

Advanced Technical Skills

AIX Performance: Configuration & Tuning for Oracle

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Agenda

- AIX Configuration Best Practices for Oracle
 - Memory
 - -CPU
 - **I/O**
 - Network
 - Miscellaneous



AIX Configuration Best Practices for Oracle

- The suggestions presented here are considered to be basic configuration "starting points" for general Oracle workloads
- Your workloads may vary
- Ongoing performance monitoring and tuning is recommended to ensure that the configuration is optimal for the particular workload characteristics



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Virtual Memory Manager (VMM) Tuning

- The AIX "vmo" command provides for the display and/or update of several parameters which influence the way AIX manages physical memory
 - The "-a" option displays current parameter settings
 - > vmo -a
 - The "-o" option is used to change parameter values
 - vmo –o minfree=1440
 - The "-p" option is used to make changes persist across a reboot
 - > vmo -p -o minfree=1440

On AIX 5.3, number of the default "vmo" settings are not optimized for database workloads and should be modified for Oracle environments



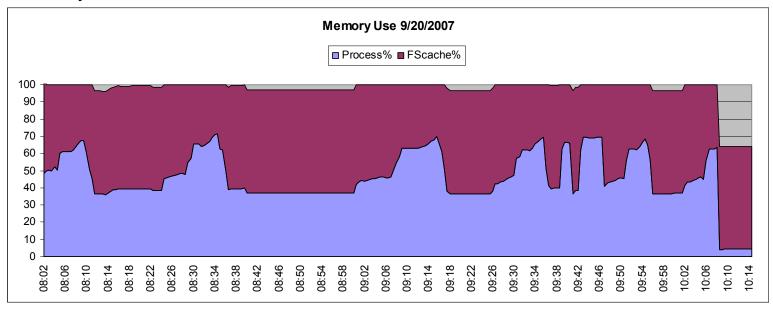
Kernel Parameter Tuning – AIX 6.1/7.1

- AIX 6.1/7.1 configured by default to be 'correct' for most workloads.
- Many tunable are classified as 'Restricted':
 - Only change if AIX Support says so
 - Parameters will not be displayed unless the '-F' option is used for commands like vmo, no, ioo, etc.
- When migrating from AIX 5.3 to 6.1/7.1, parameter override settings in AIX 5.3 will be transferred to AIX 6.1/7.1 environment



General Memory Tuning

- Two primary categories of memory pages: Computational and File System
- AIX will always try to utilize all of the physical memory available (subject to vmo parameter settings)
 - What is not required to support current computational page demand will tend to be used for filesystem cache
 - Raw Devices and filesystems mounted (or individual files opened) in DIO/CIO mode do not use filesystem cache





AIX System Paging Concepts & Requirements

By default, AIX uses a "demand paging" policy

- For Oracle DB, the goal is ZERO system paging activity
- Filesystem pages written back to filesystem disk (if dirty); never to system paging space
- Unless otherwise specified, computational pages are not written to paging space unless/until they are stolen by Irud. (*1)

Once written to paging space, pages are not removed from paging space until the process associated with those pages terminates

- For long running processes (e.g. Oracle DB), even low levels of system paging can result in significant growth in paging space usage over time
- Paging space should be considered a fail-safe mechanism for providing sufficient time to identify and correct paging issues, not a license to allow ongoing system paging activity

Paging space allocation Rule-of-Thumb:

- ½ the physical memory + 4 GB, with the following cap:

Resolve paging issues quickly:

- Reduce effective minimum file system cache size (minperm)
- Reduce Oracle SGA or PGA size
- Add physical memory

Physical Memory lower or equal to	Paging Space Max
128GB	60GB
256GB	100GB
512GB	150GB
1TB	200GB



JFS2 inode / metadata caches

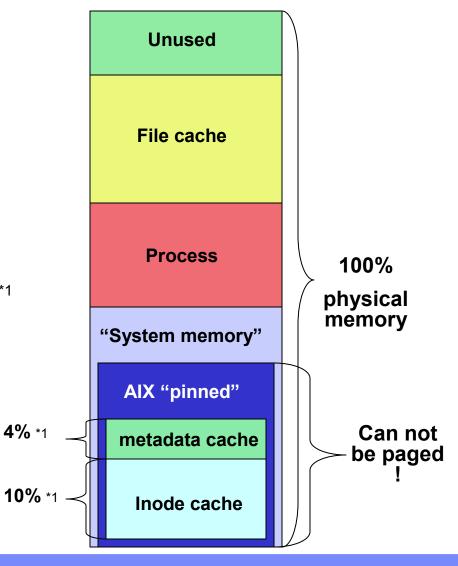
- JFS2 utilizes two caches one for inodes and one for metadata
- Caches grow in size until maximum size is reached before cache slots are reused
- Default values are tuned for a file server!
- Each entry in the inode cache requires about 1KB of physical memory
 - → 1MB of memory can cache about 1000 files
- Configured via ioo parameters:
 - j2_inodeCacheSize (Default: 400 = 10%) *1
 - j2_metadataCacheSize (Default: 400 = 4%) *1
- The current memory use can be verified via:

cat /proc/sys/fs/jfs2/memory_usage

metadata cache: 31186944

inode cache: 34209792

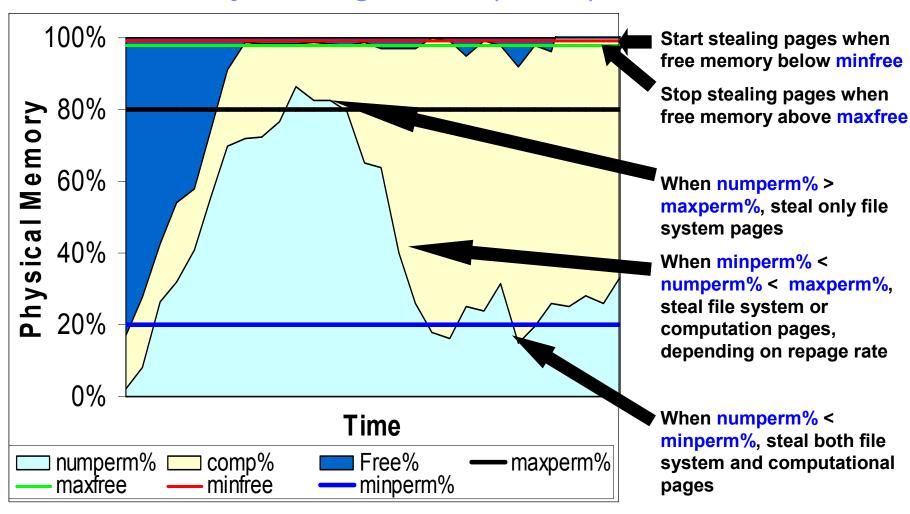
total: 65396736



^{*1} Note: Default values in AIX 7.1 are 200 (5%), 200 (2%)



Virtual Memory Management (VMM) Thresholds





Page Steal Method

- Historically, AIX maintained a single LRU list which contains both computational and filesystem pages.
 - In environments with lots of computational pages that you want to keep in memory, LRUD may have to spend a lot of time scanning the LRU list to find an eligible filesystem page to steal
- AIX 6.1 introduced the ability to maintain separate LRU lists for computational vs. filesystem pages.
 - Also backported to AIX 5.3
- New page_steal_method parameter
 - Enabled (1) by default in 6.1/7.1, disabled (0) by default in 5.3
 - Requires a reboot to change
 - Recommended for Oracle DB environments



Large Segment Aliasing (AIX 6.1 TL06, AIX 7.1)

- Feature allows user applications to "automagically" use 1TB segments.
 - 1 SLB entry in POWER7 can now address 1TB of memory.
 - Segment Lookaside Buffer (SLB) fault issue no longer relevant
 - Immediate performance boost for applications, new and legacy
- Significant changes under the covers
 - New address space allocation policy
 - Attempts to group address space requests together to facilitate 1TB aliasing.
 - Once certain allocation size thresholds have been reached, OS automatically aliases memory with 1TB aliases.
 - 256MB segments still exist for handling IO
- Aliasing only available for shared memory regions at this point.
- vmo -p -o esid_allocator = 1 and shm_1tb_unsh_enable = 0



