



HPC SOFTWARE – DEBUGGER AND PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS TOOLS

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OUTLINE

- Local module setup
- Compilers
- Libraries

Make it work,
make it right,
make it fast.

Kent Beck

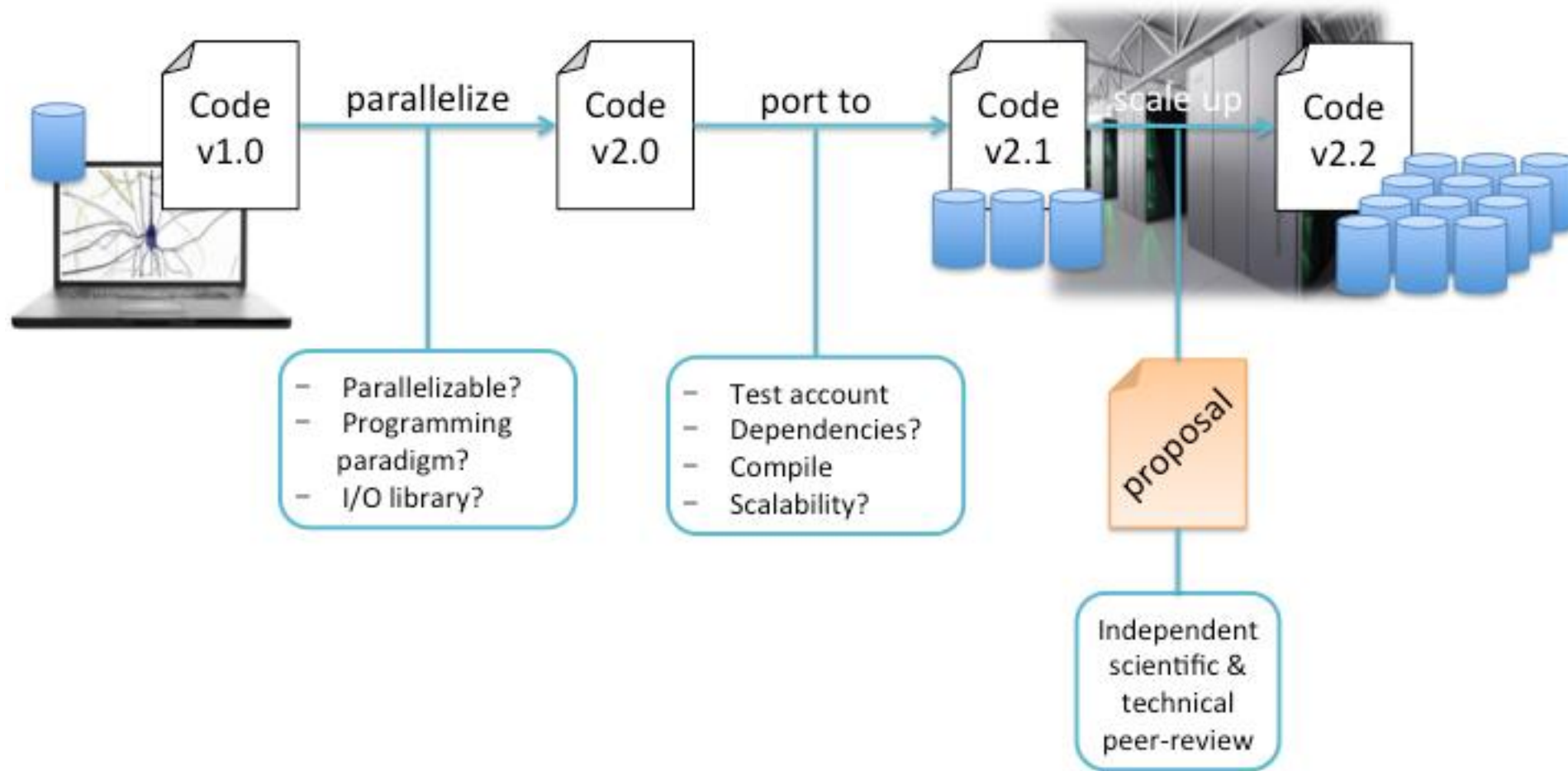
**Debugger and Correctness
Tools**

Performance Analysis Tools

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ABOUT TOOLS?



NEW APPLICATION?



WORKING WITH LEGACY CODES?



VETERAN HPC USER, BUT NEW TO JSC?



- Assess performance on a JSC machine



- Compare behavior on different machines



- Investigate scaling behavior



Thread State	TID	Location
Breakpoint	1.1	tensorflow::SoftmaxXentWithLoss
Stopped	1.2	pthread_cond_wait
Stopped	1.3	pthread_cond_wait
Stopped	1.4	pthread_cond_wait

☒ Thread State
☒ Thread ID
☒ Function
☐ Process State
☐ Control Group

↑

↺

↓

Name	Type	Value
_	int	0x0000000000000000...
nstar	int	0x000000006 (6)
grap...	int	0x000000015 (21)
[Add...]		

```

601 // Target nodes
602 const char** c_target_oper_names, int ntargets,
603 TF_Buffer* run_metadata, TF_Status* status) {
604 TF_Run_Setup(noutputs, c_outputs, status);
605 std::vector<std::pair<tensorflow::string, Tensor>> input_pairs(ninputs);
606 if (!TF_Run_Inputs(c_inputs, &input_pairs, status)) return;
607 for (int i = 0; i < ninputs; ++i) {
608   input_pairs[i].first = c_input_names[i];
609 }
610 std::vector<tensorflow::string> output_names(noutputs);
611 for (int i = 0; i < noutputs; ++i) {
612   output_names[i] = c_output_names[i];
613 }
614 std::vector<tensorflow::string> target_oper_names(ntargets);
615 for (int i = 0; i < ntargets; ++i) {
616   target_oper_names[i] = c_target_oper_names[i];
617 }
618 TF_Run_Helper(s->session, nullptr, run_options, input_pairs, output_names,
619               c_outputs, target_oper_names, run_metadata, status);
620 }
621
622 void TF_PRunSetup(TF_DeprecatedSession* s,
623                  const char** c_input_names, int ninputs,
624                  const char** c_output_names, int noutputs,
625                  // Target nodes
626                  const char** c_target_oper_names, int ntargets,
627                  const char** handle, TF_Status* status) {
628   status->status = Status::OK();
629
630   std::vector<tensorflow::string> input_names(ninputs);
631   std::vector<tensorflow::string> output_names(noutputs);
632   std::vector<tensorflow::string> target_oper_names(ntargets);
633
634   for (int i = 0; i < ninputs; ++i) {
635     input_names[i] = c_input_names[i];
636   }
637   for (int i = 0; i < noutputs; ++i) {
638     output_names[i] = c_output_names[i];
639   }
640   for (int i = 0; i < ntargets; ++i) {
641     target_oper_names[i] = c_target_oper_names[i];
642   }
643   TF_Run_Helper(s->session, nullptr, run_options, input_names, output_names,
644                 target_oper_names, handle, run_metadata, status);
645 }
        
```

Language	Function
C++	tensorflow::FunctionLibraryRuntime::GetOrLoadFunction
C++	tensorflow::DirectSession::GetOrLoadFunction
C++	std::_Function_handler<tensorflow::Status, tensorflow::Status*>::operator()
C++	std::function<tensorflow::Status (tensorflow::Status*)>::operator()
C++	tensorflow::Sunnamed_namespaces::GetOrLoadFunction
C++	tensorflow::NewLocalExecutor
C++	tensorflow::DirectSession::GetOrLoadFunction
C++	tensorflow::DirectSession::Run
C++	TF_Run_Helper
C++	TF_Run
C++	tensorflow::TF_Run_wrapper_helper
C++	tensorflow::TF_Run_wrapper
Py	_run_fn
C	ext_do_call
Py	_do_call
Py	_do_run

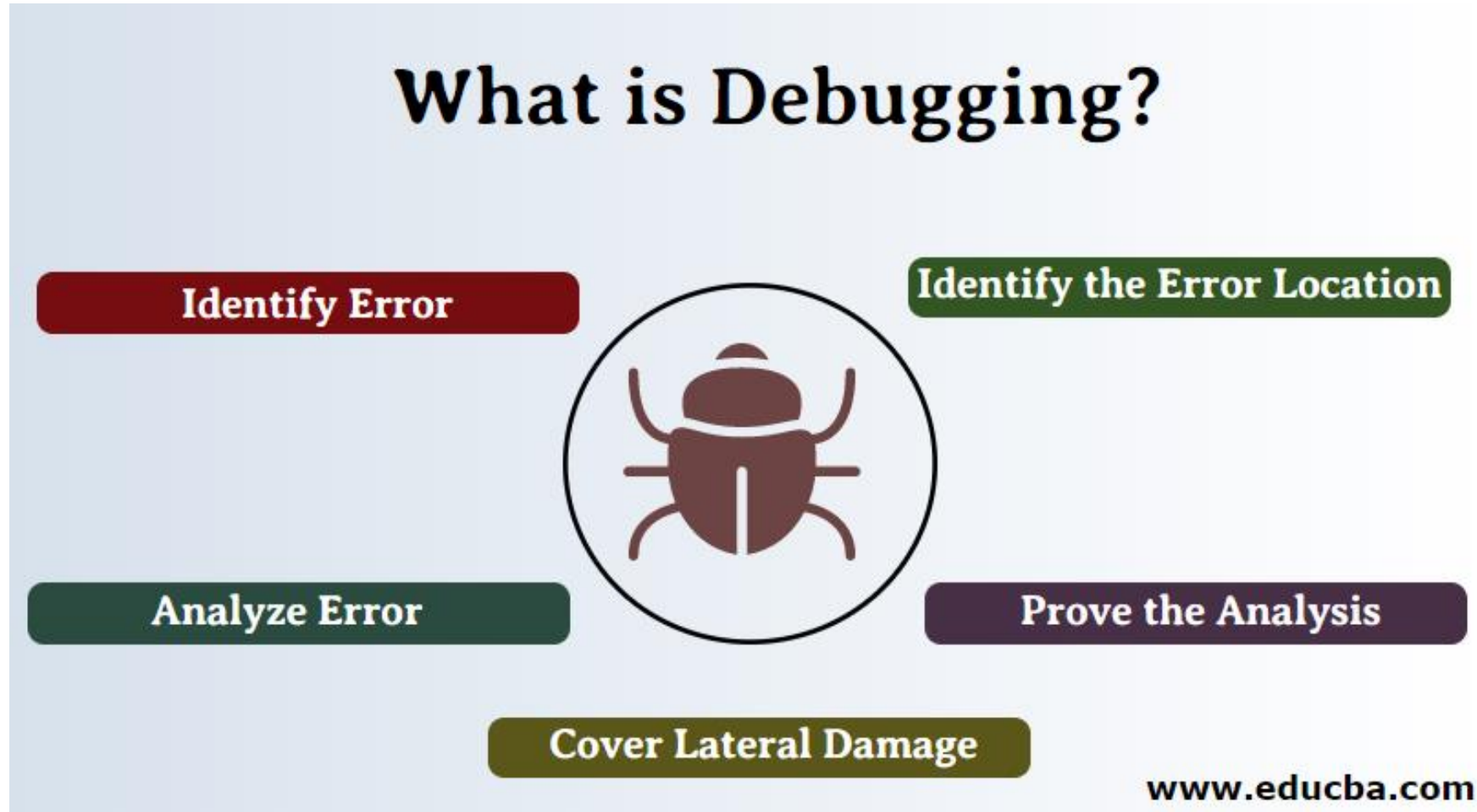
Action Points

Command Line

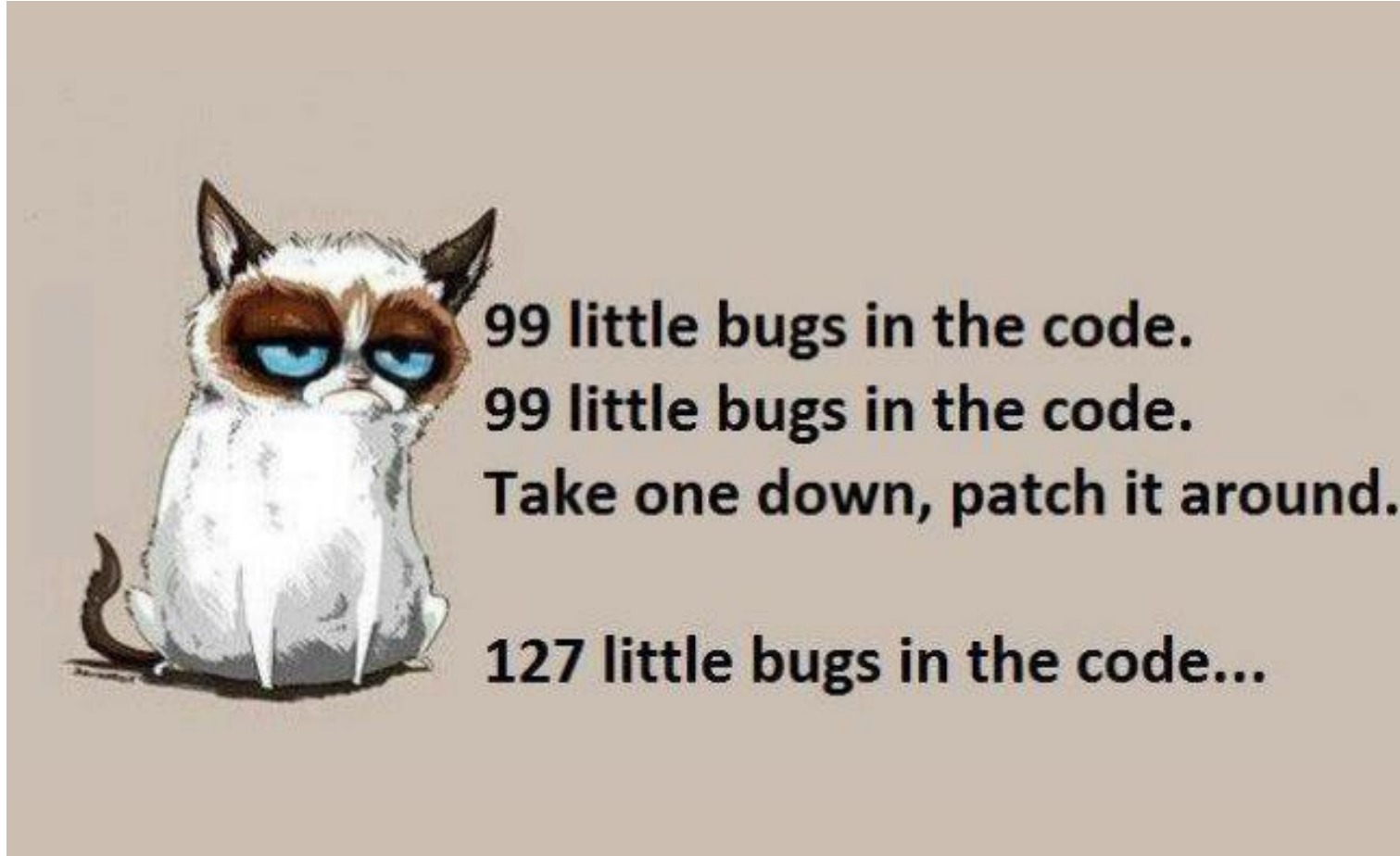
ID	Type	Stop	Location	Line
1	Breakpoint		tensorflow::SoftmaxXentWithLoss	604

DEBUGGER & CORRECTNESS TOOLS

WHAT IS DEBUGGING?

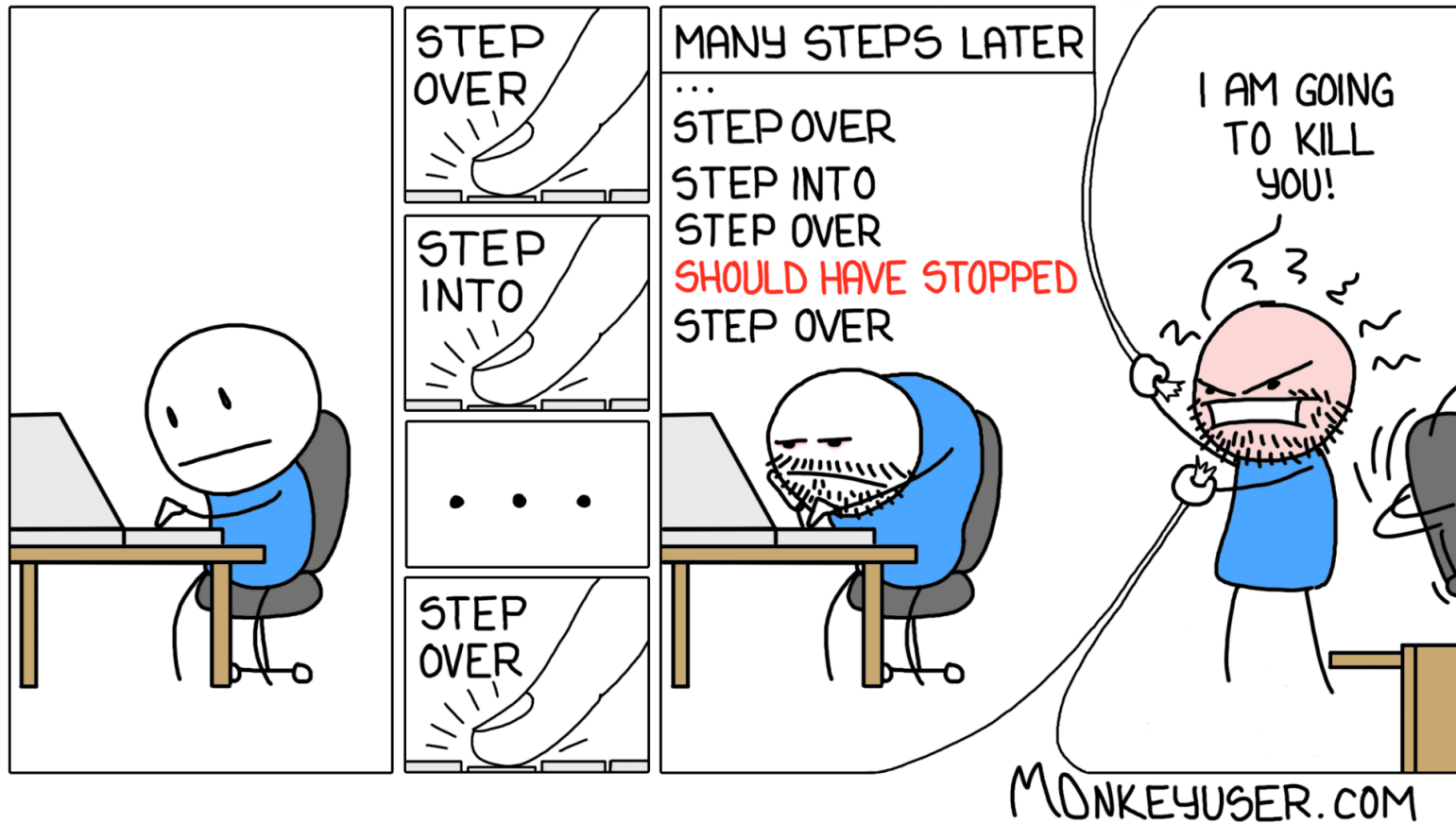


ATTENTION: DEBUGGING CAN BE TIME CONSUMING

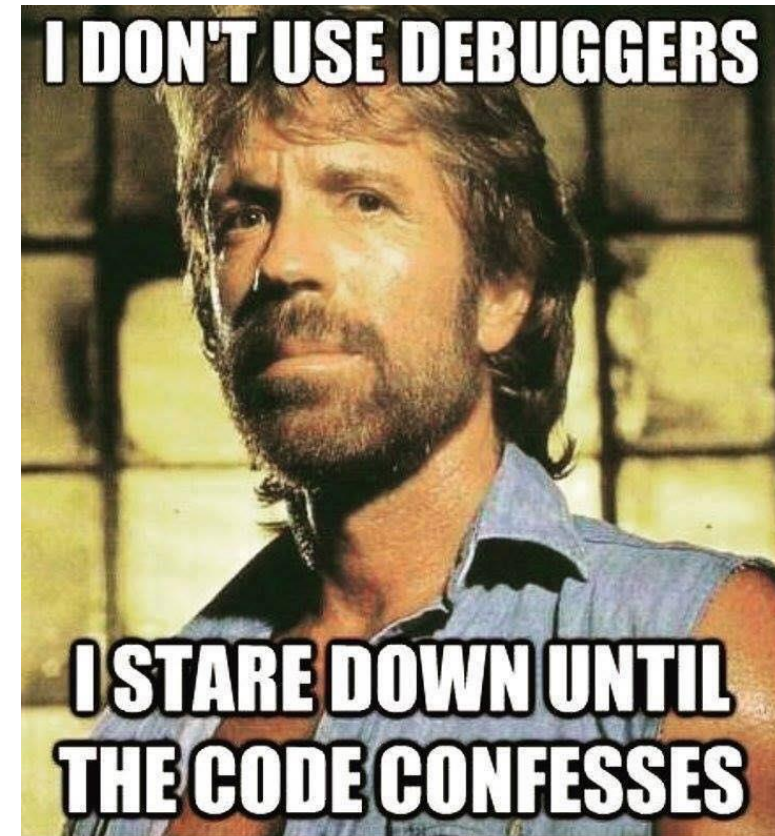


ATTENTION: DEBUGGING CAN BE FRUSTRATING

STEP BY STEP DEBUGGING



BUT: DON'T BE THESE GUYS



DEBUGGING TOOLS (**STATUS: NOV 2025**)

