

Welcome!

Profiling PHP Applications

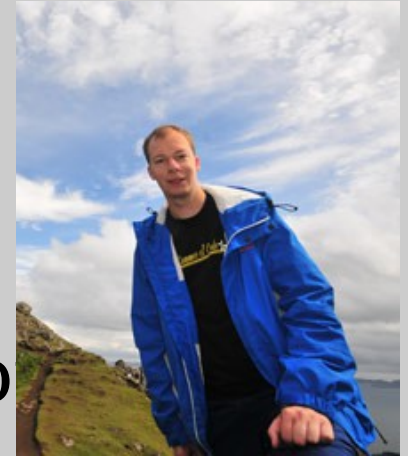
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Derick Rethans

- Dutchman living in London
- PHP development
- Freelancer doing PHP internals development
ie.: writing extensions for a living
- Anderskor's Camouflage
- Author of Xdebug
- Author of the `mcrypt`, `input_filter`, `dbus`, `translit` and `date/time` extensions
- Contributor to the Apache Zeta Components Incubator project (formerly eZ Components)



The Internet is Full of Nonsense

A small selection of PHP optimisation tips I found on the internet

echo is faster than print

Use sprintf instead of variables contained in double quotes, it's about 10x faster.

Use `<?php ... ?>` tags when declaring PHP as all other styles are depreciated, including short tags.

The Internet is Full of Nonsense

I can only say one thing:



Do I need to optimise my code?

Before you can optimise anything:

- Find out if things are running slow
- Find out whether it is the code
- Understand your code, application and execution paths
- Find out which parts of the code are slow
- Find out what you can optimise

How does the application perform?

Benchmark the application: siege

- check ~/.siegerc and set the logfile setting
- Create a file with urls: `http://derickrethans.nl/`
`http://derickrethans.nl/spatial-indexes-data-sqlite.html` `http://derickrethans.nl/who.html`
- run against your code: `siege -c 4 -r 10 -f /tmp/urls.txt`

```
Transactions:          40 hits
Availability:         100.00 %
Elapsed time:          9.76 secs
Data transferred:     1.34 MB
Response time:         0.18 secs
Transaction rate:      4.10 trans/sec
Throughput:           0.14 MB/sec
Concurrency:           0.73
Successful transactions: 40
Failed transactions:   0
Longest transaction:  0.39
Shortest transaction:  0.08
```

Is it my code that is slow?

Multiple possible reasons:

- The database is slow
- There is lots of IO
- Your code is slow
- The system is busy with other things

```
$ vmstat 1
```

```
procs -----memory----- ---swap-- -----io----- -system-- ----cpu-----
r  b   swpd   free   buff   cache   si   so    bi    bo    in   cs  *|dd1111|us sy|*  id wa
5  0 121248 367520 767824 3080668   0   0  11272    0 1593 5540 *|dd1111|74 22|*  3  0
5  0 121248 290784 767960 3082980   0   0   268     0 1555 5381 *|dd1111|77 20|*  3  0
5  0 121248 238340 768132 3084336   0   0  1364 21160 2263 6815 *|dd1111|70 21|*  3  7
6  0 121248 170772 768300 3087100   0   0  1652     0 1802 8540 *|dd1111|71 25|*  4  0
```

CPU is (close to) fully in use: 74 + 22 → your code is slow.

```
$ vmstat 1
```

```
procs -----memory----- ---swap-- -----io----- -system-- ----cpu-----
r  b   swpd   free   buff   cache   si   so    bi    bo    in   cs  us  sy  id *|dd1111|wa|*
0  1 121248  50776 314796 4156000   0   0 245800    0 3018 5394  1 11 71 *|dd1111|17|*
1  0 121248  52112 315108 4236692   0   0 243672    0 3107 5552  1 10 71 *|dd1111|18|*
1  1 121248  50148 315256 4318268   0   0 243096    44 3146 5463  1 11 72 *|dd1111|17|*
1  1 121248  52120 315484 4396356   0   0 243784    0 3006 5419  1 10 72 *|dd1111|18|*
```

wait is > 10 → IO is the bottleneck.

