VM Warmup Blows Hot and Cold






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Software Development Team
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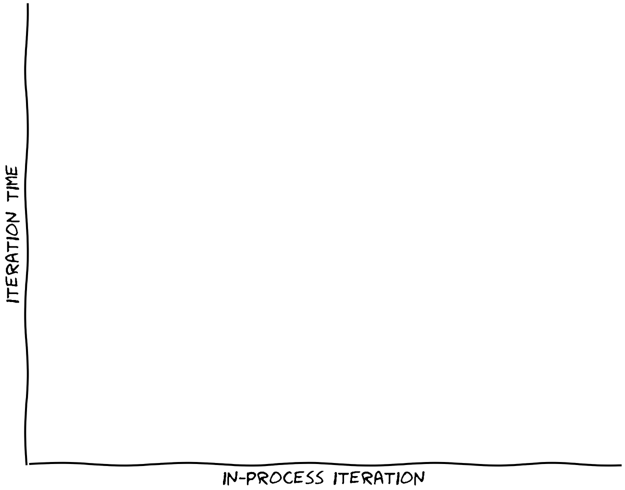
What's 'Warmup"?



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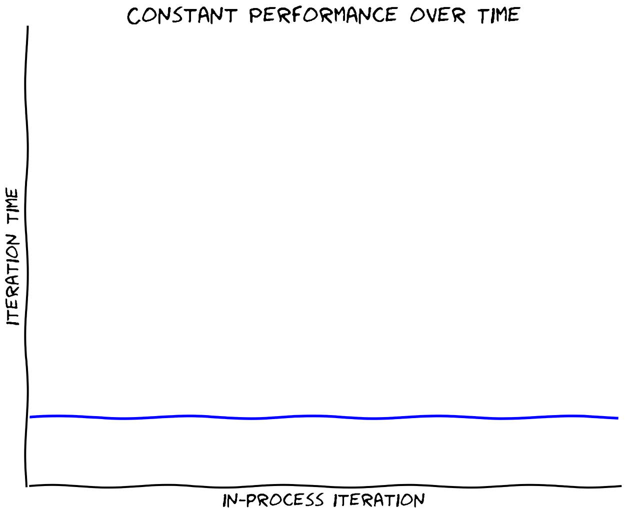
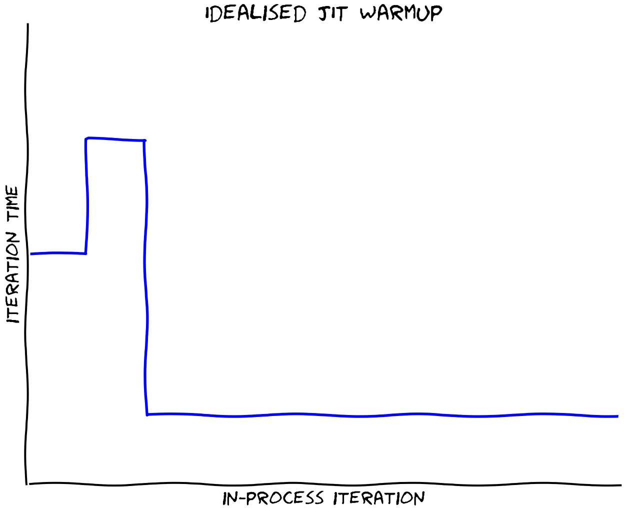
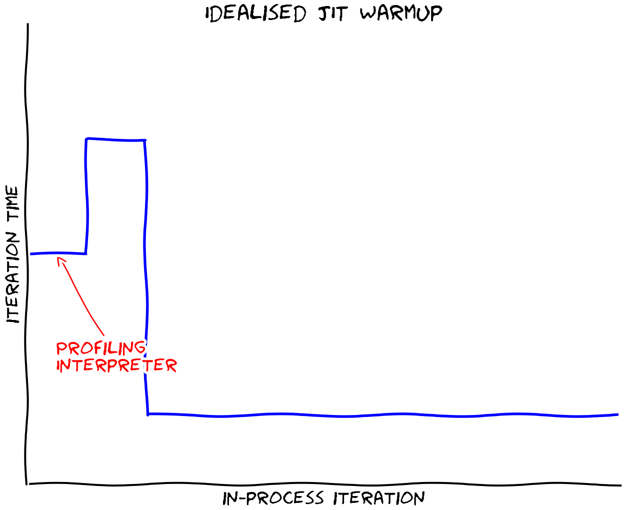


