Informix Best Practices
Configuration, ONCONFIG, CPU and Memory Usage

Webcast – February 23, 2017
by
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Overview

• CPU Recommendations and Best Practices
• Memory Recommendations and Best Practices
• ONCONFIG Recommendations and Best Practices
  – Basic Settings
  – Additional Key Settings
CPU – Central Processor Unit
Recommendations for Informix and Best Practices
CPU Terms

• Socket = One Chip or Processor
• Cores per Socket = How many cores run on a chip. A core only runs one process at a time.
• Hyper-Threads or SMT threads per Core = Many Cores have the ability to run multiple threads. No matter how many threads run on a Core, only one thread can run at a time on a core. Hyper-Threads will appear as additional Virtual Cores.
• Chip speed is measured in gigahertz (GHz); this is the speed of a single core of your processor.
• PVU - IBM Processor Value Unit = A unit of measure used to differentiate licensing of software
CPU Terms

- Example: 2 Sockets with 5 Cores and 2 Hyper-Threads per Core = 10 Cores and 20 Virtual Cores
- Can run 10 processes at the same time
Informix CPU Best Practices

• How many Cores will be allocated for Informix? What else is running on the machine?
• Traditional best practice is number of physical CPU Cores minus 1
• Current CPU Cores are fast enough to handle 2-3 oninit per Core or 1 oninit per 500-1000 MHz
CPU Usage Best Practices

• How busy are your CPUs?
• Tools to monitor:
  – sar –u, vmstat, mpstat, top, prstat
• Performance Guideline for Average CPU Usage:
  – < 30 % - Good
  – 30-60% - Fair
  – > 60% - Poor
• Save 60% of your CPU usage to handle Workload Spikes or you may not be able to handle busy loads
Hyper-Threads or SMT Threads

• Hyper-Threads and SMT Threads may not be helpful to Informix oninit process

• Example:

Informix on AIX. Each AIX Core has 4 SMT threads, each displaying as a CPU; only the first thread is busy, the rest are idle.
Hyper-Threads or SMT Threads Best Practices

- Test, Test and Test again; don’t assume that more Hyper-Threads or SMT threads are better. Your workload will determine what is best.
- AIX – Try 2 SMT threads per Core on Power6 and Power7, 4 SMT on Power8
- Intel – Try 2 Oninits per Core instead of 2 Hyper-Threads and 1 Oninit per Hyper-Thread
Informix Architecture

Informix Best Practices

Advanced DataTools
Oninit Process

informix@train6:~ train6 > ps -ef | grep oninit
informix 22472     1  9 14:03 ?        00:00:03 oninit -v
root     22473 22472  0 14:03 ?        00:00:00 oninit -v
root     22474 22473  0 14:03 ?        00:00:00 oninit -v
root     22475 22473  0 14:03 ?        00:00:00 oninit -v
root     22476 22473  0 14:03 ?        00:00:00 oninit -v
root     22477 22473  0 14:03 ?        00:00:00 oninit -v
root     22478 22473  0 14:03 ?        00:00:00 oninit -v
root     22479 22473  0 14:03 ?        00:00:00 oninit -v
### Oninit Process

onstat –g sch

Informix Best Practices

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IBM Informix Dynamic Server Version 12.10.FC6 -- On-Line -- Up 00:02:12 -- 766404 Kbytes

VP Scheduler Statistics:

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Oninit Process Classes

- CPU - Executes all user and session threads and some system threads
- PIO - Handles physical log file when cooked disk space is used
- LIO - Handles logical log file when cooked disk space is used
- AIO - Handles disk I/O
- SHM - Performs shared memory communications
- TLI - Performs TLI network communications
- SOC - Performs socket network communications
- FIFO - Performs FIFO operations
- OPT - Handles optical disk I/O
- ADM - Executes administrative threads
- ADT - Executes auditing threads
- MSC - Handles request for system calls
Oninit Process
Automatically Started

• Started Automatically
  – PIO - Handles physical log file when cooked disk space is used
  – LIO - Handles logical log file when cooked disk space is used
  – FIFO - Performs FIFO operations
  – ADM - Executes administrative threads
  – MSC - Handles request for system calls

• Started when Auditing is on
  – ADT - Executes auditing threads

• Started when UDRs are called
  – Java
  – User Defined Functions
Oninit Process Controlled by VPCLASS

• ONCONFIG VPCLASS Setting
  – CPU - Executes all user and session threads and some system threads
  – AIO - Handles disk I/O
VPCLASS Options

The VPCLASS parameter allows you to:

