# Informix Best Practices Configuration, ONCONFIG, Part II

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Advanced DataTools

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#### Overview

- ONCONFIG Recommendations and Best Practices
- Basic Settings
- Auto Tune
- CPU Settings in ONCONFIG
- Memory Settings in ONCONFIG
- Disk Settings in ONCONFIG
- Network Settings
- User Settings

# Informix ONCONFIG File Recommendations and Best Practices

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ROOTPATH	/PATH/rootdbs
ROOTSIZE	400000
MSGPATH	/PATH/trainX_online.log
CONSOLE	/PATH/trainX_console.log
TAPEDEV	/dev/null
LTAPEDEV	/dev/null
SERVERNUM	<your goes="" here="" number="" server=""></your>
DBSERVERNAME	<informix name="" server=""></informix>
DBSERVERALIASES	<informix alias="" name="" server=""></informix>
NETTYPE	ipcshm,1,50,CPU
NETTYPE	soctep,1,50,NET

- ROOTPATH full path location to your rootdbs
  - ROOTPATH /informixchunks/train1/rootdbs
- ROOTSIZE Size of your rootdbs in KB
  - ROOTSIZE 2000000
- File must be owned by Informix and belong to the Informix group
- File Permissions must be read/write by user and group Informix only

- MSGPATH Full path to the location of the Informx Message log file
  - MSGPATH \$INFORMIXDIR/train1\_online.log
- CONSOLE Full path to the location of the Informx Console log file
  - CONSOLE \$INFORMIXDIR/train1\_console.log

- Set Ontape Backups to a directory
  - TAPEDEV /home/informix/backups/servername/archive
  - LTAPEDEV /home/informix/backups/servername/logs
- Directory must be owned by Informix and belong to the Informix group
- Permissions must be read/write by user and group Informix only

- SERVERNUM Must be a unique number for each instance on a machine
- DBSERVERNAME the Server Name
  - The connections INFORMIXSERVER
- DBSERVERALIAS the Server Alias
   Name for other (Network Connections)
  - The connections INFORMIXSERVER

 NETTYPE – The Network settings for your Server

### **Disk Space Configuration**

- Root DBspace
- Physical Log DBspace
- Logical Logs Dbspace
- Temp Dbspace
- Data Dbspace
- Index DBspace

### **ONCONFIG Setting**

 The following is a review on critical ONCONFIG Settings

#### Rootdbs

```
# Root Dbspace Configuration Parameters
# ROOTNAME
           - The root dbspace name to contain reserved pages and
             internal tracking tables.
# ROOTPATH
            - The path for the device containing the root dbspace
# ROOTOFFSET - The offset, in KB, of the root dbspace into the
             device. The offset is required for some raw devices.
# ROOTSIZE
           - The size of the root dbspace, in KB. The value of
             200000 allows for a default user space of about
             100 MB and the default system space requirements.
# MIRROR
            - Enable (1) or disable (0) mirroring
# MIRRORPATH - The path for the device containing the mirrored
              root dbspace
# MIRROROFFSET - The offset, in KB, into the mirrored device
# Warning: Always verify ROOTPATH before performing
        disk initialization (oninit -i or -iy) to
         avoid disk corruption of another instance
ROOTNAME rootdbs
ROOTPATH /Users/informix/informixchunks/benchmark6/rootdbs
ROOTOFFSET 0
ROOTSIZE 4000000
MIRROR 0
MIRRORPATH
MIRROROFFSET 0
```

### Physical and Logical Logs

```
♠ lester — vim — 80×30
# Physical Log Configuration Parameters
# PHYSFILE
               - The size, in KB, of the physical log on disk.
                If RTO_SERVER_RESTART is enabled, the
                suggested formula for the size of PHSYFILE
                (up to about 1 GB) is:
                   PHYSFILE = Size of BUFFERS * 1.1
# PLOG_OVERFLOW_PATH - The directory for extra physical log files
                if the physical log overflows during recovery
                or long transaction rollback
               - The size of the physical log buffer, in KB
PHYSFILE
           5000000
PLOG OVERFLOW PATH $INFORMIXDIR/tmp
PHYSBUFF 128
# Logical Log Configuration Parameters
# LOGFILES
           - The number of logical log files
# LOGSIZE
          - The size of each logical log, in KB
# DYNAMIC LOGS - The type of dynamic log allocation.
            Acceptable values are:
            2 Automatic. The server adds a new logical log to the
              root dbspace when necessary.
            1 Manual. The server notifies the DBA to add new logical
              logs when necessary.
```

### **Long Transactions**

```
# Long Transaction Configuration Parameters
# If The server cannot roll back a long transaction, the server hangs
# until more disk space is available.
# LTXHWM
             - The percentage of the logical logs that can be
               filled before a transaction is determined to be a
               long transaction and is rolled back
# LTXEHWM
             - The percentage of the logical logs that have been
               filled before the server suspends all other
               transactions so that the long transaction being
               rolled back has exclusive use of the logs
# When dynamic logging is on, you can set higher values for
# LTXHWM and LTXEHWM because the server can add new logical logs
# during long transaction rollback. Set lower values to limit the
# number of new logical logs added.
# If dynamic logging is off, set LTXHWM and LTXEHWM to
# lower values, such as 50 and 60 or lower, to prevent long
# transaction rollback from hanging the server due to lack of
# logical log space.
# When using Enterprise Replication, set LTXEHWM to at least 30%
# higher than LTXHWM to minimize log overruns.
LTXHWM 50
LTXEHWM 60
```

### Temp DBSpace

```
♠ lester — vim — 80×30
# Temporary dbspace and sbspace Configuration Parameters
# DBSPACETEMP - The list of dbspaces used to store temporary
            tables and other objects. Specify a colon
            separated list of dbspaces that exist when the
            server is started. If no dbspaces are specified,
            or if all specified dbspaces are not valid,
            temporary files are created in the /tmp directory
            instead.
 SBSPACETEMP - The list of sbspaces used to store temporary
            tables for smart large objects. If no sbspace
            is specified, temporary files are created in
            a standard sbspace.
DBSPACETEMP
            tmp1dbs:tmp2dbs:tmp3dbs:tmp4dbs
SBSPACETEMP
# Dbspace and sbspace Configuration Parameters
- The default sbspace name where smart large objects
              are stored if no sbspace is specified during
              smart large object creation. Some DataBlade
              modules store smart large objects in this
              location.
 SYSSBSPACENAME - The default sbspace for system statistics
              collection. Otherwise, the server stores statistics
```

