

Oracle Database 12c: SQL Tuning for Developers

Student Guide - Volume II

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12

Using Bind Variables

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Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:

- List the benefits of using bind variables
- Use bind peeking
- Use adaptive cursor sharing
- Describe common observations



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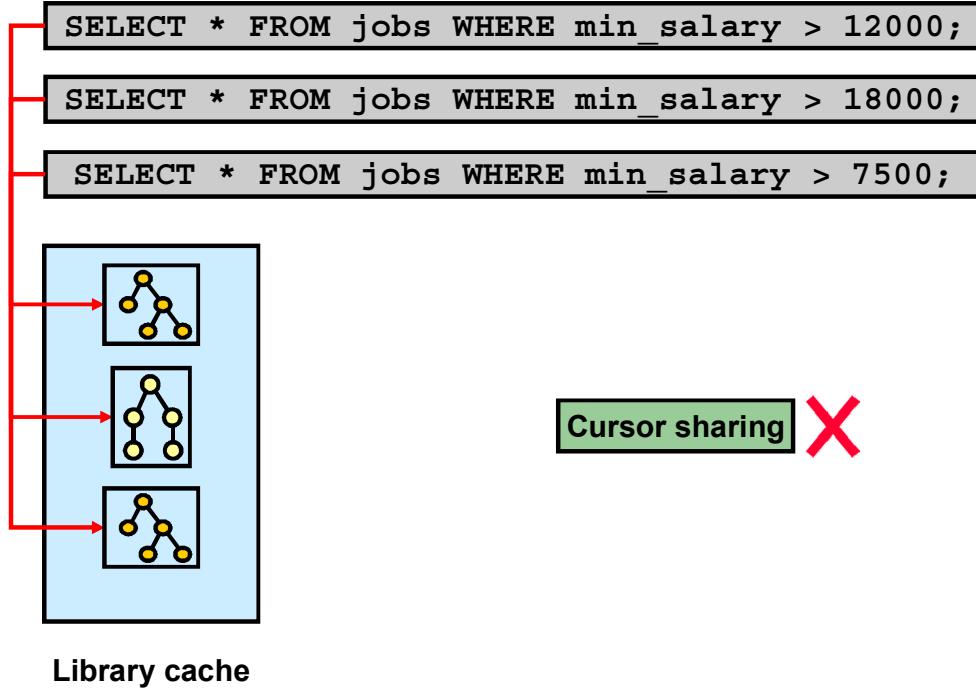
Lesson Agenda

- Cursor Sharing and Different Literal Values
- Cursor Sharing and Bind Variables
 - Bind Variables in SQL*Plus
 - Bind Variables in Enterprise Manager
 - Bind Variables in SQL Developer
- Bind Variable Peeking
- Cursor Sharing
- Adaptive Cursor Sharing: Overview
 - Adaptive Cursor Sharing: Architecture
 - Adaptive Cursor Sharing: Views
 - Adaptive Cursor Sharing: Example



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Cursor Sharing and Different Literal Values



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If your SQL statements use literal values for the WHERE clause conditions, there will be many versions of almost identical SQL stored in the library cache. For each different SQL statement, the optimizer must perform all the steps for processing a new SQL statement. This may also cause the library cache to fill up quickly because of all the different statements stored in it.

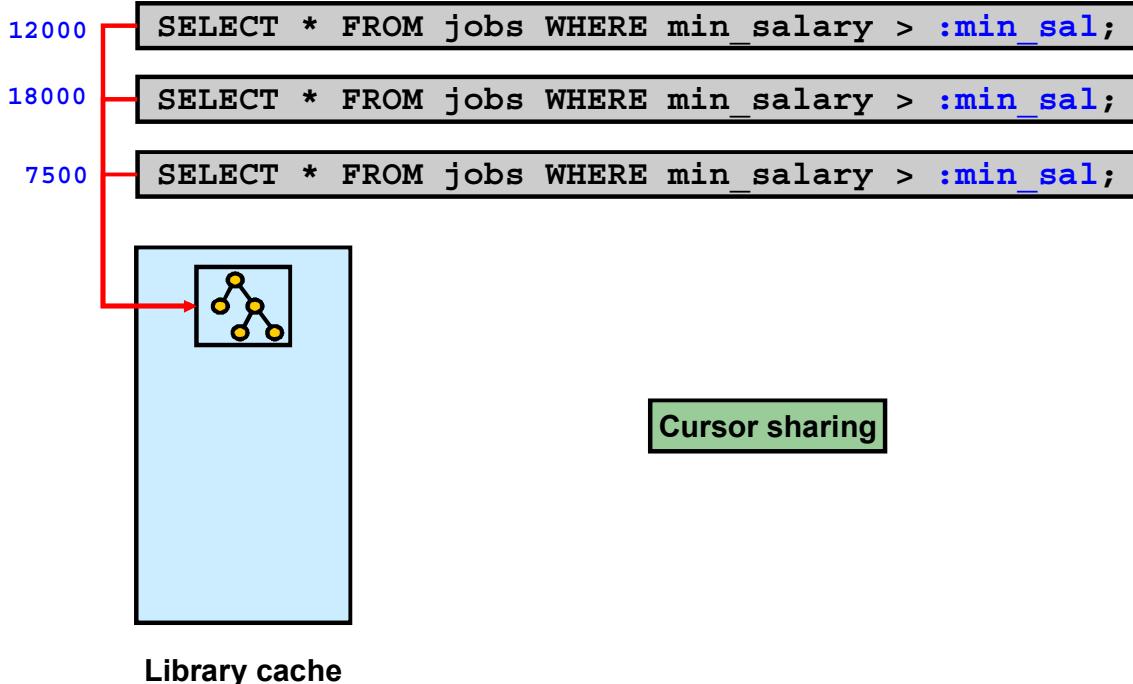
When coded this way, you are not taking advantage of cursor sharing. If the cursor is shared by using a bind variable rather than a literal variable, there will be one shared cursor, with one execution plan.

However, depending on the literal value provided, different execution plans may be generated by the optimizer. For example, there might be several JOBS, where MIN_SALARY is greater than 12000. Alternatively, there might be very few JOBS that have MIN_SALARY greater than 18000. This difference in data distribution could justify the addition of an index so that different plans can be used depending on the value provided in the query. This is illustrated in the slide. As you can see, the first and third queries use the same execution plan, but the second query uses a different one.

From a performance perspective, it is good to have separate cursors. However, this is not very economical because you could have shared cursors for the first and last queries in this example.

Note: In the case of the example in the slide, V\$SQL . PLAN_HASH_VALUE is identical for the first and third query.

Cursor Sharing and Bind Variables



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If instead of issuing different statements for each literal, you use a bind variable, the extra parse activity is eliminated (in theory). The elimination occurs because the optimizer recognizes that the statement is already parsed and decides to reuse the same execution plan even though you specify different bind values the next time you execute the same statement.

For the example in the slide, the bind variable is called `min_sal`. It is to be compared with the `MIN_SALARY` column of the `JOB`s table. Instead of issuing three different statements, issue a single statement that uses a bind variable. At execution time, the same execution plan is used, and the given value is substituted for the variable.

However, from a performance perspective, this is not the best situation because you get best performance two times out of three. On the other hand, this is very economical because you need only one shared cursor in the library cache to execute all three statements.

Bind Variables in SQL*Plus

```
SQL> variable job_id varchar2(10)
SQL> exec :job_id := 'SA_REP';

PL/SQL procedure successfully completed.

SQL> select count(*) from employees where job_id = :job_id;

  COUNT(*)
-
  30

SQL> exec :job_id := 'AD_VP';

PL/SQL procedure successfully completed.

SQL> select count(*) from employees where job_id = :job_id;

  COUNT(*)
-
  2
```



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Bind variables can be used in Oracle SQL*Plus sessions. In Oracle SQL*Plus, use the VARIABLE command to define a bind variable. Then, you can assign values to the variable by executing an assignment statement with the EXEC [UTE] command. Any references to that variable from then on use the assigned value.

For the example in the slide, the first count is selected while SA_REP is assigned to the variable. The result is 30. Then, AD_VP is assigned to the variable, and the resulting count is 2.

Bind Variables in Enterprise Manager

SQL Worksheet : orcl.us.oracle.com

Enter a SQL statement to execute. If there are multiple statements, the location of the cursor or a highlighted statement determines which will be executed. Statements should be separated with blank lines.

SQL Commands

```
select count(*) from hr.employees where salary between :low_sal and :hi_sal
```

Use bind variables for execution

Select Value	Data Type
5000	NUMBER
10000	NUMBER
	STRING
	STRING
	STRING
	STRING

Auto commit
 Allow only SELECT statements
 Execute

Last Executed SQL

```
select count(*)
from hr.employees
where salary between :low_sal and :hi_sal
```

Last Execution Details

Results Statistics Plan

Execution Time (seconds) 0.0010

COUNT(*)	43
----------	----

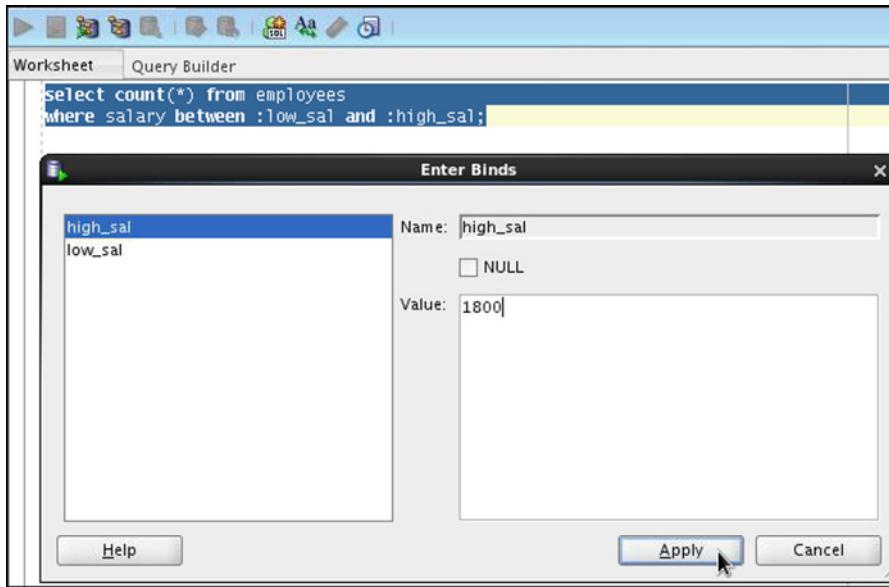
SQL Repair Advisor SQL Details Schedule SQL Tuning Advisor

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On the SQL Worksheet page of Enterprise Manager (see the SQL Worksheet link in the Related Links region on the Database Home page), you can specify that a SQL statement should use bind variables. You can do this by selecting the “Use bind variables for execution” check box. When you select this check box, you can enter bind variable values in the generated fields. Refer to these values in the SQL statement by using variable names that begin with a colon. The order in which variables are referred to defines which variable gets which value. The first variable referred to gets the first value, the second variable gets the second value, and so on. If you change the order in which variables are referenced in the statement, you may need to change the value list to match that order.

Bind Variables in Oracle SQL Developer



The Oracle logo, which consists of the word 'ORACLE' in a bold, white, sans-serif font, all-caps, set against a solid red rectangular background.

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On the SQL Worksheet pane of SQL, you can specify that a SQL statement uses bind variables. When you execute the statement, you can enter bind variable values in the Enter Binds dialog box. Refer to these values in the SQL statement by using variable names that begin with a colon. Select each bind variable in turn to enter a value for that variable.

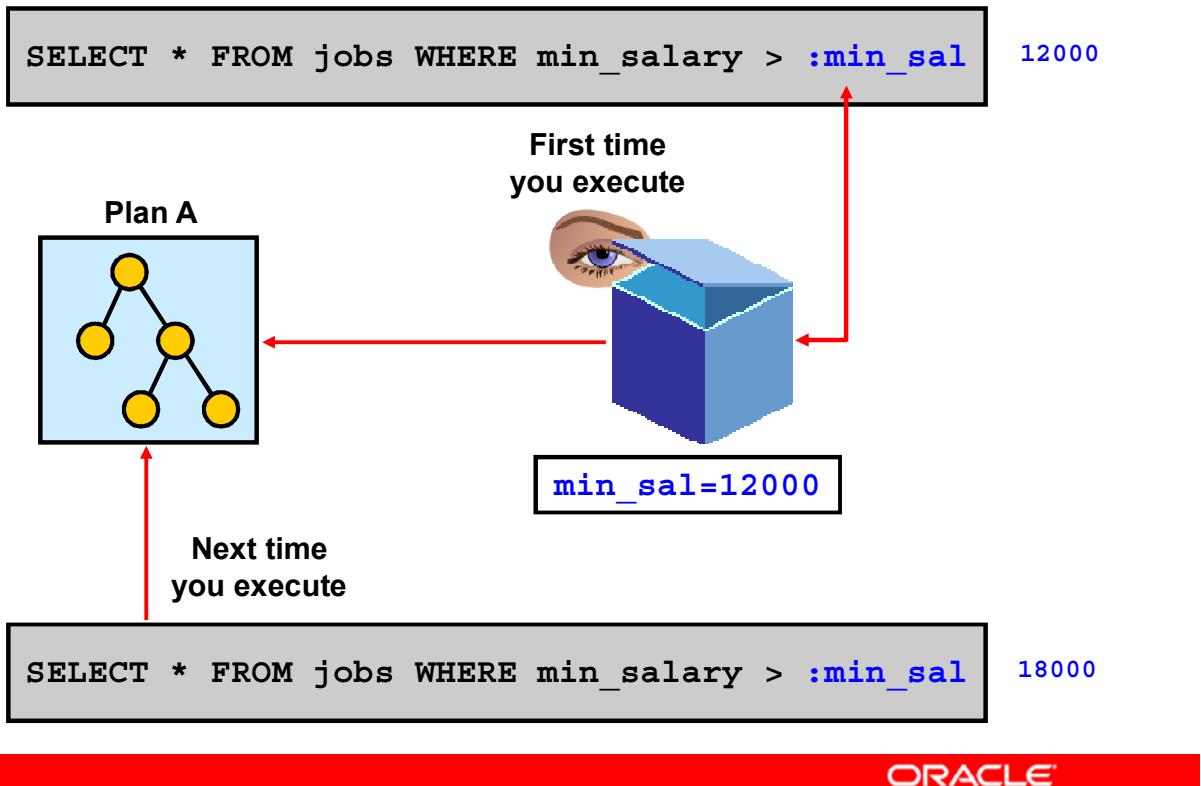
Lesson Agenda

- Cursor Sharing and Different Literal Values
- Cursor Sharing and Bind Variables
 - Bind Variables in SQL*Plus
 - Bind Variables in Enterprise Manager
 - Bind Variables in SQL Developer
- Bind Variable Peeking
- Cursor Sharing
- Adaptive Cursor Sharing: Overview
 - Adaptive Cursor Sharing: Architecture
 - Adaptive Cursor Sharing: Views
 - Adaptive Cursor Sharing: Example



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Bind Variable Peeking

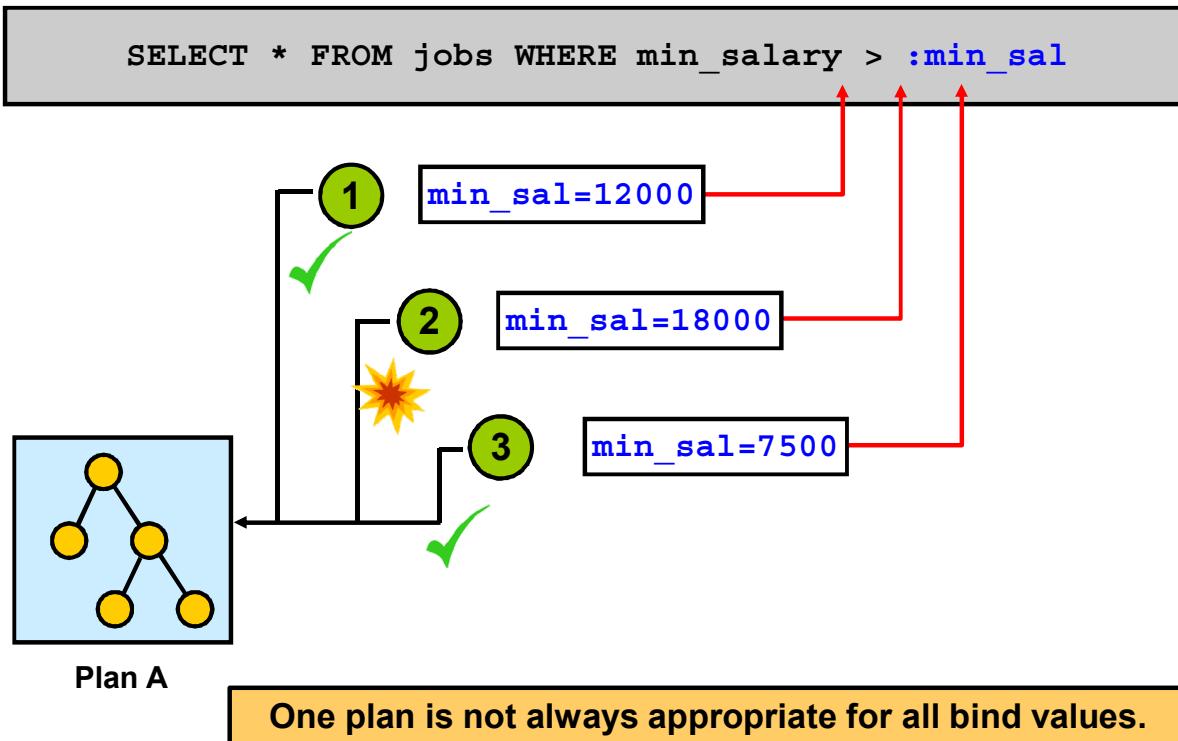


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When literals are used in a query, those literal values can be used by the optimizer to decide on the best plan. However, when bind variables are used, the optimizer still needs to select the best plan based on the values of the conditions in the query, but cannot readily see those values in the SQL text. This means that as a SQL statement is parsed, the system needs to be able to see the value of the bind variables to ensure that a good plan that would suit those values is selected. The optimizer does this by *peeking* at the value in the bind variable. By peeking at bind values, the optimizer can determine the selectivity of a WHERE clause condition as if literals *had* been used, thereby improving the plan. When the SQL statement is hard parsed, the optimizer evaluates the value for each bind variable, and uses that as input in determining the best plan. After the execution is determined the first time you parsed the query, it is reused when you execute the same statement regardless of the bind values used.

Bind Variable Peeking



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Under some conditions, bind variable peeking can cause the optimizer to select a suboptimal plan. This occurs because the first value of the bind variable is used to determine the plan for all subsequent executions of the query. Therefore, even though subsequent executions provide different bind values, the same plan is used. It is possible that a different plan would be better for executions that have different bind variable values. An example is where the selectivity of a particular index varies extremely depending on the column value. For low selectivity, a full table scan may be faster. For high selectivity, an index range scan may be more appropriate.

As shown in the slide, plan A may be good for the first and third values of `min_sal`, but it may not be the best for the second one. Suppose there are very few `MIN_SALARY` values that are above 18000 and plan A is a full table scan. It is probable that a full table scan is not a good plan for the second execution, in that case.

Bind variables are beneficial in that they cause more cursor sharing to happen, and thus reduce parsing of SQL. But, as in this case, it is possible that they cause a suboptimal plan to be chosen for some of the bind variable values. This is a good reason for not using bind variables for decision support system (DSS) environments, where the parsing of a query is a very small percentage of the work done when submitting the query. The parsing may take fractions of a second, but the execution may take minutes or hours. To execute with a slower plan is not worth the savings gained in parse time.

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Cursor Sharing Enhancements

- Oracle8*i* introduced the possibility of sharing SQL statements that differ only in literal values.
- Oracle9*i* extends this feature by limiting it only to similar statements, instead of forcing it.
- Similar: Regardless of the literal value, same execution plan

```
SQL> SELECT * FROM employees  
2 WHERE employee_id = 153;
```

- Not similar: Possible different execution plans for different literal values

```
SQL> SELECT * FROM employees  
2 WHERE department_id = 50;
```



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Oracle 8*i* introduced the possibility of sharing SQL statements that differ only in literal values. Rather than developing an execution plan each time the same statement—with a different literal value—is executed, the optimizer generates a common execution plan that is used for all subsequent executions of the statement.

Because only one execution plan is used instead of potential different ones, this feature should be tested against your applications before you decide whether to enable it or not. That is why Oracle9*i* extends this feature by sharing only statements that are considered as similar, that is, only when the optimizer has the guarantee that the execution plan is independent of the literal value used. For example, consider a query where EMPLOYEE_ID is the primary key:

```
SQL> SELECT * FROM employees WHERE employee_id = 153;
```

The substitution of any value would produce the same execution plan. It would, therefore, be safe for the optimizer to generate only one plan for different occurrences of the same statement that is executed with different literal values.

On the other hand, assume that the same EMPLOYEES table has a wide range of values in its DEPARTMENT_ID column. For example, department 50 could contain more than one-third of all employees, and department 70 could contain only one or two.

See the two queries:

```
SQL> SELECT * FROM employees WHERE department_id = 50;  
SQL> SELECT * FROM employees WHERE department_id = 70;
```

Using only one execution plan for sharing the same cursor would not be safe if you have histogram statistics (and there is skew in the data) on the DEPARTMENT_ID column. In this case, depending on which statement was executed first, the execution plan could contain a full table (or fast full index) scan, or it could use a simple index range scan.

The CURSOR_SHARING Parameter

- CURSOR_SHARING parameter values:
 - FORCE
 - EXACT (default)
- CURSOR_SHARING can be changed by using:
 - ALTER SYSTEM
 - ALTER SESSION
 - Initialization parameter files
- CURSOR_SHARING_EXACT hint



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The value of the CURSOR_SHARING initialization parameter determines how the optimizer processes statements with bind variables:

- EXACT: Allows only statements with identical text to share the same cursor
- FORCE: Allows the creation of a new cursor if sharing an existing cursor, or if the cursor plan is not optimal

The best practice is to write sharable SQL and use the default of EXACT for CURSOR_SHARING. By default, Oracle Database uses adaptive cursor sharing to enable a single SQL statement that contains bind variables to use multiple execution plans. However, for applications with many similar statements, setting CURSOR_SHARING to FORCE can significantly improve cursor sharing, resulting in reduced memory usage, faster parses, and reduced latch contention.

The value of CURSOR_SHARING in the initialization file can be overridden with an ALTER SYSTEM SET CURSOR_SHARING or an ALTER SESSION SET CURSOR_SHARING command.

The CURSOR_SHARING_EXACT hint causes the system to execute the SQL statement without any attempt to replace literals with bind variables.

Note: Starting in Oracle Database 12c, the SIMILAR value for CURSOR_SHARING is deprecated. Use FORCE instead.

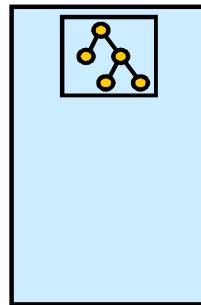
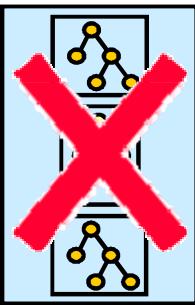
Forcing Cursor Sharing: Example

```
SQL> alter session set cursor_sharing = FORCE;
```

```
SELECT * FROM jobs WHERE min_salary > 12000;
SELECT * FROM jobs WHERE min_salary > 18000;
SELECT * FROM jobs WHERE min_salary > 7500;
```



```
SELECT * FROM jobs WHERE min_salary > :"SYS_B_0"
```



System-generated bind variable

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For the example in the slide, because you forced cursor sharing with the `ALTER SESSION` command, all your queries that differ only in literal values are automatically rewritten to use the same system-generated bind variable called `SYS_B_0`. As a result, you end up with only one child cursor instead of three. When `CURSOR_SHARING` is set to `FORCE`, the database uses one parent cursor and one child cursor for each distinct SQL statement. The database uses the same plan for each execution of the same statement. For example:

```
SELECT * FROM hr.employees WHERE employee_id = 101;
```

If you use `FORCE`, the database optimizes this statement as if it contained a bind variable and uses bind peeking to estimate cardinality. Statements that differ only in the bind variable share the same execution plan.

Setting `CURSOR_SHARING` to `FORCE` has the following drawbacks:

- The database must perform extra work during soft parse to find a similar statement in the shared pool.
- There is an increase in the maximum lengths (as returned by `DESCRIBE`) of any selected expressions that contain literals in a `SELECT` statement. However, the actual length of the data returned does not change.
- Star transformation is not supported.

Note: Adaptive cursor sharing may also apply, and might generate a second child cursor in this case.

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 - Adaptive Cursor Sharing: Views
 - Adaptive Cursor Sharing: Example



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Adaptive Cursor Sharing: Overview

- Cursor sharing is adaptive because the cursor adapts its behavior so that the database does not always use the same plan for each execution or bind variable value.
- This allows intelligent cursor sharing for statements that use bind variables.
- It is used to compromise between cursor sharing and optimization.
- It has the following benefits:
 - Automatically detects when different executions would benefit from different execution plans
 - Limits the number of generated child cursors to a minimum
 - Provides an automated mechanism that cannot be turned off



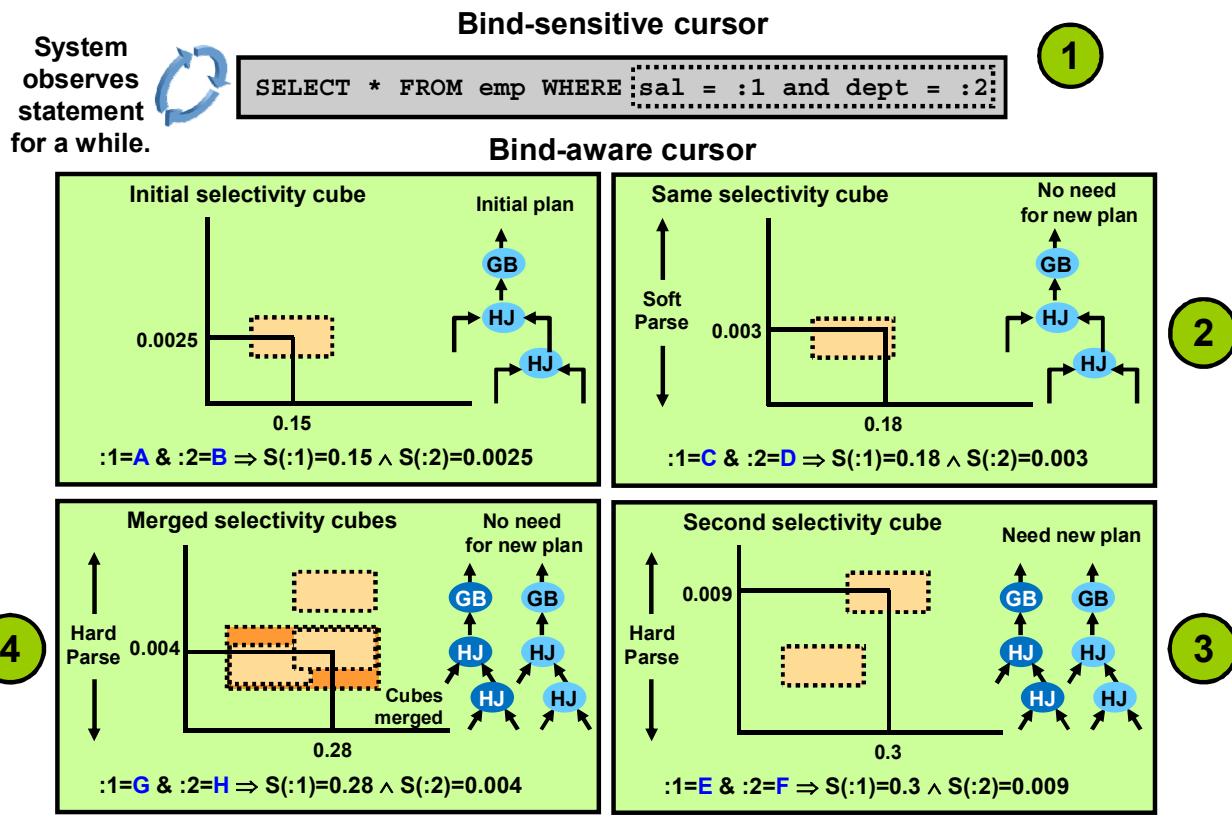
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Bind variables were designed to allow Oracle Database to share a single cursor for multiple SQL statements to reduce the amount of shared memory used to parse SQL statements. However, cursor sharing and SQL optimization are conflicting goals. Writing a SQL statement with literals provides more information for the optimizer and naturally leads to better execution plans, while increasing memory and CPU overhead caused by excessive hard parses. Oracle Database 9*i* was the first attempt to introduce a compromise solution by allowing similar SQL statements that use different literal values to be shared. For statements using bind variables, Oracle Database 9*i* also introduced the concept of bind peeking. To benefit from bind peeking, it is assumed that cursor sharing is intended and that different invocations of the statement are supposed to use the same execution plan. If different invocations of the statement would significantly benefit from different execution plans, bind peeking is of no use in generating good execution plans.

To address this issue, Oracle Database 11*g* introduced adaptive cursor sharing. This feature is a more sophisticated strategy that is designed not to share a cursor blindly, but generate multiple plans per SQL statement with bind variables if the benefit of using multiple execution plans outweighs the parse time and memory usage overhead. Adaptive cursor sharing is enabled for the database by default and cannot be disabled. Adaptive cursor sharing does not apply to SQL statements containing more than 14 bind variables.

Note: Adaptive cursor sharing is independent of the CURSOR_SHARING initialization parameter.

Adaptive Cursor Sharing: Architecture



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When you use adaptive cursor sharing, the following steps take place in the scenario illustrated in the slide:

1. The cursor starts its life with a hard parse, as usual. If bind peeking takes place and a histogram is used to compute selectivity of the predicate containing the bind variable, the cursor is marked as a bind-sensitive cursor. In addition, some information is stored about the predicate containing the bind variables, including the predicate selectivity. In the slide example, the predicate selectivity that would be stored is a cube that is centered around (0.15, 0.0025). Because of the initial hard parse, an initial execution plan is determined by using the peeked binds. After the cursor is executed, the bind values and the execution statistics of the cursor are stored in that cursor.

During the next execution of the statement, when a new set of bind values is used, the system performs a usual soft parse, and finds a matching cursor for execution. At the end of execution, execution statistics are compared with the ones currently stored in the cursor. The system then observes the pattern of the statistics over all the previous runs (see the V\$SQL_CS_... views in the slide that follows) and decides whether or not to mark the cursor as bind aware.

2. On the next soft parse of this query, if the cursor is now bind aware, bind-aware cursor matching is used. Suppose the selectivity of the predicate with the new set of bind values is now (0.18,0.003). Because selectivity is used as part of bind-aware cursor matching, and because the selectivity is within an existing cube, the statement uses the existing child cursor's execution plan to run.
3. On the next soft parse of this query, suppose that the selectivity of the predicate with the new set of bind values is now (0.3,0.009). Because this selectivity is not within an existing cube, no child cursor match is found; the system does a hard parse, which generates a new child cursor with a second execution plan in that case. In addition, the new selectivity cube is stored as part of the new child cursor. After the new child cursor executes, the system stores the bind values and execution statistics in the cursor.
4. On the next soft parse of this query, suppose the selectivity of the predicate with the new set of bind values is now (0.28,0.004). Because this selectivity is not within one of the existing cubes, the system does a hard parse. Suppose that this time, the hard parse generates the same execution plan as the first one. Because the plan is the same as the first child cursor, both child cursors are merged. That is, both cubes are merged into a new bigger cube, and one of the child cursors is deleted. The next time there is a soft parse, if the selectivity falls within the new cube, the child cursor matches.

Adaptive Cursor Sharing: Views

The following views provide information about adaptive cursor sharing usage:

V\$SQL	Two new columns show whether a cursor is bind sensitive or bind aware.
V\$SQL_CS_HISTOGRAM	The distribution of the execution count is shown across the execution history histogram.
V\$SQL_CS_SELECTIVITY	The selectivity cubes stored for every predicate containing a bind variable and whose selectivity is used in the cursor sharing checks are shown.
V\$SQL_CS_STATISTICS	Execution statistics of a cursor using different bind sets are shown.



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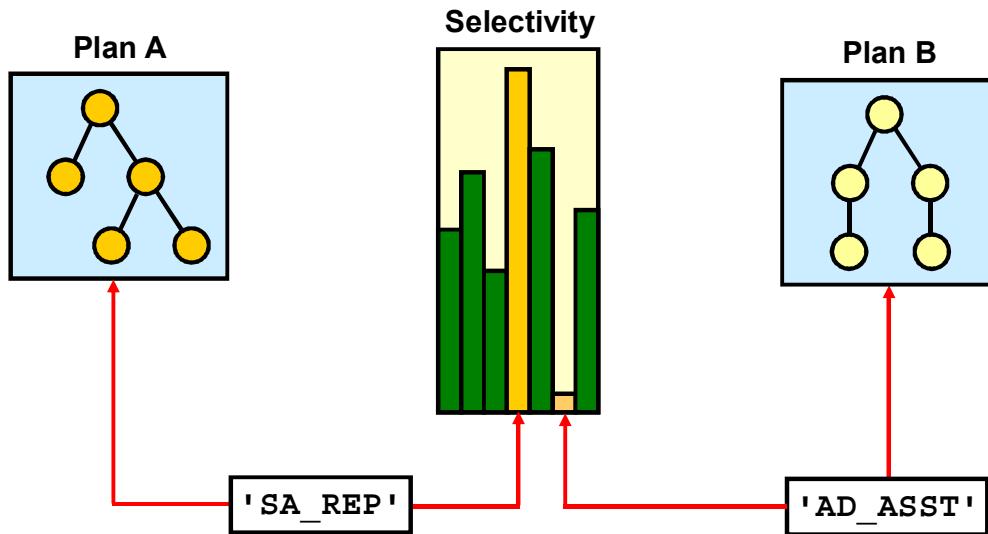
These views determine whether a query is bind aware or not and whether it is handled automatically, without any user input. However, information about what goes on is exposed through v\$ views so that you can diagnose problems, if any. New columns have been added to V\$SQL:

- **IS_BIND_SENSITIVE**: This indicates if a cursor is bind sensitive; value YES | NO. A query for which the optimizer peeked at bind variable values when computing predicate selectivities and where a change in a bind variable value may lead to a different plan is called *bind sensitive*.
- **IS_BIND_AWARE**: This indicates if a cursor is bind aware; value YES | NO. A cursor in the cursor cache that has been marked to use bind-aware cursor sharing is called *bind aware*.
- **V\$SQL_CS_HISTOGRAM**: This shows the distribution of the execution count across a three-bucket execution history histogram
- **V\$SQL_CS_SELECTIVITY**: This shows the selectivity cubes or ranges stored in a cursor for every predicate containing a bind variable and whose selectivity is used in the cursor sharing checks. It contains the text of the predicates and the low and high values of the selectivity range.

- V\$SQL_CS_STATISTICS: Adaptive cursor sharing monitors the execution of a query, collects information about it for a while, and uses this information to decide whether to switch to bind-aware cursor sharing for the query. This view summarizes the information that it collects to make this decision. For a sample of executions, it keeps track of the rows processed, buffer gets, and CPU time. The PEEKED column has the value YES if the bind set was used to build the cursor; it has the value NO otherwise.

Adaptive Cursor Sharing: Example

```
SQL> variable job varchar2(6)
SQL> exec :job := 'AD_ASST'
SQL> select count(*), max(salary) from employees where
   job_id=:job;
```



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Consider the data in the slide. Histogram statistics on the `JOB_ID` column show that the occurrence of `SA REP` is many thousands of times more than that of `AD_ASST`. In this case, if literals were used instead of a bind variable, the query optimizer would see that the `AD_ASST` value occurs in less than 1 percent of the rows, whereas the `SA REP` value occurs in approximately one-third of the rows. If the table has over a million rows, the execution plans are different for each of these values' queries. The `AD_ASST` query results in an index range scan because there are so few rows with that value. The `SA REP` query results in a full table scan because so many of the rows have that value that it is more efficient to read the entire table. But, as it is, using a bind variable causes the same execution plan to be used at first for both the values. So, even though there exist different and better plans for each of these values, they use the same plan.

After several executions of this query using a bind variable, the system considers the query bind aware, at which point it changes the plan based on the bound value. This means the best plan is used for the query, based on the bind variable value.

Interacting with Adaptive Cursor Sharing

- CURSOR_SHARING:
 - If CURSOR_SHARING <> EXACT, statements containing literals may be rewritten by using bind variables.
 - If statements are rewritten, adaptive cursor sharing may apply to them.
- SQL Plan Management (SPM):
 - If OPTIMIZER_CAPTURE_SQL_PLAN_BASELINES is set to TRUE, only the first generated plan is used.
 - As a workaround, set this parameter to FALSE and run your application until all plans are loaded in the cursor cache.
 - Manually load the cursor cache into the corresponding plan baseline.



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Adaptive cursor sharing is independent of the CURSOR_SHARING parameter. The setting of this parameter determines whether literals are replaced by system-generated bind variables. If they are, adaptive cursor sharing behaves just as it would if the user supplied binds to begin with.

When using the SPM automatic plan capture, the first plan captured for a SQL statement with bind variables is marked as the corresponding SQL plan baseline. If another plan is found for that same SQL statement (which may be the case with adaptive cursor sharing), it is added to the SQL statement's plan history and marked for verification. It will not be used immediately. Although adaptive cursor sharing has come up with a new plan based on a new set of bind values, SPM does not let it be used until the plan has been verified. Thus reverting to Oracle Database 10g behavior, only the plan generated based on the first set of bind values is used by all subsequent executions of the statement.

One possible workaround is to run the system for some time with automatic plan capture set to False. After the cursor cache has been populated with all the plans for a SQL statement with bind, load the entire plan directly from the cursor cache into the corresponding SQL plan baseline. By doing this, all the plans for a single SQL statement are marked as SQL baseline plans by default. Refer to the lesson titled "SQL Plan Management" for more information.

Common Observations

Consider the following areas to resolve excessive parsing time as well:

- CPU time dominates the parse time.
- Wait time dominates the parse time.

SELECT * FROM ...								
call	count	cpu	elapsed	disk	query	current	rows	
Parse	555	100.09	300.83	0	0	0	0	
Execute	555	0.42	0.78	0	0	0	0	
Fetch	555	14.04	85.03	513	1448514	0	11724	
total	1665	114.55	386.65	513	1448514	0	11724	



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You might also need to consider the following areas to resolve excessive parsing problems:

- **CPU time dominates the parse time:** If high CPU usage (in general more than 50 percent of parse elapsed time) is observed during the hard parses, you would need to review the following common causes:
 - **Dynamic statistics:** Dynamic statistics is performed via hint, parameters, or missing statistics. Because dynamic statistics is performed at parse time, depending on the level of the dynamic statistics, it may impact the parse time.
 - **Many IN-LIST parameters or OR clauses:** It may take a long time to estimate the cost of a statement with many IN-LIST or OR clauses. You could use the NO_EXPAND hint to avoid query transformation, eventually to save the parse time.
- **Wait time dominates the parse time:** High wait time during hard parses are usually due to contention for resources or are related to very large queries. You would need to examine the waits ("SQL*Net more data from client") in the 10046 trace for the query. One of the common causes is seen when a large query containing lots of text is sent. Because it may take several round trips to be sent from the client to the server, each trip takes time, especially on slow networks.

Quiz

Which three statements are true about applications that are coded with literals rather than bind variables in the SQL statements?

- a. More shared pool space is required for cursors.
- b. Less shared pool space is required for cursors.
- c. Histograms are used if they are available.
- d. Histograms are not used.
- e. No parsing is required for literal values.
- f. Every different literal value requires parsing.



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Answer: a, c, f

Quiz

The CURSOR_SHARING parameter should be set to _____ for systems with large tables and long-running queries, such as a data warehouse.

- a. Force
- b. Exact
- c. Literal
- d. True
- e. False



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Answer: b

Quiz

Adaptive cursor sharing can be turned off by setting the CURSOR_SHARING parameter to FALSE.

- a. True
- b. False



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Answer: b

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- List the benefits of using bind variables
- Use bind peeking
- Use adaptive cursor sharing
- Describe common observations



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Practice 12: Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

- Using adaptive cursor sharing and bind peeking
- Using the CURSOR_SHARING initialization parameter(Optional)



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SQL Plan Management

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Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:

- Manage SQL performance through changes
- Set up SQL Plan Management
- Set up various SQL Plan Management scenarios
- Load hinted plans into SQL Plan Management



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Lesson Agenda

- Maintaining SQL Performance
- SQL Plan Management: Overview
- SQL Plan Baseline: Architecture
- Basic Tasks in SQL Plan Management
- Adaptive SQL Plan Management
- Possible SQL Plan Manageability Scenarios
- Enterprise Manager and SQL Plan Baselines
- Loading Hinted Plans into SPM: Example



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Maintaining SQL Performance

Maintaining performance may require using SQL plan baselines.



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Any number of factors that influence the optimizer can change over time. The challenge is to maintain the SQL performance levels despite the changes.

Optimizer statistics change for many reasons. Managing the changes to SQL performance despite the changes to statistics is the task of the database administrator.

Some SQL statements on any system will stand out as high-resource consumers. It is not always the same statements. The performance of these statements must be tuned, without having to change the code. SQL profiles provide the means to control the performance of these statements.

SQL plan baselines are the key objects that SQL Plan Management (SPM) uses to prevent unverified changes to SQL execution plans. When SPM is active, there will not be any drastic changes in performance, even when the statistics change or the database version changes. Until a new plan is verified to produce better performance than the current plan, it will not be considered by the optimizer. This in effect freezes the SQL plan.

SQL outlines have been used in past versions. They are still available for backward compatibility, but outlines are deprecated in favor of SPM.

SQL Plan Management: Overview

- SQL plan management is a preventative mechanism that records and evaluates the execution plans of SQL statements over time.
- The optimizer automatically manages execution plans.
 - Only known and verified plans are used.
- Plan changes are automatically verified.
 - Only comparable or better plans are subsequently used.
- SQL plan management uses a mechanism called a SQL plan baseline.
- The primary goal of SQL plan management is to prevent performance regressions caused by plan changes.



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Potential performance risk occurs when a SQL execution plan changes for a SQL statement. A SQL plan change can occur due to various reasons, such as optimizer version, optimizer statistics, optimizer parameters, schema definitions, system settings, and SQL profile creation.

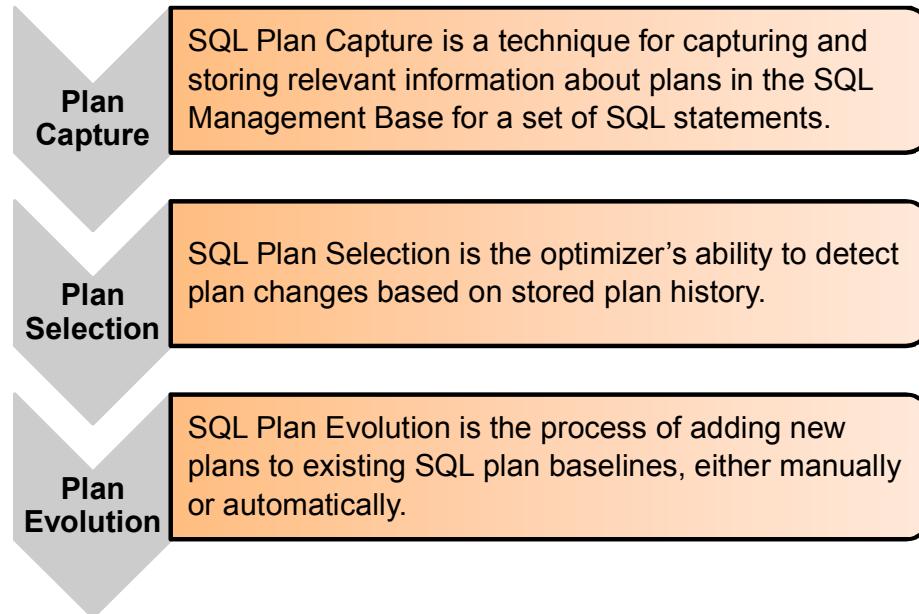
SQL plan management is a preventative mechanism that enables the optimizer to automatically manage execution plans, ensuring that the database uses only known or verified plans. In this context, a plan includes all plan-related information (for example, SQL plan identifier, set of hints, bind values, and optimizer environment) that the optimizer needs to reproduce an execution plan.

Various plan control techniques are available in Oracle Database to address performance regressions due to plan changes. The oldest is the use of hints in SQL code to force a specific access path. Stored outlines allowed the hints to be stored separately from the code and modified. Both techniques focused on making the plan static. The SQL profiles created by the SQL Tuning Advisor allow the optimizer to collect and store additional statistics that guide the choice of a plan; if the plan becomes inefficient, the SQL Tuning Advisor can be invoked to produce a new profile.

During the execution of a SQL statement, only a plan that is part of the SQL plan baseline can be used. As described later in this lesson, SQL plan baselines can be automatically loaded or they can be seeded by using SQL tuning sets. Various scenarios are covered later in this lesson.

The main benefit of the SPM feature is performance stability for a system by avoiding plan regressions. In addition, it saves the DBA time that is often spent in identifying and analyzing SQL performance regressions and finding workable solutions.

Components of SQL Plan Management

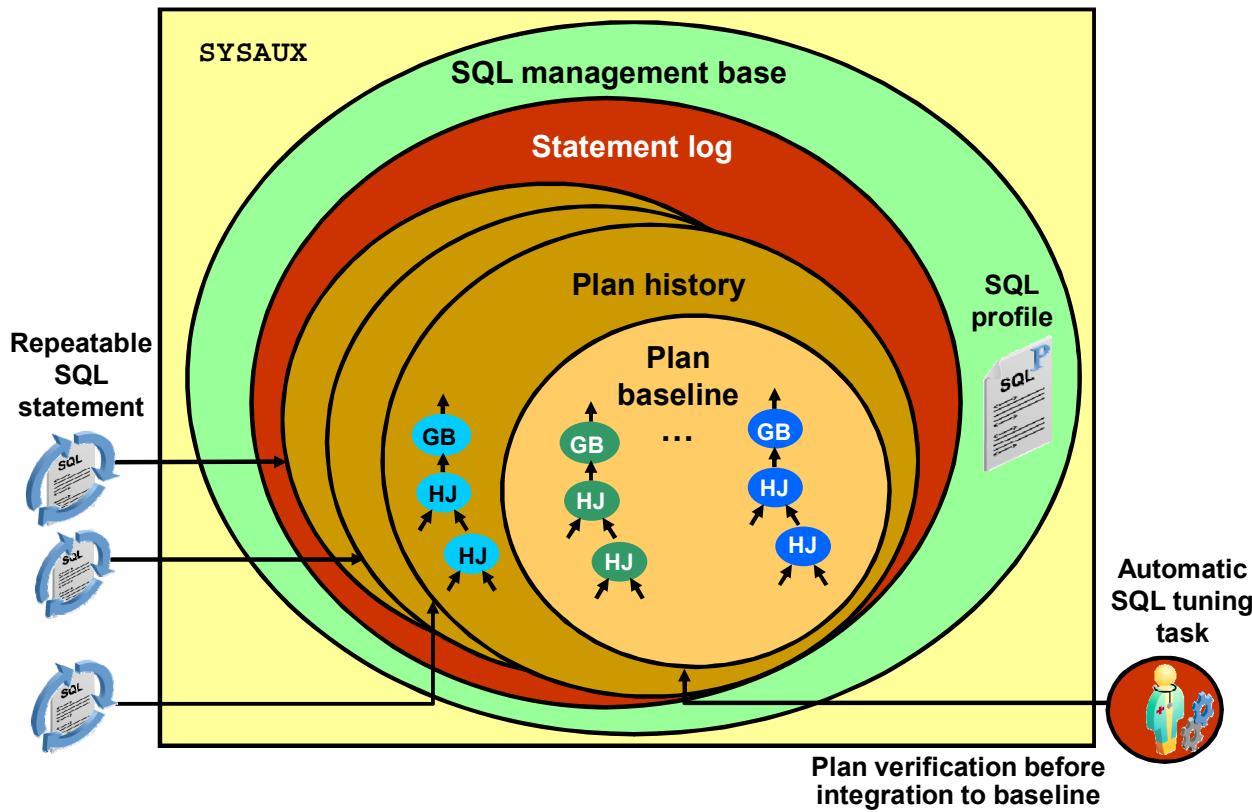


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The SQL Plan Management has three main components:

- **SQL plan baseline capture:** SQL plan capture refers to techniques for capturing and storing relevant information about plans in the SQL Management Base for a set of SQL statements. Capturing a plan means making SQL plan management aware of this plan. You can configure initial plan capture to occur automatically by setting an initialization parameter, or you can capture plans manually by using the `DBMS_SPM` package. The SQL plan baselines are stored in a plan history in the SQL Management Base in the `SYSAUX` tablespace.
- **SQL plan baseline selection:** Ensure that only accepted execution plans are used for statements with a SQL plan baseline and track all new execution plans in the plan history for a statement. The plan history consists of accepted and unaccepted plans. An unaccepted plan can be unverified (newly found but not verified) or rejected (verified but not found to be performant).
- **SQL plan baseline evolution:** Evaluate all unverified execution plans for a given statement in the plan history to become either accepted or rejected. SQL plan evolution is the process of adding new plans to existing SQL plan baselines, either manually or automatically.

SQL Plan Baseline: Architecture



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The SPM feature introduces necessary infrastructure and services in support of plan maintenance and performance verification of new plans.

SQL Management Base

The SQL management base (SMB) is a logical repository in the data dictionary that contains the SQL statement log, plan history, plan baselines, and SQL profiles. It also stores information that the optimizer can use to maintain or improve SQL performance.

The SMB is stored in the **SYSAUX** tablespace and has automatic space management (for example, periodic purging of unused plans). You can configure the SMB to change the plan retention policy and set space size limits. The database does not use SQL plan management and SQL tuning features when the **SYSAUX** tablespace is unavailable because the SMB is located entirely within this tablespace.

SQL Statement Log

For SQL statements that are executed more than once, the optimizer maintains a history of plans for individual SQL statements. The optimizer recognizes a repeatable SQL statement by maintaining a statement log. A SQL statement is recognized as repeatable when it is parsed or executed again after it has been logged. After a SQL statement is recognized as repeatable, various plans generated by the optimizer are maintained as a plan history that contains relevant information (such as SQL text, outline, bind variables, and compilation environment) that is used by the optimizer to reproduce an execution plan.

