Jeliot Program Animation System Internal Documentation

Version 3.2

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1 Introduction

Jeliot is a program animation system intended for teaching introductory programming. Programs are animated fully or semi-automatically, requiring no modifications or annotations on the part of the instructor or student. While this limits the flexibility of the animation, Jeliot is extremely simple to use so that it is easily accepted by true novices, as well as by their teachers who do not have to invest in learning how to prepare animations.

Jeliot is written in Java for portability and animates program that are written in Java. Jeliot uses a modified version of DynamicJava (Koala, 2002) (section 3.3) as a front-end and modified version of Jeliot 2000's animation engine (section 3.6) as its back-end. The user interface was also adopted from Jeliot 2000 (sections 3.1 and 3.2).

DynamicJava is a Java source code interpreter written in Java. This application is open source and can be freely obtained from http://www.koala.ilog.fr/djava/. At the moment, DynamicJava is almost fully compliant with Java language specifications and supports multi-threading.

To make these two separate systems communicate (section 4) with each other a new intermediate code (section 5 and Intermediate Language Specification) and intermediate code interpreter (section 3.4) were designed. In this way the system should be more flexible for modifications and new extensions (sections 2 and 6).

1.1 History

The first member of the Jeliot family of program animation systems was called Eliot; it was developed by Erkki Sutinen and Jorma Tarhio and their students at the University of Helsinki. Eliot was written in C and used the Polka animation library. Later a version was written in Java and the name was changed to Jeliot. (This version is now called Jeliot I to distinguish it from later versions.)

Jeliot I was a flexible system: the user could choose the variables to be animated, the graphical form of the animated elements and multiple views of the same program. It proved too difficult for teaching novices, so a new version called Jeliot 2000 was developed at the Weizmann Institute of Science by Pekka Uronen under the supervision of Moti Ben-Ari. A pedagogical experiment carried out by Ronit Ben-Bassat Levy proved the effectiveness of Jeliot in teaching introductory programming.

Jeliot 2000 only implemented a very small subset of the Java language. The current version Jeliot 3 is a re-implementation designed to significantly extend the range of Java features that are animated, in particular, to cover object-oriented programming. The design and implementation was carried out at the University of Joensuu by Niko Myller and André Moreno-García, under the supervision of Moti Ben-Ari and Erkki Sutinen. For an extensive discussion of the history of Jeliot, see (Ben-Ari et al., 2002).

1.2 Release Notes

Version 3.2 contains documentation and supports inheritance, supports: inheritance of classes and super() method calls at the beginning of a constructor.

Version 3.1 supports objects creation and object method calls. Line numbering was added for source code editor and viewer. Supports: User made classes (inheritance is not yet supported), constructor calls, object method calls, object field accesses.

Version 3.01 is a maintenance release. Bugs of the initial release were fixed. Support for switch statement was added.

Version 3.0 is the initial public release. Supports: Values of type String and all primitive types, one-dimensional arrays with primitive types or strings as their component type, expressions including all unary and binary operations except instanceof, all the control statements (if, while, etc.) except switch statement and conditional expression (exp?exp1:exp2), method invocations, including recursive invocations.

Not implemented:

- Static variables.
- Calls to super(...) method with parameters.
- Super field accesses.
- Arrays with components of reference type (except String)
- Two ore more dimensional arrays.
- Conditional expressions (exp?exp1:exp2).
- Array initializers.
- Java 2 SDK API classes' methods cannot return object (except String type) or array types (e.g. object.getClass() that returns a Class instance).

2 Managing the Jeliot System

In this chapter we explain the system requirements of Jeliot, the files and directories in the distributions and how the system can be built form the source code code distribution can be build.

2.1 System Requirements

2.2 End User Distribution

2.3 Source Code Distribution

2.3.1 Directory Hierarchy

Jeliot is available as zip file containing all the sources and files needed to build it. After unzipping the file you will find the following directories:

lib Contains the tools needed for the automated build process.

resources Contains messages used by DynamicJava.

src Contains the source code for Jeliot. It is divided into the following subdirectories.

docs Contains the web pages that are used for the help page and the about page. It also contains the licenses under which Jeliot is distributed.

examples Contains the examples that will be available for users of Jeliot; new examples can be added here.

images Images used in the user interface of Jeliot.

jeliot All source files related to Jeliot visualization engine (theatre), m-code interpretation (ecode) and the graphical user interface (gui).

koala The modified source code of DynamicJava.

