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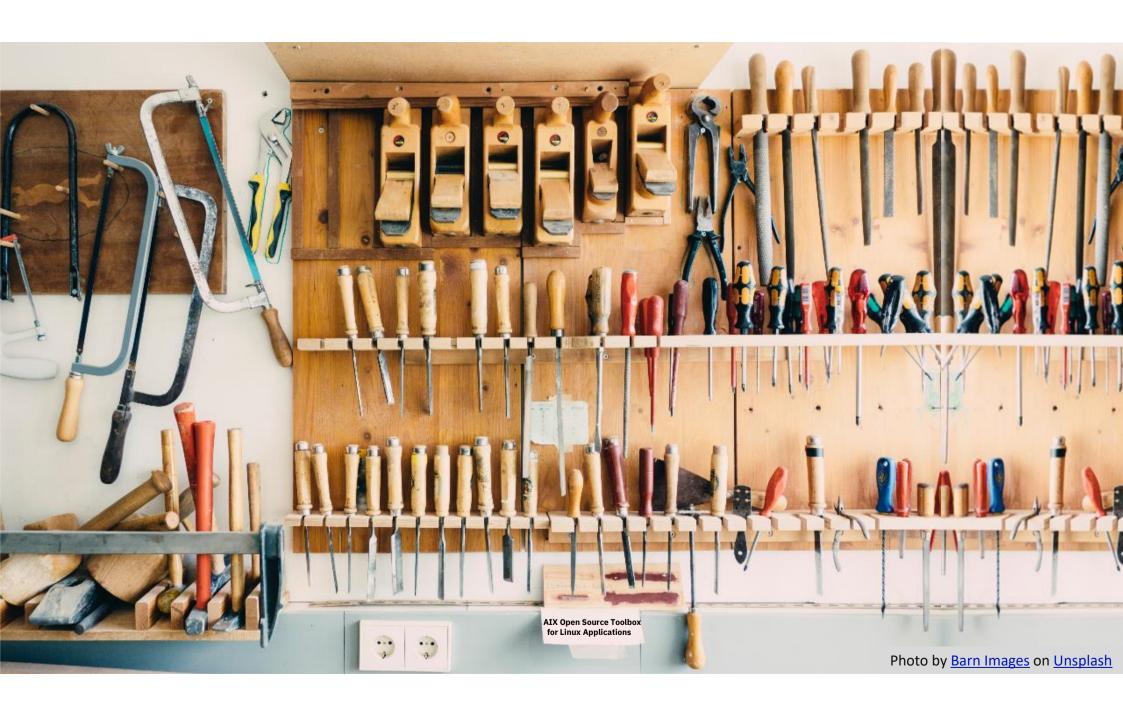
Caveats:

- Nigel is not an IBM spokes person
- All these opinions are Nigel's and his alone
- Major releases of AIX, VIOS, Firmware & HW scheduled for November – December so think pickings in June
- But things keep moving on in the IT World
- Between POWER9 & POWER10 hardware releases

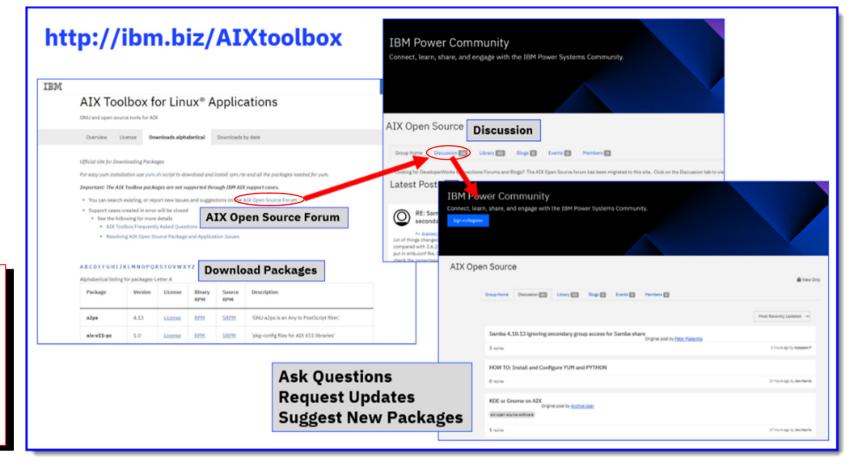
Content

- 1. DeveloperWorks RIP
- 2. AIX Open Source Toolbox
- 3. Ansible
- 4. Keeping informed
- 5. Virtual I/O Server dates
- 6. AIX Memory Expansion AME
- 7. AIX Marketing
- 8. AIX Technical Education
- 9. AIX Strength to Strength
- 10. Redbook update
- 11. Linux on POWER review
- 12. AIX on POWER review
- 13. njmon project update

a community.ibm.com/community/user/legacy Community > Search **IBM Community Home** Browse ∨ Participate ~ Events > Welcome to the IBM Community Being part of a community means collaborating, sharing knowledge and supporting one another in our everyday challenges. Together, we can connect via forums, blogs, files and face-to-face networking to empower one another to put smart to work. Find your community Join / Sign up If you're looking for a developerWorks forum — Don't panic! You are in the right place. You are here because specific IBM developerWorks forums, blogs and other Connections content have been decommissioned. This page will help you find the content you are looking for, get answers to your questions, and find a new community to call home. Where am I?



AIX Open Source Toolbox for Linux Applications



Currently 870 packages
Regular refreshes
Recommend taking ALL your
open sources packages
from the Toolbox via yum
Problems=Remove every RPM
& reinstall from the toolbox*
No Support = "oh, yes there is"
Use the Forum/Discussion

AIX Open Source Toolbox for Linux Applications

ansible	logrotate	Samba++
cloud-init	MariaDB+++	squid
Community MySQL	MySQL	sudo
filebeats	nagios	Tightvnc
Ganglia +++	perl	tcl + tk
GCC + GCC-go	php ++	unrar
git	postgresql ++	unzip
golang	ptpd	vim
gzip	Python3 +++++	VNC
httpd (Apache)	R	wget
jansson	Rrdtool	XZ
json-c	Ruby	yum+++
kubenetes	salt++	zip

