Appendix E

Acronyms and Terms

Term	Definition
Active session pool	Number of current active sessions allowed for a resource group or subplan
ADDM	Automatic Database Diagnostic Monitor
ASM	Automatic Storage Management
ASM	Automatic Summary Management
ASMM	Automatic Shared Memory Management
ASSM	Automatic Segment Space Management
ATO	Automatic Tuning Optimizer
Automatic PGA Memory Management	A feature of the Oracle database that simplifies and improves the way PGA memory is allocated
Automatic Shared Memory Management	A feature of the Oracle database that automates the management of the most important shared memory structures used by an Oracle database instance
Automatic Storage Management	A mechanism that provides a vertical integration of the file system and the volume manager, specifically built for the Oracle database files
Automatic Database Diagnostic Management	A utility that performs a top-down instance analysis, identifies problems and potential causes, and makes recommendations for fixing the problems
Automatic Tuning Optimizer	A database feature that performs various analyses of SQL performance within the database
Automatic Workload Repository	An infrastructure that collects, processes, and maintains performance statistics for problem detection and self-tuning purposes
Auxiliary database	A database that is used when creating a duplicate database or performing tablespace point-in-time recovery
AWR	Automatic Workload Repository
Backup piece	An individual file that is part of a backup set
Backup set	A copy of one or more data or archived log files. It differs from image copies in that empty blocks are not stored.
Block change tracking	A feature that uses the change tracking writer (CTWR) background process to record the physical location of all database changes in a separate file
Block corruption	Corruption of a data block. A corrupted data block is a block that is not in a recognized Oracle format, or whose contents are not internally consistent.
Block Media Recovery	A recovery method that reduces the smallest recoverable unit of media recovery from a data file to a block
BMR	Block Media Recovery
Buffer cache	A region of memory that caches blocks of data retrieved from the database
CFS	Cluster File Storage

Term	Definition
Change tracking file	A file used to store the physical location of database changes made since the last backup
Channel	A link or connection to a target database
CLI	Command-line interpreter
Cluster	A group of one or more tables that share the same data blocks
CMAN	Oracle Connection Manager. It functions as a net traffic firewall and proxy server.
Control file	A file that contains information about the physical structure of the database, including the locations of all data and redo log files
CRS	Cluster Ready Services
Data block	The smallest unit of physical storage within the database. Data blocks contain rows of data, index information, and so on.
Data dictionary cache	An area of memory within the shared pool that holds the definitions of dictionary objects in memory
Data file	A file that contains data for the database
Database Character Set Scanner	A utility that assesses the feasibility of migrating an Oracle database to a new database character set
DBA	Database administrator
DBA	Data block address, which is used to uniquely identify a data block within the database
DBCA	Database Configuration Assistant
DBVERIFY	An external command-line utility that performs a physical data structure integrity check on an offline database
DDL	Data definition language. It is the class of SQL statements that define and manipulate database objects.
DML	Data manipulation language. It is the class of SQL statements that query and manipulate data.
EM	Enterprise Manager
emctl	Enterprise Manager Control. It is a utility for starting, stopping, and checking the status of Database Control, the Oracle Agent, and Oracle Management servers.
Encoded character set	A character set that maps numeric codes to characters that a computer or terminal can display and receive
Enterprise Manager Database Control Console	A graphical interface used to manage the database
EXTPROC	External code libraries
Fast recovery area	A unified storage location for all recovery-related files and activities in an Oracle database
FGA	Fine-grained auditing
FGAC	Fine-Grained Access Control
Flash recovery area	Renamed to Fast recovery area.
Flashback buffer	An area in memory that stores Flashback Database data
Flashback Database	A new recovery method that uses Undo data, instead of Redo data, to recover the database

