
IBM Z
Introduction
May 2018

IBM Db2 Analytics Accelerator
for z/OS, V7.1

Frequently Asked Questions

Worldwide



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Describe IBM Db2 Analytics Accelerator for z/OS, V7.1

IBM® Db2® Analytics Accelerator for z/OS®, V7.1 offers a deployment option for the IBM Z® mainframe using IFL processors, and without the need for a separate appliance. This accelerator on IBM Z deployment option offers you:

- A deeper integration with the IBM Z infrastructure. This offers a unified homogeneity of service, support and operations, and a deeper integration with operational processes, such as disaster recovery.
- Flexible capacity to respond to peak analytic workload requirements while meeting SLAs.

What exactly comprises the “full-drawer offering” on z14?

- The "full-drawer offering" is a special feature and configuration option for IBM z14™ high end systems in which a full drawer of resources (35 IFLs and 2.56 TB of memory) is dedicated to usage by the accelerator. No other IFL workload is permitted.
- The feature can be ordered for new builds and as an MES upgrade
- The feature adds an additional physical drawer to the system configuration. This new drawer will have 2.56TB memory installed (not distributed across the other drawers in the system) and will be plugged into the "bottom position" to optimize performance. It also brings along entitlement of 35 IFLs that are restricted for use with Accelerator deployments.

Ordering the drawer

Which systems can support the full drawer offering?

The full-drawer offering can be ordered for z14 (3906) systems only.

Ordering the feature requires special consideration; for the M04 or M05 models the addition of an additional physical drawer is *not* possible on a four drawer z14 server.

If I decide to upgrade at a later time, can I add the drawer after the z14 is installed?

Yes, The installation can be offered as an MES upgrade. Customers should plan for scheduled downtime and an IML.

Is there a limit to the number of drawers I can order on z14?

Currently only one feature (one drawer) per system is orderable. However, you can order a drawer on multiple z14 servers or use IFLs instead of a drawer, or in addition to a drawer.

If I am running a z14 Model M04 or M05, can I relocate drawers to make room for the IBM Db2 Analytics Accelerator drawer?

No, but special handling or other alternatives may be possible. Contact the sales and offering teams with the request.

Can I buy two drawers for two different CECs?

Yes, there is no limit on the number of z14 systems the drawer feature can be applied to.

Can I order a drawer for the z14 Model ZR1?

No, as this is a one drawer system. However, you can run the software on IFLs and memory.

Ordering Secure Service Container

Why is there a Secure Service Container as part of the IBM Db2 Analytics Accelerator solution?

The accelerator software is packaged in a Secure Service Container. Clients benefit from not needing to order or maintain a separate Linux® distro, and also benefit from the security of the container.

Must a Linux distro license be acquired before running IBM Db2 Analytics Accelerator software on Z?

No, the container runs using an included Linux operating system.

Sizing considerations

Can you describe a configuration that customers can use to get started?

- The minimum configuration supported is 4 IFLs with 256 GB of memory. This configuration is ideal for development and test environments.
- The recommended minimum configuration for production deployments is 8 IFLs and 512 GB of memory.
- The maximum configuration supported is 35 IFLs and 8 TB of memory, available in the drawer offering, as well

What size LPAR is required/recommended?

We recommend that the maximum size of the Accelerator LPAR is limited such that PR/SM™ can allocate all resources (IFLs and memory) in a single drawer of the system.

Can I estimate scalability of IBM Z solution compared to the Power IAS Appliance?

At 35 IFLs (with sufficient memory) performance is similar to the Appliance M4001-03 option.

What size IBM z14 system is needed to get started?

- Performance scales almost linearly with the number of IFLs. So, if you would like to get started with 8 IFLs and measure performance you would know that the full drawer 35 IFLs solution would be about 4x as fast.
- Having enough memory is critical for performance. You need to know the working set size (total amount of data required during a period of time while running the workload). Performance is optimal if the complete working set fits in memory (more precisely, in the buffer pool of the Accelerator).
- Remember: the number of IFLs and the size of memory can be changed (increased and decreased) after deployment to meet your needs

When should a drawer offering be considered over individual IFLs?

- The drawer offering is available only for z14 (3906) systems. Consider the drawer when resource requirements for the Accelerator (immediate or planned near future) exceed 16 IFLs and 1 TB of memory. In this case, the drawer offering will be more attractive.
- Multiple, smaller Accelerator LPARs can be deployed within a single drawer; take into account their resource requirements.

Other

What are S&S costs for the drawer?

Use the discount for the machines to determine the S&S for the drawer.

Are there special offerings for disaster recovery (CBU)?

CBU based D/R is being planned for anticipated delivery later 2018.

Where can I learn about hardware and software requirements?

Hardware and software requirements are at

www.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg27050440#HWIBMZ



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