GNU/Linux Performance tools: Profiling Rust

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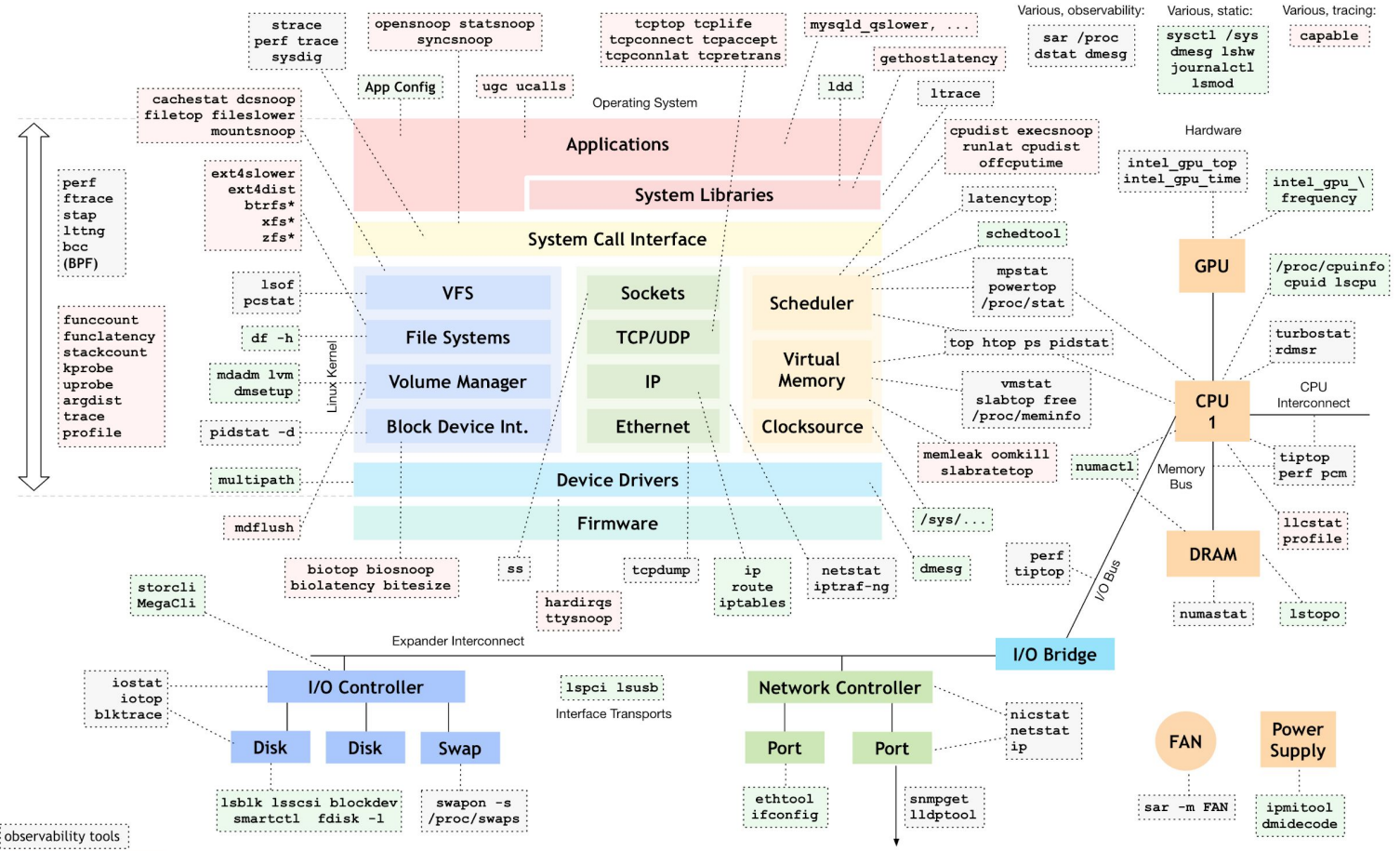
Couple of definitions

Benchmarking
<->
Performance measurements
<->
Tuning
<->
Configuration checks

- Memory performance (memory allocation, memory leaks, memory stalls - eg fetches for cache)
- Lock contention (spin loops, blocking wait)
- CPU utilization
- Multithreading
- Disk IO
- Network IO
- ...

Sampling <-> Counting

Linux Performance Tools



Poor man's profiling

- Run the binary (compile with debug symbols) to analyze under debugger
- Periodically stop the execution and get a backtrace
- Tools:
    - `gdb`
    - `lldb`
    - `(VS Code)`
    - ....

Real-time (interactive) list of linux processes.

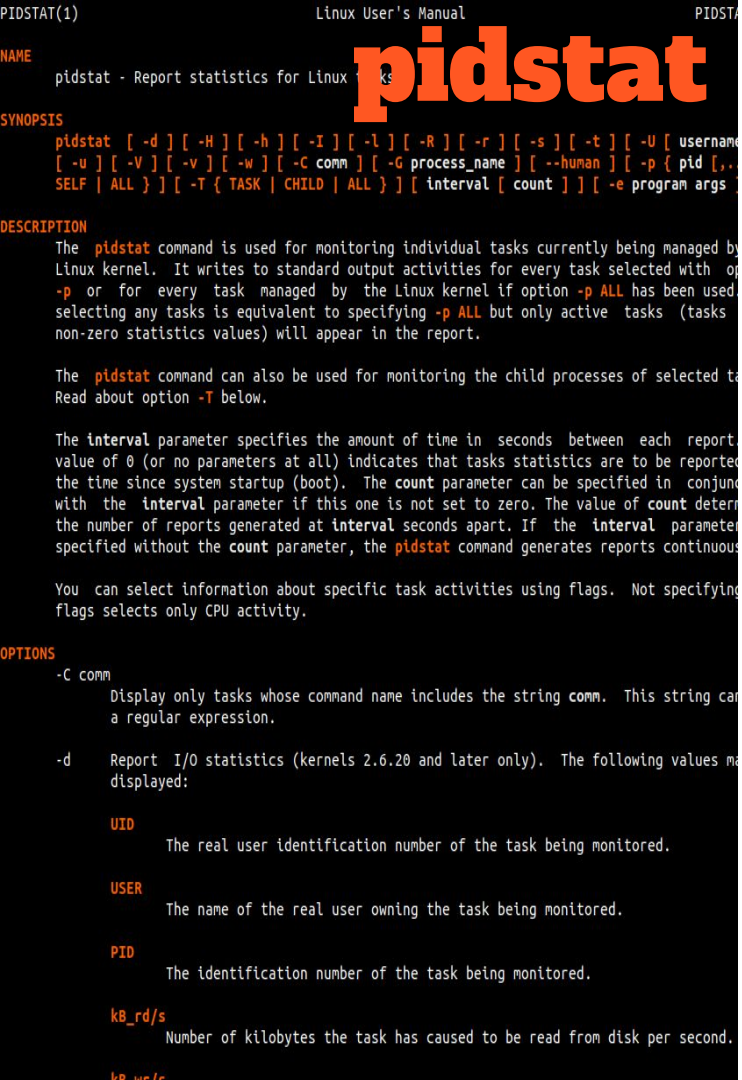
- CPU summed across all CPUs, might lead to over 100%.
-

