#### OpenDemand Systems, Inc.

# OpenLoad - Rapid Performance Optimization Tools & Techniques for CF Developers

Speed Application Development & Improve Performance

WebSphere. software







#### True or False?

#### Exposing common misconceptions about software quality...

- During design you will know how many simultaneous users your software and hardware platform supports
- Waiting until the end of the project to begin testing saves time and money
- The more changes you make, the less often you need to test
- If you don't test, your users will happily do it for you
- Establishing performance goals based on the needs and wants of your users sets false expectations
- Testing tools are too complex, expensive and time consuming to implement



# What We'll Cover Today

- Why is Load Testing Important?
- Special Considerations when Testing CF Apps
- Difficulty of Load Testing Web Apps in General
- OpenLoad<sup>™</sup> Testing Solution
- Optimizing Web Application Performance



# Why is Load Testing Important?

#### Head off problems before they impact your users.

- Website performance has a direct impact on customer satisfaction.
   Therefore discovery and analysis of performance bottlenecks is a crucial factor to the success of your business.
- Load testing implies simulating multiple users to determine:
  - The capacity a website can handle.
  - If there are bottlenecks and where they are located.
- Your peers are already doing it:
  - Bank of Ireland, University of Colorado, ISiteDesign, JaggedPeak, Prevision, B-there.com, Smart Advice, and many more



# Special Considerations when Testing CF Apps If it were only that easy...

- CF simplifies development, but testing is still a challenge
   Detecting session management variables (CFID or CFTOKEN)
   Handling dynamic redirects via CFLOCATION (Fusebox)
   Let's not forget about JavaScript (CFFORM) and Flash!
- Legacy test tools don't fit CF development model
   Requires complex scripting and data analysis
   Can add weeks (sometimes months) to project schedule
   Let's face it, they're way too expensive to implement and maintain



# Difficulty of Load Testing Web Apps in General

#### Legacy test tools had it easy...

- Load testing a web application is more difficult than testing other types of applications.
- Load testing a web application requires:

Simulating diverse users (sometimes in large numbers).

Traversing pages! (Ouch!)

Over sockets! (Arrgh!)

And collecting performance data from both ends! (\*faint\*)

The next slides outline the difficulties in more detail.



# Simulating Users

#### Welcome to the Wild Wild Web ...

- In 'real life' a request thread is spawned by a real human user.
- Users are diverse.

Browser settings are different.

Connection speeds differ.

Different 'think time' durations between requests.

Data varies by user (login ID, password, session ID, menu selections, cookies, etc.)



# Simulating Requests

#### Just when you thought you had it all under control...

- A user scenario consists of HTTP requests.
- Generating requests to simulate a load is not easy.

Each web application will have different request-specific-- and often cryptic-looking –URLs.

- Requests also need to be sent in order.
- Requests may contain FORM data and COOKIES.
- Requests might be over HTTP or HTTPS.
- Requests may be dynamically generated via JavaScript, Java Applets, Flash, etc.
- Requested content needs to be verified for correctness



# **Data Analysis**

#### Now the real fun begins...

 Supposing that all of the data from a series of scenarios could be captured and accurately played back...

There is still a difference between:

A bunch of recorded bytes.

Data presented so that optimization possibilities can emerge.

Making the results useful is itself time-consuming

Trying to pinpoint a bottleneck in a log file can be like searching for a needle in a haystack

