

Dynamic Compilation with Truffle

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One Language to Rule Them All?

Let's ask a search engine...

[JavaScript: One language to rule them all | VentureBeat](#)



[venturebeat.com/2011/.../javascript-one-language-to-rule-them-... ▾](#)

by Peter Yared - in 23 Google+ circles

Jul 29, 2011 - Why code in two different scripting languages, one on the client and one on the server? It's time for **one language to rule them all**. Peter Yared ...

[\[PDF\] Python: One Script \(Language\) to rule them all - Ian Darwin](#)

[www.darwinsys.com/python/python4unix.pdf ▾](#)

Another **Language**? ▶ Python was invented in 1991 by Guido van. Rossum. • Named after the comedy troupe, not the snake. ▶ Simple. • They **all** say that!

[Q & Stuff: One Language to Rule Them All - Java](#)

[qstuff.blogspot.com/2005/10/one-language-to-rule-them-all-java.html ▾](#)

Oct 10, 2005 - **One Language to Rule Them All - Java**. For a long time I'd been hoping to add a scripting language to LibQ, to use in any of my (or other ...

[Dart : one language to rule them all - MixIT 2013 - Slideshare](#)

[fr.slideshare.net/sdeleuze/dart-mixit2013en ▾](#)

DartSébastien Deleuze - @sdeleuzeMix-IT 2013One **language to rule them all** ...

One Language to Rule Them All?

Let's ask Stack Overflow...



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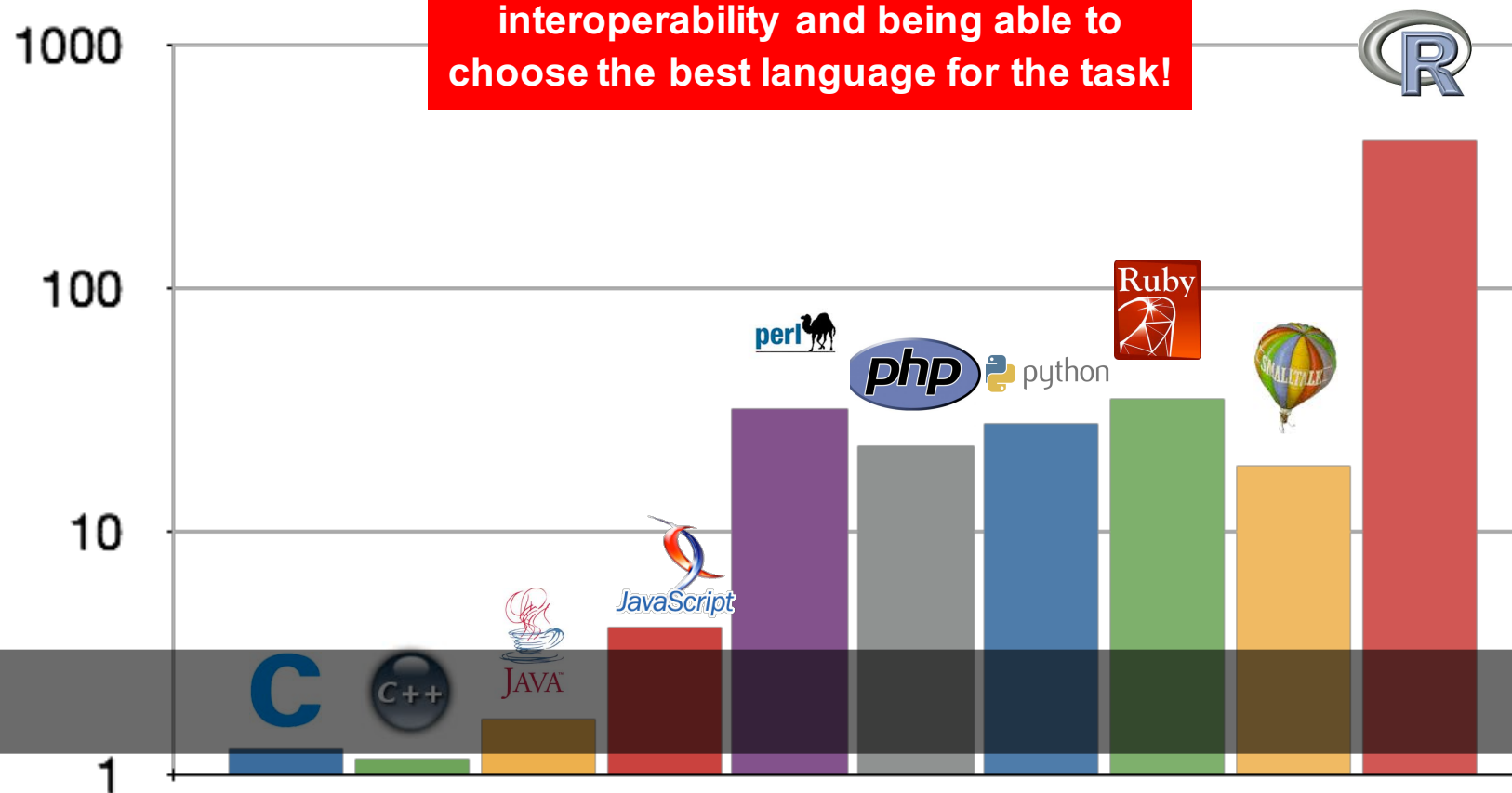
Why can't there be an “ultimate” programming language?

closed as not constructive by [Tim](#), [Bo Persson](#), [Devon_C_Miller](#), [Mark, Graviton](#) Jan 17 at 5:58

One VM for all languages means
interoperability and being able to
choose the best language for the task!


Lower is better
↓

Goal:



You can execute any language on the JVM / CLR

- as long as it looks like Java / C#.



Prototype a new language

Parser and language work to build
syntax tree (AST), AST Interpreter

Write a “real” VM

In C/C++, still using AST interpreter,
spend a lot of time implementing
runtime system, GC, ...