Recommended vmo "Starting Points" - Review

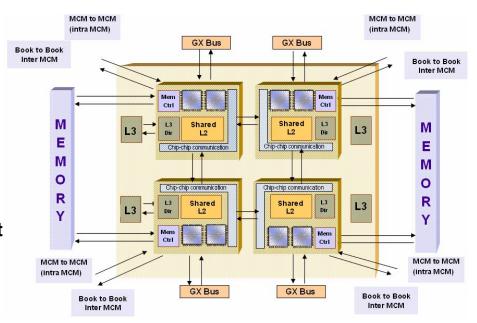
Parameter	Recommend Value	AIX 7.1 Default	AIX 7.1 Restricted	AIX 6.1 Default	AIX 6.1 Restricted	AIX 5.3 Default
minperm%	3	3	No	3	No	20
maxperm%	90	90	Yes	90	Yes	80
maxclient%	90	90	Yes	90	Yes	80
strict_maxclient	1	1	Yes	1	Yes	1
strict_maxperm	0	0	Yes	0	Yes	0
lru_file_repage	0	N/A	N/A	0	Yes	1 or 0(*1)
lru_poll_interval	10	10	Yes	10	Yes	10
minfree	960	960	No	960	No	960
maxfree	1088(*2)	1088	No	1088	No	1088
page_steal_method	1	1	Yes	1	Yes	0
memory_affinity	1	1	Yes	1	Yes	1
v_pinshm	0	0	No	0	No	0
lgpg_regions	0	0	No	0	No	0
lgpg_size	0	0	No	0	No	0
maxpin%	Leave at Default	90(*3)	No	80(*3)	No	80

^{*1} Depending on AIX 5.3 TL level
*2 Do not reduce below default *3 Depends on LSA use − LSA active → 90, otherwise 80



Understanding Memory Pools

- Memory cards are associated with every Multi Chip Module (MCM), Dual Core Module (DCM) or Quad Core Module (QCM) in the server
 - The Hypervisor assigns physical CPUs to a dedicated CPU LPAR (or shared processor pool) from one or more MCMs, DCMs or DCMs
 - For a given LPAR, there will normally be at least 1 memory pool for each MCM, DCM or QCM that has contributed processors to that LPAR or shared processor pool
- By default, memory for a process is allocated from memory associated with the processor that caused the page fault.
- Memory pool configuration is influenced by the VMO parameter "memory_affinity"
 - Memory_affinity=1 means configure memory pools based on physical hardware configuration (DEFAULT)
 - Memory_affinity=0 means configure roughly uniform memory pools from any physical location
- Number can be seen with 'vmstat –v |grep pools'
- Size can only be seen using KDB
- LRUD operates per memory pool



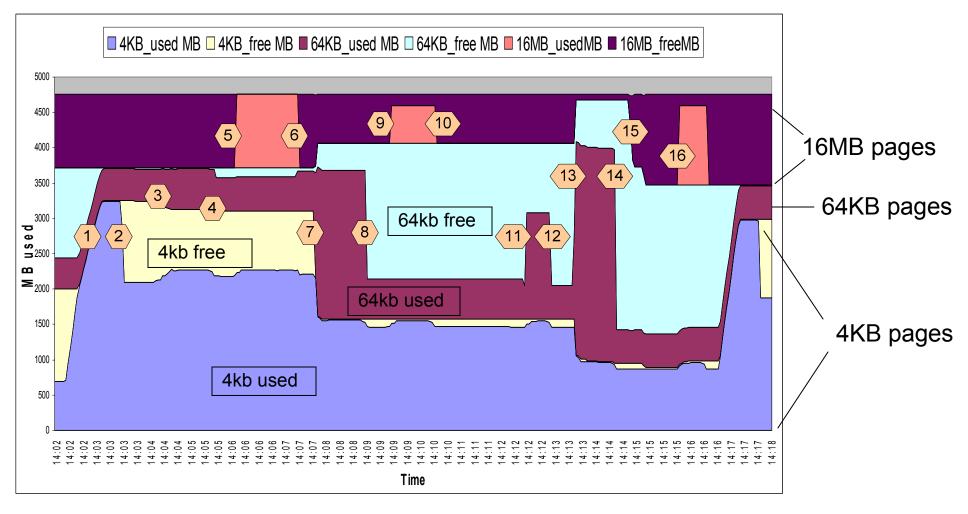


AIX Multiple Page Size Support

- 4K (Default)
 - All memory pages in the filesystem cache are 4K in size!
 - Can be paged to paging space
 - 4K pages can be combined to a 64K page if not enough 64K pages are available
- 64K, available with POWER5+ and later & AIX 5.3 TL4+
 - Can be paged to paging space
 - Can be converted to 4K pages if not enough 4K pages are available
 - Kernel page size used in AIX 5.3 TL4+ and above (can be configured)
 - Can be utilized for application code, data and stack as well, but requires specific configuration
- 16M available with POWER4 hardware (or later) (also referred to as Large Pages)
 - Requires pinned memory and explicit configuration
 - Can not be paged to paging space
- 16G available with POWER5+ & AIX 5.3 TL4+
 - Cannot be used with Oracle
 - Can not be paged to paging space



4K - 64K - 16MB Page Dynamics





AIX Multiple Page Size Support

- User/Application must request preferred page size
 - 64K page size is very promising, since they do not need to be configured/reserved in advance or pinned
 - export LDR_CNTRL=DATAPSIZE=64K@TEXTPSIZE=64K@STACKP SIZE=64K@SHMPSIZE=64K to use the 64K pagesize for stack, data & text
 - Will require Oracle to explicitly request the page size (10.2.0.4 & up plus Oracle patch# 7226548)
 - If preferred size not available, the largest available smaller size will be used
 - Current Oracle versions will end up using 64KB pages even if SGA is not pinned
- Refer: http://www-03.ibm.com/systems/resources/systems_p_os_aix_whitepa pers_multiple_page.pdf



Large Page Support 16mb (optional)

Pinning shared memory

- AIX Parameters
 - vmo –p –o v pinshm = 1
 - Leave maxpin% at the default of 80% unless the SGA exceeds 77% of real memory
 - Vmo –p –o maxpin%=[(total mem-SGA size)*100/total mem] + 3
- Oracle Parameters
 - LOCK SGA = TRUE

Enabling Large Page Support

vmo -p -o lgpg size = 16777216 -o lgpg regions=(SGA size / 16 MB)

Allowing user oracle to use Large Pages

chuser capabilities=CAP_NUMA_ATTACH,CAP_BYPASS_RAC_VMM,CAP_PROPAGATE oracle

Using Monitoring Tools

- svmon –G
- svmon –P

Oracle metalink note# 372157.1

Note: It is recommended not to pin SGA, as long as you had configured the VMM, SGA & PGA properly.



Determining SGA size

SGA Memory Summai	ry for DB: test01 Instance: test01 Snaps: 1046 -1047
SGA regions	Size in Bytes
Database Buffers	16,928,210,944
Fixed Size	768,448
Redo Buffers	2,371,584
Variable Size	1,241,513,984
sum	18,172,864,960

Igpg_regions = 18,172,864,960 / 16,777,216 = 1084 (rounded up)



Oracle Memory Structures Allocation

11g : Automatic Memory Management (AMM)

- memory_target (dynamic parameter) specifies the total memory size to be used by the instance SGA and PGA. Exchanges between SGA and PGA are done according to workload requirements
- If sga_target and pga_aggregate_target are not set, the policy is to give 60% of memory_target to the SGA and 40% to the PGA.
- memory_max_target (static parameter) specifies the maximum memory size for the database instance.
- To use Automatic Memory Management, memory_target must be >0.
- Can not be used together with "LOCK_SGA=TRUE"
- See Metalink notes 443746.1 and 452512.1 explaining AMM and these new parameters.

AMM dynamic resizing of the shared pool can cause a fair amount of "cursor: pin s" wait time. One strategy to minimize this is to set minimum sizes for memory areas you particularly care about.