In-code tools:

- Add timing points

External tools:

- Basic overview: included
- Deep details: xdebug

Timing Points

Code with analysis in mind:

- Add timing points around specific events
- Check changes over time

eZ Publish:

Symfony:

Zeta Components:

```
<?php
// Get the one and only instance of the ezcDebug.
$debug = ezcDebug::getInstance();
// Start the accumulator.
$debug->startTimer( "Program runtime", "Accumulators" );
$debug->switchTimer( "Start", "Program runtime" );
// The name of the timer is: "Hello world" and it will be
// placed in the group: "output".
$debug->startTimer( "Hello world", "output" );
echo "Hello world<br/>";
$debug->stopTimer( "Hello world" );
// Replace the "Start" timer for "Half the way".
$debug->switchTimer( "Half the way", "Start" );
// Measure the time of writing "cruel world".
$debug->startTimer( "Goodbye cruel world", "output" );
echo "Goodbye cruel world<br/>";
$debug->stopTimer( "Goodbye cruel world" );
// Stop the last timer.
$debug->switchTimer( "Stop", "Half the way" );
$debug->stopTimer( "Stop" );
// Get HTML output.
$output = $debug->generateOutput();
?>
```

Time accumulators:

Accumulator	Elapsed	Percent	Count	Average
ini_load				
Load cache	0.0181 sec	7.6849%	10	0.0018 sec
FindInputFiles	0.0148 sec	6.2859%	10	0.0015 sec
Mysql Total				
Mysql_queries	0.0605 sec	25.7125%	5	0.0121 sec
Looping result	0.0007 sec	0.3089%	4	0.0002 sec
Template Total				
Template load	0.0178 sec	7.5636%	3	0.0059 sec
Template processing	0.0774 sec	32.9262%	3	0.0258 sec
override				
Cache load	0.0145 sec	6.1490%	3	0.0048 sec
Matching rules	0.0003 sec	0.1127%	1	0.0003 sec
Debug-Accumulator				
test	0.0295 sec	12.5591%	1	0.0295 sec
Total script time:0.2351 sec				

Timers

type	calls	time (ms)
Configuration	14	60.42
Action "question/frontpage"	1	132.43
Database	9	7.56
View "Success" for "question/frontpage"	1	243.24
Partial "question/_question_list"	1	151.49
Partial "question/_question_block"	2	119.74
Partial "question/_interested_user"	2	12.99
Partial "moderator/_question_options"	2	2.80
Component "sidebar/default"	1	0.02
Partial "sidebar/_default"	1	25.62
Partial "tag/_tag_cloud"	1	2.09
Partial "question/_search"	1	0.97
Partial "sidebar/_rss_links"	1	3.08
Partial "sidebar/_moderation"	1	1.32
Partial "sidebar/_administration"	1	1.85

Timings	Elapsed	Percent	Count	Average
output				
Hello world	0.00003	59.39 %	1	0.00003
Goodbye cruel world	0.00002	40.61 %	1	0.00002
Total:	0.00005	100.00 %	2	0.00002
Accumulators				
Program runtime	0.00051	100.00 %	1	0.00051
Start	0.00025	49.41 %		
Half the way	0.00038	75.11 %		
Stop	0.00049	96.85 %		

Dumps includes/classes hierarchies

Install:

```
pecl install included
```

Add to php.ini:

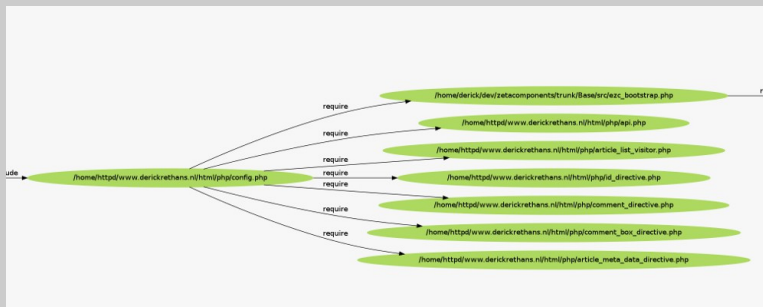
```
extension=included.so  
included.enabled=1  
included.dumpdir=/tmp
```

