



# Unveiling new capabilities of the Oracle RESTFUL Data Services

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# CONTEXT | DATABASE

## Database



Oracle Database Instance

PL/SQL - QUERY

`SELECT * FROM Customers;`

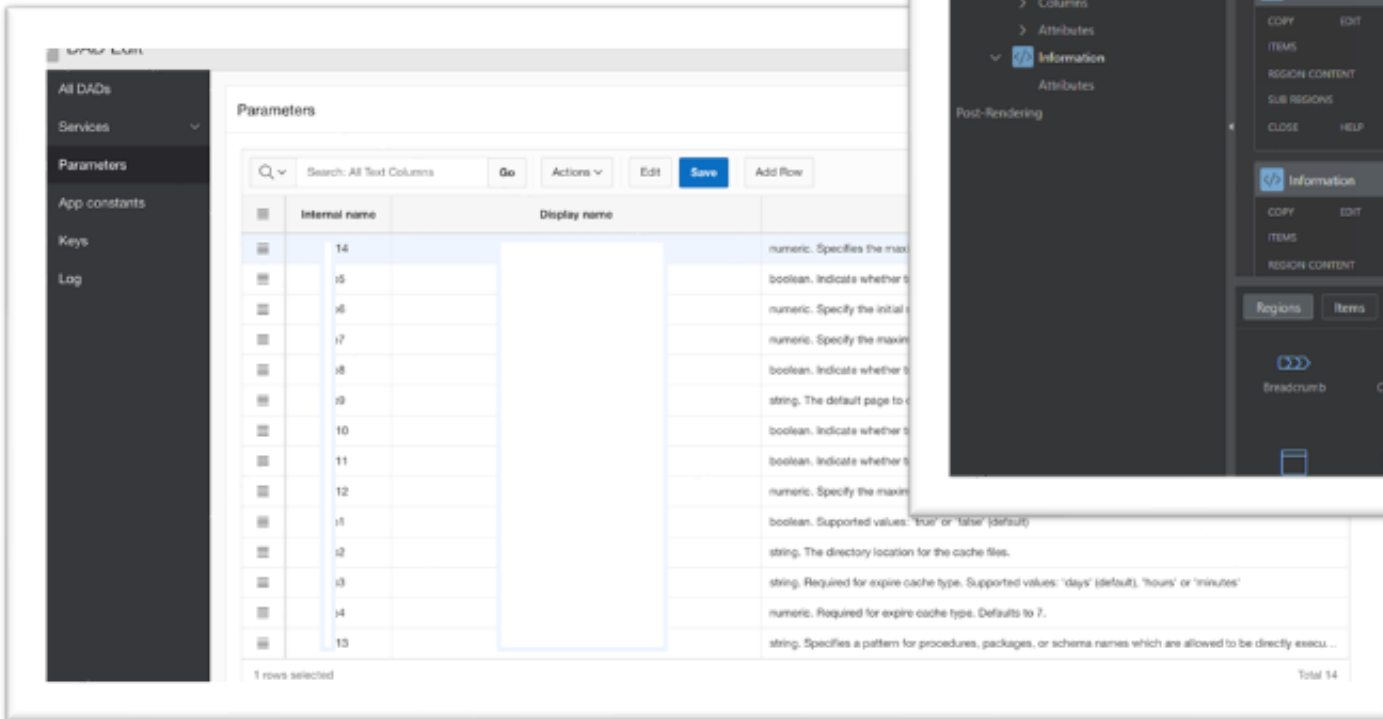
RESULT

| CustomerID | CustomerName                       | ContactName        | Address                       | City        | PostalCode | Country |
|------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|------------|---------|
| 1          | Alfreds Futterkiste                | Maria Anders       | Obere Str. 57                 | Berlin      | 12209      | Germany |
| 2          | Ana Trujillo Emparedados y helados | Ana Trujillo       | Avda. de la Constitución 2222 | México D.F. | 05021      | Mexico  |
| 3          | Antonio Moreno Taqueria            | Antonio Moreno     | Mataderos 2312                | México D.F. | 05023      | Mexico  |
| 4          | Around the Horn                    | Thomas Hardy       | 120 Hanover Sq.               | London      | WA1 1DP    | UK      |
| 5          | Berglunds snabbköp                 | Christina Berglund | Berguvsvägen 8                | Luleå       | S-958 22   | Sweden  |

