

An Oracle White Paper October 2011

BI Publisher 11g Scheduling & Apache ActiveMQ as JMS Provider



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Introduction

With the introduction of Oracle Business Intelligence Publisher 11g, the Oracle Business Intelligence Publisher scheduler uses the Java Messaging Service (JMS) queue technology. This allows BI Publisher to dedicate one or more BI Publisher servers exclusively for particular functions such as report generation, document generation or high demand delivery channels (FTP, Fax, WebDAV etc.). The default JMS provider for Oracle Business Intelligence Publisher 11g is Weblogic JMS. Alternatively Apache ActiveMQ can be configured as JMS provider.

This white paper describes the following in detail:

- Adding managed BI Publisher Servers
- Configuring cluster instances
- Procedure to use Apache ActiveMQ as JMS provider
- Failover process

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BI Publisher 11g Scheduler Architecture

BI Publisher 11g scheduler is a highly scalable, highly performing and robust report scheduling and delivery system. From submitting the job to delivery of the reports it's a multi step process which also supports failover. The scheduler architecture is depicted through the following diagram.



Figure1. Scheduler Architecture

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As soon as the user submits a job, the job information is stored in the Quartz tables. Also the necessary triggers are created to run the job, depending on the date, time and frequency at which the job needs to be executed.

A scheduled job is then executed by the Quartz trigger. The job then moves into the scheduler job queue. The job processor then determines whether a particular job needs to be handled by bursting engine or batch job process. This solely depends on whether the job was scheduled for bursting or batch processing. At this stage the job is picked up by the respective engine/process and the business logic is executed. The report metadata is generated and captured into Report Queue.

JMS messages are used for job submission, generation and delivery.

Once the report metadata is captured into Report Queue, the Report Processor comes into action. The job of the Report Processor is to keep listening to the Report Queue and generate the reports based on the metadata available. Once the report is generated it then passes on the delivery related information to Delivery Queue.

The job of the Delivery Processors is to listen to the Delivery Queue and then deliver the report using respective Delivery API(S).

Apache ActiveMQ as JMS Provider

Oracle Business Intelligence Publisher 11g uses Weblogic JMS by default. The scheduler database is installed through Repository Creation Utility (RCU), and the reports are ready for scheduling. Depending on the need, Apache ActiveMQ can be used as JMS provider as well. Oracle recommends to use Apache ActiveMQ 5.2.0 or later. All the examples used in this white paper are for Oracle Business Intelligence Publisher 11g (11.1.1.5) and Apache ActiveMQ 5.5.0.

Download & Install ActiveMQ

Download and install the ActiveMQ software for the respective platform from Apache. Once installed ensure that ActiveMQ is running. The installation and startup steps are available at http://activemq.apache.org/

ActiveMQ queues are accessed using JNDI by default. All the examples in this whitepaper use the default JNDI URL. To alter this default configuration, make modifications to *activemq.xml* found in the *<ActiveMQ_Home>/*conf directory (example: apache-activemq-5.5.0/conf)

If ActiveMQ is chosen as

alternative JMS provider, Oracle recommends to use Apache ActiveMQ 5.2.0

or later.

Configure ActiveMQ for BI Publisher

Log into Business Intelligence as administrator (example: weblogic) using *<server_name>:port/xmlpserver* (example: http://orabizint:9704/xmlpserver). Click on Administration and Manage BI Publisher. Under System Maintenance click on Scheduler Configuration. The default JMS configuration can be viewed from this page.

JMS Provider	Webbolc 💌
WebLogic JNDI URL	t3://xpone:9704
Threads Per JMS Processor	5
Shared Directory	
	Test JMS

Figure2. Default JMS Configuration

To change the JMS provider click on JMS Provider drop down list and choose ActiveMQ. Click on Test JMS button and ensure JMS test completes successfully. Click on Apply button to apply the changes. Log out of Oracle BI and restart.

ORACLE BI Publisher Enterprise		Search All	×	- O A	dministration	Help Y Sign Out
Administration			Home Catalog	New Y	<mark> </mark> Open 🛩	Signed In As weblogic
Administration > Scheduler Configuration						
Confirmation JMS test successfully.						
System Itlaintenance						
Server Configuration Scheduler Configuration Scheduler Diagnostics						
						Apply Cano
Scheduler Selection						
Scheduler	Quartz					
Quartz Clustering						
Database Connection						
Database Connection Type	jndi 💌					
JNDI Name	jdbc/bip_datasource					
	Test Connection Install Schema					
JMS Configuration						
JMS Provider	ActiveMQ 💌					
ActiveMQ URL	failover://tcp://localhost:61616					
Threads Per JMS Processor	5					
Shared Directory						
	Test JMS					

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Figure3. Configuring ActiveMQ as JMS

ActiveMQ Console

Start ActiveMQ Console to check whether the configuration done in the BI Publisher is recognized in ActiveMQ. When everything is setup correctly, the ActiveMQ Console lists the BI Server host name and the Broker details here.