Generate graphs:

```
php -dincluded.enable=0 gengraph.php -t includes -i /tmp/included.22439.1  
dot -Tpng -o included-includes.png included.out.dot  
php -dincluded.enable=0 gengraph.php -t classes -i /tmp/included.22439.1  
dot -Tpng -o included-classes.png included.out.dot
```

Include overview: included-includes.png:

Class hierarchy: included-classes.png:





- Xdebug: An Open Source debugging tool
- About 8 years old
- Works on "every" operating system
- Version 2.1 released earlier this year
- PHP 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4 and trunk

Function trace

```
TRACE START [2010-03-24 11:03:12]
0.0022    787776    -> {main}() /home/httpd/pres2/show2.php:0
0.0028    803160    -> require(/home/derick/dev/ezcomponents/trunk/Base/src/
ezc_bootstrap.php)/home/httpd/pres2/show2.php:2
0.0029    803552    -> dirname('/home/derick/dev/ezcomponents/trunk/Base/src/
ezc_bootstrap.php')/home/derick/dev/ezcomponents/trunk/Base/src/ezc_bootstrap.php:12
0.0030    803968    -> explode('/', '/home/derick/dev/ezcomponents/trunk/Base/src')/home/
derick/dev/ezcomponents/trunk/Base/src/ezc_bootstrap.php:13
0.0031    807352    -> count(array (0 => '', 1 => 'home', 2 => 'derick', 3 => 'dev', 4 =>
'ezcomponents', 5 => 'trunk', 6 => 'Base', 7 => 'src'))/home/derick/dev/ezcomponents/trunk/Base/src/
ezc_bootstrap.php:15
0.0032    807800    -> array_slice(array (0 => '', 1 => 'home', 2 => 'derick', 3 => 'dev', 4
=> 'ezcomponents', 5 => 'trunk', 6 => 'Base', 7 => 'src'), 0, -2)/home/derick/dev/ezcomponents/
trunk/Base/src/ezc_bootstrap.php:17
0.0033    808952    -> join('/', array (0 => '', 1 => 'home', 2 => 'derick', 3 => 'dev', 4
```

Some settings:

```
xdebug.auto_trace=1
xdebug.trace_output_dir=/tmp
xdebug.collect_params=1
xdebug.collect_return=1
xdebug.collect_includes=1
xdebug.collect_assignments=1
```

Function trace to file

Automatic readable format

```
[derick@kossu]
File Edit View Terminal Tabs Help
Version: 2.0.0dev
TRACE START [2004-08-28 21:12:37]
1 0 0 0.001881 57336 {main} 1 /home/httpd/pres2/show.php 0
2 1 0 0.002255 57336 error_reporting 0 /home/httpd/pres2/show.php 2
2 1 1 0.002332 57344
2 2 0 0.002862 64360 require_once 1 /home/httpd/pres2/config.php /home/httpd
2 2 1 0.003043 65576
2 3 0 0.003120 62840 compact 0 /home/httpd/pres2/show.php 7
2 3 1 0.003225 63816
2 4 0 0.003459 66824 require_once 1 /home/httpd/pres2/sniff.php /home/httpd/pre
3 5 0 0.003563 66832 strstr 0 /home/httpd/pres2/sniff.php 4
3 5 1 0.003641 66832
2 4 1 0.003696 66888
2 6 0 0.003748 64160 set_time_limit 0 /home/httpd/pres2/show.php 10
2 6 1 0.003855 64160
2 7 0 0.003893 64160 strlen 0 /home/httpd/pres2/show.php 11
2 7 1 0.003949 64160
2 8 0 0.005437 99816 require_once 1 /home/httpd/pres2/XML_Presentation.php /ho
3 9 0 0.010074 143232 require_once 1 /usr/local/lib/php/XML/Parser.php /home/h
4 10 0 0.014375 250952 require_once 1 /usr/local/lib/php/PEAR.php /usr/local/lib/
5 11 0 0.014486 250992 define 0 /usr/local/lib/php/PEAR.php 25
5 11 1 0.014576 250992
/tmp/trace.2043925204.xt [R0] 1,1 Top
```

```
xdebug.auto_trace=1 ; enable tracing
xdebug.trace_format=1 ; selects computerized format
xdebug.trace_options=0 ; sets extra option (1 = append)
```

