

On The Implications of Language Constructs for Concurrent Execution in the Energy Efficiency of Multicore Applications

Gustavo Pinto, Fernando Castor - {ghlp, castor}@cin.ufpe.br

The Problem

The performance of the existing constructs for concurrent execution is reasonably well-understood. But, little is known about the energy-efficiency of these techniques.

“Race to idle”: Is a common belief that faster applications will also consume less energy.



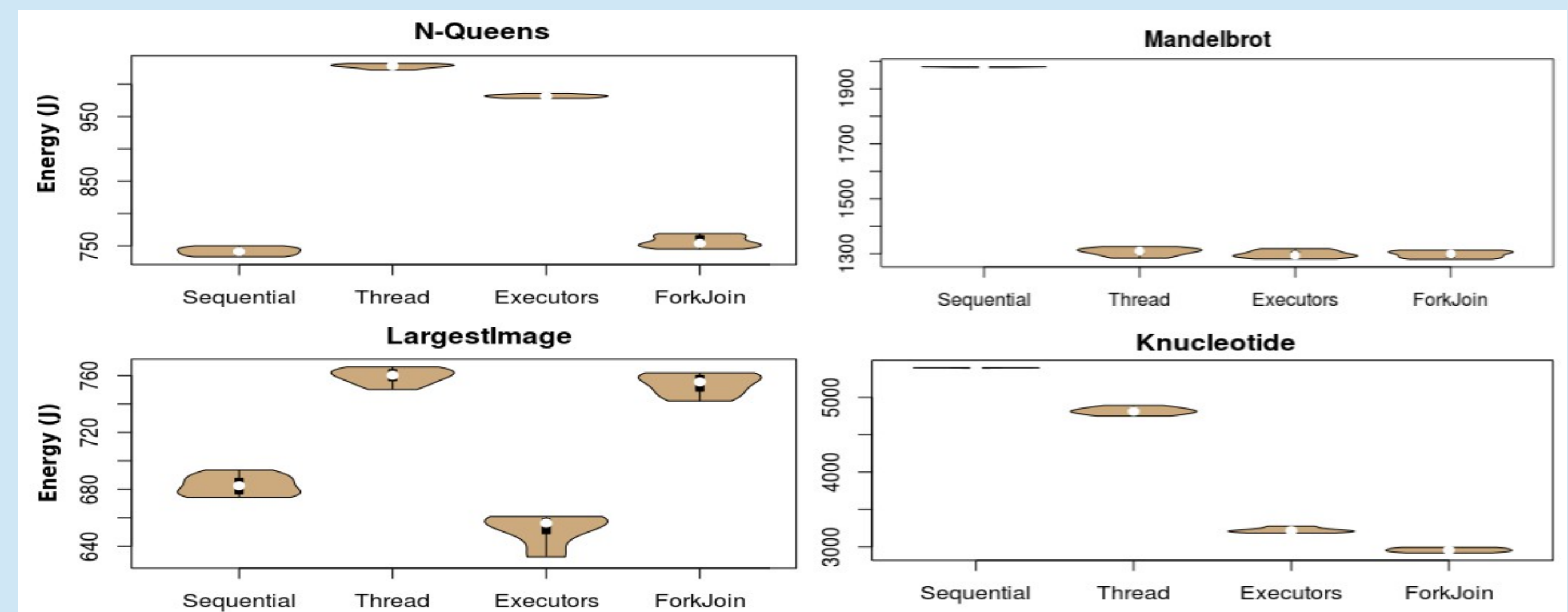
But... it is **not necessarily true!**

• Factors analyzed:

- **Internal factors**
 - Concurrent constructs
 - Number of threads
 - Resource usage
- **External factors**
 - Clock frequency
 - JVM providers

