

Tailored Fit Pricing: How To Manage Workloads in a World Without Capping

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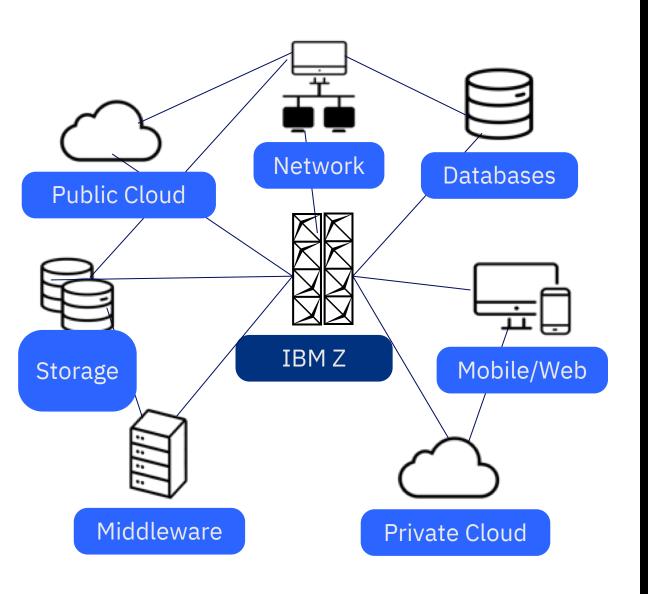
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Highlights

- Tailored Fit Pricing is a revolutionary new pricing model that eliminates the need for workload capping and provides a complete alternative to the Rolling 4 Hour Average
- Transitioning to a model where measurement of overall MSU consumption is critical represents more than just a change in how you pay for software on IBM Z. Several stakeholders are affected and various considerations around how workload is managed must be made
- Effective use of tooling can help you: IBM Z Decision Support for Capacity Planning delivers pre-defined dashboards to give visibility in to current consumption levels, forecast future consumption and provide insight into where resource optimization can take place

What is Tailored Fit Pricing?



Digital Transformation is leading to Hybrid Cloud pattern of deployment across enterprises

IBM Z is a critical part of this infrastructure

Unpredictable demand in era of Hybrid Cloud



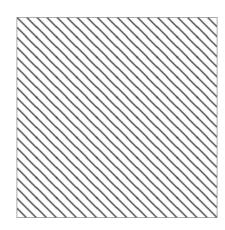
In the era of hybrid cloud, where everything is connected and workload patterns are constantly changing, predicting demand for IT services can be a major challenge.

Evolution of Z Software Pricing

1970 - 1999

PAST

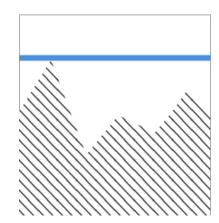
Full Capacity



 Simple way to charge for z/OSbased software 1999 - 2019

PRESENT

Sub-Capacity (R4HA)

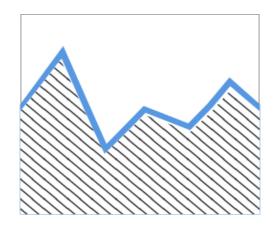


- Modelled on 90% utilization
- As system size increases, align product value to less than full capacity

2019 onwards

FUTURE

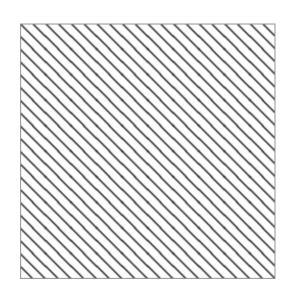
Tailored Fit Pricing



- Remove R4HA
- Align value to the workload for the amount of system resources it consumes

Models of Tailored Fit Pricing

Enterprise Capacity



Enterprise Consumption



An MSU consumption pricing model that allows clients to:

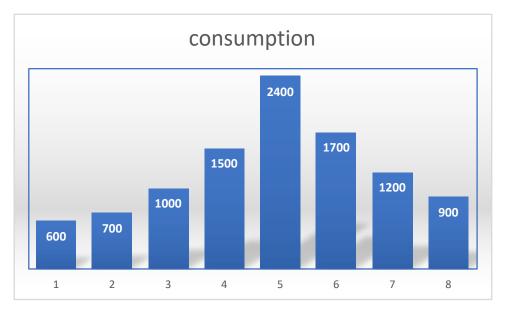
- Take full advantage of the hardware they own
- Peak and spike without 'penalty'
- Smooth seasonal variations over the entire year
- Grow at a highly competitive per MSU price
- Pay for workloads with price consistency

