Perlformance

The Art and Science of Tuning a Large Perl Application

Geoffrey Young

Geoffrey.Young@ticketmaster.com

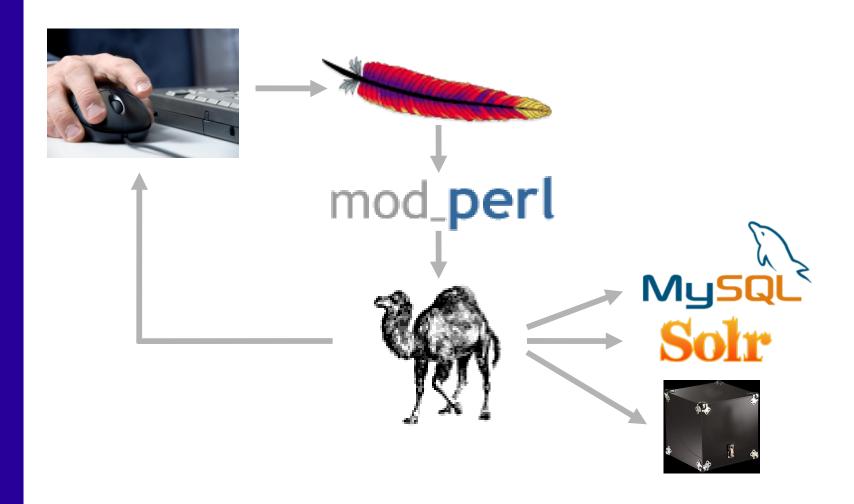
On Premature Optimization

- Premature optimization is the root of all evil...
- The ability to accurately determine what is premature separates great developers from merely capable ones

Profiling - It's About Time

- Profiling measures code behavior
 - subroutine call frequency
 - subroutine call duration
- How our code spends its time
- Understanding this makes you great

It's About Time



What is in a Profile?

- A profile is just a bunch of statistics
 - -% time overall in subroutine
 - -total time in subroutine
 - -total time from subroutine
 - -number of calls to subroutine
- Looking at profiling numbers can give a clue where code bottlenecks are
- More art than science

About Ticketmaster

Ticketmaster Online:

- -ticketmaster.com
- -ticketmaster.(uk|au|nz|it|de|es)
- -2008 Olympics
- point of sale
- Large Perl shop
 - -400,000 lines of Perl
 - -1700 classes
 - and growing

I Don't Know About You

- 400,000 lines is a lot of code
- I'd rather face a legion of Persian soldiers (and certain doom) than figure out where the "slow" code is

Come Back With Your Shield Or On It

Profiling - a battle of courage

-Devel::DProf

-Apache::DProf

Eventually, you gave up



Profiling in 3 Easy Steps...

- Enable Devel::Profiler
- Click around in your browser
- Analyze results

Step 1 - Enable Profiling

- This used to be quite painful
- Devel::Profiler rocks
- Two simple configuration files

```
profiling.conf
profiling startup.pl
```

• Enable with a single line in httpd.conf

Include conf/profiling.conf

That's all!

profiling.conf

- Adds all kinds of magic
 - -httpd (re)configuration
 - special URL targets
 - -loads profiling_startup.pl

profiling startup.pl

More magic

- -Devel::Profiler load and configuration
- -Perl*Handler **definitions**

profiling.conf

```
MinSpareServers
MaxSpareServers
StartServers
MaxClients
MaxRequestsPerChild
LogLevel
         warn
PerlWarn Off
PerlRequire conf/profiling startup.pl
<Location /finish profile>
```

PerlHandler Profiling::ChildTerminate

SetHandler perl-script

</Location>

Devel::Profiler

- A pure Perl profiler
 - -"how long is \$code taking"
- Drop-in replacement for Devel::DProf
 - except it actually works
- Available on CPAN
- Better from SourceForge

http://sourceforge.net/projects/devel-profiler/

Devel::Profiler::Plugins::Template

- Includes Template::Toolkit calls in profile
 - PROCESS
 - INCLUDE
- Available on CPAN

profiling_startup.pl

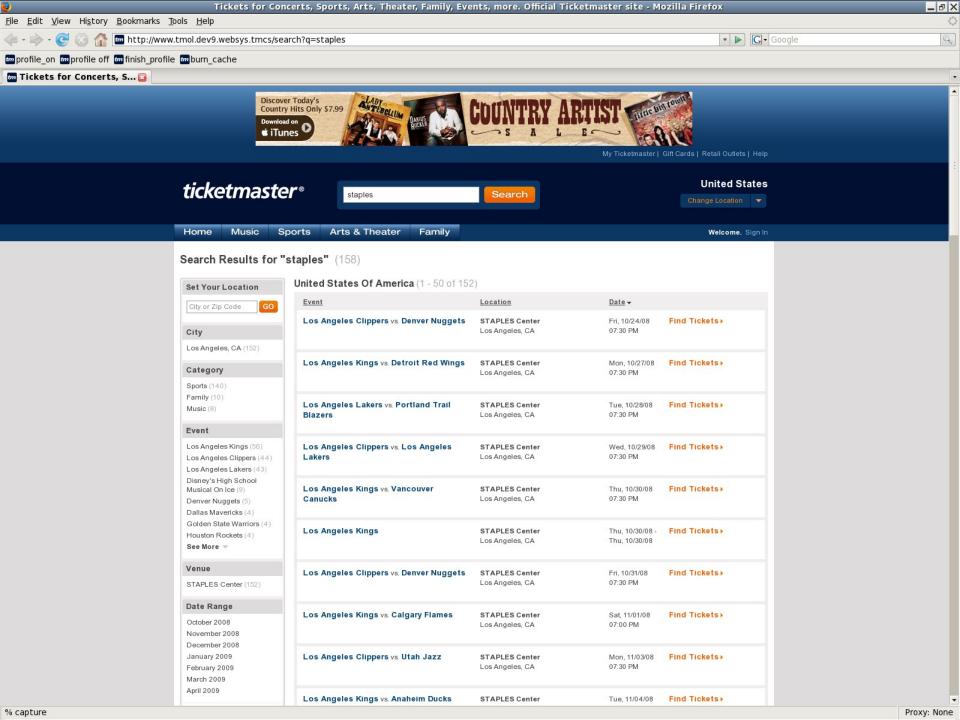
```
if ($ENV{DO PROFILE}) {
  require Devel::Profiler::Plugins::Template;
  require Devel::Profiler;
  require Devel::Profiler::Apache;
  our $output dir = "/tmp/dprof";
  Devel::Profiler::Apache->import(
    bad pkgs => [qw( Profiling UNIVERSAL Time::HiRes B Carp
                       Exporter Cwd Config CORE DynaLoader XSLoader
                       AutoLoader utf8 Template::Stash::XS Template::Config
                       Template::Context Template::Document
                       DBD:: ::st DBD:: ::db DBD::st DBD::db
                       DBI::st DBI::db DBI::dr HTTP::Message
                       TMCS::Exception TMCS::Util::Log
                       TMCS::Util::KeyRing TMCS::Util::Ingrian)],
    bad subs => [qw(TMCS::Model::view TMCS::Util::MAC::dzs decode),
                     'BiqTime::(0+'],
    output dir => $output dir,
  );
else {
  print STDERR 'profiling enabled but no $ENV{DO PROFILE}?', "\n";
                                                                      17
```

