Providing Continuous Application Availability using Oracle Application Continuity

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CME Group Overview

CME Group is the world’s leading and most diverse derivatives marketplace bringing together those who need to manage risk or those that want to profit by accepting it.

- Operating Multiple Exchanges – CME, CBOT, Nymex and COMEX
- Trade hundreds of products across the globe on a single platform
- Average daily volume of 15.6 million contracts
- CME Clearing – matches and settles all trades and guarantees the creditworthiness of every transaction
- Cleared more than 3.9 billion contracts with a value exceeding $1 quadrillion
- Highest Volume Day – 44.5 million contracts after the election
We work around the world, around the clock.

In 2016 - 24 percent of electronic volume from outside the US
Agenda

• History of Database High Availability At CME
  - Escalating Requirements
  - Maturing Database Architecture
  - Challenges

• Continuous Application Availability
  - Why we’re doing it
  - Unplanned outage
  - Planned outage
  - Technical

• Reducing Brownouts

• Test Results
HA First Iteration - Electronic Trading Grows

Requirements

- Harden DR environment
- Databases must be available
- Database must be scalable
- RPO/RTO – not well defined
- Application SLA not well defined
- Critical Apps on Main Frame
- Abundant downtime for maintenance

Solution

- Early Adopter of Linux – Replaces Sun Big Box
- Early Adopter of RAC
- Oracle RAC Various Sizes
- Replication VIA Various SAN Technology

Challenges

- Application restarts on db instance failures
- Database failover takes too long
- Transactions not scalable – DB proliferation
HA Continued – Distributed Computing

Requirements

- Critical DB’s – 10 second outage to SLA
- RPO – 30 seconds (Disaster Only)
- RTO – 4 hours (Disaster Only)
- Distributed Computing Over Mainframe
- Abundant downtime for maintenance

Solution

- Zero Brownout – Reduce node failure time
- ONS/FAN/FCF introduced
- RAC Compliance
- San Replication for DR

Challenges

- Still painful to code and test applications – Technical Debt
- Transactions loss dealt with at app level
- Distributed Computing grows – DB proliferation
- Datasets Grow causing batch processing to exceed SLA
HA Current - Electronic Trading Is Mature

Requirements

- RTO – <10 sec (OLTP)
- RPO – 30 seconds (Disaster Only)
- RTO – 2 hours (Disaster Only)
- Shrinking maintenance windows
- Component Failure Cannot cause DR Event
- 24X7 Planned Maintenance Capability

Solution

- Exadata – Addresses Performance Allows Consolidation
- Data Guard Replication – Active too
- Application Continuity – Planned/unplanned

Challenges

- Significant Investment
- Slow Adoption - Priority
CME Exadata HA Architecture

- Multiple Databases / Exadata
- Each Prod Database is replicated locally and remotely
  - BLUE Local (Fast Sync)
  - Gray – Async
- Dedicated Local DG Recipient
- Active DG in DR
- Multiple Complete Exadata Failures need to occur in order for DR event to happen
- Running over 100 apps and more that 200 services
Application Continuity

Why Bother
WHY CME IS ADOPTING APPLICATION CONTINUITY

• Database Outages cause in-flight work to be lost

• A Database Outage can effect many applications concurrently due to schema consolidation

• Critical Applications are becoming 24x7 – These are referential applications

• Database planned downtime on behalf of patching is exceedingly harder to schedule due to shrinking maintenance windows.

• Avoid dedicating maintenance windows to the database group

• Applications work together as a system. It can take several hours to start and normalize
# Failure Proofing Applications Is Hard

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<th>What’s Hard</th>
<th>What’s Today’s Solution</th>
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| Hanging on TCP/IP Timeouts – Application is not aware of an issue because there has been no ack for the last operation | • FAN – Fast Application Notification  
• FCF – Fast Connection Failover  
• ONS – Notification Services  
These features work together to overcome TCP hangs |
| Reconnecting to surviving nodes or standby database after failure         | Application Continuity automatically performs connection retries all configurable in the connection string |
| Assuring any in-flight transactions were committed to the database.       | Application Continuity features handle this transparently. Transactions are crosschecked and replayed safely |
| Confidence leaving applications live during planned Database Maintenance  | AC has proven to be resilient at CME.                                                   |
Normal Operation

- All OLTP services configured as 1 active, rest available
- Over 400 services across environment
- Over 100 applications
- Node capacity actively managed

- Most Application Servers “Lie in Wait”
- Critical Applications are connected in a RO mode
UNPLANNED OUTAGES

- Node 1 fails
- All services fail to available instance (2 illustrated)
- Application connections follow service location
UNPLANNED OUTAGES

- What if the whole Exadata Fails?
- At CME – this is not allowed to cause a DR event
UNPLANNED OUTAGES