- HTML traces
- Tracing only parts of an application with `xdebug_start_trace()` and `xdebug_stop_trace()`.
- Fetching the trace file name that is being used with `xdebug_get_tracefile_name()`.
- Changing how much data is shown with `xdebug.var_display_max_children`, `xdebug.var_display_max_data` and `xdebug.var_display_max_depth`.

One bundled with Xdebug:

```
php ~/dev/php/xdebug/trunk/contrib/tracefile-analyser.php time-own 5
```

```
...
```

```
Showing the 5 most costly calls sorted by 'time-own'.
```

function	#calls	Inclusive time	memory	Own time
memory				

--				
array_pop -139880	715	1.0252	-139880	1.0252
preg_match 1016336	2986	0.3718	1016336	0.3718
{main} -15198832	1	6.4562	7335704	0.3476
next 0	432	0.2386	0	0.2386
count 0	3302	0.2132	0	0.2123

ValaXdebugTools (<http://tinyurl.com/vxdebugtools>):

- trace4func: Give a function name, get a stack trace for each time it is called.
- evaled: Prints an ordered list of evals, together with what file is responsible for this evil.
- whocalls: Find out what files contain calls to the given function.

demo

Profiling



Install:

```
pecl download xhprof-beta
tar -xvzf xhprof-0.9.2.tgz
cd xhprof-0.9.2/extension
phpize && ./configure && make install
```

In php.ini:

```
extension=xhprof.so
xhprof.output_dir=/tmp
```

Download XHGui:

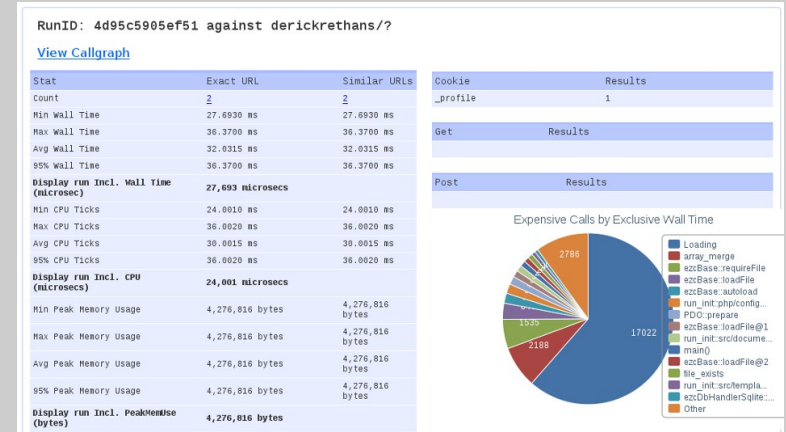
```
$ cd /home/httpd
$ git clone https://github.com/preinheimer/xhprof
```

Config XHGui (xhprof/xhprof_lib/config.php):

```
$_xhprof['dbhost'] = 'localhost';
$_xhprof['dbuser'] = 'root';
$_xhprof['dbpass'] = 'root';
$_xhprof['dbname'] = 'xhprof';
$_xhprof['servername'] = 'derickrethans';
$_xhprof['namespace'] = 'MySite';
$_xhprof['url'] = 'http://xhprof/';
```

