



IBM Software Group

IBM CICS® Transaction Server for z/OS® V3.1
Performance Report
April 2005

CICS Performance Group
IBM Hursley



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Channels and containers

In CTS 3.1, data can be passed from program to program in Containers. Each Container is associated with a Channel

The main advantage of using Containers instead of Commareas for passing data, is that the data size can exceed 32K

Performance Evaluation Configuration

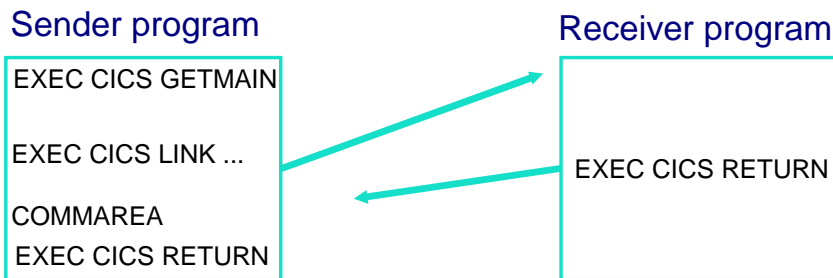
- **COBOL program links to COBOL program**
- **2.5ms of application program logic**
- **Comparison of data transfer using:**
 - Commareas
 - Channels and Containers
 - Temporary Storage Queues

The performance evaluations involved passing data between 2 cobol programs running in the same region, and also in MRO-connected regions

Three methods for passing data were evaluated:

1. Commareas
2. Containers
3. Temporary Storage

Commarea application



32K max data restriction

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Channel application

Sender program

```
EXEC CICS GETMAIN
EXEC CICS PUT
  CONTAINER
EXEC CICS LINK ...

CHANNEL
EXEC CICS RETURN
```

Receiver program

```
EXEC CICS GET
  CONTAINER
EXEC CICS RETURN
```

↗

↖

Single container used for data
No restriction on data size

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A single container within the channel was used in these tests

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TSQ application

Sender program

```
EXEC CICS GETMAIN
EXEC CICS WRITEQ TS
EXEC CICS LINK
EXEC CICS DELETEQ TS
EXEC CICS RETURN
```

Receiver program

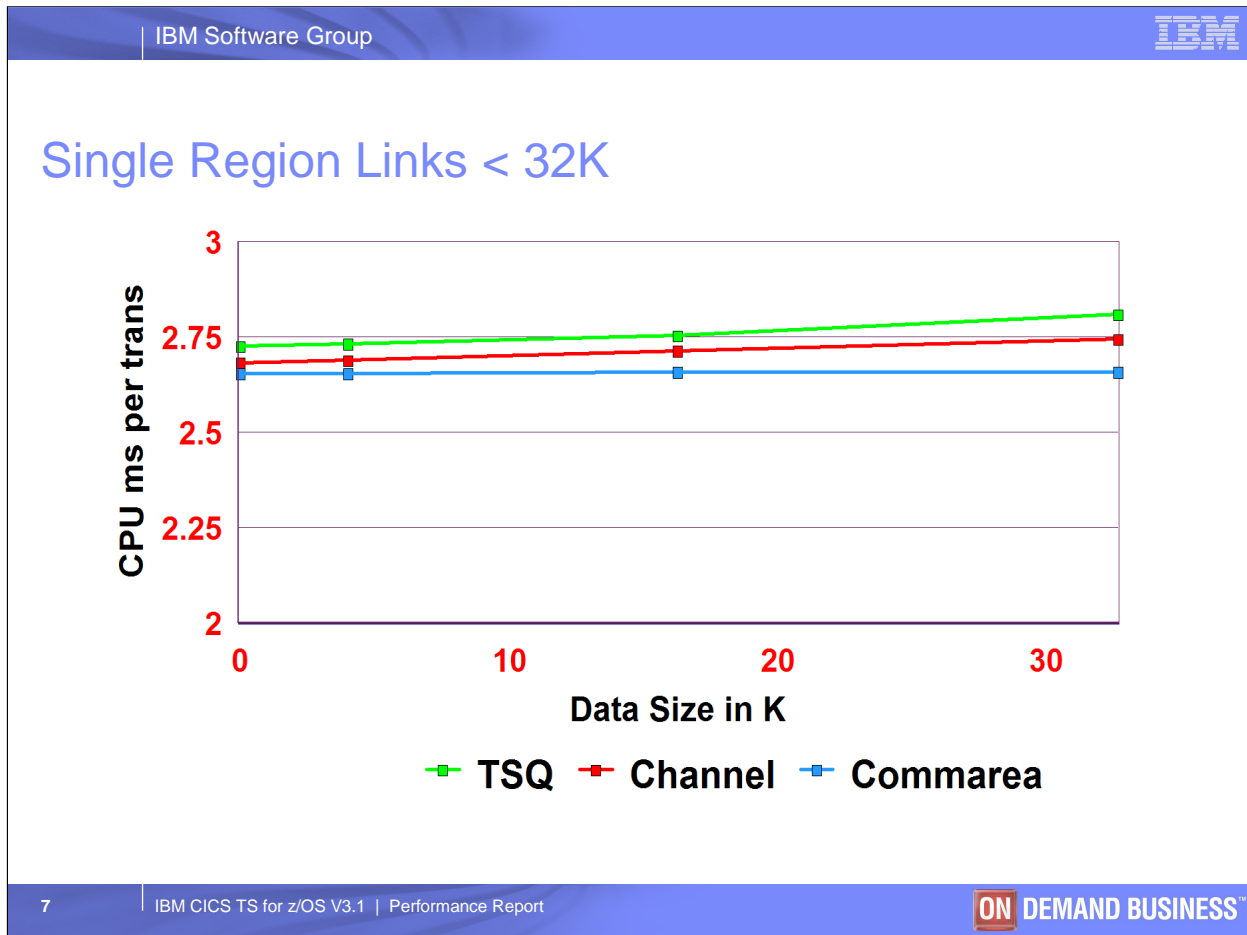
```
EXEC CICS READQ TS
EXEC CICS RETURN
```

↔

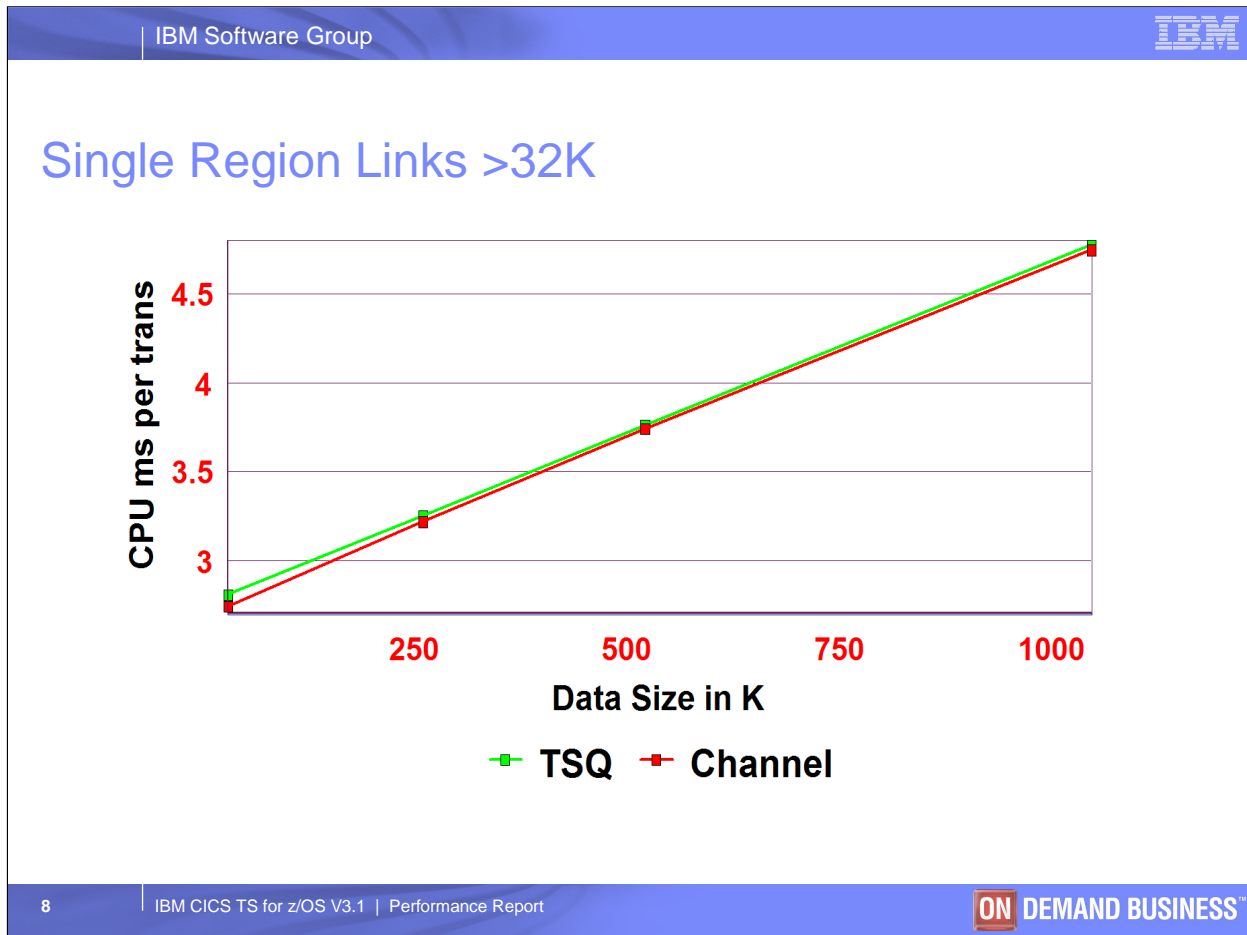
Multiple TSQ items used for data size >32K

