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SAP Performance

Course #: CB60

Mark Gordon Sr. Consulting I/T Specialist





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Agenda

- Review characteristics of SAP ERP, BW, and SCM systems
- Overview of common problems occurring on each
- Overview of process for analyzing problems
- Review key factors in preventing problems





Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this material, you should be able to:

- Describe an application-centered approach for analyzing SAP performance
- Identify key differences in the workload characteristics for ERP, BW, and SCM systems
- Understand the impact of administrative practices on SAP resource utilization



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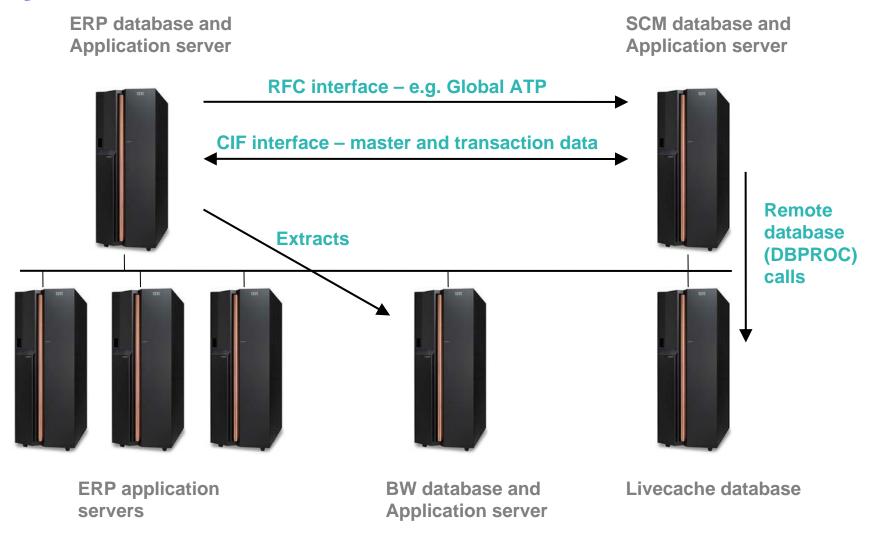


Characteristics of SAP systems





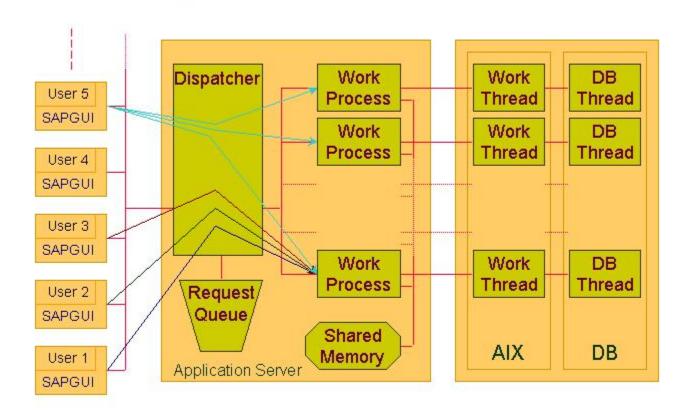
System Architecture





System Architecture

Dispatching



@ IBM Corporation, 1999, Namik Hrle





Characteristics of ERP Systems

- Simple SQL few tables joined
- Transaction and batch may be running concurrently
- SAP functionality is often extended with custom tables, user exits, and programs
 - Custom tables are more likely to not be indexed correctly
 - Custom programs may not use SAP tables correctly





Characteristics of BW Systems

- Complex SQL joining many tables
- User-defined and SAP-delivered star-schema objects (cubes) may be used
 - There may be design problems with user-defined objects
- ODS objects generally require usage analysis to design indexes correctly
 - Indexes generally are not optimal when the ODS is first created
- Large volumes of data may be frequently added
- Administrative practices are a key factor in performance and CPU utilization
 - SAP compression
 - Partitioning (if available)
 - Statistics collection
 - Index drop/rebuild



10



Characteristics of SCM Systems

- Some ERP and some BW characteristics
 - Mostly simple SQL
 - Some use of star schema APO cubes
- There are two databases
 - Remote (livecache) database accessed via DBPROC routines
 - Local database accessed via SAP open SQL
- The COM routines that access livecache are delivered by SAP
- There are real-time (e.g. Global ATP) and queued (CIF) interfaces from ERP to SCM





