

Who I Am

- Daniel Leech
- From England
- Open Source Developer
- Bicycle Tourer

Open Source Developer

- Symfony CMF Core Team
- Sulu CMS
- PHPCR-ODM
- CMF Routing Auto
- PHPCR Shell
- Jackalope FS



doctrine



Bicycle Tour 2015

Austria



Slovakia



Hungary



Romania



Bulgaria



Turkey, Istanbul!



Why Benchmarking?

Jackalope 2

(this is not the real logo)



Benchmarking



What is Benchmarking?

“In computing, a benchmark is the act of running a computer program, a set of programs, or other operations, in order to assess the *relative* performance of an object, normally by running a number of standard tests and trials against it”

- Wikipedia

What I Talk About When I Talk About Benchmarking

“The measurement of time taken to execute some PHP code compared to the same measurement of equivalent PHP code”

- Me

Its All About Microtime!

```
$start = microtime(true);  
    // do something  
$timeTaken = microtime(true) - $start;  
echo 'Time 1: ' . $timeTaken;
```

```
$start = microtime(true);  
    // do something else  
$timeTaken = microtime(true) - $start;  
echo 'Time 2: ' . $timeTaken;
```

About Microtime

- Amount of time elapsed since the UNIX epoch accurate to a microsecond.
- It uses the symbol μs (Greek “mu”)
- 1 microsecond = 1,000,000th (10^6) of a second!
- Highest degree of precision available in PHP.

Microseconds

- Human eye blink takes 350,000 microseconds (just over 1/3 of one second).
- Human finger click takes 150,000 microseconds (just over 1/7 of one second).
- Some PHP functions execute $< 1\mu\text{s}$



Why Would You Want to Benchmark?

- Optimize algorithms.
- Prevent performance regressions in new code.
- Compare relative performance of interchangeable dependencies.
- Catch memory leaks.
- Empirical knowledge.

Compare

```
isset($array['foo'])
```

Functions



```
array_key_exists('foo', '$array')
```



Compare



git master

Branches

VS



git harder_better_stronger_faster

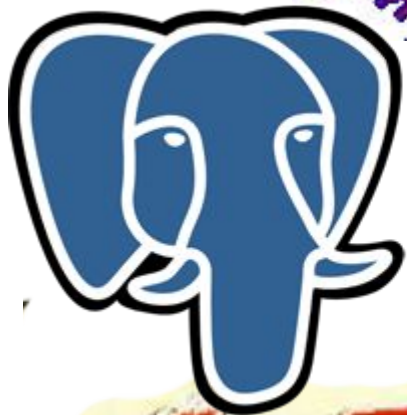
FIGHT

Compare



Implementations

VS



PostgreSQL

FIGHT

Memory Leaks



Empirical Knowledge

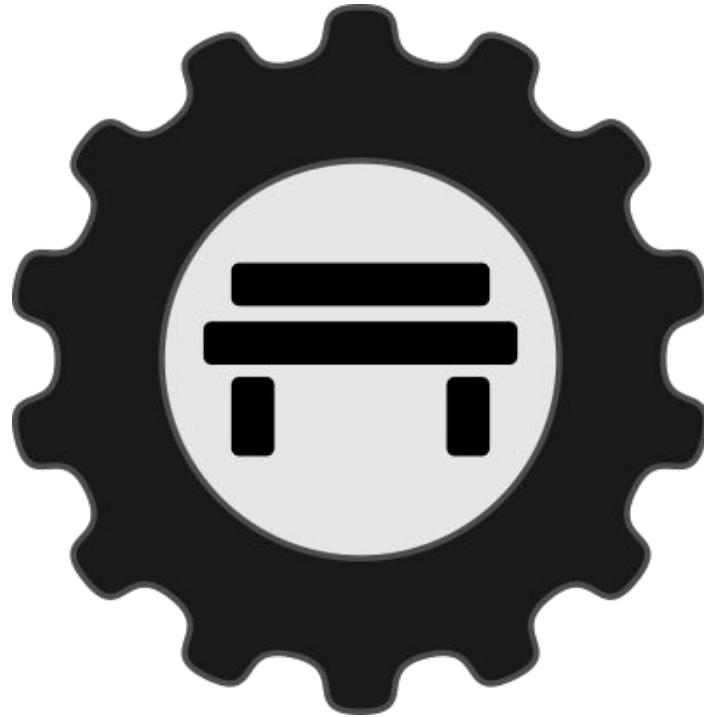


Conclusions

- We benchmark using microtime, because that's the best we have.
- Benchmarking can help you make smart decisions.

Questions?

PHPBench



“PHPBench is a Benchmark Runner for PHP
which can Generate Reports”

- J. Lennon

Benchmark Classes

- Must be suffixed with “Bench”.
- Similar to PHPUnit
- Have their own autoloading env.
- Do not depend on the PHPBench library (not abstract classes, no interfaces).

