

Daily code optimisation using benchmarks and profiling in Golang

Karthic Rao
@hackintoshrao
medium.com/@hackintoshrao

Recipe for code optimisation

- Write benchmark
- CPU Profile
- Memory Profile
- Blocking profile
- Other tricks

Writing benchmarks

- Comes bundled with Golang testing package
- And its easy (overcoming the psychological barrier)
- Compare performance easily

```
package gobench
import (
    "testing"
)

func BenchmarkGoMapAdd(b *testing.B) {
    for i := 0; i < b.N; i++ {
        GoMapAdd()
    }
}

func BenchmarkGoStructAdd(b *testing.B) {
    for i := 0; i < b.N; i++ {
        GoStructAdd()
    }
}

~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
```

```
package gobench

func GoMapAdd() {
    m := map[int]int{0: 0, 1: 1}
    _ = m[0] + m[1]
}

func GoStructAdd() {
    m := struct{ a, b int }{0, 1}
    _ = m.a + m.b
}

~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
~
```

```
$ go test -bench=.
```

```
BenchmarkGoMapAdd      5000000
```

```
286 ns/op
```

```
BenchmarkGoStructAdd 2000000000
```

```
0.56 ns/op
```

```

type add struct {
    Sum int
}

func handleStructAdd(w http.ResponseWriter, r *http.Request) {

    var html bytes.Buffer
    first, second := r.FormValue("first"), r.FormValue("second")
    one, err := strconv.Atoi(first)
    if err != nil {
        http.Error(w, err.Error(), 500)
    }
    two, err := strconv.Atoi(second)
    if err != nil {
        http.Error(w, err.Error(), 500)
    }
    m := struct{ a, b int }{one, two}
    structSum := add{Sum: m.a + m.b}

    t, err := template.ParseFiles("template.html")
    if err != nil {
        http.Error(w, err.Error(), 500)
    }
    err = t.Execute(&html, structSum)

    if err != nil {
        http.Error(w, err.Error(), 500)
    }
    w.Header().Set("Content-Type", "text/html; charset=utf-8")
    w.Write([]byte(html.String()))
}

func main() {

    http.HandleFunc("/struct", handleStructAdd)
    log.Fatal(http.ListenAndServe("127.0.0.1:8081", nil))
}

```

```

func TestHandleStructAdd(t *testing.T) {

    r := request(t, "/?first=20&second=30")

    rw := httptest.NewRecorder()

    handleStructAdd(rw, r)
    if rw.Code == 500 {
        t.Fatal("Internal server Error: " + rw.Body.String())
    }
    if rw.Body.String() != "<h2>Here is the sum 50</h2>" {
        t.Fatal("Expected " + rw.Body.String())
    }
}

func BenchmarkHandleStructAdd(b *testing.B) {
    r := request(b, "/?first=20&second=30")
    for i := 0; i < b.N; i++ {
        rw := httptest.NewRecorder()
        handleStructAdd(rw, r)
    }
}

func request(t testing.TB, url string) *http.Request {
    req, err := http.NewRequest("GET", url, nil)
    if err != nil {
        t.Fatal(err)
    }
    return req
}

```

```
$ go test run=xxx -bench=.
```

BenchmarkHandleStructAdd-4	30000	40219 ns/op
----------------------------	-------	-------------

Profiling from the benchmarks

- `go test -run=^$ -bench=. -cpuprofile=profile.cpu`
- 2 new files are created.
- A binary ending with `.test` and the profile info in `profile.cpu`
- `go tool pprof <binary> <profile file>`
- `go tool pprof simple-http-benchmark.test profile.cpu`
- `$ go test -run=xxx -bench=. | tee bench0`

