YARV

Past, Present and Future

Koichi “ko1” Sasada
ささだこういち
ko1 at atdot dot net

RUBY MEETS VM

Koichi Sasada
ko1 at atdot dot net

Point of This Presentation

Merging YARV is not a goal,
but a start

YARV: Yet Another RubyVM

Notice

- I can't speak English well, so I write down all things what I want to say.
  - Do you get ready for opera glasses?
  - Unfortunately, some slides are written in Japanese
- You can ask questions with Japanese, C, Ruby, ⋯, or slow/short English.
- "How to impl. Ruby", not "How to use Ruby"
- "x50" is too big mouth
  - Maybe x20

Self Introduction

- Koichi (given name) Sasada (family name)
  - ささだ（family name) こういち (given name)
  - 笹田 (family name) 耕一 (given name)
- Lecturer @ University of Tokyo (Feb. 2008-)
- Only VM developer
  - Don’t have compatibility with Matz
  - Please call me “ko-i-chi”

Agenda

- History of YARV
- Advanced VM Topics
  - Performance
    - Parallel Thread Execution
    - Embedding Float Value
    - JIT Compiler
    - Pre-Compiler
      - “Ruby to Compiled file” Compiler
      - “Ruby to C” Compiler
  - New Feature
    - Multi-VM Creation
    - Customizable Ruby Core
    - Debug/Profile support feature
- Summary

History of YARV

- 4 Years
  - **1, Jan 2004 Project Start**
  - 2004-2005 VM Core, Optimization
    - Supported by MITO youth Project (IPA)
  - 2005-2006 Thread, etc
    - Supported by MITO Project (IPA)
    - 1, Apr 2006 Got a Job (Assistant on U-Tokyo)
  - 2006-2007 etc, etc
    - Supported by MITO Project (IPA)
    - 25, Dec 2007 Got a Ph.D
  - **25, Dec 2007 (GMT) 1.9 Release**

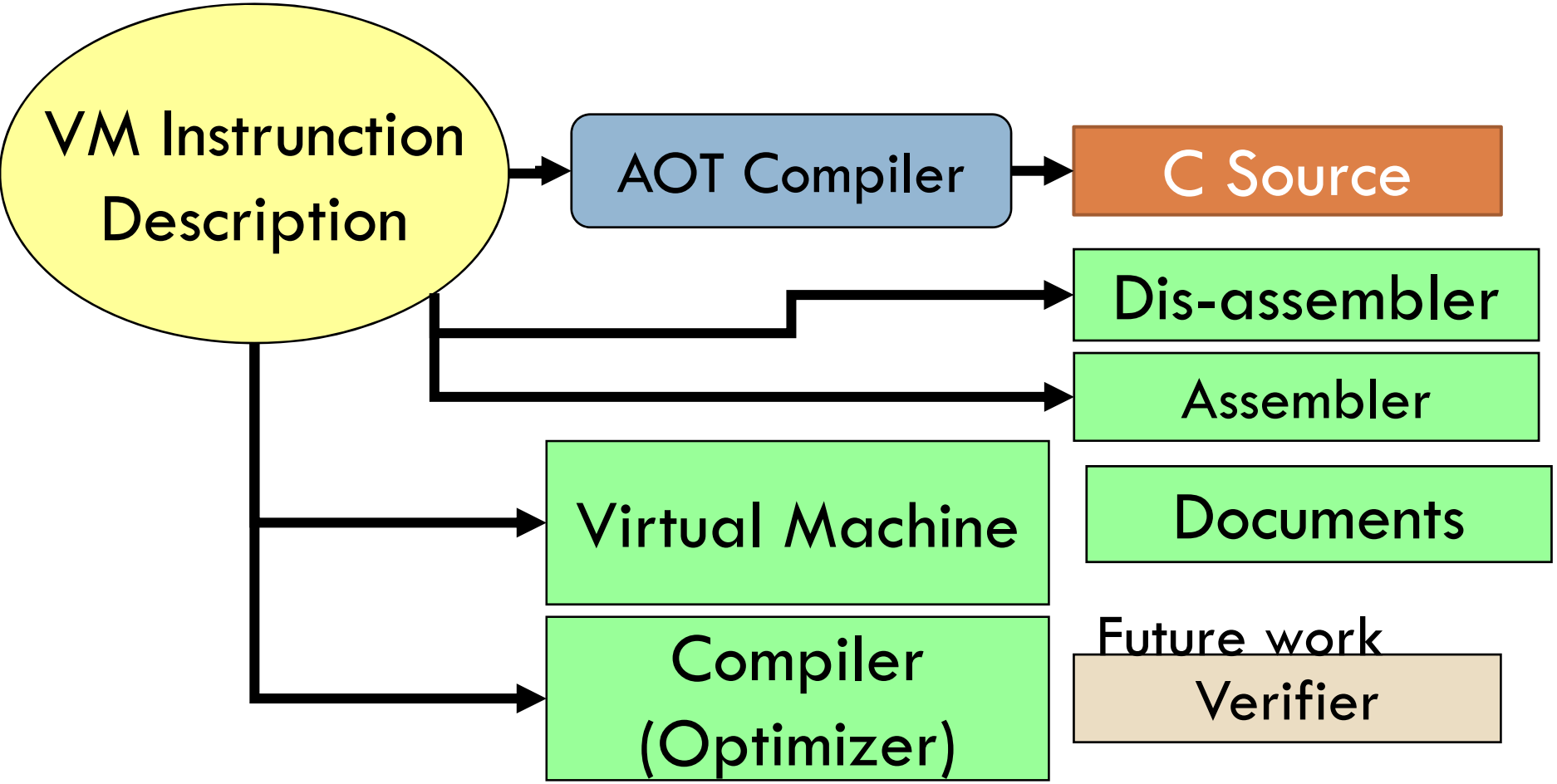
FYI

- Ruby 2.0 – since 2003 3/31
- Perl 6 – since 2003 4/1

YARV Policy

- Performance
  - Speed, Speed, Speed
  - Applied many many many optimization Tech.
- Compatibility
  - C extension API
  - Not language compatibility
- Auto-generation
  - VM description to Concrete VM source code

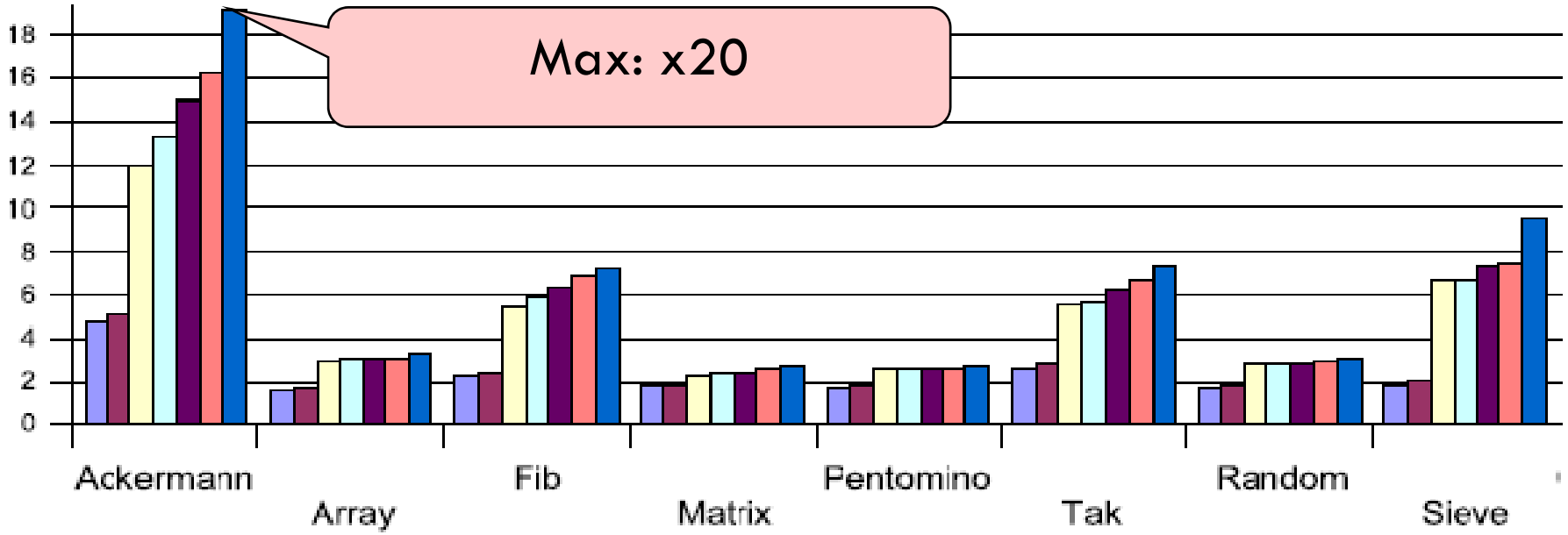
VM Generator



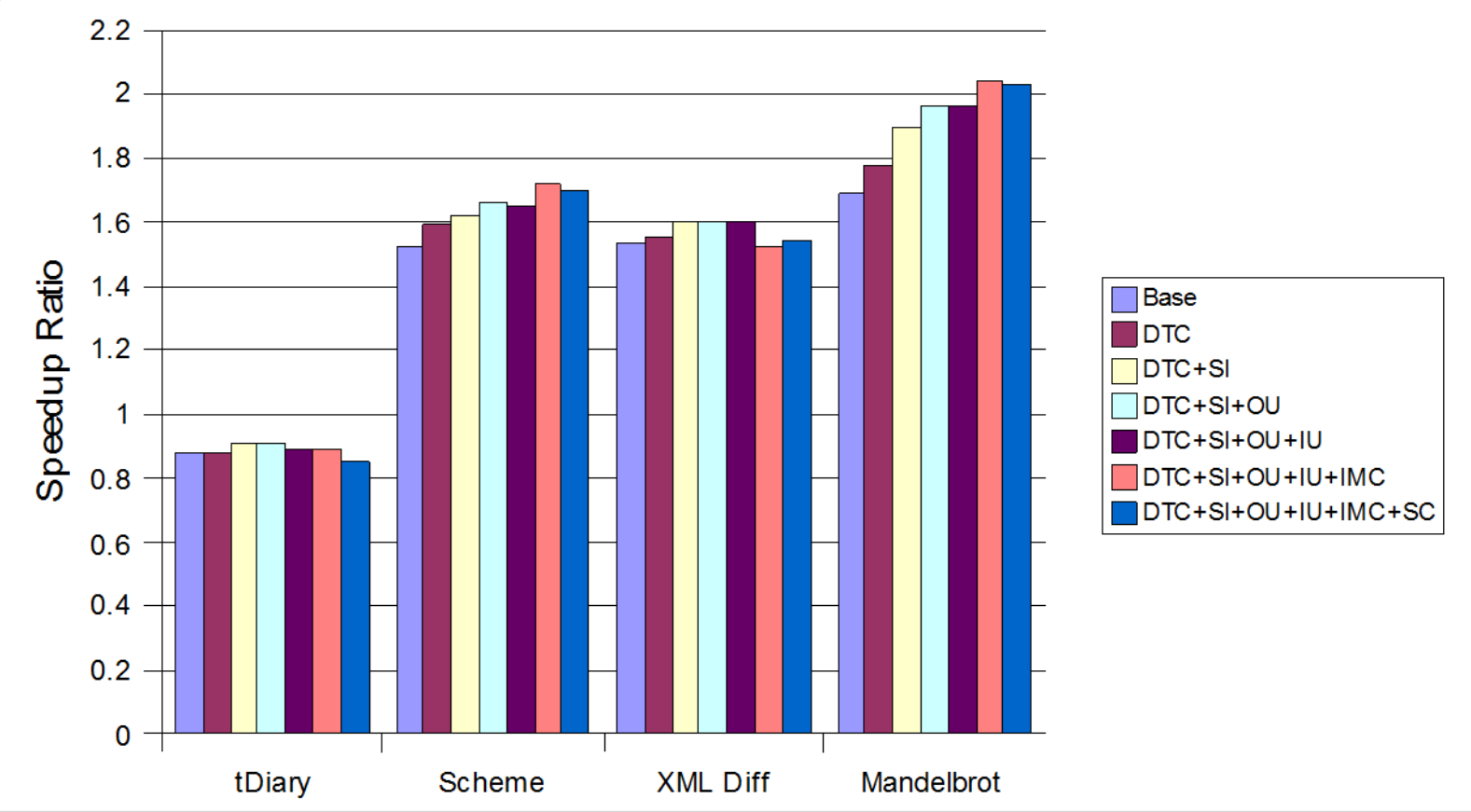
Enemies of YARV

- Ruby Specification ≒ Matz
  - Ruby Spec kills many optimization techs
  - We love “Dynamic” “Meta” Programming, but…
- Changing Spec is also Nightmare
- Portability
  - We can’t use system depending techs.
- Rivals **(not Enemy)**
  - Jruby, Rubinius, IronRuby, …
- Peggy work on my Job

