PAPI

Performance Application Programming Interface

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INNOVATIVE COMPUTING LABORATORY
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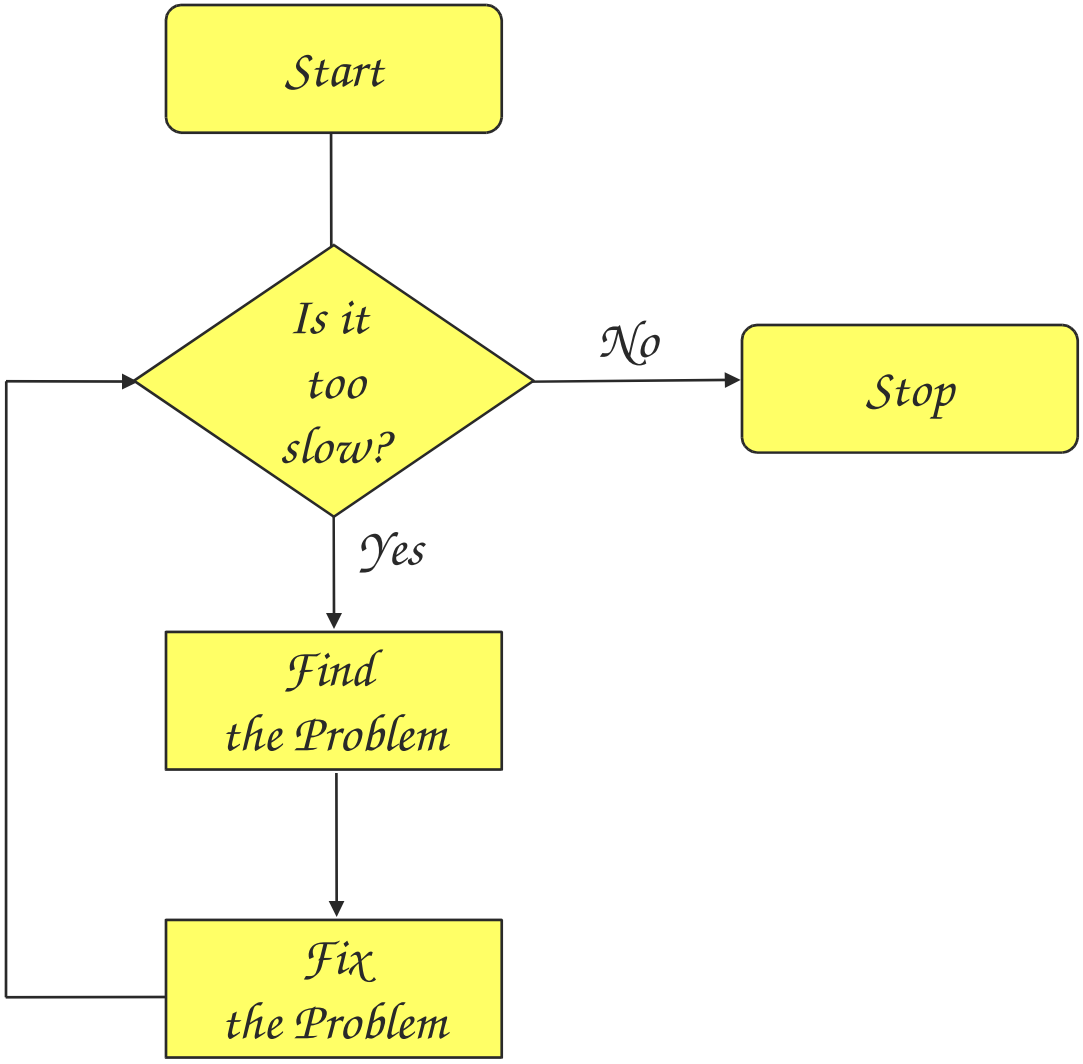
COMPUTATIONAL
ENVIRONMENTS

Performance

"The single most important impediment to good parallel performance is still poor single-node performance."

