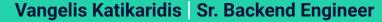
# BEAT? Where next?

## **POINTERS VS**





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...DEBUGGED



## Using pointers or values as Method arguments

"This is how far code review can bring you!"

## The Theory

#### \*pointers

- Allow for struct mutation
- Avoid copying overhead

#### But ...

- Not concurrently safe
- Might escape to the heap
  - Gc overhead
  - Heap expansion cost

#### values

- Immutability
- Lives in the stack (escape analysis)

#### But ...

Processing time overhead (copying)



## The Baseline

#### model

```
type obj interface {
GetI() int64
 GetF() float64
type tiny struct {
 a int64
 aa float64
 aaa string
type mini struct {
 a int64
 b int64
 c int64
 aa float64
 bb float64
 cc float64
 aaa string
 bbb string
 ccc string
type tera struct {
```

#### methods

```
func calcTiny(o tiny) (float64, error) {
return float64(o.a) / o.aa, nil
func calcTinyP(o *tiny) (float64, error) {
return float64(o.a) / o.aa, nil
func calcTera(o tera) (float64, error) {
return float64(o.a) / o.aa, nil
func calcTeraP(o *tera) (float64, error) {
 return float64(o.a) / o.aa, nil
func calclfc(o obj) (float64, error) {
 return float64(o.GetI()) / o.GetF(), nil
...
```

#### benchmarks

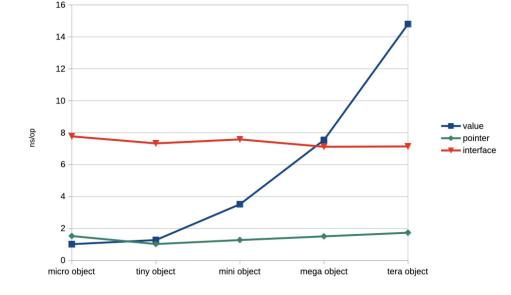
```
func BenchmarkTiny(b *testing.B) {
 o := createTiny()
 for i := 0; i < b.N; i++ \{
   avoidCompilerOptimisation(calcTinv(o))
func BenchmarkTinyP(b *testing.B) {
 o := createTiny()
 for i := 0; i < b.N; i++ \{
   avoidCompilerOptimisation(calcTinyP(&o))
// avoid compiler optimisations
var F = 0.0
func avoidCompilerOptimisation(f float64, err error) {
 F += f
```

## ns/op

Pointers & Interfaces seem constant in performance.

(constant access pattern)

- Value performance is degrading "fast".
- Pointer and Value performance is very much comparable for small object sizes \*.



"Copying objects within a cache line is the roughly equivalent to copying a single pointer" <a href="https://segment.com/blog/allocation-efficiency-in-high-performance-go-services/">https://segment.com/blog/allocation-efficiency-in-high-performance-go-services/</a>

\* One thing to note though, is even if the object is less than 64 bytes, it might spread across 2 cache lines, whereas the pointer always occupies only one.



```
type mini struct {
    a int64
    b int64
    c int64
    aa float64
    bb float64
    cc float64
    aa string
    bbb string
    ccc string
}
```

type tiny struct {

a int64

aa float64

aaa string

```
type mega struct {
    a int64 // ( x 11 )
    ...
    aa float64 // ( x 11 )
    ...
    aaa string // ( x 11 )
    ...
}
```

```
type tera struct {
    a int64 // ( x 26 )
    ...
    aa float64 // ( x 26 )
    ...
    aaa string // ( x 26 )
    ...
}
```

## **Increasing Iterations**

```
const iterations = 100000
func BenchmarkTiny(b *testing.B) {
  o := createTiny()
  for i := 0; i < b.N; i++ {
     for a := 0; a < iterations; a++ {
        avoidCompilerOptimisation(calcTiny(o))
     }
  }
}</pre>
```

