Intel® VTune™ Amplifier XE

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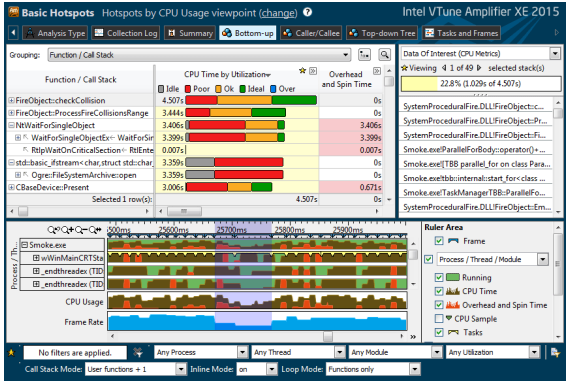
- Introduction to Intel® VTune™ Amplifier XE
  - Features and analysis types
  - Command Line Interface (CLI)
  - Graphical User Interface (GUI)
- VTune™ Typical HPC workflow with MPI

Intel® VTune™ Amplifier XE - Introduction

Intel® VTune™ Amplifier

Accurate data and meaningful analysis

- Accurate CPU, GPU and threading data
- OpenMP region efficiency analysis
- Powerful data analysis & filtering
- Data displayed on the source code
- Easy set-up, no special (re)compiles



http://intel.ly/vtune-amplifier-xe

Intel® VTune™ Amplifier analysis

- Analysis separated into two steps
  - *Collect*: collection of analysis data
  - *Report*: compilation of reports based on the data collected
  - The use of GUI and/or CLI is supported in both steps
- Nonintrusive sampling based collection
  - No special (re)compiles needed
  - Statistical analysis to determine approximate behaviour

Intel® VTune™ Amplifier preparations

- Run VTune on a "released/optimized" build
  - To view source code, compile with debugging symbols (i.e., **`-g`**)
- Use instrumented threading runtimes
  - OpenMP: Use Intel Dynamic Version of OpenMP
  - TBB: Define **`TBB_USE_THREADING_TOOLS`**
- For call stacks use a dynamic version of the C RTL to properly attribute system calls, (i.e. do not use **`-static`**)

Collecting data

Software Collector	Hardware Collector	
Uses OS interrupts	Uses the on chip Performance Monitoring Unit (PMU)	
Collects from a single process tree	Collect system wide or from a single process tree.	
~10ms default resolution	~1ms default resolution (finer granularity - finds small functions)	
Either an Intel® or a compatible processor	Requires a genuine Intel® processor for collection	
Call stacks show calling sequence	Optionally collect call stacks	
Works in virtual environments	Works in a VM only when supported by the VM (e.g., vSphere*, KVM)	
No driver required	Requires a driver	- Easy to install on Windows - Linux requires root (or use default perf driver without stacks)

No special recompiles - C, C++, C#, Fortran, Java, Assembly

A rich set of analysis types

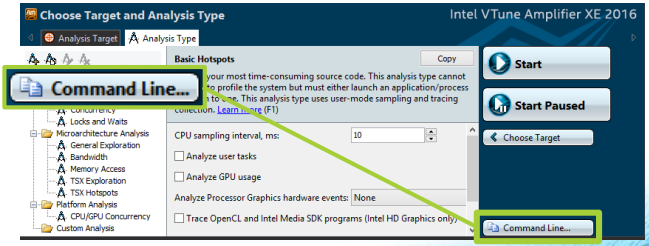
Software Collector	Hardware Collector
Basic Hotspots Which functions use the most time?	**Advanced Hotspots** Which functions use the most time? Where to inline? – Statistical call counts
Concurrency Tune parallelism. Colors show number of cores used.	**General Exploration** Where is the biggest opportunity? Cache misses? Branch mispredictions?
Locks and Waits Tune the #1 cause of slow threaded performance: – waiting with idle cores.	**Advanced Analysis** Dig deep to tune access contention, **memory analysis**, etc.
Any IA86 processor, any VM, no driver	Higher res., lower overhead, system wide

No special recompiles - C, C++, C#, Fortran, Java, Assembly

Intel® VTune™ Amplifier XE – Command Line Interface

VTune command line interface (CLI)

- Command line tool **`amplxe-cl`**
  - Windows:
    `C:\Program Files (x86)\Intel\VTune Amplifier XE \bin[32|64]\amplxe-cl.exe`
  - Linux:
    `/opt/intel/vtune_amplifier_xe/bin[32|64]/amplxe-cl`
- Help: **`amplxe-cl -help`**
- GUI can be used to setup the command line
  1) Configure analysis in GUI
  2) Press "Command Line…"
  3) Copy & paste command



Great for regression analysis – send results file to developer
Command line results can also be opened in the GUI

VTune CLI: syntax

- VTune command line application amplxe-cl
  `amplxe-cl <-action> [-action-option] [-global-option] [[--] <target> [target-options]]`
  - `-action`: usually either *collect* or *report*
  - `-action-option`: modifies the behaviour of an action
  - `-global-option`: adjusts global settings
  - `<target>`: denotes the target application to profile

```
> amplxe-cl -collect advanced-hotspots -r result_dir -- ./app
```

VTune CLI: collect

- Syntax:
  -c[ollect] <analysis type> [-analysis-option]
  - The type of analysis defined with **analysis type**
  - Analysis type defines the set of available **analysis-option** modifiers or ”knob”s
- Command line help with **-help** on each analysis type and available knobs

```
> amplxe-cl -help -collect # List analysis types available
> amplxe-cl -help -collect hotspots # List knobs for “hotspots”
```

