

# Data-Oriented Design and C++

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A bit of background...

What does an “Engine” team do?

# Runtime systems

e.g.

- Rendering
- Animation and gestures
- Streaming
- Cinematics
- VFX
- Post-FX
- Navigation
- Localization
- ...many, many more!

# Development tools

e.g.

- Level creation
- Lighting
- Material editing
- VFX creation
- Animation/state machine editing
- Visual scripting
- Scene painting
- Cinematics creation
- ...many, many more!

What's important to us?

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- Hard deadlines

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- Soft realtime performance requirements (Soft=33ms)



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- Maintenance

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- Hard deadlines
- Soft realtime performance requirements (Soft=33ms)
- Usability
- Performance
- Maintenance
- Debugability

What languages do we use...?

# What languages do we use...?

- C
- C++
- Asm
- Perl
- Javascript
- C#

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- C
- C++ ← ~70%
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# What languages do we use...?

- C
- C++ ← ~70%
- Asm
- Perl
- Javascript
- C#
- Pixel shaders, vertex shaders, geometry shaders, compute shaders, ...



We don't make games for Mars but...

How are games like the Mars rovers?

# How are games like the Mars rovers?

- Exceptions

# How are games like the Mars rovers?

- Exceptions
- Templates

# How are games like the Mars rovers?

- Exceptions
- Templates
- ostream

# How are games like the Mars rovers?

- Exceptions
- Templates
- ostream
- Multiple inheritance

# How are games like the Mars rovers?

- Exceptions
- Templates
- `loststream`
- Multiple inheritance
- Operator overloading

# How are games like the Mars rovers?

- Exceptions
- Templates
- Iostream
- Multiple inheritance
- Operator overloading
- RTTI



# How are games like the Mars rovers?

- No STL

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- Custom allocators (lots)

# How are games like the Mars rovers?

- No STL
- Custom allocators (lots)
- Custom debugging tools

Is data-oriented even a thing...?

# Data-Oriented Design Principles

The purpose of all programs,  
and all parts of those  
programs, is to transform  
data from one form to  
another.

# Data-Oriented Design Principles

If you don't understand the data you don't understand the problem.

# Data-Oriented Design Principles

Conversely, understand the problem by understanding the data.

# Data-Oriented Design Principles

**Different problems require  
different solutions.**



# Data-Oriented Design Principles

If you have different data,  
you have a different  
problem.

# Data-Oriented Design Principles

If you don't understand the cost of solving the problem, you don't understand the problem.

# Data-Oriented Design Principles

If you don't understand the hardware, you can't reason about the cost of solving the problem.

# Data-Oriented Design Principles

Everything is a data problem. Including usability, maintenance, debug-ability, etc. Everything.

# Data-Oriented Design Principles

Solving problems you probably don't have creates more problems you definitely do.

# Data-Oriented Design Principles

Latency and throughput are only the same in sequential systems.

# Data-Oriented Design Principles

Latency and throughput are only the same in sequential systems.

# Data-Oriented Design Principles

Rule of thumb: Where there is one, there are many. Try looking on the time axis.



# Data-Oriented Design Principles

Rule of thumb: The more context you have, the better you can make the solution. Don't throw away data you need.

# Data-Oriented Design Principles

Rule of thumb: NUMA  
extends to I/O and pre-built  
data all the way back  
through time to original  
source creation.

# Data-Oriented Design Principles

Software does not run in a magic fairy aether powered by the fevered dreams of CS PhDs.

Is data-oriented even a thing...?

...certainly not new ideas.

...more of a reminder of first principles.

...but it is a response to the culture of  
C++

...but it is a response to the culture of  
C++

...and The Three Big Lies it has engendered

# LIES

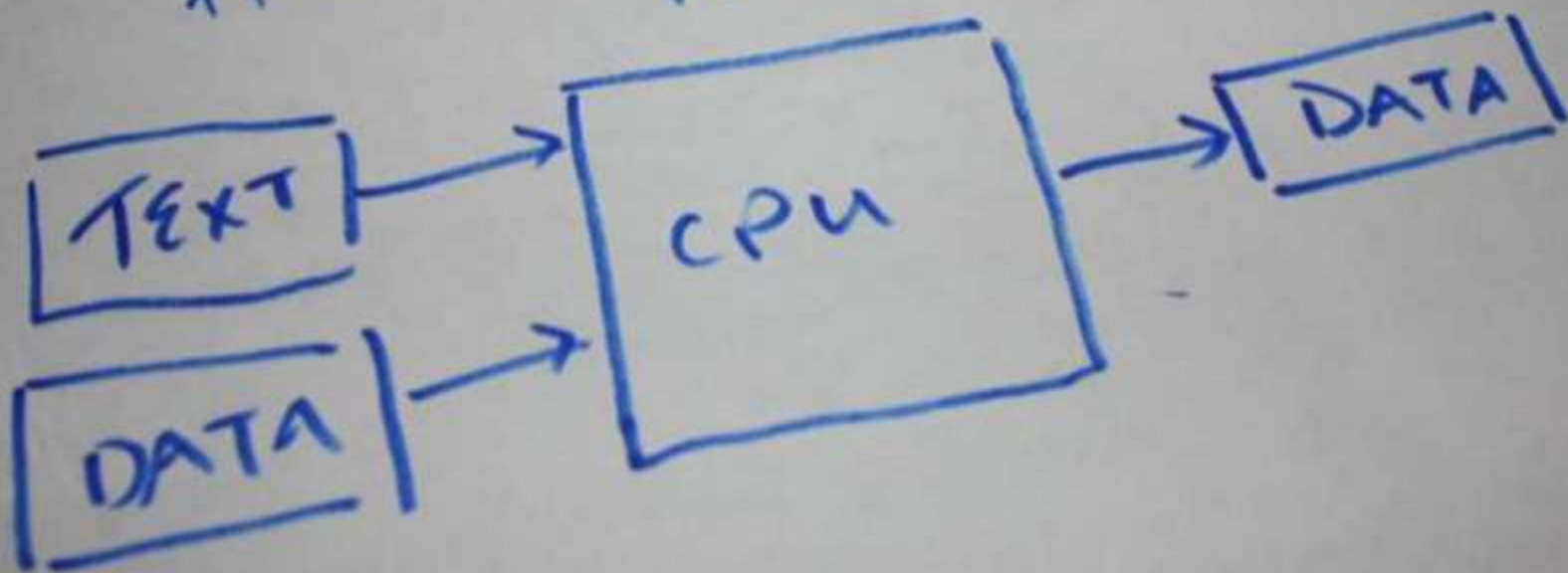
- ① SOFTWARE IS A PLATFORM
- ② CODE DESIGNED AROUND MODEL OF THE WORLD
- ③ CODE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN DATA

Q1E#1:

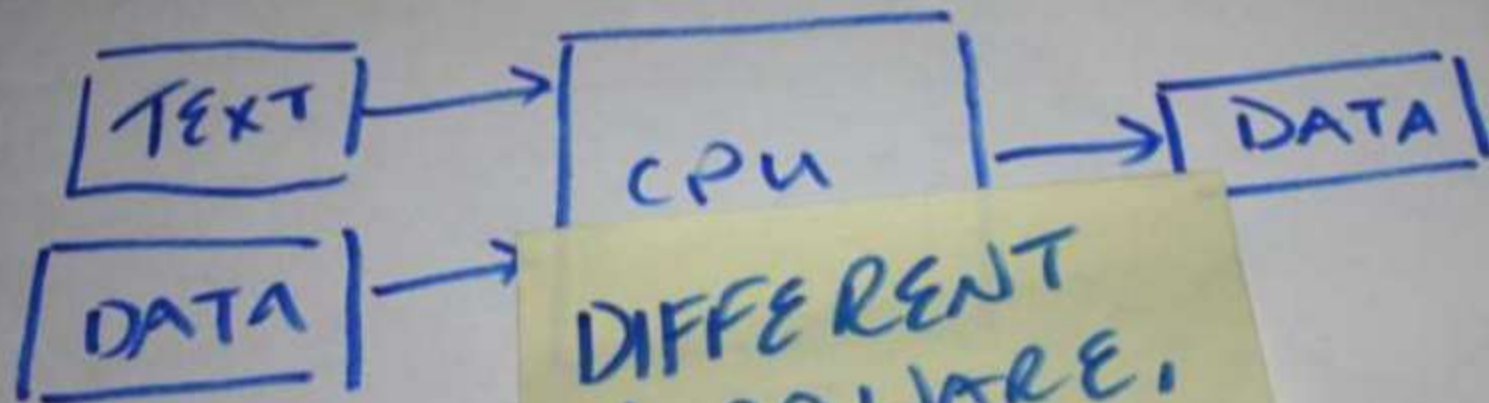
SOFTWARE IS  
A PLATFORM



OBVIOUS,  
HARDWARE IS THE  
PLATFORM

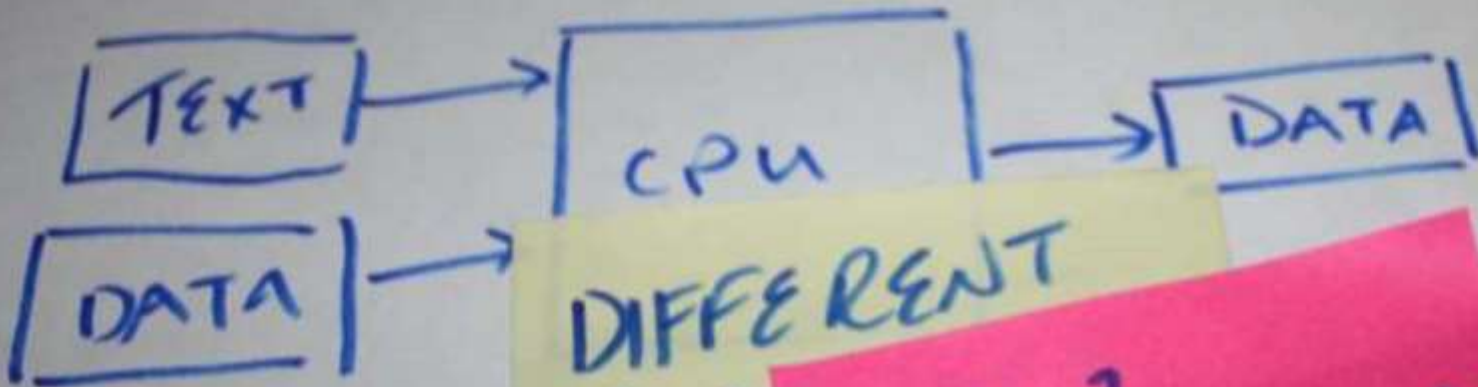


OBVIOUS,  
HARDWARE IS THE  
PLATFORM



DIFFERENT  
HARDWARE,  
DIFFERENT  
SOLUTIONS

OBVIOUS,  
HARDWARE IS THE  
PLATFORM



DIFFERENT

HARD  
DIFF  
SOLU

6502  
x86, ARM  
CELL, PPC  
ATI 5870

LIE # 2:

CODE DESIGNED AROUND  
MODEL OF THE WORLD

hiding data is implicit  
in world modeling

① maintenance

(allow changes to access)

② under bad because...

(critical for solving problem)

Confuses two problems:

① maintenance

(allow changes to access)

② understanding properties of data

(critical for solving problems)

in world modeling  
implies some relationship  
to real data or  
transforms

a chair is a chair  
but...

in real life "classes" are  
fundamentally similar

are only superficially  
similar e.g.

a chair is a chair



e.g. In terms of data  
transformations, "classes"  
are only superficially  
similar ...

e.g.



how similar are these, really?

World modeling leads to  
monolithic, unrelated  
data structures & transforms.

