

Profiling Oracle: How it Works

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About Hotsos...

- Thought leadership
 - *Optimizing Oracle Performance*
 - *Oracle Insights*
 - Method R



- Products
 - Hotsos Profiler
 - Laredo
 - Interceptor technologies



- Services
 - 1-week performance assessment
 - On-site consulting and education
 - Remote consulting



- Education
 - Oracle performance curriculum
 - Hotsos Symposium



Agenda

- Introduction
- The role of profilers
- Profiling Oracle
- Case study
- Discussion
 - Profiler
 - Laredo
 - Accountability
 - Instrumentation

So there will be no confusion...

- This presentation does describe
 - Why you use a profiler
 - How you use profile data
- This presentation does not describe
 - How to create a profile from raw trace data
- We can do that...
 - But it takes more than an hour
 - Visit www.hotsos.com for more information

The role of profilers

Performance analysis is the study of how long something takes.

- Imagine...
 - Q: “How long does it take to fly on AA from DFW to ATL?”
 - A: “Mean fuel consumption in 2004 was *F* lbs/flight”
- This isn’t an answer!
 - Wrong unit of measure
 - Includes stuff you don’t want (LAX-SIN, HNL-OGG, ...)
 - Different aircraft types with different consumption rates

What you need is “How long does it take to fly on AA from DFW to ATL?!”

In Oracle, performance analysis has become the study of just about everything but response time.

- From everyday life in Oracle...
 - Q: “Why does *P* take so long?”
 - A: “Here are your hit ratios, your utilization rates, ...”
- How long? Why?
 - You cannot tell from these reports

Oracle analysis tools are medieval compared to the tools and methods that software developers use

A profiler is a tool that reports a useful decomposition of a computer program’s response time.

- Nothing new
 - Knuth described a FORTRAN profiler in 1971
 - The GNU *gprof* profiler has been around since 1988
 - ...
- Profilers are indispensable application development tools
 - Diagnosis
 - Instruction
 - Debugging

The simplest profile is the flat profile, which shows response time decomposed by subroutine call.

```
$ gprof
Flat profile:
```

Each sample counts as 0.01 seconds.

time	% cumulative	self seconds	calls	self us/call	total us/call	name
60.37	0.49	0.49	62135400	0.01	0.01	step
39.63	0.82	0.33	499999	0.65	1.64	nseq

- Response time is 0.82 seconds
- 60.37% is consumed by 62,135,400 calls to *step*
- *nseq* takes longer per call, but contributes less total time
- ...

Another type of profile is the call graph, which shows hierarchical interactions between subroutines.

Call graph (explanation follows)

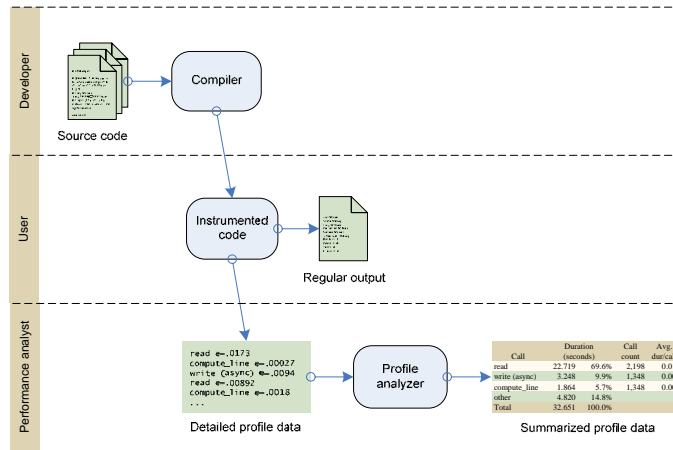
...

index	% time	self	children	called	name
		0.33	0.49	499999/499999	main [2]
[1]	100.0	0.33	0.49	499999	nseq [1]
		0.49	0.00	62135400/62135400	step [3]

[2]	100.0	0.00	0.82		<spontaneous>
		0.33	0.49	499999/499999	main [2]
					nseq [1]

[3]	60.4	0.49	0.00	62135400/62135400	nseq [1]
		0.49	0.00	62135400	step [3]

Where do profiles come from?



