

Breaking Down MySQL/Percona Query Latency With DTrace

Brendan Gregg

Lead Performance Engineer, Joyent

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Agenda

- DTrace and Dynamic Tracing
- Latency and Query Latency
- Query Latency Components
 - on-CPU, off-CPU, File System, innodb thread concurrency
- Questions

G'Day, I'm Brendan

- I do performance analysis
- I also write performance tools out of necessity

DTrace

DYNAMIC TRACING IN ORACLE® SOLARIS,
MAC OS X, AND FREEBSD



Brendan Gregg • Jim Mauro
Foreword by Bryan Cantrill

Joyent

- We do cloud computing
- Many customers and instances of MySQL
- Now offering SmartMachines with Percona!
- Performance and scalability is critical
- We use DTrace

DTrace

- A performance analysis and troubleshooting tool
- User- and kernel-land tracing
- Production safe; in use since 2005
- C & awk inspired language
- Currently for:
 - Solaris-based OSes (Solaris 10+, SmartOS, Illumos, etc.)
 - Mac OS X 10.5+
 - FreeBSD 7.1+
 - Linux? <http://crtags.blogspot.com>

DTrace Users

- Command line end-users:
 - System Administrators
 - Database Administrators
 - Developers

DTrace Users

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 - System Administrators → resource usage
 - Database Administrators → database internals
 - Developers → latency

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- Hire/assign a DTrace guy for the team

DTrace Users

- Command line end-users:
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 - Database Administrators → database internals
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Either by writing scripts, or running other people's

- Hire/assign a DTrace guy for the team
- Indirect end-users:
 - Apple's Instruments
 - Joyent's Cloud Analytics
 - and more...

DTrace is Different

- Not just-another performance tool
- 1st implementation of *dynamic tracing*
- Has static tracing as well

Dynamic Tracing of MySQL

```
# dtrace -ln 'pid$target:::entry' -p 29008
  ID    PROVIDER    MODULE    FUNCTION NAME
77532  pid29008    mysql    _start entry
77533  pid29008    mysql    _mcount entry
77534  pid29008    mysql    _ZN18st_parsing_options5resetEv entry
[...]
82039  pid29008    mysql    mysql_send_query entry
82040  pid29008    mysql    mysql_real_query entry
82041  pid29008    mysql    mysql_real_connect entry
82042  pid29008    mysql    mysql_store_result entry
82043  pid29008    mysql    mysql_fetch_row entry
[...]
83939  pid29008    mysql    os_file_write entry
83941  pid29008    mysql    os_file_read entry
[...]
97074  pid29008    libc.so.1    strlen entry
97075  pid29008    libc.so.1    strncmp entry
[...22163 lines truncated...]
```

- Plus entry arguments, return values, timestamps (ns)

Static Tracing of MySQL

```
# dtrace -ln 'mysql*:::'
  ID PROVIDER  MODULE                                FUNCTION NAME
12173 mysql268  mysqld                                _Z10do_commandP3THD data-receive-finish
12174 mysql268  mysqld                                _Z10do_commandP3THD data-receive-start
12175 mysql268  mysqld                                log_reserve_and_open flush-log-finish
12176 mysql268  mysqld                                log_reserve_and_open flush-log-start
12177 mysql268  mysqld _ZN11ha_innobase1index_firstEPc innodb-index-
first-finish
[...20 lines truncated...]
12222 mysql268  mysqld                                wait_for_lock myisam-wrlck-start
12223 mysql268  mysqld _ZN11Query_cache21send_result_to_clientEP3THDPcj
query-cache-hit
12224 mysql268  mysqld _ZN11Query_cache21send_result_to_clientEP3THDPcj
query-cache-miss
12225 mysql268  mysqld _Z21mysql_execute_commandP3THD query-execute-finish
12226 mysql268  mysqld _Z21mysql_execute_commandP3THD query-execute-start
12227 mysql268  mysqld                                _Z11choose_planP4JOINy query-plan-finish
12228 mysql268  mysqld                                _Z11choose_planP4JOINy query-plan-start
```

- Easy to use and a stable & documented interface

Static vs Dynamic

- Static is better, use it when available
- Limited, like any traditional (pre-DTrace) metric
- Dynamic tracing is the catchall:
 - Will work on old and new MySQL versions
 - Can see everything
- I currently spend more time using dynamic over static tracing of MySQL
 - but this could change with more static probes

Dynamic Tracing

- DTrace is an implementation of Dynamic Tracing
 - One that has proven the concept
 - Has been used in large scale production for 5+ years
- Dynamic Tracing provides a new perspective:
 - What metrics would I like?
 - Given the ability to observe everything, ...

