SharkFest'17 US

Designing a requirements based packet capture infrastructure

John Pittle

Distinguished Performance Consultant, Riverbed Professional Services

SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Audience Profile

 Which IT teams / disciplines are represented in the session today?

What industries are represented?

Speaker Introduction

- App911 Emergency Troubleshooting Team Lead
- Technology Adoption Services Team Lead
- Consulting Practice Mentor
- Best Practices Contributor
- Program Owner Riverbed Performance Management Workshop Series

Premise

- We Love Packets!
- Many performance / availability issues can only be solved with packets and expert analysis
- Analysis is often delayed or deferred because we don't have the packets or the context we need at the time we need them
- Requirements based design of packet capture and analysis solutions can help ensure you get the funding needed to adequately support the business

My Ask for This Session

- Engage and Participate
- Share your experience
- Learn from your Peers
- Improve your Craft

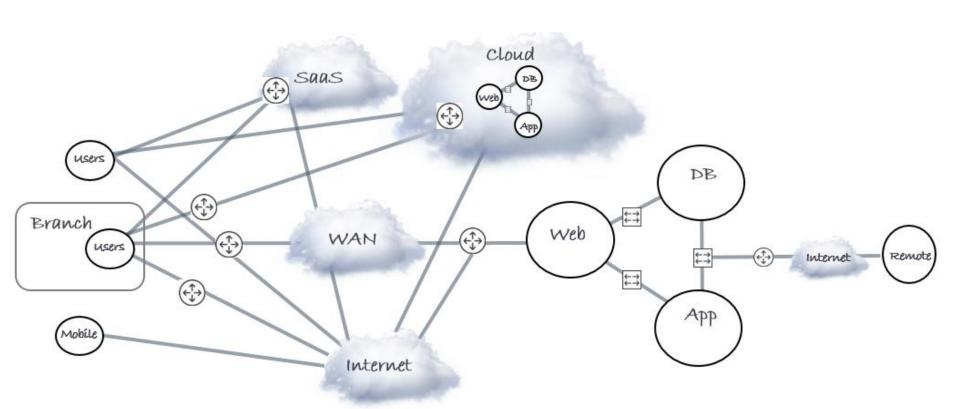
Agenda

- Performance Management Landscape
- Packet Related Workflows & Technologies
- Requirements & Business Case Mechanics
- Gap & Risk Heat Maps
- Recommendations and Wrap-up

Performance Management Landscape

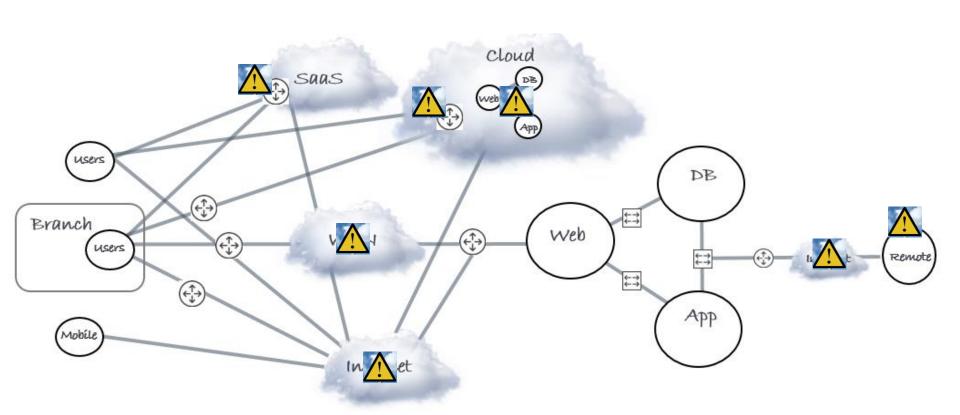
- End User Experience
- User End Point Monitoring
- Packets
- Flow (NetFlow, Jflow, Sflow, NBAR, etc)
- SNMP
- Application Metrics
- Application Logging
- Javascript Injection
- Host Metrics
- Infrastructure Metrics

Hybrid Enterprise



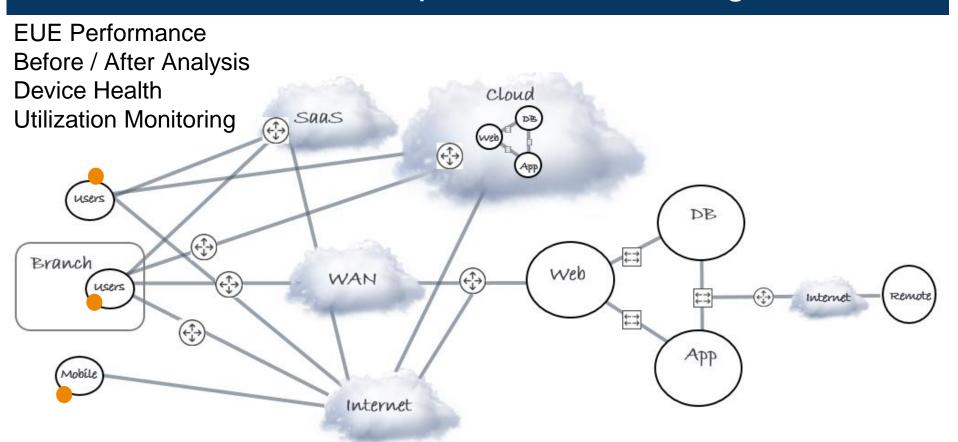
SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Next Gen Challenges / Blind Spots



