PAPI - Performance API

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Motivation

- Application and functions execution time is easy to measure
  - time
  - gprof
  - valgrind (callgrind)
  - ...
- It is enough to identify bottlenecks, but…
  - Why is is it slow?
  - How does the code behaves?

Motivation

- Efficient algorithms should take into account
  - Cache behaviour
  - Memory and resource contention
  - Floating point efficiency
  - Branch behaviour

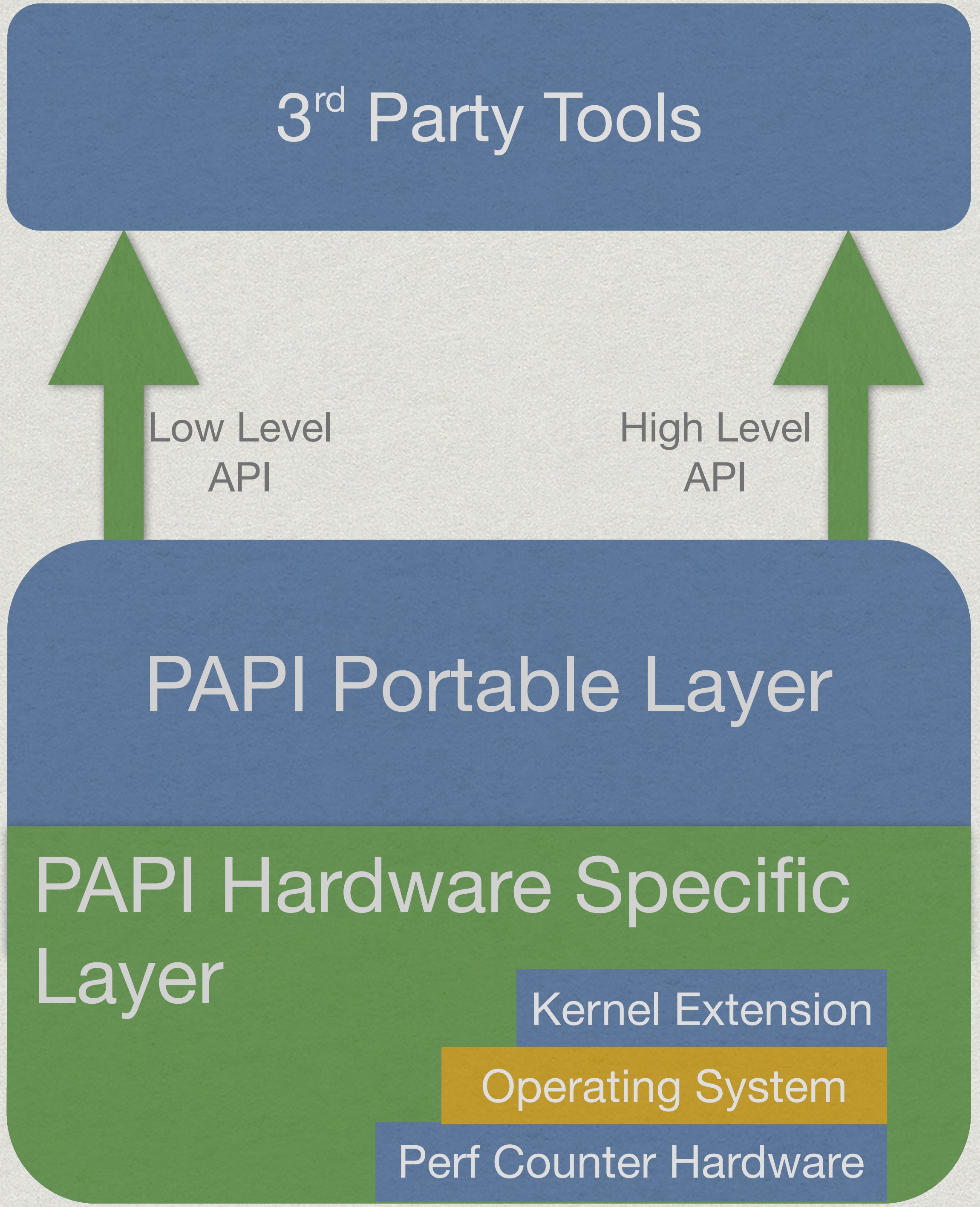
HW Performance Counters

- Hardware designers added specialised registers o measure various aspects of a microprocessor
- Generally, they provide an insight into
  - Timings
  - Cache and branch behaviour
  - Memory access patterns
  - Pipeline behaviour
  - FP performance
  - IPC
  - ...

What is PAPI?