• Designate a class of virtual processors (VPs)
• Create a user-defined VP, and specify the following information for it:
  – The number of virtual processors that the database server should start initially - optional
  – The maximum number of virtual processors allowed for this class - optional
  – The assignment of virtual processors to CPUs if processor affinity is available - optional
  – The disabling of priority aging by the operating system if the operating system implements priority aging - optional

Syntax:
• VPCLASS classname, options
CPU Oninit Configuration

• VPCLASS CPU – Configure the number of Oninit CPU VPs to start for Informix
  – VPCLASS cpu,num=<number> [,max=<max number cpu>] [,aff=<single CPU number> | <start cpu>-<end cpu> | ( <start cpu>-<end cpu>/<skip amount> ) ] ] [,noage]

• Examples for 8 Core machine:
  – VPCLASS cpu,num=4,noage
  – VPCLASS cpu,num=8,noage
  – VPCLASS cpu,num=8,aff=0,noage
  – VPCLASS cpu,num=8,aff=1-4,noage
CPU Affinity

• Example:
  – VPCLASS cpu,num=4,aff=0-3,noage

Message in the Online Log:
15:33:12 Affinitied VP 8 to phys proc 1
15:33:12 Affinitied VP 9 to phys proc 2
15:33:12 Affinitied VP 10 to phys proc 3
15:33:12 Affinitied VP 1 to phys proc 0
Additional CPU Best Practices

• Set MULTIPROCESSOR to 1 (Almost all machines today are multiprocessor)
• Set SINGLE_CPU_VP to 0 (Allows you to run more Oninits of CPU class as needed)
• Set NOAGE if your OS supports it
Additional CPU Best Practices

- Set VP_MEMORY_CACHE_KB <size in KB for private cache for each CPU VP>
- Format is: <size>[,DYNAMIC|STATIC]
  Acceptable values for <size> are: 0 (disable) or 800 through 40% of the value of SHMTOTAL
- Example:
  - VP_MEMORY_CACHE_KB 4096
AIO Oninit Best Practices

• Default is
  – AUTO_AIOVPS 1 – enable automatically adding AIO VPs as needed
  – This can lead to *too many* AIO VPs writing to the same disk system

• Recommended
  – AUTO_AIOVPS 0
  – VPCLASS aio,num=<number of oninits you need to write to disk>
AIO Oninit Best Practices

• How many AIO Class Oninits do you need? Test, Test, Test…
  – With KAIO on – only need 2 AIO oninit
  – With KAIO off (default), it depends on how many processes can write to a disk at the same time.
  – Never need more than twice the number of active chunks.
  – Most disks can handle up to 8 AIO oninit processes.
AIO Oninit Best Practice Examples

- 1 Disk and 24 Chunks
  - VPCLASS aio,num=8
- 6 Disks and 24 Chunks (12 active)
  - VPCLASS aio,num=24
Oninit Processes Controlled by NETTYPE

• ONCONFIG NETTYPE Setting
  – SHM - Performs shared memory communications
  – TLI - Performs TLI network communications
  – SOC - Performs socket network communications
NETTYPE Configuration

- NETTYPE <protocol>,<number of oninit process>, <number of connections per oninit>, <Type of Oninit – CPU or NET>

- Examples:
  - NETTYPE ipcshm,1,50,CPU
  - NETTYPE soctcp,4,250,NET
NETTYPE Configuration

Best Practices

• Configure Shared Memory Connection to run on NETTYPE type CPU and Network Connections to run on NETTYPE NET.

• Configure 200-300 Connections per Oninit process.

• Example:
  – NETTYPE ipcshm,1,50,CPU – Shared Memory with 50 connections
  – NETTYPE soctcp,4,250,NET – Network with 1000 connections
Memory Recommendations for Informix and Best Practices
Informix Memory Best Practices

• How much memory is available on the machine?
• How much is used by the Operating System and other applications?
• How much will be assigned to Informix?
• **DO NOT allow the machine to Swap memory to disk as this will SLOW everything down**
Informix Memory Classes

- R – Resident Memory Segment
- B – Buffer Pool Segment for data
- V – Virtual Memory Segment for Working Storage
- M – Message Segment for communications between clients
Informix Shared Memory

- Resident Memory Segment:
  - Control Tables
  - Buffers

- Virtual Memory Segment:
  - Dictionary cache
  - Working Storage
  - Sort Space

- Message Memory Segment
Informix Shared Memory
onstat -g seg

informix@train6:~ train6 > onstat -g seg

IBM Informix Dynamic Server Version 12.10.FC6 -- On-Line -- Up 00:30:00 -- 766404 Kbytes

Segment Summary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>id</th>
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<th>size</th>
<th>ovhd</th>
<th>class</th>
<th>blkused</th>
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</table>

