

Who is using my CPUs ?

Fabio Massimo Ottaviani - EPV Technologies

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At any z/OS site the CPU is the most expensive component with respect to both hardware and software costs.

This is the reason why some companies perform tuning cycles on a regular basis in order to:

1. understand who is using the CPU;
2. estimate possible CPU savings;
3. estimate the correspondent tuning efforts;
4. tune system and application components.

Understanding who is using the CPU may look a simple step to perform but unfortunately this is not always true, especially in complex environment based on multiple LPARs each one of them hosting many CICS regions, DB2 subsystems, etc.

The major issue to face is that most of the available performance analysis and tuning tools doesn't provide a comprehensive view of all the environment but only a lot of partial views focusing on each system and subsystem.

So it may happen that a task running in multiple systems and/or subsystems doesn't look a so intensive CPU consumer when you focus on each specific instance but the situation can be much different when you look at its global CPU usage.

In this paper we will discuss a simple technique which will allow to easily perform the first essential step of the CPU tuning cycle and to find major CPU consumers taking into consideration the whole z/OS environment.