



VisWeek 09
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Visual Analysis of Malware Behavior

October 11th, 2009

About Us

- University of Mannheim, Germany



- Laboratory for Dependable Distributed Systems
- Security research:
 - Analysis of malware and spam
 - Honeypots / IT-Forensics



Motivation

- Sandbox Service - *CWSandbox.org*
- Dynamic malware analysis
 - API-Hooking
 - Monitors 121 API-Calls out of 20 sections
 - Detailed Behavior Report (XML)
- Up to 4000 new samples per day
- Manual processing not possible



Motivation

- What are the main Operations?
 - Network activities?
 - Registry access?
 - Filesystem operations?
 - ...
- Which operations do not occur?



Motivation

- What are the main Operations?
 - Network activities?
 - Registry access?
 - Filesystem operations?
 - ...
- Which operations do not occur?

Which samples are of interest?



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```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<!-- This analysis was created by CWSandbox (c) CWSE GmbH / Sunbelt Software-->
<analysis cwsversion="2.1.6" time="3/28/2009 10:06:45 PM" file="C:\1265393" md5="a9f6aa1649e6a0f1bfad8a576f0193a0"
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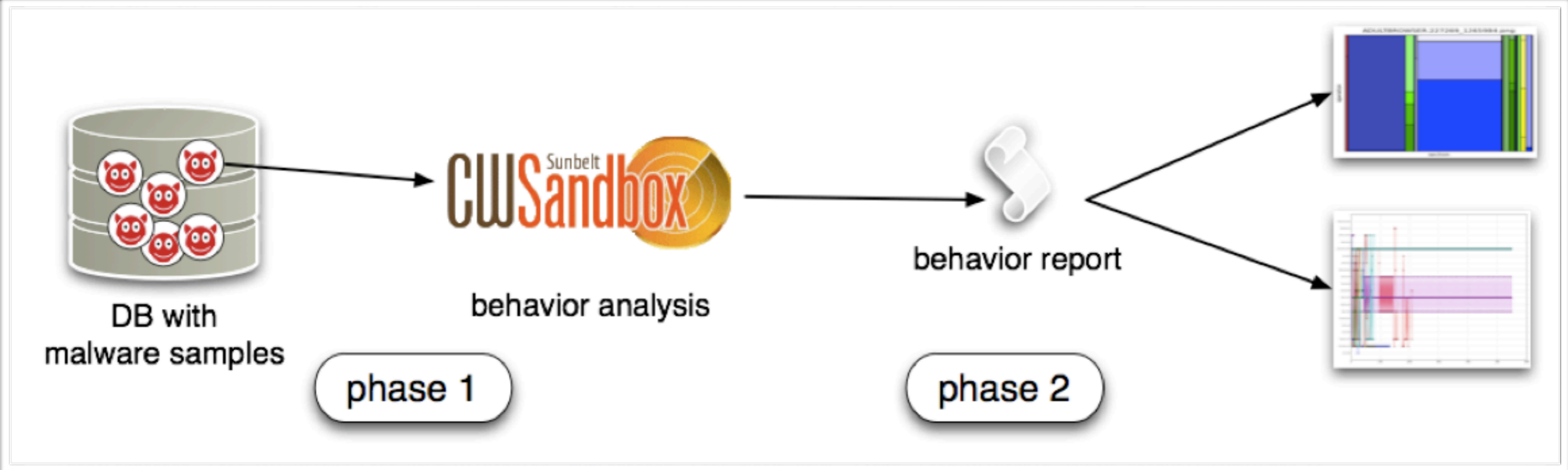
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```



```

1265393.xml
<open_key key="HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Command Processor"/>
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shareaccess="FILE_SHARE_READ FILE_SHARE_WRITE" flags="FILE_ATTRIBUTE_NORMAL SECURITY_ANONYMOUS"/>

```



```

<open_key key="HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\WPA\TabletPC"/>
<open_key key="HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\WPA\MediaCenter"/>
<query_value key="HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\WPA\MediaCenter" value="Installed"/>
<open_file filetype="file" srcfile="\Device\NamedPipe\ShimViewer" srcfile_hash="hash_error" creationdistribution="OPEN_EXISTING"
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<open_key key="HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\AppCompatFlags\Custom\attrib.exe"/>
<load_dll filename="C:\WINDOWS\system32\VERSION.dll" successful="1" address="&#x24;77BD0000" end_address="&#x24;77BD8000" size="32768"

```

Line: 1 Column: 1 XML Tab Size: 4

Visualization

- CWSandbox report is “too” detailed
- Use visualization for abstraction
 - Simple to create
 - Comprehensible
- Treemaps and Threadgraphs
- Static version (Python, matplotlib)
- Dynamic version using JavaScript (flot, Jit)

Treemaps

- Quick overview
- Displays the distribution of all operations
- No information about the sequence of operations
- Use case: Malware clustering





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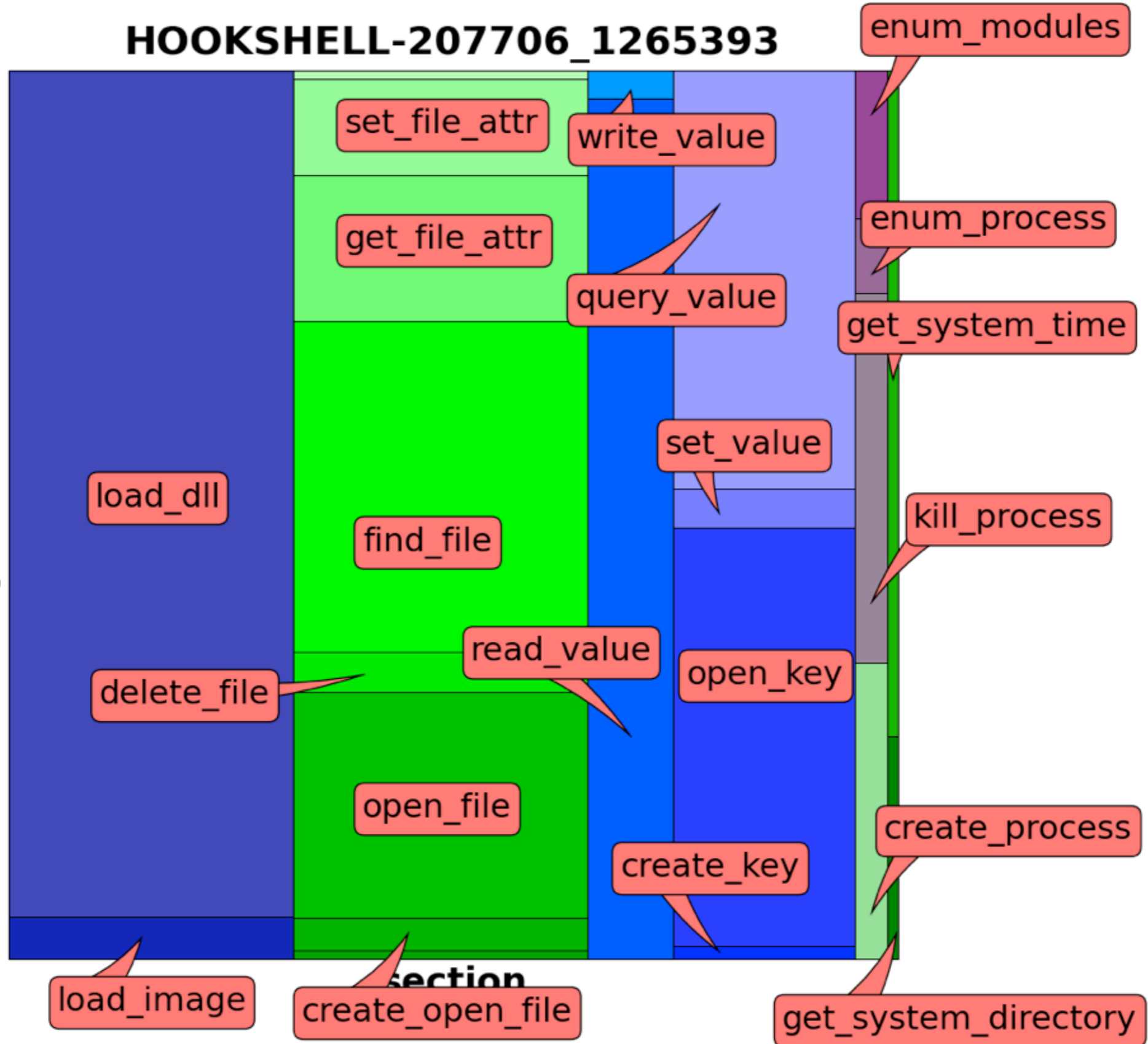
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load_dll	open_file					
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	find_file				query_value	get_value
		write_value				

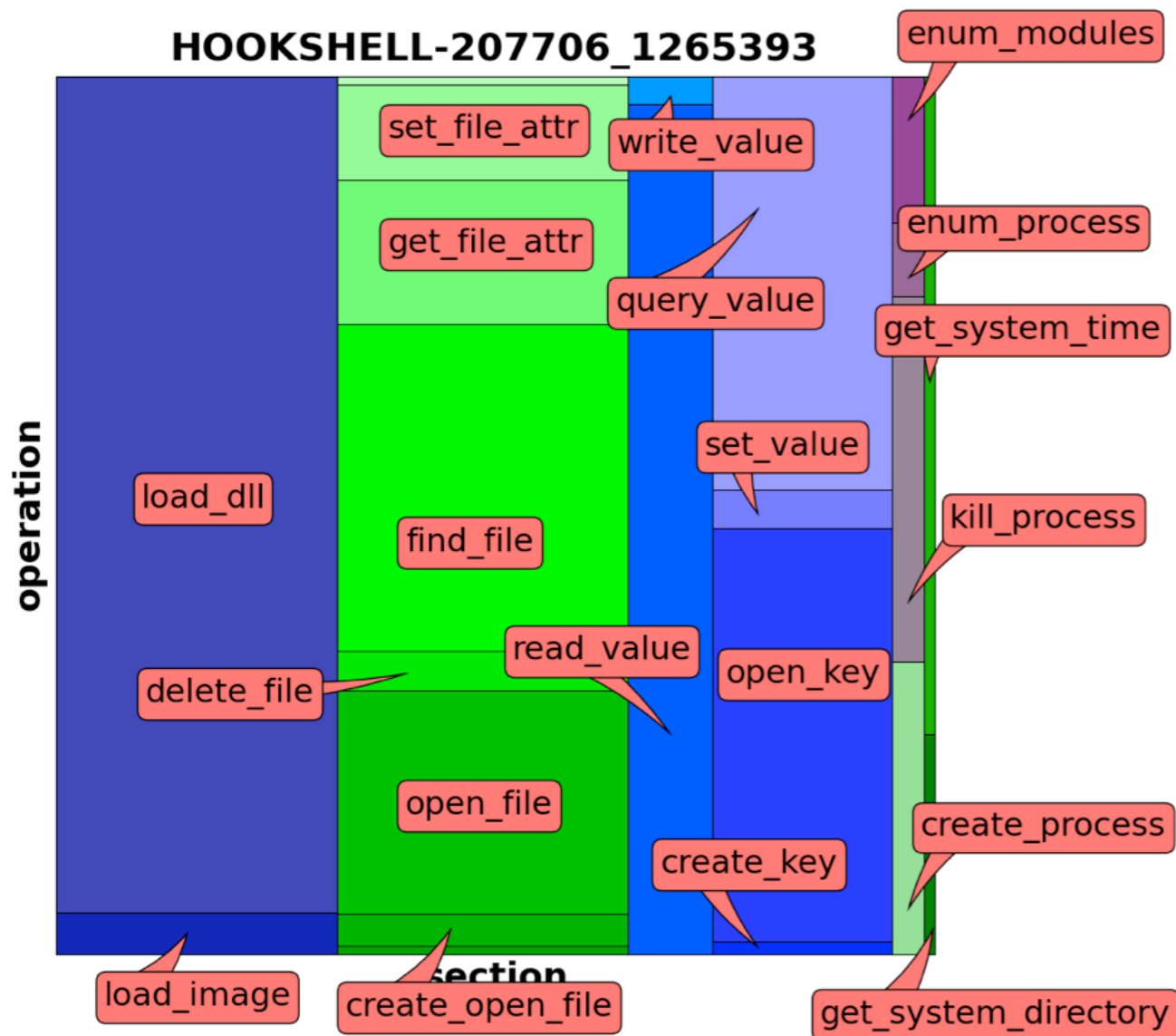
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HOOKSHELL-207706_1265393

