Trace-based profiling on AMD GPUs

Profiling: perfcounters + barriers

Measurement:

Timestamps

• GPU perfcounters

Barrier

Sample top

Draw

Sample bottom

Barrier

Barriers => No inter-draw effects

Profiling: perfcounters without barriers

Sample top

Draw

Sample bottom

Sample top

Draw

Sample bottom

vkCmdDrawIndexed(102, 10)	40.32
vkCmdDrawIndexed(102, 10)	43.96
vkCmdDrawIndexed(60, 10)	197.80
vkCmdDrawIndexed(60, 2)	211.84
vkCmdDrawIndexed(102, 46)	807.92
vkCmdDrawIndexed(102, 117)	952.28
vkCmdDrawIndexed(102, 19)	1153.60
vkCmdDrawIndexed(102, 6)	1130.48
vkCmdDrawIndexed(120, 18)	1127.28
vkCmdDrawIndexed(120, 106)	959.96
vkCmdDrawIndexed(120, 2)	959.48
vkCmdDrawIndexed(9, 29)	361.24
vkCmdDrawIndexed(9, 9)	216.44
vkCmdDrawIndexed(9, 17)	11.28
vkCmdDrawIndexed(9, 13)	12.24
vkCmdDrawIndexed(9, 34)	11.80

Thread traces

Log:

- Subgroup start/stop
- Draw start/stop
- Driver annotations
- Register writes
- Events

