Mastering OpenEdge Query Performance

Best Practices and Tools for Optimizing Database Queries

White Star Software

For over 30 years, we have been helping companies around the world simplify the job of managing and maintaining the world's best OpenEdge applications.

Our experts, combined with ProTop, the leading OpenEdge monitoring and alerting tool, deliver unparalleled peace of mind for your OpenEdge environments.

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The speaker

Paul Koufalis (pk@wss.com)

- Speaker/teacher/OpenEdge DBA since 1994

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Agenda

- ❑ First thoughts
- ❑ Tools to find inefficient code
- ❑ Improving queries
- ❑ Q&A

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First thoughts

"The system is slow"

- We've all heard this from our end users
- Often code/query related. Sometimes not
- For this presentation we will assume that it is code
- …but more on this later

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Second thoughts…

- There are many ways to find the bad code
  - Some kind of monitoring and trending
  - Hopefully you attended our session on ProTop
- We will show ProTop RT screen captures
  - 100% free download

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Our villains

- “churn.p”: A program that reads the very small vacation table a very large number of times
- “paul_orders.p”: a program that reads through all orders of all customers
- Both using a “big” sports2000 DB

- HOW DO WE FIND THEM?

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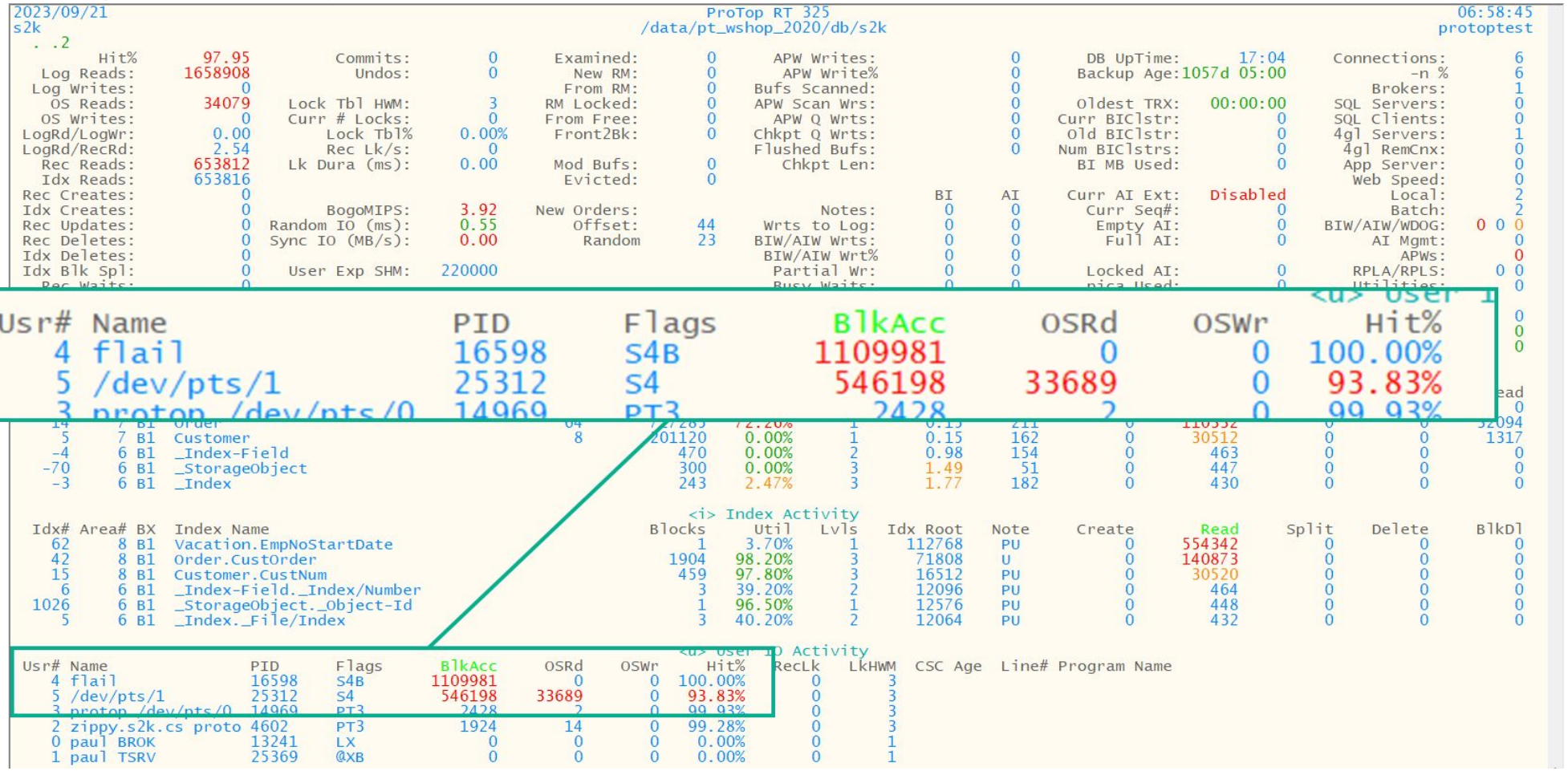
Using ProTop RT