VTune CLI: collect - analysis types

- For HPC, the analysis types of interest are
  - **`hotspots`**: Identify hotspots, collect stacks and call tree information
  - **`advanced-hotspots`**: Identify hotspots, use hardware counters, do not collect stacks or call trees
  - **`general-exploration`**: Identify low-level hardware issues
  - **`memory-access`**: Identify memory access related issues and estimate bandwidth

VTune CLI: collect - global modifiers

- A large number of global modifiers available
  - **`-[no-]auto-finalize`**: [do not] finalize the result after the collection stops
  - **`-data-limit`**: limit the amount of data collected. The default is 1GB, set to 0 for unlimited
  - **`-quiet`**: limit the amount of information displayed
  - **`-search-dir`**: path where the binary and symbol files are stored
  - **`-result-dir`**: path where the result will be stored

VTune CLI: report

- Syntax:
  `-r[eport] <report type> [-report-option]`
  - The type of report defined with **`report type`**
  - Report type defines the set of available **`report-option`** modifiers
- Command line help with **`–help`**

```
> amplxe-cl -help -report # List report types available
> amplxe-cl -help -report hotspots # Usage of "hotspots" report
```

- NOTE: using a GUI to view results is preferrable

VTune CLI: report - report types

- For HPC, the report types of interest are
  - **`summary`**: Report overall application performance
  - **`hotspots`**: Report CPU time for application
  - **`hw-events`**: Display the total number of hardware events
- A report is automatically based on the type of data collected!

VTune CLI: report - global modifiers

- A large number of global modifiers available
  - **`column:`** Specify which columns to include or exclude
  - **`filter`**: Specify which data to include or exclude
  - **`group-by`**: Specify grouping in a report
  - **`time-filter`**: Specify which time range to include
  - **`-source-search-dir`**: path where the source code is stored
  - **`-result-dir`**: path where the result will be stored

VTune CLI: example

- Collect hotspots of application **nbody**, store results to directory **nbody_hs**

```
> amplxe-cl -collect hotspots -r nbody_hs -- ./nbody 262144
```

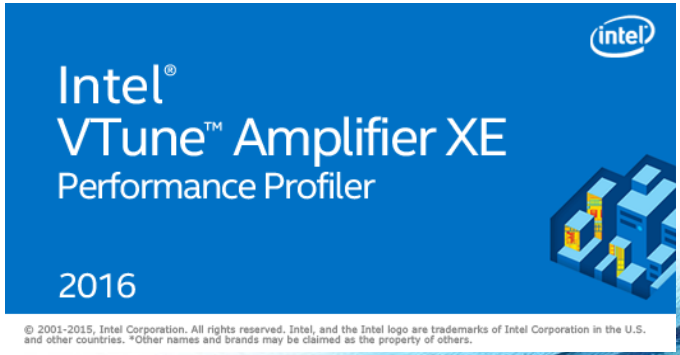
- View available columns in the result and then compile a hotspots report from specific columns

```
> amplxe-cl -report hotspots -r nbody_hs column=?
> amplxe-cl -report hotspots -r nbody_hs -column="CPU
 Time:Self","Source File"
```

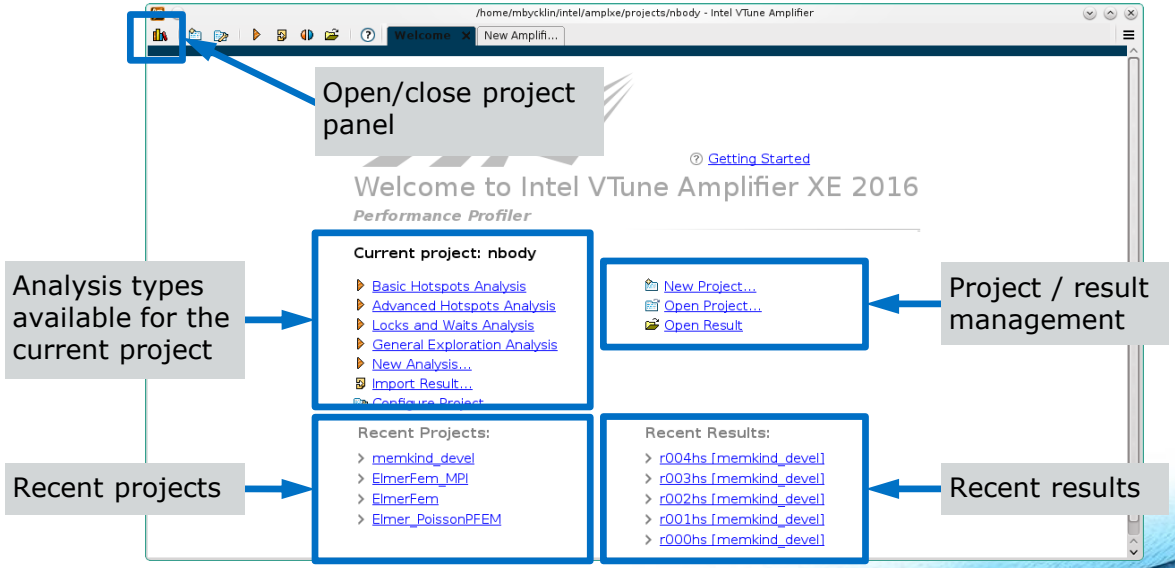
Intel® VTune™ Amplifier XE – Graphical User Interface

VTune Graphical User Interface (GUI)

