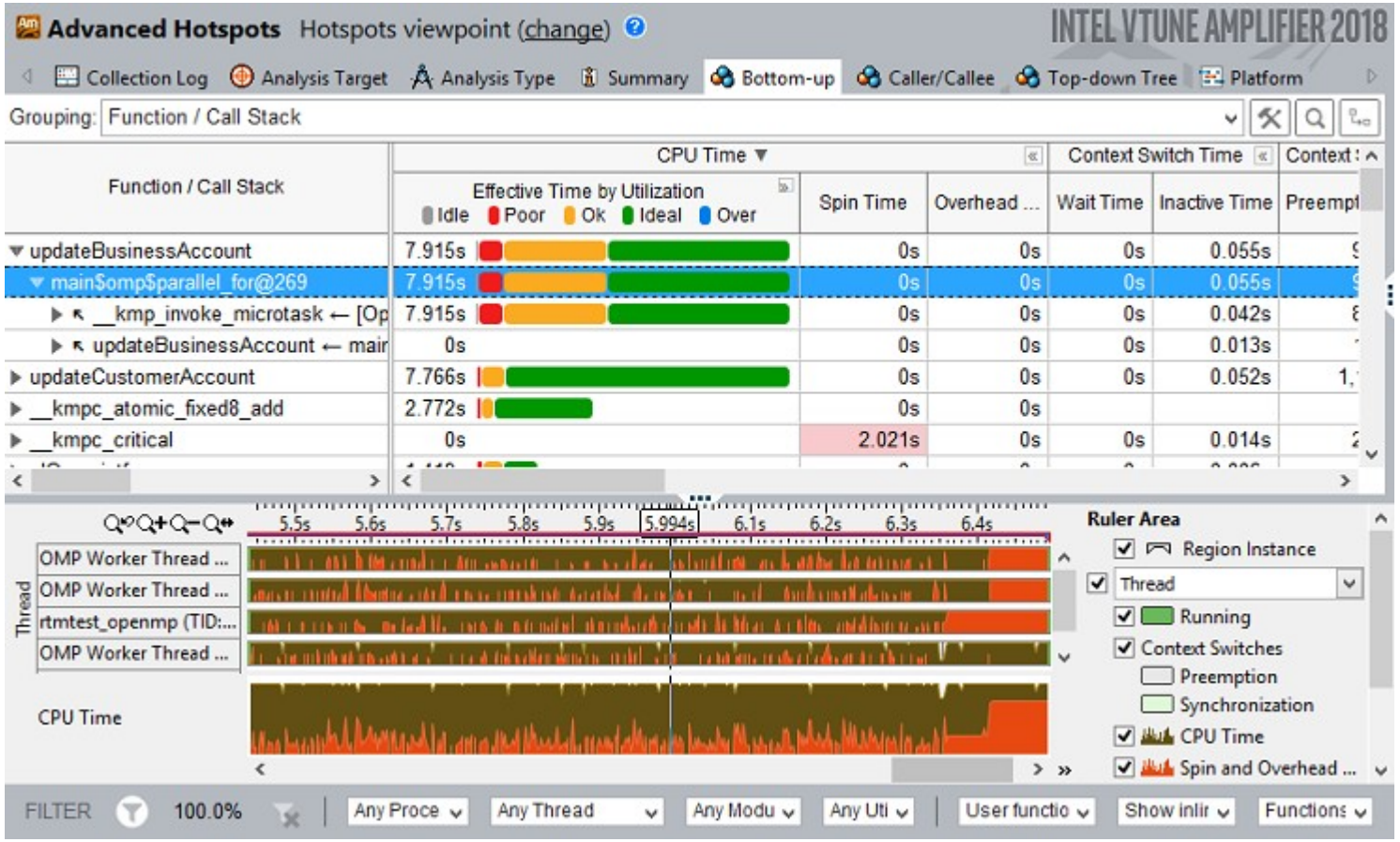
(HPC) Performance Tools Comparison
Opinion