Benchmarking Hash Algorithms

```
1 <?php
2
3
4
5 class HashingBenchmark
6 {
7     public function benchMd5()
8     {
9         hash('md5', 'thisissometext');
10    }
11
12    public function benchSha256()
13    {
14        hash('sha256', 'thisissometext');
15    }
16 }
```

Benchmarking Hash Algorithms

```
~/w/p/phpbench >>> ./bin/phpbench run examples/HashBench.php --report=default  
PhpBench 0.5. Running benchmarks.
```

```
..  
Done (2 subjects, 2 iterations) in 0.09s
```

benchmark	subject	group	params	revs	iter	time	memory	deviation
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1	0	9.00µs	584b	0.00%
HashingBenchmark	benchSha256		[]	1	0	9.00µs	576b	0.00%
stability >>						100.00%		
average >>						9.00µs	580b	
sum >>						18.00µs	1,160b	

Revolutions



Revolutions

```
1 <?php
2
3 $revolutions = 10000;
4
5 $start = microtime(true);
6
7 for ($i = 0; $i < $revolutions; $i++) {
8     hash('md5', 'hello world');
9 }
10
11 $end = microtime(true);
12
13 $time = $end - $start;
```


Revolutions Increase Precision

$$time = total\ time / revolutions$$

Revolutions	MD5 Time	SHA256 Time
1	9ms	9ms
10	4.6ms	5.00ms
100	2.7ms	3.09ms
1000	1.87ms	2.20ms
10000	1.62ms	2.25ms

Specifying Revolutions

```
/**
 * @revs 2
 */
class HashingBenchmark
{
    public function benchMd5()
    {
        hash('md5', rand(0, 100000));
    }
}
```

Default revolutions for class

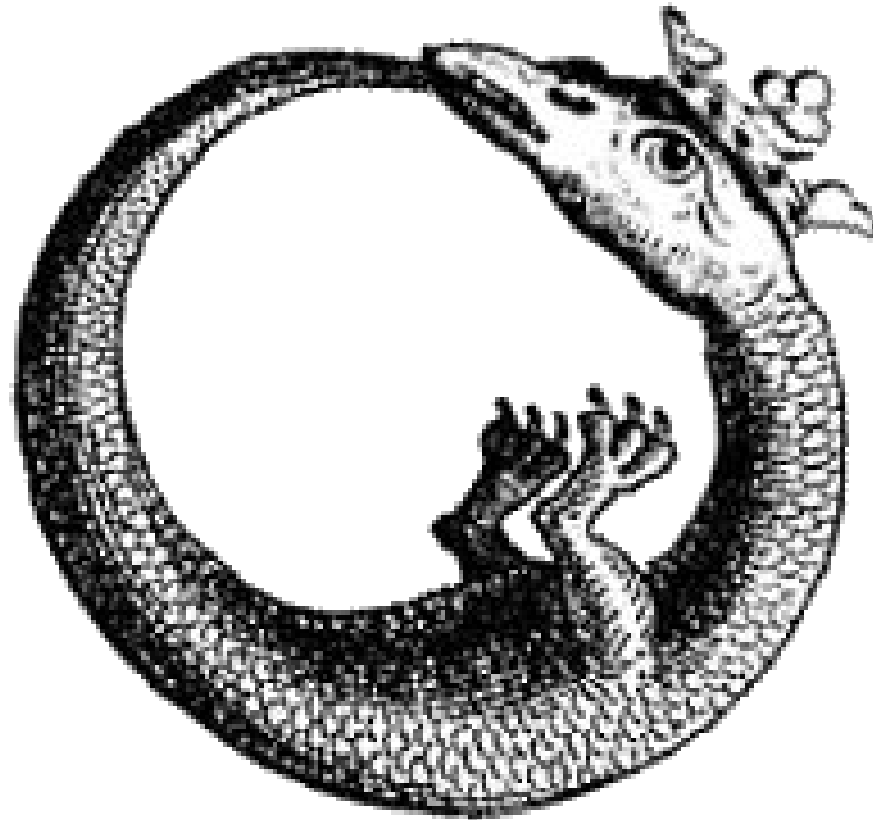
```
/**
 * @revs 2
 */
public function benchMd5()
{
    hash('md5', rand(0, 100000));
}
```

Revolutions per method

```
./bin/phpbench run examples/HashBench.php --report=default --revs=1000
```

