A DB2 That Manages Itself?

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The Idea

Wouldn't it be great if your Database (and entire system!) were as easy to maintain and as self-controlled as your refrigerator?
Agenda

- Introduction & Motivation
- DB2 Autonomic Computing Project
- Existing DB2 Autonomic Features
  - Index Advisor
  - Configuration Advisor
  - Health Advisor
- New in “Stinger”
  - Design Advisor
  - Automated Statistics Collection
- Ad. Tech. & Research Projects
  - Progressive Optimization
- Conclusions

DB2 Autonomic Computing

Goal -- Make DB2 Autonomic

The Project:
- Multi-Platform (Linux, Unix, Windows, mainframe)
- Multi-Division (Research, Development)
- Multi-Site (Toronto, Almaden, Silicon Valley, Watson)
- Part of IBM’s company-wide “Autonomic Computing” initiative

Leaders:
- Toronto Lab: Sam Lightstone, Randy Horman, Mark Wilding
- SVL: Jim Teng (z/OS), Bryan Smith (tools)
- Research: Guy Lohman (ARC), Joe Hellerstein (Watson)

History:
- Index Advisor prototyped in 1998
- Project formed in early 2000
  - Previously called Self-Managing And Resource Tuning (SMART)
- IBM-wide Autonomic Computing initiative
- Evolutionary: Multi-Release Rollout

Refn: SMART: Making DB2 (More) Autonomic, VLDB 2002
An Autonomic DB2: What's our Focus?

- Up and Running
  - pre-purchase capacity planning tools
  - automate install and initial configuration
- Design
  - advise on logical and physical design
- Maintenance
  - automatic tuning for queries, resources
  - physical maintenance (statistics collection, reorganization, ...)
- Problem Determination and Resolution
  - detecting existing, and predicting future
  - user notification
  - self-correcting features
- Availability and Disaster Recovery
  - availability
  - backup and log management

Approach

- LOTS of ideas & prototypes underway!
- Leverage existing infrastructure in DB2
  - Optimizer's detailed model of run-time environment
  - Monitoring tools
  - Workload captured for DB2 Index Advisor
  - DB2 Control Center GUIs, Data Management Tools
- Exploit IBM's strength in software research
- Get something out there, & improve it over time!
  - Where the need is greatest
  - Where we have ideas/skills
- Earn the DBA's trust
  - Create tools that speed/simplify/improve DBA's job
  - "Free the DBA!" -- DBA retains ultimate decision power
  - Longer-term goal is complete automation
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Index Selection: The Problem

- Huge number of possible indexes
  - Dependent upon workload (queries) anticipated
  - For each query, user has to trade off:
    - Benefits:
      - Apply predicates efficiently (save reading entire table)
      - Provide a row ordering needed by query for certain operations
      - Index-only access (avoid fetching data pages)
      - Enforce uniqueness (e.g., primary keys)
    - Costs:
      - Storage space
      - Updating
      - More plans for the optimizer to evaluate
- Time-consuming trial & error process to choose the best set of indexes
  1. Create index (system sorts entire table on key of the index)
  2. Collect statistics on it (system scans entire table AND all indexes)
  3. Re-optimize all queries in all apps that might benefit
  4. See if
    1. Index was used
    2. Performance improves
  5. Iterate!
Solution(1): DB2 Index Advisor (V6, 1999)

SQL Workload

DB2 Optimizer

Exploits Optimizer to:
- Suggest good candidates, per query
- Evaluate combinations, for entire workload

Indexes Designed by DB2 for Your Environment & Workload

Constraints on resources
- Disk Space Allowed
- Time/Complexity

Index Advisor (DB2 V6) – The Math

- Variant of well-known "Knapsack" Problem
- Greedy "bang-for-buck" solution is optimal, when integrality of objects (indexes) is relaxed

For each query Q:
- Baseline: Explain each query w/ existing indexes, to get cost E(Q)
- Unconstrained: Explain each query in RECOMMEND INDEXES mode, to get cost U(Q)
- Improvement ("benefit") B(Q) = E(Q) - U(Q)

For each index I used by one or more queries:
- If query Q used index I, assign "benefit" B(Q) to index I:
  B(I) = B(I) + B(Q)
- Assign "cost" C(I) = size of index in bytes
- Order indexes by decreasing B(I) / C(I) ("bang for buck")
- Cut off where cumulative C(I) exceeds disk budget

Iterative improvement: exchange handfuls of "winners" with "losers"

Configuration Parameters

- **The Problem:**
  - Almost 150 configuration parameters in DB2 UDB
  - Users didn’t know:
    - How to choose the right values
    - Possible interactions between them
  - Had to stop and restart DB2 to have them go into effect
    - Bad for availability, too!