- Interface to interact with performance counters
    - With minimal overhead
    - Portable across several platforms
- Provides utility tools, C, and Fortran API
    - Platform and counters information

PAPI Organisation

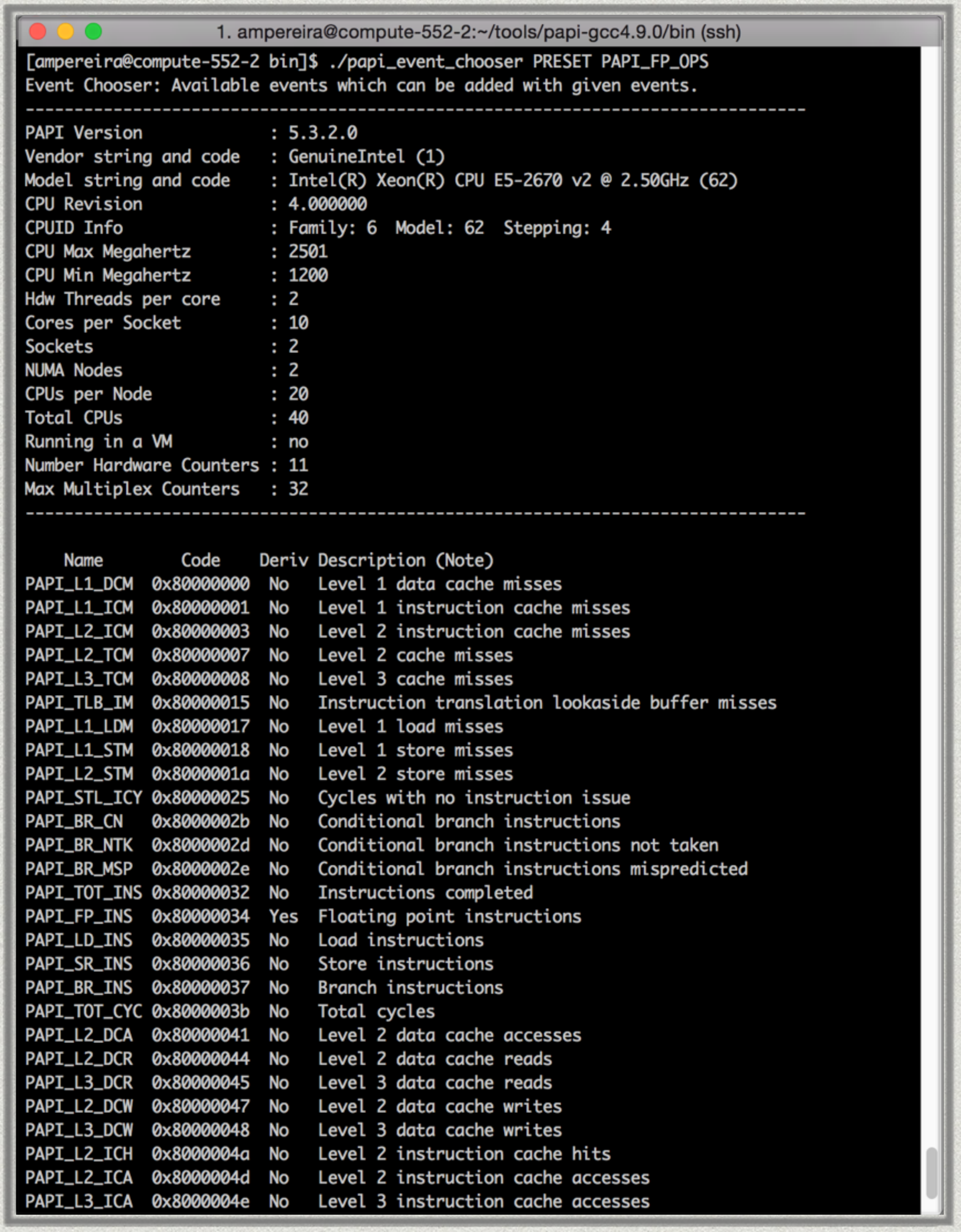


Supported Platforms

- Mainstream platforms (Linux)
  - x86, x86_64 Intel and AMD
  - ARM, MIPS
  - Intel Itanium II
  - IBM PowerPC