Where did these numbers come from?

- _UserIO VST

- You will probably also want to sample _UserTablestat and _UserIndexstat VST
- Set correct -basetable, -baseindex, -tablerangesize and -indexrangesize
  - Default only capture first 50 tables and 50 indezes

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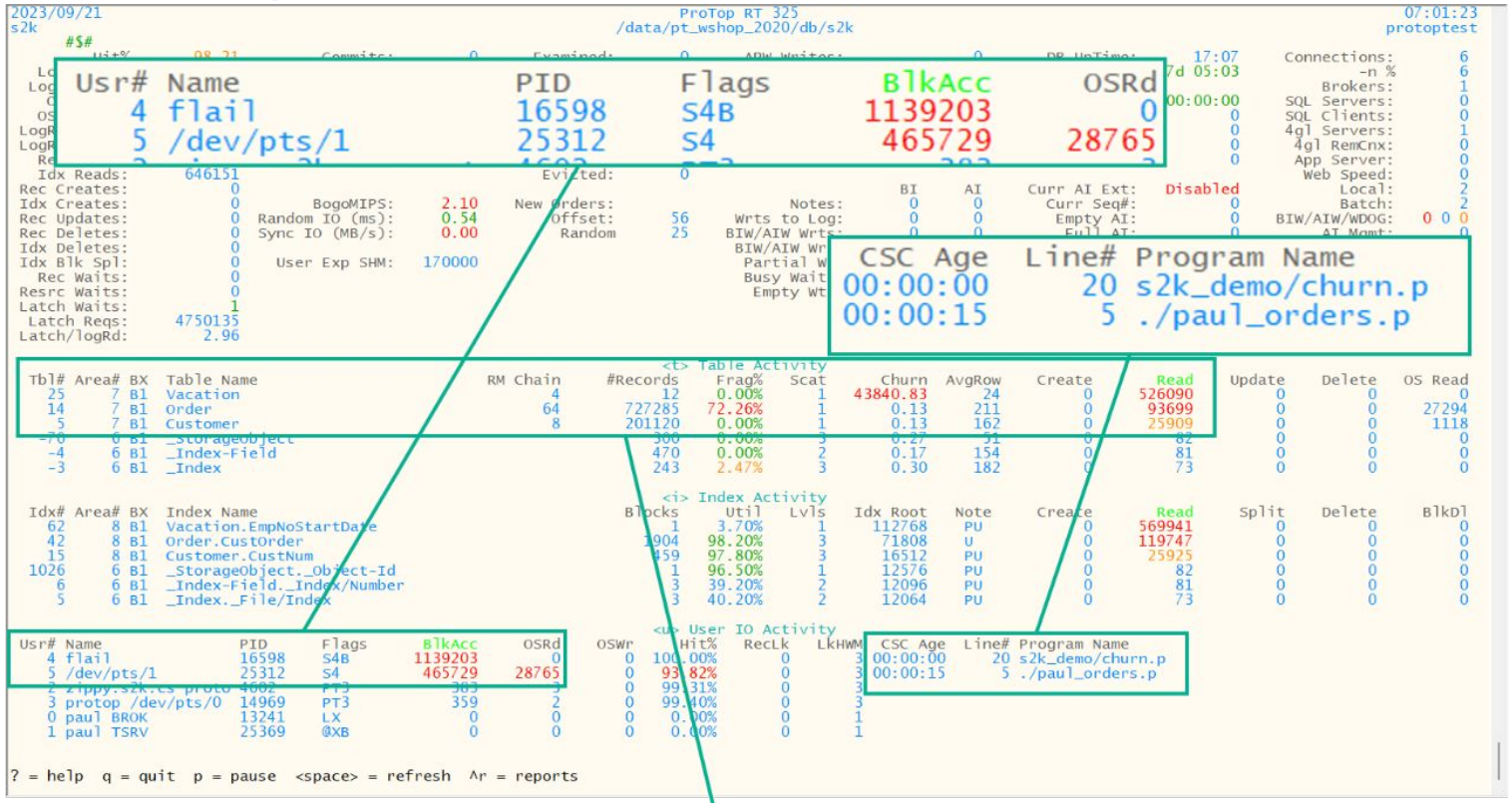
What are they doing?