- Performance scales
   consistently (almost linearly)
   ... as the iterations increase
- Allocations for pointer and value are the same ... for interfaces they become considerably more relevant

value	ns/op	B/op	allocs/op
BenchmarkTiny	1.28	0	0
BenchmarkTiny_x_100_000	219334	0	0
BenchmarkTiny_x_100_000_000	227079453	6	0
pointer			
BenchmarkTinyP	1.03	0	0
BenchmarkTinyP_x_100_000	216990	0	0
BenchmarkTinyP_x_100_000_000	218180127	6	0
interface			
BenchmarkTinyIfc	7.33	0	0
BenchmarkTinyIfc_x_100_000	723065	0	0
BenchmarkTinylfc_x_100_000_000	716009788	32	1



## **Assembly Analysis**

go tool compile -S pointer\_vs\_value/code/\* > assembly.s

MOVQ : **copy** quadrant

MOVSD : move doubleword

XORPS : clear register (usually what gcc does in C++)

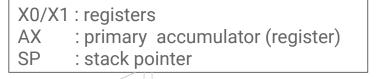
PCDATA : garbage collection metadata

value

```
*pointer
```

```
"".calcMicroObjectWithPointer STEXT size=178 args=0x20 locals=0x18
                                                                                                                              .calcMicroObject STEXT size=176 args=0x28 locals=0x18
                                         "".calcMicroObjectWithPointer(SB), ABIInternal, $24-32
                                                                                                                                                                       "".calcMicroObject(SB), ABIInternal, $24-40
  (args/pointer receiver.go:135) TEXT
                                                                                                                               (args/pointer receiver.go:91)
  (args/pointer receiver.go:135) MOVQ
                                         (TLS), CX
                                                                                                                               (args/pointer receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                                      (TLS), CX
                                         SP, 16(CX)
                                                                                                                                                              CMPQ
                                                                                                                                                                      SP, 16(CX)
  (args/pointer receiver.go:135) CMPO
                                                                                                                               (args/pointer receiver.go:91)
  (args/pointer receiver.go:135) JLS 168
                                                                                                                              (args/pointer_receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                              JLS 166
  (args/pointer receiver.go:135) SUBO
                                         $24, SP
                                                                                                                               (args/pointer receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                              SUB<sub>Q</sub>
                                                                                                                                                                       $24, SP
  (args/pointer receiver.go:135) MOVQ
                                         BP, 16(SP)
                                                                                                                               (args/pointer receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                                       BP, 16(SP)
  (args/pointer receiver.go:135) LEAO
                                         16(SP), BP
                                                                                                                               (args/pointer receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                              LEA0
                                                                                                                                                                      16(SP), BP
  (args/pointer_receiver.go:135) FUNCDATA
                                             $0, gclocals · 305be4e7b0a18f2d72ac308e38ac4e7b(SB)
                                                                                                                               (args/pointer_receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                              FUNCDATA
                                                                                                                                                                           $0, gclocals:4284da0ffddacd9b3f4010ab6a9b04d6(SB)
  (args/pointer_receiver.go:135) FUNCDATA
                                             $1, gclocals · 7d2d5fca80364273fb07d5820a76fef4(SB)
                                                                                                                               (args/pointer_receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                              FUNCDATA
                                                                                                                                                                          $1, gclocals 69c1753bd5f81501d95132d08af04464(SB)
  (args/pointer receiver.go:135) FUNCDATA
                                             $2, gclocals.bfec7e55b3f043d1941c093912808913(SB)
                                                                                                                               (args/pointer receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                              FUNCDATA
                                                                                                                                                                          $2, gclocals·bfec7e55b3f043d1941c093912808913(SB)
  (args/pointer receiver.go:136) PCDATA $0, $1
                                                                                                                               (args/pointer receiver.go:92)
                                                                                                                                                              PCDATA $0, $0
  (args/pointer_receiver.go:136) PCDATA $1, $1
                                                                                                                               (args/pointer_receiver.go:92)
                                                                                                                                                              PCDATA $1, $0
                                          "", 0+32(SP), AX
  args/pointer_receiver.go:136) MOVQ
                                                                                                                  14
                                                                                                                       14
                                                                                                                                                                       "", o+40(SP), X0
  args/pointer receiver.go:136) MOVSD
                                         8(AX), X0
                                                                                                                              (args/pointer receiver.go:92)
                                                                                                                                                              MOVSD
  (args/pointer receiver.go:136)
                                                                                                                  16
                                                                                                                        16
                                                                                                                              (args/pointer receiver.go:92)
                                                                                                                                                              XORPS X1, X1
  (args/pointer receiver.go:136) UCOMISD X1, X0
                                                                                                                               (args/pointer receiver.go:92)
                                                                                                                                                              UCOMISD X1, X0
  (args/pointer_receiver.go:136) JNE 129
                                                                                                                  18
                                                                                                                               (args/pointer_receiver.go:92)
                                                                                                                                                              JNE 125
  (args/pointer receiver.go:136) JPS 129
                                                                                                                  19
                                                                                                                               (args/pointer_receiver.go:92)
                                                                                                                                                              JPS 125
  (args/pointer receiver.go:137) PCDATA $0, $0
                                                                                                                  20
                                                                                                                        20
  (<unknown line number>) NOP
                                                                                                                 21
                                                                                                                       21
                                                                                                                               (<unknown line number>) NOP
```

