Optimizing smallpt
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Optimizing smallpt

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Haskell Exchange

November 4th, 2020



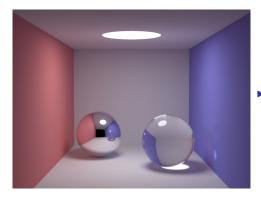


0-11-04

What is smallpt anyway?



What is smallpt anyway?



▶ 100 LoC C demo of a raytracer

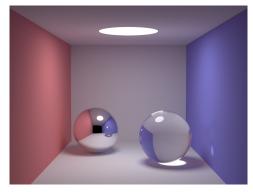
Optimizing smallpt

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What is smallpt anyway?



What is smallpt anyway?



- ▶ 100 LoC C demo of a raytracer
- ▶ Perfect for an optimization case study

Optimizing smallpt

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What is smallpt anyway?



What is smallpt anyway?

Note for first slide: what is smallpt anyway?

```
struct Vec {
 double x, y, z; // position, also color (r,q,b)
  ... methods...
struct Ray { Vec o, d; Ray(Vec o_, Vec d_) : o(o_), d(d_) {} };
enum Refl_t { DIFF, SPEC, REFR }; // material types, used in radiance()
struct Sphere {
 double rad; // radius
 Vec p, e, c; // position, emission, color
 Refl_t refl; // reflection type (DIFFuse, SPECular, REFRactive)
  ... methods ...
 double intersect(const Ray &r) const // returns distance, 0 if nohit
Sphere spheres[] = {//Scene: radius, position, emission, color, material
 Sphere(1e5, Vec( 1e5+1,40.8,81.6), Vec(), Vec(.75,.25,.25), DIFF), //Left
  ... initialization ...
};
```

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What is smallpt anyway?

What is smallpt anyway?

struct Vec {
 double x, y, z; // position, also color (r,g,b)

); struct Ray { Vec o, d; Ray(Vec o_, Vec d_) : o(o_), d(d_) {} }; enum Refl_t (DIFF, SPEC, MEFR); // material types, used in radiance(double rad; // radio

Redl_t well; // reflection type (SIFFace, SPECular, SEFEaction) double interment(court May dr) count // returns distance, d if mobile 2phere spherea[] = {//2ces: radius, position, emission, color, materia
2phere(1s5, Vec(1s5=1,60.0,81.6), Vec(),Vec(.75,.25,.25),DIFF),//ief

Vec radiance(const Ray &r, int depth, unsigned short *Xi){

```
Optimizing smallpt
```

What is smallpt anyway?

What is smallpt anyway?

Say that the core function is radiance

```
What is smallpt anyway?
```

radiance

radiance

Vec radiance(const Ray &r, int depth, unsigned short *Xi){

```
radiance
radiance
```

radiance

radiance

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radiance

```
Vec radiance(const Ray &r, int depth, unsigned short *Xi){
```

```
if (
           ) if (
                                         else
if (
                  ){
                      radiance
} else if (
                      radiance
if (
                      radiance
 radiance
                             radiance
```

radiance

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What is smallpt anyway? What is smallpt anyway?

...with control flow

radiance

```
Vec radiance(const Ray &r, int depth, unsigned short *Xi){
```

```
Vec x=r.o+r.d*t, n=(x-obj.p).norm(), nl=n.dot(r.d)<0?n:n*-1, f=obj.c;
            ) if (
if (
                                           else
if (
                   ) {
                       radiance
} else if (
                       radiance
if ((cos2t=1-nnt*nnt*(1-ddn*ddn))<0)
                       radiance
  radiance
                               radiance
```

radiance

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What is smallpt anyway?

