



Millsap's Grand Unified Theory of "Tuning"

Cary Millsap
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Northern California Oracle Users Group
San Ramon, California
9:30a–10:30a Thursday 21 August 2008

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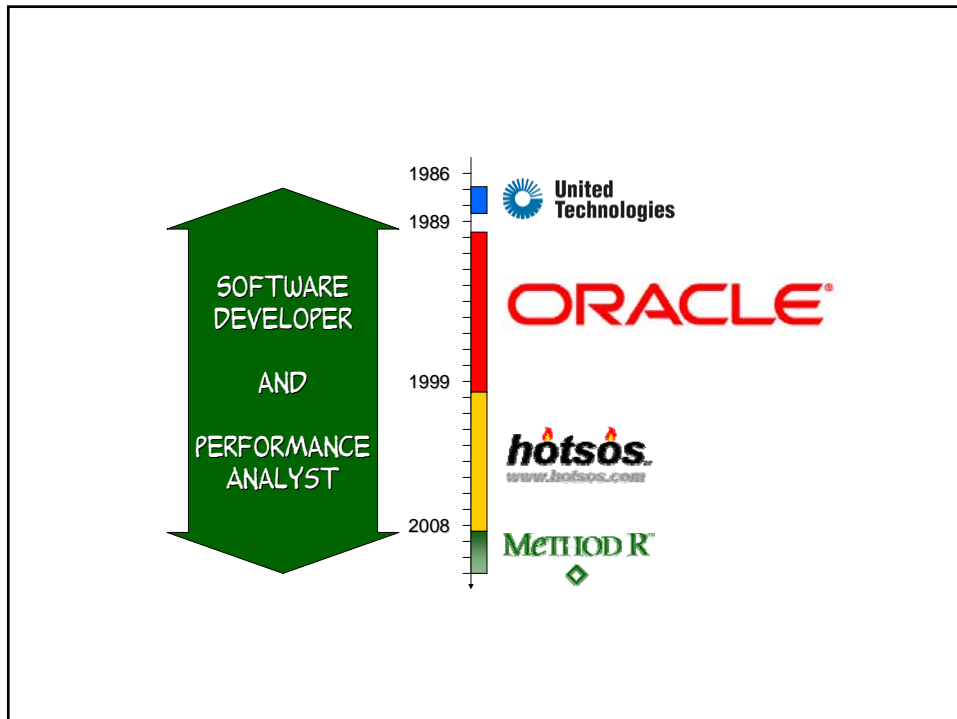
CARY MILLSAP



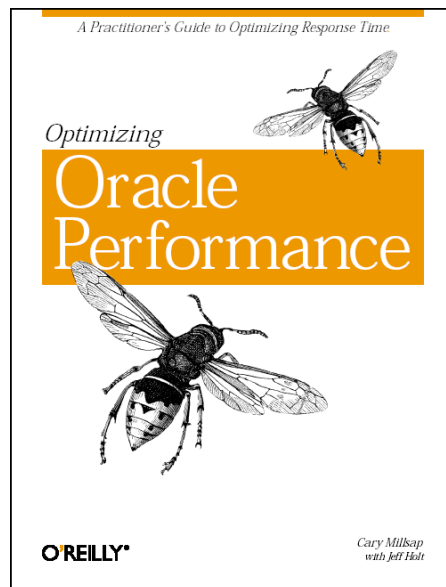
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METHOD R™





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SO WHAT'S WITH THE
QUOTES?



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WE'LL GET TO THAT
SHORTLY

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Part 1: G.U.T.

THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF
PERFORMANCE PROBLEMS
IN THIS WORLD...

1

Response time
problems.

2

Inefficiencies that aren't
response time problems.

Yet.

THEREFORE...

G.U.T. proposition I

You must be able to attack response time problems for specific tasks that the business cares about.

EXAMPLE...

Posting hurts.
Fix it.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?



G.U.T. proposition 2

You need to be able to attack inefficiencies that aren't yet noticeable as user response time problems.

EXAMPLE...

Posting takes 3 hours.

