

# TOP DBA SHELL SCRIPTS FOR MONITORING THE DATABASE



In this article, I would like to focus on the DBA's daily responsibilities for monitoring Oracle databases, and share some tips and techniques on how DBAs can turn their manual, reactive monitoring activities into a set of proactive shell scripts. First I'll review some commonly used Unix commands by DBAs and explain the Unix Cron jobs that are used as part of the scheduling mechanism to execute DBA scripts. Then I will cover these eight important scripts for monitoring the Oracle database:

- [Check instance availability](#)
- [Check listener availability](#)
- [Check alert log files for error messages](#)
- [Clean up old log files before log destination gets filled](#)
- [Analyze tables and indexes for better performance](#)
- [Check tablespace usage](#)
- [Find out invalid objects](#)
- [Monitor users and transactions](#)

## UNIX Basics for the DBA

# Basic UNIX Command


The following is a list of commonly used Unix commands:

- **ps** - Show process
- **grep** - Search files for text patterns
- **mailx** - Read or send mail
- **cat** - Join files or display them
- **cut** - Select columns for display
- **awk** - Pattern-matching language
- **df** - Show free disk space



## UNIX Basics for the DBA

*Commonly used UNIX commands:*



ps	Show process
grep	Search files for text patterns
mailx	Read or send mail
cat	Join files or display them
cut	Select columns for display
awk	Pattern-matching language
df	Show free disk space

Here are some examples of how the DBA uses these commands:

- List available instances on a server:

```
$ ps -ef | grep smon
oracle 21832      1  0   Feb 24 ?           19:05 ora_smon_oradb1
oracle   898      1  0   Feb 15 ?           0:00 ora_smon_oradb2
dliu 25199 19038  0 10:48:57 pts/6    0:00 grep smon
oracle 27798      1  0 05:43:54 ?           0:00 ora_smon_oradb3
oracle 28781      1  0   Mar 03 ?           0:01 ora_smon_oradb4
```

- List available listeners on a server:

```
$ ps -ef | grep listener | grep -v grep
oracle 23879      1  0   Feb 24 ?    33:36 /8.1.7/bin/tnslsnr listener_db1 -
inherit
oracle 27939      1  0 05:44:02 ?    0:00  /8.1.7/bin/tnslsnr listener_db2 -
inherit
oracle 23536      1  0   Feb 12 ?    4:19  /8.1.7/bin/tnslsnr listener_db3 -
inherit
oracle 28891      1  0   Mar 03 ?    0:01  /8.1.7/bin/tnslsnr listener_db4 -
```

inherit

- Find out file system usage for Oracle archive destination:

```
$ df -k | grep oraarch
/dev/vx/dsk/proddg/oraarch 71123968 4754872 65850768 7% /u09/oraarch
```

- List number of lines in the alert.log file:

```
$ cat alert.log | wc -l
2984
```

- List all Oracle error messages from the alert.log file:

```
$ grep ORA- alert.log
ORA-00600: internal error code, arguments: , [], [], [], [], []
ORA-00600: internal error code, arguments: , , , []
```

## CRONTAB Basics

A crontab file is comprised of six fields:

Minute	0-59
Hour	0-23
Day of month	1-31
Month	1 - 12
Day of Week	0 - 6, with 0 = Sunday
Unix Command or Shell Scripts	

- To edit a crontab file, type:

Crontab -e

- To view a crontab file, type:

Crontab -l

```
0 4 * * 5 /dba/admin/analyze_table.ksh
30 3 * * 3,6 /dba/admin/hotbackup.ksh /dev/null 2>&1
```

In the example above, the first entry shows that a script to analyze a table runs every Friday at 4:00 a.m. The second entry shows that a script to perform a hot backup runs every Wednesday and Saturday at 3:00 a.m.

## The Eight Most Important DBA Shell Scripts for Monitoring the Database

The eight shell scripts provided below cover 90 percent of a DBA's daily monitoring activities. You will need to modify the UNIX environment variables as appropriate.

# Check Oracle Instance Availability

The oratab file lists all the databases on a server:

```
$ cat /var/opt/oracle/oratab
#####
## /var/opt/oracle/oratab ##
#####
oradb1:/u01/app/oracle/product/8.1.7:Y
oradb2:/u01/app/oracle/product/8.1.7:Y
oradb3:/u01/app/oracle/product/8.1.7:N
oradb4:/u01/app/oracle/product/8.1.7:Y
```