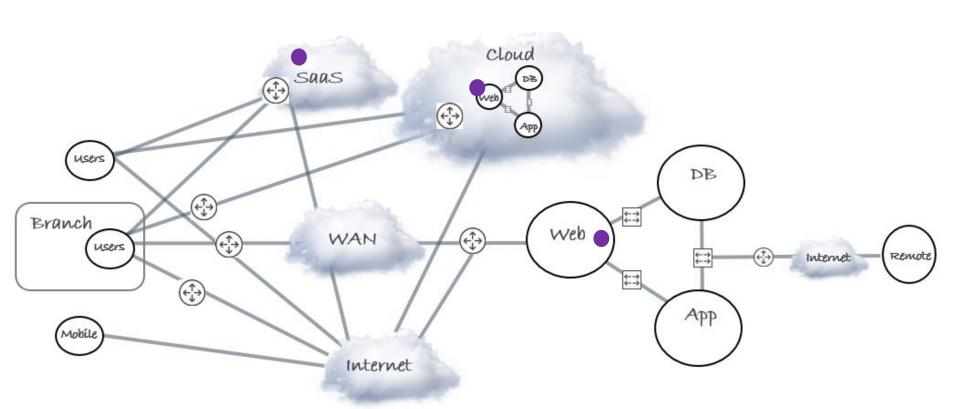
SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

User End Experience Monitoring



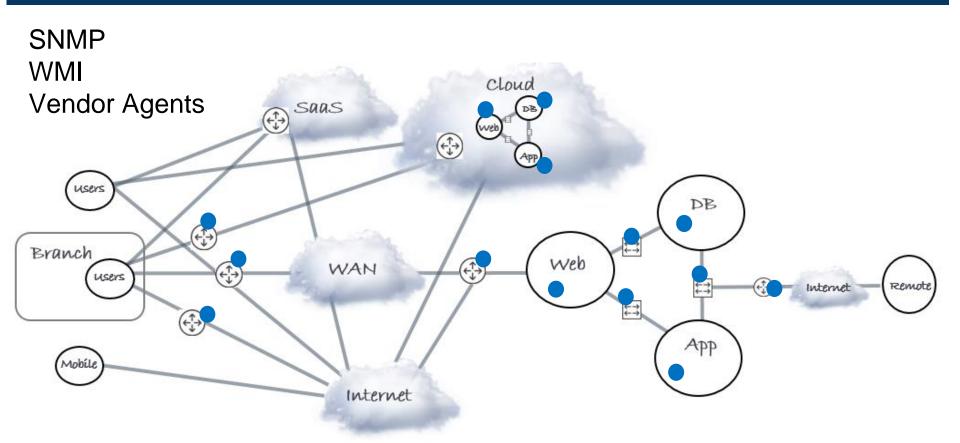
SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Browser EUE - Javascript Injection



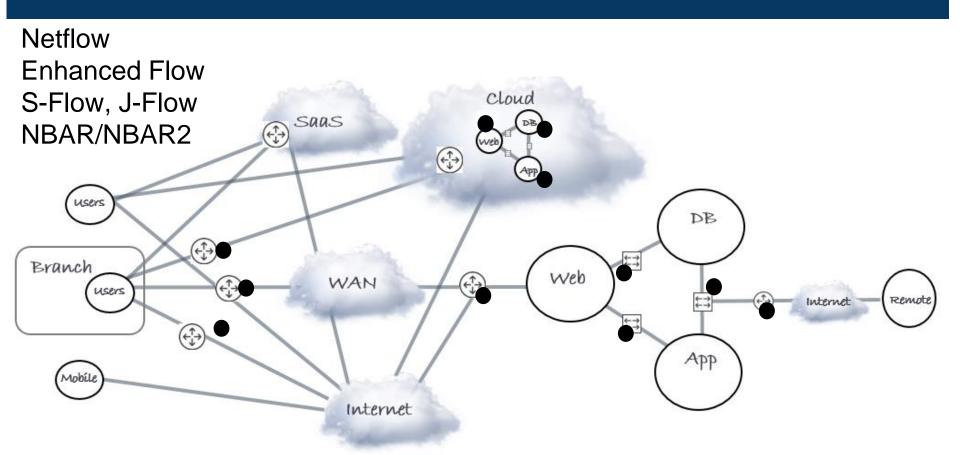
SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Infrastructure Devices / Servers



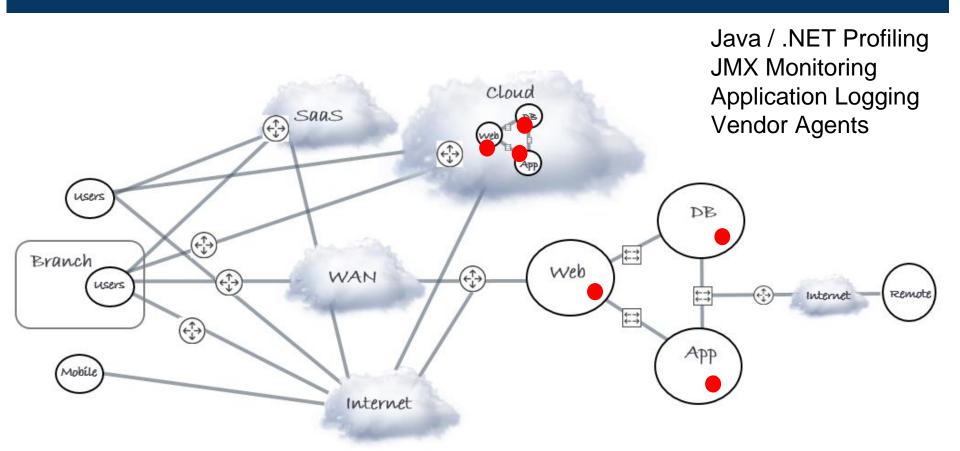
SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Flow Records