## System Configration – Server Names

```
# System Configuration Parameters
# SERVERNUM
            - The unique ID for the the server instance. Acceptable
              values are 0 through 255, inclusive.
# DBSERVERNAME - The name of the default database server
# DBSERVERALIASES - The list of up to 32 alternative dbservernames,
              separated by commas
# FULL_DISK_INIT - Specifies if oninit -i can run:
              0 allows full disk initialization only if no
               instance is detected at the rootchunk location.
               For oninit -ie allows full disk initialization
               only if no existing encryption key database or
               stashfile are found.
              1 required if an existing instance is detected at
               the rootchunk location. For oninit -ie,
               required if an existing encryption key database
               or stashfile is found.
SERVERNUM 1
DBSERVERNAME benchmark6
DBSERVERALIASES benchmark6tcp
FULL DISK INIT 0
# Network Configuration Parameters
```

### **Nettype Settings**

```
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# NETTYPE
                         - The configuration of poll threads
                          for a specific protocol. The
                          format is:
                          ,<number of connections/thread>
                          ,(NET|CPU)
                          You can include multiple NETTYPE
                          entries for multiple protocols.
 LISTEN TIMEOUT
                         - The number of seconds that the server
                          waits for a connection
# MAX_INCOMPLETE_CONNECTIONS - The maximum number of incomplete
                          connections before the server logs a Denial
                          of Service (DoS) error
# FASTPOLL
                         - Enables (1) or disables (0) fast
                          polling of your network, if your
                          operating system supports it.
# NUMFDSERVERS
                         - The maximum number of poll threads to handle
                          network connections migrating between VPs
# NS CACHE
                         - The number of seconds for the server name service
 cache
                          (host, service, user, group) expiration time.
                          0 to disable cache.
NETTYPE ipcshm, 1,50, CPU
NETTYPE soctcp, 4, 300, NET
LISTEN_TIMEOUT 60
MAX_INCOMPLETE_CONNECTIONS 1024
```

# Oninit Processes Controlled by NETTYPE

- ONCONFIG NETTYPE Setting
  - SHM Performs shared memory communications
  - TLI Performs TLI network communications
  - SOC Performs socket network communications

#### **NETTYPE Configuration**

- NETTYPE <protocol>,<number of oninit process>, <number of connections per oninit>, <Type of Oninit – CPU or NET>
- Examples:
  - NETTYPE ipcshm,1,50,CPU
  - NETTYPE soctcp,4,250,NET

### NETTYPE Configuration Best Practices

- Configure Shared Memory Connection to run on NETTYPE type CPU and Network Connections to run on NETTYPE NET.
- Configure 200-300 Connections per Oninit process.
- Example:
  - NETTYPE ipcshm,1,50,CPU Shared Memory with 50 connections
  - NETTYPE soctcp,4,250,NET Network with 1000 connections

### **CPU Settings**

```
# CPU-Related Configuration Parameters
# MULTIPROCESSOR
                  - Specifies whether the computer has multiple
                    CPUs. Acceptable values are: 0 (single
                    processor), 1 (multiple processors or
                    multi-core chips)
# VPCLASS cpu
                  - Configures the CPU VPs. The format is:
                    VPCLASS cpu, num=<number of CPU VPs>,
                    [,max=<maximum number for class>]
                    [,aff=<single CPU number> | <start cpu>-<end cpu> |
                    ( <start cpu>-<end cpu>/<skip amount> ) ]
                    [,noage]
                    for example:
                    num=4, aff=(1-10/3) means assign 4 CPU VPs to processors
                    1,4,7,10
# VP_MEMORY_CACHE_KB - Specifies the amount of private memory
                    blocks of your CPU VP, in KB, that the
                    database server can access and whether
                    the memory changes dynamically (default).
                    Format is: <size>[,DYNAMIC|STATIC]
                    Acceptable values for <size> are:
                    0 (disable)
                    800 through 40% of the value of SHMTOTAL
# SINGLE_CPU_VP

    Optimizes performance if the server runs with

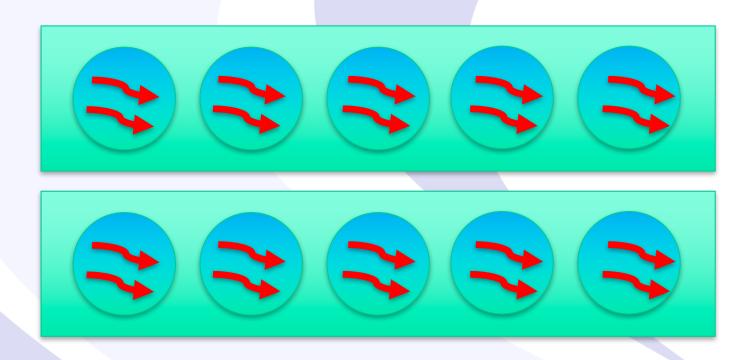
                    only one CPU VP. Acceptable values are:
                    0 multiple CPU VPs
                    Any nonzero value (optimize for one CPU VP)
```

### **CPU Settings**

```
multi-core chips)
# VPCLASS cpu
                    - Configures the CPU VPs. The format is:
                      VPCLASS cpu, num=<number of CPU VPs>,
                      [,max=<maximum number for class>]
                      [,aff=<single CPU number> | <start cpu>-<end cpu> |
                      ( <start cpu>-<end cpu>/<skip amount> ) ]
                      [,noage]
                      for example:
                      num=4,aff=(1-10/3) means assign 4 CPU VPs to processors
                      1,4,7,10
# VP_MEMORY_CACHE_KB - Specifies the amount of private memory
                      blocks of your CPU VP, in KB, that the
                      database server can access and whether
                      the memory changes dynamically (default).
                      Format is: <size>[,DYNAMIC|STATIC]
                      Acceptable values for <size> are:
                      0 (disable)
                      800 through 40% of the value of SHMTOTAL
# SINGLE CPU VP
                    - Optimizes performance if the server runs with
                      only one CPU VP. Acceptable values are:
                      0 multiple CPU VPs
                      Any nonzero value (optimize for one CPU VP)
MULTIPROCESSOR 1
VPCLASS cpu,num=8,noage
VP_MEMORY_CACHE_KB 8095
SINGLE_CPU_VP 0
```