People complain about performance

Define a bytecode format and
write bytecode interpreter

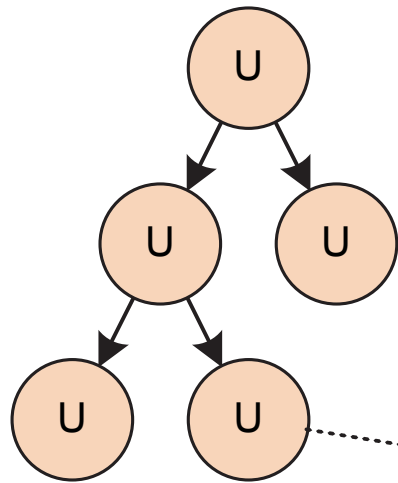
Performance is still bad

Write a JIT compiler
Improve the garbage collector



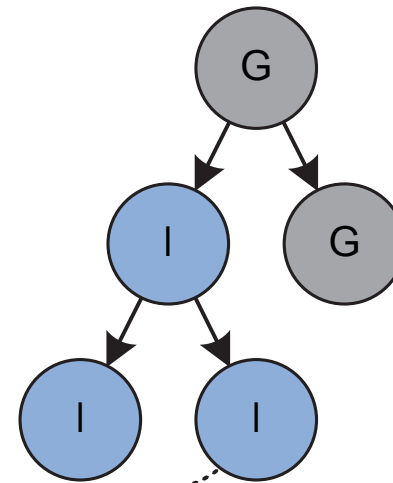
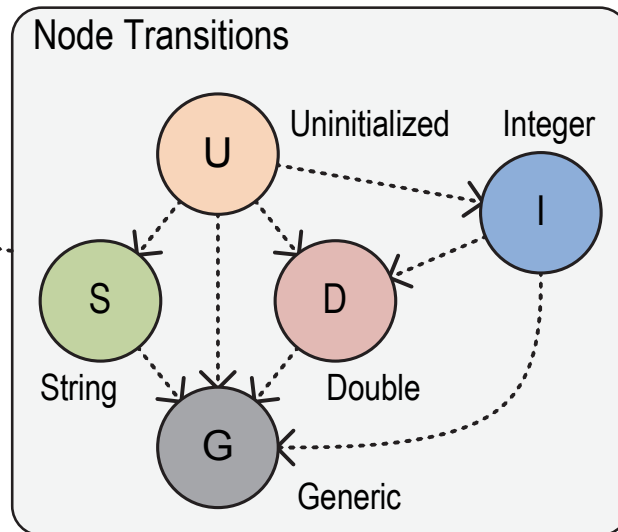
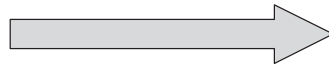
Prototype a new language

Parser and language work to build
syntax tree (AST), AST Interpreter

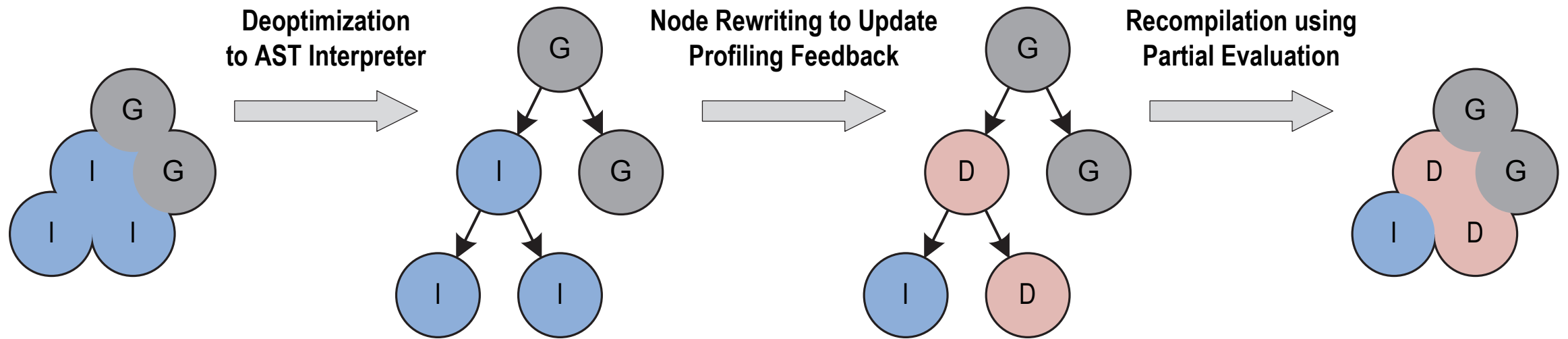


AST Interpreter
Uninitialized Nodes

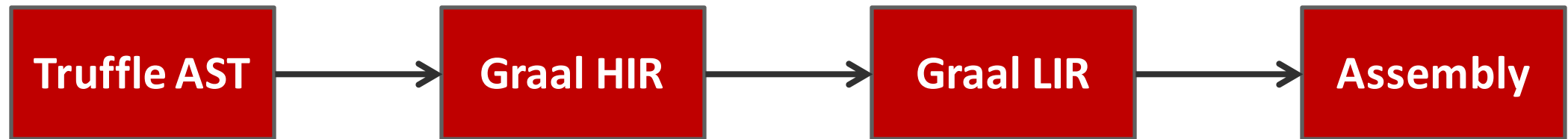
Node Rewriting for Profiling Feedback



AST Interpreter
Rewritten Nodes



Compilation Pipeline



Next up: Demos – Part I

- Partial evaluation and compilation
 - Compiler graphs and assembly
- How I stopped worrying and learned to love abstractions!
- The profiling, compilation, deoptimization, reprofiling, recompilation cycle.

Truffle API

```
class ANode extends Node {  
    public int execute() {  
        return 21 + 21;  
    }  
}
```

```
class ARootNode extends RootNode {  
    @Child ANode childNode = new ANode();  
    @Override  
    public Object execute(VirtualFrame arg0) {  
        return childNode.execute();  
    }  
}
```

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    CallTarget target = Truffle.getRuntime().createCallTarget(new ARootNode());  
    target.call();  
}
```

Truffle API

```
public interface TruffleRuntime {  
  
    CallTarget createCallTarget(RootNode rootNode);  
  
    DirectCallNode createDirectCallNode(CallTarget target);  
  
    IndirectCallNode createIndirectCallNode();  
  
    Assumption createAssumption();  
  
    <T> T iterateFrames(FrameInstanceVisitor<T> visitor);  
    ...  
}
```

Truffle API

```
public class CompilerDirectives {  
    public static void transferToInterpreter() {...}  
    public static void transferToInterpreterAndInvalidate() {...}  
    public @interface CompilationFinal {}  
    public @interface ValueType {}  
    public @interface TruffleBoundary {}  
    ...  
}
```

Truffle API

Used in the next examples

```
public abstract class Node {  
    ...  
}
```

```
public final class CompilerDirectives {  
  
    public static void transferToInterpreterAndInvalidate() {...}  
  
    public @interface CompilationFinal {}  
    ...  
}
```

Truffle API Example

```
class NegateNode extends Node {  
    @CompilationFinal boolean minVisited;  
  
    public int execute(int operand) {  
        if (operand == Integer.MIN_VALUE) {  
            if (!minVisited) {  
                transferToInterpreterAndInvalidate();  
                minVisited = true;  
            }  
            return Integer.MAX_VALUE;  
        }  
        return -operand;  
    }  
}
```

minVisited = true