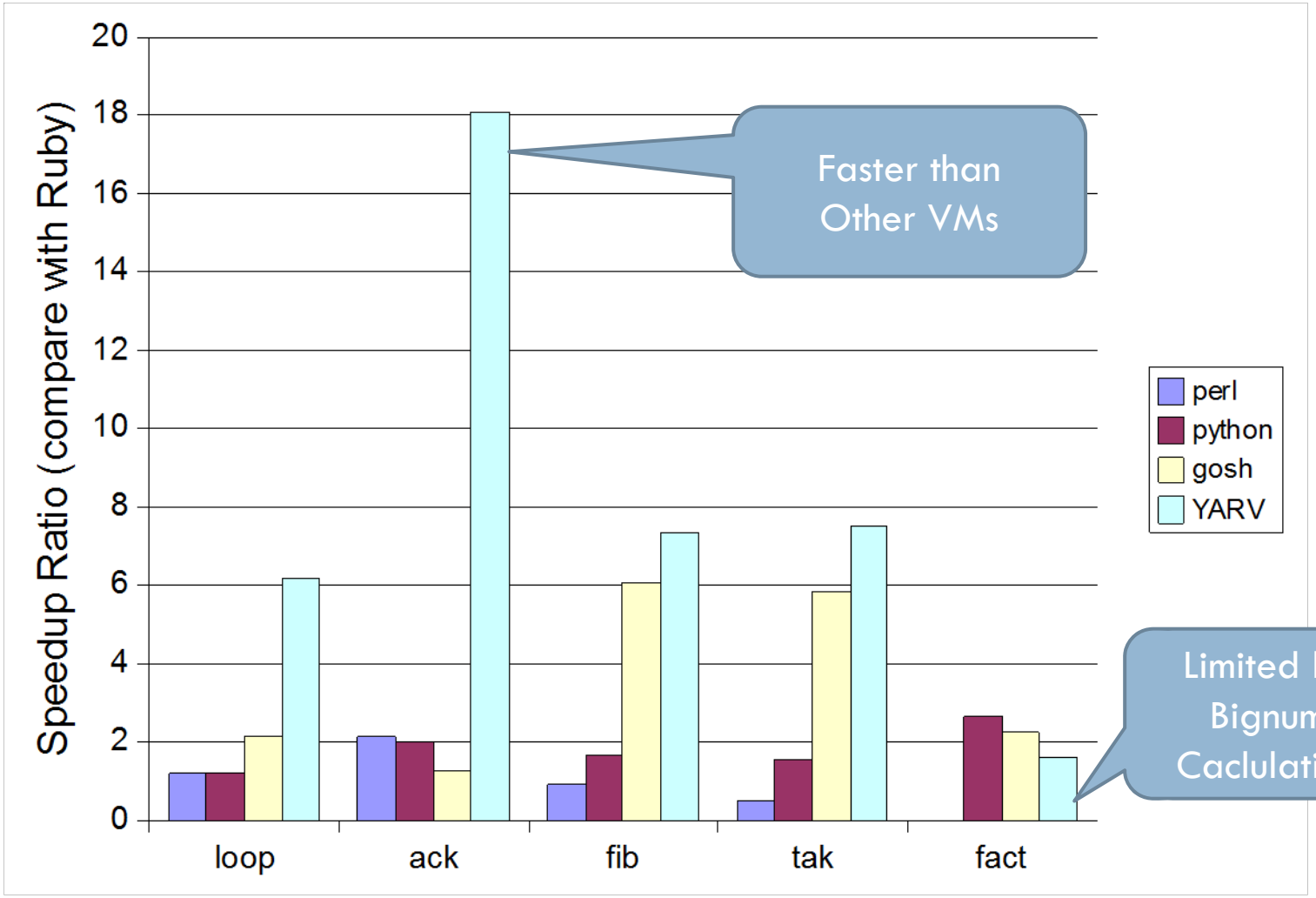
Evaluation: Improve case



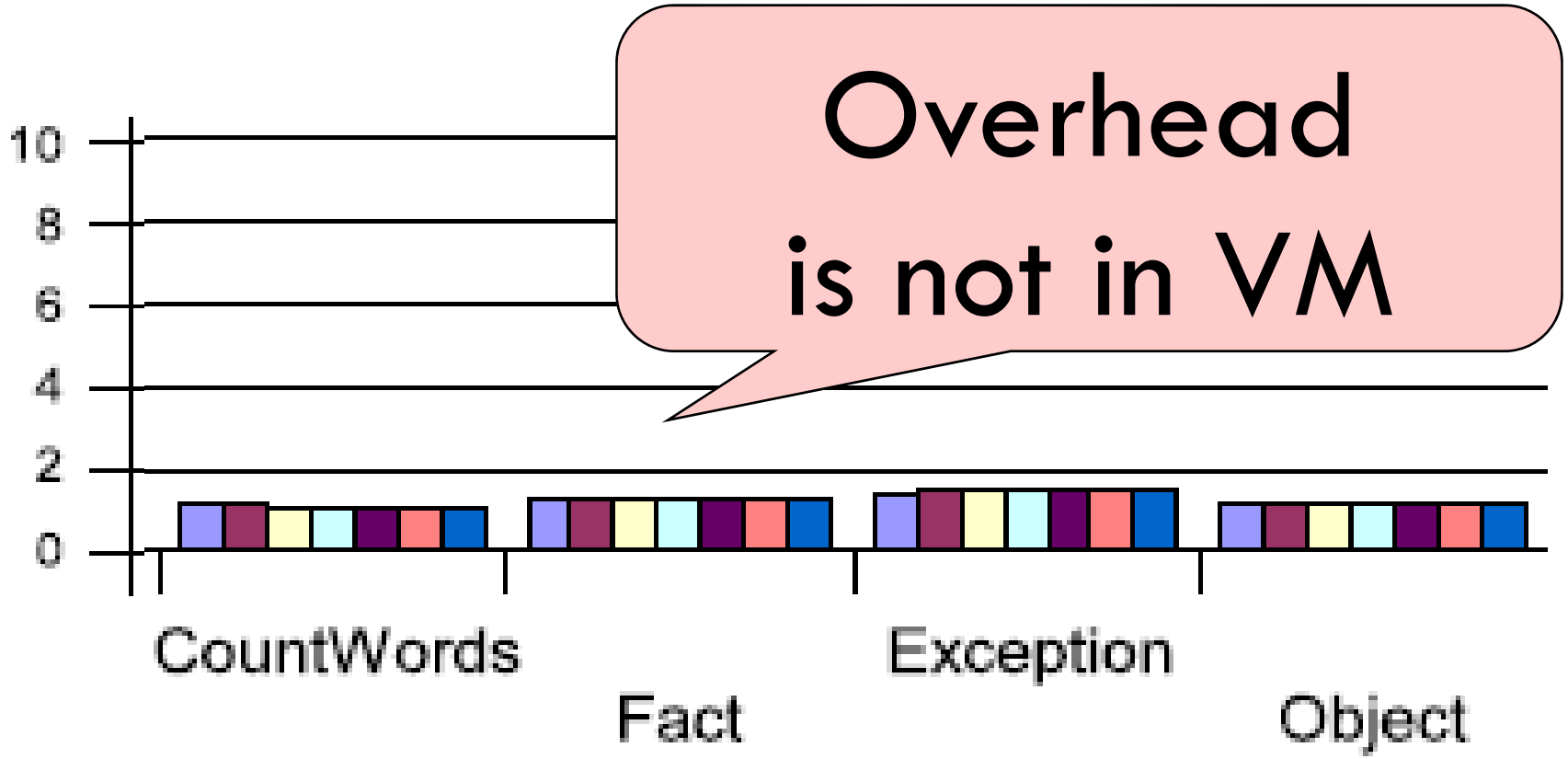
Evaluation: Macro-Benchmark



Evaluation: Compare with Other Languages



Evaluation: VM doesn't affect



Advanced VM Topics

- Performance
  - Parallel Thread Execution
  - Embedding Float Value
  - JIT Compiler
  - Pre-Compiler
    - “Ruby to Compiled file” Compiler
    - “Ruby to C” Compiler
- New Feature
  - Multi-VM Creation
  - Customizable Ruby Core
  - Debug/Profile support feature

Ph.D Thesis
Efficient Implementation of Ruby Virtual Machine

Implement a High-Speed Ruby Interpreter

Introduce VM
↓
YARV
(Merged into Ruby 1.9)

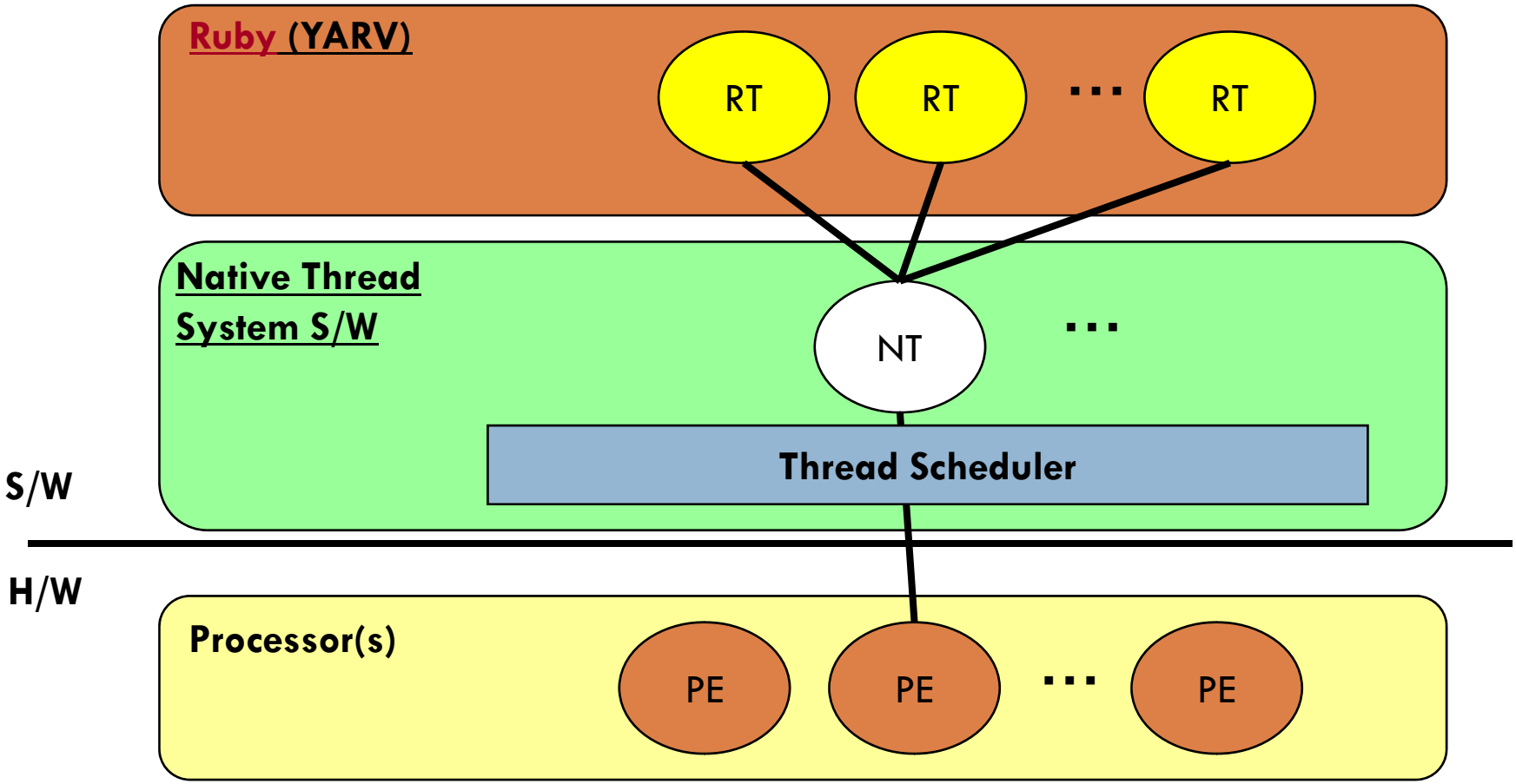
Parallel Ruby Execution
↓
Parallel Thread Execution

