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Subject: SSE2 and SVO optimization (Painter, memcpy....)

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Mon, 27 Apr 2020 17:19:48 GMT

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Hi,

Here's an optimization for BufferPainter.

BufferPainter::Clear(RGBA) speed is improved by over 30 % with the following change in Painter/Render.cpp:

```
void BufferPainter::ClearOp(const RGBA& color)
{
// UPP::Fill(~*ip, color, ip->GetLength());
FillRGBA(~*ip, color, ip->GetLength());
ip->SetKind(color.a == 255 ? IMAGE_OPAQUE : IMAGE_ALPHA);
}
```

And in Painter/Fillers.h:

```
namespace Upp {

// Add the following line:
#define FillRGBA(a,b,c) memsetd((a),*(dword*)&(b),(c))

struct SolidFiller : Rasterizer::Filler {
```

This may be significant in some usage scenarios as it can currently take e.g. 4.5 milliseconds to clear a 4K ImageBuffer before drawing to it. This can now be reduced to 2.8 milliseconds.

Best regards,

Tom

EDIT: Changed code to use the newly optimized FillRGBA() found in Fillers.h. This can be found at:

[https://www.ultimatepp.org/forums/index.php?t=msg&th=110\\_11&goto=53752&#msg\\_53752](https://www.ultimatepp.org/forums/index.php?t=msg&th=110_11&goto=53752&#msg_53752)

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Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Tue, 28 Apr 2020 08:12:35 GMT

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Tom1 wrote on Mon, 27 April 2020 19:19Hi,

Here's an optimization for BufferPainter.

BufferPainter::Clear(RGBA) speed is improved by over 30 % with the following change in

```
Painter/Render.cpp:  
void BufferPainter::ClearOp(const RGBA& color)  
{  
// UPP::Fill(~*ip, color, ip->GetLength());  
    FillRGBA(~*ip, color, ip->GetLength());  
    ip->SetKind(color.a == 255 ? IMAGE_OPAQUE : IMAGE_ALPHA);  
}
```

And in Painter/Fillers.h:

```
namespace Upp {  
  
// Add the following line:  
#define FillRGBA(a,b,c) memsetd((a),*(dword*)&(b),(c))  
  
struct SolidFiller : Rasterizer::Filler {
```

This may be significant in some usage scenarios as it can currently take e.g. 4.5 milliseconds to clear a 4K ImageBuffer before drawing to it. This can now be reduced to 2.8 milliseconds.

Now this is really interesting. Fill for RGBA\* is actually one that is optimized for filling huge blocks. I will need to do some benchmarks...

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Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Tue, 28 Apr 2020 08:20:53 GMT  
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Current Fill(RGBA \* assembler code

```
4000EEE0 cmp r8d,byte +0x10  
4000EEE4 jl 0x14000ef13  
4000EEE6 movd xmm0,edx  
4000EEEA pshufd xmm0,xmm0,0x0  
4000EEEF nop  
4000EEF0 mov eax,r8d  
4000EEF3 movdqu [rcx],xmm0  
4000EEF7 movdqu [rcx+0x10],xmm0  
4000EEFC movdqu [rcx+0x20],xmm0  
4000EF01 movdqu [rcx+0x30],xmm0  
4000EF06 add rcx,byte +0x40  
4000EF0A lea r8d,[rax-0x10]  
4000EF0E cmp eax,byte +0x1f  
4000EF11 jg 0x14000eef0
```

```
4000EF13 add r8d,byte -0x1
4000EF17 cmp r8d,byte +0xe
4000EF1B ja 0x14000ef59
4000EF1D lea r9,[rel 0x4000ef5c]
4000EF24 movsxd rax,dword [r9+r8*4]
4000EF28 add rax,r9
4000EF2B jmp rax
4000EF2D mov [rcx+0x38],edx
4000EF30 mov [rcx+0x34],edx
4000EF33 mov [rcx+0x30],edx
4000EF36 mov [rcx+0x2c],edx
4000EF39 mov [rcx+0x28],edx
4000EF3C mov [rcx+0x24],edx
4000EF3F mov [rcx+0x20],edx
4000EF42 mov [rcx+0x1c],edx
4000EF45 mov [rcx+0x18],edx
4000EF48 mov [rcx+0x14],edx
4000EF4B mov [rcx+0x10],edx
4000EF4E mov [rcx+0xc],edx
4000EF51 mov [rcx+0x8],edx
4000EF54 mov [rcx+0x4],edx
4000EF57 mov [rcx],edx
4000EF59 ret
```

and the central snippet from the memsetd variant....

```
40001565 movaps xmm0,[rel 0x402c60a0]
4000156C nop dword [rax+0x0]
40001570 movups [rsi+rdx*4],xmm0
40001574 movups [rsi+rdx*4+0x10],xmm0
40001579 movups [rsi+rdx*4+0x20],xmm0
4000157E movups [rsi+rdx*4+0x30],xmm0
40001583 movups [rsi+rdx*4+0x40],xmm0
40001588 movups [rsi+rdx*4+0x50],xmm0
4000158D movups [rsi+rdx*4+0x60],xmm0
40001592 movups [rsi+rdx*4+0x70],xmm0
40001597 movups [rsi+rdx*4+0x80],xmm0
4000159F movups [rsi+rdx*4+0x90],xmm0
400015A7 movups [rsi+rdx*4+0xa0],xmm0
400015AF movups [rsi+rdx*4+0xb0],xmm0
400015B7 movups [rsi+rdx*4+0xc0],xmm0
400015BF movups [rsi+rdx*4+0xd0],xmm0
400015C7 movups [rsi+rdx*4+0xe0],xmm0
400015CF movups [rsi+rdx*4+0xf0],xmm0
400015D7 add rdx,byte +0x40
400015DB add rdi,byte +0x8
```

400015DF jnz 0x140001570

Interesting...

Benchmarking code

```
#include <CtrlLib/CtrlLib.h>

using namespace Upp;

GUI_APP_MAIN
{
    Color c = Red();

    int len = 4000 * 2000;

    Buffer<RGBA> b(len);

    for(int i = 0; i < 1000; i++) {
    {
        RTIMING("memsetd");
        memsetd(b, *(dword*)&(c), len);
    }
    {
        RTIMING("Fill");
        Fill(b, c, len);
    }
}
}
```

CLANGx64, 2700x

```
TIMING Fill      : 2.73 s - 2.73 ms ( 2.73 s / 1000 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 4.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000
TIMING memsetd   : 2.78 s - 2.78 ms ( 2.78 s / 1000 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 5.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000
```

MSBT19x64

```
TIMING Fill      : 2.89 s - 2.89 ms ( 2.89 s / 1000 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 5.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000
TIMING memsetd   : 2.90 s - 2.90 ms ( 2.90 s / 1000 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 5.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000
```

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Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Tue, 28 Apr 2020 08:27:28 GMT

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Hi,

Benchmarking and tuning is exactly what I did through yesterday (and beyond). I worked with both CLANGx64 and MSBT19x64. I worked out a bunch of optimized fillers until it turned out that memsetd() wins easily on large blocks and mostly on smaller blocks too. Especially on MSBT19x64 there does not seem to be a way to beat memsetd(). On CLANGx64 small transfer of one or two items was slightly faster, but on larger blocks memsetd() won again. Interestingly, CLANGx64 was a lot faster than MSBT19x64 for any of my own block transfer attempts, but still could not beat memsetd().

Best regards,

Tom

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Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Tue, 28 Apr 2020 08:33:30 GMT  
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I guess it might be CPU related... ?

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Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Tue, 28 Apr 2020 09:10:47 GMT  
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Hm, MacOS 2,3 GHz Intel Core i5

TIMING Fill : 1.52 s - 1.52 ms ( 1.52 s / 1000 ), min: 1.00 ms, max: 2.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING memsetd : 1.53 s - 1.53 ms ( 1.53 s / 1000 ), min: 1.00 ms, max: 12.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000

That's quite weird...

Mirek

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Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Tue, 28 Apr 2020 09:17:16 GMT  
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Hi,

Yes, CPU is likely the major player here. I took the liberty to modify TimingInspector to get finer granularity for timing using usecs(). The modified testcase can be found below. I get the following results on my Core i7 + Windows 10 professional x64. Now we can focus on the best round 'min:' to better avoid other tasks' effect. As you can see memsetd on MSBT19x64 is quite amazing performer.

MSBT19x64, Intel Core i7:

```
TIMING memsetd      : 1.45 s - 1.45 ms ( 1.45 s / 1000 ), min: 1.15 ms, max: 5.25 ms,  
nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING Fill        : 3.73 s - 3.73 ms ( 3.73 s / 1000 ), min: 3.25 ms, max: 9.92 ms, nesting: 0 -  
1000
```

CLANGx64, Intel Core i7:

```
TIMING memsetd      : 3.85 s - 3.85 ms ( 3.85 s / 1000 ), min: 3.35 ms, max: 10.36 ms,  
nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING Fill        : 3.87 s - 3.87 ms ( 3.87 s / 1000 ), min: 3.38 ms, max: 11.33 ms, nesting: 0 -  
1000
```

I guess that in my larger program the optimizations did not work this well as the Fill would have performed at around 5 ms level for this size of a buffer.

Anyway here's the modified benchmark.

```
#include <CtrlLib/CtrlLib.h>  
  
using namespace Upp;  
  
class UTimingInspector {  
protected:  
    static bool active;  
  
    const char *name;  
    int call_count;  
    int64 total_time;  
    int64 min_time;  
    int64 max_time;  
    int max_nesting;  
    int all_count;  
    StaticMutex mutex;  
  
public:  
    UTimingInspector(const char *name = NULL); // Not String !!!  
    ~UTimingInspector();  
  
    void Add(dword time, int nesting);
```

```

String Dump();

class Routine {
public:
    Routine(UTimingInspector& stat, int& nesting)
: nesting(nesting), stat(stat) {
    start_time = usecs();
    nesting++;
}

~Routine() {
    nesting--;
    stat.Add(start_time, nesting);
}

protected:
    int64 start_time;
    int& nesting;
    UTimingInspector& stat;
};

static void Activate(bool b) { active = b; }

bool UTimingInspector::active = true;

static UTimingInspector s_zero; // time of Start / End without actual body to measure

UTimingInspector::UTimingInspector(const char *_name) {
    name = _name ? _name : "";
    all_count = call_count = max_nesting = min_time = max_time = total_time = 0;
    static bool init;
    if(!init) {
#ifdef PLATFORM_WIN32 && !defined(PLATFORM_WINCE)
        timeBeginPeriod(1);
#endif
        init = true;
    }
}

UTimingInspector::~UTimingInspector() {
    if(this == &s_zero) return;
    Mutex::Lock __(mutex);
    StdLog() << Dump() << "\r\n";
}

void UTimingInspector::Add(dword time, int nesting)

```

```

{
    time = usecs() - time;
    Mutex::Lock __(mutex);
    if(!active) return;
    all_count++;
    if(nesting > max_nesting)
        max_nesting = nesting;
    if(nesting == 0) {
        total_time += time;
        if(call_count++ == 0)
            min_time = max_time = time;
        else {
            if(time < min_time)
                min_time = time;
            if(time > max_time)
                max_time = time;
        }
    }
}

```

```

String UTimingInspector::Dump() {
    Mutex::Lock __(mutex);
    String s = Sprintf("TIMING %-15s: ", name);
    if(call_count == 0)
        return s + "No active hit";
    ONCELOCK {
        int w = GetTickCount();
        while(GetTickCount() - w < 200) { // measure profiling overhead
            thread_local int nesting = 0;
            UTimingInspector::Routine __(s_zero, nesting);
        }
    }
    double tm = max(0.0, double(total_time) / call_count / 1000000 -
                    double(s_zero.total_time) / s_zero.call_count / 1000000);
    return s
        + timeFormat(tm * call_count)
        + " - " + timeFormat(tm)
        + " (" + timeFormat((double)total_time / 1000000) + " / "
        + Sprintf("%d ", call_count)
        + ", min: " + timeFormat((double)min_time / 1000000)
        + ", max: " + timeFormat((double)max_time / 1000000)
        + Sprintf(", nesting: %d - %d", max_nesting, all_count);
}

#define RUTIMING(x) \
static UTimingInspector COMBINE(sTmStat, __LINE__)(x); \
static thread_local int COMBINE(sTmStatNesting, __LINE__); \
UTimingInspector::Routine COMBINE(sTmStatR, __LINE__)(COMBINE(sTmStat, __LINE__),

```

```
COMBINE(sTmStatNesting, __LINE__))
```

```
GUI_APP_MAIN
```

```
{  
    Color c = Red();
```

```
    int len = 4000 * 2000;
```

```
    Buffer<RGBA> b(len);
```

```
    for(int i = 0; i < 1000; i++) {
```

```
        RUTIMING("Fill");
```

```
        Fill(b, c, len);
```

```
    }
```

```
    RUTIMING("memsetd");
```

```
    memsetd(b, *(dword*)&(c), len);
```

```
}
```

```
}
```

Best regards,

Tom

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Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Oblivion](#) on Tue, 28 Apr 2020 09:27:56 GMT

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Hello,

A quick test on an older AMD FX 6100, six core processor. 3.2 GHZ (naturally, it is slower):

```
// GCC (x64, latest ver.)
```

```
TIMING Fill      : 7,53 s - 7,53 ms ( 7,53 s / 1000 ), min: 7,00 ms, max: 9,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000
```

```
TIMING memsetd   : 6,31 s - 6,31 ms ( 6,31 s / 1000 ), min: 6,00 ms, max: 18,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000
```

----

```
// CLANG(x64, latest ver.)
```

```
TIMING Fill      : 7,07 s - 7,07 ms ( 7,07 s / 1000 ), min: 6,00 ms, max: 10,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000
```

```
TIMING memsetd   : 7,07 s - 7,07 ms ( 7,08 s / 1000 ), min: 6,00 ms, max: 17,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000
```

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Best regards,  
Oblivion

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Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Fri, 15 May 2020 07:04:51 GMT  
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Experimenting with parallel:

```
#include <CtrlLib/CtrlLib.h>

using namespace Upp;

void CoFill(RGBA *t, RGBA c, int len)
{
    const int CHUNK = 1024;
    std::atomic<int> ii(0);
    CoDo([&] {
        for(;;) {
            int pos = CHUNK * ii++;
            if(pos >= len)
                break;
            Fill(t + pos, c, min(CHUNK, len - pos));
        }
    });
}

GUI_APP_MAIN
{
    Color c = Red();

    int len = 4000 * 2000;

    Buffer<RGBA> b(len);

    for(int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
        {
            RTIMING("memsetd");
            memsetd(b, *(dword*)&(c), len);
        }
        {
            RTIMING("Fill");
            Fill(b, c, len);
        }
    }
}
```

```
{  
    RTIMING("CoFill");  
    CoFill(b, c, len);  
}  
}  
}
```

TIMING CoFill : 19.00 ms - 1.90 ms (19.00 ms / 10 ), min: 1.00 ms, max: 3.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10  
TIMING Fill : 31.00 ms - 3.10 ms (31.00 ms / 10 ), min: 3.00 ms, max: 4.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10  
TIMING memsetd : 30.00 ms - 3.00 ms (30.00 ms / 10 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 5.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10

To try that on different CPU, Raspberry PI 4 numbers:

TIMING CoFill : 145.00 ms - 14.50 ms (145.00 ms / 10 ), min: 14.00 ms, max: 15.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10  
TIMING Fill : 225.00 ms - 22.50 ms (225.00 ms / 10 ), min: 22.00 ms, max: 24.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10  
TIMING memsetd : 184.00 ms - 18.40 ms (184.00 ms / 10 ), min: 11.00 ms, max: 77.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10

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Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Fri, 15 May 2020 08:18:46 GMT  
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Hi Mirek,

While interesting, I found that a plain memset() is way faster than memsetd() or Fill(). Just filling with 0xff (as the RGBA is for white) you will get a superior speed. I currently use memset() for a clear white on a ImageBuffer before giving it to BufferPainter. For more complex fill colors, I guess, the apex\_memmove / memcpy code could be investigated for a more optimal result. (I posted a link to the apex code here on the forum briefly before release of 2020.1 :)

Best regards,

Tom

---

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Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Fri, 15 May 2020 09:33:55 GMT

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Tom1 wrote on Fri, 15 May 2020 10:18

While interesting, I found that a plain memset() is way faster than memsetd() or Fill(). Just filling with 0xff (as the RGBA is for white) you will get a superior speed. I currently use memset() for a clear white on a ImageBuffer before giving it to BufferPainter. For more complex fill colors, I guess, the apex\_memmove / memcpy code could be investigated for a more optimal result. (I posted a link to the apex code here on the forum briefly before release of 2020.1 :)

Best regards,

Tom

With CLANG, memset performance is about the same. However, with MSVC, it really is pretty damn fast.