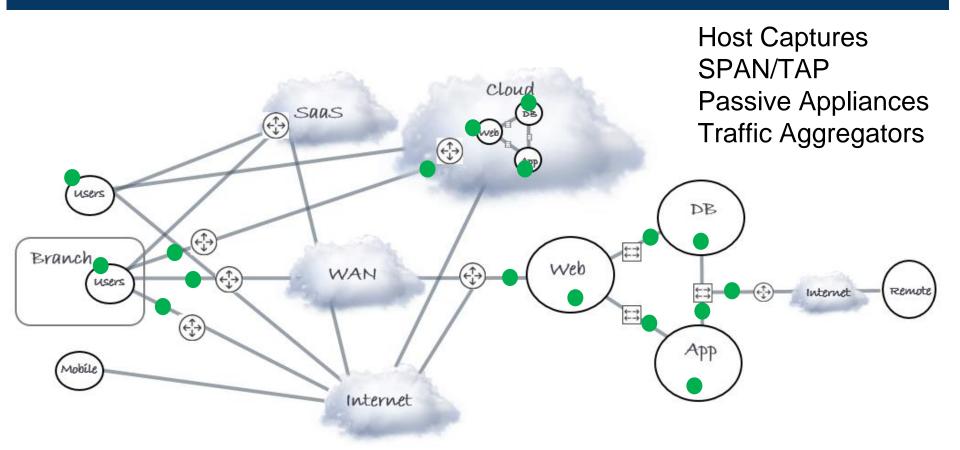
SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Internal Application Components



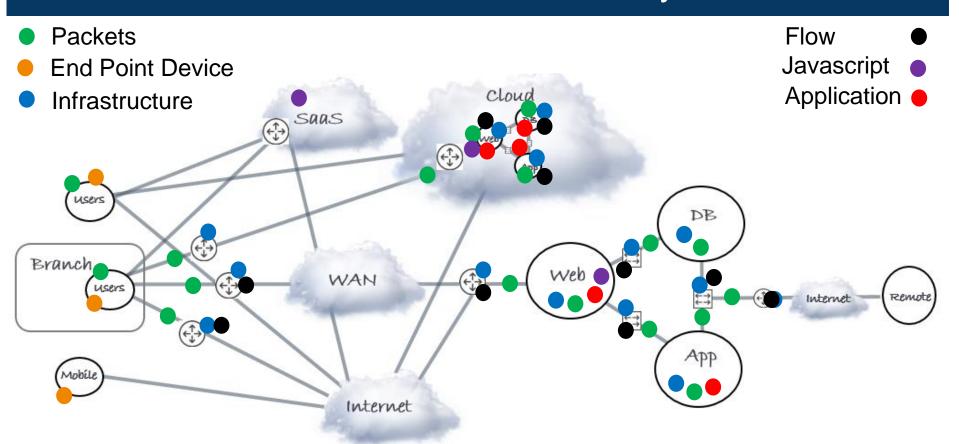
SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Packet Capture / Collection



SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Full End to End Visibility



SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Heard in the War Room...

- Link utilization is 80%, who's using the bandwidth?
- Server utilization is 85%, who's generating the load?
- Is user experience impacted?
- How long has it been going on?
- App ABC is slow, what infrastructure does it use?
- Who owns the fix?
- If device XYZ goes down, who's impacted?

Heard in the CIO Staff Meeting

- Are we meeting our SLAs?
- Are customers happy?
- Is IT measurably contributing to company success?
- Are we investing in the right areas? How do we know?
- What's the impact if we _______?

Holistic Performance Management

- A comprehensive, synergistic, holistic
 Performance Management strategy is needed to fully answer these questions
- Packet based performance monitoring is a key part of that strategy

Questions / Discussion



SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

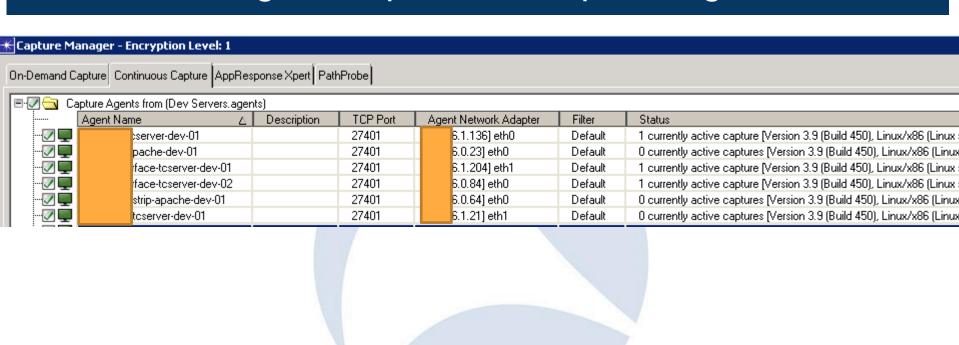
Packet Related Workflows & Technologies

- Capture
- Monitoring
- Triage and Troubleshooting
- Performance Analysis / Protocol Analysis
- Planning

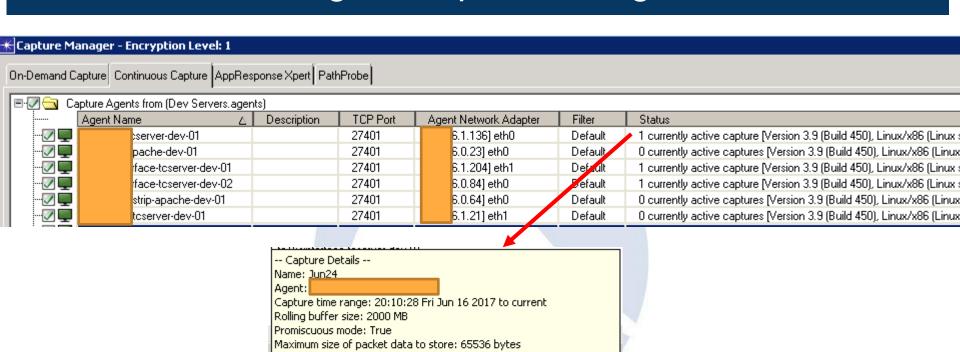
Packet Capture

- Host Based Captures
- Network Devices with Capture Capability
- Passive Appliances
- SPAN/TAP Design
- Packet Aggregation Design
- Packet Aggregation Appliances

