Monitoring VM for Performance and Control



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Networking - Connecting people to information through technology

Baseline Your Network

Gather device/protocol/applicatol software versions

Gather device/protocol/applicatoin configuration

Gather device/protocol/applicastion statistics

Have a logical view of your network

Understand the protocols running

Be informed of recent changes in devices/protocols/applications

Be aware of future plans that are currently in test



Causes of Connectivity Problems

Faulty hardware or media

Bugs

Backhoes cutting fiber

Power outages

Not enough resources

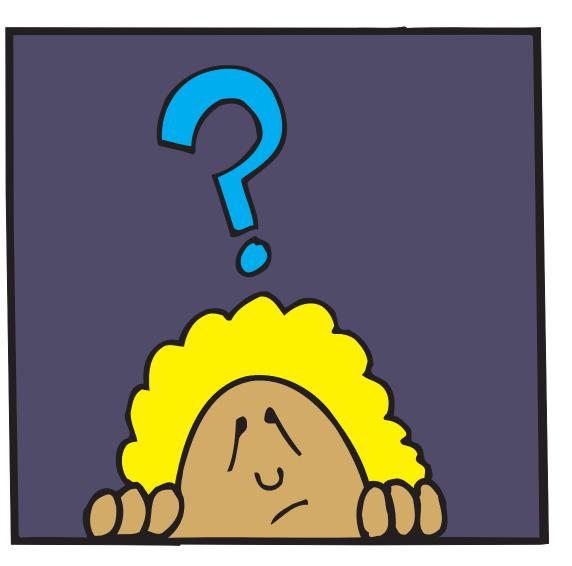
Hardware inoperable

Protocol mismatches

Handshake/bind problems

Blocked resources

Down resources



Causes of Performance Problems

Network congestion

Less desirable route

Underpowered network devices

Network faults such as spanning tree loops

Network noise

Network errors

Insufficient resources

Resource configuration

Over-subscription



Increasing Importance of Performance

Performance Management

The practice of managing network service response time, consistency and quality for individual services and services overall

Performance Related Risks

- Network degradation and failure
- •Application timeouts and failure
- Application degradation



Loss of Customers

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The Performance Problem

Over-provisioning

- Lots of provisions (rare)

-More resources than can be consumed

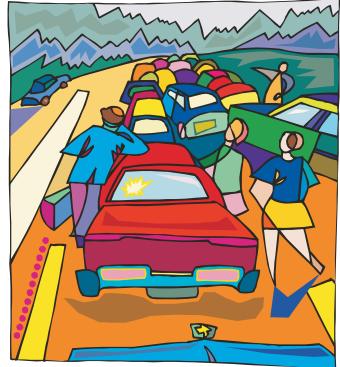
- •Food on a cruise
- •Congressional parking spaces
- •AOL CD-ROMs

Over-subscribing - lots of subscribers

-Lots of subscribers (common)

-Many users consume all the resources

- •Batteries, chain saws, interstate lanes during a hurricane
- •Phone calls on Mothers' Day
- •Many to few: whenever there's a bottleneck or funnel
- •Fast to slow: things will back up





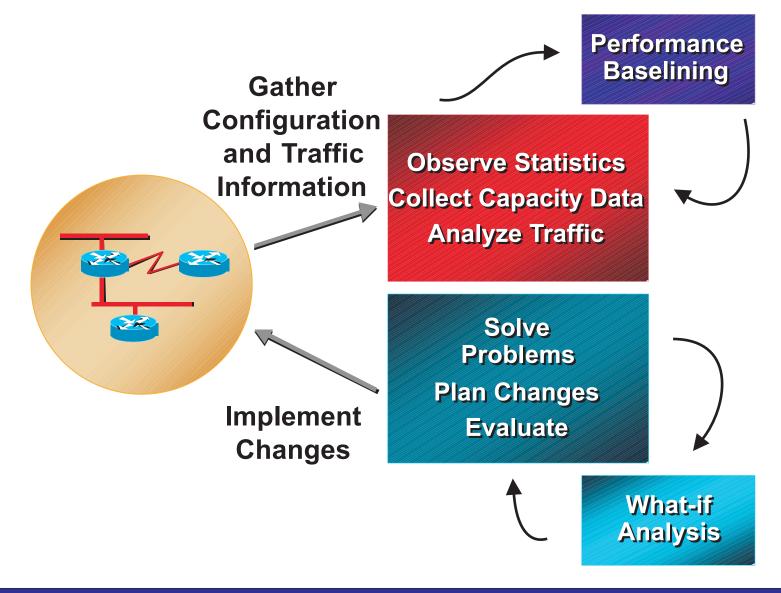
Introduction and background

Performance Methodologies

Areas of Concern Greed -- Am I miss-using buffer space? Sloth - What are response times? Envy - What's going on in the IP Stack? Lust - What is system availability? Anger - Who is using my resources? Gluttony - Who is hogging resources? Pride - What connections are there available?



