

Elements of Web Server and concurrency (in go)

30 June 2016

Valentin Deleplace
Developer

Warning

Some code will be displayed.

Cross-compilation

Cross-compilation

This is the compilation script of one of our tools **patapon**, run from my linux workstation:

```
env GOOS=darwin GOARCH=amd64 go build -o target/osx64/patapon
env GOOS=windows GOARCH=amd64 go build -o target/win64/patapon.exe
env GOOS=linux GOARCH=amd64 go build -o target/linux64/patapon
```

That's it.

To ship, copy the 3 executables to shared folder.

Executables are statically linked.

First-class functions, and closures

Simple chronometer

```
t := time.Now()
```

```
fetchData()
```

```
duration := time.Since(t)
```

Simple chronometer: with func argument

```
duration := clock(fetchData)
```

```
func clock(f func()) time.Duration {  
    t := time.Now()  
    f()  
    return time.Since(t)  
}
```

Chronometer: time a block of code?

```
t := time.Now()

for _, r := range resources {
    fetch(r)
}

duration := time.Since(t)
```


Wrap code in a closure

```
duration := clock(func() {  
    for _, r := range resources {  
        fetch(r)  
    }  
})
```

Fork/Join

Utility goroutine spawner

```
// RunConcurrent launches funcs,  
// and waits for their completion.  
func RunConcurrent(funcs ...func()) {  
    var wg sync.WaitGroup  
    wg.Add(len(funcs))  
    for _, f := range funcs {  
        f := f  
        go func() {  
            f()  
            wg.Done()  
        }()  
    }  
    wg.Wait()  
}
```

You may often write such code to fit your needs.

Utility goroutine spawner

```
// RunConcurrent launches funcs,  
// and waits for their completion.  
func RunConcurrent(funcs ...func()) {  
    var wg sync.WaitGroup  
    wg.Add(len(funcs))  
    for _, f := range funcs {  
        f := f  
        go func() {  
            f()  
            wg.Done()  
        }()  
    }  
    wg.Wait()  
}
```

Func arguments (variadic)

Utility goroutine spawner

```
// RunConcurrent launches funcs,  
// and waits for their completion.  
func RunConcurrent(funcs ...func()) {  
    var wg sync.WaitGroup  
    wg.Add(len(funcs))  
    for _, f := range funcs {  
        f := f  
        go func() {  
            f()  
            wg.Done()  
        }()  
    }  
    wg.Wait()  
}
```