AIX Open Source Toolbox for Linux Applications

```
ansible*
                                             Samba++
                        logrotate
cloud-init
                        MariaDB+++
                                             squid
Community MySQL
                        MySQL
                                             sudo
filebeats
                        nagios
                                             Tightvnc
Ganglia +++
                                             tcl + tk
                        perl
GCC + GCC-go
                        php ++
                                             unrar
git
                        postgresql ++
                                             unzip
golang
                        ptpd
                                             vim
                        Python3 +++++
                                             VNC
gzip
httpd (Apache)
                                             wget
                        rrdtool
jansson
                                             XZ
|SON-C
                        ruby
                                             yum+++
kubenetes
                        salt++
                                             zip
```

Ansible

Nigel's take on the growing buzz



Ansible

Ansible tool = central server only

Inventory of endpoints | Servers | Virtual Machines

Containers

- ssh to endpoints
- YML files to get to a "known state" (re-runable)
- Tasks can be
 - Default = Python2 (ek!)
 - Raw = UNIX commands
 - Script = shell script (bash)

"Automated Programs to do your System Admin"

Red Hat Enterprise Support for

- **Ansible Engine** command line
- **Ansible Tower** Graphical Interface
- Each has a cost per endpoint/year
- Support priced for 100 endpoints

ansible.com is a Red Hat website

Python2 officially dead at the end of the year. Long live Python3!

AIX Toolbox for Linux® Applications

GNU and open source tools for AIX

Overview

License

Downloads alphabetical

Downloads by date

Official site for Downloading Packages

For easy yum installation use yum.sh script to download and install rpm.rte and all the packages needed for yum.

Important: The AIX Toolbox packages are not supported through IBM AIX support cases.

- . You can search existing, or report new issues and suggestions on the AIX Open Source Forum
- · Support cases created in error will be closed
 - · See the following for more details
 - · AIX Toolbox Frequently Asked Questions
 - · Resolving AIX Open Source Package and Application Issues

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

Alphabetical listing for packages-Letter A

ansible	Package	Version	License	Binary RPM	Source RPM	Description
	a2ps	4.13	License	RPM	SRPM	'GNU a2ps is an Any to PostScript filter.'
	aix-x11-pc	1.0	License	RPM	SRPM	'pkg-config files for AIX X11 libraries'
	ansible	2.9.4	License	RPM	SRPM	'SSH-based configuration management, deployment, and task execution system'
	apr-devel	1.5.2	License	RPM	SRPM	'APR library development kit'
	apr-util-devel	1.5.4	License	RPM	SRPM	'APR utility library development kit'
	apr-util	1.5.4	License	RPM	SRPM	'Apache Portable Runtime Utility library'
tps://public.dhe.ibm.com/aix/freeSoftware/aixtoolbox/SRPMS/ansible/ansible-2.9.4-1.src.rpm		License	DOM	спом	A socke Pertable Quetime library	

Ansible

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AIX Open Source Toolbox

"ansible" = Open Source version of Red Hat Ansible Engine

Red Hat Ansible Tower (GUI) has a open source version called ansible AWX (sort of beta project)

- AWX is not in the AIX toolbox

Python2 officially dead at the end of the year. Long live Python3!

Ansible and AIX

Perform common AIX specific tasks across multiple AIX endpoints

- ssh so no login/password required
- Without deep AIX skills

Free community written YML files in "Ansible Galaxy"

Or YML file certified & supported from Red Hat Ansible Automation Hub (subscription required)

Example Tasks

- 1. Initial Install of AIX
- 2. AIX patching (i-fixes, service packs)
- 3. AIX updates (TLs, AIX version upgrades)
- 4. User and group management
- 5. Filesystems management (LVM, JFS2)
- 6. File operations (create, update, edit, search, etc.)
- 7. AIX open source package install/update (yum/pip)
- 8. AIX configuration (for performance tunables, etc.)
- 9. Boot management, including inittab details
- 10. Ad-hoc commands for specific AIX admin tasks
- 11. Create Ansible playbooks to run a workflow with multiple actions via available modules

Ansible and AIX

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Future

1. Expect an IBM Ansible announcement soon

2. Also I intend trying it, so expect Blogs and videos

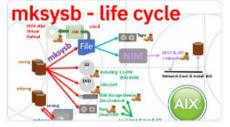
3. My 1st task will be to install and start njmon/nimon ©

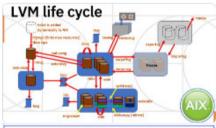
Are you keeping yourself informed?

Twitter & LinkedIn

Twitter LinkedIn

Are you keeping informed?



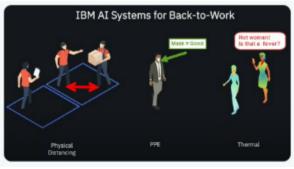


















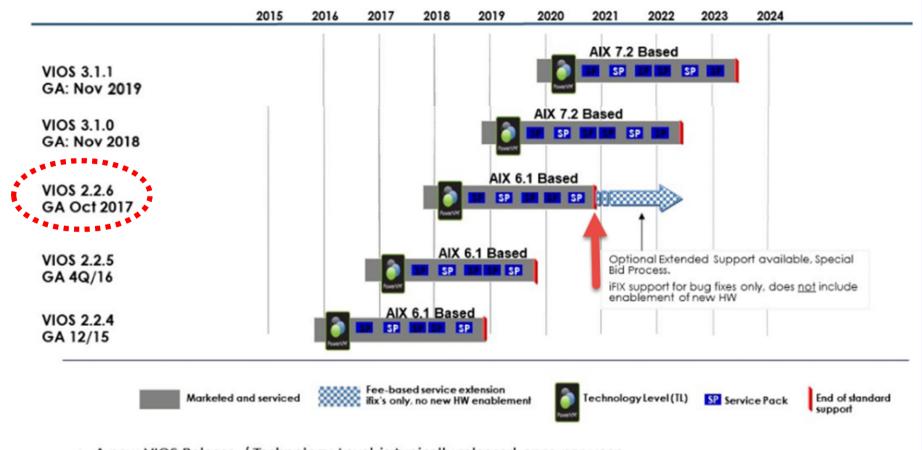








VIOS Releases & Lifecycle



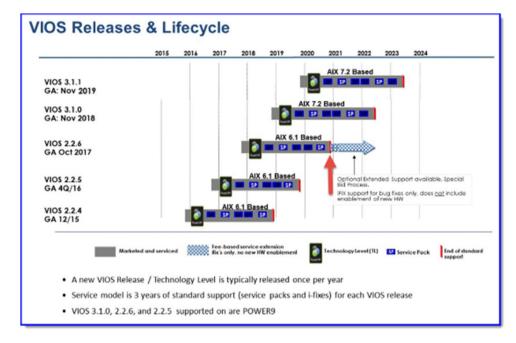
- A new VIOS Release / Technology Level is typically released once per year
- Service model is 3 years of standard support (service packs and i-fixes) for each VIOS release
- VIOS 3.1.0, 2.2.6, and 2.2.5 supported on are POWER9

