CSC 7700: Scientific Computing

Module C: Advanced Programming Tools

Lectures 1/2: Command Line Tools

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- Goals
- **Binary Utilities** nm - list symbols

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## Goals



#### Goals

- The module Advanced Programming Tools will teach:
  - binary utilities
  - tools for performance analysis
  - tools for debugging
- We will use Cactus as an example of an Application Framework.



## Binary Utilities



## Binary Utilities

Cactus normally shields programmers from the need to know about the details of the compilation process, but occasionally some difficult problem will be encountered that requires more analysis.

- nm/readelf
- c++filt
- Idd





This tool is useful for figuring out dependencies when things are not compiling properly.

- T indicates a subroutine defined in the current object
- U indicates a subroutine or external variable that is defined in an external object file or library
- B a variable that is defined in the uninitialized data segment
- C a variable that is defined in the uninitialized data segment
- b a static variable that is defined in the uninitialized data segment
- D a variable that is defined in the initialized data segment
- d a variable that is defined in the initialized data segment



```
// demo.c
extern int var1, var2;
int var1;
int var2=3;
static int var3, var4=2;
void subroutine1();
void subroutine2();
void subroutine2() {
    var4=var3=1;
    subroutine1();
```





Things turn out differently with the C++ compiler. The C++ compiler scrambles type information into the symbol name.



Note that -C unscrambles the C++ names as they appear inside the object files. This makes things more readable.



Using the -A flag to add the file name to each line

Now you can combine with grep and see which object file defines a symbol and which object files need it.



Using the -u flag to list undefined symbols

If you'd like to know where you've tried to use those undefined symbols in your source code, use -l.

```
sbrandt@localhost$ nm -uAl *.o

demo2.o: U printf /home/sbrandt/demo2.c:8

demo2.o: U subroutine2 /home/sbrandt/demo2.c:7

demo.o: U subroutine1 /home/sbrandt/demo.c:13
```



### readelf - display information about ELF tables

ELF stands for "Executable and Linking Format." ELF can be used to get essentially the same information as nm, with one important advantage. It can work on some files that nm can't (stripped shared libraries). Lines with UND aren't defined in the current source file.

sbrandt@localhost\$ readelf -s demo.o

Symbol table '.symtab' contains 14 entries:

Num:	Value	Size	Type	Bind	Vis	Ndx	Name
0:	0000000000000000	0	NOTYPE	LOCAL	DEFAULT	UND	
1:	0000000000000000	0	FILE	LOCAL	DEFAULT	ABS	demo.c
2:	0000000000000000	0	SECTION	LOCAL	DEFAULT	1	
3:	0000000000000000	0	SECTION	LOCAL	DEFAULT	3	
4:	0000000000000000	0	SECTION	LOCAL	DEFAULT	4	
5:	0000000000000000	4	OBJECT	LOCAL	DEFAULT	4	var3
6:	0000000000000004	4	OBJECT	LOCAL	DEFAULT	3	var4
7:	00000000000000000	0	SECTION	LOCAL	DEFAULT	<del>6</del>	

c++filt - demangle C++ and Java symbols



### c++filt - demangle C++ and Java symbols

- Simple tool that transforms mangled C++ symbol definitions on the input stream to human readable form.
- "nm demo.o c++filt" does the same thing as "nm -C demo.o"
- readelf has no -C flag, so "readelf -s demo.o | c++filt" is how to do it.
- First version was written by yours truly in the 80's.



## ldd - shared library dependencies



#### ldd - shared library dependencies

Ldd can tell you where your shared libraries are.

```
[sbrandt@localhost]$ gcc --warn-all demo.c demo2.c

[sbrandt@localhost]$ ldd ./a.out

linux-vdso.so.1 => (0x00007fff53dff000)

libc.so.6 => /lib64/libc.so.6 (0x00000376d600000)

/lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2 (0x000000376d200000)
```



#### Idd - shared library dependencies

Sometimes Idd can't find your shared library. You can fix this by modifying the LD\_LIBRARY\_PATH variable.

