Enterprise Observability with Application Performance Monitoring Tools, OpenTelemetry and RTMC

Education Session

Josh Wisniewski

2025 TPF Users Group Conference May 4-7, Austin, TX

IBM Z



The <u>no</u> disclaimer slide

- Notice that there is no disclaimer slide!
- Everything demonstrated in this presentation is available today!

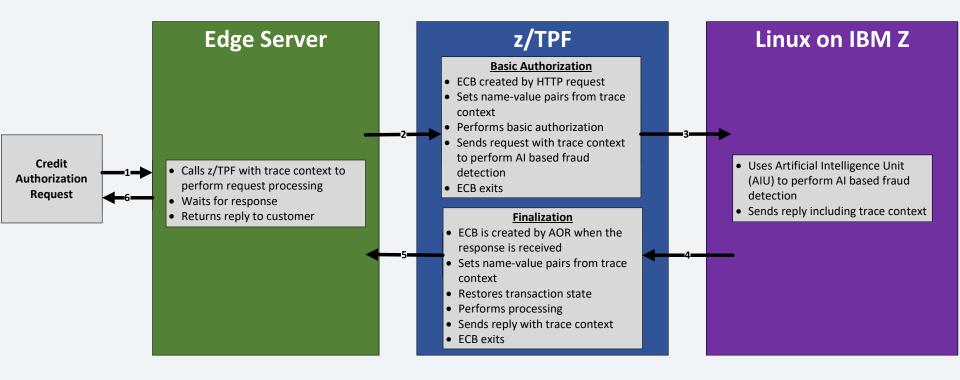


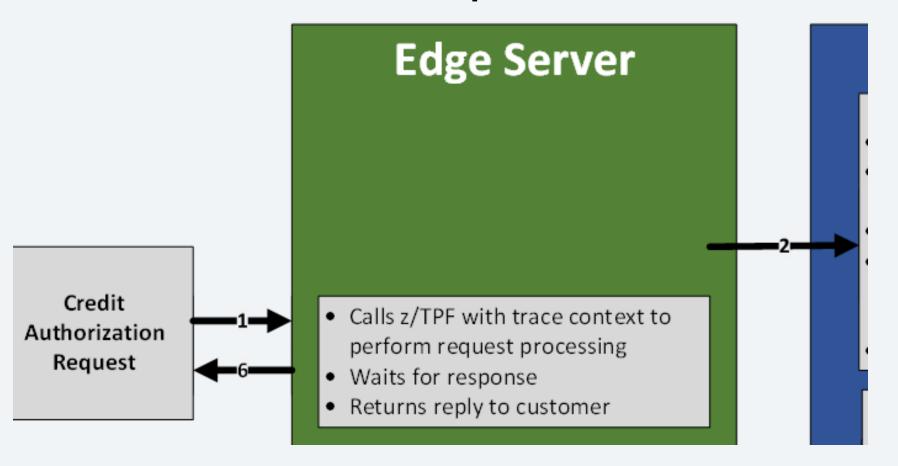
Credit authorization scenarios

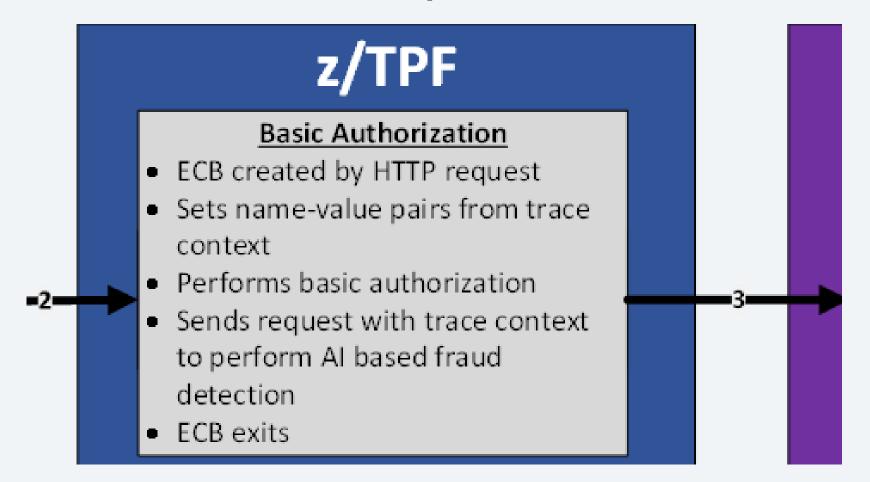
Enterprise architecture overview

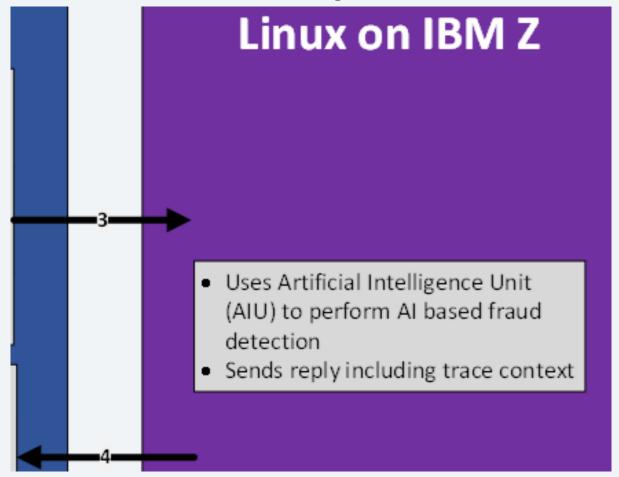
Screen shot: Enterprise architecture

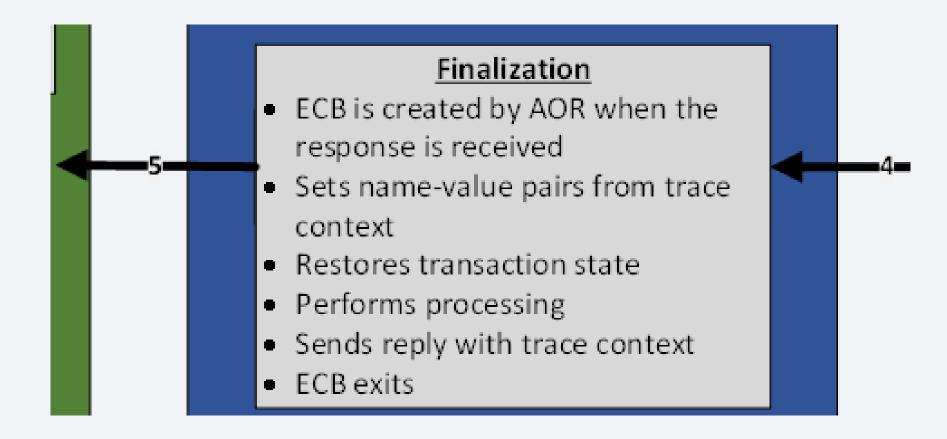
Story: First let's walk through our sample enterprise architecture that is used when processing credit authorization requests.

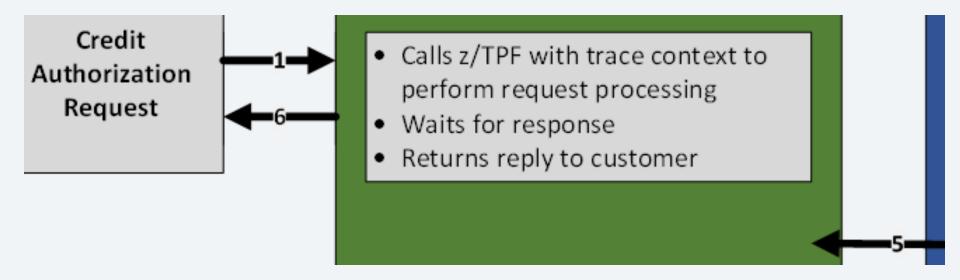












Site reliability engineer

Site reliability engineer

• Transaction processing typically involves multiple systems across your enterprise.



- The site reliability engineer (SRE) monitors the processing of requests across the entire enterprise.
- They don't need to be experts in every system involved.
- Instead, each system can be treated as a black box that provides key metrics such as message rate, response time, and error rates.
- With z/TPF support for OpenTelemetry, z/TPF looks like any other system in your enterprise to the SRE.



Sarah site reliability engineer

Site reliability engineer

- The SRE uses application performance monitoring (APM tools, which provide **enterprise-wide observability**.
- With z/TPF support for OpenTelemetry, APM tools can receive metric and trace data from z/TPF through runtime metrics collection (RTMC).
- We're using IBM Instana in this demo, but z/TPF support for OpenTelemetry works with **any APM tool**.
- Your APM tool can identify deviations from normal and send you intelligent alerts, so you know **where to start** your investigation without involving every silo in your enterprise.



Sarah site reliability engineer

Application performance monitoring tools

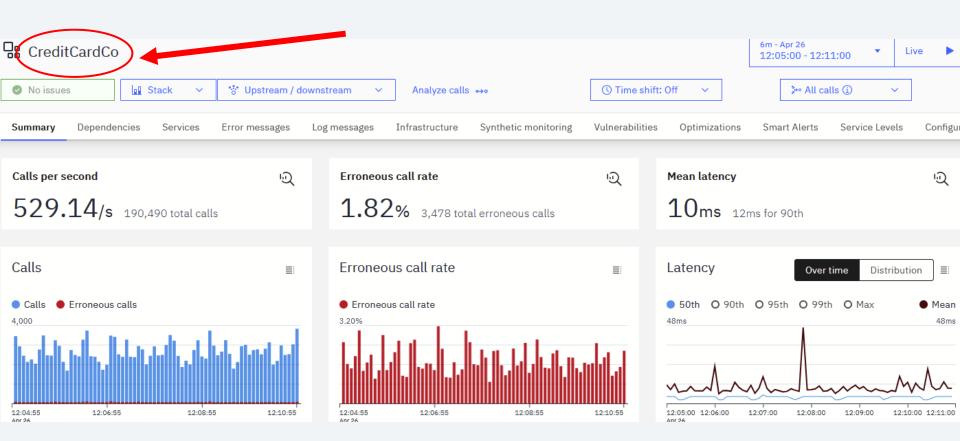
Credit authorizations – business as usual

Screen shot: Instana: Enterprise View – All Services

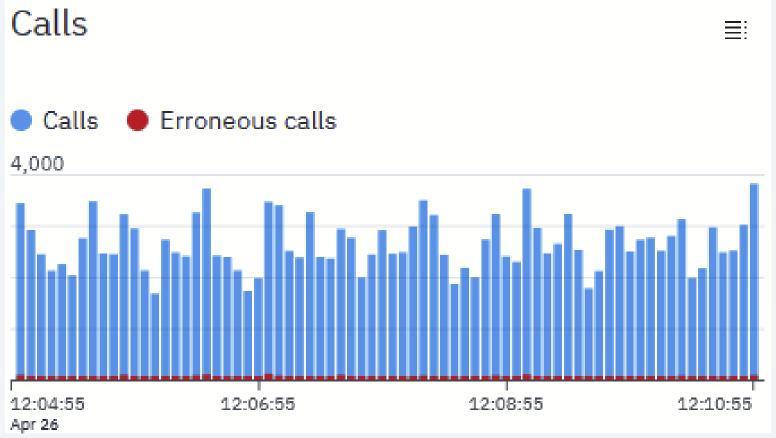
Capabilities: This dashboard shows us the workload across the entire enterprise. It incorporates incident reports over time. It shows the number of calls per second, the error rates and latency over time.

Business value: APM tools retain, display and can analyze historical data and call out incidents, trends and change points for your enterprise.

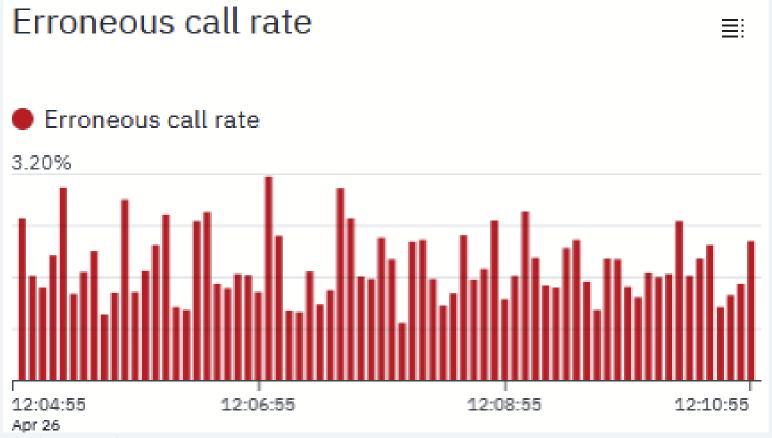
Instana: Enterprise-wide view



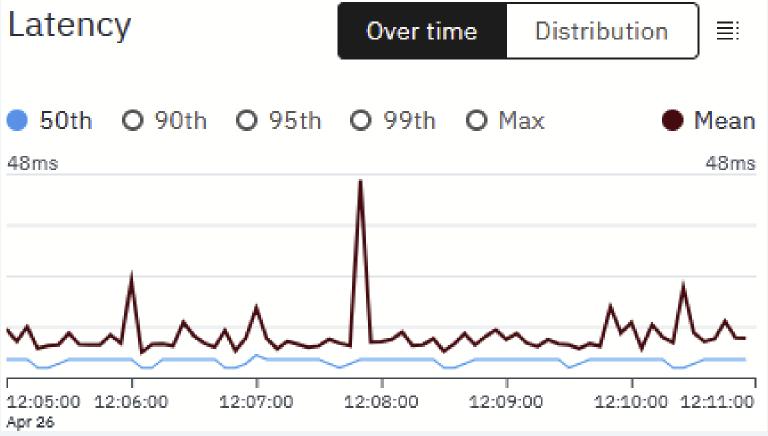
Instana: Enterprise-wide view Calls graph



Instana: Enterprise-wide view Erroneous call rate graph



Instana: Enterprise-wide view Latency graph



Screen shot: Instana: System and user-defined metrics

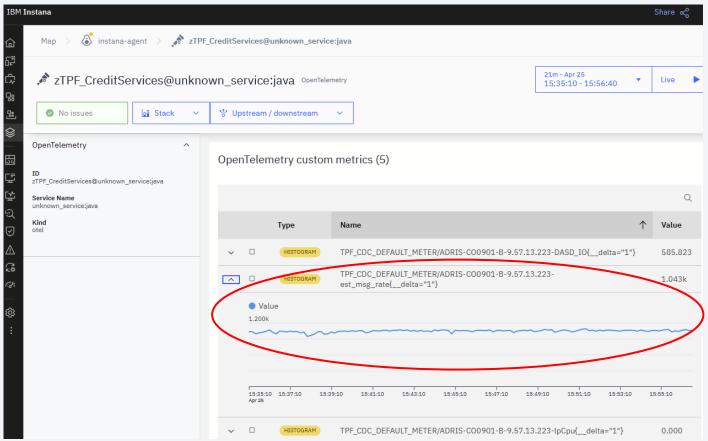
Capabilities: Moving from the enterprise-wide views, we can drill down on a specific system, z/TPF in this case.

APM tools can show you key system level metrics to understand the health of your z/TPF system overall. These are our continuous data collection (CDC) metrics. The tpfrtmc OpenTelemetry forwarder by default sends processor utilization, low priority CPU utilization, workload/transactional CPU utilization, DASD I/O rates and estimated message rate which is based upon the name-value pair samples collected.

You can modify the tpfrtmc OpenTelemetry forwarder user exit to send your system, application and business user-defined metrics. You can integrate metrics specific to the health of your business into your APM tool monitoring and analysis.

Business value: APM tools can collect, display and analyze system level metrics including your system, application and business user-defined metrics.