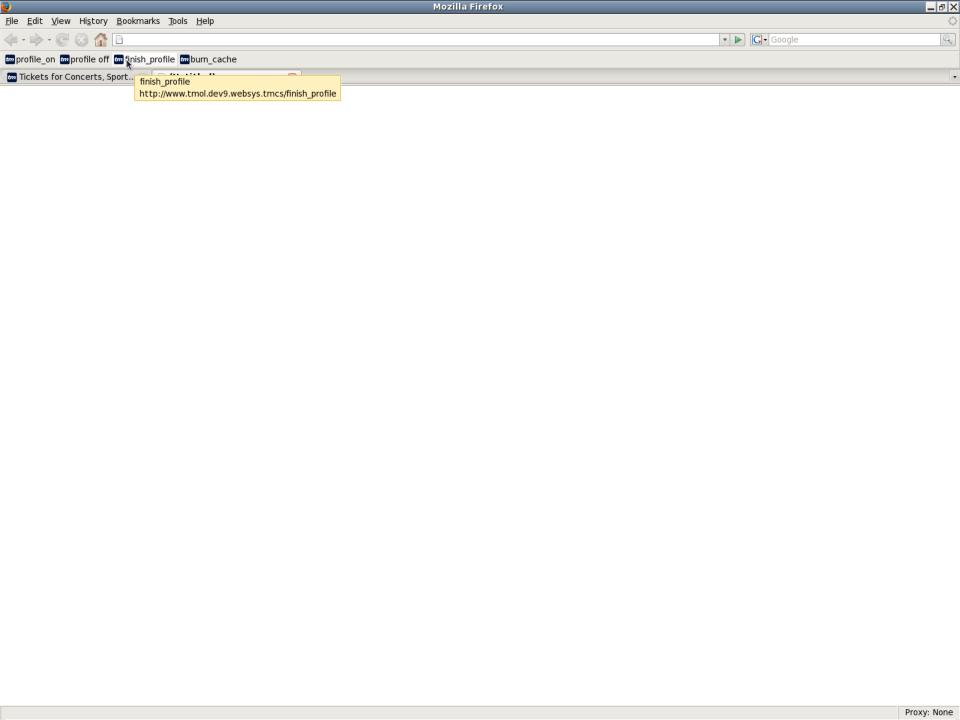
profiling startup.pl

```
<Location /finish profile>
    SetHandler perl-script
   PerlHandler Profiling::ChildTerminate
# </Location>
sub Profiling::ChildTerminate::handler {
 my $r = shift;
 our $output dir;
  $r->send http header('text/plain');
  $r->print(join '/', $output dir, $$, 'tmon.out');
 $r->child terminate;
  0;
```

Profiling in 3 Easy Steps...

- Enable Devel::Profiler
- Click around in your browser







Done

Where's the Data?

- In a file called tmon.out...
- generated by Devel::Profiler...
- called by Devel::Profiler::Apache...
- which gathers data for each child...
- and holds it until child exit

So...

- All requests need to go to the same child process
- That process must die before data can be analyzed
- Enter profiling.conf magic

profiling.conf

Configures httpd to run only one child

```
MinSpareServers 1
MaxSpareServers 1
StartServers 1
MaxClients 1
MaxRequestsPerChild 0
```

- Generates useful URLs
- /finish_profile
 - terminates the current child process
 - -forces tmon.out generation

Profiling in 3 Easy Steps...

- Enable Devel::Profiler
- Click around in your browser
- Prove your worth

tmweb@tls1.tmol.dev9:~ · Ox File Edit View Terminal Tabs Help [tmweb@tls1.tmol.dev9 ~]\$ dprofpp /tls/local/logs/dprof/29171/tmon.out Total Elapsed Time = 226.6202 Seconds User+System Time = 154.8712 Seconds Exclusive Times %Time ExclSec CumulS #Calls sec/call Csec/c Name 37.7 58.52 122.93 0.0258 0.0542 TMCS::Model::Lookup::load 2269 19.0 0.0000 0.0000 DBD::mysql::st::fetch 29.44 29.440 614273 DBI::st::fetch 17.3 26.83 26.836 614273 $0.0000 \ 0.0000$ 3.12 4.835 4.835 6041 0.0008 0.0008 DBD::mysql::st::execute 1.15 TMCS::Control::process_template 1.777 2.235 1 1.7767 2.2348 0.0023 0.1627 1.111.722 121.98 750 TM::Model::BrandKey::Token::view 3021 TM::Model::BrandKey::load_bulk 1.101.703 9.500 0.0006 0.0031 0.84 1.303 3.284 5287 0.0002 0.0006 TMCS::Service::DB::connect 0.81 1.255 1.255 16577 $0.0001 \ 0.0001$ TMCS::Model::_recurse_attribs 0.60 0.927 4.930 5287 0.0002 0.0009 TMCS::Service::DB::new DBD::_::db::prepare_cached 0.44 0.685 1.888 6041 0.0001 0.0003

0.6411 17.202

0.0008 0.1679

 $0.0001 \ 0.0001$

 $0.0001 \ 0.0001$

0.41

0.40

0.39

0.38

0.641 17.202

0.612 126.79

0.604 0.604

[tmweb@tls1.tmol.dev9 ~]\$

0.585

0.585

1

755

9086

11327

TMTools::Model::Brand::load_bulk

TM::Model::Brand::view

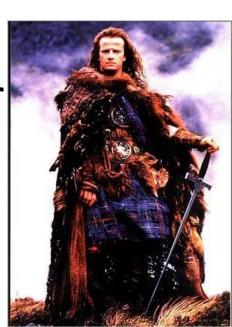
DBD::_::st::bind_col

DBD::mysql::db::FETCH

tmweb@tls1.tmol.dev9:~ · Ox File Edit View Terminal Tabs Help [tmweb@tls1.tmol.dev9 ~]\$ dprofpp /tls/local/logs/dprof/28995/tmon.out Total Elapsed Time = 71.19208 Seconds User+System Time = 27.33608 Seconds Exclusive Times %Time ExclSec CumulS #Calls sec/call Csec/c Name 1 1.8403 2.4369 TMCS::Control::process_template 6.73 1.8402.437 5.38 16633 0.0001 0.0001 TMCS::Model::_recurse_attribs 1.4711.4715.35 1.462 9.062 3021 0.0005 0.0030 TM::Model::BrandKey::load_bulk TMCS::Service::DB::connect 3.72 1.018 2.660 4543 0.0002 0.0006 3.16 0.863 4543 0.0002 0.0009 TMCS::Service::DB::new 3.940 3.08 0.843 0.843 5297 0.0002 0.0002 DBD::mysql::st::execute DBD::_::db::prepare_cached 2.92 5297 0.799 1.859 0.0002 0.0004 2.30 0.630 16.917 0.6299 16.916 TMTools::Model::Brand::load_bulk 1 2726 2.07 0.566 1.0840.0002 0.0004 BigTime::GregorianCalendar::mktime 1.93 0.528 1.9993765 0.0001 0.0005 TMCS::Model::new DBI::db::FETCH 1.93 0.527 0.527 9839 0.0001 0.0001 0.0007 0.0077 TM::Model::Brand::view 1.920.526 5.835 755 1.890.517 0.517 10265 0.0001 0.0001 DBI::st::fetch Class::ISA::self_and_super_path 1.82 0.497 0.497 4575 $0.0001 \ 0.0001$ 0.0000 0.0000 DBD::mysql::st::fetch 1.660.453 0.453 10265 [tmweb@tls1.tmol.dev9 ~]\$

