

Exinda How to Guide: SQL Access using ODBC

Exinda Firmware Version 6.1

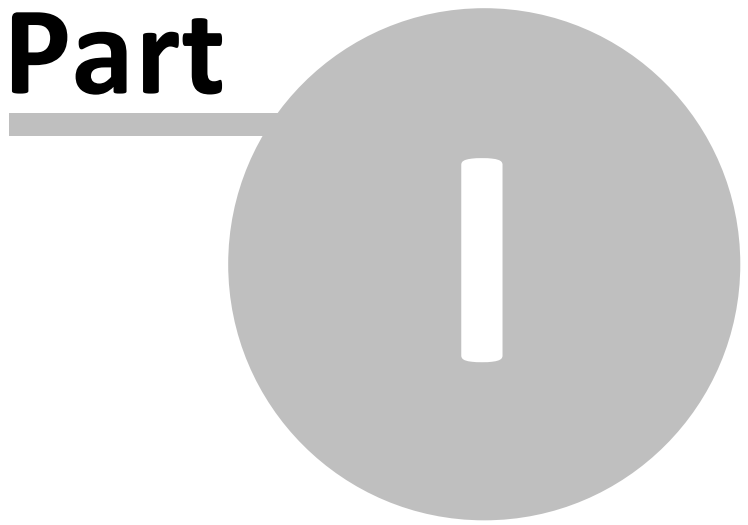
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1 Introduction

SQL Access using ODBC

Exinda Firmware Version: 6.1

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1.1 Using this Guide

Throughout the manual the following text styles are used to highlight important points:

- Useful features, hints and important issues are called "notes" and they are identified in a light blue background.

Note: This is a note.

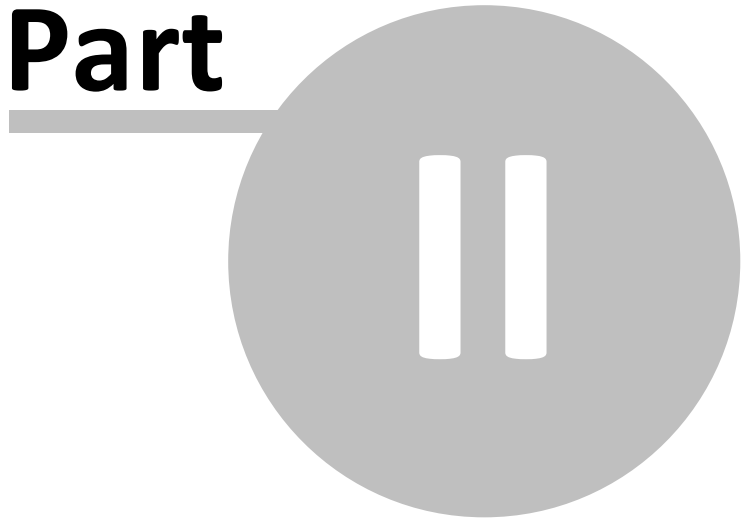
- Practical examples are presented throughout the manual for deeper understanding of specific concepts. These are called "examples" and are identified with a light green background.

This is an example.

- Warnings that can cause damage to the device are included when necessary. These are indicated by the word "caution" and are highlighted in yellow.

Caution: This is a caution.

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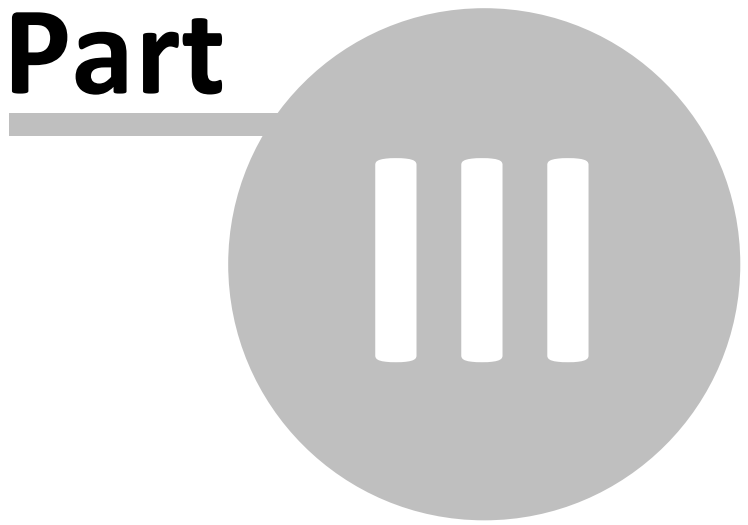
2 Overview

The SQL Access feature on the Exinda appliance opens up access to Exinda's monitoring database from any ODBC aware application.

In order to configure this feature, SQL access needs to be configured on the Exinda appliance and an ODBC driver needs to be installed and configured on a client PC. ODBC aware applications running on this client PC will then be able to query the Exinda appliance's internal monitoring database.

This How to Guide explains how to configure the Exinda appliance to accept remote SQL connections, as well as setting up the ODBC driver on Windows XP and Windows Vista/7 clients.

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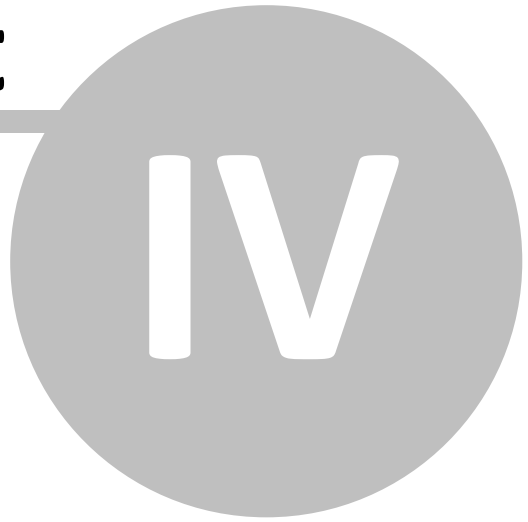
3 Downloading the ODBC Driver

The ODBC driver can be downloaded from:

<http://dev.mysql.com/downloads/connector/odbc/3.51.html>

Download the ODBC driver version that corresponds to your client operating system. Follow the instructions on this site for installing the ODBC driver on your client operating system.

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4 Configuring SQL Access

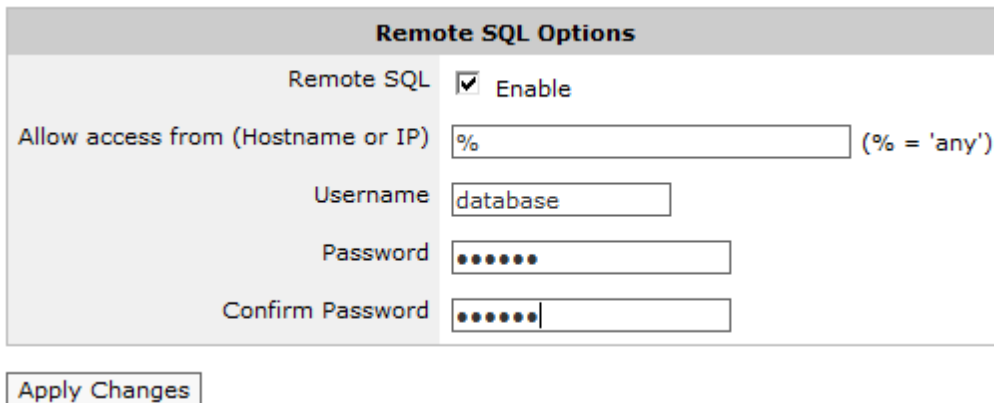
In order to allow the Exinda appliance to accept remote SQL connections from an external ODBC connector, you must configure the following settings.

