

34. How to make a Discoverer report ordered by a “textual” date column?

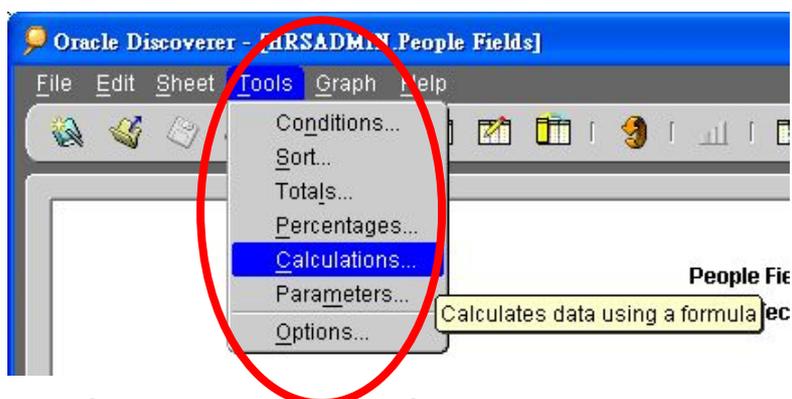
Take Discoverer report “People Fields” with column “Effective Start Date” as example. The “Effective Start Date” is a text data type column which cannot correctly be ordered according to the sequence of date, we should create a new column of it with date data type for proper ordering.

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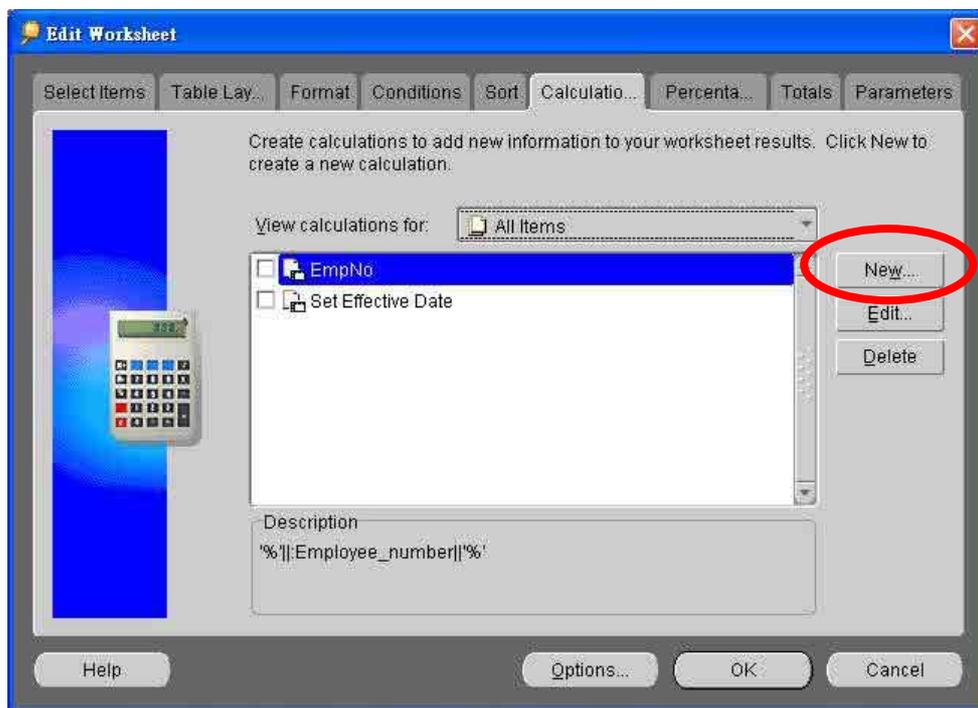
People Fields
Employee_number : '%', Effective Date : '01-jan-2004'

	Employee Number	Effective Start Date	Effective End Date	Last Name	First Name	Title	Prefix	Suffix	Middle Names	Gender	Hkid
1	10102	29-OCT-2003	12-SEP-2005	Adams	Michelle	MS.				F	A000021(6)
2	00033334	29-OCT-2003	31-DEC-4712	Chan	Chung Man	MR.				M	K346678(1)
3	A000002	01-APR-2003	31-DEC-4712	Chan	Chung Man	MR.	aaa	bbb	ccc	M	A123457(1)
4	0003333	29-OCT-2003	31-DEC-4712	Chan	Siu Man	MR.				M	K346678(1)
5	001	31-OCT-2003	31-DEC-4712	Chan	Siu Man	MR.				M	V000000(0)
6	A000003	01-APR-2003	31-DEC-4712	Chan	Siu Man	MR.				M	A123458(1)
7	000015	29-OCT-2003	31-DEC-4712	Chan	Tai Man	MR.				M	K346678(1)
8	A000001	01-APR-2003	31-DEC-4712	Chan	Tai Man	MR.				M	A123456(1)
9	DC0001	29-OCT-2003	31-DEC-4712	Chan	Tai Man	MR.				M	K346678(1)

