Mastering Python High Performance

Fernando Doglio

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Measure, optimize, and improve the performance of your Python code with this easy-to-follow guide

About This Book

- Master the do's and don'ts of Python performance programming
- Learn how to use exiting new tools that will help you improve your scripts
- A step-by-step, conceptual guide to teach you how to optimize and fine-tune your critical pieces of code

Who This Book Is For

If you're a Python developer looking to improve the speed of your scripts or simply wanting to take your skills to the next level, then this book is perfect for you.

What You Will Learn

- Master code optimization step-by-step and learn how to use different tools
- Understand what a profiler is and how to read its output
- Interpret visual output from profiling tools and improve the performance of your script
- Use Cython to create fast applications using Python and C
- Take advantage of PyPy to improve performance of Python code
- Optimize number-crunching code with NumPy, Numba, Parakeet, and Pandas

In Detail

Simply knowing how to code is not enough; on mission-critical pieces of code, every bit of memory and every CPU cycle counts, and knowing how to squish every bit of processing power out of your code is a crucial and sought-after skill. Nowadays, Python is used for many scientific projects, and sometimes the calculations done in those projects require some serious fine-tuning. Profilers are tools designed to help you measure the performance of your code and help you during the optimization process, so knowing how to use them and read their output is very handy.

This book starts from the basics and progressively moves on to more advanced topics. You'll learn everything from profiling all the way up to writing a real-life application and applying a full set of tools designed to improve it in different ways. In the middle, you'll stop to learn about the major profilers used in Python and about some graphic tools to help you make sense of their output. You'll then move from generic optimization techniques onto Python-specific ones, going over the main constructs of the language that will help you improve your speed without much of a change. Finally, the book covers some number-crunching-specific libraries and how to use them properly to get the best speed out of them.

After reading this book, you will know how to take any Python code, profile it, find out where the bottlenecks are, and apply different techniques to remove them.

Style and approach

This easy-to-follow, practical guide will help you enhance your optimization skills by improving real-world code.

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