Revolutions overridden on command line

Iterations



Iterations Confirm Stability

```
~/w/p/phpbench >>> ./bin/phpbench run examples/HashBench.php --report=default --iterations=4 --revs=1000 --subject=benchMd5
PhpBench 0.5. Running benchmarks.
.
Done (1 subjects, 4 iterations) in 0.13s
```

benchmark	subject	group	params	revs	iter	time	memory	deviation
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	0	2.53µs	576b	+2.17%
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	1	2.42µs	576b	-2.19
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	2	2.47µs	576b	-0.05
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	3	2.47µs	576b	+0.07%
					stability >>	95.53%		
					average >>	2.47µs	576b	
					sum >>	9.89µs	2,304b	

good stability

Stability 95.52%

Iterations Confirm Stability

```
~/w/p/phpbench >>> ./bin/phpbench run examples/HashBench.php --report=default --iterations=4 --revs=1000 --subject=benchMd5
PhpBench 0.5. Running benchmarks.
.
Done (1 subjects, 4 iterations) in 0.18s
```

benchmark	subject	group	params	revs	iter	time	memory	deviation
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	0	2.64µs	576b	-33.72
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	1	4.77µs	576b	+19.66%
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	2	3.93µs	576b	-1.26
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	3	4.59µs	576b	+15.32%
					stability >>	19.47%		
					average >>	3.98µs	576b	
					sum >>	15.93µs	2,304b	

bad stability

Stability 19.47%

Specifying Iterations

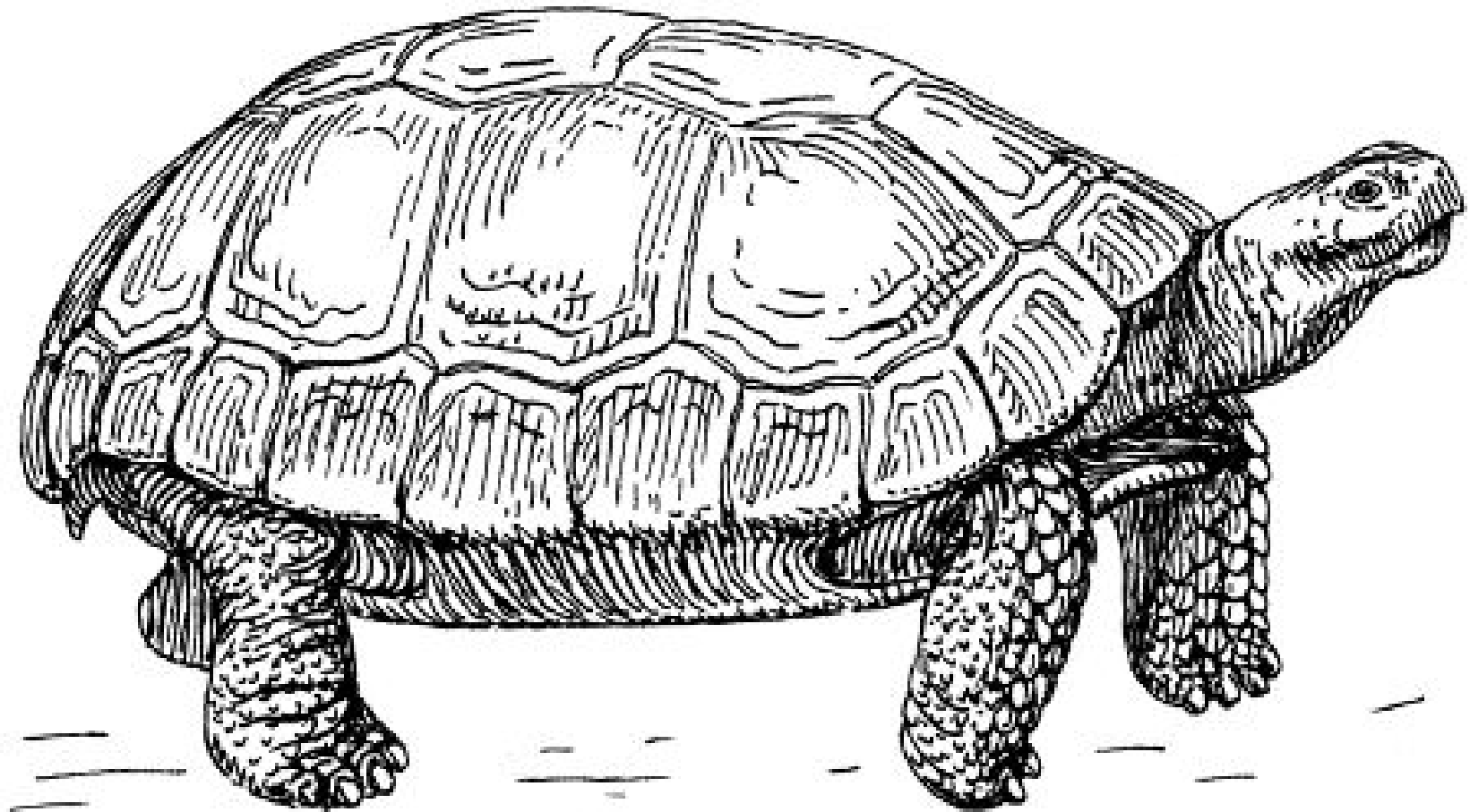
```
5 /**
6  * @revs 1000
7  * @iterations 10
8  */
9 class HashingBenchmark
10 {
11     public function benchMd5()
12     {
13         hash('md5', rand(0, 100000));
14     }
```