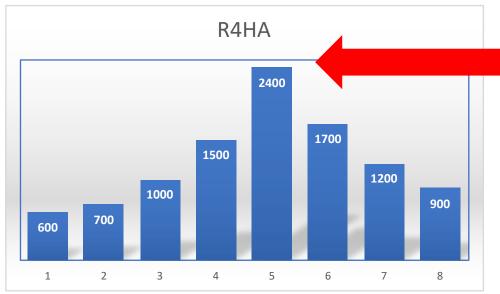
We're going to focus more on the Enterprise Consumption model today

Overall Usage Determines Charges, Not Peaks

Peak and spike as the business demands...without blowing the budget

- In both workloads below, the total MSUs consumed is 10,000 over the same period of time
- Under R4HA, the single spike of 2,400 MSUs sets the price for the entire month
- Under consumption, you pay for exactly what you use at the same rate





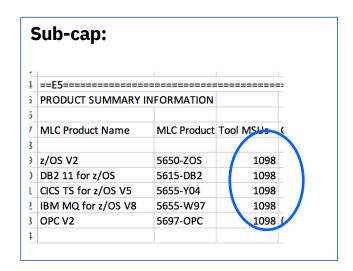
This determined the price under R4HA

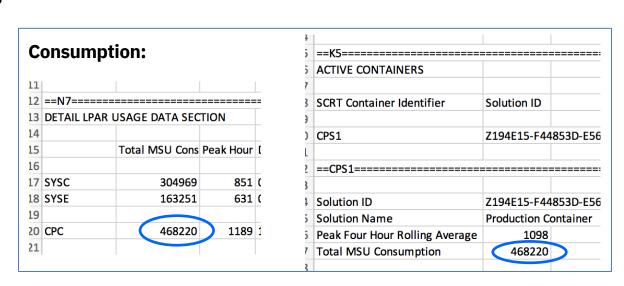
What exactly is MSU consumption?

Capacity reference (capacity markers to measure entitlement)

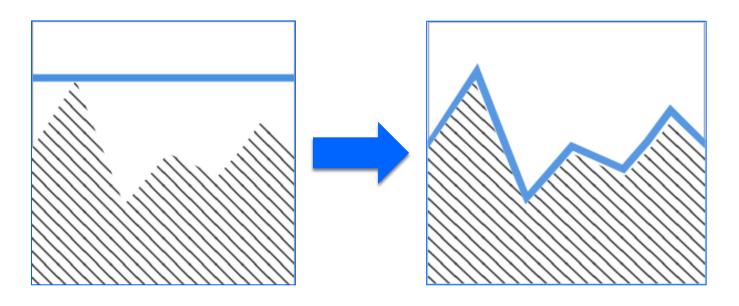
- **Full-cap** = size of the machine, based on HW MSU ratings; Sub Capacity Reporting Tool (SCRT) not required
- **Sub-cap** = combination of R4HA peak, LPARs where run, metric type, etc., as reported by E5/B5 **Consumption**
- Total MSUs as reported by K5 or N7 sections

In SCRT:





Defining the MSU Baseline



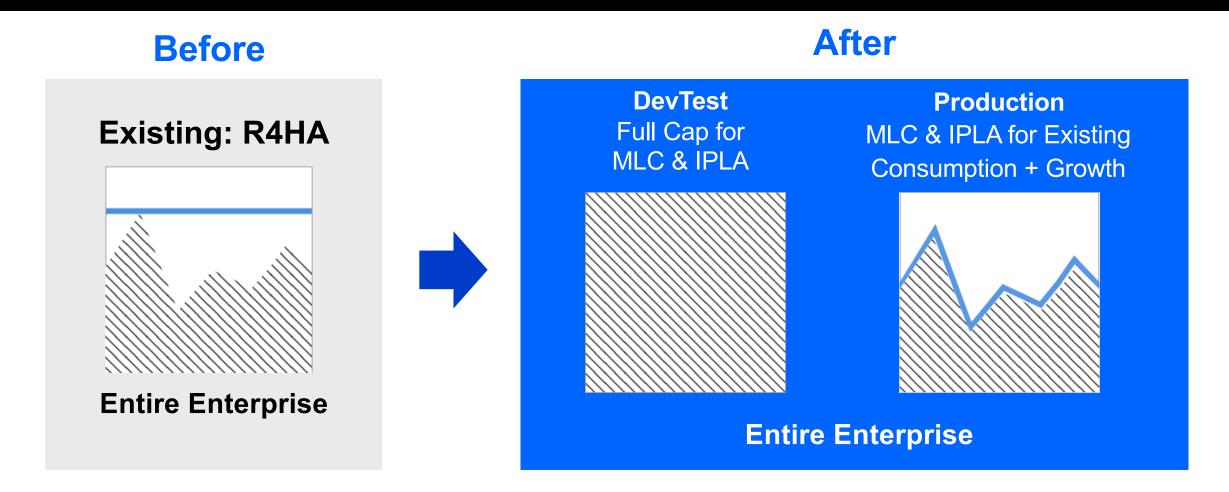
The baseline should account for your previous MLC and IPLA usage. Growth beyond that is calculated at a reduced rate