Instana: z/TPF system metrics <u>Estimated message rate constant at 1000 messages per second</u>



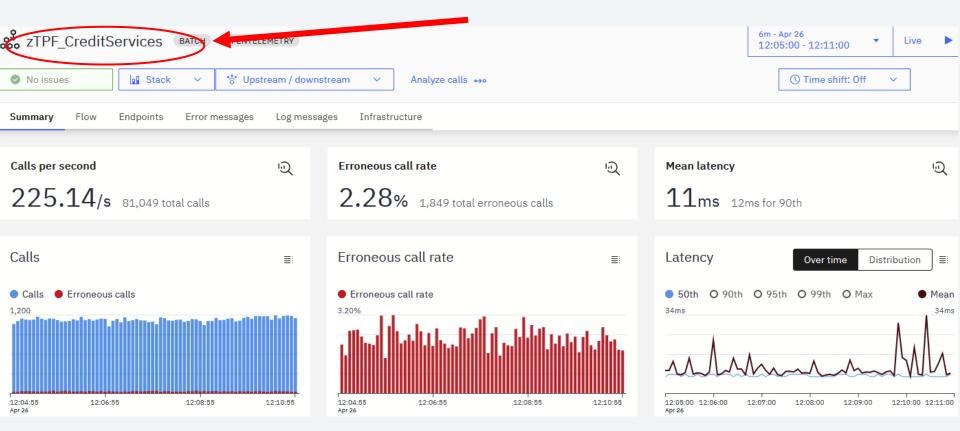
Screen shot: Instana: Service Dashboard – z/TPF

Capabilities: This dashboard shows us the workload of the TPF system from a name-value pair collection point of view. It shows history of our name-value pair sample rate, error rates for those samples and the response time (latency) of those samples.

Note that **none** of the Instana features shown have been customized for z/TPF. All of the features I'm showing are available out of the box for all systems.

Business value: APM tools retain, display and can analyze historical data and call out trends and change points.

Instana: z/TPF system view



Screen shot: Instana: Analyze Calls – Graphs

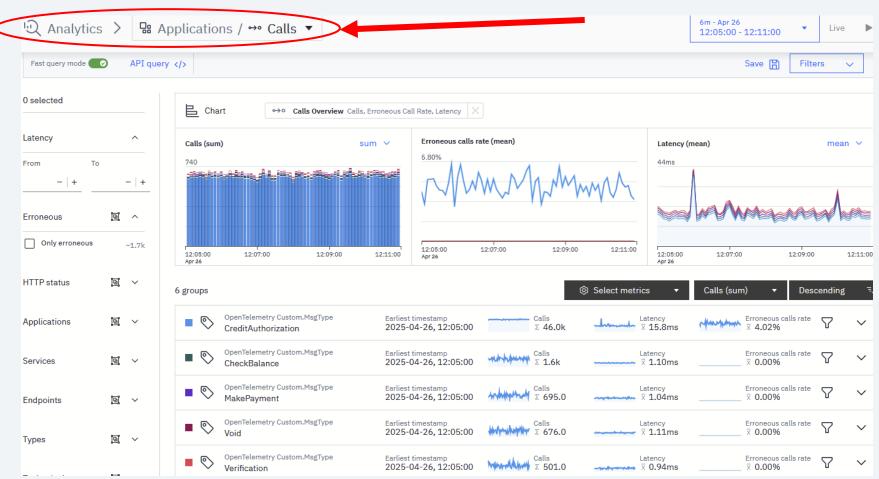
Capabilities: The analyze calls dashboard allows us to dig into the trace data. The trace data is sourced from our name-value pair collection results. Your name-value pairs can be included as attributes in the trace data.

It starts at the top with a very familiar summary layout. We can see our workload broken down by message type in terms of sample rate, error rates, and response (latency time) in the summary at the top of this dashboard.

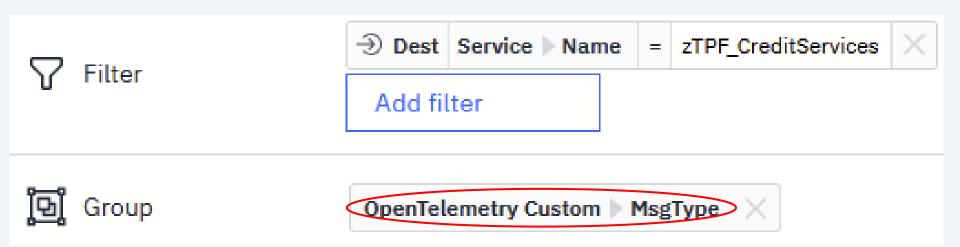
As you dig into the calls, you can filter or group by name-value pair values. The SRE does not need to know the details of your name-value pairs. They can just think of them as transaction annotations or descriptors. In this example, we're grouping by the MsgType name-value pair.

Business value: APM tools can show you sample rates, error rates, and response time by the type of messages processed by your system.

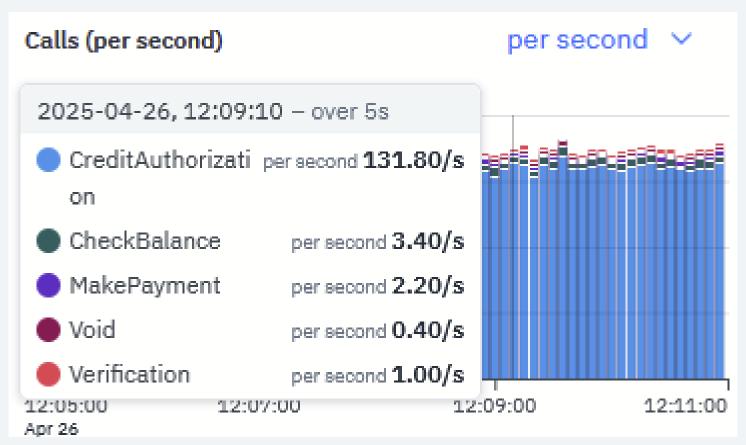
Instana: z/TPF analyze calls



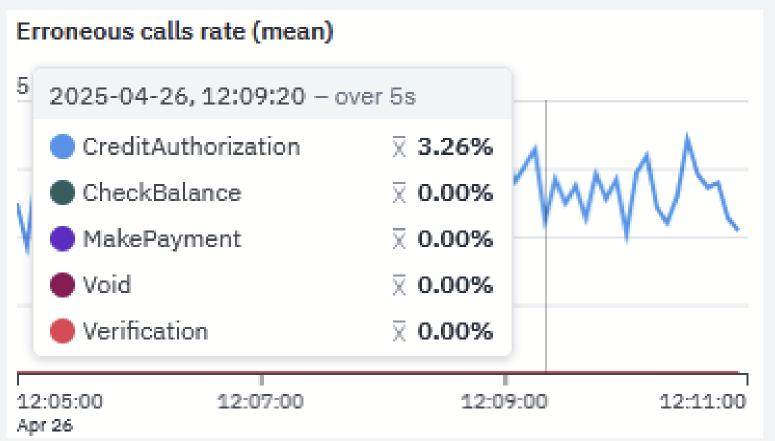
Instana: z/TPF analyze calls Grouped by MsgType



Instana: z/TPF analyze calls Call graph grouped by MsgType



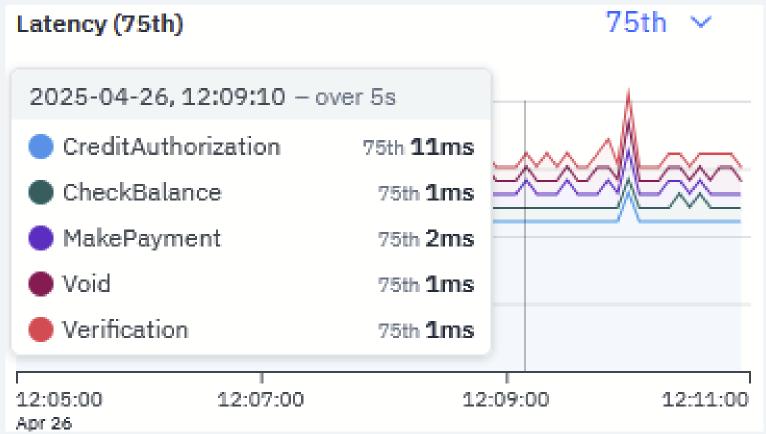
Instana: z/TPF analyze calls Erroneous calls rate graph grouped by MsgType



Screen shot: Instana: Analyze Calls – Graphs – Latency

Capabilities: This graph shows the latency for the 75th percentile for all traffic in z/TPF. This means that 75% or the majority of all traffic is completing in 11 milliseconds or less.

Instana: z/TPF analyze calls Latency graph grouped by MsgType



Screen shot: Instana: Analyze Calls – List of sample credit authorizations

Capabilities: Your APM tool provides lists of different types of sampled messages with various details like without errors (green check) and with errors (red exclamation) along with their response time (latency). This is another way that we can compare different groupings of messages.

In this view, we can select individual messages to see the details.

Business value: APM tools provide lists of the sampled messages so you can compare and investigate messages of interest.

Instana: z/TPF analyze calls list Filtering on credit authorization messages

■ Ø	Endpoint.Name MsgType-CreditAuthorizatio	Earliest timestamp 2025-04-25, 15:44:00	Calls Σ 92.5k	Latency X 12.2ms	the officers of
Status	c Call	Service	Timestamp	↓ Latenc	cy ↑↓
•	→• MsgType-CreditAutl	h zTPF_CreditServic	es 2025-04-25, 15:	55:59 9ms	
•	→• MsgType-CreditAutl	h zTPF_CreditServic	es 2025-04-25, 15:	55:59 6ms	
9	→• MsgType-CreditAutl	h zTPF_CreditServic	es 2025-04-25, 15:	55:59 2ms	
•	→• MsgType-CreditAutl	h zTPF_CreditServic	es 2025-04-25, 15:	55:59 4ms	
0	→• MsgType-CreditAutl	h zTPF_CreditServic	es 2025-04-25, 15:	55:59 10ms	

Screen shot: Instana: Call Diagram – Successful message

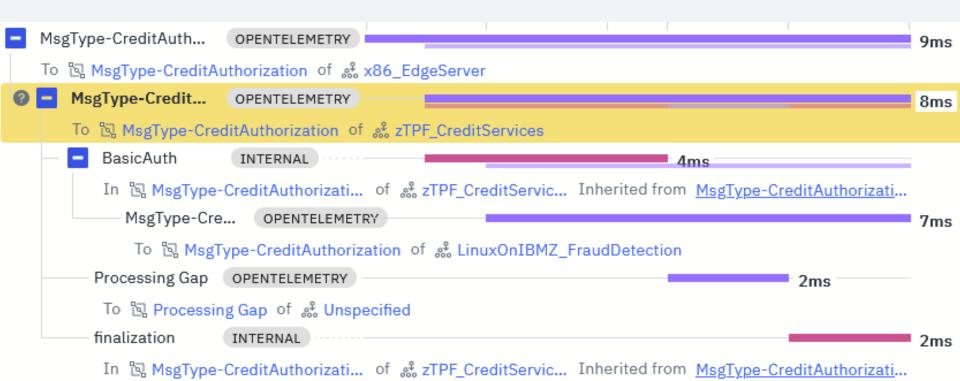
Capabilities: With your APM tool, you can inspect a sample message that is going through all of enterprise processing to understand the path.

The calls diagram pictorially shows the relationship between the calls between the systems and includes the two processes on z/TPF. On the top left, you can see the edge server starting the transaction and this process exists for the life of the transaction. Moving left to right in time, we can see a call was made to z/TPF to the basic authorization processing. Continuing left to right in time, there's a call from z/TPF to a Linux on IBM Z system to perform AI fraud detection. The basic authorization process exited. Continuing left to right in time, there's a call from AI fraud detection on Linux on IBM Z to the finalization processing on z/TPF by way of an AOR. The finalization processing replies to the edge server.

We can see our message being processed by 3 different platforms in our enterprise.

Business value: With your APM tools, you can inspect the processing of a message throughout your entire enterprise.

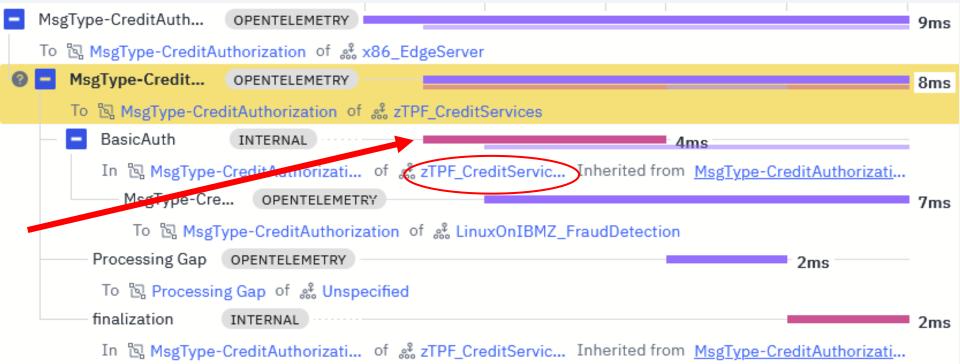
Instana: z/TPF analyze call details Credit authorization message ending in success



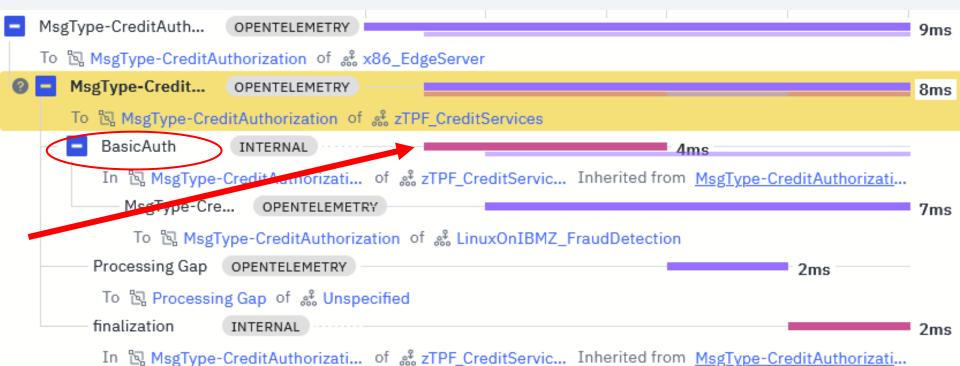
Instana: z/TPF analyze call details Credit authorization message ending in success <u>Transaction trace starts on edge server</u>



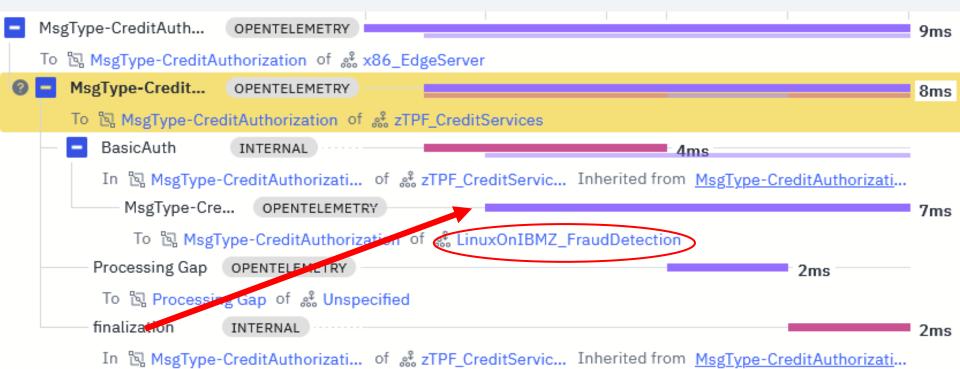
Instana: z/TPF analyze call details Credit authorization message ending in success Edge server calls z/TPF



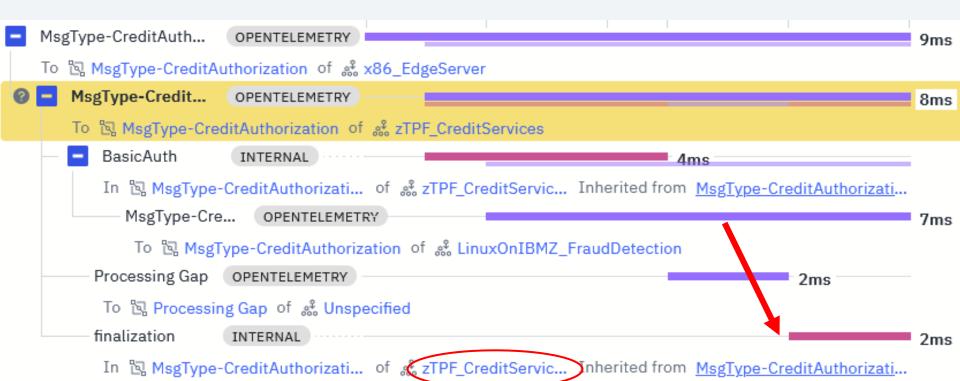
Instana: z/TPF analyze call details Credit authorization message ending in success z/TPF processing starts in basic authorization processing