Effective Performance Management



IBM

IP Resource Bottlenecks

CPU

Memory

Buffering, queuing, and latency

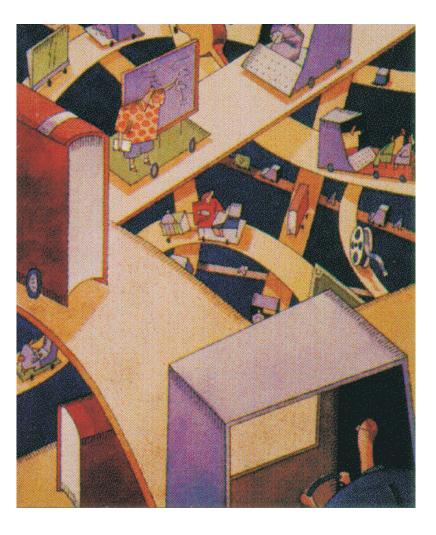
Interface and pipe sizes

Network Capacity

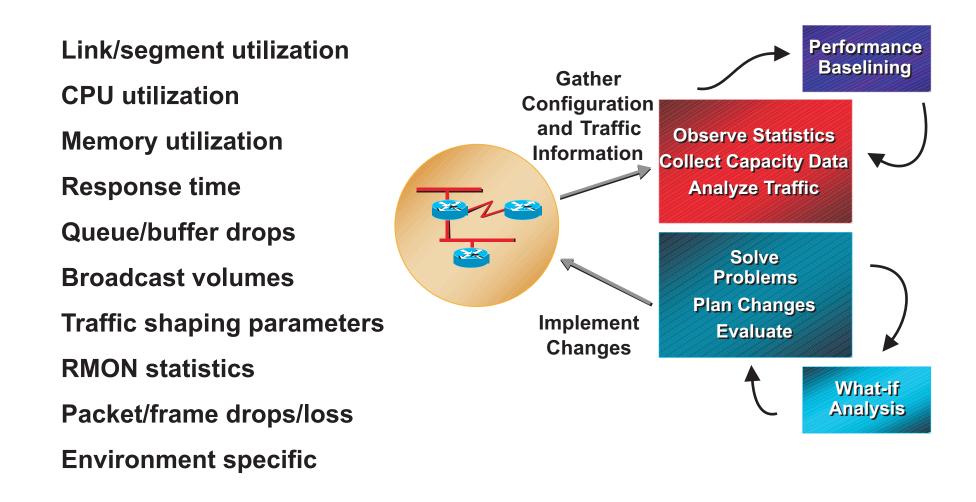
Speed and distance

Application characteristics

Results in Network capacity problems Utilization overload Application failure



Information to Collect



Performance Plan

Develop information collection plan

- Define parameters to be monitored/measured and the threshold
- Acquire proper authority to change threshold-
- Determine frequency of monitoring and reporting
- **Determine frequency of alerting mechanism**
- Define parameters that trigger alert mechanism
- Define performance areas of interest
- **Report and interpret results**
- **Determine tools for collecting information**





Introduction and background

Performance Methodologies

Areas of Concern Am I miss-using buffer space? What are response times? What's going on in the IP Stack? What is system availability? Who is using my resources? Who is hogging resources? What connections are there available?



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The Problem Buffer Utilization

Buffers are critical component of any operating system Buffers are critical components of any application

Running low or out of buffers on any system can cause immediate application failure system slowdown impacting all applications need to restart system

Running low or out of buffers on any application can cause immediate application failure domino effect on related resources and applications intermittent application oddities

Tuning buffer utilization is important How do you know hat you are using? How do you know you are about ready to exceed limits?



Elements

Do you have your buffers pools properly set ?

What are you currently using?

What buffer areas are in expansion?

What is the expansion increments?



If I reallocate buffers can I alert if a buffer reaches a certain utilization point?

Can alerts be forwarded to my operations console, whichever one I choose?

