



Architecture of software systems

Course 3: Virtual machines, byte-code, de-compiler, code protection, class loaders, reflection

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- » from **source-execution flow** perspective:
 - » scripting – no pre-compilation (e.g. Perl)
 - » with compilation
 - » into native-code (e.g. C)
 - » into byte-code (e.g. Java, .NET)
- » from **execution** perspective:
 - » machine-code execution
 - » interpreted (script or byte-code)
 - » hybrid – both interpreted and machine-code execution
- » BUT
 - » ahead-of-time (AOT) compiler – byte-code into native-code compiler for JAVA, .NET and others



- » Interpreted/byte-code vs. machine-code
 - » (+) platform independence – architecture (RISC/CISC, bits), OS
 - » (+) reflection – observe, modify own structure at run-time
 - » (+) dynamic typing – at run-time (JAVA has no dynamic typing)
 - » (+) small size
 - » (+) dynamic scoping – (Perl)
 - » (-) slower execution – interpreted mode, JIT latencies

```
var x := 5;  
var y := "37";  
var z := x + y;
```

```
$x = 0;  
sub f { return $x; }  
sub g { my $x = 1; return f(); }  
print g()."\n";
```

```
$x = 0;  
sub f { return $x; }  
sub g { local $x = 1; return f(); }  
print g()."\n";
```

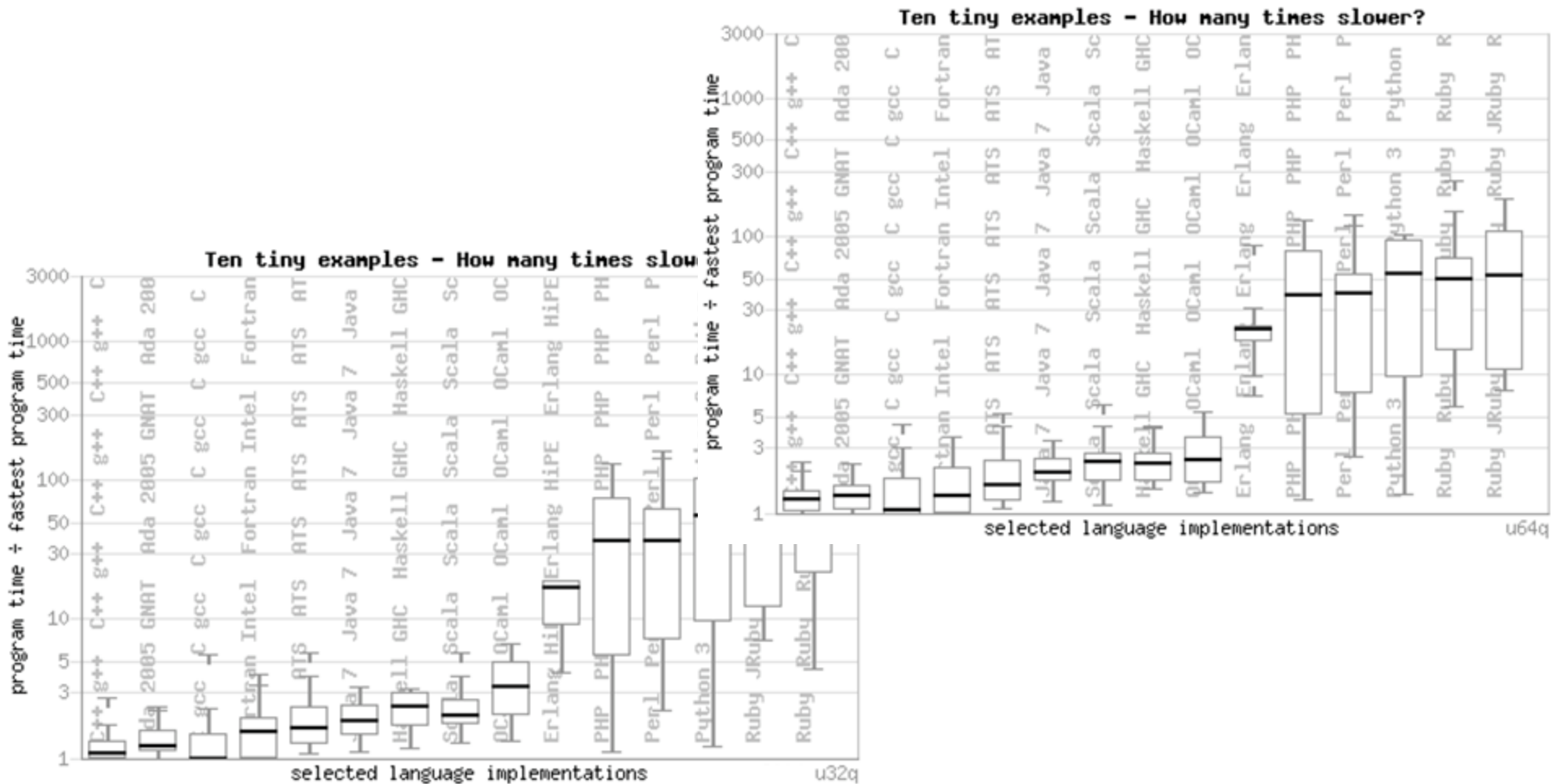
Introduction - Programming languages



» The Computer Language Benchmarks Game

(source: <http://shootout.alioth.debian.org/>)