```
if (operand == Integer.MIN_VALUE) {  
    return Integer.MAX_VALUE;  
}  
return -operand;
```

minVisited = false

```
if (operand == Integer.MIN_VALUE) {  
    transferToInterpreterAndInvalidate();  
}  
return -operand;
```


Branch Profiles

```
class NegateNode extends Node {  
  
    final BranchProfile minUserProfile = BranchProfile.create();  
  
    public int execute(int operand) {  
        if (operand == Integer.MIN_VALUE) {  
            minUserProfile.enter();  
            return Integer.MAX_VALUE;  
        }  
        return -operand;  
    }  
}
```

Condition Profiling

```
class AbsNode extends Node {  
  
    final ConditionProfile smallerZero = ConditionProfile.createBinaryProfile();  
  
    public int execute(int operand) {  
        if (smallerZero.profile(operand < 0)) {  
            return -operand;  
        } else {  
            return operand;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Identity Profiling

```
public class IdentityValueProfile extends ValueProfile {
    private static final Object UNINITIALIZED = new Object();
    private static final Object GENERIC = new Object();

    @CompilationFinal private Object cachedValue = UNINITIALIZED;

    public <T> T profile(T value) {
        if (cachedValue != GENERIC) {
            if (cachedValue == value) {
                return (T) cachedValue;
            } else {
                transferToInterpreterAndInvalidate();
                if (cachedValue == UNINITIALIZED) {
                    cachedValue = value;
                } else {
                    cachedValue = GENERIC;
                }
            }
        }
        return value;
    }
}
```

Type Profiling

```
public class ExactClassValueProfile extends ValueProfile {

    @CompilationFinal protected Class<?> cachedClass;
    @Override
    public <T> T profile(T value) {
        if (cachedClass != Object.class) {
            if (cachedClass != null && cachedClass.isInstance(value)) {
                return (T) cachedClass.cast(value);
            } else {
                CompilerDirectives.transferToInterpreterAndInvalidate();
                if (cachedClass == null) {
                    cachedClass = value.getClass();
                } else {
                    cachedClass = Object.class;
                }
            }
        }
        return value;
    }
}
```

Profiles: Summary

- BranchProfiles to speculate on unlikely branches
- ConditionProfile to speculate on binary conditions
- Identity Profiles to speculate on constant values
- Type Profiles to speculate on constant type
- ...

Profiles: Limitations

- Polymorphism:
 - profiles only work with monomorphic situations
 - requires the use of inline caches
- For local speculation only:
 - *transferToInterpreterAndInvalidate()* just invalidates the current compilation unit.
 - requires the use of non-local assumptions

Non-local assumptions

```
public interface Assumption {  
    boolean isValid();  
    void invalidate();  
}
```

```
Assumption a = Truffle.getRuntime().createAssumption();
```

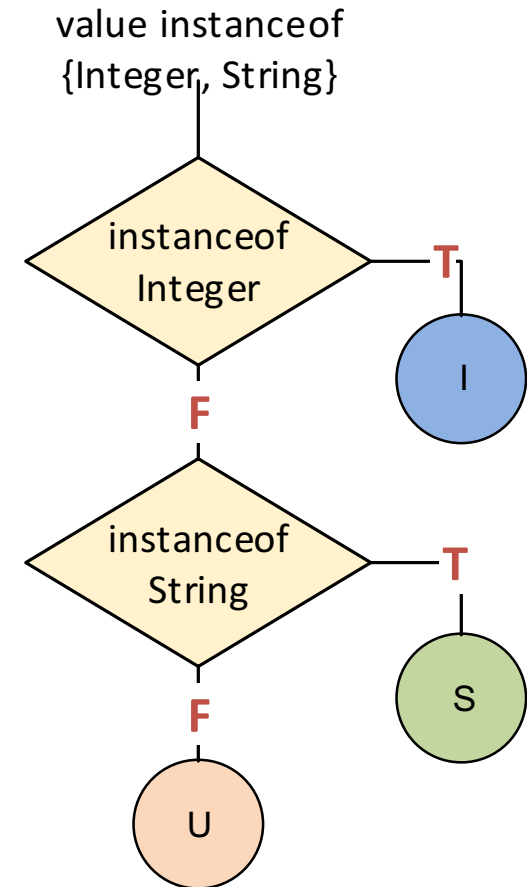
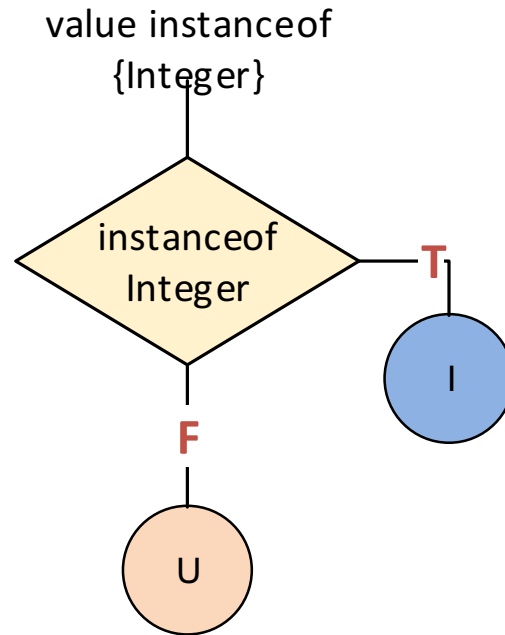
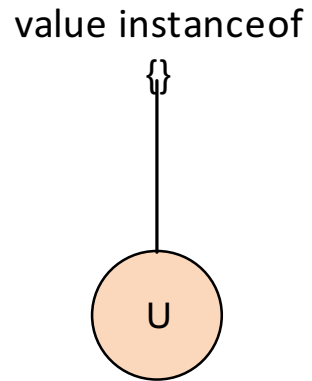
Non-local assumptions

```
public class ANode extends Node {  
  
    private final Assumption assumption = getInstrumentationDisabled();  
  
    public void execute() {  
        if (assumption.isValid()) {  
            // do nothing  
        } else {  
            // do instrument  
        }  
    }  
}
```