With a JIT

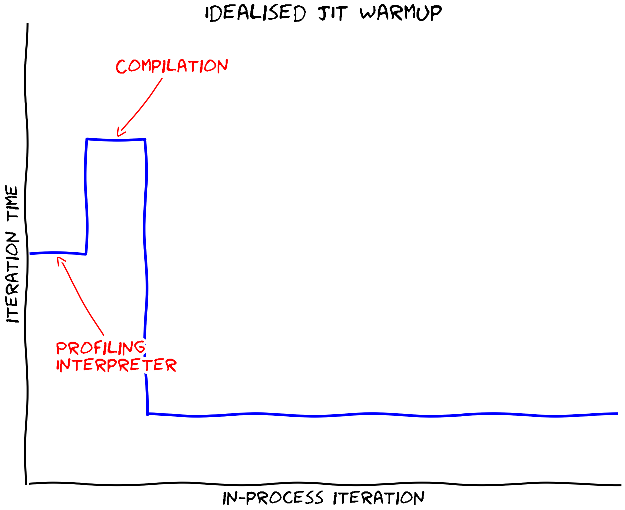


With a JIT

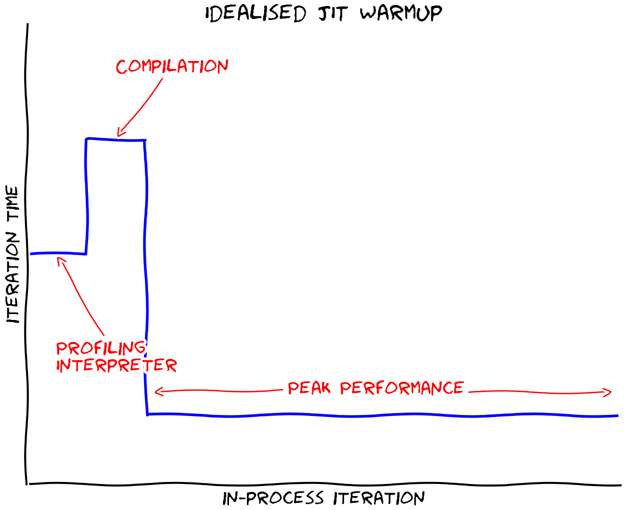


IDEALISED JIT WARMUP
ITERATION TIME
PROFILING
INTERPRETER
IN-PROCESS ITERATION

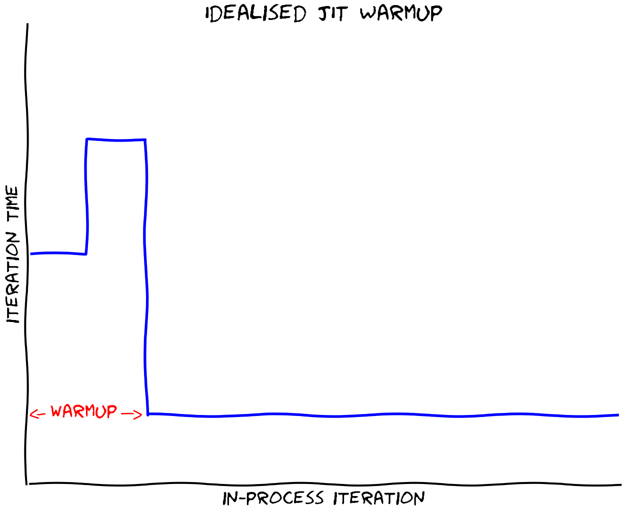
With a JIT

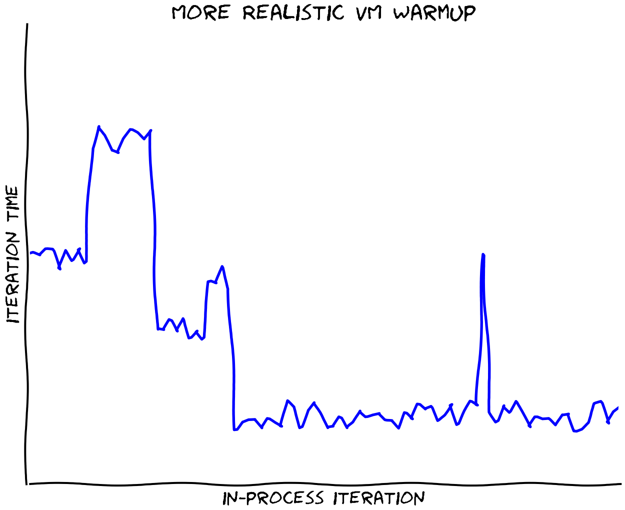

IDEALISED JIT WARMUP
COMPILATION
ITERATION TIME
PROFILING
INTERPRETER
IN-PROCESS ITERATION

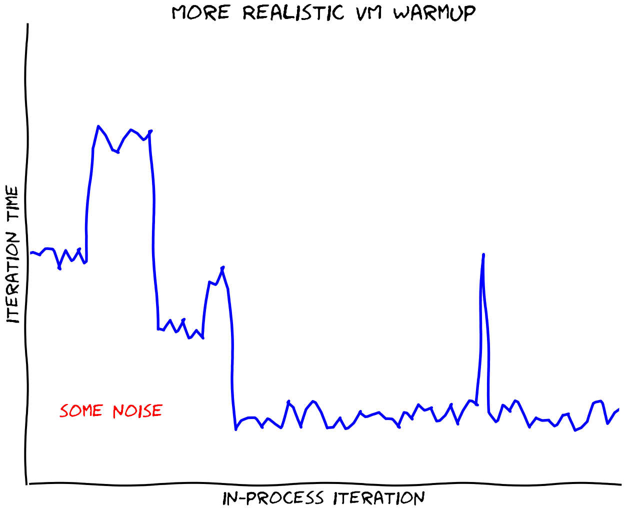
With a JIT

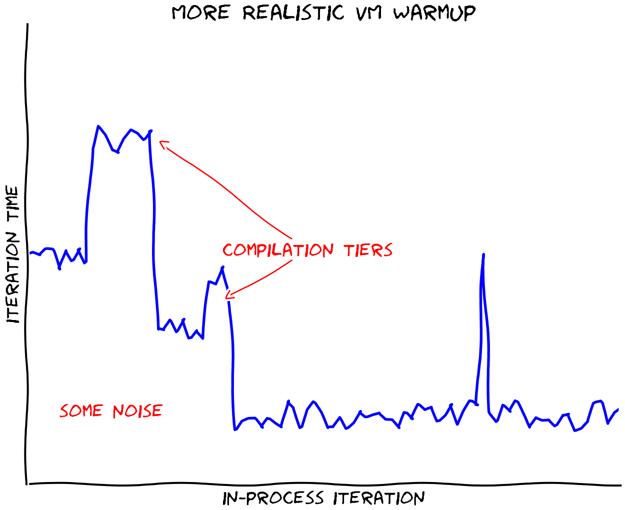

IDEALISED JIT WARMUP
COMPILATION
ITERATION TIME
PROFILING
INTERPRETER
PEAK PERFORMANCE
IN-PROCESS ITERATION

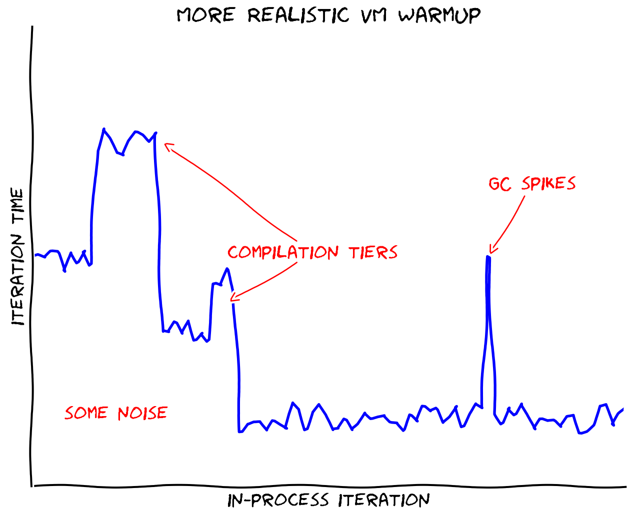
With a JIT


IDEALISED JIT WARMUP
ITERATION TIME
← WARMUP →
IN-PROCESS ITERATION

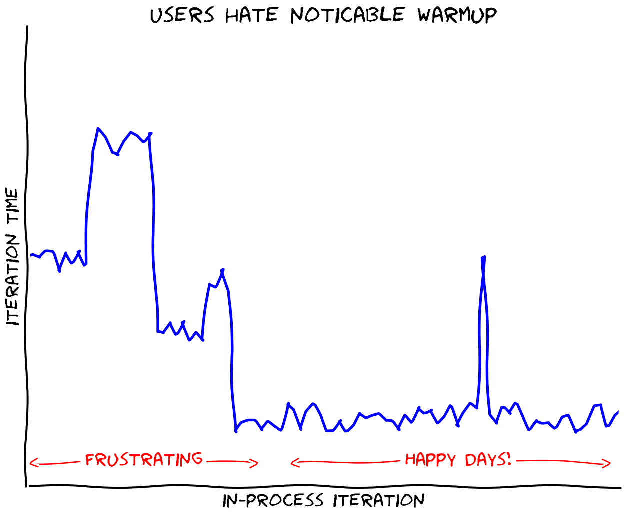

MORE REALISTIC VM WARMUP
ITERATION TIME
IN-PROCESS ITERATION

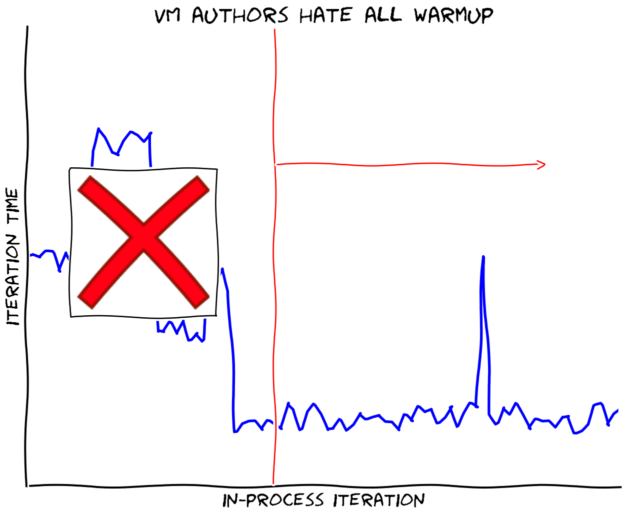

MORE REALISTIC VM WARMUP
ITERATION TIME
SOME NOISE
IN-PROCESS ITERATION


MORE REALISTIC VM WARMUP
ITERATION TIME