Problem Areas





ERP systems

Inefficient SQL

- Program does not use available indexes efficiently
- Optimizer chooses wrong index
 - (host variables issue)
- Symptom is long DB request time in program
- Can cause excessive CPU and I/O activity on database server

Inefficient ABAP

- Program does not scale with number of items processed
- Symptom is long runtime in program, and high CPU utilization on the application server

I/O performance problems caused by database layout

- Hotspots on disk become overloaded
- JFS performance issues (PERFPMR)
- Symptom is long I/O times in SAP database statistics for files

Database load that can be offloaded

Some tables can be buffered on the application server





BW systems

- Pre-building query results not implemented effectively
 - Aggregates
 - Caching query results and web templates
- SAP compression not implemented
 - Data should be periodically compressed from F to E fact table
 - Compression minimizes the size of F fact table
- Administrative practices
 - Index drop and rebuild
 - Database statistics impact
- I/O performance problems caused by database layout
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SCM systems

Inefficient SQL

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Livecache Performance

- Livecache database should be resident in memory
- Livecache has parameters that control tasking and CPUs used
 - Runnable tasks can be blocked from being dispatched





Analysis Process





Analysis Process

- Start with the application
 - Then go to the database, then to the operating system
- Define the problem in terms of SAP application response time, if possible
 - Transaction response times
 - BW query response times
- Define goals in terms that are meaningful to the business
 - For example
 - Reduce transaction response times for call centers
 - Reduce data load times, in order to increase availability of data
 - Reduce CPU usage, in order to reduce TCO
 - Some measurements can be useful in tuning, but not as goals
 - Increasing DB hit rate or reducing I/O activity is not a goal that has direct business impact
- Review SQL efficiency in the SQL statement cache
 - Problems with interfaces and bolt-ons may not be seen with SAP statistics, but can be found here.
- Review infrastructure





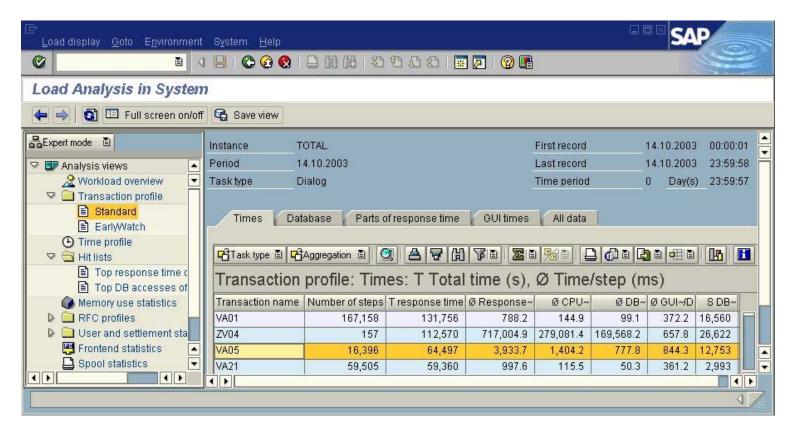
Analysis Process

Tools for ERP systems





First step - start with the application



SAP provides program response time statistics

- Time breakdown leads to next action.
- high CPU > ABAP trace; high DB > SQL trace





First step - start with the application

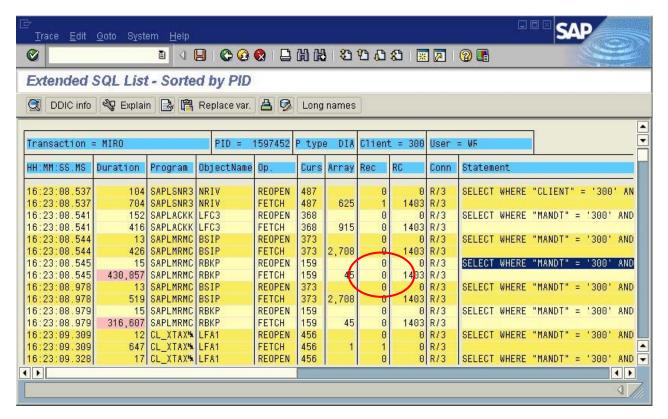
ord: 08:32:02 VA05	SAPMS380			D				
Analysis of time in work process								
CPU time	228,210	ms		Number	Roll ins	1		1
RFC+CPIC time	0	ms			Roll outs	2		I
l					Enqueues	0		1
Total time in workprocs	702,747	ms						1
1				Load time	Program	108	ms	1
Response time	702,747	ms	-1		Screen	0	ms	1
1			1		CUA interf.	1	ms	1
Wait for work process	0	ms	1					1
Processing time	100,841	ms	1	Roll time	Out	2	ms	1
Load time	109	ms	1		In	1	ms	1
Generating time	0	ms	1		Wait	0	ms	1
Roll (in+wait) time	1	ms	1					1
Database request time	601,796	ms	1	Frontend	No.roundtrips	2		Ĩ.
Enqueue time	0	ms	1		GUI time	325	ms	II.
1			1		Net time	283	ms	1