Usage:

- **top**

  ```
  zxcVm1t0
  A(w/a)
  ```

- **htop**
  - ‘s’ - trace processes’ system calls (strace)
  - ‘l’ - display open files for processes (lsof)
  - ‘L’ - trace library calls (ltrace) [only Debian]
- **iotop**
  - per process/thread I/O monitor



Used for monitoring of individual tasks currently being managed by the kernel.

Usage:

Memory utilization, page faults, stack utilization, CPU utilization, task switching,..

-d Report I/O statistics

-r Report page faults and memory utilization

-s Report stack utilization

-u Report CPU utilization

-w Report task switching activity

Sysstat family

iostat – Report CPU statics and input/output statistics for devices, partitions and network filesystems (NFS), eg monitoring IO on your dedicated disk.

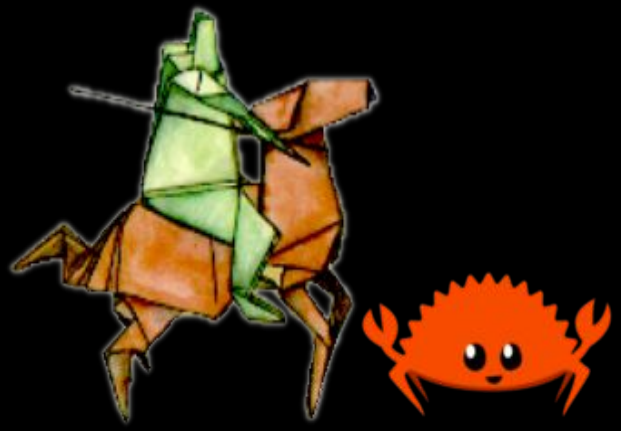
mpstat – Report processors related statistics, use eg for monitoring of pinned processes.

sar – Collect, report, or save system activity information.

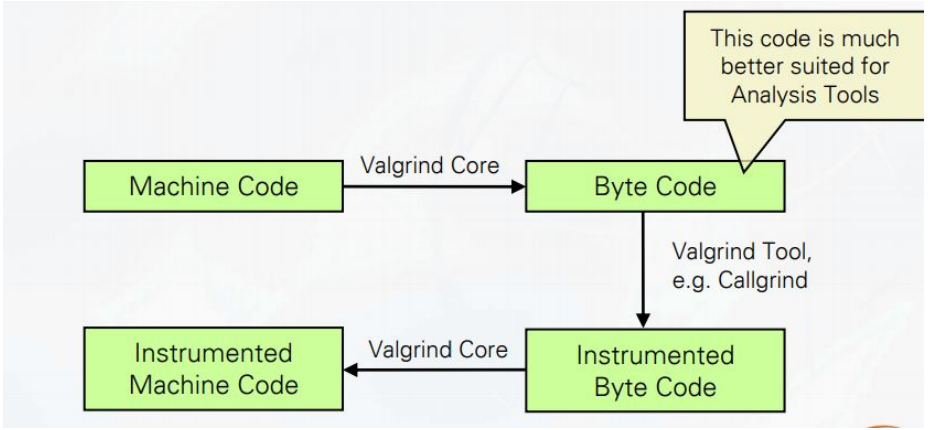
...

https://github.com/sysstat/sysstat

valgrind tools

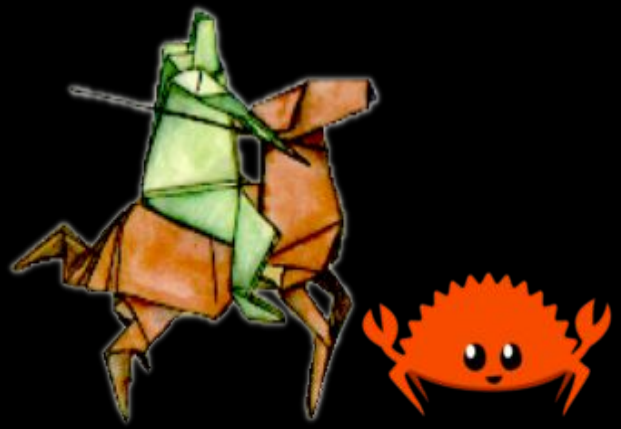


- Suite of simulation-based debugging and profiling tools
- program is run on a synthetic CPU provided by the Valgrind core
- Tools are adding own instrumentation code to binary to be handled by Valgrind's core
  (Valgrind Tool = Valgrind Core + Tool Plugin)
- Large overhead (~10-100x slower)



http://valgrind.org/docs/manual/manual.html
http://wwwpub.zih.tu-dresden.de/~mlieber/practical_performance/04_callgrind.pdf

