



# PowerShell Performance Tuning

“A few moments later”

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06/03/2025



— BIG THANKS TO :

AXXES\_



# AGENDA

- ABOUT
  - WHOAMI
  - UPCOMING TRAININGS
- PERFORMANCE TUNING
  - WTF
  - Measuring
  - PS Tuning principles
- BUSINESS CASE
- Q & A

# WHOAMI

```
PS C:\> Invoke-RestMethod 'whoami.powershell.wtf'
```

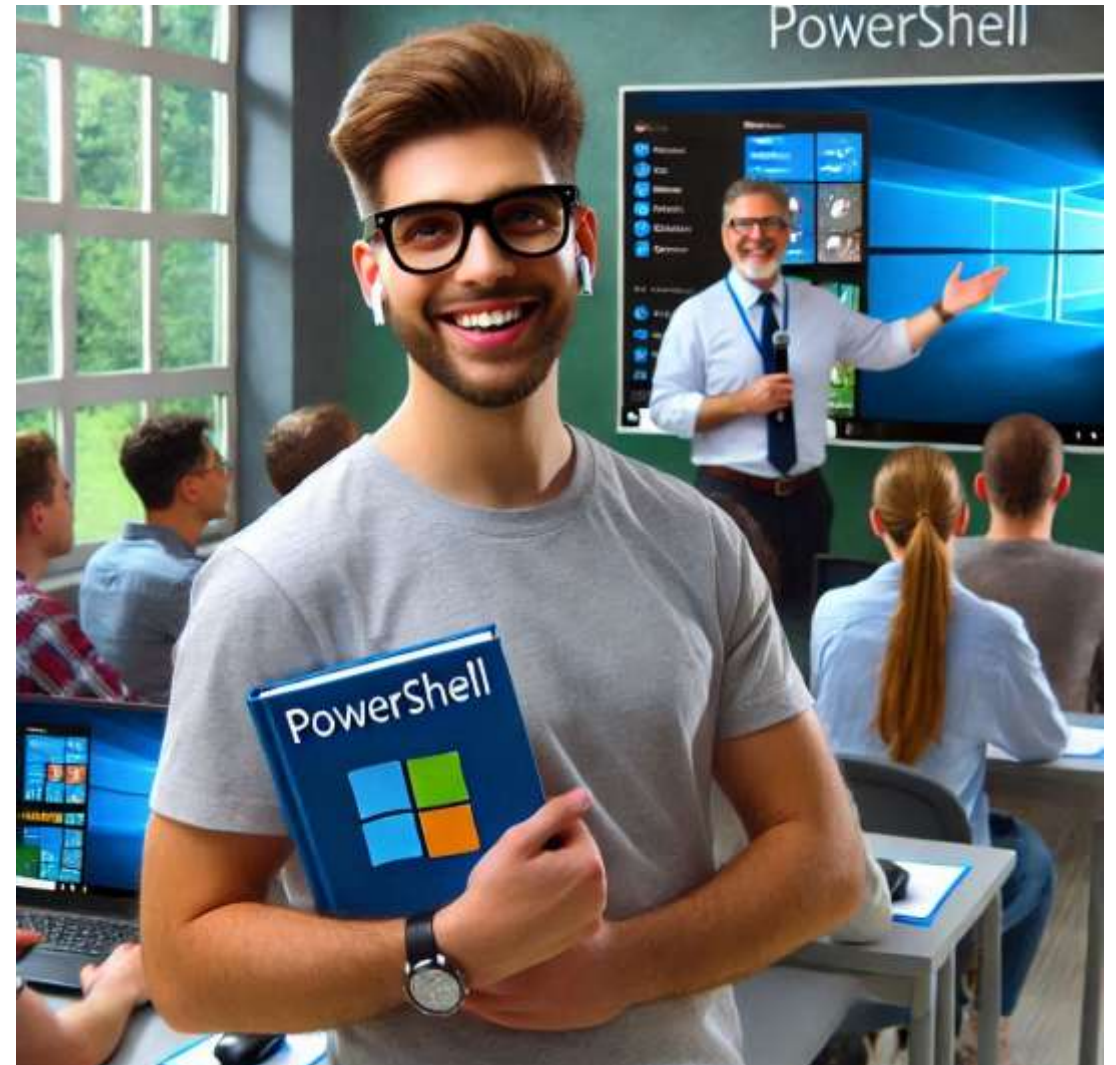
```
Name           : Bruno Buyck
NickName        : Belly
Age             : 38
Country         : BE
Roles           : {Owner/Consultant/Trainer@Trouble Shooter BV, ScriptRunner Solution Partner}
Email           : bruno@powershell.wtf
website         : www.powershell.wtf
PSStartDate     : 01/07/2007
PStrainerStartDate : 12/04/2014
NumberOfScripts : >1k
NumberOfstudents : 133
MSCertStatus    : {MS Certified Trainer, Az Solutions Architect, Az/Teams/Messaging Administrator Associate, ..}
Loves           : {Hiking, Food}
```





