




ORACLE[®]

RAC Performance Tuning Best Practices

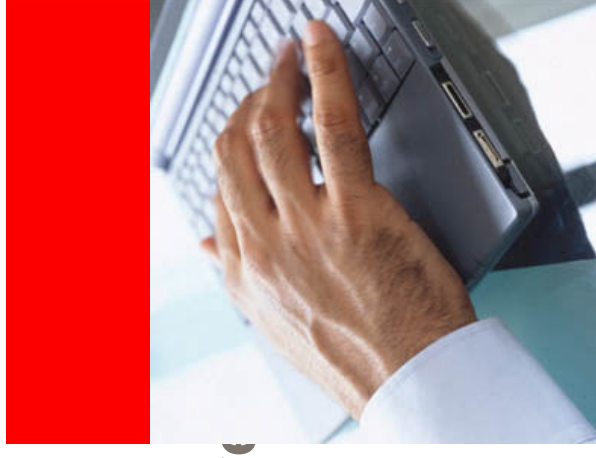


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Agenda

Practical RAC Performance Analysis Review

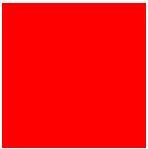
- RAC Architecture Overview
- Common Problems and Symptoms
- Application and Database Design
- Diagnostics and Problem Determination
- Summary: Practical Performance Analysis
- Appendix





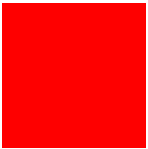
OBJECTIVE

- Realize that RAC performance does not require “Black Magic”
- General system and SQL analysis and tuning experience is practically sufficient for RAC
- Problems can be identified with a minimum of metrics and effort
- Diagnostics framework and Advisories are efficient

