

Oracle Tips and Tricks

With hundreds of configuration parameters and thousands of metrics to monitor, it's no small task for Oracle DBAs to monitor the overall health of their Oracle databases.

AppDynamics for Databases takes a time-based approach to monitoring, allowing you to examine the performance of SQL statements over time and where that time was spent, for example, fetching, sorting or waiting on a lock. The statements are then ranked with the worst performing at the top. Data is also by Client, session, user, database, Program, Module and host, allowing you to quickly drill up and down. Once you have identified a problematic statement you can click on the text and it will take you to the SQL screen where you can examine the execution plan.

Other screens within AppDynamics for Databases allow you to see the performance of sessions currently connected, view database statistics and browse database objects.

Using AppDynamics for Databases approach to monitoring you only need to address problems when you see they are affecting your application SQL i.e. if your SQL is running fast why bother focusing on configuration parameters and metrics?

The AppDynamics for Databases performance management solution covers Oracle 8i, 9i, 10g and 11g database running on any hardware or OS platform, therefore we have great coverage of the most popular and widely used database technologies of today.

Tiny snapshots are taken sub-second which builds up a complete picture of what is happening on your Oracle instance. Within minutes AppDynamics for Databases can capture and display which users, programs, machines, modules and sessions are active within the instance, also which schema they are active in, and most importantly what SQL they are executing.

AppDynamics for Databases is designed to monitor busy production databases 24x7 without impacting on the performance of the instance. It uses agentless technology which allows it to monitor remotely, meaning that there is no agent consuming resource on the database machine. Being agentless, it also means that the installation is rapid; all you need to do is provide an Oracle user and network connectivity to the instance, nothing else.

The depth of data collected from AppDynamics for Databases is comprehensive, and allows detailed drilldown. An expert DBA can view the resource consumption profile of his Oracle instance, drill into a performance spike and then find the underlying root cause in seconds.

AppDynamics for Databases maintains a repository of historical performance data. This gives the DBA the ability not only to see what is happening now, but what has happened over the last day, the last week or the last month. Having historical performance data greatly facilitates problem resolution and allows the DBA to answer important questions such as: i) What happened to the online application yesterday to make it slow down ii) Why is the overnight batch job still running this morning at 8:55 etc.