It should take 2,
but no user really cares.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

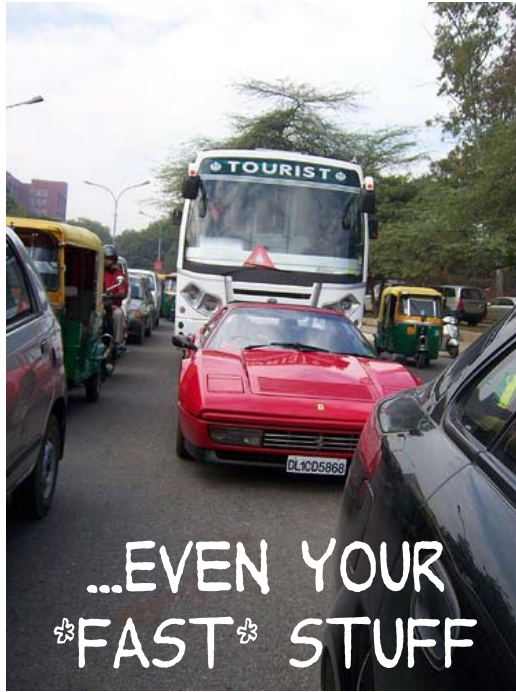
BECAUSE *WASTE*
COSTS YOU MONEY



Waste
Hardware \$\$
Labor \$\$
Software \$\$
TCO \$\$

AND WASTE...

...MAKES
OTHER WORK
GO SLOWER



...EVEN YOUR
FAST STUFF

RECAP...

G.U.T. propositions

You **must** be able to attack

1. Response time problems
2. Efficiency problems



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Part 2: Historical perspective

In the beginning...

1989

6.0.26

"TUNING" WAS...

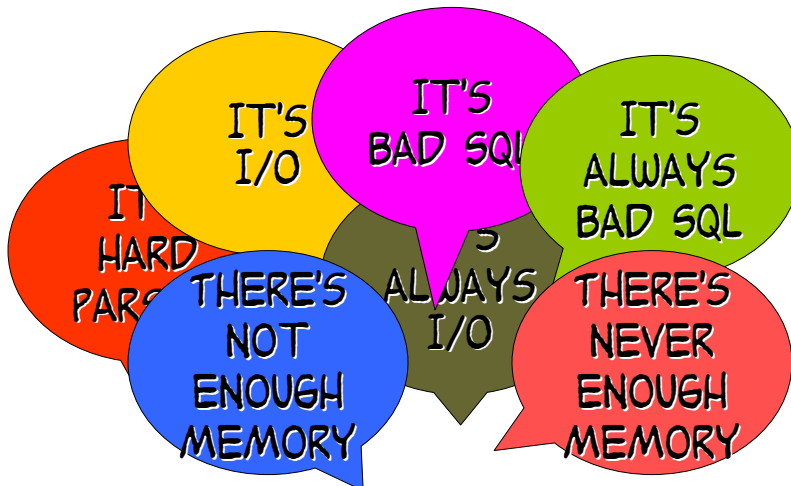
bstat + estat
=
report.txt

V\$PARAMETER **sar**
 V\$DB_OBJECT_CACHE
ps **iostat**
 V\$SESSTAT V\$OPEN_CURSOR
V\$FIXED_VIEW_DEFINITION **netstat**
 V\$LATCH
nfsstat V\$TRANSACTION
 V\$PROCESS
V\$FILESTAT V\$LOCK **vmstat**
V\$SQL V\$SESSION V\$SYSSTAT
 V\$SQLTEXT V\$SESS_IO
 V\$LIBRARYCACHE
V\$ROLLSTAT
pstat V\$ROWCACHE V\$WAITSTAT
 V\$TIMER

PEOPLE LOOKED FOR
"BAD NUMBERS"

INEFFICIENCIES

BUT HOW CAN YOU KNOW
WHAT CAUSES A SPECIFIC
TASK TO BE SLOW?