In addition you can change the frequency how often AMM analyzes and adjusts the memory distribution. See: Metalink note: 742599.1 (_memory_broker_stat_interval)

SGA_MAX_SIZE and LOCK_SGA implications (11g, 10.2.4.0+)

LOCK SGA=false Preferred

- Oracle dynamically allocates memory for the SGA only as needed up to the size specified by SGA TARGET
- SGA_TARGET may be dynamically increased, up to SGA_MAX_SIZE
- 64K pages automatically used for SGA if supported in the environment. If needed,
 4K (or 16M) pages are converted to 64K pages.

LOCK_SGA=true Discouraged

- Oracle Automatic Memory Management (AMM) cannot be used (MEMORY TARGET)
- Oracle pre-allocates all memory as specified by SGA_MAX_SIZE and pins it in memory, even if it's not all used (i.e. SGA_TARGET < SGA_MAX_SIZE)
- If sufficient 16M pages are available those will be used. Otherwise, all the SGA memory will be allocated from 64K (if supported) or 4K pages (if 64K pages are not supported). If needed, 4K (or 16M pages will be converted to 64K pages, but 16M pages are never automatically created.
- If a value for sga_max_size is specified larger than the amount of available memory for computational pages, the system can become unresponsive due to system paging.
- If the specified SGA_MAX_SIZE is much larger than the currently available pages on the combined 64K and 16M page free lists, the database startup can fail with error: "IBM AIX RISC System/6000 Error: 12: Not enough space". In this case re-try to start the database.



AIX dynamic LPAR with Oracle AMM

Initial configuration

Memory_max_size = 18 GB Real memory = 12 GB AIX + free Memory_target = 8 GB SGA + PGA

Scenario:

Oracle tuning advisor indicates that SGA+PGA need to be increased to 11GB:

memory_target can be increased dynamically to 11GB but real memory is only 12GB, so it needs to be increased as well.

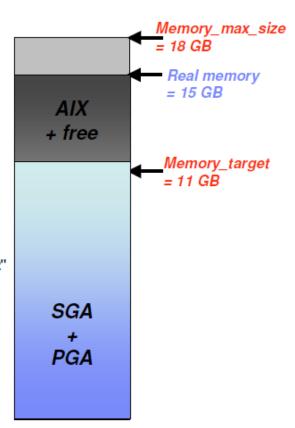
 Step 1 - Increase physical memory allocated to the LPAR to 15 GB

ssh hscroot@hmc "chhwres -r mem -m <system> -o a -p <LPAR name> -q 3072"

Step 2 - Increase SGA+PGA allocated to the instance of the database to 11GB

alter system set memory_target=11GB;

Final configuration



- Memory allocated to the system has been increased dynamically, using AIX DLPAR
- Memory allocated to Oracle (SGA and PGA) has been increased on the fly



Memory Usage in an Oracle Environment

Computational

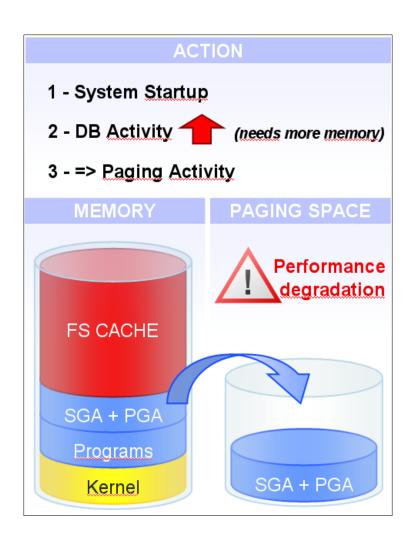
- Some used for AIX kernel processing
- Some used by Oracle/client executable programs
- Includes Oracle SGA and PGA memory

File System Cache

- May be used for caching or prefetching of Oracle .dbf files
 - Only for local filesystem based (non-RAC) environments where Direct I/O (or Concurrent I/O) is not used
- May be used for other Oracle related files
 - Archive logs, export/import files, backups, binaries, etc.
- May be used for non-Oracle related files
 - Application files, system files, etc.

Virtual Memory Management Priorities

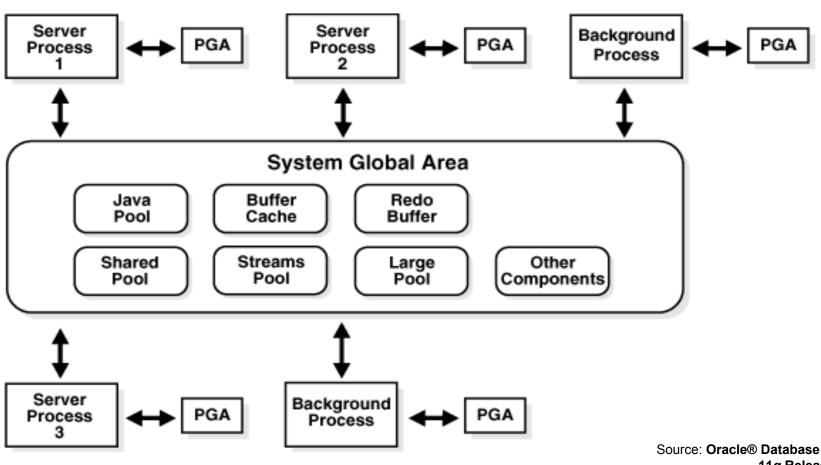
- Always want to keep computational pages in memory --System paging/swapping may degrade Oracle/application performance
 - Allocate enough physical memory to support computational footprint requirement + small file cache
 - When necessary, steal filesystem pages, not computational





Oracle Server Architecture – Memory Structures

Figure 8-1 Oracle Database Memory Structures



Source: Oracle® Database Concepts
11g Release 1 (11.1)
Part Number B28318-05



Displaying Memory Usage Statistics

The 'vmstat' command provides information on current memory usage: (reported in 4K pages)

```
# vmstat -v
        1048576 memory pages
        1002006 Iruable pages
        812111 free pages
              1 memory pools
        141103 pinned pages
           80.0 maxpin percentage
            3.0 minperm percentage
           90.0 maxperm percentage
            3.2 numperm percentage
          32779 file pages
            0.0 compressed percentage
              0 compressed pages
            0.0 numclient percentage
           90.0 maxclient percentage
              0 client pages
              0 remote pageouts scheduled
              0 pending disk I/Os blocked with no pbuf
              0 paging space I/Os blocked with no psbuf
           2484 filesystem I/Os blocked with no fsbuf
              0 client filesystem I/Os blocked with no fsbuf
              0 external pager filesystem I/Os blocked with no fsbuf
```



Displaying Memory Usage Statistics

The 'svmon -G' command provides information on current memory usage per page size: (general numbers are reported in 4K pages)

svmon -G

size		inuse	free	pin	virtual
memory	1179648	926225	290287	493246	262007
pg space	1572864	5215			
	work	pers	clnt	other	
pin	91390	0	0	74176	
in use	258573	4316	335656		
PageSize	PoolSize	inuse	pgsp	pin	virtual
s 4 KB	-	477713	5215	94606	141175
m 64 KB	_	7552	0	4435	7552
L 16 MB	80	0	0	80	0



AIX Paging Space

Allocate Paging Space:

- Configure Server/LPAR with enough physical memory to satisfy memory requirements
- With AIX demand paging, paging space does not have to be large
 - > Provides safety net to prevent system crashes when memory overcommitted.
- Generally, keep within internal drive or high performing SAN storage

Monitor paging activity:

- vmstat -s
- sar -r
- nmon

Resolve paging issues:

- Reduce file system cache size (MAXPERM, MAXCLIENT)
- Reduce Oracle SGA or PGA (9i or later) size
- Add physical memory

Do not over commit real memory!



