

# How to Improve Database Connectivity With the Data Tools Platform

John Graham (Sybase Data Tooling)

Brian Payton (IBM Information Management)



# Agenda

- DTP Overview
- Creating a Driver Template
- Creating a Connection Profile
- Customizing a Database Definition
- Extending the SQL Query Parser
- Conclusion

# DTP Structure

- Top level project at Eclipse
- Contains four subprojects
  - Model Base
  - Connectivity
  - SQL Dev Tools
  - Enablement



# Model Base

- Domain models for data centric applications using EMF
- Currently
  - SQL
  - SQL Query
  - SQL XML Query
  - Database Definition

# Connectivity

- Create and manage connections to data sources
- Frameworks
  - Driver Management
  - Connection Management
  - ODA
- Data Source Explorer

# SQL Dev Tools

- Developer centric SQL tools
- Frameworks
  - Editor
  - Results view
  - SQL Query Parser
- Tools
  - SQL Editor
  - Script history
  - Results

# Enablement

- For specialization of DTP to specific data sources
- Examples
  - Specific databases
  - XML data source
- Other data sources?

# Support for PostgreSQL 8.x

- Can define generic driver template
- Can connect using JDBC connection profile
- Can use SQL Dev with this connection profile



# Demonstration: Connecting to PostgreSQL

# Limitations

- Not intuitive for driver and connection profile definitions
- Not all data types correct
- Not all database objects appear in DSE
- ✓ We will address the first two today

# Driver Template

- Specify reasonable defaults for PostgreSQL 8.x
- Reuse generic driver template
- Make the choice obvious in the driver template list

# Demonstration: Creating a Driver Template



# Connection Profile

- Simple reuse of the generic JDBC connection profile (for now)
- Responsibilities
  - Manage connection on request
  - Provide meta-data about connection

# Demonstration: Creating a Connection Profile



# Further (future) specializations

- Specialized class loading
- Specialized content for DSE
- Contribute to SQL Dev extension points



# Data Type Problems

- Why is this happening?
- Specialize database definition
  - Modify XMI vendor file
  - Based on generic version
  - Add new names for data types



# Demonstration: Specialized DB Definition



# Using the DB Customization

- ✓ Specialized types added
- (Future) Support all data types in a similar manner

# Beyond Connecting

- Now that you have a (customized) connection to your database, what can you do with it?
  - All kinds of things, but here are some important ones:
    - Retrieve data
    - Update data
  - Retrieving and updating data typically requires creating SQL queries

# SQL Facts of Life

- Each database type has its own flavor of SQL
  - No database really implements the ISO SQL standard
  - Each has missing features, added non-standard features, and some features present but just different
- This creates a problem for database tools!
  - Need a way to create tools that can handle the differences



# DTP SQL Query Parser

- DTP includes a SQL Query parser framework and example implementation
- Parses SQL DML statements:
  - SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE
- Based on IBM LALR Parser Generator (LPG)
- Output of parser is instance of SQL Query Model
- Both parser and model are designed to be customized and extended

# Example: PostgreSQL

- PostgreSQL has lots of interesting features and differences from standard SQL. Here are two we will use for our example extension:
  - Additional table join types
  - Dollar-quoted string constants

# PostgreSQL: Additional table join types

- PostgreSQL supports many table join types, including some unusual ones:
  - CROSS JOIN
  - NATURAL JOIN
- These are in ISO SQL but are not in many other DB's, and are not included in the base SQL Query model and parser
- Will illustrate how to extend the SQL Query model and parser

# PostgreSQL: Dollar-quoted string literals

- PostgreSQL has an unusual alternative syntax for specifying string literals in SQL
  - \$\$string literal here\$\$
  - Can include any characters inside the literal (avoids the need to double single quotes)
- Typically used to “quote” SQL code in procedure and function definitions
- Will illustrate how to extend the SQL lexer





# Task Overview: Extending the Model

1. Create plugin for model extension
2. Define the model extension
3. Generate model code (EMF)
4. Extend the source formatter

# Demonstration: Extending the SQL Query Model



# Task Overview: Extending the Parser

1. Create plugin for parser extension
2. Copy and modify LPG templates
3. Define LPG command runner
4. Add and override parser rules
5. Generate parser code

# Demonstration: Extending the SQL Query Parser

# Task Overview: Extending the Lexer

- In LPG, the lexer is a specialized parser, so steps are similar to the parser steps
  1. Copy LPG lexer template
  2. Modify grammar rules in lexer
  3. Generate lexer code

# Demonstration: Extending the SQL Lexer

# Putting it all together

- Now have a SQL parser and model that work together. Can be used for:
  - Query analysis
  - Query building
  - Query syntax checking