TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™
Performance Benchmarking and Tuning Guide

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TIBCO_HOME/release_notes/TIB_BW_version_docinfo.html

The following documents for this product can be found on the TIBCO Documentation site:

- Concepts
- Installation
- Getting Started
- Application Development
- Administration
- Bindings and Palettes Reference
- Samples
- Error Codes
- Migration
- Performance Benchmarking and Tuning Guide
- API Reference
- REST Reference

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  http://www.tibco.com/services/support

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Overview

Powered by a next-generation foundation that includes an Eclipse-based design-time, a powerful process engine and a modular OSGI-based run-time, TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ 6.x (hereinafter referred to as ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™) enables developers to create new services, orchestrate business processes and integrate applications in the shortest time. See, Concepts guide for additional details.

Performance plays a very important role in terms of stability, scalability, throughput, latency and resource utilization. With a view to achieve optimal performance of the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ application, it is important to understand the various levels at which the tuning methods and best practices can be applied to the components.

The intent of the Performance Benchmarking and Tuning Guide is to provide guidelines with respect to performance benchmarking, tuning methodologies and best practices. This document must be used along with other product documentation and project-specific information to achieve the desired performance results. The goal is to assist in tuning and optimizing the runtime for most common scenarios.

This document describes architectural concepts related to performance tuning for ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks 6.x™. The document includes the different tuning parameters, steps required to configure the parameters, and design techniques for better performance. However, you must focus on real customer use cases to understand the issue and the associated solution.

The performance tuning and configurations in this document are provided for reference only. They can be reproduced only in the exact environment and under workload conditions that existed when the tests were done. The numbers in the document are based on the tests conducted in the performance lab for ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks 6.3.0™ and may vary according to the components installed, the workload, the type and complexity of different scenarios, hardware and software configuration, and so on. The performance tuning and configurations should be used only as a guideline, after validating the customer requirements and environment. TIBCO does not guarantee their accuracy.
The most important component in ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ is the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks Engine. The purpose of the engine is to handle a continuous stream of thousands of processes, each with dozens of activities, in an operating environment with finite resources. Resources include the memory, CPU threads, and connections.

The engine performs the following additional functions:

- XML data transformation and validation
- XPath transitions and flow control
- Connection and session management with recovery and retries
- Engine crash and job recovery
- Exception management and logging
- Management and monitoring services
- Ability to persist or checkpoint and then resume using the checkpoint database
- Fault tolerance and load balancing

Message Flow Architecture
Performance Benchmark Fundamentals

The goal of performance measurement is to understand the performance capabilities and limitations of a system. Every system has limitations, and benchmarks characterize the system in a way that you can understand these limitations.

Benchmarks can be complicated if the system capabilities and limitations vary depending on the demands placed on the system. They also vary based on the resources that are available to the system, for example, CPU, memory, network bandwidth, and disk bandwidth. The set of benchmark measurements must be carefully designed so that the impact of these factors can be understood clearly.

Basic Performance Curve

In the above example, the X axis characterizes the input rate, and the Y axis represents the output rate. The system is exposed to load at a controlled rate and is in a steady-state for some period of time. After an initial stabilization period, both the input and output rates are measured, providing one data point for the performance curve. This example assumes that all other factors are being held constant.

The shape of the performance curve tells us a lot about the system under test. If each input results in a single output, then over the normal operating range, the output rate will exactly match the input rate and within statistical bounds. If each input results in more than one output, or if you are measuring data rates instead of input and output rates, there may be a scale factor relating the two values. However, over the normal operating range there should be a linear relationship between the two rates – that is the curve is a straight line.

The input rate that marks the end of this linear region marks the operating capacity of the system. This may mark the true limits of the system design, or it may indicate that some type of resource limit has been hit. This could be the result of the available physical memory or the bandwidth available on the NIC card or the available CPU cycles getting exhausted. It is important to determine the nature of the limit, as this may indicate ways to alter the environment and increase capacity either by tuning the system or adding resources.
Beyond the operating capacity, further increase in the input rate exceeds the capacity of the system to perform work. Once this occurs, increasing the input rate will no longer produce the same level of increase in the output. The inputs are increasing faster than the system is producing output. If the input rate continues to increase it will reach a point where the output rate begins to decline. The system is taking resources away from completing work and applying them to accepting the inputs.

Operating under a load is inherently unstable. Inputs arrive faster than the work is getting completed, and this results in inputs piling up. This buffer for memory, disk, and messaging system is finite in capacity. At full capacity the system will fail. Thus systems can, at best, operate in the overload mode for short periods of time.

**Interpreting Benchmarks**

Each benchmark measurement provides a single data point on the performance curve. In order to meaningfully interpret that benchmark you must understand where you are on the curve.

Failure to understand your position on the curve can lead to significant misinterpretation of data.

**Misleading Experiments**

One of the most commonly run performance tests is when a large but fixed number of inputs are applied at the fastest possible rate, often by placing them in an input queue and then turning the system on. The output rate is often misinterpreted as the system capacity.

However, if you look at the performance curve, it is likely that the system is actually operating far into the overload region with an output rate significantly below the operating capacity. Such tests characterize the system under overload circumstances, but they do not accurately reflect the capabilities of the system. This is especially true when it is possible to further configure or tune the system to limit the input rate so that it cannot exceed the operating capacity.

Another type of test involves running tests at the low-end of the performance spectrum. While these experiments may be sufficient to establish the slope of the normal operation curve, they give no insight into the actual capacity of the system. They can often lead to false conclusions when comparing designs. Measurements at the low end of the performance curve will show only the increased resource utilization.

**Test Client Limitations**

When the apparent capacity of a system is reached without having exhausted any of the available resources, it is necessary to also consider whether the limiting factor might be the test client rather than the system under test.

A test client with a limited number of threads may not be capable of providing inputs or receiving outputs at the rate required to drive the system to its full capacity. Ideally, the test client will be configurable through its own parameters. In some cases, it may be necessary to run multiple copies of the test client, each on a different machine, in order to drive the system under test to capacity.

**Points to Remember**

Keep the following points in mind while performing the benchmarking and tuning excercise.

- Always document the test design in sufficient detail to allow others to accurately reproduce your results.
- Always range demand until the operating capacity of the system under test has been reached. Further increases in input rate do not result in proportional increases in output rate.
- Always document measured or estimated resource availability and consumption.
- Once an apparent operational limit has been reached, investigate to determine whether a true resource constraint has been reached. Consider adding resources such as adding memory, CPU or changing to a higher network bandwidth.
If an operational limit has been reached without exhausting available resources:

- Consider whether tuning the system under test might further increase the operational capacity.
- Consider whether the design or configuration of the test harness might be the true limiting factor in the experiment.
Benchmarking and Testing Performance

This section outlines the steps required to successfully evaluate and tune a TIBCO BusinessWorks™ 6.x environment.

Performance Benchmarking Process

This document must be used as a general guideline and is not representative of any comprehensive tuning that may need to be done for each use case. Additional or fewer steps may be required, depending on individual factors and contextual requirements. Such tuning will require multiple iterations.

One of the fundamental requirements before performing any kind of tuning exercise is to carefully eliminate all external factors that can potentially affect any performance issues.

Performance Analysis and Tuning is an iterative process consisting of following:

- Establish performance benchmarking criteria
- Review ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ 6.x performance architecture
- Establish performance best practices guidelines
- Identify and review tuneable parameters for the use case

Performance Benchmarking Criteria

The first step when measuring performance is to identify the Service Level Agreement. Performance targets are determined by user response time and message processing requirements.

Examples of performance requirements include:

- Engine throughput or number of messages processed per second
- Processing speed or average process instance duration and latency
- Web response time. The response and request time
- Resource utilization
- Concurrent request, sleep time, registered and if applicable, the concurrent users

Defining the minimum, desired, and peak targets for each requirement helps identifying the type of data to collect and to evaluate the test results.

In addition to these normal load expectations, abnormal error-recovery scenarios under unusually high loads should also be considered. For example, the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ process might be receiving or polling messages from a TIBCO Enterprise Message Service queue, and the above targets reflect the normal flow of messages through the queue.

However, if communication to the TIBCO Enterprise Message Service server has been disrupted for an extended period of time, or if the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Engine shuts down, a much higher load may be experienced when communication is re-established or when the engine restarts.

