptor for partial redaction with respect to datatype. The example described below shows how to perform a redaction for a string datatype (in this scenario, a Social Security Number (SSN)), a Number datatype, and a DATE datatype.

Datatype	Format Descriptor	Description	Examples
Character	REDACT_PARTIAL_INPUT_FORMAT	Specifies the input format. Enter v for each character from the input string to be possibly redacted. Enter F for each character from the input string that can be considered as a separator such as blank spaces or hyphens.	Consider 'VVVFVVVFVVVV, VVV-VV-VVVV, X, 1, 5' for masking first 5 digits of SSN strings such as 123-45-6789, adding hyphen to format it and thereby resulting in strings such as XXX-XX-6789. The field value VVVVFVVVFVVVV for matching SSN strings such as 123-45-6789.
	REDACT_PARTIAL_OUTPUT_FORMAT	Specifies the output format. Enter v for each character from the input string to be possibly redacted. Replace each F character from the input format with a character such as a hyphen or any other separator.	The field value VVV-VV-VVVV can be used to redact SSN strings into XXX-XX-6789 where X comes from REDACT_PARTIAL_MASKCHAR field.
	REDACT_PARTIAL_MASKCHAR	Specifies the character to be used for redaction.	The value X for redacting SSN strings into XXX-XX-6789.
	REDACT_PARTIAL_MASKFROM	Specifies which v within the input format from which to start the redaction.	The value 1 for redacting SSN strings starting at the first v of the input format of VVVVFVVVFVVVV into strings such as XXX-XX-6789.
	REDACT_PARTIAL_MASKTO	Specifies which v within the input format at which to end the redaction.	The value 5 for redacting SSN strings up to and including the fifth v within the input format of VVVVFVVVFVVVV into strings such as XXX-XX-6789.
Number	REDACT_PARTIAL_MASKCHAR	Specifies the character to be displayed in the range between 0 and 9.	'9, 1, 5' for redacting the first five digits of the Social Security Number 123456789
	REDACT_PARTIAL_MASKFROM	Specifies the start digit position for redaction.	into 999996789.
	REDACT_PARTIAL_MASKTO	Specifies the end digit position for redaction.	

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers
Built-in Package Guide

Datatype	Format Descriptor	Description	Examples
Datetime	REDACT_PARTIAL_DATE_MONTH	'm' redacts the month. To mask a specific month, specify 'm#' where # indicates the month specified by its number between 1 and 12.	m3 displays as March.
	REDACT_PARTIAL_DATE_DAY	'd' redacts the day of the month. To mask with a day of the month, append 1-31 to a lowercase d.	d3 displays as 03.
	REDACT_PARTIAL_DATE_YEAR	'y' redacts the year. To mask with a year, append 1-9999 to a lowercase y.	y1960 displays as 60.
	REDACT_PARTIAL_DATE_HOUR	'h' redacts the hour. To mask with an hour, append 0-23 to a lowercase h.	h18 displays as 18.
	REDACT_PARTIAL_DATE_MINUTE	'm' redacts the minute. To mask with a minute, append 0-59 to a lowercase m.	m20 displays as 20.
	REDACT_PARTIAL_DATE_SECOND	's' redacts the second. To mask with a second, append 0-59 to a lowercase s.	s40 displays as 40.

The following table represents `function_parameters` values that can be used in partial redaction.

Function Parameter	Data Type	Value	Description
REDACT_US_SSN_F5	VARCHAR2	'VVVFVVVFVVV,VV-VV-VVVV,X,1,5'	Redacts the first 5 numbers of SSN. Example: The number 123-45-6789 becomes XXX-XX-6789.
REDACT_US_SSN_L4	VARCHAR2	'VVVFVVVFVVV,VV-VV-VVVV,X,6,9'	Redacts the last 4 numbers of SSN. Example: The number 123-45-6789 becomes 123-45-XXXX.
REDACT_US_SSN_ENTIRE	VARCHAR2	'VVVFVVVFVVV,VV-VV-VVVV,X,1,9'	Redacts the entire SSN. Example: The number 123-45-6789 becomes XXX-XX-XXXX.
REDACT_NUM_US_SSN_F5	VARCHAR2	'9,1,5'	Redacts the first 5 numbers of SSN when the column is a number datatype. Example: The number 123456789 becomes 999996789.
REDACT_NUM_US_SSN_L4	VARCHAR2	'9,6,9'	Redacts the last four numbers of SSN when the column is a number datatype. Example: The number 123456789 becomes 123459999.
REDACT_NUM_US_SSN_ENTIRE	VARCHAR2	'9,1,9'	Redacts the entire SSN when the column is a number datatype. Example: The number 123456789 becomes 999999999.
REDACT_ZIP_CODE	VARCHAR2	'VVVVV,VVVV,X,1,5'	Redacts a 5 digit zip code. Example: 12345 becomes XXXXX.

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers
Built-in Package Guide

Function Parameter	Data Type	Value	Description
REDACT_NUM_ZIP_CODE	VARCHAR2	'9,1,5'	Redacts a 5 digit zip code when the column is a number datatype. Example: 12345 becomes 99999.
REDACT_CCN16_F12	VARCHAR2	'VVVVFVVVFVVV VFVVVV, VVVV- VVVV-VVVV- VVVV, *, 1, 12'	Redacts a 16 digit credit card number and displays only 4 digits. Example: 1234 5678 9000 2358 becomes ****-****-****-2358.
REDACT_DATE_MILLENNIUM	VARCHAR2	'm1d1y2000'	Redacts a date that is in the DD-MM-YY format. Example: Redacts all date to 01-JAN-2000.
REDACT_DATE_EPOCH	VARCHAR2	'm1d1y1970'	Redacts all dates to 01-JAN-70.
REDACT_AMEX_CCN_FORMATTED	VARCHAR2	'VVVVFVVVFVVV VVVV, VVVV- VVVVV- VVVVV, *, 1, 10'	Redacts the Amercian Express credit card number and replaces the digit with * except for the last 5 digits. Example: The credit card number 1234 567890 34500 becomes **** * 34500.
REDACT_AMEX_CCN_NUMBER	VARCHAR2	'0,1,10'	Redacts the Amercian Express credit card number and replaces the digit with 0 except the last 5 digits. Example: The credit card number 1234 567890 34500 becomes 0000 000000 34500.
REDACT_SIN_FORMATTED	VARCHAR2	'VVVFVVVFVVV, V VV-VVV- VVV, *, 1, 6'	Redacts the Social Insurance Number by replacing the first 6 digits by *. Example: 123-456-789 becomes ***-***-789.
REDACT_SIN_NUMBER	VARCHAR2	'9,1,6'	Redacts the Social Insurance Number by replacing the first 6 digits by 9. Example: 123456789 becomes 999999789.
REDACT_SIN_UNFORMATTED	VARCHAR2	'VVVVVVVVV, VVV VVVVVV, *, 1, 6'	Redacts the Social Insurance Number by replacing the first 6 digits by *. Example: 123456789 becomes *****789.
REDACT_CCN_FORMATTED	VARCHAR2	'VVVVFVVVFVVV VFVVVV, VVVV- VVVV-VVVV- VVVV, *, 1, 12'	Redacts a credit card number by * and displays only 4 digits. Example: The credit card number 1234-5678-9000-4671 becomes ****-****-****-4671.
REDACT_CCN_NUMBER	VARCHAR2	'9,1,12'	Redacts a credit card number by 0 except the last 4 digits. Example: The credit card number 1234567890004671 becomes 0000000000004671.
REDACT_NA_PHONE_FORMATTED	VARCHAR2	'VVVFVVVFVVVV, VVV-VVV- VVVV, X, 4, 10'	Redacts the North American phone number by x leaving the area code. Example: 123-456-7890 becomes 123-XXX-XXXX.
REDACT_NA_PHONE_NUMBER	VARCHAR2	'0,4,10'	Redacts the North American phone number

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers
Built-in Package Guide

Function Parameter	Data Type	Value	Description
			by 0 leaving the area code. Example: 1234567890 becomes 1230000000.
REDACT_NA_PHONE_UNFORMATTED	VARCHAR2	'VVVVVVVVVV, VV VVVVVVVV, X, 4, 1 0'	Redacts the North American phone number by X leaving the area code. Example: 1234567890 becomes 123XXXXXXX.
REDACT_UK_NIN_FORMATTED	VARCHAR2	'VVFVVVFVVVFV , VV VV VV VV V, X, 3, 8'	Redacts the UK National Insurance Number by X but leaving the alphabetic characters. Example: NY 22 01 34 D becomes NY XX XX XX D.
REDACT_UK_NIN_UNFORMATTED	VARCHAR2	'VVVVVVVV, VVV VVVVVV, X, 3, 8'	Redacts the UK National Insurance Number by X but leaving the alphabetic characters. Example: NY220134D becomes NYXXXXXXD.

A regular expression-based redaction searches for patterns of data to redact. The `regexp_pattern` search the values in order for the `regexp_replace_string` to change the value. The following table illustrates the `regexp_pattern` values that you can use during REGEXP based redaction.

Function Parameter	Data Type	Value	Description
RE_PATTERN_CC_L6_T4	VARCHAR2	'(\d\d\d\d\d\d) (\d\d\d\d*) (\d\d\d d\d)'	Searches for the middle digits of a credit card number that includes 6 leading digits and 4 trailing digits. The <code>regexp_replace_string</code> setting to use with the format is <code>RE_REDACT_CC_MIDDLE_DIGITS</code> that replaces the identified pattern with the characters specified by the <code>RE_REDACT_CC_MIDDLE_DIGITS</code> parameter.
RE_PATTERN_ANY_DIGIT	VARCHAR2	'\d'	Searches for any digit and replaces the identified pattern with the characters specified by the following values of the <code>regexp_replace_string</code> parameter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <code>regexp_replace_string=> RE_REDACT_WITH_SINGLE_X</code> (replaces any matched digit with the X character). <code>regexp_replace_string=> RE_REDACT_WITH_SINGLE_1</code> (replaces any matched digit with the 1 character).
RE_PATTERN_US_PHONE	VARCHAR2	'(\(\d\d\d\) \d \d\d)-(\d\d\d)- (\d\d\d\d)'	Searches for the U.S phone number and replaces the identified pattern with the characters specified by the <code>regexp_replace_string</code> parameter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <code>regexp_replace_string=> RE_REDACT_US_PHONE_L7</code> (searches the phone number and then replaces the last 7 digits).
RE_PATTERN_EMAIL_ADDRESS	VARCHAR2	'([A-Za-z0- 9._%+-]+)@([A-	Searches for the email address and replaces the identified pattern with the characters specified

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers
Built-in Package Guide

Function Parameter	Data Type	Value	Description
		Za-z0-9.-]+\.[A-Za- z]{2,4})'	by the following values of the <code>regexp_replace_string</code> parameter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <code>regexp_replace_string=> RE_REDACT_EMAIL_NAME</code> (finds the email address and redacts the email username). <code>regexp_replace_string=> RE_REDACT_EMAIL_DOMAIN</code> (finds the email address and redacts the email domain). <code>regexp_replace_string=> RE_REDACT_EMAIL_ENTIRE</code> (finds the email address and redacts the entire email address).
RE_PATTERN_IP_ADDRESS	VARCHAR2	'(\d{1,3}\.\d{1,3}\.\d{1,3})\.\d{1,3}'	Searches for an IP address and replaces the identified pattern with the characters specified by the <code>regexp_replace_string</code> parameter. The <code>regexp_replace_string</code> parameter to be used is <code>RE_REDACT_IP_L3</code> that replaces the last section of an IP address with 999 and indicates it is redacted.
RE_PATTERN_ALEX_CCN	VARCHAR2	'.*(\d\d\d\d)\d\$'	Searches for the American Express credit card number. The <code>regexp_replace_string</code> parameter to be used is <code>RE_REDACT_ALEX_CCN</code> that redacts all of the digits except the last 5.
RE_PATTERN_CCN	VARCHAR2	'.*(\d\d\d\d)\d\$'	Searches for the credit card number other than American Express credit cards. The <code>regexp_replace_string</code> parameter to be used is <code>RE_REDACT_CCN</code> that redacts all of the digits except the last 4.
RE_PATTERN_US_SSN	VARCHAR2	'(\d\d\d)-(\d\d)-(\d\d\d\d)'	Searches the SSN number and replaces the identified pattern with the characters specified by the <code>regexp_replace_string</code> parameter. ' <code>\1-XXX-XXXX</code> ' or ' <code>XXX-XXX-\3</code> ' will return <code>123-XXX-XXXX</code> or <code>XXX-XXX-6789</code> for the value ' <code>123-45-6789</code> ' respectively.

The below table illustrates the `regexp_replace_string` values that you can use during REGEXP based redaction.

Function Parameter	Data Type	Value	Description
RE_REDACT_CC_MIDDLE_DIGITS	VARCHAR2	'\1XXXXXX\3'	Redacts the middle digits of a credit card number according to the <code>regexp_pattern</code> parameter with the <code>RE_PATTERN_CC_L6_T4</code> format and replaces each redacted character with an X. Example: The credit card number <code>1234 5678 9000 2490</code> becomes <code>1234 56XX XXXX 2490</code> .
RE_REDACT_WITH_SINGLE_X	VARCHAR2	'X'	Replaces the data with a single X character for each matching pattern as specified by setting

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers
Built-in Package Guide

Function Parameter	Data Type	Value	Description
			the <code>regexp_pattern</code> parameter with the <code>RE_PATTERN_ANY_DIGIT</code> format. Example: The credit card number 1234 5678 9000 2490 becomes XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX.
<code>RE_REDACT_WITH_SINGLE_1</code>	<code>VARCHAR2</code>	<code>'1'</code>	Replaces the data with a single 1 digit for each of the data digits as specified by setting the <code>regexp_pattern</code> parameter with the <code>RE_PATTERN_ANY_DIGIT</code> format. Example: The credit card number 1234 5678 9000 2490 becomes 1111 1111 1111 1111.
<code>RE_REDACT_US_PHONE_L7</code>	<code>VARCHAR2</code>	<code>'\1-XXX-XXXX'</code>	Redacts the last 7 digits of U.S phone number according to the <code>regexp_pattern</code> parameter with the <code>RE_PATTERN_US_PHONE</code> format and replaces each redacted character with an X. Example: The phone number 123-444-5900 becomes 123-XXX-XXXX.
<code>RE_REDACT_EMAIL_NAME</code>	<code>VARCHAR2</code>	<code>'xxxx@2'</code>	Redacts the email name according to the <code>regexp_pattern</code> parameter with the <code>RE_PATTERN_EMAIL_ADDRESS</code> format and replaces the email username with the four x characters. Example: The email address <code>sjohn@example.com</code> becomes <code>xxxx@example.com</code> .
<code>RE_REDACT_EMAIL_DOMAIN</code>	<code>VARCHAR2</code>	<code>'\1@xxxxxx.com'</code>	Redacts the email domain name according to the <code>regexp_pattern</code> parameter with the <code>RE_PATTERN_EMAIL_ADDRESS</code> format and replaces the domain with the five x characters. Example: The email address <code>sjohn@example.com</code> becomes <code>sjohn@xxxxxx.com</code> .
<code>RE_REDACT_EMAIL_ENTIRE</code>	<code>VARCHAR2</code>	<code>'xxxx@xxxxxx.com'</code>	Redacts the entire email address according to the <code>regexp_pattern</code> parameter with the <code>RE_PATTERN_EMAIL_ADDRESS</code> format and replaces the email address with the x characters. Example: The email address <code>sjohn@example.com</code> becomes <code>xxxx@xxxxxx.com</code> .
<code>RE_REDACT_IP_L3</code>	<code>VARCHAR2</code>	<code>'\1.999'</code>	Redacts the last 3 digits of an IP address according to the <code>regexp_pattern</code> parameter with the <code>RE_PATTERN_IP_ADDRESS</code> format. Example: The IP address 172.0.1.258 becomes 172.0.1.999, which is an invalid IP address.
<code>RE_REDACT_AMEX_CCN</code>	<code>VARCHAR2</code>	<code>'*****\1'</code>	Redacts the first 10 digits of an American Express credit card number according to the <code>regexp_pattern</code> parameter with the <code>RE_PATTERN_AMEX_CCN</code> format.

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers
Built-in Package Guide

Function Parameter	Data Type	Value	Description
			Example: 123456789062816 becomes *****62816.
RE_REDACT_CCN	VARCHAR2	'***** \1'	Redacts the first 12 digits of a credit card number as specified by the <code>regexp_pattern</code> parameter with the <code>RE_PATTERN_CCN</code> format. Example: 8749012678345671 becomes *****5671.

The following tables show the `regexp_position` value and `regexp_occurrence` values that you can use during REGEXP based redaction.

Function Parameter	Data Type	Value	Description
RE_BEGINNING	INTEGER	1	Specifies the position of a character where search must begin. By default, the value is 1 that indicates the search begins at the first character of <code>source_char</code> .

Function Parameter	Data Type	Value	Description
RE_ALL	INTEGER	0	Specifies the replacement occurrence of a substring. If the value is 0, then the replacement of each matching substring occurs.
RE_FIRST	INTEGER	1	Specifies the replacement occurrence of a substring. If the value is 1, then the replacement of the first matching substring occurs.

The following table shows the `regexp_match_parameter` values that you can use during REGEXP based redaction which lets you change the default matching behavior of a function.

Function Parameter	Data Type	Value	Description
RE_CASE_SENSITIVE	VARCHAR2	'c'	Specifies the case-sensitive matching.
RE_CASE_INSENSITIVE	VARCHAR2	'i'	Specifies the case-insensitive matching.
RE_MULTIPLE_LINES	VARCHAR2	'm'	Treats the source string as multiple lines but if you omit this parameter, then it indicates as a single line.
RE_NEWLINE_WILDCARD	VARCHAR2	'n'	Specifies the period (.), but if you omit this parameter, then the period does not match the newline character.
RE_IGNORE_WHITESPACE	VARCHAR2	'x'	Ignores the whitespace characters.

Note: If you create a redaction policy based on a numeric type column, then make sure that the result after redaction is a number and accordingly set the replacement string to avoid runtime errors.

Note: If you create a redaction policy based on a character type column, then make sure that a length of the result after redaction is compatible with the column type and accordingly set the replacement string to avoid runtime errors.

3.13.2 ADD_POLICY

The `add_policy` procedure creates a new data redaction policy for a table.

```
PROCEDURE add_policy (  
    object_schema          IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    object_name           IN VARCHAR2,  
    policy_name           IN VARCHAR2,  
    policy_description    IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    column_name          IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    column_description    IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    function_type        IN INTEGER DEFAULT DBMS_REDACT.FULL,  
    function_parameters   IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    expression           IN VARCHAR2,  
    enable               IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE,  
    regexp_pattern       IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    regexp_replace_string IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    regexp_position     IN INTEGER DEFAULT DBMS_REDACT.RE_BEGINNING,  
    regexp_occurrence    IN INTEGER DEFAULT DBMS_REDACT.RE_ALL,  
    regexp_match_parameter IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    custom_function_expression IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL  
)
```

Parameters

object_schema

Specifies the name of the schema in which the object resides and on which the data redaction policy will be applied. If you specify `NULL` then the given object is searched by the order specified by `search_path` setting.

object_name

Name of the table on which the data redaction policy is created.

policy_name

Name of the policy to be added. Ensure that the `policy_name` is unique for the table on which the policy is created.

policy_description

Specify the description of a redaction policy.

column_name

Name of the column to which the redaction policy applies. To redact more than one column, use the `alter_policy` procedure to add additional columns.

column_description

Description of the column to be redacted. The `column_description` is not supported, but if you specify the description for a column then, you will get a warning message.

function_type

The type of redaction function to be used. The possible values are `NONE`, `FULL`, `PARTIAL`, `RANDOM`, `REGEXP`, and `CUSTOM`.

function_parameters

Specifies the function parameters for the partition redaction and is applicable only for partial redaction.

expression

Specifies the Boolean expression for the table and determines how the policy is to be applied. The redaction occurs if this policy expression is evaluated to `TRUE`.

enable

When set to `TRUE`, the policy is enabled upon creation. The default is set as `TRUE`. When set to `FALSE`, the policy is disabled but the policy can be enabled by calling the `enable_policy` procedure.

regexp_pattern

Specifies the regular expression pattern to redact data. If the `regexp_pattern` does not match, then the `NULL` value is returned.

regexp_replace_string

Specifies the replacement string value.

regexp_position

Specifies the position of a character where search must begin. By default, the function parameter is `RE_BEGINNING`.

regexp_occurrence

Specifies the replacement occurrence of a substring. If the constant is `RE_ALL`, then the replacement of each matching substring occurs. If the constant is `RE_FIRST`, then the replacement of the first matching substring occurs.

regexp_match_parameter

Changes the default matching behavior of a function. The possible `regexp_match_parameter` constants can be `'RE_CASE_SENSITIVE'`, `'RE_CASE_INSENSITIVE'`, `'RE_MULTIPLE_LINES'`, `'RE_NEWLINE_WILDCARD'`, `'RE_IGNORE_WHITESPACE'`.

Note: For more information on constants, function parameters, or `regexp` (regular expressions) see, [Using DBMS_REDACT Constants and Function Parameters](#).

custom_function_expression

The `custom_function_expression` is applicable only for the `CUSTOM` redaction type. The `custom_function_expression` is a function expression that is, schema-qualified function with a parameter such as `schema_name.function_name (argument1, ...)` that allows a user to use their redaction logic to redact the column data.

Example

The following example illustrates how to create a policy and use full redaction for values in the `payment_details_tab` table `customer_id` column.

```
edb=# CREATE TABLE payment_details_tab (  
customer_id NUMBER NOT NULL,  
card_string VARCHAR2(19) NOT NULL);  
CREATE TABLE  
  
edb=# BEGIN  
INSERT INTO payment_details_tab VALUES (4000, '1234-1234-1234-1234');  
INSERT INTO payment_details_tab VALUES (4001, '2345-2345-2345-2345');  
END;  
  
EDB-SPL Procedure successfully completed  
  
edb=# CREATE USER redact_user;  
CREATE ROLE  
edb=# GRANT SELECT ON payment_details_tab TO redact_user;  
GRANT  
  
\c edb base_user  
  
BEGIN  
DBMS_REDACT.add_policy(  

```

```
object_schema      => 'public',
object_name        => 'payment_details_tab',
policy_name        => 'redactPolicy_001',
policy_description => 'redactPolicy_001 for payment_details_tab
table',
column_name        => 'customer_id',
function_type      => DBMS_REDACT.full,
expression         => '1=1',
enable             => TRUE);
END;
```

Redacted Result:

```
edb=# \c edb redact_user
You are now connected to database "edb" as user "redact_user".

edb=> select customer_id from payment_details_tab order by 1;
 customer_id
-----
            0
            0
(2 rows)
```

3.13.3 ALTER_POLICY

The `alter_policy` procedure alters or modifies an existing data redaction policy for a table.

```
PROCEDURE alter_policy (
    object_schema          IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,
    object_name           IN VARCHAR2,
    policy_name           IN VARCHAR2,
    action                 IN INTEGER DEFAULT DBMS_REDACT.ADD_COLUMN,
    column_name           IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,
    function_type         IN INTEGER DEFAULT DBMS_REDACT.FULL,
    function_parameters   IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,
    expression            IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,
    regexp_pattern        IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,
    regexp_replace_string IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,
    regexp_position       IN INTEGER DEFAULT DBMS_REDACT.RE_BEGINNING,
    regexp_occurrence     IN INTEGER DEFAULT DBMS_REDACT.RE_ALL,
    regexp_match_parameter IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,
    policy_description    IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,
    column_description    IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,
    custom_function_expression IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL
)
```

Parameters

object_schema

Specifies the name of the schema in which the object resides and on which the data redaction policy will be altered. If you specify `NULL` then the given object is searched by the order specified by `search_path` setting.

object_name

Name of the table to which to alter a data redaction policy.

policy_name

Name of the policy to be altered.

action

The action to perform. For more information about action parameters see, `Using DBMS_REDACT Constants and Function Parameters`.

column_name

Name of the column to which the redaction policy applies.

function_type

The type of redaction function to be used. The possible values are `NONE`, `FULL`, `PARTIAL`, `RANDOM`, `REGEXP`, and `CUSTOM`.

function_parameters

Specifies the function parameters for the redaction function.

expression

Specifies the Boolean expression for the table and determines how the policy is to be applied. The redaction occurs if this policy expression is evaluated to `TRUE`.

regexp_pattern

Enables the use of regular expressions to redact data. If the `regexp_pattern` does not match the data, then the `NULL` value is returned.

regexp_replace_string

Specifies the replacement string value.

regexp_position

Specifies the position of a character where search must begin. By default, the function parameter is `RE_BEGINNING`.

regexp_occurrence

Specifies the replacement occurrence of a substring. If the constant is `RE_ALL`, then the replacement of each matching substring occurs. If the constant is `RE_FIRST`, then the replacement of the first matching substring occurs.

regexp_match_parameter

Changes the default matching behavior of a function. The possible `regexp_match_parameter` constants can be `'RE_CASE_SENSITIVE'`, `'RE_CASE_INSENSITIVE'`, `'RE_MULTIPLE_LINES'`, `'RE_NEWLINE_WILDCARD'`, `'RE_IGNORE_WHITESPACE'`.

Note: For more information on constants, `function_parameters`, or `regexp` (regular expressions) see, Using `DBMS_REDACT` Constants and Function Parameters.

policy_description

Specify the description of a redaction policy.

column_description

Description of the column to be redacted. The `column_description` is not supported, but if you specify the description for a column then, you will get a warning message.

custom_function_expression

The `custom_function_expression` is applicable only for the `CUSTOM` redaction type. The `custom_function_expression` is a function expression that is, schema-qualified function with a parameter such as `schema_name.function_name (argument1, ...)` that allows a user to use their redaction logic to redact the column data.

Example

The following example illustrates to alter a policy using partial redaction for values in the `payment_details_tab` table `card_string` (usually a credit card number) column.

```
\c edb base _user

BEGIN
  DBMS_REDACT.alter_policy (
    object_schema      => 'public',
    object_name        => 'payment_details_tab',
    policy_name        => 'redactPolicy_001',
    action              => DBMS_REDACT.ADD_COLUMN,
    column_name        => 'card_string',
    function_type      => DBMS_REDACT.partial,
    function_parameters => DBMS_REDACT.REDACT_CCN16_F12);
END;
```

Redacted Result:

```
edb=# \c - redact_user
You are now connected to database "edb" as user "redact_user".
edb=> SELECT * FROM payment_details_tab;
 customer_id |      card_string
-----+-----
           0 | ****-****-****-1234
           0 | ****-****-****-2345
(2 rows)
```

3.13.4 DISABLE_POLICY

The `disable_policy` procedure disables an existing data redaction policy.

```
PROCEDURE disable_policy (  
    object_schema          IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    object_name            IN VARCHAR2,  
    policy_name            IN VARCHAR2  
)
```

Parameters

object_schema

Specifies the name of the schema in which the object resides and on which the data redaction policy will be applied. If you specify `NULL` then the given object is searched by the order specified by `search_path` setting.

object_name

Name of the table for which to disable a data redaction policy.

policy_name

Name of the policy to be disabled.

Example

The following example illustrates how to disable a policy.

```
\c edb base_user  
  
BEGIN  
    DBMS_REDACT.disable_policy(  
        object_schema => 'public',  
        object_name => 'payment_details_tab',  
        policy_name => 'redactPolicy_001');  
END;
```

Redacted Result: Data is no longer redacted after disabling a policy.

3.13.5 ENABLE_POLICY

The `enable_policy` procedure enables the previously disabled data redaction policy.

```
PROCEDURE enable_policy (  
    object_schema          IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    object_name           IN VARCHAR2,  
    policy_name           IN VARCHAR2  
)
```

Parameters

object_schema

Specifies the name of the schema in which the object resides and on which the data redaction policy will be applied. If you specify `NULL` then the given object is searched by the order specified by `search_path` setting.

object_name

Name of the table to which to enable a data redaction policy.

policy_name

Name of the policy to be enabled.

Example

The following example illustrates how to enable a policy.

```
\c edb base_user  
  
BEGIN  
    DBMS_REDACT.enable_policy(  
        object_schema => 'public',  
        object_name => 'payment_details_tab',  
        policy_name => 'redactPolicy_001');  
END;
```

Redacted Result: Data is redacted after enabling a policy.

3.13.6 DROP_POLICY

The `drop_policy` procedure drops a data redaction policy by removing the masking policy from a table.

```
PROCEDURE drop_policy (  
    object_schema          IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
    object_name           IN VARCHAR2,  
    policy_name           IN VARCHAR2  
)
```

Parameters

object_schema

Specifies the name of the schema in which the object resides and on which the data redaction policy will be applied. If you specify `NULL` then the given object is searched by the order specified by `search_path` setting.

object_name

Name of the table from which to drop a data redaction policy.

policy_name

Name of the policy to be dropped.

Example

The following example illustrates how to drop a policy.

```
\c edb base_user  
  
BEGIN  
    DBMS_REDACT.drop_policy(  
        object_schema => 'public',  
        object_name => 'payment_details_tab',  
        policy_name => 'redactPolicy_001');  
END;
```

Redacted Result: The server drops the specified policy.

3.13.7 UPDATE_FULL_REDACTION_VALUES

The `update_full_redaction_values` procedure updates the default displayed values for a data redaction policy and these default values can be viewed using the `redaction_values_for_type_full` view that use the full redaction type.

```
PROCEDURE update_full_redaction_values (
  number_val      IN NUMBER           DEFAULT NULL,
  binfloat_val    IN FLOAT4           DEFAULT NULL,
  bindouble_val   IN FLOAT8           DEFAULT NULL,
  char_val        IN CHAR              DEFAULT NULL,
  varchar_val     IN VARCHAR2         DEFAULT NULL,
  nchar_val       IN NCHAR             DEFAULT NULL,
  nvarchar_val    IN NVARCHAR2       DEFAULT NULL,
  datecol_val     IN DATE              DEFAULT NULL,
  ts_val          IN TIMESTAMP         DEFAULT NULL,
  tswtz_val       IN TIMESTAMPTZ      DEFAULT NULL,
  blob_val        IN BLOB              DEFAULT NULL,
  clob_val        IN CLOB              DEFAULT NULL,
  nclob_val       IN CLOB              DEFAULT NULL
)
```

Parameters

number_val

Updates the default value for columns of the `NUMBER` datatype.

binfloat_val

The `FLOAT4` datatype is a random value. The binary float datatype is not supported.

bindouble_val

The `FLOAT8` datatype is a random value. The binary double datatype is not supported.

char_val

Updates the default value for columns of the `CHAR` datatype.

varchar_val

Updates the default value for columns of the `VARCHAR2` datatype.

nchar_val

The `nchar_val` is mapped to `CHAR` datatype and returns the `CHAR` value.

`nvarchar_val`

The `nvarchar_val` is mapped to `VARCHAR2` datatype and returns the `VARCHAR` value.

`datecol_val`

Updates the default value for columns of the `DATE` datatype.

`ts_val`

Updates the default value for columns of the `TIMESTAMP` datatype.