On the Exinda appliance, using the Web User Interface, navigate to System | Setup | SQL Access. You will be presented with the following form.

Remote SQL Options	
Remote SQL	<input type="checkbox"/> Enable
Allow access from (Hostname or IP)	<input type="text"/> (% = 'any')
Username	<input type="text"/>
Password	<input type="text"/>
Confirm Password	<input type="text"/>

Remote SQL	Select this option to allow the Exinda appliance to accept remote SQL connections from external ODBC connectors.
Allow access from (Hostname or IP)	Use this option to restrict the hosts that can connect to the SQL database. Specify '%' to allow any hosts to connect or enter an IP address or Hostname of a specify host to restrict access.
Username	Specify a username to use for authentication (E.g. 'database').
Password	Specify a password to use for authentication.
Confirm Password	Retype the password specified above.

Apply the changes. The SQL access will be made available immediately. A successfully configured appliance would look something like:



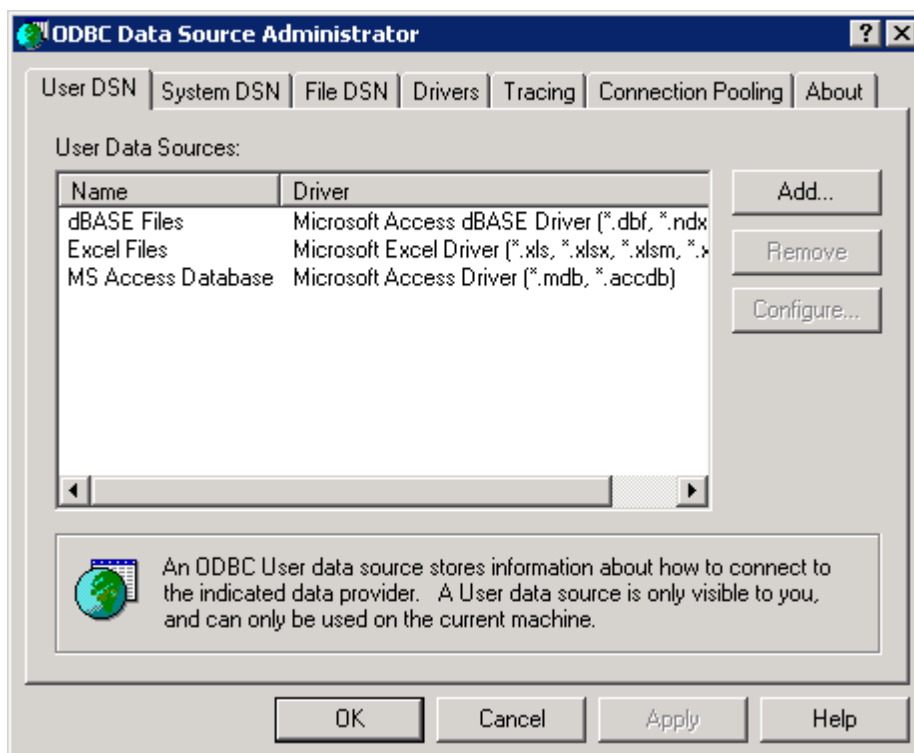
The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Remote SQL Options". It contains the following fields and controls:

- Remote SQL:** A checkbox labeled "Enable" which is checked.
- Allow access from (Hostname or IP):** A text input field containing "%", with a note "(% = 'any')".
- Username:** A text input field containing "database".
- Password:** A text input field with six dots representing a masked password.
- Confirm Password:** A text input field with six dots representing a masked password.
- Apply Changes:** A button located below the dialog box.

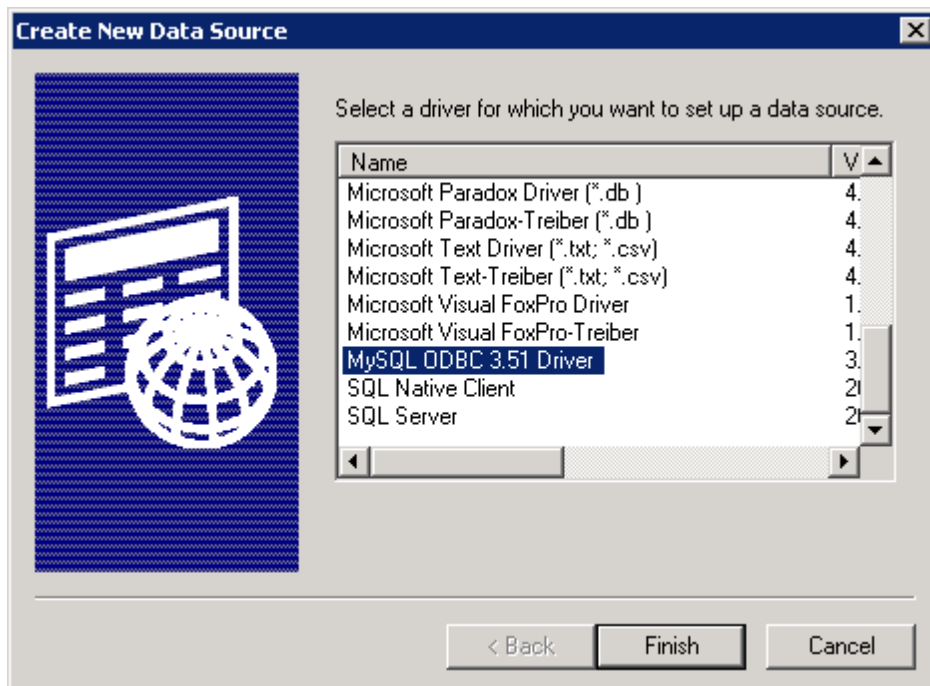
Once remote SQL access has been configured on the Exinda appliance, the next step is to create an ODBC data source on the client.