These scenarios must be addressed when considering the engine performance under load, and to ensure that the throughput does not deteriorate below the target in such situations.

Business requirements also control the decision to use reliable or certified messaging. Certified messaging has an impact on performance.
Performance Testing Tools and Techniques

Once you have established appropriate goals for performance benchmarking, it is necessary to define the performance testing and monitoring framework.

This step significantly varies for each project based on application design and deployment requirements. However, it is important to establish key performance monitoring and benchmark measurement techniques and tools. Monitoring each component requires different techniques. It is important to monitor the application including the CPU, memory and logs, the hardware resources, network and performance metrics using load generation tools.

To monitor application resources like CPU, memory, thread dumps and GC, you can use JVisualVM. More details on JVisualVM and thread dumps are provided in the later sections.

Heap dumps can be generated from JVisualVM and analyzed using memory analyzer tools. For errors during load testing, the application logs can be monitored. To monitor OS resources, you can use various OS-dependent tools such as PerfMon, TIBCO Hawk™ and various OS dependent utilities such as, Top, prstat, iostat and vmstat. In addition, various systems trace and log files should also be monitored.

Collecting Performance Data

Begin with creating a set of processes for testing purposes. These can be actual processes that will be used in production or more basic processes that represent the production scenarios. The granularity and scope of your performance requirements should determine how processes are used for performance testing.

Configure the operating system tool to measure memory, disk, and CPU usage during all tests. Identify the Activematrix BusinessWorks™ metrics that can measure conformance with requirements. A general strategy is to begin with summary metrics, and then progress to detailed metrics as areas for improvement are identified.

However, if specific performance goals have been defined, you can tailor data collection to provide only required information. Understand where process instance lifetime is spent and collect detailed process instance metrics while processing a few representative process instances. Calculate total throughput, collect summary metrics while generating a typical number of incoming messages of typical size and frequency.

Conduct separate tests for minimum, desired, and peak target numbers. Wherever possible, restrict other local network, operating system, and engine activities during this time. If average metrics are used, restrict the test window to ensure that data collected is relevant.

Deploying Performance Testing Framework

Developing a framework depends on performance goals established earlier and business requirements.

Deploy adequate hardware for running ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ software and testing its performance. Install ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™, along with any optional external software for measuring application performance. Verify that your operating system includes a tool for measuring system resources, such as memory, physical disk, and CPU usage.

Once you have established the key performance matrix and determined the tools and techniques to measure the components, the next step is to establish an appropriate framework for testing performance.

Frequently, a customer would require building a script using third-party performance testing tools such as HP Load Runner, SilkPerformer or JMeter. These tools are frequently used to build extensible framework to invoke HTTP, SOAP, REST and JMS messages.
Developing a Performance Testing Plan

Developing a performance testing plan involves building an appropriate set of tests to meet business objectives.

This section provides series of tests that can be planned based on overall objectives.

Build a Baseline Test

For initial performance tests, consider deploying the test scenario on a single AppNode.

Test the performance of the AppNode with varying payload and workload depending on the requirement. After some basic testing, consider adding more AppNodes. Repeat the tests for testing scalability with added AppNodes.

Collect all the performance metrics during the benchmark tests like CPU, memory, I/O, network, latency, throughput, and GC during the tests.

Perform tests for minimum, desired, and peak numbers, that are identified as required. Capture and store output for the test runs. When the baseline tests are complete, stop the performance data collection utility, stop sending messages, and then stop the AppNode.

Compare Baseline to Targets

Compare baseline test results to performance requirements. If requirements are met, begin testing the next use case. If the requirements are not met, continue with the remaining steps.

Build Stability Test

Frequently, many performance issues can be identified in the stability test, where the application is deployed under lower load conditions, such as five to ten concurrent users with a pre-established think time.

This test focuses on end-to-end successful transactions, and does not aim at measuring the overall response time. Since the test system involves various components, it is important to familiarize ourselves with the following:

- Tuning parameter at each component level
- Trace file and techniques to increase trace level
- Log files at each component level
- Error files at each component level
- Monitor database resources, if applicable
- Monitor any incomplete TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ jobs
- Worst performing activities, that is CPU time and Elapsed Time

The test must be completed end-to-end, and the application developer should fix any issues associated with the run. The overall percentage of error and warning should also be noted.

Develop Incremental Tests

Define tests that measure different criteria including error rate in a steady incremental load; for example, 50 users, 100 users, 250 users, and so on.

The user should also define the payload for testing the deployed services. The application should be tested considering the peak load in the production environment.
Develop Peak Rate Tests

The overall business objectives can be different for each project. To measure the system against an extreme number of users, without failing, a peak load test can be designed to determine whether the system can respond to the desired maximum number of users and requests without degradation in response time.

This depends on the hardware available in the environment. If the CPU and memory resources are not sufficient, then increasing the numbers will further degrade the performance.

Develop Steady State Tests

This test can be run when the business objective requires providing well established quality of service for the business users, such as the number of concurrent users with the least amount of response time.

The steady state keeps steady capacity or steady number of requests per minute, even if the number of concurrent users keep increasing.

This test focuses on maintaining partner quality of service and capacity, and the high number of users.

Develop Hardware and Resource Plan

The choice of a proper operating system with the appropriate number of CPUs is one of the most important decisions during this testing phase.

Many operating systems perform significantly different under different types of load. The test plan should consider different operating systems, number of CPUs, and other hardware resources.

Develop Component Deployment Plan

The test plan should extend results obtained in the section, "Develop Hardware and Resource Plan", and design for the optimal production deployment.

In this phase of the test, optimal production deployment is planned based on test results obtained in the previous test.

This can be achieved by increasing the number of instances of components on a single server or multiple servers, and using different load balancing and fault tolerance techniques to achieve optimal production objectives.

Monitoring and Analyzing ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks 6.x Components

There are various ways and tools to monitor and analyze the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ components, AppNode and bwagent. Some of them are described in this section.

JVisualVM

JVisualVM, that is shipped with Java SDK is a tool that provides a visual interface for viewing detailed information about ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ applications while they are running on the AppNode JVM.

JVisualVM organizes JVM data that is retrieved by the Java Development Kit (JDK) tools and presents the information in a way that allows data on multiple ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ applications, both local and applications that are running on remote hosts to be quickly viewed. It can monitor both local and remote AppNodes and agents. It can be attached locally by using the PID of the AppNode or agent or remotely by enabling JMX on the JVM.

Users can monitor CPU, memory, classes, threads, monitor the current state of the thread, running, sleeping, wait and monitor. JVisualVM displays thread view in real time.
Monitoring Threads and Taking a Thread Dump Using JVisualVM

You can use JVisualVM to monitor threads and take thread dumps for an AppNode and bwagent.

Procedure

1. Enable JMX on the AppNode or bwagent by adding the following JMX properties in the AppNode or the agent TRA files for remote monitoring.
   - java.property.com.sun.management.jmxremote=true
   - java.property.com.sun.management.jmxremote.port=8008
   - java.property.com.sun.management.jmxremote.authenticate=false
   - java.property.com.sun.management.jmxremote.ssl=false

2. Start jvisualvm.exe from the JDK_HOME/version/bin directory.

3. Connect to the AppNode or bwagent remotely or by using the PID. To connect remotely, select Remote in the Applications tab and right click Add Remote Host. Enter the remote Host name field.

4. Add JMX connection to the remote host as displayed in the images below.
5. Right click the remote JMX connection for the AppNode or bwgent and select **Open**.

6. The AppNode or agent CPU, memory, classes and threads can be monitored in the **Monitor** tab. The memory chart also provides the maximum memory settings of the JVM. You can perform a manual GC and obtain the heap dump too.

The following figure demonstrates the typical heap usage pattern of the AppNodes, which is a sawtooth pattern. This sawtooth pattern indicates the normal behaviour of the JVM. For more information, see the [Stack Overflow website](https://stackoverflow.com). Here the memory usage steadily increases and then drops due to garbage collection.

The figure below displays the heap dump summary once the dump has been obtained.
7. You can monitor the thread states and obtain the thread dump from the **Threads** tab.
8. You can use JVisualVM to configure an option to generate heapdump if the AppNode or bwgent runs out of memory. Right click a JMX connection and select **Enable Heap Dump on OOME** as shown in the image below.

