This report highlights the methods involved to identify high latency, bottlenecks / hot paths in the application and the requisite steps taken to optimize the code.

The code explanations are based on the code-review document. It is important to note that the code examples here refer to class deribit as a derived class from class trade_handler.trade_handler acts as an interface (abstract class).

1. CPU Optimization

Identifying Initial Bottlenecks

Step 1

When profiling the application for the first time with <code>gprof</code> the following results were established. The bottleneck identified is <code>deribit::auth</code>. The function waits till the API returns an access token which is necessary for confirming authentication and may be required for private calls to the API. According to the following results, we must optimize the code which waits for the access token.

```
Call graph (explanation follows)
granularity: each sample hit covers 4 byte(s) for 25.00% of 0.04 seconds
index % time
                  self children
                                        called
                                                      main [1]
    client_trader::trade_api_auth() [2]
       100.0
                  0.00
                                                           client_trader::print_trade_messages() [61]
                                                          client trader::buy(nlohmann::json_abi_v3_11_3::basic_json<std::map, std::vector, std::_cxx11::basic_string<char, std::client_trader::get_positions(nlohmann::json_abi_v3_11_3::basic_json<std::map, std::vector, std::_cxx11::basic_string<cnlohmann::json_abi_v3_11_3::basic_json<std::map, std::vector, std::_cxx11::basic_string<char, std::char_traits<char>,
                  0.00
                           0.00
                            0.00
                            0.00
                  0.00
                                                          client_trader::test_trade_api() [84]
                  0.00
                            0.00
                                                           load_keys(std::__cxx11::basic_string<char, std::char_traits<char>, std::allocator<char> >, trade_handler::api_key&) [9
                            0.00
                                                           nlohmann::json_abi_v3_11_3::basic_json<std::map, std::vector, std::_cxx11::basic_string<char, std::char_traits<char>,
                            0.00
                  0.00
                            0.00
                                        12/29700
                                                          nlohmann::json_abi_v3_11_3::basic_json<std::map, std::vector, std::_cxx11::basic_string<char, std::char_traits<char>,
                                         11/49
                                                           nlohmann::json_abi_v3_11_3::basic_json<std::map, std::vector, std::_cxx11::basic_string<char, std::char_traits<char>,
                            0.00
                                                           nlohmann::json_abi_v3_11_3::basic_json<std::map, std::vector, std::_cxx11::basic_string<char, std::char_traits<char
                                                           nlohmann::json_abi_v3_11_3::basic_json<std::map, std::vector, std::_cxx11::basic_string<char, std::char_traits<char
```

```
0.00 0.04 1/1 main [1]
[2] 99.3 0.00 0.04 1 client_trader::trade_api_auth() [2]
0.00 0.04 1/1 deribit::auth() [3]
0.00 0.00 1/85 std::error_code::operator bool() const [847]

0.00 0.04 1/1 client_trader::trade_api_auth() [2]
[3] 99.3 0.00 0.04 1 deribit::auth() [3]
0.00 0.03 1948/1948 nlohmann::json_abi_v3_11_3::basic_json<std::map, std::vector, std::_cxx11::basic_string<char, std::char_traits<char>
0.00 0.01 1/1 nlohmann::json_abi_v3_11_3::detail::json_ref<nlohmann::json_abi_v3_11_3::basic_json<std::map, std::vector, std::_cxx
```

The line below refers to the function <code>json::parse()</code> from the nlohmann_ison library.

```
0.00 0.00 13/15 nlohmann::json_abi_v3_11_3::basic_json<...>, ...
nlohmann::json_abi_v3_11_3::adl_serializer [1014]
```

The code for deribit::auth() before optimizations involved checking and parsing latest messages every iteration.

```
if(!result.ec) {
   using namespace std::chrono_literals;
```

```
// wait for response
json json_response;

while(true) {
    auto msg = m_endpoint->get_latest_message(m_con_id);

    if(!msg || msg->length() <= WS_MSG_TYPE_LEN) continue;

    json_response = json::parse(msg->substr(WS_MSG_TYPE_LEN));

    if(json_response.contains("result") &&
    json_response["result"].contains("access_token")) {
        m_access_token = json_response["result"]["access_token"];
        break;
    }
}

APP_LOG(log_flags::trade_handler, "(deribit) access token: " <<
m_access_token);
}</pre>
```