A few important notes

AIX 6.1 kernel pinning:

- vmo -r -o vmm klock mode=2
 - It is enabled by default in 7.1 and can be enabled on 6.1 TL6.
- There were cases of Oracle RAC node eviction due to higher memory allocation and/or bug/feature
- Make sure you are in this release : AIX 6.1 TL6 SP5+, plus APAR IZ95744

USLA heap issue:

- With the release of 11gR2, Oracle introduced a new feature called "on line patching" and is supported on AIX 6.1 TL02 and 7.1 TL0 onwards
- Upgrade to AIX 6.1 TL07 or AIX 7.1 TL01, and then apply the Oracle bug patch 13443029 for database 11.2.0.2 and 11.2.0.3
- If you cannot upgrade to AIX 6.1 TL07 or 7.1 TL01, then apply Oracle patch 10190759, which will have a reduced online-patch functionality
- It is recommended to use AIX 6.1 TL07 SP02 or AIX 7.1 TL01 SP02

P7 special patch:

- Patch 6784747 Wasted memory in koh-kghu allocations. Free extents of memory might not get used.
- This bug impacts 10.2.0.4/5 and 11.1.0.x releases. This fix is not included in any of the PSU. This
 issue is fixed in Oracle 11.2.0.1 onwards



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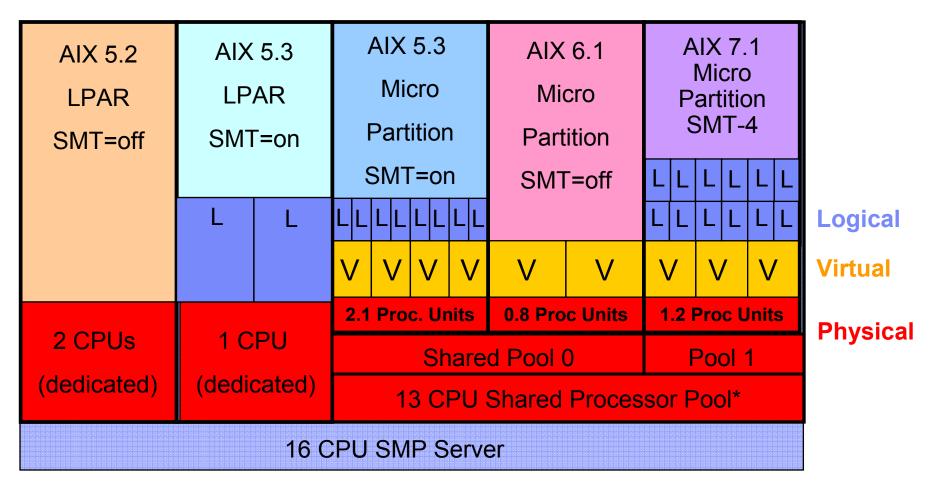
CPU Considerations

Oracle Parameters based on the # of CPUs

- DB_WRITER_PROCESSES
- Degree of Parallelism
 - user level
 - table level
 - query level
 - MAX_PARALLEL_SERVERS or AUTOMATIC_PARALLEL_TUNING (CPU_COUNT * PARALLEL THREADS PER CPU)
- CPU_COUNT
- FAST_START_PARALLEL_ROLLBACK should be using UNDO instead
- CBO execution plan may be affected; check explain plan



Physical, Logical, Virtual Layers



Think "PVL" P=Physical V=Virtual L=Logical (SMT)

^{*} All activated, non-dedicated CPUs are automatically placed into the shared processor pool.

Only 2.1+0.8+1.2 = 4.1 processor units of "desired capacity" has been allocated from the pool of 13 CPUs



Virtual Shared Processor Pools - Benefits

Server with 12 processor cores

POWER6/7 Multiple shared pools:

•	Can reduce the number of
	software licenses by putting a
	limit on the amount of processors
	an uncapped partition can use

Up to 64 shared pools

LPAR4	LPAR5	LPAR6	LPAR7	LPAR8
Uncapped	Uncapped	Uncapped	Uncapped	Uncapped
AIX	AIX	AIX	AIX	AIX
		OAS	OAS	OAS
Oracle DB	Oracle DB	App 1	App2	App 3
VP = 5	VP = 4	VP = 4	VP = 6	VP = 3
Ent. = 2.5	Ent. = 1.70	Ent. = 2.00	Ent. = 2.00	Ent. = 1.00

LPAR1	LPAR2	LPAR3	V	irtual S	hared poo	ol #1	Virtual Shared pool #2					
i5/OS	AIX	Linux	M	Max Cap: 5 processors Max Cap: 6 processors								
	Oracle DB			Physical Shared Pool (9 processor cores)								
1	1	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	

Oracle cores to license:

- 1 from dedicated partition LPAR2
- 5 from pool 1

= 6

OAS cores to license:

- 6 from pool 2
- = 6

Oracle DB core – license factors:

Power5 and earlier: 0.75

Power6: 1.0

Power7: 1.0



Virtual Processor - Folding

Dynamically adjusting active Virtual Processors (VPs)

- System consolidates loads onto a minimal number of VPs
 - Scheduler computes utilization of VPs every second
 - If VPs needed to host physical utilization is less than the current active VP count, a VP is put to sleep
 - If VPs needed are greater than the current active VPs, more are enabled
- On by default in AIX 5.3 ML3 and later
 - vpm xvcpus tunable
 - vpm fold policy tunable

Increases processor utilization and affinity

- Inactive VPs don't get dispatched and waste physical CPU cycles
- Fewer VPs can be more accurately dispatched to physical resources by the Hypervisor with potential for improved processor cache efficiency

When to adjust – Check with IBM support before changing!

- Burst/Batch workloads with short response-time requirements may need sub-second dispatch latency
 - Disable processor folding or manually tune the number of VPs
 - # schedo -o vpm xvcpus=[-1 | N]
 - Where ${\tt N}$ specifies the number of VPs to enable in addition to the number of VPs needed to consume physical CPU utilization
 - A value of "-1" disables CPU folding



		SMT	DLPAR	Micro- Partition	LPM	WPAR	AME
AIX	AIX 5.2		\				
	AIX 5.3	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark			
	AIX 6.1	\	\checkmark	\checkmark		\	\checkmark
	AIX 7.1	\	\checkmark	\rightarrow	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Ů	Oracle 9i	\	✓	\			
D V	Oracle 10g	\checkmark	\checkmark	\	*1	*3	
O O	Oracle 11g	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	*2	*4	*5

^{*1 - 10.2.0.4} with minimum of AIX 5.3 TL8 SP4 or AIX 6.1 TL2 SP3

Note: Live partition mobility is certified for 10.2.0.4 and AIX 5.3 TL8 SP4 & 6.1 TL2 SP3.

Oracle RAC 10.2.0.3 on VIOS 1.3.1.1 & AIX 5.3 TL07 and higher are certified.

^{*2 - 11}gR1 with AIX 6.1 TL3 SP1, 11gR2 with AIX 5.3 TL9 SP6, 11gR2 with AIX 6.1 TL4 SP1

^{*3 – 10.2.0.4} with minimum AIX 6.1 TL2 SP2 (No AIX 7.1 support at this time)

^{*4 – 11.2.0.2} with minimum AIX 6.1 TL2 SP2 (No AIX 7.1 support at this time)

^{*5 – 11.2.0.2} and above with minimum AIX 6.1 TL6 SP5 and AIX 7.1

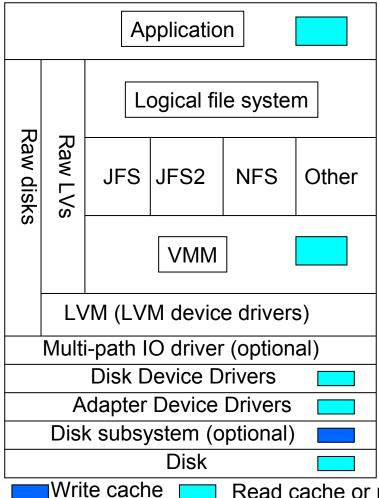


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The AIX IO stack



Application memory area caches data to avoid IO

NFS caches file attributes NFS has a cached filesystem for NFS clients

JFS and JFS2 cache use extra system RAM JFS uses persistent pages for cache JFS2 uses client pages for cache

Queues exist for both adapters and disks Adapter device drivers use DMA for IO Disk subsystems have read and write cache Disks have memory to store commands/data

Write cache Read cache or memory area used for IO

IOs can be coalesced (good) or split up (bad) as they go thru the IO stack



AIX Filesystems Mount options

Journaled File System (JFS)

Better for lots of small file creates & deletes

- Buffer caching (default) provides Sequential Read-Ahead, cached writes, etc.
- Direct I/O (DIO) mount/open option → no caching on reads

Enhanced JFS (JFS2)

Better for large files/filesystems

- Buffer caching (default) provides Sequential Read-Ahead, cached writes, etc.
- Direct I/O (DIO) mount/open option → no caching on reads
- Concurrent I/O (CIO) mount/open option → DIO, with write serialization disabled
 - Use for Oracle .dbf, control files and online redo logs only!!!