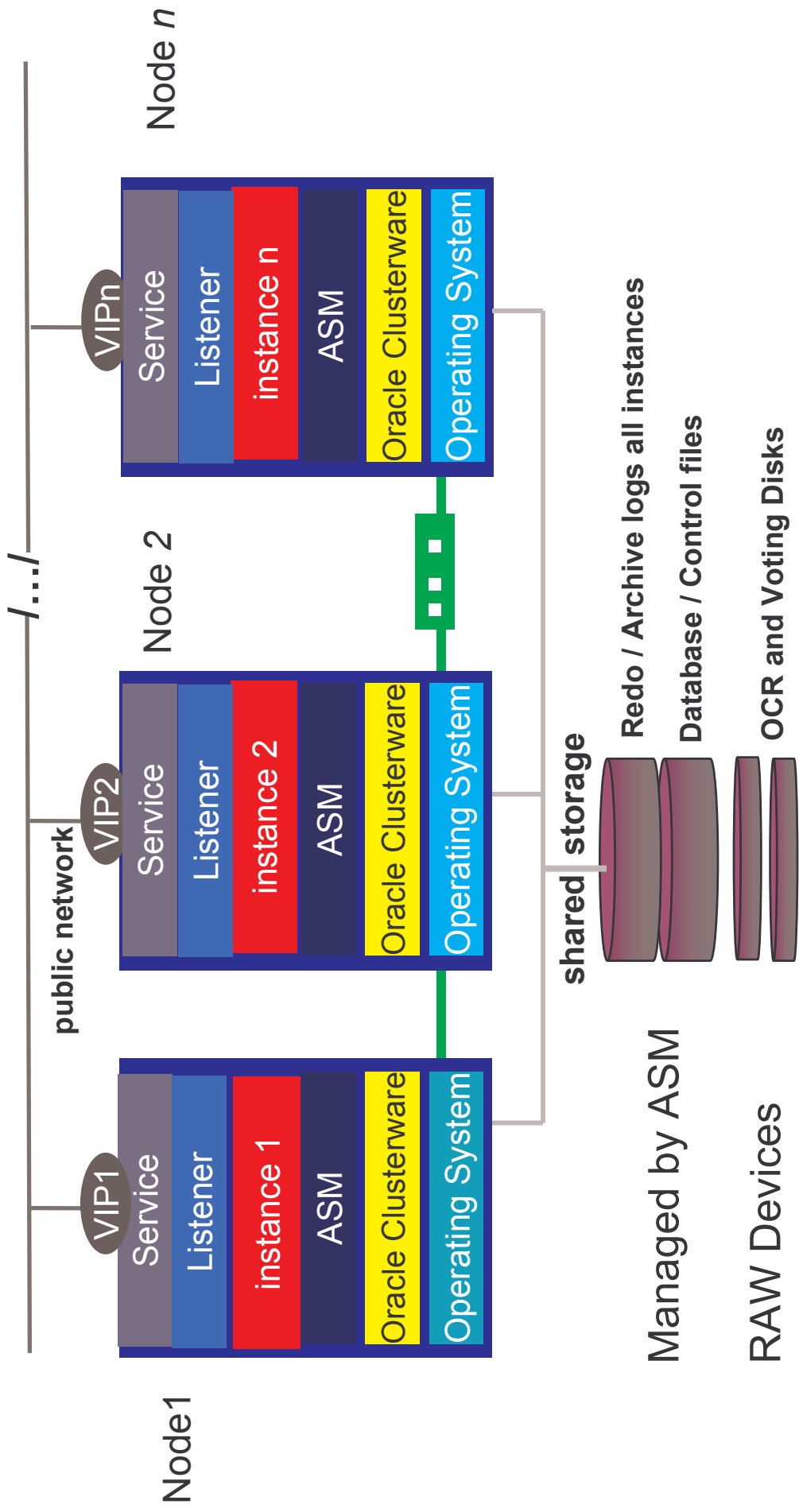


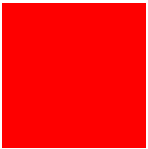
RAC Architecture Overview



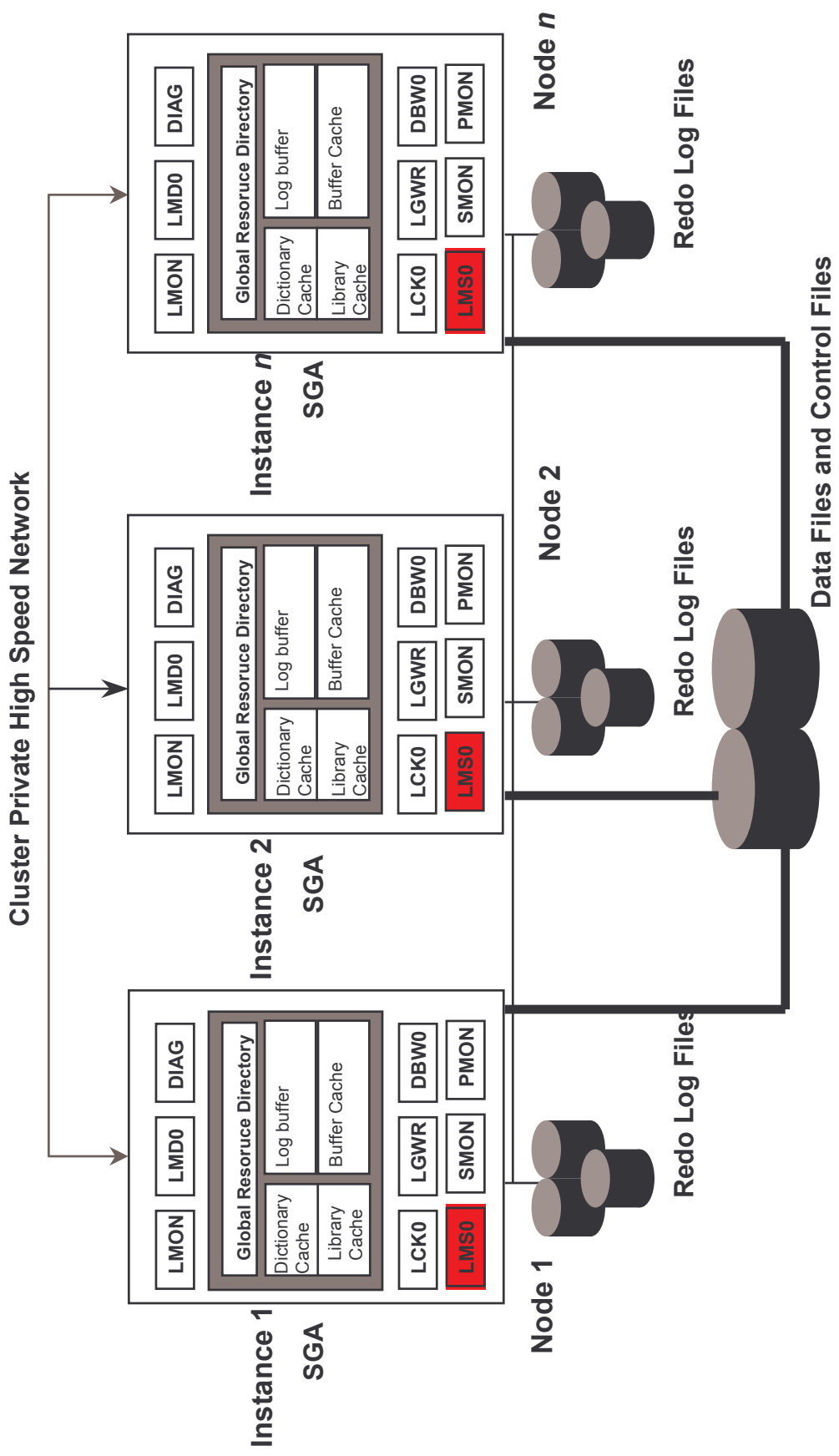


RAC 10g Architecture





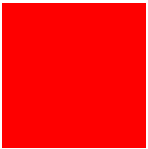
Under the Covers





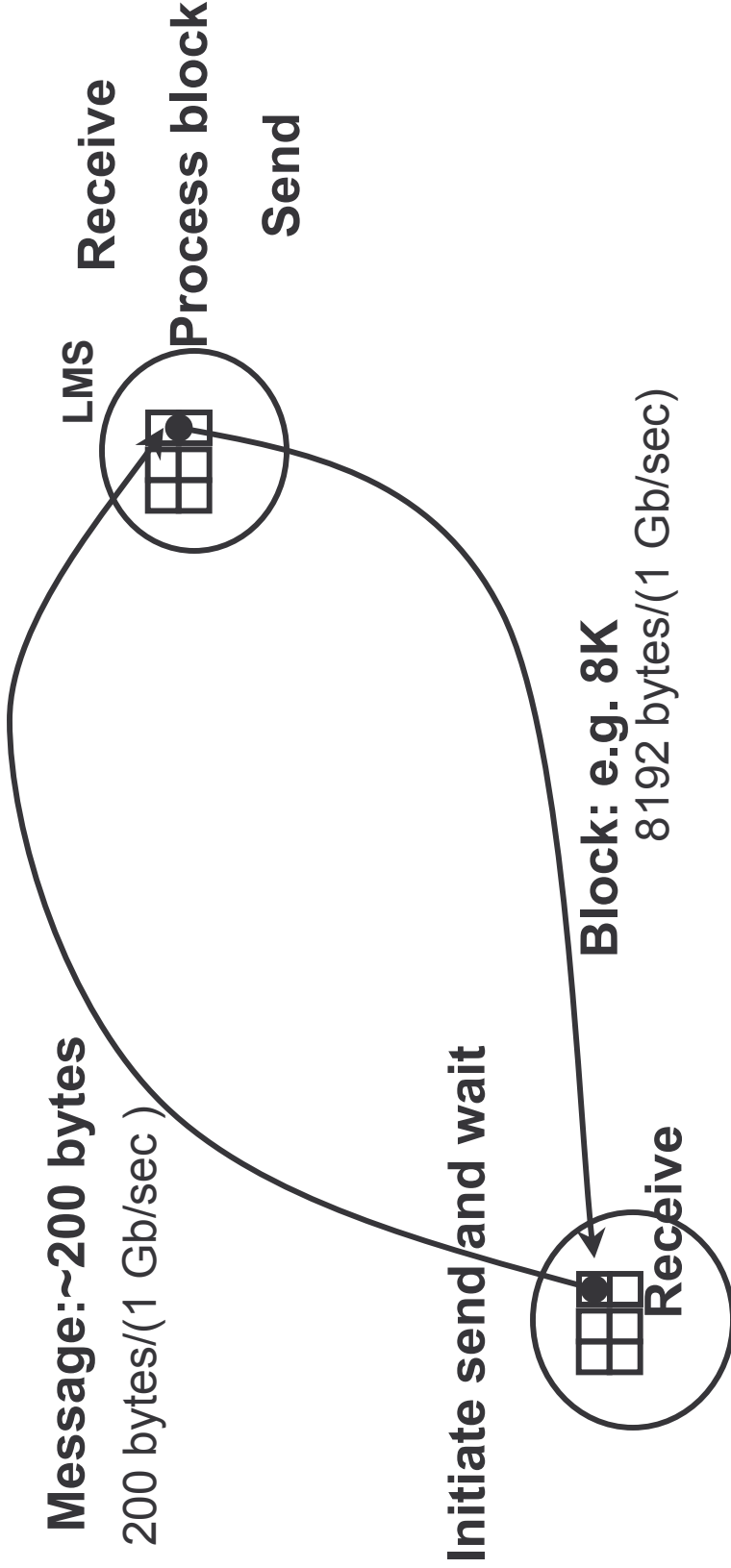
Global Cache Service (GCS)

- Guarantees cache coherency
- Manages caching of shared data via Cache Fusion
- Minimizes disk access to data which is not in local cache by remotely transferring blocks
- Implements fast direct memory access over high-speed interconnects for all data blocks and types
- Uses an efficient and scalable messaging protocol



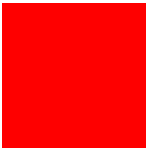
GCS Processing

Message: ~200 bytes
200 bytes/(1 Gb/sec)

