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Experiences with Scalasca

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OVERVIEW



Overview

- Parallel profiling tool
 - OpenMP
 - MPI
 - Can be used for serial
- Aims to help with questions like
 - Where is my application spending time
 - Why is it spending time on this
- Fast and convenient to use



Overview (cont.)

- Developed:
 - Forschungszentrum Jülich (Germany)
 - German Research School for Simulation Sciences
- Free but copyright
- Widely available – architectures include:
 - Cray XT/XE
 - IBM Bluegene
 - IBM Power
 - “various” Linux x86/x64 clusters



Compilers

- Works closely with the compiler: C, C++, Fortran
- Supported compilers (some contain “small print”)
 - GCC
 - IBM xlc, xLC, xlf
 - PGI
 - Intel
 - SUN (Fortran only)
 - PathScale compiler (which?)
 - CCE/Cray
 - NEC compiler



Scalasca installations available at Lunarc

- Installed and testing
 - Platon@lunarc
 - Scalasca 1.3.2
 - gcc 4.4
 - openmpi 1.4.1
 - Alarik@lunarc
 - Scalasca 1.4.1/1.4.2
 - gcc 4.6.2
 - openmpi 1.4.4
 - papi 4.2.1



What does it attempt to do

- Event based, e.g.:
 - MPI call starts
 - OpenMP parallel region finishes
 - Subroutine “init” starts
- Recording
 - Runtime summation (time spend in routine)
 - Event tracing (huge files)
- GUI report browser to view the results
 - Some other tools can also digest the data



Three step approach

1. Instrument your program (Source access required)
 - Automatically during compile
 - Manually using an API (Source modification)
 - PDT instrumentation
2. Execute the program – perform the analysis
 - Events are recorded while executing
 - Check: runtime still reasonable
3. Look at the results – examine the result
 - Load into the GUI





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Step 1

INSTRUMENTATION



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9

Automatic instrumentation

- Pre-fix your compiler call with either of
scalasca -instrument
skin
- Example:
mpif90 -o myprog.x myprog.f90

becomes:

```
scalasca -instrument mpif90 -o myprog.x myprog.f90  
skin mpif90 -o myprog.x myprog.f90
```



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10

You get feed back OpenMP example:

```
[jhein@alarik ScalascaPlay]$ skin gcc -O3 -fopenmp -std=c99 \  
> -o gauss2d_dynamic.x gauss2d_dynamic.c -lm  
INFO: Instrumented executable for OMP measurement  
[jhein@alarik ScalascaPlay]$
```



Step 2

ANALYSE APPLICATION PERFORMANCE



Use the analysis tool to run the executable

- MPI example

```
scalasca -analyze mpiexec -np 4 myprog.x

scan mpiexec -np 4 myprog.x
```
- OpenMP code (or serial)

```
scalasca -analyze myprog.x

scan mpiprogram.x
```



Comments

- The above creates a summary report
- Have a look at the runtime
 - small routines can make the runtime explode
 - if it is bad: use a filter file
 - if it is really bad: compile relevant file without instrumentation
- The next step can give you hint on culprits
 - Look for high invocation count



Filterfile

- Name routines not to measure in filter file
- Invoke analyser:

```
scan -f filterfile mpiexec -np 128 myprog.x
```



Fortran example: filter file for gcc 4.6.2

```
[jhein@alarik Benchmark]$ more not_to_measure.filt  
__particles_sub_MOD_get_rhopswarm_point  
__general_MOD_keep_compiler_quiet_i  
__general_MOD_keep_compiler_quiet_r4d  
__general_MOD_keep_compiler_quiet_i2d  
__general_MOD_random_number_wrapper_0  
__general_MOD_random_number_wrapper_1  
__general_MOD_ran0  
__particles_map_MOD_interpolate_quadratic_spline  
__particles_MOD_get_frictiontime
```



Result directory

- After the scan-run you will find a result directory in your workdirectory
- Example: epik_gauss2d_dynamic_0x16_sum
 - Executable: gauss2d_dynamic
 - 16 OpenMP threads
 - summary run
- By default: scan aborts when result-directory exists