ActiveMQ	Software Foundation
Home Queues Topics Subscribers Connections Network Scheduled Send	Support
Welcome!	Queue Views
Welcome to the ActiveMQ Console of localhost (ID:OraBizInt-2378-1317661291250-0:1)	∎ Graph ∎ XML
You can find more information about ActiveMQ on the Apache ActiveMQ Site	Topic Views
Broker	Iteoful Linke
Name localhost	Documentation
Version 5.5.0	FAQ Downloads
ID ID:0raBizInt-2378-1317661291250-0:1	Forums
Store percent used 😡 0	
Memory percent used 0	
Temp percent used 0	
Copyright 2005-2011 The Apache Software Foundation. (printable version)	

Figure4. ActiveMQ Console

The next step is to check whether all the queues are created properly in the ActiveMQ.

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From the ActiveMQ Console home page, click on Queues to view the default queues created for BI Publisher scheduler integration. Notice the queues created for Bursting, Report, Email, Fax etc.

Queues Topics Sub	scribers Connections Netw	rork Scheduled Send	I				
Name	Create						Queue Vie Graph XML
Name †	Number Of Pending Messages	Number Of Consumers	Messages Enqueued	Messages Dequeued	Views	Operations	Topic View
BIP.Burst.Job.Q	0	0	0	0	atom atom	Send To Purge Delete	■ TOPIC VIEW
BIP.Burst.Report.Q	0	0	0	0	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	Useful Lin
BIP.Delivery.Email.Q	ō	0	0	0	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	 FAQ Downloads Forums
BIP.Delivery.Fax.Q	0	0	0	0	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	
BIP.Delivery.File.Q	0	0	0	0	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	
BIP.Delivery.FTP.Q	0	0	0	0	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	
BIP.Delivery.Print.Q	0	0	0	D	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	
BIP.Delivery.WebDAV.Q	O	0	0	0	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	
					Browse Active Consumers		

Figure 5. Active MQ BI Publisher Scheduler Queues

The next section describes the process of adding a managed server to Weblogic.

Add Managed Server

Log into Weblogic Administration Console using *<server_name>:port/*console (example: http://orabizint:7001/console) with an admin account (example: weblogic). Under Environment choose Servers. Click on Lock & Edit. Click on New. Enter the details such as Machine Name, Server Name(example: bi_server2), Server Listen Port(example: 9705) etc.

There are 3 options under "Should this server belong to a cluster?" section. To leave the server as a stand-alone server, choose: "No, this is a stand-alone server". To make this server member of an existing cluster choose an existing cluster name by selecting: "Yes, make this server a member of an existing cluster". To create a new cluster and make this server first member of the new cluster choose: "Yes, create a new cluster for this server".

This example uses the existing default cluster "bi_cluster". Click Next button. Review the choices made and click on Finish. The filled in details should look similar to the following screen

Name:	bi_server2	An alphanumeric name for this server instance. More Info
🏀 Machine:	OraBizInt 💌	The WebLogic Server host computer (machine) on which this server is meant to run. More Info
6월 Cluster:	bi_cluster	The cluster, or group of WebLogic Server instances, to which this server belongs. More Info
👸 Listen Address:		The IP address or DNS name this server uses to listen for incoming connections. More Info
☑ Listen Port Enabled		Specifies whether this server can be reached through the default plain-text (non-SSL) listen port. More ${\rm Info}\ldots$
Listen Port:	9705	The default TCP port that this server uses to listen for regular (non-SSL) incoming connections. More Info
SSL Listen Port Enabled		Indicates whether the server can be reached through the default SSL listen port. More Info
SSL Listen Port:	7002	The TCP/IP port at which this server listens for SSL connection requests. More Info
🗌 🚯 Client Cert Proxy Enabled		Specifies whether the HttpClusterServlet proxies the client certificate in a special header. More Info
Java Compiler:	javac	The Java compiler to use for all applications hosted on this server that need to compile Java code. More Info
Diagnostic Volume:		Specifies the volume of diagnostic data that is automatically produced by WebLogic Server

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Figure6. Managed Server Details

Start Managed Server

Once the new server is created click on Release Configuration. Click on the Control tab to select the server. Notice that the default state is Shutdown. Click on Start button to start the new server. The state then changes to Starting. Once the server is up and running the state changes to Running.