as a class or method annotation

```
./bin/phpbench run examples/HashBench.php --report=default --iterations=10
```

as a command line override

Benchmarks Can Be Slow



Benchmarking Slow Things

Indexing a large number of documents
in different search implementations

```
~/w/m/MassiveSearchBundle >>> ./vendor/bin/phpbench run --config=phpbench.json --dump-file=report.xml
PhpBench 0.5. Running benchmarks.
Using configuration file: phpbench.json
.....
Done (6 subjects, 18 iterations) in 106.91s
Dumped result to report.xml
```

1 minute 46 seconds!

Dumping the Results to XML

```
~/w/m/MassiveSearchBundle >>> ./vendor/bin/phpbench run --config=phpbench.json --dump-file=report.xml  
PhpBench 0.5. Running benchmarks.  
Using configuration file: phpbench.json  
  
.....  
Done (6 subjects, 18 iterations) in 106.91s  
Dumped result to report.xml
```

Dumped result to report.xml

Reporting on the XML file

```
./vendor/bin/phpbench report report.xml --report=aggregate
```

```
~/w/m/MassiveSearchBundle >>> ./vendor/bin/phpbench report report.xml --report=aggregate
```

benchmark	subject	group	params	revs	iters	time	memory	deviation	stability
TestBench	benchIndex		[]	1	1	465,830.00µs	6,914,832b	0.00%	100.00%
ZendLuceneBench	benchIndex		[]	1	1	45,079,632.00µs	8,477,904b	+9,577.27%	100.00%
ElasticBench	benchIndex		[]	1	1	4,141,092.00µs	7,952,808b	+788.97%	100.00%

Instant Report!

JSON Configuration File

```
{  
  "bootstrap": "../vendor/autoload.php",  
  "path": "./",  
  "reports": {  
  }  
}
```

- Automatically uses phpbench.json if present
- Config can be specified using --config

Reports



Report Generators

```
interface ReportGeneratorInterface
{
    /**
     * Generate the report.
     *
     * @param SuiteDocument $collection
     * @param array $config
     */
    public function generate(SuiteDocument $collection, array $config);
}
```

(simplified)

- **ConsoleTableGenerator**: Generates easy reports
- **ConsoleTableCustomGenerator**: Definition of complex reports
- **CompositeGenerator**: Generate multiple reports

Reports

Reports are configured using an array

```
{
  "generator": "console_table_custom",
  "title": "Comparison of array location functions",
  "description": "This benchmark creates an array with
x of the current revolution. (or in the case of in_arrey,
  "file": "reports/array_keys.json"
},
```

report using a specified generator

```
{
  "extends": "aggregate",
  "title": "Cost of Setting",
  "description": "Comparison of different ways of setting properties",
  "selector": "//subject[group/@name='cost_of_setting']//variant",
  "exclude": ["benchmark"]
},
```

report extending another report

Reports

- Can be named and defined in the PHPBench configuration
- Can be specified directly on the command line:

```
~/w/p/phpbench >>> ./bin/phpbench run examples/HashBench.php \
  --report='{ "extends": "aggregate", "exclude": ["benchmark", "subject", "group", "params"] }'
PhpBench 0.5. Running benchmarks.
..
Done (2 subjects, 20 iterations) in 0.54s
```

revs	iters	time	memory	deviation	stability
10000	10	2.65µs	616b	0.00%	86.54%
10000	10	3.10µs	592b	+17.16%	87.77%

Pre-Existing Reports

Default Report

```
~/w/p/phpbench >>> ./bin/phpbench run examples/HashBench.php --report=default --iterations=10 --revs=1000
PhpBench 0.5. Running benchmarks.
```

```
..
Done (2 subjects, 20 iterations) in 0.55s
```

