On the ROI of Parallel Performance Optimization

Bernd Mohr (Jülich Supercomputing Centre)

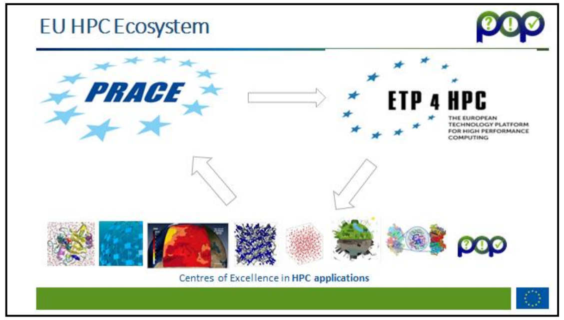
EU H2020 Centre of Excellence (CoE)

1 December 2018 – 30 November 2021

Grant Agreement No 824080

POP CoE

- A **Centre of Excellence**
  - On **Performance Optimisation and Productivity**
  - Promoting **best practices in parallel programming**
- Providing **FREE Services**
  - Precise understanding of application and system behaviour
  - Suggestion/support on how to refactor code in the most productive way
- **Horizontal**
  - Transversal across application areas, platforms, scales
- **For (EU) academic AND industrial codes and users !**



Partners

- **Who?**
  - BSC, ES (coordinator)
  - HLRS, DE
  - IT4I, CZ
  - JSC, DE
  - NAG, UK
  - RWTH Aachen, IT Center, DE
  - TERATEC, FR
  - UVSQ, FR

A team with

- Excellence in performance tools and tuning
- Excellence in programming models and practices
- Research and development background AND proven commitment in application to real academic and industrial use cases

Motivation

Why?

- Complexity of machines and codes
  ⇨ Frequent lack of quantified understanding of actual behaviour
  ⇨ Not clear most productive direction of code refactoring

- Important to maximize efficiency (performance, power) of compute intensive applications and productivity of the development efforts

What?

- Parallel programs, mainly MPI/OpenMP
  - Although also CUDA, OpenCL, OpenACC, Python, …

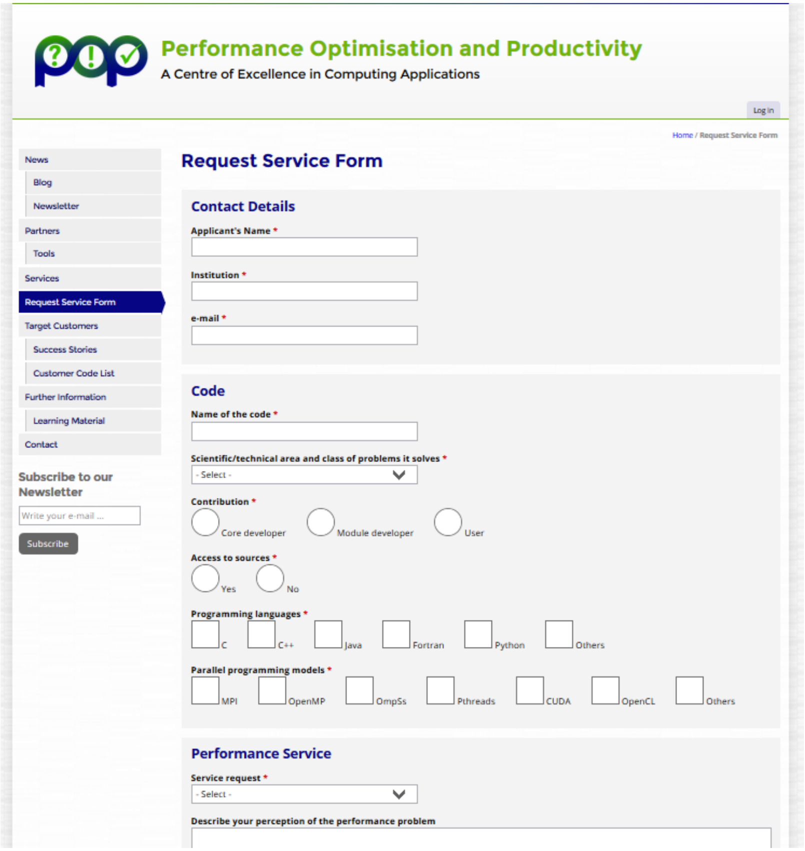
The Process …

When?

December 2018 – November 2021

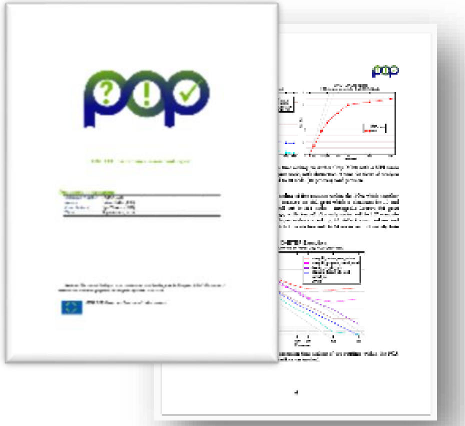
How?

- Apply
  - Fill in small questionnaire describing application and needs https://pop-coe.eu/request-service-form
  - Questions? Ask pop@bsc.es
- Selection/assignment process
- Install tools @ your production machine (local, PRACE, …)
- Interactively: Gather data → Analysis → Report



FREE Services provided by the CoE

- **Parallel Application Performance Assessment**
  - Primary service
  - Identifies performance issues of customer code (at customer site)
  - If needed, identifies the root causes of the issues found and qualifies and quantifies approaches to address them (recommendations)
  - **Combines former Performance Audit (?) and Plan (!)**
  - Medium effort (1-3 months)

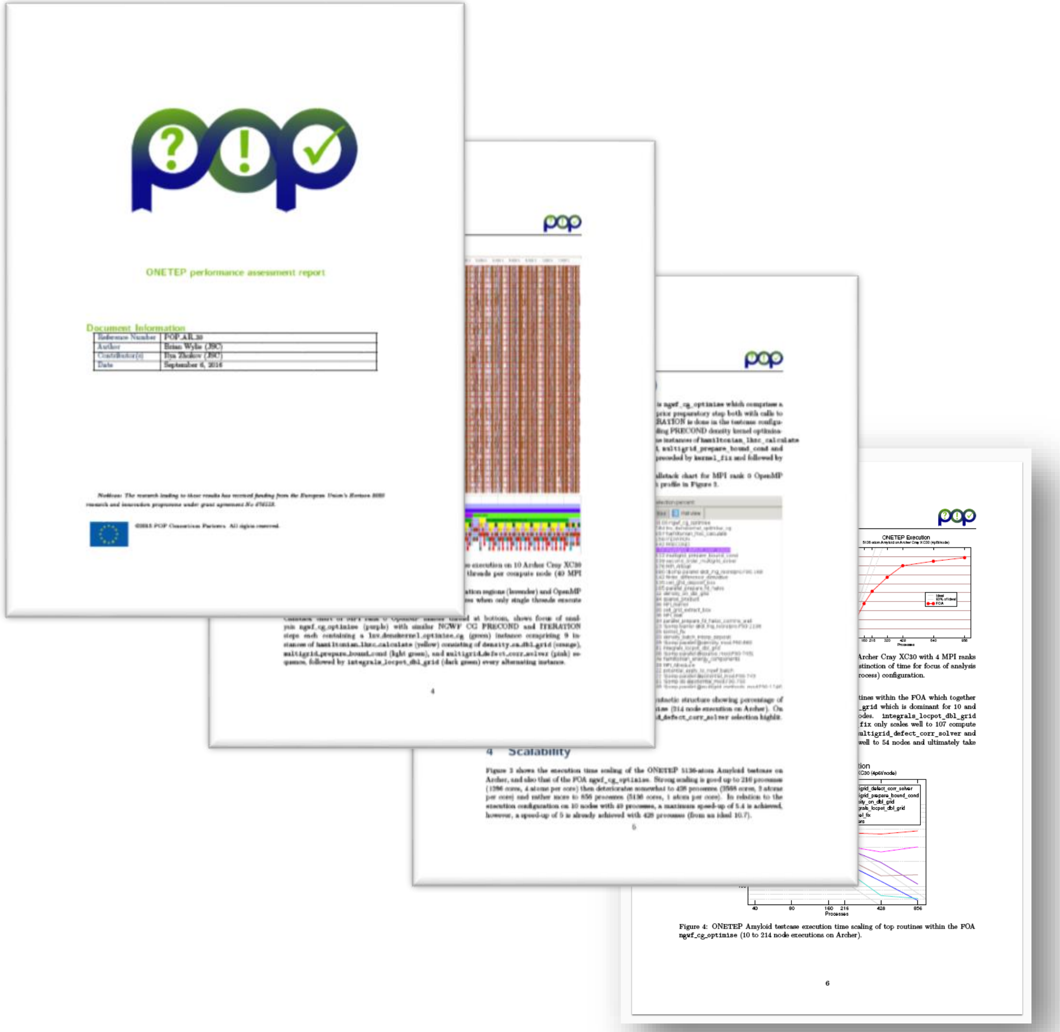


- **Proof-of-Concept (✓)**
  - Follow-up service
  - Experiments and mock-up tests for customer codes
  - Kernel extraction, parallelisation, mini-apps experiments to show effect of proposed optimisations
  - Larger effort (3-6 months)

Note: Effort shared between our experts and customer!