You Are Not the Highlander

- Sometimes a single request can dig out big time sinks
- Single requests are not representative of overall performance
 - -can be very misleading
- The more requests the better



tmweb@app1.tmol.dev9;~

_ B X

```
[geoff]$ dprofpp -0 21 /app/local/logs/dprof/6346/tmon.out
Total Elapsed Time = 102.4234 Seconds
 User+System Time = 22.56542 Seconds
Exclusive Times
%Time ExclSec CumulS #Calls sec/call Csec/c Name
18.0
     4.076 4.076
                        40
                             0.1019 0.1019 JSON::XS::encode
       1.709 15.563
                        12
                             0.1425 1.2969 Search::Model::JSON::Event::post p
7.57
                                            rocess
                             0.0002 0.0007
       0.965 2.946
                                            BigTime::GregorianCalendar::strfti
4.28
                      4238
                                            me
       0.882
             1.382
                    12480
                             0.0001 0.0001
                                            Search::Model::JSON::truth
3.91
2.53
       0.570
              0.570
                     10392
                             0.0001 0.0001 Search::Model::JSON::Event:: uncam
                                            el
2.30
       0.518
             0.518
                      6400
                             0.0001 0.0001 TMCS::Model:: recurse attribs
                     12448
2.21
       0.499
             0.499
                             0.0000 0.0000 TMCS::Model::truth
2.17
       0.489
             0.489
                     6184
                             0.0001 0.0001 POSIX::tzset
2.03
       0.459
             1.022
                      4238
                             0.0001 0.0002
                                            BigTime::GregorianCalendar:: decon
                                            struct time to posix
1.98
       0.446
             2.113
                      1040
                             0.0004 0.0020 TM::Model::OnsaleInfo::new
1.87
       0.423
             0.941
                      3200
                             0.0001 0.0003 TMCS::Model::new
1.85
       0.418
             0.418
                      8582
                             0.0000 0.0000 POSIX::setlocale
1.71
       0.386
             0.988
                      8368
                             0.0000 0.0001
                                            Search::Model::JSON::Event:: bigti
                                            me
1.65
       0.372 0.860
                      1946
                             0.0002 0.0004
                                            BigTime::GregorianCalendar::mktime
1.57
       0.355
             3.301
                      4234
                             0.0001 0.0008
                                           TMCS::Util::Template::Plugins::Big
                                            Time::format
                             0.0001 0.0002 TMCS::Cache::get cache
       0.328
             0.516
                      3426
1.45
                                            Search::Model::JSON::Event:: bigti
1.42
       0.321
             3.622
                      4234
                             0.0001 0.0009
                                            me view
1.21
       0.274 0.274
                      4469
                             0.0001 0.0001
                                            BigTime::new
                             0.0002 0.0004
1.12
       0.253
              0.454
                      1040
                                            Search::Util::Suppressions::suppre
                                            ss wireless on onsales
       0.242
                      4238
                             0.0001 0.0001 POSIX::localtime
1.07
             0.242
       0.231
                             0.0029 0.0073 TMCS::Cache::HTTP:: do http req
1.02
             0.593
                        81
[geoff]$
```

File Edit View Terminal Tabs Help

Ticketmaster Architecture



It's the cache, stupid!

```
tmweb@app1.tmol.dev9:~/tmprofile/bin
                                                                                   POX
File Edit View Terminal Tabs Help
profile for:
 18 unique searches
  (/app/local/logs/dprof/17244/tmon.out)
Total Elapsed Time = 24.183 Seconds
  User+System Time =
                         6.97 Seconds
Exclusive Times
%Time ExclSec CumulS #Calls sec/call Csec/c
                                              Name
                              0.0000 0.0000
8.92
        0.622
               0.622
                      16146
                                              Encode::_utf8_on
8.32
        0.580
              1.272
                              0.0322 0.0707
                                              TMCS::Control::process_template
                         18
5.71
        0.398
              1.075
                         72
                              0.0055 0.0149
                                              TM::Model::Lookup::Markets::new
2.81
       0.196
                     180
              0.629
                              0.0011 0.0035
                                              TMCS::Cache::HTTP::_http_req
2.80
        0.195
              0.195
                       1728
                              0.0001 0.0001
                                              TMCS::Cache::stringify
2.67
        0.186
              0.280
                       2047
                              0.0001 \ 0.0001
                                              TMCS::Cache::get_cache
1.98
        0.138
               0.275
                       1741
                               0.0001 0.0002
                                              TMCS::Cache::MemoryReference::get
                               0.0007 0.0089
                        162
                                              TMCS::Service::Search::search
1.58
        0.110
              1.449
                                              Encode::decode
1.35
        0.094
               0.250
                        973
                               0.0001 0.0003
1.33
        0.093
               0.111
                       1135
                               0.0001 0.0001
                                              Encode::find_encoding
1.32
                                              TMCS::Model::_recurse_attribs
        0.092
               0.164
                        908
                               0.0001 0.0002
1.31
        0.091
                        684
                               0.0001 0.0005
               0.308
                                              TMCS::Control::get_request_data
1.21
        0.084
               0.084
                       2129
                              0.0000 \ 0.0000
                                              TMCS::Language::Hash::FETCH
                               0.0001 0.0003
                                              TMCS::Resource::_get_set_scalar
1.19
        0.083
               0.173
                        643
1.06
        0.074
                       1548
                               0.0000 0.0000
                                              TMCS::Service::Search::fallback
              0.074
1.06
        0.074
               0.296
                        162
                               0.0005 0.0018
                                              TMCS::Service::Search::QueryGen::q
                                              uery_core
                        162
                               0.0005 0.0011
                                              TMCS::Service::Search::QueryGen::1
1.06
        0.074
               0.185
                                              ookup_search_table
                       1350
                                              Encode::is_utf8
0.92
        0.064
               0.064
                               0.0000 0.0000
```

```
\cdot \circ x
tmweb@app1.tmol.dev9:/app/shared/lib/perl/TM/Model/Lookup
File Edit View Terminal Tabs Help
sub new {
    my $class = shift;
    my $look = $class->SUPER::load();
    my @actives;
    foreach ( @{$look->{data}->{all_records}} ) {
         foreach my key (keys(%{s_-->{name}}))
             Encode::_utf8_on(->\{name\}->\{key\});
        push( @actives, $_ );
    $look->{data}->{all_records} = \@actives;
    return $look;
                                                                           59.1
```

💷 tmweb 🛭	@app1.tmol.dev	9:~/tmprofile/	bin				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
<u>F</u> ile <u>E</u> dit	<u>V</u> iew <u>T</u> ermir	nal Ta <u>b</u> s <u>H</u> e	elp				
profile for: 18 unique searches (/app/local/logs/dprof/16780/tmon.out)							
Usei	-	Time =	14.636 0.419				
			#Calls so	00/0011	Coog /c	Name	
21.0	0.088		#Calls 50		0.0071		
6.92			108		0.0071		
6.44	0.027		18		0.0020	_ •	
4.77					0.0092		
4.53	0.019		144		0.0003	TMCS::Cache::get_cache	
4.53	0.019		126		0.0002	TMCS::Cache::Singleton::ApacheRequestMemoryReference::new	
4.53	0.019	0.019	108	0.0002	0.0002	TMCS::Cache::stringify	
2.39	0.010	0.289	18	0.0006	0.0161		
2.39	0.010	0.010	108	0.0001	0.0001	TMCS::Cache::MemoryReference::get	
2.39	0.010	0.039	54	0.0002	0.0007	TMCS::Resource::_get_set_obj	
2.39	0.010	0.010	18	0.0006	0.0006	TMCS::Cache::HTTP::_gen_url	
2.39	0.010	0.010	108	0.0001	0.0001	<pre>I0::Select::_fileno</pre>	
2.15	0.009	0.009	21	0.0004	0.0004	My::Trans::handler	
2.15	0.009	0.038	18	0.0005	0.0021	TMCS::Control::get_cached_cookies	
2.15	0.009	0.009	18	0.0005	0.0005	TMCS::Cache::HTTP::_unpack_body	
0.00	0.000	0.000	18	0.0000	0.0000	TMCS::Resource::set_current_domain	
0.00	0.000	0.019	72		0.0003	TMCS::Resource::_get_set_scalar	
0.00	0.000	0.000	18		0.0000	TMCS::Cache::MemoryReference::new	
0.00	0.000	0.019	90	0.0000	0.0002	TMCS::Cache::MemoryReference::set	▼

