



Building Faster Websites

crash course on web performance

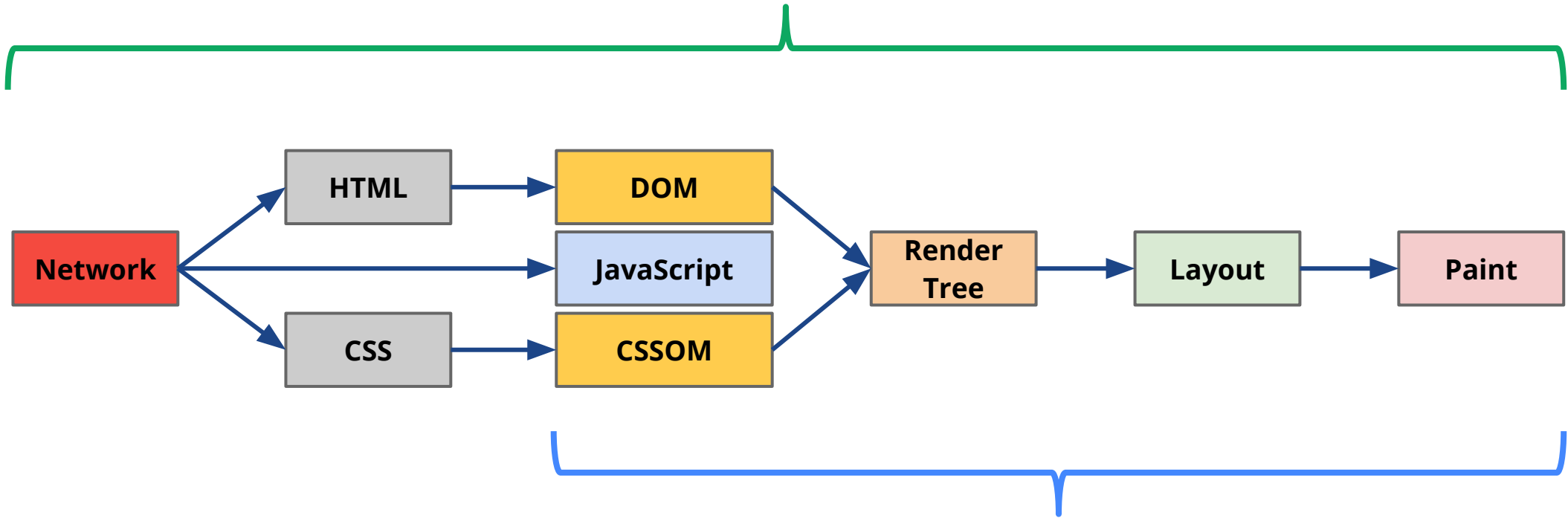
Ilya Grigorik - @igrigorik

Make The Web Fast

Google

Web performance in one slide...

Critical rendering path



In-app performance



Thanks. Questions?

Twitter @igrigorik

G+ [gplus.to/igrigorik](https://plus.to/igrigorik)

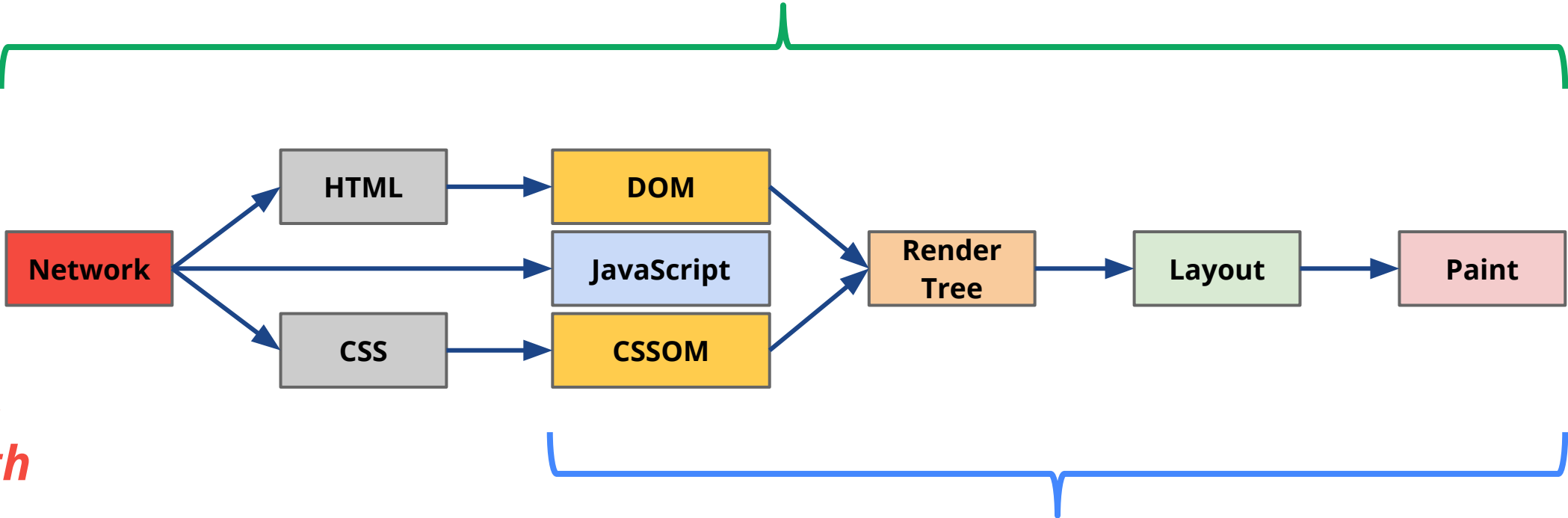
Web igvita.com



2

Critical rendering path: resource loading

1



Latency,
bandwidth
3G / 4G / ...

3

In-app performance: CPU + Render





What's the impact of slow sites?

Lower conversions and engagement, higher bounce rates...

bing server delays experiment

	Distinct Queries/User	Query Refinement	Revenue/User	Any Clicks	Satisfaction	Time to Click (increase in ms)
50ms	-	-	-	-	-	-
200ms	-	-	-	-0.3%	-0.4%	500
500ms	-	-0.6%	-1.2%	-1.0%	-0.9%	1200
1000ms	-0.7%	-0.9%	-2.8%	-1.9%	-1.6%	1900
2000ms	-1.8%	-2.1%	-4.3%	-4.4%	-3.8%	3100

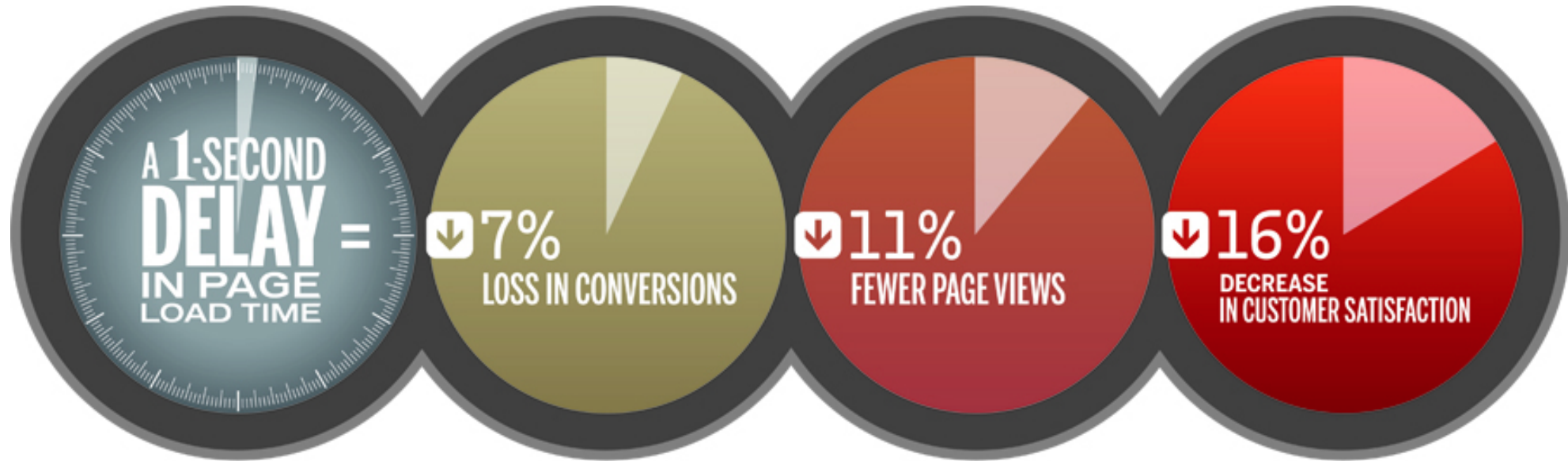
- Means no statistically significant change

"2000 ms delay reduced per user revenue by 4.3%!"

- Strong negative impacts
- Roughly linear changes with increasing delay
- Time to Click changed by roughly double the delay



Impact of 1-second delay...



IN DOLLAR TERMS,

this means that if your site typically earns \$100,000 a day, this year

you could lose **\$2.5 MILLION** in sales.

SOURCE: Aberdeen Group

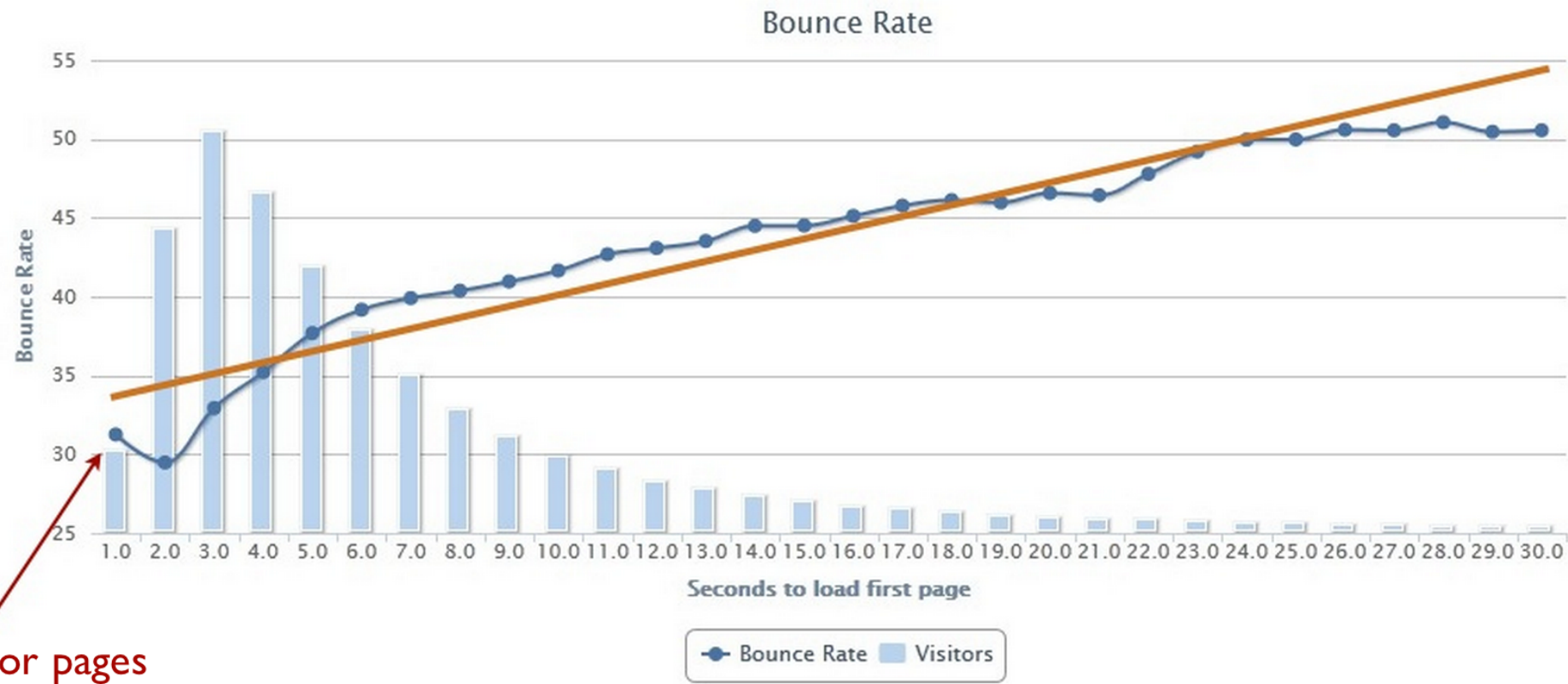
 **strangeloop** www.strangeloopnetworks.com



How speed affects bounce rate

$$y = 0.6517x + 33.682$$

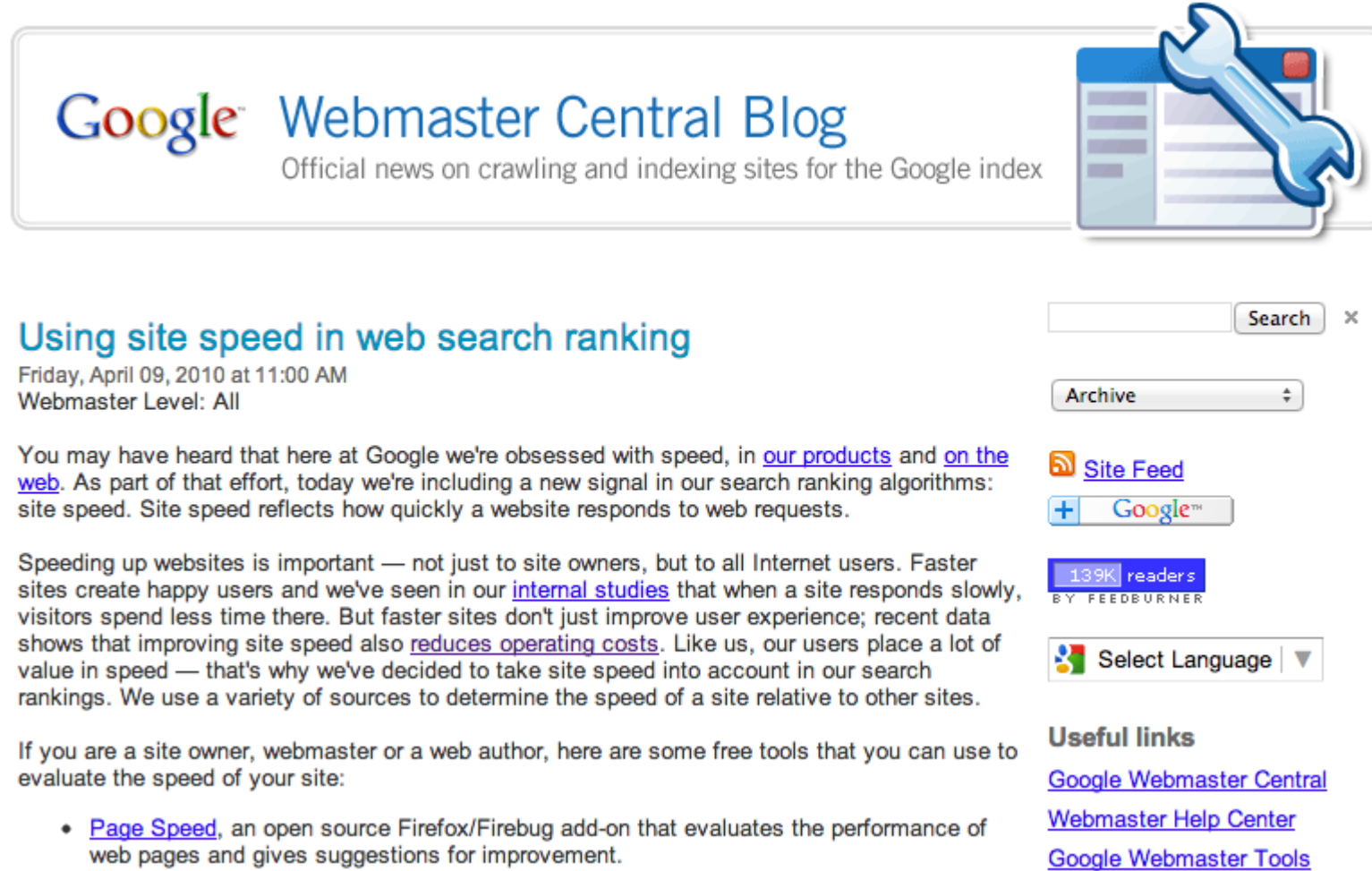
$$R^2 = 0.91103$$



Error pages



Site speed is a **signal for search**



The screenshot shows the top of a blog post from Google Webmaster Central. The header includes the Google logo and the text 'Webmaster Central Blog' with a subtitle 'Official news on crawling and indexing sites for the Google index'. To the right is an icon of a wrench and a screwdriver over a computer screen. Below the header is a search bar, an 'Archive' dropdown, a 'Site Feed' link, a 'Google+' button, a '139K readers' badge, and a 'Select Language' dropdown. The main content area starts with the article title 'Using site speed in web search ranking', the date 'Friday, April 09, 2010 at 11:00 AM', and the text 'You may have heard that here at Google we're obsessed with speed, in [our products](#) and [on the web](#). As part of that effort, today we're including a new signal in our search ranking algorithms: site speed. Site speed reflects how quickly a website responds to web requests.' This is followed by a paragraph about the importance of site speed for user experience and search rankings, and a list of free tools for evaluating site speed, including 'Page Speed'.

"We encourage you to start looking at your site's speed — not only to improve your ranking in search engines, but also to improve everyone's experience on the Internet."

Google Search Quality Team



Speed is a feature.

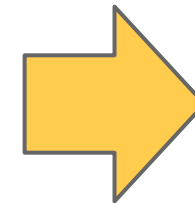




So, how are we doing today?

Okay, I get it, speed matters... but, are we there yet?

Delay	User reaction
0 - 100 ms	Instant
100 - 300 ms	Slight perceptible delay
300 - 1000 ms	Task focus, perceptible delay
1 s+	Mental context switch
10 s+	I'll come back later...



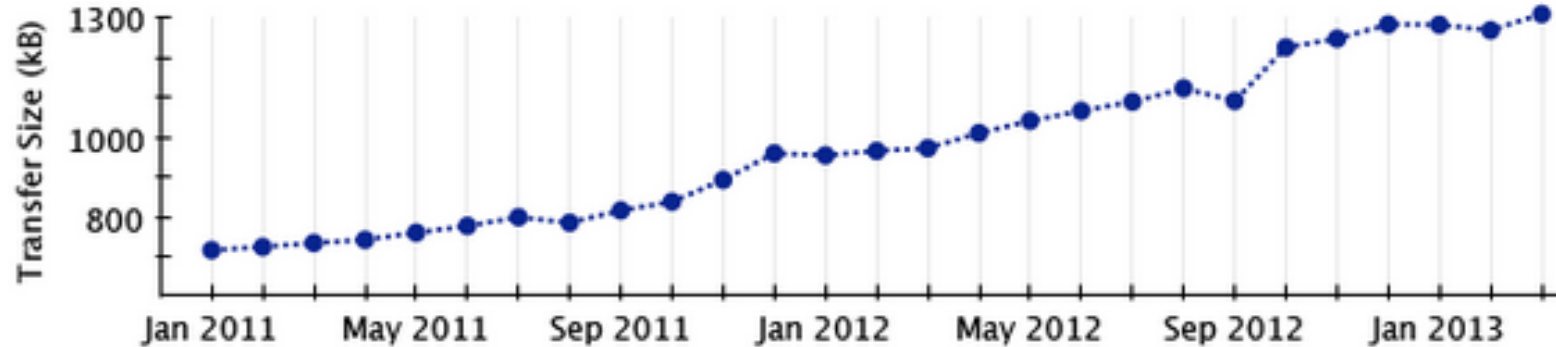
"1000 ms time to glass challenge"

- *Simple user-input must be acknowledged within ~100 milliseconds.*
- *To keep the user engaged, the task must complete within 1000 milliseconds.*

Ergo, our pages should render within 1000 milliseconds.



Our applications are **complex, and growing...**

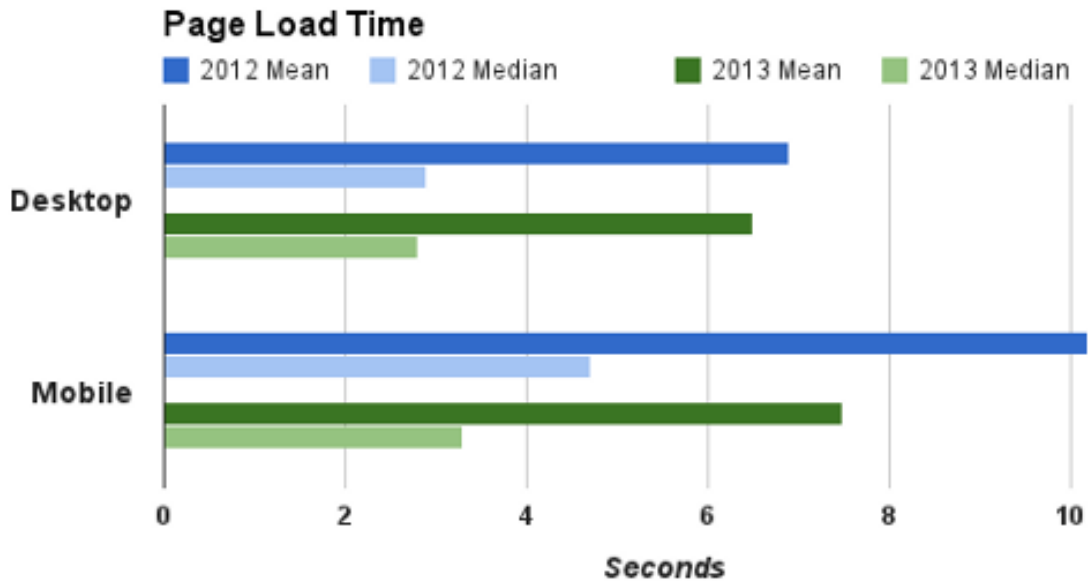


Content Type	Desktop		Mobile	
	Avg # of requests	Avg size	Avg # of requests	Avg size
HTML	10	56 KB	6	40 KB
Images	56	856 KB	38	498 KB
Javascript	15	221 KB	10	146 KB
CSS	5	36 KB	3	27 KB
Total	86+	1169+ KB	57+	711+ KB



Ouch!

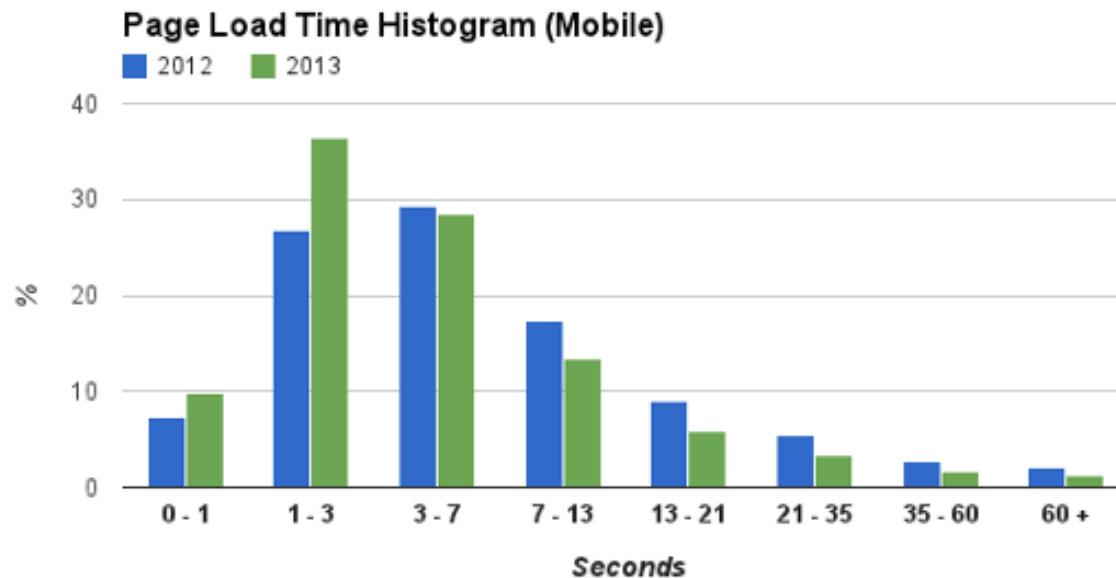




Desktop: ~3.1 s

Mobile: ~3.5 s

"It's great to see access from mobile is around 30% faster compared to last year."

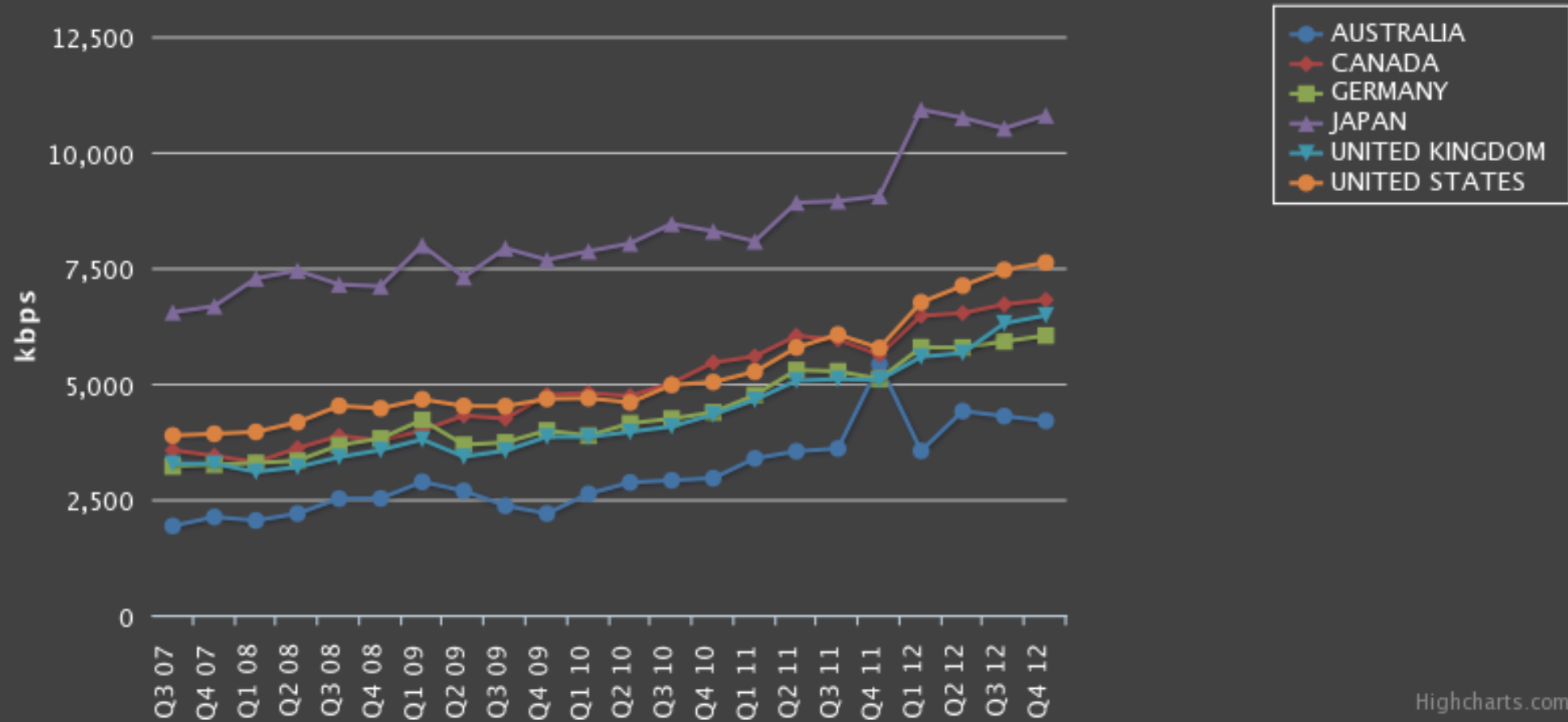




Great, network will save us?

Right, right? We can just sit back and...

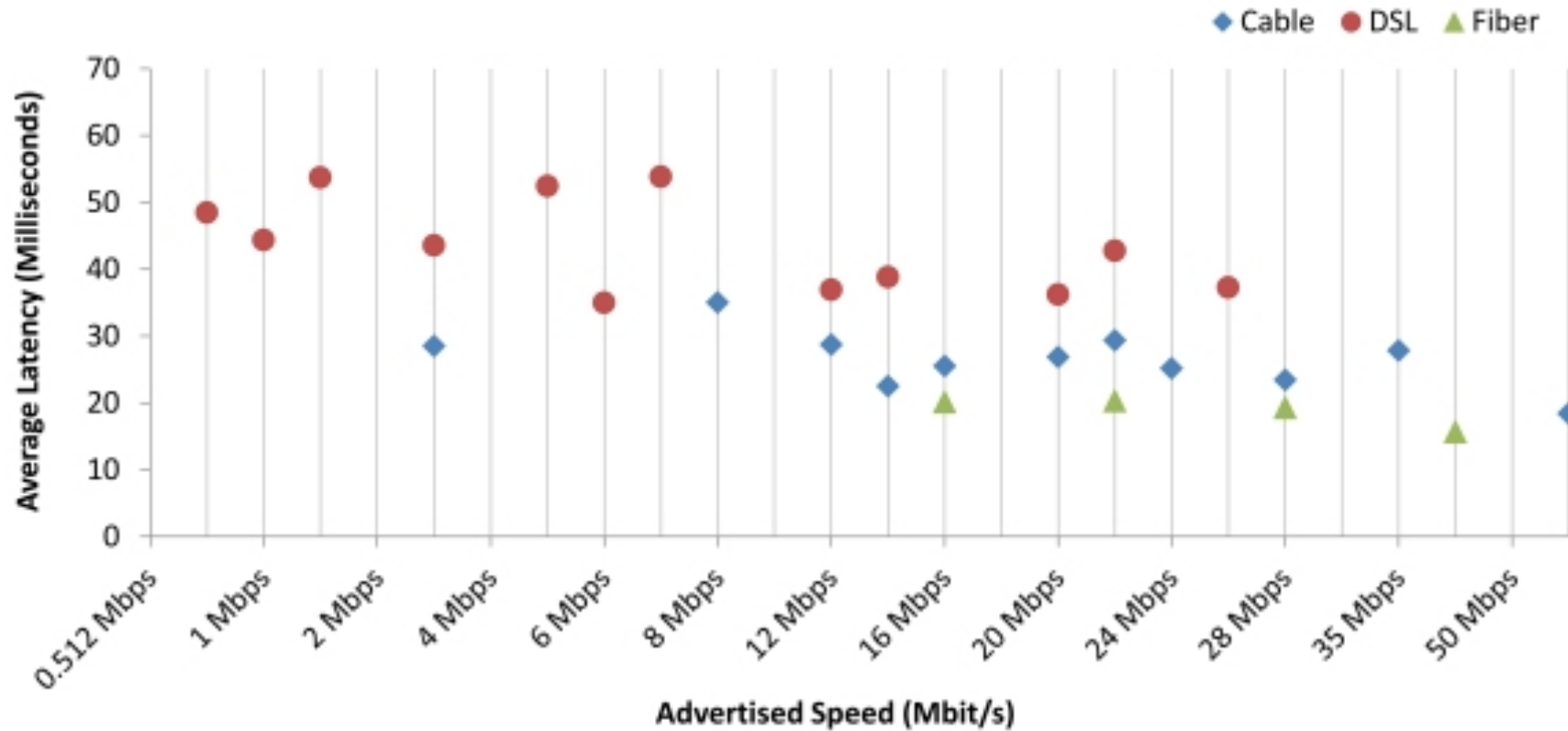
Connection Speed



Highcharts.com

*Average connection speed in Q4 2012: **5000 kbps+***





Fiber-to-the-home services provided **18 ms** round-trip latency on average, while **cable-based** services averaged **26 ms**, and **DSL-based** services averaged **43 ms**. This compares to 2011 figures of 17 ms for fiber, 28 ms for cable and 44 ms for DSL.