The interactive profiler

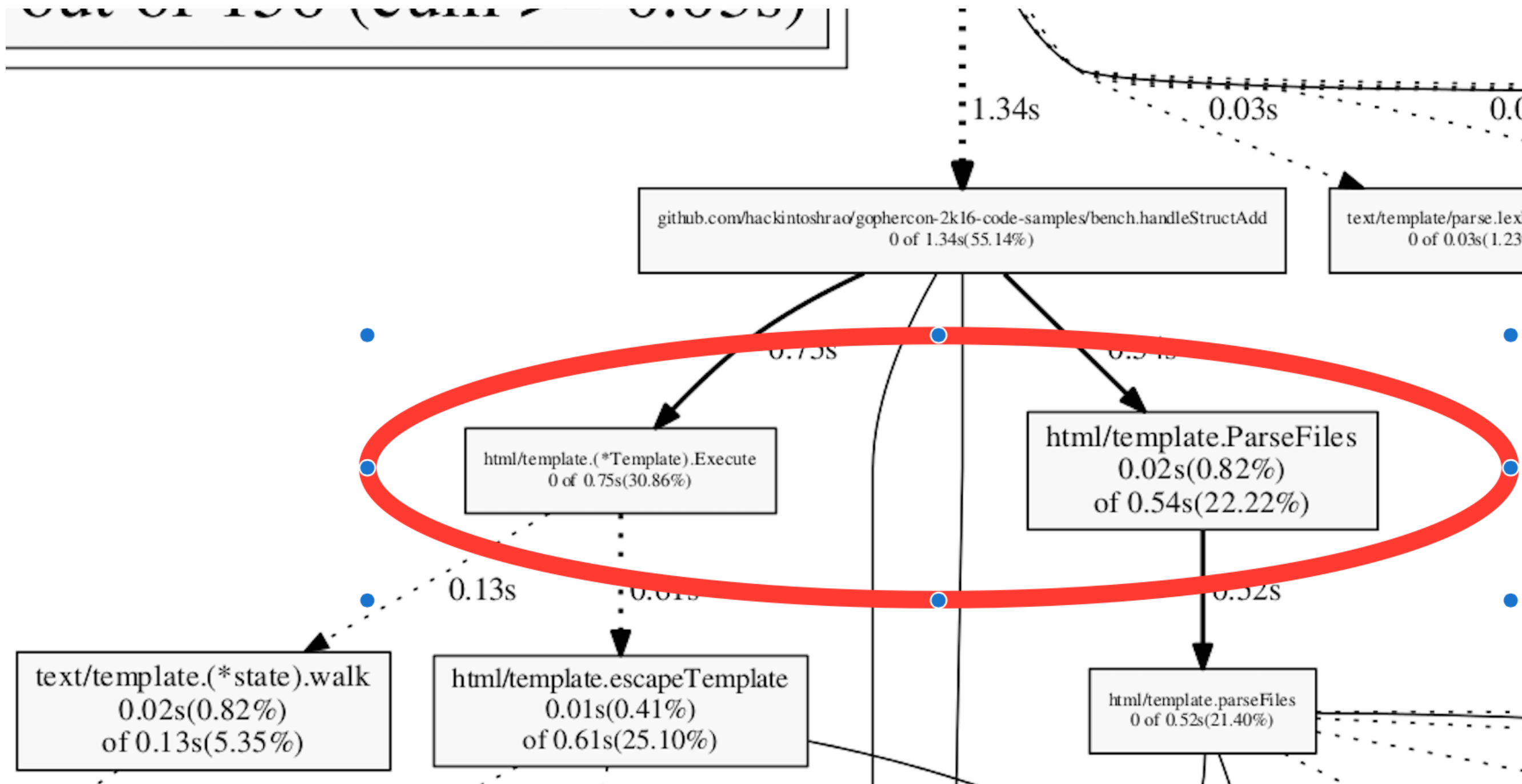
- topN

```
(pprof) top20
1340ms of 2230ms total (60.09%)
Dropped 78 nodes (cum <= 11.15ms)
Showing top 20 nodes out of 154 (cum >= 220ms)
 flat flat% sum%      cum  cum%      runtime/internal/atomic.Xchg
120ms  5.38% 19.73%   120ms  5.38%      runtime/internal/atomic.Xadd
110ms  4.93% 24.66%   850ms 38.12%      runtime.findrunnable
 70ms  3.14% 27.80%   350ms 15.70%      runtime.mallocgc
 70ms  3.14% 30.94%   360ms 16.14%      runtime.mapassign1
 70ms  3.14% 34.08%    70ms  3.14%      runtime.usleep
 50ms  2.24% 36.32%    50ms  2.24%      runtime.acquirep1
 50ms  2.24% 38.57%    50ms  2.24%      runtime.heapBitsSetType
 50ms  2.24% 40.81%    80ms  3.59%      runtime.heapBitsSweepSpan
 50ms  2.24% 43.05%    90ms  4.04%      runtime.scanobject
 50ms  2.24% 45.29%    50ms  2.24%      runtime.stringiter2
```