GPFS

Clustered filesystem - the IBM filesystem for RAC

Non-cached, non-blocking I/Os (similar to JFS2 CIO) for all Oracle files

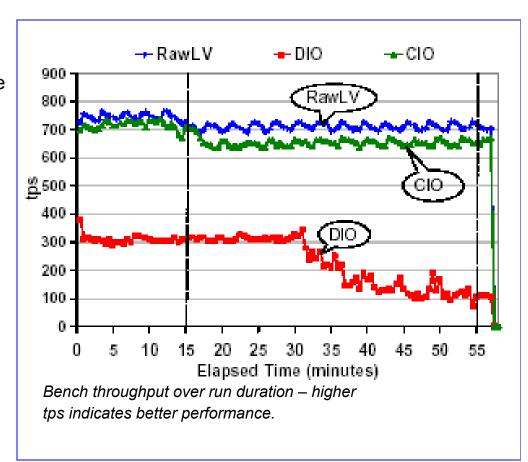
GPFS and JFS2 with CIO offer similar performance as Raw Devices



AIX Filesystems Mount options (Cont'd)

- ➤ Direct IO (DIO) introduced in AIX 4.3.
 - Data is transferred directly from the disk to the application buffer, bypassing the file buffer cache hence avoiding double caching (filesystem cache + Oracle SGA).
 - Emulates a raw-device implementation.
 - >To mount a filesystem in DIO \$ mount -o dio /data
- ➤ Concurrent IO (CIO) introduced with JFS2 in AIX 5.2 ML1
 - Implicit use of DIO.
 - **No Inode locking**: Multiple threads can perform reads and writes on the same file at the same time.
 - Performance achieved using CIO is comparable to raw-devices.
 - ➤ To mount a filesystem in CIO:

```
$ mount -o cio /data
```





Cached vs. non-Cached (Direct) I/O

File System caching tends to benefit heavily sequential workloads with low write content. **To enable caching for JFS/JFS2**:

- Use default filesystem mount options
- Set Oracle filesystemio_options=ASYNC

DIO tends to benefit heavily random access workloads and CIO tends to benefit heavy update workloads. To disable JFS, JFS2 caching, see the following table:

	Oracle 9i	Oracle 10g/11g
JFS	Set filesystemio_options=SETALL -or- Use "dio" mount option	Set filesystemio_options=SETALL -or- Use "dio" mount option
JFS2	Use "cio" mount option	Set filesystemio_options=SETALL -or- Use "cio" mount option

Note: Refer Metalink Note #s 272520.1, 257338.1, 360287.1, 232935.1



CIO/DIO implementation Advices

	with Standard mount options	with optimized mount options	
	mount -o rw	mount -o rw	
Oracle bin and shared lib.	Cached by AIX	Cached by AIX	
	mount -o rw	mount -o cio *(1)	
Oracle Datafiles	Cached by Oracle Cached by AIX	Cached by Oracle	
	mount -o rw	mount -o cio (jfs2 + agblksize=512)	
Oracle Redolog	Cached by Oracle Cached by AIX	Cached by Oracle	
	mount -o rw	mount -o rbrw	
Oracle Archivelog	Cached by AIX	Use JFS2 write-behind	
		but are not kept in AIX Cache.	
Out also Ossatus I files	mount -o rw	mount -o rw	
Oracle Control files	Cached by AIX	Cached by AIX	

Flash Recovery Area mount = rbrw

*(1): to avoid demoted IO: jfs2 agblksize = Oracle DB block size / n



CIO Demotion and Filesystem Block Size

Data Base Files (DBF)

- If db block size = 2048 → set agblksize=2048
- If db block size >= 4096 → set agblksize=4096

Online redolog files & control files

Set agblksize=512 and use CIO or DIO

Mount Filesystems with "noatime" option

 AIX/Linux records information about when files were created and last modified as well as last accessed. This may lead to significant I/O performance problems on often accessed files such as the contents of the \$ORACLE, /tmp.



Data Layout for Optimal I/O Performance

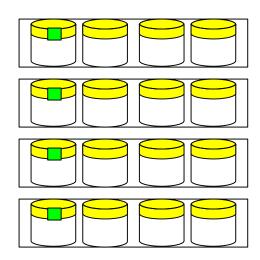
Stripe and mirror everything (SAME) approach:

- Goal is to balance I/O activity across all disks, loops, adapters, etc...
- Avoid/Eliminate I/O hotspots
- •Manual file-by-file data placement is time consuming, resource intensive and iterative

Use RAID-5 or RAID-10 to create striped LUNs (hdisks)

Create AIX Volume Group(s) (VG) w/ LUNs from multiple arrays, striping on the front end as well for maximum distribution

- Physical Partition Spreading (mklv –e x) –or-
- Large Grained LVM striping (>= 1MB stripe size)



http://www-1.ibm.com/support/techdocs/atsmastr.nsf/WebIndex/WP100319



Other I/O Stack Tuning Options (Device Level)

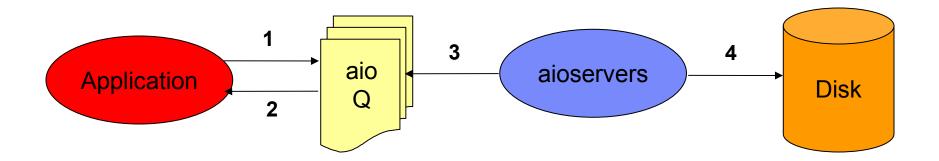
Isattr/chdev:

- num_cmd_elems = maximum number of outstanding I/Os for an adapter.
- queue_depth = the maximum # of outstanding I/Os for an hdisk.
 Recommended/supported maximum is storage subsystem dependent.
- max_xfer_size = the maximum allowable I/O transfer size (default is 0x40000 or 256k). Maximum supported value is storage subsystem dependent. Increasing value (to at least 0x200000) will also increase DMA size from 16 MB to 256 MB.
- dyntrk = When set to yes (recommended), allows for immediate re-routing of I/O requests to an alternative path when a device ID (N_PORT_ID) change has been detected.
- fc_err_recov = When set to "fast_fail" (recommended), if the driver receives an RSCN notification from the switch, the driver will check to see if the device is still on the fabric and will flush back outstanding I/Os if the device is no longer found.



IO: Asynchronous IO (AIO)

- Allows multiple requests to be sent without to have to wait until the disk subsystem has completed the physical IO.
- Utilization of asynchronous IO is strongly advised whatever the type of file-system and mount option implemented (JFS, JFS2, CIO, DIO).



▶Posix vs Legacy

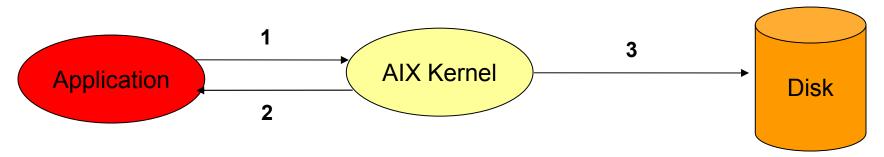
Since AIX5L V5.3, two types of AIO are now available: Legacy and Posix. For the moment, the Oracle code is using the Legacy AIO servers.



IO: Asynchronous IO (AIO) fastpath

With fast_path, IO are queued directly from the application into the LVM layer without any "aioservers kproc" operation.