For further details on how to add a managed server, refer to Adding Managed Server section of Oracle Fusion Middleware Administrator's Guide for Oracle Business Intelligence Publisher.

Administration Console				Õ
Home Log Out Preferences 🔤 Record Help	٩		Welcome, weblogic	Connected to: bifoundation_domai
Home >Summary of Clusters >Summary of Servers >Summary of Machines >Su	ummary of JMS Servers >BipJmsServer	>Summary of JMS Servers >BipJmsS	erver >Monitoring >BipJmsServer > Summary of	Servers
Summary of Servers				
Configuration Control				
Use this page to change the state of the servers in this WebLogic Server administration port. Customize this table Servers (Filtered - More Columns Exist)	domain. Control operations on Manaç	jed Servers require starting the Nor	de Manager. Starting Managed Servers in Star	dby mode requires the domain-wide
Start Resume Suspend v Shutdown v Restart SSL			5	Showing 1 to 3 of 3 Previous Next
🗖 Server 🗞	Machine	State	Status of Last Action	
AdminServer(admin)	OraBizInt	RUNNING	None	
bi_server1	OraBizInt	RUNNING	None	
Image: Weight of the server line	OraBizInt	RUNNING	TASK COMPLETED	
Start Resume Suspend V Shutdown V Restart SSL			2	Showing 1 to 3 of 3 Previous Next

Figure7. Starting Managed Server

Configuring BI Publisher Cluster Instances

Log into Business Intelligence as administrator (example: weblogic). Click on Administration and Manage BI Publisher. Under System Maintenance click on Scheduler Configuration. Notice the second instance added under Cluster Instances. For this example the first instance is used exclusively for JobProcessor and ReportProcessor. The second instance is used exclusively for FTPProcessor. The JobProcessor and ReportProcessor are both allocated with two threads each. The FTPProcessor is allocated with 5 threads.

JMS Provider	ActiveMQ 💌			
ActiveMQ URL	failover://tcp://loca	alhost:6	51616	
Threads Per JMS Processor	5			
Shared Directory				
	Test JMS			
Cluster Instances				
Instance Name	OraBizInt.1316707	78758	1	
Instance ID	OraBizInt.1316707	787581		
	JMS Processor	Enable	Number Threads	
	JobProcessor		2	
	ReportProcessor		2	
	EmailProcessor			
	FileProcessor			
	FTPProcessor			
	PrintProcessor			
	WebDavProcessor			
	FaxProcessor			
Instance Name	OraBizInt.1316710	59623	7	
Instance ID	OraBizInt.1316710	596237		
	JMS Processor	Enable	Number Threads	
	JobProcessor			
	ReportProcessor			
	EmailProcessor			
	FileProcessor			
	FTPProcessor		5	
	PrintProcessor			
	WebDavProcessor			
	FaxProcessor			

Figure8. Configuring The Cluster Instances

Test Scheduler Configuration

The next step is to test the configuration by running two different jobs one without delivery option and the other with FTP as delivery option. Schedule a report (this example uses Product Listing). Ensure the job is completed successfully. Open ActiveMQ Console and click on Queues tab. Notice that the Job/Report queues have messages Enqueued/Dequeued.

	Create						(
s							Queue Viev Graph XML
Name 1	Number Of Pending Messages	Number Of Consumers	Messages Enqueued	Messages Dequeued	Views	Operations	To do Maria
BIP:Burst.Job.Q	0	1	(1)	1	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	XML
BIP.Burst.Report.Q	0	1	1	1	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	Useful Link
BIP.Delivery.Email.Q	0	0	0	0	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	 FAQ Downloads Forums
BIP.Delivery.Fax.Q	0	0	0	0	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	
BIP.Delivery.File.Q	0	0	0	0	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	
BIP.Delivery.FTP.Q	0	1	0	0	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	
BIP.Delivery.Print.Q	0	0	0	0	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	
BIP.Delivery.WebDAV.Q	0	0	0	0	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	
DERCENSE CONTRACTOR	22.0			14.2	M arour M 122		

Figure9. ActiveMQ Queues

Click on Connections to verify that two active connections are now available representing the two nodes of bi_cluster. The next step is to schedule the report with FTP as delivery option.

