Informational Commands

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What This Module Covers

Commands that provide information about different components of a SQL Server environment

Clearing instance-level information

Using Dynamic Management Objects (DMOs) vs. DBCC commands

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DBCC SQLPERF

- Provides transaction log space usage for all log files on an instance
  - Useful for troubleshooting and baselining
- Can also be used to reset wait statistics, latch statistics, or spinlock statistics
  - Statistics can be reset on a regular basis (as part of baseline collection) or when troubleshooting
- Execution does not affect system performance
- Requires VIEW SERVER STATE to view log information, and ALTER SERVER STATE to reset statistics

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DBCC SHOW_STATISTICS

- Displays statistics object for an index, indexed view, or column statistic
- Use when troubleshooting and understanding estimates from a plan (checking the histogram) and comparing against actual values
  - Review Kimberly Tripp's course *SQL Server: Optimizing Ad Hoc Command Performance*, notably Module 3 on *Estimates and Selectivity* for more information
- Viewing statistics does not introduce a performance load on the system
- Requires sysadmin, db_owner, or db_ddladmin roles, or table ownership

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DBCC USEROPTIONS

- Returns options set for current connection
  - E.g., isolation level, QUOTED_IDENTIFIER
- Use to verify settings for a connection to confirm they are correct, or consistent across different connect methods (e.g., .NET application, ODBC, SSMS)
- Only displays information, does not modify settings
- Requires public role

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Additional Commands

- There are additional commands that provide information also found in the SQL Server Dynamic Management Objects (DMOs)
- Many of these commands have existed since SQL Server 2000 or earlier
- It is recommended to use DMOs instead of DBCC commands, as they can provide more comprehensive information

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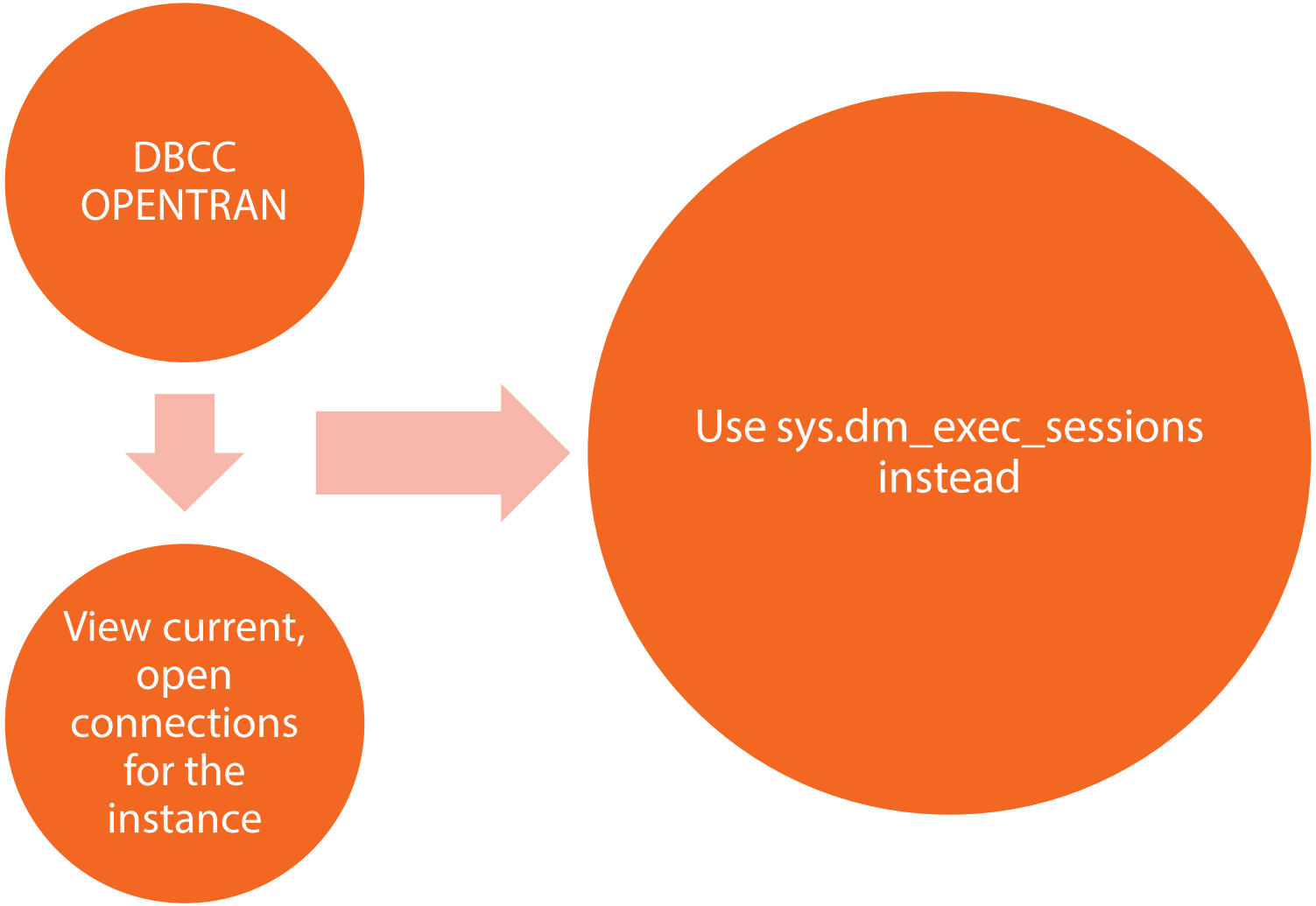
Additional Commands