World modeling  
tries to idealize the  
problem.

(but you can't make a  
problem simpler than it is.)

World Modeling is The  
equivalent of self-help  
books for programming

... solve by analogy

... solve by storytelling

LIE # 3:

CODE IS MORE  
IMPORTANT THAN  
DATA.

ONLY PURPOSE OF ANY  
CODE IS TO TRANSFORM  
DATA.



PROGRAMMER IS  
FUNDAMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE  
FOR THE DATA, NOT THE  
CODE.

i.e. Programmer's job is NOT to write code;  
Programmer's job is to solve (data transformation) problems



ONLY WRITE CODE THAT  
HAS DIRECT, PROVABLE VALUE.

i.e. TRANSFORMS DATA  
IN MEANINGFUL WAY

UNDERSTAND THE DATA  
TO UNDERSTAND THE  
PROBLEM.

THERE IS NO  
IDEAL, ABSTRACT  
SOLUTION TO THE  
PROBLEM.

YOU CAN'T

"FUTURE

PROOF"

# LIES

- ① SOFTWARE IS A PLATFORM
- ② CODE DESIGNED AROUND MODEL OF THE WORLD
- ③ CODE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN DATA

WHAT PROBLEMS DO  
THESE LIES CAUSE?

- POOR PERFORMANCE
- POOR CONCURRENCY
- POOR OPTIMIZABILITY
- POOR STABILITY
- POOR TESTABILITY



SOLVE FOR TRANSFORMING  
THE DATA YOU HAVE  
GIVEN THE CONSTRAINTS OF  
THE PLATFORM.

(AND NOTHING ELSE)

A simple example...





9. DICTIONARY  
LOOKUP

KEY	VALUE

DESIGNING  
CODE -  
FIRST

KEY	VALUE

WHILE SEARCH  
ON KEYS,  
WHAT IS  
STATISTICAL  
VALUE OF  
"VALUE"?

KEY	VALUE

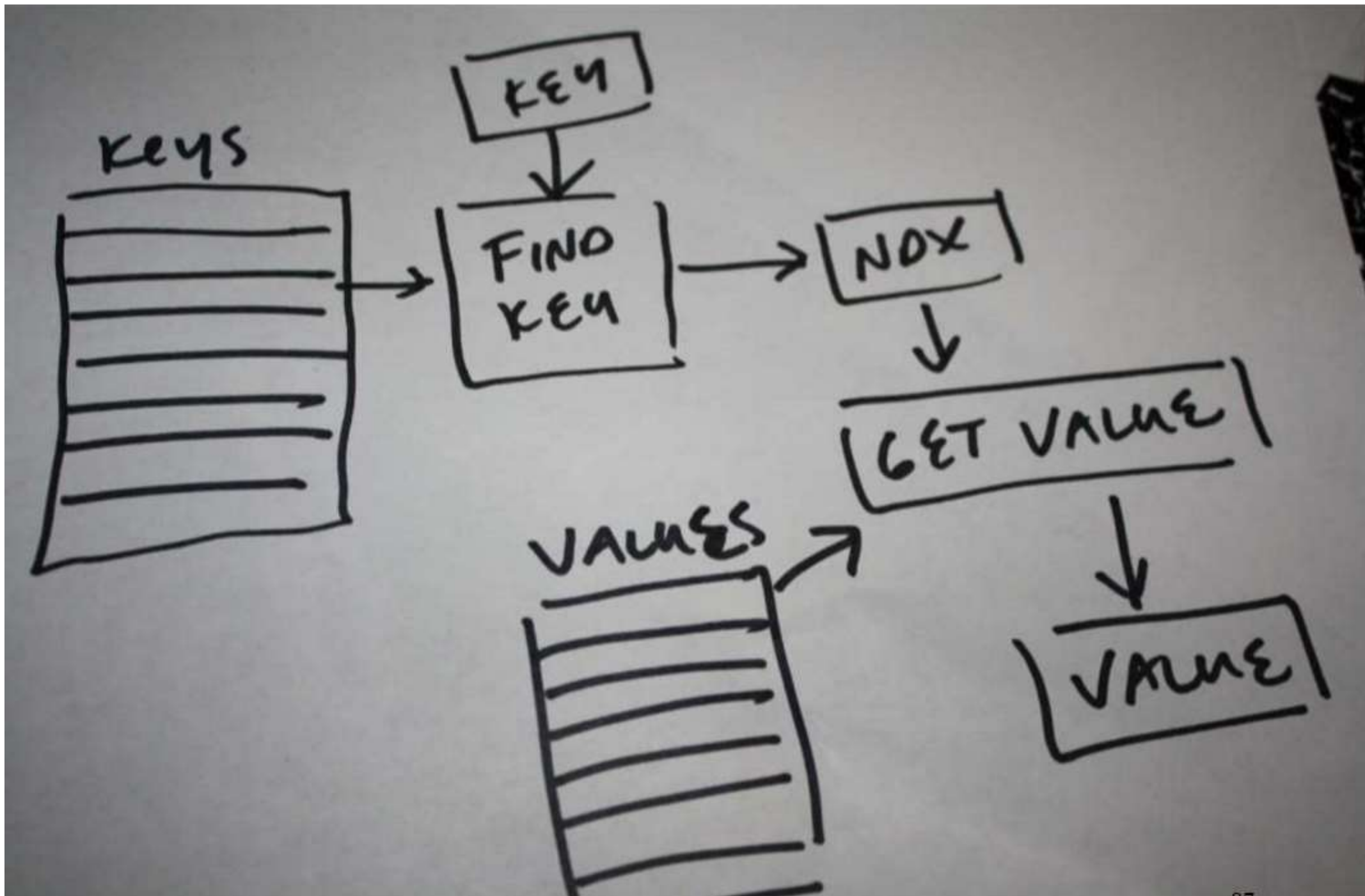
VERY LOW!  
(MORE KEYS,  
LOWER  
VALUE)

KEY	VALUE

SCALES  
TOWARD  
WORST -  
CASE!

KEY	VALUE

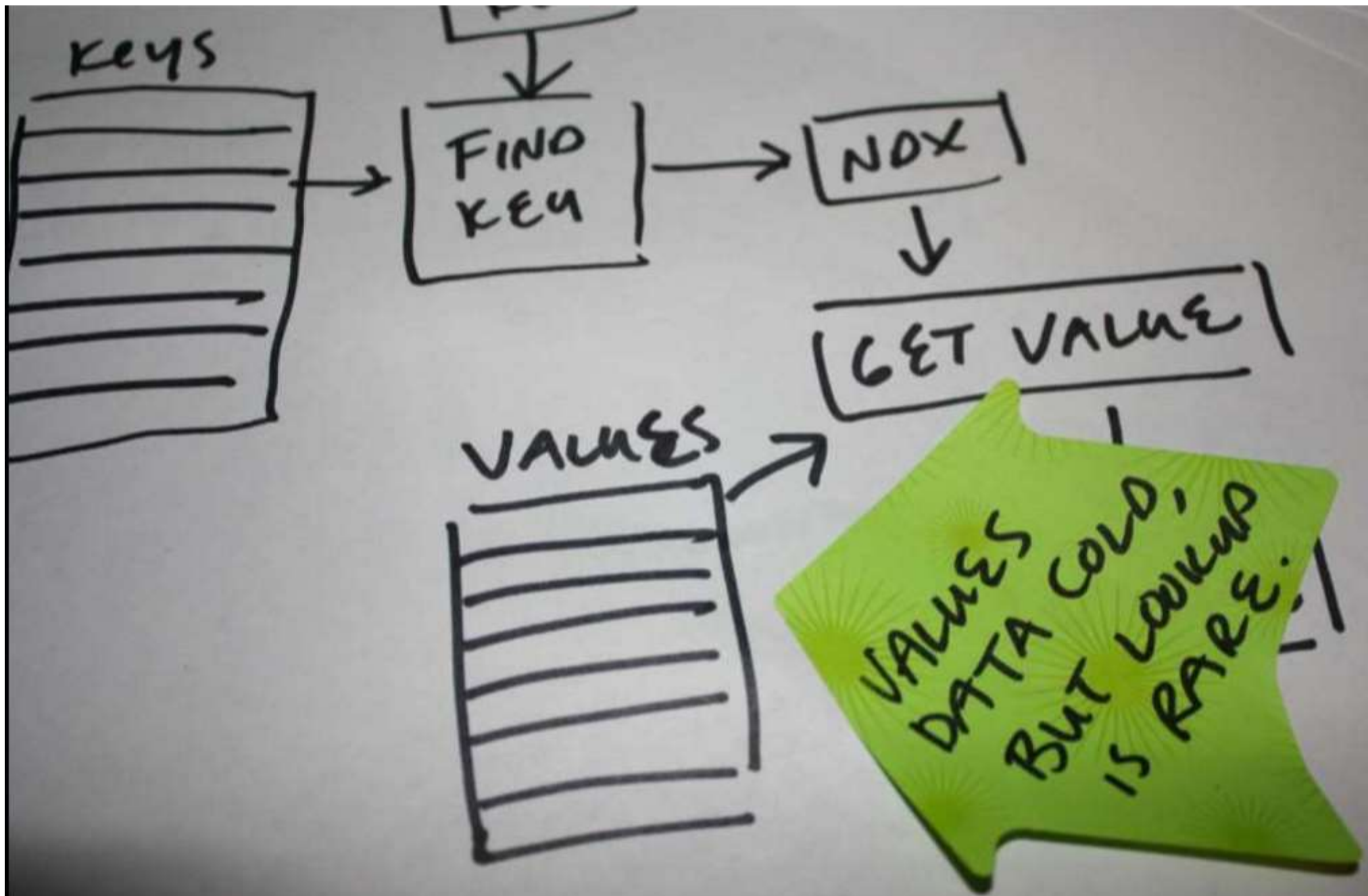
DON'T  
LOAD  
VALUE  
INTO  
DCACHE





CACHE  
LOADED  
W/ MOST  
LIKELY  
NEEDED





Solve for the most common case first,  
Not the most generic.

“Can’t the compiler do it?”

A little review...