Use a `sync.WaitGroup` to join at completion

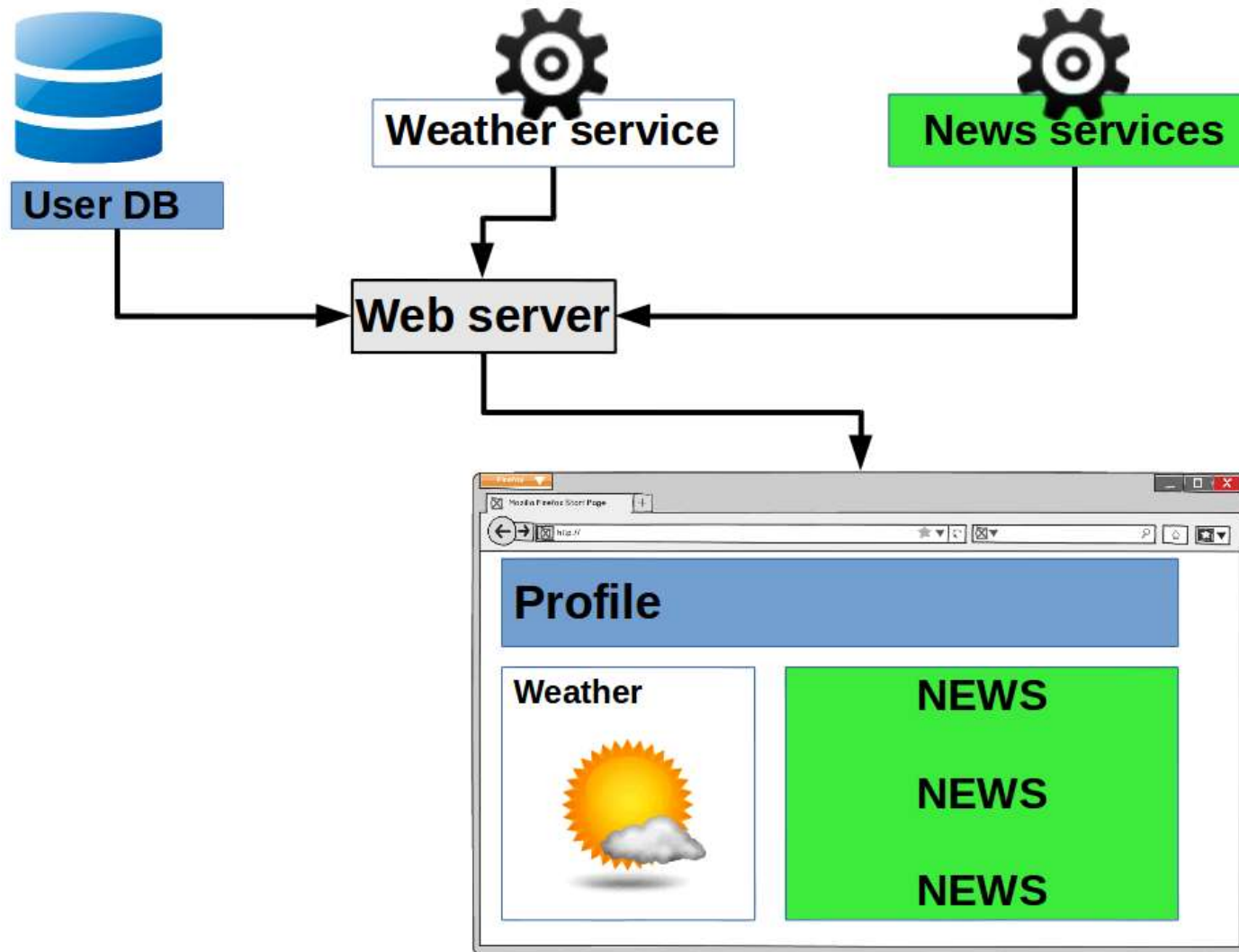
Important: call `wg.Add` *before* spawning the goroutines

Utility goroutine spawner

```
// RunConcurrent launches funcs,  
// and waits for their completion.  
func RunConcurrent(funcs ...func()) {  
    var wg sync.WaitGroup  
    wg.Add(len(funcs))  
    for _, f := range funcs {  
        f := f  
        go func() {  
            f()  
            wg.Done()  
        }()  
    }  
    wg.Wait()  
}
```