Manage Multiple Host Capture Agents



Manage Multiple Host Agents



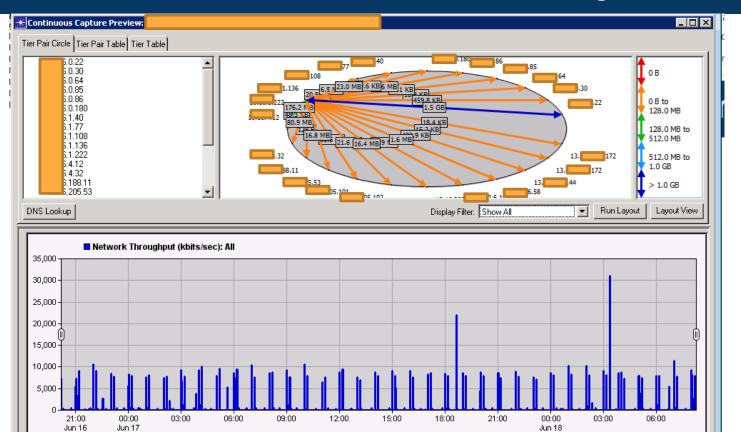
SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

AppTransaction Xpert Packet Trace Warehouse repository size: 500 MB

Capture started by: jpittle
Capture started from:

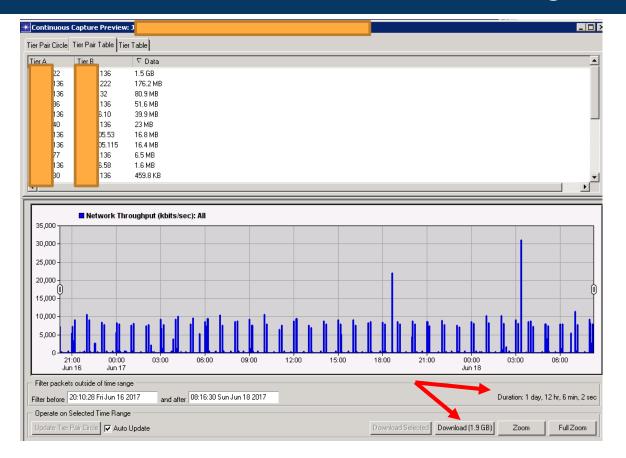
Agent network adapter

Preview before downloading



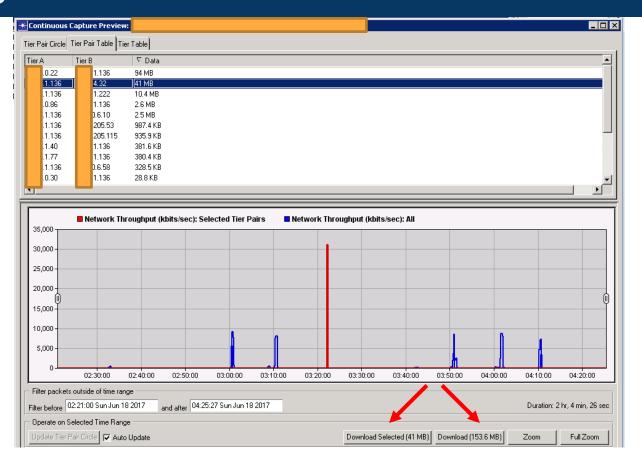
SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Preview before downloading



SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Navigate to most relevant traffic before download

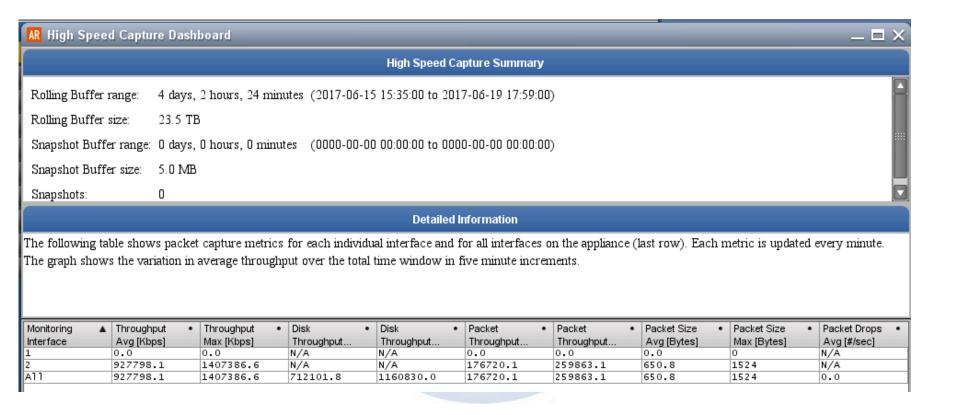


SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Passive Appliances - Capture

- Always on, always analyzing performance
- All conversations, all the time, based on the traffic presented
- Capture packets into very large, indexed repository
- Packet Slicing and Filtering
- Byte Pattern Recognition
- Focused preview and selection of relevant conversations before download

Passive Appliance - Continuous Capture



SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

SPAN & TAP

- Engineered traffic feeds for performance and security tools
- SPAN design challenges
 - Device / traffic impacts
 - Full duplex over half duplex
 - Oversubscription
- TAP design challenges
 - Full duplex over half duplex
 - Managed vs. unmanaged TAPs
- Virtual TAPs for ESX

Packet Aggregators

- Essential in large environments
- Key Features:
- Filtering, Splitting, Aggregating
- Header modification
- Scalability
- De-dup
- Flow generation

Questions / Comments

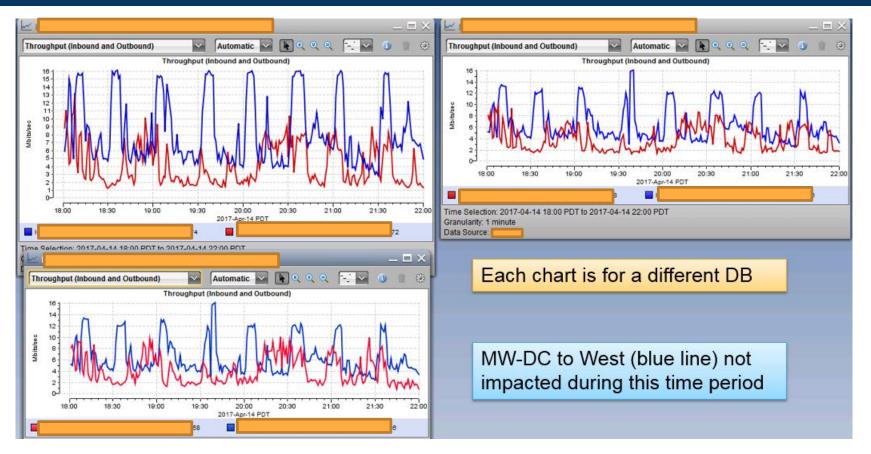


SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Monitoring - Passive Appliances