Profiling Oracle

You can use *gprof* on your code, but not Oracle's.

- To use *gprof*
 - \$ gcc -pg myprogram.c
 - \$ a.out
 - \$ gprof
- Works great for application code you're writing
- The problem...
 - You can't compile *oracle.c*

The Oracle kernel has a feature built in that allows you to profile its internal operations as well.

- Extended SQL trace
 - The event formerly known as “10046 level 12”
 - Works great with versions 7, 8, and 9; even better in 10
- Gives you everything you need to create...
 - Flat profile
 - ...by Oracle subroutine (timed syscalls ∪ dbcalls ∪ ...)
 - ...by database call
 - Call graph
 - ...by statement (SQL or PL/SQL)
 - Lots more

This is a huge capability

Version 10 example: Using extended SQL trace...

```
$ sqlplus
...
SQL> show parameter...
NAME                                TYPE                                VALUE
-----                                -                                -
timed_statistics                     boolean                             TRUE
max_dump_file_size                   string                             UNLIMITED
user_dump_dest                        string                             /u01/app/oracle/admin/v10/udump
...
SQL> exec dbms_monitor.session_trace_enable(null,null,true,true);
SQL> select 'hello' from dual;
SQL> exec dbms_monitor.session_trace_disable(null,null);
...

$ ls -lt $UDUMP
total 248
-rw-r----- 1 oracle oinstall 2396 Jan 17 11:18 v10_ora_5286.trc
...
```

Version 9 example: Using extended SQL trace...

```
$ sqlplus
...
SQL> show parameter...
NAME                                TYPE                                VALUE
-----                                -                                -
timed_statistics                     boolean                             TRUE
max_dump_file_size                   string                             UNLIMITED
user_dump_dest                        string                             c:\Oracle\admin\v92\udump
...
SQL> exec dbms_support.start_trace(true,true);
SQL> select 'hello' from dual;
SQL> exec dbms_support.stop_trace;
...

$ ls -lt %udump%
total 44
-rw-rw-rw- 1 user group 4083 Jan 17 02:29 v92_ora_2272.trc
...
```

The trace file contains everything you need to create a flat profile by Oracle subroutine.

Oracle subroutine	Duration (secs)	# Calls	Dur/call
SQL*Net message from client	984.010	49.6%	95,161 0.010340
SQL*Net more data from client	418.820	21.1%	3,345 0.125208
db file sequential read	279.340	14.1%	45,084 0.006196
CPU service, EXEC	136.880	6.9%	67,888 0.002016
CPU service, PARSE	74.490	3.8%	10,098 0.007377
CPU service, FETCH	37.320	1.9%	57,217 0.000652
unaccounted-for	27.720	1.4%	1 27.720000
latch free	23.690	1.2%	34,695 0.000683
log file sync	1.090	0.1%	506 0.002154
SQL*Net more data to client	0.830	0.0%	15,982 0.000052
log file switch completion	0.280	0.0%	3 0.093333
enqueue	0.250	0.0%	106 0.002358
...			

Total response time	1,985.190	100.0%	

The trace file contains everything you need to create a call graph by SQL or PL/SQL statement.