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To send more than 32K, sending program issues multiple TSQ writes, and receiving program issues multiple TSQ reads

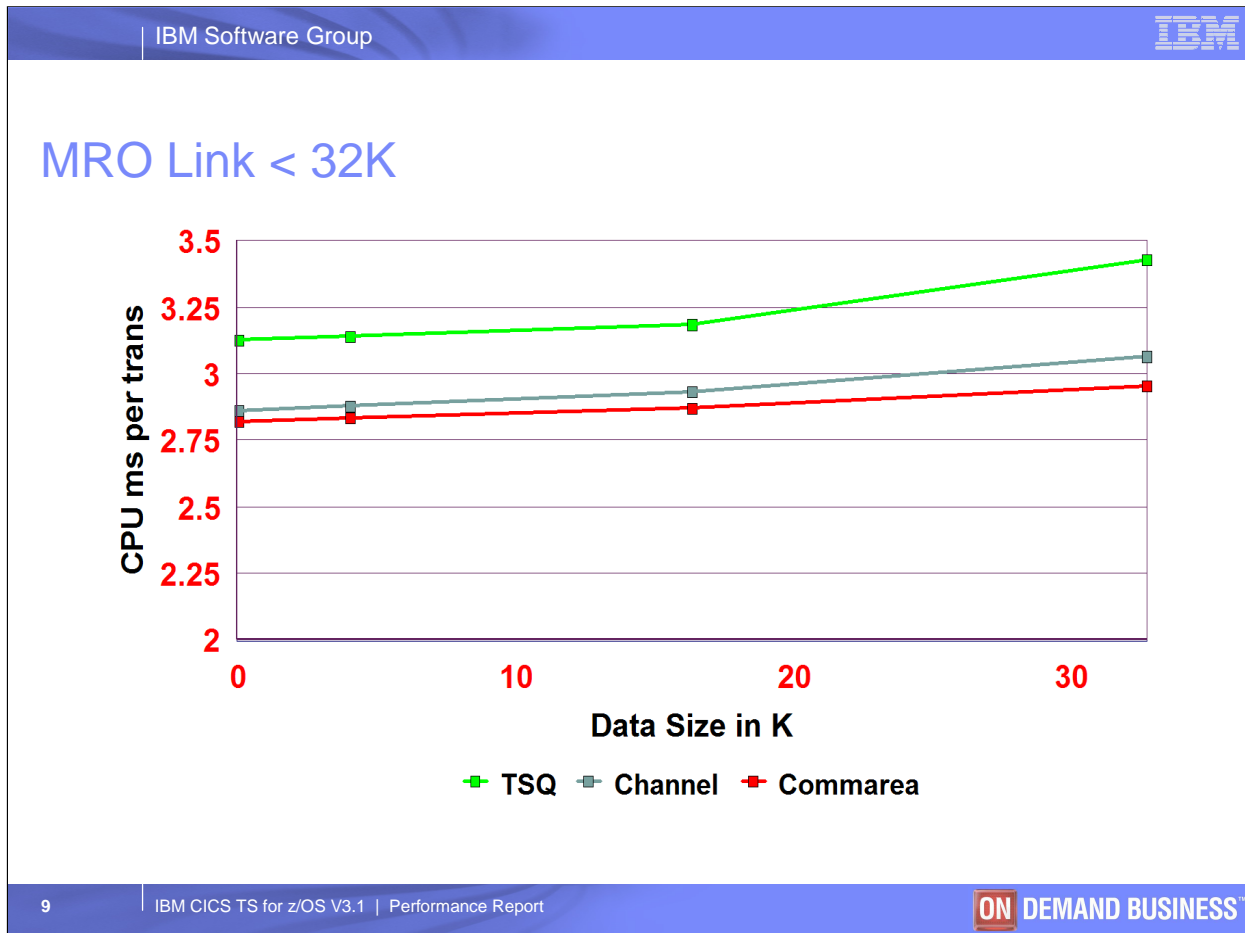


Application that is called has about 2.5 milli secs of application logic. Roughly in the region of 1000000 machine instructions.



Commareas cannot be used for data sizes >32K.

Due to the 32K restriction on TS item size, multiple WRITEQ TS and READQ TS commands are issued.



For these tests, an MRO XM link was established between two CICS systems running in the same LPAR

TS queues on the local CICS system were defined as remote using TSMODEL definitions. READQ, WRITEQ and DELETEQ requests issued on the local system were handled by mirror transactions on the remote system. This is a significant overhead per transaction.

Commareas slightly out performed Channels for MRO. TS queues performed significantly worse.

When the size of data being transferred exceeds 32K, Commareas can not be used (due to the 32K restriction), and the performance of TS queues degrades. For Channels, the cpu increase remains linear.

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SOAP Pipeline

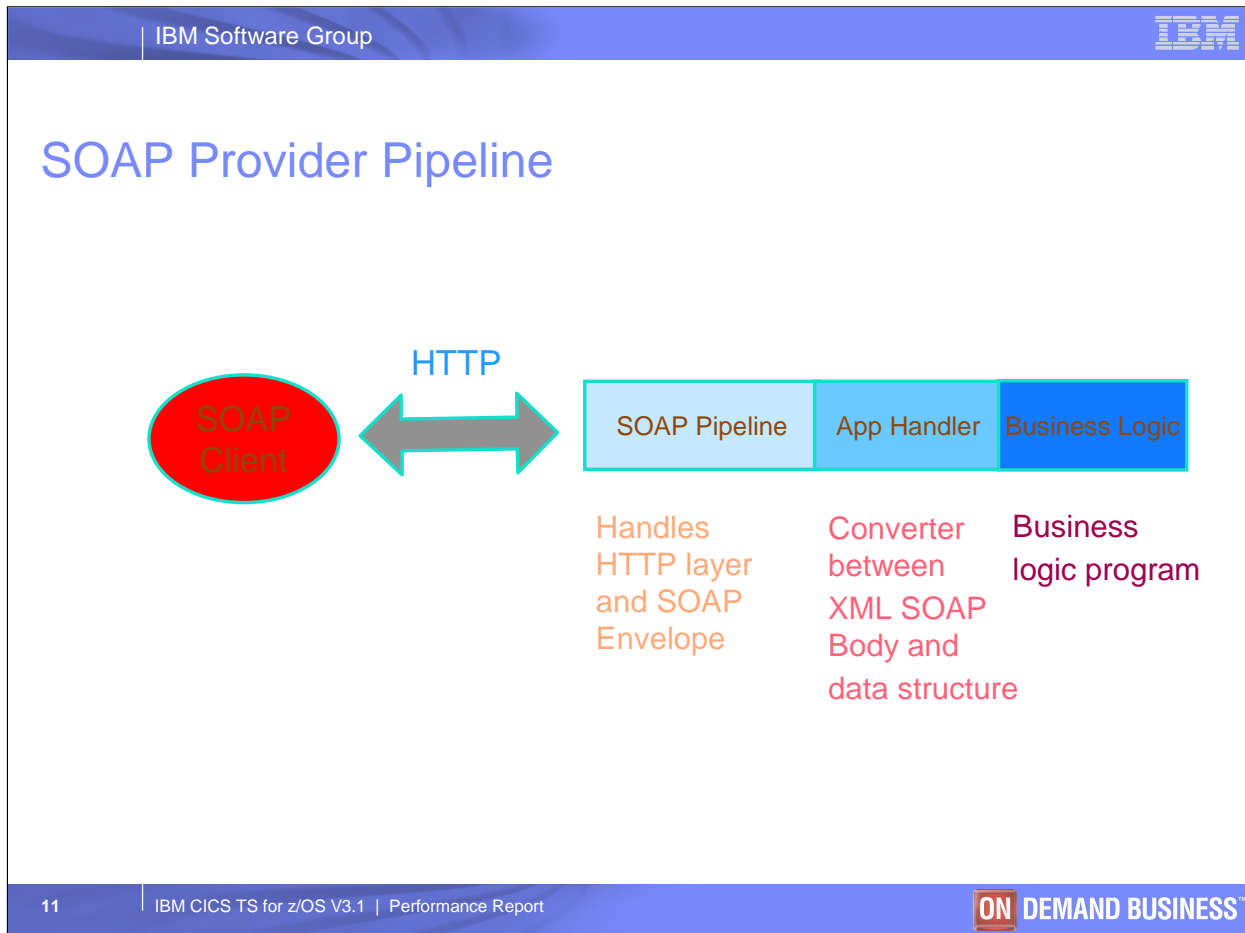
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ON DEMAND BUSINESS™

SOAP support in CICS is implemented as a pipeline, and supports both requester and provider business logic applications

These applications pass data in language data structures and do not get involved in XML SOAP structures

A SOAP message consists of a SOAP Body and optionally SOAP Headers contained within a SOAP Envelope



SOAP Client - TPNS and WebSphere® Studio Workload Simulator were used

HTTP or WMQ (WebSphere MQ) supported at the transport layer

The SOAP Pipeline in V3.1 is new, and replaces the SOAP for CICS Feature in V2.2 and V2.3

App Handler - The application handler converts the SOAP Body to a data structure on input, and converts the data structure to a SOAP Body on output

Business logic program - commarea based, but in V3.1 can alternatively be container based.
Null business logic program used in tests

SOAP support in CICS

■ CICS SOAP support

- SOAP for CICS Feature in V2.2 and V2.3
 - HTTP or WebSphere MQ used at transport layer
 - user-written application handler required
 - commarea-based business logic application
- SOAP support integrated into V3.1
 - HTTP or WebSphere MQ used at transport layer
 - user-written application handler NOT required
 - business logic application can be:
 - commarea or container based

