

Profiling and debugging CUDA

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Outline

- Dubbing CUDA with DDT
 - hardware info
 - analyzing a snapshot of the kernel state
- Profiling CUDA with MAP
 - Analyse memory transfers
 - Analyse warp executions

DDT



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Application: /work/d435/d435/parisid435/lfric-kernels/matrix_vector_... Details

Application: /work/d435/d435/parisid435/lfric-kernels/matrix_vector_kernel_gpu/test

Arguments:

stdin file:

Working Directory: /work/d435/d435/parisid435/lfric-kernels/matrix_vector_kernel_gpu

☒ MPI: 1 process, 1 node, 1 ppn, SLURM (generic) Details

Number of Processes: 1

Number of Nodes: 1

☒ Processes per Node: 1

Implementation: SLURM (generic) Change...

srun arguments:

☒ CUDA Details

This option cannot be used alongside ROCm or Intel Xe.

☒ Track GPU allocations (also enables CPU memory debugging)

☐ Detect invalid accesses (memory access not supported in CUDA 12 or newer)

☐ ROCm Details...

☐ Intel Xe Details...

☒ Memory Debugging: Fast, No guard pages, Backtraces, Preload Details...

☒ Submit to Queue: Wall Clock Limit=00:20:00, P Configure... Parameters...

Environment Variables: none Details

Plugins: none Details

Help Options Submit Cancel

Run as usual

Select CUDA runtime

Limited support for AMD GPU

Compiling

Before running DDT you need to compile with the appropriate flags.

```
nvcc -g -G kernel.cu
```

Debugging information on the host

Debugging information on the device

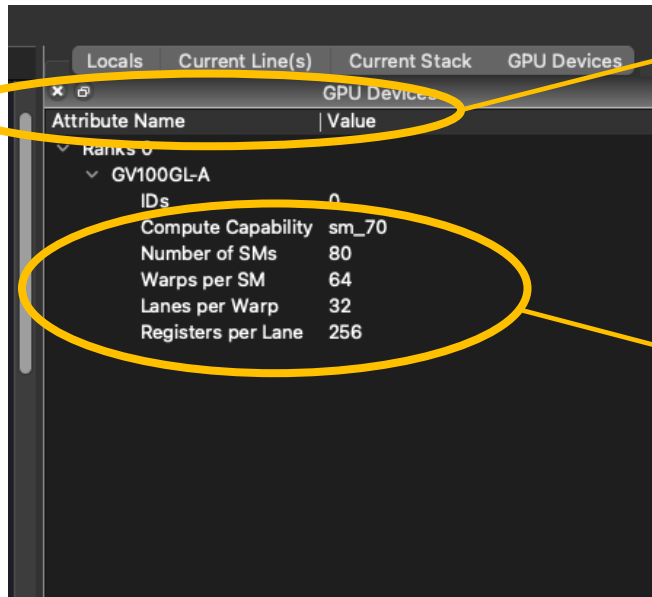
```
nvfortran -O2 -g -gpu=debug kernel.f90
```

Equivalent to `-G` option for NVIDIA C compiler

DDT

Show information about the device

Which rank is using which GPU ?



Attribute Name	Value
Rank 0	
GV100GL-A	
IDs	0
Compute Capability	sm_70
Number of SMs	80
Warps per SM	64
Lanes per Warp	32
Registers per Lane	256

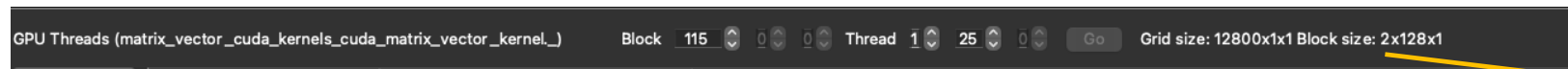
Easy access to hardware information needed for analyzing performance.