9. JVisualVM provides CPU and memory profiling capabilities. By default, the profiling tool is not in a running state until you are ready to profile the application. You can choose from the following profiling options:

   1. **CPU Profiling** - Select **CPU Profiling** to profile and analyze the performance of the application in terms of throughput, scalability or response time.

   2. **Memory Profiling** - Select **Memory Profiling** to analyze the memory usage of the application. The results display the objects allocated by the application and the class allocating those objects.

   When you start a profiling session, JVisualVM attaches to the local or remote AppNode or agent and starts collecting the profiling data.
When the profiling results are available, they are displayed in the **Profiler** tab.

JVisualVM has the following plugins for java implementation:

a. A sampling profiler - Statistical and light weight
b. An instrumental profiler - Heavier

**Understanding Thread Dumps**

Keep in mind the following points while working with thread dumps.

- A thread dump displays the thread name, thread id (tid), which is the address of the thread structure in memory, id of the native thread (nid) which correlates to the OS thread id, thread priority, state (runnable, waiting, blocked, and so on), source code line and method calls.
- Waiting on monitor and waiting for monitor entry - It is very important to understand the difference between the Waiting on monitor state and waiting for monitor entry state. Waiting on monitor means sleep or wait on an object for a specific period or until notified by another thread. Waiting for monitor means to wait to lock an object since some other thread may be holding the lock, which can happen in a synchronized code.
- IBM Thread Dump Analyzer can be used for further analysis. For more details, refer to [https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/community/groups/service/html/communityview?communityUuid=2245aa39-fa5c-4475-b891-14c205f7333c](https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/community/groups/service/html/communityview?communityUuid=2245aa39-fa5c-4475-b891-14c205f7333c)

**Identifying Potential Improvement Areas**

If performance requirements are not met and you need to improve the performance, some modifications may be needed.

Modifications may be required in the following areas:

- Adding hardware resources
- Modifying JVM parameters
- Increasing engine threads
- Running multiple AppNodes
- Reducing message size, message burst size or message frequency
- Modifying process design or activity settings
- Tune additional engine parameters and analyze impact
- Tune shared resource level thread pools, connections or any other settings

You can create a prioritized list of modifications using symptoms specific to your environment, such as memory usage patterns or error messages.

**Implementing Specific Enhancements**

Scaling involves adding hardware resources or engines. Tuning involves changes to the AppNode config files or scripts and changes to the process design. When making any type of change, it is crucial to keep other factors stable so that the effect can be correctly measured.

For example, a sample list of modifications might include:

- Allocate additional memory for the engine JVM
- Increase the number of engine threads
- Enable flow control

These changes can be implemented in an incremental way. The reasonable approach is to implement the first modification, and then test to measure the effect of this change. After a satisfactory value is
determined, implement the next modification and measure the effect of the first two changes combined, and so on.

In this example, all the modifications are related to the same resource and memory usage. If the engine requires more memory, then increasing the number of threads in the JVM would be ineffective. However, some scenarios might require measuring the effect of each modification separately, by backing out one change before implementing another.

Comparing Results

After implementing modifications and repeating the test scenarios, compare the adjusted results to the baseline test results.

Exporting performance data to a third-party application to compare test results can simplify this step.

If performance improves because of the modifications, compare the adjusted results to the performance requirements. If the requirements are met, begin testing the next use case. If the requirements are not met, repeat the step, "Develop Incremental Tests" and step "Develop Peak Rate Tests", for additional enhancements.

Testing and Debugging Performance Issues

TIBCO Enterprise Administrator and TIBCO Hawk can be used to test and debug the performance issues.
Setting AppNode JVM Parameters

This section describes the JVM parameters for the AppNode.

JVM Parameters

This section specifies some of the JVM parameters and their default values for the AppNode.

Heap Space

JVM parameters that can be configured for the AppNode heap are minimum heap space (Xms) and maximum heap space (Xmx).

The default values for these parameters are -Xmx1024m -Xms128m.

Perm Gen Memory

The parameters to set the Perm Gen memory of the AppNode are:

-XX:PermSize=64m
-XX:MaxPermSize=128m

This parameter setting is applicable only for Java 7.

Heap Dump On Out of Memory Error

The parameter -XX:+HeapDumpOnOutOfMemoryError can be set to enable heap dump when the AppNode runs out of memory.

Hierarchy of TRA files in ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Home

The hierarchy of the TRA files in the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ configuration home is illustrated in the figure below:

Hierarchy of TRA files
The JVM parameters can be changed in all of the TRA files depending on various factors. The factors are described in the later sections.

The diagram above shows the top-down hierarchy from parent TRA to child TRA. Any change in the parent is inherited by its children, and any child can override its parent configuration.

As an example, in the TRA files, file 1 is the parent of file 2, and file 2 is the parent of file 3, and file 3 is the parent of file 4. So, applying the precedence rules, if you configure a parameter in file 1 or file 2, that parameter is inherited by all its children unless the children override the configuration.

### Setting JVM Parameters for the AppNode Manually

This section explains the location of the TRA files in the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ home folder structure, the JVM parameter settings and the components that are applicable to these settings.

- The `<BW_HOME>/bin/bwcommon.tra` file is at the top of the hierarchy. By default, the `java.extended.properties` or JVM properties are not present in this file. However, you can add these properties explicitly and the properties will be applicable to all the AppNodes in all the AppSpaces.

- To set the JVM properties at the AppSpace level for all the AppNodes in a particular AppSpace, the JVM properties can be set in the `bwappnode-<AppSpaceName>.tra` file which is located at `<BW_HOME>/domains/<domainName>/AppSpaces/<AppSpaceName>/`. This will set the JVM properties for all the AppNodes in that particular AppSpace.

- You can also set or edit the JVM parameters for a particular AppNode in the `bwappnode-<AppNodeName>.tra` file directly. This file is located at `<BW_HOME>/bw/6.3/domains/<domainName>/AppNodes/<AppSpaceName>/<AppNodeName>/bindirectory`. This will set the JVM properties only for that particular AppNode.

It is important to understand how JVM parameters at different levels impact the AppNodes in the environment. This has been explained with the help of use cases in the sections below.

#### Use case 1

When the user changes the JVM settings in either `bwcommon.tra` or `bwappnode.tra`, located in the in the `BW_HOME/bw/6.3/bin` folder the following changes will take place.

**Existing AppNodes**

- **Before setting the JVM Parameters** - If not specified explicitly, the default values of JVM parameters for each AppNode are applicable. These values are commented out by default. These are the settings that an AppNode takes when created, and if the JVM parameters are already set at the AppSpace level, those settings will take effect. Refer Use case 2.

- **After changing the JVM parameters and without restarting the AppNodes** - No changes in the AppNode settings.

- **After changing the JVM parameters and AppNode restart** - The changes will be applied to all the AppNodes in all the AppSpaces in the environment. You must handle this change very carefully because, though it allows the user to maintain uniformity across all the AppNodes, if the same settings are not required for all AppNodes, this use case is not very useful.

For example, if the maximum heap of an existing AppNode is not explicitly specified, it is 1 GB by default. However, if the maximum heap in the files, `bwcommon.tra` or `bwappnode.tra`, is changed to a higher value at some point of time, there will be a lot of memory allocated to the existing AppNodes when they are restarted. This may not be a requirement for some AppNodes.

On the other hand, if the memory allocated in the files, `bwcommon.tra` and `bwappnode.tra`, is changed to a lower value such as 512 MB, on restart the existing nodes will have maximum heap of 512 MB. This may not be sufficient for an AppNode that has a higher memory requirement. This can
lead to instability in the environment along with mismanagement of resources particularly in terms of memory.

**New AppNodes**

Changes get applied to any new AppNodes that are created in that particular AppSpace. AppNodes created in any other AppSpace will not have any impact. Any new AppNode created after setting the JVM parameters will contain the new settings. If the memory requirement of the AppNode is not aligned with the settings in bwcommon.tra or bwappnode.tra, it can lead to various issues.

