

Lab 6.1: Working with Initialization Parameters and Viewing Diagnostic Information

Objective:

To investigate initialization parameter files, view initialization parameters using SQL*Plus, and modify initialization parameters.

Part A: Investigating Initialization Parameter Files

Steps:

1. Locate the Initialization Parameter Files

Initialization parameter files are typically found in the `$ORACLE_HOME/dbs` directory. List the contents of this directory:

```
cd /u01/app/oracle/product/19.3.0/dbhome_1/dbs
ls -l
```

Expected Files:

- `spfileCDBLAB.ora` : Server parameter file for `CDBLAB` .

2. View the Contents of the Server Parameter File

Use the `strings` command to view the `spfileCDBLAB.ora` as it is a binary file:

```
strings /u01/app/oracle/product/19.3.0/dbhome_1/dbs/spfileCDBLAB.ora
```

Part B: Viewing Initialization Parameters by Using SQL*Plus

Steps:

1. Connect to SQL*Plus as SYSDBA

Start SQL*Plus and connect as SYSDBA:

```
sqlplus / as sysdba
```

2. View Initialization Parameters Using SHOW PARAMETER

Use the `SHOW PARAMETER` command to view parameters:

```
SHOW PARAMETER db_name;
SHOW PARAMETER control_files;
```

Explanation:

- `SHOW PARAMETER db_name` : Displays the database name.
- `SHOW PARAMETER control_files` : Displays the locations of the control files.

3. Query V\$PARAMETER View

Query the `V$PARAMETER` view to get information about initialization parameters:

```
SELECT name, value, isdefault, ismodified, issys_modifiable
FROM v$parameter
WHERE name = 'db_name';
```

Explanation:

- `name` : Parameter name.
- `value` : Current value of the parameter.
- `isdefault` : Indicates if the parameter value is the default.
- `ismodified` : Indicates if the parameter has been modified.
- `issys_modifiable` : Indicates if the parameter is modifiable at the system level.

4. Query V\$SPPARAMETER View

Query the `V$SPPARAMETER` view to get information about server parameters:

```
SELECT name, value
FROM v$spparameter
WHERE name = 'control_files';
```

5. Query V\$PARAMETER2 View

Query the `V$PARAMETER2` view for additional details about parameters:

```
SELECT name, value, type
FROM v$parameter2
WHERE name = 'db_block_size';
```

6. Query V\$SYSTEM_PARAMETER View

Query the `V$SYSTEM_PARAMETER` view to see system-wide parameters:

```
SELECT name, value, issys_modifiable
FROM v$system_parameter
WHERE name = 'db_recovery_file_dest';
```

Summary

In this lab, you investigated initialization parameter files, viewed initialization parameters using SQL*Plus. This practice is essential for understanding and managing the configuration and performance of an Oracle database.

Part C: Exploring the Automatic Diagnostic Repository (ADR) and Logging DDL Statements**Objective:**

To examine the structure of the Automatic Diagnostic Repository (ADR), view the alert log using both a text editor and ADRCI, and enable DDL logging to log DDL statements in the DDL log file.

Steps:**1. Examine the Structure of the Automatic Diagnostic Repository (ADR)**

The ADR is located in the `$ORACLE_BASE/diag/rdbms/<db_name>/<SID>/trace` directory. Navigate to this directory to examine its structure:

```
cd $ORACLE_BASE/diag/rdbms/cdblab/CDBLAB/trace
ls -l
```

Expected Output:

- `alert_CDBLAB.log` : The alert log file.
- Various trace files (e.g., `*.trc` files): These files contain diagnostic information for different Oracle processes.

2. View the Alert Log Using a Text Editor

Use a text editor to view the alert log file:

```
vi $ORACLE_BASE/diag/rdbms/cdblab/CDBLAB/trace/alert_CDBLAB.log
```

Explanation:

- The alert log provides a chronological log of database messages and errors. It is useful for diagnosing issues with the database.

3. View the Alert Log Using ADRCI

Start ADRCI and use it to view the alert log:

```
adrci
```

In ADRCI:

```
ADRCI:> show homes
ADRCI:> set home diag/rdbms/cdblab/CDBLAB
ADRCI:> show alert -tail 50
```

Explanation:

- `show homes` : Lists the ADR homes available.
- `set home diag/rdbms/cdblab/CDBLAB` : Sets the ADR home to the current database.
- `show alert -tail 50` : Displays the last 50 lines of the alert log.

4. Enable DDL Logging

Enable DDL logging by setting the appropriate initialization parameter:

```
ALTER SYSTEM SET enable_ddl_logging = TRUE SCOPE=BOTH;
```

Explanation:

- `enable_ddl_logging = TRUE` : Enables logging of DDL statements.

5. Log Some DDL Statements

Execute some DDL statements to generate log records:

```
CREATE TABLE test_table (id NUMBER, name VARCHAR2(50));
ALTER TABLE test_table ADD (email VARCHAR2(100));
DROP TABLE test_table;
```

6. Verify the DDL Log File

Navigate to the directory containing the DDL log file and view its contents:

```
cd $ORACLE_BASE/diag/rdbms/cdblab/CDBLAB/log/ddl
ls -l
```

```
cat ddl.log
```

Expected Output:

- Entries for each DDL statement executed.

Summary

In this part of the lab, you examined the structure of the Automatic Diagnostic Repository (ADR), viewed the alert log using both a text editor and ADRCL, and enabled DDL logging to log DDL statements in the DDL log file. Understanding the ADR and logging mechanisms is crucial for diagnosing and troubleshooting Oracle database issues.