
Subject: Re: Speeding Up Oracle DataBase Access with IDL DataMiner
Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Mon, 22 Aug 2005 20:24:30 GMT

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- > 2) How might I go about speeding up the DataMiner querying
- > process? I've read in some papers, that tuning your database
- > driver is a possible solution. But I've not found any references
- > to the setup that I'm using. I'm using the Merant 3.70 32-BIT
- > Oracle8 driver, to access an Oracle 9i database on a Solaris SunOS
- > 5.8. Admittedly, I don't know much about drivers, but does anyone
- > have any experience optimizing the performance of the Merant 3.70
- > drivers? Or do you know how I might get about tuning them, or
- > where I might get a newer compatible driver that is faster? Or
- > would you recommend using the MS drivers instead?

I don't think the driver is the problem. I'd bet that this most likely an Oracle tuning problem. Tuning a database, especially Oracle, is very much an art and you often have to really study what's making it slow. While I don't think the driver has much to do with it, it'd be good to upgrade the driver to one that supports 9i. Take a look at <http://www.orafaq.com/faqdbapf.htm> for some general info about tuning and for specific questions, <http://asktom.oracle.com> is the best resource out there. Good luck!

-Mike

Subject: Re: Speeding Up Oracle DataBase Access with IDL DataMiner
Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Mon, 22 Aug 2005 20:44:32 GMT

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Michael Wallace wrote:

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- >

I second Mike's suggestion. I would also try to narrow down the bottleneck. Can you build your query in SQL and use another tool to execute it?

I would install the appropriate Oracle client on your machine (you can at the same time install Oracle's ODBC drivers), execute that query using SQLplus, and look at execution time. You may find that your query takes just as long in which case you need to either re-think your query or look at tuning your db. Or, you may find that your query executes much faster in which case you need to look at either how you are performing the query in dataminer or mucking around with ODBC drivers.

If you want/need to go as far as db/sql tuning, you'll need to look into more heavy duty tools. I like and use TOAD by Quest software and I'm sure there are many others.

-Rick

Subject: Re: Speeding Up Oracle DataBase Access with IDL DataMiner
Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Mon, 22 Aug 2005 20:54:40 GMT
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If you don't already have the client software, go download it now. You can get a lot of details through the Oracle Enterprise Manager and SQL*Plus. Your problem could be as simple as not having a key on the columns your searching or not having analyzed your tables in a while (both will lead to full table scans). If you fire off a typical query in SQL*Plus, you can then watch it in the enterprise manager and see if it's doing. That's probably the first step to figuring this out.

-Mike

Subject: Re: Speeding Up Oracle DataBase Access with IDL DataMiner
Posted by [Randall Skelton](#) on Mon, 22 Aug 2005 22:03:59 GMT
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Hi Chris,

So I use neither the Dataminer nor Oracle but access a large (multi-terabyte) PostgreSQL database with IDL all the time.

Is this a case of the query your doing simply taking a long time to execute (i.e. on the server) or a case of the volume of data being returned is very, very large? If you execute the SQL query outside of IDL with 'explain plan query', what do you get? Some quick tutorials are at,

<http://www.adp-gmbh.ch/ora/explainplan.html>

http://www.evolt.org/article/Use_Oracle_s_Explain_Plan_to_Tune_Your_Queries/17/2986/

<http://www.oracle-base.com/articles/8i/ExplainPlanUsage.php>

and there are plenty of others on the web. This will give you an idea of how long the query itself is taking to execute on the backend server. If it is taking too long, you'll need to look at optimizing the query by adding indexes or clever SQLisms. If it is a data volume issue, then you may need to restrict yourself to subset of your data to avoid excessive network bandwidth and/or memory swapping.

The inability to use IDL during your query is typical 'blocking' behaviour. I don't believe that the dataminer supports non-blocking communication with the backend SQL server.

Good luck,
Randall