(AMD Piledriver)

Instruction	Latency
SQRTSS/PS	13-15
VSQRTPS	14-15
SQRTSD/PD	24-26
VSQRTPD	24-26

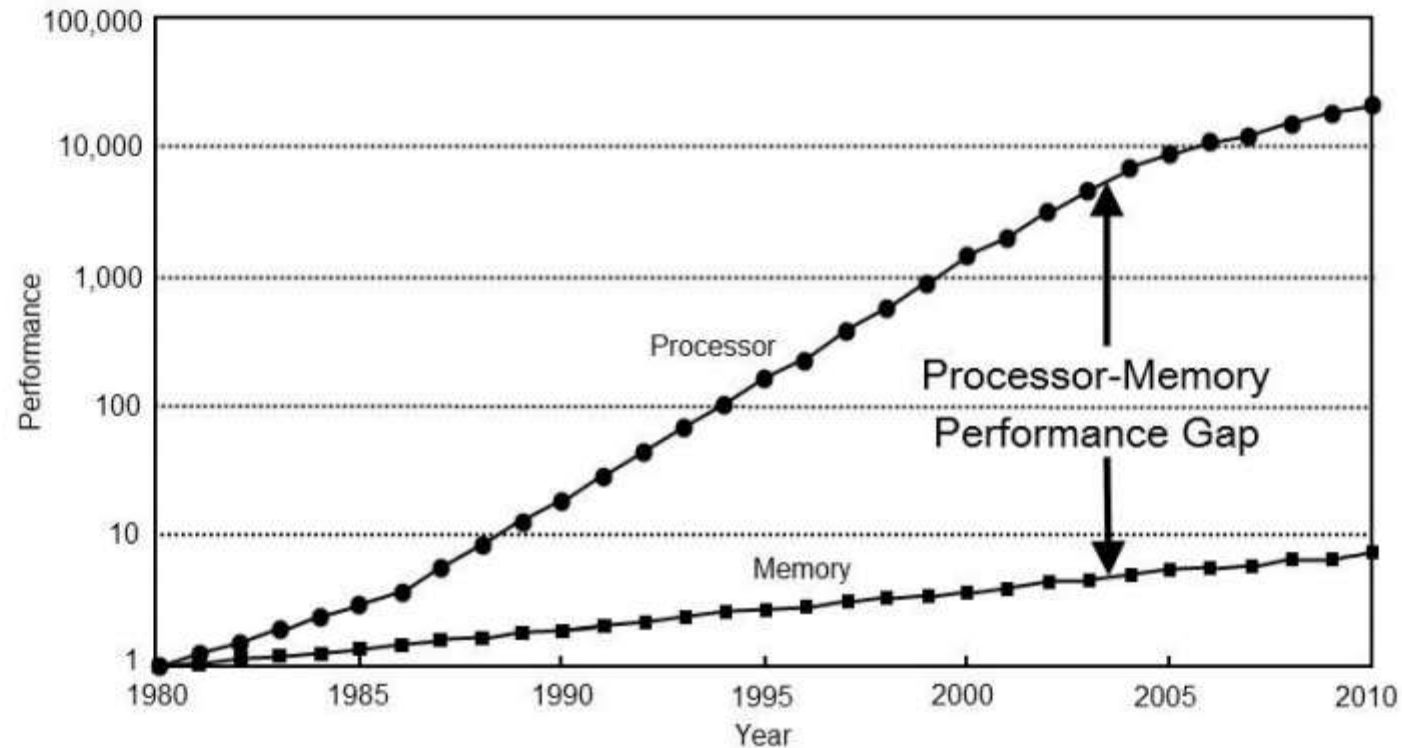
[http://www.agner.org/optimize/instruction\\_tables.pdf](http://www.agner.org/optimize/instruction_tables.pdf)

(AMD Piledriver)

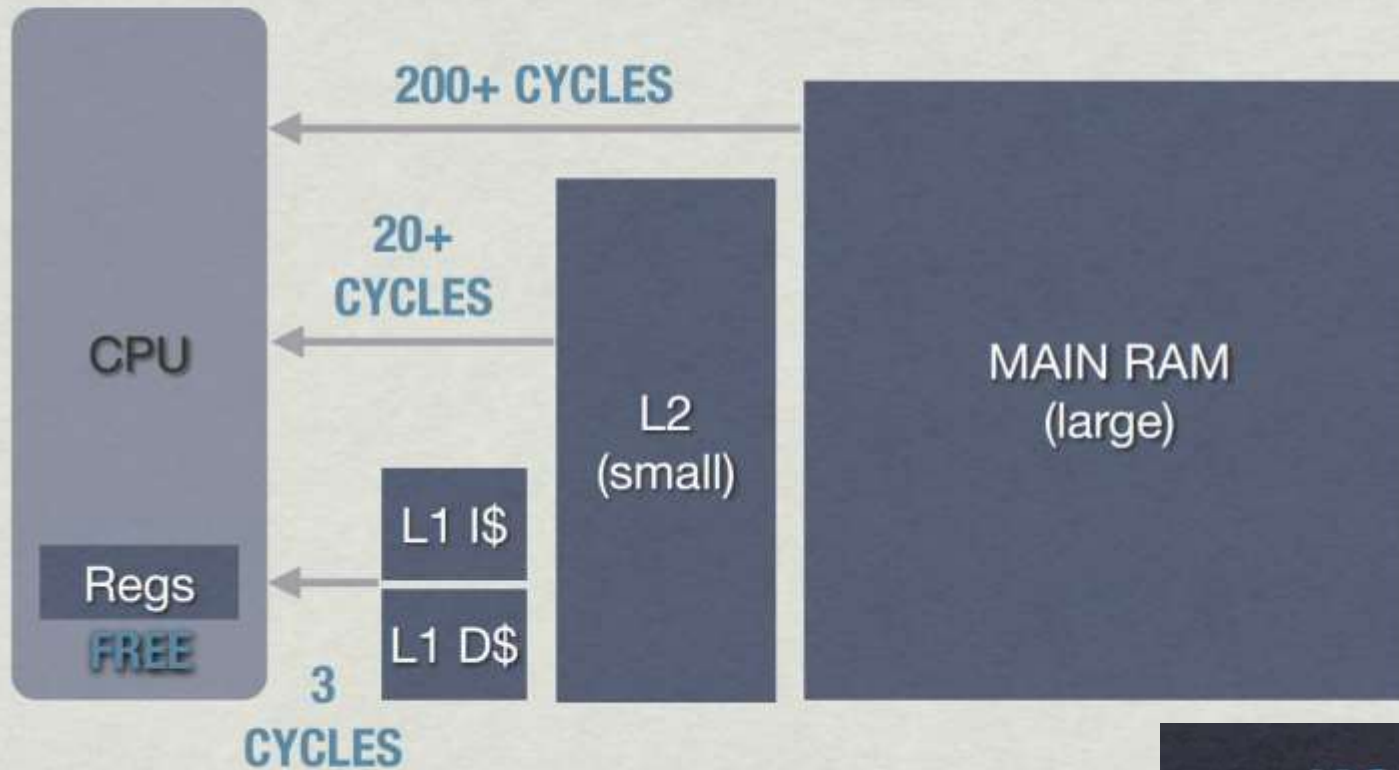
Instruction	Latency
FSIN	60-146
FCOS	~154
FSINCOS	86-141
FPTAN	86-204
FPATAN	60-352

[http://www.agner.org/optimize/instruction\\_tables.pdf](http://www.agner.org/optimize/instruction_tables.pdf)

## CPU/Memory performance



# Memory Caching



**JASON GREGORY**  
**LEAD PROGRAMMER**  
**NAUGHTY DOG, INC.**





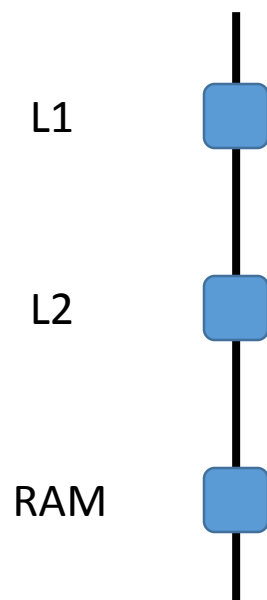
**Andreas Fredriksson**

@deplinenoise FOLLOWS YOU

Sr Engine Programmer at Insomniac Games. Asm and C. SIMD. Cigars.  
Dreams of Common Lisp. Slide guitar. Vim. Git. Build Systems. All opinions  
are my own, etc

San Fernando, CA - [deplinenoise.wordpress.com](http://deplinenoise.wordpress.com)

# The Battle of North Bridge



# L2 cache misses/frame

(Most significant component)

# Not even including shared memory modes...

Name	GPU-visible		Cached	GPU Coherent
Heap-cacheable	No		Yes	No
Heap-write-combined	No		No	No
Physical-uncached	?		No	No
GPU-write-combined	Yes		No	No
GPU-write-combined-read-only	Yes		No	No
GPU-cacheable	Yes		Yes	Yes
GPU-cacheable-noncoherent-RO	Yes		Yes	No
Command-write-combined	No		No	No
Command-cacheable	No		Yes	Yes

<http://deplinenoise.wordpress.com/2013/12/28/optimizable-code/>

```
class GameObject {
    float m_Pos[2];
    float m_Velocity[2];
    char m_Name[32];
    Model* m_Model;
    // ... other members ...
    float m_Foo;

    void UpdateFoo(float f)
    {
        float mag = sqrtf(
            m_Velocity[0] * m_Velocity[0] +
            m_Velocity[1] * m_Velocity[1]);
        m_Foo += mag * f;
    }
};
```



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```

_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf:                # @_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
    .cfi_startproc
# BB#0:
    pushq   %rbx
.Ltmp2:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
    subq   $16, %rsp
.Ltmp3:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 32
.Ltmp4:
    .cfi_offset %rbx, -16
    movss  %xmm0, 12(%rsp)                # 4-byte Spill
    movq   %rdi, %rbx
    movss  8(%rbx), %xmm1
    movss  12(%rbx), %xmm0
    mulss  %xmm1, %xmm1
    mulss  %xmm0, %xmm0
    addss  %xmm1, %xmm0
    callq  sqrtf
    mulss  12(%rsp), %xmm0                # 4-byte Folded Reload
    addss  184(%rbx), %xmm0
    movss  %xmm0, 184(%rbx)
    addq   $16, %rsp
    popq   %rbx
    ret
.Ltmp5:
    .size  _ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf, .Ltmp5-_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
    .cfi_endproc

```

```

_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf:          # @_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
    .cfi_startproc
# BB#0:
    pushq   %rbx
.Ltmp2:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
    subq    $16, %rsp
.Ltmp3:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 32
.Ltmp4:
    .cfi_offset %rbx, -16
    movss   %xmm0, 12(%rsp)          # 4-byte Spill
    movq    %rdi, %rbx
    movss   8(%rbx), %xmm1
    movss   12(%rbx), %xmm0
    mulss   %xmm1, %xmm1
    mulss   %xmm0, %xmm0
    addss   %xmm1, %xmm0
    callq   sqrtf
    mulss   12(%rsp), %xmm0          # 4-byte Folded Reload
    addss   184(%rbx), %xmm0
    movss   %xmm0, 184(%rbx)
    addq    $16, %rsp
    popq    %rbx
    ret
.Ltmp5:
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    .cfi_endproc

```

2 x 32bit read; same cache line = ~200

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_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf:                # @_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
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.Ltmp2:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
    subq   $16, %rsp
.Ltmp3:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 32
.Ltmp4:
    .cfi_offset %rbx, -16
    movss  %xmm0, 12(%rsp)                # 4-byte Spill
    movq   %rdi, %rbx
    movss  8(%rbx), %xmm1
    movss  12(%rbx), %xmm0
    mulss  %xmm1, %xmm1
    mulss  %xmm0, %xmm0
    addss  %xmm1, %xmm0
    callq  sqrtf
    mulss  12(%rsp), %xmm0                # 4-byte Folded Reload
    addss  184(%rbx), %xmm0
    movss  %xmm0, 184(%rbx)
    addq   $16, %rsp
    popq   %rbx
    ret
.Ltmp5:
    .size  _ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf, .Ltmp5-_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
    .cfi_endproc
```

Float mul, add = ~10

```

_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf:                # @_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
    .cfi_startproc
# BB#0:
    pushq   %rbx
.Ltmp2:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
    subq   $16, %rsp
.Ltmp3:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 32
.Ltmp4:
    .cfi_offset %rbx, -16
    movss  %xmm0, 12(%rsp)                # 4-byte Spill
    movq   %rdi, %rbx
    movss  8(%rbx), %xmm1
    movss  12(%rbx), %xmm0
    mulss  %xmm1, %xmm1
    mulss  %xmm0, %xmm0
    addss  %xmm1, %xmm0
    callq  sqrtf
    movss  12(%rsp), %xmm0                # 4-byte Folded Reload
    addss  184(%rbx), %xmm0
    movss  %xmm0, 184(%rbx)
    addq   $16, %rsp
    popq   %rbx
    ret
.Ltmp5:
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    .cfi_endproc