4.1 Windows XP

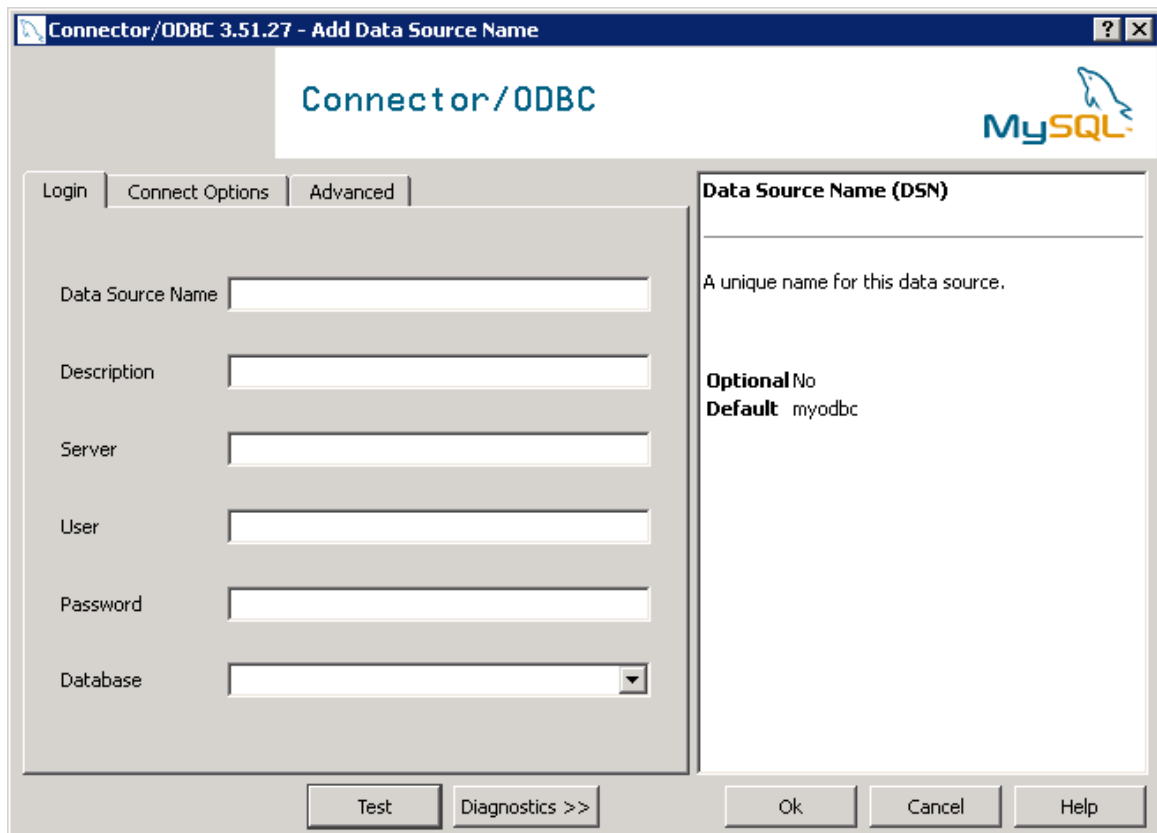
Open 'Administrative Tools' and select 'Data Sources (ODBC)'. You should be presented with the following dialog.



Select the 'User DSN' tab or the 'System DSN' tab depending on whether you wish the SQL data to be made available to only the current user (User DSN) or all users (System DSN). Then click 'Add...'. This will start a wizard that allows you to create a new data source.

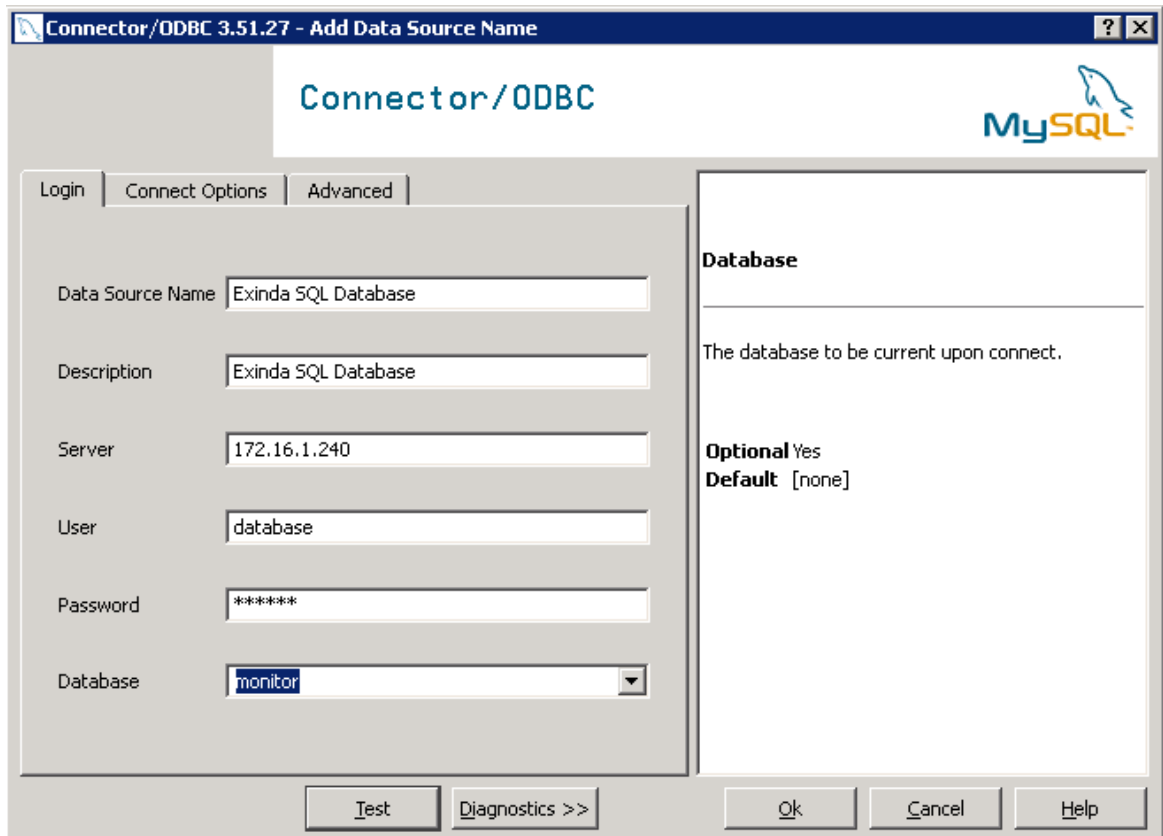


Select 'MySQL ODBC Driver' and click 'Finish'. You will be prompted to enter details about the SQL access using the form below:

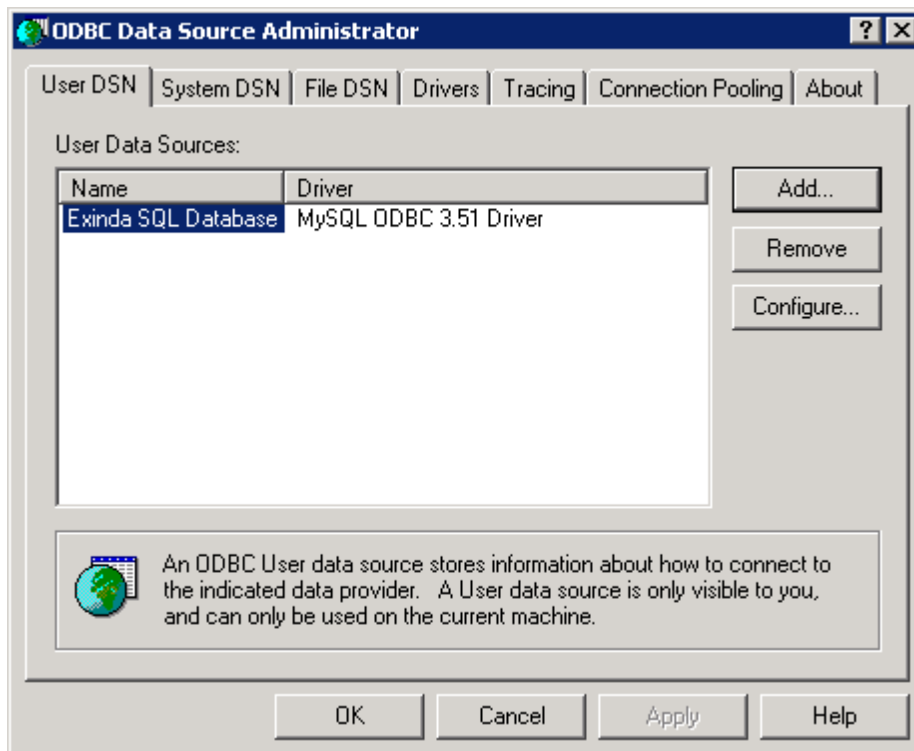


Data Source Name / Description	Enter a descriptive name for the DSN. E.g. 'Exinda SQL Database'.
Server	Enter the IP address of the Exinda appliance.
User	Enter the username you specified when enabling SQL access on the Exinda appliance.
Password	Enter the password you specified when enabling SQL access on the Exinda appliance.
Database	Once the above fields are configured, press the 'Test' button. If the connection attempt is successful, the 'Database' drop down will be populated with a list of available databases. Select 'monitor'.

Here is what a successful configuration looks like:

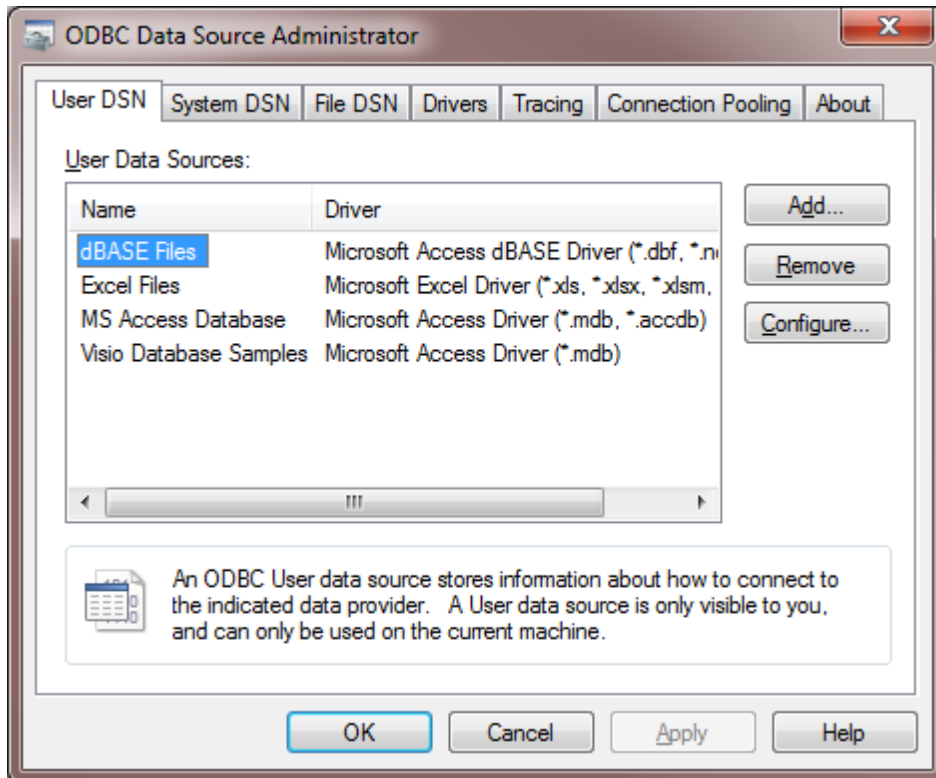


Click 'OK'. This will add the 'Exinda SQL Database' to the list of available data sources that can be used by 3rd party applications on this client.