User-written application handler converts XML SOAP body to language data structure on input and vice versa on output

CICS Web Services Assistant replaces need for user-written application handler. Batch program generates a wsbind file that is used at runtime to convert between the SOAP body and language structures

CICS as a SOAP requester must use the container interface in V31

Application Handler

▪ V2.2 and V2.3 options

- User-written application required to:
 - Convert XML SOAP body input to language data structure
 - Invoke commarea-based business logic program
 - Convert language data structure output to XML SOAP body
- WSED converter (WSED version 5.1.2)
 - WebSphere Studio Enterprise Developer
 - Generates driver, input and output programs from business logic program source code
 - Upload programs to z/OS and install in CICS
- New Handler required for each business logic program

WSED runs on Windows

WSED generates source code, so needs compiling on z/OS

CICS Web Services Assistant

- **Batch component**
 - DFHLS2WS batch program
 - Language data structure input
 - HFS WSDL and WSbind files created
 - DFHWS2LS batch program
 - HFS WSDL file input
 - Language data structure and HFS WSbind files created
 - New WSbind file required for each business logic program

WSDL is the Web Services Definition Language, and describes in XML format how to invoke the Web Service, in terms of transport layers supported, the URI required, operations (methods) supported and descriptions of the data elements

DFHLS2WS typically used when running a service provider application. Generated WSDL then used by service requester to create SOAP message

DFHWS2LS typically used when running a service requester application. WSDL supplied by service provider

CICS Web Services Assistant

- **Runtime component**

- Pipeline install process
 - Accesses WSbind files from pickup directory
 - Copies WSbind files to shelf directory
- Runtime
 - Pipeline reads WSbind file
 - Converts input XML SOAP body to language data structure
 - Invokes commarea/container based business logic program
 - Converts output language data structure to XML SOAP body

The CEDA pipeline install will install all applicable Web Services, by reading the WSbind files from the Pickup directory and copying them to the Shelf directory

Application handler DFHPITP invokes the CICS Web Services Assistant

Performance Evaluation #1

- **Compare for 'simple' SOAP message:**
 - SOAP for CICS Feature in V2.3
 - with user-written app handler
 - SOAP pipeline in V3.1
 - with user-written app handler
 - SOAP pipeline in V3.
 - using CWSA (CICS Web Services Assistant)

The 'simple' SOAP message consists of one element in, one element out

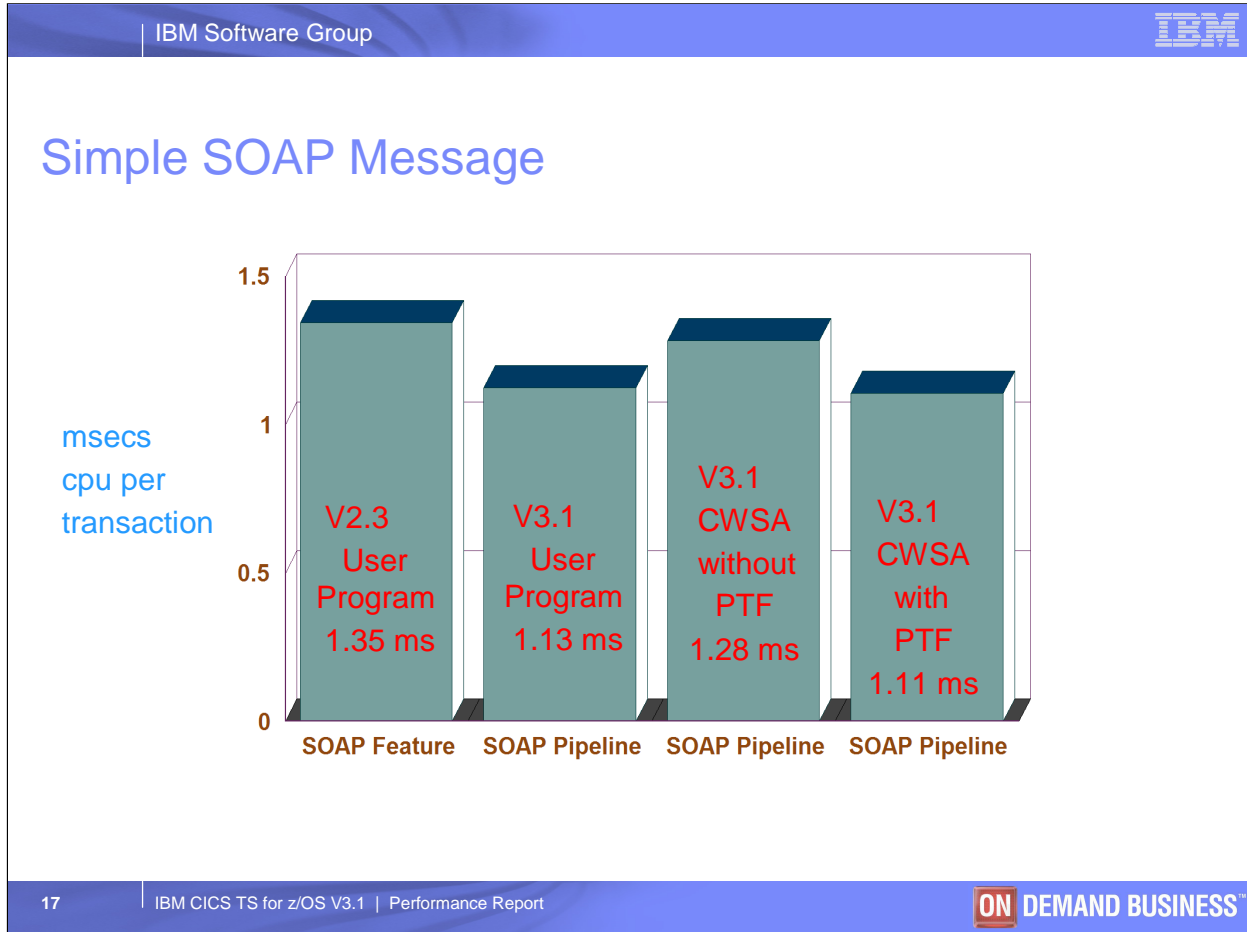
Same user-written app handler and null business logic program

User-written app handler uses XML PARSE for input and DOCUMENT API for output

CICS Web Services Assistant can take a language data structure used by a provider application and generate the WSDL and wsbind file. The wsbind file is used at run time to convert SOAP body to language data structure, and vice versa

CICS Web Services Assistant can also take WSDL and generate language data structure and wsbind file

The acronym 'CWSA' is used in this presentation to represent use of the CICS Web Services Assistant



PTF performance fix - apar PK03397

CPU per tran includes CWXN+CWBA for feature and CWXN+CPIH for V3.1 plus the CSOL TCP/IP listener task

CWXN handles initial HTTP input and attaches CPIH which processes SOAP pipeline

Performance Evaluation #2

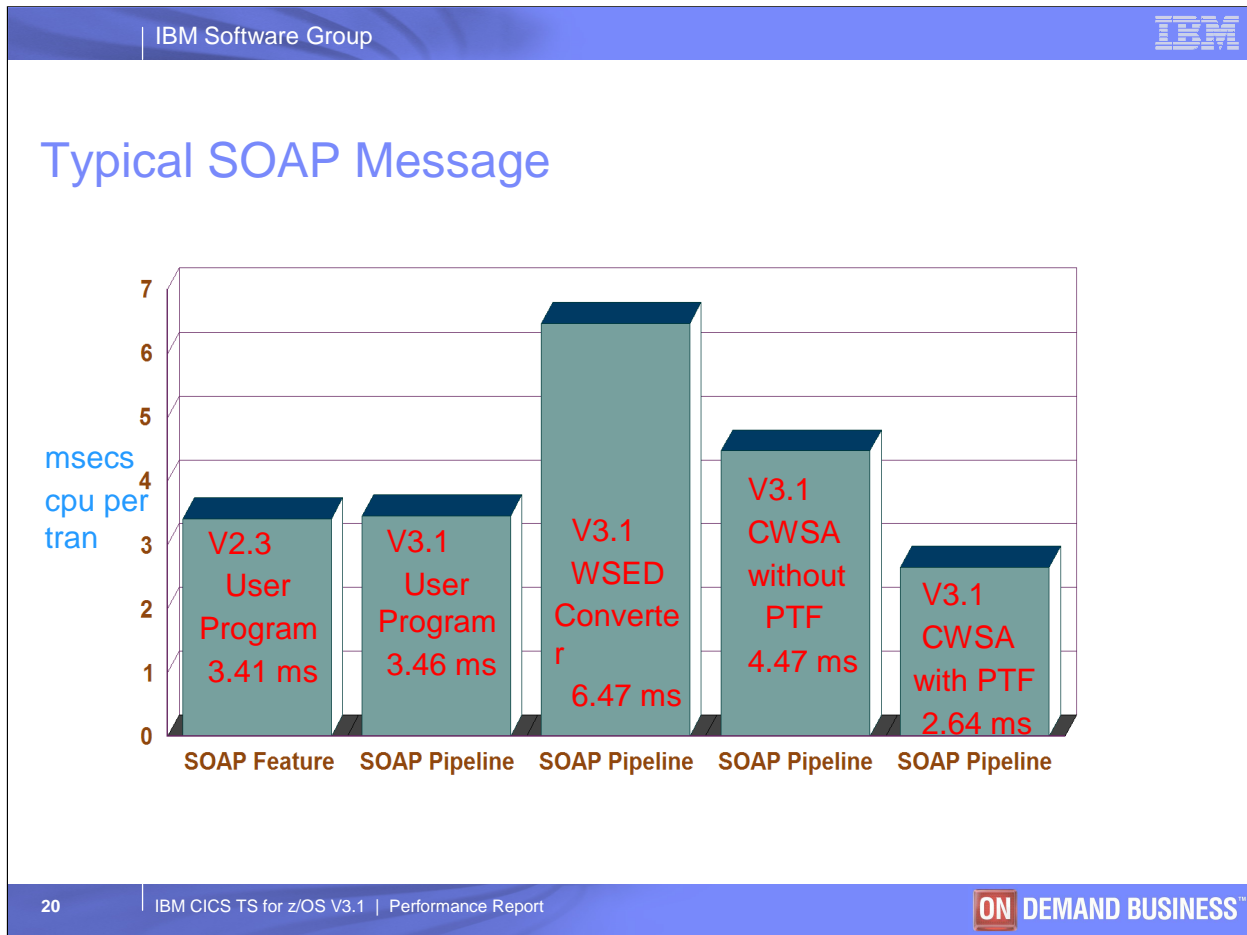
- **Compare for 'typical' SOAP message:**
 - SOAP for CICS Feature in V2.3
 - with user-written app handler
 - SOAP pipeline in V3.1
 - with user-written app handler
 - SOAP pipeline in V3.1
 - using CWSA
 - SOAP pipeline in V3.1
 - with WSED converter app handler