Baseline established upon 12 months of SCRT reporting

This should allow seasonal variations to be accounted for plus considerations for growth

Therefore important to understand what workloads you have running within your environment to start and allocate to the container

Typical Enterprise Consumption Solution



What are the challenges today for managing **cost** and **performance**?

Key User Personas



Gemma CIO

- Finds it difficult to figure cost and believes IBM Z is too expensive compared to other platforms
- Thinks there is a shortage of IBM Z skills and talent but knows her business is dependent on quality of service levels



Dan IT Architect

Configures system to handle peaks
Projects technology trends to make
choices and depends on performance
testing understand impact of changes
Doesn't know how much an application
costs



Carl Capacity Planner

- Has trouble forecasting demand for next
 3-4 years
- Has to reduce service towards the end of the month
- Spends too much time on admin, tuning, instead of bringing on new workload

Under the R4HA...

Controlling cost is vitally important. We don't want any surprises on operational cost so we can accurately manage our budgets

I work to ensure the applications that must run within the peak are optimized but I don't have time to look at anything outside

My focus is on ensuring the peak period is kept in control, including capping and planning long term to manage operational costs







...there are consequences



I use several tools to track costs within the R4HA peak and implement various capping strategies. It's easier for me to understand the costs on our public cloud contract. We should deploy new work there

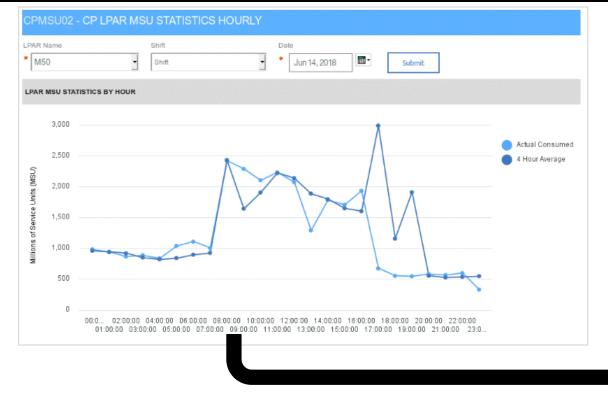
My applications are affected by our capping processes. Sometimes our SLAs are impacted and workloads are not taking full advantage of the capabilities of our mainframe





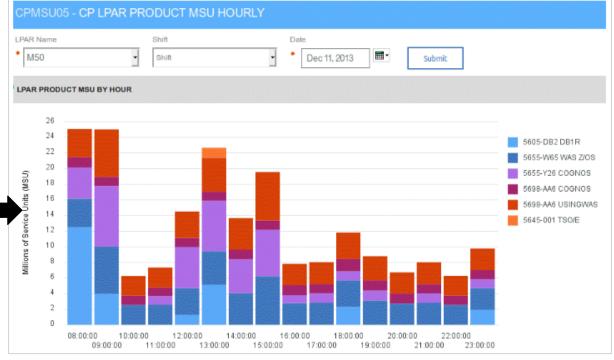
Tailored Fit Pricing: How To Manage Workloads in a World Without Capping / October 2019

R4HA Reports



...including drill down to a product's contribution to the R4HA

Identifying the peaks earlier can avoid surprises prior to SCRT reports are generated...



Capping can negatively impact workload



- System outages
 - Resources not being freed in timely fashion
 - Storage shortages
 - Work (e.g. Service Request Blocks (SRB)) backed up, common storage shortage
- Important work displaced or Service levels missed
- Less important work displaced
- Increased response times or CPU delays

Capping in a "Consumption based" installation?

We used to cap workloads to limit our costs. Is there any benefit to this now we've switched to an MSU consumption model?