The DBA may also add plans to the SQL plan baseline by manually seeding a set of SQL statements.

SQL Profiles

The database creates SQL profiles when you invoke SQL Tuning Advisor, which you do typically only after a SQL statement has shown high-load symptoms. SQL profiles are primarily useful by providing ongoing resolution of optimizer mistakes that have led to suboptimal plans. Because the SQL profile mechanism is reactive, it cannot guarantee stable performance as drastic database changes occur.

SQL profiles are also implemented using hints, but these hints do not specify any specific plan. Rather, the hints correct miscalculations in the optimizer estimates that lead to suboptimal plans. Because a profile does not constrain the optimizer to any one plan, a SQL profile is more flexible than a SQL plan baseline.

SQL Plan History

SQL Plan History is a subset of SMB that includes both accepted and not accepted plans generated for a SQL statement. A plan history contains different plans generated by the optimizer for a SQL statement over time. However, only some of the plans in the plan history may be accepted for use. For example, a new plan generated by the optimizer is not normally used until it has been verified not to cause performance regression. Plan verification is done by default as part of the Automatic SQL Tuning task that runs as an automated task in a maintenance window.

In the latest Oracle Database release, the SMB stores the rows for the new plans that are added to the plan history of a SQL statement. The DBMS_XPLAN.DISPLAY_SQL_PLAN_BASELINE function fetches and displays the plan from the SMB. Previously, when the plans were created, the function used to compile the SQL statement and generate the plan because the SMB did not store the rows.

SQL Plan Baselines

SQL plan management uses a mechanism called a SQL plan baseline. It is a subset of SQL Plan History that includes only the set of accepted plans generated for a SQL statement. In the typical use case, the database accepts a plan into the plan baseline only after verifying that the plan performs well. SQL plan baselines help improve the performance of SQL statements by ensuring that the optimizer uses only optimal plans. Each plan is implemented using a set of outline hints that fully specify a particular plan. SQL plan baselines prevent the optimizer from using suboptimal plans in the future.

Accepted Plans

A plan is accepted if and only if it is in the plan baseline. The plan history for a statement contains all plans, both accepted and unaccepted. After the optimizer generates the first accepted plan in a plan baseline, every subsequent unaccepted plan is added to the plan history, awaiting verification, but it is not added to the SQL plan baseline.

Enabled Plans

A plan is enabled only if it is used by the optimizer. The database automatically marks all plans in the plan history as enabled even if they are still unaccepted. You can manually change an enabled plan to a disabled plan, which means that the optimizer can no longer use the plan even if it is accepted.

Automatic SQL Tuning Task

An Automatic SQL Tuning task targets only high-load SQL statements. For those statements, it automatically implements such actions as making a successfully verified plan an accepted plan. A set of acceptable plans constitutes a SQL plan baseline. The very first plan generated for a SQL statement is obviously acceptable for use; therefore, it forms the original plan baseline. Any new plans subsequently found by the optimizer are part of the plan history, but they are not part of the initial plan baseline.

Note: With Oracle Database 11g, if the database instance is up but the `SYSAUX` tablespace is `OFFLINE`, the optimizer is unable to access SQL management objects. This situation can affect performance on some of the SQL workload.

Lesson Agenda

- Maintaining SQL Performance
- SQL Plan Management: Overview
- **Basic Tasks in SQL Plan Management**
- Adaptive SQL Plan Management
- Possible SQL Plan Manageability Scenarios
- Enterprise Manager and SQL Plan Baselines
- Loading Hinted Plans into SPM: Example



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Basic Tasks in SQL Plan Management



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The basic tasks in using SQL plan management to prevent plan regressions and allow the optimizer to consider new plans are:

- **Configuring SQL Plan Management:** You can set initialization parameters to control whether the database captures and uses SQL plan baselines, and whether it evolves new plans.
- **Displaying Plans in SQL Plan Baselines:** You can use the DBMS_XPLAN.DISPLAY_SQL_PLAN_BASELINE function to view the plans stored in the SQL plan baseline for a specific statement.
- **Loading SQL Plan Baselines:** You can manually load plans into SQL plan baselines. You can load plans from SQL tuning sets, the shared SQL area, or a staging table.
- **Evolving SQL Plan Baselines:** You can manually evolve plans into SQL plan baselines. You can use PL/SQL to verify the performance of specified plans and add them to plan baselines.
- **Dropping SQL Plan Baselines:** You can drop all or some plans in SQL plan baselines.
- **Managing the SQL Management Base:** You can alter disk space limits and change the length of the plan retention policy.

Configuring SQL Plan Management

- You control SQL plan management with initialization parameters.
 - OPTIMIZER_CAPTURE_SQL_PLAN_BASELINES=false
 - OPTIMIZER_USE_SQL_PLAN_BASELINES=true
- You can configure the Automatic SPM Evolve Advisor Task using the SET_EVOLVE_TASK_PARAMETER procedure.
- You can set ACCEPT_PLANS to true (default), so that SQL plan management automatically accepts all plans recommended by the task.



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If you set the OPTIMIZER_CAPTURE_SQL_PLAN_BASELINES initialization parameter to true, the database automatically creates an initial SQL plan baseline for any SQL statement that is not already in the plan history. This parameter does not control the automatic addition of newly discovered plans to a previously created SQL plan baseline.

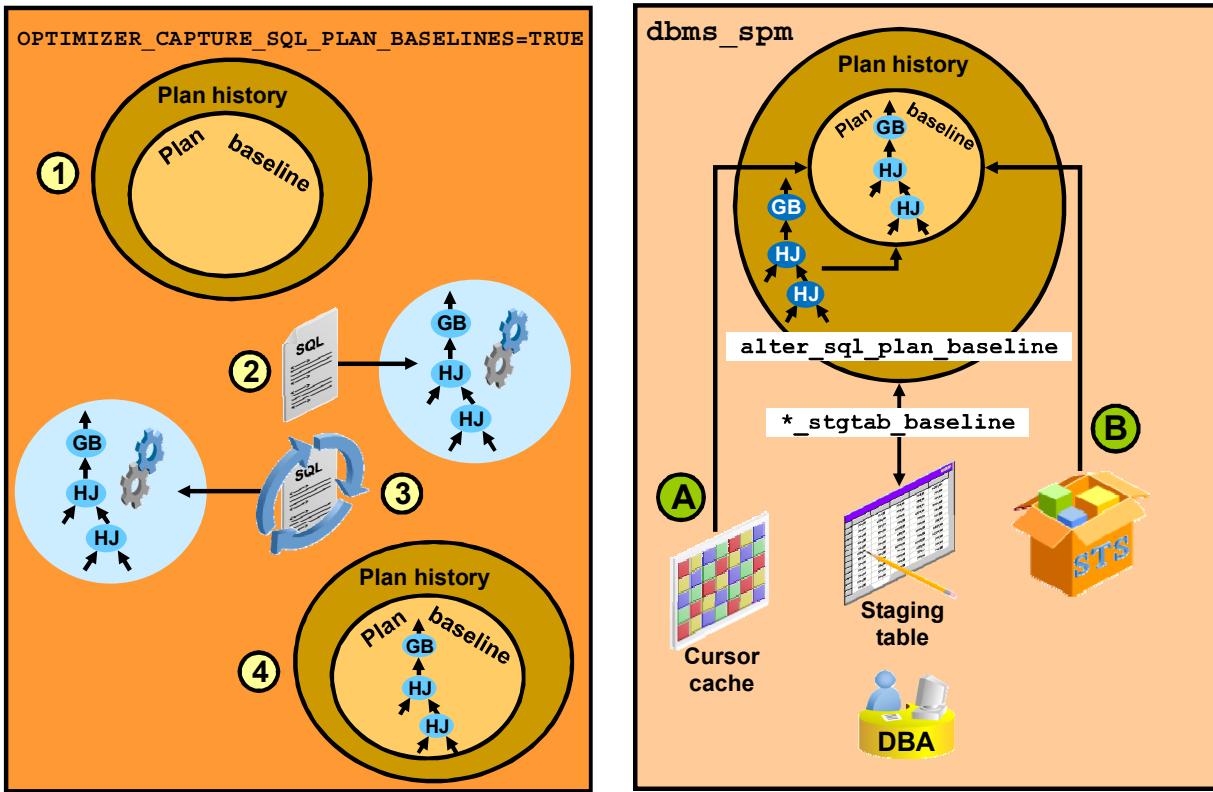
When you set the OPTIMIZER_USE_SQL_PLAN_BASELINES initialization parameter to false, the database does not use any plan baselines in the database.

The DBMS_SPM package enables you to configure automatic plan evolution by specifying the task parameters using the SET_EVOLVE_TASK_PARAMETER procedure. Because the task is owned by SYS, only SYS can set task parameters.

The ACCEPT_PLANS tuning task parameter specifies whether to accept recommended plans automatically. When ACCEPT_PLANS is true (default), SQL plan management automatically accepts all plans recommended by the task. When set to false, the task verifies the plans and generates a report of its findings, but does not evolve the plans.

Note: Automatic SPM Evolve Advisor Task is discussed in the later slides.

Loading SQL Plan Baselines



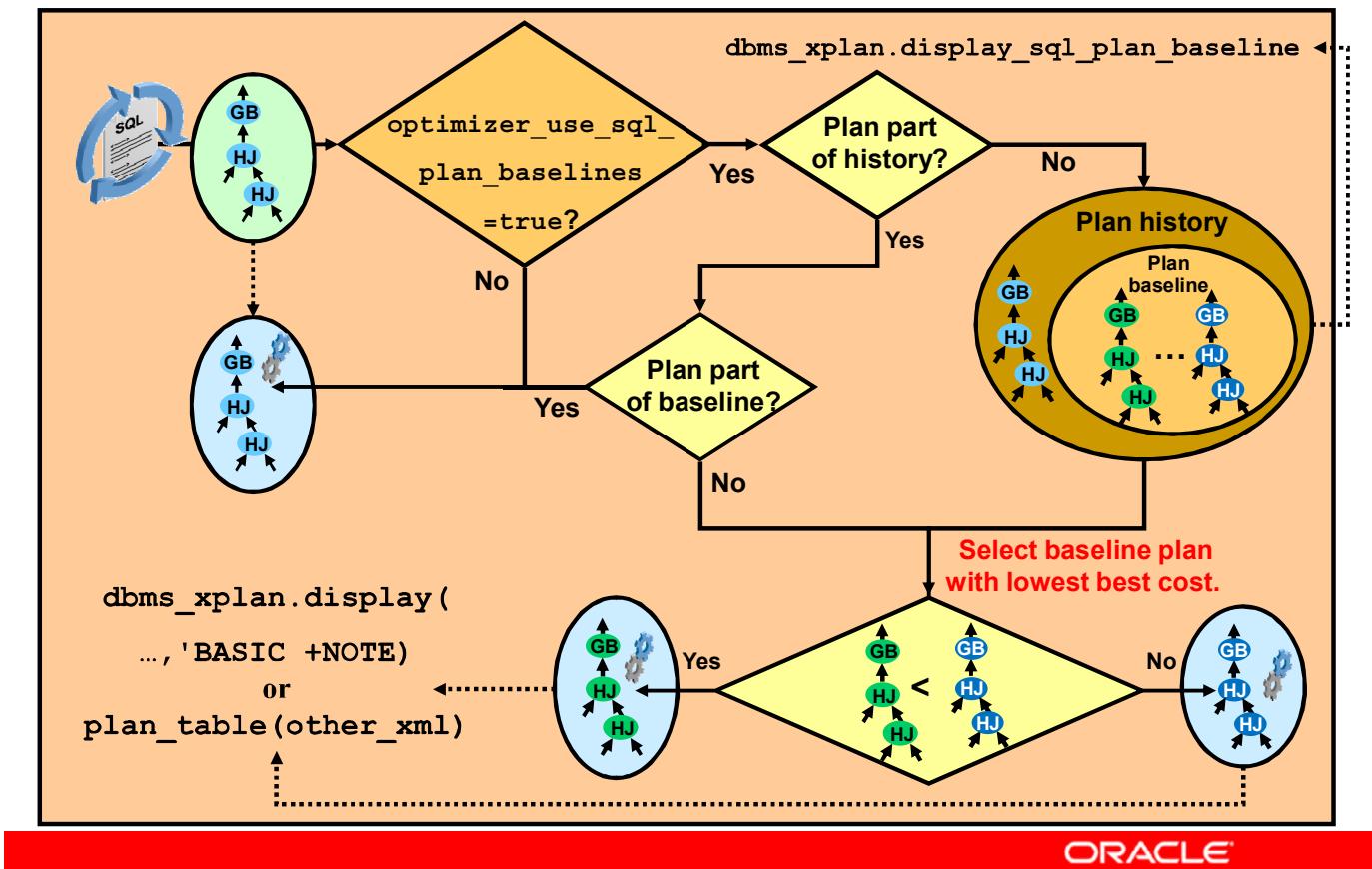
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There are two ways to load SQL plan baselines in SQL Management Base:

- **Automatic Plan Capture:** To use automatic plan capture, set the `OPTIMIZER_CAPTURE_SQL_PLAN_BASELINES` initialization parameter to `TRUE`. This parameter is set to `FALSE` by default. Setting it to `TRUE` enables automatic recognition of repeatable SQL statements and automatic creation of plan history for such statements. This is illustrated in the graphic at the left in the slide, where the first-generated SQL plan is automatically integrated into the original SQL plan baseline when it becomes a repeating SQL statement.
- **Bulk loading:** Use the `DBMS_SPM` package, which enables you to manually manage SQL plan baselines. With procedures from this package, you can load SQL plans into a SQL plan baseline directly from the cursor cache (A) by using `LOAD_PLANS_FROM_CURSOR_CACHE` or from an existing STS (B) by using `LOAD_PLANS_FROM_SQLSET`. For a SQL statement to be loaded into a SQL plan baseline from an STS, the plan for the SQL statement needs to be stored in the STS. `DBMS_SPM.ALTER_SQL_PLAN_BASELINE` lets you enable and disable a baseline plan and change other plan attributes. To move baselines between databases, use the `DBMS_SPM.*_STGTAB_BASELINE` procedures to create a staging table and to export and import baseline plans from the staging table. The staging table can be moved between databases by using the Data Pump Export and Import utilities.

SQL Plan Selection



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If you are using automatic plan capture, the first time that a SQL statement is recognized as repeatable, its best-cost plan is added to the corresponding SQL plan baseline. That plan is then used to execute the statement.

The optimizer uses a comparative plan selection policy when a plan baseline exists for a SQL statement and the `OPTIMIZER_USE_SQL_PLAN_BASELINES` initialization parameter is set to `TRUE` (default value). SQL plan selection is the optimizer ability to detect plan changes based on stored plan history, and the use of SQL plan baselines to select plans to avoid potential performance regressions.

Each time a SQL statement is compiled, the optimizer first uses the traditional cost-based search method to build a best-cost plan. Then it tries to find a matching plan in the SQL plan baseline. If a match is found, it proceeds as usual. If no match is found, it first adds the new plan to the plan history, calculates the cost of each accepted plan in the SQL plan baseline, and then picks the one with the lowest cost. The accepted plans are reproduced by using the outline that is stored with each of them. So the effect of having a SQL plan baseline for a SQL statement is that the optimizer always selects one of the accepted plans in that SQL plan baseline.

With SPM, the optimizer can produce a plan that could be either a best-cost plan or a baseline plan. This information is dumped in the `other_xml` column of the `plan_table` upon `EXPLAIN PLAN`. However, the optimizer can use only an accepted and enabled baseline plan.

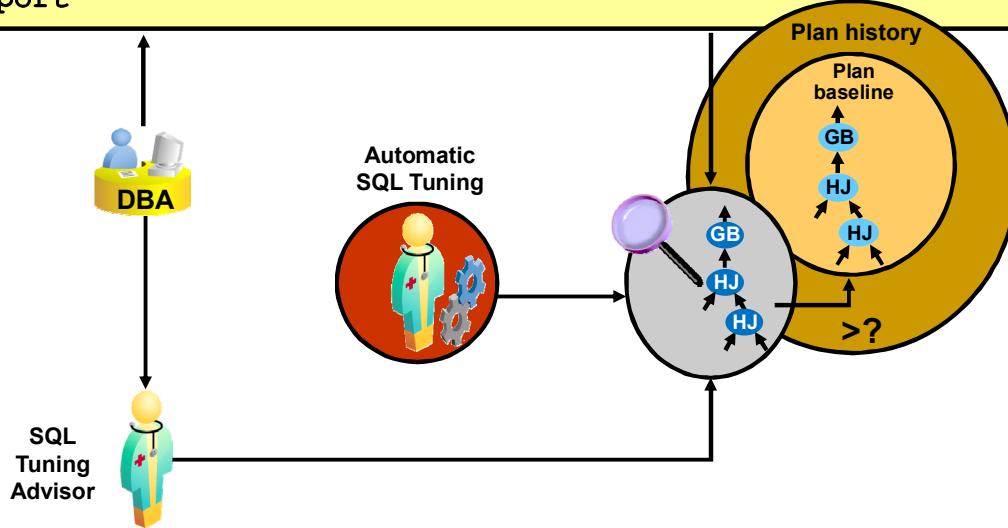
In addition, you can use the new `dbms_xplan.display_sql_plan_baseline` function to display one or more execution plans for the specified `sql_handle` of a plan baseline. If `plan_name` is also specified, the corresponding execution plan is displayed.

Note: The Stored Outline feature is deprecated. To preserve backward compatibility, if a stored outline for a SQL statement is active for the user session, the statement is compiled by using the stored outline. In addition, a plan generated by the optimizer using a stored outline is not stored in the SMB even if automatic plan capture has been enabled for the session.

Stored outlines can be migrated to SQL plan baselines by using the `MIGRATE_STORED_OUTLINE` procedure from the `DBMS_SPM` package. When the migration is complete, you should disable or drop the original stored outline by using the `DROP_MIGRATED_STORED_OUTLINE` procedure of the `DBMS_SPM` package.

Evolving SQL Plan Baselines

```
variable report clob
exec :report:=DBMS_SPM.EVOLVE_SQL_PLAN_BASELINE(
sql_handle=>'SYS_SQL_593bc74fca8e6738');
Print report
```



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When the optimizer finds a new plan for a SQL statement, the plan is added to the plan history as a non-accepted plan. The plan will not be accepted into the SQL plan baseline until it is verified for performance, relative to the SQL plan baseline performance. Verification means ensuring that a non-accepted plan does not cause performance regression (either manually or automatically). The verification of a non-accepted plan consists of comparing its performance to the performance of one plan selected from the SQL plan baseline and ensuring that it delivers better performance. Plan evolution prevents performance regressions by verifying the performance of a new plan before including it in a SQL plan baseline.

There are two ways to evolve SQL plan baselines:

- **By using the DBMS_SPM.EVOLVE_SQL_PLAN_BASELINE function:** An example is shown in the slide. The function returns a report that tells you whether some of the existing history plans were moved to the plan baseline. The example specifies a specific plan in the history to be tested. The function also allows verification without accepting the plan.
- **By running the SQL Tuning Advisor:** SQL plan baselines can be evolved by manually or automatically tuning SQL statements with the SQL Tuning Advisor. When it finds a tuned plan and verifies its performance to be better than a plan chosen from the corresponding SQL plan baseline, it makes a recommendation to accept a SQL profile. When the SQL profile is accepted, the tuned plan is added to the corresponding SQL plan baseline.

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Adaptive SQL Plan Management

- The new evolve auto task runs in the nightly maintenance window.
- It ranks all non-accepted plans and runs the evolve process for them. Newly found plans are ranked the highest.
- Poor performing plans are not retried for 30 days, and then only if the statement is active.
- The new task is `SYS_AUTO_SPM_EVOLVE_TASK`.
- Information about the task is in `DBA_ADVISOR_TASKS`.
- Use `DBMS_SPM.REPORT_AUTO_EVOLVE_TASK` to view the results of the auto job.



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Starting in Oracle Database 12c, the database can use adaptive SPM. With adaptive SQL plan management, DBAs no longer have to manually run the verification or evolve process for non-accepted plans. They can go back days or weeks later and review the plans that were evolved during each of the nightly maintenance window. When automatic SQL tuning is in `COMPREHENSIVE` mode, it runs the verification or evolve process for all SQL statements that have non-accepted plans during the nightly maintenance window. All non-accepted plans are ranked and the evolve process is run for them. The newly found plans are ranked the highest.

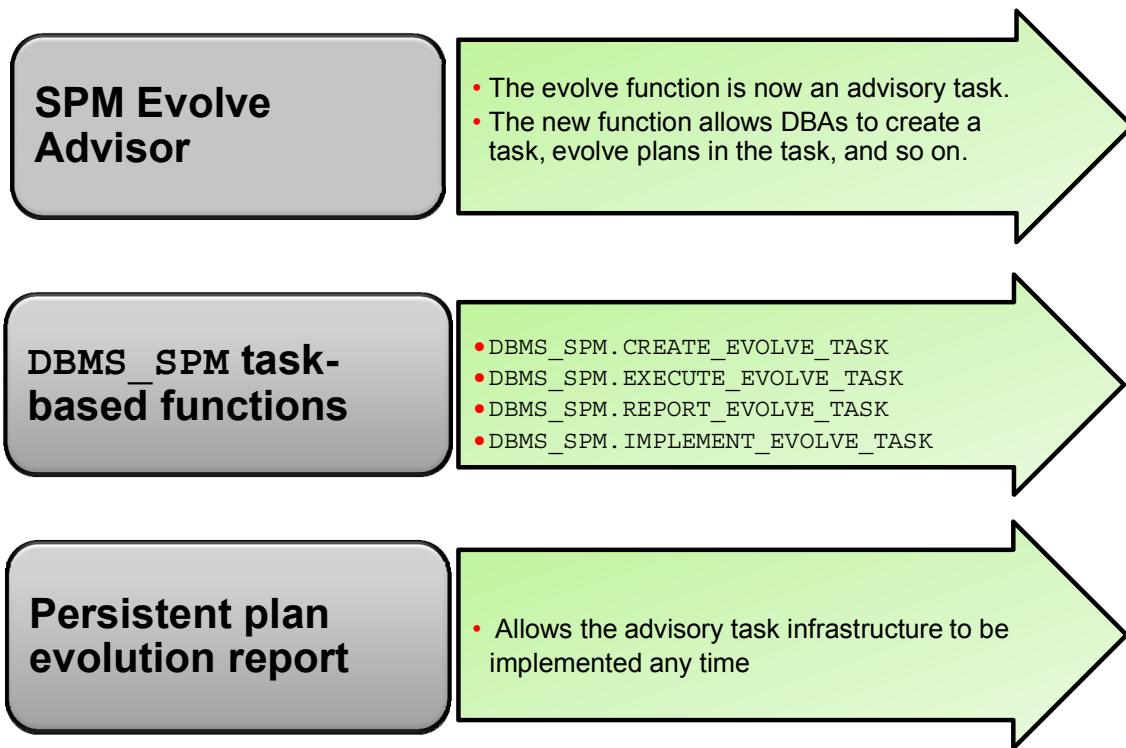
If the non-accepted plan performs better than the existing accepted plan (or plans) in the SQL plan baseline, the plan is automatically accepted and becomes usable by the optimizer.

After the verification is complete, a persistent report is generated detailing how the non-accepted plan performs compared to the accepted plan performance.

Because the evolve process is now an `AUTOTASK`, DBAs can also schedule their own evolve job at end time and use `DBMS_SPM.REPORT_AUTO_EVOLVE_TASK` to view the results of auto job.

Automatic Plan Evolution of SQL Plan Management is a feature of the Tuning Pack.

Managing the SPM Evolve Advisor Task



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SPM Evolve Advisor is a SQL advisor that evolves plans that have recently been added to the SQL plan baseline. The advisor simplifies plan evolution by eliminating the manual chore of evolution.

New functions introduced in the DBMS_SPM package work on the advisory task infrastructure. The new functions such as DBMS_SPM.CREATE_EVOLVE_TASK, DBMS_SPM.EXECUTE_EVOLVE_TASK, and so on allow database administrators (DBAs) to create a task, evolve one or more plans in the task, fetch the report of the task, and implement the results of the task. The task can be executed multiple times, and the report of a given task can be fetched multiple times. SPM can schedule an evolve task, as well as rerun an evolve task. There is also a function to implement the results of a task, which in this case would be to accept the currently non-accepted plans.

Using the task infrastructure allows the report of the evolution to be persistently stored in the advisory framework repository. It also allows Enterprise Manager to schedule SQL plan baselines evolution and fetch reports on demand. The new function supports HTML and XML reports in addition to TEXT. In Oracle Database 12c, the new task-based functions in DBMS_SPM retain the time_limit specification as a task parameter. It has the same default values as Oracle Database 11g. As for commit, the new evolve task does not accept any plans by default. Users can view the report by using the appropriate function, and then execute a new implement function to accept the successful plans.

The DBMS_SPM procedures and functions are used for managing plan evolution. Execute evolution tasks manually or schedule them to run automatically.

ACCEPT_SQL_PLAN_BASELINE: This function accepts one recommendation to evolve a single plan into a SQL plan baseline.

CREATE_EVOLVE_TASK: This function creates an advisor task to prepare the plan evolution of one or more plans for a specified SQL statement. The input parameters can be a SQL handle, plan name or a list of plan names, time limit, task name, and description.

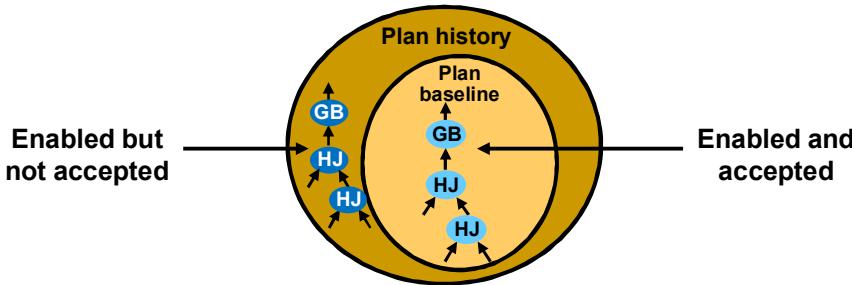
EXECUTE_EVOLVE_TASK: This function executes an evolution task. The input parameters can be the task name, execution name, and execution description. If not specified, the advisor generates the name, which is returned by the function.

IMPLEMENT_EVOLVE_TASK: This function implements all recommendations for an evolve task. Essentially, this function is equivalent to using ACCEPT_SQL_PLAN_BASELINE for all recommended plans. The input parameters include task name, plan name, owner name, and execution name.

REPORT_EVOLVE_TASK: This function displays the results of an evolve task as a CLOB. The input parameters include the task name and section of the report to include.

SET_EVOLVE_TASK_PARAMETER: This function updates the value of an evolve task parameter. In this release, the only valid parameter is TIME_LIMIT.

Important SQL Plan Baseline Attributes



```
select signature, sql_handle, sql_text, plan_name, origin, enabled,
       accepted, fixed, autopurge
  from dba_sql_plan_baselines;
```

SIGNATURE	SQL_HANDLE	SQL_TEXT	PLAN_NAME	ORIGIN	ENA	ACC	FIX	AUT
8.062E+18	SYS_SQL_6fe2	select..	SQL_PLAN_6zsn...	AUTO-CAPTURE	YES	NO	NO	YES
8.062E+18	SYS_SQL_e23f	select..	SQL_PLAN_f4gy...	AUTO-CAPTURE	YES	YES	NO	YES
...								

```
exec :cnt := dbms_spm.alter_sql_plan_baseline(
      sql_handle => 'SYS_SQL_6fe28d438dfc352f', -
      plan_name      => 'SQL_PLAN_6zsnd8f6zsd9g54bc8843', -
      attribute_name  => 'ENABLED', attribute_value => 'NO');
```

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When a plan enters the plan history, it is associated with a number of important attributes:

- **SIGNATURE**, **SQL_HANDLE**, **SQL_TEXT**, and **PLAN_NAME** are important identifiers for search operations.
- **ORIGIN** allows you to determine whether the plan was automatically captured (AUTO-CAPTURE), manually evolved (MANUAL-LOAD), automatically evolved by SQL Tuning Advisor (MANUAL-SQLTUNE), or automatically evolved by Automatic SQL Tuning (AUTO-SQLTUNE).
- The **ENABLED** and **ACCEPTED** attributes must be set to YES or else the plan is not considered by the optimizer. The **ENABLED** attribute means that the plan is enabled for use by the optimizer. The **ACCEPTED** attribute means that the plan was validated as a good plan, either automatically by the system or manually when the user changes it to ACCEPTED. When a plan status changes to ACCEPTED, it will continue to be ACCEPTED until DBMS_SPM.ALTER_SQL_PLAN_BASELINE() is used to change its status. An ACCEPTED plan can be temporarily disabled by removing the ENABLED setting.

- **FIXED** means that the optimizer considers only those plans and not other plans. For example, if you have 10 baseline plans and three are marked **FIXED**, the optimizer uses the best plan only from these three, ignoring all the others. A SQL plan baseline is said to be **FIXED** if it contains at least one enabled fixed plan. If new plans are added to a fixed SQL plan baseline, they cannot be used until they are manually declared as **FIXED**. You can look at each plan's attributes by using the `DBA_SQL_PLAN_BASELINES` view, as shown in the slide. You can then use the `DBMS_SPM.ALTER_SQL_PLAN_BASELINE` function to change some of them. You can also remove plans or a complete plan history by using the `DBMS_SPM.DROP_SQL_PLAN_BASELINE` function. The example shown in the slide changes the `ENABLED` attribute of `SQL_PLAN_6zsd8f6zsd9g54bc8843` to `NO`.

Note: The `DBA_SQL_PLAN_BASELINES` view contains additional attributes that enable you to determine when each plan was last used and whether a plan should be automatically purged.

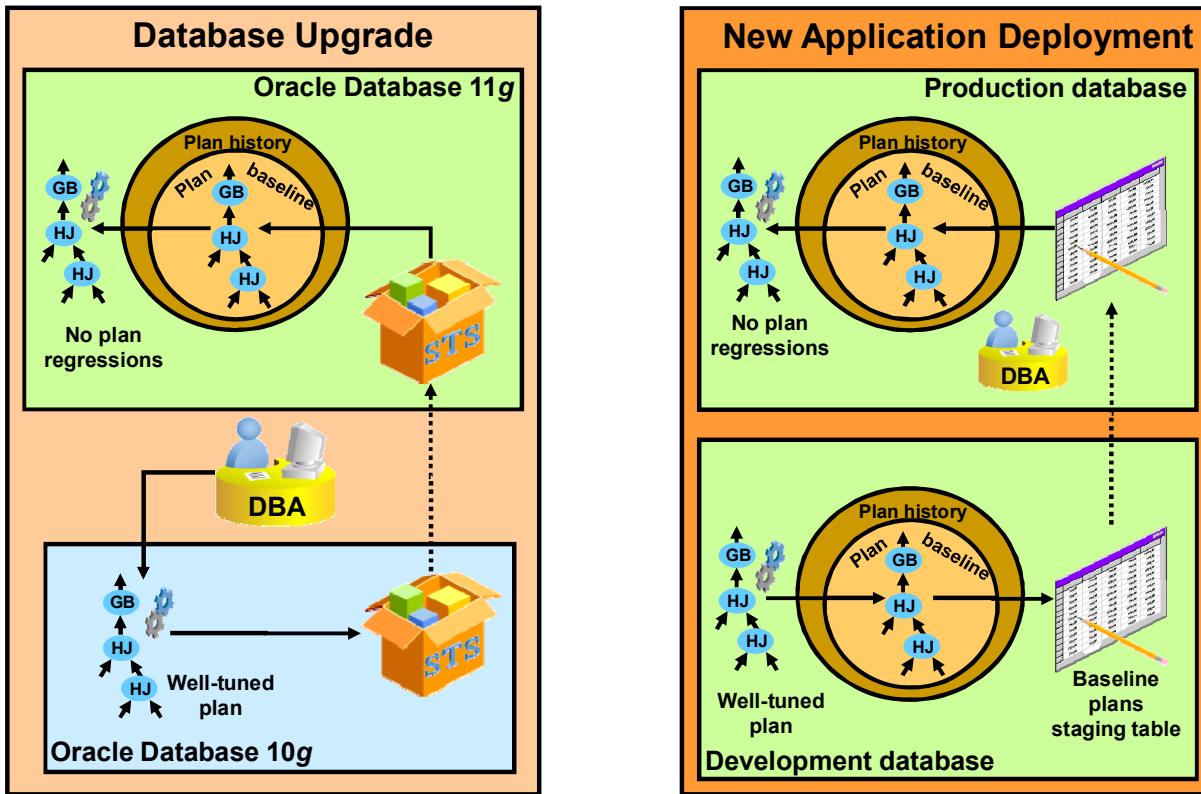
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Possible SQL Plan Manageability Scenarios



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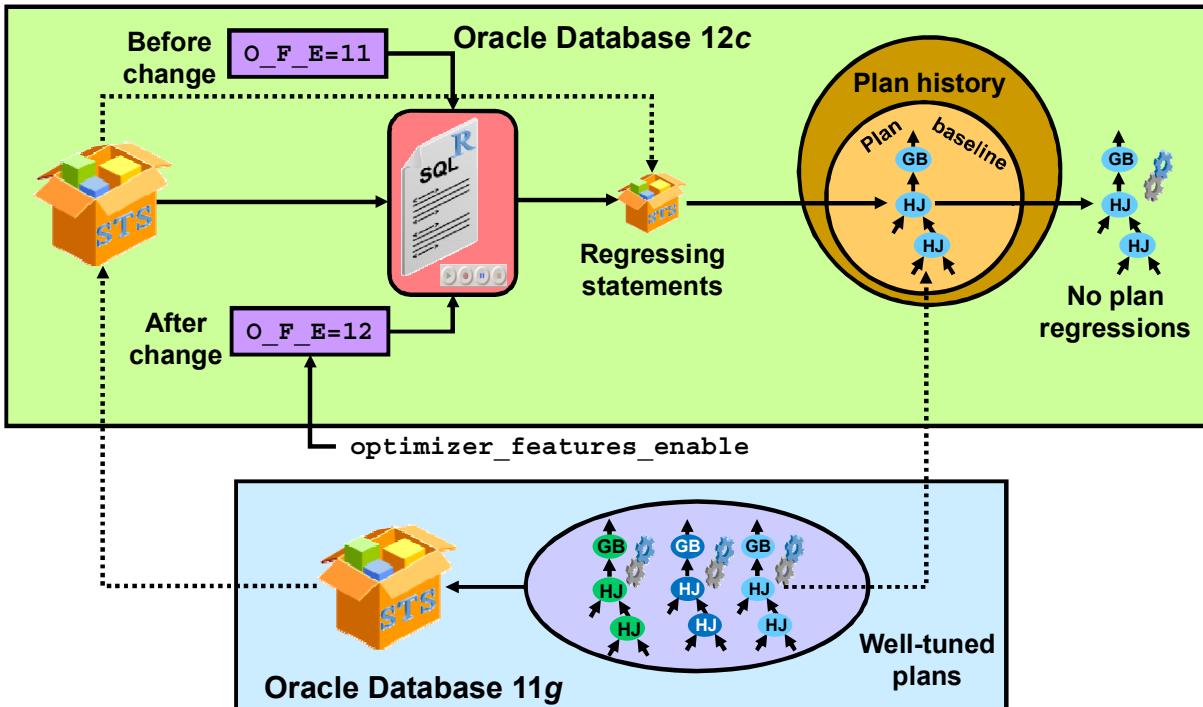
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- **Database upgrade:** Bulk SQL plan loading is especially useful when the system is being upgraded from an earlier version to Oracle Database 11g. For this, you can capture plans for a SQL workload into an SQL tuning set (STS) before the upgrade, and then load these plans from the STS into the SQL plan baseline immediately after the upgrade. This strategy can minimize plan regressions resulting from the use of the new optimizer version.
- **New application deployment:** The deployment of a new application module means the introduction of new SQL statements into the system. The software vendor can ship the application software along with the appropriate SQL plan baselines for the new SQL that is being introduced. Because of the plan baselines, the new SQL statements will initially run with the plans that are known to give good performance under a standard test configuration. However, if the customer system configuration is very different from the test configuration, the plan baselines can be evolved over time to produce better performance.

In both scenarios, you can use automatic SQL plan capture after manual loading to make sure that only better plans are used for your applications in the future.

Note: In all scenarios in this lesson, assume that `OPTIMIZER_USE_SQL_PLAN_BASELINES` is set to `TRUE`.

SQL Performance Analyzer and SQL Plan Baseline Scenario



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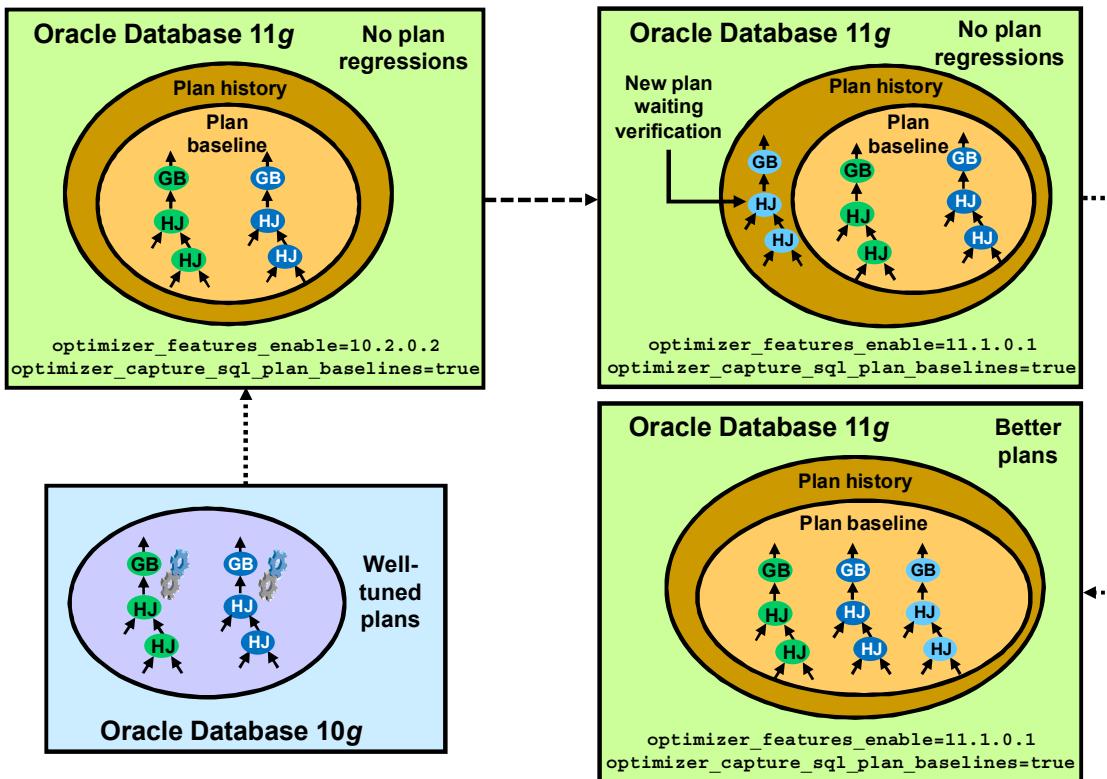
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A variation of the first method described in the previous slide is through the use of SQL Performance Analyzer. You can capture pre-Oracle Database 12c plans in an STS and import them into Oracle Database 12c. Then set the `optimizer_features_enable` (`O_F_E`) initialization parameter to 11.2.0 to make the optimizer behave as if this were Oracle Database 11g. Next run SQL Performance Analyzer for the STS. When that is complete, set the `optimizer_features_enable` initialization parameter back to 12.1.0 and rerun SQL Performance Analyzer for the STS.

SQL Performance Analyzer produces a report that lists a SQL statement whose plan has regressed from 11g to 12c. For those SQL statements that are shown by SQL Performance Analyzer to incur performance regression due to the new optimizer version, you can capture their plans by using an STS, and then load them into the SMB.

This method represents the best form of the plan-seeding process because it helps prevent performance regressions while preserving performance improvements upon database upgrade.

Loading a SQL Plan Baseline Automatically



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Another upgrade scenario involves using the automatic SQL plan capture mechanism. In this case, set the initialization parameter `optimizer_features_enable` (O_F_E) to the pre-Oracle Database 12c version value for an initial period of time, such as a quarter, and execute your workload after upgrade by using the automatic SQL plan capture.

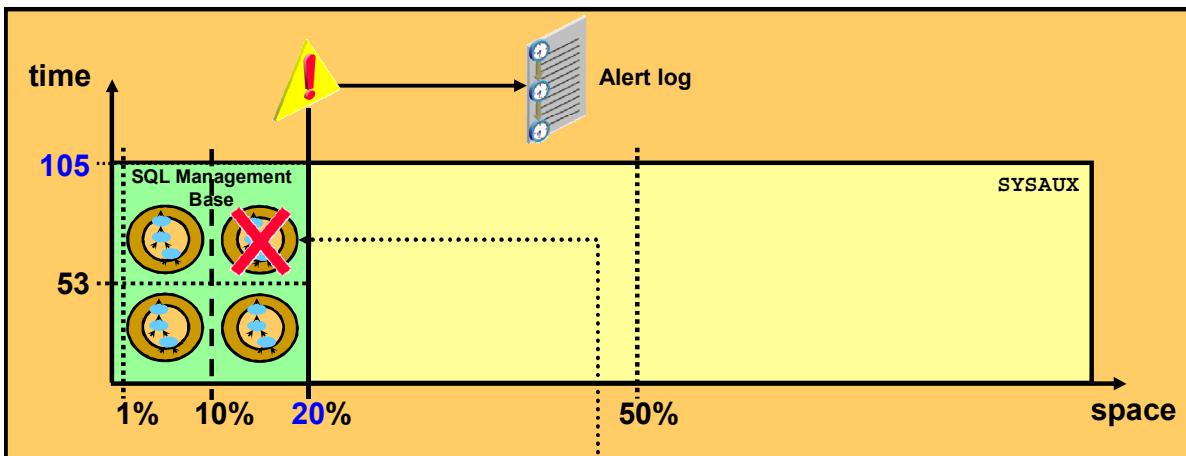
During this initial time period, because of the O_F_E parameter setting, the optimizer is able to reproduce pre-Oracle Database 12c plans for a majority of the SQL statements. Because automatic SQL plan capture is also enabled during this period, the pre-Oracle Database 12c plans produced by the optimizer are captured as SQL plan baselines.

When the initial time period ends, you can remove the setting of O_F_E to take advantage of the new optimizer version while incurring minimal or no plan regressions due to the plan baselines. Regressed plans will use the previous optimizer version; non-regressed statements will benefit from the new optimizer version.

Purging SQL Management Base Policy

```
SQL> exec dbms_spm.configure('SPACE_BUDGET_PERCENT', 20);
SQL> exec dbms_spm.configure('PLAN_RETENTION_WEEKS', 105);
```

DBA_SQL_MANAGEMENT_CONFIG



```
SQL> exec :cnt := dbms_spm.drop_sql_plan_baseline('SYS_SQL_37e0168b04e73efe');
```

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The space occupied by the SMB is checked weekly against a defined limit. A limit based on the percentage size of the SYSAUX tablespace is defined. By default, the space budget limit for the SMB is set to 10 percent of the SYSAUX size. However, you can configure SMB and change the space budget to a value between 1 percent and 50 percent by using the DBMS_SPM.CONFIGURE procedure.

If SMB space exceeds the defined percentage limit, warnings are written to the alert log. Warnings are generated weekly until the SMB space limit is increased, the size of SYSAUX is increased, or the size of SMB is decreased by purging some of the SQL management objects (such as SQL plan baselines or SQL profiles).

Space management of SQL plan baselines is done proactively with a weekly purging task. The task runs as an automated task in the maintenance window. Any plan that has not been used for more than 53 weeks is purged. However, you can configure SMB and change the unused plan retention period to a value between 5 weeks and 523 weeks (a little more than 10 years). To do so, use the DBMS_SPM.CONFIGURE procedure.

You can look at the current configuration settings for the SMB by examining the DBA_SQL_MANAGEMENT_CONFIG view. In addition, you can manually purge the SMB by using the DBMS_SPM.DROP_SQL_PLAN_BASELINE function (as shown in the example in the slide).

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Enterprise Manager and SQL Plan Baselines

The screenshot shows the Oracle Enterprise Manager interface. In the top-left corner, there's a sidebar titled "Query Optimizer" with options: "Manage Optimizer Statistics", "SQL Plan Control", and "SQL Tuning Sets". A red arrow points from this sidebar to the main content area. The main content area has a header "Plan Control" with tabs: "SQL Profile", "SQL Patch", and "SQL Plan Baseline". Below the tabs, a message says: "A SQL Plan Baseline is an execution plan deemed to have acceptable performance for a given SQL statement." To the right of this message is a "Refresh" button. On the left, under "Settings", there are checkboxes for "Capture SQL Plan Baselines" (set to FALSE) and "Use SQL Plan Baselines" (set to TRUE). There's also a "Plan Retention(Weeks)" input field set to 53 with a "Configure" button. To the right, there's a "Jobs for SQL Plan Baselines" section with "Pending" and "Completed" status boxes. The "Completed" box shows a job ID: SPM_1267706070256. Below these sections is a "Search" area with a "SQL Text" input field and a "Go" button. Underneath is a toolbar with buttons: "Enable", "Disable", "Drop", "Evolve", "Pack", "Fixed - Yes", and "Load/Unpack". At the bottom of the search area are "Select All" and "Select None" buttons. The main table lists three SQL plans:

Select	Name	SQL Text	Enabled	Accepted	Fixed	Auto Purge	Created	Last Modified
<input type="checkbox"/>	SQL_PLAN_f9dd73yf70913762178	SELECT /* ORDERED INDEX(t1) USE_HASH(t1) */ ...	YES	YES	NO	YES	Mar 4, 2010 12:34:35 PM	Mar 4, 2010 12:34:35 PM
<input type="checkbox"/>	SQL_PLAN_dqqqj06jhb04e9eb5b65	SELECT 'B' t1.ch_featurevalue_09_id ch_fea...	YES	YES	NO	YES	Mar 4, 2010 12:34:35 PM	Mar 4, 2010 12:34:35 PM
<input type="checkbox"/>	SQL_PLAN_1fp9bfzfauff13762178	SELECT /* ORDERED INDEX(t1) USE_HASH(t1) */ ...	YES	YES	NO	YES	Mar 4, 2010 12:34:35 PM	Mar 4, 2010 12:34:35 PM

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Use the SQL Plan Management page to manage SQL profiles, SQL patches, and SQL plan baselines from one location rather than from separate locations in Enterprise Manager. You can also enable, disable, drop, pack, unpack, load, and evolve selected baselines.

From this page, you can also configure the various SQL plan baseline settings.

To navigate to this page, click the Server tab, and then click the SQL Plan Control entry in the Query Optimizer section.

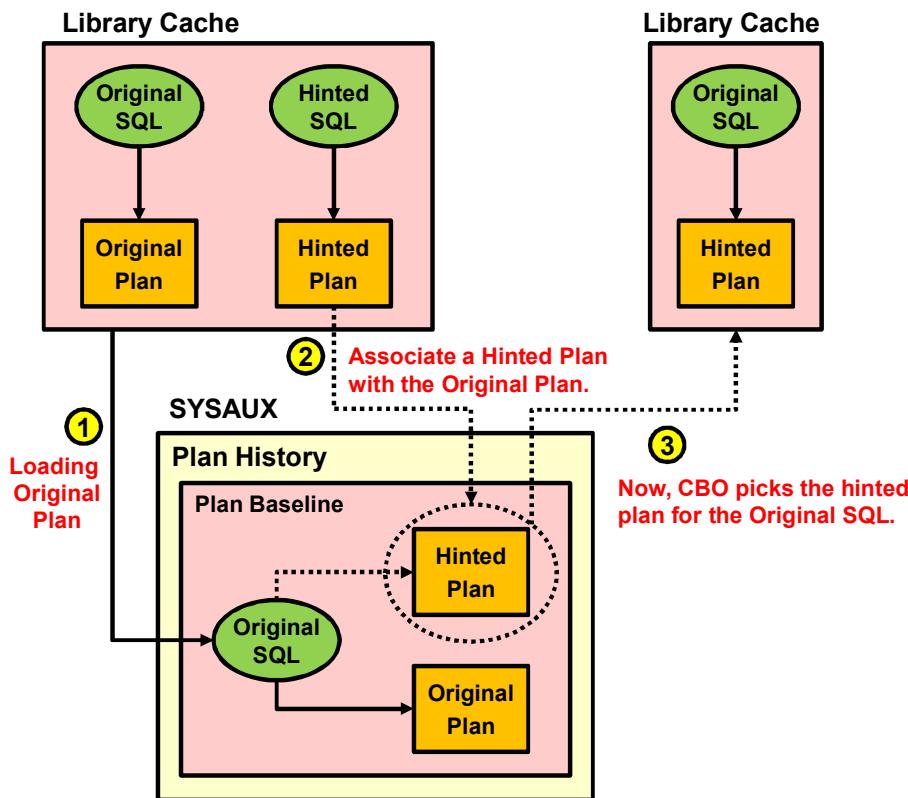
Lesson Agenda

- Maintaining SQL Performance
- SQL Plan Management: Overview
- Basic Tasks in SQL Plan Management
- Adaptive SQL Plan Management
- Possible SQL Plan Manageability Scenarios
- Enterprise Manager and SQL Plan Baselines
- Loading Hinted Plans into SPM: Example



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Loading Hinted Plans into SPM: Example



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You can create SQL plan baselines for SQL statements:

- Coming from an application where the SQL statement cannot be modified
- That need hints to run a good execution plan

To load hinted plans into SPM, perform the following:

1. Capture the SQL plan baseline for the original SQL, which is the problem SQL identified.

```
var res number ;
exec :res := dbms_spm.load_plans_from_cursor_cache(sql_id =>
  '&original_sql_id',    plan_hash_value =>
  '&original_plan_hash_value' );
```

2. Add hints into the problem SQL and execute the hinted SQL.

3. Find the `SQL_ID` and `plan_hash_value` for the hinted SQL.

```
select * from table(dbms_xplan.display_cursor);
```

4. Verify that the original SQL baseline exists.

```
select sql_text, sql_handle, plan_name, enabled, accepted from
dba_sql_plan_baselines;
```

5. Associate the hinted execution plan with the original sql_handle.

```
var res number  
exec :res := dbms_spm.load_plans_from_cursor_cache( -  
sql_id => '&hinted_SQL_ID', -  
plan_hash_value => &hinted_plan_hash_value, -  
sql_handle => '&sql_handle_for_original');
```

6. Verify that the new baseline was added.

```
select sql_text, sql_handle, plan_name, enabled, accepted from  
dba_sql_plan_baselines;
```

7. If the original plan capture is not needed initially, drop or disable it.

```
exec :res :=DBMS_SPM.DROP_SQL_PLAN_BASELINE  
( '&original_sql_handle', '&original_plan_name' );
```

8. Re-execute the original SQL to verify that the SQL statement is now using the SQL plan baseline.

```
select SQL_PLAN_BASELINE from V$SQL where  
SQL_ID='&original_SQL_ID'
```

Note: See MOS note 215187.1 for a SQLTXPLAIN script

(./utl/coe_load_sql_baseline.sql) that automates the steps. Review the script before running it.