# UPCOMING TRAININGS

- Become a PS Hero in 3 days :
- 02/06/2025 - 05/06/2025
- 24/11/2025 - 26/11/2025
  - Dutch
  - Limited to 12 people
  - Region Antwerp
- [sales@powershell.wtf](mailto:sales@powershell.wtf) (Lisa)



# Performance Tuning WTF !



*“Success is the sum of small efforts,  
repeated day-in and day-out.”*

**Robert Collier**

Performance tuning involves optimizing your scripts to make them run more efficiently, ensuring they use fewer system resources and run faster.



# WARNING !

- Performance tuning is subject to environment circumstances
- Memory & CPU sizing
- Operating system
- PowerShell Version
- Script content
- .....



# PERFORMANCE TUNING METHODOLOGY

## 1. Baseline Measurement & Identify Bottlenecks

## 2. Optimize:

**Pipelining**

**Variables**

**Data**

**Loops**

# Baseline Bottlenecks Measurement



# BASELINE MEASUREMENT


- Measure-Command
- [SYSTEM.DIAGNOSTICS.STOPWATCH]
- Profiler + Speedscope.app



# MEASURE-COMMAND

## Syntax

PowerShell

 Copy

**Measure-Command**

```
[ -InputObject <PSObject> ]  
[ -Expression <ScriptBlock> ]  
[ <CommonParameters> ]
```

```
PS D:\> measure-command {get-service}
```

```
Days           : 0  
Hours          : 0  
Minutes        : 0  
Seconds        : 0  
Milliseconds    : 9  
Ticks          : 94170  
TotalDays      : 1.08993055555556E-07  
TotalHours     : 2.61583333333333E-06  
TotalMinutes   : 0.00015695  
TotalSeconds   : 0.009417  
TotalMilliseconds : 9.417
```

# SYSTEM.DIAGNOSTICS.STOPWATCH

- .NET class

```
$stopwatch = [system.diagnostics.stopwatch]::StartNew()  
get-service | out-null  
$stopwatch.Stop()  
$stopwatch  
$stopwatch.Elapsed
```



# PROFILER MODULE

Install-Module Profiler

```
$TraceData = Trace-Script -ScriptBlock {.\bad_script.ps1} -ExportPath 'D:\'
```

```
$TraceData.Top50Duration
```

```
Top50SelfDuration      : List top 50 lines based on time consumed directly by the line
Top50SelfMemory        : List top 50 lines based on the memory consumed directly by the line
Top50HitCount          : List top 50 lines based on hit count
Top50Duration          : List top 50 lines based on duration
Top50FunctionDuration  : List top 50 functions based on duration
Top50FunctionHitCount  : List top 50 functions based on hit count
Top50FunctionSelfDuration : List top 50 functions based on time consumed directly by the function
Top50Memory            : List top 50 lines based on the m
AllLines               : Show all lines processed by prof
Events                 : Show raw trace-events returned f
TotalDuration          : 00:00:39.2825680
StopwatchDuration      : 00:00:39.2850367
ScriptBlock            : .\bad_script.ps1
```

Time Order Left Heavy Sandwich powershell (5492) Time=39282.568ms Export Import		
Total	Self	Symbol Name
27.37s (70%)	27.37s (70%)	\$eventlog = get-eventlog "Security"
10.00s (25%)	10.00s (25%)	Start-Sleep -seconds 10
1.27s (3.2%)	1.27s (3.2%)	\$data = Invoke-RestMethod 'https://restcountries.com/v3.1/all'
620.25ms (1.6%)	620.25ms (1.6%)	\$jsondata = \$data   convertto-json
9.54ms (0.02%)	9.54ms (0.02%)	\$unique_regions = \$data   Select-Object -Property Region -Unique
39.28s (>99%)	8.67ms (0.02%)	.\bad_script.ps1
68.40µs (<0.01%)	68.40µs (<0.01%)	}
23.20µs (<0.01%)	23.20µs (<0.01%)	{

# Optimize Tuning principles



## > Pipelining

- Avoid using pipelines
- Look at properties & methods of objects (get-member)

## > Variables

- Avoid creation of new objects/variables
- Use `system.Collections.ArrayList` & `PSObjects`
- Cast your variables

## > Data

- Use hashtables for lookup
- Limit data size
- Look for alternatives

## > Loops

- `ForEach-Object` = Cool
- `-Parallel` (!)