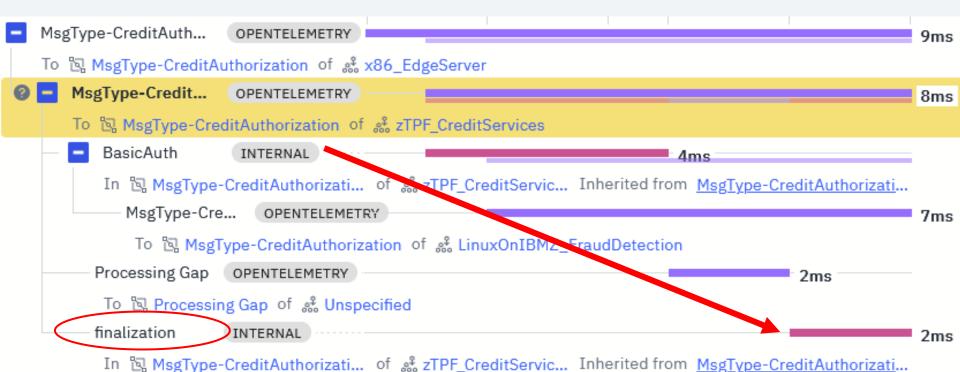
Instana: z/TPF analyze call details Credit authorization message ending in success z/TPF calls AI fraud detection on Linux on IBM Z



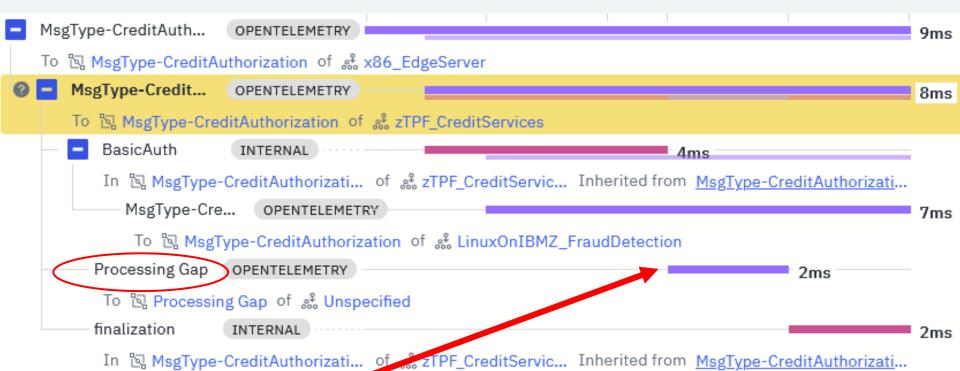
Instana: z/TPF analyze call details Credit authorization message ending in success Linux on IBM Z returns to z/TPF



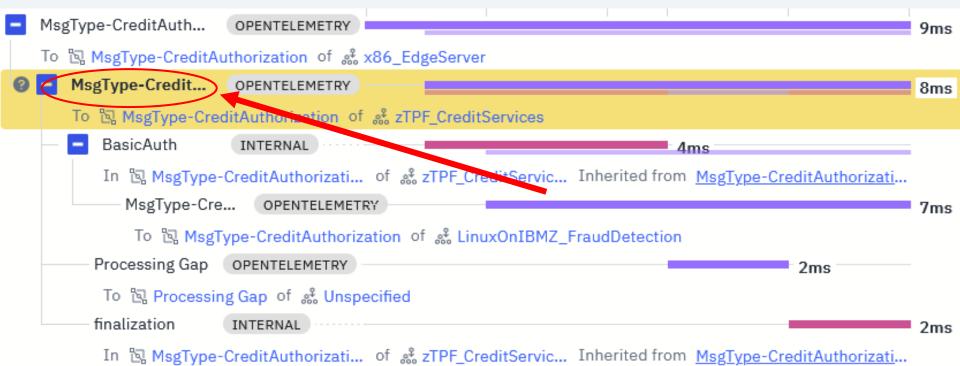
Instana: z/TPF analyze call details Credit authorization message ending in success z/TPF processing continues in finalization processing



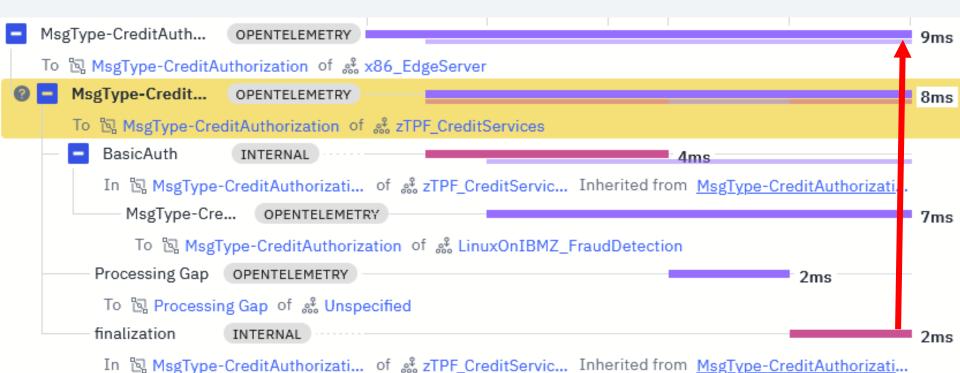
Instana: z/TPF analyze call details Credit authorization message ending in success z/TPF logs the time gap between the processing on z/TPF



Instana: z/TPF analyze call details Credit authorization message ending in success z/TPF provides summary of work done on z/TPF



Instana: z/TPF analyze call details Credit authorization message ending in success z/TPF returns to the edge server



Screen shot: Instana: Call Diagram – Successful message – Name-value pairs and metrics

Capabilities: In your APM tool, we can see the values for name-value pairs (like MsgType, Channel, and so on). If you implement the z/TPF OpenTelemetry name-value pair conventions, you can also see the return code, return code message, and ECB purpose to help you understand the processing.

You can also see key metrics like CPU used, existence time, and finds and files to DASD representing I/O operations.

You can modify which name-value pairs and metrics are included in the displays.

You can see these name-value pairs and metrics at the overall message level, which shows the summation of the metrics of the individual processing. Or you can see the name-value pairs and metrics for each individual process.

Business value: With your APM tools, you can inspect key metrics and details for each system where the message was processed.

Instana: z/TPF analyze call details Credit authorization message ending in success Name-value pairs and metrics

Se	rvice zTPF	_CreditServices
Ор	eration Msg	Type-CreditAuthorization
	Tags	
	MESSAGE_LIFETIME	8321
	TPF_OTEL_ecb_purpose	BasicAuth
	TPF_OTEL_rc	0X00000000
	IUOWID	0XC2C3D6F0F9F0F140
	FILE_DASD	0
	TPF_OTEL_rc_msg	SUCCESS

Application performance monitor tooling – Story 1

Over the credit limit errors

Screen shot: Instana: Alert

Story: First, we'll play the role of a site reliability engineer (SRE) in this error scenario. We will debug this together and I'll show you various features that are <u>available today</u>.

We received an Alert. This could be an email, text, slack message, or whatever your APM tool supports. There's an issue in our <u>enterprise</u>. Remember, the SRE is not a z/TPF expert.

This alert shows that the credit authorization error rate has broken the 5% error rate threshold. Glancing at this, it looks like the increase in errors is originating on z/TPF and has something to do with over the credit limit errors.

Business value: APM tools can alert you to conditions in your enterprise and provide insights as to which system to investigate further, possibly allowing you to remediate issues before SLAs are impacted.

Instana: Alert!

EventId:

PDsh8nkDTuef2KgbmhA3Eg

Link:

https://instana.fake.com/#/events:eventID=PDsh8nkDTuef2KgbmhA3Eg&incidenteTo=16345989153

Incident started with:

Credit Authorization message error rate exceeds 5% threshold.

These violations are occurring continuously since 12:12:10 EST 4/26/2025.

SLAs may be violated within the next 10 minutes.

Detail:

The increase is Credit Authorization message error rate is originating on z/TPF.

Specifically, over the credit limit errors are occurring more frequently while other error types are occurring at a stable rate.

Severity: Critical



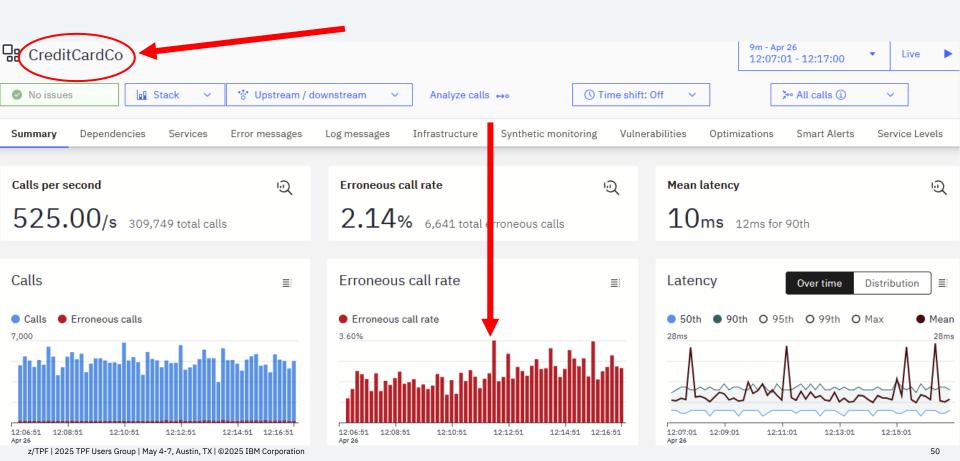
Sarah site reliability engineer

Screen shot: Instana: Enterprise View – All Services

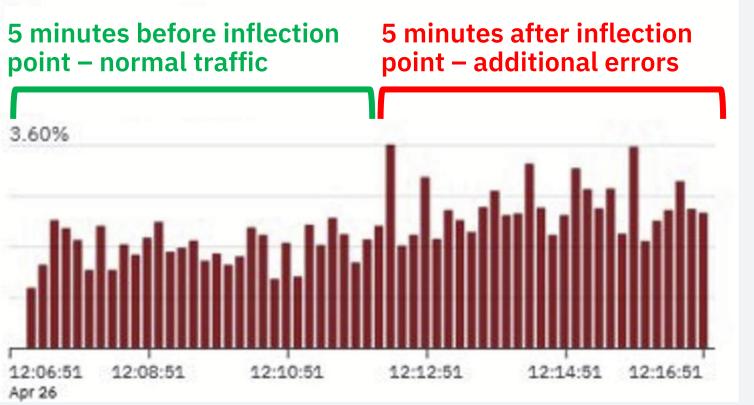
Story: As the SRE, we will first look at the health of the overall enterprise. In this case, our message rates are unchanged, latency is unchanged, and we're getting slightly more errors than usual, but it's actually a bit difficult to recognize. It's a good thing we got the alert. We'll keep moving.

Business value: APM tools retain, display, and can analyze historical data and call out trends and change points for your enterprise.

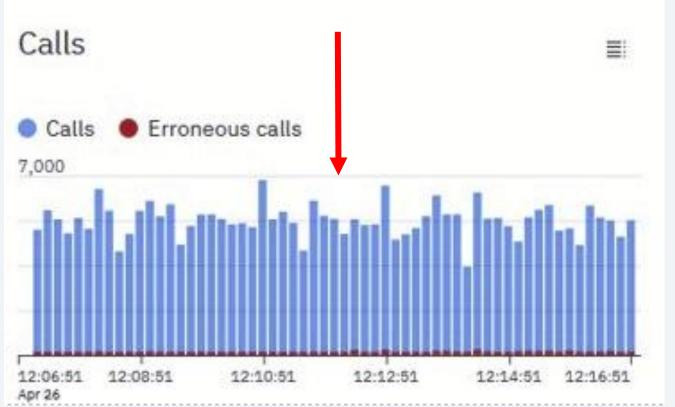
Instana: Enterprise-wide view <u>Slight increase in errors across all services in the enterprise</u>



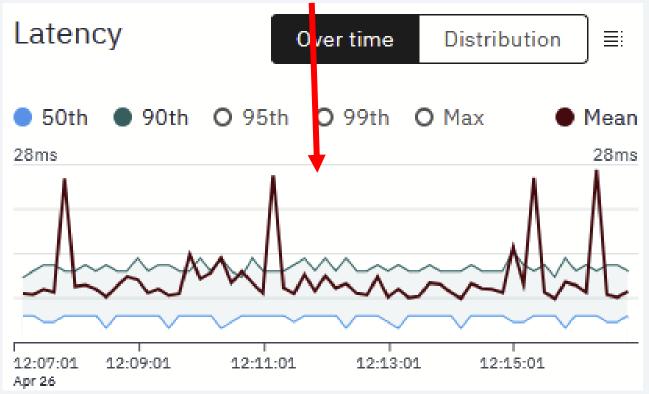
Instana: Enterprise-wide view Erroneous call rate graph shows a slight increase in errors Inflection point time known from the alert



Instana: Enterprise-wide view Calls graph shows no change in the message rate Inflection point time known from the alert



Instana: Enterprise-wide view <u>Latency graph shows no change in response time</u> <u>Inflection point time known from the alert</u>



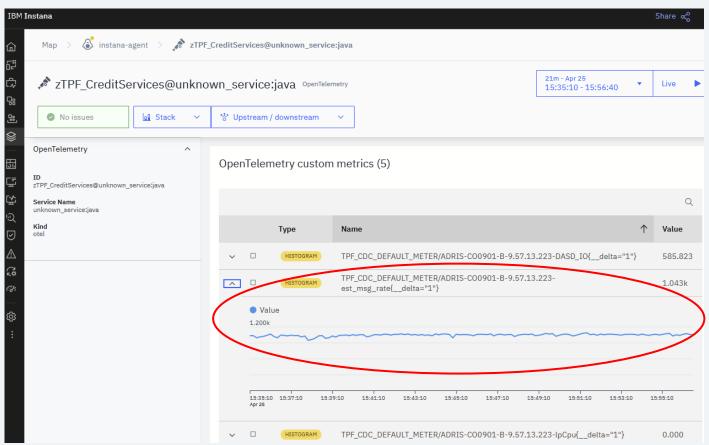
Screen shot: Instana: System and user-defined metrics

Story: As we saw in the normal case, we next drill down on the specific system mentioned in our alert, z/TPF in this scenario.

We can first look at key system level metrics to understand the health of the z/TPF system overall. Remember this includes the CDC system level metrics and your system, application, and business level user-defined metrics. Everything looks normal so we'll keep moving.

Business value: APM tools can collect, display, and analyze system level metrics including your system, application, and business user-defined metrics.