You don't have time to play detective, you've got code to develop



## Legacy Test Tools

#### Load testing is challenging enough as it is...

Do you really need to learn another proprietary scripting language?

```
Virtual User Generator - [com - COM/DCOM]
                                                                                 _ O ×
 File Edit View Insert Vuser Actions Tools Window Help
                                                                                  _IPIX
 💷 - 🏻 😅 - 📙
                                    🚜 🔝 🔃 🗊 🔀 Correlate 🖺 Param List 👚 Runtime Settings
                 Start Record
                                        Insert Start Transaction (Ctrl+T)
com - COM/DCOM
vuser_init
              lrc_Release_Object((IUnknown*)_Recordset_3);
Action
              lr_end_transaction("Login",LR_AUTO);
vuser_end
aser.h
              lr_start_transaction("flight_selection");
🃦 interfaces.h
p globals.h
🃚 recordsets.i
                  GUID pClsid = lrc_GUID("ADODB.Recordset.2.7");
                  IUnknown * pUnkOuter = (IUnknown*)NULL;
                  unsigned long dwClsContext = lrc_ulong("5");
                  GUID riid = IID_IUnknown;
                  lrc_CoCreateInstance(&pClsid, pUnkOuter, dwClsContext, &riid,
                  GUID riid = IID_IDispatch;
                  lrc_IUnknown_QueryInterface(IUnknown_4, &riid, (void**)&IDisp
                  GUID riid = IID__Recordset;
                  1rc IDispatch OuervInterface(IDispatch 4, &riid, (void**)& Re
                  int CursorType = lrc_int("-1");
                  int LockType = lrc_int("-1");
                  long Options = lrc_long("-1");
                  VARIANT Source = 1rc_variant_BSTR("SELECT * FROM FLIGHTS "
                   "WHERE DEPARTURE='Denver' AND ARRIVAL='Los Angeles' AND "
                  "DAY_OF_WEEK='Tuesday'");
                  VARIANT ActiveConnection = lrc_variant_BSTR("DSN=flight321r")
                  lrc__Recordset_Open(_Recordset_4, Source, ActiveConnection, C
                                                                        INS CAP NUM SCRU
For Help, press F1.
                                                     Col:14
                                                               Line:171
```



# OpenLoad™ - Next Generation Testing Solution

#### Makes testing as easy as using a browser...

- Overcomes the difficulties of testing Web Applications.
- With easy-to-use browser based tools for:

Creating user scenarios (no scripting)

Configuring test runs (model real-world users)

Scheduling test runs (number of users)

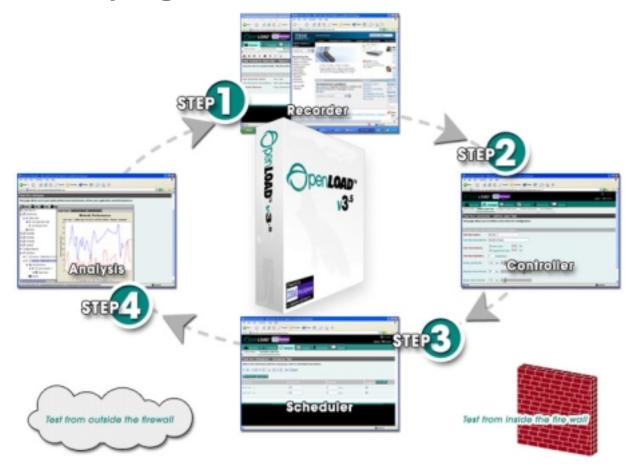
Analyzing test results (real-time graphical and text reports)

- Makes iterative testing practical and affordable.
- Powered by WebSphere Application Server (WAS) and fully integrated with WebSphere Studio Application Developer (WSAD).



# OpenLoad™ Testing Process

Look Ma, no scripting...





### Trade3 Ltd.

#### Let's test the waters...

- Mock brokerage trade application.
- Trivial example demonstrates the insidiousness of bottlenecks in applications.
- It is not a large application but -

It uses session dependent variables and JavaScript.

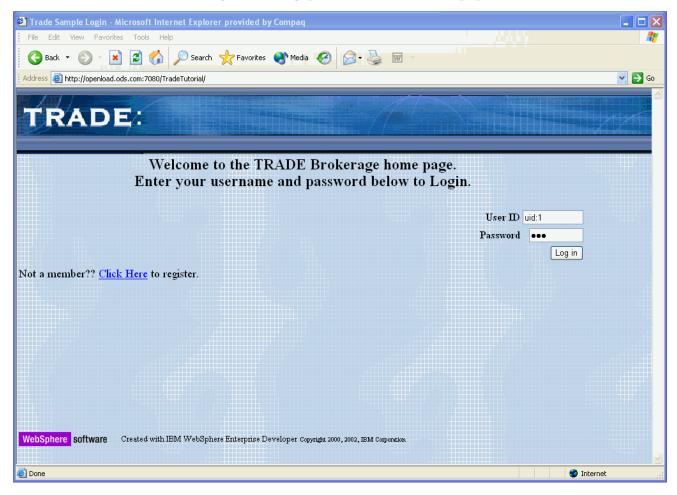
It communicates with a database.