$80 * 64 * 32 = 1.6384 \cdot 10^5$ threads can be on the device

Stepping through threads



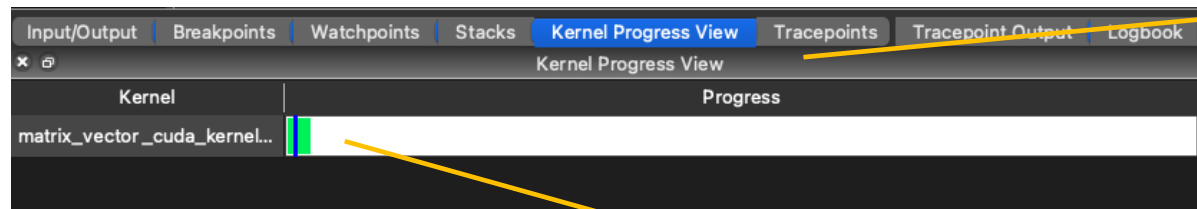
Advance, break and pause inside a CUDA kernel



Check number of threads launched.

3.2768 10^6 threads,
x20 the capacity of the device

When execution is paused switch between threads



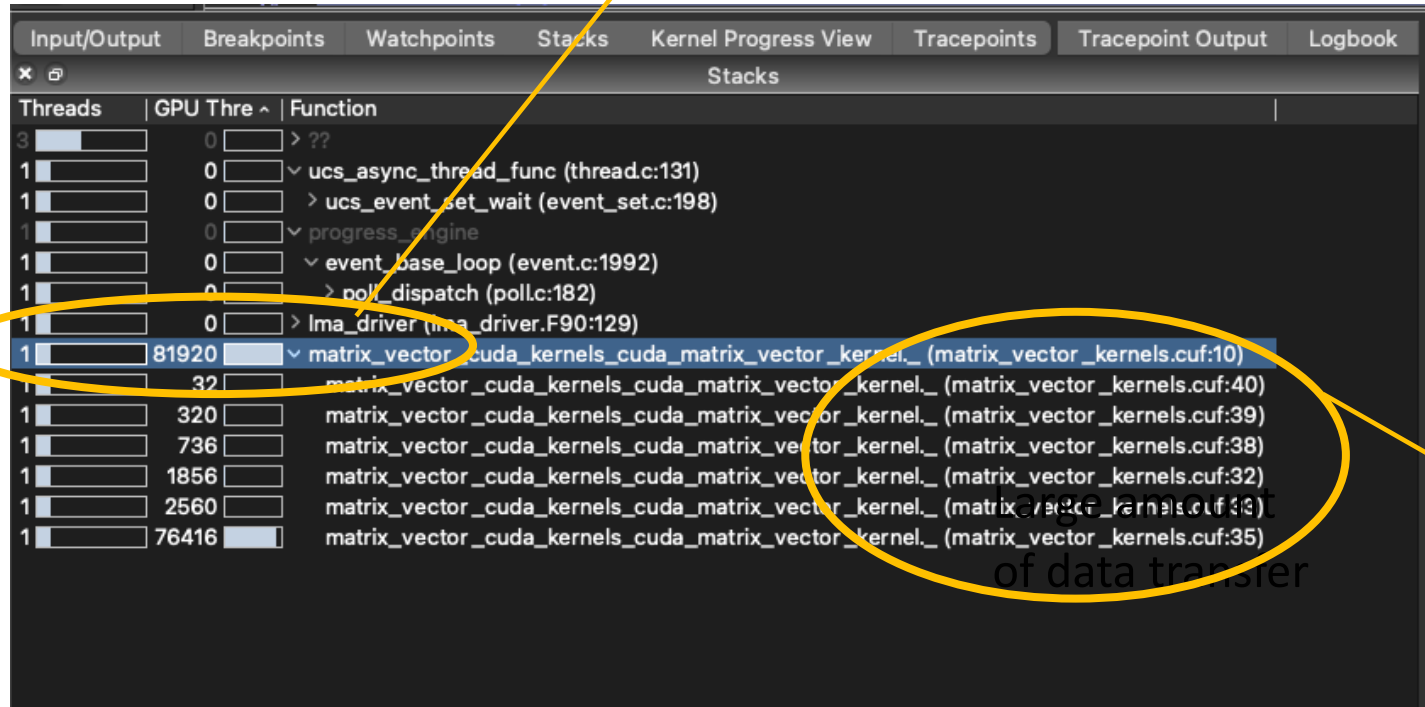
Threads that have already executed or are yet to be executed

Green: Threads Executing on the device

Blue: Selected Thread

DDT

81920 threads are executing. About 50% of the device capacity.