Latency

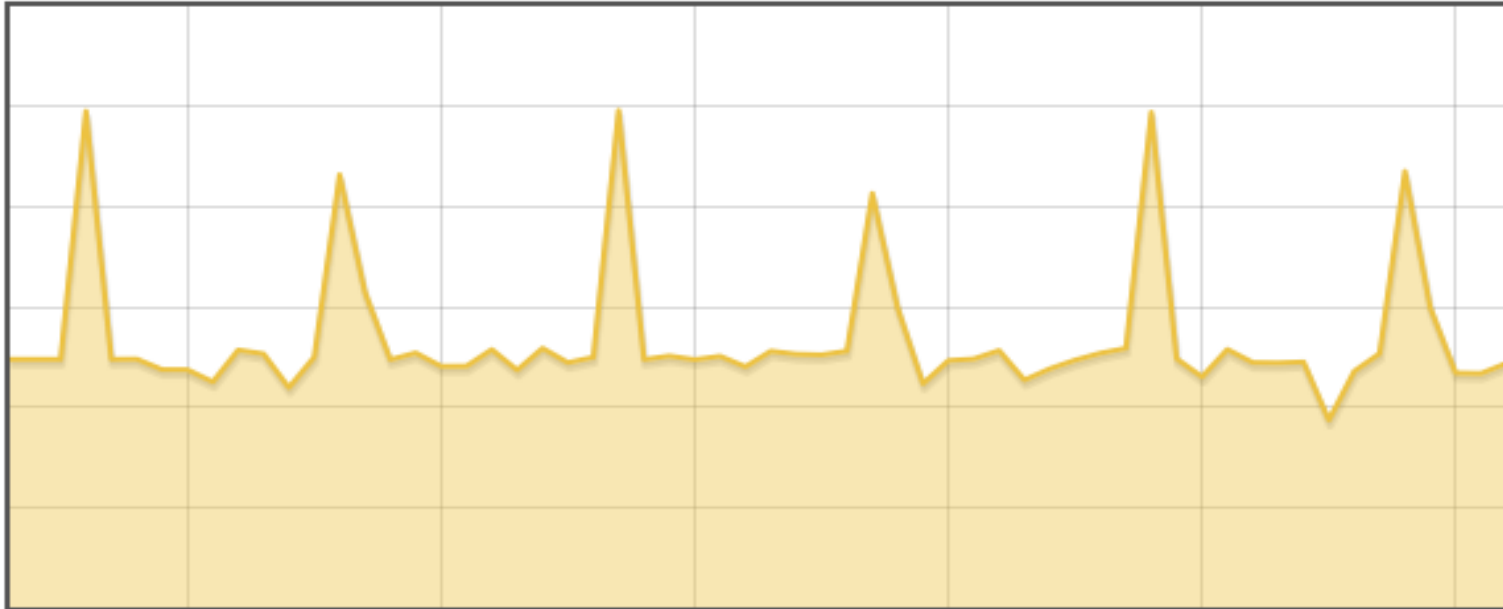
- Time between events
 - typically measured as request to completion
- A primary measure of application pain
 - When measured as a synchronous component of the workload
- Easy to get with DTrace
 - Either event by event, or summaries

Latency: Event-by-event

```
# ./iosnoop -Dots
STIME          TIME          DELTA  DTIME      UID   PID D   BLOCK   SIZE   COMM  PATHNAME
949417936651  949417948636  11984  11999      104  29008 R  99310470 16384  mysqld <none>
949418267667  949418275701  8033   8052       104  29008 R   1947809 16384  mysqld <none>
949418843669  949418843808  139    156        0     3  W    29024   2048  fsflush /var/log/...
949418873385  949418873488  103    121        0     3  W    6695855 2048  fsflush <none>
949418873564  949418873617  52     57         0     3  W    1829584  512  fsflush <none>
949418921970  949418932931  10960  10976      104  29008 R  95362430 16384  mysqld <none>
949419684613  949419692319  7706   7723       104  29952 R  81475146 16384  mysqld <none>
949419693574  949419699461  5886   5906       104  29952 R  60593276 16384  mysqld <none>
949422857833  949422857981  148    168        0     3  W    26720   4096  fsflush /var/adm/...
949423846191  949423846355  163    181        0     3  W    1990648  4096  fsflush /var/log/...
949426420134  949426420265  130    151        0     0  R     400    8192  sched <none>
949426420346  949426420423  77     85         0     0  W     65    512  sched <none>
949426420367  949426420459  92     35         0     0  W    129    512  sched <none>
949426420386  949426420490  103    30         0     0  W    146    512  sched <none>
949426420404  949426420566  161    76         0     0  W    193    512  sched <none>
949426420530  949426420604  73     37         0     0  W    206    512  sched <none>
949426420547  949426420679  131    75         0     0  W    210    512  sched <none>
[...thousands of lines...]
```