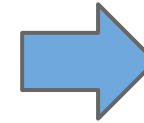
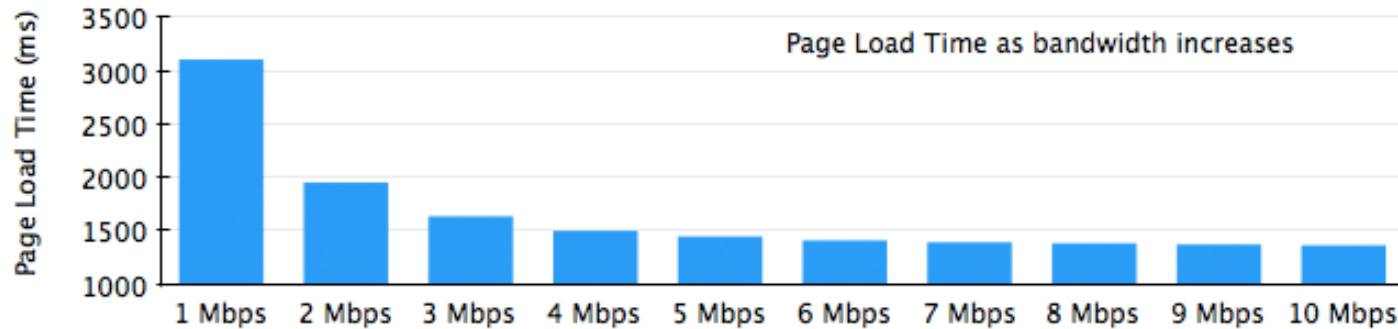
Worldwide: ~100 ms

US: ~50~60 ms

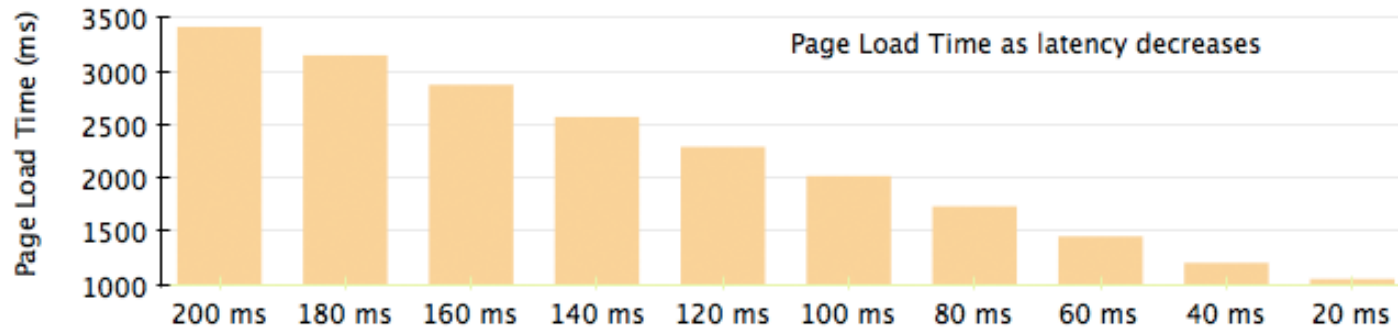
Average RTT to Google in 2012 was...



Latency vs. Bandwidth impact on Page Load Time



Single digit % perf improvement after 5 Mbps



Average household is running on a **5 Mbps+** connection. Ergo, **average consumer would not see an improvement in page loading time by upgrading their connection.** (doh!)



Bandwidth doesn't matter (*much*)



- **Improving bandwidth is "easy"...**

- 60% of new capacity through upgrades in past decade + unlit fiber
- *"Just lay more fiber..."*

- **Improving latency is expensive... impossible?**

- Bounded by the speed of light - oops!
- We're already within a small constant factor of the maximum
- *"Shorter cables?"*



\$80M / ms



Mobile, oh Mobile...

"Users of the **Sprint 4G network** can expect to experience average speeds of 3 Mbps to 6 Mbps download and up to 1.5 Mbps upload with an **average latency of 150 ms**. On the **Sprint 3G** network, users can expect to experience average speeds of 600 Kbps - 1.4 Mbps download and 350 Kbps - 500 Kbps upload with an **average latency of 400 ms**."

	3G	4G
Sprint	150 - 400 ms	150 ms
AT&T	150 - 400 ms	100 - 200 ms





Why are mobile latencies so high?

... and variable?

Design constraint #1: "Stable" performance + scalability



- **Control** over network performance and resource allocation
- Ability to manage **10~100's of active devices** within single cell
- Coverage of much larger area



Design constraint #2: Maximize battery life



- Radio is the **second most expensive** component (after screen)
- Limited amount of available power (as you are well aware)

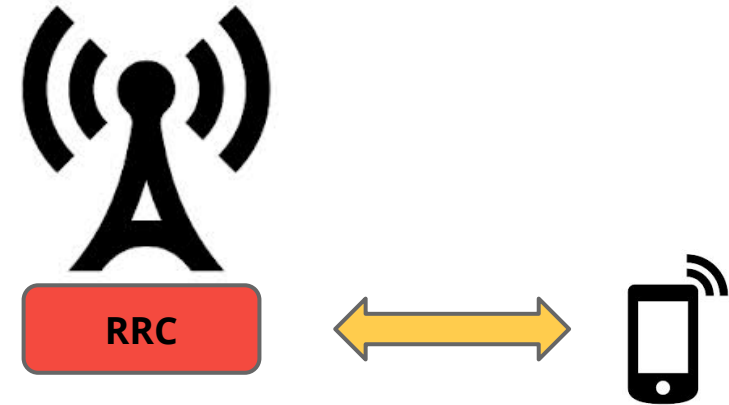


Radio Resource Controller

- **Phone:** Hi, I want to transmit data, *please?*
- **RRC:** OK.
 - Transmit in [x-y] timeslots
 - Transmit with Z power
 - Transmit with Q modulation

... (some time later) ...

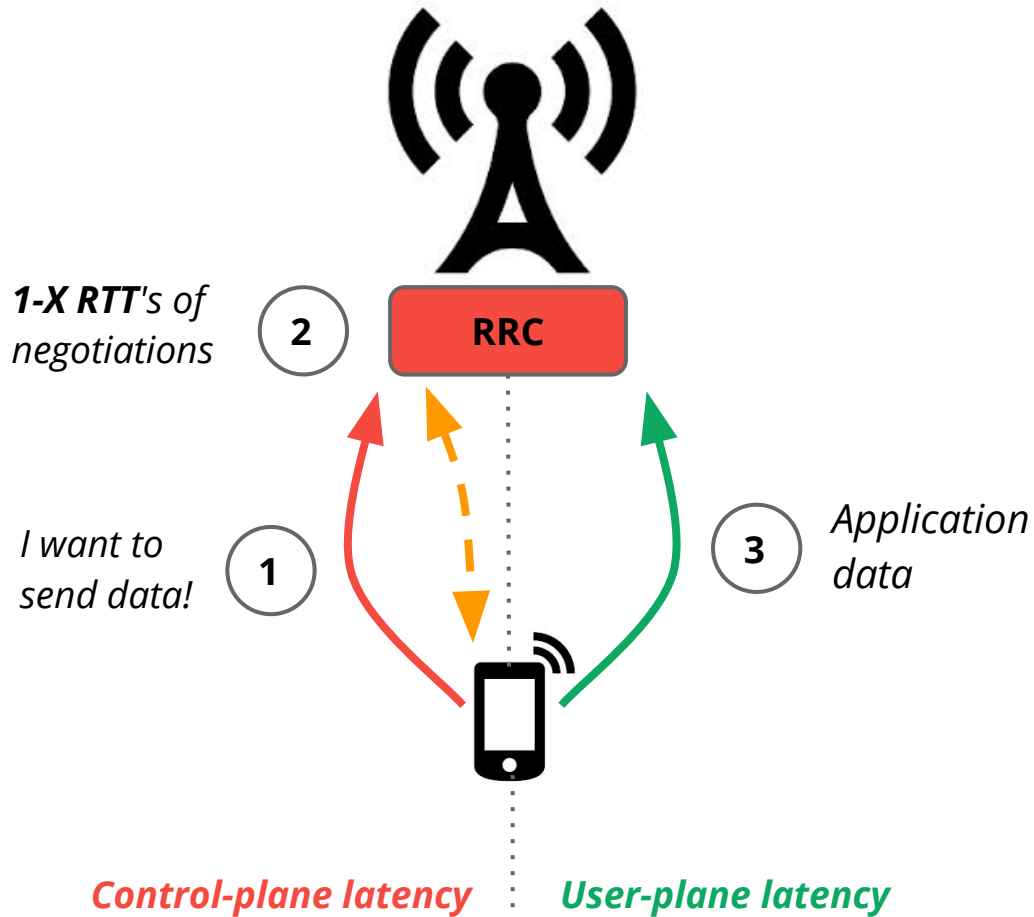
- **RRC:** Go into low power state.



All **communication and power management is centralized** and managed by the RRC.



3G / 4G Control and User plane latencies



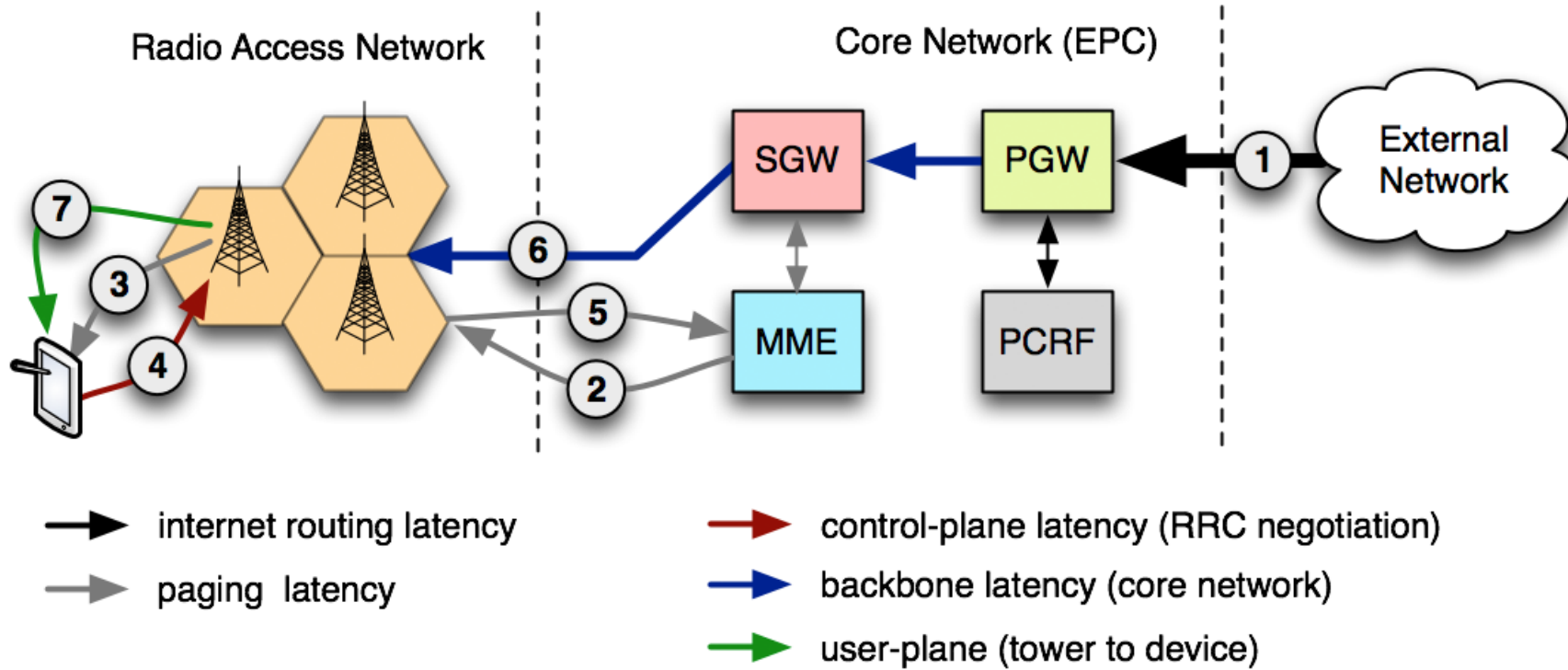
- There is a **one time** cost for control-plane negotiation
- **User-plane latency** is the one-way latency between packet availability in the device and packet at the base station

	LTE	HSPA+	3G
Idle to connected latency	< 100 ms	< 100 ms	< 2.5 s
User-plane one-way latency	< 5 ms	< 10 ms	< 50 ms



Same process happens for incoming data, just reverse steps 1 and 2

Inbound packet flow



	LTE	HSPA+	HSPA	EDGE	GPRS
AT&T core network latency	40-50 ms	50-200 ms	150-400 ms	600-750 ms	600-750 ms





*... all that to send a **single TCP packet?***



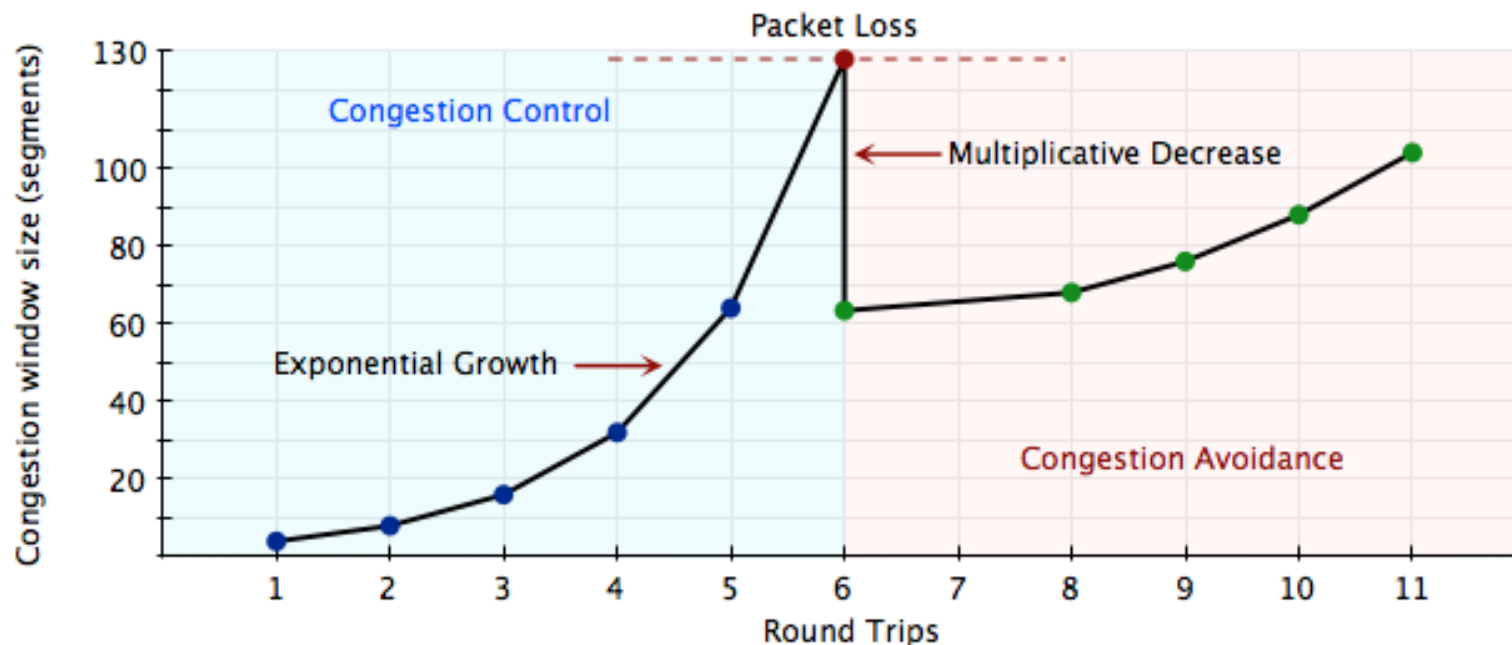


Why is latency the bottleneck?

... what's the relationship between latency and bandwidth?

TCP Congestion Control & Avoidance...

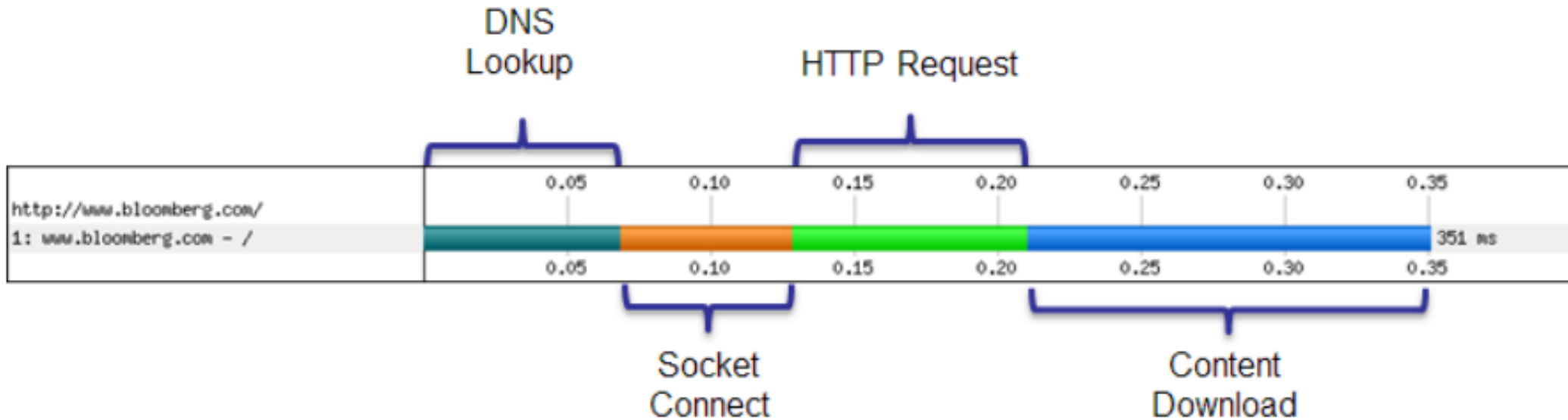
- TCP is designed to probe the network to figure out the available capacity
- TCP **does not** use full bandwidth capacity from the start!



TCP Slow Start is a feature, not a bug.



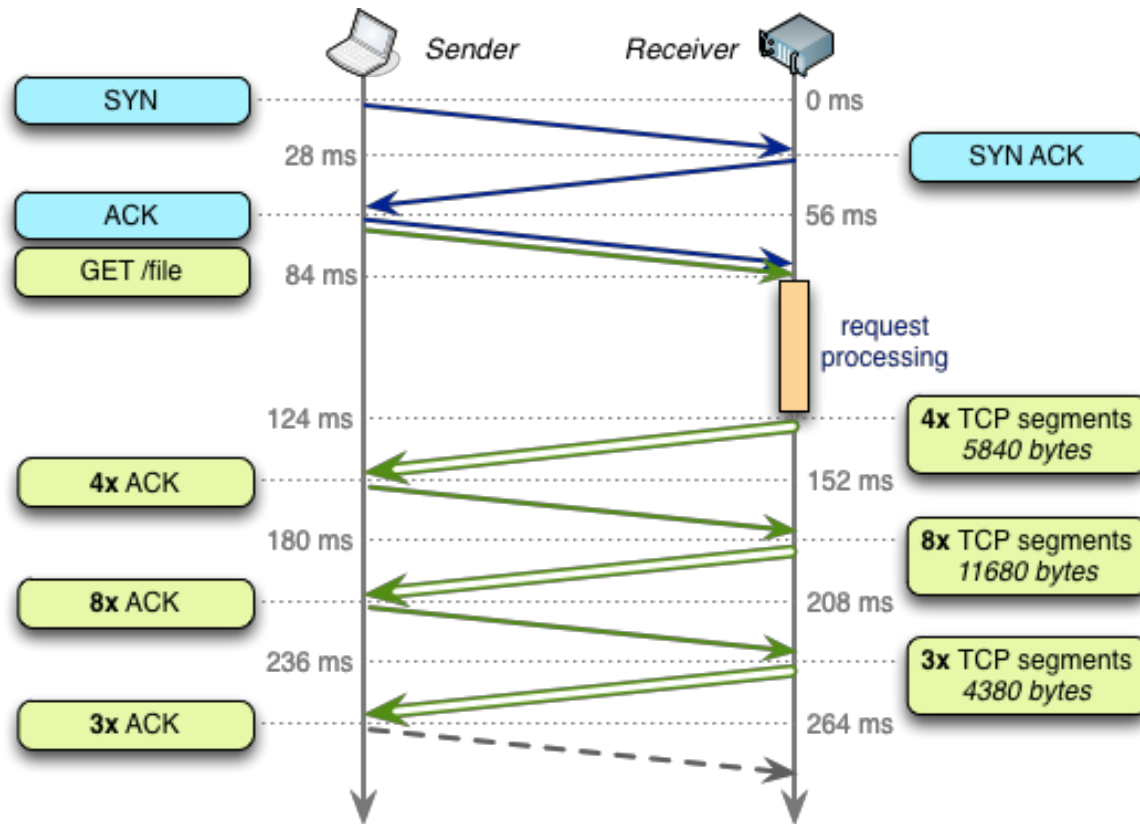
The *(short)* life of a web request



- *(Worst case)* **DNS lookup** to resolve the hostname to IP address
- *(Worst case)* **New TCP connection**, requiring a full roundtrip to the server
- *(Worst case)* **TLS handshake** with up to two extra server roundtrips!
- **HTTP request**, requiring a full roundtrip to the server
- **Server processing time**



Let's fetch a 20 KB file via a **low-latency** link (IW4)...



- **5 Mbps** connection
- **56 ms** roundtrip time (NYC > London)
- **40 ms** server processing time



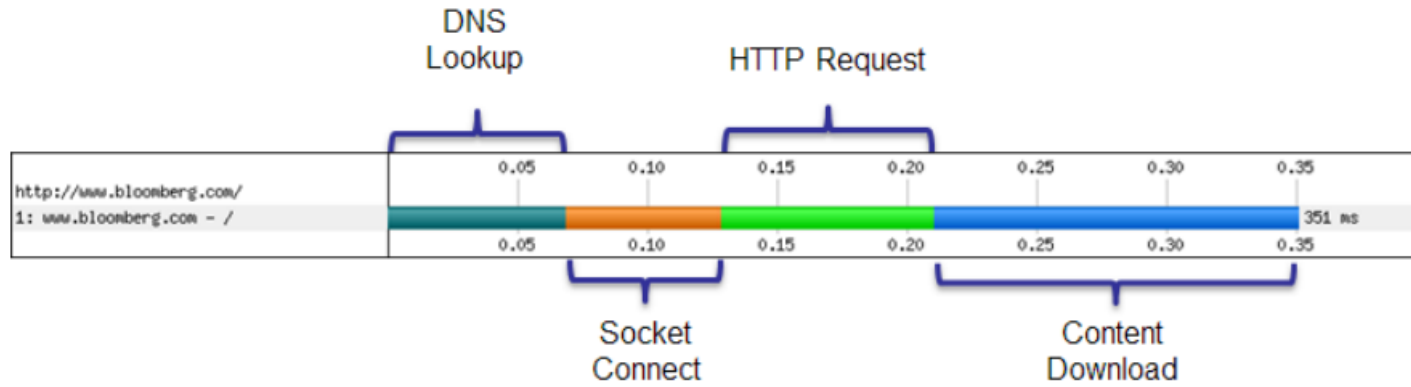
4 roundtrips, or 264 ms!



Plus DNS and TLS roundtrips



Let's fetch a 20 KB file via a **3G / 4G** link...



	3G (200 ms RTT)	4G (100 ms RTT)
Control plane	(200-2500 ms)	(50-100 ms)
DNS lookup	200 ms	100 ms
TCP Connection	200 ms	100 ms
TLS handshake (optional)	(200-400 ms)	(100-200 ms)
HTTP request	200 ms	100 ms
Total time	800 - 4100 ms	400 - 900 ms

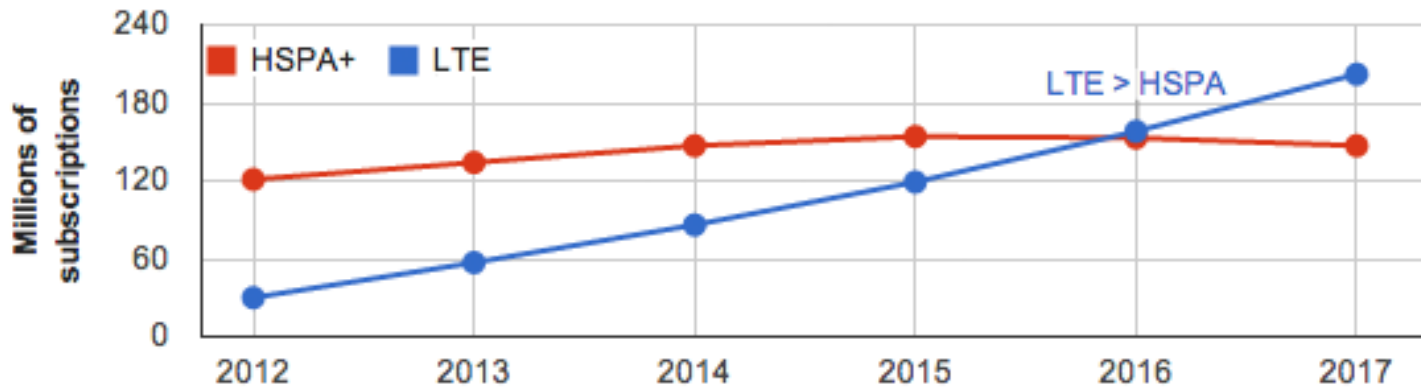
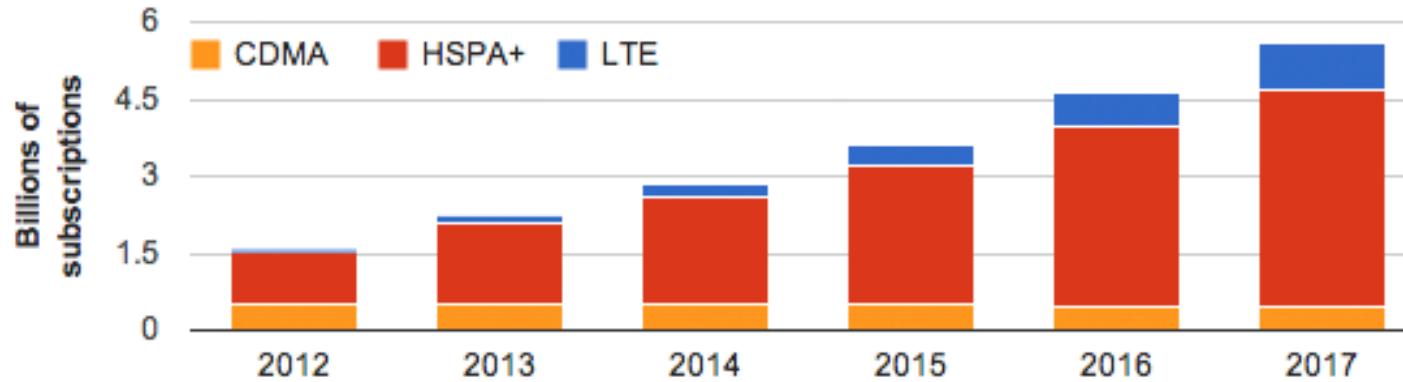
x4 (slow start)



One 20 KB HTTP request!



Not so good news everybody!



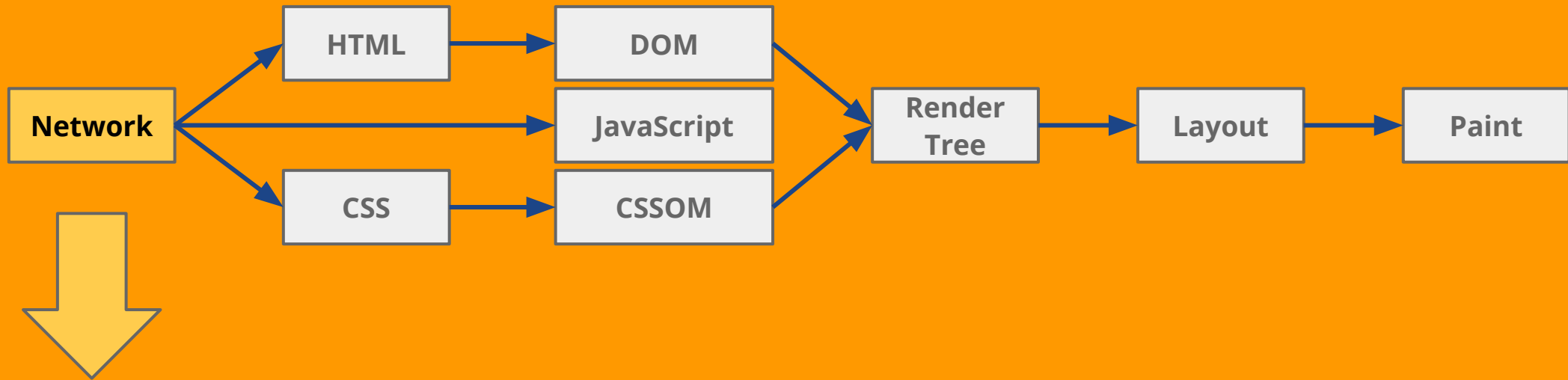
HSPA+ will be the *dominant network type of the next decade!*

- Latest HSPA+ releases are comparable to LTE in performance
- 3G networks will be with us for **at least another decade**



LTE adoption in US and Canada is **way ahead** of the world-wide trends





Latency is the bottleneck for web performance

- Lots of small transfers
- New TCP connections are expensive
- High latency overhead on mobile networks

... in short: no, the network won't save us.





Network optimization tips?

Glad you asked... :-)

TCP, TLS, mobile / wireless and HTTP best practices...