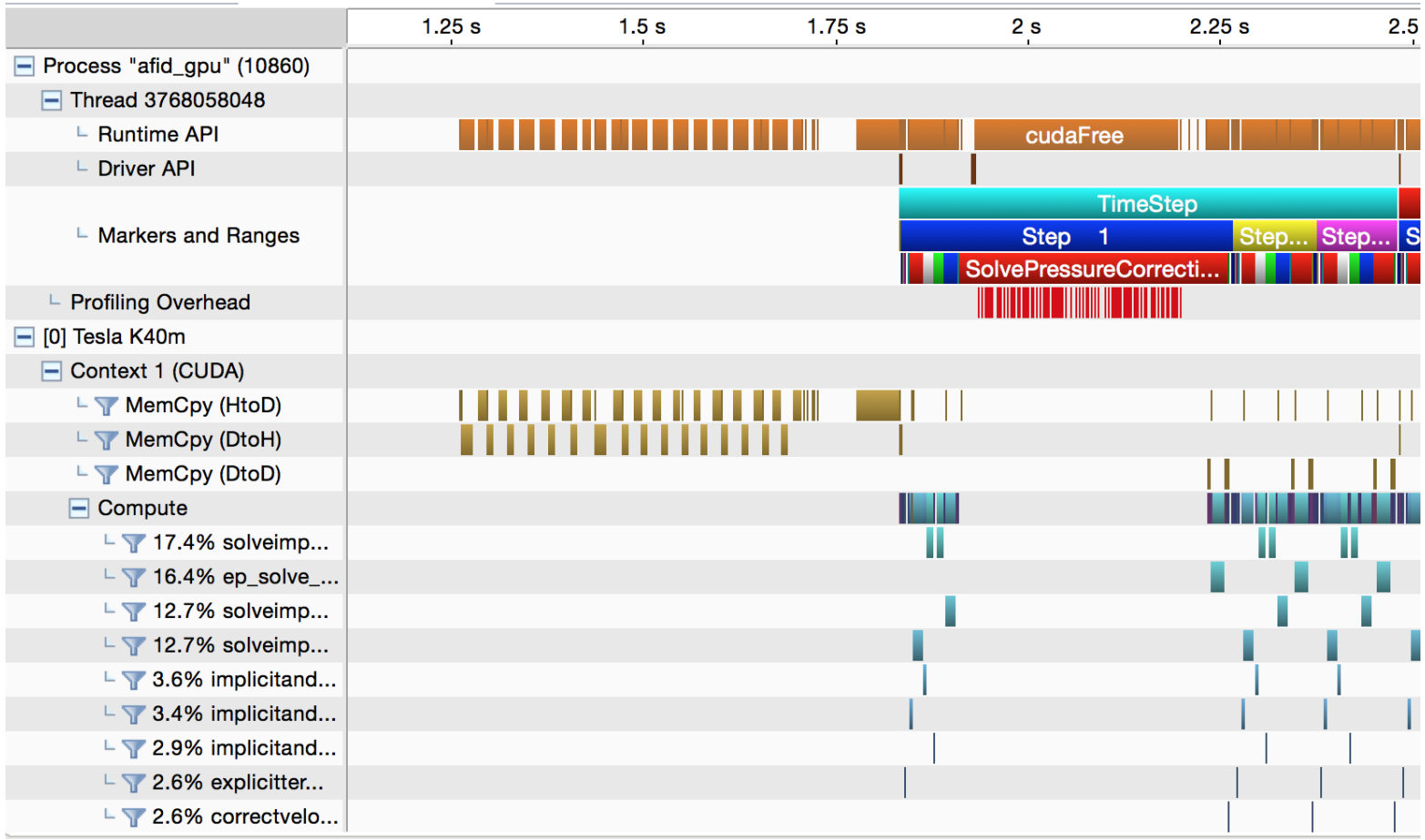
Intel VTune Amplifier

- Commercial



NVProf

- Free


1.25 s
1.5 s
1.75 s
2 s
2.25 s
2.5
Process "afid_gpu" (10860)
Thread 3768058048
Runtime API
Driver API
Markers and Ranges
Profiling Overhead
[0] Tesla K40m
Context 1 (CUDA)
MemCpy (HtoD)
MemCpy (DtoH)
MemCpy (DtoD)
Compute
17.4% solveimp...
16.4% ep_solve_...
12.7% solveimp...
12.7% solveimp...
3.6% implicitand...
3.4% implicitand...
2.9% implicitand...
2.6% explicitter...
2.6% correctvelo...
cudaFree
TimeStep
Step 1
Step...
Step...
SolvePressureCorrecti...