Step 3

EXAMINE WITH THE GUI



Starting the GUI

- The command:


```
scalasca -examine epik_directory
square epik_directory
```

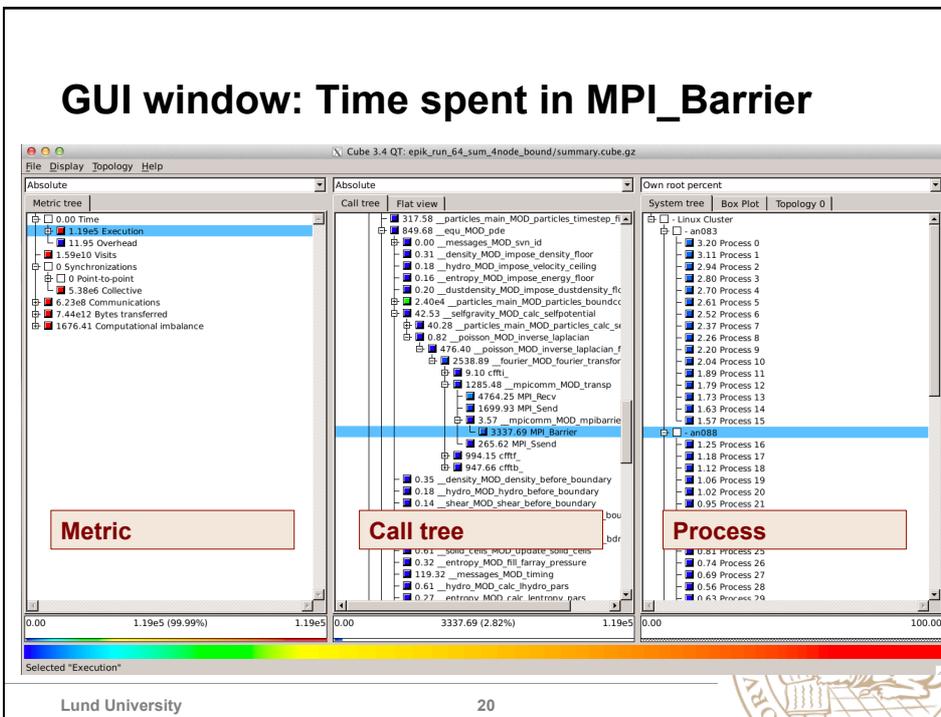
 - post-processes the data (pattern search)
 - starts the GUI
- Use `-s` option for post-processing only
 - Useful when opening archive from the GUI



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19

GUI window: Time spent in MPI_Barrier



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20



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OpenMP case study

VECTOR NORM



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21

Initialisation routine

```
void vectorinit(double *vdata, int leng)
{
  #pragma omp master // should have been: for
  for ( int i = 0; i < leng; i++)
  {
    vdata[i] = i;
  }
  return;
}
```



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22

Vectornorm routine

```
double vectornorm(double *vdata, int leng)
{
    double norm = 0.0;
    #pragma omp parallel default(none) shared(vdata, norm, leng)
    { double lnorm = 0.0;
    #pragma omp for
        for (int i = 0; i<leng; i++)
            { lnorm += vdata[i] * vdata[i];
            }
    #pragma omp atomic
        norm += lnorm;
    }
    norm = sqrt(norm);
    return norm;
}
```