STAD response time statistics for individual dialog step

- Time breakdown leads to next action.
- high CPU > ABAP trace; high DB > SQL trace



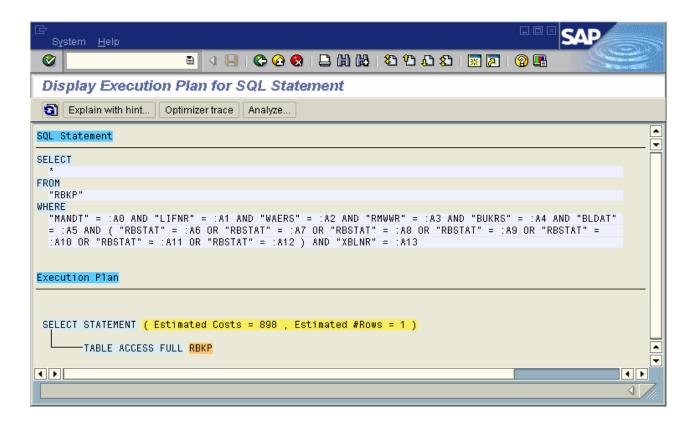




- SAP ST05 to trace SQL
- Look for statements that are slow in terms of time/row
 - Circled example 430.8 ms to return no rows



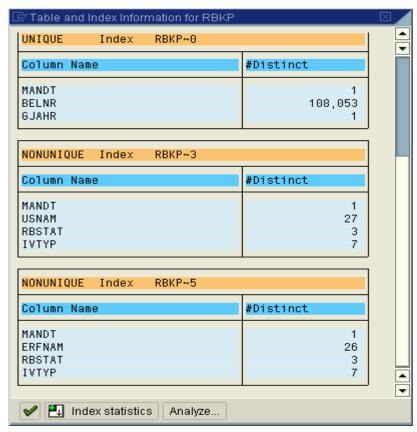




- Explain the slow statement from preceding page
- Evaluate local predicates and compare to available indexes



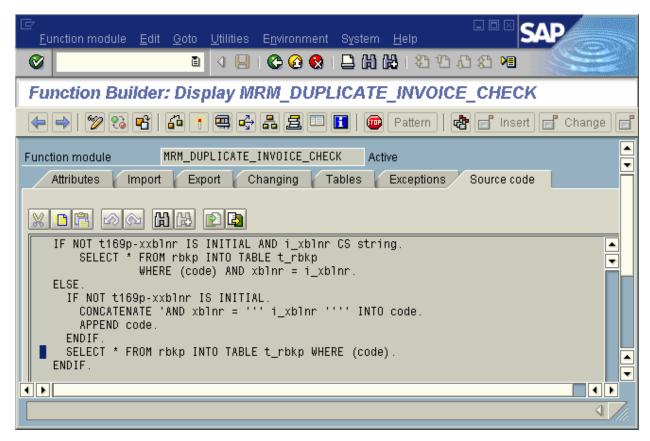




 Display indexes on table (SE11, DB02, drill-down from explain) and compare to predicates