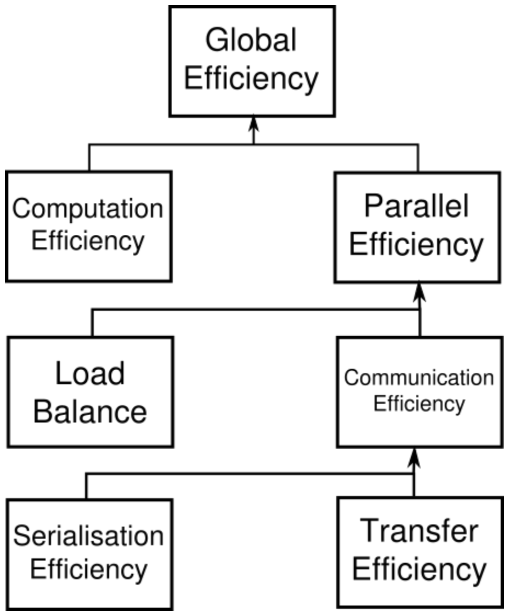
Outline of a Typical Audit Report

- Application Structure
- (If appropriate) Region of Interest
- Scalability Information
- Application Efficiency
  - E.g. time spent outside MPI
- Load Balance
  - Whether due to internal or external factors
- Serial Performance
  - Identification of poor code quality
- Communications
  - E.g. sensitivity to network performance
- Summary and Recommendations



Efficiencies

- The following metrics are used in a POP Performance Audit:
- Global Efficiency (GE): GE = PE * CompE
  - Parallel Efficiency (PE): PE = LB * CommE
    - **Load Balance** Efficiency (LB): LB = avg(CT)/max(CT)
    - **Communication** Efficiency (CommE): CommE = SerE * TE
      - Serialization Efficiency (SerE):
        SerE = max (CT / TT on ideal network)
      - Transfer Efficiency (TE): TE = TT on ideal network / TT
  - (Serial) **Computation** Efficiency (CompE)
    - Computed out of IPC Scaling and Instruction Scaling
    - For strong scaling: ideal scaling -> efficiency of 1.0



CT = Computational time
TT = Total time

- Details see https://sharepoint.ecampus.rwth-aachen.de/units/rz/HPC/public/Shared%20Documents/Metrics.pdf

Efficiencies

	2	4	8	16
Parallel Efficiency	0.98	0.94	0.90	0.85
Load Balance	0.99	0.97	0.91	0.92
Serialization efficiency	0.99	0.98	0.99	0.94
Transfer Efficiency	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.98
Computation Efficiency	1.00	0.96	0.87	0.70
Global efficiency	0.98	0.90	0.78	0.59

	2	**4**	**8**	**16**
IPC Scaling Efficiency	1.00	0.99	0.96	0.84
Instruction Scaling Efficiency	1.00	0.97	0.94	0.91
Core frequency efficiency	1.00	0.99	0.96	0.91

Tools

- **Install and use already available monitoring and analysis technology**
  - Analysis and predictive capabilities
  - Delivering insight
    - With extreme detail
    - Up to extreme scale
- **Open-source toolsets**
  - Extrae + Paraver
  - Score-P + Cube + Scalasca/TAU/Vampir
  - Dimemas, Extra-P
  - MAQAO
- **Commercial toolsets**

  (if available at customer site)
  - Intel tools
  - Cray tools
  - ARM tools

Target customers

- **Code developers**
  - Assessment of detailed actual behaviour
  - Suggestion of most productive directions to refactor code
- **Users**
  - Assessment of achieved performance in specific production conditions
  - Possible improvements modifying environment setup
  - Evidence to interact with code provider
- **Infrastructure operators**
  - Assessment of achieved performance
    in production conditions
  - Possible improvements from modifying environment setup
  - Information for time computer time allocation processes
  - Training of support staff
- **Vendors**
  - Benchmarking
  - Customer support
  - System dimensioning/design

Overview of Codes Investigated

Status after 2½ Years (End of Phase1)

Performance Audits and Plans

- 139 completed or reporting to customer
  - 13 more in progress

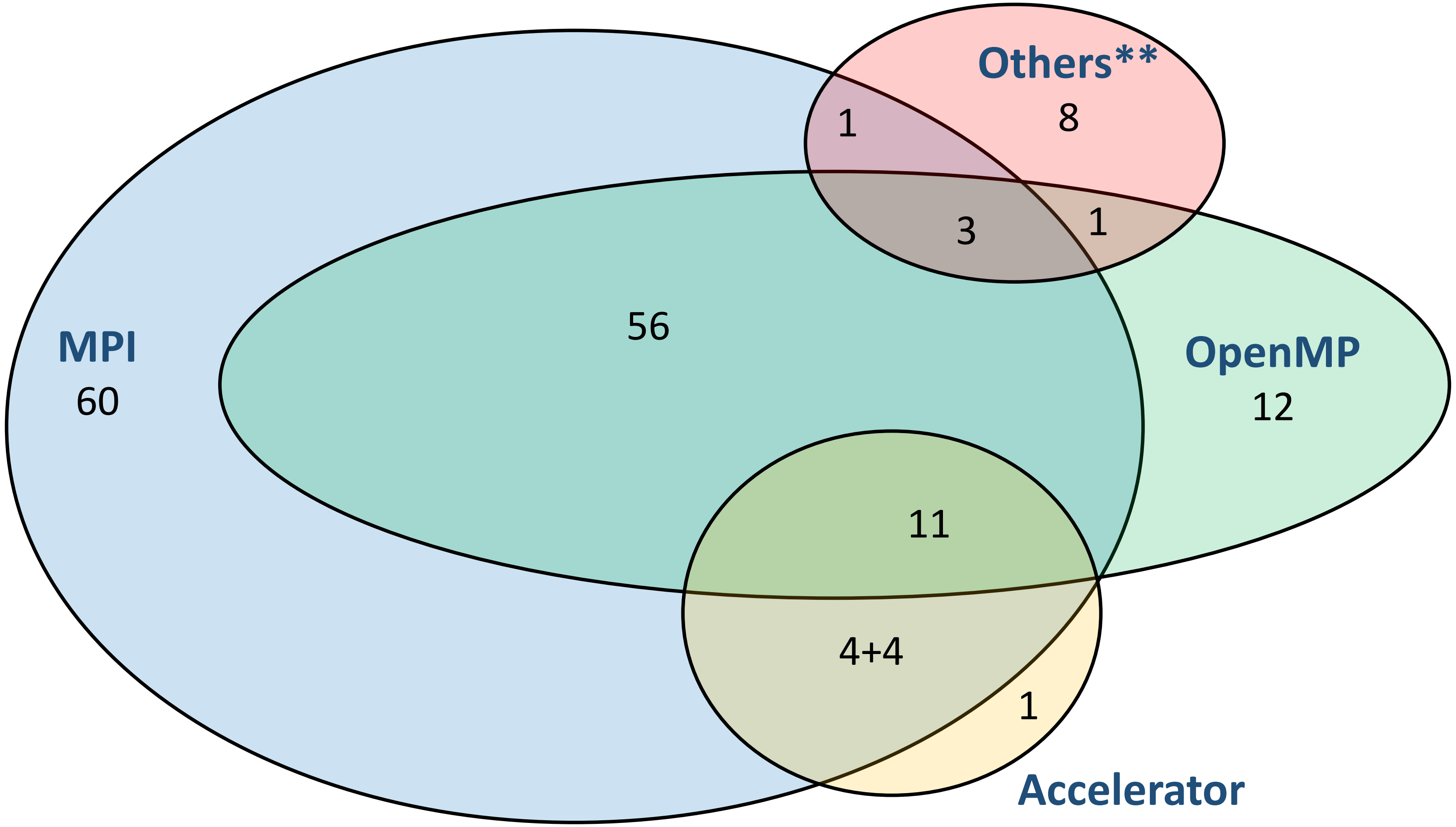
Proof-of-Concept

- 19 completed Proofs of Concept
  - 3 more in progress

Example POP Users and Their Codes

Area	Codes
Computational Fluid Dynamics	DROPS (RWTH Aachen), Nek5000 (PDC KTH), SOWFA (CENER), ParFlow (FZ-Juelich), FDS (COAC) & others
Electronic Structure Calculations	ADF, BAND, DFTB (SCM), Quantum Expresso (Cineca), FHI-AIMS (University of Barcelona), SIESTA (BSC), ONETEP (University of Warwick)
Earth Sciences	NEMO (BULL), UKCA (University of Cambridge), SHEMAT-Suite (RWTH Aachen), GITM (Cefas) & others
Finite Element Analysis	Ateles, Musubi (University of Siegen) & others
Gyrokinetic Plasma Turbulence	GYSELA (CEA), GS2 (STFC)
Materials Modelling	VAMPIRE (University of York), GraGLeS2D (RWTH Aachen), DPM (University of Luxembourg), QUIP (University of Warwick), FIDIMAG (University of Southampton), GBmolDD (University of Durham), k-Wave (Brno University), EPW (University of Oxford) & others
Neural Networks	OpenNN (Artelnics)