The 'typical' SOAP message consists of 123 elements in, 123 elements out
Cobol display, binary and packed-decimal fields used
Cobol OCCURS 9 TIMES clause
App handler uses XML PARSE for input
App handler uses DOCUMENT API for output
CWSA app handler uses wsbind file
WSED converter program generated to handle this specific case
Multiple SOAP messages require multiple wsbind files with a single app handler program for CWSA
For WSED multiple application handler programs are required, one per Data Structure type.

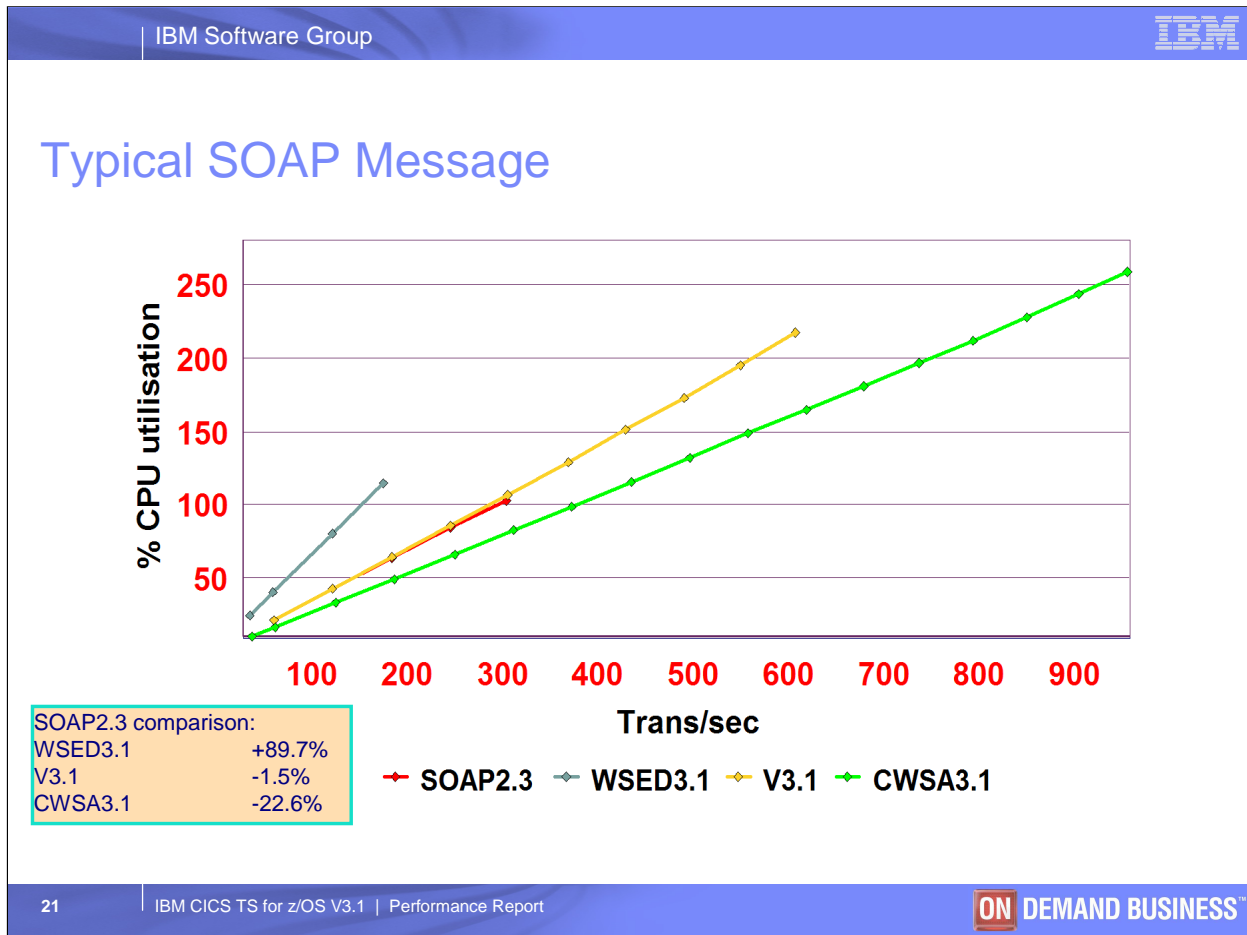
Typical SOAP message

- **The next series of evaluations all use the 'typical' SOAP message**
 - These include:
 - SOAP provider and requester environments
 - HTTP and WebSphere MQ transport layers

- **Variations in SOAP message size and # of elements are discussed later**



OPENAPI for V3.1 user program but not for WSED converter



All subsequent performance tests are with the performance PTF

WebSphere Studio Workload Simulator used as input

A transaction consists of a CWXN + a CPIH task

The maximum throughput for our environment was 958 SOAP msgs/sec. Maximum achievable throughput will depend on the network bandwidth, size and complexity of the SOAP message, the business logic program complexity, as well as the speed and number of processors

The throughput of the SOAP pipeline has been improved by exploiting the use of OPENAPI, to make use of multiple L8 TCBs

For comparison, SOAP 2.3 is used as the base. All other % values are based on the change in cpu per transaction

Performance Evaluation #3

- **Compare for 'typical' SOAP message:**
 - CICS SOAP requester region
 - SOAP for CICS Feature V2.3
 - SOAP pipeline in V3.1 using CWSA
 - CICS SOAP provider region
 - SOAP for CICS Feature V2.3
 - SOAP pipeline in V3.1 using CWSA
 - Transport Layer communication
 - HTTP
 - WebSphere MQ (WMQ)

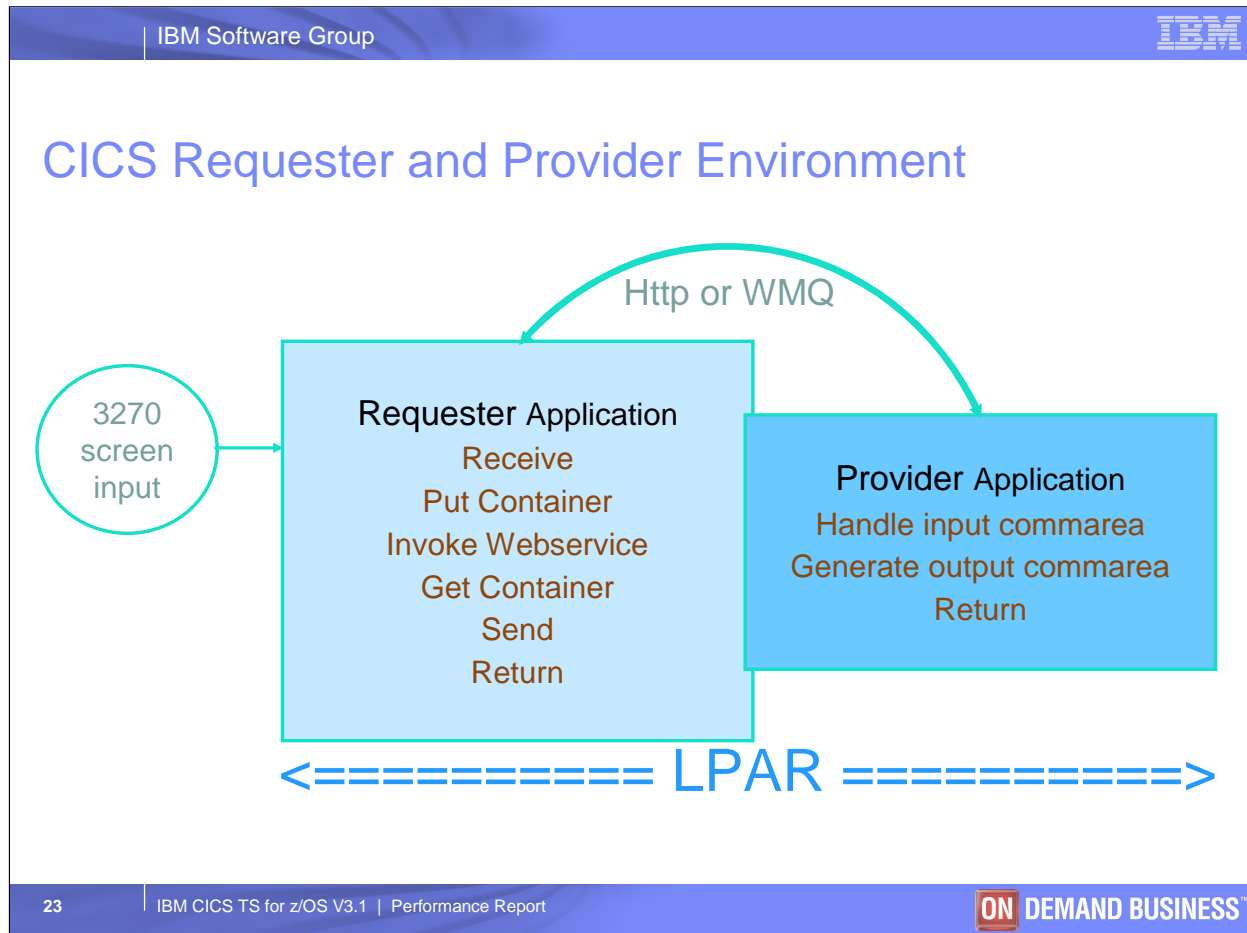
The 'typical' SOAP message again consists of 123 elements in, 123 elements out