# CONTEXT | APEX

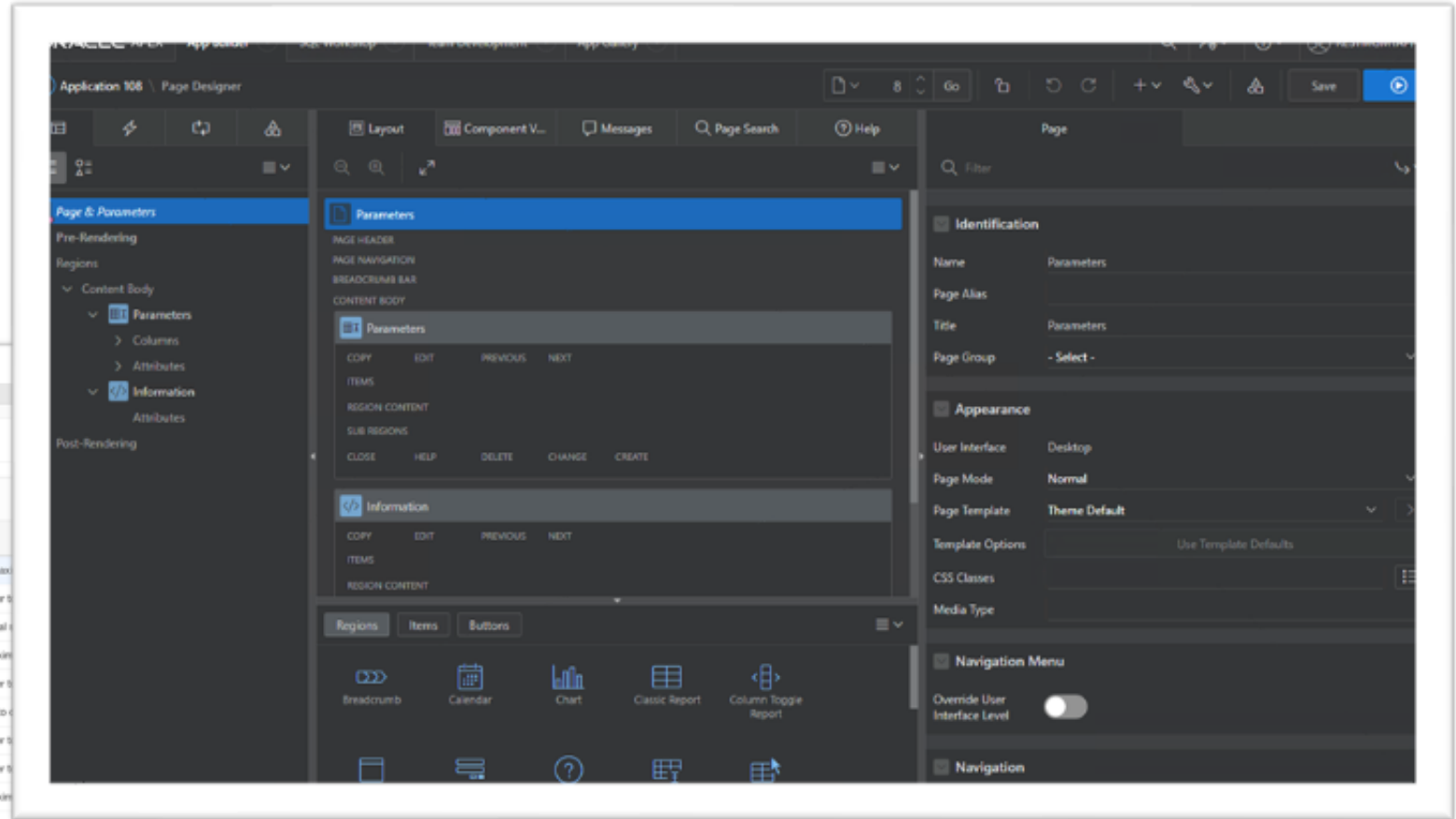
## FEATURES

- Low Code Platform
- Drag&Drop building block system
- Templates for easy table modification