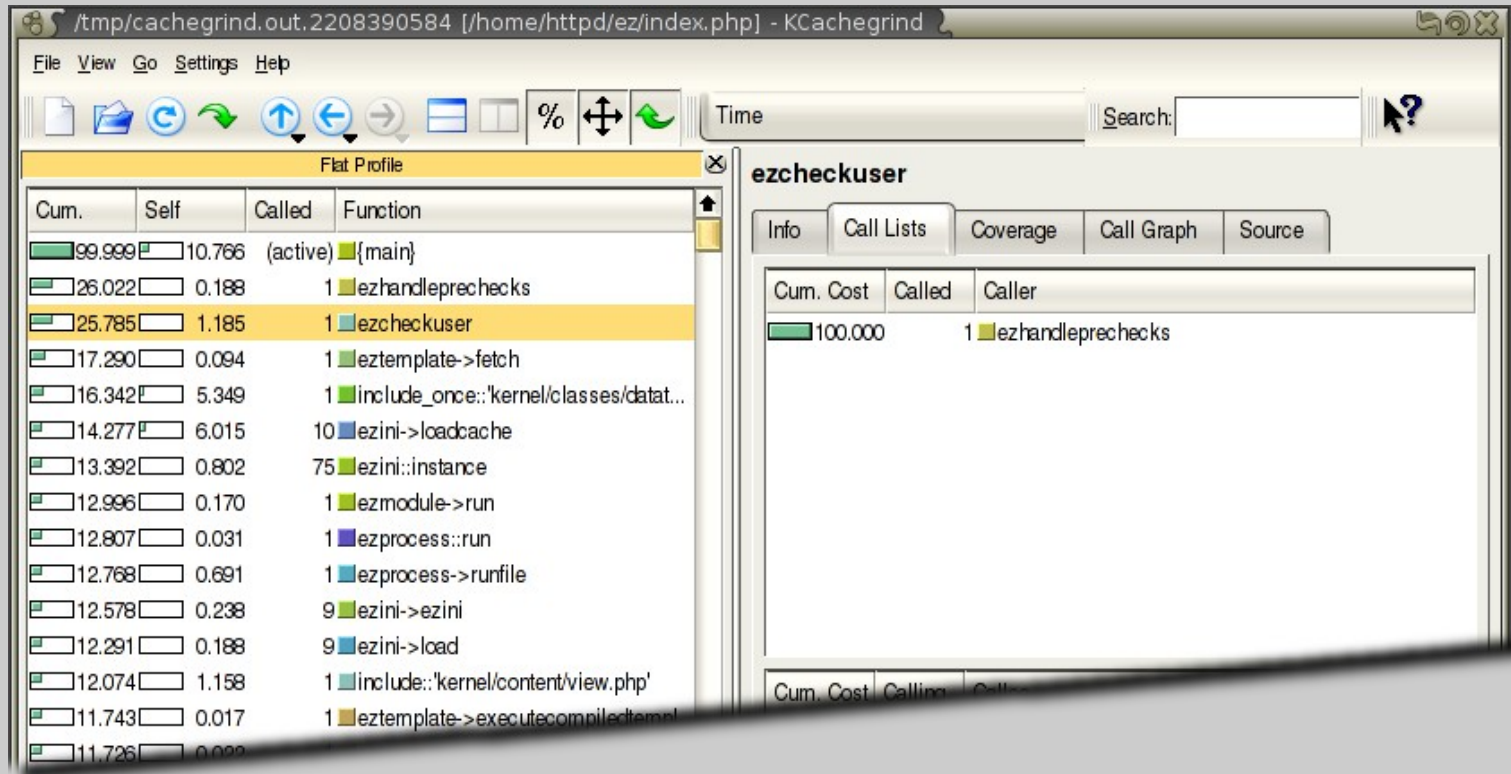
Setup XHGui database:

```
mysqladmin -u root -p create xhprof
mysql -u root -p xhprof
CREATE TABLE `details` (
  `id` char(17) NOT NULL,
  `url` varchar(255) default NULL,
```