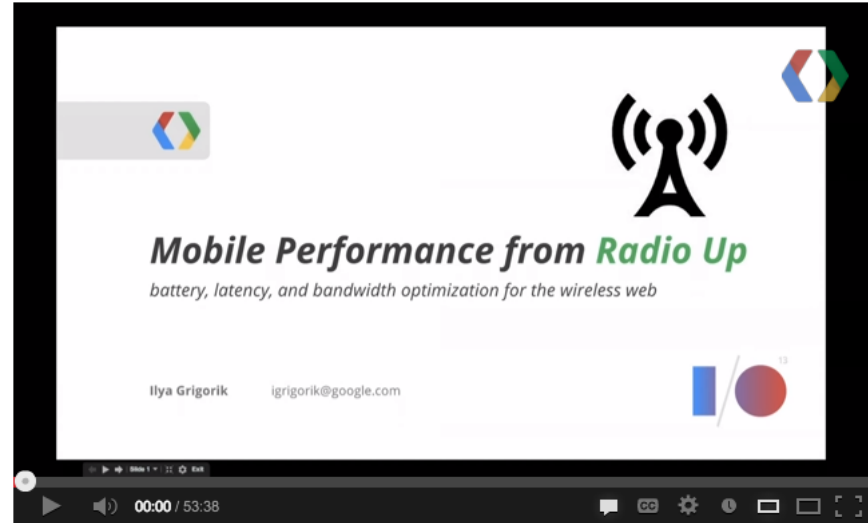
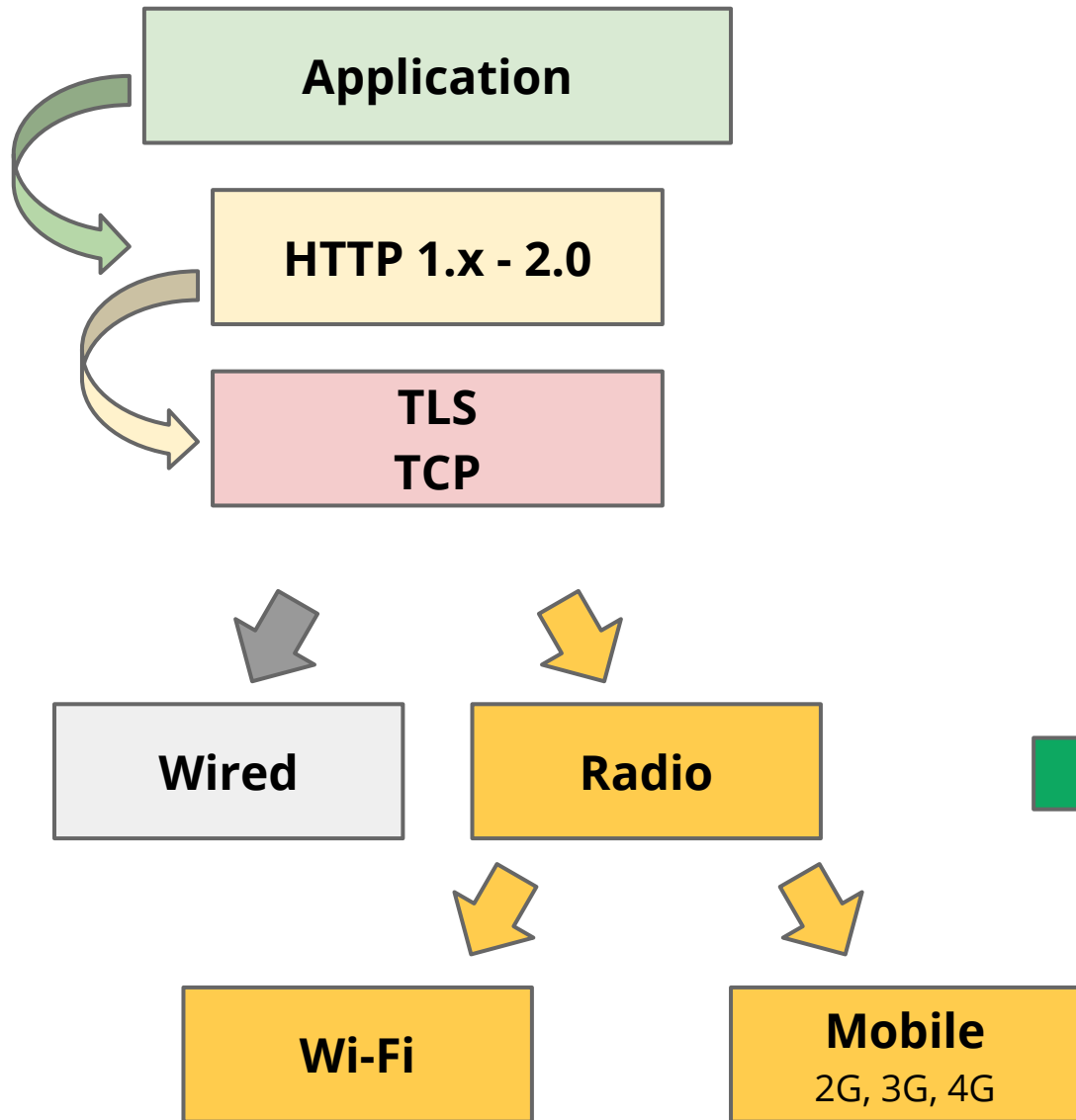
- Optimize your **TCP** server stacks
- Optimize your **TLS** deployment
- Optimizing for **wireless** networks
- Optimizing for **HTTP 1.x quirks**
- Migrating to **HTTP 2.0**
- XHR, SSE, WebSocket, WebRTC, ...

~~\$29.99~~ Read Online for Free
Brought to you by Fluent Conference

<http://bit.ly/fluent-hpbn>

</shameless self promotion>



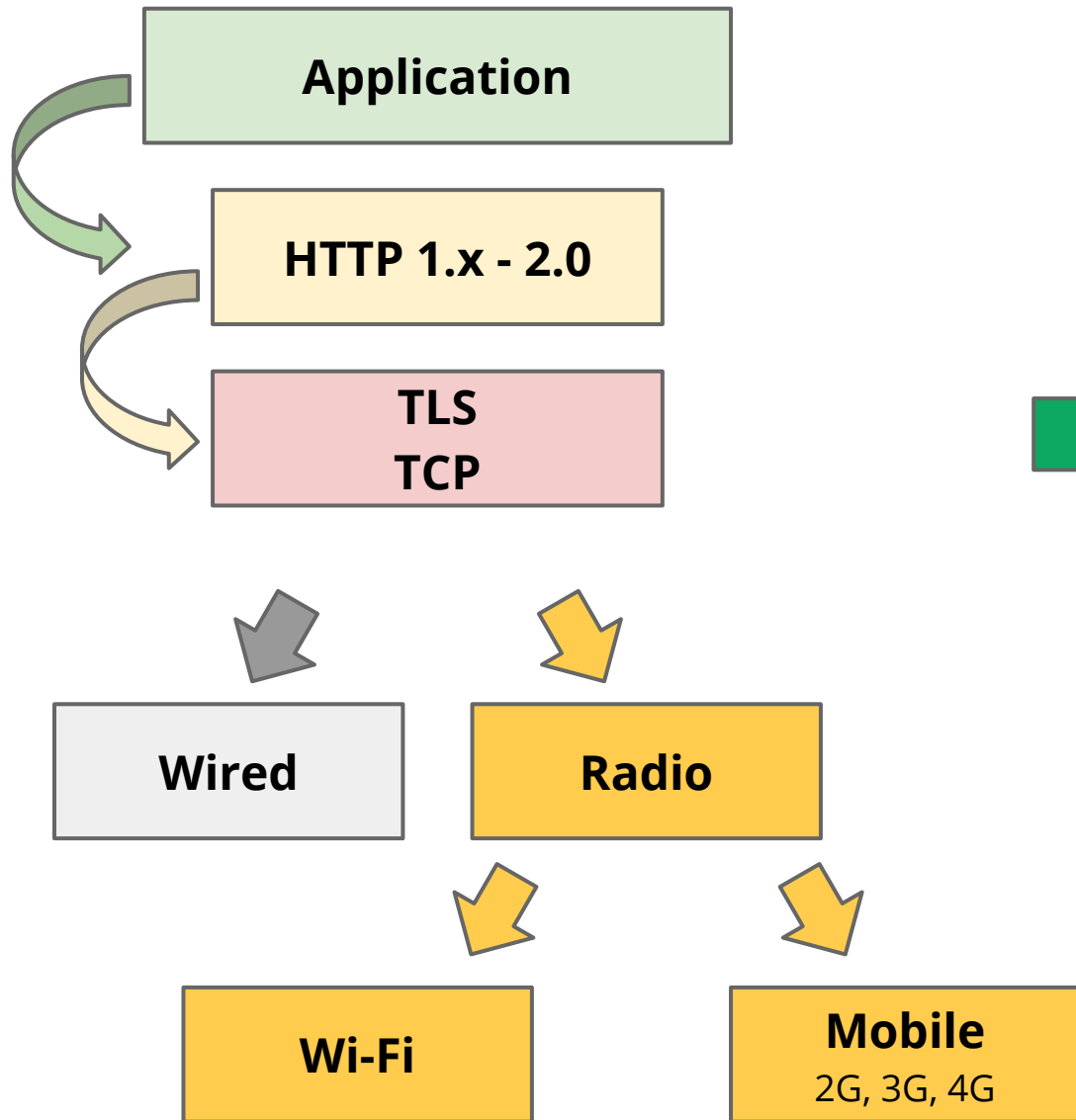


<http://bit.ly/io-radioup>

- How Wi-Fi + 3G/4G works
- RRC + battery life optimization
- Data bursting, prefetching
- Inefficiency of periodic transfers
- Intermittent connectivity
-

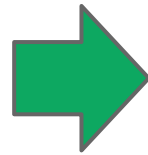
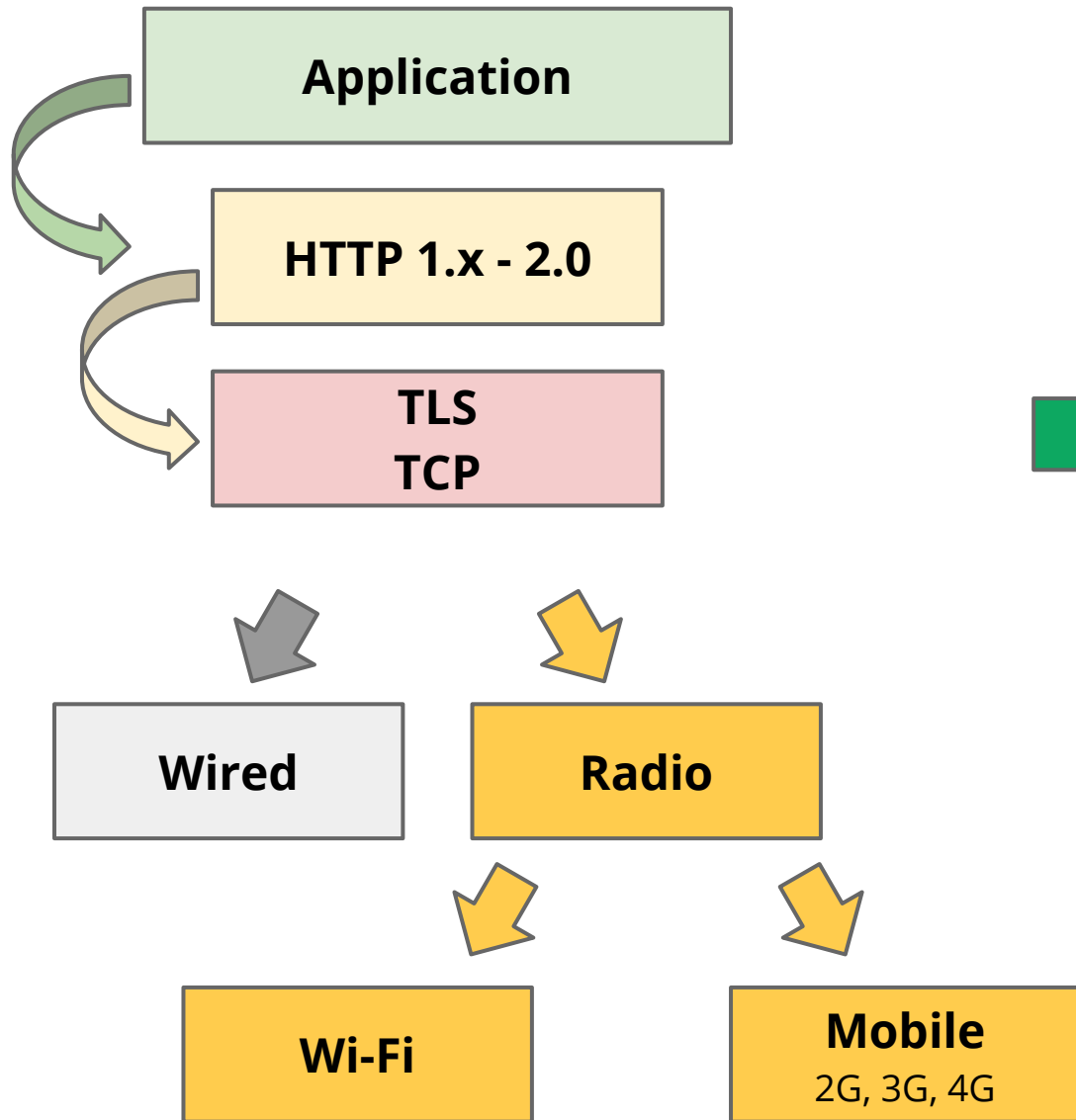


<http://bit.ly/fluent-hpbn>



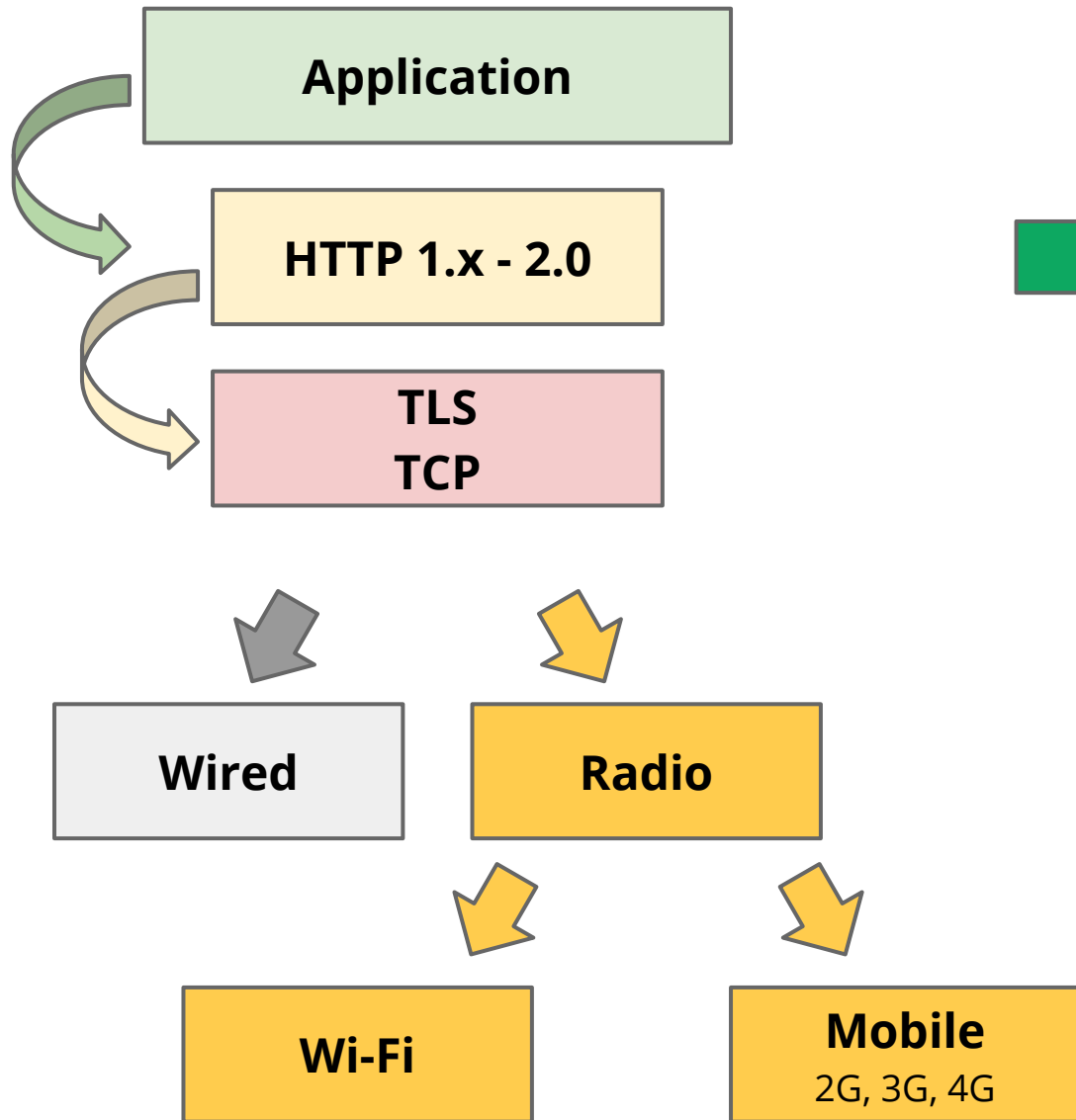
- Upgrade kernel: Linux 3.2+
- IW10 + disable slow start after idle
- TCP window scaling
- Position servers closer to the user
- Reuse established TCP connections
- Compress transferred data
-





- Upgrade TLS libraries
- Use session caching / session tickets
- Early TLS termination (CDN)
- Optimize TLS record size
- Optimize certificate size
- Disable TLS compression
- Configure SNI support
- Use HTTP Strict Transport Security
-

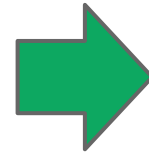
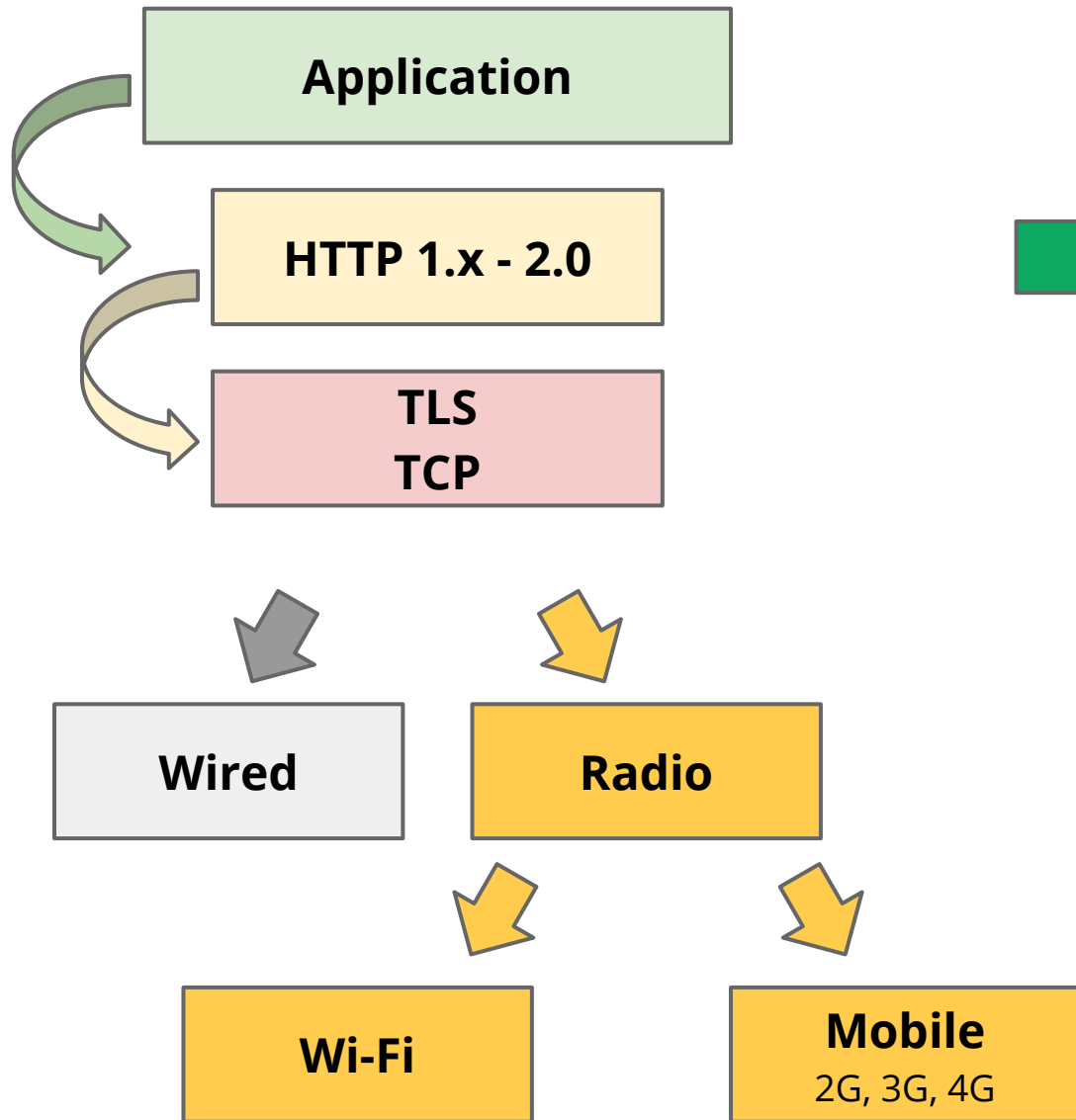




HTTP 1.x **hacks** and **best practices**:

- Concatenate files (CSS, JS)
- Sprite small images
- Shard assets across origins
- Minimize protocol overhead
- Inline assets
- Compress (gzip) assets
- Cache assets!
-



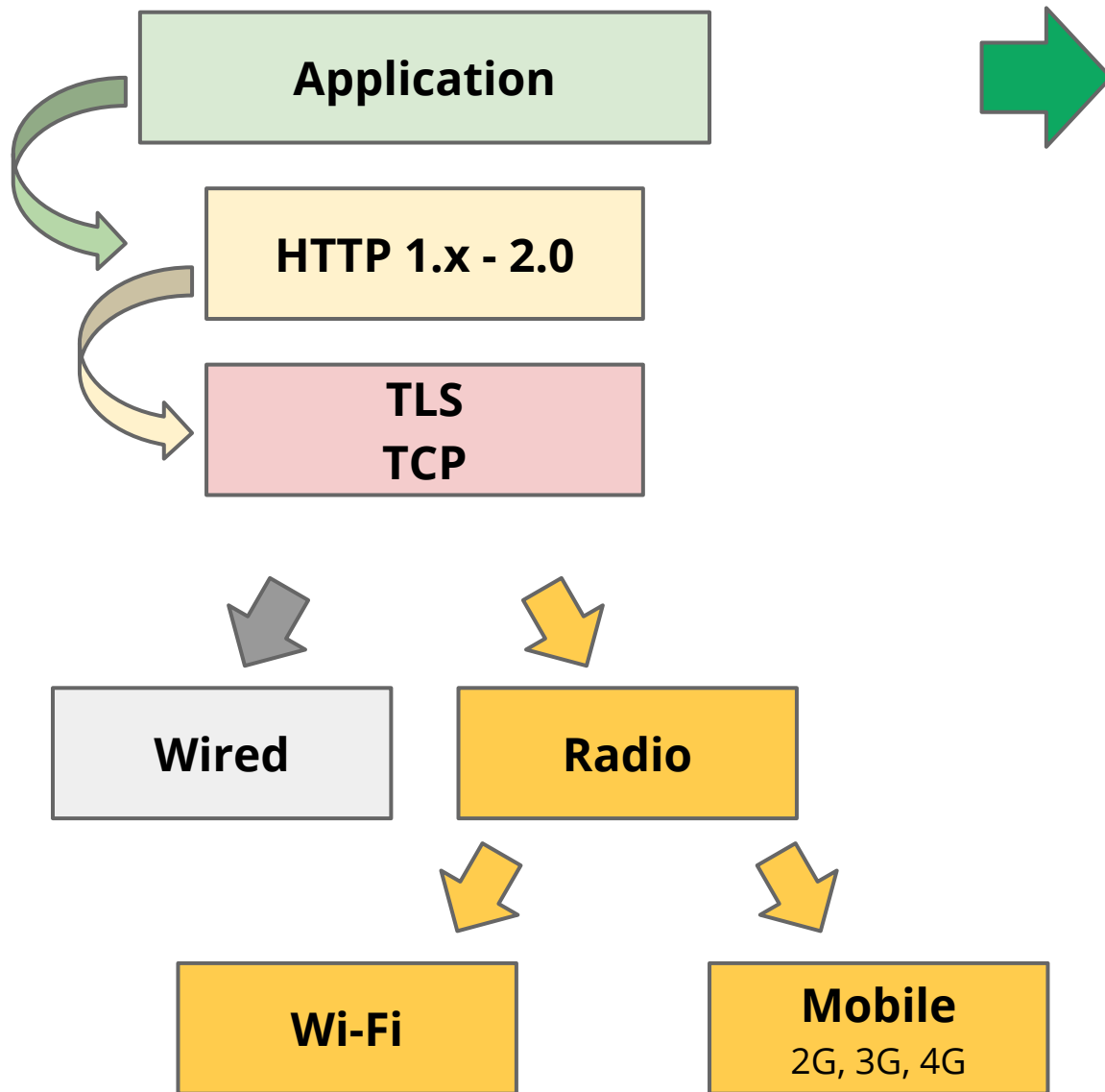


HTTP 2.0 to the rescue!

- Undo HTTP 1.x hacks... :-)
- Unshard your assets
- Leverage server push
-

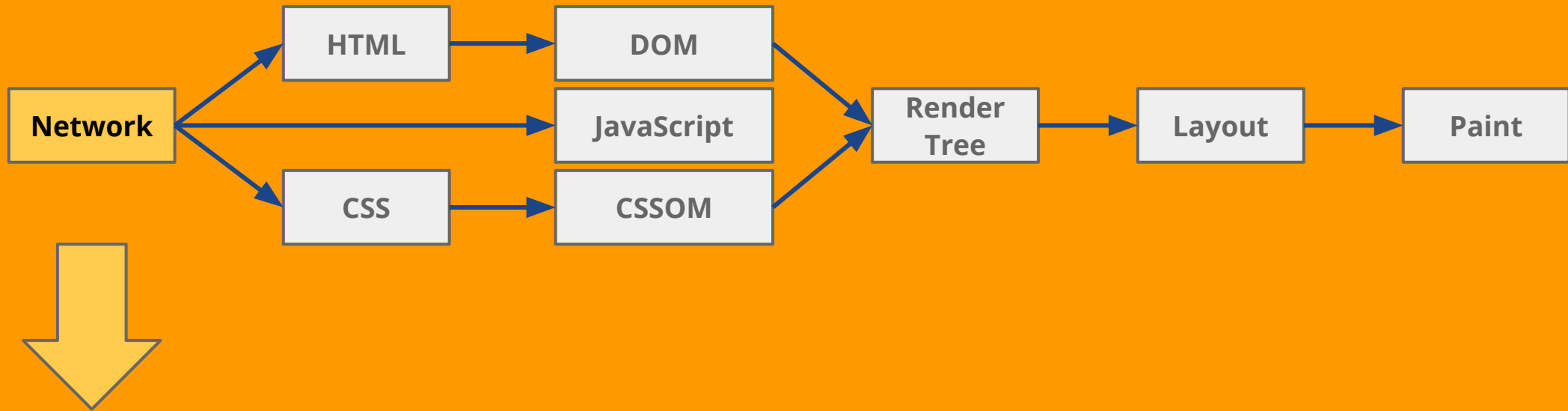
(more on this in a second)





- XMLHttpRequest do's and don'ts
- Server-Sent Events
- WebSocket
- WebRTC
 - DataChannel - UDP in the browser!





Foundation of your performance strategy.

Get it right!





Let's (briefly) talk about **HTTP 2.0**

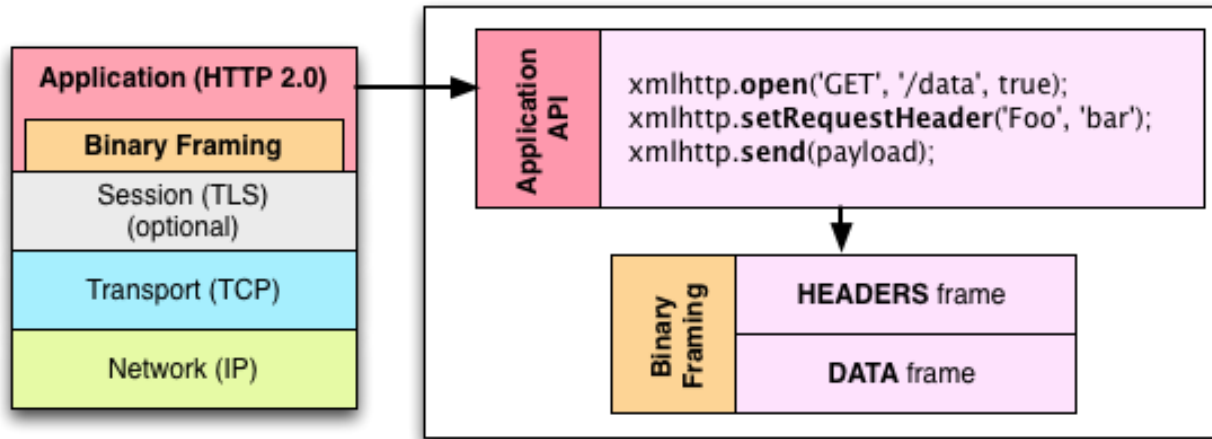
Will it fix all things? No, but many...

... **we're not replacing all of HTTP** — the methods, status codes, and most of the headers you use today will be the same. Instead, **we're re-defining how it gets used "on the wire" so it's more efficient**, and so that it is more gentle to the Internet itself

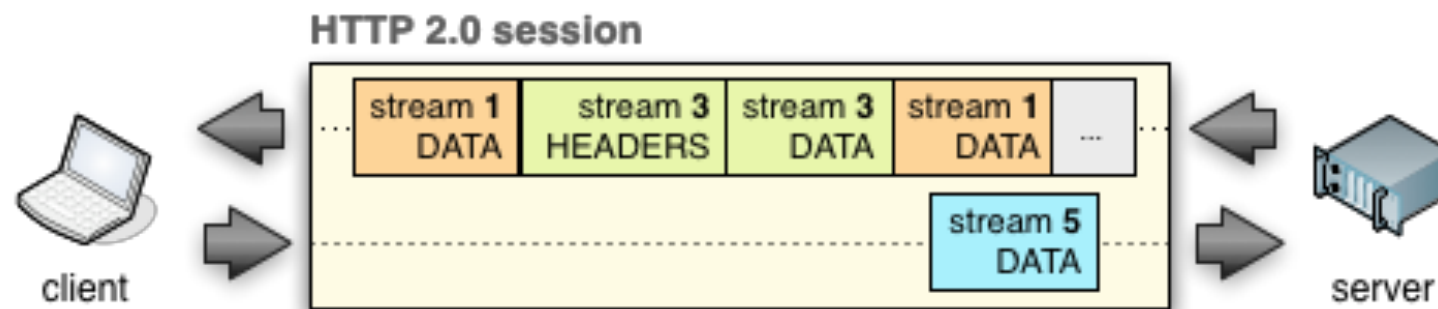
- Mark Nottingham



HTTP 2.0 in a nutshell...