More Profiling Fun

profiling.conf gives us more URLs

```
/finish_profile
/profiling_on
/profiling_off
/burn_cache
```

• Implemented profiling_startup.pl

/finish_profile

```
# <Location /finish profile>
#
    SetHandler perl-script
   PerlHandler Profiling::ChildTerminate
# </Location>
sub Profiling::ChildTerminate::handler {
 my $r = shift;
 our $output dir;
  $r->send http header('text/plain');
  $r->print(join '/', $output dir, $$, 'tmon.out');
  $r->child terminate;
  0;
```

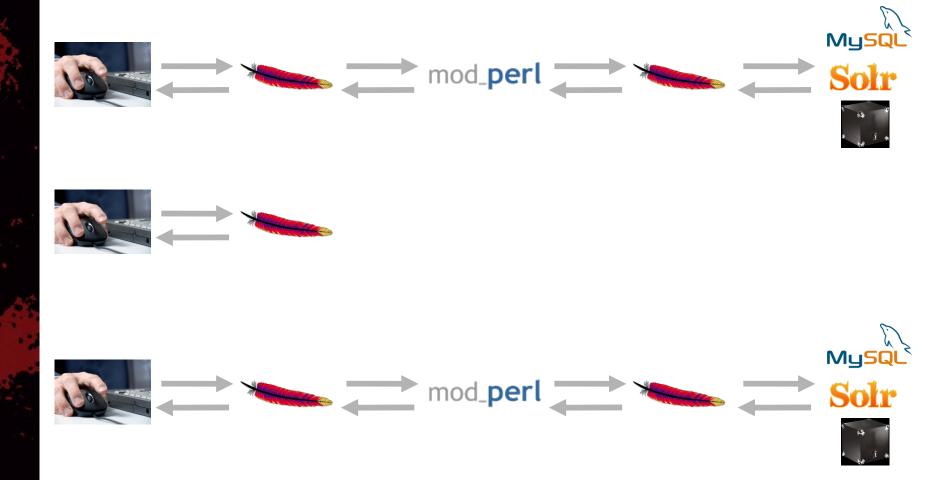
/profile_on

- Default state
- So, why would you need it?

/profile_off

- Selectively toggles collection of profile metrics
- Extremely useful for ignoring one-time activities
 - -shared model object building
 - template compilation
 - etc...

Shared Resources



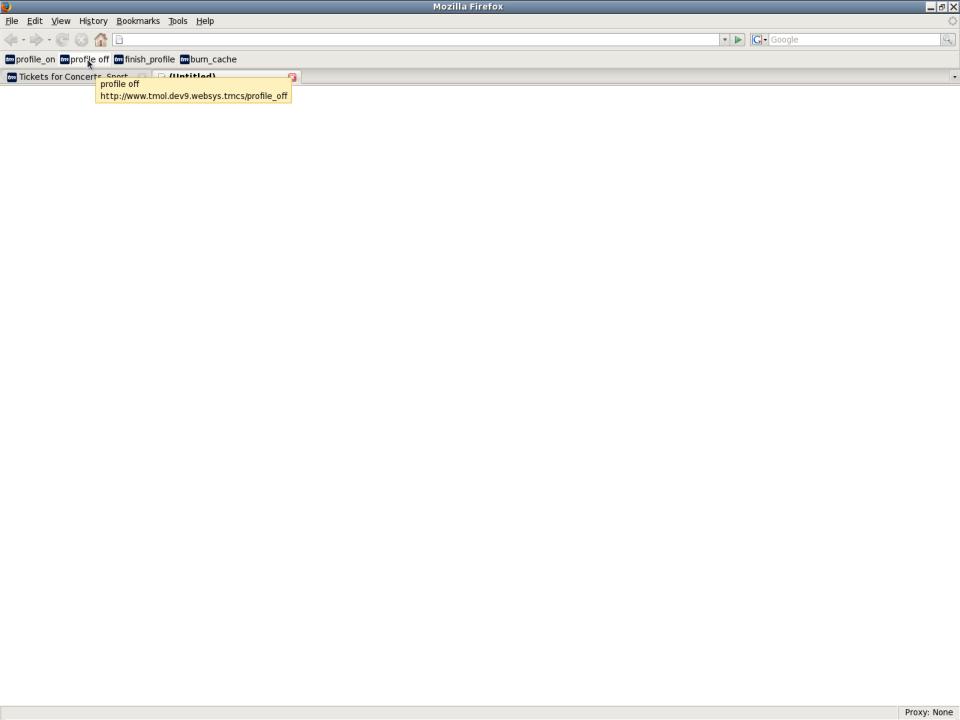
/profile on

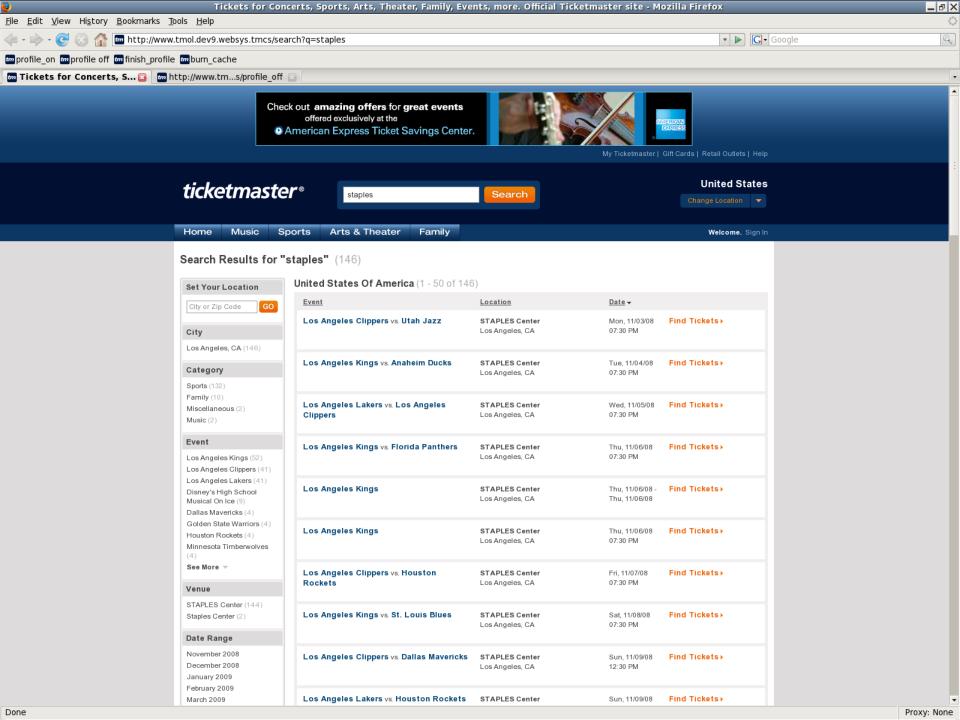
```
<Location /profile on>
    SetHandler perl-script
   PerlInitHandler Profiling::On
   PerlHandler Profiling::Status
# </Location>
sub Profiling::On::handler {
  $Devel::Profiler::COLLECT = 1;
 print STDERR "profiling ON\n";
  0;
sub Profiling::Status::handler {
 my $r = shift;
  return 500 unless $ENV{TM DO PROFILE};
  $r->send http header('text/plain');
  $r->print($Devel::Profiler::COLLECT);
  0;
```