I have digged into the code and the key ingredient seems to be MOVNTPS instruction, which means the code could be easily adapted to setting dwords. I just need to understand MT implications mentioned here:

<https://www.felixcloutier.com/x86/movntps>

It also might be questionable how this will affect the performance down the road (data not being in cache and everything...)

Mirek

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Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Fri, 15 May 2020 09:41:13 GMT

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At the time I was testing with the memset -- if I remember correctly -- on Windows + CLANG the memset with zero value was very efficient too, but the rest of the set values were slower. So, there must be some special optimized implementation for zeroing memory on CLANG too.

BR, Tom

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Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Fri, 15 May 2020 09:47:20 GMT

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Here we go:

void SSEFill2(RGBA \*t, RGBA c, int len)

```

{
if(len >= 512) {
    while((uintptr_t)t & 63) { // align to cache line
        *t++ = c;
        len--;
    }
    dword m[4];
    m[0] = m[1] = m[2] = m[3] = *(dword*)&(c);
    __m128d val = _mm_loadu_pd((double *)m);
    while(len >= 16) {
        _mm_stream_pd((double *)t, val);
        _mm_stream_pd((double *)(t + 4), val);
        _mm_stream_pd((double *)(t + 8), val);
        _mm_stream_pd((double *)(t + 12), val);
        t += 16;
        len -= 16;
    }
    _mm_sfence();
}
}

Fill(t, c, len);
}

```

TIMING CoFill : 42.00 ms - 2.10 ms (42.00 ms / 20 ), min: 1.00 ms, max: 3.00 ms, nesting:  
 0 - 20  
 TIMING SSEFill2 : 16.00 ms - 799.98 us (16.00 ms / 20 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms,  
 nesting: 0 - 20  
 TIMING SSEFill : 55.00 ms - 2.75 ms (55.00 ms / 20 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 3.00 ms, nesting:  
 0 - 20  
 TIMING Fill : 56.00 ms - 2.80 ms (56.00 ms / 20 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 3.00 ms, nesting: 0  
 - 20  
 TIMING memsetd : 52.00 ms - 2.60 ms (52.00 ms / 20 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 3.00 ms,  
 nesting: 0 - 20

---



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**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** Tom1 **on** Fri, 15 May 2020 10:08:47 GMT  
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:lol: And we have a winner!!

Also, please take a look at MSBT19 and MSBT19x64 for this too. It looks like this code only works  
 with CLANG and CLANGx64 on Windows. (Have not checked on Linux yet.)  
 Additionally, plain memset, memsets and memsetd -variants would be useful for various tasks, as  
 their efficiency varies depending on the compiler.

Thanks and best regards,

Tom

EDIT: I mean it does not compile on MSBT...

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**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Oblivion](#) on Fri, 15 May 2020 10:16:13 GMT

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On linux with the relatively old AMD Athlon FX 6100.

Works with both GCC (9.3) and CLANG (10.0). Requires #include <smmmintrin.h>:

GCC:

TIMING SSEFill2 : 43,99 ms - 4,40 ms (44,00 ms / 10 ), min: 4,00 ms, max: 5,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10  
TIMING CoFill : 55,99 ms - 5,60 ms (56,00 ms / 10 ), min: 5,00 ms, max: 6,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10  
TIMING Fill : 75,99 ms - 7,60 ms (76,00 ms / 10 ), min: 7,00 ms, max: 8,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10  
TIMING memsetd : 66,99 ms - 6,70 ms (67,00 ms / 10 ), min: 5,00 ms, max: 17,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10

CLANG:

TIMING SSEFill2 : 45,99 ms - 4,60 ms (46,00 ms / 10 ), min: 4,00 ms, max: 7,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10  
TIMING CoFill : 55,99 ms - 5,60 ms (56,00 ms / 10 ), min: 5,00 ms, max: 6,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10  
TIMING Fill : 65,99 ms - 6,60 ms (66,00 ms / 10 ), min: 6,00 ms, max: 10,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10  
TIMING memsetd : 78,99 ms - 7,90 ms (79,00 ms / 10 ), min: 5,00 ms, max: 23,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Fri, 15 May 2020 10:28:11 GMT  
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---

Hi,

Thanks Oblivion; the #include <smmmintrin.h> was exactly what was needed on Windows + CLANG too...

Here are the results for the 4k RGBA fill on Windows 10 x64 on Core i9:

MSBT19:

TIMING SSEFill2 : 1.30 s - 1.30 ms ( 1.30 s / 1000 ), min: 1.03 ms, max: 1.99 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING Fill : 1.13 s - 1.13 ms ( 1.13 s / 1000 ), min: 841.00 us, max: 3.04 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000

MSBT19x64:

TIMING SSEFill2 : 906.90 ms - 906.90 us (906.93 ms / 1000 ), min: 846.00 us, max: 1.67 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING Fill : 2.34 s - 2.34 ms ( 2.34 s / 1000 ), min: 2.21 ms, max: 4.69 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000

CLANG:

TIMING SSEFill2 : 935.97 ms - 935.97 us (936.02 ms / 1000 ), min: 854.00 us, max: 1.67 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING Fill : 2.44 s - 2.44 ms ( 2.44 s / 1000 ), min: 2.25 ms, max: 4.74 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000

CLANGx64:

TIMING SSEFill2 : 934.45 ms - 934.45 us (934.47 ms / 1000 ), min: 854.00 us, max: 1.77 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING Fill : 2.20 s - 2.20 ms ( 2.20 s / 1000 ), min: 1.98 ms, max: 5.97 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000

Looks very good indeed! MSBT19 on the other hand looks surprising...

Best regards,

Tom

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---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Fri, 15 May 2020 11:15:51 GMT

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Tom1 wrote on Fri, 15 May 2020 12:08

Additionally, plain memset, memsets and memsetd -variants would be useful for various tasks, as their efficiency varies depending on the compiler.

What about this:

```

void FillCacheLines(void *cache_aligned_ptr, void *data16, int count)
{
    dword *t = (dword *)cache_aligned_ptr;
    __m128d val = _mm_loadu_pd((double *)data16);
    dword *e = t + 16 * count;
    while(t < e) {
        _mm_stream_pd((double *)t, val);
        _mm_stream_pd((double *)(t + 4), val);
        _mm_stream_pd((double *)(t + 8), val);
        _mm_stream_pd((double *)(t + 12), val);
        t += 16;
    }
    _mm_sfence();
}

template <class T>
void MemSet(void *dest, T data, int len)
{
    static_assert(sizeof(T) == 1 || sizeof(T) == 2 || sizeof(T) == 4 || sizeof(T) == 8 || sizeof(T) == 16,
    "invalid sizeof");
    T *t = (T *)dest;
    if(len * sizeof(T) > 550) {
        while((uintptr_t)t & 63) { // align to cache line
            *t++ = data;
            len--;
        }
        const int itemn = 16 / sizeof(T);
        const int per_cache_line = 4 * itemn;
        T m[itemn];
        for(int i = 0; i < itemn; i++)
            m[i] = data;
        int count = len / per_cache_line;
        FillCacheLines(t, m, count);
        len -= per_cache_line * count;
    }

    while(len >= 16) {
        t[0] = data; t[1] = data; t[2] = data; t[3] = data;
        t[4] = data; t[5] = data; t[6] = data; t[7] = data;
        t[8] = data; t[9] = data; t[10] = data; t[11] = data;
        t[12] = data; t[13] = data; t[14] = data; t[15] = data;
        t += 16;
        len -= 16;
    }
    switch(len) {
    case 15: t[14] = data;
    case 14: t[13] = data;
}

```

```
case 13: t[12] = data;
case 12: t[11] = data;
case 11: t[10] = data;
case 10: t[9] = data;
case 9: t[8] = data;
case 8: t[7] = data;
case 7: t[6] = data;
case 6: t[5] = data;
case 5: t[4] = data;
case 4: t[3] = data;
case 3: t[2] = data;
case 2: t[1] = data;
case 1: t[0] = data;
}
}
```

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Fri, 15 May 2020 11:36:13 GMT

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---

Mirek,

Yes, absolutely beautiful!

The results for the set including the new MemSet() on Win10x64 on Core i9 are:

MSBT19:

```
TIMING MemSet      : 831.06 ms - 831.06 us (831.13 ms / 1000 ), min: 779.00 us, max: 1.72
ms, nesting: 0 - 1000
TIMING SSEFill2    : 1.21 s - 1.21 ms ( 1.21 s / 1000 ), min: 1.00 ms, max: 2.19 ms, nesting:
0 - 1000
TIMING Fill        : 915.70 ms - 915.70 us (915.76 ms / 1000 ), min: 859.00 us, max: 3.49 ms,
nesting: 0 - 1000
```

MSBT19x64:

```
TIMING MemSet      : 818.33 ms - 818.33 us (818.36 ms / 1000 ), min: 777.00 us, max: 1.71
ms, nesting: 0 - 1000
TIMING SSEFill2    : 899.74 ms - 899.74 us (899.77 ms / 1000 ), min: 854.00 us, max: 1.78 ms,
nesting: 0 - 1000
TIMING Fill        : 2.29 s - 2.29 ms ( 2.29 s / 1000 ), min: 2.21 ms, max: 4.51 ms, nesting: 0 -
1000
```

CLANG:

TIMING MemSet : 835.39 ms - 835.39 us (835.45 ms / 1000 ), min: 790.00 us, max: 1.51 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING SSEFill2 : 918.63 ms - 918.63 us (918.68 ms / 1000 ), min: 872.00 us, max: 1.47 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING Fill : 2.36 s - 2.36 ms ( 2.36 s / 1000 ), min: 2.28 ms, max: 5.45 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000

CLANGx64:

TIMING MemSet : 838.86 ms - 838.86 us (838.89 ms / 1000 ), min: 787.00 us, max: 1.70 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING SSEFill2 : 921.49 ms - 921.49 us (921.51 ms / 1000 ), min: 870.00 us, max: 1.84 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING Fill : 2.10 s - 2.10 ms ( 2.10 s / 1000 ), min: 2.01 ms, max: 5.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000

I trust you can now make all the different fillers through U++ to use this new code... right?

Thanks and best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Fri, 15 May 2020 21:13:27 GMT  
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---

Hi Mirek,

The game is not over yet, I'm afraid. I did some additional benchmarking with varying buffer lengths to set. It get's more complicated...

RGB<sub>A</sub> c = Red();

```
int bsize=8*1024*1024;
Buffer<RGBA> b(bsize,(RGBA)Blue());

String result="\n\"Fill()\","memsetd()\","MemSet()\r\n";
for(int len=1;len<=bsize;len*=2){
    int maximum=1000000000/len;
    int64 t0=usecs();
    for(int i = 0; i < maximum; i++) Fill(~b, c, len);
    int64 t1=usecs(t0);
    t0=usecs();
    for(int i = 0; i < maximum; i++) memsetd(~b, *(dword*)&(c), len);
```

```

int64 t2=usecs(t0);
t0=usecs();
for(int i = 0; i < maximum; i++) MemSet(~b, c, len);
int64 t3=usecs(t0);
result.Cat(Format("%d,%f,%f,%f\r\n",len,1000.0*t1/maximum,1000.0*t2/maximum,1000.0*t3/maximum));
}

SaveFile(GetHomeDirFile("Desktop/memset.csv"),result);

```

Now, if you import the resulting memset.csv to your spreadsheet program and create a log-log plot, you will see that the different buffer lengths have a huge impact on the performance of each algorithm. As filling lengths can be quite diverse, I think we need to think about some combination of the different algorithms. Additionally, we need to look at the results on different CPUs. I will keep tinkering on this one for a while here.

(Now I'm running on Core i7 here at home, so this one I can test easily, and also the Core i9 at the office every now and then, as the situation is what it is...)

Best regards,

Tom

---



---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** [Didier](#) **on Fri, 15 May 2020 21:45:21 GMT**  
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---

Here is what I get on my Linux and Ryzen 2700  
Du to unstable results with 10 loops, I also placed results for 1000 loops

The new MemSet() is definitely really a good addition :)

===== CLANG X64 =====

TIMING MemSet	: 10.00 ms - 999.98 us (10.00 ms / 10 ), min: 1.00 ms, max: 1.00 ms,
nesting: 0 - 10	
TIMING SSEFill2	: 12.00 ms - 1.20 ms (12.00 ms / 10 ), min: 1.00 ms, max: 2.00 ms,
nesting: 0 - 10	
TIMING CoFill	: 21.00 ms - 2.10 ms (21.00 ms / 10 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 3.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10
TIMING Fill	: 30.00 ms - 3.00 ms (30.00 ms / 10 ), min: 3.00 ms, max: 3.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10
TIMING memsetd	: 30.00 ms - 3.00 ms (30.00 ms / 10 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 9.00 ms,
nesting: 0 - 10	
TIMING MemSet	: 833.97 ms - 833.97 us (834.00 ms / 1000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 2.00 ms,
nesting: 0 - 1000	

TIMING SSEFill2 : 870.97 ms - 870.97 us (871.00 ms / 1000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 2.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING CoFill : 1.88 s - 1.88 ms ( 1.88 s / 1000 ), min: 1.00 ms, max: 3.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING Fill : 2.90 s - 2.90 ms ( 2.90 s / 1000 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 4.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING memsetd : 2.51 s - 2.51 ms ( 2.51 s / 1000 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 10.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000

==== GCC X64 ====

TIMING MemSet : 7.00 ms - 699.98 us ( 7.00 ms / 10 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10  
TIMING SSEFill2 : 9.00 ms - 899.98 us ( 9.00 ms / 10 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10  
TIMING CoFill : 23.00 ms - 2.30 ms (23.00 ms / 10 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 3.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10  
TIMING Fill : 30.00 ms - 3.00 ms (30.00 ms / 10 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 4.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10  
TIMING memsetd : 35.00 ms - 3.50 ms (35.00 ms / 10 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 10.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 10  
  
TIMING MemSet : 820.98 ms - 820.98 us (821.00 ms / 1000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 2.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING SSEFill2 : 877.98 ms - 877.98 us (878.00 ms / 1000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 2.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING CoFill : 1.85 s - 1.85 ms ( 1.85 s / 1000 ), min: 1.00 ms, max: 3.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING Fill : 2.97 s - 2.97 ms ( 2.97 s / 1000 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 4.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000  
TIMING memsetd : 2.52 s - 2.52 ms ( 2.52 s / 1000 ), min: 2.00 ms, max: 8.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Fri, 15 May 2020 23:59:37 GMT  
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---

Hi,

I've worked on optimizing the new\_memsetd() operation through various buffer sizes up to 8M and here's the best I can come up with (at least this night...). With CLANG it seems to be beneficial to use the Mirek's new MemSet() for buffer sizes above about 1M, but below that and also with MSBT19 / MSBT19x64 the result is better without. (This algorithm is especially efficient with small fills and therefore should work well as a BufferPainter filler too.) For best results, there are separate versions for 32-bit and 64-bit code. (The '#ifdef WIN64' obviously only works on