- **Solution(1):**
  - Make many configuration parameters dynamic!
  - No need to stop and restart DB2 to change them
  - Not easy to implement, e.g. shrinking buffer pool
  - Prerequisite to automatically tuning them

Solution(2): Configuration Advisor (V8.1, 2002)

- **What is it?**
  - Sets ~36 configuration parameters key to performance, including:
    - Memory heaps (buffer pool, sort heap, statement cache)
    - Connections (max and average, remote/local)
  - Based upon answers to 7 high-level questions
  - Equations from performance experts relate parameters

- **Enhanced in V8.1:**
  - Available in V7 as “Performance Configuration Wizard”
  - More sophisticated model in V8.1
  - Easier to invoke via:
    - CREATE DATABASE command extension
    - AUTOCONFIGURE command
  - Better decisions for OLTP and DSS workloads
  - Surprising benchmark results
    - (well-known, industry-standard OLTP workload)
Configuration Advisor: The Questions

- Percentage of Real Memory to dedicate to DBMS
- OLTP vs. Complex query vs. Mixed
- Length of Transaction (typical # of SQL queries per transaction)
- Relative priority of Recovery vs. Query speed
- Number of Local and Remote Connections
- Whether the database is populated or not
- Isolation Level

DB2 Configuration Advisor vs. Human Experts

- Speeds deployment
- Improves performance
- Frees up resource
Health Monitoring

- The Problem:
  - How do you know if DB2 is running okay, performing well?
  - What do you do if you do manage to figure out it's "unhealthy"?
  - Too difficult to determine what to monitor and when to monitor it
  - Need to set up monitors, notification & resolution mechanisms

- The Solution: Health Center
  - DB2 monitors its own health right out of the box
  - Notifies user upon encountering unhealthy conditions
  - Advises on severity of condition, and suggests resolutions
  - Initiates corrective action if required, requested
  - Easy installation: just provide an e-mail or pager address
  - User can modify thresholds for notification

Solution: Health Center (V8.1)

```
(horman@healthy) /home/horman $ db2 get health snapshot for DBM
Database Manager Health Snapshot
Node type                                      = Database Server with local clients
Instance name                                  = horman
Snapshot timestamp                             = 03-27-2002 13:24:51.799180
Database Manager Health Indicators:
  Health Indicator ID                        = 2 (db2.sort_privmem_util)
  Value                                   = 86
  Alert state                             = warning
```
Health Monitor and Health Center

- Alerts sent by Health Monitor to Contacts on Contacts List
- Details in Notification Log can be viewed via Health Center, Web Health Center, CLP, or API

Health Center: "Drilling Down"

- If you need to do some digging/investigation before choosing an appropriate action, Health Center launches tools in context

- Use Memory Visualizer to consider "competitors" of a constrained resource
- Other investigative actions include:
  - Storage Management
  - Indoubt Transaction Manager
  - Event Monitor

NOTE: for many corrective actions, DB/DBM cfg parms can be dynamically updated!!!
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Design Advisor (“Stinger”)

- An extension of existing Index Advisor (V6)
- Headquarters for all physical database design
- Recommends any combination of:
  - Indexes
  - Materialized Views (Materialized Query Tables (MQTs))
    - Called Automatic Summary Tables (ASTs) before V8.1
  - Partitioning of tables (in partitioned environment)
  - Multi-Dimensional Clustering (MDC) storage method (New in V8.1)
- Takes interactions of these into consideration
- Status:
  - Coming soon (“Stinger”)
  - Beta testing on customer databases now!

REFNS:
- “DB2 Design Advisor: Integrated Automatic Physical Database Design”, VLDB 2004
- “Recommending Materialized Views and Indexes with IBM’s DB2 Design Advisor”, IEEE Intl. Conf. on Autonomic Computing (ICAC 2004)
Multi-Dimensional Clustering (MDC) – V8.1

Cells are the portion of the table containing data having a unique set of dimension values; the intersection formed by taking a slice from each dimension. Blocks are the storage units that compose each cell.