Ruby Meets VM, Koichi Sasada, EURUKO 2008

Parallel Thread Execution

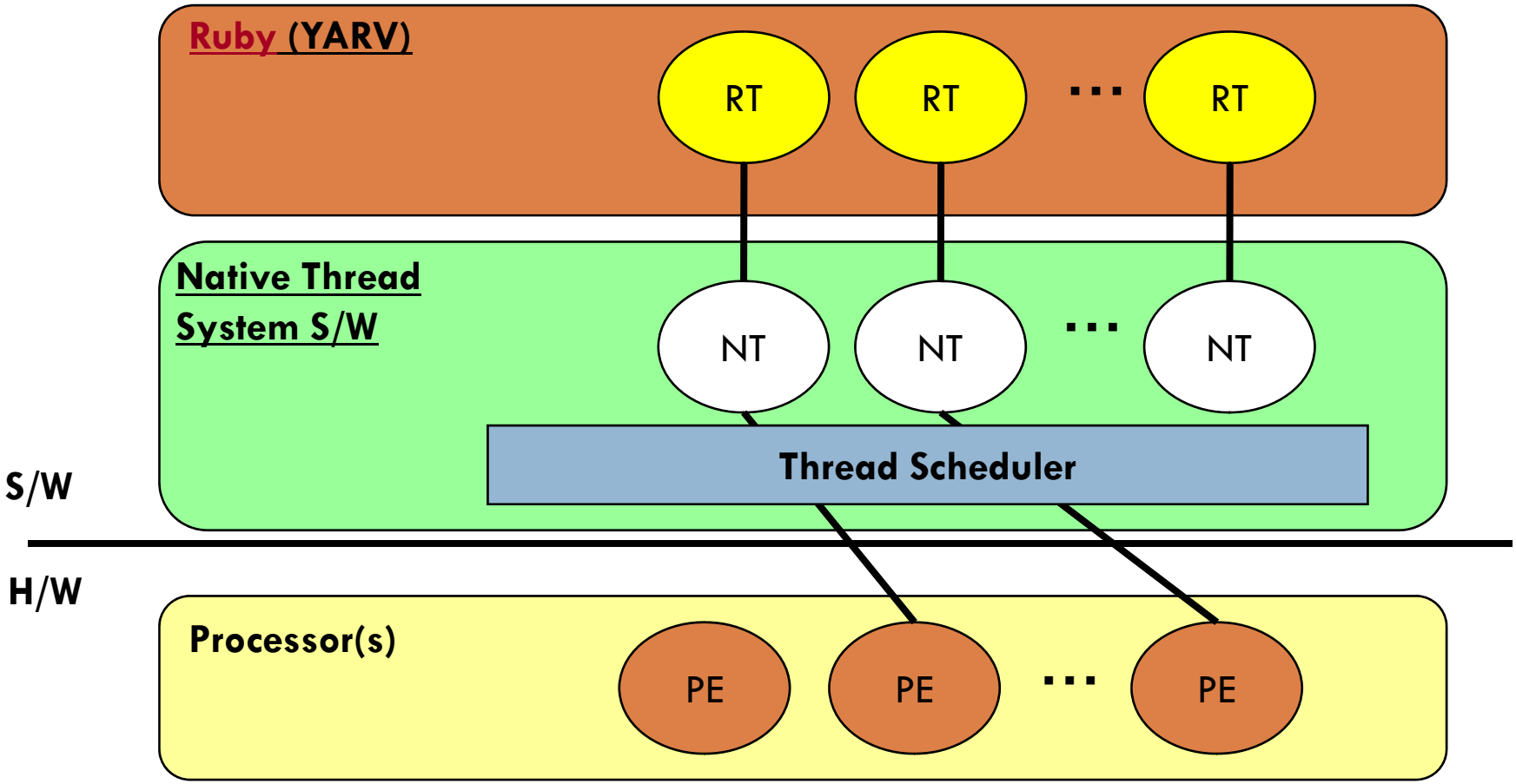
- Using Native Thread
- Get rid of Giant VM Lock

Method (1)
Ruby Thread and Native Thread (1:N) a.k.a -1.8 Ruby model



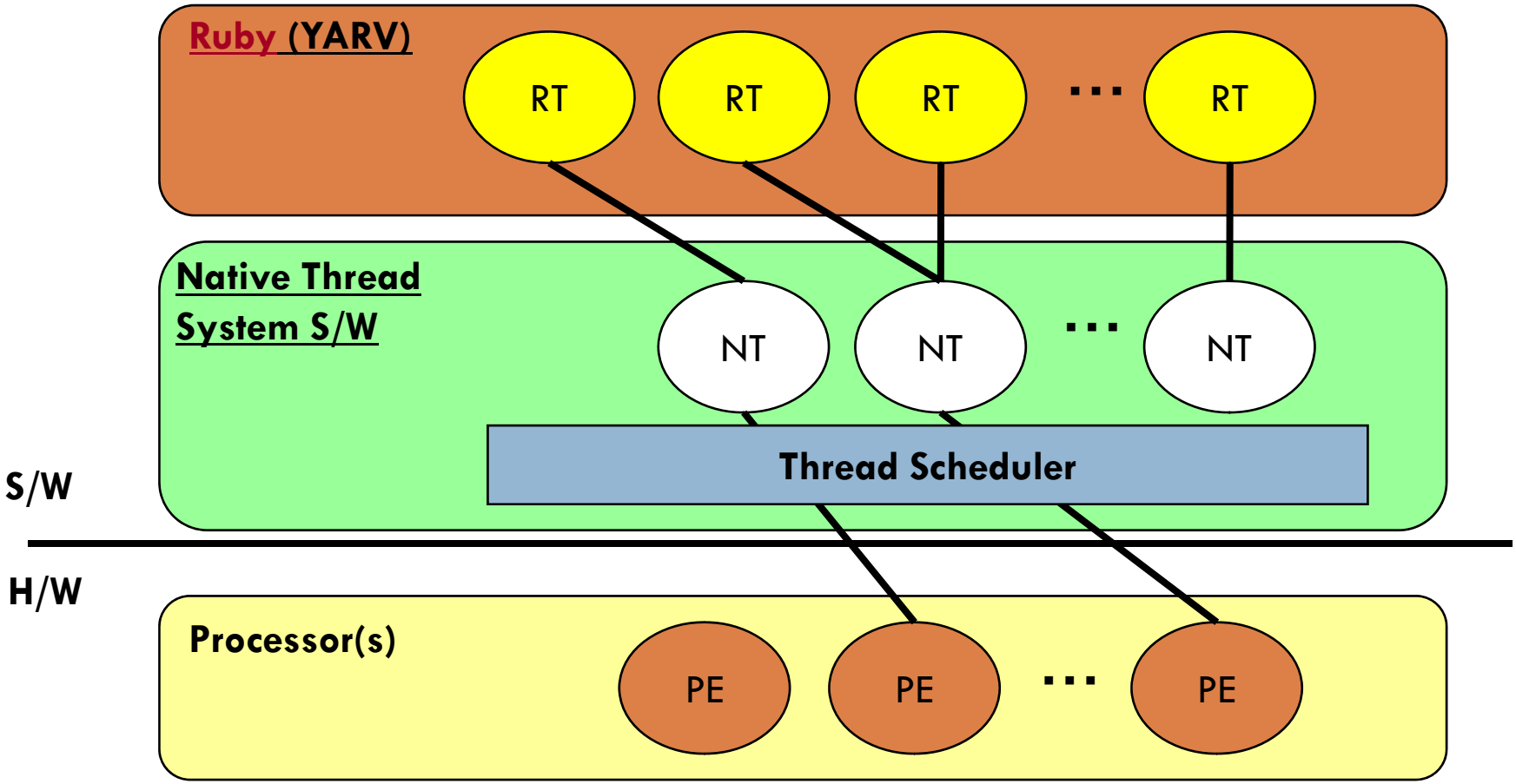
PE: Processor Element, UL: User Level, KL: Kernel Level

Method (2)
Ruby Thread and Native Thread (1:1)



PE: Processor Element, UL: User Level, KL: Kernel Level

Method (3)
Ruby Thread and Native Thread (N:M)



PE: Processor Element, UL: User Level, KL: Kernel Level

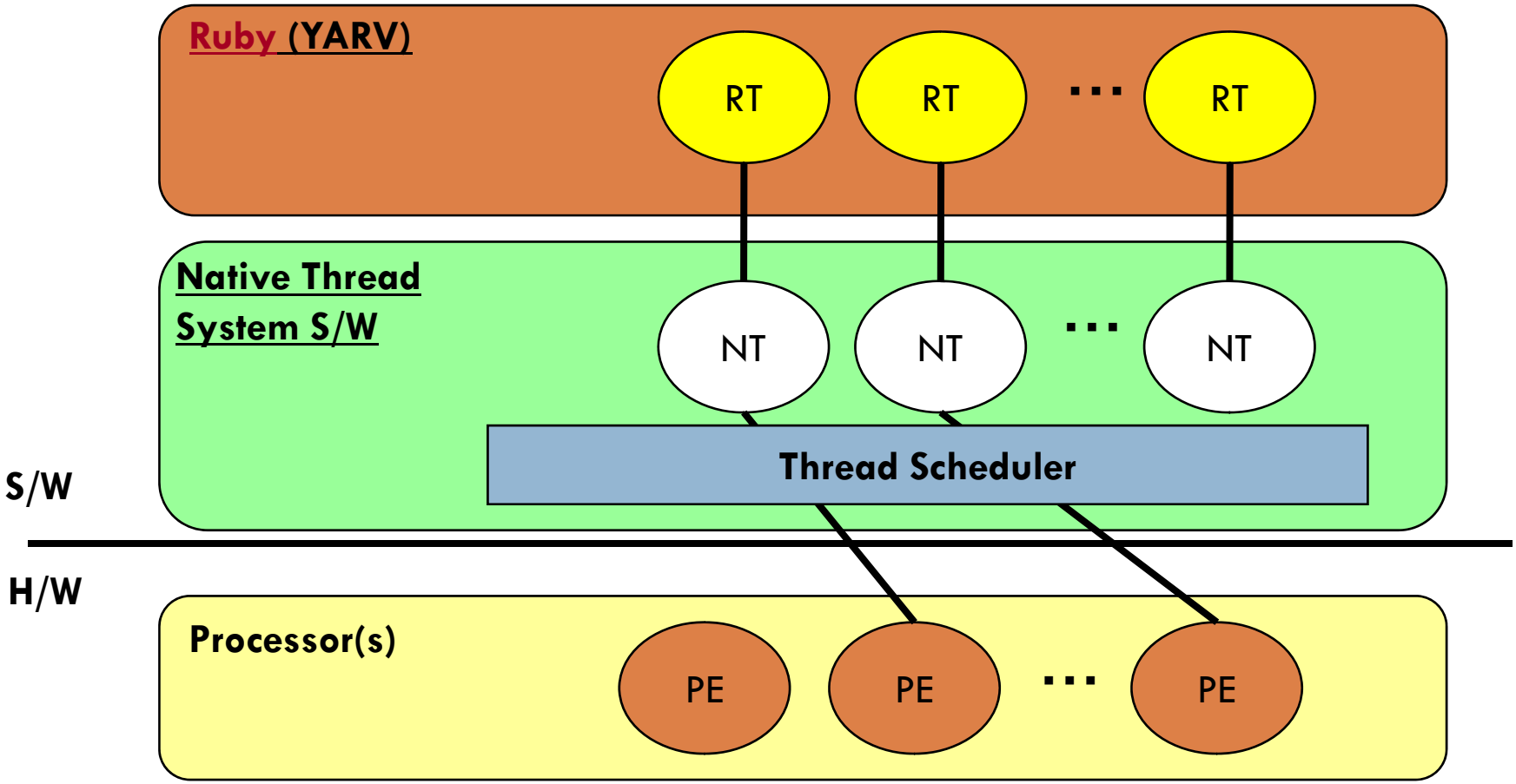
Discussion
Ruby Thread and Native Thread