- William Gropp
Argonne National Lab

Optimizing Performance



Tools for Performance Evaluation

- *Traditionally, timing and performance evaluation has been an art*
  - *Resolution of the clock*
  - *Issues about cache effects*
  - *Different systems*
  - *Can be cumbersome and inefficient with traditional tools*
- *Situation has changed*
  - *Today' s processors have internal counters*

Performance Counters

- *Today most high performance processors include hardware performance counters.*
- *Some are easy to access, others not available to users.*
- *On most platforms the APIs, if they exist, are not appropriate for the end user or well documented.*
- *Existing performance counter APIs*
  - *Compaq Alpha EV 6 & 6/7*
  - *SGI MIPS R10000*
  - *IBM Power Series*
  - *CRAY T3E, X1*
  - *Sun Solaris*
  - *Pentium and AMD*
  - *IA-64*
  - *HP-PA RISC*
  - *Hitachi*
  - *Fujitsu*
  - *NEC*

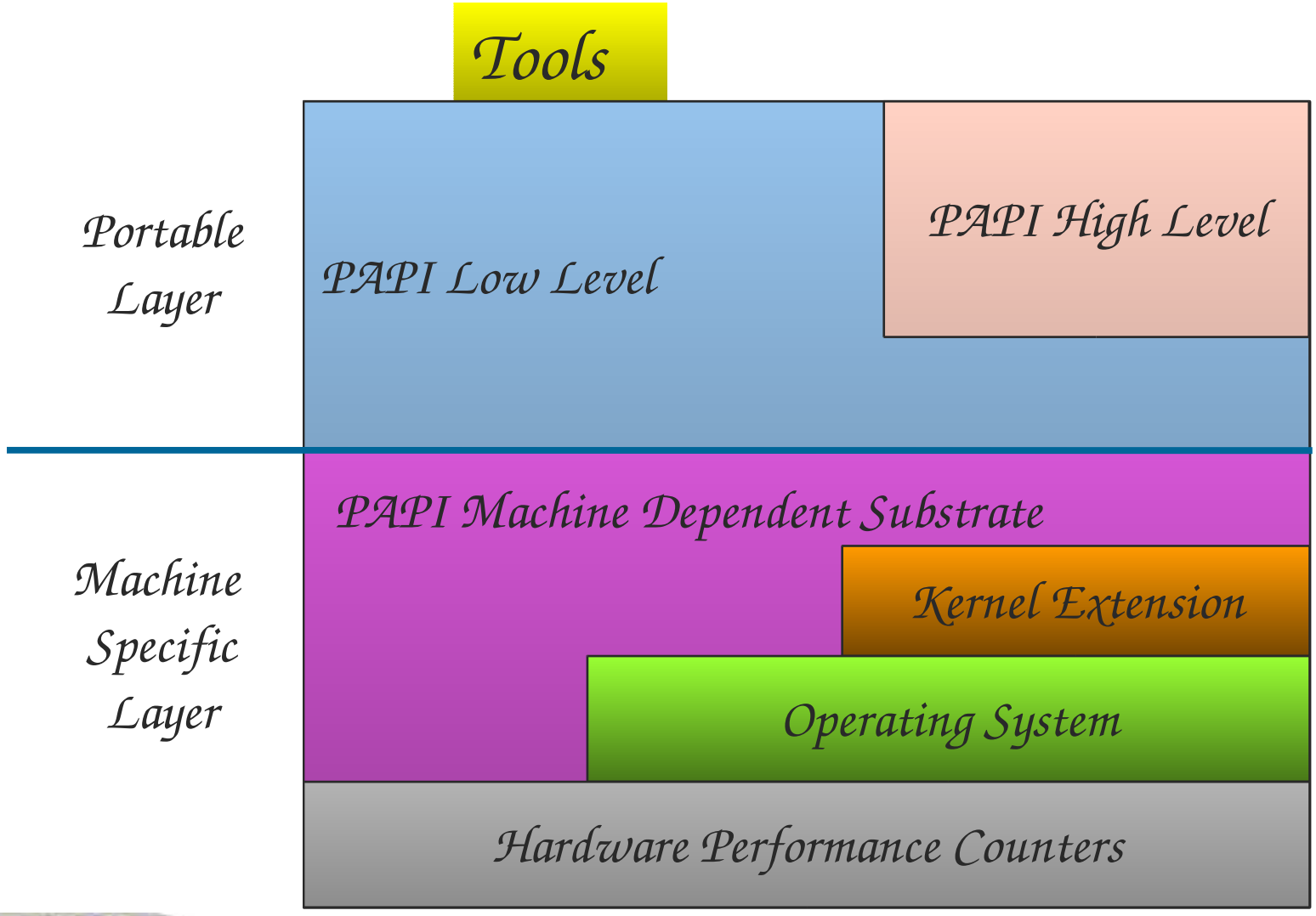
PAPI

- *Performance Application Programming Interface*
- *The purpose of PAPI is to implement a standardized portable and efficient API to access the hardware performance monitor counters found on most modern microprocessors.*
- *The goal of PAPI is to facilitate the optimization of parallel and serial code performance by encouraging the development of cross-platform optimization tools.*