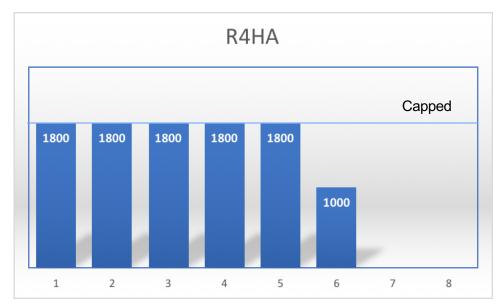
- Everything running in one specific 4 hour window each month impacted the cost. Outside the window you could perceive the workload as "free"
- The various capping algorithms helped clients to limit the MSU peak usage – with all negative consequences described earlier.
- In a "Consumption based" installation capping is irrelevant

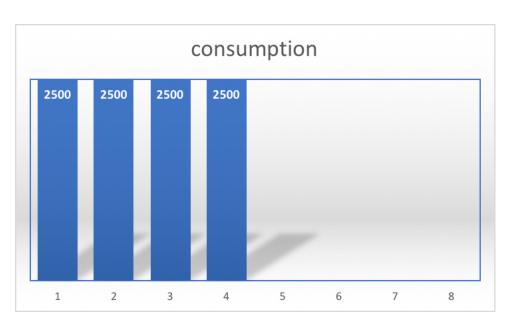
 as the pricing is not derived from the peak, but rather from every MSU consumed. Thus, controlling peaks alone (as capping does) is not helpful.
- As there can't be a "control via capping" in a "Consumption based" installation – other methodologies need to be applied.

What if we removed capping?

Maximize the hardware, minimize the batch window:

- Let's assume the nightly batch requires a total of 10,000 MSUs to complete
- Let's assume the machine is rated at 2,500 MSUs, but capped at 1,800 for the R4HA
- By removing unnecessary soft caps, batch windows can be dramatically reduced





How does transitioning to Tailored Fit Pricing affect you?

Under Tailored Fit Pricing new challenges await

We need to understand the level of our current MSU consumption & future use so we can understand impacts of workload changes

My applications are being driven more by external sources. Without capping how do we ensure we are not impacted by spiky workloads

I need to assist in projecting the needs for growing workloads on the mainframe and fit in with our MSU allocation







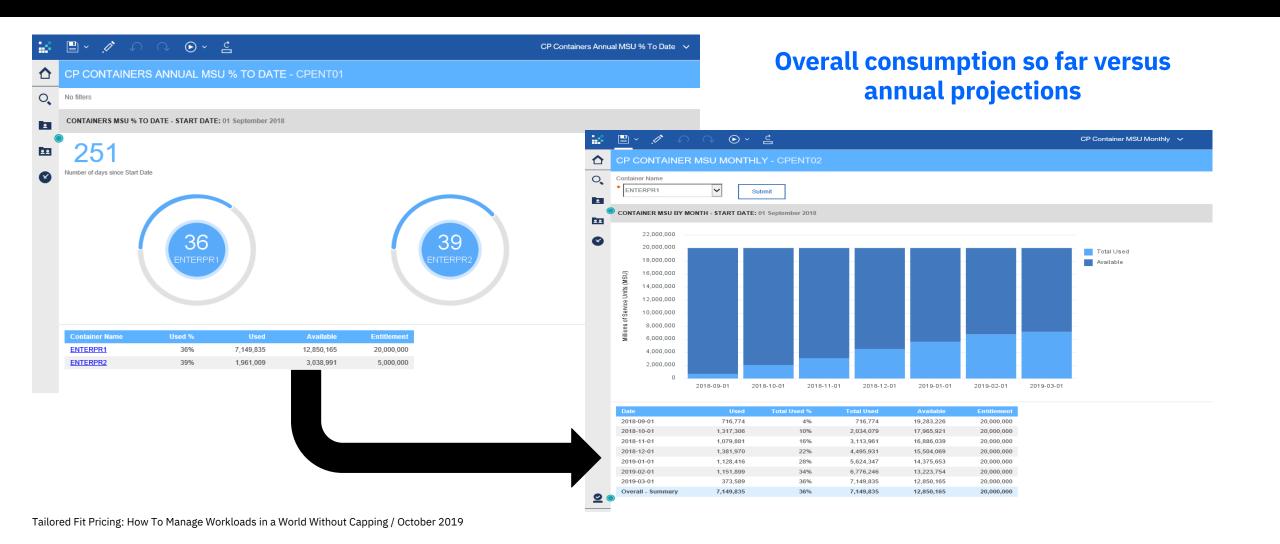
Challenge #1: Measuring (and forecasting) MSU consumption