- New binary framing
- One connection (session)
- Many parallel requests (streams)
- Header compression
- Stream prioritization
- Server push



What's HTTP server push?

Premise: server can push multiple resources in response to one request

- What if the client doesn't want the resource?
 - *Client can cancel stream if it doesn't want the resource*
- Resource goes into browsers cache
 - *HTTP 2.0 server push does not have an application API (JavaScript)*

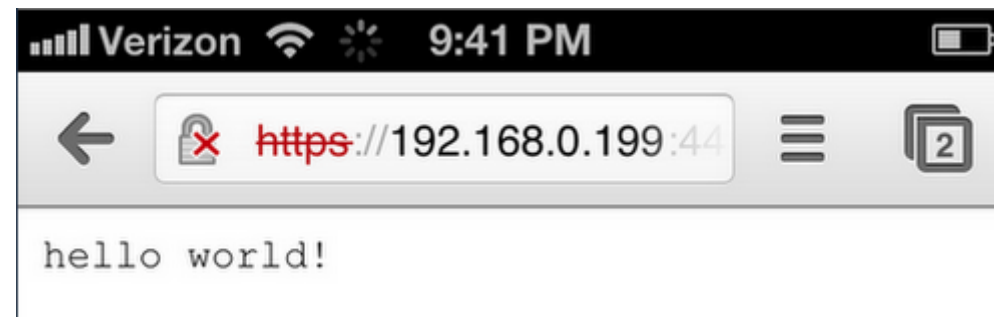
Newsflash: we are already using "server push"

- Today, we call it "inlining" (to be exact it's "forced push")
- Inlining works for unique resources, bloats pages otherwise



How do I use HTTP 2.0 today? Use SPDY...

- **Chrome**, since forever..
 - Chrome on Android + iOS
- **Firefox 13+**
- **Opera 12.10+**



Server

- mod_spdy (Apache)
- nginx
- Jetty, Netty
- node-spdy
- ...

3rd parties

- Twitter
- Wordpress
- Facebook

- Akamai
- Contendo
- F5 SPDY Gateway
- Strangeloop
- ...

All Google properties

- Search, GMail, Docs
- GAE + SSL users
- ...



HTTP 2.0 / SPDY FAQ

- **Q: Do I need to modify my site to work with SPDY / HTTP 2.0?**
- **A:** No. But you can optimize for it.

- **Q: How do I optimize the code for my site or app?**
- **A:** "Unshard", stop worrying about silly things (like spriting, etc).

- **Q: Any server optimizations?**
- **A:** Yes!
 - CWND = 10
 - Check your SSL certificate chain (length)
 - TLS resume, terminate SSL connections closer to the user
 - Disable TCP slow start on idle

- **Q: Sounds complicated...**
- **A:** mod_spdy, nginx, GAE!

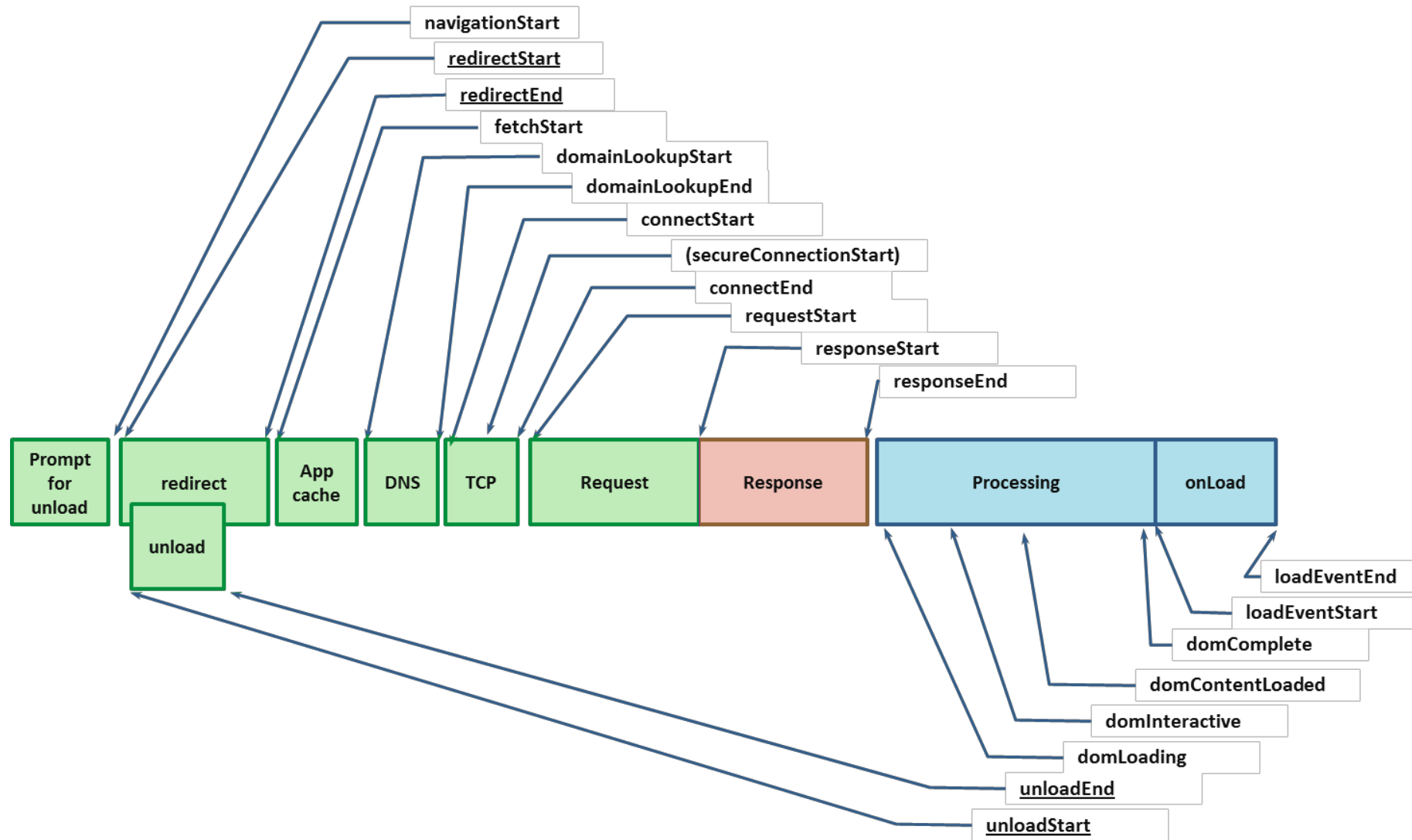




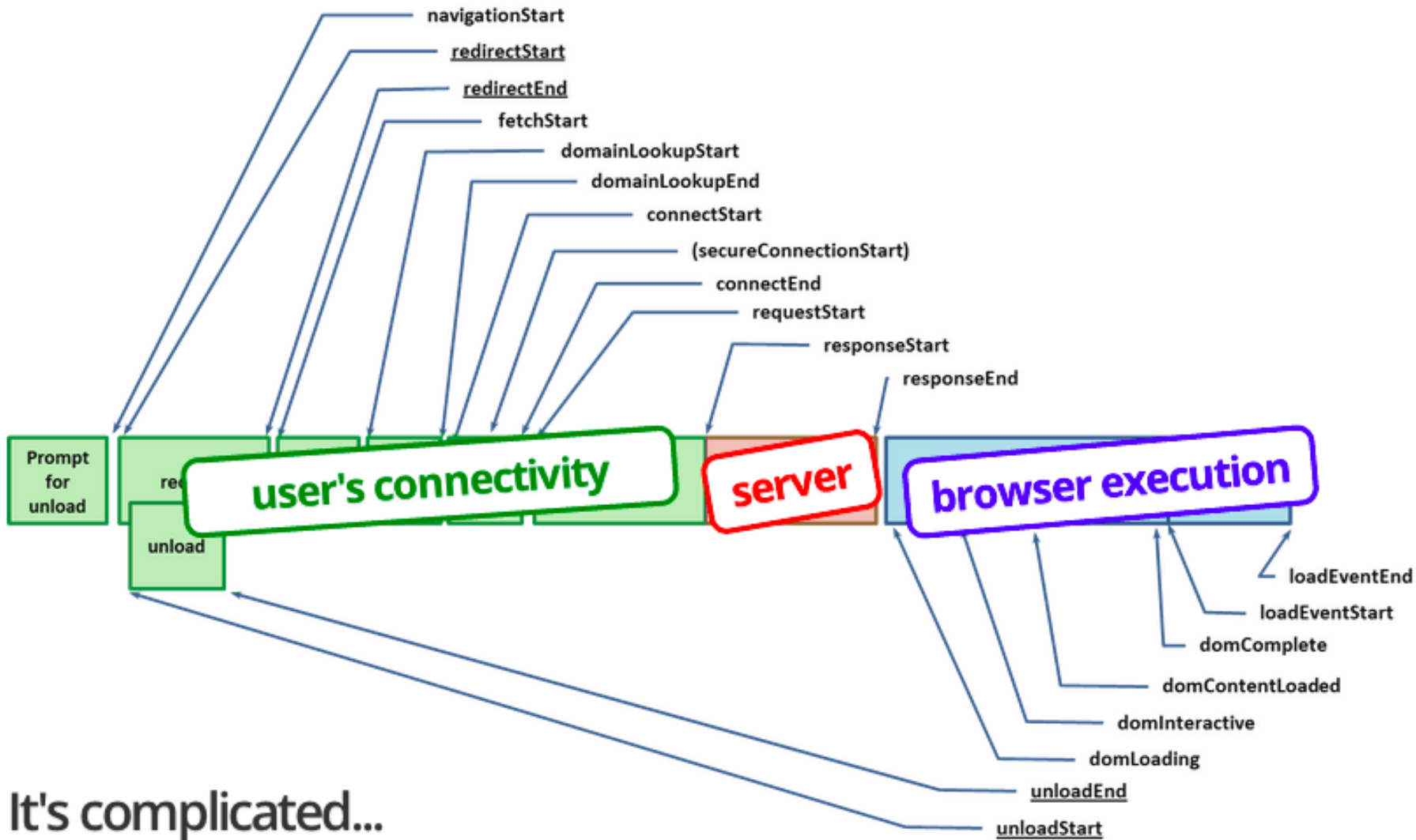
Measuring network performance

Real users, on real networks, with real devices...

Navigation Timing (W3C)



Navigation Timing (W3C)



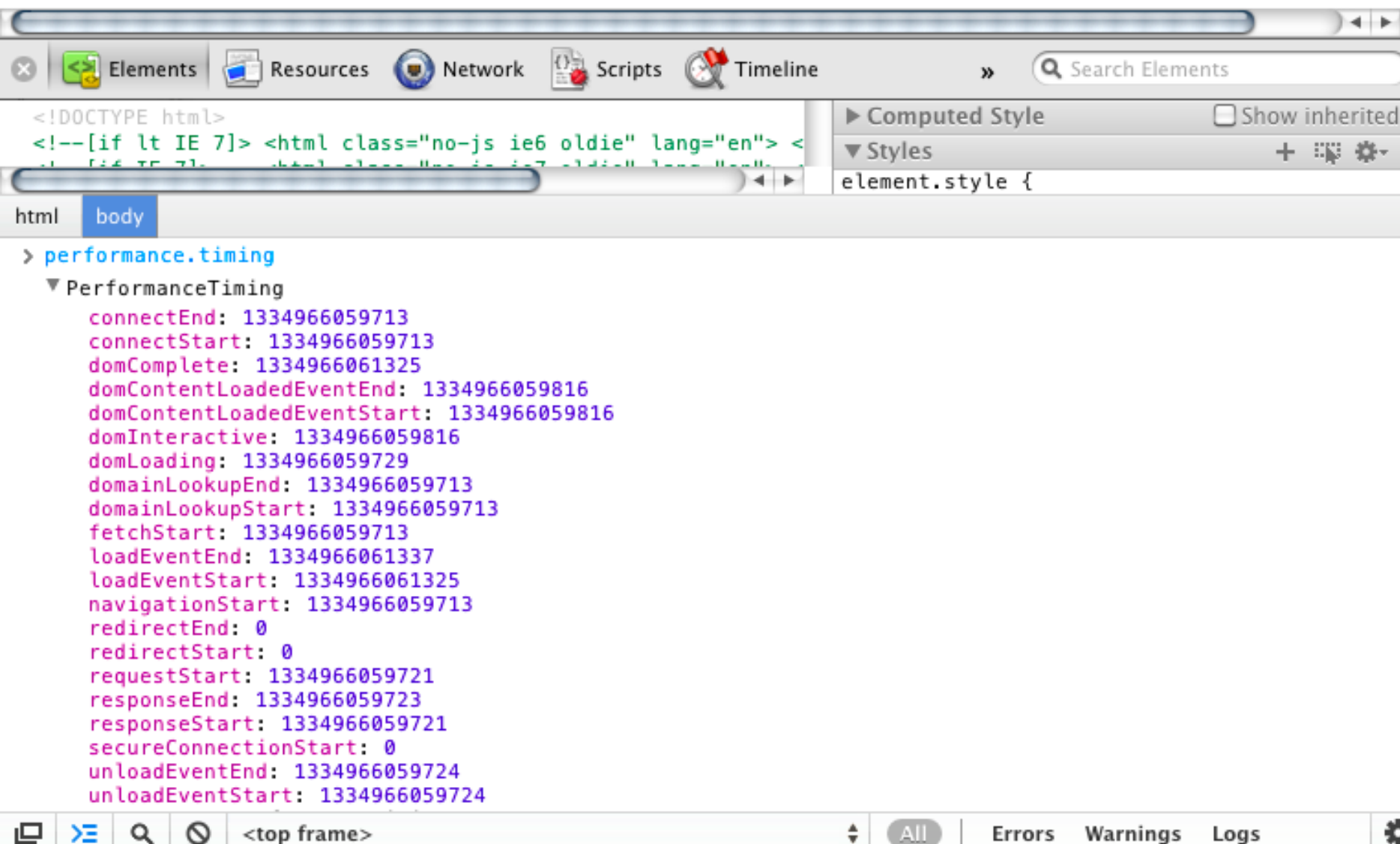
It's complicated...



W3C Navigation Timing

If we want to see the end-user perspective, then we need to instrument the browser to give us this information. Thankfully, the [W3C Web Performance Working Group](#) is ahead of us: [Navigation Timing](#).

The spec is still a draft, but Chrome, Firefox and IE have already implemented the proposal.



The screenshot shows a browser's developer tools interface. The top panel displays the 'Elements' tree with the 'body' element selected. The right panel shows the 'Computed Style' and 'Styles' for the selected element. The bottom panel shows the 'Performance' tab, with the 'PerformanceTiming' object expanded to show various timing metrics.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<!--[if lt IE 7]> <html class="no-js ie6 oldie" lang="en"> <
</if IE 7> </html class="no-js ie6 oldie" lang="en">

html
  body
    > performance.timing
      PerformanceTiming
        connectEnd: 1334966059713
        connectStart: 1334966059713
        domComplete: 1334966061325
        domContentLoadedEventEnd: 1334966059816
        domContentLoadedEventStart: 1334966059816
        domInteractive: 1334966059816
        domLoading: 1334966059729
        domainLookupEnd: 1334966059713
        domainLookupStart: 1334966059713
        fetchStart: 1334966059713
        loadEventEnd: 1334966061337
        loadEventStart: 1334966061325
        navigationStart: 1334966059713
        redirectEnd: 0
        redirectStart: 0
        requestStart: 1334966059721
        responseEnd: 1334966059723
        responseStart: 1334966059721
        secureConnectionStart: 0
        unloadEventEnd: 1334966059724
        unloadEventStart: 1334966059724
```

Available in...

- IE 9+
- Firefox 7+
- Chrome 6+
- Android 4.0+

Real User Measurement (**RUM**) with Google Analytics

```
<script>
  _gaq.push(['_setAccount', 'UA-XXXX-X']);
  _gaq.push(['_setSiteSpeedSampleRate', 100]); // #protip
  _gaq.push(['_trackPageview']);
</script>
```

Google Analytics > Content > **Site Speed**

- Automagically collects this data for you - defaults to 1% sampling rate
- Maximum sample is 10k visits/day
- You can set custom sampling rate

You have all the power of Google Analytics! Segments, conversion metrics, ...

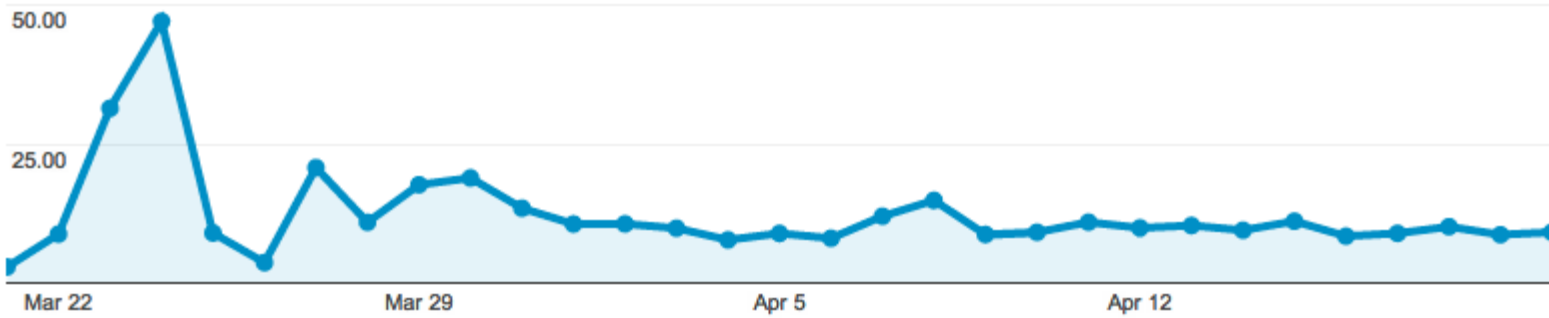


Avg. Page Load Time (sec) vs. Select a metric

Day Week Month



Avg. Page Load Time (sec)



Pageviews	Avg. Page Load Time (sec)	Avg. Redirection Time (sec)	Avg. Domain Lookup Time (sec)	Avg. Server Connection Time (sec)	Avg. Server Response Time (sec)	Avg. Page Download Time (sec)
59,778 % of Total: 100.00% (59,778)	9.70 Site Avg: 9.70 (0.00%)	0.36 Site Avg: 0.36 (0.00%)	0.18 Site Avg: 0.18 (0.00%)	0.12 Site Avg: 0.12 (0.00%)	0.30 Site Avg: 0.30 (0.00%)	0.17 Site Avg: 0.17 (0.00%)

Primary Dimension: Page Page Title Other

Secondary dimension Sort Type: Default

advanced

Page	Pageviews	Avg. Page Load Time (sec)	Avg. Redirection Time (sec)	Avg. Domain Lookup Time (sec)	Avg. Server Connection Time (sec)	Avg. Server Response Time (sec)	Avg. Page Download Time (sec)
1. /	5,832	3.31	0.54	0.10	0.09	0.20	0.08
2. /2012/04/09/driving-google-chrome-via-websocket-api/	3,887	9.50	0.44	0.15	0.13	0.28	0.15

Performance data from **real users, on real networks**

Singapore - Desktop 0.59% of total pageviews

San Francisco - Desktop 3.21% of total pageviews

Japan - Desktop 1.66% of total pageviews

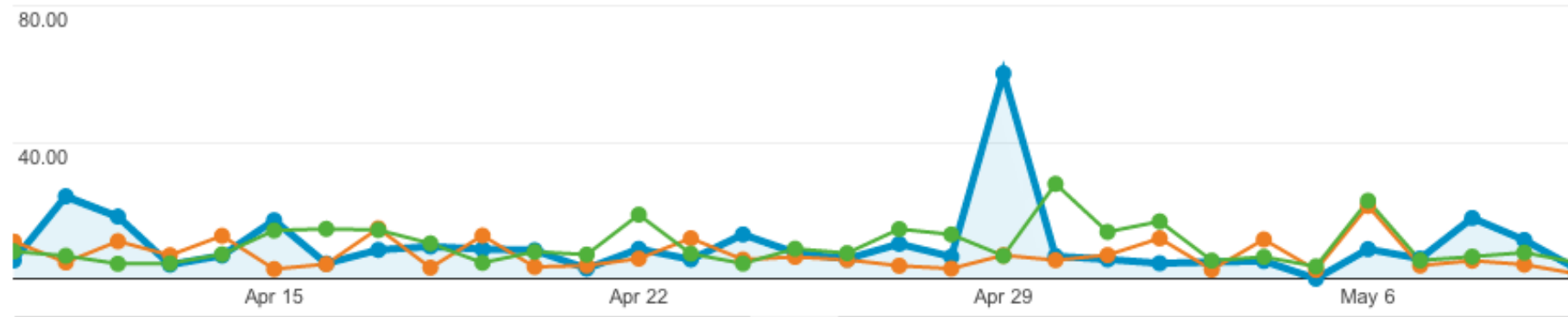
Explorer Performance Map Overlay

Site Usage Technical

Avg. Page Load Time (sec) vs. Select a metric

Day Week Month

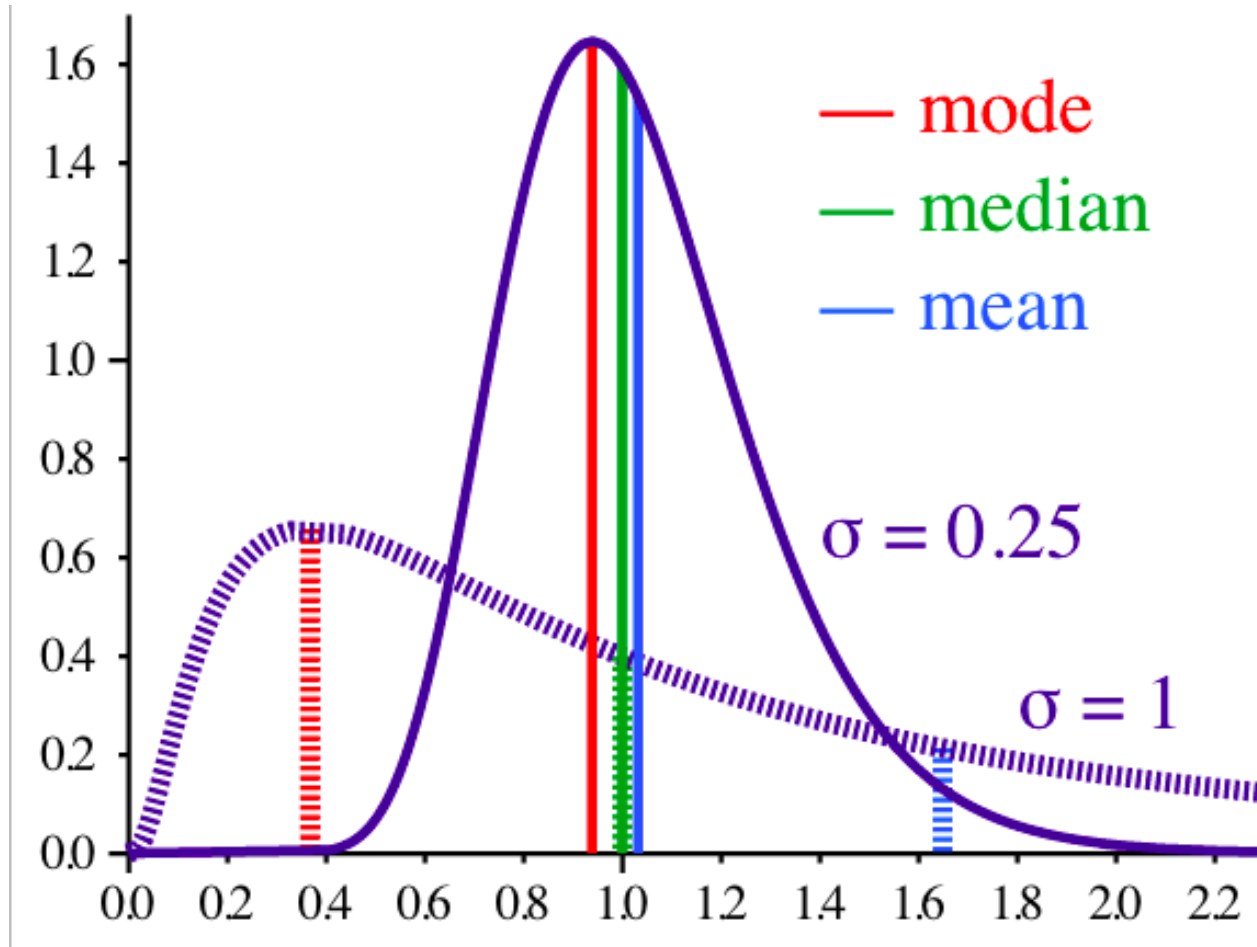
Avg. Page Load Time (sec) (Singapore - Desktop) Avg. Page Load Time (sec) (San Francisco - Desktop)
Avg. Page Load Time (sec) (Japan - Desktop)



	Pageviews	Avg. Page Load Time (sec)	Avg. Redirection Time (sec)	Avg. Domain Lookup Time (sec)	Avg. Server Connection Time (sec)	Avg. Server Response Time (sec)	Avg. Page Download Time (sec)
Singapore - Desktop	347 % of Total: 0.59% (58,355)	10.77 Site Avg: 9.63 (11.86%)	1.89 Site Avg: 0.24 (694.56%)	0.29 Site Avg: 0.18 (65.83%)	0.08 Site Avg: 0.12 (-33.25%)	0.41 Site Avg: 0.31 (33.72%)	0.10 Site Avg: 0.20 (-49.40%)
San Francisco - Desktop	1,873 % of Total: 3.21% (58,355)	6.83 Site Avg: 9.63 (-29.09%)	0.27 Site Avg: 0.24 (12.65%)	0.10 Site Avg: 0.18 (-43.08%)	0.05 Site Avg: 0.12 (-60.74%)	0.20 Site Avg: 0.31 (-34.36%)	0.14 Site Avg: 0.20 (-32.17%)

Full power of GA to segment, filter, compare, ...

Averages are **misleading**...











Head into the **Technical reports** to see the histograms and distributions!











Case study: igvita.com **page load times**

Dec 1, 2011 - Dec 31, 2011 ▾

Page Load Time Bucket (sec)	Page Load Sample	Percentage of total
0 - 1	22	5.35% 
1 - 3	116	28.22% 
3 - 7	148	36.01% 
7 - 13	66	16.06% 
13 - 21	22	5.35% 
21 - 35	14	3.41% 
35 - 60	10	2.43% 
60+	13	3.16% 

Jan 1, 2012 - Jan 31, 2012 ▾

Page Load Time Bucket (sec)	Page Load Sample	Percentage of total
0 - 1	83	13.61% 
1 - 3	256	41.97% 
3 - 7	158	25.90% 
7 - 13	58	9.51% 
13 - 21	14	2.30% 
21 - 35	9	1.48% 
35 - 60	6	0.98% 
60+	26	4.26% 








Content > Site Speed > Page Timings > Performance

Migrated site to new host, server stack, web layout, and using static generation. Result: noticeable shift in the user page load time distribution.










Case study: igvita.com **server response times**

Dec 1, 2011 - Dec 31, 2011 ▾

Server Response Time Bucket (sec)	Response Sample	Percentage of total
0 - 0.01	18	4.40% 
0.01 - 0.10	33	8.07% 
0.10 - 0.50	168	41.08% 
0.50 - 1	22	5.38% 
1 - 2	124	30.32% 
2 - 5	38	9.29% 
5+	6	1.47% 

Jan 1, 2012 - Jan 31, 2012 ▾

Server Response Time Bucket (sec)	Response Sample	Percentage of total
0 - 0.01	188	31.92% 
0.01 - 0.10	120	20.37% 
0.10 - 0.50	249	42.28% 
0.50 - 1	23	3.90% 
1 - 2	3	0.51% 
2 - 5	5	0.85% 
5+	1	0.17% 

Content > Site Speed > Page Timings > Performance

Bimodal response time distribution?

Theory: user cache vs. database cache vs. full recompute



1. *Measure user perceived network latency with Navigation Timing*
2. *Analyze RUM data to identify performance bottlenecks*
3. *Use GA's advanced segments (or similar solution)*
4. *Setup {daily, weekly, ...} reports*

Measure, analyze, optimize, repeat...



10m break... Questions?

Twitter @igrigorik

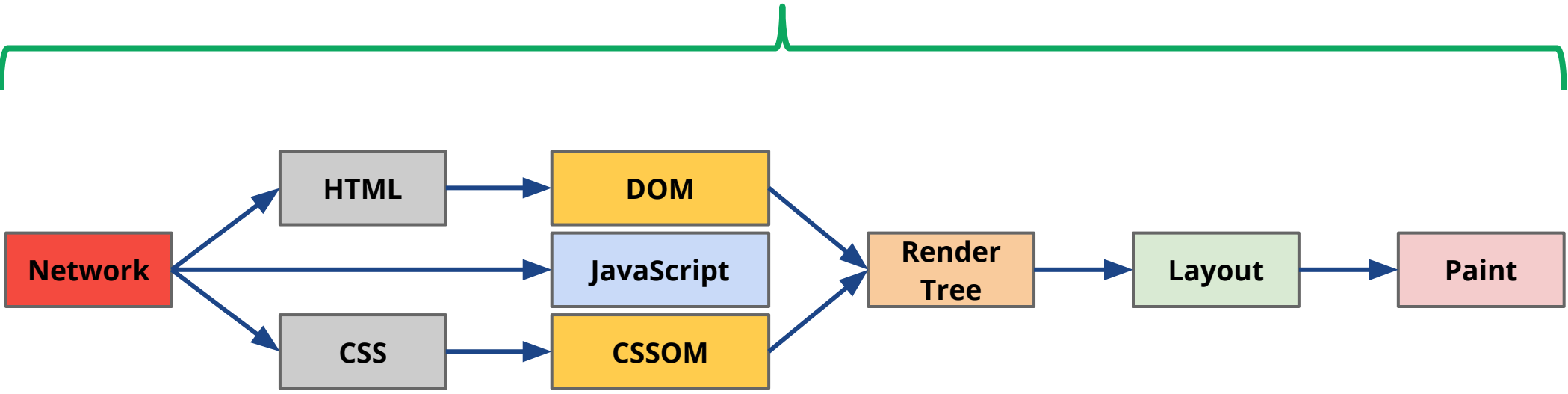
G+ [gplus.to/igrigorik](https://plus.google.com/u/0/igrigorik)

Web igvita.com



2

Critical rendering path: resource loading





What's the "critical" part?

To answer that, we need to peek inside the browser...

Let's try a simple example...

index.html

