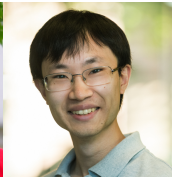


Speculative Optimizations without Fear

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Amal Ahmed, Jan Vitek

Northeastern University, Boston, USA

November 3, 2017



1 Context

2 Sourir

3 Formalization

4 Optimizations

Section 1

Context

Our work

Just-in-time (JIT) compilation is essential to efficient dynamic language implementations.

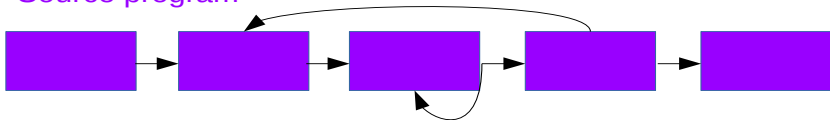
(Javascript, Lua, R... Java)

There is a blind spot in our formal understanding of JITs: speculation.

We present a language design to study speculative optimizations and prove them correct.

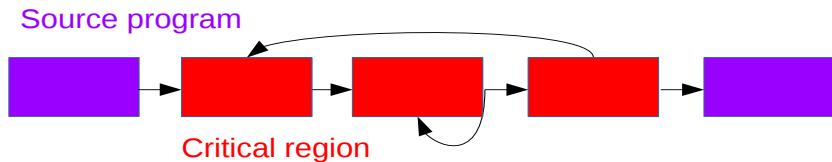
Just-in-time compilation

Source program



JITs:

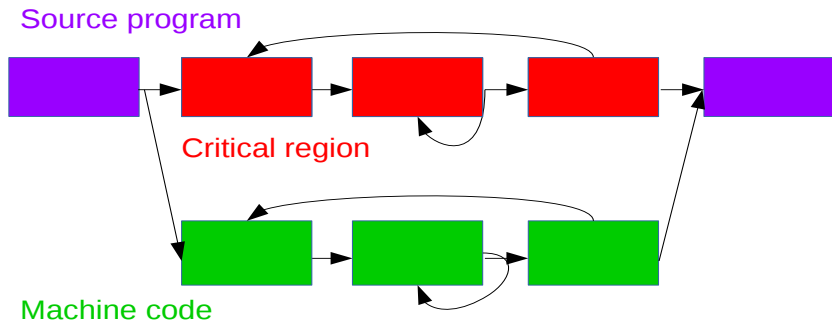
Just-in-time compilation



JITs:

Profiling

Just-in-time compilation

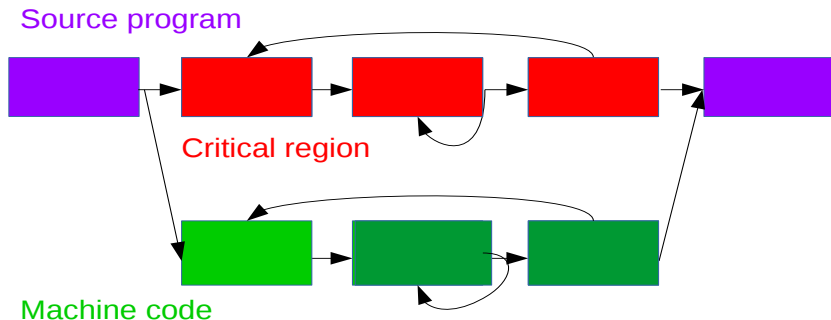


JITs:

Profiling

- + High/Low languages
- + Dynamic code generation/mutation

Just-in-time compilation

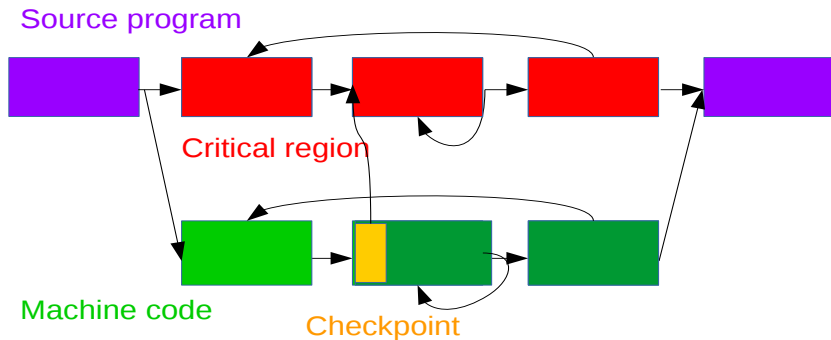


JITs:

Profiling

- + High/Low languages
- + Dynamic code generation/mutation
- + Speculation

Just-in-time compilation



JITs:

Profiling

- + High/Low languages
- + Dynamic code generation/mutation
- + Speculation and bailout

JITs:

- profiling
- high- and low-level languages (or multi-tiers, etc.)
- dynamic code generation + mutation

- speculation and bailout

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eliminates interpretation overhead (constant factor)
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JIT formalization: Myreen [2010]

- Stack language and x86 assembly
- dynamic code generation
- code mutation

mechanized in HOL!

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What about **speculation**?

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mechanized in HOL!

