JÜLICH
FORSCHUNGSZENTRUM

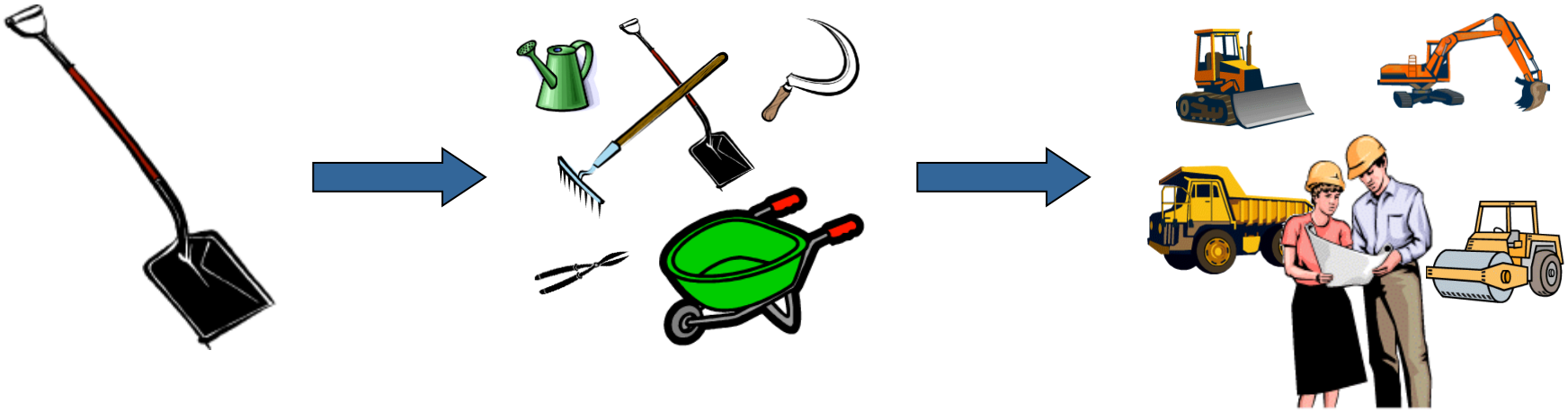
Performance Analysis 101

March 2017 | Michael Knobloch

Typical Performance Analysis Procedure

- Do I have a performance problem at all?
  - Time / speedup / scalability measurements
- ***What*** is the key bottleneck (computation / communication)?
  - MPI / OpenMP / flat profiling
- ***Where*** is the key bottleneck?
  - Call-path profiling, detailed basic block profiling
- ***Why*** is it there?
  - Hardware counter analysis
  - Trace selected parts (to keep trace size manageable)
- Does the code have scalability problems?
  - Load imbalance analysis, compare profiles at various sizes function-by-function, performance modeling

Remark: No Single Solution is Sufficient!



☞ *A combination of different methods, tools and techniques is typically needed!*

- Analysis
  - Statistics, visualization, automatic analysis, data mining, ...
- Measurement
  - Sampling / instrumentation, profiling / tracing, ...
- Instrumentation
  - Source code / binary, manual / automatic, ...

Critical Issues

- Accuracy
  - Intrusion overhead
    - Measurement itself needs time and thus lowers performance
  - Perturbation
    - Measurement alters program behavior, e.g., memory access pattern
    - Might prevent compiler optimization, e.g. function inlining
  - Accuracy of timers & counters
- Granularity
  - How many measurements?
  - How much information / processing during each measurement?

☞ *Tradeoff: Accuracy vs. Expressiveness of data*

Where is the Key Bottleneck?