We need to understand the level of our current MSU consumption & future use so we can understand impacts of workload changes

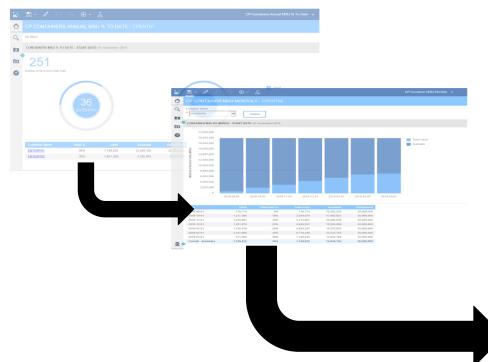


- The transparency of consumption based pricing is attractive to many customers
- Forecasting future consumption can help with quantifying costs, tie back to business decisions and avoid surprises
- When forecasting knowing that you may exceed your allocated baseline can be a good thing (or maybe a bad thing!)

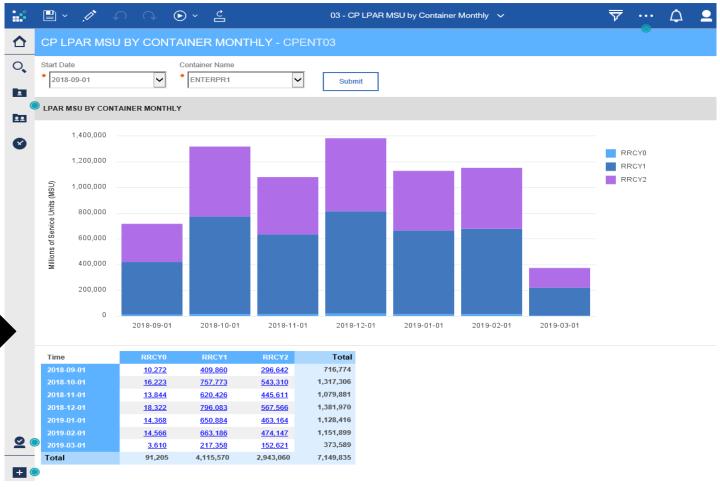
The need for clear views of the current state