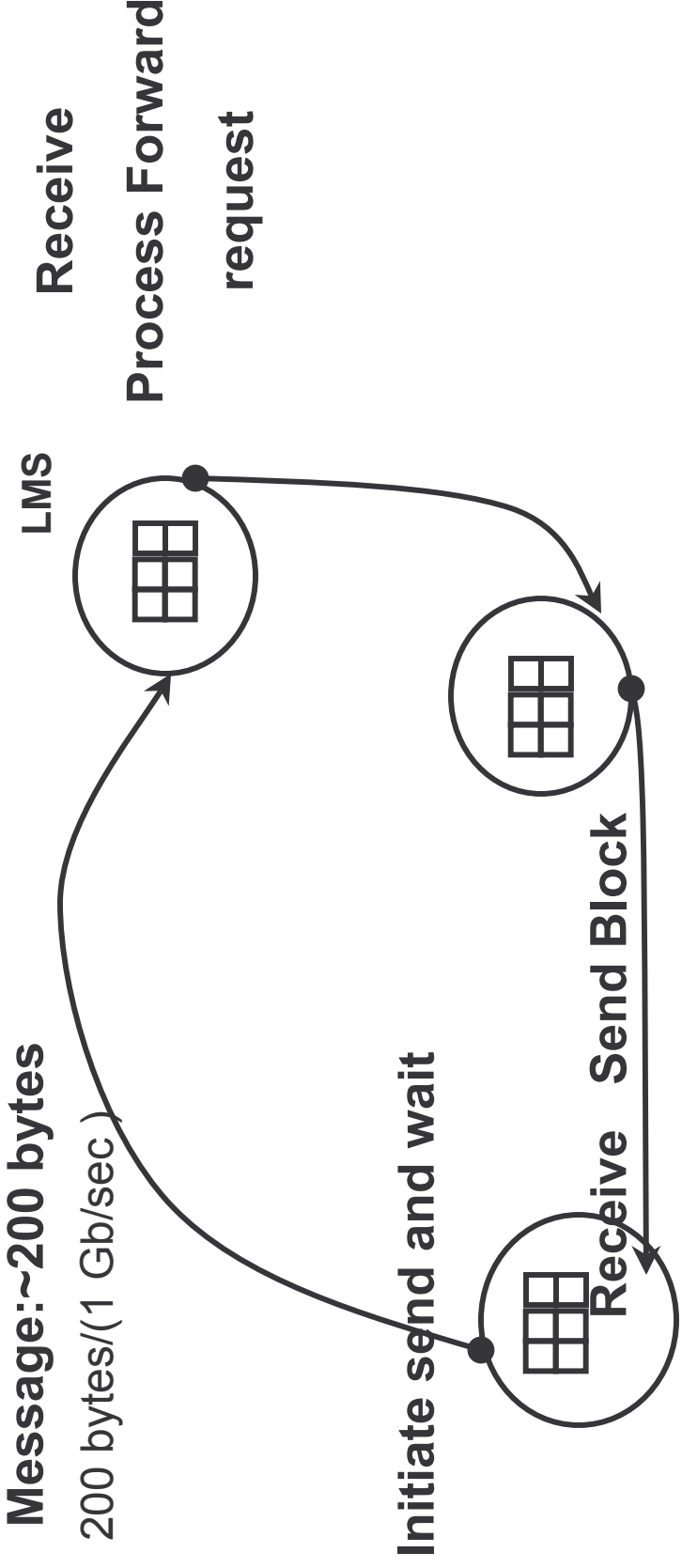


Total access time: e.g. ~360 microseconds (UDP over GBE)

Network propagation delay (“wire time”) is a minor factor for roundtrip time
(approx.: 6% , vs. 52% in OS and network stack)



GCS Processing



Network propagation delay (“wire time”) is a minor factor for roundtrip time
(approx.: 6% , vs. 52% in OS and network stack)

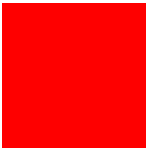




Block Transfer Time

Determined by

- Network Transmit Time – aka wire speed
 - HOST CPU
 - Send/Receive Network packet processing
 - LMS processing
 - Operating System scheduling
 - LMS load
 - Interconnect stability
-
- Oracle statistics report Round-trip Time



Block Transfer Latency

- ~300 microseconds is lowest measured with UDP over Gigabit Ethernet and 2K blocks
- ~ 120 microseconds is lowest measured with RDS over Infiniband and 2K blocks

Block size	2K	4K	8K	16K
RT (ms)				
UDP/GE	0.30	0.31	0.36	0.46
RDS/IB	0.12	0.13	0.16	0.20



Infrastructure: Private Interconnect

- Network between the nodes of a RAC cluster MUST be private
- Supported links: GbE, IB (IPoIB: 10.2)
- Supported transport protocols: UDP, RDS (10.3)
- Use multiple or dual-ported NICs for redundancy and increase bandwidth with NIC bonding
- Large (Jumbo) Frames for GbE recommended



Infrastructure: Interconnect Bandwidth

- Bandwidth requirements depend on
 - CPU power per cluster node
 - Application-driven data access frequency
 - Number of nodes and size of the working set
 - Data distribution between PQ slaves
- Typical utilization approx. 10-30% in OLTP
 - 10000-12000 8K blocks per sec to saturate 1 x Gb Ethernet (75-80% of theoretical bandwidth)
- Multiple NICs generally not required for performance and scalability



Infrastructure: IPC configuration

- Settings:
 - Socket receive buffers (256 KB – 1MB)
 - Negotiated top bit rate and full duplex mode
 - NIC ring buffers
 - Ethernet flow control settings
- Verify your setup:
 - CVU does checking
 - Load testing eliminates potential for problems



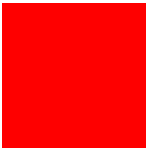
Infrastructure: Operating System

- Remote Block access latencies increase when CPU(s) busy and run queues are long
- Immediate LMS scheduling is critical for predictable block access latencies when CPU > 80% busy
- Real Time or fixed priority for LMS is supported
 - Implemented by default with 10.2



Infrastructure: IO capacity

- Disk storage is shared by all nodes, i.e the aggregate IO rate is important
- Log file IO latency can be important for block transfers
- Parallel Execution across cluster nodes requires a well-scalable IO subsystem
 - Disk configuration needs to be responsive and scalable
 - Get I/O baseline with ORION



Common Problems and Symptoms





Misconfigured or Faulty Interconnect

Can Cause:

- Dropped packets/fragments
- Buffer overflows
- Packet reassembly failures or timeouts
- Ethernet Flow control issues
- TX/RX errors

“gc lost blocks” responsible for large no of escalations

“Lost Blocks”: NIC Receive Errors

Db_block_size = 8K

```
ifconfig -a:
eth0 Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr 00:0B:DB:4B:A2:04
      inet addr:130.35.25.110 Bcast:130.35.27.255 Mask:255.255.252.0
      UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
      RX packets:21721236 errors:135 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:95
      TX packets:273120 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
      ...
```



“Lost Blocks”: IP Packet Reassembly Failures

```
netstat -s
```

```
Ip:      84884742 total packets received
...
1201 fragments dropped after timeout
...
3384 packet reassemblies failed
```