valgrind tools



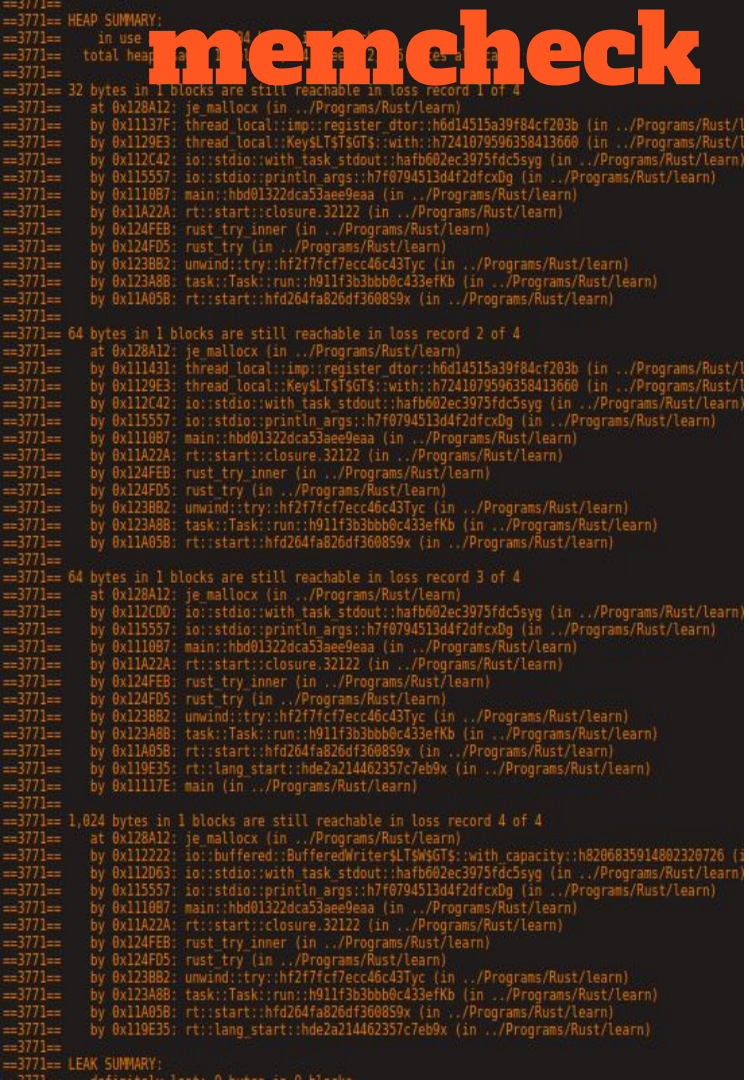
memcheck – memory error detection

cachegrind – cache and branch prediction profiler

callgrind – a callgraph generating cache and branch prediction profiler

massif – heap profiler

helgrind, DRD – thread error detectors (experimental: stack/global array overrun detector, heap profiler – DHAT, that examines how heap blocks are used,..)



Memory related errors

- not so common in Rust due to RAII ??
- !! jemalloc's support for Valgrind controversy, use system allocator

Compile with debug symbols and no optimizations:

(runs 10-50 times slower than natively)

`valgrind -v --leak-check=full ./prog args..`

`--track-fds` a list of open file descriptors on exit or on request

`--trace-children` a list of open file descriptors on exit or on request

`--xtree-memory=full` Produces execution tree detailing which piece of code is responsible for heap memory usage; display via Kcachgrind

`valgrind --tool=memcheck --leak-check=full --track-fds=yes --track-origins=yes ./prog`

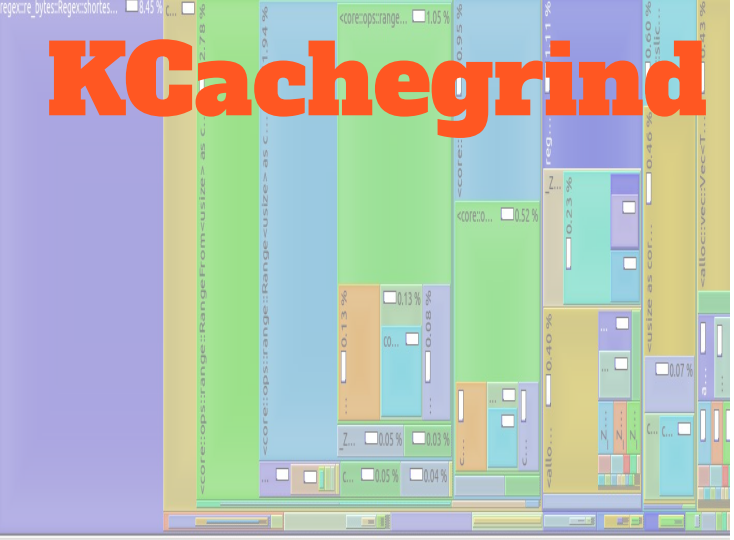
Types of error messages:

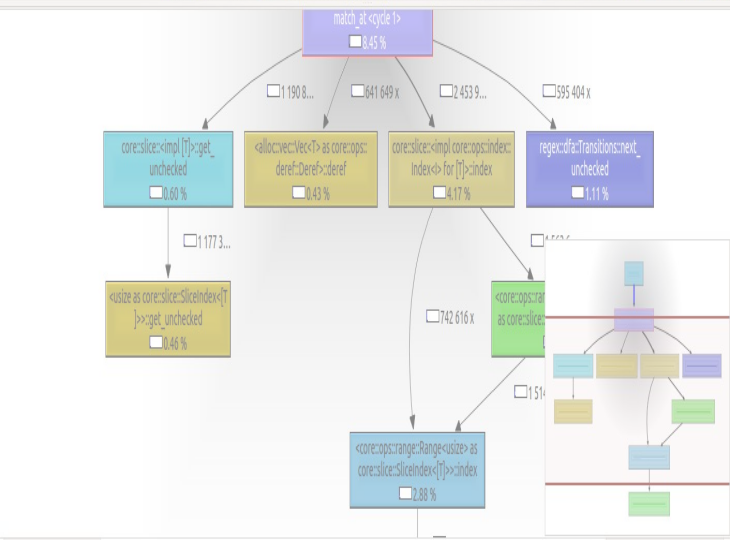
- Definitely lost – memory leaked
- Probably lost – memory leaking unless you do magic with pointers
- Uninitialised values – eg if conditional jump/move depends on uninitialised value

For full list: http://valgrind.org/docs/manual/mc-manual.html#mc-manual.errormsgs

Projects memcheck-free of errors (OpenOffice, Firefox,..)