Where are GPU threads ?

MAP



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Launching map

Kernel and transfer analysis each add noticeable overhead

Profile the kernel: warp stall information

```
map --cuda-kernel-analysis --cuda-transfer-analysis -n 1 --mpi=slurm --  
mpiargs="--hint-nomultithread --distribution-block:block --cpus-per-task=1" --  
profile ./test
```

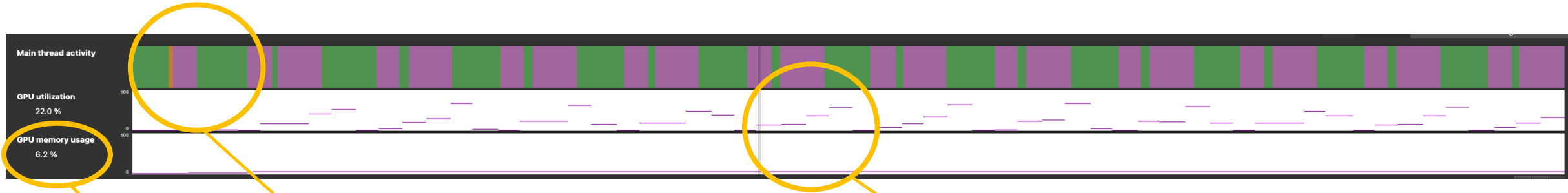


Analyze memory transfer

Memory and Kernel analysis are optional. Can add significant overhead