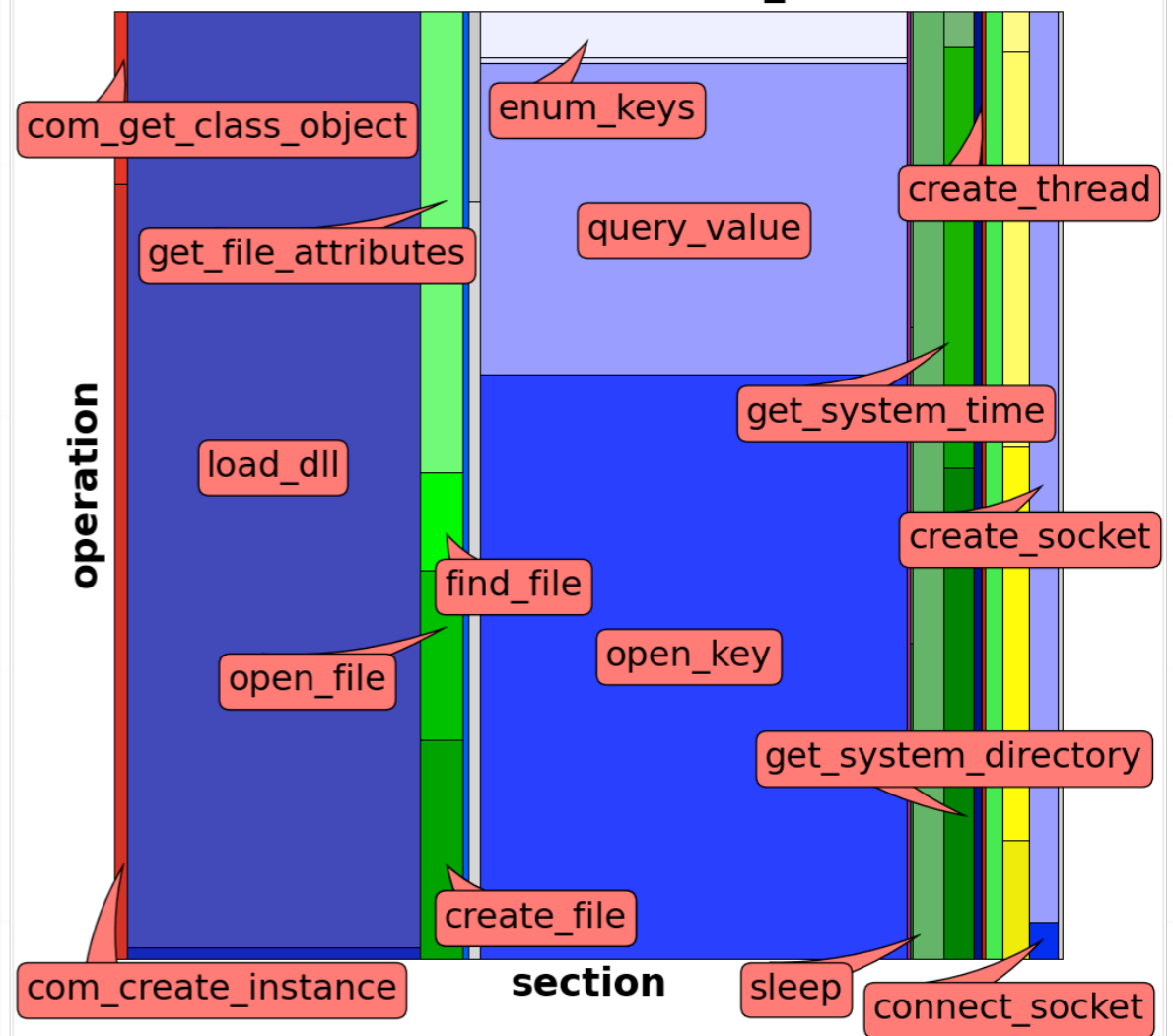
operation



HOOKSHELL-207706_1265393



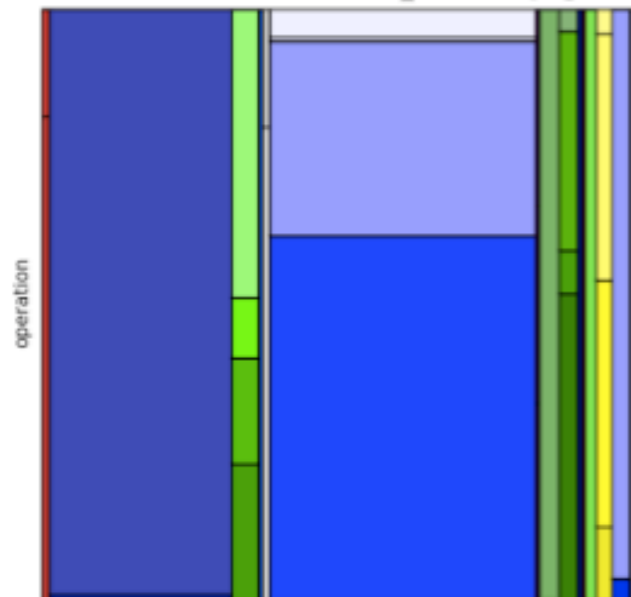
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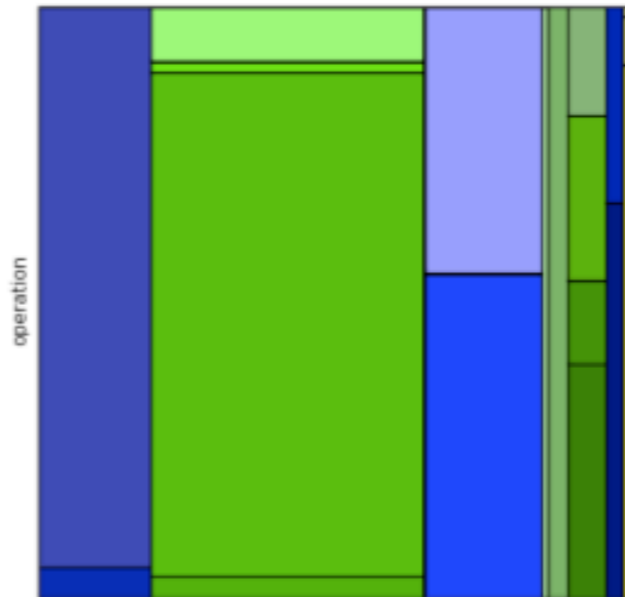
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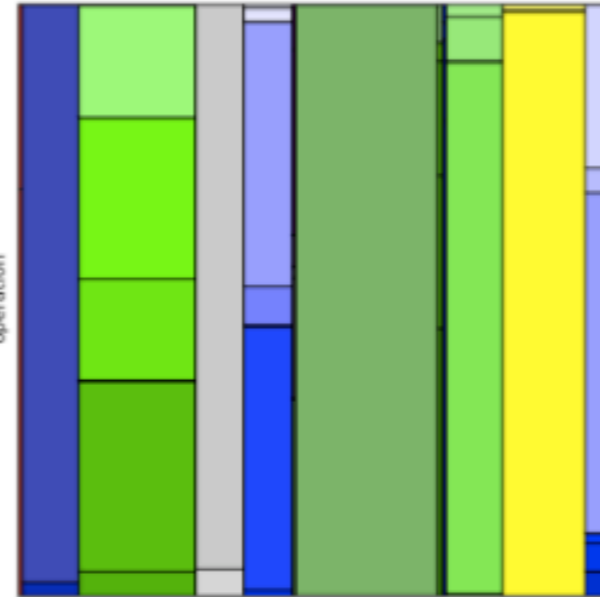
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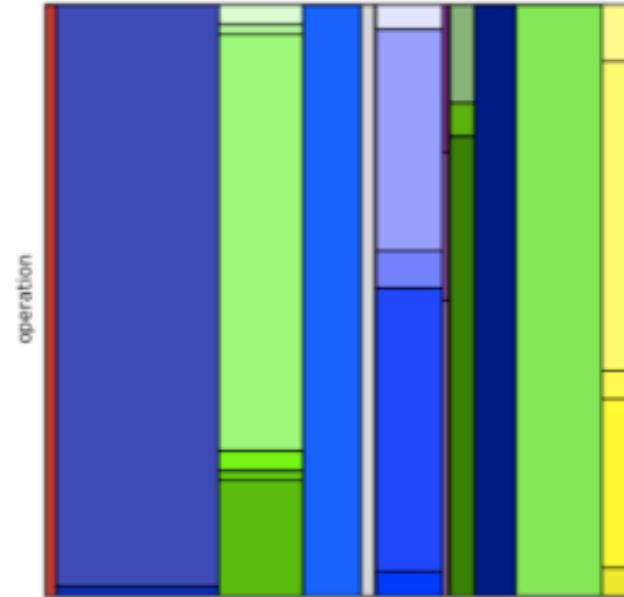
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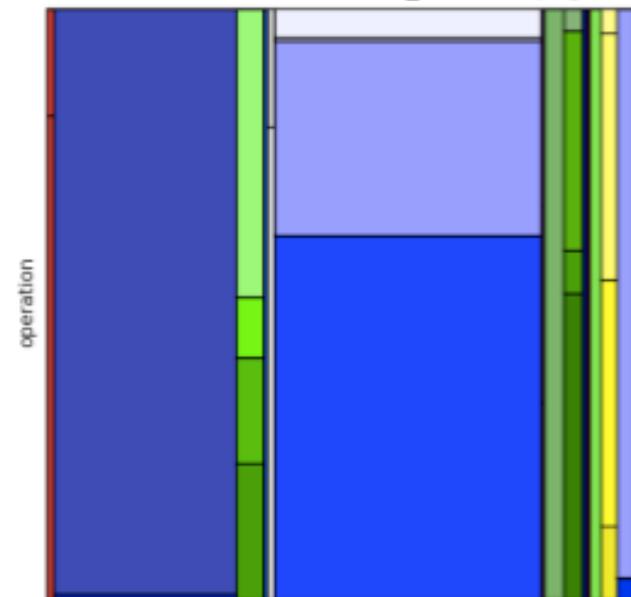
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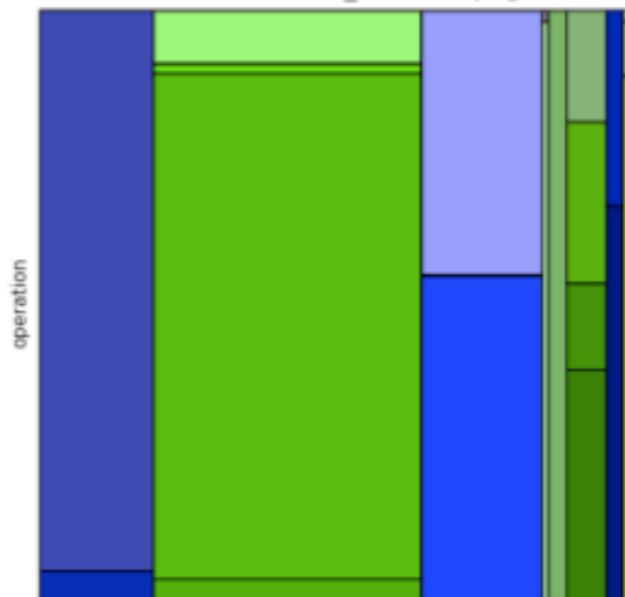
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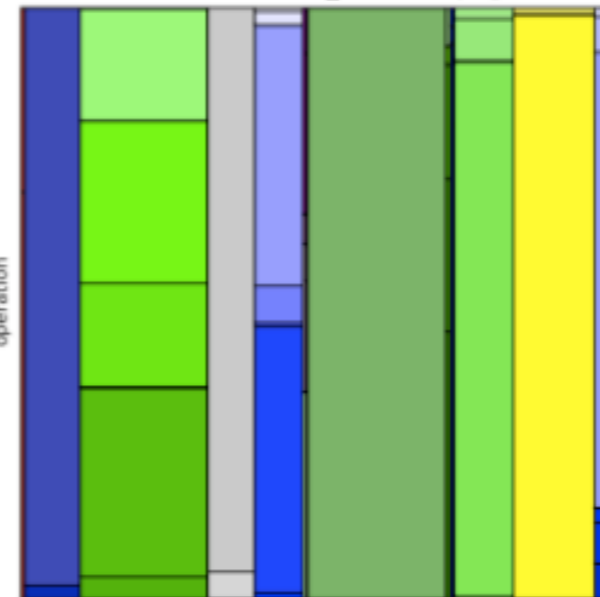
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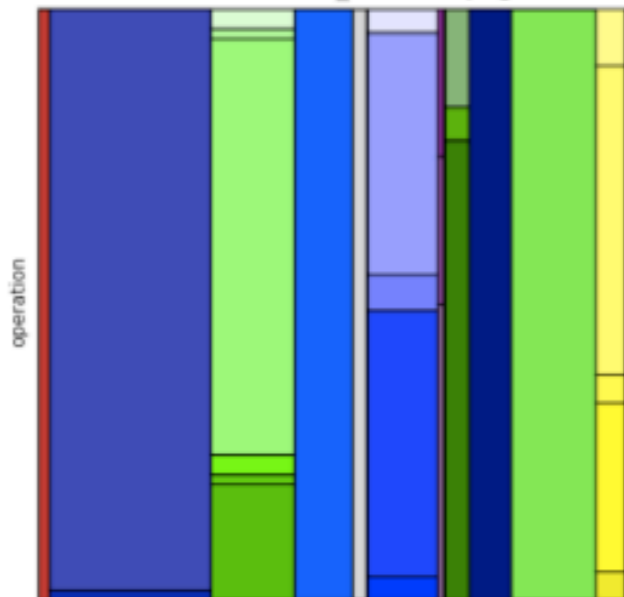
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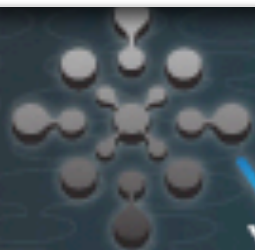