Use-cases for non-local assumptions

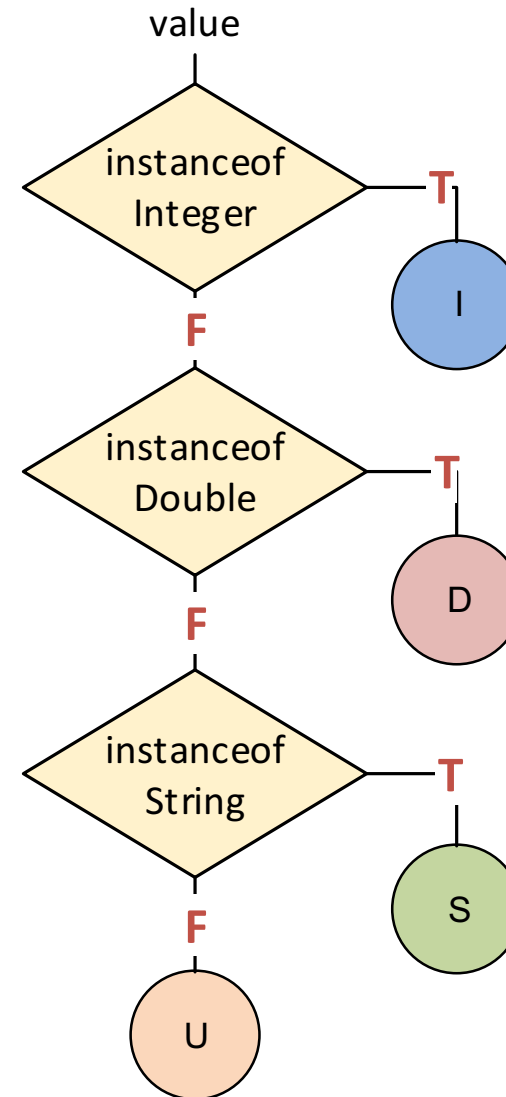
- Function redefinition
- Assumed global values
- Tracing / Debugging / Instrumentation
- ...

Inline Caching



Inline Caching using Truffle DSL

```
class OperationNode extends Node {  
  
    @Specialization  
    int doInt(int value) {  
        // int implementation  
    }  
  
    @Specialization  
    double doDouble(double value) {  
        // double implementation  
    }  
  
    @Specialization  
    String doString(String value) {  
        // String implementation  
    }  
}
```



Identity Inline Caching

```
public abstract class ANode extends Node {  
  
    public abstract Object execute(Object operand);  
  
    @Specialization(guards = "operand == cachedOperand", limit = "3")  
    protected Object doCached(AType operand,  
                             @Cached("operand") AType cachedOperand) {  
        // implementation  
        return cachedOperand;  
    }  
  
    @Specialization(contains = "doCached")  
    protected Object doGeneric(AType operand) {  
        // implementation  
        return operand;  
    }  
}
```

Type Inline Caching

```
public abstract class ANode extends Node {  
  
    public abstract Object execute(Object operand);  
  
    @Specialization(guards = "operand.getClass() == cachedClass", limit = "3")  
    protected Object doCached(AType operand,  
                             @Cached("operand.getClass()") Class<? extends AType> cachedClass) {  
        AType operand = cachedClass.cast(operand);  
        // implementation  
        return operand2;  
    }  
  
    @Specialization(contains = "doCached")  
    protected Object doGeneric(AType operand) {  
        // implementation  
        return operand;  
    }  
}
```

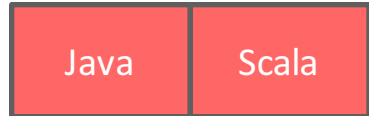
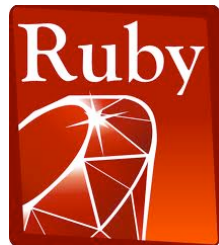
Truffle Speculations

Profile, Inline Cache or Assumption?

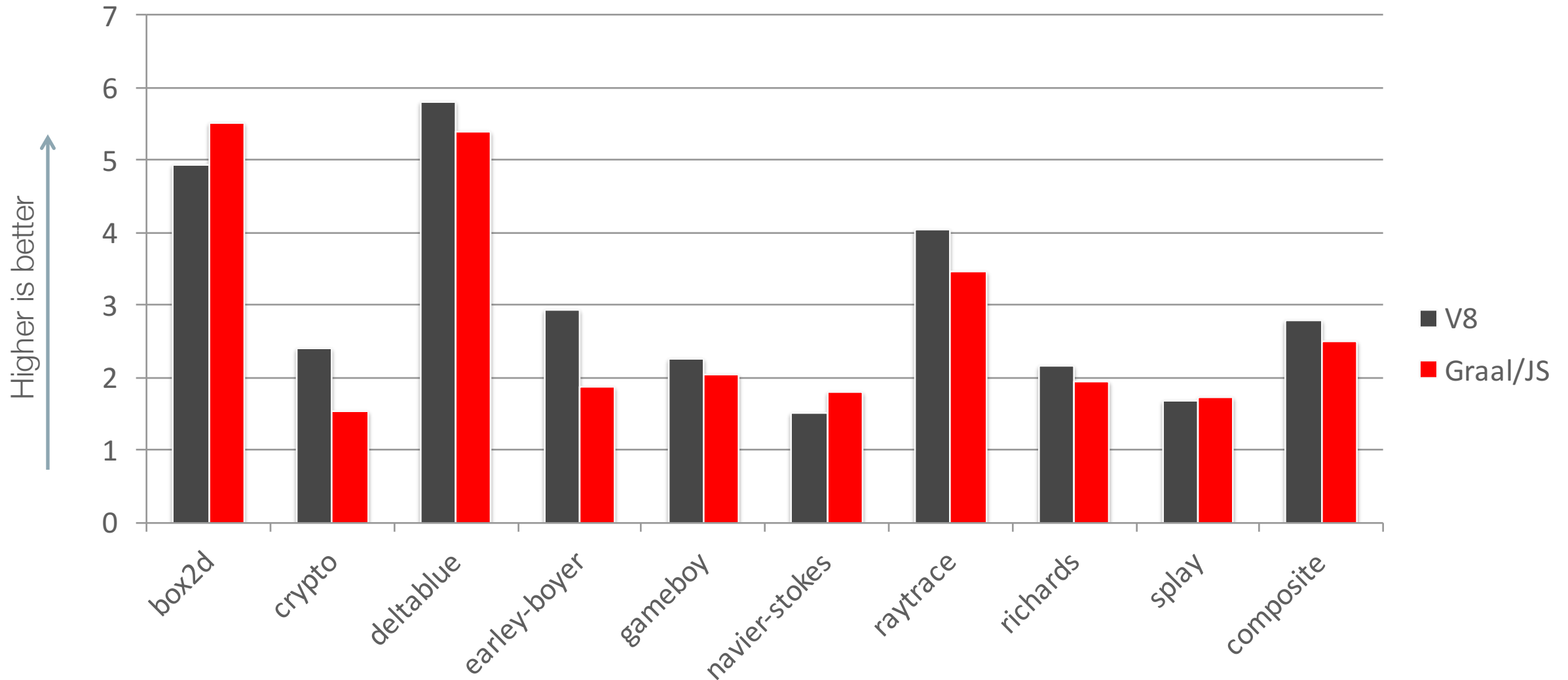
- Use Profiles where monomorphic speculation is sufficient
- Use Inline Caches for speculations where polymorphism is required
- Use Assumptions for non-local, global speculation