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and lots of arithmetic

```
Vec radiance(const Ray &r. int depth, unsigned short *Xi){
 double t;
                                         // distance to intersection
 int id=0:
                                         // id of intersected object
 if (!intersect(r, t, id)) return Vec(); // if miss, return black
 const Sphere &obj = spheres[id];
                                         // the hit object
 Vec x=r.o+r.d*t, n=(x-obj.p).norm(), nl=n.dot(r.d)<0?n:n*-1, f=obj.c;
 double p = f.x > f.y && f.x > f.z ? f.x : f.y > f.z ? f.y : f.z; // max refl
 if (++depth>5) if (erand48(Xi)<p) f=f*(1/p); else return obj.e; //R.R.
 if (obj.refl == DIFF){
                                         // Ideal DIFFUSE reflection
   double r1=2*M PI*erand48(Xi), r2=erand48(Xi), r2s=sgrt(r2);
   Vec w=n1, u=((fabs(w.x)>.1?Vec(0,1):Vec(1))\%w).norm(), v=w\%u;
   Vec d = (u*cos(r1)*r2s + v*sin(r1)*r2s + w*sart(1-r2)).norm():
   return obj.e + f.mult(radiance(Ray(x,d),depth,Xi));
 } else if (obi.refl == SPEC)
                                         // Ideal SPECULAR reflection
   return obj.e + f.mult(radiance(Ray(x,r.d-n*2*n.dot(r.d)),depth,Xi));
  Ray reflRay(x, r.d-n*2*n.dot(r.d)); // Ideal dielectric REFRACTION
  bool into = n.dot(n1)>0;
                                         // Ray from outside going in?
 double nc=1, nt=1.5, nnt=into?nc/nt:nt/nc, ddn=r.d.dot(nl), cos2t;
 if ((cos2t=1-nnt*nnt*(1-ddn*ddn))<0) // Total internal reflection
   return obj.e + f.mult(radiance(reflRay,depth,Xi));
 Vec tdir = (r.d*nnt - n*((into?1:-1)*(ddn*nnt+sqrt(cos2t)))).norm();
 double a=nt-nc, b=nt+nc, R0=a*a/(b*b), c = 1-(into?-ddn:tdir.dot(n));
 double Re=RO+(1-RO)*c*c*c*c*c.Tr=1-Re.P=.25+.5*Re.RP=Re/P.TP=Tr/(1-P);
  return obj.e + f.mult(depth>2 ? (erand48(Xi) < P ? // Russian roulette
   radiance(reflRav.depth.Xi)*RP:radiance(Rav(x.tdir).depth.Xi)*TP) :
   radiance(reflRay,depth,Xi)*Re+radiance(Ray(x,tdir),depth,Xi)*Tr);
```



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—What is smallpt anyway?

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of Chinamanda, A. alil years have f(x) = f(x) + f

display the whole thing

Initial Haskell Code $(1 \times)$

then do

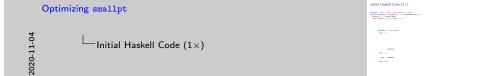
```
...
radiance :: Ray -> CInt -> Ptr CUShort -> IO Vec
radiance ray@(Ray o d) depth xi = case intersects ray of
(Nothing,,) -> return zerov
(Just t,Sphere r p e c refl) -> do
```

```
continue f = case refl of
 DIFF -> do
          radiance
 SPEC -> do
   rad <- radiance
 REFR -> do
   if
```

rad <- radiance reflRay depth' xi

Sha256 hash of the output image — 4dac691082bb

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show the same thing, this time in haskell

Initial Haskell Code $(1 \times)$

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```
radiance :: Ray -> CInt -> Ptr CUShort -> IO Vec
radiance ray@(Ray o d) depth xi = case intersects ray of
 (Nothing,_) -> return zerov
 (Just t,Sphere _r p e c refl) -> do
   let x = o 'addy' (d 'mulvs' t)
       n = norm $ x 'subv' p
       nl = if n 'dot' d < 0 then n else n 'mulvs' (-1)
       pr = maxv c
       depth' = depth + 1
       continue f = case refl of
         DIFF -> do
           r1 <- ((2*pi)*) 'fmap' erand48 xi
           r2 <- erand48 xi
           let r2s = sqrt r2
               w@(Vec wx _ _) = nl
               u = norm $ (if abs wx > 0.1 then (Vec 0 1 0) else (Vec 1 0 0)) `cross` w
               v = w `cross` u
               d' = norm $ (u`mulvs`(cos r1*r2s)) `addv` (v`mulvs`(sin r1*r2s)) `addv` (w`mulvs`sqrt (1-r2))
           rad <- radiance (Ray x d') depth' xi
           return $ e 'addv' (f 'mulv' rad)
         SPEC -> do
           let d' = d `subv` (n `mulvs` (2 * (n`dot'd)))
           rad <- radiance (Rav x d') depth' xi
           return $ e 'addy' (f 'mulv' rad)
         REFR -> do
           let reflRay = Ray x (d 'subv' (n 'mulvs' (2* n'dot'd))) -- Ideal dielectric REFRACTION
               into = n'dot'n1 > 0
                                                 -- Ray from outside going in?
               nc = 1
               nt = 1.5
               nnt = if into then nc/nt else nt/nc
               ddn= d'dot'nl
               cos2t = 1-nnt*nnt*(1-ddn*ddn)
                       -- Total internal reflection
              then do
               rad <- radiance reflRay depth' xi
   if depth'>5
```

Optimizing smallpt

Initial Haskell Code (1×)

Initial Haskell Code (1×)

full code

2020-11-04

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Restrict export list to 'main' $(1.13\times)$

- -module Main where
- +module Main (main) where



Knowing what functions are used how enables many optimizations that could otherwise would be detrimental or unsound (eg: changing signatures based on demands)

Mark entries of Ray and Sphere as UNPACK and Strict $(1.07 \times)$