It has potential for high user volume.



#### Trade3 Ltd.

All the characteristics of your typical Web App...





### Problems?

#### There's only one way to know for sure...

Does the Trade3 web application suffer from any performance hindrances?

Who knows?

Without analyzing all of the code it is difficult to tell.

Code profiling helps, but doesn't tell the whole story

Some bottlenecks might not even be in the code!

Server configuration and tuning

Hardware resource limitations



# OpenLoad™ Testing Process

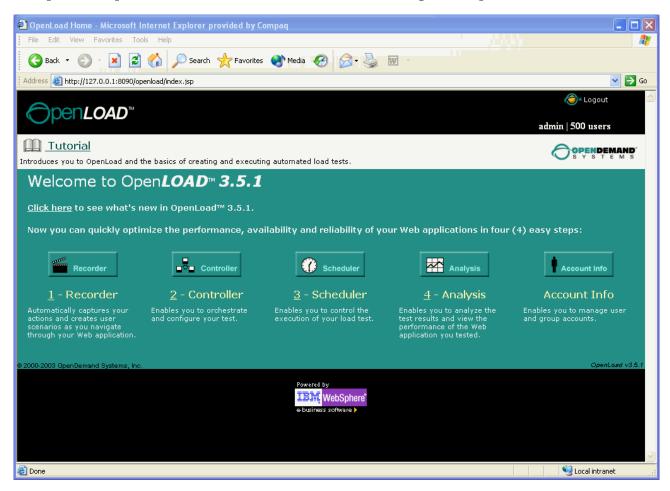
#### If only programming a VCR were this easy...

- There are only four steps to produce a test result with OpenLoad:
  - 1) Recorder Record user scenario
  - 2) Controller Configure test specifics
  - 3) Scheduler Schedule tests to be executed
  - 4) Analysis Analyze results
- The next slides will walk us through these steps using the Trade3 application.



## OpenLoad™ Testing Modules

Achieve peak performance in four easy steps...





# OpenLoad™ Recording Process

#### Just point and click...

Create use scenarios

All you do is navigate through your web application as a user would.

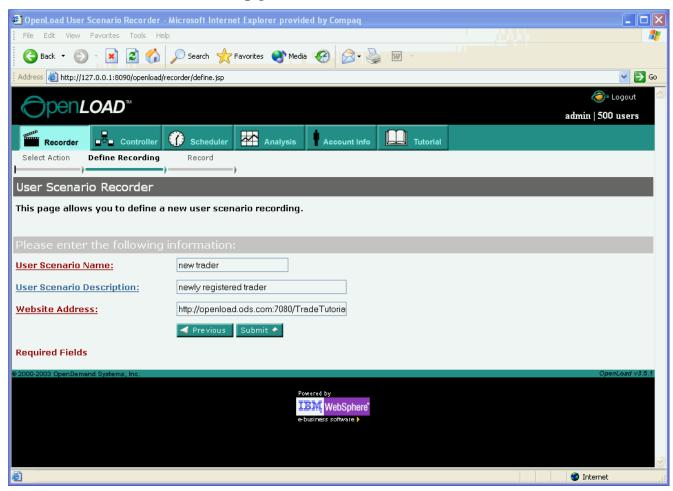
OpenLoad records a set of HTTP/S requests in the background and stores them as XML based scripts.

OpenLoad will use the request set to simulate a user interacting with the Trade3 web application.