W IDM COIPCIANON, 2

Migrate to 3.1 NOW VIOS $2.2 \rightarrow 3.1$

AIX $6.1 \rightarrow 7.2$ 2007 2015

= 8 year technology jump



Power Systems run Dual VIOS with dual paths for Reliability & allows VIOS Upgrades

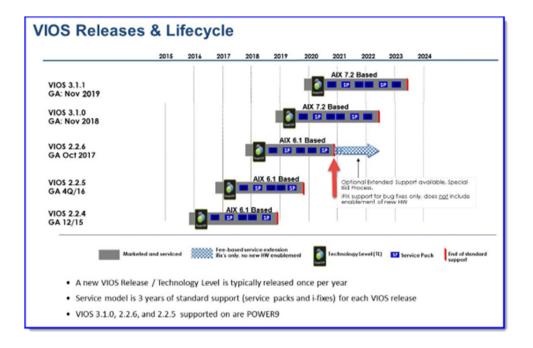
VIOS 2.2.* are ALL end-of-standard Support ~November 2020

- Please help my pension fund by paying IBM for Extended VIOS Support
- Please don't upgrade to a faster VIOS 3.1 to take less CPU cycles
- Please don't read https://ibm.com/support/pages/upgrading-vios-31

VIOS $2.2 \rightarrow 3.1$

AIX $6.1 \rightarrow 7.2$ 2007 2015

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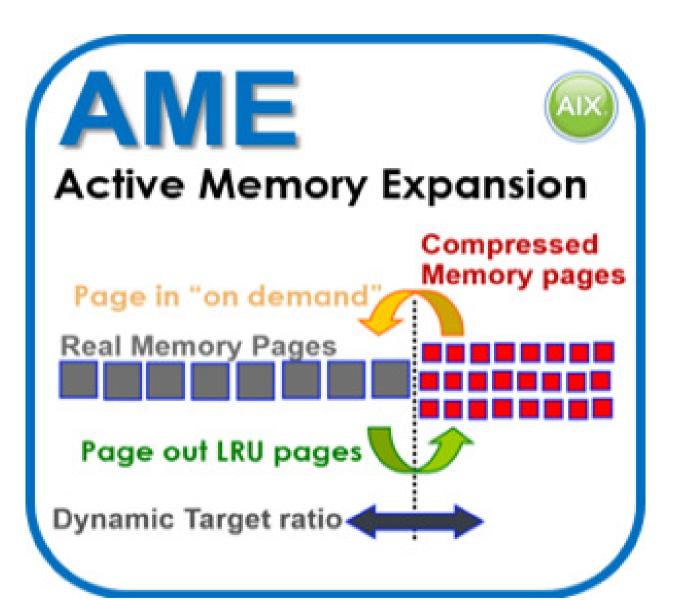
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This was a joke!

Best Practice © IBM Corporation, 2020





My YouTube Video
https://youtu.be/W85ZRln-2hA
18 minutes long



Active Memory Expansion (AME)

Active Memory Expansion

Compressed Memory pages

Page in "on demand"

Real Memory Pages

Dynamic Target ratio

What year was this released? 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 20015

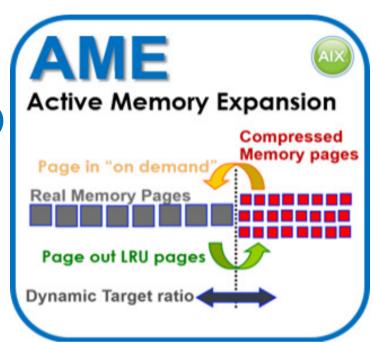
Which POWER version?
POWER5, POWER6, POWER7, POWER8, POWER9

Answers in the Chat, please.





Active Memory Expansion (AME)



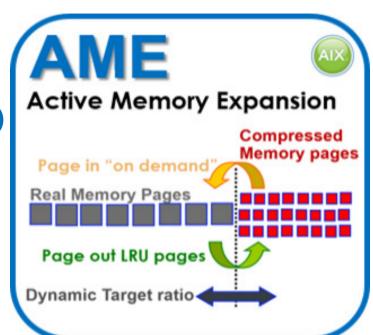
First released in 2009 – POWER6 days

Summary:

- 1 Expands memory to a larger effective memory by compressing some memory pages
- 2 Expansion Factor (EF) target can be dynamically set
- My thoughts were 1.2 to 1.5
- Typical values on customer serves are 1.75 to 2.25 or higher
- Run AIX command "amepat" to find out ← can try this without purchasing AME



Active Memory Expansion (AME)



Bad news: You have to purchase AME

Good news: Many clients with it, find it useful & use it all day

New features since the original release:

- 1) Supports 64 KB memory pages good for databases
- 2) POWER8 some HW support for compression
- POWER9 accelerator now does the Compression/Expansion much faster



Bargain of the decade: Active Memory Expansion (AME)

From what I can find out:

Price has not changed for 11 years. WHAT!!

Middle of the range server examples:

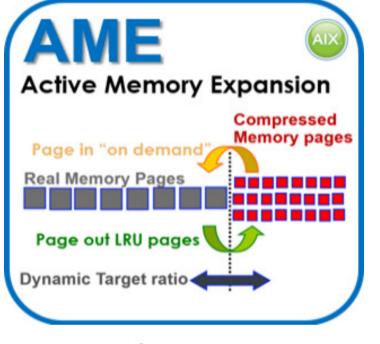
- 2009 = POWER6 p570 32 cores, max RAM= 0.7 TB
- 2020 = POWER9 E950 36 cores, max RAM=12.0 TB (can have 48 cores)

Example, Expansion Factor of 2:

- 2009 = POWER6 p570 EF=2 \rightarrow 0.75 TB RAM + 0.75 TB AME = 1.5 TB

- 2020 = POWER9 E950 EF=2 → 12.0 TB RAM + 12.0 TB AME = 24.0 TB

x 16 more effective RAM at the same cost Or a ~94% price reduction over 11 years



AIX Marketing Budget

What is the yearly budget on AIX marketing?