» various langs, 13 different domains (binary-trees, etc.)





- » first release 1995 by Sun Microsystems (later Oracle)
- » many different implementations (GNU, IBM (J9), etc.)

- » standard source-execution model:
 - » code: source (.java)
 - » compile: byte-code (.class)
 - » run-time: Java Virtual Machine (JVM) in Java Runtime Environment (JRE)
 - » interpreter: byte-code
 - » Just-in-Time (JIT) compiler: native-code



- » Why understand byte-code?
 - » helps the same way as assembler helps C programmer
 - » tuning your programs
- » **stack-oriented** - stack machine model for passing parameters

$$(2 + 3) \times 11 + 1$$

Input	2	3	add	11	mul	1	add
Stack		3		11		1	
	2	2	5	5	55	55	56



- » **opcode** (1 byte + various parameters):
 - » load and store (aload_0, istore, aconst_null, ...)
 - » arithmetic and logic (ladd, fcmpl, ...)
 - » type conversion (i2b, d2i, ...)
 - » object manipulation (new, putfield, getfield, ...)
 - » stack management (swap, dup2, ...)
 - » control transfer (ifeq, goto, ...)
 - » method invocation (invokespecial, areturn, ...)
 - » exceptions and monitor concurrency (athrow, monitorenter, ...)
- » prefix/suffix – i, l, s, b, c, f, d and a (reference)
- » variables as registers – e.g. istore_1 (variable 0 is **this** for instance method)

```
add eax, edx
mov ecx, eax
```

VS.

```
0 iload 1
1 iload_2
2 iadd
3 istore_3
```



» frame

- » each thread has stack with frames (outside of heap, fixed length)

StackOverflowError vs. OutOfMemoryError

- » frame is **created** each time method is invoked (after it is **destroyed**)

- » frame **size** determined at compile-time (in class file)

- » variables (long, double in two)

- » {this} – *instance call only!*

- » {method parameters}

- » {local variables}

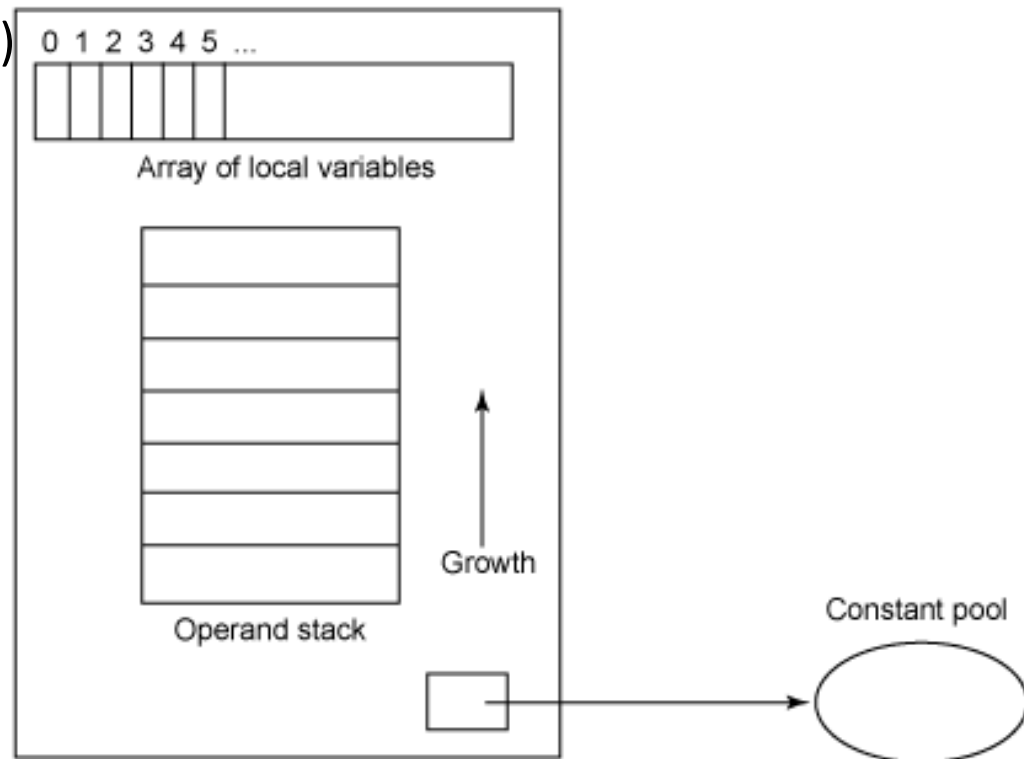
- » operand stack (any type)

