



ORACLE

Patching Master Class

Danish Oracle User Group

Oracle

DBAs

run the world





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Senior Principal Product Manager



dohdatabase



@dohdatabase



<https://dohdatabase.com>

AGENDA

15:00

Intro to
Patching



15:30

Hands-On
Lab



16:30

Grid Infrastructure
Questions



17:00

End of
workshop





Quarterly Patching



My database is
not facing the internet

Critical Patch Alert July 2022 | Risk Matrix

CVE#	Component	Package and/or Privilege Required	Protocol	Remote Exploit without Auth.?	CVSS VERSION 3.1 RISK (see Risk Matrix Definitions)									Supported Versions Affected	Notes
					Base Score	Attack Vector	Attack Complex	Privs Req'd	User Interact	Scope	Confidentiality	Integrity	Availability		
CVE-2020-35169	Oracle Database - Enterprise Edition	None	TCPS	Yes	9.1	Network	Low	None	None	Un-changed	High	High	None	12.1.0.2, 19c, 21c	
CVE-2022-21510	Oracle Database - Enterprise Edition Sharding	Local Logon	None	No	8.8		Low	Low	None	Changed	High	High	High	None	See Note 1
CVE-2022-21511	Oracle Database - Enterprise Edition Recovery	EXECUTE ON DBMS_JR.EXECUTESQLSCRIPT	Oracle Net	No	7.2	Network	Low	High	None	Un-changed	High	High	High	None	See Note 1
CVE-2022-21565	Java VM	Create Procedure	Oracle Net	No	6.5	Network	Low	Low	None	Un-changed	None	High	None	12.1.0.2, 19c, 21c	
CVE-2022-24729	Oracle Application Express (CKEditor)	User Account	HTTP	No	5.7	Network	Low	Low	Required	Un-changed	None	None	High	Prior to 22.1.1	
CVE-2021-41184	Oracle Application Express (jQueryUI)	User Account	HTTP	No	5.4	Network	Low	Low	Required	Changed	Low	Low	None	Prior to 22.1.1	
CVE-2022-0839	Oracle SQLcl (Liquibase)	Local Logon	None	No	5.0	Local	Low	Low	Required	Un-changed	High	None	None	19c	
CVE-2021-45943	Oracle Spatial and Graph (GDAL)	Create Session	Oracle Net	No	4.3	Network	Low	Low	None	Un-changed	None	None	Low	19c, 21c	
CVE-2022-21432	Oracle Database - Enterprise Edition RDBMS Security	DBA role	Oracle Net	No	2.7	Network	Low	High	None	Un-changed	None	None	Low	12.1.0.2, 19c, 21c	



You always start with
Oracle Database base release

- Oracle Database 19.3.0

Always apply the most recent RU

Use the Patch Download Assistant [MOS Note: 2118136.2](#)

 Assistant: Download Reference for Oracle Database/GI Update, Revision, PSU, SPU(CPU), Bundle Patches, Patchsets and Base Releases (Doc ID 2118136.2)  To Bottom

Visibility: EXTERNAL  (98)       

Selection(s)

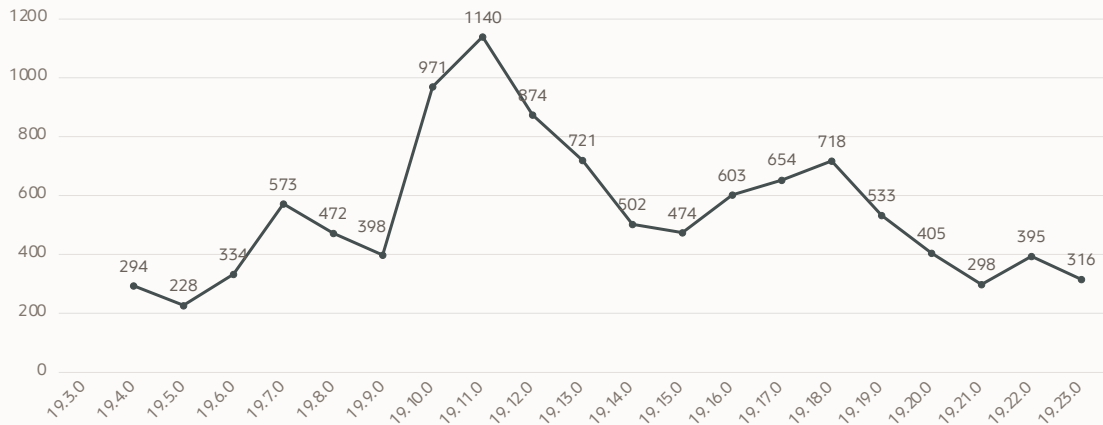
What would you like to download?

- ☐ Oracle Database Base Releases
- ☐ Oracle Database Patchsets
- ☒ Oracle Database Release Updates (RUs)
- ☐ Oracle Database Release Update Revisions (RURs - discontinued since Apr 2023)
- ☐ Oracle Database PSU, SPU(CPU), Bundle Patches (Versions 12.1 & lower)
- ☐ OJVM Update/PSU/Bundle Patches
- ☐ Latest Available Microsoft Windows Patches
- ☐ Monthly Recommended Patches (MRPs)

Solution(s)

Possible Solutions will appear once you make your selection.

