

*Guide*  
to  
*Profile-Guided*  
*Optimization:*

inlining, devirtualizing, and profiling

Satoru Kawahara

@Go Conference 2024

# Who talks

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Hello, I'm bisho-jo!



Kanmu,Inc.



Nymphium



2nd-year Golang student

## ■ Today's Topic

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By the way, do you ...

## ■ Today's Topic

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By the way, do you ...



Use the Go Compiler?

## ■ Today's Topic

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By the way, do you ...

-  Use the Go Compiler?
-  Use its Optimizations?

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Then,

## ■ Today's Topic

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By the way, do you ...

- 🙋‍♀️ Use the Go Compiler?
- 🙋‍♀️ Use its Optimizations?

Then,



Do you use  
*Profile-Guided  
Optimization?*

## ■ Today's Topic

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Learn about

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Learn about

# *Profile-Guided Optimization*

Learn about

# *Profile-Guided Optimization*

and

## its associated optimizations

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**Profile-Guided Optimization (PGO, abbrev.)**  
is an optimization method that<sup>\*1</sup>:

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- ▶ Enables *more aggressive optimizations*, such as **inlining** and **devirtualization**

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## ■ Today's Topic

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Learn about  
*Profile-Guided  
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and  
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Learn about

# *Profile-Guided Optimization*

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## **its associated optimizations**



*Function Inlining*



*Devirtualization*

## ■ Function Inlining

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**Function inlining**, or simply *inlining*, is the process of replacing a func call with its body.

```
func f (x int) int {
    return x * x
}

func main() {
    fmt.printf("%d", f(3))
}
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Inline!

# ■ Function Inlining

**Function inlining**, or simply *Inlining*, is the process of replacing a func call with its body.

- ▶ Reduces ***function call overhead***:

No stack frame setup, no return address,  
no arguments copying

- ▶ Enables ***further optimizations***:

E.g., *constant propagation, dead code elimination*

```
func f (x int) int {  
    return x * x  
}  
  
func main() {  
    fmt.printf("%d", f(3))  
}
```

```
func f(x int) int {  
    return  
}  
  
func main() {  
    fmt.printf("%d", 3 * 3)  
}
```

See definition

Inline!

## •Conditions for Inlining

**Several conditionals** to be applied<sup>\*2</sup>:

---

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- ▶ **Non-leaf** function:

The func **shouldn't** call other funcs.

```
func f (x int) int {  
    return x * x  
}
```

```
func g (x int) int {  
    return f(x) + 1  
}
```

---

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```

calls f

g is  
**non-leaf function**

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## •Conditions for Inlining

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► **Non-leaf function:**

The func shouldn't call other funcs.

► **Small function, "Budget"  $\leq 80$ :**

Constructs are **rated** by their cost:

- 57 for non-leaf func call
- 1 for panic
- etc.

The *budget* is the total cost of func body.

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The budget is the total cost of func body.

► **And so on ...**

- Not external function (e.g., C functions)
- No specific tags set, `//go:noinline`, `//go:systemstack`, etc.
- Not a complex body, including `defer`, `select`, etc.

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**Devirtualization** is an optimizations that converts an **interface method call** into **concrete func call**.

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**WAIT!**  
Can you explain  
*how*  
***interface method call***  
*works?*

## •Interface Method Call

---

Interface method **calls** in Go is performed based on *dynamic dispatch*<sup>\*3</sup>.