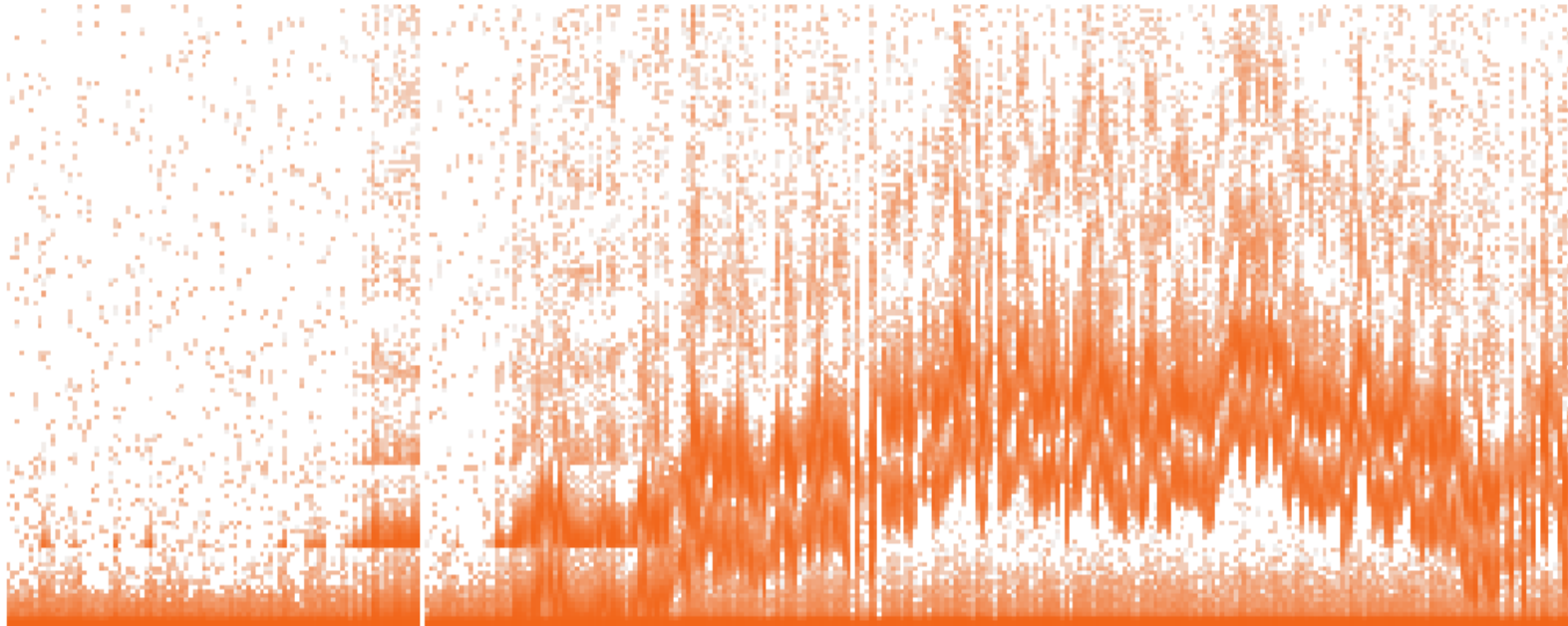
- A lot of data to sift through; effective as a last resort

Latency: Average



- Some patterns more visible, outliers hidden
- x-axis = time, y-axis = average latency

Latency: Distribution



- Great! And this example is MySQL query latency
- x-axis = time, y-axis = latency, z-axis (color) = count

Internals

- Not only is the distribution great, it's also efficient
- DTrace grouped data into buckets that span the distribution (quantized)
 - done in the kernel, at the point of data collection
- Summaries are read by user-land at a gentle rate
 - by default every 1 hertz (switchrate)
 - `dtrace(1M)` via `ioctl()`
- The performance impact is minimal

MySQL Query Latency

- slow query log: useful, but original 1+ sec was coarse
- Fixed with microseconds patch (thanks Percona!)
 - fixed in 5.1.21 and 6.0.4, bug #25412
- Good starting point with DTrace:
 - can build upon query latency analysis to include and compare components
 - distribution plots can reveal details not visible from the slow query log
 - can be done from either mysql or pid providers

mysql Provider

- A User Statically Defined Tracing (USDT) provider
- Added to 6.0.8 and 5.1.30 with `--enable-dtrace`
- One-liners
 - Trace query string:
`dtrace -n 'mysql*:::query-start { trace(copyinstr(arg0)); }'`
 - Count query strings:
`dtrace -n 'mysql*:::query-start { @[copyinstr(arg0)] = count(); }'`
 - Row event count:
`dtrace -n 'mysql*:::*-row-* { @[probename] = count(); }'`
 - Lock event count:
`dtrace -n 'mysql*:::*lock-* { @[probename] = count(); }'`

mysql Provider Query Latency

- Can be measured as a (long) one-liner:

```
# dtrace -n '  
mysql*:::query-start { self->start = timestamp; }  
mysql*:::query-done /self->start/ {  
    @["ns"] = quantize(timestamp - self->start);  
    self->start = 0;  
}'
```

mysql Provider Query Latency Distribution

ns

value	----- Distribution -----	count
1024		0
2048		16
4096	@	93
8192		19
16384	@@@	232
32768	@@	172
65536	@@@@@@	532
131072	@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@	1513
262144	@@@@@	428
524288	@@@	258
1048576	@	127
2097152	@	47
4194304		20
8388608		33
16777216		9
33554432		0

mysql Provider Arguments

- Easily include other attributes (thanks to USDT):
 - query string: `copyinstr(arg0)`
 - database name: `copyinstr(arg2)`
 - user name: `copyinstr(arg3)`
 - host or IP: `copyinstr(arg4)`

mysqld_qsnoop.d

- Printing all these details:

```
# mysqld_qsnoop.d
TIME(ms) DATABASE          USER@HOST                ms RET QUERY
2208      wikidb                    wikiuser@localhost       2  0 show tables
5974      wikidb                    wikiuser@localhost       63 0 select * from user
8727      wikidb                    wikiuser@localhost       22 0 select * from image
9590      wikidb                    wikiuser@localhost       0  0 select * from image
29262     wikidb                    wikiuser@localhost       0  1 select * from bogus
^C
```