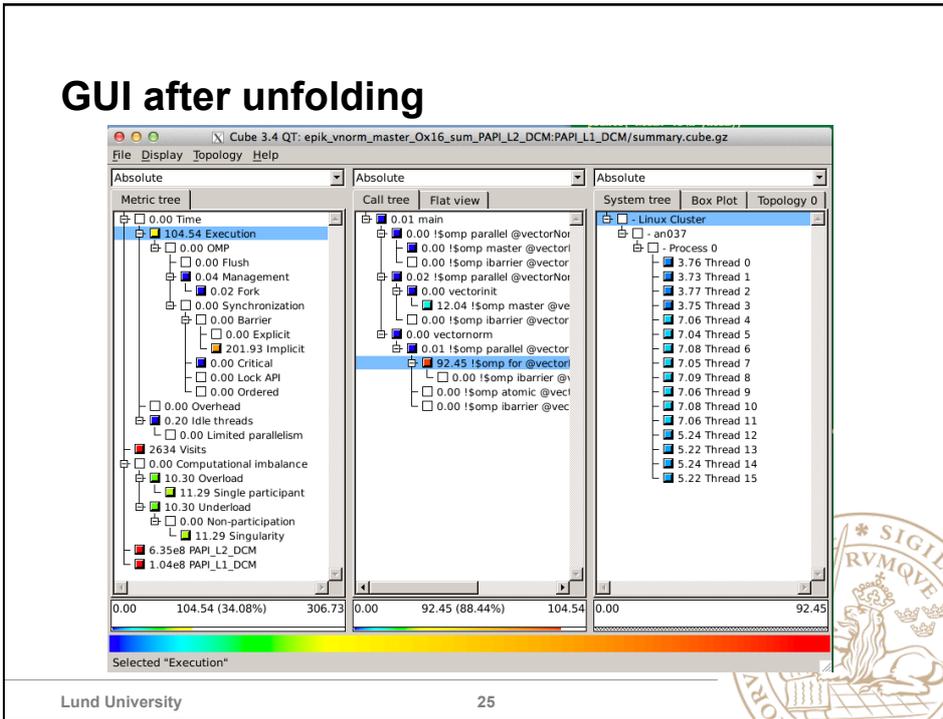
Code sequence from caller

```
for (int loops=0; loops < loop_count; loops++)
{
    #pragma omp parallel default(none) shared(vect, vleng)
    {
        vectorinit( vect, vleng);
    }

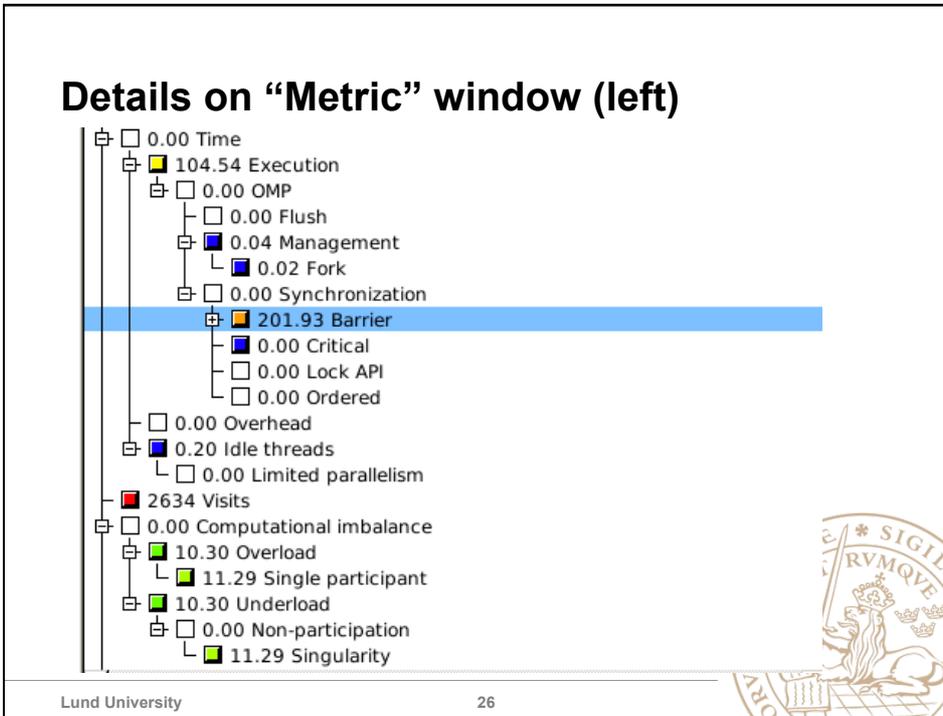
    norm = vectornorm(vect, vleng);
}
```



