Python Performance Profiling





HELLO!

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What is Profiling?



Profiling Definition?

- Measuring the execution time.
- Insight of run time performance of a given piece of code.
- → Frequently used to optimize execution time.
- Used to analyze other characteristics such as memory consumption.

What is Python Profiling?

Measure Performance

Why Profile?

You can use a profiler to answer questions like these:

- → Why is this program slow?
- → Why does it slow my computer to a crawl?
- → What is actually happening when this code executes?
- → Is there anything I can improve?
- → How much memory consumed by program?
- → How much time taken by each function execution?

Why You should care about Performance

- → If You Can't Measure It, You Can't Manage It.
- → Writing efficient code saves money in modern "cloud economy" (e.g. you need fewer VM instances).
- → Even if you don't use clouds, a particular problem domain can have strict performance requirements (e.g. when you have to process a chunk of data in time before the next chunk arrives).

Available options for measuring Performance in Python

Command Line

The **time** command is available in *nix systems.

\$ time python some_program.py

real 0m4.536s

user 0m3.411s

sys 0m0.979s

Command Line

PROS

Easy to use

CONS

- → Very limited information
- → Not very deterministic
- Not available on Windows

Python time Module

Naive approach: time.time() statements

```
import time
initial_time = time.time()
time.sleep(1)
final_time = time.time()
print('Duration: {}'.format(final_time - initial_time))
```

Duration: 1.0035021305084229

Python time Module

PROS

- Easy to use
- → Simple to understand

CONS

- Very limited information
- → Not very deterministic
- Manual code modification and analysis

timeit Module

Better approach: timeit

import timeit

```
print('Plus:', timeit.timeit("['Hello world: ' + str(n) for n in range(100)]", number=1000)) print('Format:', timeit.timeit("['Hello world: \{0\}'.format(n) for n in range(100)]", number=1000)) print('Percent:', timeit.timeit("['Hello world: %s' % n for n in range(100)]", number=1000))
```

Plus: 0.025120729998889146

Format: 0.03536501300004602

Percent: 0.017073806000553304

timeit Module

PROS

- Easy to use
- → Simple to understand

CONS

- → Simple code only
- → Not very deterministic
- Have to manually create runnable code snippets
- Manual analysis

cProfile Module

Best approach: cProfile

- CPython comes with two profiling tools, profile and cProfile.
- → Both share the same API, and should act the same.

```
>>> import cProfile
>>> cProfile.run('2 + 2')
```

```
3 function calls in 0.000 seconds
Ordered by: standard name
ncalls tottime percall cumtime percall filename:lineno(function)
1 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 <string>:1(<module>)
1 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 {method 'disable' of '_lsprof.Profiler'}
```

You can also run a script with it

```
# slow.py
import time
def main():
  sum = 0
  for i in range(10):
    sum += expensive(i // 2)
  return sum
def expensive(t):
  time.sleep(t)
  return t
if __name__ == '__main__':
  print(main())
```

python -m cProfile slow.py

```
25 function calls in 20.030 seconds
Ordered by: standard name
ncalls tottime percall cumtime percall filename: lineno(function)
    0.000 0.000 20.027 2.003 slow.py:11(expensive)
 10
     0.002
            0.002 20.030 20.030 slow.py:2(<module>)
    0.000
            0.000 20.027 20.027 slow.py:5(main)
    0.000
            0.000 0.000
                           0.000 {method 'disable' of ' Isprof.Profiler'objects}
     0.000
            0.000 0.000
                           0.000 {print}
    0.000 0.000 0.000
                           0.000 {range}
 10 20.027 2.003 20.027 2.003 {time.sleep}
```

cProfile sort by options

ncalls

For the number of calls

tottime

for the total time spent in the given function

percall

is the quotient of tottime divided by ncalls

cumtime

is the cumulative time spent in this and all subfunctions.

percall

is the quotient of cumtime divided by primitive calls

filename:lineno(function)

provides the respective data of each function

cProfile result sorted by tottime

python -m cProfile -s tottime slow.py

```
25 function calls in 20.015 seconds
Ordered by: internal time
ncalls tottime percall cumtime percall filename:lineno(function)
10
     20.015
               2.001 20.015 2.001 {built-in method time.sleep}
     0.000 0.000 0.000
                             0.000 {built-in method builtins.print}
     0.000 0.000 20.015
                             20.015 slow.py:6(main)
10
     0.000 0.000 20.015 2.001 slow.py:13(expensive)
1
     0.000 0.000 20.015 20.015 slow.py:3(<module>)
     0.000 0.000 20.015
                             20.015 {built-in method builtins.exec}
     0.000 0.000 0.000
                             0.000 {method 'disable' of 'lsprof.Profiler' objects}
```

cProfile result sorted by ncalls

python -m cProfile -s ncalls slow.py

```
25 function calls in 20.015 seconds
Ordered by: call count
ncalls tottime percall cumtime percall filename: lineno(function)
      20.020 2.002 20.020 2.002 {built-in method time.sleep}
  10 0.000
              0.000 20.020 2.002 slow.py:13(expensive)
                              20.020 {built-in method builtins.exec}
       0.000
              0.000 20.020
       0.000
               0.000 0.000
                              0.000 {built-in method builtins.print}
       0.000
               0.000 20.020
                             20.020 slow.py:6(main)
   1 0.000
               0.000 20.020
                              20.020 slow.py:3(<module>)
       0.000
               0.000 0.000
                              0.000 {method 'disable' of 'lsprof.Profiler' objects}
```