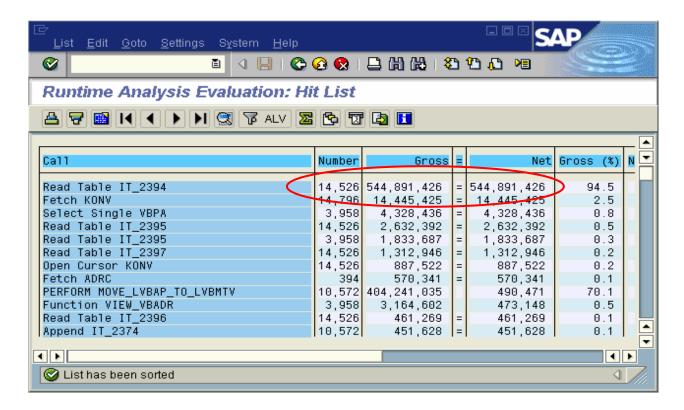




One can drill into the ABAP code from the trace





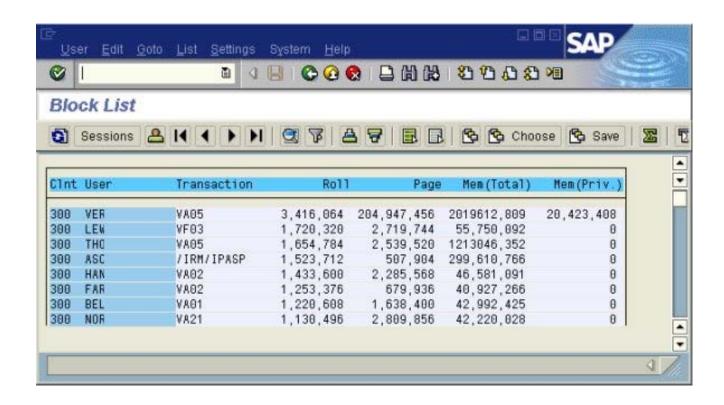


- SAP SE30 to trace ABAP program
- Look for area where program spends most time
 - Circled example takes 37.5 ms to read a row from a table in memory





High Memory Use

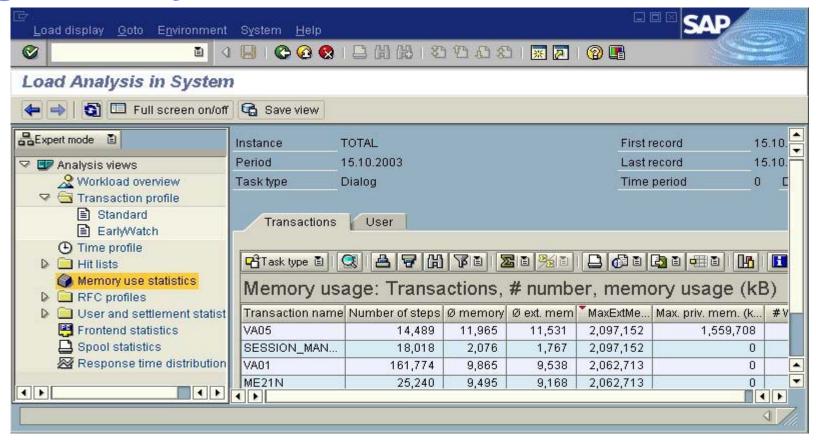


- SM04 to see memory hogs on active system
 - Since user can run multiple transactions, the transaction in this display may not be the one that is using all the memory.





High Memory Use

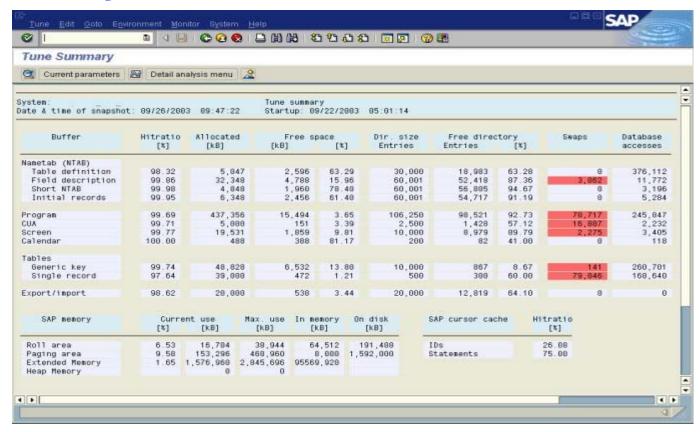


ST03N memory profile for historical reporting on memory use





High Memory Use



- Excessive use of SAP Paging or Roll usually causes I/O constraint on application server.
- Excessive use of EM usually causes paging