2.3.2 How to Build Jeliot 3 From the Sources

Jeliot uses a build tool called **Ant**. Ant is a UNIX make-clone oriented to build Java programs based on an XML configuration file (Apache, 2003a). When unzipping the source code, three files will appear on the destination directory:

build.xml This file defines the possible targets and its tasks that we want to perform with Ant. It includes some properties to customize the output. For example, you can rename the minor version of Jeliot by modyfing the property named minor. For adding more targets you should refer to Ant manual page (Apache, 2003b).

build.bat and build.sh These are the batch files that will invoke Ant with one of the arguments (targets) that you provide to it:

compile Jeliot source code will be compiled and classes obtained will be located in the classes subdirectory. To run Jeliot from this point you should enter the command java jeliot. Jeliot inside the classes subdirectory.

dist This argument will first compile the source files if necessary and create a jar file of the classes and compress them into zip file. This way we will obtain the binary executables in a zip file called Jeliot3\${minor}.zip. Moreover, another zip file is created containing the source files of Jeliot Jeliot3\${minor}-src.zip. Both of these files are ready to be distributed without any modifications.

clean deletes all the files created by the build tool.

Notice that you must set an envinroment variable JAVA_HOME to point at your Java Development Kit installation.

A normal session of compilation or distribution creation could consist of the following commands:

c:\jeliot3> build compile

The compiled class files are now in the folder classes.

```
c:\jeliot3> cd classes
c:\jeliot3\classes> java jeliot.Jeliot
```

Jeliot can be run with the command above. But if we want to make a distribution we need to do as follows and we will get two separate distributions as described above.

 $c:\ \ \, build \ dist$

c:\jeliot3> cd Jeliot3

c:\jeliot3\Jeliot3> jeliot

3 The Structure of Jeliot System

We introduce here the different components of Jeliot system. The system contains several packages and here we explain those that are most crucial in understanding the structure of Jeliot. Packages and classes related to communication between visualization engine and DynamicJava are introduced in Chapter 4.

The functional structure of the Jeliot 3 is shown in the Figure 1. A user interacts with the user interface and creates the source code of the program (1). The source code is sent to the Java interpreter and the intermediate code is extracted (2 and 3). The intermediate code is interpreted and the directions are given to the visualization engine (4 and 5). A user can control the animation by playing, pausing, rewinding or playing step-by-step the animation through the user interface (6). Furthermore, the user can input data, for example, an integer or a string, to the program executed by the interpreter (6, 7 and 8).

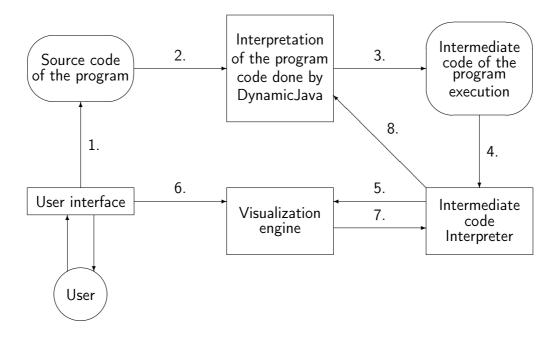


Figure 1: The functional structure of Jeliot 3.

Different packages of Jeliot 3 are introduced in this section in the same order as in the functional structure.

3.1 Class Jeliot

Class Jeliot in the package jeliot is the main class of the program. It combines the different components of the program together and deals with some communicational issues. When the program is started the class creates all the needed components and passes them as parameters to the user interface classes. It mainly handles the communication between the user interface (jeliot.gui) and the theater/animation engine (jeliot.theatre) classes. In addition to that it also invokes the thread handling the interpretation of the user program.

3.2 User Interface

The user interface of Jeliot is located in the package <code>jeliot.gui</code>. The structure of the user interface is shown in the Figure 2. The main class is <code>JeliotWindow</code> that extends <code>JFrame</code>. The frame is layed out by <code>BorderLayout</code>. A split pane (<code>JSplitPane</code>) is added in the center and a panel containing the control panel (created in <code>JeliotWindow</code>) and the output console (<code>OutputConsole</code>) is added in the south (bottom) border.

In the split pane the left side is used by the code editor (CodeEditor) or the code viewer (CodeViewer). The code editor is shown during editing of the program and the code viewer during the animation of the program. Both of the text components have a line numbering component (LineNumbers on their row header). The code editor consist of an editing panel that has buttons to load, save and edit the source code. The frame has also a menu bar that is constructed partially in the CodeEditor class and partially in the JeliotWindow class.