Pointer assembly code does an extra copy call
 + adds some gc overhead



**BEAT** 

interface value

```
calcWithPointer STEXT size=248 args=0x28 locals=0x20
                                                                                                                                 "".calcMicroObject STEXT size=176 args=0x28 locals=0x18
                                                     "".calcWithPointer(SB), ABIInternal, $32-40
                                                                                                                                                                          "".calcMicroObject(SB), ABIInternal, $24-40
0x0000 00000 (args/pointer receiver.go:128) TEXT
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer receiver.go:91)
0x0000 00000 (args/pointer_receiver.go:128) MOVQ
                                                    (TLS), CX
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer_receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                                 MOVO
                                                                                                                                                                         (TLS), CX
0x0009 00009 (args/pointer_receiver.go:128) CMPQ
                                                    SP. 16(CX)
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer_receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                                         SP. 16(CX)
0x000d 00013 (args/pointer receiver.go:128) JLS 238
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                                 JLS 166
0x0013 00019 (args/pointer_receiver.go:128) SUBQ
                                                    $32, SP
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer_receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                                          $24, SP
0x0017 00023 (args/pointer_receiver.go:128) MOVQ
                                                    BP, 24(SP)
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer_receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                                         BP, 16(SP)
                                                    24(SP), BP
                                                                                                                                                                         16(SP), BP
0x001c 00028 (args/pointer receiver.go:128) LEAQ
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                                 LEAQ
                                                         $0, qclocals·b3e6cef2da4123bb4fb758b92dba3371(SB)
0x0021 00033 (args/pointer receiver.go:128) FUNCDATA
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                                 FUNCDATA
                                                                                                                                                                                 gclocals · 4284da0ffddacd9b3f4010ab6a9b04d6(SB)
0x0021 00033 (args/pointer receiver.go:128) FUNCDATA
                                                         $1, gclocals · 7d2d5fca80364273fb07d5820a76fef4(SB)
                                                                                                                   10
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                                 FUNCDATA
                                                                                                                                                                              $1, qclocals · 69c1753bd5f81501d95132d08af04464(SB)
0x0021 00033 (args/pointer_receiver.go: 128) FUNCDATA
                                                         $2, gclocals · 457447a82af07995fb3f7c66ee908834(SB)
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer_receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                                 FUNCDATA
                                                                                                                                                                             $2, gclocals bfec7e55b3f043d1941c093912808913(SB)
0x0021 00033 (args/pointer_receiver.go:129) PCDATA $0, $0
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer_receiver.go:92)
                                                                                                                                                                 PCDATA $0. $0
0x0021 00033 (args/pointer_receiver.go:129) PCDATA $1, $0
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer_receiver.go:92)
                                                                                                                                                                 PCDATA $1, $0
0x0021 00033 (args/pointer_receiver.go:129) MOVQ
                                                      ".o+40(SP), AX
                                                                                                                   14
0x0026 00038 (args/pointer receiver.go:129) MOVQ
                                                    24(AX), CX
0x002a 00042 (args/pointer receiver.go:129) PCDATA $0, $1
0x002a 00042 (args/pointer receiver.go:129) MOVO
                                                     "".o+48(SP), DX
             (args/pointer_receiver.go:129) PCDATA $0, $0
                                                                                                                   18
                                                                                                                          18
0x002f 00047 (args/pointer_receiver.go:129) MOVQ
                                                    DX, (SP)
                                                                                                                   19
0x0033 00051 (args/pointer_receiver.go:129) CALL
                                                                                                                   20
                                                                                                                          20
0x0035 00053 (args/pointer_receiver.go:129) MOVSD
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer_receiver.go:92)
                                                                                                                                                                          "".0+40(SP), X0
0x003b 00059 (args/pointer_receiver.go:129) XORPS
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer_receiver.go:92)
                                                                                                                                                                         X1, X1
0x003e 00062 (args/pointer receiver.go: 129) UCOMISD X1, X0
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer receiver.go:92)
                                                                                                                                                                 UCOMISD X1, X0
0x0042 00066 (args/pointer receiver.go:129) JNE 145
                                                                                                                   24
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer receiver.go:92)
                                                                                                                                                                 JNE 125
0x0044 00068 (args/pointer receiver.go:129) JPS 145
                                                                                                                                 (args/pointer receiver.go:92) JPS 125
0x0046 00070 (args/pointer_receiver.go:130) PCDATA $1, $1
                                                                                                                   26
0x0046 00070 (<unknown line number>)
                                                                                                                                 (<unknown line number>) NOP
```