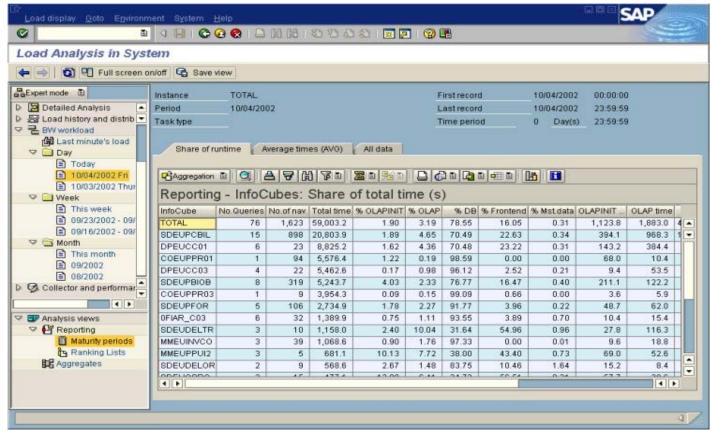
Analysis Process

BW Queries





Start with the application – BW variant

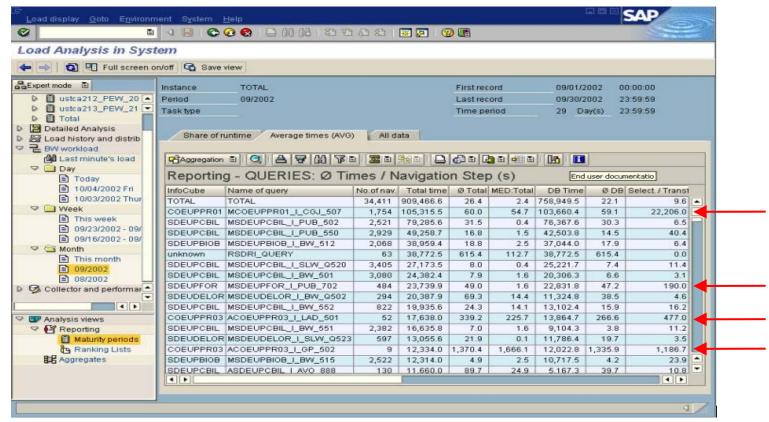


- SAP provides program response time statistics
 - Time breakdown leads to next action
 - High DB > determine whether aggregate can be used





BW - could an aggregate help performance?

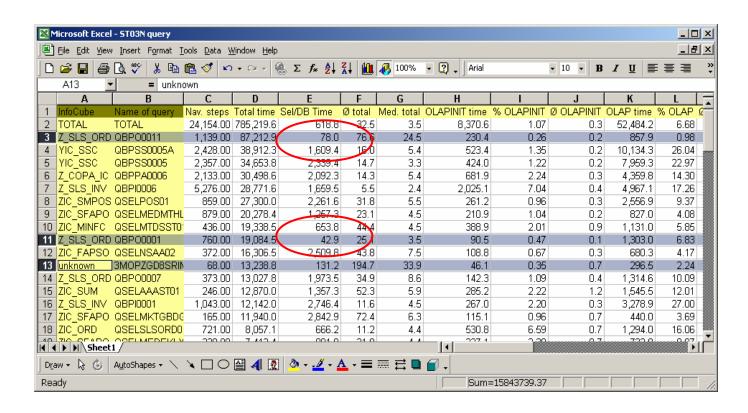


- SAP provides query summarization ratio select / transferred
 - High ratio => aggregate would help performance
 - SAP ROT consider aggregate for select/trans > 10





BW – is the query performance slow?



- If an aggregate is not a feasible solution, evaluate query performance (rows selected per second) to highlight slow queries
- Rows selected per second can be derived from SAP ST03N statistics





Analysis Process

SCM System





Start with the application – SCM variant

CPU time	930	ms	Number	Roll ins	6	
RFC+CPIC time	0	ms		Roll outs	6	
				Enqueues	11	
Total time in workprocs	13,462	ms		313.53.000000		
			Load time	Program	0	B:
—Response time	- 13,836	ms-		Screen	θ	n:
				CUA interf.	θ	n:
Wait for work process	4	ns				
Processing time	2,411	ms	Roll time	Out	21	n:
Load time	0	ms		In	θ	B:
Generating time	0	ns		Wait	378	n
Roll (in+wait) time	370	ns				
Database request time	505	ms	Frontend	No.roundtrips	2	
Enqueue time	10	ms		GUI time	368	B:
		_		Net time	422	n:
zingadad Cristo						
DB procedure call time	10,536	ms	No. of DB	procedure calls	12	