- » LIFO

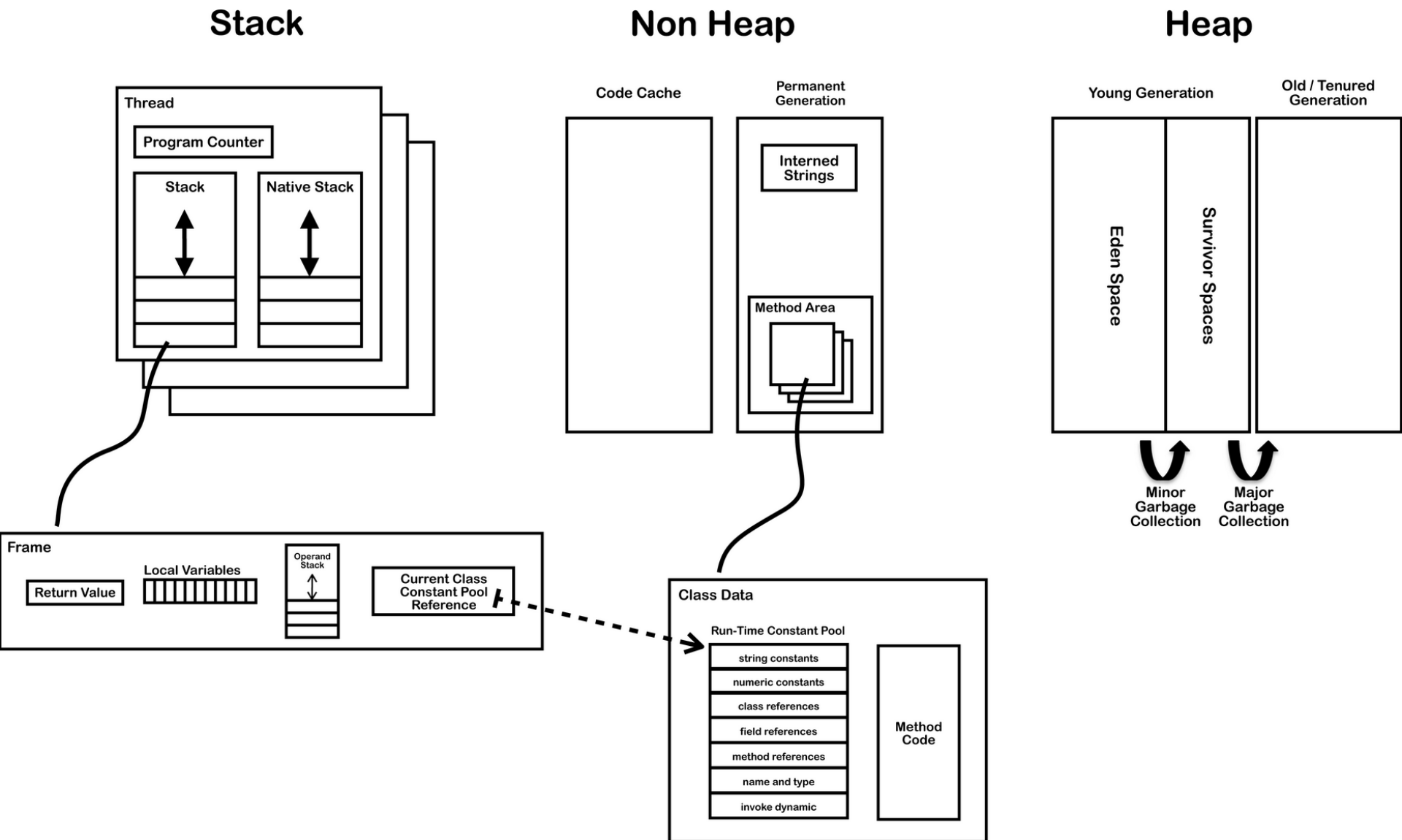
- » reference to run-time

- constant pool (class def)