Home Queues Topics Subscribers Q	Connections Network Scheduled Send				Software Foundai http://www.apache.o Sup
Connections Connector openwire					Queue Views Graph XML
	Name †	Remote Address	Active	Slow	Topic Views
	ID:OraBizInt-3032-1317733782125-1:0	/127.0.0.1:4172	true	false	Useful Links
	ID:OraBizInt-4549-1317737211594-1:0	/127.0.0.1:4551	true	false	Documentation FAQ Downloads Forums
Network Connectors					
Name	Network TTL Dynamic Only Conduit Subscription	is Bridge Temps	Decreas	e Priorities Dispatch Async	

Figure10. ActiveMQ Connections

Schedule the report Product Listing by choosing the delivery option as FTP. Ensure the job is completed successfully. The next step is to check the ActiveMQ Console for the queues. The queues now depict that there are two messages Enqueued/Dequeued for Job/Report queues. One message is Enqueued/Dequeued for FTP.

Queues Topics Sub	scribers Connections Netw	ork Scheduled Seno	d				
Name B	Create						Queue Vie Graph XML
Name †	Number Of Pending Messages	Number Of Consumers	Messages Enqueued	Messages Dequeued	Views	Operations	
BIP.Burst.Job.Q	0	1	2	2	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	XML
BIP.Burst.Report.Q	0	1	2	2	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	Useful Lin
BIP.Delivery.Email.Q	0	0	0	0	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	 FAQ Downloads Forums
BIP.Delivery.Fax.Q	0	0	0	o	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	
BIP.Delivery.File.Q	0	0	0	0	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	
BIP.Delivery.FTP.Q	0	1	1	1	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	
BIP.Delivery.Print.Q	O	0	0	o	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	
BIP.Delivery.WebDAV.Q	D	0	0	0	Browse Active Consumers	Send To Purge Delete	
					Browse Artive Consumers		

Figure11. ActiveMQ Queues After FTP is Used

Click on Connections and check both the connections to understand that the FTP is handled by the newly added managed server.

ACUVEM	Q									The Apach Software Foundat
me Queues Topics Subscribers Connections	09440768-2	duled Ser	nd							Queue Views
	Conne	action ID	ID:OraBizInt	-1927-13167	09440768-2:0					ML XML
	Remo	te Address)	/127.0.0.1:4	493						Topic Views
	Active	acted	true							= XML
	Blocks	ad be	false							Useful Links
nsumers	Slow		false							 Documentation FAQ Downloads Forums
Destination †	Slow	SessionId	false Selector	Enqueues	Dequeues	Dispatched	Dispatched Queue	Max pendingPrefetch	RetroactiveExclusiv	Documentation FAQ Downloads Forums
Destination : Queue B1P.Burst.Job.Q	Slew	SessionId	false Selector	Enqueues 2	Dequeues 2	Dispatched	Dispatched Queue	Max pendingPrefetch 10000 0	RetroactiveExclusiv false false	Documentation FAQ Downloads Forums
Destination : Queue BIP.Burst.Job.Q Queue BIP.Burst.Report.Q	Slow	SessionId 14 15	false Selector	Enqueues 2 2	Dequeues 2 2	Dispatched 2 2	Dispatched Queue 0	Max pendingPrefetch 1000 0	RetroactiveExclusiv false false false false	e Documentation = FAQ = Downloads = Forums
Destination : Queue BIP.Burst.Job.Q Queue BIP.Burst.Report.Q Topic BIP.System.T	Slow	SessionId 14 15 2	false	Enqueues 2 2 962	Dequeues 2 2 963	Dispatched 2 2 962	Dispatched Queue 0 -1	Max pendingPrefetch 1000 0 32766 0	RetroactiveExclusiv false false false false false false	Documentation FAQ Downloads Forums

Figure 12. Active MQ Queues for Report/Job Queues

ACLIVGINU								So	ftware Founda	
ne Queues Topics Subscribers Connections Network Sc	heduled Sei	nd							Su	
nnection ID:OraBizInt-2285-1316710596409-	1:0								Queue View	
Con	nection ID	ID:OraBizInt	t-2285-13167	10596409-1:0	5				 Graph XML 	
Ren	Remote Address /127.0.0.1:4492						Topic View			
Acti	ve	true							. XML	
Con	nected ked	true false							Useful Link	
Slov	Slow false			se .						
nsumers									 Downloads Forums 	
Destination †	SessionId	Selector	Enqueues	Dequeues	Dispatched	Dispatched Queue	Max pendingPrefetch	RetroactiveExclusive		
Queue BIP.Delivery.FTP.Q	14		1	1	1	0	1000 0	false false		
Topic BIP.System.T	2		951	951	951	0	32766 0	false false		
					0	0	1000	false		

Figure13. ActiveMQ Queues for FTP

Failover Process

The BI Publisher clustering mechanism allows administrators to add more nodes to the required processes on demand. By adding nodes to the cluster, BI Publisher ensures that no report fails to deliver due to server unavailability.