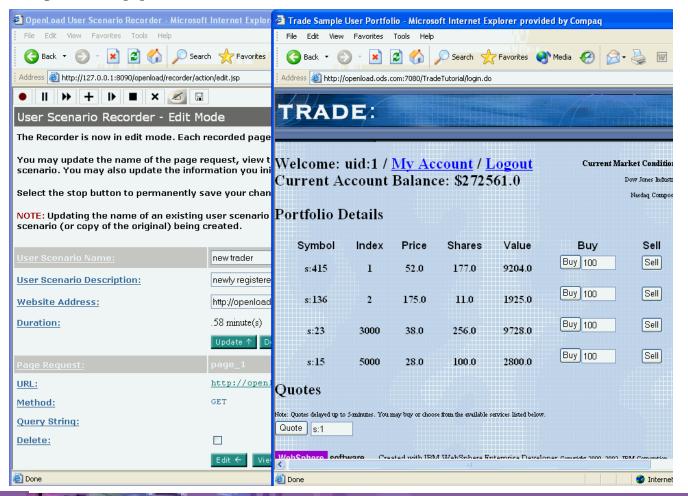
#### Recorder

#### Define your user scenario types...





Browse your application like a real user...





#### Build complex data driven scenarios in minutes...

Many possible scenarios:

Logon (with success/failure)

Buy/sell shares

Get stock quotes

Update account info

Customize your scenarios

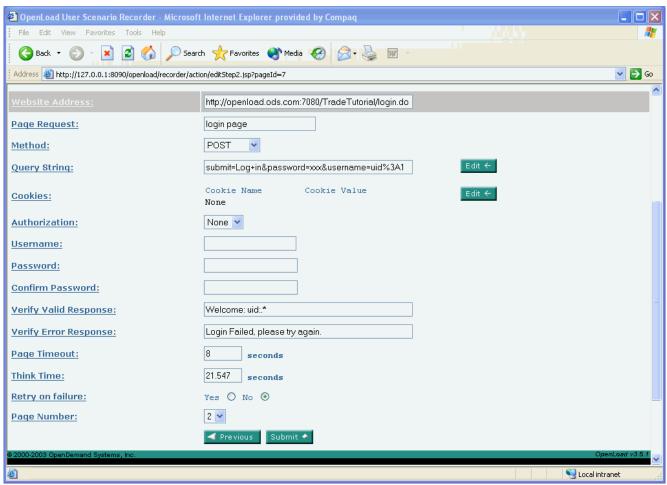
Parameterize requests (usernames, passwords, etc.)

Verify response content (success/failure)

Add new requests to existing scenarios

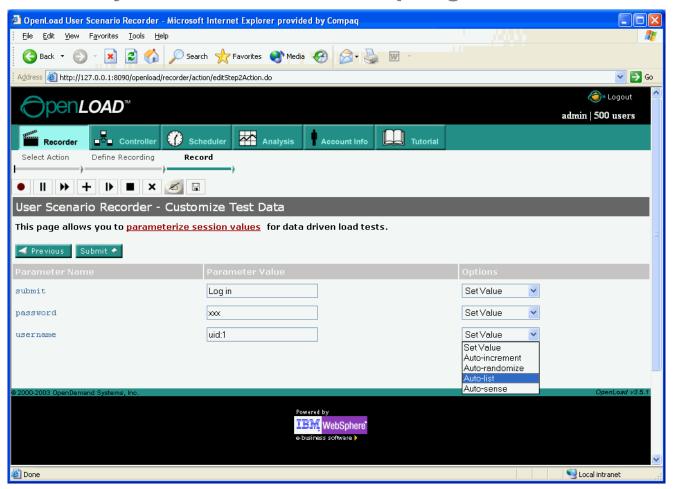


Customize scripts for regression testing...





Parameterize your tests without scripting...