```
-data Ray = Ray Vec Vec -- origin, direction
+data Ray = Ray {-# UNPACK #-} !Vec {-# UNPACK #-} !Vec -- origin, direction

data Ref1 = DIFF | SPEC | REFR -- material types, used in radiance

-- radius, position, emission, color, reflection
-data Sphere = Sphere Double Vec Vec Vec !Ref1
+data Sphere = Sphere {-# UNPACK #-} !Vec
+ {-# UNPACK #-} !Vec
+ {-# UNPACK #-} !Vec
+ {-# UNPACK #-} !Vec !Ref1
```

- Removes laziness.
- Laziness implemented as unknown function call, which is an indirect jump, which is bad for performance

Optimizing smallpt

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Mark entries of Ray and Sphere as UNPACK and Strict $(1.07 \times)$

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Mark entries of Ray and Sphere as UNPACK and Strict (1.07×)

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 Removes brings:

 Removes brings:

 Ladesce implemented as unknown function call, which is an indirect jump, which is land for performance.

This optimization removes indirection and laziness.

Use a pattern synonym to unpack Refl in Sphere $(1.07\times)$

Can be done using unboxed sums. Is much uglier syntax!

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Can be done unless unbound same. It much unler overtaid

While we weren't able to unpack Refl in the last step because it is a sum type, we can if we use a trick modeled after an C Enum. The use of COMPLETE is unsafe here because other values could be constructed. For this small example though we rely on the fact that we create values of Refl via the patterns.

Change from maximum on a list to max $(1.08\times)$

```
-maxv (Vec a b c) = maximum [a,b,c]
+maxv (Vec a b c) = max a (max b c)
@@ -84,7 +85,6 @@ radiance ray@(Ray o d) depth xi = case intersects ray of
    let x = o `addv` (d `mulvs` t)
        n = norm $ x `subv` p
        nl = if n `dot` d < 0 then n else n `mulvs` (-1)
        pr = maxv c
        depth' = depth + 1
        continue f = case refl of
          DIFF -> do
@@ -140,6 +140,7 @@ radiance ray@(Ray o d) depth xi = case intersects ray of
    if depth'>5
      then do
        er <- erand48 xi
        let !pr = maxv c
```



Optimizing smallpt Change from maximum on a list to max (1.08×) Change from maximum on a list to max (1.08×)

finicky optimization. GHC does not evaluate at compile time, making optimizations like these necessary

Convert erand48 to pure Haskell $(1.09\times)$

```
-radiance :: Ray -> CInt -> Ptr CUShort -> IO Vec
+radiance :: Ray -> Int -> IORef Word64 -> IO Vec
radiance ray@(Ray o d) depth xi = case intersects ray of
   (Nothing,_) -> return zerov
   (Just t,Sphere _r p e c refl) -> do
@@ -153,9 +153,8 @@ smallpt w h nsamps = do
       cx = Vec (fromIntegral w * 0.5135 / fromIntegral h) 0 0
       cy = norm (cx `cross` dir) `mulvs` 0.5135
  c <- VM.replicate (w * h) zerov
- allocaArray 3 $ \xi ->
       flip mapM_ [0..h-1] $ \y -> do
+ xi <- newIORef 0
+ flip mapM_ [0..h-1] $ \y -> do
       writeXi xi y
```



Optimizing smallpt

Convert erand48 to pure Haskell $(1.09\times)$

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Convert erand48 to pure Haskell (1.09×)

Remove mutability: Erand48 Monad