Release Update Contents



[Database 19 Release Updates and Revisions Bugs Fixed Lists \(Doc ID 2523220.1\)](#)



If you don't apply a recent Release Update, you will miss **thousands** of fixes

- Almost 11k fixes with 19.23.0
- Almost 300 security fixes

Apply the Most Important Patches

Always use Important Recommended One-Off Patches: [MOS Note: 555.1](#)

Recommended Patches for 19.22 DB Home

Below is the list of important patches to consider applying on top of 19.22. In addition to the relevant patches listed below, you should also review patches in [Database PSU/BP/Update/Revision - Known Issues Primary Note\(Doc.ID 1227443.1\)](#) and [Oracle Database Patches to Consider for 19c \(Doc.ID 2781612.2\)](#) which contains patches to consider for specific areas such as Data Pump, Golden gate etc.

Bug	Fixed in RU	Fixed in MRP	Description	Patches	RAC Rolling Installable	Database Online Installable	Added
36273767 (replaces 35733946)			ORA-1578: oracle data block corrupted on tempfile even after 35904282, 35733946	[list patches]	YES	YES	30-APR-2024
35286895	19.23		[KPD] Switchover/Failover Failing for Backup-Based Cadg : ORA-1113: File 3013 Needs Media Recovery	[list patches]	YES	YES	29-APR-2024
36480774			RECOVERY] Slow Opening of database in RAC database for other instance	[list patches]	YES	YES	27-APR-2024
36366069	19.23	DBMRP 19.21.0.0.240319, DBMRP 19.22.0.0.240319	CPU spinning on CTWR and reports ORA-32701 / instance crash post 19.21 DBRU on standby	[list patches]	YES	YES	28-MAR-2024
35998116 (replaces 35037877)	19.23	DBMRP 19.21.0.0.240319, DBMRP 19.22.0.0.240319	DBSEC_PRIVS] PLS-00801: internal error pgm.c:pgmrcm 4] from internal trigger compilation	[list patches]	YES	YES	27-MAR-2024

Monthly Recommended Patches

A collection of recommended one-off fixes
provided at monthly intervals
via a single downloadable patch

Quarterly Release Updates

	2023				2024				2025				2026		
	January	April	July	October	January	April	July	October	January	April	July	October	January	April	July
19c	19.18.0	19.19.0	19.20.0	19.21.0	19.22.0	19.23.0	19.24.0	19.25.0	19.26.0	19.27.0	19.28.0	19.29.0	19.30.0	19.31.0	19.232.0
21c	21.10.0	21.11.0	21.12.0	21.13.0	21.14.0	21.15.0	21.16.0	21.17.0	21.18.0	21.19.0					
23ai							23.5.0	23.6.0	23.7.0	23.8.0	23.9.0	23.10.0	23.11.0	23.12.0	23.13.0

Monthly Recommended Patches

	2023			2024										
	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November
19.21.0	19.21.0	MRP1	MRP2	MRP3	MRP4	MRP5	MRP6							
19.22.0				19.22.0	MRP1	MRP2	MRP3	MRP4	MRP5	MRP6				
19.23.0							19.23.0	MRP1	MRP2	MRP3	MRP4	MRP5	MRP6	
19.24.0										19.24.0	MRP1	MRP2	MRP3	MRP4
19.25.0													19.25.0	MRP1



An MRP is an **optional** collection of several **important** one-off patches

- Delivered as a merge patch



An MRP **does not** change
the release number

- Like `v$instance.version_full`



MRPs are **cumulative**
but only within one MRP line

- Example: 19.21.0 MRP6 contains all previous MRPs done for Oracle 19.21.0



MRPs are **Linux** only



MRPs can contain security fixes

- Release Updates remain the primary security fix delivery mechanism



Sorry, but there is more to talk about ...

Apply Additional Important Fixes and Bundles

★ Oracle Database Patches to Consider for 19c (Doc ID 2781612.2)

To Bottom

Visibility: EXTERNAL

(7)

Getting Started

Performance

GoldenGate

Oracle Text

Platform Specific

HA

DNFS

Data Pump

Partitioning

Multitenant

General

Oracle Spatial

Search This Document

Print

When applying Database patches, Oracle recommends that you take a 3-tiered step-by-step approach.

LEVEL 1: Apply latest quarterly patches:

- Apply latest quarterly updates using [Master Note for Database Proactive Patch Program \(Doc ID 888.1\)](#)

LEVEL 2: Apply Critical/Recommended patches:

- - For Exadata environments: [Exadata Critical Issues \(Doc ID 1270094.1\)](#)
 - For Database environments:
 - Customers on Linux x86-64 - Apply the latest [Monthly Recommended Patches - MRP\(Doc ID 2898740.1\)](#) for the specific RU
 - For customers on other platforms, apply critical patches using [Oracle Database 19c Important Recommended One-off Patches \(Doc ID 555.1\)](#)

LEVEL 3: Apply additional patches based on features or focus areas:

- Use the tabs in this document for quick access to additional feature based patches



Always use the latest OPatch

- [Patch 6880880](#)

Patching Basic



What Can Be in a Patch?