Some Results

Varying Concurrent Construct

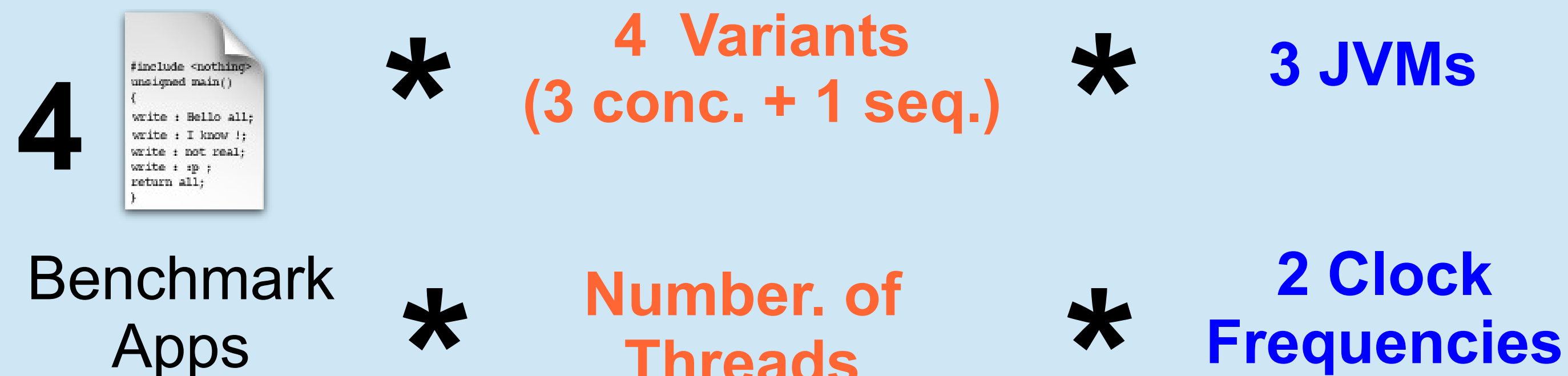


Different concurrent constructs could produce unexpected results.

The Benchmarks

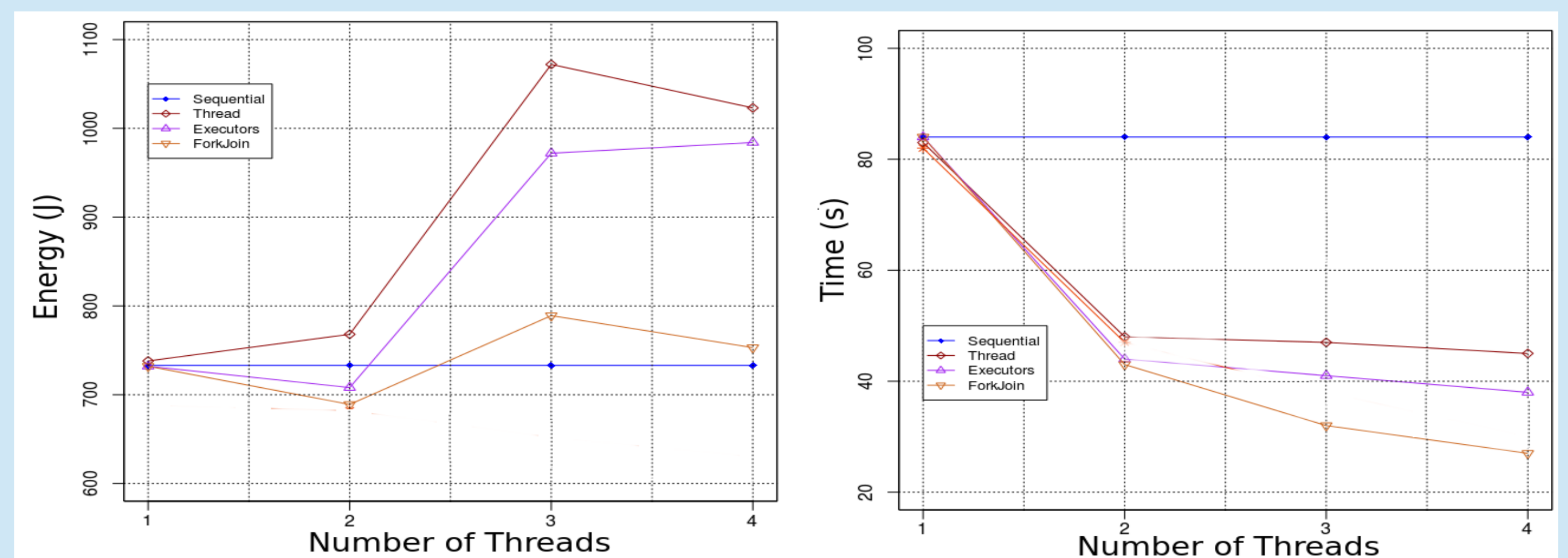
- N-Queens: CPU-bound
- Mandelbrot: CPU-bound
- LargestImage: IO-bound
- Knucleotide: 23% doing IO