First, let's create our own shared library from our demo.c source file. We need the -shared and -fPIC (Position Independent Code) flags to make this work.

```
[sbrandt@localhost]$ gcc -fPIC -shared -o libdemo.so demo.c
[sbrandt@localhost]$ gcc demo2.c libdemo.so
sbrandt@localhost$ ./a.out
./a.out: error while loading shared libraries: libdemo.so:
    cannot open shared object file: No such file or directory
```



### ldd - shared library dependencies

What went wrong?

```
[sbrandt@localhost]$ ldd a.out
    linux-vdso.so.1 => (0x00007ffffc3ff000)
    libdemo.so => not found
    libc.so.6 => /lib64/libc.so.6 (0x000000376d600000)
    /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2 (0x000000376d200000)
```

You see that libdemo.so is not found? That's because linux won't look in the current directory by default. We have to tell it to do so.

```
[sbrandt@localhost]$ LD_LIBRARY_PATH=. ldd a.out linux-vdso.so.1 => (0x00007fff30784000) libdemo.so => ./libdemo.so (0x00007f9634fe7000) libc.so.6 => /lib64/libc.so.6 (0x000000376d600000) /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2 (0x000000376d200000)
```

## alternate shared library dependency tracing

An alternative to using Idd is to set some variables. Note that LD\_DEBUG appends the process id to the file name. That's helpful for MPI. Note that "Is -t  $\mid$  head -1" shows the most recently modified file.

```
[sbrandt@localhost]$ export LD_DEBUG=libs
[sbrandt@localhost] $ export LD_DEBUG_OUTPUT=debug.txt
[sbrandt@localhost]$ ./a.out
./a.out: error while loading shared libraries: libdemo.so:
    cannot open shared object file: No such file or directory
[sbrandt@localhost]$ ls -t | head -1
debug.txt.4478
[sbrandt@localhost]$ cat debug.txt.4478
      4478: find library=libdemo.so [0]; searching
             search cache=/etc/ld.so.cache
      4478:
      4478:
             search path=/lib64/tls/x86_64:/lib64/tls:/lib64/x86_64
     4478:
             trying file=/lib64/tls/x86_64/libdemo.so
             trying file=/lib64/tls/libdemo.so
     4478:
```

# Debugging Utilities



### **Debugging Utilities**

Memory problems (indexing outside of array bounds, using unallocated memory, etc.) and race conditions are insidious problems. Results may be difficult to reproduce and the causes difficult to identify. You have to debug early and often if you want to stay sane. These tools can help you.

- gdb
- Valgrind
- Helgrind
- clang
- misc



# $\mathsf{gdb}$



#### gdb

The gnu debugger is widely available. Very helpful when you have a memory problem. It has many useful features:

- where Gives the stack trace at the point of failure
- print Prints the contents of a variable
- break/clear Set/clear break point
- step/next advance line by line
- o run/cont run/continue



Let's see it in action. This code has an obvious problem:

```
int main() {
    int *a = 0;
    a[10] = 4;
    return 0;
}
```



sbrandt@sbrandt-think examples\$ gdb ./test1

Copyright (C) 2013 Free Software Foundation, Inc.

GNU gdb (GDB) Fedora (7.6-34.fc19)

(gdb)

```
#include <stdlib.h>
void set10(int *a) {
    a[10] = 4;
int main() {
    int *a = (int *)malloc(11*sizeof(int));
    set10(a);
    set10(0);
    return 0;
(gdb) where
    0x0000000000400600 in set10 (a=0x0) at test1b.c:3
#0
#1
    0x0000000000400637 in main () at test1b.c:8
```