```

Let's assume callq is replaced. Sqrt = ~30



```

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# BB#0:
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.Ltmp2:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
    subq   $16, %rsp
.Ltmp3:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 32
.Ltmp4:
    .cfi_offset %rbx, -16
    movss  %xmm0, 12(%rsp)                # 4-byte Spill
    movq   %rdi, %rbx
    movss  8(%rbx), %xmm1
    movss  12(%rbx), %xmm0
    mulss  %xmm1, %xmm1
    mulss  %xmm0, %xmm0
    addss  %xmm1, %xmm0
    callq  @plt
    mulss  12(%rsp), %xmm0                # 4-byte Folded Reload
    addss  184(%rbx), %xmm0                # Mul back to same addr; in L1; = ~3
    movss  %xmm0, 184(%rbx)
    addq   $16, %rsp
    popq   %rbx
    ret
.Ltmp5:
    .size  _ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf, .Ltmp5-_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
    .cfi_endproc

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.Ltmp4:
    .cfi_offset %rbx, -16
    movss  %xmm0, 12(%rsp)          # 4-byte Spill
    movq   %rdi, %rbx
    movss  8(%rbx), %xmm1
    movss  12(%rbx), %xmm0
    mulss  %xmm1, %xmm1
    mulss  %xmm0, %xmm0
    addss  %xmm1, %xmm0
    callq  sqrtf
    mulss  12(%rsp), %xmm0        # 4-byte Folded Reload
    addss  184(%rbx), %xmm0      Read+add from new line
    movss  %xmm0, 184(%rbx)      = ~200
    addq   $16, %rsp
    popq   %rbx
    ret
.Ltmp5:
    .size  _ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf, .Ltmp5-_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
    .cfi_endproc

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    subq   $16, %rsp
.Ltmp3:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 32
.Ltmp4:
    .cfi_offset %rbx, -16
    movss  %xmm0, 12(%rsp)
    movq   %rdi, %rbx
    movss  8(%rbx), %xmm1
    movss  12(%rbx), %xmm0
    mulss  %xmm1, %xmm1
    mulss  %xmm0, %xmm0
    addss  %xmm1, %xmm0
    callq  sqrtf
    mulss  12(%rsp), %xmm0
    addss  184(%rbx), %xmm0
    movss  %xmm0, 184(%rbx)
    addq   $16, %rsp
    popq   %rbx
    ret
.Ltmp5:
    .size  _ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf, .Ltmp5-_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
    .cfi_endproc

```

Time spent waiting for L2 vs. actual work

~10:1

# 4-byte Folded Reload

```

_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf:                # @_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
    .cfi_startproc
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.Ltmp4:
    .cfi_offset %rbx, -16
    movss  %xmm0, 12(%rsp)
    movq   %rdi, %rbx
    movss  8(%rbx), %xmm1
    movss  12(%rbx), %xmm0
    mulss  %xmm1, %xmm1
    mulss  %xmm0, %xmm0
    addss  %xmm1, %xmm0
    callq  sqrtf
    mulss  12(%rsp), %xmm0
    addss  184(%rbx), %xmm0
    movss  %xmm0, 184(%rbx)
    addq   $16, %rsp
    popq   %rbx
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    .cfi_endproc

```

Time spent waiting for L2 vs. actual work

~10:1

This is the compiler's space.

# 4-byte Folded Reload

```
_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf:          # @_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
```

```
    .cfi_startproc
```

```
# BB#0:
    pushq   %rbx
```

```
.Ltmp2:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
    subq   $16, %rsp
```

```
.Ltmp3:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 32
```

```
.Ltmp4:
    .cfi_offset %rbx, -16
    movss  %xmm0, 12(%rsp)
    movq   %rdi, %rbx
    movss  8(%rbx), %xmm1
    movss  12(%rbx), %xmm0
    mulss  %xmm1, %xmm1
```

```
m
a
c
m
a
m
a
```

```
    popq   %rbx
    ret
```

```
.Ltmp5:
    .size  _ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf, .Ltmp5-_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
    .cfi_endproc
```

Time spent waiting for L2 vs. actual work  
~10:1

This is the compiler's space.

Compiler can solve about 1-10% of the problem space.  
i.e. the vast majority of problems are things the compiler can't reason about

COMPILER IS A TOOL |  
NOT A MAGIC WAND.

Compiler *cannot* solve the most significant problems.

Today's subject:  
The 90% of problem space we  
need to solve that the compiler  
cannot.

(And how we can help it with the 10% that it can.)

Simple, obvious things to look for  
+ Back of the envelope calculations  
= Substantial wins



# L2 cache misses/frame

(Don't waste them!)

```

_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf:          # @_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
    .cfi_startproc
# BB#0:
    pushq   %rbx
.Ltmp2:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
    subq   $16, %rsp
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    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 32
.Ltmp4:
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    movq   %rdi, %rbx
    movss  8(%rbx), %xmm1
    movss  12(%rbx), %xmm0
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    mulss  %xmm0, %xmm0
    addss  %xmm1, %xmm0
    callq  sqrtf
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.Ltmp5:
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    .cfi_endproc

```

Waste 56 bytes / 64 bytes

```
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# BB#0:
    pushq   %rbx
.Ltmp2:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
    subq   $16, %rsp
.Ltmp3:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 32
.Ltmp4:
    .cfi_offset %rbx, -16
    movss  %xmm0, 12(%rsp)                # 4-byte Spill
    movq   %rdi, %rbx
    movss  8(%rbx), %xmm1
    movss  12(%rbx), %xmm0
    mulss  %xmm1, %xmm1
    mulss  %xmm0, %xmm0
    addss  %xmm1, %xmm0
    callq  sqrtf
    mulss  12(%rsp), %xmm0                # 4-byte Folded Reload
    addss  184(%rbx), %xmm0
    movss  %xmm0, 184(%rbx)
    addq   $16, %rsp
    popq   %rbx
    ret
.Ltmp5:
    .size  _ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf, .Ltmp5-_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
    .cfi_endproc
```

Waste 60 bytes / 64 bytes

```

_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf:          # @_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
    .cfi_startproc
# BB#0:
    pushq   %rbx
.Ltmp2:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
    subq    $16, %rsp
.Ltmp3:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 32
.Ltmp4:
    .cfi_offset %rbx, -16
    movss   %xmm0, 12(%rsp)
    movq    %rdi, %rbx
    movss   8(%rbx), %xmm1
    movss   12(%rbx), %xmm0
    mulss   %xmm1, %xmm1
    mulss   %xmm0, %xmm0
    addss   %xmm1, %xmm0
    callq   sqrtf
    mulss   12(%rsp), %xmm0
    addss   184(%rbx), %xmm0
    movss   %xmm0, 184(%rbx)
    addq    $16, %rsp
    popq    %rbx
    ret
.Ltmp5:
    .size   _ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf, .Ltmp5-_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
    .cfi_endproc

```



# 4-byte Folded Reload

```

_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf:                # @_ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf
    .cfi_startproc
# BB#0:
    pushq   %rbx
.Ltmp2:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 16
    subq   $16, %rsp
.Ltmp3:
    .cfi_def_cfa_offset 32
.Ltmp4:
    .cfi_offset %rbx, -16
    movss  %xmm0, 12(%rsp)
    movq   %rdi, %rbx
    movss  8(%rbx), %xmm1
    movss  12(%rbx), %xmm0
    mulss  %xmm1, %xmm1
    mulss  %xmm0, %xmm0
    addss  %xmm1, %xmm0
    callq  sqrtf
    mulss  12(%rsp), %xmm0
    addss  184(%rbx), %xmm0
    movss  %xmm0, 184(%rbx)
    addq   $16, %rsp
    popq   %rbx
    ret
.Ltmp5:
    .size   _ZN10GameObject9UpdateFooEf, .-
    .cfi_endproc

```

Alternatively,  
Only 10% capacity used\*

# 4-byte Folded Reload

\* Not the same as “used well”, but we’ll start here.

```
struct FooUpdateIn {
    float m_Velocity[2];
    float m_Foo;
};

struct FooUpdateOut {
    float m_Foo;
};

void UpdateFoods(const FooUpdateIn* in, size_t count, FooUpdateOut* out, float f)
{
    for (size_t i = 0; i < count; ++i) {
        float mag = sqrtf(
            in[i].m_Velocity[0] * in[i].m_Velocity[0] +
            in[i].m_Velocity[1] * in[i].m_Velocity[1]);
        out[i].m_Foo = in[i].m_Foo + mag * f;
    }
}
```

```
struct FooUpdateIn {  
    float m_Velocity[2];  
    float m_Foo;  
};
```

12 bytes x count(5) = 72

```
struct FooUpdateOut {  
    float m_Foo;  
};
```

```
void UpdateFoods(const FooUpdateIn* in, size_t count, FooUpdateOut* out, float f)  
{  
    for (size_t i = 0; i < count; ++i) {  
        float mag = sqrtf(  
            in[i].m_Velocity[0] * in[i].m_Velocity[0] +  
            in[i].m_Velocity[1] * in[i].m_Velocity[1]);  
        out[i].m_Foo = in[i].m_Foo + mag * f;  
    }  
}
```

```
struct FooUpdateIn {  
    float m_Velocity[2];  
    float m_Foo;  
};
```

12 bytes x count(5) = 72

```
struct FooUpdateOut {  
    float m_Foo;  
};
```

4 bytes x count(5) = 20

```
void UpdateFoods(const FooUpdateIn* in, size_t count, FooUpdateOut* out, float f)  
{  
    for (size_t i = 0; i < count; ++i) {  
        float mag = sqrtf(  
            in[i].m_Velocity[0] * in[i].m_Velocity[0] +  
            in[i].m_Velocity[1] * in[i].m_Velocity[1]);  
        out[i].m_Foo = in[i].m_Foo + mag * f;  
    }  
}
```



```
struct FooUpdateIn {  
    float m_Velocity[2];  
    float m_Foo;  
};
```

12 bytes x count(32) = 384 = 64 x 6

```
struct FooUpdateOut {  
    float m_Foo;  
};
```

4 bytes x count(32) = 128 = 64 x 2

```
void UpdateFoods(const FooUpdateIn* in, size_t count, FooUpdateOut* out, float f)  
{  
    for (size_t i = 0; i < count; ++i) {  
        float mag = sqrtf(  
            in[i].m_Velocity[0] * in[i].m_Velocity[0] +  
            in[i].m_Velocity[1] * in[i].m_Velocity[1]);  
        out[i].m_Foo = in[i].m_Foo + mag * f;  
    }  
}
```

```
struct FooUpdateIn {  
    float m_Velocity[2];  
    float m_Foo;  
};
```

12 bytes x count(32) = 384 = 64 x 6

```
struct FooUpdateOut {  
    float m_Foo;  
};
```

4 bytes x count(32) = 128 = 64 x 2

```
void UpdateFoos(const FooUpdateIn* in, size_t count, FooUpdateOut* out, float f)  
{  
    for (size_t i = 0; i < count; ++i) {  
        float mag = sqrtf(  
            in[i].m_Velocity[0] * in[i].m_Velocity[0] +  
            in[i].m_Velocity[1] * in[i].m_Velocity[1]);  
        out[i].m_Foo = in[i].m_Foo + mag * f;  
    }  
}
```

(6/32) = ~5.33 loop/cache line

```
struct FooUpdateIn {  
    float m_Velocity[2];  
    float m_Foo;  
};
```

12 bytes x count(32) = 384 = 64 x 6

```
struct FooUpdateOut {  
    float m_Foo;  
};
```