<t> Table Activity

Tbl#	Area#	BX	Table Name	RM Chain	#Records	Frag%	Scat	Churn	AvgRow	Create	Read
25	7	B1	Vacation	4	12	0.00%	1	43840.83	24	0	526090
14	7	B1	Order	64	727285	72.26%	1	0.13	211	0	93699
5	7	B1	Customer	8	201120	0.00%	1	0.13	162	0	25909

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How did ProTop get the program name?

- Enable Client Statement Cache
  - Use option “single”
- Can be enabled via promon or _connect VST

- NOTE:
  - CSC only records lines of code that touch the database
  - Only records new lines of code AFTER being enabled
  - Will not report on already running query: use proGetStack
- CAREFUL:
  - Could have performance impact, especially C/S

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Tooling

Method #1: Use LOG-MANAGER

- Ex.: have an option in application to activate tracing
  - I.e. “Help - Trace App”, or a secret hotkey sequence

```
assign log-manager:logfile-name = "paul_orders.log"
       log-manager:logging-level = 3
       log-manager:log-entry-types = "4GLTrace,4GLTrans,QryInfo".
```

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Output

```
4GL -- Log entry types activated: 4GLTrace,4GLTrans,QryInfo
4GL QRYINFO         Query Plan:  ./paul_orders.p line 9
4GL QRYINFO         QueryId: 140595302309352
4GL QRYINFO         Type: FOR Statement
4GL QRYINFO         Client Sort: N
4GL QRYINFO         Scrolling: N
4GL QRYINFO         Table: s2k.Customer
4GL QRYINFO           Indexes: CustNum
4GL QRYINFO         Table: s2k.Order
4GL QRYINFO           Indexes: CustOrder
4GL QRYINFO         Query Statistics:  ./paul_orders.p line 9
4GL QRYINFO         QueryId: 140595302309352
4GL QRYINFO         DB Blocks accessed:
4GL QRYINFO          s2k : 3609667
4GL QRYINFO         DB Reads:
4GL QRYINFO          Table: s2k.Customer : 201120
4GL QRYINFO          Index: Customer.CustNum : 201121
4GL QRYINFO          Table: s2k.Order : 727303
4GL QRYINFO          Index: Order.CustOrder : 928405
..
4GL 4GLTRACE        Return from Main Block [./paul_orders.p]
```

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Also cool…

```
4GL -- Log entry types activated: 4GLTrace,4GLTrans,QryInfo
4GL QRYINFO         Query Plan:  ./paul_orders.p line 9
4GL QRYINFO         QueryId: 140595302309352
4GL QRYINFO         Type: FOR Statement
4GL QRYINFO         Client Sort: N
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4GL QRYINFO           Indexes: CustNum
4GL QRYINFO         Table: s2k.Order
4GL QRYINFO           Indexes: CustOrder
4GL QRYINFO         Query Statistics:  ./paul_orders.p line 9
4GL QRYINFO         QueryId: 140595302309352
4GL QRYINFO         DB Blocks accessed:
4GL QRYINFO          s2k : 3609667
4GL QRYINFO         DB Reads:
4GL QRYINFO          Table: s2k.Customer : 201120
4GL QRYINFO          Index: Customer.CustNum : 201121
4GL QRYINFO          Table: s2k.Order : 727303
4GL QRYINFO          Index: Order.CustOrder : 928405
..
4GL 4GLTRACE        Return from Main Block [./paul_orders.p]
```

```
4GL QRYINFO         s2k.Customer Table:
4GL QRYINFO          4GL Records: 201120
4GL QRYINFO          Records from server: 201120
4GL QRYINFO           Useful: 201120
4GL QRYINFO           Failed: 0
4GL QRYINFO          Select By Client: N
4GL QRYINFO         s2k.Order Table:
4GL QRYINFO          4GL Records: 727285
4GL QRYINFO          Records from server: 727285
4GL ORYINFO           Useful: 727285
```