 In addition to time categories in ERP system, SCM has DBPROC time for calls to Livecache





Start with the application – SCM variant

DB procedure	Log. DB connection	No. of exec.	Exec. time (ms)	Time / exec (ms)
"SAPAPO_PP_ORDER_GET_DATA"	LCA] 3	162,376	54,125.3
"SAPATP_DELTA_UPD_ATP"	LDA	1	1,528	1,528.0
'SAPAPO_TRANS_SIM_CONTROL"	LCA	3	823	274.3
"SAPATP_DELTA_UPD_ALLVPL"	LDA	j 2	201	100.5
"SAPAPO_PP_ORDMAP_SELECT"	İ LCA	1 1	4	4.0

- The times of individual DBPROC calls can be viewed in the transaction details with STAD transaction
- If DBPROC call times are slow, investigate the performance of the Livecache server





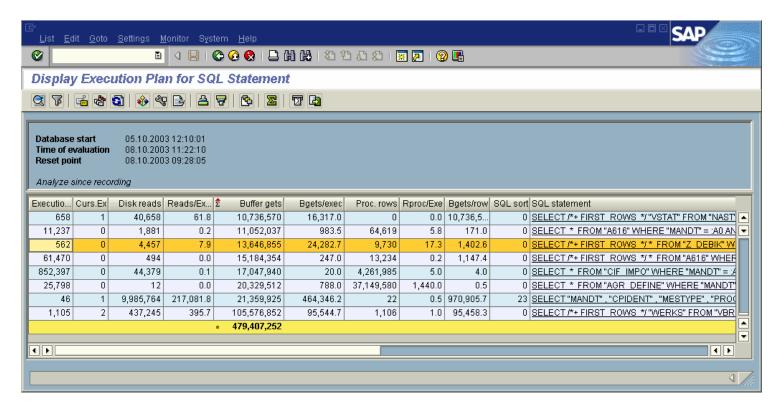
Analysis Process

System-wide review





Search for inefficient SQL

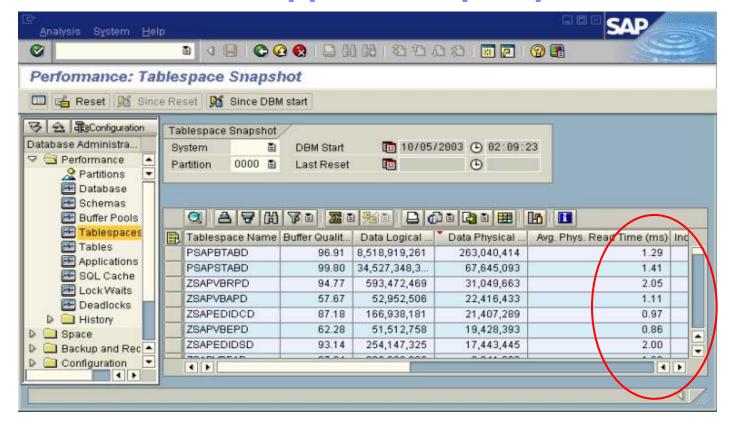


- High I/O activity and high CPU utilization on DB server can be a symptom of inefficient SQL
- Inefficient SQL = High Bgets/exec and Bgets/row in Oracle
 - database must search lots of data to find small result set