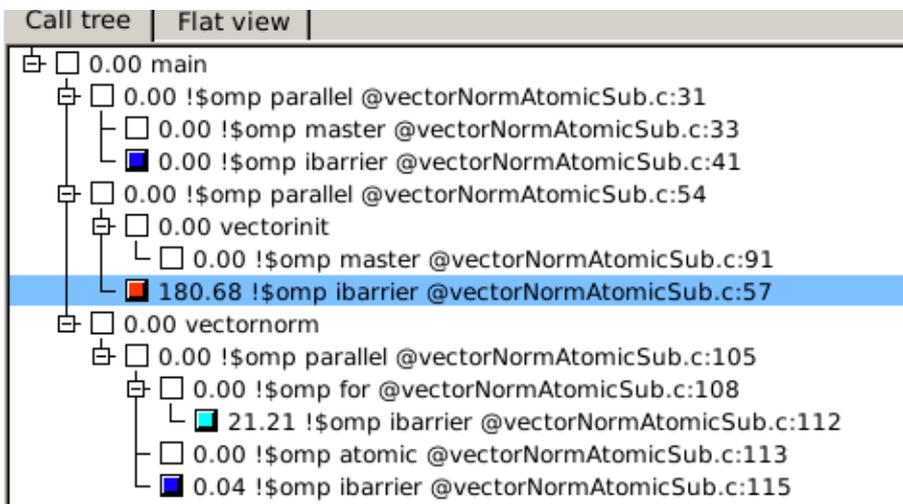
GUI after unfolding



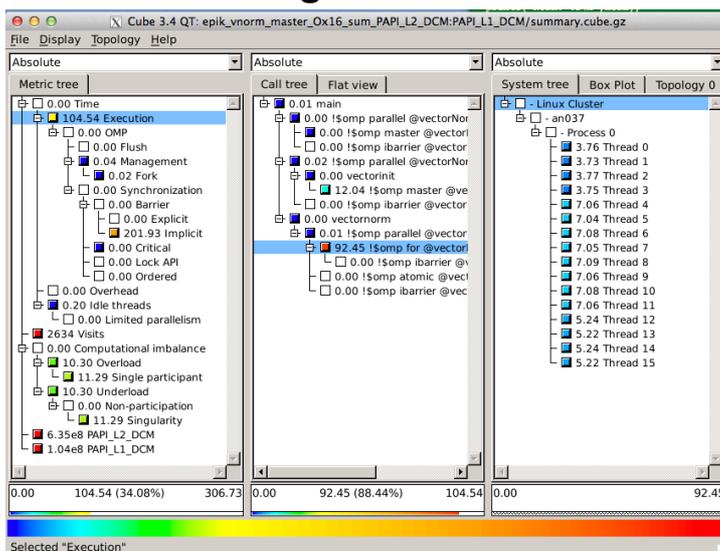
Details on “Metric” window (left)



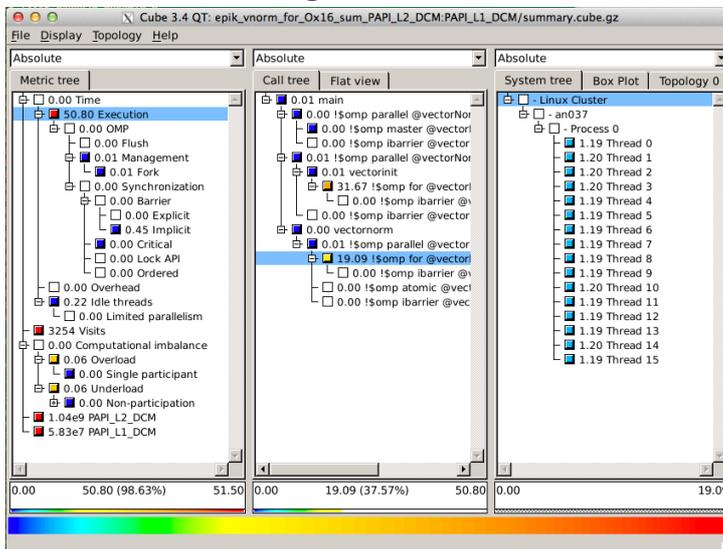
Call tree window (centre)



