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**DATABSE Administration**

**Q1: Describe Oracle Memory structure and background Process**

Memory Structure:

Oracle utilizes several memory areas, each serving specific purposes:

1. System Global Area (SGA): This shared memory region holds frequently accessed data and information needed by all database sessions. It consists of five subcomponents:

* Database Buffers: Cache recently accessed data blocks from disk, accelerating reads.
* Redo Buffers: Hold redo entries, which track data modifications, ensuring crash recovery.
* Shared Pool: Stores frequently used SQL statements and library cache, optimizing parsing and execution.
* Large Pool: Allocates memory for large objects like LOBs and CLOBs.
* Java Pool: Holds memory for Java Virtual Machine (JVM) applications running inside the database.

2. Program Global Areas (PGA): Each session has its own dedicated PGA holding private information like session context, cursor state, and sort areas.

3. Sort Areas: Used for temporary data during sorting operations.

Background Processes:

These are separate threads running continuously in the background, performing essential tasks:

1. Server Process (SMON): Starts up the database instance, manages recovery after crashes, and performs cleanup tasks.

2. Database Writer (DBWn): Writes data buffers to disk asynchronously, improving I/O performance.

3. Log Writer (LGWR): Writes redo entries from redo buffers to the redo log files for crash recovery.

4. Checkpoint Process (CKPT): Periodically writes redo entries to the data files, reducing recovery time in case of crashes.

5. Archival Process (ARCn): Offloads redo log files to archive storage, freeing space in the online redo log files.

6. Recovery Manager (RMAN): Performs backup and recovery operations.

7. Miscellaneous Processes: Several other processes handle specific tasks like lock management, statistics collection, and parallel execution.

Understanding these memory structures and background processes is essential for optimizing database performance, managing memory resources, and troubleshooting issues.

**Q2. Describe oracle Logical and Physical storage structure**

Oracle utilizes two distinct storage structures to manage your data: logical and physical. Understanding these structures is crucial for efficient database administration and performance optimization.

Logical Storage Structures:

These represent the way users and applications "see" the data and are independent of the underlying physical location. Oracle employs four main logical structures:

1. Data Blocks: The smallest unit of storage, typically 4KB or 8KB in size. They hold actual data like rows, columns, and indexes.

2. Extents: A contiguous set of data blocks allocated to a specific segment. They optimize storage allocation and access.

3. Segments: Named containers for related data, such as tables, indexes, and LOBs. They group extents and manage access control.

4. Tablespaces: Collections of segments stored in one or more data files. They organize data logically and facilitate storage management.

Physical Storage Structures:

These define the actual location of data on disk drives and comprise:

1. Data Files: Operating system files where data blocks are physically stored. Each tablespace has one or more data files.

2. Control File: Stores critical information about the database, including tablespaces, data files, and redo logs.

3. Redo Log Files: Record database changes (inserts, updates, deletes) to ensure crash recovery. They are constantly written to and archived regularly.

4. Archive Logs: Offline copies of redo logs used for long-term recovery and backups.

Relationships:

Logical and physical structures are interconnected:

* Data blocks reside within extents stored in segments, which belong to tablespaces.
* Tablespaces map to data files on disk.
* Redo logs and archive logs track changes to data blocks.

Benefits of Separation:

This separation offers several advantages:

* Flexibility: Physical storage changes (adding/removing data files) don't affect logical structures.
* Portability: Databases can be moved between systems without altering logical organization.
* Scalability: Data can be spread across multiple disks or storage systems for improved performance.