The screenshot shows the APEX Parameters table editor. On the left is a navigation sidebar with 'Parameters' selected. The main area displays a table with columns for 'Internal name' and 'Display name'. The table contains 14 rows, with the first row selected. Below the table, it indicates '1 rows selected' and 'Total 14'. The table content is as follows:

| Internal name | Display name |
|---------------|--------------|
| 14            |              |
| 15            |              |
| 16            |              |
| 17            |              |
| 18            |              |
| 19            |              |
| 10            |              |
| 11            |              |
| 12            |              |
| 11            |              |
| 12            |              |
| 11            |              |
| 12            |              |
| 11            |              |
| 12            |              |
| 11            |              |
| 12            |              |
| 11            |              |
| 12            |              |



# THE PROBLEM

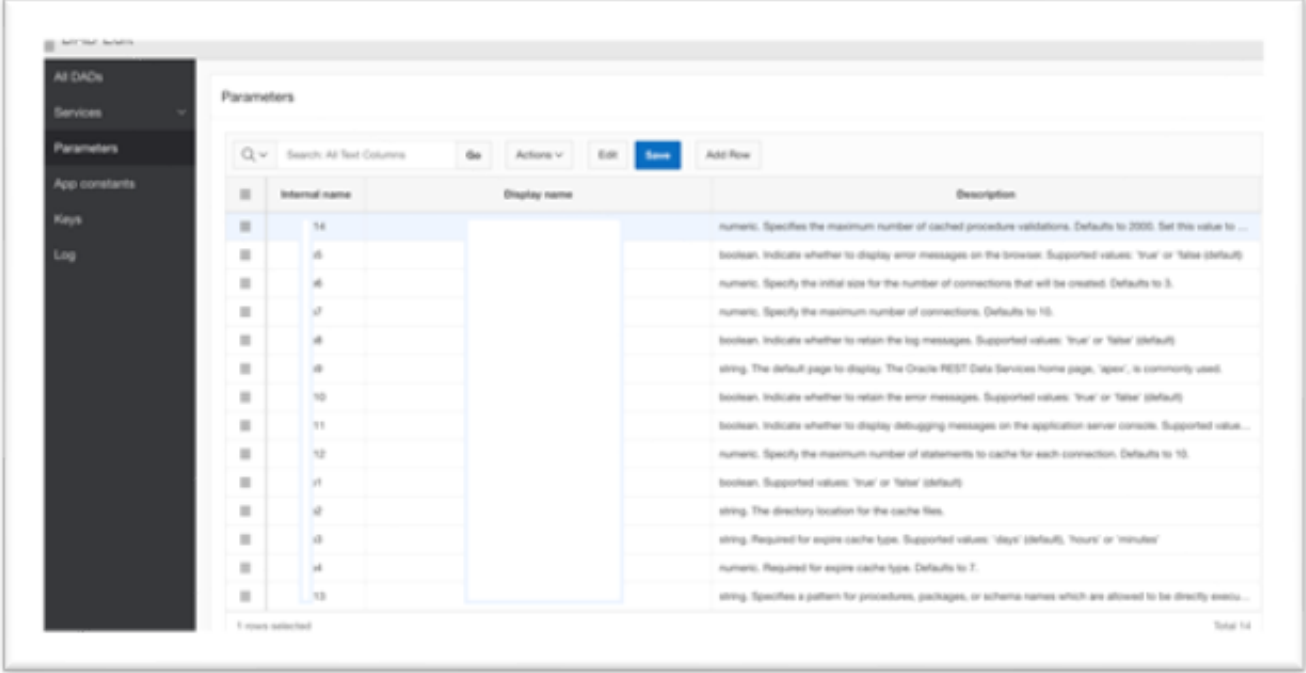
## How to automate an APEX application

CERN IT-DAR-Department uses an APEX application to manage entries in several database schemas.

- Easy to use
- No PL/SQL writing

Scripts and other apps uses direct database access [JBDC] to access tables.