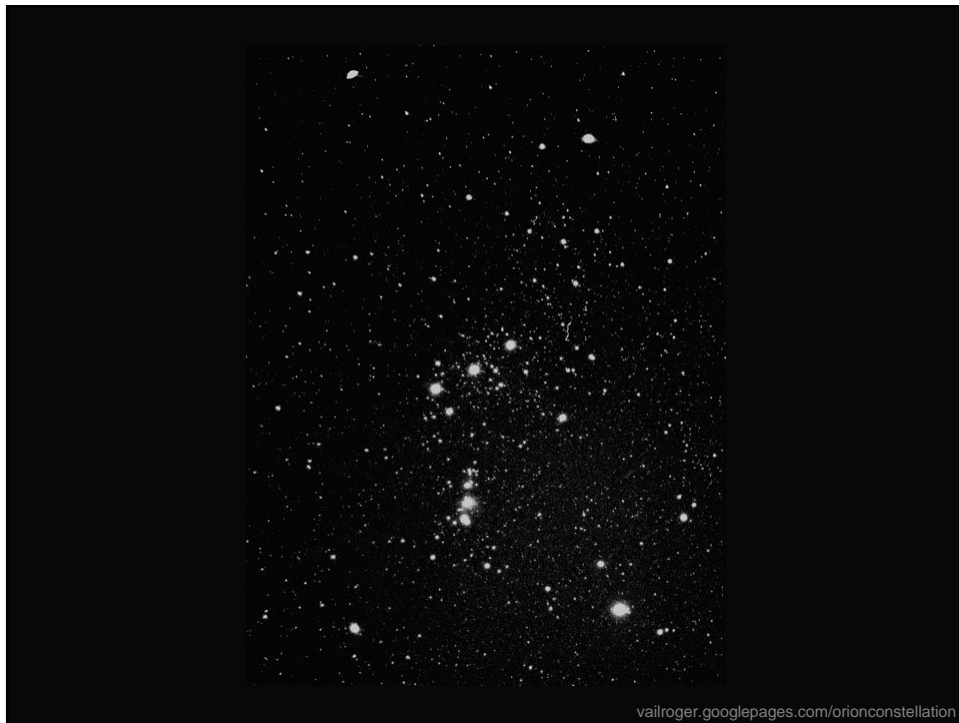
MY PROBLEM...

How can you possibly

KNOW

that?

REMINDED ME OF...

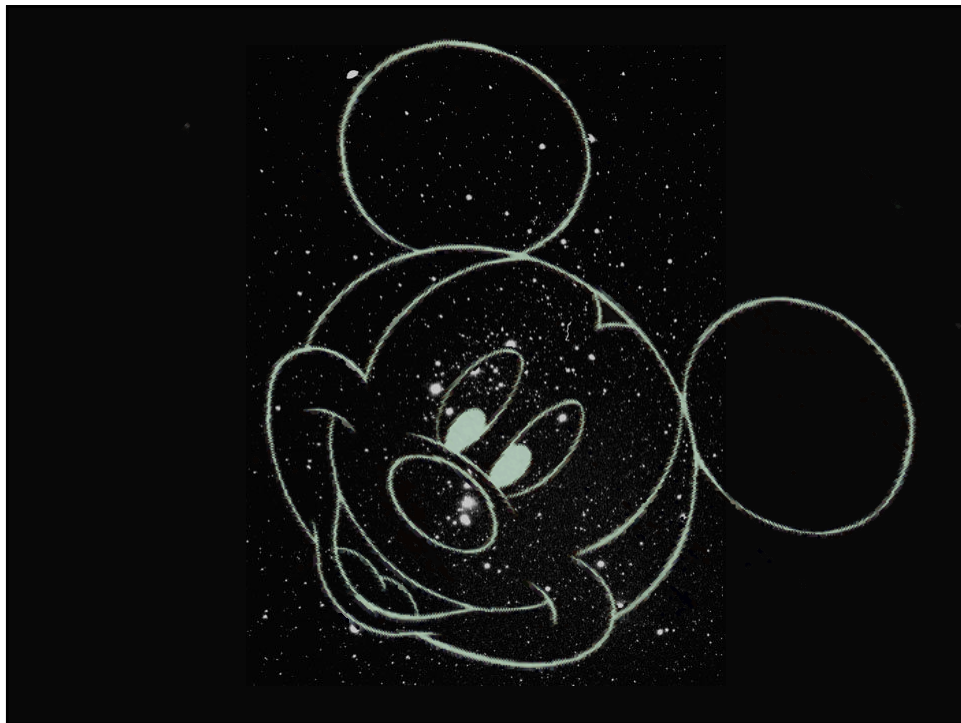


YOU *DO* SEE IT...

RIGHT?



BUT WHO SAYS
THAT
IS WHAT YOU
HAVE TO SEE?



WHY NOT?