- Interfaces need by default 2 pointers
  - $See the \ "iface" struct \ \underline{https://github.com/golang/go/blob/bf86aec25972f3a100c3aa58a6abcbcc35bdea49/src/runtime/runtime2.go\#L143-L146}$
- Pointer handling for interfaces must be "by the book"



interface value

```
0x006a 00106 ($GOROOT/src/errors/errors.go:59) PCDATA $0, $2
                                                                                                                           ($GOROOT/src/errors/errors.go:59) PCDATA $0, $1
0x006a 00106 ($GOROOT/src/errors/errors.go:59) MOVQ CX, (AX)
                                                                                                                           ($GOROOT/src/errors/errors.go:59) MOVQ
0x006d 00109 (args/pointer_receiver.go:130) XORPS X0, X0
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:93) XORPS X0, X0
0x0070 00112 (args/pointer_receiver.go:130) MOVSD X0, "".~r1+56(SP)
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:93) MOVSD X0, "".~r1+48(SP)
0x0076 00118 (args/pointer_receiver.go:130) PCDATA $0, $3
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:93) PCDATA $0, $2
0x0076 00118 (args/pointer_receiver.go:130) PCDATA $1, $2
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:93) PCDATA $1, $1
0x0076 00118 (args/pointer_receiver.go:130) LEAQ go.itab.*errors.errorString,error(SB), CX
                                                                                                                                                                 go.itab.*errors.errorString,error(SB), CX
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:93) LEAQ
0x007d 00125 (args/pointer_receiver.go:130) PCDATA $0, $2
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:93) PCDATA $0, $1
0x007d 00125 (args/pointer_receiver.go:130) MOVQ CX, "".~r2+64(SP)
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:93) MOVQ
                                                                                                                                                                 CX, "".~r2+56(SP)
0x0082 00130 (args/pointer_receiver.go:130) PCDATA $0, $0
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:93) PCDATA $0, $0
0x0082 00130 (args/pointer_receiver.go:130) MOVQ AX, "".~r2+72(SP)
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:93) MOVQ
                                                                                                                                                                 AX, "".~r2+64(SP)
0x0087 00135 (args/pointer_receiver.go:130) MOVQ 24(SP), BP
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:93) MOVQ
                                                                                                                                                                 16(SP), BP
0x008c 00140 (args/pointer_receiver.go:130) ADDQ $32, SP
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:93) ADDQ
                                                                                                                                                                 $24, SP
0x0090 00144 (args/pointer_receiver.go:130) RET
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:93) RET
0x0091 00145 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) PCDATA $1, $0
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:95) PCDATA $1, $0
0x0091 00145 (args/pointer_receiver.go: 132) MOVQ "".o+40(SP), AX
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:95) MOVQ "".o+32(SP), AX
0x0096 00150 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) MOVQ 32(AX), CX
0x009a 00154 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) PCDATA $0, $1
                                                                                                                    56
0x009a 00154 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) MOVQ "".o+48(SP), DX