- top —cum

```
(pprof) top --cum
0.13s of 2.23s total ( 5.83%)
Dropped 78 nodes (cum <= 0.01s)
Showing top 10 nodes out of 154 (cum >= 0.68s)
```

go tool pprof —pdf bench.test cpu.out > cpu0.pdf



```
15 var templates = template.Must(template.ParseFiles("template.html"))
16
17 func handleStructAdd(w http.ResponseWriter, r *http.Request) {
18
19     var html bytes.Buffer
20     first, second := r.FormValue("first"), r.FormValue("second")
21     one, err := strconv.Atoi(first)
22     if err != nil {
23         http.Error(w, err.Error(), 500)
24     }
25     two, err := strconv.Atoi(second)
26     if err != nil {
27         http.Error(w, err.Error(), 500)
28     }
29     m := struct{ a, b int }{one, two}
30     structSum := add{Sum: m.a + m.b}
31
32     err = templates.Execute(&html, structSum)
33
34     if err != nil {
35         http.Error(w, err.Error(), 500)
36     }
37     w.Header().Set("Content-Type", "text/html; charset=utf-8")
38     w.Write([]byte(html.String()))
39 }
40
41 func main() {
42
43     http.HandleFunc("/struct", handleStructAdd)
```

Now compare the performance

- `go test -run=xxx -bench=. | tee bench1`
- Use `benchcmp` for performance comparison

```
$ benchcmp bench0 bench1
```

benchmark	old ns/op	new ns/op	delta
BenchmarkHandleStructAdd-4	41808	3965	-90.52%

Build your own tools

- Want to build your own tools around Golang benchmark data?
- Use benchmark parse

[tools: golang.org/x/tools/benchmark/parse](https://tools.golang.org/x/tools/benchmark/parse)

[Index](#) | [Files](#)

package parse

```
import "golang.org/x/tools/benchmark/parse"
```

Package parse provides support for parsing benchmark results as generated by 'go test -bench'.