- Mapping with Native Thread and Ruby Thread

	Pros	Cons
1:N	Lightweight Thread Control	Can't run in Parallel
1:1	Run in Parallel Simple, Portable	Heavyweight Thread Control (Creation, etc)
N:M	Lightweight Thread Control, Run in Parallel	Complication, Non-Portable

- Accept 1:1 model to make Ruby Simple
  - Depend Performance on Native Thread Libraries

Accepted Method:
Ruby Thread and Native Thread (1:1) ← Ruby 1.9/YARV



PE: Processor Element, UL: User Level, KL: Kernel Level

Introduction of Mutual Exclusion

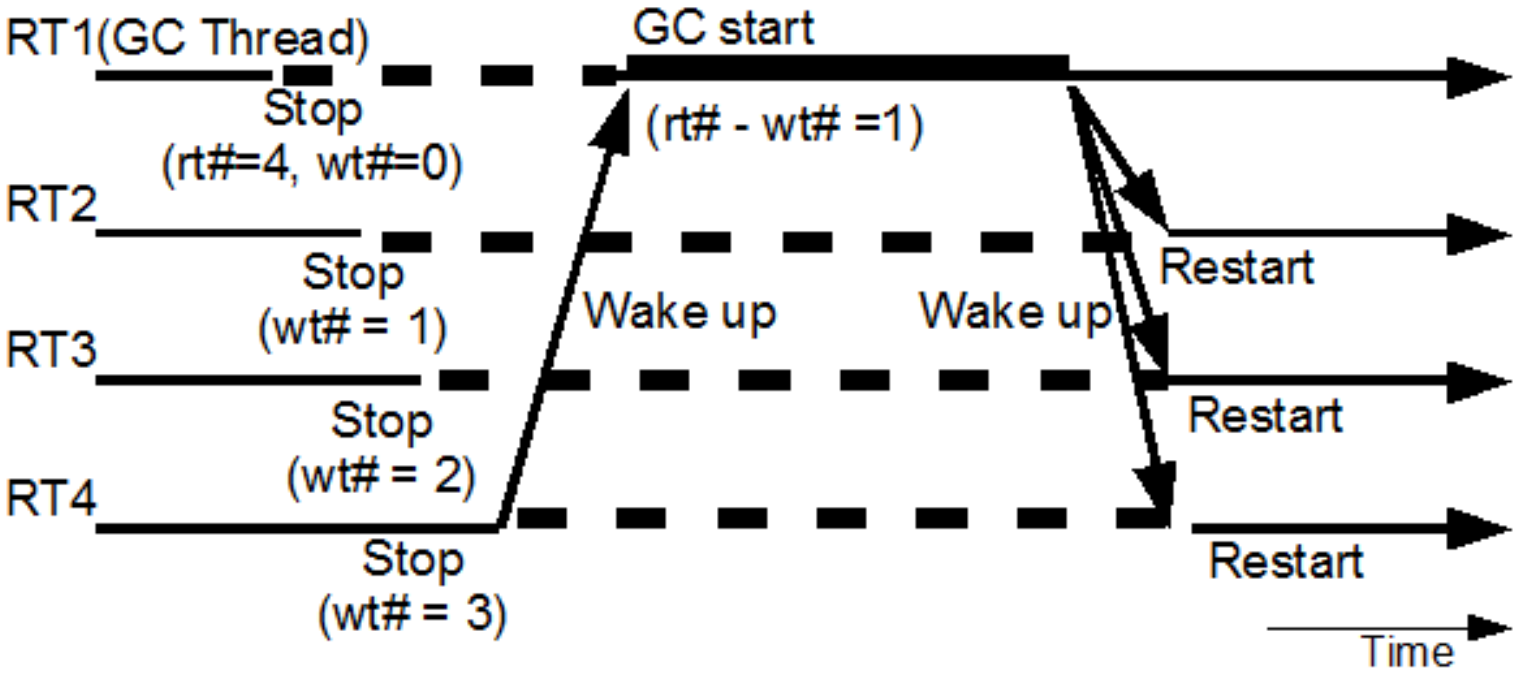
- Needed at
  1. Global VM Management Data
  2. Object Management / GC
  3. Inline Cache
  4. Thread Unsafe “C” methods

(1) Global VM Management Data

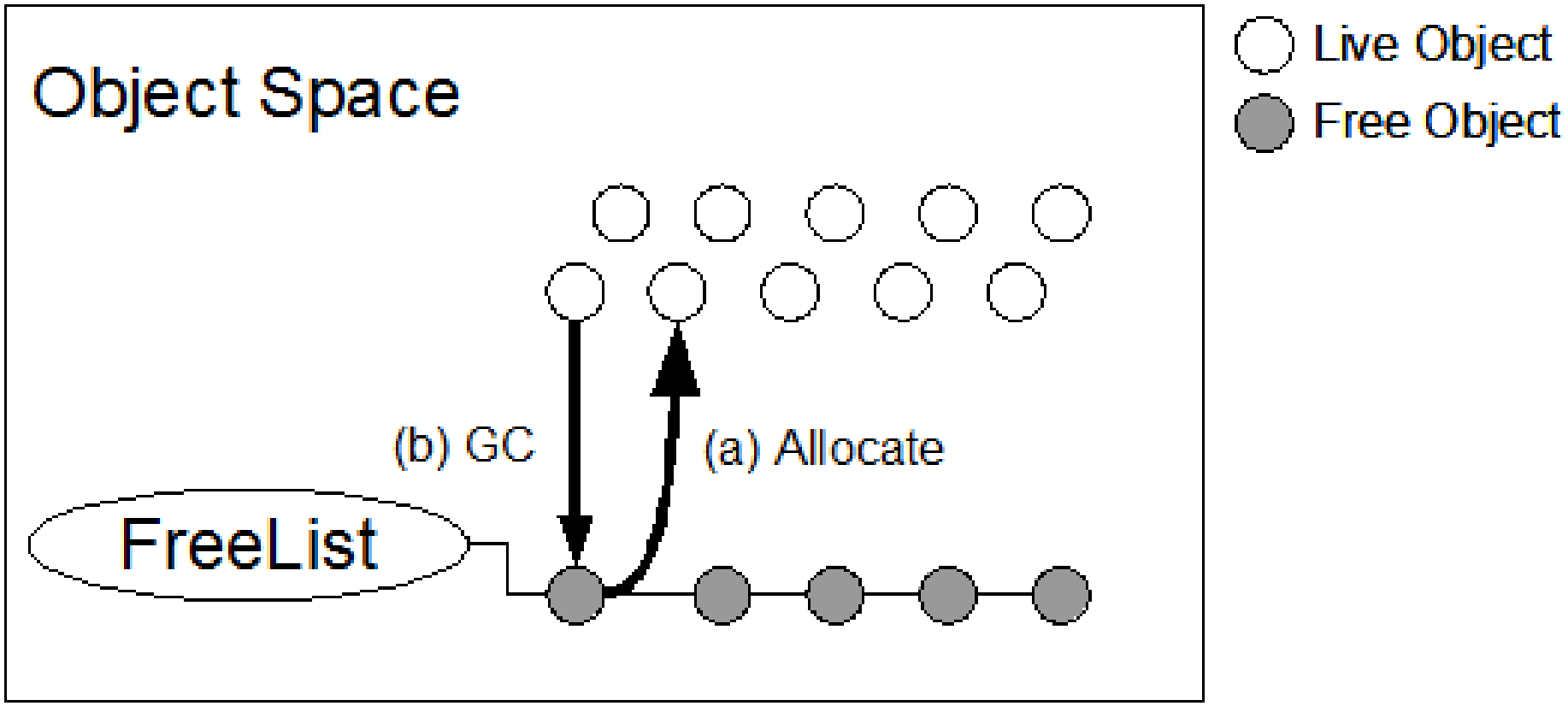
- Managed by Table
  - Variable Name → Value
  - Method Name → Method Body
  - …
- Introduce Synchronization at Table Operation
  - Get/Set
  - Easy

(2) Object Management/GC

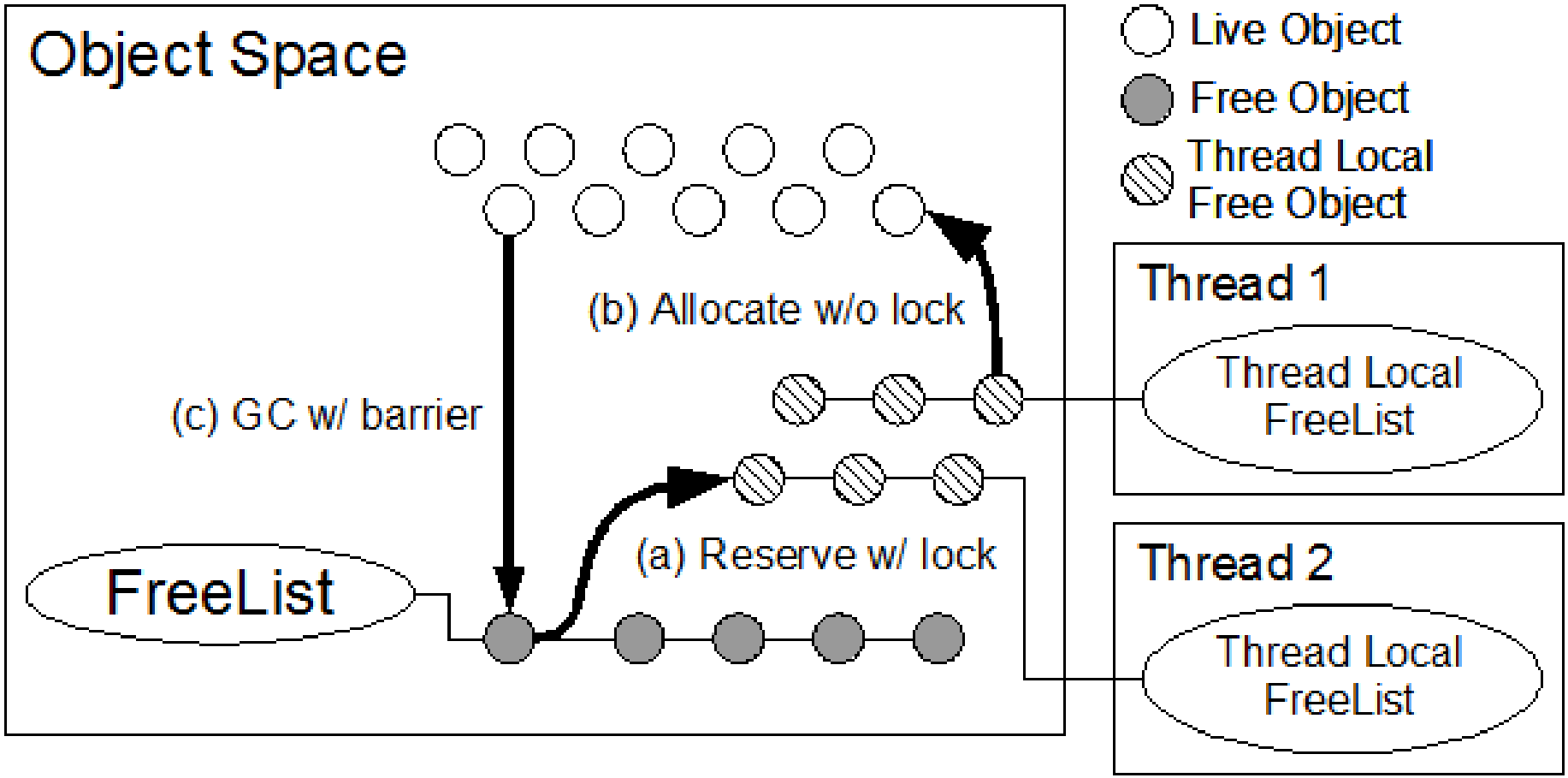
- Synchronous GC



(2) Object Management
Lock-Free Object Allocation with Thread Local Free List



(2) Object Management
Lock-Free Object Allocation with Thread Local Free List



(3) Inline Cache

- Using by VM performance
  - Embed Cache Entries in Instruction Sequence
- Sync. For Coherence -> Performance Problem
  - Key and Value of Cache Entry
- Sync.-Free Inline Cache
  - Cache Miss -> Make a new entry
    - GC will clean-up old cache entries
    - Increase Miss-Penalty, but Good for average

