DATA SHEET

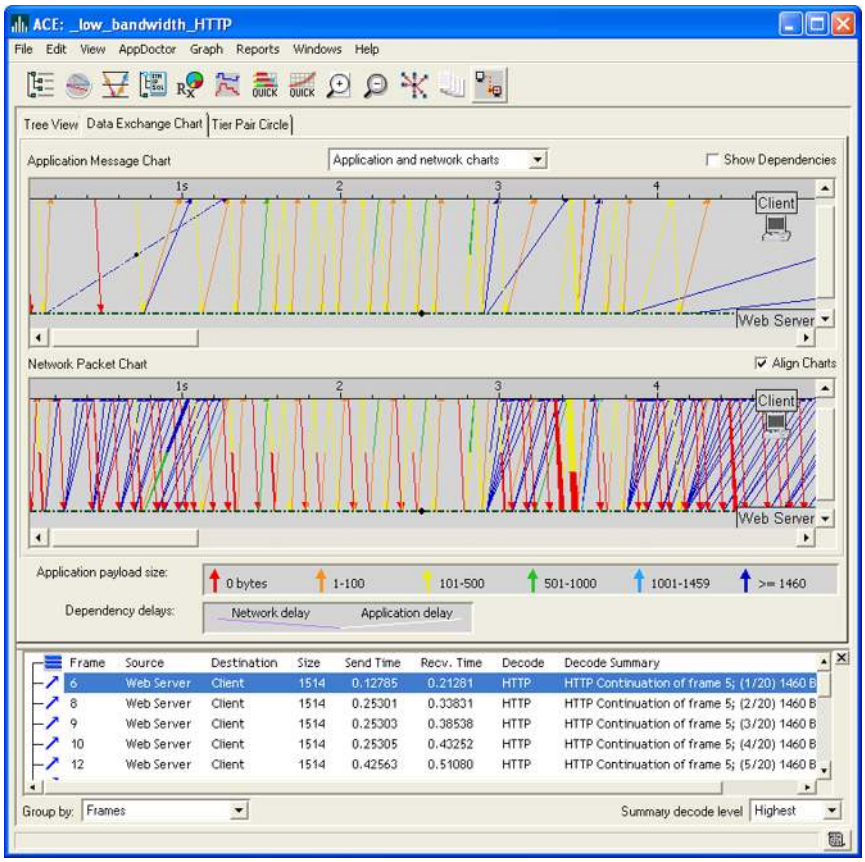
CISCO APPLICATION ANALYSIS SOLUTION VERSION 1.0

Cisco® Application Analysis Solution (AAS) provides a visual and quantitative breakdown of the complex interactions among applications, servers, and networks to help you cost-effectively troubleshoot and confidently deploy networked applications. Cisco AAS rapidly pinpoints the source of application performance issues.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Cisco Application Analysis Solution (AAS) enables you to visualize end-to-end application transaction dynamics graphically, from the view of both the network and application layers (Figure 1). Cisco AAS can diagnose whether application performance problems are caused by the application, server, or network. Automatically pinpoint the root cause for application-related issues in complex, multi-tier transactions. Assess proposed solutions, accurately predicting the performance that could be achieved with alternative approaches. Cisco AAS bridges organizational gaps between application development and IT infrastructure teams, accelerating new application deployment, and reducing the blame that often accompanies end-to-end performance troubleshooting.

Figure 1. Visualize Application and Network Packet Levels



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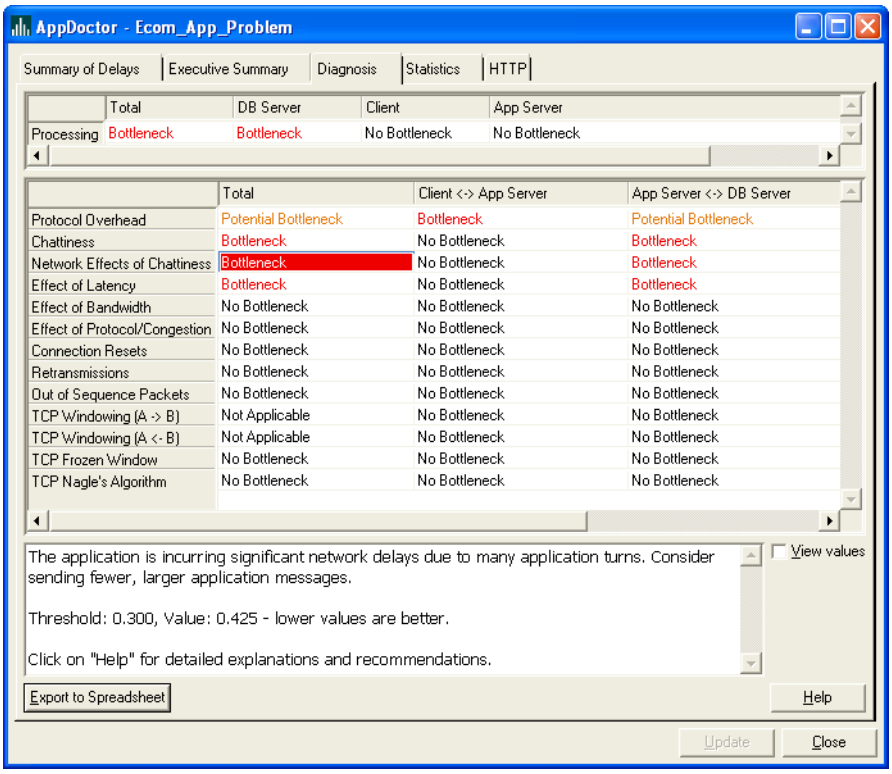
Profile Application Transactions