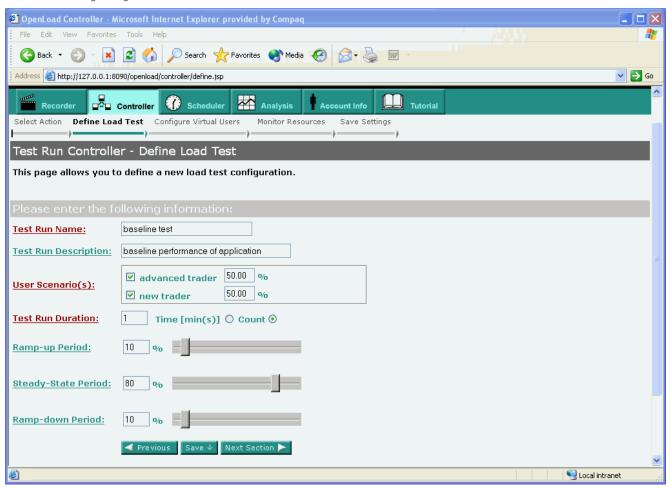
### Controller

#### Define your test configuration...

- Weight % of users by type (population modelling).
   50% new visitors, 25% registered users, etc.
- Limit test duration based on number of
   Times to iterate through your recorded scenarios
   Minutes to run scenarios before stopping.
- Increase the number of virtual users in a controlled fashion
   Configurable ramp-up, ramp-down, and peak durations



Model user population and load conditions...





#### Accurately model real world user load...

Lets you configure your test.

Who your users are.

Their connection speed.

DSL, T1, 56 kbps, etc.

The browser they will use.

The features that they support.

Cookies, SSL, cache settings, version of HTTP.

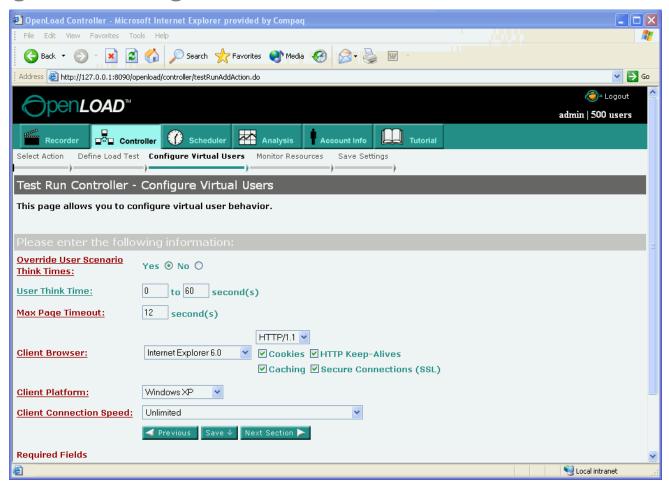
Their operating system.

Their 'thinking' time between requests.

Their threshold for page performance.



Define global settings for test run...





#### Monitor your servers load throughout the test...

Monitor different tiers with minimal intrusion.

SNMP for all platform including Windows 2000 and XP

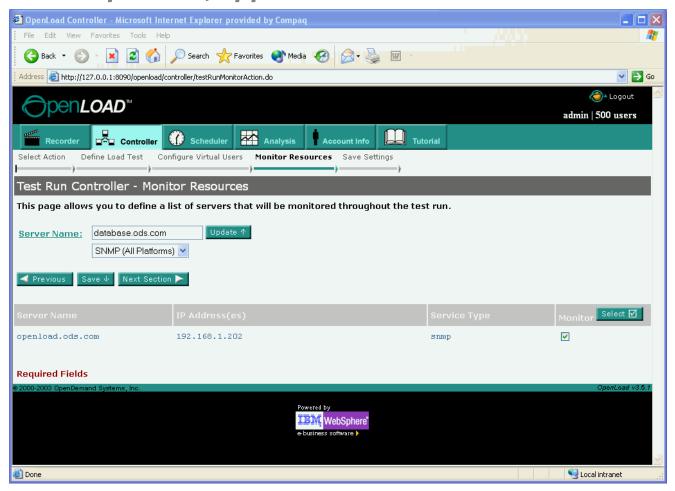
RSTAT for Linux and Unix only

Monitor System resources

CPU, memory, disk and network activity



Monitor multiple web, application and database servers...





### Scheduler

#### Effortlessly test your app under what if scenarios...

Allows you to configure:

Time a test is executed.

Can schedule a long test to run overnight

The duration of a test.

The length of time or number of times OpenLoad will send requests to a web application.