Windows, but I think there was some other flag on Linux for detecting a 64-bit environment.  
Please apply that flag, whatever it is, if you test on Linux, etc...)

```
#ifdef WIN64

inline void new_memsetd(dword *t, dword data, int len){
#ifdef COMPILER_CLANG
if(len>1024*1024){
    MemSet(t,data,len);
    return;
}
#endif
if(len&1) *t++=data;
len>>=1;

uint64 *w=(uint64*)t;
uint64 q=data;
q = (q << 32) | data;

switch(len) {
default:
    uint64 *lim = w + len;
    while(w < lim) *w++ = q;
    break;
}
case 16: w[15] = q;
case 15: w[14] = q;
case 14: w[13] = q;
case 13: w[12] = q;
case 12: w[11] = q;
case 11: w[10] = q;
case 10: w[9] = q;
case 9: w[8] = q;
case 8: w[7] = q;
case 7: w[6] = q;
case 6: w[5] = q;
case 5: w[4] = q;
case 4: w[3] = q;
case 3: w[2] = q;
case 2: w[1] = q;
case 1: w[0] = q;
}
}

#else

inline void new_memsetd(dword *t, dword data, int len){
#ifdef COMPILER_CLANG
```

```

if(len>1024*1024){
    MemSet(t,data,len);
    return;
}
#endif
switch(len) {
default:{
    dword *lim = t + len;
    while(t < lim) *t++ = data;
    break;
}
case 16: t[15] = data;
case 15: t[14] = data;
case 14: t[13] = data;
case 13: t[12] = data;
case 12: t[11] = data;
case 11: t[10] = data;
case 10: t[9] = data;
case 9: t[8] = data;
case 8: t[7] = data;
case 7: t[6] = data;
case 6: t[5] = data;
case 5: t[4] = data;
case 4: t[3] = data;
case 3: t[2] = data;
case 2: t[1] = data;
case 1: t[0] = data;
}
}
}

#endif

```

The updated benchmarking code:

RGB c = Red();

```

int bsize=8*1024*1024;
Buffer<RGBA> b(bsize,(RGBA)Blue());

String result="\n\"Fill()\"\"new_memsetd()\"\"MemSet()\"\r\n";
for(int len=1;len<=bsize;){
    int maximum=1000000000/len;
    int64 t0=usecs();
    for(int i = 0; i < maximum; i++) Fill(~b, c, len);
    int64 t1=usecs();
    for(int i = 0; i < maximum; i++) new_memsetd((dword*)~b, *(dword*)&(c), len);
    int64 t2=usecs();
    for(int i = 0; i < maximum; i++) MemSet(~b, c, len);
}

```

```
int64 t3=usecs();
result.Cat(Format("%d,%f,%f,%f\r\n",len,1000.0*(t1-t0)/maximum,1000.0*(t2-t1)/maximum,1000.0*(t3-t2)/maximum));
if(len<32) len++;
else len*=2;
}

SaveFile(GetHomeDirFile("Desktop/memset.csv"),result);
```

Again, I suggest you plot your results using a log-log chart to clearly see the performance with all different block sizes.

If you have some time to spare, please let me know how this works for you.

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Sat, 16 May 2020 22:10:57 GMT

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---

Hi,

Interestingly, the FillRGBA() that can be found in the current BufferPainter Fillers, is a real performer. It wins below 1M dwords just about anything else. However, Mireks new MemSet is the winner thereafter. This applies on Windows 10 x64 to CLANG/CLANGx64/MSBT19 on my Core i7. Only MSBT19x64 has a different situation and the following code tries to optimize that, in addition to combining FillRGBA and MemSet for the other compilers:

#if defined(WIN64) && defined(COMPILE\_MSC)

```
// for MSBT19x64 only:
inline void new_memsetd(void *b, dword data, int len){
dword *t=(dword *)b;
switch(len){
    case 6: t[5] = data;
    case 5: t[4] = data;
    case 4: t[3] = data;
    case 3: t[2] = data;
    case 2: t[1] = data;
    case 1: t[0] = data;
    case 0: return;

default:{
    if(len&1) *t++=data;
    len>>=1;
```

```
uint64 *w=(uint64*)t;
uint64 q=*(dword*)&data;
q |= (q << 32);

switch(len) {
default:{
    uint64 *lim = w + len - 32;
    while(w < lim) *w++ = q;
}
case 32: w[31] = q;
case 31: w[30] = q;
case 30: w[29] = q;
case 29: w[28] = q;
case 28: w[27] = q;
case 27: w[26] = q;
case 26: w[25] = q;
case 25: w[24] = q;
case 24: w[23] = q;
case 23: w[22] = q;
case 22: w[21] = q;
case 21: w[20] = q;
case 20: w[19] = q;
case 19: w[18] = q;
case 18: w[17] = q;
case 17: w[16] = q;
case 16: w[15] = q;
case 15: w[14] = q;
case 14: w[13] = q;
case 13: w[12] = q;
case 12: w[11] = q;
case 11: w[10] = q;
case 10: w[9] = q;
case 9: w[8] = q;
case 8: w[7] = q;
case 7: w[6] = q;
case 6: w[5] = q;
case 5: w[4] = q;
case 4: w[3] = q;
case 3: w[2] = q;
case 2: w[1] = q;
case 1: w[0] = q;
}
}
}
}

#else
```

```

inline void new_memsetd(void *b, dword data, int len){
    if(len<=1024*1024) FillIRGBA((RGBAp)b,*(RGBAp)&data,len);
    else MemSet(b,data,len);
}

#endif

```

The benchmarking code for various fill sizes now looks like this:  
 RGBA c = Red();

```

int bsize=8*1024*1024;
Buffer<RGBA> b(bsize,(RGBA)Blue());

String result="\\"N\\","Fill()\\","new_memsetd()\\","MemSet()\\","FillIRGBA()\\r\\n";
for(int len=1;len<=bsize;){
    int maximum=100000000/len;
    int64 t0=usecs();
    for(int i = 0; i < maximum; i++) Fill(~b, c, len);
    int64 t1=usecs();
    for(int i = 0; i < maximum; i++) new_memsetd(~b, *(dword*)&c, len);
    int64 t2=usecs();
    for(int i = 0; i < maximum; i++) MemSet(~b, c, len);
    int64 t3=usecs();
    for(int i = 0; i < maximum; i++) FillIRGBA(~b, c, len);
    int64 t4=usecs();
    result.Cat(Format("%d,%f,%f,%f,%f\\r\\n",len,1000.0*(t1-t0)/maximum,1000.0*(t2-t1)/maximum,10
    00.0*(t3-t2)/maximum,1000.0*(t4-t3)/maximum));
    if(len<64) len++;
    else len*=2;
}

```

SaveFile(GetHomeDirFile("Desktop/memset.csv"),result);

Best regards,

Tom

---



---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** [mirek](#) **on** Sun, 17 May 2020 06:47:44 GMT  
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---

Tom1 wrote on Sat, 16 May 2020 01:59With CLANG it seems to be beneficial to use the Mirek's new MemSet() for buffer sizes above about 1M

I guess L2 cache size plays a role here. The new trick bypasses the cache so kicks in when cache

is exhausted...

Mirek

---

---

**Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization**

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Sun, 17 May 2020 08:01:51 GMT

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---

mirek wrote on Sun, 17 May 2020 09:47Tom1 wrote on Sat, 16 May 2020 01:59With CLANG it seems to be beneficial to use the Mirek's new MemSet() for buffer sizes above about 1M

I guess L2 cache size plays a role here. The new trick bypasses the cache so kicks in when cache is exhausted...

Mirek

Hi,

Where can I find the new trick?

BR,

Tom

---

---

**Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization**

Posted by [mirek](#) on Sun, 17 May 2020 13:49:50 GMT

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---

Ah, by "trick" I mean using using non-temporal move instruction which we have found in memset....

Mirek

---

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**Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization**

Posted by [mirek](#) on Sun, 17 May 2020 16:05:52 GMT

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What about this:

```
#include <CtrlLib/CtrlLib.h>
#include <smmmintrin.h>
```

using namespace Upp;

```

void Fill0(RGBA *t, RGBA c, int len)
{
    while(len >= 16) {
        t[0] = c; t[1] = c; t[2] = c; t[3] = c;
        t[4] = c; t[5] = c; t[6] = c; t[7] = c;
        t[8] = c; t[9] = c; t[10] = c; t[11] = c;
        t[12] = c; t[13] = c; t[14] = c; t[15] = c;
        t += 16;
        len -= 16;
    }
    switch(len & 15) {
        case 15: t[14] = c;
        case 14: t[13] = c;
        case 13: t[12] = c;
        case 12: t[11] = c;
        case 11: t[10] = c;
        case 10: t[9] = c;
        case 9: t[8] = c;
        case 8: t[7] = c;
        case 7: t[6] = c;
        case 6: t[5] = c;
        case 5: t[4] = c;
        case 4: t[3] = c;
        case 3: t[2] = c;
        case 2: t[1] = c;
        case 1: t[0] = c;
    }
}

void Fill2(RGBA *t, RGBA c, int len)
{
    while(len >= 16) {
        t[0] = c; t[1] = c; t[2] = c; t[3] = c;
        t[4] = c; t[5] = c; t[6] = c; t[7] = c;
        t[8] = c; t[9] = c; t[10] = c; t[11] = c;
        t[12] = c; t[13] = c; t[14] = c; t[15] = c;
        t += 16;
        len -= 16;
    }
    if(len & 8) {
        t[0] = t[1] = t[2] = t[3] = t[4] = t[5] = t[6] = t[7] = c;
        t += 8;
    }
    if(len & 4) {
        t[0] = t[1] = t[2] = t[3] = c;
        t += 4;
    }
}

```

```

if(len & 2) {
    t[0] = t[1] = c;
    t += 2;
}
if(len & 1)
    t[0] = c;
}

void Fill3(RGBA *t, RGBA c, int len)
{
dword m[4];
m[0] = m[1] = m[2] = m[3] = *(dword*)&(c);
__m128d val = _mm_loadu_pd((double *)m);
if(len >= 16) {
    if(len > 1024*1024 / 16 && ((uintptr_t)t & 3) == 0) { // for really huge data, bypass the cache
        while((uintptr_t)t & 15) { // align to 16 bytes for SSE
            *t++ = c;
            len--;
        }
        do {
            _mm_stream_pd((double *)t, val);
            _mm_stream_pd((double *)(t + 4), val);
            _mm_stream_pd((double *)(t + 8), val);
            _mm_stream_pd((double *)(t + 12), val);
            t += 16;
            len -= 16;
        }
        while(len >= 16);
        _mm_sfence();
    }
} else
    do {
        _mm_storeu_pd((double *)t, val);
        _mm_storeu_pd((double *)(t + 4), val);
        _mm_storeu_pd((double *)(t + 8), val);
        _mm_storeu_pd((double *)(t + 12), val);
        t += 16;
        len -= 16;
    }
    while(len >= 16);
}
if(len & 8) {
    _mm_storeu_pd((double *)t, val);
    _mm_storeu_pd((double *)(t + 4), val);
    t += 8;
}
if(len & 4) {
    _mm_storeu_pd((double *)t, val);
}

```

```

t += 4;
}
if(len & 2) {
    t[0] = t[1] = c;
    t += 2;
}
if(len & 1)
    t[0] = c;
}

int len = 2000 * 4000;

GUI_APP_MAIN
{
    Color c = Red();

    Buffer<RGBA> b(2000);

    Vector<int> rnd;
    for(int i = 0; i < 200; i++)
        rnd << Random(100);

    for(int i = 0; i < 1000000; i++) {
        {
            RTIMING("memsetd");
            for(int i = 0; i < rnd.GetCount(); i += 2)
                memsetd(b + rnd[i], *(dword*)&(c), rnd[i + 1]);
        }
        {
            RTIMING("Fill");
            for(int i = 0; i < rnd.GetCount(); i += 2)
                Fill(b + rnd[i], c, rnd[i + 1]);
        }
        {
            RTIMING("Fill0");
            for(int i = 0; i < rnd.GetCount(); i += 2)
                Fill0(b + rnd[i], c, rnd[i + 1]);
        }
        {
            RTIMING("Fill2");
            for(int i = 0; i < rnd.GetCount(); i += 2)
                Fill2(b + rnd[i], c, rnd[i + 1]);
        }
        {
            RTIMING("Fill3");
            for(int i = 0; i < rnd.GetCount(); i += 2)
                Fill3(b + rnd[i], c, rnd[i + 1]);
        }
    }
}

```

```

{
    RTIMING("memset");
    for(int i = 0; i < rnd.GetCount(); i += 2)
        memset(b + 4 * rnd[i], 255, 4 * rnd[i + 1]);
}
}

b.Alloc(len);

for(int i = 0; i < 20; i++) {
    memsetd(b, *(dword*)&(c), len);
}
{
    RTIMING("HUGE memsetd");
    memsetd(b, *(dword*)&(c), len);
}
{
    RTIMING("HUGE Fill");
    Fill(b, c, len);
}
{
    RTIMING("HUGE Fill3");
    Fill3(b, c, len);
}
{
    RTIMING("HUGE memset");
    memset(b, c, len * 4);
}
}

BeepExclamation();
}

```

I believe Fill3 does not have any weakness here... Actually, CLANG produced almost exactly the same code for Fill2 and memsetd for small fills, but I guess providing SSE2 implementation directly does not hurt anything. Plus we still like to have that cache bypass...

So I would go for Fill3 for X86 and Fill2 for non-X86 (in the hope it gets optimized for neon on ARM...)

Mirek

---



---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
 Posted by [Tom1](#) on Sun, 17 May 2020 18:56:41 GMT  
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---

Hi Mirek,

Here are my results:

## CLANG

TIMING HUGE memset : 27.28 ms - 1.36 ms (27.29 ms / 20 ), min: 1.25 ms, max: 1.66 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING HUGE Fill3 : 35.01 ms - 1.75 ms (35.01 ms / 20 ), min: 1.63 ms, max: 1.99 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING HUGE Fill : 73.74 ms - 3.69 ms (73.75 ms / 20 ), min: 3.32 ms, max: 7.43 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING HUGE memsetd : 72.88 ms - 3.64 ms (72.88 ms / 20 ), min: 3.40 ms, max: 4.51 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING memset : 1.01 s - 1.01 us ( 1.07 s / 1000000 ), min: 1.00 us, max: 28.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill3 : 505.44 ms - 505.44 ns (565.98 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 29.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill2 : 497.06 ms - 497.06 ns (557.61 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 28.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill0 : 772.53 ms - 772.53 ns (833.07 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 63.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill : 1.67 s - 1.67 us ( 1.73 s / 1000000 ), min: 1.00 us, max: 58.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING memsetd : 495.67 ms - 495.67 ns (556.22 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 28.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000

## CLANGx64

TIMING HUGE memset : 27.76 ms - 1.39 ms (27.76 ms / 20 ), min: 1.28 ms, max: 1.80 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING HUGE Fill3 : 36.31 ms - 1.82 ms (36.31 ms / 20 ), min: 1.59 ms, max: 2.27 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING HUGE Fill : 73.42 ms - 3.67 ms (73.42 ms / 20 ), min: 3.41 ms, max: 4.74 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING HUGE memsetd : 74.52 ms - 3.73 ms (74.52 ms / 20 ), min: 3.47 ms, max: 4.22 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING memset : 898.49 ms - 898.49 ns (925.83 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 52.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill3 : 492.59 ms - 492.59 ns (519.92 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 32.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill2 : 495.82 ms - 495.82 ns (523.15 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 28.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill0 : 569.61 ms - 569.61 ns (596.95 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 41.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill : 591.56 ms - 591.56 ns (618.90 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 30.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING memsetd : 549.04 ms - 549.04 ns (576.37 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 65.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000