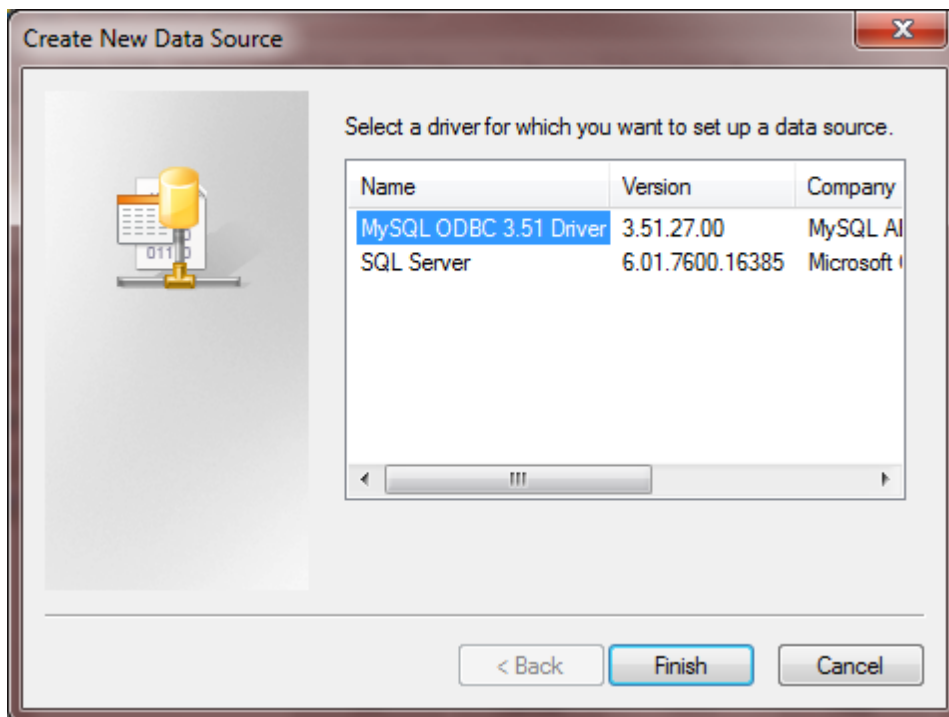


4.2 Windows Vista/7

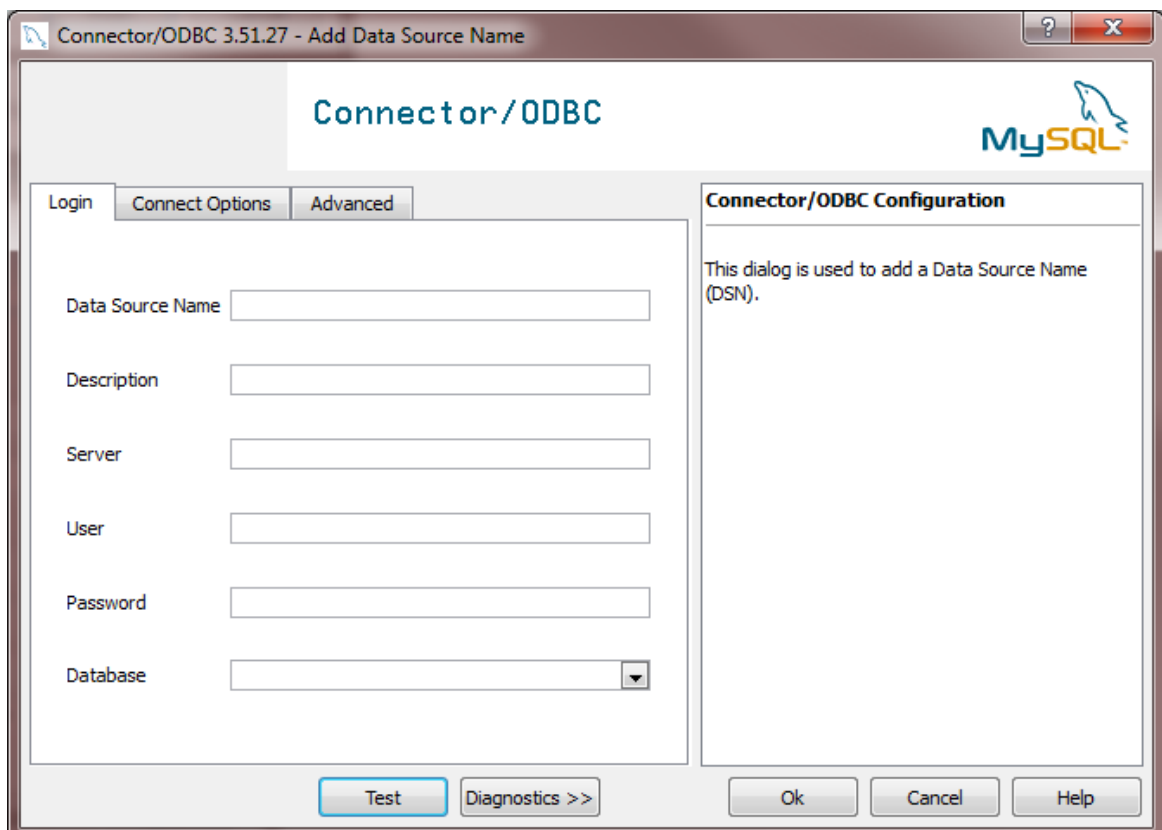
Open 'Administrative Tools' and select 'Data Sources (ODBC)'. You should be presented with the following dialog.



Select the 'User DSN' tab or the 'System DSN' tab depending on whether you wish the SQL data to be made available to only the current user (User DSN) or all users (System DSN). Then click 'Add...'. This will start a wizard that allows you to create a new data source.

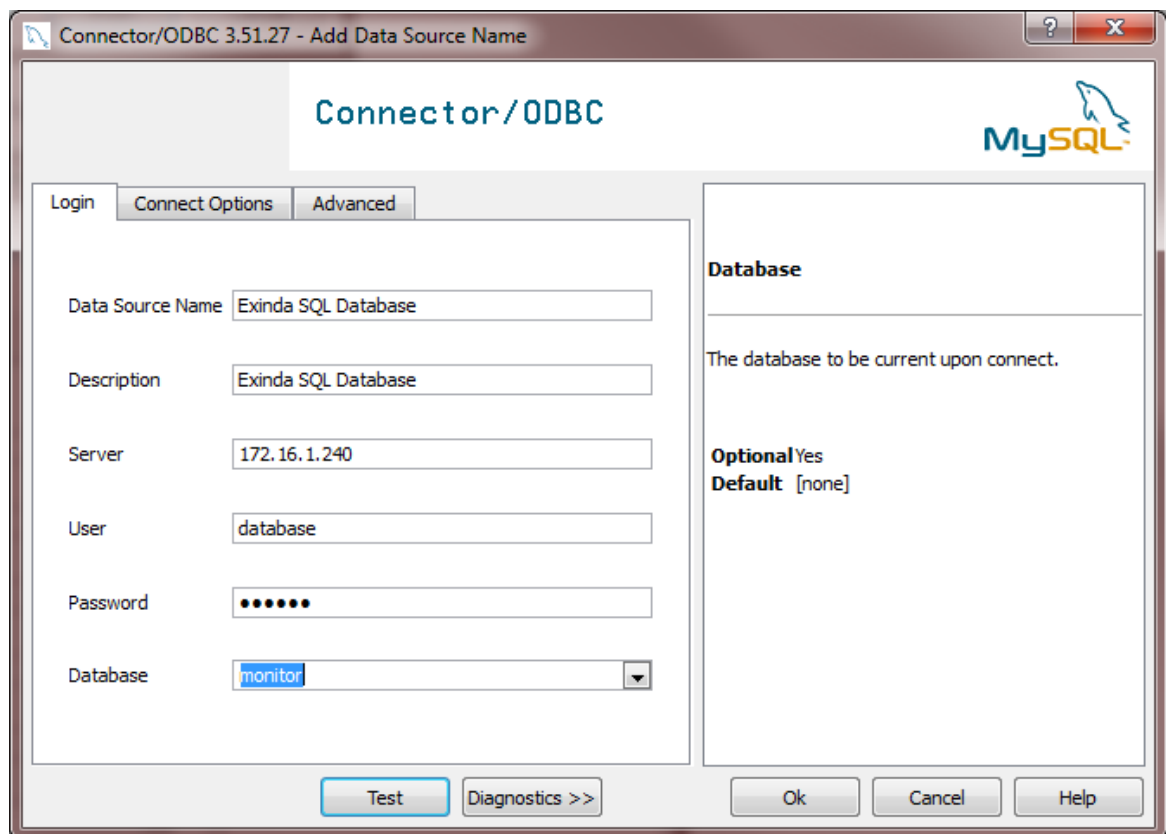


Select 'MySQL ODBC Driver' and click 'Finish'. You will be prompted to enter details about the SQL access using the form below:

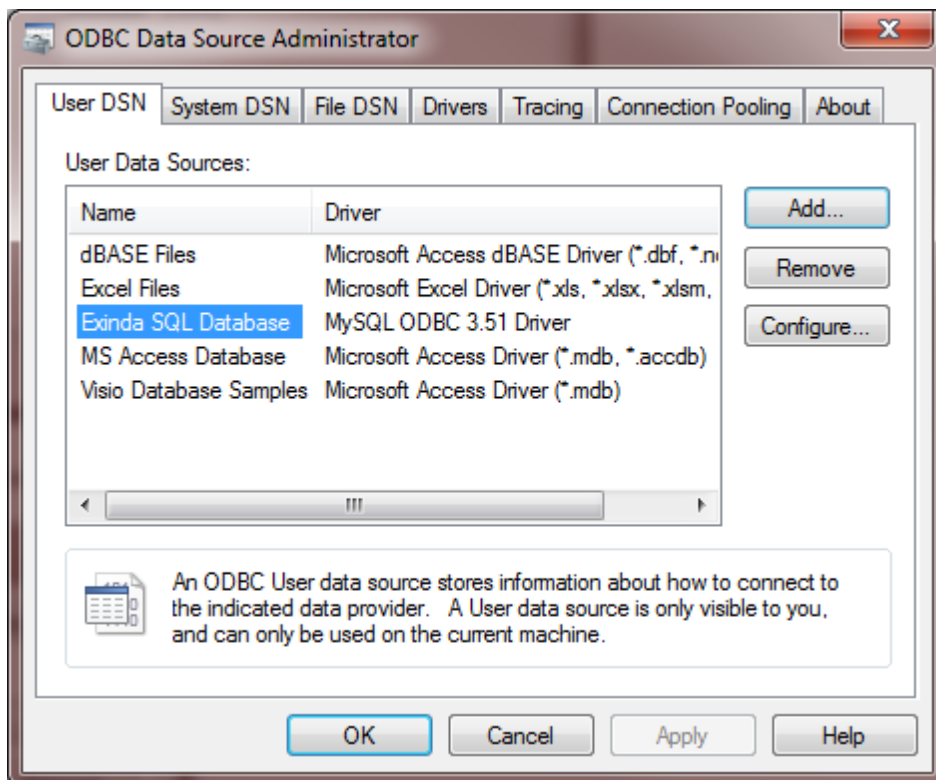


Data Source Name / Description	Enter a descriptive name for the DSN. E.g. 'Exinda SQL Database'.
Server	Enter the IP address of the Exinda appliance.
User	Enter the username you specified when enabling SQL access on the Exinda appliance.
Password	Enter the password you specified when enabling SQL access on the Exinda appliance.
Database	Once the above fields are configured, press the 'Test' button. If the connection attempt is successful, the 'Database' drop down will be populated with a list of available databases. Select 'monitor'.

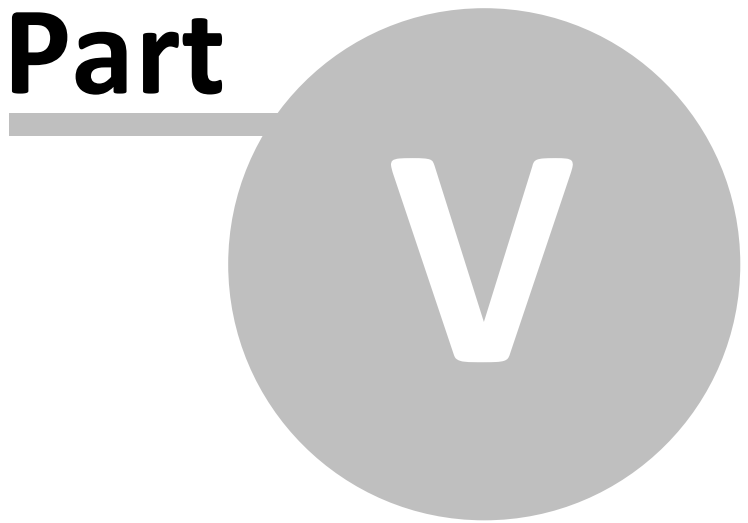
Here is what a successful configuration looks like:



Click 'OK'. This will add the 'Exinda SQL Database' to the list of available data sources that can be used by 3rd party applications on this client.



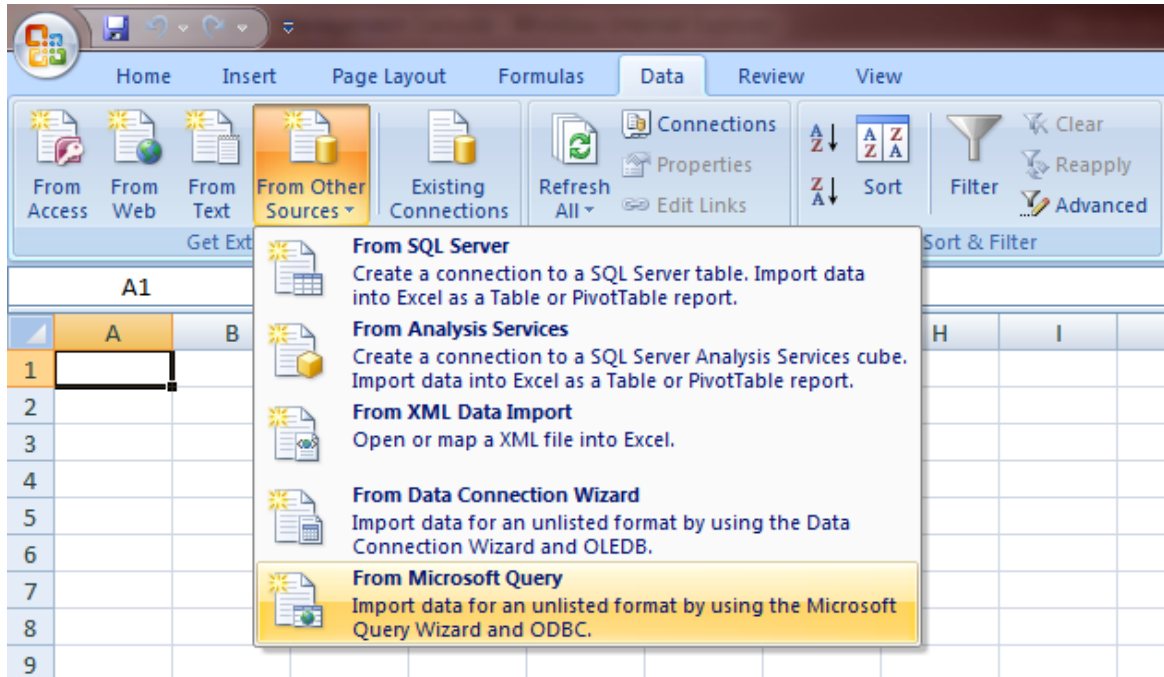
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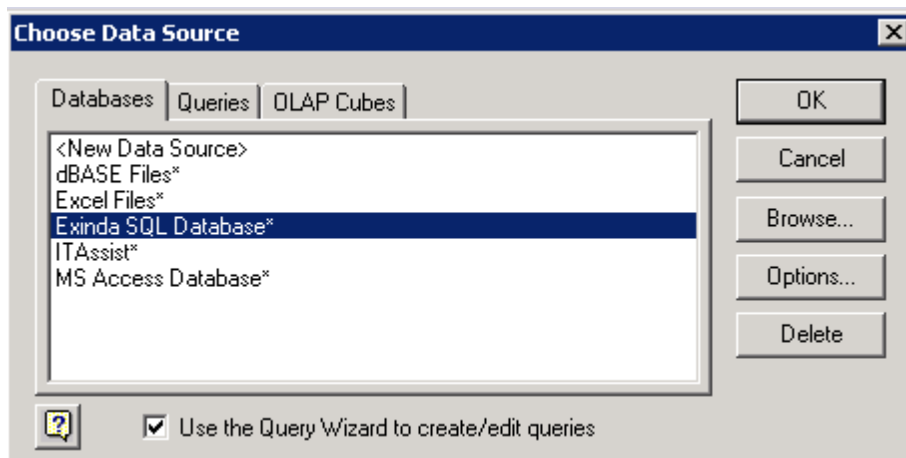
5 Using SQL Access

You will need a 3rd party application that is capable of accessing data from ODBC data sources. For the purposes of this How to Guide, we will use Microsoft Excel as an example.