Finding a Problem with the Interconnect or IPC

```
Top 5 Timed Events
~~~~~
Event           Waits      Time(s)  (ms)  Avg %Total
                    wait      Call
                    Time      Time
-----
log file sync   286,038    49,872   174    41.7    Commit
gc buffer busy  177,315    29,021   164    24.3    Cluster
gc cr block busy 110,348    5,703    52     4.8    Cluster
gc cr block lost  4,272    4,953  1159  4.1    Cluster
cr request retry 6,316     4,668    739    3.9    Other
```



Should never be here



Impact of IO capacity issues or bad SQL execution on RAC

- Log flush IO delays can cause “busy” buffers
- “Bad” queries on one node can saturate the link
- I/O is issued from ALL nodes to shared storage (beware of one-node “myopia”)

Cluster-wide impact of IO or query plan issues responsible substantial no of escalations

Cluster-Wide IO Impact

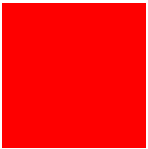
Node 1

Top 5 Timed Events	Waits	Time (s)	(ms)	Avg %Total wait Call Time
log file sync	286,038	49,872	174	41.7
gc buffer busy	177,315	29,021	164	24.3
gc cr block busy	110,348	5,703	52	4.8

Node 2

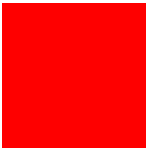
Load Profile	Per Second
~~~~~	-----
Redo size:	40,982.21
Logical reads:	81,652.41
Physical reads:	51,193.37





# IO and bad SQL problem fixed

```
Top 5 Timed Events
~~~~~
Event Waits Time (s) Avg %Total
 (ms) (ms) wait Call
 ----- ----- ----- -----
CPU time 4,580 65.4
log file sync 276,281 1,501 5 21.4 Commit
log file parallel write 298,045 923 3 13.2 System I/O
gc current block 3-way 605,628 631 1 9.0 Cluster
gc cr block 3-way 514,218 533 1 7.6 Cluster
```



# CPU Saturation or Memory Depletion

```

Top 5 Timed Events
~~~~~
Event                               Waits          Time(s)  (ms)  Avg      %Total
-----
db file sequential                  1,312,840      21,590  16    21.8   User I/O
read
gc current block                    275,004        21,054  77    21.3   Cluster
congested
gc cr grant congested              177,044        13,495  76    13.6   Cluster
gc current block                    1,192,113      9,931   8    10.0   Cluster
2-way
gc cr block congested              85,975         8,917  104   9.0    Cluster

```

*“Congested”: LMS could not process block transfer request fast enough  
Cause : Long run-queues and paging on the cluster nodes*



# Health Check

Look for:

- High impact of “lost blocks” , e.g.

`gc cr block lost`

`1159`

- IO capacity saturation , e.g.

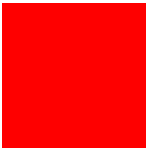
`gc cr block busy`

`52 ms`

- Overload and memory depletion, e.g

`gc current block congested`

`14 ms`



# Application and Database Design





# General Principles

- No fundamentally different design and coding practices for RAC
- Badly tuned SQL and schema will not run better
- Serializing contention makes applications less scalable
- Standard SQL solves > 80% of performance problems
- Follow RAC Best Practices – Accumulation of Real-world knowledge



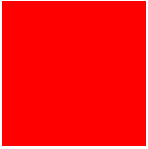
# Scalability Pitfalls

- Serializing contention on a small set of data/index blocks
  - monotonically increasing key
  - frequent updates of small cached tables
  - segment without ASSM or Free List Group (FLG)
- Full table scans
- Frequent hard parsing
- Concurrent DDL ( e.g. truncate/drop )



# Index Block Contention: Optimal Design

- Monotonically increasing sequence numbers
  - Randomize or cache
  - Large ORACLE sequence number caches
- Hash or range partitioning
  - Local indexes



# Data Block Contention: Optimal Design

- Small tables with high row density and frequent updates and reads can become “globally hot” with serialization e.g.
  - Queue tables
  - session/job status tables
  - last trade lookup tables
- Higher PCTFREE for table reduces # of rows per block





# Large Contiguous Scans

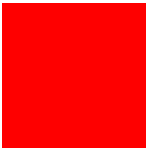
- Query Tuning
- Use parallel execution
  - Intra- or inter instance parallelism
  - Direct reads
  - GCS messaging minimal



# Health Check

Look for:

- Indexes with right-growing characteristics
  - Eliminate indexes which are not needed
- Frequent updated and reads of “small” tables
  - “small”=fits into a single buffer cache
- SQL which scans large amount of data
  - Bad execution plan
  - More efficient when parallelized



# Diagnostics and Problem Determination





# Performance Checks and Diagnosis

- Traditionally done via AWR or Statspack reports
- “Time-based” paradigm, i.e. identify which events consume the highest proportion of the database time
- Global cache ( “gc” ) events are typical for RAC
- Drill-down to SQL and Segment Statistics



# Event Statistics to Drive Analysis

- Global cache (“gc” ) events and statistics
  - Indicate that Oracle searches the cache hierarchy to find data fast
  - as “normal” as an IO ( e.g. db file sequential read )
- GC events tagged as “busy” or “congested” consuming a significant amount of database time should be investigated
  - At first, assume a load or IO problem on one or several of the cluster nodes

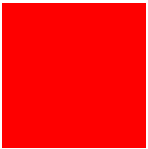


# Global Cache Event Semantics

All Global Cache Events will follow the following format:

GC ...