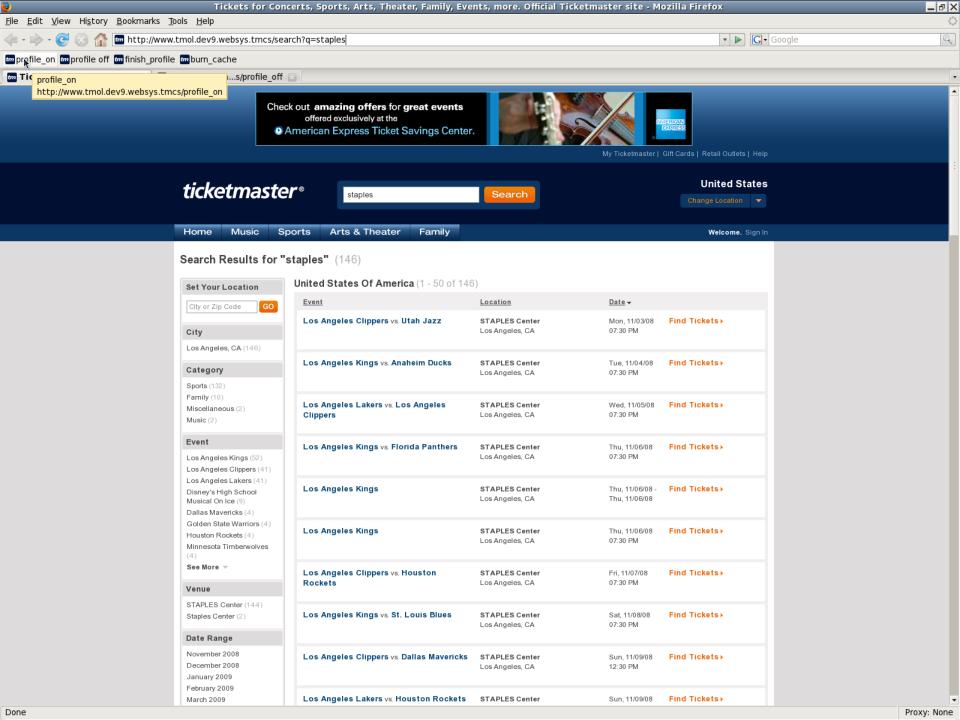
/profile_off

```
# <Location /profile_off>
# SetHandler perl-script
# PerlInitHandler Profiling::Off
# PerlHandler Profiling::Status
# </Location>

sub Profiling::Off::handler {
    $Devel::Profiler::COLLECT = 0;
    print STDERR "profiling OFF\n";
    0;
}
```







/burn cache

Removes backend cache



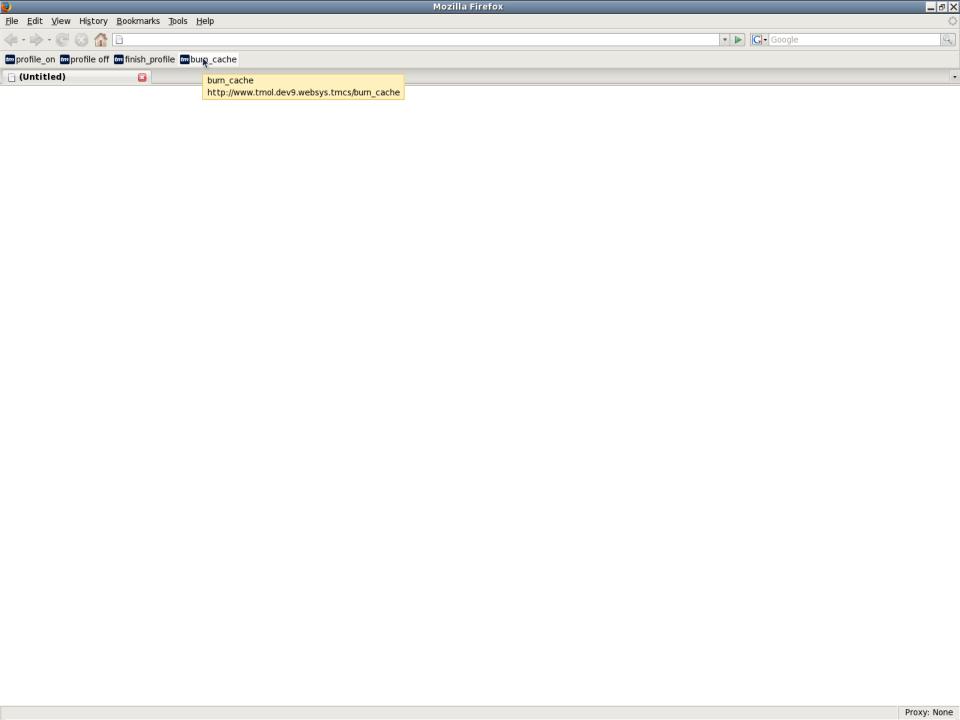
/burn cache

```
# <Location /burn cache>
    SetHandler perl-script
   PerlHandler Profiling::BurnCache
# </Location>
sub sub Profiling::BurnCache::handler {
 my $r = shift;
  ... ticketmaster-specific stuff ...
 print STDERR "cache burned\n";
  $r->send_http header('text/plain');
  $r->print("burned cache in $cluster");
  0;
```

Profiling Pattern

Handy little pattern

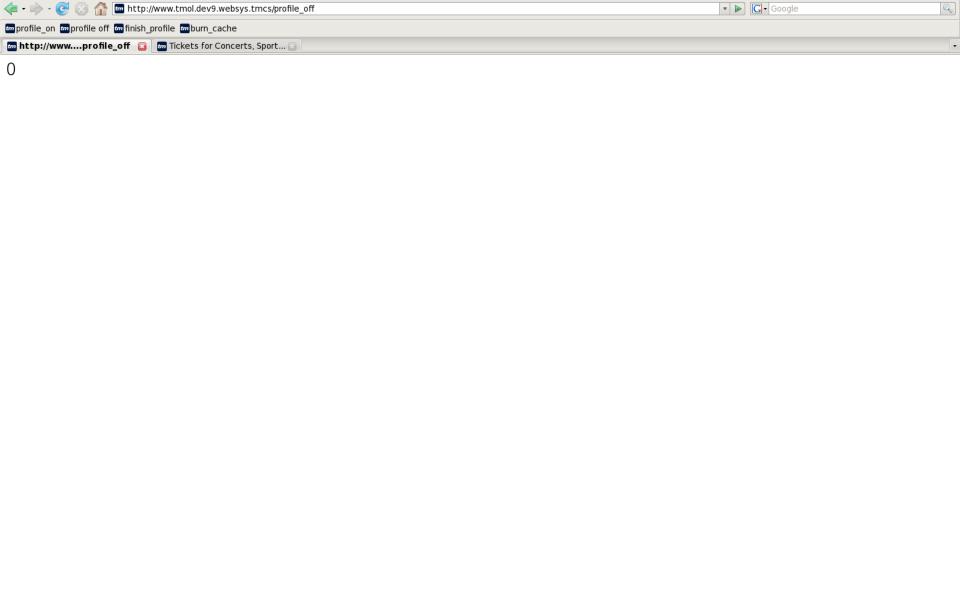
```
/burn cache
/profile off
  [ do stuff you don't care about ]
/profile on
  [ do stuff you do care about ]
/finish profile
```