Instana: z/TPF system metrics <u>Estimated message rate constant at 1000 messages per second</u>

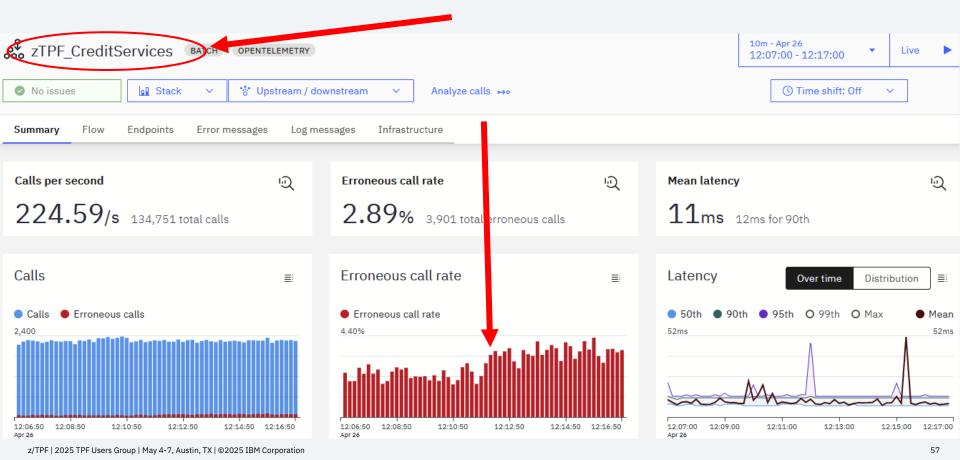


Screen shot: Instana: Service Dashboard – z/TPF

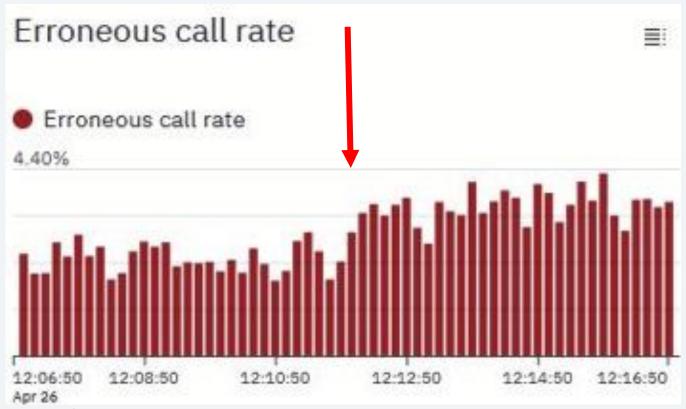
Story: As we did in the normal case, we look closer at the trace data on z/TPF. In this case, we can see the message rate for credit authorization is unchanged, the error rate increased 5 minutes ago, and the response time looks unchanged. The change in the error rate is a bit more obvious now that we've drilled down to just the z/TPF system. The timestamp in the alert also indicated when the increase in errors began. It looks like it was historically consistent but suddenly rose and has been consistently higher since.

Business value: APM tools retain, display and can analyze historical data and call out trends and change points.

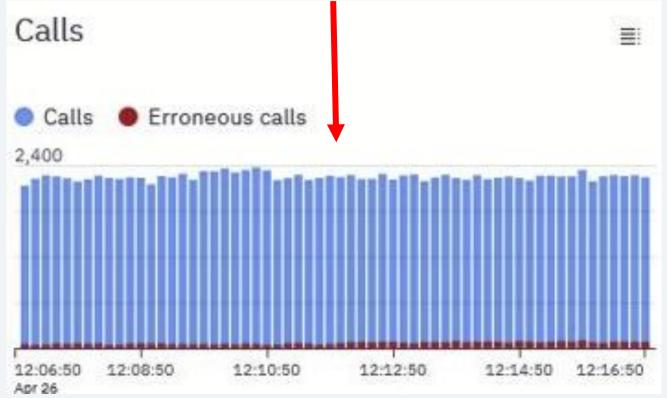
Instana: z/TPF system view Small increase in errors across all services in z/TPF



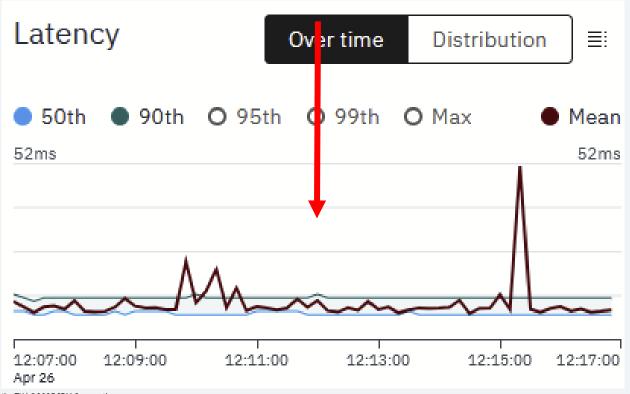
Instana: z/TPF system view <u>Erroneous call rate graph shows a small increase in errors</u> <u>Inflection point time known from the alert</u>



Instana: z/TPF system view Calls graph shows no change in the message rate Inflection point time known from the alert



Instana: z/TPF system view Latency graph shows no change in response time Inflection point time known from the alert



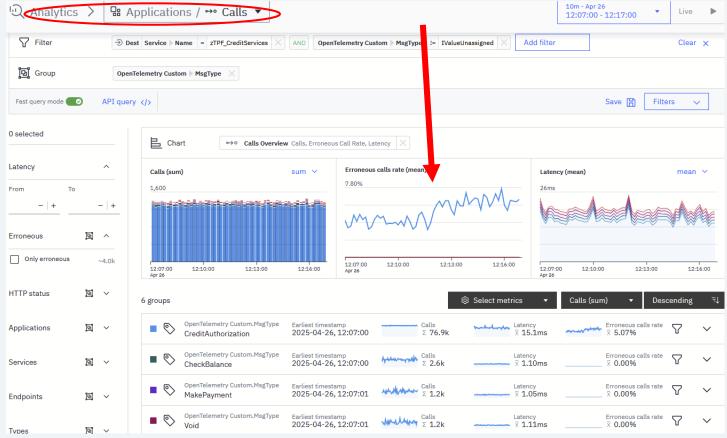
Screen shot: Instana: Analyze Calls – Graphs

Story: Next, we click on the analyze calls to investigate samples of our transactions at a deeper level. Here we can see the messages grouped by the name-value pair MsgType.

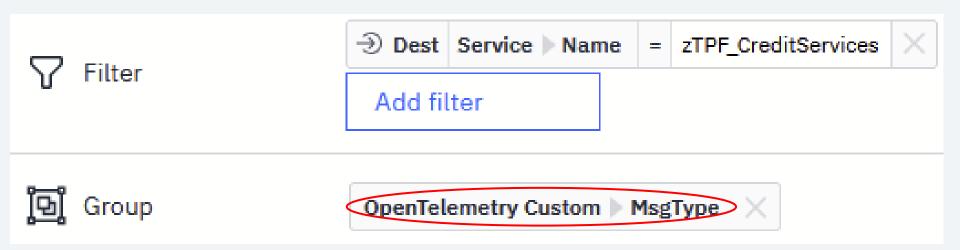
Looking at error rates history for the different message types, we can see that the error rates and response times for other message types are unchanged over the same time period. We now know this looks like a problem that is isolated to credit authorization requests.

Business value: APM tools can show you sample rates, error rates, and response time by the type of messages processed by your system.

Instana: z/TPF analyze calls Small increase in errors across all services in z/TPF

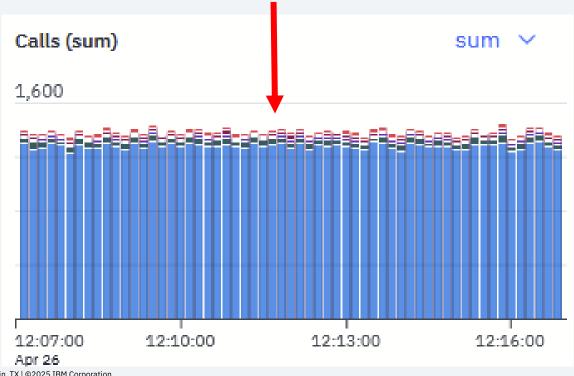


Instana: z/TPF analyze calls Grouped by MsgType



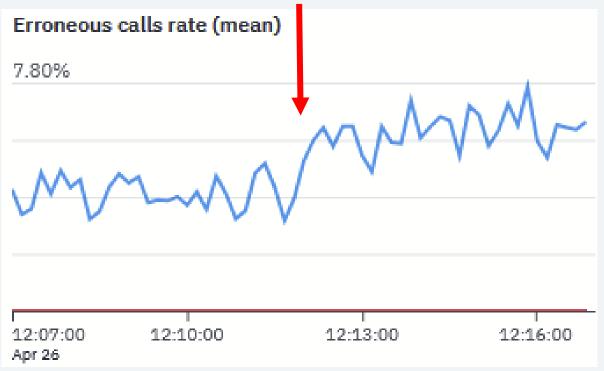
Instana: z/TPF analyze calls <u>Calls graph grouped by MsgType shows no change in the message rate</u>

Inflection point time known from the alert



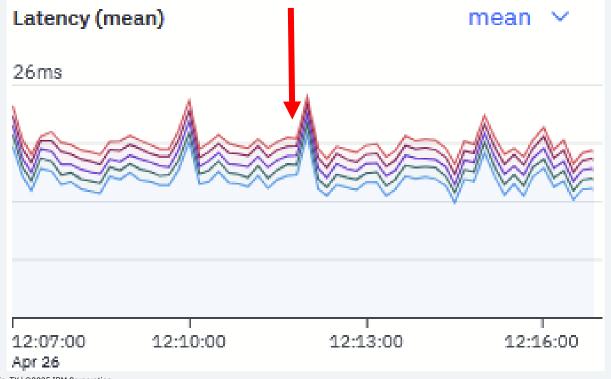
Instana: z/TPF analyze calls <u>Erroneous call rate graph grouped by MsgType shows a small increase in errors</u>

Inflection point time known from the alert

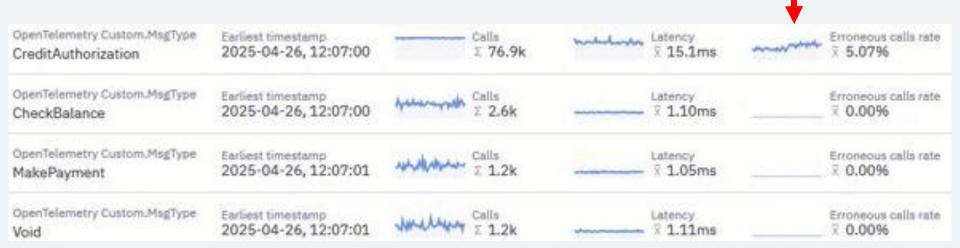


Instana: z/TPF analyze calls <u>Latency graph grouped by MsgType shows no change in response time</u>

<u>Inflection point time known from the alert</u>



Instana: z/TPF analyze calls <u>Error rate history by message type</u> <u>Credit authorization shows increase in error rate</u>

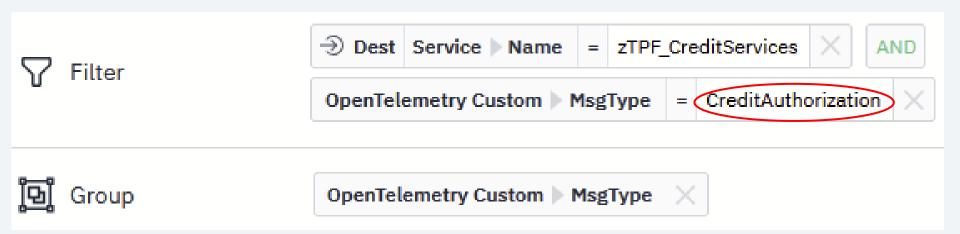


Screen shot: Instana: Analyze Calls – Graphs

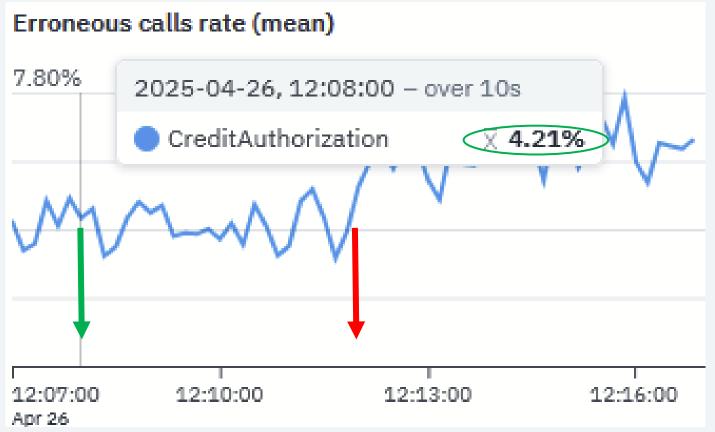
Story: The error rates are even more clear if we filter on credit authorization message type and look at the latency before and after the point of inflection.

Business value: APM tools can show you sample rates, error rates, and response time by the type of messages processed by your system.

Instana: z/TPF analyze calls Filter on credit authorization messages

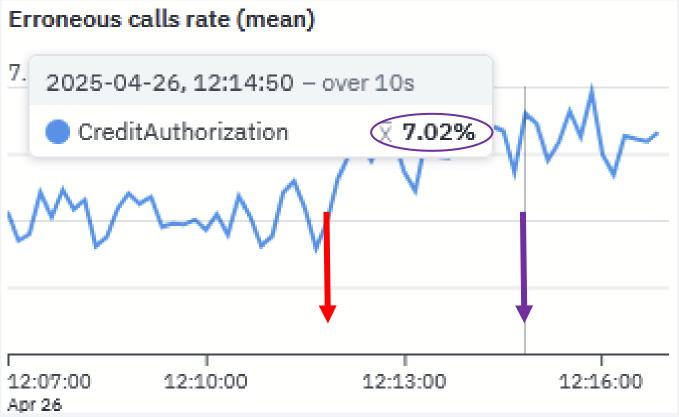


Instana: z/TPF analyze calls <u>Credit authorization error rate before the inflection point is 4.21%</u> <u>Inflection point time known from the alert</u>



Instana: z/TPF analyze calls

Credit authorization error rate after the inflection point is 7.02% Inflection point time known from the alert



Screen shot: Instana: Analyze Calls – Graphs – RC_msg breakdown

Capabilities: If you have other name-value pairs in place, you could do more filtering and peering through the data. Maybe it's credit authorizations through a particular channel or bank. Maybe it's credit authorizations of a particular type.

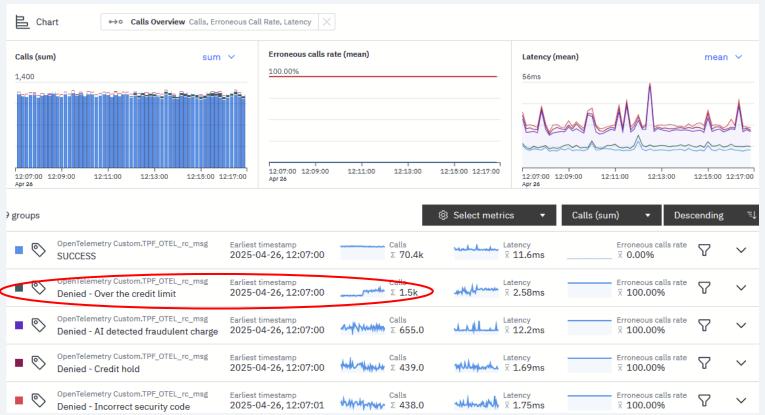
Story: In this scenario, we'll filter on credit authorization messages and group by the return code message. Did the change in the error rate occur for a particular return code that we should focus on?

We can see that the errors that changed are for RC_msg "Denied – Over the credit limit". This is a great insight that helps us to focus our search on code or aspects that affect over the credit limit processing.

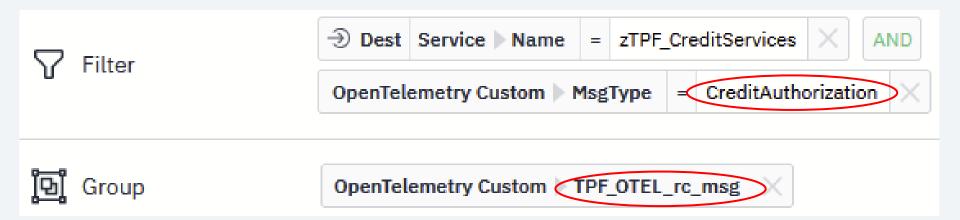
Business value: APM tools provide filter and breakdown by the name-value pairs you have implemented on your system views so you can glean insights into problematic messages.