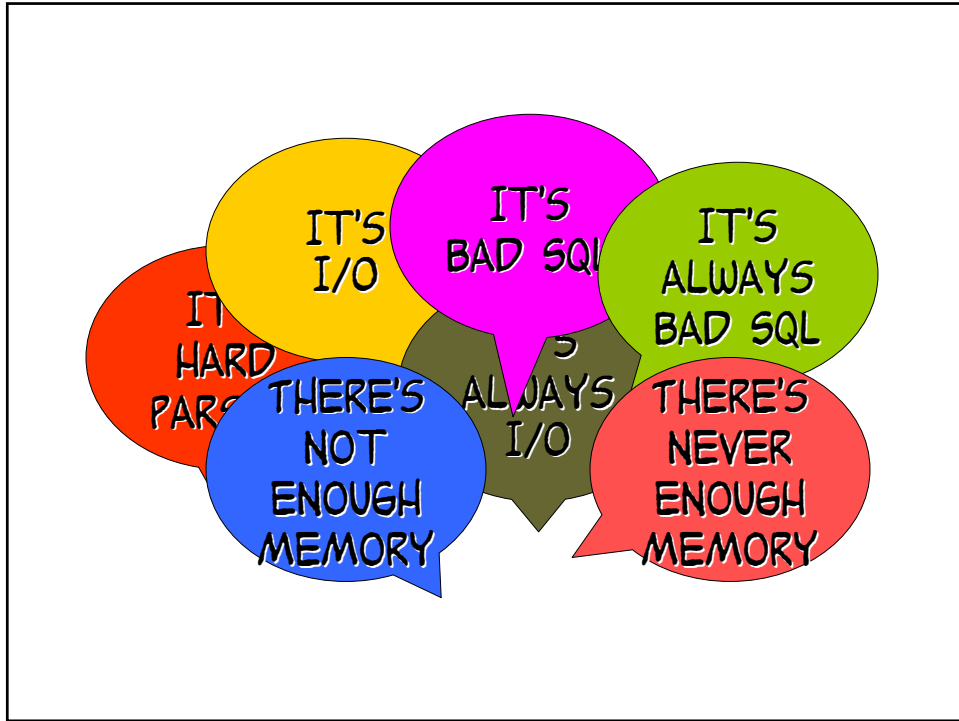
THE PROBLEM WITH
bstat/estat, ...

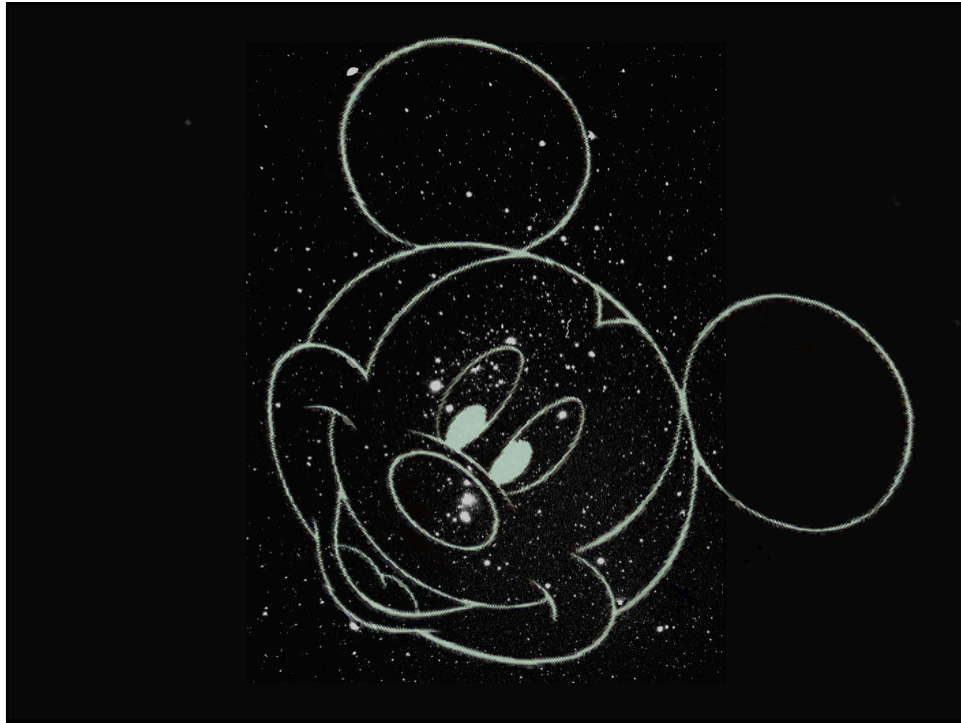
AND
utl bstat/utl estat, ...

AND STATSPACK, ...

AND EVEN AWR, ...







SOMETIMES YOU
✧CAN'T✧ KNOW

EXAMPLE...

WHAT IS YOUR TASK'S
PROBLEM?