- **Debugger:**

- (GDB)
- CUDA-GDB
- TotalView
- LinaroForge - DDT

- **Correctness and Memory Analyzer:**

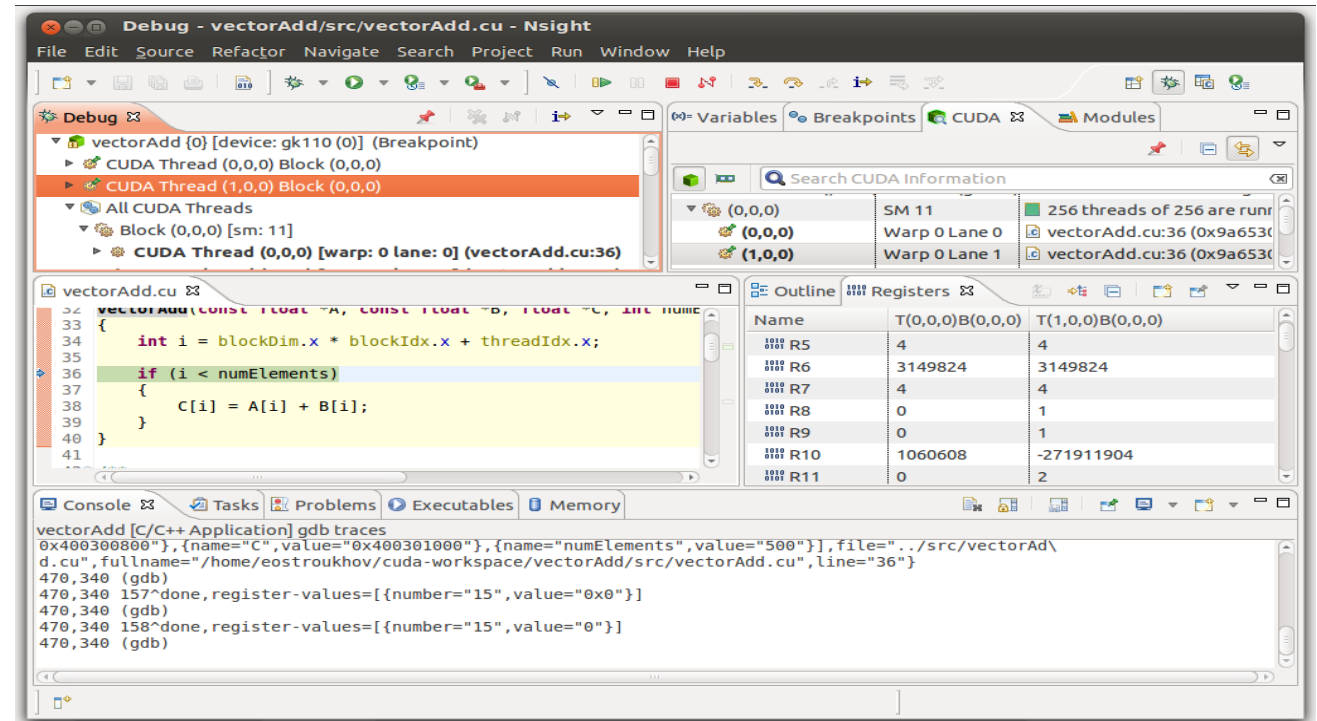
- (Valgrind)
- MUST
- Archer
- CUDA Compute Sanitizer



CUDA-GDB



- Part of the CUDA toolkit
- Extension to gdb
- CLI and GUI (Nsight)
- Simultaneously debug on the CPU and multiple GPUs
- Use conditional breakpoints or break automatically on every kernel launch
- Examine variables, read/write memory and registers
- Inspect GPU state when the application is suspended
- Identify memory access violations



- UNIX Symbolic Debugger for C/C++, Fortran, mixed Python/C++, PGI HPF, assembler programs
- JSC's “standard” debugger
- Advanced features
 - Multi-process and multi-threaded
 - Multi-dimensional array data visualization
 - Support for [parallel debugging](#) (MPI: automatic attach, message queues, OpenMP, Pthreads)
 - Scripting and [batch debugging](#)
 - Advanced memory debugging
 - Reverse debugging
 - [CUDA](#) and [OpenACC](#) support
 - Remote debugging
- **NOTE:** JSC license limited to 2048 processes (shared between all users)

TOTALVIEW: MAIN WINDOW

The screenshot shows the TOTALVIEW main window with the following components and callouts:

- Toolbar for common options:** Located at the top of the window, containing buttons for Group (Control), Run, Break, Step Over, Step Into, Step Out, and other debugging actions.
- Thread control:** A panel on the left side of the window, containing a list of processes and threads, and buttons for selecting process or thread attributes to group by (Control Group, Share Group, Hostname).
- Break points:** A panel at the bottom left of the window, containing a table of break points with columns for ID, Type, Stop, File, and Line.
- Stack trace:** A panel on the right side of the window, showing the current stack trace with the selected frame highlighted.
- Source code window:** The central panel of the window, displaying the source code of the selected file (tx_cuda_matmul.cu).
- Local variables for selected stack frame:** A panel on the right side of the window, showing the local variables for the selected stack frame (MatMulKernel).

The source code window displays the following code:

```
74 // Invoke kernel
75 dim3 dimBlock(BLOCK_SIZE, BLOCK_SIZE);
76 dim3 dimGrid(B.width / dimBlock.x, A.height / dimBlock.y, 1);
77 MatMulKernel<<<dimGrid, dimBlock>>>(d_A, d_B, d_C);
78 // Read C from device memory
79 cudaMemcpy(C.elements, d_C.elements, size, cudaMemcpyDeviceToHost);
80 // Free device memory
81 cudaFree(d_A.elements);
82 cudaFree(d_B.elements);
83 cudaFree(d_C.elements);
84 }
85
86 // Matrix multiplication kernel called by MatrixMul()
87 global __void MatMulKernel(Matrix A, Matrix B, Matrix C)
88 {
89     // Block row and column
90     int blockRow = blockIdx.y;
91     int blockCol = blockIdx.x;
92     // Each thread block computes one sub-matrix Csub of C
93     Matrix Csub = GetSubMatrix(C, blockRow, blockCol);
94     // Each thread computes one element of Csub
95     // by accumulating results into a value
96     float Cvalue = 0;
97     // Thread row and column within Csub
98     int row = threadIdx.y;
99     int col = threadIdx.x;
100     // Loop over all the sub-matrices of A and B that are
101     // required to compute Csub
102     // Multiply each pair of sub-matrices together
103     // and accumulate the results
104     for (int m = 0; m < (A.width / BLOCK_SIZE); ++m) { /* MAP
105         // Get sub-matrix Asub of A
106         Matrix Asub = GetSubMatrix(A, blockRow, m);
107         // Get sub-matrix Bsub of B
108         Matrix Bsub = GetSubMatrix(B, m, blockCol);
109         // Compute the dot product of Asub and Bsub
110         Cvalue += Asub[row * BLOCK_SIZE + row, m] * Bsub[m, m * BLOCK_SIZE + col];
111     }
```

LINARO FORGE - DDT

- UNIX Graphical Debugger for C/C++, Fortran, and Python programs
- Modern, easy-to-use debugger
- Advanced features
 - Multi-process and multi-threaded
 - Multi-dimesional array data visualization
 - Support for MPI parallel debugging (automatic attach, message queues)
 - Support for OpenMP (Version 2.x and later)
 - Support for CUDA and OpenACC
 - Job submission from within debugger
- <https://linaroforge.com/linaroDdt>
- **NOTE:** JSC license limited to 128 processes (shared between all users)

DDT: MAIN WINDOW

Process controls

CUDA Thread stepping

Variables

CUDA Thread control

Source code

GPU Device information

Expression evaluator

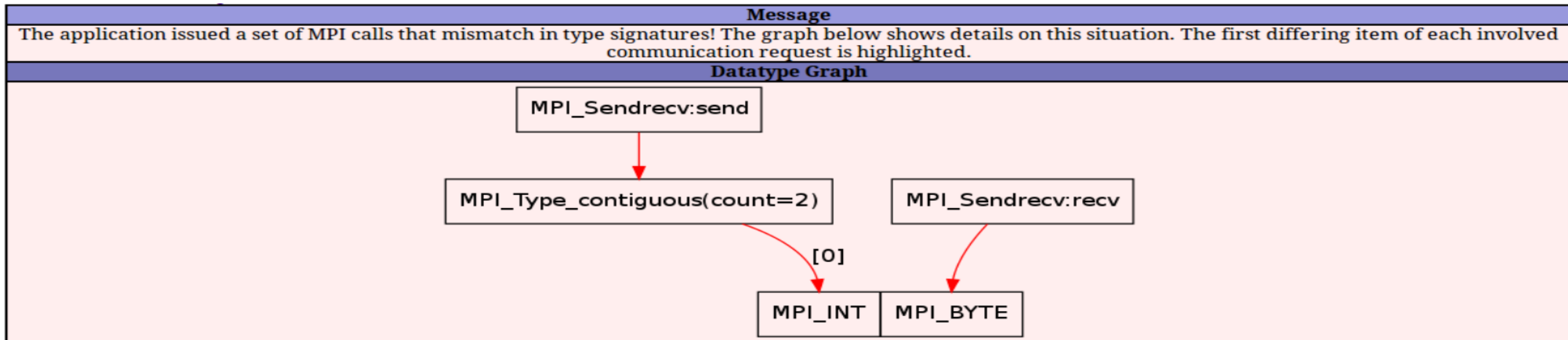
Stack trace

The screenshot displays the Arm DDT - Arm Forge 19.1.1 interface. At the top, there are process controls including a 'Focus on current' dropdown (set to 'Process'), a 'Step Threads Together' checkbox, and a 'Step CUDA threads by:' dropdown (set to 'Warp (default)'). Below these are navigation arrows. The 'Threads' panel shows a list of threads with 'K3' selected. The 'CUDA Threads (conv2d_global)' panel shows 'Block 2' and 'Thread 0'. The 'Grid size: 32x32x1' and 'Block size: 16x16x1' are displayed. The 'Project Files' panel shows a tree view with 'edge.cu' selected. The 'Source code' panel shows the C++ code for 'conv2d_global'. The 'Locals' panel shows variables: 'cx' (-1), 'cy' (-1), 'output' ('{x = 0, y = 0, z = 0, w = 255}'), 'x' (32), 'y' (0), and 'index' (32). The 'GPU Devices' panel shows information for 'Ranks 0' and 'GM20B', including 'Compute Capability' (sm_53), 'Number of SMs' (1), 'Warps per SM' (64), 'Lanes per Warp' (32), and 'Registers per Lane' (256). The 'Stacks' panel shows a list of threads and their current function calls. The 'Expression evaluator' panel shows the evaluation of 'x+cx + (y+cy)*width' resulting in -481, and 'x+cx' resulting in 31, and 'y+cy' resulting in -1.

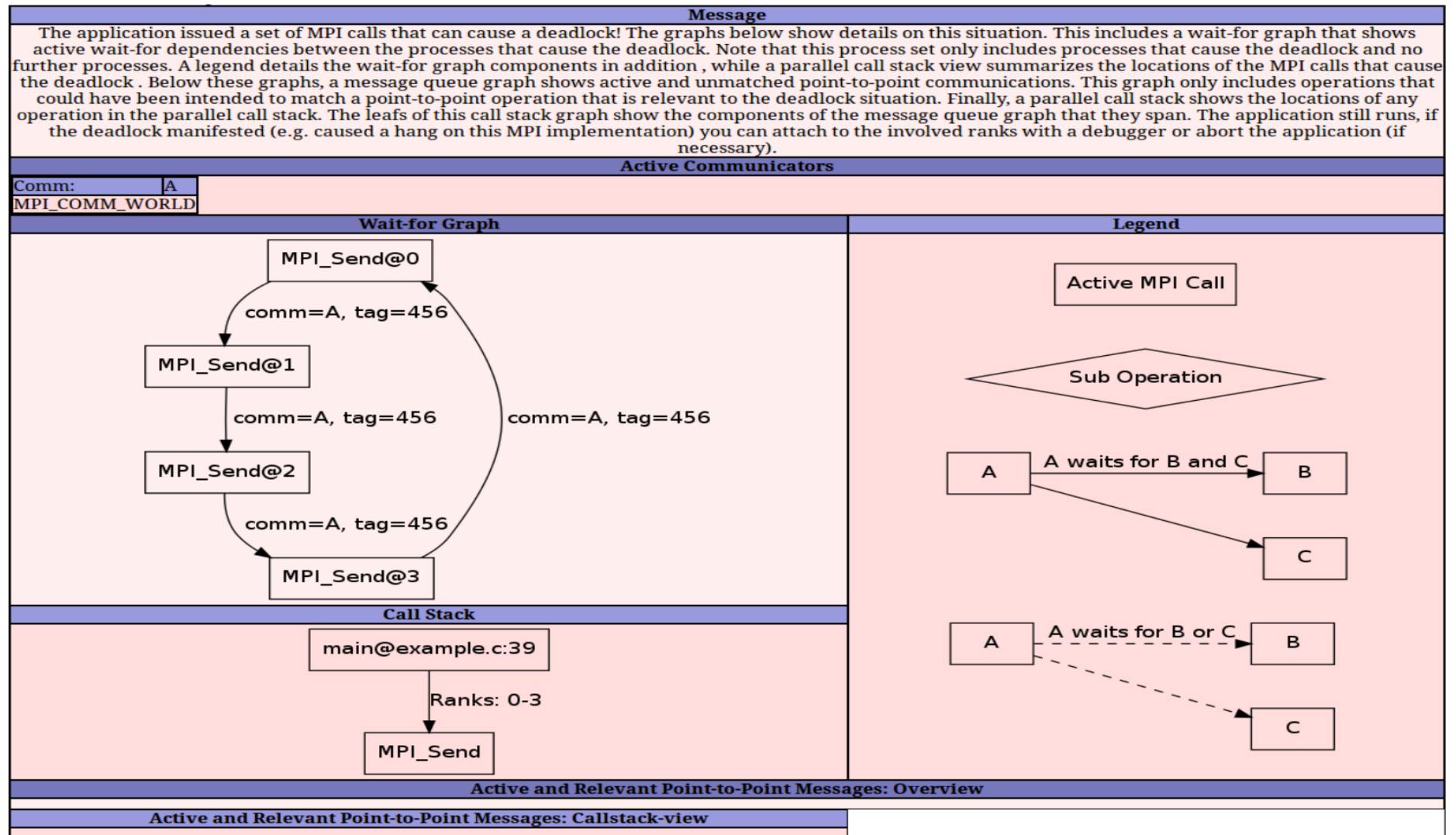
- Next generation MPI correctness and portability checker
- <https://www.i12.rwth-aachen.de/go/id/nrbe>
- MUST reports
 - Errors: violations of the MPI-standard
 - Warnings: unusual behavior or possible problems
 - Notes: harmless but remarkable behavior
 - Potential deadlock detection
- Usage
 - Compile with debug information (i.e. use the -g flag)
 - Run application under the control of **mustrun** (requires (at least) one additional MPI process)
 - E.g. on JUSUF: `mustrun --must:mpiexec srun --must:np -n -n 4 ./app`
 - Open output html report (might need to copy it to your local machine)

MUST DATATYPE MISMATCH

Rank	Type	Message	From	References
0	Error	<p>A send and a receive operation use datatypes that do not match! Mismatch occurs at (contiguous) [0](MPI_INT) in the send type and at (MPI_BYTE) in the receive type (consult the MUST manual for a detailed description of datatype positions). A graphical representation of this situation is available in a detailed type mismatch view (MUST Output-files/MUST Typemismatch 0.html). The send operation was started at reference 1, the receive operation was started at reference 2. (Information on communicator: MPI_COMM_WORLD) (Information on send of count 1 with type:Datatype created at reference 3 is for C, committed at reference 4, based on the following type(s): { MPI_INT}Typemap = {(MPI_INT, 0), (MPI_INT, 4)}) (Information on receive of count 8 with type:MPI_BYTE)</p>	<p>MPI_Sendrecv called from: #0 main@example.c:33</p>	<p>reference 1 rank 0: MPI_Sendrecv called from: #0 main@example.c:33</p> <p>reference 2 rank 1: MPI_Sendrecv called from: #0 main@example.c:33</p> <p>reference 3 rank 0: MPI_Type_contiguous called from: #0 main@example.c:29</p> <p>reference 4 rank 0: MPI_Type_commit called from: #0 main@example.c:30</p>



MUST DEADLOCK DETECTION



ARCHER



- Data race detector for large OpenMP programs
- Combination of static and dynamic techniques
 - Low runtime and memory overhead
 - Still high accuracy and precision
- Now part of LLVM
- Compile with `-fsanitize=thread`
- Can be used with GCC, but CLANG OpenMP runtime must be linked
- Creates output in text format