- » method + class is associated



Java virtual machine – memory organisation

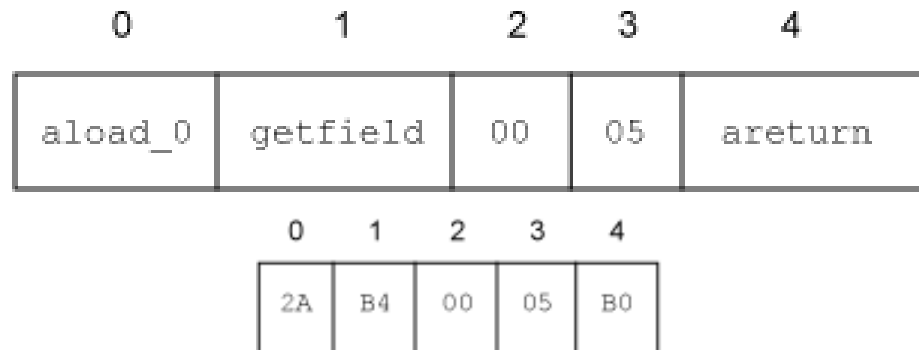




```
public String employeeName()
{
return name;
}

Method java.lang.String employeeName()
0 aload_0
1 getfield #5 <Field java.lang.String name>
4 areturn
```

- » getfield
 - » takes 1 ref from stack
 - » build an index into runtime pool of class instance by reference **this**
- » areturn
 - » takes 1 ref from stack
 - » push onto the stack of calling method





```
public Employee(String strName, int num)
{
    name = strName;
    idNumber = num;
    storeData(strName, num);
}
```

```
Method Employee(java.lang.String,int)
0  aload_0
1  invokespecial #3 <Method java.lang.Object()>
4  aload_0
5  aload_1
6  putfield #5 <Field java.lang.String name>
9  aload_0
10 iload_2
11 putfield #4 <Field int idNumber>
14  aload_0
15  aload_1
16  iload_2
17  invokespecial #6 <Method void storeData(java.lang.String, int)>
20  return
```



EXAMPLE 1

(see different size and speed issue)

- » `javac -g xxx` (see class file structure)
- » `java xxx`
- » `javap -c -l -s xxx`



```
public final class Test {  
  
    private int intArr[];  
  
    private Test() {  
        intArr = new int[10];  
    }  
  
    public synchronized int top1() {  
        return intArr[0];  
    }  
  
    public int top2() {  
        synchronized (this) {  
            return intArr[0];  
        }  
    }  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        final Test test = new Test();  
        test.top1();  
        test.top2();  
    }  
}
```