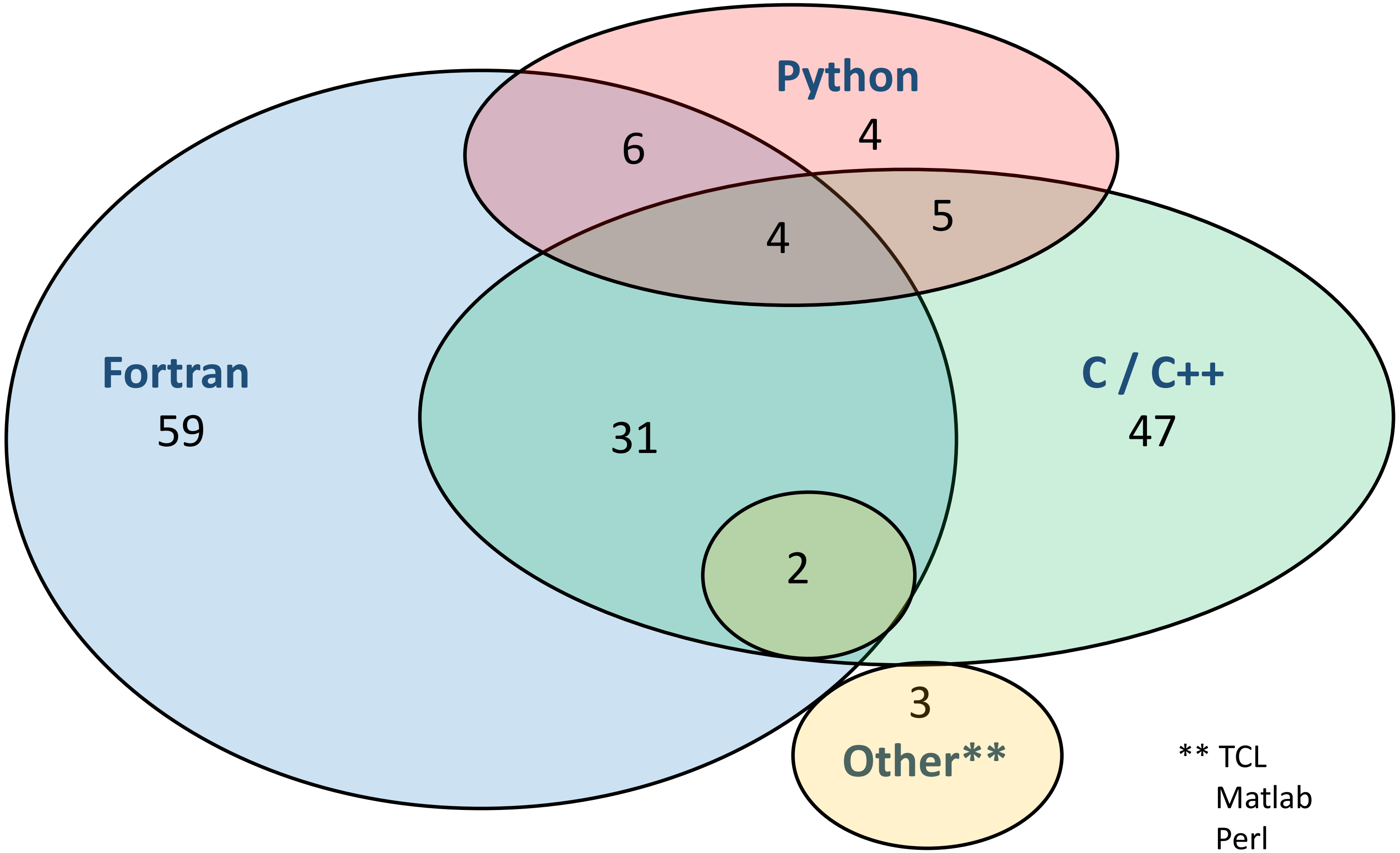
Programming Models Used



** MAGMA
Celery
TBB
GASPI
C++ threads
MATLAB PT
StarPU
GlobalArrays
Charm++
Fortran Coarray

* Based on data collected for 161 POP Performance Audits

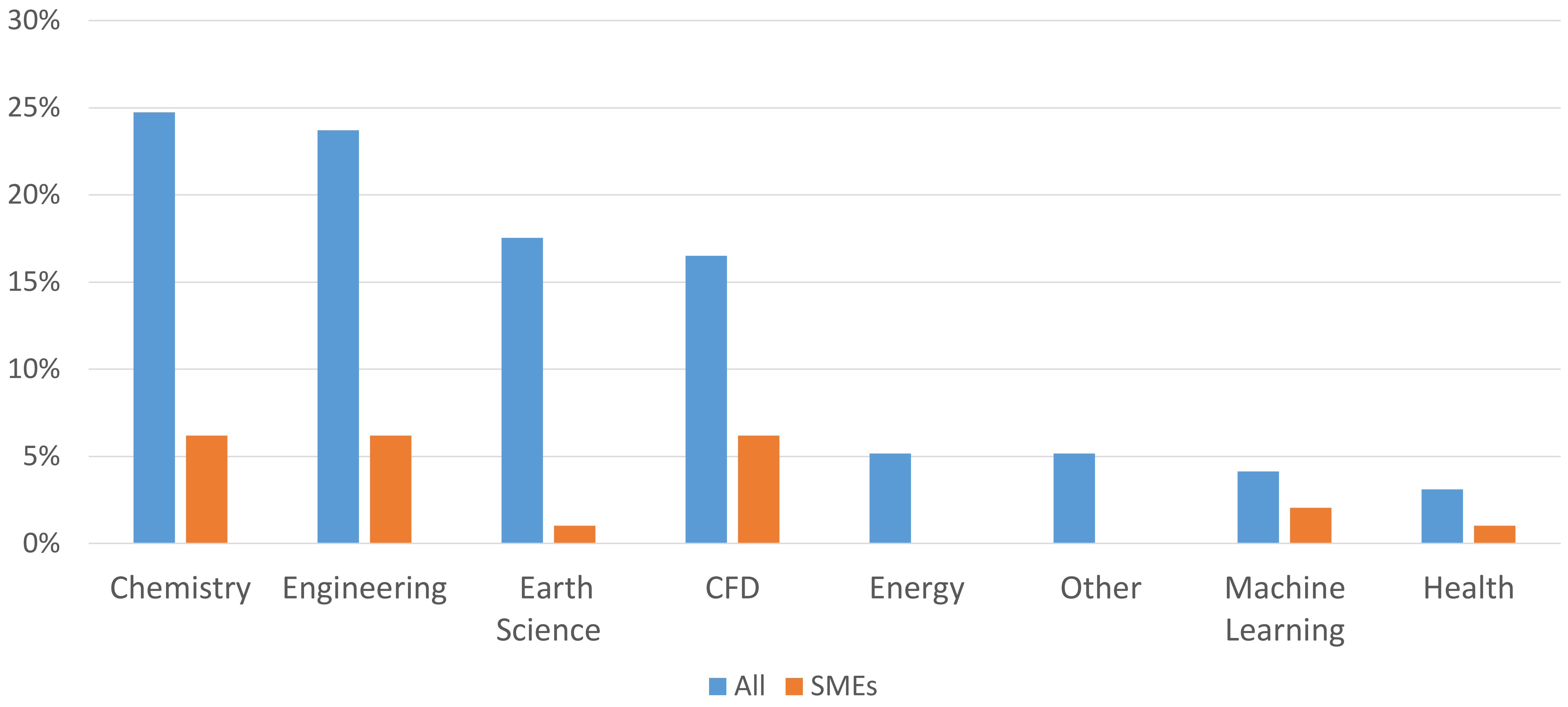
Programming Languages Used



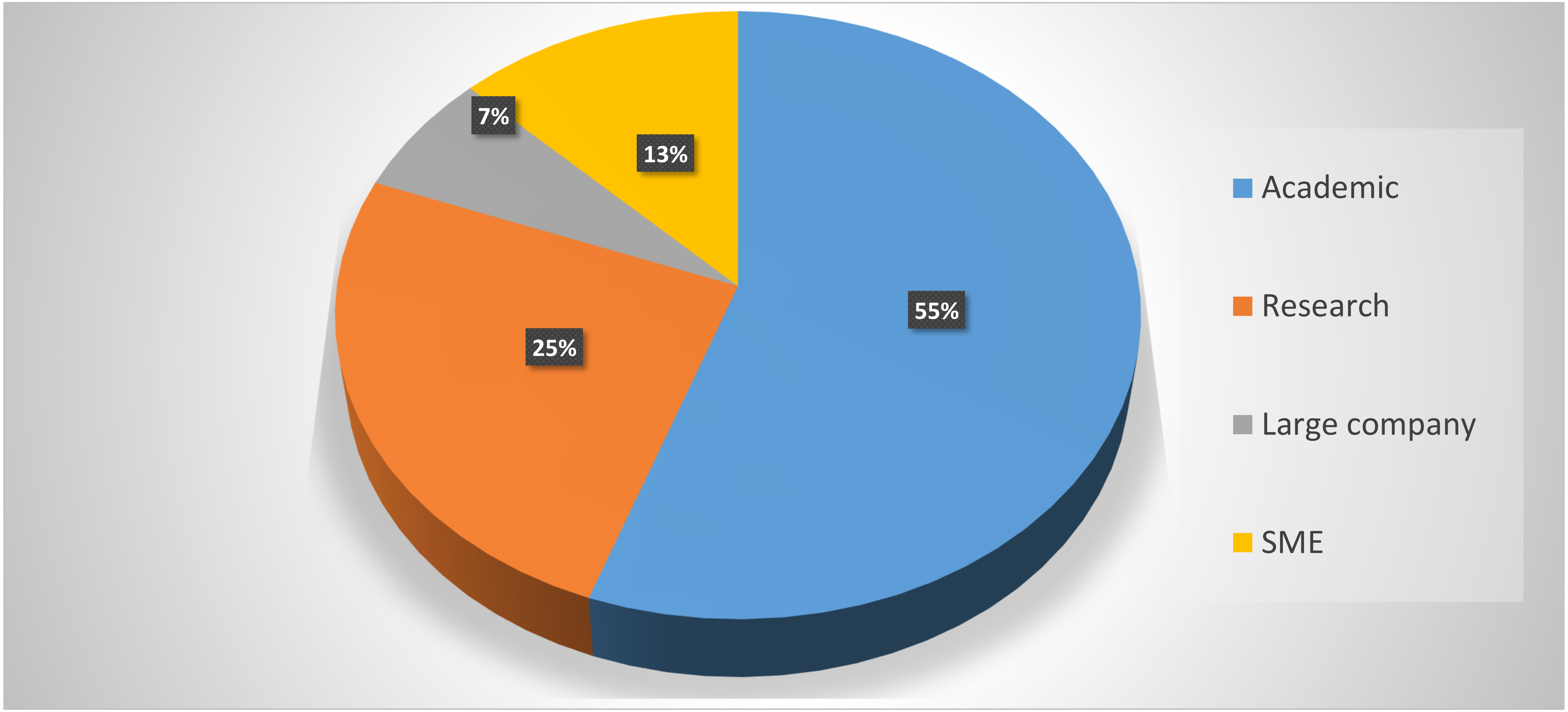
** TCL
Matlab
Perl
Octave
Java

* Based on data collected for 161 POP Performance Audits

Application Sectors

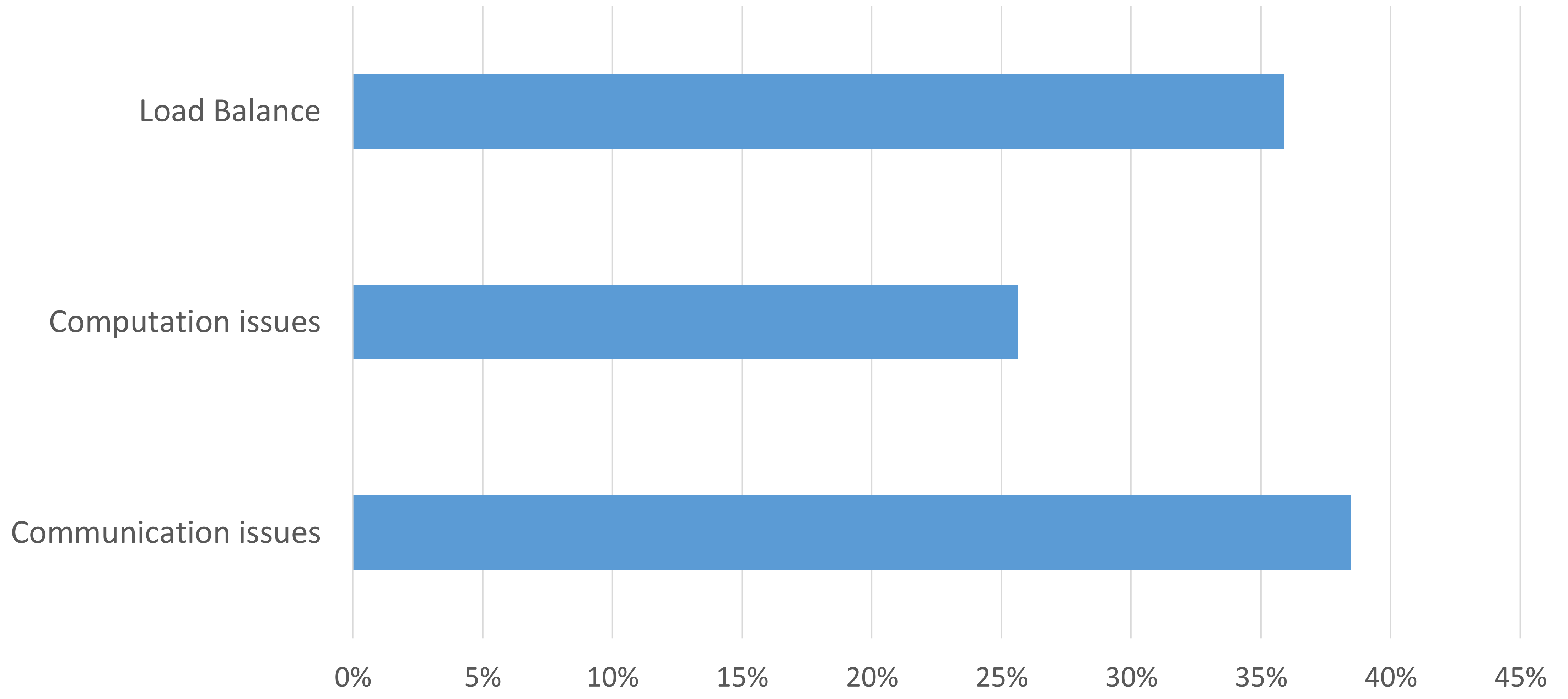


Customer Types

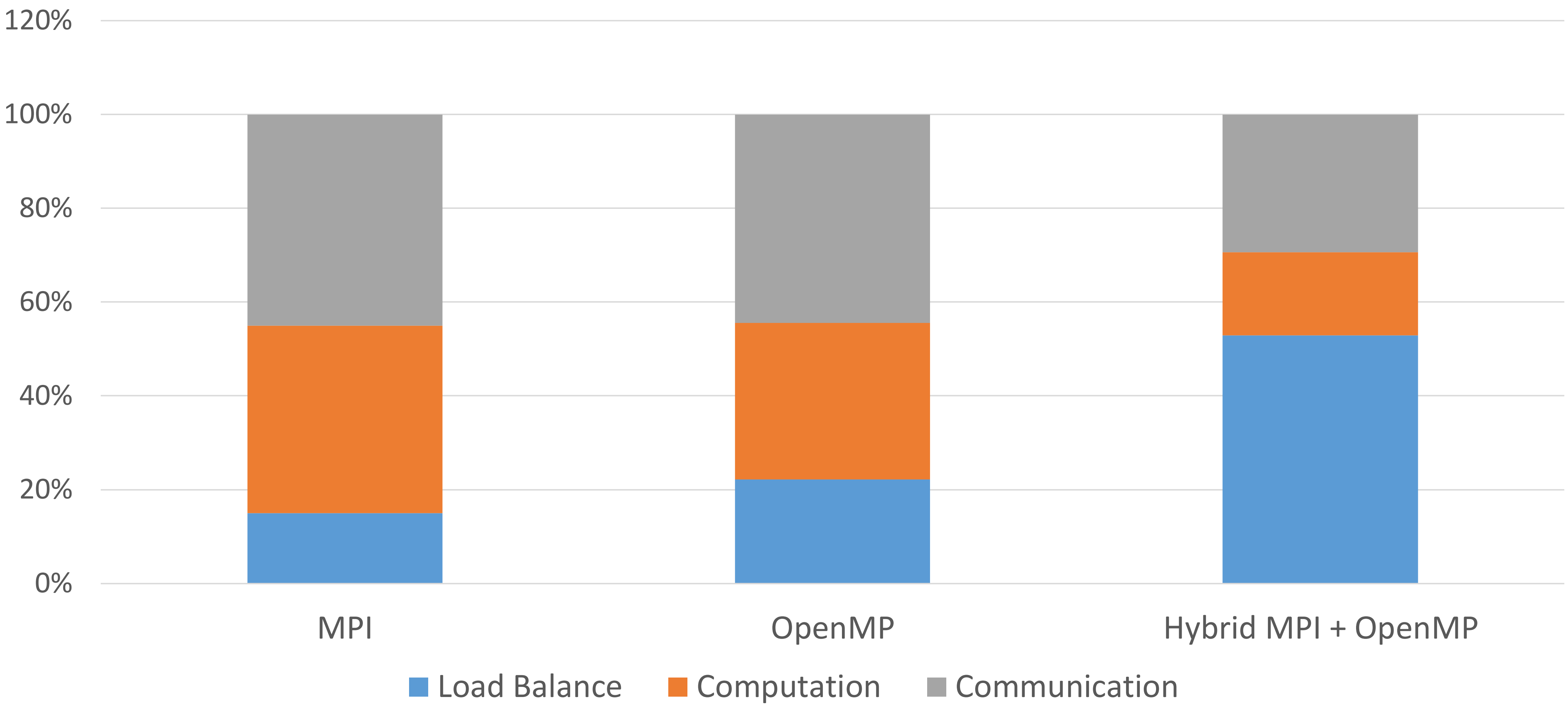


Analysis of Inefficiencies

Leading Cause of Inefficiency



Inefficiency by Parallelisation



Success Stories

Some PoC Success Stories

- See ⇨ https://pop-coe.eu/blog/tags/success-stories

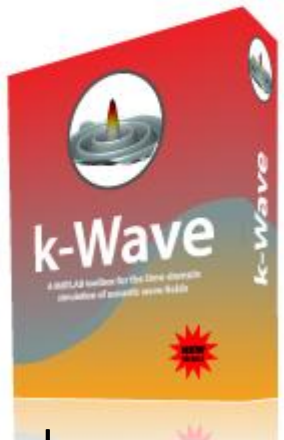
Improvements

Reductions

- Performance Improvements for SCM's ADF Modeling Suite
- **3x Speed Improvement** for zCFD Computational Fluid Dynamics Solver