benchmark	subject	group	params	revs	iter	time	memory	deviation
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	0	2.55µs	576b	-8.34
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	1	2.56µs	576b	-7.98
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	2	2.66µs	576b	-4.3
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	3	2.93µs	576b	+5.56%
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	4	2.45µs	576b	-11.83
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	5	2.42µs	576b	-12.83
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	6	2.51µs	576b	-9.56
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	7	2.65µs	576b	-4.63
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	8	2.98µs	576b	+7.07%
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	1000	9	2.66µs	576b	-4.2
HashingBenchmark	benchSha256		[]	1000	0	2.96µs	576b	+6.35%
HashingBenchmark	benchSha256		[]	1000	1	3.04µs	576b	+9.48%
HashingBenchmark	benchSha256		[]	1000	2	2.80µs	576b	+0.81%
HashingBenchmark	benchSha256		[]	1000	3	2.84µs	576b	+2.21%
HashingBenchmark	benchSha256		[]	1000	4	2.77µs	576b	-0.35
HashingBenchmark	benchSha256		[]	1000	5	2.92µs	576b	+4.91%
HashingBenchmark	benchSha256		[]	1000	6	3.00µs	576b	+7.90%
HashingBenchmark	benchSha256		[]	1000	7	2.82µs	576b	+1.42%
HashingBenchmark	benchSha256		[]	1000	8	3.19µs	576b	+14.73%
HashingBenchmark	benchSha256		[]	1000	9	2.88µs	576b	+3.58%
stability >>						68.37%		
average >>						2.78µs	576b	
sum >>						55.57µs	11,520b	

Aggregate Report

```
~/w/p/phpbench >>> ./bin/phpbench run examples/HashBench.php --report=aggregate --iterations=10 --revs=1000
PhpBench 0.5. Running benchmarks.
```

```
..
```

```
Done (2 subjects, 20 iterations) in 0.63s
```

benchmark	subject	group	params	revs	iters	time	memory	deviation	stability
HashingBenchmark	benchMd5		[]	10000	10	2.90µs	576b	0.00%	85.26%
HashingBenchmark	benchSha256		[]	10000	10	3.71µs	576b	+27.87%	70.04%

Custom Reports

```
1 {
2   "includes": [
3     [ "console_classes.json", ["classes"] ]
4   ],
5   "rows": [
6     {
7       "group": "body",
8       "cells": [
9         {
10          "name": "time",
11          "class": "time",
12          "expr": "number(descendant-or-self::iteration/@time) div"
13        },
14        {
15          "name": "memory",
16          "class": "memory",
17          "expr": "number(descendant-or-self::iteration/@memory)"
18        },
19        {
20          "name": "deviation",
21          "class": "deviation",
22          "expr": "deviation(average(//iteration/@time), number(de"
23        )
24      ],
25      "with_query": "//iteration"
26    },
27    {
28      "cells": [
29
```

- New reports can be registered in the configuration file.
- The “console_table_custom” generator allows you to specify a custom Tabular report definition.

Tabular



The image displays a collage of overlapping spreadsheets, each containing numerical data. The spreadsheets are arranged in a way that they appear to be floating or layered on top of each other, creating a sense of depth. The data is presented in a tabular format, with rows and columns of numbers. The numbers are in various colors, including blue, black, and red, and are of different sizes. The overall effect is a dense, complex visual representation of data.

451	368
164	94
166	172

46	83	74	29	10
73	38	99	25	73
91	85	40	78	49
30	62	49	32	31

340	301	336	293	317
232	377	431	411	451
430	451	367	439	184
182	139	144	235	186

433	896	2.132
.870	2.845	1.001
2.427	1.133	1.308
2.424	2.697	1.710
1.692	1.844	1.725
1.199	1.903	1.442
2.032	1.198	2.453

2.390	3.850	2.175	1.389	2.833	3.928
1.920	1.748	2.387	2.930	1.389	1.253
3.928	3.176	2.514	2.635	2.119	1.373
1.287	1.272	2.303	2.738	2.115	2.001
2.110	1.928	1.902	1.627	2.738	2.353
3.292	3.393	2.990	2.117	2.517	2.001
1.272	1.928	1.897	2.119	2.519	3.555