#### **CPU Terms**

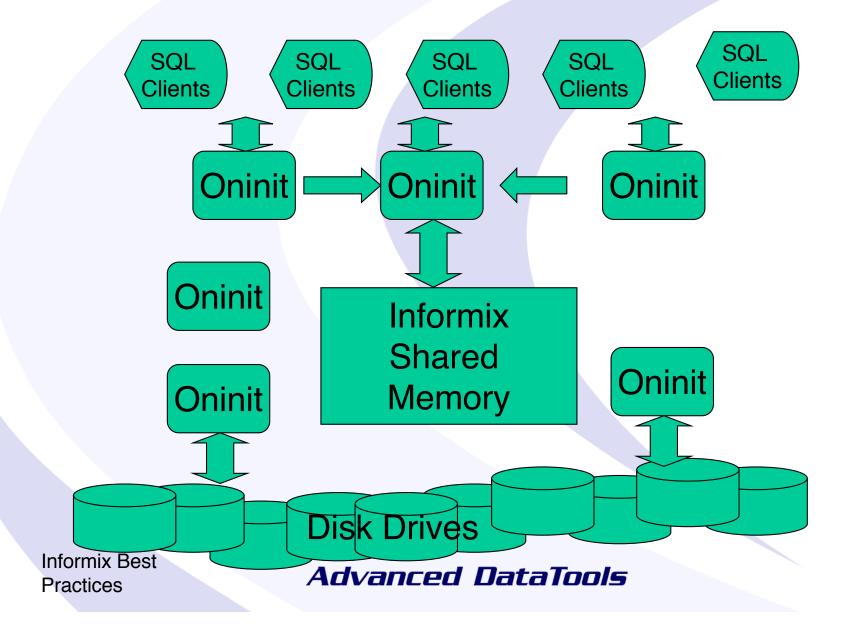
- Example: 2 Sockets with 5 Cores and 2 Hyper-Threads per Core = 10 Cores and 20 Virtual Cores
- Can run 10 processes at the same time



#### **Informix CPU Best Practices**

- How many Cores will be allocated for Informix? What else is running on the machine?
- Traditional best practice is number of physical CPU Cores minus 1
- Current CPU Cores are fast enough to handle 2-3 oninits per Core or 1 oninit per 500-1000 MHz

#### Informix Architecture



#### **Oninit Process**

```
informix@train6:~ train6 > ps -ef
                                    grep oninit
informix 22472
                   1
                     9 14:03 ?
                                       00:00:03 oninit -v
         22473 22472
                     0 14:03 ?
                                       00:00:00 oninit -v
root
         22474 22473
                     0 14:03 ?
                                       00:00:00 oninit -v
root
                                       00:00:00 oninit -v
         22475 22473
                     0 14:03 ?
root
         22476 22473
                     0 14:03 ?
                                       00:00:00 oninit -v
root
         22477 22473
                     0 14:03 ?
                                       00:00:00 oninit -v
root
         22478 22473
                     0 14:03 ?
                                       00:00:00 oninit -v
root
                                       00:00:00 oninit -v
root
         22479 22473
                     0 14:03 ?
```

# Oninit Process onstat –g sch

informix@train6:~ train6 > onstat -g sch

IBM Informix Dynamic Server Version 12.10.FC6 -- On-Line -- Up 00:02:12 -- 766404 Kbytes VP Scheduler Statistics:

vp	pid	class	semops	busy waits	spins/wait	bsy lspins
1	22472	cpu	141	0	0	0
2	22473	adm	0	0	0	0
3	22474	lio	4115	0	0	0
4	22475	pio	30	0	0	0
5	22476	aio	7453	0	0	0
6	22477	msc	5	0	0	0
7	22478	fifo	2	0	0	0
8	22479	soc	2	0	0	0
9	22480	aio	2890	0	0	0
10	22481	aio	187	0	0	0
11	22482	aio	113	0	0	0
12	22483	aio	55	0	0	0
13	22484	aio	58	0	0	0
14	22485	aio	41	0	0	0
15	22486	aio	32	0	0	0
16	22487	aio	29	0	0	0
17	22489	aio	22	0	0	0

Informix Best Practices

#### **Oninit Process Classes**

- CPU Executes all user and session threads and some system threads
- PIO Handles physical log file when cooked disk space is used
- LIO Handles logical log file when cooked disk space is used
- AIO Handles disk I/O
- SHM Performs shared memory communications
- TLI Performs TLI network communications
- SOC Performs socket network communications
- FIFO Performs FIFO operations
- OPT Handles optical disk I/O
- ADM Executes administrative threads
- ADT Executes auditing threads
- MSC Handles request for system calls

# Oninit Process Automatically Started

- Started Automatically
  - PIO Handles physical log file when cooked disk space is used
  - LIO Handles logical log file when cooked disk space is used
  - FIFO Performs FIFO operations
  - ADM Executes administrative threads
  - MSC Handles request for system calls
- Started when Auditing is on
  - ADT Executes auditing threads
- Started when UDRs are called
  - Java
  - User Defined Functions

# Oninit Process Controlled by VPCLASS

- ONCONFIG VPCLASS Setting
  - CPU Executes all user and session threads and some system threads
  - AIO Handles disk I/O

#### **VPCLASS Options**

#### The VPCLASS parameter allows you to:

- Designate a class of virtual processors (VPs)
- Create a user-defined VP, and specify the following information for it:
  - The number of virtual processors that the database server should start initially optional
  - The maximum number of virtual processors allowed for this class optional
  - The assignment of virtual processors to CPUs if processor affinity is available - optional
  - The disabling of priority aging by the operating system if the operating system implements priority aging - optional

#### Syntax:

VPCLASS classname, options

### **CPU Oninit Configuration**

- VPCLASS CPU Configure the number of Oninit CPU VPs to start for Informix
  - VPCLASS cpu,num=<number> [,max=<max number cpu>] [,aff=<single CPU number> | <start cpu>-<end cpu> | ( <start cpu>-<end cpu>/<skip amount> ) ] ] [,noage]
- Examples for 8 Core machine:
  - VPCLASS cpu,num=4,noage
  - VPCLASS cpu,num=8,noage
  - VPCLASS cpu,num=8,aff=0,noage
  - VPCLASS cpu,num=8,aff=1-4,noage

#### **CPU Affinity**

- Example:
  - VPCLASS cpu,num=4,aff=0-3,noage

Message in the Online Log:

15:33:12 Affinitied VP 8 to phys proc 1

15:33:12 Affinitied VP 9 to phys proc 2

15:33:12 Affinitied VP 10 to phys proc 3

15:33:12 Affinitied VP 1 to phys proc 0

### Additional CPU Best Practices

- Set MULTIPROCESSOR to 1 (Almost all machines today are multiprocessor)
- Set SINGLE\_CPU\_VP to 0 (Allows you to run more Oninits of CPU class as needed)
- Set NOAGE if your OS supports it