(* segment locked in memory)
No reserve memory is allocated
ONCONFIG Memory Configuration Settings

- BUFFERPOOL
- SHMVIRTSIZE
- SHMADD
- LOCKS
BUFFERPOOL Best Practices

• More Buffers - the better and faster your database will perform.
• Goal is to put all the active data into Memory Buffers.
• Goal is to prevent high Memory Buffers Turnover (Art Kagel’s rule – less than 8 times and hour).
• Always leave the default BUFFERPOOL line in the ONCONFIG.
BUFFERPOOL Settings

• The BUFFERPOOL configuration parameter consists of two lines in the onconfig.std file, as shown in this example for a UNIX platform:

  BUFFERPOOL default,lrus=8,buffers=5000,lru_min_dirty=50,lru_max_dirty=60
  BUFFERPOOL size=2K,buffers=5000,lrus=8,lru_min_dirty=50,lru_max_dirty=60

• The top line specifies the default values that are used if you create a dbspace with a page size that does not already have a corresponding buffer pool created at startup.

• The next line below the default line specifies the database server's default values for a buffer pool, which are based on the database server's default page size.

• When you add a dbspace with a different page size with the onspaces utility, or when you add a new buffer pool with the onparams utility, a new line is appended to the BUFFERPOOL configuration parameter in the ONCONFIG file. The page size for each buffer pool must be a multiple of the system's default page size.
BUFFERPOOL Examples

- 3 GB Memory for Buffers – Linux OLTP System
  - BUFFERPOOL size=2k, buffers=1500000, lrus=32, lru_min_dirty=10, lru_max_dirty=20

- 12 GB Memory for Buffers – AIX OLTP System
  - BUFFERPOOL size=4k, buffers=3000000, lrus=128, lru_min_dirty=1, lru_max_dirty=2

- 48 GB Memory for Buffers – Solaris Data Warehouse
  - BUFFERPOOL size=2K, buffers=24000000, lrus=128, lru_min_dirty=60, lru_max_dirty=70

- 15 GB Memory for 4K Buffers and 12.8 GB for 16K Buffers
  - BUFFERPOOL size=4K, buffers=60000000, lrus=256, lru_min_dirty=0.1, lru_max_dirty=0.2
  - BUFFERPOOL size=16K, buffers=800000, lrus=256, lru_min_dirty=20, lru_max_dirty=30
Monitoring BUFFERPOOL Turnover

--- Module: @(buff_btr_ratio.sql 2.0 Date: 2013/04/10
--- Author: Lester Knutsen Email: lester@advanceddatatools.com
--- Advanced DataTools Corporation
--- Description: Display Buffer Turnovers per hour
--- Based on Art Kagels performance tuning tips on monitoring how much buffer churn your server has.
--- Goal is BTR of less than 7 times per hour
--- Tested with Informix 11.70 and Informix 12.10

select
    bufsz, pagreads, bufwrites, nbuffs,
    ((( pagreads + bufwrites ) / nbuffs ) /
     ( select (ROUND ((( sh_curtime - sh_pfclrtime)/60)/60))
        from sysshmvals ) ) BTR
from sysbufpool;
Informix Shared Memory Management

- Resident Memory Segment
  - LRU
  - Page
  - Control Tables
  - Buffers

- Virtual Memory Segment
  - Dictionary cache
  - Working Storage
  - Sort Space

- Message Memory Segment
Page Gets Read into Memory by a Select

Resident Memory Segment
- Control Tables
- Buffers

Virtual Memory Segment
- Dictionary cache
- Working Storage
- Sort Space

Message Memory Segment

Informix Best Practices
When all Buffers are full, Least Recently Used (LRU) Page is discarded to make room for more data.

- Resident Memory Segment
  - Control Tables
  - Buffers

- Virtual Memory Segment
  - Dictionary cache
  - Working storage
  - Sort Space

- Message Memory Segment
When a user updates a page, it is marked as dirty and must be written out to disk before it is discarded.

Resident Memory Segment
- Control Tables
- Buffers

Virtual Memory Segment
- Dictionary cache
- Working storage
- Sort Space

Message Memory Segment
LRU Queues manage writing data to disk in the background when there is idle time based on LRU_MAX_DIRTY and LRU_MIN_DIRTY ONCONFIG values.
When all buffers are Dirty, the server must STOP all processing and perform a Foreground Write.

**Resident Memory Segment**
- Control Tables
- Buffers

**Virtual Memory Segment**
- Dictionary cache
- Working Storage
- Sort Space

**Message Memory Segment**
When a buffer is written to disk, it is marked as clean and may be discarded if needed.
Checkpoint writes all Dirty Buffers to Disk.