```
-erand48 :: IORef Word64 -> IO Double
-erand48 !t = do
- r <- readIORef t
+data ET a = ET !Word64 !a deriving Functor
+newtype Erand48 a = Erand48 { runErand48' :: Word64 -> ET a } deriving Functor
+instance Applicative Erand48 where
+instance Monad Erand48 where
+runWithErand48 :: Int -> Erand48 a -> a
+runWithErand48 !y act =
+ let yw = fromIntegral y
       prod = yw * yw * yw
        ET _ !r = runErand48' act (prod `unsafeShiftL` 32) in r
+erand48 :: Erand48 Double
+erand48 = Erand48 \ !r ->
   let x' = 0x5deece66d * r + 0xb
       d_word = 0x3ff000000000000 . | . ((x' .&. 0xfffffffffff) `unsafeShiftL` 4)
       d = castWord64ToDouble d word - 1.0
```



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Remove mutability: Erand48 Monad

Remove mutability: Erand48 Monad

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Remove mutability: Using Erand48



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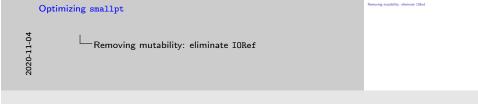
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Remove mutability: Using Erand48

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Remove mutability: Using Erand48

Removing mutability: eliminate IORef



Set everything in smallpt to be strict $(1.17 \times)$

```
smallpt :: Int -> Int -> Int -> IO ()
smallpt w h nsamps = do
- let samps = nsamps `div` 4
       org = Vec 50 52 295.6
      dir = norm \$ Vec 0 (-0.042612) (-1)
       cx = Vec (fromIntegral w * 0.5135 / fromIntegral h) 0 0
       cy = norm (cx `cross` dir) `mulvs` 0.5135
+ let !samps = nsamps `div` 4
       !org = Vec 50 52 295.6
       !dir = norm \$ Vec 0 (-0.042612) (-1)
       !cx = Vec (fromIntegral w * 0.5135 / fromIntegral h) 0 0
       !cv = norm (cx `cross` dir) `mulvs` 0.5135
- r1 <- (2*) `fmap` erand48 xi
- let dx = if r1<1 then sqrt r1-1 else 1-sqrt(2-r1)
- r2 <- (2*) `fmap` erand48 xi
- let dy = if r2<1 then sqrt r2-1 else 1-sqrt(2-r2)
      d = ...
- rad <- radiance (Ray (org`addv`(d`mulvs`140)) (norm d)) 0 xi
+ !r1 <- (2*) `fmap` erand48 xi
+ let !dx = if r1<1 then sqrt r1-1 else 1-sqrt(2-r1)
+ !r2 <- (2*) `fmap` erand48 xi
+ let !dy = if r2<1 then sqrt r2-1 else 1-sqrt(2-r2)
       !d = ...
              pure $! r + rad .* recip (fromIntegral samps)
             pure $! ci + Vec (clamp rr) (clamp rg) (clamp rb) .* 0.25
```

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```
Optimizing smallpt

Set everything in smallpt to be strict (1.17×)

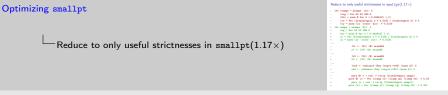
Set everything in smallpt to be strict (1.17×)
```

This does make a difference but a small one. The question is which ones matter.