PAPI Counter Interfaces

- *PAPI provides 3 interfaces to the underlying counter hardware:*
  1. *The low level interface manages hardware events in user defined groups called EventSets, and provides access to advanced features.*
  2. *The high level interface provides the ability to start, stop and read the counters for a specified list of events.*
  3. *Graphical and end-user tools provide facile data collection and visualization.*

PAPI Implementation



High Level Interface

- *Meant for application programmers wanting coarse-grained measurements*
- *Not tuned for efficiency*
- *Calls the lower level API*
- *Only allows PAPI Presets*
- *Easier to use and less setup (less additional code) than low level*

High Level Functions

- *PAPI_num_counters()*
- *PAPI_start_counters()*
- *PAPI_stop_counters()*
- *PAPI_read_counters()*
- *PAPI_accum_counters()*
- *PAPI_ipc*
- *PAPI_flips()*
- *PAPI_flops()*

PAPI High-level Example

```
long long values[NUM_EVENTS];
unsigned int Events[NUM_EVENTS]=
  {PAPI_TOT_INS,PAPI_TOT_CYC};
  /* Start the counters */
  PAPI_start_counters((int*)Events,NUM_EVENTS);

  /* What we are monitoring… */
  do_work();

  /* Stop the counters and store the results in
  values */
  retval = PAPI_stop_counters(values,NUM_EVENTS);
```

Low-level Interface

- *Increased efficiency and functionality over the high level PAPI interface*
- *Obtain information about the executable, the hardware & the memory*
- *Thread-safe*
- *Fully programmable (native events)*
- *Multiplexing*
- *Callbacks on counter overflow*
- *Profiling*
- *54 functions*

Available Performance Data

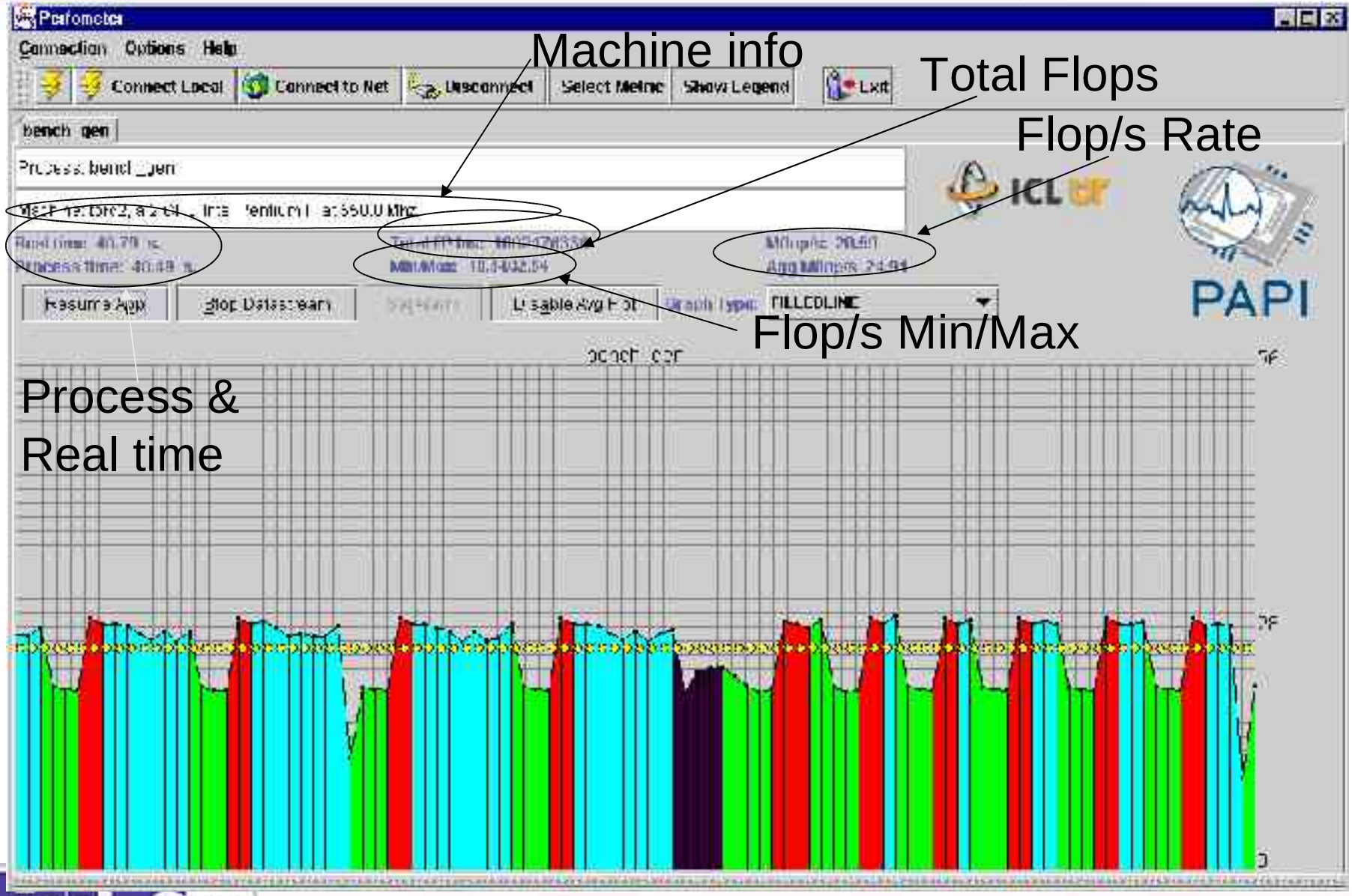
- Cycle count
- Instruction count
  - All instructions
  - Floating point
  - Integer
  - Load/store
- Branches
  - Taken / not taken
  - Mispredictions
- Pipeline stalls due to
  - Memory subsystem
  - Resource conflicts
- Cache
  - I/D cache misses for different levels
  - Invalidations
- TLB
  - Misses
  - Invalidations