- This does event-by-event tracing
 - example is from the DTrace book

mysql Provider Probes

- Other probes exist for:
 - connection
 - command
 - query, query parse, query cache, query execution
 - row events
 - index reads
 - locks
 - filesort
 - statements
 - network
 - keycache
- <http://dev.mysql.com/doc/refman/5.6/en/dba-dtrace-mysqld-ref.html>

pid Provider

- Dynamic Tracing
- Unstable Interface – scripts may break between releases of MySQL
- Works anywhere DTrace and the pid provider is available

pid Provider Query Latency

- Can also be measured as a (long) one-liner:

```
# dtrace -n '  
pid$target::*dispatch_command*:entry {  
  self->start = timestamp; }  
pid$target::*dispatch_command*:return /self->start/ {  
  @[ "ns" ] = quantize(timestamp - self->start);  
  self->start = 0;  
}' -p PID
```

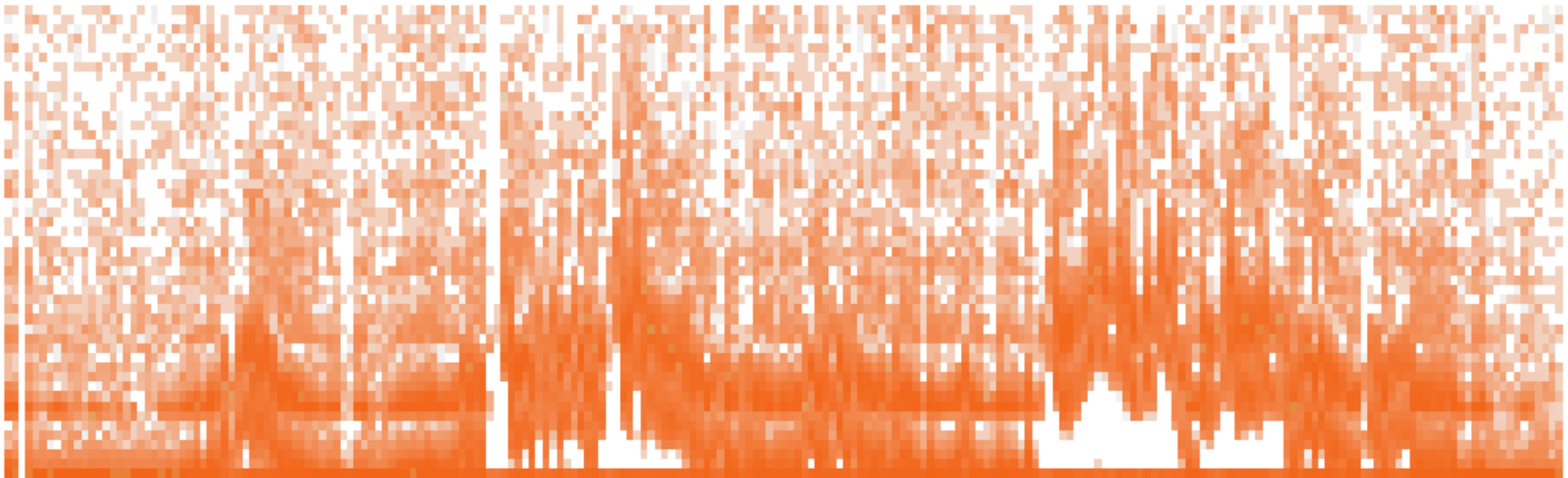
- Matches “_Z16dispatch_command19enum_server_commandP3THDPcj”
via c++filt is:
dispatch_command(enum_server_command, THD*, char*, unsigned int)