Index

Constants

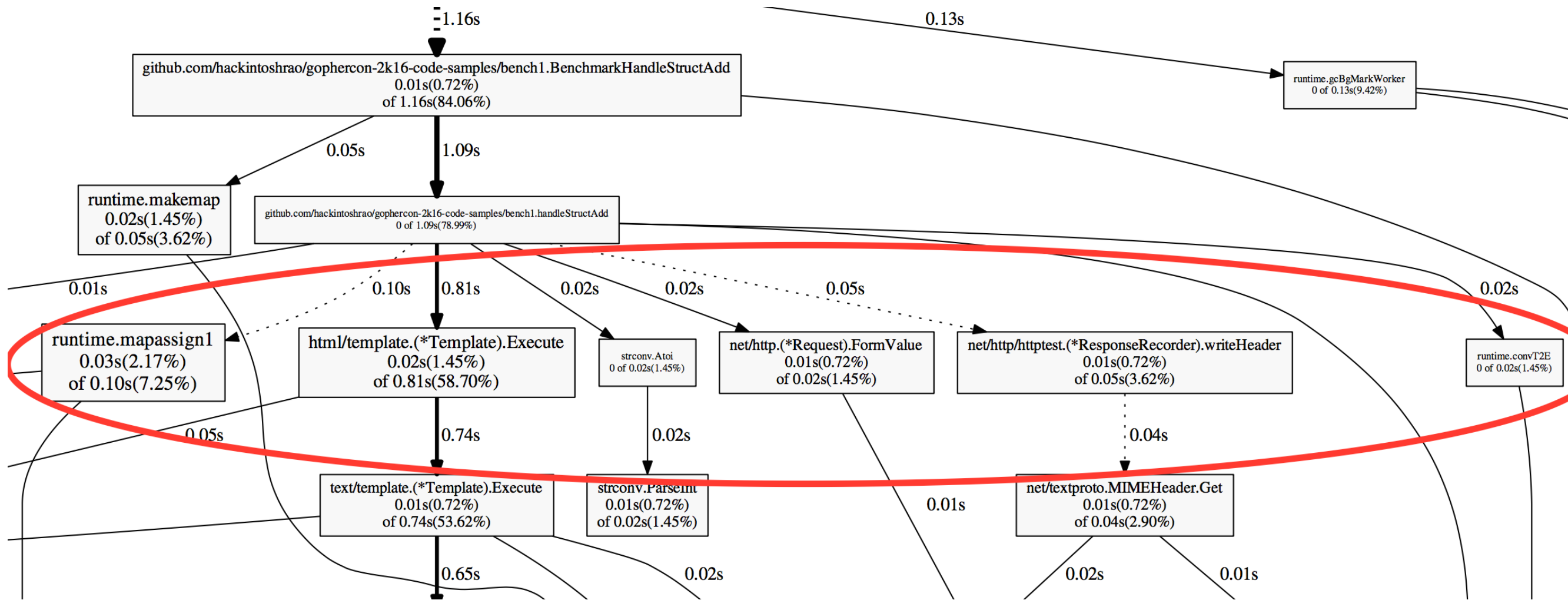
type Benchmark

- `func ParseLine(line string) (*Benchmark, error)`
- `func (b *Benchmark) String() string`

type Set

- `func ParseSet(r io.Reader) (Set, error)`

go tool pprof --pdf bench.test cpu.out > cpu1.pdf



\$go tool pprof bench.test cpu.out

list handleStructAdd

```
(pprof) list handleStructAdd
Total: 1.39s
ROUTINE ===== github.com/hackintoshrao/gophercon-2k16-code-samples/bench1.handleStructAdd in /home/hackintoshrao/gophercon-2k16-code-samples/bench1/simple_add.go
20ms      1.12s (flat, cum) 80.58% of Total
.          .      14:
.          .      15: var templates = template.Must(template.ParseFiles("template.html"))
.          .      16:
.          .      17: func handleStructAdd(w http.ResponseWriter, r *http.Request) {
.          .      18:
.      10ms      19:     var html bytes.Buffer
.          .      20:     first, second := r.FormValue("first"), r.FormValue("second")
.      10ms      21:     one, err := strconv.Atoi(first)
.          .      22:     if err != nil {
.          .      23:         http.Error(w, err.Error(), 500)
.          .      24:     }
.          .      25:     two, err := strconv.Atoi(second)
.          .      26:     if err != nil {
.          .      27:         http.Error(w, err.Error(), 500)
.          .      28:     }
.          .      29:     m := struct{ a, b int }{one, two}
.          .      30:     structSum := add{Sum: m.a + m.b}
.          .      31:
10ms      900ms      32:     err = templates.Execute(&html, structSum)
.          .      33:
.          .      34:     if err != nil {
.          .      35:         http.Error(w, err.Error(), 500)
.          .      36:     }
.      140ms      37:     w.Header().Set("Content-Type", "text/html; charset=utf-8")
10ms      60ms      38:     w.Write([]byte(html.String()))
.          .      39: }
.          .      40:
.          .      41: func main() {
.          .      42:
.          .      43:     http.HandleFunc("/struct", handleStructAdd)
(pprof) █
```



```
$go test -run=xxx -bench=. -cpuprofile=cpu.out
```

```
$go tool pprof bench.test cpu.out
```