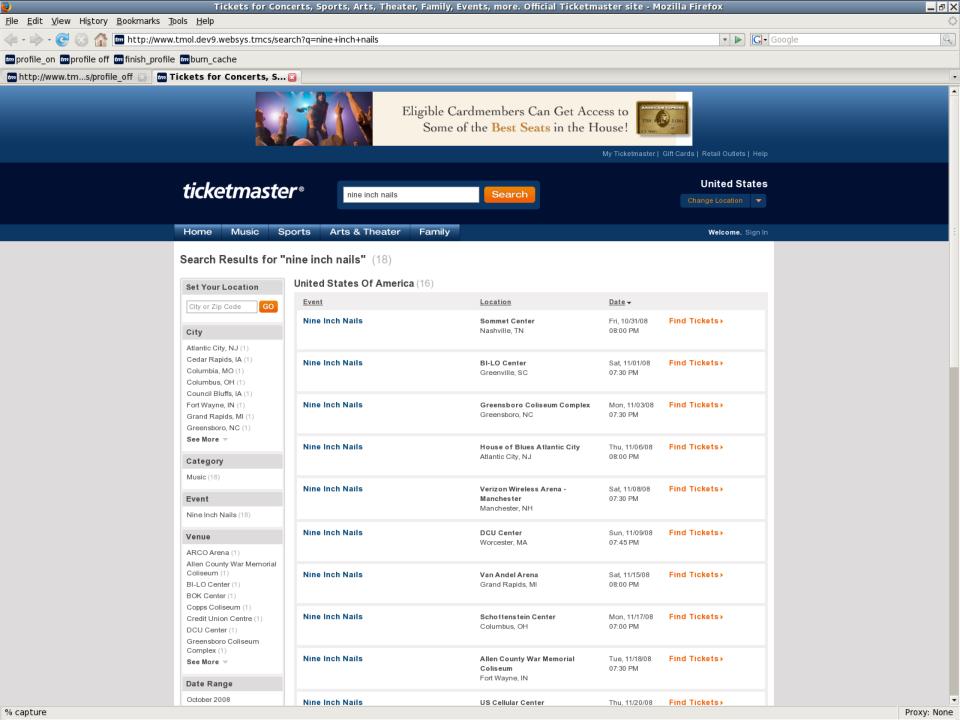


_ B X



<u>File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help</u>

- IPIX





<u>File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help</u>

m http profile_on

% capture

profile_on profile off finish_profile burn_cache

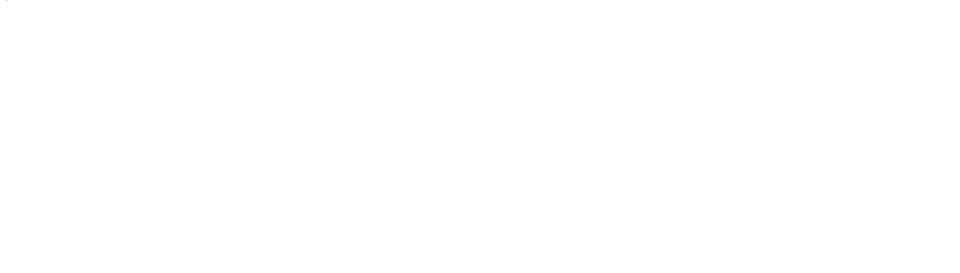
:erts, Sport... 🖂

_ B X

Proxy: None

▼ ▶ Google

Q



<u>File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help</u>

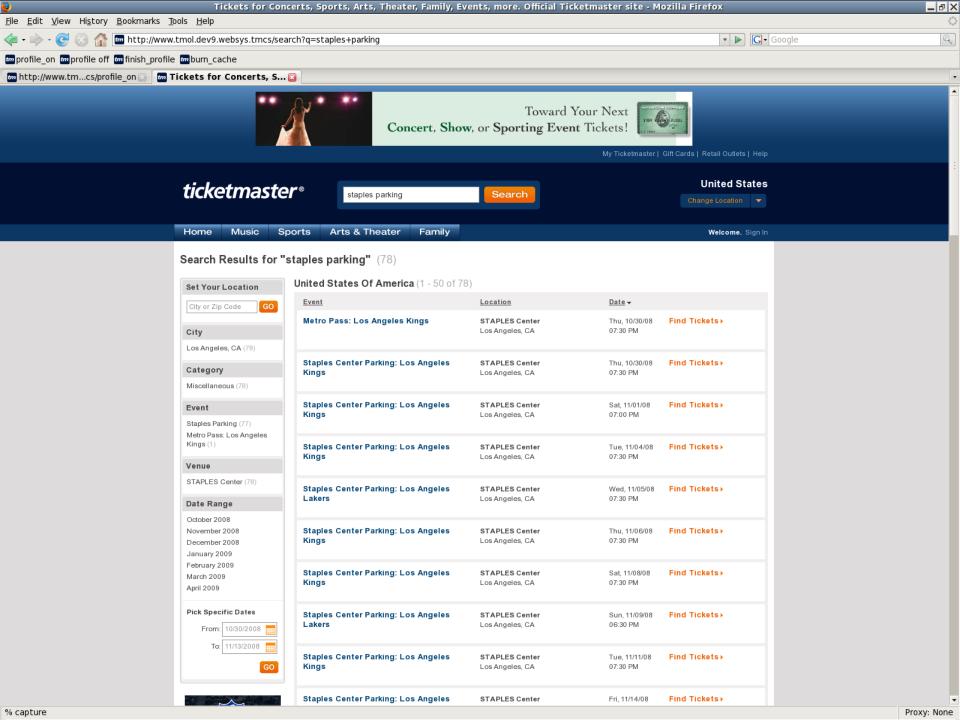
mprofile_on mprofile off mfinish_profile mburn_cache

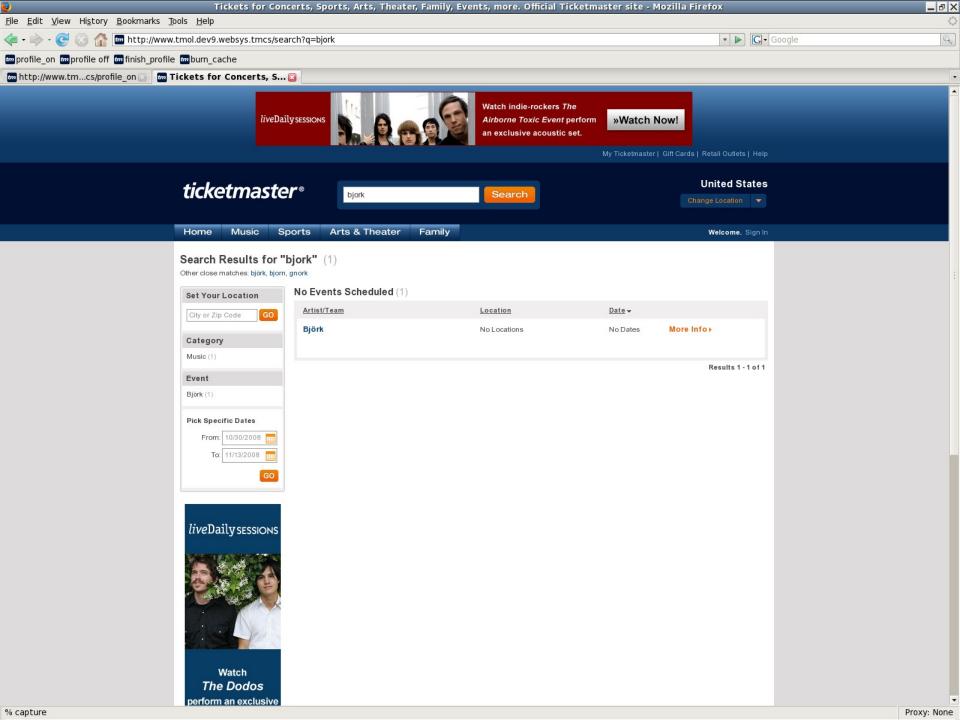
mhttp://www..../profile_on 🔲 🚾 Tickets for Concerts, Sport... 🖂

