

How Slower Is the Fuckwit-ed Linux v4.14.11 Than the Un-fuckwit-ed Linux v4.14.10?

Al-Caveman

https://github.com/al-caveman/fuckwit_benchmark

January 4, 2018

Abstract

This is a practical scenario to see how much sufferings do I have because of the Meltdown¹ bug fix. The bug fix is officially named Kernel Page Table Isolation (KPTI), but it was once given a better name *Forcefully Unmap Complete Kernel With Interrupt Trampolines (Fuckwit)*. The goal is to make this evaluation close to my daily use, so no fancy tweaks involved, just a regular Arch Linux installation.

It turns out that the claim that Fuckwit could slowdown between 5% and 30% is a bit too tight as I found slowdowns to range from nothing, up to over 300%.

1 Intro

Testing hardware and software:

- Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-5600U CPU @ 2.60GHz.
- 4GB DDR3 SODIMM RAM clocked at 1,600 MT/s.
- Arch Linux.
- Web browser is qutebrowser v1.0.4, Git commit: e66dce236 (2017-12-16 17:28:18 +0100) (IMO best browser todate).

Testing scenarios:

- Basemark Web 3.0 benchmark from <https://web.basemark.com>, repeated 2 times.

¹<https://meltdownattack.com/>

- `time pdflatex somefile.tex` repeated 3 times, cause why not. Nothing special about `somefile.tex`; it's just some of my old documents.
- `time dd count=10000000 if=/dev/zero of=fuck` repeated 3 times, cause why not.

2 Results

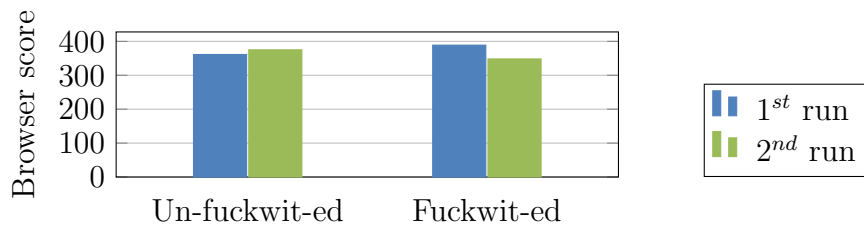


Figure 1: Basemark web 3.0 benchmark results using qutebrowser. I guess larger is better, but not sure. Not much difference.

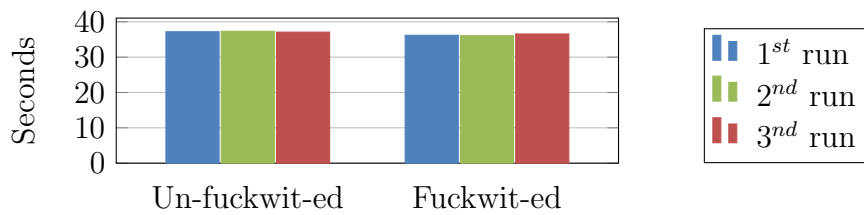


Figure 2: The `time pdflatex somefile.tex` scenario. Smaller is better. Not much difference.

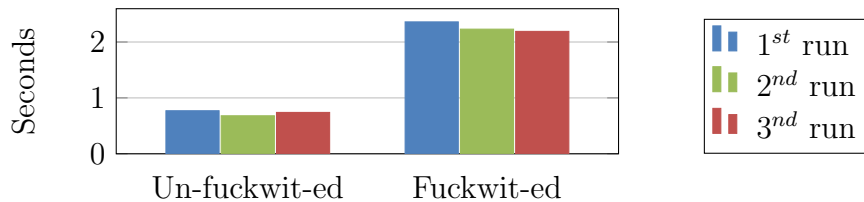


Figure 3: The `time dd count=10000000 if=/dev/zero of=fuck` scenario. Smaller is better. **Holy shit fuck Intel; speed is 310.13% slower on average.**

3 Conclusion

It's clear that Intel is a cuck, but it is unclear how `dd` relates to my daily use. Though must say over 300% slowdown is probably going to affect me sooner or later.

I am considering to compile my own kernel, without the Fuckwit patch, cause to be honest, NSA is more than welcome to watch my porn collection that is left in my CPU cache.

For now, I leave you with my 2,018AD edition of the infamous sports cheer by George Carlin's²:

“Ratshit fuckwit dirty old twad.
x86 assholes tied to a knot.
Hooray, Intelshit, fuck!”

²<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MpBINKZ3EBA>