Resident Memory Segment
- Control Tables
- Buffers

Virtual Memory Segment
- Dictionary cache
- Working Storage
- Sort Space

Message Memory Segment
After a Checkpoint, all Buffers are clean and the cycle starts over again.

- Resident Memory Segment
  - Control Tables
  - Buffers

- Virtual Memory Segment
  - Dictionary cache
  - Working storage
  - Sort Space

- Message Memory Segment
Memory LRU Settings

• AUTO_LRU_TUNING - Enables (1) or disables (0)

• BUFFERPOOL LRU Settings
  – lrus=<Number of LRU QUEUES>,
  – lru_max_dirty=<Percent dirty to START cleaning>
  – lru_min_dirty=<Percent dirty to STOP cleaning>
Memory LRU Best Practices

- Enable AUTO_LRU_TUNING for turnkey or embedded systems.
- Disable AUTO_LRU_TUNING for high performance systems where you do not want CHECKPOINTS to write a huge amount of data to disk and slow everything down.
Memory LRU Settings

- LRU Settings for AUTO_LRU_TUNING Disabled
  - lrus=<Number of LRU QUEUES>,
  - lru_max_dirty=<Percent dirty to START cleaning>
  - lru_min_dirty=<Percent dirty to STOP cleaning>
SHMVIRTSIZE Best Practices

• Controls the size of the Informix Virtual Memory Workspace, which can grow if needed.

• Best practice is to set it large enough so it does not need to grow.
  – Monitor with onstat --g seg
Informix Shared Memory
onstat –g seg

informix@train6:~ train6 > onstat –g seg

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</tbody>
</table>

(* segment locked in memory)
No reserve memory is allocated
Additional Memory Setting

• RESIDENT - Controls whether shared memory is resident. Acceptable values are:
  – 0 off (default)
  – 1 lock the resident segment only
  – n lock the resident segment and the next n-1 virtual segments, where n < 100
  – -1 lock all resident and virtual segments

• SHMADD - The size, in KB, of additional virtual shared memory segments
LOCKS Memory Settings

• LOCKS – The number of LOCKS when Informix Starts. This determines the amount of Memory initially set for LOCKS. Can be dynamically added when needed.

• Dynamically adding LOCKS can cause a performance degradation.
LOCKS Memory Settings

• To monitor, look at the last line of:
  – onstat –k

  This shows 2 lock table overflows.
  – This system requires 80,000 locks.
LOCK Best Practices

• LOCK Table Overflows will slow performance and should be avoided.
• LOCK Table Overflows are a major contributor to SHMVIRT Memory additions.
• Set your LOCK setting to a value that is the largest number required.
Informix ONCONFIG File Recommendations and Best Practices
**Basic Informix ONCONFIG Setup and Configuration**

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<th>Value</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERVERNUM</td>
<td>&lt;Your Server number goes here&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DBSERVERNAME</td>
<td>&lt;Informix Server Name&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DBSERVERALIASES</td>
<td>&lt;Informix Server Alias Name&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NETTYPE</td>
<td>ipcshm,1,50,CPU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NETTYPE</td>
<td>soctcp,1,50,NET</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Basic Informix ONCONFIG Setup and Configuration

• ROOTPATH – full path location to your rootdbs
  – ROOTPATH /informixchunks/train1/rootdbs
• ROOTSIZE – Size of your rootdbs in KB
  – ROOTSIZE 2000000
• File must be owned by Informix and belong to the Informix group
• File Permissions must be read/write by user and group Informix only
Basic Informix ONCONFIG Setup and Configuration

• MSGPATH – Full path to the location of the Informix Message log file
  – MSGPATH $INFORMIXDIR/train1_online.log

• CONSOLE – Full path to the location of the Informix Console log file
  – CONSOLE $INFORMIXDIR/train1_console.log
Basic Informix ONCONFIG Setup and Configuration

• Set Ontape Backups to a directory
  – TAPEDEV /home/informix/backups/servername/archive
  – LTAPEDEV /home/informix/backups/servername/logs

• Directory must be owned by Informix and belong to the Informix group

• Permissions must be read/write by user and group Informix only
Basic Informix ONCONFIG Setup and Configuration

- SERVERNUM – Must be a unique number for each instance on a machine
- DBSERVERNAME – the Server Name
  - The connections INFORMIXSERVER
- DBSERVERALIAS – the Server Alias Name for other (Network Connections)
  - The connections INFORMIXSERVER
Basic Informix ONCONFIG Setup and Configuration

- NETTYPE – The Network settings for your Server – See Slide 26-27
Disk Space Configuration