FILES

New or changed executables, libs or files

bin/oracle

bin/srvctl

oracore/zoneinfo/timzone_34.dat

Apply and rollback scripts

sqlpatch/.../nnn_apply.sql

sqlpatch/.../nnn_rollback.sql

SQL PL/SQL

New or changed objects

alter table sys.tab\$...

create index sys.i_tab1 ...

create or replace package sys.dbms_scheduler ...

How to Apply a Patch?

opatch



Applies binaries to an
Oracle Home



All instances using
this **Oracle Home**
are **down**

datapatch



Applies SQL and PL/SQL
changes to a **database**



Database is **up**

What is installed?

In the Oracle Home?

```
$ opatch lsinventory  
$ opatch lspatches
```

```
SQL> select  
xmltransform(dbms_qopatch.get_opatch_lsinventory,  
dbms_qopatch.get_opatch_xslt) from dual;
```

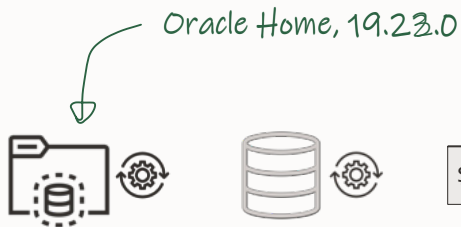
- [Oracle Database 12.1: FAO on Queryable Patch Inventory \(Doc ID 1530108.1\)](#)

In the database / PDB?

```
SQL> select * from cdb_registry_sqlpatch;
```

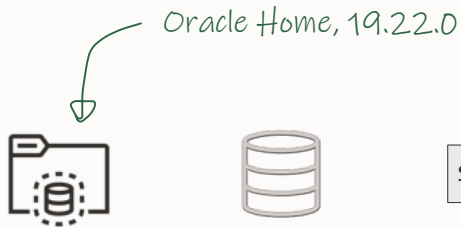
Patching Methods

In-Place Patching

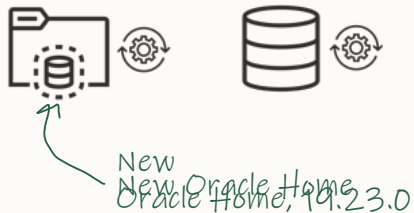


```
$ORACLE_HOME/OPatch/opatch rollback -id ...
```

Out-of-Place Patching



```
SQL> SHUTDOWN IMMEDIATE
```



```
[oracle]$ $ORACLE_HOME/OPatch/datapatch -verbose
```



Tim Hall 🧐 +00 📱

@oraclebase

...

When patching your production Oracle GI/DB installations, which method do you use?

In-Place = Current ORACLE_HOME

Out-Of-Place = New ORACLE_HOME

If you don't look after have production kit, then don't answer.

In-Place

55.4%

Out-Of-Place

44.6%



Always patch Out-of-Place

- Don't argue with us 😊

Installation Tip

```
/home/oracle/stage
├─ DPBP
│   ├── 35261302
│   └─ PatchSearch.xml
├─ MRP
│   ├── 35333937
│   │   ├── 34340632
│   │   ├── 35012562
│   │   ├── 35037877
│   │   ├── 35116995
│   │   └─ 35225526
│   └─ PatchSearch.xml
├─ OJVM
│   ├── 35050341
│   └─ PatchSearch.xml
└─ RU
    ├── 35042068
    └─ PatchSearch.xml
```

ONE SINGLE COMMAND

```
./runInstaller \
  -applyRU /home/oracle/stage/RU/35042068 \
  -applyOneOffs /home/oracle/stage/DPBP/35261302,
                /home/oracle/stage/OJVM/35050341,
                /home/oracle/stage/MRP/34340632,
                ...
                /home/oracle/stage/MRP/35225526
```



Be sure to copy all configuration files to the new Oracle Home

- AutoUpgrade does it for you
- Additional details in [blog post](#)



Reduce downtime to the time it takes to perform a switchover

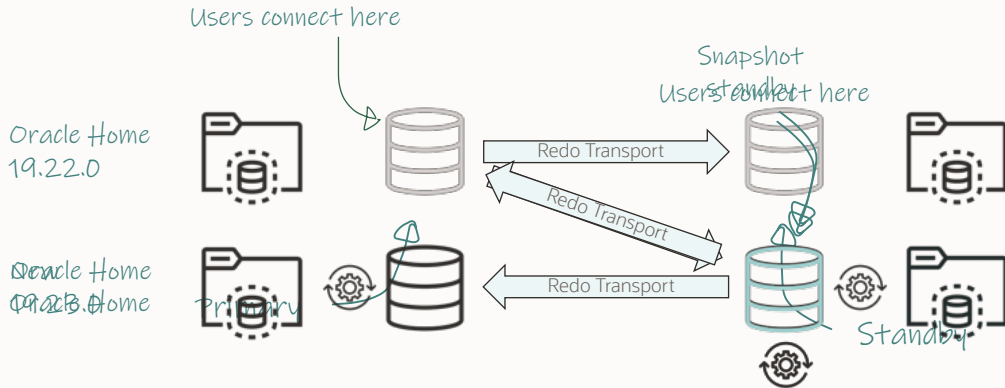
- [Data Guard Standby-First Patch Apply \(Doc ID 1265700.1\)](#)