Instana: z/TPF analyze calls

<u>Credit authorization messages grouped by return code message</u> Over the credit limit errors show a rise in the error rate

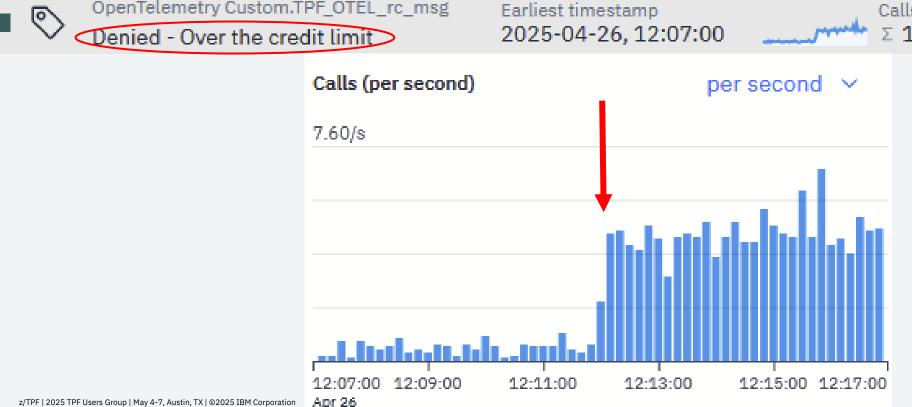


Instana: z/TPF analyze calls <u>Filter credit authorization messages and grouped by return</u> <u>code message</u>



Instana: z/TPF analyze calls

Group by return code message name-value pair Call graph shows increase in frequency of over the credit limit errors



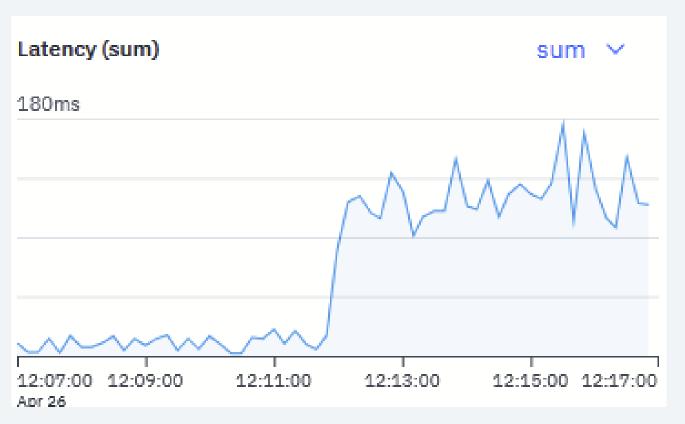
Screen shot: Instana: Analyze Calls – Graphs – Latency

Story: We know that the over the credit limit errors are occurring more frequently. But there are other insights here that we can identify. Notice that the latency for the over the credit limit are larger than errors that occur before the inflection point. This is an indicator that some additional processing is occurring.

Business value: APM tools provide filter and breakdown by the name-value pairs you have implemented on your system views so you can glean insights into problematic messages.

Instana: z/TPF analyze calls

Group by return code message name-value pair Latency graph shows increase in response time of over the credit limit errors



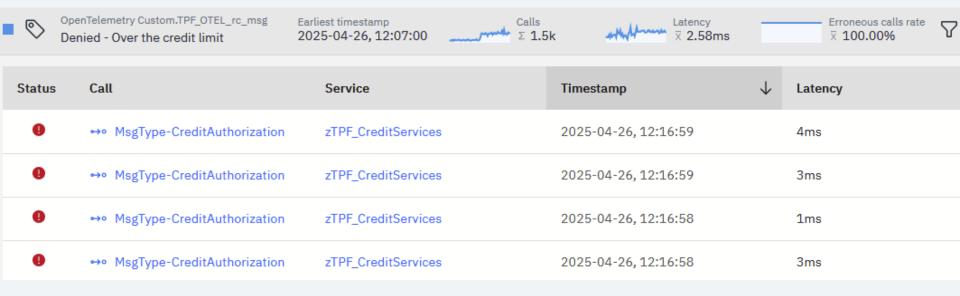
Screen shot: Instana: Analyze Calls – List of samples of messages with RC message over the credit limit

Story: As we saw before, with your APM tool you can see lists of different sampled messages.

In this case, we're looking at a list of samples that had the over the credit limit error. Before we look at one of these samples, let's quickly remind ourselves what a normal success message looks like to give ourselves context.

Business value: APM Tools provides lists of the sampled messages so you can compare and investigate messages of interest.

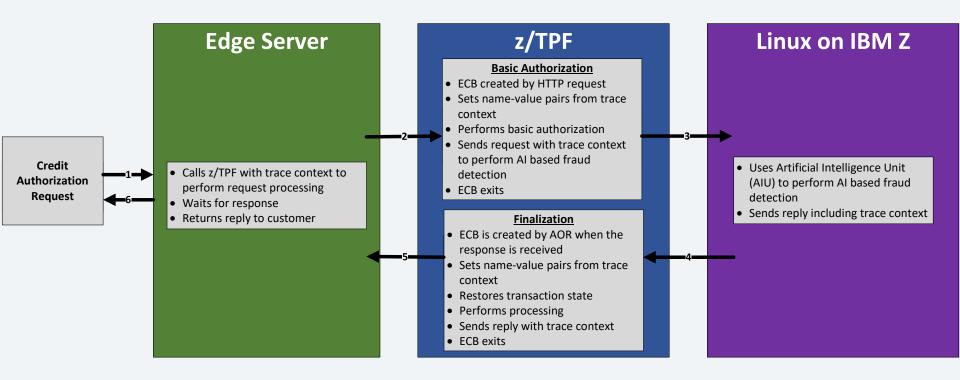
Instana: z/TPF analyze calls list Filtering on credit authorization messages ending in over the credit limit error



Screen shot: Enterprise Architecture Diagram

Story: Remember in our enterprise architecture that we have three different systems involved in processing our message. The edge server calls z/TPF to do basic authorization tasks. z/TPF calls Linux on IBM Z to do AI fraud detection. Linux on IBM Z calls back to z/TPF to perform finalization. And lastly finalization sends a reply to the edge server which returns the reply to the customer.

Credit authorization enterprise architecture



Screen shot: Instana – Call Diagram – Credit limit error

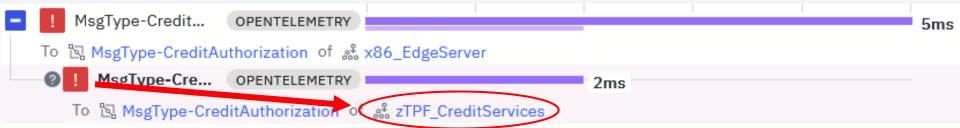
Story: Let's look at a request that is ending in over the credit limit error which has spiked.

Immediately, we can see all sorts of interesting insights.

- The error is originating in the basic authorization processing and propagating up to the edge server.
- Fraud detection on Linux on IBM Z and the finalization processing on z/TPF were never called.

Business value: With your APM tools, you can inspect how error paths across your enterprise deviate from normal processing.

Instana: z/TPF analyze call details Over the credit limit error originates on z/TPF



Instana: z/TPF analyze call details Over the credit limit error originates on z/TPF In the basic authorization processing



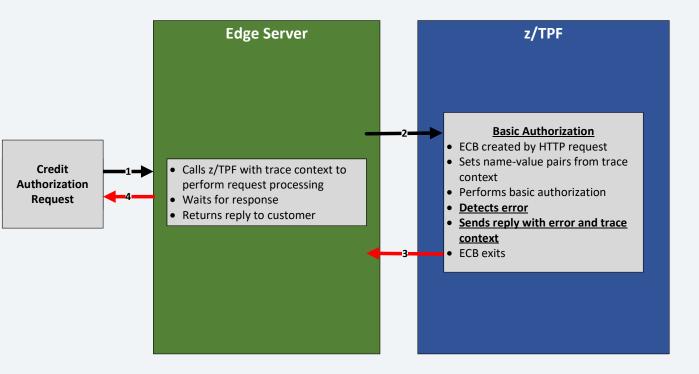
Instana: z/TPF analyze call details Over the credit limit error propagates to the edge server

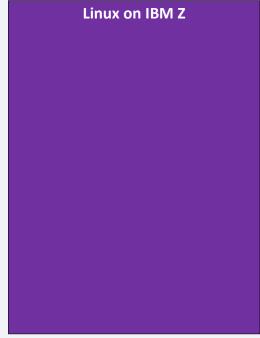


Screen shot: Enterprise Architecture

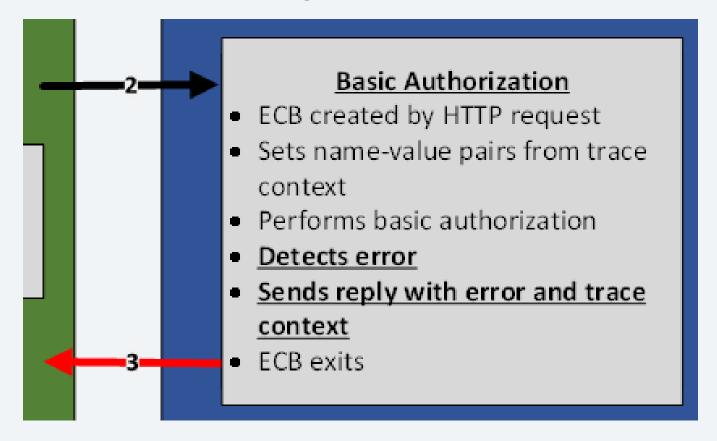
Story: We can quickly revisit our enterprise architecture diagram for this error case. This picture illustrates how the over the credit limit errors are originating from the basic authorization processing.

Credit authorization enterprise architecture Over the credit limit error path





Credit authorization enterprise architecture Over the credit limit error path



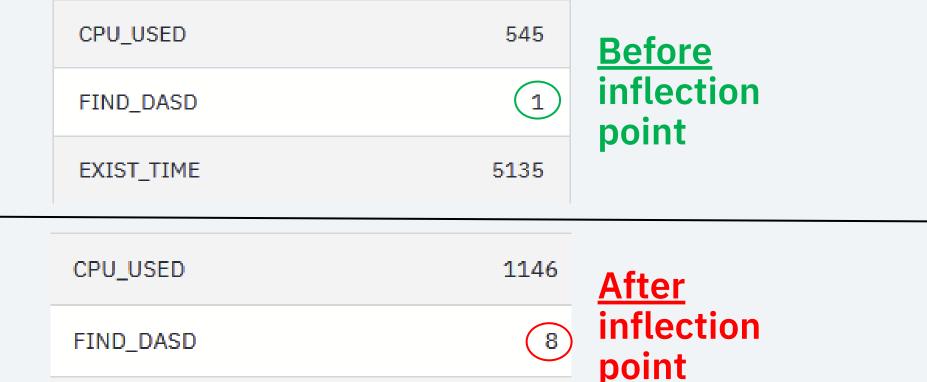
Screen shot: Instana: Call diagram – Credit limit error – Compare samples before and after

Capabilities: Your APM tool is continuously collecting samples. As such, you can do base line comparisons to the same situation before the inflection point.

Story: If we compare samples of over the credit limit errors before and after the inflection point, we can see that the samples after the inflection point are using more I/O. This might explain the increase in latency time we saw after our inflection point for credit authorization requests ending in over the credit limit errors.

Business value: With your APM tools, you can compare similar message processing paths.

Comparison of metrics between two sample credit authorization messages with over the credit limit error

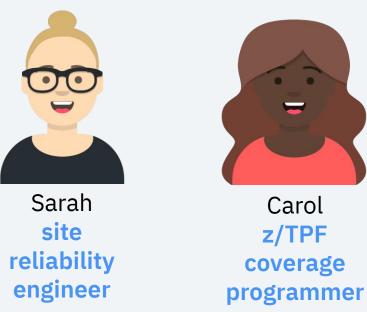


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EXIST TIME

From APM tool to RTMC

- The site reliability engineer needs help from a z/TPF expert to continue the investigation. (Or z/TPF coverage programmer switches from the APM tool to RTMC.)
- Notice that not every silo needed to be scrambled to investigate!
- Notice that our SRE did not have to be a z/TPF expert to make significant progress in the investigation!



From APM tool to RTMC

 The SRE provides the following information even though she has little knowledge of z/TPF or its processing!!!



Sarah
site
reliability
engineer

- The enterprise and z/TPF systems are healthy.
- Credit authorization requests are ending in more errors, specifically over the credit limit errors.
- These errors are originating on z/TPF with greater frequency than previously seen.
- The problem started 5 minutes ago.
- The problem is originating in the basic authorization processing, early in transaction processing.
- The over limit errors are using more I/O operations than it previously did.



Carol z/TPF coverage programmer

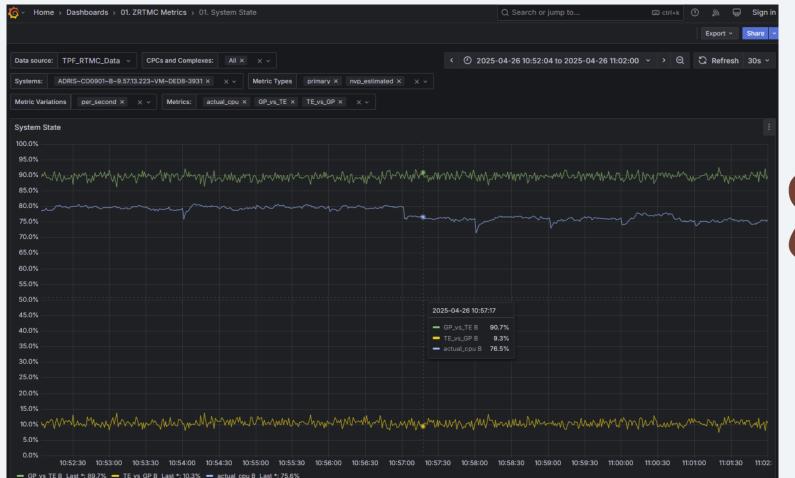
RTMC

Over the credit limit errors – Story 1 continued

Screen shot: RTMC: System State dashboard

Story: Now we'll play the role of the z/TPF coverage programmer and use RTMC to dig deeper into the problem. The SRE gave us a ton of information to focus our investigation. That said, we'll start by doing our due diligence.

RTMC: z/TPF insights for the coverage programmer





Carol z/TPF coverage programmer

Screen shot: RTMC: System State dashboard

Capabilities: The system state dashboard shows you key metrics as to the health of your system like CPU usage, system level transformation engine (TE) and general purpose (GP) usage, in use ECBs, in use IOBs, and more. It also includes name-value pair estimated metrics like overall estimated message rate, CPU consumed per message, existence time per message and more.

Like all RTMC dashboards, the per second metrics are summarized to the minute boundary and include configurable pruning.

Story: As our SRE already determined, the system state is largely unchanged. The overall z/TPF system is healthy. So, we'll move on the name-value pair dashboards.

Business value: The RTMC system state dashboard provides key metrics to help you understand the health of your system.

RTMC: System state dashboard Key system health metrics – nothing of interest

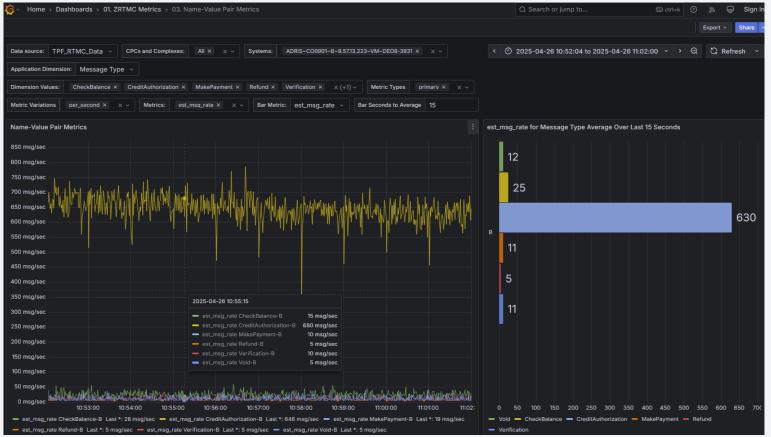


Screen shot: RTMC: Name-value pair metrics dashboard

Capabilities: With the name-value pair metrics dashboard, we can look at our messages, code packages and name-value pair combinations to understand how system resources are being used.

Business value: The RTMC name-value pair metrics dashboards provides resource usage metrics to help you understand your messages.