- Always on, always analyzing performance
- All conversations, all the time, based on the traffic presented
- Proactive alerting
- Baselining and historical trends
- Quickly determine problem domain and download relevant packets when deeper dive is needed

Real Time Views - Sample



SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

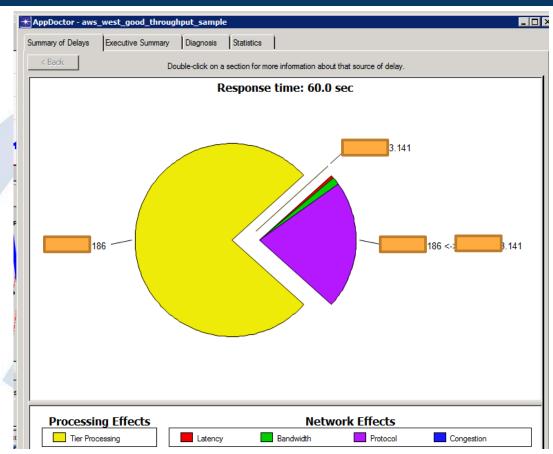
Triage & Troubleshooting

- Automated Expert Analysis
- Key stats with traffic overlay
- Protocol Decodes
- End to End Transaction Views

Expert Analysis Sample

1 minute sample

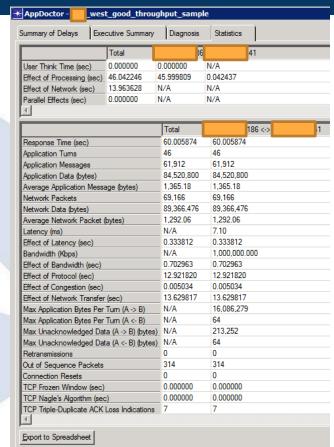
Automated
 Summary of
 Delays Analysis



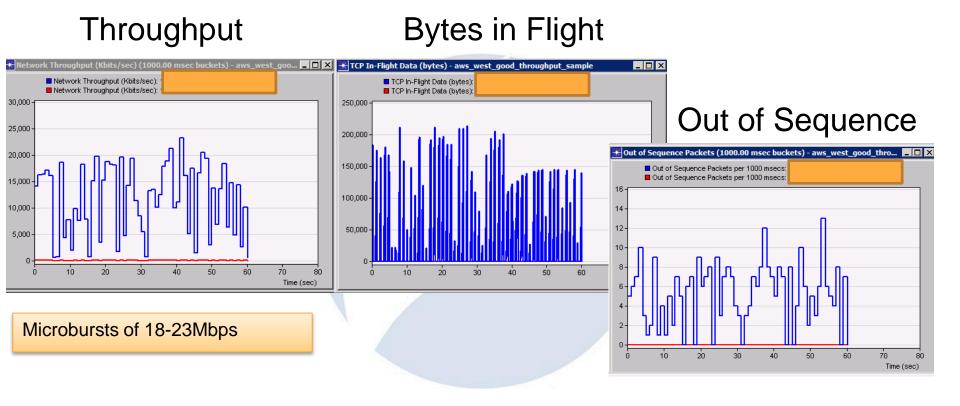
SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Summary Statistics

- Some minor packet loss detected as reported by the 7 3ACK indicators
- Out of sequence packets are not necessarily expected, but we are using Internet transport so we should expect the unexpected

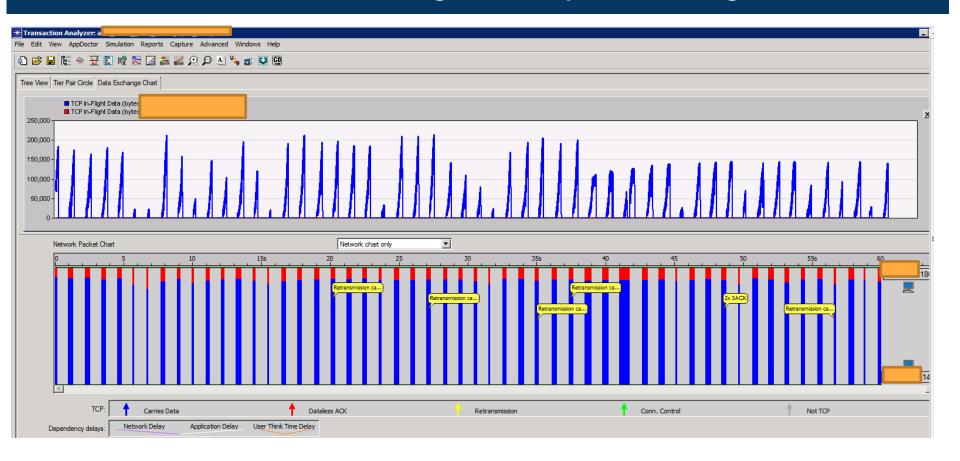


Relevant Statistics



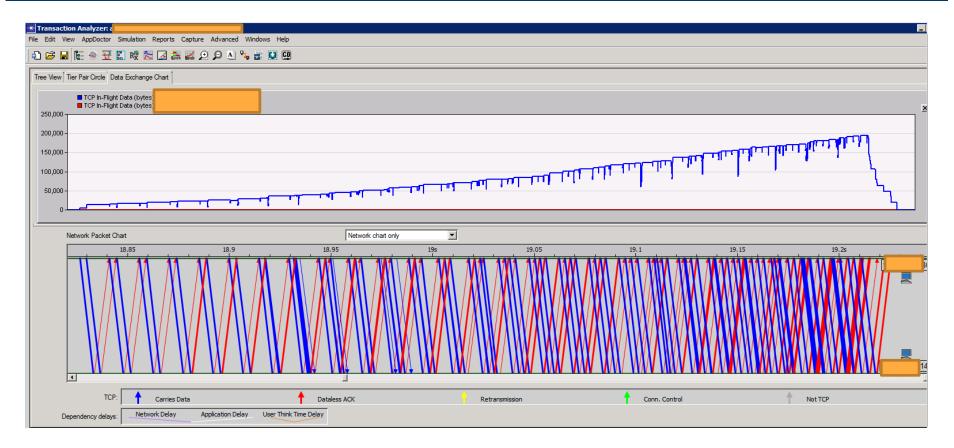
SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Packet Exchange vs. Bytes in Flight



SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

399ms burst drill down - 2.2 MB



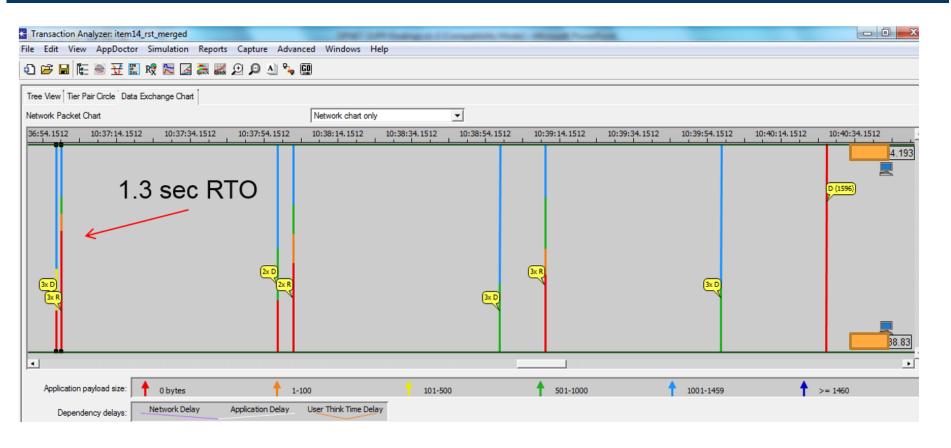
SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Questions / Comments

 Diagnosed TCP Slow Start on Idle without looking at decodes

One more quick sample of visualization before we move on....

TCP RTO Visualization 1 of 4



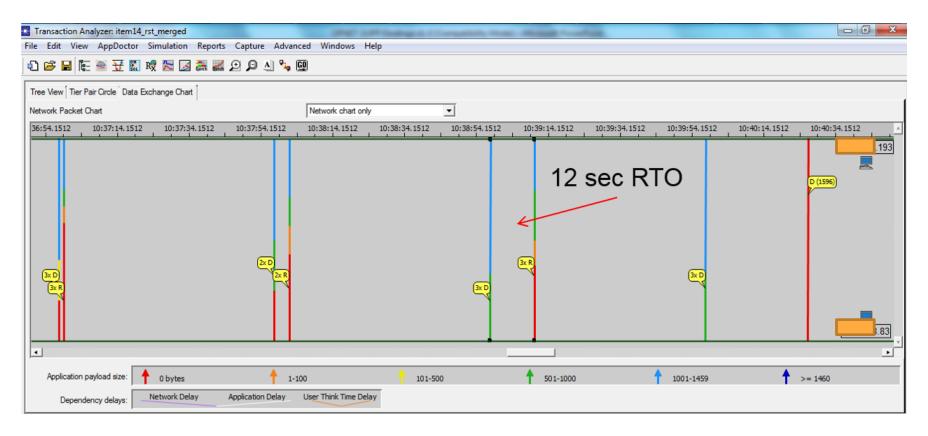
SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

TCP RTO Visualization 2 of 4



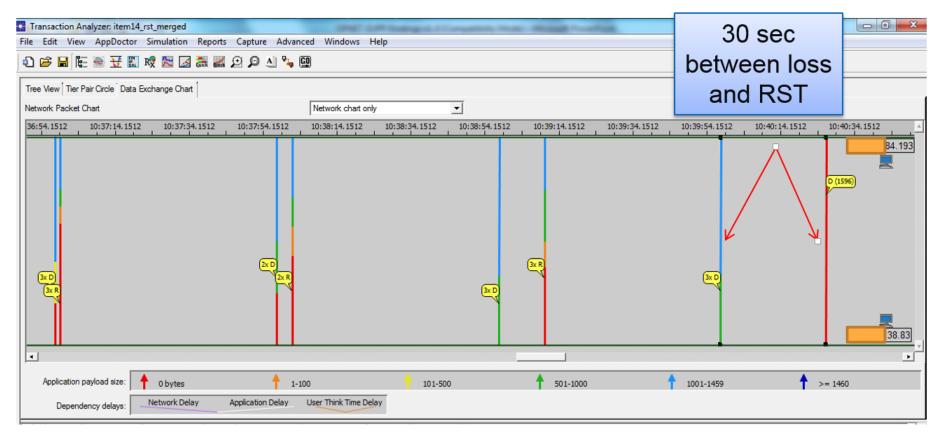
SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

TCP RTO Visualization 3 of 4



SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

TCP RTO Visualization 4 of 4



SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

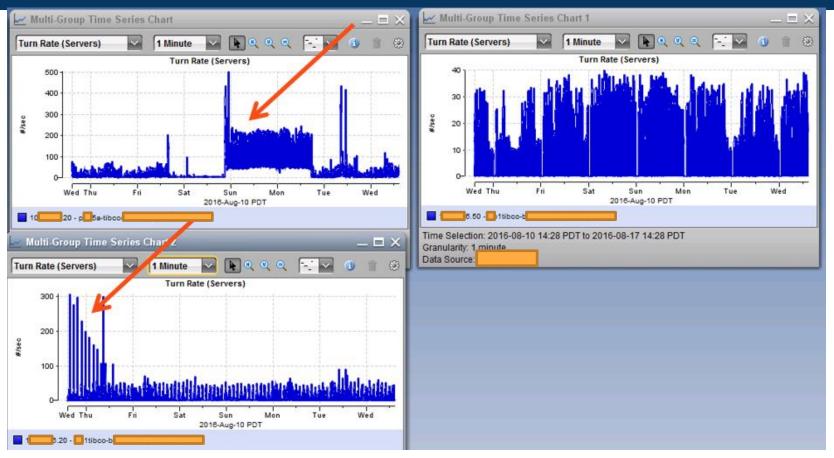
Performance Analysis Workflows

- Dev Team Unit Testing
- Load Testing
- Pre-Deployment
- New Technology Assessments
- 3rd Party Software Qualification