The following script checks all the databases listed in the oratab file, and finds out the status (up or down) of databases:

```
#####
## ckinstance.ksh ##
#####
ORATAB=/var/opt/oracle/oratab
echo "`date`"
echo "Oracle Database(s) Status `hostname` :\n"

db=`egrep -i ":Y|:N" $ORATAB | cut -d":" -f1 | grep -v "\#" | grep -v "\*"`
pslist="`ps -ef | grep pmon`"
for i in $db ; do
echo "$pslist" | grep "ora_pmon_$$i" > /dev/null 2>$1
if (( $? )); then
echo "Oracle Instance - $$i:          Down"
else
echo "Oracle Instance - $$i:          Up"
fi
done
```

Use the following to make sure the script is executable:

```
$ chmod 744 ckinstance.ksh
$ ls -l ckinstance.ksh
-rwxr--r--  1 oracle   dba          657 Mar  5 22:59 ckinstance.ksh*
```

Here is an instance availability report:

```
$ ckinstance.ksh
Mon Mar  4 10:44:12 PST 2002

Oracle Database(s) Status for DBHOST server:
Oracle Instance - oradb1:    Up
Oracle Instance - oradb2:    Up
Oracle Instance - oradb3:    Down
```

Oracle Instance - oradb4: Up

## Check Oracle Listener's Availability

A similar script checks for the Oracle listener. If the listener is down, the script will restart the listener:

```
#####  
## cklsnr.sh ##  
#####  
#!/bin/ksh  
DBALIST="primary.dba@company.com, another.dba@company.com";export DBALIST  
cd /var/opt/oracle  
rm -f lsnr.exist  
ps -ef | grep mylsnr | grep -v grep > lsnr.exist  
if  
then  
echo  
else  
echo "Alert" | mailx -s "Listener 'mysnr' on `hostname` is down" $DBALIST  
TNS_ADMIN=/var/opt/oracle; export TNS_ADMIN  
ORACLE_SID=db1; export ORACLE_SID  
ORAENV_ASK=NO; export ORAENV_ASK  
PATH=$PATH:/bin:/usr/local/bin; export PATH  
. oraenv  
LD_LIBRARY_PATH=${ORACLE_HOME}/lib;export LD_LIBRARY_PATH  
lsnrctl start mylsnr  
fi
```

## Check Alert Logs (ORA-XXXXX)

Some of the environment variables used by each script can be put into one profile:

```
#####  
## oracle.profile ##  
#####  
EDITOR=vi;export EDITOR ORACLE_BASE=/u01/app/oracle; export  
ORACLE_BASE ORACLE_HOME=$ORACLE_BASE/product/8.1.7; export  
ORACLE_HOME LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$ORACLE_HOME/lib; export  
LD_LIBRARY_PATH TNS_ADMIN=/var/opt/oracle;export  
TNS_ADMIN NLS_LANG=american; export  
NLS_LANG NLS_DATE_FORMAT='Mon DD YYYY HH24:MI:SS'; export  
NLS_DATE_FORMAT ORATAB=/var/opt/oracle/oratab;export  
ORATAB  
PATH=$PATH:$ORACLE_HOME:$ORACLE_HOME/bin:/usr/ccs/bin:/bin:/usr/bin:/usr/sbin  
:/  
sbin:/usr/openwin/bin:/opt/bin:.; export  
PATH DBALIST="primary.dba@company.com, another.dba@company.com";export  
DBALIST
```

The following script first calls oracle.profile to set up all the environment variables. The script also sends the DBA a warning e-mail if it finds any Oracle errors:

```
#####  
## ckalertlog.sh ##  
#####  
#!/bin/ksh  
. /etc/oracle.profile  
for SID in `cat $ORACLE_HOME/sidlist`  
do  
cd $ORACLE_BASE/admin/$SID/bdump  
if  
then  
mv alert_${SID}.log alert_work.log  
touch alert_${SID}.log  
cat alert_work.log >> alert_${SID}.hist  
grep ORA- alert_work.log > alert.err  
fi  
if  
then  
mailx -s "${SID} ORACLE ALERT ERRORS" $DBALIST < alert.err  
fi  
rm -f alert.err  
rm -f alert_work.log  
done
```

## Clean Up Old Archived Logs

The following script cleans up old archive logs if the log file system reaches 90 percent capacity:

```
$ df -k | grep arch  
Filesystem                kbytes  used    avail  capacity Mounted on  
/dev/vx/dsk/proddg/archive 71123968 30210248 40594232   43% /u08/archive
```

```
#####  
## clean_arch.ksh ##  
#####  
#!/bin/ksh  
df -k | grep arch > dfk.result  
archive_filesystem=`awk -F" " '{ print $6 }' dfk.result`  
archive_capacity=`awk -F" " '{ print $5 }' dfk.result`  
if ]  
then  
echo "Filesystem ${archive_filesystem} is ${archive_capacity} filled"  
# try one of the following option depend on your need  
find $archive_filesystem -type f -mtime +2 -exec rm -r {} \  
tar  
rman
```

fi

## Analyze Tables and Indexes (for Better Performance)

Below, I have shown an example of how to pass parameters to a script:

```
#####  
## analyze_table.sh ##  
#####  
#!/bin/ksh #  
input parameter: 1: password # 2: SID if (($#<1)) then echo "Please enter  
'oracle'  
user password as the first parameter !" exit 0 fi if (($#<2)) then echo  
"Please enter  
instance name as the second parameter!" exit 0 fi
```