For example, if the maximum heap setting in the bwcommon.tra or bwappnode.tra is very low, a newly created AppNode may run into issues at startup if it has a higher requirement. Hence, setting the JVM parameters in bwcommon.tra and bwappnode.tra must be done carefully, taking into account factors like specific AppNode requirements and anticipating the memory requirements of AppNodes to be created in future.

**Use Case 2**

When you are required to maintain the same settings for all the AppNodes in the same AppSpace, the JVM settings can be applied at the AppSpace level, in the bwappnode-<AppSpaceName>.tra file.

On applying the JVM settings, the following changes will take place.

**Existing AppNodes**

- **Before setting the JVM Parameters** - If not specified explicitly, the default values of JVM parameters for each AppNode are applicable. These values are commented out by default. These are the settings that an AppNode takes when created, and if the JVM parameters are already set at the bwcommon.tra or bwappnode.tra level then those settings will take effect, refer Use Case 1.

- **After changing the JVM parameters and no restart of AppNodes** - No changes in the AppNode settings.

- **After changing the JVM parameters and AppSpace restart** - The changes will be applied to all the existing AppNodes in that particular AppSpace. The AppNodes in other AppSpaces will not be affected.

**New AppNodes**

The changes will be applied to any new AppNodes that are created in that particular AppSpace. AppNodes created in any other AppSpace will not have any impact.

In this particular use case, it is recommended that since changing the settings at the AppSpace level will affect all the AppNodes in the AppSpace, the requirements for all the AppNodes in that particular AppSpace must be considered before making these changes.

**Use Case 3**

Changing the JVM settings in the file bwappnode-<AppNodeName>.tra, gives you a micro level control over each AppNode.

This use case is useful when the requirements for each AppNode are different. You can manage the AppNodes independent of any changes in the other TRA files. When you want to change the JVM parameters for a particular AppNode in an AppSpace, you can change the properties directly, as mentioned in the section Setting JVM Parameters for the AppNode Manually.

The following changes will take place:

**Existing AppNodes**

- **Before setting the JVM Parameters** - If not specified explicitly, the default values of JVM parameters for each AppNode are applicable. These values are commented out by default. These are the settings
that an AppNode takes when created, and if the JVM parameters are already set at the bwcommon.tra or bwappnode.tra level, (refer Usecase 1), or at the AppSpace level, (refer Usecase 2), then those settings will take effect.

- **After changing the JVM parameters and without restarting of AppNodes** - No changes in the AppNode settings.
- **After changing the JVM parameters and AppNode restart** - The changes will be applied to the particular AppNode and there will be no impact on the other AppNodes.

**New AppNodes**

There will be no impact on the AppNodes created.
Best Practices

This section describes some of the important observations and guidelines developed in field trials. These guidelines are based on numerous performance improvement projects and details of the new features introduced with ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ 6.x.

- ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Engine Tuning Guidelines
- JVM Tuning Guidelines
- ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Transport and Resource Tuning Guidelines
TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks Engine Tuning Guidelines

This section provides high-level steps for TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ performance tuning. Specific details are discussed in the subsequent sections.

When tuning the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ engine allocate significant time to select the JVM configurations and the necessary tuning parameters depending on the use cases, payload and workload requirements.

- Since jobs process on a separate Java thread, the number of engine threads controls how many jobs can run simultaneously. The number of threads that an engine will allocate is set in the AppNode config .ini file.
- Measuring the available CPU and memory resources on your system under a typical processing load will help you to determine if the default value of eight threads is appropriate for your environment.
  
  For example, if engine throughput has reached a plateau, yet measurements show that CPU and memory are not fully utilized, increasing this value can improve throughput. Typically it is advisable to double the engine threads when tuning the engine if CPU resources are available.
- There are three ways of using CPU resources to the maximum capacity:
  - Optimize engine thread.
  - Increase number of AppNodes. Your performance suite must cover different scenarios so that you can come up with the optimal configuration.
  - Tune thread pools, where available, for asynchronous activities.
- Typical numbers of engine threads range between eight and thirty-two. Specifying a value too low can cause lower engine throughput even though spare CPU resources exist. Specifying a value too high can cause CPU thrashing behavior.
- If the pace of the incoming processes still exceeds the number of threads available to run them, consider using flow control.

**ThreadCount (bw.engine.threadcount)**

The threadCount property specifies the number of threads that the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks engine will allocate. The default value of engine threads is eight.

The jobs in memory are executed by the engine. The number of jobs that can be executed concurrently by the engine is limited to the maximum number of threads, indicated by this property. This property specifies the size of the job thread pool, and is applied to all the AppNodes in the AppSpace if set at the AppSpace level.

Threads execute a finite number of tasks or activities uninterrupted and then yield to the next job that is ready. The thread count can be tuned to the optimum value by starting with a default value of eight threads and then doubling it up until maximum CPU is reached.

The CPU and memory resources should be measured under a typical processing load to determine if the default threadCount value is suitable for the environment. This value can be set either in the AppNode config.ini file or from the Admin UI as shown below.

- Property = bw.engine.threadCount
- Parameter location in the Admin UI = AppNodes > Select AppNode > Configure > General
- Default Value = 8
StepCount (bw.engine.stepcount)

The engine stepCount property determines the number of activities that are executed by an engine thread, without any interruption, before yielding the engine thread to another job that is ready in the job pool.

Exceptions to stepCount can occur when the job in a transaction, is blocked, or is waiting for an asynchronous activity to complete. When a job is in a transaction, the thread is not released until the transaction is complete, even when the stepCount is exceeded.

However, if a job is blocked or waiting for an asynchronous activity to complete, the thread can be yielded even when the stepCount has not been reached.

The default value of this property is -1. When the value is set to -1, the engine can determine the necessary stepCount value. A low stepCount value may degrade engine performance due to frequent thread switches depending on the scenario. Given the nature of the jobs and the number of activities it includes, a high step count value may result in uneven execution of available jobs.

This value can be set either in the AppNode config.ini file or from the Admin UI as shown below.

- Property = `bw.engine.stepCount`
- Parameter location in the Admin UI = AppNodes > Select AppSpace > Configure > General
- Default Value = -1

Flow Limit (bw.application.job.flowlimit)

This property specifies the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ application's process starters or service bindings flow limit value. There is no default value.

Flow limit is useful when the engine needs to be throttled, as the property specifies the maximum number of jobs that can be started before suspending the process starter. This ensures that the incoming requests do not overwhelm the engine performance and the CPU and memory is preserved.

If the flow limit is set to a particular value at the application level, each of its process starters will contain the same value. For example, if you set the flow limit at application level as eight and the application has two process starters, the flow limit for each of these process starters will be eight.

If the user wants to set the value for one process starter only, they can set flow limit at the component level.

If the number of jobs being created exceeds the flow limit, the engine suspends the creation of new jobs but continues executing the jobs in memory. The engine resumes creating new jobs when sufficient resources are available. There is no default flow limit value and it is not enforced by the engine unless the flow limit property is specified for an application.

This value can be set either in the AppNode config.ini file or the Admin UI. In the Admin UI this property is required to be created as a user defined property.

- Property = `bw.application.job.flowlimit.<UsersBWApplicationName> [.<UsersBWApplicationVersion>] [.<UsersBWComponentName>]`
- Parameter location in the Admin UI = AppNodes > Select AppNode > Configure > User Defined > Create
- Default Value = No default value
Page Threshold (bw.application.job.pagethreshold)

This property specifies the maximum number of jobs that can concurrently be loaded into memory. The page threshold property specifies the job page threshold value for an application’s process starters or service bindings and is applicable to all the AppNodes in an AppSpace.

It specifies the maximum number of jobs that can concurrently be loaded into memory, thus limiting the number of running jobs in the memory. Once the threshold is reached, if there are jobs in memory that are in a state where they could be paged out, the engine temporarily pages out the jobs to the engine database. These jobs are moved back into memory when sufficient memory is available.

There is no default page threshold value and it is not enforced by the engine unless the page threshold property is specified for an application.

The page threshold feature requires the engine persistent mode property, bw.engine.persistenceMode set to datastore or group.

This property specifies the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Application’s process starters or service bindings job page threshold value. This value can be set in the AppNode config.ini file.