Utilities

- papi_avail
- papi_native_avail
- papi_event_chooser



```
[ampereira@compute-552-2 bin]$ ./papi_event_chooser PRESET PAPI_FP_OPS
Event Chooser: Available events which can be added with given events.
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------
PAPI Version             : 5.3.2.0
Vendor string and code   : GenuineIntel (1)
Model string and code    : Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2670 v2 @ 2.50GHz (62)
CPU Revision             : 4.000000
CPUID Info               : Family: 6  Model: 62  Stepping: 4
CPU Max Megahertz        : 2501
CPU Min Megahertz        : 1200
Hdw Threads per core     : 2
Cores per Socket         : 10
Sockets                  : 2
NUMA Nodes               : 2
CPUs per Node            : 20
Total CPUs               : 40
Running in a VM          : no
Number Hardware Counters : 11
Max Multiplex Counters   : 32
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------


    Name        Code    Deriv Description (Note)
PAPI_L1_DCM  0x80000000  No   Level 1 data cache misses
PAPI_L1_ICM  0x80000001  No   Level 1 instruction cache misses
PAPI_L2_ICM  0x80000003  No   Level 2 instruction cache misses
PAPI_L2_TCM  0x80000007  No   Level 2 cache misses
PAPI_L3_TCM  0x80000008  No   Level 3 cache misses
PAPI_TLB_IM  0x80000015  No   Instruction translation lookaside buffer misses
PAPI_L1_LDM  0x80000017  No   Level 1 load misses
PAPI_L1_STM  0x80000018  No   Level 1 store misses
PAPI_L2_STM  0x8000001a  No   Level 2 store misses
PAPI_STL_ICY 0x80000025  No   Cycles with no instruction issue
PAPI_BR_CN   0x8000002b  No   Conditional branch instructions
PAPI_BR_NTK  0x8000002d  No   Conditional branch instructions not taken
PAPI_BR_MSP  0x8000002e  No   Conditional branch instructions mispredicted
PAPI_TOT_INS 0x80000032  No   Instructions completed
PAPI_FP_INS  0x80000034  Yes  Floating point instructions
PAPI_LD_INS  0x80000035  No   Load instructions
PAPI_SR_INS  0x80000036  No   Store instructions
PAPI_BR_INS  0x80000037  No   Branch instructions
PAPI_TOT_CYC 0x8000003b  No   Total cycles
PAPI_L2_DCA  0x80000041  No   Level 2 data cache accesses
PAPI_L2_DCR  0x80000044  No   Level 2 data cache reads
PAPI_L3_DCR  0x80000045  No   Level 3 data cache reads
PAPI_L2_DCW  0x80000047  No   Level 2 data cache writes
PAPI_L3_DCW  0x80000048  No   Level 3 data cache writes
PAPI_L2_ICH  0x8000004a  No   Level 2 instruction cache hits
PAPI_L2_ICA  0x8000004d  No   Level 2 instruction cache accesses
PAPI_L3_ICA  0x8000004e  No   Level 3 instruction cache accesses
```

PAPI Performance Counters

- Preset events
  - Events implemented on all platforms
    - PAPI_TOT_INS
- Native events
  - Platform dependent events
    - L3_CACHE_MISS
- Derived events
  - Preset events that are derived from multiple native events
    - PAPI_L1_TCM may be L1 data misses + L1 instruction misses

PAPI High-level Interface

- Calls the low-level API
- Easier to use
- Enough for coarse grain measurements
  - You will not optimise code based on the amount of L2 TLB flushes per thread…
- For preset events only!

The Basics

- PAPI_start_counters
- PAPI_stop_counters

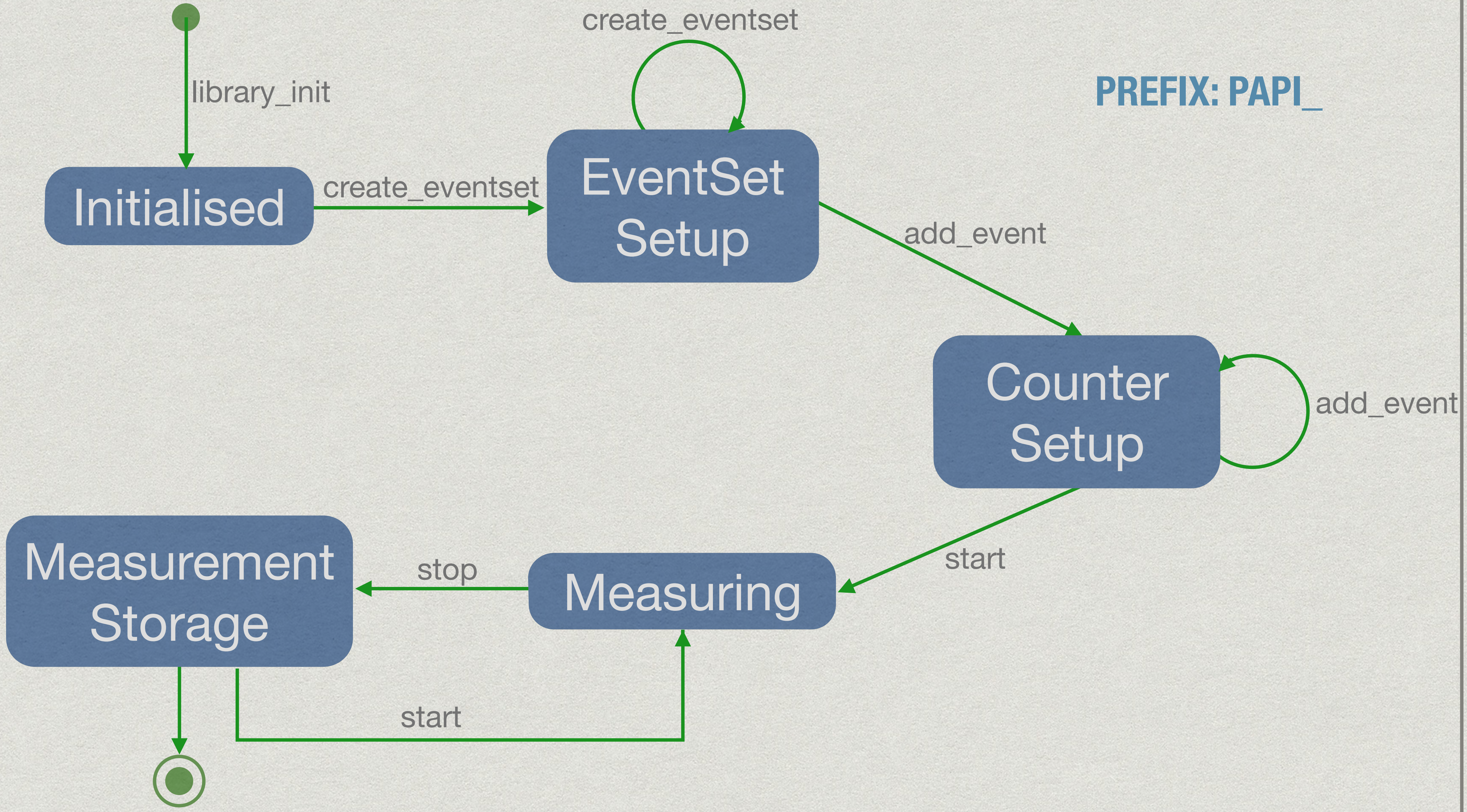
The Basics

```
#include "papi.h”
#define NUM_EVENTS 2
long long values[NUM_EVENTS];
unsigned int Events[NUM_EVENTS]={PAPI_TOT_INS,PAPI_TOT_CYC};
 /* Start the counters */
 PAPI_start_counters((int*)Events,NUM_EVENTS);
 /* What we are monitoring… */
 do_work();
 /* Stop counters and store results in values */
 retval = PAPI_stop_counters(values,NUM_EVENTS);
```