Hotspots

Mix of GPU and CPU computation



Green: computation time

Violet: Time spent waiting on the device

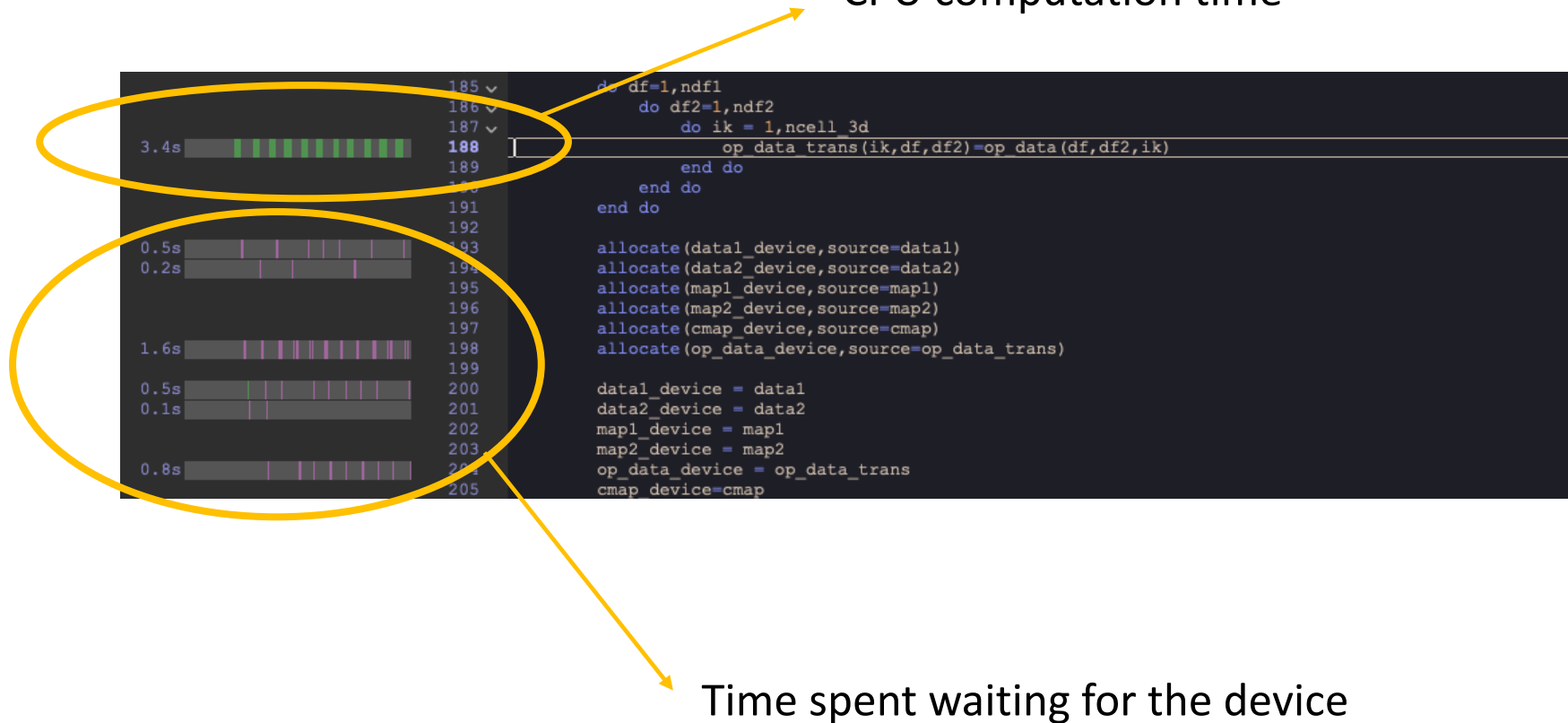
Orange: Time spent in IO

Fraction of the time
spent in GPU utilization.
Sensitive to
undersampling.

Low fraction of the
GPU global memory
is being used

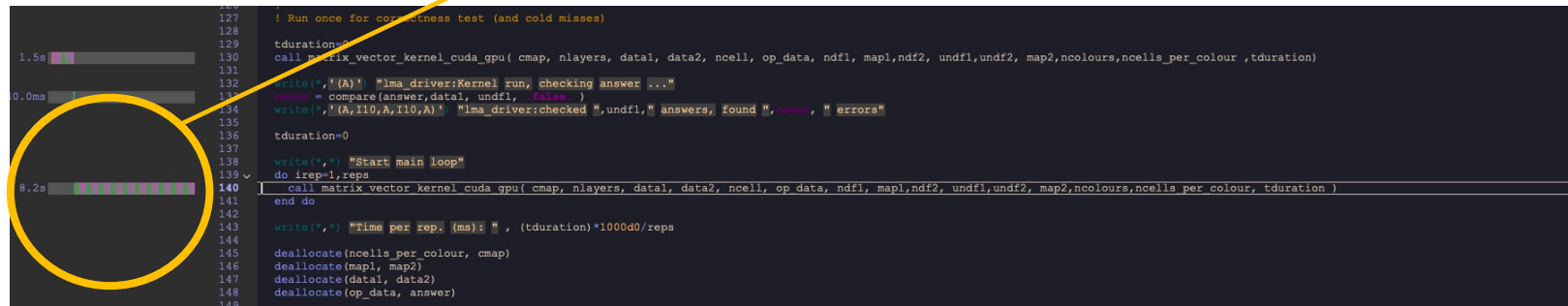
CPU and GPU concurrent analysis

CPU computation time



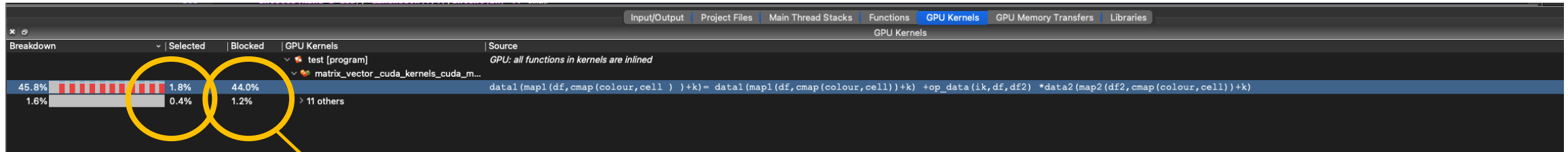
Where is the GPU time ?