pid Provider

- DEMO
- `mysqld_pid_latency.d`

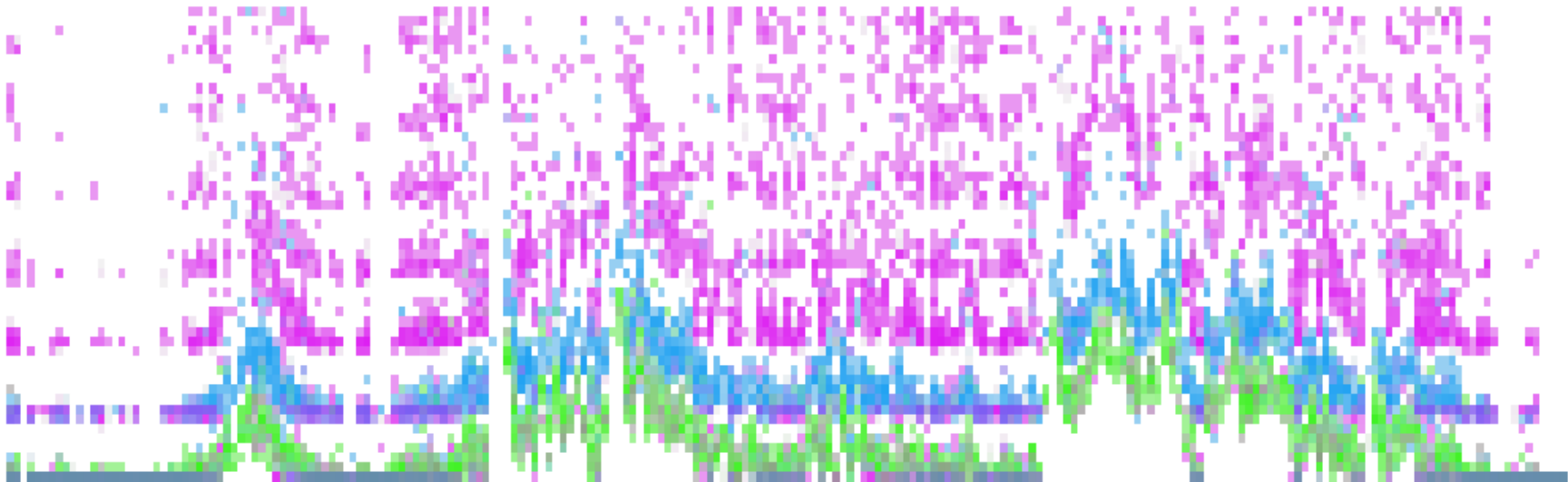
Query Latency Distributions

- With the right visualization, query latency distributions can reveal new information:



Query Latency Distributions

- With the right visualization, query latency distributions can reveal new information:



- Highlighting 3 different tables from the queries

Query Latency Components

- For a high-level breakdown, query latency can be broken into two components

Query Latency Components

- For a high-level breakdown, query latency can be broken into two components:
- On-CPU
- Off-CPU

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- For a high-level breakdown, query latency can be broken into two components:
- On-CPU
 - Time spent running in MySQL processing a query
- Off-CPU
 - Time spent waiting for another resource

Query Latency Components

- For a high-level breakdown, query latency can be broken into two components:
- On-CPU
 - Time spent running in MySQL processing a query
 - Examples: scanning a large table
- Off-CPU
 - Time spent waiting for another resource
 - Examples: blocked on file system I/O, network I/O, locks

Query Latency Components

- For a high-level breakdown, query latency can be broken into two components:
- On-CPU
 - Time spent running in MySQL processing a query
 - Examples: scanning a large table
 - Teams: Developers, DBAs
- Off-CPU
 - Time spent waiting for another resource
 - Examples: blocked on file system I/O, network I/O, locks
 - Teams: SysAdmins, DBAs

mysqld_pid_slow.d

- Answers on-CPU vs off-CPU breakdown

```
# ./mysqld_pid_slow.d -p 726 100
Tracing... Min query time: 100000000 ns.
```

```

TIME(ms) CPU(ms)  QUERY
111      4             SELECT xxx.* FROM xxx xxx WHERE xxx.xxx=xxx AND ...
283      0             UPDATE xxx SET xxx=xxx, xxx = xxx,xxx = xxx WHERE ...
155      0             UPDATE xxx SET xxx=2 WHERE xxx=xxx AND xxx=xxx AND ...
172      0             UPDATE xxx SET xxx=xxx WHERE xxx=xxx AND xxx=xxx\0
173      6             SELECT count(*) xxx FROM xxx WHERE xxx =xxx AND ...
176      0             UPDATE xxx SET xxx=xxx WHERE xxx=xxx AND xxx=xxx\0
178      177          SELECT xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx,
xxx, xxx, xxx FROM xxx WHERE xxx LIKE xxx AND xxx=xxx ORDER BY xxx DESC
LIMIT 10 OFFSET 0\0
[...]
```

- TIME(ms): Query time, CPU(ms): Time spent on-CPU

mysqld_pid_slow.d

- Answers on-CPU vs off-CPU breakdown

```
# ./mysqld_pid_slow.d -p 726 100
Tracing... Min query time: 100000000 ns.
```

TIME(ms)	CPU(ms)	QUERY	
			Off-CPU
111	4	SELECT xxx.* FROM xxx xxx WHERE xxx.xxx=xxx AND ...	
283	0	UPDATE xxx SET xxx=xxx, xxx = xxx,xxx = xxx WHERE ...	
155	0	UPDATE xxx SET xxx=2 WHERE xxx=xxx AND xxx=xxx AND ...	
172	0	UPDATE xxx SET xxx=xxx WHERE xxx=xxx AND xxx=xxx\0	
173	6	SELECT count(*) xxx FROM xxx WHERE xxx =xxx AND ...	
176	0	UPDATE xxx SET xxx=xxx WHERE xxx=xxx AND xxx=xxx\0	
178	177	SELECT xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx, xxx FROM xxx WHERE xxx LIKE xxx AND xxx=xxx ORDER BY xxx DESC LIMIT 10 OFFSET 0\0	On-CPU
		[...]	