- Root DBspace
- Physical Log DBspace
- Logical Logs Dbspace
- Temp Dbspace
- Data Dbspace
- Index DBspace
ONCONFIG Setting

• The following are some Critical ONCONFIG File Settings to Review
ONCONFIG - Root DBspace

# Root Dbspace Configuration Parameters

# ROOTNAME - The root dbspace name to contain reserved pages and internal tracking tables.
# ROOTPATH - The path for the device containing the root dbspace
# ROOTOFFSET - The offset, in KB, of the root dbspace into the device. The offset is required for some raw devices.
# ROOTSIZE - The size of the root dbspace, in KB. The value of 200000 allows for a default user space of about 100 MB and the default system space requirements.
# MIRROR - Enable (1) or disable (0) mirroring
# MIRRORPATH - The path for the device containing the mirrored root dbspace
# MIRROROFFSET - The offset, in KB, into the mirrored device

# Warning: Always verify ROOTPATH before performing disk initialization (oninit -i or -iy) to avoid disk corruption of another instance

# Root Dbspace Configuration Parameters

ROOTNAME    rootdbs
ROOTPATH    /informixchunks/rootdbs
ROOTOFFSET  0
ROOTSIZE    200000
MIRROR      1
MIRRORPATH  /informixchunks/rootdbsM
MIRROROFFSET 0
ONCONFIG - Physical Log

# Physical Log Configuration Parameters

# PHYSFILE - The size, in KB, of the physical log on disk.
# If RTO_SERVER_RESTART is enabled, the
# suggested formula for the size of PHYSFILE
# (up to about 1 GB) is:
# PHYSFILE = Size of BUFFERS * 1.1
# PLOG_OVERFLOW_PATH - The directory for extra physical log files
# if the physical log overflows during recovery
# or long transaction rollback
# PHYSBUFF - The size of the physical log buffer, in KB

PHYSFILE 50000
PLOG_OVERFLOW_PATH $INFORMIXDIR/tmp
PHYSBUFF 128
ONCONFIG - Logical Log

# Logical Log Configuration Parameters

# LOGFILES - The number of logical log files
# LOGSIZE - The size of each logical log, in KB
# DYNAMIC_LOGS - The type of dynamic log allocation.
# Acceptable values are:
# 2 Automatic. IDS adds a new logical log to the
# root dbspace when necessary.
# 1 Manual. IDS notifies the DBA to add new logical
# logs when necessary.
# 0 Disabled
# LOGBUFF - The size of the logical log buffer, in KB

LOGFILES 6
LOGSIZE 10000
DYNAMIC_LOGS 2
LOGBUFF 64

Informix Best Practices
ONCONFIG - Long Transactions

# Long Transaction Configuration Parameters

# If IDS cannot roll back a long transaction, the server hangs
# until more disk space is available.
# LTXHWM - The percentage of the logical logs that can be filled before a
# transaction is determined to be a long transaction and is rolled back
# LTXEHWM - The percentage of the logical logs that have been filled before the
# server suspends all other transactions so that the long transaction being rolled back
# has exclusive use of the logs
# When dynamic logging is on, you can set higher values for LTXHWM and LTXEHWM because the
# server can add new logical logs during long transaction rollback. Set lower values to
# limit the number of new logical logs added.
# If dynamic logging is off, set LTXHWM and LTXEHWM to lower values, such as 50 and 60 or
# lower, to prevent long transaction rollback from hanging the server due to lack of
# logical log space.
# When using Enterprise Replication, set LTXEHWM to at least 30%
# higher than LTXHWM to minimize log overruns.

# NOTE: The new default is LTXHWM 70, LTXEHWM 80 – I recommend using the following values
LTXHWM 50
LTXEHWM 60
ONCONFIG - Server Name and Aliases

# System Configuration Parameters

# SERVERNUM - The unique ID for the IDS instance. Acceptable
# values are 0 through 255, inclusive.
# DBSERVERNAME - The name of the default database server
# DBSERVERALIASES - The list of up to 32 alternative dbservernames,
# separated by commas

SERVERNUM 1
DBSERVERNAME train
DBSERVERALIASES train2_tcp/3, train_drda

Following a soctcp connection name with a slash and a number causes the engine to start that number of
listener threads for this port. The default is a single listener thread.
ONCONFIG - CPU

Configuration

# CPU-Related Configuration Parameters

# MULTIPROCESSOR - Specifies whether the computer has multiple CPUs. Acceptable values are: 0 (single processor), 1 (multiple processors or multi-core chips)