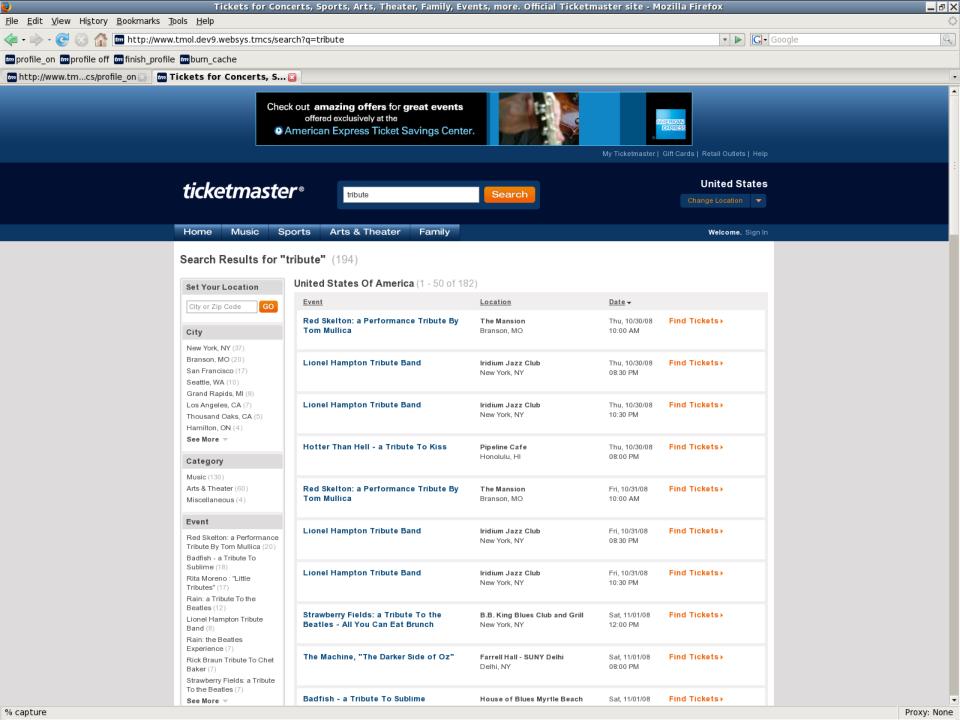
_ B X

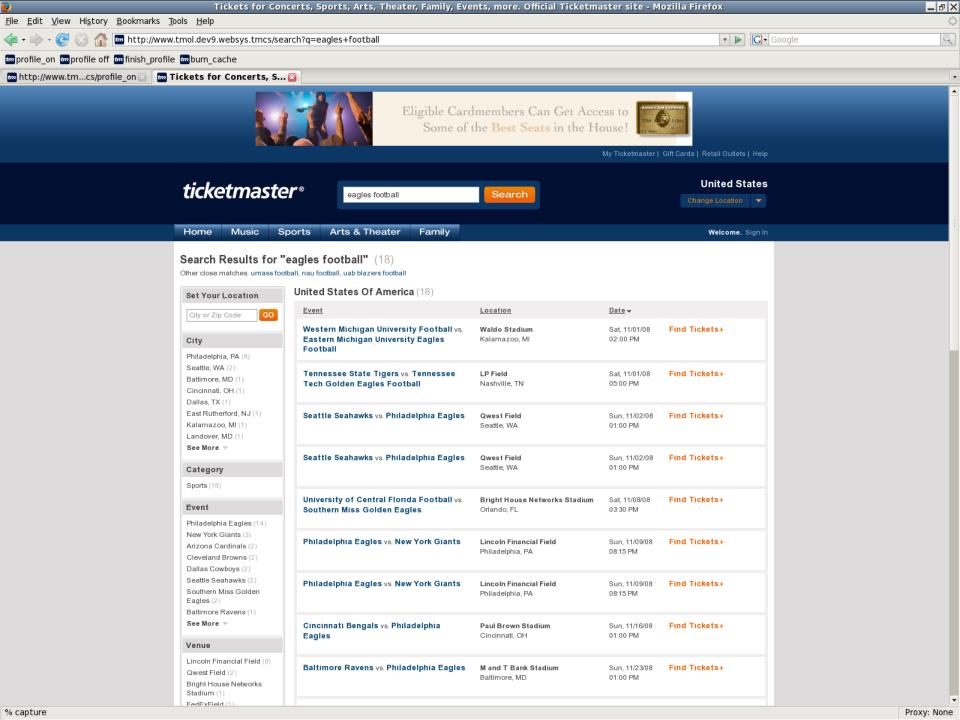
▼ ▶ Google

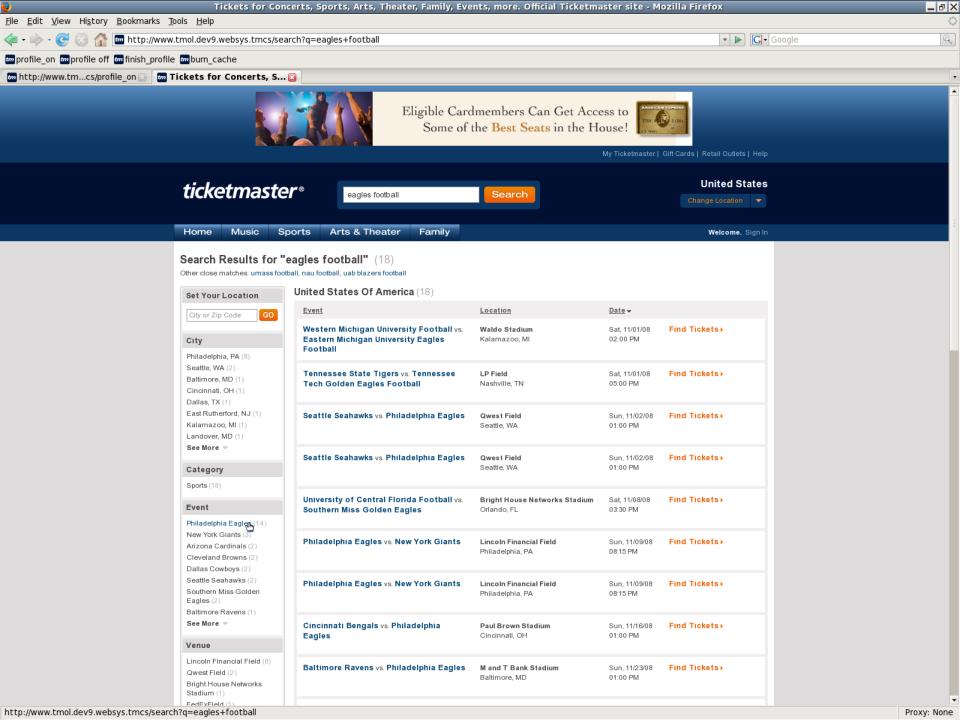
Q

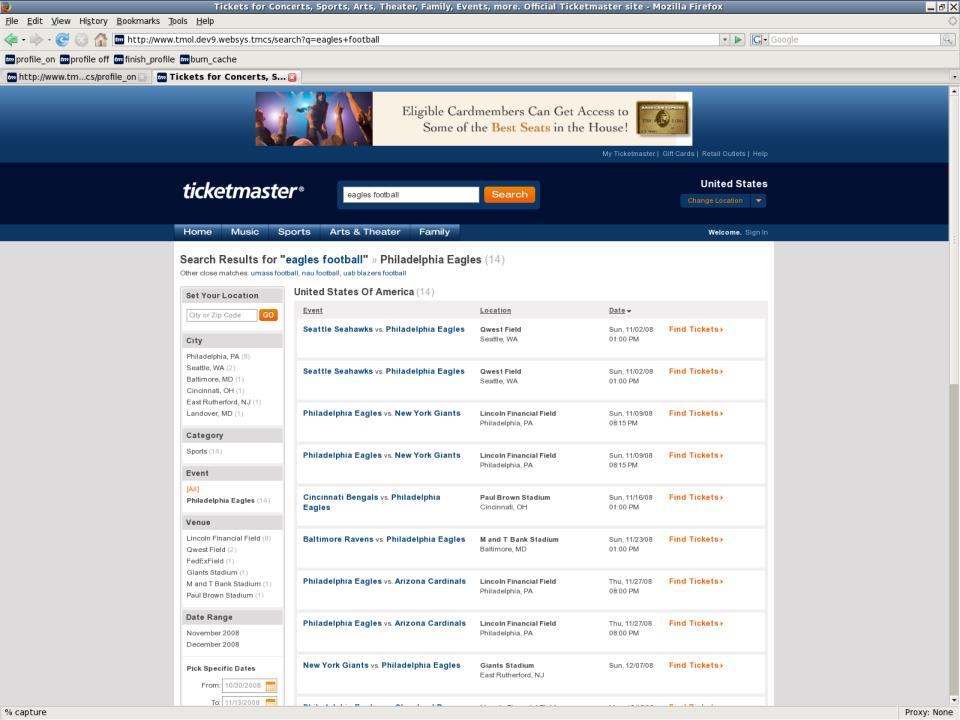














<u>File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help</u>

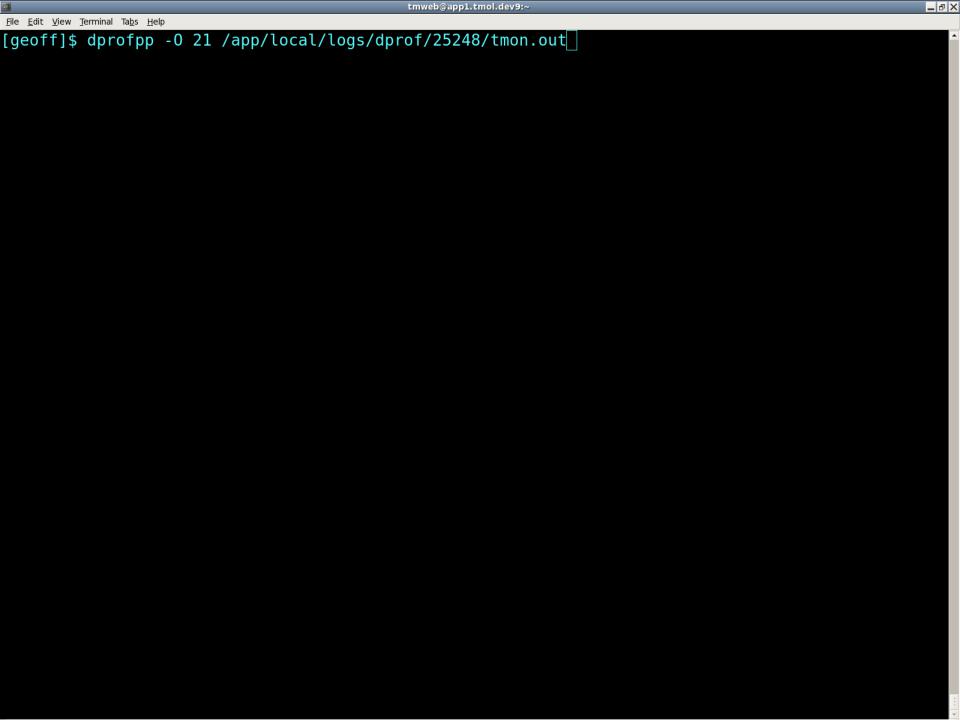
http://www.tmol.dev9.websys.tmcs/finish_profile

_ B X

▼ ▶ Google

Q





File Edit View Terminal Tabs Help

Speaking of Patterns

- Point-and-click testing is so 2001
- Ticketmaster uses HTTP::WebTest
- Too bad it's a pile of poo



The TM Way...

Start with open-source

- HTTP::WebTest

Fork and make changes

- local HTTP::WebTest

Add TM-specific logic

- still local HTTP::WebTest



Decide local changes suck, create wrapper

- DPS::WebTest

Decide old wrapper sucks, create new wrapper

- DPS::WebTest::Simple

```
tmweb@app1.tmol.dev9:~/tmprofile/bin
                                                                                   POX
File Edit View Terminal Tabs Help
profile for:
 18 unique searches
  (/app/local/logs/dprof/17244/tmon.out)
Total Elapsed Time = 24.183 Seconds
  User+System Time =
                         6.97 Seconds
Exclusive Times
%Time ExclSec CumulS #Calls sec/call Csec/c
                                              Name
                              0.0000 0.0000
8.92
        0.622
               0.622
                      16146
                                              Encode::_utf8_on
8.32
        0.580
              1.272
                              0.0322 0.0707
                                              TMCS::Control::process_template
                         18
5.71
        0.398
              1.075
                         72
                              0.0055 0.0149
                                              TM::Model::Lookup::Markets::new
2.81
       0.196
                     180
              0.629
                              0.0011 0.0035
                                              TMCS::Cache::HTTP::_http_req
2.80
        0.195
              0.195
                       1728
                              0.0001 0.0001
                                              TMCS::Cache::stringify
2.67
        0.186
              0.280
                       2047
                              0.0001 \ 0.0001
                                              TMCS::Cache::get_cache
1.98
        0.138
               0.275
                       1741
                               0.0001 0.0002