Cisco AAS parses an application trace and analyzes it at the application-message level and network-packet level, with their interdependency presented graphically. Problematic application messages, including requests and responses between the server and the client, can be analyzed in further detail through an extensive library of application decodes. Standard reports provide a broad range of critical application statistics, including processing delays, network delays (Figure 2), response times, number of application turns, and number of application messages.

Figure 2. Diagnose Root Cause of Delay



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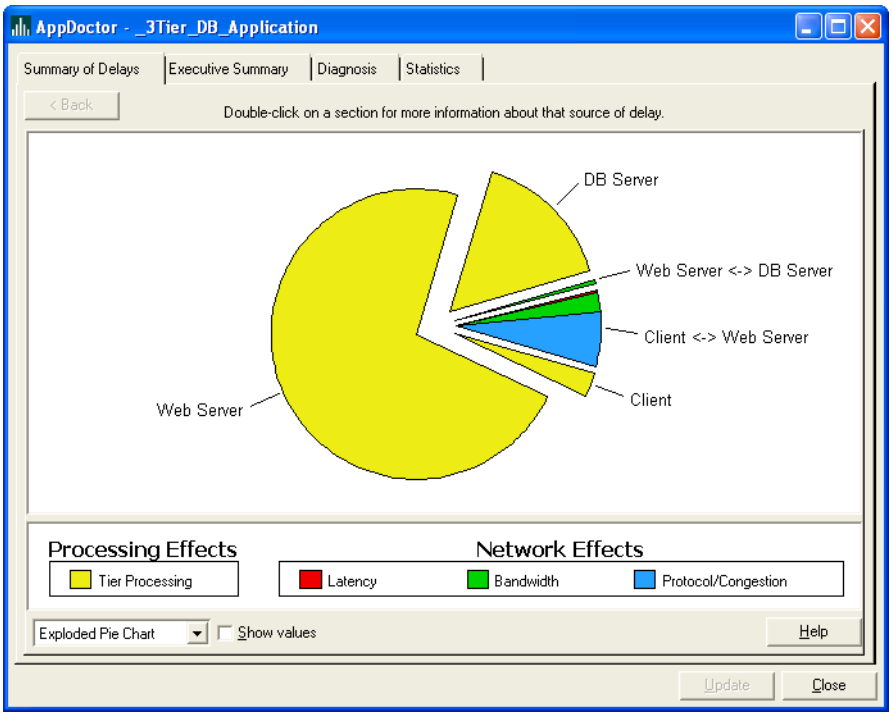
Diagnose End-to-end Performance Problems

Cisco AAS breaks down multi-tier applications into component flows, automatically determining dependencies among application messages. Performance statistics for individual tiers are presented graphically to aid quick problem source identification (Figure 3). Summary reports clearly indicate the factors that contribute to end-to-end response time, including transmission, propagation, network congestion, protocol overhead, and processing. Application decodes provide a more detailed diagnosis for many protocols and applications.

Figure 3. Understand Sources of End-to-End Delay



Assess Alternative Solutions

Cisco AAS provides the ability to “test” a proposed solution to an end-to-end application performance problem, measured in end-to-end response time (Figures 4 and 5). Poorly designed applications can be “virtually” recoded using an intuitive graphic interface. Quickly predict the impact of changes to system and network parameters, including latency, bandwidth, packet loss, congestion, and TCP window sizing. Model conditional application logic. Recommendations are provided for improving overall performance. Cisco AAS incorporate advanced simulation technology to enable response time studies in various “what if” scenarios.

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Figure 4. Test Changes to Infrastructure Variables