`tswtz_val`

Updates the default value for columns of the `TIMESTAMPTZ` datatype.

`blob_val`

Updates the default value for columns of the `BLOB` datatype.

`clob_val`

Updates the default value for columns of the `CLOB` datatype.

`nclob_val`

The `nclob_val` is mapped to `CLOB` datatype and returns the `CLOB` value.

Example

The following example illustrates how to update the full redaction values but before updating the values, you can:

1. View the default values using `redaction_values_for_type_full` view as shown below:

```
edb=# \x
Expanded display is on.
edb=# SELECT number_value, char_value, varchar_value, date_value,
         timestamp_value, timestamp_with_time_zone_value, blob_value,
         clob_value
FROM redaction_values_for_type_full;
-[ RECORD 1 ]-----+-----
```

```

number_value          | 0
char_value            |
varchar_value        |
date_value           | 01-JAN-01 00:00:00
timestamp_value      | 01-JAN-01 01:00:00
timestamp_with_time_zone_value | 31-DEC-00 20:00:00 -05:00
blob_value           | \x5b72656461637465645d
clob_value           | [redacted]
(1 row)

```

2. Now, update the default values for full redaction type. The NULL values will be ignored.

```
\c edb base_user
```

```

edb=# BEGIN
  DBMS_REDACT.update_full_redaction_values (
    number_val => 9999999,
    char_val => 'Z',
    varchar_val => 'V',
    datecol_val => to_date('17/10/2018', 'DD/MM/YYYY'),
    ts_val => to_timestamp('17/10/2018 11:12:13', 'DD/MM/YYYY HH24:MI:SS'),
    tswtz_val => NULL,
    blob_val => 'NEW REDACTED VALUE',
    clob_val => 'NEW REDACTED VALUE');
END;

```

3. You can now see the updated values using `redaction_values_for_type_full` view.

```

EDB-SPL Procedure successfully completed
edb=# SELECT number_value, char_value, varchar_value, date_value,
         timestamp_value, timestamp_with_time_zone_value, blob_value,
         clob_value
FROM redaction_values_for_type_full;
-[ RECORD 1 ]-----+-----
number_value          | 9999999
char_value            | Z
varchar_value        | V
date_value           | 17-OCT-18 00:00:00
timestamp_value      | 17-OCT-18 11:12:13
timestamp_with_time_zone_value | 31-DEC-00 20:00:00 -05:00
blob_value           | \x4e45572052454441435445442056414c5545
clob_value           | NEW REDACTED VALUE
(1 row)

```

Redacted Result:

```

edb=# \c edb redact_user
You are now connected to database "edb" as user "redact_user".

edb=> select * from payment_details_tab order by 1;
  customer_id | card_string
-----+-----
    9999999 | V
    9999999 | V
(2 rows)

```

3.14 DBMS_RLS

The DBMS_RLS package enables the implementation of Virtual Private Database on certain Advanced Server database objects.

Function/Procedure	Function or Procedure	Return Type	Description
ADD_POLICY(<i>object_schema</i> , <i>object_name</i> , <i>policy_name</i> , <i>function_schema</i> , <i>policy_function</i> [, <i>statement_types</i> [, <i>update_check</i> [, <i>enable</i> [, <i>static_policy</i> [, <i>policy_type</i> [, <i>long_predicate</i> [, <i>sec_relevant_cols</i> [, <i>sec_relevant_cols_opt</i>]]]]]]]))	Procedure	n/a	Add a security policy to a database object.
DROP_POLICY(<i>object_schema</i> , <i>object_name</i> , <i>policy_name</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Remove a security policy from a database object.
ENABLE_POLICY(<i>object_schema</i> , <i>object_name</i> , <i>policy_name</i> , <i>enable</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Enable or disable a security policy.

Advanced Server's implementation of DBMS_RLS is a partial implementation when compared to Oracle's version. Only those functions and procedures listed in the table above are supported.

Virtual Private Database is a type of fine-grained access control using security policies. *Fine-grained access control* in Virtual Private Database means that access to data can be controlled down to specific rows as defined by the security policy.

The rules that encode a security policy are defined in a *policy function*, which is an SPL function with certain input parameters and return value. The *security policy* is the named association of the policy function to a particular database object, typically a table.

Note: In Advanced Server, the policy function can be written in any language supported by Advanced Server such as SQL, PL/pgSQL and SPL.

Note: The database objects currently supported by Advanced Server Virtual Private Database are tables. Policies cannot be applied to views or synonyms.

The advantages of using Virtual Private Database are the following:

- Provides a fine-grained level of security. Database object level privileges given by the GRANT command determine access privileges to the entire instance of a database object, while Virtual Private Database provides access control for the individual rows of a database object instance.

- A different security policy can be applied depending upon the type of SQL command (`INSERT`, `UPDATE`, `DELETE`, or `SELECT`).
- The security policy can vary dynamically for each applicable SQL command affecting the database object depending upon factors such as the session user of the application accessing the database object.
- Invocation of the security policy is transparent to all applications that access the database object and thus, individual applications do not have to be modified to apply the security policy.
- Once a security policy is enabled, it is not possible for any application (including new applications) to circumvent the security policy except by the system privilege noted by the following.
- Even superusers cannot circumvent the security policy except by the system privilege noted by the following.

Note: The only way security policies can be circumvented is if the `EXEMPT ACCESS POLICY` system privilege has been granted to a user. The `EXEMPT ACCESS POLICY` privilege should be granted with extreme care as a user with this privilege is exempted from all policies in the database.

The `DBMS_RLS` package provides procedures to create policies, remove policies, enable policies, and disable policies.

The process for implementing Virtual Private Database is as follows:

- Create a policy function. The function must have two input parameters of type `VARCHAR2`. The first input parameter is for the schema containing the database object to which the policy is to apply and the second input parameter is for the name of that database object. The function must have a `VARCHAR2` return type. The function must return a string in the form of a `WHERE` clause predicate. This predicate is dynamically appended as an `AND` condition to the SQL command that acts upon the database object. Thus, rows that do not satisfy the policy function predicate are filtered out from the SQL command result set.
- Use the `ADD_POLICY` procedure to define a new policy, which is the association of a policy function with a database object. With the `ADD_POLICY` procedure, you can also specify the types of SQL commands (`INSERT`, `UPDATE`, `DELETE`, or `SELECT`) to which the policy is to apply, whether or not to enable the policy at the time of its creation, and if the policy should apply to newly inserted rows or the modified image of updated rows.
- Use the `ENABLE_POLICY` procedure to disable or enable an existing policy.
- Use the `DROP_POLICY` procedure to remove an existing policy. The `DROP_POLICY` procedure does not drop the policy function or the associated database object.

Once policies are created, they can be viewed in the catalog views, compatible with Oracle databases: `ALL_POLICIES`, `DBA_POLICIES`, or `USER_POLICIES`. The

supported compatible views are listed in the *Database Compatibility for Oracle Developers Reference Guide*, available at the EnterpriseDB website at:

<https://www.enterprisedb.com/edb-docs>

The SYS_CONTEXT function is often used with DBMS_RLS. The signature is:

```
SYS_CONTEXT(namespace, attribute)
```

Where:

namespace is a VARCHAR2; the only accepted value is USERENV. Any other value will return NULL.

attribute is a VARCHAR2. *attribute* may be:

attribute Value	Equivalent Value
SESSION_USER	pg_catalog.session_user
CURRENT_USER	pg_catalog.current_user
CURRENT_SCHEMA	pg_catalog.current_schema
HOST	pg_catalog.inet_host
IP_ADDRESS	pg_catalog.inet_client_addr
SERVER_HOST	pg_catalog.inet_server_addr

Note: The examples used to illustrate the DBMS_RLS package are based on a modified copy of the sample emp table provided with Advanced Server along with a role named salesmgr that is granted all privileges on the table. You can create the modified copy of the emp table named vpemp and the salesmgr role as shown by the following:

```
CREATE TABLE public.vpemp AS SELECT empno, ename, job, sal, comm, deptno FROM emp;
ALTER TABLE vpemp ADD authid VARCHAR2(12);
UPDATE vpemp SET authid = 'researchmgr' WHERE deptno = 20;
UPDATE vpemp SET authid = 'salesmgr' WHERE deptno = 30;
SELECT * FROM vpemp;
```

```
empno | ename | job | sal | comm | deptno | authid
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
 7782 | CLARK | MANAGER | 2450.00 | | 10 |
 7839 | KING | PRESIDENT | 5000.00 | | 10 |
 7934 | MILLER | CLERK | 1300.00 | | 10 |
 7369 | SMITH | CLERK | 800.00 | | 20 | researchmgr
 7566 | JONES | MANAGER | 2975.00 | | 20 | researchmgr
 7788 | SCOTT | ANALYST | 3000.00 | | 20 | researchmgr
 7876 | ADAMS | CLERK | 1100.00 | | 20 | researchmgr
 7902 | FORD | ANALYST | 3000.00 | | 20 | researchmgr
 7499 | ALLEN | SALESMAN | 1600.00 | 300.00 | 30 | salesmgr
 7521 | WARD | SALESMAN | 1250.00 | 500.00 | 30 | salesmgr
 7654 | MARTIN | SALESMAN | 1250.00 | 1400.00 | 30 | salesmgr
 7698 | BLAKE | MANAGER | 2850.00 | | 30 | salesmgr
 7844 | TURNER | SALESMAN | 1500.00 | 0.00 | 30 | salesmgr
 7900 | JAMES | CLERK | 950.00 | | 30 | salesmgr
(14 rows)
```

```
CREATE ROLE salesmgr WITH LOGIN PASSWORD 'password';  
GRANT ALL ON vpemp TO salesmgr;
```

3.14.1 ADD_POLICY

The `ADD_POLICY` procedure creates a new policy by associating a policy function with a database object.

You must be a superuser to execute this procedure.

```
ADD_POLICY(object_schema VARCHAR2, object_name VARCHAR2,  
          policy_name VARCHAR2, function_schema VARCHAR2,  
          policy_function VARCHAR2  
          [, statement_types VARCHAR2  
          [, update_check BOOLEAN  
          [, enable BOOLEAN  
          [, static_policy BOOLEAN  
          [, policy_type INTEGER  
          [, long_predicate BOOLEAN  
          [, sec_relevant_cols VARCHAR2  
          [, sec_relevant_cols_opt INTEGER ]]]]]])
```

Parameters

object_schema

Name of the schema containing the database object to which the policy is to be applied.

object_name

Name of the database object to which the policy is to be applied. A given database object may have more than one policy applied to it.

policy_name

Name assigned to the policy. The combination of database object (identified by *object_schema* and *object_name*) and policy name must be unique within the database.

function_schema

Name of the schema containing the policy function.

Note: The policy function may belong to a package in which case *function_schema* must contain the name of the schema in which the package is defined.

policy_function

Name of the SPL function that defines the rules of the security policy. The same function may be specified in more than one policy.

Note: The policy function may belong to a package in which case *policy_function* must also contain the package name in dot notation (that is, *package_name.function_name*).

statement_types

Comma-separated list of SQL commands to which the policy applies. Valid SQL commands are INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE, and SELECT. The default is INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE, SELECT.

Note: Advanced Server accepts INDEX as a statement type, but it is ignored. Policies are not applied to index operations in Advanced Server.

update_check

Applies to INSERT and UPDATE SQL commands only.

When set to TRUE, the policy is applied to newly inserted rows and to the modified image of updated rows. If any of the new or modified rows do not qualify according to the policy function predicate, then the INSERT or UPDATE command throws an exception and no rows are inserted or modified by the INSERT or UPDATE command.

When set to FALSE, the policy is not applied to newly inserted rows or the modified image of updated rows. Thus, a newly inserted row may not appear in the result set of a subsequent SQL command that invokes the same policy. Similarly, rows which qualified according to the policy prior to an UPDATE command may not appear in the result set of a subsequent SQL command that invokes the same policy.

The default is FALSE.

enable

When set to TRUE, the policy is enabled and applied to the SQL commands given by the *statement_types* parameter. When set to FALSE the policy is disabled

and not applied to any SQL commands. The policy can be enabled using the `ENABLE_POLICY` procedure. The default is `TRUE`.

static_policy

In Oracle, when set to `TRUE`, the policy is *static*, which means the policy function is evaluated once per database object the first time it is invoked by a policy on that database object. The resulting policy function predicate string is saved in memory and reused for all invocations of that policy on that database object while the database server instance is running.

When set to `FALSE`, the policy is *dynamic*, which means the policy function is re-evaluated and the policy function predicate string regenerated for all invocations of the policy.

The default is `FALSE`.

Note: In Oracle 10g, the *policy_type* parameter was introduced, which is intended to replace the *static_policy* parameter. In Oracle, if the *policy_type* parameter is not set to its default value of `NULL`, the *policy_type* parameter setting overrides the *static_policy* setting.

Note: The setting of *static_policy* is ignored by Advanced Server. Advanced Server implements only the dynamic policy, regardless of the setting of the *static_policy* parameter.

policy_type

In Oracle, determines when the policy function is re-evaluated, and hence, if and when the predicate string returned by the policy function changes. The default is `NULL`.

Note: The setting of this parameter is ignored by Advanced Server. Advanced Server always assumes a dynamic policy.

long_predicate

In Oracle, allows predicates up to 32K bytes if set to `TRUE`, otherwise predicates are limited to 4000 bytes. The default is `FALSE`.

Note: The setting of this parameter is ignored by Advanced Server. An Advanced Server policy function can return a predicate of unlimited length for all practical purposes.

sec_relevant_cols

Comma-separated list of columns of *object_name*. Provides *column-level Virtual Private Database* for the listed columns. The policy is enforced if any of the listed columns are referenced in a SQL command of a type listed in *statement_types*. The policy is not enforced if no such columns are referenced.

The default is NULL, which has the same effect as if all of the database object's columns were included in *sec_relevant_cols*.

sec_relevant_cols_opt

In Oracle, if *sec_relevant_cols_opt* is set to `DBMS_RLS.ALL_ROWS` (INTEGER constant of value 1), then the columns listed in *sec_relevant_cols* return NULL on all rows where the applied policy predicate is false. (If *sec_relevant_cols_opt* is not set to `DBMS_RLS.ALL_ROWS`, these rows would not be returned at all in the result set.) The default is NULL.

Note: Advanced Server does not support the `DBMS_RLS.ALL_ROWS` functionality. Advanced Server throws an error if *sec_relevant_cols_opt* is set to `DBMS_RLS.ALL_ROWS` (INTEGER value of 1).

Examples

This example uses the following policy function:

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION verify_session_user (
  p_schema      VARCHAR2,
  p_object      VARCHAR2
)
RETURN VARCHAR2
IS
BEGIN
  RETURN 'authid = SYS_CONTEXT(''USERENV'', ''SESSION_USER'')';
END;
```

This function generates the predicate `authid = SYS_CONTEXT('USERENV', 'SESSION_USER')`, which is added to the WHERE clause of any SQL command of the type specified in the `ADD_POLICY` procedure.

This limits the effect of the SQL command to those rows where the content of the `authid` column is the same as the session user.

Note: This example uses the `SYS_CONTEXT` function to return the login user name. In Oracle the `SYS_CONTEXT` function is used to return attributes of an *application context*. The first parameter of the `SYS_CONTEXT` function is the name of an application context while the second parameter is the name of an attribute set within the application context.

USERENV is a special built-in namespace that describes the current session. Advanced Server does not support application contexts, but only this specific usage of the SYS_CONTEXT function.

The following anonymous block calls the ADD_POLICY procedure to create a policy named secure_update to be applied to the vpemp table using function verify_session_user whenever an INSERT, UPDATE, or DELETE SQL command is given referencing the vpemp table.

```

DECLARE
  v_object_schema    VARCHAR2(30) := 'public';
  v_object_name      VARCHAR2(30) := 'vpemp';
  v_policy_name      VARCHAR2(30) := 'secure_update';
  v_function_schema  VARCHAR2(30) := 'enterprisedb';
  v_policy_function  VARCHAR2(30) := 'verify_session_user';
  v_statement_types  VARCHAR2(30) := 'INSERT,UPDATE,DELETE';
  v_update_check     BOOLEAN      := TRUE;
  v_enable           BOOLEAN      := TRUE;
BEGIN
  DBMS_RLS.ADD_POLICY(
    v_object_schema,
    v_object_name,
    v_policy_name,
    v_function_schema,
    v_policy_function,
    v_statement_types,
    v_update_check,
    v_enable
  );
END;

```

After successful creation of the policy, a terminal session is started by user salesmgr. The following query shows the content of the vpemp table:

```

edb=# \c edb salesmgr
Password for user salesmgr:
You are now connected to database "edb" as user "salesmgr".
edb=> SELECT * FROM vpemp;
 empno | ename  | job      | sal   | comm  | deptno | authid
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
  7782 | CLARK  | MANAGER  | 2450.00 |      | 10      |
  7839 | KING   | PRESIDENT | 5000.00 |      | 10      |
  7934 | MILLER | CLERK    | 1300.00 |      | 10      |
  7369 | SMITH  | CLERK    |  800.00 |      | 20      | researchmgr
  7566 | JONES  | MANAGER  | 2975.00 |      | 20      | researchmgr
  7788 | SCOTT  | ANALYST  | 3000.00 |      | 20      | researchmgr
  7876 | ADAMS  | CLERK    | 1100.00 |      | 20      | researchmgr
  7902 | FORD   | ANALYST  | 3000.00 |      | 20      | researchmgr
  7499 | ALLEN  | SALESMAN | 1600.00 | 300.00 | 30      | salesmgr
  7521 | WARD   | SALESMAN | 1250.00 | 500.00 | 30      | salesmgr
  7654 | MARTIN | SALESMAN | 1250.00 | 1400.00 | 30      | salesmgr
  7698 | BLAKE  | MANAGER  | 2850.00 |      | 30      | salesmgr
  7844 | TURNER | SALESMAN | 1500.00 |  0.00 | 30      | salesmgr
  7900 | JAMES  | CLERK    |  950.00 |      | 30      | salesmgr
(14 rows)

```

An unqualified UPDATE command (no WHERE clause) is issued by the salesmgr user:

```
edb=> UPDATE vpemp SET comm = sal * .75;
UPDATE 6
```

Instead of updating all rows in the table, the policy restricts the effect of the update to only those rows where the authid column contains the value salesmgr as specified by the policy function predicate `authid = SYS_CONTEXT('USERENV', 'SESSION_USER')`.

The following query shows that the comm column has been changed only for those rows where authid contains salesmgr. All other rows are unchanged.

```
edb=> SELECT * FROM vpemp;
empno | ename | job | sal | comm | deptno | authid
-----+-----+----+----+-----+-----+-----
 7782 | CLARK | MANAGER | 2450.00 | | 10 |
 7839 | KING | PRESIDENT | 5000.00 | | 10 |
 7934 | MILLER | CLERK | 1300.00 | | 10 |
 7369 | SMITH | CLERK | 800.00 | | 20 | researchmgr
 7566 | JONES | MANAGER | 2975.00 | | 20 | researchmgr
 7788 | SCOTT | ANALYST | 3000.00 | | 20 | researchmgr
 7876 | ADAMS | CLERK | 1100.00 | | 20 | researchmgr
 7902 | FORD | ANALYST | 3000.00 | | 20 | researchmgr
 7499 | ALLEN | SALESMAN | 1600.00 | 1200.00 | 30 | salesmgr
 7521 | WARD | SALESMAN | 1250.00 | 937.50 | 30 | salesmgr
 7654 | MARTIN | SALESMAN | 1250.00 | 937.50 | 30 | salesmgr
 7698 | BLAKE | MANAGER | 2850.00 | 2137.50 | 30 | salesmgr
 7844 | TURNER | SALESMAN | 1500.00 | 1125.00 | 30 | salesmgr
 7900 | JAMES | CLERK | 950.00 | 712.50 | 30 | salesmgr
(14 rows)
```

Furthermore, since the `update_check` parameter was set to TRUE in the ADD_POLICY procedure, the following INSERT command throws an exception since the value given for the authid column, researchmgr, does not match the session user, which is salesmgr, and hence, fails the policy.

```
edb=> INSERT INTO vpemp VALUES (9001, 'SMITH', 'ANALYST', 3200.00, NULL, 20,
'researchmgr');
ERROR: policy with check option violation
DETAIL: Policy predicate was evaluated to FALSE with the updated values
```

If `update_check` was set to FALSE, the preceding INSERT command would have succeeded.

The following example illustrates the use of the `sec_relevant_cols` parameter to apply a policy only when certain columns are referenced in the SQL command. The following policy function is used for this example, which selects rows where the employee salary is less than 2000.

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION sal_lt_2000 (
  p_schema VARCHAR2,
  p_object VARCHAR2
```

```
)
RETURN VARCHAR2
IS
BEGIN
    RETURN 'sal < 2000';
END;
```

The policy is created so that it is enforced only if a `SELECT` command includes columns `sal` or `comm`:

```
DECLARE
    v_object_schema    VARCHAR2(30) := 'public';
    v_object_name      VARCHAR2(30) := 'vpemp';
    v_policy_name      VARCHAR2(30) := 'secure_salary';
    v_function_schema  VARCHAR2(30) := 'enterprisedb';
    v_policy_function  VARCHAR2(30) := 'sal_lt_2000';
    v_statement_types  VARCHAR2(30) := 'SELECT';
    v_sec_relevant_cols VARCHAR2(30) := 'sal,comm';
BEGIN
    DBMS_RLS.ADD_POLICY(
        v_object_schema,
        v_object_name,
        v_policy_name,
        v_function_schema,
        v_policy_function,
        v_statement_types,
        sec_relevant_cols => v_sec_relevant_cols
    );
END;
```

If a query does not reference columns `sal` or `comm`, then the policy is not applied. The following query returns all 14 rows of table `vpemp`:

```
edb=# SELECT empno, ename, job, deptno, authid FROM vpemp;
 empno | ename  | job      | deptno | authid
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
  7782 | CLARK  | MANAGER  |      10 |
  7839 | KING   | PRESIDENT |      10 |
  7934 | MILLER | CLERK    |      10 |
  7369 | SMITH  | CLERK    |      20 | researchmgr
  7566 | JONES  | MANAGER  |      20 | researchmgr
  7788 | SCOTT  | ANALYST  |      20 | researchmgr
  7876 | ADAMS  | CLERK    |      20 | researchmgr
  7902 | FORD   | ANALYST  |      20 | researchmgr
  7499 | ALLEN  | SALESMAN |      30 | salesmgr
  7521 | WARD   | SALESMAN |      30 | salesmgr
  7654 | MARTIN | SALESMAN |      30 | salesmgr
  7698 | BLAKE  | MANAGER  |      30 | salesmgr
  7844 | TURNER | SALESMAN |      30 | salesmgr
  7900 | JAMES  | CLERK    |      30 | salesmgr
(14 rows)
```

If the query references the `sal` or `comm` columns, then the policy is applied to the query eliminating any rows where `sal` is greater than or equal to 2000 as shown by the following:

```
edb=# SELECT empno, ename, job, sal, comm, deptno, authid FROM vpemp;
 empno | ename  | job      | sal  | comm | deptno | authid
```

7934	MILLER	CLERK	1300.00			10	
7369	SMITH	CLERK	800.00			20	researchmgr
7876	ADAMS	CLERK	1100.00			20	researchmgr
7499	ALLEN	SALESMAN	1600.00	1200.00		30	salesmgr
7521	WARD	SALESMAN	1250.00	937.50		30	salesmgr
7654	MARTIN	SALESMAN	1250.00	937.50		30	salesmgr
7844	TURNER	SALESMAN	1500.00	1125.00		30	salesmgr
7900	JAMES	CLERK	950.00	712.50		30	salesmgr

(8 rows)

3.14.2 DROP_POLICY

The `DROP_POLICY` procedure deletes an existing policy. The policy function and database object associated with the policy are not deleted by the `DROP_POLICY` procedure.

You must be a superuser to execute this procedure.

```
DROP_POLICY(object_schema VARCHAR2, object_name VARCHAR2,
            policy_name VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

object_schema

Name of the schema containing the database object to which the policy applies.

object_name

Name of the database object to which the policy applies.

policy_name

Name of the policy to be deleted.

Examples

The following example deletes policy `secure_update` on table `public.vpemp`:

```
DECLARE
    v_object_schema    VARCHAR2(30) := 'public';
    v_object_name      VARCHAR2(30) := 'vpemp';
    v_policy_name      VARCHAR2(30) := 'secure_update';
BEGIN
    DBMS_RLS.DROP_POLICY(
        v_object_schema,
        v_object_name,
        v_policy_name
    );
END;
```

3.14.3 ENABLE_POLICY

The `ENABLE_POLICY` procedure enables or disables an existing policy on the specified database object.

You must be a superuser to execute this procedure.

```
ENABLE_POLICY(object_schema VARCHAR2, object_name VARCHAR2,  
             policy_name VARCHAR2, enable BOOLEAN)
```

Parameters

object_schema

Name of the schema containing the database object to which the policy applies.

object_name

Name of the database object to which the policy applies.

policy_name

Name of the policy to be enabled or disabled.

enable

When set to `TRUE`, the policy is enabled. When set to `FALSE`, the policy is disabled.

Examples

The following example disables policy `secure_update` on table `public.vpemp`:

```
DECLARE  
  v_object_schema    VARCHAR2(30) := 'public';  
  v_object_name      VARCHAR2(30) := 'vpemp';  
  v_policy_name      VARCHAR2(30) := 'secure_update';  
  v_enable           BOOLEAN := FALSE;  
BEGIN  
  DBMS_RLS.ENABLE_POLICY(  
    v_object_schema,  
    v_object_name,  
    v_policy_name,  
    v_enable  
  );  
END;
```

3.15 DBMS_SCHEDULER

The DBMS_SCHEDULER package provides a way to create and manage Oracle-styled jobs, programs and job schedules. The DBMS_SCHEDULER package implements the following functions and procedures:

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
CREATE_JOB(<i>job_name, job_type, job_action, number_of_arguments, start_date, repeat_interval, end_date, job_class, enabled, auto_drop, comments</i>)	n/a	Use the first form of the CREATE_JOB procedure to create a job, specifying program and schedule details by means of parameters.
CREATE_JOB(<i>job_name, program_name, schedule_name, job_class, enabled, auto_drop, comments</i>)	n/a	Use the second form of CREATE_JOB to create a job that uses a named program and named schedule.
CREATE_PROGRAM(<i>program_name, program_type, program_action, number_of_arguments, enabled, comments</i>)	n/a	Use CREATE_PROGRAM to create a program.
CREATE_SCHEDULE(<i>schedule_name, start_date, repeat_interval, end_date, comments</i>)	n/a	Use the CREATE_SCHEDULE procedure to create a schedule.
DEFINE_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT(<i>program_name, argument_position, argument_name, argument_type, default_value, out_argument</i>)	n/a	Use the first form of the DEFINE_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT procedure to define a program argument that has a default value.
DEFINE_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT(<i>program_name, argument_position, argument_name, argument_type, out_argument</i>)	n/a	Use the first form of the DEFINE_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT procedure to define a program argument that does not have a default value.
DISABLE(<i>name, force, commit_semantics</i>)	n/a	Use the DISABLE procedure to disable a job or program.
DROP_JOB(<i>job_name, force, defer, commit_semantics</i>)	n/a	Use the DROP_JOB procedure to drop a job.
DROP_PROGRAM(<i>program_name, force</i>)	n/a	Use the DROP_PROGRAM procedure to drop a program.
DROP_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT(<i>program_name, argument_position</i>)	n/a	Use the first form of DROP_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT to drop a program argument by specifying the argument position.
DROP_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT(<i>program_name, argument_name</i>)	n/a	Use the second form of DROP_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT to drop a program argument by specifying the argument name.
DROP_SCHEDULE(<i>schedule_name, force</i>)	n/a	Use the DROP_SCHEDULE procedure to drop a schedule.
ENABLE(<i>name, commit_semantics</i>)	n/a	Use the ENABLE command to enable a program or job.
EVALUATE_CALENDAR_STRING(<i></i>)	n/a	Use EVALUATE_CALENDAR_STRING to review the

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
<i>calendar_string, start_date, return_date_after, next_run_date</i>		execution date described by a user-defined calendar schedule.
<i>RUN_JOB(job_name, use_current_session, manually)</i>	n/a	Use the <i>RUN_JOB</i> procedure to execute a job immediately.
<i>SET_JOB_ARGUMENT_VALUE(job_name, argument_position, argument_value)</i>	n/a	Use the first form of <i>SET_JOB_ARGUMENT</i> value to set the value of a job argument described by the argument's position.
<i>SET_JOB_ARGUMENT_VALUE(job_name, argument_name, argument_value)</i>	n/a	Use the second form of <i>SET_JOB_ARGUMENT</i> value to set the value of a job argument described by the argument's name.

Advanced Server's implementation of *DBMS_SCHEDULER* is a partial implementation when compared to Oracle's version. Only those functions and procedures listed in the table above are supported.

The *DBMS_SCHEDULER* package is dependent on the pgAgent service; you must have a pgAgent service installed and running on your server before using *DBMS_SCHEDULER*.

Before using *DBMS_SCHEDULER*, a database superuser must create the catalog tables in which the *DBMS_SCHEDULER* programs, schedules and jobs are stored. Use the *psql* client to connect to the database, and invoke the command:

```
CREATE EXTENSION dbms_scheduler;
```

By default, the *dbms_scheduler* extension resides in the *contrib/dbms_scheduler_ext* subdirectory (under the Advanced Server installation).

Note that after creating the *DBMS_SCHEDULER* tables, only a superuser will be able to perform a dump or reload of the database.

3.15.1 Using Calendar Syntax to Specify a Repeating Interval

The `CREATE_JOB` and `CREATE_SCHEDULE` procedures use Oracle-styled calendar syntax to define the interval with which a job or schedule is repeated. You should provide the scheduling information in the `repeat_interval` parameter of each procedure.

`repeat_interval` is a value (or series of values) that define the interval between the executions of the scheduled job. Each value is composed of a token, followed by an equal sign, followed by the unit (or units) on which the schedule will execute. Multiple token values must be separated by a semi-colon (;).

For example, the following value:

```
FREQ=DAILY;BYDAY=MON,TUE,WED,THU,FRI;BYHOUR=17;BYMINUTE=45
```

Defines a schedule that is executed each weeknight at 5:45.

The token types and syntax described in the table below are supported by Advanced Server:

Token type	Syntax	Valid Values																					
FREQ	FREQ= <i>predefined_interval</i>	Where <i>predefined_interval</i> is one of the following: YEARLY, MONTHLY, WEEKLY, DAILY, HOURLY, MINUTELY. The SECONDLY keyword is not supported.																					
BYMONTH	BYMONTH= <i>month</i> (, <i>month</i>)...	Where <i>month</i> is the three-letter abbreviation of the month name: JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC																					
BYMONTH	BYMONTH= <i>month</i> (, <i>month</i>)...	Where <i>month</i> is the numeric value representing the month: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12																					
BYMONTHDAY	BYMONTHDAY= <i>day_of_month</i>	Where <i>day_of_month</i> is a value from 1 through 31																					
BYDAY	BYDAY= <i>weekday</i>	Where <i>weekday</i> is a three-letter abbreviation or single-digit value representing the day of the week. <table border="1" data-bbox="860 1648 1289 1879"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Monday</td> <td>MON</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tuesday</td> <td>TUE</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday</td> <td>WED</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday</td> <td>THU</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Friday</td> <td>FRI</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saturday</td> <td>SAT</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sunday</td> <td>SUN</td> <td>7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Monday	MON	1	Tuesday	TUE	2	Wednesday	WED	3	Thursday	THU	4	Friday	FRI	5	Saturday	SAT	6	Sunday	SUN	7
Monday	MON	1																					
Tuesday	TUE	2																					
Wednesday	WED	3																					
Thursday	THU	4																					
Friday	FRI	5																					
Saturday	SAT	6																					
Sunday	SUN	7																					
BYDATE	BYDATE= <i>date</i> (, <i>date</i>)...	Where <i>date</i> is YYYYMMDD.																					

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers
Built-in Package Guide

		YYYY is a four-digit year representation of the year, MM is a two-digit representation of the month, and DD is a two-digit day representation of the day.
BYDATE	BYDATE= <i>date</i> (, <i>date</i>)...	Where <i>date</i> is <i>MMDD</i> . MM is a two-digit representation of the month, and DD is a two-digit day representation of the day
BYHOUR	BYHOUR= <i>hour</i>	Where <i>hour</i> is a value from 0 through 23.
BYMINUTE	BYMINUTE= <i>minute</i>	Where <i>minute</i> is a value from 0 through 59.

3.15.2 CREATE_JOB

Use the `CREATE_JOB` procedure to create a job. The procedure comes in two forms; the first form of the procedure specifies a schedule within the job definition, as well as a job action that will be invoked when the job executes:

```
CREATE_JOB (  
  job_name IN VARCHAR2,  
  job_type IN VARCHAR2,  
  job_action IN VARCHAR2,  
  number_of_arguments IN PLS_INTEGER DEFAULT 0,  
  start_date IN TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE DEFAULT NULL,  
  repeat_interval IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
  end_date IN TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE DEFAULT NULL,  
  job_class IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT 'DEFAULT_JOB_CLASS',  
  enabled IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,  
  auto_drop IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE,  
  comments IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL)
```

The second form uses a job schedule to specify the schedule on which the job will execute, and specifies the name of a program that will execute when the job runs:

```
CREATE_JOB (  
  job_name IN VARCHAR2,  
  program_name IN VARCHAR2,  
  schedule_name IN VARCHAR2,  
  job_class IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT 'DEFAULT_JOB_CLASS',  
  enabled IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,  
  auto_drop IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE,  
  comments IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL)
```

Parameters

job_name

job_name specifies the optionally schema-qualified name of the job being created.

job_type

job_type specifies the type of job. The current implementation of `CREATE_JOB` supports a job type of `PLSQL_BLOCK` or `STORED_PROCEDURE`.

job_action

If *job_type* is `PLSQL_BLOCK`, *job_action* specifies the content of the PL/SQL block that will be invoked when the job executes. The block must be terminated with a semi-colon (;).

If *job_type* is `STORED_PROCEDURE`, *job_action* specifies the optionally schema-qualified name of the procedure.

number_of_arguments

number_of_arguments is an `INTEGER` value that specifies the number of arguments expected by the job. The default is 0.

start_date

start_date is a `TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE` value that specifies the first time that the job is scheduled to execute. The default value is `NULL`, indicating that the job should be scheduled to execute when the job is enabled.

repeat_interval

repeat_interval is a `VARCHAR2` value that specifies how often the job will repeat. If a *repeat_interval* is not specified, the job will execute only once. The default value is `NULL`.

end_date

end_date is a `TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE` value that specifies a time after which the job will no longer execute. If a date is specified, the *end_date* must be after *start_date*. The default value is `NULL`.

Please note that if an *end_date* is not specified and a *repeat_interval* is specified, the job will repeat indefinitely until it is disabled.

program_name

program_name is the name of a program that will be executed by the job.

schedule_name

schedule_name is the name of the schedule associated with the job.

job_class

job_class is accepted for compatibility and ignored.

enabled

enabled is a `BOOLEAN` value that specifies if the job is enabled when created. By default, a job is created in a disabled state, with *enabled* set to `FALSE`. To enable a job, specify a value of `TRUE` when creating the job, or enable the job with the `DBMS_SCHEDULER.ENABLE` procedure.

auto_drop

The *auto_drop* parameter is accepted for compatibility and is ignored. By default, a job's status will be changed to `DISABLED` after the time specified in *end_date*.

comments

Use the *comments* parameter to specify a comment about the job.

Example

The following example demonstrates a call to the `CREATE_JOB` procedure:

```
EXEC
DBMS_SCHEDULER.CREATE_JOB (
  job_name      => 'update_log',
  job_type      => 'PLSQL_BLOCK',
  job_action    => 'BEGIN INSERT INTO my_log VALUES(current_timestamp);
                  END;',
  start_date    => '01-JUN-15 09:00:00.000000',
  repeat_interval => 'FREQ=DAILY;BYDAY=MON,TUE,WED,THU,FRI;BYHOUR=17;',
  end_date      => NULL,
  enabled       => TRUE,
  comments     => 'This job adds a row to the my_log table.');
```

The code fragment creates a job named `update_log` that executes each weeknight at 5:00. The job executes a PL/SQL block that inserts the current timestamp into a logfile (`my_log`). Since no `end_date` is specified, the job will execute until it is disabled by the `DBMS_SCHEDULER.DISABLE` procedure.

3.15.3 CREATE_PROGRAM

Use the `CREATE_PROGRAM` procedure to create a `DBMS_SCHEDULER` program. The signature is:

```
CREATE_PROGRAM(  
    program_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    program_type IN VARCHAR2,  
    program_action IN VARCHAR2,  
    number_of_arguments IN PLS_INTEGER DEFAULT 0,  
    enabled IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,  
    comments IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL)
```

Parameters

program_name

program_name specifies the name of the program that is being created.

program_type

program_type specifies the type of program. The current implementation of `CREATE_PROGRAM` supports a *program_type* of `PLSQL_BLOCK` or `PROCEDURE`.

program_action

If *program_type* is `PLSQL_BLOCK`, *program_action* contains the PL/SQL block that will execute when the program is invoked. The PL/SQL block must be terminated with a semi-colon (;).

If *program_type* is `PROCEDURE`, *program_action* contains the name of the stored procedure.

number_of_arguments

If *program_type* is `PLSQL_BLOCK`, this argument is ignored.

If *program_type* is `PROCEDURE`, *number_of_arguments* specifies the number of arguments required by the procedure. The default value is 0.

enabled

enabled specifies if the program is created enabled or disabled:

- If *enabled* is `TRUE`, the program is created enabled.

- If *enabled* is FALSE, the program is created disabled; use the `DBMS_SCHEDULER.ENABLE` program to enable a disabled program.

The default value is FALSE.

comments

Use the *comments* parameter to specify a comment about the program; by default, this parameter is NULL.

Example

The following call to the `CREATE_PROGRAM` procedure creates a program named `update_log`:

```
EXEC
DBMS_SCHEDULER.CREATE_PROGRAM (
  program_name      => 'update_log',
  program_type      => 'PLSQL_BLOCK',
  program_action    => 'BEGIN INSERT INTO my_log VALUES(current_timestamp);
                    END;',
  enabled           => TRUE,
  comment           => 'This program adds a row to the my_log table.');
```

`update_log` is a PL/SQL block that adds a row containing the current date and time to the `my_log` table. The program will be enabled when the `CREATE_PROGRAM` procedure executes.

3.15.4 CREATE_SCHEDULE

Use the `CREATE_SCHEDULE` procedure to create a job schedule. The signature of the `CREATE_SCHEDULE` procedure is:

```
CREATE_SCHEDULE (  
  schedule_name IN VARCHAR2,  
  start_date IN TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE DEFAULT NULL,  
  repeat_interval IN VARCHAR2,  
  end_date IN TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE DEFAULT NULL,  
  comments IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL)
```

Parameters

schedule_name

schedule_name specifies the name of the schedule.

start_date

start_date is a `TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE` value that specifies the date and time that the schedule is eligible to execute. If a *start_date* is not specified, the date that the job is enabled is used as the *start_date*. By default, *start_date* is `NULL`.

repeat_interval

repeat_interval is a `VARCHAR2` value that specifies how often the job will repeat. If a *repeat_interval* is not specified, the job will execute only once, on the date specified by *start_date*.

Please note: you must provide a value for either *start_date* or *repeat_interval*; if both *start_date* and *repeat_interval* are `NULL`, the server will return an error.

end_date IN `TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE` DEFAULT `NULL`

end_date is a `TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE` value that specifies a time after which the schedule will no longer execute. If a date is specified, the *end_date* must be after the *start_date*. The default value is `NULL`.

Please note that if a *repeat_interval* is specified and an *end_date* is not specified, the schedule will repeat indefinitely until it is disabled.

```
comments IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL)
```

Use the *comments* parameter to specify a comment about the schedule; by default, this parameter is NULL.

Example

The following code fragment calls `CREATE_SCHEDULE` to create a schedule named `weeknights_at_5`:

```
EXEC
DBMS_SCHEDULER.CREATE_SCHEDULE (
  schedule_name    => 'weeknights_at_5',
  start_date       => '01-JUN-13 09:00:00.000000',
  repeat_interval  => 'FREQ=DAILY;BYDAY=MON,TUE,WED,THU,FRI;BYHOUR=17;',
  comments         => 'This schedule executes each weeknight at 5:00');
```

The schedule executes each weeknight, at 5:00 pm, effective after June 1, 2013. Since no `end_date` is specified, the schedule will execute indefinitely until it is disabled with `DBMS_SCHEDULER.DISABLE`.

3.15.5 DEFINE_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT

Use the `DEFINE_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT` procedure to define a program argument. The `DEFINE_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT` procedure comes in two forms; the first form defines an argument with a default value:

```
DEFINE_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT(  
  program_name IN VARCHAR2,  
  argument_position IN PLS_INTEGER,  
  argument_name IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
  argument_type IN VARCHAR2,  
  default_value IN VARCHAR2,  
  out_argument IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE)
```

The second form defines an argument without a default value:

```
DEFINE_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT(  
  program_name IN VARCHAR2,  
  argument_position IN PLS_INTEGER,  
  argument_name IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL,  
  argument_type IN VARCHAR2,  
  out_argument IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE)
```

Parameters

program_name

program_name is the name of the program to which the arguments belong.

argument_position

argument_position specifies the position of the argument as it is passed to the program.

argument_name

argument_name specifies the optional name of the argument. By default, *argument_name* is NULL.

argument_type IN VARCHAR2

argument_type specifies the data type of the argument.

default_value

default_value specifies the default value assigned to the argument.
default_value will be overridden by a value specified by the job when the job executes.

```
out_argument IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE
```

out_argument is not currently used; if specified, the value must be FALSE.

Example

The following code fragment uses the `DEFINE_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT` procedure to define the first and second arguments in a program named `add_emp`:

```
EXEC
DBMS_SCHEDULER.DEFINE_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT(
  program_name      => 'add_emp',
  argument_position => 1,
  argument_name     => 'dept_no',
  argument_type     => 'INTEGER',
  default_value     => '20');
EXEC
DBMS_SCHEDULER.DEFINE_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT(
  program_name      => 'add_emp',
  argument_position => 2,
  argument_name     => 'emp_name',
  argument_type     => 'VARCHAR2');
```

The first argument is an `INTEGER` value named `dept_no` that has a default value of 20.
The second argument is a `VARCHAR2` value named `emp_name`; the second argument does not have a default value.

3.15.6 DISABLE

Use the `DISABLE` procedure to disable a program or a job. The signature of the `DISABLE` procedure is:

```
DISABLE (  
    name IN VARCHAR2,  
    force IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,  
    commit_semantics IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT 'STOP_ON_FIRST_ERROR')
```

Parameters

name

name specifies the name of the program or job that is being disabled.

force

force is accepted for compatibility, and ignored.

commit_semantics

commit_semantics instructs the server how to handle an error encountered while disabling a program or job. By default, *commit_semantics* is set to `STOP_ON_FIRST_ERROR`, instructing the server to stop when it encounters an error. Any programs or jobs that were successfully disabled prior to the error will be committed to disk.

The `TRANSACTIONAL` and `ABSORB_ERRORS` keywords are accepted for compatibility, and ignored.

Example

The following call to the `DISABLE` procedure disables a program named `update_emp`:

```
DBMS_SCHEDULER.DISABLE('update_emp');
```

3.15.7 DROP_JOB

Use the `DROP_JOB` procedure to `DROP` a job, `DROP` any arguments that belong to the job, and eliminate any future job executions. The signature of the procedure is:

```
DROP_JOB (  
    job_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    force IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,  
    defer IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,  
    commit_semantics IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT 'STOP_ON_FIRST_ERROR')
```

Parameters

job_name

job_name specifies the name of the job that is being dropped.

force

force is accepted for compatibility, and ignored.

defer

defer is accepted for compatibility, and ignored.

commit_semantics

commit_semantics instructs the server how to handle an error encountered while dropping a program or job. By default, *commit_semantics* is set to `STOP_ON_FIRST_ERROR`, instructing the server to stop when it encounters an error.

The `TRANSACTIONAL` and `ABSORB_ERRORS` keywords are accepted for compatibility, and ignored.

Example

The following call to `DROP_JOB` drops a job named `update_log`:

```
DBMS_SCHEDULER.DROP_JOB('update_log');
```

3.15.8 DROP_PROGRAM

The DROP_PROGRAM procedure

The signature of the DROP_PROGRAM procedure is:

```
DROP_PROGRAM(  
    program_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    force IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE)
```

Parameters

program_name

program_name specifies the name of the program that is being dropped.

force

force is a BOOLEAN value that instructs the server how to handle programs with dependent jobs.

Specify FALSE to instruct the server to return an error if the program is referenced by a job.

Specify TRUE to instruct the server to disable any jobs that reference the program before dropping the program.

The default value is FALSE.

Example

The following call to DROP_PROGRAM drops a job named update_emp:

```
DBMS_SCHEDULER.DROP_PROGRAM('update_emp');
```

3.15.9 DROP_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT

Use the `DROP_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT` procedure to drop a program argument. The `DROP_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT` procedure comes in two forms; the first form uses an argument position to specify which argument to drop:

```
DROP_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT(  
    program_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    argument_position IN PLS_INTEGER)
```

The second form takes the argument name:

```
DROP_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT(  
    program_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    argument_name IN VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

program_name

program_name specifies the name of the program that is being modified.

argument_position

argument_position specifies the position of the argument that is being dropped.

argument_name

argument_name specifies the name of the argument that is being dropped.

Examples

The following call to `DROP_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT` drops the first argument in the `update_emp` program:

```
DBMS_SCHEDULER.DROP_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT('update_emp', 1);
```

The following call to `DROP_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT` drops an argument named `emp_name`:

```
DBMS_SCHEDULER.DROP_PROGRAM_ARGUMENT('update_emp', 'emp_name');
```

3.15.10 DROP_SCHEDULE

Use the `DROP_SCHEDULE` procedure to drop a schedule. The signature is:

```
DROP_SCHEDULE (  
    schedule_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    force IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE)
```

Parameters

schedule_name

schedule_name specifies the name of the schedule that is being dropped.

force

force specifies the behavior of the server if the specified schedule is referenced by any job:

- Specify `FALSE` to instruct the server to return an error if the specified schedule is referenced by a job. This is the default behavior.
- Specify `TRUE` to instruct the server to disable any jobs that use the specified schedule before dropping the schedule. Any running jobs will be allowed to complete before the schedule is dropped.

Example

The following call to `DROP_SCHEDULE` drops a schedule named `weeknights_at_5`:

```
DBMS_SCHEDULER.DROP_SCHEDULE('weeknights_at_5', TRUE);
```

The server will disable any jobs that use the schedule before dropping the schedule.

3.15.11 ENABLE

Use the `ENABLE` procedure to enable a disabled program or job.

The signature of the `ENABLE` procedure is:

```
ENABLE (  
  name IN VARCHAR2,  
  commit_semantics IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT 'STOP_ON_FIRST_ERROR')
```

Parameters

name

name specifies the name of the program or job that is being enabled.

commit_semantics

commit_semantics instructs the server how to handle an error encountered while enabling a program or job. By default, *commit_semantics* is set to `STOP_ON_FIRST_ERROR`, instructing the server to stop when it encounters an error.

The `TRANSACTIONAL` and `ABSORB_ERRORS` keywords are accepted for compatibility, and ignored.

Example

The following call to `DBMS_SCHEDULER.ENABLE` enables the `update_emp` program:

```
DBMS_SCHEDULER.ENABLE('update_emp');
```

3.15.12 EVALUATE_CALENDAR_STRING

Use the `EVALUATE_CALENDAR_STRING` procedure to evaluate the *repeat_interval* value specified when creating a schedule with the `CREATE_SCHEDULE` procedure. The `EVALUATE_CALENDAR_STRING` procedure will return the date and time that a specified schedule will execute without actually scheduling the job.

The signature of the `EVALUATE_CALENDAR_STRING` procedure is:

```
EVALUATE_CALENDAR_STRING (  
    calendar_string IN VARCHAR2,  
    start_date IN TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE,  
    return_date_after IN TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE,  
    next_run_date OUT TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE)
```

Parameters

calendar_string

calendar_string is the calendar string that describes a *repeat_interval* that is being evaluated.

start_date IN TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE

start_date is the date and time after which the *repeat_interval* will become valid.

return_date_after

Use the *return_date_after* parameter to specify the date and time that `EVALUATE_CALENDAR_STRING` should use as a starting date when evaluating the *repeat_interval*.

For example, if you specify a *return_date_after* value of `01-APR-13 09.00.00.000000`, `EVALUATE_CALENDAR_STRING` will return the date and time of the first iteration of the schedule after April 1st, 2013.

next_run_date OUT TIMESTAMP WITH TIME ZONE

next_run_date is an OUT parameter that will contain the first occurrence of the schedule after the date specified by the *return_date_after* parameter.

Example

The following example evaluates a calendar string and returns the first date and time that the schedule will be executed after June 15, 2013:

```
DECLARE
  result      TIMESTAMP;
BEGIN

  DBMS_SCHEDULER.EVALUATE_CALENDAR_STRING
  (
    'FREQ=DAILY;BYDAY=MON,TUE,WED,THU,FRI;BYHOUR=17;',
    '15-JUN-2013', NULL, result
  );

  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('next_run_date: ' || result);
END;
/

next_run_date: 17-JUN-13 05.00.00.000000 PM
```

June 15, 2013 is a Saturday; the schedule will not execute until Monday, June 17, 2013 at 5:00 pm.

3.15.13 RUN_JOB

Use the `RUN_JOB` procedure to execute a job immediately. The signature of the `RUN_JOB` procedure is:

```
RUN_JOB(  
    job_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    use_current_session IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT TRUE
```

Parameters

job_name

job_name specifies the name of the job that will execute.

use_current_session

By default, the job will execute in the current session. If specified, *use_current_session* must be set to `TRUE`; if *use_current_session* is set to `FALSE`, Advanced Server will return an error.

Example

The following call to `RUN_JOB` executes a job named `update_log`:

```
DBMS_SCHEDULER.RUN_JOB('update_log', TRUE);
```

Passing a value of `TRUE` as the second argument instructs the server to invoke the job in the current session.

3.15.14 SET_JOB_ARGUMENT_VALUE

Use the SET_JOB_ARGUMENT_VALUE procedure to specify a value for an argument. The SET_JOB_ARGUMENT_VALUE procedure comes in two forms; the first form specifies which argument should be modified by position:

```
SET_JOB_ARGUMENT_VALUE (  
    job_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    argument_position IN PLS_INTEGER,  
    argument_value IN VARCHAR2)
```

The second form uses an argument name to specify which argument to modify:

```
SET_JOB_ARGUMENT_VALUE (  
    job_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    argument_name IN VARCHAR2,  
    argument_value IN VARCHAR2)
```

Argument values set by the SET_JOB_ARGUMENT_VALUE procedure override any values set by default.

Parameters

job_name

job_name specifies the name of the job to which the modified argument belongs.

argument_position

Use *argument_position* to specify the argument position for which the value will be set.

argument_name

Use *argument_name* to specify the argument by name for which the value will be set.

argument_value

argument_value specifies the new value of the argument.

Examples

The following example assigns a value of 30 to the first argument in the update_emp job:

```
DBMS_SCHEDULER.SET_JOB_ARGUMENT_VALUE('update_emp', 1, '30');
```

The following example sets the `emp_name` argument to `SMITH`:

```
DBMS_SCHEDULER.SET_JOB_ARGUMENT_VALUE('update_emp', 'emp_name', 'SMITH');
```

3.16 DBMS_SESSION

Advanced Server provides support for the following DBMS_SESSION.SET_ROLE procedure:

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
SET_ROLE(<i>role_cmd</i>)	n/a	Executes a SET ROLE statement followed by the string value specified in <i>role_cmd</i> .

Advanced Server's implementation of DBMS_SESSION is a partial implementation when compared to Oracle's version. Only DBMS_SESSION.SET_ROLE is supported.

3.16.1 SET_ROLE

The SET_ROLE procedure sets the current session user to the role specified in *role_cmd*. After invoking the SET_ROLE procedure, the current session will use the permissions assigned to the specified role. The signature of the procedure is:

```
SET_ROLE(role_cmd)
```

The SET_ROLE procedure appends the value specified for *role_cmd* to the SET ROLE statement, and then invokes the statement.

Parameters

role_cmd

role_cmd specifies a role name in the form of a string value.

Example

The following call to the SET_ROLE procedure invokes the SET ROLE command to set the identity of the current session user to manager:

```
edb=# exec DBMS_SESSION.SET_ROLE('manager');
```

3.17 DBMS_SQL

The DBMS_SQL package provides an application interface compatible with Oracle databases to the EnterpriseDB dynamic SQL functionality. With DBMS_SQL you can construct queries and other commands at run time (rather than when you write the application). EnterpriseDB Advanced Server offers native support for dynamic SQL; DBMS_SQL provides a way to use dynamic SQL in a fashion compatible with Oracle databases without modifying your application.

DBMS_SQL assumes the privileges of the current user when executing dynamic SQL statements.

Function/Procedure	Function or Procedure	Return Type	Description
BIND_VARIABLE(<i>c</i> , <i>name</i> , <i>value</i> [, <i>out_value_size</i>])	Procedure	n/a	Bind a value to a variable.
BIND_VARIABLE_CHAR(<i>c</i> , <i>name</i> , <i>value</i> [, <i>out_value_size</i>])	Procedure	n/a	Bind a CHAR value to a variable.
BIND_VARIABLE_RAW(<i>c</i> , <i>name</i> , <i>value</i> [, <i>out_value_size</i>])	Procedure	n/a	Bind a RAW value to a variable.
CLOSE_CURSOR(<i>c</i> IN OUT)	Procedure	n/a	Close a cursor.
COLUMN_VALUE(<i>c</i> , <i>position</i> , <i>value</i> OUT [, <i>column_error</i> OUT [, <i>actual_length</i> OUT]])	Procedure	n/a	Return a column value into a variable.
COLUMN_VALUE_CHAR(<i>c</i> , <i>position</i> , <i>value</i> OUT [, <i>column_error</i> OUT [, <i>actual_length</i> OUT]])	Procedure	n/a	Return a CHAR column value into a variable.
COLUMN_VALUE_RAW(<i>c</i> , <i>position</i> , <i>value</i> OUT [, <i>column_error</i> OUT [, <i>actual_length</i> OUT]])	Procedure	n/a	Return a RAW column value into a variable.
DEFINE_COLUMN(<i>c</i> , <i>position</i> , <i>column</i> [, <i>column_size</i>])	Procedure	n/a	Define a column in the SELECT list.
DEFINE_COLUMN_CHAR(<i>c</i> , <i>position</i> , <i>column</i> , <i>column_size</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Define a CHAR column in the SELECT list.
DEFINE_COLUMN_RAW(<i>c</i> , <i>position</i> , <i>column</i> , <i>column_size</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Define a RAW column in the SELECT list.
DESCRIBE_COLUMNS	Procedure	n/a	Defines columns to hold a cursor result set.
EXECUTE(<i>c</i>)	Function	INTEGER	Execute a cursor.
EXECUTE_AND_FETCH(<i>c</i> [, <i>exact</i>])	Function	INTEGER	Execute a cursor and fetch a single row.
FETCH_ROWS(<i>c</i>)	Function	INTEGER	Fetch rows from the cursor.
IS_OPEN(<i>c</i>)	Function	BOOLEAN	Check if a cursor is open.
LAST_ROW_COUNT	Function	INTEGER	Return cumulative number of rows fetched.
OPEN_CURSOR	Function	INTEGER	Open a cursor.
PARSE(<i>c</i> , <i>statement</i> , <i>language_flag</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Parse a statement.

Advanced Server's implementation of DBMS_SQL is a partial implementation when compared to Oracle's version. Only those functions and procedures listed in the table above are supported.

The following table lists the public variable available in the DBMS_SQL package.

Public Variables	Data Type	Value	Description
native	INTEGER	1	Provided for compatibility with Oracle syntax. See DBMS_SQL.PARSE for more information.
V6	INTEGER	2	Provided for compatibility with Oracle syntax. See DBMS_SQL.PARSE for more information.
V7	INTEGER	3	Provided for compatibility with Oracle syntax. See DBMS_SQL.PARSE for more information.

3.17.1 BIND_VARIABLE

The `BIND_VARIABLE` procedure provides the capability to associate a value with an `IN` or `IN OUT` bind variable in a SQL command.

```
BIND_VARIABLE(c INTEGER, name VARCHAR2,
             value { BLOB | CLOB | DATE | FLOAT | INTEGER | NUMBER |
                    TIMESTAMP | VARCHAR2 }
             [, out_value_size INTEGER ])
```

Parameters

c

Cursor ID of the cursor for the SQL command with bind variables.

name

Name of the bind variable in the SQL command.

value

Value to be assigned.

out_value_size

If *name* is an `IN OUT` variable, defines the maximum length of the output value.
If not specified, the length of *value* is assumed.

Examples

The following anonymous block uses bind variables to insert a row into the `emp` table.

```
DECLARE
  curid          INTEGER;
  v_sql          VARCHAR2(150) := 'INSERT INTO emp VALUES ' ||
    '(:p_empno, :p_ename, :p_job, :p_mgr, ' ||
    ':p_hiredate, :p_sal, :p_comm, :p_deptno)';
  v_empno       emp.empno%TYPE;
  v_ename       emp.ename%TYPE;
  v_job         emp.job%TYPE;
  v_mgr         emp.mgr%TYPE;
  v_hiredate    emp.hiredate%TYPE;
  v_sal         emp.sal%TYPE;
  v_comm        emp.comm%TYPE;
  v_deptno     emp.deptno%TYPE;
```

```
v_status          INTEGER;
BEGIN
  curid := DBMS_SQL.OPEN_CURSOR;
  DBMS_SQL.PARSE(curid,v_sql,DBMS_SQL.native);
  v_empno        := 9001;
  v_ename        := 'JONES';
  v_job          := 'SALESMAN';
  v_mgr          := 7369;
  v_hiredate     := TO_DATE('13-DEC-07','DD-MON-YY');
  v_sal          := 8500.00;
  v_comm         := 1500.00;
  v_deptno      := 40;
  DBMS_SQL.BIND_VARIABLE(curid,':p_empno',v_empno);
  DBMS_SQL.BIND_VARIABLE(curid,':p_ename',v_ename);
  DBMS_SQL.BIND_VARIABLE(curid,':p_job',v_job);
  DBMS_SQL.BIND_VARIABLE(curid,':p_mgr',v_mgr);
  DBMS_SQL.BIND_VARIABLE(curid,':p_hiredate',v_hiredate);
  DBMS_SQL.BIND_VARIABLE(curid,':p_sal',v_sal);
  DBMS_SQL.BIND_VARIABLE(curid,':p_comm',v_comm);
  DBMS_SQL.BIND_VARIABLE(curid,':p_deptno',v_deptno);
  v_status := DBMS_SQL.EXECUTE(curid);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Number of rows processed: ' || v_status);
  DBMS_SQL.CLOSE_CURSOR(curid);
END;

Number of rows processed: 1
```

3.17.2 BIND_VARIABLE_CHAR

The `BIND_VARIABLE_CHAR` procedure provides the capability to associate a `CHAR` value with an `IN` or `IN OUT` bind variable in a SQL command.

```
BIND_VARIABLE_CHAR(c INTEGER, name VARCHAR2, value CHAR  
[, out_value_size INTEGER ])
```

Parameters

c

Cursor ID of the cursor for the SQL command with bind variables.

name

Name of the bind variable in the SQL command.

value

Value of type `CHAR` to be assigned.

out_value_size

If *name* is an `IN OUT` variable, defines the maximum length of the output value.
If not specified, the length of *value* is assumed.

3.17.3 BIND VARIABLE RAW

The `BIND_VARIABLE_RAW` procedure provides the capability to associate a `RAW` value with an `IN` or `IN OUT` bind variable in a SQL command.

```
BIND_VARIABLE_RAW(c INTEGER, name VARCHAR2, value RAW  
[, out_value_size INTEGER ])
```

Parameters

c

Cursor ID of the cursor for the SQL command with bind variables.

name

Name of the bind variable in the SQL command.

value

Value of type `RAW` to be assigned.

out_value_size

If *name* is an `IN OUT` variable, defines the maximum length of the output value.
If not specified, the length of *value* is assumed.

3.17.4 CLOSE_CURSOR

The `CLOSE_CURSOR` procedure closes an open cursor. The resources allocated to the cursor are released and it can no longer be used.

```
CLOSE_CURSOR(c IN OUT INTEGER)
```

Parameters

c

Cursor ID of the cursor to be closed.

Examples

The following example closes a previously opened cursor:

```
DECLARE
    curid          INTEGER;
BEGIN
    curid := DBMS_SQL.OPEN_CURSOR;
    .
    .
    .
    DBMS_SQL.CLOSE_CURSOR(curid);
END;
```

3.17.5 COLUMN_VALUE

The COLUMN_VALUE procedure defines a variable to receive a value from a cursor.

```
COLUMN_VALUE(c INTEGER, position INTEGER, value OUT { BLOB |  
CLOB | DATE | FLOAT | INTEGER | NUMBER | TIMESTAMP | VARCHAR2 }  
[, column_error OUT NUMBER [, actual_length OUT INTEGER ]])
```

Parameters

c

Cursor id of the cursor returning data to the variable being defined.

position

Position within the cursor of the returned data. The first value in the cursor is position 1.

value

Variable receiving the data returned in the cursor by a prior fetch call.

column_error

Error number associated with the column, if any.

actual_length

Actual length of the data prior to any truncation.

