

**Oracle9i**

Application Developer's Guide - Object-Relational Features

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Oracle9i Application Developer's Guide - Object-Relational Features, Release 1 (9.0.1)

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# Contents

<b>Send Us Your Comments .....</b>	<b>xv</b>
<b>Preface.....</b>	<b>xvii</b>
<b>New Object-Relational Features.....</b>	<b>xxv</b>
<b>1 Introduction to Oracle Objects</b>	
<b>About Oracle Objects and Object Types.....</b>	<b>1-2</b>
<b>Advantages of Objects.....</b>	<b>1-2</b>
<b>Key Features of the Object-Relational Model.....</b>	<b>1-4</b>
<b>2 Basic Components of Oracle Objects</b>	
<b>Object-Relational Elements.....</b>	<b>2-2</b>
Object Types.....	2-2
Type Inheritance.....	2-3
Objects.....	2-3
Methods.....	2-3
Object Tables.....	2-3
Row Objects and Column Objects.....	2-4
Object Views.....	2-4
REF Datatype.....	2-5
Scoped REFs.....	2-5
Dangling REFs.....	2-5
Dereferencing REFs.....	2-6

Obtaining REFs .....	2-6
Collections.....	2-6
<b>Defining Object and Collection Types</b> .....	2-7
<b>Object Types and References</b> .....	2-8
Null Objects and Attributes .....	2-8
Default Values for Objects and Collections .....	2-9
Constraints for Object Tables.....	2-10
Indexes for Object Tables and Nested Tables.....	2-11
Triggers for Object Tables.....	2-12
Rules for REF Columns and Attributes .....	2-12
Name Resolution .....	2-13
When Table Aliases are Required .....	2-13
Restriction on Using User-Defined Types with a Remote Database.....	2-15
<b>Methods</b> .....	2-15
Member Methods.....	2-16
Methods for Comparing Objects .....	2-17
Map Methods .....	2-17
Order Methods.....	2-18
Guidelines.....	2-19
Comparison Methods in Type Hierarchies.....	2-19
Static Methods.....	2-20
Constructor Methods .....	2-20
<b>Collections</b> .....	2-21
Varrays .....	2-21
Nested Tables .....	2-22
Multi-Level Collection Types.....	2-23
Nested Table Storage Tables.....	2-24
Varray Storage .....	2-25
Assignment and Comparison of Multi-Level Collections.....	2-26
Creating a VARRAY or Nested Table.....	2-26
Constructors for Multi-Level Collections.....	2-27
Querying Collections.....	2-27
Nesting Results of Collection Queries.....	2-28
Unnesting Results of Collection Queries .....	2-28
Unnesting Queries Containing Table Expression Subqueries .....	2-30

Unnesting Queries with Multi-Level Collections .....	2-31
Performing DML Operations on Collections.....	2-31
Performing DML on Multi-Level Collections .....	2-32
<b>Type Inheritance</b> .....	2-33
Types and Subtypes .....	2-34
FINAL and NOT FINAL Types and Methods .....	2-36
Creating Subtypes .....	2-36
NOT INSTANTIABLE Types and Methods .....	2-37
Inheriting, Overloading, and Overriding Methods.....	2-38
Overloading Methods.....	2-38
Overriding Methods .....	2-39
Restrictions on Overriding Methods .....	2-40
Dynamic Method Dispatch .....	2-40
Substituting Types in a Type Hierarchy .....	2-41
Attribute Substitutability.....	2-42
Column and Row Substitutability.....	2-43
Subtypes Having Supertype Attributes .....	2-44
REF Columns and Attributes.....	2-45
Collection Elements.....	2-45
Turning Off Substitutability.....	2-45
Constraining Substitutability.....	2-46
Assignments Across Types .....	2-46
Objects and REFs to Objects.....	2-46
Collection Assignments.....	2-48
Comparisons: Objects, REF Variables, and Collections .....	2-48
Comparing Object Instances.....	2-48
Comparing REF Variables.....	2-49
Comparing Collections.....	2-49
<b>Functions and Predicates Useful with Objects</b> .....	2-49
VALUE.....	2-49
REF.....	2-50
DEREF .....	2-50
TREAT .....	2-51
IS OF <i>type</i> .....	2-52
SYS_TYPEID.....	2-54