Reduce to only useful strictnesses in smallpt(1.17 \times)

```
- let !samps = nsamps `div` 4
       !org = Vec 50 52 295.6
       !dir = norm \$ Vec 0 (-0.042612) (-1)
       !cx = Vec (fromIntegral w * 0.5135 / fromIntegral h) 0 0
       !cy = norm (cx `cross` dir) .* 0.5135
  let samps = nsamps `div` 4
      org = Vec 50 52 295.6
      dir = norm \$ Vec 0 (-0.042612) (-1)
      cx = Vec (fromIntegral w * 0.5135 / fromIntegral h) 0 0
      cv = norm (cx `cross` dir) .* 0.5135
               !r1 <- (2*) <  erand48
               r1 <- (2*) <$> erand48
               !r2 <- (2*) < $> erand 48
               r2 <- (2*) <$> erand48
               !rad <- radiance (Ray (org+d.*140) (norm d)) 0
               rad <- radiance (Ray (org+d.*140) (norm d)) 0
               pure $! r + rad .* recip (fromIntegral samps)
             pure $! ci + Vec (clamp rr) (clamp rg) (clamp rb) .* 0.25
               pure (r + rad .* recip (fromIntegral samps))
             pure (ci + Vec (clamp rr) (clamp rg) (clamp rb) .* 0.25)
```





Some inspection shows us which bang patters are actually carrying the weight. Most are unnecessary.

Use strictness strategically in entire project

TODO: maybe more interesting to talk about places where having strictness was **not** useful

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Optimizing smallpt

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Use strictness strategically in entire project

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Use strictness strategically in entire project

```
Remove Maybe from intersect(s) (1.32\times)
-intersect :: Ray -> Sphere -> Maybe Double
+intersect :: Ray -> Sphere -> Double
intersect (Rav o d) (Sphere r p e c refl) =
- if det<0 then Nothing else f (b-sdet) (b+sdet)
+ if det<0 then (1/0.0) else f (b-sdet) (b+sdet)
   where op = p `subv` o
        eps = 1e-4
        b = op `dot` d
        det = b*b - (op `dot` op) + r*r
         sdet = sart det
        f a s = if a>eps then Just a else if s>eps then Just s else Nothing
        f a s = if a>eps then a else if s>eps then s else (1/0.0)
-intersects :: Ray -> (Maybe Double, Sphere)
+intersects :: Ray -> (Double, Sphere)
intersects ray = (k, s)
- where (k,s) = foldl' f (Nothing, undefined) spheres
        f (k',sp) s' = case (k',intersect ray s') of
                  (Nothing, Just x) -> (Just x,s')
                  (Just y, Just x) \mid x < y \rightarrow (Just x,s')
                  -> (k'.sp)
+ where (k,s) = foldl' f (1/0.0.undefined) spheres
         f (k', sp) s' = let !x = intersect ray s' in if x < k' then (x, s') else (k', sp)
radiance :: Ray -> Int -> STRefU s Word64 -> ST s Vec
radiance ray@(Ray o d) depth xi = case intersects ray of
- (Nothing,_) -> return zerov
- (Just t,Sphere _r p e c refl) -> do
+ (t,_) | t == (1/0.0) -> return zerov
+ (t.Sphere r p e c refl) -> do
                                                           ◆ロ → ← 同 → ← 三 → へ ○ へ ○
```

```
Optimizing smallpt

Remove Maybe from intersect(s) (1.32×)

Remove Maybe from intersect(s) (1.32×)
```

Our innermost functions are of critical importance. Here we remove a Maybe which significantly reduces the boxing (which could have been mitigated with a StrictMaybe) and the cases. Since a Ray that fails to intersect something can be said to intersect at infinity, Double already actually covers the structure at play.

This also reduces allocation.

Hand unroll the fold in intersects $(1.35\times)$

```
intersects :: Ray -> (Double, Sphere)
-intersects ray = (k, s)
- where (k,s) = foldl' f (1/0.0, undefined) spheres
+intersects ray =
+ f (... (f (f (intersect ray sphLeft, sphLeft) sphRight) ...)
+ where
    f (k', sp) s' = let !x = intersect ray s' in if x < k' then (x, s') else (k', sp)
-spheres :: [Sphere]
-spheres = let s = Sphere ; z = zerov ; (.*) = mulvs ; v = Vec in
- [ s 1e5 (v (1e5+1) 40.8 81.6) z (v 0.75 0.25 0.25) DIFF --Left
- , s 1e5 (v (-1e5+99) 40.8 81.6) z (v 0.25 0.25 0.75) DIFF --Rght
+sphLeft, sphRight, ... :: Sphere
+sphLeft = Sphere 1e5 (Vec (1e5+1) 40.8 81.6)
                                                 zerov (Vec 0.75 0.25 0.25) DIFF
+sphRight = Sphere 1e5 (Vec (-1e5+99) 40.8 81.6) zerov (Vec 0.25 0.25 0.75) DIFF
. . .
```

- ► Can also be realized using REWRITE rules.
- GHC does not attempt to partially evaluate.