4 bytes x count(32) = 128 = 64 x 2

```
void UpdateFoods(const FooUpdateIn* in, size_t count, FooUpdateOut* out, float f)  
{  
    for (size_t i = 0; i < count; ++i) {  
        float mag = sqrtf(  
            in[i].m_Velocity[0] * in[i].m_Velocity[0] +  
            in[i].m_Velocity[1] * in[i].m_Velocity[1]);  
        out[i].m_Foo = in[i].m_Foo + mag * f;  
    }  
}
```

(6/32) = ~5.33 loop/cache line

Sqrt + math = ~40 x 5.33 = 213.33 cycles/cache line

```
struct FooUpdateIn {  
    float m_Velocity[2];  
    float m_Foo;  
};
```

12 bytes x count(32) = 384 = 64 x 6

```
struct FooUpdateOut {  
    float m_Foo;  
};
```

4 bytes x count(32) = 128 = 64 x 2

```
void UpdateFoods(const FooUpdateIn* in, size_t count, FooUpdateOut* out, float f)  
{  
    for (size_t i = 0; i < count; ++i) {  
        float mag = sqrtf(  
            in[i].m_Velocity[0] * in[i].m_Velocity[0] +  
            in[i].m_Velocity[1] * in[i].m_Velocity[1]);  
        out[i].m_Foo = in[i].m_Foo + mag * f;  
    }  
}
```

(6/32) = ~5.33 loop/cache line

Sqrt + math = ~40 x 5.33 = 213.33 cycles/cache line

+ streaming prefetch bonus

```
struct FooUpdateIn {
    float m_Velocity[2];
    float m_Foo;
};
```

12 bytes x count(32) = 384 = 64 x 6

```
struct FooUpdateOut {
    float m_Foo;
};
```

4 bytes x count(32) = 128 = 64 x 2

```
void UpdateFoos(const FooUpdateIn* in, size_t count, FooUpdateOut* out, float f)
{
    for (size_t i = 0; i < count; i++)
    {
        float mag = sqrt(f);
        in[i].m_Velocity[0] += mag;
        in[i].m_Velocity[1] += mag;
        out[i].m_Foo = in[i].m_Foo + mag;
    }
}
```

Using cache line to capacity\* =  
10x speedup

\* Used. Still not necessarily as  
efficiently as possible

(6/32) = ~5.33 loop/cache line  
Sqrt + math = ~40 x 5.33 = 213.33 cycles/cache line  
+ streaming prefetch bonus

In addition...

1. Code is maintainable
2. Code is debugable
3. Can REASON about cost of change

```
struct FooUpdateIn {  
    float m_Velocity[2];  
    float m_Foo;  
};
```

```
struct FooUpdateOut {  
    float m_Foo;  
};
```

```
void UpdateFoods(const FooUpdateIn* in, size_t count, FooUpdateOut* out, float f)  
{  
    for (size_t i = 0; i < count; ++i) {  
        float mag = sqrtf(  
            in[i].m_Velocity[0] * in[i].m_Velocity[0] +  
            in[i].m_Velocity[1] * in[i].m_Velocity[1]);  
        out[i].m_Foo = in[i].m_Foo + mag * f;  
    }  
}
```

(6/32) = ~5.33 loop/cache line

Sqrt + math = ~40 x 5.33 = 213.33 cycles/cache line

+ streaming prefetch bonus

In addition...

1. Code is maintainable
2. Code is debugable
3. Can REASON about cost of change

Ignoring inconvenient facts is not engineering;  
It's dogma.

```
struct FooUpdateIn {  
    float m_Velocity[2];  
    float m_Foo;  
};
```

```
struct FooUpdateOut {  
    float m_Foo;  
};
```

```
void UpdateFoos(const FooUpdateIn* in, size_t count, FooUpdateOut* out, float f)  
{  
    for (size_t i = 0; i < count; ++i) {  
        float mag = sqrtf(  
            in[i].m_Velocity[0] * in[i].m_Velocity[0] +  
            in[i].m_Velocity[1] * in[i].m_Velocity[1]);  
        out[i].m_Foo = in[i].m_Foo + mag * f;  
    }  
}
```

(6/32) = ~5.33 loop/cache line  
Sqrt + math = ~40 x 5.33 = 213.33 cycles/cache line  
+ streaming prefetch bonus

# bools in structs...

```
class __attribute__((__packed__)) Foo
{
public:
    uint8_t  a0;
    uint16_t b0;
    uint8_t  c0;
    bool     d0;

    uint8_t  a1;
    uint16_t b1;
    uint8_t  c1;
    bool     d1;

    uint8_t  a2;
    uint16_t b2;
    uint8_t  c2;
    bool     d2;
};
```

```
Foo
{
    a0: 0
    b0: 1
    c0: 3
    d0: 4
    a1: 5
    b1: 6
    c1: 8
    d1: 9
    a2: 10
    b2: 11
    c2: 13
    d2: 14
}
```

(3) Extremely low information density



# bools in structs...

```
class __attribute__((__packed__)) Foo
{
public:
    uint8_t  a0;
    uint16_t b0;
    uint8_t  c0;
    bool     d0;

    uint8_t  a1;
    uint16_t b1;
    uint8_t  c1;
    bool     d1;

    uint8_t  a2;
    uint16_t b2;
    uint8_t  c2;
    bool     d2;
};
```

```
Foo
{
    a0: 0
    b0: 1
    c0: 3
    d0: 4
    a1: 5
    b1: 6
    c1: 8
    d1: 9
    a2: 10
    b2: 11
    c2: 13
    d2: 14
}
```

(3) Extremely low information density

How big is your cache line?

```
class Foo
{
public:
    bool    m_NeedParentUpdate;
    bool    m_NeedChildUpdate;
    bool    m_ParentNotNotified;
    Mat4    m_ObjectWorld;
    bool    m_InheritScale;
    bool    m_InheritOrientation;
};
```

```
Foo
{
    m_NeedParentUpdate: 0
    m_NeedChildUpdate: 1
    m_ParentNotNotified: 2
    m_ObjectWorld: 4
    m_InheritScale: 68
    m_InheritOrientation: 69
}
```

# bools in structs...

```
class __attribute__((__packed__)) Foo
{
public:
    uint8_t  a0;
    uint16_t b0;
    uint8_t  c0;
    bool     d0;

    uint8_t  a1;
    uint16_t b1;
    uint8_t  c1;
    bool     d1;

    uint8_t  a2;
    uint16_t b2;
    uint8_t  c2;
    bool     d2;
};
```

```
Foo
{
    a0: 0
    b0: 1
    c0: 3
    d0: 4
    a1: 5
    b1: 6
    c1: 8
    d1: 9
    a2: 10
    b2: 11
    c2: 13
    d2: 14
}
```

(3) Extremely low information density

How big is your cache line?

What's the most commonly accessed data?

```
class Foo
{
public:
    bool    m_NeedParentUpdate;
    bool    m_NeedChildUpdate;
    bool    m_ParentNotNotified;
    Mat4    m_ObjectWorld;
    bool    m_InheritScale;
    bool    m_InheritOrientation;
};
```

```
Foo
{
    m_NeedParentUpdate: 0
    m_NeedChildUpdate: 1
    m_ParentNotNotified: 2
    m_ObjectWorld: 4
    m_InheritScale: 68
    m_InheritOrientation: 69
}
```

64b?

How is it used? What does it generate?

(2) Bools and last-minute decision making

```
int
Foo::Bar( int count )
{
    int value = 0;
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        if ( m_NeedParentUpdate )
        {
            value++;
        }
    }
    return (value);
}
```

```

?Bar@Foo@@QEAAHH@Z PROC                ; Foo::Bar, COMDAT

; 1696 :   int value = 0;

    00000 33 c0        xor     eax, eax

; 1697 :   for (int i=0;i<count;i++)

    00002 85 d2        test    edx, edx
    00004 7e 11        jle    SHORT $LN2@Bar

; 1696 :   int value = 0;

    00006 44 8a 01       mov     r8b, BYTE PTR [rcx]
    00009 8b ca        mov     ecx, edx
$LL9@Bar:

; 1698 :   {
; 1699 :       if ( m_NeedParentUpdate )

    0000b 45 84 c0        test    r8b, r8b
    0000e 74 02        je     SHORT $LN10@Bar

; 1700 :       {
; 1701 :           value++;

    00010 ff c0        inc     eax
$LN10@Bar:

; 1697 :   for (int i=0;i<count;i++)

    00012 48 ff c9        dec     rcx
    00015 75 f4        jne    SHORT $LL9@Bar
$LN2@Bar:

; 1702 :       }
; 1703 :   }
; 1704 :   return (value);
; 1705 : }

```

MSVC

```
?Bar@Foo@@QEAAHH@Z PROC          ; Foo::Bar, COMDAT
; 1696 :   int value = 0;
      00000 33 c0      xor    eax, eax
; 1697 :   for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
      00002 85 d2      test   edx, edx
      00004 7e 11      jle   SHORT $LN2@Bar
; 1696 :   int value = 0;
      00006 44 8a 01      mov   r8b, BYTE PTR [rcx]
      00009 8b ca      mov   ecx, edx
$LL9@Bar:
; 1698 :   {
; 1699 :       if ( m_NeedParentUpdate )
      0000b 45 84 c0      test  r8b, r8b
      0000e 74 02      je   SHORT $LN10@Bar
; 1700 :   {
; 1701 :       value++;
      00010 ff c0      inc   eax
$LN10@Bar:
; 1697 :   for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
      00012 48 ff c9      dec   rcx
      00015 75 f4      jne  SHORT $LL9@Bar
$LN2@Bar:
; 1702 :   }
; 1703 :   }
; 1704 :   return (value);
; 1705 : }
```

Re-read and re-test...

Increment and loop...

```

?Bar@Foo@@QEAAHH@Z PROC                ; Foo::Bar, COMDAT

; 1696 :   int value = 0;

00000 33 c0        xor     eax, eax

; 1697 :   for (int i=0;i<count;i++)

00002 85 d2        test    edx, edx
00004 7e 11        jle    SHORT $LN2@Bar

; 1696 :   int value = 0;

00006 44 8a 01       mov     r8b, BYTE PTR [rcx]
00009 8b ca         mov     ecx, edx
$LL9@Bar:

; 1698 :   {
; 1699 :       if ( m_NeedParentUpdate )

0000b 45 84 c0       test    r8b, r8b
0000e 74 02         je     SHORT $LN10@Bar

; 1700 :       {
; 1701 :           value++;

00010 ff c0         inc     eax
$LN10@Bar:

; 1697 :   for (int i=0;i<count;i++)

00012 48 ff c9       dec     rcx
00015 75 f4         jne    SHORT $LL9@Bar
$LN2@Bar:

; 1702 :       }
; 1703 :   }
; 1704 :   return (value);
; 1705 : }

```



Why?

Re-read and re-test...

Super-conservative aliasing rules...?  
Member value might change?

Increment and loop...

What about something more aggressive...?



```
.type    _ZN3Foo3BarEi,@function
_ZN3Foo3BarEi:
.cfi_startproc
# BB#0:
    xorl   %eax, %eax
    testl  %esi, %esi
    jle   .LBB1_2
# BB#1:
                                # %lr.ph
    movzbl <%rdi>, %eax
    negl   %eax
    andl   %esi, %eax
.LBB1_2:
    ret
.Ltmp3:
.size    _ZN3Foo3BarEi, .Ltmp3-_ZN3Foo3BarEi
.cfi_endproc
```

What about something more aggressive...?



```
.type _ZN3Foo3BarEi,@function
_ZN3Foo3BarEi:                # @_ZN3Foo3BarEi
    .cfi_startproc
# BB#0:
    xorl    %eax, %eax
    testl   %esi, %esi
    jle    .LBB1_2
# BB#1:                        # %.L1.ph
    movzbl  (<%rdi>), %eax
    negl   %eax
    andl   %esi, %eax
.LBB1_2:
    ret
.Ltmp3:
    .size  _ZN3Foo3BarEi, .Ltmp3-_ZN3Foo3BarEi
    .cfi_endproc
```

Test once and return...