Safely test and verify patches with Standby-First Patch Apply

- [Data Guard Standby-First Patch Apply \(Doc ID 1265700.1\)](#)

Standby-First Patching



```
[oracle]$ $ORACLE_HOME/OPatch/datapatch -verbose
```



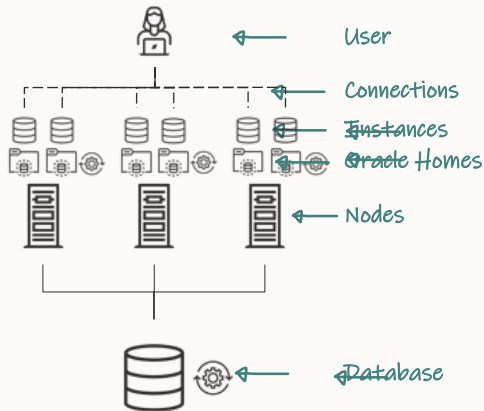
Patch must Standby-First installable

- Check the patch readme



Avoid database downtime with
RAC Rolling Patch Apply

RAC Rolling Patching



- New Oracle Home
- Patch Oracle Home
- Move to new Oracle Home
- Execute datapatch

Release updates are **always**:



Standby-First installable



RAC Rolling installable

Datapatch

Patching a database



1

Start database in new Oracle Home

Start in normal open
Open all PDBs



2

Complete patching with datapatch

Found in \$ORACLE_HOME/OPatch
One database per invocation
Multiple datapatch sessions in parallel
[Datapatch User Guide \(Doc ID 2680521.1\)](#)



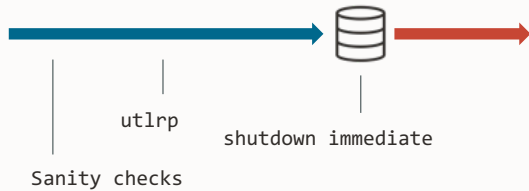
Analyze the database for patching readiness using Datapatch Sanity Checks

- Datapatch User Guide (Doc ID [2680521.1](#))
- Executed by AutoUpgrade in analyze mode