ARCHER EXAMPLE

```
WARNING: ThreadSanitizer: data race (pid=2234)
  Write of size 4 at 0x7fff81d209d0 by thread T1:
    #0 .omp_outlined._debug__ /p/project/training2410/knobloch1/archer_test.c:11:10 (a.out+0xd1efb)
    #1 .omp_outlined. /p/project/training2410/knobloch1/archer_test.c:9:1 (a.out+0xd1f85)
    #2 __kmp_invoke_microtask <null> (libomp.so+0xb8782)
    #3 main /p/project/training2410/knobloch1/archer_test.c:9:1 (a.out+0xd1d55)

  Previous read of size 4 at 0x7fff81d209d0 by main thread:
    #0 .omp_outlined._debug__ /p/project/training2410/knobloch1/archer_test.c:11:12 (a.out+0xd1ed6)
    #1 .omp_outlined. /p/project/training2410/knobloch1/archer_test.c:9:1 (a.out+0xd1f85)
    #2 __kmp_invoke_microtask <null> (libomp.so+0xb8782)
    #3 main /p/project/training2410/knobloch1/archer_test.c:9:1 (a.out+0xd1d55)

  Location is stack of main thread.

  Location is global '??' at 0x7fff81d03000 ([stack]+0x1d9d0)

  Thread T1 (tid=2237, running) created by main thread at:
    #0 pthread_create /dev/shm/swmanage/jusuf/Clang/16.0.6/GCCcore-12.3.0/llvm-project-16.0.6.src/compiler-rt/lib/tsan/rtl/tsan_interceptors_posix.cpp:1048:3 (a.out+0x2678b)
    #1 __kmp_create_worker <null> (libomp.so+0x97676)

SUMMARY: ThreadSanitizer: data race /p/project/training2410/knobloch1/archer_test.c:11:10 in .omp_outlined._debug__
=====
ThreadSanitizer: reported 1 warnings
```

CUDA COMPUTE SANITIZER



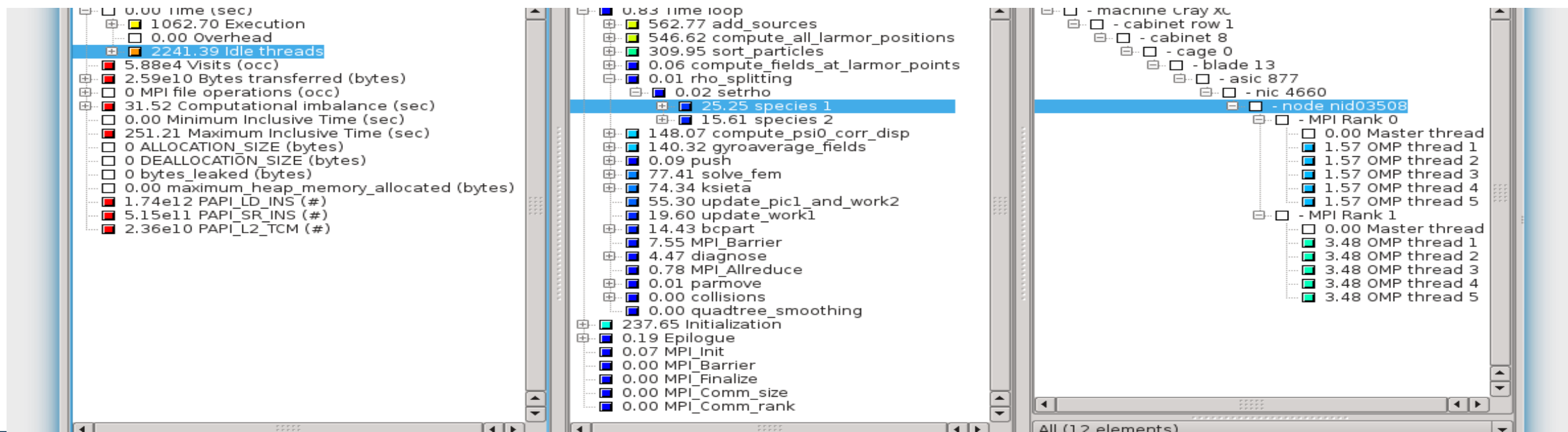
- Valgrind for GPUs
- Monitors hundreds of thousands of threads running concurrently on each GPU
- Multiple Tools to detect various issues
 - Memcheck – Memory error and leak detection tool
 - Racecheck – Shared memory data access hazard detection tool
 - Initcheck – Uninitialized device global memory access detection tool
 - Synccheck – Thread synchronization hazard detection tool
- Included in the CUDA Toolkit

```
Applications Places System
File Edit View Terminal Help
linux64:~/demo2010$ ./ptrchecktest
unspecified launch failure : 79
linux64:~/demo2010$ cuda-memcheck ./ptrchecktest
===== CUDA-MEMCHECK
unspecified launch failure : 79
===== Invalid __global__ read of size 4
===== at 0x00000158 in ptrchecktest.cu:27:kernel2
===== by thread (0,0,0) in block (0,0)
===== Address 0xfd0000001 is misaligned
=====
===== ERROR SUMMARY: 1 error
linux64:~/demo2010$ cuda-memcheck --continue ./ptrchecktest
===== CUDA-MEMCHECK
Checking...
Done
Checking...
Error: 3 (0)
Done
Checking...
Error: 1 (0)
Error: 3 (0)
Error: 5 (0)
Error: 7 (0)
Done
===== Invalid __global__ read of size 4
===== at 0x00000158 in ptrchecktest.cu:27:kernel2
===== by thread (0,0,0) in block (0,0)
===== Address 0xfd0000001 is misaligned
=====
===== Invalid __global__ read of size 4
===== at 0x00000198 in ptrchecktest.cu:18:kernel1
===== by thread (3,0,0) in block (5,0)
===== Address 0xfd00000028 is out of bounds
=====
===== Invalid __global__ write of size 8
===== at 0x000001d0 in ptrchecktest.cu:38:kernel3
===== by thread (1,0,0) in block (8,0)
===== Address 0xfd00000204 is misaligned
=====
===== Invalid __global__ write of size 4
===== at 0x000000f0 in ptrchecktest.cu:44:kernel4
===== by thread (63,0,0) in block (22,0)
===== Address 0x00000000 is out of bounds
=====
===== ERROR SUMMARY: 4 errors
```

DEBUGGING RECOMMENDATIONS

- Always debug at the lowest possible scale!
- GPU Applications:
 - Single Node / Workstation: Use CUDA-GDB
 - Multi-Node / Supercomputer: Use TotalView/DDT
- MPI Applications:
 - Check with MUST at least once
 - Use TotalView/DDT at small scale (if error occurs there), else attach to as few processes as necessary





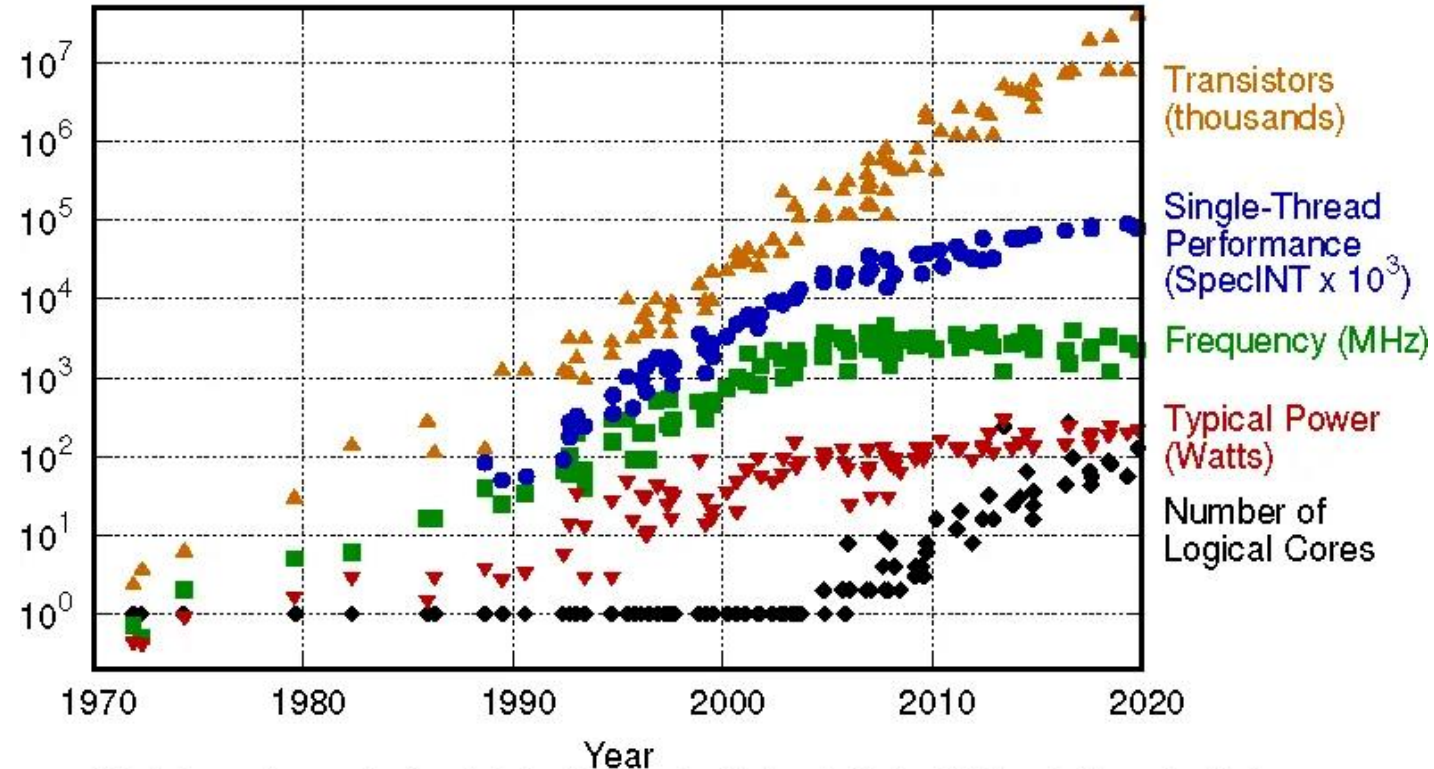
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS TOOLS

TODAY: THE “FREE LUNCH” IS OVER

- Moore's law is still in charge, but
 - Clock rates no longer increase
 - Performance gains only through increased parallelism
- Optimization of applications more difficult
 - Increasing application complexity
 - Multi-physics
 - Multi-scale
 - Increasing machine complexity
 - Hierarchical networks / memory
 - Many-core CPUs and Accelerators
 - Modular Supercomputing Architecture

☞ Every doubling of scale reveals a new bottleneck!

48 Years of Microprocessor Trend Data



Original data up to the year 2010 collected and plotted by M. Horowitz, F. Labonte, O. Shacham, K. Olukotun, L. Hammond, and C. Batten
New plot and data collected for 2010-2019 by K. Rupp

PERFORMANCE FACTORS

- “Sequential” (single core) factors
 - Computation
 - ☞ Choose right algorithm, use optimizing compiler
 - Vectorization
 - ☞ Choose right algorithm, use optimizing compiler
 - Cache and memory
 - ☞ Choose the right data structures and data layout

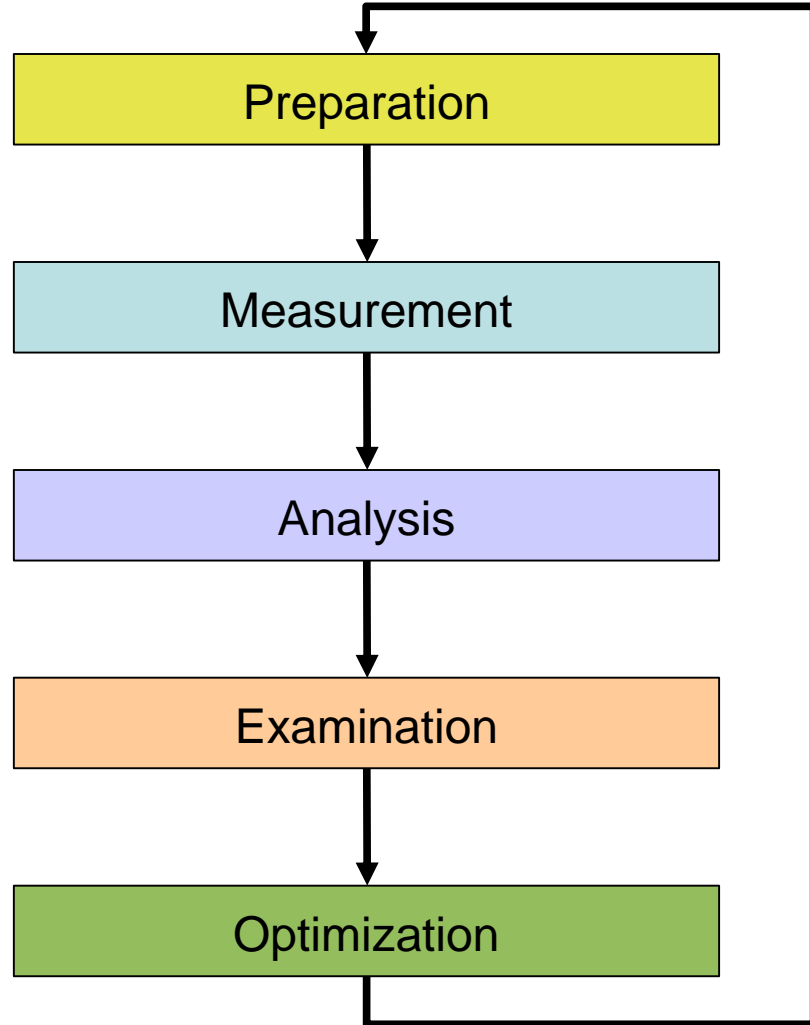
PERFORMANCE FACTORS

- “Parallel” (multi core/node) factors
 - Partitioning / decomposition
 - ☞ Load balancing
 - Communication (i.e., message passing)
 - Multithreading
 - Core binding / NUMA
 - Synchronization / locking
 - I/O
 - ☞ Often not given enough attention
 - ☞ Parallel I/O matters

TUNING BASICS

- Carefully set various tuning parameters
 - The right (parallel) algorithms and libraries
 - Compiler flags and directives
 - Correct machine usage (mapping and bindings)
 - 👉 Get the most performance before tuning!
- Measurement is better than guessing
 - To determine performance bottlenecks
 - To compare alternatives
 - To validate tuning decisions and optimizations
 - 👉 After each step!

PERFORMANCE ENGINEERING WORKFLOW



- Prepare application (with symbols), insert extra code (probes/hooks)
- Collection of data relevant to execution performance analysis
- Calculation of metrics, identification of performance metrics
- Presentation of results in an intuitive/understandable form
- Modifications intended to eliminate/reduce performance problems

THE 80/20 RULE

- Programs typically spend 80% of their time in 20% of the code

☞ *Know what matters!*

- Developers typically spend 20% of their effort to get 80% of the total speedup possible for the application

☞ *Know when to stop!*

- Don't optimize what does not matter

☞ *Make the common case fast!*

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

Two dimensions

When performance measurement is triggered

- **External trigger** (asynchronous)
 - **Sampling**
 - Trigger: Timer interrupt OR Hardware counters overflow
- **Internal trigger** (synchronous)
 - Code **instrumentation** (automatic or manual)

How performance data is recorded

- **Profile**
 - Summation of events over time
- **Trace**
 - Sequence of events over time

MEASUREMENT METHODS: PROFILING

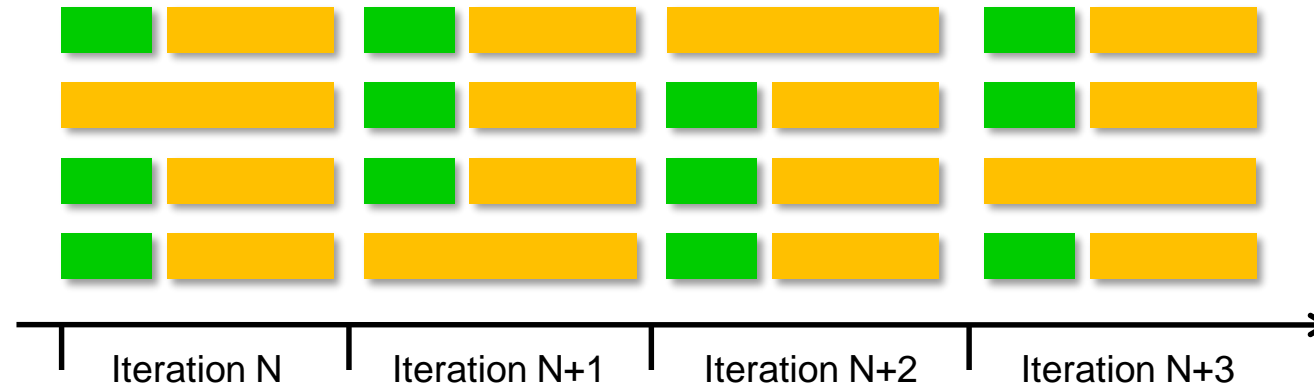
- Recording of **aggregated information**
 - Time
 - Counts
 - Calls
 - Hardware counters
- **Across program and system entities**
 - Functions, call sites, loops, basic blocks, ...
 - Processes, threads
- **Statistical information**
 - Min, max, mean and total number of values

Advantages
+ Works also for
long-running programs

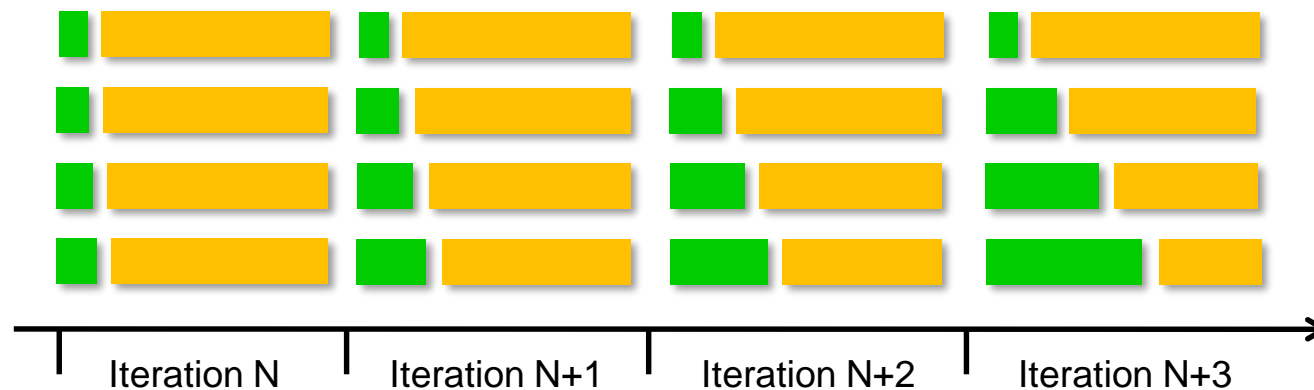
Disadvantages
– Variations over time
get lost

PROFILING: ISSUES RELATED TO "AVERAGING"

- Moving bottleneck across processors can "average out" imbalances



- Imbalance changes over time \Rightarrow problem might not appear in short runs!



MEASUREMENT METHODS: TRACING

- Recording **information about** significant points (**events**) during execution of the program
 - Enter/leave a code region (function, loop, ...)
 - Send/receive a message ...
- Save information in **event record**
 - Timestamp, location ID, event type
 - plus event specific information
- **Event trace** := stream of event records sorted by time

⇒ Abstract execution model on level of defined events

Advantages

- + Can be used to reconstruct the dynamic behavior
- + Profiles can be calculated out of trace data

Disadvantages

- HUGE trace files
- Can only be used for short durations or small configurations

EVENT TRACING

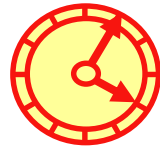
Process A

```
void foo() {  
  trc_enter("foo");  
  ...  
  trc_send(B);  
  send(B, tag, buf);  
  ...  
  trc_exit("foo");  
}
```

instrument

Process B

```
void bar() {  
  trc_enter("bar");  
  ...  
  recv(A, tag, buf);  
  trc_recv(A);  
  ...  
  trc_exit("bar");  
}
```



Local trace A

...		
58	ENTER	1
62	SEND	B
64	EXIT	1
...		

1	foo
...	

