

ConicIT: Next-Generation z/OS Service Management

With its comprehensive understanding of normal system behavior, ConicIT® automates the process of predicting system usage and peaks in CPU demand. Workload predictions lower software costs for superior SLA management. ConicIT recognizes anomalies immediately, pinpoints the root causes of performance issues, and saves diagnostic data. ConicIT accurately measures application performance for baselines and impact analysis.

Mainframes are still the most stable IT environment. That stability can be taken for granted by management that wants all the productivity but now at reduced cost. With a dwindling mainframe IT pool to make it happen, innovation is clearly needed in mainframe service-management technology.

ConicIT provides just that with products based on patent-pending technology that are easy to use and integrate easily with existing monitoring tools. Look to ConicIT for innovative mainframe service-management solutions.

▪ First-Fault Problem Resolution

Even in the best mainframe shops, production problems happen. When they do, they need to be fixed quickly. ConicIT is the only tool that enables IT staff to find and repair mainframe problems the first time they happen, drastically lowering mean time to repair by ensuring the root cause is found and fixed the first time.

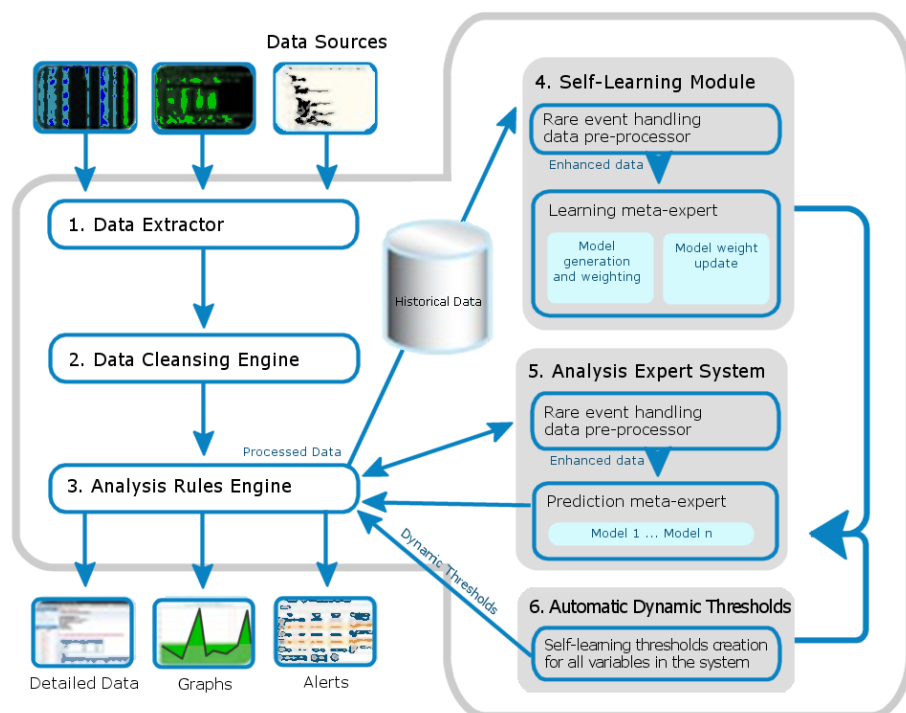
▪ Lower SLA Costs

You can't manage unless you can measure. With usage-based models such as sub-capacity pricing, to understand your costs you need to understand the relationship between usage,

performance, and peak CPU demand. ConicIT is the only tool that provides the necessary *real-time* measures, enabling cost-aware SLA service management for mainframes.

▪ Service-Impact Baselines

ConicIT provides a detailed baseline of current mainframe application performance for benchmarking. Mainframe production applications constantly change because of, for example, application upgrades, mainframe consolidation, or migration. Unbiased, measurement-based baselines of application performance provide insight into the impacts of changes. That lets you minimize the impact on end users.



ConicIT Technology

Patent-pending prediction technology is the basis for ConicIT solutions. ConicIT is a Linux-based product that operates outside transaction paths. It continuously analyzes system and application performance using information provided by existing monitors. With mathematical models and self-learning algorithms, ConicIT tracks critical resource behavior patterns to predict future performance and discover behavioral anomalies.

ConicIT directs the process of gathering information from existing system monitors 24/7. Think of it as a tireless super-user, continuously monitoring systems and making sure existing monitors catch any anomaly as it occurs. A learning engine analyzes the information and responds to discrepancies by collecting all the relevant data and alerting system personnel at mainframe speed. All captured data is recorded for later data mining and statistical analysis.