Term	Definition
Flashback Drop	A feature that enables you to undo the effects of a `DROP TABLE` statement without resorting to traditional point-in-time recovery
Flashback Table	A command that enables you to recover a table and all its dependent objects from the recycle bin
Flashback Transaction Query	A diagnostic tool that you can use to view changes made to the database at the transaction level
Flashback Versions Query	A query syntax that provides a history of changes made to a row along with the corresponding identifier of the transaction that made the change
Format mask elements	A character literal that describes the format of datetime or numeric data stored in a character string
Growth trend report	Analysis of the growth of database segments
Globalization support	A feature set that ensures that utilities and error messages, sort order, alphabet, calendar, date, time, money, and numbers automatically adapt to the native language
Image copy	A bit-for-bit identical copy of a database file
Incarnation	A separate version of a physical database. The incarnation of the database changes when you open it with the `RESETLOGS` option, but you can recover backups from an earlier incarnation so long as the necessary redo is available.
Index-organized tables	A database structure that has the appearance of a table but stores its data in a B*Tree structure
`init.ora` or `init<sid>.ora`	The initialization parameter file that controls how the database instance is configured and run at startup time. Also known as "parameter file".
Instance	The collection of shared memory and processes used to access the Oracle database
IPC	Internal Process Communication
`isqlplusctl`	Control utility for starting and stopping *i*SQL*Plus listener processes
ISV	Independent software vendor
Java pool	A region of memory in the SGA that is used for all session-specific Java code and data within the Java Virtual Machine (JVM)
JDBC	Java Database Connectivity
`jnnn`	Job Queue Processes. They execute scheduled jobs.
Keep buffer cache	An area of memory in the SGA used to cache data in the buffer cache for longer periods of time
Language and Character Set File Scanner	A statistic-based utility for determining the language and character set for unknown file text
Large pool	An optional memory storage area used for buffering large I/O requests

Term	Definition
LCSSCAN	Language and Character Set File Scanner
LEGATO® NetWorker, Single-Server Version	Software included with Oracle Database 10g that enables the Recovery Manager utility to write to tape drives
Library cache	An area of memory within the shared pool that contains the fully parsed or compiled representations of PL/SQL blocks and SQL statements
Linguistic sort	A feature that produces a sort sequence that matches the alphabetic sequence of characters, and not their numeric values in the character encoding scheme
Listener	The gateway to the Oracle instance for all nonlocal user connections
Locale	A collection of information about the linguistic and cultural preferences from a particular region
Locale variants	A language-dependent territory definition
LSSV	LEGATO® NetWorker, Single-Server Version
Media management library	An interface used by RMAN when writing to or reading from tapes
Memory Advisor	A feature of Enterprise Manager that helps you tune the size of your memory structures
Memory Manager (MMAN)	A database background process that serves as the SGA memory broker and coordinates the sizing of memory components
Metric	A measurement of some database or instance characteristic
MML	Media management library
MMON	Management Monitor Process. This process issues alerts whenever a metric violates its threshold value. It captures statistics for SQL objects that have been recently modified.
National Language Support	Parameters and files that determine the locale-specific behavior of the database client and the database server
nK block size buffer	A region of memory in the SGA, which caches data blocks that are of a different size than the default database block size. It is used to support transportable tablespaces.
NLS	National Language Support
NLS Runtime Library	A comprehensive suite of language-independent functions that allow proper text and character processing and language-convention manipulations
NLS_LANG	An environment variable used to specify the language, territory, and character set used by a database
NLSRTL	National Language Support Runtime Library
NMP	Named Pipes
OC4J	Oracle Application Server Containers for J2EE
OMF	Oracle Managed Files
Optimizer statistics	Statistics that describe the database and the objects in the database, and are used by the query optimizer to choose the best execution plan for each SQL statement