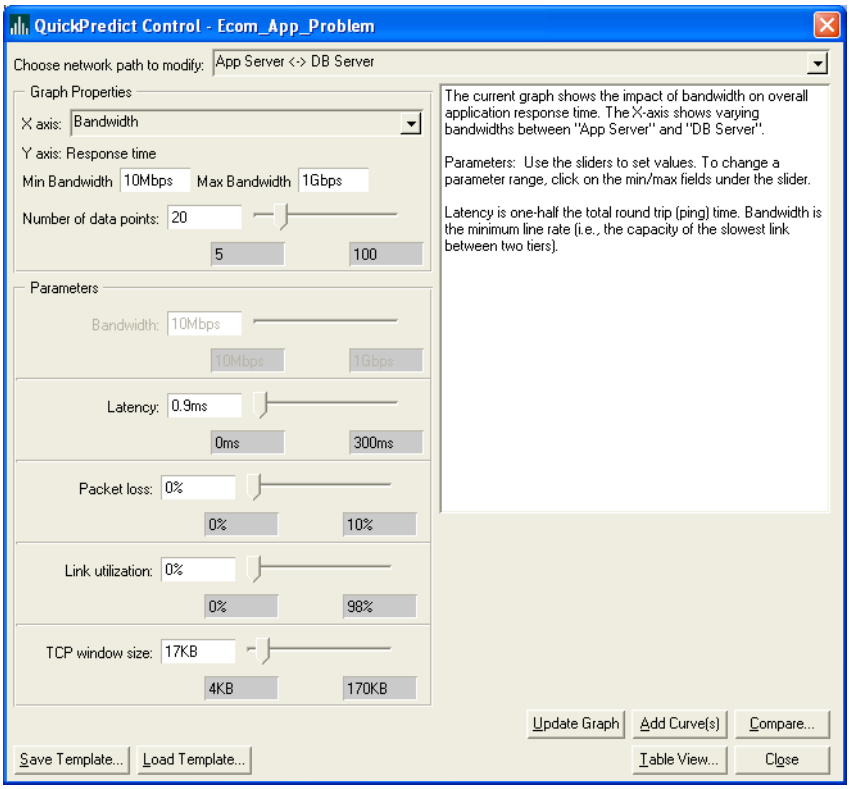
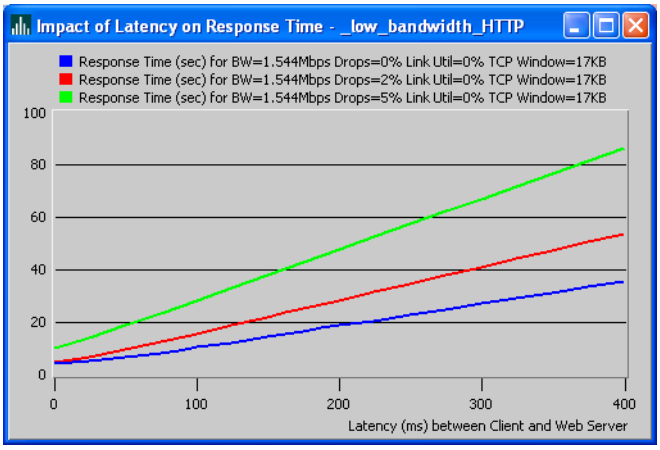


Figure 5. Predict the Impact of Changes on Response Time



Plan Application Deployment

Assess the ability of the infrastructure to support new applications. Cisco AAS can derive a simple baseline model of the network infrastructure from application traces, capturing critical performance characteristics to support “what if” simulations. Project the impact of increasing usage of the application over time, as well as changes in the infrastructure topology and capacity. Cisco AAS reduces risks and delays associated with new application deployment.

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Flexible Data Capture

Cisco AAS is provided with remote Capture Agents to acquire application traces from your desktop. Capture Agents are easy to install from a CD, from the Web, or from an e-mail attachment sent to a remote location. Multiple trace files of the same transaction that are captured from multiple network segments can be merged to automatically calculate delays. Trace data from the Cisco Network Analysis Module (NAM) can also be used as input, as well as output from many third-party tools.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Table 1 lists the system requirements for the Cisco Application Analysis Solution.

Table 1. System Requirements

	Cisco Application Analysis Solution	Application Capture Agent
Disk space	20 GB	• 4 MB (Windows) • 8.5 MB (Solaris; Linux; HP UX; AIX)
Hardware	Intel Pentium 3, 4, or equivalent 1.5+ GHz	• Intel Pentium 3, 4, or equivalent (Windows, Linux) • Sun SPARC Family, such as UltraSPARC (Solaris) • HP PA7000 v1.1c or later (HP UX) • IBM RS/6000 (AIX)
Memory	1 GB (minimum)	• 2 MB when idle; 5 MB during capture (Windows) • 4.5 MB when idle; 9.0 MB during capture (Solaris; Linux; HP UX; AIX)
Software	Only English language versions are supported: • Windows XP Professional • Windows 2000 Professional	Only English language versions are supported: • Windows 95 • Windows 98/ME • Windows NT 4.0 • Windows 2000 (32 bit) • Windows Server 2003 (32-bit) • Windows XP (32 bit) • Solaris 7 • Solaris 8 • Solaris 9 • Linux Kernel 2.2 • Linux Kernel 2.4 • HP UX 11.0 (32-bit) • AIX 4.3.3 (32-bit) • AIX 5.x (32-bit)

ORDERING INFORMATION

Cisco AAS 1.0 is available for purchase through regular Cisco sales and distribution channels worldwide. To place an order, visit the Cisco Ordering Home Page.

Cisco AAS 1.0 licensing options are described in the Cisco AAS 1.0 product bulletin, viewed at: http://www.cisco.com/en/US/prod/collateral/netmgtsw/ps6341/ps6362/prod_bulletin0900aecd802c80a6.html

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the Cisco Application Analysis Solution, visit http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/ps6362/index.html or contact your local account representative.

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