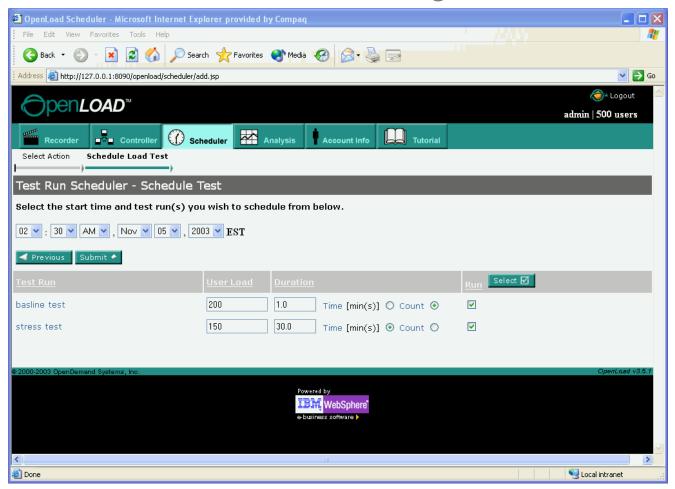
The number of simulated users during a test.

The number of tests to execute simultaneously.



# Scheduler (cont.)

Run tests unattended for automated regressions...





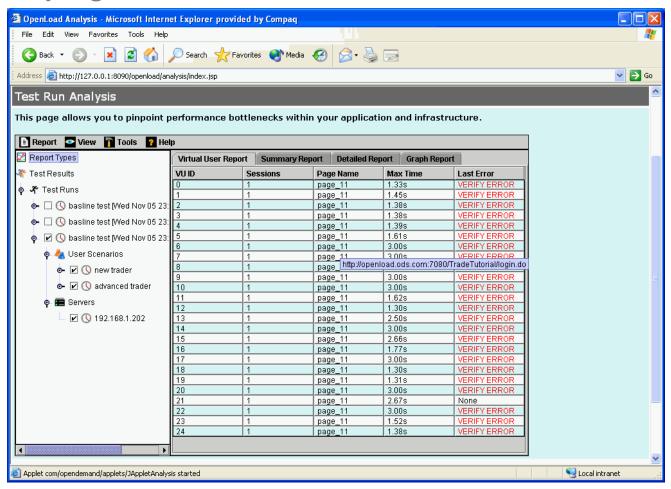
# Analysis

#### Easily pinpoint bottlenecks within your application...

- Displays the test results so that performance obstacles can be identified.
- Produces a report of all virtual user activity.
  - Total sessions, current page view, max page time and last error
- Produces a brief summary of all of the metrics.
  - Page distribution times
  - Total sessions, page views, requests, responses
- Produces a detailed report of all of the metrics.
  - Average response time, timeouts and error by test run, user scenario and page view

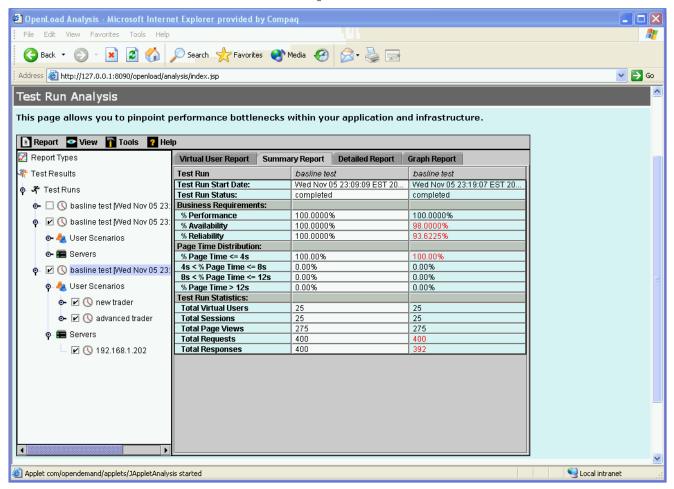


Monitor progress of each virtual user...