COMPILATION TIERS
SOME NOISE
IN-PROCESS ITERATION


MORE REALISTIC VM WARMUP
ITERATION TIME
IN-PROCESS ITERATION
COMPILATION TIERS
GC SPIKES
SOME NOISE

Why care?


USERS HATE NOTICABLE WARMUP
ITERATION TIME
FRUSTRATING
HAPPY DAYS!
IN-PROCESS ITERATION


VM AUTHORS HATE ALL WARMUP
ITERATION TIME
IN-PROCESS ITERATION

Warmup is bad for everyone.

The Warmup Experiment

Measure warmup of modern language implementations

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Hypothesis: Small, deterministic programs exhibit classical warmup behaviour

Method 1: Which benchmarks?

The language benchmark games are perfect for us (unusually)

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We added checksums to all benchmarks

Method 2: How long to run?

2000 *in-process iterations*

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2000 *in-process iterations*

10 *process executions*

Method 3: VMs

- Graal-0.13
- HHVM-3.12.0
- JRuby/Truffle (git #f82ac771)
- Hotspot-8u72b15
- LuaJit-2.0.4
- PyPy-4.0.1
- V8-4.9.385.21
- GCC-4.9.3

Note: same GCC (4.9.3) used for all compilation

Method 4: Machines

- Linux-Debian8/i4790K, 24GiB RAM
- Linux-Debian8/i4790, 32GiB RAM
- OpenBSD-5.8/i4790, 32GiB RAM

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- OpenBSD-5.8/i4790, 32GiB RAM

- Turbo boost and hyper-threading disabled
- SSH blocked from non-local machines
- Daemons disabled (cron, smtpd)

Method 5: Krun

Benchmark runner: tries to control as many confounding variables as possible

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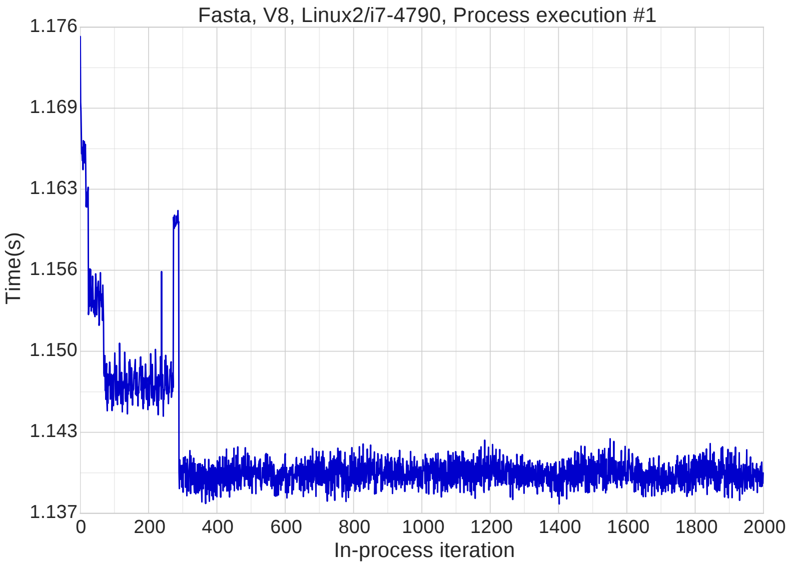
- Minimises I/O
- Sets fixed heap and stack ulimits
- Drops privileges to a ‘clean’ user account
- Automatically reboots the system prior to each proc. exec
- Checks `dmesg` for changes after each proc. exec
- Checks system at (roughly) same temperature for proc. execs
- Enforces kernel settings (tickless mode, CPU governors, ...)