- Catastrophic Data Center Failure
  - Uncontrolled network outage (All HA FAILS)
  - Physical Damage to building
  - EXA 1 and EXA 2 fail in same week

- Critical Apps Up for customer RO access
- Databases are converted – Apps convert to RW
- All apps started - < 2 hours
- All automated
Planned Maintenance

- Exadata Full Stack Patching takes 4 hours at best
- CME does not do rolling patches (duration too long)
- AC allows apps to stay up and undergo updates while patching happens.
Planned Maintenance

- DR is always patched first
- Applications in DR are taken offline
- Normal change window applies
- Application changes in PROD coincide with DR patching
Planned Maintenance

- Local Standby databases are patched after DR
- Patching the local standby database does not impact running application
- Patched during normal maintenance window
- Application changes and testing can continue

![Diagram of PROD and DR systems with applications and databases connected through standby and active DG connections.]
Planned Maintenance – Database As A Service

- AC compliant application stay running
- Non compliant applications are stopped and restarted (Transition period)
- A database switchover is performed
- An LDAP job modifies connection strings for non compliant apps

- Non compliant apps are restarted
- Changes and testing continue during maintenance window
- Process repeated for fail back
Application Continuity

Configuration
Set Service Attributes

- Set Service Attributes in both Primary and standby.
  - `srvctl modify service -d DBNAME -s SERVICE -failovertyped TRANSACTION -replay_init_time 1800 -failoverretry 60 -failoverdelay 3 -commit_outcome TRUE -retention 86400 -notification TRUE`

- Permissions are needed in order to retain mutable values (sequences) during replay
  - `GRANT KEEP DATE_TIME, KEEP SYS_GUID to <USER>;`

- For each sequence:
  - `Alter sequence <name> keep;`
  - `Grant keep sequences on <name> to <user>;`
Create or alter connection descriptors

AT CME Oracle LDAP is used so that the DBA staff can control application connection behavior

**TYPICAL APPLICATION CONNECTION STRING**

```
```

**LDAP Contents (example command)**

```
ldap.sh -a DCEPSAC "(DESCRIPTION=(CONNECT_TIMEOUT=240)(RETRY_COUNT=60)(RETRY_DELAY=3)(ADDRESS_LIST=(LOAD_BALANCE=ON)(ADDRESS=(PROTOCOL=TCP)(HOST=tddvdb0001d)(PORT=1521)))(ADDRESS_LIST=(LOAD_BALANCE=ON)(ADDRESS=(PROTOCOL=TCP)(HOST=tddvdb0002d)(PORT=1521)))(CONNECT_DATA=(SERVICE_NAME=DCEPSAC.WORLD)))"
```
(DESCRIPTION_LIST=
    (LOAD_BALANCE=OFF)
    (FAILOVER=ON)
    (DESCRIPTION=
        (CONNECT_TIMEOUT=90)(RETRY_COUNT=10)(RETRY_DELAY=3)
        (ADDRESS=(PROTOCOL=TCP)(HOST={primary_scan_vip})(PORT={primary_port}))
        (LOAD_BALANCE=yes)
        (CONNECT_DATA=(SERVER=DEDICATED)(SERVICE_NAME={service_name})))
  )

(DESCRIPTION=
    (CONNECT_TIMEOUT=90)(RETRY_COUNT=10)(RETRY_DELAY=3)
    (ADDRESS=(PROTOCOL=TCP)(HOST={standby_scan_vip})(PORT={standby_port}))
    (LOAD_BALANCE=yes)
    (CONNECT_DATA=(SERVER=DEDICATED)(SERVICE_NAME={service_name}))))
CLIENT SIDE CONFIGURATION

Apply Latest Patch

- Use Latest 12.1.0.2 ojdbc7, ons and ucp all matching jars
- Patch 22650072 - MERGE REQUEST ON TOP OF 12.1.0.2.0 includes the fix for the root cause with is Bug 21666072 - UCP connections not drained after DataGuard switchover
- Patch 19154304: JDBC: RETRY_COUNT DOES NOT RETRY WHEN SERVICE DOWN AS REQUIRED
import oracle.ucp.jdbc.PoolDataSource;
import oracle.ucp.jdbc.PoolDataSourceFactory;
...
DriverManager.registerDriver(new oracle.jdbc.OracleDriver());
final PoolDataSource pds = PoolDataSourceFactory.getPoolDataSource();
pds.setConnectionFactoryClassName("oracle.jdbc.replay.OracleDataSourceImpl");
pds.setUser(username);
pds.setPassword(password);
pds.setURL(dburl);
final String onsConfiguration = "node1:6200,node2:6200,...";
pds.setONSConfiguration(onsConfiguration);
pds.setFastConnectionFailoverEnabled(true);

final Properties properties = new Properties();
// set connection timeout
properties.setProperty(oracle.net.ns.SQLnetDef.TCP_CONNTIMEOUT_STR, "1000");
// set autocommit off
properties.setProperty(OracleConnection.CONNECTION_PROPERTY_AUTOCOMMIT, "false");
pds.setConnectionProperties(properties);
try (final Connection conn = pds.getConnection()) {
    conn.setAutoCommit(false);
    // DO WORK: Prepare Statements, Execute Queries, Execute Procs, etc
    conn.commit();
}
CLIENT SIDE CONFIGURATION