PAPI Low-level Interface

- Increased efficiency and functionality
- More information about the environment
- Concepts to check
  - EventSet
  - Multiplexing

The Basics



PREFIX: PAPI_

The Basics

```
#include "papi.h”
#define NUM_EVENTS 2
int Events[NUM_EVENTS]={PAPI_FP_INS,PAPI_TOT_CYC};
int EventSet;
long long values[NUM_EVENTS];
/* Initialize the Library */
retval = PAPI_library_init(PAPI_VER_CURRENT);
/* Allocate space for the new eventset and do setup */
retval = PAPI_create_eventset(&EventSet);
/* Add Flops and total cycles to the eventset */
retval = PAPI_add_events(EventSet,Events,NUM_EVENTS);
/* Start the counters */
retval = PAPI_start(EventSet);
/* What we want to monitor*/
do_work();
/*Stop counters and store results in values */
retval = PAPI_stop(EventSet,values);
```

PAPI CUDA Component

- PAPI is also available for CUDA GPUs
- Uses the CUPTI
  - Which counters can be directly accessed
  - Define a file with the counters and an environment variable
- Gives useful information about the GPU usage
  - IPC
  - Memory load/stores/throughput
  - Branch divergences
  - SM(X) occupancy
  - …

What to Measure?

- The whole application?
- PAPI usefulness is limited when used alone
    - Combine it with other profilers
    - Bottleneck identification + characterisation