Next up: Demos – Part II

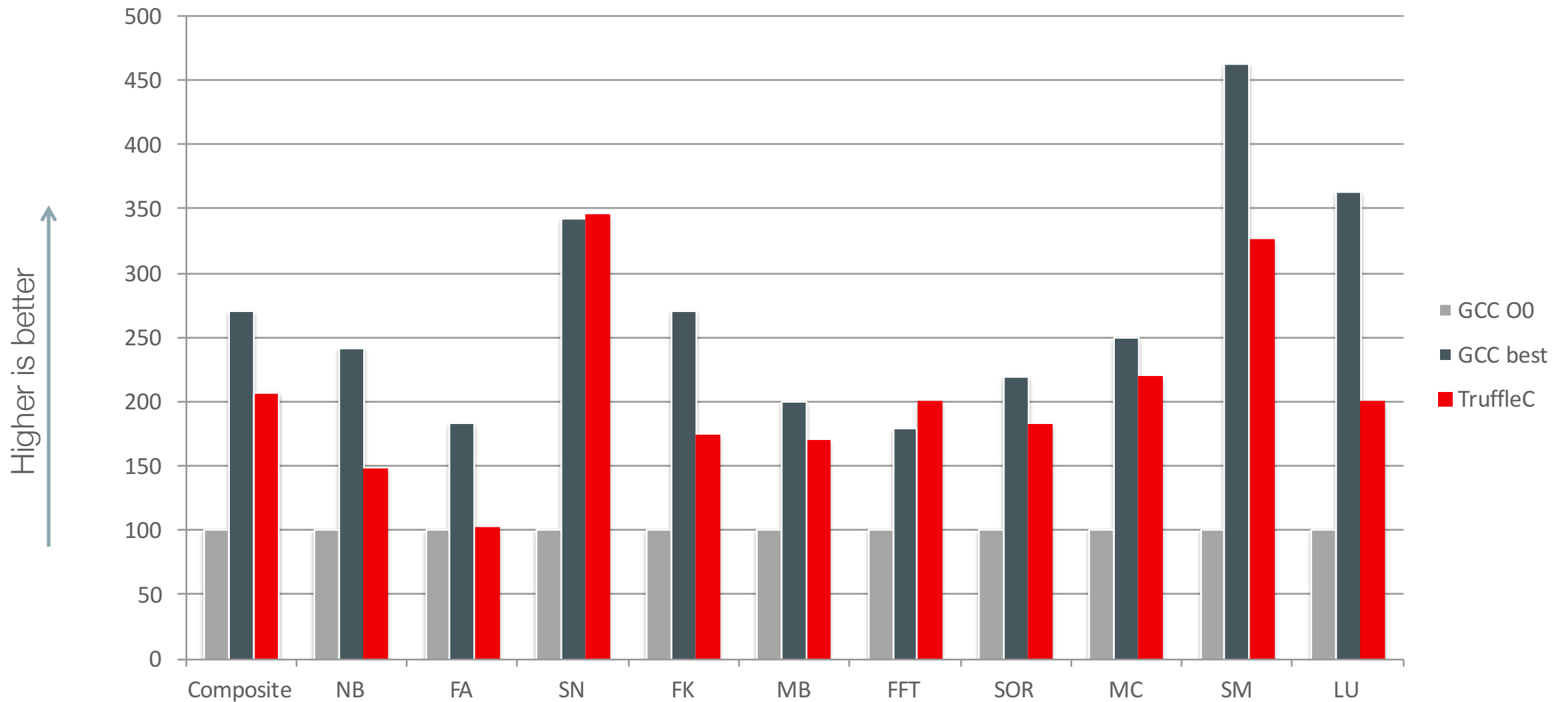
- SimpleLanguage:
 - Demonstration language for Truffle features (well documented)
- Division speculation
- Zero-overhead tracing



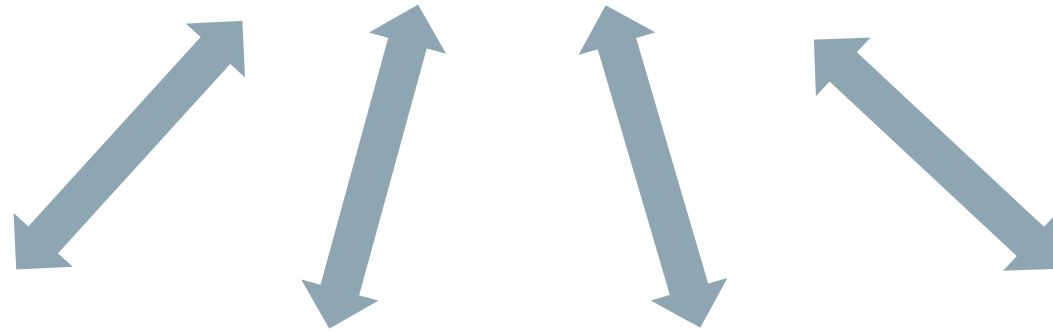
Performance – JavaScript



Performance – C



C



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Why shouldn't I use PyPy over CPython if PyPy is 6.3 times faster?



345



87

I've been hearing a lot about the [PyPy](#) project. They claim it is 6.3 times faster than the [CPython](#) interpreter on [their site](#).

Whenever we talk about dynamic languages like Python, speed is one of the top issues. To solve this, they say PyPy is 6.3 times faster.

The second issue is parallelism, the infamous [Global Interpreter Lock](#) (GIL). For this, PyPy says it [can give GIL-less Python](#).

If PyPy can solve these great challenges, what are its weaknesses that are preventing wider adoption? That is to say, what's preventing someone like me, a typical Python developer, from switching to PyPy *right now*?

python

performance

jit

pypy

cpython

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▲
422
▼
✓

PyPy, as others have been quick to mention, has tenuous support for C extensions. It *has* support, but typically at slower-than-Python speeds and it's iffy at best. Hence a lot of modules simply *require* CPython. Cython and Numpy are *awesome* for numerics, and most people who actually need speed in Python are using those (+ Pandas, SciPy, etc.) heavily. Since they're either non-existent or tenuously supported and slow **the people who need a fast Python often are better off with CPython both for speed and ease-of-use.**

If PyPy can solve these great challenges, what are its weaknesses that are preventing wider adoption? That is to say, what's preventing someone like me, a typical Python developer, from switching to PyPy *right now*?