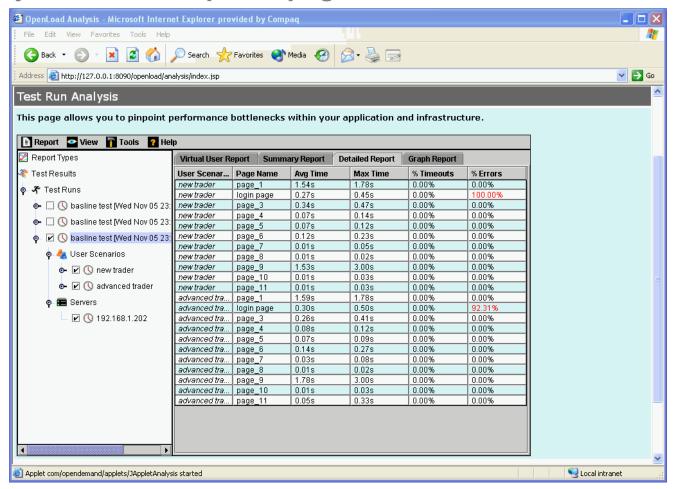


#### Perform before and after comparisons...





Identify slow or error prone pages...





#### Graph performance trends over time and user load...

Allows you to graph all of the data for easy viewing

Server and client metrics

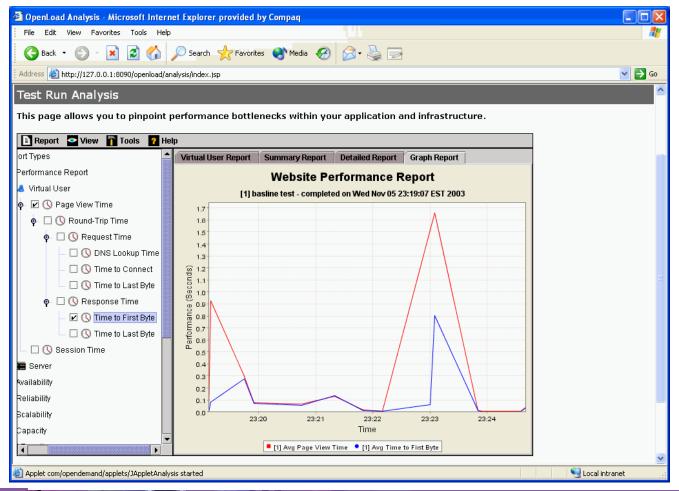
Request, response times and sizes

Many others!

Can compare tests to find performance improvements, degradations.

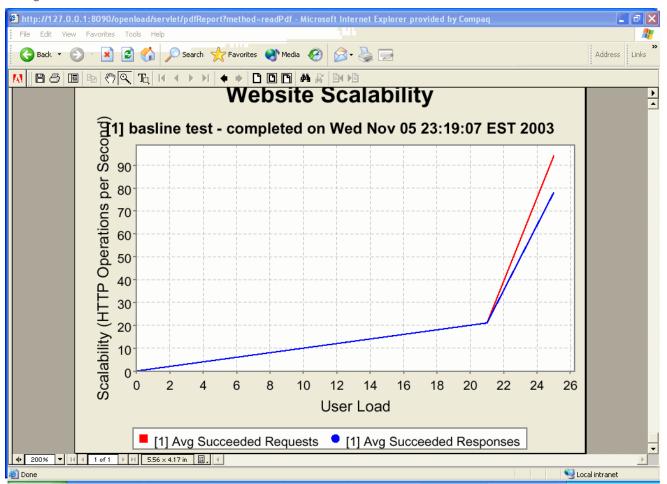


Drill down metrics for even greater detail...





Export your test results...





# Fixing the Problem

#### Iterative testing makes it easier to identify the problem...

- Is it the code?
- Is it the database?
- Is it the server configuration?
- Is it the connection pool?
- Or something else?



# Why OpenLoad™?

#### Because it makes your life easier...

- It not only provides a convenient browser-based interface for managing the complexity of testing web applications for us...
- It makes it easy!

To create scenarios

To configure users

To run tests

And to analyse their results



#### OpenDemand Systems, Inc.

#### **Questions and Answers**

To obtain a <u>free trial</u> of OpenLoad<sup>™</sup> contact OpenDemand at **(973) 735-0547x2** or **info@opendemand.com**, or register at

http://www.opendemand.com/openload/trial.shtml

WebSphere. software