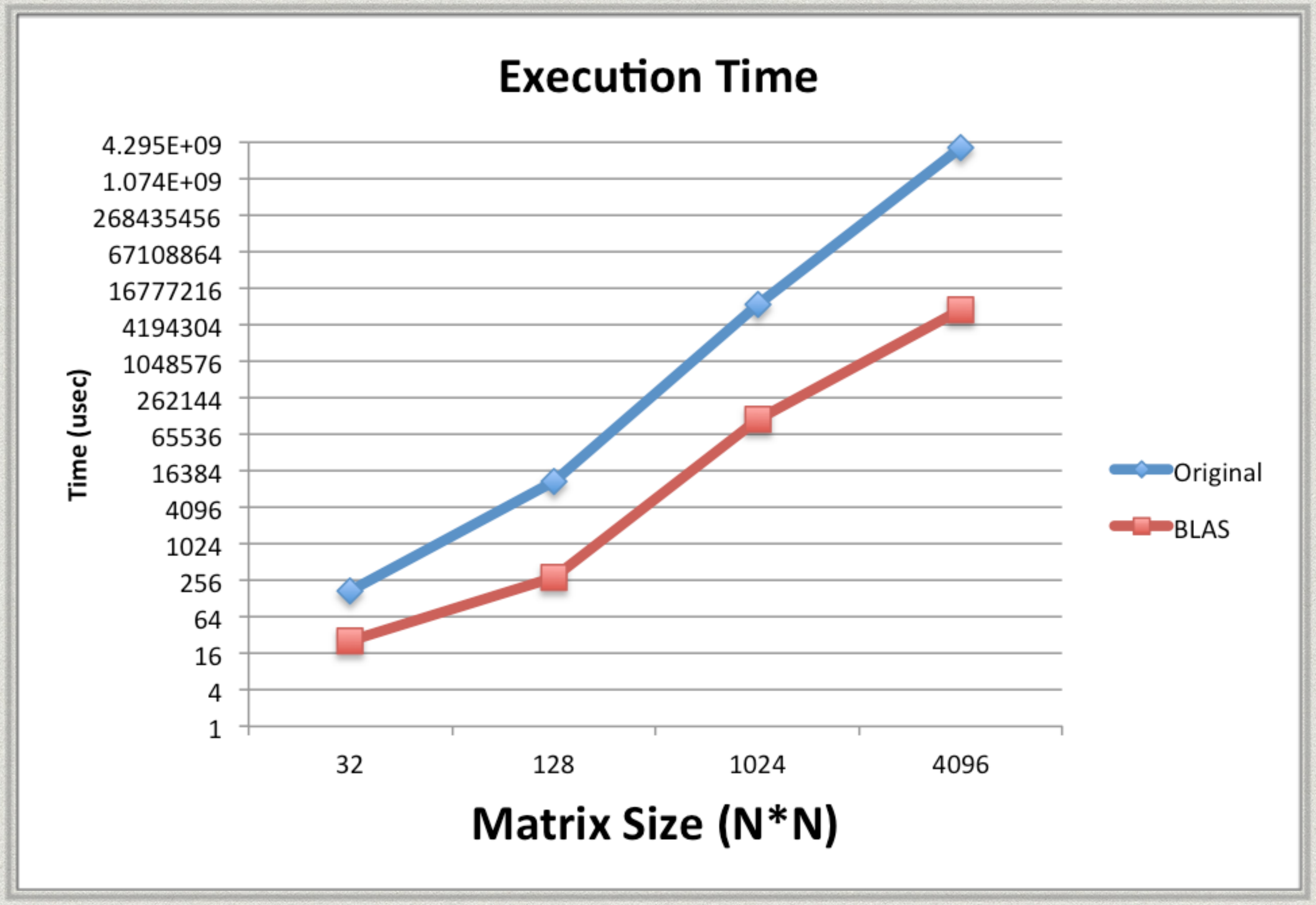
A Practical Example

```
for (int i = 0; i < SIZE; i++)
    for (int j = 0; j < SIZE; j++)
        for (int k = 0; k < SIZE; k++)
            c[i][j] += a[i][k] * b[k][j];
```

A Practical Example SGEMM

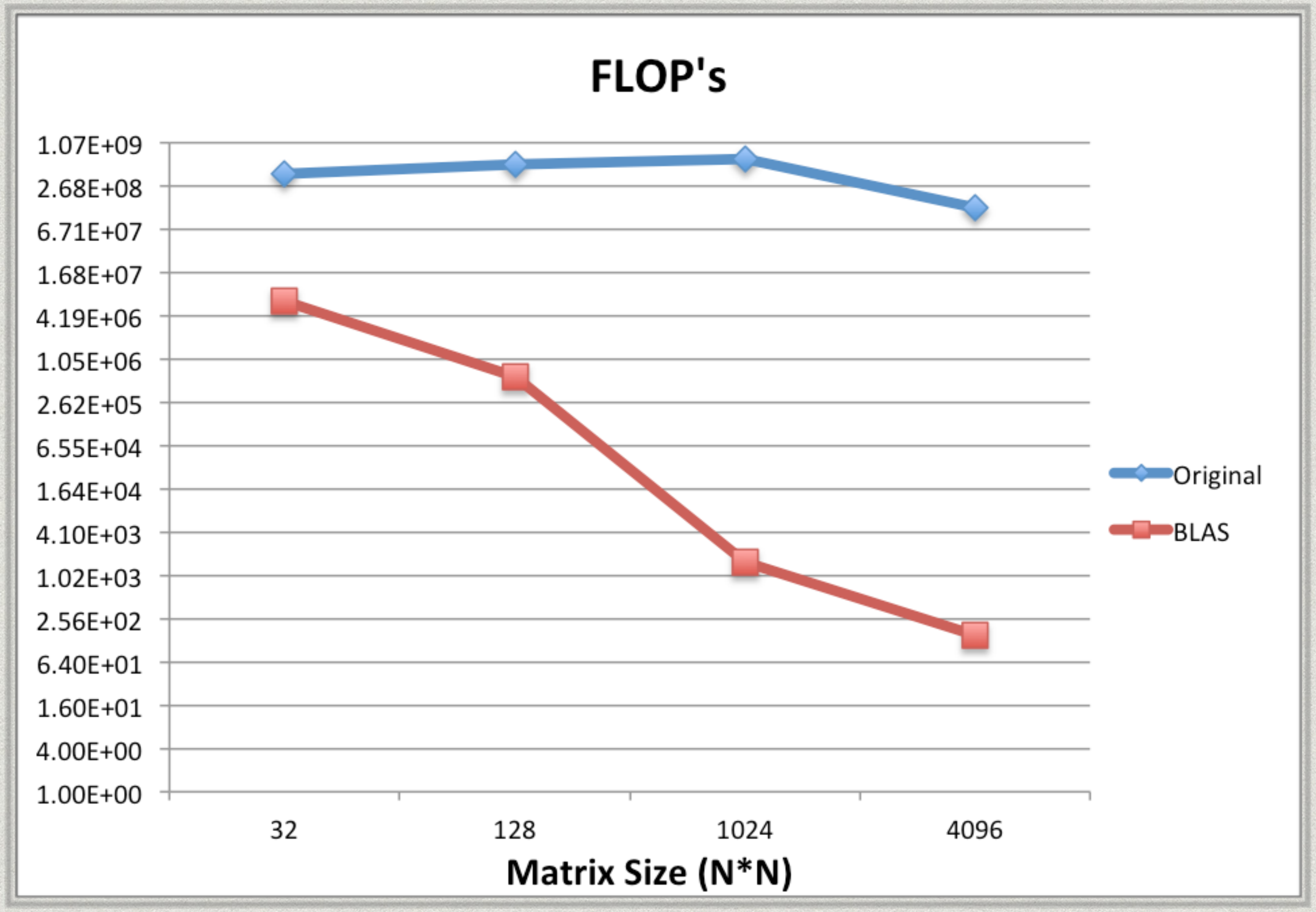
```
int sum;

for (int i = 0; i < SIZE; i++)
    for (int j = 0; j < SIZE; j++) {
        sum = 0;
        for (int k = 0; k < SIZE; k++)
            sum += a[i][k] * b[k][j];
        c[i][j] = sum;
    }
```