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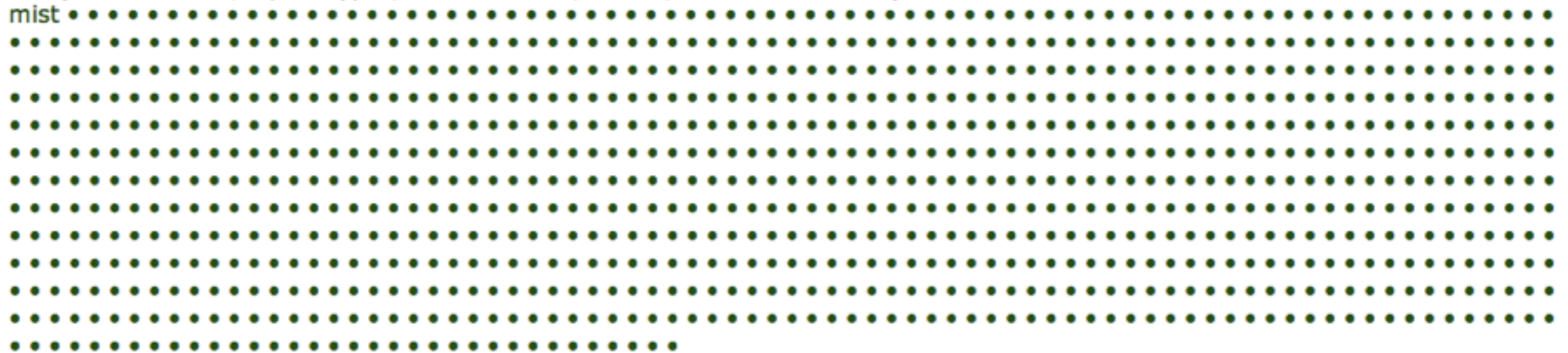


section



Assignments

Cluster 1 (968 members, 3 prototypes, 23.6% of data, 1 label, 23.6% cumulative)



Cluster 2 (298 members, 8 prototypes, 7.3% of data, 1 label, 30.8% cumulative)



Cluster 3 (184 members, 2 prototypes, 4.5% of data, 1 label, 35.3% cumulative)



Cluster 4 (178 members, 2 prototypes, 4.3% of data, 1 label, 39.6% cumulative)



Cluster 5 (145 members, 1 prototypes, 3.5% of data, 1 label, 43.1% cumulative)



Cluster 6 (134 members, 3 prototypes, 3.3% of data, 1 label, 46.4% cumulative)



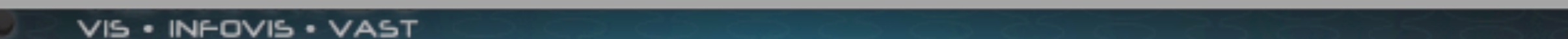
Cluster 7 (133 members, 1 prototypes, 3.2% of data, 1 label, 49.6% cumulative)



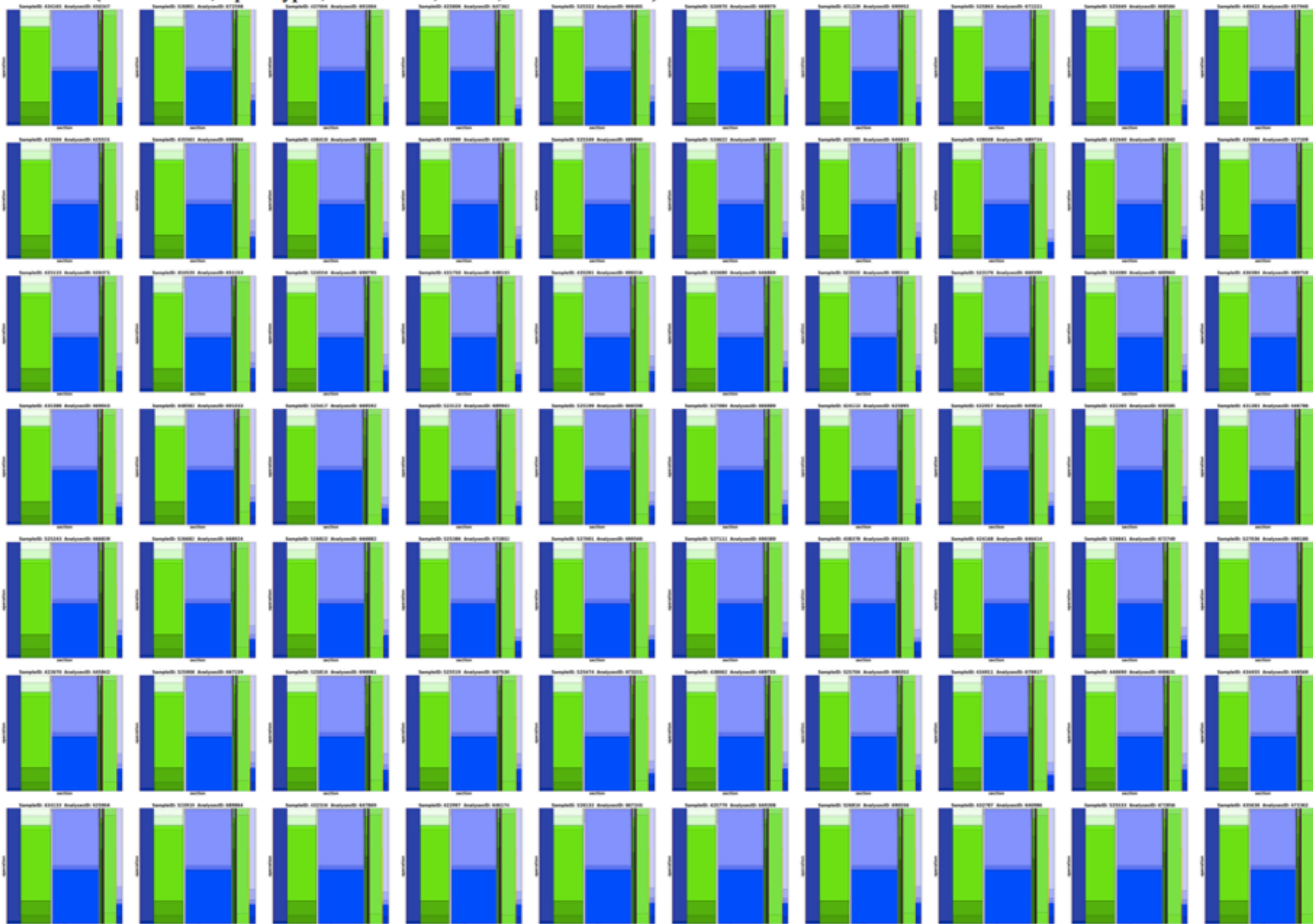
Cluster 8 (123 members, 4 prototypes, 3.0% of data, 1 label, 52.6% cumulative)



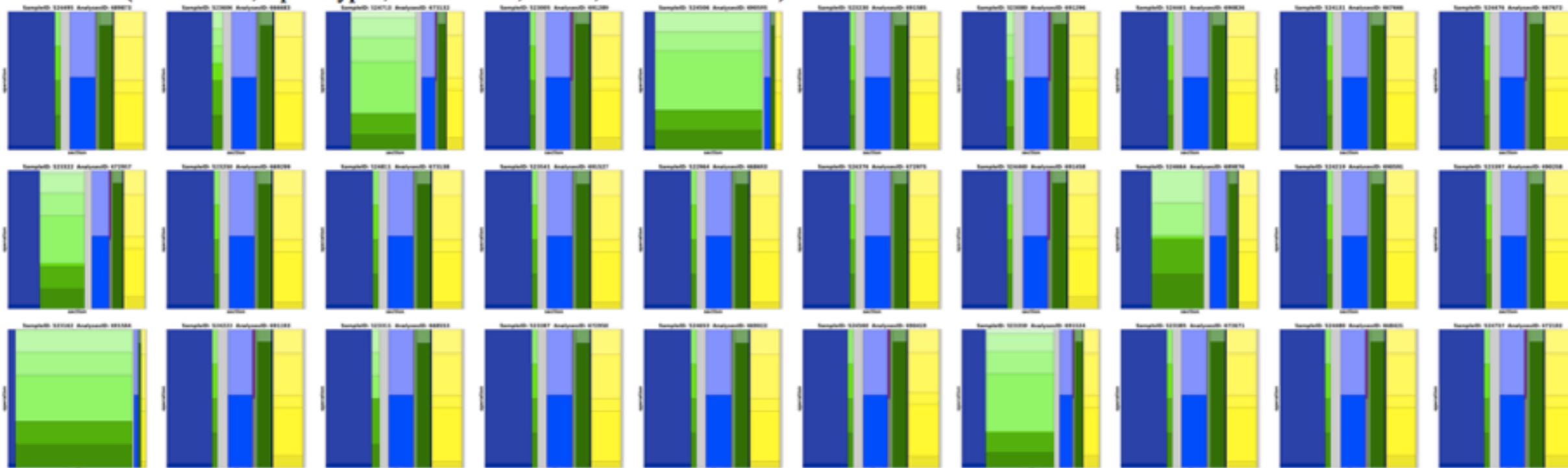
Cluster 9 (102 members, 2 prototypes, 2.5% of data, 1 label, 55.1% cumulative)