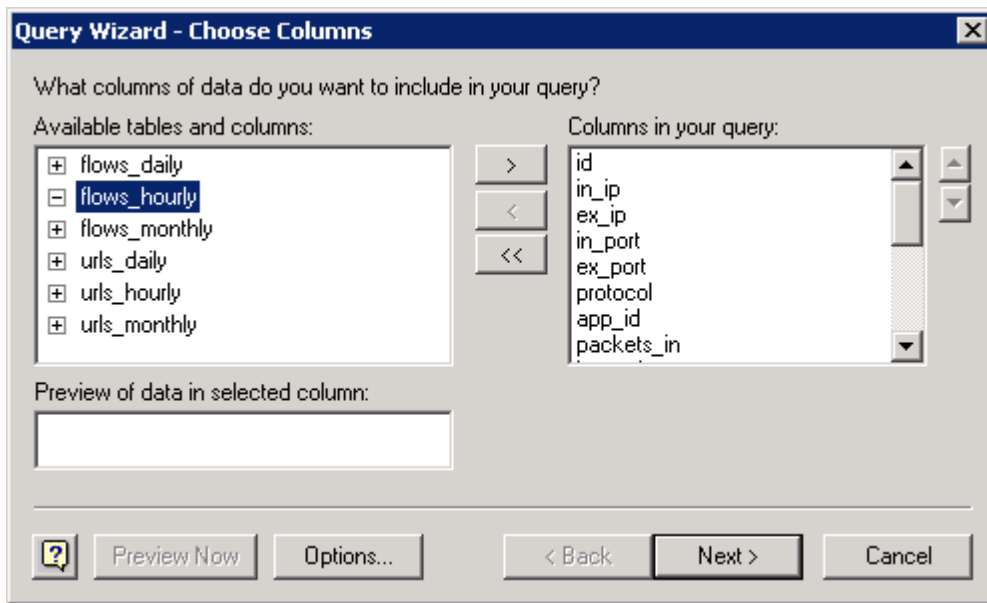
From the 'Data' tab in Excel, select 'From Other Sources', then choose 'From Microsoft Query'.



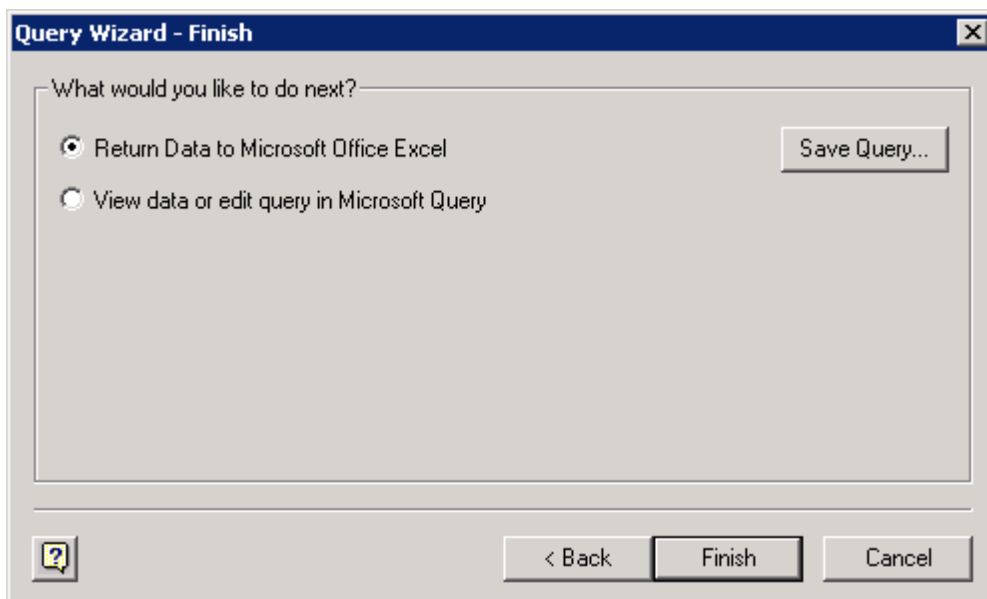
You will be presented with a dialog box that allows you to select the DSN you created in the previous chapter.



Select the 'Exinda SQL Database' DSN. This will allow you to choose from the available tables and select the columns to query. Select a table and click the > button to move that table's fields into the list of columns to query.



Click through the wizard, optionally specifying columns to filter or sort by. Then click Finish to return the data to Excel.



The Exinda appliance will now be queried and the data will be returned to the Excel spreadsheet.

id	in_ip	ex_ip	in_port	ex_port	protocol	app_id	packets_in	bytes_in	packets_out	bytes_out	max_tput_in	max_tput_out
2	2714022	2886729828	3197021980	0	0	17	222	0	0	6	1581	0
3	2714021	2886729850	2523226833	0	0	6	201	6	1104	6	1621	883
4	2714020	2886729972	3339138632	0	0	6	201	12	3324	12	1666	1329
5	2714018	2886729939	3494527776	0	0	1	201	22	1760	0	0	448
6	2714018	2886729972	1249745235	0	0	6	207	16	3184	19	3825	1185
7	2714017	2886729877	1494265866	0	0	6	201	7	1942	13	1539	1553
8	2714016	2886729939	3339139912	0	0	6	201	6	2129	6	877	1703
9	2714015	2886729939	1113983841	0	0	6	207	7	2162	9	1809	1729
10	2714014	2886729972	1249733985	0	0	6	201	6	1104	8	2283	883
11	2714013	2886729882	3413282335	0	0	6	222	119	12450	114	11368	919
12	2714012	2886729888	3510548001	0	0	6	201	4	2359	5	1317	1887
13	2714011	2886729828	3416333846	0	0	6	222	211	18338	241	21137	886
14	2714010	2886730069	2149463094	0	0	6	201	36	5620	44	3580	593
15	2714009	2886729850	2523226710	0	0	6	201	89	70476	85	14272	11439
16	2714008	2886729882	3406878235	0	0	6	201	24	2839	18	1330	2271
17	2714007	2886729855	1114779712	0	0	6	201	6	3055	7	775	2444
18	2714006	2886729855	3452668776	0	0	6	201	90	47511	90	10534	2548
19	2714005	2886729888	3452668776	0	0	6	201	6	3183	7	743	2546
20	2714004	2886729939	3494527776	0	0	6	201	19	2552	37	3483	530
21	2714003	2886729974	2827985172	0	0	6	207	37	7416	36	4420	1507
22	2714002	2886729888	3539452941	0	0	6	201	6	1131	8	3813	904

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6 SQL Schema

There are a total of 7 tables available for access via SQL.

flows_hourly	This table stores flow records at hourly resolution, that is, information for each flow is stored hourly, on the hour.
flows_daily	This table stores flow records at daily resolution, that is, information for each flow is stored daily, on the day at midnight.
flows_monthly	This table stores flow records at monthly resolution, that is, information for each flow is stored monthly, on the 1st day of the month at midnight.
urls_daily	This table stores url records for each flow record that contain 1 or more urls at hourly resolution, that is, information for each url is stored hourly, on the hour.
urls_hourly	This table stores url records for each flow record that contain 1 or more urls at daily resolution, that is, information for each url is stored daily, on the day at midnight.
urls_monthly	This table stores url records for each flow record that contain 1 or more urls at monthly resolution, that is, information for each url is stored monthly, on the 1st day of the month at midnight.
app_ids_and_names	This table stores a record for each Application. The record contains a name, id and a flag to indicate if the application has been deleted. Deleted applications are used when labeling historical data.