Examples

The following example shows the portion of an anonymous block that receives the values from a cursor using the COLUMN_VALUE procedure.

```
DECLARE  
  curid          INTEGER;  
  v_empno        NUMBER(4);  
  v_ename        VARCHAR2(10);  
  v_hiredate     DATE;  
  v_sal          NUMBER(7,2);  
  v_comm         NUMBER(7,2);  
  v_sql          VARCHAR2(50) := 'SELECT empno, ename, hiredate, sal, ' ||  
                                'comm FROM emp';  
  v_status       INTEGER;  
BEGIN  
  .
```

```
      .  
      .  
LOOP  
  v_status := DBMS_SQL.FETCH_ROWS(curid);  
  EXIT WHEN v_status = 0;  
  DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,1,v_empno);  
  DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,2,v_ename);  
  DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,3,v_hiredate);  
  DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,4,v_sal);  
  DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,4,v_sal);  
  DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,5,v_comm);  
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_empno || ' ' || RPAD(v_ename,10) || ' ' ||  
    TO_CHAR(v_hiredate,'yyyymm-dd') || ' ' ||  
    TO_CHAR(v_sal,'9,999.99') || ' ' ||  
    TO_CHAR(NVL(v_comm,0),'9,999.99'));  
END LOOP;  
DBMS_SQL.CLOSE_CURSOR(curid);  
END;
```

3.17.6 COLUMN_VALUE_CHAR

The `COLUMN_VALUE_CHAR` procedure defines a variable to receive a `CHAR` value from a cursor.

```
COLUMN_VALUE_CHAR(c INTEGER, position INTEGER, value OUT CHAR  
[, column_error OUT NUMBER [, actual_length OUT INTEGER ]])
```

Parameters

c

Cursor id of the cursor returning data to the variable being defined.

position

Position within the cursor of the returned data. The first value in the cursor is position 1.

value

Variable of data type `CHAR` receiving the data returned in the cursor by a prior fetch call.

column_error

Error number associated with the column, if any.

actual_length

Actual length of the data prior to any truncation.

3.17.7 COLUMN VALUE RAW

The `COLUMN_VALUE_RAW` procedure defines a variable to receive a RAW value from a cursor.

```
COLUMN_VALUE_RAW(c INTEGER, position INTEGER, value OUT RAW  
[, column_error OUT NUMBER [, actual_length OUT INTEGER ]])
```

Parameters

c

Cursor id of the cursor returning data to the variable being defined.

position

Position within the cursor of the returned data. The first value in the cursor is position 1.

value

Variable of data type RAW receiving the data returned in the cursor by a prior fetch call.

column_error

Error number associated with the column, if any.

actual_length

Actual length of the data prior to any truncation.

3.17.8 DEFINE_COLUMN

The `DEFINE_COLUMN` procedure defines a column or expression in the `SELECT` list that is to be returned and retrieved in a cursor.

```
DEFINE_COLUMN(c INTEGER, position INTEGER, column { BLOB |
CLOB | DATE | FLOAT | INTEGER | NUMBER | TIMESTAMP | VARCHAR2 }
[, column_size INTEGER ])
```

Parameters

c

Cursor id of the cursor associated with the `SELECT` command.

position

Position of the column or expression in the `SELECT` list that is being defined.

column

A variable that is of the same data type as the column or expression in position *position* of the `SELECT` list.

column_size

The maximum length of the returned data. *column_size* must be specified only if *column* is `VARCHAR2`. Returned data exceeding *column_size* is truncated to *column_size* characters.

Examples

The following shows how the `empno`, `ename`, `hiredate`, `sal`, and `comm` columns of the `emp` table are defined with the `DEFINE_COLUMN` procedure.

```
DECLARE
  curid          INTEGER;
  v_empno       NUMBER(4);
  v_ename       VARCHAR2(10);
  v_hiredate    DATE;
  v_sal         NUMBER(7,2);
  v_comm        NUMBER(7,2);
  v_sql         VARCHAR2(50) := 'SELECT empno, ename, hiredate, sal, ' ||
                                'comm FROM emp';
  v_status      INTEGER;
BEGIN
  curid := DBMS_SQL.OPEN_CURSOR;
  DBMS_SQL.PARSE(curid,v_sql,DBMS_SQL.native);
```

```

DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,1,v_empno);
DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,2,v_ename,10);
DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,3,v_hiredate);
DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,4,v_sal);
DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,5,v_comm);
      .
      .
      .
END;
```

The following shows an alternative to the prior example that produces the exact same results. Note that the lengths of the data types are irrelevant – the `empno`, `sal`, and `comm` columns will still return data equivalent to `NUMBER(4)` and `NUMBER(7,2)`, respectively, even though `v_num` is defined as `NUMBER(1)` (assuming the declarations in the `COLUMN_VALUE` procedure are of the appropriate maximum sizes). The `ename` column will return data up to ten characters in length as defined by the `length` parameter in the `DEFINE_COLUMN` call, not by the data type declaration, `VARCHAR2(1)` declared for `v_varchar`. The actual size of the returned data is dictated by the `COLUMN_VALUE` procedure.

```

DECLARE
  curid          INTEGER;
  v_num          NUMBER(1);
  v_varchar     VARCHAR2(1);
  v_date        DATE;
  v_sql         VARCHAR2(50) := 'SELECT empno, ename, hiredate, sal, ' ||
                                'comm FROM emp';
  v_status      INTEGER;
BEGIN
  curid := DBMS_SQL.OPEN_CURSOR;
  DBMS_SQL.PARSE(curid,v_sql,DBMS_SQL.native);
  DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,1,v_num);
  DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,2,v_varchar,10);
  DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,3,v_date);
  DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,4,v_num);
  DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,5,v_num);
      .
      .
      .
END;
```

3.17.9 DEFINE_COLUMN_CHAR

The `DEFINE_COLUMN_CHAR` procedure defines a `CHAR` column or expression in the `SELECT` list that is to be returned and retrieved in a cursor.

```
DEFINE_COLUMN_CHAR(c INTEGER, position INTEGER, column  
CHAR, column_size INTEGER)
```

Parameters

c

Cursor id of the cursor associated with the `SELECT` command.

position

Position of the column or expression in the `SELECT` list that is being defined.

column

A `CHAR` variable.

column_size

The maximum length of the returned data. Returned data exceeding *column_size* is truncated to *column_size* characters.

3.17.10 DEFINE COLUMN RAW

The `DEFINE_COLUMN_RAW` procedure defines a RAW column or expression in the `SELECT` list that is to be returned and retrieved in a cursor.

```
DEFINE_COLUMN_RAW(c INTEGER, position INTEGER, column RAW,  
                 column_size INTEGER)
```

Parameters

c

Cursor id of the cursor associated with the `SELECT` command.

position

Position of the column or expression in the `SELECT` list that is being defined.

column

A RAW variable.

column_size

The maximum length of the returned data. Returned data exceeding *column_size* is truncated to *column_size* characters.

3.17.11 DESCRIBE COLUMNS

The DESCRIBE_COLUMNS procedure describes the columns returned by a cursor.

```
DESCRIBE_COLUMNS(c INTEGER, col_cnt OUT INTEGER, desc_t OUT
DESC_TAB);
```

Parameters

c

The cursor ID of the cursor.

col_cnt

The number of columns in cursor result set.

desc_tab

The table that contains a description of each column returned by the cursor. The descriptions are of type DESC_REC, and contain the following values:

Column Name	Type
col_type	INTEGER
col_max_len	INTEGER
col_name	VARCHAR2(128)
col_name_len	INTEGER
col_schema_name	VARCHAR2(128)
col_schema_name_len	INTEGER
col_precision	INTEGER
col_scale	INTEGER
col_charsetid	INTEGER
col_charsetform	INTEGER
col_null_ok	BOOLEAN

3.17.12 EXECUTE

The EXECUTE function executes a parsed SQL command or SPL block.

```
status INTEGER EXECUTE(c INTEGER)
```

Parameters

c

Cursor ID of the parsed SQL command or SPL block to be executed.

status

Number of rows processed if the SQL command was DELETE, INSERT, or UPDATE. *status* is meaningless for all other commands.

Examples

The following anonymous block inserts a row into the dept table.

```
DECLARE
  curid          INTEGER;
  v_sql          VARCHAR2(50);
  v_status       INTEGER;
BEGIN
  curid := DBMS_SQL.OPEN_CURSOR;
  v_sql := 'INSERT INTO dept VALUES (50, ''HR'', ''LOS ANGELES'')';
  DBMS_SQL.PARSE(curid, v_sql, DBMS_SQL.native);
  v_status := DBMS_SQL.EXECUTE(curid);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Number of rows processed: ' || v_status);
  DBMS_SQL.CLOSE_CURSOR(curid);
END;
```

3.17.13 EXECUTE_AND_FETCH

Function EXECUTE_AND_FETCH executes a parsed SELECT command and fetches one row.

```
status INTEGER EXECUTE_AND_FETCH(c INTEGER
    [, exact BOOLEAN ])
```

Parameters

c

Cursor id of the cursor for the SELECT command to be executed.

exact

If set to TRUE, an exception is thrown if the number of rows in the result set is not exactly equal to 1. If set to FALSE, no exception is thrown. The default is FALSE. A NO_DATA_FOUND exception is thrown if *exact* is TRUE and there are no rows in the result set. A TOO_MANY_ROWS exception is thrown if *exact* is TRUE and there is more than one row in the result set.

status

Returns 1 if a row was successfully fetched, 0 if no rows to fetch. If an exception is thrown, no value is returned.

Examples

The following stored procedure uses the EXECUTE_AND_FETCH function to retrieve one employee using the employee's name. An exception will be thrown if the employee is not found, or there is more than one employee with the same name.

```
CREATE OR REPLACE PROCEDURE select_by_name(
    p_ename          emp.ename%TYPE
)
IS
    curid            INTEGER;
    v_empno          emp.empno%TYPE;
    v_hiredate       emp.hiredate%TYPE;
    v_sal            emp.sal%TYPE;
    v_comm           emp.comm%TYPE;
    v_dname          dept.dname%TYPE;
    v_disp_date      VARCHAR2(10);
    v_sql            VARCHAR2(120) := 'SELECT empno, hiredate, sal, ' ||
                                     'NVL(comm, 0), dname ' ||
                                     'FROM emp e, dept d ' ||
                                     'WHERE ename = :p_ename ' ||
```

```

                                'AND e.deptno = d.deptno';
    v_status          INTEGER;
BEGIN
    curid := DBMS_SQL.OPEN_CURSOR;
    DBMS_SQL.PARSE(curid,v_sql,DBMS_SQL.native);
    DBMS_SQL.BIND_VARIABLE(curid,':p_ename',UPPER(p_ename));
    DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,1,v_empno);
    DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,2,v_hiredate);
    DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,3,v_sal);
    DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,4,v_comm);
    DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,5,v_dname,14);
    v_status := DBMS_SQL.EXECUTE_AND_FETCH(curid,TRUE);
    DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,1,v_empno);
    DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,2,v_hiredate);
    DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,3,v_sal);
    DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,4,v_comm);
    DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,5,v_dname);
    v_disp_date := TO_CHAR(v_hiredate, 'MM/DD/YYYY');
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Number      : ' || v_empno);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Name        : ' || UPPER(p_ename));
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Hire Date   : ' || v_disp_date);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Salary      : ' || v_sal);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Commission: ' || v_comm);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Department: ' || v_dname);
    DBMS_SQL.CLOSE_CURSOR(curid);
EXCEPTION
    WHEN NO_DATA_FOUND THEN
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Employee ' || p_ename || ' not found');
        DBMS_SQL.CLOSE_CURSOR(curid);
    WHEN TOO_MANY_ROWS THEN
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Too many employees named, ' ||
            p_ename || ', found');
        DBMS_SQL.CLOSE_CURSOR(curid);
    WHEN OTHERS THEN
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('The following is SQLERRM:');
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(SQLERRM);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('The following is SQLCODE:');
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(SQLCODE);
        DBMS_SQL.CLOSE_CURSOR(curid);
END;

EXEC select_by_name('MARTIN')

Number      : 7654
Name        : MARTIN
Hire Date   : 09/28/1981
Salary      : 1250
Commission: 1400
Department: SALES

```

3.17.14 FETCH_ROWS

The `FETCH_ROWS` function retrieves a row from a cursor.

```
status INTEGER FETCH_ROWS(c INTEGER)
```

Parameters

c

Cursor ID of the cursor from which to fetch a row.

status

Returns 1 if a row was successfully fetched, 0 if no more rows to fetch.

Examples

The following examples fetches the rows from the `emp` table and displays the results.

```
DECLARE
  curid          INTEGER;
  v_empno        NUMBER(4);
  v_ename        VARCHAR2(10);
  v_hiredate     DATE;
  v_sal          NUMBER(7,2);
  v_comm         NUMBER(7,2);
  v_sql          VARCHAR2(50) := 'SELECT empno, ename, hiredate, sal, ' ||
                                'comm FROM emp';
  v_status       INTEGER;
BEGIN
  curid := DBMS_SQL.OPEN_CURSOR;
  DBMS_SQL.PARSE(curid,v_sql,DBMS_SQL.native);
  DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,1,v_empno);
  DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,2,v_ename,10);
  DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,3,v_hiredate);
  DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,4,v_sal);
  DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,5,v_comm);

  v_status := DBMS_SQL.EXECUTE(curid);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('EMPNO   ENAME           HIREDATE   SAL           COMM');
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('-----  -
  LOOP
    v_status := DBMS_SQL.FETCH_ROWS(curid);
    EXIT WHEN v_status = 0;
    DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,1,v_empno);
    DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,2,v_ename);
    DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,3,v_hiredate);
    DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,4,v_sal);
    DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,5,v_comm);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_empno || ' ' || RPAD(v_ename,10) || ' ' ||
```

```
        TO_CHAR(v_hiredate,'yyyy-mm-dd') || ' ' ||  
        TO_CHAR(v_sal,'9,999.99') || ' ' ||  
        TO_CHAR(NVL(v_comm,0),'9,999.99'));  
    END LOOP;  
    DBMS_SQL.CLOSE_CURSOR(curid);  
END;
```

EMPNO	ENAME	HIREDATE	SAL	COMM
7369	SMITH	1980-12-17	800.00	.00
7499	ALLEN	1981-02-20	1,600.00	300.00
7521	WARD	1981-02-22	1,250.00	500.00
7566	JONES	1981-04-02	2,975.00	.00
7654	MARTIN	1981-09-28	1,250.00	1,400.00
7698	BLAKE	1981-05-01	2,850.00	.00
7782	CLARK	1981-06-09	2,450.00	.00
7788	SCOTT	1987-04-19	3,000.00	.00
7839	KING	1981-11-17	5,000.00	.00
7844	TURNER	1981-09-08	1,500.00	.00
7876	ADAMS	1987-05-23	1,100.00	.00
7900	JAMES	1981-12-03	950.00	.00
7902	FORD	1981-12-03	3,000.00	.00
7934	MILLER	1982-01-23	1,300.00	.00

3.17.15 IS_OPEN

The `IS_OPEN` function provides the capability to test if the given cursor is open.

```
status BOOLEAN IS_OPEN(c INTEGER)
```

Parameters

c

Cursor ID of the cursor to be tested.

status

Set to `TRUE` if the cursor is open, set to `FALSE` if the cursor is not open.

3.17.16 LAST_ROW_COUNT

The `LAST_ROW_COUNT` function returns the number of rows that have been currently fetched.

```
rowcnt INTEGER LAST_ROW_COUNT
```

Parameters

rowcnt

Number of row fetched thus far.

Examples

The following example uses the `LAST_ROW_COUNT` function to display the total number of rows fetched in the query.

```
DECLARE
  curid          INTEGER;
  v_empno        NUMBER(4);
  v_ename        VARCHAR2(10);
  v_hiredate     DATE;
  v_sal          NUMBER(7,2);
  v_comm         NUMBER(7,2);
  v_sql          VARCHAR2(50) := 'SELECT empno, ename, hiredate, sal, ' ||
                                'comm FROM emp';
  v_status       INTEGER;
BEGIN
  curid := DBMS_SQL.OPEN_CURSOR;
  DBMS_SQL.PARSE(curid,v_sql,DBMS_SQL.native);
  DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,1,v_empno);
  DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,2,v_ename,10);
  DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,3,v_hiredate);
  DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,4,v_sal);
  DBMS_SQL.DEFINE_COLUMN(curid,5,v_comm);

  v_status := DBMS_SQL.EXECUTE(curid);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('EMPNO  ENAME          HIREDATE    SAL          COMM');
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('-----  -
  LOOP
    v_status := DBMS_SQL.FETCH_ROWS(curid);
    EXIT WHEN v_status = 0;
    DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,1,v_empno);
    DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,2,v_ename);
    DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,3,v_hiredate);
    DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,4,v_sal);
    DBMS_SQL.COLUMN_VALUE(curid,5,v_comm);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_empno || ' ' || RPAD(v_ename,10) || ' ' ||
      TO_CHAR(v_hiredate,'yyyy-mm-dd') || ' ' ||
      TO_CHAR(v_sal,'9,999.99') || ' ' ||
      TO_CHAR(NVL(v_comm,0),'9,999.99'));
```

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers Built-in Package Guide

```
END LOOP;
DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Number of rows: ' || DBMS_SQL.LAST_ROW_COUNT);
DBMS_SQL.CLOSE_CURSOR(curid);
END;
```

EMPNO	ENAME	HIREDATE	SAL	COMM
7369	SMITH	1980-12-17	800.00	.00
7499	ALLEN	1981-02-20	1,600.00	300.00
7521	WARD	1981-02-22	1,250.00	500.00
7566	JONES	1981-04-02	2,975.00	.00
7654	MARTIN	1981-09-28	1,250.00	1,400.00
7698	BLAKE	1981-05-01	2,850.00	.00
7782	CLARK	1981-06-09	2,450.00	.00
7788	SCOTT	1987-04-19	3,000.00	.00
7839	KING	1981-11-17	5,000.00	.00
7844	TURNER	1981-09-08	1,500.00	.00
7876	ADAMS	1987-05-23	1,100.00	.00
7900	JAMES	1981-12-03	950.00	.00
7902	FORD	1981-12-03	3,000.00	.00
7934	MILLER	1982-01-23	1,300.00	.00

Number of rows: 14

3.17.17 OPEN_CURSOR

The `OPEN_CURSOR` function creates a new cursor. A cursor must be used to parse and execute any dynamic SQL statement. Once a cursor has been opened, it can be re-used with the same or different SQL statements. The cursor does not have to be closed and re-opened in order to be re-used.

`c` INTEGER OPEN_CURSOR

Parameters

`c`

Cursor ID number associated with the newly created cursor.

Examples

The following example creates a new cursor:

```
DECLARE
    curid          INTEGER;
BEGIN
    curid := DBMS_SQL.OPEN_CURSOR;
    .
    .
    .
END;
```

3.17.18 PARSE

The `PARSE` procedure parses a SQL command or SPL block. If the SQL command is a DDL command, it is immediately executed and does not require running the `EXECUTE` function.

```
PARSE(c INTEGER, statement VARCHAR2, language_flag INTEGER)
```

Parameters

c

Cursor ID of an open cursor.

statement

SQL command or SPL block to be parsed. A SQL command must not end with the semi-colon terminator, however an SPL block does require the semi-colon terminator.

language_flag

Language flag provided for compatibility with Oracle syntax. Use `DBMS_SQL.V6`, `DBMS_SQL.V7` or `DBMS_SQL.native`. This flag is ignored, and all syntax is assumed to be in EnterpriseDB Advanced Server form.

Examples

The following anonymous block creates a table named, `job`. Note that DDL statements are executed immediately by the `PARSE` procedure and do not require a separate `EXECUTE` step.

```
DECLARE
    curid          INTEGER;
BEGIN
    curid := DBMS_SQL.OPEN_CURSOR;
    DBMS_SQL.PARSE(curid, 'CREATE TABLE job (jobno NUMBER(3), ' ||
        'jname VARCHAR2(9))', DBMS_SQL.native);
    DBMS_SQL.CLOSE_CURSOR(curid);
END;
```

The following inserts two rows into the `job` table.

```
DECLARE
    curid          INTEGER;
    v_sql          VARCHAR2(50);
    v_status       INTEGER;
BEGIN
```

```
curid := DBMS_SQL.OPEN_CURSOR;
v_sql := 'INSERT INTO job VALUES (100, 'ANALYST')';
DBMS_SQL.PARSE(curid, v_sql, DBMS_SQL.native);
v_status := DBMS_SQL.EXECUTE(curid);
DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Number of rows processed: ' || v_status);
v_sql := 'INSERT INTO job VALUES (200, 'CLERK')';
DBMS_SQL.PARSE(curid, v_sql, DBMS_SQL.native);
v_status := DBMS_SQL.EXECUTE(curid);
DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Number of rows processed: ' || v_status);
DBMS_SQL.CLOSE_CURSOR(curid);
END;

Number of rows processed: 1
Number of rows processed: 1
```

The following anonymous block uses the DBMS_SQL package to execute a block containing two INSERT statements. Note that the end of the block contains a terminating semi-colon, while in the prior example, each individual INSERT statement does not have a terminating semi-colon.

```
DECLARE
  curid          INTEGER;
  v_sql          VARCHAR2(100);
  v_status       INTEGER;
BEGIN
  curid := DBMS_SQL.OPEN_CURSOR;
  v_sql := 'BEGIN ' ||
           'INSERT INTO job VALUES (300, 'MANAGER'); ' ||
           'INSERT INTO job VALUES (400, 'SALESMAN'); ' ||
           'END;';
  DBMS_SQL.PARSE(curid, v_sql, DBMS_SQL.native);
  v_status := DBMS_SQL.EXECUTE(curid);
  DBMS_SQL.CLOSE_CURSOR(curid);
END;
```

3.18 DBMS_UTILITY

The DBMS_UTILITY package provides support for the following various utility programs:

Function/Procedure	Function or Procedure	Return Type	Description
ANALYZE_DATABASE(<i>method</i> [, <i>estimate_rows</i> [, <i>estimate_percent</i> [, <i>method_opt</i>]]])	Procedure	n/a	Analyze database tables.
ANALYZE_PART_OBJECT(<i>schema</i> , <i>object_name</i> [, <i>object_type</i> [, <i>command_type</i> [, <i>command_opt</i> [, <i>sample_clause</i>]]])	Procedure	n/a	Analyze a partitioned table.
ANALYZE_SCHEMA(<i>schema</i> , <i>method</i> [, <i>estimate_rows</i> [, <i>estimate_percent</i> [, <i>method_opt</i>]]])	Procedure	n/a	Analyze schema tables.
CANONICALIZE(<i>name</i> , <i>canon_name</i> OUT, <i>canon_len</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Canonicalizes a string – e.g., strips off white space.
COMMA_TO_TABLE(<i>list</i> , <i>tablen</i> OUT, <i>tab</i> OUT)	Procedure	n/a	Convert a comma-delimited list of names to a table of names.
DB_VERSION(<i>version</i> OUT, <i>compatibility</i> OUT)	Procedure	n/a	Get the database version.
EXEC_DDL_STATEMENT(<i>parse_string</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Execute a DDL statement.
FORMAT_CALL_STACK	Function	TEXT	Formats the current call stack.
GET_CPU_TIME	Function	NUMBER	Get the current CPU time.
GET_DEPENDENCY(<i>type</i> , <i>schema</i> , <i>name</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Get objects that are dependent upon the given object..
GET_HASH_VALUE(<i>name</i> , <i>base</i> , <i>hash_size</i>)	Function	NUMBER	Compute a hash value.
GET_PARAMETER_VALUE(<i>parnam</i> , <i>intval</i> OUT, <i>strval</i> OUT)	Procedure	BINARY_INTEGER	Get database initialization parameter settings.
GET_TIME	Function	NUMBER	Get the current time.
NAME_TOKENIZE(<i>name</i> , <i>a</i> OUT, <i>b</i> OUT, <i>c</i> OUT, <i>dblink</i> OUT, <i>nextpos</i> OUT)	Procedure	n/a	Parse the given name into its component parts.
TABLE_TO_COMMA(<i>tab</i> , <i>tablen</i> OUT, <i>list</i> OUT)	Procedure	n/a	Convert a table of names to a comma-delimited list.

Advanced Server's implementation of DBMS_UTILITY is a partial implementation when compared to Oracle's version. Only those functions and procedures listed in the table above are supported.

The following table lists the public variables available in the DBMS_UTILITY package.

Public Variables	Data Type	Value	Description
inv_error_on_restrictions	PLS_INTEGER	1	Used by the INVALIDATE procedure.
lname_array	TABLE		For lists of long names.
uncl_array	TABLE		For lists of users and names.

3.18.1 LNAME_ARRAY

The LNAME_ARRAY is for storing lists of long names including fully-qualified names.

```
TYPE lname_array IS TABLE OF VARCHAR2(4000) INDEX BY BINARY_INTEGER;
```

3.18.2 UNCL_ARRAY

The UNCL_ARRAY is for storing lists of users and names.

```
TYPE uncl_array IS TABLE OF VARCHAR2(227) INDEX BY BINARY_INTEGER;
```

3.18.3 ANALYZE_DATABASE, ANALYZE_SCHEMA and ANALYZE_PART_OBJECT

The `ANALYZE_DATABASE()`, `ANALYZE_SCHEMA()` and `ANALYZE_PART_OBJECT()` procedures provide the capability to gather statistics on tables in the database. When you execute the `ANALYZE` statement, Postgres samples the data in a table and records distribution statistics in the `pg_statistics` system table.

`ANALYZE_DATABASE`, `ANALYZE_SCHEMA`, and `ANALYZE_PART_OBJECT` differ primarily in the number of tables that are processed:

- `ANALYZE_DATABASE` analyzes all tables in all schemas within the current database.
- `ANALYZE_SCHEMA` analyzes all tables in a given schema (within the current database).
- `ANALYZE_PART_OBJECT` analyzes a single table.

The syntax for the `ANALYZE` commands are:

```
ANALYZE_DATABASE(method VARCHAR2 [, estimate_rows NUMBER  
[, estimate_percent NUMBER [, method_opt VARCHAR2 ]]])
```

```
ANALYZE_SCHEMA(schema VARCHAR2, method VARCHAR2  
[, estimate_rows NUMBER [, estimate_percent NUMBER  
[, method_opt VARCHAR2 ]]])
```

```
ANALYZE_PART_OBJECT(schema VARCHAR2, object_name VARCHAR2  
[, object_type CHAR [, command_type CHAR  
[, command_opt VARCHAR2 [, sample_clause ]]])
```

Parameters - `ANALYZE_DATABASE` and `ANALYZE_SCHEMA`

method

method determines whether the `ANALYZE` procedure populates the `pg_statistics` table or removes entries from the `pg_statistics` table. If you specify a method of `DELETE`, the `ANALYZE` procedure removes the relevant rows from `pg_statistics`. If you specify a method of `COMPUTE` or `ESTIMATE`, the `ANALYZE` procedure analyzes a table (or multiple tables) and records the distribution information in `pg_statistics`. There is no difference between `COMPUTE` and `ESTIMATE`; both methods execute the Postgres `ANALYZE` statement. All other parameters are validated and then ignored.

estimate_rows

Number of rows upon which to base estimated statistics. One of *estimate_rows* or *estimate_percent* must be specified if method is ESTIMATE.

This argument is ignored, but is included for compatibility.

estimate_percent

Percentage of rows upon which to base estimated statistics. One of *estimate_rows* or *estimate_percent* must be specified if method is ESTIMATE.

This argument is ignored, but is included for compatibility.

method_opt

Object types to be analyzed. Any combination of the following:

```
[ FOR TABLE ]  
[ FOR ALL [ INDEXED ] COLUMNS ] [ SIZE n ]  
[ FOR ALL INDEXES ]
```

This argument is ignored, but is included for compatibility.

Parameters - ANALYZE_PART_OBJECT

schema

Name of the schema whose objects are to be analyzed.

object_name

Name of the partitioned object to be analyzed.

object_type

Type of object to be analyzed. Valid values are: T – table, I – index.

This argument is ignored, but is included for compatibility.

command_type

Type of analyze functionality to perform. Valid values are: E - gather estimated statistics based upon on a specified number of rows or a percentage of rows in the *sample_clause* clause; C - compute exact statistics; or V – validate the structure and integrity of the partitions.

This argument is ignored, but is included for compatibility.

command_opt

For *command_type* C or E, can be any combination of:

```
[ FOR TABLE ]  
[ FOR ALL COLUMNS ]  
[ FOR ALL LOCAL INDEXES ]
```

For *command_type* V, can be CASCADE if *object_type* is T.

This argument is ignored, but is included for compatibility.

sample_clause

If *command_type* is E, contains the following clause to specify the number of rows or percentage or rows on which to base the estimate.

```
SAMPLE n { ROWS | PERCENT }
```

This argument is ignored, but is included for compatibility.

3.18.4 CANONICALIZE

The `CANONICALIZE` procedure performs the following operations on an input string:

- If the string is not double-quoted, verifies that it uses the characters of a legal identifier. If not, an exception is thrown. If the string is double-quoted, all characters are allowed.
- If the string is not double-quoted and does not contain periods, uppercases all alphabetic characters and eliminates leading and trailing spaces.
- If the string is double-quoted and does not contain periods, strips off the double quotes.
- If the string contains periods and no portion of the string is double-quoted, uppercases each portion of the string and encloses each portion in double quotes.
- If the string contains periods and portions of the string are double-quoted, returns the double-quoted portions unchanged including the double quotes and returns the non-double-quoted portions uppercased and enclosed in double quotes.

```
CANONICALIZE(name VARCHAR2, canon_name OUT VARCHAR2,  
            canon_len BINARY_INTEGER)
```

Parameters

name

String to be canonicalized.

canon_name

The canonicalized string.

canon_len

Number of bytes in *name* to canonicalize starting from the first character.

Examples

The following procedure applies the `CANONICALIZE` procedure on its input parameter and displays the results.

```
CREATE OR REPLACE PROCEDURE canonicalize (  
    p_name      VARCHAR2,  
    p_length    BINARY_INTEGER DEFAULT 30  
)  
IS
```

```
    v_canon      VARCHAR2(100);
BEGIN
    DBMS_UTILITY.CANONICALIZE(p_name,v_canon,p_length);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Canonicalized name ==>' || v_canon || '<==');
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Length: ' || LENGTH(v_canon));
EXCEPTION
    WHEN OTHERS THEN
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SQLERRM: ' || SQLERRM);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SQLCODE: ' || SQLCODE);
END;

EXEC canonicalize('Identifier')
Canonicalized name ==>IDENTIFIER<==
Length: 10

EXEC canonicalize('"Identifier"')
Canonicalized name ==>Identifier<==
Length: 10

EXEC canonicalize('"_+142%")')
Canonicalized name ==>_+142%<==
Length: 6

EXEC canonicalize('abc.def.ghi')
Canonicalized name ==>"ABC"."DEF"."GHI"<==
Length: 17

EXEC canonicalize('"abc.def.ghi"')
Canonicalized name ==>abc.def.ghi<==
Length: 11

EXEC canonicalize('"abc".def."ghi"')
Canonicalized name ==>"abc"."DEF"."ghi"<==
Length: 17

EXEC canonicalize('"abc.def".ghi')
Canonicalized name ==>"abc.def"."GHI"<==
Length: 15
```

3.18.5 COMMA_TO_TABLE

The `COMMA_TO_TABLE` procedure converts a comma-delimited list of names into a table of names. Each entry in the list becomes a table entry. The names must be formatted as valid identifiers.

```
COMMA_TO_TABLE(list VARCHAR2, tablen OUT BINARY_INTEGER,
               tab OUT { LNAME_ARRAY | UNCL_ARRAY })
```

Parameters

list

Comma-delimited list of names.

tablen

Number of entries in *tab*.

tab

Table containing the individual names in *list*.