Local trace B

...		
60	ENTER	1
68	RECV	A
69	EXIT	1
...		

1	bar
...	

Global trace

...			
58	A	ENTER	1
60	B	ENTER	2
62	A	SEND	B
64	A	EXIT	1
68	B	RECV	A
69	B	EXIT	2
...			

merge

unify

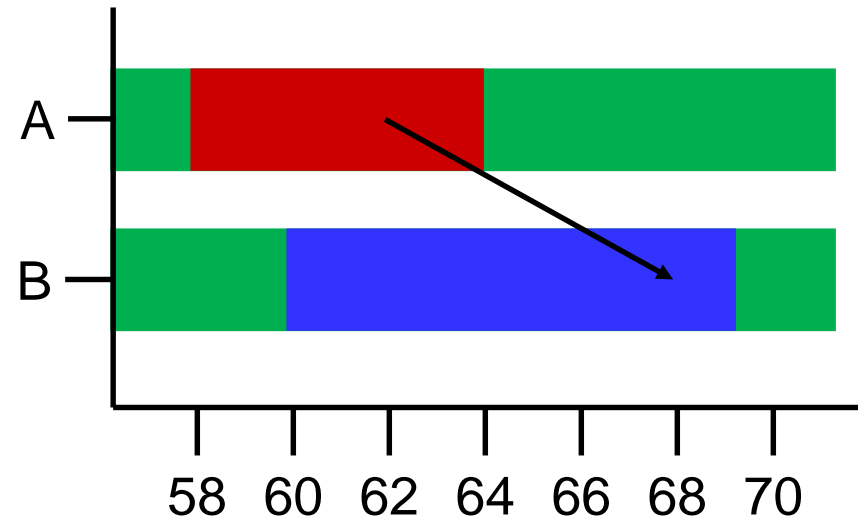
1	foo
2	bar
...	

EVENT TRACING: “TIMELINE” VISUALIZATION

1	foo
2	bar
3	...



...			
58	A	ENTER	1
60	B	ENTER	2
62	A	SEND	B
64	A	EXIT	1
68	B	RECV	A
69	B	EXIT	2
...			

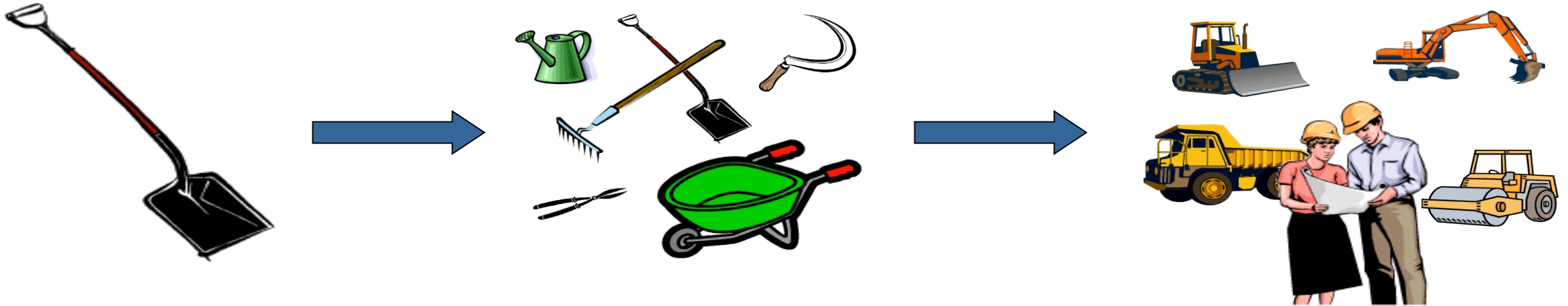


CRITICAL ISSUES

- Accuracy
 - Intrusion overhead
 - Measurement takes time and thus lowers performance
 - Perturbation
 - Measurement alters program behaviour
 - E.g., memory access pattern
 - Accuracy of timers & counters
- Granularity
 - How many measurements?
 - How much information / processing during each measurement?

☞ *Tradeoff: Accuracy vs. Expressiveness of data*

REMARK: NO SINGLE SOLUTION IS SUFFICIENT!

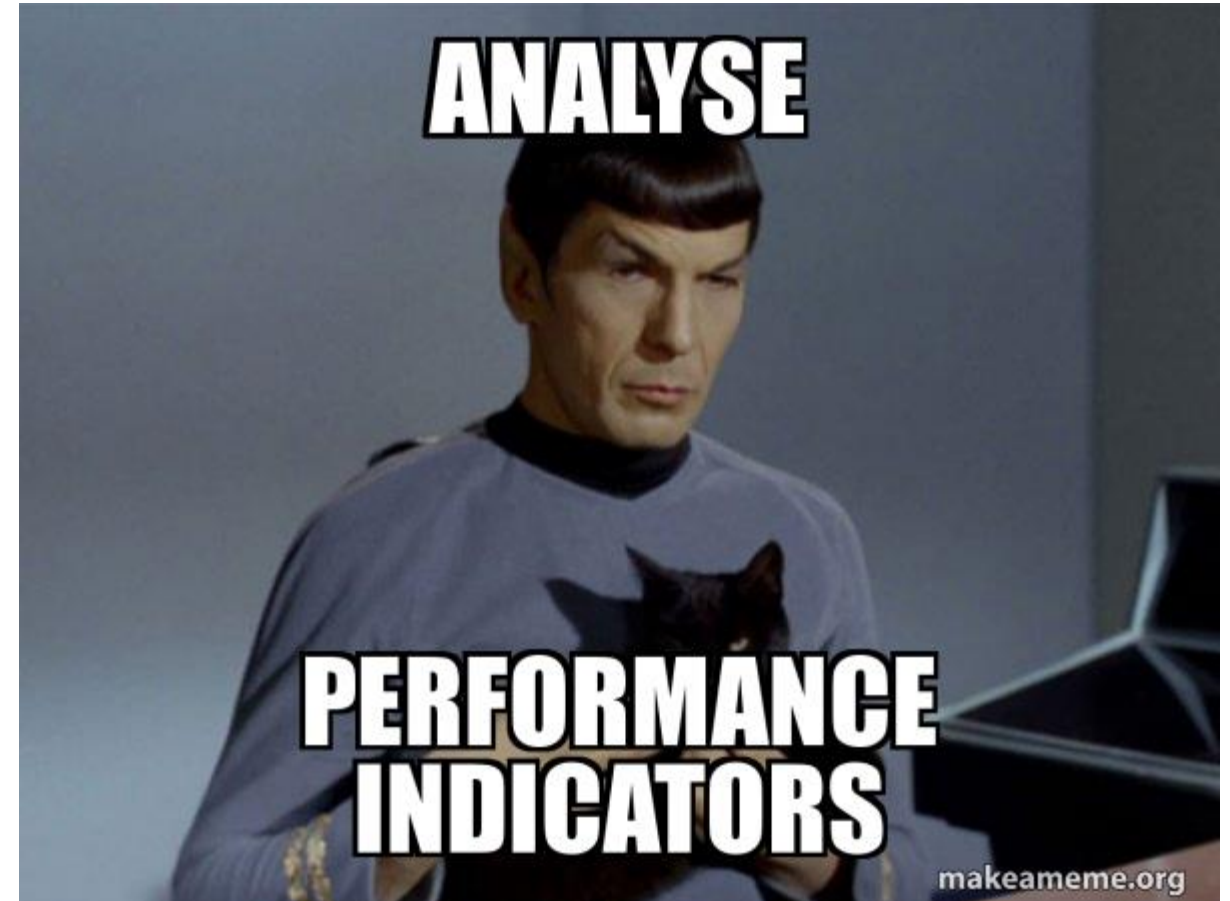


☞ *A combination of different methods, tools and techniques is typically needed!*

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

PERFORMANCE TOOLS (**STATUS: NOV 2025**)

- Score-P
- Scalasca
- Vampir[Server]
- Linaro Forge
 - Performance Reports
 - MAP
- Intel Tools
 - VTune Amplifier XE
 - Intel Advisor
- NVIDIA Tools
 - Nsight Systems
 - Nsight Compute
- Darshan
- ...



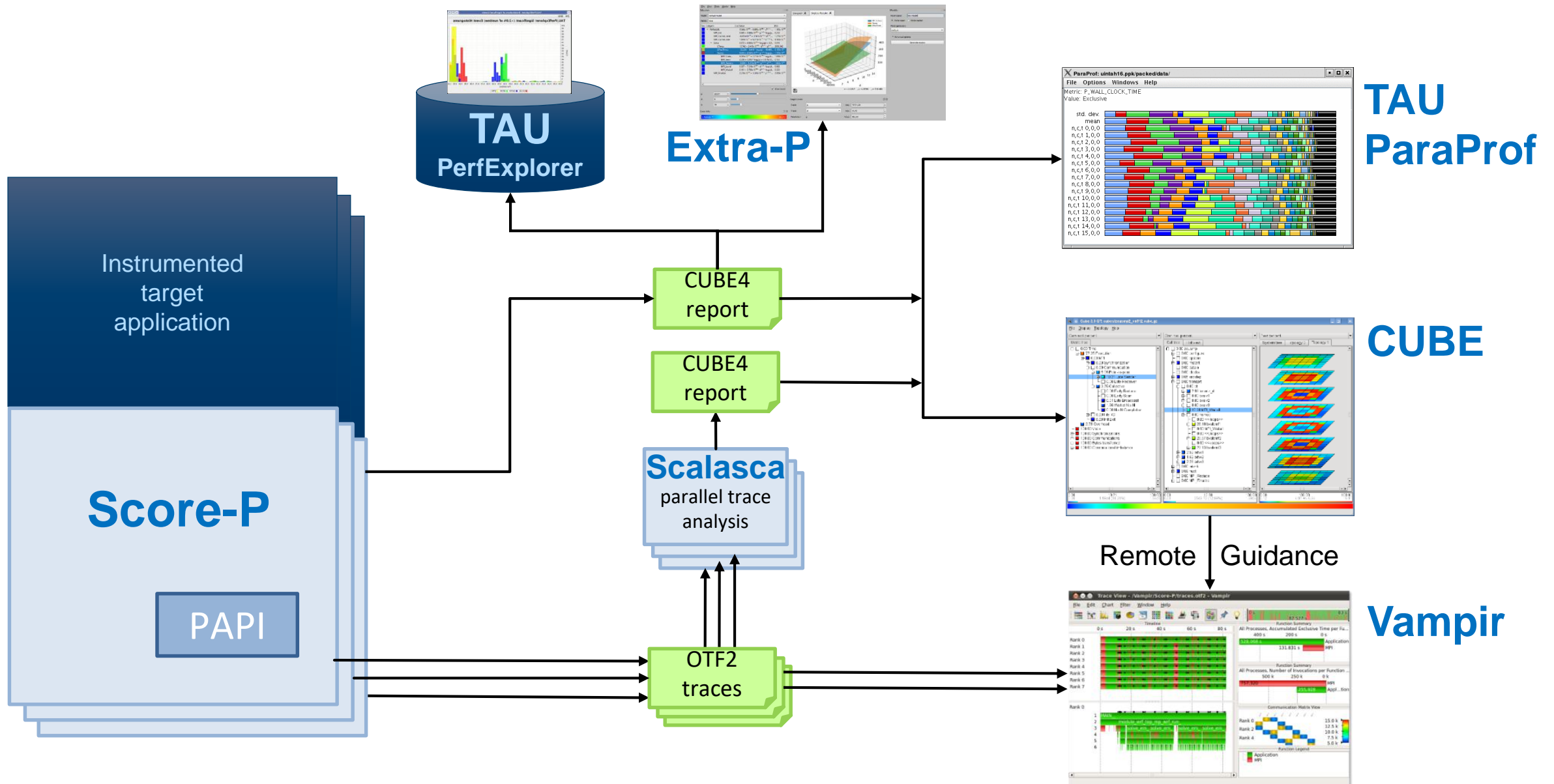
Score-P

Scalable performance measurement
infrastructure for parallel codes

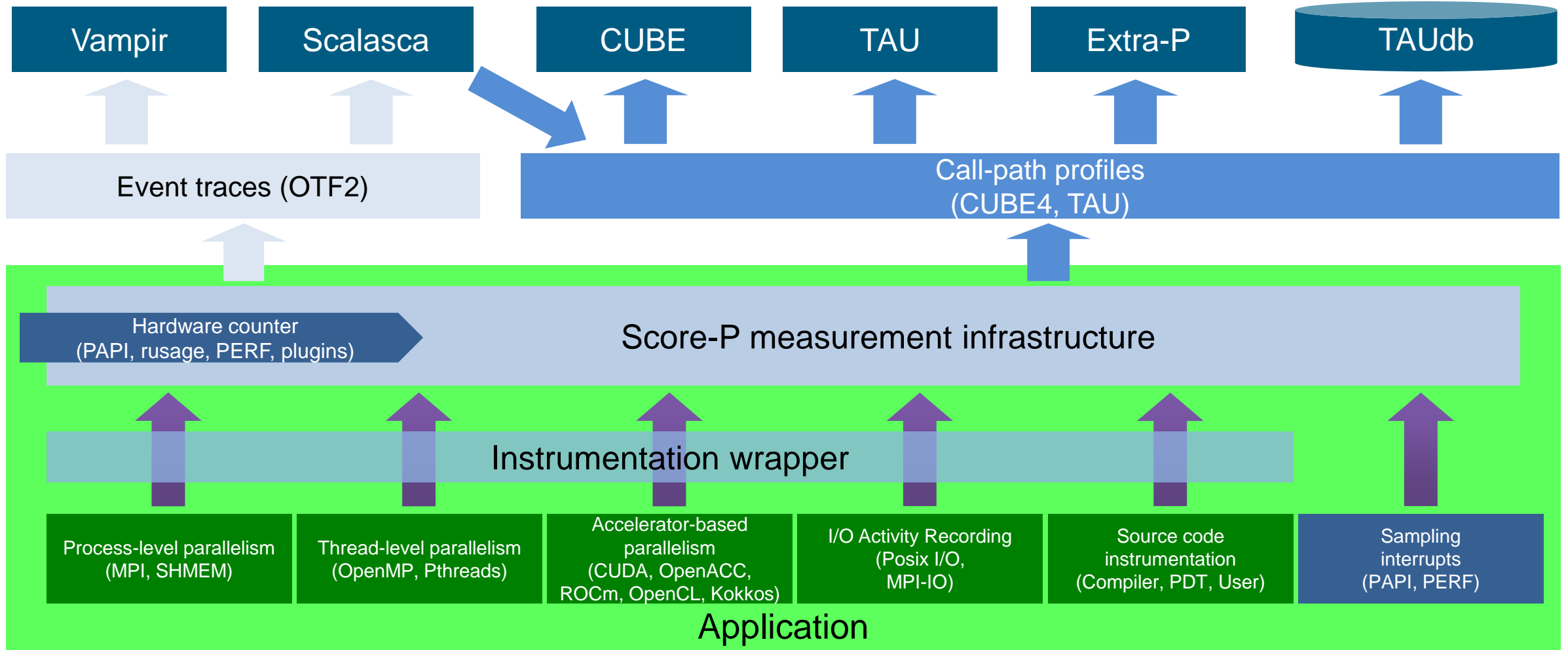
- Community-developed open-source
- Replaced tool-specific instrumentation and measurement components of partners
- <http://www.score-p.org>



Score-P TOOL ECOSYSTEM

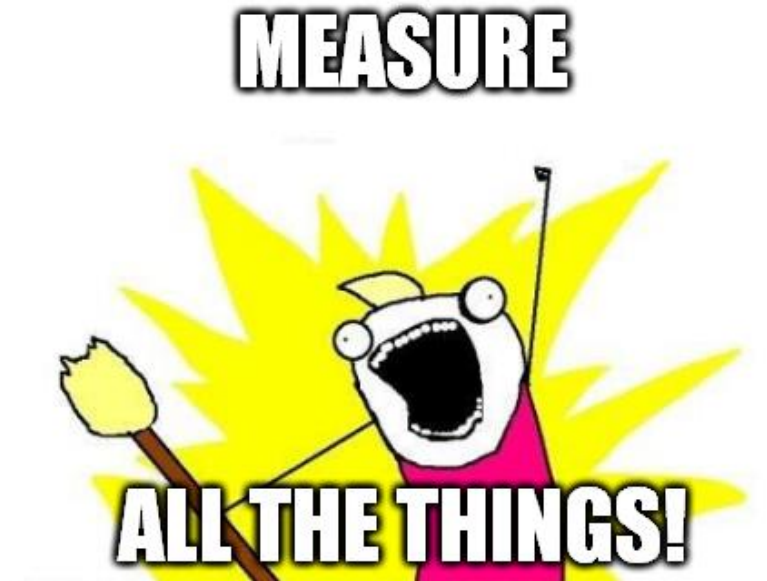


#Score-P ARCHITECTURE

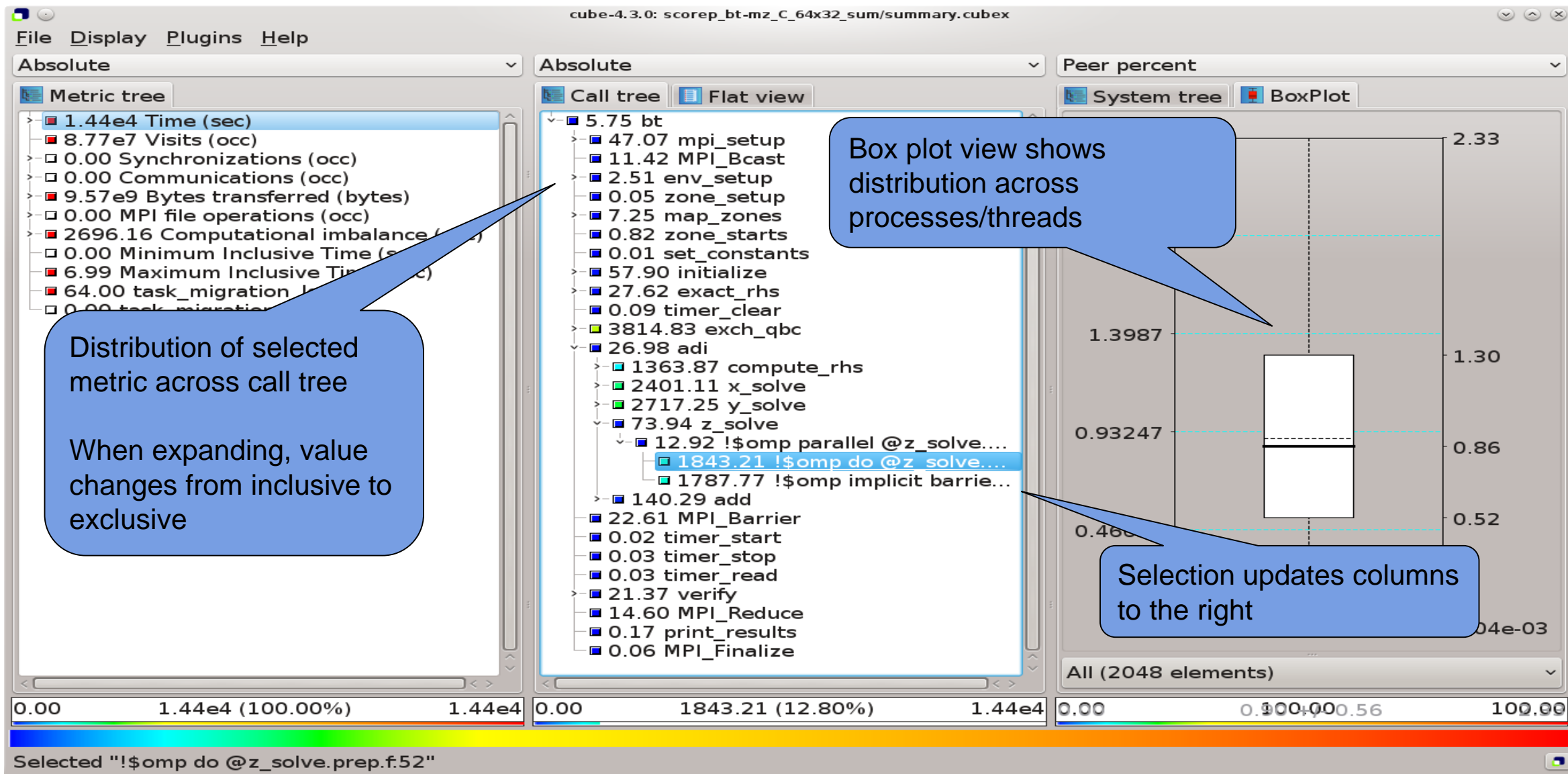


#Score-P FUNCTIONALITY

- Provide typical functionality for HPC performance tools
- **Instrumentation** (various methods)
 - Multi-process paradigms (MPI, SHMEM)
 - Thread-parallel paradigms (OpenMP, POSIX threads)
 - Accelerator-based paradigms (OpenACC, CUDA, OpenCL, ROCm, Kokkos)
 - **In any combination!**
- Flexible **measurement** without re-compilation:
 - Basic and advanced **profile** generation (⇒ CUBE4 format)
 - Event **trace** recording (⇒ OTF2 format)
- Highly scalable I/O functionality
- Support all fundamental concepts of partner's tools