Design Advisor Architecture (MQTs only)

db2advis utility
- Get Workload
- Get Candidate MQTs
- Determine Stats (optionally sample)
- Choose Solution
- Evaluate Solution

Workload

"RECOMMEND" mode

Candidate MQTs

Costs of Queries

"EVALUATE" mode

DB2 Server

Optimizer
Design Advisor: Partition Advisor

Scope:
- DB2 "partitioned environment" (was called EEE prior to V8.1)
- "Shared-nothing" parallelism
- Data stored horizontally partitioned
  - In a partition group, spread across specified partitions
  - Based upon hashing of partitioning column(s)
  - May be replicated across all partitions of partition group
- Need to co-locate similar values for joins, aggregation in queries
- Partitioning required for a given table may be different
  - Between queries
  - Even within a query (joined on different columns!)

Problem: What is optimal partitioning for each table, given:
- Workload of queries
- Schema, including set of partition groups & tablespaces
- Statistics on database


Performance Improvement on Customer Database (Partitioning only)

- 50 queries and 500 possible configurations
- Rank_best algorithm converges the fastest, 22% speedup
Automating Statistics Collection:

Problem:
- Optimizer requires that statistics on database be
  - Up to date (after updates)
  - Complete (multi-column)
- User must invoke RUNSTATS

Solution: Automate RUNSTATS
- Invocation scheduled and prioritized
- Run silently as a background daemon
  - Throttled based upon workload
- LEO the LEarning Optimizer determines which statistics needed
  - Based upon learning from past queries
  - Groups of columns
  - Enables correlation detection
  - Communicated to RUNSTATS via statistical “profiles”

Shipping in DB2 “Stinger”

Refn: "Automated Statistics Collection in DB2 Stinger", VLDB 2004

Automating Statistics Collection:

LEO the LEarning Optimizer Determines Statistics Profiles

I can't believe I did that!

Refn: "LEO -- DB2's LEarning Optimizer", Intl. Conf. on
Very Large Data Bases 2001 (Rome, Sept. 2001)
**LEO Motivation**

- Cost depends heavily on number of rows processed (cardinality)
- Optimizer's model limited by simplifying assumptions
  - Especially due to statistical correlation between columns
  - EXAMPLE: WHERE Make = 'Honda' AND Model = 'Accord'
  - Impossible to know a priori which columns are correlated!
- Why not use actual results from executed queries to
  - Validate statistics and assumptions
  - Advise when/how to run expensive statistics collection
  - Gather statistics that reflect the workload
  - Repair the model for optimizing "similar" future queries
- Could achieve automatically
  - Better quality plans
  - Reduced customer tuning & administration time
  - Reduced IBM support time
- Part of Automated RUNSTATS in “Stinger”

**Query Optimization -- Today**

Diagram showing the flow from SQL Compilation to Plan Execution with Statistics and Optimizer as key components.
EXPLAIN gives Optimizer's Estimates

1. Monitor

New: Capture Actual Number of Rows!

1. Monitor
1. Monitor

2. Analyze

3. Feedback

Augment Statistics with Adjustments
Exploit: Learning in Query Optimization!

SQL Compilation

Optimizer

Best Plan

Plan Execution

Estimated Cardinalities

Actual Cardinalities

Statistics

Adjustments

1. Monitor

2. Analyze

3. Feedback

4. Exploit

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Progressive Optimization (POP)

- CHECKpoints for cardinality estimates at TEMP tables
  - Pre-computed validity range for this plan
- When check fails,
  - Treat partial results as MQTs
  - Replace estimated cardinality with actual for the MQTs
  - Re-optimize the currently running query
- Reuse results from partial execution

Refn: “Robust Query Processing through Progressive Optimization”, ACM SIGMOD 2004

Conclusions & Future Directions

- Autonomic features of DB2:
  - Key to lowering Total Cost of Ownership
  - A major DB2 differentiator
  - Now in DB2 are the "tip of the iceberg"!
  - Many more on the way in technology stream from
    - Development
    - Research
    - Universities
  - Rollout prioritized by Customers ("Free the DBAs!")
  - Beginning to integrate IBM components autonomically
  - Ultimate goal is complete automation!
Autonomic computing systems are self-managing and always available, analogous to the human autonomic nervous system depicted abstractly on the cover. Papers in this issue describe a variety of research projects in which the concepts of autonomic computing are being developed.

http://www.ibm.com/autonomic

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