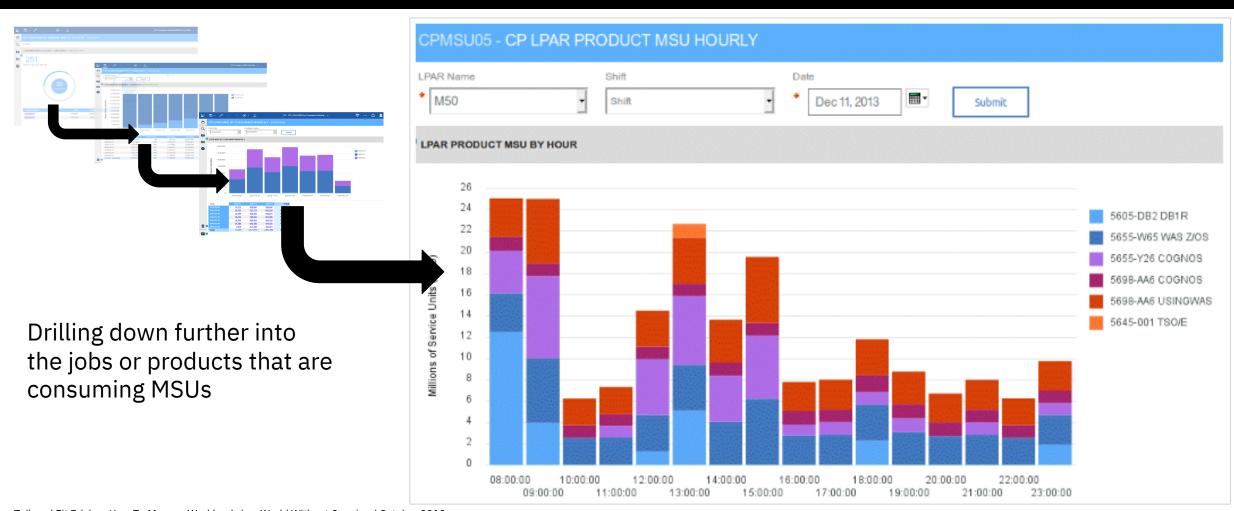
Where the workload is running



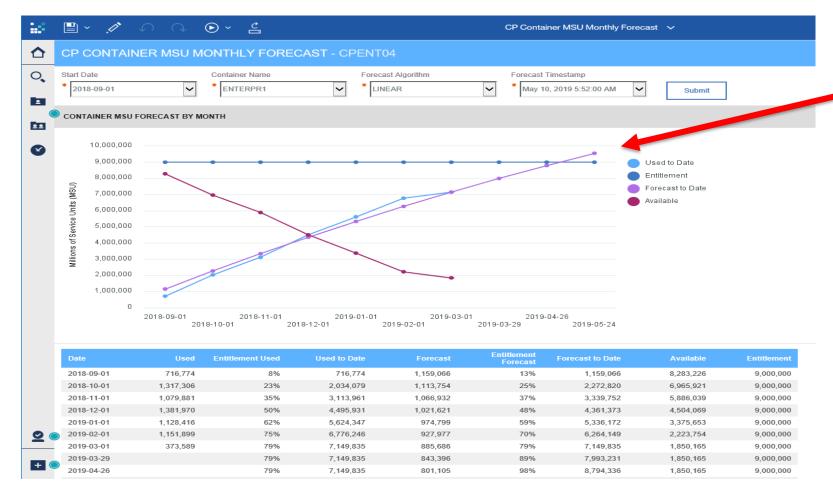
Now can see on an LPAR or Service Class basis what workload was running and how much did it consume



And which workloads are contributing



Forecasting is critical to avoid surprises...



The forecast report indicates when we believe MSU consumption will exceed the baseline for the current year

It is for the business to decide if this is a good or bad thing! The key is that you have the visibility to make an informed decision

....and tie costs back to the business

We're being asked by the business to support new sales events, can we estimate the impact on workloads?



We know what applications will be affected and can see the workload growth so costs can be identified and incorporated into our chargeback process





I can tie this back into my capacity planning dashboards to know that we can support these changes

Challenge #2: Ensuring workloads can be managed effectively

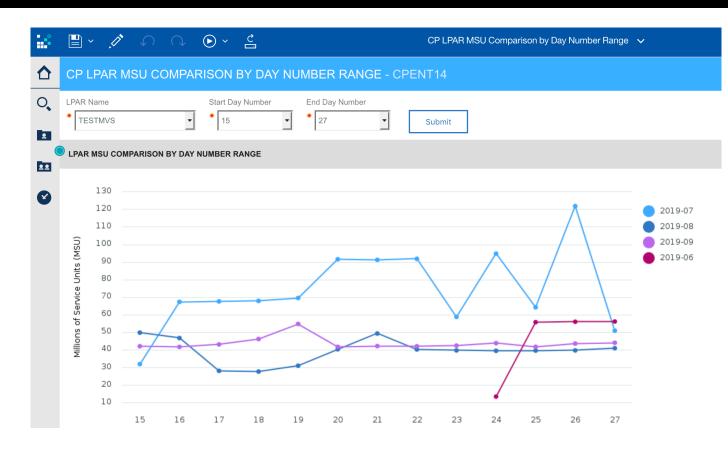
My applications are being driven more by external sources. Without capping how do we ensure we are not impacted by spiky workloads



- Capping gave customers a feeling of reassurance and removing it to exploit the full value of the hardware BUT concern can be that consumption can run away and end up costing more
- Existing tooling focused to R4HA cost control or based of SCRT / RMF report may not have provide the right level of granularity here

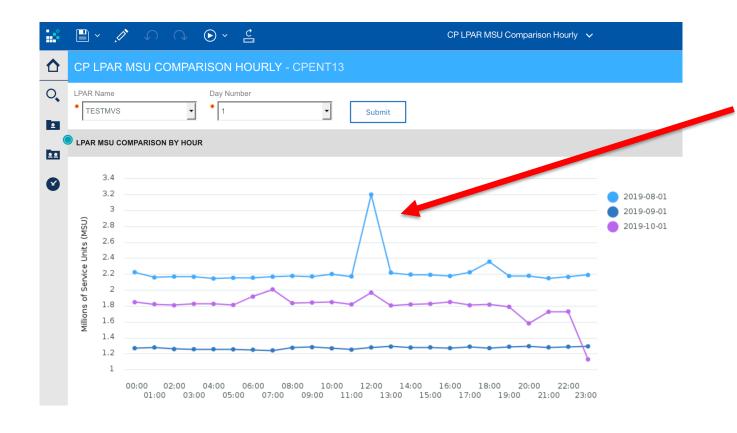
Actions to track changes in consumption

- Comparing past days with actual days can help to understand if the consumption is within expectation or not.
- For example: Comparing the same final days of each month, or maybe days of the week across the month to know when typical peaks occur
- Using this benchmarking can help in setting understanding of application performance. Comparing "wrong" days can lead to incorrect assumptions



Day to day comparison of workload MSU and drill down to hourly levels

Actions to track changes in consumption



An obvious spike occurs on one LPAR during a given hour. This can be investigated through drill-down

Ensure the right alerts are in place

Our monitoring and other tooling has been tuned to alert and throttle based on experience with the R4HA.