This performance evaluation is used to measure the performance of the CICS SOAP Pipeline where Requester and Provider applications run in separate CICS regions

The CICS Web Services Assistant is used by both the Requester and Provider applications in CTS 3.1

Performance evaluations were run using CWSA HTTP, CWSA WMQ (WebSphere MQ) and also using the SOAP for CICS Feature with HTTP on a CICS 2.3 system with user-written application handlers

Both CICS regions ran on the same LPAR



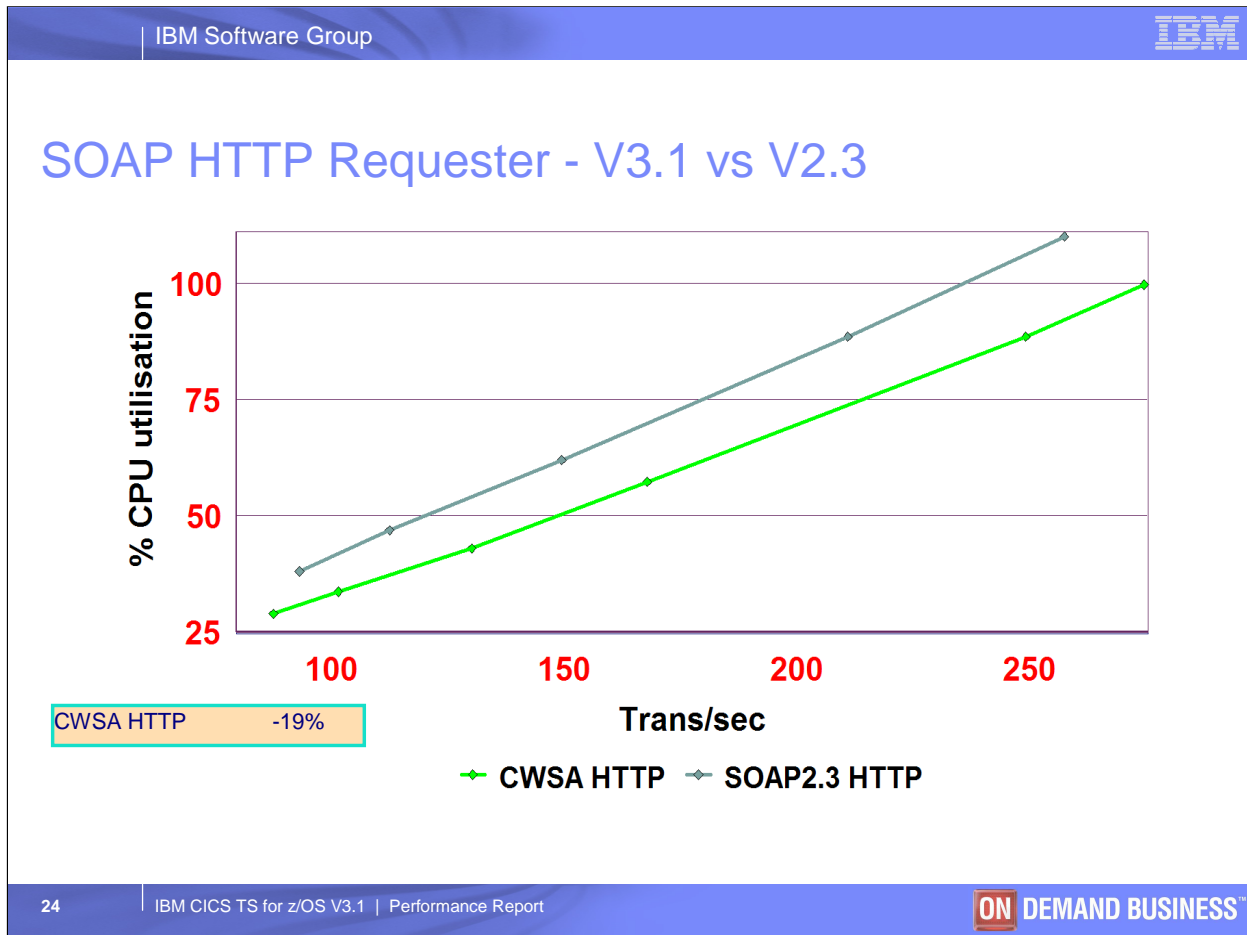
The application in the CICS Requester region is initiated from a 3270 screen.

For CTS 3.1, the data structure to be sent by the requester application is placed in a container and sent to the provider application using an INVOKE WEBSERVICE command. The data structure response is then retrieved from the same container by the requester

For CTS 2.3, the data structure to be sent by the requester application is inserted into a SOAP Body template using the DOCUMENT API, which is then put in a BTS container and sent to the provider application using a LINK ACQPROCESS command. The SOAP Body response is then retrieved from a BTS container by the requester, and the data structure extracted using an XML parse

For both CTS 3.1 and CTS 2.3, the CICS Provider application is a commarea-based application that receives the incoming data structure in a commarea, and returns the outgoing data structure in the same commarea

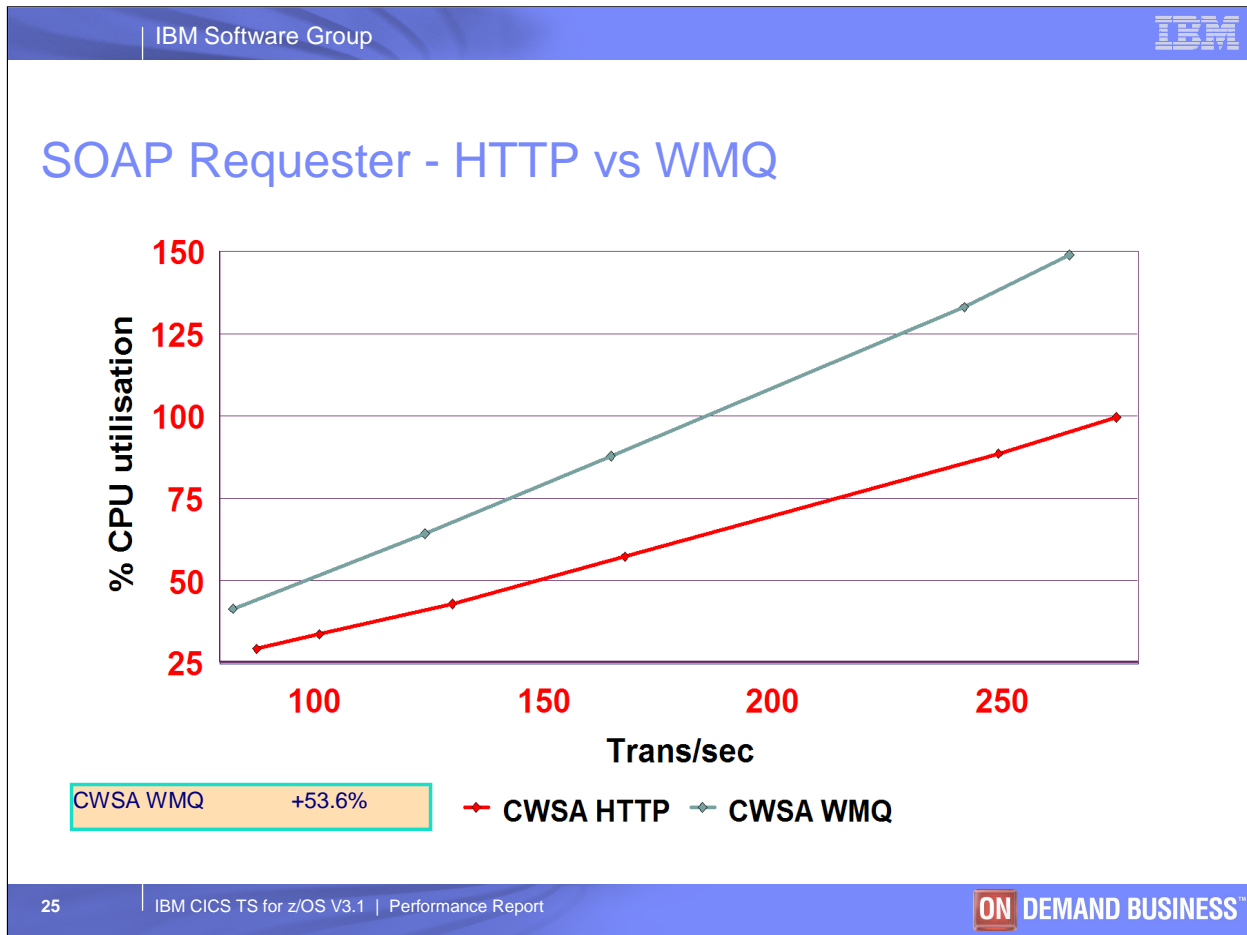
The 3270 requester screen input was simulated using TPNS