# VPCLASS cpu - Configures the CPU VPs. The format is:
# VPCLASS cpu,num=<#>[,max=<#>][,aff=<#>] [,noage]

# VP_MEMORY_CACHE_KB - Specifies the amount of private memory blocks of your CPU VP, in KB, that the database server can access. Acceptable values are:
# 0 (disable)
# 800 through 40% of the value of SHMTOTAL

# SINGLE_CPU_VP - Optimizes performance if IDS runs with only one CPU VP. Acceptable values are:
# 0 multiple CPU VPs
# Any nonzero value (optimize for one CPU VP)

MULTIPROCESSOR 0
VPCLASS cpu,num=1,noage
VP_MEMORY_CACHE_KB 0
SINGLE_CPU_VP 1
ONCONFIG - Network Connections

# NETTYPE - The configuration of poll threads
# for a specific protocol. The format is:
# NETTYPE <protocol>,<# poll threads>
# ,<number of connections/thread>,(NET|CPU)
# You can include multiple NETTYPE
# entries for multiple protocols.
# LISTEN_TIMEOUT - The number of seconds that IDS
# waits for a connection
# MAX_INCOMPLETE_CONNECTIONS - The maximum number of incomplete
# connections before IDS logs a Denial
# of Service (DoS) error
# FASTPOLL - Enables (1) or disables (0) fast
# polling of your network, if your
# operating system supports it.
# NS_CACHE - The number of seconds for IDS name service cache
# (host, service, user, group) expiration time.
# 0 to disable cache.

NETTYPE ipcshm,1,50,CPU
NETTYPE soctcp,1,50,NET
LISTEN_TIMEOUT 60
MAX_INCOMPLETE_CONNECTIONS 1024
FASTPOLL 1
NS_CACHE host=900,service=900,user=900,group=900
ONCONFIG - Checkpoints and Recover

# Checkpoint and System Block Configuration Parameters

# CKPINTVL - Specifies how often, in seconds, IDS checks
# if a checkpoint is needed. 0 indicates that
# IDS does not check for checkpoints. Ignored
# if RTO_SERVER_RESTART is set.
# AUTO_CKPTS - Enables (1) or disables (0) monitoring of
# critical resource to trigger checkpoints
# more frequently if there is a chance that
# transaction blocking might occur.
# RTO_SERVER_RESTART - Specifies, in seconds, the Recovery Time
# Objective for IDS restart after a server
# failure. Acceptable values are 0 (off) and
# any number from 60-1800, inclusive.
# BLOCKTIMEOUT - Specifies the amount of time, in seconds,
# for a system block.

CKPTINTVL 300
AUTO_CKPTS 1
RTO_SERVER_RESTART 0
BLOCKTIMEOUT 3600
ONCONFIG – Auto Tune

# AUTO_TUNE  - The value of this parameter serves as the default value for
# the following AUTO_* parameters:
# AUTO_AIOVPS
# AUTO_CKPTS
# AUTO_REPREPARE
# AUTO_STAT_MODE
# AUTO_READAHEAD
# AUTO_LRU_TUNING
#
# Any of the above parameters that are not present in your config file
# will default to the value of AUTO_TUNE, which can be set to either 0 or 1.
# If an AUTO_* parameter is set in your config file, the given value overrides
# that of AUTO_TUNE. Information on individual AUTO_* parameters is below.
#
ONCONFIG – Auto Tune

# AUTO_LRU_TUNING - Enables (1) or disables (0) automatic LRU tuning, which
# adjusts flushing thresholds for individual buffer pools
# if the server discovers they are sub-optimal
# AUTO_AIOVPS - Enables (1) or disables (0) automatic management
# of AIO VPs
# AUTO_CKPTS - Enables (1) or disables (0) monitoring of
# critical resource to trigger checkpoints
# more frequently if there is a chance that
# transaction blocking might occur.
# AUTO_REPREPARE - Enables (1) or disables (0) automatically
# re-optimizing stored procedures and re-preparing
# prepared statements when tables that are referenced
# by them change. Minimizes the occurrence of the
# -710 error.
# AUTO_STAT_MODE - Enables (1) or disables (0) update statistics
# automatic mode. In automatic mode, statistics of
# table, fragment or index are rebuilt only if existing
# statistics are considered stale. A table, fragment
# or index can change by STATCHANGE percentage before
# its statistics are regarded as stale.
ONCONFIG – Auto Tune