Top10

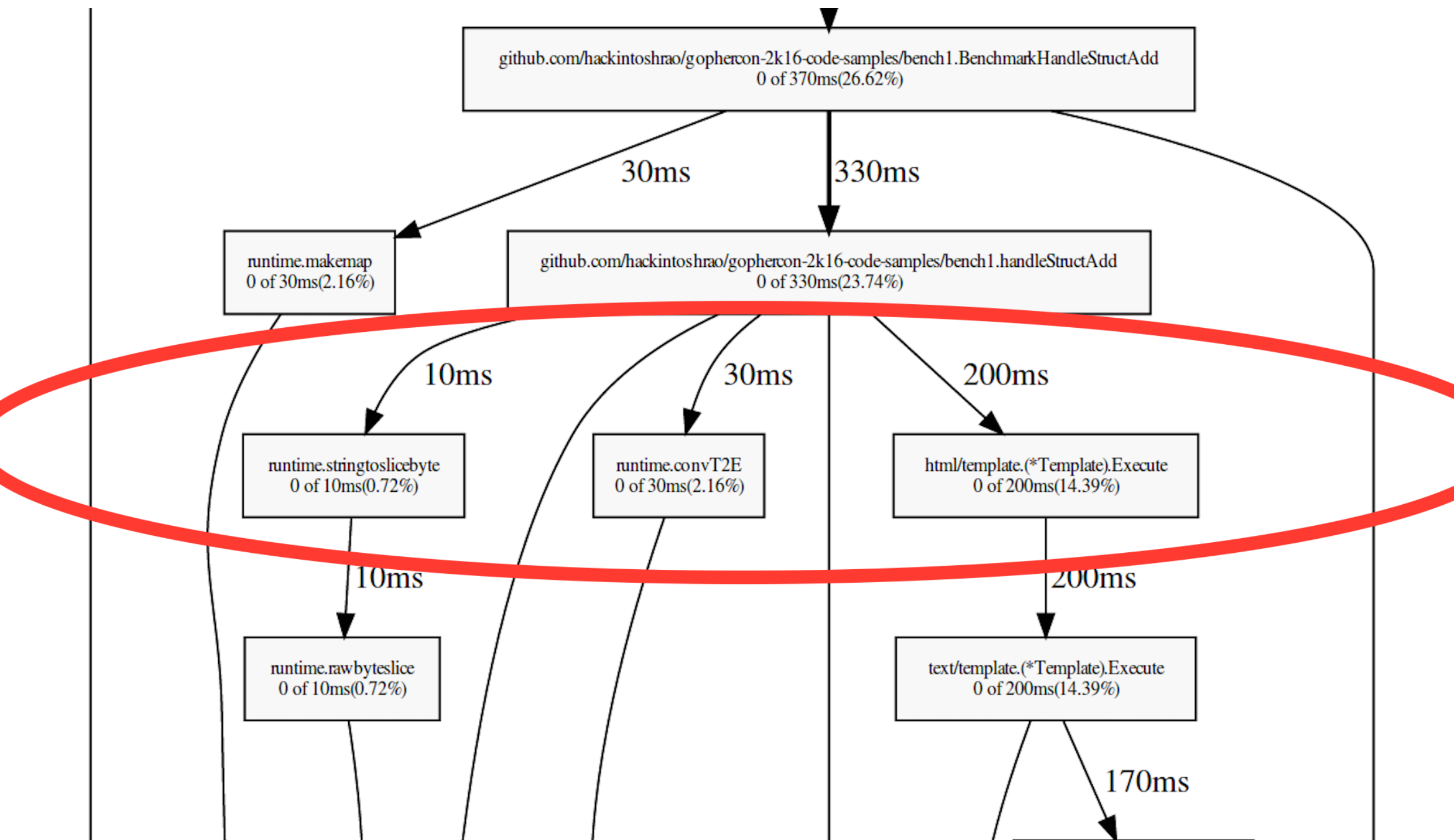
```
(pprof) top10
660ms of 1390ms total (47.48%)
Showing top 10 nodes out of 136 (cum >= 690ms)
      flat flat% sum%      cum cum%
 170ms 12.23% 12.23%   490ms 35.25% runtime.mallocgc
   90ms  6.47% 18.71%    90ms  6.47% runtime.(*mspan).sweep.func1
   70ms  5.04% 23.74%   430ms 30.94% reflect.Value.call
   70ms  5.04% 28.78%    70ms  5.04% runtime.heapBitsSetType
   60ms  4.32% 33.09%    70ms  5.04% runtime.mapaccess1_faststr
   40ms  2.88% 35.97%    40ms  2.88% net/textproto.CanonicalMIMEHeaderKey
   40ms  2.88% 38.85%    40ms  2.88% runtime.deferreturn
   40ms  2.88% 41.73%   130ms  9.35% runtime.heapBitsSweepSpan
   40ms  2.88% 44.60%    40ms  2.88% runtime.memclr
   40ms  2.88% 47.48%   690ms 49.64% text/template.(*state).walk
(pprof) □
```

Solving the Mallocgc challenge

- Mallocgc is Golang garbage collector
- GC sweeps the heap allocations once it starts spiking up
- But how to identify the reason behind the high CPU usage of some these runtime functions ?
- Let's say I want to know about the functions which are contributing highly for the mallocgc invocation?

