Oracle Data Guard for High Availability and Disaster Recovery

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Agenda

- Data Guard Overview
- Data Guard 10g New Features
- Data Guard Configuration
- Automatic Gap Detection and Resolution
- Redo Shipping with LGWR
- Data Protection Modes
- Managing Data Guard
- Monitoring Data Guard
- High Availability and Disaster Recovery

Data Guard Overview

- Data Guard Configurations
 - Primary Database
 - Standby Databases
- Data Guard Services
 - Log Transport
 - Log Apply
 - Role Management
- Data Protection Modes
- Data Guard Broker

Data Guard Overview

Data Guard Configuration



Data Guard Overview

Data Guard Configuration: Physical Standby Database



Data Guard Features

- Automatic log shipping
- Automatic redo gap detection and resolution
- Redo shipping using LGWR
- Data protection modes
- Role transition management
 - Failover and Switchover

Data Guard 10g New Features

- Real Time Apply
- Flashback Database Integration
 - Flashback standby after OPEN RESETLOGS on primary, and remove the need to recreate standby.
 - Flashback failed primary after failover and convert it to a standby.
- New Default Behavior for the STARTUP, MOUNT, and OPEN Statements on Physical Standby
- RAC Integration
- Simplified Browser-based Interface Focused on Best Practices

Data Guard 10g New Features



Primary: No reinstantiation after failover!

Data Guard Configuration

- Creating a physical standby database
 - Tasks on primary
 - Tasks on standby

Data Guard Configuration – Tasks on Primary

- Enable archiving:
 - Database in ARCHIVELOG mode
 - Set local archive destination: LOG_ARCHIVE_DEST_1
 - Enable automatic archiving:

log_archive_start = true

or alter system archive log start;

Data Guard Configuration – Tasks on Primary

- Backup primary database
- Create standby controlfile, for example,

alter database create standby controlfile as 'TEST1_stdby.ctl';

• Prepare init file:

log_archive_start = true log_archive_dest_1 = 'LOCATION=<arch_directory> MANDATORY REOPEN=30' log_archive_dest_state_1=enable log_archive_format = "log_%s_%t.arc"

remote_archive_enable=true log_archive_dest_2 = 'service=<standby_tns> reopen=30' log_archive_dest_state_2=enable

- Add standby_tns to tnsnames.ora
- Copy primary database backup and standby controlfile to standby
- Start up listener

Data Guard Configuration – Tasks on Standby

- Set environment for standby database
 - ORACLE_SID for standby does not have to be the same as primary
- Create data file and admin directories:
 - /oradata/<db_name> \$ORACLE_BASE/admin/<db_name>/udump, bdump, cdump, arch

• Prepare init file:

log_archive_start = true log_archive_dest_1 = 'LOCATION=<arch_directory> MANDATORY REOPEN=30' log_archive_dest_state_1=enable log_archive_format = "log_%s_%t.arc" remote_archive_enable=true

Standby role parameters
standby_archive_dest=<standby_arch_dir>
standby_file_management=auto
fal_server=<primary_tns>
fal_client=<standby_tns>

Data Guard Configuration – Tasks on Standby

- Add TNS entries primary_tns and standby_tns to tnsnames.ora
- Restore database backup:
 - Restore database files
 - Restore archive logs
 - Copy standby controlfile to directories as specified in init file
- Startup and mount standby database:
 - startup nomount
 - alter database mount standby database;
- Recover managed standby database:
 - alter database recover managed standby database disconnect from session;

Data Guard Configuration – Tasks on Standby

- Open database in read only mode:
 - alter database recover managed standby database cancel; alter database open read only;
- Add temp file to locally managed temporary tablespace: alter tablespace temp add tempfile 'file_name' size <nnn> reuse;
- Switch back to managed recover mode:
 - alter database recover managed standby database disconnect from session;
- Startup standby listener
- Standby is created and receiving / applying logs

Data Guard Configuration – Verify Standby

- Check log shipping:
 - Run this query on primary and standby:
 - select sequence# from v\$archived_log order by 1;
 - Do a log switch from primary, run the query again, the log should be shipped to standby automatically
- Check log apply:
 - Put standby in managed recover mode.
 - Run query to get last applied log: select SEQUENCE#, APPLIED from v\$archived_log order by 1;
 - Do a log switch from primary, new archived logs should be applied.
- Check database changes are synced:
 - Make some changes on primary and do a log switch
 - Make sure last archived log is shipped and applied on standby
 - Open standby in read only, and verify the changes.