- CR, current
  - Buffer requests and received for read or write
- block, grant
  - Received block or grant to read from disk
- 2-way, 3-way
  - Immediate response to remote request after N-hops
- busy
  - Block or grant was held up because of contention
- congested
  - Block or grant was delayed because LMS was busy or could not get the CPU



# “Normal” Global Cache Access Statistics

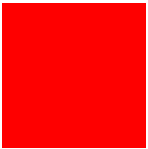
Event	Waits	Time(s)	Avg %Total wait Call (ms)	Wait Class
CPU time	4,580	65.4		
log file sync	276,281	1,501	5	Commit
log file parallel write	298,045	923	3	System I/O
gc current block 3-way	605,628	631	1	Cluster
gc cr block 3-way	514,218	533	1	Cluster



*Reads from remote cache instead of disk*



*Avg latency is 1 ms or less*



# “Abnormal” Global Cache Statistics

```

Top 5 Timed Events
~~~~~
Event Waits Time(s) Avg %Total

log file sync 286,038 49,872 174 41.7 Commit
gc buffer busy 177,315 29,021 164 24.3 Cluster
gc cr block busy 110,348 5,703 52 4.8 Cluster

```

**gc buffer busy**

**164**

*“busy” indicates contention*

*Avg time is too high*





# Checklist for the Performance Analyst ( AWR based )

- Check where most of the time in the database is spend (“Top 5” )
- Check whether gc events are “busy” , “congested”
- Check the avg wait time
- Drill down
  - SQL with highest cluster wait time
  - Segment Statistics with highest block transfers

# Drill-down: An IO capacity problem

Event	Waits	Time (s)	Avg wait (ms)	%Total wait Call	Time	Wait Class
db file scattered read	3,747,683	368,301	<b>98</b>	<b>33.3</b>		User I/O
gc buffer busy	3,376,228	233,632	69	21.1		Cluster
db file parallel read	1,552,284	225,218	145	20.4		User I/O
gc cr multi block request	35,588,800	101,888	3	9.2		Cluster
read by other session	1,263,599	82,915	66	7.5		User I/O

db file scattered read  
gc buffer busy

*Symptom of Full Table Scans*

*IO contention*

# Drill-down: SQL Statements

*“Culprit”: Query that overwhelms IO subsystem on one node*

Physical Reads	Executions	per Exec	%Total
182,977,469	1,055	173,438.4	99.3

SELECT SHELL FROM ES_SHELL WHERE MSG_ID = :msg_id ORDER BY ORDER_NO ASC

*The same query reads from the interconnect:*

Cluster	CWT % of	CPU	Wait Time (s)	Elapsd Tim	Time(s)	Executions
341,080.54	31.2	17,495.38				1,055

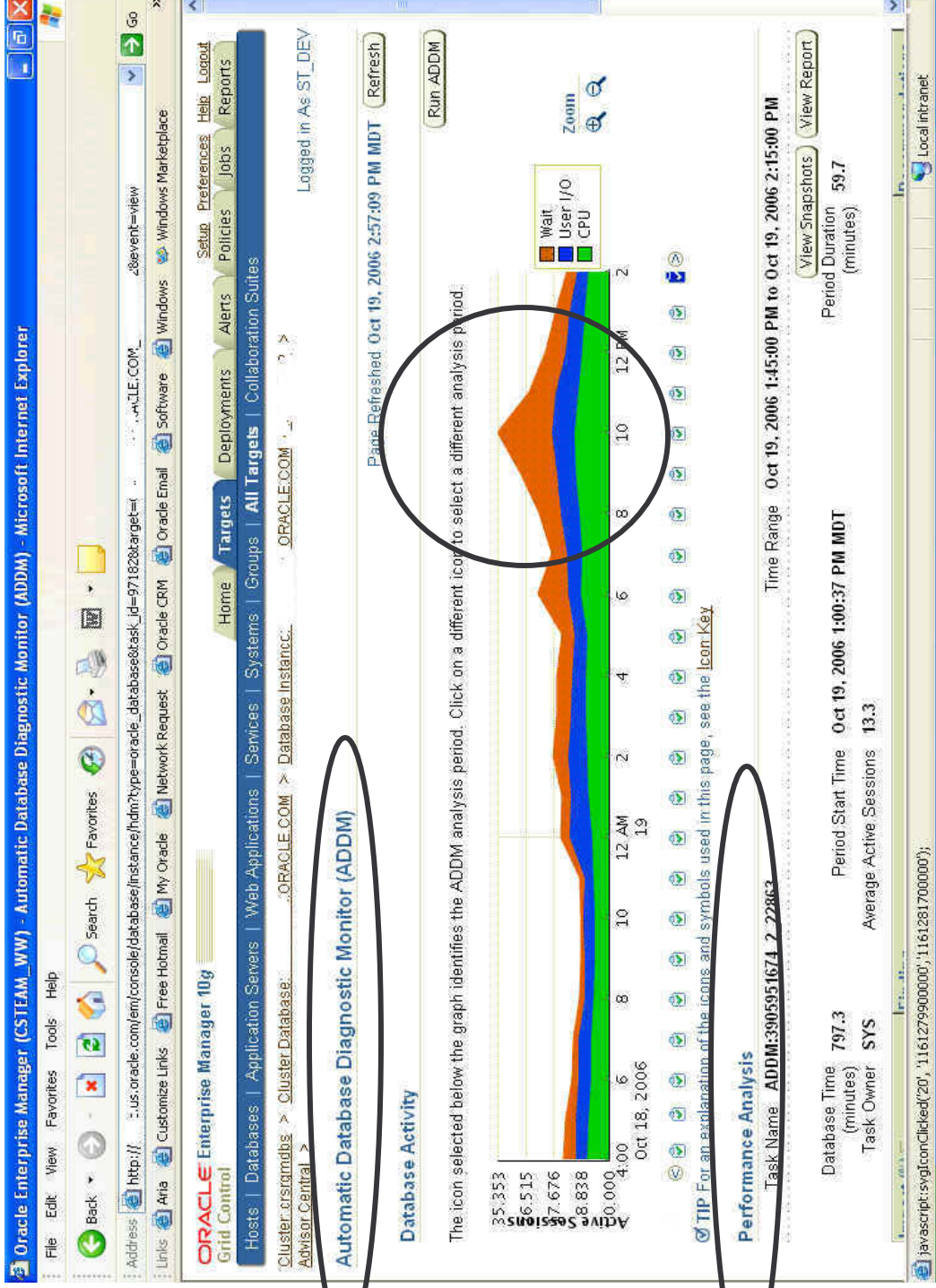
SELECT SHELL FROM ES_SHELL WHERE MSG_ID = :msg_id ORDER BY ORDER_NO ASC

# Drill-Down: Top Segments

Tablespace	Object Name	Subobject	Obj.	<b>GC</b>	<b>Buffer</b>	<b>% of</b>
Name	-----	Name	Type	-----	<b>Busy</b>	<b>Capture</b>
ESSMLTBL	ES_SHELL	SYS_P537	TABLE		<b>311,966</b>	9.91
ESSMLTBL	ES_SHELL	SYS_P538	TABLE		<b>277,035</b>	8.80
ESSMLTBL	ES_SHELL	SYS_P527	TABLE		<b>239,294</b>	7.60
...						

Apart from being the table with the highest IO demand it was the table with the highest number of block transfers AND global serialization

# ... and now for something different: Automated Performance Analysis



# Impact of RAC Findings

The screenshot displays the Oracle Enterprise Manager Performance Analysis interface. The browser title is "Oracle Enterprise Manager - Automatic Database Diagnostic Monitor (ADDM) - Microsoft Internet Explorer". The address bar shows the URL: [http://us.oracle.com/em/console/database/instance/html?type=oracle_database&task_id=97226&target=...](http://us.oracle.com/em/console/database/instance/html?type=oracle_database&task_id=97226&target=...)

**Performance Analysis**  
Task Name: **ADDM:3905951674_1_22863**

Time Range: **Oct 19, 2006 1:15:00 PM to Oct 19, 2006 2:15:00 PM**

Database Time (minutes): **751**  
Task Owner: **SYS**  
Period Start Time: **Oct 19, 2006 1:00:31 PM MDT**  
Period Duration (minutes): **59.9**  
Average Active Sessions: **12.5**

**Findings**

Impact (%)	Finding
51.4	PL/SQL execution consumed significant database time.
35.2	Time spent on the CPU by the instance was responsible for a substantial part of database time.
29.4	SQL statements consuming significant database time were found.
14.8	Wait class "lckwait" was consuming significant database time.
4.4	SQL statements responsible for significant inter-instance messaging were found.
12.9	Contention on the lckwait class was consuming significant database time.
4.4	Read and write contention on database blocks was consuming significant database time.