```
<!doctype html>
<meta charset=utf-8>
<title>Performance!</title>

<link href=styles.css rel=stylesheet />

<p>Hello <span>world!</span></p>
```



styles.css

```
p { font-weight: bold; }
span { display: none; }
```

- Simple (valid) HTML file
- External CSS stylesheet

What could be simpler, right?



HTML bytes are arriving on the wire...

index.html

```
<!doctype html>
<meta charset=utf-8>
<title>Performance!</title>

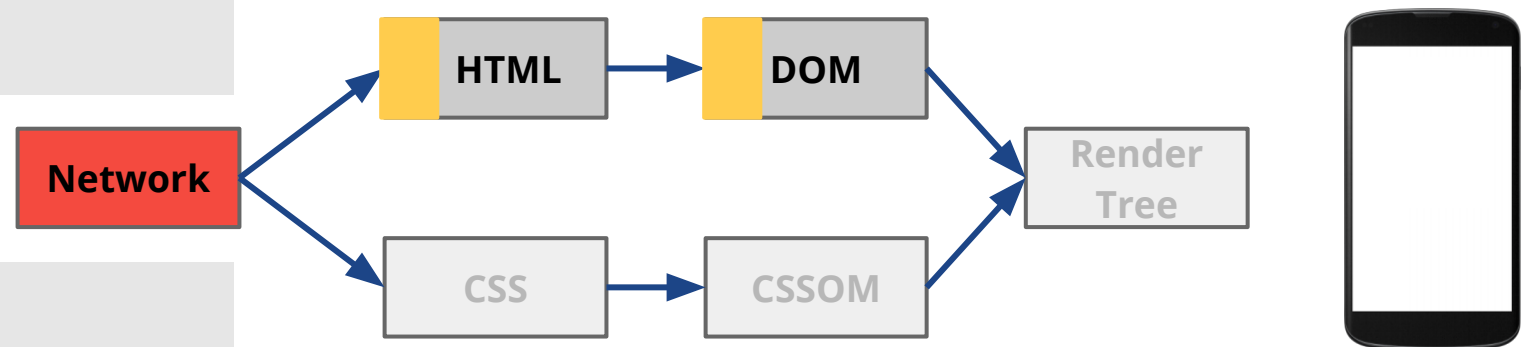
<link href=styles.css rel=stylesheet />

<p>Hello <span>world!</span></p>
```

styles.css

```
p { font-weight: bold; }
span { display: none; }
```

- first response packet with index.html bytes
- we have not discovered the CSS yet...



The HTML5 **parser** at work...

Bytes

3C 62 6F 64 79 3E 48 65 6C 6C 6F 2C 20 3C 73 70 61 6E 3E 77 6F 72 6C 64 21 3C 2F 73 70 61 6E 3E
3C 2F 62 6F 64 79 3E

Characters

<p>Hello world!</p>

Tokenizer

Tokens

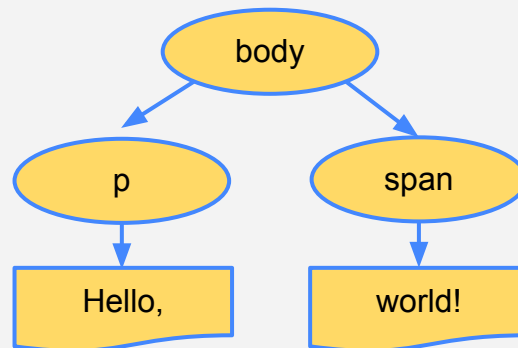


Nodes



TreeBuilder

DOM



DOM is constructed incrementally, as the bytes arrive on the "wire".



DOM construction is complete... **waiting on CSS!**

index.html

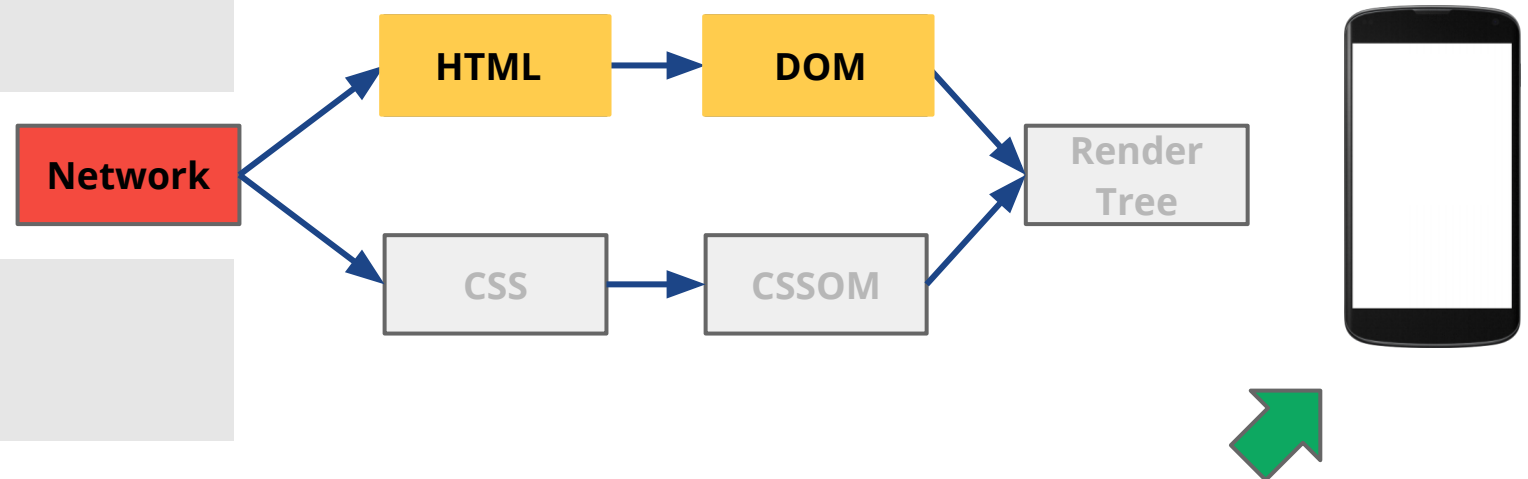
```
<!doctype html>
<meta charset=utf-8>
<title>Performance!</title>

<link href=styles.css rel=stylesheet />

<p>Hello <span>world!</span></p>
```

styles.css

```
p { font-weight: bold; }
span { display: none; }
```



- `<link>` discovered, network request sent
- DOM construction complete!

- screen is empty, blocked on CSS
 - otherwise, flash of unstyled content (FOUC)



First CSS bytes arrive... **still waiting on CSS!**

index.html

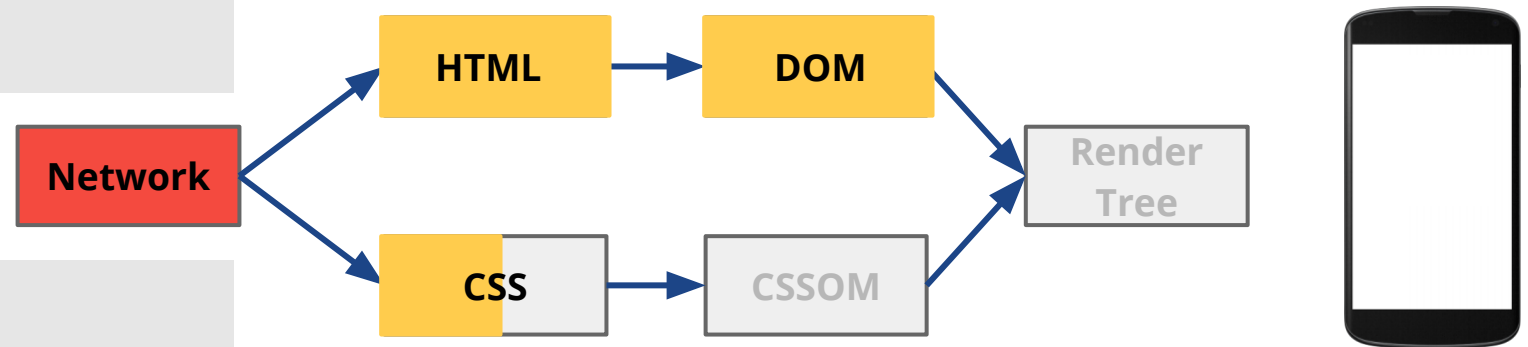
```
<!doctype html>
<meta charset=utf-8>
<title>Performance!</title>

<link href=styles.css rel=stylesheet />

<p>Hello <span>world!</span></p>
```

styles.css

```
p { font-weight: bold; }
span { display: none; }
```



- First CSS bytes arrive
- But, we must wait for the **entire file...**

- Unlike HTML parsing, CSS is **not incremental**



Finally, we can construct the CSSOM!

index.html

```
<!doctype html>
<meta charset=utf-8>
<title>Performance!</title>

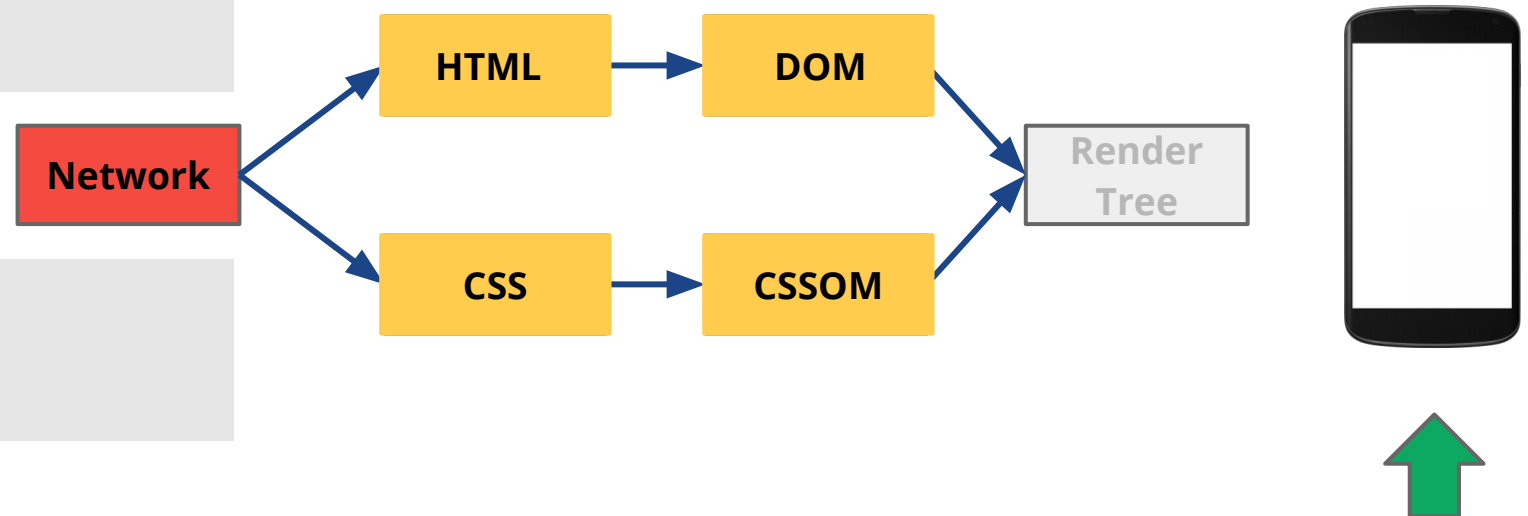
<link href=styles.css rel=stylesheet />

<p>Hello <span>world!</span></p>
```

styles.css

```
p { font-weight: bold; }
span { display: none; }
```

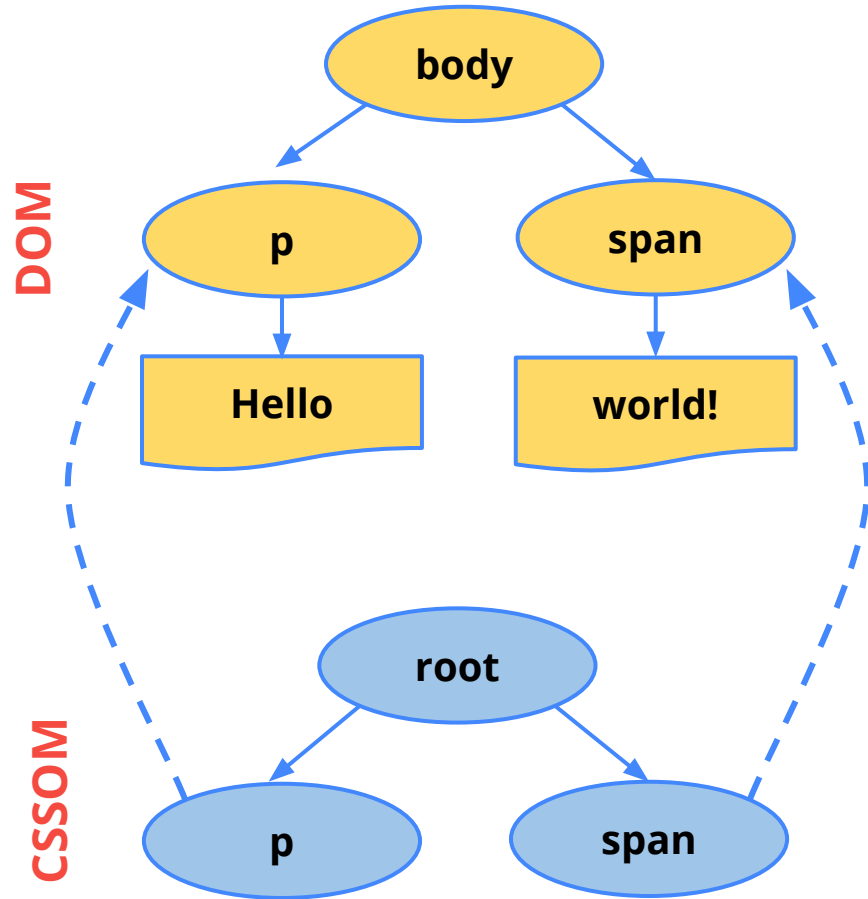
- CSS download has finished - yay!
- We can now construct the CSSOM



still blank :(



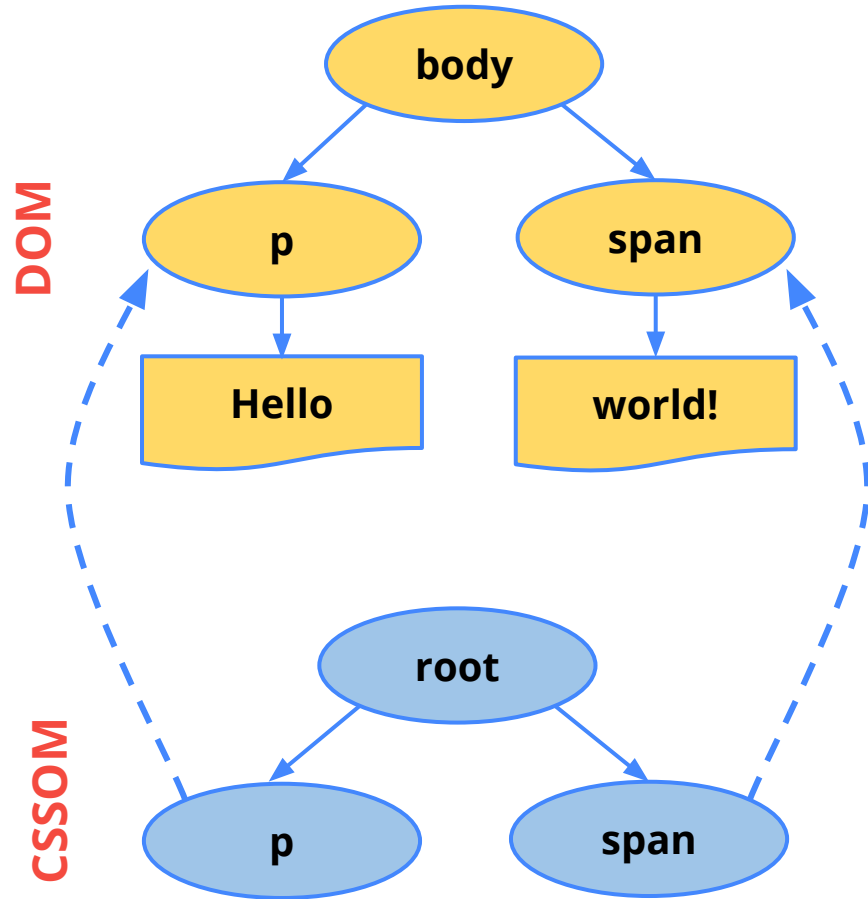
DOM + CSSOM = Render Tree(s)



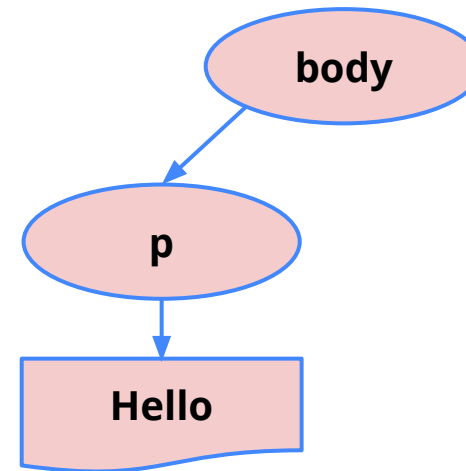
- Match CSSOM to DOM nodes
- Yes, the screen is still empty....



DOM + CSSOM = Render Tree(s)



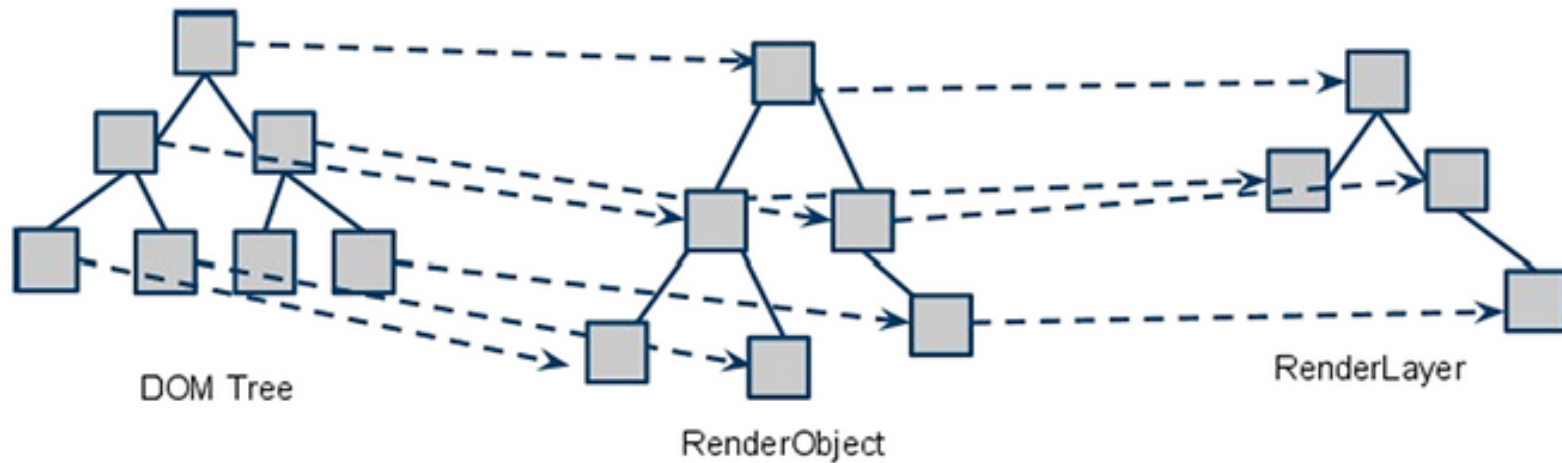
Render Tree



- **** is not part of render tree!
 - "display: none"



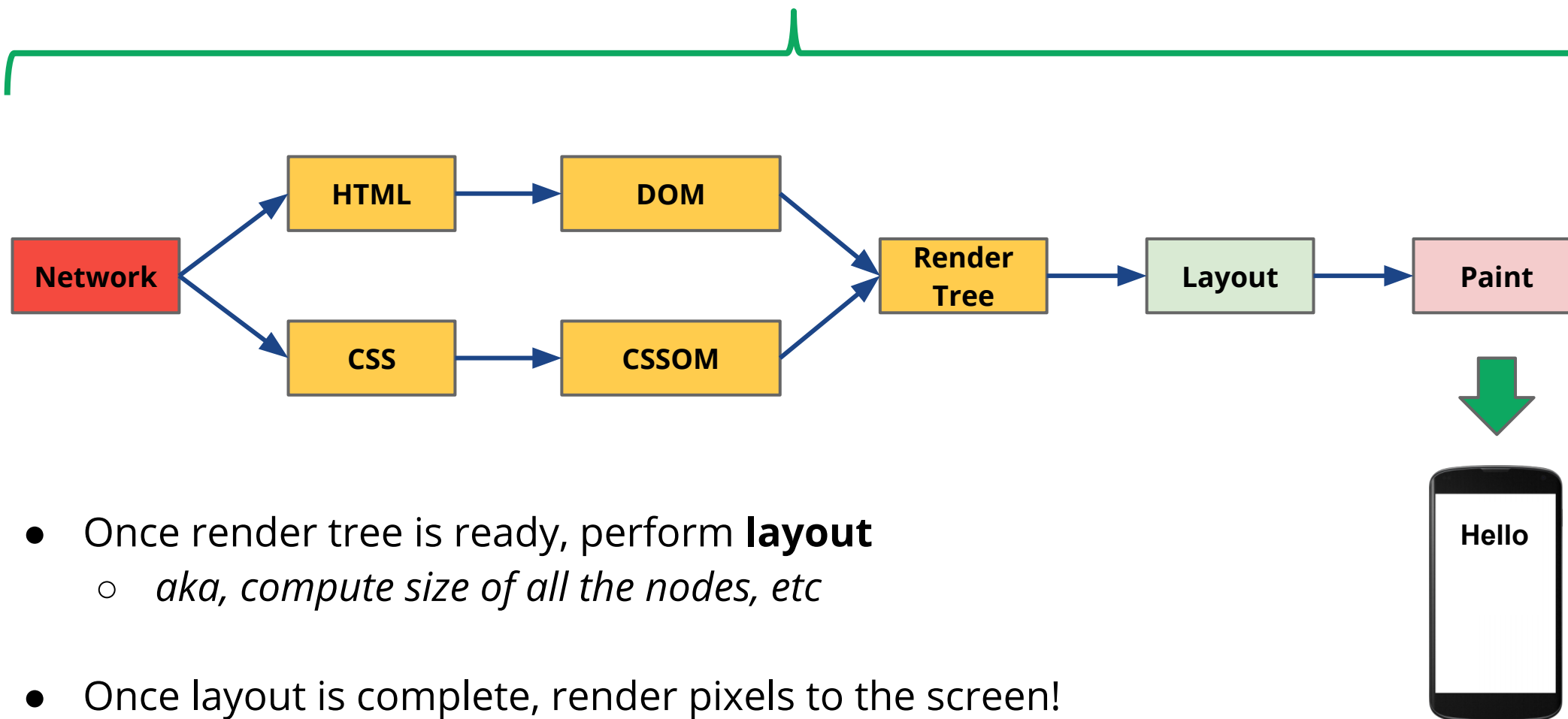
DOM + CSSOM = Render*



RenderObject Tree	StyleObject Tree	RenderLayer Tree
owned by DOM tree	computed styles for all renderers	"helper" class for rendering
rendered content only	owned by RenderObject tree	used for <video>, <canvas>, ...
responsible for layout & paint	RenderObjects share RenderStyles	Some RenderLayers have GPU layers
answers DOM API measurement requests	RenderStyles share data members	...



Critical rendering path



- Once render tree is ready, perform **layout**
 - *aka, compute size of all the nodes, etc*
- Once layout is complete, render pixels to the screen!



Performance rules to keep in mind...

- (1) HTML is parsed incrementally
- (3) Rendering is **blocked on CSS...**

Which means...

- (1) **Stream the HTML response to the client**
 - *Don't wait to render the full HTML file - flush early, flush often.*
- (2) **Get CSS down to the client as fast as you can**
 - *Blank screen until we have the render tree ready!*





Err, wait. Did we forget something?

How about that JavaScript thing...

JavaScript... our friend and foe.

index.html

```
<!doctype html>
<meta charset=utf-8>
<title>Performance!</title>

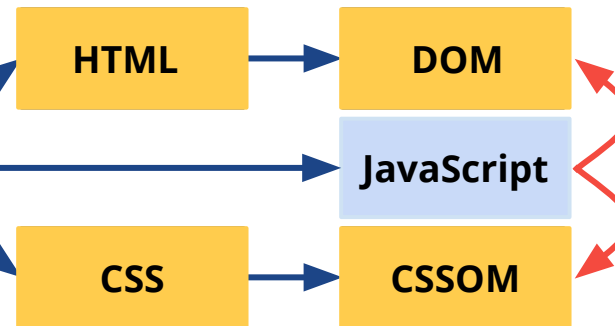
<script src=application.js></script>
<link href=styles.css rel=stylesheet />

<p>Hello <span>world!</span></p>
```

styles.css

```
p { font-weight: bold; }
span { display: none; }
```

Network



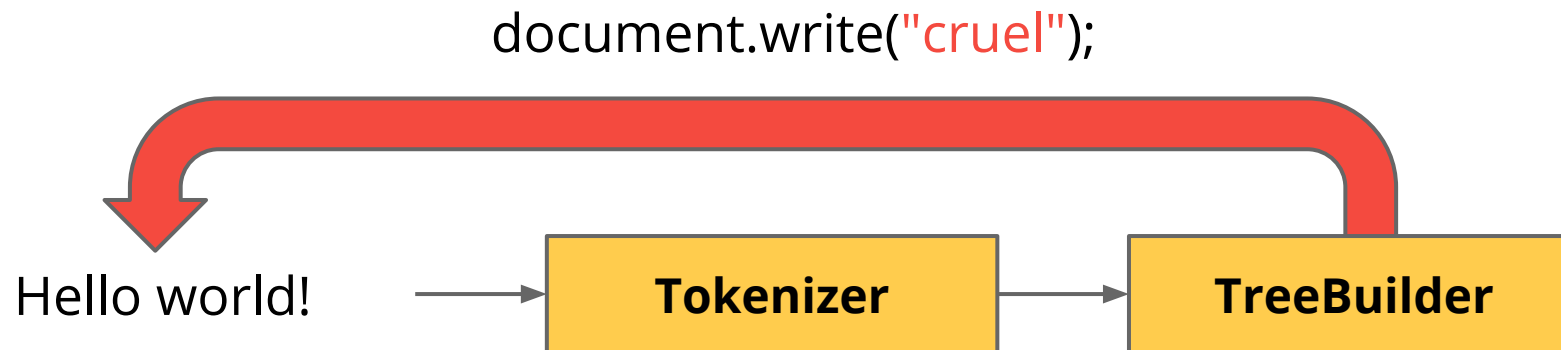
In some ways, JS is similar to CSS, except ...

elem.style.width = "500px"

JavaScript can query (and modify) DOM, CSSOM!



JavaScript can modify the DOM and CSSOM...



Script execution can change the input stream. Hence we **must wait**.



<script> could doc.write, stop the world!

- DOM construction **can't proceed** until JavaScript is fetched *
- DOM construction **can't proceed** until JavaScript is executed *



Sync scripts block the parser...

Sync script **will block** the DOM + rendering of your page:

```
<script type="text/javascript"
  src="https://apis.google.com/js/plusone.js"></script>
```



Async script **will not block** the DOM + rendering of your page:

```
<script type="text/javascript">
  (function() {
    var po = document.createElement('script'); po.type = 'text/javascript';
    po.async = true; po.src = 'https://apis.google.com/js/plusone.js';
    var s = document.getElementsByTagName('script')[0];
    s.parentNode.insertBefore(po, s);
  })();
</script>
```



Async all the things!