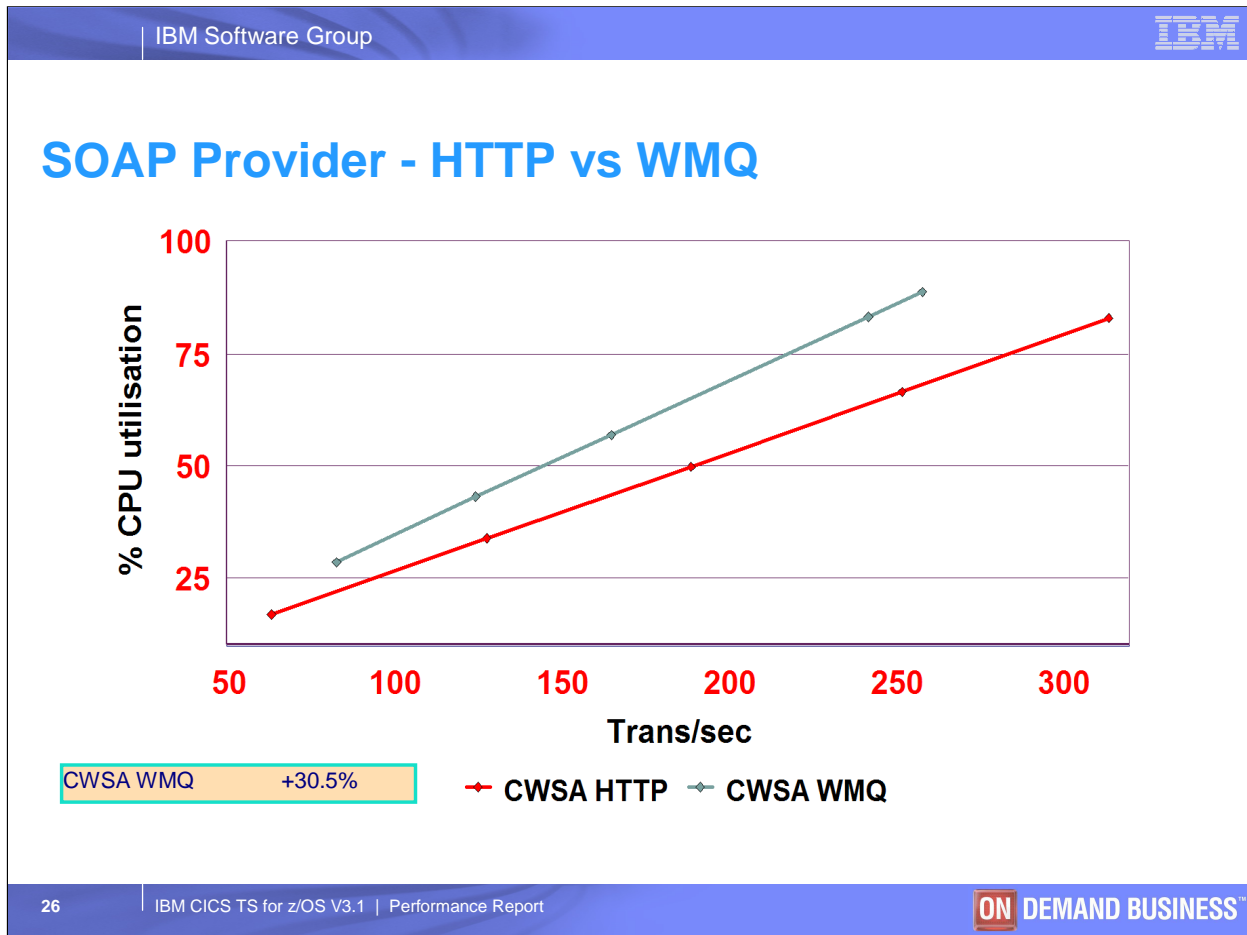
Compares the use of CWSA HTTP and SOAP V2.3 HTTP in the requester region

As there is only a single SOAP message per task, the connection is broken each time - i.e. no keep-alive

Note that when using CWSA with HTTP from a requester region, an HTTP OPTIONS * method is sent by CICS. This is used to request information about the communications options available from the server in general



Compares the use of HTTP and WMQ transport layers in the requester region



Compares the use of HTTP and WMQ transport layers in the provider region

Variations

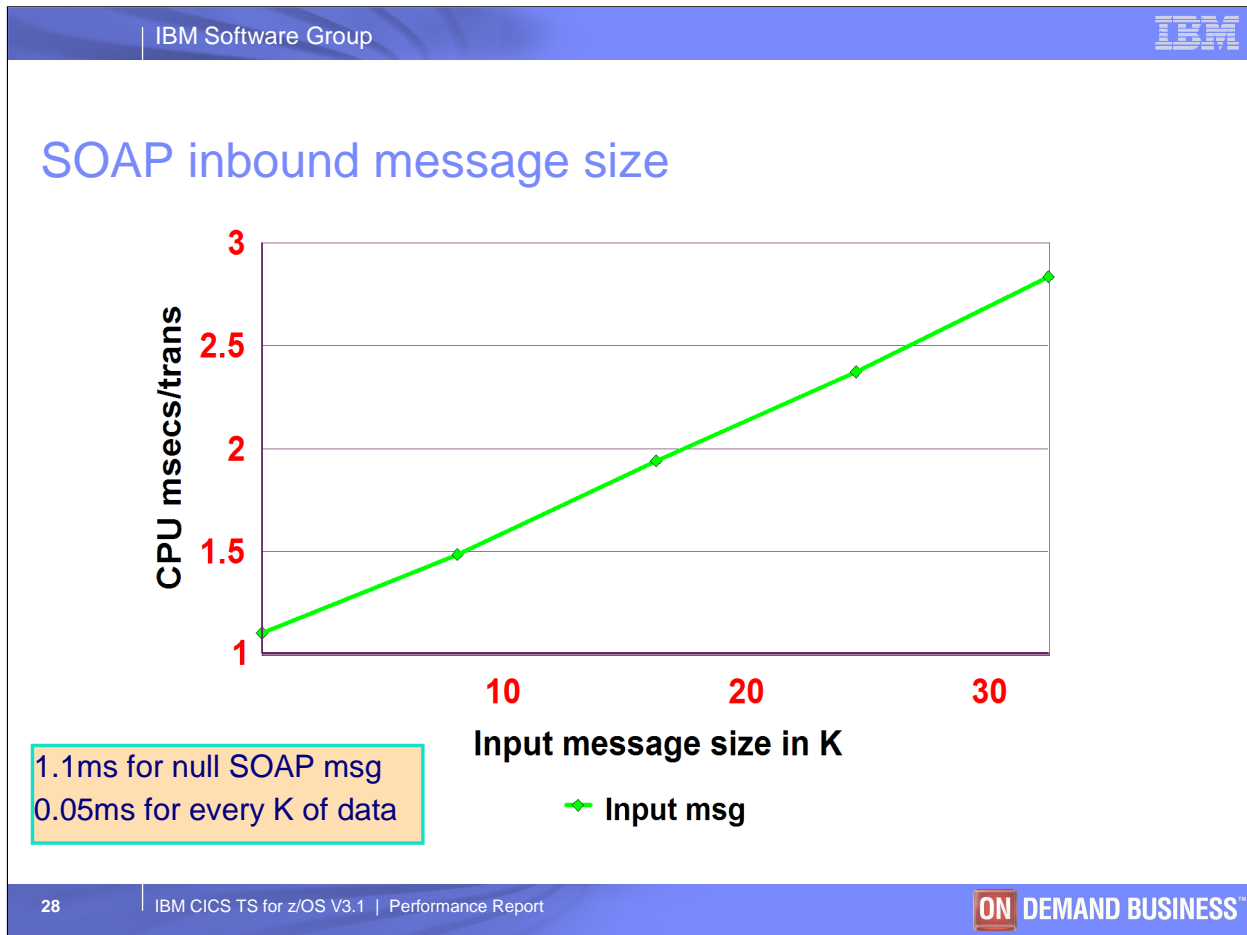
The table below shows how the CPU usage changes with variations in the processing of the SOAP message

Change:	% cpu increase
Commarea to Container program	0.91%
SOAP1.1 node to SOAP1.2 node	0%
Add header processing program	3.95%

Note: Header processing programs within the SOAP node are invoked on input and on output