Term	Definition
OUI	Oracle Universal Installer
Oracle Locale Builder	A feature that provides a graphical user interface through which you can easily view, modify, and define locale-specific data
Oracle Managed Files	A feature of the Oracle database, which manages the creation, naming, and deletion of Oracle database files within dedicated areas of the disk
Oracle Net	An interface that enables network connections between Oracle Database 10*g* and client or middle-tier applications
Oracle Shared Server	A database server configuration that allows many user processes to share a small number of server processes, minimizing the number of server processes and maximizing the use of available system resources
ORACLE_BASE	Environment variable used to point to the base of the OFA structure
ORACLE_HOME	Environment variable used to identify a directory containing Oracle software
ORACLE_SID	Environment variable used to specify the default database instance name
Package	A collection of procedures and function definitions that are logically related. The procedures and functions are implemented by the package body.
Parallelization	Allocation of multiple channels for RMAN backup and recovery operations
PGA	Program Global Area
PGA Advisor	A feature of Enterprise Manager that gives detailed statistics for the work areas and provides recommendations about optimal usage of Program Global Area (PGA) memory on the basis of workload characteristics
Pipe	An area of memory used by one process to pass information to another
Private SQL area	An area of memory in the PGA that contains data such as bind information and run-time memory structures
Privilege	The right to execute a particular type of SQL statement. There are two basic forms of privileges: object and system.
Proactive Tablespace Monitoring	A feature of Oracle Database 10*g* that manages tablespace disk space usage
Program Global Area	Private memory area for use by a process
Recovery catalog	A separate database that keeps historical data concerning backup activities
Recovery Manager	The Oracle utility used to back up and restore database files
Recycle bin	A data dictionary table that maintains the relationships between the original names of dropped objects and their system-generated names
Recycle buffer cache	A region of memory in the SGA, which holds data that is quickly aged out of the buffer cache

Term	Definition
Redo log buffer	A region of memory that caches redo information until it can be written to disk
Redo Log File Sizing Advisor	A feature of Enterprise Manager that offers redo log file-sizing advice
Resource Manager	A feature of the Oracle database that gives the Oracle database server more control over resource management decisions, thus circumventing problems resulting from inefficient operating system management
Resumable space allocation	A means for suspending, and later resuming, the execution of large database operations in the event of space allocation failures
RMAN	Recovery Manager
RMAN Repository	A storage structure that maintains metadata about a database's backup and recovery operations
Scheduler	A new database feature that enables database administrators and application developers to control when and where various tasks take place in the database environment
SCN	System change number
Segment Advisor	An advisor that monitors object space issues and analyzes growth trends
Segment Resource Estimator	The new segment resource estimation feature that enables you to estimate the amount of resources that the creation of a new segment would require
Server sessions	The server processes (UNIX) or threads (Windows NT/2000) invoked by a client utility to connect to the target database
Session memory	Memory in the PGA that is allocated to hold session variables and other information related to the session
SGA	System Global Area. It is the memory area shared by all server and background processes.
SGA Advisor	An advisor that makes recommendations for SGA-related parameter settings
Shared pool	A region of memory that caches various constructs that can be shared among users
Shrink Advisor	See the Segment Advisor.
SID	System Identifier. It defaults to the database name and uniquely identifies the instance on a given server.
SQL	Structured Query Language
SQL Access Advisor	A tool that determines optimal data access path (for example, the use of indexes and materialized views)
SQL Tuning Advisor	A tool that provides tuning advice for SQL statements
Statspack	A set of SQL, PL/SQL, and SQL*Plus scripts that allow the collection, automation, storage, and viewing of performance data. This feature has been replaced by the Automatic Workload Repository.
Streams pool	An optional region of memory in the SGA that is used by Oracle

Term	Definition
	Streams
System statistics	Statistics that describe the system's hardware characteristics, such as I/O and CPU performance and utilization, to the query optimizer
Tablespace	A logical grouping of data files
Target database	The database that you are attempting to connect to
Threshold	A boundary value against which metric values are compared
Undo Advisor	A feature of Enterprise Manager that suggests parameter values and the amount of additional space that is needed to support flashback for a specified time
Undo data	A copy of original data stored whenever a DML transaction changes data. Undo data is used to roll back a transaction and to provide read-consistent views of changing data.
User Global Area	An area of memory within the shared pool or large pool that contains the session information for the Oracle shared server sessions
UTC	Universal Time Coordinates. This is a global time stamp in the Uniform Audit Trail.
VPD	Virtual Private Database
Wait event	Statistics that are incremented by a server process or thread to indicate that the process had to wait for an event to complete before being able to continue processing
Work area	A private allocation of memory in the PGA, used for sorts, hash joins, and other operations that are memory intensive
Workload repository	See AWR.