```
var r io.Reader
r = strings.NewReader("Hello")
buf := make([]byte, 5)
n, _ := r.Read(buf)
```

---

<sup>\*3</sup> <https://research.swtch.com/interfaces>

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Look up concrete method  
from type information  
*at runtime!*

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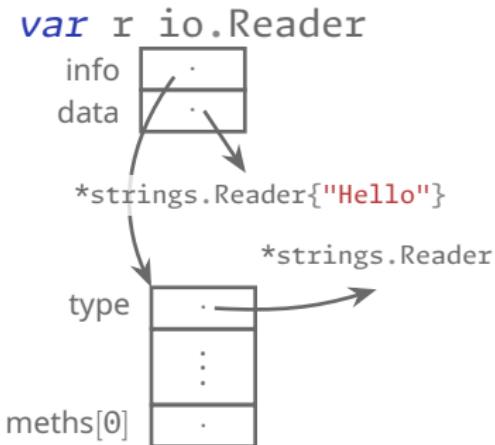
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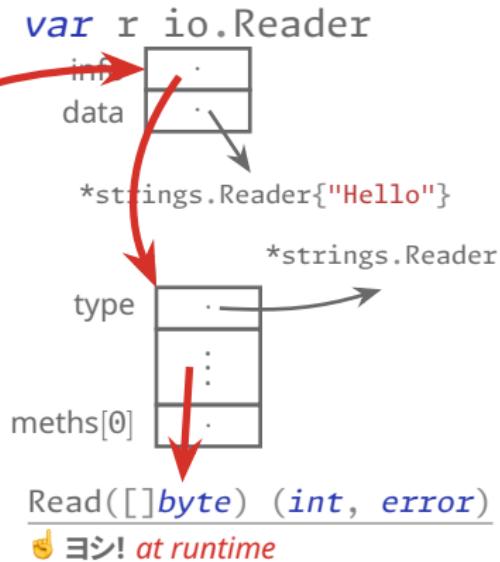
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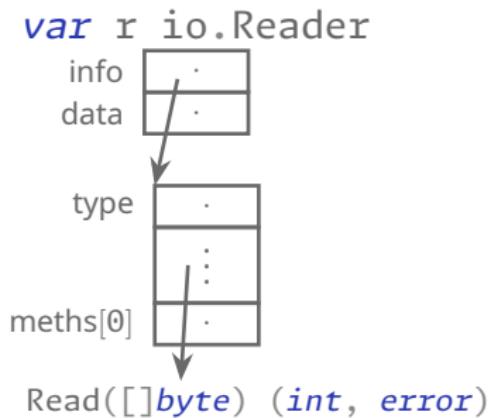
Look up concrete method from type information **at runtime ...?** 

Can analyze it calls  
`(*strings.Reader).Read` at **compile time!**

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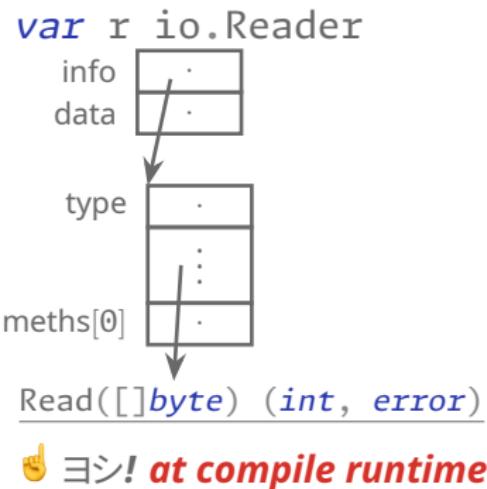


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var r io.Reader  
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Call directly!



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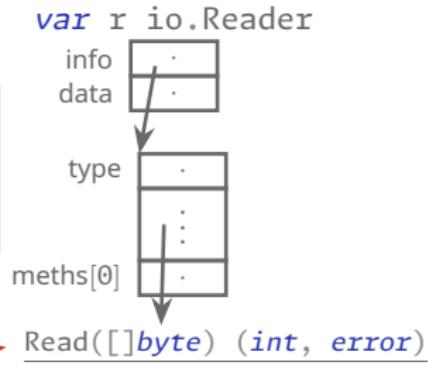
- ▶ Reduces **interface method call overhead**:  
No look up and typechecking at runtime

- ▶ Enables **further optimizations**:

Same to inlining

```
var r io.Reader
r = strings.NewReader("Hello")
buf := make([]byte, 5)
n, _ := r.Read(buf)
```

Call directly!



👉 ヨシ! **at compile runtime**

## • Limitation for Devirtualization

---

⚠ **Limitation:** can only be applied if concrete method is **determined statically**.

```
var r io.Reader
if os.Getenv("MODE") == "string" {
    r = strings.NewReader("Hello")
} else {
    r = bytes.NewReader([]byte("Hello"))
}
buf := make([]byte, 5)
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**dynamic conditional**

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n, _ := r.Read(buf)
```

dynamic conditional

Can't resolve **statically**,  
which should call  
`(*strings.Reader).Read`  
or `(*bytes.Reader).Read`?

## Profile-Guided Optimization

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Go compiler performs several optimizations,

## ■ Profile-Guided Optimization

---

Go compiler performs several optimizations,  
*and there are **still room for more!***

- ▶ *Conditionals* for inlining
- ▶ *Limitation* for devirtualization

## ■ Profile-Guided Optimization

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Go compiler performs several optimizations,  
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- ▶ *Limitation* for devirtualization

This is where

***Profile-Guided Optimization***

comes in 😎

## ■ Profile-Guided Optimization

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**PGO** is an optimization method that:

- ▶ Uses *profiling information* from **program execution**
- ▶ Enables *more aggressive optimizations*, such as **inlining** and **devirtualization**

## ■ Profile-Guided Optimization

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## ■Profile-Guided Optimization

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**PGO** is an optimization method that:

- ▶ Uses *profiling information* from **program execution**



**So,  
how to collect  
profiles?**

- ▶ Enables *more aggressive optimizations*, such as **inlining** and **devirtualization**



## •Creating and Collecting Profiles

Profile data is represented as *pprof* format.  
There are several choices to create:

- ❑ `runtime/pprof`  
Writes out profile files
- ❑ `net/http/pprof`  
Runs HTTP server for get profiling data
- ❑ `gopkg.in/DataDog/dd-trace-go.v1/profiler`  
Sends profiles to the Datadog API

突然ですが  
ここで宣伝です

## バンドルカード

スマホ1つで  
チャージ・支払い

Visaカードとして使えるアプリ



バンドルカード

スマホ1つで  
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VISA | G Pay

Vandle API server → Datadog

profiles,logs  
via dd-trace-go/profiler

## •Creating and Collecting Profiles

To fetch profiles from  Datadog.....

### ⌚ **datadog-pgo**

Can fetch many profiles(up to 30?) at once!

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To fetch profiles from 🐶Datadog.....

### ⌚ datadog-pgo

Can fetch many profiles(up to 30?) at once!

At build phase:

```
ENV DD_API_KEY=${DD_API_KEY}  
ENV DD_APP_KEY=${DD_APP_KEY}
```

```
RUN datadog-pgo -profiles 30 \  
'service:vandle-api env:prd' ./default.pgo
```

# •Creating and Collecting Profiles

To fetch profiles from 🐶Datadog.....

## ⌚ datadog-pgo

Can fetch many profiles(up to 30?) at once!

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Pick from APM profile list BY HAND

The screenshot shows the Datadog APM interface with the 'Profiles' tab selected. It displays a list of profiles for the 'vandle-api' service. Each profile entry includes a timestamp, profile name, CPU cores, memory allocation, version, and a small preview icon.

Profile	Date	CPU CORES	MEMORY ALLOCATION	VERSION	PREVIEW
prd	Jun 20 2018 14:47	4	3 MB	4	
staging	Jun 20 2018 14:47	4	3 MB	4	
version	Jun 20 2018 14:47	4	3 MB	4	
All environment profiles	Jun 20 2018 14:47	4	3 MB	4	
Real	Jun 20 2018 14:47	4	10 MB	4	

Difficult to get  
many profiles 😭

## ■ Compiling with PGO

---

Compiler flags for PGO:

```
$ go build -pgo -gcflags='-m=2 -l=4' ./vandle-server
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verbose optimization

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```
$ go build -pgo -gcflags=' -m=2 -l=4' ./vandle-server
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enables PGO

controls inlining, -l=4 enables  
inlining **non-leaf functions** (!)

verbose optimization

## ■ Compiling with PGO

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internal/reflectlite/type.go:414:28:
    PGO devirtualizing interface call
        u.common to rtype.common
.....
runtime/mgcsweep.go:499:6:
    cannot inline (*sweepLocked).sweep:
    function too complex:
    cost 2030 exceeds budget 2000
.....
```

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Devirtualize statically ambiguous interface call!

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internal/reflectlite/type.go:414:28:
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**PGO devirtualizing interface call**

```
u.common to rtype.common
```

```
.....
```

```
runtime/mgcsweep.go:49
```

```
cannot inline (*sw  
function too complex.
```

Not inlined, but budget is **lifted to 2000!**

**cost 2030 exceeds budget 2000**

```
.....
```

## Evaluation

≈ 240000 lines

Compiling **Vandle** API server,  
with or without PGO and -l, then count output

```
$ go build ..... \
| grep -E '(can inline|PGO devirtualizing)' \
| wc -l
```

# Evaluation

```
$ go build ..... \
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```

flags	result (lines)	inlining	PGO devirt
-pgo=off (default)	110313	110313	-
-pgo=off -l=4	+67561	177874	-
-pgo	-418	109879	16
-pgo -l=4	+68851	179147	17

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- ▶ -l=4 works well!

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- with PGO performs inlining +1273

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  - with PGO performs inlining +1273
- ▶ -l=4 accelerates devirtualization

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- ▶ -l=4 works well!
  - with PGO performs inlining +1273
- ▶ -l=4 accelerates devirtualization
- ▶ WHAT?!

Optimizations is so complicated ... 😔

## Conclusion

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- ▶ Introduces **profile-guided optimization, inlining and devirtualization**
- ▶ Evaluates PGO with -fprofile-generate flag, using production code
- ▶ Vandle card is running with PGO build!
- ▶ **Optimizations are so deep and interesting!**

# Conclusion

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- ▶ Introduces **profile-guided optimization, inlining and devirtualization**
- ▶ Evaluates PGO with `-fprofile-generate` flag, using production code
- ▶ Vandle card is running with PGO build!
- ▶ **Optimizations are so deep and interesting!**
- ▶ Couldn't talk today 😭:
  - Pprof for visualizing call site
  - PGO calculates hotness by **CFD**
  - **AutoFDO**, Continuous compiling with profiles
  - Comparison with other languages' compilers
    - Haskell, resolves *all* typeclass constraints
    - JVM, JIT
    - PGO in .NET
  - Interface with Generics