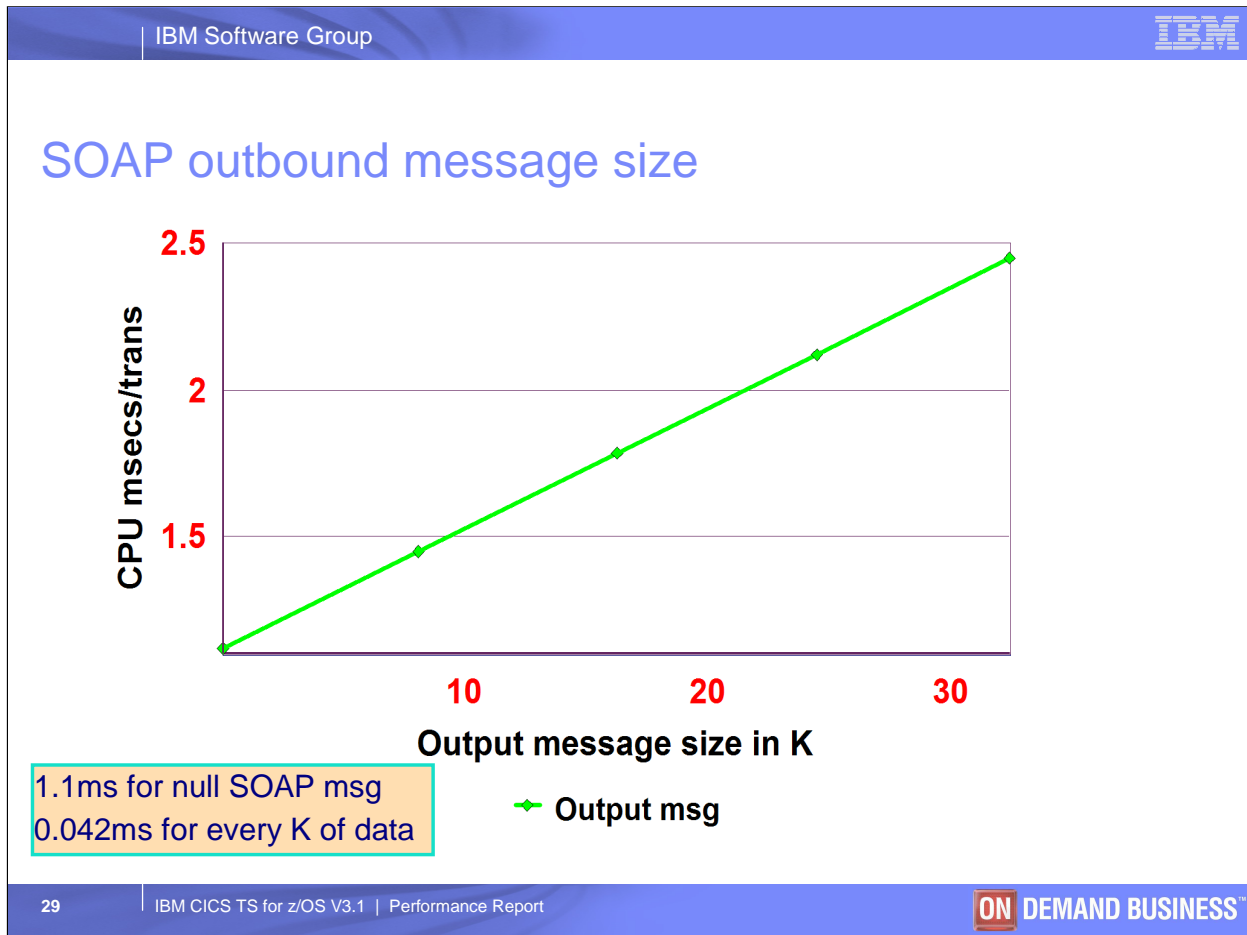
Shows variations on the standard SOAP message used in previous evaluations

1. Application provider changed to be a container-based program
2. SOAP 1.2 node in provider pipeline
3. Single dummy SOAP header processing program invoked in input and output pipeline, when a SOAP header is present between SOAP envelope and body. Note it is possible to configure the SOAP pipeline so that a header processing program is invoked regardless of whether the header is present in the input SOAP message



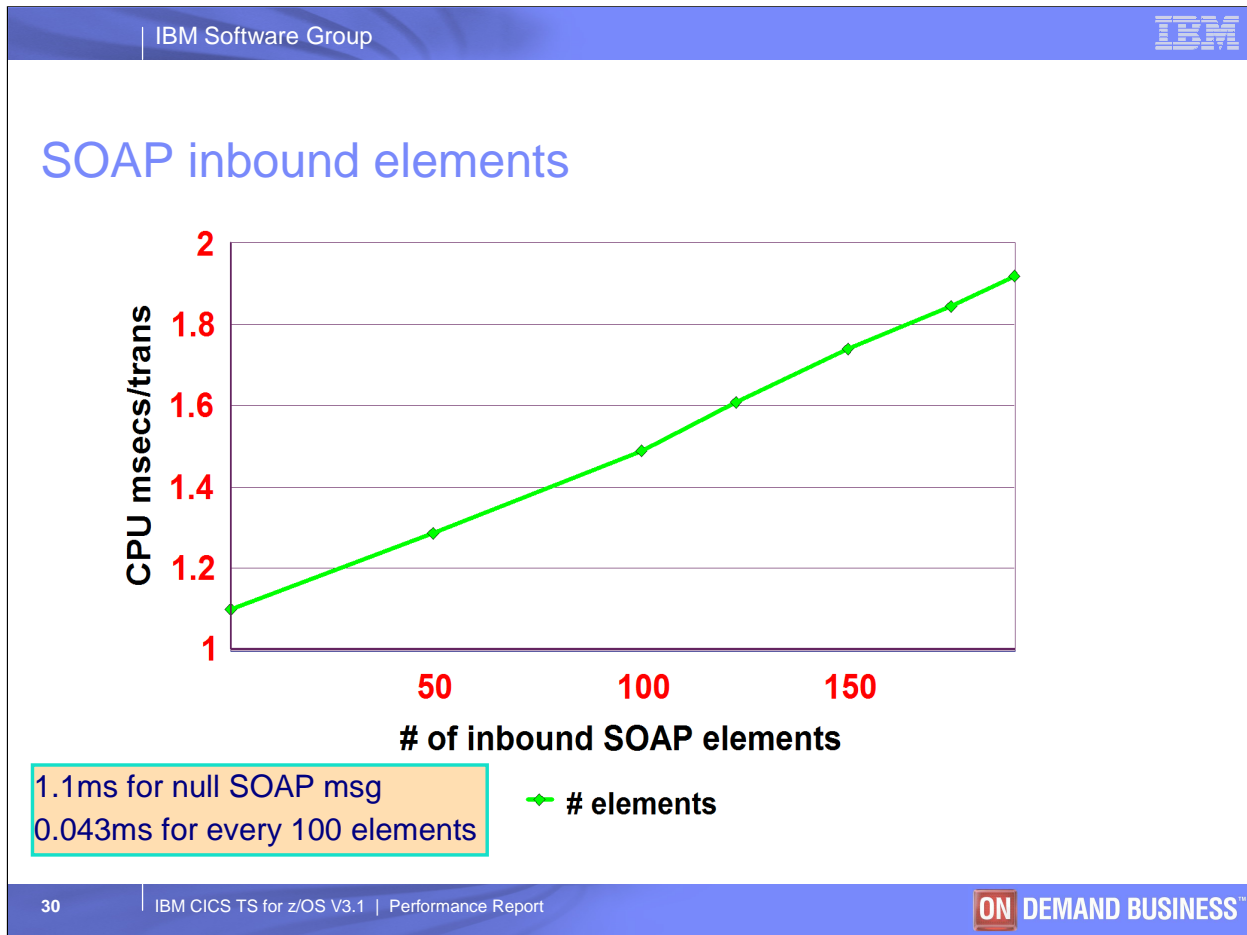
Shows how the cpu per transaction is affected by an increase in the input SOAP message size.

The SOAP message consists of a single tag and user data



Shows how the cpu per transaction is affected by an increase in the output SOAP message size

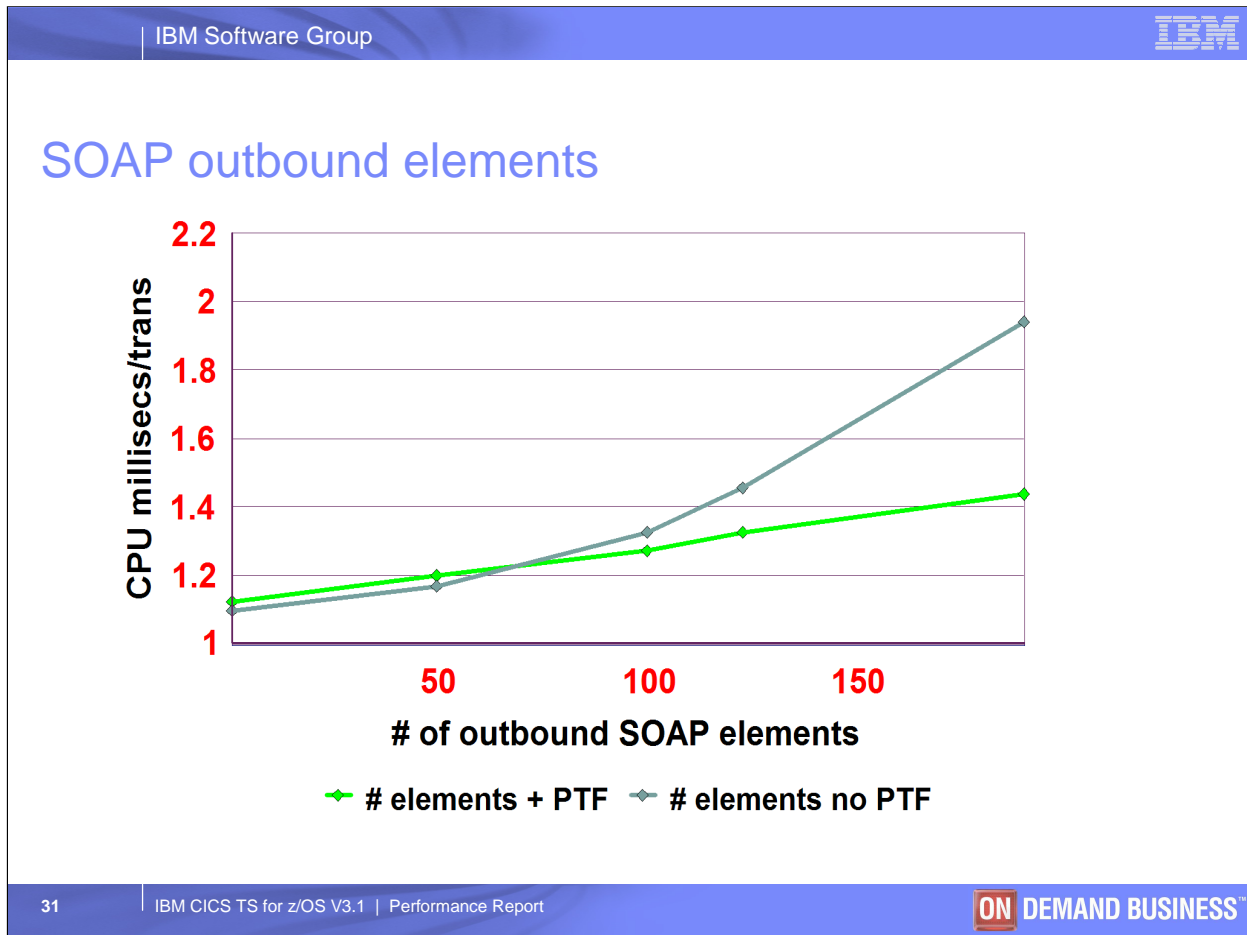
The SOAP message consists of a single tag and user data



Shows how the cpu per transaction is affected by an increase in the number of input SOAP elements

The data size of each element is 1 byte

Tag names vary from 5 to 8 bytes



Shows how the cpu per transaction is affected by the number of output SOAP elements. A performance PTF produces a linear increase in cpu per transaction, as the number of outbound SOAP elements increase.

