Verizon Wireless - Fraud

Jan Shook, Principal
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Verizon Wireless Fraud

- Mitigate roaming (esp. international) usage fraud
- Problem: Proverbial needle-in-the-haystack
- Profile Call Detail Records (Billing)
- Billions of records / day
- Tens of thousands of records / sec
- Volumes drive IT Capital and Operational Expense
Legacy Footprint

- Oracle (Sun) SPARC III / IV
- 3 refrigerator-sized machines
- 6,000+ pounds, 100,000+ watts
- At 100% capacity (24x7)
- Oracle 10g, ~30 TB storage

← Pete (our Unix Admin)
Current Footprint

- Oracle (Sun) T5240
- 2 RU, 40 lbs, 1 kW
- At 20% capacity
- TimesTen, ~200 GB

← Pete’s hand
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<th>Legacy / Vertical</th>
<th>Current / Horizontal</th>
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<td>Events drive design</td>
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<td>Database drives performance</td>
<td>Latency drives performance</td>
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<td>~30 TB storage</td>
<td>~200 GB storage</td>
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<td>~100 billion of rows</td>
<td>~700 million rows</td>
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<td>Oracle 11g, SAN, ETL</td>
<td>Oracle TimesTen, SSD, Real time</td>
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Focus on Throughput

- Pivot -> horizontal -> streaming -> throughput
- As throughput increases, latency must decrease
- Latency became a key design criterion
  - Application moved into a [soft] real time category
  - Problems: C++ operations failing at 180 to 200 us
  - Average op window < 100 us
Technology Stack

- Oracle (Sun) T-series processors
  - T1 (T2000), T2+ (T5240), … now T4 (T4-2)
  - 32 GB memory, then 256 GB, … now 512 GB
  - Direct attached storage, SAN, … now all flash

- Custom multithreaded, pipeline application
  - C/C++, ~400k LOC, ~52 stages (thread pools)
  - Memory maps (in-memory “database”)
Home-grown In-memory Solution

• Started with large memory maps (>50 GB)
• Success with fixed-size mmaps (Solaris is very efficient)
• Learned that growing the data set is very hard
  – Tried partitioning: Fixed + Variable
    • Large fixed partition (mmap) with binary search (no index)
    • Small variable partition with indexes, random I/O, SSDs, …
  – Worked for lower volumes, but failed at higher volumes
TimesTen In-memory Database

• Significant benefits
  – Persistence: Moves in-memory data to disk
  – Ops are within required tolerance (<100 us)
  – IMDB Cache: Replicating Oracle to TimesTen (vice versa)
  – OEM: Instrumentation

• Challenges
  – ODBC native interface
  – Transactional vs. throughput-oriented threading model
Throughput vs. Transactions

Oracle TimesTen

Oracle 11g

logs

data files
TimesTen Selects & Merges

~40k Selects / sec

~7k Merges / sec
Final Thoughts

- TimesTen does what it’s supposed to do
  - It’s a database: Application still responsible for design
- Design is critical: Threading, latency, replication
- We’re looking forward to HA and DR projects