- Property = bw.application.job.pageThreshold.<UsersBWApplicationName>[.<UsersBWApplicationVersion>].<ComponentName>
  Parameters enclosed in square brackets [ ] are optional. For example: [<ComponentName>]
- Default Value = No default value

OSGI Bundle Limit

This property specifies a limit on the number of jar files the framework will keep open at one time.

The minimum value allowed is ten. Any value less than ten will disable the bundle file limit, making the number of jar files the framework keeps open unlimited. By default the value is 100. You can increase the default value if you expect a lot of file system operations, or have many jar files in the bundle class path.

This value can be set in the AppNode config.ini file.

- Property = osgi.bundlefile.limit
- Default Value = 100

Application Statistics

The ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ engine collects three types of statistics for an application, application job metrics, process statistics and execution statistics.

Enabling statistics adds a certain performance overhead.

You can disable application statistics collection by setting the publisher property bw.engine.event.publisher.enabled to false in the AppNode config.ini or in the Admin UI.

Application Job Metrics

The application metrics collection or event statistics is enabled by default.

You can disable application metrics collection by setting the properties listed below to false in the AppNode config.ini file or in the Admin UI:

- Subscriber Property = bw.frwk.event.subscriber.metrics.enabled
- Parameter location = AppSpaces > Select AppSpace > Configure > General
- Default Value = true
**Process Statistics**

Process statistics collection for an application or an individual processes can be enabled or disabled from the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Admin CLI by using the `enablestats` and `disablestats` commands respectively.

For more information on these commands, see the Administration Guide.

**Process Execution Statistics**

Using process execution statistics, you can collect information for individual processes and activities of an application such as status, start time, elapsed time and so on.

You can use this information to identify time consuming activities and processes in an application.

The two types of statistics are process instance statistics and activity instance statistics.

**Activity Instance Statistics**

These are the steps to enable activity instance statistics.

**Procedure**

1. Upload and deploy the application to an AppNode.
2. Start the AppNode.
3. From the Admin console, cd to the AppNode level and run the following command
   ```
   enablestats activityinstance <ApplicationName> <ApplicationVersion>
   ```
4. By default the statistics are collected in the CSV file format placed in
   ```
   [BW_HOME]/bw/6.3/domains/perf/appnodes/<AppSpaceName>/<AppNodeName>/stats/activitystats.csv
   ```

**Interpreting Activity Instance Statistics**

The following activity instance statistics are collected:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application Name</td>
<td>Name of the application.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Version</td>
<td>Version of the application.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module Name</td>
<td>Name of the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ module.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity Name</td>
<td>Name of the activity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Process Name</td>
<td>Name of the process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Process Instance ID</td>
<td>Instance ID of the process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistic</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start Time</td>
<td>Process instance start time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eval Time</td>
<td>The Eval Time for an activity is the actual time (in milliseconds) required by the activity to complete.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elapsed Time</td>
<td>Elapsed time of an activity is the time difference (in milliseconds) between start time and end time of the activity. Between the start and end time, control may get switched with other activities from other jobs. This is the time taken to execute an activity plus all the delays in acquiring resources like engine threads, JDBC connections, network, and so on. The elapsed time is Eval Time plus the time taken for evaluating all the forward transitions from that particular activity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Status of activity, for example: Completed, Faulted or Canceled.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Process Instance Statistics**

These are the steps to enable process instance statistics.

**Procedure**

1. Upload and deploy the application to an AppNode.
2. Start the AppNode.
3. From the Admin console cd to the AppNode level and run `enablestats processinstance <ApplicationName> <ApplicationVersion>`
4. By default the statistics are collected in the CSV file format at `[BW_HOME]/bw/6.3/domains/perf/appnodes/<AppSpaceName>/<AppNodeName>/stats/processstats.csv` file.

```
bwadmin[admin@perf/perf/perf]> enablestats processinstance HTTPServer.application 1.0 TIBCO-BW-ADMINN-3D40413: Enabled statistics collection for Application [HTTPServer.application:1.0].
```

**Interpreting Process Instance Statistics**

The following activity instance statistics are collected:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application Name</td>
<td>Name of the application.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Version</td>
<td>Version of the application.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module Name</td>
<td>Name of the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ module.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistic</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Component Process Name</td>
<td>Name of process configured to a component. If the process is a non in-lined sub process, this could be empty.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job ID</td>
<td>Job ID of the process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Process Name</td>
<td>If the process is an in-lined sub process, the name of the parent process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Process ID</td>
<td>If the process is an in-lined sub process, the instance ID of the parent process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Process Name</td>
<td>Name fo the process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Process Instance ID</td>
<td>Instance ID of the process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start Time</td>
<td>Process instance start time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End Time</td>
<td>Process instance end time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elapsed Time</td>
<td>Elapsed time for a process is the total time taken by the process, including the elapsed time for all the activities executed for the process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eval Time</td>
<td>The Eval Time for a process instance is the total evaluation time (in milliseconds) for all the activities executed for the process instance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Status of process instance, for example: Completed or Faulted.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Since elapsed time is the time taken to execute an activity, including all the delays in acquiring resources like engine threads, JDBC connections, network, and so on, many times a higher elapsed time but acceptable eval time means incorrect engine tuning or a bad design in the process. This would mean the engine is starving for threads. If there are no real activities that are taking high eval times, it is a matter of tuning the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ engine. Elapsed time will always be equal to, or more than the CPU time.
JVM Tuning Guidelines

Each TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ engine runs as a multi-threaded Java server application. Processes and other objects used internally by TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ are Java objects that consume memory while the engine is running.

Java provides some useful parameters for tuning memory usage. Ensure that you consider these factors when selecting a JVM.

Besides the JVM version and the vendor, the most relevant tuning parameters are:

- JVM heap size
- Garbage collection settings

Specifying JVM Heap Size

The default Java heap size, which varies according to platform, is a conservative estimate made by the developers of the particular type of Java being used.

When you calculate the amount of memory required for a AppNode, you should determine the largest heap size that can reside in physical memory. For best engine performance, paging to disk should be avoided.

The recommended heap size for a small workload is 1024 MB, for medium 2048MB, and for large workload 4GB or more. The recommendations will change based on the scenarios, payload and workload.

To set the JVM available memory, use the following parameters:

- The Initial JVM Size parameter sets the minimum amount of memory used.
- The maximum JVM Size sets the maximum amount of memory used.

See Setting Appnode JVM Parameters for more details.

It is recommended to set the minimum and maximum JVM size to same value.

The total amount of JVM memory required to operate a ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ engine should be the memory for each process plus the maximum number of processes that can be in the process pool. If flow control is enabled, the process pool can contain up to the Max Jobs value.

JVM Garbage Collection

Tuning garbage collection requires good understanding of garbage collection frequency, message size, and longevity, young, tenured, and perm.

Many JVMs have different levels of algorithms to suit application requirements. Hence, it is very difficult to provide general recommendations.

The option AggressiveHeap affects the memory mapping between the JVM and operating system, and the option ParallelGC allocates multiple threads to part of the garbage collection system.

The client should try to experiment with these options, but the results are not deterministic. It can be argued that a multi-process system of four to twelve CPUs, using ParallelGC can produce better results.

We recommend that the application should not make direct explicit garbage collection. If the application does make a call to explicit garbage collection, to disable it, use verbose:gc -XX:+DisableExplicitGC command. These properties can be appended to the java.extended.properties in the AppNode TRA file.
ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks Transport and Resource Tuning Guidelines

Performance should be one of the criteria for using the appropriate transport. Besides performance, you should also consider interoperability, reliability, and security requirements.

Users have choices of using HTTP or JMS, SOAP over HTTP, SOAP over JMS and TIBCO Active Enterprise™ messages. The best practice of selecting a proper standard for the project is beyond the scope of this document. However, the following general results from a performance point of view are provided for your reference only.

You should use them only as general observations, and for initial understanding. Since each user has a different environment and different requirements, these results cannot be directly applied to their work. Instead, it is strongly recommended that you create a realistic scenario in the lab and then derive the appropriate results.

HTTP Resource

Performance characteristics of SOAP and REST are closely tied to the performance of the HTTP implementation in TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™.

In some situations, you can alter the configuration of the HTTP server that receives incoming HTTP requests for TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™. There are two thread pools that can be tuned or set to appropriate values for handling the incoming concurrent requests efficiently.