### Additional CPU Best Practices

- Set VP\_MEMORY\_CACHE\_KB <size in KB for private cache for each CPU VP>
- Format is: <size>[,DYNAMICISTATIC]
   Acceptable values for <size> are: 0
   (disable) or 800 through 40% of the value of SHMTOTAL
- Example:
  - VP\_MEMORY\_CACHE\_KB 4096

#### **Auto Tuning**

```
- The value of this parameter serves as the default value for
  AUTO TUNE
                 the following AUTO_* parameters:
                 AUTO_AIOVPS
                 AUTO_CKPTS
                 AUTO_REPREPARE
                 AUTO STAT MODE
                 AUTO_READAHEAD
                 AUTO_LRU_TUNING
# Any of the above parameters that are not present in your config file
# will default to the value of AUTO_TUNE, which can be set to either 0 or 1.
# If an AUTO_* parameter is set in your config file, the given value overrides
# that of AUTO_TUNE. Information on individual AUTO_* parameters is below.
# AUTO_LRU_TUNING - Enables (1) or disables (0) automatic LRU tuning, which
                    adjusts flushing thresholds for individual buffer pools
                    if the server discovers they are sub-optimal
# AUTO AIOVPS
                  - Enables (1) or disables (0) automatic management
                    of AIO VPs
# AUTO CKPTS
                  - Enables (1) or disables (0) monitoring of
                    critical resource to trigger checkpoints
                    more frequently if there is a chance that
                    transaction blocking might occur.
  AUTO_REPREPARE - Enables (1) or disables (0) automatically
                    re-optimizing stored procedures and re-preparing
                    prepared statements when tables that are referenced
                    by them change. Minimizes the occurrence of the
                    -710 error.
# AUTO_STAT_MODE - Enables (1) or disables (0) update statistics
```

#### **Auto Tuning**

```
# RA_PAGES & RA_THRESHOLD have been replaced with AUTO_READAHEAD.
 AUTO_READAHEAD mode[,readahead_cnt]
                                  (Not recommended)
                    0 = Disable
     mode
                    1 = Passive
                                  (Default)
                    2 = Aggressive (Not recommended)
                    Optional
                                  Range 4-4096
     readahead_cnt
                    readahead_cnt allows for tuning the # of
                    pages that automatic readahead will request
                    to be read ahead. When not set, the default
                    is 128 pages.
     Notes:
     The threshold for starting the next readahead request, which
     used to be known as RA_THRESHOLD, is always set to 1/2 of the
     readahead_cnt. RA_THRESHOLD is deprecated and no longer used.
# If RA PAGES & AUTO READAHEAD are not present in the ONCONFIG file,
# AUTO READAHEAD will default to the value of AUTO TUNE.
# If RA_PAGES is present in the ONCONFIG file and AUTO_READAHEAD is
# not, the server will set AUTO_READAHEAD to AUTO_TUNE,RA_PAGES
AUTO_TUNE 1
```

#### **Auto Tuning**

```
pages that automatic readahead will request
                  to be read ahead. When not set, the default
                  is 128 pages.
    Notes:
    The threshold for starting the next readahead request, which
    used to be known as RA_THRESHOLD, is always set to 1/2 of the
    readahead_cnt. RA_THRESHOLD is deprecated and no longer used.
# If RA_PAGES & AUTO_READAHEAD are not present in the ONCONFIG file,
# AUTO READAHEAD will default to the value of AUTO TUNE.
# If RA_PAGES is present in the ONCONFIG file and AUTO_READAHEAD is
# not, the server will set AUTO_READAHEAD to AUTO_TUNE,RA_PAGES
AUTO TUNE 0
AUTO AIOVPS
AUTO CKPTS
AUTO_REPREPARE 0
AUTO_STAT_MODE 0
AUTO_READAHEAD 0
AUTO_LRU_TUNING 0
# AIO and Cleaner-Related Configuration Parameters
# VPCLASS aio - Configures the AIO VPs. The format is:
```

#### Disk I/O

```
# AIO and Cleaner-Related Configuration Parameters
# VPCLASS aio - Configures the AIO VPs. The format is:
           VPCLASS aio,num=<#>[,max=<#>][,aff=<#>][,noage]
           Example:
           VPCLASS aio, num=1
# CLEANERS
          - The number of page cleaner threads
# DIRECT_IO
          - Specifies whether direct I/O is used for cooked
           files used for dbspace chunks.
           Acceptable values are:
           0 Disable
           1 Enable direct I/O
           2 Enable concurrent I/O
CLEANERS 8
DIRECT_IO 0
# Lock-Related Configuration Parameters
# LOCKS
              - The initial number of locks when the server starts.
               Dynamic locking can add extra locks if needed.
# DEF_TABLE_LOCKMODE - The default table lock mode for new tables.
               Acceptable values are ROW and PAGE (default).
LOCKS 200000
DEF_TABLE_LOCKMODE page
```

#### **AIO Oninit Best Practices**

#### Default is

- AUTO\_AIOVPS 1 enable automatically adding AIO VPs as needed
- This can lead to too many AIO VPs writing to the same disk system

#### Recommended

- AUTO\_AIOVPS 0
- VPCLASS aio,num=<number of oninits you need to write to disk>

#### **AIO Oninit Best Practices**

- How many AIO Class Oninits do you need? Test, Test, Test...
  - With KAIO on only need 2 AIO oninits
  - With KAIO off (default), it depends on how many processes can write to a disk at the same time.
  - Never need more than twice the number of active chunks.
  - Most disks can handle up to 8 AIO oninit processes.

# AIO Oninit Best Practice Examples

- 1 Disk and 24 Chunks
  - VPCLASS aio, num=8
- 6 Disks and 24 Chunks (12 active)
  - VPCLASS aio,num=24

#### Locks

```
# AIO and Cleaner-Related Configuration Parameters
# VPCLASS aio - Configures the AIO VPs. The format is:
           VPCLASS aio,num=<#>[,max=<#>][,aff=<#>][,noage]
           Example:
           VPCLASS aio, num=1
# CLEANERS
          - The number of page cleaner threads
# DIRECT_IO
          - Specifies whether direct I/O is used for cooked
           files used for dbspace chunks.
           Acceptable values are:
           0 Disable
           1 Enable direct I/O
           2 Enable concurrent I/O
CLEANERS 8
DIRECT_IO 0
# Lock-Related Configuration Parameters
# LOCKS
              - The initial number of locks when the server starts.
               Dynamic locking can add extra locks if needed.
# DEF_TABLE_LOCKMODE - The default table lock mode for new tables.
               Acceptable values are ROW and PAGE (default).
LOCKS 200000
DEF_TABLE_LOCKMODE page
```

### **LOCKS Memory Settings**

- LOCKS The number of LOCKS when Informix Starts. This determines the amount of Memory initially set for LOCKS. Can be dynamically added when needed.
- Dynamically adding LOCKS can cause a performance degradation.