### 3 Object Support in Oracle Programmatic Environments

<b>SQL</b> .....	3-2
<b>PL/SQL</b> .....	3-2
<b>Oracle Call Interface (OCI)</b> .....	3-2
Associative Access in OCI Programs .....	3-3
Navigational Access in OCI Programs .....	3-4
Object Cache .....	3-4
Building an OCI Program that Manipulates Objects.....	3-5
<b>Oracle C++ Call Interface (OCCI)</b> .....	3-6
OCCI Associative Relational and Object Interfaces.....	3-6
The OCCI Navigational Interface.....	3-7
<b>Pro*C/C++</b> .....	3-7
Associative Access in Pro*C/C++.....	3-8
Navigational Access in Pro*C/C++ .....	3-8
Converting Between Oracle Types and C Types .....	3-8
Oracle Type Translator (OTT).....	3-9
<b>Oracle Objects For OLE (OO4O)</b> .....	3-9
Representing Objects in Visual Basic (OraObject) .....	3-10
Representing REFs in Visual Basic (OraRef).....	3-11
Representing VARRAYs and Nested Tables in Visual Basic (OraCollection) .....	3-11
<b>Java: JDBC, Oracle SQLJ, JPublisher, and SQLJ Object Types</b> .....	3-11
JDBC Access to Oracle Object Data.....	3-12
SQLJ Access to Oracle Object Data.....	3-12
Choosing a Data Mapping Strategy .....	3-13
Using JPublisher to Create Java Classes for JDBC and SQLJ Programs .....	3-13
What JPublisher Produces.....	3-13
Java Object Storage .....	3-14
Representing SQLJ Types to the Server.....	3-15
Creating SQLJ Object Types.....	3-16
Sample SQLJ Object Type Mapping .....	3-16
More About Mapping .....	3-22
Evolving SQLJ Types .....	3-22
Constraints.....	3-23
Querying SQLJ Objects .....	3-23
Inserting Java Objects.....	3-24

Updating SQLJ Objects.....	3-24
----------------------------	------

## 4 Managing Oracle Objects

<b>Privileges on Object Types and Their Methods</b> .....	4-2
System Privileges.....	4-2
Schema Object Privileges.....	4-2
Using Types in New Types or Tables.....	4-3
Example.....	4-3
Privileges on Type Access and Object Access .....	4-4
<b>Dependencies and Incomplete Types</b> .....	4-5
Completing Incomplete Types .....	4-7
Type Dependencies of Substitutable Tables and Columns .....	4-7
The FORCE Option .....	4-8
<b>Tools</b> .....	4-8
JDeveloper .....	4-8
Business Components for Java (BC4J).....	4-9
JPublisher.....	4-9
<b>Utilities</b> .....	4-10
Import/Export of Object Types.....	4-10
Types .....	4-10
Object View Hierarchies.....	4-10
SQL*Loader .....	4-10

## 5 Applying an Object Model to Relational Data

<b>Why to Use Object Views</b> .....	5-2
<b>Defining Object Views</b> .....	5-3
<b>Using Object Views in Applications</b> .....	5-4
<b>Nesting Objects in Object Views</b> .....	5-4
<b>Identifying Null Objects in Object Views</b> .....	5-6
<b>Using Nested Tables and Varrays in Object Views</b> .....	5-6
Single-Level Collections in Object Views.....	5-6
Multi-Level Collections in Object Views.....	5-8
<b>Specifying Object Identifiers for Object Views</b> .....	5-9
<b>Creating References to View Objects</b> .....	5-11
<b>Modelling Inverse Relationships with Object Views</b> .....	5-12

<b>Updating Object Views</b> .....	5-13
Updating Nested Table Columns in Views .....	5-14
Using INSTEAD OF Triggers to Control Mutating and Validation.....	5-14
<b>Applying the Object Model to Remote Tables</b> .....	5-15
<b>Defining Complex Relationships in Object Views</b> .....	5-16
Tables and Types to Demonstrate Circular View References .....	5-17
Creating Object Views with Circular References .....	5-18
<b>Object View Hierarchies</b> .....	5-21
Creating an Object View Hierarchy .....	5-22
The Flat Model .....	5-23
The Horizontal Model.....	5-25
The Vertical Model .....	5-27
Querying a View in a Hierarchy.....	5-28
Privileges for Operations on View Hierarchies.....	5-29