GUI after unfolding – before fix



GUI after unfolding – after fix



OpenMP case study

SUMMING A TRIANGULAR REGION



Code:

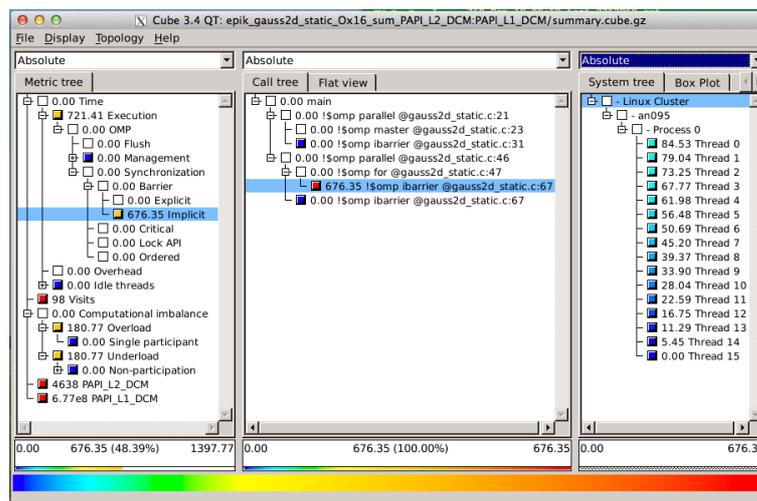
```

#pragma omp parallel default(none) shared(integral)
#pragma omp for private(xpos, ypos) \
    reduction(+:integral) schedule(static)
for ( int i = 0; i < NSIZE; i++)
{ xpos = (i+0.5) * STEPSIZE;
  for (int j = 0; j < i; j++ )
  {
    ypos = (j+0.5) * STEPSIZE;
    double xvecSquare = xpos*xpos + ypos*ypos;
    integral += exp(-xvecSquare) * STEPSIZE*SSTEPSIZE;
  }
}

```

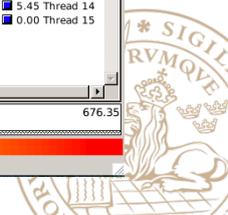
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31