# RA_PAGES & RA_THRESHOLD have been replaced with AUTO_READAHEAD.
# AUTO_READAHEAD mode[,readahead_cnt]
#   mode 0 = Disable (Not recommended)
#          1 = Passive (Default)
#          2 = Aggressive (Not recommended)
#   readahead_cnt Optional Range 4-4096
#   readahead_cnt allows for tuning the of
#   pages that automatic readahead will request
#   to be read ahead. When not set, the default
#   is 128 pages.
# Notes:
#   The threshold for starting the next readahead request, which
#   used to be known as RA_THRESHOLD, is always set to 1/2 of the
#   readahead_cnt. RA_THRESHOLD is deprecated and no longer used.
# If RA_PAGES & AUTO_READAHEAD are not present in the ONCONFIG file,
# AUTO_READAHEAD will default to the value of AUTO_TUNE.
# If RA_PAGES is present in the ONCONFIG file and AUTO_READAHEAD is
# not, the server will set AUTO_READAHEAD to AUTO_TUNE,RA_PAGES
ONCONFIG - Transactions

#------------------------------------------------------------------
# Transaction-Related Configuration Parameters
#------------------------------------------------------------------
# TXTIMEOUT - The distributed transaction timeout, in seconds
# DEADLOCK_TIMEOUT - The maximum time, in seconds, to wait for a
# lock in a distributed transaction.
# HETERO_COMMIT - Enables (1) or disables (0) heterogeneous
# commits for a distributed transaction
# involving an EGM gateway.
#------------------------------------------------------------------
TXTIMEOUT 300
DEADLOCK_TIMEOUT 60
HETERO_COMMIT 0
ONCONFIG - Disk I/O

###################################################################
# AIO and Cleaner-Related Configuration Parameters
###################################################################
# VPCLASS aio - Configures the AIO VPs. The format is:
# VPCLASS aio,num=<#>[,max=<#>][,aff=<#>][,noage]
# CLEANERS - The number of page cleaner threads
# AUTO_AIOVPS - Enables (1) or disables (0) automatic management of AIO VPs
# DIRECT_IO - Specifies whether direct I/O is used for cooked files used for dbspace chunks.
# Acceptable values are:
# 0 Disable
# 1 Enable direct I/O
# 2 Enable concurrent I/O – AIX Only

#VPCLASS aio,num=1
CLEANERS 8
AUTO_AIOVPS 1
DIRECT_IO 1
ONCONFIG - Table Space

# Tblspace Configuration Parameters

# TBLTBLFIRST - The first extent size, in KB, for the tblspace
# tblspace. Must be in multiples of the page size.
# TBLTBLNEXT - The next extent size, in KB, for the tblspace
# tblspace. Must be in multiples of the page size.
# The default setting for both is 0, which allows IDS to manage
# extent sizes automatically.
#
# TBLSPACE_STATS - Enables (1) or disables (0) IDS to maintain
# tblspace statistics

TBLTBLFIRST 0
TBLTBLNEXT 0
TBLSPACE_STATS 1
ONCONFIG - Temp Space

# Temporary dbspace and sbspace Configuration Parameters

# DBSPACETEMP - The list of dbspaces used to store temporary
# tables and other objects. Specify a colon
# separated list of dbspaces that exist when the
# server is started. If no dbspaces are specified,
# or if all specified dbspaces are not valid,
# temporary files are created in the /tmp directory
# instead.
# SBSPACETEMP - The list of sbspaces used to store temporary
# tables for smart large objects. If no sbspace
# is specified, temporary files are created in
# a standard sbspace.

DBSPACETEMP tmp1dbs:tmp2dbs:tmp3dbs:non_temp_space1:non_temp_space2
SBSPACETEMP tmp1sbdbs:tmp2sbdbs:tmp3sbdbs
TEMPTAB_NOLOG 1
ONCONFIG - Sbspace and DbSpace

# Dbspace and sbspace Configuration Parameters

# SBSPACENAME - The default sbspace name where smart large objects
# are stored if no sbspace is specified during
# smart large object creation. Some DataBlade
# modules store smart large objects in this
# location.
# SYSSBSPACENAME - The default sbspace for system statistics
# collection. Otherwise, IDS stores statistics
# in the sysdistrib system catalog table.
# ONDBSPACEDOWN - Specifies how IDS behaves when it encounters a
# dbspace that is offline. Acceptable values
# are:
# 0 Continue
# 1 Stop
# 2 Wait for DBA action

SBSPACENAME sbspacedbs
SYSSBSPACENAME dbo.spacedbs
ONDBSPACEDOWN 2
ONCONFIG - PDQ Setup