Removing the noise

web mallocgc



Again, reduce the noise in the profiling graph

- `go tool pprof --nodefraction=0.2 bench.test pro.cpu`

Tools in Testing.B

type B

```
func (c *B) Error(args ...interface{})
func (c *B) Errorf(format string, args ...interface{})
func (c *B) Fail()
func (c *B) FailNow()
func (c *B) Failed() bool
func (c *B) Fatal(args ...interface{})
func (c *B) Fatalf(format string, args ...interface{})
func (c *B) Log(args ...interface{})
func (c *B) Logf(format string, args ...interface{})
func (b *B) ReportAllocs()
func (b *B) ResetTimer()
func (b *B) RunParallel(body func(*PB))
func (b *B) SetBytes(n int64)
func (b *B) SetParallelism(p int)
func (c *B) Skip(args ...interface{})
func (c *B) SkipNow()
func (c *B) Skipf(format string, args ...interface{})
func (c *B) Skipped() bool
func (b *B) StartTimer()
func (b *B) StopTimer()
```

type BenchmarkResult

```
func Benchmark(f func(b *B)) BenchmarkResult
func (r BenchmarkResult) AllocatedBytesPerOp() int64
func (r BenchmarkResult) AllocsPerOp() int64
```

Memory profiling

- Use `*testing.B.ReportAlloc()`

```
func BenchmarkHandleStructAdd(b *testing.B) {  
    b.ReportAllocs()  
    r := request(b, "/?first=20&second=30")  
    for i := 0; i < b.N; i++ {  
        rw := httptest.NewRecorder()  
        handleStructAdd(rw, r)  
    }  
}
```

Running the benchmark

```
nackintosh@Adori: ~/Code/go/src/github.com/nackintoshrao/gophercon-2k16-  
h@Adori:~/Code/go/src/github.com/hackintoshrao/gophercon-2k16-code-samples/bench3$ go test -bench=.  
  
HandleStructAdd-4          500000          3733 ns/op          1080 B/op          18 allocs/op  
github.com/hackintoshrao/gophercon-2k16-code-samples/bench3  1.926s  
h@Adori:~/Code/go/src/github.com/hackintoshrao/gophercon-2k16-code-samples/bench3$
```

Memory profiler

- `$go test -run=^$ -bench=. -memprofile=mem0.out`
- — `inuse_objects` (show count by number of allocations)
- — `alloc_space` (shows the total allocation size)
- `$go tool pprof --alloc_space bench.test mem0.out`

Find the top cumulative memory consumers

```
pprof) top --cum
03.54MB of 294.04MB total (69.22%)
Showing top 10 nodes out of 25 (cum >= 90.51MB)
   flat flat%   sum%   cum   cum%   github.com/hackintoshrao/gophercon-2k16-code-samples/bench3.BenchmarkHandleStructAdd
    0      0%  20.41%  294.04MB  100%   runtime.goexit
    0      0%  20.41%  294.04MB  100%   testing.(*B).launch
    0      0%  20.41%  294.04MB  100%   testing.(*B).runN
   39MB  13.26%  33.67%  234.04MB  79.59%   github.com/hackintoshrao/gophercon-2k16-code-samples/bench3.handleStructAdd
    0      0%  33.67%  102.01MB  34.69%   html/template.(*Template).Execute
  11.50MB   3.91%  37.58%  102.01MB  34.69%   text/template.(*Template).Execute
    0      0%  37.58%   93.03MB  31.64%   net/http.Header.Set
  93.03MB  31.64%  69.22%   93.03MB  31.64%   net/textproto.MIMEHeader.Set
    0      0%  69.22%   90.51MB  30.78%   text/template.(*state).evalCommand
pprof) top10
```

```
(pprof) top10
294.04MB of 294.04MB total ( 100%)
Showing top 10 nodes out of 25 (cum >= 2.50MB)
   flat flat% sum%   cum cum%
  93.03MB 31.64% 31.64%   93.03MB 31.64% net/textproto.MIMEHeader.Set
   61MB 20.75% 52.38%   79.51MB 27.04% reflect.Value.call
   60MB 20.41% 72.79%  294.04MB 100% github.com/hackintoshrao/gophercon-2k16-code-samples/bench3.BenchmarkHandleStructAdd
   39MB 13.26% 86.06%  234.04MB 79.59% github.com/hackintoshrao/gophercon-2k16-code-samples/bench3.handleStructAdd
  11.50MB  3.91% 89.97%  102.01MB 34.69% text/template.(*Template).Execute
   9.50MB  3.23% 93.20%   9.50MB  3.23% reflect.unsafe_New
   8MB 2.72% 95.92%  87.51MB 29.76% text/template.(*state).evalCall
   6.50MB  2.21% 98.13%    9MB  3.06% reflect.MakeSlice
   3MB 1.02% 99.15%    3MB  1.02% reflect.(*structType).Field
   2.50MB  0.85% 100%   2.50MB  0.85% reflect.unsafe_NewArray

(pprof) web MakeSlice
(pprof) 
```

```

MakeSlice
t handle
04MB
===== github.com/hackintoshrao/gophercon-2k16-code-samples/bench3.handleStructAdd in /home/hackintosh/Code/g
code-samples/bench3/simple_add.go
234.04MB (flat, cum) 79.59% of Total
.      14:
.      15: var templates = template.Must(template.ParseFiles("template.html"))
.      16:
.      17: func handleStructAdd(w http.ResponseWriter, r *http.Request) {
.      18:
29MB    19:     var html bytes.Buffer
.      20:     first, second := r.FormValue("first"), r.FormValue("second")
.      21:     one, err := strconv.Atoi(first)
.      22:     if err != nil {
.      23:         http.Error(w, err.Error(), 500)
.      24:     }
.      25:     two, err := strconv.Atoi(second)
.      26:     if err != nil {
.      27:         http.Error(w, err.Error(), 500)
.      28:     }
.      29:     m := struct{ a, b int }{one, two}
.      30:     structSum := add{Sum: m.a + m.b}
.      31:
103.51MB 32:     err = templates.Execute(&html, structSum)
.      33:
.      34:     if err != nil {
.      35:         http.Error(w, err.Error(), 500)
.      36:     }
93.03MB  37:     w.Header().Set("Content-Type", "text/html; charset=utf-8")
8.50MB   38:     w.Write([]byte(html.String()))
.      39: }
.      40:
.      41: func main() {
.      42:
.      43:     http.HandleFunc("/struct", handleStructAdd)