#### gdb

```
(gdb) run
(gdb) break test1b.c:6
Breakpoint 1, main () at test1b.c:6
6 int *a = (int *)malloc(11*sizeof(int));
(gdb) step
     set10(a):
(gdb) step
set10 (a=0x602010) at test1b.c:3
3 \quad a[10] = 4:
(gdb) step
4 }
(gdb) step
main () at test1b.c:8
8 set10(0):
(gdb) step
set10 (a=0x0) at test1b.c:3
3 \quad a[10] = 4:
(gdb) step
Program received signal SIGSEGV, Segmentation fault.
0x0000000000400600 in set10 (a=0x0) at test1b.c:3
3
   a[10] = 4;
```





Valgrind simulates your program in memory. It is slow, but it reveals many problems.

```
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ cat test.c
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int a;
    if(a < 0) printf("a is negative\n");</pre>
    return 0;
}
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ gcc -g test.c
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ valgrind ./a.out
==3512== Conditional jump or move depends on uninitialized val
            at 0x4004D0: main (test.c:4)
==3512==
```

```
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ cat test2.c
#include <stdlib.h>
int main() {
    int *a = (int*)malloc(10*sizeof(int));
    a[10] = 4:
   return 0;
}
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ valgrind ./a.out
==3482== Invalid write of size 4
            at 0x4004E2: main (in /home/sbrandt/c/t/a.out)
==3482==
==3482==
          Address 0x4c0c068 is 0 bytes after a block of size 4
==3482==
            at 0x4A0515D: malloc (vg_replace_malloc.c:195)
            by 0x4004D5: main (in /home/sbrandt/c/t/a.out)
==3482==
```

```
We fix test2.c like this:
#include <stdlib.h>
int main() {
    int *a = (int*)malloc(10*sizeof(int));
    a[9] = 4;
    return 0;
}
```

Can Valgrind tell us anything more about our program?



```
sbrandt@sbrandt-think examples$ valgrind --leak-check=full ./a.out
==15928== Memcheck, a memory error detector
==15928== Copyright (C) 2002-2012, and GNU GPL'd, by Julian Seward et al.
==15928== Command: ./a.out
==15928==
==15928== HEAP SUMMARY:
==15928==
              in use at exit: 40 bytes in 1 blocks
==15928==
           total heap usage: 1 allocs, 0 frees, 40 bytes allocated
==15928==
==15928== 40 bytes in 1 blocks are definitely lost in loss record 1 of 1
==15928==
            at 0x4A06409: malloc (in /usr/lib64/valgrind/vgpreload_memcheck-amd64-
==15928==
            by 0x400541: main (in /home/sbrandt/repos/sci-comp-2013/Module-C/examp
==15928==
==15928== LEAK SUMMARY:
==15928==
            definitely lost: 40 bytes in 1 blocks
            indirectly lost: 0 bytes in 0 blocks
==15928==
               possibly lost: 0 bytes in 0 blocks
==15928==
            still reachable: 0 bytes in 0 blocks
==15928==
                  suppressed: 0 bytes in 0 blocks
==15928==
==15928==
==15928== For counts of detected and suppressed errors, rerun with:
```

==15928== ERROR SUMMARY: 1 errors from 1 contexts (suppressed: 2 from 2)

## Helgrind



Useful for debugging threads. Prone to false positives.

```
[sbrandt@localhost] cat race.c
#include <stdio.h>
#include <pthread.h>
int i = 0:
void *task(void *v) {
    for(int j=0; j<100000; j++) i++;
    return 0;
}
int main() {
    const int N = 10; pthread_t p[N];
    for(int i=0; i<N; i++)
        pthread_create(&p[i],0,task,0);
    for(int i=0; i<N; i++)
        pthread_join(p[i],0);
    printf("i=%d\n",i);
```



We can see that we have a problem on line 5.