Mix of GPU and CPU computation



Transfers from device after kernel execution

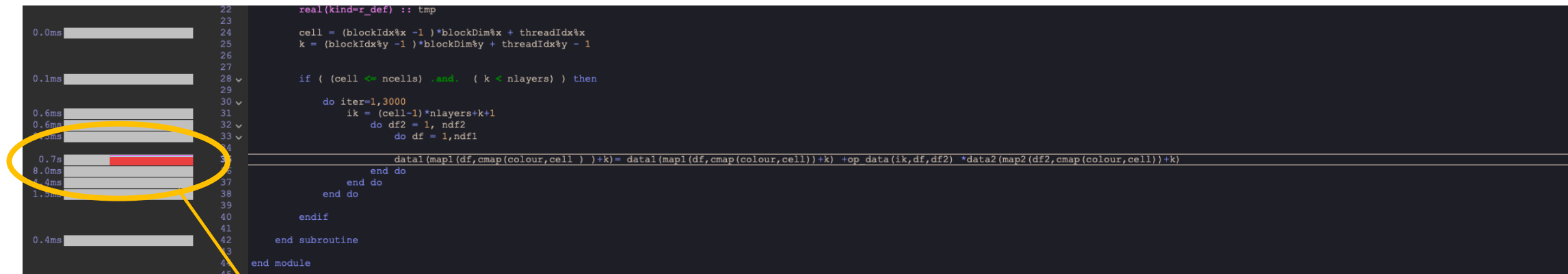
Kernel execution



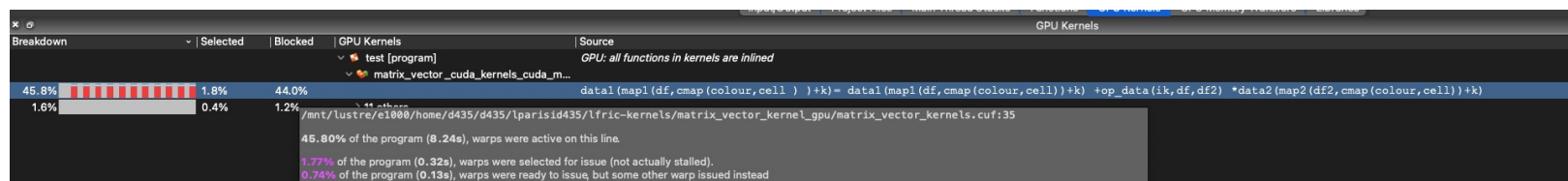
Fraction of warps
executing

Fraction of warps stalled
for some reason

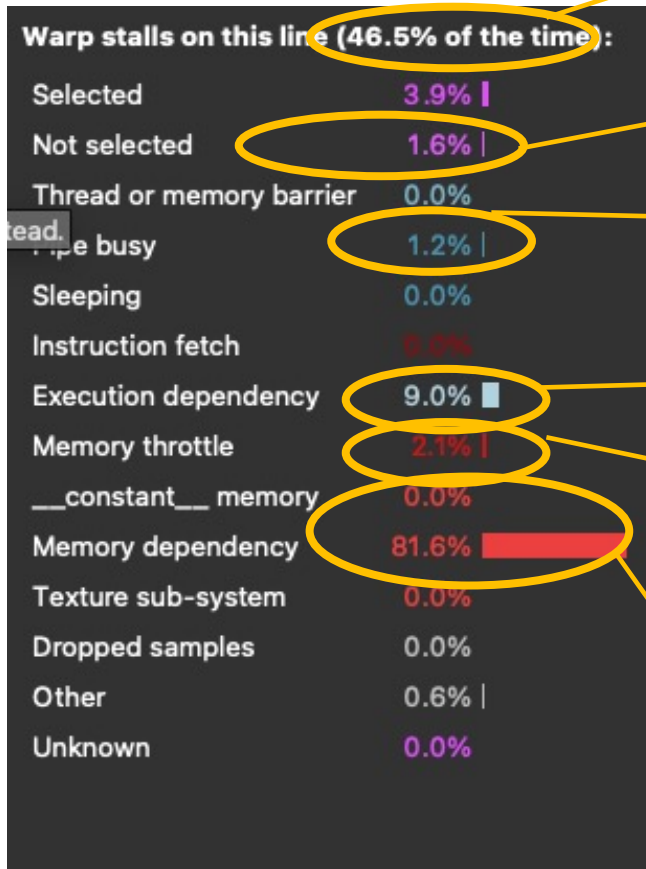
Kernel execution