CUBE EXAMPLE



SCORE-P: ADVANCED FEATURES

- Measurement can be extensively configured via environment variables
- Allows for targeted measurements:
 - Selective recording
 - Phase profiling
 - Parameter-based profiling
 - ...
- GPU support: CUDA, OpenACC, OpenCL, HIP, Kokkos, ...
- Please ask us or see the user manual for details



- Scalable Analysis of Large Scale Applications

- Approach

- **Instrument** C, C++, and Fortran parallel applications (**with Score-P**)

- Option 1: scalable call-path profiling

- Option 2: scalable event trace analysis

- **Collect** event traces

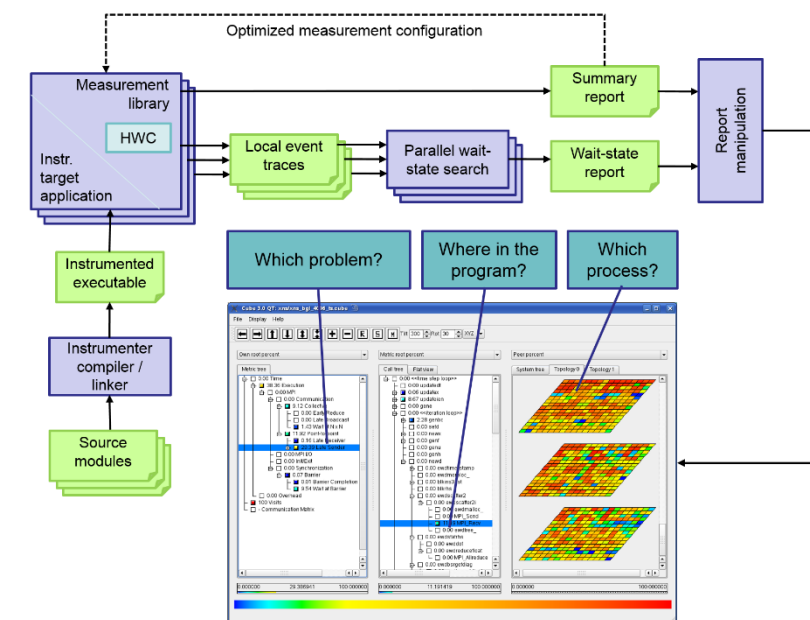
- **Process trace in parallel**

- Wait-state analysis

- Delay and root-cause analysis

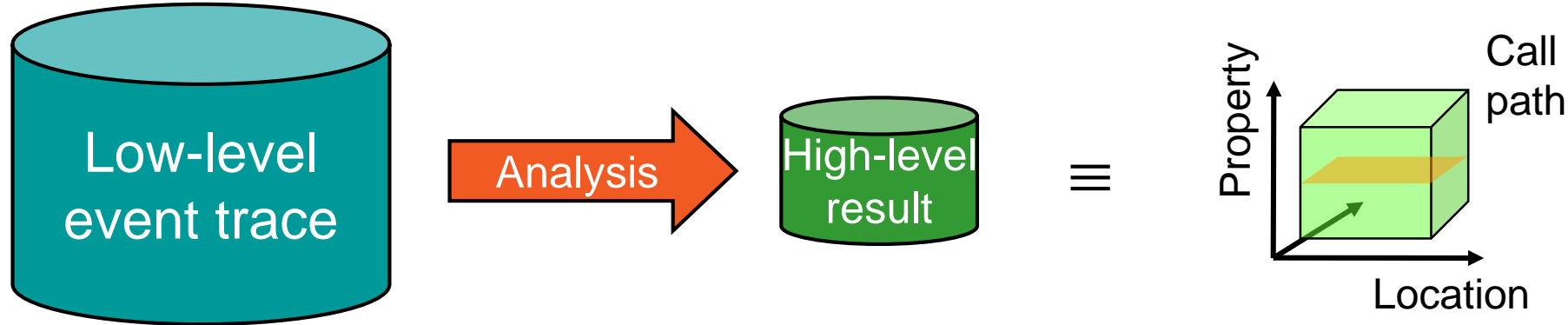
- Critical path analysis

- **Categorize and rank** results



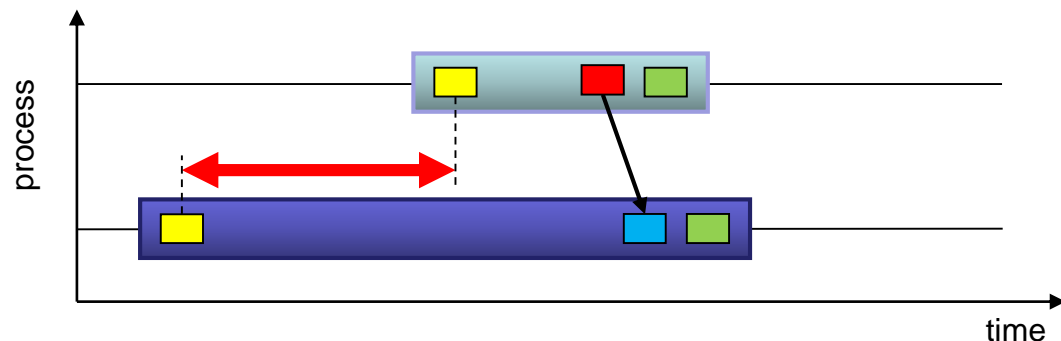
AUTOMATIC TRACE ANALYSIS

- Automatic search for patterns of inefficient behaviour
- Classification of behaviour & quantification of significance
- Identification of delays as root causes of inefficiencies

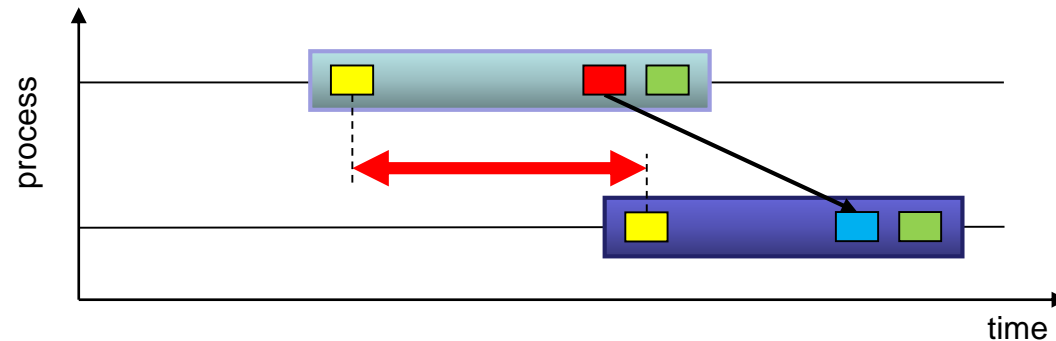


- Guaranteed to cover the entire event trace
- Quicker than manual/visual trace analysis
- Parallel replay analysis exploits available memory & processors to deliver scalability

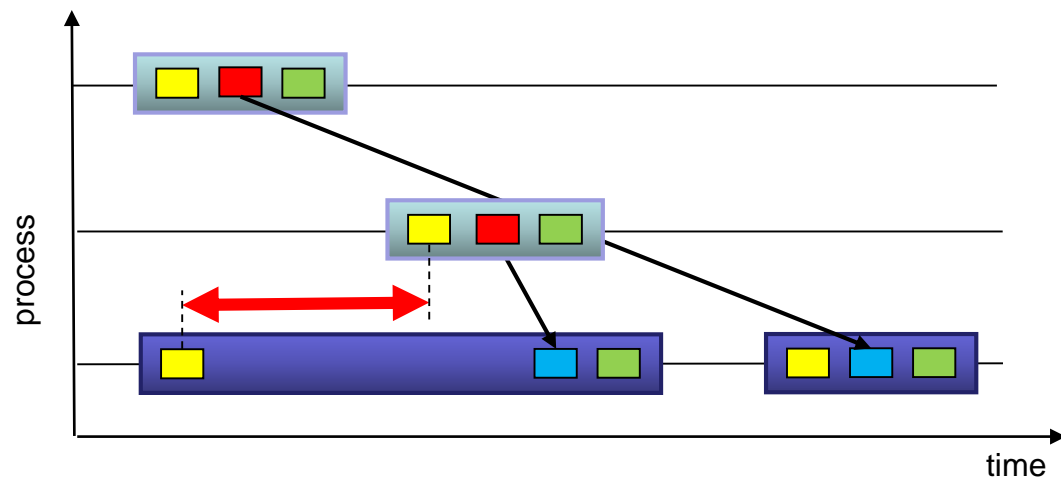
EXAMPLE MPI WAIT STATES



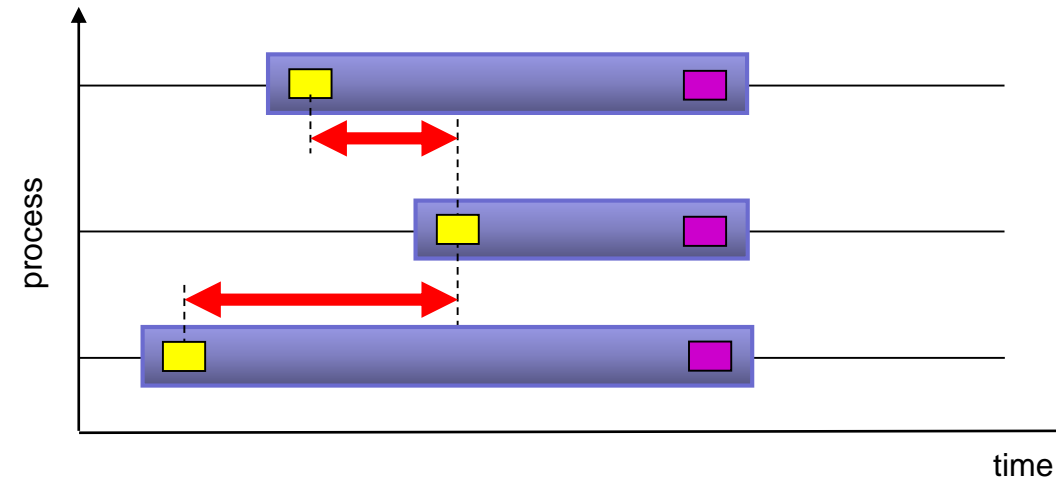
(a) Late Sender



(b) Late Receiver



(c) Late Sender / Wrong Order



(d) Wait at N x N

ENTER EXIT SEND RECV COLLEXIT

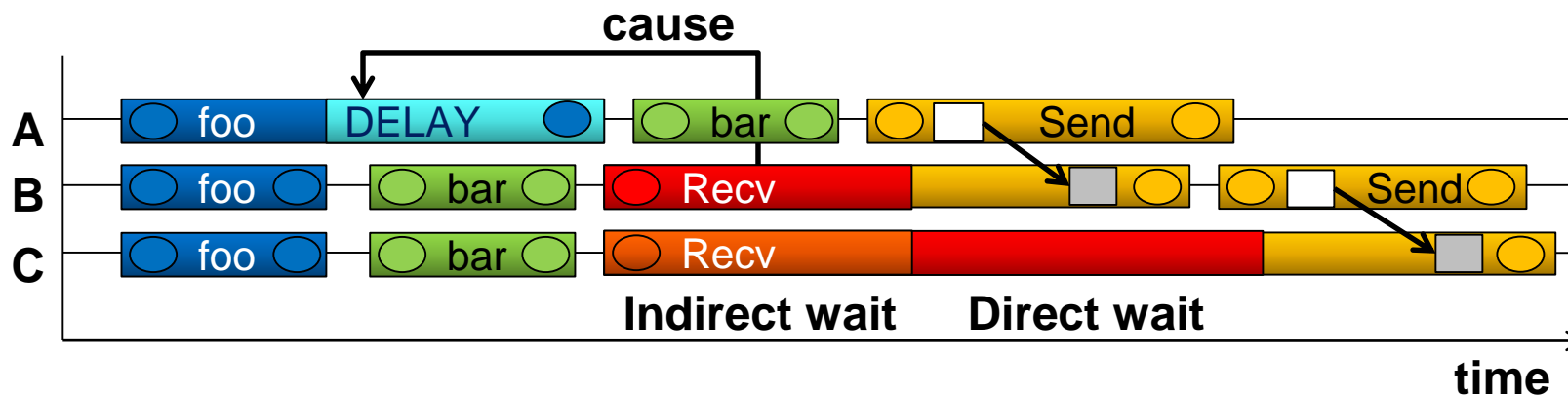
SCALASCA ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS

- **Root-cause analysis**

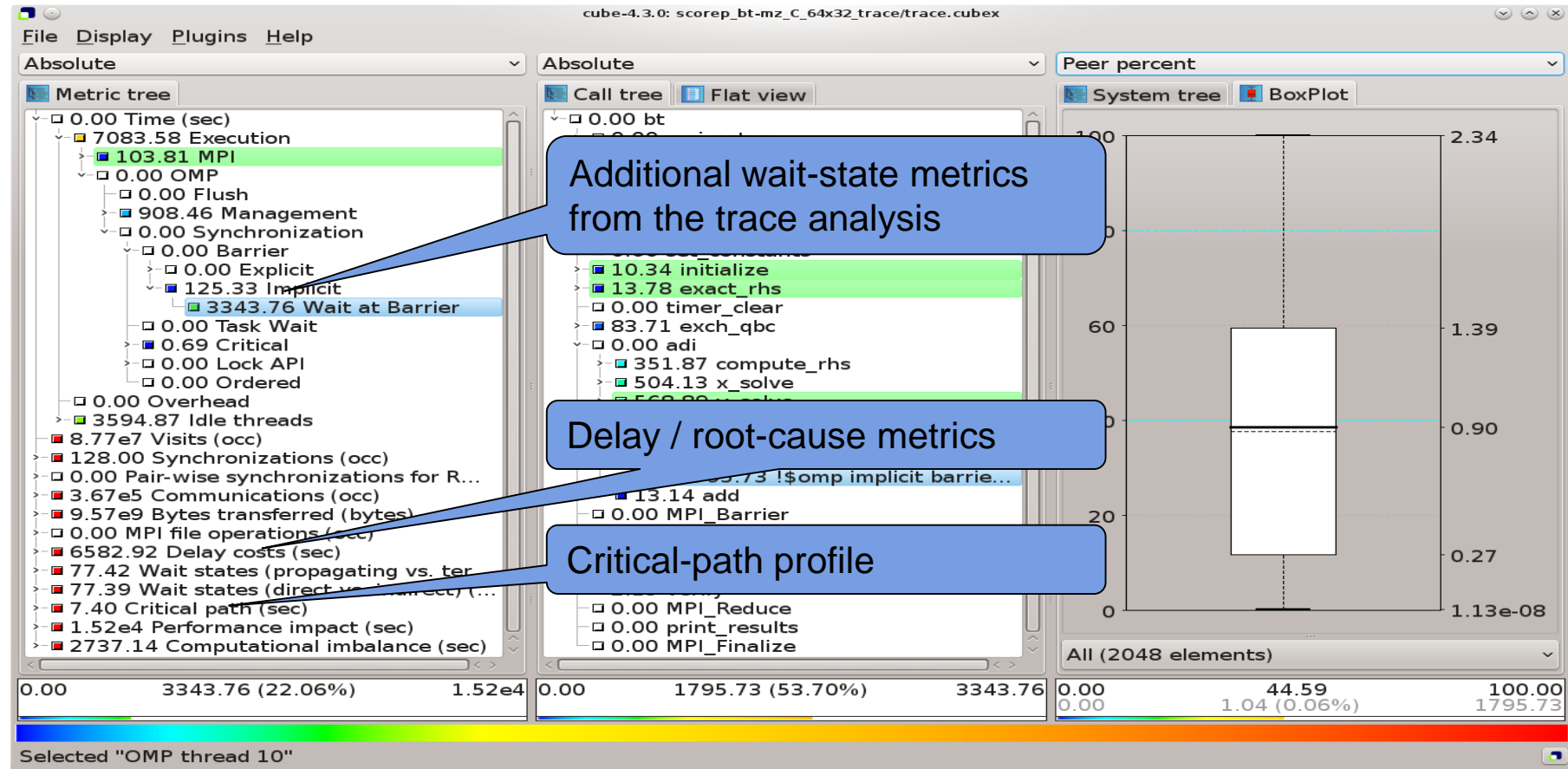
- Wait states typically caused by load or communication imbalances earlier in the program
- Waiting time can also propagate (e.g., indirect waiting time)
- Enhanced performance analysis to find the root cause of wait states

- **Approach**

- Distinguish between direct and indirect waiting time
- Identify call path/process combinations delaying other processes and causing first order waiting time
- Identify original **delay**

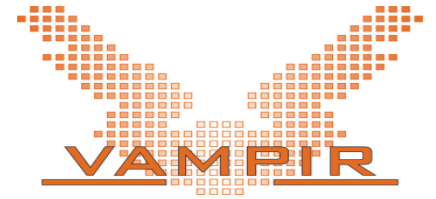


SCALASCA TRACE ANALYSIS EXAMPLE



VAMPIR EVENT TRACE VISUALIZER

- Offline trace visualization for Score-Ps OTF2 trace files
- Visualization of MPI, OpenMP and application events:
 - All diagrams highly customizable (through context menus)
 - Large variety of displays for ANY part of the trace
- <http://www.vampir.eu>
- Advantage:
 - Detailed view of dynamic application behavior
- Disadvantage:
 - Completely manual analysis
 - Too many details can hide the relevant parts

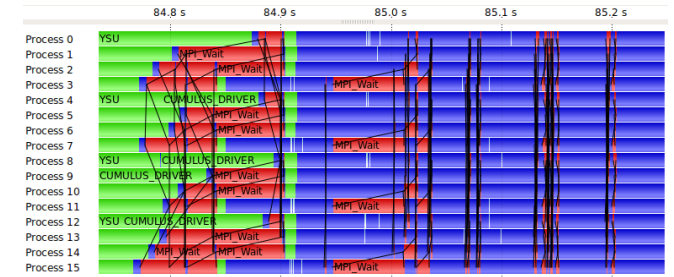


EVENT TRACE VISUALIZATION WITH VAMPIR

- Visualization of dynamic runtime behaviour at any level of detail along with statistics and performance metrics
- Alternative and supplement to automatic analysis
- **Typical questions that Vampir helps to answer**
 - What happens in my application execution during a given time in a given process or thread?
 - How do the communication patterns of my application execute on a real system?
 - Are there any imbalances in computation, I/O or memory usage and how do they affect the parallel execution of my application?