The administrators have to arrive at the number of nodes required for each process for load balancing. The Scheduler Diagnostics page provides good help in arriving at this. In the event of failure of a node in the cluster the other node assigned for the same process will take over. In the above example, if more managed servers are added for FTP, this process will continue even after failure of a particular node.

From the Oracle Business Intelligence home page, click on Administration and Manage BI Publisher. Under System Maintenance click on Scheduler Diagnostics.

Cluster		Passed	
Instance - OraBizInt.1316707787581		Passed	
JMS Instance Config	E:\BI1IG\user_projects\domains\bifoundation_domain\servers\bi_server1\tmp_WL_user\bipublisher_11.1.1 \to5gma\war\WEB-INF/jms_config.xml		
JMSWrapper	Started (Tue Oct 04 10:06:54 EDT 2011)	Passed	
JMSClient - system	Started; BIP.System.T: 894 sent, 0 failed	Passed	
JMSProcessor - ClusterMessageListener	Started; BIP.System.T; 1 threads; 1787 received, 0 failed, 0 running	Passed	
JMSClient - jmsclient_producer	Started; BIP.Burst.Job.Q: 2 sent, 0 failed; BIP.Burst.Report.Q: 2 sent, 0 failed; BIP.Delivery.FTP.Q: 1 sent, 0 failed	Passed	
JMSClient - jmsclient_schedule	Started	Passed	
JMSBrocessor - JobProcessor	Started; BIP.Burst.Job.Q; 2 threads; 2 received, 0 failed, 0 running	Passed	
JMSProcessor - ReportProcessor	Started; BIP.Burst.Report.Q; 2 threads; 2 received, 0 failed, 0 running	Passed	
<mark>Instance - OraBizInt.1316710596237</mark>	Status updated (Tue Oct 04 13:53:48 EDT 2011)	Passed	
JMS Instance Config	E:\BI11G\user_projects\domains\bifoundation_domain\servers\bi_server2\tmp_WL_user\bipublisher_11.1.1 \zh0bkz\war\WEB-INF/jms_config.xml	Passed	
JMSWrapper	Started (Tue Oct 04 09:48:18 EDT 2011)	Passed	
JMSClient - system	Started; BIP.System.T: 965 sent, 0 failed	Passed	
JMSProcessor - ClusterMessageListener	Started; BIP.System.T; 1 threads; 1858 received, 0 failed, 0 running	Passed	
JMSClient - jmsclient_producer	Started	Passed	
JMSClient - jmsclient_delivery	Started	Passed	
JMSProcessor - FTPProcessor	Started; BIP.Delivery.FTP.Q; 5 threads; 1 received, 0 failed, 0 running	Passed	
Database		Passed	
Database Config	E:/BI11G/user_projects/domains/bifoundation_domain/config/bipublisher/repository/Admin/Scheduler/database- config.xml	Passed	
Connection Type	jndi	Info	
JNDI Name	jdbc/bip_datasource	Info	
Toplink Config	E:/BI11G/user_projects/domains/bifoundation_domain/config/bipublisher/repository/Admin/Scheduler/database- config.xml		
e blan i et		+ r	



Conclusion

BI Publisher 11g provides advanced and robust scheduling mechanism. Load balancing and failover processes are supported by adding Weblogic managed servers and managing the clusters. The report repository and the scheduler database are shared across the multiple instances. JMS is used for report job submission, report generation and report delivery to different destinations. In addition to the default Weblogic JMS provider, BI Publisher 11g also supports Apache ActiveMQ.

Oracle consulting has had many experiences in implementing customized scheduling needs for various customers. If you're interested in Oracle consulting to discuss more in detail about the implementation and review of your reporting or scheduling needs, please contact Shankar Duvvuri (shankar.duvvuri@oracle.com), Senior Principal Consultant, Oracle ATS BI Delivery & BI Advanced Reporting group.



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