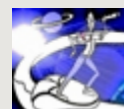


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Past numbers of this newsletter are available on the web at
<http://www.epvtech.com>



1) **Tech Papers - Investigating the IDAA with SMF - Part 1**

The IBM DB2 Analytics Accelerator (IDAA), is a high performance solution designed to work with DB2 on z/OS to deliver faster query responses transparently to the user.

The IDAA can be considered as a virtual DB2 component working under DB2 control: the DB2 Optimizer will decide whether to dynamically "offload" a query or not to the IDAA.

IBM studies and customer experiences show that big advantages can be obtained in terms of CPU savings and I/O capacity particularly for queries which scan large amounts of data.

To analyse IDAA activity in detail the SMF records produced by statistics and accounting traces need to be used.

These traces provide a lot of metrics, but unfortunately their meaning is not always straightforward or well documented.

After a short introduction to the IDAA architecture, we will discuss IDAA statistics and accounting metrics showing what you have to do in order to use them safely and effectively.

We will also discuss some optional metrics which can be produced by

enabling "accelerator modelling" and which can allow you to:

- understand which components of the DB2 workload are eligible to the IDAA;
- evaluate potential performance benefits and CPU consumption reductions;
- estimate possible cost savings due to the IDAA adoption.

If you want to receive the paper you can reply to this e-mail writing "Investigating the IDAA with SMF - Part 1" in the subject



2) Tech News – IBM software prices increase from January 2015

Price change(s): Selected IBM software products

Announcement Letter Number 314-090 - August 12, 2014

Today, IBM announces increases in monthly license charges (MLC) on select middleware software programs and their features. For the affected programs, the price changes will only apply to the following monthly license charge (MLC) software pricing metrics: VWLC, AWLC, EWLC, AEWLC and PSLC. The price increase for a given program will be approximately 4% depending on the features selected. Select CICS for VSE products will receive an approximate 7% price increase on all software billing metrics.

More details at: <http://www-01.ibm.com/common/ssi/cgi-bin/ssialias?infotype=AN&subtype=CA&htmlfid=897/ENUS314-090&appname=USN>



3) Tech Notes - Call for SMF data to test EPV for WMQ V12

We are completing the new version of EPV for WMQ.

We need SMF data for testing. The more we get the better it is.

If you send us your SMF data we will give you back the pages produced with the new version and possibly some performance advice.

We need:

- SMF 70
- SMF 30 subtype 2 and 3
- SMF 115
- SMF 116 subtype 0, 1, 2

Please note that to produce SMF 116 subtype 1 and 2 accounting trace class 3 has to be activated.

If you want to participate to this testing program please send an e-mail to epv.support@epvtech.com



4) Tech Support - Important IBM corrections

OA44207: NEW FUNCTION - SCALABILITY SUPPORT FOR SYSTEMS WITH UP TO 1TB OF REAL STORAGE

This APAR provides new function to address scalability issues for customers running with large amounts of real storage, generally between 256G to 1TB, or with a large LFAREA, such as 256G.

Without this APAR applied, the following issues may occur with large amounts of memory or with a large LFAREA:

- 1. During system initialization, RSM must obtain disabled spin locks to initialize control structures. Running disabled can lead to spin loop time-outs and result in an ABEND071 which can lead to system failure.*
- 2. A large LFAREA (e.g., greater than 256G) requires a large amount of preferred real storage for PFTEs to represent the frames for the LFAREA. During system initialization, obtaining these control structures may deplete preferred storage below the bar. One possible outcome is an XCF WAIT0A2.*
- 3. As the LFAREA size is increased, the amount of preferred storage above the bar is decreased. A lack of preferred storage can lead to a system hang or slowdown as requesters for this storage are indefinitely suspended.*
- 4. Processing requests for 4K frames from the LFAREA can lead to ABEND071 spin loop time-outs.*
- 5. A spin loop time-out ABEND071 may occur when a CONFIG STOR, OFFLINE command is processed for a large amount of real storage or with a large storage increment size, such as 1G or greater.*
- 6. A spin loop time-out ABEND071 may occur while scanning PFTEs during frame steal processing.*

More details at: <http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=isg1OA44207>

OA44963: INCREASED CPU ON Z/OS 2.1 DURING VSAM PROCESSING

Changes made in z/OS 2.1 to obtain additional diagnostics can cause increased CPU consumption when using VSAM in some situations.

No more details available.

OA45264: INVALID UIC CALCULATION AT Z/OS 2.1

At z/OS 2.1 the UIC calculation is incorrect and results in a negative value for the current UIC which causes the system high UIC field to be set to the maximum value of FFFF. The highest system UIC value of FFFF results in SRM determining that it does not need to call RSM to steal frames. This can lead to additional paging on a z/OS 2.1 system that is storage constrained.

More details at: <http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=isg1OA45264>

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