- Complex to integrate



The screenshot shows an APEX application interface with a sidebar on the left containing navigation items: All DADs, Services, Parameters, App constants, Keys, and Log. The main content area is titled 'Parameters' and features a search bar and action buttons (Go, Actions, Edit, Save, Add Row). Below this is a table with the following structure:

| Internal name | Display name | Description  |
|---------------|--------------|--|
| 14            |              | numeric. Specifies the maximum number of cached procedure validations. Defaults to 2000. Set this value to ...     |
| 15            |              | boolean. Indicates whether to display error messages on the browser. Supported values: 'true' or 'false' (default) |
| 16            |              | numeric. Specify the initial size for the number of connections that will be created. Defaults to 5.               |
| 17            |              | numeric. Specify the maximum number of connections. Defaults to 10.  |
| 18            |              | boolean. Indicates whether to retain the log messages. Supported values: 'true' or 'false' (default)               |
| 19            |              | string. The default page to display. The Oracle REST Data Services home page, 'apex', is commonly used.            |
| 10            |              | boolean. Indicates whether to retain the error messages. Supported values: 'true' or 'false' (default)             |
| 11            |              | boolean. Indicates whether to display debugging messages on the application server console. Supported value...     |
| 12            |              | numeric. Specify the maximum number of statements to cache for each connection. Defaults to 10.                    |
| 11            |              | boolean. Supported values: 'true' or 'false' (default)   |
| 12            |              | string. The directory location for the cache files.  |
| 13            |              | string. Required for expire cache type. Supported values: 'days' (default), 'hours' or 'minutes'                   |
| 14            |              | numeric. Required for expire cache type. Defaults to 7.  |
| 13            |              | string. Specifies a pattern for procedures, packages, or schema names which are allowed to be directly execu...    |

At the bottom of the table, it indicates '1 rows selected' and 'Total 14'.

# THE PROBLEM

## How to automate an APEX application

Every third-party application or user needs the following things, to get data in and out of the database schema:

- User-account
- Direct database server access
- Table structure knowledge
- PL/SQL knowledge

# CONTEXT | ORDS

## Oracle REST Data Service

- Provides an RESTFUL API „Proxy“ between Database and User
- Avoids the direct database access
- **REST ENABLED SQL** translates given SQL queries inside of a HTTP Request and executes it on the database



Oracle Database Instance



ORDS

### REST REQUEST [QUERY]

```
curl -X POST \  
  https://example.com/ords/rest/_/sql \  
  -H 'Authorization: Bearer TgZogKUFTHEz9jjehoQT \  
  -H 'Content-Type: application/sql' \  
  -H 'cache-control: no-cache' \  
  -d 'select * from atx_ev_charging_stations wh
```



### JSON RESPONSE [RESULT]

```
{  
  "result": [  
    {"CustomerID":1, "CustomerName":"Alfred"},  
    {"CustomerID":2, "CustomerName":"Ana T..."},  
  ]  
}
```



# THE SOLUTION

## Use ORDS

Implement a custom ORDS module, which maps the same functionality as the APEX application and offers this to a RESTFUL API endpoint

- GET and MODIFY table entries
- Implement several filter and sorting options
- Add SSO, logging, permissions

# THE SOLUTION

## basic implementation and structure of the solution

### API DEFINITION

- Documentation for the User
- Basic structure of an API call
- Swagger for interactive testing

```
info:
  version: '1.0'
  title: ORDS_MGMT_API
  contact: {}
  host: devords.cern.ch
  basePath: /ords/cerndb1/dad_edit3/ords_rest_mgmt_1
  securityDefinitions:
    auth:
      type: basic
  schemes:
    - https
  consumes:
    - application/json
  produces:
    - application/json
  paths:
    /v1.0/schematype:
      get:
        description: GET ALL SCHEMATYPE TABLE ENTIRE
        summary: schematype
        tags:
          - SCHEMATYPE
        operationId: schematypeget
        deprecated: false
        produces:
```