Must bind to a new variable at each loop iteration

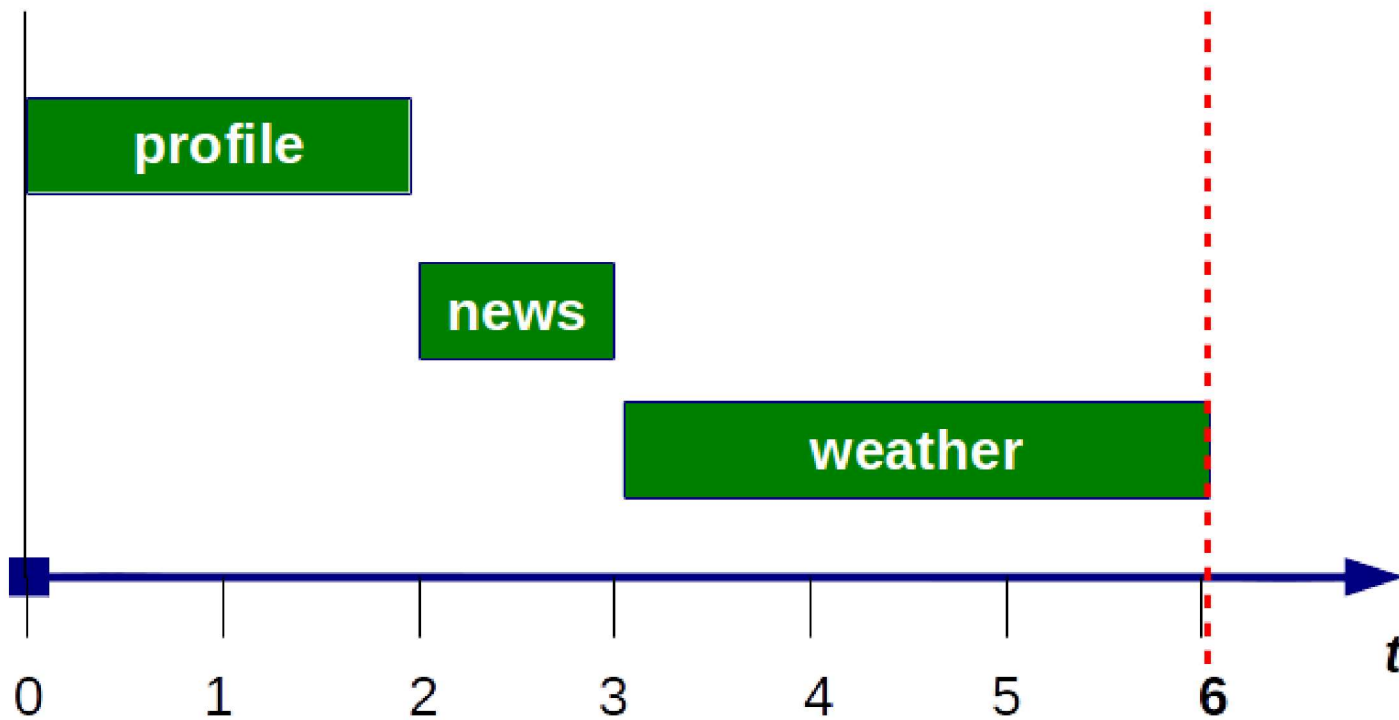
Example: page blocks from data sources



Serial exec

```
profile()  
news()  
weather()
```

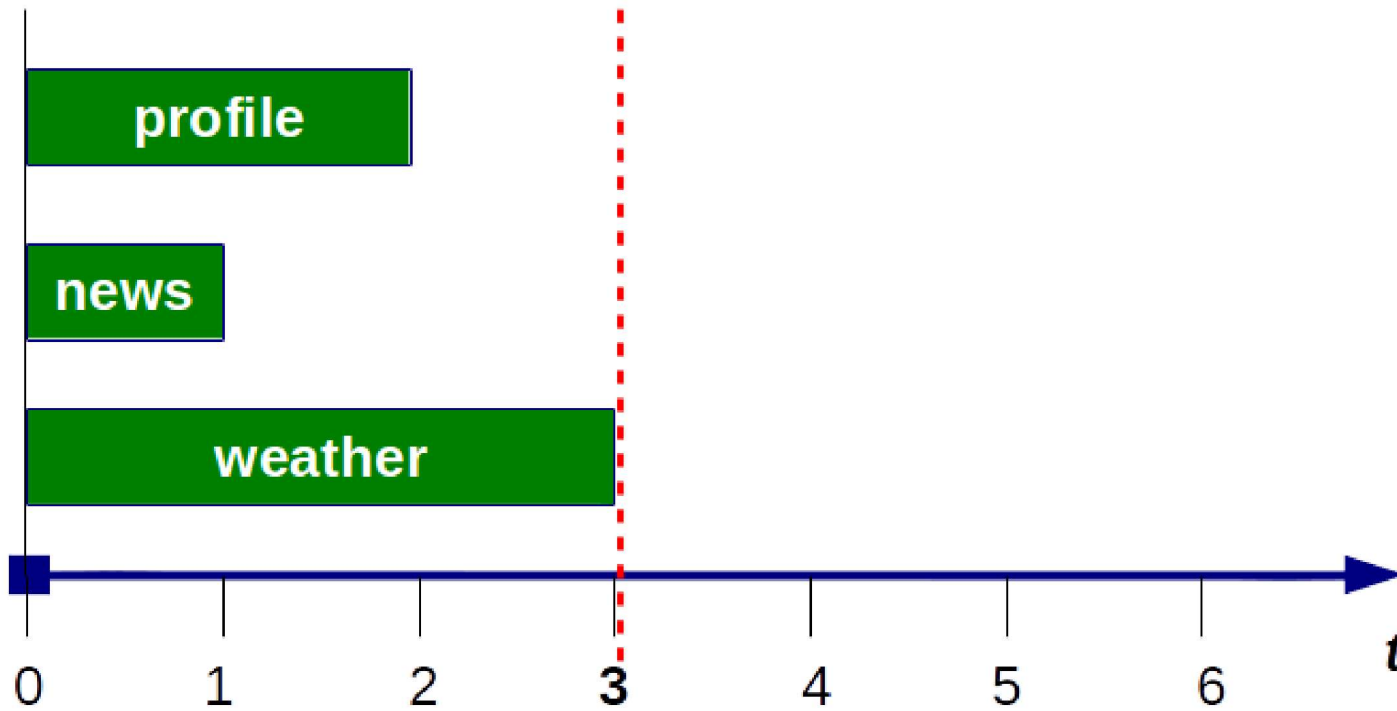
Run



Concurrent exec

```
RunConcurrent(  
  profile,  
  news,  
  weather,  
)
```

Run



It is straightforward and convenient, but be very careful with concurrency!

What if my services don't have the same signature?

```
func profile(username string) error {...}
```

```
func news() {...}
```

```
func weather(city string, day time.Time) {...}
```

Wrap in closures

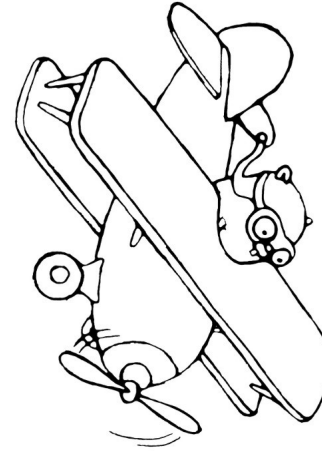
```
RunConcurrent(  
    func() { perr = profile(currentuser) },  
    news,  
    func() { weather(city, time.Now()) },  
)
```

- Closures can **read** variables from outside their body
- Closures can **write** variables from outside their body

Warning

Concurrency and parallelism are **hard** and **subtle**.

They are made easier in go, but there is still plenty of room to shoot self in the foot.



Testing and data races

A simple server : hit counter

```
package main

import "net/http"

func main() {
    http.HandleFunc("/", h)
    http.ListenAndServe(":7070", nil)
}

var count int = 0

func h(w http.ResponseWriter, r *http.Request) {
    count++
}
```

Test the handler concurrently

```
func TestHandler(t *testing.T) {  
    count = 0  
    for i := 0; i < 200; i++ {  
