DB2 Information Management Software

DB2 Path Analysis and Bind Management Tools from IBM

Highlights

- ***Help you predict whether a bind of a DBRM will result in a changed access path***
- ***Allow you to run path checks on a batch of DBRMs in one pass***
- ***Reduce costs by avoiding unnecessary binding steps between application programs and the database***
- ***Enable you to compare DBRMs with subsystems and load modules***

Eliminate costly surprises

Look before you leap is always good advice, especially when developing or migrating programs for IBM DB2® Universal Database™. This advice is particularly true for DB2 bind operations.

Two tools from IBM help you avoid costly and unexpected results from bind operations. IBM DB2 Path Checker for z/OS®, Version 3.1 enables you to identify, analyze and document in advance potential access path changes without initiating bind processing. IBM DB2 Bind Manager for z/OS Version 2.4 automatically eliminates unnecessary binds and processes only necessary DB2 binds.

Smoother migration to DB2 Universal Database for z/OS, Version 8

When migrating to DB2 Universal Database for z/OS, Version 8, these tools greatly reduce the amount of catalog data to be migrated. They also allow you to proactively identify potentially harmful access path changes before they occur. New features of the tools include:

- *DB2 Path Checker: Sample SPUFI queries used before a Version 8 migration to automatically populate PLAN_TABLES with the information needed to identify possible high-risk access path changes.*
- *DB2 Bind Manager: "Catalog cleanup" feature to compare bound packages in a DB2 subsystem to one or more load libraries and generate FREE commands to remove obsolete or unreferenced packages from the catalog.*

IBM DB2 Path Checker for z/OS

Using DB2 Path Checker for z/OS, you can quickly determine whether a bind of a database request module (DBRM) will result in a changed access path. You can also see the potential effects of doing a bind on one or many programs. DB2 Path Checker initiates an EXPLAIN into the plan table of the new DBRM and gives you a report on paths that have changed, or on all paths.

Using IBM DB2 Path Checker, you can:

- *Obtain an EXPLAIN on a standalone DBRM to see which paths will change, or use Lists and Pattern Matching to run a path check on a batch of DBRMs in one pass.*
- *Compare batches of DBRMs in one subsystem against another subsystem after doing a bind to identify potential problems.*
- *Compare two EXPLAINs based on the types of SQL used and the tables accessed using matching logic (MATCHSQL). This allows SQL to change position in the program and in relation to other SQL and still be matched for comparison.*

- *Find the DBRM that has no matching EXPLAIN.*
- *Use wildcarding for plans and packages for both comparison and reporting.*
- *Use the TEST Command to determine what will change when migrating between subsystems and which DBRMs will have issues if rebound.*

IBM DB2 Bind Manager for z/OS

After a program with embedded SQL has been successfully processed by the DB2 precompiler, DB2 Bind Manager analyzes each precompile to determine whether the SQL structure has changed. If not, then a bind will not be executed. Since DB2 Bind Manager detects only production application changes requiring a bind, it frees database administrators from doing unnecessary binds and allows them to concentrate on changes that affect the SQL structure.

DB2 Bind Manager offers these features:

- *An interactive system productivity facility (ISPF) interface enables you to select individual DBRMs from the DBRM library and compare them against the subsystem and the load module to verify that you are applying the correct program. If you have missing DBRMs, you can recreate them from the system catalog.*
- *Using Lists and Pattern Matching, you can compare batches of DBRMs against subsystems and load modules in one pass.*
- *DBRM Checker can go through a load module and determine which programs and which modules within those programs contain static SQL.*
- *A program does mass comparisons between a DB2 subsystem and different load libraries. Where there is no matching load module, a FREE command for the package is created and a backup of the DBRM is generated. This reduces the amount of catalog data that has to be converted and DBRMs needing to be rebound as part of the conversion.*

System considerations

IBM DB2 Path Checker for z/OS, Version 3.1 and IBM DB2 Bind Manager for z/OS, Version 2.4, support IBM DB2 for z/OS, Version 8 and later.

For more information

Please contact your IBM marketing representative or IBM Business Partner, or call 1 800 IBM-CALL within the U.S.

When ordering these tools, please refer to the following program numbers:

IBM DB2 Path Checker for z/OS, Version 3.1 : 5697-N573

IBM DB2 Bind Manager for z/OS, Version 2.4: 5655-E43

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