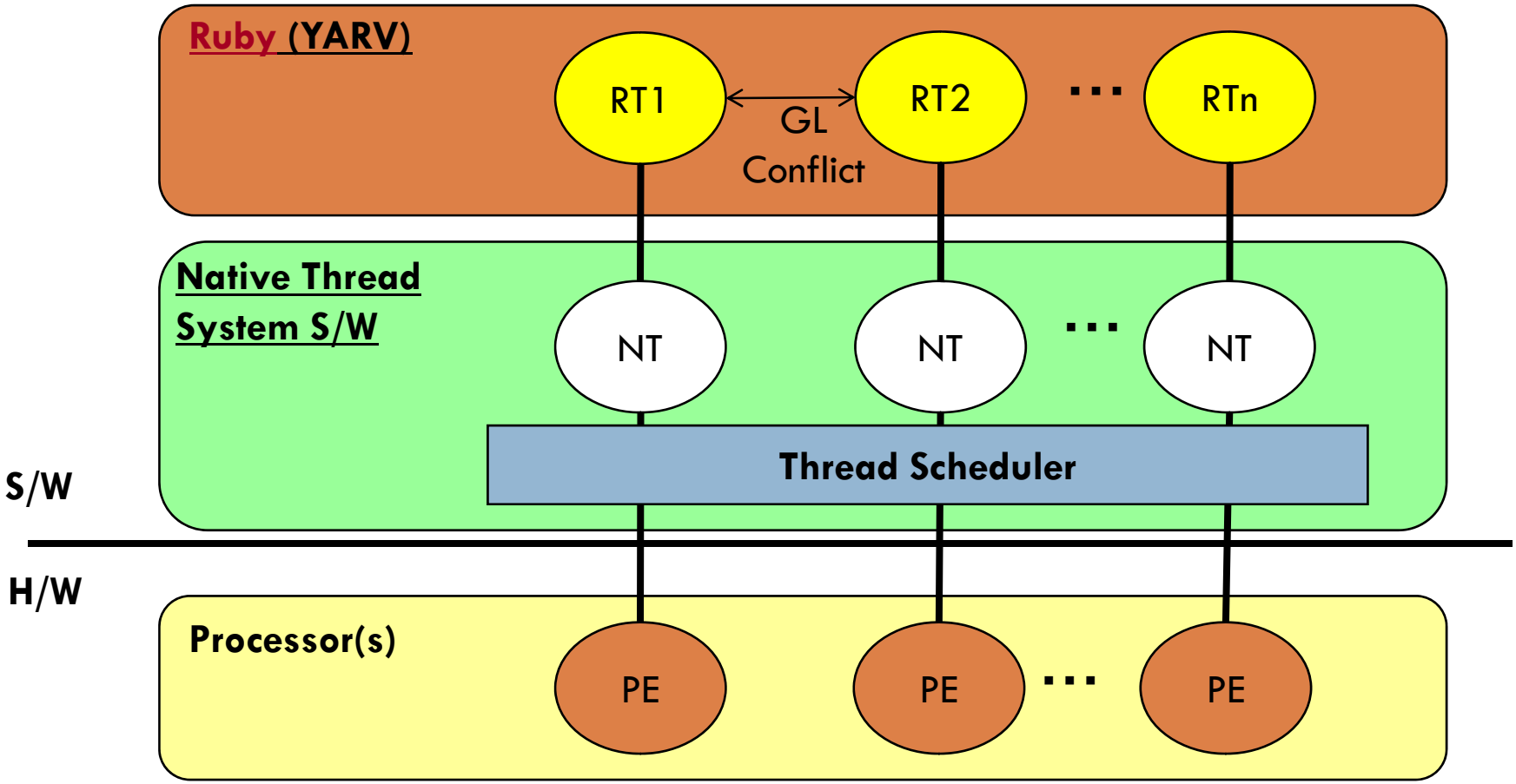
(4) Thread Unsafe “C” Methods

- CRuby has many many methods implemented by “C”
  - All of them are “Thread Unsafe”
  - Because -1.8 doesn’t support parallelization
- Basic Policy: Using Giant-Lock
  - Invoke old “C” method with Giant-Lock Acquire
  - Re-write C methods as Thread Safe, this method will be Giant-Lock free

Problem
Conflict of Giant-Lock Acquirement

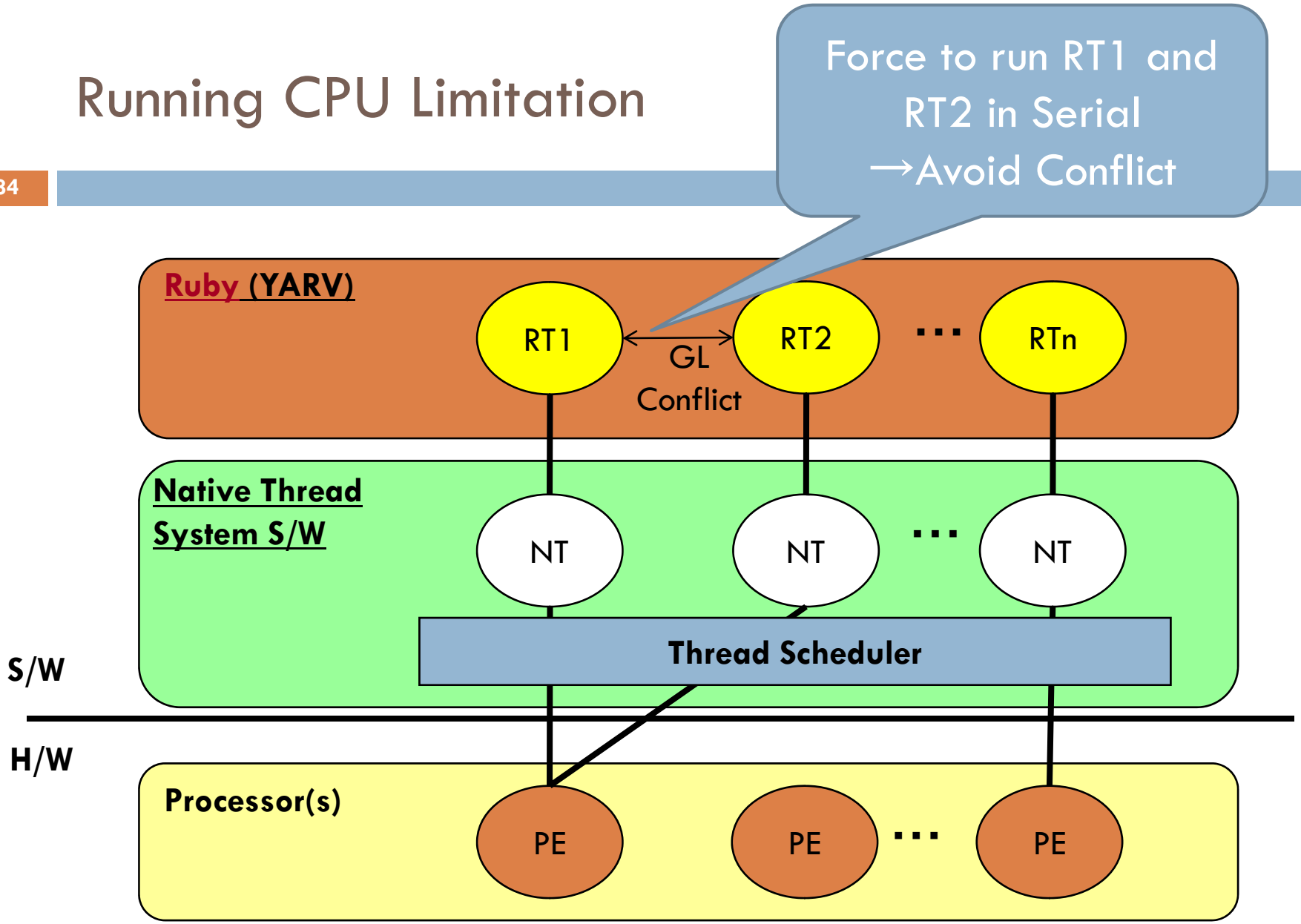
- GL Conflict → Performance Decrement
- Limit Running CPU
  - Check GL Conflict Periodically
  - Limit their CPU
  - Using pthread_setaffinity_np on NTPL
    - SetThreadAffinityMask on Windows

Running CPU Limitation



PE: Processor Element, UL: User Level, KL: Kernel Level

Running CPU Limitation



PE: Processor Element, UL: User Level, KL: Kernel Level

Performance Evaluation Environment

- Evaluation Environment
  - CPU: Intel Xeon CPU E5335 2.0GHz

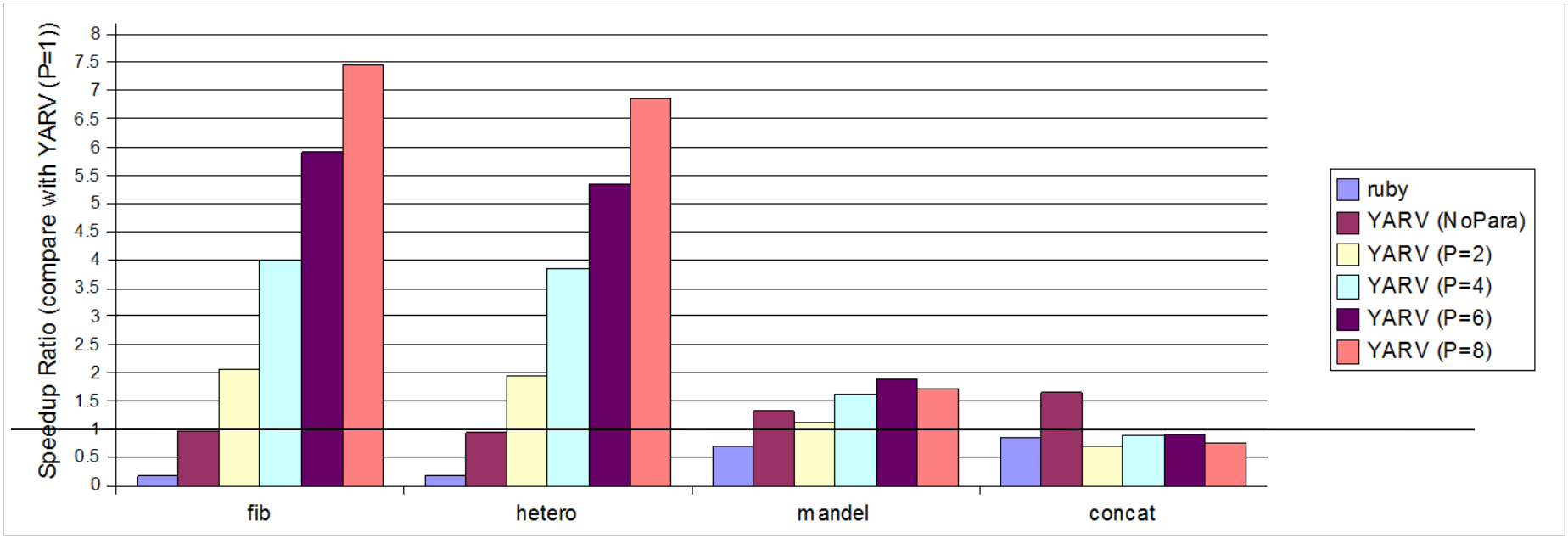
    Quad core x 2 = 8 core
  - OS: GNU/Linux 2.6.18 x86_64 SMP / NPTL
  - Compiler: gcc version 4.1.2
- Ruby
  - ruby 1.8.6 (2007-11-02) [x86_64-linux]
- YARV Optimization
  - All except Unification, Stack caching

Evaluation
Thread control Primitives

- Creation, Switch: 0.1M, Mutual Exclusion: 1M
- Low Performance for Creation/Join because of Native Thread
  - Native Thread Overhead
  - Memory Allocation Overhead
- High Performance Synchronization
- High Performance Thread Context Switch
  - Independent Stack-Depth (1.8 depends on depth)

