What can APM do for IoT?

An industry guide

Introduction

There's a lot going on behind the scenes in order to make an IoT implementation come to life: your fitness or sleep tracker, for example, may seem a simple device, with a simple interface and limited features. However, it's constantly sending and receiving data from another smart device, via Bluetooth; the data is uploaded to a cloud-based app that analyzes a variety of indicators, then supplies its results to its dedicated smartphone app. All this takes place at the same time with third-party integrations (they happen when your health-monitoring apps automatically update your medical statuses, or communicate with other devices in your smart home [think blinds lowering to insure a deeper sleep, or your thermostat adjusting to help you wake up]).

We expect all of this to realize in real time - so much so that we tend to measure IoT success not by how rich the offered feature set is, but mostly by its perceived performance.

In other words, how fast an app loads is a bigger deal than how many things you can do with that app. In fact, in a study conducted by PacketZoom[1], 66% of consumers said reliable mobile app performance is "very important" — second only to mobile app security. The same study showed that the majority of users (71%) expect apps to load within three seconds, and 63% will abandon an app that takes more than five seconds to load.

Given these numbers, it's indubitable that all industries impacted by the IoT revolution need real-time insight into the performance of their massively distributed applications.

This guide discusses some of the areas where specialized APM tools can help.

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[1] *The Effect of Mobile Network Performance on Mobile App Users* [source]