On the right hand side of the split pane a animation engine called theater (Theatre) is normally shown. However, if any errors occur during the compilation or runtime of the program they are shown in the Error viewer (ErrorViewer) instead of theater.

JeliotWindow combines all the components in the jeliot.gui package and creates the user interface. It also deals with most of the events happening during run-time and delegates the commands to the appropriate classes (e.g. Jeliot or CodeEditor). Other classes in the gui package are related to one of the compo-

nents introduced in the previous paragraph. There are also three classes that are not currently in use in Jeliot 3, namely LoadJeliot, DraggableComponent and TheatrePopup.

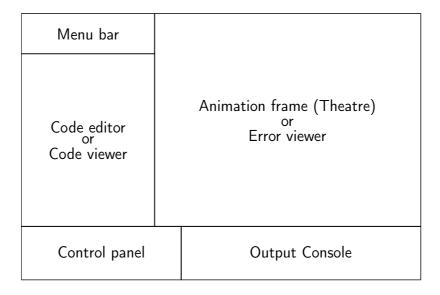


Figure 2: The structure of user interface in Jeliot 3.

3.3 DynamicJava

DynamicJava consists of 7 different packages, where only five of them actually perform the interpretation: classfile, classinfo, interpreter, parser and tree. The other two (util and gui) are used to help the debugging of DynamicJava and to provide a nicer user interface to the interpreter. For example, the displayVisitor, included in the util package, provides a nice output from the syntax tree.

- Classfile contains all the classes for creating general purpose bytecode classes. The most important class is ClassFile which is the heart of the class creation process.
- Classinfo contains all the classes and interfaces for using reflection on Java or interpreted classes. This package is used during the compilation of the classes.

- Interpreter contains the classes for interpreting Java language statements.

 This is the most important package. It contains the most important visitors that will be explained later.
- Parser provides the classes that compose the default parser for the language. The parser itself is represented by the class Parser. This parser has been generated by JavaCC 1.0. It creates the nodes of the tree to be traversed later by the interpreter visitors.
- Tree provides classes and interfaces for producing an abstract syntax tree. The created tree consists of nodes, the main data structure used in DynamicJava. All nodes have common properties, the segment of source code where that node refers. Subclasses of this node are defined to address the unique properties of each different Java (e.g. staments and constructions). For example a node for any binary expression will also consist of the properties LEFT_EXRESSION and RIGHT_EXPRESSION.

Figure 3 explains the main relationships between the packages, the visitors and the main data flow.

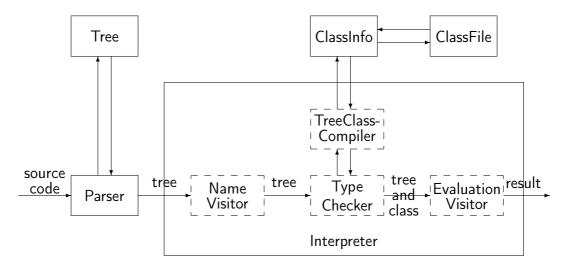


Figure 3: Packages, visitors and data flow in Dynamic Java

As you can see, DynamicJava carries the source code through three visitors: NameVisitor, TypeChecker and, finally, EvaluationVisitor. We also see how

EvaluationVisitor will receive a class from TypeChecker, the reason for this behavior will be explained in the next paragraphs.

The NameVisitor is a tree visitor that resolves the ambiguity in identifiers in a syntax tree. This visitor traverses the tree trying to find out syntactical ambiguities.

The TypeChecker is a tree visitor that checks the typing rules and loads the classes, fields and methods. This TypeChecker class is not only concerned about typing rules. When visiting a class declaration, it invokes TreeCompiler, which compiles the class into Java bytecode. However, this compiling process alters the class and the generated bytecode does not match the original source code of the class.

The EvaluationVisitor is a tree visitor that evaluates each node of a syntax tree. This visitor is the one that performs the evaluation and execution of the program. It usually starts by invoking the main method of the compiled class. We can easily observe how it traverses the syntax tree and modifies DynamicJava structures to store information and thus we can interfere with its normal interpretation to extract the information it produces while interpreting the source code.

3.3.1 Tree package

The Tree package contains a class for every different Java language construct. These classes build up the syntactical tree from the source code. These classes are also implemented as a tree. The root of this tree is the class Node. Every other class inherits it, directly or indirectly. Node only defines one property, the location of the node in the source code, both the filename and the position inside the file. Jeliot only accept single file programs, thus the filename is not needed. Most of the other classes also define properties that later are inherited by more specific classes.