Cursor statement	Duration of self (secs)	Duration incl. children (secs)
/* REGULAR_PAY*/DECLARE LERMT VA...	6.620	0.3% 67.270 3.4%
SELECT 'Y' FROM PAY_ELEMENT_ENTR...	35.020	1.8% 35.020 1.8%
SELECT DECODE(COUNT(PRR.RUN_RESU...	14.740	0.7% 14.740 0.7%
SELECT DECODE(COUNT(RRS.RUN_RESU...	9.090	0.5% 9.090 0.5%
SELECT DECODE(NVL(TO_CHAR(PDS.AC...	1.110	0.1% 1.110 0.1%
SELECT START_DATE,END_DATE FROM ...	0.690	0.0% 0.690 0.0%
update pay_person_latest_balance...	66.650	3.4% 66.650 3.4%
select ASSBAL.defined_balance_id...	64.580	3.3% 64.580 3.3%
update pay_assignment_latest_bal...	61.140	3.1% 61.140 3.1%
select 1 into :b0 from sys.dual ...	36.470	1.8% 36.470 1.8%
/* REGULAR_EARNINGS*/DECLAREL_ER...	8.080	0.4% 35.670 1.8%
SELECT DECODE(COUNT(PRR.RUN_RESU...	26.280	1.3% 26.280 1.3%
...		

Total response time	1,985.190	100.0%

Case study

Baseline case: inserting is too slow.

- Each process inserts 5,000 rows
- 2 concurrent processes
- 1-CPU Windows XP
- Oracle 9.2.0.4
- Connection configuration

```
v92 =  
  (DESCRIPTION =  
    (ADDRESS_LIST =  
      (ADDRESS = (PROTOCOL = TCP)(HOST = CVM-LAP02)(PORT = 1521))  
    )  
    (CONNECT_DATA =  
      (SERVER = DEDICATED)  
      (SERVICE_NAME = v92.hotsos)  
    )  
  )
```

Baseline response time profile...

v92_ora_2020.trc

Oracle subroutine	Duration (secs)		# Calls	Dur/call
unaccounted-for	7.292	60.4%	10,255	0.000711
SQL*Net message from client	2.371	19.6%	20,007	0.000119
CPU service, PARSE calls	1.843	15.3%	5,040	0.000366
CPU service, EXEC calls	0.411	3.4%	5,061	0.000081
SQL*Net message to client	0.066	0.5%	20,007	0.000003
db file sequential read	0.055	0.5%	2	0.027650
log file sync	0.017	0.1%	3	0.005714
CPU service, FETCH calls	0.010	0.1%	152	0.000066
latch free	0.006	0.0%	19	0.000315
Total	12.071	100.0%		

Typical first questions about the profile...

- What is “unaccounted-for”?
- Isn't *SQL*Net message from client* supposed to be “idle” time?
- Why does this thing parse almost 4.5x longer than it inserts?

If the point is to insert 5,000 rows, then why does inserting consume only 3.5% of total response time?

The call graph shows that almost all the time is consumed by one statement.

Cursor statement	Duration of self (secs)		Duration incl. children (secs)	
<code>insert into t values (1, lpad('1...</code>	11.309	93.7%	11.392	94.4%
<code>select u.name,o.name, t.update\$,...</code>	0.063	0.5%	0.063	0.5%
<code>select file# from file\$ where ts...</code>	0.017	0.1%	0.017	0.1%
<code>update tsq\$ set blocks=:3,maxblo...</code>	0.002	0.0%	0.002	0.0%
[[synthetic parent]]	0.000	0.0%	0.582	4.8%
<code>select u.name, o.name, trigger\$...</code>	0.472	3.9%	0.493	4.1%
<code>select ts#,file#,block#,nvl(bobj...</code>	0.015	0.1%	0.015	0.1%
<code>select i.obj#,i.ts#,i.file#,i.bl...</code>	0.002	0.0%	0.002	0.0%
<code>select name,intcol#,segcol#,type...</code>	0.002	0.0%	0.002	0.0%
<code>select pos#,intcol#,col#,spare1,...</code>	0.001	0.0%	0.001	0.0%
<code>select type#,blocks,extents,mine...</code>	0.001	0.0%	0.001	0.0%
<code>select order#,columns,types from...</code>	0.002	0.0%	0.040	0.3%
... (35 other statements have been elided)				
Total	12.071	100.0%		

The database call profile shows that the preponderance of the response time is spent between db calls.