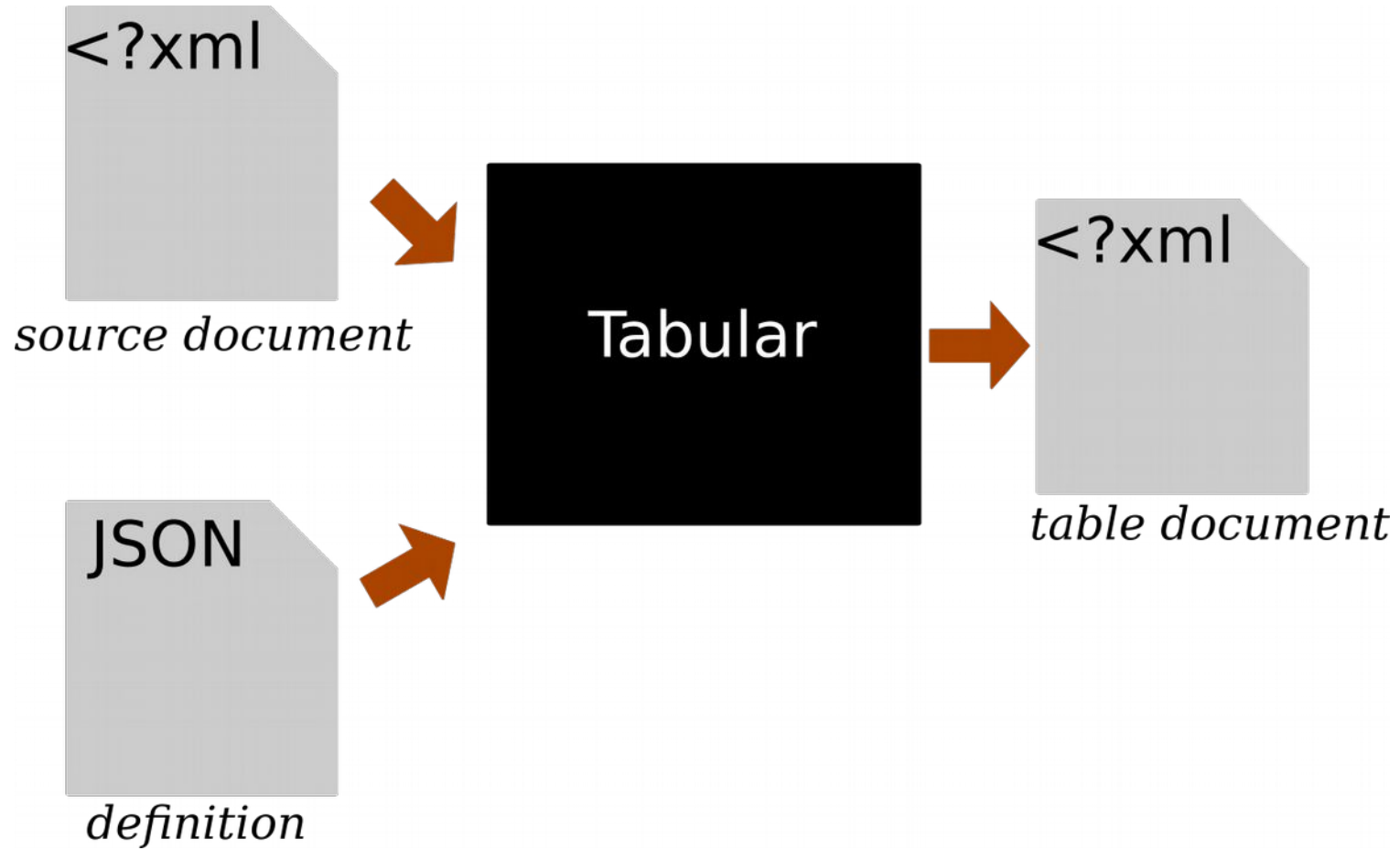
110	383	212	259	555
839	154	755	555	555
748	825	339	555	555

290	92	266
243	430	159
249	277	324
175	304	

809	2.402
1.988	

Tabular

- Developed for PHPBench but usable anywhere.
- Library for creating tabular *data*
- Accepts any XML document as its input
- Uses Xpath queries and expressions.
- Transforms it according to a Tabular JSON given definition.



Given an XML file

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<store>
  <book>
    <title>War and Peace</title>
    <price>5.00</price>
  </book>
  <book>
    <title>One Hundered Years of Soliture</title>
    <price>7</price>
  </book>
</store>
```

And a Tabular definition

```
{
  "rows": [
    {
      "cells": [
        {
          "name": "title",
          "expr": "string(/title)"
        },
        {
          "name": "price",
          "expr": "number(/price)"
        }
      ],
      "with_query": "//book"
    },
    {
      "cells": [
        {
          "name": "price",
          "expr": "sum(/price)"
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```

It generates data

Book	Price
War and Peace	5
One Hundred Years of Solitude	7
	12

- Generated data returned as an XML document
- Does not render tables

It does other stuff!

- Formats cells
- Iterate over Xpath queries
- Iterate over items
- “Compiler” passes
- Split tables into distinct groups (e.g. header, body, footer).
- Sorting
- Include other definitions

Conclusion

- Benchmarking can help you make smart decisions.
- PHPBench can be used to obtain more *reliable* benchmark results.

Questions?

Live Coding!

“This could go wrong ...”

The End.