Recompile invalid objects
before invoking **datapatch**

Patching Timeline

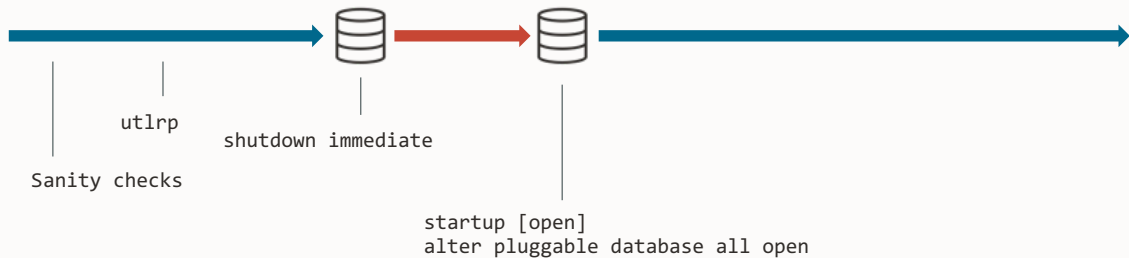




The database must be open
Only open PDBs are patched

- Upgrade mode or restricted session is **not** needed

Patching Timeline

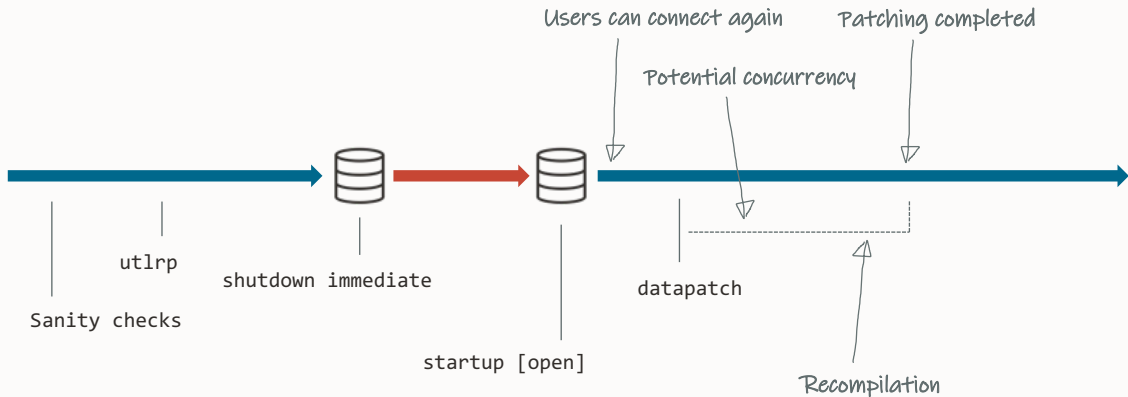




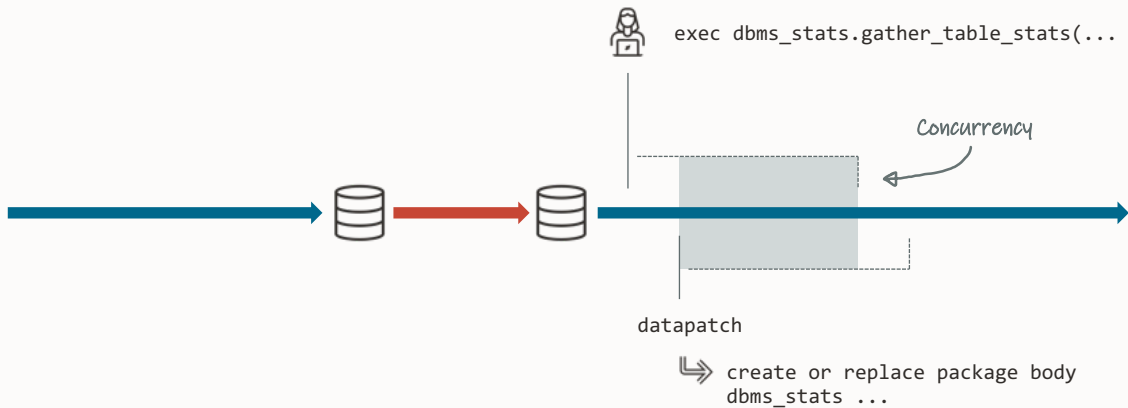
You can run **datapatch** while users are connected to the database

- Details in [blog post](#)

Patching Timeline



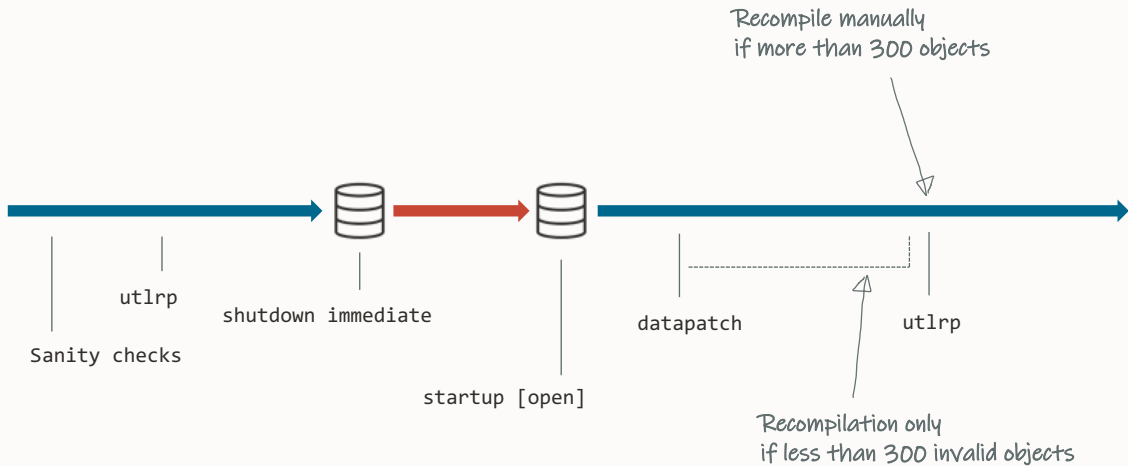
Patching Timeline



Concurrency

- Datapatch waits 15 min to acquire a lock
 - On timeout, `ORA-04021 timeout occurred while waiting to lock object`
- Optionally, [find blocking session](#) and kill it
- Increase timeout using `-ddl_lock_timeout <time-in-seconds>`

Patching Timeline



```
$ ./datapatch -verbose  
SQL Patching tool version 19.19.0.0.0 Production on Sun Jun 25 07:12:19 2023
```

-
-
-
-

```
Automatic recompilation incomplete; run utlrb.sql to revalidate.  
PDBs: PDB1 PDB$SEED
```

```
SQL Patching tool complete on Sun Jun 25 07:12:19 2023
```



Datapatch uses **REGISTRY\$SQLPATCH_RU_INFO** to control the patching operations



If in doubt run **datapatch** again

- Datapatch only does what is needed
- You can run **datapatch** as many times as you like

Datapatch Rollback Scripts



Apply/rollback scripts:

```
$ORACLE_HOME/sqlpatch/.../nnn_apply.sql
```

```
$ORACLE_HOME/sqlpatch/.../nnn_rollback.sql
```



Rollback scripts (zipped as BLOB):

```
SELECT PATCH_DIRECTORY  
FROM   REGISTRY$SQLPATCH_RU_INFO
```

(*) Datapatch stores rollback scripts for one-offs in `REGISTRY$SQLPATCH`



Update database directories using
`rdbms/admin/utlfixdirs.sql`

AutoUpgrade



We made upgrading easy.
Now we make patching just as easy.