KCachegrind





Visualization tool for Valgrind's memcheck, cachegrind, callgrind.

http://kcachegrind.sourceforge.net/html/Home.html

rust -san

rustc experimentally supported sanitizer

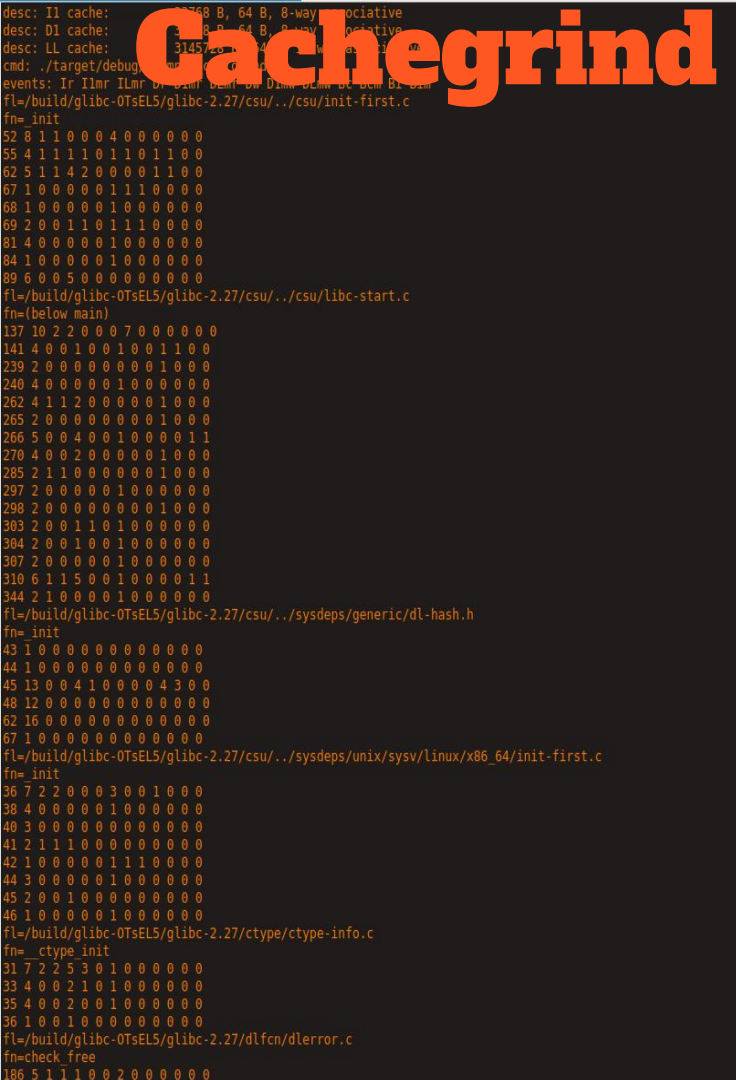
Compile with RUSTFLAGS set with -Z sanitizer flag
(runs ~2x slower than natively)

```
RUSTFLAGS=”-Z sanitizer=$SAN” cargo run --target x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu prog args
```

Can run with **$SAN**:

- **address** - detects out of bounds access and use of freed memory
- **leak** - detects memory leaks
- **memory** - reads on uninitialized memory, memory leaks
- **thread**

https://github.com/japaric/rust-san
https://users.rust-lang.org/t/howto-sanitize-your-rust-code/9378



Cachegrind

Cache and branch prediction profiler.

Compile with debug symbols and optimizations in:

`valgrind --tool=cachegrind ./prog args..`

`--branch-sim=yes` branch prediction statistics

`--trace-children` trace children processes

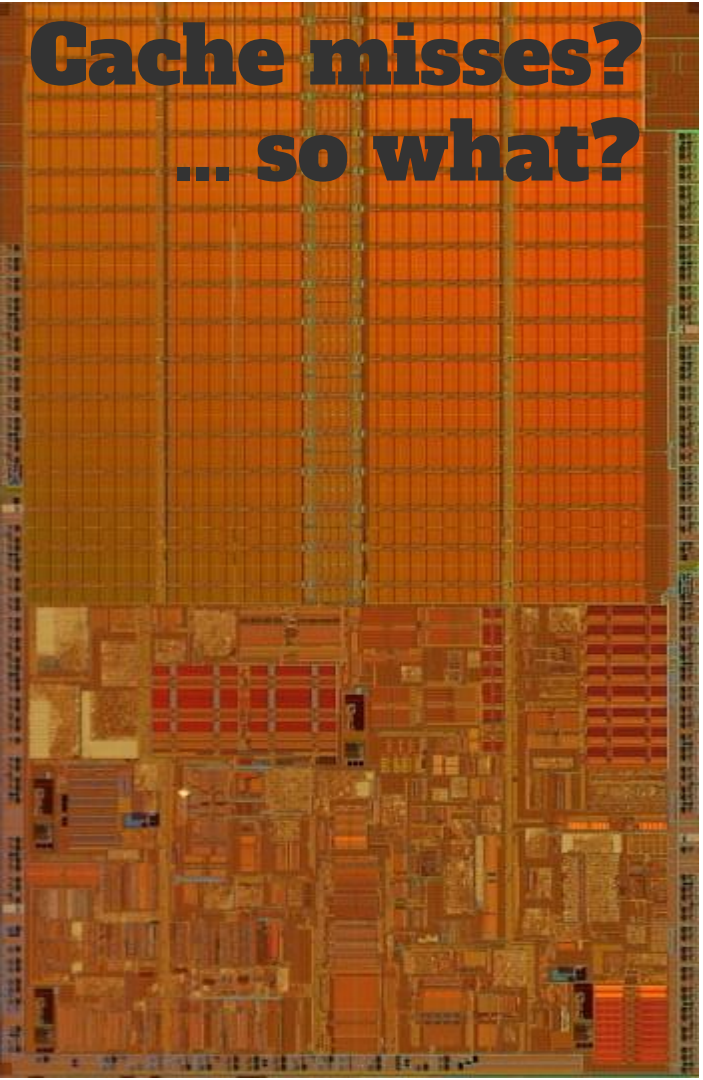
Result displays, eg.:

- Unified first level instructions and data caches (I1 and D1)
- Unified second (last) level cache information (I2 or ll)
- Branch misprediction
- !! cache misses visible at the instruction level only, e.g. those arising from TLB misses, or speculative execution will not be included

Cachegrind gathers:

- I cache reads (Ir, which equals the number of instructions executed), I1 cache read misses (I1mr) and LL cache instruction read misses (ILmr).
- D cache reads (Dr, which equals the number of memory reads), D1 cache read misses (D1mr), and LL cache data read misses (DLmr).
- D cache writes (Dw, which equals the number of memory writes), D1 cache write misses (D1mw), and LL cache data write misses (DLmw).
- Conditional branches executed (Bc) and conditional branches mispredicted (Bcm).
- Indirect branches executed (Bi) and indirect branches mispredicted (Bim).

http://valgrind.org/docs/manual/cg-manual.html



Price for cache misses on modern machines:

- L1 miss ~10 cycles
- L2 miss ~15 cycles
- LL miss ~200 cycles
- Mispredicted branch ~10-30 cycles

Detailed branch profiling can help understand how program interacts with the machine and how to make it faster.

Further reading on caches:

https://www.extremetech.com/extreme/188776-how-l1-and-l2-cpu-caches-work-and-why-theyre-an-essential-part-of-modern-chips

cg_annotate:

Display results from Cachegrind files.

- global level, with configurable threshold
- line by line counts for specific file

cg_merge:

Merge multiple profile files; might be useful to aggregate cost over multiple runs of the same program.

cg_diff:

Find differences between two profiles; measure how change to a program affected its performance.

callgrind

```
==4119== Events    : Ir Dr Dw I1mr D1mr D1mw ILmr DLmr DLmw Bc Bcm Bi Bim
==4119== Collected : 6087752338 1877217856 1283645182 49600045 1831393 510972 236
80771 244544744 2779086 223545681 4274964
==4119==
==4119== I   refs:      6,087,752,338
==4119== I1  misses:       49,600,045
==4119== LLi misses:           23,601
==4119== I1  miss rate:          0.81%
==4119== LLi miss rate:          0.00%
==4119==
==4119== D   refs:      3,160,863,038  (1,877,217,856 rd + 1,283,645,182 wr)
==4119== D1  misses:        2,342,365  (    1,831,393 rd +       510,972 wr)
==4119== LLd misses:           98,191  (       17,420 rd +        80,771 wr)
==4119== D1  miss rate:           0.1% (          0.1%   +           0.0%  )
==4119== LLd miss rate:           0.0% (          0.0%   +           0.0%  )
==4119==
==4119== LL refs:          51,942,410  (   51,431,438 rd +       510,972 wr)
==4119== LL misses:           121,792  (       41,021 rd +        80,771 wr)
==4119== LL miss rate:            0.0% (          0.0%   +           0.0%  )
==4119==
==4119== Branches:        468,090,425  (  244,544,744 cond +   223,545,681 ind)
==4119== Mispredicts:       7,054,050  (    2,779,086 cond +     4,274,964 ind)
==4119== Mispred rate:            1.5% (          1.1%     +           1.9%   )
```

Records the call history among functions in a program's run as a call-graph.

- Callgrind shows inclusive cost, where the cost of each function includes the cost of all functions it called directly or indirectly
- Built on top of cachegrind
- Platform dependant (does not work on eg. ARM)

Compile with debug symbols and optimizations on:
`valgrind --tool=callgrind [callgrind options] ./prog args`

Textual output via callgrind_annotate, callgrind_control.

!! Only measures CPU time, so sleeping times are not included. This makes it unsuitable for programs that wait a significant amount of time for network or disk operations to complete.

Massif

```
desc: (none)
cmd: ~/ripgrep/target/debug/rg (?:^[a-zA-Z0-9]{3}_.?).*\.h ~
time_unit: i
#-----------
snapshot=0
#-----------
time=0
mem_heap_B=0
mem_heap_extra_B=0
mem_stacks_B=0
heap_tree=empty
#-----------
snapshot=1
#-----------
time=69761158
mem_heap_B=913437
mem_heap_extra_B=41867
mem_stacks_B=0
heap_tree=empty
#-----------
snapshot=2
#-----------
time=118010624
mem_heap_B=931649
mem_heap_extra_B=42847
mem_stacks_B=0
heap_tree=empty
#-----------
snapshot=3
#-----------
time=190478033
mem_heap_B=1343660
mem_heap_extra_B=61580
mem_stacks_B=0
heap_tree=empty
#-----------
snapshot=4
#-----------
time=247064033
mem_heap_B=1366236
mem_heap_extra_B=65028
mem_stacks_B=0
heap_tree=detailed
n12: 1366236 (heap allocation functions) malloc/new/new[], --alloc-fns, etc.
 n4: 510948 0x4041C4: _ZN59_$LT$alloc..alloc..Global$u20$as$u20$core..alloc..Alloc$GT
$5alloc17hb224319826b5958aE.llvm.13452769670659097226 (alloc.rs:151)
  n1: 255640 0x4067D0: alloc::raw_vec::RawVec<T,A>::reserve_internal (raw_vec.rs:668)
   n1: 255640 0x409530: alloc::raw_vec::RawVec<T,A>::reserve (raw_vec.rs:491)
    n1: 255640 0x43A13B: <alloc::vec::Vec<T> as alloc::vec::SpecExtend<T,I>>::spec_extend (vec.rs:1848)
     n1: 255640 0x43A308: <alloc::vec::Vec<T> as alloc::vec::SpecExtend<T,I>>::from_iter (vec.rs:1835)
      n1: 255640 0x43EFE5: <alloc::vec::Vec<T> as
core::iter::traits::collect::FromIterator<T>>::from_iter (vec.rs:1721)
       n1: 255640 0x43D03E: core::iter::traits::iterator::Iterator::collect (iterator.rs:1465)
        n2: 255640 0x440CED: regex::compile::Compiler::compile_finish (compile.rs:200)
         n1: 236560 0x4403A0: _ZN5regex7compile8Compiler11compile_one17h57219262258bca28E.llvm.
12913213845200835544 (compile.rs:157)
          n3: 236560 0x43FF60: regex::compile::Compiler::compile (compile.rs:129)
           n2: 140160 0x4749C1: regex::exec::ExecBuilder::build (exec.rs:313)
            n1: 128000 0x46ED7E: regex::re_builder::unicode::RegexBuilder::build (re_builder.rs:79)
             n1: 128000 0x46B150: regex::re_unicode::Regex::new (re_unicode.rs:176)
              n1: 128000 0x3BE232: core::ops::function::FnOnce::call_once (types.rs:661)
```

Measures heap memory usage (optional stack usage). Display how much and where the memory was allocated.