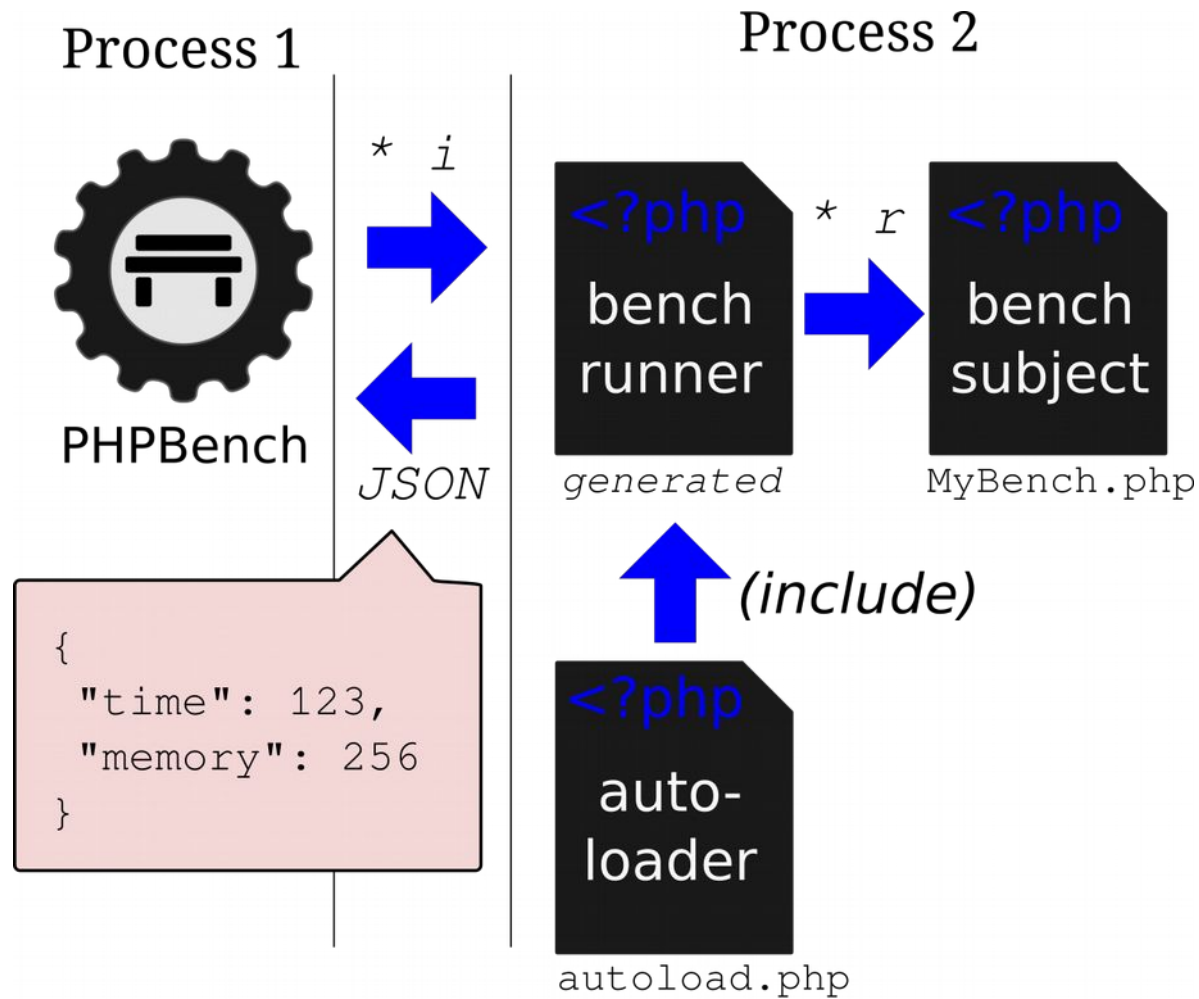
- Twitter: @dantleech
- Website: www.dantleech.com
- PHPBench: github.com/phpbench/phpbench
- Tabular: github.com/phpbench/tabular

Extra

Benchmark Process Isolation

- Benchmarks executed by a generated script in a separate process.
- PHPBench does add additional overhead to your benchmarks.