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Similar query…unindexed field

```
4GL QRYINFO         DB Reads:
4GL QRYINFO          Table: s2k.Customer : 201120
4GL QRYINFO          Index: Customer.CustNum : 201121
4GL QRYINFO         s2k.Customer Table:
4GL QRYINFO          4GL Records: 28
4GL QRYINFO          Records from server: 28
4GL QRYINFO           Useful: 28
4GL QRYINFO           Failed: 0
4GL QRYINFO          Select By Client: N
```


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Tooling

Method #2: -zqil

- Unsupported/undocumented
- Do NOT use in production
- Writes query index usage information to the database log file

- Tells you which index is used and how deep into the index keys

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-zqil

- Information is presented as upper and lower bounds
  - GT, GE are lower bounds
  - LT, LE are upper bounds
  - = is both an upper and lower bound

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-zqil

```
for each customer no-lock where city = "Bellevue".
```

- There is no index that starts with “city”
  - Hence no upper no lower bound on index #15

```
ABL     3: (6135)  ==Compiled Query Resolution Method: Query No. 1==
ABL     3: (6157)  INDEX 15 0 0
ABL     3: (6136)  ==Server Query execution Method Query No. 1==
ABL     3: (6141)  INDEX 15
```

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-zqil

```
for each customer no-lock where country > "A":

ABL     3: (6135)  ==Compiled Query Resolution Method: Query No. 1==
ABL     3: (6157)  INDEX 17 1 0

for each customer no-lock where country > "A" and PostalCode >
"100":

ABL     3: (6135)  ==Compiled Query Resolution Method: Query No. 1==
ABL     3: (6157)  INDEX 17 1 0

for each customer no-lock where country = "AT" and PostalCode >
"100":

ABL     3: (6135)  ==Compiled Query Resolution Method: Query No. 1==
ABL     3: (6157)  INDEX 17 2 1
```

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What is index 17 ?

```
find _file where _file-name = "customer".
find _index of _file where _idx-num = 17.
displ _index-name.

Index-Name
--------------------------------
CountryPost
```

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Combine QryInfo and -zqil

- QryInfo tells you how many record reads and how many useful records
- -zqil tells you how much of the index you are actually using!

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Method #3: COMPILE XREF

- Limited value:
  - Tells you WHICH indexes are used
  - Tells you if full table scan

```
custom.p 45 SEARCH s2k.Customer Name
custom.p 45 SEARCH s2k.Customer Salesrep

paul_orders.p 10 SEARCH s2k.Customer CustNum WHOLE-INDEX
```