### **LOCKS Memory Settings**

- To monitor, look at the last line of:
  - onstat –k

```
IBM Informix Dynamic Server Version 12.10.FC6 -- On-Line -- Up 02:34:23 -- 165016 Kbytes
Locks
                 wtlist
address
                                                    lklist
                                                                                tblsnum rowid
                                   owner
                                                                      type
44199028
                                   44cd4668
                                                                                  100002
                                                                                           204
4423f068
                                   44cd4f28
                                                                                  100002
                                                                                           204
442e50a8
                                   44cd57e8
                                                                                  100002
                                                                                           204
                                                       442e50a8
442e5130
                                   44cd57e8
                                                                        HDR+S
                                                                                           201
                                                                                  100002
4438b0e8
                                   44cd60a8
                                                                        HDR+S
                                                                                  100002
                                                                                           204
 5 active, 80000 total, 16384 hash buckets, 2 lock table overflows
```

- This shows 2 lock table overflows.
- This system requires 80,000 locks.

#### **LOCK Best Practices**

- LOCK Table Overflows will slow performance and should be avoided.
- LOCK Table Overflows are a major contributor to SHMVIRT Memory additions.
- Set your LOCK setting to a value that is the largest number required.

### **Memory Settings**

```
♠ lester — vim — 80×30
# Shared Memory Configuration Parameters
# RESIDENT
                 - Controls whether shared memory is resident.
                   Acceptable values are:
                   0 off (default)
                  1 lock the resident segment only
                   n lock the resident segment and the next n-1
                     virtual segments, where n < 100
                  -1 lock all resident and virtual segments
# SHMBASE
                 - The shared memory base address; do not change
# SHMVIRTSIZE
                 - The initial size, in KB, of the virtual
                   segment of shared memory
# SHMADD
                 - The size, in KB, of additional virtual shared
                   memory segments
# EXTSHMADD
                 - The size, in KB, of each extension shared
                   memory segment
# SHMTOTAL
                 - The maximum amount of shared memory for the server,
                   in KB. A 0 indicates no specific limit.
# SHMVIRT ALLOCSEG - Controls when the server adds a memory segment and
                   the alarm level if the memory segment cannot
                   For the first field, acceptable values are:
                   - 0 Disabled
                   - A decimal number indicating the total percentage
                    of virtual memory used before a segment is added
                   - The total KB virtual memory remaining when a segment
                    is added
                   For the second field, specify an alarm level
```

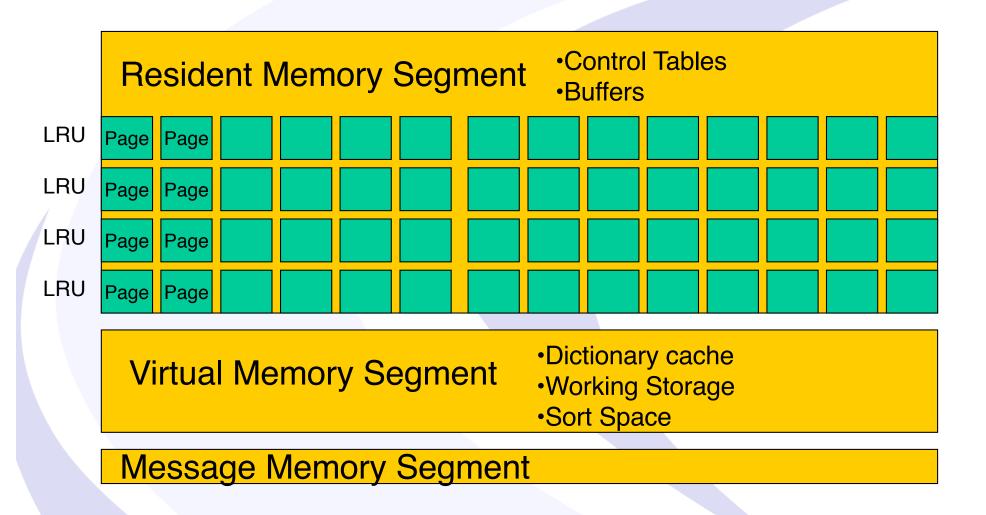
## **Memory Settings**

```
1 lester — vim — 80×30
  SHMVIRT_ALLOCSEG - Controls when the server adds a memory segment and
                  the alarm level if the memory segment cannot
                  For the first field, acceptable values are:
                  - 0 Disabled
                  - A decimal number indicating the total percentage
                    of virtual memory used before a segment is added
                  - The total KB virtual memory remaining when a segment
                  For the second field, specify an alarm level
                  from 1 (non-event) to 5 (fatal error).
 SHMNOACCESS
                - A list of up to 10 memory address ranges
                  that the server cannot use to attach shared memory.
                  Each address range is the start and end memory
                  address in hex format, separated by a hyphen.
                  Use a comma to separate each range in the list.
RESIDENT 0
SHMBASE 0x200000000L
SHMVIRTSIZE 1024000
SHMADD 8192
EXTSHMADD 8192
SHMTOTAL 0
SHMVIRT_ALLOCSEG 0,3
SHMNOACCESS
# Checkpoint and System Block Configuration Parameters
```

# Informix Memory Best Practices

- How much memory is available on the machine?
- How much is used by the Operating System and other applications?
- How much will be assigned to Informix?
- DO NOT allow the machine to Swap memory to disk as this will SLOW everything down

## **Informix Shared Memory**



# Informix Shared Memory onstat –g seg

informix@train6:~ train6 > onstat -g seg

IBM Informix Dynamic Server Version 12.10.FC6 -- On-Line -- Up 00:30:00 -- 766404 Kbytes

#### Segment Summary:

id	key	addr	size	ovhd	class	blkused	blkfree
32769	525c4801	44000000	4911104	495784	R	1199	0
65538	525c4802	444af000	33439744	393384	V	8030	134
98307	525c4803	46493000	562749440	1	В	137390	0
131076	525c4804	67d41000	166359040	1	В	40615	0
163845	525c4805	71be8000	561152	7848	M	136	1
196614	525c4806	71c71000	8388608	99720	V	1529	519
294919	525c4807	72471000	8388608	99720	V	25	2023
Total:	_	_	784797696	_	_	188924	2677

(\* segment locked in memory)

No reserve memory is allocated

#### **Informix Memory Classes**

- R Resident Memory Segment
- B Buffer Pool Segment for data
- V Virtual Memory Segment for Working Storage
- M Message Segment for communications between clients