• Cluster 5 (145 members, 1 prototypes, 3.5% of data, 1 label, 43.1% cumulative)



• Cluster 17 (30 members, 5 prototypes, 0.7% of data, 1 label, 64.6% cumulative)



Threadgraph

- Detailed view of the monitored behavior
- Every monitored operation of all executed threads
- Sequential order preserved

- Truncated Reports only (static version)
- Zoom necessary (JavaScript)

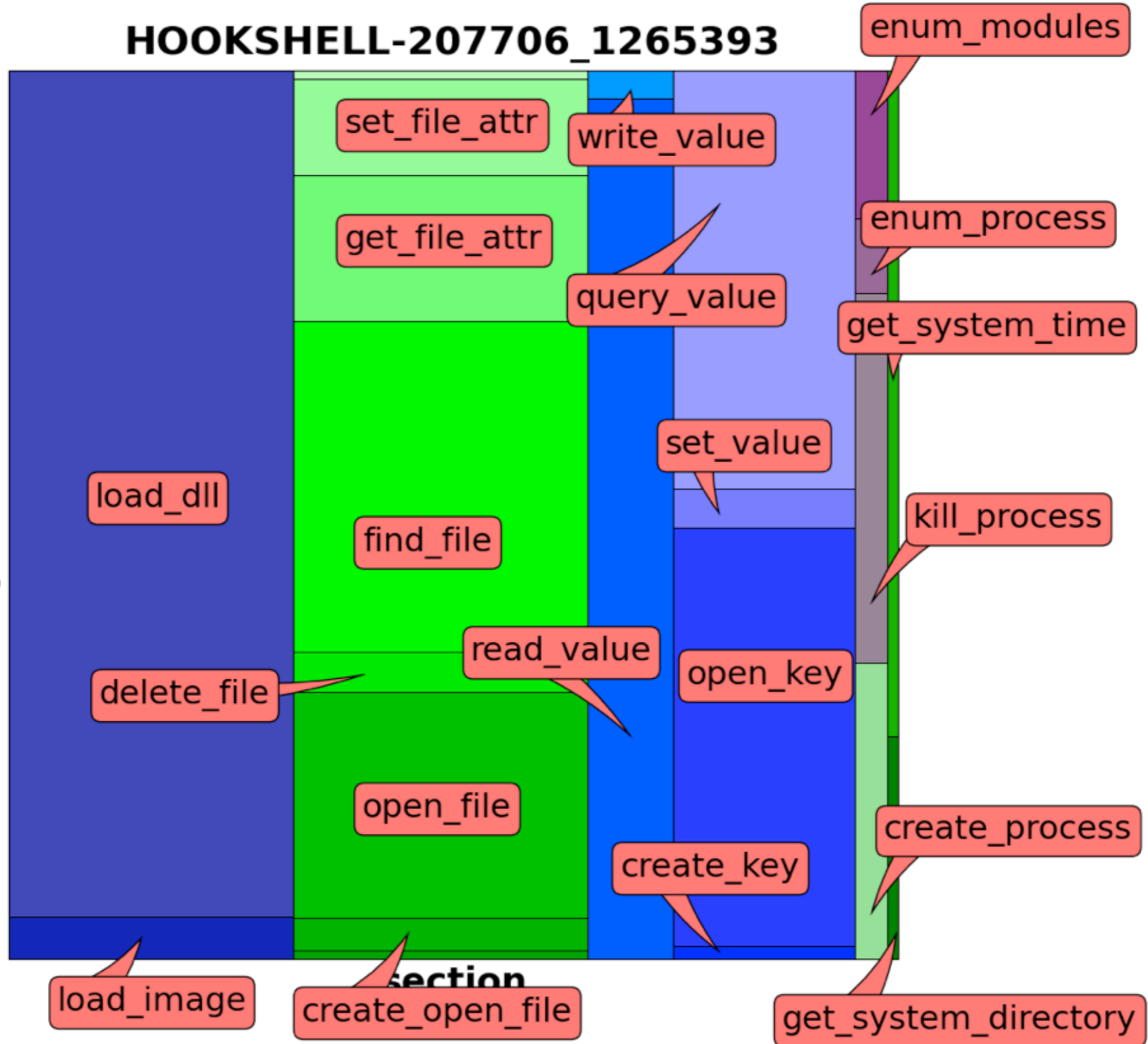


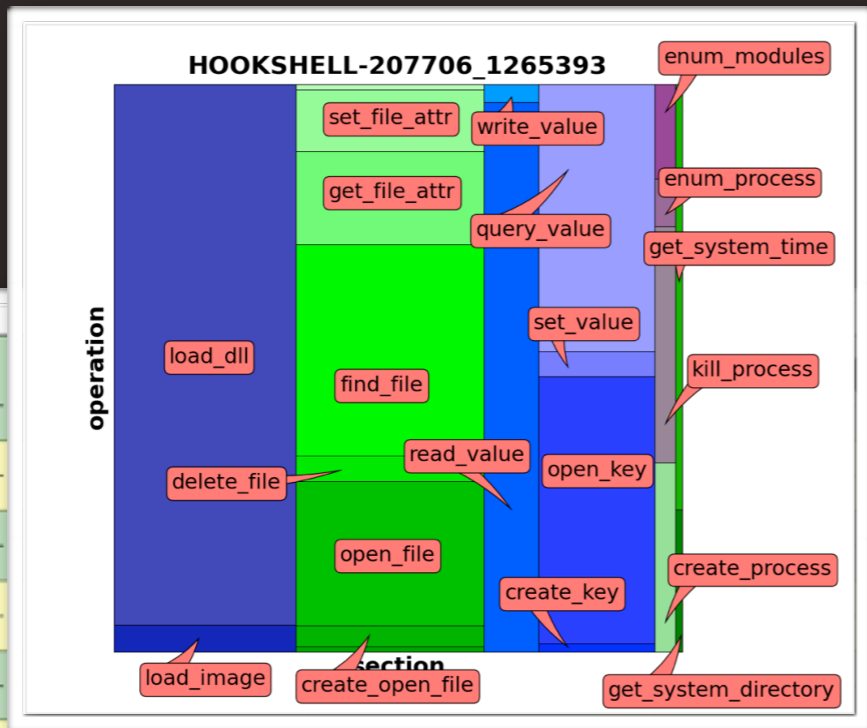


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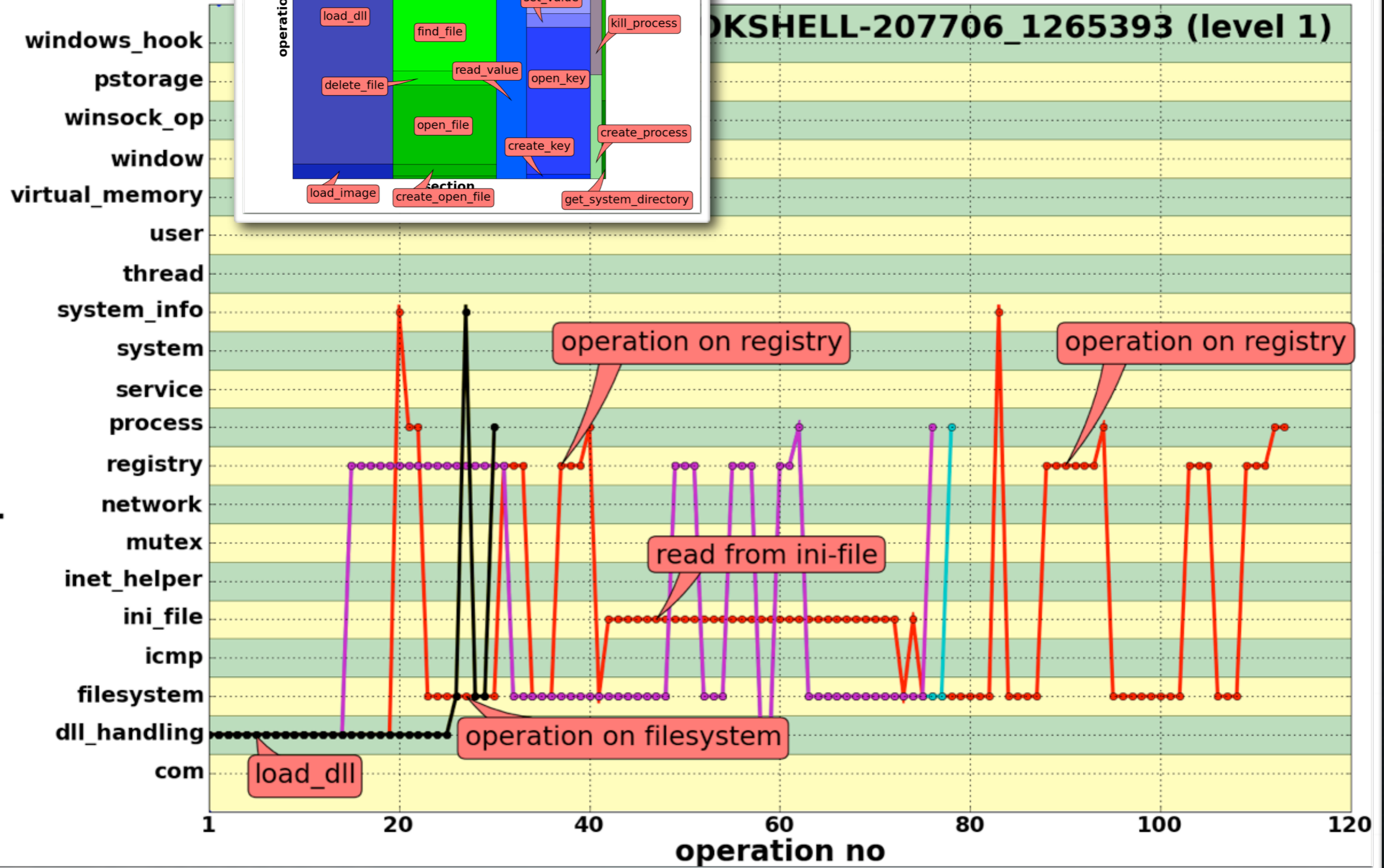
HOOKSHELL-207706_1265393

