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Interactive Grid for Beginners

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#orclapex



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About me

John Snyders

At Oracle since 2008 (Weblogic)

Joined Oracle Application Express team in 2012

Focus Area:

JavaScript

Projects:

Interactive Grid, Page Designer, JavaScript widgets, Survey Builder

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What I hope you learn from this presentation

- 1 ➤ What the Interactive Grid is
- 2 ➤ What can it do for your users
- 3 ➤ How to add it to your apps

Almost 2 ½ years since Interactive Grid introduced!

- Debut in APEX release 5.1 (late December 2016)
- Since then
 - 4 Patch releases 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.1.4 many improvements, fixes
 - 18.1 Copy to Clipboard, Cell Selection, Copy Down, ..., fixes
 - 18.2 Fixes
 - 19.1 A few more declarative attributes, fixes

Take Away

Now is the time to start using
Interactive Grid

Interactive Grid Is

- Modern editable data grid
- Replacement for tabular forms
- Alternative to Interactive Reports for some use cases
- Declarative high-level APEX region
- Low code
- End user customizable



DEMO

A Tour of Interactive Grid

Tabular Forms Replacement

- Interactive Grid created to solve Tabular Forms limitations
 - Restricted set of form controls
 - No support for dynamic actions or cascading LOVs
 - Restricted to 50 editable columns and 32K limit
 - One tabular form per page
- Declarative Master Detail a key requirement

Interactive Report Alternative

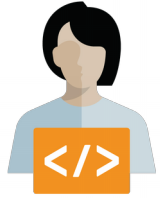
- Took end user “Interactive” style from Interactive Reports
- Advantages
 - Scroll paging
 - Frozen columns
 - Column reorder/size/sort
 - More chart options
 - Selection
 - Master Detail
 - Oracle Text
- Missing
 - Printing
 - Pivot view
 - Group by view
 - Subscriptions
 - Computations
 - Variable height rows

Where we are using it

- APEX Builder
 - Shared components editing static list of values
 - A number of web source configuration pages
 - Some of the Team Development report pages
 - More in progress
- Sample Apps
 - Sample Interactive Grids
 - Sample Master Detail
 - Sample Database Application (customers reporting only)

Creating Interactive Grids

- Create App Wizard
 - Master Detail > Stacked only
 - Interactive Grid > editable or report
- Create Page Wizard
 - Report > Interactive Grid, editing enabled (defaults to no)
 - Report > Report with Form (pick interactive grid) not editable
 - Form > Editable Interactive Grid
 - Form > Report with Form (pick interactive grid) not editable
 - Master Detail > Stacked
 - Master Detail > Drill Down
- Page Designer

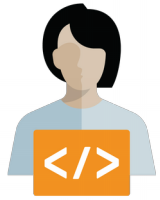


DEMO

Creating Interactive Grid

When the wizard is done...

- Review column headings and alignment
- Review column types
- Columns based on an expression need Query Only = Yes
- Columns updated by triggers are generally hidden, display only or read-only
- Make sure there is a primary key, Hide it if desired
- If the table has a row version column update Lost update type
- Set column default value where appropriate
- Always configure and save the default report!



DEMO

Configuring Interactive Grid

Tips

- When duplicating IG regions make sure the static id is unique.
- Scroll paging doesn't work with Universal Theme maximize region feature.
- If you include page item bindings in the where clause don't forget to include page items to submit.
- Use **&COLUMN.** syntax not the old #COLUMN# syntax from interactive report.
- Master Detail:
 - Switch to pagination type Page.
 - Switch to heading fixed to page.

Learning More

- Interactive Grid itself: Actions > Help and Help button in each dialog
- “Using Interactive Grids” in End User's Guide
- “Keyboard Shortcuts in Interactive Grid Regions” in Accessibility Guide
- Page Designer Attribute Help
- Sample Interactive Grids app
- Sample Master Detail app
- IG Cookbook from my blog for **advanced** use cases
<http://hardlikesoftware.com/weblog/2019/03/30/apex-ig-cookbook-update-for-19-1/>



Thank you!

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Q & A

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