AutoUpgrade functionality extended to patching

```
$ cat DB19.cfg
```

```
patch1.source_home=/u01/app/oracle/product/19/dbhome_19_22_0  
patch1.target_home=/u01/app/oracle/product/19/dbhome_19_23_0  
patch1.sid=DB19
```

```
$ java -jar autoupgrade.jar -config DB19.cfg -mode deploy
```

Patching



USE

Familiar interface
Console
Logging



ANALYZE

Prechecks
Summary report



PROTECT

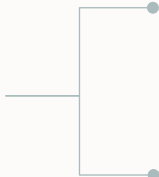
Resumable
Restoration
Restore point
Fallback



AUTOMATE

`srvctl`
`/etc/oratab`
Files
Datapatch

Fleet Patching



AutoUpgrade

Automate your patching process and benefit from the familiar AutoUpgrade



Fleet Patching and Provisioning

Go fleet scale with FPP and benefit from additional functionality like deployment of Oracle Home

Patching Success



Your way to patching success

- 1 Find the right patches
- 2 Use golden images
- 3 Patch out-of-place

AGENDA

15:00

Intro to
Patching

15:30

Hands-On
Lab

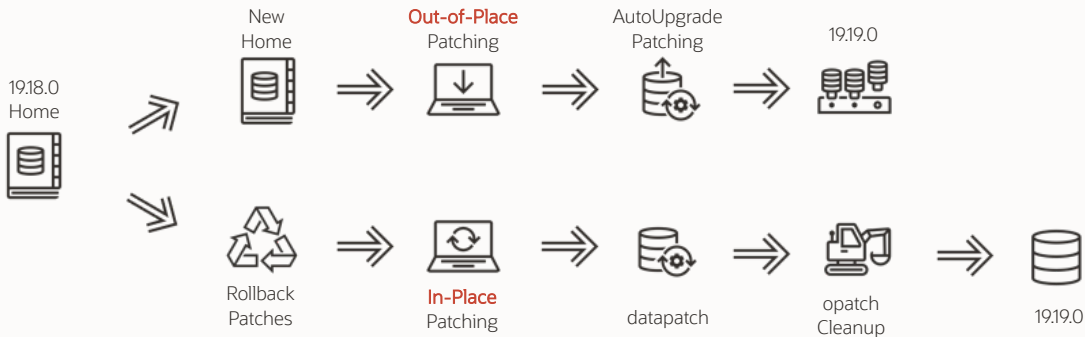
16:30

Grid Infrastructure
Questions

17:00

End of
workshop

Hands-On Lab





Get Started

<https://bit.ly/dougpatch2024>

AGENDA

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Intro to
Patching



15:30

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16:30

Grid Infrastructure
Questions

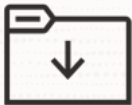


17:00

End of
workshop



Grid Infrastructure Patching



You always start with the base release

- Oracle Grid Infrastructure 19.3.0

Most Recent Release Update

Use the Patch Download Assistant [MOS Note: 2118136.2](#)

 Assistant: Download Reference for Oracle Database/GI Update, Revision, PSU, SPU(CPU), Bundle Patches, Patchsets and Base Releases (Doc ID 2118136.2)  To Bottom

Visibility: EXTERNAL  (98)       

Selection(s)

What would you like to download?

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- ☐ Oracle Database Patchsets
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- ☐ Latest Available Microsoft Windows Patches
- ☐ Monthly Recommended Patches (MRPs)

Solution(s)

Possible Solutions will appear once you make your selection.

Most Important Patches

Oracle Database 19c Important Recommended One-off Patches (Doc ID [555.1](#))

Recommended Patches for 19.21 GI Home

Below is the list of important patches to consider applying on top of 19.21. In addition to the relevant patches listed below, you should also review patches in [Database PSU/BP/Update/Revision - Known Issues Primary Note\(Doc ID 1227443.1\)](#) and [Oracle Database Patches to Consider for 19c \(Doc ID 2781612.2\)](#) which contains patches to consider for specific areas such as Data Pump, Golden gate etc.
Only one OCW (Oracle Clusterware) patch should be applied to GI homes. Ensure you apply the patch starting with X8M if you are on an X8M system

Bug	Fixed in RU	Fixed in MRP	Description	Patches	NON ROLLING	Added
35739076		Not Applicable	[VOS] Linux: ORA-800 / Set Priority / DB Performance Merge Patch for 19.21 (Requires Root Access) - 34286265 34318125	[list-patches]		20-OCT-2023

Version GI 19.21_555.1: 35739076





If you don't apply a recent Release Update,
you will miss hundreds of fixes

Together or separately

... that's the question

Patching Oracle Grid Infrastructure and Oracle Database

Patching GI and DB together?