- Generate call-path profile using Score-P/Scalasca
  - Requires re-compilation
  - Runtime overhead depends on application characteristics
  - Typically needs some care setting up a good measurement configuration
    - Filtering
    - Selective instrumentation

- Option 1 (recommended):
  Automatic compiler-based instrumentation

- Option 2:
  Manual instrumentation of interesting phases, routines, loops

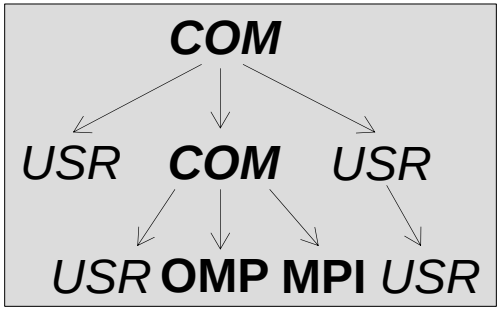
Call-path Profile: Recipe

1. Prefix your ***compile & link commands*** with
   "`scorep`"
2. Prefix your MPI ***launch command*** with
   "`scalasca -analyze`"
3. After execution, compare overall runtime with uninstrumented run to determine overhead
4. If overhead is too high
   1. Score measurement using
      "`scalasca -examine -s scorep_<title>`"
   2. Prepare filter file
   3. Re-run measurement with filter applied using prefix
      "`scalasca -analyze -f <filter_file>`"
5. After execution, examine analysis results using
   "`scalasca -examine scorep_<title>`"

Call-path Profile: Example (cont.)

```
% scalasca -examine -s scorep_myprog_Ppmxt_sum
scorep-score -r ./scorep_myprog_Ppmxt_sum/profile.cubex
INFO: Score report written to ./scorep_myprog_Ppmxt_sum/scorep.score
```

- Estimates trace buffer requirements
- Allows to identify canditate functions for filtering
  - ☞ Computational routines with high visit count and low time-per-visit ratio
- Region/call-path classification
  - MPI (pure MPI library functions)
  - OMP (pure OpenMP functions/regions)
  - USR (user-level source local computation
  - COM (“combined” USR + OpeMP/MPI)
  - ANY/ALL (aggregate of all region types)



Call-path Profile: Example (cont.)

```
% less scorep_myprog_Ppmxt_sum/scorep.score
Estimated aggregate size of event trace:                   162GB
Estimated requirements for largest trace buffer (max_buf): 2758MB
Estimated memory requirements (SCOREP_TOTAL_MEMORY):       2822MB
(hint: When tracing set SCOREP_TOTAL_MEMORY=2822MB to avoid
 intermediate flushes or reduce requirements using USR regions
 filters.)

flt type    max_buf[B]         visits  time[s] time[%] time/      region
                                                       visit[us]
     ALL 2,891,417,902 6,662,521,083 36581.51   100.0      5.49  ALL
     USR 2,858,189,854 6,574,882,113 13618.14    37.2      2.07  USR
     OMP    54,327,600    86,353,920 22719.78    62.1    263.10  OMP
     MPI       676,342       550,010   208.98     0.6    379.96  MPI
     COM       371,930       735,040    34.61     0.1     47.09  COM

     USR   921,918,660 2,110,313,472  3290.11     9.0      1.56  matmul_sub
     USR   921,918,660 2,110,313,472  5914.98    16.2      2.80  binvcrhs
     USR   921,918,660 2,110,313,472  3822.64    10.4      1.81  matvec_sub
     USR    41,071,134    87,475,200   358.56     1.0      4.10  lhsinit
     USR    41,071,134    87,475,200   145.42     0.4      1.66  binvrhs
     USR    29,194,256    68,892,672    86.15     0.2      1.25  exact_solution
     OMP     3,280,320     3,293,184    15.81     0.0      4.80  !$omp parallel
     [...]
```

Call-path Profile: Filtering

- In this example, the 6 most fequently called routines are of type USR
- These routines contribute around 35% of total time
  - However, much of that is most likely measurement overhead
    - Frequently executed
    - Time-per-visit ratio in the order of a few microseconds