\$0, \$1K, \$1M, \$1B

Answers in the Chat, please.





AIX Marketing Budget

What is the yearly budget on AIX marketing?



As far as I can tell!



AIX Best Bits:2017 poll



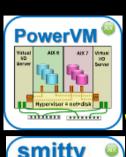
AIX 32 Best Bits: https://ibm.biz/AIXpertBlog then find "AIX Best Bits" Intro & Results



AIX Best Bits:2017 poll



AIX 32 Best Bits: https://ibm.biz/AIXpertBlog then find "AIX Best Bits" Intro & Results



Top 8 features



Observations:

Some are POWER hardware features that AIX fully exploits!













Had a few 1000 votes but in 2020 conferences cancelled!

Questions:

How to raise AIX's profile in 2020?

How to explain all the brilliant features of AIX to newbies?

How to remind the "old guys" who take a lot for granted!









How do people in 2020 learn stuff?



Go language, github, Prometheus

How do people in 2020 learn stuff?

Answer: YouTube



How do people in 2020 learn stuff?

Answer: YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/user/nigelargriffiths ~200 videos on POWER, performance & AIX

Reviewed my YouTube videos:

- 18 AIX topics covered as those new features arrived
- 6 core AIX topics missing













Flash Cache Accelerator Next

































Project: **AIX in Focus**

Have HW (which AIX fully exploits) videos on

- PowerVM Series (Power Basics)
- PowerVC series
- PowerSC
- Dynamic LPAR*
- Simplified Remove Restart*
- Loads on performance/tuning + nmon*

AIX related topics Series

- Shared Storage Pools
- Workload Partitions (WPAR)

Not covered

- PowerHA (no skills)

Missing Best Bits:

- AIX Open Source Toolbox
- Advanced 'o' commands
- Scalability
- Field Hardening
- First Failure Data Capture
- Enterprise Pools (don't have one)
- Ideas Welcome



Project: **AIX in Focus**

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AIX Rebel Alliance – IBM = Its been moved

AIX Strength to Strength

- Original Supplied by Jay Kruemcke
- 2016 went missing ...
- 2017 updated by me covering 18 months
- 2020 missing again!

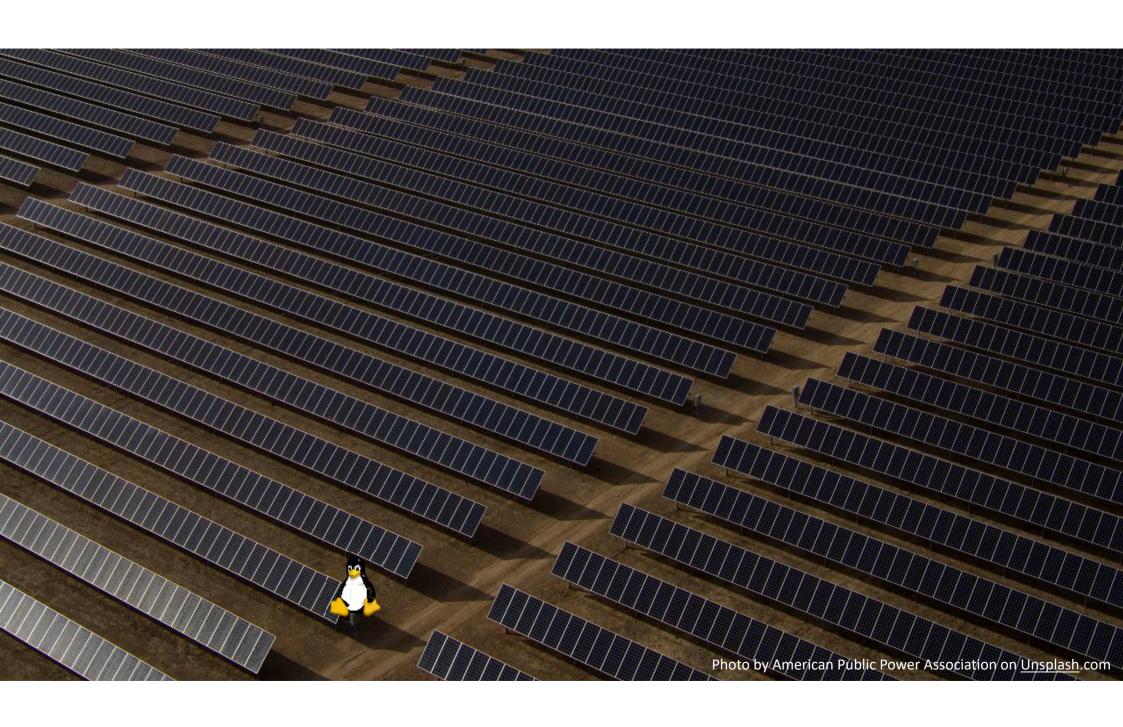


- 1 Do you still want it?
 - Never seen it, Don't care, May be, Useful reference
- 2 Which format?:
 - Document or Blog.
- In the Chat, please.











IBM Power System IC922 Technical Overview and Introduction http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpapers/pdfs/redp5584.pdf

IBM Power System AC922 Technical Overview and Introduction http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/redp5494.html?Open

IBM Power Systems LC921 & LC922* Technical Overview and Introduction http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redpapers/pdfs/redp5495.pdf

IBM Power Systems S922, S914, & S924 Technical Overview & Introduction http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/redp5497.html?Open

IBM Power System L922 Technical Overview and Introduction http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/redp5496.html?Open

IBM Power Systems H922 & H924 Technical Overview and Introduction http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/redp5498.html?Open

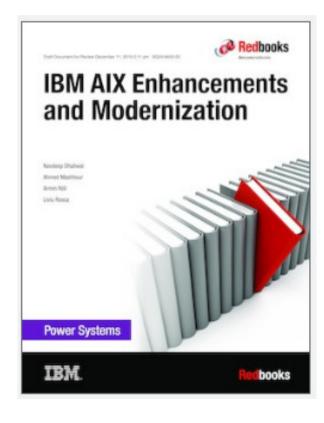
IBM Power System E950: Technical Overview and Introduction http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/redp5509.html?Open