Execution Time



@ 2x Intel Xeon E5-2695v2, 12C with 24t each, 2.4GHz

FLOP’s



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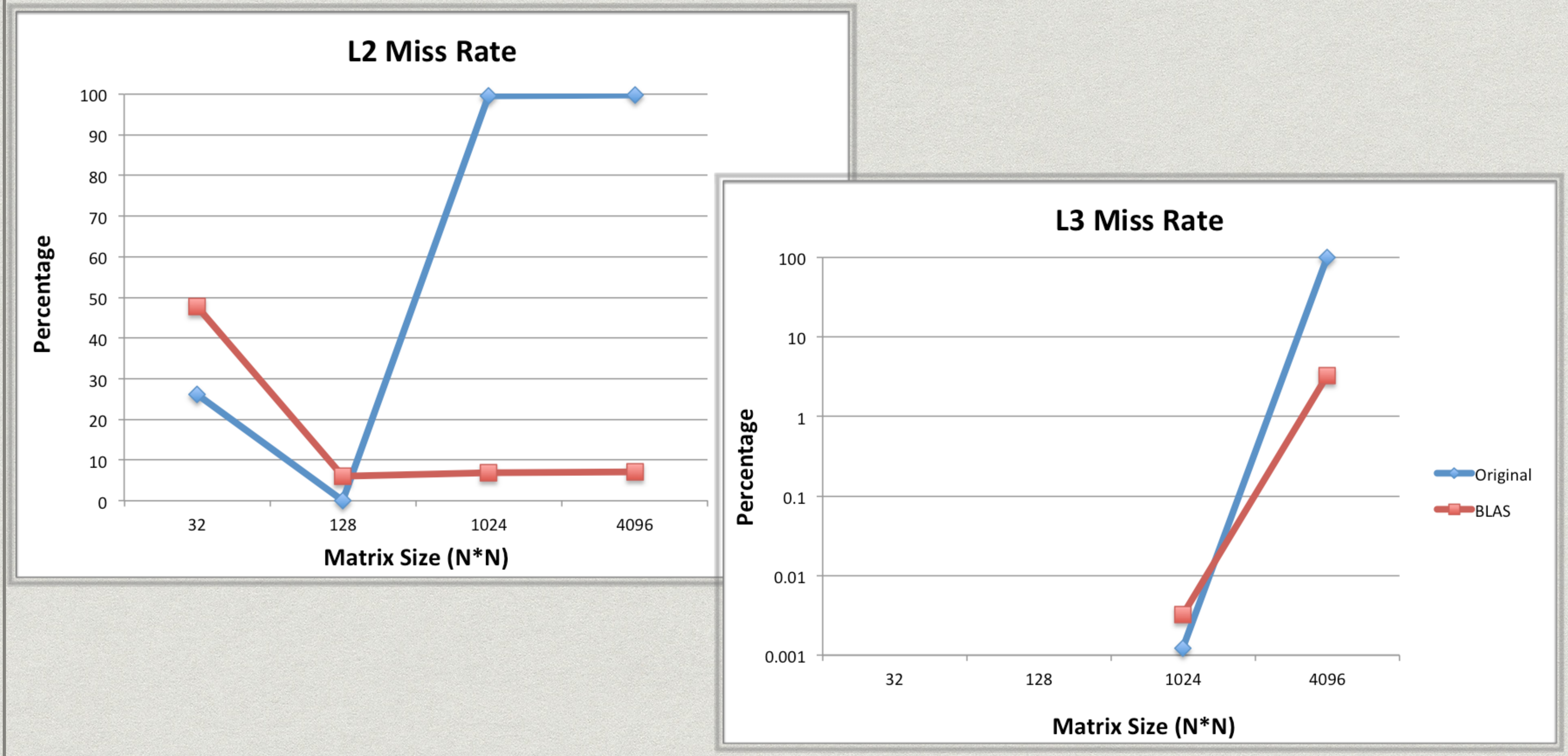
Cache Miss Rate