- **25% Faster time-to-solution** for Urban Microclimate Simulations
- **2x performance improvement** for SCM ADF code
- Proof of Concept for BPMF leads to around **40% runtime reduction**
- POP audit helps developers **double their code performance**
- **10-fold scalability improvement** from POP services
- POP performance study improves performance **up to a factor 6**
- POP Proof-of-Concept study leads to **nearly 50% higher performance**
- POP Proof-of-Concept study leads to **10X performance improvement** for customer

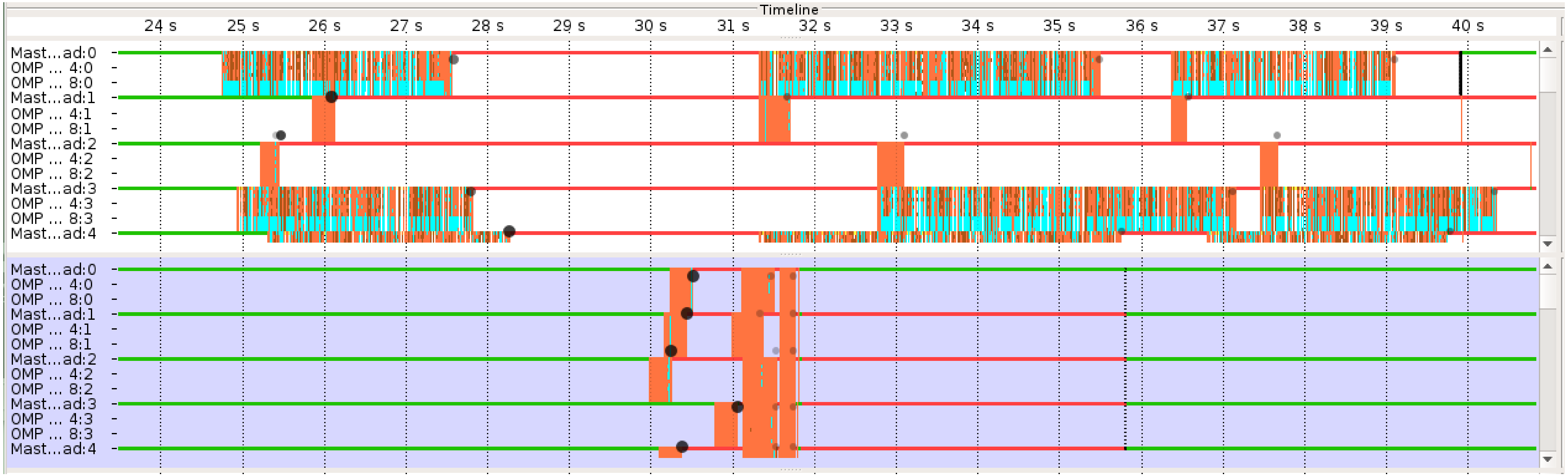
k-Wave – Brno Uni. of Technology

- Toolbox for time domain acoustic and ultrasound simulations in complex and tissue-realistic media
- C++ code parallelised with Hybrid MPI and OpenMP (+ CUDA)
- Executed on Salomon Intel Xeon compute nodes
- Key audit findings:
  - 3D domain decomposition suffered from major load imbalance : exterior MPI processes with fewer grid cells took much longer than interior
  - OpenMP-parallelised FFTs were much less efficient for grid sizes of exterior, requiring many more small and poorly-balanced parallel loops
- **Using a periodic domain with identical halo zones for each MPI rank reduced overall runtime by a factor of 2**



www.k-wave.org

k-Wave – Brno Uni. of Technology

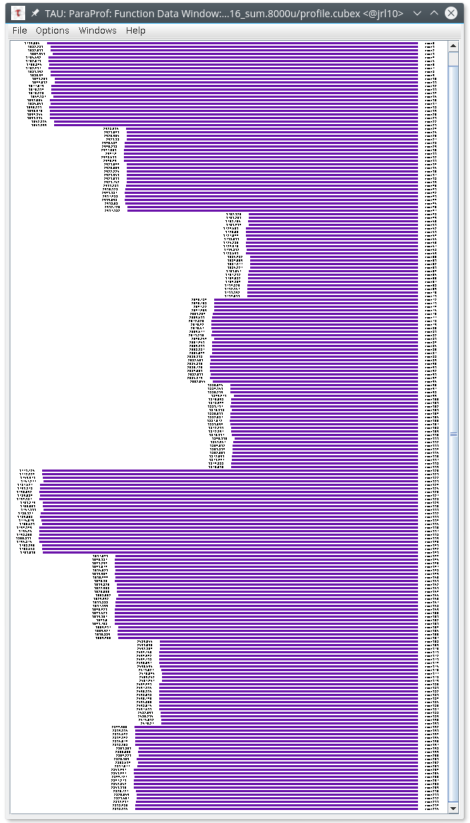


- Comparison time-line before (white) and after (purple) balancing, showing exterior MPI ranks (0,3) and interior MPI ranks (1,2)
  - User code in green, MPI synchronization in red, OpenMP synchronization in cyan

EPW – University of Oxford

- Electron-Phonon Wannier (EPW) materials science DFT code;
- part of the Quantum ESPRESSO suite
- Fortran code parallelised with MPI
- Audit of unreleased development version of code
- Executed on ARCHER Cray XC30 (24 MPI ranks per node)