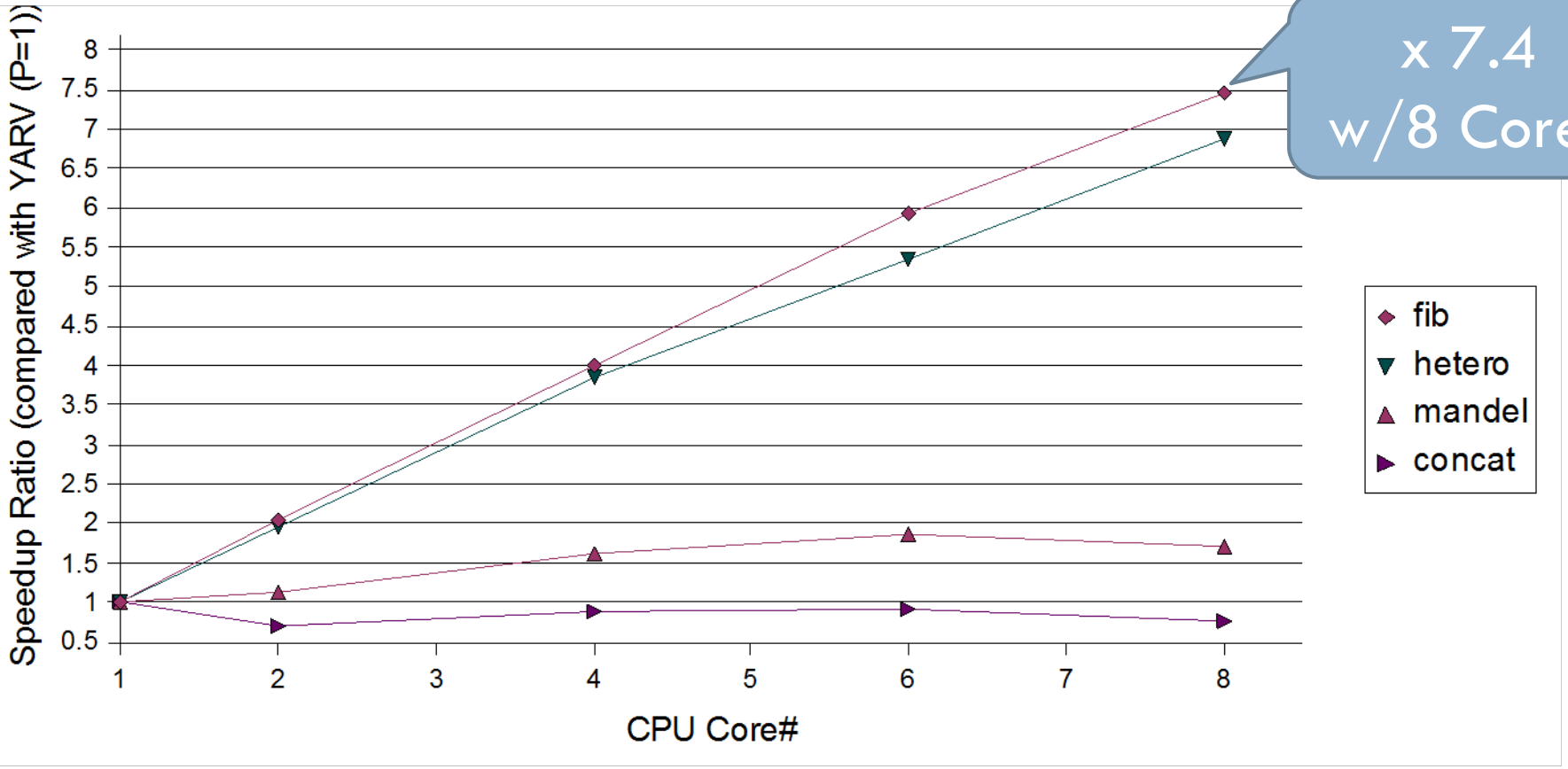
	Ruby (sec)	YARV (sec)	Ratio	NTPL (sec)
Creation	0.89	1.95	0.46	0.59
Mutual Exclusion	0.67	0.38	1.76	-
Switch (depth:1)	6.01	0.06	100.17	-
Switch (depth:16)	11.55	0.06	192.5	-

Evaluation
Result (Micro-benchmark)

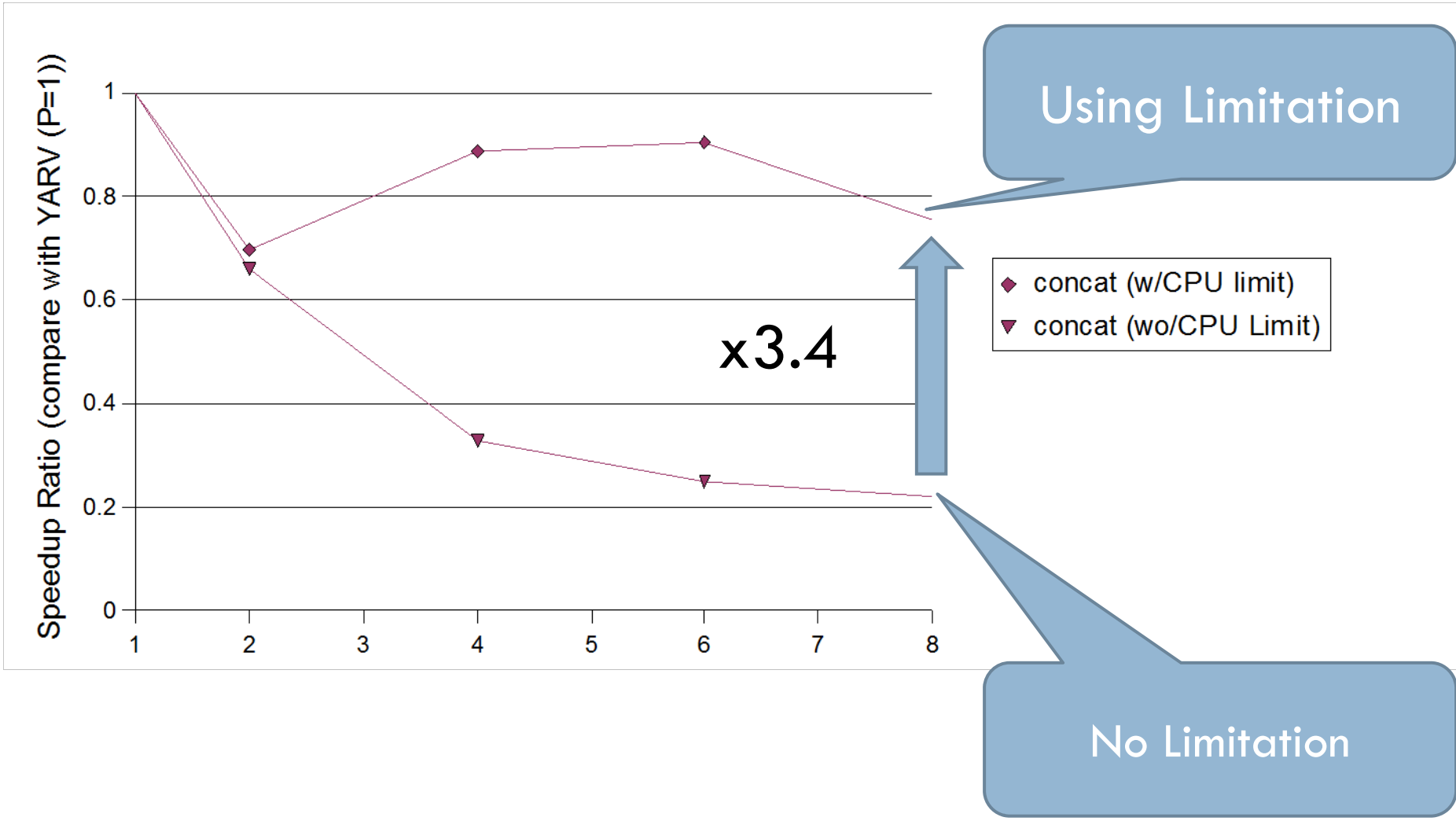


- fib: fib(N) (Make new Thread if N>30)
- hetero: fib + concat (1 thread)
- mandel: Mandelbrot (Big GC overhead)
- concat: String Concatenate (No Parallelism)

Evaluation Result (Micro-benchmark)



CPU Limitation



Parallel Thread Execution Problem

- Unsafe “Old C” methods
  - Replacing all is not easy task
  - Man Power Problem?
- Programming Model
  - Is Parallel Thread Application easy to write?
- Ruby 1.9
  - 1.9 support Native Thread
  - 1.9 doesn’t support Parallel Thread Execution

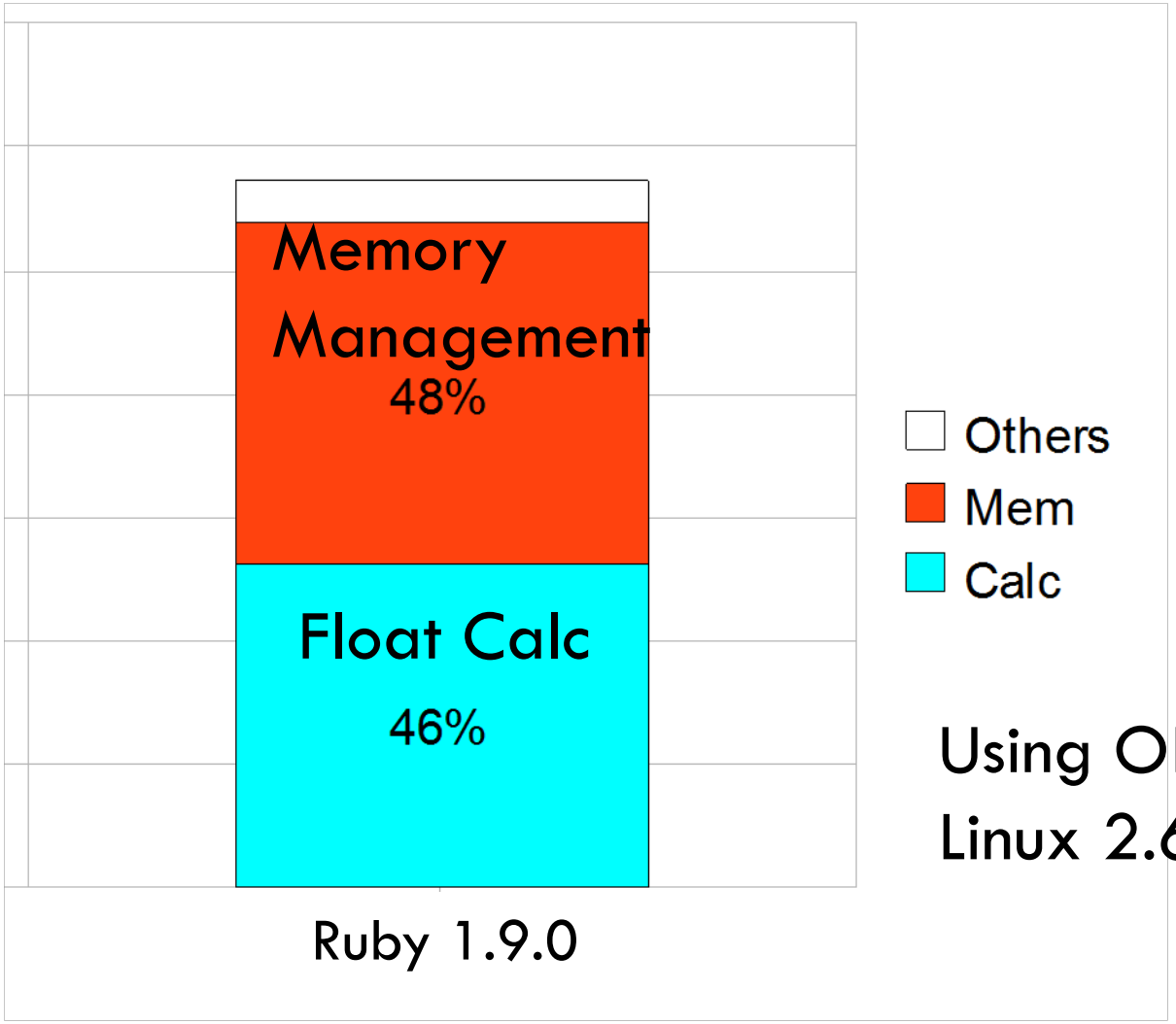
Embedded Float Representation

- Float object is not immediate type
  - This means that Float is “allocated” each time
  - Ex) Fixnum, Symbol, etc
- Half execution time of Float calculation is Memory management