The tree structure is shown in the Figures 4, 5, 6 and 7. These figures do not try to be exhaustive. Some classes have been taken away to not clutter the diagrams and because they were not needed to understand the tree structure.

Figure 4 shows the different nodes for declarations, initializers and types. Two

main types are used by DynamicJava: Array type and and primitive types (int, char, ...). The type String is not considered as a different type as it is a class. It is Java that supports it by normal String methods.

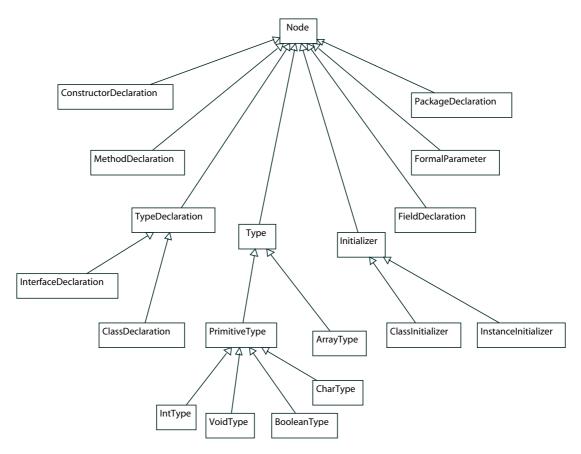


Figure 4: Several Tree classes. (Change the caption)

Figure 5 shows the primary expressions classes. Its super class, Expression, is also super class for binary and unary expressions. All properties are defined by PrimaryExpression subclasses. Some of those also implement interfaces, even more than one. Interfaces are used by DynamicJava to know when certain conditions hold. Nodes that implement LeftHandSide interface (ArrayAccess, QualifiedName, FieldAccess) are available to be the left hand side of an assignment. Those that implement ExpressionContainer (ObjectMethodCall, ReturnStatement, ConstructorInvocation, ObjectFieldAccess, ArrayAccess, UnaryExpression) are those that need another expression to be complete and meaningful. For example, an array access (buffer[3] needs a qualified name (buffer) where to look for the data, that qualified name is the expression contained in ArrayAccess. The interface ExpressionStatement is used only when

DynamicJava parses the source code to build the ForStatement node.

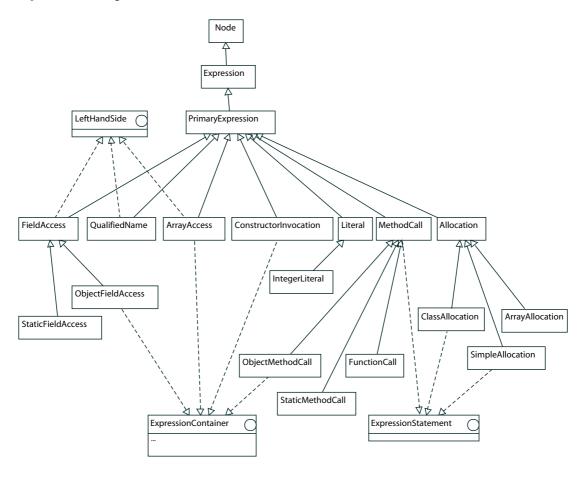


Figure 5: Primary expressions classes in tree package. (Change the caption)

Figure 6 contains all the possible Java statements. ReturnStatement implements ExpressionContainer because it needs, that interface when it is returning an expression. Do, While and For statements implements the ContinueTarget interface in order to allow ContinueStatements inside of them.

Figure 7 illustrates unary and binary expressions. It shows one as an example of each their subclasses. So AndExpression also refers to OrExpression and so on.

3.4 Intermediate Code Interpreter

The package jeliot.ecode includes the classes used by the intermediate code interpreter. The class Interpreter contains the intermediate code interpreter and the other classes that help the work with intermediate code generation, in-

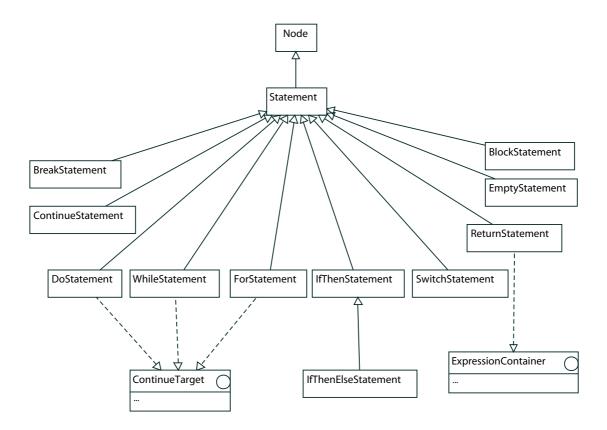


Figure 6: Statement classes in tree package. (Change the caption)

terpretation and on the other aspects of the program execution.