Quiz

When the OPTIMIZER_USE_SQL_PLAN_BASELINES parameter is set to TRUE, the optimizer:

- a. Does not develop an execution plan; it uses an accepted plan in the baselines
- b. Compares the plan that it develops with accepted plans in the baselines
- c. Compares the plan that it develops with enabled plans in the baselines
- d. Does not develop an execution plan; it uses enabled plans in the baselines
- e. Develops plans and adds them to the baselines as verified



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Answer: b

The optimizer always develops an execution plan, and then compares the plan with accepted plans in the SQL baseline. If an accepted baseline exists, the baseline is used. If the plan developed by the optimizer is different, it is stored in the plan history, but it is not part of the baseline until it is verified and marked as accepted.

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Manage SQL performance through changes
- Set up SQL Plan Management
- Set up various SQL Plan Management scenarios
- Load hinted plans into SQL Plan Management



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Practice 13: Overview

This practice covers the use of SQL Plan Management.



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Workshops

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Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to do the following:

- Identify some common problems in writing SQL statements
- Determine the common causes and observations
- Describe the different tuning approaches
- Describe the behavior of the optimizer
- Describe the effects of functions on index usage
- Tune sort operations for the ORDER BY clause
- Tune high parse time using a parse time reduction strategy
- Maintain stable execution plans over time



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Overview

- This lesson is made up of nine workshops based on the SQL tuning techniques covered in the previous lessons.
- All workshops are based on problem solving.
- You must find ways to enhance performance through several tasks in each workshop.
- You also review concepts learned in each workshop through quizzes.
- Finally, by resolving the problems, you reinforce your learning.



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Workshop 1

Introduction:

- In this workshop, you must find a workaround to enhance performance.
- You analyze a poorly written SQL statement and perform additional tasks such as creating a function-based index, redesigning a simple table, and rewriting the SQL statement.



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Workshop 2

Introduction:

- This workshop is about reviewing the *execution steps of a SQL statement* section.
- You review the SQL statement that uses a bind variable in the indexed column.
- You analyze two execution plans of the SQL statement using the EXPLAIN PLAN command and V\$ view.
- You should be able to describe why the two execution plans are different for the same SQL statement.



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Workshop 3

Introduction:

- This workshop shows the possible use of an index in the ORDER BY clause to tune a sort operation.
- You perform several tasks to be able to use the indexed ORDER BY column.
- After all the tasks are complete, you verify if the index always produces a better plan cost.



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Workshop 4

Introduction:

- In this workshop, you assume that you have identified a poorly running SQL statement.
- You already noticed that the root cause of the issue is the table design. However, re-creating the table is not an option at this point. The table is already in use.
- Try to tune the SQL statement by rewriting it.



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Workshop 5

Introduction:

- In this workshop, you write several SQL statements that return the same output to see which SQL statement is more efficient.
- You also examine the effects of changing column order in a composite index.



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Workshop 6 & 7(Optional)

Introduction:

- In these workshops, you review the execution plan and several sections in an event 10053 trace file.
- You interpret the information to understand the optimizer's decision.
- There are several questions on cost model, selectivity, and cardinality. You answer these questions.
- Finally, you learn how to use the information in the 10053 file to tune the SQL statement.



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Workshop 8

Introduction:

- You have identified a slow-running SQL statement. It was run 534 times in a certain time period. You noticed that a different literal was used in each execution. This caused the system to parse the same statement 534 times with a high parse time, which is not efficient.
- You perform several tasks to tune the high parse time.
- What tuning strategy could be used?



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Workshop 9

Introduction:

- Oracle has introduced several methods to maintain the stable execution plans of SQL statements such as hints, stored outlines, and SQL profile. In Oracle 11g, you can use a better way to manage the execution plan, called the SQL Plan Baseline. This feature allows the optimizer to make the right decision in choosing a verified or tested execution plan in SQL Plan Baseline even if the optimizer generates a new plan during hard parse.
- In this workshop, you learn how to use this feature to associate a hinted execution plan with a hard-coded SQL statement.



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Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Identify some common problems in writing SQL statements
- Determine the common causes and observations
- Describe the different tuning approaches
- Describe the behavior of the optimizer
- Describe the effects of functions on index usage
- Tune sort operations for the ORDER BY clause
- Tune high parse time using a parse time reduction strategy
- Maintain stable execution plans over time



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Using SQL Developer

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Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:

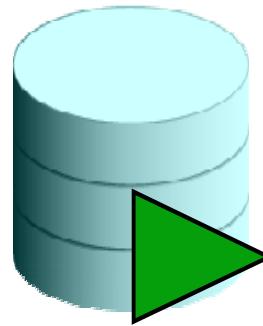
- List the key features of Oracle SQL Developer
- Identify the menu items of Oracle SQL Developer
- Create a database connection
- Manage database objects
- Use SQL Worksheet
- Save and run SQL scripts
- Create and save reports
- Browse the data modeling options in SQL Developer



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What Is Oracle SQL Developer?

- Oracle SQL Developer is a graphical tool that enhances productivity and simplifies database development tasks.
- You can connect to any target Oracle database schema by using standard Oracle database authentication.



SQL Developer

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Oracle SQL Developer is a free graphical tool designed to improve your productivity and simplify the development of everyday database tasks. With just a few clicks, you can easily create and debug stored procedures, test SQL statements, and view optimizer plans.

SQL Developer, which is the visual tool for database development, simplifies the following tasks:

- Browsing and managing database objects
- Executing SQL statements and scripts
- Editing and debugging PL/SQL statements
- Creating reports

You can connect to any target Oracle database schema by using standard Oracle database authentication. When connected, you can perform operations on objects in the database.

SQL Developer is the interface to administer the Oracle Application Express Listener. The new interface enables you to specify global settings and multiple database settings with different database connections for the Application Express Listener. SQL Developer provides the option to drag objects by table or column name onto the worksheet. It provides improved DB Diff comparison options, GRANT statement support in the SQL editor, and DB Doc reporting. Additionally, SQL Developer includes support for Oracle Database 12c features.

SQL Developer: Specifications

- Is shipped along with Oracle Database 12c Release 1
- Is developed in Java
- Supports Windows, Linux, and Mac OS X platforms
- Enables default connectivity by using the JDBC Thin driver
- Connects to Oracle Database version 9.2.0.1 and later



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Oracle SQL Developer is shipped along with Oracle Database 12c Release 1 by default. SQL Developer is developed in Java, leveraging the Oracle JDeveloper integrated development environment (IDE). Therefore, it is a cross-platform tool. The tool runs on Windows, Linux, and Mac operating system (OS) X platforms.

The default connectivity to the database is through the Java Database Connectivity (JDBC) Thin driver, and therefore, no Oracle Home is required. SQL Developer does not require an installer and you need to simply unzip the downloaded file. With SQL Developer, users can connect to Oracle Databases 9.2.0.1 and later, and all Oracle database editions, including Express Edition.

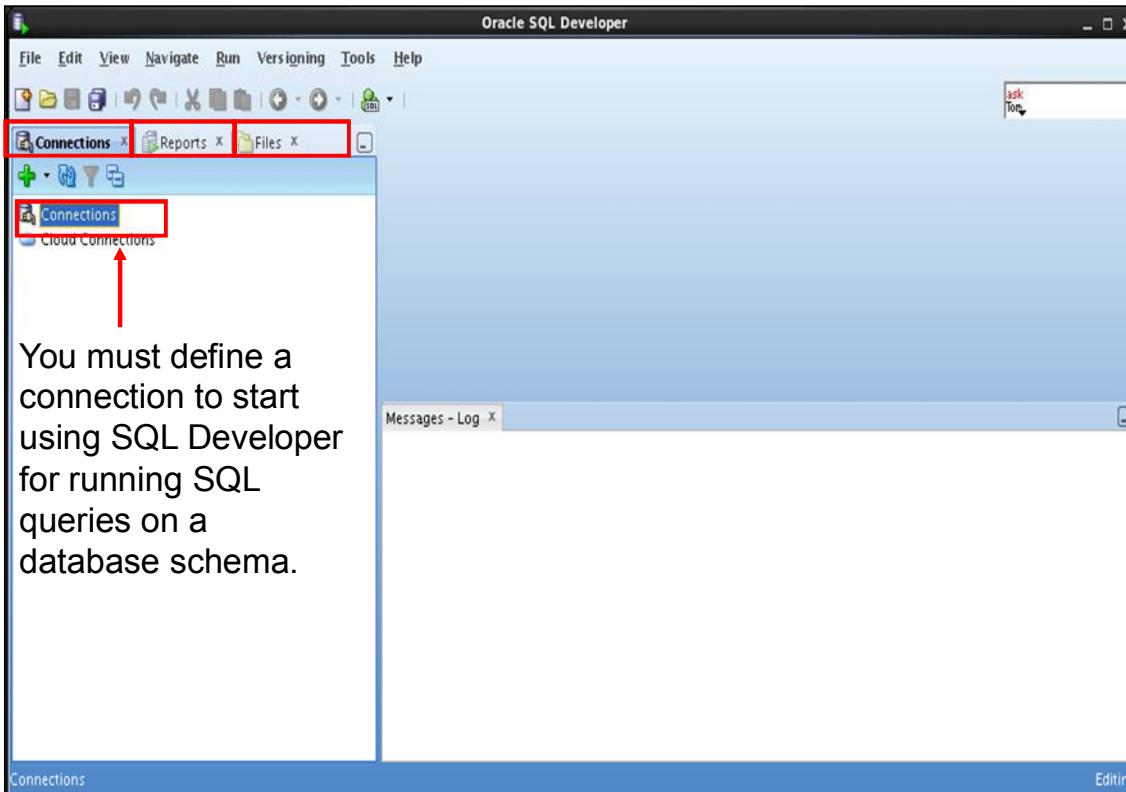
Note: For Oracle Database 12c Release 1, you have to download and install SQL Developer. SQL Developer is freely downloadable from the following link:

<http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/developer-tools/sql-developer/downloads/index.html>

For instructions on how to install SQL Developer, see the following website:

<http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/developer-tools/sql-developer/overview/index.html>

SQL Developer 3.2 Interface



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The SQL Developer interface contains three main navigation tabs, from left to right:

- **Connections tab:** By using this tab, you can browse database objects and users to which you have access.
- **Reports tab:** Identified by the Reports icon, this tab enables you to run predefined reports or create and add your own reports.
- **Files tab:** Identified by the Files folder icon, this tab enables you to access files from your local machine without having to use the File > Open menu.

General Navigation and Use

SQL Developer uses the left side for navigation to find and select objects, and the right side to display information about selected objects. You can customize many aspects of the appearance and behavior of SQL Developer by setting preferences.

Note: You need to define at least one connection to be able to connect to a database schema and issue SQL queries or run procedures and functions.

Menus

The following menus contain standard entries, plus entries for features that are specific to SQL Developer:

- **View:** Contains options that affect what is displayed in the SQL Developer interface
- **Navigate:** Contains options for navigating to panes and for executing subprograms
- **Run:** Contains the Run File and Execution Profile options that are relevant when a function or procedure is selected, and also debugging options
- **Versioning:** Provides integrated support for the following versioning and source control systems: Concurrent Versions System (CVS) and Subversion
- **Tools:** Invokes SQL Developer tools such as SQL*Plus, Preferences, and SQL Worksheet. It also contains options related to migrating third-party databases to Oracle.

Note: The Run menu also contains options that are relevant when a function or procedure is selected for debugging.

Creating a Database Connection

- You must have at least one database connection to use SQL Developer.
- You can create and test connections for:
 - Multiple databases
 - Multiple schemas
- SQL Developer automatically imports any connections defined in the `tnsnames.ora` file on your system.
- You can export connections to an Extensible Markup Language (XML) file.
- Each additional database connection created is listed in the Connections Navigator hierarchy.



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A connection is a SQL Developer object that specifies the necessary information for connecting to a specific database as a specific user of that database. To use SQL Developer, you must have at least one database connection, which may be existing, created, or imported.

You can create and test connections for multiple databases and for multiple schemas.

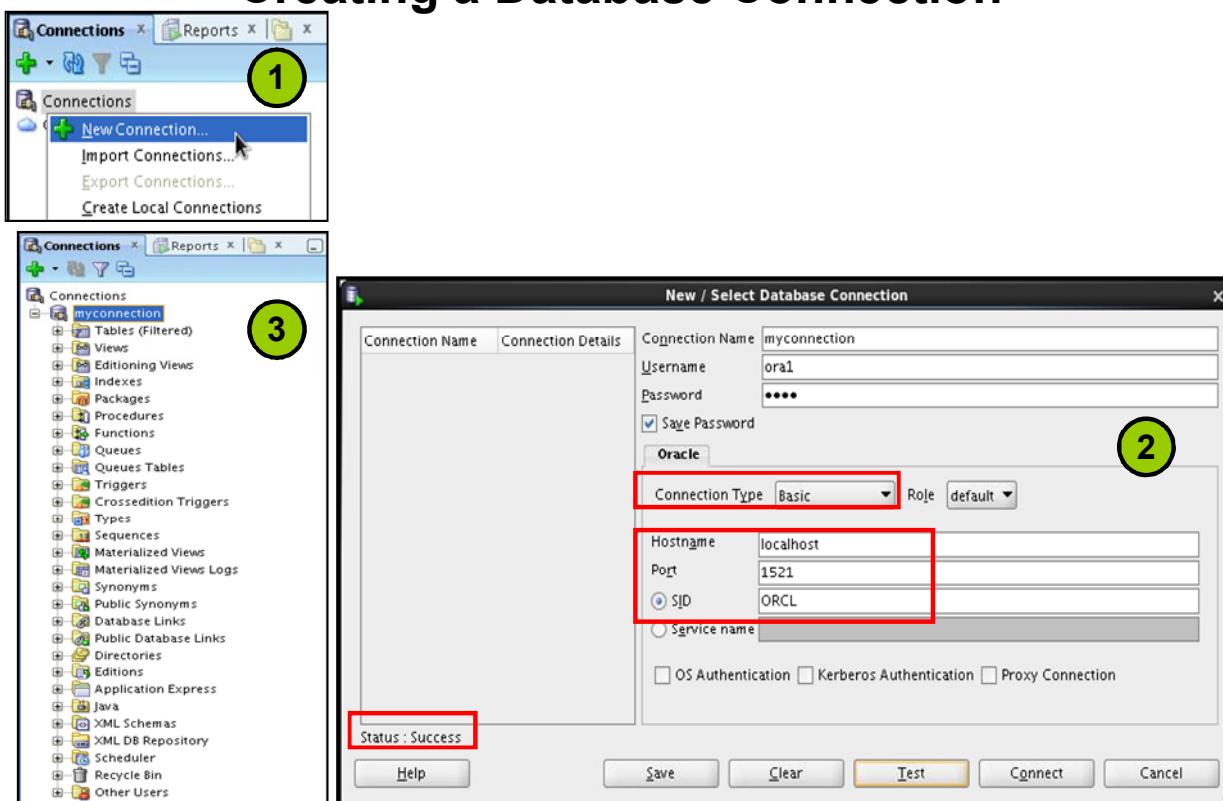
By default, the `tnsnames.ora` file is located in the `$ORACLE_HOME/network/admin` directory, but it can also be in the directory specified by the `TNS_ADMIN` environment variable or registry value. When you start SQL Developer and open the Database Connections dialog box, SQL Developer automatically imports any connections defined in the `tnsnames.ora` file on your system.

Note: With Windows, if the `tnsnames.ora` file exists, but its connections are not being used by SQL Developer, define `TNS_ADMIN` as a system environment variable.

You can export connections to an XML file so that you can reuse it.

You can create additional connections as different users to the same database or to connect to the different databases.

Creating a Database Connection



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To create a database connection, perform the following steps:

1. On the Connections tabbed page, right-click Connections and select New Connection.
2. In the New/Select Database Connection window, enter the connection name. Enter the username and password of the schema that you want to connect to.
 - a. From the Role drop-down list, you can select either *default* or *SYSDBA*. (You choose *SYSDBA* for the *sys* user or any user with database administrator privileges.)
 - b. You can select the connection type as:
 - **Basic:** In this type, enter host name and SID for the database that you want to connect to. Port is already set to 1521. You can also choose to enter the Service name directly if you use a remote database connection.
 - **TNS:** You can select any one of the database aliases imported from the *tnsnames.ora* file.
 - **LDAP:** You can look up database services in Oracle Internet Directory, which is a component of Oracle Identity Management.
 - **Advanced:** You can define a custom Java Database Connectivity (JDBC) URL to connect to the database.
 - **Local/Bequeath:** If the client and database exist on the same computer, a client connection can be passed directly to a dedicated server process without going through the listener.

- c. Click Test to ensure that the connection has been set correctly.
- d. Click Connect.

If you select the Save Password check box, the password is saved to an XML file. So, after you close the SQL Developer connection and open it again, you are not prompted for the password.

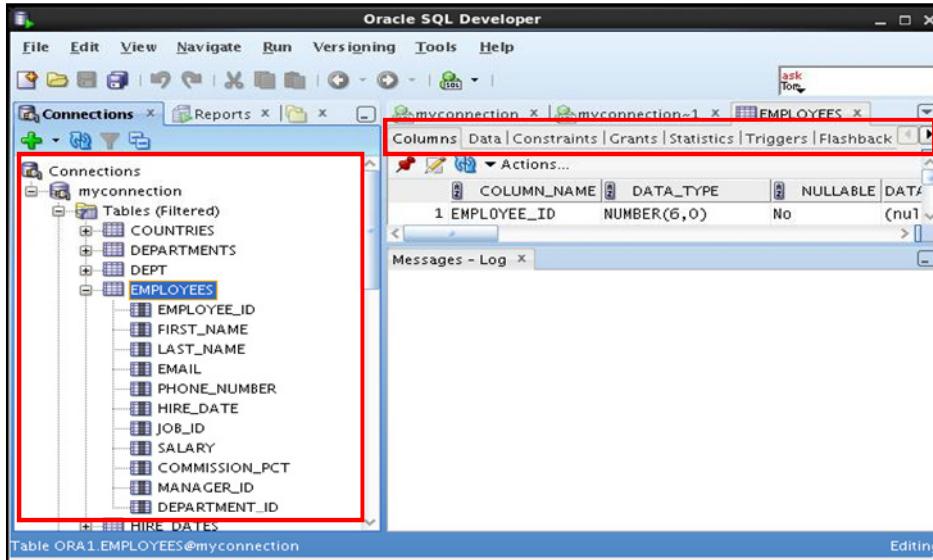
3. The connection gets added in the Connections Navigator. You can expand the connection to view the database objects and view object definitions (dependencies, details, statistics, and so on).

Note: From the same New>Select Database Connection window, you can define connections to non-Oracle data sources by using the Access, MySQL, and SQL Server tabs. However, these connections are read-only connections that enable you to browse objects and data in that data source.

Browsing Database Objects

Use the Connections Navigator to:

- Browse through many objects in a database schema
- Review the definitions of objects at a glance



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After you create a database connection, you can use the Connections Navigator to browse through many objects in a database schema, including tables, views, indexes, packages, procedures, triggers, and types.

SQL Developer uses the left side for navigation to find and select objects, and the right side to display information about the selected objects. You can customize many aspects of the appearance of SQL Developer by setting preferences.

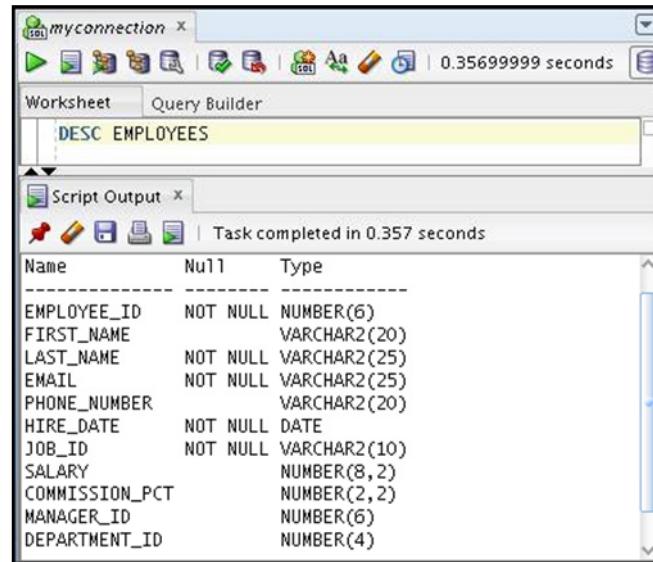
You can see the definitions of the objects broken into tabs of information that is pulled out of the data dictionary. For example, if you select a table in the Navigator, details about columns, constraints, grants, statistics, triggers, and so on are displayed on an easy-to-read tabbed page.

If you want to see the definition of the EMPLOYEES table as shown in the slide, perform the following:

1. Expand the Connections node in the Connections Navigator.
2. Expand Tables.
3. Click EMPLOYEES. By default, the Columns tab is selected. It shows the column description of the table. Using the Data tab, you can view the table data and also enter new rows, update data, and commit these changes to the database.

Displaying the Table Structure

Use the DESCRIBE command to display the structure of a table:



The screenshot shows the Oracle SQL Developer interface. In the top-left corner, there's a connection named "myconnection". Below it, the "Worksheet" tab is active, showing the command "DESC EMPLOYEES" in the text area. To the right of the worksheet is a "Script Output" tab which displays the results of the query. The results are presented as a table with three columns: Name, Null, and Type. The data shows the structure of the EMPLOYEES table, including columns like EMPLOYEE_ID, FIRST_NAME, LAST_NAME, EMAIL, PHONE_NUMBER, HIRE_DATE, JOB_ID, SALARY, COMMISSION_PCT, MANAGER_ID, and DEPARTMENT_ID, along with their respective data types (NUMBER or VARCHAR2).

Name	Null	Type
EMPLOYEE_ID	NOT NULL	NUMBER(6)
FIRST_NAME		VARCHAR2(20)
LAST_NAME	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(25)
EMAIL	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(25)
PHONE_NUMBER		VARCHAR2(20)
HIRE_DATE	NOT NULL	DATE
JOB_ID	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(10)
SALARY		NUMBER(8,2)
COMMISSION_PCT		NUMBER(2,2)
MANAGER_ID		NUMBER(6)
DEPARTMENT_ID		NUMBER(4)

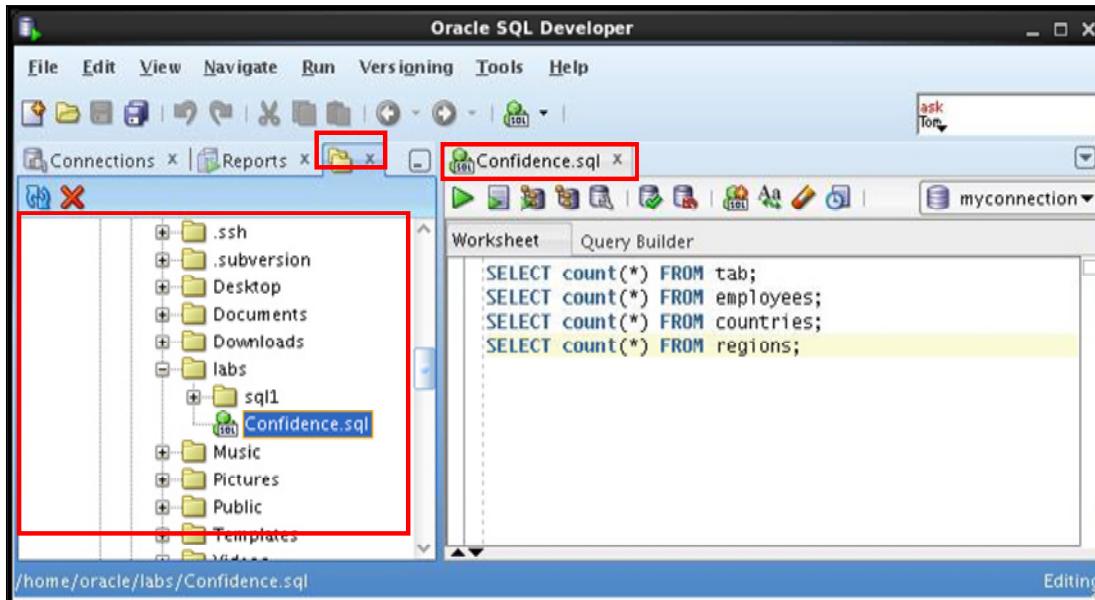
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In SQL Developer, you can also display the structure of a table by using the DESCRIBE command. The result of the command is a display of column names and data types, as well as an indication of whether a column must contain data.

Browsing Files

Use the File Navigator to explore the file system and to open system files.



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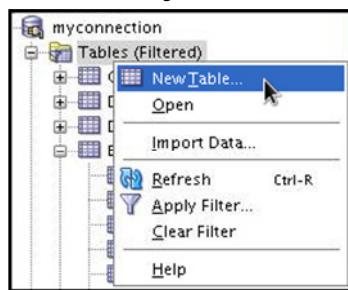
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You can use the File Navigator to browse and open system files.

- To view the File Navigator, click the View tab and select Files, or select View > Files.
- To view the contents of a file, double-click a file name to display its contents in the SQL Worksheet area.

Creating a Schema Object

- SQL Developer supports the creation of any schema object by:
 - Executing a SQL statement in SQL Worksheet
 - Using the context menu
- Edit the objects by using an edit dialog box or one of the many context-sensitive menus.
- View the data definition language (DDL) for adjustments such as creating a new object or editing an existing schema object.



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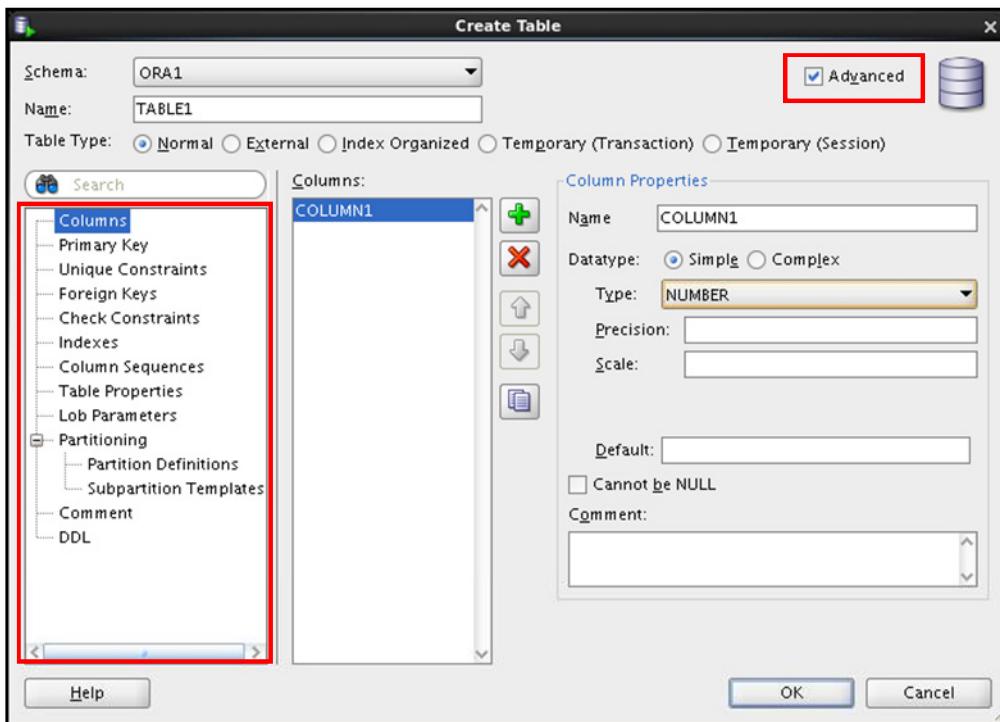
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SQL Developer supports the creation of any schema object by executing a SQL statement in SQL Worksheet. Alternatively, you can create objects by using the context menus. When created, you can edit objects by using an edit dialog box or one of the many context-sensitive menus.

As new objects are created or existing objects are edited, the DDL for those adjustments is available for review. An Export DDL option is available if you want to create the full DDL for one or more objects in the schema.

The slide shows how to create a table by using the context menu. To open a dialog box for creating a new table, right-click Tables and select New Table. The dialog boxes to create and edit database objects have multiple tabs, each reflecting a logical grouping of properties for that type of object.

Creating a New Table: Example



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In the Create Table dialog box, if you do not select the Advanced check box, you can create a table quickly by specifying columns and some frequently used features.

If you select the Advanced check box, the Create Table dialog box changes to one with multiple options, in which you can specify an extended set of features while you create the table.

The example in the slide shows how to create the DEPENDENTS table by selecting the Advanced check box.

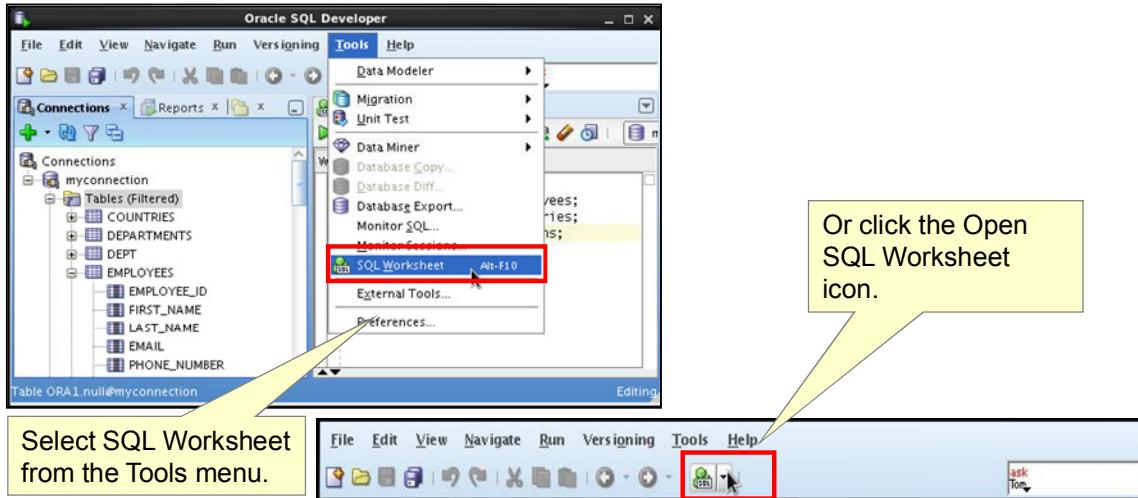
To create a new table, perform the following steps:

1. In the Connections Navigator, right-click Tables and select Create TABLE.
2. In the Create Table dialog box, select Advanced.
3. Specify the column information.
4. Click OK.

Although it is not required, you should also specify a primary key by using the Primary Key tab in the dialog box. Sometimes, you may want to edit the table that you have created; to do so, right-click the table in the Connections Navigator and select Edit.

Using the SQL Worksheet

- Use the SQL Worksheet to enter and execute SQL, PL/SQL, and SQL *Plus statements.
- Specify any actions that can be processed by the database connection associated with the worksheet.



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When you connect to a database, a SQL Worksheet window for that connection automatically opens. You can use the SQL Worksheet to enter and execute SQL, PL/SQL, and SQL*Plus statements. The SQL Worksheet supports SQL*Plus statements to a certain extent. SQL*Plus statements that are not supported by the SQL Worksheet are ignored and not passed to the database.

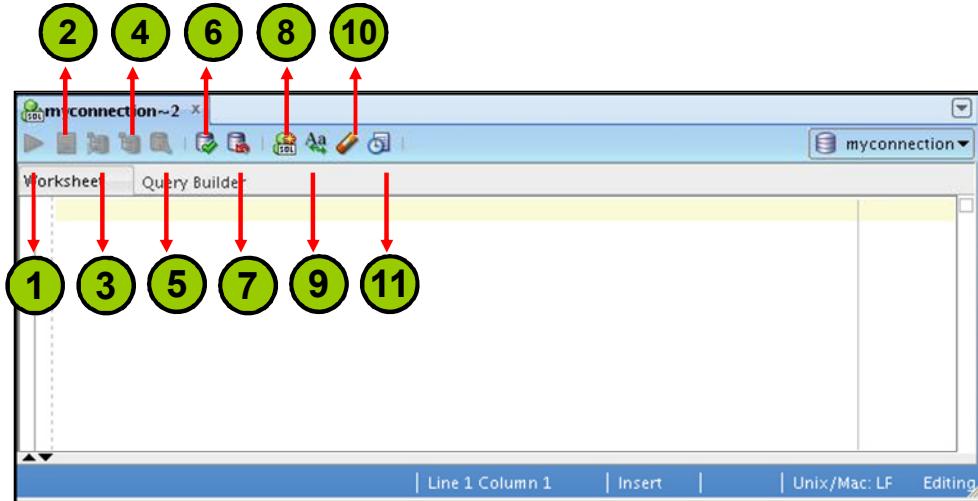
You can specify the actions that can be processed by the database connection associated with the worksheet, such as:

- Creating a table
- Inserting data
- Creating and editing a trigger
- Selecting data from a table
- Saving the selected data to a file

You can display a SQL Worksheet by using one of the following:

- Select Tools > SQL Worksheet.
- Click the Open SQL Worksheet icon.

Using the SQL Worksheet



The Oracle logo, which consists of the word "ORACLE" in a bold, white, sans-serif font inside a red horizontal bar.

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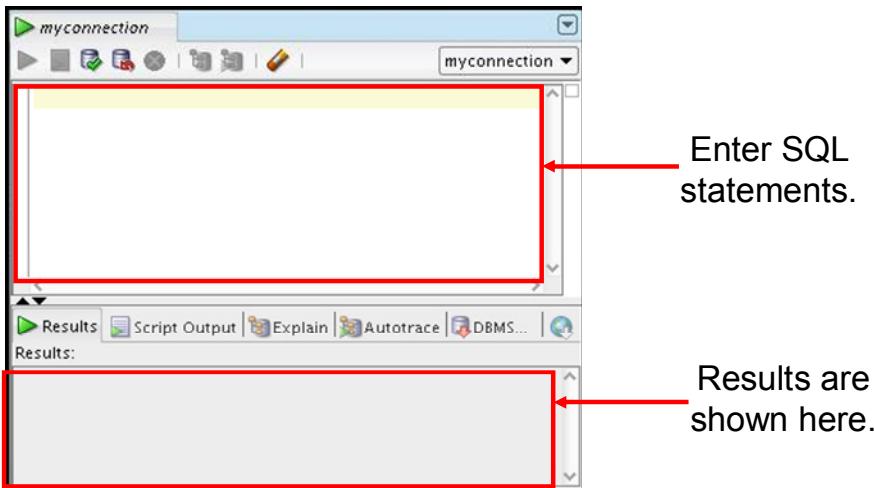
You may want to use the shortcut keys or icons to perform certain tasks such as executing a SQL statement, running a script, and viewing the history of the SQL statements that you have executed. You can use the SQL Worksheet toolbar that contains icons to perform the following tasks:

1. **Run Statement:** Executes the statement where the cursor is located in the Enter SQL Statement box. You can use bind variables in the SQL statements, but not substitution variables.
2. **Run Script:** Executes all the statements in the Enter SQL Statement box by using the Script Runner. You can use substitution variables in the SQL statements, but not bind variables.
3. **Autotrace:** Generates trace information for the statement
4. **Explain Plan:** Generates an execution plan, which you can see by clicking the Explain tab
5. **SQL Tuning Advisory:** Analyzes high-volume SQL statements and offers tuning recommendations
6. **Commit:** Writes any changes to the database and ends the transaction
7. **Rollback:** Discards any changes to the database without writing them to the database, and ends the transaction

8. **Unshared SQL Worksheet:** Creates a separate unshared SQL Worksheet for a connection
9. **To Upper/Lower/InitCap:** Changes the selected text to uppercase, lowercase, or initcap respectively
10. **Clear:** Erases the statement or statements in the Enter SQL Statement box
11. **SQL History:** Displays a dialog box with information about the SQL statements that you have executed

Using the SQL Worksheet

- Use the SQL Worksheet to enter and execute SQL, PL/SQL, and SQL*Plus statements.
- Specify any actions that can be processed by the database connection associated with the worksheet.



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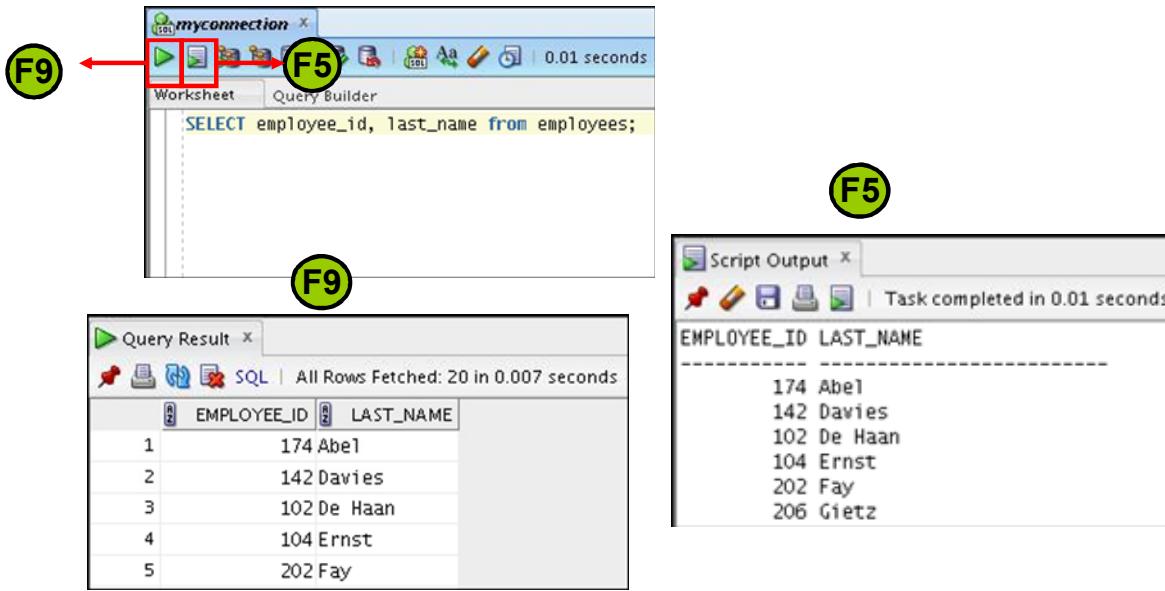
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When you connect to a database, a SQL Worksheet window for that connection automatically opens. You can use the SQL Worksheet to enter and execute SQL, PL/SQL, and SQL*Plus statements. All SQL and PL/SQL commands are supported as they are passed directly from the SQL Worksheet to the Oracle database. The SQL*Plus commands that are used in SQL Developer must be interpreted by the SQL Worksheet before being passed to the database.

The SQL Worksheet currently supports a number of SQL*Plus commands. Commands that are not supported by the SQL Worksheet are ignored and not sent to the Oracle database. Through the SQL Worksheet, you can execute the SQL statements and some of the SQL*Plus commands.

Executing SQL Statements

Use the Enter SQL Statement box to enter single or multiple SQL statements.

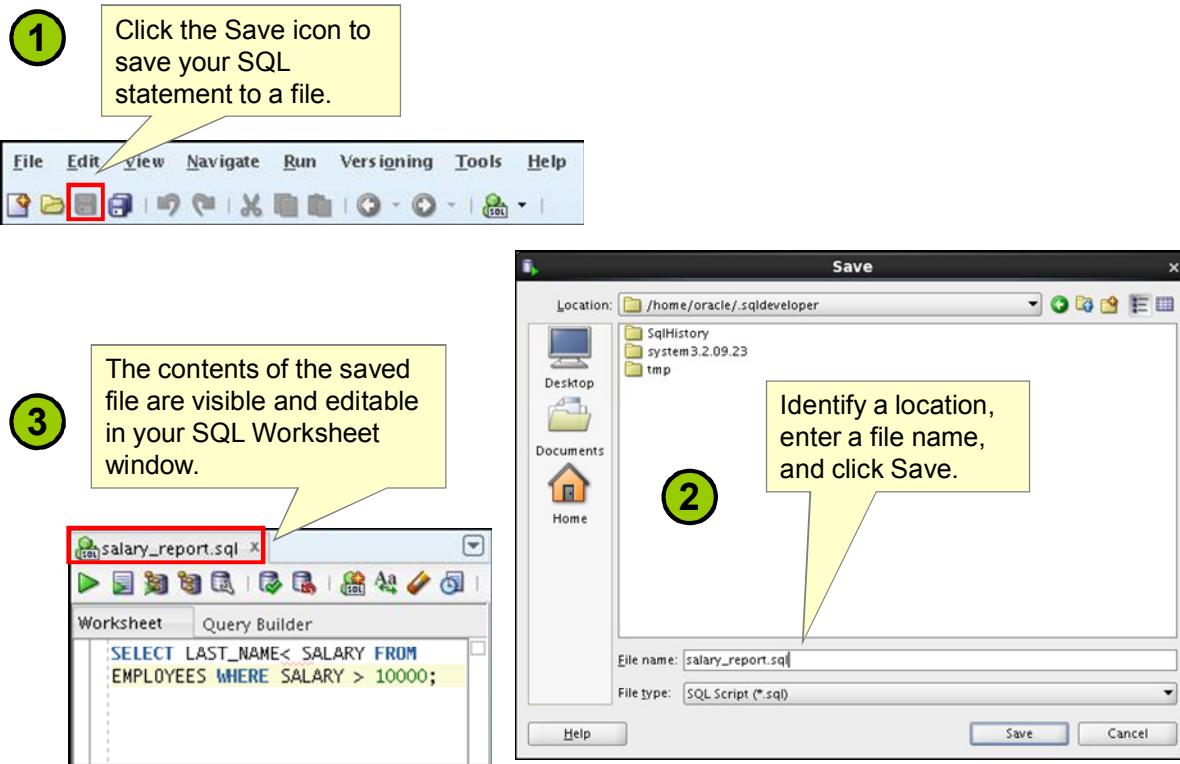


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The example in the slide shows the difference in output for the same query when the F9 key or Execute Statement is used versus the output when F5 or Run Script is used.

Saving SQL Scripts



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You can save your SQL statements from the SQL Worksheet to a text file. To save the contents of the Enter SQL Statement box, perform the following steps:

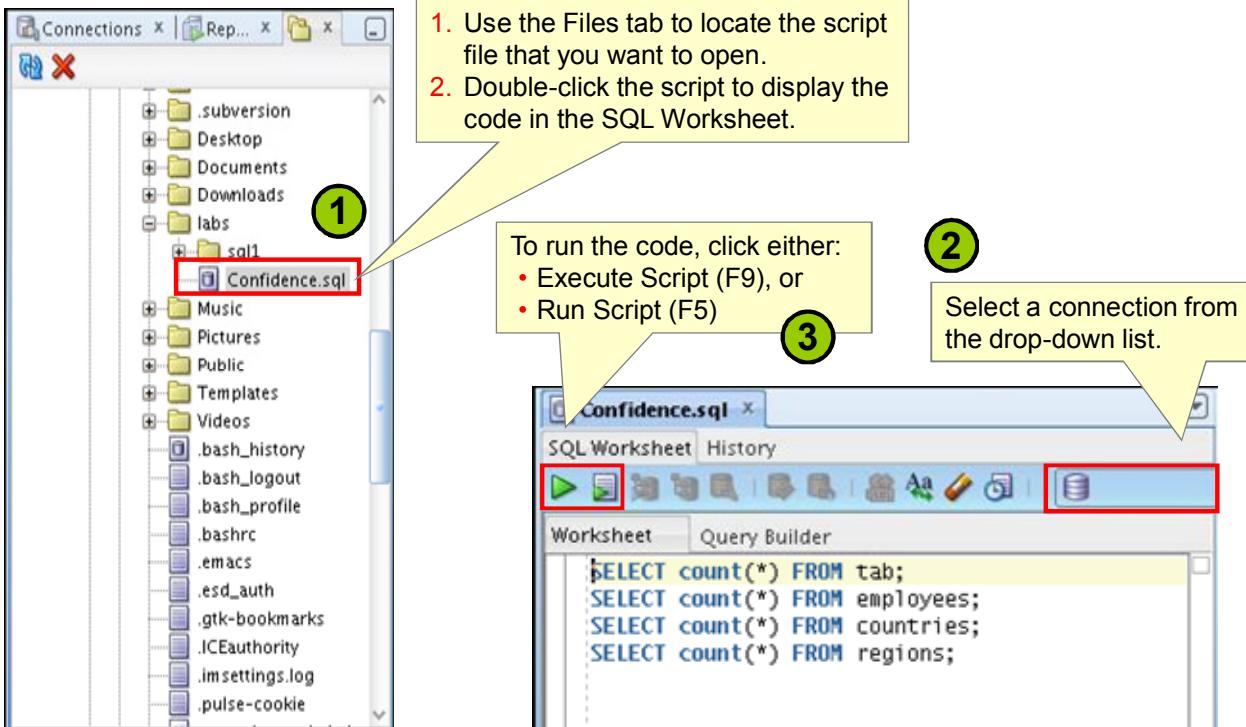
1. Click the Save icon or use the File > Save menu item.
2. In the Save dialog box, enter a file name and the location where you want the file saved.
3. Click Save.

After you save the contents to a file, the Enter SQL Statement window displays a tabbed page of your file contents. You can have multiple files open at the same time. Each file is displayed as a tabbed page.

Script Pathing

You can select a default path to look for scripts and to save scripts. Under Tools > Preferences > Database > Worksheet Parameters, enter a value in the “Select default path to look for scripts” field.

Executing Saved Script Files: Method 1



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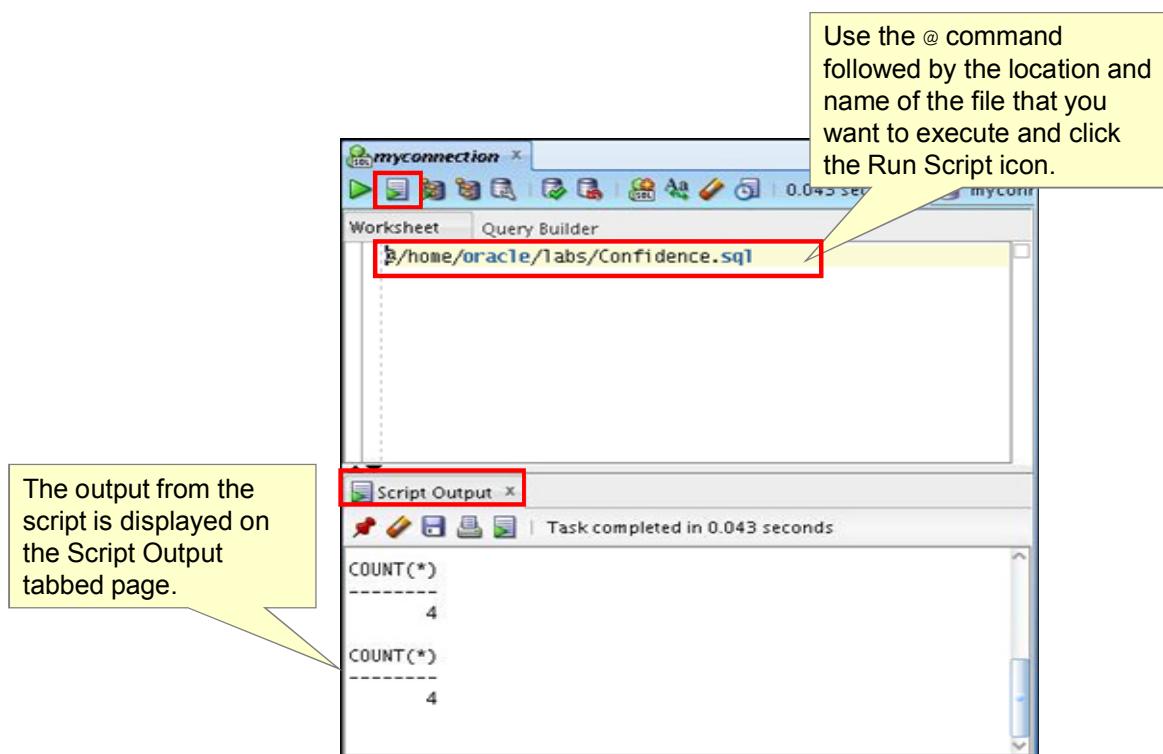
To open a script file and display the code in the SQL Worksheet area, perform the following:

1. In the Files Navigator, select (or navigate to) the script file that you want to open.
2. Double-click the file to open it. The code of the script file is displayed in the SQL Worksheet area.
3. Select a connection from the Connection drop-down list.
4. To run the code, click the Run Script (F5) icon on the SQL Worksheet toolbar. If you have not selected a connection from the Connection drop-down list, a Connection dialog box appears. Select the connection that you want to use for the script execution.

Alternatively, you can also do the following:

1. Select File > Open. The Open dialog box is displayed.
2. In the Open dialog box, select (or navigate to) the script file that you want to open.
3. Click Open. The code of the script file is displayed in the SQL Worksheet area.
4. Select a connection from the Connection drop-down list.
5. To run the code, click the Run Script (F5) icon on the SQL Worksheet toolbar. If you have not selected a connection from the Connection drop-down list, a Connection dialog box appears. Select the connection that you want to use for the script execution.