IBM Power System E980: Technical Overview and Introduction http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/abstracts/redp5510.html?Open

* No longer available in some countries

Draft Redbook - Updated March 2020 IBM AIX Enhancements and Modernization

http://www.redbooks.ibm.com/redbooks/pdfs/sg248453.pdf



AIX 7.2 TL4 includes

nmon Current Variable MHz

was Nominal MHz

and XIVE

Red Hat

SUSE

Ubuntu

- Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) fully supported on POWER9
 - Purchase with your server + ongoing support
- RHEL7, RHEL8, RHEL for SAP and Red Hat OpenShift Container
- For best support upgrade to RHEL 8.1

Red Hat

SUSE

Ubuntu

Warning:

- RHEL 7.6 ALT was always a temporary "stop-gap" for the AC922/IC922

 → POWER9 with GPUs (no KVM support) with NVLink, specific HPC & AI libraries
- Upgrades to 7.7/7.8 not supported
- Support for RHEL 7.6 ALT stops at the end of the year (2020)
- Please Upgrade to RHEL 8.1 this year
 Check your specific libraries are available before upgrading

Red Hat

SUSE

Ubuntu

- SLES 12 & SLES 15 full supported on POWER9
 - Purchase with your server + ongoing support
- Primary focus is SAP & SAP HANA
 - Significant performance + cost benefits over x86 and now Persistent Memory
- Not supported on AC922/IC922

Red Hat

SUSE

Ubuntu

You can purchase Ubuntu Support with your POWER9 server

- L922/S92x Ubuntu 16
- AC922 Ubuntu 18

But not for

IC922 or Enterprise E950/E980

If you purchased support from IBM, it is good for the contract duration

Red Hat

SUSE

Ubuntu

IBM not selling Ubuntu 20 Support

- Client's did not want it from IBM
- Not surprising for a "free" OS

Using a free Ubuntu OS & now want to upgrade to Enterprise Support?

- Ask Canonical
- The details/prices are here: https://ubuntu.com/pricing/infra
- Does not mention HW platform!

Red Hat

SUSE

Ubuntu

Personal note:

- I recently could not get Ubuntu 20 to install on POWER9 into an LPAR!
- May be, I did something wrong
- The download image is called
 - → ubuntu-20.04-live-server-ppc64el.iso I am not clear what "live" means
- Perhaps, it is for non-IBM OpenPOWER
- I could install Ubuntu 18 + upgrade to 20
- Then it works fine but <u>no support from IBM</u>
- Hint try POWER8 or POWER9 in POWER8 mode



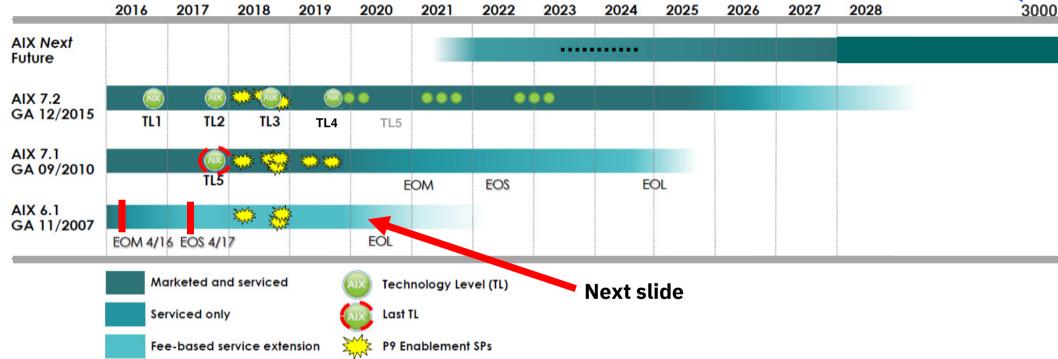
Some slides from Miss AIX -Petra Bührer





AIX Release Roadmap View





All statements regarding IBM's future direction and intent are subject to change or withdrawal without notice, and represent goals and objectives only.

- **EOM** End of marketing = Can't be purchased nor install media downloads.
- **EOS** End of support = Regular support not available. Extended Support may be available at a price.
- **EOL** End of life = Don't even ask for support.

rpris

AIX 5.3 is not supported at all

AIX 6.1 first released in 2007

AIX 6.1 standard support stopped April 2017

at an additional fee Extended Support ends April 2020

at an additional fee Extended Support on

POWER7 ends Sept 2020 (4 months)

POWER7+ ends Dec 2021 (15 months)

POWER8 ends April 2022 (19 months)

12 year overlap!

AIX 7.1 first released in 2010

[EOM within the next year, subject to change Then Extended Support fees]

AIX 7.2 first released in 2015

[Already six years with many unique features not in 7.1 All new function are 7.2 and has been for years]

```
AIX 5.3 \rightarrow no
```

AIX 6.1 → no or moving off soon [performance limited to SMT=4]

AIX 7.1 \rightarrow TL5 only - latest is sp6

AIX 7.2 \rightarrow TL2(until Oct 2020), TL3 or TL4 sp5 sp4 sp2

2019 end of service for POWER7 or older Last TL for AIX 7.1 shipped 2017

Power Platform	AIX 6.1	AIX 7.1	AIX 7.2
POWER6 💥	No Support 💥		Never Supported 💢
POWER7	Sept. 2020 💢		
POWER7+	Dec. 2021 🗱		
POWER8	April 2022 💢		
POWER9			

POWER7 mode

POWER8 mode



Not Supported

Power Systems VUG in December

What's new from Mr. nmon's Point of View

Content

- Live Partition Mobility (LPM)
 - Speed improvements, POWER9 Compression + Encryption
- AIX Live Kernel Update (LKU)
 - Evolution + TL4 enhancements
- AIX 7.2 TL3 Enhancements reminder
- AIX 7.2 TL4 Enhancements new
 - AIX XIVE eXternal Interrupt Virtualisation Engine (POWER9)
 - Persistent Memory for SAP-HANA (SUSE Linux)

https://www.youtube.com/nigelargriffiths

YouTube: POWER9 getting the Best Performance

YouTube: Advanced nmon Topics 5 Part Series

5 Part Series

Nigel's current Performance Tool project: njmon

Next Webinar on June 25th topic AIX Roadmap & IBM i Roadmap



http://ibm.biz/PowerVUG

Jyoti Dodhia



Joe Armstrong

© IBM Corporation, 2020





Open Source from IBMers

So AIX benefits from the latest Time-Series database & graph engines

From Nigel "Mr nmon" Griffiths

InfluxDB

Grafana

Browser





JSON output for ElasticSearch & Splunk **Line Protocol for InfluxDB & Prometheus Recent updates:**