☞ Avoid measurements to reduce the overhead

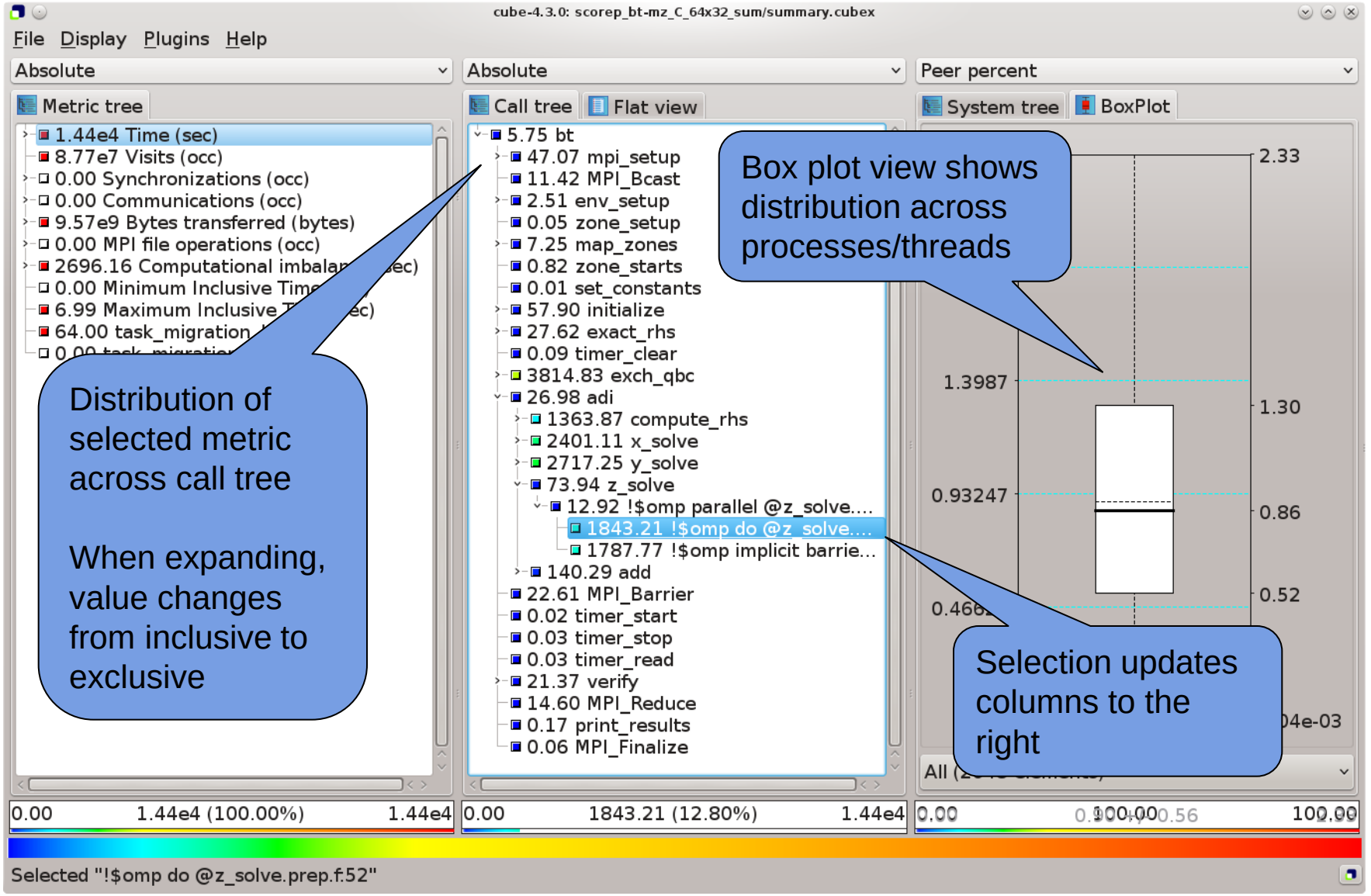
☞ List routines to be filtered in simple text file

Filtering: Example

```
% cat filter.txt
SCOREP_REGION_NAMES_BEGIN
    EXCLUDE
        binvcrhs
        matmul_sub
        matvec_sub
        binvrhs
        lhsinit
        exact_solution
SCOREP_REGION_NAMES_END
```

- Score-P filtering files support
  - Wildcards (shell globs)
  - Blacklisting
  - Whitelisting
  - Filtering based on filenames

Call-path Profile: Example (cont.)



Call-path Profile: Example (cont.)