Linux Perf

- Open Source
- Requires elevated privileges (think sudo)

- http://www.brendangregg.com/perf.html
- https://perf.wiki.kernel.org/index.php/Main_Page

Linux Perf
Stat

- `perf stat ./myapp`

```
Performance counter stats for './myapp':

       7894,316858      task-clock (msec)         #    1,000 CPUs utilized
               65      context-switches          #    0,008 K/sec
                1      cpu-migrations            #    0,000 K/sec
              247      page-faults               #    0,031 K/sec
   21.509.526.746      cycles                    #    2,725 GHz
   70.936.275.718      instructions              #    3,30  insn per cycle
   12.084.148.187      branches                  # 1530,740 M/sec
      125.221.590      branch-misses             #    1,04% of all branches

      7,896236796 seconds time elapsed
```

- `perf stat -d [-d -d] ./myapp   # more details`

Linux Perf
Record & Report

- `perf record -g ./myapp`

```
[ perf record: Woken up 1 times to write data ]
[kernel.kallsyms] with build id 6c9e702f3188393b7d2416f6cd2662ac63ea05c5 not found,
continuing without symbols
[ perf record: Captured and wrote 0.058 MB perf.data (844 samples) ]
```

- `perf report`

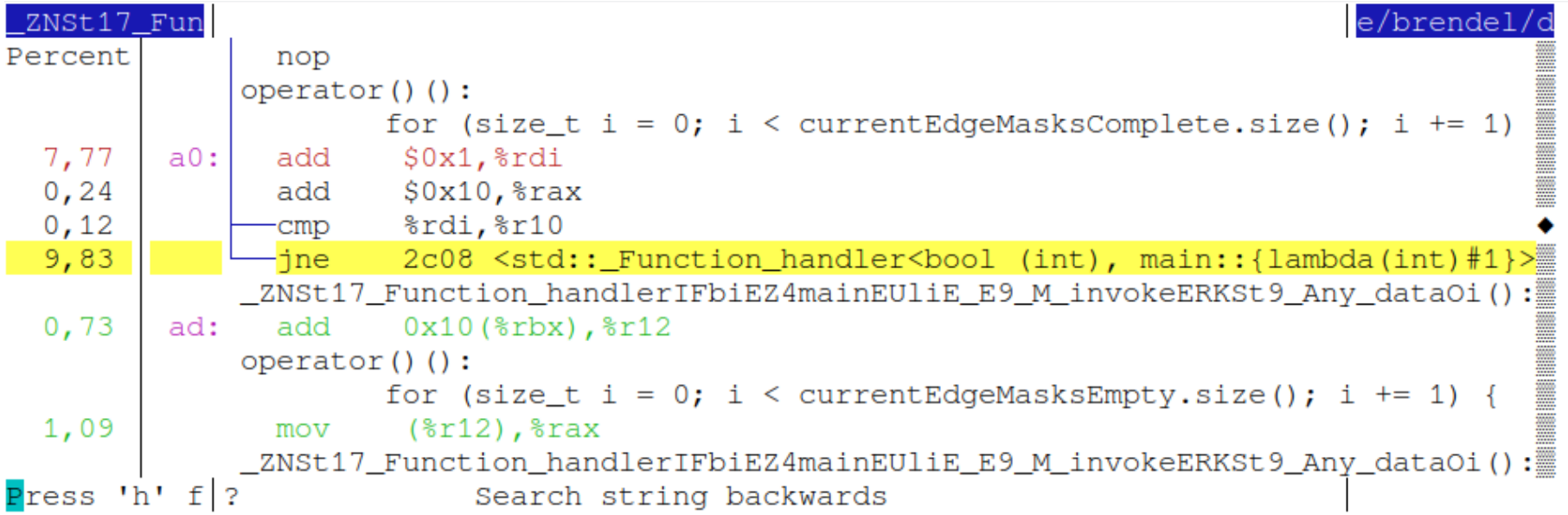
```
Samples: 844  of event 'cycles:uppp', Event count (approx.): 550733299
  Children      Self  Command  Shared Object         Symbol
-   99,08%    99,08%  test-5   test-5                [.] _ZNSt17_Function_handlerIFbiE
   - 71,87% 0
        _ZNSt17_Function_handlerIFbiEZ4mainEUliE_E9_M_invokeERKSt9_Any_dataOi
     13,87% _ZNSt17_Function_handlerIFbiEZ4mainEUliE_E9_M_invokeERKSt9_Any_dataOi
   + 10,44% 0x1
   + 2,06% 0x3
+    72,24%     0,00%  test-5   [unknown]           [.] 0000000000000000
+    10,44%     0,00%  test-5   [unknown]           [.] 0x0000000000000001
+     2,06%     0,00%  test-5   [unknown]           [.] 0x0000000000000003
      0,40%     0,40%  test-5   test-5              [.] _Z17subGraphEdgeMasksILi78ELi
      0,15%     0,15%  test-5   ld-2.27.so          [.] _dl_lookup_symbol_x
      0,12%     0,00%  test-5   [unknown]           [.] 0x00000000000002e3
Cannot load tips.txt file, please install perf!
```