Byte code – raw form - Test.class – “javac –g Test.java”



```
00000000h: CA FE BA BE 00 00 00 33 00 26 0A 00 07 00 1F 09 ; Ęp°%...3.&.....
00000010h: 00 03 00 20 07 00 21 0A 00 03 00 1F 0A 00 03 00 ; ... ..!.....
00000020h: 22 0A 00 03 00 23 07 00 24 01 00 06 69 6E 74 41 ; "....#...$...intA
00000030h: 72 72 01 00 02 5B 49 01 00 06 3C 69 6E 69 74 3E ; rr...[I...<init>
00000040h: 01 00 03 28 29 56 01 00 04 43 6F 64 65 01 00 0F ; ...()V...Code...
00000050h: 4C 69 6E 65 4E 75 6D 62 65 72 54 61 62 6C 65 01 ; lineNumberTable.
00000060h: 00 12 4C 6F 63 61 6C 56 61 72 69 61 62 6C 65 54 ; ..LocalVariableT
00000070h: 61 62 6C 65 01 00 04 74 68 69 73 01 00 06 4C 54 ; able...this...LT
00000080h: 65 73 74 3B 01 00 04 74 6F 70 31 01 00 03 28 29 ; est;...top1...()
00000090h: 49 01 00 04 74 6F 70 32 01 00 0D 53 74 61 63 6B ; I...top2...Stack
000000a0h: 4D 61 70 54 61 62 6C 65 07 00 21 07 00 24 07 00 ; MapTable...!...$.
000000b0h: 25 01 00 04 6D 61 69 6E 01 00 16 28 5B 4C 6A 61 ; %...main...([Lja
000000c0h: 76 61 2F 6C 61 6E 67 2F 53 74 72 69 6E 67 3B 29 ; va/lang/String;)
000000d0h: 56 01 00 04 61 72 67 73 01 00 13 5B 4C 6A 61 76 ; V...args...[Ljav
000000e0h: 61 2F 6C 61 6E 67 2F 53 74 72 69 6E 67 3B 01 00 ; a/lang/String;..
000000f0h: 04 74 65 73 74 01 00 0A 53 6F 75 72 63 65 46 69 ; .test...SourceFi
00000100h: 6C 65 01 00 09 54 65 73 74 2E 6A 61 76 61 0C 00 ; le...Test.java..
00000110h: 0A 00 0B 0C 00 08 00 09 01 00 04 54 65 73 74 0C ; .....Test.
00000120h: 00 11 00 12 0C 00 13 00 12 01 00 10 6A 61 76 61 ; .....java
00000130h: 2F 6C 61 6E 67 2F 4F 62 6A 65 63 74 01 00 13 6A ; /lang/Object...j
00000140h: 61 76 61 2F 6C 61 6E 67 2F 54 68 72 6F 77 61 62 ; ava/lang/Throwab
00000150h: 6C 65 00 31 00 03 00 07 00 00 00 01 00 02 00 08 ; le.1.....
00000160h: 00 09 00 00 00 04 00 02 00 0A 00 0B 00 01 00 0C ; .....
00000170h: 00 00 00 3F 00 02 00 01 00 00 00 0D 2A B7 00 01 ; ...?.....*`..
00000180h: 2A 10 0A BC 0A B5 00 02 B1 00 00 00 02 00 0D 00 ; *..*..p...±.....
00000190h: 00 00 0E 00 03 00 00 00 06 00 04 00 07 00 0C 00 ; .....
000001a0h: 08 00 0E 00 00 00 0C 00 01 00 00 00 0D 00 0F 00 ; .....
000001b0h: 10 00 00 00 21 00 11 00 12 00 01 00 0C 00 00 00 ; ....!.....
000001c0h: 31 00 02 00 01 00 00 00 07 2A B4 00 02 03 2E AC ; 1.....*`.....~
000001d0h: 00 00 00 02 00 0D 00 00 00 06 00 01 00 00 00 0B ; .....
000001e0h: 00 0E 00 00 00 0C 00 01 00 00 00 07 00 0F 00 10 ; .....
000001f0h: 00 00 00 01 00 13 00 12 00 01 00 0C 00 00 00 6C ; .....1
00000200h: 00 02 00 03 00 00 00 12 2A 59 4C C2 2A B4 00 02 ; .....*YLÂ*`..
00000210h: 03 2E 2B C3 AC 4D 2B C3 2C BF 00 02 00 04 00 0C ; ..+Ã-M+Ã,¿.....
00000220h: 00 0D 00 00 00 0D 00 10 00 0D 00 00 00 03 00 0D ; .....
00000230h: 00 00 00 0E 00 03 00 00 00 0F 00 04 00 10 00 0D ; .....
00000240h: 00 11 00 0E 00 00 00 0C 00 01 00 00 00 12 00 0F ; .....
00000250h: 00 10 00 00 00 14 00 00 00 12 00 01 FF 00 0D 00 ; .....ÿ...
00000260h: 02 07 00 15 07 00 16 00 01 07 00 17 00 09 00 18 ; .....
00000270h: 00 19 00 01 00 0C 00 00 00 53 00 02 00 02 00 00 ; .....S.....
```



```
ClassFile {  
    u4          magic;  
    u2          minor_version;  
    u2          major_version;  
    u2          constant_pool_count;  
    cp_info     contant_pool[constant_pool_count - 1];  
    u2          access_flags;  
    u2          this_class;  
    u2          super_class;  
    u2          interfaces_count;  
    u2          interfaces[interfaces_count];  
    u2          fields_count;  
    field_info  fields[fields_count];  
    u2          methods_count;  
    method_info methods[methods_count];  
    u2          attributes_count;  
    attribute_info attributes[attributes_count];  
}
```

Byte code – opcode form – “javap -c -l -s Test”



```
public final class Test {
  public static void main(java.lang.String[]);
  Signature: ([Ljava/lang/String;)V
  Code:
    0: new          #3          // class Test
    3: dup
    4: invokespecial #4          // Method "<init>": ()V
    7: astore_1
    8: aload_1
    9: invokevirtual #5          // Method top1: ()I
   12: pop
   13: aload_1
   14: invokevirtual #6          // Method top2: ()I
   17: pop
   18: return
  LineNumberTable:
    line 22: 0
    line 23: 8
    line 24: 13
    line 25: 18
  LocalVariableTable:
    Start  Length  Slot  Name  Signature
        0      19     0  args  [Ljava/lang/String;
        8       8     1  test  LTest;
```


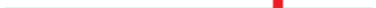







```
public synchronized int top1();  
Signature: ()I  
Code:  
  0: aload_0  
  1: getfield      #2           // Field intArr:[I  
  4: iconst_0  
  5: iaload  
  6: ireturn  
LineNumberTable:  
  line 11: 0  
LocalVariableTable:  
  Start   Length  Slot  Name   Signature  
    0       0       7     0  this  LTest;
```

```
public int top2();
```

```
Signature: ()I
```

```
Code:
```

```
0: aload_0  synchronized (this) {  
1: dup  
2: astore_1  
3: monitorenter   
4: aload_0  return intArr[0];  
5: getfield #2 // Field intArr:[I  
8: iconst_0  
9: iaload   
10: aload_1  
11: monitorexit   
12: ireturn  
13: astore_2   
14: aload_1  
15: monitorexit  
16: aload_2  
17: athrow 
```

```
Exception table:
```

from	to	target	type
4	12	13	any
13	16	13	any

```
LineNumberTable:
```

```
line 15: 0  
line 16: 4  
line 17: 13
```

```
LocalVariableTable:
```