- Better performance compare to non-fast path
- No need to tune the min and max aioservers
- ➤ No ioservers proc. => "ps -k | grep aio | wc -l" is not relevent, use "iostat -A" instead



- Raw Devices / ASM :
 - check AIO configuration with : Isattr –EI aio0

enable asynchronous IO fast path.:

AIX 5L: chdev -a fastpath=enable -l aio0 (default since AIX 5.3)

AIX 6.1/7.1 : ioo –p –o aio_fastpath=1 (default setting)

- FS with CIO/DIO and AIX 5.3 TL5+:
 - Activate fsfast_path (comparable to fast_path but for FS + CIO/DIO)

AIX 5L : adding the following line in /etc/inittab: **aioo:2:once:aioo –o fsfast_path=1** AIX 6.1/7.1 : ioo –p –o aio_fsfastpath=1 (default setting)



Asynchronous I/O for <u>filesystem</u> environments...

Monitor Oracle usage:

Watch alert log and *.trc files in BDUMP directory for warning message:

"Warning "lio_listio returned EAGAIN"

➤ If warning messages found, increase maxreqs and/or maxservers

Monitor from AIX:

- "pstat –a | grep aios"
- Use "-A" option for NMON
- iostat –Aq (new in AIX 5.3)



GPFS I/O Related Tunables

Refer Metalink note 302806.1

Async I/O:

- Oracle parameter filesystemio_options is ignored
- Set Oracle parameter disk_asynch_io=TRUE
- Prefetchthreads= exactly what the name says
 - Usually set prefetchthreads=64 (the default)
- Worker1threads = GPFS asynch I/O
 - Set worker1threads=550-prefetchthreads
- Set aio maxservers=(worker1threads/#cpus) + 10

Other settings:

- GPFS block size is configurable; most will use 512KB-1MB
- Pagepool GPFS fs buffer cache, not used for RAC but may be for binaries. Default=64M mmchconfig pagepool=100M



I/O Pacing

- I/O Pacing parameters can be used to prevent large I/O streams from monopolizing CPUs
 - System backups (mksysb)
 - DB backups (RMAN, Netbackup)
 - Software patch updates
- When Oracle ClusterWare is used, use AIX 6.1/7.1 Defaults:
 - chgsys -l sys0 -a maxpout=8193 -a minpout=4096 (AIX defaults)
 - nfso –o nfs_iopace_pages=1024 (AIX defaults)
 - On the Oracle clusterware set : crsctl set css diagwait 13 –force
 - This will delay the OPROCD reboot time to 10secs from 0.5secs during node eviction/reboot, just enough to write the log/trace files for future diagnosis. Metalink note# 559365.1



ASM configurations

AIX parameters

Async I/O needs to be enabled, but default values may be used

ASM instance parameters

- ASM_POWER_LIMIT=1
 - Makes ASM rebalancing a low-priority operation. May be changed dynamically. It is common to set this value to 0, then increase to a higher value during maintenance windows
- PROCESSES=25+ 15n, where n=# of instances using ASM

DB instance parameters

- disk_asynch_io=TRUE
- filesystemio options=ASYNCH
- Increase Processes by 16
- Increase Large Pool by 600k
- Increase Shared_Pool by [(1M per 100GB of usable space) + 2M]



Agenda

- AIX Configuration Best Practices for Oracle
 - Memory
 - -CPU
 - -I/O
 - Network
 - Miscellaneous



Network Options (no) Parameters

```
- Set sb max >= 1 MB (1048576)
Set tcp_sendspace >= 262144
Set tcp recvspace >= 262144
Set rfc1323=1
If isno=1, check to see if settings have been overridden at the network
  interface level:
$ no -a | grep use isno=1
  use isno=1
$ Isattr -E -I en0 -H
  attribute
                 value
                           description
  rfc1323
                           N/A
  tcp_nodelay
                 N/A
  tcp sendspace N/A
  tcp recvspace N/A
  tcp mssdflt
                           N/A
```



Additional Network (no) Parameters for RAC:

- Set udp_sendspace = db_block_size * db_file_multiblock_read_count (not less than 65536)
- Set udp_recvspace = 10 * udp_sendspace
 - Must be < sb max</p>
- Increase if buffer overflows occur
- Ipqmaxlen=512 for GPFS environments
- Use Jumbo Frames if supported at the switch layer

Examples:

- no -a |grep udp_sendspace
- no –o -p udp_sendspace=65536
- netstat -s |grep "socket buffer overflows"



Agenda

- AIX Configuration Best Practices for Oracle
 - Memory
 - **I/O**
 - Network
 - Miscellaneous



Miscellaneous parameters

User Limits (smit chuser)

- Soft FILE size = -1 (Unlimited)
- Soft CPU time = -1 (Unlimited)
- Soft DATA segment = -1 (Unlimited)
- Soft STACK size -1 (Unlimited)
- /etc/security/limits

Maximum number of PROCESSES allowed per user (smit chgsys)

- maxuproc >= 2048

Environment variables:

- AIXTHREAD SCOPE=S
- LDR_CNTRL=DATAPSIZE=64K@TEXTPSIZE=64K@STACKPSIZE=64K



Decide based on facts





Marketplace Myths – Quotes from Customers

"I heard that.....

- "Oracle DB is only going to run on Sun in the future..."
- "Oracle will stop supporting Siebel on Power"
- "JD Edwards will stop releasing product on i OS on Power hardware"
- "Oracle DB and Oracle Apps will no longer run on Power hardware"
- "IBM's Power is no longer relevant to Oracle"
- "POWER systems are losing support across the tech industry"
- "Oracle is dropping their System z strategy and support"
- "Oracle will move away from System z and it should be expected System z will not be supported in the future"
- "System z is the last platform to get an Oracle Patchset Update"
- "Oracle releases E-Business Suite fixes on Solaris first"
- "Oracle DB is only going to run on Sun in the future..."
- "Bugs take longer to get fixed on Power. OEL or RHEL are fixed first"
- "Oracle will move away from System z and it should be expected System z will not be supported in the future"
- "IBM Power is a Tier 4 port for Fusion Middleware"



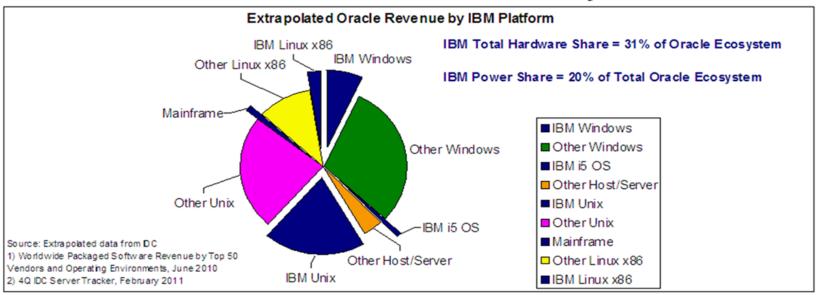
Oracle Certification Of Power Advanced Functionality Shows partnership

- Oracle continues to leverage IBM Power technology advantages
 - Micropartitioning
 - Sub capacity licensing support (exclusive)
 - Simultaneous Multi-Threading (SMT)
 - Use of VIOS for RAC and non RAC deployments
 - Support for Advanced Memory Expansion
 - Oracle DB 11gR2 support for Live Partition Mobility (LPM) on AIX 5.3, 6.1, 7.1
 - IBM Exclusive (No other hardware vendor, including Sun, supports LPM)
 - PowerHA Support
 - IBM GPFS
 - FMW 11gR1 released concurrently using IBM JDK 6
 - Oracle participated in IBM JDK 6 beta project
 - InfiniBand



What Really Drives the Oracle – IBM Partnership

IBM Hardware Market Share of Oracle Ecosystem



- IBM is the hardware market share leader in the Oracle ecosystem driving approximately 31% of Oracle's SW License and maintenance revenue
- IBM Power is Oracle's top selling hardware platform from a single manufacturer at 20% share
- Oracle doubled Power's license factor to 1 and sales of Power increased Oracle Profited
- Oracle's year long marketing attack on POWER has produced minimal results as POWER continues to grow market share
- DB2 is Oracle's primary competitor in the enterprise database market
 - Easy to move Oracle workloads to DB2
- SAP on DB2 is Oracle's primary competitor in packaged applications
- Websphere is Oracle's primary competitor in the application server market
- IBM is Oracle's primary competitor in middleware products