The intermediate code is generated by the modified version of DynamicJava. The code is then written into a pipe that can be read by the interpreter. As the code is completely machine written we know the form of the code and can interpret it easily. The intermediate code is introduced in the section 5. The code is read line by line and it is tokenized with the agreed token in the class Code that contains all the necessary constants for intermediate code generation. Then the first token tells what kind of statement is coming and how it should be processed. The rest of the statement is processed accordingly and a part of the animation is shown if necessary.

There are several important data structures in the Interpreter class:

commands variable is a reference to a stack (Stack) that contains information about each command read. Command in this context tells, for instance, whether a operand of a binary operation is the left or right side of the

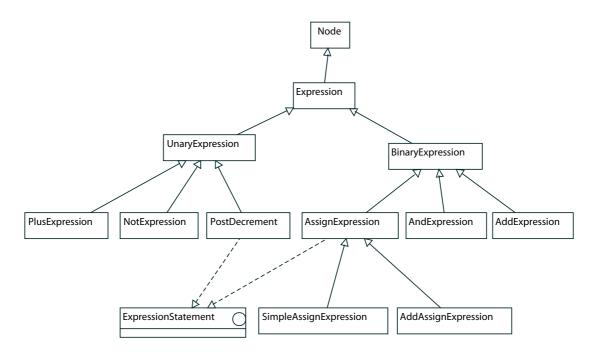


Figure 7: Unary and binary expression classes in tree package. (Change the caption)

operation.

exprs variable is a reference to a stack (Stack) containing the information about each expression read. The information consists of each expression's type (e.g. addition or subtraction operation), reference and location in the code. It is used to identify which operands (i.e. values or variables) belong to which operation.

values variable is a reference to a hash table (Hashtable) that contains the values of literals, variables and operations encountered during the execution. Each of the values is stored in a form of Value object (containing also the Actor) and the expression reference is used as a key for the hash table. These values are then used when an expression evaluation is animated.

variables variable is a reference to a hash table (Hashtable)that contains the visited variables as instances of the Variable class.

instances

methodInvocation

postIncsDecs

currentClass

classes

currentMethodInvocation

objectCreation

returned, returnValue, returnActor, returnExpressionCounter are variables for handling the return value of a method.

Class ECodeUtilities is used by the interpreter to help type identification and translating the intermediate code into the commands used in the visualization engine because they differ in some parts. It also handles some issues related to user input and communication between DynamicJava and the intermediate code interpreter.

3.5 Language Constructs

The classes of jeliot.lang package represent Java language constructs. They are mainly used to store and transfer the information about these language construct for the creation and handling of the corresponding Actors (see section 3.6.3). The Figure 8 shows the class structure of the language construct classes and the corresponding Actors that are used as attributes of the constructs.

3.6 Visualization Engine

The package jeliot.theatre contains classes that are used to form the animation. We will here introduce the most important classes in the package and explain the meaning of these classes. For rest of the classes see their documented source codes.

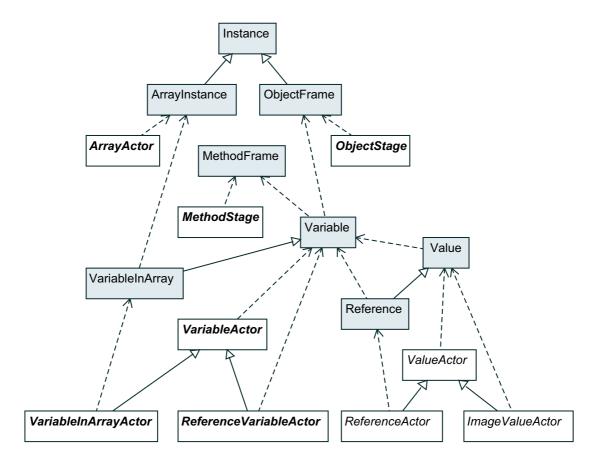


Figure 8: The class hierarchy of the language constructs (gray boxes and solid lines) and the Actors (white boxes and solid lines) and their usage relations to each other (dashed lines). Actors (white boxes) implementing actor container are written in bold and italics and the other Actors on just italics (see section 3.6.3).

3.6.1 Theatre

The jeliot.theatre package contains a class Theatre that extends JComponent class so that it can be entered inside the split pane in the user interface. It is the canvas for the animation and all the actors are drawn on it.