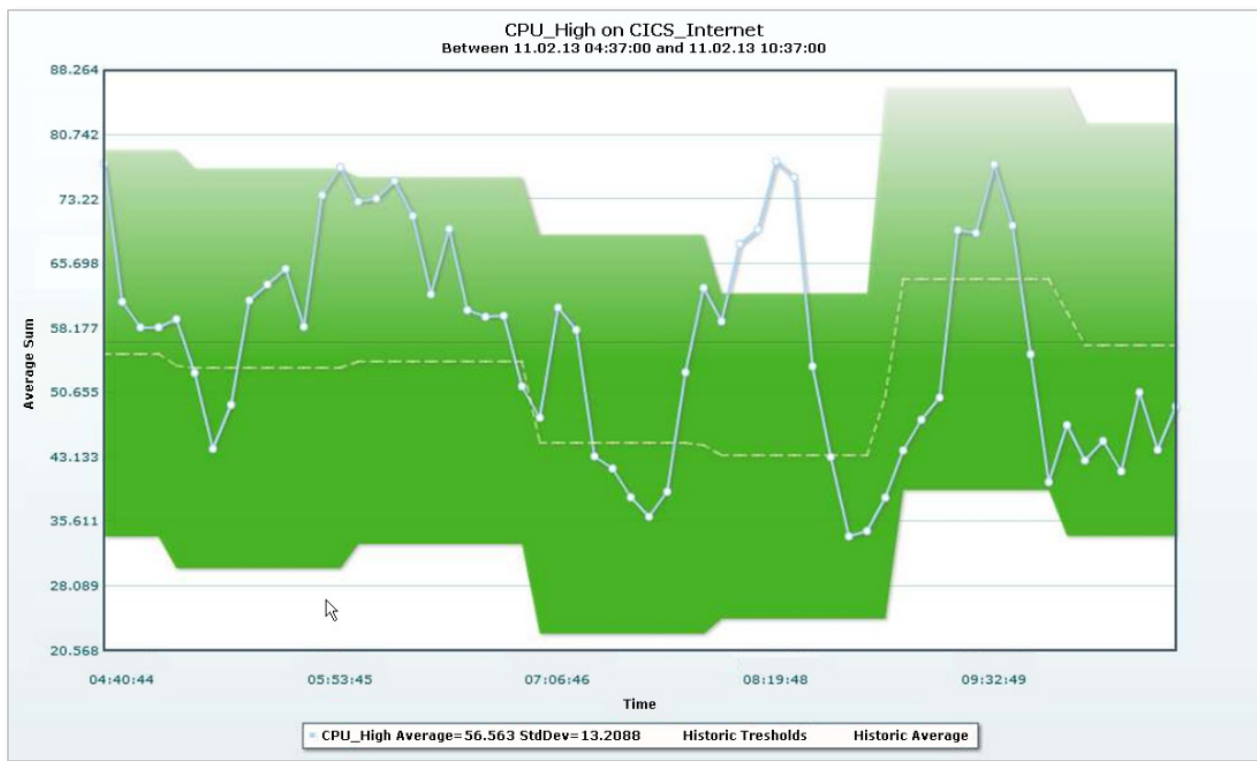
ConicIT records events as they occur, pointing to a problem's root cause and enabling IT staff to prevent recurrence. The learning engine

continuously adapts to each system's unique characteristics, honing its ability to predict when the next event will take place.

Fast Root-Cause Analysis

When a mainframe problem occurs, instead of scrambling teams to reproduce the problem and patch the symptoms – let a few experts use ConicIT to fix the root cause the FIRST TIME IT OCCURS and FASTER!

ConicIT recognizes brewing trouble and preserves the data necessary for repair. ConicIT automatically alerts IT staff and captures the relevant system data, providing IT staff with a detailed view of system status before and during the problem's occurrence. This enables staff to solve a problem the first time it occurs, providing a dramatic reduction in mean time to repair for transaction slowdowns and performance degradation. By ensuring the *cause* of the problem is fixed (not just the symptoms), ConicIT also increases mean time between failures.



Lower SLA Cost

Mainframe costs are rising. The current economic environment means increased scrutiny of the spending needed to maintain mainframe SLAs. The increasing use of dynamic pricing models makes it difficult to plan (or even understand) the exact costs associated with maintaining a mainframe SLA.

For example, a spike in usage can generate extraordinary monthly charges, while underutilization of a Sysplex can cancel any Sysplex-related savings. This tension has created the need for real-time, cost-aware service monitoring tools – tools that can factor dynamic cost models into the management environment.

ConicIT is the first tool to introduce real-time, cost-aware, SLA management to the mainframe. The software aggregates data from all relevant LPARs simultaneously, providing a holistic view of the application environment and a dynamic view of each LPAR in relation to the entire machine.

Data aggregation together with predictive capabilities enable cost-aware SLA management. ConicIT provides much needed clarity into how expected computing peaks will affect sub-capacity and other usage-based pricing models. ConicIT predicts usage patterns for a proactive approach to managing capacity-related costs.

Service-Impact Baselines

The first step in any project is creating accurate baselines for key indicators by measuring progress based on data, not anecdotes. Creating an accurate picture of existing mainframe application performance is critical for managing any changes to a mainframe application environment such as application upgrades, mainframe consolidation, migration, and modernization. Without an accurate performance baseline there is no way to measure whether application service levels are affected by the modernization.

ConicIT uses your existing monitors to capture and aggregate key performance indicators (KPIs), which describe existing application behavior. The KPIs generate profiles that define expected application behavior and automatically learn a baseline of performance, including variations for special circumstances (holidays, end of month). These baselines provide the insight needed to understand post-migration application performance, providing a data-driven approach to assessing the state of migrated applications.

Summary

Patent-pending predictive technology from ConicIT is unique in the mainframe environment. This innovative technology provides the next generation of mainframe-service management, providing quick ROI through SLA cost optimization, ongoing value through first-fault problem resolution, and future benefits by service-impact baselining. Getting started is easy.

For more information about ConicIT from SDS, please visit our website at www.sdsusa.com/mainframe-performance-optimization/conicit/.

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