We can fix this by parsing the message only if a new message arrives. Using the statements

```
auto tmp = m_endpoint->get_latest_message(m_con_id);
if(tmp == msg) continue; // check if new message has arrived
```

Step 2

After fixing continuous parsing of messages as json, we profile the application again.

```
deribit::auth() [3]
               0.00
                       0.04 420763/420763
                                            websocket_endpoint::get_latest_message[abi:cxx11](int) [4]
[4]
                       0.04 420763
               0.00
                                               std::map<int, std::shared_ptr<connection_metadata>, std::less<int>, std::alloc
               0.00
                       0.02 420775/420776
               0.01
                       0.00 420771/420773
                                                std::vector<std::_cxx11::basic_string<char, std::char_traits<char>, std::allo
                                                std::map<int, std::shared_ptr<connection_metadata>, std::less<int>, std::alloc
               0.00
                       0.00 420764/420769
               0.00
                       0.00 841562/841565
                                               std::_Rb_tree_const_iterator<std::pair<int const, std::shared_ptr<connection_</pre>
```

The function performs slow due to large number of calls to get_latest_message. We can reduce the calls to get_latest_message by reducing the polling, by adding a thread delay.

```
auto thread_sleep_time = 100ms;

while(true) {
    // add a thread sleep to avoid excessively polling get_latest_message
    std::this_thread::sleep_for(thread_sleep_time);
```

We have successfully reduced the number of calls to get_latest_message from ~420,000 to 3 calls. Additionally the time spent on the function deribit::auth() reduced from 0.04s to 0.00s (below gprof's measurement threshold).

```
0.00 0.00 1/1 client_trader::trade_api_auth() [4280]
[4760] 0.0 0.00 0.00 1 deribit::auth() [4760]
0.00 0.00 13/15 nlohmann::json_abi_v3_11_3::basic_json<std::map, std::vector, std::_cxx11::basic_string<char, std::char_traits<char>,
0.00 0.00 10/47 nlohmann::json_abi_v3_11_3::basic_json<std::map, std::vector, std::_cxx11::basic_string<char, std::char_traits<char>,
0.00 0.00 8/25 nlohmann::json_abi_v3_11_3::basic_json<std::map, std::vector, std::_cxx11::basic_string<char, std::char_traits<char>,
0.00 0.00 3/3 websocket_endpoint::get_latest_message[abi:cxx11](int) [2615]
```

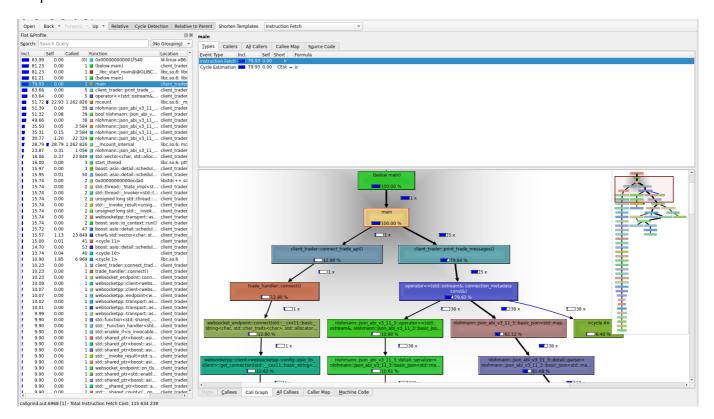
Additionally the final implementation of deribit::auth() involves a timeout which exits the function if the access token is not retrieved within a fixed amount of time.