- TIME(ms): Query time, CPU(ms): Time spent on-CPU

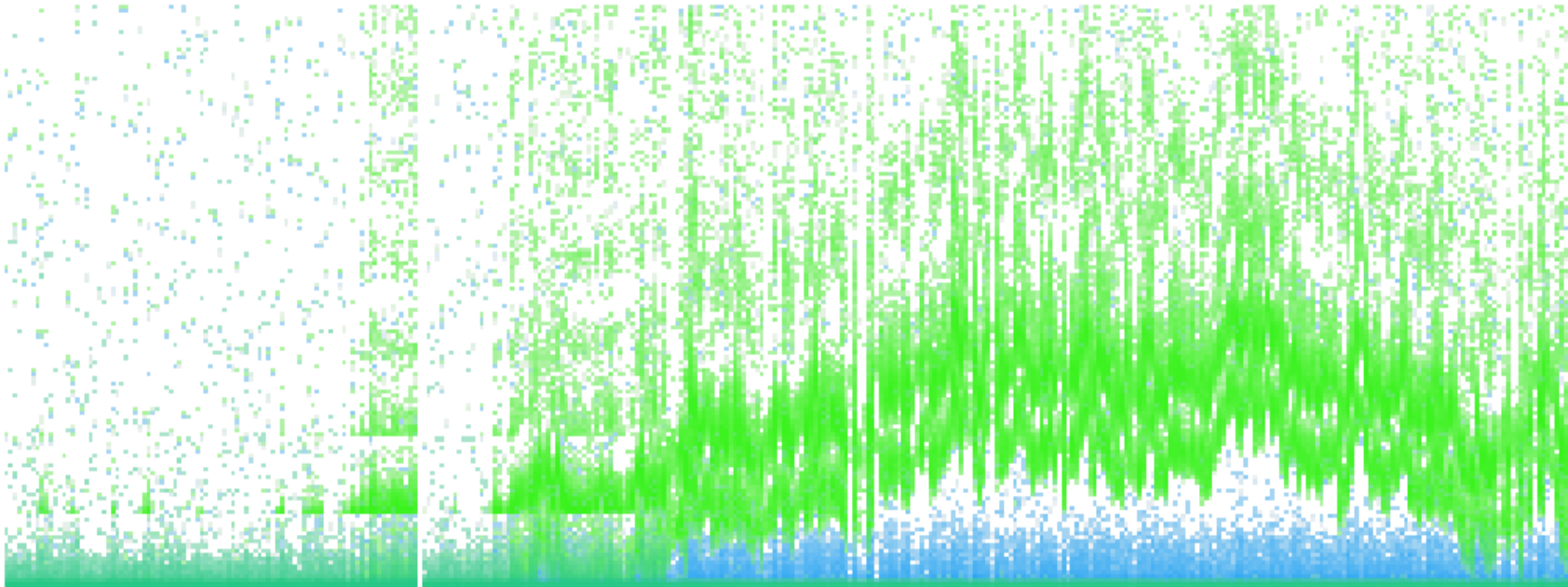
mysqld_pid_slow.d script

- timestamp deltas for query latency
- vtimestamp deltas for on-CPU time
 - vtimestamp is only incremented when that thread is on-CPU

```
[...]
pid$target::*dispatch_command*:entry
{
    self->query = copyinstr(arg2);
    self->start = timestamp;
    self->vstart = vtimestamp;
}

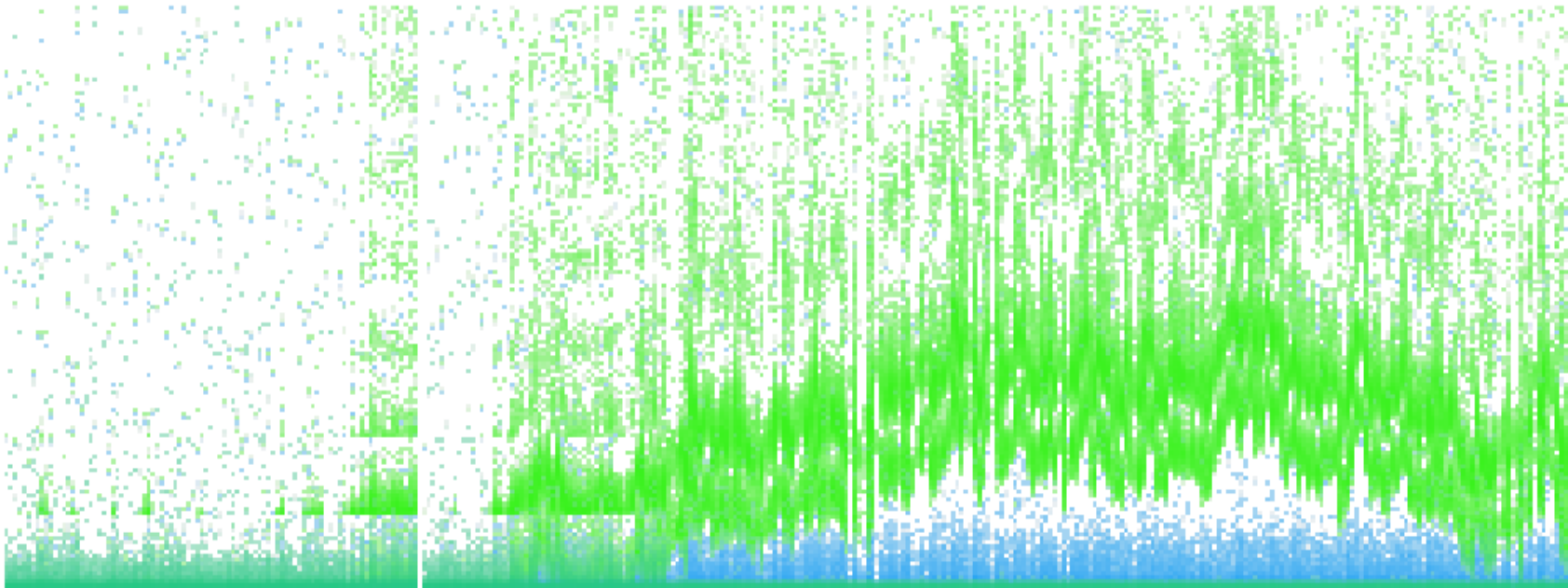
pid$target::*dispatch_command*:return
/self->start && (timestamp - self->start) > min_ns/
{
    this->time = (timestamp - self->start) / 1000000;
    this->vtime = (vtimestamp - self->vstart) / 1000000;
    printf(" %-8d %-8d %S\n", this->time, this->vtime, self->query);
}
[...]
```