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Tooling

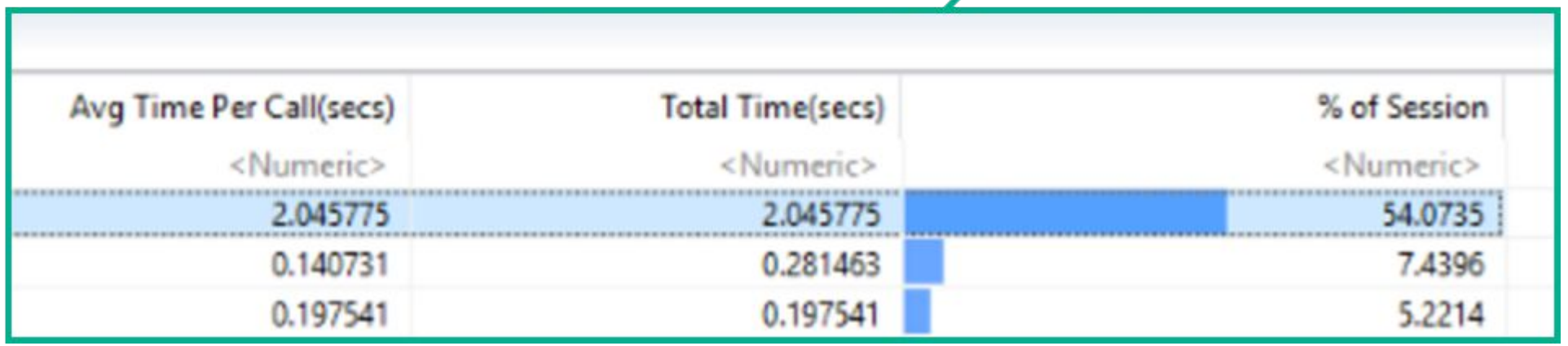
Method #4: Profiler

- Counts how often and how much time is spent in each line of code

Module Details

Execution time of modules

Module Name	Times Called	Avg Time Per Call(secs)	Total Time(secs)	% of Session
<Regex>	<Numeric>	<Numeric>	<Numeric>	<Numeric>
ReadResponseHandler OpenEdge.Net.ServerConnection.ClientSocket	1	2.045775	2.045775	54.0735
GetLocalDateFormat Example.Logging.SlowFilter	2	0.140731	0.281463	7.4396
C:\devarea\conferences\abl_performance_workshop\profiler_labs\src\slow_http_call.p	1	0.197541	0.197541	5.2214
Connect OpenEdge.Net.ServerConnection.ClientSocket	2	0.066293	0.132585	3.5045
NewMessageWriter OpenEdge.Net.HTTP.Filter.Writer.DefaultMessageWriterBuilder	1	0.062266	0.062266	1.6458
Execute OpenEdge.Net.HTTP.Lib.ABLSockets.ABLSocketLibrary	1	0.059555	0.059555	1.5741



What’s next?

- You found the offending (and offensive) query
- Let’s improve it - i.e. read less records

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Understanding index selection rules

- Only applies to ABL, not SQL
- Rules are applied in order, until only one index is left
  - IMPORTANT: Rules are NOT SELECTED, they are ELIMINATED
- Field match rules must be contiguous, from the first field in the index

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Index selection rules

1. Pre-select only indexes with leading components in the where clause
2. If CONTAINS use word-index
3. Unique index with all components involved in the equality matches
4. Most active equality matches
    a. Sorta kinda…full matches trump partial matches
    b. But only if more than 1 field (sometimes)
5. Most active range matches
6. Most active sort matches

If you still have more than one index, or zero index, select one from

1. The primary index
2. First index alphabetically by name

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Example

```
for each order where orderNum = 12345.
for each order where orderNum = 12345 and CustNum = 5.
```

Quick Index Report

Flags	Index Name	St	Area	Cnt	Field Name
u	CustOrder	8	2	+	CustNum
				+	Ordernum
	OrderDate	8	1	+	OrderDate
pu	OrderNum	8	1	+	Ordernum
-	OrderStatus	8	1	+	OrderStatus
	SalesRep	8	1	+	SalesRep