Parallel Ocean Program Performance
Run: x1 Data Set, 2x2 Procs, 10 Steps

Raw Data	Debug	Optimized
PAPI_LD_INS	1.21E+011	2.104E+10
PAPI_SR_INS	2.02E+010	7.783E+09
PAPI_BR_INS	8.64E+009	5.043E+09
PAPI_FP_INS	2.21E+010	2.251E+10
PAPI_FMA_INS	1.04E+010	1.007E+10
PAPI_FPU_FDIV		2.551E+08
PAPI_FPU_FSQRT		1.317E+08
PAPI_TOT_INS	3.28E+011	6.257E+10
PAPI_TOT_CYC	3.63E+011	6.226E+10
PAPI_L1_LDM	1.03E+009	1.011E+09
PAPI_L1_STM	3.54E+008	3.475E+08
PAPI_L2_LDM	6.94E+008	6.894E+08
PAPI_FPU_IDL	1.66E+011	1.411E+10
PAPI_LSU_IDL	4.06E+010	1.483E+10
PAPI_MEM_RC	1.03E+011	1.368E+10
PAPI_MEM_SC	1.26E+011	2.413E+10
PAPI_STL_CCY	2.01E+011	3.367E+10

Metric	Debug	Optimize
% Ld Ins	36.86	33.63
% Sr Ins	6.17	12.44
% Br Ins	2.63	8.06
% FP Ins	6.75	35.98
% FMA Ins	3.16	16.09
% FP Divide		0.41
% FP SQRT		0.21
MFLIPS	12.19	72.31
% MFLIPS Peal	3.05	18.08
IPC	0.90	1.00
Mem Opts/FLIP	6.38	1.28
% L1 Ld HR	99.15	95.19
% L1 Sr HR	98.25	95.54
% L2 Ld HR	99.43	96.72
% FPU Idle Cyc	45.77	22.66
% LSU Idle Cyc	11.17	23.82
% Ld Stall Cyc	28.28	21.97
% Sr Stall Cyc	34.59	38.76
% No Ins. Cyc	55.25	54.08

Example Tool: Perfometer



Supported Architectures

- *AMD Athlon and Opteron*
- *Cray T3E and X1*
- *HP Alpha (caveats)*
- *IBM POWER3, POWER4*
- *Intel Pentium Pro,II,III + 4, Itanium 1 + 2*
- *MIPS R10K, R12K, R14K*
- *Sun UltraSparc I, II, III*