Okay, so what about...

```
int
Foo::Bar( int count )
{
    int value = 0;
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        if ( m_NeedParentUpdate )
        {
            value++;
        }
    }
    return (value);
}

int
Foo::Baz( int count )
{
    int value = 0;
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        if ( Bar(count) > 0 )
        {
            value++;
        }
    }
    return (value);
}
```

```
.type __ZN3Foo3BazEi,@function
_ZN3Foo3BazEi:                # @_ZN3Foo3BazEi
.cfi_startproc
# BB#0:
    xorl    %eax, %eax
    testl   %esi, %esi
    jle     .LBB2_7
# BB#1:                        # %.lr.ph
    xorl    %eax, %eax
    movl    %esi, %r8d
    andl    $-2, %r8d
    je      .LBB2_2
# BB#3:
    movl    %r8d, %ecx
    xorl    %r9d, %r9d
.LBB2_4:                       # %vector.body
                                # =>This Inner Loop Header: Depth=1
    movzbl  (<rdi), %edx
    negl    %edx
    testl   %esi, %edx
    setg    %dl
    movzbl  %dl, %edx
    addl    %edx, %eax
    addl    %edx, %r9d
    addl    $-2, %ecx
    jne     .LBB2_4
    jmp     .LBB2_5
.LBB2_2:
    xorl    %r8d, %r8d
    xorl    %r9d, %r9d
.LBB2_5:                       # %middle.block
    addl    %r9d, %eax
    cmpl    %esi, %r8d
    je      .LBB2_7
    .align  16, 0x90
.LBB2_6:                       # %_ZN3Foo3BarEi.exit
                                # =>This Inner Loop Header: Depth=1
    movzbl  (<rdi), %ecx
    negl    %ecx
    testl   %esi, %ecx
    setg    %cl
    movzbl  %cl, %ecx
    addl    %ecx, %eax
    incl    %r8d
    cmpl    %r8d, %esi
    jne     .LBB2_6
.LBB2_7:                       # %._crit_edge
    ret
.Ltmp4:
```

```
clang version 3.4 (tags/RELEASE_34/final)
Target: x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu
Thread model: posix
```

...well at least it inlined it?



MSVC doesn't fare any better...

```
00000 33 c0      xor     eax, eax
; 1711 :   for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
00002 85 d2      test    edx, edx
00004 7e 25      jle    SHORT $LN2@Baz
00006 44 8a 11    mov    r10b, BYTE PTR [rcx]
00009 44 8b ca    mov    r9d, edx
0000c 44 8b c2    mov    r8d, edx
$LL4@Baz:
0000f 33 c9      xor     ecx, ecx
00011 49 8b d1    mov    rdx, r9
$LL17@Baz:
; 1699 :   if ( m_NeedParentUpdate )
00014 45 84 d2    test   r10b, r10b
00017 74 02      je     SHORT $LN18@Baz
; 1701 :   value++;
00019 ff c1      inc    ecx
$LN18@Baz:
; 1697 :   for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
0001b 48 ff ca    dec    rdx
0001e 75 f4      jne    SHORT $LL17@Baz
; 1713 :   if ( Bar(count) )
00020 85 c9      test   ecx, ecx
00022 74 02      je     SHORT $LN3@Baz
; 1715 :   value++;
00024 ff c0      inc    eax
$LN3@Baz:
; 1711 :   for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
00026 49 ff c8    dec    r8
00029 75 e4      jne    SHORT $LL4@Baz
$LN2@Baz:
```

#### (4) Ghost reads and writes

Don't re-read member values or re-call functions when you *already* have the data.

```
int
Foo::Bar( int count )
{
    int value = 0;
    bool need_update = m_NeedParentUpdate;
    for (int i=0; i<count; i++)
    {
        if ( need_update )
        {
            value++;
        }
    }
    return (value);
}
```

```
int
Foo::Baz( int count )
{
    int value = 0;
    bool need_update = Bar(count) > 0;
    for (int i=0; i<count; i++)
    {
        if ( need_update )
        {
            value++;
        }
    }
    return (value);
}
```





# Visual Studio

```
; 1697 : bool need_update = m_NeedParentUpdate;
00000 44 8a 09 mov r9b, BYTE PTR [rcx]
00003 33 c0 xor eax, eax
00005 45 33 c0 xor r8d, r8d

; 1698 : for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
00008 85 d2 test edx, edx
0000a 7e 0f jle SHORT $LN8@Baz

; 1711 : int value = 0;
0000c 8b ca mov ecx, edx
$LL10@Baz:

; 1700 : if ( need_update )
0000e 45 84 c9 test r9b, r9b
00011 74 03 je SHORT $LN9@Baz
00013 41 ff c0 inc r8d
$LN9@Baz:

; 1698 : for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
00016 48 ff c9 dec rcx
00019 75 f3 jne SHORT $LL10@Baz
$LN8@Baz:

; 1712 : bool need_update = Bar(count) > 0;
0001b 45 85 c0 test r8d, r8d
0001e 41 0f 9f c0 setg r8b

; 1713 : for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
00022 85 d2 test edx, edx
00024 7e 0e jle SHORT $LN2@Baz
00026 8b ca mov ecx, edx
$LL4@Baz:

; 1715 : if ( need_update )
00028 45 84 c0 test r8b, r8b
0002b 74 02 je SHORT $LN3@Baz
0002d ff c0 inc eax
$LN3@Baz:

; 1713 : for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
0002f 48 ff c9 dec rcx
00032 75 f4 jne SHORT $LL4@Baz
$LN2@Baz:

; 1720 : return (value);
```

:(

```
int
Foo::Bar( int count )
{
    int value = 0;
    bool need_update = m_NeedParentUpdate;
    if ( need_update )
    {
        for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
        {
            value++;
        }
    }
    return (value);
}
```

```
int
Foo::Baz( int count )
{
    int value = 0;
    bool need_update = Bar(count) > 0;
    if ( need_update )
    {
        for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
        {
            value++;
        }
    }
    return (value);
}
```

#### (4) Ghost reads and writes

Don't re-read member values or re-call functions when you *already* have the data.

Hoist all loop-invariant reads and branches. Even super-obvious ones that should already be in registers.

```

?Baz@Foo@@QEAAHH@Z PROC                ; Foo::Baz, COMDAT

; 1711 :   int  value      = 0;

      00000 33 c0          xor    eax, eax

; 1698 :   if ( need_update )

      00002 38 01          cmp    BYTE PTR [rcx], al
      00004 74 07          je    SHORT $LN3@Baz

; 1699 :   {
; 1700 :     for (int i=0;i<count;i++)

      00006 85 d2          test   edx, edx
      00008 7e 03          jle   SHORT $LN3@Baz

; 1712 :   bool need_update = Bar(count) > 0;
; 1713 :   if ( need_update )

      0000a 0f 4f c2          cmovg  eax, edx
$LN3@Baz:

; 1714 :   {
; 1715 :     for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
; 1716 :     {
; 1717 :       value++;
; 1718 :     }
; 1719 :   }
; 1720 :   return (value);
; 1721 : }

      0000d c3          ret    0
?Baz@Foo@@QEAAHH@Z ENDP                ; Foo::Baz
-----

```



:)





```
?Baz@Foo@@QEAAHH@Z PROC                ; Foo::Baz, COMDAT

; 1711 :  int value      = 0;

00000 33 c0      xor     eax, eax

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$LN3@Baz.

; 1714 :  {
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; 1717 :  value++;
; 1718 :  }
; 1719 :  }
; 1720 :  return (value);
; 1721 :  }

0000d c3      ret     0
?Baz@Foo@@QEAAHH@Z ENDP                ; Foo::Baz
```

:)

A bit of unnecessary branching, but more-or-less equivalent.

```
int
Foo::Bar( int count )
{
    int value = 0;
    bool need_update = m_NeedParentUpdate;
    if ( need_update )
    {
        for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
        {
            value++;
        }
    }
    return (value);
}
```

```
int
Foo::Baz( int count )
{
    int value = 0;
    bool need_update = Bar(count) > 0;
    if ( need_update )
    {
        for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
        {
            value++;
        }
    }
    return (value);
}
```

#### (4) Ghost reads and writes

Don't re-read member values or re-call functions when you *already* have the data.

Hoist all loop-invariant reads and branches. Even super-obvious ones that should already be in registers.

Applies to any member fields especially.  
(Not particular to bools)

### (3) Extremely low information density

```
void
Foo::Update()
{
    float choose    = RandFloat();
    bool  is_spawn  = (choose < m_SpawnChance);
    if (is_spawn)
    {
        Spawn();
        m_SpawnChance = 0.0f;
    }
    else
    {
        m_SpawnChance += kFooSpawnChanceIncrease;
    }
}
```

### (3) Extremely low information density

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void
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}
```

What is the information density for is\_spawn over time?

### (3) Extremely low information density

```
void
Foo::Update()
{
    float choose = RandFloat();
    bool is_spawn = (choose < m_SpawnChance);
    printf("%d", is_spawn?1:0);
    if (is_spawn)
    {
        Spawn();
        m_SpawnChance = 0.0f;
    }
    else
    {
        m_SpawnChance += kFooSpawnChanceIncrease;
    }
}
```

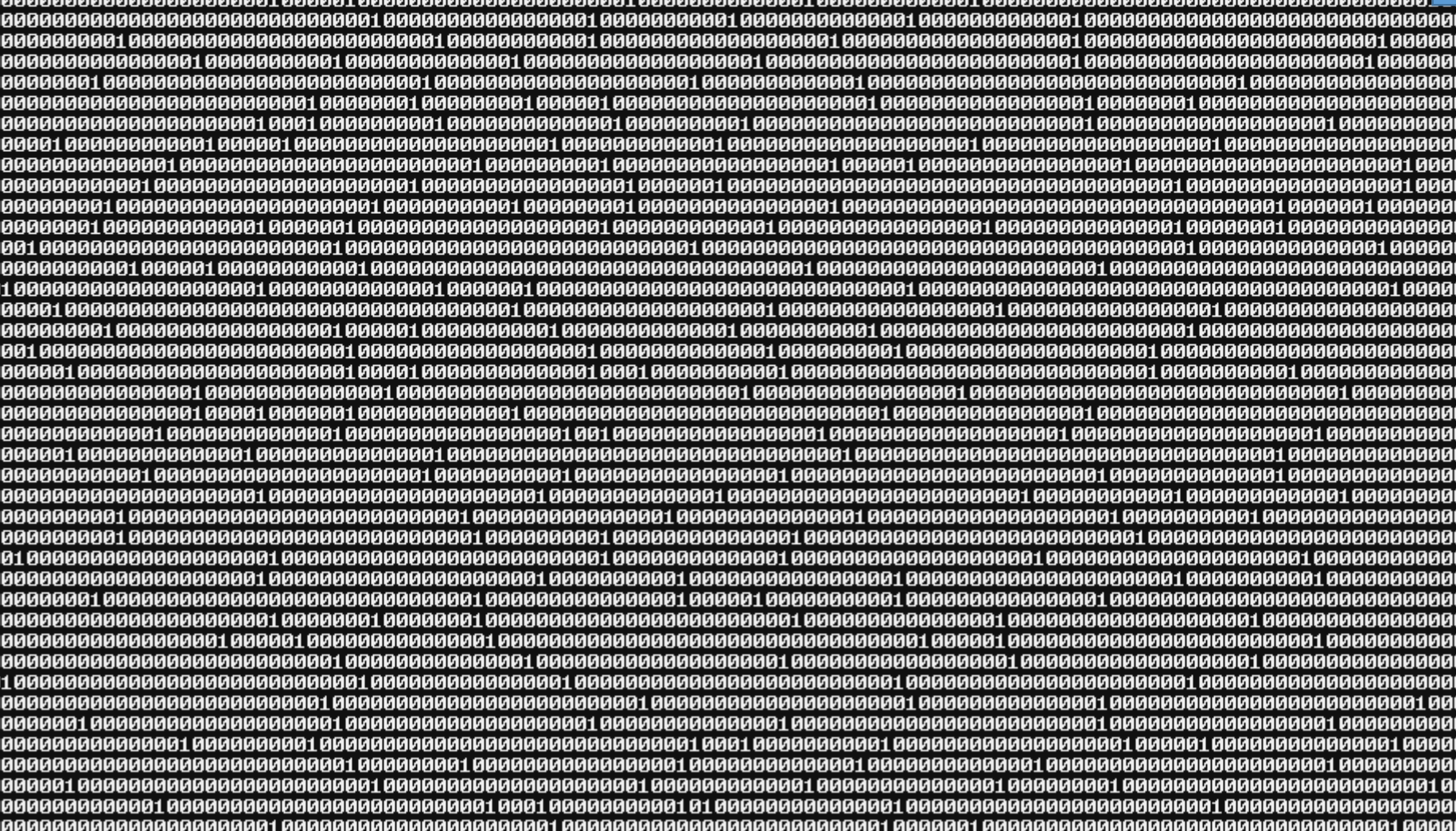
What is the information density for is\_spawn over time?

The easy way.





Zip the output  
10,000 frames  
= 915 bytes  
= (915\*8)/10,000  
= 0.732 bits/frame



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10,000 frames  
= 915 bytes  
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= 0.732 bits/frame

Alternatively,  
Calculate Shannon Entropy:

$$H(X) = - \sum_{i=1}^n p(x_i) \log_b p(x_i)$$



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    }
}
```