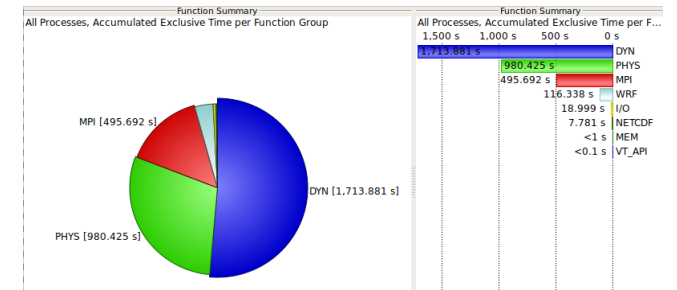
■ Timeline charts

- Application activities and communication along a time axis



■ Summary charts

- Quantitative results for the currently selected time interval



VAMPIR PERFORMANCE CHARTS

Timeline Charts



Master Timeline



all threads' activities



Process Timeline



single thread's activities



Summary Timeline



all threads' function call statistics



Performance Radar



all threads' performance metrics



Counter Data Timeline



single threads' performance metrics



I/O Timeline



all threads' I/O activities

Summary Charts



Function Summary



Process Summary



Message Summary



Communication Matrix View

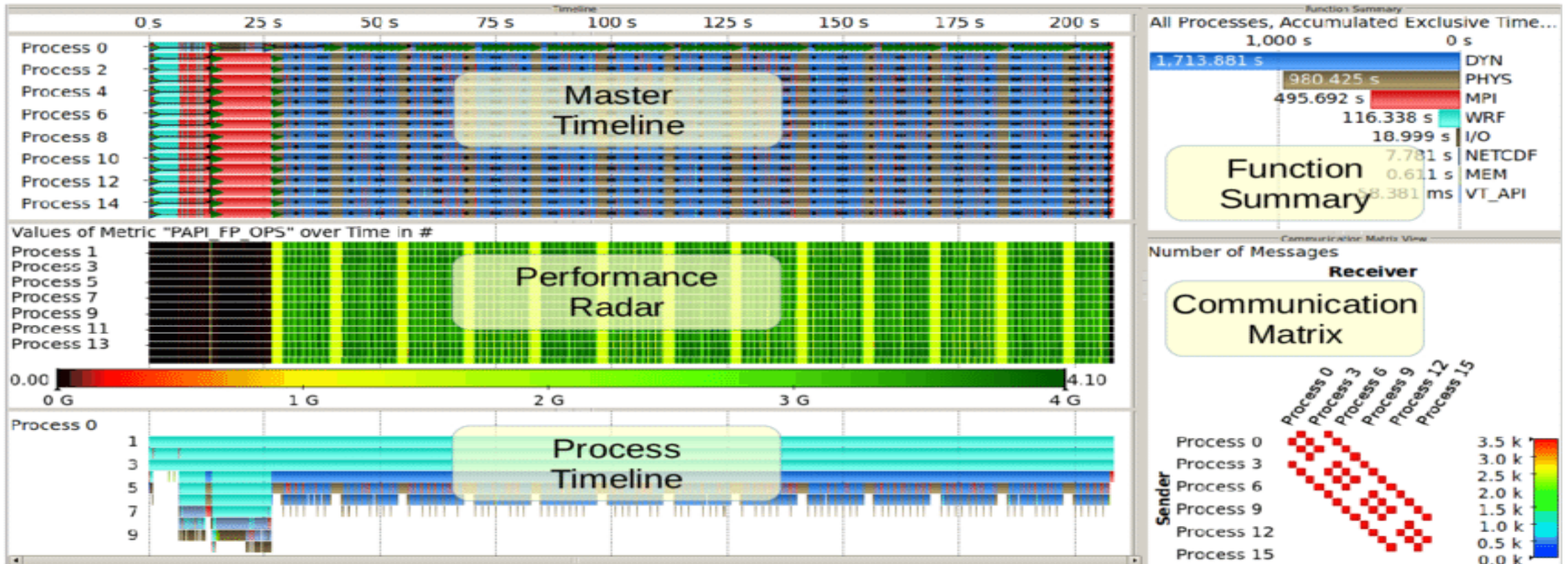


I/O Summary



Call Tree

VAMPIR DISPLAYS



LINARO PERFORMANCE REPORTS

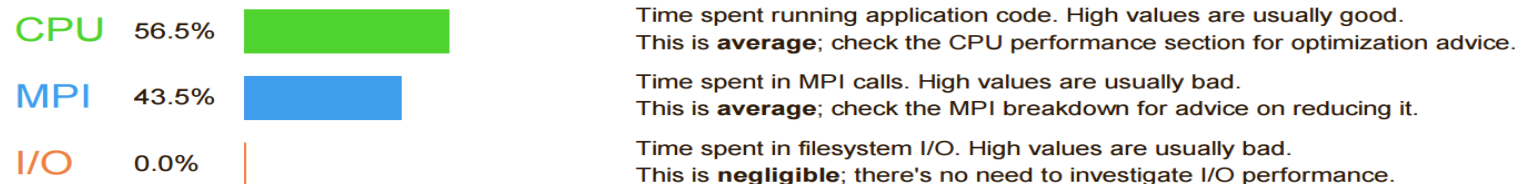


- **Single page** report provides quick overview of performance issues
- Works on unmodified, optimized executables
- Shows CPU, memory, network and I/O utilization
- Supports MPI, multi-threading and accelerators
- Saves data in HTML, CVS or text form
- <https://www.linaroforge.com/linaroPerformanceReports>
- **Note:** License limited to 128 processes (with unlimited number of threads)

EXAMPLE PERFORMANCE REPORTS

Summary: cp2k.popt is **CPU-bound** in this configuration

The total wallclock time was spent as follows:



This application run was **CPU-bound**. A breakdown of this time and advice for investigating further is in the **CPU** section below.

CPU

A breakdown of how the **56.5%** total CPU time was spent:

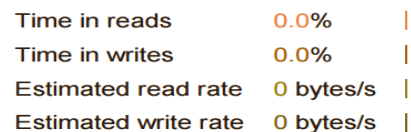


The per-core performance is **memory-bound**. Use a profiler to identify time-consuming loops and check their cache performance.

Little time is spent in **vectorized instructions**. Check the compiler's vectorization advice to see why key loops could not be vectorized.

I/O

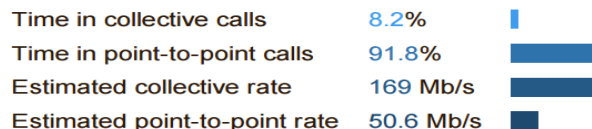
A breakdown of how the **0.0%** total I/O time was spent:



No time is spent in **I/O operations**. There's nothing to optimize here!

MPI

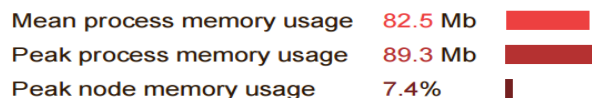
Of the **43.5%** total time spent in MPI calls:



The **point-to-point** transfer rate is low. This can be caused by inefficient message sizes, such as many small messages, or by imbalanced workloads causing processes to wait. Use an MPI profiler to identify the problematic calls and ranks.

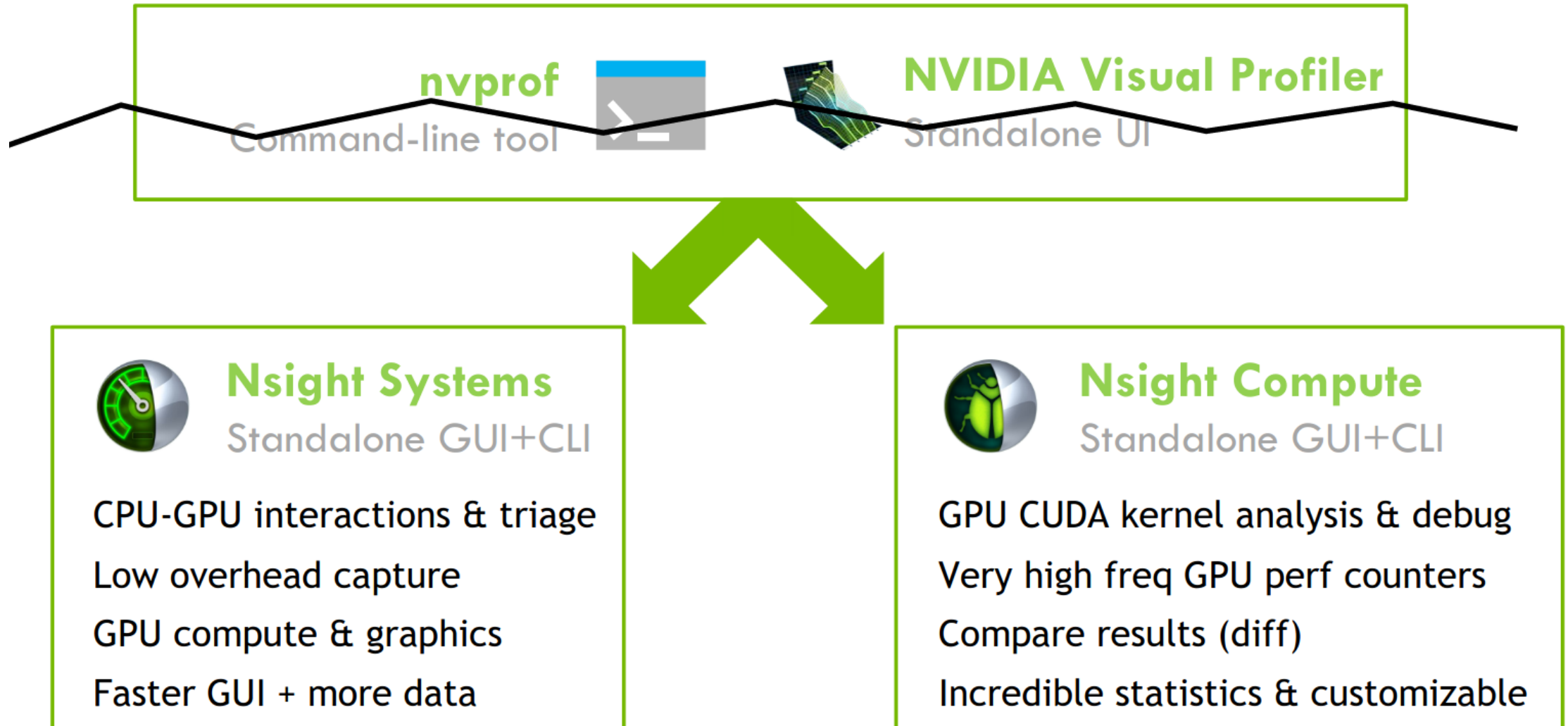
Memory

Per-process memory usage may also affect scaling:



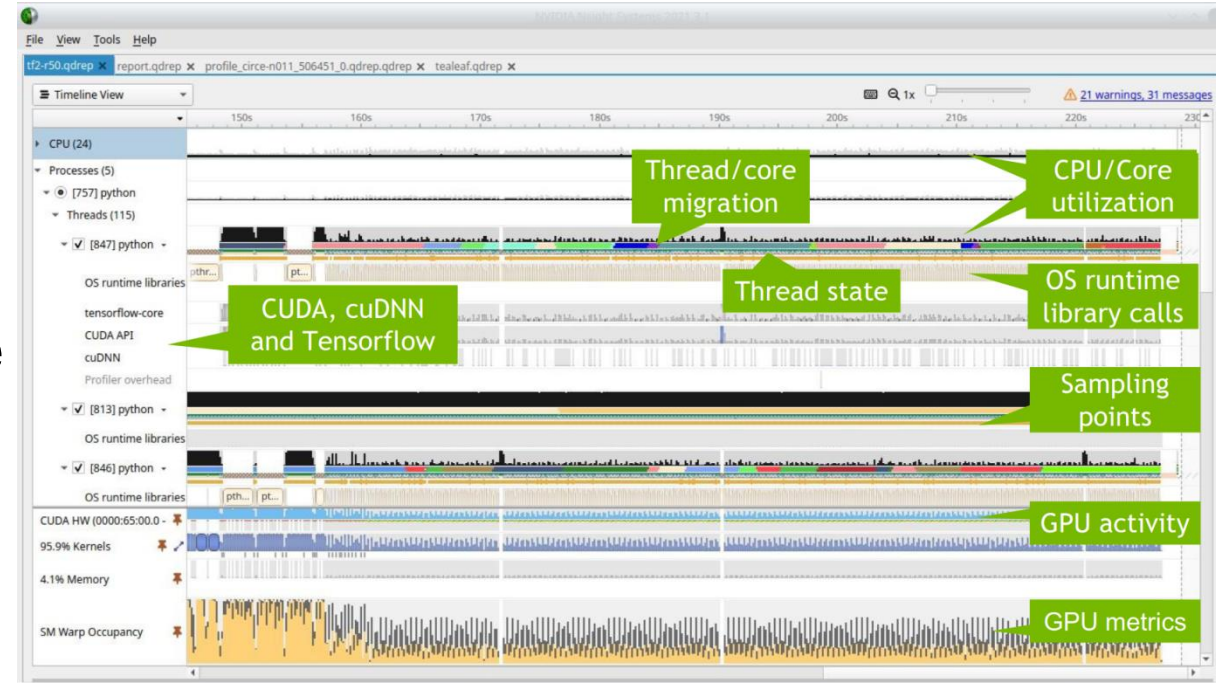
The **peak node memory usage** is low. You may be able to reduce the total number of CPU hours used by running with fewer MPI processes and more data on each process.

NVIDIA TOOLS -- LEGACY TRANSITION

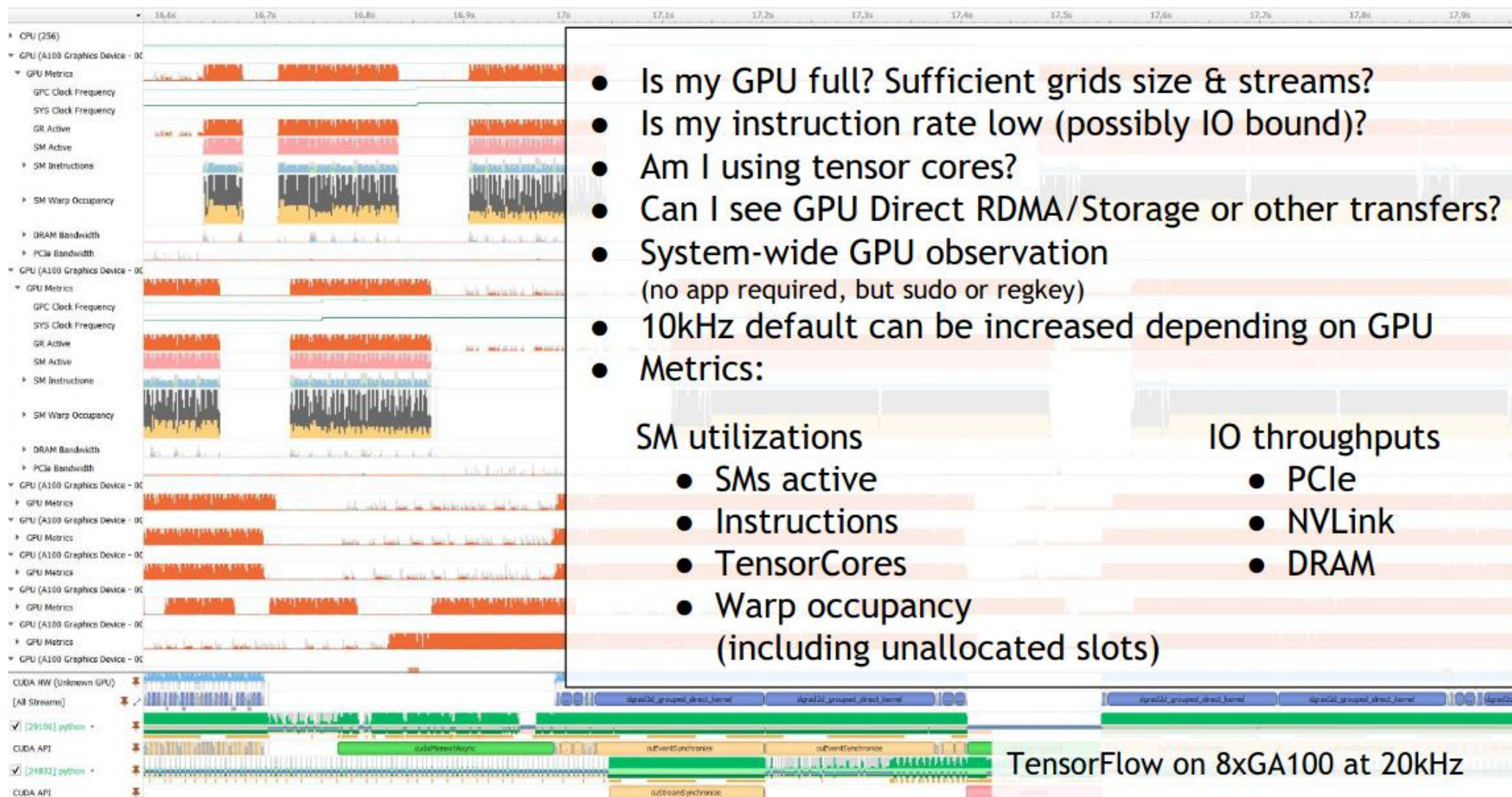


NSIGHT SYSTEM

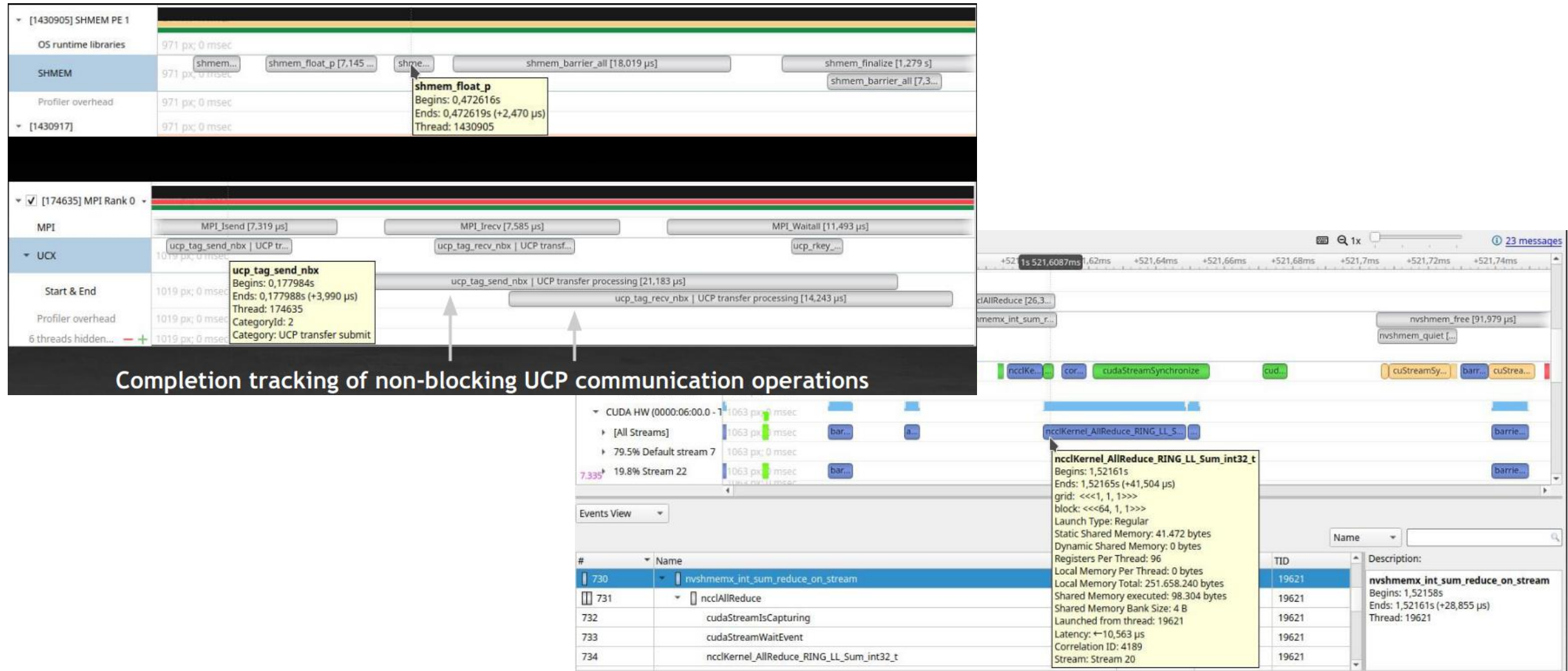
- System-wide application tuning
- Locate optimization opportunities
 - Visualize millions of events on a timeline
 - See gaps of unused CPU and GPU time
- Balance workloads across multiple CPUs and GPUs
 - CPU utilization and thread state
 - GPU streams, kernels, memory transfers, etc.
- Multi-platform support
 - Linux, Windows and Mac OS X (host-only)
 - x86-64, Power9, ARM server, Tegra (Linux & QNX)