6.1 flows Table

The following table describes the schema of the flows_* SQL tables.

Field	Type	Description
id	unsigned 32-bit integer	A unique id that defines this record. This is the primary key.
in_ip	binary (128 bit)	A 16 byte (128 bit) representation of the internal IPv6 address (the IP address on the LAN side of the Exinda appliance) of the flow. IPv4 addresses are represented as IPv4 mapped format.
ex_ip	binary (128 bit)	A 16 byte (128 bit) representation of the external IPv6 address (the IP address on the WAN side of the Exinda appliance) of the flow. IPv4 addresses are represented as IPv4 mapped format.
in_port	unsigned 24-bit integer	The TCP or UDP port number on the internal side (the LAN side of the Exinda appliance) of the flow. ¹

Field	Type	Description
ex_port	unsigned 24-bit integer	The TCP or UDP port number on the external side (the WAN side of the Exinda appliance) of the flow. ¹
protocol	unsigned 24-bit integer	The IANA assigned IP protocol number of the flow. See http://www.iana.org/assignments/protocol-numbers/ for more information.
app_id	unsigned 24-bit integer	The internal Exinda Application ID assigned to this flow. This represents Exinda's classification of the flow - 0 means unclassified.
packets_in	unsigned 64-bit integer	The number of inbound (WAN -> LAN) packets recorded for this flow over the sample period.
bytes_in	unsigned 64-bit integer	The number of inbound (WAN -> LAN) bytes recorded for this flow over the sample period.
packets_out	unsigned 64-bit integer	The number of outbound (LAN -> WAN) packets recorded for this flow over the sample period.
bytes_out	unsigned 64-bit integer	The number of outbound (LAN -> WAN) bytes recorded for this flow over the sample period.
max_tput_in	unsigned 64-bit integer	The maximum inbound (WAN -> LAN) throughput observed for this flow during the sample period.
max_tput_out	unsigned 64-bit integer	The maximum outbound (LAN -> WAN) throughput observed for this flow during the sample period.
intervals_in	unsigned 24-bit integer	The number of 10 second intervals there was inbound (WAN -> LAN) traffic observed for this flow during the sample period (bps).
intervals_out	unsigned 24-bit integer	The number of 10 second intervals there was outbound (LAN -> WAN) traffic observed for this flow during the sample period (bps).
timestamp	unsigned 32-bit integer	A UNIX timestamp (number of seconds since epoch - 1st Jan 1970) that represents the start of the sample period.
in_username	string	A string representation of the username that was assigned to the internal IP of this flow when it was created (if available).
ex_username	string	A string representation of the username that was assigned to the external IP of this flow when it was created (if available). ¹
rtt	unsigned 32-bit integer	Round Trip Time in milliseconds. A measure of the time a packet takes to leave a device, cross a network and return. ¹

Field	Type	Description
network_delay	unsigned 32-bit integer	A normalized measure of the time taken for transaction data to traverse the network. ²
network_jitter	unsigned 32-bit integer	A normalized measure of the network_delay variability. ²
server_delay	unsigned 32-bit integer	A normalized measure of the time taken for a server to respond to a transaction request. ²
bytes_lost_in	unsigned 64-bit integer	The number of bytes lost due to retransmissions (WAN -> LAN). ²
bytes_lost_out	unsigned 64-bit integer	The number of bytes lost due to retransmissions (LAN -> WAN). ²
aps	unsigned 64-bit integer	Application Performance Score. A measure of an applications performance on the network. ²

¹ in_port and ex_port are only defined when the IP protocol is TCP (6) or UDP (17) and the Exinda was unable to classify the flow (so the app_id is 0).

² See the APS HowTO Guide for further information.

The flows_* tables are available as views that represent the binary IPv6 addresses in string format. The views tables are flows*_verbose (e.g. flows_hourly_verbose). The fields are identical to the above except for the following:

Field	Type	Description
in_ip	string	A string representation of the internal address (the IP address on the LAN side of the Exinda appliance) of the flow. IPv4 mapped IPv6 addresses are represented as IPv4 dotted quad.
ex_ip	string	A string representation of the external address (the IP address on the WAN side of the Exinda appliance) of the flow. IPv4 mapped IPv6 addresses are represented as IPv4 dotted quad.

6.2 app_ids_and_names Table

The following table describes the schema of the app_ids_and_names SQL table.

Field	Type	Description
app_id	unsigned 24-bit integer	A unique id that defines the Application. This is the primary key.
app_name	string	The Application name (e.g HTTP, Hotmail)
deleted_flag	unsigned 8-bit integer	A flag indicating if the Application has been deleted from the appliance (0 = no, 1 = yes)

6.3 urls Table

The following table describes the schema of the urls_* SQL tables.

Field	Type	Description
id	unsigned 32-bit integer	This id references an id in the corresponding parent flows_* table. There can be multiple url records referencing the same flow id, so this field is not unique.
url	string	The URL (host) extracted from the HTTP header of the parent flow.
packets_in	unsigned 64-bit integer	The number of inbound (WAN -> LAN) packets recorded for this URL over the sample period.
bytes_in	unsigned 64-bit integer	The number of inbound (WAN -> LAN) bytes recorded for this URL over the sample period.
packets_out	unsigned 64-bit integer	The number of outbound (LAN -> WAN) packets recorded for this URL over the sample period.
bytes_out	unsigned 64-bit integer	The number of outbound (LAN -> WAN) bytes recorded for this URL over the sample period.
max_tput_in	unsigned 64-bit integer	The maximum inbound (WAN -> LAN) throughput observed for this URL during the sample period.
max_tput_out	unsigned 64-bit integer	The maximum outbound (LAN -> WAN) throughput observed for this URL during the sample period.

Field	Type	Description
intervals_in	unsigned 16-bit integer	The number of 10 second intervals there was inbound (WAN -> LAN) traffic observed for this URL during the sample period.
intervals_out	unsigned 16-bit integer	The number of 10 second intervals there was outbound (LAN -> WAN) traffic observed for this URL during the sample period.

Note: id's are only consistent across the same sample periods. E.g. id's in the urls_hourly table only reference id's in the flows_hourly table.

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