## MSBT19

TIMING HUGE memset : 26.51 ms - 1.33 ms (26.51 ms / 20 ), min: 1.26 ms, max: 1.49 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING HUGE Fill3 : 35.42 ms - 1.77 ms (35.42 ms / 20 ), min: 1.58 ms, max: 2.14 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING HUGE Fill : 25.47 ms - 1.27 ms (25.48 ms / 20 ), min: 1.18 ms, max: 1.59 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING HUGE memsetd : 25.12 ms - 1.26 ms (25.12 ms / 20 ), min: 1.15 ms, max: 1.59 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING memset : 978.21 ms - 978.21 ns ( 1.05 s / 1000000 ), min: 1.00 us, max: 29.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill3 : 1.50 s - 1.50 us ( 1.58 s / 1000000 ), min: 1.00 us, max: 29.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill2 : 1.89 s - 1.89 us ( 1.96 s / 1000000 ), min: 1.00 us, max: 34.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill0 : 2.02 s - 2.02 us ( 2.09 s / 1000000 ), min: 1.00 us, max: 33.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill : 2.06 s - 2.06 us ( 2.14 s / 1000000 ), min: 1.00 us, max: 32.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING memsetd : 1.62 s - 1.62 us ( 1.69 s / 1000000 ), min: 1.00 us, max: 45.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000

## MSBT19x64

TIMING HUGE memset : 26.96 ms - 1.35 ms (26.96 ms / 20 ), min: 1.27 ms, max: 1.90 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING HUGE Fill3 : 35.07 ms - 1.75 ms (35.08 ms / 20 ), min: 1.62 ms, max: 2.02 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING HUGE Fill : 67.09 ms - 3.35 ms (67.09 ms / 20 ), min: 3.17 ms, max: 3.60 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING HUGE memsetd : 25.64 ms - 1.28 ms (25.64 ms / 20 ), min: 1.19 ms, max: 1.48 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING memset : 818.75 ms - 818.75 ns (856.11 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 31.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill3 : 1.36 s - 1.36 us ( 1.40 s / 1000000 ), min: 1.00 us, max: 31.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill2 : 1.67 s - 1.67 us ( 1.70 s / 1000000 ), min: 1.00 us, max: 30.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill0 : 1.66 s - 1.66 us ( 1.70 s / 1000000 ), min: 1.00 us, max: 46.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill : 1.68 s - 1.68 us ( 1.72 s / 1000000 ), min: 1.00 us, max: 50.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING memsetd : 1.50 s - 1.50 us ( 1.54 s / 1000000 ), min: 1.00 us, max: 29.00 us, nesting: 0 - 1000000

Fill3 is generally the best, but I experience two issues behind the scenes of this benchmark:

1. On MSBT19 / MSBT19x64 there is a significant penalty for small counts. It results in 5 ns per call, whereas in CLANG it is about 0.8 - 1.0 ns per call.
2. On MSBT19x64 the optimal threshold size is 2M counts on my Core i7. However, interestingly the default threshold value works better with MSBT19 on the same computer.

I will continue to investigate this.

Thanks and best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Sun, 17 May 2020 19:46:30 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Mirek,

Also, please check my previous new\_memsetd() above using MSBT19x64 for reference.  
Preferably also with short transfers (1-64).

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Oblivion](#) on Sun, 17 May 2020 20:00:14 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Here's results on (AMD FX, linux x64):

GCC:

```
TIMING HUGE memset   : 113,98 ms - 5,70 ms (114,00 ms / 20 ), min: 5,00 ms, max: 6,00 ms,
nesting: 0 - 20
TIMING HUGE Fill3   : 81,98 ms - 4,10 ms (82,00 ms / 20 ), min: 4,00 ms, max: 5,00 ms,
nesting: 0 - 20
TIMING HUGE Fill     : 145,98 ms - 7,30 ms (146,00 ms / 20 ), min: 7,00 ms, max: 8,00 ms,
nesting: 0 - 20
TIMING HUGE memsetd  : 125,98 ms - 6,30 ms (126,00 ms / 20 ), min: 6,00 ms, max: 7,00 ms,
nesting: 0 - 20
TIMING memset       : 1,24 s - 1,24 us ( 2,23 s / 1000000 ), min: 0,00 ns, max: 1,00 ms,
nesting: 0 - 1000000
TIMING Fill3        : 2,01 s - 2,01 us ( 3,01 s / 1000000 ), min: 0,00 ns, max: 1,00 ms, nesting:
0 - 1000000
```

TIMING Fill2 : 2,43 s - 2,43 us ( 3,42 s / 1000000 ), min: 0,00 ns, max: 1,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill0 : 2,77 s - 2,77 us ( 3,76 s / 1000000 ), min: 0,00 ns, max: 1,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill : 2,72 s - 2,72 us ( 3,71 s / 1000000 ), min: 0,00 ns, max: 1,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING memsetd : 1,80 s - 1,80 us ( 2,80 s / 1000000 ), min: 0,00 ns, max: 1,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000

CIANG:

TIMING HUGE memset : 120,98 ms - 6,05 ms (121,00 ms / 20 ), min: 5,00 ms, max: 7,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING HUGE Fill3 : 81,98 ms - 4,10 ms (82,00 ms / 20 ), min: 4,00 ms, max: 5,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING HUGE Fill : 130,98 ms - 6,55 ms (131,00 ms / 20 ), min: 6,00 ms, max: 7,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING HUGE memsetd : 133,98 ms - 6,70 ms (134,00 ms / 20 ), min: 6,00 ms, max: 7,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 20  
TIMING memset : 1,49 s - 1,49 us ( 2,39 s / 1000000 ), min: 0,00 ns, max: 1,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill3 : 1,74 s - 1,74 us ( 2,64 s / 1000000 ), min: 0,00 ns, max: 1,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill2 : 1,62 s - 1,62 us ( 2,52 s / 1000000 ), min: 0,00 ns, max: 1,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill0 : 2,00 s - 2,00 us ( 2,90 s / 1000000 ), min: 0,00 ns, max: 1,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Fill : 2,06 s - 2,06 us ( 2,96 s / 1000000 ), min: 0,00 ns, max: 1,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING memsetd : 2,18 s - 2,18 us ( 3,08 s / 1000000 ), min: 0,00 ns, max: 1,00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000

Best regards,  
Oblivion

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Sun, 17 May 2020 21:25:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Mirek,

Please check out this one. It features better performance on MSBT19 / MSBT19x64 with low counts, and works well on CLANG/CLANGx64 too:  
inline void new\_memset128(void \*b, dword data, int len){

```

switch(len){
    case 4: ((dword *)b)[3] = data;
    case 3: ((dword *)b)[2] = data;
    case 2: ((dword *)b)[1] = data;
    case 1: ((dword *)b)[0] = data;
    case 0: return;
}

__m128i q = _mm_set1_epi32(*(int*)&data);
__m128i *w = (__m128i*)b;

switch(len>>2){
    default:{
        __m128i *e = (__m128i*)b + (len>>2) - 4;
        if(len <= 2*1024*1024){
            while(w<e){
                _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
                _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
                _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
                _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
            }
        }
        else{
            while(w<e){
                _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
                _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
                _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
                _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
            }
        }
    }
}

case 4: _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
case 3: _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
case 2: _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
case 1: _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}

switch(len&3){
    case 3: ((dword *)b)[len-3] = data;
    case 2: ((dword *)b)[len-2] = data;
    case 1: ((dword *)b)[len-1] = data;
}
}

```

Best regards,

Tom

EDIT: Fine tuning...

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Mon, 18 May 2020 08:16:32 GMT

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Tom1 wrote on Sun, 17 May 2020 23:25Mirek,

Please check out this one. It features better performance on MSBT19 / MSBT19x64 with low counts, and works well on CLANG/CLANGx64 too:

I think there are 2 issues:

- Cache bypass starts at 8MB.
- Missing alignment adjustment for cache bypass.
- I might be wrong, but why is there " - 4":  $\text{__m128i} * \text{e} = (\text{__m128i} * \text{t}) + (\text{len} \gg 2) - 4;$  ?

But yes, it hits something for MSC compiler... :)

Mirek

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Mon, 18 May 2020 09:13:55 GMT

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---

Hi,

Yes, you're right: The alignment should be handled. I'll take a look at it... (just need to minimize the code size in order to avoid penalty for short transfers. It is extremely sensitive.)

The cache limit is intentionally 8MB as this is the sweet spot for my Core i7. Probably should get this value from the system to optimize the correct threshold.

The -4 compensates the rest of the samples handled within the leaked default in the switch. (The below cases do the trick).

Best regards,

Tom

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Mon, 18 May 2020 11:31:25 GMT

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---

Hi,

Alignment corrected. (Caused obviously a lot of rearranging things to obtain balance.) Threshold is still at 8M, but feel free to experiment.

```
inline void new_memset128(void *b, dword data, int len){
switch(len){
    case 5: ((dword *)b)[4] = data;
    case 4: ((dword *)b)[3] = data;
    case 3: ((dword *)b)[2] = data;
    case 2: ((dword *)b)[1] = data;
    case 1: ((dword *)b)[0] = data;
    case 0: return;
}

__m128i q = _mm_set1_epi32(*(int*)&data);
__m128i *w = (__m128i*)b;
__m128i *e = (__m128i*)b + (len>>2);

if(len <= 2*1024*1024 || ((uintptr_t)b&3)){
    while(w<e){
        _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
        _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    }
    if(w<e) _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}
else{
    int s=(-((int)((uintptr_t)b)>>2))&0x3;
    switch(s){
        case 3: ((dword *)b)[2] = data;
        case 2: ((dword *)b)[1] = data;
        case 1: ((dword *)b)[0] = data;
    }

    w = (__m128i*)((dword*)b + s);

    while(w<e) _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_sfence();
}

switch(len&3){
    case 3: ((dword *)b)[len-3] = data;
    case 2: ((dword *)b)[len-2] = data;
    case 1: ((dword *)b)[len-1] = data;
}
```

}

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Mon, 18 May 2020 11:33:20 GMT

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---

So I kept digging and found that the reason why Fill3 performed great with CLANG and less great with MSC was that CLANG understand what I mean with that ugly array based code to fill 4 color values into the xmm register while MSC really created that 'm' array, stored 4 values into memory and then fetched them into xmm... :)

Fixed Fill3 seems to perform well with MSC too:

```
void Fill3(RGBA *t, RGBA c, int len)
{
    __m128i val4 = _mm_set1_epi32(*(int*)&c);
    auto Set4 = [&](int at) { _mm_storeu_si128((__m128i *)t + at), val4); };
    auto Set4S = [&](int at) { _mm_stream_si128((__m128i *)t + at), val4); };
    if(len >= 16) {
        if(len > 1024*1024 / 16 && ((uintptr_t)t & 3) == 0) { // for really huge data, bypass the cache
            while((uintptr_t)t & 15) { // align to 16 bytes for SSE
                *t++ = c;
                len--;
            }
            do {
                Set4S(0);
                Set4S(4);
                Set4S(8);
                Set4S(12);
                t += 16;
                len -= 16;
            }
            while(len >= 16);
            _mm_sfence();
        }
    }
    else
        do {
            Set4(0);
            Set4(4);
            Set4(8);
            Set4(12);
        }
}
```

```

    t += 16;
    len -= 16;
}
while(len >= 16);
}
if(len & 8) {
    Set4(0);
    Set4(4);
    t += 8;
}
if(len & 4) {
    Set4(0);
    t += 4;
}
if(len & 2) {
    t[0] = t[1] = c;
    t += 2;
}
if(len & 1)
    t[0] = c;
}

```

Mirek

---



---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** [mirek](#) **on** Mon, 18 May 2020 11:43:39 GMT  
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---

This variation of basically the same thing seems a tiny bit faster:

```

void Fill3a(RGBA *t, RGBA c, int len)
{
    __m128i val4 = _mm_set1_epi32(*(int*)&c);
    auto Set4 = [&](int at) { _mm_storeu_si128((__m128i*)(t + at), val4); };
    auto Set4S = [&](int at) { _mm_stream_si128((__m128i*)(t + at), val4); };
    if(len >= 32) {
        if(len > 1024*1024 / 16 && ((uintptr_t)t & 3) == 0) { // for really huge data, bypass the cache
            while((uintptr_t)t & 15) { // align to 16 bytes for SSE
                *t++ = c;
                len--;
            }
        do {
            Set4S(0); Set4S(4); Set4S(8); Set4S(12);
            Set4S(16); Set4S(20); Set4S(24); Set4S(28);
            t += 32;

```

```
len -= 32;
}
while(len >= 32);
_mm_sfence();
}
else
do {
    Set4(0); Set4(4); Set4(8); Set4(12);
    Set4(16); Set4(20); Set4(24); Set4(28);
    t += 32;
    len -= 32;
}
while(len >= 32);
}
if(len & 16) {
    Set4(0); Set4(4); Set4(8); Set4(12);
    t += 16;
}
if(len & 8) {
    Set4(0); Set4(4);
    t += 8;
}
if(len & 4) {
    Set4(0);
    t += 4;
}
if(len & 2) {
    t[0] = t[1] = c;
    t += 2;
}
if(len & 1)
    t[0] = c;
}
```

---

---

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Mon, 18 May 2020 11:53:37 GMT  
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---

You can actually do alignment without branching there (that I got from studying memset code :). I guess that is the last thing to try now :)

---

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Mon, 18 May 2020 14:06:19 GMT  
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mirek wrote on Mon, 18 May 2020 14:53 You can actually do alignment without branching there (that I got from studying memset code :). I guess that is the last thing to try now :)

Hi,

Sounds good, but seems hard to squeeze speed from ... (tried quite a while now).

BR, Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Mon, 18 May 2020 15:08:11 GMT

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---

Mirek,

Here it is: The unconditional alignment. I took your idea, ditched my own, and modified your Fill3a as follows:

```
void inline Fill3T(void *b, dword data, int len){
    switch(len){
        case 3: ((dword *)b)[2] = data;
        case 2: ((dword *)b)[1] = data;
        case 1: ((dword *)b)[0] = data;
        case 0: return;
    }
    __m128i q = _mm_set1_epi32(*(int*)&data);
    __m128i *w = (__m128i*)b;

    if(len >= 32) {
        __m128i *e = (__m128i*)b + (len>>2) - 8;
        if(len > 1024*1024 / 16 && ((uintptr_t)w & 3) == 0) { // for really huge data, bypass the cache
            _mm_storeu_si128(w, q); // Head align
        }
        int s=-((int)((uintptr_t)b)>>2))&0x3;
        w = (__m128i*)((dword*)b) + s;
        do {
            _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
            _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
        }while(w<=e);
        _mm_sfence();
    }
    else
}
```

```

do {
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}while(w<=e);
}

if(len & 16) {
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}
if(len & 8) {
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}
if(len & 4) {
    _mm_storeu_si128(w, q);
}
_mm_storeu_si128((__m128i*) (((dword*)b) + len - 4), q); // Tail align
}

```

I made some other changes too and this one is slightly faster on short transfers while equals Fill3a() on longer ones. The improvement is more significant on MSBT19 / MSBT19x64.

In order to get real fast short transfers, the function must be 'inline'. I think this necessitates two variants of the final function. (I have seen that BufferPainter paints most of the time with really short fills, so inlining really makes a difference there.)

Best regards,

Tom

P.S. My cache threshold is still at 8M...

---



---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** [mirek](#) **on** Mon, 18 May 2020 16:12:37 GMT  
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---

Well, my full idea was to align for len >= 32 always and MAYBE have some benefit from the fact

that stores are now aligned (even perhaps use aligned version). Sources diverge on actual performance, but it might be around 10%. In any case, MSC memset does this...

Mirek

---

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

**Posted by** [mirek](#) **on** Mon, 18 May 2020 16:28:52 GMT

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Tom1 wrote on Mon, 18 May 2020 17:08

In order to get real fast short transfers, the function must be 'inline'. I think this necessitates two variants of the final function. (I have seen that BufferPainter paints most of the time with really short fills, so inlining really makes a difference there.)