- Acceptor Threads – These are the Jetty server threads. Acceptor threads are HTTP socket threads for an HTTP Connector resource which accepts the incoming HTTP requests. While tuning these threads, the rule of thumb, as per the Jetty documentation, is acceptors \( > = 1 <= \#CPUs \).
- Queued Thread Pool - The Queued Thread Pool (QTP) uses the default job queue configuration. The QTP threads accept the requests from the Acceptor Threads.

You can configure the following two properties to specify values for the Queued thread pool.

- Minimum QTP Threads: The minimum number of QTP threads available for incoming HTTP requests. The HTTP server creates the number of threads specified by this parameter when it starts up. The default value is ten.
- Maximum QTP Threads: The maximum number of threads available for incoming HTTP requests. The HTTP server will not create more than the number of threads specified by this parameter. The default value is seventy-five. This limit is useful for determining number of incoming requests that can be processed at a time. Setting a high number will create that many threads and drastically reduce the performance.

It is recommended that if you have a large number of incoming requests, you can change these values to handle more incoming requests concurrently. You can also increase these numbers only if you have a higher peak concurrent request requirement, and you have large enough hardware resources to meet the requests.

See Tuning Parameters for configuration details of these parameters.

Sample Test

Scenarios Under Test: Scenario 1 is a simple HTTP Receiver with HTTP Response and echo implementation.

Scenario 2 is a simple SOAP service with echo implementation. The settings when carrying out the tests were as follows:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engine Threads</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event Statistics</td>
<td>Disabled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payload</td>
<td>1 KB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Settings</td>
<td>Default</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The graphs below illustrate the HTTP and SOAP (HTTP) service performance in terms of throughput scalability with increasing concurrent users for the given hardware. See Hardware Configuration for more details. See Appendix A for scenario details.

The numbers represented in the graphs are based on the tests conducted in the performance lab for TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ 6.3.0. Results may vary according to the components installed, the work load, the type and complexity of different scenarios, hardware and software configuration, and so on. They can be reproduced only under the exact environment and workload conditions that existed when these tests were performed.

**Scenario (1) HTTP Performance**

![HTTP Performance Graph](image1)

**Scenario (2) SOAP (HTTP) Performance**

![SOAP(HTTPS) Performance Graph](image2)
HTTP Client Resource

There are two important tuning considerations related to the HTTP client:

- HTTP Client Thread Pool
- Connection Pooling

**HTTP Client Thread Pool** - If you are using HTTP or SOAP with HTTP Send Request or SOAP Invoke (Reference) activity, it is important to verify that the rate of request received on the HTTP server keeps up with the rate at which the client sends messages. This situation is arises when there are very high numbers of concurrent requests being made.

Each Request and Response activity that uses the HTTP protocol, for example, Send HTTP Request or SOAP Invoke is associated with a unique thread pool.

Each request is executed in a separate thread, which belongs to the thread pool associated with the activity. The number of threads in the pool determines the maximum number of concurrent requests a request or response activity can execute. This is a cached thread pool with no default value.

Alternatively, you can create a separate client thread pool and define the core and max pool values. Set the value of this property to a reasonable number for your system. If you set the value too high, it may result in extra resources being allocated that are never used.

You may want to increase the value of the max pool size. However, this value should be increased only if the client side has more backlogs compared to the receive side. It is recommended that you design a test framework that helps you monitor such behavior and determine optimal thread pool count.

**Connection Pooling** - In the absence of connection pooling, the client makes a call to the same server in a single threaded communication. By enabling connection pooling, multithreaded communication is enabled. Hence, by default the HTTP Client provides single threaded connection. Single threaded connection can be used for multiple sequential requests. However in cases where there are multiple concurrent requests, enabling connection pooling is required.

If connection pooling is enabled, it can improve performance as a pool of reusable shared connections will be maintained. Using the connection pooling feature you can keep the default values for the number of connections that the client establishes with the service, or tune them appropriately. The values should not be set to zero (0).

See Tuning Parameters for more details.

JMS Resource and JMS Transport

Explained below are some usage recommendations when using JMS resource or JMS transport.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Usage Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transport such as JMS can be throttled by limiting the number of sessions. JMS does not deliver more messages until some of the sessions have been acknowledged.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The combination of TIBCO Enterprise Message Service features Explicit Acknowledge and FlowLimit also exists. In this case, location of ack in process makes no difference.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When using Client Ack, the JMS session cannot receive a new message until the current message is acknowledged.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ you can configure multiple sessions to receive messages faster, and set number of sessions higher than the number of engine threads.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Usage Recommendations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acknowledge and confirm messages as soon as possible, to improve throughput.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By holding Client ack to the end of the process, you will block that session. This means you will slow down the rate at which ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ pulls messages from the JMS server, which will have to hold messages for a longer period of time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With TIBCO Enterprise Message Service Explicit Ack, a single session is used to receive all messages. This mode allows for more efficient resource utilization, and provides even load distribution across multiple engines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The best way to increase performance beyond the capability of a single engine is to distribute the load over multiple engines using a load-balanced transport such as JMS Queue, to distribute the work. External mechanisms exist to allow HTTP to be used for this purpose also.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple and Text JMS message types have the lowest processing overhead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To design a long running process to fetch a message and process it, use Get JMS Queue message activity in a loop instead of Wait For JMS Queue message. In most cases, a JMS starter will be sufficient in this scenario.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If possible, choose NON_PERSISTENT as the delivery mode in replying to a JMS message.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For multiple JMS Receiver activities on an AppNode, the polling interval value has an impact on the CPU utilization of the AppNode. Lower the polling interval, higher is the CPU utilization, and higher the polling interval, lower the CPU utilization. In an environment where there are constraints on the available CPU resources, it is recommended that the polling interval value should be increased to lower the CPU consumption.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Impact of SSL on Performance**

When using HTTP over SSL, the overhead added by SSL on the overall request and response or throughput for a scenario is limited.

See Appendix A for scenario details.

The graphs below illustrate the maximum throughput performance for scenarios with and without SSL for the given hardware. See Hardware Configuration for more details.

See HTTP Connector Resource for scenario and settings details.

The numbers represented in the graphs are based on tests conducted in the performance lab for TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ 6.3.0. Results may vary according to the components installed, the workload, the type and complexity of different scenarios, hardware, software configuration, and so on. They can be reproduced only under the exact environment and workload conditions that existed when these tests were performed.
Performance of HTTP vs HTTPs

![Graph comparing HTTP and HTTPS performance](image)

**Performance of SOAP (HTTP) vs SOAP (HTTPS)**

![Graph comparing SOAP HTTP and HTTPS performance](image)
Tuning Parameters

This section explains the tuning parameters for the following connectors, connection resources and messaging servers:

- HTTP Connector Resource
- HTTP Client Resource
- JDBC Connection Resource
- TCP Connection Resource
- JMS Receiver and Wait for JMS Request
- JMS Receiver

HTTP Connector Resource

This section describes the tuning parameters for the HTTP Connector resource.

**Acceptor Threads**

These are the HTTP socket acceptor threads for the HTTP Connector resource, which pick up the HTTP requests. The default value is 1.

The value for these threads can be modified at design time in Business Studio as shown below:

Parameter location = **HTTP Connector resource > Basic Configuration**

**Accept Queue Size**

This is the number of connection requests to be queued before the operating system starts sending rejections. The value can be set to either 0 or -1. These values signify that the queue size is fifty or OS-specific.

These values can be modified at design time in TIBCO Business Studio™ as shown in the figure above.

Parameter location = **HTTP Connector resource > Basic Configuration**

**Queued Thread Pool**

The Queued Thread Pool is the thread pool provided by Jetty that uses the default job queue configuration. The QTP threads accept requests from the Acceptor threads. The value for these threads can be modified at design time in TIBCO Business Studio™ as shown below.

Parameter location = **HTTP Connector resource > Advanced Configuration**
The default values are:

- Minimum QTP threads = 10
- Maximum QTP threads = 75

**HTTP Connector Advanced Configuration**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Header Buffer Size (B)</td>
<td>4096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Request Buffer Size (B)</td>
<td>8192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response Buffer Size (B)</td>
<td>24576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max Idle Time (ms)</td>
<td>200000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Resource Max Idle Time (ms)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linger Time (ms)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max Post Size</td>
<td>2097152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max Save Post Size</td>
<td>4096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum QTP Threads</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HTTP Client Resource**

This section describes the tuning parameters for the HTTP Client resource.