LNAME_ARRAY

A DBMS_UTILITY LNAME_ARRAY (as described in Section [3.18.1](#)).

UNCL_ARRAY

A DBMS_UTILITY UNCL_ARRAY (as described in Section [3.18.2](#)).

Examples

The following procedure uses the `COMMA_TO_TABLE` procedure to convert a list of names to a table. The table entries are then displayed.

```
CREATE OR REPLACE PROCEDURE comma_to_table (
    p_list      VARCHAR2
)
IS
    r_lname     DBMS_UTILITY.LNAME_ARRAY;
    v_length    BINARY_INTEGER;
BEGIN
    DBMS_UTILITY.COMMA_TO_TABLE(p_list,v_length,r_lname);
    FOR i IN 1..v_length LOOP
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(r_lname(i));
    END LOOP;
END;
```

```
EXEC comma_to_table('edb.dept, edb.emp, edb.jobhist')
```

```
edb.dept  
edb.emp  
edb.jobhist
```

3.18.6 DB_VERSION

The DB_VERSION procedure returns the version number of the database.

```
DB_VERSION(version OUT VARCHAR2, compatibility OUT  
VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

version

Database version number.

compatibility

Compatibility setting of the database. (To be implementation-defined as to its meaning.)

Examples

The following anonymous block displays the database version information.

```
DECLARE
  v_version      VARCHAR2(150);
  v_compat      VARCHAR2(150);
BEGIN
  DBMS_UTILITY.DB_VERSION(v_version,v_compat);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Version: ' || v_version);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Compatibility: ' || v_compat);
END;

Version: EnterpriseDB 10.0.0 on i686-pc-linux-gnu, compiled by GCC gcc (GCC)
4.1.2 20080704 (Red Hat 4.1.2-48), 32-bit
Compatibility: EnterpriseDB 10.0.0 on i686-pc-linux-gnu, compiled by GCC gcc
(GCC) 4.1.220080704 (Red Hat 4.1.2-48), 32-bit
```

3.18.7 EXEC_DDL_STATEMENT

The EXEC_DDL_STATEMENT provides the capability to execute a DDL command.

```
EXEC_DDL_STATEMENT(parse_string VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

parse_string

The DDL command to be executed.

Examples

The following anonymous block creates the job table.

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_UTILITY.EXEC_DDL_STATEMENT(
    'CREATE TABLE job (' ||
     'jobno NUMBER(3),' ||
     'jname VARCHAR2(9)) '
  );
END;
```

If the *parse_string* does not include a valid DDL statement, Advanced Server returns the following error:

```
edb=# exec dbms_utility.exec_ddl_statement('select rownum from dual');
ERROR:  EDB-20001: 'parse_string' must be a valid DDL statement
```

In this case, Advanced Server's behavior differs from Oracle's; Oracle accepts the invalid *parse_string* without complaint.

3.18.8 **FORMAT_CALL_STACK**

The `FORMAT_CALL_STACK` function returns the formatted contents of the current call stack.

```
DBMS_UTILITY.FORMAT_CALL_STACK  
return VARCHAR2
```

This function can be used in a stored procedure, function or package to return the current call stack in a readable format. This function is useful for debugging purposes.

3.18.9 GET_CPU_TIME

The `GET_CPU_TIME` function returns the CPU time in hundredths of a second from some arbitrary point in time.

```
cputime NUMBER GET_CPU_TIME
```

Parameters

cputime

Number of hundredths of a second of CPU time.

Examples

The following `SELECT` command retrieves the current CPU time, which is 603 hundredths of a second or .0603 seconds.

```
SELECT DBMS_UTILITY.GET_CPU_TIME FROM DUAL;  
  
get_cpu_time  
-----  
          603
```

3.18.10 GET_DEPENDENCY

The `GET_DEPENDENCY` procedure provides the capability to list the objects that are dependent upon the specified object. `GET_DEPENDENCY` does not show dependencies for functions or procedures.

```
GET_DEPENDENCY(type VARCHAR2, schema VARCHAR2,  
              name VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

type

The object type of *name*. Valid values are INDEX, PACKAGE, PACKAGE BODY, SEQUENCE, TABLE, TRIGGER, TYPE and VIEW.

schema

Name of the schema in which *name* exists.

name

Name of the object for which dependencies are to be obtained.

Examples

The following anonymous block finds dependencies on the EMP table.

```
BEGIN  
  DBMS_UTILITY.GET_DEPENDENCY('TABLE','public','EMP');  
END;  
  
DEPENDENCIES ON public.EMP  
-----  
*TABLE public.EMP()  
*  CONSTRAINT c public.emp()  
*  CONSTRAINT f public.emp()  
*  CONSTRAINT p public.emp()  
*  TYPE public.emp()  
*  CONSTRAINT c public.emp()  
*  CONSTRAINT f public.jobhist()  
*  VIEW .empname_view()
```

3.18.11 GET_HASH_VALUE

The `GET_HASH_VALUE` function provides the capability to compute a hash value for a given string.

```
hash NUMBER GET_HASH_VALUE(name VARCHAR2, base NUMBER,
    hash_size NUMBER)
```

Parameters

name

The string for which a hash value is to be computed.

base

Starting value at which hash values are to be generated.

hash_size

The number of hash values for the desired hash table.

hash

The generated hash value.

Examples

The following anonymous block creates a table of hash values using the `ename` column of the `emp` table and then displays the key along with the hash value. The hash values start at 100 with a maximum of 1024 distinct values.

```
DECLARE
    v_hash          NUMBER;
    TYPE hash_tab IS TABLE OF NUMBER INDEX BY VARCHAR2(10);
    r_hash          HASH_TAB;
    CURSOR emp_cur IS SELECT ename FROM emp;
BEGIN
    FOR r_emp IN emp_cur LOOP
        r_hash(r_emp.ename) :=
            DBMS_UTILITY.GET_HASH_VALUE(r_emp.ename,100,1024);
    END LOOP;
    FOR r_emp IN emp_cur LOOP
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(RPAD(r_emp.ename,10) || ' ' ||
            r_hash(r_emp.ename));
    END LOOP;
END;

SMITH          377
```

Database Compatibility for Oracle® Developers Built-in Package Guide

ALLEN	740
WARD	718
JONES	131
MARTIN	176
BLAKE	568
CLARK	621
SCOTT	1097
KING	235
TURNER	850
ADAMS	156
JAMES	942
FORD	775
MILLER	148

3.18.12 GET_PARAMETER_VALUE

The `GET_PARAMETER_VALUE` procedure provides the capability to retrieve database initialization parameter settings.

```
status BINARY_INTEGER GET_PARAMETER_VALUE(parnam VARCHAR2,  
      intval OUT INTEGER, strval OUT VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

parnam

Name of the parameter whose value is to be returned. The parameters are listed in the `pg_settings` system view.

intval

Value of an integer parameter or the length of *strval*.

strval

Value of a string parameter.

status

Returns 0 if the parameter value is `INTEGER` or `BOOLEAN`. Returns 1 if the parameter value is a string.

Examples

The following anonymous block shows the values of two initialization parameters.

```
DECLARE  
  v_intval      INTEGER;  
  v_strval      VARCHAR2(80);  
BEGIN  
  DBMS_UTILITY.GET_PARAMETER_VALUE('max_fsm_pages', v_intval, v_strval);  
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('max_fsm_pages' || ': ' || v_intval);  
  DBMS_UTILITY.GET_PARAMETER_VALUE('client_encoding', v_intval, v_strval);  
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('client_encoding' || ': ' || v_strval);  
END;  
  
max_fsm_pages: 72625  
client_encoding: SQL_ASCII
```

3.18.13 GET_TIME

The `GET_TIME` function provides the capability to return the current time in hundredths of a second.

```
time NUMBER GET_TIME
```

Parameters

time

Number of hundredths of a second from the time in which the program is started.

Examples

The following example shows calls to the `GET_TIME` function.

```
SELECT DBMS_UTILITY.GET_TIME FROM DUAL;

get_time
-----
1555860

SELECT DBMS_UTILITY.GET_TIME FROM DUAL;

get_time
-----
1556037
```

3.18.14 NAME_TOKENIZE

The `NAME_TOKENIZE` procedure parses a name into its component parts. Names without double quotes are uppercased. The double quotes are stripped from names with double quotes.

```
NAME_TOKENIZE(name VARCHAR2, a OUT VARCHAR2,  
             b OUT VARCHAR2, c OUT VARCHAR2, dblink OUT VARCHAR2,  
             nextpos OUT BINARY_INTEGER)
```

Parameters

name

String containing a name in the following format:

```
a[.b[.c]][@dblink ]
```

a

Returns the leftmost component.

b

Returns the second component, if any.

c

Returns the third component, if any.

dblink

Returns the database link name.

nextpos

Position of the last character parsed in name.

Examples

The following stored procedure is used to display the returned parameter values of the `NAME_TOKENIZE` procedure for various names.

```
CREATE OR REPLACE PROCEDURE name_tokenize (  
    p_name          VARCHAR2  
)
```

```
IS
  v_a          VARCHAR2(30);
  v_b          VARCHAR2(30);
  v_c          VARCHAR2(30);
  v_dblink     VARCHAR2(30);
  v_nextpos    BINARY_INTEGER;
BEGIN
  DBMS_UTILITY.NAME_TOKENIZE(p_name,v_a,v_b,v_c,v_dblink,v_nextpos);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('name   : ' || p_name);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('a     : ' || v_a);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('b     : ' || v_b);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('c     : ' || v_c);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('dblink : ' || v_dblink);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('nextpos: ' || v_nextpos);
END;
```

Tokenize the name, emp:

```
BEGIN
  name_tokenize('emp');
END;

name   : emp
a      : EMP
b      :
c      :
dblink :
nextpos: 3
```

Tokenize the name, edb.list_emp:

```
BEGIN
  name_tokenize('edb.list_emp');
END;

name   : edb.list_emp
a      : EDB
b      : LIST_EMP
c      :
dblink :
nextpos: 12
```

Tokenize the name, "edb"."Emp_Admin".update_emp_sal:

```
BEGIN
  name_tokenize('"edb"."Emp_Admin".update_emp_sal');
END;

name   : "edb"."Emp_Admin".update_emp_sal
a      : edb
b      : Emp_Admin
c      : UPDATE_EMP_SAL
dblink :
nextpos: 32
```

Tokenize the name edb.emp@edb_dblink:

```
BEGIN
```

```
name_tokenize('edb.emp@edb_dblink');  
END;  
  
name      : edb.emp@edb_dblink  
a         : EDB  
b         : EMP  
c         :  
dblink    : EDB_DBLINK  
nextpos   : 18
```

3.18.15 TABLE_TO_COMMA

The `TABLE_TO_COMMA` procedure converts table of names into a comma-delimited list of names. Each table entry becomes a list entry. The names must be formatted as valid identifiers.

```
TABLE_TO_COMMA(tab { LNAME_ARRAY | UNCL_ARRAY },
               tablen OUT BINARY_INTEGER, list OUT VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

tab

Table containing names.

LNAME_ARRAY

A DBMS_UTILITY LNAME_ARRAY (as described in Section [3.18.1](#)).

UNCL_ARRAY

A DBMS_UTILITY UNCL_ARRAY (as described in Section [3.18.2](#)).

tablen

Number of entries in *list*.

list

Comma-delimited list of names from *tab*.

Examples

The following example first uses the `COMMA_TO_TABLE` procedure to convert a comma-delimited list to a table. The `TABLE_TO_COMMA` procedure then converts the table back to a comma-delimited list that is displayed.

```
CREATE OR REPLACE PROCEDURE table_to_comma (
    p_list      VARCHAR2
)
IS
    r_lname     DBMS_UTILITY.LNAME_ARRAY;
    v_length    BINARY_INTEGER;
    v_listlen   BINARY_INTEGER;
    v_list      VARCHAR2(80);
```

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_UTILITY.COMMA_TO_TABLE(p_list,v_length,r_lname);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Table Entries');
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('-----');
  FOR i IN 1..v_length LOOP
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(r_lname(i));
  END LOOP;
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('-----');
  DBMS_UTILITY.TABLE_TO_COMMA(r_lname,v_listlen,v_list);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Comma-Delimited List: ' || v_list);
END;
```

EXEC table_to_comma('edb.dept, edb.emp, edb.jobhist')

Table Entries

edb.dept
edb.emp
edb.jobhist

Comma-Delimited List: edb.dept, edb.emp, edb.jobhist

3.19 UTL_ENCODE

The UTL_ENCODE package provides a way to encode and decode data. Advanced Serve supports the following functions and procedures:

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
BASE64_DECODE(<i>r</i>)	RAW	Use the BASE64_DECODE function to translate a Base64 encoded string to the original RAW value.
BASE64_ENCODE(<i>r</i>)	RAW	Use the BASE64_ENCODE function to translate a RAW string to an encoded Base64 value.
BASE64_ENCODE(<i>loid</i>)	TEXT	Use the BASE64_ENCODE function to translate a TEXT string to an encoded Base64 value.
MIMEHEADER_DECODE(<i>buf</i>)	VARCHAR2	Use the MIMEHEADER_DECODE function to translate an encoded MIMEHEADER formatted string to its original value.
MIMEHEADER_ENCODE(<i>buf</i> , <i>encode_charset</i> , <i>encoding</i>)	VARCHAR2	Use the MIMEHEADER_ENCODE function to convert and encode a string in MIMEHEADER format.
QUOTED_PRINTABLE_DECODE(<i>r</i>)	RAW	Use the QUOTED_PRINTABLE_DECODE function to translate an encoded string to a RAW value.
QUOTED_PRINTABLE_ENCODE(<i>r</i>)	RAW	Use the QUOTED_PRINTABLE_ENCODE function to translate an input string to a quoted-printable formatted RAW value.
TEXT_DECODE(<i>buf</i> , <i>encode_charset</i> , <i>encoding</i>)	VARCHAR2	Use the TEXT_DECODE function to decode a string encoded by TEXT_ENCODE.
TEXT_ENCODE(<i>buf</i> , <i>encode_charset</i> , <i>encoding</i>)	VARCHAR2	Use the TEXT_ENCODE function to translate a string to a user-specified character set, and then encode the string.
UUDECODE(<i>r</i>)	RAW	Use the UUDECODE function to translate a uuencode encoded string to a RAW value.
UUENCODE(<i>r</i> , <i>type</i> , <i>filename</i> , <i>permission</i>)	RAW	Use the UUENCODE function to translate a RAW string to an encoded uuencode value.

3.19.1 BASE64_DECODE

Use the BASE64_DECODE function to translate a Base64 encoded string to the original value originally encoded by BASE64_ENCODE. The signature is:

```
BASE64_DECODE(r IN RAW)
```

This function returns a RAW value.

Parameters

r

r is the string that contains the Base64 encoded data that will be translated to RAW form.

Examples

Note: Before executing the following example, invoke the command:

```
SET bytea_output = escape;
```

This command instructs the server to escape any non-printable characters, and to display BYTEA or RAW values onscreen in readable form. For more information, please refer to the Postgres Core Documentation available at:

<https://www.postgresql.org/docs/12/static/datatype-binary.html>

The following example first encodes (using `BASE64_ENCODE`), and then decodes (using `BASE64_DECODE`) a string that contains the text `abc`:

```
edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.BASE64_ENCODE(CAST ('abc' AS RAW));
 base64_encode
-----
 YWJj
(1 row)

edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.BASE64_DECODE(CAST ('YWJj' AS RAW));
 base64_decode
-----
 abc
(1 row)
```

3.19.2 BASE64_ENCODE

Use the `BASE64_ENCODE` function to translate and encode a string in Base64 format (as described in RFC 4648). This function can be useful when composing MIME email that you intend to send using the `UTL_SMTP` package. The `BASE64_ENCODE` function has two signatures:

```
BASE64_ENCODE(r IN RAW)
```

and

```
BASE64_ENCODE(loid IN OID)
```

This function returns a RAW value or an OID.

Parameters

r

r specifies the RAW string that will be translated to Base64.

loid

loid specifies the object ID of a large object that will be translated to Base64.

Examples

Note: Before executing the following example, invoke the command:

```
SET bytea_output = escape;
```

This command instructs the server to escape any non-printable characters, and to display BYTEA or RAW values onscreen in readable form. For more information, please refer to the Postgres Core Documentation available at:

<https://www.postgresql.org/docs/12/static/datatype-binary.html>

The following example first encodes (using `BASE64_ENCODE`), and then decodes (using `BASE64_DECODE`) a string that contains the text `abc`:

```
edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.BASE64_ENCODE(CAST ('abc' AS RAW));
 base64_encode
-----
 YWJj
(1 row)

edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.BASE64_DECODE(CAST ('YWJj' AS RAW));
 base64_decode
-----
 abc
(1 row)
```

3.19.3 MIMEHEADER_DECODE

Use the `MIMEHEADER_DECODE` function to decode values that are encoded by the `MIMEHEADER_ENCODE` function. The signature is:

```
MIMEHEADER_DECODE(buf IN VARCHAR2)
```

This function returns a VARCHAR2 value.

Parameters

buf

buf contains the value (encoded by `MIMEHEADER_ENCODE`) that will be decoded.

Examples

The following examples use the `MIMEHEADER_ENCODE` and `MIMEHEADER_DECODE` functions to first encode, and then decode a string:

```
edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.MIMEHEADER_ENCODE('What is the date?') FROM DUAL;
      mimeheader_encode
-----
=?UTF8?Q?What is the date??=
(1 row)

edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.MIMEHEADER_DECODE('=?UTF8?Q?What is the date??=')
FROM DUAL;
      mimeheader_decode
-----
What is the date?
(1 row)
```

3.19.4 MIMEHEADER_ENCODE

Use the `MIMEHEADER_ENCODE` function to convert a string into mime header format, and then encode the string. The signature is:

```
MIMEHEADER_ENCODE(buf IN VARCHAR2, encode_charset IN
VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL, encoding IN INTEGER DEFAULT NULL)
```

This function returns a `VARCHAR2` value.

Parameters

buf

buf contains the string that will be formatted and encoded. The string is a `VARCHAR2` value.

encode_charset

encode_charset specifies the character set to which the string will be converted before being formatted and encoded. The default value is `NULL`.

encoding

encoding specifies the encoding type used when encoding the string. You can specify:

- Q to enable quoted-printable encoding. If you do not specify a value, MIMEHEADER_ENCODE will use quoted-printable encoding.
- B to enable base-64 encoding.

Examples

The following examples use the MIMEHEADER_ENCODE and MIMEHEADER_DECODE functions to first encode, and then decode a string:

```
edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.MIMEHEADER_ENCODE('What is the date?') FROM DUAL;
      mimeheader_encode
-----
=?UTF8?Q?What is the date??=
(1 row)

edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.MIMEHEADER_DECODE('=?UTF8?Q?What is the date??=')
FROM DUAL;
      mimeheader_decode
-----
What is the date?
(1 row)
```

3.19.5 QUOTED_PRINTABLE_DECODE

Use the QUOTED_PRINTABLE_DECODE function to translate an encoded quoted-printable string into a decoded RAW string.

The signature is:

```
QUOTED_PRINTABLE_DECODE (r IN RAW)
```

This function returns a RAW value.

Parameters

r

r contains the encoded string that will be decoded. The string is a RAW value, encoded by QUOTED_PRINTABLE_ENCODE.

Examples

Note: Before executing the following example, invoke the command:

```
SET bytea_output = escape;
```

This command instructs the server to escape any non-printable characters, and to display BYTEA or RAW values onscreen in readable form. For more information, please refer to the Postgres Core Documentation available at:

<https://www.postgresql.org/docs/12/static/datatype-binary.html>

The following example first encodes and then decodes a string:

```
edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.QUOTED_PRINTABLE_ENCODE('E=mc2') FROM DUAL;
quoted_printable_encode
-----
E=3Dmc2
(1 row)

edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.QUOTED_PRINTABLE_DECODE('E=3Dmc2') FROM DUAL;
quoted_printable_decode
-----
E=mc2
(1 row)
```

3.19.6 QUOTED_PRINTABLE_ENCODE

Use the QUOTED_PRINTABLE_ENCODE function to translate and encode a string in quoted-printable format. The signature is:

```
QUOTED_PRINTABLE_ENCODE (r IN RAW)
```

This function returns a RAW value.

Parameters

r

r contains the string (a RAW value) that will be encoded in a quoted-printable format.

Examples

Note: Before executing the following example, invoke the command:

```
SET bytea_output = escape;
```

This command instructs the server to escape any non-printable characters, and to display BYTEA or RAW values onscreen in readable form. For more information, please refer to the Postgres Core Documentation available at:

<https://www.postgresql.org/docs/12/static/datatype-binary.html>

The following example first encodes and then decodes a string:

```
edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.QUOTED_PRINTABLE_ENCODE('E=mc2') FROM DUAL;
quoted_printable_encode
-----
E=3Dmc2
(1 row)

edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.QUOTED_PRINTABLE_DECODE('E=3Dmc2') FROM DUAL;
quoted_printable_decode
-----
E=mc2
(1 row)
```

3.19.7 TEXT_DECODE

Use the TEXT_DECODE function to translate and decode an encoded string to the VARCHAR2 value that was originally encoded by the TEXT_ENCODE function. The signature is:

```
TEXT_DECODE(buf IN VARCHAR2, encode_charset IN VARCHAR2
DEFAULT NULL, encoding IN PLS_INTEGER DEFAULT NULL)
```

This function returns a VARCHAR2 value.

Parameters

buf

buf contains the encoded string that will be translated to the original value encoded by TEXT_ENCODE.

encode_charset

encode_charset specifies the character set to which the string will be translated before encoding. The default value is NULL.

encoding

encoding specifies the encoding type used by TEXT_DECODE. Specify:

- `UTL_ENCODE.BASE64` to specify base-64 encoding.
- `UTL_ENCODE.QUOTED_PRINTABLE` to specify quoted printable encoding.
This is the default.

Examples

The following example uses the `TEXT_ENCODE` and `TEXT_DECODE` functions to first encode, and then decode a string:

```
edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.TEXT_ENCODE('What is the date?', 'BIG5',
UTL_ENCODE.BASE64) FROM DUAL;
      text_encode
-----
V2hhdCBpcyB0aGUgZGF0ZT8=
(1 row)

edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.TEXT_DECODE('V2hhdCBpcyB0aGUgZGF0ZT8=', 'BIG5',
UTL_ENCODE.BASE64) FROM DUAL;
      text_decode
-----
What is the date?
(1 row)
```

3.19.8 TEXT_ENCODE

Use the `TEXT_ENCODE` function to translate a string to a user-specified character set, and then encode the string. The signature is:

```
TEXT_ENCODE(buf IN VARCHAR2, encode_charset IN VARCHAR2
DEFAULT NULL, encoding IN PLS_INTEGER DEFAULT NULL)
```

This function returns a `VARCHAR2` value.

Parameters

buf

buf contains the encoded string that will be translated to the specified character set and encoded by `TEXT_ENCODE`.

encode_charset

encode_charset specifies the character set to which the value will be translated before encoding. The default value is `NULL`.

encoding

encoding specifies the encoding type used by `TEXT_ENCODE`. Specify:

- `UTL_ENCODE.BASE64` to specify base-64 encoding.
- `UTL_ENCODE.QUOTED_PRINTABLE` to specify quoted printable encoding.
This is the default.

Examples

The following example uses the `TEXT_ENCODE` and `TEXT_DECODE` functions to first encode, and then decode a string:

```
edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.TEXT_ENCODE('What is the date?', 'BIG5',
UTL_ENCODE.BASE64) FROM DUAL;
      text_encode
-----
V2hhdCBpcyB0aGUgZGF0ZT8=
(1 row)

edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.TEXT_DECODE('V2hhdCBpcyB0aGUgZGF0ZT8=', 'BIG5',
UTL_ENCODE.BASE64) FROM DUAL;
      text_decode
-----
What is the date?
(1 row)
```

3.19.9 UUDECODE

Use the `UUDECODE` function to translate and decode a uuencode encoded string to the `RAW` value that was originally encoded by the `UUENCODE` function. The signature is:

```
UUDECODE(r IN RAW)
```

This function returns a `RAW` value.

Note: If you are using the Advanced Server `UUDECODE` function to decode uuencoded data that was created by the Oracle implementation of the `UTL_ENCODE.UUENCODE` function, then you must first set the Advanced Server configuration parameter `utl_encode.uudecode_redwood` to `TRUE` before invoking the Advanced Server `UUDECODE` function on the Oracle-created data. (For example, this situation may occur if you migrated Oracle tables containing uuencoded data to an Advanced Server database.)

The uuencoded data created by the Oracle version of the `UUENCODE` function results in a format that differs from the uuencoded data created by the Advanced Server `UUENCODE` function. As a result, attempting to use the Advanced Server `UUDECODE` function on the Oracle uuencoded data results in an error unless the configuration parameter `utl_encode.uudecode_redwood` is set to `TRUE`.

However, if you are using the Advanced Server `UUDECODE` function on uuencoded data created by the Advanced Server `UUENCODE` function, then `utl_encode.uuencode_redwood` must be set to `FALSE`, which is the default setting.

Parameters

r

r contains the uuencoded string that will be translated to RAW.

Examples

Note: Before executing the following example, invoke the command:

```
SET bytea_output = escape;
```

This command instructs the server to escape any non-printable characters, and to display BYTEA or RAW values onscreen in readable form. For more information, please refer to the Postgres Core Documentation available at:

<https://www.postgresql.org/docs/12/static/datatype-binary.html>

The following example uses `UUENCODE` and `UUDECODE` to first encode and then decode a string:

```
edb=# SET bytea_output = escape;
SET
edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.UUENCODE('What is the date?') FROM DUAL;
          uuencode
-----
begin 0 uuencode.txt\01215VAA="!I<R!T:&4@9&%T93\\\`012`\012end\012
(1 row)

edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.UUDECODE
edb-# ('begin 0 uuencode.txt\01215VAA="!I<R!T:&4@9&%T93\\\`012`\012end\012')
edb-# FROM DUAL;
          uuencode
-----
What is the date?
(1 row)
```

3.19.10 UUENCODE

Use the `UUENCODE` function to translate RAW data into a uuencode formatted encoded string. The signature is:

```
UUENCODE(r IN RAW, type IN INTEGER DEFAULT 1, filename IN
VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL, permission IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL)
```

This function returns a RAW value.

Parameters

r

r contains the RAW string that will be translated to uuencode format.

type

type is an INTEGER value or constant that specifies the type of uuencoded string that will be returned; the default value is 1. The possible values are:

Value	Constant
1	complete
2	header piece
3	middle piece
4	end piece

filename

filename is a VARCHAR2 value that specifies the file name that you want to embed in the encoded form; if you do not specify a file name, UUENCODE will include a filename of uuencode.txt in the encoded form.

permission

permission is a VARCHAR2 that specifies the permission mode; the default value is NULL.

Examples

Note: Before executing the following example, invoke the command:

```
SET bytea_output = escape;
```

This command instructs the server to escape any non-printable characters, and to display BYTEA or RAW values onscreen in readable form. For more information, please refer to the Postgres Core Documentation available at:

<https://www.postgresql.org/docs/12/static/datatype-binary.html>

The following example uses UUENCODE and UUDECODE to first encode and then decode a string:

```
edb=# SET bytea_output = escape;  
SET  
edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.UUENCODE('What is the date?') FROM DUAL;
```

```
-----
                                uuencode
-----
begin 0 uuencode.txt\01215VAA="!I<R!T:&4@9&%T93\\\`012`\012end\012
(1 row)

edb=# SELECT UTL_ENCODE.UUDECODE
edb-# ('begin 0 uuencode.txt\01215VAA="!I<R!T:&4@9&%T93\\\`012`\012end\012')
edb-# FROM DUAL;
      uuencode
-----
What is the date?
(1 row)
```

3.20 UTL_FILE

The UTL_FILE package provides the capability to read from, and write to files on the operating system's file system. Non-superusers must be granted EXECUTE privilege on the UTL_FILE package by a superuser before using any of the functions or procedures in the package. For example the following command grants the privilege to user mary:

```
GRANT EXECUTE ON PACKAGE SYS.UTL_FILE TO mary;
```

Also, the operating system username, enterprisedb, must have the appropriate read and/or write permissions on the directories and files to be accessed using the UTL_FILE functions and procedures. If the required file permissions are not in place, an exception is thrown in the UTL_FILE function or procedure.

A handle to the file to be written to, or read from is used to reference the file. The *file handle* is defined by a public variable in the UTL_FILE package named, UTL_FILE.FILE_TYPE. A variable of type FILE_TYPE must be declared to receive the file handle returned by calling the FOPEN function. The file handle is then used for all subsequent operations on the file.

References to directories on the file system are done using the directory name or alias that is assigned to the directory using the CREATE DIRECTORY command. The procedures and functions available in the UTL_FILE package are listed in the following table:

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
FCLOSE(<i>file</i> IN OUT)	n/a	Closes the specified file identified by <i>file</i> .
FCLOSE_ALL	n/a	Closes all open files.
FCOPY(<i>location</i> , <i>filename</i> , <i>dest_dir</i> , <i>dest_file</i> [, <i>start_line</i> [, <i>end_line</i>]])	n/a	Copies <i>filename</i> in the directory identified by <i>location</i> to file, <i>dest_file</i> , in directory, <i>dest_dir</i> , starting from line, <i>start_line</i> , to line, <i>end_line</i> .
FFLUSH(<i>file</i>)	n/a	Forces data in the buffer to be written to disk in the file identified by <i>file</i> .
FOPEN(<i>location</i> , <i>filename</i> , <i>open_mode</i> [, <i>max_linesize</i>])	FILE_TYPE	Opens file, <i>filename</i> , in the directory identified by <i>location</i> .
FREMOVE(<i>location</i> , <i>filename</i>)	n/a	Removes the specified file from the file system.
FRENAME(<i>location</i> , <i>filename</i> , <i>dest_dir</i> , <i>dest_file</i> [, <i>overwrite</i>])	n/a	Renames the specified file.
GET_LINE(<i>file</i> , <i>buffer</i> OUT)	n/a	Reads a line of text into variable, <i>buffer</i> , from the file identified by <i>file</i> .
IS_OPEN(<i>file</i>)	BOOLEAN	Determines whether or not the given file is open.
NEW_LINE(<i>file</i> [, <i>lines</i>])	n/a	Writes an end-of-line character sequence into the file.

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
<code>PUT(file, buffer)</code>	n/a	Writes <i>buffer</i> to the given file. <code>PUT</code> does not write an end-of-line character sequence.
<code>PUT_LINE(file, buffer)</code>	n/a	Writes <i>buffer</i> to the given file. An end-of-line character sequence is added by the <code>PUT_LINE</code> procedure.
<code>PUTF(file, format [, arg1] [, ...])</code>	n/a	Writes a formatted string to the given file. Up to five substitution parameters, <i>arg1</i> ,... <i>arg5</i> may be specified for replacement in <i>format</i> .

Advanced Server's implementation of `UTL_FILE` is a partial implementation when compared to Oracle's version. Only those functions and procedures listed in the table above are supported.

UTL_FILE Exception Codes

If a call to a `UTL_FILE` procedure or function raises an exception, you can use the condition name to catch the exception. The `UTL_FILE` package reports the following exception codes compatible with Oracle databases:

Exception Code	Condition name
-29283	<code>invalid operation</code>
-29285	<code>write error</code>
-29284	<code>read error</code>
-29282	<code>invalid filehandle</code>
-29287	<code>invalid maxlinesize</code>
-29281	<code>invalid mode</code>
-29280	<code>invalid path</code>

3.20.1 Setting File Permissions with `utl_file.umask`

When a `UTL_FILE` function or procedure creates a file, there are default file permissions as shown by the following.