The data size for each element is 1 byte

Tag names vary from 5 to 8 bytes

CPU increase is not linear for an increase in the number of output elements

Looking to change the method used for processing output elements

Sizing SOAP message

SOAP message consists of:

SOAP Prefix and Suffix

```
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>  
<SOAP-ENV:Envelope xmlns: .....>  
<SOAP-ENV:Body>  
</SOAP-ENV:Body>  
</SOAP-ENV:Envelope>
```

Operation name

```
<PGRMNAMEOperation>  
</PGRMNAMEOperation>
```

SOAP Body elements

```
<element1>1234</element1>
```

SOAP message consists of:

XML version and encoding scheme

SOAP envelope consisting of namespace URIs

SOAP body which includes operation name (method name in Java), and data elements enclosed in XML tags

'SOAP Suffix' are ending tags for SOAP body and envelope

Sizing SOAP message

SOAP message size is the sum of:

- **SOAP Prefix and Suffix**
 - 278 bytes
- **Operation name**
 - $(\text{program_name_length} * 2) + 23$ bytes
- **SOAP Body elements**
 - $(\text{avg_element_name_length} * 2) + \text{avg_element_data_length} + 5$
 - multiply by number of elements

278 bytes includes namespace URIs which may vary

Operation name is generated by taking the program name and adding 'Operation' to the end of the name

Sizing Example

Example with:

4K commarea

program name 8 bytes

average element name length 8 bytes

# elements	average data length	SOAP msg size (bytes)
128	32	7,101
512	8	15,165
2048	2	47,421
4096	1	90,429

Assumes the CICS Web Services Assistant has been used to generate the WSDL and wsbind file

Shows how the size of the SOAP message generated for a 4K commarea can vary depending on the number of elements of data within the 4K commarea

The more data elements the bigger the SOAP message

Sizing Example

Example with:

4K commarea

program name 8 bytes

# elements	avg len of element	average data length	SOAP msg size (bytes)
128	8	32	7,101
512	16	8	23,357
2048	24	2	112,957
4096	30	1	270,653

Assumes the CICS Web Services Assistant has been used to generate the WSDL and wsbind file

Shows how the size of the SOAP message generated for a 4K commarea can vary depending not just on the number of elements of data, but also the data element name length defined in the data structure

Data element name lengths can have a major effect on the size of the SOAP message

Codepage conversion

Codepage conversion

This performance evaluation covers the use of z/OS Conversion Services within CICS to handle codepage conversions

Performance evaluation overview

- **z/OS Conversion Services**
- **Evaluations performed within CICS using containers**
- **Conversion occurs between PUT and GET container**
- **Codepages used in testing**
 - EBCDIC (037)
 - ASCII (437)
 - UTF-8 (1208)
 - UTF-16 (1200)
- **2 stage conversions for UTF-8 to/from EBCDIC or ASCII**

The evaluations consisted of running a cobol program under CICS that issued:

PUT CONTAINER FROMCCSID

GET CONTAINER INTOCCSID

This process caused the z/OS conversion services to be run to convert the data from and to the required CCSIDs

The number of bytes converted was varied from 1K to 1M in the performance tests

With UTF-8, between 1 and 4 bytes are used to represent a character

With UTF-16, 2 bytes are used to represent a character

Note that 2 stage conversions convert to UTF-16 as the first stage in the process

Results summary

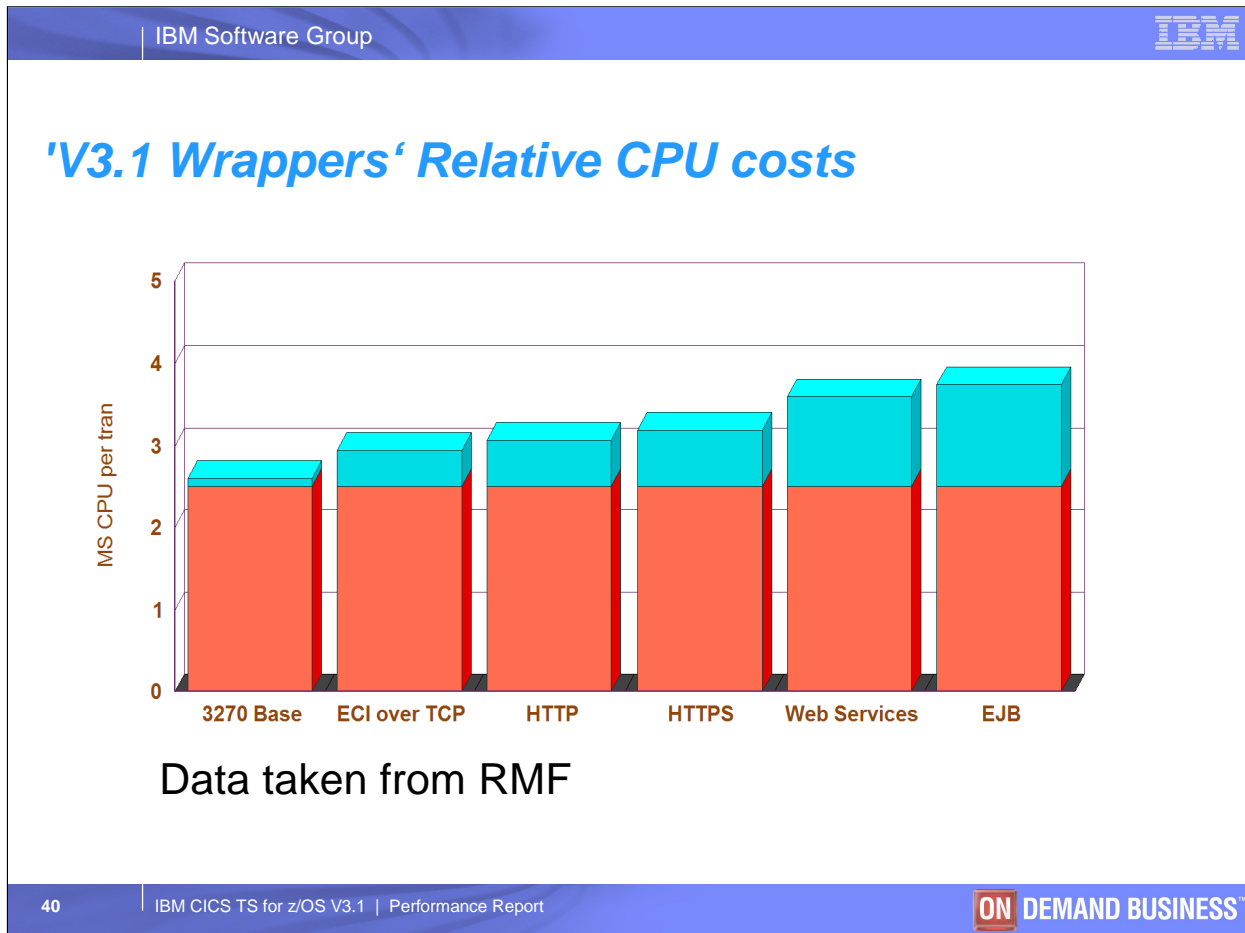
- **CPU milliseconds to convert 1K characters**

– UTF-8	(1208)	to ASCII	(437)	0.0094
– UTF-8	(1208)	to EBCDIC	(037)	0.0093
– UTF-8	(1208)	to UTF-16	(1200)	0.0090
– ASCII	(437)	to UTF-8	(1208)	0.0087
– EBCDIC	(037)	to UTF-8	(1208)	0.0087
– UTF-16	(1200)	to UTF-8	(1208)	0.0076
– EBCDIC	(037)	to UTF-16	(1200)	0.0031
– ASCII	(437)	to UTF-16	(1200)	0.0030
– UTF-16	(1200)	to EBCDIC	(037)	0.0021
– UTF-16	(1200)	to ASCII	(437)	0.0021
– EBCDIC	(037)	to ASCII	(437)	0.0014
– ASCII	(437)	to EBCDIC	(037)	0.0014

Translations involving UTF-8 consumed the most cpu per 1K of characters

Wrappers

'WRAPPERS'



This foil shows the relative costs of 'front ending' or 'wrapping' the same 2.5 CPU milli sec application with various protocols.

The measurements were taken on a steady state system with persistent connections. Approximately 1K of data flowed in each case.

The EJB case used the Continuous JVM

The red represents the application cost, the blue, the infrastructure costs.

These were all simple environments with no Security etc turned on.

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