Option 1

TOGETHER

One maintenance window

Longer, single patching window

Several changes

When draining is a problem

Option 2

SEPARATELY

Two maintenance windows

Shorter window, but longer overall patching

One change at a time

For well-behaving applications



Keep GI and DB patch levels in synch

- This is what we test and run in our Cloud



Unusual combinations are supported, but we **strongly advise against it**

- GI 19.16.0 and DB 19.20.0
- Node 1 with GI 19.16.0, node 2 with GI 19.18.0
- Patching node 1 on Monday, node 2 on Tuesday ...
- Mix of GI and DB versions on various nodes

Grid Infrastructure Patching Methods



1

In-place

Replaces existing Oracle Home

Uses opatchauto

2

Out-of-place

Creates a new Oracle Home

Uses opatchauto or gridSetup

Grid Infrastructure Patching Methods



1

In-place

Replaces existing Oracle Home

Uses opatchauto

2

Out-of-place

Creates a new Oracle Home

Uses opatchauto or gridSetup



23ai GI home disk space
greatly reduced to 3 GB

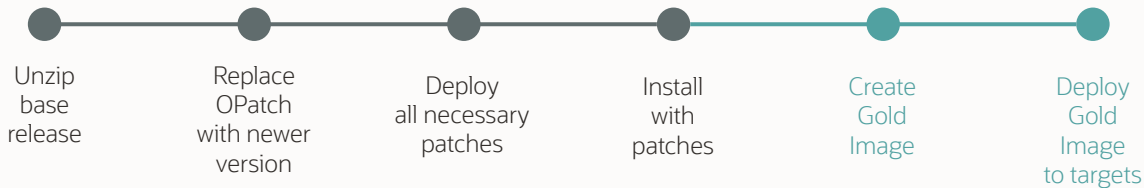
- 12 GB in 19c



Use golden images

- [Blog post](#)

Golden Images



Demo

Install GI home
Apply Release Update
Create golden image

Watch on [YouTube](#)

--Unzip base release and update OPatch

```
unzip -oq LINUX.X64_193000_grid_home.zip
```

```
mv OPatch OPatch_old
```

```
unzip p6880880...zip
```

--Install the Oracle Home and apply Release Update and one-offs
--Specify multiple one-offs using comma-separated list

```
./gridSetup.sh -silent -applyRU <patch_dir> \  
                  -applyOneOffs <patch_dir> \  
                  ...
```

--Always create your golden image from a "fresh" home
--Never use a production home

```
./gridSetup.sh -createGoldImage \  
               -destinationLocation $GOLDIMAGEDIR \  
               -silent
```

```
--Deploy golden image throughout your environment
--Just unzip and attach on node 1, installer copies to other nodes

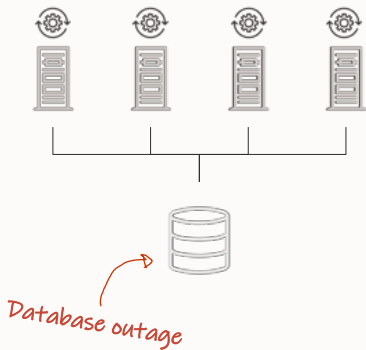
unzip -oq my_golden_image.zip
./gridSetup.sh -silent \
    oracle.install.db.CLUSTER_NODES=node1,node2 \
    ...
```




Works for database homes as well

- Use **runInstaller** instead

Grid Infrastructure Patching Concepts

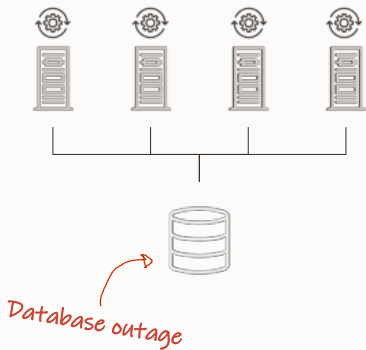


ALL NODE

- All nodes patched at one time
- One long database outage
- Works for all patches, including non-rolling
- Cluster at full capacity except for outage

Rolling Patch - OPatch Support for RAC (Doc ID 244241.1)

Grid Infrastructure Patching Concepts

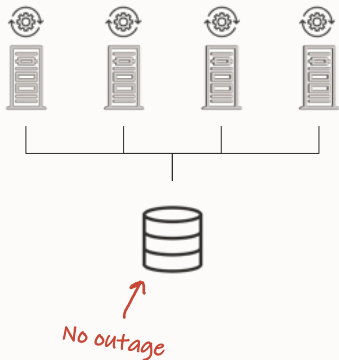


MINIMUM DOWNTIME

- Nodes patched in two batches
- One short database outage
- Works for all patches, including non-rolling
- Other nodes must handle workload while another batch is patched

Rolling Patch - OPatch Support for RAC (Doc ID 244241.1)