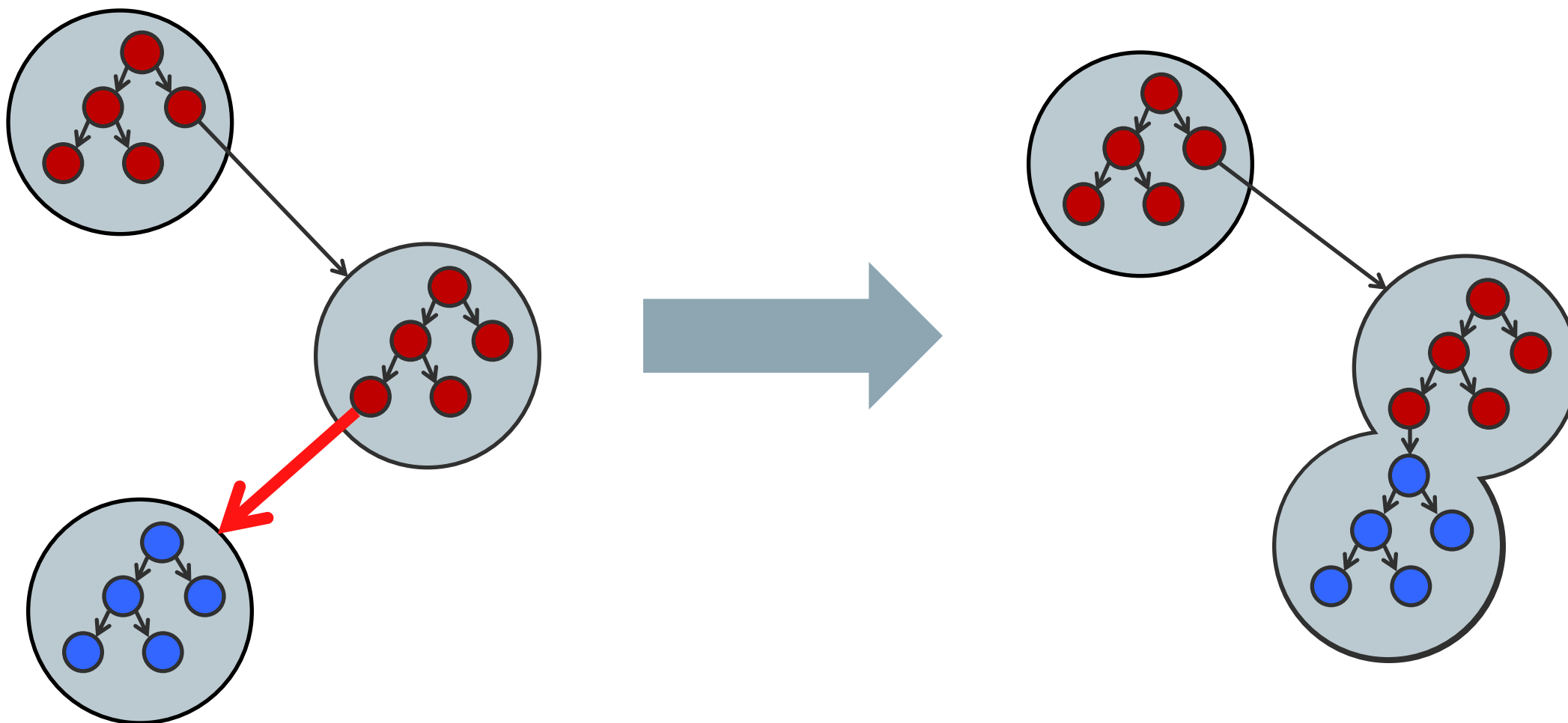
python

performance

jit

pypy

cpython



main.c

```
#include<stdio.h>

struct complex {
    double r;
    double i;
}

int main() {
    struct complex *a = ...;
    struct complex *b = ...;

    add(a, b)
}
```

complex.js

```
function add(a, b) {
    var result = {r:0, i:0};

    result.r = a->r + b->r
    result.i = a->i + b->i

    return result;
}
```