- New faster centralized collector
- New direct to InfluxDB version
- New YouTube videos for Sys Admins
- New Grafana graph templates See https://tinyurl.com/njmon



nimon + InfluxDB + Grafana for AIX & Linux Performance data

Stats:

CPU

RAM

Disks

Paging

Volume Groups Logical Volumes

Networks

Adapters

Kernel stats

Tapes

Uptime

User count

AIO

File systems

System Calls

Processes

NFS

GPFS Spectrum Scale

VIOS virtual disks

VIOS SEA

VIOS virtual networks

VIOS SSP

Linux NVIDIA GPUs

AIX rPerf



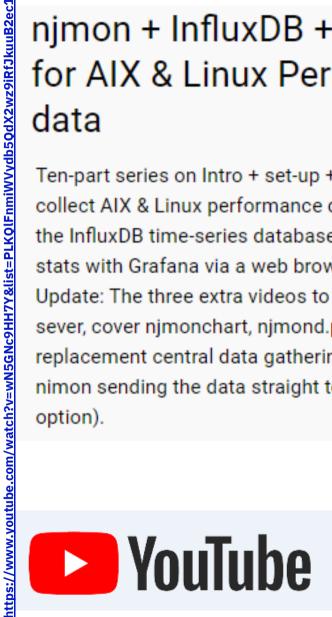




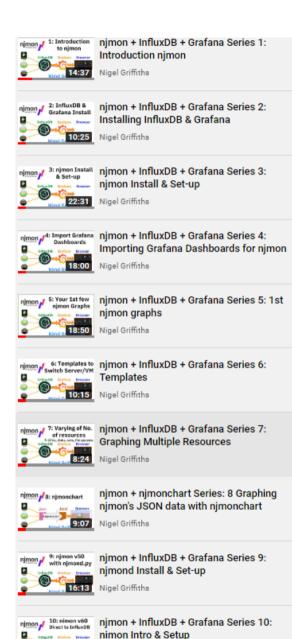
njmon + InfluxDB + Grafana for AIX & Linux Performance data

Ten-part series on Intro + set-up + using nimon to collect AIX & Linux performance data, store it in the InfluxDB time-series database and graph the stats with Grafana via a web browser.

Update: The three extra videos to the original sever, cover nimonchart, nimond.py (new replacement central data gathering service) and nimon sending the data straight to InfluxDB option).



10 videos 11.000 Views up to June 2020 2 hours 20 minutes

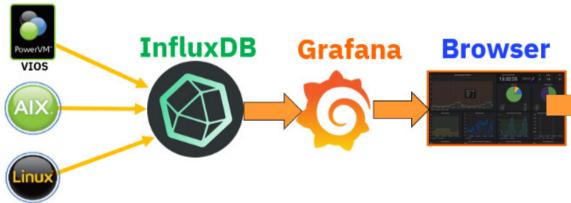




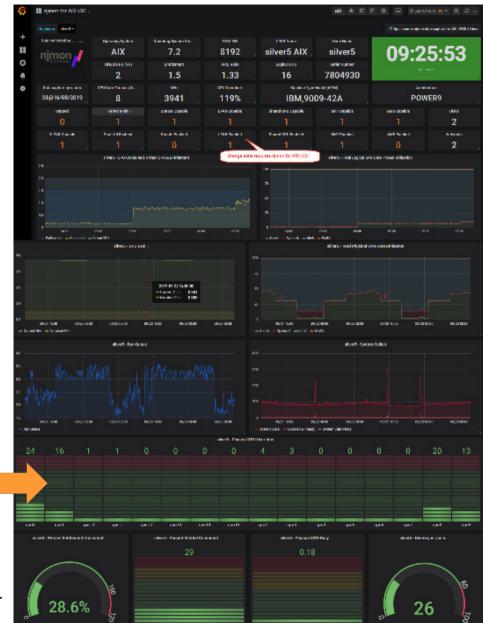
http:/tinyurl.com/njmon

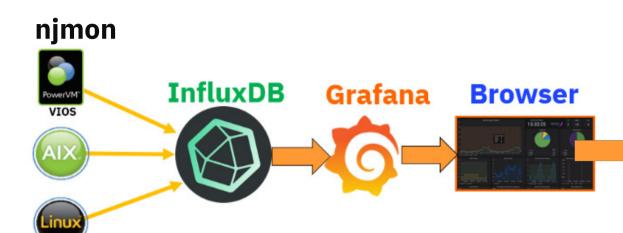
Not an IBM product but Power Systems integrating with the best of open-source



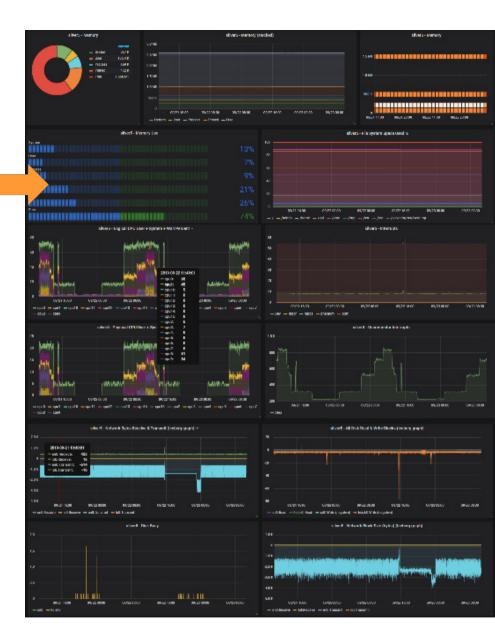


Small c code → JSON → central → inject → timeseries DB → graphing engine → browser Other Time-Series engine are available & tested elastic(search) and Splunk





- 1. njmon small endpoint agent → JSON
- 2. Five methods to load into time-series DB
- 3. Best of bred IMHO: InfluxDB + Grafana
- 4. This results in:
 - Real-time graphs on 1 or many servers
 - Rapid graphing to explore your data
 - Alerting on thresholds
- 5. InfluxDB + Grafana = install in 10 mins