On-CPU Distribution



- Query Latency = green, On-CPU = blue

On-CPU Distribution



- Query Latency = green, On-CPU = blue
- Divergence is innodb thread concurrency backoff
 - I think this has already been fixed in Percona!

Analyzing Off-CPU Time

- Will be either blocking device I/O, or lock contention, or thread sleeps (voluntary off-CPU!)
- Analyze either generically:
 - Tracing thread context switch off-cpu to on-cpu latency
 - Can be done using the DTrace sched or syscall providers
- Or specifically:
 - Tracing related code for a type, such as File System latency via the MySQL storage engine

File System Latency

- Using the traditional OS tools, this is usually inferred via `iostat(1M)`:

```
# iostat -xnz 1 10
```

```

                extended device statistics
  r/s    w/s    kr/s    kw/s wait actv wsvc_t asvc_t  %w  %b device
  1.1    33.8    78.8 1208.1 0.0  1.0    0.0   27.8   0   4  c0t1d0
  r/s    w/s    kr/s    kw/s wait actv wsvc_t asvc_t  %w  %b device
 208.0    0.0 26619.9    0.0 0.0  1.9    0.0    9.2   0  99  c0t1d0
  r/s    w/s    kr/s    kw/s wait actv wsvc_t asvc_t  %w  %b device
 208.0    0.0 26624.4    0.0 0.0  1.7    0.0    8.2   0  95  c0t1d0
  r/s    w/s    kr/s    kw/s wait actv wsvc_t asvc_t  %w  %b device
 106.0  368.9 13566.1 26881.3 0.0  2.7    0.0    5.7   0  93  c0t1d0
[...]
```

File System Latency

- Using the traditional OS tools, this is usually inferred via `iostat(1M)`:

```
# iostat -xnz 1 10
                extended device statistics
  r/s    w/s    kr/s    kw/s wait actv wsvc_t asvc_t  %w  %b device
  1.1    33.8    78.8 1208.1  0.0  1.0    0.0   27.8   0   4 c0t1d0
  r/s    w/s    kr/s    kw/s wait actv wsvc_t asvc_t  %w  %b device
208.0    0.0 26619.9    0.0  0.0  1.9    0.0    9.2   0  99 c0t1d0
  r/s    w/s    kr/s    kw/s wait actv wsvc_t asvc_t  %w  %b device
208.0    0.0 26624.4    0.0  0.0  1.7    0.0    8.2   0  95 c0t1d0
  r/s    w/s    kr/s    kw/s wait actv wsvc_t asvc_t  %w  %b device
106.0   368.9 13566.1 26881.3  0.0  2.7    0.0    5.7   0  93 c0t1d0
[...]
```

- Looks bad: up to 99% “busy” and 9.2 ms avg I/O time
- This may not resemble the latency felt by MySQL

File System I/O != Disk I/O

- Disk I/O can include *unrelated* I/O from:
 - other applications
 - file system prefetch
 - file system dirty data flushing

File System I/O != Disk I/O

- Disk I/O can include *unrelated* I/O from:
 - other applications
 - file system prefetch
 - file system dirty data flushing
- Disk I/O can be *inflated* from the File System:
 - Rounded up to the file system record size
 - Extra metadata for on-disk format
 - read-modify-write of RAID-5

File System I/O != Disk I/O cont.

- Disk I/O can be *deflated* from the File System:
 - Read caching
 - Write buffering

File System I/O != Disk I/O cont.

- Disk I/O can be *deflated* from the File System:
 - Read caching
 - Write buffering
- Disk I/O analysis can be *blind* to File System issues:
 - Lock contention in the file system
 - File system software bugs
 - File system queue latency
 - Disk cache flush latency

Tracing File System Latency

- Using the DTrace pid provider:

```
# ./mysqld_pid_fslatency.d -n 'tick-10s { exit(0); }' -p 7357
Tracing PID 7357... Hit Ctrl-C to end.
MySQL filesystem I/O: 55824; latency (ns):
```

read

value	----- Distribution -----	count
1024		0
2048	@@@@@@@@@@@@	9053
4096	@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@	15490
8192	@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@	9525
16384	@@	1982
32768		121
65536		28
131072		6
262144		0

Tracing File System Latency cont.

write

value	----- Distribution -----	count
2048		0
4096		1
8192	@@@@@@	3003
16384	@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@	13532
32768	@@@@@@	2590
65536	@	370
131072		58
262144		27
524288		12
1048576		1
2097152		0
4194304		10
8388608		14
16777216		1
33554432		0

- Latency suggests most I/O is returning out of DRAM

Tracing File System Latency cont.