Standard PAPI Features

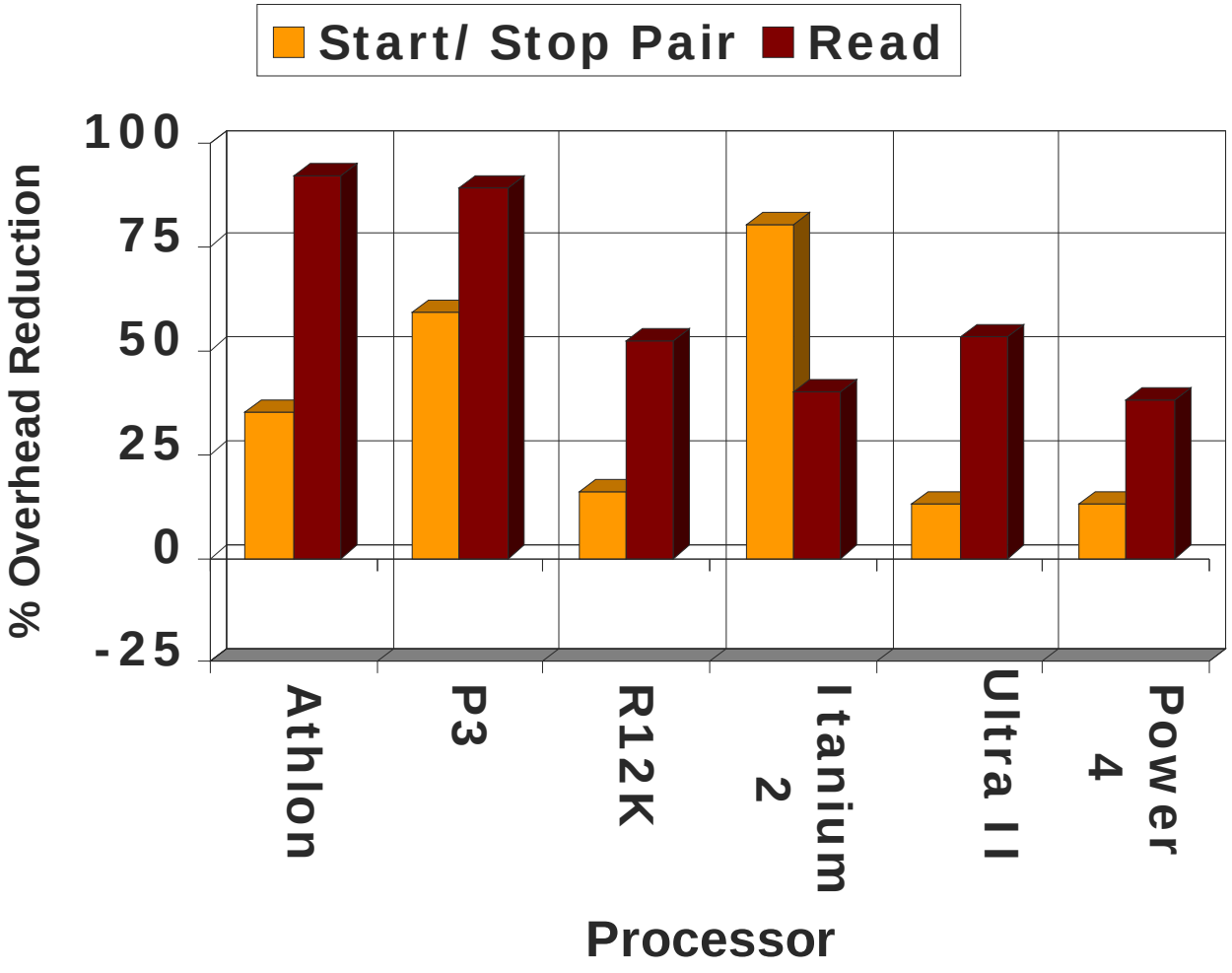
- *Standardized Access to Performance Counters*
- *Standardized Performance Metrics*
- *Easy Access to Platform-Specific Metrics*
- *Multiplexed Event Measurement*
- *Dispatch on Overflow*
- *Event Profiling*
- *Bindings for C, Fortran, Matlab, and Java*

New in PAPI 3.0

- *Lower Measurement Overheads*
- *Overflow and Profiling on Multiple Simultaneous Events*
- *Easy Access to Platform-Specific Metrics*
- *High level API is now thread safe*
- *Internal timer/signal/thread abstractions*