0x009f 00159 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) PCDATA $0, $0
0x009f 00159 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) MOVQ DX, (SP)
0x00a3 00163 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) CALL CX
0x00a5 00165 (args/pointer receiver.go:132) MOVO 8(SP), AX
0x00aa 00170 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) MOVQ AX, ""..autotmp_12+16(SP)
0x00af 00175 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) MOVQ "".o+40(SP), CX
0x00b4 00180 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) MOVQ 24(CX), CX
0x00b8 00184 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) PCDATA $0, $1
0x00b8 00184 (args/pointer receiver.go:132) PCDATA $1, $1
0x00b8 00184 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) MOVQ "".o+48(SP), DX
0x00bd 00189 (args/pointer receiver.go:132) PCDATA $0. $0
0x00bd 00189 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) MOVQ DX, (SP)
0x00c1 00193 (args/pointer receiver.go:132) CALL CX
0x00c3 00195 (args/pointer receiver.go:132) MOVO ""..autotmp 12+16(SP). AX
0x00c8 00200 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) XORPS X0, X0
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:95)
0x00cb 00203 (args/pointer receiver.go:132) CVTS02SD AX, X0
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer receiver.go:95) CVTS02SD AX, X1
0x00d0 00208 (args/pointer receiver.go:132) DIVSD 8(SP), X0
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer receiver.go:95) DIVSD X0, X1
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:95) MOVSD X1, "".~r1+48(SP)
0x00d6 00214 (args/pointer receiver.go:132) MOVSD X0. "",~r1+56(SP)
0x00dc 00220 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) PCDATA $1, $2
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:95) PCDATA $1, $1
0x00dc 00220 (args/pointer receiver.go:132) XORPS X0, X0
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer receiver.go:95) XORPS X0, X0
0x00df 00223 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) MOVUPS X0, "".~r2+64(SP)
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:95) MOVUPS X0, "".~r2+56(SP)
0x00e4 00228 (args/pointer receiver.go: 132) MOVO 24(SP), BP
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer receiver.go:95) MOVO
                                                                                                                                                                 16(SP), BP
0x00e9 00233 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) ADDQ $32, SP
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:95) ADDQ
                                                                                                                                                                 $24. SP
0x00ed 00237 (args/pointer_receiver.go:132) RET
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:95) RET
0x00ee 00238 (args/pointer receiver.go:132) NOP
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer receiver.go:95) NOP
0x00ee 00238 (args/pointer receiver.go:128) PCDATA $1, $-1
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer receiver.go:91) PCDATA $1, $-1
0x00ee 00238 (args/pointer receiver.go:128) PCDATA $0. $-1
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer receiver.go:91) PCDATA $0, $-1
0x00ee 00238 (args/pointer_receiver.go: 128) CALL runtime.morestack_noctxt(SB)
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer_receiver.go:91)
                                                                                                                                                         CALL runtime.morestack_noctxt(SB)
0x00f3 00243 (args/pointer receiver.go:128) JMP 0
                                                                                                                           (args/pointer receiver.go:91)
```

Interfaces also must do more work at runtime while their methods are being invoked. This seems to be the main differentiator.