Resource consumption (seconds) by task

	Total system	
Latches	7,502	74%
I/O	275	3%
Other	2,323	23%
Total	10,100	100%

ACTUALLY NOT

Resource consumption (seconds) by task

	Total system		Your task	
Latches	7,502	74%	2	2%
I/O	275	3%	75	75%
Other	2,323	23%	23	23%
Total	10,100	100%	100	100%

HERE'S HOW IT HAPPENS

Resource consumption (seconds) by task

	Total system		Your task		Other tasks	
Latches	7,502	74%	2	2%	7,500	75%
I/O	275	3%	75	75%	200	2%
Other	2,323	23%	23	23%	2,300	23%
Total	10,100	100%	100	100%	10,000	100%

SOMETIMES YOU
 ✨CAN'T✨ KNOW

...UNTIL YOU
LOOK AT THE RIGHT
IT

Resource consumption (seconds) by task

	Total system		Your task		Other tasks	
Latches	7,502	74%	2	2%	7,500	75%
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Total	10,100	100%	100	100%	10,000	100%

WHEN YOU DON'T...



An epiphany...

1991

(Oracle release doesn't matter)

“A higher database buffer cache
hit ratio is a **bad** thing”

—Willis Ranney

HUH?

IMAGINE...
Q1 AND Q2 RETURN
IDENTICAL RESULTS

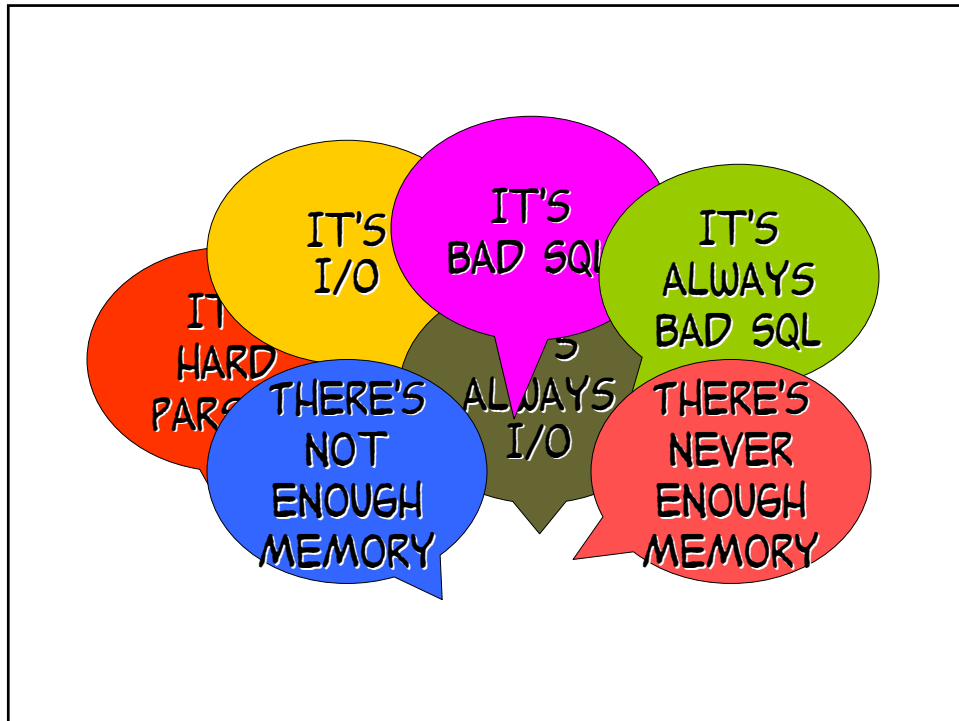
WHICH IS BETTER?

Query	BCHR
Q1	99%
Q2	90%

Query	BCHR	Memory accesses	Disk accesses
Q1	99%	100	1
Q2	90%	10	1

YOU CAN'T COUNT
ON THE RATIOS!





THE RULES IN A LOT OF
PEOPLE'S HEADS...

WERE WRONG.



ANOTHER MAN WHO
KNEW THIS...





“To ‘tune,’ watch the **user**.
Not the DBA.”