Yes: malloc,calloc, realloc, memalign, new, new[]
No: memory allocated with low-level system calls like mmap, mremap, brk (pages-as-heap=yes, includes also stack)

Compile with debug symbols, optimisations do not matter

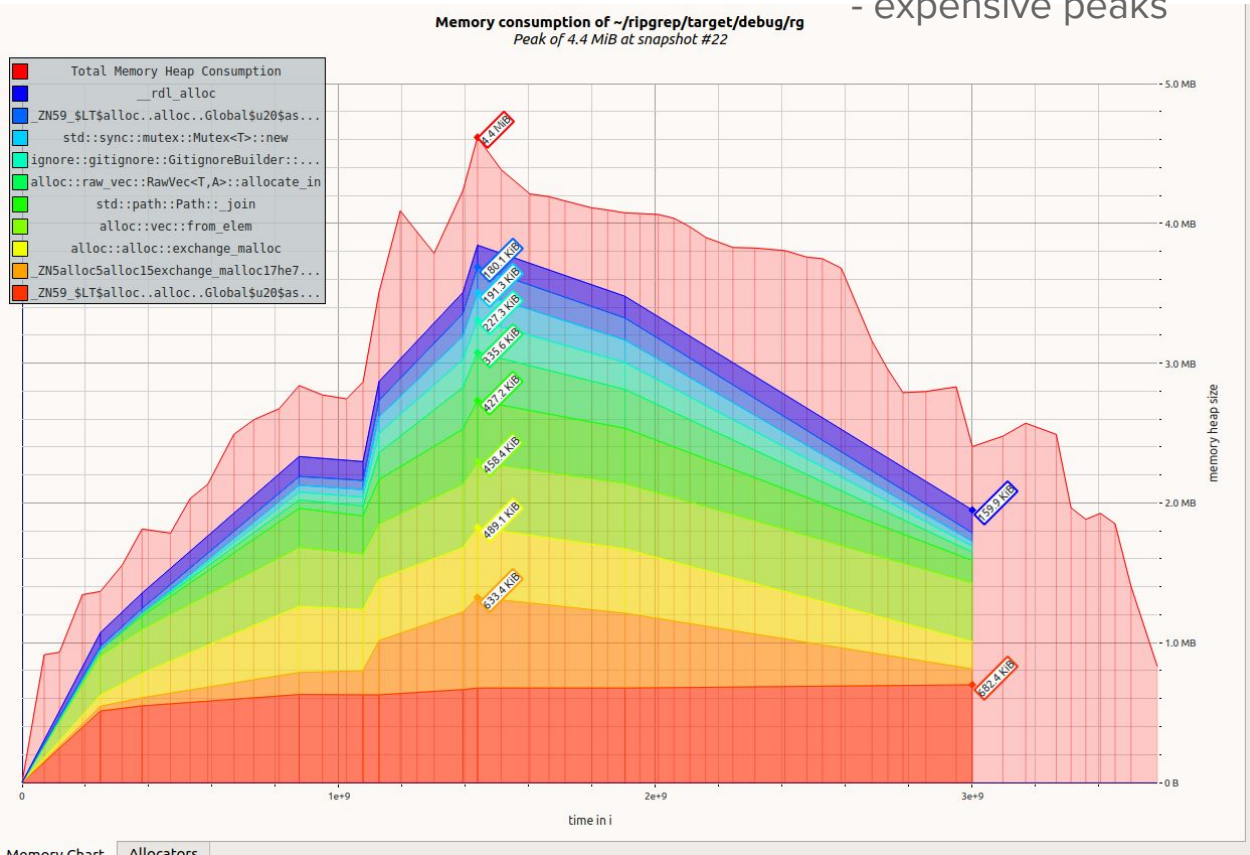
```
valgrind --tool=massif --threshold=0.01 ./prog args
```

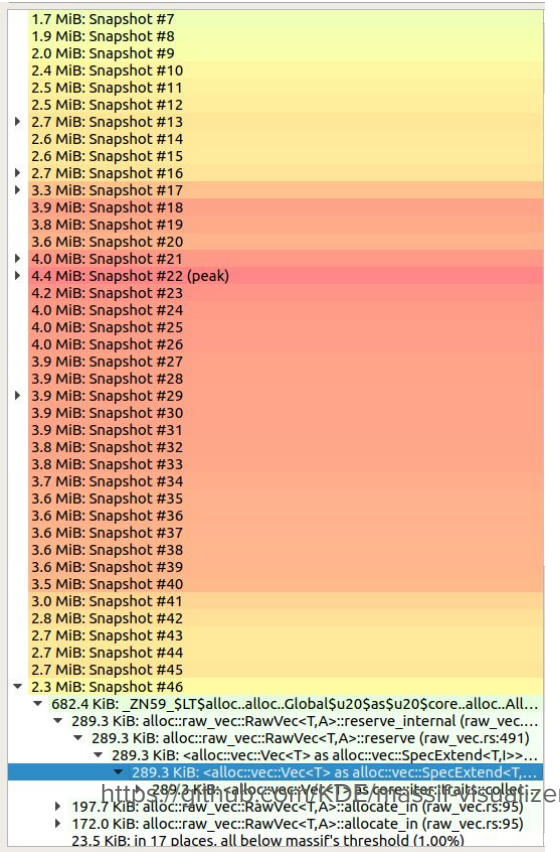
Benefits:

- Reduce the amount of memory program uses ➜ speed up program, helps avoid caching and prevents memory swapping
- Detection of memory leaks

massif_visualizer

Tool that visualizes massif data
- locations that significantly contribute to overall memory consumption
- memory leaks
- expensive peaks





https://github.com/KDE/massif-visualizer

Perf (perf events)

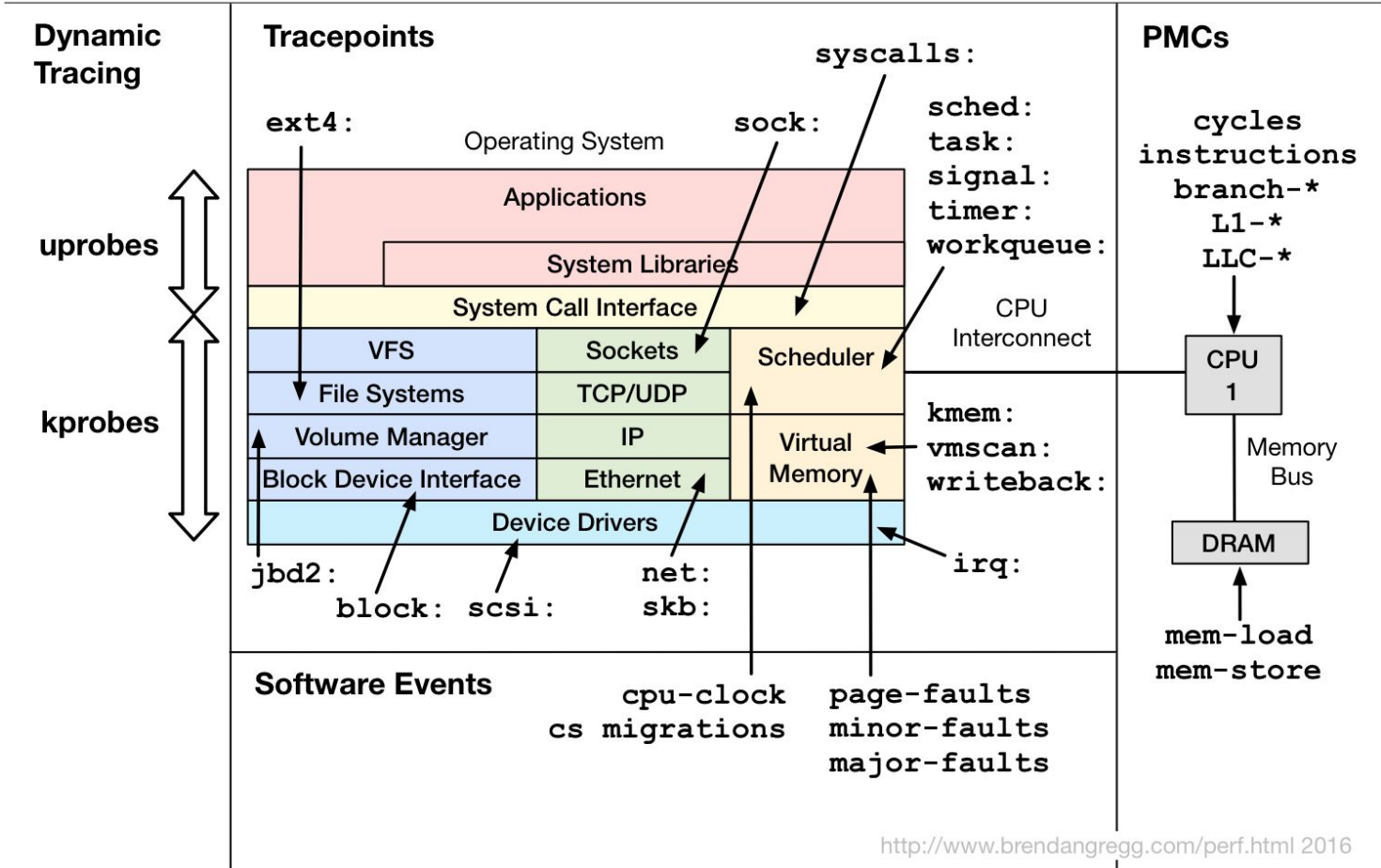
Event oriented observability tool which can help you solve advanced performance and troubleshooting functions.

Compile with debug symbols and frame pointers (build with **-fno-omit-frame-pointers;** should be when debug on??).

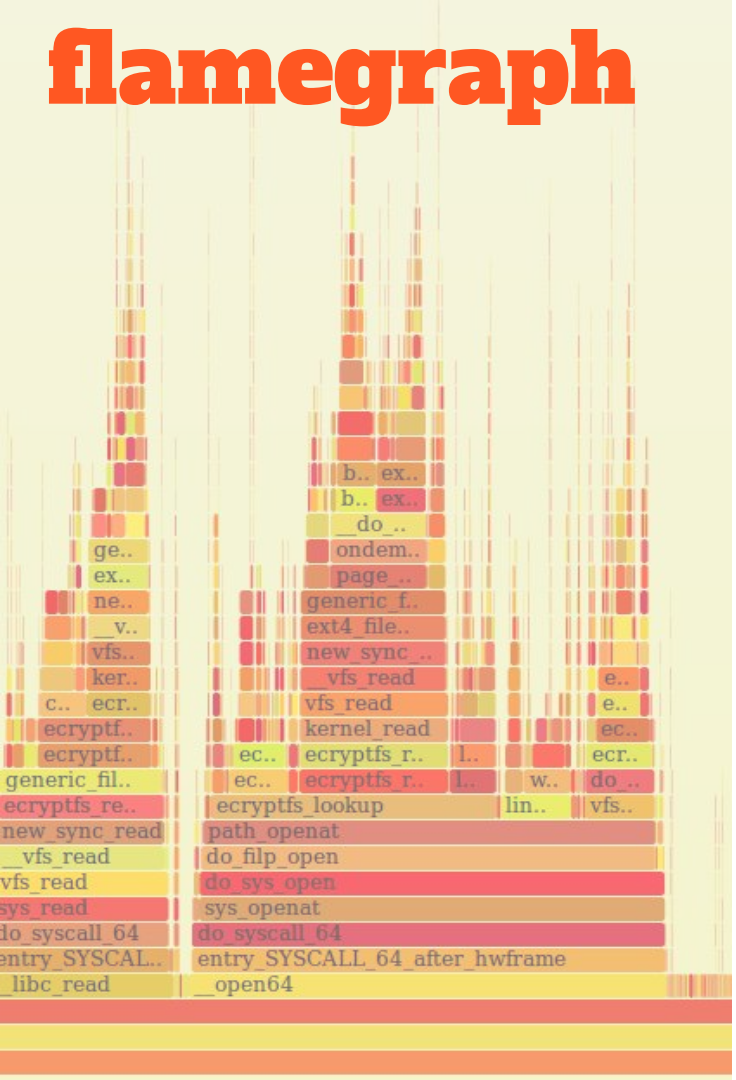
For full list of all known events: (perf list)