Easiest way to profile Python code

```
def main():
  sum = 0
  for i in range(10):
    sum += expensive(i // 2)
  return sum
def expensive(t):
  time.sleep(t)
  return t
if name == ' main ':
  pr = cProfile.Profile()
  pr.enable()
  main()
  pr.disable()
  pr.print_stats()
```

cProfile output

```
25 function calls in 20.030 seconds.
Ordered by: standard name
ncalls tottime percall cumtime percall filename: lineno(function)
    0.000 0.000 20.027 2.003 slow.py:11(expensive)
 10
            0.002 20.030 20.030 slow.py:2(<module>)
     0.002
     0.000
            0.000 20.027
                           20.027 slow.py:5(main)
                           0.000 {method 'disable' of '_Isprof.Profiler'objects}
     0.000
            0.000 0.000
     0.000
            0.000 0.000
                           0.000 {print}
     0.000
            0.000 0.000
                           0.000 {range}
 10 20.027 2.003 20.027
                             2.003 {time.sleep}
```

We can also save the output!

```
if ___name___ == '___main___':
  pr = cProfile.Profile()
  pr.enable()
  main()
  pr.disable()
  pr.dump_stats("profile.output")
```

How do we use the profiling information?

pstats Module

- You can use pstats to format the output in various ways.
- → pstats provides sorting options. (Calls, time, cumulative)

import pstats

```
p = pstats.Stats("profile.output")
p.strip_dirs().sort_stats("calls").print_stats()
```

pstats module Output

```
23 function calls in 20.019 seconds

Ordered by: call count

ncalls tottime percall cumtime percall filename:lineno(function)

10 20.019 2.002 20.019 2.002 {built-in method time.sleep}

10 0.000 0.000 20.019 2.002 slow.py:14(expensive)

1 0.000 0.000 0.000 {built-in method builtins.print}

1 0.000 0.000 20.019 20.019 slow.py:7(main)
```

An easy way to visualize cProfile results

- Snakeviz library
- PyCallGraph library

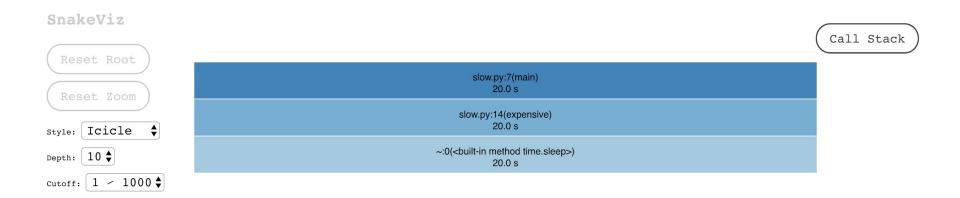
SNAKEVIZ

pip install snakeviz

\$ snakeviz profile.output

- Snakeviz provides two ways to explore profiler data
- Summaries Times
- → You can choose the sorting criterion in the output table

SNAKEVIZ Browser View



					Scarcii.
ncalls \$	tottime	percall	cumtime	percall	filename:lineno(function)
10	20.01	2.001	20.01	2.001	~:0(<built-in method="" time.sleep="">)</built-in>
1	0.00011	0.00011	20.01	20.01	slow.py:7(main)
10	7.7e-05	7.7e-06	20.01	2.001	slow.py:14(expensive)
1	6.4e-05	6.4e-05	6.4e-05	6.4e-05	~:0(<built-in builtins.print="" method="">)</built-in>
1	1e-06	1e-06	1e-06	1e-06	~:0(<method '_lsprof.profiler'="" 'disable'="" objects="" of="">)</method>

Search:

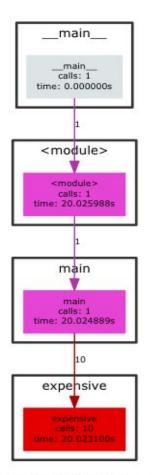
Showing 1 to 5 of 5 entries

PyCallGraph

pip install pycallgraph

\$ pycallgraph graphviz -- python slow.py

- Visual extension of cProfile.
- Understand code structure and Flow
- Summaries Times
- Darker color represent more time spent



Other profiling options

Line profiler

- line_profiler will profile the time individual lines of code take to execute.
- https://github.com/rkern/line_profiler

Memory profiler

- Monitoring memory consumption of a process.
- → line-by-line analysis of memory consumption.
- https://pypi.org/project/memory_profiler/

Thank you.

Question?

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