—Dave Ensor

BUT HOW?

tkprof

AN ORACLE DEVELOPER TOOL SINCE V6

```
select count(*)
from
  dba_objects
```

call	count	cpu	elapsed	disk	query	current	rows
Parse	1	0.07	0.15	0	0	0	0
Execute	1	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0
Fetch	2	0.21	0.26	4	6695	0	1
total	4	0.29	0.41	4	6695	0	1

```
Misses in library cache during parse: 1
Optimizer mode: ALL_ROWS
Parsing user id: 5
```

Rows	Row Source Operation
1	SORT AGGREGATE (cr=6695 pr=4 pw=0 time=264659 us)
52319	VIEW DBA_OBJECTS (cr=6695 pr=4 pw=0 time=1256721 us)
52319	UNION-ALL (cr=6695 pr=4 pw=0 time=942801 us)
52319	FILTER (cr=6694 pr=3 pw=0 time=367280 us)
53574	HASH JOIN (cr=655 pr=0 pw=0 time=804635 us)
67	TABLE ACCESS FULL USERS\$ (cr=6 pr=0 pw=0 time=242 us)
53574	TABLE ACCESS FULL OBJ\$ (cr=649 pr=0 pw=0 time=216062 us)
2379	TABLE ACCESS BY INDEX ROWID IND\$ (cr=6039 pr=3 pw=0 time=145102 us)
3013	INDEX UNIQUE SCAN I_IND1 (cr=3015 pr=3 pw=0 time=88196 us)(object id 39)
0	NESTED LOOPS (cr=1 pr=1 pw=0 time=2590 us)
0	INDEX FULL SCAN I_LINK1 (cr=1 pr=1 pw=0 time=2578 us)(object id 107)
0	TABLE ACCESS CLUSTER USERS\$ (cr=0 pr=0 pw=0 time=0 us)
0	INDEX UNIQUE SCAN I_USER# (cr=0 pr=0 pw=0 time=0 us)(object id 11)

IT'S WHAT YOU NEED...

IF
YOUR PROBLEM
IS SQL

AND OF COURSE,
"THE PROBLEM IS
ALWAYS SQL"



Next...
Inspiration

1995

Oracle7



“I can reduce response time by X
if you let me do Y ”

—Virag Saksena

MY GOAL...

PUT THIS IN A BOTTLE.

WHICH BRINGS ME BACK
TO THOSE "QUOTES"

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THE PROBLEM...

"TUNING" ISN'T GOOD
ENOUGH

TUNING	WHAT WE WANT
MAKE SOME COMPONENT FASTER	MAXIMIZE ECONOMIC VALUE

TUNING	WHAT WE WANT
MAKE SOME COMPONENT FASTER	MAXIMIZE ECONOMIC VALUE
TRIAL AND ERROR	INFORMED ACTION

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MAKE SOME COMPONENT FASTER	MAXIMIZE ECONOMIC VALUE
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WEAK ACCOUNTABILITY	ACCOUNTABILITY TO FORECAST

TUNING	WHAT WE WANT
MAKE SOME COMPONENT FASTER	MAXIMIZE ECONOMIC VALUE
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WEAK ACCOUNTABILITY	ACCOUNTABILITY TO FORECAST
SUCCESS MEASURED BY EFFORT	SUCCESS MEASURED BY RESULTS

TUNING	?
MAKE SOME COMPONENT FASTER	MAXIMIZE ECONOMIC VALUE
TRIAL AND ERROR	INFORMED ACTION
WEAK ACCOUNTABILITY	ACCOUNTABILITY TO FORECAST
SUCCESS MEASURED BY EFFORT	SUCCESS MEASURED BY RESULTS

TUNING	*** OPTIMIZATION ***
MAKE SOME COMPONENT FASTER	MAXIMIZE ECONOMIC VALUE
TRIAL AND ERROR	INFORMED ACTION
WEAK ACCOUNTABILITY	ACCOUNTABILITY TO FORECAST
SUCCESS MEASURED BY EFFORT	SUCCESS MEASURED BY RESULTS

TUNING	OPTIMIZATION
MAKE SOME COMPONENT FASTER	MAXIMIZE ECONOMIC VALUE
TRIAL AND ERROR	INFORMED ACTION
WEAK ACCOUNTABILITY	ACCOUNTABILITY TO FORECAST
SUCCESS MEASURED BY EFFORT	SUCCESS MEASURED BY RESULTS

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Part 3: How

The goal...
Optimization! ...in a bottle

2000

8i, 9i

WANTED...

REPEATABLE

TEACHABLE

method

=

deterministic
sequence of steps

THERE *WERE*
METHODS...