                                              TMCS::Cache::MemoryReference::get
                               0.0007 0.0089
                        162
                                              TMCS::Service::Search::search
1.58
        0.110
              1.449
                                              Encode::decode
1.35
        0.094
               0.250
                        973
                               0.0001 0.0003
1.33
        0.093
               0.111
                       1135
                               0.0001 0.0001
                                              Encode::find_encoding
1.32
                                              TMCS::Model::_recurse_attribs
        0.092
               0.164
                        908
                               0.0001 0.0002
1.31
        0.091
                        684
                               0.0001 0.0005
               0.308
                                              TMCS::Control::get_request_data
1.21
        0.084
               0.084
                       2129
                              0.0000 \ 0.0000
                                              TMCS::Language::Hash::FETCH
                               0.0001 0.0003
                                              TMCS::Resource::_get_set_scalar
1.19
        0.083
               0.173
                        643
1.06
        0.074
                       1548
                               0.0000 0.0000
                                              TMCS::Service::Search::fallback
              0.074
1.06
        0.074
               0.296
                        162
                               0.0005 0.0018
                                              TMCS::Service::Search::QueryGen::q
                                              uery_core
                        162
                               0.0005 0.0011
                                              TMCS::Service::Search::QueryGen::1
1.06
        0.074
               0.185
                                              ookup_search_table
                       1350
                                              Encode::is_utf8
0.92
        0.064
               0.064
                               0.0000 0.0000
```

More...

• Devel::Profiler

http://sourceforge.net/projects/devel-profiler/

• Devel::Profiler::Plugins::Template

http://search.cpan.org/dist/Devel-Profiler-Plugins-Template/

These Slides

http://www.modperlcookbook.org/~geoff/