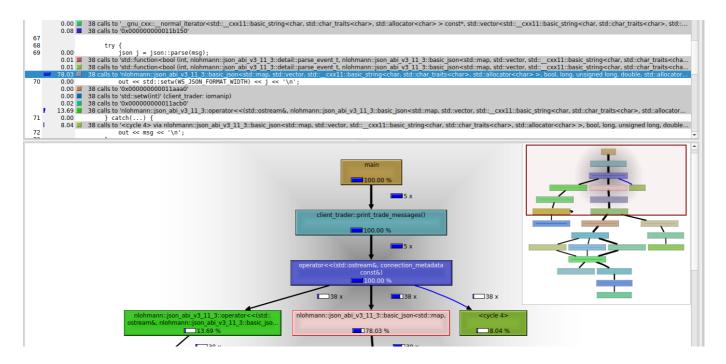
The final function definition is available in api/deribit.h.

Profiling with callgrind

Since gprof does not give high frequency sampling, we will use the callgrind tool and analyze it using KCachegrind.

Step 1





The profile shows a graph of the function calls and the percentage of time on each call. According to the first image, we see callgrind recognizes print_trade_messages as a major bottleneck with 79% of the time spent on it. The second image highlights that majority of the time is spent in "pretty-printing" the json messages using nlohmann json library. This method is invoked when we run the command deribit_show.

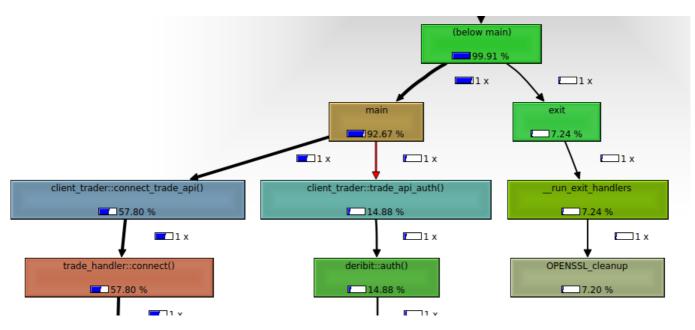
The lines of code responsible are shown in the second image.

Step 2

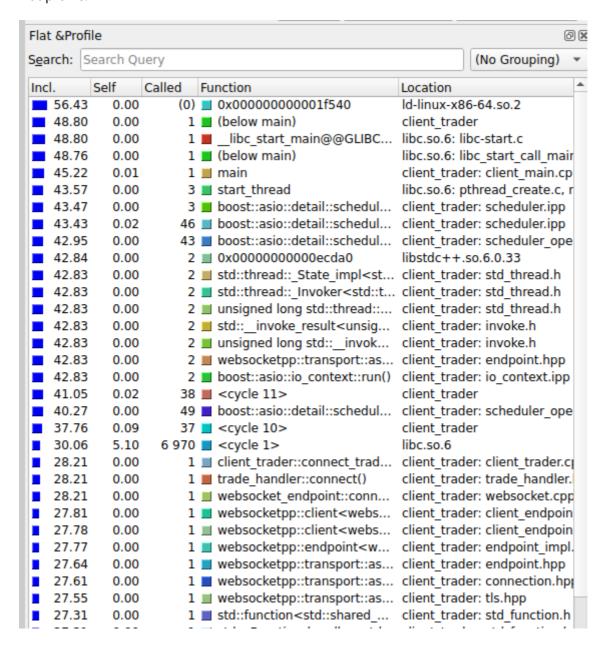
To identify other major hot paths, we should temporarily disable pretty printing of json messages in the network communication.

Now, we rerun the application and invoke all the possible deribit commands in our application. The below graph and show that the trading methods such as deribit_buy, deribit_positions etc. have a much lower execution time than the connect and auth methods.

Call graph:



Flat profile:



- We have already optimized the deribit::auth, however it has a relatively higher execution time since it waits for the API to return the access token.
- Our client_trader::connect method directly calls the underlying connect method from websocketpp library.

Since, these methods are only invoked only once on application start a relatively higher execution time may be acceptable according to requirements.