ORACLE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT METHOD

1. Get candid feedback from users
2. Get full set of OS, db, app statistics—good and bad
3. Sanity check the OS
4. Review Top Ten list*
5. Build conceptual model
6. Propose remedies
7. Validate changes
8. Repeat until goals are met or become impossible

http://download.oracle.com/docs/cd/B28359_01/server.111/b28274/technique.htm

ORACLE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT METHOD

1. Get candid feedback from users
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*THE OPIM TOP TEN LIST

1. Bad connection management
2. Bad use of cursors and the shared pool
3. Bad SQL
4. Use of nonstandard initialization parameters
5. Getting database I/O wrong
6. Redo log setup problems
7. Serialization of data blocks
8. Long full table scans
9. High amounts of recursive SQL
10. Deployment and migration errors

http://download.oracle.com/docs/cd/B28359_01/server.111/b28274/technique.htm

BUT THERE WERE TWO
BIG PROBLEMS...

*THE OPIM TOP TEN LIST

1. Bad connection management
2. Bad use of cursors and the shared pool
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5. Getting database files wrong
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**WHAT IF YOUR PROBLEM IS
NUMBER NINE?**

http://download.oracle.com/docs/cd/B28359_01/server.111/b28274/technique.htm

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1. Bad connection management
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**DO YOU REALLY WANT TO
SPEND TIME CHECKING THE
FIRST EIGHT?**

http://download.oracle.com/docs/cd/B28359_01/server.111/b28274/technique.htm

*THE OPIM TOP TEN LIST

1. Bad connection management
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9. High amounts of recursive SQL
10. Deployment and migration errors

...AND WHAT IF YOUR
PROBLEM IS
NUMBER ELEVEN?

http://download.oracle.com/docs/cd/B28359_01/server.111/b28274/technique.htm

*THE OPIM TOP TEN LIST

1. Bad connection management
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http://download.oracle.com/docs/cd/B28359_01/server.111/b28274/technique.htm

IT'S LIKE A
FULL TABLE SCAN

...OF A TABLE THAT'S
MISSING SOME ROWS

WHAT WE NEED...

AN *INDEX* INTO THE
PROBLEM YOU'RE HAVING
RIGHT NOW...

...WHOSE *KEY* IS THE
NAME OF YOUR
BUSINESS TASK



Method R

1. Target the right task
2. Collect its R details
3. Forecast, act
4. Repeat until optimized

Resource consumption (seconds) by task

	Total system		Your task		Other tasks	
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I/O	275	3%	75	75%	200	2%
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Total	10,100	100%	100	100%	10,000	100%

ORACLE EXTENDED SQL
TRACE DATA

"CASE STUDIES" SESSION
FOR MORE INFO

“By the way... The problem is **not**
always your SQL.”

—Cary Millsap

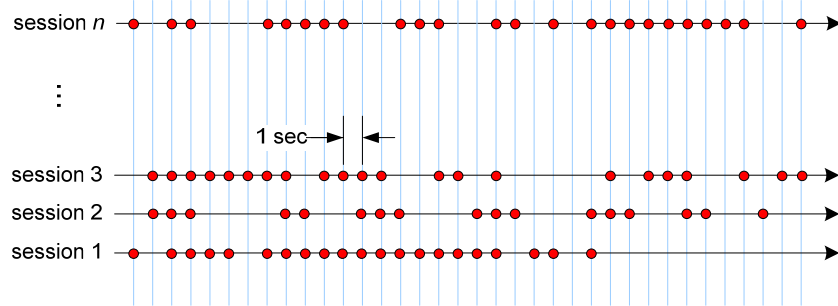


Meanwhile, back at
Oracle Corporation...

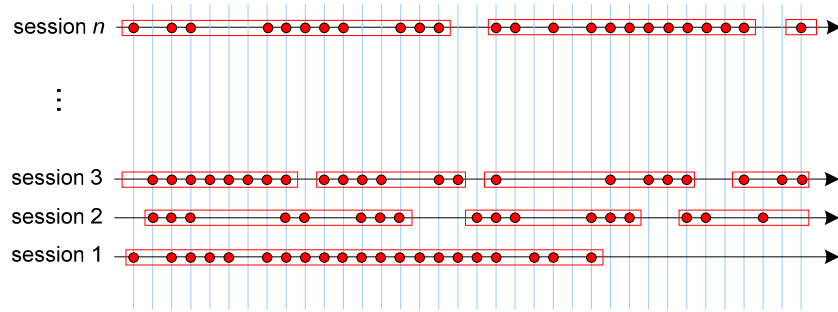


EASIER, BETTER ACCESS TO SYSTEM WORKLOAD STATISTICS

ACTIVE SESSION HISTORY ...ASH



THE TASK PERSPECTIVE...