Profiling

KCacheGrind's Flat Profile and Call List

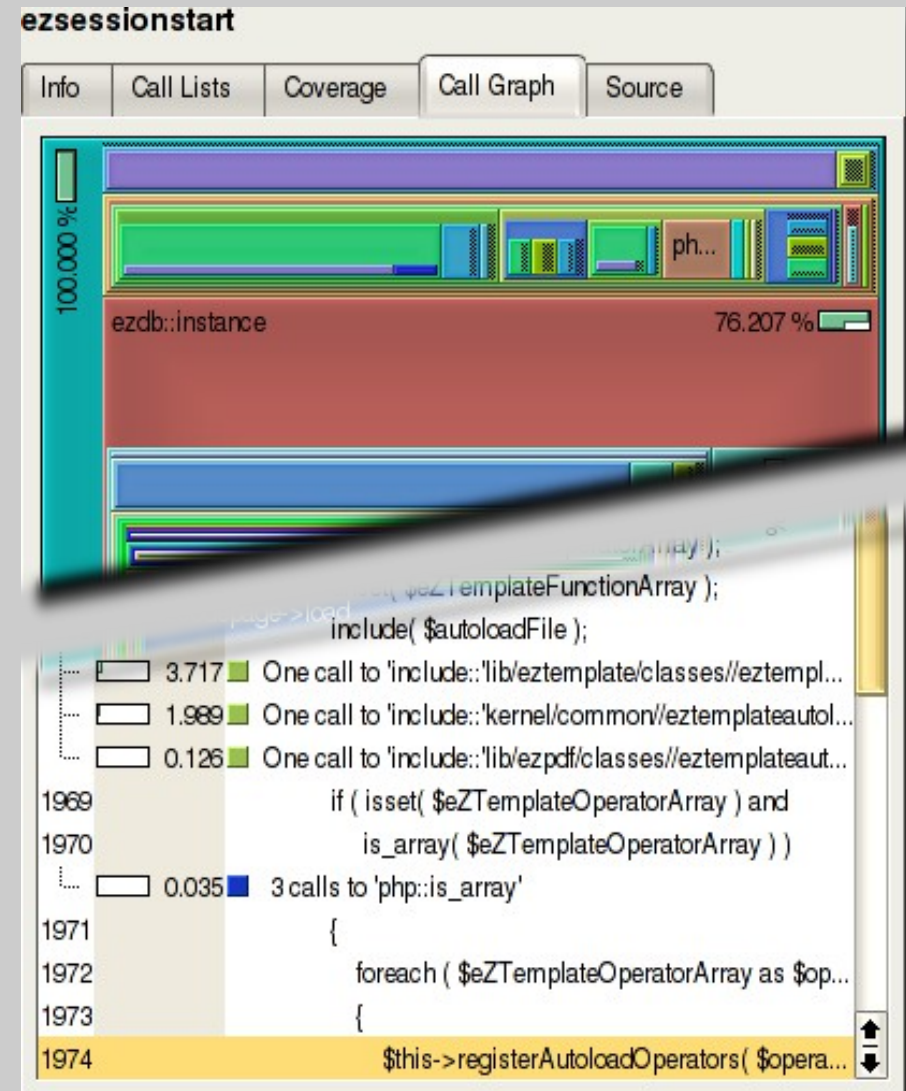


```
xdebug.profiler_enable=1           ; enable profiler  
xdebug.profiler_output_dir=/tmp    ; output directory  
xdebug.profiler_output_name=cachegrind.out.%p
```