**Maximum Total Connections**

This is the maximum number of concurrent HTTP connections allowed by the resource instance to be opened with the target service. This property is enabled only if connection pooling is enabled, that is the disable connection pooling parameter is unchecked.

For applications that create many long lived connections, increase the value of this parameter. The value for these threads can be modified at design time TIBCO Business Studio™ as shown below:

Parameter location = **HTTP Client resource > HTTP Client**

Default value = 200

**Maximum Total Connections Per Host or Route**

This is the maximum number of concurrent HTTP connections allowed by the resource instance to be opened with the target service to the same host or route. This property is enabled only if connection pooling is enabled, that is the disable connection parameter is unchecked.

This value cannot be more than the maximum total connections. The value for these threads can be modified at design time in Business Studio as shown in the snapshot below. Every connection created here also counts into Maximum Total Connections.

Parameter location = **HTTP Client resource > HTTP Client**

Default value = 20

**HTTP Client Resource**

**Thread Pool Resource**
The user can optionally create this client thread pool which routes the messages to the target service. The thread pool resource can be created by either selecting a thread pool resource template or creating a new one as shown in the figure above.

The values for these threads can be modified at design time in TIBCO Business Studio™ as shown below:

Parameter location = **Thread Pool Resource Template > Thread Pool**

The default values are:

- Core Pool Size = 5
- Max pool Size = 10

**HTTP Client Thread Pool**

![Thread Pool Diagram]

**JDBC Connection Resource**

This section describes the tuning parameters for the **JDBC Connection** resource.

**Max Connections**

This parameter specifies the maximum number of database connections to allocate. The value can be modified at design time in TIBCO Business Studio™ as shown below:

Parameter location = **JDBC Connection resource > JDBC Connection**

Default value = 10

**JDBC Connection Resource**

![JDBC Connection Diagram]

**TCP Connection Resource**

This section describes the tuning parameters for the **TCP Connection** resource.

**Maximum Connections**

This is the maximum number of simultaneous client sessions that can connect with the server. This parameter is enabled only if connection pooling is enabled. The value can be modified at design time in TIBCO Business Studio™ as shown below:

Parameter location = **TCP Connection resource > TCP Connection**

Default value = 10

**Maximum Wait Time**

This is the maximum wait time in milliseconds to connect to the TCP server. This parameter is enabled only if connection pooling is enabled. The value can be modified at design time in TIBCO Business Studio™ as shown below:

Parameter location = **TCP Connection resource > TCP Connection**
Default value = 10000 ms

TCP Connection Resource

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>Block</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10000</td>
<td>-1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

JMS Receiver and Wait for JMS Request

This section describes the tuning parameters for the JMS messaging servers.

Max Sessions [Client ACK Mode]

This is the maximum number of client sessions that can connect with the messaging server. This property is enabled only when the Client ACK mode is used. The value can be modified at design time in TIBCO Business Studio™ as shown below:

Parameter location = JMS Activity > General

Default value = 1

JMS Palette

JMS Receiver

This property specifies the polling interval in seconds to check for new messages. If a value is not specified for the property, the default polling interval is two seconds. Setting a value in this field overrides the default polling interval.

The value can be modified at design time in TIBCO Business Studio™ as shown below:

Parameter location = JMS Receiver > Properties > Advanced

Default value = 2

JMS ReceiveMessage
Performance Improvement Use Cases

Given the wide range of use cases and even more complex and demanding scenarios that the platform can address, the default configuration of ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ might require some adjustments to reach optimal performance.

Performance Improvement Use Cases - Design Time and Deployment

To accomplish a business objective or requirement, designing the applications appropriately is an important aspect, as this impacts the overall performance of the application and the system as a whole, to some extent. With complexities being introduced in the way the processes in ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks are designed it is imperative that users are able to adhere to best practices which eventually lead to better end-to-end performance at run time. The use cases discussed here are based on the experience for large production implementations and proof of concept scenarios where implementing certain design changes helped improve the performance.

Use case 1: Using File as the Input Type for Parse Data Activity

A customer in the banking domain observed that the time taken to parse records was increasing with every record. The process is shown in the following image:
The project is designed to parse data in an iterative manner from a file in the text format. This data is converted into a schema which is then evaluated against certain conditions, by the transitions. Based on specific values, the data is rendered in a particular format using the data conversion ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks plugin. This parsed data is written to files and then eventually updated to the database.

Initial analysis showed that the overall high latency was due to the Parse Data activity highlighted in the above image.

Further analysis revealed that the time taken to parse the records was high since the input type of the Parse Data activity was configured to string, as displayed in the image below. When the input type is set to string, the entire contents of the source are read. For accessing specific records the search operation is performed in such a way that the entire source file is scanned.

The other option to configure the input type is file. When the input type is file the data is read from the source by means of a pointer. While accessing a specific range of records the search is performed based on the position of the pointer which makes the operation faster.

**Testing and Measurement**

The testing was focused on the aspects listed below:

- Comparative tests were conducted with input type for the Parse Data activity configured to string and file. The tests were performed to parse records in multiple iterations.
- The latency, memory and CPU utilization was measured.
- The overall latency was reduced by almost 10 times when the input type for the Parse Data activity was set to file.

**Solution for performance improvement**

- It is recommended that for faster processing, use the input type as file.
- In case of both the options, the input for Parse Data activity is placed in a process variable and this consumes memory. Hence large memory will be required to read large number of records. To reduce memory usage, it is recommended that a small set of records are read, parsed and processed before moving on to the next set of records.

**Use case 2: Schema changes for improved performance**

In a customer project comprising of multiple schemas (more than 50), it was observed that the latency for a single request-response was high, that is around few seconds.

The project mainly included multiple REST services as shown in the following image.

---

TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Performance Benchmarking and Tuning Guide
Some of the schemas in the project are shown in the following image.

Analysis confirmed that the schema operations were heavy with the current design implementation which contributed to the high latency.

**Testing and Measurement**

The testing was focused on the aspects listed below:

- With the default settings, a test was run for a single request and the total latency was measured from the logs.
- Few changes were made in the schema definition where the `include` tags were replaced with `import`, and the test was repeated and time was measured. For details refer to, [Performance Improvement Use Case - Schema changes for better performance](#).

**Solution for performance improvement**

- If the schemas in the project consist of `include`, these can be replaced with `imports` as shown in the example in the section, [Performance Improvement Use Case - Schema changes for better performance](#). This reduces the time considerably.
- This design implementation reduced the latency by almost 95%.

**Usecase 3: Using XSD Schema Type for the Parse JSON activity**

In a customer usecase slow performance was observed in terms of latency, when the schema type for the Parse JSON activity was configured to XSD type as compared to Generic type. A comparison was done between the XSD and Generic type of schema for the Parse JSON activity.

The process is shown in the following image:
In this process, a JSON file consisting of multiple records or elements is read by the Read File activity, parsed by the Parse JSON activity in multiple iterations and then converted to XML.

The schema type for the Parse JSON activity can be configured to either XSD or Generic as shown in the following image:

The Generic type converts a JSON string to an XML string without using any schema for conversion. The XSD type converts a JSON string to an XML document defined using a schema specified in the Output Editor. The user may want to use the Generic type a specific schema is not required for conversion or the XSD type can be used when conversion needs to be done based on a particular schema.

Testing and Measurement

The testing was focused on the aspects listed below:

- With schema type as XSD, tests were run to process the records from the file and the total time was measured for the end to end process to complete.
- With schema type as Generic, tests were run to process the records from the file and the total time was measured for the end to end process to complete.

Solution for performance improvement

- It was observed that with the schema type configured to Generic the time taken is 50% less than the time taken when the schema type is configured to XSD. Hence it is recommended that user configures the schema type to Generic for better performance.