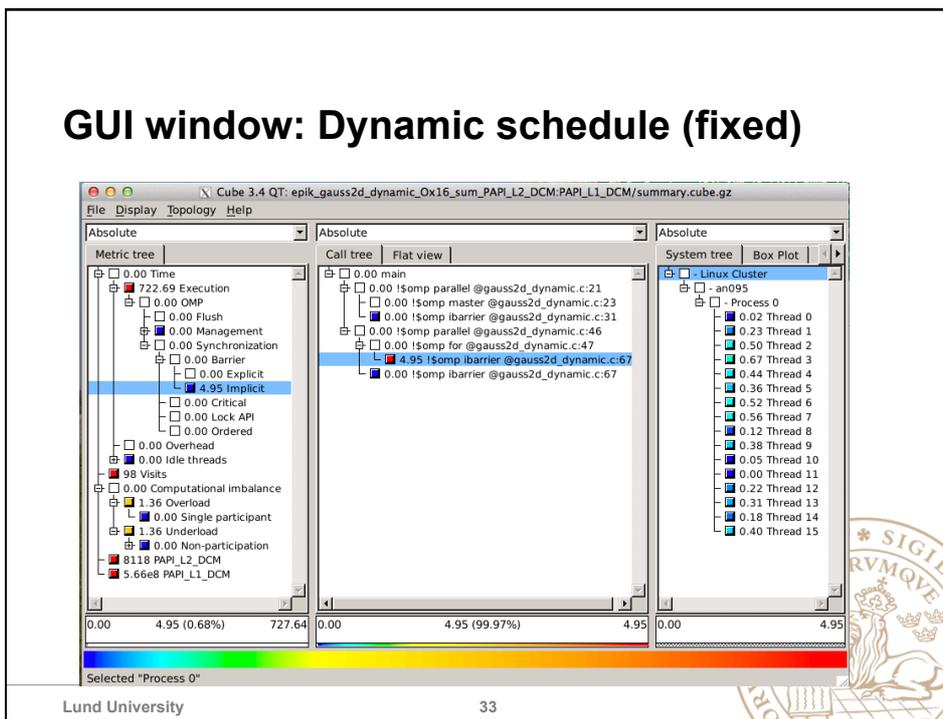
**GUI window: Static schedule**

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32



GUI window: Dynamic schedule (fixed)



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33



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MPI example

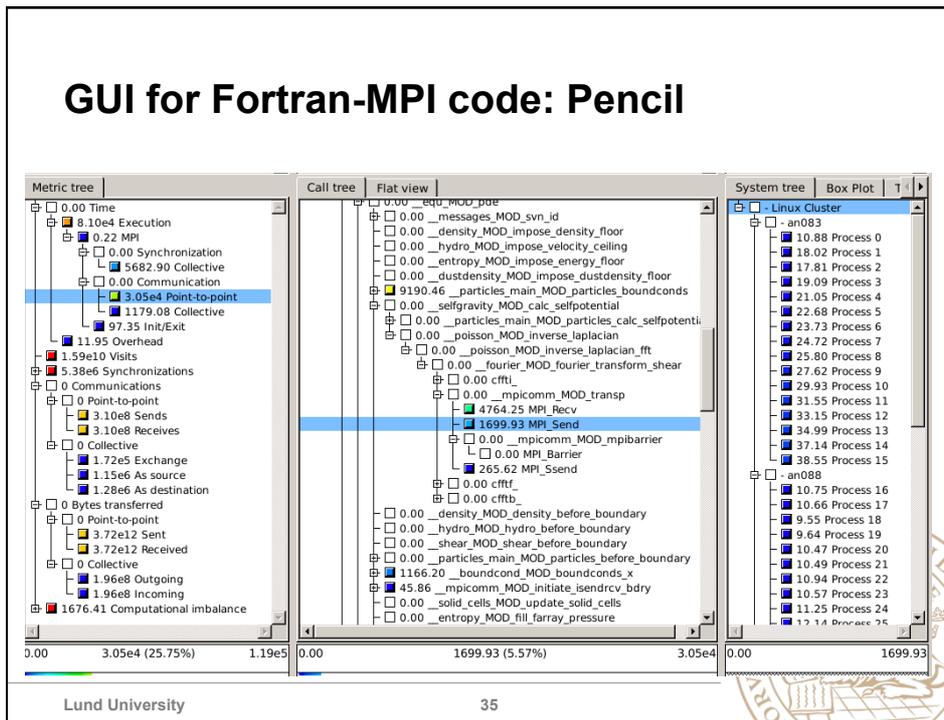
PENCIL CODE



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34

GUI for Fortran-MPI code: Pencil



Things I am missing

- Support for OpenMP tasks (scalasca 1.4.2, July 2012)
- Sampling – this helps with OO-style coding
 - Though one would loose some features



Further features

- PAPI event counters integrated
 - Specify scan option: -m
 - Treat them with great care
 - e.g. L2 miss on streams
 - Hardware event counter problem, not Scalasca
- When using tracing you get more features
 - e.g.: “late sender” or “late receiver” in MPI P2P
 - Care with memory consumption and disk-space
 - Care with not-so-global clock



Summary

- Portable and free tool
 - IBM and Cray in-house tools unavailable on other kit
- You can learn a lot about a code
- Definitely got more robust with time
- In theory easy to use: 3 step approach
 - Need to exclude small methods (e.g. C++)
 - Sometimes it just breaks (so do other tools)