`var a = obj.value;`

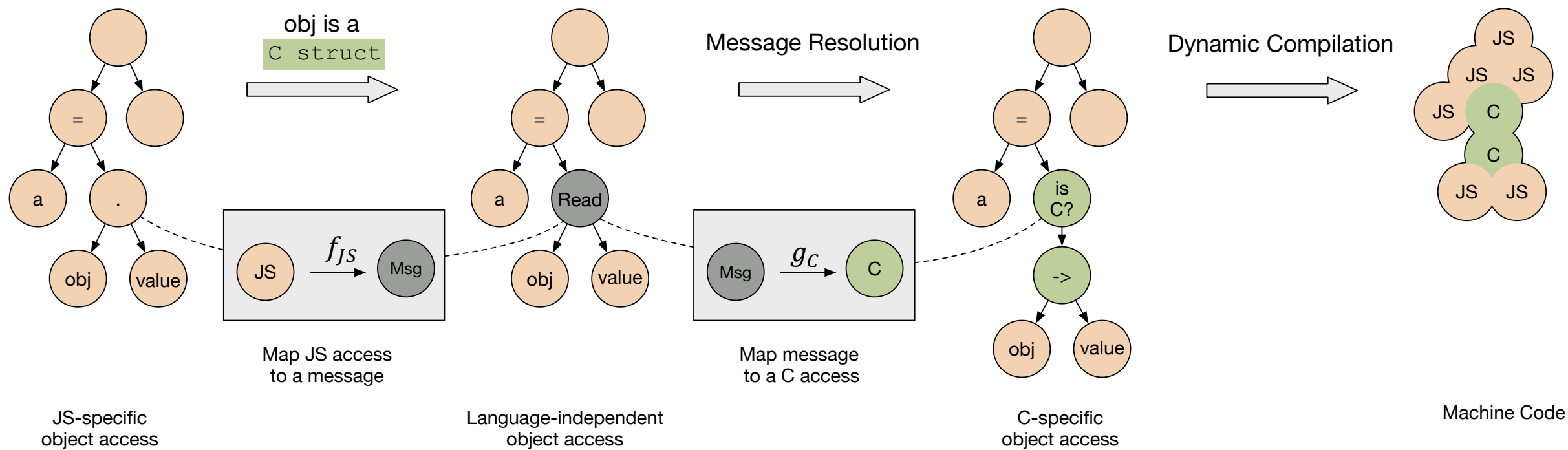


Image Processing Composite Speedup

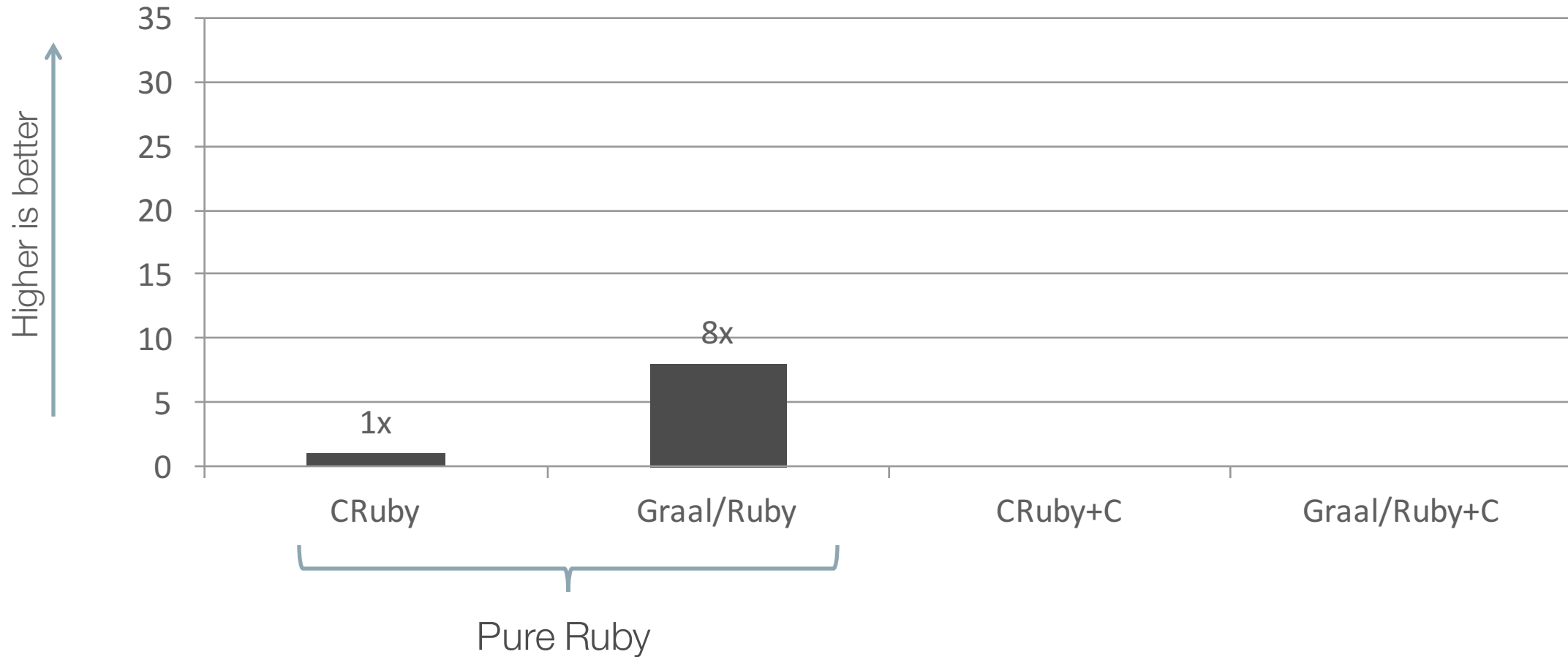


Image Processing Composite Speedup

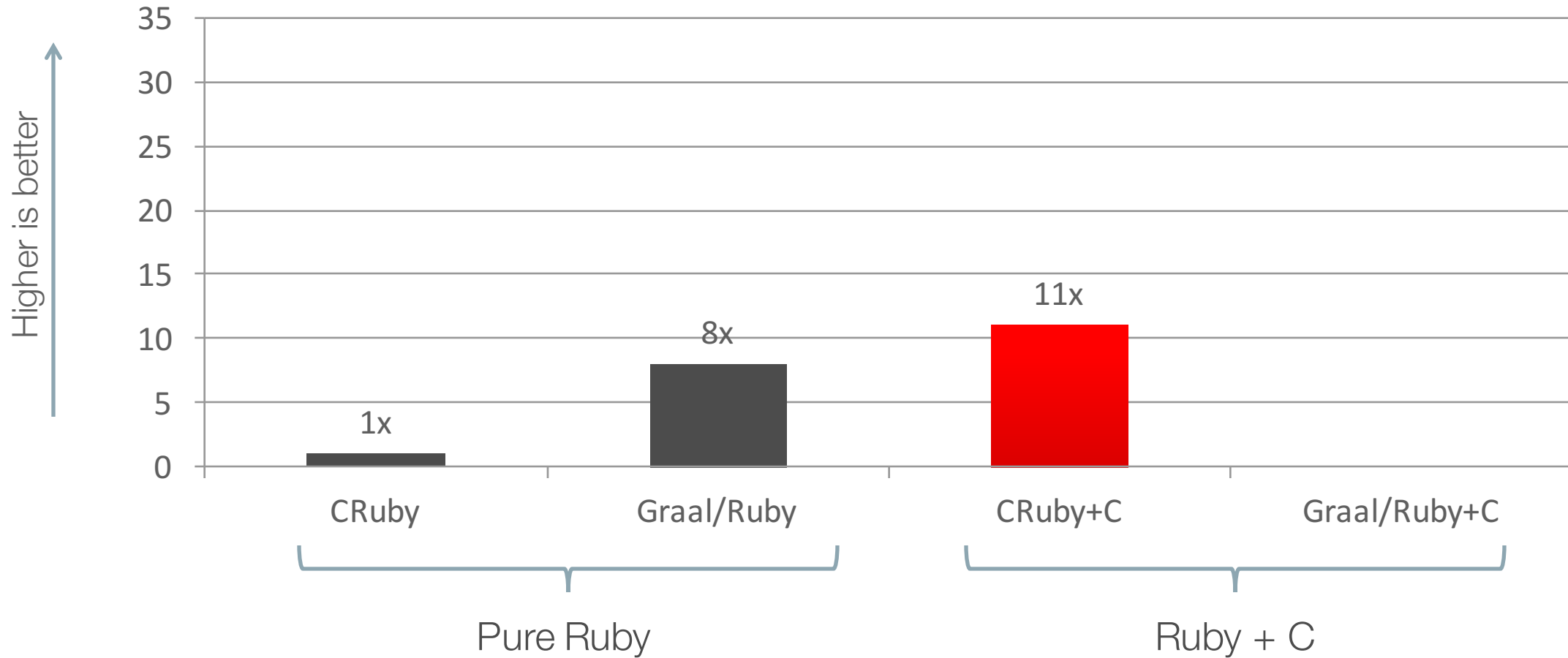
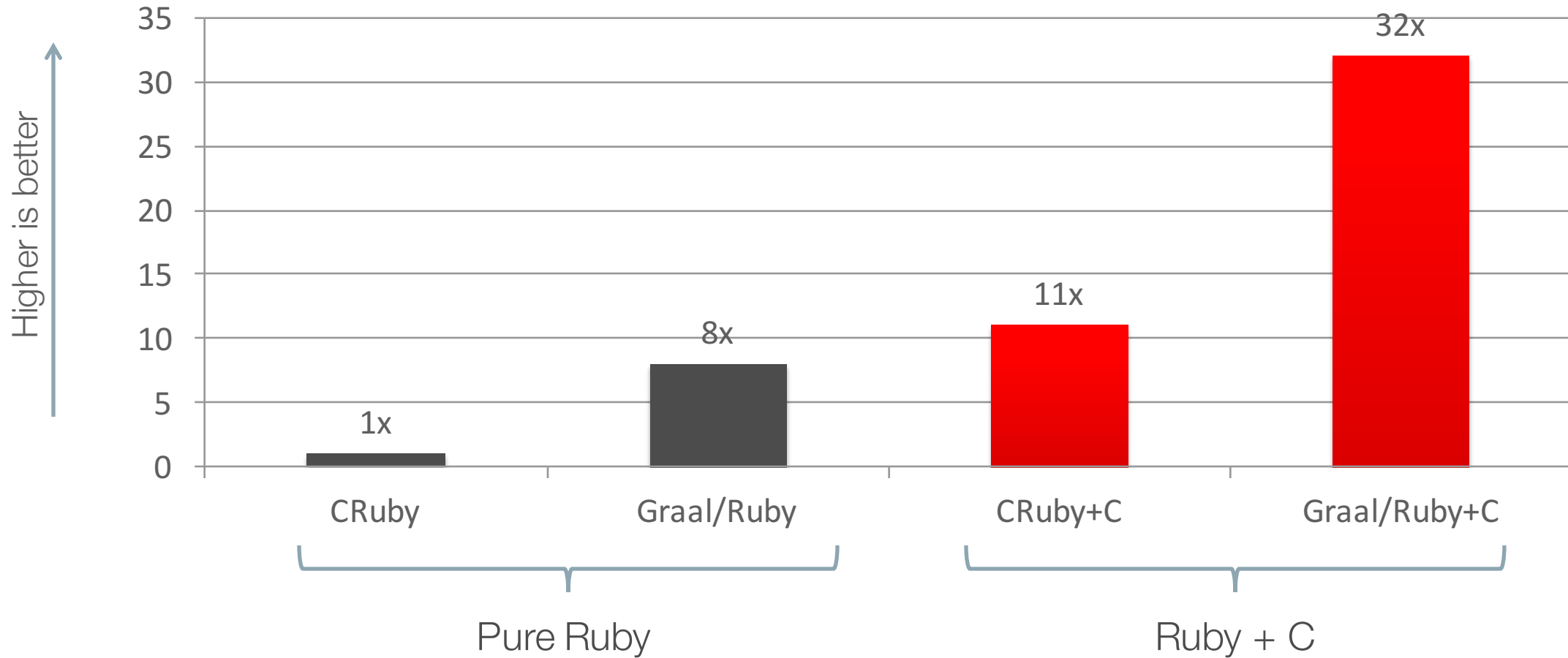