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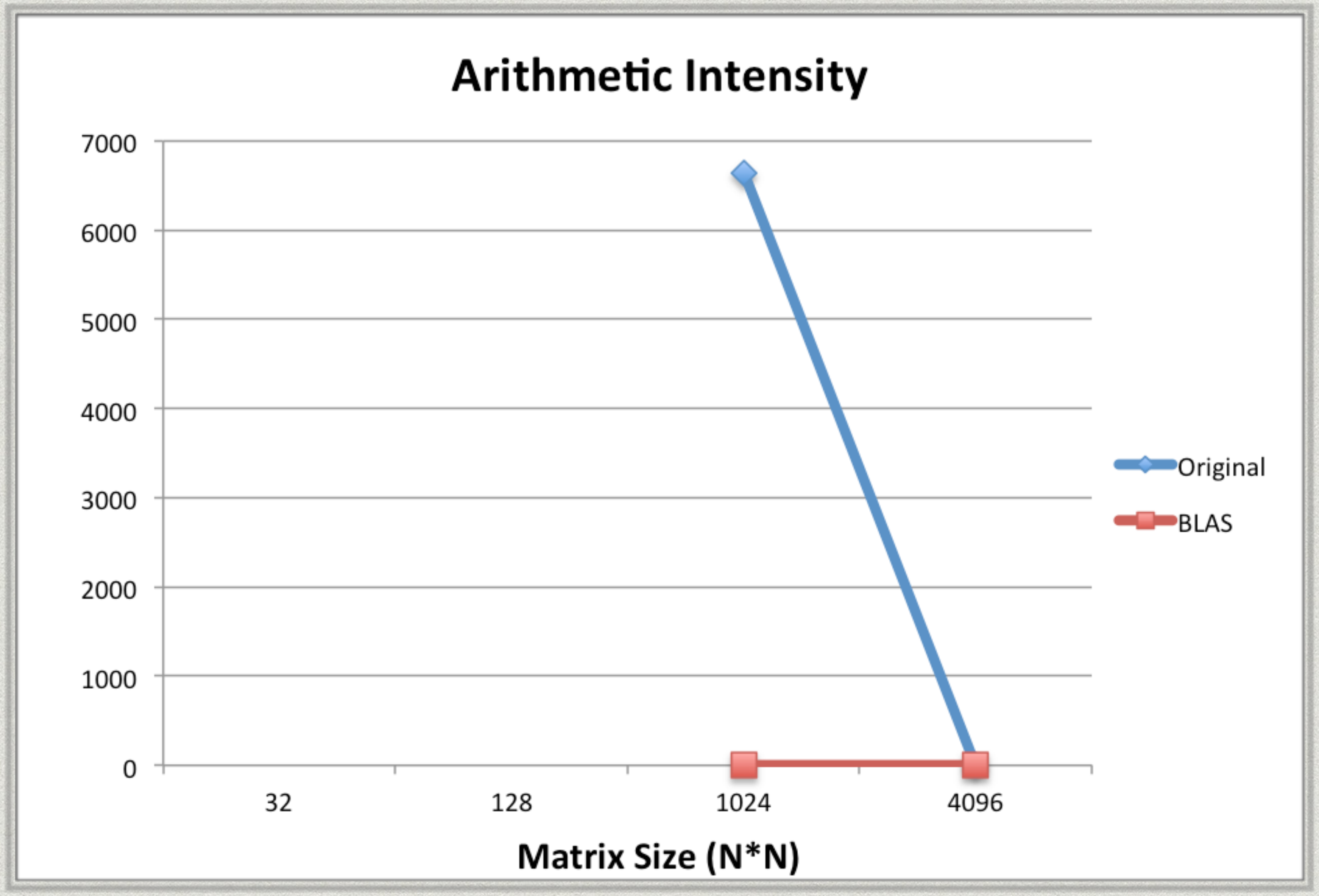
Arithmetic Intensity