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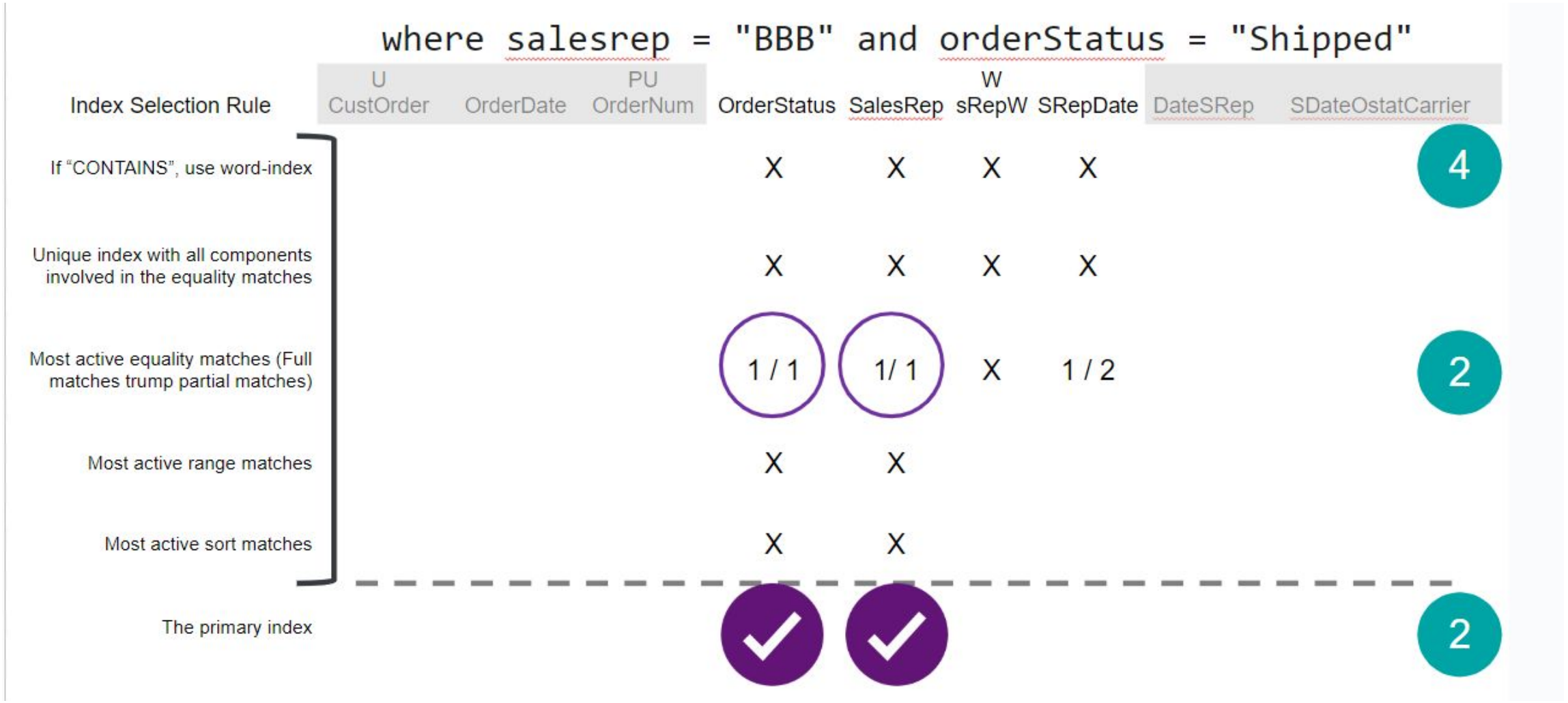
Tip: Use an elimination grid



Multiple index use

- Where clause includes “AND”
  - ALL components of each index are involved in equality matches
  - No unique indexes are involved
- Where clause includes “OR”
  - Both sides of OR contain at least the lead component of an index
  - Either equality or range match
- CAREFUL: return order not guaranteed

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Careful…

- Expressions break bracketing

```
for each order no-lock where month(orderDate) = 1 ...
```

- BEGINS does NOT break bracketing
  - Considered a range bracket

```
for each order no-lock where salesRep begins "D"
```

  - Uses the order.salesRep index
- MATCHES breaks bracketing
- Temp-table rules are subtly different

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Special case: OR

- Each side of an OR is its own distinct index selection operation
  - Apply the rules to each side separately
  - Resulting records from both sides are then combined