operation



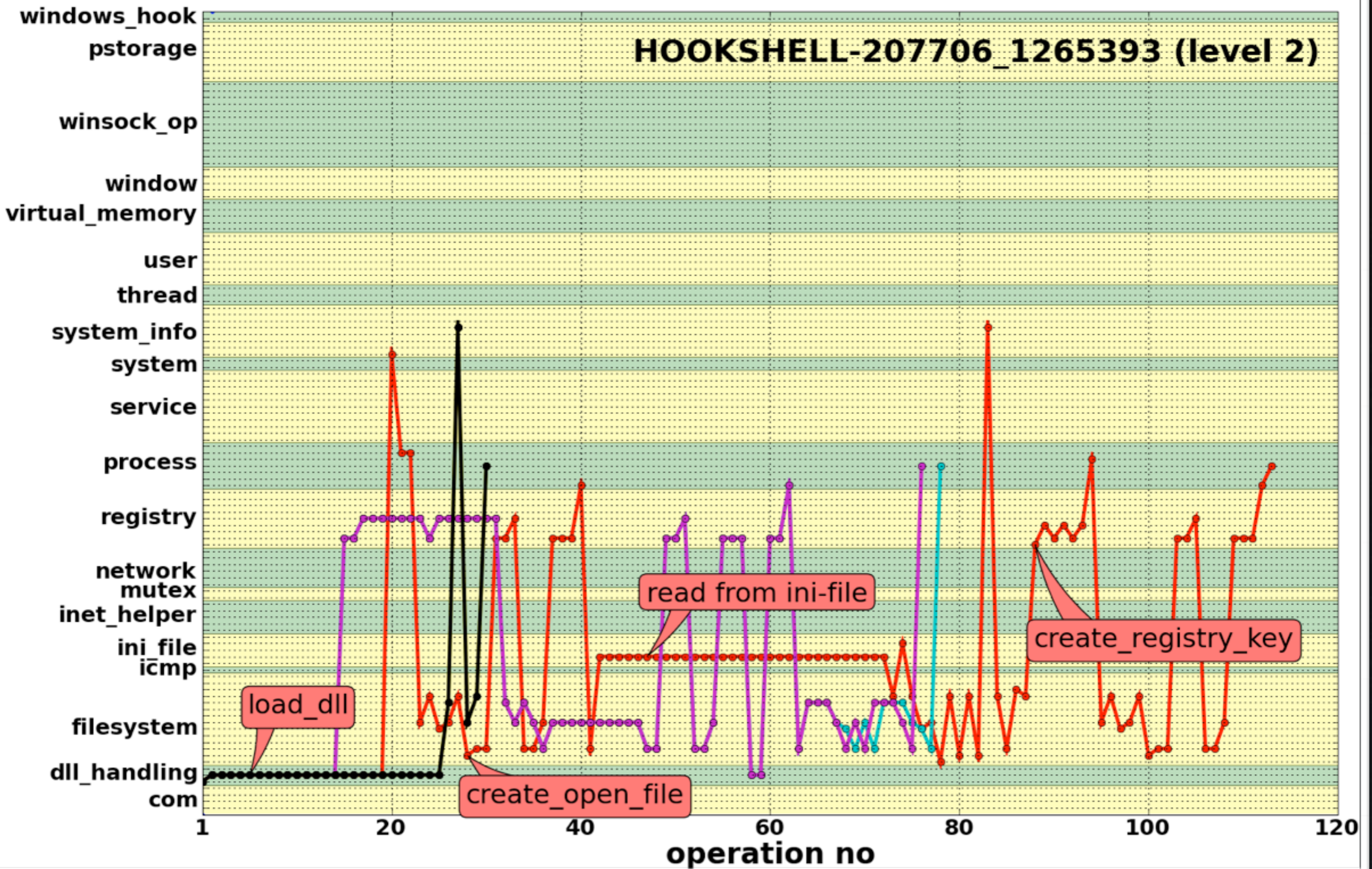


api-call sections



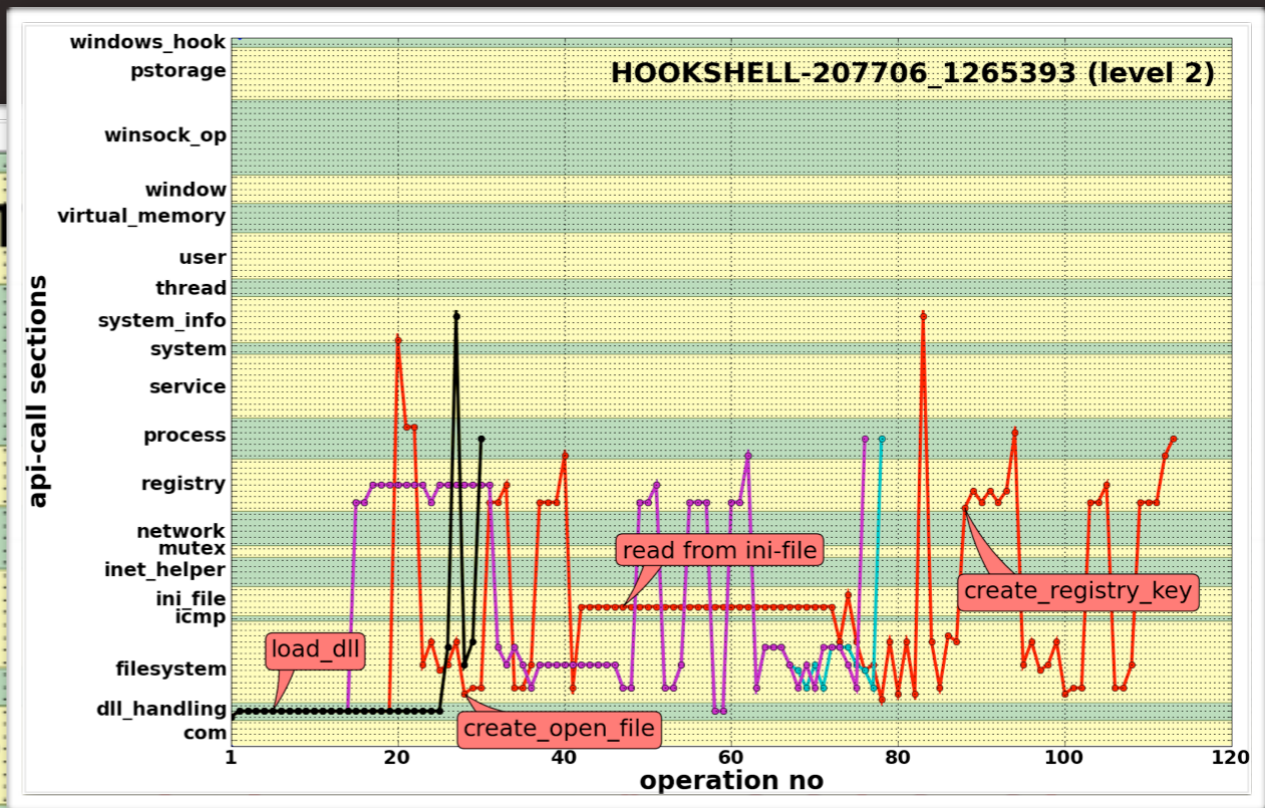
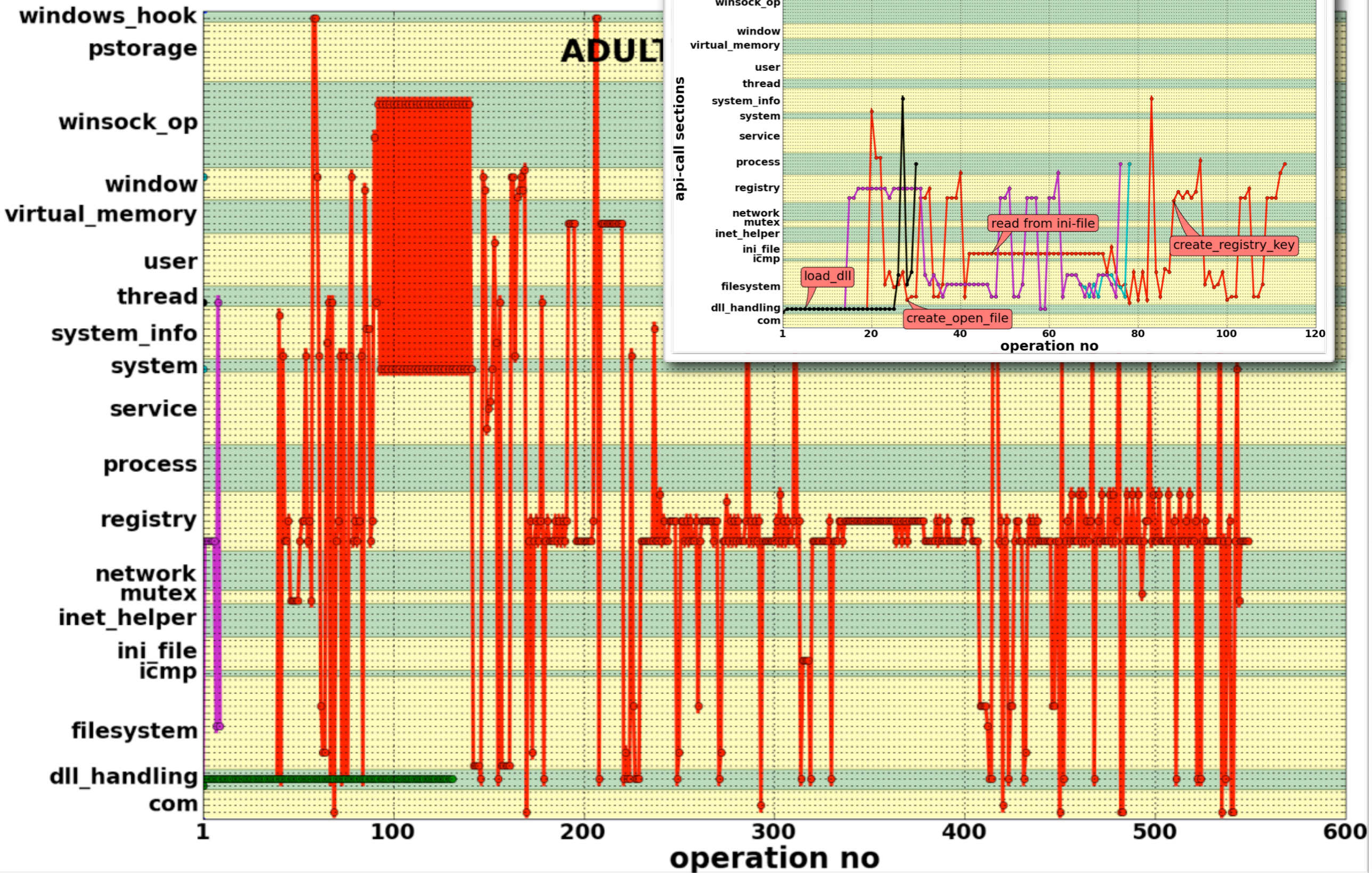
HOOKSHELL-207706_1265393 (level 2)