Review I/O from the application perspective

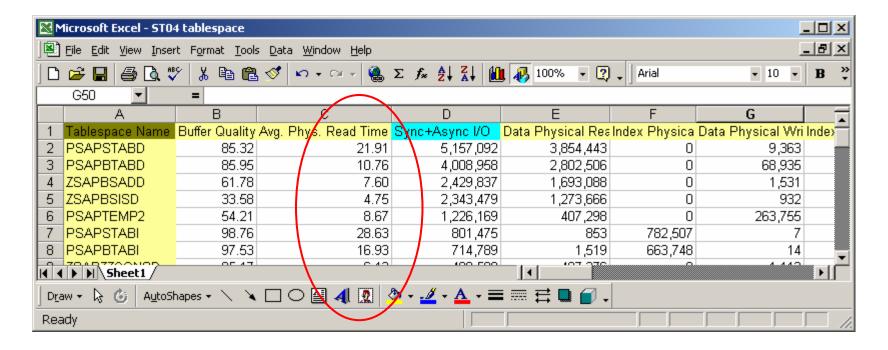


- Find active tablespaces with slow I/O
 - No problems here





Review I/O from the application perspective



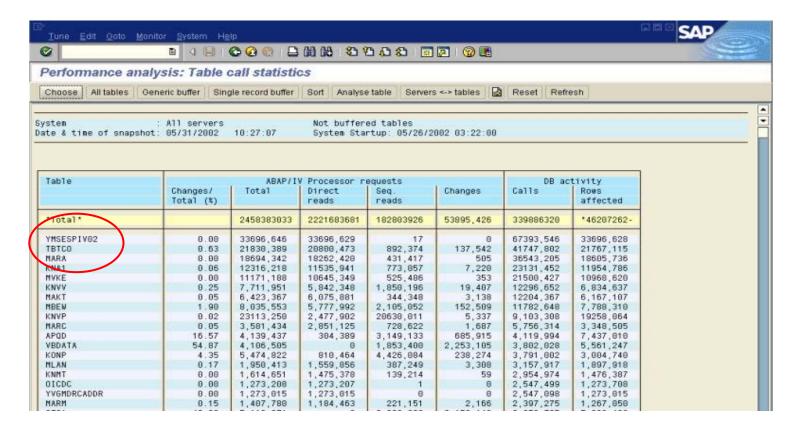
Find active tablespaces with slow I/O

- This is the same information as previous screen, processed in Excel
- Determine LVs and corresponding hdisks/vpaths/hdiskpowers
- Determine corresponding physical disks, and evaluate I/O activity





Offload DB with SAP buffering



- ST10 to display calls and rows by table
 - Many calls but very few changes > may be candidate for buffering check technical settings and discuss with SAP experts





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Preventing Problems





Preventing problems with ERP systems

Database layout

- Distribute I/O as much as possible
- Plan for bandwidth, as well as capacity
- Size of data files is important for JFS-structured database
- Monitor impact of interfaces and bolt-ons
 - SAP transaction statistics may not show activity
 - Review database statement cache
- Code reviews of custom code and exits
- Use IBM sizing team and its methodology





Preventing problems with BW systems

Database layout

- Distribute I/O as much as possible
- Plan for bandwidth, as well as capacity
- Size of data files is important for JFS-structured database

Aggregate analysis and definition

Reduce the load of queries with summary tables (aggregates)

Query caching and pre-calculated web templates

Reduce the load of queries by pre-generating and caching reports

Administrative choices

- SAP compression to E fact tables should be implemented
- SAP compression done on a regular (weekly, monthly) cycle
- Database statistics updated based on data flow, not time period
- Use partitioning on infocubes and ODSes, if available





Preventing problems with SCM systems

- Database layout
 - Distribute I/O as much as possible for APO database
 - Plan for bandwidth, as well as capacity
 - Size of datafiles is important for JFS-structured database
- Code reviews of custom code and exits
- Use IBM sizing team and its methodology
 - Ensure sufficient memory for livecache database



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Summary





Conclusion

- Start with SAP performance indicators
 - Align performance goals with business requirements
- Consider high I/O or CPU activity to be symptoms of application problems, until application has been examined
 - Database hit rates can be increased or decreased by problem SQL
 - High CPU use can be caused by inefficient ABAP, inefficient SQL, or administrative processes
 - High I/O activity can be caused by inefficient SQL or administrative processes
- Administrative choices can cause performance and resource utilization problems
 - BW
 - aggregates
 - SAP compression
 - Partitioning
 - ERP
 - SAP buffering
 - Custom code, Bolt-ons and interfaces





Additional Resources

Techdocs

- "Tuning SAP R/3 with Oracle on pSeries", document WP100377 at www.ibm.com/support/techdocs
- "Configuring the Enterprise Storage Server (ESS) for Oracle OLTP Applications", document WP100319 at www.ibm.com/support/techdocs
- "Database Layout for SAP Installations with DB2 UDB for UNIX and NT", at http://sap.torolab.ibm.com/white_papers.htm
- "Tuning SAP / DB2 / zSeries", document WP100287 at www.ibm.com/support/techdocs





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