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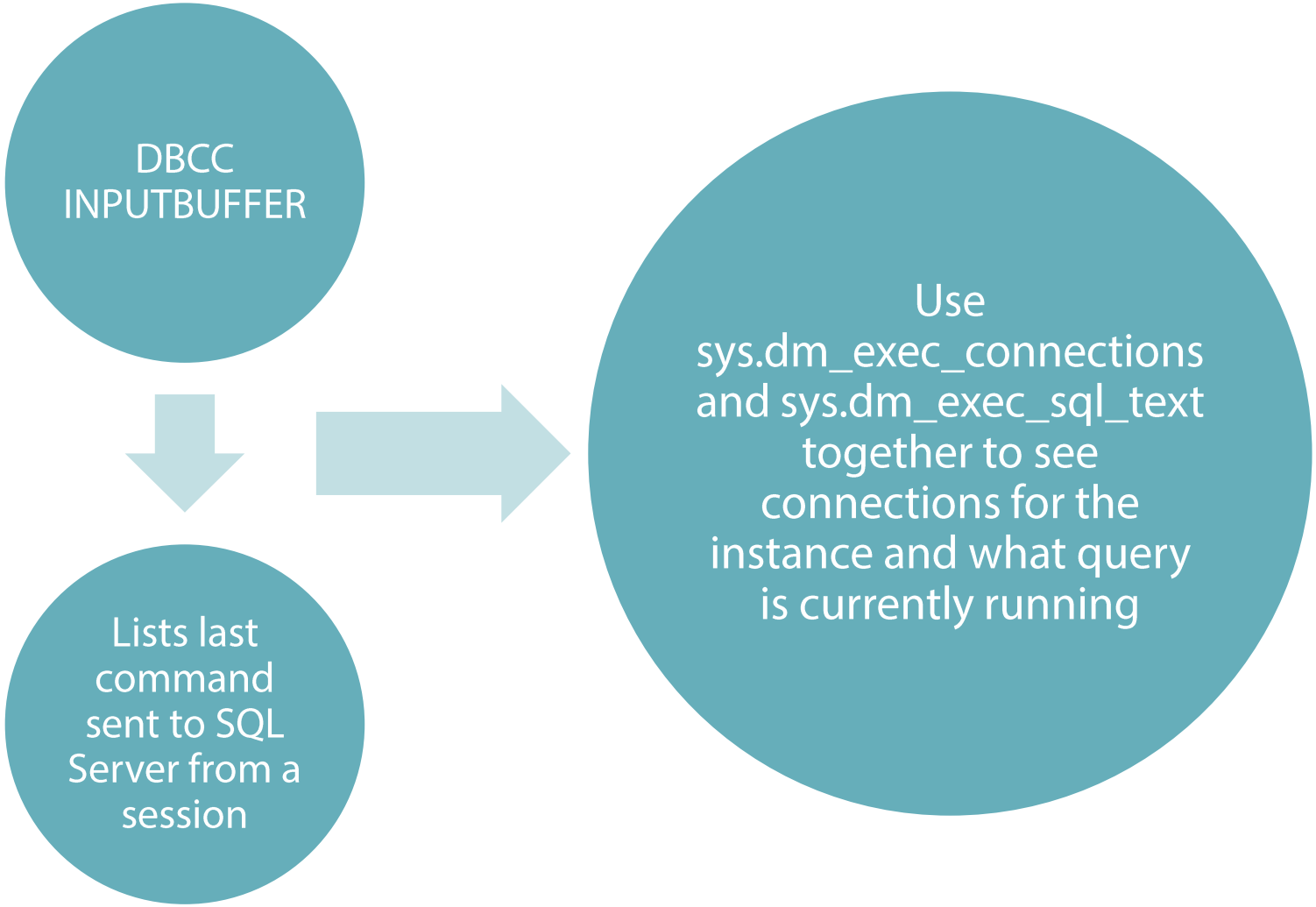
Additional Commands