Impact Assessments / Planning

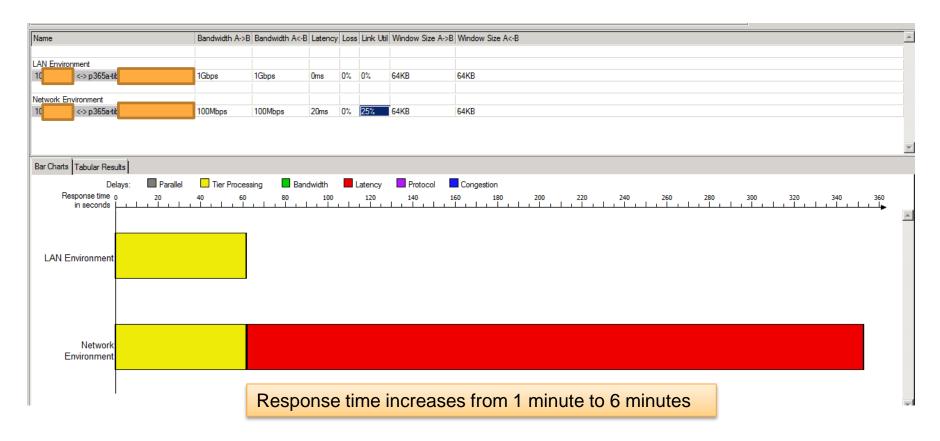
- Capacity Planning
- Migration Planning
- Technology Assessments
- Bandwidth Impact Assessment
- End to End Modeling

Migration Planning - Latency Sensitive Conversations



SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Impact of 40ms Round Trip Latency



Questions / Discussion



Requirements / Business Case

- Packets are an essential data source for Performance Management workflows
- Business leaders / budget owners seldom understand the importance
- They need your help to understand how visibility gaps are actually a risk to the business

Troubleshooting in the Wild

- DB Replication Delays impact customer data visibility
- Claims Management Down
- Load Testing brings down production data center
- Call Center Stability Disruption
- eCommerce web page crash during checkout
- 2 hour outage of global eCommerce website
- Finance website crashes after super bowl commercial
- Global DNS Failover Troubleshooting

Business Case

- Tie your requirements for packet based capabilities to key apps and key infrastructure services
- Characterize the business risk to your key apps & infrastructure
- Capture current state capabilities
- Identify gaps
- Identify risk to the business

Types of Service Delivery Risks

- Poor app performance overall, can't meet SLAs
- App / Service is non-responsive
- Dependent system is down
- Can't complete key transactions
- Incomplete visibility
- Poorly performing infrastructure services are impacting everything

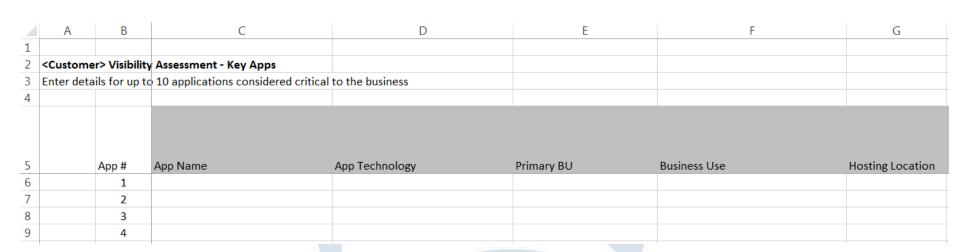
Business Impact

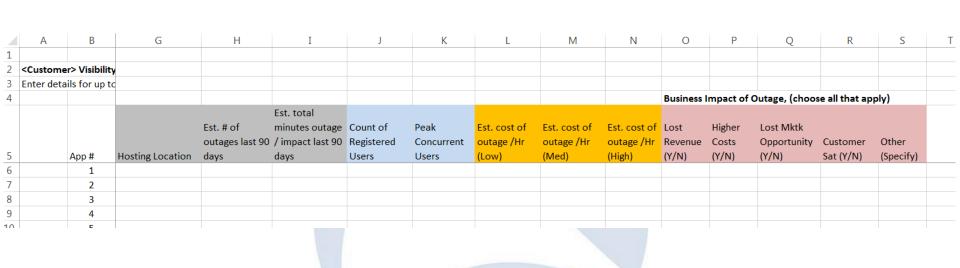
- Customer Churn
- Lost Revenue
- Lost Productivity / Overtime Costs
- Penalties / Fines
- Missed Market Opportunities

Key Apps

- The most important apps to the business
- Characterize scope, scale, user community
- Identify business disruption when these apps are down or performing poorly
- Simple spreadsheet to capture key attributes

Key App Attributes





SharkFest'17 US • Carnegie Mellon University • June 19-22, 2017

Who has these details?