See Figure 9.

3.6.2 Director class

Director has methods for different kinds of operations during the animation of the program (e.g. binary expression, unary expression, object creation and

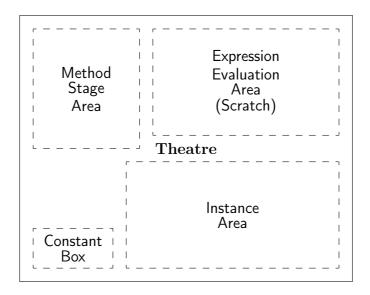


Figure 9: The structure of the animation frame (theatre) in Jeliot 3.

method call). These methods are called by the intermediate code interpreter (ECodeInterpreter). In each of the methods are given parameters that the method needs for the operation.

Normally, the method first creates actors through ActorFactory or uses existing actors. Animations are created through Actors' methods (e.g. appear or fly). Created animations are given to the AnimationEngine to be run. Actors can be also added to other ActorContainers (e.g. Theatre, VariableActor or MethodStage).

3.6.3 Actor classes

See Figure 10.

3.6.4 ActorContainer interface

See the Figure 11.

3.6.5 Animation class

See the Figure 13.

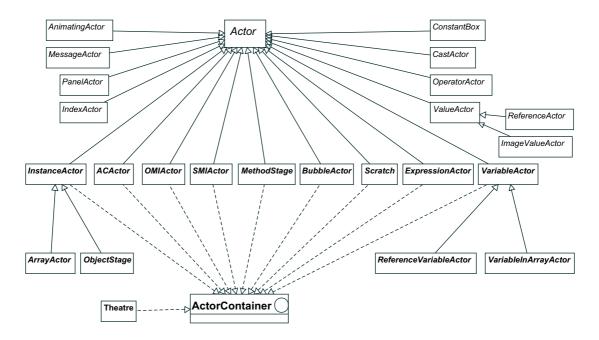


Figure 10: The class hierarchy of Actor class and ActorContainer interface.

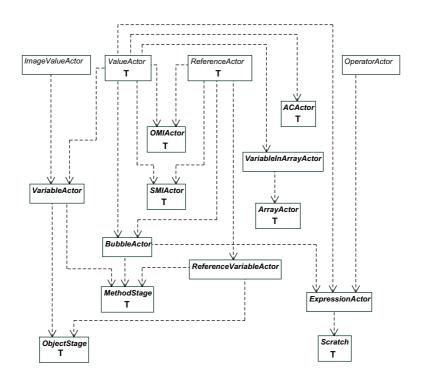


Figure 11: The inclusion relations between Actors and Actors implementing ActorContainer interface.

3.6.6 AnimationEngine class

See the Figure 13.

3.6.7 Theatre class

See the Figure 12.

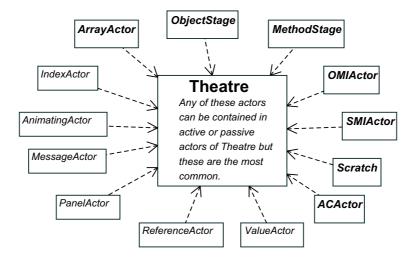


Figure 12: The Actors that are commonly included in the passive (pasAct) and active (actAct) Actors.

3.6.8 TheatreManager class

3.6.9 ActorFactory class

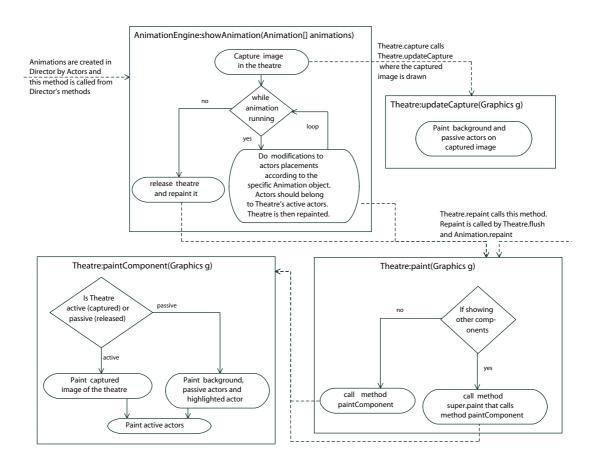


Figure 13: The structure of the animation engine in Jeliot.

4 Communication Model

Communication model here.

