

Re: Q: How to improve CGI performance for this?

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customers simultaneously, and is causing problems with my shared hosting provider (reportedly 25% CPU load at some times).

<Snip possible causes of action>

The first thing to do is to identify if there is any one (or more) parts of your app that can be improved, in terms of speed. To do that you need a profiler.

Once you improved those parts you can then determine if maybe you need to go with an "always loaded" solution to avoid the startup/shutdown penalty of your script running. I think that would be mod-perl but you'll need someone other than I to advise on that.

I'd advise against just jumping ship to PHP/Python/Ruby in the hope that a different interpreted language will be faster (it may be in some areas, but be slower in others) – you won't find out until you've put a lot of effort in.

If you are on Windows (you didn't say) you can use Perl Performance Validator to get a performance profile of your application. No need to modify your app. PPV is targeted at ActiveScript's Perl implementation.

<http://www.softwareverify.com/perlPerformanceValidator/index.html>

Stephen

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