The Magic Box of Healthcare Analytics

Scott Davis, Senior Systems Engineer/DBA Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama

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Who we are...



BlueCross BlueShield of Alabama

An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

- Only plan to have won 19 Brand Excellence Awards from the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association
- Over 2.1 million customers within Alabama with an additional 900,000 customers outside of the state
- Industry leader in administrative costs. In 2014, over 92 percent of all revenue went toward treating patients.

Agenda

- Problem returning large amounts of data
- The IBM DB2 Analytics Accelerator Solution
- The "Magic Box" in the real world of Healthcare Analytics

What's the issue?

Data Performance

- Business areas run ad-hoc queries against databases, but results are often slow to return or don't return at all
- Time should be spent on analyzing the data rather than gathering the data

Why are query speeds slow?

Large amounts of data being analyzed

Joining multiple tables/views to accomplish required analysis

Non-technical analysts using software to create queries/reports

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BCBSAL Environment

- 2 EC12 CPCs (1 model 705, 1 model 706) z/OS 1.13 DB2 V10 NFM
- 3 main DB2 z/OS subsystems Processing, Warehouse and Development
- Enterprise Data Warehouse utilizes 3 way data sharing with one member hosting a majority of the workload

Information Management

Information Management program established to manage information/data cohesively and comprehensively

- 'Data Performance' identified as a major area for improvement
- Information Management Strategy developed with the assistance of IBM

DB2 Analytics Accelerator Solution (2013)

IBM DB2 Analytics Accelerator

 Netezza (IBM PureData for Analytics) based solution

Netezza Data Warehouse appliance connected to IBM mainframe through 10 gig dedicated fiber cable

DB2 Analytics Accelerator software on mainframe integrates with DB2 to determine which queries to accelerate

DB2 Analytics Accelerator Solution (continued)

Netezza appliance built on Massive Parallel Processing (MPP) architecture

Several times faster than native DB2 processing

IBM DB2 Analytics Accelerator for z/OS V2.1

What it is / fit – validate agenda assumption

What is it?

The IBM DB2 Analytics Accelerator is a workload optimized, appliance add-on to a DB2 z/OS environment that services long-running, complex queries.



- Breakthrough technology enabling new opportunities
- Extreme performance for complex analytics (aka Train of Thought Analysis)
- Integrated with DB2 for z/OS V9 and V10 as a dedicated appliance exclusive to the System z environment
- Transparent to DB2 applications and users

Workload-Optimized Query Execution

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- Single and unique system for mixed query workloads
- Dynamic decision for most efficient execution platform
- New special register QUERY ACCELERATION
 - NONE
 - ENABLE
 - ENABLE WITH FAILBACK
- New heuristic in DB2 optimizer
- Combines the strengths of both System z and Netezza
- Merging operational and data warehouse into a single optimized environment

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Accelerator Data Load



- Load speed up to 1 TB/hr are common
- Trickle-feed update under development

Tools Used by Analysts

Reporting environment

- Business Objects Crystal Reports
- Business Objects Web Intelligence
- Business Objects Enterprise InfoView 3.1
- Tableau
- Toad Data Point
- AQT
- WinSQL
- SPUFI
- DB2 Connect 9.7 Fixpack 7

Information Management Smart Business Analytics on System z

Seconds

9

Comparison of Query Elapsed Time



Queries

@ 2012 IBM Corporation

Elapsed Time Comparison for Exception Queries





DB2 Analytics Accelerator Implementation

Purchased Twinfin 12 in first quarter of 2013.PoC was conducted on Twinfin 6

Acceleration enabled in warehouse subsystem on June 9, 2013. (Software version 2.1)

Upgrade to software version 3.1 on November 23, 2013

Upgade to software version 4.1 on April 11, 2015

Technology areas involved in implementation

Who is responsible for the "Magic"???

- Behind the scenes work performed by Technology Support Team
 - Systems Programmers
 - Database Administrators
 - Information Management Team (Warehouse)
 - Networking Team
 - Data Center Team

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Healthcare Analytics Example

Report on each customer group detailing age band and gender of insured (contract holder and dependents), relationship to contract holder and zip code.

Report returns 72,000,000 rows.

Before IDAA: Information returned with multiple queries and combined for final report. (One Week)

Healthcare Analytics Example (continued)

After IDAA: Single query returns 72,000,000. (20 Minutes)

Pros and Cons of IDAA

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No special security required Transparent to customer All dynamic sql can be accelerated "Train of Thought" Analysis Low maintenance

"Black Box" difficult to troubleshoot problem queries <u>Few tools available</u>



Business customers now consider the "Magic Box" an essential tool for retrieving data for analysis!



Thank You!

sdavis@bcbsal.org