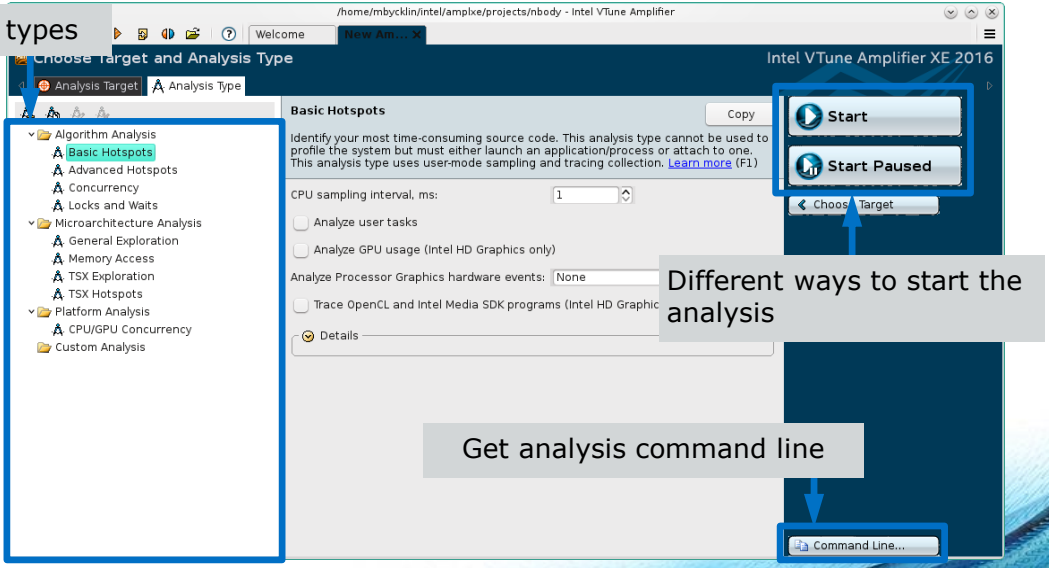
- Graphical tool **`amplxe-gui`**
  - Windows:
    `C:\Program Files (x86)\Intel\VTune Amplifier XE \bin[32|64]\amplxe-gui.exe`
  - Linux:
    `/opt/intel/vtune_amplifier_xe/bin[32|64]/amplxe-gui`
- Pure GUI workflow
  1) Set up a project
  2) Choose analysis
  3) View analysis results



VTune GUI: Welcome view



VTune GUI: choose analysis view



VTune GUI: analysis view

Adjust data grouping

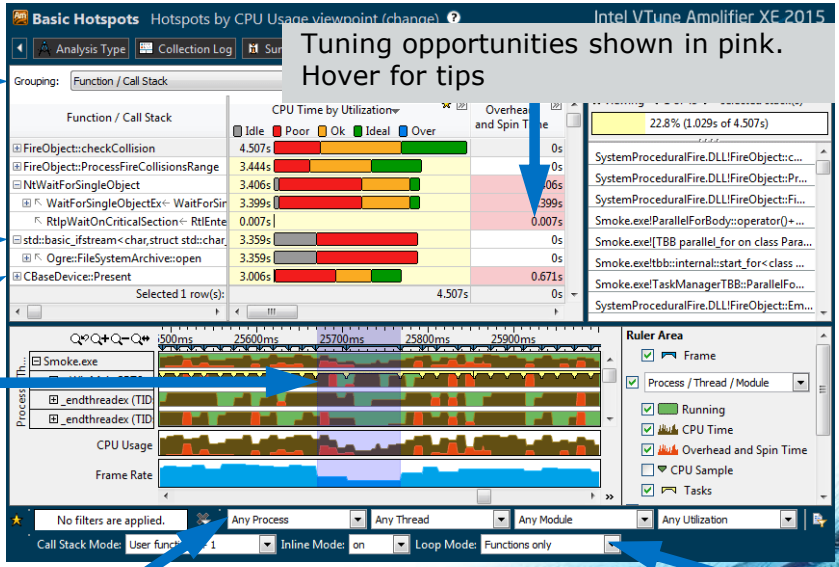
Function - Call Stack
Module - Function - Call Stack
Source File - Function - Call Stack
Thread - Function - Call Stack
... (Partial list shown)

Double click function to view source

Click [+] for call stack

Filter by timeline selection (or by grid selection)