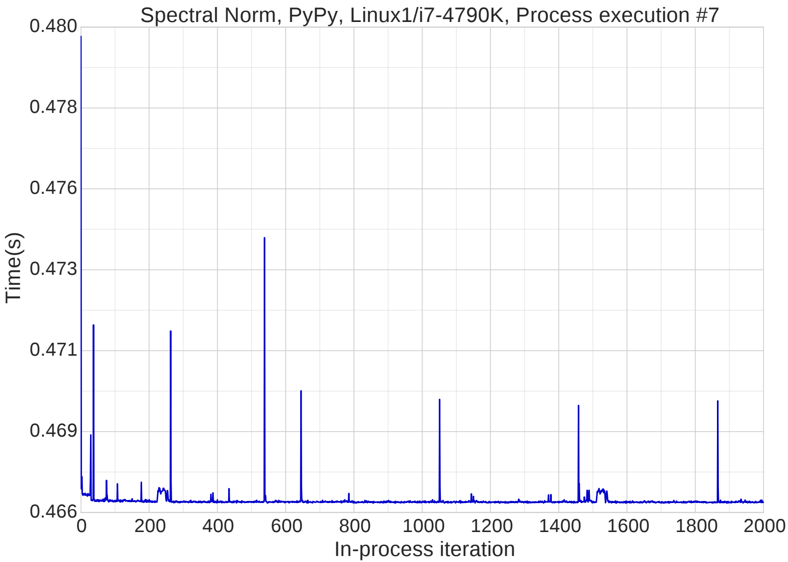
Preliminary results

Classical Warmup

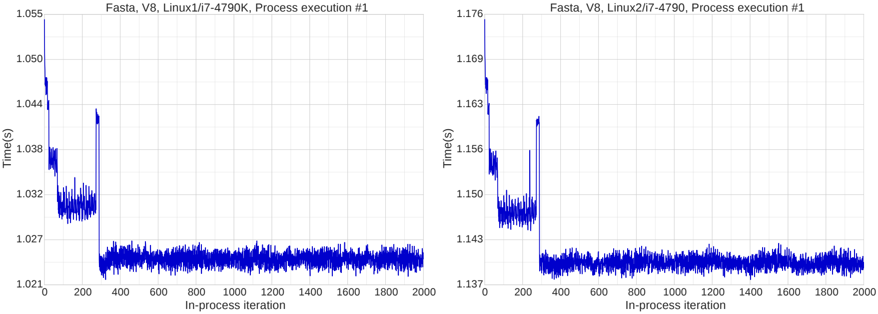
Classical Warmup



Classical Warmup

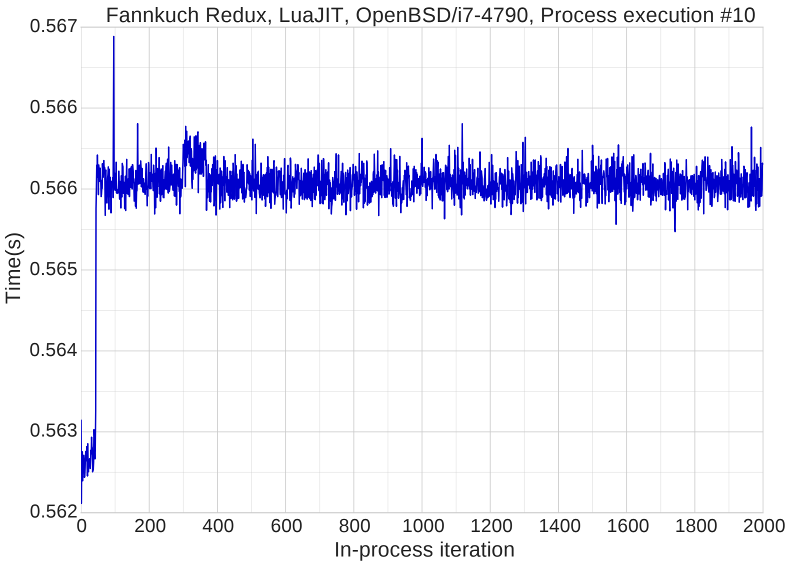


Classical Warmup



(Different machines)