Executing Saved Script Files: Method 2



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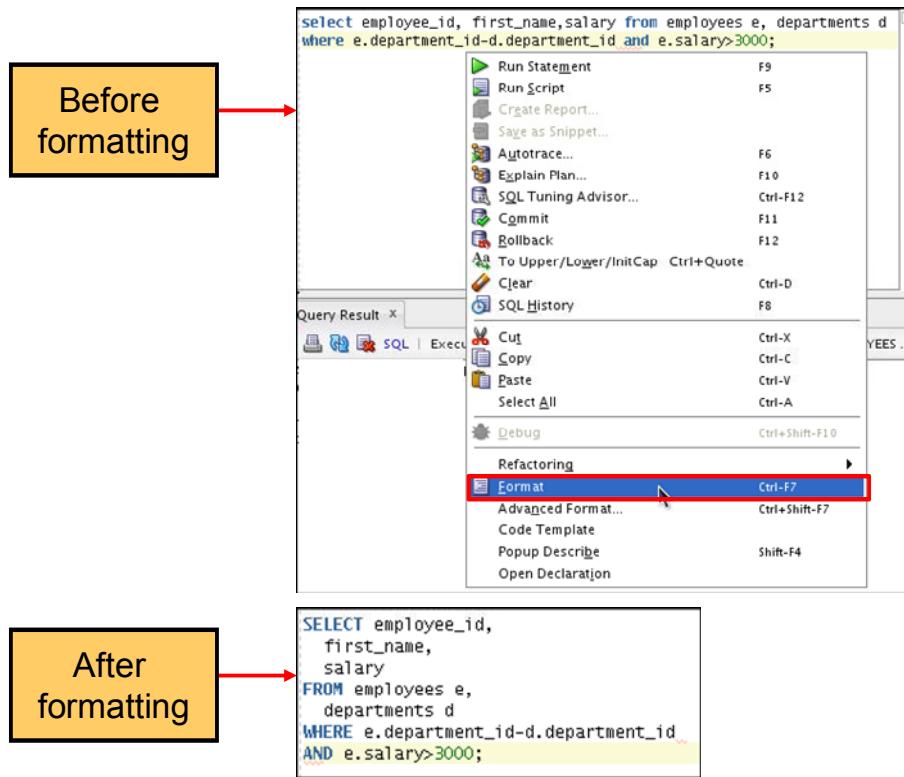
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To run a saved SQL script, perform the following:

1. Use the @ command, followed by the location, and name of the file you want to run, in the Enter SQL Statement window.
2. Click the Run Script icon.

The results from running the file are displayed on the Script Output tabbed page. You can also save the script output by clicking the Save icon on the Script Output tabbed page. The Windows Save dialog box appears and you can identify a name and location for your file.

Formatting the SQL Code



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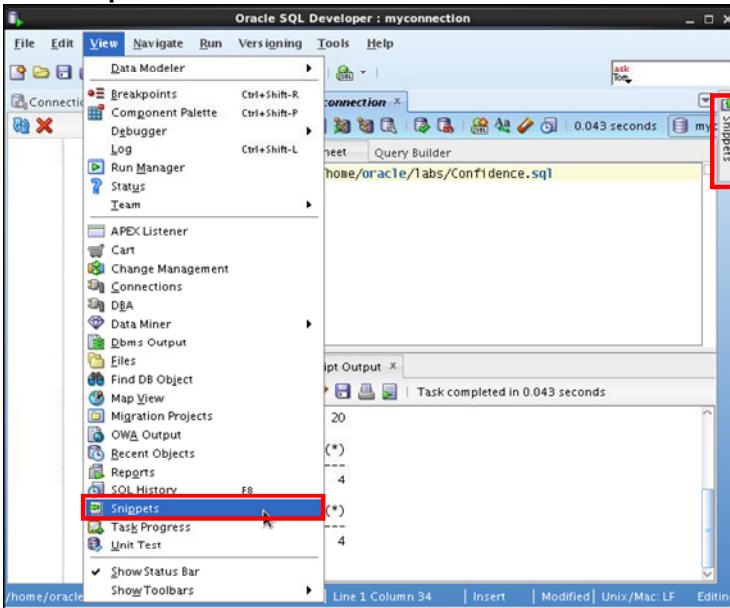
You may want to format the indentation, spacing, capitalization, and line separation of the SQL code. SQL Developer has a feature for formatting SQL code.

To format the SQL code, right-click in the statement area and select Format.

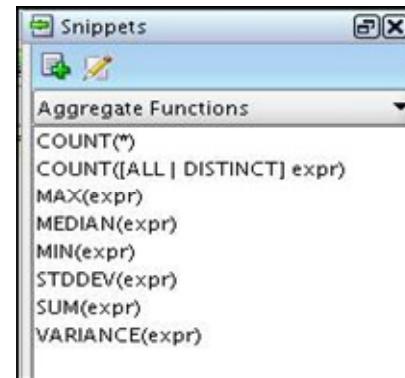
In the example in the slide, before formatting, the SQL code has the keywords not capitalized and the statement not properly indented. After formatting, the SQL code is beautified with the keywords capitalized and the statement properly indented.

Using Snippets

Snippets are code fragments that may be just syntax or examples.



When you place your cursor here, it shows the Snippets window. From the drop-down list, you can select the function category that you want.



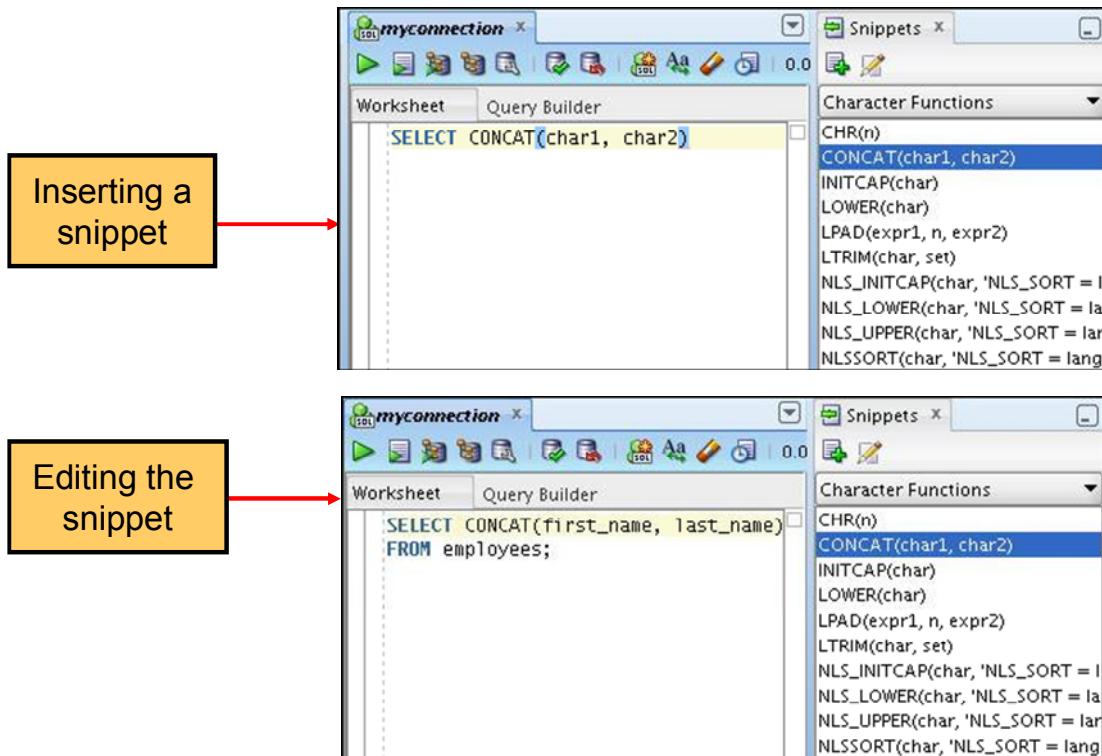
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You may want to use certain code fragments when you use the SQL Worksheet or create or edit a PL/SQL function or procedure. SQL Developer has a feature called Snippets. Snippets are code fragments such as SQL functions, optimizer hints, and miscellaneous PL/SQL programming techniques. You can drag snippets to the Editor window.

To display Snippets, select View > Snippets.

The Snippets window is displayed on the right. You can use the drop-down list to select a group. A Snippets button is placed in the right window margin, so that you can display the Snippets window if it becomes hidden.

Using Snippets: Example



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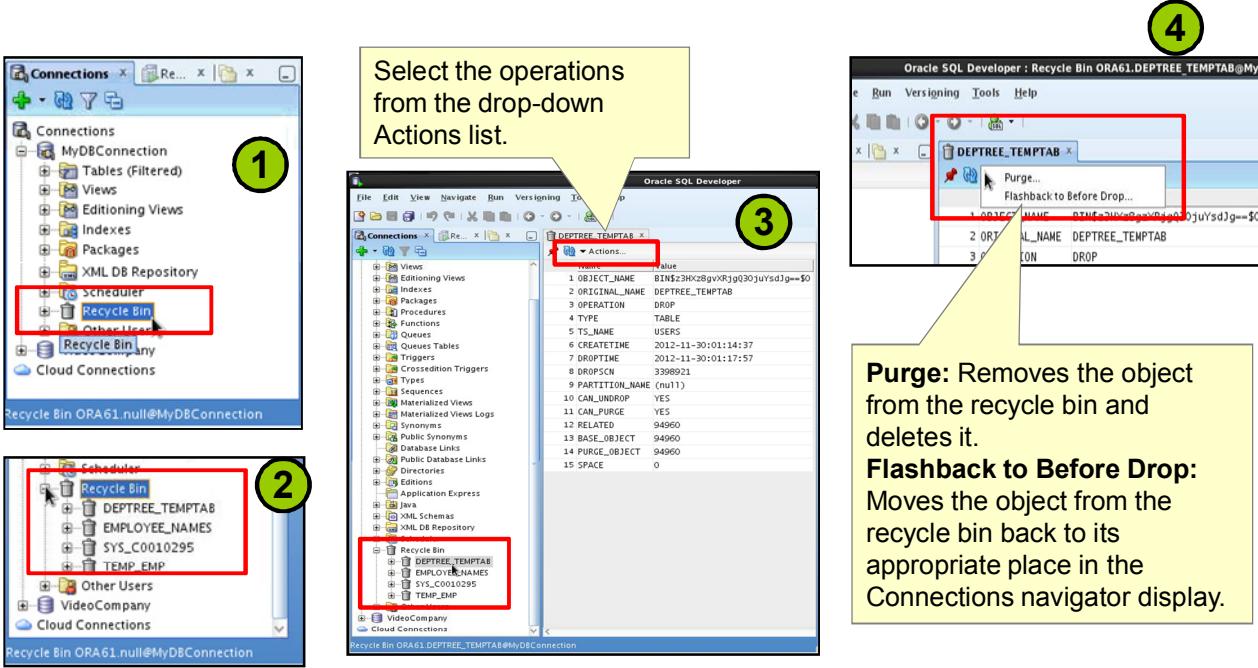
To insert a snippet into your code in a SQL Worksheet or in a PL/SQL function or procedure, drag the snippet from the Snippets window to the desired place in your code. Then you can edit the syntax so that the SQL function is valid in the current context. To see a brief description of a SQL function in a tool tip, place the cursor over the function name.

The example in the slide shows that `CONCAT (char1, char2)` is dragged from the Character Functions group in the Snippets window. Then the `CONCAT` function syntax is edited and the rest of the statement is added as in the following:

```
SELECT CONCAT(first_name, last_name) FROM employees;
```

Using the Recycle Bin

The recycle bin holds objects that have been dropped.



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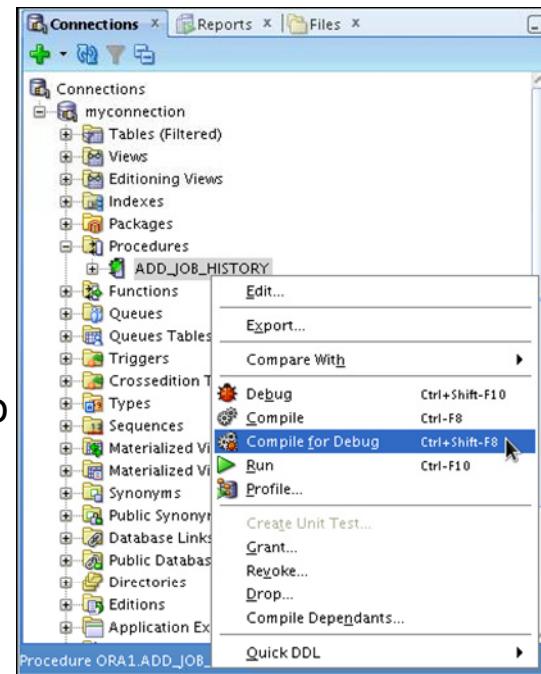
The recycle bin is a data dictionary table containing information about dropped objects. Dropped tables and any associated objects such as indexes, constraints, nested tables, and the likes are not removed and still occupy space. They continue to count against user space quotas until specifically purged from the recycle bin or the unlikely situation where they must be purged by the database because of tablespace space constraints.

To use the recycle bin, perform the following:

1. In the Connections navigator, select (or navigate to) Recycle Bin.
2. Expand Recycle Bin and click the object name. The object details are displayed in the SQL Worksheet area.
3. Click the Actions drop-down list and select the operation you want to perform on the object.

Debugging Procedures and Functions

- Use SQL Developer to debug PL/SQL functions and procedures.
- Use the Compile for Debug option to perform a PL/SQL compilation so that the procedure can be debugged.
- Use the Debug menu options to set breakpoints, and to perform step-into and step-over tasks.



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In SQL Developer, you can debug PL/SQL procedures and functions. Using the Debug menu options, you can perform the following debugging tasks:

- **Find Execution Point:** Goes to the next execution point
- **Resume:** Continues execution
- **Step Over:** Bypasses the next method and goes to the next statement after the method
- **Step Into:** Goes to the first statement in the next method
- **Step Out:** Leaves the current method and goes to the next statement
- **Step to End of Method:** Goes to the last statement of the current method
- **Pause:** Halts execution, but does not exit, thus allowing you to resume execution
- **Terminate:** Halts and exits the execution. You cannot resume execution from this point; instead, to start running or debugging from the beginning of the function or procedure, click the Run or Debug icon on the Source tab toolbar.
- **Garbage Collection:** Removes invalid objects from the cache in favor of more frequently accessed and more valid objects

These options are also available as icons on the Debugging tab of the output window.

Database Reporting

SQL Developer provides a number of predefined reports about the database and its objects.

Owner	Name	Type	Referenced_Owner	Referenced_Name	Referenced_Type
APEX_040100	APEX	PROCEDURE	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW	PACKAGE
APEX_040100	APEX	PROCEDURE	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_ISC	PACKAGE
APEX_040100	APEX	PROCEDURE	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_SECURITY	PACKAGE
APEX_040100	APEX	PROCEDURE	SYS	STANDARD	PACKAGE
APEX_040100	APEX	PROCEDURE	SYS	SYS_STUB_FOR_PURITY_ANALYSIS	PACKAGE
APEX_040100	APEXWS	PACKAGE	SYS	STANDARD	PACKAGE
APEX_040100	APEXADMIN	PROCEDURE	APEX_040100	F	PROCEDURE
APEX_040100	APEX_ADMIN	PROCEDURE	SYS	STANDARD	PACKAGE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	NV	FUNCTION
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOWS	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_APPLICATION_GROUPS	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_AUTHENTIFICATIONS	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_COMPANIES	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_COMPANY_SCHEMAS	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_COMPUTATIONS	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_ICON_BAR	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_INSTALL_SCRIPTS	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_ITEMS	TABLE
APEX_040100	APEX_APPLICATIONS	VIEW	APEX_040100	WW_FLOW_LANGUAGE_MAP	TABLE



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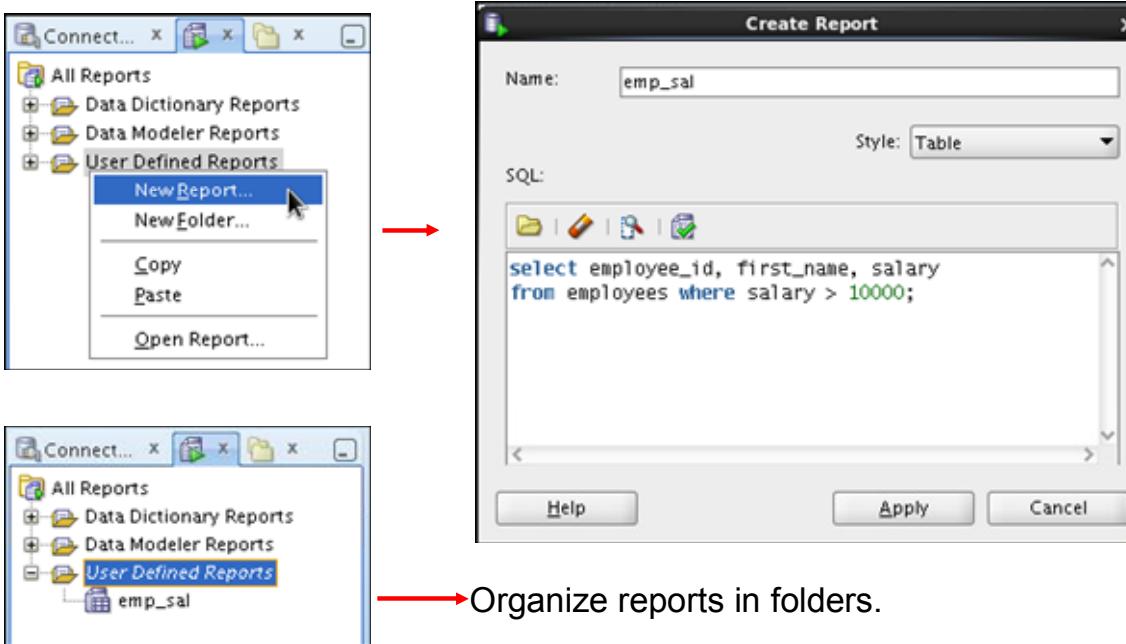
SQL Developer provides many reports about the database and its objects. These reports can be grouped into the following categories:

- About Your Database reports
- Database Administration reports
- Table reports
- PL/SQL reports
- Security reports
- XML reports
- Jobs reports
- Streams reports
- All Objects reports
- Data Dictionary reports
- User-Defined reports

To display reports, click the Reports tab on the left of the window. Individual reports are displayed in tabbed panes on the right of the window; for each report, you can select (using a drop-down list) the database connection for which to display the report. For reports about objects, the objects shown are only those visible to the database user associated with the selected database connection, and the rows are usually ordered by Owner. You can also create your own user-defined reports.

Creating a User-Defined Report

Create and save user-defined reports for repeated use.



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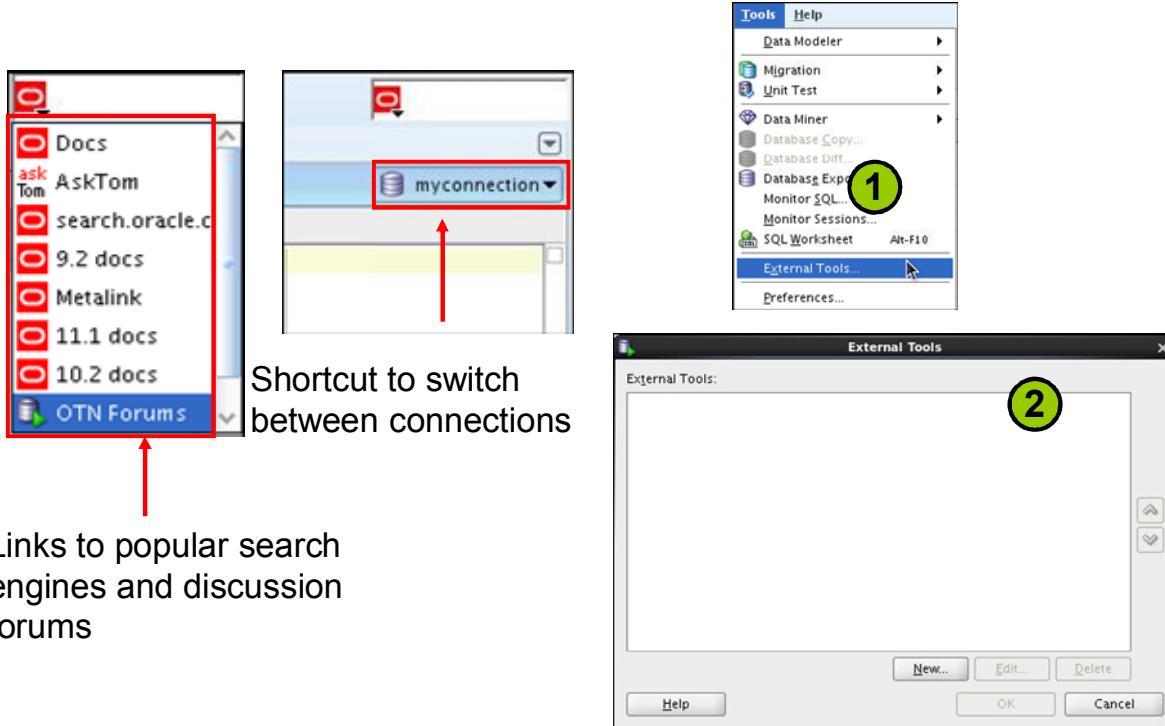
User-defined reports are reports created by SQL Developer users. To create a user-defined report, perform the following:

1. Right-click the User Defined Reports node under Reports and select Add Report.
2. In the Create Report dialog box, specify the report name and the SQL query to retrieve information for the report. Then click Apply.

In the example in the slide, the report name is specified as `emp_sal`. An optional description is provided indicating that the report contains details of employees with `salary >= 10000`. The complete SQL statement for retrieving the information to be displayed in the user-defined report is specified in the SQL box. You can also include an optional tool tip to be displayed when the cursor stays briefly over the report name in the Reports navigator display.

You can organize user-defined reports in folders and you can create a hierarchy of folders and subfolders. To create a folder for user-defined reports, right-click the User Defined Reports node or any folder name under that node and select Add Folder. Information about user-defined reports, including any folders for these reports, is stored in a file named `UserReports.xml` in the directory for user-specific information.

Search Engines and External Tools



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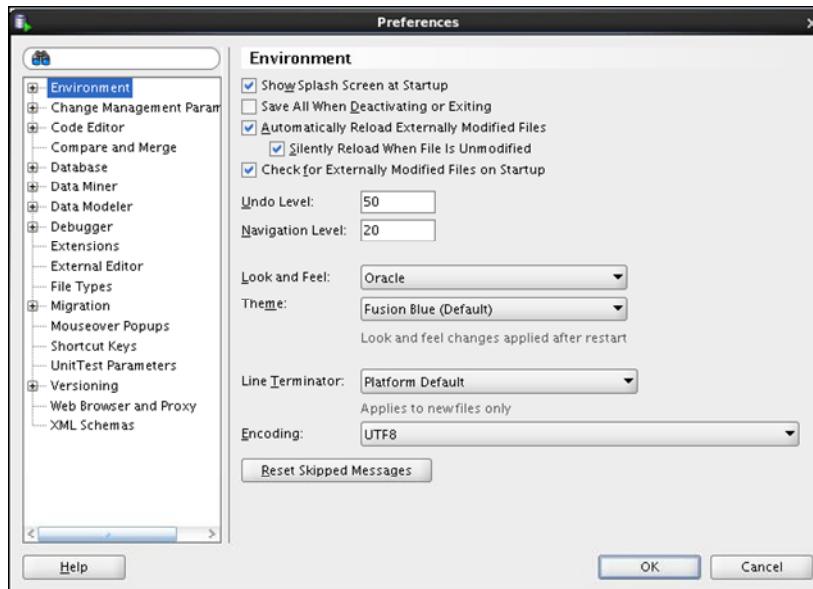
To enhance the productivity of developers, SQL Developer has added quick links to popular search engines and discussion forums such as AskTom, Google, and so on. Also, you have shortcut icons to some of the frequently used tools such as Notepad, Microsoft Word, and Dreamweaver available to you.

You can add external tools to the existing list or even delete shortcuts to the tools that you do not use frequently. To do so, perform the following:

1. From the Tools menu, select External Tools.
2. In the External Tools dialog box, select New to add new tools. Select Delete to remove any tool from the list.

Setting Preferences

- Customize the SQL Developer interface and environment.
- In the Tools menu, select Preferences.



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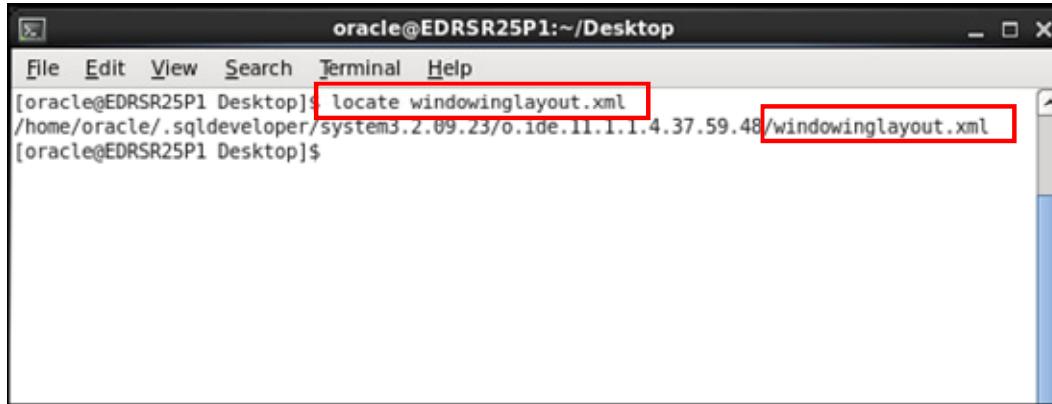
You can customize many aspects of the SQL Developer interface and environment by modifying SQL Developer preferences according to your needs. To modify SQL Developer preferences, select Tools and then Preferences.

The preferences are grouped into the following categories:

- Environment
- Change Management parameter
- Code Editors
- Compare and Merge
- Database
- Data Miner
- Data Modeler
- Debugger
- Extensions
- External Editor
- File Types
- Migration

- Mouseover Popups
- Shortcut Keys
- Unit Test Parameters
- Versioning
- Web Browser and Proxy
- XML Schemas

Resetting the SQL Developer Layout



A screenshot of a terminal window titled "oracle@EDRSR25P1:~/Desktop". The window shows the command "locate windowinglayout.xml" being run, and the output is "/home/oracle/.sqldeveloper/system3.2.09.23/o.ide.11.1.1.4.37.59.48/windowinglayout.xml". The entire line of output is highlighted with a red box.



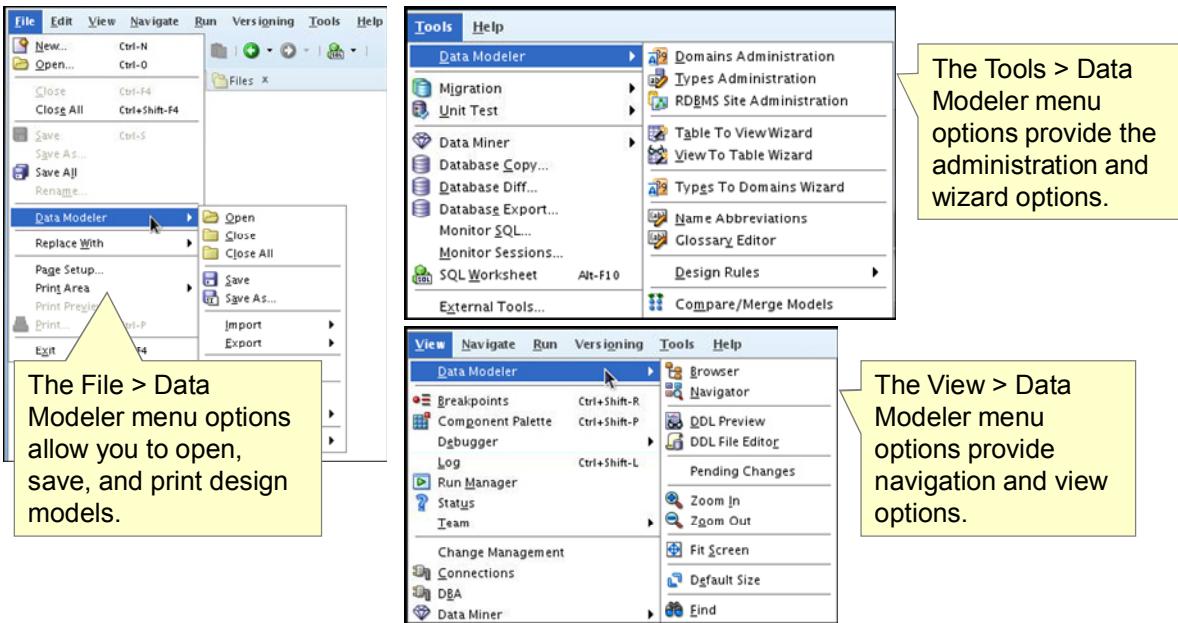
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While working with SQL Developer, if the Connections Navigator disappears or if you cannot dock the Log window in its original place, perform the following to fix the problem:

1. Exit SQL Developer.
2. Open a terminal window and use the `locate` command to find the location of `windowinglayout.xml`.
3. Go to the directory that has `windowinglayout.xml` and delete it.
4. Restart SQL Developer.

Data Modeler in SQL Developer

SQL Developer includes an integrated version of SQL Developer Data Modeler.



The Tools > Data Modeler menu options provide the administration and wizard options.

The View > Data Modeler menu options provide navigation and view options.

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Using the integrated version of the SQL Developer Data Modeler, you can:

- Create, open, import, and save a database design
- Create, modify, and delete Data Modeler objects

To display Data Modeler in a pane, click Tools and then Data Modeler. The Data Modeler menu under Tools includes additional commands, for example, that enable you to specify design rules and preferences.

Summary

In this appendix, you should have learned how to use SQL Developer to:

- Browse, create, and edit database objects
- Execute SQL statements and scripts in SQL Worksheet
- Create and save custom reports
- Browse the data modeling options in SQL Developer



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SQL Developer is a free graphical tool to simplify database development tasks. Using SQL Developer, you can browse, create, and edit database objects. You can use SQL Worksheet to run SQL statements and scripts. SQL Developer enables you to create and save your own special set of reports for repeated use.

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SQL Tuning Advisor

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Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:

- Describe statement profiling
- Use SQL Tuning Advisor



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Tuning SQL Statements Automatically

- Tuning SQL statements automatically eases the entire SQL tuning process and replaces manual SQL tuning.
- The optimizer has two modes:
 - Normal mode
 - Tuning mode or Automatic Tuning Optimizer (ATO)
- You use SQL Tuning Advisor to access tuning mode.
- You should use tuning mode only for high-load SQL statements.



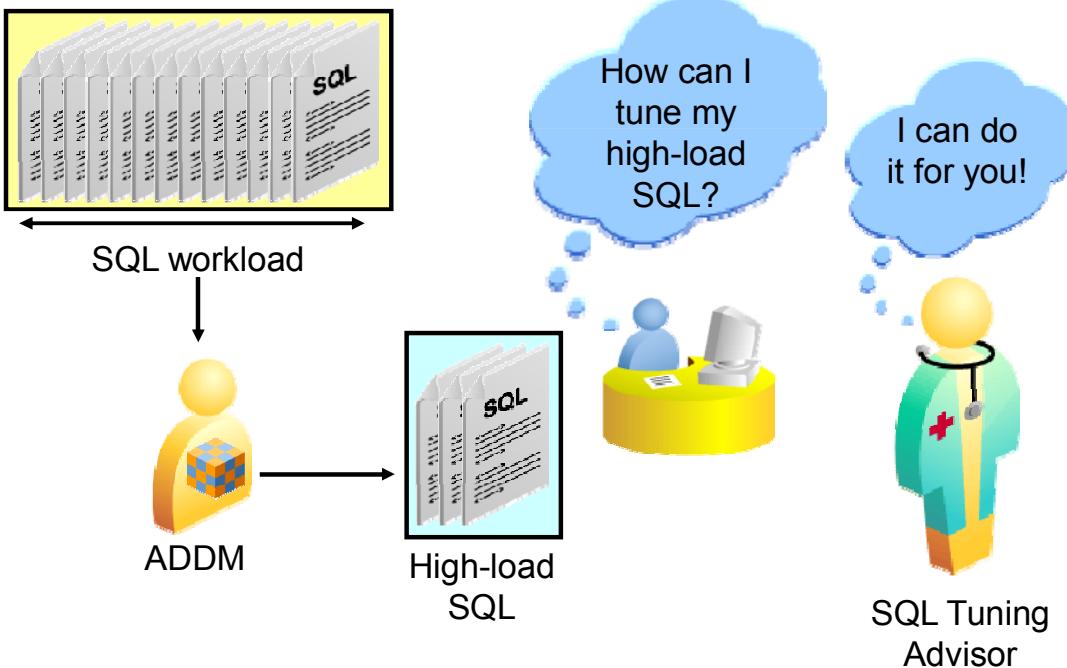
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The query optimizer can automate the entire SQL tuning process. This automatic process replaces manual SQL tuning, which is a complex, repetitive, and time-consuming function. SQL Tuning Advisor exposes the features of SQL tuning to the user. The enhanced query optimizer has two modes:

- **Normal mode:** The optimizer compiles SQL and generates an execution plan. The normal mode of the optimizer generates a reasonable execution plan for the majority of SQL statements. In normal mode, the optimizer operates with very strict time constraints, usually a fraction of a second, during which it must find a good execution plan.
- **Tuning mode:** The optimizer performs additional analysis to check whether the execution plan produced in normal mode can be further improved. The output of the query optimizer in tuning mode is not an execution plan but a series of actions, along with their rationales and expected benefits (for producing a significantly superior plan). When called under tuning mode, the optimizer is referred to as Automatic Tuning Optimizer (ATO). The tuning performed by ATO is called system SQL tuning.

In tuning mode, the optimizer can take several minutes to tune a single statement. ATO is meant to be used for complex and high-load SQL statements that have a nontrivial impact on the entire system.

Application Tuning Challenges



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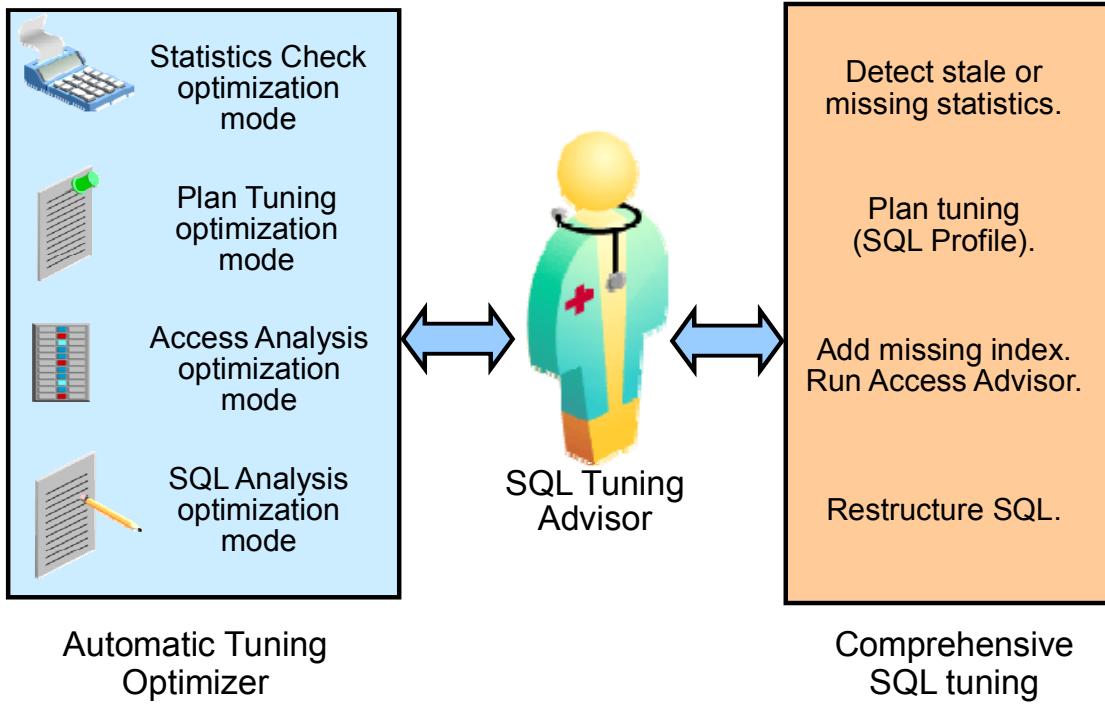
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The process of identifying high-load SQL statements and tuning them is very challenging even for an expert. SQL tuning is not only one of the most critical aspects of managing the performance of a database server, but also one of the most difficult tasks to accomplish. Starting with Oracle Database 10g, the task of identifying high-load SQL statements has been automated by Automatic Database Diagnostic Monitor (ADDM). Even though the number of high-load SQL statements that are identified by ADDM may represent a very small percentage of the total SQL workload, the task of tuning them is still highly complex and requires a high level of expertise.

Also, SQL tuning activity is a continuous task because the SQL workload can change relatively often when new application modules are deployed.

SQL Tuning Advisor, introduced with Oracle Database 10g, is designed to replace the manual tuning of SQL statements. SQL statements that consume high resources (such as CPU, I/O, and temporary space) are good candidates for SQL Tuning Advisor. The advisor receives one or more SQL statements as input and then provides advice on how to optimize the execution plan, a rationale for the advice, estimated performance benefits, and the actual command to implement the advice. You accept the advice, thereby tuning the SQL statements. With the introduction of SQL Tuning Advisor, you can now let the Oracle optimizer tune the SQL code for you.

SQL Tuning Advisor: Overview



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SQL Tuning Advisor is primarily the driver of the tuning process. It calls ATO to perform the following four specific types of analyses:

- **Statistics Analysis:** ATO checks each query object for missing or stale statistics and makes a recommendation to gather relevant statistics. It also collects auxiliary information to supply missing statistics or correct stale statistics in case recommendations are not implemented.
- **SQL Profiling:** ATO verifies its own estimates and collects auxiliary information to remove estimation errors. It also collects auxiliary information in the form of customized optimizer settings, such as *first rows* and *all rows*, based on the past execution history of the SQL statement. It builds a SQL Profile by using the auxiliary information and makes a recommendation to create it. When a SQL Profile is created, the profile enables the query optimizer, under normal mode, to generate a well-tuned plan.
- **Access Path Analysis:** ATO explores whether a new index can be used to significantly improve access to each table in the query and, when appropriate, makes recommendations to create such indexes.
- **SQL Structure Analysis:** Here, ATO tries to identify SQL statements that lend themselves to bad plans, and makes relevant suggestions to restructure them. The suggested restructuring can be syntactic as well as semantic changes to the SQL code.

Stale or Missing Object Statistics

- Object statistics are key inputs to the optimizer.
- ATO verifies object statistics for each query object.
- ATO uses dynamic sampling and generates:
 - Auxiliary object statistics to compensate for missing or stale object statistics
 - Recommendations to gather object statistics where appropriate

```
EXEC DBMS_STATS.GATHER_TABLE_STATS(
    ownname=>'SH', tabname=>'CUSTOMERS',
    estimate_percent=>DBMS_STATS.AUTO_SAMPLE_SIZE);
```



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The query optimizer relies on object statistics to generate execution plans. If these statistics are stale or missing, the optimizer does not have the necessary information and can generate suboptimal execution plans.

ATO checks each query object for missing or stale statistics and produces two types of outputs:

- Auxiliary information in the form of statistics for objects with no statistics, and statistic adjustment factor for objects with stale statistics
- Recommendations to gather relevant statistics for objects with stale or no statistics

For optimal results, you gather statistics when recommended and then rerun ATO. However, you may be hesitant to accept this recommendation immediately because of the impact it could have on other queries in the system.

SQL Statement Profiling

- Statement statistics are key inputs to the optimizer.
- ATO verifies statement statistics such as:
 - Predicate selectivity
 - Optimizer settings (`FIRST_ROWS` versus `ALL_ROWS`)
- ATO uses:
 - Dynamic sampling
 - Partial execution of the statement
 - Past execution history statistics of the statement
- ATO builds a profile if statistics were generated.

```
exec :profile_name := -
dbms_sqltune.accept_sql_profile( -
task_name =>'my_sql_tuning_task');
```



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The main verification step during SQL Profiling is the verification of the query optimizer's own estimates of cost, selectivity, and cardinality for the statement that is tuned.

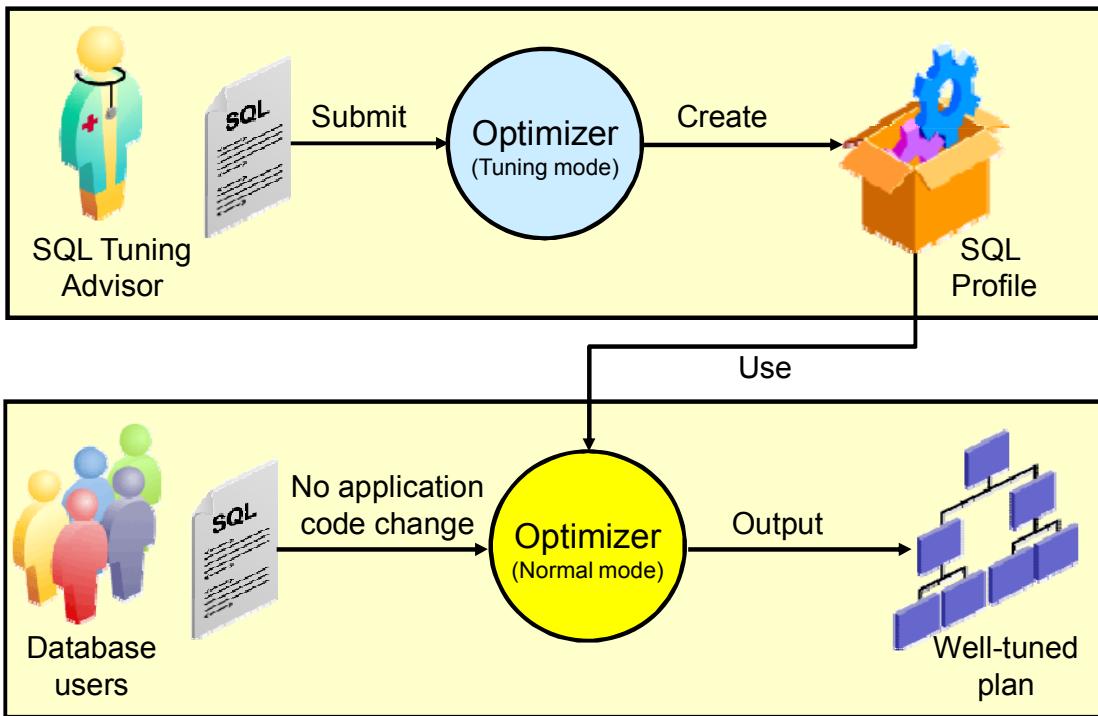
During SQL Profiling, ATO performs verification steps to validate its own estimates. The validation consists of taking a sample of data and applying appropriate predicates to the sample. The new estimate is compared to the regular estimate, and if the difference is large enough, a correction factor is applied. Another method of estimate validation involves the execution of a fragment of the SQL statement. The partial execution method is more efficient than the sampling method when the respective predicates provide efficient access paths. ATO picks the appropriate estimate validation method.

ATO also uses the past execution history of the SQL statement to determine correct settings. For example, if the execution history indicates that a SQL statement is only partially executed the majority of times, ATO uses the `FIRST_ROWS` optimization as opposed to `ALL_ROWS`.

ATO builds a SQL Profile if it has generated auxiliary information either during Statistics Analysis or during SQL Profiling. When a SQL Profile is built, it generates a user recommendation to create a SQL Profile.

In this mode, ATO can recommend the acceptance of the generated SQL Profile to activate it.

Plan Tuning Flow and SQL Profile Creation



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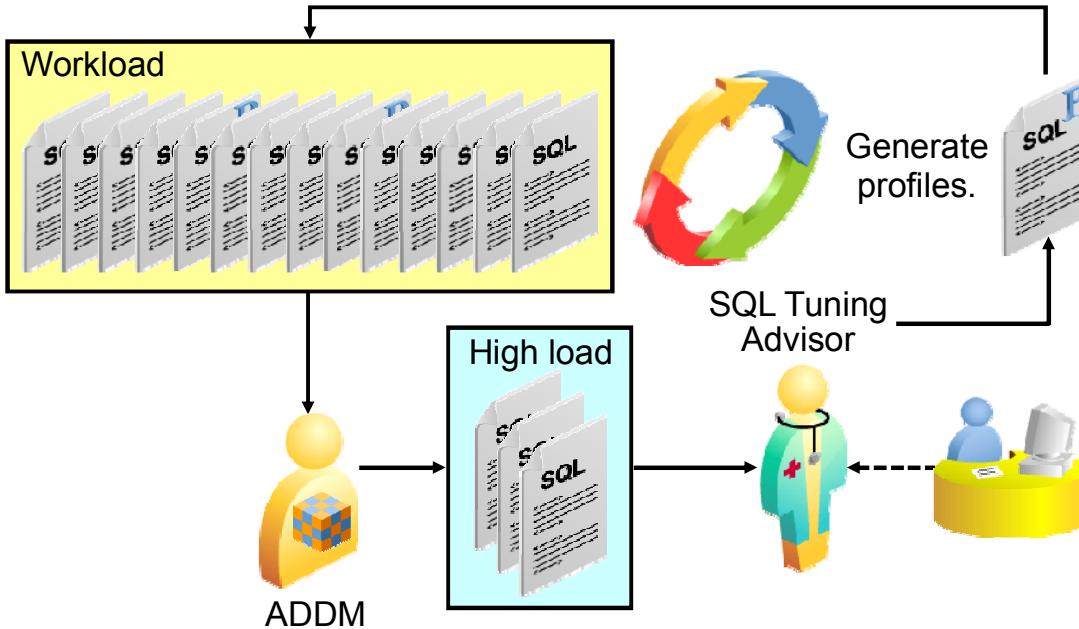
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A SQL Profile is a collection of auxiliary information that is built during automatic tuning of a SQL statement. Thus, a SQL Profile is to a SQL statement what statistics are to a table or index. After it is created, a SQL Profile is used in conjunction with the existing statistics by the query optimizer, in normal mode, to produce a well-tuned plan for the corresponding SQL statement. A SQL Profile is stored persistently in the data dictionary. However, the SQL profile information is not exposed through regular dictionary views. After creation of a SQL Profile, every time the corresponding SQL statement is compiled in normal mode, the query optimizer uses the SQL Profile to produce a well-tuned plan.

The slide shows the process flow of the creation and use of a SQL Profile. The process consists of two phases: system SQL tuning phase and regular optimization phase.

- During the system SQL tuning phase, you select a SQL statement for system tuning and run SQL Tuning Advisor by using either Database Control or the command-line interface. SQL Tuning Advisor invokes ATO to generate tuning recommendations, possibly with a SQL Profile. If a SQL Profile is built, you can accept it. When it is accepted, the SQL Profile is stored in the data dictionary.
- In the next phase, when an end user issues the same SQL statement, the query optimizer (under normal mode) uses the SQL Profile to build a well-tuned plan. The use of the SQL Profile remains completely transparent to the end user and does not require changes to the application source code.

SQL Tuning Loop

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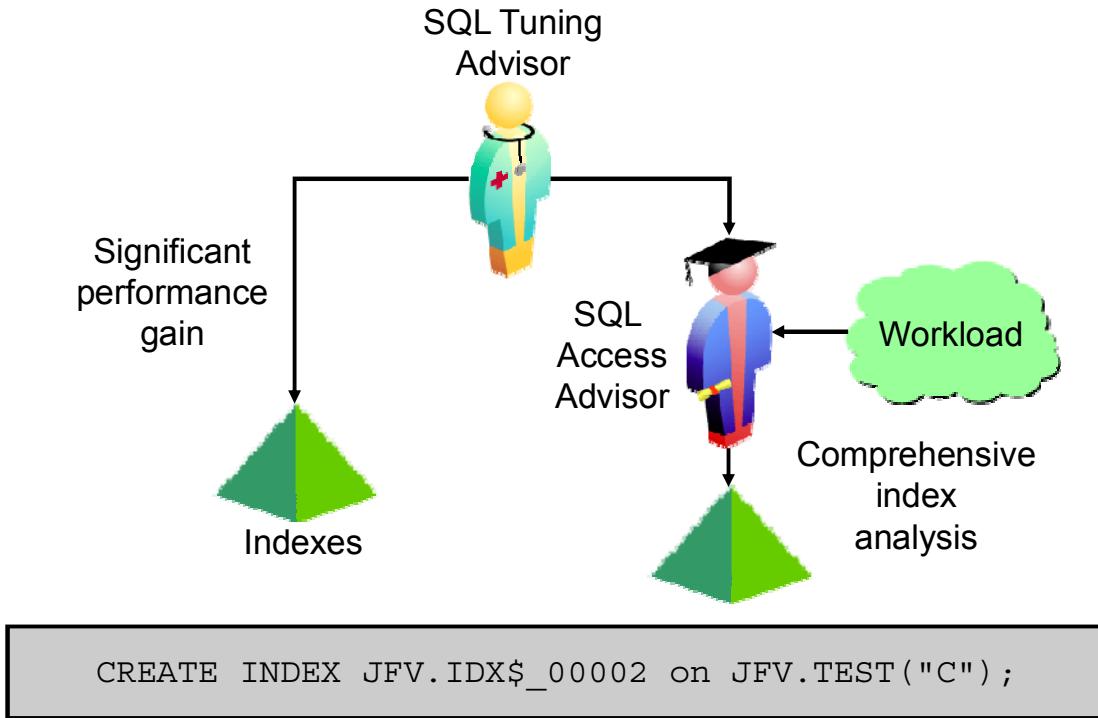
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The auxiliary information contained in a SQL Profile is stored in such a way that it stays relevant after database changes, such as addition or removal of indexes, growth in the size of tables, and periodic collection of database statistics. Therefore, when a profile is created, the corresponding plan is not frozen (as when outlines are used).

However, a SQL Profile may not adapt to massive changes in the database or changes that have accumulated over a long period of time. In such cases, a new SQL Profile needs to be built to replace the old one.

For example, when a SQL Profile becomes outdated, the performance of the corresponding SQL statement may become noticeably worse. In such a case, the corresponding SQL statement may start showing up as high-load or top SQL, thus becoming again a target for system SQL Tuning. In such a situation, ADDM again captures the statement as high-load SQL. If that happens, you can decide to re-create a new profile for that statement.