Zoom In And Filter On Selection
Filter In by Selection
Remove All Filters



Tuning opportunities shown in pink. Hover for tips

Filter by process & other controls

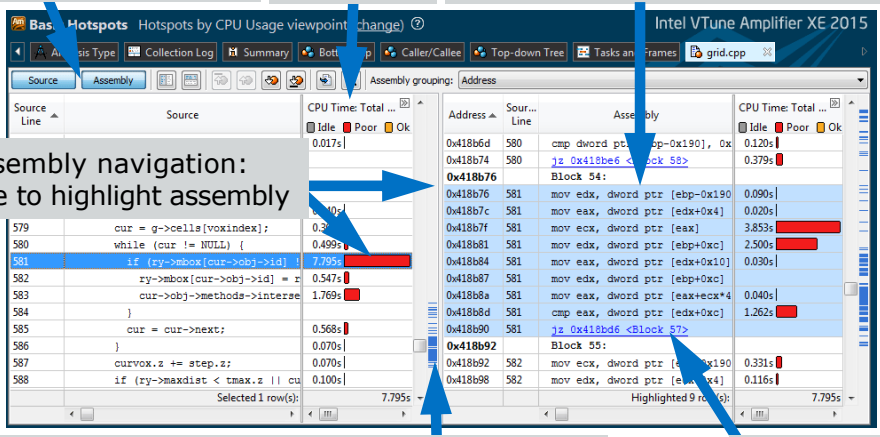
Function / loop mode

VTune GUI: view source code profile

View source / assembly or both

CPU Time

Right click for instruction reference manual

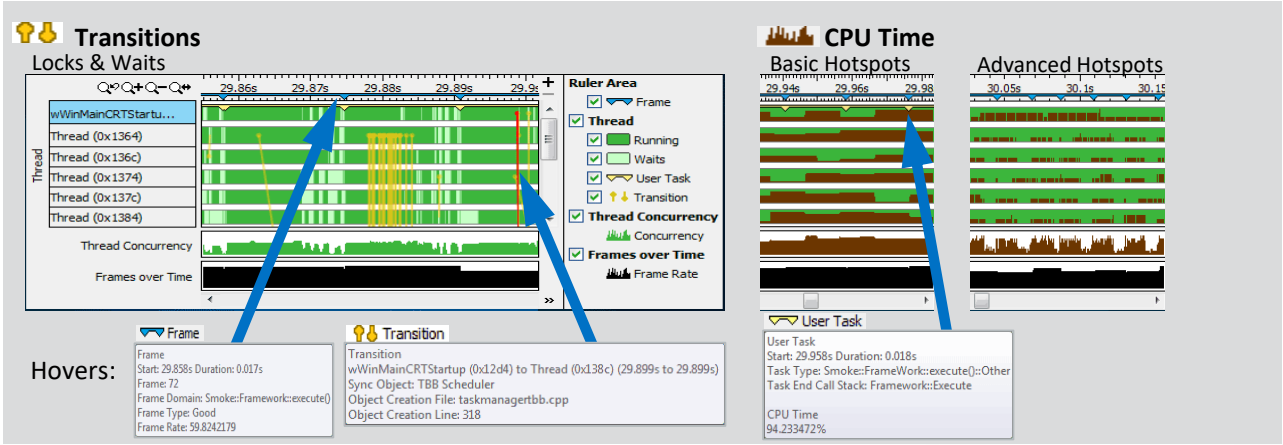


Quick assembly navigation:
Select source to highlight assembly

Scroll Bar "Heat Map" is an overview of hot spots

Click jump to scroll assembly

VTune GUI: view thread timeline



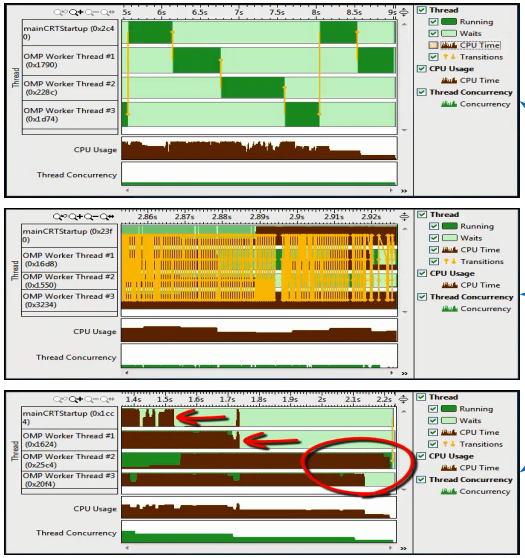
- Optional: Use API to mark frames and user tasks Frame User Task
- Optional: Add a mark during collection

VTune GUI: find concurrency issues

Coarse grain locks

High lock contention

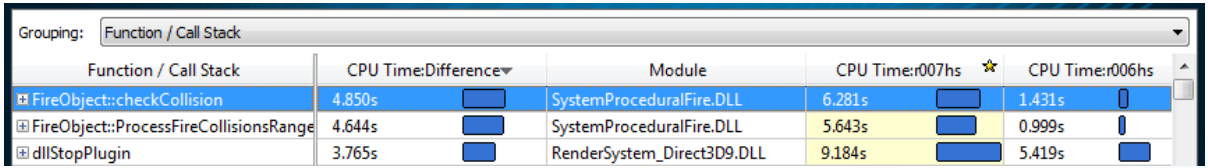
Load imbalance



Low concurrency

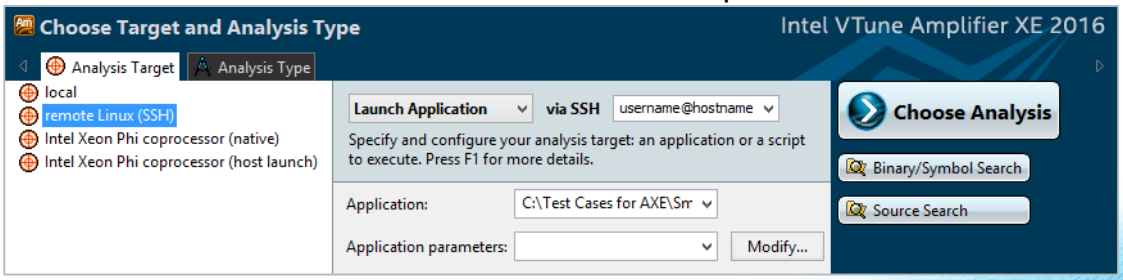
VTune GUI: results comparison

- Quickly identify cause of regressions.
  - Run a command line analysis daily
  - Identify the function responsible so you know who to alert
- Compare 2 optimizations – What improved?
- Compare 2 systems – What didn't speed up as much?