The gpu kernel spent the whole time in a kernel



Kernel execution



Warps ready for computation, but not executing as not enough resources available

Being executed, but stalling as functional units are not available

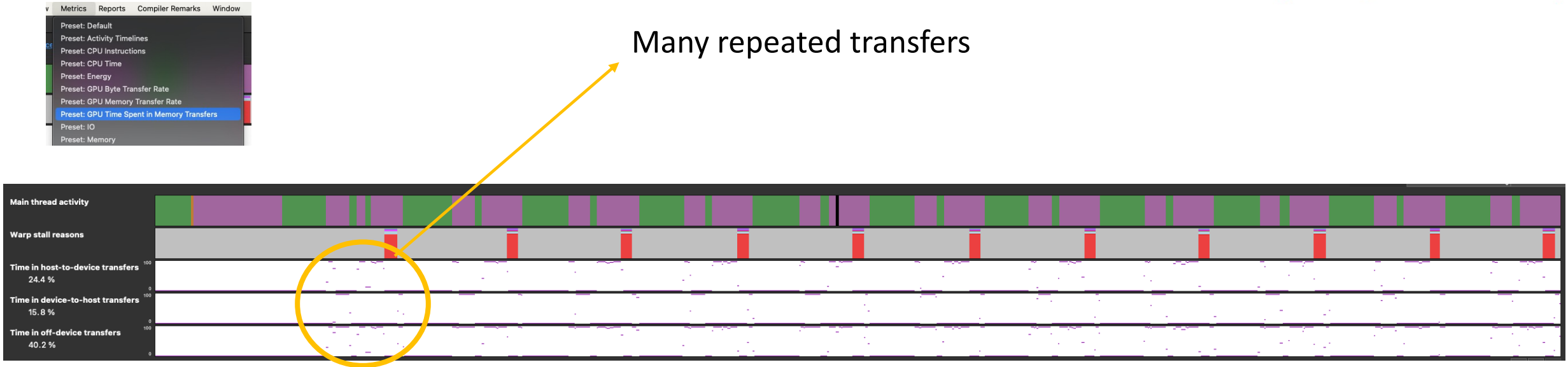
Waiting for the result of an arithmetic operation

