

Getting Started in Performance Engineering

Notes by Lloyd Watts

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Here are my favorite references which would quickly bring you up on the fundamentals of Performance Engineering and give good pointers into the more advanced areas.

General Introduction

- https://sajeeshnair.com/posts/pe_0/ - Sajeesh Nair's blog "Path to Performance Engineering"
- <https://youtu.be/S0frzKlrPs> - Scott Moore's PAC Hero talk "Heavy Metal Performance Engineering"
- <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/13-tips-performance-engineer-stijn-schepers/> - Stijn Schepers' article "25 Tips for a Performance Engineer"

Specialty Subjects

- <https://youtu.be/1i2EP7ZQcN0> - Stijn Schepers's PAC Hero talk "Don't Be A One-Hit Wonder"
- https://youtu.be/itOCQvk_LAs - Taras Tsugrii PAC Hero talk "Old Pattern Powering Modern Tech"
- https://youtu.be/vDFQxhg_xCM - Harinder Seera's PAC Hero talk "DynamoDB Be Thy Name"
- https://www.linkedin.com/posts/lloyd-watts-5523374_performanceengineering-activity-6782342626927616002-PlEe - Lloyd Watts Performance Engineering Case Study
- https://www.linkedin.com/posts/lloyd-watts-5523374_activity-6776398058679877632-jp8V - Lloyd Watts Performance Engineering Calvin Story
- https://www.linkedin.com/posts/stephentownshend_performance-time-episode-10-an-interview-activity-6792177971370299392-lmdF - Stephen Townshend and Stijn Schepers interview about how they got started in Performance Engineering.
- <https://qainsights.com/> - NaveenKumar Namachivayam's QAInsights.com has many useful tutorials and videos on LoadRunner, JMeter, NeoLoad, Dynatrace, and Splunk,
- https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJ9A48W0kpRIjLkZ32Do9yDZXnnm7_uj - NaveenKumar Namachivayam's "Learn Apache JMeter Series" – over 60 video tutorials on JMeter.
- <https://www.perfmatrix.com/jmeter-basics-to-advanced-with-beanshell-or-jsr223-and-realtime-project/> - Vallabh Kumar's 70-Hour Course on JMeter.

Textbook References

Harinder Seera suggests the following textbook references and additional comments:

- The Art of Application Performance Testing: Help for Programmers and Quality Assurance by Ian Molyneux
- The Art of Computer Systems Performance Analysis: Techniques for Experimental Design, Measurement, Simulation, and Modeling By Raj Jain.
- Performance Testing Guidance for Web Applications by Scott Barber and co
- .NET Performance Testing and Optimization - the Complete Guide by Paul Glavich
- Books by Connie U. Smith
 - Performance Solutions: A Practical Guide to Creating Responsive, Scalable Software by Connie U. Smith and Lloyd Williams
- Books by Neil Gunther.
 - The Practical Performance Analyst
 - Guerrilla Capacity Planning
- Performance Analysis and Tuning on Modern CPUs by Denis Bakhvalov (https://book.easyparf.net/perf_book)
- Is Parallel Programming Hard, And, If So, What Can You Do About It? By Paul McKenney (<https://mirrors.edge.kernel.org/pub/linux/kernel/people/paulmck/perfbook/perfbook.html>)
- Foundations of Software and System Performance Engineering, by Dr. André B. Bondi (<http://www.andrebbondi.com/dr-bondis-book.html>)
- There are some really good performance testing articles and posts by Scott Barber, Alex Podelko and Wilson Mar. You also have Mark Tomlinson and James Pulley Perfbyte podcast. Blog posts by Stuart Moncrieff too.
- Also if you truly want to become a performance engineer you will also need to read and learn about other fields (i.e. statistics, coding, tuning, networking, queueing, architecture, visualization, OS, soft skills etc). There are whole new categories of books to read, above and beyond the normal performance testing books. For example:
 - "Systems Performance: Enterprise and the Cloud" book by Brendan Gregg.
 - "The Art of Capacity Planning" by John Allspaw.
 - Java Performance Tuning (O'Reilly book)
 - Network Warrior by Gary Donahue
 - Understanding Linux Kernel by Marco Cesati
 - "The Visual Display of Quantitative Information" by Edward R. Tufte. Most of his book.
 - Books by Gerald Weinberg.
 - Introduction to General Critical Thinking
 - Psychology of Computer Programming.
 - "Statistics Done Wrong: The Woefully Complete Guide" by Alex Reinhart
 - "Flaws and Fallacies in Statistical Thinking" by Stephen Campbell
 - If you are dealing with IBM stack then reading through their Red Books. Same goes for Windows.

Neocortix Resources

- Hands-on experience with a new Performance Testing technology, Global Last-Mile Load Testing. You can try it for free, with a free account.:
 - <https://neocortix.com/load-test>
 - <https://neocortix.com/certifications>
 - <https://neocortix.com/tutorials>
 - <https://neocortix.com/performance-partner-program>