        go h(nil, nil)  
    }  
  
    time.Sleep(3 * time.Second)  
    if count != 200 {  
        t.Errorf("Expected %d hits, got %d", 200, count)  
    }  
}
```

```
go test  
PASS  
ok
```

```
go test  
--- FAIL: TestHandler (3.00s)  
    racy_handler_test.go:16: Expected 200 hits, got 194  
FAIL
```


Use the built-in race detector

```
go test -race

=====
WARNING: DATA RACE
Read by goroutine 8:
  racy_server.go:13 +0x30

Previous write by goroutine 7:
  racy_server.go:13 +0x4c

Goroutine 8 (running) created at:
  racy_handler_test.go:12 +0x86
  testing.tRunner()
    /usr/local/go/src/testing/testing.go:473 +0xdc

Goroutine 7 (finished) created at:
  racy_handler_test.go:12 +0x86
  testing.tRunner()
    /usr/local/go/src/testing/testing.go:473 +0xdc
=====
--- FAIL: TestHandler (3.01s)
racy_handler_test.go:16: Expected 200 hits, got 162
FAIL
```

Test the server concurrently

```
func TestServer(t *testing.T) {
    count = 0
    go main()
    for i := 0; i < 200; i++ {
        go http.Get("http://localhost:7070/")
    }

    time.Sleep(3 * time.Second)
    if count != 200 {
        t.Errorf("Expected %d hits, got %d", 200, count)
    }
}
```

Use -race in production

- if you have many servers, enable race detector on one of them
- or enable it on your server for a few hours

Overhead : measure the performance penalty. It might be acceptable (e.g. +100%, +200%). Find as many concurrency bugs as possible.