api-call sections



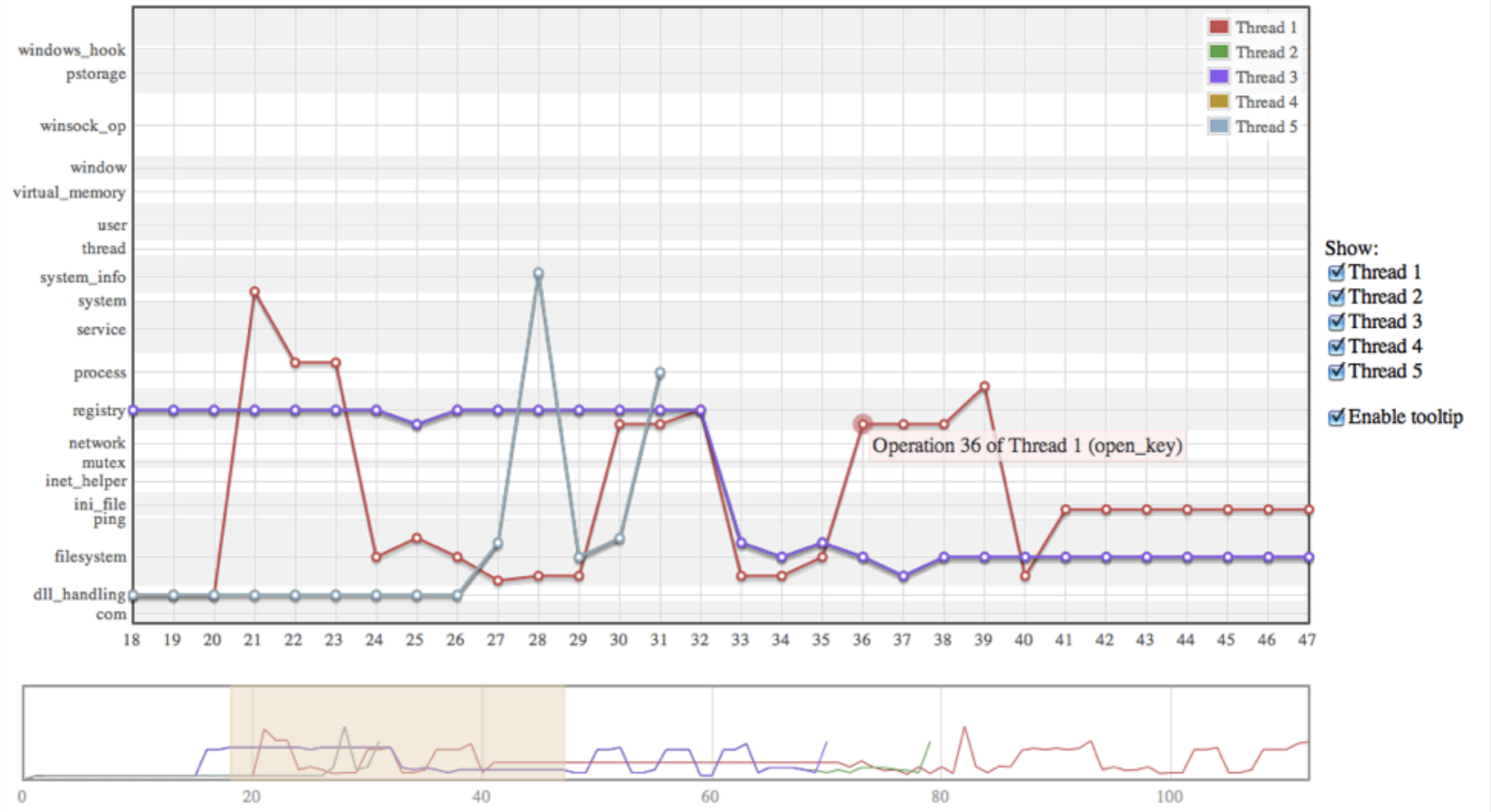
api-call sections

ADULT



Threadgraph of SampleID: 129956 AnalysesID: 665508 (level2)

< open_key key = HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\AppCompatFlags\Layers />



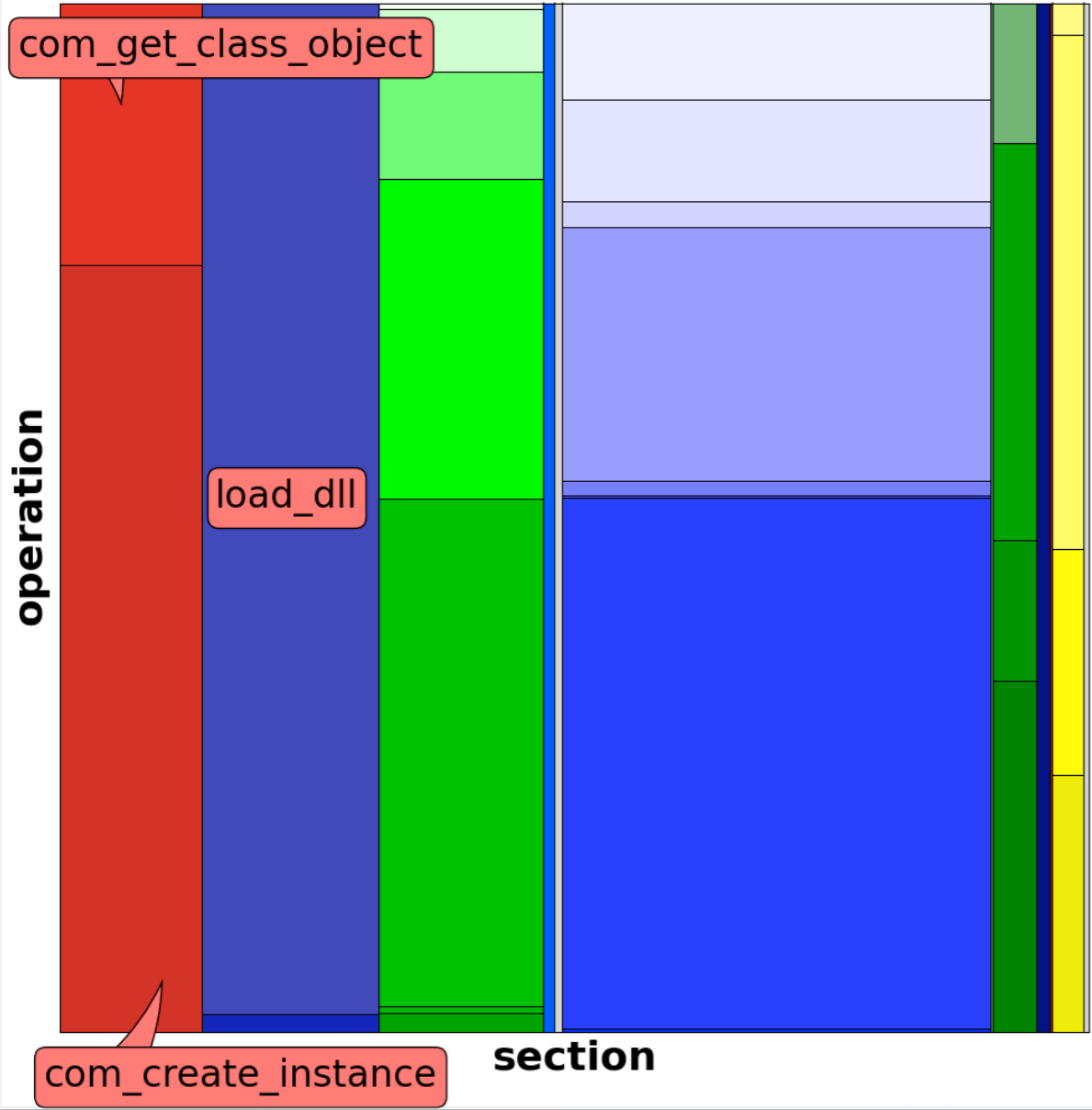
Analysis of malicious PDFs

- Monitor Adobe Acrobat Reader within CWSandbox
- Autoupdate disabled
- Short experiment:
 - 200 benign PDFs
 - 17 malicious PDFs
- Two different Treemaps
- Malicious operations are observable at once