RTMC: Name-value pair metrics dashboard Shows message and code package metrics



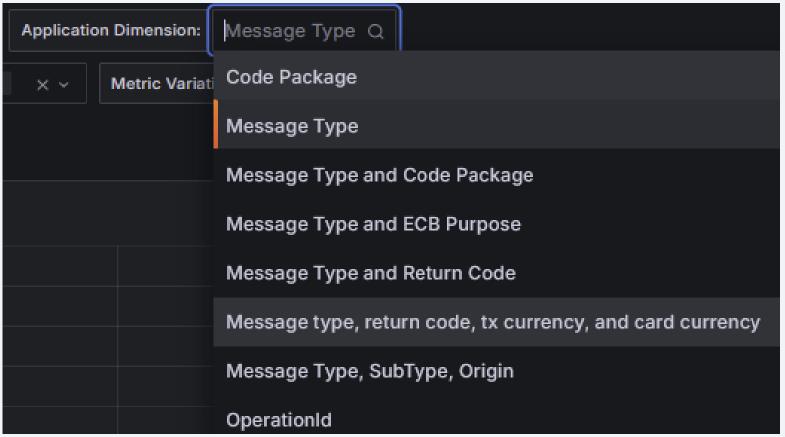
Screen shot: RTMC: Name-value pair metrics dashboard – Application dimensions

Capabilities: The application dimensions choose which combination of name-value pairs we are investigating. Different combinations provide all sorts of insights.

The application dimensions available are configurable in the ZRTMC analyzer for your name-value pair combinations.

Business value: With the RTMC name-value pair metrics application dimensions, you can understand your resource usage by your name-value pair definitions.

RTMC: Name-value pair metrics dashboard Name-value pair combinations available

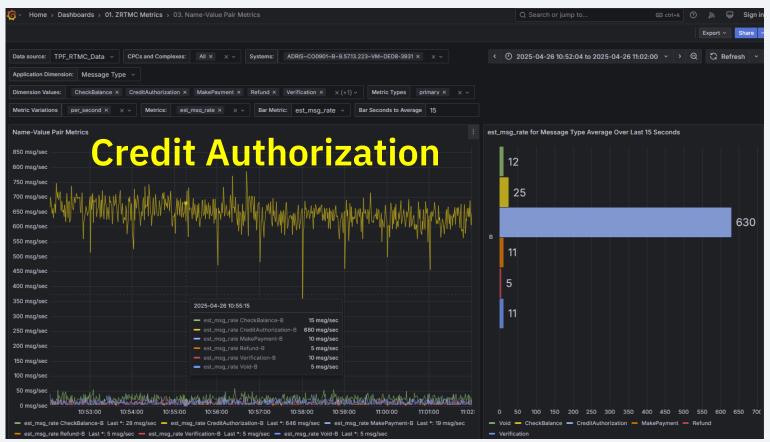


Screen shot: RTMC: Name-value pair metrics dashboard – Message type

Story: Again, following the saying "trust but verify", we look at the MsgType application dimension to verify that only Credit Authorization messages are affected. We can see that all message types estimated message rates are holding steady.

Business value: The RTMC name-value pair metrics dashboards provides resource usage metrics to help you understand your messages.

RTMC: Name-value pair metrics dashboard Estimated message rate of all message types is unchanged



Screen shot: RTMC: Name-value pair metrics dashboard – Message type

Story: Next, we can filter on the credit authorization name-value pair value. We can barely see the inflection point where:

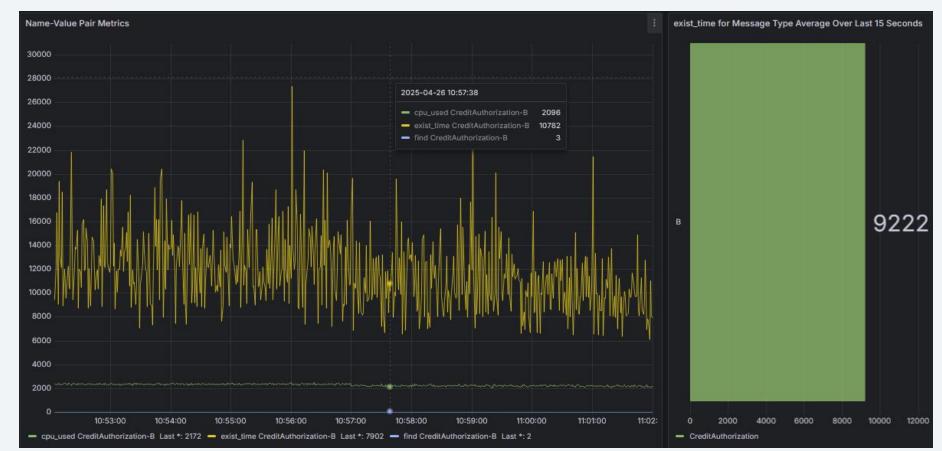
- CPU used and exist time decreases a bit for credit auth messages
- IOs rise a smidge

The impact is not dramatic, it's difficult to identify. We can also see that resources used by other message types are unchanged.

We'll look at other name-value pair combinations for credit authorization requests to dig deeper into our results. But this confirms what our SRE found that the problem is isolated to credit authorization requests.

Business value: The RTMC name-value pair metrics dashboards provides resource usage metrics to help you understand your messages.

RTMC: Name-value pair metrics dashboard Trivial changes in metrics for credit authorization messages



Screen shot: RTMC: Name-value pair metrics dashboard – RC msg – Message rate

Capabilities: As part of the z/TPF support for OpenTelemetry, we introduced a name-value pair convention for trace IDs, span IDs and so on. We also introduced conventions for the return code and return code message. We include an application dimension by default for Message Type and Return Code.

Story: Filtering on credit authorization requests and showing all possible return codes, we can see the estimated message rate for success falls, over the credit limit errors rise, and all other return codes are holding constant.

Business value: The RTMC name-value pair metrics dashboards provides estimated message rate metrics to help you understand your message mix and how it changes over time.

RTMC: Name-value pair metrics dashboard

<u>Filtered on credit authorization message type showing estimated message</u> <u>rate for all error types</u>

Success rate falls while over the credit limit errors rise



Screen shot: RTMC: Name-value pair metrics dashboard – RC – Other metrics

Capabilities: Name-value pair collection includes a host of other metrics we can inspect for our name-value pair combinations such as memory usage, z/TPFDF usage, copy-on-write usage and more. If more DF APIs were issued, maybe we can go to the system metrics dashboard and see if a particular z/TPFDF database is being accessed more frequently.

Story: Remember that the SRE determined credit authorization messages ending in over the credit limit were using more I/O operations? We've switched to look at FIND operations as well as finds for prime file address operations issued by z/TPFDF. We can we see more FIND operations are used than before the inflection point but the z/TPFDF PFIND operations hold steady. This is an indication of what type of I/O operations the application is doing.

Business value: The RTMC name-value pair metrics dashboards provides resource usage metrics to help you understand your messages.

Filtered on credit authorization messages with over the credit limit errors Access (FIND) to traditional z/TPF databases increased but access to z/TPFDF databases is unchanged



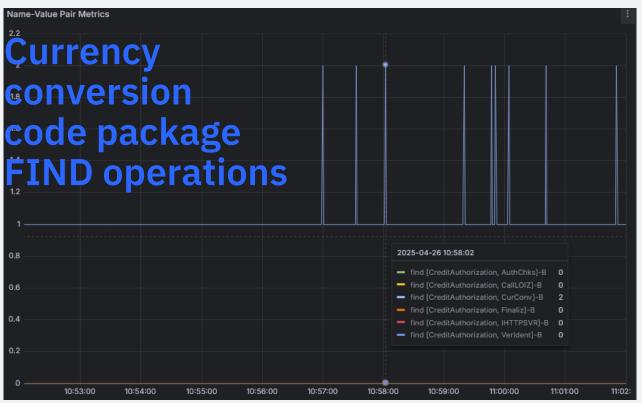
Screen shot: RTMC: Name-value pair metrics dashboard – Code package

Capabilities: Name-value pair collection type-sample includes vertical name-value pair results like owner name change as code package. You can use this feature to understand the resources used by different code packages in your processing.

Story: In this case, we'll focus on the message type and code package so we can filter on the code packages used by credit authorization messages. Here we can see that the currency conversion code package is the one doing more I/O operations after our inflection point. This insight helps us to know who to contact next, the owner of the currency conversion code package.

Business value: The RTMC name-value pair metrics dashboards provides resource usage metrics to help you understand your messages.

Filtered on all code packages used by credit authorization messages FIND operations rise for the currency conversion code package



Screen shot: RTMC: Name-value pair metrics dashboard – Message type, return code message, local currency and transaction currency

Capability: With the name-value pair metrics, you can define and inspect a variety of different name value pair combinations for deeper insights.

Story: Switching to the application dimension for message type, return code message, local currency, and transaction currency. We'll filter on our message type credit authorization and return code message for over the credit limit error. Now we can see name-value pair metrics for the various combinations of transaction and local currency. Notice that when the transaction currency is Euros and the local currency is Dollars, we see the rise in message rate while the others like Dollars and Yen remain flat.

This is one example of how you can use combinations of name-value pairs to see other insights.

Business value: The RTMC name-value pair metrics dashboards provide resource usage metrics to help you understand your messages.

Filtered on credit authorization messages with over the credit limit errors and showing all combinations of transaction and local currency FIND operations only rise when transaction currency is in Euros and local currency is in Dollars



From RTMC to code package owner

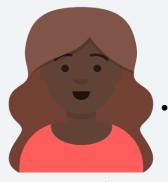
- The z/TPF coverage programmer got a quick start from the information determined by the SRE in the APM tool.
- Using RTMC, they determined additional key insights.
- They ask the owner of the offending code package for additional insights.





From RTMC to code package owner

• In addition to the information discovered by the SRE, the coverage programmer provides the following details to the code package owner:

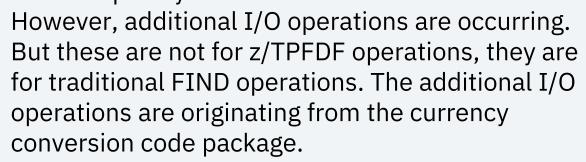


Carol
z/TPF
coverage
rogrammer

z/TPF | 2025 TPF Users Group | May 4-7,

Austin, TX | @2025 IBM Corporation

 Most metrics are unchanged for credit authorization messages ending in the over the credit limit error when compared to messages with the same type of error before the change in error frequency occurred.



The additional errors occur when the transaction currency is Euros and the card holder currency is Dollars.



Zach application developer

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Code package owner investigation

- The currency conversion code package has not changed recently.
- The application developer indicates that the currency conversion table in the z/TPFDF database is updated twice a day. In fact, one of the updates just happened 5 minutes ago. But this happens twice every day, why would this cause an issue?
- The application developer is intrigued by the additional FIND operations as the currency conversion tables were moved entirely into a z/TPFDF database a few years ago.
- The application developer reads through the code and remembers there's an old migration path for when they migrated the currency conversion tables to z/TPFDF. If the currency type is not in the z/TPFDF database, then the code falls back to the old currency conversion tables in a traditional z/TPF database.



Zach application developer

Code package owner investigation



Carol z/TPF coverage programmer

 The application developer asks the coverage programmer to confirm that Euros are not in the z/TPFDF currency conversion table.

• The coverage programmer issues a command to display the currency conversion tables:

ZCURR EURO

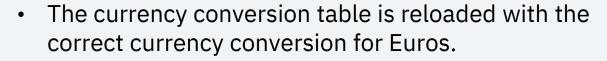
ERROR: CURRENCY "EURO" NOT FOUND

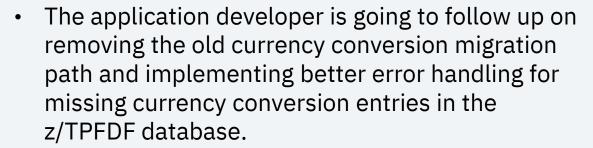
- The application developer guides the coverage programmer using ZDFIL to explore the traditional database and finds that the out-of-date EURO conversion rate being used is 1.58 instead of 1.08.
- The use of the traditional z/TPF database explains the additional I/O operations.



Zach application developer

Over the credit limit story conclusion





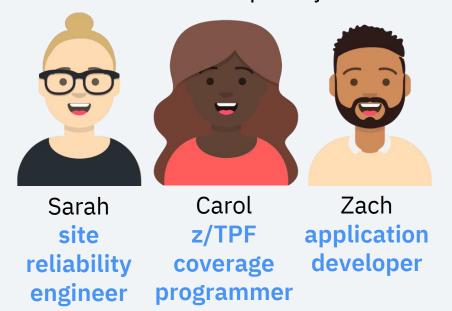


developer

Carol z/TPF coverage programmer

Over the credit limit story conclusion

- As the SRE, we were able to quickly determine the error was originating on z/TPF and provide the coverage programmer with numerous insights, despite limited knowledge of z/TPF.
- As the coverage programmer, we were able to use RTMC to further understand the problem and resolve the issue quickly.



Over the credit limit story conclusion

- Your APM tool and z/TPF support for OpenTelemetry helps you to engage the right silo quickly without scrambling all of the troops.
- Your z/TPF experts can use RTMC to get to the root of problems that originate on z/TPF.

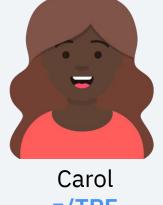


z/TPF message analysis tool – Story 1 alternate ending

What if the insights provided by the APM tool and RTMC were not enough to debug the problem?

z/TPF message analysis tool

- Why are Credit authorization messages ending in over the credit limit errors performing additional I/O operations?
- The coverage programmer knows:
 - Additional I/O operations are occurring. But these are not for z/TPFDF operations, they are for traditional FIND operations.
 - The additional I/O operations are originating from the currency conversion code package.
 - The additional errors occur when the transaction currency is Euros and the card holder currency is Dollars.

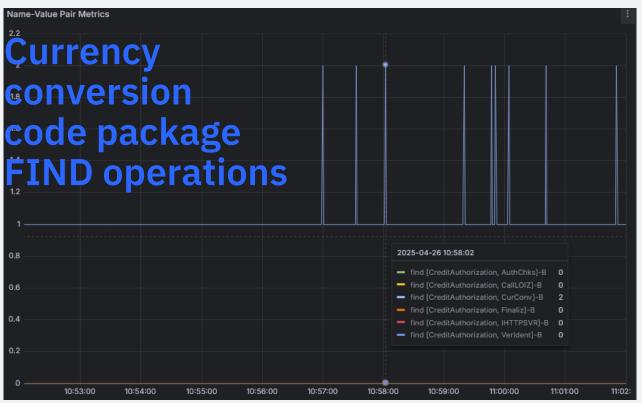


z/TPF coverage programmer

Filtered on credit authorization messages with over the credit limit errors Access (FIND) to traditional z/TPF databases increased but access to z/TPFDF databases is unchanged



Filtered on all code packages used by credit authorization messages FIND operations rise for the currency conversion code package



Filtered on credit authorization messages with over the credit limit errors and showing all combinations of transaction and local currency FIND operations only rise when transaction currency is in Euros and local currency is in Dollars



z/TPF message analysis tool

- We can use the z/TPF message analysis tool to determine where those additional I/O operations are originating in the currency conversion code package.
- You can use the z/TPF message analysis tool to dig deeper into messages at the function and macro level.
- When registering for the z/TPF message analysis tool, you can include a single name-value pair value. As such, we will register to capture messages in the production environment that call the currency conversion package when transaction currency is Euros.



Screen shot: RTMC: z/TPF message analysis tool – Collection dashboard

Capabilities: The z/TPF message analysis tool collection dashboard shows you all the collections in your database for the time frame selected in the Grafana time picker. You can select a collection to see the messages captured for that collection. You can see a summary of key metrics used.

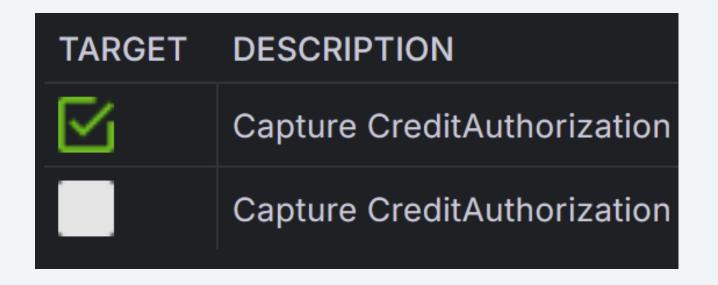
Story: We select a message with lower call count, CPU used, or existence time knowing this aligns with an error originating from the basic authorization ECB.

Business value: With the z/TPF message analysis tool, you can capture multiple instances of a message from production and see summaries of the resources used to know if you should investigate further.