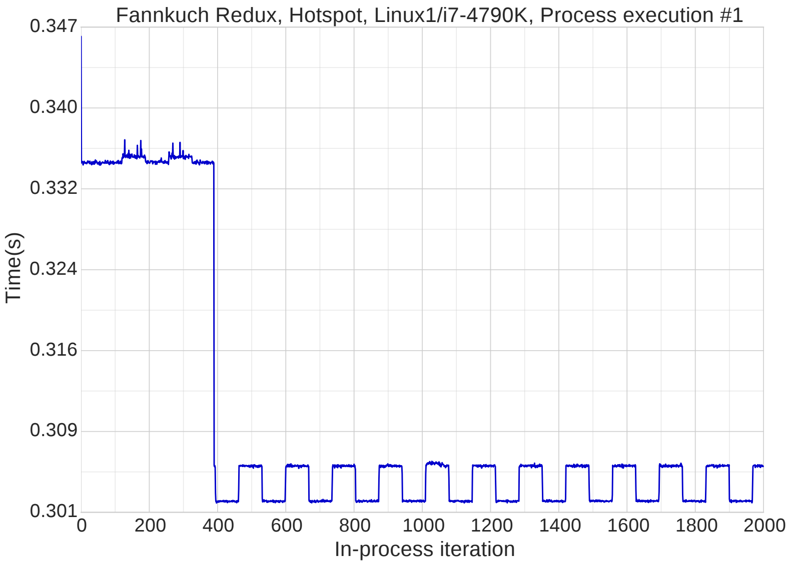
Slowdown


Fannkuch Redux, LuaJIT, OpenBSD/i7-4790, Process execution #10
0.567
0.566
0.566
0.565
0.564
0.563
0.562
Time(s)
0
200
400
600
800
1000
1200
1400
1600
1800
2000
In-process iteration

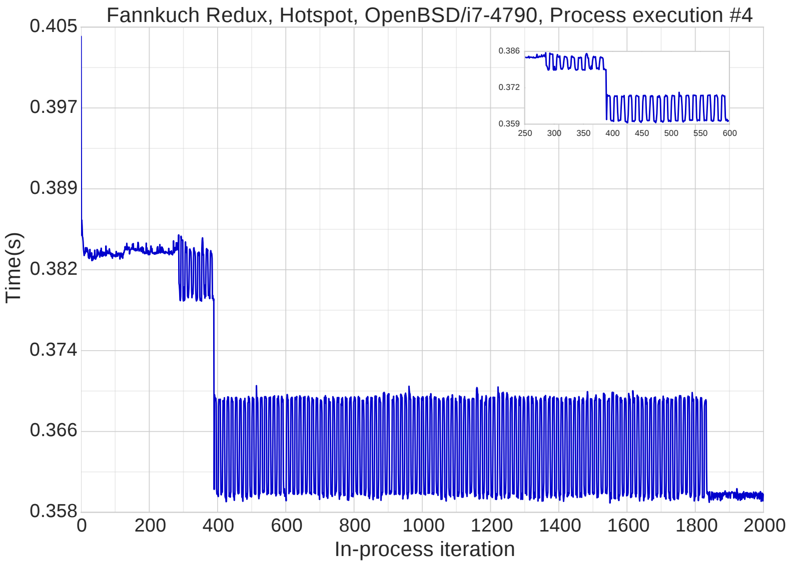
Slowdown

Richards, Hotspot, Linux2/i7-4790, Process execution #2
Time(s)
0.298
0.293
0.287
0.282
0.276
0.271
0.266
0
200
400
600
800
1000
1200
1400
1600
1800
2000
In-process iteration

Cycles

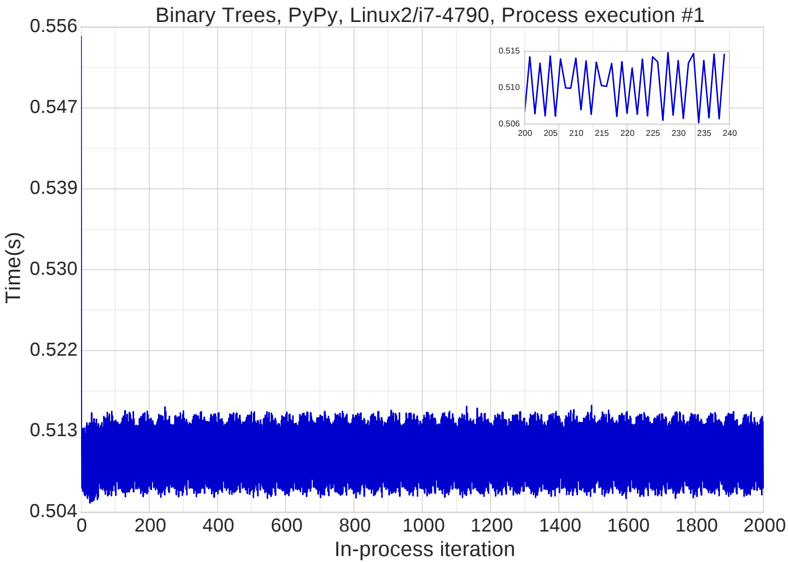

Fannkuch Redux, Hotspot, Linux1/i7-4790K, Process execution #1
Time(s)
0.347
0.340
0.332
0.324
0.316
0.309
0.301
0
200
400
600
800
1000
1200
1400
1600
1800
2000
In-process iteration