Linux Perf
Record & Report

- `perf record -g ./myapp`

```
[ perf record: Woken up 1 times to write data ]
[kernel.kallsyms] with build id 6c9e702f3188393b7d2416f6cd2662ac63ea05c5 not found,
continuing without symbols
[ perf record: Captured and wrote 0.058 MB perf.data (844 samples) ]
```

- `perf report`



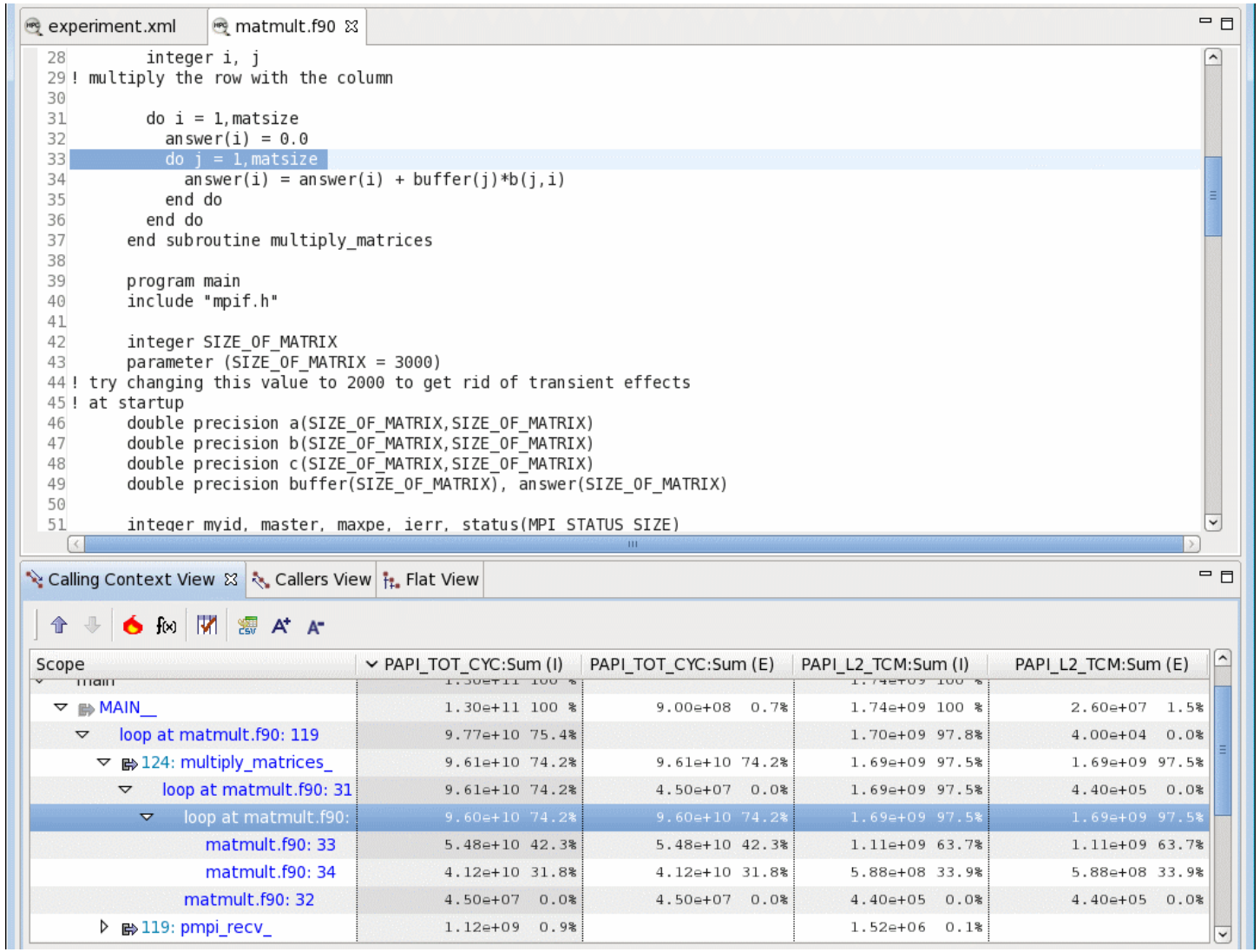
Linux Perf
Top

- `sudo perf top`

```
Samples: 47K of event 'cycles:ppp', Event count (approx.): 4927575036
Overhead  Shared Object                                 Symbol
   2,84%  [unknown]                                     [.] 0000000000000000
   1,25%  [kernel]                                      [k] syscall_return_via_sysret
   1,04%  libc-2.27.so                                  [.] __memmove_avx_unaligned_e
   0,86%  libc-2.27.so                                  [.] _int_malloc
   0,69%  ld-2.27.so                                    [.] do_lookup_x
   0,66%  [kernel]                                      [k] fw_domains_get
   0,65%  [kernel]                                      [k] _raw_spin_lock_irqsave
   0,64%  libc-2.27.so                                  [.] cfree@GLIBC_2.2.5
   0,62%  [kernel]                                      [k] __fget
   0,51%  libc-2.27.so                                  [.] malloc
   0,48%  perf                                          [.] 0x00000000001ea403
   0,47%  [kernel]                                      [k] __schedule
   0,47%  [kernel]                                      [k] timerqueue_add
   0,47%  libpthread-2.27.so                            [.] __pthread_mutex_lock
   0,47%  libsamplerate.so.0.1.8                        [.] 0x0000000000003790
   0,45%  [kernel]                                      [k] module_get_kallsym
   0,44%  perf                                          [.] 0x00000000001f7d45
   0,44%  [kernel]                                      [k] update_blocked_averages
   0,43%  libpixman-1.so.0.34.0                         [.] pixman_rasterize_edges
   0,42%  [kernel]                                      [k] __d_lookup_rcu
   0,42%  [kernel]                                      [k] copy_user_enhanced_fast_s
   0,40%  perf                                          [.] 0x00000000001f7860
   0,39%  [kernel]                                      [k] menu_select
Failed to open /tmp/perf-1509.map, continuing without symbols
```

