Caching Oracle Data for Performance: an eBay perspective

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Characteristics of Performance

- Latency
- Throughput
- Scalability
Why Cache Data?
Caching can enable:

- Lower Latency
- Higher Throughput
- Scalability
- Database Offload
- High Availability
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ResultSet Caching with a NoSQL DB
SQL Table Data Caching
Read Caching

Cache Consistency

- How do you do the initial cache load
- What about automatically refreshing the cache
  - Committed Inserts, Updates & Deletes
  - How often do you refresh the cache
- How do you un-load and re-load the cache
- Can or should you load missing data on demand
  - What about dependent data
- Is the cache data persistent
- Is the cache data highly available

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Write Caching

Cache Consistency
• How do you do the initial cache load
• What about automatically writing the data
  • Committed Inserts, Updates & Deletes
  • Sync or async writes
• How do you un-load and re-load the cache
• Can or should you load missing data on demand
  • What about dependent data
• Is the cache data persistent
• Is the cache data highly available
Metadata Driven Caching

- Should you use custom code or SQL DDL to define your caches?
Metadata Driven Caching

CREATE dynamic READONLY CACHE GROUP customers
  autorefresh mode incremental interval 1 millisecond
FROM foo.customer (  
cust_num NUMBER(12) NOT NULL,  
region VARCHAR2(10),  
dob DATE,  
PRIMARY KEY(cust_num)
);
Metadata Driven Caching

CREATE asynchronous WRITETHROUGH CACHE GROUP orders
FROM foo.order (
    ord_num NUMBER(12) NOT NULL,
    cust_num NUMBER(12) NOT NULL,
    description VARCHAR2(200),
    when_placed DATE,
    when_shipped DATE,
    PRIMARY KEY(cust_num)
);
What is TimesTen

- TimesTen is an In-Memory RDBMS
- It is very fast
- It supports SQL and PL/SQL
- It supports familiar SQL APIs
- It supports ACID transactions with persistent storage
- It runs on many platforms and in the Cloud
What is TimesTen

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TimesTen Cache Features

- Read + Write Caching
- SQL Table Caching (can join cache tables)
- Metadata Driven Caching
- Automatic Cache synchronization
- High Availability (replication + Active DataGuard)
TimesTen Deployment Options

- Standalone Database
- Replication (sync/async, active/standby)
- Scaleout (active/active)
Multi DC Deployment for DB nodes and Applications
50% Local calls with Avg Latency 3ms
50% Remote calls with Avg latency 12ms
180B calls/day workload across the DB family
CBC latch contention halting all operations causing business impact
Oracle overloading SAN with high IOPS

App/DB Architecture & Current Challenges
High Level System Diagram

- RDS (Relational Data Service) uses DAL (Data Access layer) Load Balancer and the RDS Data Source Redirect Feature to route SQL requests to the Oracle caching layer.
- A TimesTen Cluster for each User database will be deployed to each Data Center providing Application Users with local reads and low latency.
RDS Caching Layer - Data Center Diagram

- RDS Redirect Feature has been designed to fail back to using the primary Oracle data source if any exception/error occurs during a SQL read request.
- If a TimesTen data source cluster is marked-down the SQL redirect operation will be ignored and the request sent directly to Oracle.
  - If at least one TimesTen data source within the DAL load balancer is enabled all traffic will be routed to it until either all data sources are marked down or the down data sources are marked back up.
Oracle
TimesTen
Caching
Benefits

Reduces DB Hits
Avoids DB Read/Write Contentions
Reduces Sessions
Increases Speed (All Local Reads)
Current User Cache Capable of 140 B calls
No Cache invalidation pipeline
TimesTen Best Practices for eBay

- Enable huge page in linux ---- It can double the throughput and reduce server process memory usage
- Disable autocommit in jdbc driver ---- It can reduce number of network round trip and improve TimesTen stability
- Warm-up before enable traffic ---- load pre-defined user id info into cache, app can have 99.9%+ high cache hit ratio
- Place data file and log file into separate disk volume ---- avoid disk contention between CKPT and LGWR (by cache group refresh/dynamic read)
- Limit CKPT IO rate if only one volume ---- if LGWR IO is slow, it would delay cache group refresh and bring lock contention
- Reduce LRU aging activity ---- Aging would bring log buffer spike and CKPT blocks written spike. Choose LOWUSAGETHRESHOLD and HIGHUSAGETHRESHOLD based on IO capacity
- Enable CacheCommitDurable from TimesTen 11.2.2.8.33 -- improve to dynamic load performance by making autorefresh txns non-durable. The TT6003 errors at sys.cache_groups can be eliminated by this
- Different cache refresh interval for different cache group
- Monitor long transaction on Oracle base table, it's blocking writes on base tables for very short time when creating dynamic cache group
- 2k connections max-limit in 11.2. Looking forward to 18c
Future Steps

LOB caching
Improve latencies with caching heavy accessed LOBs

Write Thru Caching
Built a true fault-tolerant database layer

TimesTen Using Persistent Memory
Looking forward to TimesTen Scaleout