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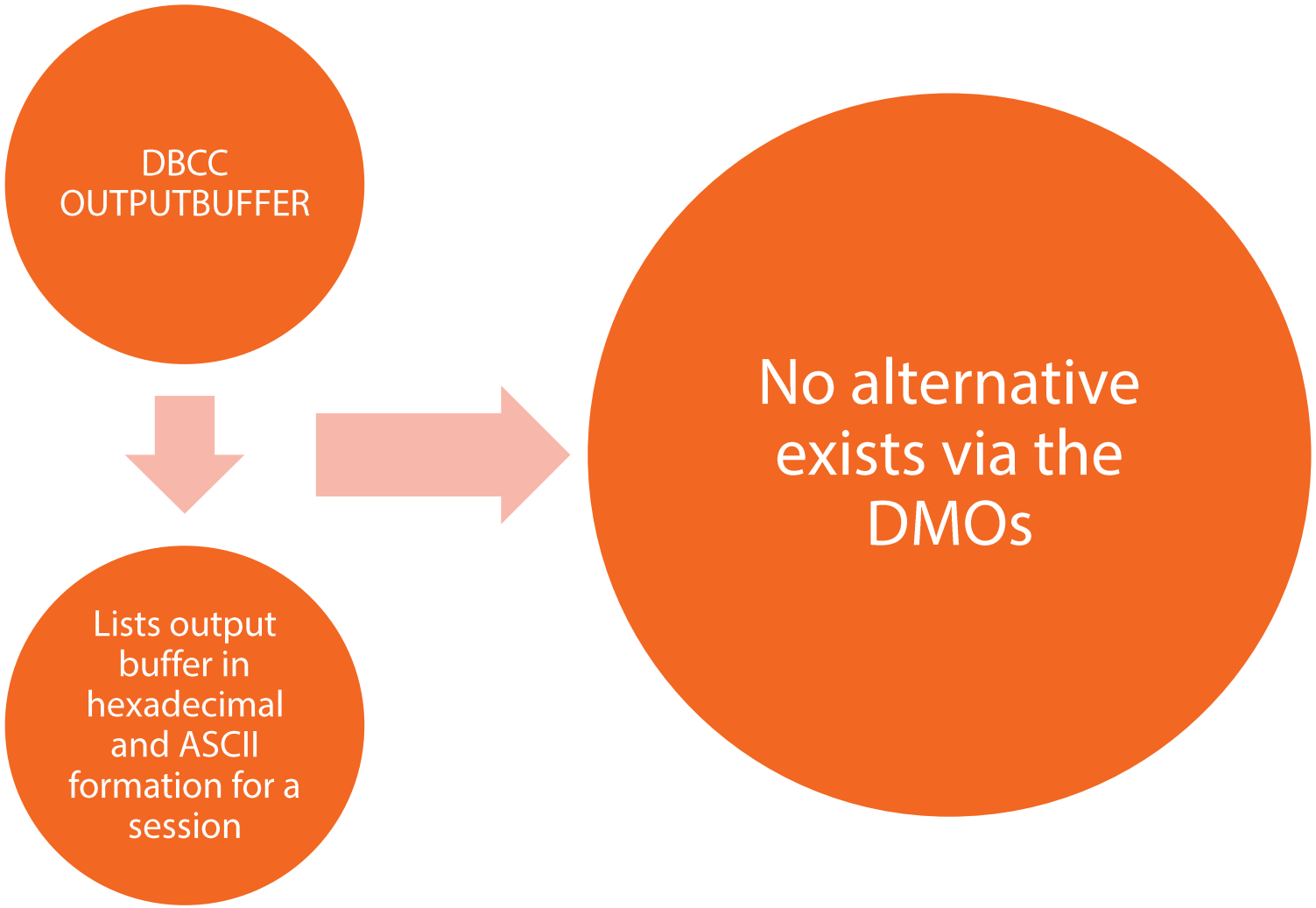
Additional Commands