# SHMVIRTSIZE Best Practices

- Controls the size of the Informix Virtual Memory Workspace, which can grow if needed.
- Best practice is to set it large enough so it does not need to grow.
  - Monitor with onstat –g seg

# ONCONFIG Memory Configuration Settings

- BUFFERPOOL
- SHMVIRTSIZE
- SHMADD
- LOCKS

# Informix Shared Memory onstat –g seg

informix@train6:~ train6 > onstat -g seg

IBM Informix Dynamic Server Version 12.10.FC6 -- On-Line -- Up 00:30:00 -- 766404 Kbytes

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294919	525c4807	72471000	8388608	99720	V	25	2023
Total:	_	_	784797696	_	_	188924	2677

(\* segment locked in memory)
No reserve memory is allocated

### **Additional Memory Setting**

- RESIDENT Controls whether shared memory is resident. Acceptable values are:
  - 0 off (default)
  - 1 lock the resident segment only
  - n lock the resident segment and the next n-1 virtual segments, where n < 100</li>
  - 1 lock all resident and virtual segments
- SHMADD The size, in KB, of additional virtual shared memory segments

## **Checkpoint Settings**

```
# Checkpoint and System Block Configuration Parameters
# CKPINTVL
              - Specifies how often, in seconds, the server checks
                if a checkpoint is needed. 0 indicates that
                the server does not check for checkpoints. Ignored
                if RTO_SERVER_RESTART is set.
# RTO_SERVER_RESTART - Specifies, in seconds, the Recovery Time
                Objective for the server restart after a server
                failure. Acceptable values are 0 (off) and
                any number from 60-1800, inclusive.
# BLOCKTIMEOUT
              - Specifies the amount of time, in seconds,
                for a system block.
CKPTINTVL 300
RTO_SERVER_RESTART 0
BLOCKTIMEOUT 3600
# Conversion Guard Related Configuration Parameters
# CONVERSION_GUARD - To turn on conversion guard feature.
             -0-0ff
             - 1 - On, Abort conversion on Conversion Guard error,
             - 2 - On, Continue conversion; ignore Conversion
                 Guard error
 RESTORE_POINT_DIR - The directory, which stores the Conversion Guard
```

## **Ontape Backups**

```
# ontage Tage Device Configuration Parameters
# TAPEDEV
         - The tape device path for backups. To use standard
          I/O instead of a device, set to STDIO.
# TAPEBLK
         - The tape block size, in KB, for backups
# TAPESIZE

    The maximum amount of data to put on one backup

           tape. Acceptable values are 0 (unlimited) or any
           positive integral multiple of TAPEBLK.
TAPEDEV /informixbackups/benchmark6/ontape
TAPEBLK 32
TAPESIZE 0
# ontape Logial Log Tape Device Configuration Parameters
# LTAPEDEV
         - The tape device path for logical logs
# LTAPEBLK
         - The tape block size, in KB, for backing up logical
         - The maximum amount of data to put on one logical
# LTAPESIZE
           log tape. Acceptable values are 0 (unlimited) or any
           positive integral multiple of LTAPEBLK.
LTAPEDEV /informixbackups/benchmark6/logs
LTAPEBLK 32
LTAPESIZE 0
```

#### **SQL Cache**

```
# SQL Statement Cache Configuration Parameters
# STMT_CACHE
               - Controls SQL statement caching. Acceptable
                 values are:
                 0 Disabled
                 1 Enabled at the session level
                 2 All statements are cached
# STMT_CACHE_HITS
                - The number of times an SQL statement must be
                 executed before becoming fully cached.
                 O indicates that all statements are
                 fully cached the first time.
# STMT_CACHE_SIZE - The size, in KB, of the SQL statement cache
# STMT_CACHE_NOLIMIT - Controls additional memory consumption.
                 Acceptable values are:
                 0 Limit memory to STMT CACHE SIZE
                 1 Obtain as much memory, temporarily, as needed
# STMT_CACHE_NUMPOOL - The number of pools for the SQL statement
                 cache. Acceptable value is a positive
                 integer between 1 and 256, inclusive.
STMT_CACHE 0
STMT_CACHE_HITS 0
STMT_CACHE_SIZE 512
STMT_CACHE_NOLIMIT 0
STMT_CACHE_NUMPOOL 1
```

## **Session Configuration**

```
# Operating System Session-Related Configuration Parameters
# USEOSTIME
               - The precision of SQL statement timing.
                 Accepted values are 0 (precision to seconds)
                 and 1 (precision to subseconds). Subsecond
                 precision can degrade performance.
# STACKSIZE
               - The size, in KB, for a session stack
# ALLOW_NEWLINE
               - Controls whether embedded new line characters
                 in string literals are allowed in SQL
                 statements. Acceptable values are 1 (allowed)
                 and any number other than 1 (not allowed).
 USELASTCOMMITTED - Controls the committed read isolation level.
                 Acceptable values are:
                 - "NONE" Waits on a lock
                 - "DIRTY READ" Uses the last committed value in
                   place of a dirty read
                 - "COMMITTED READ" Uses the last committed value
                   in place of a committed read
                 - "ALL" Uses the last committed value in place
                   of all isolation levels that support the last
                   committed option
USEOSTIME 0
STACKSIZE 256
ALLOW_NEWLINE 0
USELASTCOMMITTED "ALL"
```

### **Index Settings**

```
# Index Related Configuration Parameters
# FILLFACTOR
               - The percentage of index page fullness
# MAX FILL DATA PAGES - Enables (1) or disables (0) filling data
                 pages that have variable length rows as
                 full as possible
# BTSCANNER
                - Specifies the configuration settings for all
                 btscanner threads. The format is:
                 BTSCANNER num=<#>,threshold=<#>,rangesize=<#>,
                 alice=(0-12),compression=[low|med|high|default]
# ONLIDX_MAXMEM
                - The amount of memory, in KB, allocated for
                 the pre-image pool and updator log pool for
                 each partition.
FILLFACTOR 90
MAX FILL DATA PAGES 0
BTSCANNER num=1,threshold=5000,rangesize=-1,alice=6,compression=default
ONLIDX_MAXMEM 5120
# Parallel Database Query (PDQ) Configuration Parameters
# MAX PDQPRIORITY
               - The maximum amount of resources, as a
                 percentage, that PDQ can allocate to any
                 one decision support query
# DS MAX QUERIES
               - The maximum number of concurrent decision
```