Pprof

Pprof

- CPU profiler
- Memory profiler
- Find and visualize bottlenecks

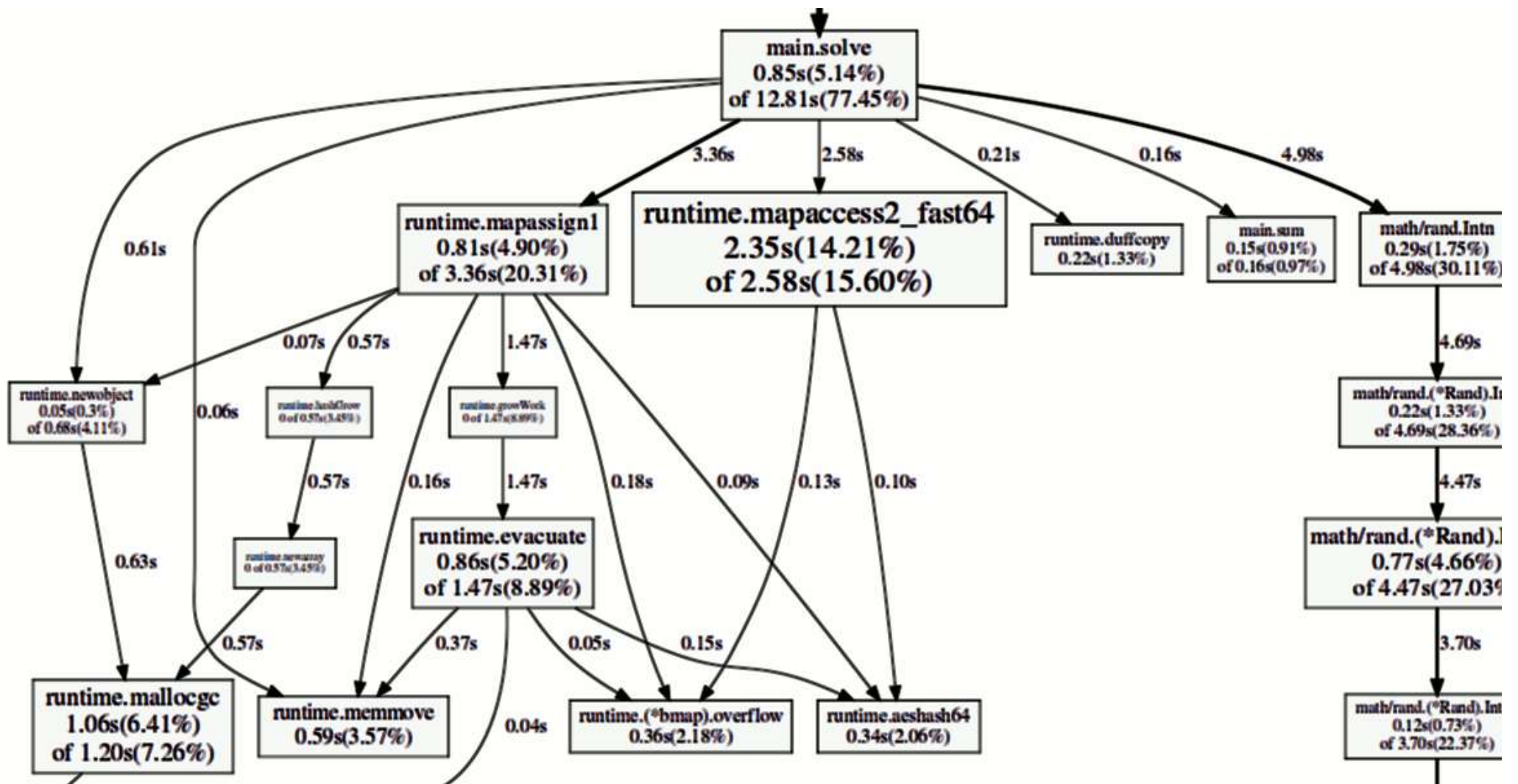
Easy setup:

```
