

# THE BLOB - SLICING AND DICING IN ORACLE

Employ Voyager's own Blob functions

Independent of Microsoft Access VB

Speed of query execution

Query scheduling

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ORACLE SQL+

## ORACLE SQL+

SQL+ is the command line SQL and PL/SQL language interface to the Oracle databases. Write the query in a Notepad or another text editor and save it as sql file i.e. BLOB\_Query.sql

The query must follow Oracle PL/SQL syntax. Example:

```
SELECT DISTINCT AUCKDB.BIB_TEXT.BIB_ID,
AUCKDB.BIB_TEXT.TITLE,
AUCKDB.MFHD_MASTER.MFHD_ID ,
AUCKDB.GETMFHDTAG(AUCKDB.MFHD_DATA.MFHD_ID,
'866')AS Holdings866
FROM AUCKDB.BIB_MASTER, AUCKDB.BIB_TEXT,
AUCKDB.BIB_MFHD, AUCKDB.MFHD_MASTER,
AUCKDB.MFHD_DATA
WHERE AUCKDB.BIB_MASTER.BIB_ID =
AUCKDB.BIB_TEXT.BIB_ID AND
AUCKDB.BIB_MASTER.BIB_ID = AUCKDB.BIB_MFHD.BIB_ID
AND AUCKDB.BIB_MFHD.MFHD_ID =
AUCKDB.MFHD_MASTER.MFHD_ID AND
AUCKDB.MFHD_MASTER.MFHD_ID =
AUCKDB.MFHD_DATA.MFHD_ID AND
AUCKDB.BIB_TEXT.BIB_FORMAT Like 'as';
```

Execute the query either by:

Pasting the query text into the SQL+ window  
Start the file from the SQL+ (i.e. SQL>START C:\BLOB\_Query.sql)



To save the query results SPOOL the file. The best format to output the file is HTML. The commands to spool the file in html with no repeating title headings are:

```
SET PAGESIZE 0
set markup HTML on
spool FILENAME.html
SELECT STATEMENTS.....
.....;
spool off
set markup HTML off
```

Usually the result file can be found in c:\oracle\bin

MICROSOFT ACCESS

## MICROSOFT ACCESS

Access PASS\_THROUGH queries are sent over to Oracle to be executed. The queries can include Voyager Blob functions.

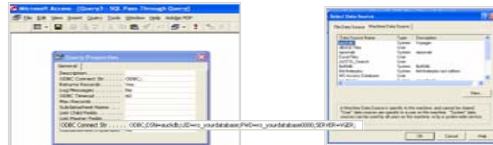
1. Create a New query in MICROSOFT ACCESS Database
2. In the New Query dialog box, click Design View and OK
3. Click Close in the Show Table dialog box without adding any tables or queries
4. From the Query menu choose SQL Specific, then set the query as Pass-Through



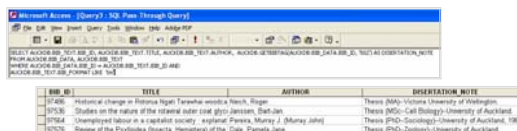
5. On the toolbar, click Properties to display the property sheet for the query.



6. Set the connection string in the query property sheet.
7. In the Connection string click the Build (...) button and choose your Voyager ODBC connection then follow the instruction and save



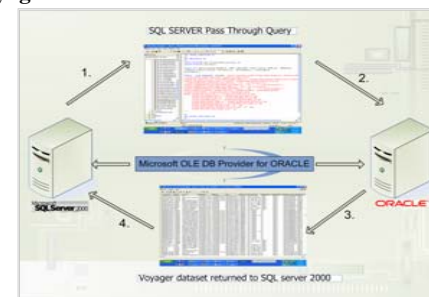
8. Type your query using the ORACLE syntax (the pass-through query can include calls to Voyager BLOB functions)



A full explanation of Access Pass-through queries can be found in the hand-outs

## SQL SERVER 2000

The BLOB functions can be used in the SQL Server Pass-through queries. The SQL server must have an OLE DB connection to ORACLE where the Voyager database resides.



Pass-through queries can be scheduled to run every night on SQL Server 2000.



At The University of Auckland Library we use this method to create the Ejournals page (<http://www.library.auckland.ac.nz/ejournals/>) and the New Books page (<http://www.library.auckland.ac.nz/newbooks/>)



Examples of Voyager BLOB Functions: AUCKDB.GETMFHDTAG(AUCKDB.MFHD\_DATA.MFHD\_ID,'XXX'), AUCKDB.GETBIBTAG(AUCKDB.BIB\_DATA.BIB\_ID, 'XXX'), AUCKDB.GETMFHDSUBFIELD(AUCKDB.MFHD\_DATA.MFHD\_ID, 'XXX', 'z')

To view the full list of Voyager Blob functions open Oracle Enterprise Manager and connect to your VGER service name. You can see the whole lot in your database schema's object window.