Analysis of buy function

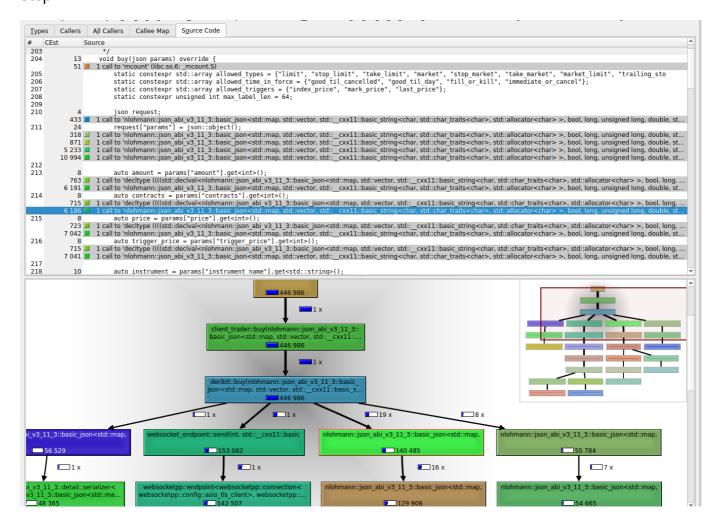
We will focus on the deribit::buy function since it sends the largest request from all of our deribit commands, making it suitable for analysis.

We can confirm that requests with large request body such as private/buy do not cause bottlenecks and work at low latency. the self time for deribit::buy is much lower compared to the auth and connect methods. The highlighted blue function in the below image refers to the deribit buy function.

Note: the self and include times mentioned are in relative mode, hence they refer to timing relative to other methods mentioned.

		_		c - 16		0-11-4		_		
nc		420	F 42	Self		Called	,		nction	Location
			542		500				SSL_CTX_new	libssl.so.3
			537		201				SSL_CTX_new_ex	libssl.so.3
				4 58				_	mcount	libc.so.6: _mcoun
			878		2 784				boost::asio::ssl::detail::engi	
			789		659				boost::asio::ssl::detail::io_o	_
			293		80				boost::asio::ssl::detail::han	client_trader: har
			021		124				boost::asio::ssl::detail::engi	_
			435		56				boost::asio::ssl::detail::engi	_
	8	933	187		8			_	0x00000000011b1f0	(unknown)
	8	933	179		23				SSL_connect	libssl.so.3
	8	933	041		1 346	j	4		SSL_do_handshake	libssl.so.3
	8	360	635	2	25 852	19	9		0x0000000001fa4f0	libcrypto.so.3
	8	347	324		7 334	19	3		0x0000000001faaa0	libcrypto.so.3
	8	122	217		128	3	2		boost::asio::detail::complet	client_trader: cor
	8	101	217		46	i	2		void boost::asio::detail::ha	client_trader: ha
	8	100	957		36	j .	2		void boost_asio_handler_in	client_trader: ha
	8	100	591		30)	2		void boost::asio::detail::asi	client_trader: wr
	8	100	463		38	3	2		void boost_asio_handler_in	client_trader: ha
	8	100	095		38	3	2		void boost::asio::asio_hand	client_trader: ha
	8	099	959		26	i	2		boost::asio::detail::rewrapp	client_trader: wr
	8	099	835		56	i	2		boost::asio::detail::binder2	client_trader: bir
	7	891	790		456	. 1	5		boost::asio::detail::epoll re	client trader: ep
	7	481	009		1 716				0x0000000000070c80	libssl.so.3
	7	365	395		633	3	1		0x000000000002f790	libssl.so.3
	6	342	827		660) 3	3		EVP CIPHER fetch	libcrypto.so.3
			970		782				0x00000000003c3b0	libssl.so.3
			291		46			_	0x000000000486ecf0	(unknown)
			730		3 584	_			0x000000000021f660	libcrypto.so.3
			937		2 880				0x000000000021f260	libcrypto.so.3
			057		7 552			_	0x000000000022ed40	libcrypto.so.3
			985		7 954				0x000000000021f080	libcrypto.so.3
				1 5 79				-	mcount internal	libc.so.6: mcoun
			397		10 212				0x000000000021f480	libcrypto.so.3
			775	-	640				boost::asio::detail::complet	
			578		230				void boost::asio::detail::ha	client trader: ha
			310		180				void boost asio handler in	client trader: ha
			512		150				void boost::asio::detail::asi	client trader: wr
										client trader: ha
			888 080		190 190				void boost_asio_handler_in void boost::asio::asio hand	client trader: ha
									_	_
			416		130				boost::asio::detail::rewrapp boost::asio::detail::binder2	_
			812		280					client_trader: bir
			435		705				ASN1_item_d2i	liberypto.so.3
			375		705				ASN1_item_d2i_ex	liberypto.so.3
			670		2 778				0x00000000000df6c0	liberypto.so.3
			335		2 483				0x000000000000e0900	liberypto.so.3
			815	8	36 637				<cycle 8=""></cycle>	libcrypto.so.3
			491		6				0x000000000486d280	(unknown)
			485		63				d2i_X509	libcrypto.so.3
			331	66	53 939				0x000000000021d450	libcrypto.so.3
			171		387				0x00000000038bfc0 <cy< td=""><td>libcrypto.so.3</td></cy<>	libcrypto.so.3
	4	041	510		189				${\sf OSSL_DECODER_CTX_new\}$	libcrypto.so.3
			638	15	8 402				0x000000000021f780	libcrypto.so.3
	3	426	308		7 659	20	7		0x0000000001f9f00	libcrypto.so.3
		446	986		427		1		deribit::buy(nlohmann::jso	client trader: de