Well, CLANG inlines all Fill3 variants without me asking him to do it, so I guess I have zero problems to have it in the header...

Quote:P.S. My cache threshold is still at 8M...

What are your CPU L1/L2/L3 caches?

What happens if you move that to 1M, 12M, 16M? (I mean, how much penalty you get?)

Mirek

---

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

**Posted by** [Tom1](#) **on** Mon, 18 May 2020 18:57:20 GMT

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---

Hi,

My CPU here is Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-4790K:

<https://ark.intel.com/content/www/us/en/ark/products/80807/intel-core-i7-4790k-processor-8m-cache-up-to-4-40-ghz.html>

Not surprisingly, they say it has an 8M 'smart cache'.

Please find attached two CSV files portraying execution time in ns for each call in average. The length is in dwords. Fill3a is there for reference and Fill3T is using 64 dword threshold for streaming in one and 2M dword (8MB) threshold in the other file. While not portrayed here, increasing the threshold above 32MB decreases the performance from 1.5 ms to 3.6 ms for a 32 MB buffer.

Best regards,

Tom

---

### File Attachments

1) [Fill3T-cache-comparison.7z](#), downloaded 212 times

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Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Mon, 18 May 2020 19:20:28 GMT

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---

Hi,

It looks that luckily CPUID reveals cache information:

<https://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/architecture-and-technology/64-ia-32-architectures-software-developer-vol-2a-manual.html>

Initial value in EAX 80000006H

ECX:

Bits 07 - 00: Cache Line size in bytes.

Bits 11 - 08: Reserved.

Bits 15 - 12: L2 Associativity field.

Bits 31 - 16: Cache size in 1K units.

Could we use this?

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Mon, 18 May 2020 19:40:50 GMT

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---

Hi Mirek,

Something like this, maybe... I'm not quite sure as this method reports 16M cache for me -- although this works quite well for me:

static int cachesize=999;

```

INITBLOCK{
#define COMPILER_MSC
int cpuInfo[4];
Zero(cpuInfo);
__cpuid(cpuInfo, 0x80000006);
#else
unsigned int cpuInfo[4];
Zero(cpuInfo);
__get_cpuid(0x80000006, &cpuInfo[0], &cpuInfo[1], &cpuInfo[2], &cpuInfo[3]);
#endif
cachesize=1024*(cpuInfo[2]>>16)*(cpuInfo[2]&0xff);
};

```

```

void inline Fill3T(void *b, dword data, int len){
switch(len){
    case 3: ((dword *)b)[2] = data;
    case 2: ((dword *)b)[1] = data;
    case 1: ((dword *)b)[0] = data;
    case 0: return;
}
__m128i q = _mm_set1_epi32(*(int*)&data);
__m128i *w = (__m128i*)b;

if(len >= 32) {
    __m128i *e = (__m128i*)b + (len>>2) - 8;
    if(len >= (cachesize>>2) && ((uintptr_t)w & 3) == 0) { // for really huge data, bypass the cache
        _mm_storeu_si128(w, q); // Head align
        int s=(-((int)((uintptr_t)b)>>2))&0x3;
        w = (__m128i*)((dword*)b) + s;
        do {
            _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
            _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
        }while(w<=e);
        _mm_sfence();
    }
} else
do {
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}

```

```

_mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
_mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
_mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
_mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}while(w<=e);
}

if(len & 16) {
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}
if(len & 8) {
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}
if(len & 4) {
    _mm_storeu_si128(w, q);
}
_mm_storeu_si128((__m128i*) (((dword*)b) + len - 4), q); // Tail align
}

```

Best regards,

Tom

---



---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** mirek **on** Mon, 18 May 2020 19:56:57 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Tom1 wrote on Mon, 18 May 2020 20:57Hi,

My CPU here is Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-4790K:

<https://ark.intel.com/content/www/us/en/ark/products/80807/intel-core-i7-4790k-processor-8m-cache-up-to-4-40-ghz.html>

Not surprisingly, they say it has an 8M 'smart cache'.

Please find attached two CSV files portraying execution time in ns for each call in average. The length is in dwords. Fill3a is there for reference and Fill3T is using 64 dword threshold for streaming in one and 2M dword (8MB) threshold in the other file. While not portrayed here, increasing the threshold above 32MB decreases the performance from 1.5 ms to 3.6 ms for a 32 MB buffer.

Best regards,

Tom

If I interpret these numbers correctly, it looks like around 4MB potential drop because of cache bypass starts to be diminish, right?

Thing is, I am afraid that making this dynamic will cause a lot of problems, starting with performance - it is after all another read from the memory. I would settle for some compromise constant there. Like 4MB... :)

Mirek

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Mon, 18 May 2020 22:02:48 GMT

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---

What about this:

```
never_inline
void HugeFill(dword *t, dword c, int len)
{
    __m128i val4 = _mm_set1_epi32(*((int*)&c));
    auto Set4S = [&](int at) { _mm_stream_si128((__m128i *)t + at), val4); };
    while((uintptr_t)t & 15) { // align to 16 bytes for SSE
        *t++ = c;
        len--;
    }
    while(len >= 16) {
        Set4S(0);
        Set4S(4);
        Set4S(8);
        Set4S(12);
        t += 16;
        len -= 16;
    }
    while(len--)
        *t++ = c;
        _mm_sfence();
}
void Fill6(dword *t, dword c, int len)
{
    if(len >= 4) {
```

```

__m128i val4 = _mm_set1_epi32(*(int*)&c);
auto Set4 = [&](int at) { _mm_storeu_si128((__m128i *)t + at), val4); };
if(len > 4*1024*1024 / 4) {
    HugeFill(t, c, len);
    return;
}
while(len >= 16) {
    Set4(0);
    Set4(4);
    Set4(8);
    Set4(12);
    t += 16;
    len -= 16;
}
if(len & 8) {
    Set4(0);
    Set4(4);
    t += 8;
}
if(len & 4) {
    Set4(0);
    t += 4;
}
}
if(len & 3)
    t[0] = t[(len & 2) >> 1] = t[(len & 2) & ((len & 1) << 1)] = c;
}

```

---



---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
 Posted by [Tom1](#) on Tue, 19 May 2020 06:59:08 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hi,

Fill6 fails integrity check due to a small indexing glitch here:

```

if(len & 8) {
    Set4(0);
    Set4(8); // << Should be 4
    t += 8;
}

```

However, Fill3T is still faster below 64 and mostly on par above that on my i7.

And thanks! I do indeed enjoy the final alignment trick! :) Very clever!

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Tue, 19 May 2020 07:14:34 GMT

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---

Yeah, there was another bug in it, I should test more before posting.

In retrospective, while the trick is nice, I do not think it is worth it. But if you wanted to experiment with this path, I have found the way how to extend / simplify this. The basic idea is

```
int nlen = -len;
t[1 & HIBYTE(nlen)] = c;
nlen++;
t[2 & HIBYTE(nlen)] = c;
nlen++;
t[3 & HIBYTE(nlen)] = c;
....
```

(at some point, nlen will become > 0 and thus HIBYTE goes from 0xff to 0x00, thus "grounding" indices).

Also, I would like to try to explain why I am trying to beat Fill3T. It is about those switches, while

```
switch(len) {
case 0:
case 1:
case 2:
default:
}
```

looks magnificent, it is actually 2 "unstable" branch predictions and quite a bit of code to compute the target address. So

```
if(len & 2) {
}
if(len & 1) {
}
```

should be on par - 2 branch predictions and maybe a bit less of code....

Mirek

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Tue, 19 May 2020 07:49:01 GMT

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---

Also, a little note about your testing code: You loop over the same "len" many times and measure that. The problem is that first pass setups branch prediction so all other passes are predicted. If "len" is changing, prediction fails and you might get different results....

Which explains why my tests, which feeds random lens, shows a bit different picture... :)

All in all, I think in the end we will just need to test this with Painter....

Mirek

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Tue, 19 May 2020 09:32:39 GMT

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---

Three more variants, based on your FillT. Fill7 is basically identical, with a little trick added (hope you like it). Fill7a has different "frontend". Fill8 is not performing very well, adding that just so that you know I have tested that variant too... :)

Fill7 and Fill7a seem to be basically equal and maybe just a tiny bit faster than Fill3T....

```
void Fill7(dword *t, dword data, int len){  
    switch(len) {  
        case 3: t[2] = data;  
        case 2: t[1] = data;  
        case 1: t[0] = data;  
        case 0: return;  
    }  
  
    __m128i val4 = _mm_set1_epi32(data);  
    auto Set4 = [&](int at) { _mm_storeu_si128((__m128i *) (t + at), val4); };  
  
    Set4(len - 4); // fill tail  
    if(len >= 32) {  
        if(len >= 1024*1024) { // for really huge data, bypass the cache  
            HugeFill(t, data, len);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

```

return;
}
const dword *e = t + len - 32;
do {
    Set4(0); Set4(4); Set4(8); Set4(12);
    Set4(16); Set4(20); Set4(24); Set4(28);
    t += 32;
}
while(t <= e);
}
if(len & 16) {
    Set4(0); Set4(4); Set4(8); Set4(12);
    t += 16;
}
if(len & 8) {
    Set4(0); Set4(4);
    t += 8;
}
if(len & 4)
    Set4(0);
}

void Fill7a(dword *t, dword data, int len){
if(len < 4) {
    if(len & 2) {
        t[0] = t[1] = data;
        t += 2;
    }
    if(len & 1)
        t[0] = data;
    return;
}
__m128i val4 = _mm_set1_epi32(data);
auto Set4 = [&](int at) { _mm_storeu_si128((__m128i *)t + at), val4); };

Set4(len - 4); // fill tail
if(len >= 32) {
    if(len >= 1024*1024) { // for really huge data, bypass the cache
        HugeFill(t, data, len);
        return;
    }
    const dword *e = t + len - 32;
    do {
        Set4(0); Set4(4); Set4(8); Set4(12);
        Set4(16); Set4(20); Set4(24); Set4(28);
        t += 32;
    }
}

```

```

while(t <= e);
}
if(len & 16) {
    Set4(0); Set4(4); Set4(8); Set4(12);
    t += 16;
}
if(len & 8) {
    Set4(0); Set4(4);
    t += 8;
}
if(len & 4)
    Set4(0);
}

void Fill8(dword *t, dword data, int len){
switch(len) {
    case 3: t[2] = data;
    case 2: t[1] = data;
    case 1: t[0] = data;
    case 0: return;
}
__m128i val4 = _mm_set1_epi32(data);
auto Set4 = [&](int at) { _mm_storeu_si128((__m128i *) (t + at), val4); };

Set4(len - 4); // fill tail
if(len >= 32) {
    if(len >= 1024*1024) { // for really huge data, bypass the cache
        HugeFill(t, data, len);
        return;
    }
    int cnt = len >> 5;
    do {
        Set4(0); Set4(4); Set4(8); Set4(12);
        len -= 32;
        Set4(16); Set4(20); Set4(24); Set4(28);
        t += 32;
    }
    while(len >= 32);
}
switch((len >> 2) & 7) {
    case 7: Set4(24);
    case 6: Set4(20);
    case 5: Set4(16);
    case 4: Set4(12);
    case 3: Set4(8);
    case 2: Set4(4);
    case 1: Set4(0);
}

```

```
}
```

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Tue, 19 May 2020 10:35:28 GMT  
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---

mirek wrote on Tue, 19 May 2020 10:49Also, a little note about your testing code: You loop over the same "len" many times and measure that. The problem is that first pass setups branch prediction so all other passes are predicted. If "len" is changing, prediction fails and you might get different results....

Which explains why my tests, which feeds random lens, shows a bit different picture... :)

All in all, I think in the end we will just need to test this with Painter....

Mirek

I wish I came to think of this benchmarking pitfall... I mean the branch prediction. Well, I agree that we need to put it in the BufferPainter environment for real test.

Meanwhile, as you worked on 7, 7a and 8, I prepared 3T2, which avoids the switch and uses ifs instead. Funnily, your 7a does the same, but with table offsets. :)

```
void inline Fill3T2(dword *b, dword data, int len){  
if(len<4){  
    if(len&1) *b++ = data;  
    if(len&2){ *b++ = data; *b++ = data; }  
    return;  
}  
  
__m128i q = _mm_set1_epi32(*(int*)&data);  
__m128i *w = (__m128i*)b;  
  
if(len >= 32) {  
    __m128i *e = (__m128i*)b + (len>>2) - 8;  
    if(len > 4*1024*1024 / 4 && ((uintptr_t)w & 3) == 0) { // for really huge data, bypass the cache  
        _mm_storeu_si128(w, q); // Head align  
        int s=(-((int)((uintptr_t)b)>>2))&0x3;  
        w = (__m128i*) (b + s);  
        do {  
            _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);  
            _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);  
            _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);  
            _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);  
            _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
```

```

_mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
_mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
_mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
}while(w<=e);
_mm_sfence();
}
else
do {
_mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}while(w<=e);
}

if(len & 16) {
_mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
_mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
_mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
_mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}
if(len & 8) {
_mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
_mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}
if(len & 4) {
_mm_storeu_si128(w, q);
}
_mm_storeu_si128((__m128i*) (b + len - 4), q); // Tail align
}

```

I really like the w++ incremental pointer logic over the Set4(pointer+offset). This approach seems to give a small improvement on my system.

Next, I will test your 7 + 7a and report against 3T2.

But seriously, we need to put an end to this madness! The bang for the buck is rapidly decreasing as working hours are increasing... :)

Best regards,

Tom

---



---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Tue, 19 May 2020 10:45:52 GMT

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---

[quote title=Tom1 wrote on Tue, 19 May 2020 12:35]mirek wrote on Tue, 19 May 2020 10:49  
I really like the w++ incremental pointer logic over the Set4(pointer+offset). This approach seems to give a small improvement on my system.

Compiler actually converts that to offsets anyway... (I have checked disassembly).

Quote:

But seriously, we need to put an end to this madness! The bang for the buck is rapidly decreasing as working hours are increasing... :)

:) Well, you have started it :)

Mirek

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Tue, 19 May 2020 11:18:01 GMT

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---

[quote title=mirek wrote on Tue, 19 May 2020 13:45]Tom1 wrote on Tue, 19 May 2020 12:35mirek wrote on Tue, 19 May 2020 10:49

I really like the w++ incremental pointer logic over the Set4(pointer+offset). This approach seems to give a small improvement on my system.

Compiler actually converts that to offsets anyway... (I have checked disassembly).

Quote:

But seriously, we need to put an end to this madness! The bang for the buck is rapidly decreasing as working hours are increasing... :)

:) Well, you have started it :)

Mirek

:lol: I admit to it! My fault... :)

Anyway, pick your choice: 7a or 3T2, but note that MSBT19 (32bit I mean) likes 3T2 better on short transfers. CLANG, CLANGx64 and MSBT19x64 are happy with both. (But, please do your own benchmarks, as this is just my repeated scan through different lengths with the pitfall you

pointed out earlier.)

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Tue, 19 May 2020 14:22:08 GMT

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---

Hi,

WARNING: Something still wrong in 3T2 alignment code. I will continue to investigate it.

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Tue, 19 May 2020 23:34:03 GMT

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---

Hi Mirek,

Yes, I'm nuts... still working at this hour.

Anyway, here's a new version - Fill3T3 - that can actually handle all alignment variations (even those not handled by 7a). Please benchmark and check for correctness:

```
never_inline void FillStream(dword *b, dword data, int len){  
  
    while((uintptr_t)b & 15){ // Try to align  
        *b++=data;  
        len--;  
    };  
    __m128i *w = (__m128i *)b;  
    __m128i q = _mm_set1_epi32((int)data);  
    if(len>=16){  
        __m128i *e = w + (len>>2) - 3;  
        do{  
            _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);  
            _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);  
            _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);  
            _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);  
        }while(w<e);  
    }  
}
```