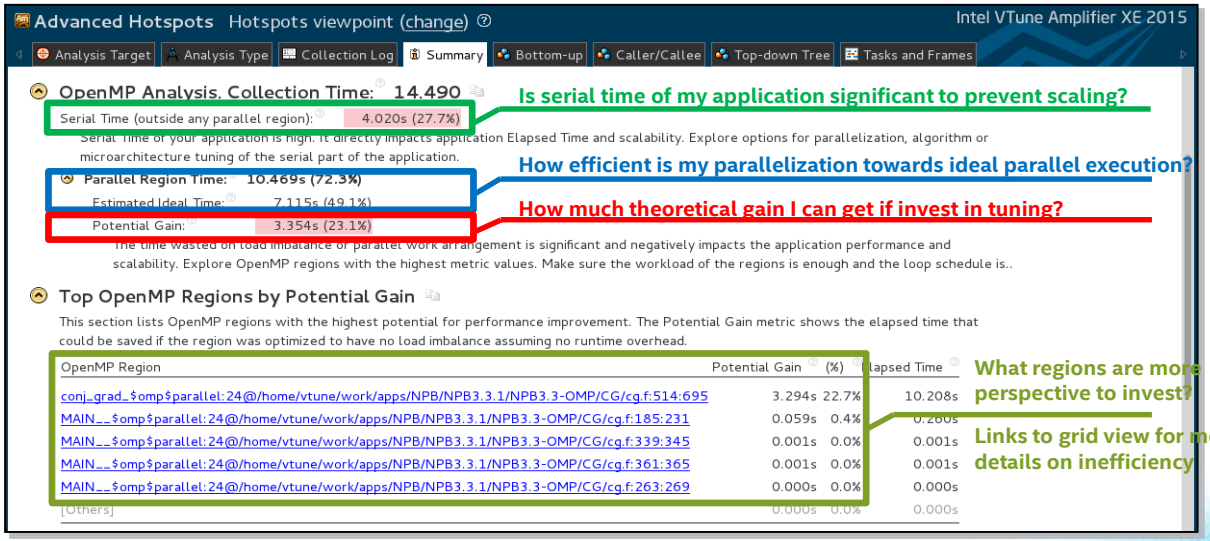
VTune GUI: remote data collection

- Interactive analysis
  1) Configure SSH to a remote Linux* target
  2) Choose and run analysis with the GUI
- Command line analysis
  1) Run command line remotely on Windows* or Linux* target
  2) Copy results back to host and open in GUI



Conveniently use your local UI to analyze remote systems

VTune GUI: MPI+OpenMP analysis (1/3)



- An overview of the "Summary" pane

VTune GUI: MPI+OpenMP analysis (2/3)

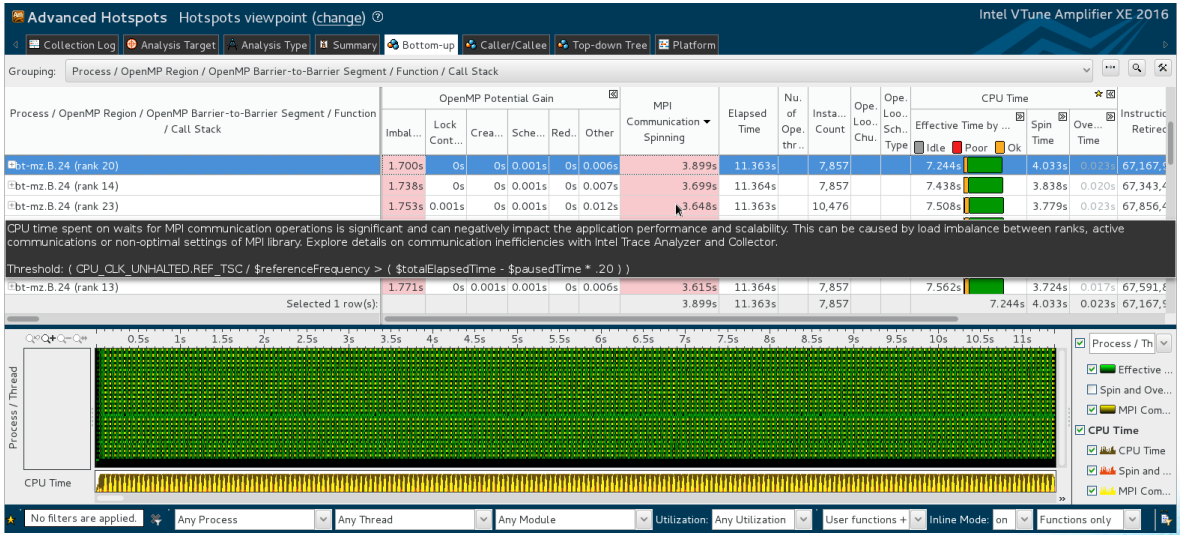
Top OpenMP Processes by MPI Communication Spin Time

This section lists processes sorted by MPI Communication Spin time. The lower MPI Communication Spin time, the more a process was on a critical path of MPI application execution. Explore OpenMP efficiency metrics by MPI processes laying on the critical path

Process	PID	MPI Communication Spinning	(%)	OpenMP Potential Gain	(%)	Serial Time	(%)
bt-mz.B.4 (rank 2)	37954	4.428s	16.8%	11.234s	42.7%	5.410s	20.6%
bt-mz.B.4 (rank 0)	37948	5.236s	19.9%	9.953s	37.8%	6.542s	24.9%
bt-mz.B.4 (rank 3)	37957	5.274s	20.0%	10.329s	39.3%	6.384s	24.3%
bt-mz.B.4 (rank 1)	37951	6.196s	23.5%	9.183s	34.9%	7.513s	28.6%

- VTune reports contain MPI communication spinning metrics for Intel MPI
- Showing OpenMP metrics and serial time per process sorting by processes laying on critical path of MPI execution

VTune GUI: MPI+OpenMP analysis (3/3)