```
<script src="file-a.js"></script>  
<script src="file-c.js" async></script>
```



- **regular** - block on HTTP request, parse, execute, proceed
- **async** - download in background, execute when ready



JavaScript performance pitfalls...

application.js

```
<script>

var old_width = elem.style.width;
elem.style.width = "300px";

document.write("I'm awesome")

</script>
```



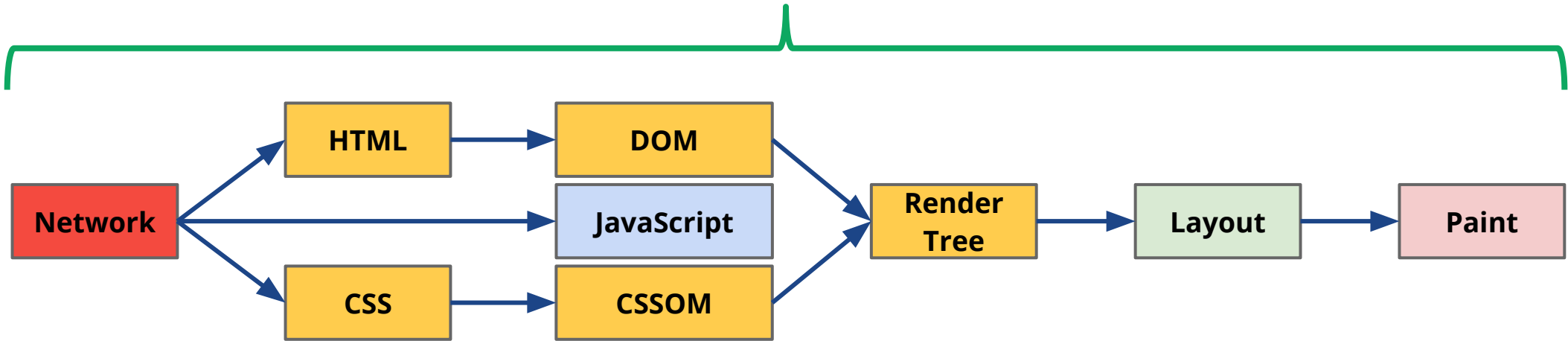
- JavaScript can **query** CSSOM
- JavaScript can **block on CSS**
- JavaScript can **modify** CSSOM



- JavaScript can **query** DOM
- JavaScript can **block DOM construction**
- JavaScript can **modify** DOM



Critical rendering path



(1) Stream the HTML to the client

- *Allows early discovery of dependent resources (e.g. CSS / JS / images)*

(2) Get CSS down to the client as fast as you can

- *Unblocks paints, removes potential JS waiting on CSS scenario*

(3) Use async scripts, avoid doc.write

- *Faster DOM construction, faster DCL and paint!*
- *Do you need scripts in your critical rendering path?*





Rendering path optimization?

Theory in practice...

*Breaking the **1000 ms** time to glass mobile barrier... **hard facts:***

- 1. Majority of time is in network overhead**
 - Especially for mobile! Refer to our earlier discussion...*
- 2. Fast server processing time is a must**
 - Ideally below 100 ms*
- 3. Must allocate time for browser parsing and rendering**
 - Reserve at least 100 ms of overhead*

Therefore...



Breaking the **1000 ms** time to glass mobile barrier... **implications:**

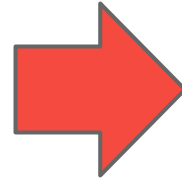
1. **Inline just the required resources** for above the fold
 - *No room for extra requests... unfortunately!*
 - *Identify and inline critical CSS*
 - *Eliminate JavaScript from the critical rendering path*
2. **Defer the rest** until after the above the fold is visible
 - *Progressive enhancement...*
3. ...
4. *Profit*



```
<html>

<head>
  <link rel="stylesheet" href="all.css">
  <script src="application.js"></script>
</head>

<body>
  <div class="main">
    Here is my content.
  </div>
  <div class="leftnav">
    Perhaps there is a left nav bar here.
  </div>
  ...
</body>
</html>
```



1. Split all.css, **inline critical** styles
2. Do you need the JS at all?
 - Progressive enhancement
 - **Inline critical** JS code
 - Defer the rest




```
<html>
<head>

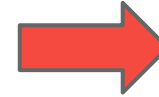
  <style>
    .main { ... }
    .leftnav { ... }
    /* ... any other styles needed for the initial render here ... */
  </style>

  <script>
    // Any script needed for initial render here.
    // Ideally, there should be no JS needed for the initial render
  </script>

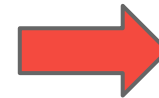
</head>
<body>
  <div class="main">
    Here is my content.
  </div>
  <div class="leftnav">
    Perhaps there is a left nav bar here.
  </div>

  <script>
    function run_after_onload() {
      load('stylesheet', 'remainder.css')
      load('javascript', 'remainder.js')
    }
  </script>

</body>
</html>
```



Above the fold CSS



Above the fold JS
(ideally, none)



Paint the above the fold,
then fill in the rest

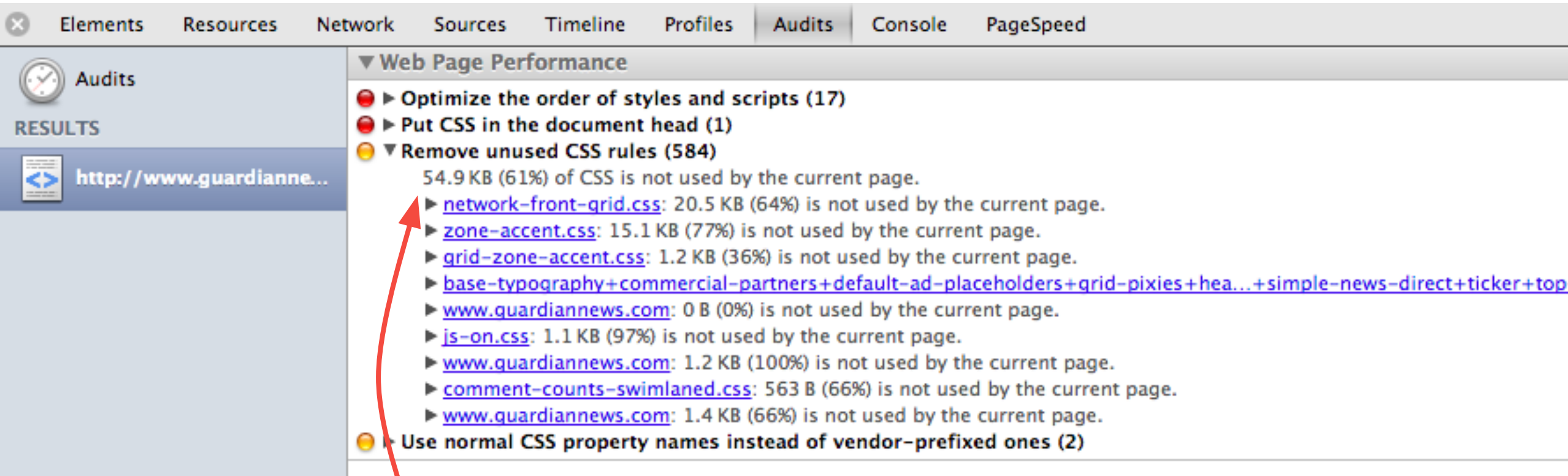




A few tools to help you...

How do I find "critical CSS" and my critical rendering path?

Identify **critical CSS** via an Audit



The screenshot shows the Chrome DevTools interface with the 'Audits' tab selected. The 'Web Page Performance' section is expanded, showing a list of audit items. A red arrow points from the text below to the 'Remove unused CSS rules (584)' item. The list includes:

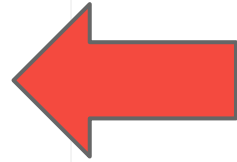
- ▶ **Optimize the order of styles and scripts (17)**
- ▶ **Put CSS in the document head (1)**
- ▶ **Remove unused CSS rules (584)**
 - 54.9 KB (61%) of CSS is not used by the current page.
 - ▶ [network-front-grid.css](#): 20.5 KB (64%) is not used by the current page.
 - ▶ [zone-accent.css](#): 15.1 KB (77%) is not used by the current page.
 - ▶ [grid-zone-accent.css](#): 1.2 KB (36%) is not used by the current page.
 - ▶ [base-typography+commercial-partners+default-ad-placeholders+grid-pixies+hea...+simple-news-direct+ticker+top](#)
 - ▶ [www.guardiannews.com](#): 0 B (0%) is not used by the current page.
 - ▶ [js-on.css](#): 1.1 KB (97%) is not used by the current page.
 - ▶ [www.guardiannews.com](#): 1.2 KB (100%) is not used by the current page.
 - ▶ [comment-counts-swimlaned.css](#): 563 B (66%) is not used by the current page.
 - ▶ [www.guardiannews.com](#): 1.4 KB (66%) is not used by the current page.
- ▶ **Use normal CSS property names instead of vendor-prefixed ones (2)**

DevTools > Audits > Web Page Performance



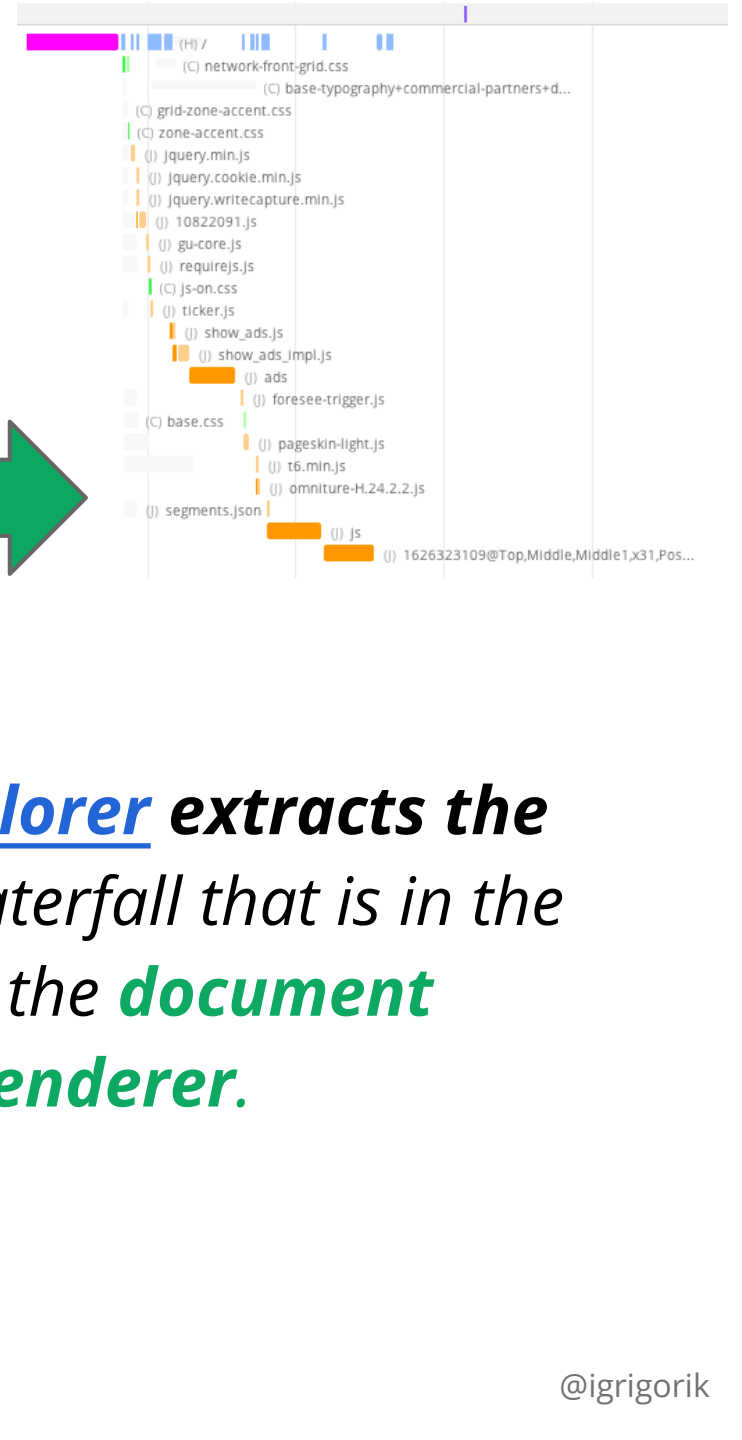
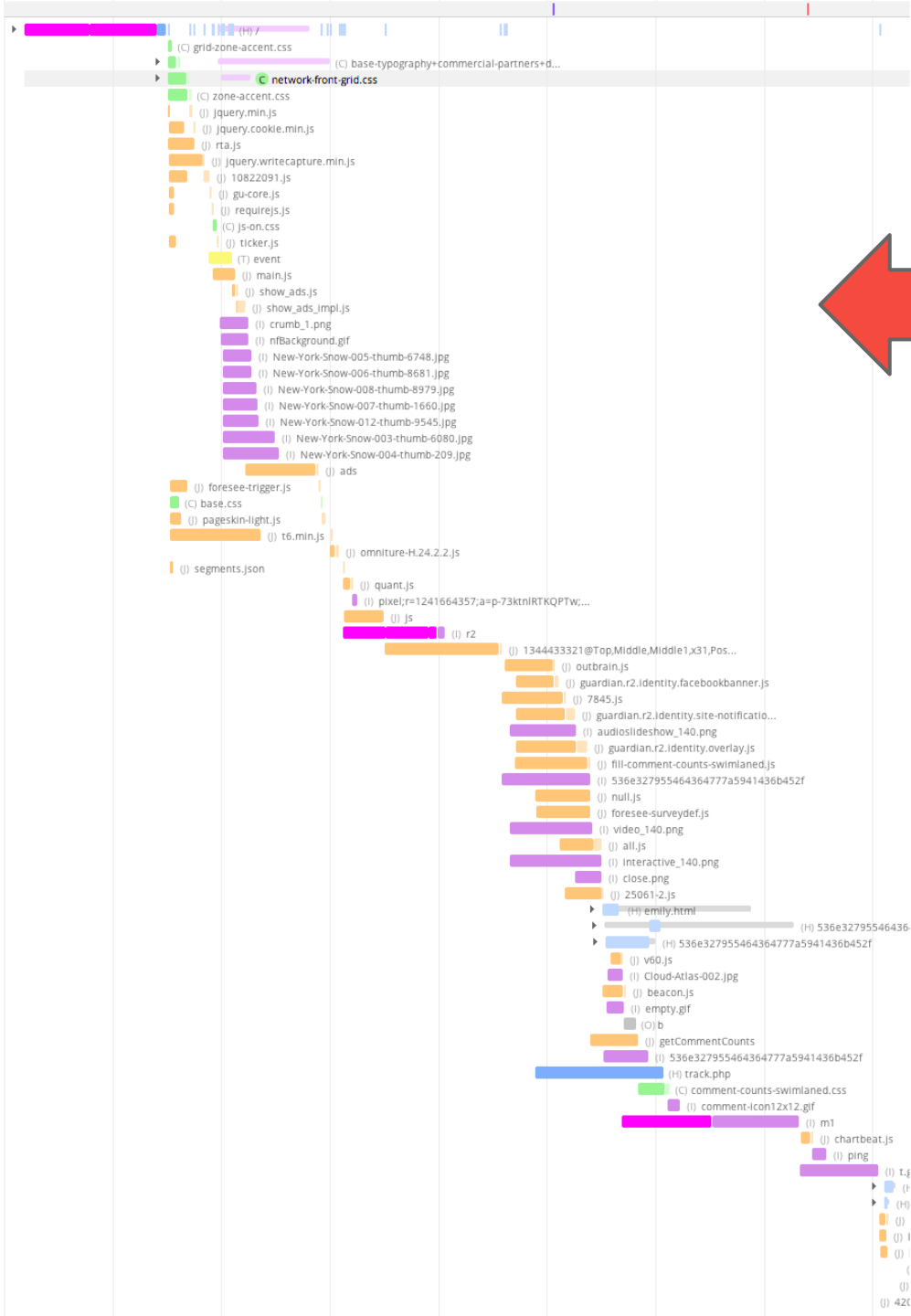
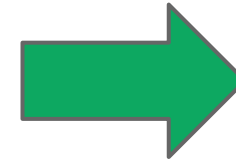
Another fun tool: <http://css.benjaminbenben.com/v1?url=http://www.igvita.com/>

guardian.co.uk



Full Waterfall

Critical Path



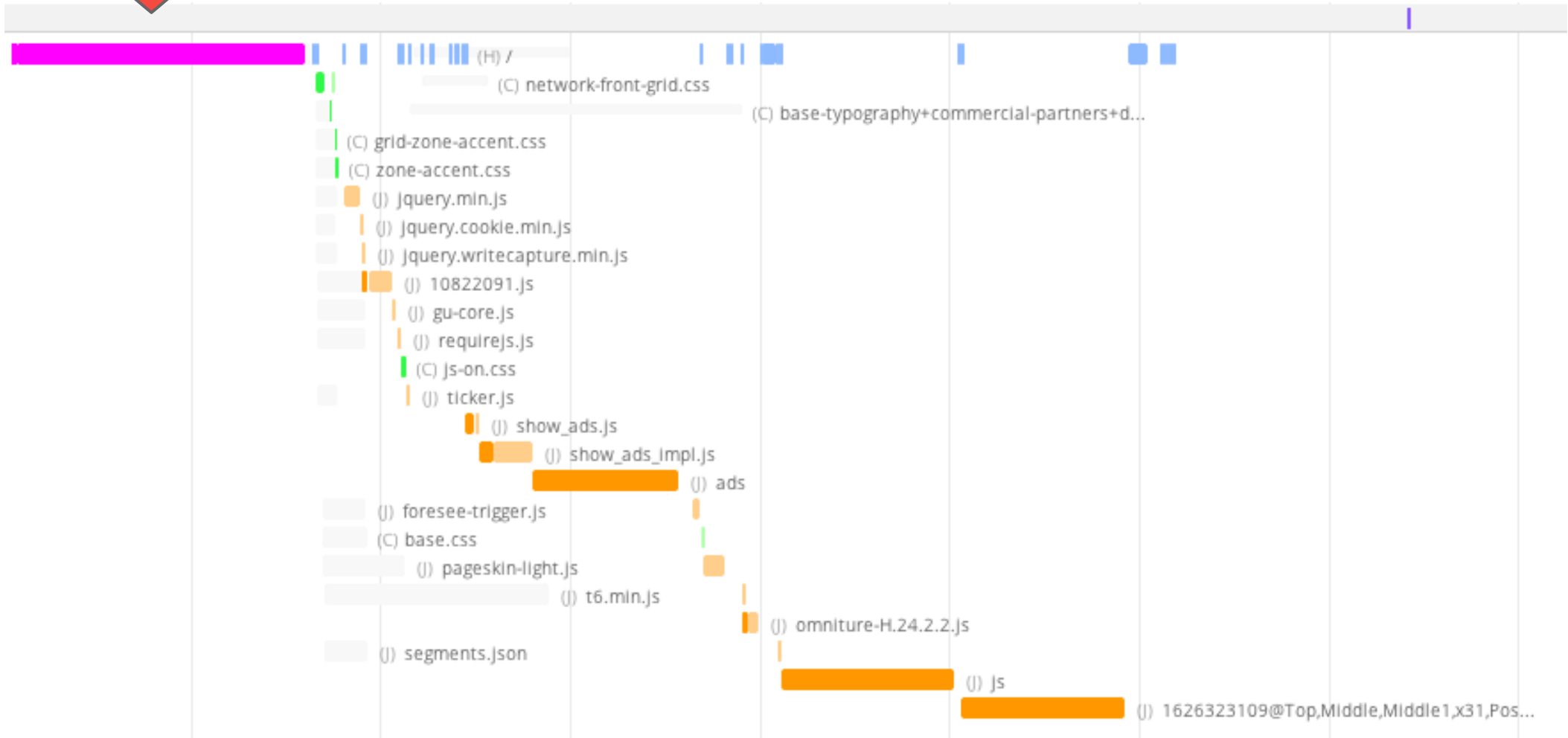
Critical Path Explorer extracts the subtree of the waterfall that is in the "critical path" of the document parser and the renderer.

(webpagetest run)

300 ms redirect!



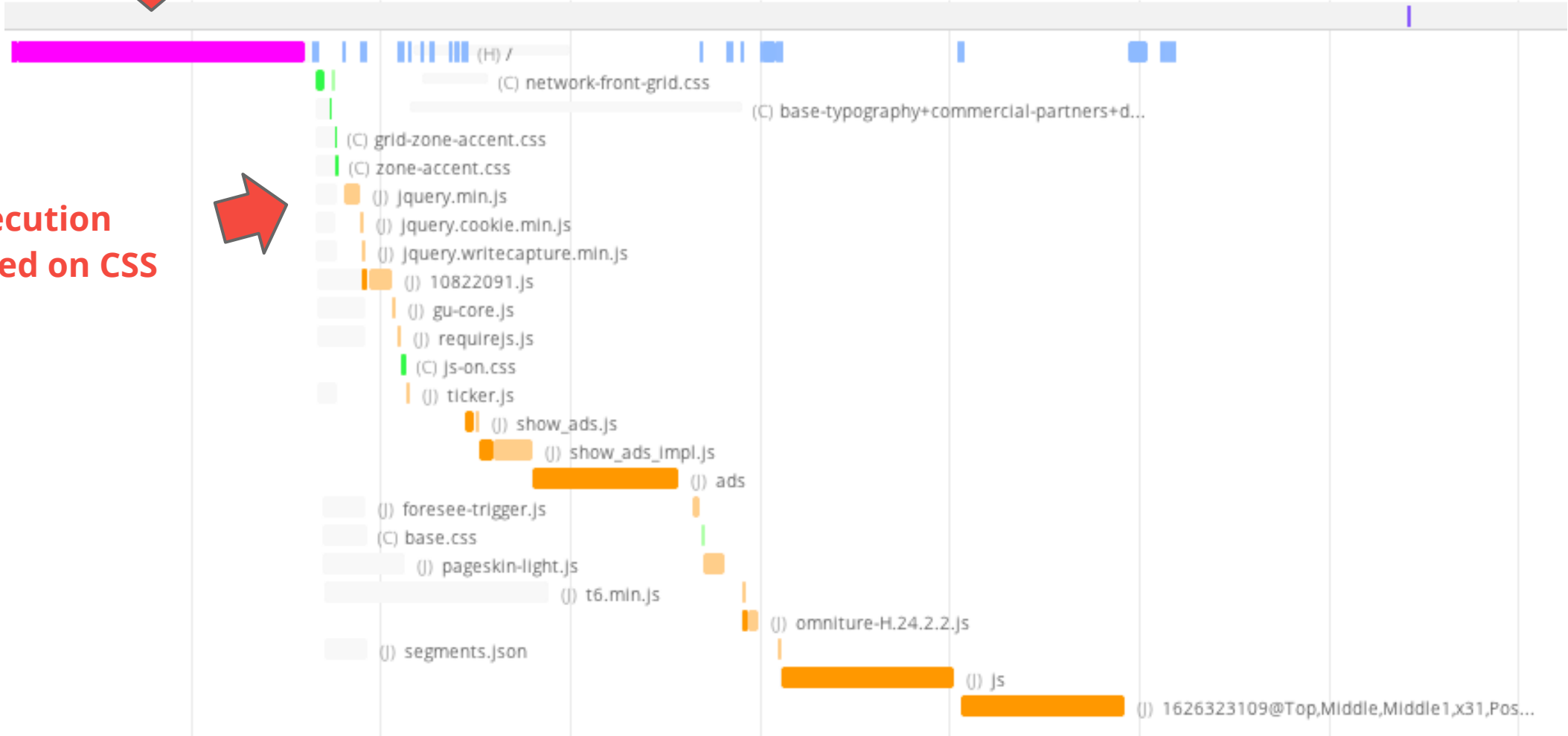
DCL.. no defer



300 ms redirect!



JS execution
blocked on CSS



300 ms redirect!



JS execution blocked on CSS



doc.write() some JavaScript - doh!



Loading of ads [Close]

This was added to the DOM using document.write()
[native code]:0
http://pagead2.googlesyndication.com/pagead/js/r201210
http://pagead2.googlesyndication.com/pagead/js/r201210
http://pagead2.googlesyndication.com/pagead/js/r201210
http://www.guardiannews.com/:1
Fetched after event load



300 ms redirect!



JS execution blocked on CSS



doc.write() some JavaScript - doh!



long-running JS



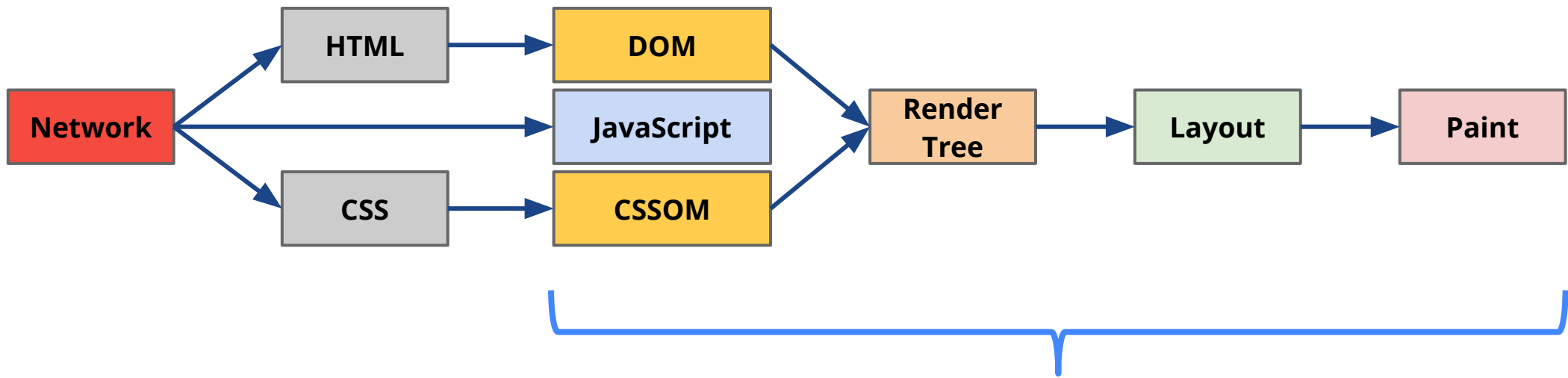
10m break... Questions?

Twitter @igrigorik

G+ [gplus.to/igrigorik](https://plus.google.com/u/0/igrigorik)

Web igvita.com



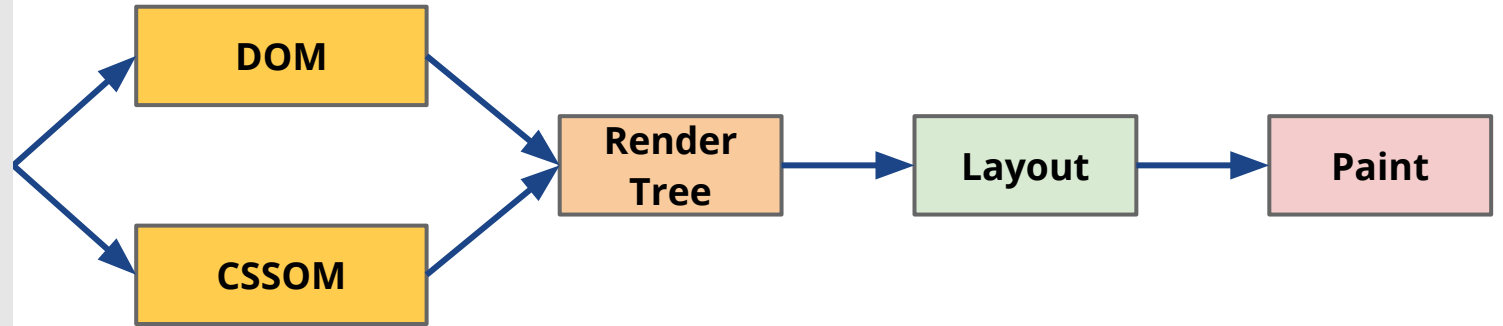


In-app performance: CPU + Render



Same pipeline... except running in a loop!

```
document.write("<p>I'm awesome</p>");  
  
var old_width = elem.style.width;  
elem.style.width = "300px";  
  