```
-rw----- 1 enterprisedb enterprisedb 21 Jul 24 16:08 utlfile
```

Note that all permissions are denied on users belonging to the `enterprisedb` group as well as all other users. Only the `enterprisedb` user has read and write permissions on the created file.

If you wish to have a different set of file permissions on files created by the `UTL_FILE` functions and procedures, you can accomplish this by setting the `utl_file.umask` configuration parameter.

The `utl_file.umask` parameter sets the *file mode creation mask* or simply, the *mask*, in a manner similar to the Linux `umask` command. This is for usage only within the Advanced Server UTL_FILE package.

Note: The `utl_file.umask` parameter is not supported on Windows systems.

The value specified for `utl_file.umask` is a 3 or 4-character octal string that would be valid for the Linux `umask` command. The setting determines the permissions on files created by the UTL_FILE functions and procedures. (Refer to any information source regarding Linux or Unix systems for information on file permissions and the usage of the `umask` command.)

The following is an example of setting the file permissions with `utl_file.umask`.

First, set up the directory in the file system to be used by the UTL_FILE package. Be sure the operating system account, `enterprisedb` or `postgres`, whichever is applicable, can read and write in the directory.

```
mkdir /tmp/utldir  
chmod 777 /tmp/utldir
```

The `CREATE DIRECTORY` command is issued in `psql` to create the directory database object using the file system directory created in the preceding step.

```
CREATE DIRECTORY utldir AS '/tmp/utldir';
```

Set the `utl_file.umask` configuration parameter. The following setting allows the file owner any permission. Group users and other users are permitted any permission except for the execute permission.

```
SET utl_file.umask TO '0011';
```

In the same session during which the `utl_file.umask` parameter is set to the desired value, run the UTL_FILE functions and procedures.

```
DECLARE  
  v_utlfile      UTL_FILE.FILE_TYPE;  
  v_directory    VARCHAR2(50) := 'utldir';  
  v_filename     VARCHAR2(20) := 'utlfile';  
BEGIN  
  v_utlfile := UTL_FILE.FOPEN(v_directory, v_filename, 'w');  
  UTL_FILE.PUT_LINE(v_utlfile, 'Simple one-line file');  
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Created file: ' || v_filename);  
  UTL_FILE.FCLOSE(v_utlfile);  
END;
```

The permission settings on the resulting file show that group users and other users have read and write permissions on the file as well as the file owner.

```
$ pwd
/tmp/utldir
$ ls -l
total 4
-rw-rw-rw- 1 enterprisedb enterprisedb 21 Jul 24 16:04 utlfile
```

This parameter can also be set on a per role basis with the `ALTER ROLE` command, on a per database basis with the `ALTER DATABASE` command, or for the entire database server instance by setting it in the `postgresql.conf` file.

3.20.2 FCLOSE

The `FCLOSE` procedure closes an open file.

```
FCLOSE(file IN OUT FILE_TYPE)
```

Parameters

file

Variable of type `FILE_TYPE` containing a file handle of the file to be closed.

3.20.3 FCLOSE_ALL

The `FCLOSE_ALL` procedure closes all open files. The procedure executes successfully even if there are no open files to close.

```
FCLOSE_ALL
```

3.20.4 FCOPY

The `FCOPY` procedure copies text from one file to another.

```
FCOPY(location VARCHAR2, filename VARCHAR2,  
      dest_dir VARCHAR2, dest_file VARCHAR2  
      [, start_line PLS_INTEGER [, end_line PLS_INTEGER ] ])
```

Parameters

location

Directory name, as stored in `pg_catalog.edb_dir.dirname`, of the directory containing the file to be copied.

filename

Name of the source file to be copied.

dest_dir

Directory name, as stored in `pg_catalog.edb_dir.dirname`, of the directory to which the file is to be copied.

dest_file

Name of the destination file.

start_line

Line number in the source file from which copying will begin. The default is 1.

end_line

Line number of the last line in the source file to be copied. If omitted or null, copying will go to the last line of the file.

Examples

The following makes a copy of a file, `C:\TEMP\EMPDIR\empfile.csv`, containing a comma-delimited list of employees from the `emp` table. The copy, `empcopy.csv`, is then listed.

```
CREATE DIRECTORY empdir AS 'C:/TEMP/EMPDIR';

DECLARE
  v_empfile      UTL_FILE.FILE_TYPE;
  v_src_dir      VARCHAR2(50) := 'empdir';
  v_src_file     VARCHAR2(20) := 'empfile.csv';
  v_dest_dir     VARCHAR2(50) := 'empdir';
  v_dest_file    VARCHAR2(20) := 'empcopy.csv';
  v_emprec      VARCHAR2(120);
  v_count       INTEGER := 0;
BEGIN
  UTL_FILE.FCOPY(v_src_dir,v_src_file,v_dest_dir,v_dest_file);
  v_empfile := UTL_FILE.FOPEN(v_dest_dir,v_dest_file,'r');
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('The following is the destination file, ''' ||
    v_dest_file || '''');
  LOOP
    UTL_FILE.GET_LINE(v_empfile,v_emprec);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_emprec);
    v_count := v_count + 1;
  END LOOP;
EXCEPTION
```

```

        WHEN NO_DATA_FOUND THEN
            UTL_FILE.FCLOSE(v_empfile);
            DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_count || ' records retrieved');
        WHEN OTHERS THEN
            DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SQLERRM: ' || SQLERRM);
            DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SQLCODE: ' || SQLCODE);
    END;

```

The following is the destination file, 'empcopy.csv'

```

7369,SMITH,CLERK,7902,17-DEC-80,800,,20
7499,ALLEN,SALESMAN,7698,20-FEB-81,1600,300,30
7521,WARD,SALESMAN,7698,22-FEB-81,1250,500,30
7566,JONES,MANAGER,7839,02-APR-81,2975,,20
7654,MARTIN,SALESMAN,7698,28-SEP-81,1250,1400,30
7698,BLAKE,MANAGER,7839,01-MAY-81,2850,,30
7782,CLARK,MANAGER,7839,09-JUN-81,2450,,10
7788,SCOTT,ANALYST,7566,19-APR-87,3000,,20
7839,KING,PRESIDENT,,17-NOV-81,5000,,10
7844,TURNER,SALESMAN,7698,08-SEP-81,1500,0,30
7876,ADAMS,CLERK,7788,23-MAY-87,1100,,20
7900,JAMES,CLERK,7698,03-DEC-81,950,,30
7902,FORD,ANALYST,7566,03-DEC-81,3000,,20
7934,MILLER,CLERK,7782,23-JAN-82,1300,,10
14 records retrieved

```

3.20.5 FFLUSH

The FFLUSH procedure flushes unwritten data from the write buffer to the file.

```
FFLUSH(file FILE_TYPE)
```

Parameters

file

Variable of type FILE_TYPE containing a file handle.

Examples

Each line is flushed after the NEW_LINE procedure is called.

```

DECLARE
    v_empfile          UTL_FILE.FILE_TYPE;
    v_directory        VARCHAR2(50) := 'empdir';
    v_filename         VARCHAR2(20) := 'empfile.csv';
    CURSOR emp_cur IS SELECT * FROM emp ORDER BY empno;
BEGIN
    v_empfile := UTL_FILE.FOPEN(v_directory,v_filename,'w');
    FOR i IN emp_cur LOOP
        UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.empno);
        UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,',');
        UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.ename);
        UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,',');
        UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.job);
    END LOOP;
    UTL_FILE.FCLOSE(v_empfile);
END;

```

```
        UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile, ',');  
        UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile, i.mgr);  
        UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile, ',');  
        UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile, i.hiredate);  
        UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile, ',');  
        UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile, i.sal);  
        UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile, ',');  
        UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile, i.comm);  
        UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile, ',');  
        UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile, i.deptno);  
        UTL_FILE.NEW_LINE(v_empfile);  
        UTL_FILE.FFLUSH(v_empfile);  
    END LOOP;  
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Created file: ' || v_filename);  
    UTL_FILE.FCLOSE(v_empfile);  
END;
```

3.20.6 FOPEN

The FOPEN function opens a file for I/O.

```
filetype FILE_TYPE FOPEN(location VARCHAR2,  
    filename VARCHAR2, open_mode VARCHAR2  
    [, max_linesize BINARY_INTEGER ])
```

Parameters

location

Directory name, as stored in `pg_catalog.edb_dir.dirname`, of the directory containing the file to be opened.

filename

Name of the file to be opened.

open_mode

Mode in which the file will be opened. Modes are: `a` - append to file; `r` - read from file; `w` - write to file.

max_linesize

Maximum size of a line in characters. In read mode, an exception is thrown if an attempt is made to read a line exceeding *max_linesize*. In write and append modes, an exception is thrown if an attempt is made to write a line exceeding *max_linesize*. The end-of-line character(s) are not included in determining if the maximum line size is exceeded. This behavior is not compatible with Oracle databases; Oracle does count the end-of-line character(s).

filetype

Variable of type `FILE_TYPE` containing the file handle of the opened file.

3.20.7 REMOVE

The `REMOVE` procedure removes a file from the system.

```
REMOVE(location VARCHAR2, filename VARCHAR2)
```

An exception is thrown if the file to be removed does not exist.

Parameters

location

Directory name, as stored in `pg_catalog.edb_dir.dirname`, of the directory containing the file to be removed.

filename

Name of the file to be removed.

Examples

The following removes file `empfile.csv`.

```
DECLARE
  v_directory    VARCHAR2(50) := 'empdir';
  v_filename     VARCHAR2(20) := 'empfile.csv';
BEGIN
  UTL_FILE.REMOVE(v_directory,v_filename);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Removed file: ' || v_filename);
EXCEPTION
  WHEN OTHERS THEN
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SQLERRM: ' || SQLERRM);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SQLCODE: ' || SQLCODE);
END;
```

Removed file: empfile.csv

3.20.8 RENAME

The `RENAME` procedure renames a given file. This effectively moves a file from one location to another.

```
RENAME(location VARCHAR2, filename VARCHAR2,
```

```
dest_dir VARCHAR2, dest_file VARCHAR2,  
[ overwrite BOOLEAN ])
```

Parameters

location

Directory name, as stored in `pg_catalog.edb_dir.dirname`, of the directory containing the file to be renamed.

filename

Name of the source file to be renamed.

dest_dir

Directory name, as stored in `pg_catalog.edb_dir.dirname`, of the directory to which the renamed file is to exist.

dest_file

New name of the original file.

overwrite

Replaces any existing file named *dest_file* in *dest_dir* if set to `TRUE`, otherwise an exception is thrown if set to `FALSE`. This is the default.

Examples

The following renames a file, `C:\TEMP\EMPDIR\empfile.csv`, containing a comma-delimited list of employees from the `emp` table. The renamed file, `C:\TEMP\NEWDIR\newemp.csv`, is then listed.

```
CREATE DIRECTORY "newdir" AS 'C:/TEMP/NEWDIR';  
  
DECLARE  
  v_empfile          UTL_FILE.FILE_TYPE;  
  v_src_dir          VARCHAR2(50) := 'empdir';  
  v_src_file         VARCHAR2(20) := 'empfile.csv';  
  v_dest_dir         VARCHAR2(50) := 'newdir';  
  v_dest_file        VARCHAR2(50) := 'newemp.csv';  
  v_replace          BOOLEAN := FALSE;  
  v_emprec           VARCHAR2(120);  
  v_count            INTEGER := 0;  
BEGIN  
  UTL_FILE.FRENAME(v_src_dir,v_src_file,v_dest_dir,  
    v_dest_file,v_replace);  
  v_empfile := UTL_FILE.FOPEN(v_dest_dir,v_dest_file,'r');  
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('The following is the renamed file, '' ||  
    v_dest_file || ''');  
END;
```

```

LOOP
    UTL_FILE.GET_LINE(v_empfile,v_emprec);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_emprec);
    v_count := v_count + 1;
END LOOP;
EXCEPTION
    WHEN NO_DATA_FOUND THEN
        UTL_FILE.FCLOSE(v_empfile);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_count || ' records retrieved');
    WHEN OTHERS THEN
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SQLERRM: ' || SQLERRM);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SQLCODE: ' || SQLCODE);
END;
```

The following is the renamed file, 'newemp.csv'

```

7369,SMITH,CLERK,7902,17-DEC-80 00:00:00,800.00,,20
7499,ALLEN,SALESMAN,7698,20-FEB-81 00:00:00,1600.00,300.00,30
7521,WARD,SALESMAN,7698,22-FEB-81 00:00:00,1250.00,500.00,30
7566,JONES,MANAGER,7839,02-APR-81 00:00:00,2975.00,,20
7654,MARTIN,SALESMAN,7698,28-SEP-81 00:00:00,1250.00,1400.00,30
7698,BLAKE,MANAGER,7839,01-MAY-81 00:00:00,2850.00,,30
7782,CLARK,MANAGER,7839,09-JUN-81 00:00:00,2450.00,,10
7788,SCOTT,ANALYST,7566,19-APR-87 00:00:00,3000.00,,20
7839,KING,PRESIDENT,,17-NOV-81 00:00:00,5000.00,,10
7844,TURNER,SALESMAN,7698,08-SEP-81 00:00:00,1500.00,0.00,30
7876,ADAMS,CLERK,7788,23-MAY-87 00:00:00,1100.00,,20
7900,JAMES,CLERK,7698,03-DEC-81 00:00:00,950.00,,30
7902,FORD,ANALYST,7566,03-DEC-81 00:00:00,3000.00,,20
7934,MILLER,CLERK,7782,23-JAN-82 00:00:00,1300.00,,10
14 records retrieved
```

3.20.9 GET_LINE

The GET_LINE procedure reads a line of text from a given file up to, but not including the end-of-line terminator. A NO_DATA_FOUND exception is thrown when there are no more lines to read.

```
GET_LINE(file FILE_TYPE, buffer OUT VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

file

Variable of type FILE_TYPE containing the file handle of the opened file.

buffer

Variable to receive a line from the file.

Examples

The following anonymous block reads through and displays the records in file `empfile.csv`.

```

DECLARE
    v_empfile      UTL_FILE.FILE_TYPE;
    v_directory    VARCHAR2(50) := 'empdir';
    v_filename     VARCHAR2(20) := 'empfile.csv';
    v_emprec       VARCHAR2(120);
    v_count        INTEGER := 0;
BEGIN
    v_empfile := UTL_FILE.FOPEN(v_directory,v_filename,'r');
    LOOP
        UTL_FILE.GET_LINE(v_empfile,v_emprec);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_emprec);
        v_count := v_count + 1;
    END LOOP;
    EXCEPTION
        WHEN NO_DATA_FOUND THEN
            UTL_FILE.FCLOSE(v_empfile);
            DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('End of file ' || v_filename || ' - ' ||
                v_count || ' records retrieved');
        WHEN OTHERS THEN
            DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SQLERRM: ' || SQLERRM);
            DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SQLCODE: ' || SQLCODE);
END;

7369,SMITH,CLERK,7902,17-DEC-80 00:00:00,800.00,,20
7499,ALLEN,SALESMAN,7698,20-FEB-81 00:00:00,1600.00,300.00,30
7521,WARD,SALESMAN,7698,22-FEB-81 00:00:00,1250.00,500.00,30
7566,JONES,MANAGER,7839,02-APR-81 00:00:00,2975.00,,20
7654,MARTIN,SALESMAN,7698,28-SEP-81 00:00:00,1250.00,1400.00,30
7698,BLAKE,MANAGER,7839,01-MAY-81 00:00:00,2850.00,,30
7782,CLARK,MANAGER,7839,09-JUN-81 00:00:00,2450.00,,10
7788,SCOTT,ANALYST,7566,19-APR-87 00:00:00,3000.00,,20
7839,KING,PRESIDENT,,17-NOV-81 00:00:00,5000.00,,10
7844,TURNER,SALESMAN,7698,08-SEP-81 00:00:00,1500.00,0.00,30
7876,ADAMS,CLERK,7788,23-MAY-87 00:00:00,1100.00,,20
7900,JAMES,CLERK,7698,03-DEC-81 00:00:00,950.00,,30
7902,FORD,ANALYST,7566,03-DEC-81 00:00:00,3000.00,,20
7934,MILLER,CLERK,7782,23-JAN-82 00:00:00,1300.00,,10
End of file empfile.csv - 14 records retrieved

```

3.20.10 IS_OPEN

The `IS_OPEN` function determines whether or not the given file is open.

```
status BOOLEAN IS_OPEN(file FILE_TYPE)
```

Parameters

file

Variable of type `FILE_TYPE` containing the file handle of the file to be tested.

status

TRUE if the given file is open, FALSE otherwise.

3.20.11 NEW_LINE

The `NEW_LINE` procedure writes an end-of-line character sequence in the file.

```
NEW_LINE(file FILE_TYPE [, lines INTEGER ])
```

Parameters

file

Variable of type `FILE_TYPE` containing the file handle of the file to which end-of-line character sequences are to be written.

lines

Number of end-of-line character sequences to be written. The default is one.

Examples

A file containing a double-spaced list of employee records is written.

```
DECLARE
  v_empfile      UTL_FILE.FILE_TYPE;
  v_directory    VARCHAR2(50) := 'empdir';
  v_filename     VARCHAR2(20) := 'empfile.csv';
  CURSOR emp_cur IS SELECT * FROM emp ORDER BY empno;
BEGIN
  v_empfile := UTL_FILE.FOPEN(v_directory,v_filename,'w');
  FOR i IN emp_cur LOOP
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.empno);
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,',');
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.ename);
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,',');
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.job);
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,',');
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.mgr);
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,',');
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.hiredate);
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,',');
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.sal);
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,',');
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.comm);
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,',');
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.deptno);
```

```
        UTL_FILE.NEW_LINE(v_empfile,2);
    END LOOP;
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Created file: ' || v_filename);
    UTL_FILE.FCLOSE(v_empfile);
END;

Created file: empfile.csv
```

This file is then displayed:

```
C:\TEMP\EMPDIR>TYPE empfile.csv

7369,SMITH,CLERK,7902,17-DEC-80 00:00:00,800.00,,20
7499,ALLEN,SALESMAN,7698,20-FEB-81 00:00:00,1600.00,300.00,30
7521,WARD,SALESMAN,7698,22-FEB-81 00:00:00,1250.00,500.00,30
7566,JONES,MANAGER,7839,02-APR-81 00:00:00,2975.00,,20
7654,MARTIN,SALESMAN,7698,28-SEP-81 00:00:00,1250.00,1400.00,30
7698,BLAKE,MANAGER,7839,01-MAY-81 00:00:00,2850.00,,30
7782,CLARK,MANAGER,7839,09-JUN-81 00:00:00,2450.00,,10
7788,SCOTT,ANALYST,7566,19-APR-87 00:00:00,3000.00,,20
7839,KING,PRESIDENT,,17-NOV-81 00:00:00,5000.00,,10
7844,TURNER,SALESMAN,7698,08-SEP-81 00:00:00,1500.00,0.00,30
7876,ADAMS,CLERK,7788,23-MAY-87 00:00:00,1100.00,,20
7900,JAMES,CLERK,7698,03-DEC-81 00:00:00,950.00,,30
7902,FORD,ANALYST,7566,03-DEC-81 00:00:00,3000.00,,20
7934,MILLER,CLERK,7782,23-JAN-82 00:00:00,1300.00,,10
```

3.20.12 PUT

The PUT procedure writes a string to the given file. No end-of-line character sequence is written at the end of the string. Use the NEW_LINE procedure to add an end-of-line character sequence.

```
PUT(file FILE_TYPE, buffer { DATE | NUMBER | TIMESTAMP |
    VARCHAR2 })
```

Parameters

file

Variable of type `FILE_TYPE` containing the file handle of the file to which the given string is to be written.

buffer

Text to be written to the specified file.

Examples

The following example uses the `PUT` procedure to create a comma-delimited file of employees from the `emp` table.

```
DECLARE
  v_empfile      UTL_FILE.FILE_TYPE;
  v_directory    VARCHAR2(50) := 'empdir';
  v_filename     VARCHAR2(20) := 'empfile.csv';
  CURSOR emp_cur IS SELECT * FROM emp ORDER BY empno;
BEGIN
  v_empfile := UTL_FILE.FOPEN(v_directory,v_filename,'w');
  FOR i IN emp_cur LOOP
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.empno);
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,',');
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.ename);
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,',');
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.job);
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,',');
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.mgr);
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,',');
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.hiredate);
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,',');
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.sal);
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,',');
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.comm);
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,',');
    UTL_FILE.PUT(v_empfile,i.deptno);
    UTL_FILE.NEW_LINE(v_empfile);
  END LOOP;
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Created file: ' || v_filename);
  UTL_FILE.FCLOSE(v_empfile);
END;
```

Created file: empfile.csv

The following is the contents of `empfile.csv` created above:

```
C:\TEMP\EMPDIR>TYPE empfile.csv

7369,SMITH,CLERK,7902,17-DEC-80 00:00:00,800.00,,20
7499,ALLEN,SALESMAN,7698,20-FEB-81 00:00:00,1600.00,300.00,30
7521,WARD,SALESMAN,7698,22-FEB-81 00:00:00,1250.00,500.00,30
7566,JONES,MANAGER,7839,02-APR-81 00:00:00,2975.00,,20
7654,MARTIN,SALESMAN,7698,28-SEP-81 00:00:00,1250.00,1400.00,30
7698,BLAKE,MANAGER,7839,01-MAY-81 00:00:00,2850.00,,30
7782,CLARK,MANAGER,7839,09-JUN-81 00:00:00,2450.00,,10
7788,SCOTT,ANALYST,7566,19-APR-87 00:00:00,3000.00,,20
7839,KING,PRESIDENT,,17-NOV-81 00:00:00,5000.00,,10
7844,TURNER,SALESMAN,7698,08-SEP-81 00:00:00,1500.00,0.00,30
```

```
7876,ADAMS,CLERK,7788,23-MAY-87 00:00:00,1100.00,,20
7900,JAMES,CLERK,7698,03-DEC-81 00:00:00,950.00,,30
7902,FORD,ANALYST,7566,03-DEC-81 00:00:00,3000.00,,20
7934,MILLER,CLERK,7782,23-JAN-82 00:00:00,1300.00,,10
```

3.20.13 PUT_LINE

The `PUT_LINE` procedure writes a single line to the given file including an end-of-line character sequence.

```
PUT_LINE(file FILE_TYPE,
        buffer {DATE|NUMBER|TIMESTAMP|VARCHAR2})
```

Parameters

file

Variable of type `FILE_TYPE` containing the file handle of the file to which the given line is to be written.

buffer

Text to be written to the specified file.

Examples

The following example uses the `PUT_LINE` procedure to create a comma-delimited file of employees from the `emp` table.

```
DECLARE
v_empfile          UTL_FILE.FILE_TYPE;
v_directory        VARCHAR2(50) := 'empdir';
v_filename         VARCHAR2(20) := 'empfile.csv';
v_emprec           VARCHAR2(120);
CURSOR emp_cur IS SELECT * FROM emp ORDER BY empno;
BEGIN
v_empfile := UTL_FILE.FOPEN(v_directory,v_filename,'w');
FOR i IN emp_cur LOOP
    v_emprec := i.empno || ',' || i.ename || ',' || i.job || ',' ||
                NVL(LTRIM(TO_CHAR(i.mgr,'9999')),') || ',' || i.hiredate ||
                ',' || i.sal || ',' ||
                NVL(LTRIM(TO_CHAR(i.comm,'9990.99')),') || ',' || i.deptno;
    UTL_FILE.PUT_LINE(v_empfile,v_emprec);
END LOOP;
DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Created file: ' || v_filename);
UTL_FILE.FCLOSE(v_empfile);
END;
```

The following is the contents of `empfile.csv` created above:

```
C:\TEMP\EMPDIR>TYPE empfile.csv
7369,SMITH,CLERK,7902,17-DEC-80 00:00:00,800.00,,20
7499,ALLEN,SALESMAN,7698,20-FEB-81 00:00:00,1600.00,300.00,30
7521,WARD,SALESMAN,7698,22-FEB-81 00:00:00,1250.00,500.00,30
7566,JONES,MANAGER,7839,02-APR-81 00:00:00,2975.00,,20
7654,MARTIN,SALESMAN,7698,28-SEP-81 00:00:00,1250.00,1400.00,30
7698,BLAKE,MANAGER,7839,01-MAY-81 00:00:00,2850.00,,30
7782,CLARK,MANAGER,7839,09-JUN-81 00:00:00,2450.00,,10
7788,SCOTT,ANALYST,7566,19-APR-87 00:00:00,3000.00,,20
7839,KING,PRESIDENT,,17-NOV-81 00:00:00,5000.00,,10
7844,TURNER,SALESMAN,7698,08-SEP-81 00:00:00,1500.00,0.00,30
7876,ADAMS,CLERK,7788,23-MAY-87 00:00:00,1100.00,,20
7900,JAMES,CLERK,7698,03-DEC-81 00:00:00,950.00,,30
7902,FORD,ANALYST,7566,03-DEC-81 00:00:00,3000.00,,20
7934,MILLER,CLERK,7782,23-JAN-82 00:00:00,1300.00,,10
```

3.20.14 PUTF

The PUTF procedure writes a formatted string to the given file.

```
PUTF(file FILE_TYPE, format VARCHAR2 [, arg1 VARCHAR2]
    [, ...])
```

Parameters

file

Variable of type FILE_TYPE containing the file handle of the file to which the formatted line is to be written.

format

String to format the text written to the file. The special character sequence, %s, is substituted by the value of arg. The special character sequence, \n, indicates a new line. Note, however, in Advanced Server, a new line character must be specified with two consecutive backslashes instead of one - \\n. This characteristic is not compatible with Oracle databases.

arg1

Up to five arguments, *arg1*,...*arg5*, to be substituted in the format string for each occurrence of %s. The first arg is substituted for the first occurrence of %s, the second arg is substituted for the second occurrence of %s, etc.

Examples

The following anonymous block produces formatted output containing data from the emp table. Note the use of the E literal syntax and double backslashes for the new line character sequence in the format string which are not compatible with Oracle databases.

```

DECLARE
  v_empfile      UTL_FILE.FILE_TYPE;
  v_directory    VARCHAR2(50) := 'empdir';
  v_filename     VARCHAR2(20) := 'empfile.csv';
  v_format       VARCHAR2(200);
  CURSOR emp_cur IS SELECT * FROM emp ORDER BY empno;
BEGIN
  v_format := E'%s %s, %s\\nSalary: $%s Commission: $%s\\n\\n';
  v_empfile := UTL_FILE.FOPEN(v_directory,v_filename,'w');
  FOR i IN emp_cur LOOP
    UTL_FILE.PUTF(v_empfile,v_format,i.empno,i.ename,i.job,i.sal,
      NVL(i.comm,0));
  END LOOP;
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Created file: ' || v_filename);
  UTL_FILE.FCLOSE(v_empfile);
EXCEPTION
  WHEN OTHERS THEN
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SQLERRM: ' || SQLERRM);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('SQLCODE: ' || SQLCODE);
END;

Created file: empfile.csv

```

The following is the contents of empfile.csv created above:

```

C:\TEMP\EMPDIR>TYPE empfile.csv
7369 SMITH, CLERK
Salary: $800.00 Commission: $0
7499 ALLEN, SALESMAN
Salary: $1600.00 Commission: $300.00
7521 WARD, SALESMAN
Salary: $1250.00 Commission: $500.00
7566 JONES, MANAGER
Salary: $2975.00 Commission: $0
7654 MARTIN, SALESMAN
Salary: $1250.00 Commission: $1400.00
7698 BLAKE, MANAGER
Salary: $2850.00 Commission: $0
7782 CLARK, MANAGER
Salary: $2450.00 Commission: $0
7788 SCOTT, ANALYST
Salary: $3000.00 Commission: $0
7839 KING, PRESIDENT
Salary: $5000.00 Commission: $0
7844 TURNER, SALESMAN
Salary: $1500.00 Commission: $0.00
7876 ADAMS, CLERK
Salary: $1100.00 Commission: $0
7900 JAMES, CLERK
Salary: $950.00 Commission: $0
7902 FORD, ANALYST
Salary: $3000.00 Commission: $0
7934 MILLER, CLERK
Salary: $1300.00 Commission: $0

```

3.21 UTL_HTTP

The UTL_HTTP package provides a way to use the HTTP or HTTPS protocol to retrieve information found at an URL. Advanced Server supports the following functions and procedures:

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
BEGIN_REQUEST(<i>url</i> , <i>method</i> , <i>http_version</i>)	UTL_HTTP.REQ	Initiates a new HTTP request.
END_REQUEST(<i>r</i> IN OUT)	n/a	Ends an HTTP request before allowing it to complete.
END_RESPONSE(<i>r</i> IN OUT)	n/a	Ends the HTTP response.
GET_BODY_CHARSET	VARCHAR2	Returns the default character set of the body of future HTTP requests.
GET_BODY_CHARSET(<i>charset</i> OUT)	n/a	Returns the default character set of the body of future HTTP requests.
GET_FOLLOW_REDIRECT(<i>max_redirects</i> OUT)	n/a	Current setting for the maximum number of redirections allowed.
GET_HEADER(<i>r</i> IN OUT, <i>n</i> , <i>name</i> OUT, <i>value</i> OUT)	n/a	Returns the <i>n</i> th header of the HTTP response.
GET_HEADER_BY_NAME(<i>r</i> IN OUT, <i>name</i> , <i>value</i> OUT, <i>n</i>)	n/a	Returns the HTTP response header for the specified name.
GET_HEADER_COUNT(<i>r</i> IN OUT)	INTEGER	Returns the number of HTTP response headers.
GET_RESPONSE(<i>r</i> IN OUT)	UTL_HTTP.RESP	Returns the HTTP response.
GET_RESPONSE_ERROR_CHECK(<i>enable</i> OUT)	n/a	Returns whether or not response error check is set.
GET_TRANSFER_TIMEOUT(<i>timeout</i> OUT)	n/a	Returns the transfer timeout setting for HTTP requests.
READ_LINE(<i>r</i> IN OUT, <i>data</i> OUT, <i>remove_crlf</i>)	n/a	Returns the HTTP response body in text form until the end of line.
READ_RAW(<i>r</i> IN OUT, <i>data</i> OUT, <i>len</i>)	n/a	Returns the HTTP response body in binary form for a specified number of bytes.
READ_TEXT(<i>r</i> IN OUT, <i>data</i> OUT, <i>len</i>)	n/a	Returns the HTTP response body in text form for a specified number of characters.
REQUEST(<i>url</i>)	VARCHAR2	Returns the content of a web page.
REQUEST_PIECES(<i>url</i> , <i>max_pieces</i>)	UTL_HTTP.HTML_PIECES	Returns a table of 2000-byte segments retrieved from an URL.
SET_BODY_CHARSET(<i>charset</i>)	n/a	Sets the default character set of the body of future HTTP requests.
SET_FOLLOW_REDIRECT(<i>max_redirects</i>)	n/a	Sets the maximum number of times to follow the redirect instruction.
SET_FOLLOW_REDIRECT(<i>r</i> IN OUT, <i>max_redirects</i>)	n/a	Sets the maximum number of times to follow the redirect instruction for an individual request.
SET_HEADER(<i>r</i> IN OUT, <i>name</i> , <i>value</i>)	n/a	Sets the HTTP request header.
SET_RESPONSE_ERROR_CHECK(<i>enable</i>)	n/a	Determines whether or not HTTP 4xx and 5xx status codes are to be treated as errors.