When our application changes are applied, the behavior may change and drive up MSU. I need to consider the impacts



Check what alerting and exceptions you are checking for today



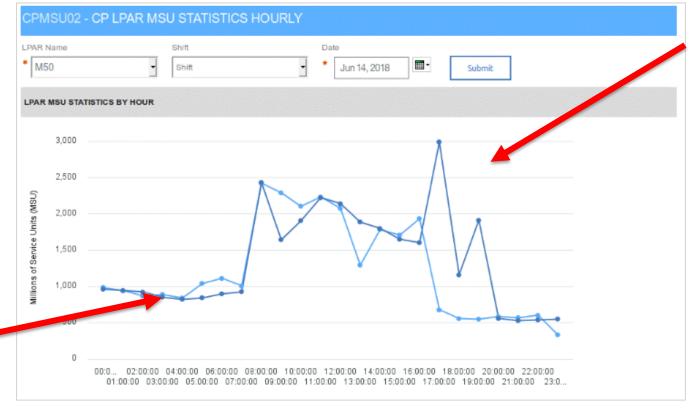
Challenge #3: Optimize use of MSU allocation

I need to assist in projecting the needs for growing workloads on the mainframe and fit in with our MSU allocation



- Note we are focusing now on workload 24/7/365, not just a 4-hour peak period!
- There are many options we take advantage of here:
 - Are we making effective use of zIIP capacity?
 - Are older applications running efficiently exploiting hardware and compiler updates?
 - Would we benefit from a database reorg or looking at our backup policy?
 - Health check of subsystems and looking at resources
- A holistic approach will identify the areas ripe for optimization