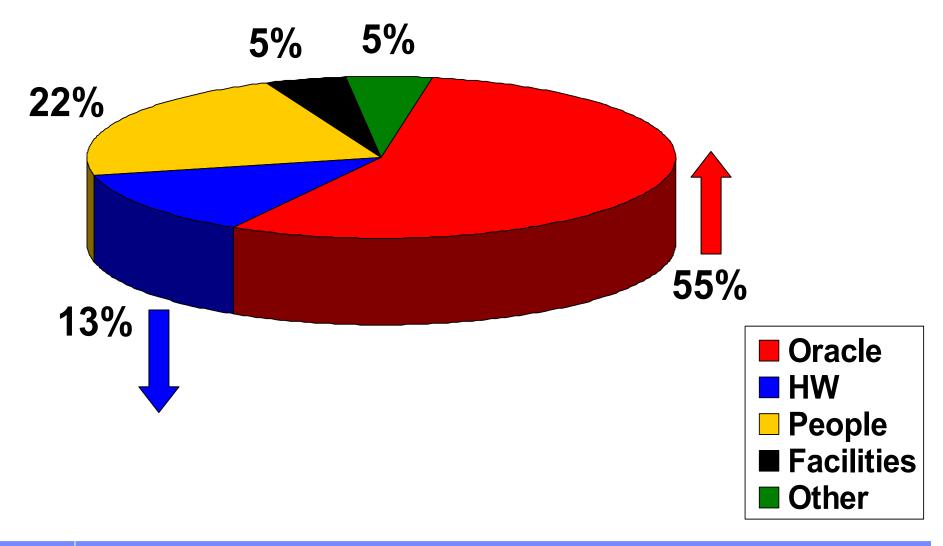
AIX Certification Is Better than OEL

- Oracle Linux is the laggard
 - On Sunday 6 February 2011, Oracle Linux 6 was released
 - Oracle Linux is Oracle's Development Platform for all Oracle Database, Middleware, and Application Products
 - As of January 12, 2012 (11 months later), zero Oracle products are certified on Oracle Linux 6
- AIX is the leader
 - AIX 7 GA date was in Sept. 2010
 - Oracle Certified DB 11gR2 on AIX 7 in Oct. 2010 (30 days later)
 - 1 vear later F-Rusiness Suite PeopleSoft Oracle

Oracle sellers will tell customers that it takes a long time for products to become available on AIX, when in fact the exact opposite is the case. Products were delivered on the latest version of AIX (7.1) more than 11 months sooner than Oracle Linux 6 (6.x). They're still waiting and waiting and waiting for their first product on OL 6...



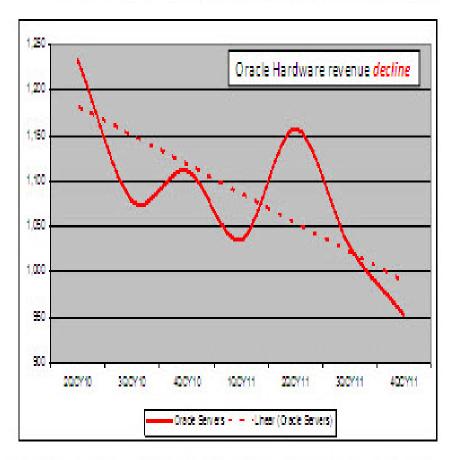
Average Estimated 2011 Oracle SW Solution Costs

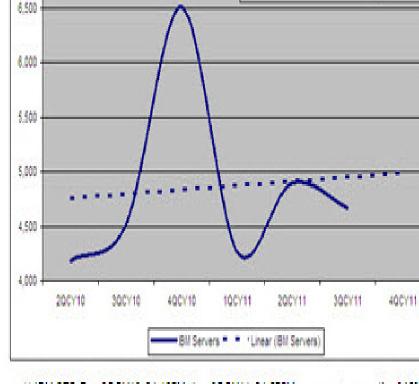




Oracle's Hardware Business Continues to Hemorrhage

7,000





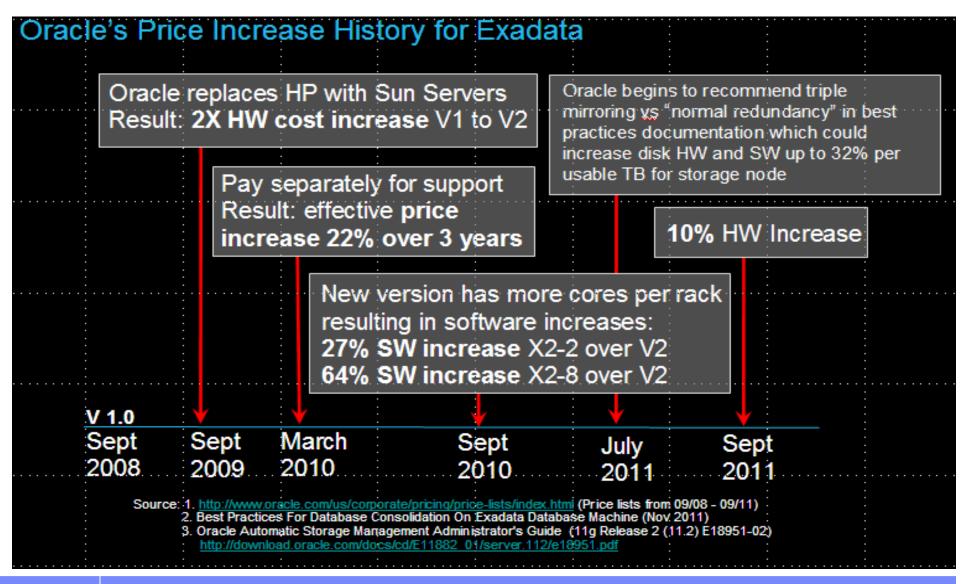
^{**} Oracle H/W Products Rev 2QCY10 \$1233M thru 4QCY11 \$953 represents decline of 22%

** IBM STG Rev 20CY10 \$4,187M thru 30CY11 \$4,672M represents growth of 12%

IBM Hardware revenue growth



Advantage Of What Or Whom?



	IBM POWER7® Systems	Oracle Exadata	
1. Open vs. Proprietary	Allows the utilization of "best of breed" solution components from IBM and non IBM solution providers. Build the best solution to meet workload requirements	Customer has little choice in solution design. Forced to buy components not relevant to workloads. One size fits all" requires total trust in Oracle as a single source provider.	
2. Real Performance	Power 7 and optimized storage are better at: 1) Data with write requirements (OLTP) 2) DW with real time updates 3) Complex workloads (reads & writes) 4) Concurrent workloads sharing resources	Exadata works best if data is read intensive, pre sorted, bulk loaded or can fit entirely into storage server cache. "Smart Scan" functionality not relevant for indexed tables or OLTP workloads	
3. Flexible vs. Rigid	Power 7 has proven value in: 1) Consolidation of Oracle DB instances 2) Resource virtualization across instances 3) Virtualization of DB and non DB workloads 4) Granular resource upgrades and CoD	Exadata has significant limitations in: 1) Consolidation of DB instances 2) Resource virtualization across instances 3) Running N-1 Oracle sw levels 4) Upgrading hw resources granularly	
4. Storage	Intelligent Storage Management: Flash copy, Remote Mirror, San Volume Controller, RAID, Easy Tier, Concurrent Maintenance, No SPOF	Basic cheap disk – no data management. No internal disk RAID Parity –ASM mirroring only, No concurrent maintenance, Multiple SPOF	
5. Integration Into Existing Environment	Easily integrated into existing production, test, backup – recovery, storage replication and DR environments	Requires redesign of operational architecture strategy and deployment and new, complex DBA skills in many customer environments	
6. Complexity	Less systems to manage Less OS, DB and RAC and images to update RAC is an option, not a requirement	Significantly more systems, software images and RAC nodes to manage and update	
7. Solution Cost	Initial acquisition costs are similar Consolidation favours Power (virtualization) Upgrades cost less on Power Cost of integration less (existing Power) Power price / performance costs declining	Initial acquisition costs similar Contractual terms can favour Oracle Upgrades cost more on Exadata Cost of integration more (existing Power) Price /performance costs increasing	



Operating System on x86 vs. AIX on Power

AIX on Power Systems has demonstrated strengths and add significant real business value.