5 Intermediate Code (M-Code)

A new language was to be designed in order to express the information extracted from the source code interpretation and pass it to a new visualization interpreter. This interpreter will parse these instructions (m-code sentences) and give the "script" of the animation or "play" to Director, which organizes the actors on the display. These cinematographic metaphors come from the previous versions of Jeliot. Director stands for the component that manages the different pieces of information (actors) on the screen.

The m-code syntax is rather simple. While the inner representations of the m-code commands are numbers, Java constants are used to refer to them. The usual m-code sentence will consist of:

Expression/Statement code A shortcut for every Java statement or expression is used: e.g. AE stands for Add Expression. The names chosen are closely related to the ones used in DynamicJava.

Reference Every Expression/Statement sentence is identified by a number. This way nested statements and expressions can be formed up from previous m-code sentences.

Related References Most of the m-code sentences refer to previous m-code sentences. One Add Expression will refer to the references of both sides of expression. Flow-control statements will refer to a condition expression, and so on.

Value Most sentences will return the value resulting from the executing of an expression. If it is a flow control statement it will return a boolean value indicating the result of the condition.

Type Every expression that has a result must specify its type.

Location This contains the location of the expression in the original source code file.

Some auxiliary m-code commands have been defined to simplify m-code interpretation, especially when referring to assignments and binary expression: **BEGIN** Indicates beginning of an assignment or expression. It encapsulates nested expressions, literals or qualified names.

LEFT Indicates beginning of the left hand side of an expression.

RIGHT Indicates beginning of the right hand side of an expression.

TO Indicates the beginning of the assignment destination.

END States the end of the current program execution.

One typical assignment like a=b+1; is coded as follows:

```
Begin|Assignment|1|1,1,1,10
Begin|AddExpression|2|1,5,1,10
Left|3
QualifiedName|3|b|1|int
Right|4
Literal|4|1|int|1,9,1,10
AddExpression|2|3|4|2|int|1,1,1,10
To|5
QualifiedName|5|a|UnknownValue|int
Assignment|1|2|5|2|int|1,1,1,10
```

In this example we find two new commands QUALIFIED NAME, which refers to variables previously declared and LITERAL which states for literal values, as numbers, characters or strings.

For a complete listing of commands and their descriptions see the Intermediate Language Specifications document. (reference)

5.1 M-code production

5.1.1 Evaluation Visitor

As previously noted, EvaluationVisitor was the main class that needed to be modified. In the next subsections, we will describe how m-code is produced for certain subsets of Java expressions and statements:

Static Method Call

The visitor method StaticMethodCall is the entry point to the evaluation visitor. It is the method called when invoking the main method of a class from TreeInterpreter.

Here is where I/O management takes place. I/O facilities were to be built-in in DynamicJava, as they require special treatment in the Jeliot side. We have chosen to keep on using the I/O library provided by Jeliot 2000; nevertheless this can be changed by doing some simple changes in EvaluationVisitor. So, to obtain the I/O method calls, we first ask for the declaring class when visiting a static method call [public Object visit(StaticMethodCall node)],

- If it is an Input class we ask the m-code interpreter to provide the information requested by ways of one pipe that communicates with both sides. We discriminate the type by the method name. Every input method has an equivalent in ECodeUtilities, where the value is actually read from the pipe. An m-code command named INPUT has been defined to request data of a given type from the Director.
- If it is an Output class then the only method currently available is println. DynamicJava visits the argument and sends the resulting string to the m-code interpreter with the command OUTPUT.

After that a stack is maintained by StaticMethodCall and ReturnStatement visitors to manage multiple method calls (e.g. return object.method()). A reference number is pushed into the stack in every method call.

Later, the argument types are processed and m-code is produced to inform m-code interpreter of these types. Finally DynamicJava will invoke the method with all the information. When the invocation ends a special statement is produced to indicate the end of static method call (SMCC).

However, when a static method call refers to a foreign method (no source code is provided for it), the normal invocation will only return the value, if it is not a void method. But to visualize the call properly we need to simulate the parameters passing and the method declaration m-code statements. Moreover, the

value returned must be inside a return m-code statement, again for visualization purposes, so it is simulated too.

Return Statement

A return statement can contain a value to return or nothing at all (a void method or function). If there is something to be, returned a BEGIN statement is produced before visiting the expression to be returned. Otherwise a simple return statement is produced with the special constant Code.NO_REFERENCE, so Jeliot interpreter will not look for an expression.

A stack is maintained by the StaticMethodCall and ReturnStatement methods to manage recursive method calls (e.g. return object.method()). A reference number is pushed onto the stack in every method call. The return statement will pick it up from the top of the stack and that will identify the return statement.