write

value	----- Distribution -----	count
2048		0
4096		1
8192	@@@@@@	3003
16384	@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@	13532
32768	@@@@@@	2590
65536	@	370
131072		58
262144		27
524288		12
1048576		1
2097152		0
4194304		10
8388608		14
16777216		1
33554432		0

- Latency suggests most I/O is returning out of DRAM
- Traced at the *exact same time* as previous iostat(1M)

mysqld_pid_fslatency.d script

```
[...]
pid$target::os_file_read:entry, pid$target::os_file_write:entry,
pid$target::my_read:entry, pid$target::my_write:entry
{
    self->start = timestamp;
}

pid$target::os_file_read:return { this->dir = "read"; }
pid$target::os_file_write:return { this->dir = "write"; }
pid$target::my_read:return { this->dir = "read"; }
pid$target::my_write:return { this->dir = "write"; }

pid$target::os_file_read:return, pid$target::os_file_write:return,
pid$target::my_read:return, pid$target::my_write:return
/self->start/
{
    @time[this->dir] = quantize(timestamp - self->start);
    @num = count();
    self->start = 0;
}
[...]
```

Storage I/O Stack Example

1. MySQL Query
 2. Storage Engine I/O ← `mysqld_pid_fslatency.d`
 3. System Calls
 4. Thread Scheduler
 5. VFS
 6. ZFS/UFS (and FS internals)
 7. Block Device (sd)
 8. SAS driver
 9. PCI driver
- Any of these can be a source of latency

As a Component of Query Latency

- File system latency can occur outside of queries, in other mysqld server threads
- To positively identify this latency as causing slow queries, it can be expressed as a ratio of query time
- `mysqld_pid_fslatency_slowlog.d` does this:

```
# ./mysqld_pid_fslatency_slowlog.d 29952
2011 May 16 23:34:00 filesystem I/O during query > 100 ms: query 538 ms, fs 509 ms, 83 I/O
2011 May 16 23:34:11 filesystem I/O during query > 100 ms: query 342 ms, fs 303 ms, 75 I/O
2011 May 16 23:34:38 filesystem I/O during query > 100 ms: query 479 ms, fs 471 ms, 44 I/O
2011 May 16 23:34:58 filesystem I/O during query > 100 ms: query 153 ms, fs 152 ms, 1 I/O
2011 May 16 23:35:09 filesystem I/O during query > 100 ms: query 383 ms, fs 372 ms, 72 I/O
2011 May 16 23:36:09 filesystem I/O during query > 100 ms: query 406 ms, fs 344 ms, 109 I/O
2011 May 16 23:36:44 filesystem I/O during query > 100 ms: query 343 ms, fs 319 ms, 75 I/O
[...]
```

mysqld_pid_fslatency_slowlog.d script

- Measures query latency and sums FS latency:

```
[...]
pid$1::os_file_read:entry,
pid$1::os_file_write:entry,
pid$1::my_read:entry,
pid$1::my_write:entry
/self->q_start/
{
    self->fs_start = timestamp;
}

pid$1::os_file_read:return,
pid$1::os_file_write:return,
pid$1::my_read:return,
pid$1::my_write:return
/self->fs_start/
{
    self->total_ns += timestamp - self->fs_start;
    self->io_count++;
    self->fs_start = 0;
}
[...]
```

self->q_start is only set during queries, for measuring query latency. It's checked here to ensure we only trace file system I/O during queries.

Other Components

- Can be traced and examined in a similar fashion
- The previous scripts can be modified to include others from the 22,000+ available probes
- There are ways to narrow down likely candidates, such as examining off-CPU stacks

Generic Off-CPU Latency

- DEMO

Generic On-CPU Latency

- DEMO

Other Uses

- Apart from performance and latency analysis, Dynamic Tracing can be used for:

Other Uses

- Apart from performance and latency analysis, Dynamic Tracing can be used for:
- Patch Checking
 - Upgrading software or patches usually costs downtime
 - Use DTrace to verify that the patched code-path is taken, to confirm that the patch is worth the cost

Other Uses

- Apart from performance and latency analysis, Dynamic Tracing can be used for:
- Patch Checking
 - Upgrading software or patches usually costs downtime
 - Use DTrace to verify that the patched code-path is taken, to confirm that the patch is worth the cost
- Troubleshooting
 - If something isn't working and the traditional tools & logs aren't enough, DTrace can follow the code to the origin of the failure

Tools Used

- pid provider scripts `mysqld_pid_*.d` were from my blog, which includes the full listings:
 - <http://dtrace.org/blogs/brendan/tag/mysql/>
- mysql provider scripts are from the DTrace book, and available here:
 - <http://dtracebook.com/index.php/Databases>
- Distribution Visualizations (“heat maps”) are being developed for Joyent Cloud Analytics:
 - <http://www.joyent.com/software/smartdatacenter/cloud-analytics/>
 - <http://joyeur.com/2011/01/24/executive-speaker-series-bryan-cantrill-and-brendan-gregg-on-cloud-analytics/>

More Info

- <http://dtrace.org> Many DTrace blogs
- <http://dtrace.org/blogs/brendan> My (work) blog
- <http://dtrace.org/blogs/brendan/tag/mysql> mysql related posts
- <http://www.brendangregg.com/dtrace.html> My DTrace page
- <http://www.dtracebook.com> All book scripts + sample chapter
- <http://www.joyent.com> Company site

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