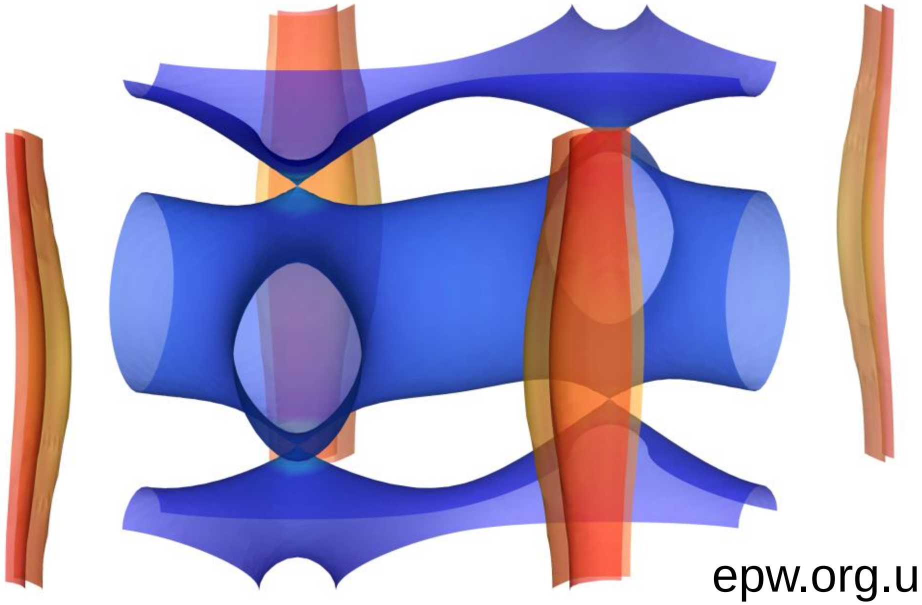
- Key audit findings:
    - Poor load balance from excessive computation identified
    - (addressed in separate POP Performance Plan)
    - Large variations in runtime, likely caused by IO
    - Final stage spends a great deal of time writing output to disk
- Report used for successful PRACE resource allocation



EPW – University of Oxford

- Original code had all MPI ranks writing the result to disk at the end
- POP PoC modified this to have only one rank do output
- **On 480 MPI ranks, time taken to write results fell from over 7 hours to 56 seconds: 450-fold speed-up!**

- **Combined with previous improvements, enabled EPW simulations to scale to previously impractical 1920 MPI ranks**
- **86% global efficiency with 960 MPI ranks**



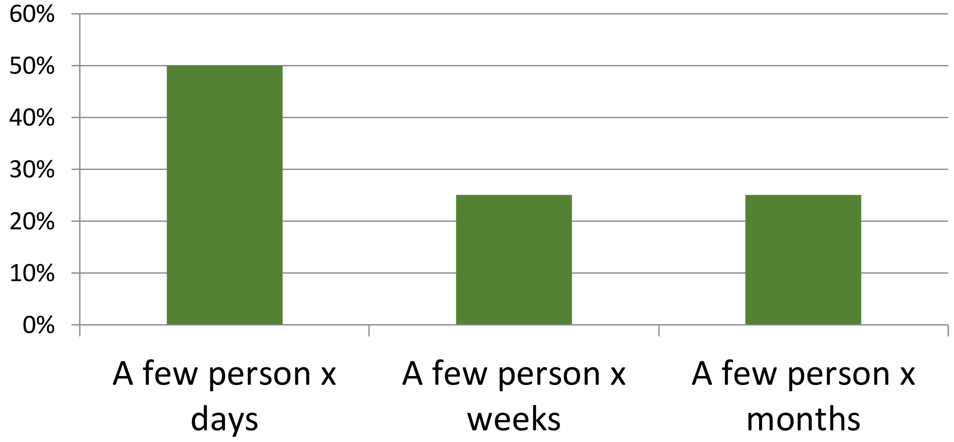
epw.org.uk

(Eight) Customers Success Feedback

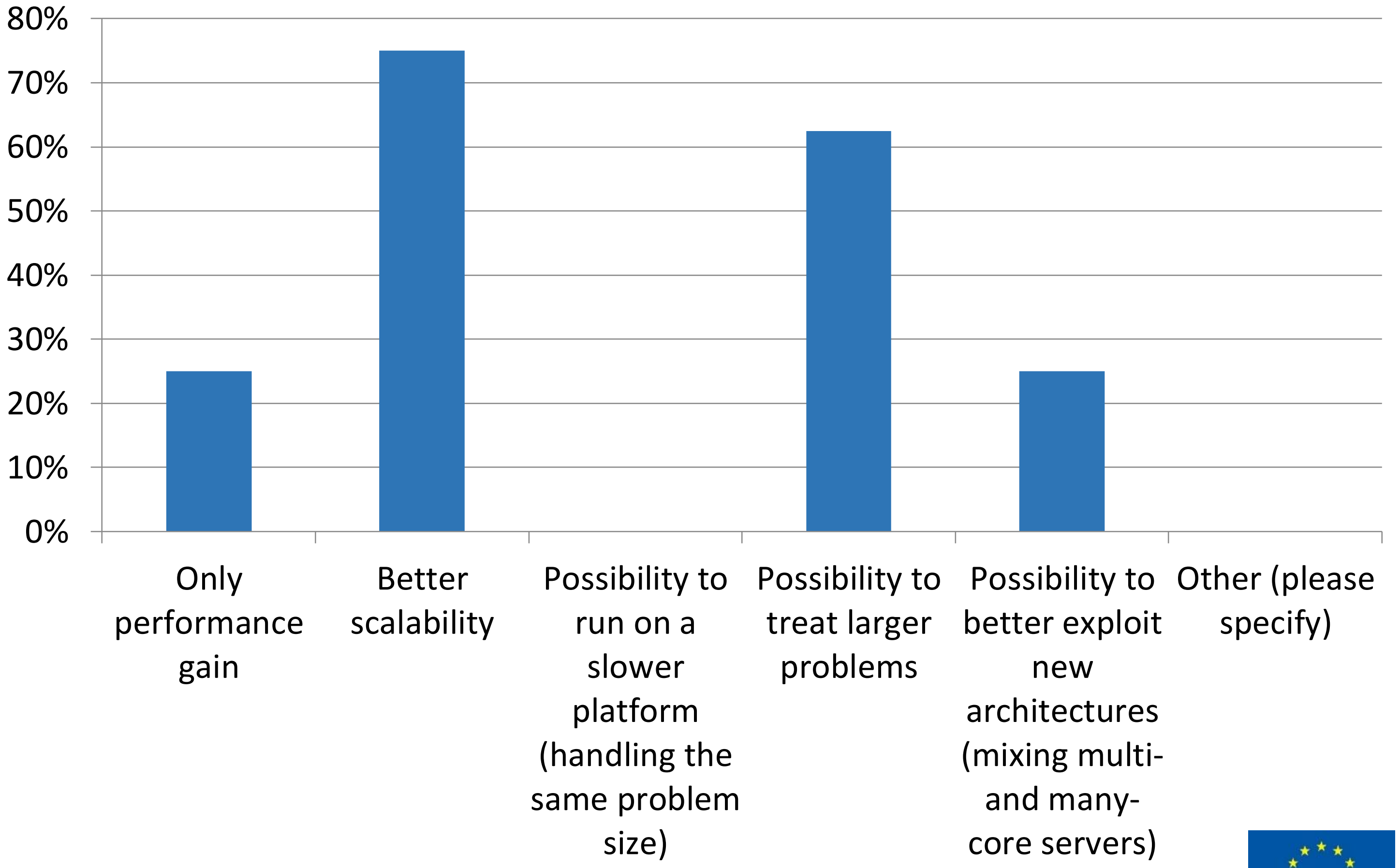
What is the observed performance gain after implementing recommendations?

25%
25%
20% overall, 50% for the given module
50-75% (case dependent)
12%
Up to 62 %, depending on the use case.
6 - 47 % depending on the test case.
15%

How much effort was necessary?



What are the main results?