- Service Delivery Managers
- IT Business Office
- BU Owners
- Operations

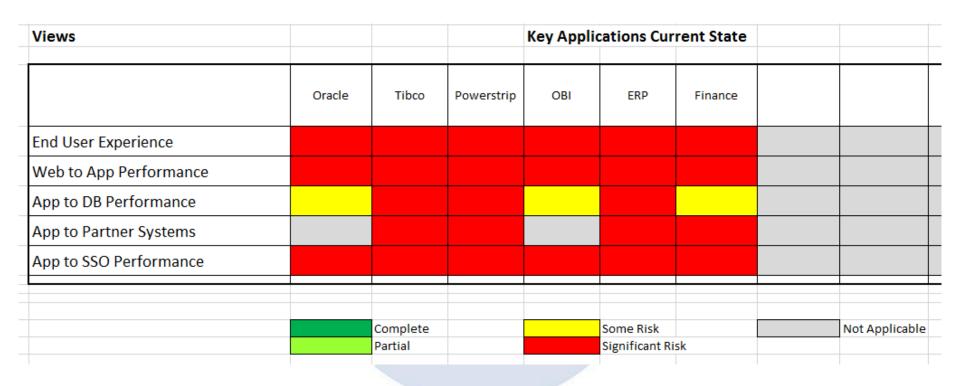
Current State Capture / Visibility Capabilities

- For each Key App what is the most essential traffic to capture?
- What metrics / capability would this give you?
- If you had "full coverage", how would you describe it?

Heat Map Overview

- Simple Excel Spreadsheets with conditional formatting
- Visualize where we need coverage vs. where we have coverage
- Use color scheme to indicate risk
- Iterations of the heat map can be used to communicate a plan & cost estimates

Current State – Packet Capture Coverage

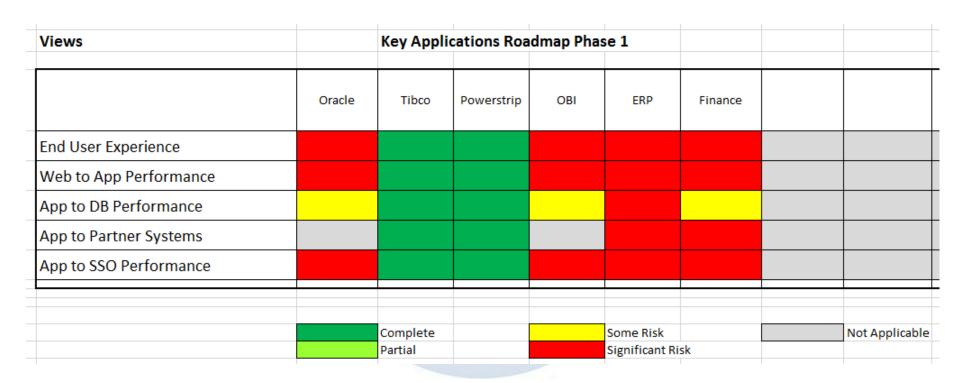


Current State / Future State Roadmap

- Where are my gaps / risks today?
- What do I address first?
- ...second?
- ...third, and so on?

- What would it take to reduce unplanned downtown for this app by 120 minutes per year?
- What would that be worth to the business?

Phase 1 – This Quarter



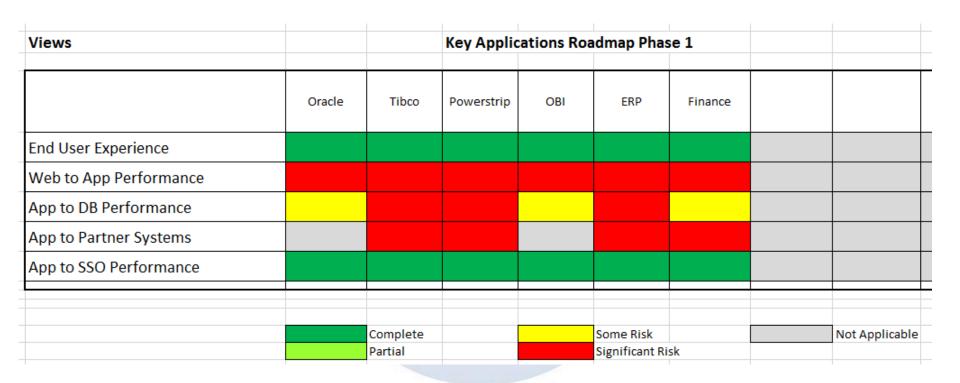
Phase 2 – Next Quarter

Views		Key Applications Roadmap Phase 2					
	Oracle	Tibco	Powerstrip	ОВІ	ERP	Finance	
End User Experience							
Web to App Performance							
App to DB Performance							
App to Partner Systems							
App to SSO Performance							
		Complete			Some Risk		Not Applicable
		Partial			Significant Ri	isk	

Phase 3 – two Quarters out

Views		Key Applications Roadmap Phase 3						
	Oracle	Tibco	Powerstrip	ОВІ	ERP	Finance		
End User Experience								
Web to App Performance								
App to DB Performance								
App to Partner Systems								
App to SSO Performance								
		Complete			Some Risk			Not Applicable
		Partial			Significant R	isk		-

Alternate Phase 1



Comments / Discussion



Key Infrastructure – Shared Services

 What are some key shared services in your environment?

Degradation in these services will impact the entire environment

Key Infrastructure – Shared Services

- DNS
- NTP
- Active Directory / LDAP
- Single Sign-on
- Email
- Sharepoint Servers
- VPN / Token Gateways
- NAS Storage
- VoIP and related infrastructure
- Etc...

Current State – Critical Shared Services

		Critical Infr					
	DNS	Global Load Balancer	AD/LDAP	Single Sign On (SSO)	Prod NetApp Filers	Local Load Balancers	
Response Time							
Transaction Rates							
Connection Rates							
Resource Utilization							
Throughput Rates							
Packet Loss / Retrans							
Packet Captures							
		Complete			Some Risk		
		Partial			Significant Risk		

Questions / Comments



General Recommendations

- Use passive appliances to get coverage for infrastructure shared services and all application edge traffic (EUE)
- Identify key apps where inter-tier packets are most beneficial and expand traffic feeds
- Leverage host based captures everywhere
- Add supplemental analysis capabilities on top of Wireshark

Wrap-Up

- Packets are an essential component of your overall Performance Management capabilities
- Most companies have significant gaps in their packet capture and analysis workflows
- These gaps represent business risk and can be identified with a rationalized current state assessment tied to key apps and shared services
- Create a future state roadmap that shows the improvements and benefits of addressing gaps

Thank You for your Participation!