Cycles



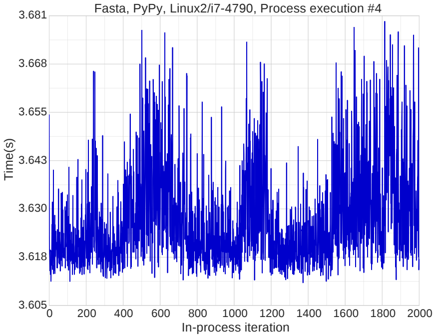
Fannkuch Redux, Hotspot, OpenBSD/i7-4790, Process execution #4
0.405
0.397
0.389
0.382
0.374
0.366
0.358
Time(s)
0
200
400
600
800
1000
1200
1400
1600
1800
2000
In-process iteration
0.386
0.372
0.359
250
300
350
400
450
500
550
600

Cycles


Binary Trees, PyPy, Linux2/i7-4790, Process execution #1
Time(s)
0.556
0.547
0.539
0.530
0.522
0.513
0.504
0
200
400
600
800
1000
1200
1400
1600
1800
2000
In-process iteration
0.515
0.510
0.506
200
205
210
215
220
225
230
235
240

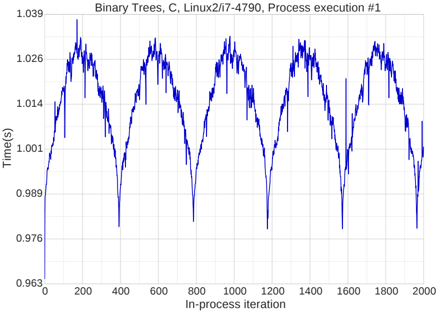
Never-ending Phase Changes

Inconsistent Process-executions



(Note: same machine)

Inconsistent Process-executions



(Note: different machines. Bouncing ball pattern Linux-specific)

Classical warmup occurs for only:

Summary

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50% of process executions

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25% of (VM, benchmark) pairs

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50% of process executions

25% of (VM, benchmark) pairs

0% of benchmarks for all VMs, machines & proc execs.

Hypothesis Invalidated

~~*Hypothesis*: Small, deterministic programs exhibit classical warmup behaviour~~

Open Questions

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How can we measure anything any more?

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For how long has this been going on?

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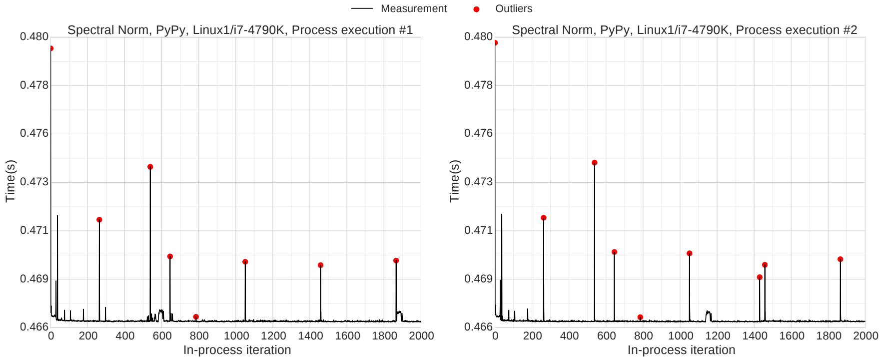
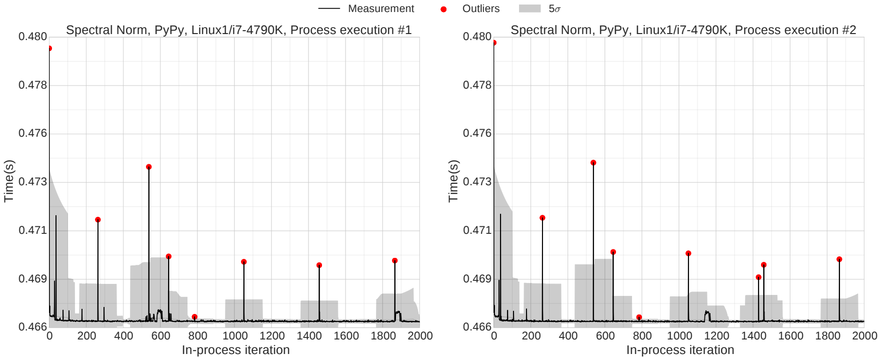
Is this really the fault of the VMs?