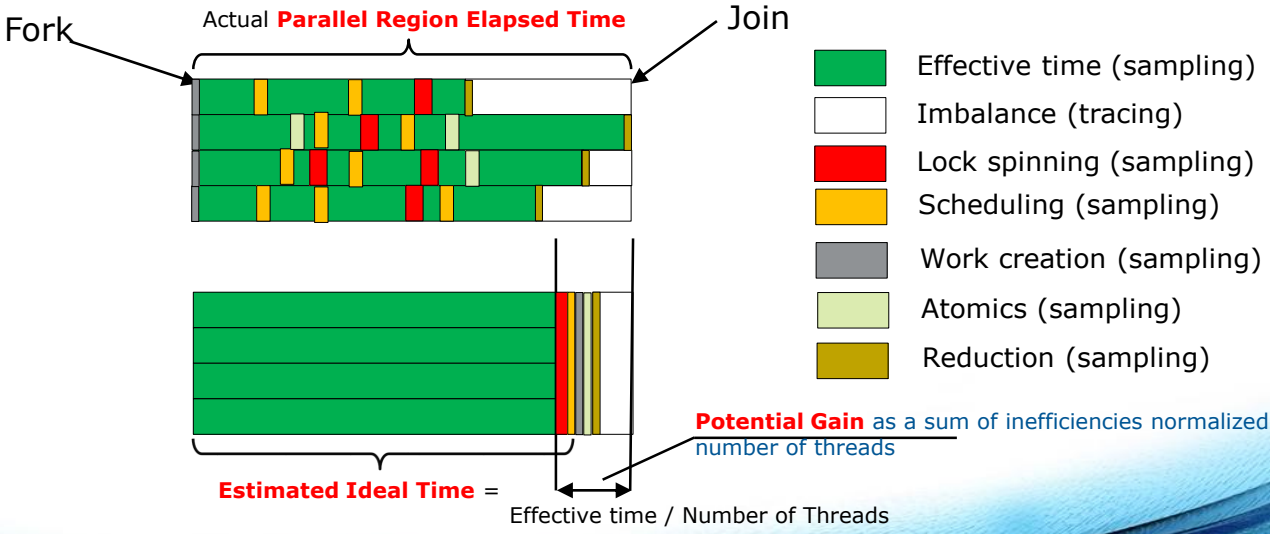
- “MPI communication-aware” grid and Process/Thread scalable timeline view

VTune GUI: OpenMP analysis

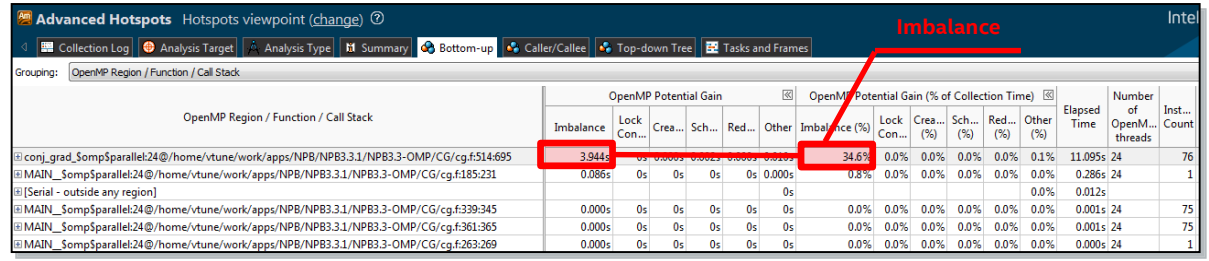
- **Tracing** of OpenMP constructs to provide region/work sharing context and imbalance on barriers
  - Advanced hotspots w/o stacks is recommended to make sampling representative for small regions
- VTune is provided with information by Intel OpenMP RTL
  - Fork-Join points of parallel regions with number of working threads (Intel Compilers version 14 and later)
  - OpenMP construct barrier points with imbalance info and OpenMP loop metadata
    - Embed source file name to an OpenMP region with **`-parallel-source-info=2`** compiler option

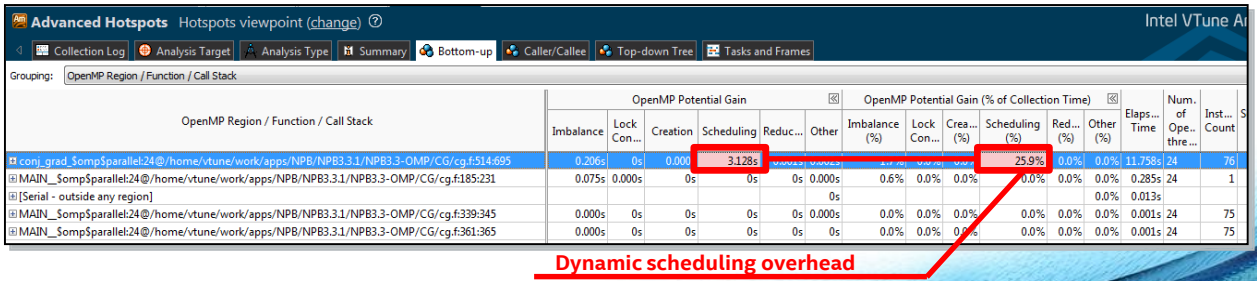
VTune GUI: OpenMP region view (1/2)

Definition of Region Potential Gain (elapsed time metric)



VTune GUI: OpenMP region view (2/2)