HPCToolkit

- Open Source



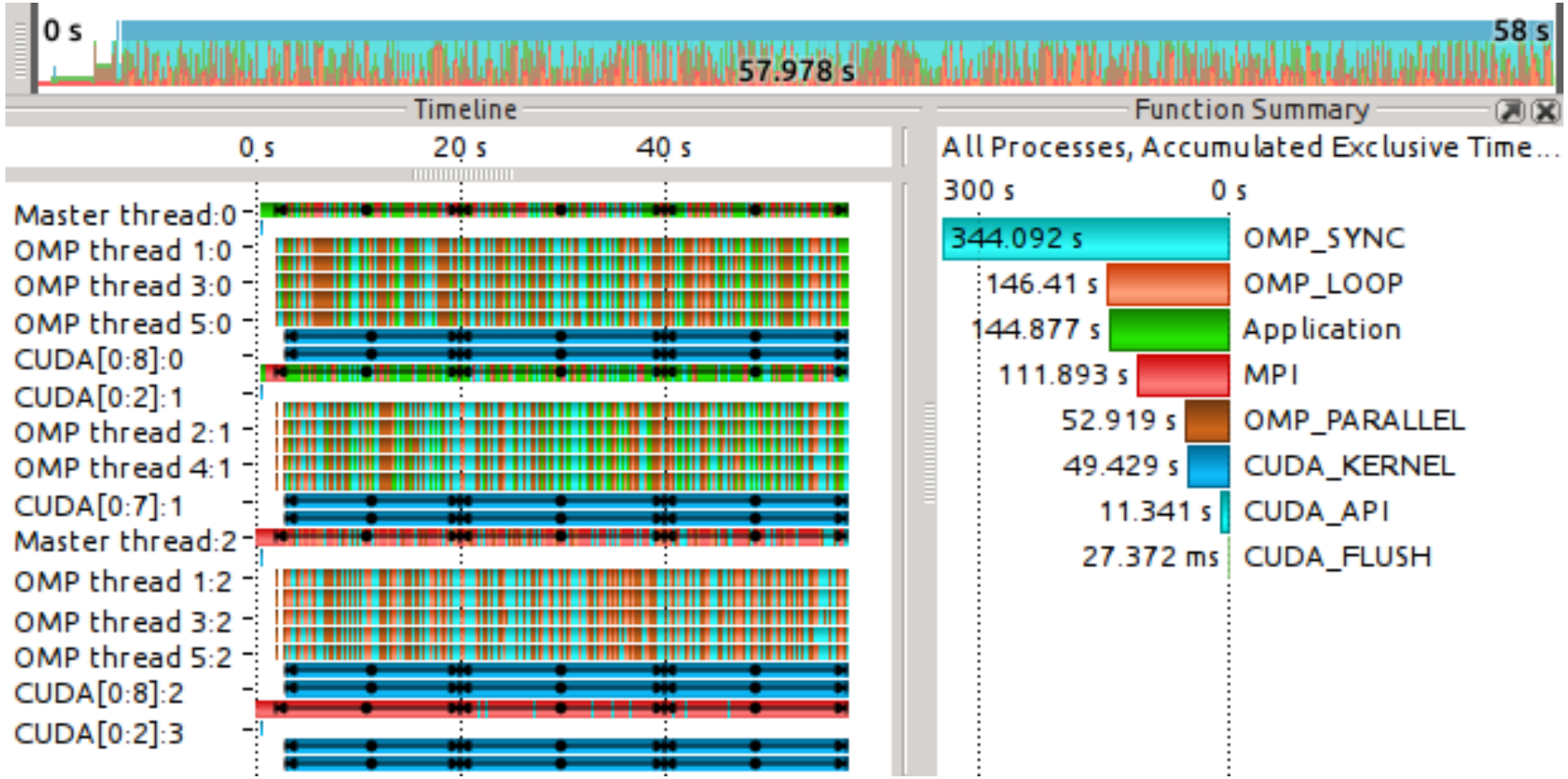
Score-P & TAU

- Open Source

- Generally require modifying your link-step, or even the whole compilation

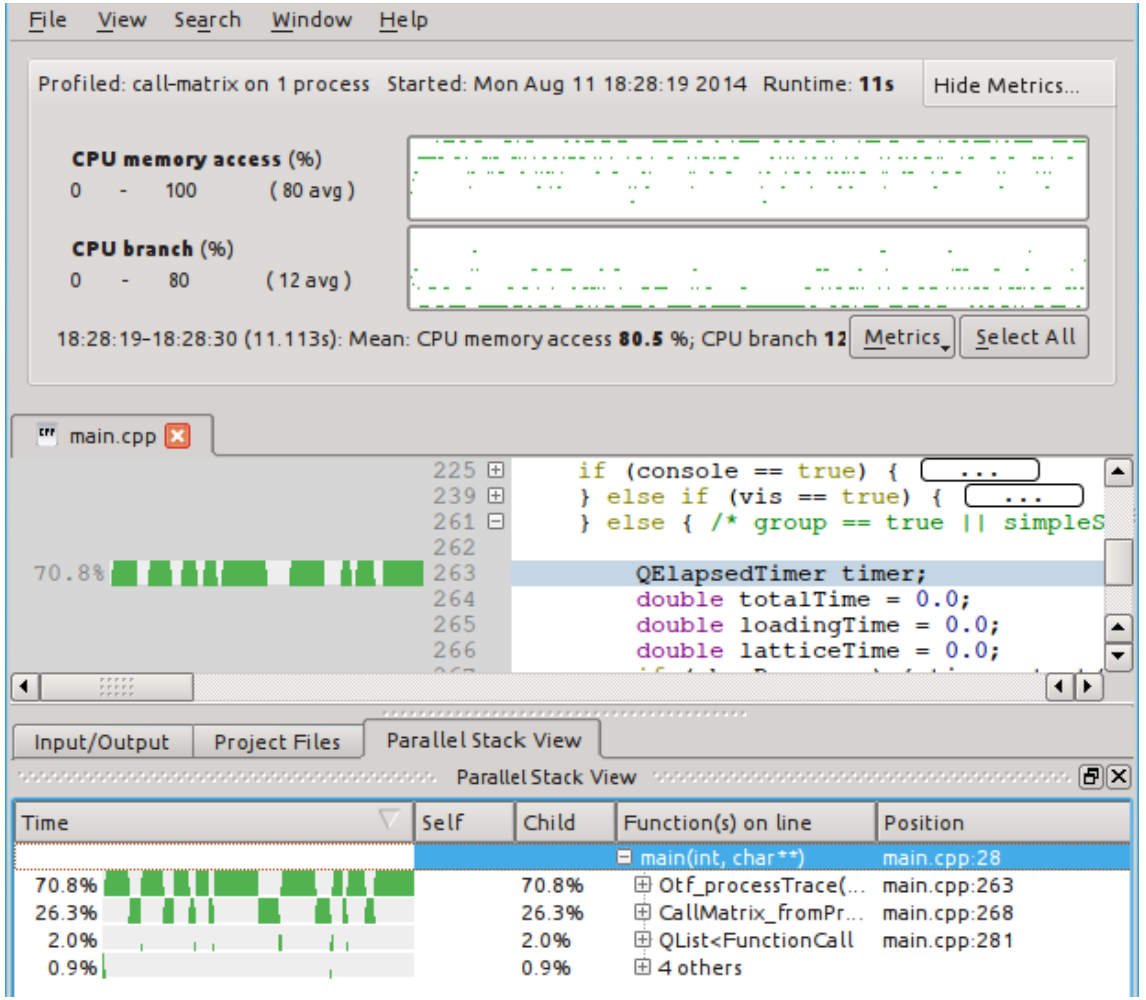
Vampir

- Commercial
- Trace file viewer
- Works with TAU and Score-P



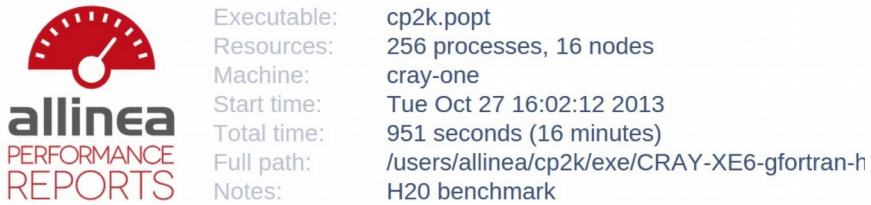
Arm MAP

- Commercial



Arm Performance Reports

- Doesn‘t even require -g



Summary: cp2k.popt is CPU-bound in this cor

The total wallclock time was spent as follows:

CPU 56.5%

MPI 43.5%

I/O 0.0%

Time spent running application code.
This is **average**; check the CPU performance section for optimization advice.

Time spent in MPI calls. High values are usually bad.
This is **average**; check the MPI breakdown for advice on reducing it.

Time spent in filesystem I/O. High values are usually bad.