Access Path Analysis



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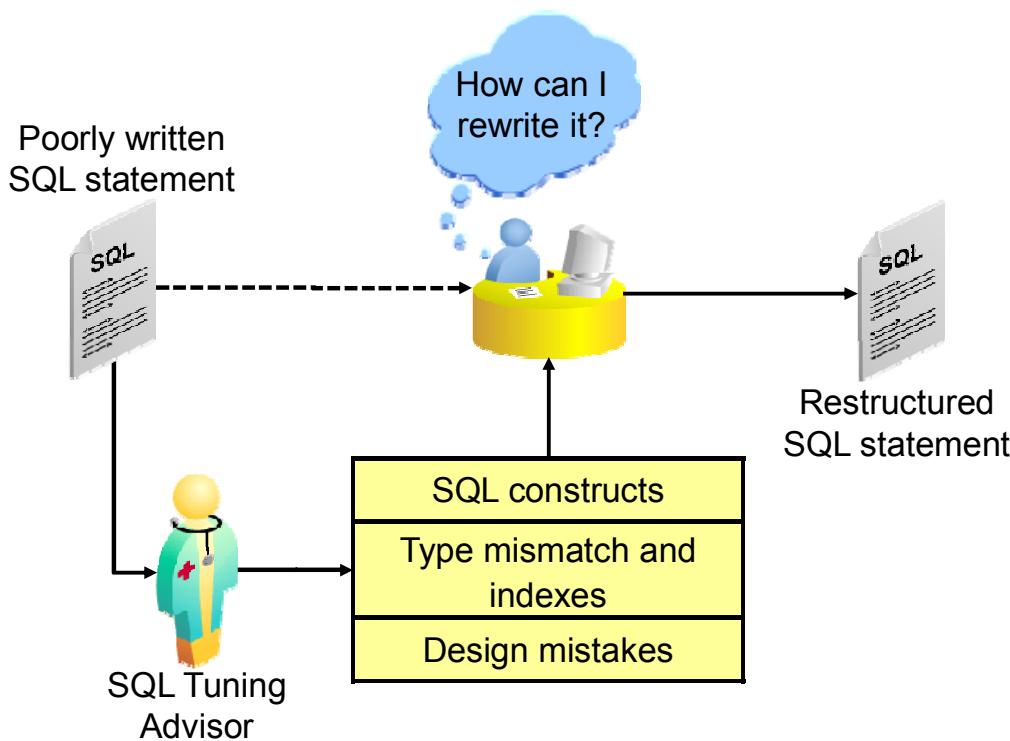
ATO also provides advice on indexes. Effective indexing is a well-known tuning technique that can significantly improve the performance of SQL statements by reducing the need for full table scans. Any index recommendations generated by ATO are specific to the SQL statement being tuned. Therefore, it provides a quick solution to the performance problem associated with a single SQL statement.

Because ATO does not perform an analysis of how its index recommendations affect the entire SQL workload, it recommends running the Access Advisor on the SQL statement along with a representative SQL workload. The Access Advisor collects advice given on each statement of a SQL workload and consolidates it into global advice for the entire SQL workload.

Access Path Analysis can make the following recommendations:

- Create new indexes if they provide significantly superior performance.
- Run SQL Access Advisor to perform a comprehensive index analysis based on application workload.

SQL Structure Analysis



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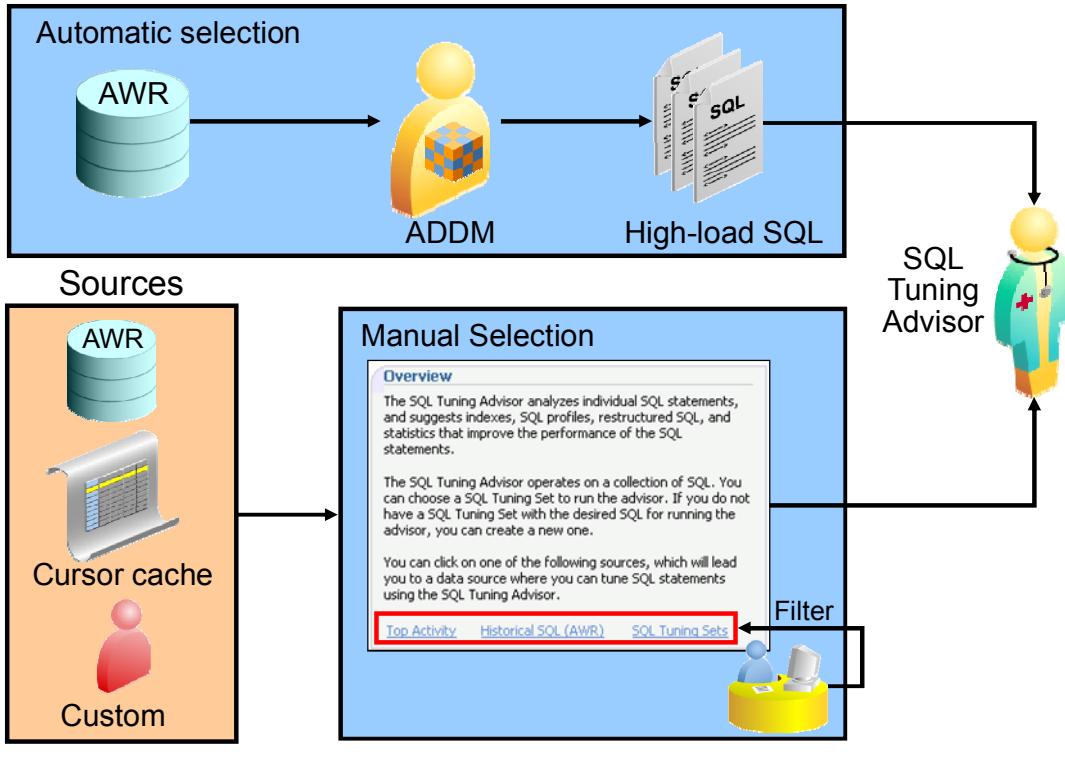
The goal of the SQL Structure Analysis is to help you identify poorly written SQL statements as well as to advise you on how to restructure them.

Certain syntax variations are known to have a negative impact on performance. In this mode, ATO evaluates statements against a set of rules, identifying less efficient coding techniques, and providing recommendations for an alternative statement where possible. The recommendation may be very similar, but not precisely equivalent to the original query. For example, the NOT EXISTS and NOT IN constructors are similar, but not exactly the same. Therefore, you have to decide whether the recommendation is valid. For this reason, ATO does not automatically rewrite the query, but gives advice instead.

The following categories of problems are detected by SQL Structure Analysis:

- Use of SQL constructors such as NOT IN instead of NOT EXISTS, or UNION instead of UNION ALL
- Use of predicates involving indexed columns with data-type mismatch that prevents use of the index
- Design mistakes (such as Cartesian products)

SQL Tuning Advisor: Usage Model



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SQL Tuning Advisor takes one or more SQL statements as input. The input can come from different sources:

- High-load SQL statements identified by ADDM
- SQL statements that are currently in cursor cache
- SQL statements from Automatic Workload Repository (AWR): A user can select any set of SQL statements captured by AWR. This can be done by using snapshots or baselines.
- Custom workload: A user can create a custom workload consisting of statements that are of interest to the user. These may be statements that are not in cursor cache and are not high-load SQL statements to be captured by ADDM or AWR. For such statements, a user can create a custom workload and tune it by using the advisor.

SQL statements from cursor cache, AWR, and custom workload can be filtered and ranked before they are input to SQL Tuning Advisor.

For a multistatement input, an object called SQL Tuning Set (STS) is provided. An STS stores multiple SQL statements along with their execution information:

- **Execution context:** Parsing schema name and bind values
- **Execution statistics:** Average elapsed time and execution count

Note: Another STS can be a possible source for STS creation.

Cloud Control and SQL Tuning Advisor

The screenshot shows the Oracle Enterprise Manager Cloud Control 12c interface. In the top navigation bar, under the 'Performance' menu, there is a link labeled 'SQL Tuning Advisor'. This link is highlighted with a red box. Below the navigation bar, the main content area has a tab labeled 'Top Activity' which is also highlighted with a red box. The page title is 'Schedule SQL Tuning Advisor'.

Schedule SQL Tuning Advisor

Specify the following parameters to schedule a job to run the SQL Tuning Advisor.

Overview

The SQL Tuning Advisor analyzes individual SQL statements, and suggests indexes, SQL profiles, restructured SQL, and statistics that improve the performance of the SQL statements.

The SQL Tuning Advisor operates on a collection of SQL. You can choose a SQL Tuning Set to run the advisor. If you do not have a SQL Tuning Set with the desired SQL for running the advisor, you can create a new one.

You can click on one of the following sources, which will lead you to a data source where you can tune SQL statements using the SQL Tuning Advisor.

SQL Statements

Scope

Total Time Limit (minutes): 30
 Limited
 Comprehensive
This analysis includes SQL Profile recommendation, but may take a long time.
 Time Limit per Statement (minutes): 5

Schedule

Time Zone: UTC
 Immediately
 Later
 Date: Apr 15, 2013 (example: Apr 15, 2013)
 Time: 10:48 AM

Links

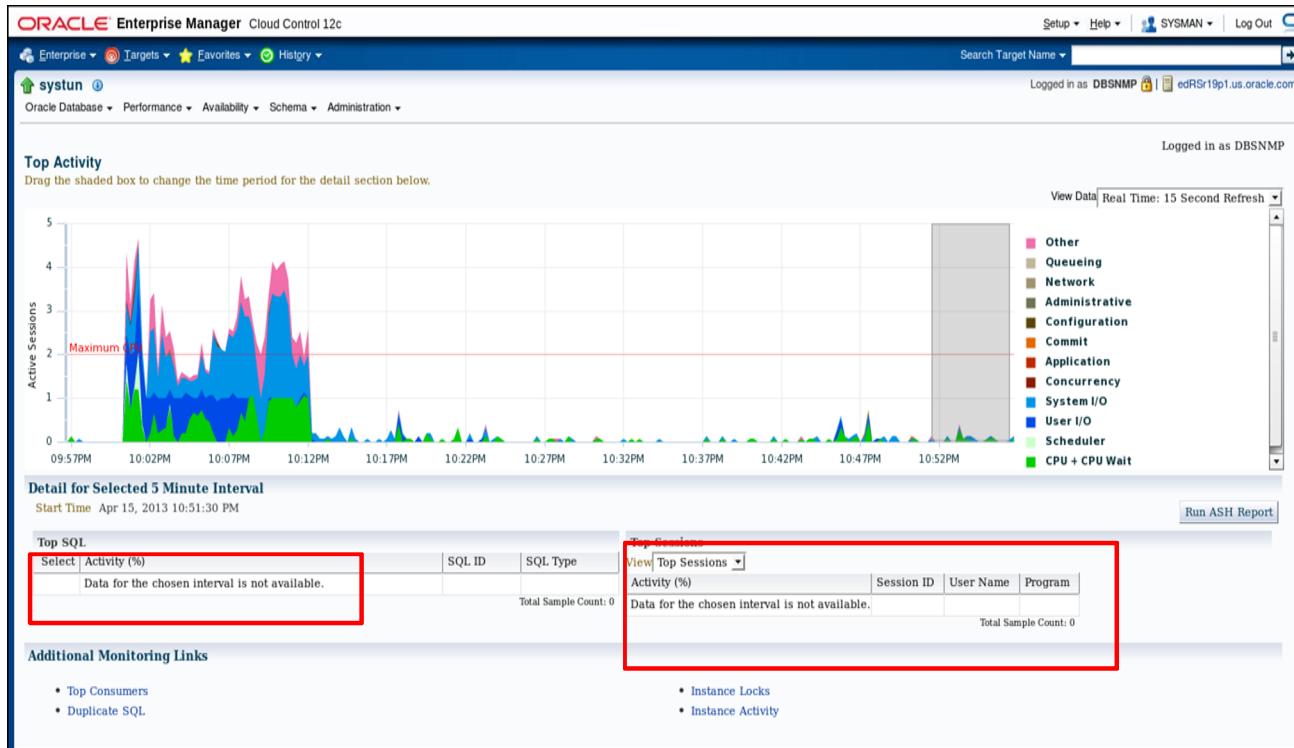
- Top Activity (highlighted with a red box)
- Historical SQL (AWR)
- SQL Tuning Sets

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Access the Database Home page to access the SQL Tuning Advisor. From the Performance menu, click SQL, then SQL Tuning Advisor. This takes you to the Schedule SQL Tuning Advisor page. On this page, you find links to various other pages. You click the Top Activity link to open the Top Activity page.

Running SQL Tuning Advisor: Example



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You can use Cloud Control to identify the high-load or top SQL statements. There are several locations in Cloud Control from where SQL Tuning Advisor can be launched with the identified SQL statements or with an STS:

- **Tuning ADDM-identified SQL statements:** The ADDM Finding Details page shows high-load SQL statements identified by ADDM. Each of these high-load SQL statements is known to consume a significant proportion of one or more system resources. You can use this page to launch SQL Tuning Advisor on a selected high-load SQL statement.
- **Tuning top SQL statements:** Another SQL source is the list of top SQL statements, as shown in the slide. You can identify the list of top SQL statements by looking at their cumulative execution statistics based on a selected time window. The user can select one or more top SQL statements identified by their SQL IDs, and then click Schedule SQL Tuning Advisor.
- **Tuning a SQL Tuning Set:** It is also possible to look at various STSs created by different users. An STS could have been created from a list of top SQL statements, by selecting SQL statements from a range of snapshots created by AWR, or by selecting customized SQL statements.

Schedule SQL Tuning Advisor Page

The diagram illustrates the workflow for scheduling a SQL Tuning Advisor task. It starts with the 'Schedule SQL Tuning Advisor' page, where a user enters parameters like a task name ('SQL_TUNING_JLS') and a time limit (30 minutes). A red arrow points from the 'Submit' button on this page to the 'Processing' page. The 'Processing' page shows the task is executing, with details such as SQL ID, time limit, status, and start time.

Schedule SQL Tuning Advisor

Specify the following parameters to schedule a job to run the SQL Tuning Advisor.

Name:

Description:

SQL Statements

Scope

Total Time:
Limit (minutes)

Scope of Analysis: Limited
The analysis is done without SQL Profile recommendation statement.

Comprehensive
This analysis includes SQL Profile recommendations.

Time Limit per Statement (minutes):

Schedule

Time Zone:

Immediately
 Later

Date:

Time: AM PM

Processing: SQL Tuning Advisor Task SQL_TUNING_JLS

The SQL Tuning Advisor task is executing. Click on the Cancel button to return to the previous page. The SQL Tuning Advisor task will continue to execute. You can check its status and view recommendations from the Advisor Central page. Click on the Interrupt button to abort the current execution.

SQL ID: 5mxdwvuf9j3vp	Time Limit: 1800 (seconds)
 	
Status: EXECUTING	Started: Jul 21, 2010 2:33:40 PM
Elapsed Time (seconds): 0	

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When SQL Tuning Advisor is launched, Enterprise Manager automatically creates a tuning task, provided that the user has the appropriate ADVISOR privilege to do so. Enterprise Manager shows the tuning task with automatic defaults on the Schedule SQL Tuning Advisor page. On this page, the user can change the automatic defaults pertaining to a tuning task.

One of the important options is to select the scope of the tuning task. If you select the Limited option, SQL Tuning Advisor produces recommendations based on statistics check, access path analysis, and SQL structure analysis. No SQL Profile recommendation is generated with Limited scope. If you select the Comprehensive option, SQL Tuning Advisor performs all of the Limited scope actions, and invokes the optimizer under SQL Profiling mode to build a SQL Profile, if applicable. With the Comprehensive option, you can also specify a time limit for the tuning task, which by default is 30 minutes. Another useful option is to run the tuning task immediately or schedule it to be run at a later time.

When the task is submitted, the Processing page appears. When the task is complete, the Recommendations page appears.

Implementing Recommendations

Database Instance: orcl.example.com > Advisor Central > SQL Tuning Task:SQL_TUNING_JLS > Recommendations for SQL ID:5mxdwvuf9j3vp Logged in As SYS

Only one recommendation should be implemented.

SQL Text

```
SELECT /*+ ORDERED USE_NL(c) FULL(c) FULL(s)*/ COUNT(*) FROM SALES S, CUSTOMERS C WHERE C.CUST_ID = S.CUST_ID AND CUST_FIRST_NAME='Dina' ORDER BY TIME_ID
```

Select Recommendation

Original Explain Plan (Annotated)

Implement

Select Type	Findings	Recommendations	Rationale	Benefit (%)	Other Statistics	New Explain Plan	Compare Explain Plans
SQL Profile	A potentially better execution plan was found for this statement.	Consider accepting the recommended SQL profile. No SQL profile currently exists for this recommendation.		99.74			

Compare Explain Plans

Profile Testing Results

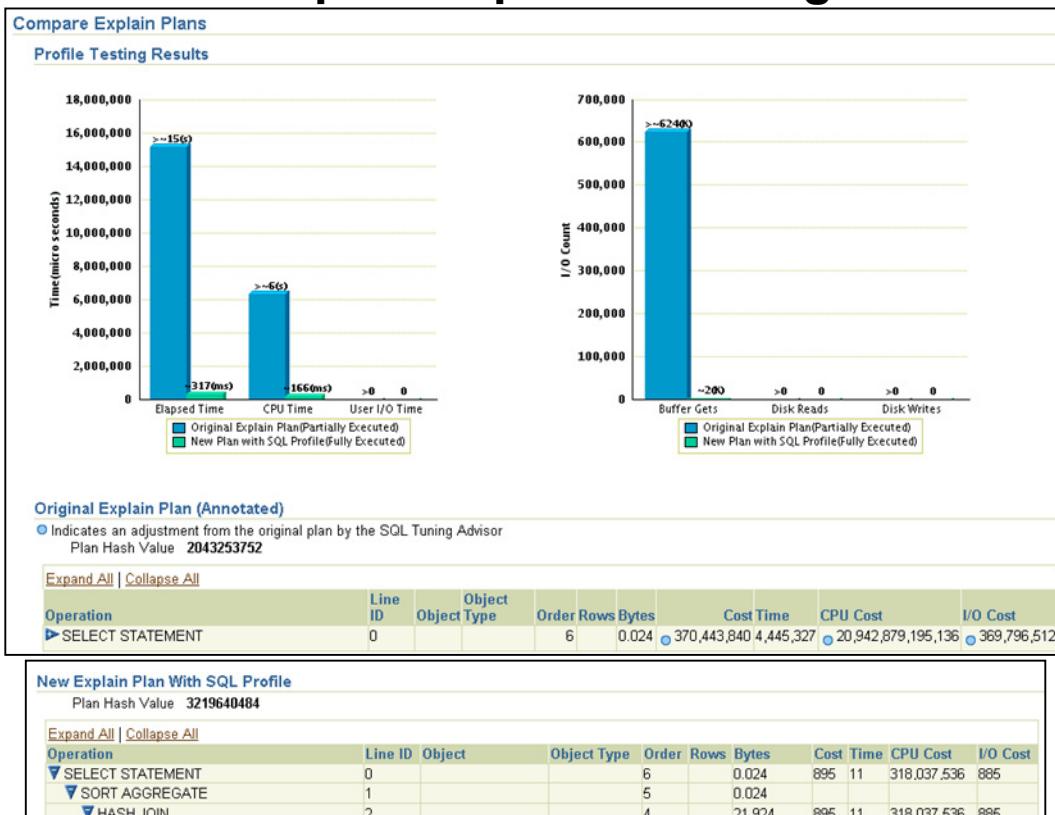
The first chart shows execution time in microseconds. The Y-axis ranges from 8,000,000 to 18,000,000. The second chart shows I/O count. The Y-axis ranges from 300,000 to 700,000. Red arrows point from the 'Compare Explain Plans' section to the respective charts.

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On the Recommendations page, you can view the various recommendations. For each recommendation, as shown, a SQL Profile has been created; you can implement it if you want, after you view the new plan. Click the eyeglass icon to view the Compare Explain Plan page.

Compare Explain Plan Page



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The Compare Explain Plan page gives you the opportunity to view the projected benefits of implementing the recommendation, in this case a SQL profile. You can see the benefits graphically and in a table. Notice the Cost values for the SQL statement in the original and new explain plans. If the difference is not enough or the explain is not acceptable, you can ignore or delete the recommendation.

Quiz

SQL Tuning Advisor recommends:

- a. SQL Profiles
- b. Additional Indexes
- c. Deleting Indexes
- d. Rewriting SQL Statements
- e. All of the above



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Answer: a, b, d

SQL Tuning Advisor in comprehensive mode recommends all except deleting indexes. SQL Tuning Advisor focuses on one SQL statement at a time. An entire workload must be considered to determine if deleting an index will help performance.

Quiz

A SQL Profile forces the best execution plan even when the data in the table changes.

- a. True
- b. False



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Answer: b

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Describe statement profiling
- Use SQL Tuning Advisor



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Using SQL Access Advisor

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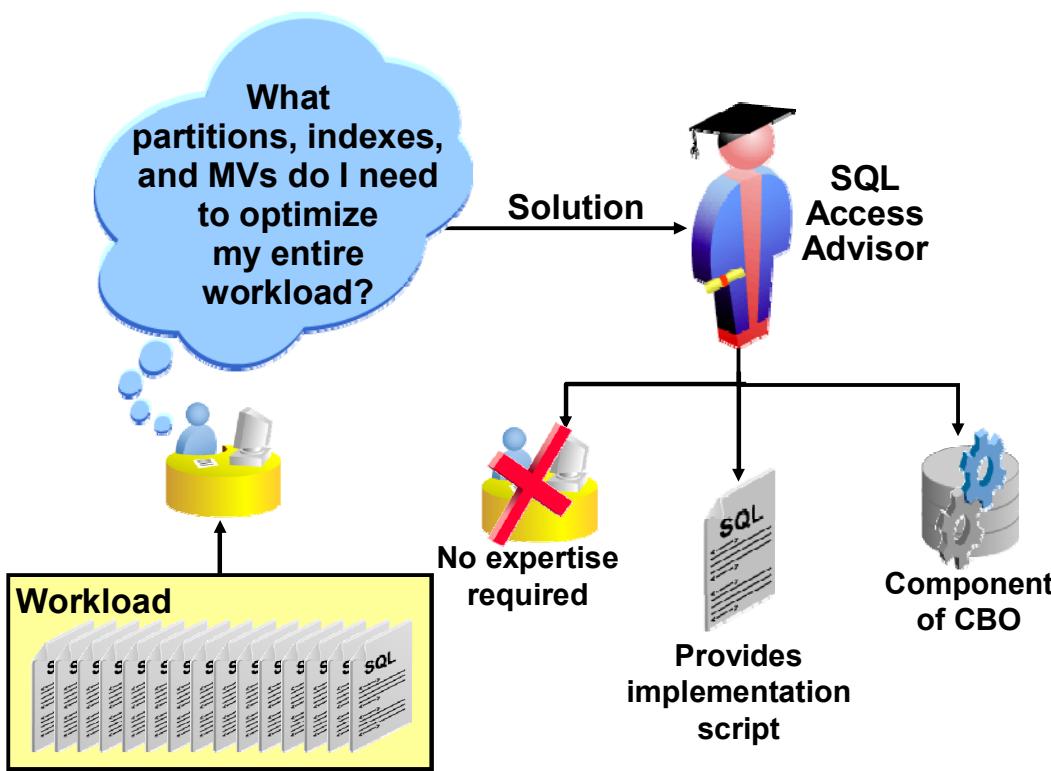
Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to use SQL Access Advisor.



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SQL Access Advisor: Overview



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Defining appropriate access structures to optimize SQL queries has always been a concern for developers. As a result, there have been many papers and scripts written as well as high-end tools developed to address the matter. In addition, with the development of partitioning and materialized view (MV) technology, deciding on access structures has become even more complex.

As part of the manageability improvements in Oracle Database 10g and 11g, SQL Access Advisor has been introduced to address this critical need.

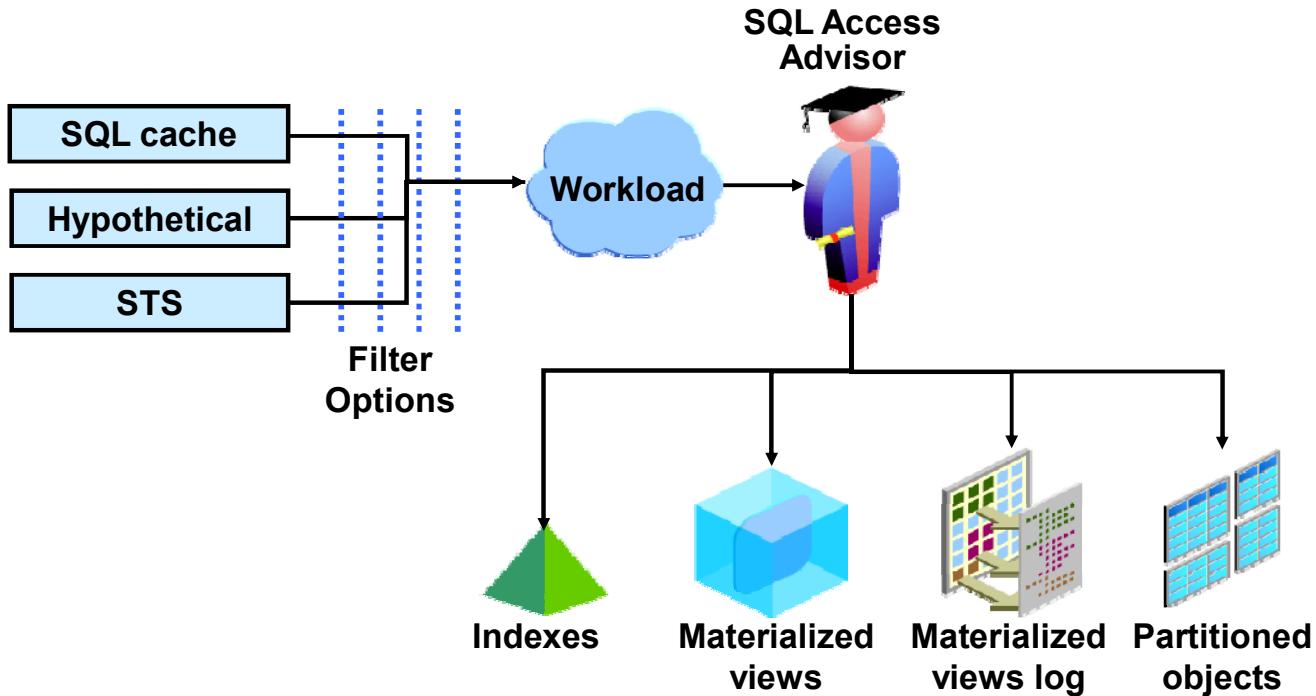
SQL Access Advisor identifies and helps resolve performance problems relating to the execution of SQL statements by recommending which indexes, materialized views, materialized view logs, or partitions to create, drop, or retain. It can be run from Database Control or from the command line by using PL/SQL procedures.

SQL Access Advisor takes an actual workload as input, or it can derive a hypothetical workload from the schema. It then recommends the access structures for a faster execution path. It provides the following advantages:

- Does not require you to have expert knowledge
- Bases decision making on rules that actually reside in the cost-based optimizer (CBO)
- Is synchronized with the optimizer and Oracle Database enhancements

- Is a single advisor covering all aspects of SQL access methods
- Provides simple, user-friendly graphical user interface (GUI) wizards
- Generates scripts for implementation of recommendations

SQL Access Advisor: Usage Model



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SQL Access Advisor takes as input a workload that can be derived from multiple sources:

- SQL cache, to take the current content of V\$SQL
- Hypothetical, to generate a likely workload from your dimensional model (this option is useful when your system is being initially designed)
- SQL tuning sets (STS), from the workload repository

SQL Access Advisor also provides powerful workload filters that you can use to target the tuning. For example, a user can specify that the advisor should look at only the 30 most resource-intensive statements in the workload, based on optimizer cost. For the given workload, the advisor then does the following:

- Simultaneously considers index solutions, MV solutions, partition solutions, or combinations of all three
- Considers storage for creation and maintenance costs
- Does not generate drop recommendations for partial workloads
- Optimizes MVs for maximum query rewrite usage and fast refresh
- Recommends materialized view logs for fast refresh
- Recommends partitioning for tables, indexes, and materialized views
- Combines similar indexes into a single index
- Generates recommendations that support multiple workload queries

Possible Recommendations

Recommendation	Comprehensive	Limited
Add new (partitioned) index on table or materialized view.	YES	YES
Drop an unused index.	YES	NO
Modify an existing index by changing the index type.	YES	NO
Modify an existing index by adding columns at the end.	YES	YES
Add a new (partitioned) materialized view.	YES	YES
Drop an unused materialized view (log).	YES	NO
Add a new materialized view log.	YES	YES
Modify an existing materialized view log to add new columns or clauses.	YES	YES
Partition an existing unpartitioned table or index.	YES	YES



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SQL Access Advisor carefully considers the overall impact of recommendations and makes recommendations by using only the known workload and supplied information. Two workload analysis approaches are available:

- **Comprehensive:** SQL Access Advisor addresses all aspects of tuning partitions, MVs, indexes, and MV logs. It assumes that the workload contains a complete and representative set of application SQL statements.
- **Limited:** Unlike the comprehensive workload approach, a limited workload approach assumes that the workload contains only problematic SQL statements. Thus, advice is sought for improving the performance of a portion of an application environment.

When comprehensive workload analysis is chosen, SQL Access Advisor forms a better set of global tuning adjustments, but the effect may be longer analysis time. As shown in the slide, the chosen workload approach determines the type of recommendations made by the advisor.

Note: Partition recommendations can work only on those tables that have at least 10,000 rows and on workloads that have some predicates and joins on columns of the NUMBER or DATE type. Partitioning recommendations can be generated only on these types of columns. In addition, partitioning recommendations can be generated only for single-column interval and hash partitions. Interval partitioning recommendations can be output as range syntax, but interval is the default. Hash partitioning is done to leverage only partition-wise joins.

SQL Access Advisor Session: Initial Options

The first screenshot shows the Oracle Enterprise Manager Cloud Control 12c interface. In the top navigation bar, 'Performance' is selected. A dropdown menu under 'SQL' contains 'SQL Tuning Advisor', 'SQL Access Advisor', and 'Optimizer Statistics'. The 'SQL Access Advisor' option is highlighted with a red box.

The second screenshot shows the 'SQL Access Advisor: Initial Options' page. It includes a sidebar with 'Advisor Central > SQL Access Advisor: Initial Options' and a main content area with an 'Overview' section. The 'Overview' section contains the following text:

The SQL Access Advisor evaluates SQL statements in a workload Source, and can suggest indexes, partitioning, materialized views and materialized view logs that will improve performance of the workload as a whole.

Below the overview, there are two radio button options:

- Verify use of access structures (indexes, materialized views, partitioning, etc) only
- Recommend new access structures

A checkbox is also present:

Inherit Options from a previously saved Task or Template

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The next few slides describe a typical SQL Access Advisor session. You can access SQL Access Advisor by accessing the Database Home page in Cloud Control. From the Performance menu, select SQL, then SQL Access Advisor. SQL Access Advisor consists of several steps where you supply the SQL statements to tune and the types of access methods that you want to use.

On the SQL Access Advisor: Initial Options page, you can select a template or task from which to populate default options before starting the wizard.

Note: SQL Access Advisor may be interrupted while generating recommendations, thereby allowing the results to be reviewed. For general information about using SQL Access Advisor, see the “Overview of the SQL Access Advisor” section in the lesson titled “SQL Access Advisor” of the *Oracle Data Warehousing Guide*.

SQL Access Advisor Session: Initial Options

The screenshot shows the Oracle Enterprise Manager Cloud Control 12c interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Enterprise', 'Targets', 'Favorites', 'History', 'Setup', 'Help', 'SYSMAN', and 'Log Out'. The main menu shows 'Oracle Database', 'Performance', 'Availability', 'Schema', and 'Administration'. The current page is 'Advisor Central > SQL Access Advisor: Initial Options'. On the left, there's a sidebar with 'Tasks and Templates' and a 'View Options' button. The main content area has a 'Overview' section explaining the SQL Access Advisor's function. Below it is a table listing templates:

Select	Name	Description	Last Modified	Type
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	SQLACCESS_EMTASK	Default Enterprise Manager task template	Apr 15, 2013 11:35:38 PM UTC	Default Template
<input type="radio"/>	SQLACCESS_GENERAL	General purpose database template	Apr 15, 2013 11:35:37 PM UTC	Template
<input type="radio"/>	SQLACCESS OLTP	OLTP database template	Apr 15, 2013 11:35:38 PM UTC	Template
<input type="radio"/>	SQLACCESS_WAREHOUSE	Data Warehouse database template	Apr 15, 2013 11:35:38 PM UTC	Template

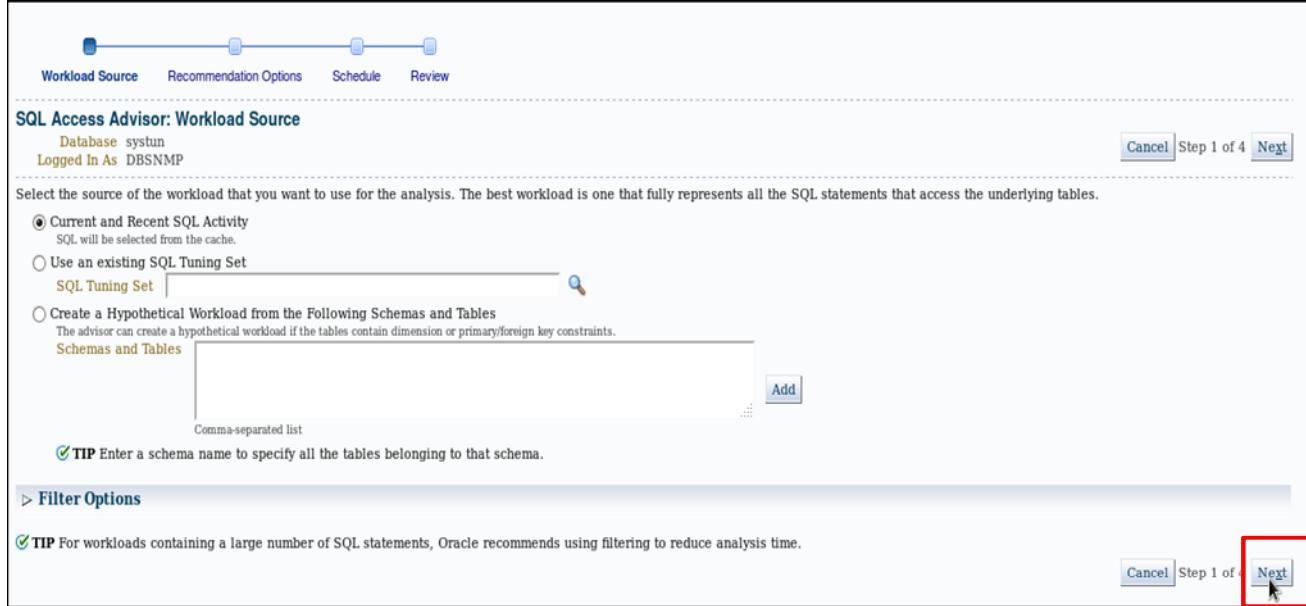
At the bottom right of the table are 'Cancel' and 'Continue' buttons. A 'TIP' message at the bottom left says, 'You are selecting the starting point for the wizard. All options can be changed from within the wizard.'

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If you select the “Inherit Options from a previously saved Task or Template” option on the SQL Access Advisor: Initial Options page, you can select an existing task or an existing template to inherit the SQL Access Advisor options. By default, the SQLACCESS_EMTASK template is used.

You can view the various options defined by a task or a template by selecting the corresponding object and clicking View Options.

SQL Access Advisor: Workload Source



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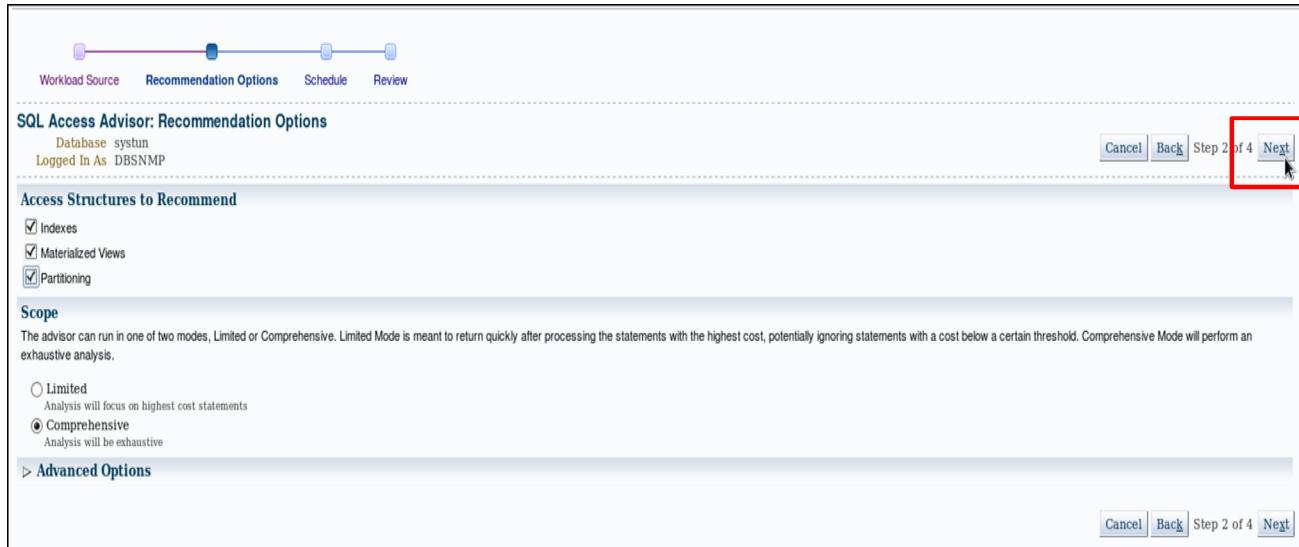
You can select your workload source from three different sources:

- **Current and Recent SQL Activity:** This source corresponds to SQL statements that are still cached in your System Global Area (SGA).
- **Existing SQL Tuning Set:** You also have the possibility of creating and using a SQL Tuning Set that holds your statements.
- **Hypothetical Workload:** This option provides a schema that allows the advisor to search for dimension tables and produce a workload. This option is very useful to initially design your schema.

Using the Filter Options section, you can further filter your workload source. Filter options are:

- Resource Consumption (number of statements ordered by Optimizer Cost, Buffer Gets, CPU Time, Disk Reads, Elapsed Time, Executions)
- Users
- Tables
- SQL Text
- Module IDs
- Actions

SQL Access Advisor: Recommendation Options



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On the Recommendation Options page, you can select whether to limit SQL Access Advisor to recommendations based on a single access method. You can select the type of structures to be recommended by the advisor. If none of the three possible structures are chosen, the advisor evaluates existing structures instead of trying to recommend new ones.

You can use the Advisor Mode section to run the advisor in one of the two modes. These modes affect the quality of recommendations as well as the length of time required for processing. In Comprehensive Mode, the advisor searches a large pool of candidates, resulting in recommendations of the highest quality. In Limited Mode, the advisor performs quickly, limiting the candidate recommendations by working only on the highest-cost statements.

Note: You can click Advanced Options to show or hide options that allow you to set space restrictions, tuning options, and default storage locations.

SQL Access Advisor: Schedule and Review

The screenshot shows two overlapping windows of the SQL Access Advisor interface:

- Schedule Step 3 of 4:** This window is titled "SQL Access Advisor: Schedule". It contains fields for "Task Name" (SQLACCESS803916), "Task Description" (SQL Access Advisor), "Journaling Level" (Basic), "Task Expiration (days)" (30), "Total Time Limit (minutes)" (DBMS_ADVISOR.ADVISOR_UNLIMITED), and "Scheduling Options". The "Start" section is set to "Immediately" on "Feb 2, 2007" at "8:55 AM". A red box highlights the "Next" button.
- Review Step 4 of 4:** This window is titled "SQL Access Advisor: Review". It displays the task details: Task Name (SQLACCESS803916), Task Description (SQL Access Advisor), and Scheduled Start Time (Run Immediately). It also shows the "Options" table with two entries:

Modified Option	Value	Description
SQL Tuning Set	SH.SQLSET_TEST_500	Import Workload from SQL Repository
Workload Source	SQL Tuning Set	The source of SQL statements to be used to create the workload

 A red box highlights the "Submit" button.

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You can then schedule and submit your new analysis by specifying various parameters to the scheduler. The possible options are shown in the slide.

SQL Access Advisor: Results

Results

Select	Advisory Type	Name	Description	User	Status	Start Time	Duration (seconds)	Expires In (days)
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	SQL Access Advisor	SQLACCESS803916	SQL Access Advisor	SH	COMPLETED	Feb 2, 2007 8:53:16 AM	139	30

Results for Task: SQLACCESS803916

Task Name: SQLACCESS803916
 Status: COMPLETED
 Advisor Mode: COMPREHENSIVE
 Scheduler Job: ADV_SQLACCESS803916

Started: Feb 2, 2007 8:53:16 AM PST
 Ended: Feb 2, 2007 8:55:35 AM PST
 Running Time (seconds): 139
 Time Limit (seconds): UNLIMITED

Recommendations (highlighted with a red box)

Overall Workload Performance

Potential for Improvement

Workload I/O Cost

Query Execution Time Improvement

Recommendations

Recommendations: 7,258

Space Requirements (MB): 7,258

User Specified Space Adjustment:

Recommendation Action Counts

Action	Create	Drop	Retain
Index	2	0	0
Materialized View	4	0	0
Materialized View Log	3	0	0
Partitioned	1	0	2

SQL Statements

SQL Statements: 499
Statement remaining after filters were applied

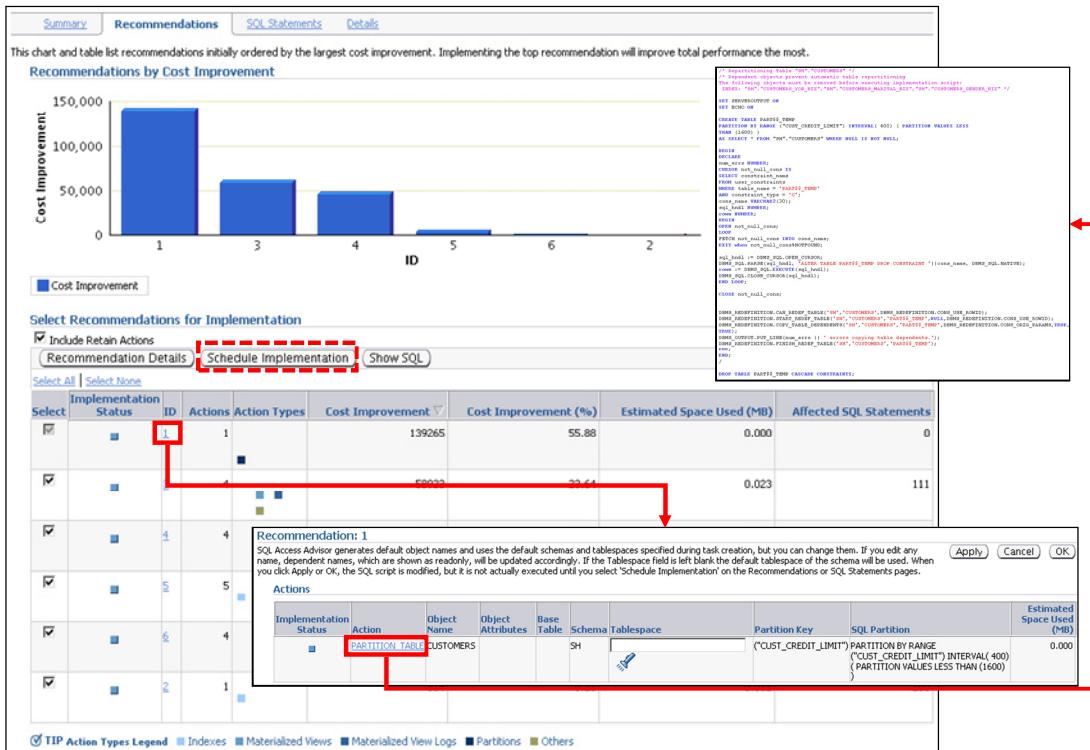
Statement Count

Action	Count
Insert	0
Select	499
Update	0
Delete	0
Merge	0
Skipped (Parsing or Privilege Errors)	499

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On the Advisor Central page, you can retrieve the task details for your analysis. By selecting the task name in the Results section, you can access the Results for Task Summary page, where you can see an overview of the SQL Access Advisor findings. The page shows you charts and statistics that provide overall workload performance and potential for improving query execution time for the recommendations. You can use the page to show statement counts and recommendation action counts.

SQL Access Advisor: Results and Implementation



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To see other aspects of the results for the SQL Access Advisor task, click one of the three other tabs on the page: Recommendations, SQL Statements, or Details.

On the Recommendations page, you can drill down to each of the recommendations. For each of them, you see important information in the Select Recommendations for Implementation table. You can then select one or more recommendations and schedule their implementation.

If you click the ID for a particular recommendation, you are taken to the Recommendations page that displays all actions for the specified recommendation and, optionally, to modify the tablespace name of the statement. When you complete any changes, click OK to apply the changes. On the Recommendations page, you can view the full text of an action by clicking the link in the Action field for the specified action. You can view the SQL statements for all actions in the recommendation by clicking Show SQL.

The SQL Statements page (not shown here) gives you a chart and a corresponding table that lists SQL statements initially ordered by the largest cost improvement. The top SQL statement is improved the most by implementing its associated recommendation.

The Details page shows you the workload and task options that were used when the task was created. This page also gives you all journal entries that were logged during task execution.

You can also schedule implementation of the recommendations by clicking the Schedule Implementation button.

Quiz

Identify two available workload analysis methods.

- a. Comprehensive
- b. Complete
- c. Partial
- d. Limited



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Answer: a, d

Quiz

SQL Access Advisor identifies but cannot help resolve performance problems relating to the execution of SQL statements.

- a. True
- b. False



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Answer: b

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to use SQL Access Advisor.



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Exploring the Oracle Database Architecture

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Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:

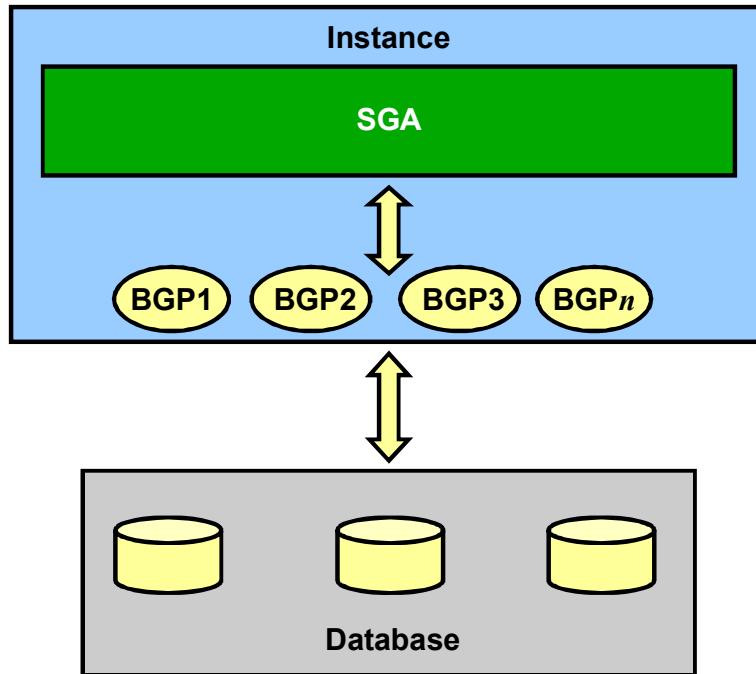
- List the major architectural components of the Oracle Database server
- Explain memory structures
- Describe background processes
- Correlate logical and physical storage structures



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This lesson provides an overview of the Oracle Database server architecture. You learn about its architectural components, memory structures, background processes, and logical and physical storage structures.

Oracle Database Server Architecture: Overview



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An Oracle Database server consists of an Oracle database and one or more Oracle Database instances. An instance consists of memory structures and background processes. Every time an instance is started, a shared memory area called the System Global Area (SGA) is allocated and the background processes are started.

The SGA contains data and control information for one Oracle Database instance.

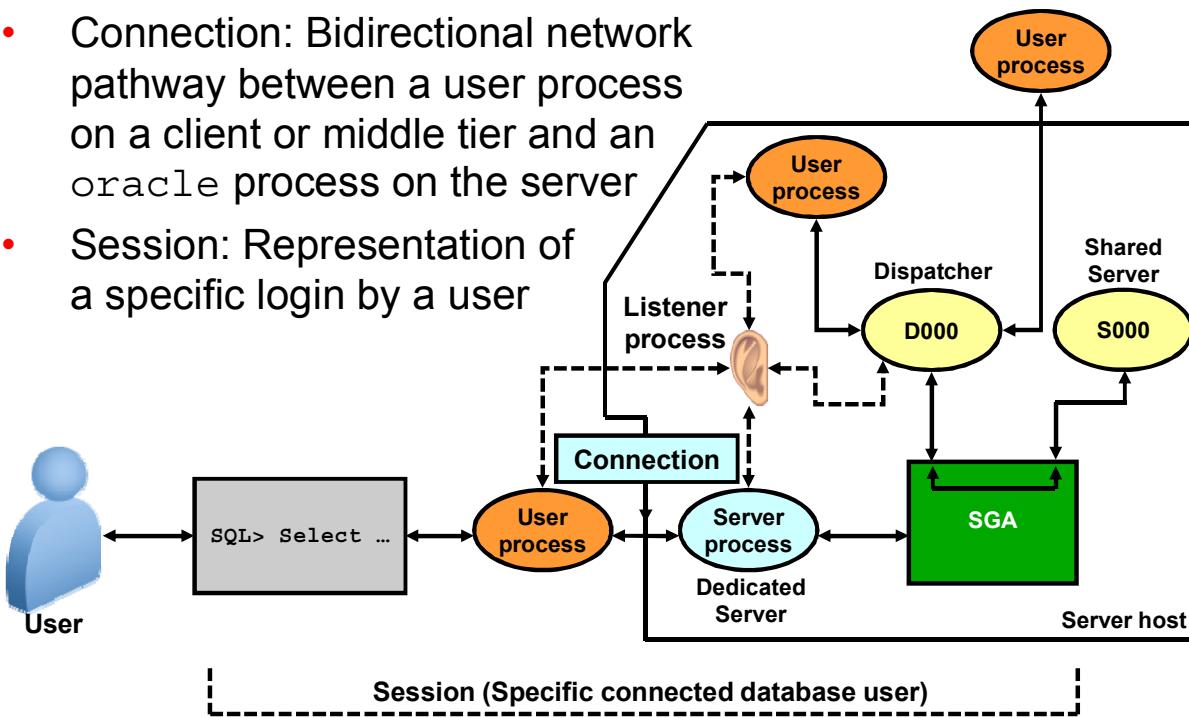
The background processes consolidate functions that would otherwise be handled by multiple Oracle Database server programs running for each user process. They may asynchronously perform input/output (I/O) and monitor other Oracle Database processes to provide increased parallelism for better performance and reliability.