To execute the script with parameters, type:

```
$ analyze_table.sh manager oradb1
```

The first part of script generates a file analyze.sql, which contains the syntax for analyzing table. The second part of the script analyzes all the tables:

```
#####  
## analyze_table.sh ##  
#####  
sqlplus -s <<!  
oracle/$1@$2  
set heading off  
set feed off  
set pagesize 200  
set linesize 100  
spool analyze_table.sql  
select 'ANALYZE TABLE ' || owner || '.' || segment_name ||  
' ESTIMATE STATISTICS SAMPLE 10 PERCENT;'  
from dba_segments  
where segment_type = 'TABLE'  
and owner not in ('SYS', 'SYSTEM');  
spool off  
exit  
!  
sqlplus -s <<!  
oracle/$1@$2  
@./analyze_table.sql  
exit  
!
```

Here is an example of analyze.sql:

```

$ cat analyze.sql
ANALYZE TABLE HIRWIN.JANUSAGE_SUMMARY ESTIMATE STATISTICS SAMPLE 10 PERCENT;
ANALYZE TABLE HIRWIN.JANUSER_PROFILE ESTIMATE STATISTICS SAMPLE 10 PERCENT;
ANALYZE TABLE APPSSYS.HIST_SYSTEM_ACTIVITY ESTIMATE STATISTICS SAMPLE 10
PERCENT;
ANALYZE TABLE HTOMEH.QUEST_IM_VERSION ESTIMATE STATISTICS SAMPLE 10 PERCENT;
ANALYZE TABLE JSTENZEL.HIST_SYS_ACT_0615 ESTIMATE STATISTICS SAMPLE 10
PERCENT;
ANALYZE TABLE JSTENZEL.HISTORY_SYSTEM_0614 ESTIMATE STATISTICS SAMPLE 10
PERCENT;
ANALYZE TABLE JSTENZEL.CALC_SUMMARY3 ESTIMATE STATISTICS SAMPLE 10 PERCENT;
ANALYZE TABLE IMON.QUEST_IM_LOCK_TREE ESTIMATE STATISTICS SAMPLE 10 PERCENT;
ANALYZE TABLE APPSSYS.HIST_USAGE_SUMMARY ESTIMATE STATISTICS SAMPLE 10
PERCENT;
ANALYZE TABLE PATROL.P$LOCKCONFLICTTX ESTIMATE STATISTICS SAMPLE 10 PERCENT;

```

## Check Tablespace Usage

This script checks for tablespace usage. If tablespace is 10 percent free, it will send an alert e-mail.

```

#####
## ck_tbsp.sh ##
#####
#!/bin/ksh
sqlplus -s <<!
oracle/$1@$2
set feed off
set linesize 100
set pagesize 200
spool tablespace.alert
SELECT F.TABLESPACE_NAME,
TO_CHAR ((T.TOTAL_SPACE - F.FREE_SPACE), '999,999') "USED (MB)",
TO_CHAR (F.FREE_SPACE, '999,999') "FREE (MB)",
TO_CHAR (T.TOTAL_SPACE, '999,999') "TOTAL (MB)",
TO_CHAR ((ROUND ((F.FREE_SPACE/T.TOTAL_SPACE)*100)), '999') || '%' PER_FREE
FROM (
SELECT      TABLESPACE_NAME,
ROUND (SUM (BLOCKS*(SELECT VALUE/1024
FROM V\$PARAMETER
WHERE NAME = 'db_block_size'))/1024)
) FREE_SPACE
FROM DBA_FREE_SPACE
GROUP BY TABLESPACE_NAME
) F,
(
SELECT TABLESPACE_NAME,
ROUND (SUM (BYTES/1048576)) TOTAL_SPACE

```



```

FROM DBA_DATA_FILES
GROUP BY TABLESPACE_NAME
) T
WHERE F.TABLESPACE_NAME = T.TABLESPACE_NAME
AND (ROUND ((F.FREE_SPACE/T.TOTAL_SPACE)*100)) < 10;
spool off
exit
!
if
then
cat tablespace.alert -l tablespace.alert > tablespace.tmp
mailx -s "TABLESPACE ALERT for ${2}" $DBALIST < tablespace.tmp
fi

```

An example of the alert mail output is as follows:

TABLESPACE_NAME	USED (MB)	FREE (MB)	TOTAL (MB)
PER_FREE			
---			
---			
SYSTEM	2,047	203	2,250
9 %			
STBS01	302	25	327
8 %			
STBS02	241	11	252
4 %			
STBS03	233	19	252
8 %			

## Find Out Invalid Database Objects

The following finds out invalid database objects:

```

#####
## invalid_object_alert.sh ##
#####
#!/bin/ksh
. /etc/oracle.profile
sqlplus -s <<!
oracle/$1@$2
set          feed off
set heading off
column object_name format a30
spool invalid_object.alert
SELECT  OWNER, OBJECT_NAME, OBJECT_TYPE, STATUS
FROM    DBA_OBJECTS
WHERE   STATUS = 'INVALID'
ORDER BY OWNER, OBJECT_TYPE, OBJECT_NAME;

```

```

spool off
exit
!
if
then
mailx -s "INVALID OBJECTS for ${2}" $DBALIST < invalid_object.alert
fi
$ cat invalid_object.alert

```

OWNER	OBJECT_NAME	OBJECT_TYPE	STATUS
HTOMEH	DBMS_SHARED_POOL	PACKAGE BODY	INVALID
HTOMEH	X_\$KCBFWAIT	VIEW	INVALID
IMON	IW_MON	PACKAGE	INVALID
IMON	IW_MON	PACKAGE BODY	INVALID
IMON	IW_ARCHIVED_LOG	VIEW	INVALID
IMON	IW_FILESTAT	VIEW	INVALID
IMON	IW_SQL_FULL_TEXT	VIEW	INVALID
IMON	IW_SYSTEM_EVENT1	VIEW	INVALID
IMON	IW_SYSTEM_EVENT_CAT	VIEW	INVALID
LBAILEY	CHECK_TABLESPACE_USAGE	PROCEDURE	INVALID
PATROL	P\$AUTO_EXTEND_TBSP	VIEW	INVALID
SYS	DBMS_CRYPTO_TOOLKIT	PACKAGE	INVALID
SYS	DBMS_CRYPTO_TOOLKIT	PACKAGE BODY	INVALID
SYS	UPGRADE_SYSTEM_TYPES_TO_816	PROCEDURE	INVALID
SYS	AQ\$_DEQUEUE_HISTORY_T	TYPE	INVALID
SYS	HS_CLASS_CAPS	VIEW	INVALID
SYS	HS_CLASS_DD	VIEW	INVALID

## Monitor Users and Transactions (Dead Locks, et al)

This script sends out an alert e-mail if dead lock occurs:

```

#####
## deadlock_alert.sh ##
#####
#!/bin/ksh
. /etc/oracle.profile
sqlplus -s <<!
oracle/$1@$2
set feed off
set heading off
spool deadlock.alert
SELECT  SID, DECODE(BLOCK, 0, 'NO', 'YES' ) BLOCKER,
DECODE(REQUEST, 0, 'NO', 'YES' ) WAITER
FROM    V$LOCK
WHERE   REQUEST > 0 OR BLOCK > 0

```

```
ORDER BY block DESC;
spool off
exit
!
if
then
mailx -s "DEADLOCK ALERT for ${2}" $DBALIST < deadlock.alert
fi
```

Conclusion

```
0,20,40 7-17 * * 1-5 /dba/scripts/ckinstance.sh > /dev/null 2>&1
0,20,40 7-17 * * 1-5 /dba/scripts/cklsnr.sh > /dev/null 2>&1
0,20,40 7-17 * * 1-5 /dba/scripts/ckalertlog.sh > /dev/null 2>&1
30      * * * 0-6 /dba/scripts/clean_arch.sh > /dev/null 2>&1
*       5 * * 1,3 /dba/scripts/analyze_table.sh > /dev/null 2>&1
*       5 * * 0-6 /dba/scripts/ck_tbsp.sh > /dev/null 2>&1
*       5 * * 0-6 /dba/scripts/invalid_object_alert.sh > /dev/null 2>&1
0,20,40 7-17 * * 1-5 /dba/scripts/deadlock_alert.sh > /dev/null 2>&1
```

Now, my DBA friends, you can finally get a bit more uninterrupted sleep at night. You may also have time for more important things like performance tuning.

## References

- Unix in a Nutshell, O'Reilly & Associates, Inc.;
- "Using Oraclegi Application Server to Build Your Web-Based Database Monitoring Tool," Daniel T. Liu; Select Magazine - November 2001 Volume 8, No. 1;
- "Net8: A Step-by-Step Setup of Oracle Names Server," Daniel T. Liu; Oracle Open World 2000, Paper#271.

*I would also like to acknowledge the assistance of Johnny Wedekind of ADP, Ann Collins, Larry Bailey, Husam Tomeh and Archana Sharma of FARES.*