RTMC: z/TPF message analysis tool collection dashboard Shows list of collections available (top table)

Message Analysis Collections										
TARGET	DESCRIPTION	TIME	COLLECTION_ID	SUMMARY_STA	rus	ANALYSIS	COMPLETE		OPT_LEVE	iL .
Ŋ	Capture CreditAuthoriza	nti 2025-04-28 20:12:58	CO0901B_00E00	CEFF2 Done		⊘	⊘		О3	
	Capture CreditAuthoriza	nti 2025-04-28 20:10:58	CO0901B_00E00	CEFEB Done		⊘	⊘		О3	
Target Call	notion Dataila (COCOCI	B 005005552700724								
rarget Colle	ection Details (CO0901_	_B_00E0CEFF2/B8/2A	(ט							
TARGET	UOWID	NVPS	SUMMARY_STATUS	ANALYSIS	OPT_LE	VEL	CALL_COUNT	CPU_EXIST		CPU_USED
	C2C3D6F0F9F0F14040	null	Done	⊘	О3		7226	26101860		6352636
	C2C3D6F0F9F0F14040	null	Done	✓	03		225	143523		143523
	C2C3D6F0F9F0F14040	null	Done	✓	О3		225	142117		142117
	C2C3D6F0F9F0F14040	null	Done	✓	О3		7764	28851745		6739382
	C2C3D6F0F9F0F14040	null	Done	✓	О3		225	139387		139387
	C2C3D6F0F9F0F14040	null	Done	⊘	О3		8122	26856363		7739907

RTMC: z/TPF message analysis tool collection dashboard Select a collection to see list of messages



RTMC: z/TPF message analysis tool collection dashboard Shows list of messages you can investigate

TARGET	UOWID	NVPS	SUMMARY_STATUS	ANALYSIS
	C2C3D6F0F9F0F14040	null	Done	⊘
	C2C3D6F0F9F0F14040	null	Done	⊘
	C2C3D6F0F9F0F14040	null	Done	⊘
	C2C3D6F0F9F0F14040	null	Done	⊘
	C2C3D6F0F9F0F14040	null	Done	⊘
	C2C3D6F0F9F0F14040	null	Done	⊘

Screen shot: RTMC: z/TPF message analysis tool – Summary details dashboard

Capabilities: From the collection dashboard, we selected a message and chose to view the summary details dashboard. The summary details dashboard shows all of the functions and macros calls, the number of times it was called, and the system resources consumed by that call such as CPU used. You can filter by ECB, module, macro and more. You can sort by the different metric columns

Story: In our over the credit limit error scenario, we are viewing our results by macro and can see the FINWC macro was called 15 times.

Business value: With the z/TPF message analysis tool, you can see a summary of the resources used by a message at the function and macro level.

RTMC: z/TPF message analysis tool summary details dashboard Macro display shows FINWC called 15 times

MACRO_NAME ↓	CALL_COUNT	PCT_CALL_COUNT (%)	CPU_EXIST
FSYSC	5		0
FINWC	15		0

EXITC 0

2

6

EVNWC

EVNTC

EOWNRC

ENTRC->CXXC

ENTNC->QOWN

ENTDC->QBSO

0

0

0

158578

1846491

31867

0.0138

0.0138

0.0277

Screen shot: RTMC: z/TPF message analysis tool – Summary details dashboard comparison.

Capabilities: You can periodically capture messages from production to have a catalog of baseline z/TPF message analysis tool runs. With these historical collections, you can do a before and after comparison to see how the usage of system resources, macros and function calls has changed.

Story: We compare the before and after to see how the FINWC usage has changed.

Business value: With the z/TPF message analysis tool, you can see a summary of the resources used by a message at the function and macro level.

RTMC: z/TPF message analysis tool summary details dashboard Comparing over the credit limit before and after the inflection point we can see that the FINWC macro is called more after the inflection point

Before After

MACRO_NAME ↓ FSYSC	CALL_COUNT 5		
FINWC	1		
EXITC	2		
EVNWC	2		
EVNTC	2		
EOWNRC	6		
ENTRC->CXXC	1		
ENTNC->QOWN	1		
ENTDC->QBSO	2		

MACRO_NAME ↓ FSYSC	CALL_COUNT		
FINWC	15		
EXITC	2		
EVNWC	2		
EVNTC	2		
EOWNRC	6		
ENTRC->CXXC	1		
ENTNC->QOWN	1		
ENTDC->QBSO	2		

Screen shot: RTMC: z/TPF message analysis tool – Application call path

Capabilities: You can query the database to inspect the application call path to understand execution of the application code.

Story: We read through the call path comparing it to the baseline to understand where the processing deviates. In the over the credit limit error scenario, we could trace the path through the currency conversion code package to see how the old migration code was being called.

Business value: With the z/TPF message analysis tool, you can see sequence of function and macro calls to understand the execution of the application code.

RTMC: z/TPF message analysis tool Application flow in SQL query results in database FINWC issued by program UCCN for record ID FC11

NESTING_LEVEL	TRACE_NAME	MACRO_NAME	MACRO_DATA
16	UCCN	DETAC	(NULL)
16	UCCN	FINWC	FILE_ADDR-00000000186BF04F,DECB_ADDRESS-10C96120,REC_ID-FC11 RESIDENCY-DASD
16	UCCN	ATTAC	(NULL)
16	UCCN	RELCC	ADDRESS-10C98000,BLOCK_TYPE-0051,DATA_LEVEL-DF
16	UCCN	DETAC	(NULL)
16	UCCN	FINWC	FILE_ADDR-00000001868070B,DECB_ADDRESS-10C96120,REC_ID-FC11,RESIDENCY-DASD
16	UCCN	EHEAPC	ACTION-MALOC,HEAP_ADDR-00000001B08CF08,HEAP_SIZE-000000000000000000000000000000000000
16	UCCN	ATTAC	(NULL)
16	UCCN	RELCC	ADDRESS-10C98000,BLOCK_TYPE-0051,DATA_LEVEL-DF
16	UCCN	DETAC	(NULL)
16	UCCN	EHEAPC	ACTION-MALOC,HEAP_ADDR-00000001B08A748,HEAP_SIZE-00000000000008B0
16	UCCN	FINWC	FILE_ADDR-00000001868070A,DECB_ADDRESS-10C96120,REC_ID-FC15,RESIDENCY-DASD

z/TPF message analysis tool – conclusion

- The coverage programmer found where the additional FIND operations were occurring in the currency conversion code package: module UCCN.
- They also saw the record ID was FC11. They look up this record ID and find that it is for an old currency conversion table in a traditional z/TPF database.
- They also saw the sequence of function and macro calls leading to the additional FIND macros.
- Reading that code, they can see this is a migration code path used when a currency does not exist in the z/TPFDF database.



z/TPF coverage programmer

z/TPF message analysis tool – conclusion

• The coverage programmer issues a command to display the currency conversion tables:

ZCURR EURO

ERROR: CURRENCY "EURO" NOT FOUND

 The currency conversion table is reloaded with the correct currency conversion for Euros and the over the credit limit errors return to their previous levels.

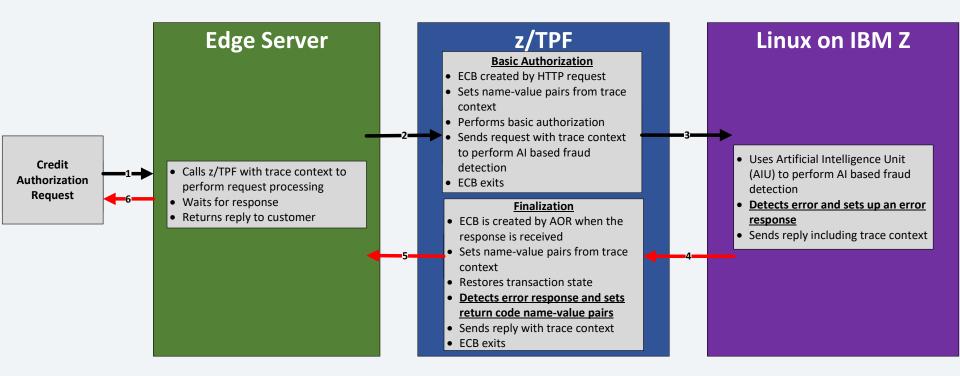


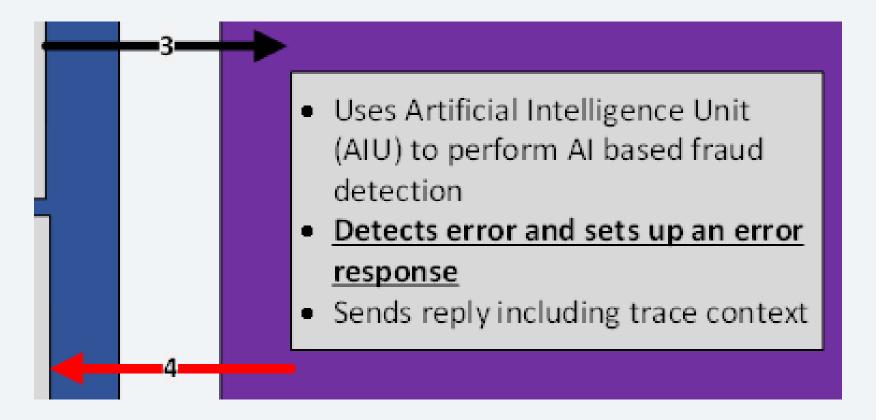
Application performance monitor tooling – Story 2

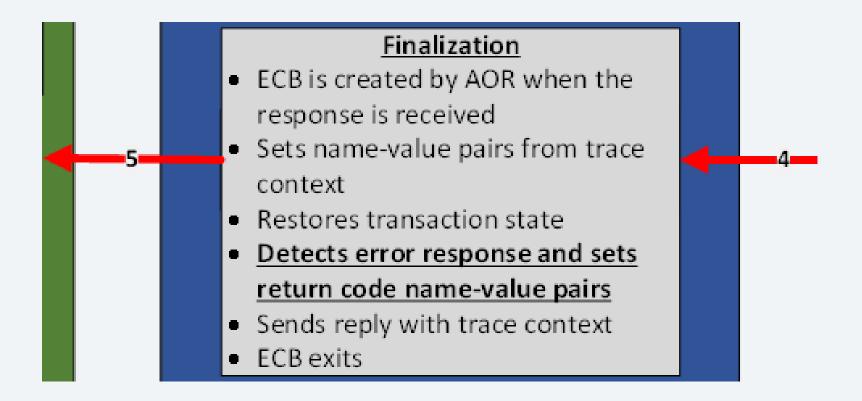
AI fraud detection errors – errors propagating through the entire enterprise

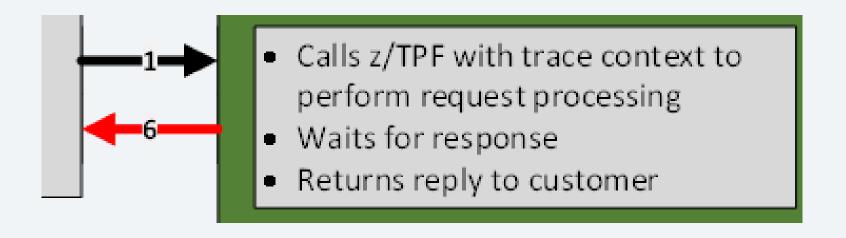
AI fraud detection errors Errors propagating through the entire enterprise

- In this scenario, the error originates in the AI fraud detection in our Linux on IBM Z system such that the error propagates all the way back through the entire enterprise to the edge server.
- First, let's refresh ourselves again on the enterprise architecture.









Screen shot: Instana: Alert

Story: As before, we receive an Alert. There's an issue in our <u>enterprise</u>.

This alert shows that the credit authorization error rate has broken the 5% error rate threshold. Glancing at this, it looks like the increase in errors is originating on <u>Linux</u> on <u>IBM Z</u> and has something to do with <u>AI fraud detection</u> errors.

Business value: APM tools can alert you to conditions in your enterprise and provide insights as to which system to investigate further, possibly allowing you to remediate issues before SLAs are impacted.

Instana: Alert!

EventId:

PDsh8nkDTuef2KgbmhA3Eg

Link:

https://instana.fake.com/#/events:eventID=PDsh8nkDTuef2KgbmhA3Eg&incidenteTo=16345989153

Incident started with:

Credit Authorization message error rate exceeds 5% threshold.

These violations are occurring continuously since 12:12:10 EST 4/26/2025.

SLAs may be violated within the next 10 minutes.

Detail:

The increase is Credit Authorization message error rate is originating on Linux on IBM Z. Specifically, Al fraud detection errors are occurring more frequently while other error types are occurring at a stable rate.

Severity: Critical



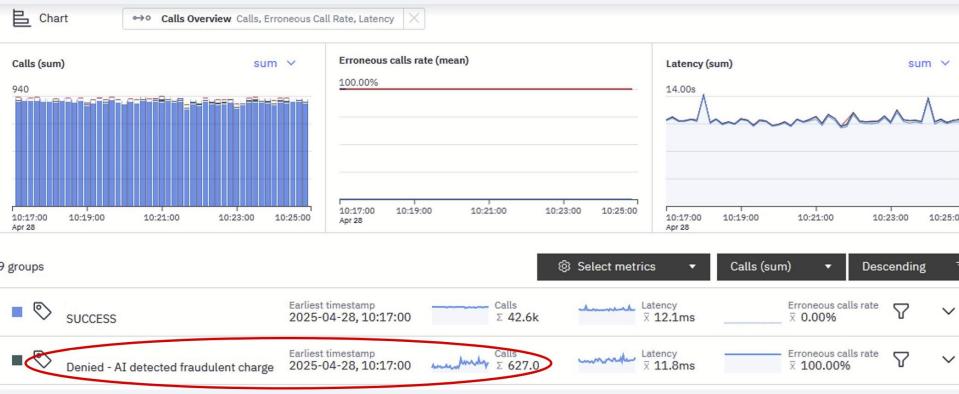
Sarah site reliability engineer

Screen shot: Instana: Analyze calls – Graphs – return code breakdown

Story: As before, we can confirm that the over all system state is unchanged. And we can see that the AI fraud detection is the only error rate that has changed.

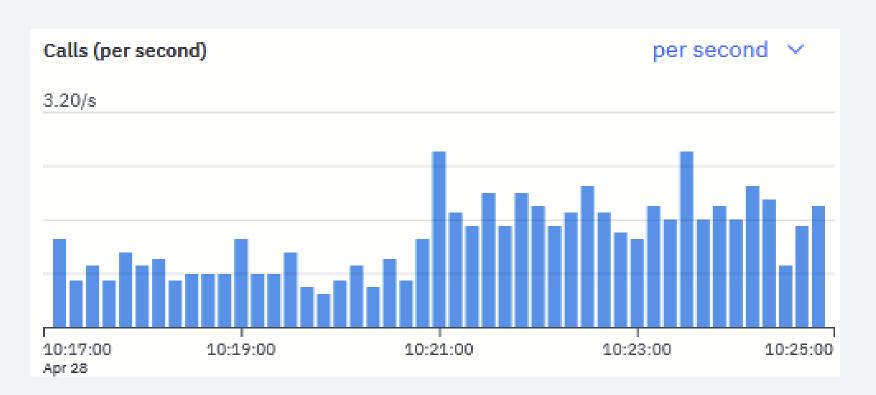
Business value: APM tools provide filter and breakdown by message attributes so you can glean insights into problematic messages.