```

}

if(len & 8) {
    _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
}
if(len & 4) {
    _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
}
_mm_sfence();
_mm_storeu_si128((__m128i*)(b + len - 4), q); // Tail align
}

void inline Fill3T3(dword *b, dword data, int len){
if(len<4){
    if(len&1) *b++ = data;
    if(len&2){ *b++ = data; *b++ = data; }
    return;
}

__m128i *w = (__m128i *)b;
__m128i q = _mm_set1_epi32((int)data);

if(len >= 32) {
if(len>1024*1024 && (((uintptr_t)b & 3)==0)){
    FillStream(b,data,len);
    return;
}

__m128i *e = w + (len>>2) - 7;
do{
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}while(w<e);
}
if(len & 16) {
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}
if(len & 8) {
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}

```

```
_mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}
if(len & 4) {
    _mm_storeu_si128(w++, q);
}
_mm_storeu_si128((__m128i*)(b + len - 4), q); // Tail align
}
```

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Tue, 19 May 2020 23:52:36 GMT

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---

[quote title=Tom1 wrote on Wed, 20 May 2020 01:34]Hi Mirek,

Yes, I'm nuts... still working at this hour.

Anyway, here's a new version - Fill3T3 - that can actually handle all alignment variations (even those not handled by 7a). Please benchmark and check for correctness:

```
if(len & 8) {
    _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
    _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
}
if(len & 4) {
    _mm_stream_si128(w++, q);
}
```

Yeah, I think that after filling 8MB of data, this will really have impact compared to trivial loop :)

Mirek

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Wed, 20 May 2020 06:22:43 GMT

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---

mirek wrote on Wed, 20 May 2020 02:52Yeah, I think that after filling 8MB of data, this will really have impact compared to trivial loop :)

Mirek

:lol:

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Wed, 20 May 2020 08:04:35 GMT

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---

Hi,

There must still be something wrong with 3T3 because applying it to BufferPainter (replacing FillRGBA) causes artifacts in drawing. E.g. PainterExamples spiral example at 3x scale clearly shows noise in line edges. :(

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Wed, 20 May 2020 08:20:56 GMT

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---

Tom1 wrote on Wed, 20 May 2020 10:04Hi,

There must still be something wrong with 3T3 because applying it to BufferPainter (replacing FillRGBA) causes artifacts in drawing. E.g. PainterExamples spiral example at 3x scale clearly shows noise in line edges. :(

Best regards,

Tom

---

My guts feeling is either the tail fill, or less likely, "e" computation. I think these are simpler code in Fill7a.... (and actually, these are the only real difference now).

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Wed, 20 May 2020 08:55:46 GMT

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---

Hi,

No, Sorry... I'll take that alarm back. There is no error in 3T3 after all. My copy of the code inside Painter was faulty... Now I took the correct version and it is all good now.

I'm just too tired after not sleeping too much lately...

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Wed, 20 May 2020 09:56:41 GMT

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---

So I have replaced memsetd with Fill7a, replaced RGBA fill with (new) memsetd and did benchmarks.

Except the situation where the benchmark involves Clear of large area, numbers have not changed... :)

EDIT: Bug on my part, retesting...

Mirek

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Wed, 20 May 2020 10:23:01 GMT

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---

OK, after retesting, I think it might be at most 3% faster. Looking at fillers, I think there is much more time spent in AlphaBlend function - even if it is just for segment start/end pixels. Perhaps that one should be SSE2 optimized? :)

Mirek

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Wed, 20 May 2020 10:41:30 GMT

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---

Hi Mirek,

Two things to consider before you go with 7a:

- 7a crashes on unaligned buffers (t&3) while 3T3 handles them all.

- 3T3 is faster on MSBT19 with short transfers up to 50-60 dwords.

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Wed, 20 May 2020 10:52:53 GMT

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---

mirek wrote on Wed, 20 May 2020 13:23OK, after retesting, I think it might be at most 3% faster. Looking at fillers, I think there is much more time spent in AlphaBlend function - even if it is just for segment start/end pixels. Perhaps that one should be SSE2 optimized? :)

Mirek

Hi,

My SSE2 battery is now 'discharged' for a while.... Need to recharge before next use. :)

I also did some testing on span filler with memcpy. This is based on using IMAGE\_OPAQUE of the image being rendered. It does improve the speed somewhat, but the edges cause a problem since the edge is alpha blended even if FILL\_FAST is specified. So, this needs some reconsideration and better knowledge on the Painter internals (i.e. beyond my level...):

BufferPainter.h:

```
struct SpanSource {
    int kind;
    SpanSource(){
        kind = IMAGE_OPAQUE;
    }
    virtual void Get(RGBA *span, int x, int y, unsigned len) = 0;
    virtual ~SpanSource() {}
};
```

Fillers.cpp:

```
void SpanFiller::Render(int val, int len)
{
    if(val == 0) {
        t += len;
        s += len;
        return;
    }
    if(alpha != 256)
        val = alpha * val >> 8;
```

```

if(val == 256) {
    if(ss->kind==IMAGE_OPAQUE) memcpy(t,s,len*sizeof(RGBA)); // apex_memcpy() would be
even faster
else{
    for(int i = 0; i < len; i++) {
        if(s[i].a == 255)
            t[i] = s[i];
        else
            AlphaBlend(t[i], s[i]);
    }
}
t += len;
s += len;
}
else {
    const RGBA *e = t + len;
    while(t < e)
        AlphaBlendCover8(*t++, *s++, val);
}
}

```

Painter/Image.cpp:

```

struct PainterImageSpan : SpanSource, PainterImageSpanData {
    LinearInterpolator interpolator;

    PainterImageSpan(const PainterImageSpanData& f)
        : PainterImageSpanData(f) {
        interpolator.Set(xform);
        kind = image.GetKindNoScan(); // Add this
    }
}

```

Best regards,

Tom

---



---

**Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization**  
**Posted by mirek on Wed, 20 May 2020 10:53:01 GMT**  
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---

I was aware about unaligned problem, that's fixed in final version. That said, unaligned in general should be considered illegal anyway, because otherwise hell will break loose with Armv6....

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** [Tom1](#) **on** Wed, 20 May 2020 11:01:50 GMT

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---

Quote:I was aware about unaligned problem, thats fixed in final version. That said, unaligned in general should be considered illegal anyway, because otherwise hell will broke lose with Armv6....

But that's good to know. In this case we could drop (t&3) code entirely from 3T3 and improve instruction cache locality for even better results on short transfers.

((Is there a way to 'cleanly crash' (whatever that might mean) an application attempting unaligned memset? Now it just disappears from the process list at least on Windows.))

EDIT: Let me rephrase it: Is there a way to check during development that an application will never use unaligned memset?

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** [mirek](#) **on** Wed, 20 May 2020 13:18:19 GMT

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---

Tom1 wrote on Wed, 20 May 2020 13:01

EDIT: Let me rephrase it: Is there a way to check during development that an application will never use unaligned memset?

memsetd!

Yes, put ASSERT(((uintptr\_t)t & 3) == 0); to memsetd :)

Mirek

---

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** [mirek](#) **on** Wed, 20 May 2020 13:58:30 GMT

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---

Tom1 wrote on Wed, 20 May 2020 12:41

- 3T3 is faster on MSBT19 with short transfers up to 50-60 dwords.

Interestingly, adding "inline" to it seems to fix the problem... :) For some reason, 32-bit MSC does not inline it unless you ask it to do so...

In fact, assembler for both inlined function is virtually the same, the only difference is different tail handling (IMO, mine is 1% easier on eye):

7a:

```
0017940D cmp ecx,byte +0x4
00179410 jnl 0x17942f
00179412 test cl,0x2
00179415 jz 0x17941f
00179417 mov [eax+0x4],edi
0017941A mov [eax],edi
0017941C add eax,byte +0x8
0017941F test cl,0x1
00179422 jz dword 0x1794b4
00179428 mov [eax],edi
0017942A jmp dword 0x1794b4
0017942F movd xmm0,edi
00179433 pshufd xmm0,xmm0,0x0
00179438 movups [eax+ecx*4-0x10],xmm0    <=> tail handling
0017943D cmp ecx,byte +0x20
00179440 jl 0x179486
00179442 cmp ecx,0x100000
00179448 jl 0x179457
0017944A push ecx
0017944B push edi
0017944C push eax
0017944D call dword 0x14ff88
00179452 add esp,byte +0xc
00179455 jmp short 0x1794b4
00179457 lea edx,[ecx-0x20]
0017945A lea edx,[eax+edx*4]
0017945D nop dword [eax]
00179460 movups [eax],xmm0
00179463 movups [eax+0x10],xmm0
00179467 movups [eax+0x20],xmm0
0017946B movups [eax+0x30],xmm0
0017946F movups [eax+0x40],xmm0
00179473 movups [eax+0x50],xmm0
00179477 movups [eax+0x60],xmm0
0017947B movups [eax+0x70],xmm0
0017947F sub eax,byte -0x80
00179482 cmp eax,edx
00179484 jna 0x179460
00179486 test cl,0x10
00179489 jz 0x17949d
0017948B movups [eax],xmm0
0017948E movups [eax+0x10],xmm0
```

```
00179492 movups [eax+0x20],xmm0
00179496 movups [eax+0x30],xmm0
0017949A add eax,byte +0x40
0017949D test cl,0x8
001794A0 jz 0x1794ac
001794A2 movups [eax],xmm0
001794A5 movups [eax+0x10],xmm0
001794A9 add eax,byte +0x20
001794AC test cl,0x4
001794AF jz 0x1794b4
001794B1 movups [eax],xmm0
```

3T3

```
00179540 cmp eax,byte +0x4
00179543 jnl 0x179560
00179545 test al,0x1
00179547 jz 0x17954e
00179549 mov [edx],edi
0017954B add edx,byte +0x4
0017954E test al,0x2
00179550 jz dword 0x179607
00179556 mov [edx],edi
00179558 mov [edx+0x4],edi
0017955B jmp dword 0x179607
00179560 movd xmm0,edi
00179564 mov ecx,edx
00179566 pshufd xmm0,xmm0,0x0
0017956B cmp eax,byte +0x20
0017956E jl 0x1795c6
00179570 cmp eax,0x100000
00179575 jng 0x179589
00179577 test dl,0x3
0017957A jnz 0x179589
0017957C push eax
0017957D push edi
0017957E push edx
0017957F call dword 0x14ff88
00179584 add esp,byte +0xc
00179587 jmp short 0x179604
00179589 mov edi,eax
0017958B sar edi,0x2
0017958E sub edi,byte +0x7
00179591 shl edi,0x4
00179594 add edi,edx
00179596 mov eax,ecx
00179598 movups [eax],xmm0
```

```
0017959B lea eax,[ecx+0x70]
0017959E movups [ecx+0x10],xmm0
001795A2 movups [ecx+0x20],xmm0
001795A6 movups [ecx+0x30],xmm0
001795AA movups [ecx+0x40],xmm0
001795AE movups [ecx+0x50],xmm0
001795B2 movups [ecx+0x60],xmm0
001795B6 sub ecx,byte -0x80
001795B9 movups [eax],xmm0
001795BC cmp ecx,edi
001795BE jc 0x179596
001795C0 mov eax,[ebp-0x14]
001795C3 mov edi,[ebp-0x18]
001795C6 test al,0x10
001795C8 jz 0x1795e3
001795CA mov eax,ecx
001795CC movups [eax],xmm0
001795CF lea eax,[ecx+0x30]
001795D2 movups [ecx+0x10],xmm0
001795D6 movups [ecx+0x20],xmm0
001795DA add ecx,byte +0x40
001795DD movups [eax],xmm0
001795E0 mov eax,[ebp-0x14]
001795E3 test al,0x8
001795E5 jz 0x1795f8
001795E7 mov eax,ecx
001795E9 movups [eax],xmm0
001795EC lea eax,[ecx+0x10]
001795EF add ecx,byte +0x20
001795F2 movups [eax],xmm0
001795F5 mov eax,[ebp-0x14]
001795F8 test al,0x4
001795FA jz 0x1795ff
001795FC movups [ecx],xmm0
001795FF movups [edx+eax*4-0x10],xmm0    <= TAIL
```

EDIT: OK, now rechecking it, it looks like 3T3 has a bit more instructions doing weird things....

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Wed, 20 May 2020 14:15:59 GMT  
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---

Hi,

This is strange, since I immediately added the inline to 7a when I started testing it. (I found out earlier that MSBT19 did not do it for me.) Now I did a new run and the result is in the attached csv.

Can you post the latest 7a if it is any different compared to the one posted here above?

Best regards,

Tom

File Attachments

1) [memset.csv](#), downloaded 215 times

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Wed, 20 May 2020 15:16:51 GMT

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---

Tom1 wrote on Wed, 20 May 2020 16:15Hi,

This is strange, since I immediately added the inline to 7a when I started testing it. (I found out earlier that MSBT19 did not do it for me.) Now I did a new run and the result is in the attached csv.

Can you post the latest 7a if it is any different compared to the one posted here above?

Best regards,

Tom

It is now in trunk as memsetd....

Mirek

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Wed, 20 May 2020 15:31:48 GMT

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---

I am getting quite different picture:

```
int bsize=8*1024*1024;
Buffer<dword> b(bsize, 0);
dword cw = 123;

String result = "\"N\" , \"memsetd()\" , \"Fill3T3()\" \r\n";
for(int len=1;len<=bsize;){
    int maximum=100000000/len;
    int64 t0=usecs();
    for(int i = 0; i < maximum; i++)
```

```
memsetd(~b, cw, len);
int64 t1=usecs();
for(int i = 0; i < maximum; i++)
    Fill3T3(~b, cw, len);
int64 t2=usecs();
String r = Format("%d,%f,%f",len,1000.0*(t1-t0)/maximum,1000.0*(t2-t1)/maximum);
RLOG(r);
result.Cat(r + "\r\n");
if(len<64) len++;
else len*=2;
}

SaveFile(GetHomeDirFile("memset.csv"),result);
```

I am starting to wonder if there is difference between our MSC 32bit compilers...

---

#### File Attachments

---

1) [memset.csv](#), downloaded 212 times

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Wed, 20 May 2020 15:37:16 GMT

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---

Ha, funny. It depends on order of functions tested. If I test memsetd second, I am getting different numbers :)

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Wed, 20 May 2020 17:51:10 GMT

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---

mirek wrote on Wed, 20 May 2020 18:31 I am getting quite different picture:

```
int bsize=8*1024*1024;
Buffer<dword> b(bsize, 0);
dword cw = 123;

String result="\r\n","memsetd()",Fill3T3()"\r\n";
for(int len=1;len<=bsize;){
    int maximum=100000000/len;
    int64 t0=usecs();
    for(int i = 0; i < maximum; i++)
        memsetd(~b, cw, len);
    int64 t1=usecs();
```

```
for(int i = 0; i < maximum; i++)
    Fill3T3(~b, cw, len);
int64 t2=usecs();
String r = Format("%d,%f,%f",len,1000.0*(t1-t0)/maximum,1000.0*(t2-t1)/maximum);
RLOG(r);
result.Cat(r + "\r\n");
if(len<64) len++;
else len*=2;
}

SaveFile(GetHomeDirFile("memset.csv"),result);
```

I am starting to wonder if there is difference between our MSC 32bit compilers...

Hi,

No wonder we ended up with (very slightly) different approach... Your results are more or less reversed to what I'm getting. I tried to reorder the calls too, but without any observable difference.

It's either the different CPUs or a different compiler. My compiler is:

Microsoft (R) C/C++ Optimizing Compiler Version 19.21.27702.2 for x86  
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

Should I downgrade or upgrade?...

Anyway, seriously I'm pleased with the final result here. The filler is now better than anything before and can be used generally for all clearing/presetting of buffers. I use this a lot in signal processing in addition to clearing the ImageBuffer for BufferPainter. After all, the ImageBuffer needs to be cleared or preset to user preference background color once before each display update. It is much better to have a 1.5 ms delay instead of 3.6 ms delay before drawing approximately 10-20 ms worth of vector map data on the screen. :)

Should this new memsetd() now be deployed all over the u++? I mean e.g. Core/Topt.h :: Fill?

Thank you a lot for your great work on this! :)

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Thu, 21 May 2020 07:04:01 GMT  
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---

[quote title=Tom1 wrote on Wed, 20 May 2020 19:51]mirek wrote on Wed, 20 May 2020 18:31

Should this new memsetd() now be deployed all over the u++? I mean e.g. Core/Topt.h :: Fill?

IDK, maybe as specialisation...

Mirek

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Thu, 21 May 2020 11:28:28 GMT

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---

OK, so I could not stop digging and found last important ingredient: alignment matters!