// or user input...
```



- User can trigger an update: click, scroll, etc.
- JavaScript can manipulate the DOM
- JavaScript can manipulate the CSSOM
- Which may trigger a:
 - Style recalculation
 - Layout recalculation
 - Paint update

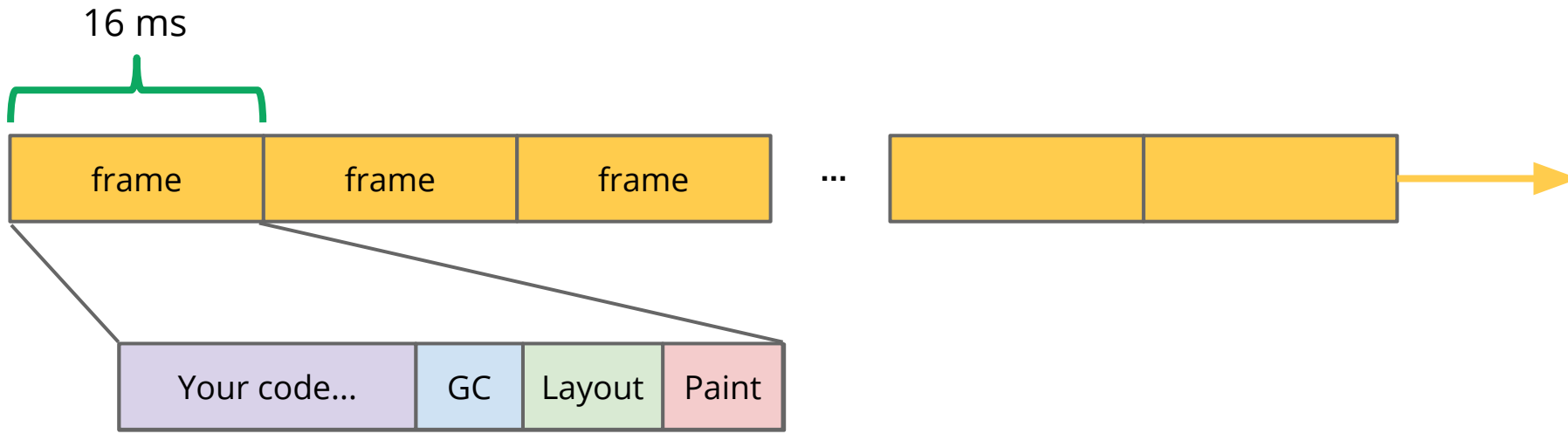


Performance = 60 FPS.

1000 ms / 60 FPS = 16 ms / frame



Brief anatomy of a "frame"



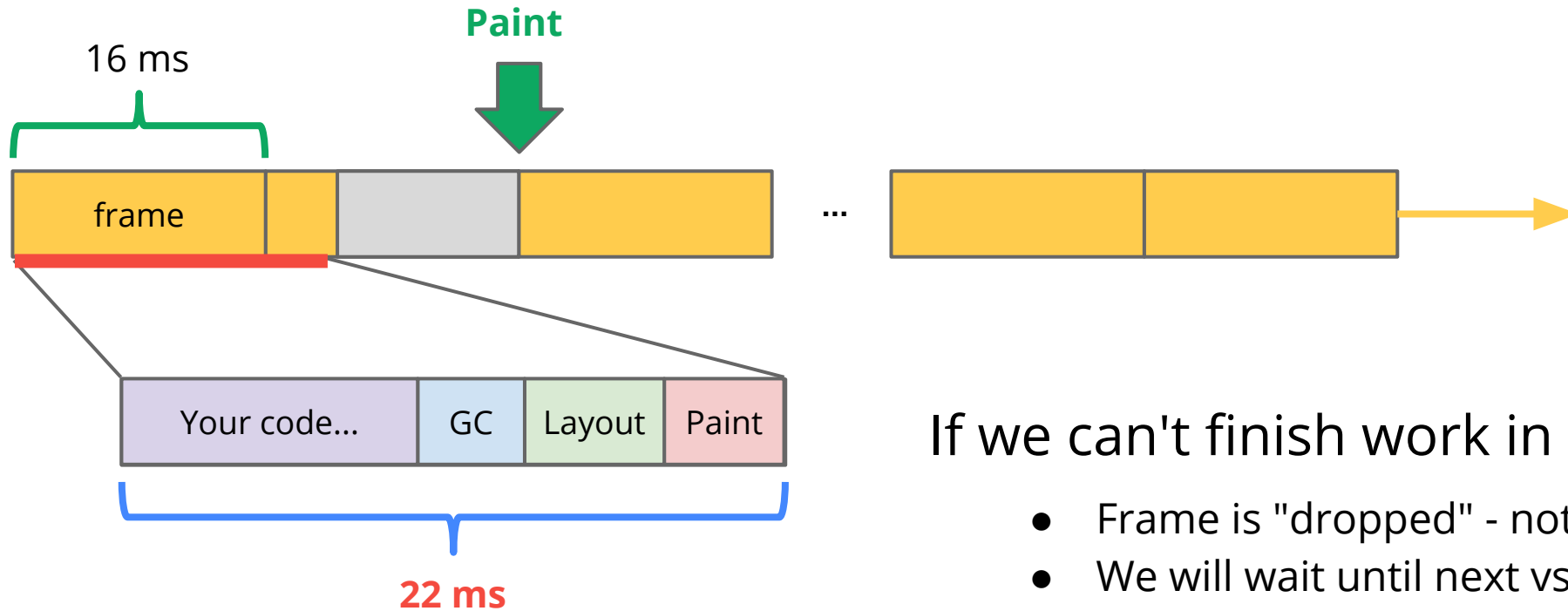
16 milliseconds is **not a lot of time!** The budget is split between:

- Application code
- Style recalculation
- Layout recalculation
- Garbage collection
- Painting

Not necessarily in this order, and we (hopefully) don't have to perform all of them on each frame!



What happens if we **exceed** the budget?

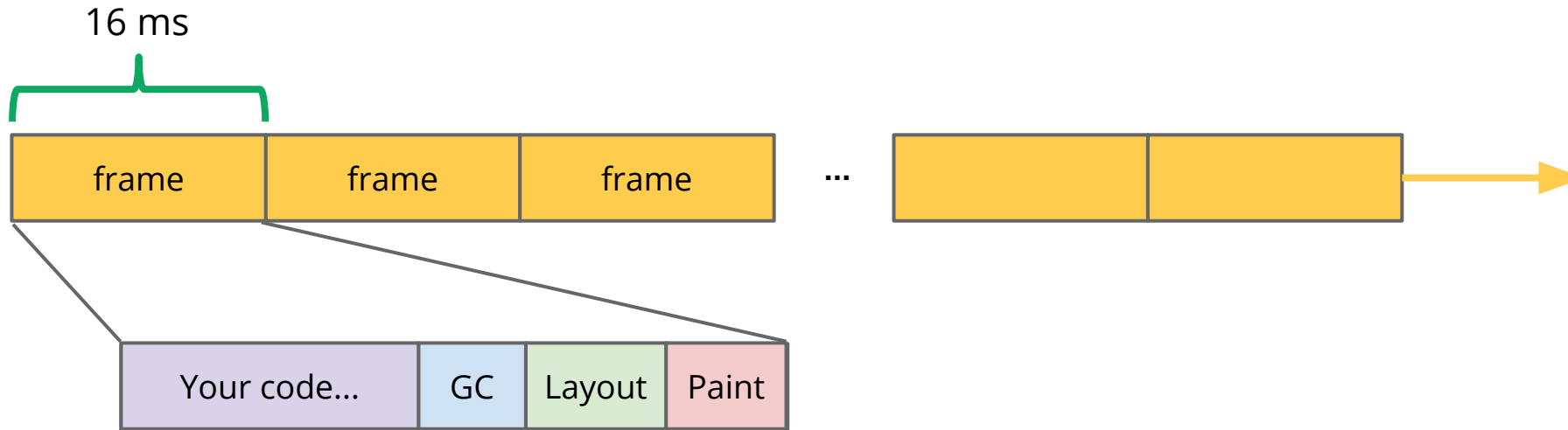


If we can't finish work in 16 ms...

- Frame is "dropped" - not rendered
- We will wait until next vsync
- ...
- Dropped frames = **"jank"**



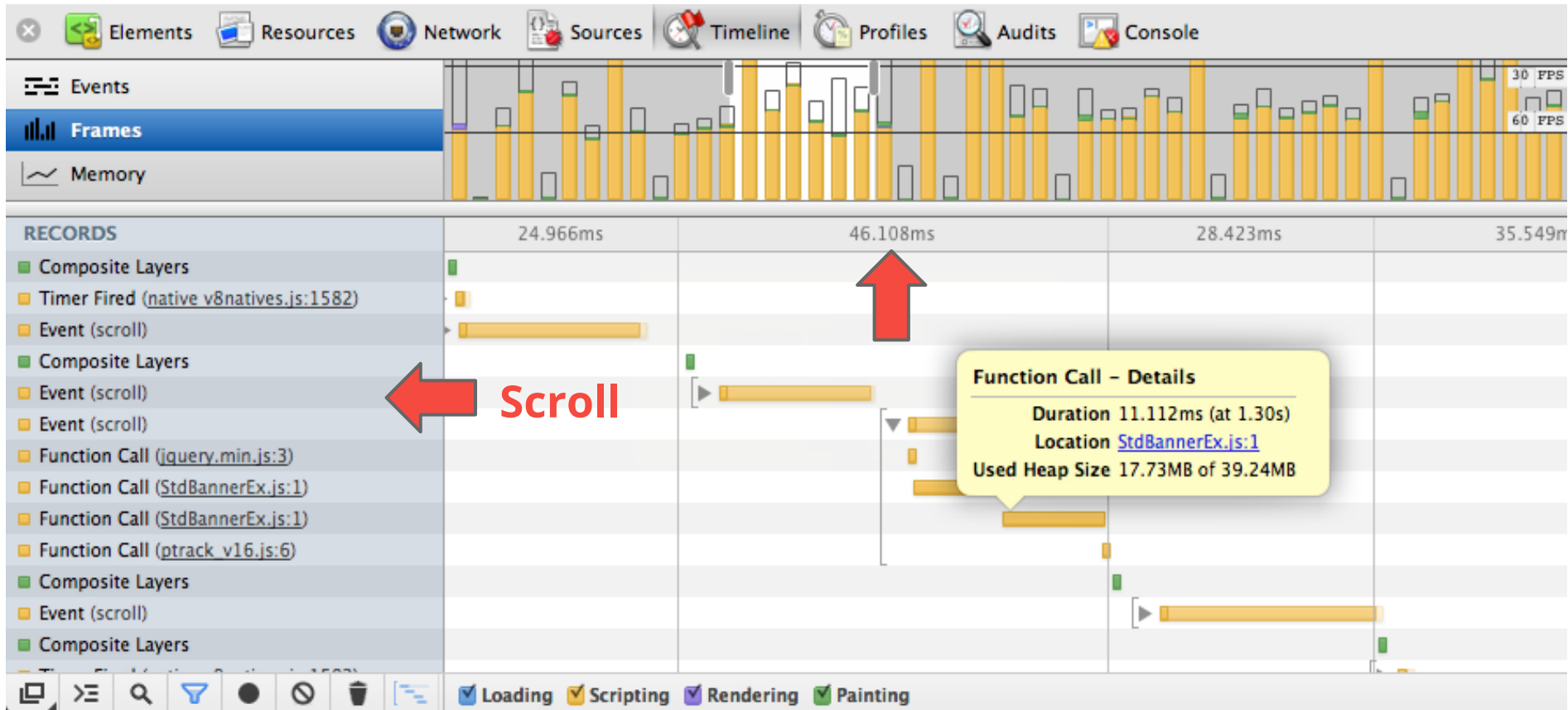
Jank-free axioms



- Your code must yield control in **less than 16 ms!**
 - Aim for <10ms
 - Browser needs to do extra work: GC, layout, paint
 - Don't forget that "10 ms" is not absolute (e.g. slower CPU's)
- Browser won't (can't) interrupt your code...
 - Split long-running functions
 - Aggregate events (e.g. handle scroll events once per frame)



JavaScript induced jank...



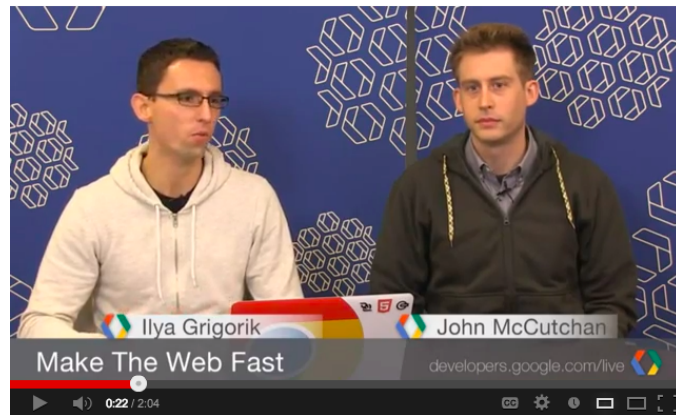
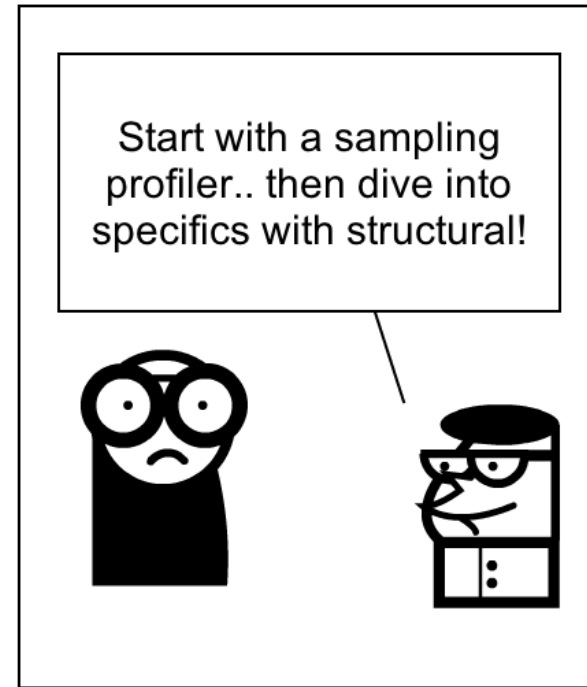
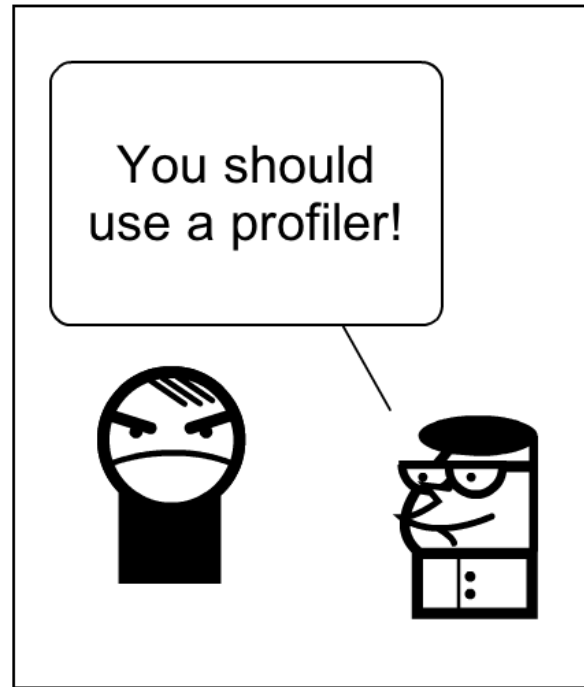
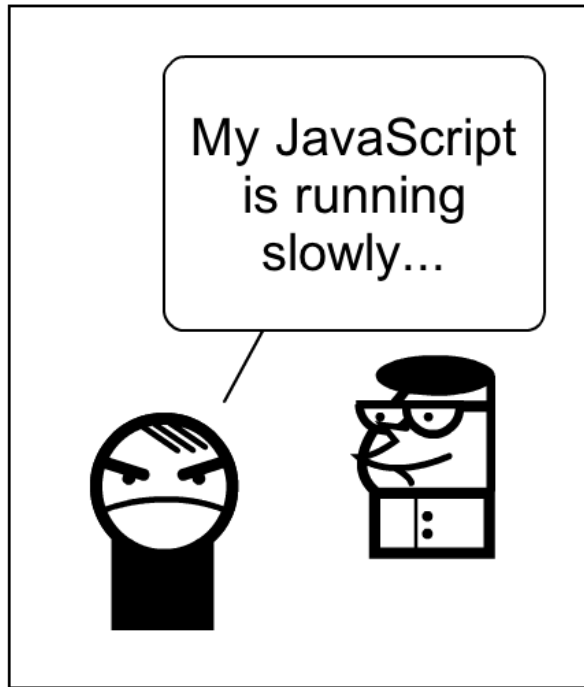
- Aggregate your scroll events and **defer** them
- Process aggregated events on **next** requestAnimationFrame callback!





Profile your JavaScript code!

10 ms is not a lot of time. What's your bottleneck?



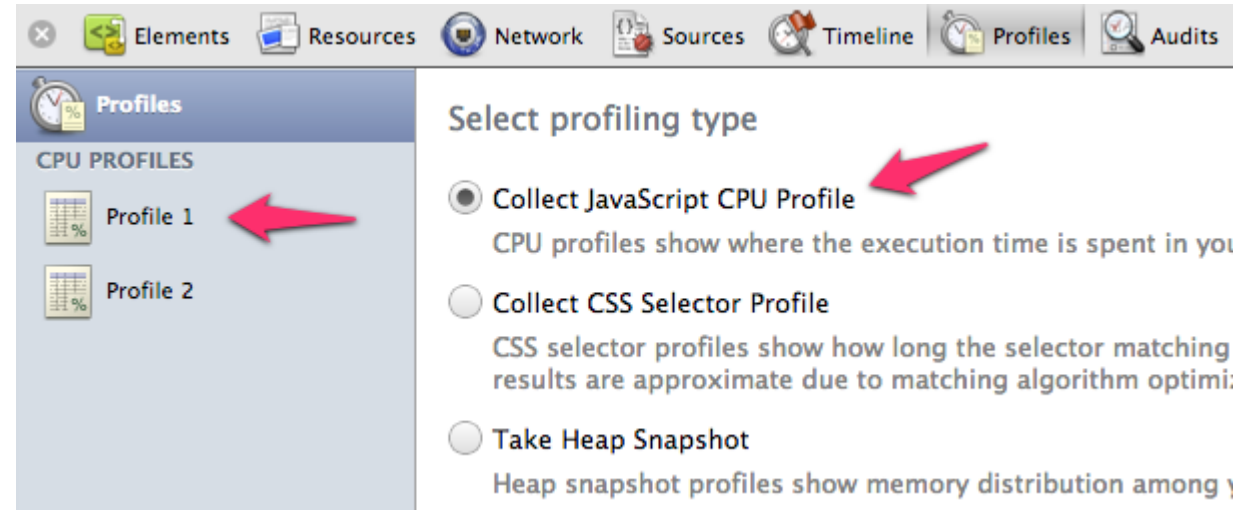
Structural and Sampling JavaScript Profiling *in Google Chrome*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxXkquTPng8>



1. Sampling

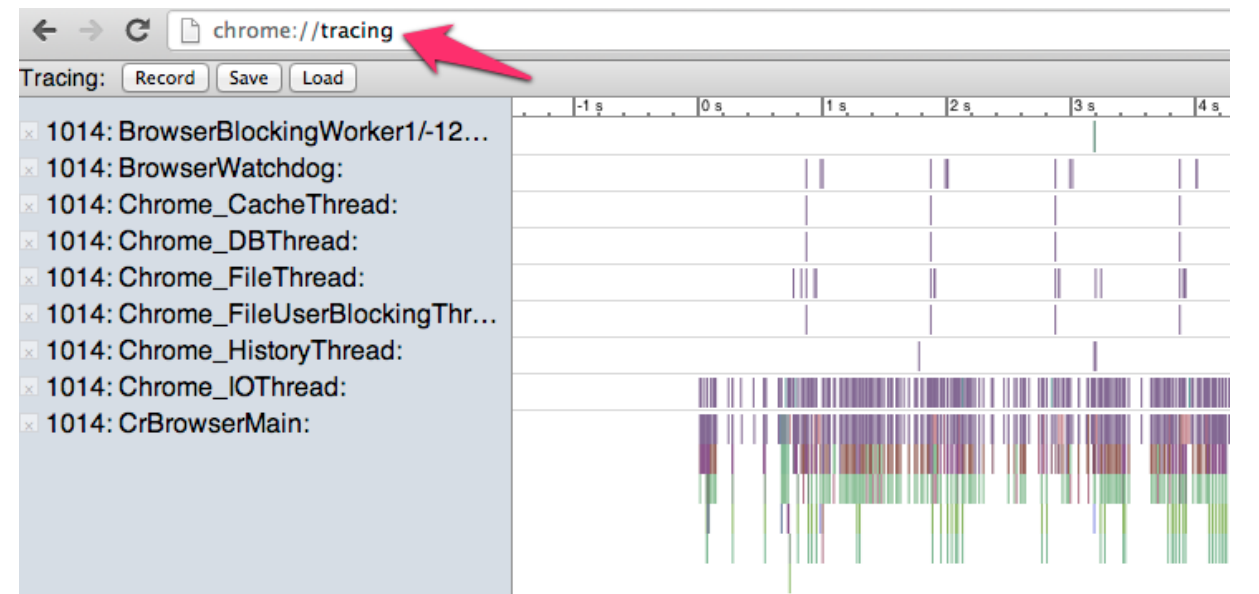
- a. Measures samples



2. Structural

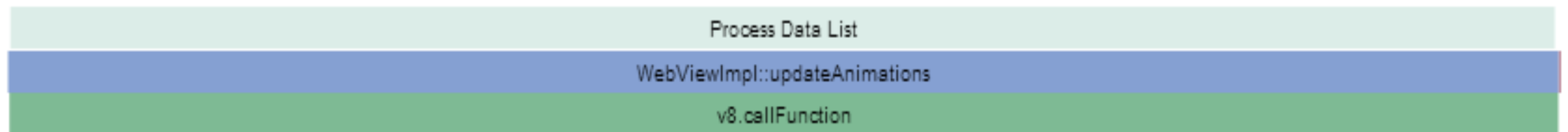
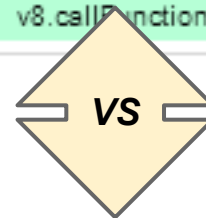
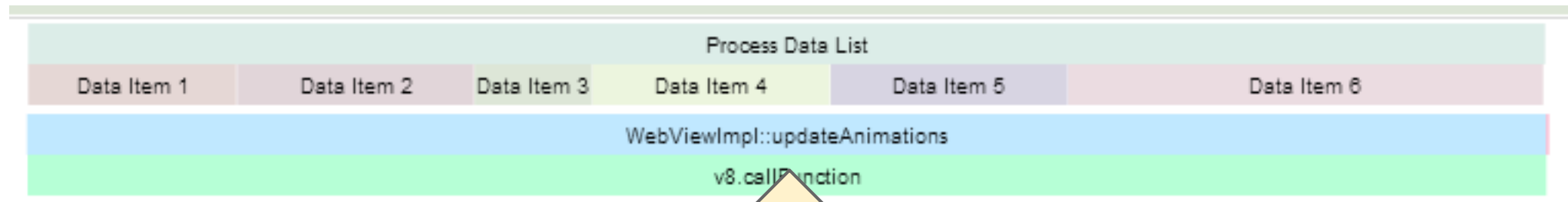
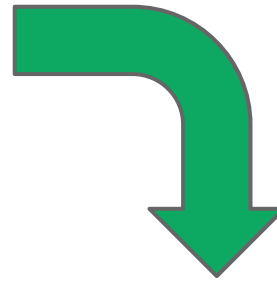
- a. Measures time
- b. aka, **instrumenting** / markers / inline

aka... **chrome://tracing**



Annotate your code for structural profiling!

```
function A() {  
  console.time("A");  
  spinFor(2);    // loop for 2 ms  
  B();  
  console.timeEnd("A");  
}
```

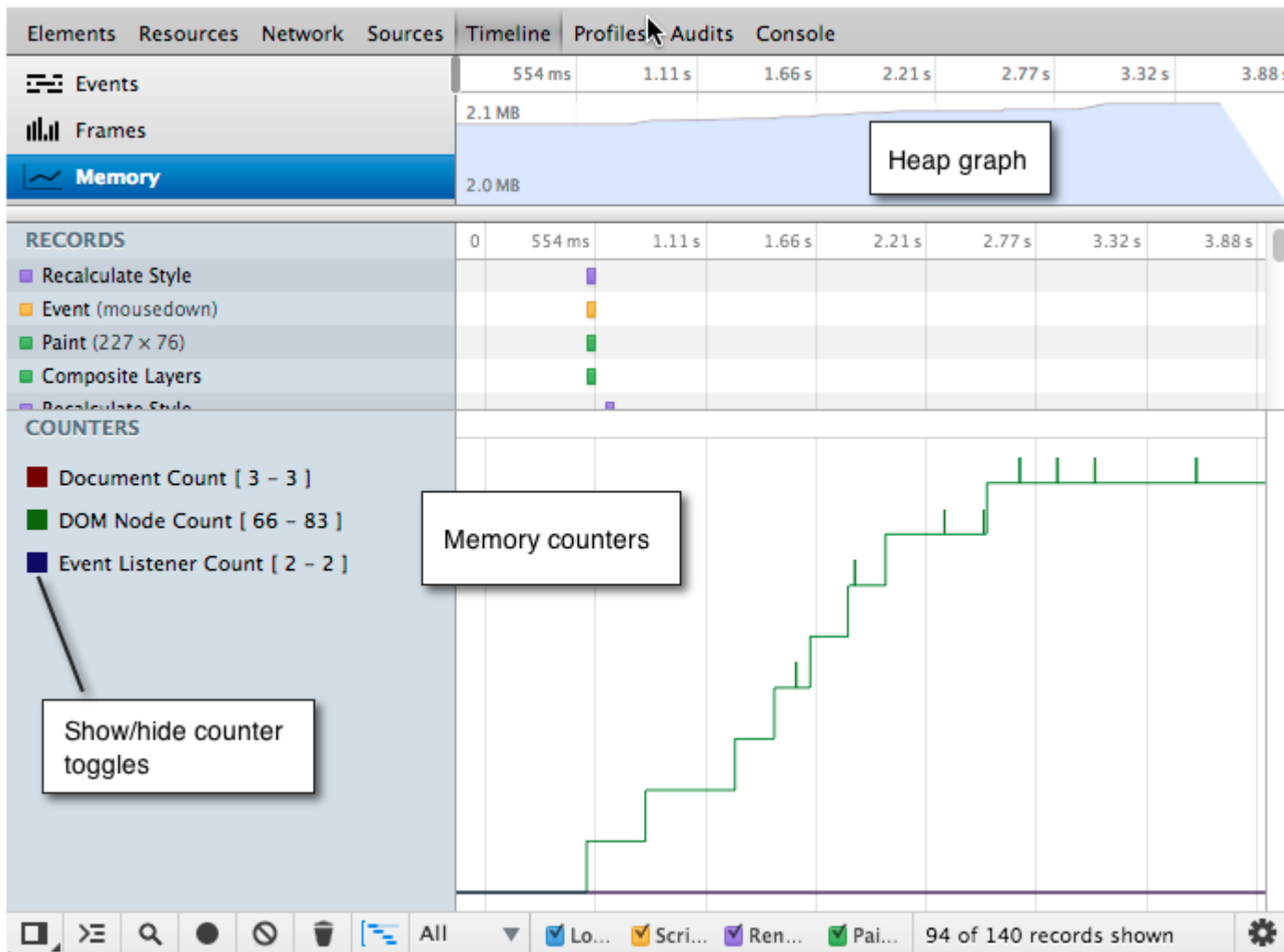




Garbage happens...

And that's ok. But, is GC your bottleneck? Memory leaks?

Timeline » Memory



1. CMD-E to start recording
2. Interact with the page
3. Track amount of allocate objects
4. ...
5. **Fix leak(s)**
6. ...
7. Profit

*Tip: use an **Incognito** window when profiling code!*



Force GC

Heap snapshot + comparison view

1. Snapshot, save, import heap profile
2. Use comparison view to identify potential memory leaks ([demo](#))
3. Use summary view to identify DOM leaks ([demo](#))



The screenshot shows the Chrome DevTools Performance tab with the 'Profiles' panel open. The 'HEAP SNAPSHOTS' section is active, displaying two snapshots: 'Snapshot 1' (8.80MB) and 'Snapshot 2' (8.85MB). The 'Comparison' view is selected, showing a table of memory usage changes between the two snapshots.

Constructor	# New	# Deleted	# Delta	Alloc. Size	Freed Size	Size Delta
▼ Item	3 124	2 124	+1 000	49 984	33 984	+16 000
▶ Item @323157	•			16		
▶ Item @323159	•			16		
▶ Item @323161	•			16		
▶ Item @323163	•			16		
▶ Item @323165	•			16		

Below the comparison table, the 'Object's retaining tree' is visible, showing the object's path and its size metrics.

Object	Shallow Size	Retained Size	Distance
▶ [37] in Array @106327	16 0%	20 024 0%	2

Know thy memory model



- What are memory leaks?
- Tracking down memory leaks...
- War stories from GMail team

<http://goo.gl/dtRI8>





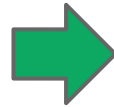
What's a "layout" anyway?

And how do we optimize for it?

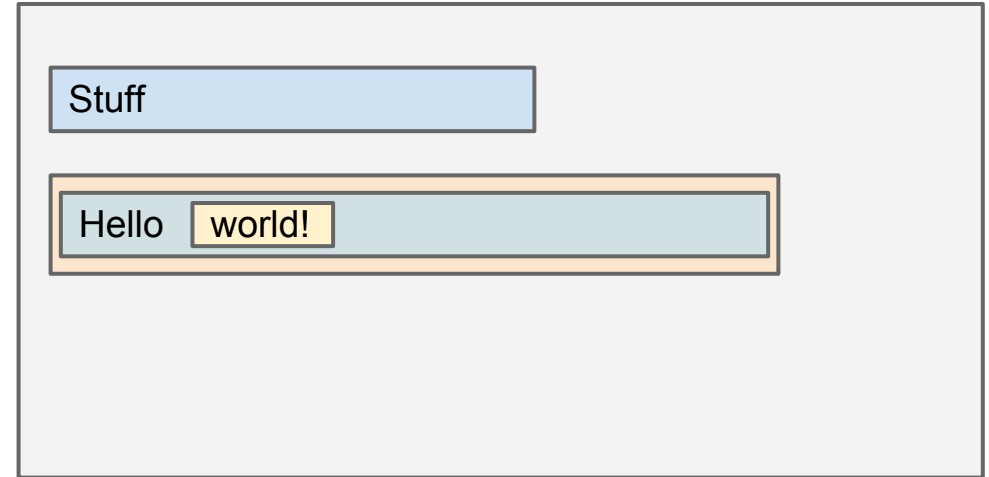
Layout: computing the **width/height/position...**

```
<div style="width:50%">
  Stuff
</div>

<div style="width:75%">
  <p>
    Hello <span>world!</span>
  </p>
</div>
```



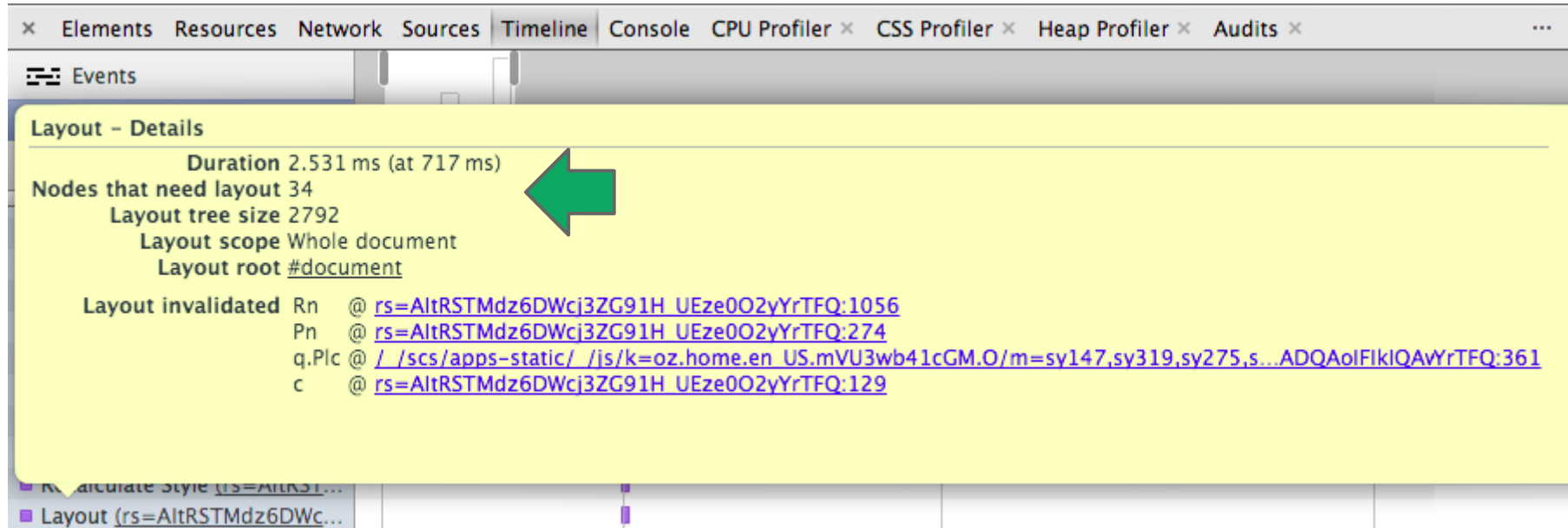
Layout viewport



- Layout phase calculates the size of each element: width, height, position
 - margins, padding, absolute and relative positions
 - propagate height based on contents of each element, etc...
- **What will happen if I resize the parent container?**
 - All elements under it (and around it, possibly) will have to be recomputed!



Diagnosing layout performance



Layout - Details

- Duration 2.531 ms (at 717 ms)
- Nodes that need layout 34
- Layout tree size 2792
- Layout scope Whole document
- Layout root [#document](#)

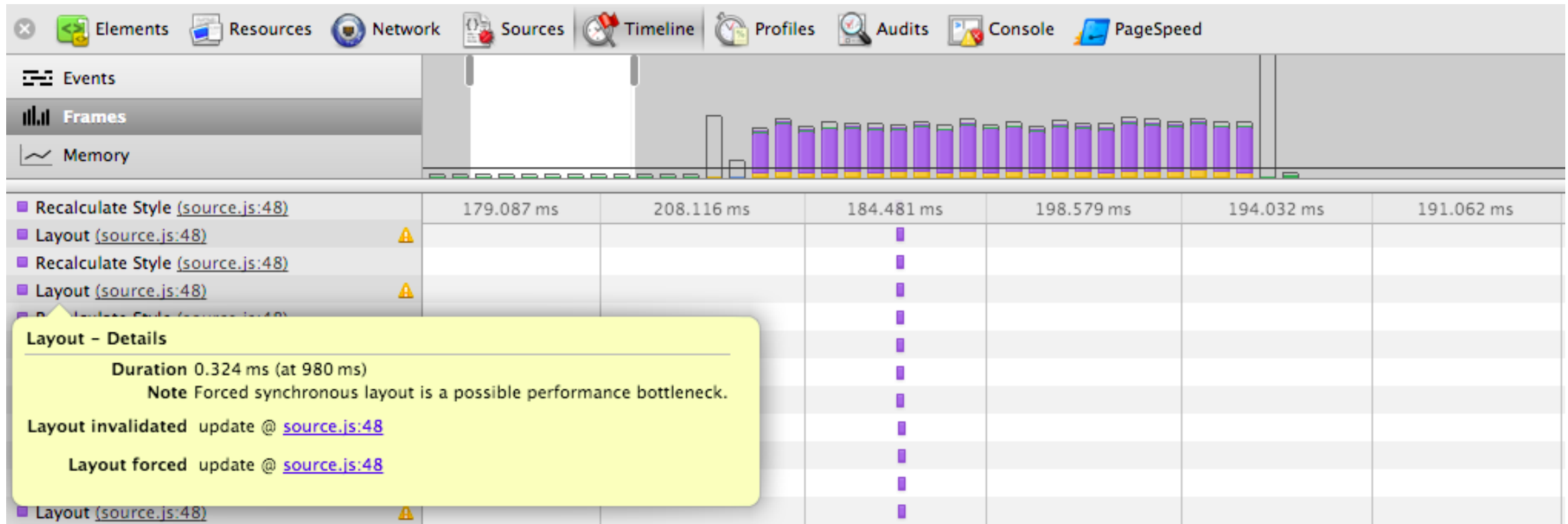
Layout invalidated

- Rn @ [rs=AltrSTMdz6DWcj3ZG91H UEze0O2yYrTFQ:1056](#)
- Pn @ [rs=AltrSTMdz6DWcj3ZG91H UEze0O2yYrTFQ:274](#)
- q.Plc @ [/_scs/apps-static/_js/k=oz.home.en_US.mVU3wb41cGM.O/m=sy147,sy319,sy275,s...ADQAolFklQAWrTFQ:361](#)
- c @ [rs=AltrSTMdz6DWcj3ZG91H UEze0O2yYrTFQ:129](#)

- **2.5 ms** to perform triggered layout
- **34 affected nodes** (children)
 - Total DOM size: 2792 nodes
- Be careful about triggering expensive layout updates!
 - *Adding nodes, removing nodes, updating styles, ... just about anything, actually. :-)*



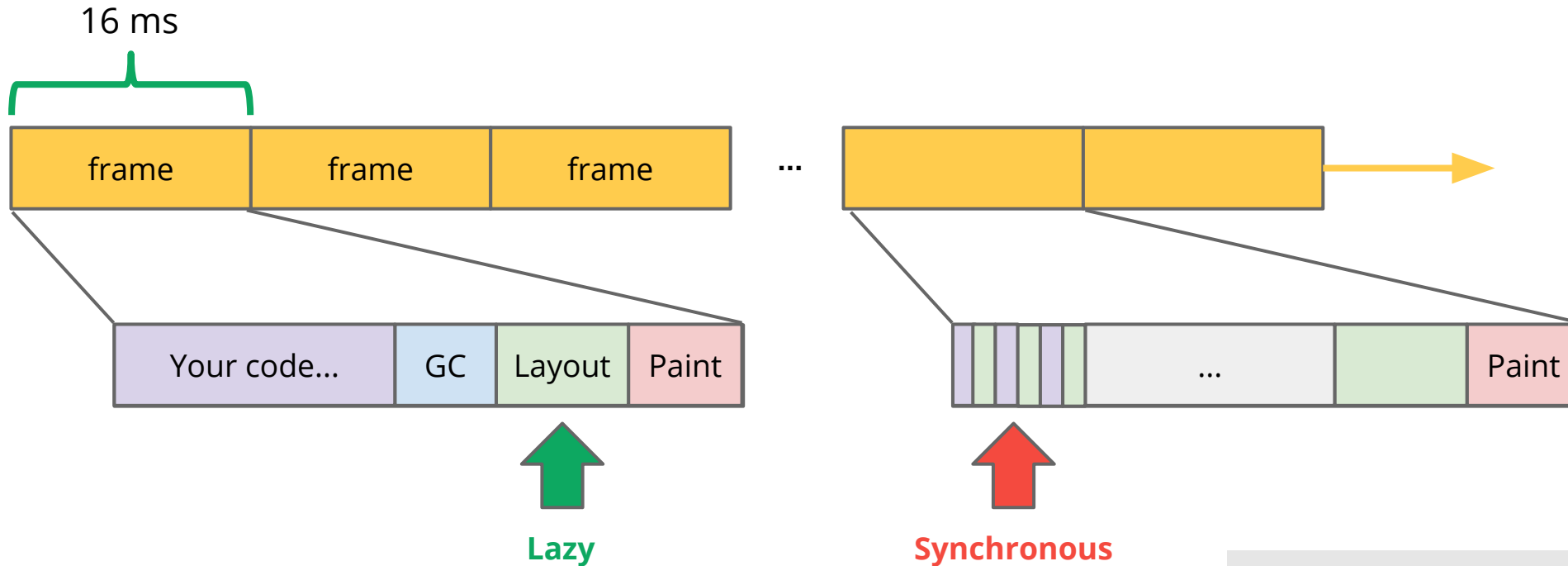
Layout can be *very* expensive....



- **Style recalculation is forcing a layout update...** (hence the warning)
 - Change in size, position, etc...
- Synchronous layout? Glad you asked...



Ideally, the layout is performed **only once**



- DOM / CSSOM modification → **dirty tree**
 - Ideally, **recalculated once**, immediately prior to paint
- Except.. you can force a **synchronous layout!**