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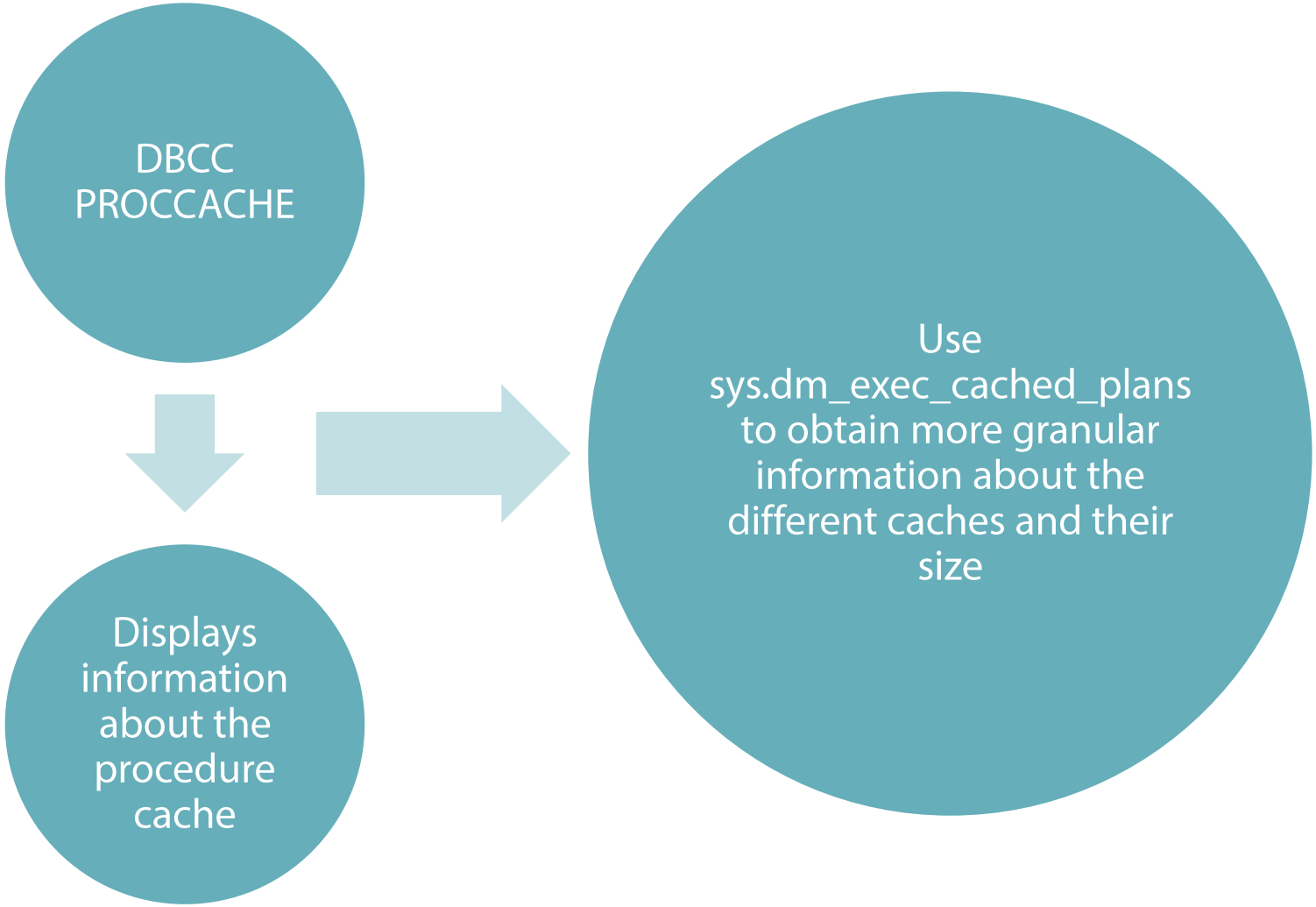
Additional Commands