The database consists of physical files and logical structures discussed later in this lesson. Because the physical and logical structures are separate, the physical storage of data can be managed without affecting access to the logical storage structures.

Note: Oracle Real Application Clusters (Oracle RAC) comprises two or more Oracle Database instances running on multiple clustered computers that communicate with each other by means of an interconnect and access the same Oracle database.

Connecting to the Database Instance

- Connection: Bidirectional network pathway between a user process on a client or middle tier and an oracle process on the server
- Session: Representation of a specific login by a user



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When users connect to an Oracle Database server, they are connected to an Oracle Database instance. The database instance services those users by allocating other memory areas in addition to the SGA and by starting other processes in addition to the Oracle Database background processes:

- User processes, which are sometimes called client or foreground processes, are created to run the software code of an application program. Most environments have separate machines for the client processes. A user process also manages communication with a corresponding server process through a program interface.
- The Oracle Database server creates server processes to handle requests from connected user processes. A server process communicates with the user process and interacts with the instance and the database to carry out requests from the associated user process.

An Oracle Database instance can be configured to vary the number of user processes for each server process. In a dedicated server configuration, a server process handles requests for a single user process.

A shared server configuration enables many user processes to share a small number of shared server processes, minimizing the number of server processes and maximizing the use of available system resources. One or more dispatcher processes are then used to queue user process requests in the SGA and dequeue shared server responses.

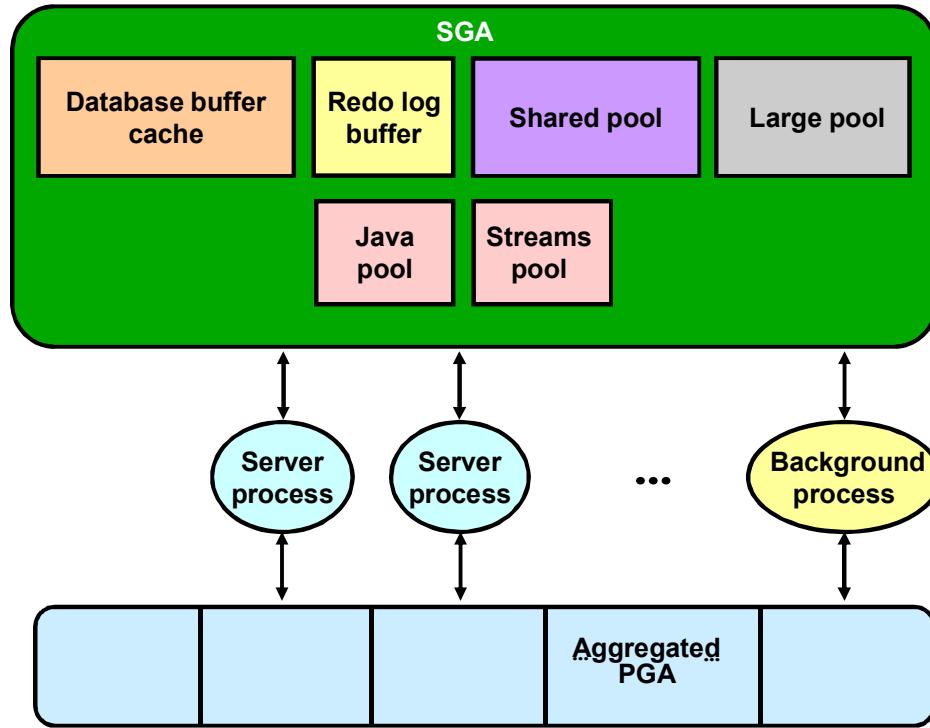
The Oracle Database server runs a listener that is responsible for handling network connections. The application connects to the listener that creates a dedicated server process or handles the connection to a dispatcher.

Connections and sessions are closely related to user processes, but are very different in meaning:

- A connection is a communication pathway between a user process and an Oracle Database instance. A communication pathway is established by using available interprocess communication mechanisms (on a computer that runs both the user process and Oracle Database) or network software (when different computers run the database application and the Oracle Database, and communicate through a network).
- A session represents the state of a current database user login to the database instance. For example, when a user starts Oracle SQL*Plus, the user must provide a valid database username and password, and then a session is established for that user. A session lasts from the time when a user connects until the user disconnects or exits the database application.

Note: Multiple sessions can be created and exist concurrently for a single Oracle Database user by using the same username. For example, a user with the username/password of HR/HR can connect to the same Oracle Database instance several times.

Oracle Database Memory Structures: Overview



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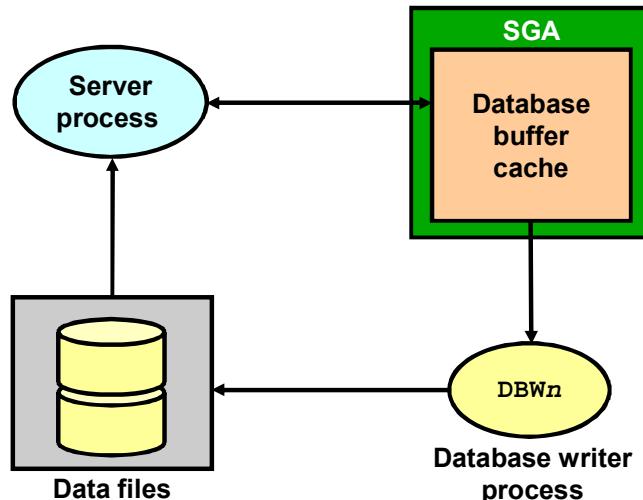
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Oracle Database allocates memory structures for various purposes. For example, memory stores the program code that is run, data that is shared among users, and private data areas for each connected user. Two basic memory structures are associated with an instance:

- **System Global Area (SGA):** The SGA is shared by all server and background processes. The SGA includes the following data structures:
 - **Database buffer cache:** Caches blocks of data retrieved from the database files
 - **Redo log buffer:** Caches recovery information before writing it to the physical files
 - **Shared pool:** Caches various constructs that can be shared among sessions
 - **Large pool:** Optional area used for certain operations, such as Oracle backup and recovery operations, and I/O server processes
 - **Java pool:** Used for session-specific Java code and data in the Java Virtual Machine (JVM)
 - **Streams pool:** Used by Oracle Streams to store information about the capture and apply processes
- **Program Global Areas (PGA):** Memory regions that contain data and control information about a server or background process. A PGA is suballocated from the aggregated PGA area.

Database Buffer Cache

- Is part of the SGA
- Holds copies of data blocks that are read from data files
- Is shared by all concurrent processes



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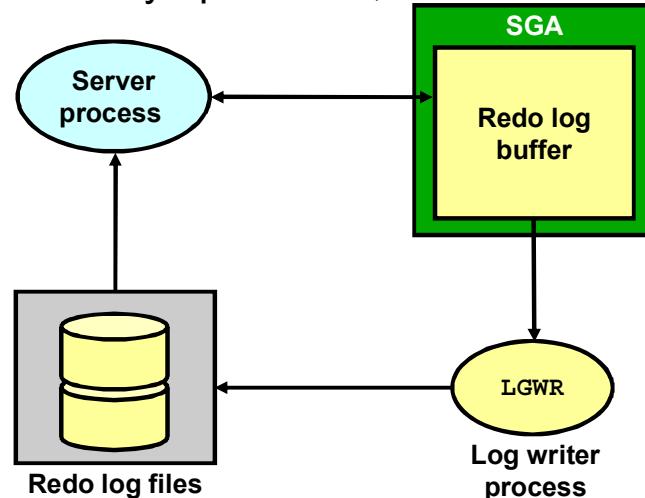
The database buffer cache is the portion of the SGA that holds copies of data blocks that are read from data files. All users concurrently connected to the instance share access to the database buffer cache.

The first time an Oracle Database server process requires a particular piece of data, it searches for the data in the database buffer cache. If the process finds the data already in the cache (a cache hit), it can read the data directly from memory. If the process cannot find the data in the cache (a cache miss), it must copy the data block from a data file on disk into a buffer in the cache before accessing the data. Accessing data through a cache hit is faster than accessing data through a cache miss.

The buffers in the cache are managed by a complex algorithm that uses a combination of least recently used (LRU) lists and touch count. The DBW n (database writer) processes are responsible for writing modified (dirty) buffers in the database buffer cache to disk when necessary.

Redo Log Buffer

- Is a circular buffer in the SGA (based on the number of CPUs)
- Contains redo entries that have the information to redo changes made by operations, such as DML and DDL



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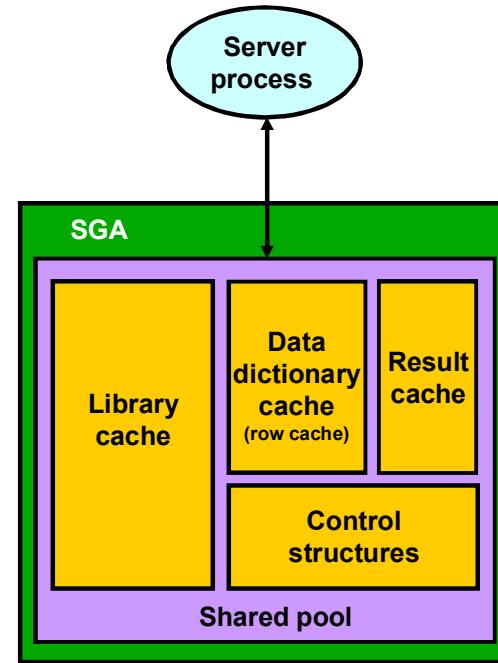
The redo log buffer is a circular buffer in the SGA that holds information about changes made to the database. This information is stored in redo entries. Redo entries contain the information necessary to reconstruct (or redo) changes that are made to the database by INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE, CREATE, ALTER, or DROP operations. Redo entries are used for database recovery, if necessary.

Redo entries are copied by Oracle Database server processes from the user's memory space to the redo log buffer in the SGA. The redo entries take up continuous, sequential space in the buffer. The LGWR (log writer) background process writes the redo log buffer to the active redo log file (or group of files) on disk. LGWR is a background process that is capable of asynchronous I/O.

Note: Depending on the number of CPUs on your system, there may be more than one redo log buffer. They are automatically allocated.

Shared Pool

- Is part of the SGA
- Contains:
 - Library cache
 - Shared parts of SQL and PL/SQL statements
 - Data dictionary cache
 - Result cache:
 - SQL queries
 - PL/SQL functions
 - Control structures
 - Locks



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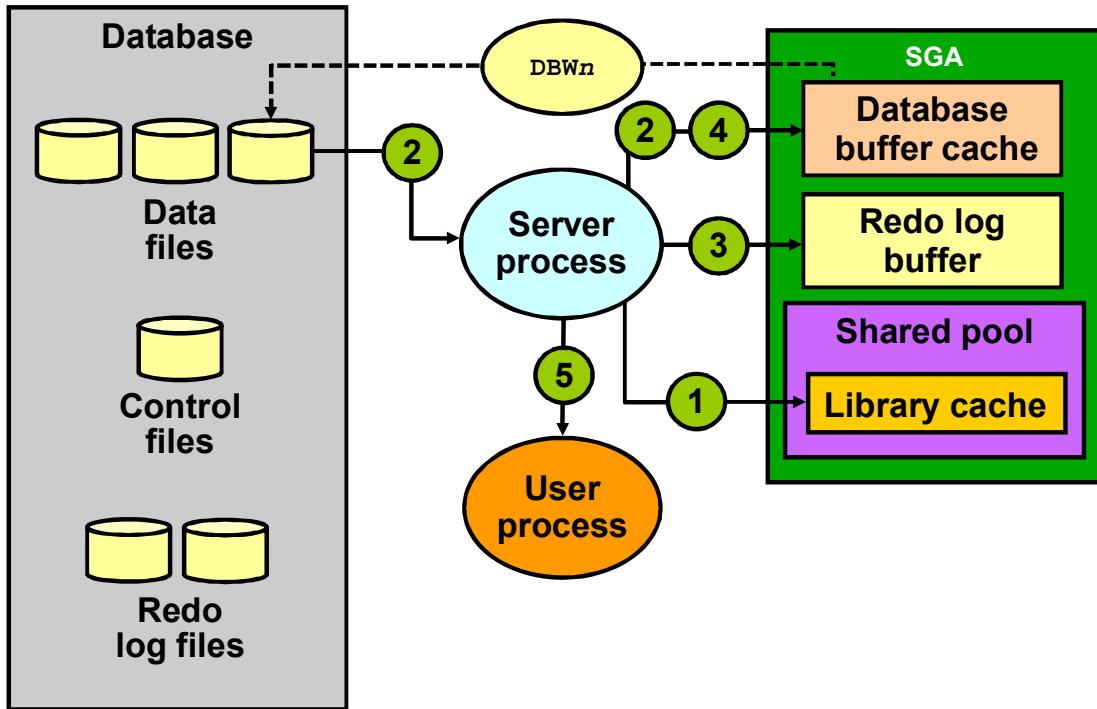
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The shared pool portion of the SGA contains the following main parts:

- The library cache includes the shareable parts of SQL statements, PL/SQL procedures, and packages. It also contains control structures, such as locks.
- The data dictionary is a collection of database tables containing reference information about the database. The data dictionary is accessed so often by the Oracle Database that two special locations in memory are designated to hold dictionary data. One area is called the data dictionary cache, also known as the row cache, and the other area is called the library cache. All Oracle Database server processes share these two caches for access to data dictionary information.
- The result cache is composed of the SQL query result cache and the PL/SQL function result cache. This cache is used to store results of SQL queries or PL/SQL functions to speed up their future executions.
- Control structures are essentially lock structures.

Note: In general, any item in the shared pool remains until it is flushed according to a modified LRU algorithm.

Processing a DML Statement: Example



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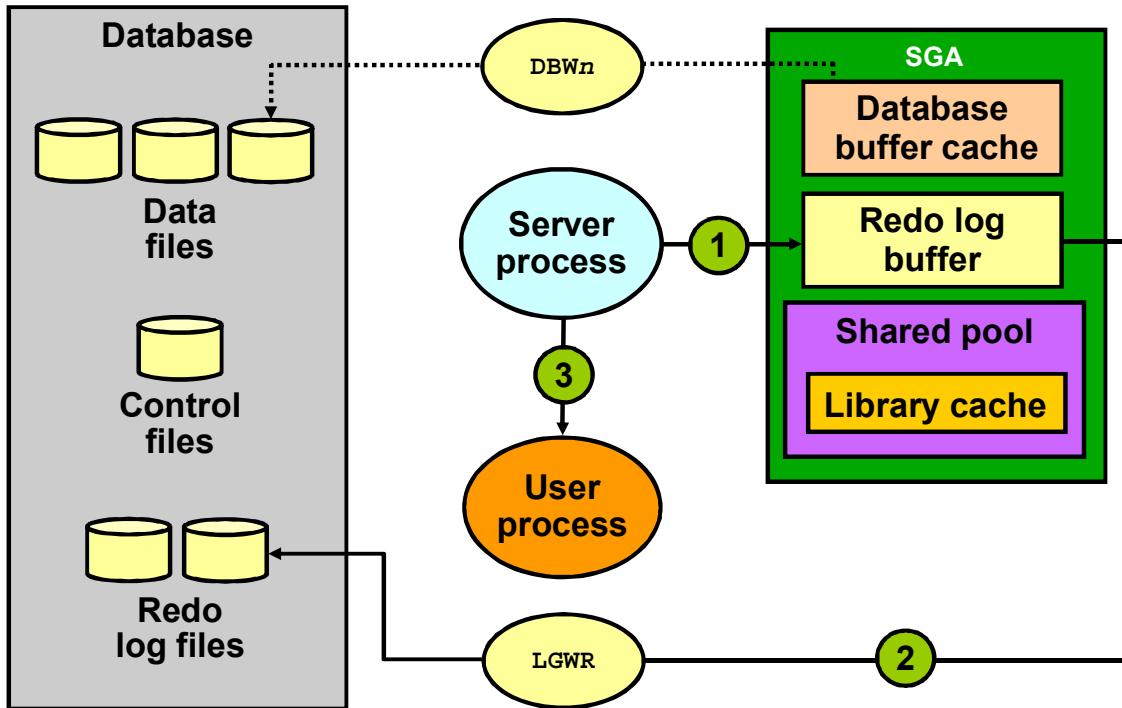
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The steps involved in executing a data manipulation language (DML) statement are:

1. The server process receives the statement and checks the library cache for any shared SQL area that contains a similar SQL statement. If a shared SQL area is found, the server process checks the user's access privileges for the requested data, and the existing shared SQL area is used to process the statement. If not, a new shared SQL area is allocated for the statement, so that it can be parsed and processed.
2. If the data and undo segment blocks are not already in the buffer cache, the server process reads them from the data files into the buffer cache. The server process locks the rows that are to be modified.
3. The server process records the changes to be made to the data buffers as well as the undo changes. These changes are written to the redo log buffer before the in-memory data and undo buffers are modified. This is called write-ahead logging.
4. The undo segment buffers contain values of the data before it is modified. The undo buffers are used to store the before image of the data so that the DML statements can be rolled back, if necessary. The data buffers record the new values of the data.
5. The user gets feedback from the DML operation (such as how many rows were affected by the operation).

Note: Any changed blocks in the buffer cache are marked as dirty buffers; that is, the buffers are not the same as the corresponding blocks on the disk. These buffers are not immediately written to disk by the DBW_n processes.

COMMIT Processing: Example



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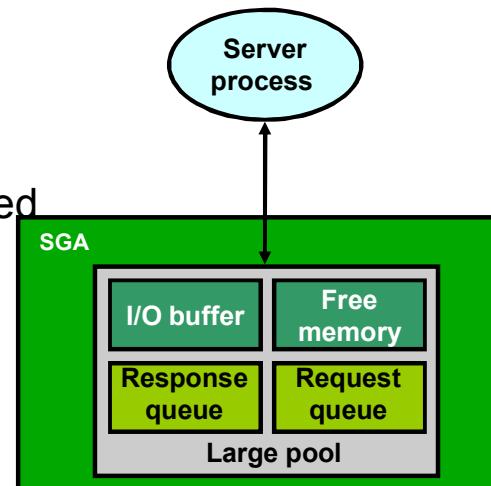
When COMMIT is issued, the following steps are performed:

1. The server process places a commit record, along with the system change number (SCN), in the redo log buffer. The SCN is monotonically incremented and is unique within the database. It is used by Oracle Database as an internal time stamp to synchronize data and to provide read consistency when data is retrieved from the data files. Using the SCN enables Oracle Database to perform consistency checks without depending on the date and time of the operating system.
2. The LGWR background process performs a contiguous write of all the redo log buffer entries up to and including the commit record to the redo log files. After this point, Oracle Database can guarantee that the changes are not lost even if there is an instance failure.
3. If modified blocks are still in the SGA, and if no other session is modifying them, then the database removes lock-related transaction information from the blocks. This process is known as commit cleanout.
4. The server process provides feedback to the user process about the completion of the transaction.

Note: If not done already, DBW n eventually writes the actual changes back to disk based on its own internal timing mechanism.

Large Pool

- Provides large memory allocations for:
 - Session memory for the shared server and Oracle XA interface
 - Parallel execution buffers
 - I/O server processes
 - Oracle Database backup and restore operations
- Is an optional pool, better suited when using the following:
 - Parallel execution
 - Recovery Manager
 - Shared server



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You can configure an optional memory area called the large pool to provide large memory allocations for the following components:

- Session memory for the shared server, the Oracle XA interface (used where transactions interact with more than one database), or parallel execution buffers
- I/O server processes
- Oracle Database backup and restore operations

By allocating the memory components from the large pool, Oracle Database can use the shared pool primarily for caching the shared part of SQL and PL/SQL constructs. The shared pool was originally designed to store SQL and PL/SQL constructs. Using the large pool helps avoid fragmentation issues associated with large and small allocations that share the same memory area. Unlike the shared pool, the large pool does not have an LRU list.

You should consider configuring a large pool if your instance uses any of the following:

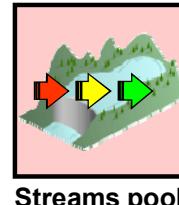
- **Parallel execution:** Parallel query uses shared pool memory to cache parallel execution message buffers.
- **Recovery Manager:** Recovery Manager uses the shared pool to cache I/O buffers during backup and restore operations.
- **Shared server:** In a shared server architecture, the session memory for each client process is included in the shared pool.

Java Pool and Streams Pool

- Java pool memory is used in server memory for all session-specific Java code and data in the JVM.
- Streams pool memory is used exclusively by Oracle Streams to:
 - Store buffered queue messages
 - Provide memory for Oracle Streams processes



Java pool



Streams pool

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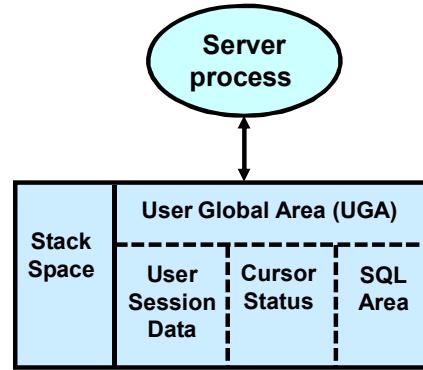
Java pool memory is used for all session-specific Java code and data in the JVM. Java pool memory is used in different ways, depending on the mode in which Oracle Database runs.

Oracle Streams enables the propagation and management of data, transactions, and events in a data stream either within a database or from one database to another. The Streams pool is used exclusively by Oracle Streams. The Streams pool stores buffered queue messages, and it provides memory for Oracle Streams capture and apply processes.

Note: A detailed discussion of Java programming and Oracle Streams is beyond the scope of this course.

Program Global Area

- PGA is a memory area that contains:
 - Session information
 - Cursor information
 - SQL execution work areas:
 - Sort area
 - Hash join area
 - Bitmap Merge area
 - Bitmap Create area
- The size of the work area influences SQL performance.
- Work areas can be managed automatically or manually.



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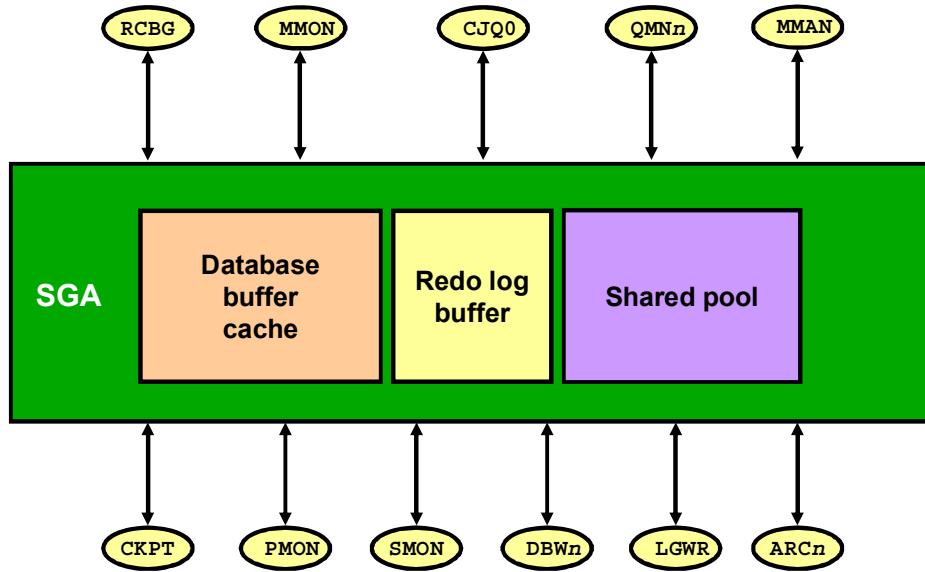
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The PGA can be compared to a temporary countertop workspace used by a file clerk (the server process) to perform a function on behalf of a customer (client process). The clerk clears a section of the countertop, uses the workspace to store details about the customer's request, and then gives up the space when the work is done.

Generally, the PGA memory is divided into the following areas:

- Session memory is the memory allocated to hold a session's variables (login information) and other information related to the session. For a shared server, the session memory is shared and not private.
- Cursors are handles to the private memory structures of specific SQL statements.
- SQL work areas are allocated to support memory-intensive operators, such as those listed in the slide. Generally, bigger work areas can significantly improve the performance of a particular operator at the cost of higher memory consumption.

Background Process



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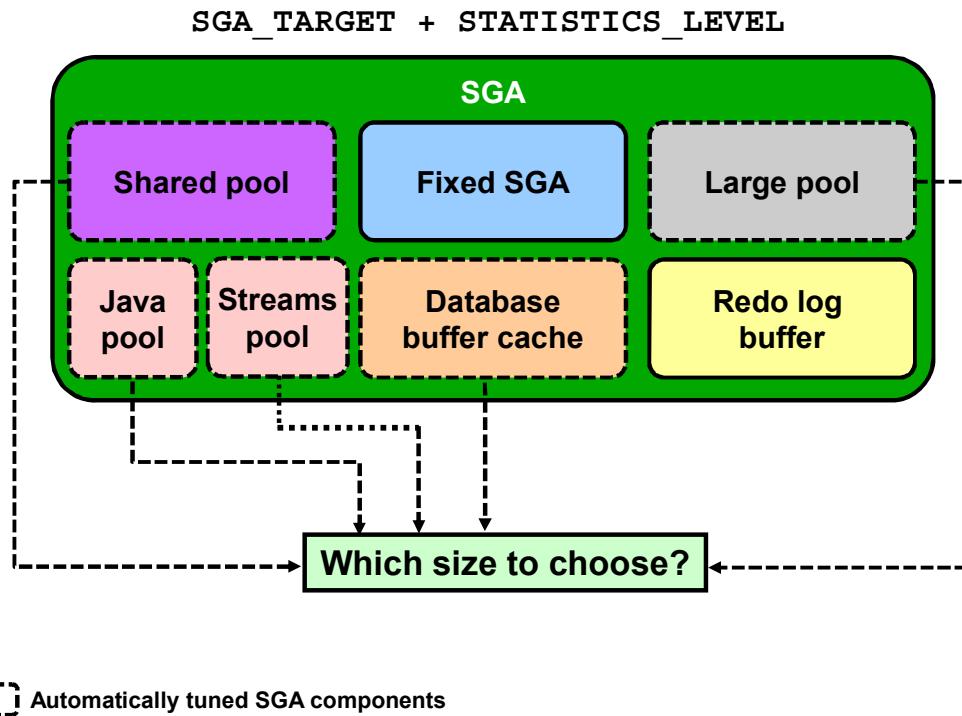
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The background processes commonly seen in non-RAC, non-ASM environments can include the following:

- **Database writer process (DBW n):** Asynchronously writes modified (dirty) buffers in the database buffer cache to disk
- **Log writer process (LGWR):** Writes the recovery information, called redo information, in the log buffer to a redo log file on disk
- **Checkpoint process (CKPT):** Records checkpoint information in control files and each data file header
- **System monitor process (SMON):** Performs recovery at instance startup and cleans up unused temporary segments
- **Process monitor process (PMON):** Performs process recovery when a user process fails
- **Result cache background process (RCBG):** Is used to maintain the result cache in the shared pool

- **Job queue process (CJQ0):** Runs user jobs used in batch processing through the Scheduler
- **Archiver processes (ARCn):** Copy redo log files to a designated storage device after a log switch has occurred
- **Queue monitor processes (QMNn):** Monitor the Oracle Streams message queues
- **Manageability monitoring process (MMON):** Performs manageability-related background tasks
- **Memory manager background process (MMAN):** Is used to manage SGA and PGA memory components automatically

Automatic Shared Memory Management



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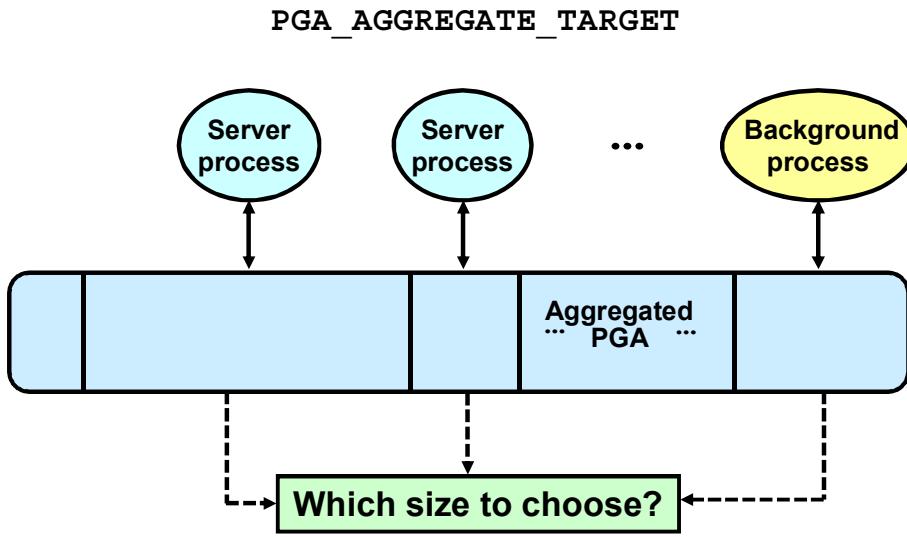
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You can use the Automatic Shared Memory Management (ASMM) feature to enable the database to automatically determine the size of each of the memory components listed in the slide within the limits of the total SGA size.

The system uses an SGA size parameter (`SGA_TARGET`) that includes all memory in the SGA, including all automatically sized components, manually sized components, and any internal allocations during startup. ASMM simplifies the configuration of the SGA by enabling you to specify a total memory amount to be used for all SGA components. Oracle Database then periodically redistributes memory between the automatically-tuned components, according to workload requirements.

Note: You must set `STATISTICS_LEVEL` to `TYPICAL` or `ALL` to use ASMM.

Automated SQL Execution Memory Management



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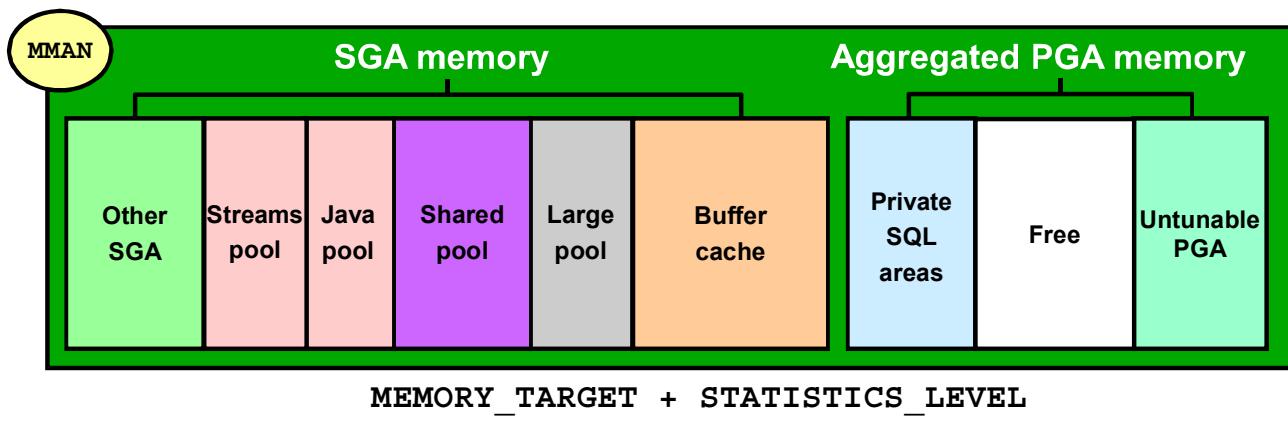
This feature provides an automatic mode for allocating memory to working areas in the PGA. You can use the `PGA_AGGREGATE_TARGET` parameter to specify the total amount of memory that should be allocated to the PGA areas of the sessions of the instance. In automatic mode, working areas that are used by memory-intensive operators (sorts and hash joins) can be adjusted automatically and dynamically.

This feature offers several performance and scalability benefits for decision support system (DSS) workloads and mixed workloads with complex queries. The overall system performance is maximized, and the available memory is allocated more efficiently among queries to optimize both throughput and response time. In particular, the savings that are gained from improved use of memory translate to better throughput at high loads.

Note: In earlier releases of the Oracle Database server, you had to manually specify the maximum work area size for each type of SQL operator, such as sort or hash join. This method proved to be very difficult because the workload changes constantly. Although the current release of Oracle Database supports this manual PGA memory management method that might be useful for specific sessions, it is recommended that you leave automatic PGA memory management enabled.

Automatic Memory Management

- Sizing of each memory component is vital for SQL execution performance.
- It is difficult to manually size each component.
- Automatic Memory Management automates memory allocation of each SGA component and aggregated PGA.



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As seen already, the size of the various memory areas of the instance directly impacts the speed of SQL processing. Depending on the database workload, it is difficult to size those components manually.

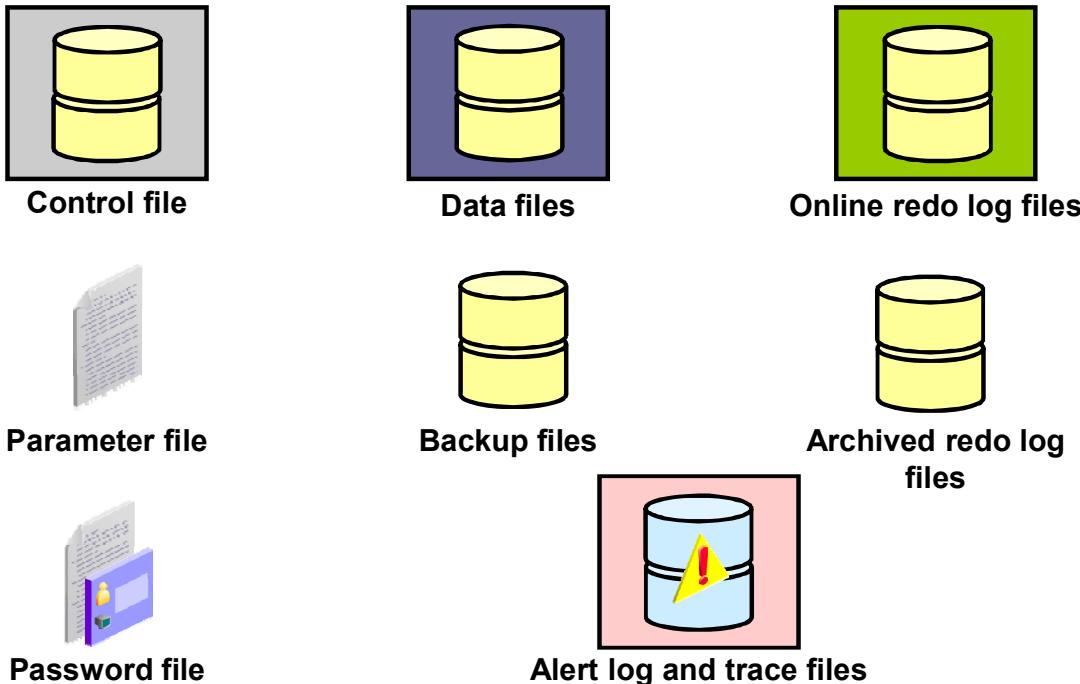
With Automatic Memory Management (AMM), the system automatically adapts the size of each memory's components to your workload memory needs.

When you set your `MEMORY_TARGET` initialization parameter for the database instance, the `MMAN` background process automatically tunes to the target memory size, redistributing memory as needed between the internal components of the SGA and between the SGA and the aggregated PGAs.

The ASSM feature uses the SGA memory broker that is implemented by two background processes: Manageability Monitor (`MMON`) and Memory Manager (`MMAN`). Statistics and memory advisory data are periodically captured in memory by `MMON`. `MMAN` coordinates the sizing of the memory components according to `MMON` decisions.

Note: Currently, this mechanism is implemented only on Linux, Solaris, HP-UX, AIX, and Windows.

Database Storage Architecture



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The files that constitute an Oracle database are organized into the following:

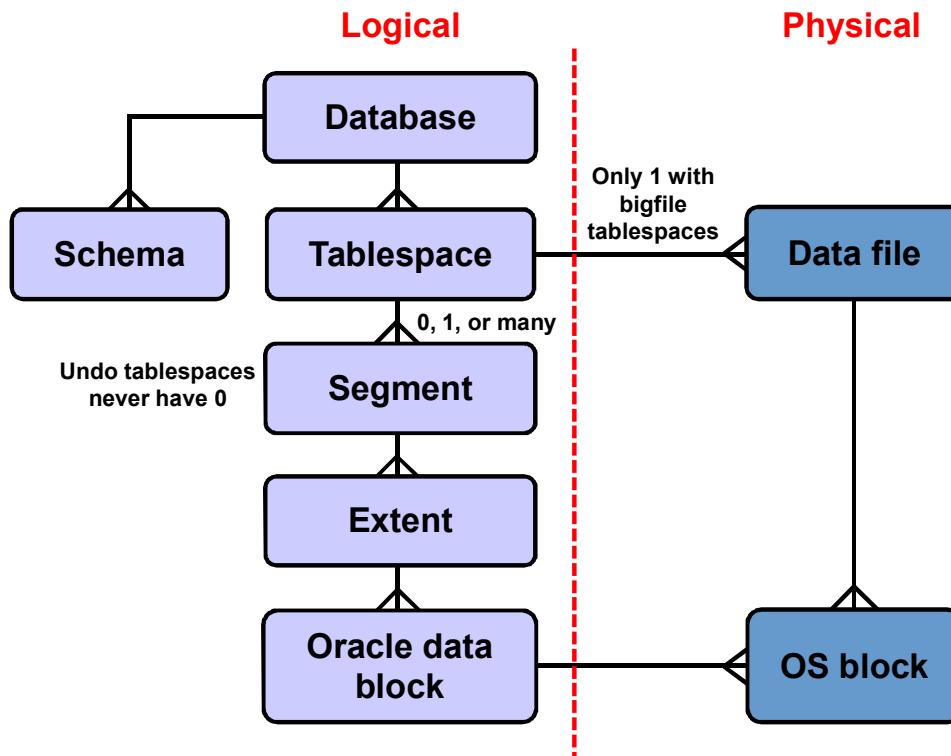
- **Control files:** Contain data about the database itself (that is, physical database structure information). These files are critical to the database. Without them, you cannot open data files to access the data in the database.
- **Data files:** Contain the user or application data of the database, as well as metadata and the data dictionary.
- **Online redo log files:** Allow for instance recovery of the database. If the database server crashes and does not lose any data files, the instance can recover the database with the information in these files.

The following additional files are important for the successful running of the database:

- **Parameter file:** Is used to define how the instance is configured when it starts up
- **Password file:** Allows sysdba, sysoper, and sysasm to connect remotely to the database and perform administrative tasks
- **Backup files:** Are used for database recovery. You typically restore a backup file when a media failure or user error has damaged or deleted the original file.
- **Archived redo log files:** Contain an ongoing history of the data changes (redo) that are generated by the instance. By using these files and a backup of the database, you can recover a lost data file; that is, archive logs enable the recovery of restored data files.

- **Trace files:** Each server and background process can write to an associated trace file. When an internal error is detected by a process, the process dumps information about the error to its trace file. Some of the information written to a trace file is intended for the developer, whereas other information is for Oracle Support Services.
- **Alert log file:** These files are special trace entries. The alert log of a database is a chronological log of messages and errors. Each instance has one alert log file. It is recommended that you periodically review this file.

Logical and Physical Database Structures



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The database has logical structures and physical structures.

Tablespaces

A database is divided into logical storage units called tablespaces, which group related logical structures together. For example, tablespaces commonly group all the objects of an application to simplify some administrative operations. You may have a tablespace for different applications.

Databases, Tablespaces, and Data Files

The relationship among databases, tablespaces, and data files is illustrated in the slide. Each database is logically divided into one or more tablespaces. One or more data files are explicitly created for each tablespace to physically store the data of all logical structures in a tablespace. If it is a TEMPORARY tablespace instead of a tablespace containing data, the tablespace has a temporary file.

Schemas

A schema is a collection of database objects that are owned by a database user. Schema objects are the logical structures that directly refer to the data contained in a database. Schema objects include structures such as tables, views, sequences, stored procedures, synonyms, indexes, clusters, and database links. In general, schema objects include everything that your application creates in the database.

Data Blocks

At the finest level of granularity, the data contained in an Oracle database is stored in data blocks. One data block corresponds to a specific number of bytes of physical database space on the disk. A data block size is specified for each tablespace when it is created. A database uses and allocates free database space in Oracle data blocks.

Extents

The next level of logical database space is an extent. An extent is a specific number of contiguous data blocks (obtained in a single allocation) that are used to store a specific type of information.

Segments

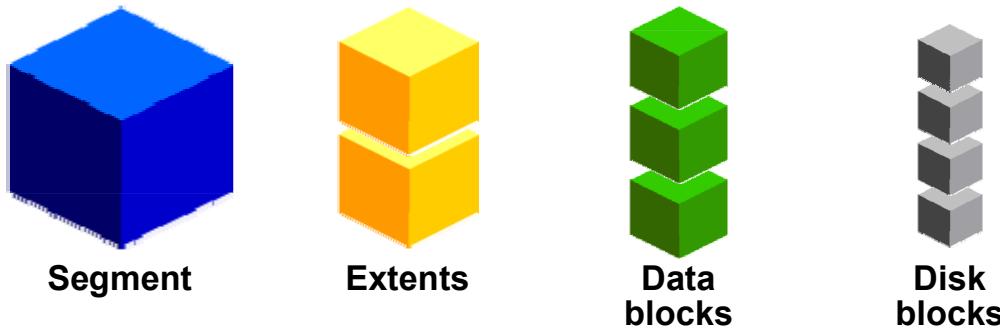
The level of logical database storage above an extent is called a segment. A segment is a set of extents that are allocated for a certain logical structure. Different types of segments include:

- **Data segments:** Each nonclustered, non-index-organized table has a data segment, with the exception of external tables and global temporary tables that have no segments, and partitioned tables in which each table has one or more segments. All the data contained in the table is stored in the extents of its data segment. For a partitioned table, each partition has a data segment. Each cluster has a data segment. The data of every table in the cluster is stored in the data segment of the cluster.
- **Index segments:** Each index has an index segment that stores all of its data. For a partitioned index, each partition has an index segment.
- **Undo segments:** One UNDO tablespace is created for each database instance. This tablespace contains numerous undo segments to temporarily store undo information. The information in an undo segment is used to generate read-consistent database information and, during database recovery, to roll back uncommitted transactions for users.
- **Temporary segments:** Temporary segments are created by the Oracle Database when a SQL statement needs a temporary work area to complete execution. When the statement finishes execution, the temporary segment's extents are returned to the instance for future use. Specify either a default temporary tablespace for every user, or a default temporary tablespace that is used across the database.

Oracle Database dynamically allocates space. When the existing extents of a segment are full, additional extents are added. Because extents are allocated as needed, the extents of a segment may or may not be contiguous on the disk.

Segments, Extents, and Blocks

- Segments exist in a tablespace.
- Segments are collections of extents.
- Extents are collections of data blocks.
- Data blocks are mapped to disk blocks.



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Database objects such as tables and indexes are stored as segments in tablespaces. Each segment contains one or more extents. An extent consists of contiguous data blocks, which means that each extent can exist in only one data file. Data blocks are the smallest units of I/O in the database.

When the database requests a set of data blocks from the operating system (OS), the OS maps this set to an actual file system or disk block on the storage device. Because of this, you do not need to know the physical address of any of the data in your database. This also means that a data file can be striped or mirrored on several disks.

The size of the data block can be set at the time of database creation. The default size of 8 KB is adequate for most databases. If your database supports a data warehouse application that has large tables and indexes, a larger block size may be beneficial.

If your database supports a transactional application in which reads and writes are random, specifying a smaller block size may be beneficial. The maximum block size depends on your OS. The minimum Oracle block size is 2 KB; it should rarely (if ever) be used.

You can have tablespaces with a nonstandard block size. For details, see the *Oracle Database Administrator's Guide*.

SYSTEM and SYSAUX Tablespaces

- The SYSTEM and SYSAUX tablespaces are mandatory tablespaces that are created at the time of database creation. They must be online.
- The SYSTEM tablespace is used for core functionality (for example, data dictionary tables).
- The auxiliary SYSAUX tablespace is used for additional database components (such as the Enterprise Manager Repository).



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Each Oracle database must contain a SYSTEM tablespace and a SYSAUX tablespace, which are automatically created when the database is created. The system default is to create a smallfile tablespace. You can also create bigfile tablespaces, which enable the Oracle database to manage ultralarge files (up to 8 exabytes in size).

A tablespace can be online (accessible) or offline (not accessible). The SYSTEM tablespace is always online when the database is open. It stores tables that support the core functionality of the database, such as the data dictionary tables.

The SYSAUX tablespace is an auxiliary tablespace to the SYSTEM tablespace. The SYSAUX tablespace stores many database components, and it must be online for the correct functioning of all database components.

Note: The SYSAUX tablespace may be taken offline for performing tablespace recovery, whereas this is not possible in the case of the SYSTEM tablespace. Neither of them may be made read-only.

Quiz

The first time an Oracle Database server process requires a particular piece of data, it searches for the data in the:

- a. Database buffer cache
- b. PGA
- c. Redo log buffer
- d. Shared pool



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Answer: a

Quiz

Which of the following is not a database logical structure?

- a. Tablespace
- b. Data file
- c. Schema
- d. Segment



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Answer: b

Quiz

The SYSAUX tablespace is used for core functionality, and the SYSTEM tablespace is used for additional database components, such as the Enterprise Manager Repository.

- a. True
- b. False



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Answer: b

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- List the major architectural components of the Oracle Database server
- Explain memory structures
- Describe background processes
- Correlate logical and physical storage structures



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Real-Time Database Operation Monitoring



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Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:

- Describe database operations
- Implement Real-Time Database Operation Monitoring



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This lesson provides an overview of the Oracle Database server architecture. You learn about its architectural components, memory structures, background processes, and logical and physical storage structures.

Real-Time Database Operation Monitoring: Overview

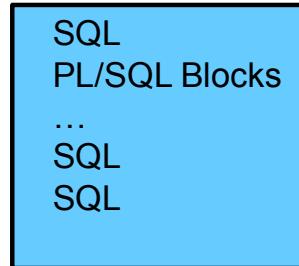
A database operation is:

- One or more SQL or PL/SQL statements
- In one or more sessions

A database operation can:

- Be monitored
- Produce active reports

BEGIN_OPERATION



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Real-Time Database Operation Monitoring extends and generalizes Real-Time SQL Monitoring.

Real-Time SQL Monitoring helps determine where a currently executing SQL statement is in its execution plan and where the statement is spending its time.

You can use Real-Time Database Operation Monitoring for performance monitoring of active SQL statements, PL/SQL procedure, and functions. You can also see the breakdown of time and resources used for recently completed statements.

In databases where batch jobs run regularly, it can be very difficult to determine to which batch job an offending SQL statement belongs. In Decision Support Systems (DSS) it is not uncommon for many batch jobs to be running simultaneously. In some systems, hundreds of concurrent jobs could be running. Real-Time Database Operations Monitoring allows these jobs to be monitored while they are running.

Real-Time Database Operation Monitoring identifies an operation with a tag, determines what to monitor, and can generate reports. Real-Time Database Operation Monitoring monitors the progress of the operation, packages raw data for offline analysis and creates active reports that do not require access to production systems.

Use Cases

- Monitor batch jobs:
 - Set expected times; be alerted when exceeded.
 - Identify and tune expensive statements.
- Diagnose background processes:
 - Identify and tune expensive statements.
- Diagnose changes to jobs over time:
 - Compare previous executions of an operation.
 - Compare changes to jobs after an upgrade.



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In which situations would a DBA use Real-Time Database Operation Monitoring?

- A large retailer has a DSS with hundreds of batch jobs for Extraction, Transformation, and Loading (ETL). You want to monitor these jobs in real time. As an Enterprise Manager user, you experience a very long wait on a page load. You want to easily identify what is running on behalf of the page load. At times, a PL/SQL job that is required to finish in 24 hours is taking up to 80 hours to run. You need to identify and tune the expensive statements in the job. You want to be alerted if the job is expected to run too long so it can be killed, fixed, and restarted before it uses too much time.
- After an upgrade, a batch job went from 4.5 hours to 8 hours. You want to capture the performance statistics of the job steps, before and after the upgrade, then compare the two sets and identify the changes, for example, SQL execution plan, resource consumption, and degree of parallelism.

Current Tools

- Real-Time SQL Monitor:
 - Is a subset of Database Operation Monitoring
 - Monitors long-running single SQL statements and PL/SQL functions
 - Displays statistics for recently completed statements
- Active Session History:
 - 1-second sample
 - Useful for long running queries
- SQL Trace:
 - Large overhead
 - Incident must be reproducible.
- DBMS_MONITOR and trcseess utility
- V\$SESSION_LONGOPS and DBMS_APPLICATION_INFO



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- **Real-Time SQL Monitor:** A feature added in 11.1, this is a subset of Database Operation Monitoring. Its main focus is to help DBAs know where a SQL statement is in its execution plan and where the time is being spent. It allows users to monitor the performance of SQL statements while they are executing as well as to see the breakdown of time and resources used for recently completed statements. With SQL Monitor, users can find the expensive (high response-time) SQLs (or PL/SQL functions) on their OLTP system, identify the expensive SQL statements in ETL, DDL, batch, reporting jobs, and check parallel-executed statements. It highlights poorly performed SQL: users can visualize hundreds of operations, find out why a particular operation is so expensive, and what is going on inside a SQL execution.
- **Active session history (ASH):** Contains samples of active sessions taken every second. It is on by default, so ASH can be used even if problems are not reproducible. Because samples are collected every second, ASH will contain more information for long-running queries. Unless the queries are very long, ASH is not very useful for tuning response time.