Image Processing Composite Speedup



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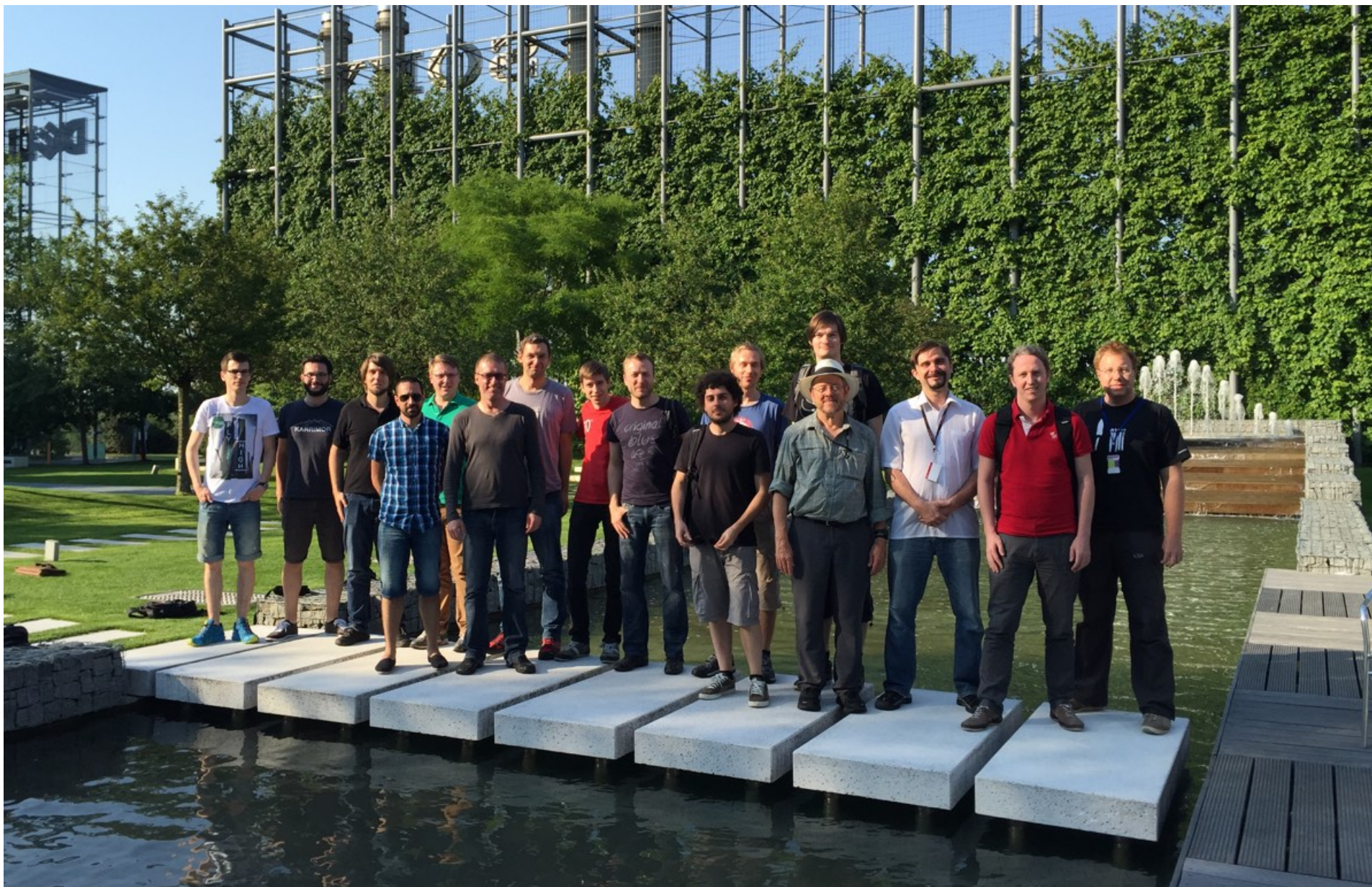
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