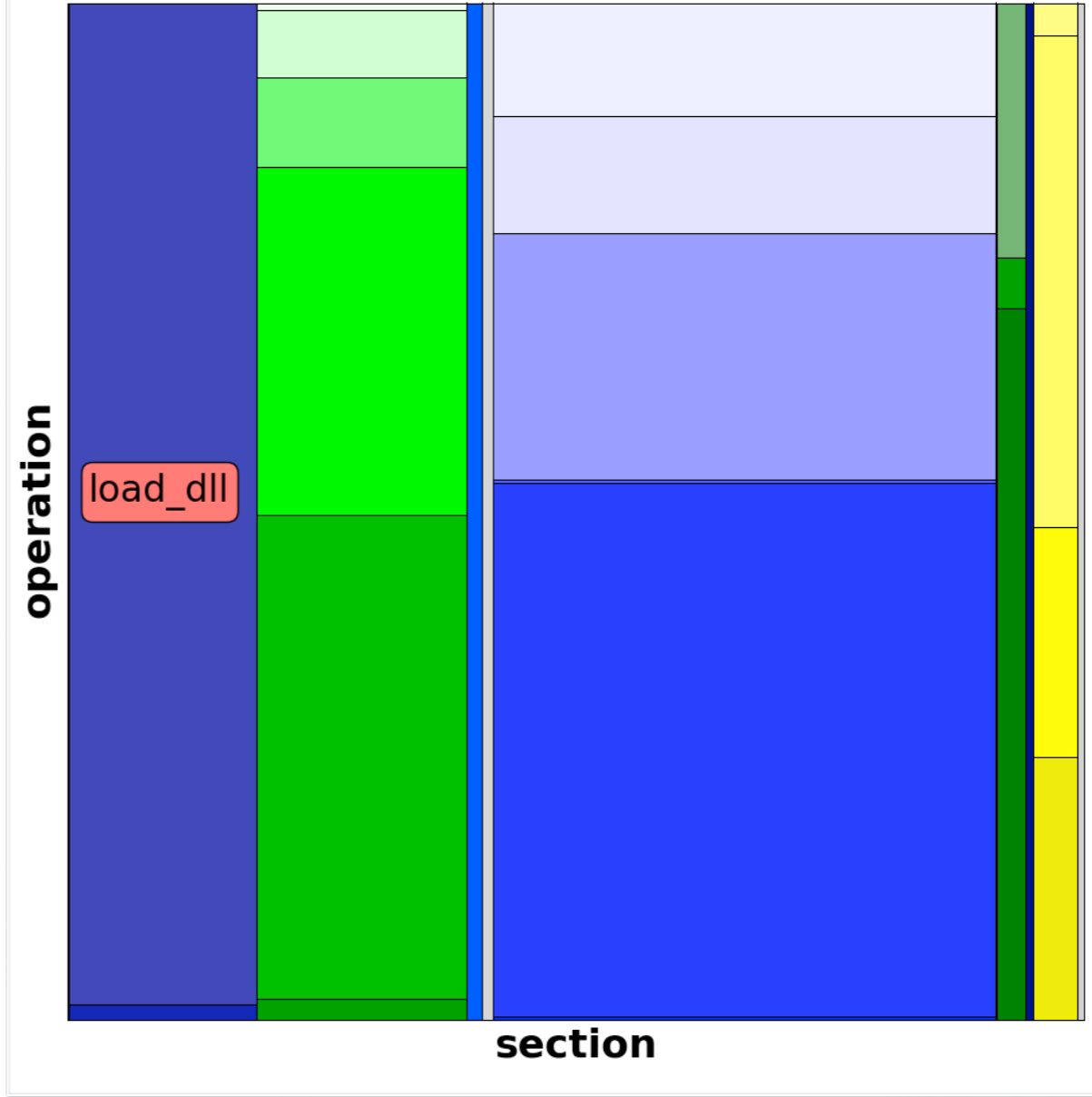


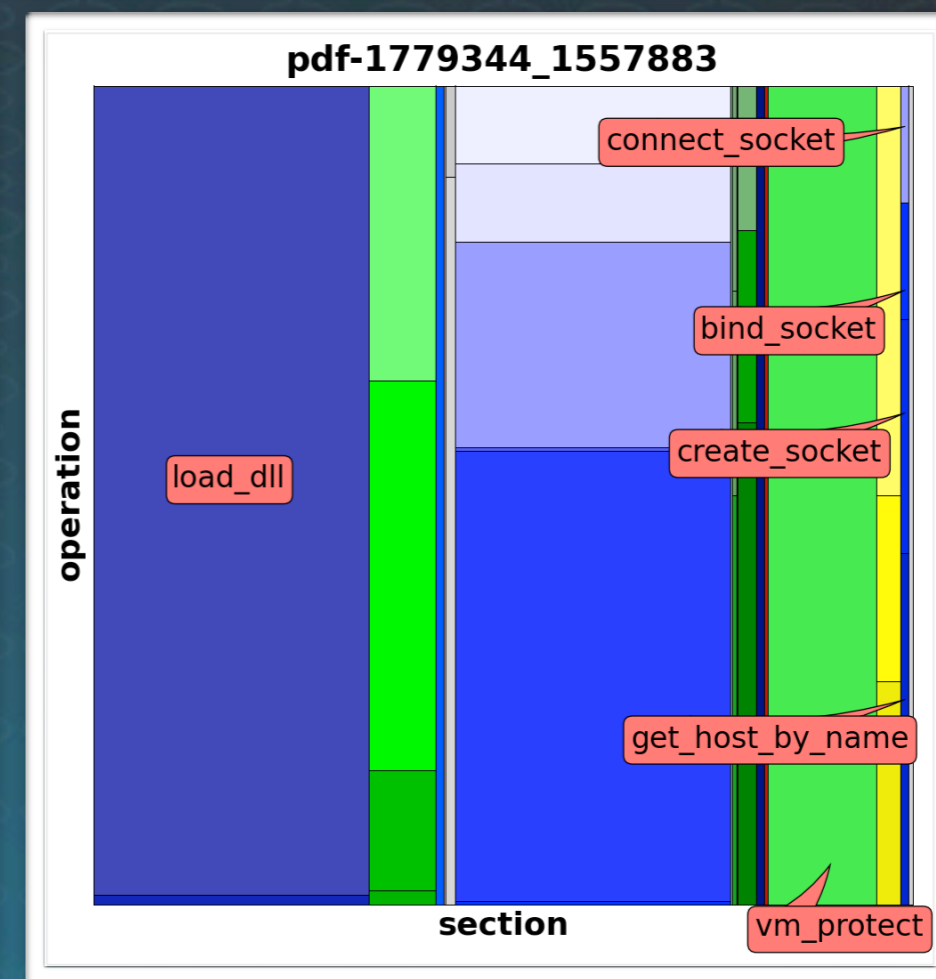
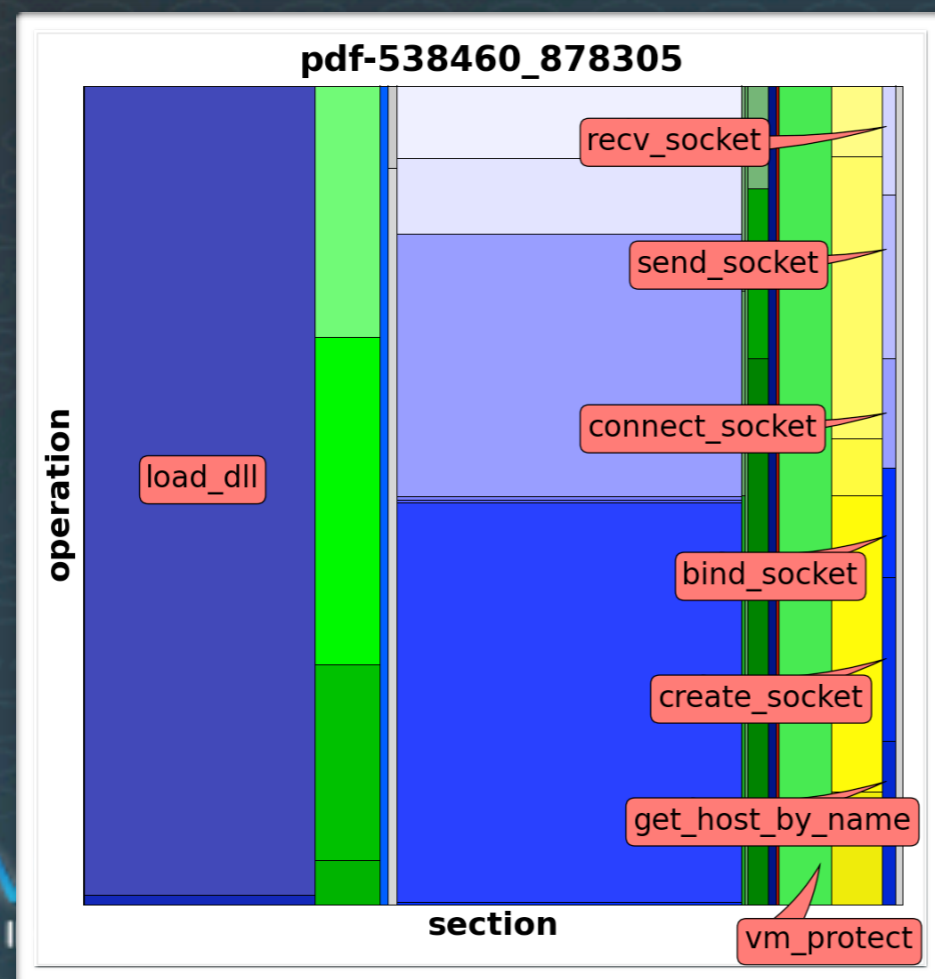
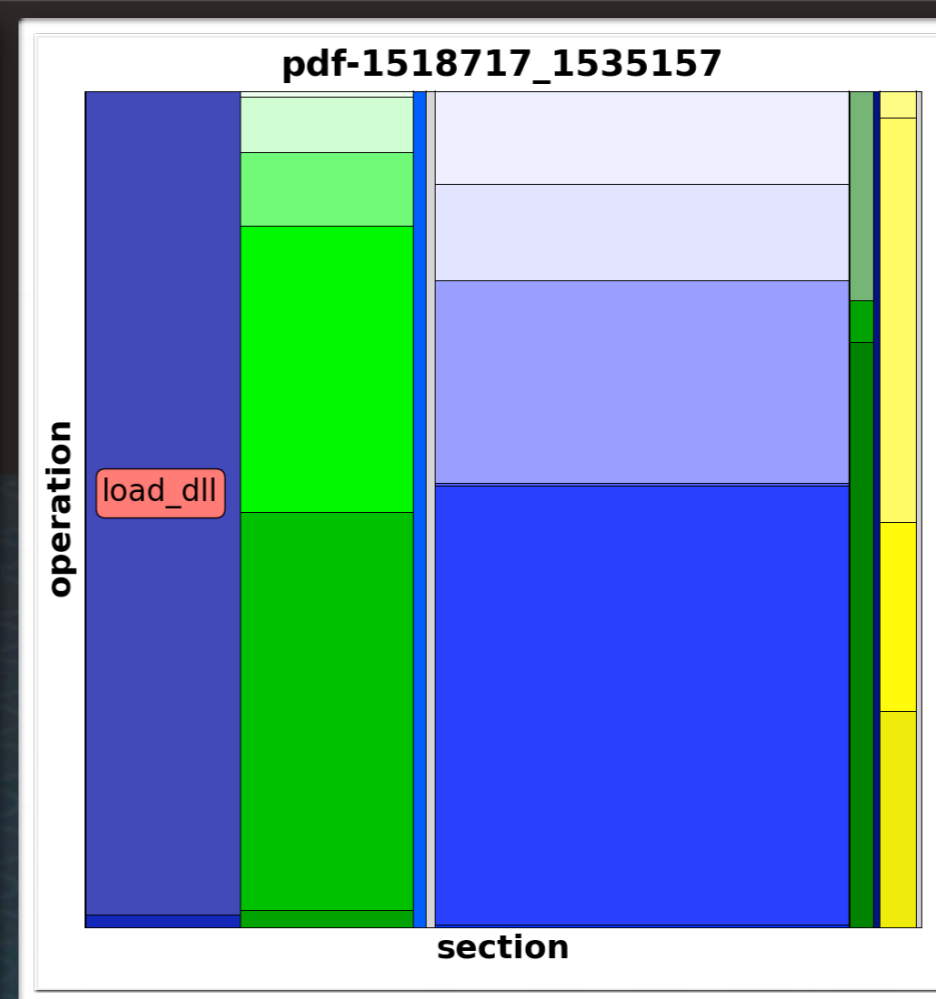
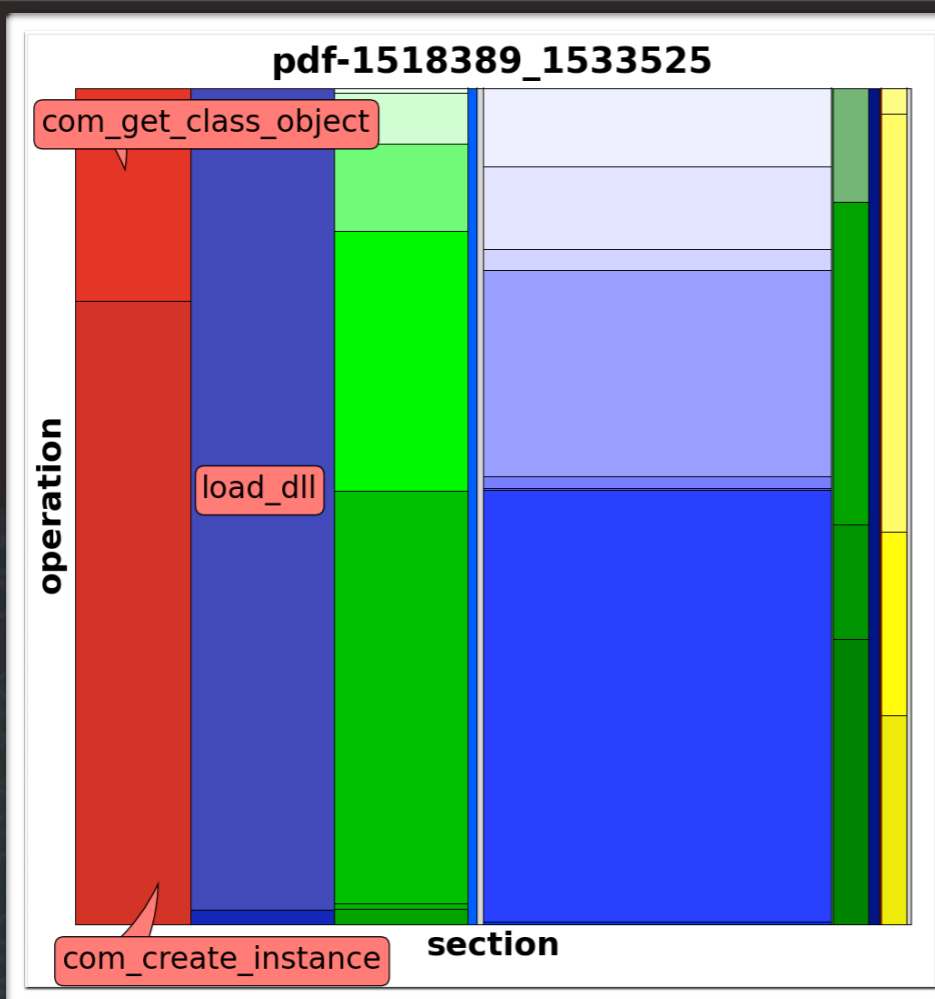
VisWeek 09
VIS • INFOVIS • VAST