Toy-Program


```
i = 0; f = 0.0
while i<30_000_000
  i += 1
  f += 0.1; f -= 0.1
  f += 0.1; f -= 0.1
  f += 0.1; f -= 0.1
  f += 0.1; f -= 0.1
end
```

List of Execution Time Toy-Program



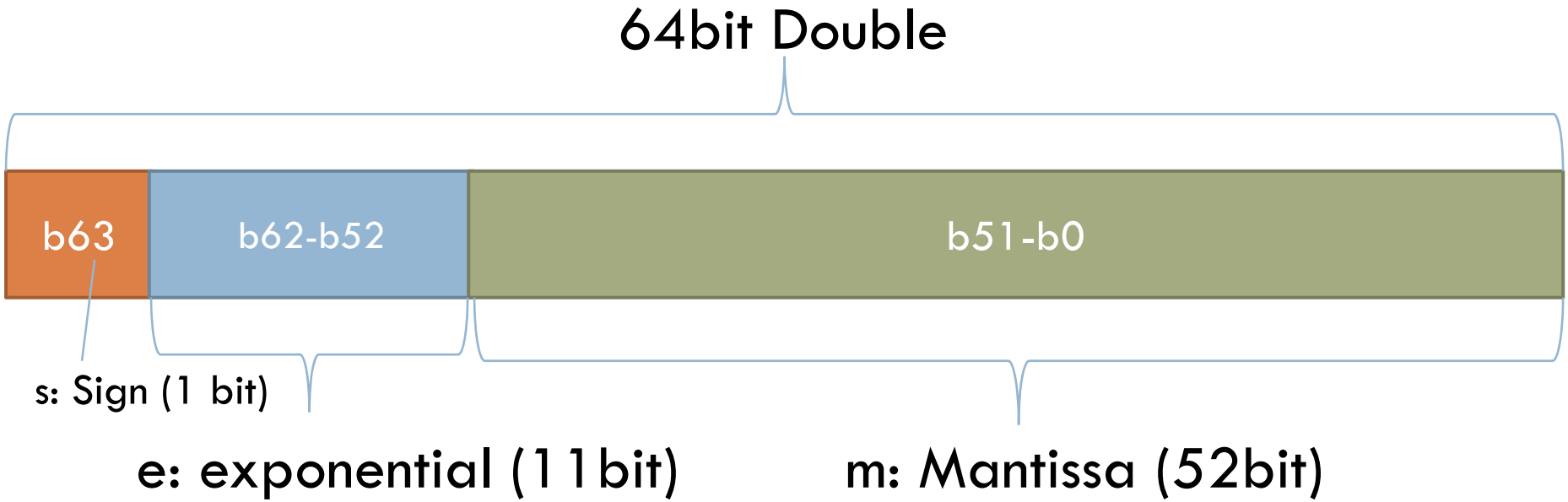
Using OProfile

Linux 2.6 (x86_64), Xeon

Embed Float Object as Fixnum

- Solution: Embed 64bit Float value to 64bit CPU Pointer type!

Review
IEEE 754 Double Precision Representation



$$-1^{s}2^{e-1024}m \quad (m = 1 + \sum_{i=0}^{51} \frac{b_i}{2^{52-i}})$$

Discussion

How to Embed 64 bit Double?

- VALUE embed Object doesn't need memory overhead
- **64bit CPU have 64 bit pointer type**

  → **Use 64 bit CPU**
- At least we need 1 bit for TAG bit
  - From Mantissa?
    - Decrease Precision
  - From Exponential?
    - Decrease Representation Range

Proposal

- From Exponential

  But Store Float in Heap if it is Out of Range

  → **Save a Range and Precision**

  - Often used 01000000000b～10111111111b

    ($2^{-512} \sim 2^{511}$)

  - If Float is out of range, alloc from Heap
  - **Float Out of this Range is Rare Number on Numeric Application -> Practical Solution**

Proposal
Real Program

- 1) Check the Range of “e” (512～1535)
- 2) IEEE745 double -> Float (Encoding)
- 3) Float -> IEEE745 double (Decoding)

Proposal
Float Representation with Tag

- e: 10000000000b～01111111111b
- Note that if “b62 != b61”, we can embed.
- On Ruby, Tag is at LSB
  → Left Rotate **3bit**
- b63 b62 b61 b60 ⋯ b0 → 3 bit rotate
  b60 ⋯ b0 b63 b62 b61

Proposal
Real Encoding Code


```
VALUE rb_float_new(double dbl) {
  VALUE v1 = BIT_DOUBLE2VALUE(dbl);
  VALUE v2 = BIT_ROTL(v1, 3);
  if ((v2 + 1) & 0x02) // check lower 2 bits
    return v2 | 0x01;     // Embed tag
  else {
    if (dbl == 0) // 0.0
      return ruby_float_zero;
    else                  // alloc from Heap
      return rb_float_new_in_heap(dbl);
  }}
```

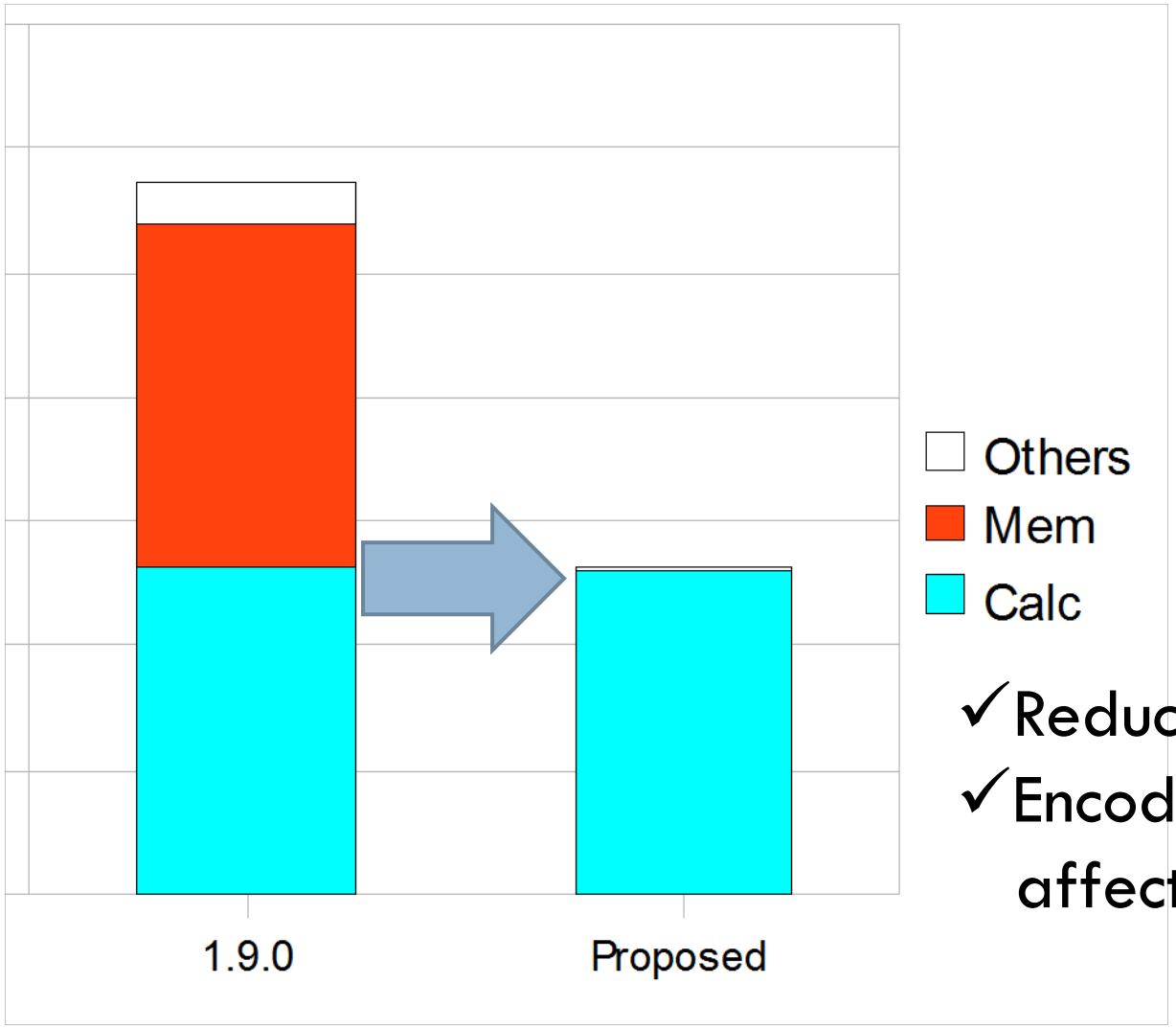
Proposal
Real Decode Code


```
double RFLOAT_VALUE(VALUE v) {
  if (v & 1) {
    VALUE v1 = v ^ ((v >> 1) & 1);
    VALUE v2 = BIT_ROTR(v1, 3);
    return BIT_VALUE2DOUBLE(v2);
  }
  else
    return RFLOAT(v)->float_value;
}
```

Implementation

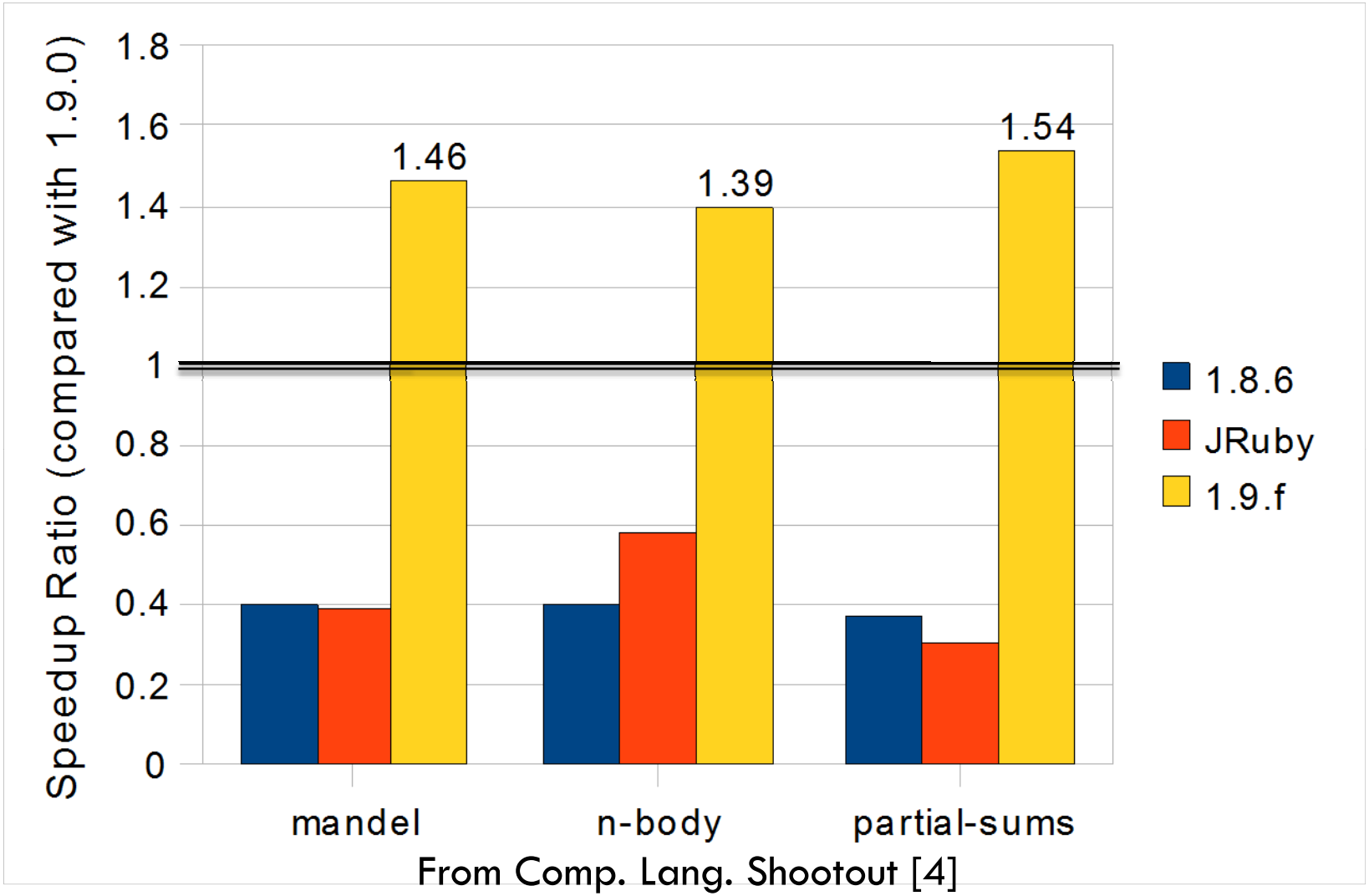
- Ruby 1.9.0-0
- Easy to Implementation
- No Spec Changes

Evaluation
Toy-Program



- ✓Reduce Mem Time
- ✓Encode/Decode don't affect to Performance

Evaluation
Compared with other Ruby Impl.