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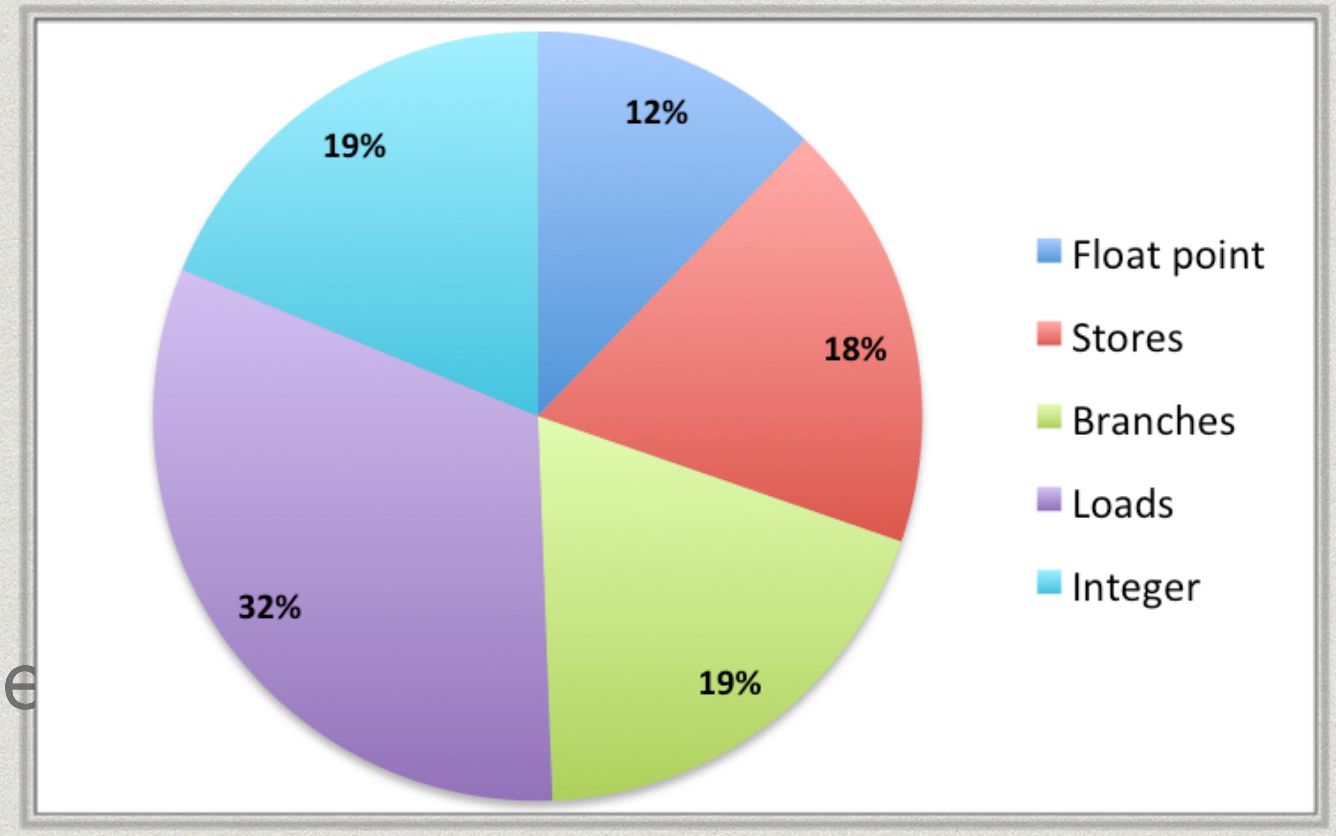
Useful Counters

- Instruction mix
  - PAPI_FP_INS
  - PAPI_SR/LD_INS
  - PAPI_BR_INS
  - PAPI_SP/DP_VEC



- FLOPS and operational inte
  - PAPI_FP_OPS
  - PAPI_SP/DP_OPS
  - PAPI_TOT_INS
- Cache behaviour and bytes transferred
  - PAPI_L1/2/3_TCM
  - PAPI_L1_TCA

Useful Hints

- Be careful choosing a measurement heuristic
  - Q: Why? Average? Median? Best measurement?
- Automatise the measurement process
  - With scripting/C++ coding
  - Using 3rd party tools that resort to PAPI
    - PerfSuite
    - HPCToolkit
    - TAU
- Available for Java and on virtual machines

Compiling and Running the Code

- Use the same GCC/G++ version as
  - The PAPI compilation on your home (preferably)
  - The PAPI available at the cluster
- Code compilation

  g++ -L$PAPI_DIR/lib -I$PAPI_DIR/include c.cpp -lpapi
- Code execution
  - export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$PAPI_DIR/lib: $LD_LIBRARY_PATH (dynamic library dependencies are resolved at runtime; you can have it on your .bashrc)
  - Run the code!

References

- Dongarra, J., London, K., Moore, S., Mucci, P., Terpstra, D. "**Using PAPI for Hardware Performance Monitoring on Linux Systems**," Conference on Linux Clusters: The HPC Revolution, Linux Clusters Institute, Urbana, Illinois, June 25-27, 2001.
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- Malony, A., Biersdorff, S., Shende, S., Jagode, H., Tomov, S., Juckeland, G., Dietrich, R., Duncan Poole, P., Lamb, C. "**Parallel Performance Measurement of Heterogeneous Parallel Systems with GPUs**," International Conference on Parallel Processing (ICPP'11), Taipei, Taiwan, September 13-16, 2011.
- Weaver, V., Dongarra, J. "**Can Hardware Performance Counters Produce Expected, Deterministic Results?**," 3rd Workshop on Functionality of Hardware Performance Monitoring, Atlanta, GA, December 4, 2010.