Step 1



The methods nlohmann::json_abi_...:basic_json refer directly or indirectly to the conversion of JSON data to C++ data types / strings.

The trade_handler buy method is defined to take a single object as the set of parameters which the function definition will access.

• This also ensures that a different API can use seperate parameters as the arguments passed to the function.

The original code used a common json object for parameters:

```
void trade_handler::buy(json params);
```

Original code:

```
void deribit::buy(json params) {
    json request;

auto instrument = params["instrument_name"].get<std::string>();

if(instrument.empty()) {
    // verify parameters ...
```

```
request["params"] = json::object();
request["params"]["instrument_name"] = instrument;
}
```

Since, the conversion of data types using .get() is costly, we can optimize the performance by using a common struct for the parameters

```
struct buy_params {
    float amount;
    float contracts;
    float price;
    float trigger_price;

std::string instrument;
    std::string type;
    std::string label;
    std::string time_in_force;
    std::string trigger;

// for edit and cancel orders
    std::string order_id
};
```

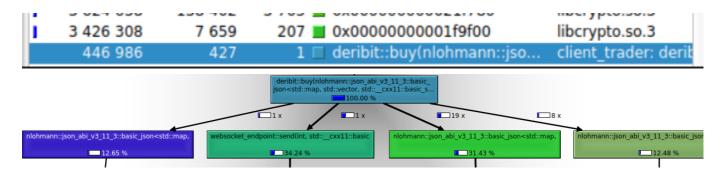
The optimized code below does not require any conversion of data types while not losing the abstraction layer of trade_handler.

```
void deribit::buy(trade_handler::buy_params params) {
   if(params.instrument.empty()) {
        // verify parameters ...
   }

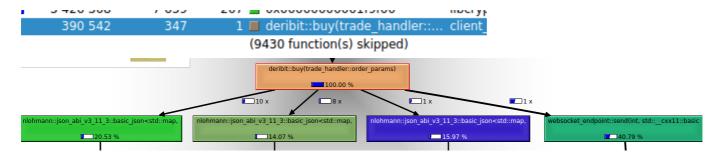
   json request;
   request["params"] = json::object();
   request["params"]["instrument_name"] = params.instrument;
}
```

Result

Before:

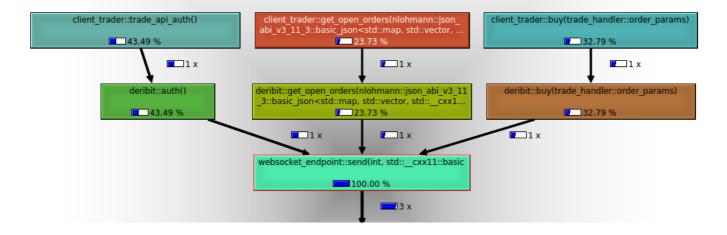


After:



Analysis of send requests

The following graph indicates the amount of time spent on send requests from the application. As we expect deribit::buy takes a longer amount of time than requests such as deribit::get_open_orders. The detailed analysis of timings can be seen in the benchmark section.



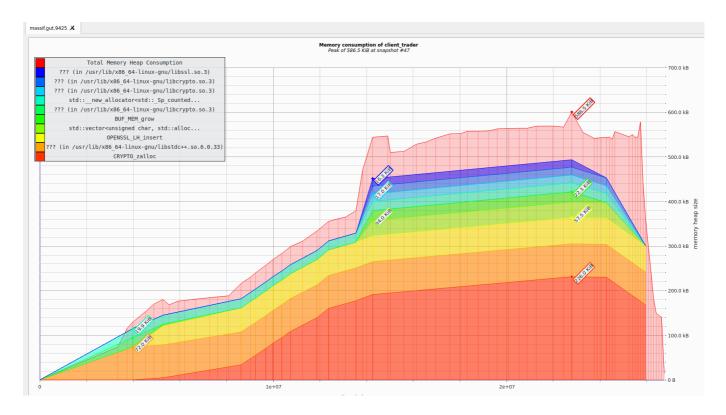
2. Memory Optimization

Memory Profiling

First Run

The heap memory profiling was done using the tool massif and visualized using massif-visualizer program.

valgrind --tool=massif client_trader



The peak heap memory usage is 586kb. The snapshot of peak usage is as follows:

```
586.5 KiB: Snapshot #47 (peak)
   226.0 KiB: CRYPTO_zalloc (in /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libcr...
       63.6 KiB: in 119 places, all below massif's threshold (1....
      47.9 KiB: ??? (in /usr/lib/x86 64-linux-gnu/libcrypto.so.3)
      31.0 KiB: ??? (in /usr/lib/x86 64-linux-gnu/libcrypto.so.3)
    27.9 KiB: OPENSSL LH new (in /usr/lib/x86 64-linux-gnu..
    17.3 KiB: CRYPTO THREAD lock new (in /usr/lib/x86 64-..
    15.9 KiB: OPENSSL LH new (in /usr/lib/x86 64-linux-gnu...
      7.8 KiB: OPENSSL sk new reserve (in /usr/lib/x86 64-lin..
      7.4 KiB: SSL new (in /usr/lib/x86 64-linux-gnu/libssl.so.3)
      7.2 KiB: ??? (in /usr/lib/x86 64-linux-gnu/libcrypto.so.3)
  72.0 KiB: ??? (in /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libstdc++.so.6.0..
    59.4 KiB: in 178 places, all below massif's threshold (1.009
  57.5 KiB: OPENSSL LH insert (in /usr/lib/x86 64-linux-gnu/li..
   34.0 KiB: std:: new allocator<unsigned char>::allocate(u...
   22.3 KiB: BUF MEM grow (in /usr/lib/x86 64-linux-gnu/libcr...
   19.9 KiB: std::_new_allocator<std::_Sp_counted_ptr_inplac..
   17.0 KiB: ??? (in /usr/lib/x86 64-linux-gnu/libcrypto.so.3)
   17.0 KiB: ??? (in /usr/lib/x86 64-linux-gnu/libcrypto.so.3)
   16.3 KiB: ??? (in /usr/lib/x86 64-linux-gnu/libssl.so.3)
   16.1 KiB: ??? (in /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libssl.so.3)
   11.0 KiB: OPENSSL_LH_insert (in /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/li...
   9.6 KiB: ??? (in /usr/lib/x86 64-linux-gnu/libcrypto.so.3)
   8.3 KiB: CRYPTO_strndup (in /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libcr...
```