`insert into t values (1, lpad('1',20))`

Oracle hash value: 2581399381

Statement re-use: 5,000 similar but distinct texts

Response time: 11.309 seconds (93.7% of task total 12.071 seconds)

Database call	----Duration (seconds)----			Calls	Rows
	Elapsed	CPU	Other		
Between-calls	6.518	57.6%	0.000	0	0
PARSE	3.801	33.6%	1.843	5,000	0
EXEC	0.991	8.8%	0.411	5,000	5,000
Total	11.309	100.0%	2.253	10,000	5,000
Total per EXEC	0.002	0.0%	0.000	2	1
Total per row	0.002	0.0%	0.000	2	1

The baseline program executed far too many parse calls.

- Old code behavior...


```
for each row {
  $sql = "insert into t values ($v1, lpad('$v2',20))";
  $c = parse($sql);
  exec($c);
}
```
- New code...


```
Ⓢ$c = parse("insert into t values (Ⓢ?, lpad(Ⓢ?,20))");
for each row {
  exec($c, Ⓢ$v1, Ⓢ$v2);
}
```

The rewrite should eliminate 4,999 parse calls

The results are spectacular (before).

v92_ora_2020.trc

Oracle subroutine	Duration (secs)		# Calls	Dur/call
unaccounted-for	7.292	60.4%	10,255	0.000711
SQL*Net message from client	2.371	19.6%	20,007	0.000119
CPU service, PARSE calls	1.843	15.3%	5,040	0.000366
CPU service, EXEC calls	0.411	3.4%	5,061	0.000081
SQL*Net message to client	0.066	0.5%	20,007	0.000003
db file sequential read	0.055	0.5%	2	0.027650
log file sync	0.017	0.1%	3	0.005714
CPU service, FETCH calls	0.010	0.1%	152	0.000066
latch free	0.006	0.0%	19	0.000315
Total	12.071	100.0%		

The results are spectacular (after).

v92_ora_2588.trc

Oracle subroutine	Duration (secs)		# Calls	Dur/call
unaccounted-for	0.631	41.2%	5,032	0.000125
SQL*Net message from client	0.393	25.7%	5,010	0.000078
CPU service, PARSE calls	0.090	5.9%	11	0.008194
CPU service, EXEC calls	0.381	24.9%	5,011	0.000076
SQL*Net message to client	0.008	0.5%	5,010	0.000002
log file sync	0.027	1.8%	1	0.027396
CPU service, FETCH calls	0.000	0.0%	9	0.000002
Total	1.530	100.0%		

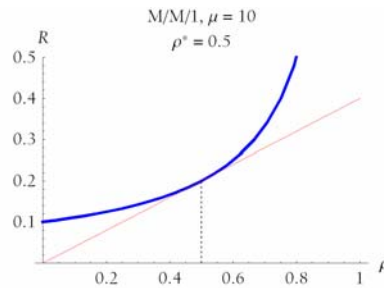
Why are the results so much better than we expected?

- Eliminating dbcalls has several better-than-linear positive effects
 - We got the CPU service, PARSE estimate right
 - Eliminating ~5,000 parse calls eliminated ~15,000 SQL*Net message from client calls
 - Preemption time decreased better than linearly!

Eliminating unnecessary workload often result in better-than-linear performance improvement.

- Eliminating work...
 - Saves top-line response time
 - Eliminates dependant work
 - Reduces queue lengths
 - Makes remaining calls faster
 - Helps everyone

Eliminating unnecessary work reverses exponential performance degradation



Recap

- A profiler tells you exactly where a task's time has gone
- Oracle emits everything you need to begin profiling
- Profilers give two capabilities you're not accustomed to having
 - "What happened?" becomes very easy
 - "What if?" becomes very easy

Once you have these capabilities, it's hard to imagine life without them

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DBMS_SUPPORT package: Oracle Metalink doc id Note:62294.1.
New version 10 OCI attributes: http://download-west.oracle.com/docs/cd/B14117_01/appdev.101/b10779/oci08sca.htm#452699