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
SET_TRANSFER_TIMEOUT(<i>timeout</i>)	n/a	Sets the default, transfer timeout value for HTTP requests.
SET_TRANSFER_TIMEOUT(<i>r</i> IN OUT, <i>timeout</i>)	n/a	Sets the transfer timeout value for an individual HTTP request.
WRITE_LINE(<i>r</i> IN OUT, <i>data</i>)	n/a	Writes CRLF terminated data to the HTTP request body in TEXT form.
WRITE_RAW(<i>r</i> IN OUT, <i>data</i>)	n/a	Writes data to the HTTP request body in BINARY form.
WRITE_TEXT(<i>r</i> IN OUT, <i>data</i>)	n/a	Writes data to the HTTP request body in TEXT form.

Advanced Server's implementation of UTL_HTTP is a partial implementation when compared to Oracle's version. Only those functions and procedures listed in the table above are supported.

Please Note:

In Advanced Server, an HTTP 4xx or HTTP 5xx response produces a database error; in Oracle, this is configurable but FALSE by default.

In Advanced Server, the UTL_HTTP text interfaces expect the downloaded data to be in the database encoding. All currently-available interfaces are text interfaces. In Oracle, the encoding is detected from HTTP headers; in the absence of the header, the default is configurable and defaults to ISO-8859-1.

Advanced Server ignores all cookies it receives.

The UTL_HTTP exceptions that can be raised in Oracle are not recognized by Advanced Server. In addition, the error codes returned by Advanced Server are not the same as those returned by Oracle.

There are various public constants available with UTL_HTTP. These are listed in the following tables.

The following table contains UTL_HTTP public constants defining HTTP versions and port assignments.

HTTP VERSIONS	
HTTP_VERSION_1_0	CONSTANT VARCHAR2(64) := 'HTTP/1.0';
HTTP_VERSION_1_1	CONSTANT VARCHAR2(64) := 'HTTP/1.1';
STANDARD PORT ASSIGNMENTS	
DEFAULT_HTTP_PORT	CONSTANT INTEGER := 80;
DEFAULT_HTTPS_PORT	CONSTANT INTEGER := 443;

The following table contains UTL_HTTP public status code constants.

1XX INFORMATIONAL	
HTTP_CONTINUE	CONSTANT INTEGER := 100;
HTTP_SWITCHING_PROTOCOLS	CONSTANT INTEGER := 101;
HTTP_PROCESSING	CONSTANT INTEGER := 102;
2XX SUCCESS	
HTTP_OK	CONSTANT INTEGER := 200;
HTTP_CREATED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 201;
HTTP_ACCEPTED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 202;
HTTP_NON_AUTHORITATIVE_INFO	CONSTANT INTEGER := 203;
HTTP_NO_CONTENT	CONSTANT INTEGER := 204;
HTTP_RESET_CONTENT	CONSTANT INTEGER := 205;
HTTP_PARTIAL_CONTENT	CONSTANT INTEGER := 206;
HTTP_MULTI_STATUS	CONSTANT INTEGER := 207;
HTTP_ALREADY_REPORTED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 208;
HTTP_IM_USED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 226;
3XX REDIRECTION	
HTTP_MULTIPLE_CHOICES	CONSTANT INTEGER := 300;
HTTP_MOVED_PERMANENTLY	CONSTANT INTEGER := 301;
HTTP_FOUND	CONSTANT INTEGER := 302;
HTTP_SEE_OTHER	CONSTANT INTEGER := 303;
HTTP_NOT_MODIFIED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 304;
HTTP_USE_PROXY	CONSTANT INTEGER := 305;
HTTP_SWITCH_PROXY	CONSTANT INTEGER := 306;
HTTP_TEMPORARY_REDIRECT	CONSTANT INTEGER := 307;
HTTP_PERMANENT_REDIRECT	CONSTANT INTEGER := 308;
4XX CLIENT ERROR	
HTTP_BAD_REQUEST	CONSTANT INTEGER := 400;
HTTP_UNAUTHORIZED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 401;
HTTP_PAYMENT_REQUIRED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 402;
HTTP_FORBIDDEN	CONSTANT INTEGER := 403;
HTTP_NOT_FOUND	CONSTANT INTEGER := 404;
HTTP_METHOD_NOT_ALLOWED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 405;
HTTP_NOT_ACCEPTABLE	CONSTANT INTEGER := 406;
HTTP_PROXY_AUTH_REQUIRED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 407;
HTTP_REQUEST_TIME_OUT	CONSTANT INTEGER := 408;
HTTP_CONFLICT	CONSTANT INTEGER := 409;
HTTP_GONE	CONSTANT INTEGER := 410;
HTTP_LENGTH_REQUIRED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 411;
HTTP_PRECONDITION_FAILED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 412;
HTTP_REQUEST_ENTITY_TOO_LARGE	CONSTANT INTEGER := 413;
HTTP_REQUEST_URI_TOO_LARGE	CONSTANT INTEGER := 414;
HTTP_UNSUPPORTED_MEDIA_TYPE	CONSTANT INTEGER := 415;
HTTP_REQ_RANGE_NOT_SATISFIABLE	CONSTANT INTEGER := 416;
HTTP_EXPECTATION_FAILED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 417;
HTTP_I_AM_A_TEAPOT	CONSTANT INTEGER := 418;
HTTP_AUTHENTICATION_TIME_OUT	CONSTANT INTEGER := 419;
HTTP_ENHANCE_YOUR_CALM	CONSTANT INTEGER := 420;
HTTP_UNPROCESSABLE_ENTITY	CONSTANT INTEGER := 422;
HTTP_LOCKED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 423;
HTTP_FAILED_DEPENDENCY	CONSTANT INTEGER := 424;
HTTP_UNORDERED_COLLECTION	CONSTANT INTEGER := 425;
HTTP_UPGRADE_REQUIRED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 426;
HTTP_PRECONDITION_REQUIRED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 428;
HTTP_TOO_MANY_REQUESTS	CONSTANT INTEGER := 429;
HTTP_REQUEST_HEADER_FIELDS_TOO_LARGE	CONSTANT INTEGER := 431;
HTTP_NO_RESPONSE	CONSTANT INTEGER := 444;
HTTP_RETRY_WITH	CONSTANT INTEGER := 449;

HTTP BLOCKED BY WINDOWS PARENTAL CONTROLS	CONSTANT INTEGER := 450;
HTTP REDIRECT	CONSTANT INTEGER := 451;
HTTP REQUEST HEADER TOO LARGE	CONSTANT INTEGER := 494;
HTTP CERT ERROR	CONSTANT INTEGER := 495;
HTTP NO CERT	CONSTANT INTEGER := 496;
HTTP HTTP TO HTTPS	CONSTANT INTEGER := 497;
HTTP CLIENT CLOSED REQUEST	CONSTANT INTEGER := 499;
5XX SERVER ERROR	
HTTP INTERNAL SERVER ERROR	CONSTANT INTEGER := 500;
HTTP NOT IMPLEMENTED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 501;
HTTP BAD GATEWAY	CONSTANT INTEGER := 502;
HTTP SERVICE UNAVAILABLE	CONSTANT INTEGER := 503;
HTTP GATEWAY TIME OUT	CONSTANT INTEGER := 504;
HTTP VERSION NOT SUPPORTED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 505;
HTTP VARIANT ALSO NEGOTIATES	CONSTANT INTEGER := 506;
HTTP INSUFFICIENT STORAGE	CONSTANT INTEGER := 507;
HTTP LOOP DETECTED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 508;
HTTP BANDWIDTH LIMIT EXCEEDED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 509;
HTTP NOT EXTENDED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 510;
HTTP NETWORK AUTHENTICATION REQUIRED	CONSTANT INTEGER := 511;
HTTP NETWORK READ TIME OUT ERROR	CONSTANT INTEGER := 598;
HTTP NETWORK CONNECT TIME OUT ERROR	CONSTANT INTEGER := 599;

3.21.1 HTML_PIECES

The UTL_HTTP package declares a type named HTML_PIECES, which is a table of type VARCHAR2 (2000) indexed by BINARY_INTEGER. A value of this type is returned by the REQUEST_PIECES function.

```
TYPE html_pieces IS TABLE OF VARCHAR2(2000) INDEX BY BINARY_INTEGER;
```

3.21.2 REQ

The REQ record type holds information about each HTTP request.

```
TYPE req IS RECORD (
  url          VARCHAR2(32767),    -- URL to be accessed
  method       VARCHAR2(64),      -- HTTP method
  http_version VARCHAR2(64),      -- HTTP version
  private_hdl  INTEGER            -- Holds handle for this request
);
```

3.21.3 RESP

The RESP record type holds information about the response from each HTTP request.

```
TYPE resp IS RECORD (
```

```

status_code      INTEGER,           -- HTTP status code
reason_phrase    VARCHAR2(256),    -- HTTP response reason phrase
http_version     VARCHAR2(64),     -- HTTP version
private_hdl      INTEGER           -- Holds handle for this response
);

```

3.21.4 BEGIN_REQUEST

The `BEGIN_REQUEST` function initiates a new HTTP request. A network connection is established to the web server with the specified URL. The signature is:

```

BEGIN_REQUEST(url IN VARCHAR2, method IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT
'GET ', http_version IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL) RETURN
UTL_HTTP.REQ

```

The `BEGIN_REQUEST` function returns a record of type `UTL_HTTP.REQ`.

Parameters

url

url is the Uniform Resource Locator from which `UTL_HTTP` will return content.

method

method is the HTTP method to be used. The default is `GET`.

http_version

http_version is the HTTP protocol version sending the request. The specified values should be either `HTTP/1.0` or `HTTP/1.1`. The default is null in which case the latest HTTP protocol version supported by the `UTL_HTTP` package is used which is 1.1.

3.21.5 END_REQUEST

The `END_REQUEST` procedure terminates an HTTP request. Use the `END_REQUEST` procedure to terminate an HTTP request without completing it and waiting for the response. The normal process is to begin the request, get the response, then close the response. The signature is:

```

END_REQUEST(r IN OUT UTL_HTTP.REQ)

```

Parameters

r

r is the HTTP request record.

3.21.6 END_RESPONSE

The `END_RESPONSE` procedure terminates the HTTP response. The `END_RESPONSE` procedure completes the HTTP request and response. This is the normal method to end the request and response process. The signature is:

```
END_RESPONSE(r IN OUT UTL_HTTP.RESP)
```

Parameters

r

r is the HTTP response record.

3.21.7 GET_BODY_CHARSET

The `GET_BODY_CHARSET` program is available in the form of both a procedure and a function. A call to `GET_BODY_CHARSET` returns the default character set of the body of future HTTP requests.

The procedure signature is:

```
GET_BODY_CHARSET(charset OUT VARCHAR2)
```

The function signature is:

```
GET_BODY_CHARSET() RETURN VARCHAR2
```

This function returns a `VARCHAR2` value.

Parameters

charset

charset is the character set of the body.

Examples

The following is an example of the `GET_BODY_CHARSET` function.

```
edb=# SELECT UTL_HTTP.GET_BODY_CHARSET() FROM DUAL;
get_body_charset
-----
ISO-8859-1
(1 row)
```

3.21.8 GET_FOLLOW_REDIRECT

The `GET_FOLLOW_REDIRECT` procedure returns the current setting for the maximum number of redirections allowed. The signature is:

```
GET_FOLLOW_REDIRECT(max_redirects OUT INTEGER)
```

Parameters

max_redirects

max_redirects is maximum number of redirections allowed.

3.21.9 GET_HEADER

The `GET_HEADER` procedure returns the *n*th header of the HTTP response. The signature is:

```
GET_HEADER(r IN OUT UTL_HTTP.RESP, n INTEGER, name OUT  
VARCHAR2, value OUT VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

r

r is the HTTP response record.

n

n is the *n*th header of the HTTP response record to retrieve.

name

name is the name of the response header.

value

value is the value of the response header.

Examples

The following example retrieves the header count, then the headers.

```

DECLARE
    v_req          UTL_HTTP.REQ;
    v_resp         UTL_HTTP.RESP;
    v_name         VARCHAR2(30);
    v_value        VARCHAR2(200);
    v_header_cnt   INTEGER;
BEGIN
    -- Initiate request and get response
    v_req := UTL_HTTP.BEGIN_REQUEST('www.enterprisedb.com');
    v_resp := UTL_HTTP.GET_RESPONSE(v_req);

    -- Get header count
    v_header_cnt := UTL_HTTP.GET_HEADER_COUNT(v_resp);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Header Count: ' || v_header_cnt);

    -- Get all headers
    FOR i IN 1 .. v_header_cnt LOOP
        UTL_HTTP.GET_HEADER(v_resp, i, v_name, v_value);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_name || ': ' || v_value);
    END LOOP;

    -- Terminate request
    UTL_HTTP.END_RESPONSE(v_resp);
END;

```

The following is the output from the example.

```

Header Count: 23
Age: 570
Cache-Control: must-revalidate
Content-Type: text/html; charset=utf-8
Date: Wed, 30 Apr 2015 14:57:52 GMT
ETag: "aab02f2bd2d696eed817ca89ef411dda"
Expires: Sun, 19 Nov 1978 05:00:00 GMT
Last-Modified: Wed, 30 Apr 2015 14:15:49 GMT
RTSS: 1-1307-3
Server: Apache/2.2.3 (Red Hat)
Set-Cookie: SESS2771d0952de2a1a84d322a262e0c173c=jn1u1j1etmdi5gg4lh8hakvs01;
expires=Fri, 23-May-2015 18:21:43 GMT; path=/; domain=.enterprisedb.com
Vary: Accept-Encoding
Via: 1.1 varnish
X-EDB-Backend: ec
X-EDB-Cache: HIT
X-EDB-Cache-Address: 10.31.162.212
X-EDB-Cache-Server: ip-10-31-162-212
X-EDB-Cache-TTL: 600.000
X-EDB-Cacheable: MAYBE: The user has a cookie of some sort. Maybe it's double
choc-chip!
X-EDB-Do-GZIP: false
X-Powered-By: PHP/5.2.17

```

```
X-Varnish: 484508634 484506789
transfer-encoding: chunked
Connection: keep-alive
```

3.21.10 GET_HEADER_BY_NAME

The `GET_HEADER_BY_NAME` procedure returns the header of the HTTP response according to the specified name. The signature is:

```
GET_HEADER_BY_NAME(r IN OUT UTL_HTTP.RESP, name VARCHAR2,
                  value OUT VARCHAR2, n INTEGER DEFAULT 1)
```

Parameters

r

r is the HTTP response record.

name

name is the name of the response header to retrieve.

value

value is the value of the response header.

n

n is the *n*th header of the HTTP response record to retrieve according to the values specified by *name*. The default is 1.

Examples

The following example retrieves the header for Content-Type.

```
DECLARE
  v_req      UTL_HTTP.REQ;
  v_resp     UTL_HTTP.RESP;
  v_name     VARCHAR2(30) := 'Content-Type';
  v_value    VARCHAR2(200);
BEGIN
  v_req := UTL_HTTP.BEGIN_REQUEST('www.enterprisedb.com');
  v_resp := UTL_HTTP.GET_RESPONSE(v_req);
  UTL_HTTP.GET_HEADER_BY_NAME(v_resp, v_name, v_value);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_name || ': ' || v_value);
  UTL_HTTP.END_RESPONSE(v_resp);
END;
```

Content-Type: text/html; charset=utf-8

3.21.11 GET_HEADER_COUNT

The `GET_HEADER_COUNT` function returns the number of HTTP response headers. The signature is:

```
GET_HEADER_COUNT(r IN OUT UTL_HTTP.RESP) RETURN INTEGER
```

This function returns an `INTEGER` value.

Parameters

r

r is the HTTP response record.

3.21.12 GET_RESPONSE

The `GET_RESPONSE` function sends the network request and returns any HTTP response. The signature is:

```
GET_RESPONSE(r IN OUT UTL_HTTP.REQ) RETURN UTL_HTTP.RESP
```

This function returns a `UTL_HTTP.RESP` record.

Parameters

r

r is the HTTP request record.

3.21.13 GET_RESPONSE_ERROR_CHECK

The `GET_RESPONSE_ERROR_CHECK` procedure returns whether or not response error check is set. The signature is:

```
GET_RESPONSE_ERROR_CHECK(enable OUT BOOLEAN)
```

Parameters

enable

enable returns TRUE if response error check is set, otherwise it returns FALSE.

3.21.14 GET_TRANSFER_TIMEOUT

The GET_TRANSFER_TIMEOUT procedure returns the current, default transfer timeout setting for HTTP requests. The signature is:

```
GET_TRANSFER_TIMEOUT(timeout OUT INTEGER)
```

Parameters

timeout

timeout is the transfer timeout setting in seconds.

3.21.15 READ_LINE

The READ_LINE procedure returns the data from the HTTP response body in text form until the end of line is reached. A CR character, a LF character, a CR LF sequence, or the end of the response body constitutes the end of line. The signature is:

```
READ_LINE(r IN OUT UTL_HTTP.RESP, data OUT VARCHAR2,  
remove_crlf BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE)
```

Parameters

r

r is the HTTP response record.

data

data is the response body in text form.

remove_crlf

Set *remove_crlf* to TRUE to remove new line characters, otherwise set to FALSE. The default is FALSE.

Examples

The following example retrieves and displays the body of the specified website.

```

DECLARE
    v_req          UTL_HTTP.REQ;
    v_resp         UTL_HTTP.RESP;
    v_value        VARCHAR2(1024);
BEGIN
    v_req := UTL_HTTP.BEGIN_REQUEST('http://www.enterprisedb.com');
    v_resp := UTL_HTTP.GET_RESPONSE(v_req);
    LOOP
        UTL_HTTP.READ_LINE(v_resp, v_value, TRUE);
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_value);
    END LOOP;
EXCEPTION
    WHEN OTHERS THEN
        UTL_HTTP.END_RESPONSE(v_resp);
END;

```

The following is the output.

```

<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" xml:lang="en" lang="en" dir="ltr">

  <!-- _____ HEAD _____ -->

  <head>
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=utf-8" />

  <title>EnterpriseDB | The Postgres Database Company</title>

  <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=utf-8" />
<meta name="keywords" content="postgres, postgresql, postgresql installer,
mysql migration, open source database, training, replication" />
<meta name="description" content="The leader in open source database
products, services, support, training and expertise based on PostgreSQL. Free
downloads, documentation, and tutorials." />
<meta name="abstract" content="The Enterprise PostgreSQL Company" />
<link rel="EditURI" type="application/rsd+xml" title="RSD"
href="http://www.enterprisedb.com/blogapi/rsd" />
<link rel="alternate" type="application/rss+xml" title="EnterpriseDB RSS"
href="http://www.enterprisedb.com/rss.xml" />
<link rel="shortcut icon"
href="/sites/all/themes/edb_pixelcrayons/favicon.ico" type="image/x-icon" />
  <link type="text/css" rel="stylesheet" media="all"
href="/sites/default/files/css/css_db1ladabae0aed6b79a2c3c52def4754.css" />
  <!--[if IE 6]>
<link type="text/css" rel="stylesheet" media="all"
href="/sites/all/themes/oho_basic/css/ie6.css?g" />
  <![endif]-->
  <!--[if IE 7]>
<link type="text/css" rel="stylesheet" media="all"
href="/sites/all/themes/oho_basic/css/ie7.css?g" />
  <![endif]-->
  <script type="text/javascript"
src="/sites/default/files/js/js_74d97b1176812e2fd6e43d62503a5204.js"></script
>
<script type="text/javascript">
<!--//--><![CDATA[//><!--

```

3.21.16 READ_RAW

The `READ_RAW` procedure returns the data from the HTTP response body in binary form. The number of bytes returned is specified by the `len` parameter. The signature is:

```
READ_RAW(r IN OUT UTL_HTTP.RESP, data OUT RAW, len INTEGER)
```

Parameters

r

r is the HTTP response record.

data

data is the response body in binary form.

len

Set *len* to the number of bytes of data to be returned.

Examples

The following example retrieves and displays the first 150 bytes in binary form.

```
DECLARE
  v_req      UTL_HTTP.REQ;
  v_resp     UTL_HTTP.RESP;
  v_data     RAW;
BEGIN
  v_req := UTL_HTTP.BEGIN_REQUEST('http://www.enterprisedb.com');
  v_resp := UTL_HTTP.GET_RESPONSE(v_req);
  UTL_HTTP.READ_RAW(v_resp, v_data, 150);
  DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_data);
  UTL_HTTP.END_RESPONSE(v_resp);
END;
```

The following is the output from the example.

```
\x3c21444f43545950452068746d6c205055424c494320222d2f2f5733432f2f4454442058485
44d4c20312e30205374726963742f2f454e220d0a202022687474703a2f2f7777772e77332e6f
72672f54522f7868746d6c312f4454442f7868746d6c312d7374726963742e647464223e0d0a3
c68746d6c20786d6c6e733d22687474703a2f2f7777772e77332e6f72672f313939392f
```

3.21.17 READ_TEXT

The `READ_TEXT` procedure returns the data from the HTTP response body in text form. The maximum number of characters returned is specified by the `len` parameter. The signature is:

```
READ_TEXT(r IN OUT UTL_HTTP.RESP, data OUT VARCHAR2, len
INTEGER)
```

Parameters

r

r is the HTTP response record.

data

data is the response body in text form.

len

Set *len* to the maximum number of characters to be returned.

Examples

The following example retrieves the first 150 characters.

```
DECLARE
    v_req      UTL_HTTP.REQ;
    v_resp     UTL_HTTP.RESP;
    v_data     VARCHAR2(150);
BEGIN
    v_req := UTL_HTTP.BEGIN_REQUEST('http://www.enterprisedb.com');
    v_resp := UTL_HTTP.GET_RESPONSE(v_req);
    UTL_HTTP.READ_TEXT(v_resp, v_data, 150);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_data);
    UTL_HTTP.END_RESPONSE(v_resp);
END;
```

The following is the output.

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/
```

3.21.18 REQUEST

The `REQUEST` function returns the first 2000 bytes retrieved from a user-specified URL. The signature is:

```
REQUEST(url IN VARCHAR2) RETURN VARCHAR2
```

If the data found at the given URL is longer than 2000 bytes, the remainder will be discarded. If the data found at the given URL is shorter than 2000 bytes, the result will be shorter than 2000 bytes.

Parameters

url

url is the Uniform Resource Locator from which `UTL_HTTP` will return content.

Example

The following command returns the first 2000 bytes retrieved from the EnterpriseDB website:

```
SELECT UTL_HTTP.REQUEST('http://www.enterprisedb.com/') FROM DUAL;
```

3.21.19 REQUEST_PIECES

The `REQUEST_PIECES` function returns a table of 2000-byte segments retrieved from an URL. The signature is:

```
REQUEST_PIECES(url IN VARCHAR2, max_pieces NUMBER IN  
DEFAULT 32767) RETURN UTL_HTTP.HTML_PIECES
```

Parameters

url

url is the Uniform Resource Locator from which `UTL_HTTP` will return content.

max_pieces

max_pieces specifies the maximum number of 2000-byte segments that the `REQUEST_PIECES` function will return. If *max_pieces* specifies more units than are available at the specified *url*, the final unit will contain fewer bytes.

Example

The following example returns the first four 2000 byte segments retrieved from the EnterpriseDB website:

```
DECLARE
    result UTL_HTTP.HTML_PIECES;
BEGIN
    result := UTL_HTTP.REQUEST_PIECES('http://www.enterprisedb.com/', 4);
END;
```

3.21.20 SET_BODY_CHARSET

The `SET_BODY_CHARSET` procedure sets the default character set of the body of future HTTP requests. The signature is:

```
SET_BODY_CHARSET(charset VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL)
```

Parameters

charset

charset is the character set of the body of future requests. The default is null in which case the database character set is assumed.

3.21.21 SET_FOLLOW_REDIRECT

The `SET_FOLLOW_REDIRECT` procedure sets the maximum number of times the HTTP redirect instruction is to be followed in the response to this request or future requests. This procedure has two signatures:

```
SET_FOLLOW_REDIRECT(max_redirects IN INTEGER DEFAULT 3)
```

and

```
SET_FOLLOW_REDIRECT(r IN OUT UTL_HTTP.REQ, max_redirects IN  
INTEGER DEFAULT 3)
```

Use the second form to change the maximum number of redirections for an individual request that a request inherits from the session default settings.

Parameters

r

r is the HTTP request record.

max_redirects

max_redirects is maximum number of redirections allowed. Set to 0 to disable redirections. The default is 3.

3.21.22 SET_HEADER

The SET_HEADER procedure sets the HTTP request header. The signature is:

```
SET_HEADER(r IN OUT UTL_HTTP.REQ, name IN VARCHAR2, value  
IN VARCHAR2 DEFAULT NULL)
```

Parameters

r

r is the HTTP request record.

name

name is the name of the request header.

value

value is the value of the request header. The default is null.

3.21.23 SET_RESPONSE_ERROR_CHECK

The SET_RESPONSE_ERROR_CHECK procedure determines whether or not HTTP 4xx and 5xx status codes returned by the GET_RESPONSE function should be interpreted as errors. The signature is:

```
SET_RESPONSE_ERROR_CHECK(enable IN BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE)
```

Parameters

enable

Set *enable* to TRUE if HTTP 4xx and 5xx status codes are to be treated as errors, otherwise set to FALSE. The default is FALSE.

3.21.24 SET_TRANSFER_TIMEOUT

The `SET_TRANSFER_TIMEOUT` procedure sets the default, transfer timeout setting for waiting for a response from an HTTP request. This procedure has two signatures:

```
SET_TRANSFER_TIMEOUT(timeout IN INTEGER DEFAULT 60)
```

and

```
SET_TRANSFER_TIMEOUT(r IN OUT UTL_HTTP.REQ, timeout IN  
INTEGER DEFAULT 60)
```

Use the second form to change the transfer timeout setting for an individual request that a request inherits from the session default settings.

Parameters

r

r is the HTTP request record.

timeout

timeout is the transfer timeout setting in seconds for HTTP requests. The default is 60 seconds.

3.21.25 WRITE_LINE

The `WRITE_LINE` procedure writes data to the HTTP request body in text form; the text is terminated with a CRLF character pair. The signature is:

```
WRITE_LINE(r IN OUT UTL_HTTP.REQ, data IN VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

r

r is the HTTP request record.

data

data is the request body in TEXT form.

Example

The following example writes data (Account balance \$500.00) in text form to the request body to be sent using the HTTP POST method. The data is sent to a hypothetical web application (`post.php`) that accepts and processes data.

```
DECLARE
    v_req          UTL_HTTP.REQ;
    v_resp         UTL_HTTP.RESP;
BEGIN
    v_req := UTL_HTTP.BEGIN_REQUEST('http://www.example.com/post.php',
    'POST');
    UTL_HTTP.SET_HEADER(v_req, 'Content-Length', '23');
    UTL_HTTP.WRITE_LINE(v_req, 'Account balance $500.00');
    v_resp := UTL_HTTP.GET_RESPONSE(v_req);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Status Code: ' || v_resp.status_code);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Reason Phrase: ' || v_resp.reason_phrase);
    UTL_HTTP.END_RESPONSE(v_resp);
END;
```

Assuming the web application successfully processed the POST method, the following output would be displayed:

```
Status Code: 200
Reason Phrase: OK
```

3.21.26 WRITE_RAW

The `WRITE_RAW` procedure writes data to the HTTP request body in binary form. The signature is:

```
WRITE_RAW(r IN OUT UTL_HTTP.REQ, data IN RAW)
```

Parameters

r

r is the HTTP request record.

data

data is the request body in binary form.

Example

The following example writes data in binary form to the request body to be sent using the HTTP POST method to a hypothetical web application that accepts and processes such data.

```

DECLARE
    v_req          UTL_HTTP.REQ;
    v_resp         UTL_HTTP.RESP;
BEGIN
    v_req := UTL_HTTP.BEGIN_REQUEST('http://www.example.com/post.php',
    'POST');
    UTL_HTTP.SET_HEADER(v_req, 'Content-Length', '23');
    UTL_HTTP.WRITE_RAW(v_req, HEXTORAW
('54657374696e6720504f5354206d657468666420696e20485454502072657175657374'));
    v_resp := UTL_HTTP.GET_RESPONSE(v_req);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Status Code: ' || v_resp.status_code);
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Reason Phrase: ' || v_resp.reason_phrase);
    UTL_HTTP.END_RESPONSE(v_resp);
END;

```

The text string shown in the HEXTORAW function is the hexadecimal translation of the text Testing POST method in HTTP request.

Assuming the web application successfully processed the POST method, the following output would be displayed:

```

Status Code: 200
Reason Phrase: OK

```

3.21.27 WRITE_TEXT

The WRITE_TEXT procedure writes data to the HTTP request body in text form. The signature is:

```
WRITE_TEXT(r IN OUT UTL_HTTP.REQ, data IN VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

r

r is the HTTP request record.

data

data is the request body in text form.

Example

The following example writes data (Account balance \$500.00) in text form to the request body to be sent using the HTTP POST method. The data is sent to a hypothetical web application (post.php) that accepts and processes data.

```

DECLARE
    v_req          UTL_HTTP.REQ;

```

```
    v_resp          UTL_HTTP.RESP;  
BEGIN  
    v_req := UTL_HTTP.BEGIN_REQUEST('http://www.example.com/post.php',  
    'POST');  
    UTL_HTTP.SET_HEADER(v_req, 'Content-Length', '23');  
    UTL_HTTP.WRITE_TEXT(v_req, 'Account balance $500.00');  
    v_resp := UTL_HTTP.GET_RESPONSE(v_req);  
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Status Code: ' || v_resp.status_code);  
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('Reason Phrase: ' || v_resp.reason_phrase);  
    UTL_HTTP.END_RESPONSE(v_resp);  
END;
```

Assuming the web application successfully processed the POST method, the following output would be displayed:

```
Status Code: 200  
Reason Phrase: OK
```

3.22 UTL_MAIL

The UTL_MAIL package provides the capability to manage e-mail. Advanced Server supports the following procedures:

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
<code>SEND(sender, recipients, cc, bcc, subject, message [, mime_type [, priority]])</code>	n/a	Packages and sends an e-mail to an SMTP server.
<code>SEND_ATTACH_RAW(sender, recipients, cc, bcc, subject, message, mime_type, priority, attachment [, att_inline [, att_mime_type [, att_filename]]])</code>	n/a	Same as the SEND procedure, but with BYTEA or large object attachments.
<code>SEND_ATTACH_VARCHAR2(sender, recipients, cc, bcc, subject, message, mime_type, priority, attachment [, att_inline [, att_mime_type [, att_filename]]])</code>	n/a	Same as the SEND procedure, but with VARCHAR2 attachments.