The allocators used were:

```
Function

CRYPTO_zalloc

CRYPTO_zalloc

CRYPTO_zalloc

7.2.0 KiB in /usr/lib/
777

below threshold

OPENSSL_LH. insert

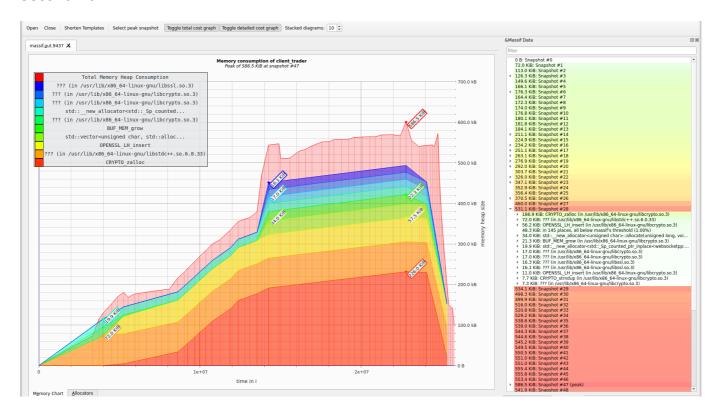
515. KiB in /usr/lib/
59.7 KiB

OPENSSL_LH. insert

515. KiB in /usr/lib/
515.
```

This shows us that we did not do any significant heap allocation and majority of it was done by the websocketspp library as shown in the graph legend.

Second Run



A second profile of the application showed a similar graph for heap memory allocation.

Analysis of Memory Leaks

We can detect memory leaks in the application using valgrind.

```
valgrind --leak-check=full -v ./client_trader
```

```
==9504== ERROR SUMMARY: 2 errors from 2 contexts (suppressed: 0 from 0)
==9504==
==9504== 1 errors in context 1 of 2:
==9504== Mismatched new/delete size value: 120
==9504==
            at 0x484A5B9: operator delete(void*, unsigned long) (in
/usr/libexec/valgrind/vgpreload_memcheck-amd64-linux.so)
==9504==
           by 0x11DF40: main (client_main.cpp:250)
==9504== Address 0x53e5200 is 0 bytes inside a block of size 152 alloc'd
==9504==
           at 0x4846FA3: operator new(unsigned long) (in
/usr/libexec/valgrind/vgpreload_memcheck-amd64-linux.so)
==9504==
            by 0x11C800: main (client_main.cpp:44)
==9504==
==9504== ERROR SUMMARY: 2 errors from 2 contexts (suppressed: 0 from 0)
```

These memory leak errors refer to the lines:

```
// client_main.cpp
44: trade_handler* deribit_handler = new deribit{};
250: delete deribit_handler;
```

This is a subtle memory leak caused in our application due to varying size of base and derived classes. Since trade_handler and deribit_handler have a different size we cannot use the base class pointer to delete the allocation.

This can be fixed by managing the derived class's memory using a smart pointer. Later we extract the raw pointer and interface it through trade_handler*.

```
std::unique_ptr<deribit> deribit_uptr = std::make_unique<deribit>();
trade_handler* deribit_handler = deribit_uptr.get();
```

Result:

```
==10118== HEAP SUMMARY:
==10118== in use at exit: 0 bytes in 0 blocks
==10118== total heap usage: 14,360 allocs, 14,360 frees, 1,903,315 bytes
allocated
==10118==
==10118== All heap blocks were freed -- no leaks are possible
==10118==
==10118== ERROR SUMMARY: 0 errors from 0 contexts (suppressed: 0 from 0)
```

However, we should still define a virtual destructor for trade_handler as we may use raw pointer using new to instantiate a deribit type object.

```
virtual ~trade_handler() {}
```

