

Measuring the effects of System Recovery Boost

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October 2021

1. Introduction

With the z15 machines, IBM provides an interesting new and free feature: the System Recovery Boost (SRB).

This feature is designed to diminish the impact of downtime, planned or unplanned, so you can restore service and recover workloads substantially faster than on previous IBM machine generations.

With SRB, for a fixed amount of time, you can get a performance boost which will allow you to reduce the length and mitigate the impact of downtime.

This performance boost is obtained by temporarily releasing the limitations imposed on “knee-capped” machines (sub capacity models) and on the amount of work which is marked as zIIP eligible.

A very important point to take note of is that SRB will not cause an increase in IBM software MSU consumption or cost.

In this paper we will discuss the most important SRB concepts and we will look at the new system parameters, commands and SMF fields introduced to control it.

We will then discuss the effects of SRB on CPU and zIIP measurements by showing a couple of real-life examples.

Finally, we will also present what we changed in EPV for z/OS to support this new feature.