-11-04

Hand unroll the fold in intersects $(1.35\times)$



This removes the list and this a potential level of indirections and branches. Sadly GHC did not do this for us even though the list was static.

Custom datatype for intersects parameter passing

```
-intersects :: Ray -> (Double, Sphere)
+data T = T !Double !Sphere
+intersects :: Ray -> T
intersects ray =
    f ( ... f (intersect ray sphLeft, sphLeft) sphRight) ... sphLite
    f ( ... f (T (intersect ray sphLeft) sphLeft) sphRight) ... sphLite
  where
    f(k', sp) s' =
        let !x = intersect ray s' in if x < k' then (x, s') else (k', sp)
    f !(T k' sp) !s' =
        let !x = intersect ray s' in if x < k' then T x s' else T k' sp</pre>
radiance :: Rav -> Int -> Erand48 Vec
radiance ray@(Ray o d) depth = case intersects ray of
- (!t.) | t == 1/0.0 -> return 0
- (!t.!Sphere r p e c refl) -> do
+ (T t) | t == 1/0.0 -> return 0
+ (T t (Sphere _r p e c refl)) -> do
    let !x = o + d .* t
         !n = norm \$ x - p
         !nl = if dot n d < 0 then n else negate n
```



Optimizing smallpt

20-11-0

Custom datatype for intersects parameter passing

```
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```

Its clear that f will consume these, so making it strict can have some benefit. The problem is the right level here. One's first take might be to set the parameters of 'f' to be strict, and that can have benefits, but it leaves a lot on the table. Moving to and unboxed tuple performs the computation faster but introduces copying. Out 'T' datatype here has the right balance, it makes it clear the data is strict but doesn't copy.

Optimize file writing

```
build-depends:
       base >= 4.12 \&\& < 4.15
    , bytestring >= 0.11
-toInt :: Double -> Int
-toInt x = floor $ clamp x ** recip 2.2 * 255 + 0.5 
+toInt :: Double -> BB.Builder
+toInt x = BB.intDec (floor (clamp x ** recip 2.2 * 255 + 0.5)) <> BB.char8 ' '
. . .
  withFile "image.ppm" WriteMode $ \hdl -> do
         hPrintf hdl "P3\nd" \d\n\d\n" w h (255::Int)
        for_ img \(Vec r g b) -> do
          hPrintf hdl "%d %d %d " (toInt r) (toInt g) (toInt b)
         BB.hPutBuilder hdl $
          BB.string8 "P3\n" <>
          BB.intDec w <> BB.char8 ' ' <> BB.intDec h <> BB.char8 '\n' <>
          BB.intDec 255 <> BB.char8 '\n' <>
           (mconcat $ fmap (\( (Vec r g b) -> toInt r <> toInt g <> toInt b) img)
```

```
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```

```
Optimize file writing

Optimize file writing
```

Optimize file writing

Strings are slow and the code was even using a slow conversion path to strings.

Optimizing smallpt

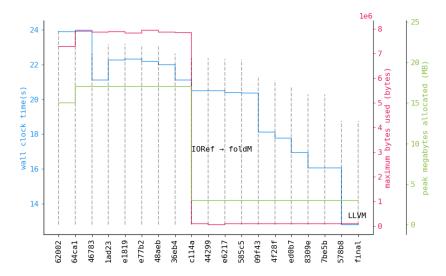
Use LLVM backend $(1.87\times)$

```
+packages: .
+
+package smallpt-opt
+ ghc-options: -fllvm
```



The LLVM backend can pick up assembly level optimizations that GHC has missed. Some types of code runs worse with LLVM, but since this code is number crunching heavy, this does well.

The view from the mountaintop





Optimizing smallpt

The view from the mountaintop



The view from the mountaintop

Takeaways

- ▶ Haskell can be fast, given some sensitivity to performance.
- ▶ Having performance leads to a faster baseline (unpacking, bang-patterns, max, LLVM by default, exporting main, ...)
- ► Some others (unrolling f) is more subtle.
- Accumulate optimizations to accrue performance wins.