Note: An administrator must grant execute privileges to each user or group before they can use this package.

3.22.1 SEND

The SEND procedure provides the capability to send an e-mail to an SMTP server.

```
SEND(sender VARCHAR2, recipients VARCHAR2, cc VARCHAR2,
      bcc VARCHAR2, subject VARCHAR2, message VARCHAR2
      [, mime_type VARCHAR2 [, priority PLS_INTEGER ]])
```

Parameters

sender

E-mail address of the sender.

recipients

Comma-separated e-mail addresses of the recipients.

cc

Comma-separated e-mail addresses of copy recipients.

bcc

Comma-separated e-mail addresses of blind copy recipients.

subject

Subject line of the e-mail.

message

Body of the e-mail.

mime_type

Mime type of the message. The default is `text/plain; charset=us-ascii`.

priority

Priority of the e-mail The default is 3.

Examples

The following anonymous block sends a simple e-mail message.

```
DECLARE
  v_sender      VARCHAR2(30);
  v_recipients  VARCHAR2(60);
  v_subj        VARCHAR2(20);
  v_msg         VARCHAR2(200);
BEGIN
  v_sender := 'jsmith@enterprisedb.com';
  v_recipients := 'ajones@enterprisedb.com,rrogers@enterprisedb.com';
  v_subj := 'Holiday Party';
  v_msg := 'This year''s party is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 21 at ' ||
          '6:00 PM. Please RSVP by Dec. 15th.';
  UTL_MAIL.SEND(v_sender,v_recipients,NULL,NULL,v_subj,v_msg);
END;
```

3.22.2 SEND_ATTACH_RAW

The `SEND_ATTACH_RAW` procedure provides the capability to send an e-mail to an SMTP server with an attachment containing either `BYTEA` data or a large object (identified by the large object's `OID`). The call to `SEND_ATTACH_RAW` can be written in two ways:

```
SEND_ATTACH_RAW(sender VARCHAR2, recipients VARCHAR2,  
  cc VARCHAR2, bcc VARCHAR2, subject VARCHAR2, message  
  VARCHAR2,  
  mime_type VARCHAR2, priority PLS_INTEGER,  
  attachment BYTEA[, att_inline BOOLEAN  
  [, att_mime_type VARCHAR2[, att_filename VARCHAR2 ]]])  
  
SEND_ATTACH_RAW(sender VARCHAR2, recipients VARCHAR2,  
  cc VARCHAR2, bcc VARCHAR2, subject VARCHAR2, message  
  VARCHAR2,  
  mime_type VARCHAR2, priority PLS_INTEGER, attachment OID  
  [, att_inline BOOLEAN [, att_mime_type VARCHAR2  
  [, att_filename VARCHAR2 ]]])
```

Parameters

sender

E-mail address of the sender.

recipients

Comma-separated e-mail addresses of the recipients.

cc

Comma-separated e-mail addresses of copy recipients.

bcc

Comma-separated e-mail addresses of blind copy recipients.

subject

Subject line of the e-mail.

message

Body of the e-mail.

mime_type

Mime type of the message. The default is `text/plain; charset=us-ascii`.

priority

Priority of the e-mail. The default is 3.

attachment

The attachment.

att_inline

If set to TRUE, then the attachment is viewable inline, FALSE otherwise. The default is TRUE.

att_mime_type

Mime type of the attachment. The default is application/octet.

att_filename

The file name containing the attachment. The default is NULL.

3.22.3 SEND_ATTACH_VARCHAR2

The SEND_ATTACH_VARCHAR2 procedure provides the capability to send an e-mail to an SMTP server with a text attachment.

```
SEND_ATTACH_VARCHAR2(sender VARCHAR2, recipients VARCHAR2,  
cc VARCHAR2, bcc VARCHAR2, subject VARCHAR2, message  
VARCHAR2, mime_type VARCHAR2, priority PLS_INTEGER,  
attachment VARCHAR2 [, att_inline BOOLEAN [, att_mime_type  
VARCHAR2 [, att_filename VARCHAR2 ]])
```

Parameters

sender

E-mail address of the sender.

recipients

Comma-separated e-mail addresses of the recipients.

cc

Comma-separated e-mail addresses of copy recipients.

bcc

Comma-separated e-mail addresses of blind copy recipients.

subject

Subject line of the e-mail.

message

Body of the e-mail.

mime_type

Mime type of the message. The default is `text/plain; charset=us-ascii`.

priority

Priority of the e-mail The default is 3.

attachment

The VARCHAR2 attachment.

att_inline

If set to `TRUE`, then the attachment is viewable inline, `FALSE` otherwise. The default is `TRUE`.

att_mime_type

Mime type of the attachment. The default is `text/plain; charset=us-ascii`.

att_filename

The file name containing the attachment. The default is `NULL`.

3.23 UTL_RAW

The UTL_RAW package allows you to manipulate or retrieve the length of raw data types.

Note: An administrator must grant execute privileges to each user or group before they can use this package.

Function/Procedure	Function or Procedure	Return Type	Description
CAST_TO_RAW(<i>c</i> IN VARCHAR2)	Function	RAW	Converts a VARCHAR2 string to a RAW value.
CAST_TO_VARCHAR2(<i>r</i> IN RAW)	Function	VARCHAR2	Converts a RAW value to a VARCHAR2 string.
CONCAT(<i>r1</i> IN RAW, <i>r2</i> IN RAW, <i>r3</i> IN RAW, ...)	Function	RAW	Concatenate multiple RAW values into a single RAW value.
CONVERT(<i>r</i> IN RAW, <i>to_charset</i> IN VARCHAR2, <i>from_charset</i> IN VARCHAR2)	Function	RAW	Converts encoded data from one encoding to another, and returns the result as a RAW value.
LENGTH(<i>r</i> IN RAW)	Function	NUMBER	Returns the length of a RAW value.
SUBSTR(<i>r</i> IN RAW, <i>pos</i> IN INTEGER, <i>len</i> IN INTEGER)	Function	RAW	Returns a portion of a RAW value.

Advanced Server's implementation of UTL_RAW is a partial implementation when compared to Oracle's version. Only those functions and procedures listed in the table above are supported.

3.23.1 CAST_TO_RAW

The CAST_TO_RAW function converts a VARCHAR2 string to a RAW value. The signature is:

```
CAST_TO_RAW(c VARCHAR2)
```

The function returns a RAW value if you pass a non-NULL value; if you pass a NULL value, the function will return NULL.

Parameters

c

The VARCHAR2 value that will be converted to RAW.

Example

The following example uses the `CAST_TO_RAW` function to convert a `VARCHAR2` string to a `RAW` value:

```
DECLARE
  v VARCHAR2;
  r RAW;
BEGIN
  v := 'Accounts';
  dbms_output.put_line(v);
  r := UTL_RAW.CAST_TO_RAW(v);
  dbms_output.put_line(r);
END;
```

The result set includes the content of the original string and the converted `RAW` value:

```
Accounts
\x4163636f756e7473
```

3.23.2 CAST_TO_VARCHAR2

The `CAST_TO_VARCHAR2` function converts `RAW` data to `VARCHAR2` data. The signature is:

```
CAST_TO_VARCHAR2 (r RAW)
```

The function returns a `VARCHAR2` value if you pass a non-`NULL` value; if you pass a `NULL` value, the function will return `NULL`.

Parameters

r

The `RAW` value that will be converted to a `VARCHAR2` value.

Example

The following example uses the `CAST_TO_VARCHAR2` function to convert a `RAW` value to a `VARCHAR2` string:

```
DECLARE
  r RAW;
  v VARCHAR2;
BEGIN
  r := '\x4163636f756e7473';
  dbms_output.put_line(v);
  v := UTL_RAW.CAST_TO_VARCHAR2(r);
  dbms_output.put_line(r);
END;
```

```
END;
```

The result set includes the content of the original string and the converted RAW value:

```
\x4163636f756e7473  
Accounts
```

3.23.3 CONCAT

The `CONCAT` function concatenates multiple RAW values into a single RAW value. The signature is:

```
CONCAT(r1 RAW, r2 RAW, r3 RAW, ...)
```

The function returns a RAW value. Unlike the Oracle implementation, the Advanced Server implementation is a variadic function, and does not place a restriction on the number of values that can be concatenated.

Parameters

r1, *r2*, *r3*, ...

The RAW values that `CONCAT` will concatenate.

Example

The following example uses the `CONCAT` function to concatenate multiple RAW values into a single RAW value:

```
SELECT UTL_RAW.CAST_TO_VARCHAR2(UTL_RAW.CONCAT('\x61', '\x62', '\x63')) FROM  
DUAL;  
concat  
-----  
abc  
(1 row)
```

The result (the concatenated values) is then converted to VARCHAR2 format by the `CAST_TO_VARCHAR2` function.

3.23.4 CONVERT

The `CONVERT` function converts a string from one encoding to another encoding and returns the result as a RAW value. The signature is:

```
CONVERT(r RAW, to_charset VARCHAR2, from_charset VARCHAR2)
```

The function returns a RAW value.

Parameters

r

The RAW value that will be converted.

to_charset

The name of the encoding to which *r* will be converted.

from_charset

The name of the encoding from which *r* will be converted.

Example

The following example uses the `UTL_RAW.CAST_TO_RAW` function to convert a VARCHAR2 string (`Accounts`) to a raw value, and then convert the value from UTF8 to LATIN7, and then from LATIN7 to UTF8:

```
DECLARE
  r RAW;
  v VARCHAR2;
BEGIN
  v:= 'Accounts';
  dbms_output.put_line(v);
  r:= UTL_RAW.CAST_TO_RAW(v);
  dbms_output.put_line(r);
  r:= UTL_RAW.CONVERT(r, 'UTF8', 'LATIN7');
  dbms_output.put_line(r);
  r:= UTL_RAW.CONVERT(r, 'LATIN7', 'UTF8');
  dbms_output.put_line(r);
```

The example returns the VARCHAR2 value, the RAW value, and the converted values:

```
Accounts
\x4163636f756e7473
\x4163636f756e7473
\x4163636f756e7473
```

3.23.5 LENGTH

The `LENGTH` function returns the length of a RAW value. The signature is:

`LENGTH(r RAW)`

The function returns a RAW value.

Parameters

r

The RAW value that LENGTH will evaluate.

Example

The following example uses the LENGTH function to return the length of a RAW value:

```
SELECT UTL_RAW.LENGTH(UTL_RAW.CAST_TO_RAW('Accounts')) FROM DUAL;
length
-----
8
(1 row)
```

The following example uses the LENGTH function to return the length of a RAW value that includes multi-byte characters:

```
SELECT UTL_RAW.LENGTH(UTL_RAW.CAST_TO_RAW('独孤求败'));
length
-----
12
(1 row)
```

3.23.6 SUBSTR

The SUBSTR function returns a substring of a RAW value. The signature is:

`SUBSTR(r RAW, pos INTEGER, len INTEGER)`

This function returns a RAW value.

Parameters

r

The RAW value from which the substring will be returned.

pos

The position within the RAW value of the first byte of the returned substring.

- If *pos* is 0 or 1, the substring begins at the first byte of the RAW value.
- If *pos* is greater than one, the substring begins at the first byte specified by *pos*. For example, if *pos* is 3, the substring begins at the third byte of the value.
- If *pos* is negative, the substring begins at *pos* bytes from the end of the source value. For example, if *pos* is -3, the substring begins at the third byte from the end of the value.

len

The maximum number of bytes that will be returned.

Example

The following example uses the SUBSTR function to select a substring that begins 3 bytes from the start of a RAW value:

```
SELECT UTL_RAW.SUBSTR(UTL_RAW.CAST_TO_RAW('Accounts'), 3, 5) FROM DUAL;
substr
-----
count
(1 row)
```

The following example uses the SUBSTR function to select a substring that starts 5 bytes from the end of a RAW value:

```
SELECT UTL_RAW.SUBSTR(UTL_RAW.CAST_TO_RAW('Accounts'), -5 , 3) FROM DUAL;
substr
-----
oun
(1 row)
```

3.24 UTL_SMTP

The UTL_SMTP package provides the capability to send e-mails over the Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP).

Note: An administrator must grant execute privileges to each user or group before they can use this package.

Function/Procedure	Function or Procedure	Return Type	Description
CLOSE_DATA(<i>c</i> IN OUT)	Procedure	n/a	Ends an e-mail message.
COMMAND(<i>c</i> IN OUT, <i>cmd</i> [, <i>arg</i>])	Both	REPLY	Execute an SMTP command.
COMMAND_REPLIES(<i>c</i> IN OUT, <i>cmd</i> [, <i>arg</i>])	Function	REPLIES	Execute an SMTP command where multiple reply lines are expected.
DATA(<i>c</i> IN OUT, <i>body</i> VARCHAR2)	Procedure	n/a	Specify the body of an e-mail message.
EHLO(<i>c</i> IN OUT, <i>domain</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Perform initial handshaking with an SMTP server and return extended information.
HELO(<i>c</i> IN OUT, <i>domain</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Perform initial handshaking with an SMTP server
HELP(<i>c</i> IN OUT [, <i>command</i>])	Function	REPLIES	Send the HELP command.
MAIL(<i>c</i> IN OUT, <i>sender</i> [, <i>parameters</i>])	Procedure	n/a	Start a mail transaction.
NOOP(<i>c</i> IN OUT)	Both	REPLY	Send the null command.
OPEN_CONNECTION(<i>host</i> [, <i>port</i> [, <i>tx_timeout</i>]])	Function	CONNECTION	Open a connection.
OPEN_DATA(<i>c</i> IN OUT)	Both	REPLY	Send the DATA command.
QUIT(<i>c</i> IN OUT)	Procedure	n/a	Terminate the SMTP session and disconnect.
RCPT(<i>c</i> IN OUT, <i>recipient</i> [, <i>parameters</i>])	Procedure	n/a	Specify the recipient of an e-mail message.
RSET(<i>c</i> IN OUT)	Procedure	n/a	Terminate the current mail transaction.
VERFY(<i>c</i> IN OUT, <i>recipient</i>)	Function	REPLY	Validate an e-mail address.
WRITE_DATA(<i>c</i> IN OUT, <i>data</i>)	Procedure	n/a	Write a portion of the e-mail message.

Advanced Server's implementation of UTL_SMTP is a partial implementation when compared to Oracle's version. Only those functions and procedures listed in the table above are supported.

The following table lists the public variables available in the UTL_SMTP package.

Public Variables	Data Type	Value	Description
connection	RECORD		Description of an SMTP connection.
reply	RECORD		SMTP reply line.

3.24.1 CONNECTION

The CONNECTION record type provides a description of an SMTP connection.

```
TYPE connection IS RECORD (  
  host          VARCHAR2(255),  
  port          PLS_INTEGER,  
  tx_timeout    PLS_INTEGER  
);
```

3.24.2 REPLY/REPLIES

The REPLY record type provides a description of an SMTP reply line. REPLIES is a table of multiple SMTP reply lines.

```
TYPE reply IS RECORD (  
  code          INTEGER,  
  text          VARCHAR2(508)  
);  
TYPE replies IS TABLE OF reply INDEX BY BINARY_INTEGER;
```

3.24.3 CLOSE_DATA

The CLOSE_DATA procedure terminates an e-mail message by sending the following sequence:

```
<CR><LF>.<CR><LF>
```

This is a single period at the beginning of a line.

```
CLOSE_DATA(c IN OUT CONNECTION)
```

Parameters

c

The SMTP connection to be closed.

3.24.4 COMMAND

The `COMMAND` procedure provides the capability to execute an SMTP command. If you are expecting multiple reply lines, use `COMMAND_REPLIES`.

```
reply REPLY COMMAND(c IN OUT CONNECTION, cmd VARCHAR2  
[, arg VARCHAR2 ])  
  
COMMAND(c IN OUT CONNECTION, cmd VARCHAR2 [, arg VARCHAR2  
])
```

Parameters

c

The SMTP connection to which the command is to be sent.

cmd

The SMTP command to be processed.

arg

An argument to the SMTP command. The default is null.

reply

SMTP reply to the command. If SMTP returns multiple replies, only the last one is returned in *reply*.

See Section [3.24.2](#) for a description of `REPLY` and `REPLIES`.

3.24.5 COMMAND_REPLIES

The `COMMAND_REPLIES` function processes an SMTP command that returns multiple reply lines. Use `COMMAND` if only a single reply line is expected.

```
replies REPLIES COMMAND(c IN OUT CONNECTION, cmd VARCHAR2  
[, arg VARCHAR2 ])
```

Parameters

c

The SMTP connection to which the command is to be sent.

cmd

The SMTP command to be processed.

arg

An argument to the SMTP command. The default is null.

replies

SMTP reply lines to the command. See Section [3.24.2](#) for a description of `REPLY` and `REPLIES`.

3.24.6 DATA

The `DATA` procedure provides the capability to specify the body of the e-mail message. The message is terminated with a `<CR><LF>.<CR><LF>` sequence.

```
DATA(c IN OUT CONNECTION, body VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

c

The SMTP connection to which the command is to be sent.

body

Body of the e-mail message to be sent.

3.24.7 EHLO

The `EHLO` procedure performs initial handshaking with the SMTP server after establishing the connection. The `EHLO` procedure allows the client to identify itself to the SMTP server according to RFC 821. RFC 1869 specifies the format of the information returned in the server's reply. The `HELO` procedure performs the equivalent functionality, but returns less information about the server.

```
EHLO(c IN OUT CONNECTION, domain VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

c

The connection to the SMTP server over which to perform handshaking.

domain

Domain name of the sending host.

3.24.8 HELO

The `HELO` procedure performs initial handshaking with the SMTP server after establishing the connection. The `HELO` procedure allows the client to identify itself to the SMTP server according to RFC 821. The `EHLO` procedure performs the equivalent functionality, but returns more information about the server.

```
HELO(c IN OUT, domain VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

c

The connection to the SMTP server over which to perform handshaking.

domain

Domain name of the sending host.

3.24.9 HELP

The `HELP` function provides the capability to send the `HELP` command to the SMTP server.

```
replies REPLIES HELP(c IN OUT CONNECTION [, command  
VARCHAR2 ])
```

Parameters

c

The SMTP connection to which the command is to be sent.

command

Command on which help is requested.

replies

SMTP reply lines to the command. See Section [3.24.2](#) for a description of `REPLY` and `REPLIES`.

3.24.10 MAIL

The `MAIL` procedure initiates a mail transaction.

```
MAIL(c IN OUT CONNECTION, sender VARCHAR2  
    [, parameters VARCHAR2 ])
```

Parameters

c

Connection to SMTP server on which to start a mail transaction.

sender

The sender's e-mail address.

parameters

Mail command parameters in the format, `key=value` as defined in RFC 1869.

3.24.11 NOOP

The `NOOP` function/procedure sends the null command to the SMTP server. The `NOOP` has no effect upon the server except to obtain a successful response.

```
reply REPLY NOOP(c IN OUT CONNECTION)  
  
NOOP(c IN OUT CONNECTION)
```

Parameters

c

The SMTP connection on which to send the command.

reply

SMTP reply to the command. If SMTP returns multiple replies, only the last one is returned in *reply*. See Section [3.24.2](#) for a description of `REPLY` and `REPLIES`.

3.24.12 OPEN_CONNECTION

The `OPEN_CONNECTION` functions open a connection to an SMTP server.

```
c CONNECTION OPEN_CONNECTION(host VARCHAR2 [, port  
PLS_INTEGER [, tx_timeout PLS_INTEGER DEFAULT NULL])
```

Parameters

host

Name of the SMTP server.

port

Port number on which the SMTP server is listening. The default is 25.

tx_timeout

Time out value in seconds. Do not wait is indicated by specifying 0. Wait indefinitely is indicated by setting timeout to null. The default is null.

c

Connection handle returned by the SMTP server.

3.24.13 OPEN_DATA

The `OPEN_DATA` procedure sends the `DATA` command to the SMTP server.

```
OPEN_DATA(c IN OUT CONNECTION)
```

Parameters

c

SMTP connection on which to send the command.

3.24.14 QUIT

The `QUIT` procedure closes the session with an SMTP server.

```
QUIT(c IN OUT CONNECTION)
```

Parameters

c

SMTP connection to be terminated.

3.24.15 RCPT

The `RCPT` procedure provides the e-mail address of the recipient. To schedule multiple recipients, invoke `RCPT` multiple times.

```
RCPT(c IN OUT CONNECTION, recipient VARCHAR2  
[, parameters VARCHAR2 ])
```

Parameters

c

Connection to SMTP server on which to add a recipient.

recipient

The recipient's e-mail address.

parameters

Mail command parameters in the format, `key=value` as defined in RFC 1869.

3.24.16 RSET

The `RSET` procedure provides the capability to terminate the current mail transaction.

```
RSET(c IN OUT CONNECTION)
```

Parameters

c

SMTP connection on which to cancel the mail transaction.

3.24.17 VRFY

The `VRFY` function provides the capability to validate and verify the recipient's e-mail address. If valid, the recipient's full name and fully qualified mailbox is returned.

```
reply REPLY VRFY(c IN OUT CONNECTION, recipient VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

c

The SMTP connection on which to verify the e-mail address.

recipient

The recipient's e-mail address to be verified.

reply

SMTP reply to the command. If SMTP returns multiple replies, only the last one is returned in *reply*. See Section [3.24.2](#) for a description of `REPLY` and `REPLIES`.

3.24.18 WRITE_DATA

The `WRITE_DATA` procedure provides the capability to add `VARCHAR2` data to an e-mail message. The `WRITE_DATA` procedure may be repetitively called to add data.

```
WRITE_DATA(c IN OUT CONNECTION, data VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

c

The SMTP connection on which to add data.

data

Data to be added to the e-mail message. The data must conform to the RFC 822 specification.

3.24.19 Comprehensive Example

The following procedure constructs and sends a text e-mail message using the UTL_SMTP package.

```
CREATE OR REPLACE PROCEDURE send_mail (
    p_sender      VARCHAR2,
    p_recipient   VARCHAR2,
    p_subj        VARCHAR2,
    p_msg         VARCHAR2,
    p_mailhost    VARCHAR2
)
IS
    v_conn        UTL_SMTP.CONNECTION;
    v_crlf        CONSTANT VARCHAR2(2) := CHR(13) || CHR(10);
    v_port        CONSTANT PLS_INTEGER := 25;
BEGIN
    v_conn := UTL_SMTP.OPEN_CONNECTION(p_mailhost,v_port);
    UTL_SMTP.HELO(v_conn,p_mailhost);
    UTL_SMTP.MAIL(v_conn,p_sender);
    UTL_SMTP.RCPT(v_conn,p_recipient);
    UTL_SMTP.DATA(v_conn, SUBSTR(
        'Date: ' || TO_CHAR(SYSDATE,
        'Dy, DD Mon YYYY HH24:MI:SS') || v_crlf
        || 'From: ' || p_sender || v_crlf
        || 'To: ' || p_recipient || v_crlf
        || 'Subject: ' || p_subj || v_crlf
        || p_msg
        , 1, 32767));
    UTL_SMTP.QUIT(v_conn);
END;

EXEC send_mail('asmith@enterprisedb.com','pjones@enterprisedb.com','Holiday
Party','Are you planning to attend?','smtp.enterprisedb.com');
```

The following example uses the OPEN_DATA, WRITE_DATA, and CLOSE_DATA procedures instead of the DATA procedure.

```
CREATE OR REPLACE PROCEDURE send_mail_2 (
    p_sender      VARCHAR2,
    p_recipient   VARCHAR2,
    p_subj        VARCHAR2,
    p_msg         VARCHAR2,
    p_mailhost    VARCHAR2
)
IS
    v_conn        UTL_SMTP.CONNECTION;
    v_crlf        CONSTANT VARCHAR2(2) := CHR(13) || CHR(10);
    v_port        CONSTANT PLS_INTEGER := 25;
BEGIN
    v_conn := UTL_SMTP.OPEN_CONNECTION(p_mailhost,v_port);
    UTL_SMTP.HELO(v_conn,p_mailhost);
    UTL_SMTP.MAIL(v_conn,p_sender);
```

```
UTL_SMTP.RCPT(v_conn,p_recipient);
UTL_SMTP.OPEN_DATA(v_conn);
UTL_SMTP.WRITE_DATA(v_conn,'From: ' || p_sender || v_crlf);
UTL_SMTP.WRITE_DATA(v_conn,'To: ' || p_recipient || v_crlf);
UTL_SMTP.WRITE_DATA(v_conn,'Subject: ' || p_subj || v_crlf);
UTL_SMTP.WRITE_DATA(v_conn,v_crlf || p_msg);
UTL_SMTP.CLOSE_DATA(v_conn);
UTL_SMTP.QUIT(v_conn);
END;

EXEC send_mail_2('asmith@enterprisedb.com','pjones@enterprisedb.com','Holiday
Party','Are you planning to attend?','smtp.enterprisedb.com');
```

3.25 UTL_URL

The UTL_URL package provides a way to escape illegal and reserved characters within an URL.

Function/Procedure	Return Type	Description
ESCAPE(url, escape_reserved_chars, url_charset)	VARCHAR2	Use the ESCAPE function to escape any illegal and reserved characters in a URL.
UNESCAPE(url, url_charset)	VARCHAR2	The UNESCAPE function to convert an URL to it's original form.

The UTL_URL package will return the BAD_URL exception if the call to a function includes an incorrectly-formed URL.

3.25.1 ESCAPE

Use the ESCAPE function to escape illegal and reserved characters within an URL. The signature is:

```
ESCAPE(url VARCHAR2, escape_reserved_chars BOOLEAN,
url_charset VARCHAR2)
```

Reserved characters are replaced with a percent sign, followed by the two-digit hex code of the ascii value for the escaped character.

Parameters

url

url specifies the Uniform Resource Locator that UTL_URL will escape.

escape_reserved_chars

escape_reserved_chars is a BOOLEAN value that instructs the ESCAPE function to escape reserved characters as well as illegal characters:

- If *escaped_reserved_chars* is FALSE, ESCAPE will escape only the illegal characters in the specified URL.
- If *escape_reserved_chars* is TRUE, ESCAPE will escape both the illegal characters and the reserved characters in the specified URL.

By default, `escape_reserved_chars` is FALSE.

Within an URL, legal characters are:

Uppercase A through Z	Lowercase a through z	0 through 9
asterisk (*)	exclamation point (!)	hyphen (-)
left parenthesis (()	period (.)	right parenthesis ())
single-quote (')	tilde (~)	underscore (_)

Some characters are legal in some parts of an URL, while illegal in others; to review comprehensive rules about illegal characters, please refer to RFC 2396. Some *examples* of characters that are considered illegal in any part of an URL are:

Illegal Character	Escape Sequence
a blank space ()	%20
curly braces ({ or })	%7b and %7d
hash mark (#)	%23

The `ESCAPE` function considers the following characters to be reserved, and will escape them if `escape_reserved_chars` is set to TRUE:

Reserved Character	Escape Sequence
ampersand (&)	%5C
at sign (@)	%25
colon (:)	%3a
comma (,)	%2c
dollar sign (\$)	%24
equal sign (=)	%3d
plus sign (+)	%2b
question mark (?)	%3f
semi-colon (;)	%3b
slash (/)	%2f

`url_charset`

`url_charset` specifies a character set to which a given character will be converted before it is escaped. If `url_charset` is NULL, the character will not be converted. The default value of `url_charset` is ISO-8859-1.

Examples

The following anonymous block uses the `ESCAPE` function to escape the blank spaces in the URL:

```
DECLARE
    result varchar2(400);
BEGIN
    result := UTL_URL.ESCAPE('http://www.example.com/Using the ESCAPE
function.html');
```

```
DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(result);  
END;
```

The resulting (escaped) URL is:

```
http://www.example.com/Using%20the%20ESCAPE%20function.html
```

If you include a value of `TRUE` for the `escape_reserved_chars` parameter when invoking the function:

```
DECLARE  
    result varchar2(400);  
BEGIN  
    result := UTL_URL.ESCAPE('http://www.example.com/Using the ESCAPE  
function.html', TRUE);  
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(result);  
END;
```

The `ESCAPE` function escapes the reserved characters as well as the illegal characters in the URL:

```
http%3A%2F%2Fwww.example.com%2FUsing%20the%20ESCAPE%20function.html
```

3.25.2 UNESCAPE

The `UNESCAPE` function removes escape characters added to an URL by the `ESCAPE` function, converting the URL to its original form.

The signature is:

```
UNESCAPE(url VARCHAR2, url_charset VARCHAR2)
```

Parameters

url

url specifies the Uniform Resource Locator that `UTL_URL` will unescape.

url_charset

After unescaping a character, the character is assumed to be in *url_charset* encoding, and will be converted from that encoding to database encoding before being returned. If *url_charset* is `NULL`, the character will not be converted. The default value of *url_charset* is `ISO-8859-1`.

Examples

The following anonymous block uses the `ESCAPE` function to escape the blank spaces in the URL:

```
DECLARE
    result varchar2(400);
BEGIN
    result :=
    UTL_URL.UNESCAPE('http://www.example.com/Using%20the%20UNESCAPE%20function.ht
ml');
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(result);
END;
```

The resulting (unescaped) URL is:

```
http://www.example.com/Using the UNESCAPE function.html
```

4 Acknowledgements

The PostgreSQL 8.3, 8.4, 9.0, 9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 9.5, 9.6, 10, 11, and 12 Documentation provided the baseline for the portions of this guide that are common to PostgreSQL, and is hereby acknowledged:

Portions of this EnterpriseDB Software and Documentation may utilize the following copyrighted material, the use of which is hereby acknowledged.

PostgreSQL Documentation, Database Management System

PostgreSQL is Copyright © 1996-2019 by the PostgreSQL Global Development Group and is distributed under the terms of the license of the University of California below.

Postgres95 is Copyright © 1994-5 by the Regents of the University of California.

Permission to use, copy, modify, and distribute this software and its documentation for any purpose, without fee, and without a written agreement is hereby granted, provided that the above copyright notice and this paragraph and the following two paragraphs appear in all copies.

IN NO EVENT SHALL THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BE LIABLE TO ANY PARTY FOR DIRECT, INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, INCLUDING LOST PROFITS, ARISING OUT OF THE USE OF THIS SOFTWARE AND ITS DOCUMENTATION, EVEN IF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SPECIFICALLY DISCLAIMS ANY WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. THE SOFTWARE PROVIDED HEREUNDER IS ON AN "AS-IS" BASIS, AND THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA HAS NO OBLIGATIONS TO PROVIDE MAINTENANCE, SUPPORT, UPDATES, ENHANCEMENTS, OR MODIFICATIONS.