6.1	Waits on event "log file sync" while performing COMMIT and ROLLBACK operations were consuming significant database time.
4.1	Wait class "Other" was consuming significant database time.
3.7	Higher than expected latency of the cluster interconnect was responsible for significant database time on this instance.

**Recommendations**

Recommendations
1 SQL Tuning
2 SQL Tuning
5 SQL Tuning
5 SQL Tuning
5 Schema
2 Schema
1 Host Configuration
1 Host Configuration

**Informational Findings**

Home | Targets | Deployments | Alerts | Policies | Jobs | Reports | Setup | Preferences | Help | Logout

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Local Intranet

Impact

# Automated Findings and Actions: Interconnect

**Finding**

Database Time: 751 (minutes)  
Task Owner: SYS  
Period Start Time: Oct 19, 2006 1:00:31 PM MDT  
Period Duration (minutes): 59.9  
Task Name: ADMIN3903951674_1_22863  
Average Active Sessions: 42.5

Higher than expected latency of the cluster interconnect was responsible for significant database time on this instance.

Impact (minutes): 28  
Impact (%): 3.7  
Benefit (%): 3.7

**Action**

**Recommendations**

Check the configuration of the cluster interconnect. Check OS setup like adapter setting, firmware and driver release. Check that the OS's socket receive buffers are large enough to store an entire multiblock read. The value of parameter "db_file_multiblock_read_count" may be decreased as a workaround. Investigate cause of high network interconnect latency between database instances. Oracle's recommended solution is to use a high speed network.

**Rationale**

The instance was consuming 14883 kilo hits per second of interconnect bandwidth.

**Findings Path**

Higher than expected latency of the cluster interconnect was responsible for significant database time on this instance.  
Inter-instance messaging was consuming significant database time on this instance.  
Wait class "Cluster" was consuming significant database time.

Findings	Impact (%)	Additional Information
Higher than expected latency of the cluster interconnect was responsible for significant database time on this instance.	3.7	
Inter-instance messaging was consuming significant database time on this instance.	16.6	
Wait class "Cluster" was consuming significant database time.	16.6	

# Automated Findings and Actions: Block Contention

The screenshot shows the Oracle Enterprise Manager interface. The browser address bar displays the URL: `http://...:1153/oracle.com/console/database/instance/instance/findingDetails?event=findingDetails&findingID=68&target=...`. The page title is "Performance Finding Details - Microsoft Internet Explorer".

**Finding Performance Finding Details**

Database Time: 751 (seconds) | Period Start Time: Oct 19, 2006, 1:00:31 PM MDT | Period Duration (minutes): 59.9

Task Owner: SYS | Task Name: ADDM:3905951674_1_22863 | Average Active Sessions: 12.3

Finding: Read and write contention on database blocks was consuming significant database time.

Impact (minutes): 70.3 | Impact (%): 9.4 | Benefit (%): 0.3

**Recommendations**

Action	Database Object	Schema	Benefit (%)
Consider rebuilding the TABLE "	...	...	0.3
Database Object "	...	...	0.3

**Findings Path**

Expand All | Collapse All

**Findings**

Findings	Impact (%)	Additional Information
Read and write contention on database blocks was consuming significant database time.	9.4	
Inter-instance messaging was consuming significant database time on this instance.	16.6	
Wait class "Cluster" was consuming significant database time.	16.6	

Home | Targets | Deployments | Alerts | Policies | Jobs | Reports | Setup | Preferences | Help | Logout

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About Oracle Enterprise Manager

Finding

Action



# Automated Findings and Actions: SQL

The screenshot displays the Oracle Enterprise Manager Performance Finding Details page for a finding related to SQL statements. The page is titled "Performance Finding Details - Microsoft Internet Explorer". The address bar shows the URL: `http://emgc.us.oracle.com/em/console/database/instance/instance/findingID=1&target=...`. The page content is organized into several sections:

- Summary:** Shows the finding ID (107.5) and its impact percentage (14.3%).