### **Parallel Database Query**

```
# Parallel Database Query (PDQ) Configuration Parameters
# MAX_PDQPRIORITY
                   - The maximum amount of resources, as a
                     percentage, that PDQ can allocate to any
                     one decision support query
# DS_MAX_QUERIES
                   - The maximum number of concurrent decision
                     support queries
# DS_TOTAL_MEMORY
                   - The maximum amount, in KB, of decision
                     support query memory
# DS MAX SCANS
                   - The maximum number of concurrent decision
                     support scans
# DS_NONPDQ_QUERY_MEM - The amount of non-PDQ query memory, in KB.
                     Acceptable values are 128 to 25% of
                     DS TOTAL MEMORY.
# DATASKIP
                   - Specifies whether to skip dbspaces when
                     processing a query. Acceptable values are:
                     - ALL Skip all unavailable fragments
                     - ON <dbspace1> <dbspace2>... Skip listed
                       dbspaces
                     - OFF Do not skip dbspaces (default)
MAX_PDQPRIORITY 100
DS_MAX_QUERIES
DS_TOTAL_MEMORY
DS_MAX_SCANS 1048576
DS_NONPDQ_QUERY_MEM 256
DATASKIP
```

# **Optimizer Settings**

```
# OPTCOMPIND
                - Controls how the optimizer determines the best
                  query path. Acceptable values are:
                  0 Nested loop joins are preferred
                 1 If isolation level is repeatable read,
                    works the same as 0, otherwise works same as 2
                  2 Optimizer decisions are based on cost only
 DIRECTIVES
                - Specifies whether optimizer directives are
                  enabled (1) or disabled (0). Default is 1.
 EXT_DIRECTIVES - Controls the use of external SQL directives.
                  Acceptable values are:
                  0 Disabled
                 1 Enabled if the IFX EXTDIRECTIVES environment
                    variable is enabled
                 2 Enabled even if the IFX EXTDIRECTIVES
                    environment is not set
# OPT_GOAL
                - Controls how the optimizer should optimize for
                  fastest retrieval. Acceptable values are:
                 -1 All rows in a query
                  0 The first rows in a query
 IFX_FOLDVIEW - Enables (1) or disables (0) folding views that
                  have multiple tables or a UNION ALL clause.
                  Disabled by default.
                - In automatic mode, rebuild statistics only for
# STATCHANGE
                  table, fragment or index changed by STATCHANGE
                 percentage since last statistics run.
 USTLOW_SAMPLE - Enables (1) or disables (0) the use of sampling
                  during update statistics low operations that gather
                  index statistics for large indexes.
```

#### **SQL Trace**

```
# SQL Tracing and EXPLAIN Plan Configuration Parameters
# EXPLAIN_STAT - Enables (1) or disables (0) including the Query
            Statistics section in the EXPLAIN output file
# SQLTRACE
          - Configures SQL tracing. The format is:
            SQLTRACE level=(low|med|high),ntraces=<#>,size=<#>,
            mode=(global|user)
            Example:
            SQLTRACE level=low,ntraces=1000,size=2,mode=global
EXPLAIN STAT 1
# Security Configuration Parameters
# DBCREATE PERMISSION
                    - Specifies the users who can create
                      databases (by default, any user can).
                      Add a DBCREATE PERMISSION entry
                      for each user who needs database
                      creation privileges. Ensure user
                      informix is authorized when you
                      first initialize the server.
                      Example:
                      DBCREATE_PERMISSION informix
 DB_LIBRARY_PATH
                    - Specifies the locations, separated
                      by commas, from which the server can use
                      UDR or UDT shared libraries. If set,
```

### Security

```
UNSECURE_ONSTAT
                             Controls whether non-DBSA users are
                             allowed to run all onstat commands.
                             Acceptable values are:
                             1 Enabled
                             0 Disabled (Default)
  ADMIN_USER_MODE_WITH_DBSA - Controls who can connect to the server
                             in administration mode. Acceptable
                             values are:
                             1 DBSAs, users specified by
                                ADMIN_MODE_USERS, and the user
                                informix
                             0 Only the user informix (Default)
  ADMIN_MODE_USERS
                           - Specifies the user names, separated by
                             commas, who can connect to the server in
                             administration mode, in addition to
                             the user informix
# SSL_KEYSTORE_LABEL
                           - The label, up to 512 characters, of
                             the the server certificate used in Secure
                             Sockets Layer (SSL) protocol
                             communications.
# TLS_VERSION
                           - Specifies which TLS levels will be
                             allowed. Default is 1.0,1.1,1.2
IFX_EXTEND_ROLE 1
SECURITY_LOCALCONNECTION
UNSECURE_ONSTAT
ADMIN_USER_MODE_WITH_DBSA
ADMIN_MODE_USERS
SSL_KEYSTORE_LABEL
```

# **Diagnostic Settings**

```
# Diagnostic Dump Configuration Parameters
- The location Assertion Failure (AF) diagnostic
           - Controls shared memory dumps. Acceptable values
# DUMPSHMEM
            0 Disabled
            1 Dump all shared memory
            2 Exclude the buffer pool from the dump
# DUMPGCORE - Enables (1) or disables (0) whether the server dumps a
            core using gcore
# DUMPCORE
          - Enables (1) or disables (0) whether the server dumps a
            core after an AF
# DUMPCNT
           - The maximum number of shared memory dumps or
            core files for a single session
DUMPDIR $INFORMIXDIR/tmp
DUMPSHMEM 1
DUMPGCORE 0
DUMPCORE 0
DUMPCNT 1
# Alarm Program Configuration Parameters
# ALARMPROGRAM
               - Specifies the alarm program to display event
                 alarms. To enable automatic logical log backup,
                 edit alarmprogram.sh and set BACKUPLOGS=Y.
```

### **Alarm Program**

```
# Alarm Program Configuration Parameters
# ALARMPROGRAM
                - Specifies the alarm program to display event
                   alarms. To enable automatic logical log backup,
                   edit alarmprogram.sh and set BACKUPLOGS=Y.
# ALRM_ALL_EVENTS
                 - Controls whether the alarm program runs for
                   every event. Acceptable values are:
                   0 Logs only noteworthy events
                  1 Logs all events
# STORAGE_FULL_ALARM - <time interval in seconds>, <alarm severity>
                   specifies in what interval:
                   - a message will be printed to the online.log file
                   - an alarm will be raised
                  - a dbspace becomes full
                    (ISAM error -131)
                   - a partition runs out of pages or extents
                    (ISAM error -136)
                   time interval = 0 : OFF
                   severity = 0 : no alarm, only message
# SYSALARMPROGRAM

    Specifies the system alarm program triggered

                   when an AF occurs
ALARMPROGRAM $INFORMIXDIR/etc/alarmprogram.sh
ALRM_ALL_EVENTS 0
STORAGE_FULL_ALARM 600,3
SYSALARMPROGRAM $INFORMIXDIR/etc/evidence.sh
```