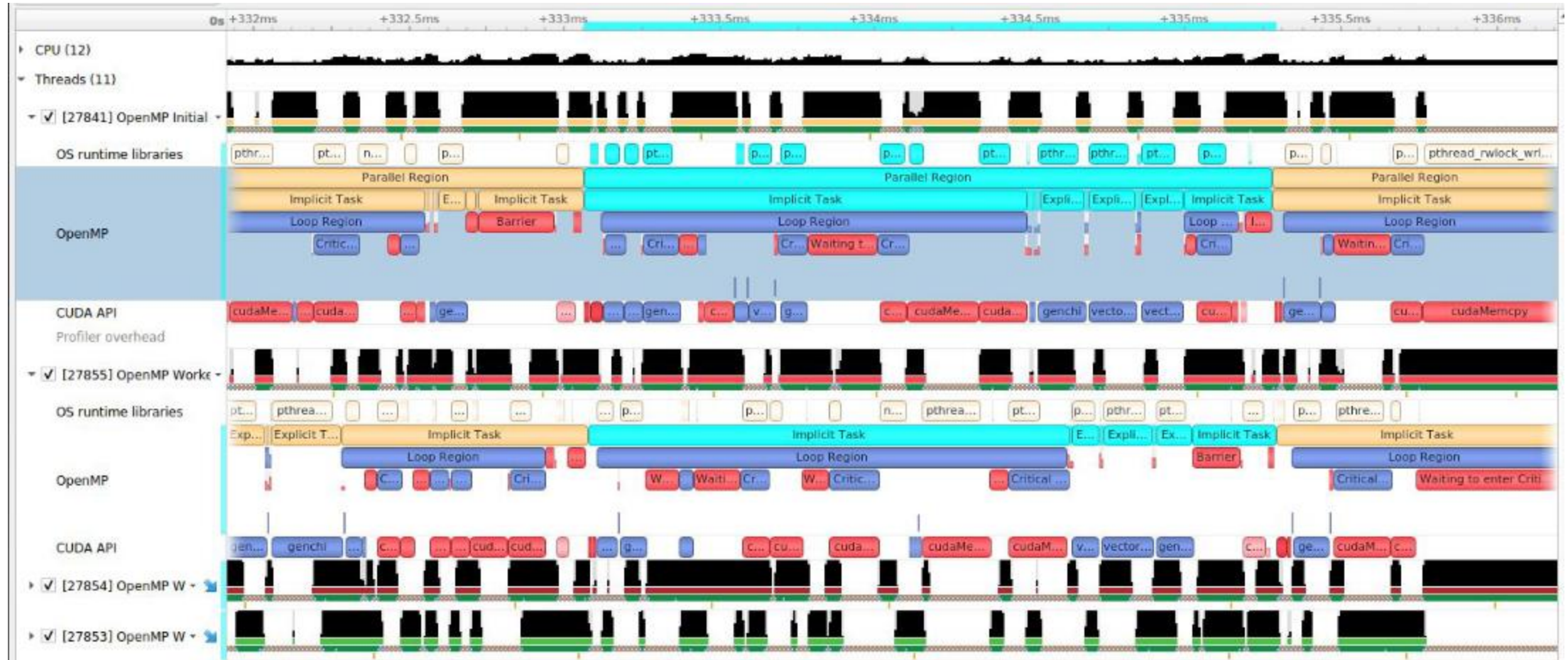
GPU METRIC SAMPLING



MULTI NODE SUPPORT – SHMEM, MPI, UCX, AND NCCL

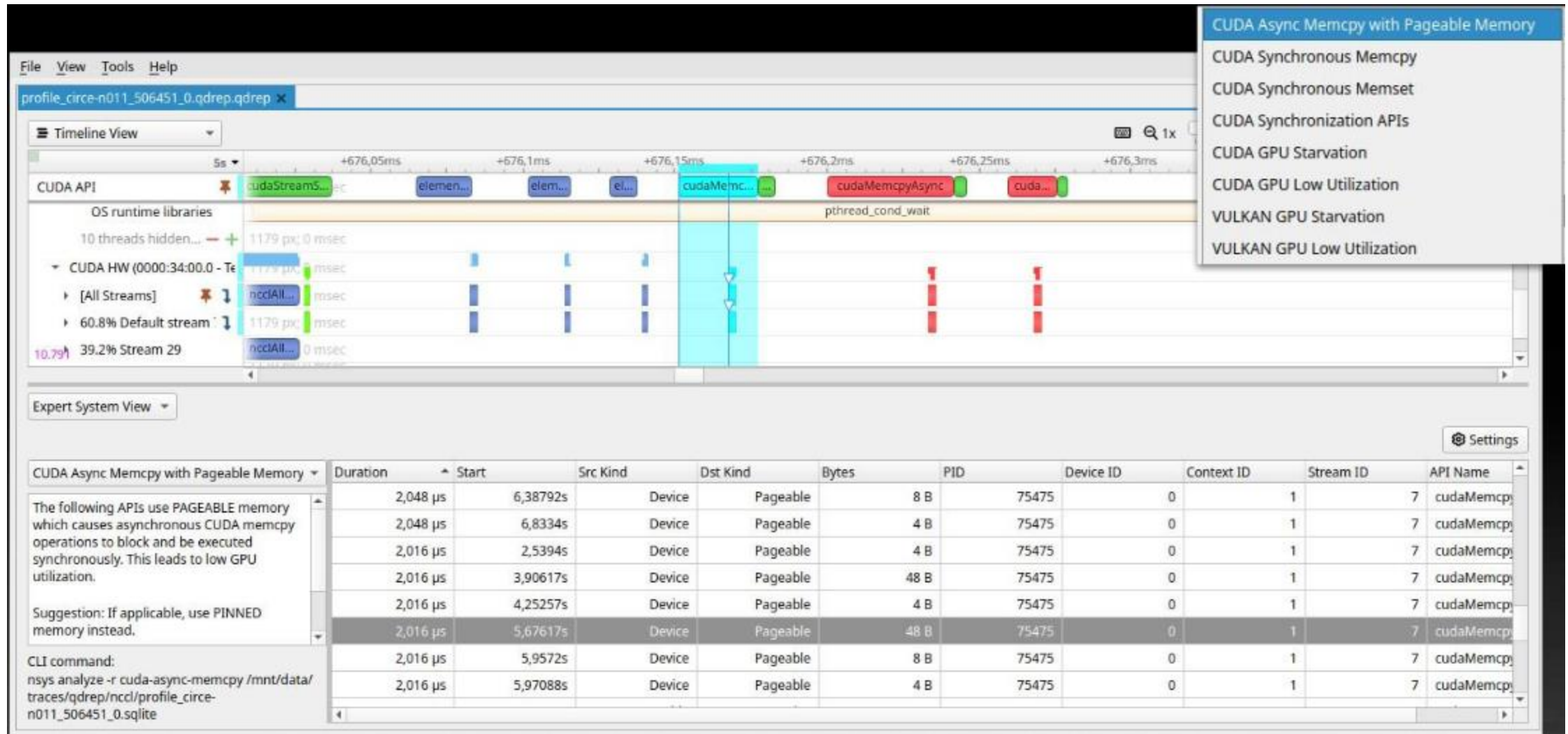


OPENMP



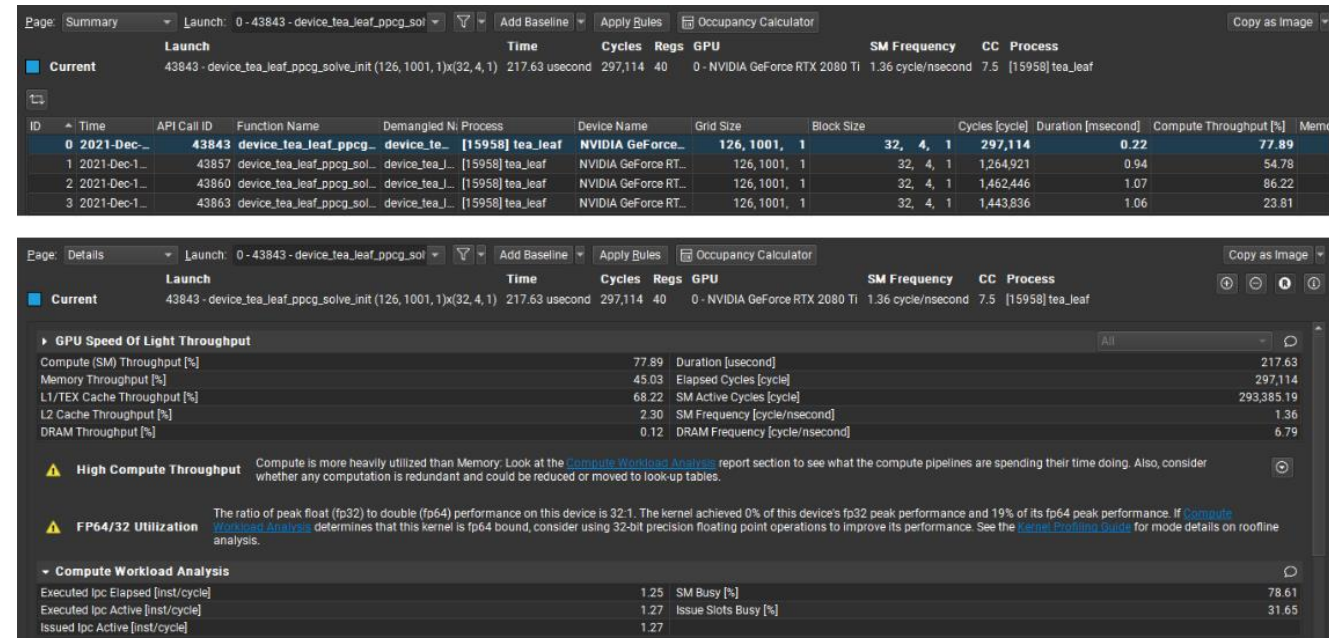
OMPT-capable OpenMP runtime required

EXPERT SYSTEM



NSIGHT COMPUTE

- Interactive CUDA kernel profiler
- Targeted metric sections for various performance aspects
- Customizable data collection and presentation (tables, charts, ...)
- GUI and CLI
- Python-based API for guided analysis and post-processing
- Support for remote profiling across machines and platforms



The screenshot displays the NVIDIA NSIGHT Compute interface. The top section shows a summary table of kernel launches. The bottom section provides a detailed view of GPU throughput metrics, including Compute (SM) Throughput, Memory Throughput, L1/TEX Cache Throughput, L2 Cache Throughput, and DRAM Throughput. It also includes a 'High Compute Throughput' warning and a 'FP64/32 Utilization' section.

Page:	Summary	Launch:	0 - 43843 - device_tea_leaf_ppcg_sol	▼	▼	Add Baseline	▼	Apply Rules	▼	Occupancy Calculator	▼	Copy as Image
	Launch	Time	Cycles	Regs	GPU	SM Frequency	CC	Process				
Current	43843 - device_tea_leaf_ppcg_solve_init (126, 1001, 1)x(32, 4, 1)	217.63 usecond	297,114	40	0 - NVIDIA GeForce RTX 2080 Ti	1.36 cycle/nsecond	7.5	[15958] tea_leaf				

ID	Time	API Call ID	Function Name	Demangled Name	Process	Device Name	Grid Size	Block Size	Cycles [cycle]	Duration [msecond]	Compute Throughput [%]	Memc
0	2021-Dec-1...	43843	device_tea_leaf_ppcg_sol...	device_tea...	[15958] tea_leaf	NVIDIA GeForce...	126, 1001, 1	32, 4, 1	297,114	0.22	77.89	
1	2021-Dec-1...	43857	device_tea_leaf_ppcg_sol...	device_tea...	[15958] tea_leaf	NVIDIA GeForce RT...	126, 1001, 1	32, 4, 1	1,264,921	0.94	54.78	
2	2021-Dec-1...	43860	device_tea_leaf_ppcg_sol...	device_tea...	[15958] tea_leaf	NVIDIA GeForce RT...	126, 1001, 1	32, 4, 1	1,462,446	1.07	86.22	
3	2021-Dec-1...	43863	device_tea_leaf_ppcg_sol...	device_tea...	[15958] tea_leaf	NVIDIA GeForce RT...	126, 1001, 1	32, 4, 1	1,443,836	1.06	23.81	

Page:	Details	Launch:	0 - 43843 - device_tea_leaf_ppcg_sol	▼	▼	Add Baseline	▼	Apply Rules	▼	Occupancy Calculator	▼	Copy as Image
	Launch	Time	Cycles	Regs	GPU	SM Frequency	CC	Process				
Current	43843 - device_tea_leaf_ppcg_solve_init (126, 1001, 1)x(32, 4, 1)	217.63 usecond	297,114	40	0 - NVIDIA GeForce RTX 2080 Ti	1.36 cycle/nsecond	7.5	[15958] tea_leaf				

GPU Speed Of Light Throughput			
Compute (SM) Throughput [%]	77.89	Duration [usecond]	217.63
Memory Throughput [%]	45.03	Elapsed Cycles [cycle]	297,114
L1/TEX Cache Throughput [%]	68.22	SM Active Cycles [cycle]	293,385.19
L2 Cache Throughput [%]	2.30	SM Frequency [cycle/nsecond]	1.36
DRAM Throughput [%]	0.12	DRAM Frequency [cycle/nsecond]	6.79

High Compute Throughput Compute is more heavily utilized than Memory: Look at the [Compute Workload Analysis](#) report section to see what the compute pipelines are spending their time doing. Also, consider whether any computation is redundant and could be reduced or moved to look-up tables.

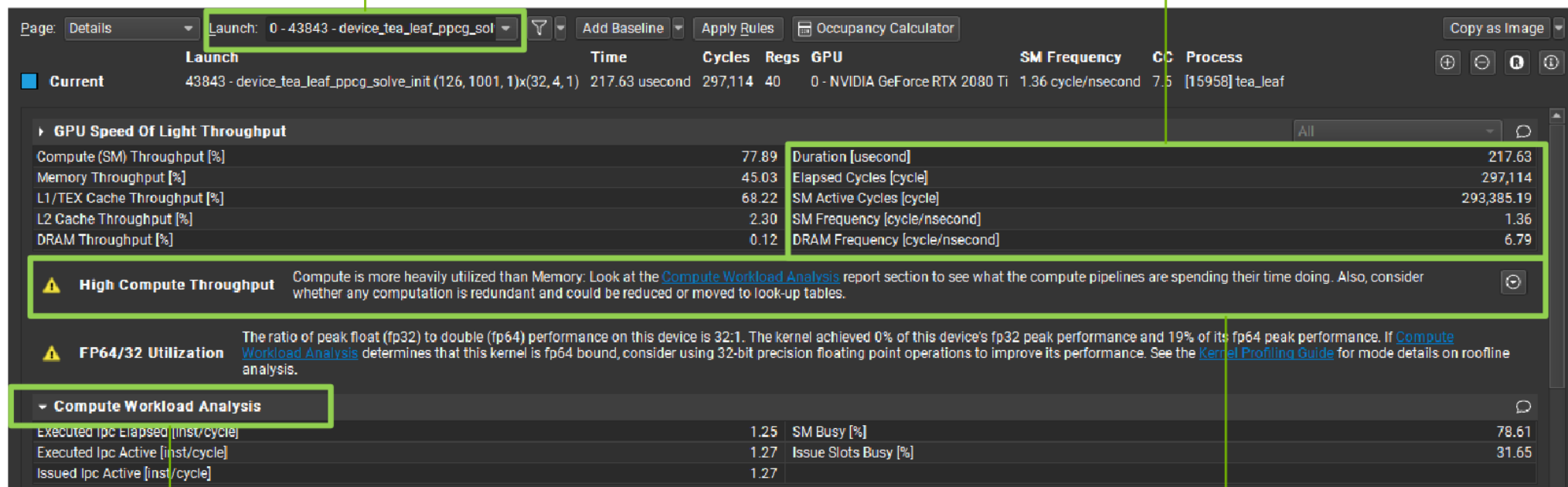
FP64/32 Utilization The ratio of peak float (fp32) to double (fp64) performance on this device is 32:1. The kernel achieved 0% of this device's fp32 peak performance and 19% of its fp64 peak performance. If [Compute Workload Analysis](#) determines that this kernel is fp64 bound, consider using 32-bit precision floating point operations to improve its performance. See the [Kernel Profiling Guide](#) for more details on runtime analysis.