- **SQL Trace:** Produces a lot of detailed information. The information is hard to interpret. The problem must be reproducible to enable SQL Trace to capture the details.
- **DBMS_MONITOR package:** Enables the trace for a given database session, module, action, or service and the `trcseSS` command-line utility that consolidates tracing information
- **V\$SESSION_LONGOPS view and DBMS_APPLICATION_INFO.SET_SESSION_LONGOPS procedures:** Useful for long-running operations, mainly to indicate how much work has been processed so far

Defining a DB Operation

Any set of database operations between two points in time identified by the user or application

Types of operations:

- Simple
 - One SQL or PL/SQL
- Composite
 - Multiple SQL statements and / or PL/SQL procedures and functions between two points in time
 - Single session
 - Multiple concurrent sessions



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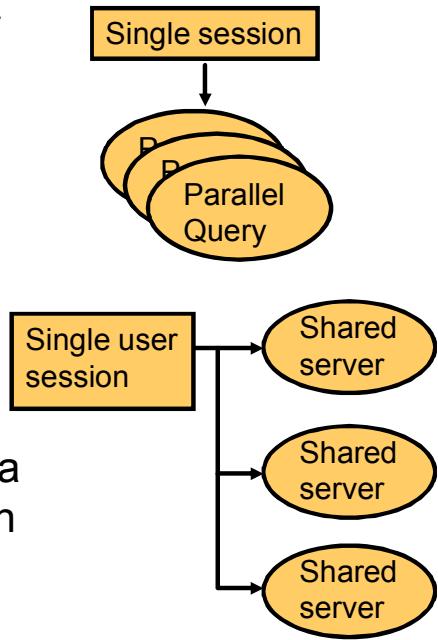
A DB operation is an operation that the database server runs to accomplish tasks. It can be either simple or composite:

- **Simple database operations:** Consist of one single SQL statement or one single PL/SQL function/procedure
- **Composite database operations:** Consist of the activity of one or more sessions between two points in time. SQL statements or PL/SQL procedures running in these sessions are part of the composite operations:
 - **Single sessions:** Single-session operations fall into two cases.
 - In one case, exactly one session exists for the duration of the database operation.
 - In the other case, multiple sessions exist in the database operation, but no more than one session runs at any given time. The application jumps from session to session.
 - **Multiple concurrent sessions:** In ETL, it is common for a job to involve multiple sessions running at the same time. You can define the entire ETL job as a single database operation.

Scope of a Composite DB Operation

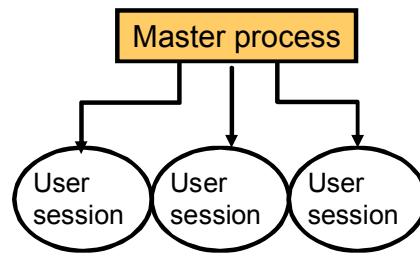
Single session

- Parallel query with single coordinator
- Single-user session connected to a server session sequentially



Multiple sessions

An operation using multiple user sessions concurrently



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A composite operation in the scope of a single session is composed of one of the following:

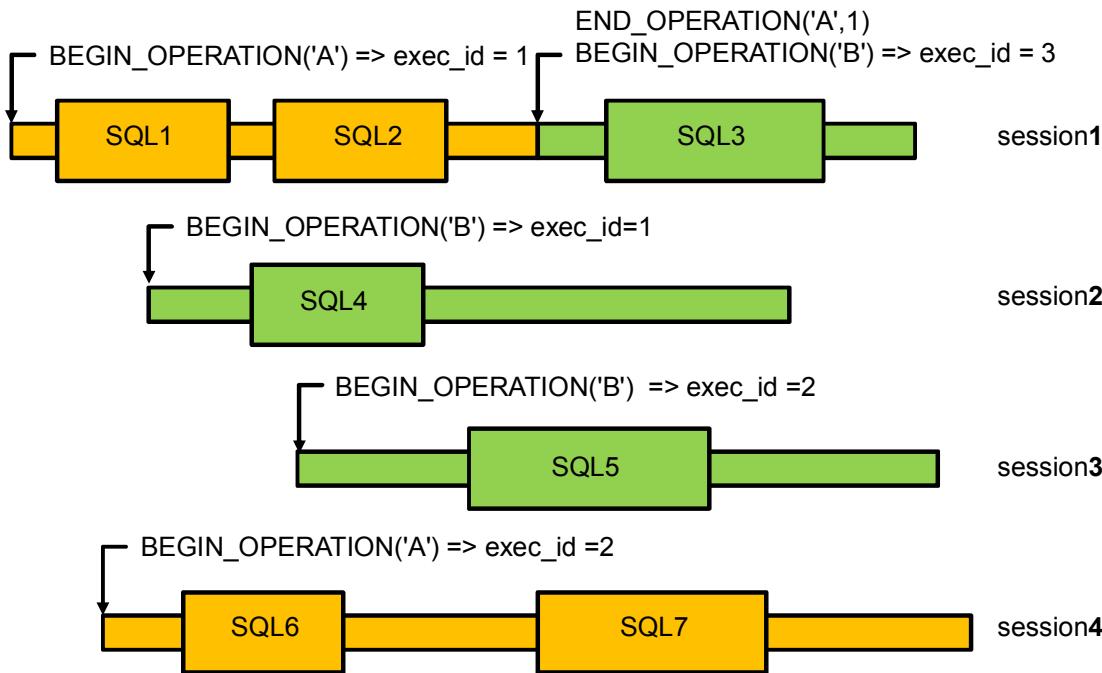
- SQL statements coordinated by the single session, such as parallel operations
- The active session, such as a user session in an application pool or shared server

Diagrams illustrating single-session and single-user session examples of a database operation are shown on the left side of the slide.

Note: These examples do not exclude a single session with statements that are neither non-parallel nor using shared servers.

A composite operation in the scope of multiple sessions is composed of SQL statements running concurrently such as during an ETL operation. This is shown in the diagram on the right side of the slide.

Database Operation Concepts



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In this illustration, there are four sessions. The first (upper) session shows that a session can belong to at most 1 database operation at a time. It belongs to database operation A at first, then belongs to database operation B. The `END_OPERATION` and then `BEGIN_OPERATION` commands cause the session to change database operations.

Sessions 1, 2, and 3 show that the name and execution ID are taken together to uniquely identify database operation B.

The time that a session belongs to a database operation but is not executing a SQL or PL/SQL statement is idle time.

Identifying a Database Operation

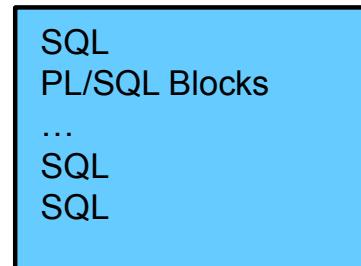
- Naming

DBOP (Name)



- Bracketing

DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.BEGIN_OPERATION



DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.END_OPERATION

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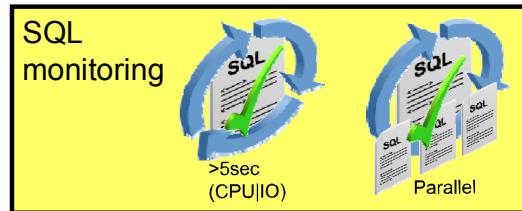
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To monitor a database operation, the database operation must be given a name, a begin point, and an end point. There are two ways to name a database operation. The first is to insert a start point by using the `DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.BEGIN_OPERATION` function and an end point by using `DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.END_OPERATION` procedure calls into the application. The second way is to set a tag. This is for JAVA and OCI applications. The tag can be set by using the OCI calls `OCIAttrSet` and `OCIApplCtxSet`, the Java call `setClientInfo`, or from the OS environment variable `ORA_DBOP`. The tag in Java or OCI piggybacks the next database call so the begin point is easily distinguished.

The explicit calls provide a clear beginning and end for a database operation to provide the bracketing, but applications using tagging do not have an explicit method for ending an operation. Because starting a new operation ends the previous operation, the tag should be set to `NULL` and sent to the database.

Enabling Monitoring of Database Operations

- At system level:
 - Set `STATISTICS_LEVEL` to `TYPICAL`.
 - Set `CONTROL_MANAGEMENT_PACK_ACCESS` to `DIAGNOSTIC+TUNING`.



- At database operation level:
 - Use the `FORCED_TRACKING` attribute in the `DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.BEGIN_OPERATION` function.
- At statement level:
 - Use the `MONITOR` hint.



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The SQL monitoring feature is enabled by default when the `STATISTICS_LEVEL` initialization parameter is either set to `TYPICAL` (the default value) or `ALL`. Additionally, the `CONTROL_MANAGEMENT_PACK_ACCESS` parameter must be set to `DIAGNOSTIC+TUNING` (the default value) because SQL monitoring is a feature of the Oracle Database Tuning Pack. By default, SQL monitoring is started when a SQL command runs in parallel, or when it has consumed at least five seconds of the CPU or I/O time in a single execution. A SQL statement is also monitored when the `MONITOR` hint is explicitly declared in the statement.

When starting a database operation, you can force the database operation to be tracked when it starts. The default value of this parameter does not necessarily force any SQL statement or database operation to be tracked: the database operation is tracked only when it is sufficiently expensive. Use the `FORCED_TRACKING` attribute and set it to `Y` when starting the database operation with `DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.BEGIN_OPERATION` function:

```
DBMS_MONITOR.BEGIN_OPERATION (
    dbop_name IN VARCHAR2,
    dbop_eid IN NUMBER :=NULL,
    forced_tracking IN VARCHAR2 := NO_FORCE_TRACKING,
    attribute_list IN VARCHAR2 :=NULL)
RETURN NUMBER;
```

Identifying, Starting, and Completing a Database Operation

1. Identify the database operation.
 - Operation name
 - Execution ID
2. Start the database operation with DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.BEGIN_OPERATION.
3. Complete the database operation with DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.END_OPERATION.

```
SQL> VAR dbop_eid NUMBER;
SQL> EXEC :dbop_eid := DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.BEGIN_OPERATION
          ('ORA.MV.refresh', FORCED_TRACKING => 'Y')
SQL> SELECT ...
SQL> SELECT ...
SQL> EXEC DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.END_OPERATION('ORA.MV.refresh',
                                         :dbop_eid)
```



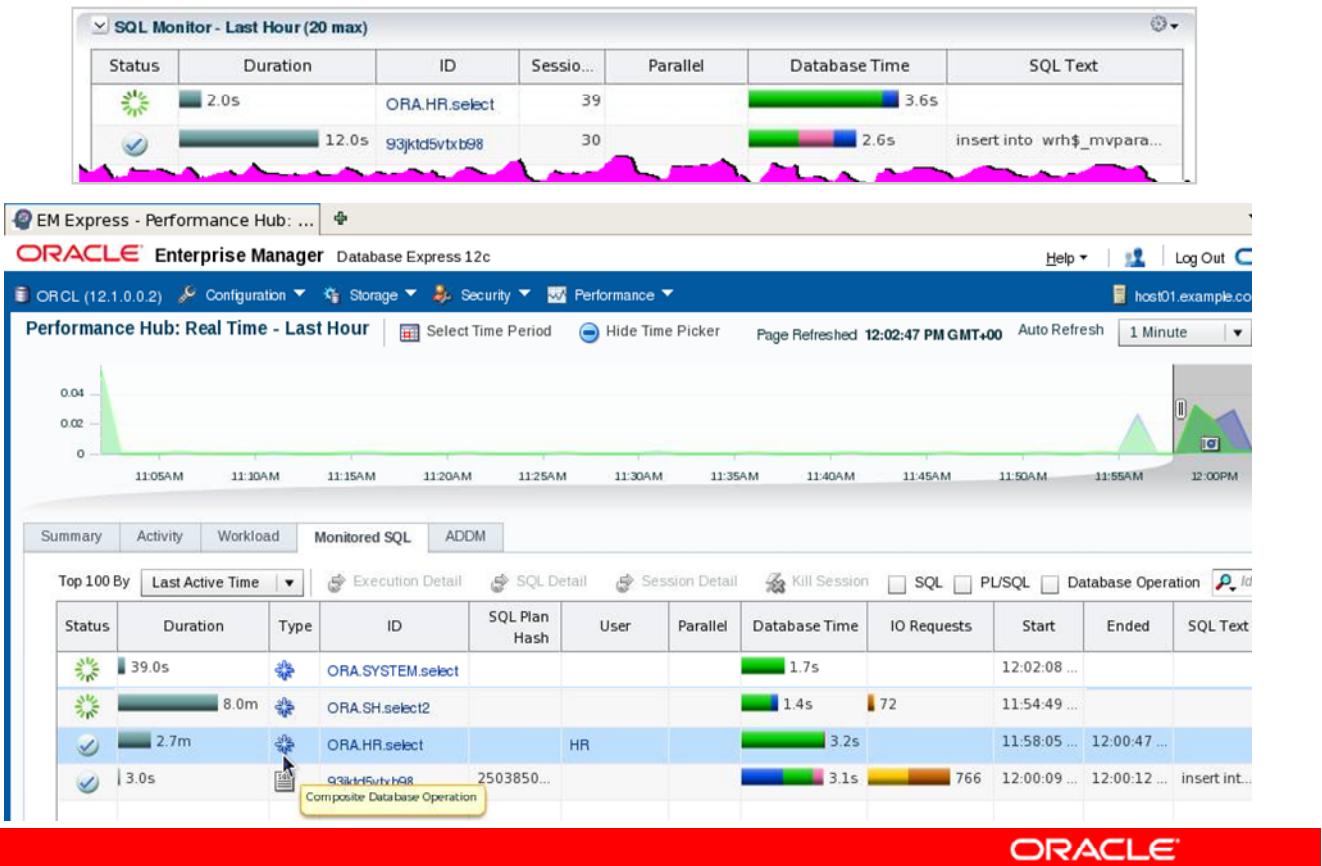
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When monitoring, each database operation can be identified by the operation name and execution ID. Every DB operation has a name and an execution ID. The DB operation name and execution ID together uniquely identify a specific execution of the operation. The operation name is specific to a piece of code. The same code may be executed by multiple sessions or users at the same time. Each invocation will have the same operation name but different executions IDs. The execution ID is not unique between operations; that is, two DB operations with different names could have the same execution ID. The call to BEGIN_OPERATION returns the execution ID. If an execution ID is supplied to the call, it is returned. If the execution ID is not supplied, a unique execution ID is returned. In situations where a master process spawns several sessions that are associated with the same DB operation, an execution ID would be generated for the entire operation and each session would set the execution ID with a BEGIN_OPERATION call.

The database operation names are in a single namespace. A recommendation to prevent collisions is to use a format of <component>. <subcomponent>. <operation_name>. A suggestion is to use a component name of ORA for operations inside the database. The example in the slide is for an operation that performs a materialized view refresh.

The different executions of the same database operation (with the same name) can have different SQL statements or PL/SQL functions. This could be caused by different code paths being taken through conditions in PL/SQL. There is also nothing to prevent one operation name being assigned to multiple sets of code. This could cause confusion.

Monitoring the Progress of a Database Operation



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Enterprise Manager Database Express and Enterprise Manager Cloud Control allow you to view database operations that are active and recently finished.

Using Enterprise Manager Database Express, in the Database Home page, the list of monitored SQL and database operations appears on the bottom-right side of the page as shown in the first screenshot in the slide.

In the Performance menu, click the Performance Hub option to get a list of monitored SQL and database operations, as shown in the second screenshot of the slide. For details, click the database operation name. On the Details page, the execution ID is shown. By selecting the Database Operations filter above the list (SQL, PL/SQL and Database Operations), only database operations can be shown. Further filtering can be done on the operation name by using the search box on the right above the list.

Using Enterprise Manager Cloud Control, log in to the target database and click the Performance menu, then the SQL Monitoring option.

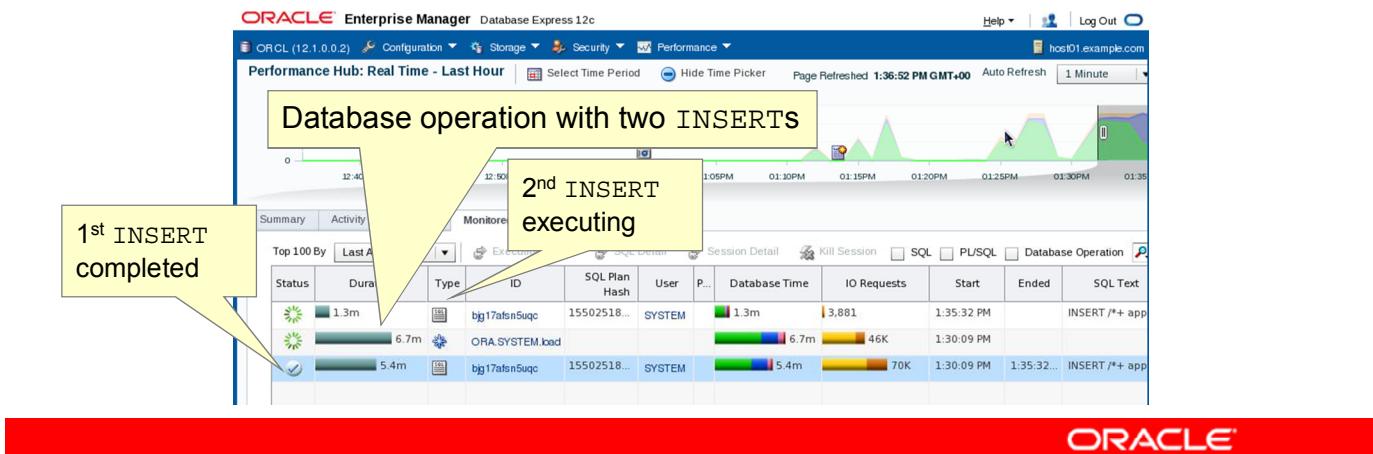
Monitoring Load Database Operations

```

SQL> VAR dbop_eid NUMBER;
SQL> EXEC :op_eid := DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.BEGIN_OPERATION
      ('ORA.SYSTEM.load', FORCED_TRACKING => 'Y')
SQL> INSERT /*+ APPEND */ * INTO tab1 SELECT ...;
SQL> INSERT /*+ APPEND */ * INTO tab2 SELECT ...;
SQL> EXEC DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.END_OPERATION
      ('ORA.SYSTEM.load', :op_eid)

```

One load is completed and the DB operation is still executing.



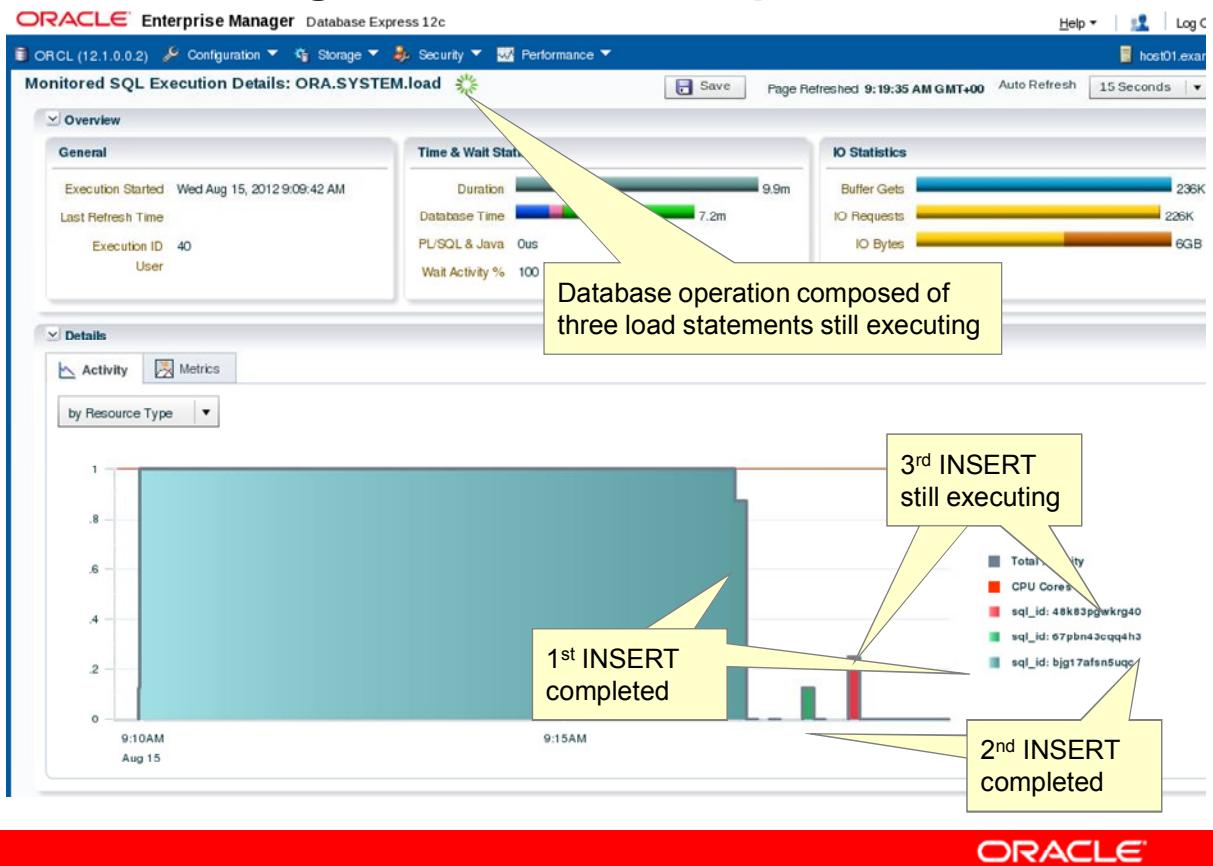
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Monitoring load operations can be performed. From the example shown in the slide, the database operation consists of two bulk load statements.

Using Enterprise Manager Database Express, from the Performance Hub page, you see that the database load operation is still executing whereas the first bulk load statement is already completed. Another bulk load statement is still executing, being part of the same database load operation that is being monitored.

Using Enterprise Manager Cloud Control, logged in to a target database, from the Performance menu and SQL Monitoring option, you would see the same database load operation executing.

Monitoring Load Database Operation Details



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The Execution Details page shows a summary at the top of the screen and either the activity graph (shown), or the metrics graphs (not shown) at the bottom of the screen. The DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.REPORT_SQL_MONITOR and DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.REPORT_SQL_MONITOR_LIST functions are used to report execution details of real-time database operations.

Reporting Database Operations by Using Views

V\$SQL_MONITOR view shows a list of executing and completed database operations through new columns.

```
SQL> SELECT DBOP_NAME, DBOP_EXEC_ID, STATUS  
2   FROM V$SQL_MONITOR  
3  WHERE DBOP_NAME IS NOT NULL;
```

DBOP_NAME	DBOP_EXEC_ID	STATUS
ORA.HR.select	8	EXECUTING
ORA.SH.select2	10	EXECUTING
ORA.SH.select	3	DONE



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The V\$SQL_MONITOR view reports a list of executing and completed database operations including global, high-level information about the top SQL statements in a database operation. Each monitored SQL statement has an entry in this view. Each row contains a SQL statement whose statistics are accumulated from multiple sessions and all of its executions in the operation. The primary key is a combination of the columns DBOP_NAME, DBOP_EXEC_ID, and SQL_ID.

Reporting Database Operations by Using Views

- EM Cloud Control and EM Database Express use multiple views:
 - V\$SQL_MONITOR, V\$ACTIVE_SESSION_HISTORY, and new columns: DBOP_NAME, DBOP_EXEC_ID
- AWR automatically captures SQL monitoring reports and stores active session history:
 - DBA_HIST_REPORTS, DBA_HIST_REPORTS_DETAILS
 - DBA_HIST_ACTIVE_SESS_HISTORY

```
SQL> SELECT session_id, DBOP_NAME, DBOP_EXEC_ID
  2  FROM DBA_HIST_ACTIVE_SESS_HISTORY
  3  where DBOP_NAME is not NULL;

SESSION_ID DBOP_NAME          DBOP_EXEC_ID
----- -----
      30 ORA.SYSTEM.load        8
      45 ORA.HR.select         11
```



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EM Cloud Control or EM Database Express summarize the activity for monitored statements and database operations collected from multiple views.

- Recently completed and active database operations from:
 - V\$SQL_MONITOR, V\$ACTIVE_SESSION_HISTORY through new columns: DBOP_NAME and DBOP_EXEC_ID
 - V\$SQL_PLAN_MONITOR, V\$SQL_MONITOR_SESSTAT, V\$SQL, V\$SQL_PLAN, V\$SESSION_LONGOPS
- Completed database operations and reports are stored in AWR and can be reported in the following views:
 - DBA_HIST_REPORTS, DBA_HIST_REPORTS_DETAILS
 - DBA_HIST_ACTIVE_SESS_HISTORY

Reporting Database Operations by Using Functions

DBMS_SQL_MONITOR package:

- REPORT_SQL_MONITOR_LIST_XML and REPORT_SQL_MONITOR_XML functions report a list and details of database operations in XML format.
- REPORT_SQL_MONITOR_LIST and REPORT_SQL_MONITOR functions report a list and details of database operations in a CLOB.

```
SQL> SELECT DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.REPORT_SQL_MONITOR_LIST_XML()
  2  FROM dual;
```



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Reporting by Using DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.REPORT_SQL_MONITOR_xxx Functions

```
SQL> select DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.REPORT_SQL_MONITOR_LIST_XML() from
dual;
```

```
DBMS_SQL_MONITOR.REPORT_SQL_MONITOR_LIST_XML()
-----
<report db_version="12.1.0.0.2" cpu_cores="1" hyperthread="N"
timezone_offset="0
" elapsed_time="0.00" cpu_time="0.00">
<report_id><![CDATA[/orarep/sqlmonitor/list?monitor_type=3]]></report_id>
<sql_monitor_list_report version="1" sysdate="08/14/2012
10:33:04">
    <dbop detail="F" dbop_name="ORA.SH.select2"
dbop_exec_start="08/14/2012 10:26:11" dbop_exec_id="12">
        <status>EXECUTING</status>
        <first_refresh_time>08/14/2012 10:26:11</first_refresh_time>
```

```
<refresh_count>0</refresh_count>
  <inst_id>1</inst_id>
<session_id>43</session_id>
  <session_serial>229</session_serial>
  <user_id>0</user_id>
  <con_id>0</con_id>
    <module>SQL*Plus</module>
  <service>SYS$USERS</service>
  <program>sqlplus@host01.example.com (TNS V1-V3)</program>
    <plsql_entry_object_id>10531</plsql_entry_object_id>
    <plsql_entry_subprogram_id>6</plsql_entry_subprogram_id>
    <plsql_object_id>10375</plsql_object_id>
    <plsql_subprogram_id>63</plsql_subprogram_id>
    <is_cross_instance>N</is_cross_instance>
      <stats type="monitor">
        <stat name="duration">413</stat>
        <stat name="elapsed_time">3072887</stat>
        <stat name="cpu_time">1143825</stat>
        <stat name="user_io_wait_time">368882</stat>
        <stat name="application_wait_time">475</stat>
        <stat name="other_wait_time">1559705</stat>
        <stat name="buffer_gets">23</stat>
        <stat name="read_reqs">37</stat>
        <stat name="read_bytes">13033472</stat>
        <stat name="write_reqs">52</stat>
        <stat name="write_bytes">42041344</stat>
      </stats>
    </dbop>
```

Quiz

Monitoring database operations is allowed for sets of SELECT statements only.

- a. True
- b. False



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Quiz

You can define any set of SQL and PL/SQL statements (including multiple, concurrent sessions) between two points in time as a database operation to be monitored.

- a. True
- b. False



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Answer: a

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Describe database operations
- Implement Real-Time Database Operation Monitoring



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Gathering and Managing Optimizer Statistics



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Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to:

- Gather optimizer statistics
- Set statistic preferences
- Use dynamic statistics
- Use automatic re-optimization
- Use SQL plan directives
- Discuss online statistics gathering for bulk loads
- Discuss concurrent statistics gathering
- Manage optimizer statistics



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Lesson Agenda

- Gathering Statistics
- Dynamic Statistics
- Automatic Re-optimization
- SQL Plan Directives
- Online Statistics Gathering for Bulk Loads
- Concurrent Statistics Gathering
- Gathering System Statistics
- Managing Optimizer Statistics



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Gathering Statistics: Overview

- Optimizer statistics collection is the gathering of optimizer statistics for database objects.
- You can gather statistics by using the following:
 - Automatic optimizer statistics gathering
 - Manual statistics gathering
 - DBMS_STATS package
 - Adaptive statistics
 - Dynamic statistics
 - Automatic re-optimization
 - SQL plan directives
 - Online statistics gathering for bulk loads

Selectivity:	
Equality	1%
Inequality	5%
Other predicates	5%
Table row length	20
# of index leaf blocks	25
# of distinct values	100
Table cardinality	100
Remote table cardinality	2000



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In Oracle Database, optimizer statistics collection is the gathering of optimizer statistics for database objects. The database can collect these statistics automatically, or you can collect them manually by using the system-supplied DBMS_STATS package. These are discussed in more detail in subsequent slides. It is recommended that you use automatic statistics gathering for objects.

The contents of tables and associated indexes change frequently, which can lead the optimizer to choose suboptimal execution plan for queries. Thus, statistics must be kept current to avoid any potential performance issues because of suboptimal plans.

To minimize DBA involvement, Oracle Database automatically gathers optimizer statistics at various times. Some automatic options are configurable, such as enabling AutoTask to run DBMS_STATS.

You can manage optimizer statistics either through Oracle Enterprise Manager Cloud Control (Cloud Control) or by using PL/SQL on the command line.

Note: When the system encounters a table with missing statistics, it dynamically gathers the necessary statistics needed by the optimizer. However, for certain types of tables (including remote tables and external tables), it does not perform dynamic statistics. In those cases and also when dynamic statistics has been disabled, the optimizer uses default values for its statistics.

Automatic Optimizer Statistics Gathering

- Statistics are gathered only automatically on all database objects that have no statistics or have stale statistics (> 10% of rows modified) by running an Oracle AutoTask task during a predefined maintenance window.
- Automated statistics collection:
 - Eliminates the need for manual statistics collection
 - Significantly reduces the chances of poor execution plans
- The automatic statistics gathering job uses the `DBMS_STATS.GATHER_DATABASE_STATS_JOB_PROC` procedure, which uses the same default parameter values as the other `DBMS_STATS.GATHER_*_STATS` procedures.



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Oracle Database automatically gathers statistics on all database objects and maintains those statistics in a regularly scheduled maintenance job. The automated maintenance tasks infrastructure (known as AutoTask) schedules tasks to run automatically in Oracle Scheduler windows known as maintenance windows. By default, one window is scheduled for each day of the week. Automatic optimizer statistics collection runs as part of AutoTask. By default, the collection runs in all predefined maintenance windows. Automated statistics collection eliminates all of the manual tasks that are associated with managing the optimizer statistics, and significantly reduces the chances of getting poor execution plans because of missing or stale statistics.

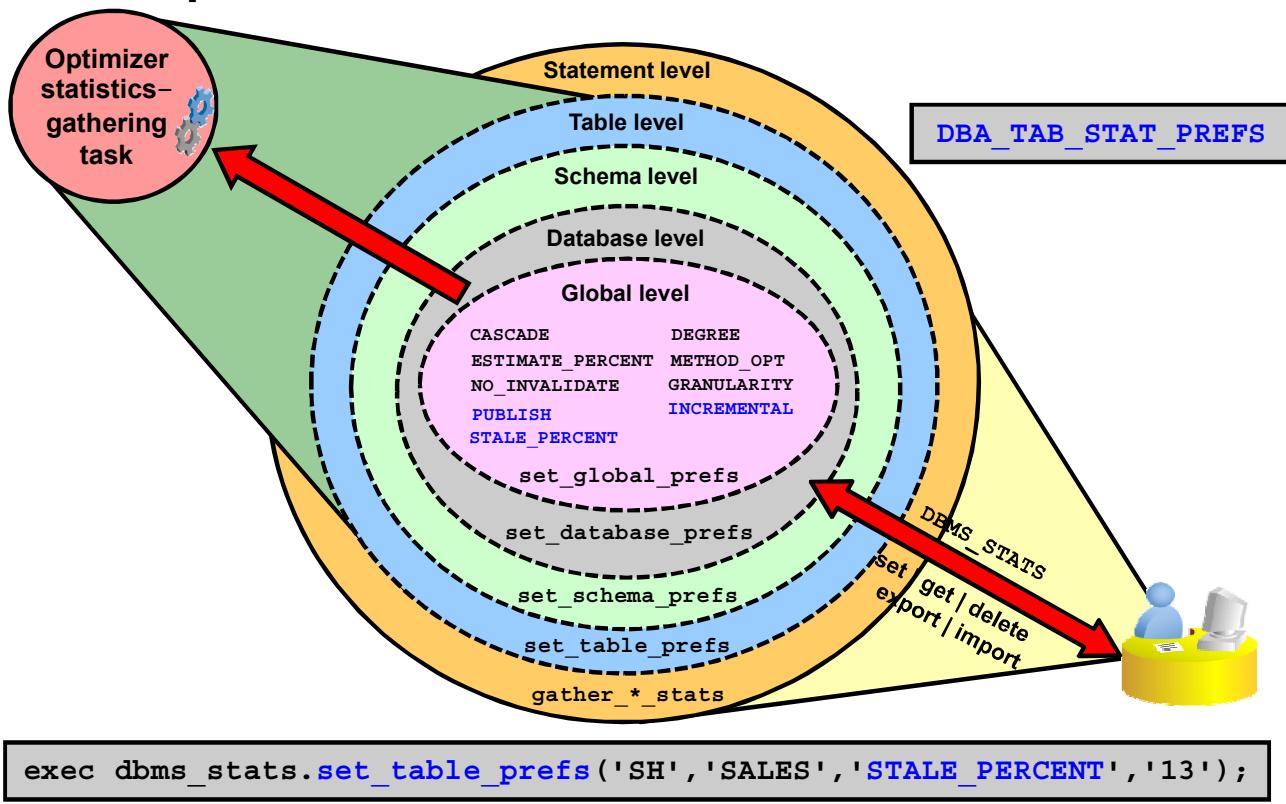
To collect the optimizer statistics, the database calls an internal procedure that operates similarly to the `GATHER_DATABASE_STATS` procedure with the `GATHERAUTO` option. Automatic statistics collection honors all preferences set in the database. The principal difference between manual and automatic collection is that the latter prioritizes database objects that need statistics. Before the maintenance window closes, automatic collection first processes objects that most require updated statistics. DML monitoring is enabled by default and is used by the Automatic Statistics Gathering feature to determine which objects have stale statistics as well as their degree of staleness. This information is used to identify candidates for statistics update.

Optimizer statistics are automatically gathered by using the automatic optimizer statistics–gathering task. This task does the following:

- Gathers statistics on all objects in the database that have missing or stale statistics in the predefined maintenance window
- Determines the appropriate sample size for each object
- Creates histograms as required

The task is created automatically at database creation time. System statistics are *not* gathered by the automatic optimizer statistics–gathering task.

Optimizer Statistic Preferences: Overview



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The Automated Statistics Gathering feature was introduced in Oracle Database 10g Release 1 to reduce the burden of maintaining optimizer statistics. However, there were cases where you had to disable it and run your own scripts instead. One reason was the lack of object-level control. Whenever you found a small subset of objects for which the default gather statistics options did not work well, you had to lock the statistics and analyze them separately by using your own options. For example, the feature that automatically tries to determine adequate sample size (ESTIMATE_PERCENT=AUTO_SAMPLE_SIZE) does not work well against columns that contain data with very high frequency skews. The only way to get around this issue is to manually specify the sample size in your own script.

The Statistic Preferences feature in Oracle Database introduces flexibility so that you can rely more on the automated statistics-gathering feature to maintain the optimizer statistics when some objects require settings that differ from the database default.

This feature allows you to associate the statistics-gathering options that override the default behavior of the GATHER_*_STATS procedures and the automated Optimizer Statistics Gathering task at the object or schema level. You can use the DBMS_STATS package to manage the statistics-gathering options shown in the slide.

You can set, get, delete, export, and import those preferences at the table, schema, database, and global levels. Global preferences are used for tables that do not have preferences, whereas database preferences are used to set preferences on all tables. The preference values that are specified in various ways take precedence from the outer circles to the inner ones (as shown in the slide).

- CASCADING gathers statistics on the indexes as well. Index statistics gathering is not parallelized.
- ESTIMATE_PERCENT is the estimated percentage of rows used to compute statistics (null means all rows): The valid range is [0.000001,100]. Use the constant DBMS_STATS.AUTO_SAMPLE_SIZE to have the system determine the appropriate sample size for good statistics. This is the recommended default.
- NO_INVALIDATE controls the invalidation of dependent cursors of the tables for which statistics are being gathered. It does not invalidate the dependent cursors if set to TRUE. The procedure invalidates the dependent cursors immediately if set to FALSE. Use DBMS_STATS.AUTO_INVALIDATE to have the system decide when to invalidate dependent cursors. This is the default.
- PUBLISH is used to decide whether to publish the statistics to the dictionary or to store them in a pending area before publishing them.
- STALE_PERCENT is used to determine the threshold level at which an object is considered to have stale statistics. The value is a percentage of rows that were modified since the last statistics gathering. The example changes the 10 percent default to 13 percent only for SH.SALES.
- DEGREE determines the degree of parallelism used to compute statistics. The default for degree is null, which means use the table default value specified by the DEGREE clause in the CREATE TABLE or ALTER TABLE statement. Use the constant DBMS_STATS.DEFAULT_DEGREE to specify the default value based on the initialization parameters. The AUTO_DEGREE value automatically determines the degree of parallelism as either 1 (serial execution) or DEFAULT_DEGREE (the system default value based on the number of CPUs and initialization parameters), depending on the size of the object.
- METHOD_OPT is a SQL string used to collect histogram statistics. The default value is FOR ALL COLUMNS SIZE AUTO.
- GRANULARITY is the granularity of statistics to collect for partitioned tables.
- INCREMENTAL is used to gather global statistics on partitioned tables in an incremental way.

It is important to note that you can change default values for the parameters by using the DBMS_STATS.SET_GLOBAL_PREFS procedure.

Note: You can describe all effective statistics preference settings for all relevant tables by using the DBA_TAB_STAT_PREFS view.

Manual Statistics Gathering

You can use Enterprise Manager and the DBMS_STATS package to:

- Generate and manage statistics for use by the optimizer:
 - Gather/Modify
 - View/Name
 - Export/Import
 - Delete/Lock
- Gather statistics on:
 - Indexes, tables, columns, partitions
 - Object, schema, or database
- Gather statistics either serially or in parallel
- Gather/set system statistics



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Both Enterprise Manager and the DBMS_STATS package enable you to manually generate and manage statistics for the optimizer. You can use the DBMS_STATS package to gather, modify, view, export, import, lock, and delete statistics. You can also use this package to identify or name gathered statistics. You can gather statistics on indexes, tables, columns, and partitions at various levels of granularity: object, schema, and database level.

DBMS_STATS gathers only statistics needed for optimization; it does not gather other statistics. For example, the table statistics that are gathered by DBMS_STATS include the number of rows, number of blocks currently containing data, and average row length, but not the number of chained rows, average free space, or number of unused data blocks.

Note: Do not use the COMPUTE and ESTIMATE clauses of the ANALYZE statement to collect optimizer statistics. These clauses are supported solely for backward compatibility and may be removed in a future release. The DBMS_STATS package collects a broader, more accurate set of statistics, and gathers statistics more efficiently. You may continue to use the ANALYZE statement for other purposes that are not related to the optimizer statistics collection, such as the following:

- To use the VALIDATE or LIST CHAINED ROWS clauses
- To collect information on free list blocks

When to Gather Statistics Manually

- Rely mostly on automatic statistics collection:
 - Change the frequency of automatic statistics collection to meet your needs.
 - Remember that `STATISTICS_LEVEL` should be set to `TYPICAL` or `ALL` for automatic statistics collection to work properly.
- Gather statistics manually for:
 - Objects that are volatile
 - Objects modified in batch operations (gather statistics as part of the batch operation)
 - External tables, system statistics, and fixed objects
 - New objects (gather statistics right after object creation)



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The automatic statistics gathering mechanism gathers statistics on schema objects in the database for which statistics are absent or stale. It is important to determine when and how often to gather new statistics. The default gathering interval is nightly, but you can change this interval to suit your business needs. You can do so by changing the characteristics of your maintenance windows. Some cases may require manual statistics gathering. For example, the statistics on tables that are significantly modified during the day may become stale. There are typically two types of such objects:

- Volatile tables that are modified significantly during the course of the day
- Objects that are the target of large bulk loads that add 10 percent or more to the object's total size between statistics-gathering intervals

For external tables, statistics are collected manually only by using `GATHER_TABLE_STATS`. Because sampling on external tables is not supported, the `ESTIMATE_PERCENT` option should be explicitly set to null. Because data manipulation is not allowed against external tables, it is sufficient to analyze external tables when the corresponding file changes. Other areas in which statistics need to be manually gathered are system statistics and fixed objects, such as dynamic performance tables. These statistics are not automatically gathered.

Manual Statistics Collection: Factors

- Monitor objects for DML operations.
- Determine the correct sample sizes.
- Determine the degree of parallelism.
- Determine if histograms should be used.
- Determine the cascading effect on indexes.

Procedures to use in DBMS_STATS:

- GATHER_INDEX_STATS
- GATHER_TABLE_STATS
- GATHER_SCHEMA_STATS
- GATHER_DICTIONARY_STATS
- GATHER_DATABASE_STATS
- GATHER_SYSTEM_STATS



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When you manually gather optimizer statistics, you must pay special attention to the following factors:

- Monitoring objects for mass DML operations and gathering statistics if necessary
- Determining the correct sample sizes
- Determining the degree of parallelism to speed up queries on large objects
- Determining if histograms should be created on columns with skewed data
- Determining whether changes on objects cascade to any dependent indexes

You can use the following procedures to gather statistics:

- GATHER_TABLE_STATS to collect table, column, and index statistics
- GATHER_SCHEMA_STATS to collect statistics for all objects in a schema
- GATHER_INDEX_STATS to collect index statistics
- GATHER_SCHEMA_STATS to collect statistics for all objects in a schema
- GATHER_DICTIONARY_STATS to collect statistics for all system schemas, including SYS and SYSTEM, and other optional schemas
- GATHER_DATABASE_STATS to collect statistics for all objects in a database

Gathering Object Statistics: Example

```
dbms_stats.gather_table_stats
('sh'                      -- schema
,'customers'                -- table
, null                     -- partition
, 20                       -- sample size(%)
, false                    -- block sample?
,'for all columns'         -- column spec
, 4                        -- degree of parallelism
,'default'                 -- granularity
, true );                  -- cascade to indexes
```

```
dbms_stats.set_param('CASCADE',
                      'DBMS_STATS.AUTO.Cascade');
dbms_stats.set_param('ESTIMATE_PERCENT', '5');
dbms_stats.set_param('DEGREE', 'NULL');
```



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The first example in the slide uses the DBMS_STATS package to gather statistics on the CUSTOMERS table of the SH schema. It uses some of the options discussed in the previous slides.

You can use the SET_PARAM procedure in DBMS_STATS to set default values for parameters of all DBMS_STATS procedures. The second example in the slide shows this usage. You can also use the GET_PARAM function to get the current default value of a parameter.

Note: Granularity of statistics to collect is pertinent only if the table is partitioned. This parameter determines at which level statistics should be gathered. This can be at the partition, subpartition, or table level.

Object Statistics: Best Practices

- Ensure that all objects (tables and indexes) have statistics gathered.
- Use a sample size that is large enough if feasible.
- Gather optimizer statistics during periods of low activity.
- If partitions are in use, gather global statistics if possible.
- Use Oracle Database pending statistics to verify the effect of new statistics when tuning to minimize risk.
- Gather statistics after data has been loaded (>10% added), but before indexes are created.



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Review the following best practices:

- Ensure that all objects have statistics gathered. An easy way to achieve this is to use the `CASCADE` parameter. Note that index statistics are automatically gathered when the index is created or rebuilt.
- Use 100 percent sample size if possible. In Oracle Database 11g, Oracle gathers optimizer statistics with a new algorithm. It is very accurate, but requires minimal time. However, for very large systems, the gathering of statistics can be a very time-consuming and resource-intensive activity. In this environment, sample sizes need to be carefully controlled to ensure that gathering is completed within an acceptable timescale, within resource constraints, and within the maintenance window. If the 100 percent sample size is not feasible, try using at least an estimate of 30 percent. For more information, review MOS note 44961.1, “Statistics Gathering: Frequency and Strategy Guidelines.”
- Because gathering new optimizer statistics may invalidate cursors in the shared pool, it is prudent to restrict execution of all gathering operations to periods of low activity in the database, such as scheduled maintenance windows.

Lesson Agenda

- Gathering Statistics
- Dynamic Statistics
- Automatic Re-optimization
- SQL Plan Directives
- Online Statistics Gathering for Bulk Loads
- Concurrent Statistics Gathering
- Gathering System Statistics
- Managing Optimizer Statistics



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Dynamic Statistics: Overview

- Dynamic statistics replaces dynamic sampling.
- Dynamic statistics are used to compensate for missing, stale, or incomplete statistics.
- They can be used for table scans, index access, and joins.
- The optimizer computes a time budget for generating dynamic statistics based on query run time.
- Statistics are stored in memory and can be shared across queries.
- They are used to determine more accurate statistics when estimating:
 - Table cardinality
 - Predicate selectivity



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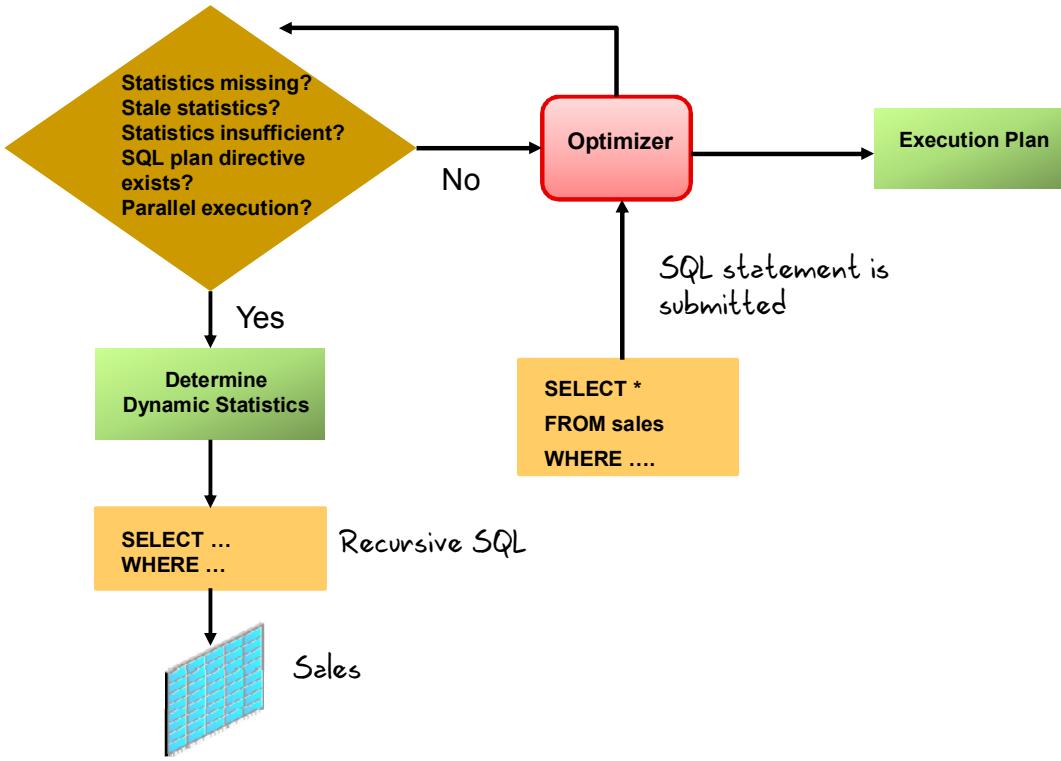
Dynamic statistics (previously called dynamic sampling) improves server performance by determining more accurate selectivity and cardinality estimates that allow the optimizer to produce better performing plans. For example, although it is recommended that you collect statistics on all of your tables for use by the optimizer, you may not gather statistics for your temporary tables and working tables that are used for intermediate data manipulation. In those cases, the optimizer provides a value through a simple algorithm that can lead to a suboptimal execution plan. The decision on whether to use dynamic statistics depends on the query, existing base statistics, and total execution time.

In previous releases, dynamic statistics were used only when one or more of the tables in a query did not have optimizer statistics. Starting in this release, the optimizer automatically decides whether dynamic statistics are useful and which dynamic statistics level to use for all SQL statements.

Dynamic statistics are beneficial in the following situations:

- An execution plan is suboptimal because of complex predicates.
- The sampling time is a small fraction of total execution time for the query.
- The query is executed many times so that the sampling time is amortized.

Dynamic Statistics at Work



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Sampling is done at compile time.

Automatic dynamic statistics are enabled when any of the following conditions is true:

- The `OPTIMIZER_DYNAMIC_SAMPLING` initialization parameter uses its default value, which means that it is not explicitly set.
- The `OPTIMIZER_DYNAMIC_SAMPLING` initialization parameter is set to 11.
- You invoke the gathering of dynamic statistics through a SQL hint.

As shown in the figure, the optimizer automatically performs dynamic statistics in the following cases:

Missing Statistics

When tables in a query have no statistics, the optimizer gathers basic statistics on these tables before optimization. Statistics can be missing because new objects are created by the application without a follow-up call to `DBMS_STATS` to gather statistics, or because statistics were locked on an object before statistics were gathered.

In this case, the statistics are not as high-quality or as complete as the statistics gathered by using the `DBMS_STATS` package. This trade-off is made to limit the impact on the compile time of the statement.

Stale Statistics

Statistics gathered by `DBMS_STATS` can become out-of-date. Typically, statistics are stale when 10 percent or more of the rows in the table have changed since the last time that statistics were gathered.

Insufficient Statistics

Statistics can be insufficient when the optimizer estimates the selectivity of predicates (filter or join) or the `GROUP BY` clause without taking into account the correlation between columns, skew in the column data distribution, and so on.

In the figure, the database issues a recursive SQL statement to scan a small random sample of the table blocks. The database applies the relevant single-table predicates and joins to estimate predicate selectivities.

The database persists the results of dynamic statistics as shareable statistics. The database can share the results during the SQL compilation of one query with recompilations of the same query. The database can also reuse the results for queries that have the same patterns. If no rows were inserted, deleted, or updated in the table being sampled, dynamic statistics is repeatable.

At the beginning of optimization, when deciding whether a table is a candidate for dynamic statistics, the optimizer checks for the existence of persistent SQL plan directives on the table (see Figure 10-2). For each directive, the optimizer registers a statistics expression that the optimizer computes when it must determine the selectivity of a predicate involving the table.

When sampling is necessary, the database must determine the sample size. Starting in Oracle Database 12c Release 1 (12.1), if the `OPTIMIZER_DYNAMIC_SAMPLING` initialization parameter is not explicitly set to a value other than 11, then the optimizer automatically decides whether to use dynamic statistics and which level to use. The database issues a recursive SQL statement to scan a small random sample of the table blocks. The database applies the relevant single-table predicates and joins to estimate predicate selectivities.