#### **Trusted Hosts**

```
# REMOTE SERVER CFG - Specifies the name of a file that lists the
# remote hosts that are trusted by the computer on which the
# database server resides. The file specified must be located in
# $INFORMIXDIR/etc. If the configuration parameter is set then the
# file specified is used instead of the /etc/hosts.equiv file.
# REMOTE_USERS_CFG - Specifies the name of a file that lists names
# of trusted users that exist on remote hosts. The file specified
# must be located in $INFORMIXDIR/etc. If the configuration
# parameter is set then the file specified is used instead of the
# ~/.rhosts file.
# S6 USE REMOTE SERVER CFG - Specifies that the server will use
# the value for REMOTE_SERVER_CFG rather than $INFORMIXDIR/etc/hosts.equiv
# when using secured ER/HDR connections (i.e. s=6). If set to 0 then
# the existing behaviour is used ($INFORMIXDIR/etc/hosts.equiv). If
# set to 1 then the value of REMOTE SERVER CFG will be used
REMOTE_SERVER_CFG
                   ifx.hosts
REMOTE_USERS_CFG
S6_USE_REMOTE_SERVER_CFG 0
# Low Memory Parameter
# LOW_MEMORY_RESERVE - the amount of memory reserved for critical
# operations like rollback. If these operations fail then it crashes
```

#### **Buffer Pool**

```
# TENANT_LIMIT_CONNECTIONS count 1
                                 64k
                                         0 (off)
                                                 Reject connection
# Buffer pool and LRU Configuration Parameters
# BUFFERPOOL
              - Specifies the default values for buffers and LRU
                queues in each buffer pool. Each page size used
                by a dbspace has a buffer pool and needs a
                BUFFERPOOL entry. The onconfig.std file contains
                two initial entries: a default entry from which
                to base new page size entries on, and an entry
                for the operating system default page size.
                When you add a dbspace with a different page size,
                IDS adds a BUFFERPOOL entry to the onconfig file
                with values that are the same as the default
                BUFFERPOOL entry, except that the default
                keyword is replaced by size=Nk, where N is the
                new page size. With interval checkpoints, these
                values can now be set higher than in previous
                versions of IDS in an OLTP environment.
## Set BUFFERPOOL to 2GB
BUFFERPOOL default,buffers=10000,lrus=8,lru_min_dirty=50.00,lru_max_dirty=60.50
BUFFERPOOL size=4k,buffers=1000000,lrus=8,lru_min_dirty=50,lru_max_dirty=60
BUFFERPOOL size=16k,buffers=100000,lrus=8,lru_min_dirty=50,lru_max_dirty=60
```

# BUFFERPOOL Best Practices

- More Buffers the better and faster your database will perform.
- Goal is to put all the active data into Memory Buffers.
- Goal is to prevent high Memory Buffers
   Turnover (Art Kagel's rule less than 8 times and hour).
- Always leave the default BUFFERPOOL line in the ONCONFIG.

### **BUFFERPOOL Settings**

 The BUFFERPOOL configuration parameter consists of two lines in the onconfig.std file, as shown in this example for a UNIX platform:

BUFFERPOOL default, lrus=8, buffers=5000, lru\_min\_dirty=50, lru\_max\_dirty=60 BUFFERPOOL size=2K, buffers=5000, lrus=8, lru\_min\_dirty=50, lru\_max\_dirty=60

- The top line specifies the default values that are used if you create a dbspace with a page size that does not already have a corresponding buffer pool created at startup.
- The next line below the default line specifies the database server's default values for a buffer pool, which are based on the database server's default page size.
- When you add a dbspace with a different page size with the onspaces utility, or when
  you add a new buffer pool with the onparams utility, a new line is appended to the
  BUFFERPOOL configuration parameter in the ONCONFIG file. The page size for each
  buffer pool must be a multiple of the system's default page size.

#### **BUFFERPOOL Examples**

- 3 GB Memory for Buffers Linux OLTP System
  - BUFFERPOOL size=2k,buffers=1500000,lrus=32,lru\_min\_dirty=10,lru\_max\_dirty=20
- 12 GB Memory for Buffers AIX OLTP System
  - BUFFERPOOL size=4k,buffers=3000000,lrus=128,lru\_min\_dirty=1,lru\_max\_dirty=2
- 48 GB Memory for Buffers Solaris Data Warehouse
  - BUFFERPOOL size=2K,buffers=24000000,lrus=128,lru min dirty=60,lru max dirty=70
- 15 GB Memory for 4K Buffers and 12.8 GB for 16K Buffers
  - BUFFERPOOL size=4K,buffers=60000000,lrus=256,lru\_min\_dirty=0.1,lru\_max\_dirty=0.2
  - BUFFERPOOL size=16K,buffers=800000,lrus=256,lru\_min\_dirty=20,lru\_max\_dirty=30

# **Memory LRU Settings**

- AUTO\_LRU\_TUNING Enables (1) or disables (0)
- BUFFERPOOL LRU Settings
  - Irus=<Number of LRU QUEUES>,
  - Iru\_max\_dirty=<Percent dirty to START cleaning>
  - Iru\_min\_dirty=<Percent dirty to STOP cleaning>

#### **Memory LRU Best Practices**

- Enable AUTO\_LRU\_TUNING for turnkey or embedded systems.
- Disable AUTO\_LRU\_TUNING for high performance systems where you do not want CHECKPOINTS to write a huge amount of data to disk and slow everything down.

# **Memory LRU Settings**

- LRU Settings for AUTO\_LRU\_TUNING Disabled
  - Irus=<Number of LRU QUEUES>,
  - Iru\_max\_dirty=<Percent dirty to START
     cleaning>
  - Iru\_min\_dirty=<Percent dirty to STOP cleaning>

#### **Questions?**



Send follow-up questions to lester@advancedatatools.com

# Next Webcast Informix Best Practices

- Informix Connection Manager by Thomas Beebe
  - Thursday, June 29, 2017 at 2:00pm EST
- Informix Auditing by Mike Walker
  - Thursday, July 27, 2017 at 2:00pm EST

Please register for each webcast here at: http://advancedatatools.com/Informix/NextWebcast.html

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Informix Best Practices



#### **Questions?**



Send follow-up questions to lester@advancedatatools.com



#### **Thank You**

# Lester Knutsen Advanced DataTools Corporation

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