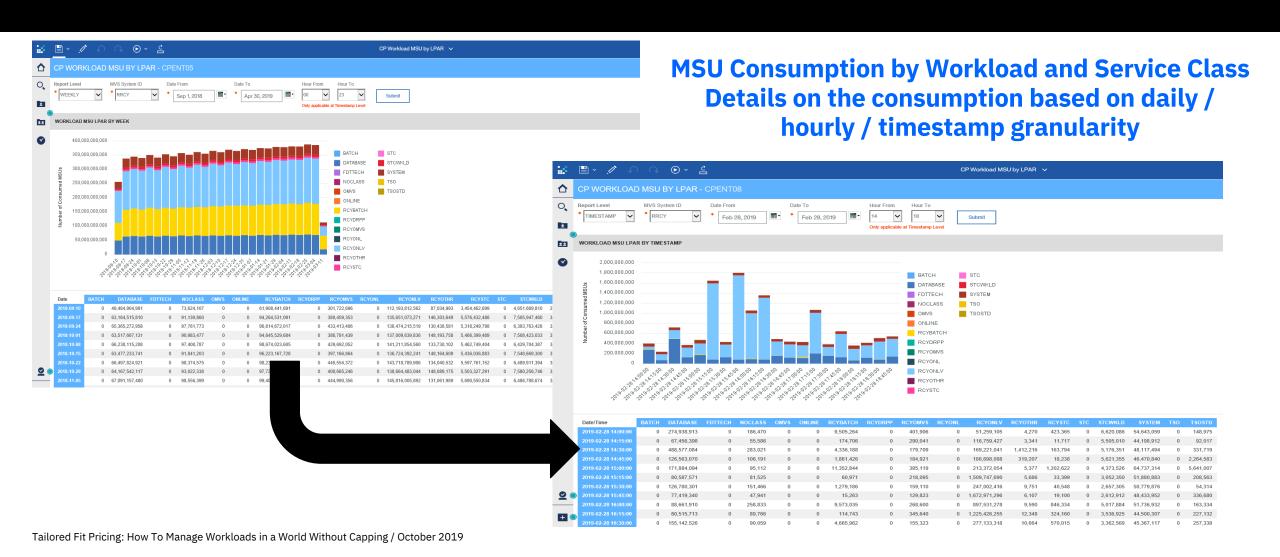
Need to focus on ALL workloads



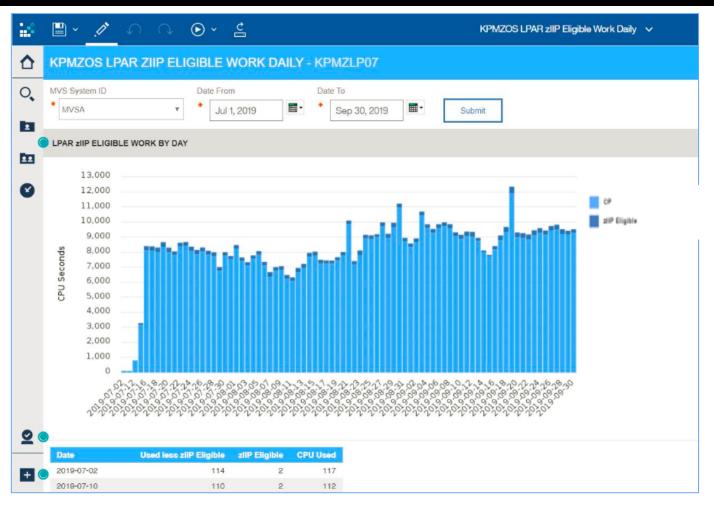
Previously, focus would be on optimizing workload within the 4 hour peak

Now workload outside of the peak period is just as important to manage

Drill-down to identify the highest consumers



Look for opportunity to reduce MSU usage



Understand levels of zIIP offload

What solutions are available today to support you?

Supporting Your Journey to Tailored Fit Pricing

Planning

Managing

Optimizing

Understanding your current applications and workloads including which products are running on each LPAR

Key tools:

- Tivoli Asset Discovery
- IBM Z Decision Support for Capacity Planning

Ongoing analysis to visualize current MSU consumption levels per container and forecast future consumption

Key tools:

- IBM Z Decision Support for Capacity Planning
- IBM OMEGAMON

Maximizing the value of your deployments to drive efficiency and performance improvement

Key tools:

- Compilers
- Specialist tools (for example: IMS Buffer Pool Analyzer, IBM Z Batch Resiliency)
- IBM Application Discovery and Delivery Intelligence

Managing with IBM Z Decision Support for Capacity Planning

Announced September 2019: ibm.biz/IZOIAnnounce



IBM Z Operations Insight Suite

IBM Z Operations
Analytics

Data Streaming, Problem Identification & Anomaly Prediction

IBM Z Decision Support for Capacity Planning

Data Streaming,
Performance Analysis,
Capacity Forecasting,
Cost Management

Visualize on the platform of your choice





Multiple Stakeholders – Single Source of Truth



Z IT Operator



IT Operations Manager



Z Capacity Planner

IBM Z Operations Insight Suite

Data Streaming

Data where and when you need it

Performance

Analysis

Gain insight for

critical decisions

Problem Identification

Rapid operational root cause analysis

Capacity Forecasting

Predictive resource usage & optimization

Anomaly Prediction

Prevent outages with Machine Learning

Cost Management

Optimize Tailored Fit Pricing strategies & enable chargeback



Z SME



Line of Business Owner



Head of Mainframe

Learn More

IBM Z Operations Insight Suite on IBM Marketplace

The latest updates and information about IBM's leading solution for managing IBM Z as part of a hybrid cloud environment

ibm.biz/IZOIInfo

Ibm.biz/IZDSCapPlanInfo

Tailored Fit Pricing: How to manage workload in a world without capping

Discover how IBM Z
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Capacity Planning can help
manage, forecast and
optimize your MSU
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Summary

Tailored Fit Pricing is revolutionary new pricing model for software on IBM Z that eliminates the need for capping and provides a complete alternative to the R4HA.

To be successful requires a change in how you look at managing workloads. Instead of capping to contain costs, optimizing existing applications is the key and this cannot be done without a clear view on current consumption levels

With a clear view on usage levels of workloads, accurate forecasts can be made that tie back to business drivers and your capacity planners are empowered to model workload growth on the mainframe

IBM Z Decision
Support for Capacity
Planning, as part of
the IBM Z Operations
Insight Suite, gives
unique visibility into
current and future
MSU consumption and
provide guidance into
how to optimize
workloads to control
costs

Reach out to us for a deep-dive discussion on how you can leverage the current capabilities or join one of our Proof of Technology workshops





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