This is **negligible**; there's no need to investigate I/O performance.

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:

Scalar numeric ops	27.7%
Vector numeric ops	11.3%
Memory accesses	60.9%
Other	0.0

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:

Time in reads	0.0%
Time in writes	0.0%
Estimated read rate	0 bytes/s
Estimated write rate	0 bytes/s

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:

Time in collective calls	8.2%
Time in point-to-point calls	91.8%
Estimated collective rate	169 Mb/s
Estimated point-to-point rate	50.6 Mb/s

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:

Mean process memory usage	82.5 Mb
Peak process memory usage	89.3 Mb
Peak node memory usage	7.4%

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.

Conclusions 1

- Vendor tools like VTune and NVProf (and CrayPAT?) are good. Use them.
  - Single node / low scalability
- Arm MAP is good. Use it.
- If you don‘t have Arm MAP, use HPCToolkit
- Perf is great if you have sudo and a new-ish kernel
  - No MPI

- If the above don’t offer enough detail
  - Score-P and Vampir
  - (TAU and Vampir)
  - (They do not provide more GPU details than NVProf)

Conclusions 2

- Your own computer
  - CUDA
    - NVProf
  - No CUDA
    - MPI
      - HPCToolkit
    - No MPI
      - Perf
      - (HPCToolkit)

- If you somehow have a license, get Arm MAP

Conclusions 2

- Someone else's computer
  - Arm MAP
  - Single Node
    - GPU → NVProf
    - Intel CPU → VTune
    - No Intel CPU → HPCToolkit

Conclusions 2

- Someone else's computer
  - Multiple Nodes
    - Arm MAP
    - (HPCToolkit)

- You need more detail. I.e. a trace, or e.g. more in-depth info on MPI and OpenMP usage possibly combined with CUDA or OpenACC
  - Score-P → Vampir
  - (TAU → Vampir)