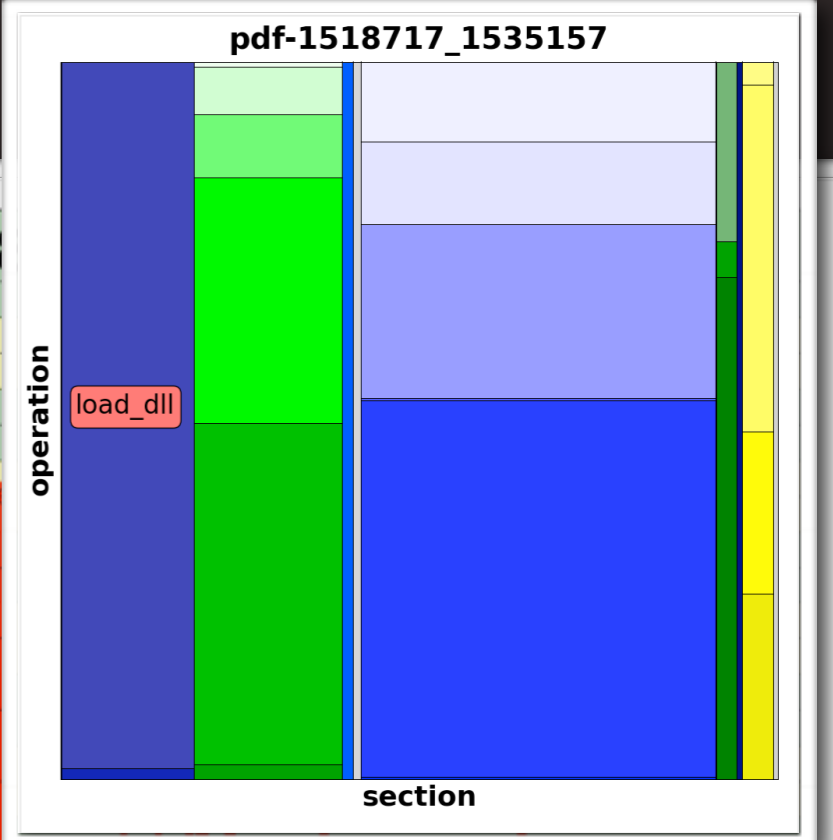
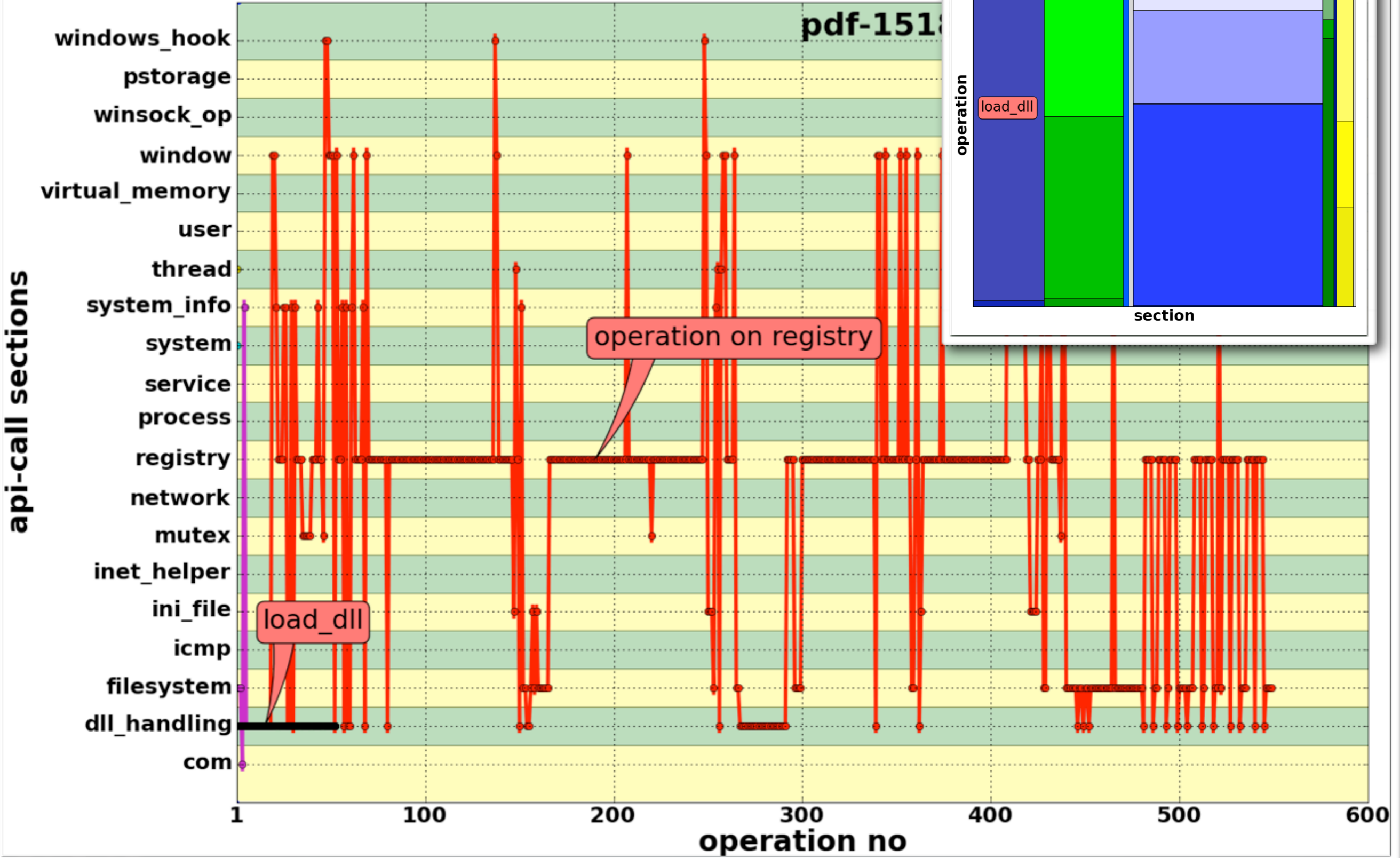
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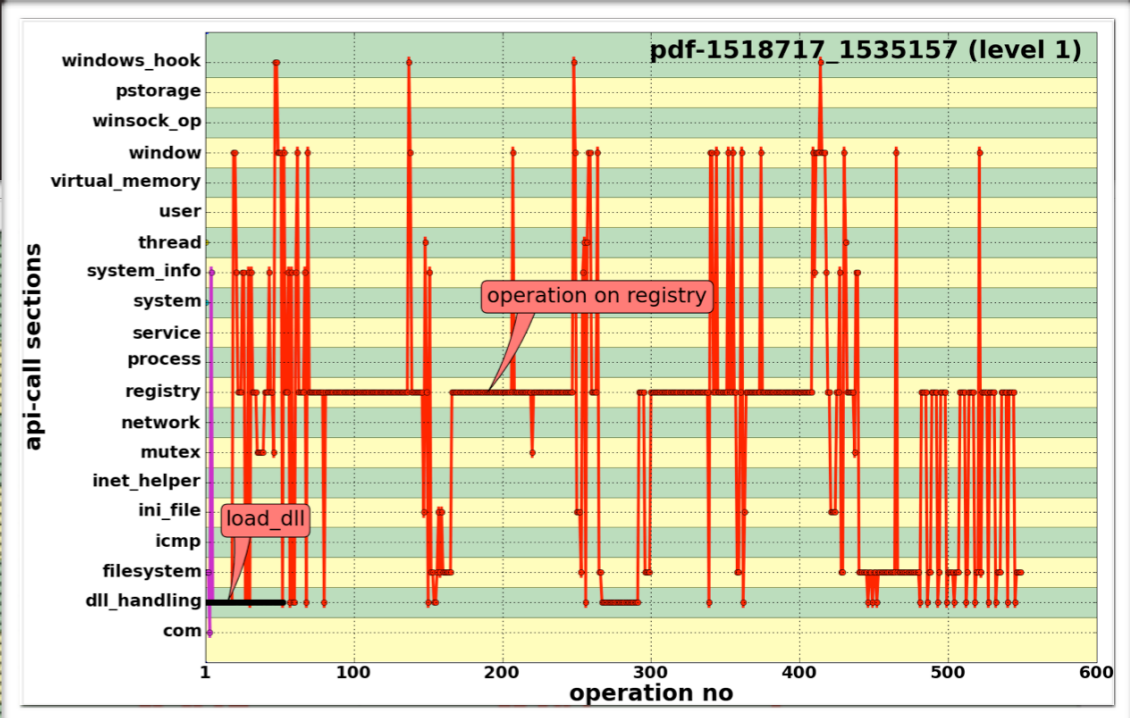
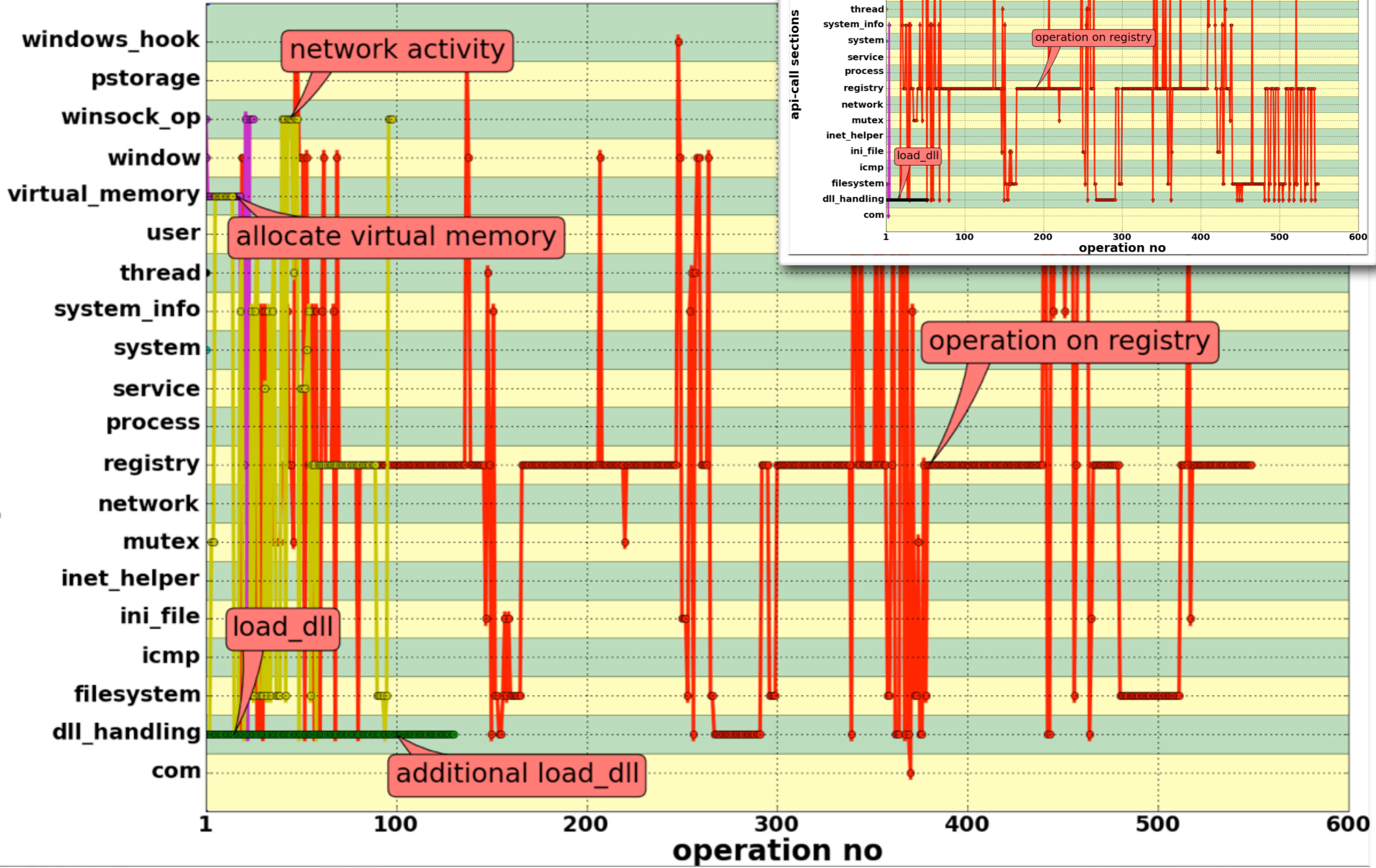
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api-call sections



Conclusion

- First attempt on visualization - need Feedback
- Plots are accessible on *CWSandbox.org*
 - Static + JavaScript version
- Study on image clustering and classification
- Development of further visualization types

<http://pi1.informatik.uni-mannheim.de>
<http://cwsandbox.org>



Questions?

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