Too many memory requests

Most of the warps waiting for data to be loaded from memory

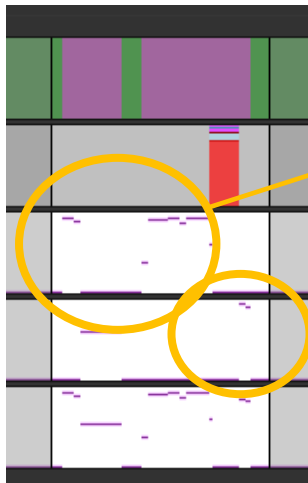
Memory transfers

Many repeated transfers

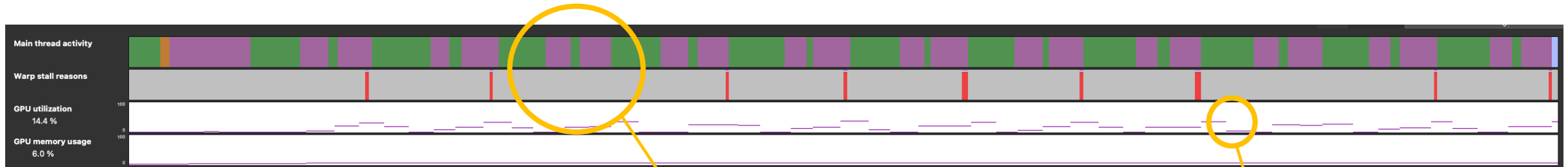


Transfers to device before kernel execution

Transfers from device after kernel execution



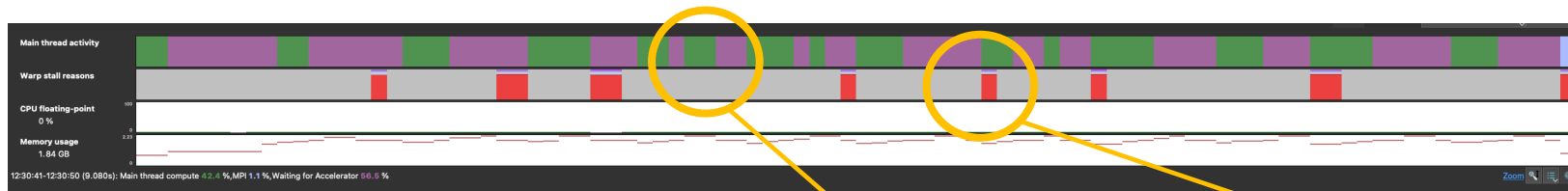
Sampling



Missing information
about warp stall reasons

GPU usage in
unexpected areas of the
code

Sampling



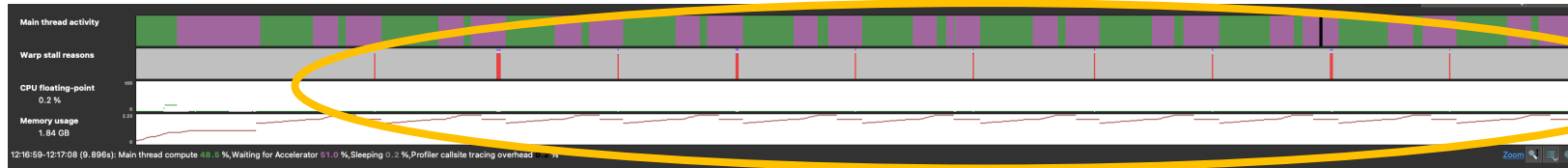
Kernels in wrong position

Kernel is missing. Time intervals are fluctuating wildly

Inconsistencies and blocky appearance suggests we are not collecting enough samples

Sampling

```
export FORGE_SAMPLER_INTERVAL=1  
export FORGE_SAMPLER_GPU_INTERVAL=1
```

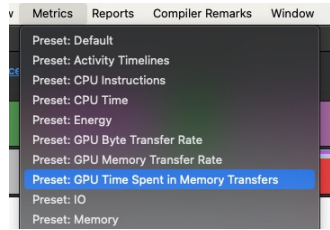


Set sampling interval to 1ms, the maximum supported value

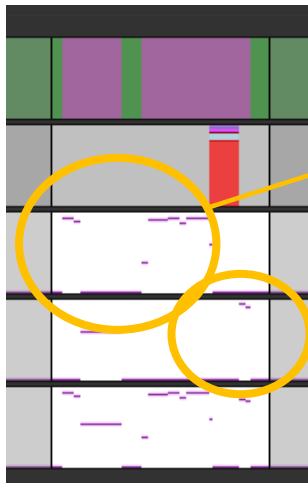
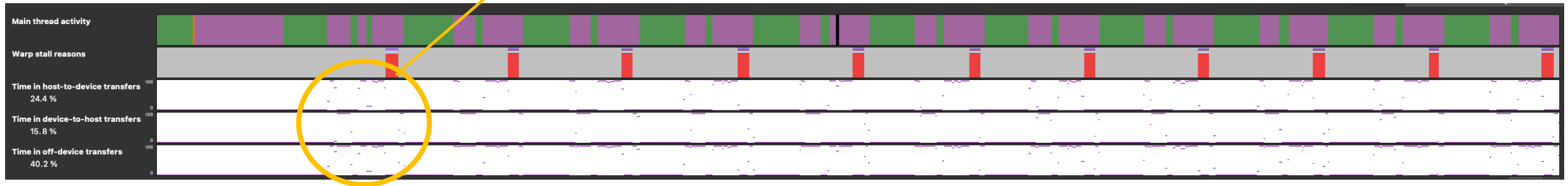
Balance between amount of information and sampler overhead