## **Escape Analysis**

go test pointer\_vs\_value/code/\* -gcflags "-m -m" -run none -benchmem -memprofile mem.out &> escape.out

- Pointers do not escape to the heap in this implementation
- Interfaces always do ...

```
// value
func calcTera(o tera) (float64, error) {
    return float64(o.a) / o.aa, nil
}

// interface
func calcIfc(o obj) (float64, error) {
    return float64(o.Getl()) / o.GetF(), nil
}

// pointer
func calcTeraP(o *teraObject) (float64, error) {
    return float64(o.a) / o.aa, nil
}
// calcTeraP o does not escape
return float64(o.a) / o.aa, nil
}
```

## **Garbage Collection**

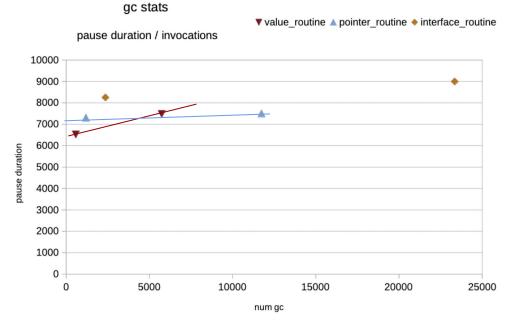
... measuring with un-certainty

```
func trackGC(caller string) {
 runtime.GC()
 stats := debug.GCStats{}
 debug.ReadGCStats(&stats)
 println(fmt.Sprintf("\n%s, %v, %v, %v, %v, %v\n",
                 caller.
                 stats.NumGC.
                 sum(stats.Pause),
                 stats.PauseQuantiles.
                 stats.PauseTotal))
 //debug.FreeOSMemory() // consider cleaning up for the upcoming test
func sum (durations []time.Duration) int64 {
 var f int64 = 0
 for , d := range durations {
  f += d.Microseconds()
 return f
```

```
const timeout = 100 * time. Second
func runRoutine(exec func(o tera),name string) {
 ch := make(chan tera, 1)
 ctx, cnl := context.WithCancel(context.Background())
 go func() {
   <-time.After(timeout)
   cnl()
 }()
 go func() {
   start := time.Now()
   for {
     select {
     case <-ctx.Done():
       duration := time.Now().Sub(start).Milliseconds()
       fmt.Println(fmt.Printf("Time passed [%v]", duration))
       close(ch)
       return
     default:
       ch <- createTeraObject()</pre>
 }()
 i := 0
 for o := range ch {
   exec(o)
   i++
 println(fmt.Sprintf("invocations = %v", i))
 trackGC(name)
```

### **BEAT**

Test duration (sec)	method	time passed	invocations	num GC	pause duration (ms)
10	value	10001	2723703	580	6522
100	value	100001	26778210	5742	7476
10	pointer	10001	2835459	1188	7308
100	pointer	100000	27850534	11740	7503
10	interface	10000	2604248	2362	8249
100	interface	100000	25550879	23350	8994



- Invocation count and duration are consistent across the tests
- Value receivers seem to degrade in performance faster (slope)
- Although invocations of gc rise fast, total pause duration stays under control
- Need a broader result set



## So... who won?

... It's all about the implementation

## **Escape analysis**

Not all pointers escape to the heap. It depends on invocation details and object sizes. (Even value receivers can escape to the heap) see https://golang.org/doc/faq#stack\_or\_heap

## **Assembly correlation**

There are some expected differences. But in the end, it all boils down to the cpu intrinsics.

see https://segment.com/blog/allocation-efficiency-in-high-performance-go-services/

## Design

Interfaces provide abstraction (no tight coupling) But harm performance ...

NOTE: With large amount of data and longer running processes, this penalty is amortised well enough.

### **Performance**

Pointers seem to behave optimally regarding performance. Due to modern cpu optimizations (pre-fetch etc...). see https://oithub.com/teh-cmc/go-internals/tree/master/chapter2\_interfaces#overhead

## **Garbage collection**

The garbage collector is "far too sophisticated" to care ... in the end.

see https://blog.golang.org/ismmkeynote

### **BEAT**

## **Additional Considerations**

#### skipped points ...

- Avoid compiler optimisations
  - gcflags "-n"
  - => No considerable difference
- Avoid compiler inlining
  - gcflags "-1"
  - => No considerable difference
  - (mostly regarding the error handling code)
- Track gc on benchmarks
  - => Inconclusive results