Automatic Gap Detection and Resolution

• Automatic Gap Resolution

- ARCH (primary) sends log to standby
- RFS (remote file server process on standby) receives the redo and detects gap
- ARCH sends missing logs as requested by RFS
- Starting 9.2.x, ARCH on primary polls standby every minute to see if any gap and sends missing logs

• Gap Resolution by Fetch Archive Log (FAL)

- Managed recover process (MRP) applies log on standby.
- If MRP finds missing or corrupted logs, it asks primary to fetch archive log (FAL).
- Two parameters are needed for FAL to work
 - fal_server=<primary_tns>
 - fal_client=<standby_tns>

Automatic Gap Detection and Resolution



Redo Shipping with LGWR

• Redo data can be transmitted to standby by

- ARCH process or
- LGWR (log writer) Oracle Data Guard feature. Redo log is shipped directly to standby as it is being written to local online redo log.
- Redo shipping with LGWR
 - SYNC
 - Zero data loss
 - Performance impact
 - ASYNC
 - Minimum data loss
 - Little performance impact

Redo Shipping with LGWR



Redo Shipping with LGWR

• Redo shipping with LGWR:

 Create standby redo logs on standby. Create same number of standby redo logs as primary's:

alter database add standby LOGFILE

('/oradata/TEST1/s_redo_01a.log',

'/oradata/TEST1/s_redo_01b.log')

) SIZE 100M, ...;

Configure primary parameter

log_archive_dest_2 = 'service=<standby_tns> LGWR SYNC|ASYNC reopen=30'

Data Protection Modes

- Maximum protection
 - Redo transmission: LGWR SYNC
 - Zero data loss. Transaction will not commit until redo is written to standby
 - Primary will shutdown if it can not write redo to a standby
 - Impact on the performance and availability of the primary database.
- Maximum availability
 - Redo transmission: LGWR SYNC
 - Zero data loss. Transaction will not commit until redo is written to standby
 - Primary will NOT shutdown if it can not write redo to standby (Lower to maximum performance mode).
 - Impact on the performance, but not on availability of primary database

Data Protection Modes

- Maximum performance
 - Default mode
 - Redo transmission: LGWR ASYNC or ARCH (default)
 - Transaction will not wait to commit until redo is written to standby.
 - Minimum data loss, little impact on the performance and no impact on availability of the primary database.
 - Data loss exposure is limited by the size of the configurable ASYNC buffer

LGWR ASYNC=<buffer size>

Maximum buffer size: 10MB (9i), 50MB (10g)

• Set database protection mode:

ALTER DATABASE SET STANDBY DATABASE TO MAXIMIZE {PROTECTION | AVAILABILITY | PERFORMANCE}

- Startup and shutdown standby database
- Recover managed standby database
- Open in read only mode
- Create primary backup from standby
- Recover when standby data files are corrupted.
- Resolve log gaps
- Manage database files
- Switchover
- Failover

Manage database files

- standby_file_management=auto
- New datafiles created on the primary database are automatically created on the standby
- Renaming datafiles in the primary database is not propagated to the standby database. Need to rename the same datafiles on the standby.

Graceful switchover – planned maintenance, DR test

- Prepare switchover
 - Edit / verify init.ora on primary and standby to support role transition
 - Verify that there are no active users connected to either database.
 - Do a log switch on primary. Recover standby until the last archived log applied
- Convert primary database to new standby (perform this on primary)
 - alter database commit to switchover to physical standby with session shutdown;
 - Shutdown immediate
 - edit parameters in init.ora for standby role
 - startup nomount and mount new standby

Graceful switchover

- Convert standby database to new primary (perform this on standby)
 - alter database commit to switchover to primary;
 - shutdown immediate
 - Edit parameters in init.ora for primary role
 - startup

Failover

• Finish recovery of standby database

LGWR log shipping:

alter database recover managed standby database finish;

ARCH log shipping

alter database recover managed standby database finish skip standby logfile;

• Convert the standby database to the primary role

alter database commit to switchover to primary;

- Shutdown immediate
- Edit init.ora for primary role
- Startup

Monitoring Data Guard

- Alert log
- V\$ views

Monitoring Data Guard

- Primary and standby instances
- Primary and standby listeners
- Standby mode
 - not mounted
 - mounted
 - read only
 - managed recovery

Monitoring Data Guard

Redo shipping

- Alert log or v\$dataguard_status
- v\$ managed_standby (standby) or v\$archive_dest (primary)
- Standby processes: v\$managed_standby
 - ARC0
 - MRP/MRP0
 - RFS
- Archive log latency
 - v\$archived_log (primary, standby)
- Archive log gap
 - v\$archived_log (primary or standby), v\$archive_gap (standby)
- Apply log latency
 - v\$log_history, v\$archived_log (standby, primary)



High Availability

Server Cluster – Active / Inactive

- Protect from machine or instance failure
- Some down time to failover if primary fails.
- Not protect from storage failure or disasters



High Availability

Real Application Cluster

- Protect from machine or instance failure
- No down time if a cluster node or an instance fails.
- Not protect from storage failure or disasters



Replications:

- Protect from machine and storage failure or disasters
- Database changes on both sites, hot-hot configuration
- Issues with DBA maintenance cost and a small window of down time and data loss



Data Guard

- Protect from machine and storage failure or disasters
- Protect data loss
- Easy to setup and maintain
- Some down time to failover if primary fails.



Data Guard

• Data Guard can be used for HA and disaster recovery



Maximum Availability Architecture (MAA): combined RAC and Data Guard



Summary

- Automatic gap detection and resolution
- Redo shipping with LGWR
- Data protection modes
- High availability
- Disaster recovery
- Simple management
- Efficient use of system resource