import "github.com/pkg/profile"

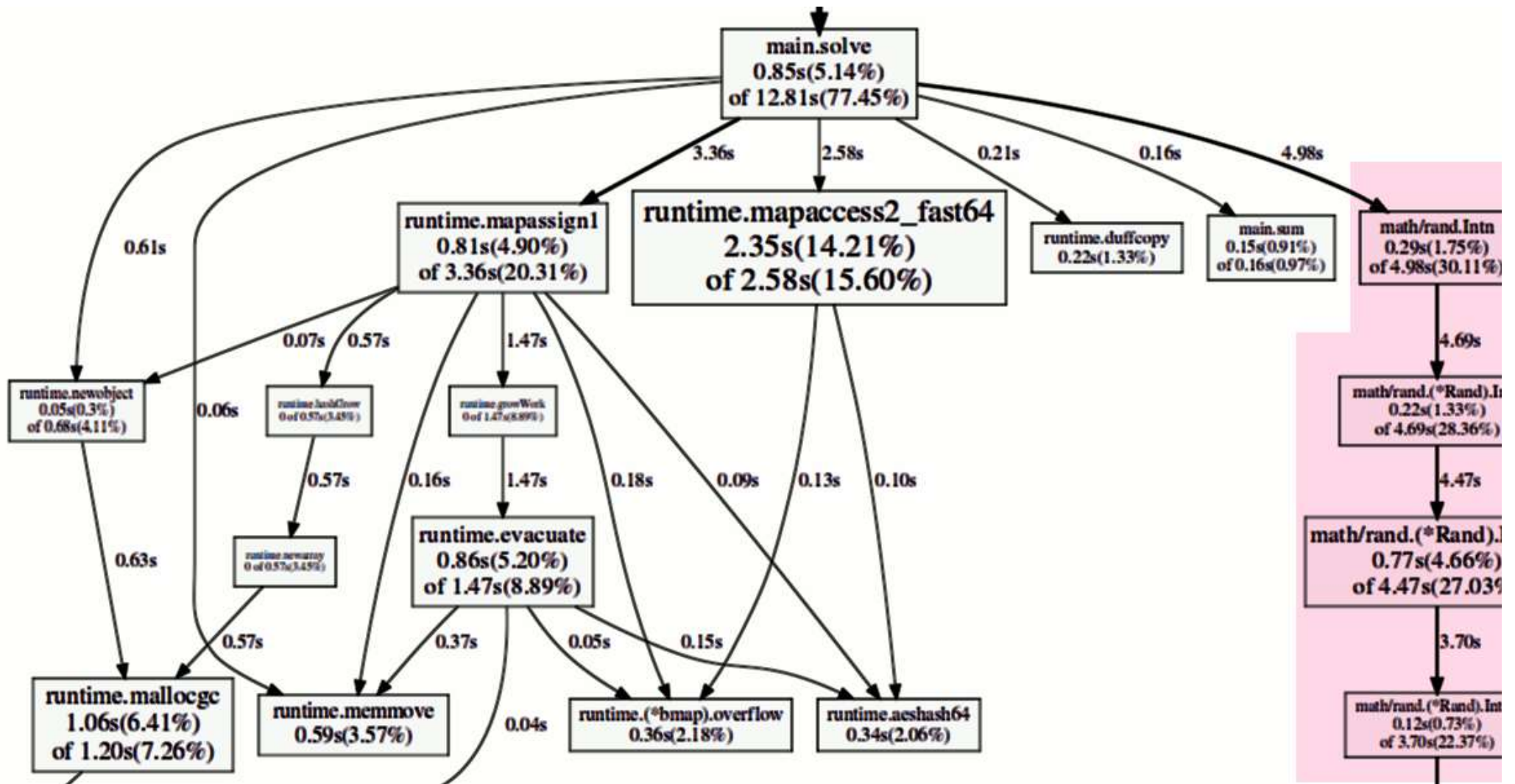
func main() {
    defer profile.Start().Stop()
    ...
}
```