Start	Length	Slot	Name	Signature
0	18	0	this	LTest;



- » Summary of Example1
 - » byte-code is not better than your source code
 - » invariants in loop are not removed
 - » no optimizations like
 - » loop unrolling
 - » algebraic simplification
 - » strength reduction

- » debug information (affect the size of byte-code)
 - » -g
 - » -g:none



- » method area shared among all threads
 - » class definitions
 - » run-time constant pool
 - » field and method data
 - » byte-code for methods and constructors
 - » initialization methods (**<clinit>**, **<init>**)

- » native method stacks
 - » implementation of native methods



EXAMPLE 2

(more complex example + decompiler)

- » e.g. jad
- » javap -c -l -s -private Test
- » jad -p Test.class
- » try: -g:none



```
public final class Test {
    private static int j;

    private static final void doSomething() {
        outer:
        for (int i = 2; i < 1000; i++) {
            for (j = 2; j < i; j++) {
                if (i % j == 0)
                    continue outer;
            }
            System.out.println (i);
        }
    }

    public static void main(String[] args) {
        doSomething();
    }
}
```

Byte code – raw form – Test.class – “javac –g:none Test.java ”



```
00000000h: CA FE BA BE 00 00 00 33 00 20 0A 00 07 00 11 09 ; Ęp°%...3. ....
00000010h: 00 06 00 12 09 00 13 00 14 0A 00 15 00 16 0A 00 ; .....
00000020h: 06 00 17 07 00 18 07 00 19 01 00 01 6A 01 00 01 ; .....j...
00000030h: 49 01 00 06 3C 69 6E 69 74 3E 01 00 03 28 29 56 ; I...<init>...()V
00000040h: 01 00 04 43 6F 64 65 01 00 0B 64 6F 53 6F 6D 65 ; ...Code...doSome
00000050h: 74 68 69 6E 67 01 00 0D 53 74 61 63 6B 4D 61 70 ; thing...StackMap
00000060h: 54 61 62 6C 65 01 00 04 6D 61 69 6E 01 00 16 28 ; Table...main...(
00000070h: 5B 4C 6A 61 76 61 2F 6C 61 6E 67 2F 53 74 72 69 ; [Ljava/lang/Stri
00000080h: 6E 67 3B 29 56 0C 00 0A 00 0B 0C 00 08 00 09 07 ; ng;)V.....
00000090h: 00 1A 0C 00 1B 00 1C 07 00 1D 0C 00 1E 00 1F 0C ; .....
000000a0h: 00 0D 00 0B 01 00 04 54 65 73 74 01 00 10 6A 61 ; .....Test...ja
000000b0h: 76 61 2F 6C 61 6E 67 2F 4F 62 6A 65 63 74 01 00 ; va/lang/Object..
000000c0h: 10 6A 61 76 61 2F 6C 61 6E 67 2F 53 79 73 74 65 ; .java/lang/Syste
000000d0h: 6D 01 00 03 6F 75 74 01 00 15 4C 6A 61 76 61 2F ; m...out...Ljava/
000000e0h: 69 6F 2F 50 72 69 6E 74 53 74 72 65 61 6D 3B 01 ; io/PrintStream;.
000000f0h: 00 13 6A 61 76 61 2F 69 6F 2F 50 72 69 6E 74 53 ; ..java/io/PrintS
00000100h: 74 72 65 61 6D 01 00 07 70 72 69 6E 74 6C 6E 01 ; tream...println.
00000110h: 00 04 28 49 29 56 00 31 00 06 00 07 00 00 00 01 ; ..(I)V.1.....
00000120h: 00 0A 00 08 00 09 00 00 00 03 00 01 00 0A 00 0B ; .....
00000130h: 00 01 00 0C 00 00 00 11 00 01 00 01 00 00 00 05 ; .....
00000140h: 2A B7 00 01 B1 00 00 00 00 00 1A 00 0D 00 0B 00 ; *...±.....
00000150h: 01 00 0C 00 00 00 57 00 02 00 01 00 00 00 38 05 ; .....W.....8.
00000160h: 3B 1A 11 03 E8 A2 00 31 05 B3 00 02 B2 00 02 1A ; ;...èc.1.³...²...
00000170h: A2 00 19 1A B2 00 02 70 9A 00 06 A7 00 15 B2 00 ; c...²...pš...š...².
00000180h: 02 04 60 B3 00 02 A7 FF E6 B2 00 03 1A B6 00 04 ; ..³...šÿæ²...ſ..
00000190h: 84 00 01 A7 FF CE B1 00 00 00 01 00 0E 00 00 00 ; ..šÿİ±.....
000001a0h: 0D 00 06 FC 00 02 01 0A 11 0A 06 FA 00 05 00 09 ; ...ü.....ú....
000001b0h: 00 0F 00 10 00 01 00 0C 00 00 00 10 00 00 00 01 ; .....
000001c0h: 00 00 00 04 B8 00 05 B1 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 ; .....,...±.....
```