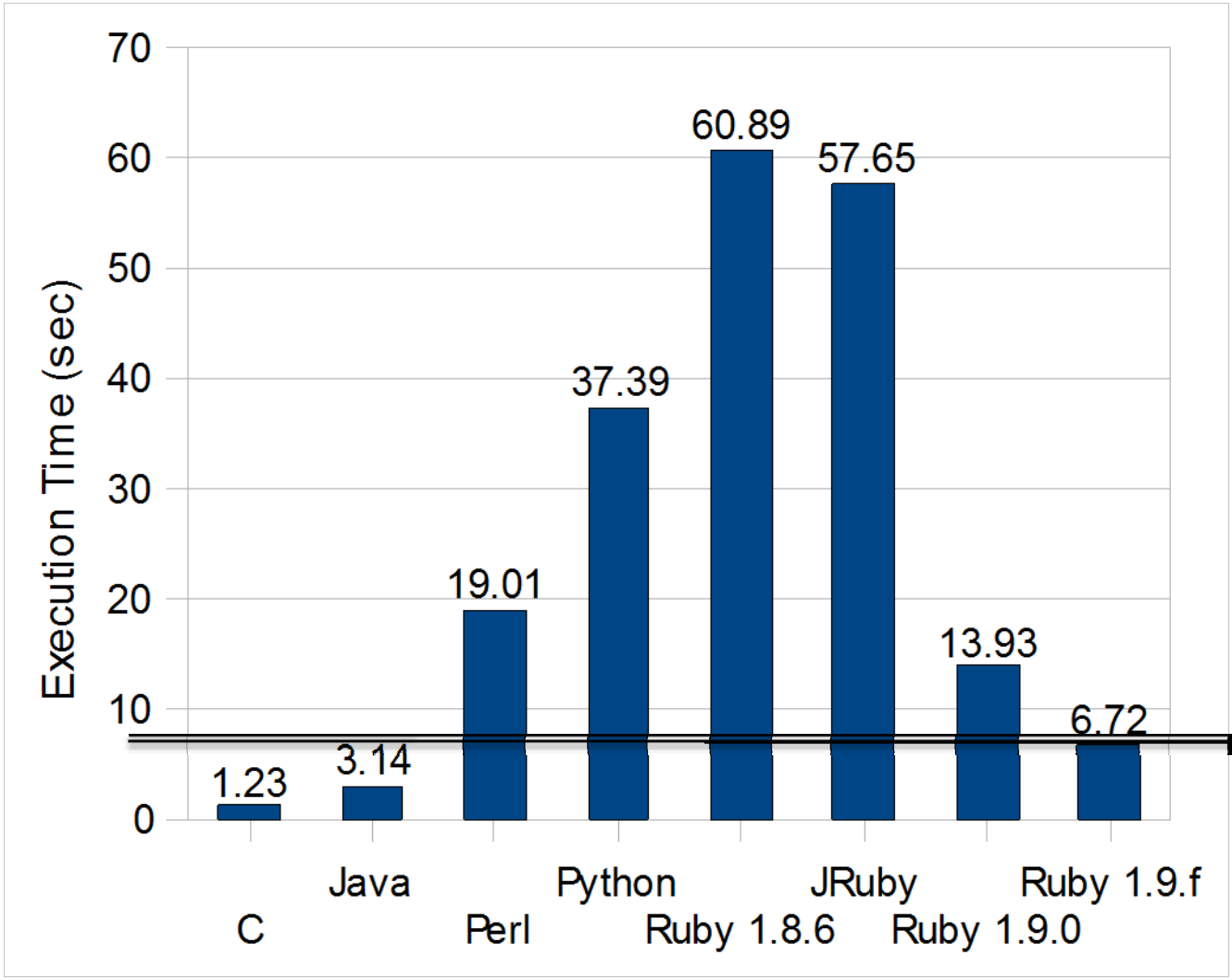
From Comp. Lang. Shootout [4]

Evaluation Compared with Other Languages

- Evaluate with other languages
- Note that C/Java use “volatile” to avoid optimization

```
i = 0; f = 0.0
while i<30_000_000
   i += 1
    f += 0.1; f -= 0.1
    f += 0.1; f -= 0.1
    f += 0.1; f -= 0.1
    f += 0.1; f -= 0.1
end
```

Evaluation
Compared with Other Languages



[PLAN]
JIT Compiler

- I'm re-designing to reduce VM instructions to impl. it easy
  - Current VM has about 50 instructions
  - Ex) "definemethod" move to "Method"

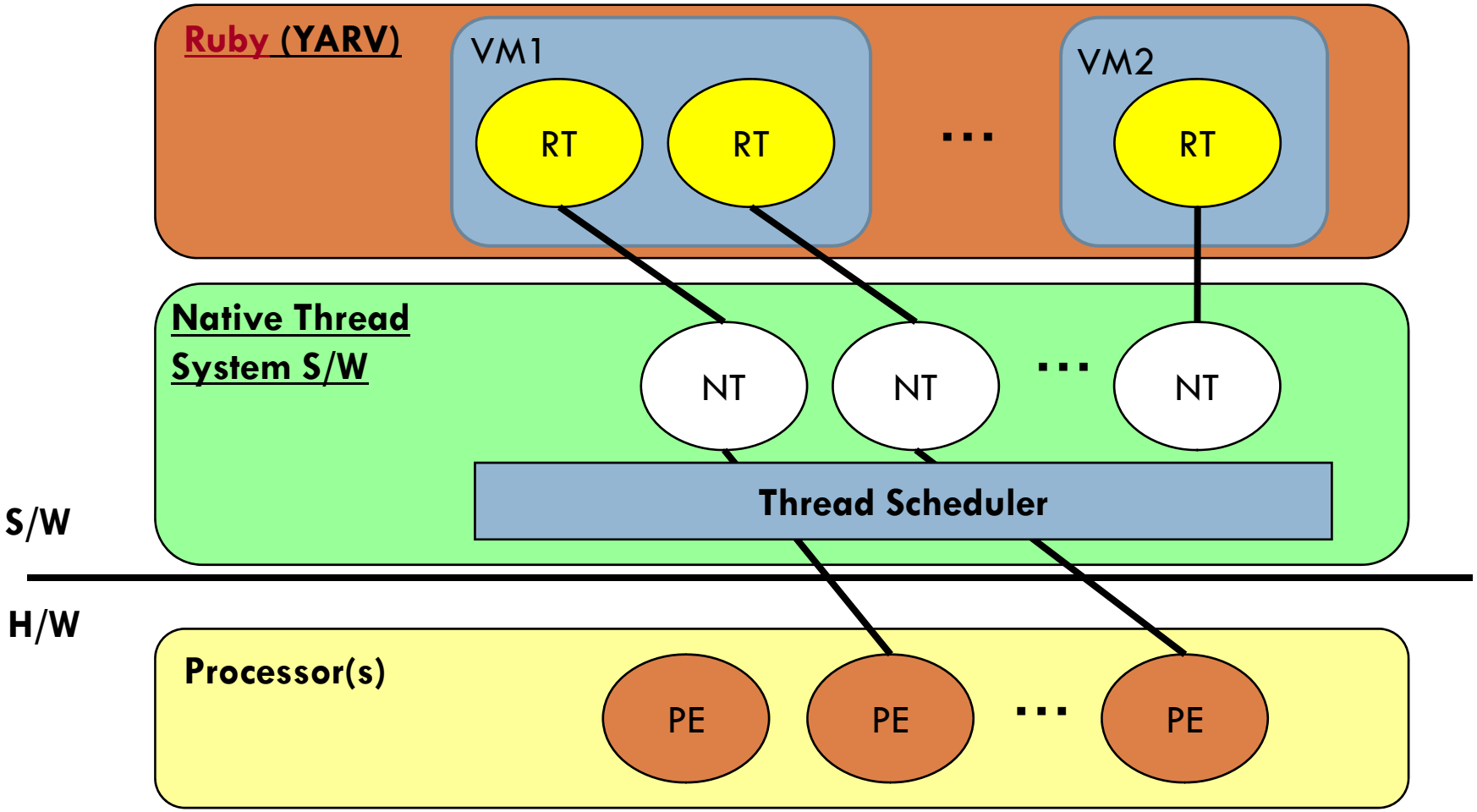
[PLAN] Pre-Compiler

- YARV VM Generator helps us
  - Ruby to “Pre-compiled”
  - Ruby to “C”
- Purpose
  - Eliminate Loading-Time
  - More aggressive optimization
  - Obfuscation (?)

[PLAN] Multi-VM Creation

- Purpose
  - Embed Ruby into Application
    - mod_ruby, …
  - Sand-box

Multi-VM Overview



PE: Processor Element, UL: User Level, KL: Kernel Level

Multi-VM Points

- How to control VMs?
  - C Level? → Designed with Nobuyoshi Nakada
    - Making new VM is need only 3 lines
  - Ruby Level?
- How to share environments Inter VM
  - Trade off between Isolation and Util.

[PLAN] Customizable VM Core

- Ruby is tooooo FAT to use XXX purpose
  - Many Many Convenience Methods/Feature
- Need Re-design Ruby Core

[PLAN] Debug/Profile Support Feature

- Only cheep Debugger/Profiler API
  - set_trace_func, Thread#set_trace_func
- Introduce “break” instruction?

Future Work
Benchmark

- Current Benchmark suits is for checking YARV Performance
  - Focus to YARV optimization
  - Toy benchmarks
- We need more pragmatic benchmarks

Summary

- YARV Merged into Ruby 1.9
- I'm working at Advanced VM Topics
  - Performance
    - Parallel Thread Execution
    - Embedding Float Value
    - JIT Compiler
    - Pre-Compiler
      - "Ruby to Compiled file" Compiler
      - "Ruby to C" Compiler
  - New Feature
    - Multi-VM Creation
    - Customizable Ruby Core
    - Debug/Profile support feature

Summary

Merging YARV is not a goal, but a start

VM is a very flexible infrastructure to hack

One more thing…

Sasada Lab@U-Tokyo

- I'll make a laboratory from 2009, Apr
  - Department of Creative Informatics, Graduate School of Information Science and Technology, The University of Tokyo
  - Graduate School
  - Lab is at Akihabara, Tokyo, Japan
- Unfortunately I can't employ you as Research Assistant
  - There are not enough grants in Japan…

Research Topics

- Ruby, Ruby, Ruby, PHP, Ruby, Ruby
- Ruby, Ruby, Ruby, Ruby, Python, Ruby
- Ruby, Perl, Ruby, Ruby, Ruby, Ruby
- Ruby, Ruby, Ruby, Ruby, Lua, Ruby
- Ruby, Ruby, Java, Ruby, Ruby, Ruby
- Implementation of Programming Language
- Operating System / Processor Architecture
- Software development

Sasada Lab.


```
if you.have_interest(
  :Japan, Tokyo, :Akihabara,
  :Japanese,
  :Ruby, :Research, :Development
)
  you.send_mail_to “ko1 at atdot dot net”
end
```

Thank you for your attention!
Any Questions?

ささだ こういち
Koichi Sasada
Ko1 at atdot dot net