- Event counting (perf stat)
- Profiling (perf record or perf top)
- Static tracing (perf record)
- Dynamic tracing (perf probe)
- Reporting (perf report)
- Cache-2-cache and chacheline false sharing analysis (perf c2c)
- Kernel allocation analysis (perf kmem)
- Lock analysis (perf lock)
- Memory access analysis (perf mem)
- Kernel scheduler analysis (perf sched)

Perf_events Events sources



flamegraph



Helps quantify code-paths and determine places with performance problems

Visualization of perf.data from perf report:

- X axis sample population
- Y axis stack depth
- Width of each function is relative to the number of samples.

1. Capture stack:

```
perf record -F 99 --call-graph=dwarf -p PID
perf script > out.perf
```

2. Use the stackcollapse programs to fold stack samples into single lines:

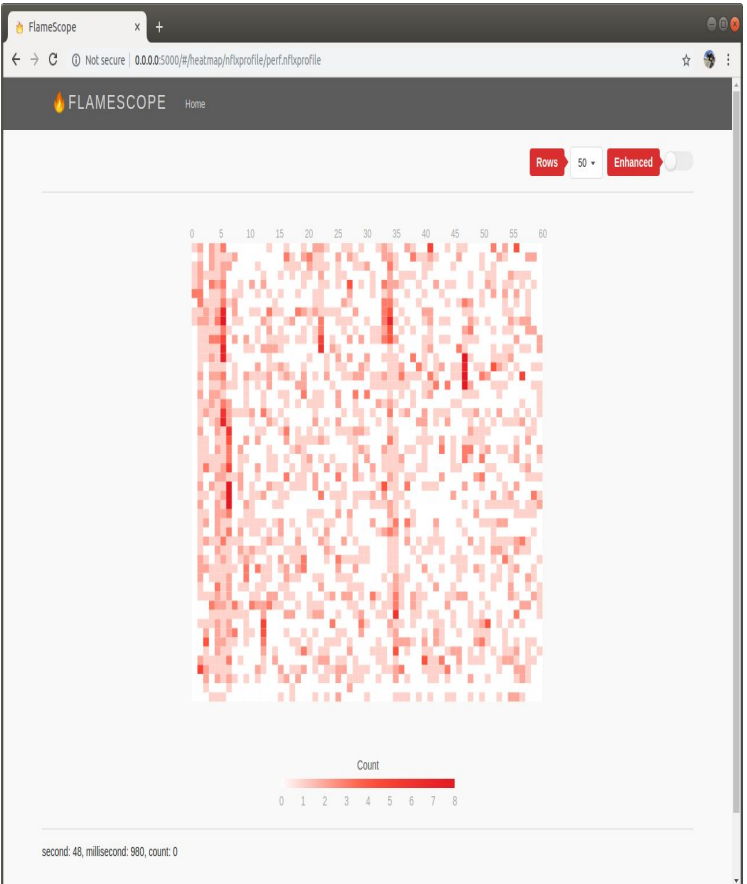
```
./stackcollapse-perf.pl out.perf > out.folded
```

3. Use flamegraph.pl to render a SVG.

```
./flamegraph.pl out.kern_folded > kernel.svg
```

http://www.brendangregg.com/flamegraphs.html

FlameScope



- Interactive visualization tool for different timeranges of FlameGraph in the form of heat map

- perf script's output that includes stack traces, including page faults, context switches, and other events.

```
sudo perf record -F _FREQUENCY_ -p PID
sudo perf script --header > flamescope_out_file
```

https://github.com/Netflix/flamescope
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cFuI8SAAvJg

Google perf tools gperftools

Collection of high-performance multi-threaded malloc() implementation and performance analysis tools.

- uses statistical sampling

Rust project that is using gperf tools - **cpuprofiler**
https://github.com/AtheMathmo/cpuprofiler

- Heap profiler (malloc)
- Cpu profiler
- Heap leak-checker

Visualizer tools:

- GraphViz
- pprof

https://github.com/gperftools/gperftools

Other tools

CPU bound problems:

toplev CPU performance (counting) tool

https://github.com/andikleen/pmu-tools/wiki/toplev-manual

Off-CPU analysis:

eBPF an universal in-kernel virtual machine, that has hooks all over the kernel.

http://www.brendangregg.com/blog/2019-01-01/learn-ebpf-tracing.html

http://www.brendangregg.com/offcpuanalysis.html

Monitoring framework:

Vector An on-host performance monitoring framework which exposes hand picked high resolution metrics to every engineer's browser.

https://github.com/Netflix/vector

Discussion

- Don’t try to over optimize the program!
- Kachegrind tip page: When all functions take almost equal time and the program feels fast for you: stop! There is no reason to make the program 1% faster with days of optimization.
- Know what the issue is / narrow down the problem before using any tool!
- Know your program and do some expectations for different parts of the code!
- Do not use random tools!
- Do not tune things at random until problem goes away!
- Do not blame someone else, measure!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FJW8nGV4jxY
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxzogoHFu8-1H9u522wVQpQ