Then inspect the profile data (it's a file).

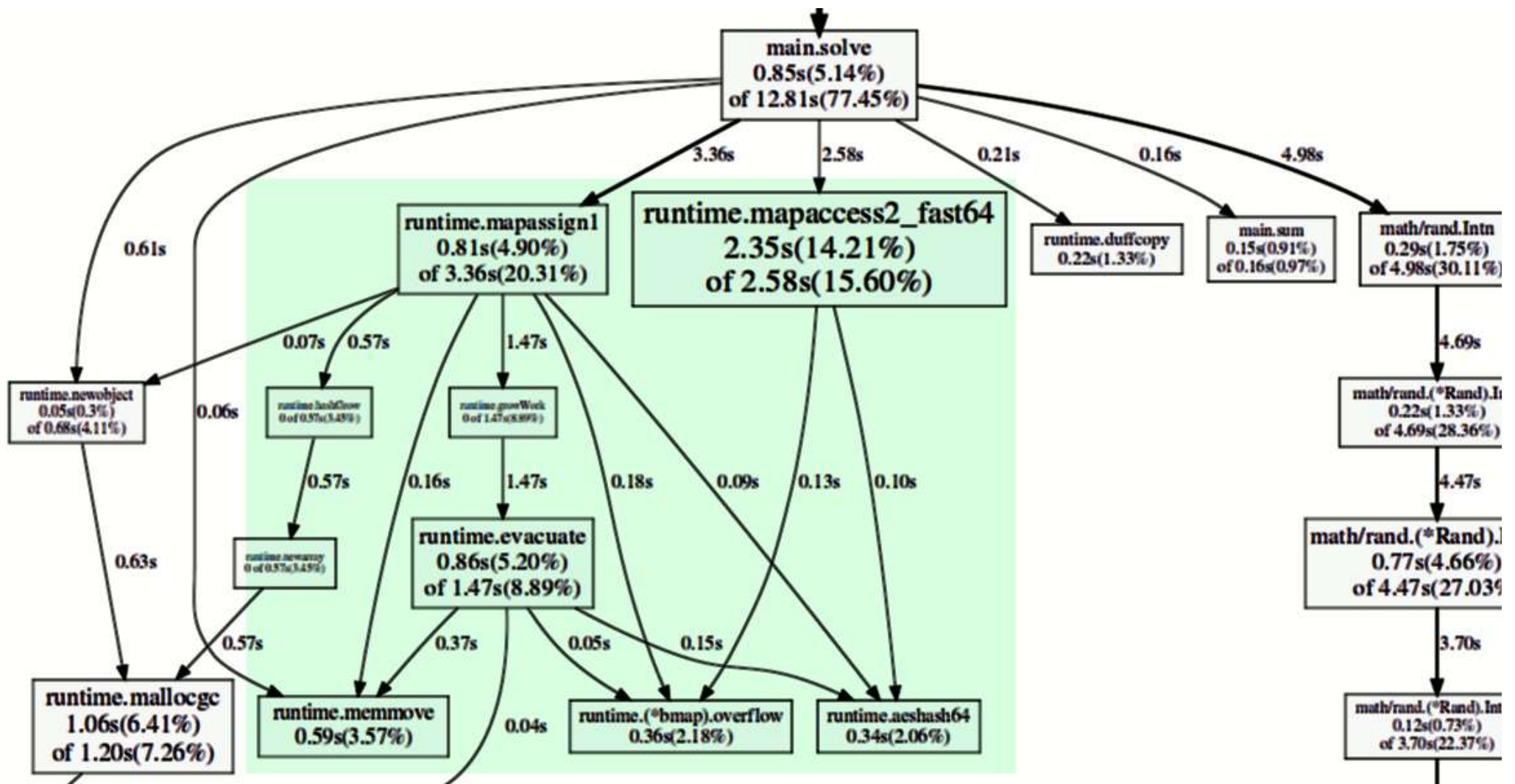
Pprof CPU profile



Pprof CPU profile



Pprof CPU profile



Links : standard library

Package [net/http](https://golang.org/pkg/net/http/) (<https://golang.org/pkg/net/http/>)

very good for a wide range of HTTP server needs

Package [sync](https://golang.org/pkg/sync/) (<https://golang.org/pkg/sync/>)

includes WaitGroup, Mutex, etc.

Package [text/template](https://golang.org/pkg/text/template/) (<https://golang.org/pkg/text/template/>)

Package [html/template](https://golang.org/pkg/html/template/) (<https://golang.org/pkg/html/template/>)

efficient (compiled) and safe templating.

Links : misc

[Go-Traps](http://go-traps.appspot.com/) (http://go-traps.appspot.com/)

[Benign data races: what could possibly go wrong?](https://software.intel.com/en-us/blogs/2013/01/06/benign-data-races-what-could-possibly-go-wrong) (https://software.intel.com/en-us/blogs/2013/01/06/benign-data-races-what-could-possibly-go-wrong)

[Introducing the Go Race Detector](https://blog.golang.org/race-detector) (https://blog.golang.org/race-detector)

[Advanced Go Concurrency Patterns](https://talks.golang.org/2013/advconc.slide) (https://talks.golang.org/2013/advconc.slide)

[High Performance Apps with Go on App Engine](https://talks.golang.org/2013/highperf.slide) (https://talks.golang.org/2013/highperf.slide)

[Program your next server in Go](https://talks.golang.org/2016/applicative.slide) (https://talks.golang.org/2016/applicative.slide)

Thank you

Valentin Deleplace
Developer