Overhead example: PAPI 3.0 vs PAPI 2.3.4

(PAPI 2.3.4 overhead – PAPI 3.0 overhead)/PAPI 2.3.4 overhead



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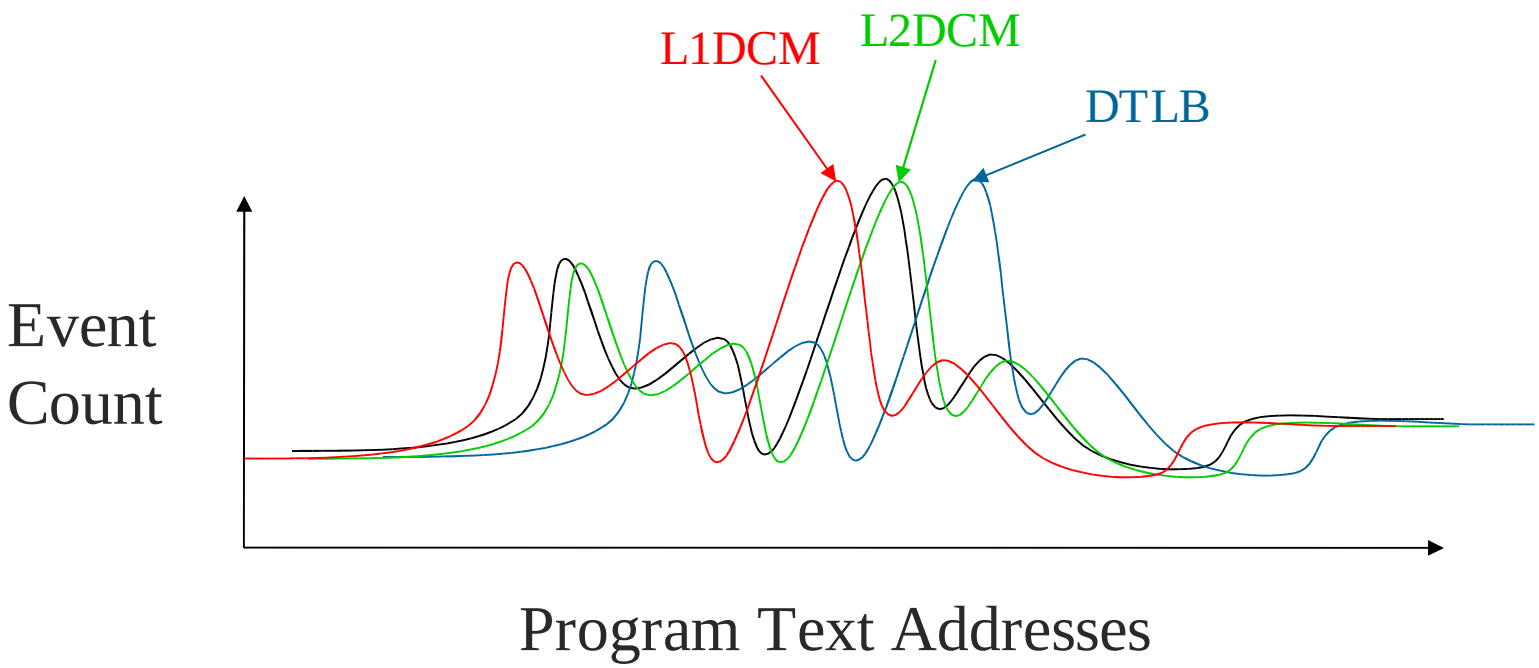
Multiple Counter Profiling



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Other Tools that use PAPI

- *TAU (Sameer Shende, U Oregon)*
  http://www.cs.uoregon.edu/research/paracomp/tau/
- *SvPablo (Celso Mendes, UIUC)*
  http://www-pablo.cs.uiuc.edu/Project/SVPablo/
- *HPCToolkit (John Mellor-Crummey, Rice Univ)*
  http://hipersoft.cs.rice.edu/hpctoolkit/
- *KOJAK (Bernd Mohr, FZ Juelich; U Tenn)*
  http://www.fz-juelich.de/zam/kojak/
- *psrun (Rick Kufrin, NCSA, UIUC)*
  http://www.ncsa.uiuc.edu/~rkufrin/perfsuite/psrun/
- *Titanium (Dan Bonachea, UC Berkeley)*
  http://www.cs.berkeley.edu/Research/Projects/titanium/
- *SCALEA (Thomas Fahringer, U Innsbruck)*
  http://www.par.univie.ac.at/project/scalea/

Questions?

- *http://icl.cs.utk.edu/papi/ - PAPI Homepage*