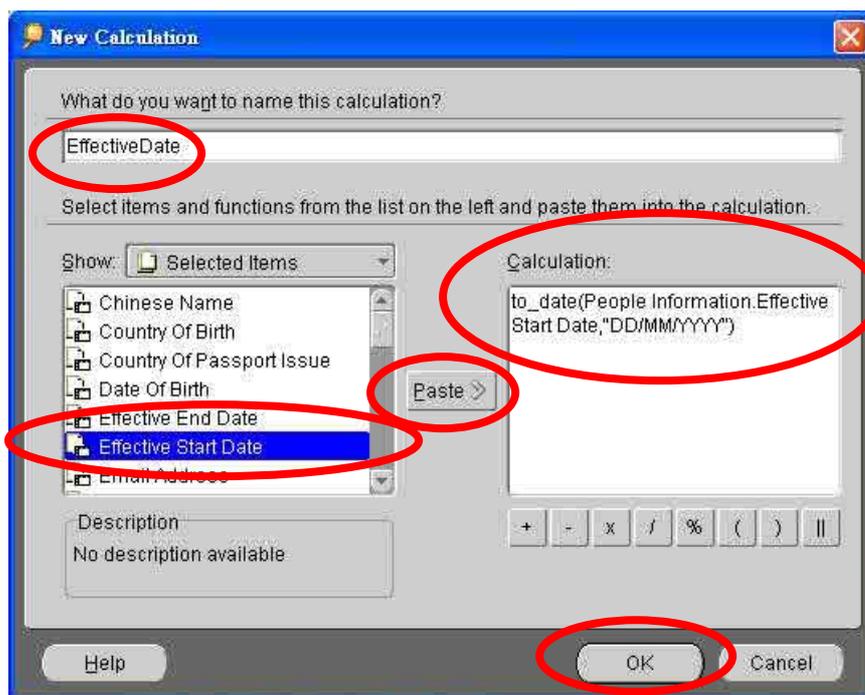
1. Click the calculator icon in tool bar or selection Calculations under Tools in menu bar.



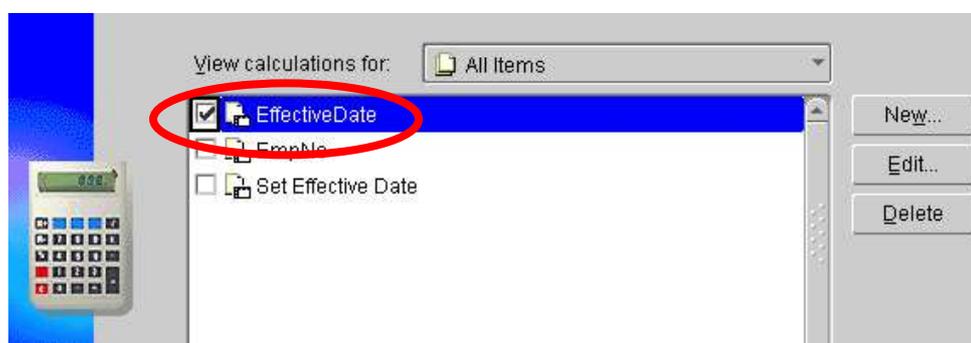
2. After Edit Worksheet – tag Calculation pop up, click New button to create a new calculation column for report sorting.