```

```

.      .      43:  http.HandlerFunc( /struct , handleStructAdd)
list MIMEHeader.Set
94.04MB
===== net/textproto.MIMEHeader.Set in /usr/local/go/src/net/textproto/header.go
MB    93.03MB (flat, cum) 31.64% of Total
.      .      17:
.      .      18:// Set sets the header entries associated with key to
.      .      19:// the single element value.  It replaces any existing
.      .      20:// values associated with key.
.      .      21:func (h MIMEHeader) Set(key, value string) {
MB    93.03MB 22:  h[CanonicalMIMEHeaderKey(key)] = []string{value}
.      .      23:}
.      .      24:
.      .      25:// Get gets the first value associated with the given key.
.      .      26:// If there are no values associated with the key, Get returns "".
.      .      27:// Get is a convenience method.  For more complex queries,

```

The modification

func (t *Template) Execute(wr io.Writer, data interface{}) (err error)

```
func handleStructAdd(w http.ResponseWriter, r *http.Request) {  
  
    first, second := r.FormValue("first"), r.FormValue("second")  
    one, err := strconv.Atoi(first)  
    if err != nil {  
        http.Error(w, err.Error(), 500)  
    }  
    two, err := strconv.Atoi(second)  
    if err != nil {  
        http.Error(w, err.Error(), 500)  
    }  
    m := struct{ a, b int }{one, two}  
    structSum := add{Sum: m.a + m.b}  
  
    err = templates.Execute(w, structSum)  
  
    if err != nil {  
        http.Error(w, err.Error(), 500)  
    }  
}
```

Benchmark and compare

```
$go test -run=^$ -bench=. | tee profile.2
```

```
$benchcmp profile.1 profile.2
```

```
hackintosh@Adorn1: /code/go/src/github.com/hackintosh/gophercon-2016-code-samples/bench$ $go test -run=^$ -bench=. | tee profile.2
benchmark                               old ns/op    new ns/op    delta
BenchmarkHandleStructAdd-4             3853         4419         +14.69%

benchmark                               old allocs   new allocs   delta
BenchmarkHandleStructAdd-4             18           16           -11.11%

benchmark                               old bytes    new bytes    delta
BenchmarkHandleStructAdd-4             1080         936          -13.33%
```

Other tools

1. Golang blocking profiler
2. `sync.Pool` , to pool and reuse resources
3. Garbage collector tracer
4. Memory Allocator tracer
5. Scheduler tracer
6. `runtime.ReadMemstats`

Thank you

@hackintoshrao

medium.com/@hackintoshrao