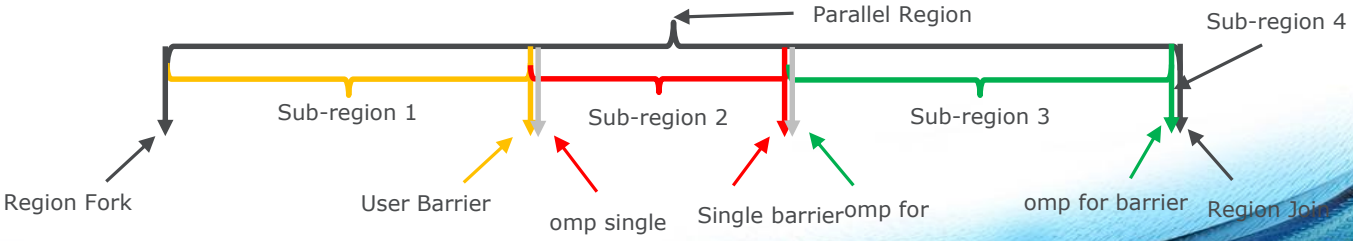




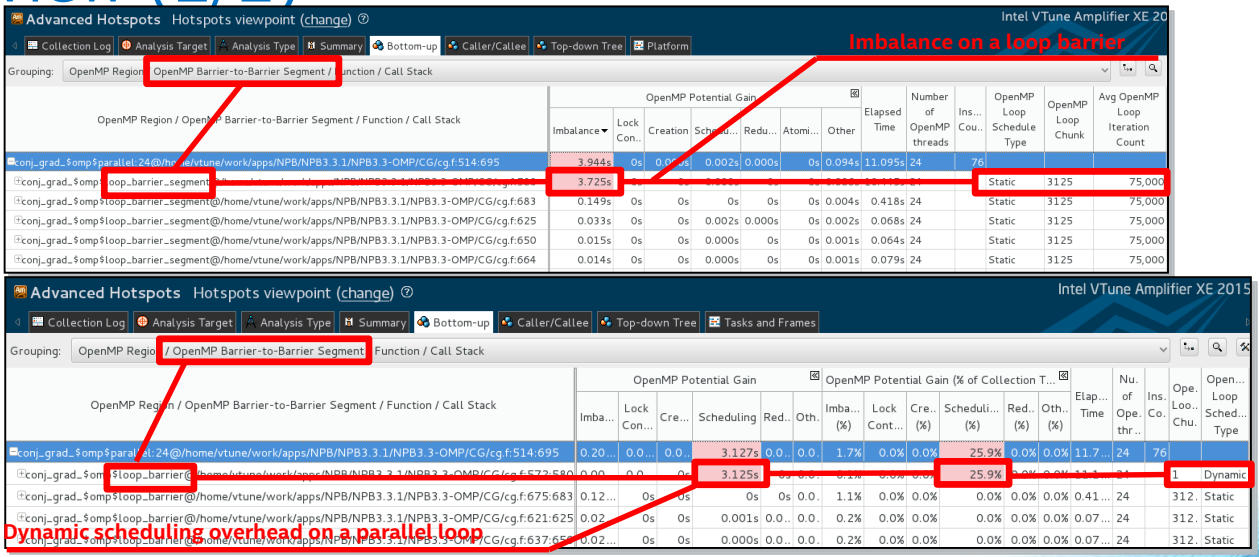
VTune GUI: OpenMP Barrier-to-Barrier view (1/2)

- Helps if there is more than 1 barrier (implicit or explicit) in a parallel region
  - Especially useful for the model with 1 parallel region and work-sharing constructs inside with pragma single to do sequential work
- OpenMP RTL allows tracing sub-region segments from region fork or previous barrier points

```
#pragma omp parallel
{
    .....
#pragma omp barrier
#pragma omp single
    {
        ....
    }
#pragma omp for
    {
        ...
    }
}
```

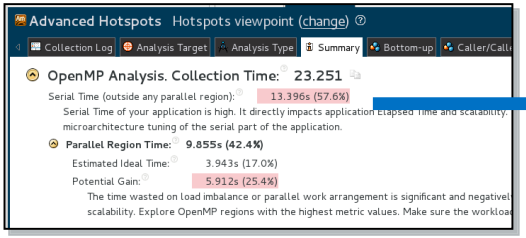


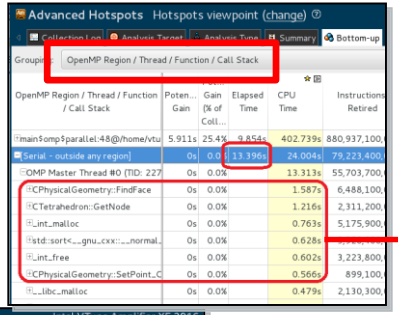
VTune GUI: OpenMP Barrier-to-Barrier view (2/2)



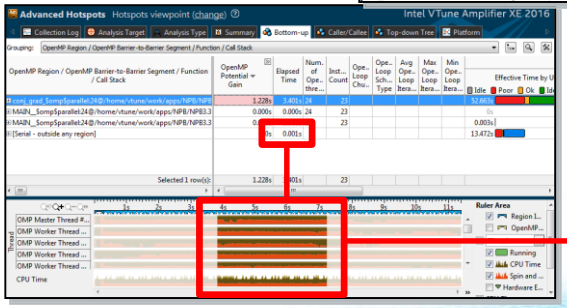
- Imbalance distribution by loop, single, reduction, user, join barriers