Kernels all presents and in the expected position.

Memory transfers



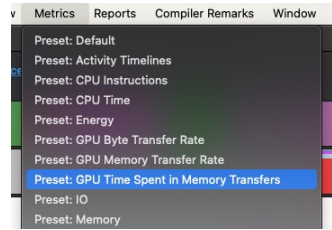
Many repeated transfers



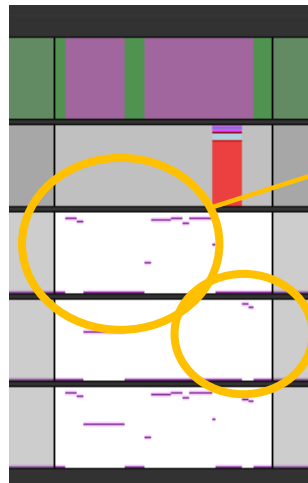
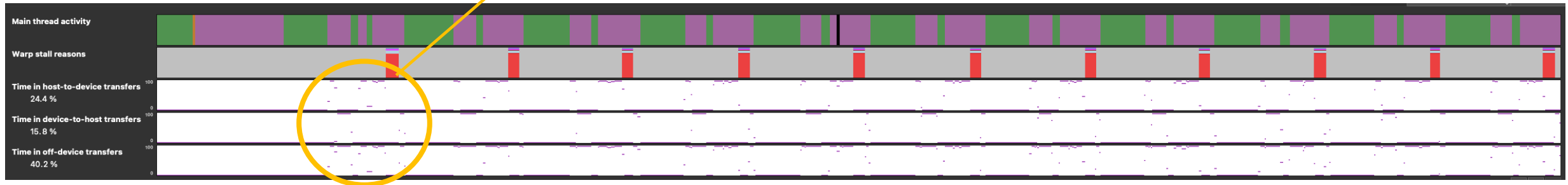
Transfers to device before kernel execution

Transfers from device after kernel execution

Memory transfers



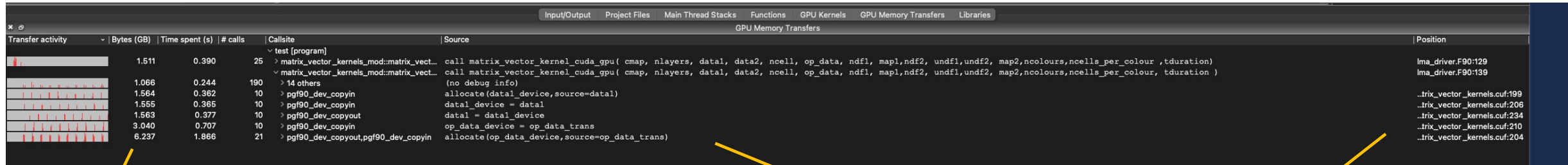
Many repeated transfers



Transfers to device before kernel execution

Transfers from device after kernel execution

Memory transfers



Large amount
of data transfer

Sizable amount of time spent
in GPU transfers

Source code responsible for the transfer

Conclusions

- Debug both CPU and GPU with DDT
 - Step into both GPU kernels and CPU kernels
- Profile both CPU and GPU with MAP
 - Time spent waiting on device
 - Memory transfers
 - Stalling reasons