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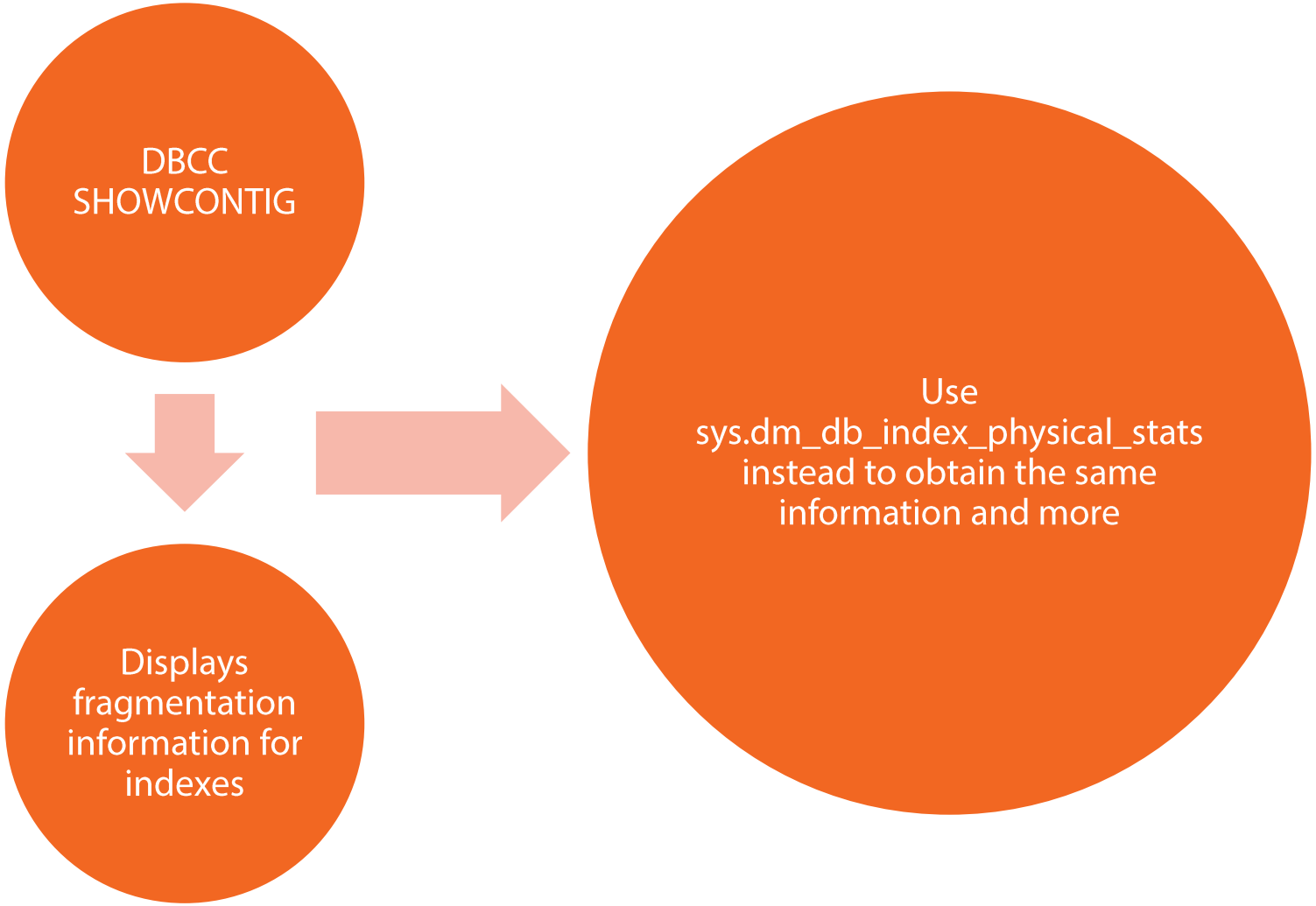
Additional Commands



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Using Informational Commands

Informational commands do not modify the SQL Server environment, nor do they affect system performance

Most commands have been replaced by DMOs, which provide more comprehensive output

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