- Recommendations:** A table of recommendations with columns for Action, Category, and Benefit (%).

Action	Category	Benefit (%)
<input type="checkbox"/> Hide	SQL Tuning	6.6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hide	SQL Tuning	14.3
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show	SQL Tuning	4.7
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show	SQL Tuning	3.2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Show	SQL Tuning	2.8
- Findings Path:** A tree view showing the path of the finding: SQL statements responsible for significant inter-instance messaging were found > Wait class "Cluster" was consuming significant database time > SQL statements responsible for significant inter-instance messaging were found > Wait class "Cluster" was consuming significant database time.

A large black arrow points from the word "Action" at the bottom of the page to the "Action" column of the Recommendations table, highlighting the "Hide" action for the finding with 14.3% impact.

# Automated SQL Drill-Down

The screenshot displays the Oracle Enterprise Manager interface. At the top, the browser address bar shows the URL: `http://emgic.us.oracle.com/em/console/database/instance/sqlDetail?event=doLoad&target=GMMAMOC51&type=oracle_database&sql_id=62q3a0304j9kt&...`. The main content area is divided into several sections:

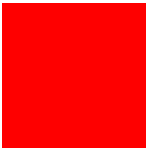
- Text:** Contains the SQL statement: `INSERT INTO ES_BODY (MSG_ID, BODY) SELECT :B2, BODY FROM ES_BODY WHERE MSG_ID = :B1`. A black oval highlights this text, with an arrow pointing to the label "SQL Text".
- Details:** Shows the Plan Hash Value as `3221822633`. Below this is a "Summary" section with a "View" dropdown set to "Elapsed Time Per Execution".
- Chart:** A stacked bar chart titled "Elapsed Time Per Execution" showing performance metrics over time from 5:00 AM to 12 PM on Oct 18, 2006. The Y-axis represents "Elapsed Time per Execution" from 0.0 to 1.5. The legend indicates three categories: Wait (green), User I/O (purple), and CPU (yellow). A large black oval encircles the chart, with an arrow pointing to the label "Per SQL Statistics Over Time".
- Activity By Time:** A table showing performance metrics for the snapshot period from Oct 19, 2006 2:00:26 PM to Oct 19, 2006 3:00:24 PM. The metrics are: Elapsed Time (sec) 1,347.63, CPU Time (sec) 908.53, Wait Time (sec) 439.10, SQL Time (sec) 1,347.63, PL/SQL Time (sec) 0.00, and Java Time (sec) 0.00.
- Activity By Waits:** A pie chart showing the distribution of wait events: CPU (67.4%), User I/O Waits (25.7%), Cluster Waits (6.5%), Concurrency Waits, and Remaining Waits (0.2%).
- General:** Shows the Module as `essmo@rgmm107 (TNS V1-V3)` and the Action as `ES_MAIL`.

SQL Text

Per SQL

Statistics

Over Time



# Summary: Practical Performance Analysis





# Diagnostics Flow

- Start with simple validations :
  - Private Interconnect used ?
  - Lost blocks and failures ?
  - Load and load distribution issues ?
- Check avg latencies, busy, congested events and their significance
- Check OS statistics ( CPU, disk , virtual memory )
- Identify SQL and Segments

**MOST OF THE TIME, A PERFORMANCE PROBLEM IS NOT  
A RAC PROBLEM**



# Actions

- Interconnect issues must be fixed first
- If IO wait time is dominant , fix IO issues
  - At this point, performance may already be good
- Fix “bad” plans
- Fix serialization
- Fix schema



# Checklist for Practical Performance Analysis

- ADDM provides RAC performance analysis of significant metrics and statistics
  - ADDM findings should always be studied first
  - It provides detailed findings for SQL, segments and blocks
- AWR for detailed statistics and historical performance analysis
  - Export statistics repository long-term
- ASH provides finer-grained session specific data
  - Catches variation in snapshot data
  - Stored in AWR repository
  - Used by ADDM



## Recommendations

- Most relevant data for analysis can be derived from the wait events
- ***Always use EM and ADDM reports for performance health checks and analysis***
- ASH can be used for session-based analysis of variation
- Export AWR repository regularly to save all of the above



# For More Information

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