## 6 Advanced Topics for Oracle Objects

<b>Storage of Objects</b> .....	6-2
Leaf-Level Attributes.....	6-2
How Row Objects are Split Across Columns .....	6-2
Hidden Columns for Tables with Column Objects .....	6-2
Hidden Columns for Substitutable Columns and Tables.....	6-3
REFs .....	6-4
Internal Layout of Nested Tables .....	6-4
Internal Layout of VARRAYs .....	6-5
<b>Creating Indexes on Typeids or Attributes</b> .....	6-5
Indexing a Type Discriminant Column.....	6-5
Indexing Subtype Attributes of a Substitutable Column.....	6-6
<b>Object Identifiers</b> .....	6-7
<b>Type Evolution</b> .....	6-8
Changes Required by a Change to a Type .....	6-10
Steps to Change a Type.....	6-11
Validating a Type.....	6-12
If a Type Change Validation Fails .....	6-15
ALTER TYPE Options for Type Evolution .....	6-16
ALTER TABLE Option for Type Evolution .....	6-19



<b>OCI Tips and Techniques for Objects .....</b>	<b>6-20</b>
Initializing an OCI Program in Object Mode .....	6-20
Creating a New Object.....	6-21
Updating an Object .....	6-22
Deleting an Object .....	6-22
Controlling Object Cache Size .....	6-22
Retrieving Objects into the Client Cache (Pinning).....	6-22
Specifying which Version of an Object to Retrieve .....	6-23
Specifying How Long to Keep the Object Pinned .....	6-24
Specifying Whether to Lock the Object on the Server.....	6-24
How to Choose the Locking Technique .....	6-25
Flushing an Object from the Object Cache.....	6-25
Pre-Fetching Related Objects (Complex Object Retrieval) .....	6-25
Demonstration of OCI and Oracle Objects .....	6-27
Using the OCI Object Cache with View Objects .....	6-28
<b>Transient and Generic Types .....</b>	<b>6-30</b>
<b>User-Defined Aggregate Functions.....</b>	<b>6-31</b>
<b>Partitioning Tables that Contain Oracle Objects .....</b>	<b>6-32</b>
Parallel Query with Object Views.....	6-33
How Locators Improve the Performance of Nested Tables .....	6-34

## 7 Frequently Asked Questions About Using Oracle Objects

<b>General Questions about Oracle Objects.....</b>	<b>7-2</b>
Are the object-relational features a separate option? .....	7-2
What are the design goals of Oracle9i Object-Relational & Extensibility technologies? ...	7-2
<b>Object Types .....</b>	<b>7-2</b>
What is structured data?.....	7-2
Where are the user-defined types, user-defined functions, and abstract data types?.....	7-3
What is an object type? .....	7-3
Why are object types useful? .....	7-3
How is object data stored and managed in Oracle9i? .....	7-3
Is inheritance supported in Oracle9i? .....	7-4
<b>Object Methods.....</b>	<b>7-4</b>
What language can I use to write my object methods?.....	7-4
How do I decide between using PL/SQL and Java for my object methods? .....	7-4

When should I use external procedures? .....	7-5
What are definer and invoker rights? .....	7-5
<b>Object References</b> .....	7-5
What is an object reference? .....	7-5
When should I use object references? How are they different from foreign keys? .....	7-6
Can I construct object references based on primary keys? .....	7-6
What is a scoped REF and when should I use it?.....	7-6
Can I manipulate objects using object references in PL/SQL and Java? .....	7-7
<b>Collections</b> .....	7-7
What kinds of collections are supported by Oracle9i?.....	7-7
Do Oracle Objects support collections within collections?.....	7-7
How do I decide between using varrays and nested tables for modeling collections?.....	7-7
What is a collection locator?.....	7-7
What is collection unnesting? .....	7-8
<b>Object Views</b> .....	7-8
What are the differences between object views and object tables? .....	7-8
Are object views updateable? .....	7-8
<b>Object Cache</b> .....	7-9
Why do we need the object cache?.....	7-9
Does the object cache support object locking?.....	7-9
<b>Large Objects (LOBs)</b> .....	7-10
How can I manage large objects using Oracle?.....	7-10
<b>User-Defined Operators</b> .....	7-10
What is a user-defined operator? .....	7-10
Why are user-defined operators useful? .....	7-11

## 8 Design Considerations for Oracle Objects

<b>Representing Objects as Columns or Rows</b> .....	8-3
Column Object Storage .....	8-3
Row Object Storage in Object Tables .....	8-7
<b>Performance of Object Comparisons</b> .....	8-8
<b>Storage Considerations for Object Identifiers (OIDs)</b> .....	8-9
<b>Storage Size of REFS</b> .....	8-10
<b>Integrity Constraints for REF Columns</b> .....	8-10
<b>Performance and Storage Considerations for Scoped REFS</b> .....	8-10