```
for (n in nodes) {  
  n.style.left =  
    n.offsetLeft + 1 + "px";  
}
```

- First iteration marks tree as dirty
- Second iteration forces layout!



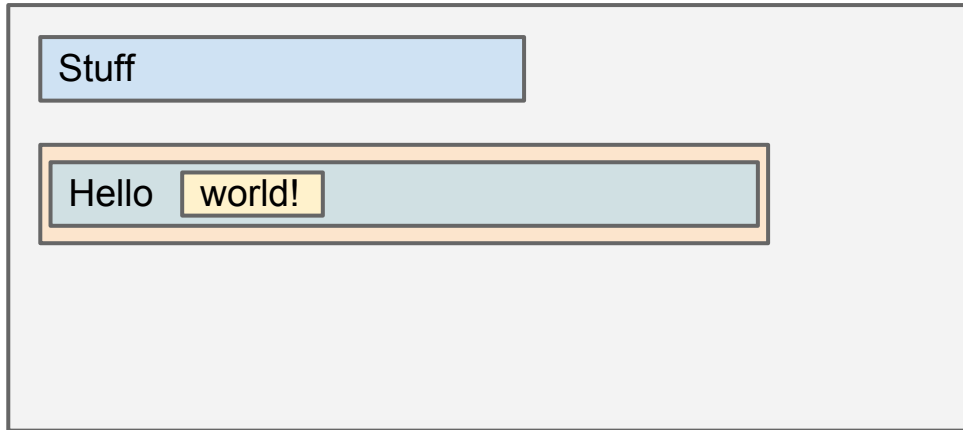


OK. Let's paint some pixels!

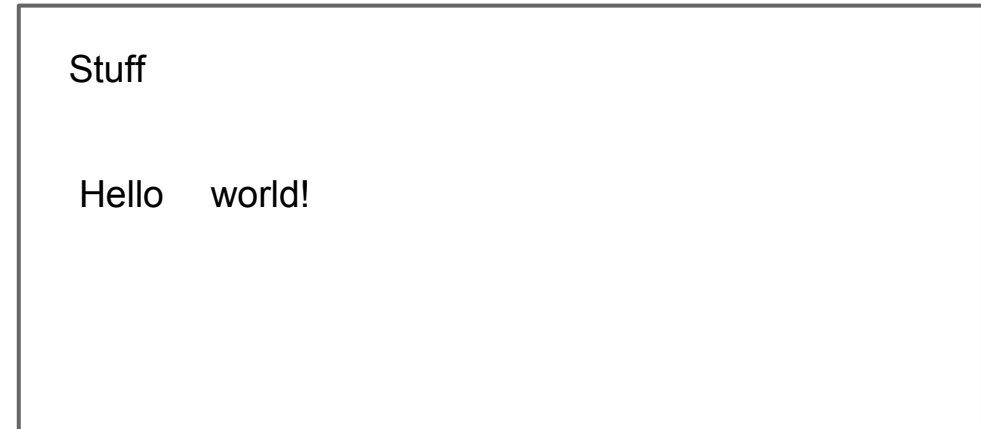
Only took us a few hours to get here...

Paint process in a nutshell

Layout viewport



Pixels

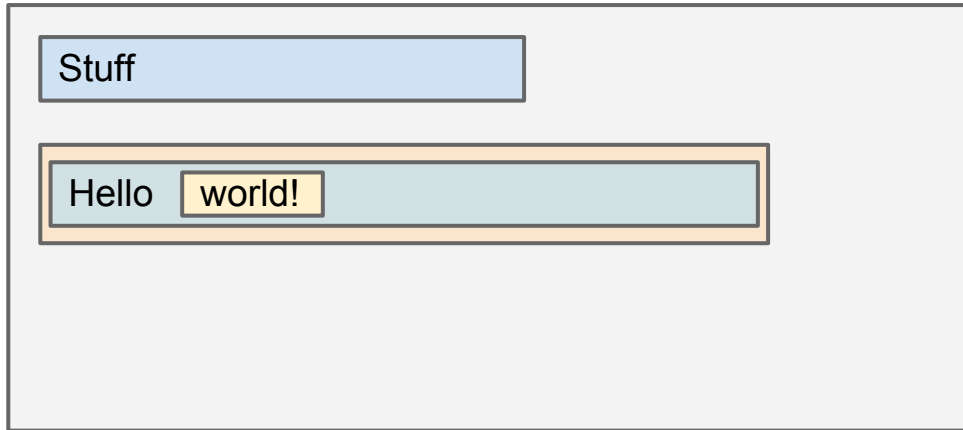


- Given layout information of all elements
 - Apply all the visual styles to each element
 - Composite all the elements and layers into a bitmap
 - Push the pixels to the screen

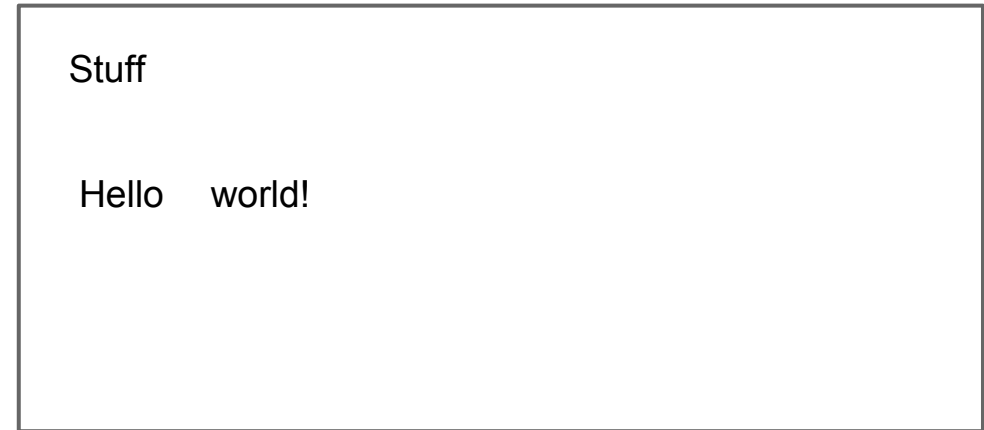


Paint process has **variable costs** based on...

Layout viewport



Pixels

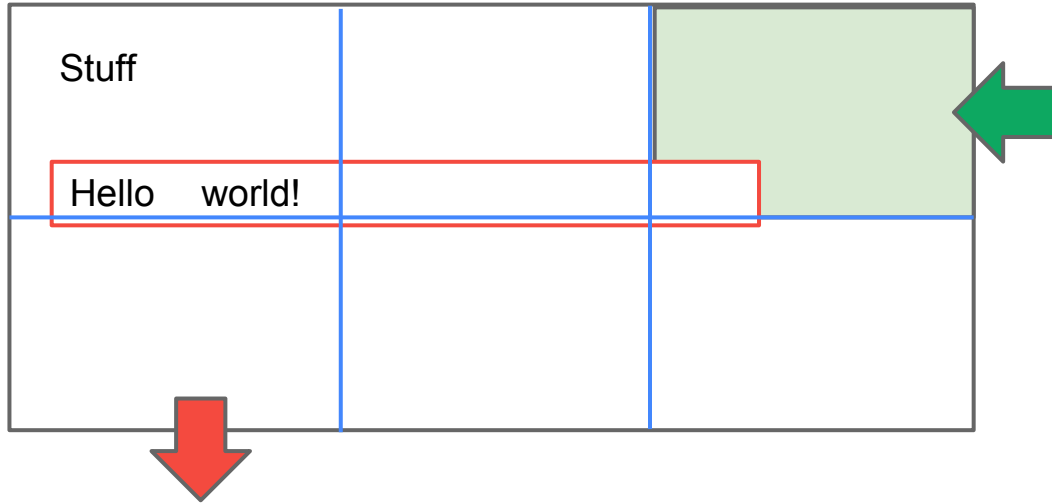


- **Total area** that needs to be (re) Painted
 - *We want to update the minimal amount*
- Pixel rendering cost varies based on **applied effects**
 - *Some styles are more expensive than others!*

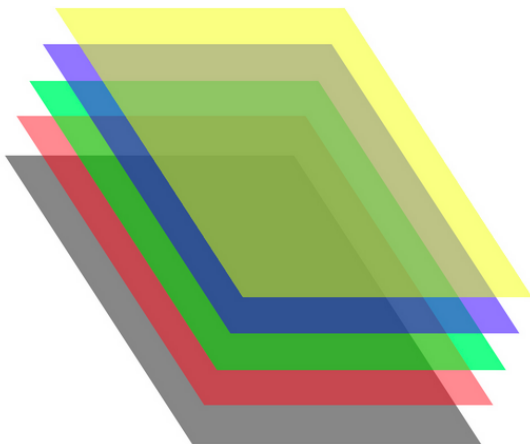


Rendering 101

Viewport



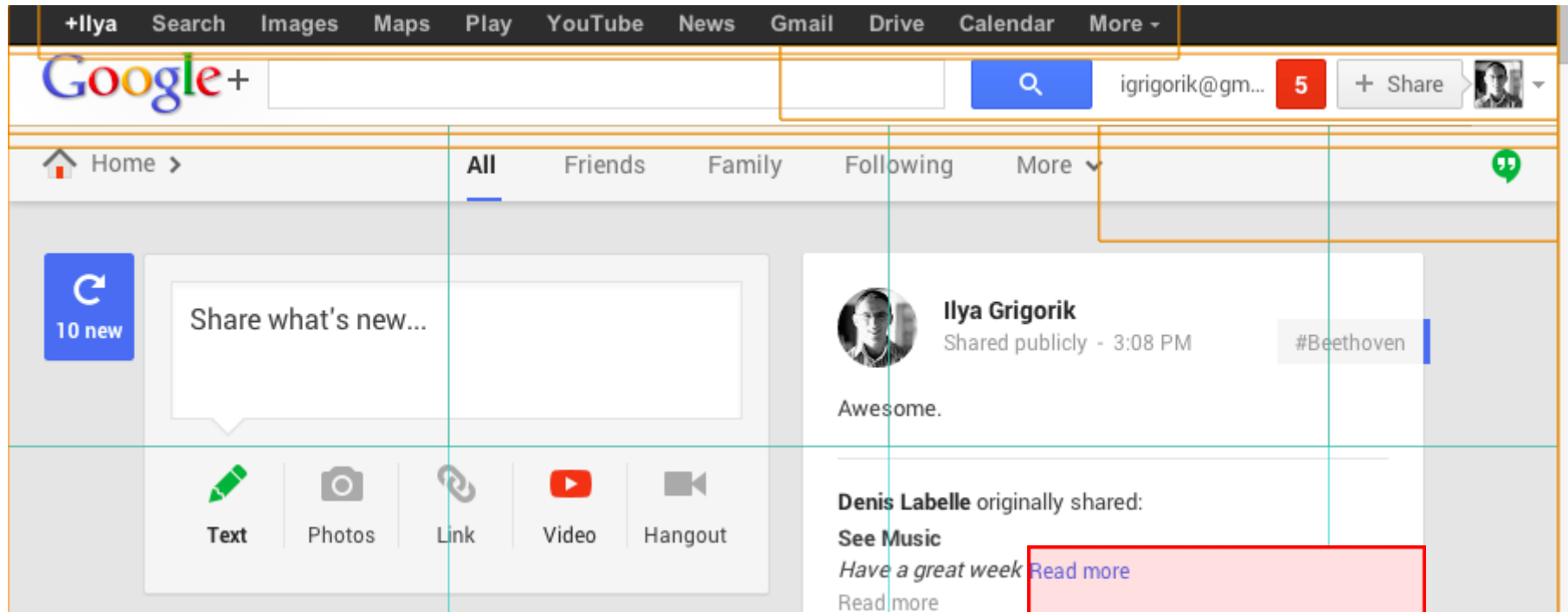
- **Viewport is split into rectangular tiles**
 - *Each tile is rendered and cached*
- **Elements can have own layers**
 - *Allows reuse of same texture*
 - *Layers can be composited by GPU*



Stuff
Hello world!



Gold borders show independent layers



Rendering is done in rectangular tiles

Red border shows repainted area



Let's diagnose us some Jank....



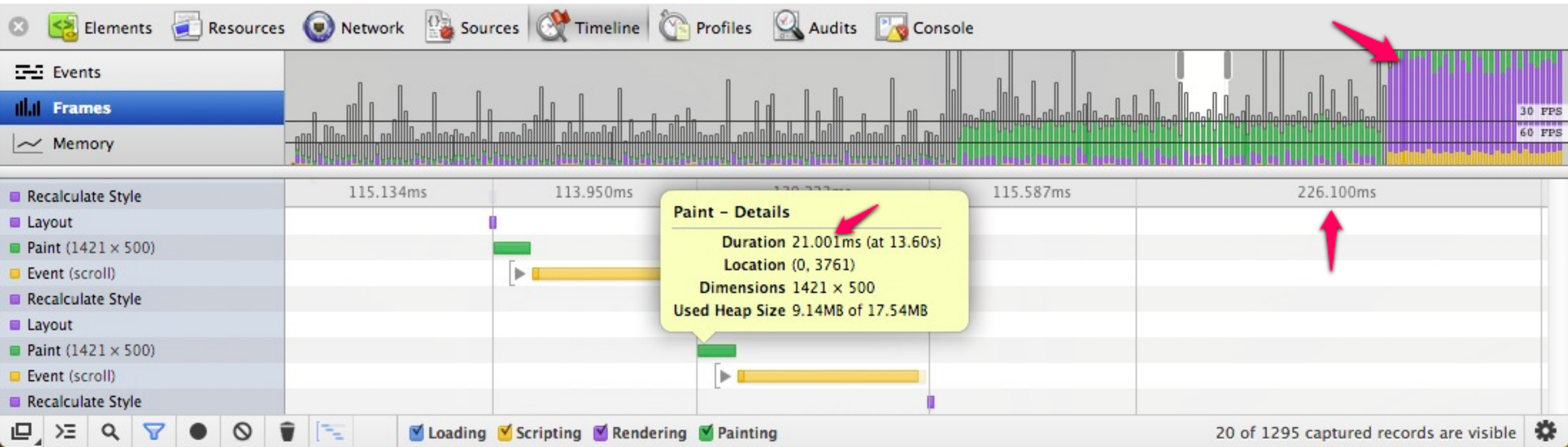
- Show paint rectangles
- Show composited layer borders
- Show FPS meter
- Enable continuous page repainting



What's the source of the problem?

- Large paints?
- CPU / JavaScript bound?
- Costly CSS effects?

Let's find out... (hint, all of the above)



Enable "continuous page repainting"



Annotations in Performance tab: Heavy onScroll Costly effects

Page paint time (ms)	
6.3	6.0-9.6

Settings - General

- Show Shadow DOM
- Show rulers
- Log XMLHttpRequests
- Preserve log upon navigation

Rendering

- Show paint rectangles
- Show composited layer borders
- Show FPS meter
- Enable continuous page repainting

- Force full repaint on **every frame** to help find expensive elements and effects
- In Elements tab, hit "h" to hide the element, and watch the paint time costs!





A few Chrome tips...

to make your debugging workflow more productive

Timeline trace or it didn't happen...



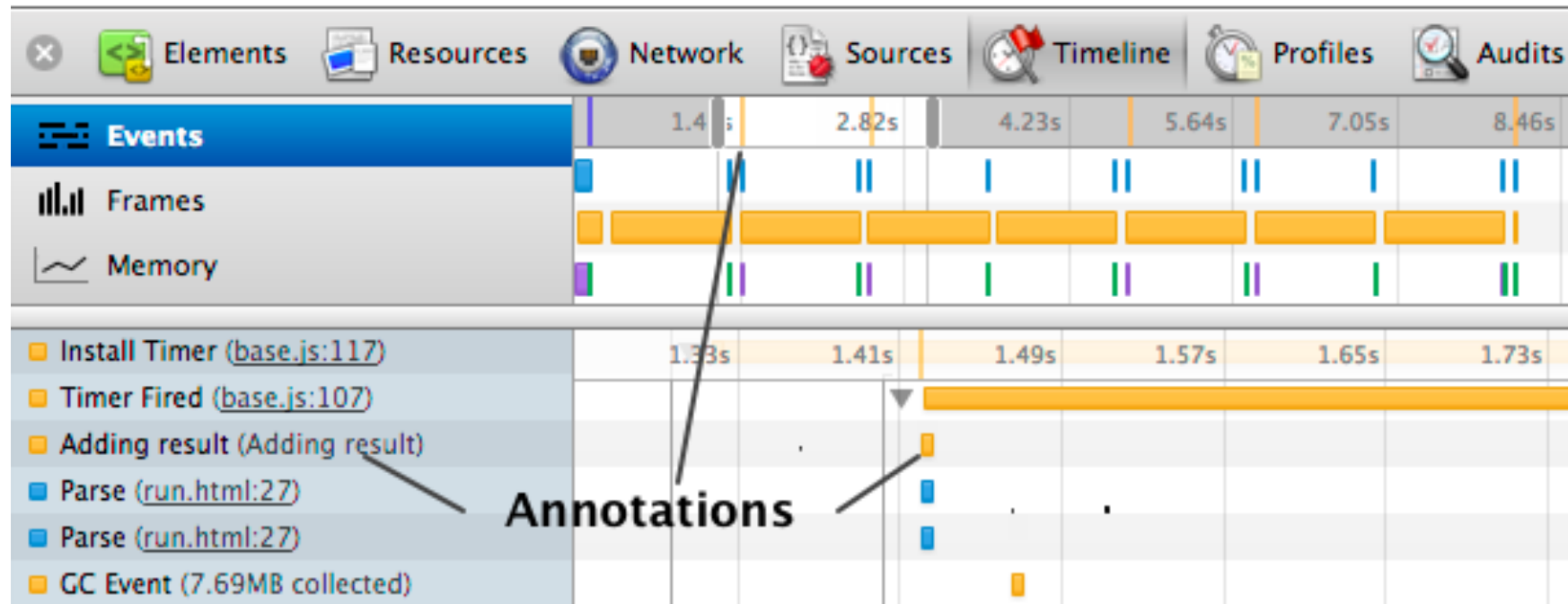
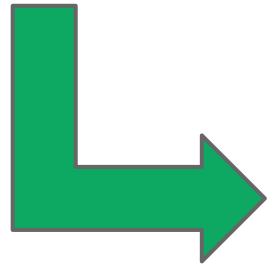
1. **Export timeline trace** (raw JSON) for bug reports, later analysis, ...
2. **Attach said trace** to bug report!
3. **Load trace** and analyze the problem - kthnx!

*Protip: **CMD-e** to start and stop recording!*

The screenshot displays the Chrome DevTools interface with the Timeline panel active. The top toolbar includes tabs for Elements, Resources, Network, Sources, Timeline, Profiles, Audits, and Console. The Timeline panel shows a recording of events with a vertical axis for time (0 to 9.70s) and a horizontal axis for duration (0 to 4.63s). A context menu is open over the timeline, offering options to 'Save Timeline data...' and 'Load Timeline data...'. The bottom status bar indicates '535 of 1088 captured records are visible' and shows various tool icons and checkboxes for Loading, Scripting, Rendering, and Painting.

Annotate your Timeline!

```
function AddResult(name, result) {  
  console.timeStamp("Adding result");  
  var text = name + ': ' + result;  
  results.innerHTML += (text + "<br>");  
}
```



Test your **rendering performance** on mobile device!



Connect your Android device via USB to the desktop and view and debug the code executing **on the device**, with **all the same DevTools features!**

1. *Settings > Developer Tools > **Enable USB Debugging***
2. ***chrome://inspect*** (on Canary)
3. ...
4. *Profit*



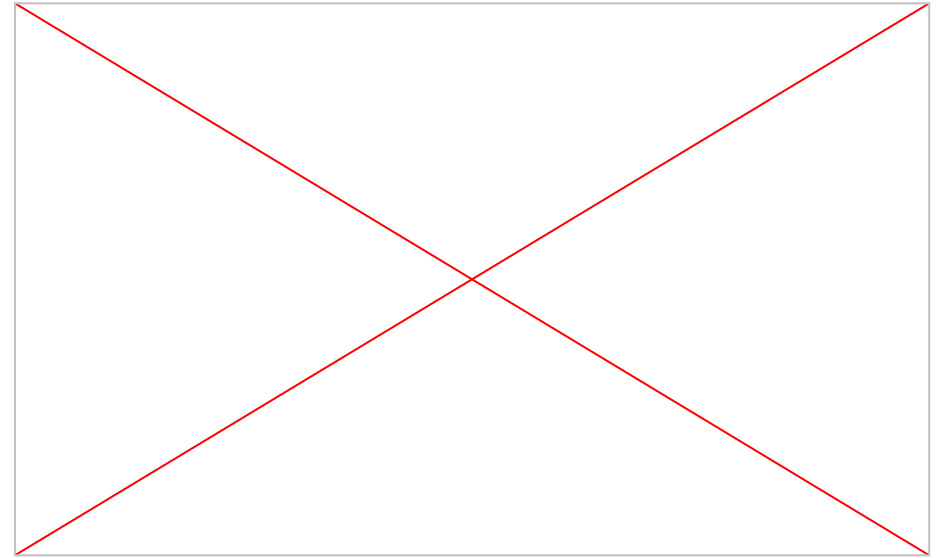


Wait, what about the GPU?

Won't it make rendering "super fast"?

Hardware Acceleration 101

1. The **object is painted** to a buffer (texture)
2. **Texture is uploaded** to GPU
3. Send commands to GPU: **apply op X to texture Y**
 - A RenderLayer can have a GPU backing store
 - Certain elements are GPU backed automatically
 - *canvas, video, CSS3 animations, ...*
 - Forcing a GPU layer: *-webkit-transform:translateZ(0)*
 - *don't abuse it, it can hurt performance!*

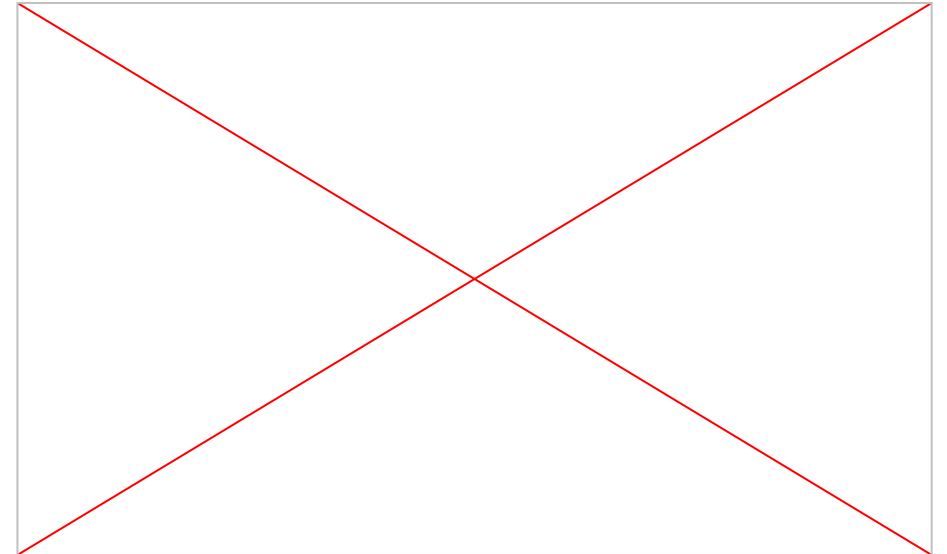


GPU is **really fast** at **compositing, matrix operations** and **alpha blends**.



Hardware Acceleration 101

- Minimize CPU-GPU interactions
- Texture **uploads are not free**
 - **No upload:** position, size, opacity
 - **Texture upload:** everything else



CSS3 Animations with **no Javascript!**

CSS3 Animations are as close to "free lunch" as you can get **

```
<style>
  .spin:hover {
    -webkit-animation: spin 2s infinite linear;
  }

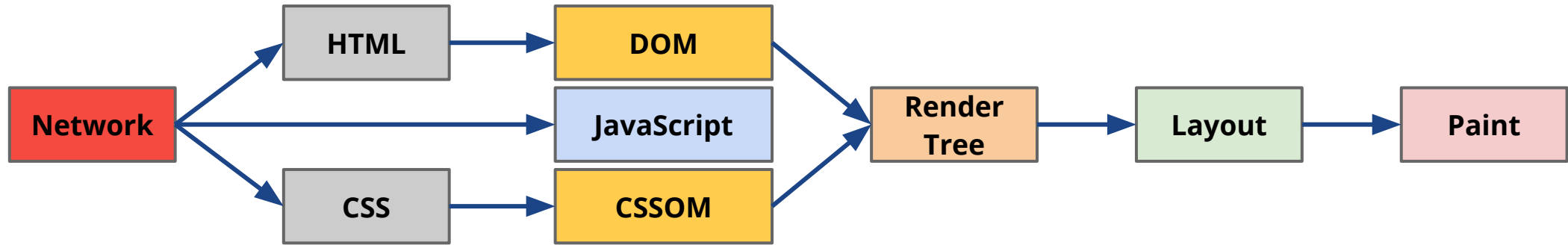
  @-webkit-keyframes spin {
    0% { -webkit-transform: rotate(0deg);}
    100% { -webkit-transform: rotate(360deg);}
  }
</style>

<div class="spin" style="background-image: url(images/chrome-logo.png);"></div>
```

- Look ma, no JavaScript!
- Example: [poster circle](#).



** Assuming no texture reuploads and animation runs entirely on GPU...



Done? Repeat it all over... at **60 FPS! :-)**





Let's wrap it up...

I heard you like top $\{N\}$ lists...

Optimize your networking stack!

- **Reduce DNS lookups**
 - **130 ms** average lookup time! And much slower on mobile..
- **Avoid redirects**
 - Often results in **new handshake** (and maybe even DNS)
- **Make fewer HTTP requests**
 - No request is faster than no request
- **Account for network latency overhead**
 - Breaking the 1000 ms mobile barrier requires careful engineering
- **Use a CDN**
 - Faster RTT = faster page loads
 - Also, terminate SSL closer to the user!



Reduce the size of your pages!

- **GZIP your (text) assets**
 - ~80% compression ratio for text
- **Optimize images, pick optimal format**
 - ~60% of total size of an average page!
- **Add an Expires header**
 - No request is faster than no request
- **Add ETags**
 - Conditional checks to avoid fetching **duplicate content**



Optimize the critical rendering path!

- **Stream the HTML to the client**
 - Allows the document parser to discover resources early
- **Place stylesheets at the top**
 - Rendered, and potentially DOM construction, is blocked on CSS!
- **Load scripts asynchronously, whenever possible**
 - Eliminate JavaScript from the critical rendering path
- **Inline / push critical CSS and JavaScript**
 - Eliminate extra network roundtrips from critical rendering path



Eliminate jank and memory leaks!

- **Performance == 60 FPS**
 - 16.6 ms budget per frame
 - Shared budget for your code, GC, layout, and painting
 - Use frames view to hunt down and eliminate jank
- **Profile and optimize your code**
 - Profile your JavaScript code
 - Profile the cost of layout and rendering!
 - Minimize CPU > GPU interaction
- **Eliminate JS and DOM memory leaks**
 - Monitor and diff heap usage to identify memory leaks
- **Test on mobile devices**
 - Emulators won't show you true performance on the device



Performance is a discipline.

Yes, this stuff is hard... let's not pretend otherwise.



zomg, we made it.

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