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Example

```
for each order no-lock where orderStatus = "Ordered" OR
                             SalesRep = "BBB":
```

```
2023/09/22                                   ProTop RT 325                                                    08:07:54
s2k                                            ../db/s2k                                                      protoptest
  p#U
   Login Name:            Login Time:Fri Sep 22 07:58:40 2023      -Bp Bufs:          0      BI Reads:          0      Logical Rd:    1387848
        Usr#:          3  Device/IP: /dev/pts/3                   -Bp Used:          0      BI Writes:         0      Logical Wr:          0
   Connect Id:         4  Full Name:                                                        AI Reads:          0      Disk Reads:     178267
         PID:      25562       Phone:                               Server:          0      AI Writes:         0            Hit%         87
         TID:      25562      E-Mail:                            Serv PID:          0                                  Num TRX:          0
                                                                  Serv TID:          0                                  Curr Locks:       0
 Session Info: ABL SELF S4                                                                                            Lock HWM:         3
    TRX Info: --None--

                                                  Session Table Activity
 Tbl# Area# Table Name                    RM Chain     #Records     Frag% Scat     Churn  AvgRow    Create      Read    Update    Delete   OS Read
   14     7 Order                              64       727285     72.26%    1      0.52     211         0    378094         0         0 ?
   -2     6 _Field                                        2267      9.44%    3      0.01     299         0        13         0         0 ?
   -1     6 _File                                          207     20.77%    4      0.02     374         0         5         0         0 ?
 -361     6 _Constraint-Keys                                       0.00%             0.00               0         0         0         0 ?
 -360     6 _Constraint                                            0.00%             0.00               0         0         0         0 ?
 -351     6 _Partition-Set-Detail                                  0.00%             0.00               0         0         0         0 ?
 -350     6 _Partition-Set                                         0.00%             0.00               0         0         0         0 ?

                                                  Session Index Activity
 Idx# Area# Index Name                      Blocks      Util Lvls    Idx Root   Note     Create      Read     Split    Delete     BlkDl
   44     8 Order.OrderStatus                 110    61.10%    2       75904              0    334399         0         0         0
   45     8 Order.SalesRep                    361    56.00%    2       77952              0     81089         0         0         0
    3     6 _Field._Field-Name                 16    54.90%    2       12000   U          0         7         0         0         0
 1093     6 _Word-rule._Wr-Number               1     0.10%    1       14464   PU         0         0         0         0         0
                                                1     0.10%    1       14432   U          0                                      0
                                                1     0.10%    1       14400   PU         0                                      0
                                                1     0.10%    1       14368   U          0                                      0

                                                  Session 4GL Call Stack
```


```
Idx# Area# Index Name
  44      8 Order.OrderStatus
  45      8 Order.SalesRep
   3      6 _Field._Field-Name
```

```
Read
334399
81089
7
```

Example

```
4GL QRYINFO         DB Blocks accessed:
4GL QRYINFO          s2k : 1387814
4GL QRYINFO         DB Reads:
4GL QRYINFO          Table: s2k.Order : 378094
4GL QRYINFO          Index: Order.OrderStatus : 334399
4GL QRYINFO          Index: Order.SalesRep : 81089
4GL QRYINFO         s2k.Order Table:
4GL QRYINFO          4GL Records: 378092
4GL QRYINFO          Records from server: 378092
4GL QRYINFO           Useful: 378092
4GL QRYINFO           Failed: 0
4GL QRYINFO          Select By Client: N
4GL 4GLTRACE        Return from Main Block [/data/pt_wshop_2
```

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Table scans

```
for each order no-lock table-scan:
```

- If you expect to read more than ⅓ of the table, consider using the TABLE-SCAN option
  - Does not use any index
  - Returns data in “on-disk” order
  - Only if table is in a type 2 storage area

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Client/Server Queries

- Client-server queries are going to be slower than shared memory queries
- Records are transported to client in “messages”
  - There is an OpenEdge message buffer size AND a TCP MTU (Maximum Transmission Unit)
- You can make it better with the following

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Client/Server Queries

- Use NO-LOCK
  - Anything else will result in one record per OE message
- Use field lists
  - Don’t send the whole record if you only need one field
- Make the message buffer size (-Mm) bigger
  - Default is 1K
  - Use at least 8K or 16K
- Use -prefetch* parameters
  - No use having a big message unless you can fill it !!
- Server-side joins in OE 12

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SQL

- SQL uses a cost-based optimizer
- Calculate cost statistics using UPDATE STATISTICS
- Repeat periodically or when texture of data changes
  - Ex: purge or mass load

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Monitor OpenEdge. Anticipate Problems. Avert Disasters.

Prevent downtime, increase performance, and lower costs for cloud, on-premise, and hybrid environments with the only monitoring tool designed explicitly for OpenEdge.

535	1.5	4,500	325,000
Customer Sites	Petabytes of data	Databases	Connected users

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