Simple Assign Expression

A BEGIN statement is produced indicating the beginning of a new assignment. Then the right expression is visited and thus it produces its own m-code. A special statement T0 is produced pointing the beginning of the left expression, where the value obtained interpreting the right expression will be stored. This left expression was not visited in the original DynamicJava, as it is not needed to modify the context. However we need to visualize that expression, so an "artificial" visit was added. An evaluating flag is set to show that it is an "artificial" visit. Finally we produce the assign code with references to both expressions.

Qualified Name

Qualified Names are the names already declared (e.g. variable names and any other identifier) and they are used in expressions. Its visitor was modified to take into account the evaluating flag. The reason having two different behaviors is that DynamicJava throws an ExecutionError when visiting an uninitialized qualified name. That occurs when an assignment method (as SimpleAssignExpression) visits its left hand side for visualization purposes before it has a value. When the evaluating flag is false, DynamicJava invokes the display method to avoid unnecessary exceptions. However, both methods (visit and display) produce the

same m-code.

Variable Declaration

Variable declaration does not cause large modifications to original source code. Only if an initialization expression is found, we have to modify the normal process to visualize the initialization. This is done by simulating an assignment after the variable is declared.

Flow Control Statements

All flow control statements work similarly. Here, we will explain how a while statement produces its m-code. Other statements work in a similar way.

Firsts of all, the WhileStatement node keeps the reference to the condition that will be visited and will determine whether to enter or not the body of the statement. If the condition holds the visitor produces a WHILE statement with TRUE as a value. Then the body is evaluated, producing its own m-code.

Break or continue visitors throw exceptions to be caught by the flow control statements. When they are caught their corresponding m-code statement is produced. This statement reflects where the break or continue has happened (WHILE, FOR, DO and SWITCH expression)

Boolean and Bitwise Unary Expressions

This group contains the not (!) and complement (~) operators. There are two different possibilities. On the one hand the expression can be constant and not evaluation is performed by DynamicJava, so the generation of m-code is straightforward. However, as there is no expression to be referred, there is no node containing that constant, only a value is returned. Code.NO_REFERENCE is used to indicate this fact to the interpreter. On the other hand, when there is an expression to negate, a BEGIN statement is produced before the expression to be negated is visited. Finally the unary statement is produced returning the value and referring to the expression it affects.

Unary arithmetic expressions

This group contains increments and decrements (++, --). No special modifications were carried out in these visitors. They just generate a BEGIN statement and their

own statement (PIE, PDE, PRIE, PRDE), that returns the modified value and the type.

Binary Expressions

This group comprises all boolean, bitwise and arithmetic binary operators. As usual, a BEGIN statement is produced, anticipating what the operator will be. Then both sides of the expression are visited and their values are collected. Before each of these two visits, there is one special m-code statement: a LEFT statement, for the left side, and a RIGHT statement for the right side. Finally the binary statement is generated referring both sides and the value resulting of applying the operator to both sides of the expression.

Compound Assignment Expressions

This group contains all bitwise and arithmetic compound assignments. Compound operators are for example +=, -=, *= and /=. The visitors of these compound assignments have been modified to produce m-code that decomposes the compound assignment into a simple assignment and a binary operation. For example a+=3-b will be interpreted as a=a+(-b).

Then, the code of the visitors is just a composition of an assignment and a binary expression as its right hand side. This binary expression has as its sides the same ones as the compound assignment. As a result, two fake or artificial visits are done to the left hand side of the compound assignment.

5.1.2 Tree Interpreter

This class contains methods to interpret the constructs of the language. This class is the one called from Jeliot to start interpreting a program or a single method. There are two main methods that have been modified.

interpret(Reader r, String fname)

This method receives the source code and invokes the three visitors of Dynamic-Java: NameVisitor, TypeCheker and EvaluationVisitor. This method catches the execution and parsing errors and generates m-code to notify Jeliot of the possible lexical, syntax or semantic errors that are found during the interpretation.

interpretMethod(Class c, MethodDescriptor md, Object obj, Object[] params)

Whenever a domestic method is invoked by the interpreter, this method will construct everything needed to interpret it. The m-code generated by this method provides the names of the formal parameters so they are added to the method variables by the Jeliot interpreter. It also indicates the location of the method declaration in the source code by means of a special m-code statement: MD, method declaration. These are the information that are generated in StaticMethodCall if the method is a foreign one. The flag inside is set to indicate that the currently interpreted method is a domestic method.

Add here what happens during the constructor call!

6 Extending Jeliot System

How do extend and what to extend?

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