# Parallel Database Query (PDQ) Configuration Parameters

# MAX_PDQPRIORITY - The maximum amount of resources, as a percentage, that PDQ can allocate to any one decision support query
# DS_MAX_QUERIES - The maximum number of concurrent decision support queries
# DS_TOTAL_MEMORY - The maximum amount, in KB, of decision support query memory
# DS_MAX_SCANS - The maximum number of concurrent decision support scans
# DS_NONPDQ_QUERY_MEM - The amount of non-PDQ query memory, in KB. Acceptable values are 128 to 25% of DS_TOTAL_MEMORY.
# DATASKIP - Specifies whether to skip dbspaces when processing a query. Acceptable values are:
  # - ALL Skip all unavailable fragments
  # - ON <dbspace1> <dbspace2>... Skip listed dbspaces
  # - OFF Do not skip dbspaces (default)

MAX_PDQPRIORITY 100
DS_MAX_QUERIES
DS_TOTAL_MEMORY
DS_MAX_SCANS 1048576
DS_NONPDQ_QUERY_MEM 128
DATASKIP
ONCONFIG - Optimizer Setup

# Optimizer Configuration Parameters

# OPTCOMPIND - Controls how the optimizer determines the best query path. Acceptable values are:
# 0 Nested loop joins are preferred
# 1 If isolation level is repeatable read, works the same as 0, otherwise works same as 2
# 2 Optimizer decisions are based on cost only

# DIRECTIVES - Specifies whether optimizer directives are enabled (1) or disabled (0). Default is 1.

# EXT_DIRECTIVES - Controls the use of external SQL directives. Acceptable values are:
# 0 Disabled
# 1 Enabled if the IFX_EXTDIRECTIVES environment variable is enabled
# 2 Enabled even if the IFX_EXTDIRECTIVES environment is not set
Optimizer Setup - continued

# OPT_GOAL - Controls how the optimizer should optimize for fastest retrieval. Acceptable values are:
# -1 All rows in a query
# 0 The first rows in a query
# IFX_FOLDVIEW - Enables (1) or disables (0) folding views that have multiple tables or a UNION ALL clause.
# Disabled by default.
# AUTO_REPREPARE - Enables (1) or disables (0) automatically re-optimizing stored procedures and re-preparing prepared statements when tables that are referenced by them change. Minimizes the occurrence of the -710 error.

OPTCOMPIND 2
DIRECTIVES 1
EXT_DIRECTIVES 0
OPT_GOAL -1
IFX_FOLDVIEW 0
AUTO_REPREPARE 1
ONCONFIG - Dump Setup

# Diagnostic Dump Configuration Parameters

# DUMPDIR - The location Assertion Failure (AF) diagnostic files
# files
# DUMPSHMEM - Controls shared memory dumps. Acceptable values
# are:
# 0 Disabled
# 1 Dump all shared memory
# 2 Exclude the buffer pool from the dump
# DUMPGCORE - Enables (1) or disables (0) whether IDS dumps a
# core using gcore
# DUMPCORE - Enables (1) or disables (0) whether IDS dumps a
# core after an AF
# DUMPCNT - The maximum number of shared memory dumps or
# core files for a single session

DUMPDIR ${INFORMIXDIR}/tmp
DUMPSHMEM 1
DUMPGCORE 0
DUMPCORE 0
DUMPCNT 1
ONCONFIG - Alarm Program Setup

# Alarm Program Configuration Parameters

# ALARMPROGRAM - Specifies the alarm program to display event alarms. To enable automatic logical log backup, edit alarmprogram.sh and set BACKUPLOGS=Y.
# ALRM_ALL_EVENTS - Controls whether the alarm program runs for every event. Acceptable values are:
# 0 Logs only noteworthy events
# 1 Logs all events
# STORAGE_FULL_ALARM - <time interval in seconds>,<alarm severity>
# specifies in what interval:
# - a message will be printed to the online.log file
# - an alarm will be raised
# when
# - a dbspace becomes full
# (ISAM error -131)
# - a partition runs out of pages or extents
# (ISAM error -136)
# time interval = 0 : OFF
# severity = 0 : no alarm, only message
# SYSALARMPROGRAM - Specifies the system alarm program triggered when an AF occurs

Informix Best Practices

Advanced DataTools
Alarm Program Setup

ALARMPROGRAM $INFORMIXDIR/etc/log_full.sh
ALRM_ALL_EVENTS 1
STORAGE_FULL_ALARM 600,3
SYSALARMPROGRAM $INFORMIXDIR/etc/evidence.sh
Best Practices Summary
Next Webcast
Informix Best Practices

• Disks and Database Space Layout
  – Thursday, March 30, 2017 at 2:00pm EST
• Backup, Recovery, and High Availability Disaster Recovery
  – Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 2:00pm EST

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- Compare the Informix Version 12 editions by Carlton Doe, IBM

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  – Informix for Database Administrators
• July 10-13, 2017
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• September 18-21, 2017
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Informix Best Practices
Thank You

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