Use case 4: Disintegrating dependent services from the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks service

A customer use case was designed such that the dependent services were integrated into the same project and multiple service calls were present in a single ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks application. The following image shows one of the processes where there are multiple sub process calls.
Each of these sub processes eventually calls the dependent services in the form of REST API or HTTP calls. For the given SLAs, the overall performance of the application was extremely low. Test results and analysis showed this was due to the way the application was designed. The dependent services were integrated with the actual ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks services in the same application and the application was deployed on a single AppNode. Hence, the AppNode resources in terms of CPU, memory and threads were shared between the dependent services and actual ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks service.
Testing and Measurement

The testing was focused on the aspects listed below:

- Load tests were run with increasing concurrency and default thread settings.
- To understand the scalability of the project, the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks engine threads and HTTP connector threads were tuned and the tests were repeated.

Solution for performance improvement

- The dependent services were created as separate applications. The actual ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks service and dependent services were deployed on separate AppNodes on separate machines. The test results showed improvement in performance with these design changes.
- In order that the actual ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks services have complete resource availability, it is recommended that the dependent services are separated from the actual services and deployed on separate AppNodes. The design changes should be validated and implemented if necessary, whenever resource sharing seems to be an issue between the services.

Additionally, there are two cases that need to be considered when designing the application. One is when the dependent and actual services are part of the same application module and the second is when the dependent services are designed as a shared module.

1. Same application module: If both the services are part of the same application module they need to be created as separate processes and both the processes should be deployed on separate AppNodes. This can be achieved in the following way:

   Consider an application module that comprises of two processes P1 and P2. P1 is the main service and P2 is the dependent service. One way of deployment is by creating two AppSpaces with one AppNode in each of the AppSpaces. The application can be deployed in both the AppSpaces. The user can then keep component P1 running in AppSpace 1 and stop P2. In AppSpace 2 the user can stop P1 and keep P2 running. P1 in AppSpace 1 and P2 in appspace 2 can communicate with each other.

   In this way the separate resources will be available for both the processes. It is also recommended to ensure that the thread pools are not shared by the activities across the processes.

   It is recommended that this approach is tested and validated before deployment.

2. Shared module: If the dependent services are part of a shared module they get bundled into the EAR of the main service. Hence, in this case separation of services cannot be achieved.

Performance Improvement Use Cases - Run Time

To achieve best results, ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™, as any other Enterprise-grade product requires tuning along with performance and load testing. The use cases discussed below are based on the tuning experience for large production implementations and proof of concept scenarios.

Throughput Improvement for SOAP and REST Services

Use Case 1: The focus of the project was related to scalability and maximizing throughput for a given workload for SOAP and REST services deployed on a single AppNode.

See Performance Improvement Use Case 1 for scenario details.

The was achieved by tuning certain ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ parameters. These tests were conducted on Amazon EC2 servers with the following configuration:
8 vCPUs - Intel Xeon E5-2680 v2 @ 2.80 GHz (25 MB Cache)

**Testing and Measurement** : The testing was focused on the aspects listed below:

- Tests were conducted with the default engine and other parameters for a given workload.
- Throughput, that is transactions per second, latency and CPU utilization was measured.

**Solution For Performance Improvement** : The solution for scaling the engine was as follows:

- Tuned the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ engine thread count. Initially tested with default eight engine threads and then doubled the threads depending on the CPU utilization.
- Tuned the HTTP Client max total connections and max connections/host depending on the calls to the external services deployed and the engine thread value.
- Tuned the HTTP Client thread pool depending on the calls to external services deployed and the HTTP Client max total connections value.

**Results**

An increase in throughput (tps) and reduction in latency was achieved by following a step by step tuning approach as illustrated in the graphs below. The first graph illustrates the performance achieved by tuning the engine threads alone.

The second graph shows further improvement in performance after tuning the HTTP Client connections and threads.

The numbers represented in the graphs are based on tests conducted in the performance lab for TIBCO Activematrix BusinessWorks™ 6.3.0. Results may vary according to the components installed, the workload, the type and complexity of different scenarios, hardware, software configuration, and so on. They can be reproduced only under the exact environment and workload conditions that existed when these tests were performed.
Throughput and Scalability Improvement for SOAP and SOAP with SSL Services

Use Case 2: Given an ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ project, which comprises mainly of SOAP services, the aim was to benchmark and achieve improvement in terms of throughput, and scalability with maximum resource utilization.

See Performance Improvement Use Case 2 for scenario details. and Hardware Configuration for hardware details.

Testing and Measurement: The testing was focused on the aspects listed below:

- The benchmarking process focuses on maximizing CPU and memory utilization. Benchmarking included executing load tests for a given workload.
- Total end-to-end business process completed per second was calculated.

Solution for Performance Improvement

- The event statistics or application metrics feature is known to add some overhead in terms of performance, hence the event statistics were disabled which improved the performance by roughly 30% to 40%. See Application Statistics for more details.
## Hardware Configuration

The following hardware configuration were used for tests conducted in the performance lab to establish benchmark results.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Machine 1 (BW AppNode)</th>
<th>Machine 2 (Load Generator)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Server Class</td>
<td>Proliant HP BL460c G1 (C-Class)</td>
<td>Proliant HP BL460c G1 (C-Class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chip Vendor</td>
<td>Intel</td>
<td>Intel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPU Model</td>
<td>Intel XEON</td>
<td>Intel XEON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number Of Processors</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cores Per Processor</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threads Per Processor</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clock</td>
<td>1.6 GHz</td>
<td>1.6 GHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memory</td>
<td>32 GB</td>
<td>64 GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OS</td>
<td>Linux 6.2 (Santiago)</td>
<td>Linux 6.2 (Santiago)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L2 Cache</td>
<td>1333 MHz</td>
<td>1333 MHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network</td>
<td>Gigabit</td>
<td>Gigabit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix: A

This section describes the scenarios that were tested for performance and have been illustrated in the sections, *ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks Transport and Resource Tuning Guidelines* and *Performance Improvement Use Cases*.

**HTTP Receiver and HTTP Response**

The project configuration for the HTTP Receiver and HTTP Response is shown in the image below.

![HTTP Receiver and HTTP Response Diagram](image-url)

**SOAP Service**

The project configuration for SOAP(HTTP) service is shown in the image below.

![SOAP Service Diagram](image-url)

**HTTP with SSL Configuration [HTTPS]**

The project configuration for the HTTP Server is shown in the image below.

![HTTP with SSL Configuration Diagram](image-url)

The HTTP server is configured with SSL as shown in the image below.
SOAP HTTP with SSL Configuration [HTTPS]

The project configuration for the SOAP(HTTPS) service is shown in the image below.

The SOAP(HTTP) service is configured with SSL as shown in the image below.
Performance Improvement Use Case 1

One of the processes from Use Case 1 is shown in the image below. The complete scenario comprises of multiple processes, and each process has a combination of SOAP and REST services deployed on a single AppNode. The image below explains one of the process.

Performance Improvement Use Case 2

SOAP(HTTPS) services in Use Case 2 are configured as shown in the images below.

Performance Improvement Use Case 2 - Schema changes for better performance

The modified elements are highlighted below. The `include` tags were replaced with `import` namespace in the schema definition.

Original Schema
```xml
<schema xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
    xmlns:tns="http://carrefour.it/mdg/schemas/xsd" elementFormDefault="qualified"
    targetNamespace="http://carrefour.it/mdg/schemas/xsd">
    <include schemaLocation="InfoLog.xsd"/>
    <include schemaLocation="Context.xsd"/>
```

TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Performance Benchmarking and Tuning Guide
Modified Schema

```xml
<schema xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
  elementFormDefault="qualified" targetNamespace="http://carrefour.it3/mdg/schemas/xsd">
  <import namespace="http://carrefour.it/mdg/schemas/xsd" schemaLocation="Infolog.xsd"/>
  <import namespace="http://carrefour.it/mdg/schemas/xsd" schemaLocation="Context.xsd"/>
  <import namespace="http://carrefour.it/mdg/schemas/xsd" schemaLocation="Pagination.xsd"/>
  <import namespace="http://carrefour.it/mdg/schemas/xsd" schemaLocation="Pos.xsd"/>
  <import namespace="http://carrefour.it/mdg/schemas/xsd" schemaLocation="Response.xsd"/>
</schema>
```
References

- https://wiki.eclipse.org/Jetty/Howto/High_Load