Automated Analyses

Outlier Detection

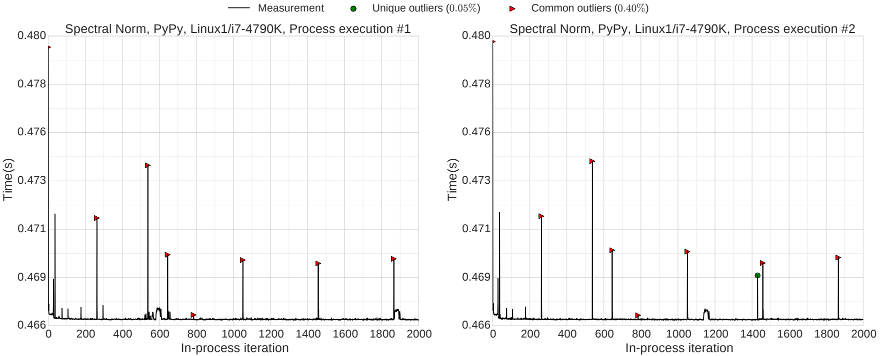


Outlier Detection



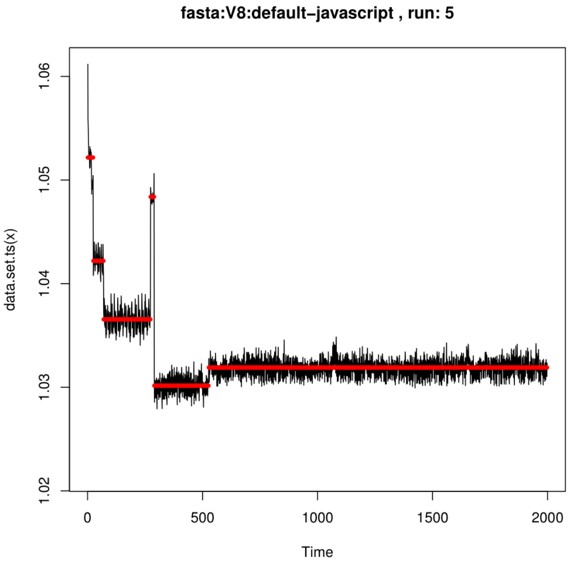
Outliers outside 5σ of rolling average

Outlier Detection

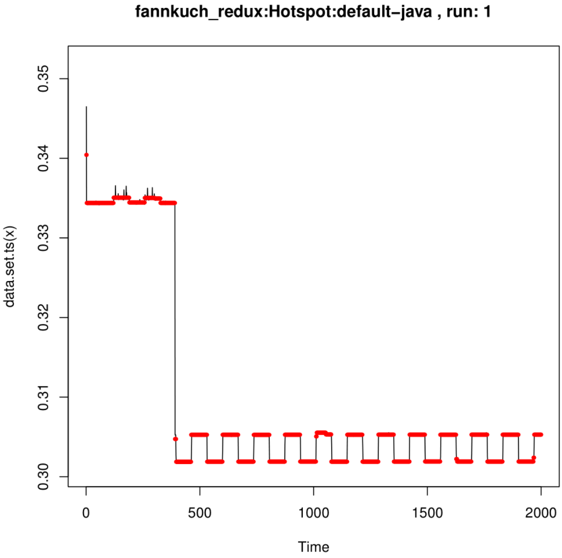


Recurring outliers

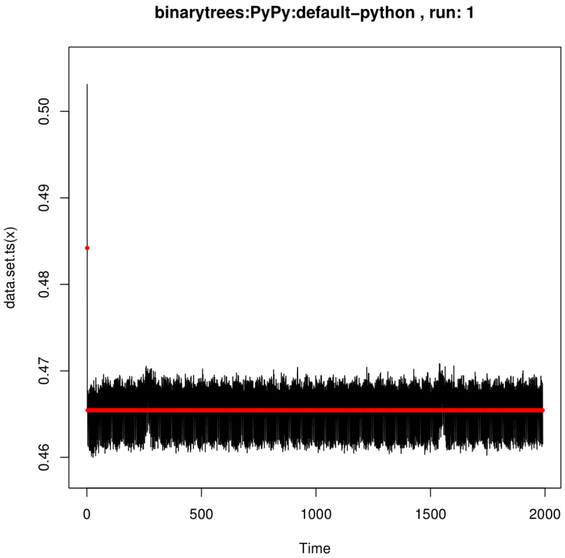
Change-point Analysis



Change-point Analysis



Change-point Analysis



Future Work

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The ‘obvious’ (control more variables; more benchmarks; more VMs; etc.)

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Can we work out *why* we see what we see? e.g. is that spike at $x = 78$ actually $\{$GC, compilation, $\ldots\}$

Full Results

`https://archive.org/download/softdev_warmup_experiment_artefacts/v0.2/`

- `all_graphs.pdf` All plots in one huge PDF.
- `warmup_results*.json.bz2` Raw results.

(Note: newer results available)

References

VM Warmup Blows Hot and Cold
E. Barrett, C. F. Bolz, R. Killick, V. Knight, S. Mount and L. Tratt.

Rigorous Benchmarking in Reasonable Time
T. Kalibera and R. Jones

Specialising Dynamic Techniques for Implementing the Ruby Programming Language
C. Seaton (Chapter 4)

Quantifying performance changes with effect size confidence intervals
T. Kalibera and R. Jones

Thanks for listening