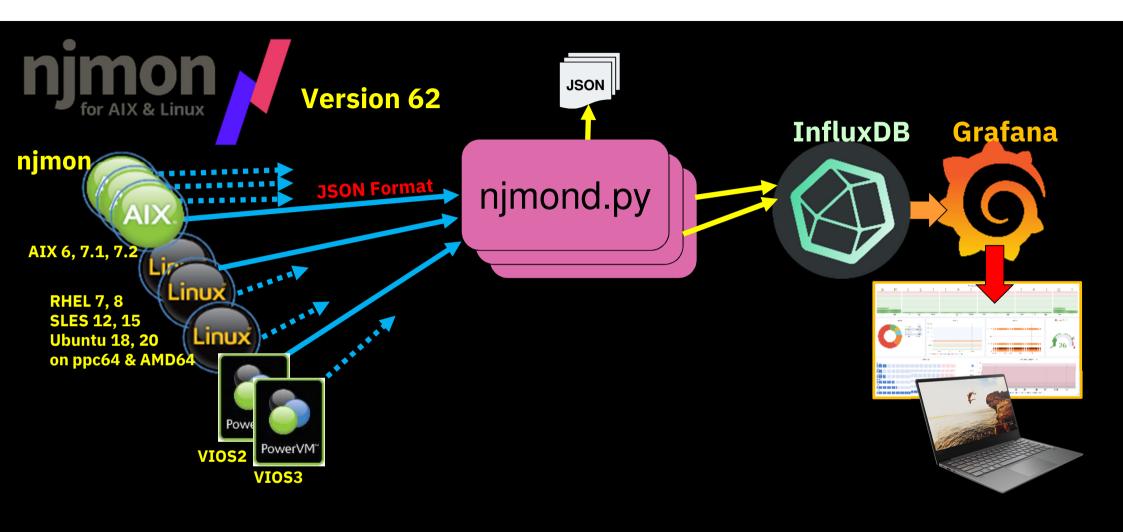
Dec. 2019 Highlights

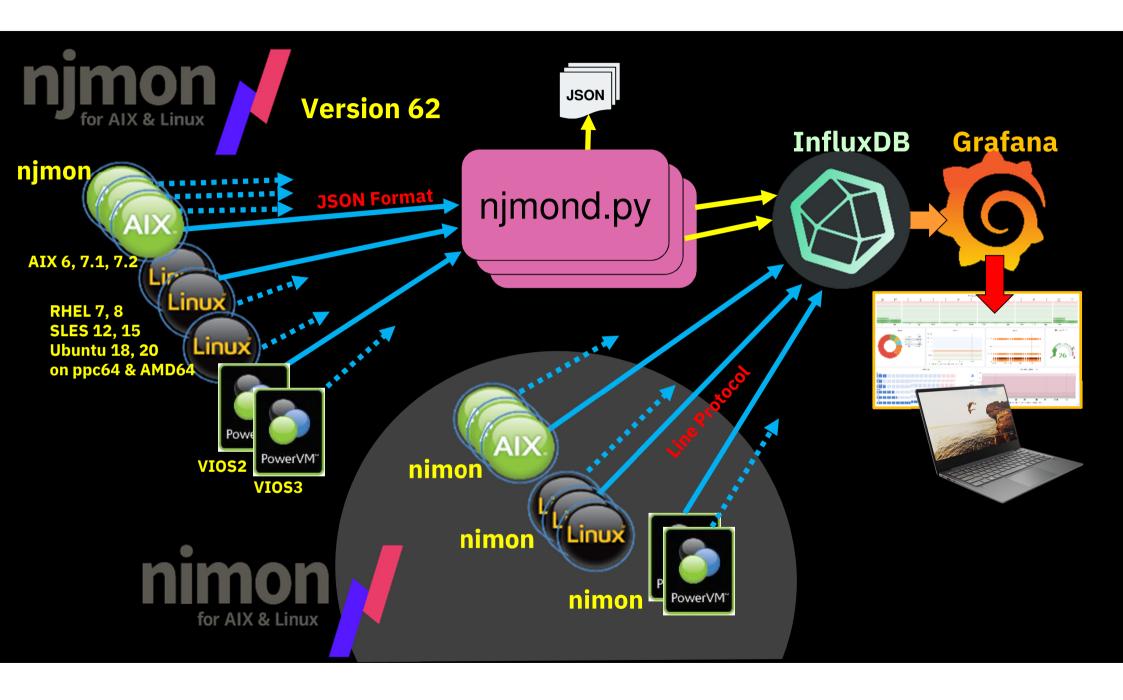
- 1. Improved TAGS for graphing multiple resources like CPUs, Disks, Nets, Filesystems
- 2. njmonchart to graph to webpage .html
- 3. Six Pre-made Grafana Dashboards
- 4. POWER Shared Processor Pool (SPP) stats
- 5. Spectrum Scale (GPFS) stats AIX & Linux
- AIX aioserver stats
- 7. Fixes for time creep
- 8. Process Utilisation stats (set threshold higher)
- 9. VIOS SSP, virtual disks & networks stats
- 10. Changes for elastic (elasticsearch/ELK see -e)
- 11. NFS v2, v3 and v4 stats
- 12. RedHat NVIDIA GPU stats on AC922
- 13. AIX Oracle ASM disks (see -o)
- 14. Improved Process naming (ncpu_[pid])
- 15. Moving to linefeed separated JSON records