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Total	10,100	100%	100	100%	10,000	100%

HOW IT ALL FITS...

THE GRAND
UNIFIED
THEORY

G.U.T. proposition I

You must be able to attack
response time problems for
specific tasks that the
business cares about.

TRACE DATA

where does this task's
time go?

ASH ANSWERS QUESTIONS
ABOUT WORKLOAD
CONTEXT

who had my lock?
who had my latch?
who was eating my CPU?
who was fighting me for disk?

G.U.T. proposition 2

You need to be able to attack inefficiencies that aren't yet noticeable as user response time problems.

ASH

who's using the most stuff?

TRACE DATA ANSWERS
QUESTIONS ABOUT TASK
EFFICIENCY

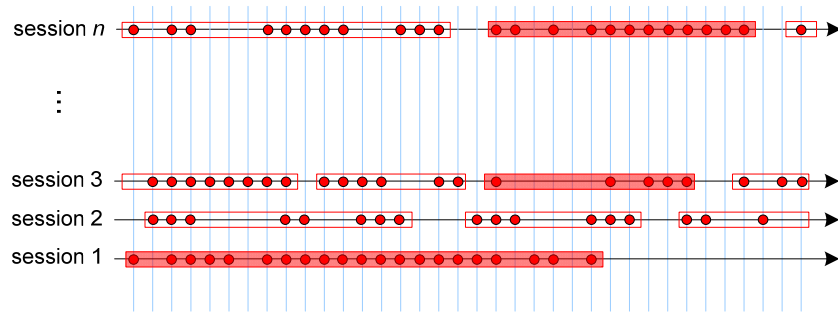
Can this task be performed
more efficiently?

ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO
PROVE THIS WITHOUT
TASK DATA

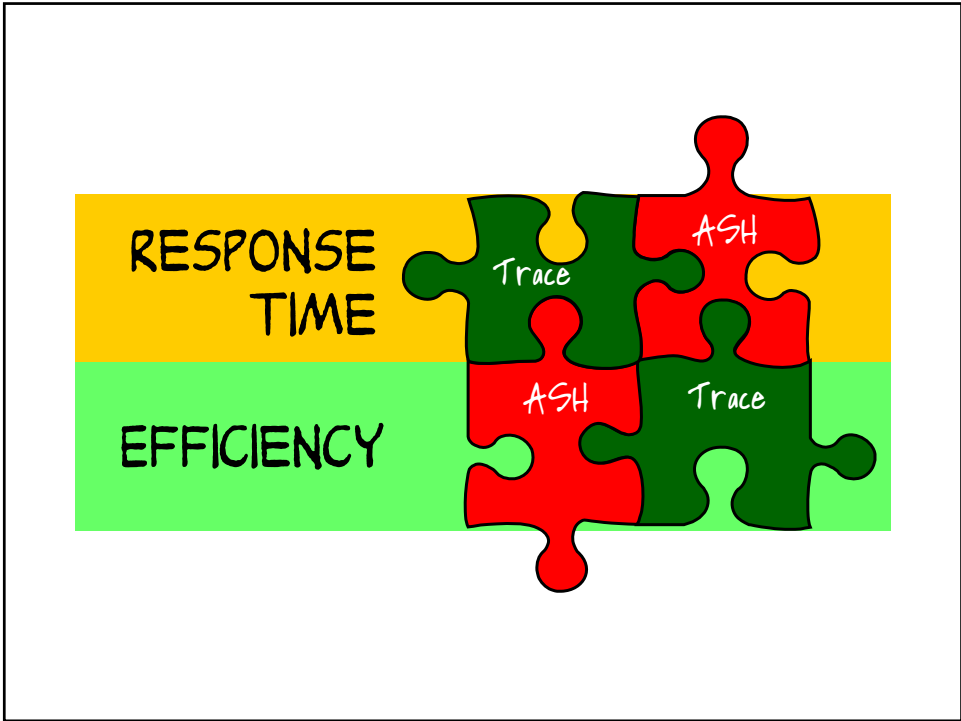
YOU DON'T
HAVE TO TRACE
EVERYTHING

...YOU CAN *SAMPLE*
WITH TRACES, TOO

TRACE SOME TASKS



HOW THE TOOLS FIT
TOGETHER...



ENOUGH?

Thank you



<http://wordle.net>

<http://method-r.com>

<http://carymillsap.blogspot.com>

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