What are the totals for my system and are leaks occuring?

Understanding Buffer Storage

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The Problem Response Time

Web users expect 2 to 5 second response time

SNA users expect sub-second response time

No one is ever happy with what they get

External customers may go elsewhere

Where is the problem? Network? DASD? Router have long ques? Is the Lan to slow? Is the route long? Operating system? Too long to queue for transmit? Application? Protocol? Window size improperly set? MTU size improperly set?



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Elements

What are overall response times in my network?

What are response times for different size frames?

Can I look at a specific address and determine its response time?

Are both real time and historical views available?

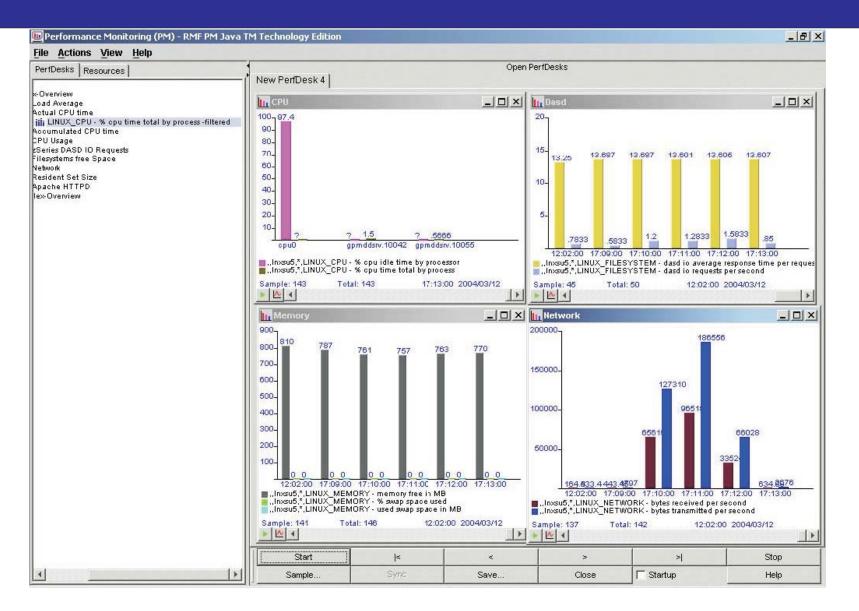
Are both graphical and tabular views available?

Can I set thresholds?

Can I send alerts?



Response Time



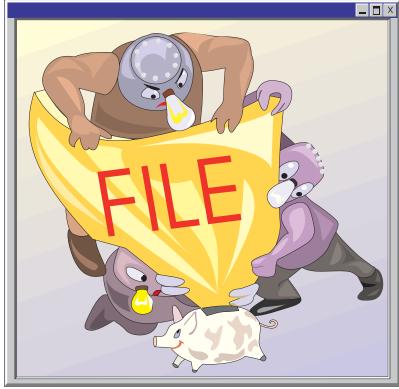
The Problem System Utilization

Since you cannot over-provision your system (add as much memory as you want, as much DASD, etc) you need to optimize

Determining what is currently being used on the system will assist in determining how much you can grow the system

An application behaving poorly may be due to improper design, improper setting of system resources to use, or application configuration

Sluggishness of a system may be due to not enough CPU, I/O overloads, or queue latencies





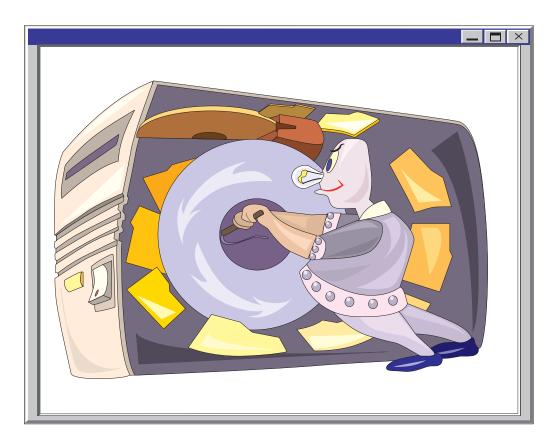
What system resources are major address spaces using?

Can I select the address space to view?