Here's one way we can fix it, using an atomic operation.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <pthread.h>
int i = 0:
void *task(void *v) {
    for(int j=0;j<100000;j++)
        __sync_add_and_fetch(&i,1);
    return 0;
}
int main() {
    const int N = 10; pthread_t p[N];
    for(int i=0; i<N; i++)
        pthread_create(&p[i],0,task,0);
    for(int i=0; i<N; i++)
        pthread_join(p[i],0);
    printf("i=%d\n",i);
```



Now everything is fixed!

Note that Helgrind works well with pthreads, but doesn't work well with other forms of thread parallelism.



# Clang



- clang stands for C-language compiler. Based on the Ilvm (Low Level virtual machine) project.
- download it here http://clang.llvm.org/get\_started.html#build
- performs details source code analysis



Just using the clang compiler can help you find new bugs

```
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ cat test3.c
int main() {
    int b[1];
   b[2] = 3;
}
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ clang test3.c
test3.c:3:5: warning: array index of '2' indexes past the end
      (that contains 1 element) [-Warray-bounds]
    b[2] = 3:
test3.c:2:5: note: array 'b' declared here
    int b[1];
```



1 warning generated.

Another way to discover problems is with -fsanitize=undefined-trap-fsanitize-undefined-trap-on-error.

```
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ cat test4.c
void foo(int n,int v) {
   int f[2];
   f[n] = v;
int main() {
    foo(3,3);
   return 0;
}
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ clang -g -fsanitize=undefined-trap \
    -fsanitize-undefined-trap-on-error test4.c
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ gdb -eval-command=run ./a.out
Program received signal SIGILL, Illegal instruction.
0x000000000040049c in foo (n=3, v=3) at test4.c:3
3
        f[n] = v:
```



Integer overflow problems can be discovered with -ftrapv.

```
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ cat test5.c
#include <limits.h>
#include <stdio.h>
void foo(int n) {
    if (n > n+1) printf ("overflow\n");
}
int main() {
    foo(INT_MAX);
}
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ clang -g -ftrapv test5.c
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ gdb -eval-command=run ./a.out
Program received signal SIGILL, Illegal instruction.
0x00000000004004f3 in foo (n=2147483647) at test5.c.4
        if(n > n+1) printf("overflow\n");
4
```

Misc.



### Misc.

- gfortran -fbounds-check generates bounds checking code for fortran. This flag is *silently ignored* for gcc and g++.
- Cactus debug build automatically detects indexes out of bounds in grid functions, plus does other things
- In general, using a different compiler or architecture can be helpful in exposing bugs or problems in code.
- #include <assert.h> is very helpful. Use -DNDEBUG to make assertions go away.



#### Misc.

```
[sbrandt@localhost ~]$ cat here.h
#ifndef HERE_H_
#define HERE_H_
#include <stdio.h>
#define HERE printf("%s,%d\n",__FILE__,__LINE__);
#define VARN(X) printf("%s=%d\n",#X,X);
#define VAR(X) printf("%s=%d ",#X,X);
#endif
```



# Performance Utilities



#### Performance Utilities

- gprof
- Coverage Testing
- Memusage
- Profile-Guided Optimization
- hpctoolkit
- perfexpert



# Gprof



# gprof

Gprof provides basic, low-level profiling of source code. Helps you find your performance hot spots and target your optimization efforts. To use, build your code with -pg.

When you run your code, a file named gmon.out is generated. To view the results, use the gprof command.

gprof wave gmon.out -p



### gprof

sbrandt@sbrandt-think examples\$ gprof wave gmon.out -p
Flat profile:

Each sample counts as 0.01 seconds.

% c	cumulative	self		self	total	
time	seconds	seconds	calls	us/call	us/call	name
100.27	0.01	0.01	4000	2.51	2.51	<pre>deriv(double*, double*)</pre>
0.00	0.01	0.00	19702	0.00	0.00	x(int)
0.00	0.01	0.00	8000	0.00	0.00	bound(double*)
0.00	0.01	0.00	1000	0.00	10.03	update(int)
0.00	0.01	0.00	200	0.00	0.00	<pre>print_minmax(int)</pre>
0.00	0.01	0.00	200	0.00	0.00	<pre>print(double*, int)</pre>
0.00	0.01	0.00	100	0.00	0.00	sq(double)
0.00	0.01	0.00	1	0.00	0.00	_GLOBALsub_I_u
0.00	0.01	0.00	1	0.00	0.00	static_initialization_and_d
0.00	0.01	0.00	1	0.00	0.00	init()

Who knew that deriv was our most expensive routine?



# Coverage Testing



## Coverage Testing

Coverage testing builds in automatic instrumentation of your code to determine which lines are being run and how often. It can help you construct more thorough tests.