### ORDS HANDLER

- Handles the incoming API call
- Executes the specified PL/SQL query
- return sql response as JSON

```
p_module_name => 'ords_rest_mgmt_api_v1.0',
p_pattern      => 'appconfiguration',
p_priority     => 0,
p_etag_type    => 'HASH',
p_etag_query   => NULL,
p_comments     => NULL);
ORDS.DEFINE_HANDLER(
  p_module_name => 'ords_rest_mgmt_api_v1.0',
  p_pattern      => 'appconfiguration',
  p_method       => 'GET',
  p_source_type  => 'plsql/block',
  p_items_per_page => 25,
  p_mimes_allowed => '',
  p_comments     => NULL,
  p_source       =>
    'GDN
    get_appconfiguration_prdl
      i_key => :i_key,
      i_value => :i_value,
      i_limit => :i_limit,
      o_result => :o_result,
      o_error => :o_error
    ');
ORDS.DEFINE_PARAMETER(
  p_module_name => 'ords_rest_mgmt_api_v1.0',
  p_pattern      => 'appconfiguration',
  p_method       => 'GET',
  p_name         => 'error',
  p_bind_variable_name => 'o_error',
  p_source_type  => 'RESPONSE',
  p_param_type   => 'STRING',
  p_access_method => 'OUT',
```

### PL/SQL FUNCTIONS

- Dynamically build the SQL query statement
- Returns resultset
- user-friendly error messages

```
CREATE OR REPLACE EDITIONABLE FUNCTION "GET_SCHEMA_PKI" (
  I_INCLUDE_DAD IN INTEGER, -- INCLUDE DAD ENTRIES
  I_INCLUDE_DAD_DETAILED IN INTEGER, -- INCLUDE ALL DAD ENTRIES
  I_ID IN SCHEMA_TABLE.IDTYPE, -- SELECT SERVICE WITH ID
  I_NAME IN SCHEMA_TABLE.NAMETYPE, -- SEARCH SERVICE NAME
  I_DADID IN SCHEMA_TABLE.DAD_IDTYPE, -- SEARCH CLUSTER_NAME
  I_ISENCRYPTED IN SCHEMA_TABLE.IS_ENCRYPTEDATYPE, -- SEARCH ENTI
  I_PASSWORD IN SCHEMA_TABLE.PASSWORDATYPE -- SEARCH FRONTEND_ENR)
RETURN SYS_REFCURSOR
$
  L_QUERY VARCHAR2(32767);
  VAR_REF SYS_REFCURSOR;
BEGIN
  --BASIC SELECT
  L_QUERY := 'SELECT SCHEMA_TABLE.ID, SCHEMA_TABLE.NAME, SCHEMA_TV

  -- INCLUDE DAD ENTRIES
  IF I_INCLUDE_DAD = 1 THEN
    L_QUERY := L_QUERY || ', DAD.ID AS DAD_ID, DAD.NAME AS DAD_N
    -- INCLUDE ALL DAD COLUMNS
    IF I_INCLUDE_DAD_DETAILED = 1 THEN
      L_QUERY := L_QUERY || ', DAD.P1 AS DAD_P1, DAD.P2 AS DAD_P2,
  END IF;
  END IF;

  -- ADD TABLE
```



# THE SOLUTION

## basic implementation and structure of the solution

### HTTP REQUEST

```
curl --location --request POST '{{PROTOCOL}}://{{ORDS_HOST_PORT}}/ords/{{SCHEMA}}/{{MODULE}}/service'  
--header 'Authorization: Basic '  
--header 'Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded' \  
--data-urlencode 'name=SRV' \  
--data-urlencode 'ordsversion=.34' \  
--data-urlencode 'type=SSO' \  
--data-urlencode 'clean=N' \  
--data-urlencode 'frozen=N' \  
--data-urlencode 'configrefresh=N' \  

```



### RESPONSE

```
1 {  
2   "result": [  
3     {  
4       "id": 4242,  
5       "name": "SRV",  
6       "ords_version": ".34",  
7       "context_root": null,  
8       "type": "SSO",  
9       "tpl_rt": null,  
10      "access_file_folder": null,  
11      "access_template": null,  
12      "ords_war_files_path": null,  
13      "access_file_name": null,  
14      "config_refresh": "N",  
15      "redploy": "N",  
16    }  
17  ]  
18 }
```

# SUMMING UP

- Implement a fully working and tested RESTFUL API based on the APEX application using a custom ORDS module
- Two python-based applications have already been successfully ported to use the newly created API
- After testing the API on the development database was also deployed on the production database.



# QUESTIONS?