Instana: Linux on IBM Z analyze calls Group by return codes



Instana: Linux on IBM Z analyze calls Group by return codes

Call graph shows increase in frequency of AI fraud detection errors



Screen shot: Instana: Call diagram – AI fraud detection error

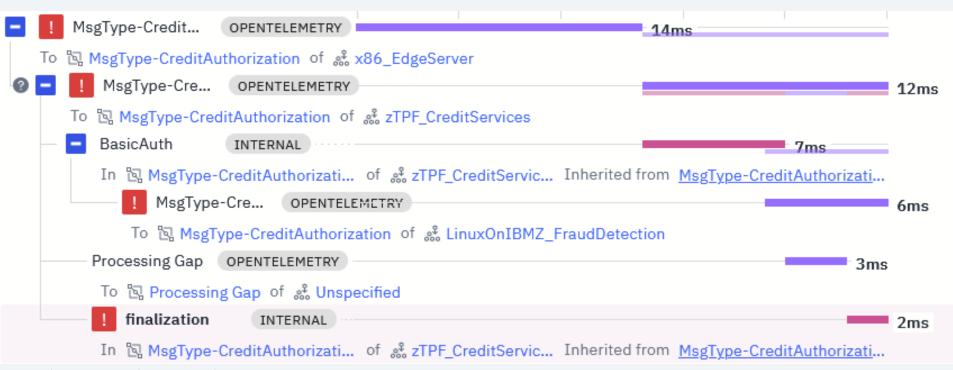
Capability: Your APM tool can show where the errors originate in your enterprise and how it propagates through the enterprise.

Story: As before, we can look at a message that is ending in error in the fraud detection on the Linux on IBM Z box. We're on our normal processing path so you can see:

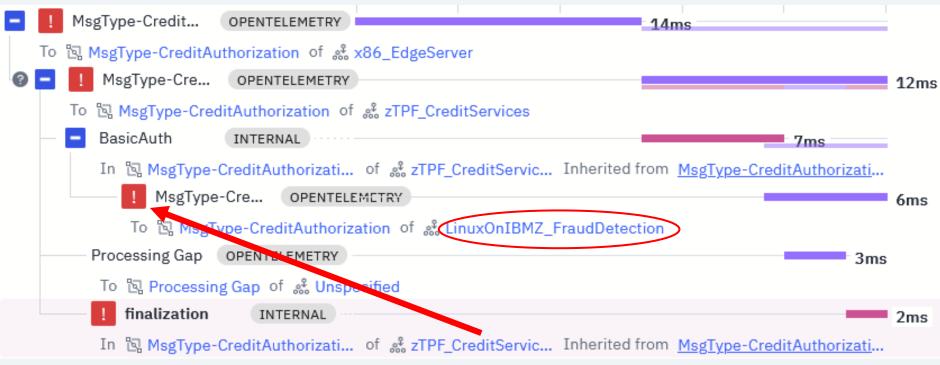
- The error originates in the fraud detection processing on Linux on IBM Z.
- The error then propagates to the finalization processing on z/TPF.
- The error then propagates to the edge server.
- The overall message processing across our enterprise has ended in error.
- In this way we can see where errors originate in the processing in our enterprise.

Business value: With APM tools, you can see where errors originate in the processing of a message throughout your enterprise.

Instana: Linux on IBM Z analyze call details AI fraud detection error



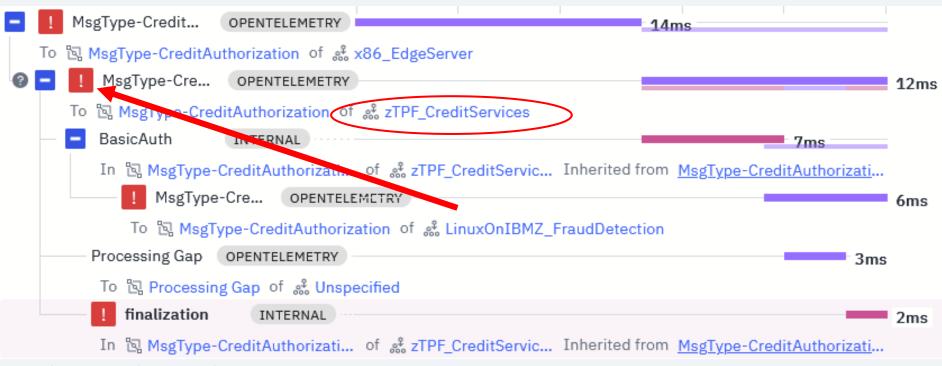
Instana: Linux on IBM Z analyze call details AI fraud detection error originates on Linux on IBM Z



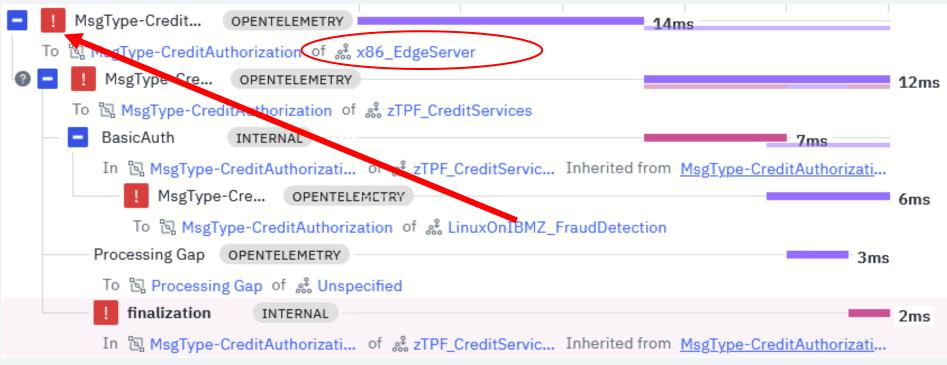
Instana: Linux on IBM Z analyze call details <u>Error propagates to z/TPF</u>



Instana: Linux on IBM Z analyze call details z/TPF summary node shows error



Instana: Linux on IBM Z analyze call details Error propagates to edge server



AI fraud detection errors - conclusion

- The site reliability engineer needs help from a <u>Linux on IBM Z</u> expert to continue the investigation.
- Notice that the z/TPF silo was not contacted!
- Notice that our SRE did not have to be a z/TPF expert to know that the problem was not originating from z/TPF and the SRE did not have to be a Linux expert to know that the problem originated on Linux!



RTMC

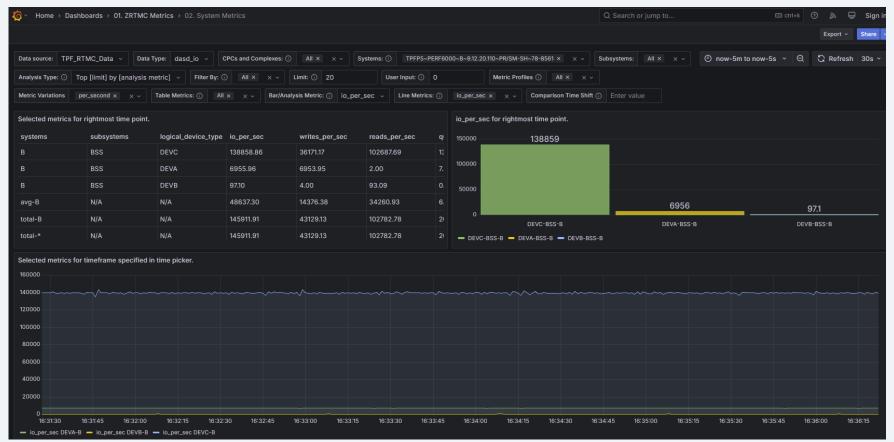
Other features

Screen shot: RTMC: System Metrics dashboard

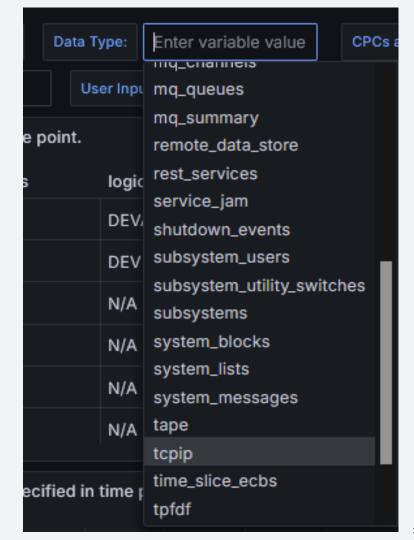
Capabilities: The system metrics dashboard provides the deep system level metrics also known as continuous data collection (CDC). In this dashboard you can see metrics like DASD I/O operations, TCP/IP, z/TPFDF usage by database, IBM MQ, REST and much more.

Business value: The RTMC system metrics dashboard provides deep system level metrics to help you understand the health of your system.

RTMC: System metrics dashboard System health (CDC) metrics – the system is healthy



RTMC: System metrics dashboard CDC data types list



Screen shot: RTMC: JVM dashboards

Capabilities: The JVM dashboards provide various insights for system resources used by your JVMs running on z/TPF as well as insights for lock usage by Java applications, garbage collection, application data and more.

Business value: The RTMC JVM metrics dashboards provides metrics for your Java on z/TPF usage to help you understand the health of your Java applications.

RTMC: Java on z/TPF dashboards

Name

- 器 01. JAM Summary
- 器 02. JVM Summary
- 器 03. JVM Drill-down
- 器 04. Lock Drill-down
- 器 05. JAM JAX-RS Drill-down
- 器 06. JAM JAX-RS Operation Drill-down
- 器 07. JVM Garbage Collection Table
- 器 08. JVM Static Data
- ⊞ 09. JVM Command Line Arguments
- 器 10. JMX Application Data
- 器 Education 1: JVM Monitoring

RTMC: Java on z/TPF dashboards Example: JAM summary dashboard



Screen shot: RTMC: Name-value pair correlation analysis dashboard

Capability: The correlation analysis dashboard correlates system metrics to name-value pair metrics like message rate, CPU used, existence time and so on.

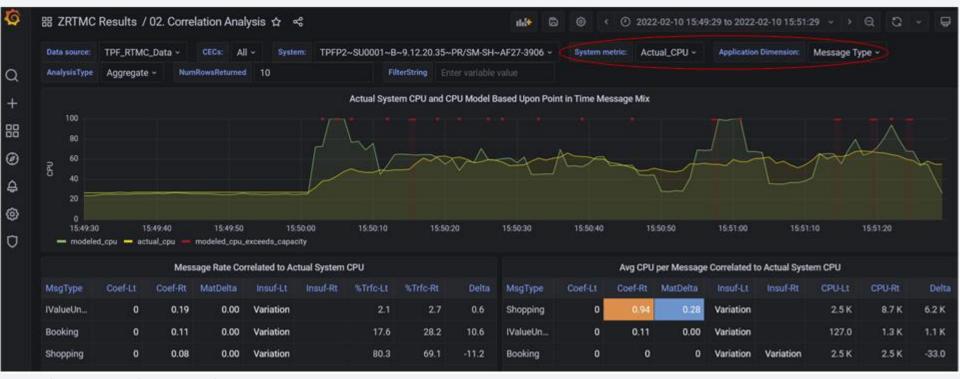
You could introduce machine learning, artificial intelligence, or trend analysis to identify outliers of interest. For example, if error rates exceed a normal threshold.

Story: In our scenarios, remember that our overall system metrics are stable. Maybe a tiny decrease in CPU usage and tiny increase in IO usage. For this use case, the default correlation analysis dashboard isn't going to provide us additional insights without something changing more dramatically at the system level.

In this scenario, maybe AI could immediately call out the deviations of the over the credit limit error originating in the basic authorization ECB when the transaction currency is Euros and the local currency is dollars and more IOs are used in the Currency Conversion package.

Business value: Data science analysis of RTMC results can provide quick insights into problem determination and can alert you before your SLAs are impacted.

RTMC: Correlation analysis dashboard Correlate change in system metrics to changes in message, code package, and name-value pair combinations

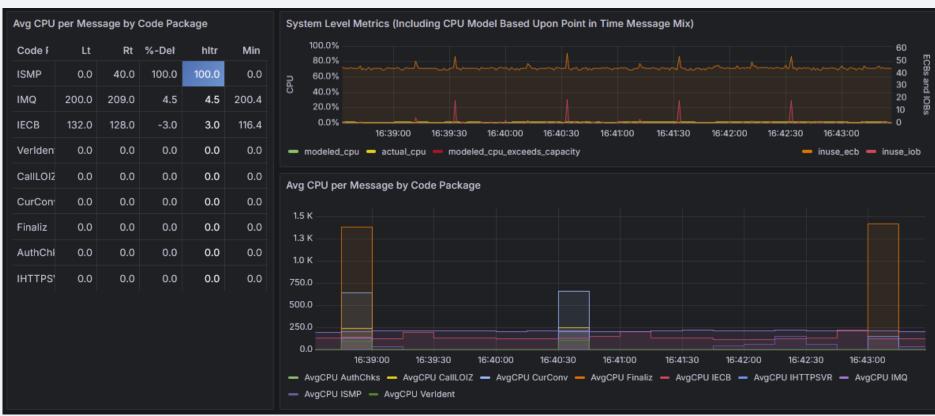


Screen shot: RTMC: Name-value pair statistics dashboard

Capability: The name-value pair statistics dashboard shows min, max, avg and standard deviations for various metrics. You can also create other analysis and dashboards to view various statistics for your data. One we envision creating one day is change point detection.

Business value: Statistical analysis of RTMC results can provide quick insights into problem determination.

RTMC: Name-value pair statistics dashboard

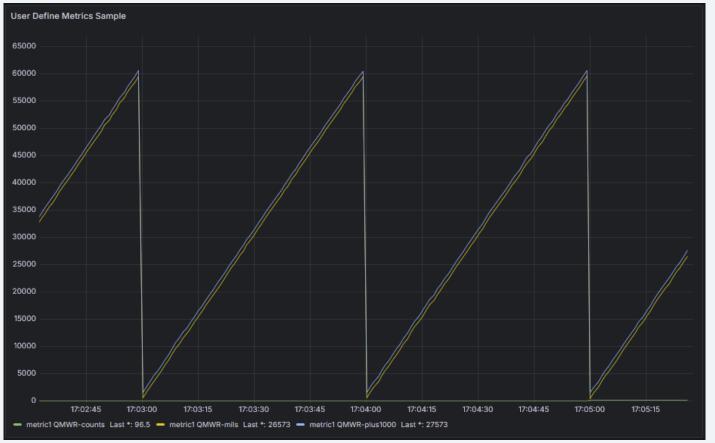


Screen shot: RTMC: User-defined metrics

Capability: With the user-defined metrics, you can send system, application and business metrics through the RTMC sample analytics pipeline and perform analytics in real-time. We provide a sample dashboard, processing, tutorial, and online driver to generate a simple sawtooth pattern.

Business value: With the RTMC user-defined metrics, you can send system, application and business metrics through the RTMC sample analytics pipeline and perform analytics in real-time.

RTMC: User-defined metrics Tutorial metrics and sample dashboard



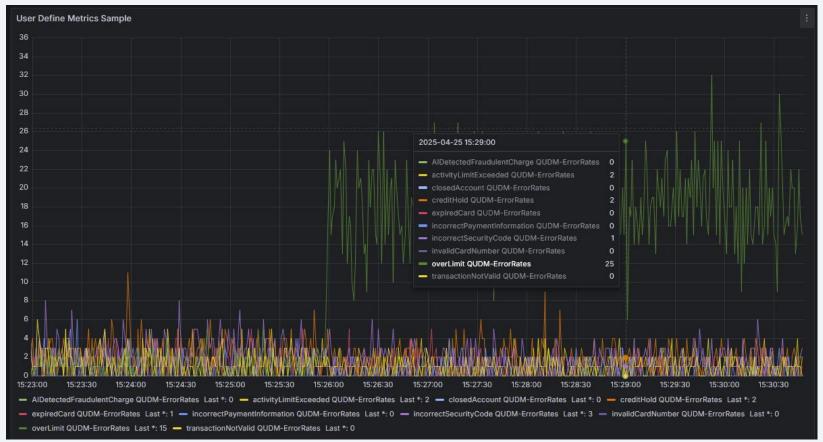
Screen shot: RTMC: User-defined metrics – Application error rates

Story: For the over the credit limit story, we created a new user-defined metrics example. This display shows application error rates for our credit authorization messages. You can see that the error rate for the over the credit limit errors increased at the inflection point while other message types remain relatively stable.

This is just one example of the sort of thing you can do instead of having a periodic ZSTIM, screen scraping the metrics from the console at the end of the day and putting the results into a database. Instead, you can do analytics and investigations in real-time.

Business value: With the RTMC user-defined metrics, you can send system, application, and business metrics through the RTMC sample analytics pipeline and perform analytics in real-time.

RTMC: User-defined metrics Real world application error counts dashboard example



The <u>no</u> disclaimer slide

- Remember that there was no disclaimer slide!
- Everything demonstrated is available today!



Thank you

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