Indexing Scoped REFs .....	8-11
<b>Speeding up Object Access using the WITH ROWID Option</b> .....	8-12
<b>Viewing Object Data in Relational Form with Unnesting Queries</b> .....	8-12
Using Procedures and Functions in Unnesting Queries .....	8-14
<b>Storage Considerations for Varrays</b> .....	8-15
<b>Performance of Varrays Versus Nested Tables</b> .....	8-15
<b>Nested Tables</b> .....	8-16
Nested Table Storage .....	8-16
Nested Table in an Index-Organized Table (IOT) .....	8-17
Nested Table Indexes .....	8-19
Nested Table Locators .....	8-20
Optimizing Set Membership Queries .....	8-21
DML Operations on Nested Tables .....	8-21
<b>Multi-Level Collections</b> .....	8-23
<b>Choosing a Language for Method Functions</b> .....	8-29
Static Methods .....	8-30
<b>Writing Reusable Code using Invoker Rights</b> .....	8-31
<b>Function-Based Indexes on the Return Values of Type Methods</b> .....	8-33
<b>Converting to the Current Object Format</b> .....	8-34
<b>Replicating Object Tables and Columns</b> .....	8-35
Replicating Columns of Object, Collection, or REF Type .....	8-35
Replicating Object Tables .....	8-35
<b>Constraints on Objects</b> .....	8-36
<b>Type Evolution</b> .....	8-37
Pushing a Type Change Out to Clients .....	8-37
Changing Default Constructors .....	8-37
Altering the FINAL Property of a Type .....	8-38
<b>Performance Tuning</b> .....	8-38
<b>Parallel Queries with Oracle Objects</b> .....	8-39
<b>Tips and Techniques</b> .....	8-39
Deciding Whether to Evolve a Type or Create a Subtype Instead .....	8-39
How ANYDATA Differs from User-Defined Types .....	8-40
Polymorphic Views: An Alternative to an Object View Hierarchy .....	8-40
The SQLJ Object Type .....	8-41
What is the intended use of SQLJ Object Type? .....	8-41

What is involved in creating a SQLJ Object Type? .....	8-42
When would you use SQLJ Object Type? .....	8-42
When would you use Custom Object Type? .....	8-42
What are the differences between the SQLJ and Custom Object Types through JDBC? .....	8-43
Miscellaneous Tips .....	8-44
Column Substitutability and the Number of Attributes in a Hierarchy .....	8-44
Circular Dependencies Among Types.....	8-44
PL/SQL and TREAT and IS OF.....	8-44

## 9 A Sample Application Using Object-Relational Features

<b>Introduction</b> .....	9-2
<b>A Purchase Order Example</b> .....	9-3
<b>Implementing the Application Under The Relational Model</b> .....	9-4
Entities and Relationships .....	9-5
Creating Tables Under the Relational Model .....	9-5
Customer_reltab .....	9-6
PurchaseOrder_reltab .....	9-7
LineItems_reltab .....	9-7
Stock_reltab .....	9-8
Inserting Values Under the Relational Model .....	9-8
Querying Data Under The Relational Model .....	9-9
Updating Data Under The Relational Model .....	9-10
Deleting Data Under The Relational Model .....	9-10
<b>Implementing the Application Under The Object-Relational Model</b> .....	9-10
Defining Types .....	9-12
Method Definitions.....	9-19
The getPONo Method .....	9-19
The sumLineItems Method .....	9-19
The compareCustOrders Method .....	9-20
Creating Object Tables .....	9-21
The Object Table Customer_objtab .....	9-21
Object Datatypes as a Template for Object Tables .....	9-23
Object Identifiers and References .....	9-24
Object Tables with Embedded Objects .....	9-24

The Object Table Stock_objtab.....	9-25
The Object Table PurchaseOrder_objtab.....	9-25
Inserting Values.....	9-32
Querying.....	9-35
Average Discount across all Line Items of all Purchase Orders.....	9-36
Deleting.....	9-37
<b>Manipulating Objects Through Java .....</b>	<b>9-37</b>
Using oracle.sql.* Classes (Weak Typing).....	9-37
Using Strong Typing (SQLData or CustomDatum) .....	9-39
Generating Wrapper Classes with JPublisher.....	9-39
How to Use the Wrapper Classes .....	9-40
Sample Program Using the SQLData Interface.....	9-41
<b>Manipulating Objects with Oracle Objects for OLE.....</b>	<b>9-42</b>
Selecting Data.....	9-43
Inserting Data.....	9-44
Updating Data.....	9-46
Calling a Method Function.....	9-47

## Index



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# Send Us Your Comments

**Oracle9i Application Developer's Guide - Object-Relational Features, Release 1 (9.0.1)**

**Part No. A88878-01**

Oracle Corporation welcomes your comments and suggestions on the quality and usefulness of this document. Your input is an important part of the information used for revision.