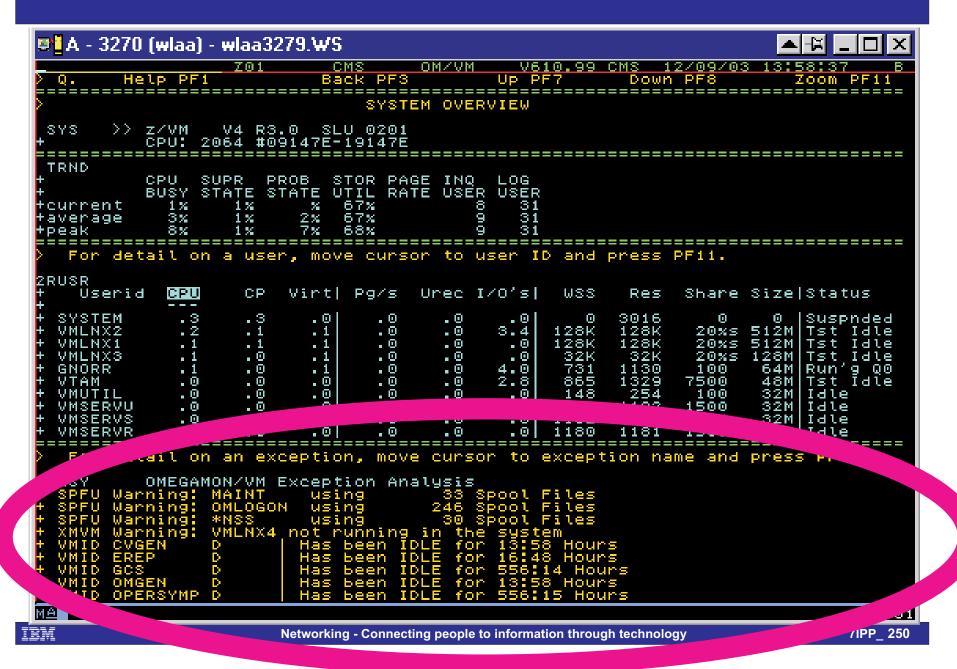
How does the utilization change within a given time?

Can I freeze a screen?

Do I have the raw data available to me?







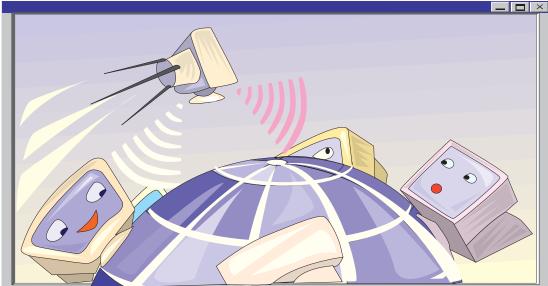
The Problem Availabilty

Resources, applications, network components that are not available impact many aspects of your system

IP is especially prone to this due to the 'non-configurable' operations

Critical resources can come and go with no 'network-wide' configuration, but this may impact other systems

Five steps may occur in a process before you realize that the six step requires a resource that is no longer available



The Elements

Can you get a quickview of overall availability?

Can you define critical resources?

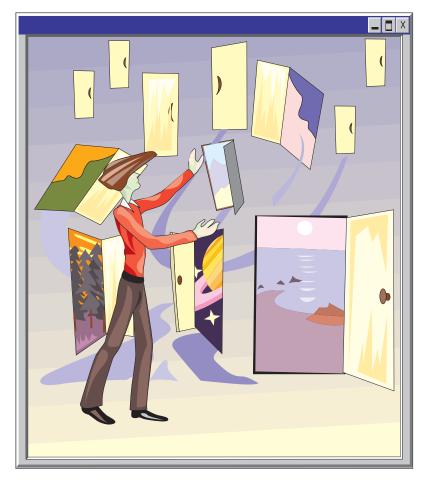
Have alerts been sent?

Is the system not available because the system is down or because a resource like a router is having problems (traceroute)?

Can I tell if the route is not the normal route taken?

Has the situation cleared itself up?

How can I get more details from an offending intermediary system?



Real Time Availability

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The Problem Resource Utilization

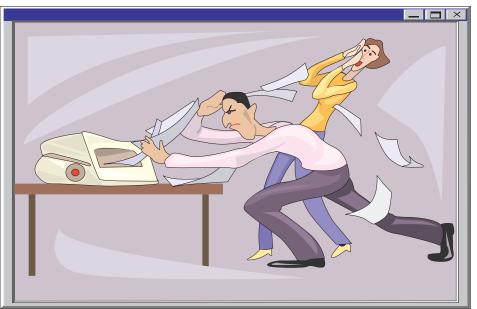
Application usage by end users is very unpredictable in IP. What was valid last week may not be valid today

An application installed on a system and active not being utilized by end users is taking system resources that could be used by other applications

Sometimes it is appropriate to block users after a given number have

logged onto an application in order to conserve existing resources

Knowing who is using what on a given system can help determine long term capacity planning needs for the system





For a given system, can you determine the applications being used?