```
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ gcc -ftest-coverage -fprofile-arcs test2.c
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ ./a.out
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ ls -t | head -3
test2.gcda
a.out
test2.gcno
```



# Coverage Testing

```
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ gcov test2.gcda
File 'test2.c'
Lines executed: 100.00% of 4
test2.c:creating 'test2.c.gcov'
[sbrandt@localhost t]$ cat test2.c.gcov
             0:Source:test2.c
       -: 0:Graph:test2.gcno
       -: 0:Data:test2.gcda
       -: 0:Runs:1
       -: 0:Programs:1
       -: 1:#include <stdlib.h>
       1: 2:int main() {
       1: 3: int *a = (int*)malloc(10*sizeof(int));
       1: 4: a[10] = 4;
       1: 5: return 0;
             6:}
       -:
```



Memusage is a utility which can help you monitor your heap and stack usage.

```
sbrandt@localhost$ cat fib.c
#include <stdio.h>
int fib(int n) {
    if(n < 2)
        return n:
    return fib(n-1)+fib(n-2);
}
int main() {
    int *n = new int(35);
    printf("fib(%d)=%d\n",*n,fib(*n));
    return 0;
sbrandt@localhost$ g++ fib.c -lmemusage
```



```
sbrandt@localhost$ MEMUSAGE_OUTPUT=mem.out \
    LD_PRELOAD=/usr/lib64/libmemusage.so ./a.out
fib(35)=9227465
Memory usage summary: heap total: 4, heap peak: 4, stack peak: 2976
         total calls total memory failed calls
mallocl
reallock
                                                    (nomove:0, dec:0
 callocl
   freel
Histogram for block sizes:
   0 - 15
                      1 100% =====
```



sbrandt@localhost\$ memusagestat -o mem.png mem.out -x 500 -y 300



# Profile-Guided Optimization



# Profile Guided Optimization

- Run your code and see how fast it is
- Compile with -fprofile-generate
- Run your code (it will be slightly slower)
- Compile again with -fprofile-use
- Run your code again, and see how much faster it is
- Works well if you have lots of if's



# Profile Guided Optimization

```
#include <stdlib.h>
void bubble(int *a,int n) {
    for(int j=0; j<n-1; j++)
        for(int i=0;i<n-1;i++)
            if(a[i] > a[i+1]) {
                 int s = a[i];
                 a[i] = a[i+1]:
                 a[i+1] = s;
int main() {
    const int n = 60000;
    int *a = new int[n];
    for(int i=0;i<n;i++)</pre>
        a[i] = rand();
    bubble(a,n);
    return 0;
```



# Profile Guided Optimization

- Speedup is approximately 6% for Bubble Sort on mike (6.44 to 6.08)
- Can be used to speed up Firefox and gcc
- Used extensively by the Java Virtual Machine
- With the Intel compilers there's -prof-gen and -prof-use
- Actually slows down!



# **HPC** Toolkit



#### **HPC** Toolkit

To demonstrate we will use the HPC Toolkit on Arete (arete.cct.lsu.edu). We'll run Cactus for 200 steps, then run the viewer.

• Compile with debug mode:

```
sim build --debug --thornlist ../WaveDemo.th --optionlist local.cfg
```

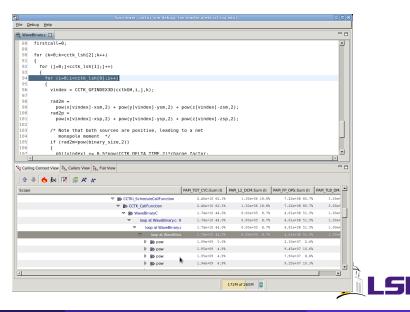
- Run with hpcrun: mpiexec -np 2 hpcrun -e PAPI\_TOT\_CYC:1000000 -e PAPI\_L2\_DCM:100000 \
  -e PAPI\_FP\_OPS:500000 -e PAPI\_TLB\_DM:100000 ./exe/cactus\_sim-debug ./pars/WaveDemo.par
- Postprocess with hpcstruct: hpcstruct ./exe/cactus\_sim-debug
- Postprocess with hpcprof:

```
hpcprof -S ./cactus_sim-debug.hpcstruct -I ./ hpctoolkit-cactus_sim-debug-measurements/
```

View: hpcviewer hpctoolkit-cactus\_sim-debug-database/



#### **HPC** Toolkit



# Perfexpert



This is a tool from TACC that attempts to turn the output of HPC Toolkit into something easier to understand.

- Home Page: http://www.tacc.utexas.edu/perfexpert/
- Automatically runs a sequence of experiments
- Shows information about the most significant sections of code and rate loops on how well they perform.
- AutoSCOPE attempts to give concrete advice on how to improve problem areas of code.



Running Perfexpert has fewer steps than running HPC Toolkit. First you run experiments, then you run the filter on the output (experiment.xml). When you run the regular perfexpert tool, you specify what level of analysis you need. Below we choose to ignore diagnostics for loops that take less than 10% of the run time.

- [sbrandt@master Cactus] \$ perfexpert\_run\_exp ./exe/cactus\_sim ./pars/WaveDemo.par
- [sbrandt@master Cactus] \$ perfexpert 0.1 ./experiment.xml > perfout.txt



Total running time for "./experiment.xml" is 25.236  ${\tt sec}$ 

Function WaveToyC\_Evolution() at WaveToy.c:36 (41.7% of the total runtime)

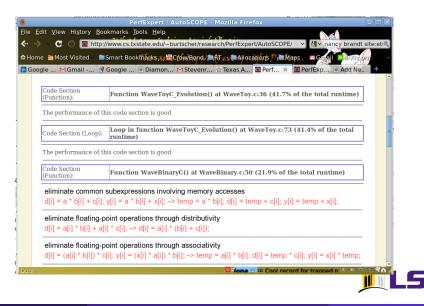
```
ratio to total instrns
  - floating point
                  . 22 ********
  - data accesses
                 : 24 ********
* GFLOPS (% max)
                 : 10 ****
performance assessment
                LCPI good.....okav.....fair.....poor.....bad....
* overall
                  : 0.6 >>>>>>>>
upper bound estimates
* data accesses
                  - L1d hits
                 : 0.9 >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
  - L2d hits : 0.1 >>
  - L2d misses : 0.2 >>>
* instruction accesses : 0.6 >>>>>>>>
              : 0.6 >>>>>>>
  - L1i hits
  - I.2i hits
                 . 0.0 >
  - L2i misses
                : 0.0 >
* data TLB
                 : 0.0 >
* instruction TLB
                 . 0.0 >
* branch instructions
                : 0.0 >
  - correctly predicted : 0.0 >
  - mispredicted : 0.0 >
* floating-point instr : 0.6 >>>>>>>>
  - fast FP instr : 0.6 >>>>>>>>
  - slow FP instr : 0.0 >
```

Loop in function WaveToyC\_Evolution() at WaveToy.c:73 (41.4% of the total runtime)









#### Homework

The following questions are based on the wave.cpp and qsort.c programs in the public SVN repository.

- Debug wave.cpp using Valgrind. What problems did you find?
- Use profile guided optimization to speed up qsort.c. What speedup do you get?