Reference: https://stackoverflow.com/questions/461203/when-to-use-virtual-destructors

3. Code Optimization Methods

Thread Management

The application uses 2 threads, one main thread and when for the running the websocket endpoint.

```
// run endpoint on seperate thread
m_thread = websocketpp::lib::make_shared<websocketpp::lib::thread>(&client::run,
&m_endpoint);
```

• This ensures that other computations or user interaction can occur while network requests are processed in the background

The thread is gracefully joined to the main thread when our websocket_endpoint class (websocket.cpp) goes out of scope. The thread is joined when all connections are closed in the destructor.

```
websocket_endpoint::~websocket_endpoint() {
    // close connections
    for (con_list::const_iterator it = m_connection_list.begin(); it !=
    m_connection_list.end(); ++it) {
        // ...
        m_endpoint.close(it->second->get_hdl(),
        websocketpp::close::status::going_away, "", ec);
    }

    // wait till thread is complete
    m_thread->join();
}
```

Network Optimizations

- The application uses TLS configuration for secure communication with the server
- A map data structure is used to query a list of active connections quickly.

```
typedef std::map<con_id_type, connection_metadata::ptr> con_list;
con_list m_connection_list;
```

- The code for websocket_endpoint is exception safe and returns error codes instead, making it perform at low latency and avoid uncaught exceptions / memory leaks.
- The configuration of websocketspp client enables concurrency by default. We can additionally enable permessage_deflate for large requests.

```
typedef websocketpp::client<websocketpp::config::asio_tls_client> client;
```

4. Latency Benchmarking

The latency benchmarking is done using a special class defined for benchmarking.

```
class benchmark {
public:
   benchmark(std::string lab): label{lab} {}
```

```
void reset(std::string lab = "");

void start();
void end();
private:
    std::string label;

bool started = false;
    std::chrono::time_point<std::chrono::high_resolution_clock> start_time;
    std::chrono::time_point<std::chrono::high_resolution_clock> end_time;
};
```

In order to support end to end benchmarking (as well as across threads), we have defined a benchmark g_benchmark {"g_benchmark"}; in client_main.cpp which can be accessed by other source files using extern.

For example:

```
// client_main.cpp
g_benchmark.reset("e2e_" + order_type + "_order_" + "benchmark");
g_benchmark.start();

if(order_type == "buy")
    trader.buy(params);
```

```
// websocket.cpp
websocket_endpoint::send_result websocket_endpoint::send(con_id_type id,
std::string message) {
    // benchmark send request
    benchmark send_benchmark {"send_request_benchmark"};
    send_benchmark.start();

    // ...

    // end send request benchmark
    send_benchmark.end();
    // end global benchmark
    g_benchmark.end();
    return result;
}
```

This gives the following benchmarking results.

```
Created connection with id 0
Enter Command: deribit_auth
```

```
7792ms] Started benchmark: e2e_auth_benchmark
       7792ms] Started benchmark: send_request_benchmark
       7792ms] Benchmark: send_request_benchmark, took 69 us
7792ms] Benchmark: e2e_auth_benchmark, took 131 us
       8001ms] trade handler: (deribit) access token: ...
Enter Command: deribit_buy
Enter buy order details
Instrument: BTC-PERPETUAL
Amount: 50
Contracts:
Price: 50
Type:
Label:
Time in force:
Trigger:
Trigger Price:
      23847ms] Started benchmark: e2e_buy_order_benchmark
      23847ms] trade handler: (deribit) Buy order request sent. Check details
      23847ms] Started benchmark: send_request_benchmark
Γ
      23847ms] Benchmark: send_request_benchmark, took 48 us
      23847ms] Benchmark: e2e_buy_order_benchmark, took 220 us
Enter Command: deribit_show
```

e2e_buy_order_benchmark refers to the end-to-end trading latency, while send_request_benchmark only refers to the time taken to propagate the message.

Additional benchmarking showed that send requests were always < 100us, and end-to-end buy trading loop was on the order of $\sim 150-200$ us.