What about **speculation**? [This work.](#)

What do we want to know?

Speculation requires keeping **bailout data**.

How should optimizations maintain/transform bailout data?
(inlining is tricky)

Does the presence of checkpoint restrict optimizations?
(hoisting writes or IO is tricky)

When an assumption fails, how much of the other optimizations can keep?
(non-stack-order is tricky)

How should practitioners reason about correctness?



DEEP SPECULATION.

THE OIL-SPECULATOR'S DREAM.

© 2001 HARP WEEK®

Sourir

- high- and low-level languages
- dynamic code generation
- speculative optimization and bailout

Sourir

- ~~high and low level languages~~
- dynamic code generation
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a single bytecode language

Sourir

- ~~high and low level languages~~ a single bytecode language
- ~~dynamic code generation~~ one unrolled multi-version program
- speculative optimization and bailout

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$F_{fun}(c) \rightarrow$

$V_{tough} \rightarrow$

L_0 : **var** $o = 1$

L_1 : **print** $c + o$

$V_{luck} \rightarrow$

L_0 : **assume** $c = 41$ **else** $F_{fun}.V_{tough}.L_1$ [$c = c, o = 1$]

L_1 : **print** 42

Contribution

A language design to model speculative optimization: `Sourir`

A kit of correct program transformations and optimizations

A methodology to reason about correct speculative optimizations

Section 2

Sourir

A simple bytecode language

$i ::=$		$e ::=$	
	var $x = e$		se
	drop x		$x[se]$
	$x \leftarrow e$		length (se)
	array $x[e]$		$primop(se^*)$
	array $x = [e^*]$		
	$x[e_1] \leftarrow e_2$	$se ::=$	
	branch $e L_1 L_2$		lit
	goto L		F
	print e		x
	read x		
	call $x = e(e^*)$	$lit ::=$	
	return e		$\dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots$
	assume e^* else $\xi \tilde{\xi}^*$		nil true false
	stop		

Versions

$P ::= (F(x^*) \rightarrow D_F)^*$ **program**: a list of named functions
 $D_F ::= (V \rightarrow I)^*$ **function definition**: list of versioned instruction streams
 $I ::= (L : i)^*$ **instruction stream** with labeled instructions

$F_{fun}(c) \rightarrow$
 $V_{tough} \rightarrow$
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 $V_{luck} \rightarrow$
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Checkpoints

Checkpoint: **guards** + **bailout data**.

assume $c = 41$ **else** $F_{fun}.V_{tough}.L_1$ [$c = c, o = 1$]

Guards: just a list of expressions returning booleans.

Bailout data:

- where to go: $F_f.V_w.L_l$
- in what state: $[x_1 = e_1, \dots, x_n = e_n]$
- (plus more: see inlining)

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Checkpoints simplify optimizations...

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Not a branch. (inlining)

Checkpoints simplify optimizations...and correctness proofs!