Byte code – opcode form – “javap -c -l -s -private Test”



```
public final class Test {
  private static int j;
    Signature: I

  public Test();
    Signature: ()V
    Code:
      0: aload_0
      1: invokespecial #1           // Method java/lang/Object.<init>:()V
      4: return

  public static void main(java.lang.String[]);
    Signature: ([Ljava/lang/String;)V
    Code:
      0: invokestatic #5           // Method doSomething:()V
      3: return
```


Byte code – opcode form – “javap -c -l -s -private Test”



```
private static final void doSomething();
```

```
Signature: ()V
```

```
Code:
```

```
0:  iconst_2
1:  istore_0
2:  iload_0      for (int i = 2; i < 1000; i++) {
3:  sipush      1000
6:  if_icmpge   55
9:  iconst_2
10: putstatic   #2 // Field j:I
13: getstatic   #2 for (j = 2; j < i; j++) {
16: iload_0
17: if_icmpge   42
20: iload_0      if (i % j == 0)
21: getstatic   #2 // Field j:I
24: irem
25: ifne       31
28: goto       49 continue outer;
31: getstatic   #2 // Field j:I
34: iconst_1
35: iadd
36: putstatic   #2 // Field j:I
39: goto       13
42: getstatic   #3 System.out.println (i);
    // Field java/lang/System.out:Ljava/io/PrintStream;
45: iload_0
46: invokevirtual #4 // Method java/io/PrintStream.println:(I)V
49: iinc       0, 1
52: goto       2
55: return
```

Decompiled source code – “jad -p Test.class”



```
// Decompiled by Jad v1.5.8g.
import java.io.PrintStream;

public final class Test
{
    public Test()
    {
    }

    private static final void doSomething()
    {
label0:
        for(int i = 2; i < 1000; i++)
        {
            for(j = 2; j < i; j++)
                if(i % j == 0)
                    continue label0;
            System.out.println(i);
        }
    }

    public static void main(String args[])
    {
        doSomething();
    }

    private static int j;
}
}
```

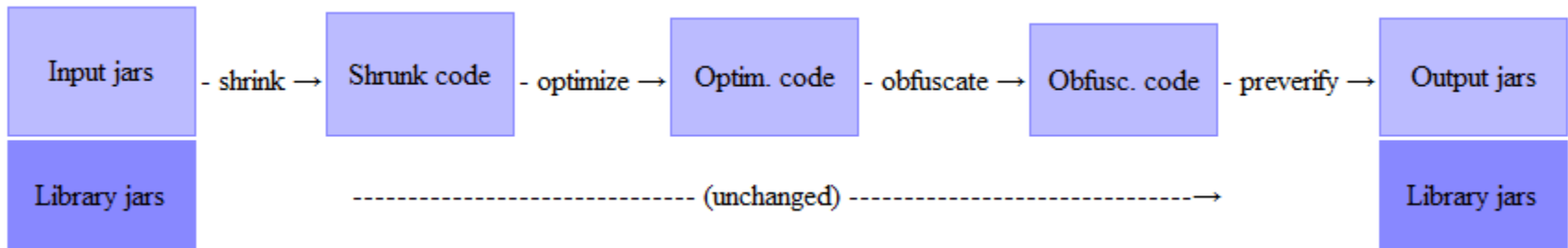


- » Protect your code
 - » no physical access to the program – e.g. client-server model
 - » encryption of code - if not in hardware, can be intercepted
 - » native codes instead of byte-code (can be disassembled anyway)
 - » code obfuscation (harder for disassembling)