Compute Workload Analysis			
Executed lpc Elapsed [inst/cycle]	1.25	SM Busy [%]	78.61
Executed lpc Active [inst/cycle]	1.27	Issue Slots Busy [%]	31.65
Issued lpc Active [inst/cycle]	1.27		

PROFILER REPORT

Selected result

Metric values

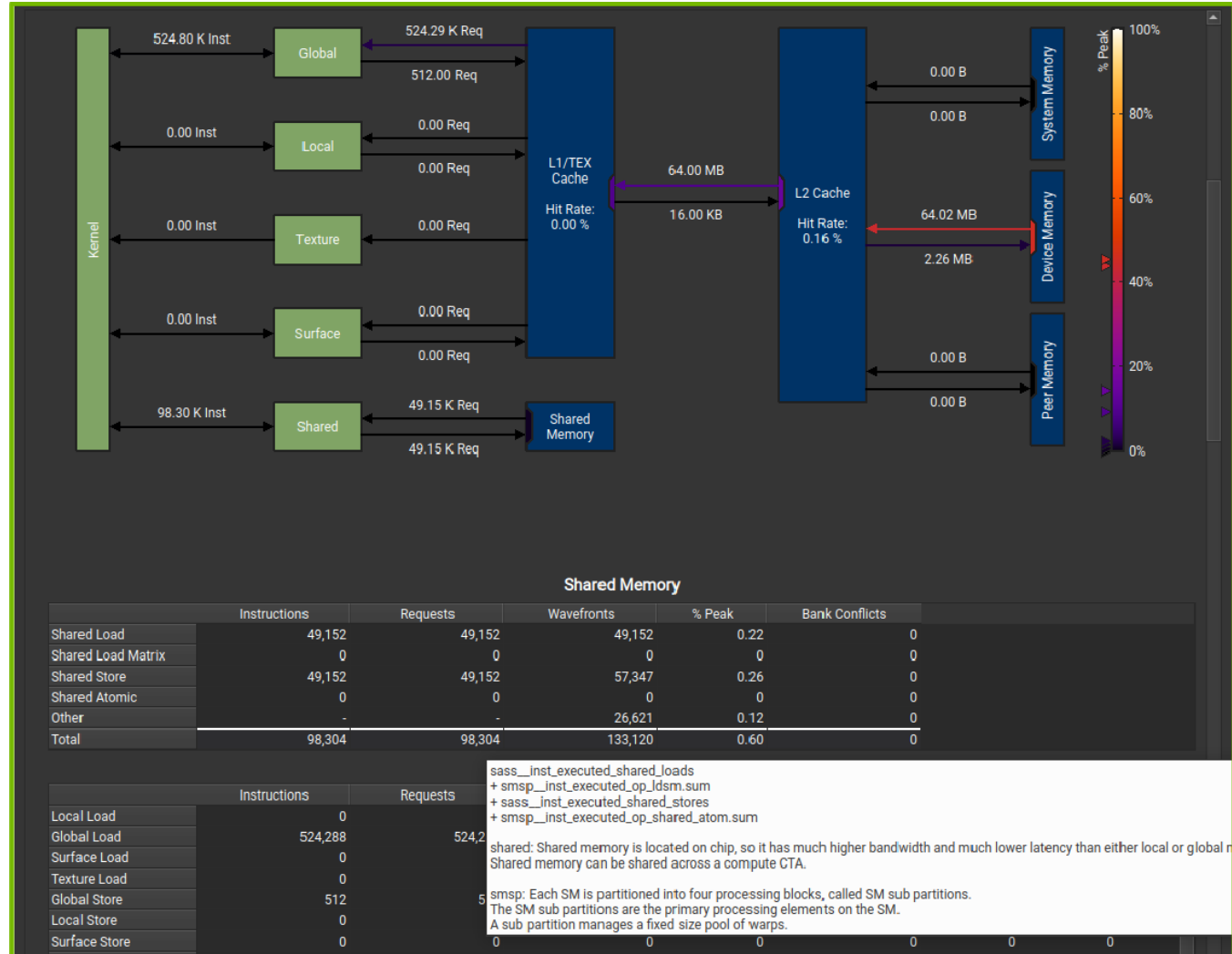


Expandable
Sections

Expert Analysis
(Rules)

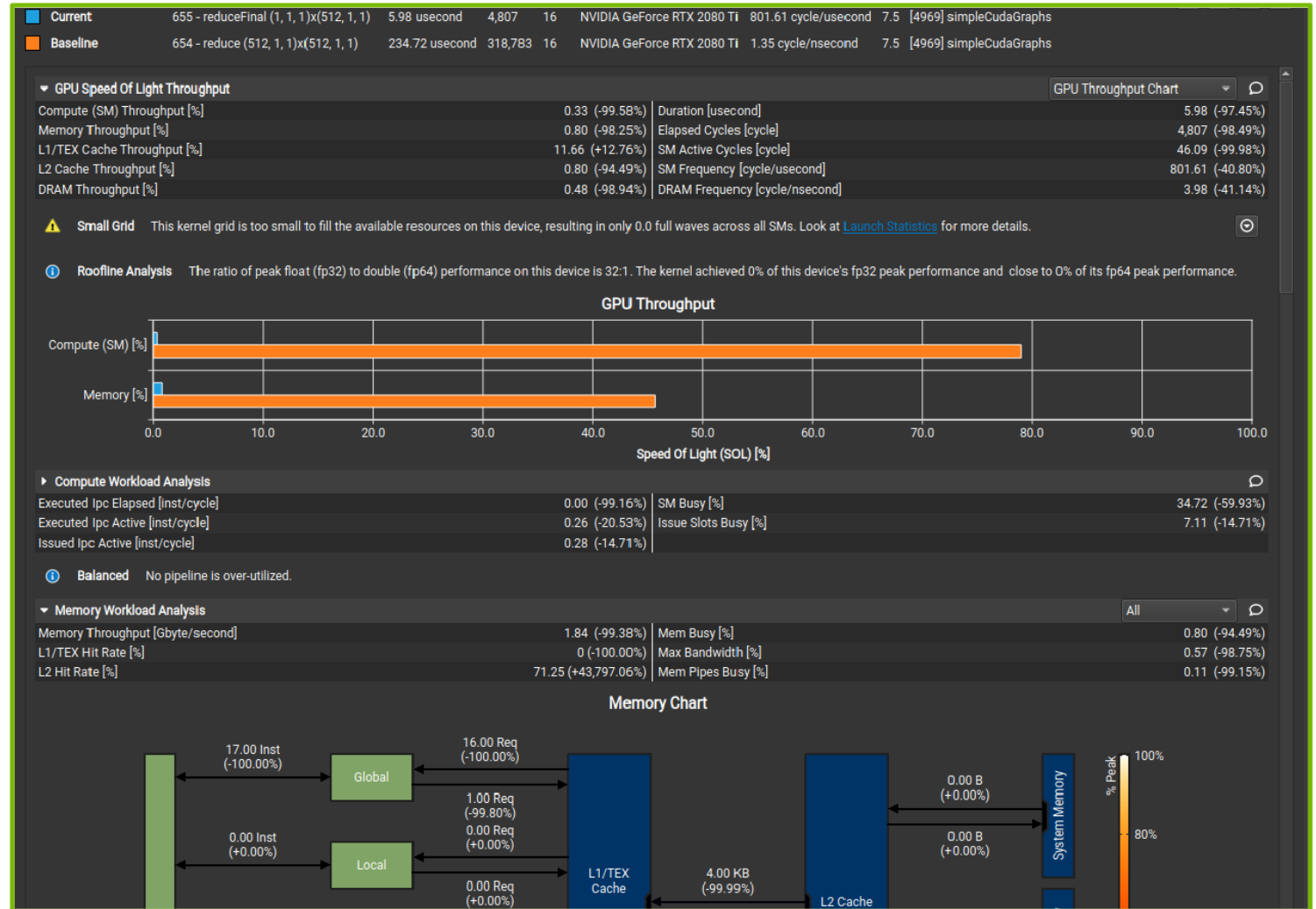
DATA TRANSFER ANALYSIS

- Detailed memory workload analysis chart and tables
- Shows transferred data or throughputs
- Tooltips provide metric names, calculation formulas and detailed background info



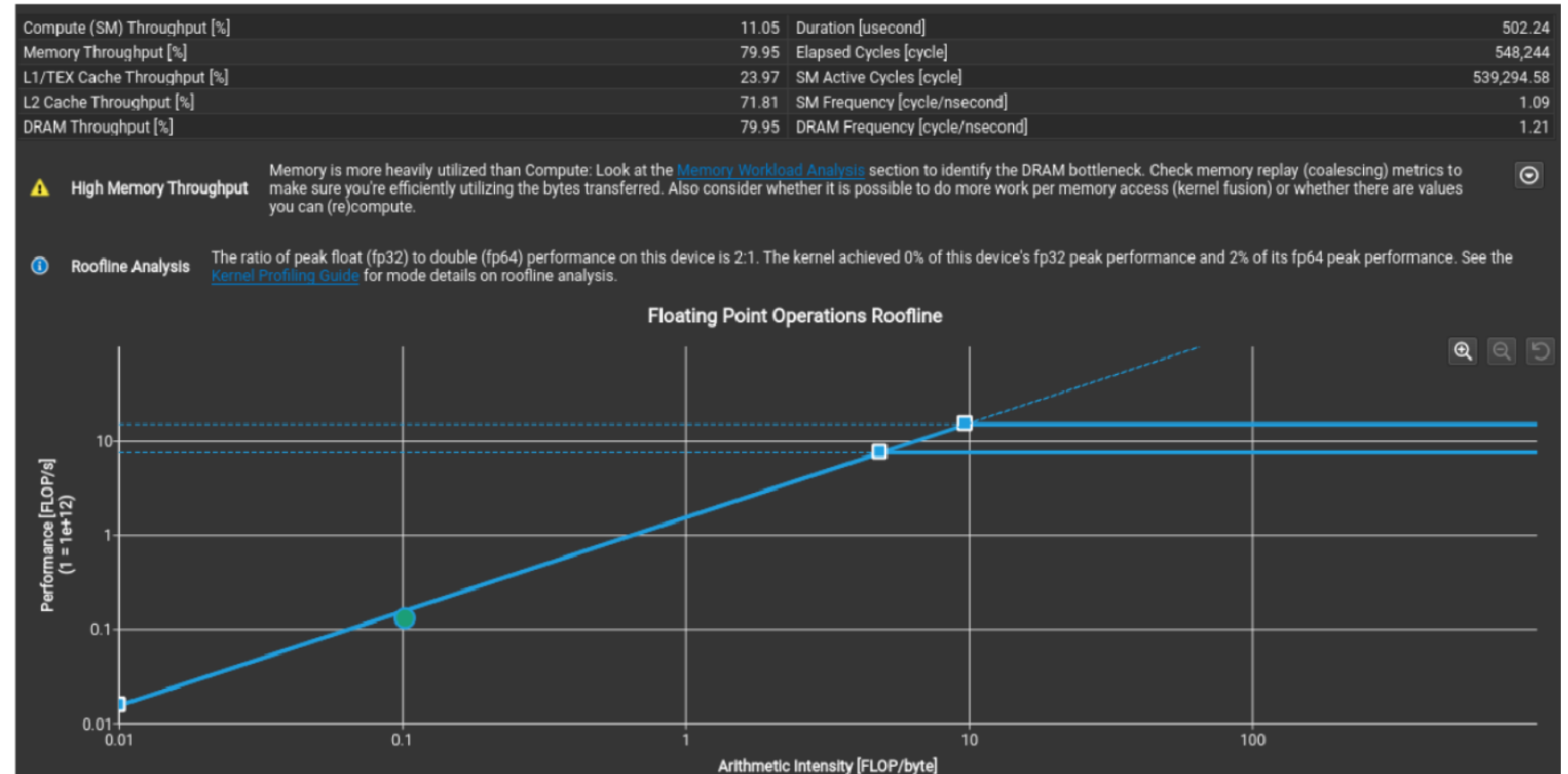
BASELINE COMPARISON

- Comparison of results directly within the tool with "Baselines"
- Supported across kernels, reports, and GPU architectures



ROOFLINE ANALYSIS

- Determine whether the application is memory bound or compute bound
- Guided analysis points to detailed analysis of the most severe problem

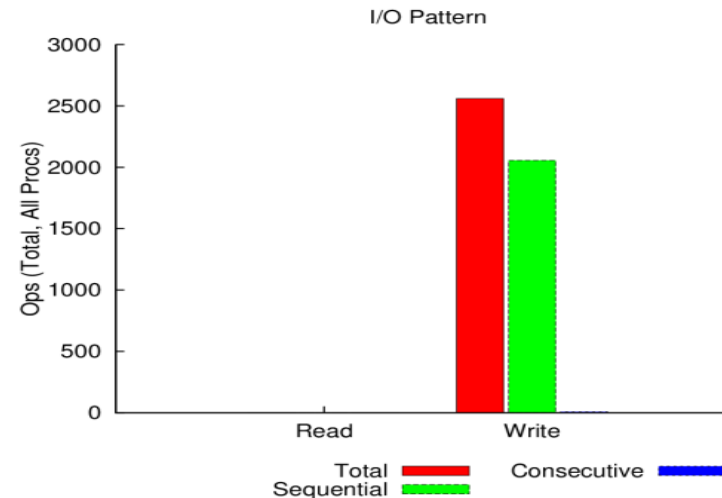
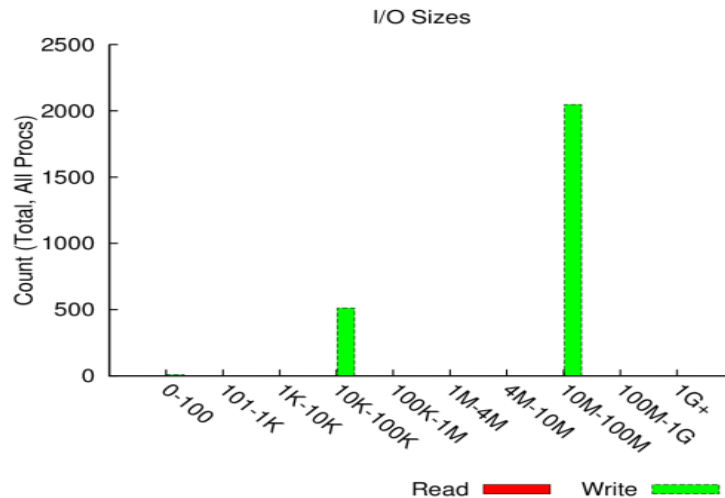
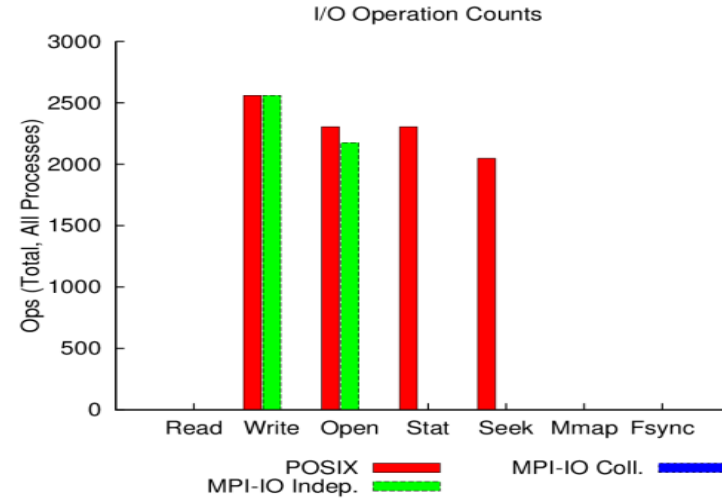
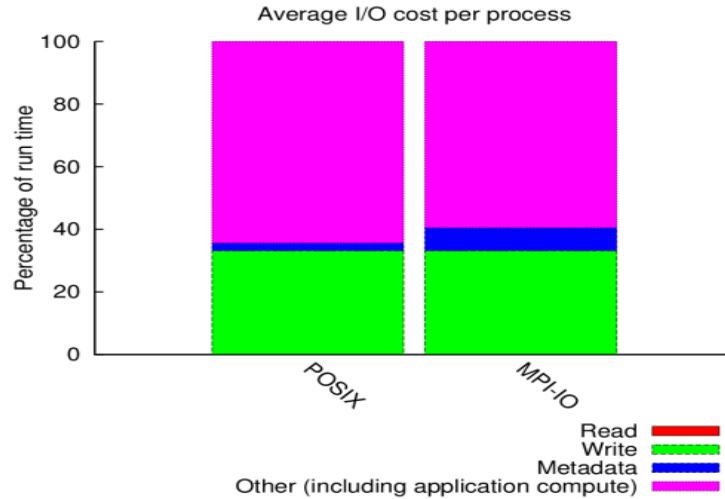


DARSHAN

- I/O characterization tool logging parallel application file access
- Summary report provides quick overview of performance issues
- Works on unmodified, optimized executables
- Shows counts of file access operations, times for key operations, histograms of accesses, etc.
- Supports POSIX, MPI-IO, HDF5, PnetCDF, ...
- Binary log file written at exit post-processed into PDF report
- <http://www.mcs.anl.gov/research/projects/darshan/>
- Open Source: installed on many HPC systems

EXAMPLE DARSHAN REPORT EXTRACT

jobid: | uid: | nprocs: 4096 | runtime: 175 seconds



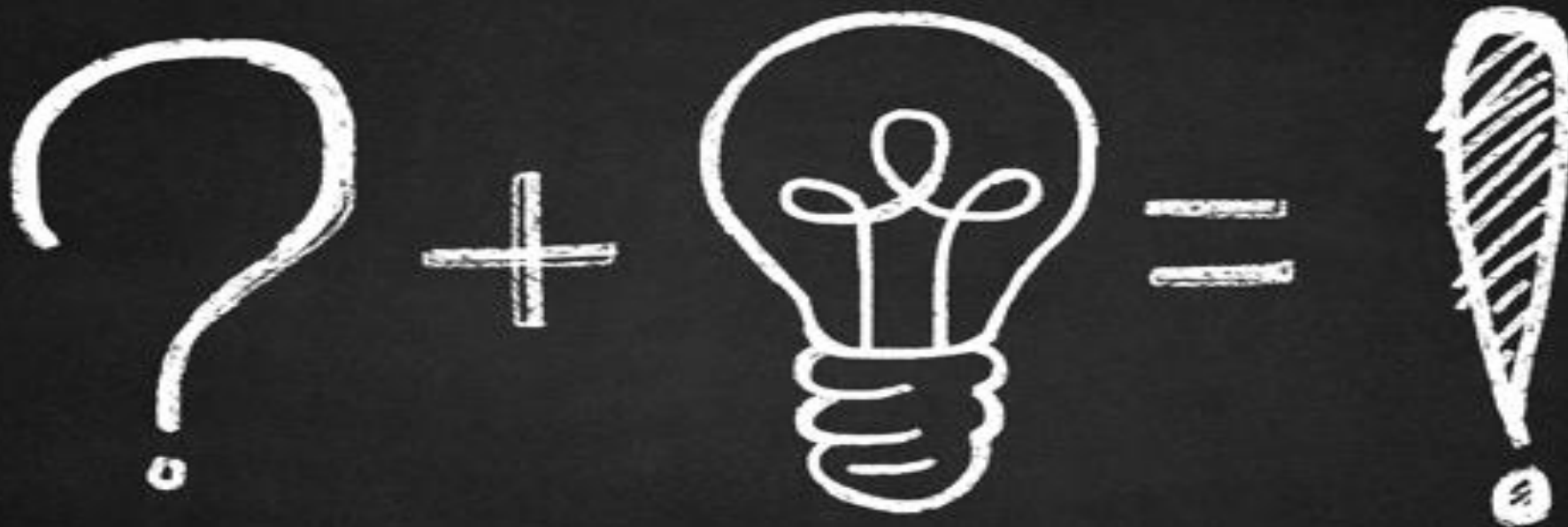
PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS RECOMMENDATIONS

- Measure and analyze at the desired scale (once you have a reasonable measurement setup)
- Get performance overview with Performance Reports
 - CPU Issues:
 - Use MAP, Vtune (on Intel nodes), or uProf (on AMD nodes)
 - Use perf / LIKWID / PAPI
 - MPI Issues: Use Scalasca/Vampir
 - GPU Issues: Use NVIDIA tools
 - I/O Issues: Use DARSHAN
- OR: Do it all with Score-P/Scalasca/Vampir

NEED HELP?

- Talk to the experts
 - Use local 1st-level support, e.g. SC support, SimLab
 - Use mailing lists
 - JSC/NVIDIA Application Lab
 - ATML Parallel Performance
 - VI-HPS Tuning Workshops
 - POP CoE
 - ATML Application Optimization and User Service Tools
 - EPIASURE

👉 Successful performance engineering often is a collaborative effort



QUESTIONS