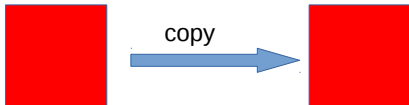
Speculative optimization pipeline

Critical version

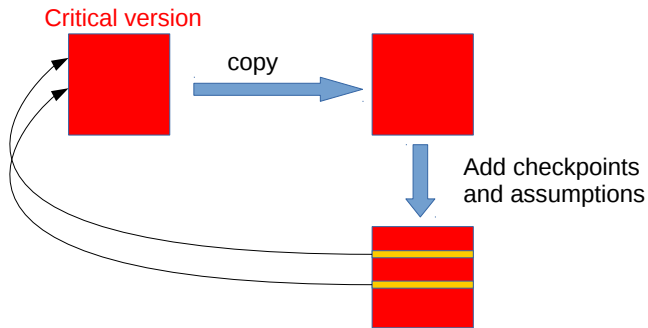


Speculative optimization pipeline

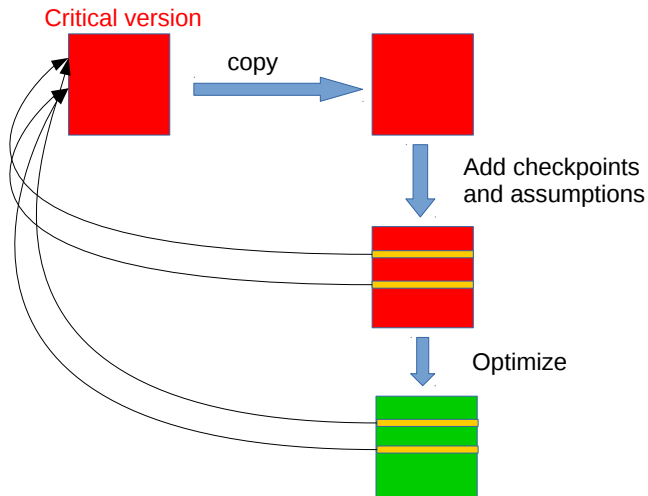
Critical version



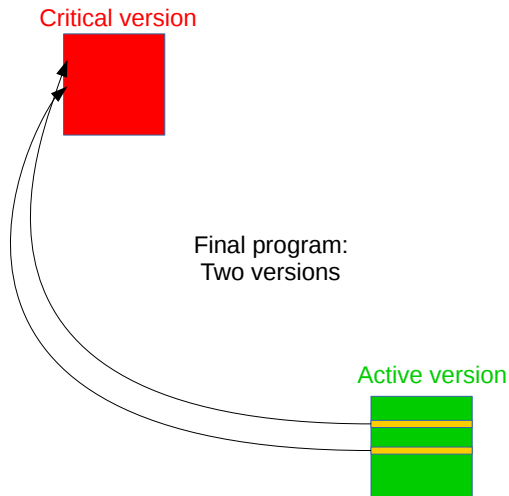
Speculative optimization pipeline



Speculative optimization pipeline



Speculative optimization pipeline



Speculative optimization pipeline

Critical version



Section 3

Formalization

Execution: Operational semantics

Configurations:

$$C ::= \langle P I L K^* M E \rangle$$

Actions:

$$A ::= \mathbf{read} \textit{ lit} \mid \mathbf{print} \textit{ lit}$$

$$A_\tau := A \mid \tau$$

$$T ::= A^*.$$

Reduction:

$$C_1 \xrightarrow{A_\tau^*} C_2$$

$$C_1 \xrightarrow{T} C_2$$

Equivalence: (weak) bisimulation

Relation R between the configurations over P_1 and P_2 .

R is a weak **simulation** if:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C_1 & \xrightarrow{A_\tau} & C'_1 \\ \text{\scriptsize } \text{\textit{R}} & & \\ \text{\scriptsize } \text{\textit{R}} & & \\ \text{\scriptsize } \text{\textit{R}} & & \\ C_2 & & \end{array} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{ccc} C_1 & \xrightarrow{A_\tau} & C'_1 \\ \text{\scriptsize } \text{\textit{R}} & & \text{\scriptsize } \text{\textit{R}} \\ \text{\scriptsize } \text{\textit{R}} & & \text{\scriptsize } \text{\textit{R}} \\ C_2 & \xrightarrow{A_\tau^*} & C'_2 \end{array}$$

R is a weak **bisimulation** if R and R^{-1} are simulations.

Bailout invariants

Version invariant: All versions of a function are equivalent.
(Necessary to replace the active version)

Bailout invariant: Bailing out **more** than necessary is correct.
(Necessary to add new assumptions)

Section 4

Optimizations

Branch pruning – from the kit

$V_{base} \rightarrow$

L_1	:	branch	$tag = INT$	L_{int}	L_{nonint}
L_{int}	:		\dots		
L_{nonint}	:		\dots		

Branch pruning – from the kit

$V_{base} \rightarrow$

$L_1 :$	branch $tag = INT$ L_{int} L_{nonint}
$L_{int} :$	\dots
$L_{nonint} :$	\dots

$V_{opt} \rightarrow$

$L_0 :$	assume $tag = INT$ else $F.V_{base}.L_1$ δ
$L_1 :$	branch $tag = INT$ L_{int} L_{nonint}
$L_{int} :$	\dots
$L_{nonint} :$	\dots

Checkpoint + guard inserted

Bailout invariant!

Branch pruning – from the kit

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$L_1 :$	branch true L_{int} L_{nonint}
$L_{int} :$	\dots
$L_{nonint} :$	\dots

constant folding

Branch pruning – from the kit

$V_{base} \rightarrow$

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$L_{int} :$...
$L_{nonint} :$...

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$L_{int} :$...

unreachable code elimination

Inlining

$F_{main}() \rightarrow$

$V_{inlined} \rightarrow$

L_0 : **array** $vec = [1, 2, 3, 4]$
 L_2 : **var** $size = nil$
 L_3 : **var** $obj = vec$
 L_{cp_1} : **assume** $obj \neq nil$ **else** ...
 L_5 : **var** $len = length(obj)$
 L_6 : $size \leftarrow len * 4$
 L_7 : **drop** len
 L_8 : **drop** obj
 L_9 : **goto** L_{ret}
 L_{ret} : **print** $size$

$V_{base} \rightarrow \dots$

$F_{main}() \rightarrow$

$V_{base} \rightarrow$

L_0 : **array** $vec = [1, 2, 3, 4]$
 L_2 : **call** $size = F_{size}(vec)$
 L_{ret} : **print** $size$

$F_{size}(obj) \rightarrow$

$V_{opt} \rightarrow$

L_{cp_1} : **assume** $obj \neq nil$ **else** ξ
 L_{vec} : **var** $len = length(obj)$
 L_3 : **return** $len * 4$

$V_{base} \rightarrow \dots$

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 L_{vec} : **var** $len = length(obj)$
 L_3 : **return** $len * 4$

$V_{base} \rightarrow \dots$



assume $obj \neq nil$ **else** $\xi \langle F_{main}.V_{base}.L_{ret} \text{ size } [vec = vec] \rangle$

Conclusion

All you need for speculation: versions + checkpoints.

Future work: bidirectional transformations.

Thanks!
Questions?

Magnus O. Myreen. Verified just-in-time compiler on x86. In **Principles of Programming Languages (POPL)**, 2010.