What does that tell us?

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```

What does that tell us?

Figure (~2 L2 misses each frame ) x 10,000

If each cache line = 64b,

128b x 10,000 = 1,280,000 bytes

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Figure (~2 L2 misses each frame ) x 10,000

If each cache line = 64b,

128b x 10,000 = 1,280,000 bytes

If avg information content = 0.732bits/frame

X 10,000 = 7320 bits

/ 8 = 915 bytes

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What does that tell us?

Figure (~2 L2 misses each frame ) x 10,000

If each cache line = 64b,

128b x 10,000 = 1,280,000 bytes

If avg information content = 0.732bits/frame

X 10,000 = 7320 bits

/ 8 = 915 bytes

Percentage waste (Noise::Signal) =

$(1,280,000 - 915) / 1,280,000$

**0.99928515625**

What're the alternatives?

(1) Per-frame...

(1) Per-frame... (decision table)

1 of 512 ( $8 \times 64$ ) bits used...



(1) Per-frame... (decision table)

1 of 512 ( $8 \times 64$ ) bits used...



(a) Make same decision x 512



(1) Per-frame... (decision table)

1 of 512 ( $8 \times 64$ ) bits used...



(a) Make same decision x 512

(b) Combine with other reads / xforms

(1) Per-frame... (decision table)

1 of 512 (8\*64) bits used...



(a) Make same decision x 512

(b) Combine with other reads / xforms

Generally simplest.

- But things cannot exist in abstract bubble.
- Will require context.

(2) Over-frames...

(2) Over-frames...

i.e. Only read when needed



Let's review some code...

default ▾



ogre / OgreMain / src / OgreNode.cpp



569ec69 2013-10-15 ▾

Full commit

```
1  /*
2  -----
3  This source file is part of OGRE
4  (Object-oriented Graphics Rendering Engine)
5  For the latest info, see http://www.ogre3d.org/
6
7  Copyright (c) 2000-2013 Torus Knot Software Ltd
8
```



**Matias N. Goldberg**

@matiasgoldberg FOLLOWS YOU

Geek, Programmer, Ogre3D dev, Accountant, somewhat of an artist.  
Oh and... I make games!

Argentina · yosoygames.com.ar

Mike Acton reviewed the 1.9 version. Perhaps it would've been more interesting to see a review of the **2.0 file** which has been refactored to better fit Data Oriented Design principles (and I'm sure there are things I wrote to criticize). Many of the things he criticizes of 1.9 have been fixed. Nevertheless there are things we can learn. Note that if he weren't right, then it would be hard to explain why there was a **5x performance increase** between 1.9 and 2.0.

<http://yosoygames.com.ar/wp/2013/11/on-mike-actons-review-of-ogrenode-cpp/>



```
45 namespace Ogre {
46
47     NameGenerator Node::msNameGenerator("Unnamed_");
48     Node::QueuedUpdates Node::msQueuedUpdates;
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50     Node::Node()
51         :mParent(0),
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53         mNeedChildUpdate(false),
54         mParentNotified(false),
55         mQueuedForUpdate(false),
56         mOrientation(Quaternion::IDENTITY),
57         mPosition(Vector3::ZERO),
58         mScale(Vector3::UNIT_SCALE),
59         mInheritOrientation(true),
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70     {
71         // Generate a name
72         mName = msNameGenerator.generate();
73
74         needUpdate();
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76     }
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```

(1) Can't re-arrange memory (much)

Limited by ABI

Can't limit unused reads

Extra padding

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```

(2) Booleans and last-minute decision making

Are we done with the constructor?

(5) Over-generalization

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Complex constructors tend to imply that...

- Reads are unmanaged (one at a time...)

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  - Unmanaged icache (i.e. virtuals)  
=> unmanaged reads/writes

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Complex constructors tend to imply that...

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  - => unmanaged reads/writes
- Unnecessarily complex state machines (back to bools)
  - E.g.  $2^7$  states



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  - E.g.  $2^7$  states

Rule of thumb:

Store each state type separately  
Store same states together  
(No state value needed)

Are we done with the constructor?

(5) Over-generalization

(6) Undefined or under-defined constraints

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(6) Undefined or under-defined constraints

Imply more (wasted) reads because pretending you don't know what it could be.

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55         mQueuedForUpdate(false),
56         mOrientation(Quaternion::IDENTITY),
57         mPosition(Vector3::ZERO),
58         mScale(Vector3::UNIT_SCALE),
59         mInheritOrientation(true),
60         mInheritScale(true),
61         mDerivedOrientation(Quaternion::IDENTITY),
62         mDerivedPosition(Vector3::ZERO),
63         mDerivedScale(Vector3::UNIT_SCALE),
64         mInitialPosition(Vector3::ZERO),
65         mInitialOrientation(Quaternion::IDENTITY),
66         mInitialScale(Vector3::UNIT_SCALE),
67         mCachedTransformOutOfDate(true),
68         mListener(0),
69         mDebug(0)
70     {
71         // Generate a name
72         mName = msNameGenerator.generate();
73
74         needUpdate();
75     }
76 }
```

Imply more (wasted) reads because pretending you don't know what it could be.

e.g. Strings, generally. Filenames, in particular.

Are we done with the constructor?

(5) Over-generalization

(6) Undefined or under-defined constraints

Imply more (wasted) reads because pretending you don't know what it could be.

e.g. Strings, generally. Filenames, in particular.

Rule of thumb:

The best code is code that doesn't need to exist.

Do it offline. Do it once.

e.g. precompiled string hashes

```
45 namespace Ogre {
46
47     NameGenerator Node::msNameGenerator("Unnamed_");
48     Node::QueuedUpdates Node::msQueuedUpdates;
49     //-----
50     Node::Node()
51         :mParent(0),
52         mNeedParentUpdate(false),
53         mNeedChildUpdate(false),
54         mParentNotified(false),
55         mQueuedForUpdate(false),
56         mOrientation(Quaternion::IDENTITY),
57         mPosition(Vector3::ZERO),
58         mScale(Vector3::UNIT_SCALE),
59         mInheritOrientation(true),
60         mInheritScale(true),
61         mDerivedOrientation(Quaternion::IDENTITY),
62         mDerivedPosition(Vector3::ZERO),
63         mDerivedScale(Vector3::UNIT_SCALE),
64         mInitialPosition(Vector3::ZERO),
65         mInitialOrientation(Quaternion::IDENTITY),
66         mInitialScale(Vector3::UNIT_SCALE),
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```

Are we done with the constructor?

(5) Over-generalization

(6) Undefined or under-defined constraints

(7) Over-solving (computing too much)

Compiler doesn't have enough context to know how to simplify your problems for you.

```
45 namespace Ogre {
46
47     NameGenerator Node::msNameGenerator("Unnamed_");
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58         mScale(Vector3::UNIT_SCALE),
59         mInheritOrientation(true),
60         mInheritScale(true),
61         mDerivedOrientation(Quaternion::IDENTITY),
62         mDerivedPosition(Vector3::ZERO),
63         mDerivedScale(Vector3::UNIT_SCALE),
64         mInitialPosition(Vector3::ZERO),
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56         mOrientation(Quaternion::IDENTITY),
57         mPosition(Vector3::ZERO),
58         mScale(Vector3::UNIT_SCALE),
59         mInheritOrientation(true),
60         mInheritScale(true),
61         mDerivedOrientation(Quaternion::IDENTITY),
62         mDerivedPosition(Vector3::ZERO),
63         mDerivedScale(Vector3::UNIT_SCALE),
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```

Compiler doesn't have enough context to know how to simplify your problems for you.

But you can make simple tools that do...

- E.g. Premultiply matrices

Are we done with the constructor?

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59         mInheritOrientation(true),
60         mInheritScale(true),
61         mDerivedOrientation(Quaternion::IDENTITY),
62         mDerivedPosition(Vector3::ZERO),
63         mDerivedScale(Vector3::UNIT_SCALE),
64         mInitialPosition(Vector3::ZERO),
65         mInitialOrientation(Quaternion::IDENTITY),
66         mInitialScale(Vector3::UNIT_SCALE),
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```

Compiler doesn't have enough context to know how to simplify your problems for you.

But you can make simple tools that do...

- E.g. Premultiply matrices

Work with the (actual) data you have.