Grid Infrastructure Patching Concepts

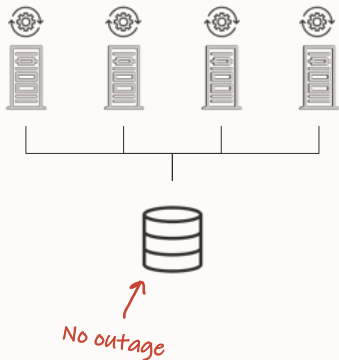


ROLLING

- Each node patched separately
- **No database outage**
- Patch must be RAC rolling installable
- Other nodes must handle workload while one node is patched

Rolling Patch - OPatch Support for RAC (Doc ID 244241.1)

Grid Infrastructure Patching Concepts



ROLLING IN GROUPS

- Patch a subset together
- Useful when draining is a problem
- **No** database outage
- Patch must be RAC rolling installable
- Other nodes must handle workload while one node is patched

Rolling Patch - OPatch Support for RAC (Doc ID 244241.1)

Demo

Patch a 2-node RAC system
GI and database

Watch on [YouTube](#)



Complete a rolling patching operation
always as **quickly as possible**

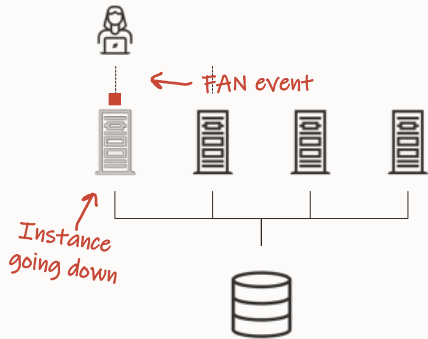
- [RAC: Frequently Asked Questions \(Doc ID 220970.1\)](#)



Rolling patching requires efficient draining

- Optionally, consider a *batched* approach

Draining Connections



DRAINING

- Allows users to finish their work and reconnect to another instance
- New sessions connect to other instances
- Sessions that don't drain in time are forcefully terminated
- Controlled by `drain_timeout` parameter in `srvctl` and `DBMS_SERVICE`

Drain Timeout



Setting drain_timeout
very **low**?

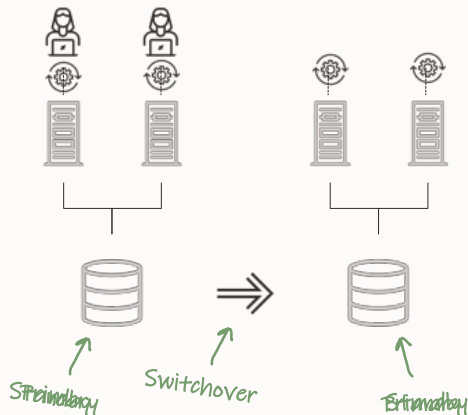
- This may cause login storms
 - Be cautious on databases with many connections



Setting drain_timeout
very **high**?

- Load is spread on fewer instances
 - Cluster is in **rolling patch mode** for an extended period of time

Grid Infrastructure | Data Guard



ALTERNATIVE

- If draining is a problem
- Downtime limited to a switchover
- Test your Data Guard configuration

Data Guard | **Additional Information**



INTERVIEW WITH LUDOVICO CALDERA

Ludovico is Data Guard Product Manager and he shares his top tips for patching Oracle Grid Infrastructure and Data Guard



PATCHING ORACLE GRID INFRASTRUCTURE AND ORACLE DATA GUARD

Blog post with additional details plus instructions on how to patch GI and database at the same time when you have Data Guard

top tips

PATCHING SUCCESS

Cluster Verification Utility

Patch Level

Application Continuity

OPatch

Use CVU before and after patching

Preferably through EXAchk or ORAchk

Identifies potential issues

Light-weight, non-intrusive

Always use the latest version

```
$ cluvfy stage -pre patch
```

Performing following verification checks ...

```
cluster upgrade state ...PASSED  
OLR Integrity ...PASSED  
Hosts File ...PASSED
```

...

```
Check for parameter kernel.shmmni ...PASSED  
/tmp directory free space ...PASSED  
Check for parameter kernel.shmall ...PASSED  
ORAchk checks ...PASSED
```

Pre-check for Patch Application was successful.

top tips

PATCHING SUCCESS

Cluster Verification Utility

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OPatch

Apply patches regularly

Apply recent Release Updates

Apply MRPs

Keep GI and DB patch levels in sync

top tips

PATCHING SUCCESS

Cluster Verification Utility

Patch Level

Application Continuity

OPatch

Completely hide interruptions from users

Hides planned and unplanned events

Comply with MAA guidelines

See also Transparent Application Continuity

top tips

PATCHING SUCCESS

Cluster Verification Utility

Patch Level

Application Continuity

OPatch

Always use the latest version of OPatch

Use in GI and DB homes

Patching Success



Your way to patching success

- 1 Patch out-of-place
- 2 Use SwitchGridHome
- 3 Effective draining

Thank You