```
void FillX(void *p, dword data, int len)
{
    dword *t = (dword *)p;
    if(len < 4) {
        if(len & 2) {
            t[0] = t[1] = t[len - 1] = data;
            return;
        }
        if(len & 1)
            t[0] = data;
        return;
    }

    __m128i val4 = _mm_set1_epi32(data);
    auto Set4 = [&](int at) { _mm_storeu_si128((__m128i *) (t + at), val4); };

    Set4(len - 4); // fill tail
    if(len >= 16) {
        Set4(0); // align up on 16 bytes boundary
        const dword *e = t + len;
        t = (dword *)((uintptr_t)t | 15) + 1;
        len = e - t;
        e -= 16;
        if(len >= 1024*1024) { // for really huge data, bypass the cache
            huge_memsetd(t, data, len);
            return;
        }
        while(t <= e) {
            Set4(0); Set4(4); Set4(8); Set4(12);
            t += 16;
        }
    }
}
```

```
if(len & 8) {  
    Set4(0); Set4(4);  
    t += 8;  
}  
if(len & 4)  
    Set4(0);  
}
```

This is about twice as fast as Fill7a for len > 60 (up to cache bypass limit).

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Thu, 21 May 2020 14:21:30 GMT

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---

mirek wrote on Wed, 20 May 2020 16:18 Tom1 wrote on Wed, 20 May 2020 13:01

EDIT: Let me rephrase it: Is there a way to check during development that an application will never use unaligned memset?

memsetd!

Yes, put ASSERT(((uintptr\_t)t & 3) == 0); to memsetd :)

Mirek

Good point! Please do!

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Thu, 21 May 2020 14:38:20 GMT

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---

Hi,

This new FillX is incredibly elegant! Congratulations Mirek! I really do like your new findings there. You just need to rename it as memsetd() and place in the correct header in Core... :)

Best regards,

Tom

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [koldo](#) on Thu, 21 May 2020 15:51:42 GMT

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---

Thank you all for your job. Although please review this in Redmine.

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---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Thu, 21 May 2020 17:22:43 GMT

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---

Hi Koldo,

I checked and #include <emmintrin.h> seems to work just fine for what we are working on. Thanks for pointing this out.

Mirek: Agree?

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Thu, 21 May 2020 17:25:51 GMT

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---

Mirek,

I just found that there is a sweet spot at ~0x3f alignment (i.e. 64 bytes) on my CPU. This is presumably the L1 cache line length, if I'm not mistaken.

Best regards,

Tom

EDIT: It just looks that I cannot squeeze the benefit out as re-alignment code tends to eat what would could possibly be achieved here. However, if allocator could allocate large blocks at even 64 byte limits, that could improve performance behind the scenes.

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Didier](#) on Fri, 22 May 2020 07:32:09 GMT

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---

Hello mirek ans Tom,

Grenat work hère but I have une simple question: what is the point with cache ?

Normally cache speeds things up when you need to reaccess data just After writing it.  
So filling a buffer with a constant value that is not read immediately After in most cases isn't a corresponding use case.  
So, I think that having a fill function that doesn't use cache at all will benefit in two points:  
Timing stability and more importantly, cache is not touched so it can speed up other functions calls further

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Fri, 22 May 2020 08:04:03 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Didier wrote on Fri, 22 May 2020 09:32Hello mirek ans Tom,  
Grenat work hère but I have une simple question: what is the point with cache ?  
Normally cache speeds things up when you need to reaccess data just After writing it.  
So filling a buffer with a constant value that is not read immediately After in most cases isn't a corresponding use case.  
So, I think that having a fill function that doesn't use cache at all will benefit in two points:  
Timing stability and more importantly, cache is not touched so it can speed up other functions calls further

Thing that started this whole issue: If you need to clear buffer for 4K screen, that is about 32MB of data. Thats definitely more than can fit into the cache. So what really happens in that in this case is that at some point cache runs out and you are significantly slowed down by CPU writing data from the cache to main memory. The "fix" is to bypass the cache in this case (we have for now established that the reasonable threshold is somewhere around 4MB).

That said, really a lot of other things were optimised thereafter, mostly on the other size of size spectrum...

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Fri, 22 May 2020 08:05:49 GMT  
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Tom1 wrote on Thu, 21 May 2020 19:25  
EDIT: It just looks that I cannot squeeze the benefit out as re-alignment code tends to eat what would could possibly be achieved here. However, if allocator could allocate large blocks at even 64 byte limits, that could improve performance behind the scenes.

It cannot as alignment is important part of block information...

Mirek

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** mirek **on Fri, 22 May 2020 08:28:24 GMT**

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---

So I have implemented a bunch of other functions based on info gathered during this session:

memcpyd  
svo\_memset  
svo\_memcpy

Now I have hopefully the last problem to tune... I have tried to put svo\_memcpy to Vector::Add grow routine and it indeed improved performance a bit. Then tried to improve this even more and put memcpyd (which svo\_memcpy is using as backend in some situations) and performance dropped.

I believe that the problem is that memcpyd became too fat and it screws inlining. So the thing to solve now is to find how to remove some if this fat to non-inline.... (svo\_memcpy already has such non-inlined part). Probably same should happen to memsetd too....

---

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** koldo **on Fri, 22 May 2020 08:29:25 GMT**

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---

One question. To use these new features, is it necessary to set compiler flags, like /arch:AVX in Visual Studio?

---

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** Tom1 **on Fri, 22 May 2020 09:13:48 GMT**

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---

Quote:I believe that the problem is that memcpyd became too fat and it screws inlining. So the thing to solve now is to find how to remove some if this fat to non-inline.... (svo\_memcpy already has such non-inlined part). Probably same should happen to memsetd too....

Hi Mirek,

I think this could be the same phenomenon that caused me issues with 32-bit MSC. It was more critical to code length and the short transfers suffered immediately when code size increased. At the same time MSBT19x64 and both CLANG and CLANGx64 did not experience any trouble. Perhaps MSBT19 did not do as good job with code size as the rest and on my CPU the instruction cache was exhausted. I bet the instruction cache on your CPU is larger than what my i7 has.

At some moment I was thinking of offering the functions as two variants: inline and never\_inline, in a way that the never\_inline is simply calling the inline. An then when the code benefits from it, calling the never\_inline variant.

Then I also thought of handling something like <= 16 .. 32 sizes inline and the rest in a deeper never\_inline function. This would probably improve the situation without adding so much complexity.

Best regards,

Tom

---

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---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Fri, 22 May 2020 09:32:12 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

koldo wrote on Fri, 22 May 2020 10:29One question. To use these new features, is it necessary to set compiler flags, like /arch:AVX in Visual Studio?

No so far. This is just SSE2, which is enabled by default for ages now...

Of course, the next logical step is to use AVX256 :)

Mirek

---

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---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Fri, 22 May 2020 09:32:51 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

koldo wrote on Fri, 22 May 2020 11:29One question. To use these new features, is it necessary to set compiler flags, like /arch:AVX in Visual Studio?

Hi Koldo,

Here I do not need /arch:AVX or any other compiler flag added. It's just that include (#include <smintrin.h> or #include <emmintrin.h>, which works for me, I think.

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

EDIT: Mirek was faster to respond! :)

---

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---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Fri, 22 May 2020 09:39:48 GMT

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[quote title=Tom1 wrote on Fri, 22 May 2020 11:13]Quote:

Then I also thought of handling something like  $\leq 16 \dots 32$  sizes inline and the rest in a deeper never\_inline function. This would probably improve the situation without adding so much complexity.

In the trunk now...  $\geq 16$  now handled by non-inline function. There is impact in your benchmark (the one that runs for all sizes), less impact in my benchmark (with ransom sizes), but I think this is the right move...

Another benefit is that we can now consider using AVX (testing for AVX presence would be clumsy in inline function I think).

Mirek

---

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---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Fri, 22 May 2020 09:46:29 GMT

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---

[quote title=mirek wrote on Fri, 22 May 2020 12:39]Tom1 wrote on Fri, 22 May 2020 11:13Quote:

Then I also thought of handling something like  $\leq 16 \dots 32$  sizes inline and the rest in a deeper never\_inline function. This would probably improve the situation without adding so much complexity.

In the trunk now...  $\geq 16$  now handled by non-inline function. There is impact in your benchmark (the one that runs for all sizes), less impact in my benchmark (with ransom sizes), but I think this is the right move...

Another benefit is that we can now consider using AVX (testing for AVX presence would be clumsy in inline function I think).

Mirek

---

The apex\_memmove() did the architecture checking on startup (or first run) and then initialized function pointers to optimal versions. I think we could do this too in some INITBLOCK.

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** [Tom1](#) **on Fri, 22 May 2020 09:59:21 GMT**

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---

mirek wrote on Fri, 22 May 2020 12:39

In the trunk now...  $\geq 16$  now handled by non-inline function. There is impact in your benchmark (the one that runs for all sizes), less impact in my benchmark (with random sizes), but I think this is the right move...

It looks like  $> 32$  might be better in this case... Not sure though.

BR, Tom

---

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** [koldo](#) **on Fri, 22 May 2020 10:47:03 GMT**

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---

Dear colleagues

Please consider Sender proposal:

- Remove `#include <emmintrin.h>` from `Blit.h`
- Include `#include <immintrin.h>` in `config.h`

As now the intrinsics are included inside Upp namespace, they cannot be used later by Eigen.  
`config.h` is included in `Core.h` before Upp namespace.

Thank you!

---

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** [mirek](#) **on Fri, 22 May 2020 11:01:25 GMT**

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---

Tom1 wrote on Fri, 22 May 2020 11:59mirek wrote on Fri, 22 May 2020 12:39

In the trunk now...  $\geq 16$  now handled by non-inline function. There is impact in your benchmark (the one that runs for all sizes), less impact in my benchmark (with random sizes), but I think this is the right move...

It looks like  $> 32$  might be better in this case... Not sure though.

BR, Tom

It in turn makes inlined part bigger.... I would rather be careful there.

OK, for what is worth, I have tried with AVX and I do not see any improvement. Here is the code (for CLANG):

```

__attribute__((target ("avx")))
never_inline
void memsetd_l2(dword *t, dword data, size_t len)
{
    __m128i val4 = _mm_set1_epi32(data);
    __m256i val8 = _mm256_set1_epi32(data);
    auto Set4 = [&](size_t at) { _mm_storeu_si128((__m128i *) (t + at), val4); };
#define Set8(at) _mm256_storeu_si256((__m256i *) (t + at), val8);
    Set4(len - 4); // fill tail
    if(len >= 32) {
        if(len >= 1024*1024) { // for really huge data, bypass the cache
            huge_memsetd(t, data, len);
            return;
        }
        Set8(0); // align up on 16 bytes boundary
        const dword *e = t + len;
        t = (dword *)(((uintptr_t)t | 31) + 1);
        len = e - t;
        e -= 32;
        while(t <= e) {
            Set8(0); Set8(8); Set8(16); Set8(24);
            t += 32;
        }
    }
    if(len & 16) {
        Set8(0); Set8(8);
        t += 16;
    }
    if(len & 8) {
        Set8(0);
        t += 8;
    }
    if(len & 4)
        Set4(0);
}

inline
void FillX(void *p, dword data, size_t len)
{
    dword *t = (dword *)p;
    if(len < 4) {
        if(len & 2) {
            t[0] = t[1] = t[len - 1] = data;
            return;
        }
        if(len & 1)
            t[0] = data;
    }
}

```

```
return;
}

if(len >= 16) {
    memsetd_l2(t, data, len);
    return;
}

__m128i val4 = _mm_set1_epi32(data);
auto Set4 = [&](size_t at) { _mm_storeu_si128((__m128i *)t + at), val4); };
Set4(len - 4); // fill tail
if(len & 8) {
    Set4(0); Set4(4);
    t += 8;
}
if(len & 4)
    Set4(0);
}
```

---

Frankly I am sort of happy, because GCC/CLANG way of dealing with AVX is really stupid: It declines AVX instrinics, unless you compile whole function for AVX code, but then it starts generating AVX opcodes everywhere and the funciton does not run on non-AVX CPUs anymore.

---

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Fri, 22 May 2020 11:06:14 GMT  
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---

Quote: I have tried with AVX and I do not see any improvement.

So, this means SSE2 is enough to saturate the memory bus completely.

Thanks also for the new memcpy optimizations. This is equally important in many areas. :)

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [koldo](#) on Fri, 22 May 2020 14:58:14 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Problem solved. Thank you!

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Fri, 22 May 2020 17:03:16 GMT

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---

Added memcpy optimized for sizeof 8 and 16 and this little neat function to make sense from it all:

```
template <class T>
void memcpy_t(T *t, const T *s, size_t count)
{
    if((sizeof(T) & 15) == 0)
        memcpydq((dqword *)t, (const dqword *)s, count * (sizeof(T) >> 4));
    else
        if((sizeof(T) & 7) == 0)
            memcpypq((qword *)t, (const qword *)s, count * (sizeof(T) >> 3));
        else
            if((sizeof(T) & 3) == 0)
                memcpyd((dword *)t, (const dword *)s, count * (sizeof(T) >> 2));
            else
                sv0_memcpy((void *)t, (void *)s, count * sizeof(T));
}
```

Vector<String>::ReAlloc(int newalloc)

disassembly now looks magnificent, copying elements to new buffer with SSE2...

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Sun, 24 May 2020 08:20:45 GMT  
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---

I have the first implementation and test of SSE2 AlphaBlend:

TIMING SSE : 46.95 ms - 46.95 ns (58.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms,  
nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Non SSE : 123.95 ms - 123.95 ns (135.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00  
ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000

---

### File Attachments

---

1) [AlphaBlendSSE2.cpp](#), downloaded 232 times

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Oblivion](#) on Sun, 24 May 2020 09:56:01 GMT  
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---

Hello Mirek,

On Linux 5.4 and 5.6, with CLANG 10.0

```
TIMING SSE      : 119.41 ms - 119.41 ns ( 1.06 s / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms,  
nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Non SSE   : 232.41 ms - 232.41 ns ( 1.18 s / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms,  
nesting: 0 - 1000000
```

On GCC (10.1): apparently `_mm_storeu_si32` is yet to be implemented. . .?