- E.g. Sparse or affine matrices



How do we approach “fixing”  
it?

```
439 //-----  
440 void Node::translate(const Vector3& d, TransformSpace relativeTo)  
441 {  
442     switch(relativeTo)  
443     {  
444     case TS_LOCAL:  
445         // position is relative to parent so transform downwards  
446         mPosition += mOrientation * d;  
447         break;  
448     case TS_WORLD:  
449         // position is relative to parent so transform upwards  
450         if (mParent)  
451         {  
452             mPosition += (mParent->_getDerivedOrientation().Inverse() * d)  
453                 / mParent->_getDerivedScale();  
454         }  
455         else  
456         {  
457             mPosition += d;  
458         }  
459         break;  
460     case TS_PARENT:  
461         mPosition += d;  
462         break;  
463     }  
464     needUpdate();  
465 }  
466
```

## (2) Booleans and last-minute decision making

```
439 //-----  
440 void Node::translate(const Vector3& d, TransformSpace relativeTo)  
441 {  
442     switch(relativeTo)  
443     {  
444     case TS_LOCAL:  
445         // position is relative to parent so transform downwards  
446         mPosition += mOrientation * d;  
447         break;  
448     case TS_WORLD:  
449         // position is relative to parent so transform upwards  
450         if (mParent)  
451         {  
452             mPosition += (mParent->_getDerivedOrientation().Inverse() * d)  
453                 / mParent->_getDerivedScale();  
454         }  
455         else  
456         {  
457             mPosition += d;  
458         }  
459         break;  
460     case TS_PARENT:  
461         mPosition += d;  
462         break;  
463     }  
464     needUpdate();  
465 }  
466 }
```

```

void
NodesTranslateLocal( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3& d )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        Node* node = &nodes[i];
        node->m_Position += node->m_Orientation * d;
    }
}

void
NodesTranslateWorld( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3& d )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        Node* node = &nodes[i];
        if ( node->m_Parent )
        {
            node->m_Position += ( node->m_Parent->_getDerivedOrientation().Inverse() * d );
            / node->m_Parent->_getDerivedScale();
        }
        else
        {
            node->m_Position += d;
        }
    }
}

void
NodesTranslateParent( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3& d )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        Node* node = &nodes[i];
        node->m_Position += d;
    }
}

```

Step 1: organize

Separate states so you can reason about them

```

void
NodesTranslateLocal( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3& d )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        Node* node = &nodes[i];
        node->m_Position += node->m_Orientation * d;
    }
}

```

Step 1: organize  
Separate states so you can reason about them

```

void
NodesTranslateWorld( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3& d )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        Node* node = &nodes[i];
        if ( node->m_Parent )
        {
            node->m_Position += ( node->m_Parent->_getDerivedOrientation().Inverse() * d );
            / node->m_Parent->_getDerivedScale();
        }
        else
        {
            node->m_Position += d;
        }
    }
}

```

Step 2: triage  
What are the relative values of each case  
i.e.  $p(\text{call}) * \text{count}$

```

void
NodesTranslateParent( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3& d )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        Node* node = &nodes[i];
        node->m_Position += d;
    }
}

```

```
void  
NodesTranslateLocalEach( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3* t )
```

```
{  
  for (int i=0;i<count;i++)  
  {  
    Node* node = &nodes[i];  
    Vec3& d = *t[i];  
    node->m_Position += node->m_Orientation * d;  
  }  
}
```

Step 1: organize

Separate states so you can reason about them

```
void  
NodesTranslateWorldEach( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3* t )
```

```
{  
  for (int i=0;i<count;i++)  
  {  
    Node* node = &nodes[i];  
    Vec3& d = *t[i];  
    if ( node->m_Parent )  
    {  
      node->m_Position += ( node->m_Parent->_getDerivedOrientation().Inverse() * d );  
      / node->m_Parent->_getDerivedScale();  
    }  
    else  
    {  
      node->m_Position += d;  
    }  
  }  
}
```

Step 2: triage

What are the relative values of each case  
i.e. p(call) \* count

```
void  
NodesTranslateParentEach( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3* t )
```

```
{  
  for (int i=0;i<count;i++)  
  {  
    Node* node = &nodes[i];  
    Vec3& d = *t[i];  
    node->m_Position += d;  
  }  
}
```

e.g. in-game vs. in-editor

```
void
NodesTranslateLocal( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3& d )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        Node* node = &nodes[i];
        node->m_Position += node->m_Orientation * d;
    }
}
```

Step 1: organize

Separate states so you can reason about them

```
void
NodesTranslateWorld( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3& d )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        Node* node = &nodes[i];
        if ( node->m_Parent )
        {
            node->m_Position += ( node->m_Parent->_getDerivedOrientation().Inverse() * d );
            / node->m_Parent->_getDerivedScale();
        }
        else
        {
            node->m_Position += d;
        }
    }
}
```

Step 2: triage

What are the relative values of each case  
i.e.  $p(\text{call}) * \text{count}$

```
void
NodesTranslateParent( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3& d )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        Node* node = &nodes[i];
        node->m_Position += d;
    }
}
```

Step 3: reduce waste

```
void  
NodesTranslateLocal( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3& d )  
{  
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)  
    {  
        node->m_Position += m_Orientation * d;  
    }  
}
```

(back of the envelope read cost)

~200 cycles x 2 x count



```
void
NodesTranslateLocal( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3& d )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        node->m_Position += m_Orientation * d;
    }
}
```

(back of the envelope read cost)

~200 cycles x 2 x count

```
struct NodeTranslate
{
    Vec3 m_Position;
    Quat m_Orientation;
};

void
NodesTranslateLocal( NodeTranslate* nodes, int count, const Vector3& d )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        node->m_Position += node->m_Orientation * d;
    }
}
```

~2.28 count per 200 cycles  
= ~88

```
void
NodesTranslateLocal( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3& d )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        node->m_Position += m_Orientation * d;
    }
}
```


(back of the envelope read cost)

~200 cycles x 2 x count

```
struct NodeTranslate
{
    Vec3 m_Position;
    Quat m_Orientation;
};

void
NodesTranslateLocal( NodeTranslate* nodes, int count, const Vector3& d )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        node->m_Position += node->m_Orientation * d;
    }
}
```

~2.28 count per 200 cycles  
= ~88



$$t = 2 * \text{cross}(q.\text{xyz}, v)$$
$$v' = v + q.w * t + \text{cross}(q.\text{xyz}, t)$$

```
void
NodesTranslateLocal( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3& d )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        node->m_Position += m_Orientation * d;
    }
}
```

(back of the envelope read cost)

~200 cycles x 2 x count

```
struct NodeTranslate
{
    Vec3 m_Position;
    Quat m_Orientation;
};

void
NodesTranslateLocal( NodeTranslate* nodes, int count, const Vector3& d )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        node->m_Position += node->m_Orientation * d;
    }
}
```

~2.28 count per 200 cycles  
= ~88

(close enough to dig in and  
measure)

$t = 2 * \text{cross}(q.\text{xyz}, v)$   
 $v' = v + q.w * t + \text{cross}(q.\text{xyz}, t)$

Apply the same steps recursively...

```
void
NodesTranslateWorldEach( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3* t )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        Node* node = &nodes[i];
        Vec3& d = t[i];
        if ( node->m_Parent )
        {
            node->m_Position += ( node->m_Parent->_getDerivedOrientation().Inverse() * d );
                               / node->m_Parent->_getDerivedScale();
        }
        else
        {
            node->m_Position += d;
        }
    }
}
```

Apply the same steps recursively...

```
void
NodesTranslateWorldEach( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3* t )
{
  for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
  {
    Node* node = &nodes[i];
    Vec3& d = t[i];
    if ( node->m_Parent )
    {
      node->m_Position += ( node->m_Parent->_getDerivedOrientation().Inverse() * d );
                        / node->m_Parent->_getDerivedScale();
    }
    else
    {
      node->m_Position += d;
    }
  }
}
```

Step 1: organize  
Separate states so you can reason about them

Root or not; Calling function with context can distinguish

Apply the same steps recursively...

```
void
NodesTranslateWorldEach( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3* t )
{
  for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
  {
    Node* node = &nodes[i];
    Vec3& d = t[i];
    if ( node->m_Parent )
    {
      node->m_Position += ( node->m_Parent->_getDerivedOrientation().Inverse() * d );
                        / node->m_Parent->_getDerivedScale();
    }
    else
    {
      node->m_Position += d;
    }
  }
}
```

Step 1: organize  
Separate states so you can reason about them

Root or not; Calling function with context can distinguish

Apply the same steps recursively...

```
void
NodesTranslateWorldEachRoot( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3* t )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        Node* node = &nodes[i];
        Vec3& d     = t[i];
        node->m_Position += d;
    }
}
```

Step 1: organize

Separate states so you can reason about them

```
void
NodesTranslateWorldEachWithParent( Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3* t )
{
    for (int i=0;i<count;i++)
    {
        Node* node = &nodes[i];
        Vec3& d     = t[i];
        node->m_Position += ( node->m_Parent->_getDerivedOrientation().Inverse() * d );
                          / node->m_Parent->_getDerivedScale();
    }
}
```

Apply the same steps recursively...

```
void
NodesTranslateWorldEachRoot< Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3* t >
{
    for <int i=0;i<count;i++>
    {
        Node* node = &nodes[i];
        Vec3& d    = t[i];
        node->m_Position += d;
    }
}

void
NodesTranslateWorldEachWithParent< Node* nodes, int count, const Vector3* t >
{
    for <int i=0;i<count;i++>
    {
        Node* node = &nodes[i];
        Vec3& d    = t[i];
        node->m_Position += ( node->m_Parent->_getDerivedOrientation().Inverse() * d );
        / node->m_Parent->_getDerivedScale();
    }
}
```

Step 1: organize

Separate states so you can reason about them

Can't reason well about the cost from...



```
// NodeParent
//   Quat      DerivedOrientationInverse
//   float     DerivedScale
//   uint32_t  ChildCount
//   Vector3   ChildPosition[]
```

Step 1: organize

Separate states so you can reason about them

```
void
NodesTranslateWorldEachWithParent( char* nodes, int parentCount, const Vector3* t )
{
    int k=0;
    for (int i=0;i<parentCount;i++)
    {
        Quat*      derivedOrientationInverse = (Quat*)nodes;
        nodes += sizeof(Quat);

        float      derivedScale              = *(float*)nodes;
        nodes += sizeof(float);

        uint32_t childCount                  = *(uint32_t*)nodes;
        nodes += sizeof(uint32_t)

        for (int j=0;j<childCount;j++,k++)
        {
            Vector3& d                    = t[k];
            Vector3& childPosition = *(Vector3*)nodes;
            nodes += sizeof(Vector3);

            childPosition += (derivedOrientationInverse * d) / derivedScale;
        }
    }
}
```

```

// NodeParent
//   Quat      DerivedOrientationInverse
//   float     DerivedScale
//   uint32_t  ChildCount
//   Vector3   ChildPosition[]

void
NodesTranslateWorldEachWithParent( char* nodes, int parentCount, const Vector3* t )
{
  int k=0;
  for (int i=0;i<parentCount;i++)
  {
    Quat*      derivedOrientationInverse = (Quat*)nodes;
    nodes += sizeof(Quat);

    float      derivedScale              = *(float*)nodes;
    nodes += sizeof(float);

    uint32_t   childCount                = *(uint32_t*)nodes;
    nodes += sizeof(uint32_t)

    for (int j=0;j<childCount;j++,k++)
    {
      Vector3& d              = t[k];
      Vector3& childPosition = *(Vector3*)nodes;
      nodes += sizeof(Vector3);

      childPosition += (derivedOrientationInverse * d) / derivedScale;
    }
  }
}

```

Step 1: organize

Separate states so you can reason about them

Step 2: triage

What are the relative values of each case  
i.e.  $p(\text{call}) * \text{count}$

Step 3: reduce waste

Good News:  
Most problems are  
easy to see.

Good News:

Side-effect of solving the 90%  
well, compiler can solve the 10%  
better.

Good News:  
Organized data makes  
maintenance, debugging and  
concurrency much easier

Bad News:

Good programming is hard.

Bad programming is easy.



**Christer Ericson**

@ChristerEricson FOLLOWS YOU

Director of Technology @ Sony Santa Monica. Author of Real-Time Collision Detection. This is my personal account with personal opinions only!

Los Angeles · [realtimecollisiondetection.net/blog/](http://realtimecollisiondetection.net/blog/)

While we're on the subject...

DESIGN PATTERNS:

“ Design patterns are spoonfeed material for brainless programmers incapable of independent thought, who will be resolved to producing code as mediocre as the design patterns they use to create it.

<http://realtimecollisiondetection.net/blog/?p=81>

<http://realtimecollisiondetection.net/blog/?p=44>

## TRUTHS

- ① HARDWARE IS THE PLATFORM
- ② DESIGN AROUND THE DATA,  
NOT AN IDEALIZED WORLD
- ③ YOUR MAIN RESPONSIBILITY IS  
TO TRANSFORM DATA, SOLVE  
THAT FIRST, NOT THE  
(CODE DESIGN.



THE END!