How it works



i = iterations, *r* = revolutions

The Benchmarking Script

- Generated in /tmp
- Executed with the Symfony Process component

PHPBench Benchmarking Script

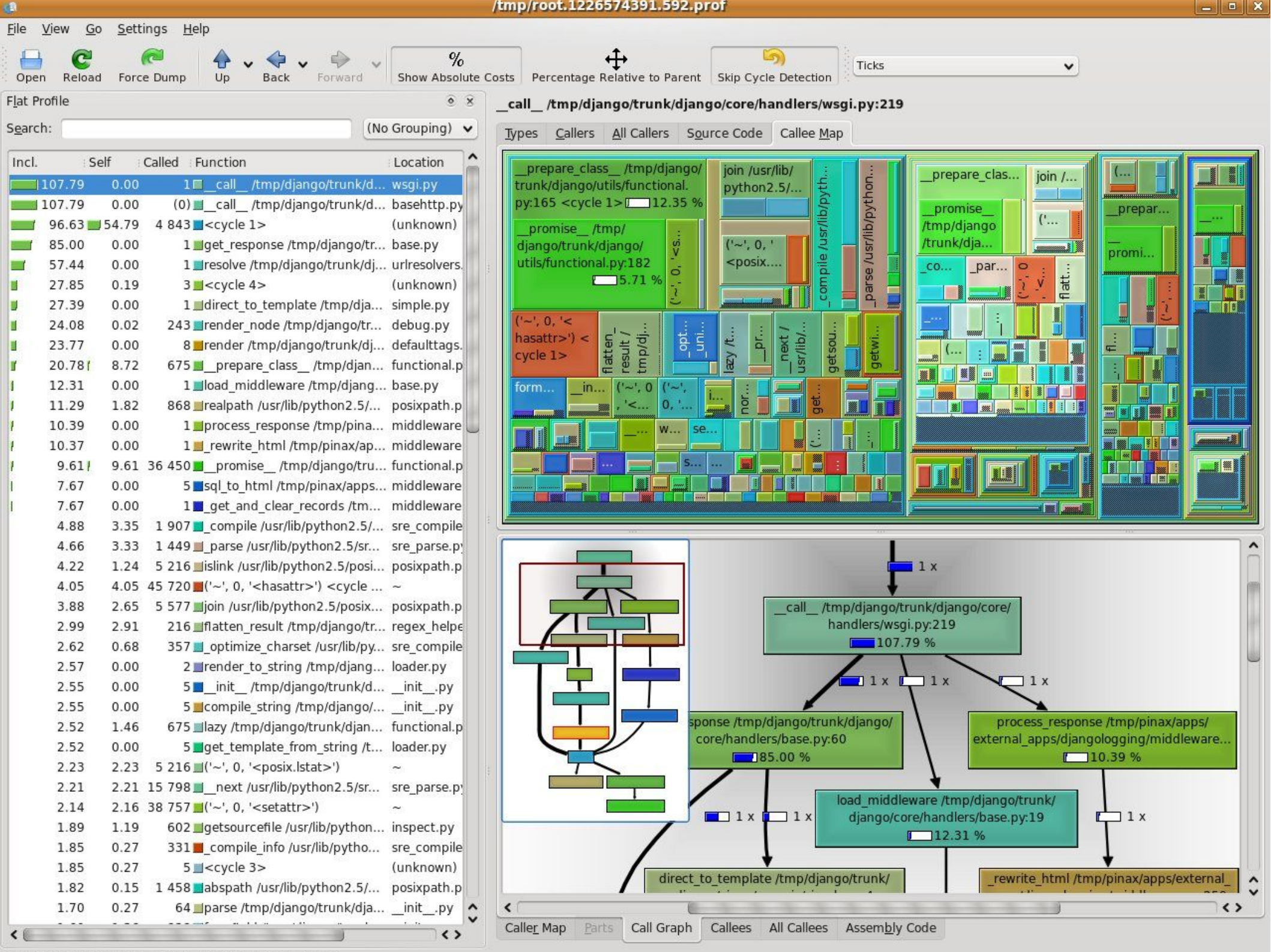
```
1 <?php
2
3 gc_disable();
4
5 $class = '{{ class }}';
6 $file = '{{ file }}';
7 $subject = '{{ subject }}';
8 $revolutions = {{ revolutions }};
9 $bootstrap = '{{ bootstrap }}';
10
11 if ($bootstrap) {
12     require_once($bootstrap);
13 }
14
15 require_once($file);
16
17 $benchmark = new $class();
18 $startMemory = memory_get_usage();
19 $startTime = microtime(true);
20
21 for ($i = 0; $i < $revolutions; $i++) {
22     $benchmark->$subject();
23 }
24
25 $endTime = microtime(true);
26 $endMemory = memory_get_usage();
27
28 echo json_encode(array(
29     'memory' => $endMemory - $startMemory,
30     'time' => ($endTime * 1000000) - ($startTime * 1000000),
31 ));
32
```

script template (simplified)

- Does not require PHPBench to be autoloaded
- Generated in tmp directory
- Disables Garbage Collection

What About Profiling?

- Provides detailed analysis of the whole lifecycle, including timings
- Essential for a deeper understanding of code performance
- Tools
 - Xdebug with a visualiser (e.g. KCacheGrind)
 - Blackfire.io



Profiling vs. Benchmarking

- Profiling
 - Is necessarily slower.
 - Measurements are the result of a single execution
 - Feedback is not instantaneous
- Benchmarking
 - Code runs at its natural speed
 - Units and Services can be timed in isolation
 - Feedback available instantaneously

Continuous Benchmarking?

- Automated performance regression testing
- Would require a VM that runs at a constant speed.
- Travis CI does not currently meet this requirement.

Calculating Stability

#	Time
1	1
2	1
3	1

= 100% stability



#	Time
1	1
2	0.5
3	1

= 50% stability



Improving Stability

- Multiple iterations show correlations in samples.
- We can remove the sample with a deviation $>$ a given threshold.
- We can then use the average of the remaining samples.