# BUSINESS CASE



# CUSTOMER EXAMPLE

- Slow : Execution time hours for 10k+ users
- PSVersion 5.1 (hard requirement)
- Lists table of Active Directory group memberships  
"UserName","GroupDN"
- Use of ADSI not allowed

```
$users = get-aduser -Properties * -Filter *
$result = @()
ForEach($user in $users)
{
    $permissions = (Get-ADPrincipalGroupMembership -Identity $user.SID )
    foreach($permission in $permissions)
    {
        $m = new-object -TypeName PSObject
        $m | Add-Member -Name 'User' -MemberType NoteProperty -value $user.Name
        $m | Add-Member -Name 'DN' -MemberType NoteProperty -value $permission.DistinguishedName
        $result+=$m
    }
}
```

# TESTING & PROFILING

powershell (87436) Time=241526.7074ms			Export	In
Time Order	Left Heavy	Sandwich		
Total	Self	Symbol Name		
3:43 (93%)	3:43 (93%)	\$permissions = (Get-ADPrincipalGroupMembership -Identity \$user.SID )		
5.99s (2.5%)	5.99s (2.5%)	\$result+=\$m		
4.08s (1.7%)	4.08s (1.7%)	\$m   Add-Member -Name 'User' -MemberType NoteProperty -Value \$user.Name		
4.01s (1.7%)	4.01s (1.7%)	\$m   Add-Member -Name 'DN' -MemberType NoteProperty -Value \$permission.DistinguishedName		
2.49s (1.0%)	2.49s (1.0%)	\$m = new-object -TypeName PSObject		
843.53ms (0.35%)	843.53ms (0.35%)	\$permission		
495.38ms (0.21%)	495.38ms (0.21%)	\$users = get-aduser -Properties * -Filter * -SearchBase 'OU=VIP,DC=powershell,DC=wtf'		
4:01 (>99%)	84.76ms (0.04%)	.\clean.ps1		
4.65ms (<0.01%)	4.65ms (<0.01%)	\$permissions		
2.77ms (<0.01%)	2.77ms (<0.01%)	\$user		
224.80µs (<0.01%)	224.80µs (<0.01%)	\$result = @()		
203.10µs (<0.01%)	203.10µs (<0.01%)	\$users		
41.70µs (<0.01%)	41.70µs (<0.01%)	}		
34.00µs (<0.01%)	34.00µs (<0.01%)	{		

total count: 7128

IsRunning Elapsed

False 00:03:08.3084117

ElapsedMilliseconds

188308

ElapsedTicks

1883084117



## Step 0b : ASK AI

copilot.microsoft.com/chats/mX5NdcU7CawMqdGRmoDni

Let's optimize that PowerShell script for better performance. One way to achieve this is by minimizing the creation of new objects inside loops and using more efficient data structures. Here's an optimized version of your script:

Powershell

Copy

```
$results = @()
ForEach($user in $users)
{
    $permissions = Get-ADPrincipalGroupMembership -Identity $user.SID
    $userName = $user.Name
    ForEach($permission in $permissions)
    {
        $result = [PSCustomObject]@{
            User = $userName
            DN    = $permission.DistinguishedName
        }
        $results += $result
    }
}
```



# TUNING

- Step 1 :
  - Replace `Get-ADPrincipalGroupMembership` by `get-aduser`
- Step 2 :
  - Fixing the missing PrimaryGroup
- Step 3 :
  - Use `system.Collections.ArrayList`
- Step 4 :
  - Consolidate data and variables
- Step 5 :
  - Reduce loops



# SUMMARY

- Profile your scripts
- Reduce object size aka “filter early”
- Avoid (new) Object creation
- Avoid loops and pipelines
- Use object methods & properties





# Q & A



**THANK  
YOU  
FOR  
YOUR  
ATTENTION**