

Q+A

Disaster Recover configuration

- Generally recommend data guard physical standby or some form of active / active standby database on another Exadata (Golden Gate is possible also). You need to take in account of your application tier layer as well, but this is the general rule of thumb for Exadata tier.

Are there other patches for the Grid Infrastructure outside of the quarterly QFSDP patches

- Yes there are other one off and critical patches, as well as upgrades outside of those. But QFSDP patches include those for a given period, so it's really dependent on what you are interested in (if you are hitting a brand new issue that happened after the QFSDP, or say a high priority security CVE, etc...)

Q1) if we are already doing qfsdp, do we still need to do OS CVM patches?

- QFSDP patches are cumulative, they contain all the OS, firmware, network, etc... patches needed. But they are a point in time. If you have a high priority bug or fix that is needed that may not be in the current QFSDP you can patch further (as long as the patch is compatible, which Oracle support can help you verify)

Q2) How about using EBR for EBS R12.2 for online patching?

- Yes, EBR is part of the 12.2 application patching. The context of this discussion is infrastructure patching. So when a DB node is rebooted to install a new OS, EBR does not help with that.

Q3) Did You have problems with backups using OSB and Exadata active-active?

- I have not used Oracle Secure Backup myself, I would be curious if you are using DNFS settings for the DB, since that is what allows the active active to work. If you are not using DNFS then the backup is going over a single network interface based on your FSTAB / mount options.

Q4) Do you have any rough estimate of time required to migrate EBS from a non-exadata platform to exadata? 100TB example

- This is a tough question. It depends on a lot of things. We used ZFS storage for migrations along with transportable tablespace (moving from non-Linux to Linux). In this case the largest part of the outage was copying files from the old storage / system to the new system. That will depend on your network and your systems. For 100TB that could be many hours. If you are moving across data centers, or networks, it can be even longer. You may want to look at a on-line method of doing this through data guard physical standby. So you setup at new DB on the Exdata and keep it in sync. Again this will depend a lot on your platform and DB version on if that is possible or if you have to look at tools like Golden Gate. So it's kind of a deep question, sorry.