Spring Template Configuration

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>

<beans xmlns="http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans"
      xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
      xsi:schemaLocation="http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans
http://www.springframework.org/schema/beans/spring-beans-3.0.xsd">

<!-- Initialization for data source -->

<bean id="dataSource" class="oracle.ucp.jdbc.PoolDataSourceImpl">
  <property name="connectionFactoryClassName" value="oracle.jdbc.replay.OracleDataSourceImpl"/>
  <property name="URL" value="jdbc:oracle:thin:@ldap://ORAQALDAP:3060/ACTEST,cn=OracleContext,dc=world"/>
  <property name="user" value="TESTUSER"/>
  <property name="password" value="TESTPASSWORD"/>
  <property name="maxPoolSize" value="16"/>
  <property name="initialPoolSize" value="8"/>
  <property name="fastConnectionFailoverEnabled" value="true"/>
</bean>

<!-- Definition for EmpJDBCTemplate bean -->

<bean id="ACJDBCTemplate" class="com.cmegroup.dba.ac.spring.ACJDBCTemplate">
  <property name="dataSource" ref="dataSource"/>
</bean>
</beans>
```
public static void main(String[] args) throws Exception {
    ApplicationContext context = new FileSystemXmlApplicationContext(args[0]);
    final ACJDBCTemplate template = (ACJDBCTemplate) context.getBean("ACJDBCTemplate");
    ...
}

public void setDataSource(DataSource dataSource) {
    this.dataSource = dataSource;
    this.template = new JdbcTemplate(dataSource);
}

public void run() throws SQLException {
    template.execute("insert into ...");
}
LESSONS LEARNED

- Use latest jar versions with applied patches
- Set Auto commit Off.
- Return Connections to the Pool.
- Do not use Deprecated JDBC Classes.
- If a request has a call that should not be replayed, replay can be disabled.
- Reinitialize Connection using Callbacks for applications that set state outside database requests.
Reducing Brownout
NODE FAILURE AND RECOVERY PROCESS

**Detection**
- Cluster Resource polling
- Critical Resources
  - Interconnect
  - Disk
- Triggers I/O fencing – begins brownout
- Enhanced on Exadata

**Reconfiguration**
- Eviction started
- CRS
- Cluster Reconfiguration
- Services relocate – Active/Passive
- FAN/FCF notifies clients and interrupts processing

**Recovery**
- Instance reconfiguration
- Instance Recovery
- Ends brownout
# REDUCING THE BROWNOUT

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## DATAGUARD

| **SETTING** | **VALUE** | **NOTES** |
| Service Role | Primary | PRIMARY,PHYSICAL_STANDBY | Post switchover, standby services start up automatically |
| LogArchiveMaxProcesses | 4 | 6 | Initial for arch processes to run, faster recovery |
| ReopenSecs | 300 | 30 | Time before ARC process should retry access to failed dest |
| Max availability | SYNC | FASTSYNC | FastSync with Redo-routes |
CME TESTS FOR HA

• The testing described here happens whenever database software or hardware changes. It is in addition to application testing.

• A micro benchmark program written in Java was used for this testing.
  - Performs continuous DML across 3 tables – variable rates
  - Configurable multi threaded - scales
  - JDBC batching
  - Records / tracks database response time (latency)
  - AC compliant

• The following failure scenarios were tested
  - Instance Failure – A critical background process is killed at the O/S level
  - Node failure – A kernel break command is used to kill the node immediately (not graceful)
  - Node Reboot – Fast graceful shutdown is initiated at O/S
  - CPU/Memory Starvation – purposely cause an increase in system CPU until CSS/CRS stops responding
## CME BENCHMARK RESULTS

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<th>CME</th>
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<td>Instance Kill</td>
<td>.5ms</td>
<td>.5ms</td>
<td>Default settings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service bounce</td>
<td>5.228sec</td>
<td>5.228sec</td>
<td>Default settings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kernel Panic</td>
<td>19.4sec</td>
<td>15.1sec</td>
<td>CME- CSS Miscount=1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Node Reboot</td>
<td>16.353sec</td>
<td>07.427sec</td>
<td>CME- CSS Reboottime -1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memory overload</td>
<td>Average 1 sec delay per thread for 30sec</td>
<td>Average 1 sec delay per thread for 28sec</td>
<td>Ramp up Memory consumption till Crash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dataguard SwitchOver</td>
<td>2:21mins</td>
<td>41secs</td>
<td>Planned Maintenance</td>
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