The Study



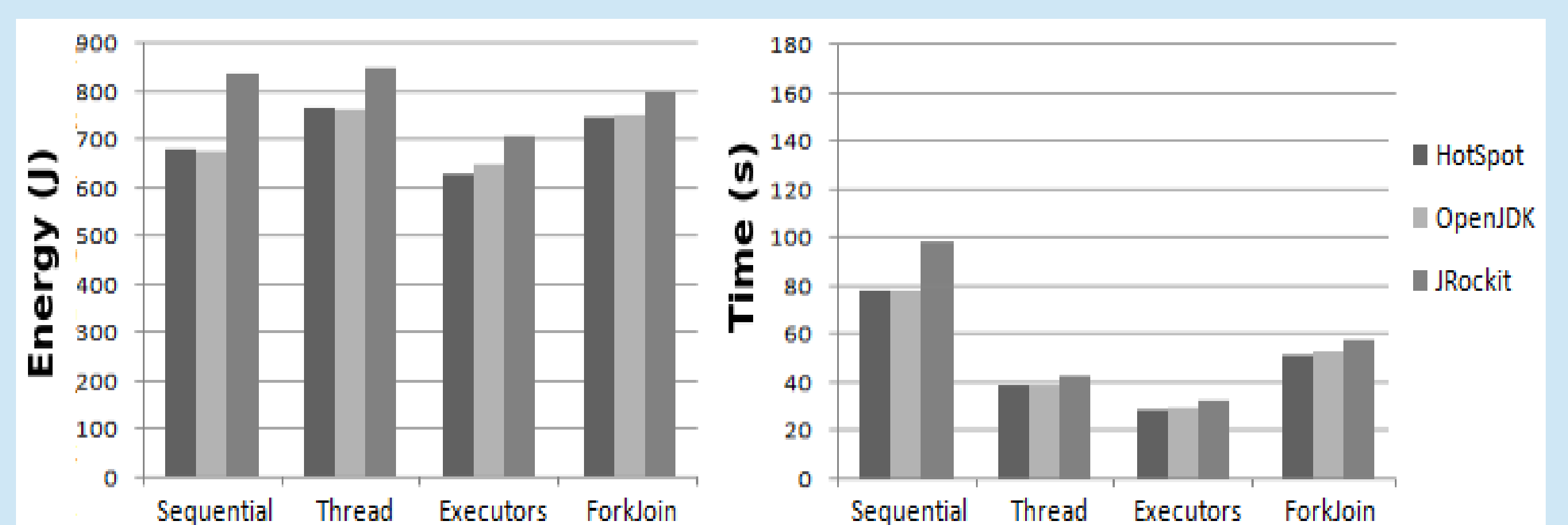
Intel(R) Xeon(R), 2.13 GHz, 4 cores/8 threads 16Gb of memory
Linux 64-bit, kernel 3.0.0.-31-server.

Varying number of Threads: N-Queens



Improvements in performance do not necessarily mean less energy consumed.

Varying JVM providers: LargestImage



Different JVM could increase in more than 10% of the energy consumed!

The Conclusions

- Some factors create variations, but some others do not.
 - Do
 - Nature of the problem
 - Concurrent programming construct
 - Do not
 - JVM implementation
 - CPU clock frequency
- We also found out that, for concurrent software, faster does not *always* mean greener

Future work

- To conduct a broader-scoped study.
- The results of this new study will provide input for us to derive a catalog energy code smell for concurrent software.
- Then we plan to proceed with the design of refactoring catalog that will enable application programmer to safely restructure their applications to use less energy



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