Profiling

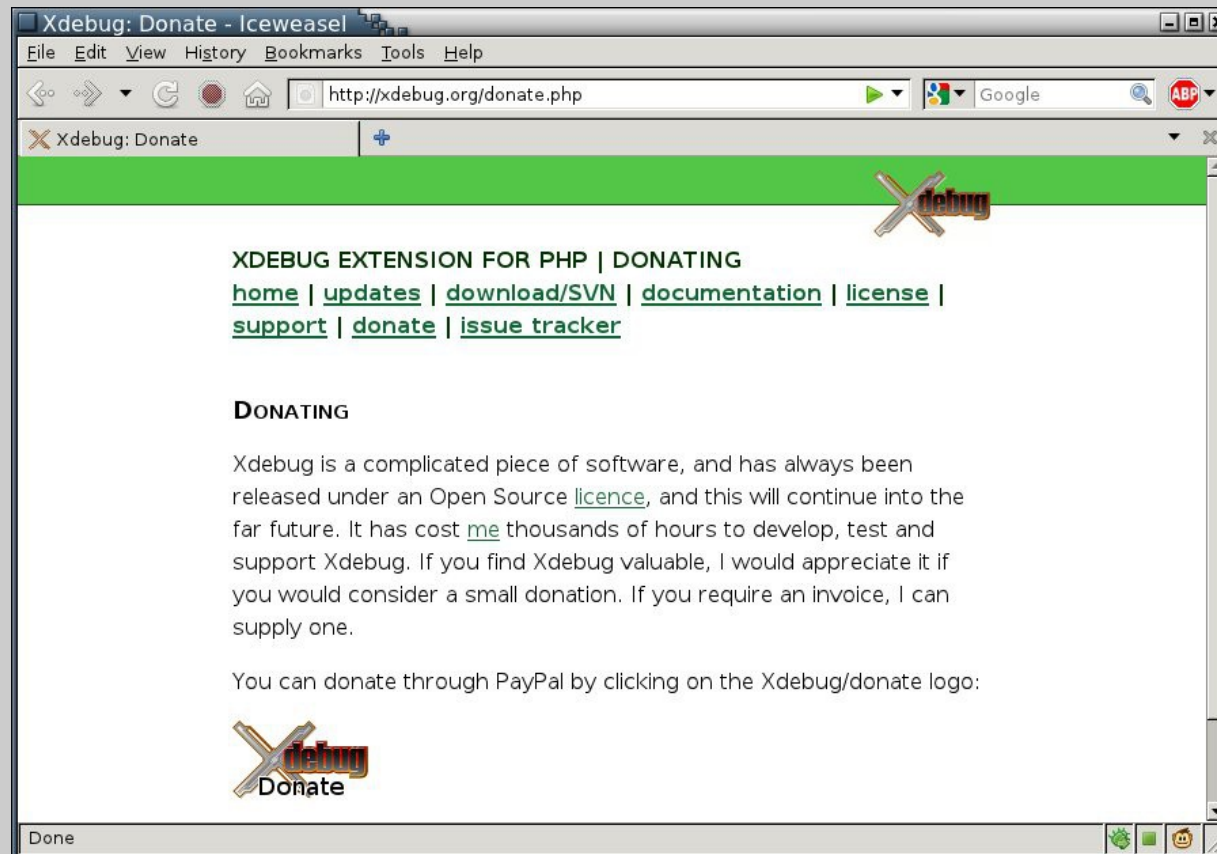
KCacheGrind's Call Graph and Source Annotations

- Call graph
- Area shows time spend
- Stacked to show callees
- Source annotations
- Number of calls
- Total time per function



demo

- It's Open Source and free (as in "free beer")
- Working on Xdebug takes up a lot of spare time
- I don't have a lot of spare time



Resources

- Siege: <http://www.joedog.org/index/siege-home>
- Apache Zeta Components:
<http://incubator.apache.org/zetacomponents/>
- Included: <http://uk2.php.net/included>
- ValaXdebugTools: <http://tinyurl.com/vxdebugtools>
- XHProf:
<http://mirror.facebook.net/facebook/xhprof/>
- XHGui: <https://github.com/preinheimer/xhprof>
- Xdebug: <http://xdebug.org>
- If you like Xdebug: <http://xdebug.org/donate.php>