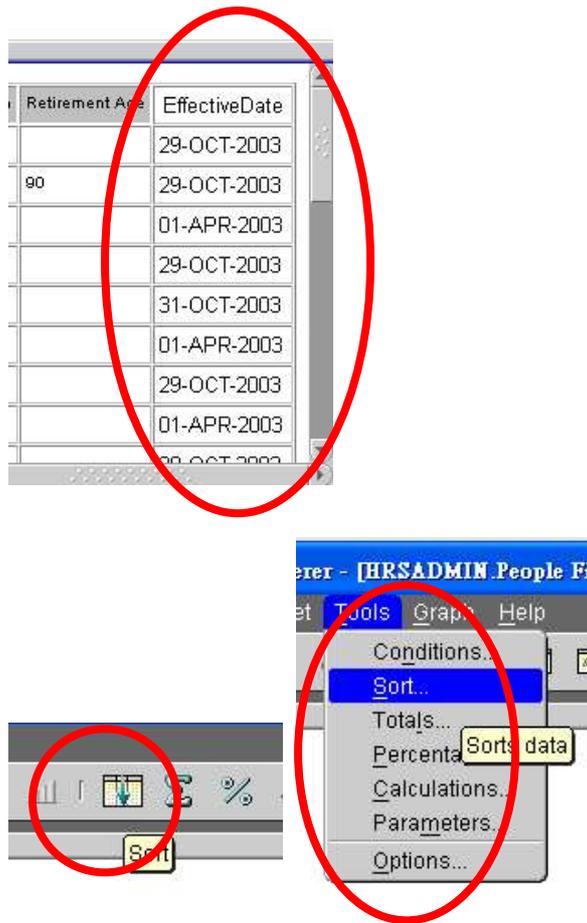
3. In name of calculation, type “EffectiveDate”; In the Calculation box, type “to_date(“; in left hand side selection list, select the column “Effective Start Date” and then click Paste button; in the Calculation box, type in ,”DD/MM/YYYY” at the end with double quotation marks. Click OK to confirm this addition of new calculation.



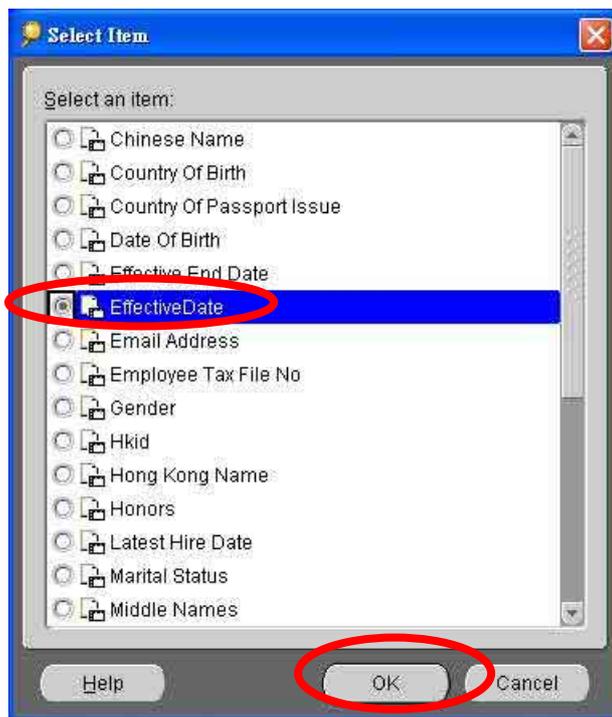
4. A new checked calculation column will be displayed. The checked sign indicated that the calculation column will be shown on the report.



5. You can check for the immediate result by clicking OK to regenerate the report with the new calculation column or click on the Sort tab of this dialogue to set the report ordering. In case clicking OK to regenerate the report, you can select icon in tool bar or Sort under Tools in menu bar for the report ordering.

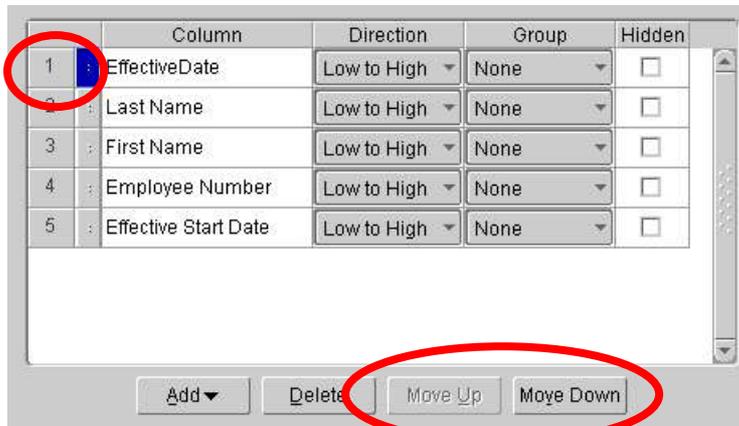


6. The Select Item dialogue box will be popped up after clicking Add button. Select item Effective Date and then click OK.



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7. You can then drag the item no of EffectiveDate to the top or use the Move Up and Move Down buttons to do so.



8. Click OK to regenerate the report.