- The study correlated the technical components with their associated business metrics that in turn can be used to understand the advantages and key strategies that will help an organization to choose an optimal operating system
- When all of the data is examined, the different OS options were articulated using a graded scorecard approach¹

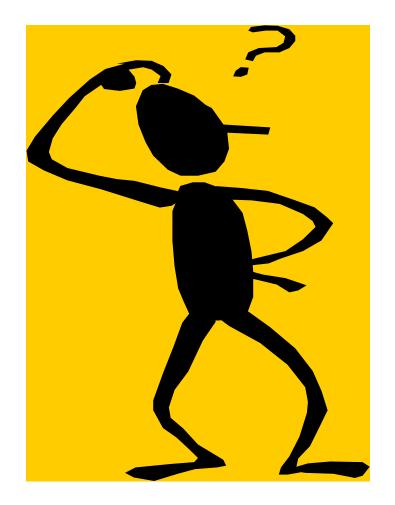
Category	Linux Score	Windows Score	AIX Score
User Complaints	В	C-	B+
Security Breaches	B+	C-	A+
Platform Resiliency	В-	C-	A
Staffing Requirements	В	C+	B+
Platform Integration	С	С	A
TCO	C+	С	В

Linux is the OS in Exadata!!

^{1.} Graded on a normal college-level type of curve Source: Does Your OS Matter? Selecting a Strategic Operating System; Solitaire Interglobal Ltd (All rights reserved); October 2011.



➤ Where to find the documentation/refe rence/wiki





IBM TechDocs - Technical Sales Library

http://www.ibm.com/support/techdocs

Oracle Architecture and Tuning on AIX v2.20

http://www-03.ibm.com/support/techdocs/atsmastr.nsf/WebIndex/WP100883

Configuring IBM TotalStorage for Oracle OLTP Applications

http://www-03.ibm.com/support/techdocs/atsmastr.nsf/WebIndex/WP100319

 Diagnosing Oracle® Database Performance on AIX® Using IBM® NMON and Oracle Statspack Reports

http://www-03.ibm.com/support/techdocs/atsmastr.nsf/WebIndex/WP101720

Breaking the Oracle I/O Performance Bottleneck

http://www-03.ibm.com/support/techdocs/atsmastr.nsf/WebIndex/PRS3885

Oracle Technology Essential White Papers

Regularly Updated!

http://www-03.ibm.com/support/techdocs/atsmastr.nsf/WebIndex/WP101559

There are many more Oracle related white papers – especially covering Oracle RAC with IBM servers and IBM storage.



Oracle Documentation



My Oracle Support: http://support.oracle.com

Regularly Updated!

- 282036.1 Minimum Software Versions and Patches Required to Support Oracle Products on IBM Power Systems
- 756671.1 Oracle Recommended Patches -- Oracle Database
- Oracle Reference Manuals:

http://otn.oracle.com/documentation/index.html

Oracle Certification Info (on MOS as well):

http://otn.oracle.com/support/metalink/index.html



AIX

- AIX 5.3 Product Documentation.
 - http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/pseries/v5r3/index.jsp?topic=/com.ibm.pseries.doc/hardware.htm
- AIX 6.1 Product Documentation
 - http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/aix/v6r1/index.jsp
- AIX 7.1 Product Documentation
 - http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/aix/v7r1/index.jsp
 - http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/cgi-bin/searchsite.cgi?query=sg247910 (IBM AIX Version 7.1 Differences Guide)
- IBM Wikis
 - https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/wikis/dashboard.action
- AIX Wiki
 - http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/wikis/display/WikiPtype/Home
- AIX Performance Tools (nmon, nmon analyser/consolidator, etc)
 - http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/wikis/display/WikiPtype/nmon
- AIX DeveloperWorks
 - http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/aix
- AIX multiple page supprt
 - http://www-03.ibm.com/systems/resources/systems p os aix whitepapers multiple page.pdf
- Tuning IBM AIX 5L V5.3 and AIX 6.1 for Oracle Database on POWER systems
 - http://www-304.ibm.com/partnerworld/wps/servlet/ContentHandler/whitepaper/aix/oracle/performance analysis
- PowerVM Wiki
 - https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/wikis/display/virtualization/Home



AIX / POWER

AlXpert Blog on Local, Near and Far Memory

https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/mydeveloperworks/blogs/aixpert/entry/local_near_far_memory part 1 large power7 boxes more local memory26?lang=en

Oracle Database and 1 TB Segment Aliasing (TD105761)

http://www.ibm.com/support/techdocs/atsmastr.nsf/WebIndex/TD105761

IBM EnergyScale for POWER7 Processor-Based Systems

ftp://public.dhe.ibm.com/common/ssi/ecm/en/pow03039usen/POW03039USEN.PDF

Active Memory Expansion: Overview and Usage Guide

ftp://ftp.software.ibm.com/common/ssi/sa/wh/n/pow03037usen/POW03037USEN.PDF

IBM PowerVM Virtualization Active Memory Sharing

http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/redp4470.html?Open

IBM System p Advanced POWER Virtualization (PowerVM) Best Practices

http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/redp4194.html?Open

Power Systems Enterprise Servers with PowerVM Virtualization and RAS

http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/sg247965.html?Open







RamSan® Solid State Storage from Texas Memory System



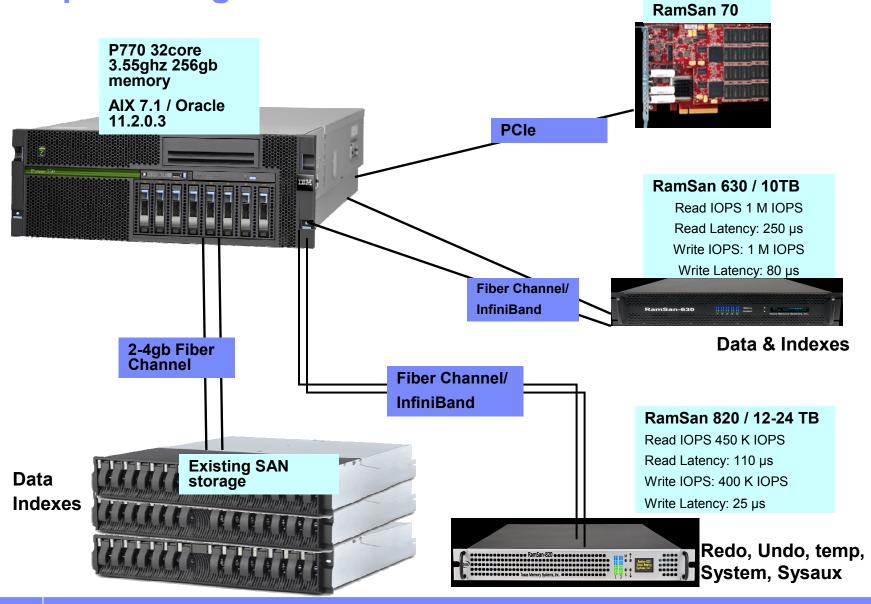




RamSan-70	RamSan-710/720	RamSan-810/820	RamSan-630
SLC Flash	SLC Flash	eMLC Flash	SLC Flash
900 GB	5 TB/6-12TB	10 TB/12-24TB	10 TB
600K IOPS	400K IOPS	350K IOPS	1M IOPS
2 GB/s	5 GB/s	4 GB/s	10 GB/s
Full-height, half- length PCle x8 2.0	1U rackmount, 4	3U rackmount, 10x IB or FC ports	



Sample Configuration





Thank You



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