Summary & Conclusion

Customer Acquisition

Interactions with Leads

- 86% of users needed multiple interactions before signing up
  - Users with only 1 interaction referred by existing users
- Average number of interactions to sign up = 3.2
- Maximum number of interactions to sign up = 11

Conversions

- Over 1300 leads contacted throughout the project
- Conversion rate of 10.8% from leads to user
- Only 17 signed up without direct contact from POP

Costumer Feedback

Performance Audits
(73 customers)

- About 90% very satisfied or satisfied with service
- About half of the customers signed-up for a follow-up service

Performance Plans
(11 customers)

- About 90% very satisfied or satisfied with service
- All customers thought suggestions were precise and clear and 70% plan to implement the suggested code modifications
- About 2/3 plan to do use the POP services again

Proof-of-Concepts
(8 customers)

- All customers very satisfied or satisfied with this service
- About 80% plan to implement further code modifications or complete the work of the POP experts

* Based on data collected in 92 customer satisfaction questionnaires and 52 phone interviews with customers

ROI Examples

Application Savings after POP Proof-of-Concept

- POP PoC resulted in 72% faster-time-to-solution
- Production runs on ARCHER (UK national academic supercomputer)
- Improved code saves €15.58 per run
- Yearly savings of around €56,000 (from monthly usage data)

Application Savings after POP Performance Plan

- Cost for customer implementing POP recommendations: €2,000
- Achieved improvement of 62%
- €20,000 yearly operating cost
- Resulted in yearly saving of €12,400 in compute costs ⇨ ROI of 620%

Summary & Conclusion (I)

- **POP CoE Phase 1 finished in March 2018** after 2½ years
  - **Successfully demonstrated expertise and impact**
    - 152 Audits + Perf Plans / 22 Proof-of-Concept / 21 requests cancelled
      - 158 closed / 16 in progress
  - **Intensive dissemination** via website, blog articles, tweets, newsletter, …

  ⇨ Expected more interest from industry / SME / ISVs

- **POP CoE Phase 2 restarted in December 2018** for 3 more years
  - New Service Structure (Performance Assessment combines Audit and Plan)
  - New Project Partners (IT4I, UVSQ)
  - New Co-design Data Repository
  - Extension of Efficiency Model: Vectorization, I/O, GPUs, …

Summary & Conclusion (II)

- Issues identified
  - **FREE (Money) ≠ FREE (Efforts, Time)**
    - To much(?) customer effort (providing code, input, measurements?, feedback)
  - Desire to serve more industrial customers / SMEs, **BUT**
    - Resistance for allowing us to publish their results / success stories
    - Almost every time require NDA agreements
  - Sustainability
    - Real costs audit (EUR 16K-18K) >> Price customer would pay (5K-7K)

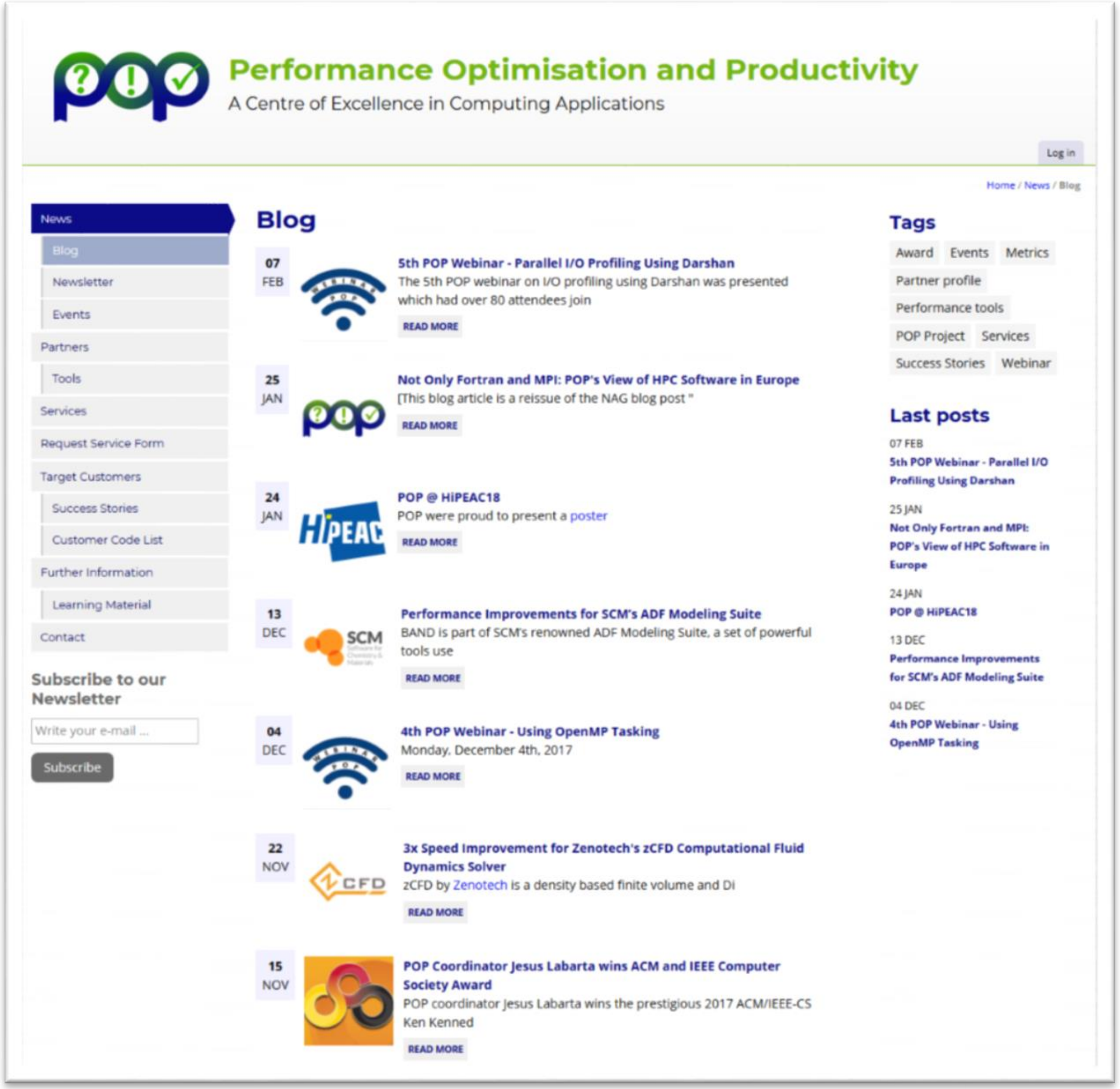
Dissemination and Contact

Website – www.pop-coe.eu

- POP User Portal
- Access to all public information and services

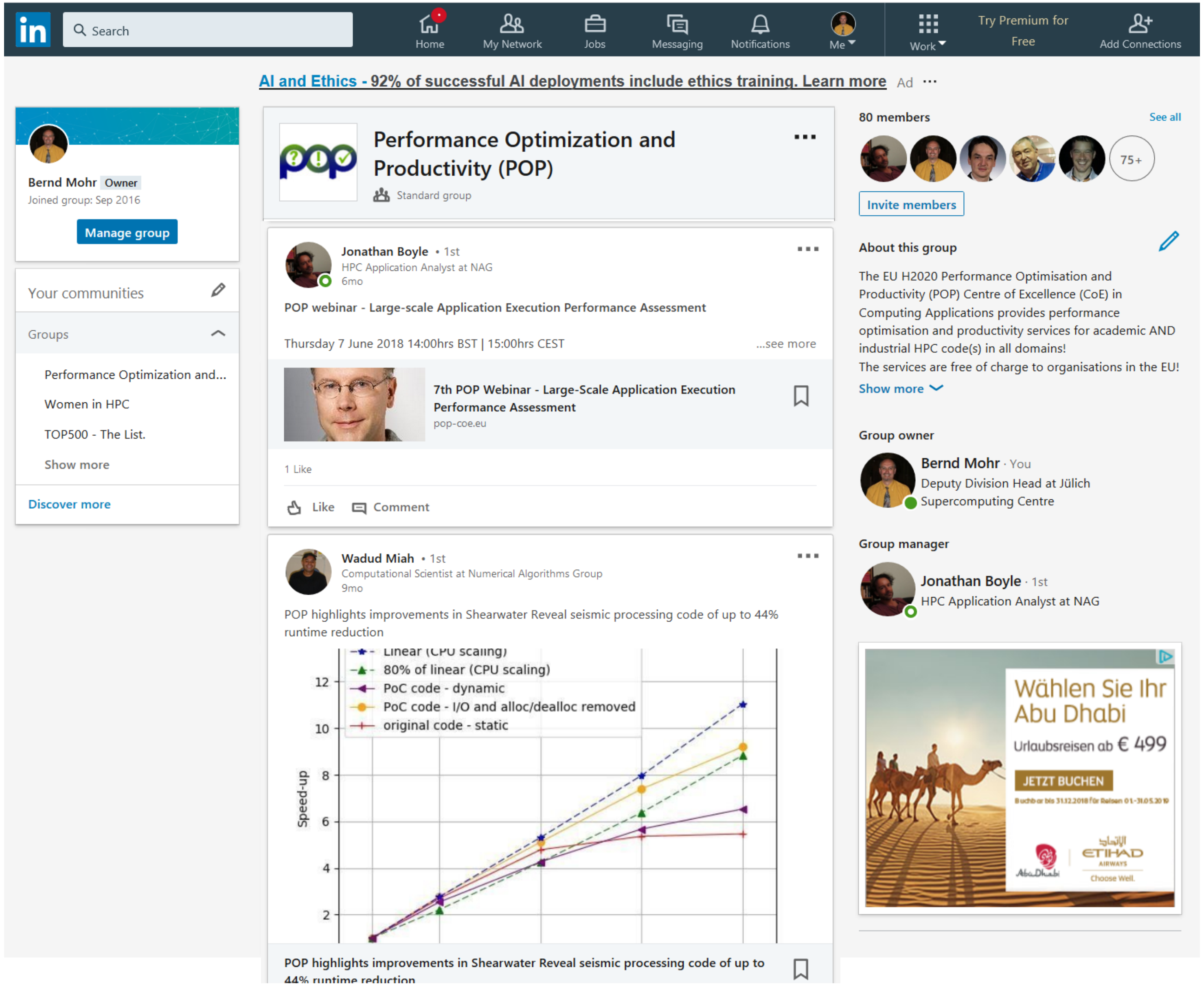
Blog – https://pop-coe.eu/blog

- Typically 2 new articles per month
- Easy filtering via Tags, e.g
  - Success Stories
  - Events
  - Webinars
  - …
- RSS feed
  - https://pop-coe.eu/blog/rss