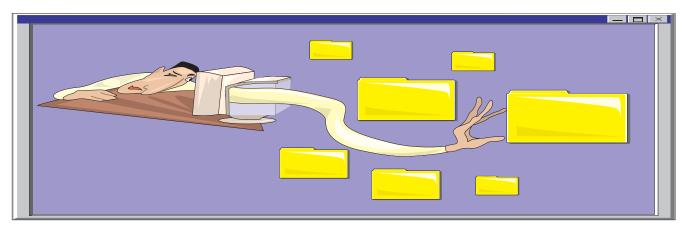
Can you tell for each application the session or user counts?

Can you tell for each application the number of bytes transferred?

Can you get more details on a historical basis? Determine patterns like a 3% monthly growth in usage?

Can you alert on miss-use of an application?

Can you shut a user out of an application in real time?



General User Resource Utilization

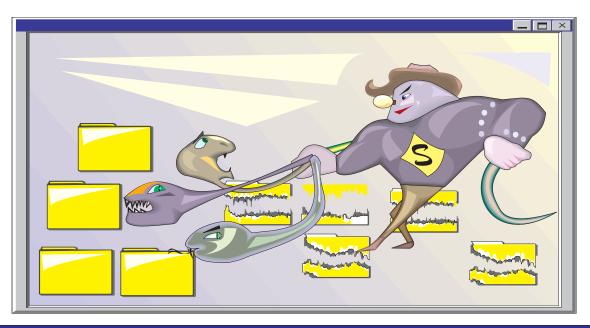
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The Problem Who is Hogging Resources

Excessive backups to a production server by end users can impact production applications

A continuous backup can reduce system resources available for other functions

Your expensive DASD may be used via FTP to hold trivial end user data (like games)



The Elements

Can you determine sessions by applications or bytes by applications?

Can you determine top 10 clients bytes transferred?

For selected clients can you determine bytes transferred?

Can you determine past history?

Can you determine if alerts have been sent?

Can you view not only the IP address but the DNS name?



Can you set refresh rate?

Application

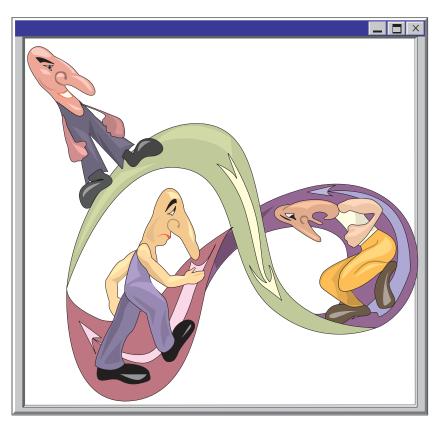
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The Problem A System Perspective

You are dealing with a system, not just a standalone computer. Other tools in the network may give you the views you want, but without access, the information is not readily available to you

Standalone CPU based tools are not expandable to view the outside components

Others will need to be involved as you delve into problems, but the tools at your disposal need to give you basic information in order to proceed



The Elements

Can you determine information on not only the CPU involved, but also other network components that may be impacting the problem?

Can you determine availability and response times for the users of your CPU?

Real time and historical data is needed .. One to solve immediate problems ... One to allow capacity planning

Are commands access provided as well as alerting to operational consoles

Can a new employee quickly learn the system?



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Performance Management Pride

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Service Level Management

Define performance requirements Define upgrade criteria by performance Measure performance Review thresholds and baseline

Threshold	WAN	LAN
CPU	75-90%	75-90%
Link	80-90%	40-90%
Memory	50%	50%
Output Queue	200	25
Buffer Misses	Any	Any
Broadcast Vol	10/Sec	300/Sec
FECN/BECN	10/Sec	N/A

Performance Summary

You never solve performance problems

The basic performance issues remain the same.....But QoS adds a new view

Emerging applications need higher levels of performance

Performance data readily availablebut the interpretation and action plans are lax

Complexity

Expect change and new ideas to emerge

Policy systems required to ease administration complexity