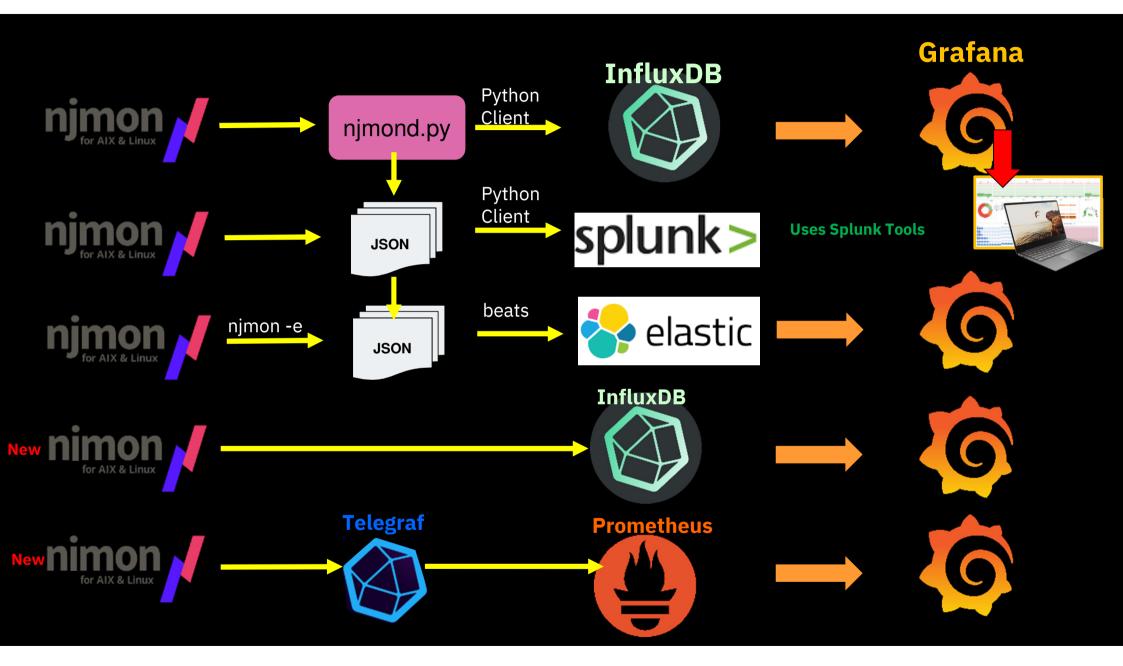


New News:

- After a cron start up randomise sleep
- Python based merged collector/injector
- Keep trying, if the central server stops
- Testing over 1000 Endpoints







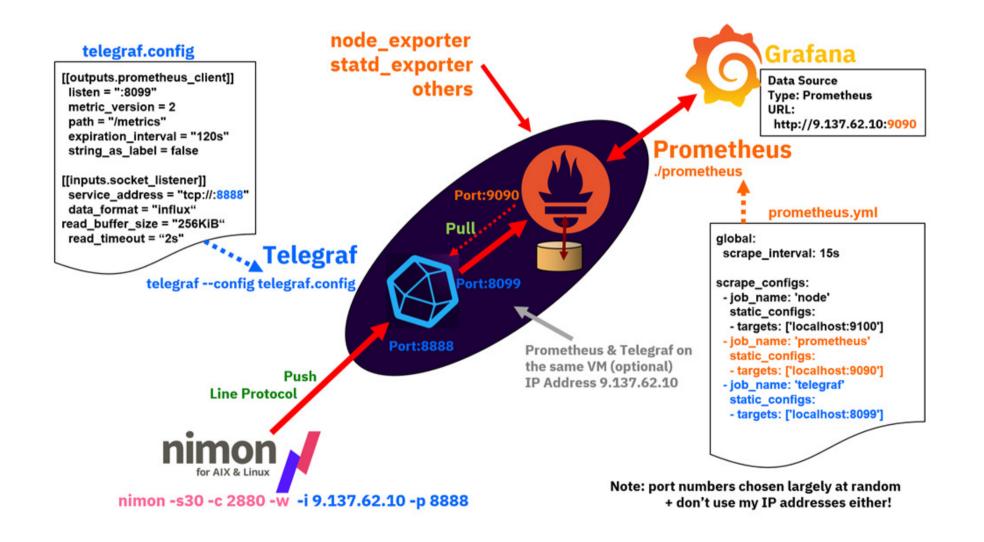
June 2020 Highlights

- **1. nimon** stats go straight to InfluxDB, so no other central collection needed
- 2. Prometheus supported. Push ← → pull issue. Telegraf handles this.
- 3. Making the Internal Data Collecting official
- For AIX added rperf calculations good for server consolidation and migrating between POWER generations
- 5. Added a **config file** for njmon and nimon so the parameters don't appear on the command line (including passwords)
- Option for process names not to have the process PID at the end
- 7. Adding flags to reduce the stats a bit so no more CPU core threads (logical CPUs) on large LPARs there is just too many with SMT=8
- 8. PID output on start-up \rightarrow helps you stop later

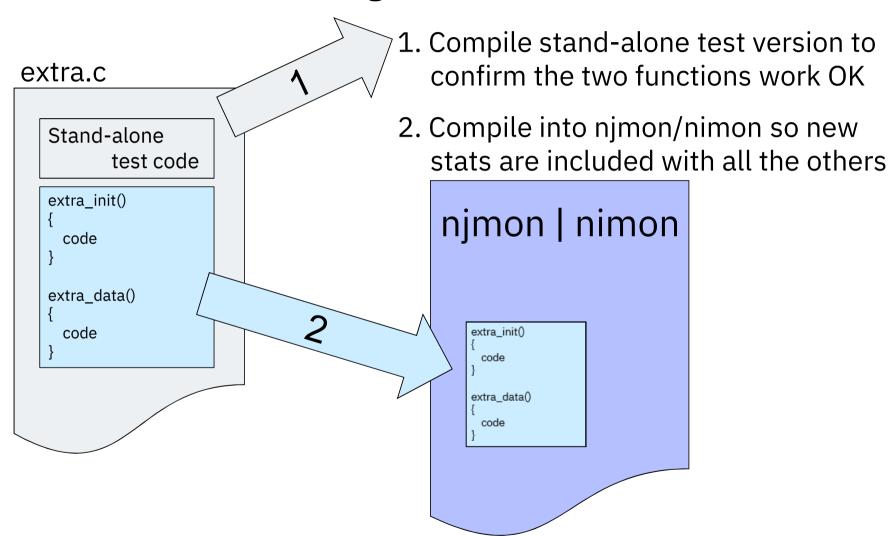




njmon & nimon for AIX v63 → yesterday njmon & nimon for Linux v63 → soon



Internal Extra Data Collecting



Questions

- 1. DeveloperWorks RIP
- 2. AIX Open Source Toolbox
- 3. Ansible
- 4. Keeping informed
- 5. Virtual I/O Server dates
- 6. AIX Memory Expansion AME
- 7. AIX Marketing
- 8. AIX Technical Education
- 9. AIX Strength to Strength
- 10. Redbook update
- 11. Linux on POWER review
- 12. AIX on POWER review
- 13. njmon project update



10 June at 10am BST [British Summer Time] POWER Virtual User Group:

What's New from Mr. nmon!

