



VM & JIT Profiling in VAST

Henrik Johansen

Senior Software Developer

➡ hjohansen@instantiations.com



Agenda

- VAST JIT overview
- VM profiling
 - Challenges
 - Solutions
- Demo



VAST JIT Overview



VAST JIT compiler overview

- ESUG 2019 "JIT Compilation for VA Smalltalk"
- Based on LLVM
- Does not use the LLVM JIT library
 - Generates highly optimized code, but...
 - Large library footprint
 - Compile time too long
- Instead, bytecodes written using LLVM IRBuilder
 - At build time, emits machine code for bytecode templates
 - At runtime, templates are copied and patched with concretized values



Others do it too! (...now)

https://tonybaloney.github.io/posts/python-gets-a-jit.html

What is a copy-and-patch JIT?¶

Never heard of a copy-and-patch JIT? Don't worry, nor had I and nor have most people. It's an idea <u>only proposed recently in 2021</u> and designed as a fast algorithm for dynamic language runtimes.



VM Profiling



Image-side performance samplers





Other edge cases

- VM performance tests regressions
 - New LLVM versions
- Same hardware, same machine code, different results
 - Virtualization
 - Security Settings



Challenges

• Profilers work for known stack frame layouts

• Requires debug symbols

Function Stack	CPU Time: Total 📎	Module
▼ Total	100.0%	
[Unknown stack frame(s)]	0.1%	
RtIUserThreadStart	99.9%	ntdll.dll
BaseThreadInitThunk	99.9%	KERNEL32.DLL
▼ func@0x140002481	98.6%	abt.exe
func@0x140001fa0	98.6%	abt.exe
▼ func@0x140001820	98.6%	abt.exe
EsExecuteImage	98.6%	esvm40.dll
func@0x180008020	98.6%	esvm40.dll
func@0x180066db0	98.6%	esvm40.dll
	98.6%	esvm40.dll
[Unknown stack frame(s)]	71.1%	
[Outside any known module]	71.1%	
▶ func@0x1800906b0	27.4%	esvm40.dll



Solutions

- Build your own!
- Or leverage existing tools
 - Intel VTune JIT Profiling API (x86/x64 Windows/Linux)
 - jitdump file format + perf tool (x86/x64/aarch64 Linux)









Questions?

Thanks for attending!

Contact

General Inquiry info@instantiations.com

Sales sales@instantiations.com

VAST Support Portal vast-support.instantiations.com

> North America, Toll Free 855 476 2558

> > International +1 503 263 0058

Henrik Johansen Senior Software Developer

✓ hjohansen@instantiations.com

© Instantiations, Inc. All rights reserved. 'Instantiations' and the 'intersecting circle design' are registered trademarks of Instantiations, Inc. in the United States. All product names, trademarks, and registered trademarks are property of their respective owners. Company, product, and service names not owned by Instantiations are used for identification purposes only. Use of these names, trademarks, and brands does not imply endorsement.