```
'_mm_storeu_si32' was not declared in this scope; did you mean '_mm_storeu_epi32'?  
(): 47 | _mm_storeu_si32(rgba, PackRGBA(x, _mm_setzero_si128()));  
(): | ^~~~~~  
(): | _mm_storeu_epi32
```

Possible workaround is given here:

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/58063933/how-can-a-sse2-function-be-missing-from-the-header-it-is-supposed-to-be-in>

Best regards,  
Oblivion

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Tue, 26 May 2020 11:14:43 GMT  
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---

Hi!

Sorry for the delay... I was out of town for a while.

Here are my results for Windows 10 pro x64 on Core i7:

MSBT19x64:

TIMING SSE : 37.08 ms - 37.08 ns (50.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Non SSE : 129.08 ms - 129.08 ns (142.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000

MSBT19:

TIMING SSE : 29.88 ms - 29.88 ns (45.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Non SSE : 125.88 ms - 125.88 ns (141.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000

CLANG:

TIMING SSE : 37.41 ms - 37.41 ns (50.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 2.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Non SSE : 125.41 ms - 125.41 ns (138.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000

CLANGx64:

TIMING SSE : 37.43 ms - 37.43 ns (47.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Non SSE : 129.43 ms - 129.43 ns (139.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000

Impressive numbers Mirek! When is this going to be available on BufferPainter?

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Tue, 26 May 2020 12:15:32 GMT  
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---

Tom1 wrote on Tue, 26 May 2020 13:14Hi!

Sorry for the delay... I was out of town for a while.

Here are my results for Windows 10 pro x64 on Core i7:

MSBT19x64:

TIMING SSE : 37.08 ms - 37.08 ns (50.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms,

nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Non SSE : 129.08 ms - 129.08 ns (142.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000

MSBT19:

TIMING SSE : 29.88 ms - 29.88 ns (45.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Non SSE : 125.88 ms - 125.88 ns (141.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000

CLANG:

TIMING SSE : 37.41 ms - 37.41 ns (50.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 2.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Non SSE : 125.41 ms - 125.41 ns (138.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000

CLANGx64:

TIMING SSE : 37.43 ms - 37.43 ns (47.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000  
TIMING Non SSE : 129.43 ms - 129.43 ns (139.00 ms / 1000000 ), min: 0.00 ns, max: 1.00 ms, nesting: 0 - 1000000

Impressive numbers Mirek! When is this going to be available on BufferPainter?

Best regards,

Tom

I guess by the end of the week. Still fixing bugs + there is like 8 variants to implement...

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Sun, 31 May 2020 22:39:13 GMT  
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---

While optimizing memcpy and memset, I have tried a new look at othre things, like String comparison and memhash. I think I improved String::operator== a tiny bit and now I am working on memhash function. Decided to introduce "hash\_t" and to have hash value 64 bit when CPU\_64.

After bit of experimenting, I have found these functions (one for 64 bit, other 32 bit) work best:

```

never_inline
uint64 memhash64(const void *ptr, int len)
{
    const byte *s = (byte *)ptr;
    uint64 val = HASH64_CONST1;
    if(len >= 8) {
        if(len >= 32) {
            uint64 val1, val2, val3, val4;
            val1 = val2 = val3 = val4 = HASH64_CONST1;
            while(len >= 32) {
                val1 = HASH64_CONST2 * val1 + *(qword *)(s);
                val2 = HASH64_CONST2 * val2 + *(qword *)(s + 8);
                val3 = HASH64_CONST2 * val3 + *(qword *)(s + 16);
                val4 = HASH64_CONST2 * val4 + *(qword *)(s + 24);
                s += 32;
                len -= 32;
            }
            val = HASH64_CONST2 * val + val1;
            val = HASH64_CONST2 * val + val2;
            val = HASH64_CONST2 * val + val3;
            val = HASH64_CONST2 * val + val4;
        }
        const byte *e = s + len - 8;
        while(s < e) {
            val = HASH64_CONST2 * val + *(qword *)(s);
            s += 8;
        }
        return HASH64_CONST2 * val + *(qword *)(e);
    }
    if(len > 4) {
        val = HASH64_CONST2 * val + *(dword *)(s);
        val = HASH64_CONST2 * val + *(dword *)(s + len - 4);
        return val;
    }
    if(len >= 2) {
        val = HASH64_CONST2 * val + *(word *)(s);
        val = HASH64_CONST2 * val + *(word *)(s + len - 2);
        return val;
    }
    return len ? HASH64_CONST2 * val + *s : val;
}

```

```

never_inline
uint64 memhash32(const void *ptr, int len)
{
    const byte *s = (byte *)ptr;
    uint64 val = HASH32_CONST1;
    if(len >= 4) {

```

```

if(len >= 16) {
    uint64 val1, val2, val3, val4;
    val1 = val2 = val3 = val4 = HASH32_CONST1;
    while(len >= 32) {
        val1 = HASH32_CONST2 * val1 + *(dword *)(s);
        val2 = HASH32_CONST2 * val2 + *(dword *)(s + 4);
        val3 = HASH32_CONST2 * val3 + *(dword *)(s + 8);
        val4 = HASH32_CONST2 * val4 + *(dword *)(s + 12);
        s += 16;
        len -= 16;
    }
    val = HASH32_CONST2 * val + val1;
    val = HASH32_CONST2 * val + val2;
    val = HASH32_CONST2 * val + val3;
    val = HASH32_CONST2 * val + val4;
}
const byte *e = s + len - 4;
while(s < e) {
    val = HASH32_CONST2 * val + *(dword *)(s);
    s += 4;
}
return HASH32_CONST2 * val + *(dword *)(e);
}
if(len >= 2) {
    val = HASH32_CONST2 * val + *(word *)(s);
    val = HASH32_CONST2 * val + *(word *)(s + len - 2);
    return val;
}
return len ? HASH32_CONST2 * val + *s : val;
}

```

While other "mem\*" functions are easy to write tests for, hashing is a bit more complicated; can I request some code review here? Basically, I think combination functions are OK, but I would like to be sure it reads exactly len bytes from memory (it is ok if some are read twice...).

Mirek

---



---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
 Posted by [omari](#) on Mon, 01 Jun 2020 09:24:50 GMT  
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---

in uint64 memhash32(const void \*ptr, int len)

```

while(len >= 16) {
instead of
while(len >= 32) {

```

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Mon, 01 Jun 2020 13:47:18 GMT

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---

Well, that is intentional - it is not worth the effort of final combining unless there is more memory to process.

In the end, 32bit variant is for now:

```
hash_t memhash(const void *ptr, size_t len)
{
    const byte *s = (byte *)ptr;
    dword val = HASH32_CONST1;
    if(len >= 4) {
        if(len >= 16) {
            dword val1, val2;
            val1 = val2 = HASH32_CONST1;
            while(len >= 8) {
                val1 = HASH32_CONST2 * val1 + *(dword *)(s);
                val2 = HASH32_CONST2 * val2 + *(dword *)(s + 4);
                s += 8;
                len -= 8;
            }
            val = HASH32_CONST2 * val + val1;
            val = HASH32_CONST2 * val + val2;
        }
        const byte *e = s + len - 4;
        while(s < e) {
            val = HASH32_CONST2 * val + *(dword *)(s);
            s += 4;
        }
        return HASH32_CONST2 * val + *(dword *)(e);
    }
    if(len >= 2) {
        val = HASH32_CONST2 * val + *(word *)(s);
        val = HASH32_CONST2 * val + *(word *)(s + len - 2);
        return val;
    }
    return len ? HASH32_CONST2 * val + *s : val;
}
```

(I have for now reduced that to 8 bytes being processed as I am afraid about register pressure there - not enough registers in 386 ISA. Perhaps needs more testing...)

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Tue, 02 Jun 2020 11:59:53 GMT

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---

Hi Mirek,

What's the current status of the new BufferPainter optimizations? More specifically, the AlphaBlend variants. Are they on their way to the BufferPainter?

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Tue, 02 Jun 2020 15:43:21 GMT

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---

Well, somehow I dug myself into more mem\* (memeq\*, memhash) functions and optimisations (going 64 bit hashes)... Hopefully all is done for now (except in future, I plan to do aarch64 and NEON optimizations too).

I think I will be able to return to AlphaBlend soon.

Mirek

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Tue, 02 Jun 2020 16:31:54 GMT

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---

Hi Mirek,

Thanks for the update. I'll stay tuned on this channel.

Best regards,

Tom

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Thu, 04 Jun 2020 15:23:37 GMT

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---

SSE2 alphablending committed. I see 10% improvements in heavily blended example. Looks like low-hanging fruits are long gone :)

Mirek

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Thu, 04 Jun 2020 15:45:18 GMT  
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---

OK, that might have been a bit too pesimistic, in some other examples the speedup is noticeable. Somewhat expected thing however is that this is more in single-threaded mode, less in MT.

Note: I have added "NOSIMD" flag to make it possible to turn the new code off.

Mirek

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Novo](#) on Thu, 04 Jun 2020 16:07:37 GMT  
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---

Problem with Mac 10.13:

```
/Users/ssg/.local/soft/bb-worker/worker/m-upp/build/uppsrc/Painter/AlphaBlend.h:57:2: error: use
of undeclared identifier '_mm_storeu_si64'
    _mm_storeu_si64(rgba, PackRGBA(x, _mm_setzero_si128()));
    ^
```

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Thu, 04 Jun 2020 16:48:50 GMT  
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---

mirek wrote on Thu, 04 June 2020 18:23SSE2 alphablending committed. I see 10% improvements in heavily blended example. Looks like low-hanging fruits are long gone :)

Mirek

Hi Mirek,

Thanks! This is a welcome improvement. When rendering complex maps with MT, I see an overall improvement of 4.. 20 % depending on the contents. None of the geometries are transparent themselves, but the edges of strokes and fills likely do benefit from this.

Having the improvement more on the ST side is nice to have as (soft) real-time processes get less disturbed by the GUI being rendered by the BufferPainter running in ST.

Thanks and best regards,

Tom

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** mirek **on** Thu, 04 Jun 2020 18:20:34 GMT

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---

Novo wrote on Thu, 04 June 2020 18:07Problem with Mac 10.13:  
/Users/ssg/.local/soft/bb-worker/worker/m-upp/build/uppsrc/Painter/AlphaBlend.h:57:2: error: use  
of undeclared identifier '\_mm\_storeu\_si64'  
    ^\_mm\_storeu\_si64(rgba, PackRGBA(x, \_mm\_setzero\_si128()));

Should be now, eh... workarounded.

Mirek

---

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** mirek **on** Fri, 12 Jun 2020 10:23:09 GMT

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---

I have finally figured out how to SSE2 optimize ImageSpan code, so we have now about 20%  
boost when rendering Images in Painter with bilinear interpolation...

---

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** Tom1 **on** Fri, 12 Jun 2020 10:55:58 GMT

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---

Hi Mirek,

Thanks! This also seems to improve FILL\_FAST speed. Was this expected?

Now when comparing between 2020.1 and this latest enhancement altogether, rendering an  
ImageBuffer by first clearing it and then adding a large raster image with FILL\_FAST is now down  
at 2.8 ms from 4.4 ms! :)

Thanks and best regards,

Tom

---

---

**Subject:** Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
**Posted by** mirek **on** Fri, 12 Jun 2020 14:28:04 GMT

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---

Tom1 wrote on Fri, 12 June 2020 12:55Hi Mirek,

Thanks! This also seems to improve FILL\_FAST speed. Was this expected?

Was not quite expected, but was noticed... Looks like trivial FP solution beats integer tricks...

Mirek

---

---

---

**Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization**  
Posted by [Novo](#) on Fri, 12 Jun 2020 16:45:12 GMT

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Could you please fix a compilation error on Mac? It was introduced a couple of days ago.  
In file included from /Users/ssg/.local/soft/bb-worker/worker/m-upp/build/uppsrc/Core/App.cpp:4:  
In file included from /usr/include/mach-o/dyld.h:31:  
/usr/include/mach-o/loader.h:56:2: error: unknown type name 'cpu\_type\_t'; did you mean  
'Upp::cpu\_type\_t'?

```
cpu_type_t    cputype;      /* cpu specifier */  
^
```

/usr/include/mach/machine.h:70:19: note: 'Upp::cpu\_type\_t' declared here  
typedef integer\_t cpu\_type\_t;  
^

TIA

---

---

**Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization**  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Sat, 13 Jun 2020 08:15:24 GMT

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Novo wrote on Fri, 12 June 2020 18:45 Could you please fix a compilation error on Mac? It was introduced a couple of days ago.

In file included from /Users/ssg/.local/soft/bb-worker/worker/m-upp/build/uppsrc/Core/App.cpp:4:

In file included from /usr/include/mach-o/dyld.h:31:

/usr/include/mach-o/loader.h:56:2: error: unknown type name 'cpu\_type\_t'; did you mean  
'Upp::cpu\_type\_t'?

```
cpu_type_t    cputype;      /* cpu specifier */  
^
```

/usr/include/mach/machine.h:70:19: note: 'Upp::cpu\_type\_t' declared here  
typedef integer\_t cpu\_type\_t;  
^

TIA

---

Hopefully fixed, please check.

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [coolman](#) on Sat, 13 Jun 2020 08:33:23 GMT  
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---

Hi,

The commit Core: Fixed compilation issue in MacOS created compilation error on Linux

```
lib/libDraw-lib.a(MakeCache.cpp.o): In function `Upp::SysImageRealized(Upp::Image const&)':
MakeCache.cpp:(.text._ZN3Upp16SysImageRealizedERKNS_5ImageE+0xd): undefined
reference to `Upp::IsValueCacheActive()'
MakeCache.cpp:(.text._ZN3Upp16SysImageRealizedERKNS_5ImageE+0x46): undefined
reference to `Upp::ValueCacheMutex'
MakeCache.cpp:(.text._ZN3Upp16SysImageRealizedERKNS_5ImageE+0x5b): undefined
reference to `Upp::TheValueCache()'
lib/libDraw-lib.a(MakeCache.cpp.o): In function `Upp::SysImageReleased(Upp::Image const&)':
MakeCache.cpp:(.text._ZN3Upp16SysImageReleasedERKNS_5ImageE+0xf): undefined
reference to `Upp::IsValueCacheActive()'
MakeCache.cpp:(.text._ZN3Upp16SysImageReleasedERKNS_5ImageE+0x3f): undefined
reference to `Upp::ValueCacheMutex'
MakeCache.cpp:(.text._ZN3Upp16SysImageReleasedERKNS_5ImageE+0x55): undefined
reference to `Upp::TheValueCache()'
lib/libDraw-lib.a(MakeCache.cpp.o): In function `Upp::SetMakelImageCacheMax(int)':
MakeCache.cpp:(.text._ZN3Upp20SetMakelImageCacheMaxEi+0xb): undefined reference to
`Upp::SetupValueCache(int, int, double)'
lib/libDraw-lib.a(MakeCache.cpp.o): In function `Upp::SetMakelImageCacheSize(int)':
MakeCache.cpp:(.text._ZN3Upp21SetMakelImageCacheSizeEi+0xb): undefined reference to
`Upp::SetupValueCache(int, int, double)'
lib/libDraw-lib.a(MakeCache.cpp.o): In function `Upp::SweepMkImageCache()':
MakeCache.cpp:(.text._ZN3Upp17SweepMkImageCacheEv+0x1): undefined reference to
`Upp::AdjustValueCache()'
lib/libDraw-lib.a(MakeCache.cpp.o): In function `Upp::MakelImage__(Upp::ImageMaker const&, bool)':
MakeCache.cpp:(.text._ZN3Upp11MakelImage__ERKNS_10ImageMakerEb+0x25): undefined
reference to `Upp::MakeValue(Upp::LRUCache<Upp::Value, Upp::String>::Maker&)'
clang: error: linker command failed with exit code 1 (use -v to see invocation)
CMakeFiles/ide-bin.dir/build.make:326: recipe for target 'bin/ide' failed
```

BR, Radek

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization  
Posted by [Novo](#) on Sat, 13 Jun 2020 11:07:52 GMT  
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---

mirek wrote on Sat, 13 June 2020 04:15

Hopefully fixed, please check.

All three platforms are broken at this time because of linking.

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [coolman](#) on Sat, 13 Jun 2020 12:45:46 GMT

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---

Hi,

The commit Core: Fixed to compile fixed compilation for Linux

Radek

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [Didier](#) on Sun, 14 Jun 2020 10:45:50 GMT

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---

Hello all,

While searching for info on vectorisation techniques I stumbled on this

<https://godbolt.org/>

this web site proposes to compile small pieces of code (on many compilers) and examine the assembler output: it is dedicated to getting the best performance out the code

This may help to get the best vectorisation code quicker and for many compilers

---

---

Subject: Re: BufferPainter::Clear() optimization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Sun, 14 Jun 2020 12:09:07 GMT

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---

RescaleFilter now SSE2 optimised too...

---