Follow us on Twitter @POP_HPC

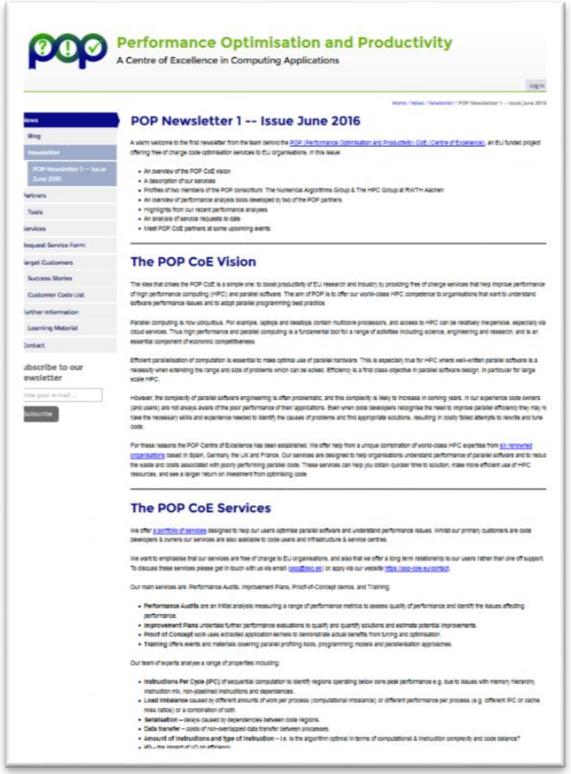
LinkedIn Group

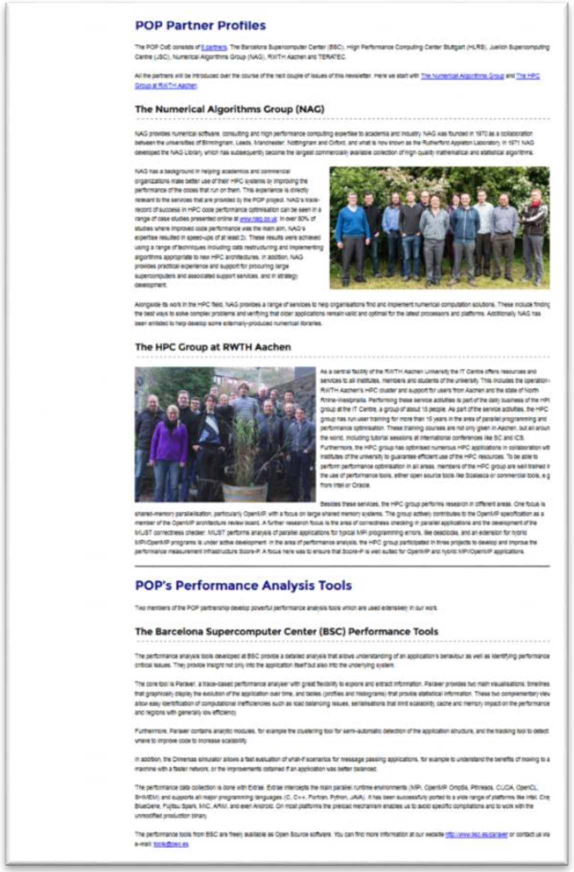


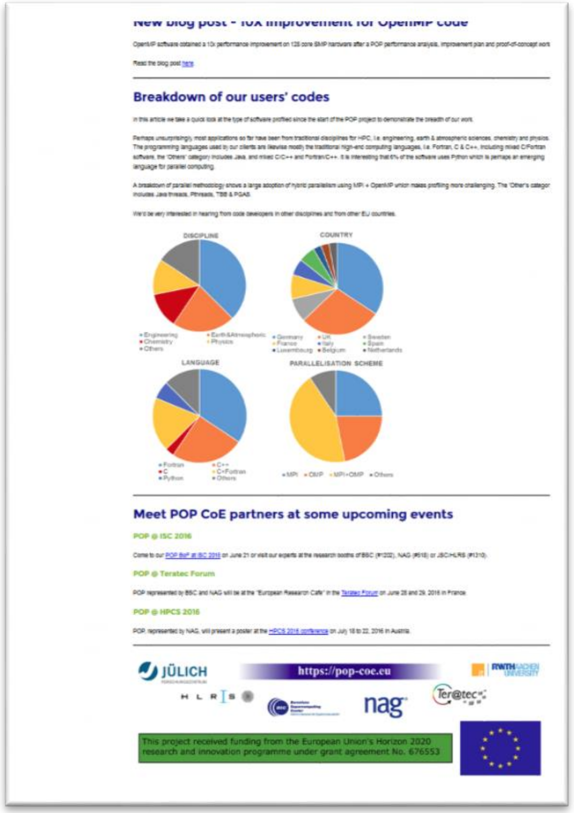
- Important announcements
- Serves also as user forum

Quarterly Email Newsletter

- Subscribe on POP website
- Newsletter archive: https://pop-coe.eu/news/newsletter

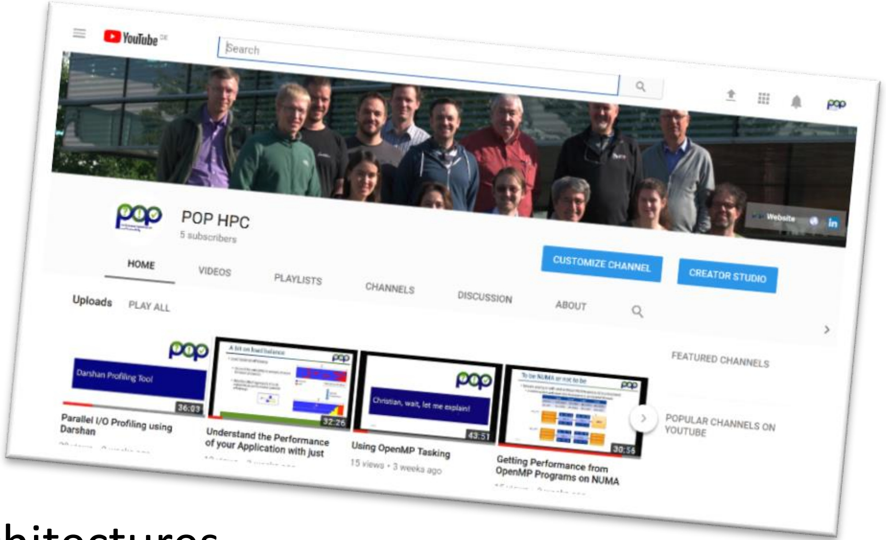






Webinars / YouTube

- See ⇨ https://pop-coe.eu/blog/tags/webinar
- Or see our channel youtube.com/POPHPC
- Already available:
  - How to Improve the Performance of Parallel Codes
  - Using OpenMP Tasking
  - Parallel I/O Profiling Using Darshan
  - Getting Performance from OpenMP Programs on NUMA Architectures
  - Understand the Performance of your Application with just Three Numbers
  - The impact of sequential performance on parallel codes
  - Large scale Application Execution Performance Assessment
  - POP Case Study: 3x Speed Improvement for Zenotech's zCFD Solver
  - Exascale Matrix Factorization: Using HPC and ML for Drug Discovery
  - Software for Linear Algebra Targeting Exascales (SLATE) Project
  - Implementing I/O Best Practices to Improve System Performance with Ellexus



Performance Optimisation and Productivity

A Centre of Excellence in HPC

Contact:

https://www.pop-coe.eu

mailto:pop@bsc.es

@POP_HPC

youtube.com/POPHPC

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