VTune GUI: OpenMP serial hotspots



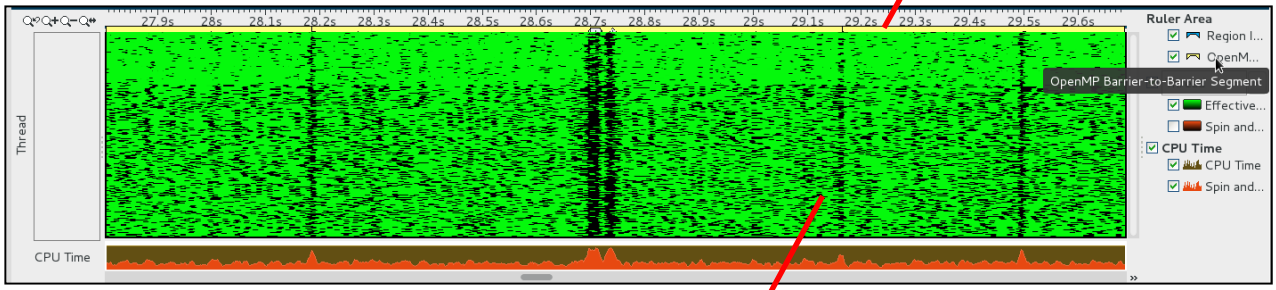


Serial hotspots under Master Thread



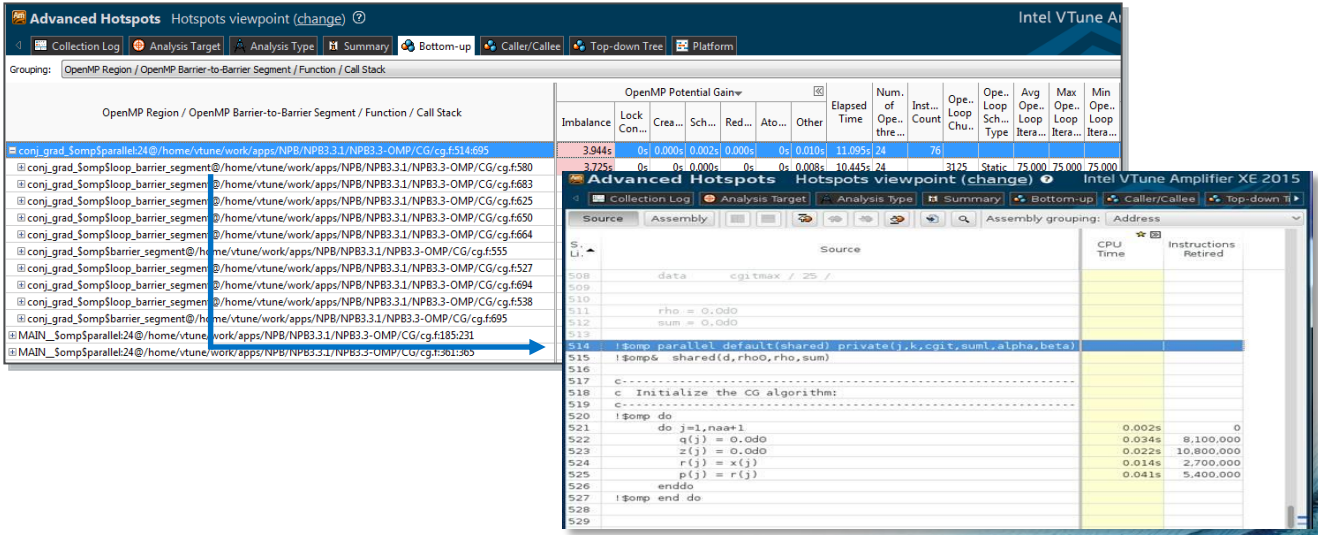
Time Filter to exclude initialization phase

VTune GUI: OpenMP scalable timeline



Intel® Xeon Phi™ profiling result with 288 threads

VTune GUI: OpenMP region source view



Intel® VTune™ Amplifier XE – Typical HPC workflow

Profiling HPC applications

- VTune can profile hybrid MPI+OpenMP applications on a cluster
  - For profiling MPI, use Intel® Trace Analyzer and Collector or Intel® MPI Performance Snapshot
- Recommended workflow:
  - Run **collect** with CLI on *a cluster*
  - Run **report** with GUI on *a local workstation* or a cluster login node
    - Collection results can be transferred if needed

VTune with MPI applications (1/3)

- Single node application launch:
  <vtune_command> [--] <mpi_command> <application>

```
> amplxe-cl -collect advanced-hotspots -r result_dir -- mpirun -
 np 48 ./mpi_app
```

- Encapsulates all the ranks to result directory
  - Example: ranks 0-47 in **result_dir**
- Works whenever VTune is able to track the processes created
  - Limited to profiling over a single node

VTune with MPI applications (2/3)

- Multiple node application launch:
  <mpi_command> <vtune_command> [--] <application>

```
> srun –n 48 -ppn 16 amplxe-cl –collect hotspots –r result_dir
  ./mpi_app
```

- Results encapsulated to per-node directories suffixed with hostname
  - Example: ranks 0-15 in **result_dir.hostname1**, ranks 16-31 in **result_dir.hostname2**, ranks 32-47 in **result_dir.hostname3**

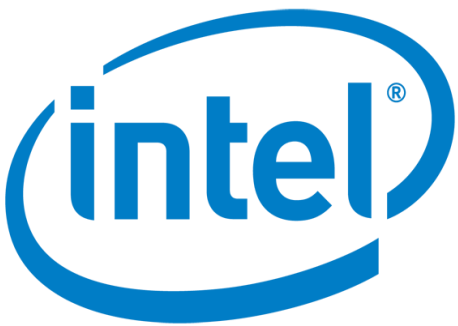
VTune with MPI applications (3/3)

- Selective rank profiling by modifying the MPI process launch:

```
> mpirun -n 1 ./mpi_app : -n 1 amplxe-cl -collect hotspots -r
  result_dir ./mpi_app : -n 14 ./mpi_app
```

- Intel MPI supports **`-gtool "<command>:<rank-set>[=mode]"`** option:

```
> mpirun -n 16 -gtool "amplxe-cl -collect hotspots -r result_dir
  :1" ./mpi_app
```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