The database persists the results of dynamic statistics as sharable statistics. The database can share the results during the SQL compilation of one query with recompilations of the same query. The database can also reuse the results for queries that have the same patterns. If no rows have been inserted, deleted, or updated in the table being sampled, then the use of dynamic statistics is repeatable.

You control dynamic statistics with the `OPTIMIZER_DYNAMIC_SAMPLING` initialization parameter. The `DYNAMIC_SAMPLING` and `DYNAMIC_SAMPLING_EST_CDN` hints can be used to further control dynamic statistics.

OPTIMIZER_DYNAMIC_SAMPLING

- Dynamic session or system parameter can be set to a value from 0 to 10.
 - 0 turns off dynamic statistics.
 - 1 samples all tables that do not have statistics.
 - 2 samples at least one table in the statement that has no statistics.
- Dynamic statistics is repeatable if no update activity occurred.
- You can disable the feature by setting the `OPTIMIZER_DYNAMIC_SAMPLING` initialization parameter to 0.



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You control dynamic statistics level with the `OPTIMIZER_DYNAMIC_SAMPLING` parameter, which can be set to a value from 0 to 10. A value of 0 means collection of dynamic statistics is not done. A value of 1 means dynamic statistics is performed on all unanalyzed tables if the following criteria are met:

- There is at least 1 nonpartitioned table in the query that does not have statistics.
- This table has no indexes.
- This table has more blocks than the number of blocks that would be used for dynamic statistics of this table.

The default value is 2 if `OPTIMIZER_FEATURES_ENABLE` is set to 10.0.0 or higher. Use dynamic statistics if at least one table in the statement has no statistics. The number of blocks sampled is two times the default number of dynamic statistics blocks (64).

Increasing the value of the parameter results in a more aggressive application of dynamic statistics, in terms of both the type of tables sampled (analyzed or unanalyzed) and the amount of I/O spent on sampling.

Note: Dynamic statistics is repeatable if no rows have been inserted, deleted, or updated in the table being sampled since the previous sample operation.

Lesson Agenda

- Gathering Statistics
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Automatic Re-optimization

- The optimizer automatically changes a plan during subsequent executions of a SQL statement.
- Join statistics are also included.
- Statements are continually monitored to see if statistics fluctuate over different executions.
- It works with adaptive cursor sharing for statements with bind variables.
- A new column is added in `v$SQL IS_REOPTIMIZABLE`.
- Information found at execution time is persisted as SQL plan directives.



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In contrast to adaptive plans, automatic re-optimization changes a plan on subsequent executions after the initial execution. At the end of the first execution of a SQL statement, the optimizer uses the information gathered during the initial execution to determine whether automatic re-optimization is worthwhile. If the execution information differs significantly from the optimizer's original estimates, then the optimizer looks for a replacement plan on the next execution. The optimizer uses the information gathered during the previous execution to help determine an alternative plan. The optimizer can re-optimize a query several times, each time learning more and further improving the plan. Oracle Database 12c supports multiple forms of re-optimization.

As of Oracle Database 12c, join statistics are also included. Statements are continually monitored to verify if statistics fluctuate over different executions. It works with adaptive cursor sharing for statements with bind variables. This feature improves the ability of the query processing engine (compilation and execution) to generate better execution plans.

Re-optimization: Statistics Feedback

- Statistics feedback was introduced in Oracle Database 11g, Release 2.
- Statistics feedback is useful for queries where the data volume being processed is stable over time.
- During query execution, optimizer estimates are compared to execution statistics: if they vary significantly, then a new plan will be chosen for subsequent executions.



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Statistics feedback (formerly called cardinality feedback) was introduced in Oracle Database 11g, Release 2. This feature does a very limited form of re-optimization, after the first execution is completed. It automatically improves plans for repeated queries that have cardinality misestimates. The optimizer can estimate cardinalities incorrectly for many reasons, such as missing statistics, inaccurate statistics, or complex predicates. Cardinality feedback is not used for volatile tables. It is useful for queries where the data volume being processed is stable over time.

The optimizer may enable cardinality monitoring feedback for the cursor in the following cases: tables with no statistics, multiple conjunctive or disjunctive filter predicates on a table, and predicates containing complex operators for which the optimizer cannot accurately compute selectivity estimates.

The feature works as follows: During query execution, optimizer estimates are compared to execution statistics. If they vary significantly, a new plan is chosen for subsequent executions. Statistics are gathered for the actual data volume and data type seen during execution. If the original optimizer estimates vary significantly, the statement is hard-parsed during the next execution by using the execution statistics. Statements are monitored only once. If they do not show significant differences initially, they do not change in the future. Only individual table cardinalities are examined. Information is stored only in the cursor and is lost if the cursor ages out.

Statistics Feedback: Monitoring Query Executions

```
select /*+gather_plan_statistics*/ c.cust_first_name,
       c.cust_last_name, sum(s.amount_sold)
  from customers c, sales s
 where c.cust_id=s.cust_id
   and c.cust_city='Los Angeles'
   and c.cust_state_province='CA'
   and c.country_id=52790
   and s.time_id='09-NOV-00'
 group by c.cust_first_name, c.cust_last_name;
```

Id	Operation	Name	Starts	E-Rows	A-Rows
0 SELECT STATEMENT			1	1	0
1 HASH GROUP BY			1	1	0
* 2 HASH JOIN			1	1	0
3 PARTITION RANGE SINGLE			1	5	40
* 4 TABLE ACCESS FULL	SALES		1	5	40
* 5 TABLE ACCESS FULL	CUSTOMERS		1	1	13

Initial cardinality estimate is more than 8X off.

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Execution of the query given in the code box is monitored. The example shows that the initial plan is a hash join between sales and customers

The query has a combination of an equality filter predicate and an inequality filter predicate, which causes a misestimation in the cardinality of the customers table after these filters are applied.

The optimizer chooses the given plan where you can see from the execution statistics (estimation: E-Rows, and actual: A-Rows columns in the plan) that the cardinality of customers is underestimated.

Statistics Feedback: Reparsing Statements

```
select /*+gather_plan_statistics*/ c.cust_first_name,
       c.cust_last_name, sum(s.amount_sold)
  from customers c, sales s
 where c.cust_id=s.cust_id
   and c.cust_city='Los Angeles'
   and c.cust_state_province='CA'
   and c.country_id=52790
   and s.time_id='09-NOV-00'
 group by c.cust_first_name, c.cust_last_name;
```

I	Id	Operation	I	Name	I	Starts	E-Rows	I	A-Rows	I
I	0	SELECT STATEMENT	I		I	1		I	0	I
I	1	HASH GROUP BY	I		I	1		I	0	I
I*	2	HASH JOIN	I		I	1		I	0	I
I*	3	TABLE ACCESS FULL	I	CUSTOMERS	I	1	13	I	13	I
I*	4	PARTITION RANGE SINGLE	I		I	1	40	I	40	I
I*	5	TABLE ACCESS FULL	I	SALES	I	1	40	I	40	I

Predicate Information (identified by operation id):

```

2 - access("C"."CUST_ID"="S"."CUST_ID")
3 - filter(("C"."CUST_CITY"='Los Angeles' AND "C"."CUST_STATE_PROVINCE"
5 - filter("S"."TIME_ID"='09-NOV-00')

```

Note

- statistics feedback used for this statement

estimates are now correct.

Statistics feedback appears in the notes section of the plan.

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Execution statistics are used to reparse the statement during the second execution of the query in the code box. During the second execution, the actual cardinality is fed back to the optimizer. This time the optimizer gets the cardinality estimate right, and it displays a different plan. The new plan shows correct cardinality estimates and a new join order. Information learned is stored in the cursor only and is lost if cursor ages out.

Lesson Agenda

- Gathering Statistics
- Dynamic Statistics
- Automatic Re-optimization
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SQL Plan Directives

- A SQL plan directive is additional information and instructions that the optimizer can use to generate a better plan:
 - Collect missing statistics.
 - Create column group statistics.
 - Perform dynamic statistics.
- Directives can be used for multiple statements:
 - Directives are collected on query expressions.
- They are persisted to disk in the SYSAUX tablespace.
- Directives are automatically maintained:
 - Created as needed during compilation or execution:
 - Missing statistics, cardinality misestimates
 - Purged if not used after a year



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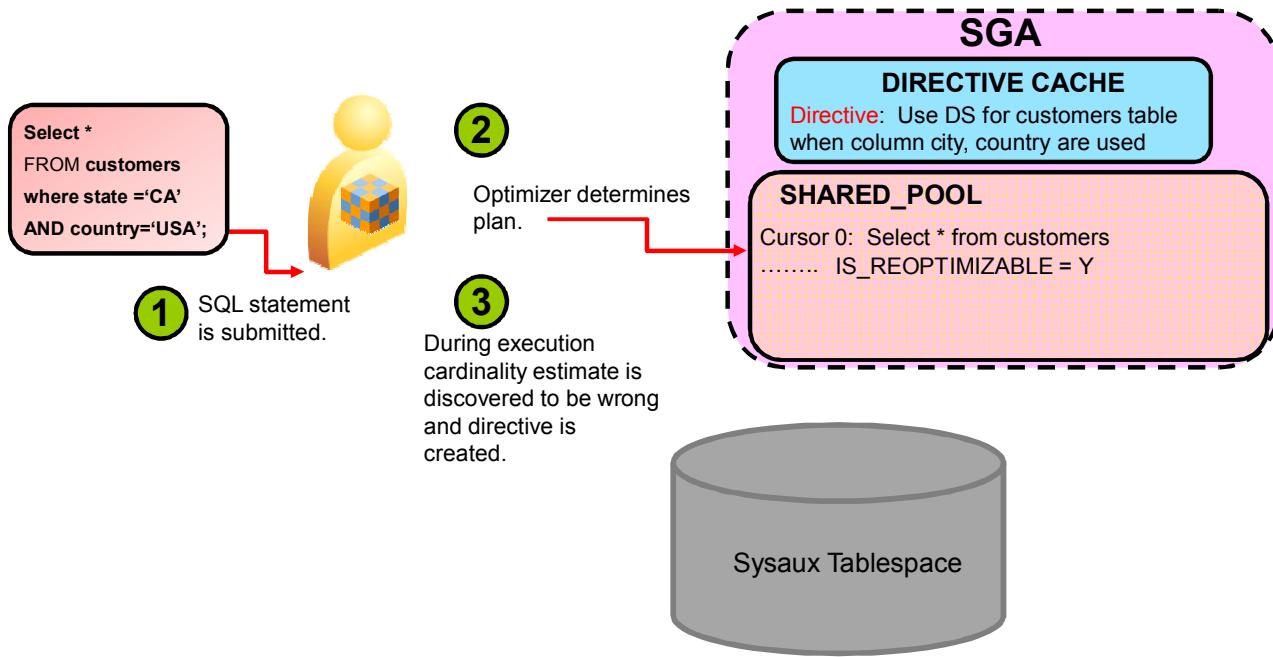
In previous releases, the database stored compilation and execution statistics in the shared SQL area, which is non-persistent. Starting in Oracle Database 12c, the database can use a SQL plan directive, which is additional information and instructions that the optimizer can use to generate a more optimal plan. For example, a SQL plan directive might instruct the optimizer to collect missing statistics, create column group statistics, or perform dynamic statistics. During SQL compilation or execution, the database analyzes the query expressions that are missing statistics or that misestimate optimizer cardinality to create SQL plan directives. When the optimizer generates an execution plan, the directives give the optimizer additional information about objects that are referenced in the plan.

SQL plan directives are not tied to a specific SQL statement or SQL ID. The optimizer can use SQL plan directives for SQL statements that are nearly identical because SQL plan directives are defined on a query expression. For example, directives can help the optimizer with queries that use similar patterns, such as web-based queries that are the same except for a select list item. The database stores SQL plan directives persistently in the SYSAUX tablespace. When generating an execution plan, the optimizer can use SQL plan directives to obtain more information about the objects that are accessed in the plan.

Directives are automatically maintained, created as needed, and purged if not used after a year.

Directives can be monitored in DBA_SQL_PLAN_DIR_OBJECTS. SQL plan directives improve plan accuracy by persisting both compilation and execution statistics in the SYSAUX tablespace, allowing them to be used by multiple SQL statements.

SQL Plan Directives

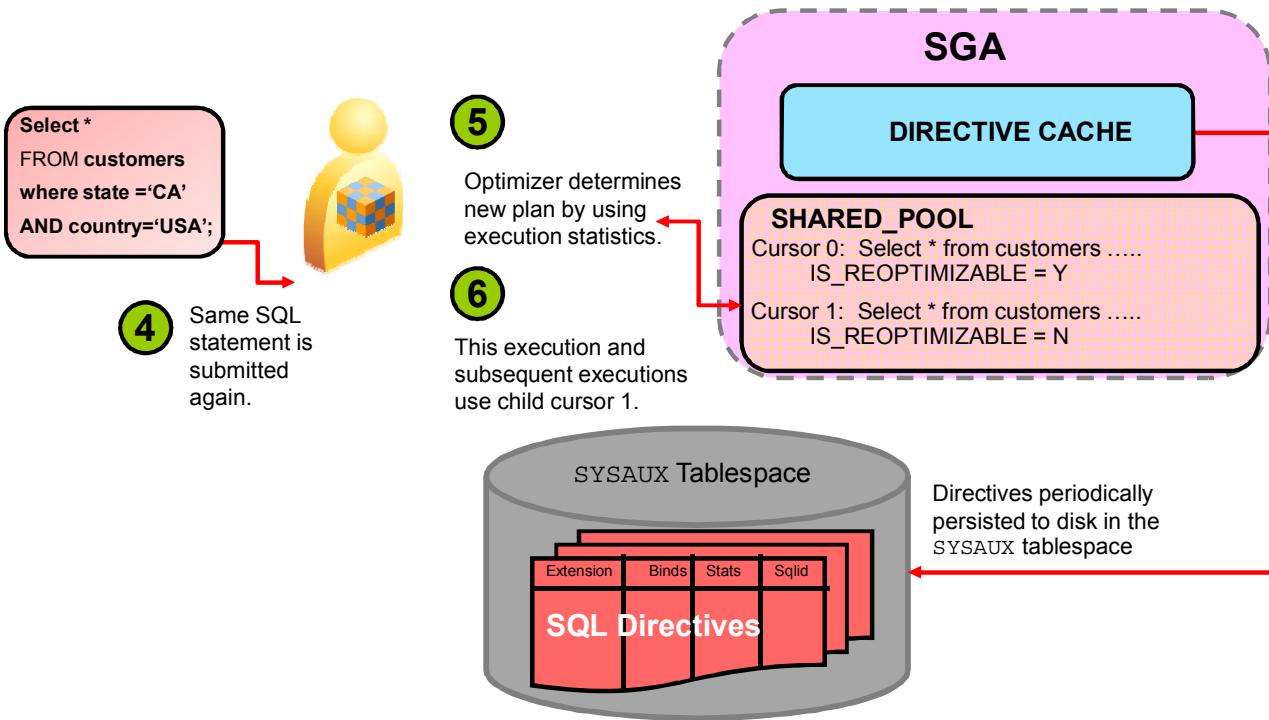


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The slide shows how SQL directives are created. The SQL statement is submitted, and then the optimizer determines the plan. During execution, if the cardinality estimates are not correct, then the directives are created.

SQL Plan Directives

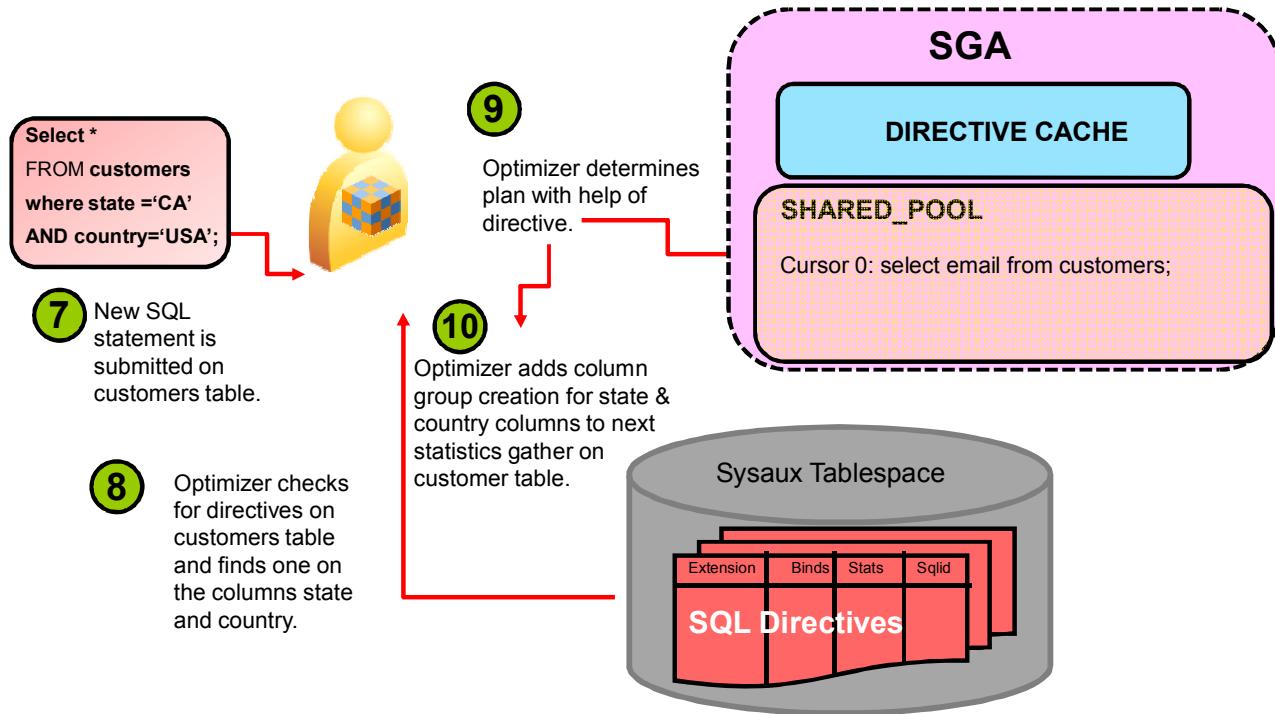


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The database initially creates directives in the shared pool. The database periodically writes the directives to the **SYSaux** tablespace. When the same SQL statement is resubmitted, the optimizer determines the new plans by using execution statistics. The execution uses child cursor 1.

SQL Plan Directives



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The SQL statement on the CUSTOMERS table is submitted again. This time, the optimizer checks for directives on the CUSTOMERS table and finds one on the state and country columns. After the optimizer gets the directive, it determines the plan with the help of the directive. The optimizer adds columns group creation for the state and country columns to the next statistics gather on the CUSTOMERS table.

SQL Plan Directives: Example

```
B.1. Manually Flush Directives (auto flush done every 15 minutes)
=====
SQL> exec dbms_spd.flush_sql_plan_directive
PL/SQL procedure successfully completed.

B.2. Display Directives
=====

SQL> col state format a5
SQL> col subobject_name format a11
SQL> col object_name format a13
SQL> select object_name, SUBOBJECT_NAME, type, state, reason from dba_sql_plan_directives d,
and object_name in ('ORDER_ITEMS', 'PRODUCT_INFORMATION');

OBJECT_NAME  SUBOBJECT_N TYPE      STATE REASON
-----
ORDER ITEMS  UNIT PRICE DYNAMIC SAMPLING NEW  SINGLE TABLE CARDINALITY MISESTIMATE
ORDER ITEMS  QUANTITY   DYNAMIC SAMPLING NEW  SINGLE TABLE CARDINALITY MISESTIMATE
ORDER ITEMS  DYNAMIC SAMPLING NEW  SINGLE TABLE CARDINALITY MISESTIMATE
```

B.3. Use Directives		
<pre>SQL> explain plan for select /*Q10*/ product_name from order_items o, product_information p where o.unit_price = 15 and quantity > 1 and p.product_id = o.product_id; Explained.</pre>		
<pre>SQL> select * from table(dbms_xplan.display(format=>'basic +note')); PLAN_TABLE_OUTPUT ----- Plan hash value: 2615131494 Id Operation Name --- --- --- 0 SELECT STATEMENT 1 HASH JOIN 2 TABLE ACCESS FULL ORDER_ITEMS 3 TABLE ACCESS FULL PRODUCT_INFORMATION Note ----- - dynamic sampling used for this statement (level=2) - 1 Sql Plan Directive used for this statement</pre>		



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SQL plan directives are created on query expressions rather than at a statement or object level to ensure they can be applied to multiple SQL statements. It is also possible to have multiple SQL plan directives used for a SQL statement.

This slide shows SQL directive examples.

You can monitor SQL plan directives by using the DBA_SQL_PLAN_DIRECTIVES and DBA_SQL_PLAN_DIR_OBJECTS views.

The Notes section of the plan display functionality shows you information about SQL plan directives such as the SQL plan directive used for this statement.

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- Gathering Statistics
- Dynamic Statistics
- Automatic Re-optimization
- SQL Plan Directives
- **Online Statistics Gathering for Bulk Loads**
- Concurrent Statistics Gathering
- Gathering System Statistics
- Managing Optimizer Statistics



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Online Statistics Gathering for Bulk Loads

- A bulk load is a `CREATE TABLE AS SELECT` or `INSERT INTO ... SELECT` operation.
- In Oracle Database 12c, the database automatically gathers table statistics during the following types of bulk loads:
 - `CREATE TABLE AS SELECT`
 - `INSERT INTO ... SELECT` into an empty table by using a direct path insert
 - `INSERT INTO ... SELECT` into a non-empty table, partition, or subpartition
- Statistics are available right away after a load.
- No additional table scan is required to gather statistics.



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With online statistics gathering, statistics are automatically created as part of a bulk load operation such as a `CREATE TABLE AS SELECT` operation or an `INSERT INTO ... SELECT` operation on an empty table.

Online statistics gathering eliminates the necessity to manually gather statistics after a bulk data load has occurred. It behaves in a similar manner to the statistics gathering done during a `CREATE INDEX` or `REBUILD INDEX` command. In a data warehouse, you frequently need to load a large amount of data into the database. For example, a sales record data warehouse might load sales data nightly, where online statistics gathering is useful.

Oracle Database 12c now gathers the statistics automatically, and the principal benefits are improved performance and manageability of bulk load operations by eliminating user intervention to gather statistics after the load. It also avoids additional full table scans, required for separate statistics gathering operations.

While gathering online statistics, the database does not gather index statistics or histograms. If these statistics are required, Oracle recommends running

`DBMS_STATS.GATHER_TABLE_STATS` with the `options` parameter set to `GATHER AUTO` after the bulk load. In this case, `GATHER_TABLE_STATS` gathers only missing or stale statistics.

Thus, the database gathers only index statistics or histograms, and not table and basic column statistics collected during the bulk load. You can set the table preference options to `GATHER AUTO` on the tables that will have a bulk load. In this way, you need not explicitly set the `options` parameter when running `GATHER_TABLE_STATS`.

By default, the database gathers statistics during bulk loads. You can disable the feature at the statement level by using the `NO_GATHER_OPTIMIZER_STATISTICS` hint. You can also explicitly enable the feature at the statement level by using the `GATHER_OPTIMIZER_STATISTICS` hint.

Currently, statistics gathering does not happen for bulk load statements when any of the following conditions apply to the target table:

- It is in an Oracle-owned schema such as `SYS`.
- It is a nested table.
- It is an index-organized table (IOT).
- It is an external table.
- It is a global temporary table defined as `ON COMMIT DELETE ROWS`.
- It has virtual columns.
- It has a `PUBLISH` preference set to `FALSE`.
- It is partitioned, `INCREMENTAL` is set to `true`, and extended syntax is not used.

For example, if you issued

```
DBMS_STATS.SET_TABLE_PREFS(null, 'sales', 'incremental', 'true'),
```

then the database does not gather statistics for `INSERT INTO sales SELECT`, but it can gather statistics for `INSERT INTO sales PARTITION (sales_q4_2000) SELECT`.

Lesson Agenda

- Gathering Statistics
- Dynamic Statistics
- Automatic Re-optimization
- SQL Plan Directives
- Online Statistics Gathering for Bulk Loads
- Concurrent Statistics Gathering
- Gathering System Statistics
- Managing Optimizer Statistics



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Concurrent Statistics Gathering

- You can use concurrent statistics gathering mode to simultaneously gather optimizer statistics for multiple tables in a schema and multiple partitions or subpartitions in a table.
- You can enable concurrent statistics gathering by setting the CONCURRENT preference with DBMS_STATS.SET_GLOBAL_PREF.
- You can use the following tools to create and manage multiple statistics gathering jobs concurrently:
 - Oracle Database Scheduler
 - Advanced Queuing
 - Oracle Database Resource Manager



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In Oracle Database 11.2.0.2, concurrent statistics gathering was introduced. When the global statistics gathering preference CONCURRENT is set, Oracle employs the Oracle Job Scheduler and Advanced Queuing components to create and manage one statistics gathering job per object (tables and/or partitions) concurrently.

In Oracle Database 12c, concurrent statistics gathering has been enhanced to make better use of each scheduler job. If a table, partition, or subpartition is very small or empty, the database may automatically batch the object with other small objects into a single job to reduce the overhead of job maintenance.

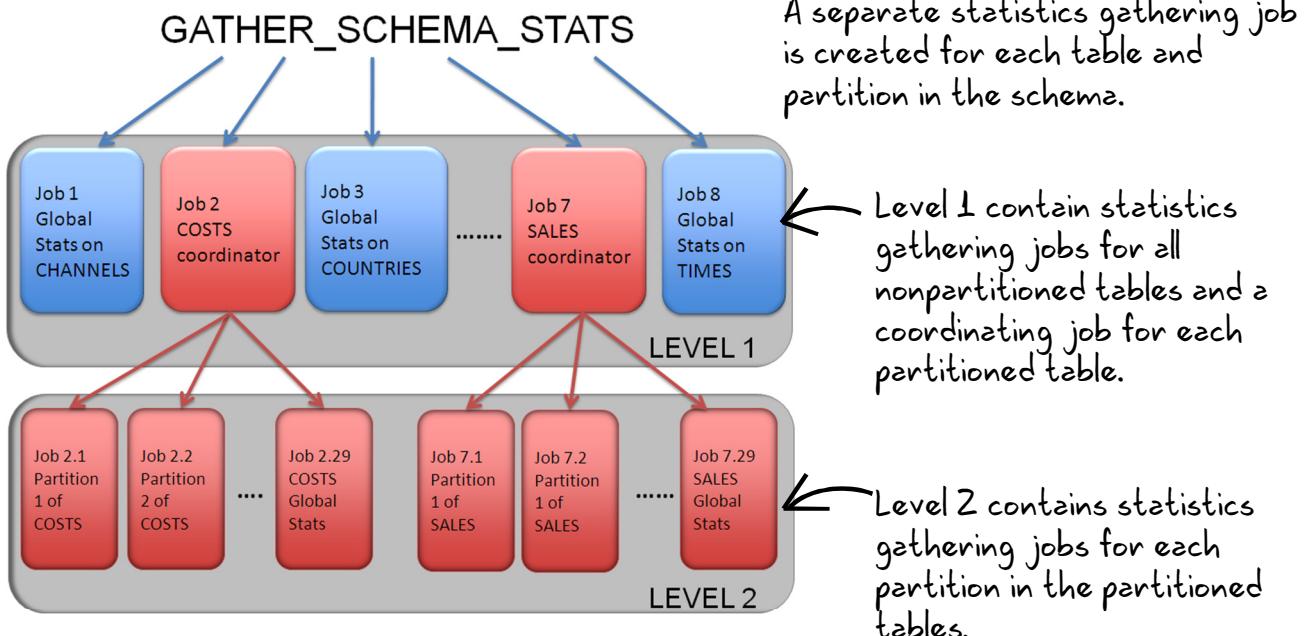
Concurrent statistics gathering can now be employed by the nightly statistics gathering job by setting the preference CONCURRENT to ALL or AUTOMATIC. The new ORA\$AUTOTASK consumer group has been added to the Resource Manager plan active used during the maintenance window, to ensure concurrent statistics gathering does not use too many system resources. Concurrent statistics gathering mode enables the database to simultaneously gather optimizer statistics for multiple tables in a schema, table partitions, or table subpartitions.

The Scheduler decides how many jobs to execute concurrently, and how many will be queued based on available system resources. The number of concurrent gather operations is controlled by the job_queue_processes parameter.

The DBMS_STATS package does not explicitly manage resources used by concurrent statistics gathering jobs that are part of a user-initiated statistics gathering call. Thus, the database may use system resources fully during concurrent statistics gathering. To address this situation, you can use the Resource Manager to cap resources consumed by concurrent statistics gathering jobs. The Resource Manager must be enabled to gather statistics concurrently.

Concurrent Statistics Gathering: Creating Jobs at Different Levels

```
Exec DBMS_STATS.GATHER_SCHEMA_STATS('SH');
```



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The database runs as many concurrent jobs as possible. The Job Scheduler decides how many jobs to execute concurrently and how many to queue. As running jobs complete, the Scheduler dequeues and runs more jobs until the database has gathered statistics on all tables, partitions, and subpartitions. The maximum number of jobs is bounded by the `JOB_QUEUE_PROCESSES` initialization parameter and available system resources.

In most cases, the `DBMS_STATS` procedures create a separate job for each table partition or subpartition. However, if the partition or subpartition is very small or empty, the database may automatically batch the object with other small objects into a single job to reduce the overhead of job maintenance.

The figure in the slide shows the creation of jobs at different levels in the `SH` schema, where the `COSTS` and `SALES` tables are partitioned and other tables are nonpartitioned. Job 2 acts as a coordinator job for the `COSTS` table and job 7 acts as a coordinator job for the `SALES` table. The respective job creates a job for each partition in the tables, as well as a separate job for the global statistics of the `COSTS` and `SALES` tables.

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Gathering System Statistics: Automatic Collection – Example

First day

```
EXECUTE DBMS_STATS.GATHER_SYSTEM_STATS(
    interval => 120,
    statstab => 'mystats', statid => 'OLTP');
```

First night

```
EXECUTE DBMS_STATS.GATHER_SYSTEM_STATS(
    interval => 120,
    statstab => 'mystats', statid => 'OLAP');
```

Next days

```
EXECUTE DBMS_STATS.IMPORT_SYSTEM_STATS(
    statstab => 'mystats', statid => 'OLTP');
```

Next nights

```
EXECUTE DBMS_STATS.IMPORT_SYSTEM_STATS(
    statstab => 'mystats', statid => 'OLAP');
```



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The example in the slide shows database applications processing OLTP transactions during the day and running reports at night.

First, system statistics must be collected during the day. In this example, gathering ends after 120 minutes and statistics are stored in the `mystats` table.

Then, system statistics are collected during the night. Gathering ends after 120 minutes and statistics are stored in the `mystats` table.

Generally, the syntax in the slide is used to gather system statistics. Before invoking the `GATHER_SYSTEM_STATS` procedure with the `INTERVAL` parameter specified, you must activate job processes by using a command such as `SQL> alter system set job_queue_processes = 1;`.

Note: The default value of `job_queue_processes` is 1000. You can also invoke the same procedure with different arguments to enable manual gathering instead of using jobs.

If appropriate, you can switch between the statistics gathered. Note that it is possible to automate this process by submitting a job to update the dictionary with appropriate statistics. During the day, a job may import the OLTP statistics for the daytime run, and during the night, another job imports the OLAP statistics for the nighttime run.

Gathering System Statistics: Manual Collection – Example

- Start manual system statistics collection in the data dictionary:

```
EXECUTE DBMS_STATS.GATHER_SYSTEM_STATS( -  
gathering_mode => 'START');
```
- Generate the workload.
- End the collection of system statistics:

```
EXECUTE DBMS_STATS.GATHER_SYSTEM_STATS( -  
gathering_mode => 'STOP');
```



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The example in the previous slide shows how to collect system statistics with jobs by using the internal parameter of the `DBMS_STATS.GATHER_SYSTEM_STATS` procedure. To collect system statistics manually, another parameter of this procedure can be used, as shown in the slide.

First, you must start system statistics collection, and then you can end the collection process at any time after you are certain that a representative workload has been generated on the instance.

The example collects system statistics and stores them directly in the data dictionary.

Lesson Agenda

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Managing Statistics: Overview (Export / Import / Lock / Restore / Publish)

- Purpose:
 - To revert to pre-analyzed statistics if gathering statistics causes critical statements to perform badly
 - To test the new statistics before publishing
- Importing previously exported statistics (9*i*)
- Locking and unlocking statistics on a specific table (10g)
- Restoring statistics archived before gathering (10g)
- Statistics can be pending before publishing (11g R2).



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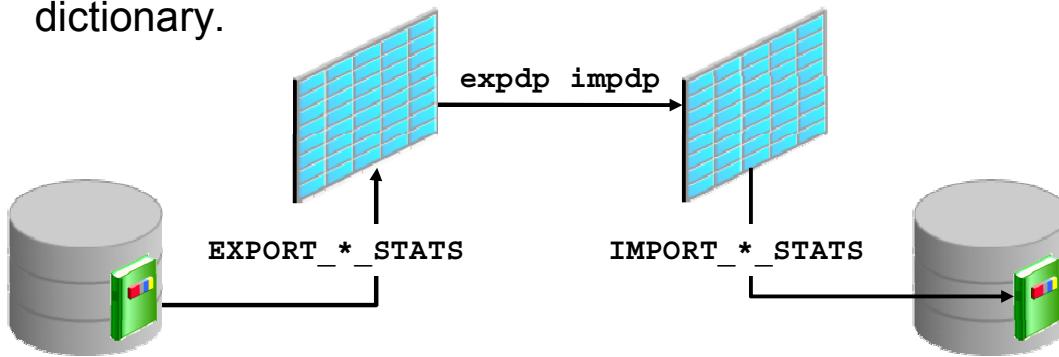
In subsequent slides, the following topics are covered to discuss how to manage optimizer statistics:

- Importing previously exported statistics (9*i*)
- Locking and unlocking statistics on a specific table (10g)
- Restoring statistics archived before gathering (10g)
- Statistics can be pending before publishing (11g R2).

Exporting and Importing Statistics

Use DBMS_STATS procedures:

- CREATE_STAT_TABLE creates the statistics table.
- EXPORT_*_STATS moves the statistics to the statistics table.
- Use Data Pump to move the statistics table.
- IMPORT_*_STATS moves the statistics to the data dictionary.



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You can export and import statistics from the data dictionary to user-owned tables, enabling you to create multiple versions of statistics for the same schema. You can also copy statistics from one database to another database. You may want to do this to copy the statistics from a production database to a scaled-down test database.

Before exporting statistics, you first need to create a table for holding the statistics. The procedure DBMS_STATS.CREATE_STAT_TABLE creates the statistics table. After table creation, you can export statistics from the data dictionary into the statistics table by using the DBMS_STATS.EXPORT_*_STATS procedures. You can then import statistics by using the DBMS_STATS.IMPORT_*_STATS procedures.

The optimizer does not use statistics stored in a user-owned table. The only statistics used by the optimizer are the statistics stored in the data dictionary. To have the optimizer use the statistics in a user-owned table, you must import those statistics into the data dictionary by using the statistics-import procedures.

To move statistics from one database to another, you must first export the statistics on the first database, then copy the statistics table to the second database by using the Data Pump Export and Import utilities or other mechanisms, and then import the statistics into the second database.

Locking and Unlocking Statistics

- Prevents automatic gathering
- Is mainly used for volatile tables:
 - Lock without statistics implies dynamic statistics.

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_STATS.DELETE_TABLE_STATS('OE', 'ORDERS');
  DBMS_STATS.LOCK_TABLE_STATS('OE', 'ORDERS');
END;
```

- Lock with statistics for representative values.

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_STATS.GATHER_TABLE_STATS('OE', 'ORDERS');
  DBMS_STATS.LOCK_TABLE_STATS('OE', 'ORDERS');
END;
```

- Unlock the statistics on oe.orders.

```
BEGIN
  DBMS_STATS.UNLOCK_TABLE_STATS('OE', 'ORDERS');
END; /
```



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Starting with Oracle Database 10g, you can lock statistics on a specified table with the `LOCK_TABLE_STATS` procedure of the `DBMS_STATS` package. You can lock statistics to prevent them from changing. After statistics are locked, you cannot make modifications to the statistics until the statistics have been unlocked.

You can lock statistics on a table without statistics or set them to NULL by using the `DELETE_*_STATS` procedures to prevent automatic statistics collection so that you can use dynamic statistics on a volatile table with no statistics. You can also lock statistics on a volatile table at a point when it is fully populated so that the table statistics are more representative of the table population.

You can also lock statistics at the schema level by using the `LOCK_SCHEMA_STATS` procedure. You can query the `STATTYPE_LOCKED` column in the `{USER | ALL | DBA}_TAB_STATISTICS` view to determine whether the statistics on the table are locked.

You can use the `UNLOCK_SCHEMA_STAT` and `UNLOCK_TABLE_STATS` procedures to unlock the statistics on a specified table.

You can set the value of the `FORCE` parameter to TRUE to overwrite the statistics even if they are locked. The `FORCE` argument is found in the following `DBMS_STATS` procedures: `DELETE_*_STATS`, `IMPORT_*_STATS`, `RESTORE_*_STATS`, and `SET_*_STATS`.

Note: When you lock the statistics on a table, all the dependent statistics, including table statistics, column statistics, histograms, and dependent index statistics, are considered locked.

Restoring Statistics

- Past statistics may be restored with the DBMS_STATS.RESTORE_*_STATS procedures.

```
BEGIN  
  DBMS_STATS.RESTORE_TABLE_STATS(  
    OWNNAME=>'OE', TABNAME=>'INVENTORIES',  
    AS_OF_TIMESTAMP=>'15-JUL-10 09.28.01.597526000 AM -05:00');  
END;
```

- Statistics are automatically stored:
 - With a time stamp in DBA_TAB_STATS_HISTORY
 - When collected with DBMS_STATS procedures
- Statistics are purged:
 - When the STATISTICS_LEVEL is set to TYPICAL or ALL automatically
 - After 31 days or time defined by DBMS_STATS.ALTER_STATS_HISTORY_RETENTION



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Old versions of statistics are saved automatically whenever statistics in the dictionary are modified with the DBMS_STATS procedures. You can restore statistics by using the RESTORE procedures of the DBMS_STATS package. These procedures use a time stamp as an argument and restore statistics as of that time stamp. This is useful when newly-collected statistics lead to suboptimal execution plans and the administrator wants to revert to the previous set of statistics.

Guidelines for Restoring Optimizer Statistics

Restoring statistics is similar to importing and exporting statistics. In general, restore statistics instead of exporting them in the following situations:

- You want to recover older versions of the statistics. For example, you want to restore the optimizer behavior to an earlier date.
- You want the database to manage the retention and purging of statistics histories.

Export statistics rather than restoring them in the following situations:

- You want to experiment with multiple sets of statistics and change the values back and forth.
- You want to move the statistics from one database to another database. For example, moving statistics from a production system to a test system.
- You want to preserve a known set of statistics for a longer period than the desired retention date for restoring statistics.

Restrictions for Restoring Optimizer Statistics

When restoring previous versions of statistics, the following limitations apply:

- DBMS_STATS.RESTORE_*_STATS procedures cannot restore user-defined statistics.
- Old versions of statistics are not stored when the ANALYZE command has been used for collecting statistics.
- When you drop a table, workload information used by the auto-histogram gathering feature and saved statistics history used by the RESTORE_*_STATS procedures is lost. Without this data, these features do not function properly. To remove all rows from a table, and to restore these statistics with DBMS_STATS, use TRUNCATE instead of dropping and re-creating the same table.

There are dictionary views that can be used to determine the time stamp for restoration of statistics. The *_TAB_STATS_HISTORY views (ALL, DBA, or USER) contain a history of table statistics modifications. For the example in the slide, the time stamp was determined by:

```
select stats_update_time from dba_tab_stats_history  
where table_name = 'INVENTORIES'
```

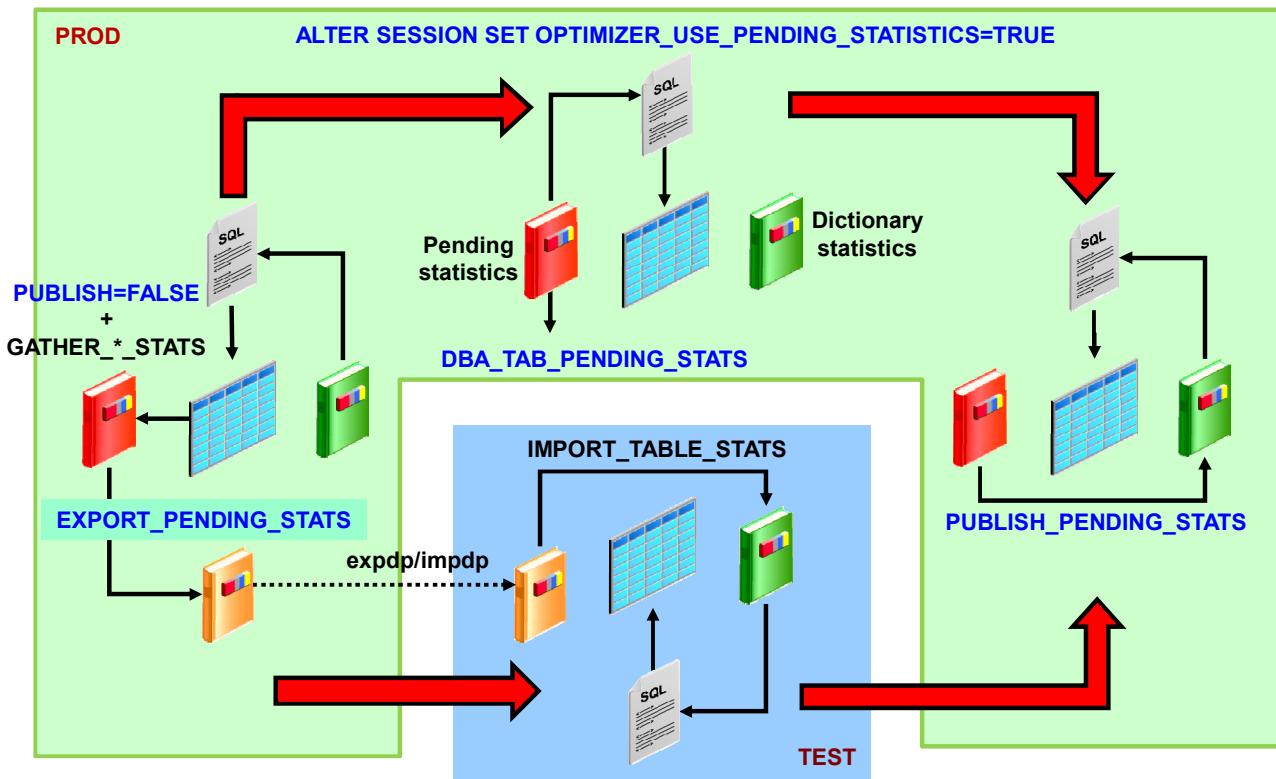
The database purges old statistics automatically at regular intervals based on the statistics history retention setting and the time of the recent analysis of the system.

You can use the following procedure to obtain information about the optimizer statistics history:

- GET_STATS_HISTORY_RETENTION
 - This function can retrieve the current statistics history retention value.
- GET_STATS_HISTORY_AVAILABILITY
 - This function retrieves the oldest time stamp when statistics history is available. Users cannot restore statistics to a time stamp older than the oldest time stamp.

You can configure retention by using the DBMS_STATS.ALTER_STATS_HISTORY_RETENTION procedure. The default value is 31 days, which means that you would be able to restore the optimizer statistics to any time in the last 31 days.

Deferred Statistics Publishing: Overview



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By default, the statistics-gathering operation automatically stores the new statistics in the data dictionary each time it completes the iteration for one object (table, partition, subpartition, or index). The optimizer sees the new statistics as soon as they are written to the data dictionary, and these new statistics are called *current statistics*. Automatic publishing can be frustrating to the DBA, who is never sure of the impact of the new statistics. In addition, the statistics used by the optimizer can be inconsistent if, for example, table statistics are published before the statistics of its indexes, partitions, or subpartitions.

To avoid these potential issues, you can separate the gathering step from the publication step for optimizer statistics. There are two benefits of separating the two steps:

- Supports the statistics-gathering operation as an atomic transaction. The statistics of all tables and dependent objects (indexes, partitions, subpartitions) in a schema will be published at the same time. This means the optimizer will always have a consistent view of the statistics. If the gathering step fails during the gathering process, it will be able to resume from where it left off when it is restarted by using the `DBMS_STAT.RESUME_GATHER_STATS` procedure.
- Allows DBAs to validate the new statistics by running all or part of the workload by using the newly gathered statistics on a test system and, when satisfied with the test results, to proceed to the publishing step to make them current in the production environment.

When you specify the PUBLISH to FALSE gather option, gathered statistics are stored in the pending statistics tables instead of being current. These pending statistics are accessible from a number of views: {ALL | DBA | USER} _{TAB | COL | IND | TAB_HISTGRM} _PENDING_STATS.

The slide shows two paths for testing the statistics. The lower path shows exporting the pending statistics to a test system. The upper path shows enabling the use of pending statistics (usually in a session). Both paths continue to the production system and the publication of the pending statistics.

To test the pending statistics, you have two options:

- Transfer the pending statistics to your own statistics table by using the new DBMS_STAT.EXPORT_PENDING_STATS procedure, export your statistics table to a test system where you can test the impact of the pending statistics, and then render the pending statistics current by using the DBMS_STAT.IMPORT_TABLE_STATS procedure.
- Enable session-pending statistics by altering your OPTIMIZER_USE_PENDING_STATISTICS session initialization parameter to TRUE. By default, this new initialization parameter is set to FALSE. This means that in your session, you parse SQL statements by using the current optimizer statistics. By setting it to TRUE in your session, you switch to the pending statistics instead.

When you have tested the pending statistics and are satisfied with them, you can publish them as current in your production environment by using the new DBMS_STAT.PUBLISH_PENDING_STATS procedure.

Note: For more information about the DBMS_STATS package, see *PL/SQL Packages and Types Reference*.

Deferred Statistics Publishing: Example

```
exec dbms_stats.set_table_prefs('SH', 'CUSTOMERS', 'PUBLISH', 'false') 1
```

```
exec dbms_stats.gather_table_stats('SH', 'CUSTOMERS'); 2
```

```
alter session set optimizer_use_pending_statistics = true; 3
```

Execute your workload from the same session. 4

```
exec dbms_stats.publish_pending_stats('SH', 'CUSTOMERS'); 5
```



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1. Use the SET_TABLE_PREFS procedure to set the PUBLISH option to FALSE. This setting prevents the next statistics-gathering operation from automatically publishing statistics as current. According to the first statement, this is true only for the SH.CUSTOMERS table.
2. Gather statistics for the SH.CUSTOMERS table in the pending area of the dictionary.
3. Test the new set of pending statistics from your session by setting OPTIMIZER_USE_PENDING_STATISTICS to TRUE.
4. Issue queries against SH.CUSTOMERS.
5. If you are satisfied with the test results, use the PUBLISH_PENDING_STATS procedure to render the pending statistics for SH.CUSTOMERS current.

Note: To analyze the differences between the pending statistics and the current ones, you could export the pending statistics to your own statistics table and then use the new DBMS_STAT.DIFF_TABLE_STATS function.

Running Statistics Gathering Functions in Reporting Mode

- You can run the DBMS_STATS functions in reporting mode.
- In this mode, the optimizer does not actually gather statistics, but reports objects that would be processed if you were to use a specified statistics gathering function.
- DBMS_STATS.REPORT_GATHER_*_STATS functions can be used to set the report mode.

```
SET LINES 200 PAGES 0
SET LONG 100000
COLUMN REPORT FORMAT A200
VARIABLE my_report CLOB;
BEGIN
  :my_report :=DBMS_STATS.REPORT_GATHER_SCHEMA_STATS(
    ownname => 'OE' ,
    detail_level => 'TYPICAL' ,
    format => 'HTML' );
END;
/
```



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Reporting on Past Statistics Gathering Operations

- You can use DBMS_STATS functions to report on a specific statistics gathering operation or on operations that occurred during a specified time.
- REPORT_STATS_OPERATIONS generates a report of all statistics operations that occurred between two points in time.
- REPORT_SINGLE_STATS_OPERATION generates a report of the specified operation.

```
VARIABLE my_report CLOB;
BEGIN
:my_report := DBMS_STATS.REPORT_STATS_OPERATIONS ( since =>
SYSDATE-1 , until => SYSDATE , detail_level => 'TYPICAL' ,
format => 'HTML' );
END; /
```



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Managing SQL Plan Directives

- You can use DBMS_SPD procedures and functions to manage directives manually.
- You must have the Administer SQL Management Object privilege to execute the DBMS_SPD APIs.
- You can force the database to write the SQL plan directives to disk by using this syntax:

```
BEGIN  
  DBMS_SPD.FLUSH_SQL_PLAN_DIRECTIVE;  
END;
```

- You can delete the existing SQL plan directive for the sh schema:

```
BEGIN  
  DBMS_SPD.DROP_SQL_PLAN_DIRECTIVE ( directive_id  
=> 1484026771529551585 );  
END;
```



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The database automatically manages SQL plan directives. If the directives are not used in 53 weeks, then the database automatically purges them.

You can use DBMS_SPD procedures and functions to manage directives manually.

- FLUSH_SQL_PLAN_DIRECTIVE: Forces the database to write directives from memory to persistent storage in the SYSAUX tablespace
- DROP_SQL_PLAN_DIRECTIVE: Drops a SQL plan directive
- DBA_SQL_PLAN_DIRECTIVES: Displays information about the SQL plan directives in the system

Quiz

When there are no statistics for an object being used in a SQL statement, the optimizer uses:

- a. Rule-based optimization
- b. Dynamic statistics
- c. Fixed values
- d. Statistics gathered during the parse phase
- e. Random values



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Quiz

There is a very volatile table in the database. The size of the table changes by more than 50 percent daily. What steps are part of the procedure to force dynamic statistics?

- a. Delete statistics.
- b. Lock statistics.
- c. Gather statistics when the table is at its largest.
- d. Set DYNAMIC_SAMPLING=9.
- e. Set DYNAMIC_SAMPLING=0.
- f. Allow the DYNAMIC_SAMPLING parameter to default.



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Quiz

A query plan changes during execution because runtime conditions indicate that optimizer estimates are inaccurate.

- a. True
- b. False



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Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Gather optimizer statistics
- Set statistic preferences
- Use dynamic statistics
- Use automatic re-optimization
- Use SQL plan directives
- Discuss online statistics gathering for bulk loads
- Discuss concurrent statistics gathering
- Manage optimizer statistics



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