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# Preface

*Oracle9i Application Developer's Guide - Object-Relational Features* describes how to use the object-relational features of the Oracle Server, Release 1 (9.0.1). Information in this guide applies to versions of the Oracle Server that run on all platforms, and does not include system-specific information.

This preface contains these topics:

- [Audience](#)
- [Organization](#)
- [Related Documentation](#)
- [Conventions](#)
- [Documentation Accessibility](#)

## Audience

*Oracle9i Application Developer's Guide - Object-Relational Features* is intended for programmers developing new applications or converting existing applications to run in the Oracle environment. The object-relational features are often used in multimedia, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and similar applications that deal with complex data. The object views feature can be valuable when writing new applications on top of an existing relational schema.

This guide assumes that you have a working knowledge of application programming and that you are familiar with the use of Structured Query Language (SQL) to access information in relational database systems.

## Organization

This document contains:

### **Chapter 1, "Introduction to Oracle Objects"**

Introduces the key features and explains the advantages of the object-relational model.

### **Chapter 2, "Basic Components of Oracle Objects"**

Explains the basic concepts and terminology that you need to work with Oracle Objects.

### **Chapter 3, "Object Support in Oracle Programmatic Environments"**

Summarizes the object-relational features in SQL and PL/SQL; Oracle Call Interface (OCI); Pro\*C/C++; Oracle Objects For OLE; and Java, JDBC, and Oracle SQLJ. The information in this chapter is high-level, for education and planning. The following chapters explain how to use the object-relational features in greater detail.

### **Chapter 4, "Managing Oracle Objects"**

Explains how to perform essential operations with objects and object types.

### **Chapter 5, "Applying an Object Model to Relational Data"**

Explains object views, which allow you to develop object-oriented applications without changing the underlying relational schema.

### **Chapter 6, "Advanced Topics for Oracle Objects"**

Discusses features that you might need to manage storage and performance as you scale up an object-oriented application.

### **Chapter 7, "Frequently Asked Questions About Using Oracle Objects"**

Provides helpful hints for people getting started with object-oriented programming, or coming to Oracle with a background in some other database system or object-oriented language.

### **Chapter 8, "Design Considerations for Oracle Objects"**

Explains the implementation and performance characteristics of Oracle's object-relational model.

### **Chapter 9, "A Sample Application Using Object-Relational Features"**

Demonstrates how a relational program can be rewritten as an object-oriented one, schema and all.

## **Related Documentation**

For more information, see these Oracle resources:

- *PL/SQL User's Guide and Reference* to learn PL/SQL and to get a complete description of this high-level programming language, which is Oracle Corporation's procedural extension to SQL
- *Oracle9i Application Developer's Guide - Fundamentals* for general information about developing applications
- *Oracle9i JDBC Developer's Guide and Reference* and *Oracle9i Java Stored Procedures Developer's Guide* to use Oracle's object-relational features through Java
- *Oracle Call Interface Programmer's Guide* describes how to use the the Oracle Call Interface (OCI) to build third-generation language (3GL) applications that access the Oracle Server
- *Pro\*C/C++ Precompiler Programmer's Guide* for information on Oracle's Pro\* series of precompilers, which allow you to embed SQL and PL/SQL in 3GL application programs written in Ada, C, C++, COBOL, or FORTRAN
- Oracle Developer/2000 is a cooperative development environment that provides several tools including a form builder, reporting tools, and a debugging environment for PL/SQL. If you use Developer/2000, then refer to the appropriate Oracle Tools documentation.

- *Oracle9i SQL Reference* and *Oracle9i Database Administrator's Guide* for information on SQL.
- *Oracle9i Database Concepts* for information on basic Oracle concepts

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## Conventions

This section describes the conventions used in the text and code examples of the documentation set. It describes:

- [Conventions in Text](#)
- [Conventions in Code Examples](#)

### Conventions in Text

We use various conventions in text to help you more quickly identify special terms. The following table describes those conventions and provides examples of their use.