\$ RADV_THREAD_TRACE_TRIGGER=/tmp/sqtt %command%

\$ touch /tmp/sqtt # Traces the next frame

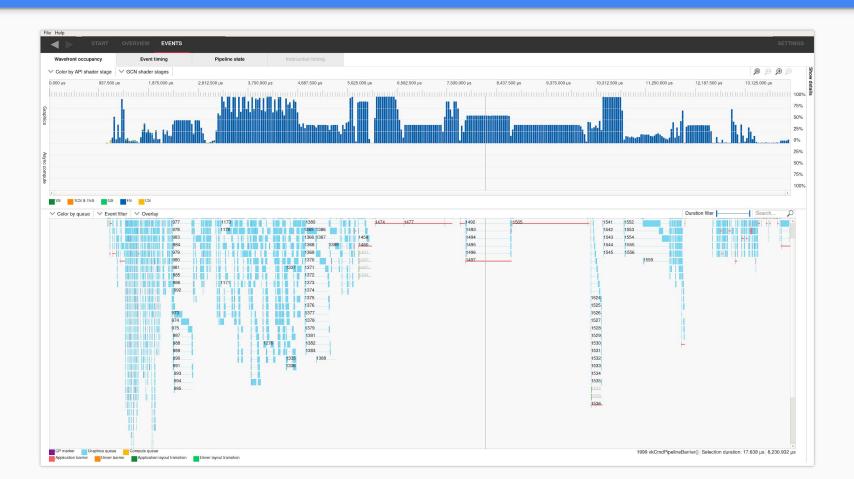
Frame in /tmp/*.rgp



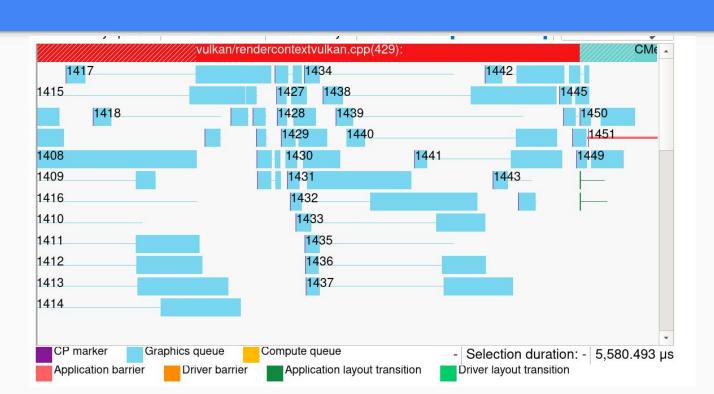
Radeon GPU Profiler

https://gpuopen.com/rgp/

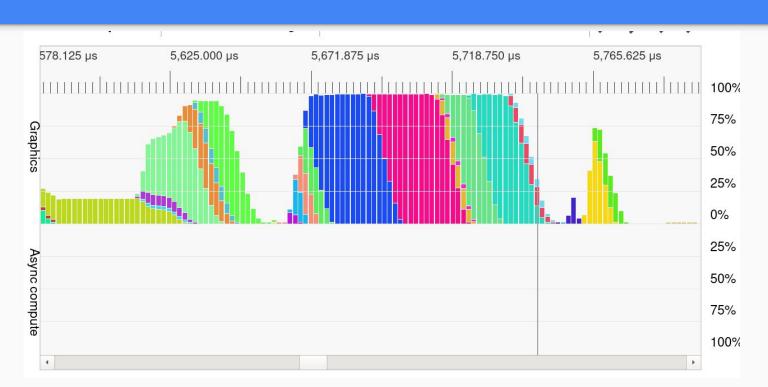
RGP Wavefront/Subgroup view



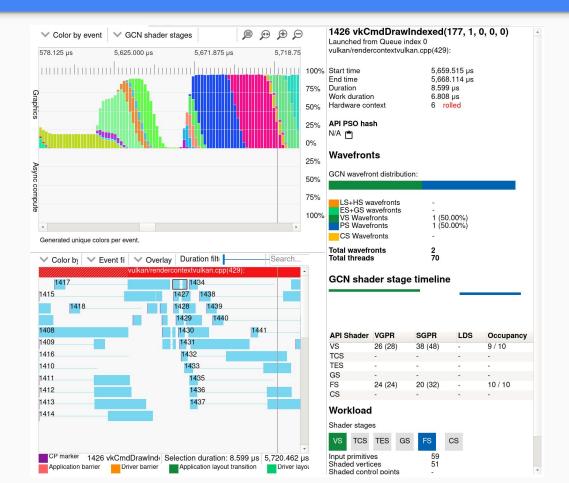
Draws



Occupancy

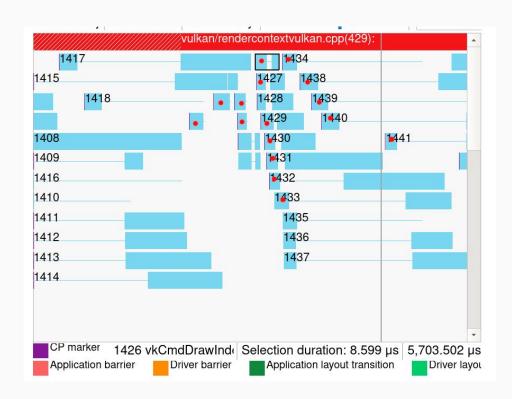


Full picture



Optimization Opportunity: State changes

- Max 7 draw states in flight
- Frequent state changes cause stalls



Optimization Opportunity: Barriers

Vega 64 full occupancy = 164k invocations

-> GPU stalls are expensive

Event Numbers	Duration	Drain Time	Stalls	De Hi, DC FN Fa Init Mask De Re De De Eli RAM	Invalidated	Flushed	Туре	Reason
0	0.016 μs	0.016 μs					APP	
2	35.851 µs	8.714 µs	FULL				APP	
3	4.391 µs	4.391 µs	FULL				DRIVER	Unknown driver barrier.
- 46	17.291 µs	17.291 µs	FULL CS	✓	L1 DB	DB	APP	
6	3.603 µs	17.291 µs		✓			APP	
8	1.772 µs	0.000 µs			K L1 DB	DB	DRIVER	Before CS depth/stencil clear
10	4.157 μs	0.000 µs	CS		K L1		DRIVER	After CS depth/stencil clear.
14	0.573 µs	0.000 µs			K L1 L2 CB DB	L2 CB DB	APP	

Optimization Opportunity: Barriers

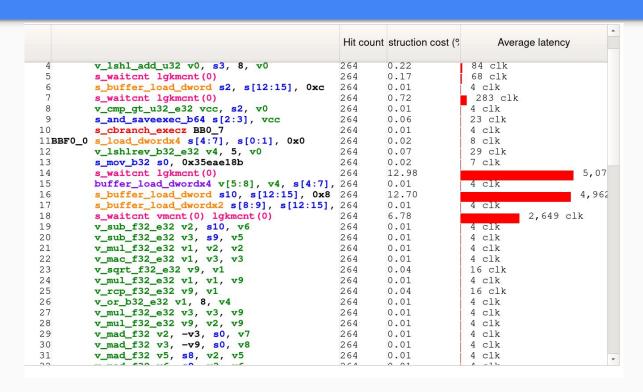


Overhead

- Typical trace for AAA game is 0.5-1 GiB
- ~10% bandwidth overhead on top discrete GPUs

- Slower than timestamps without barriers
- Faster than replay tools

Bonus: Instruction Level Profiling



Log all instructions from 1 Compute Unit

TODO

Streaming performance counters

- Occupancy isn't utilization
- Can sample perfcounters each ~100 ns
- No RGP support

Q & A