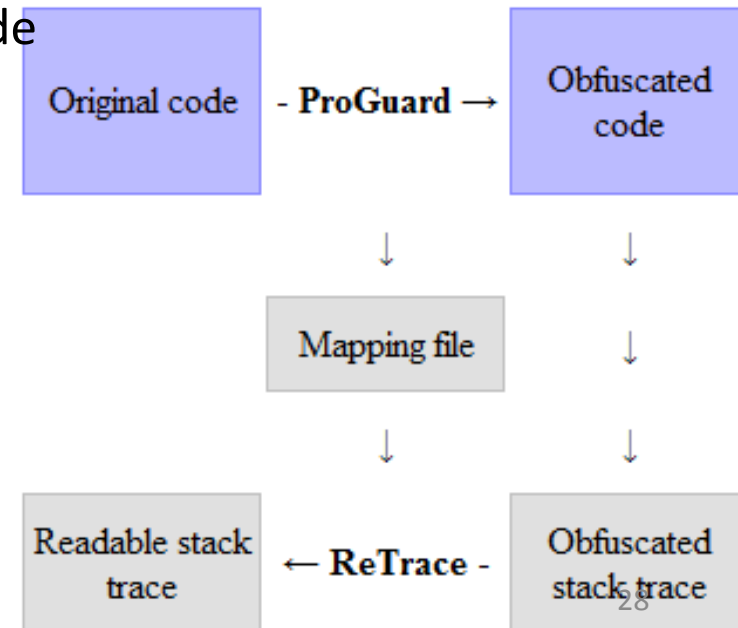
- » **Obfuscator** properties
 - » the same functional result
 - » difficult to understand
 - » obfuscations
 - » layout – identifier names, class definitions
 - » data – local <-> global, encoding, aggregation (e.g. arrays), ordering
 - » control – aggregation, ordering, control flow
 - » preventative transformations – extra instructions, mix commands



- » various open-source obfuscators available
- » **changes in byte-code**



- » ProGuard
 - » define entry points
 - » shrinker- compact code, remove dead code
 - » optimizer - faster code
 - » private, static, final
 - » inline
 - » obfuscator
 - » renaming, layout, etc.
 - » automatically detect reflection
 - » preverifier – check for Java loading





EXAMPLE 2 cont.

(obfuscator + decompiler)

- » `jar -ce Test Test.class >Test.jar` (see jar structure)
- » `java -jar Test.jar`
- » `java -jar proguard.jar @applications.pro` (see .pro file)
- » Extract Test.class from obfuscated jar
- » `jad -p Test.class`



```
Test.jar
|   Test.class
|
\---META-INF
      MANIFEST.MF
```

MANIFEST.MF:

```
Manifest-Version: 1.0
Created-By: 1.7.0_06 (Oracle Corporation)
Main-Class: Test
```

```
java -jar Test.jar
```

```
2
3
5
7
11
13
17
19
23
29
```



```
-injars Test.jar
-outjars Test_obfuscated.jar

-libraryjars <java.home>/lib/rt.jar

-keepclasseswithmembers public class * {
    public static void main(java.lang.String[]);
}

-allowaccessmodification
-mergeinterfacesaggressively
-optimizationpasses 9
```



```
// Decompiled by Jad v1.5.8g
import java.io.PrintStream;

public final class Test
{
    public Test()
    {
    }

    public static void main(String args[])
    {
label0:
        for(args = 2; args < 1000; args++)
        {
            for(a = 2; a < args; a++)
                if(args % a == 0)
                    continue label0;
            System.out.println(args);
        }
    }

    private static int a;
}
```




- » used to implement also other languages than JAVA
 - » Erlang -> Erjang
 - » JavaScript -> Rhino
 - » Python -> Jython
 - » Ruby -> Jruby
 - » Scala, Clojure – functional programming
 - » others
- » java virtual machine VS. java processor
- » byte-code is **verified** before executed:
 - » branches (jump) are always to valid locations – only within method
 - » any instruction operates on a fixed stack location (helps JIT for registers)
 - » data is always initialized and references are always type-safe
 - » access to private, package is controlled
- » **heap** – area for dynamic memory allocation (all objects)



- » **Just-in-time (JIT)**
 - » converts byte-code into native code in run-time
 - » different version for client, server run (-client, -server)
 - » client
 - » window-based optimization over small set of instructions
 - » simplified inlining
 - » server – high-end fully optimizing compiler
 - » dead code elimination, loop invariant hoisting, common sub-expression elimination, constant propagation
 - » full inlining, full deoptimization



» **adaptive optimization**

- » balance trade-off between JIT and interpreting instructions
- » monitors frequently executed parts “hot spots” including data on caller-callee relationship for virtual method invocation
- » makes dynamic recompilation based on current execution profile
- » inline expansion to remove context switching
- » optimize branches
- » can make risky assumption (e.g. skip code) ->
 - » unwind to valid state
 - » deoptimize previously JITed code even if code is already executed



- » key startup parameters related with JIT and optimization
 - server (default for 64-bit edition)
 - XX:+CITime (prints time spent in JIT compiler)
 - XX:+PrintCompilation
 - XX:CompileThreshold=XXXX (number of invocation, branches)
 - XX:+PrintClassLoading