## Where next?

#### Further investigation ...

- Simplify benchmark code by using arrays

  (Thanks to Erik for the tip 😉)
- Investigate with different method bodies (See Appendix A)
- Investigate breaking conditions i.e. 00M boundary (TBD in Appendix B)
- Compare detailed escape analysis output gcflags "-m -m -m -m"
- Run benchmarks on different cpus
- Investigate the same for method return elements



## References & Further Readings

#### [The code]

https://github.com/drakos74/go-bench/tree/master/pointer\_vs\_value

#### Benchmarks

- https://dave.cheney.net/2013/06/30/how-to-write-benchmarks-in-go
- https://stackimpact.com/blog/practical-golang-benchmarks/

#### Go assembly

- https://www.tutorialdocs.com/article/go-assembly-code.html
- https://github.com/teh-cmc/go-internals/blob/master/chapter1 assembly primer/README.md
- https://class.ece.uw.edu/469/hauck/lectures/02 Assembly.pdf

#### Escape Analysis & Memory Allocation 📥



- http://www.agardner.me/golang/garbage/collection/gc/escape/analysis/2015/10/18/go-escape-analysis.html
- https://www.ardanlabs.com/blog/2017/05/language-mechanics-on-escape-analysis.html
- https://segment.com/blog/allocation-efficiency-in-high-performance-go-services/
- https://blog.learngoprogramming.com/a-visual-guide-to-golang-memory-allocator-from-ground-up-e132258453ed

#### Garbage collector

- https://dave.chenev.net/high-performance-go-workshop/dotgo-paris.html
- https://medium.com/@vCabbage/go-are-pointers-a-performance-optimization-a95840d3ef85



## **Appendix A**

Extend implementation to access more object properties

```
// access ALL object properties
func calcGiga(o giga) (float64, error) {
 return float64(
   o.a+o.b+o.c+o.d+o.e+o.f+o.q+o.h+o.i+
     o.j+o.k+o.l+o.m+o.n+o.o+o.p+o.q+
    o.r+o.s+o.t+o.u+o.v+o.v+o.x+o.w+o.z)
   (o.aa+o.bb+o.cc+o.dd+o.ee+o.ff+o.gg+o.hh+
   o.ii+o.jj+o.kk+o.ll+o.mm+o.nn+o.oo+o.pp+o.gg+
   o.rr+o.ss+o.tt+o.uu+o.vv+o.vv+o.xx+o.ww+o.zz),
nil
func calcGigaP(o *giga) (float64, error) {
 // we skip error checking here for simplicity
 return float64(
   o.a+o.b+o.c+o.d+o.e+o.f+o.q+o.h+o.i+
    o.j+o.k+o.l+o.m+o.n+o.o+o.p+o.q+
    o.r+o.s+o.t+o.u+o.v+o.v+o.x+o.w+o.z)
   (o.aa+o.bb+o.cc+o.dd+o.ee+o.ff+o.gg+o.hh+o.ii+
     o.jj+o.kk+o.ll+o.mm+o.nn+o.oo+o.pp+o.gg+
    o.rr+o.ss+o.tt+o.uu+o.vv+o.vv+o.xx+o.ww+o.zz),
nil
```

#### \*pointer



value



## **Extended Results**

#### What does it mean?

- Difference in performance becomes much more balanced.
- Value implementation beats interfaces.

#### Extra Tip!

If you won't access many of your object's properties consider seriously using pointers or interfaces!

```
goos: darwin
goarch: amd64
pkg: go-bench/pointer_vs_value/pointer_receiver
BenchmarkTera_Calc-16 77776372 14.8 ns/op
BenchmarkTeraP_Calc-16 678546289 1.74 ns/op
BenchmarkTeralfc_Calc-16 166455222 7.14 ns/op
PASS
```

```
goos: darwin
goarch: amd64
pkg: go-bench/pointer_vs_value/pointer_receiver
BenchmarkGiga_Calc-16 46147950 29.9 ns/op
BenchmarkGigaP_Calc-16 57532897 19.2 ns/op
BenchmarkGigalfc_Calc-16 10571948 98.9 ns/op
PASS
```



## THANK YOU!

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