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# Graal: where it's come from and where it's going

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# Safe Harbor Statement

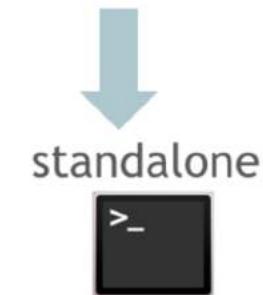
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Automatic transformation of interpreters to compiler

# GraalVM™

Embeddable in native or managed applications



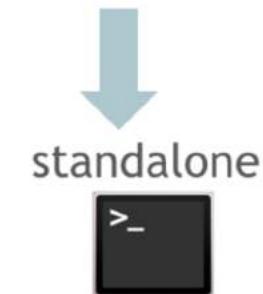
# Why is this one group working on all these diverse things?

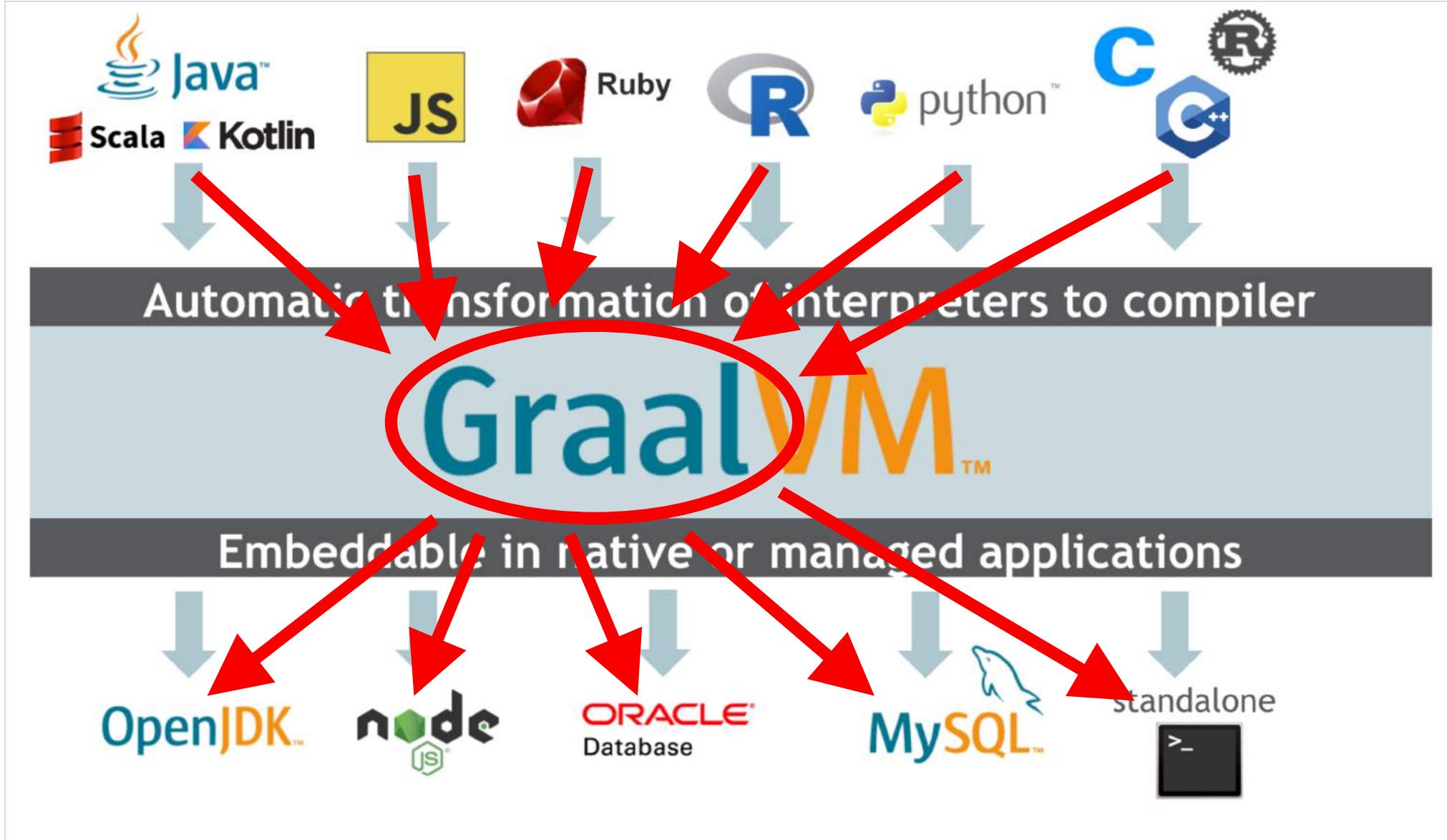


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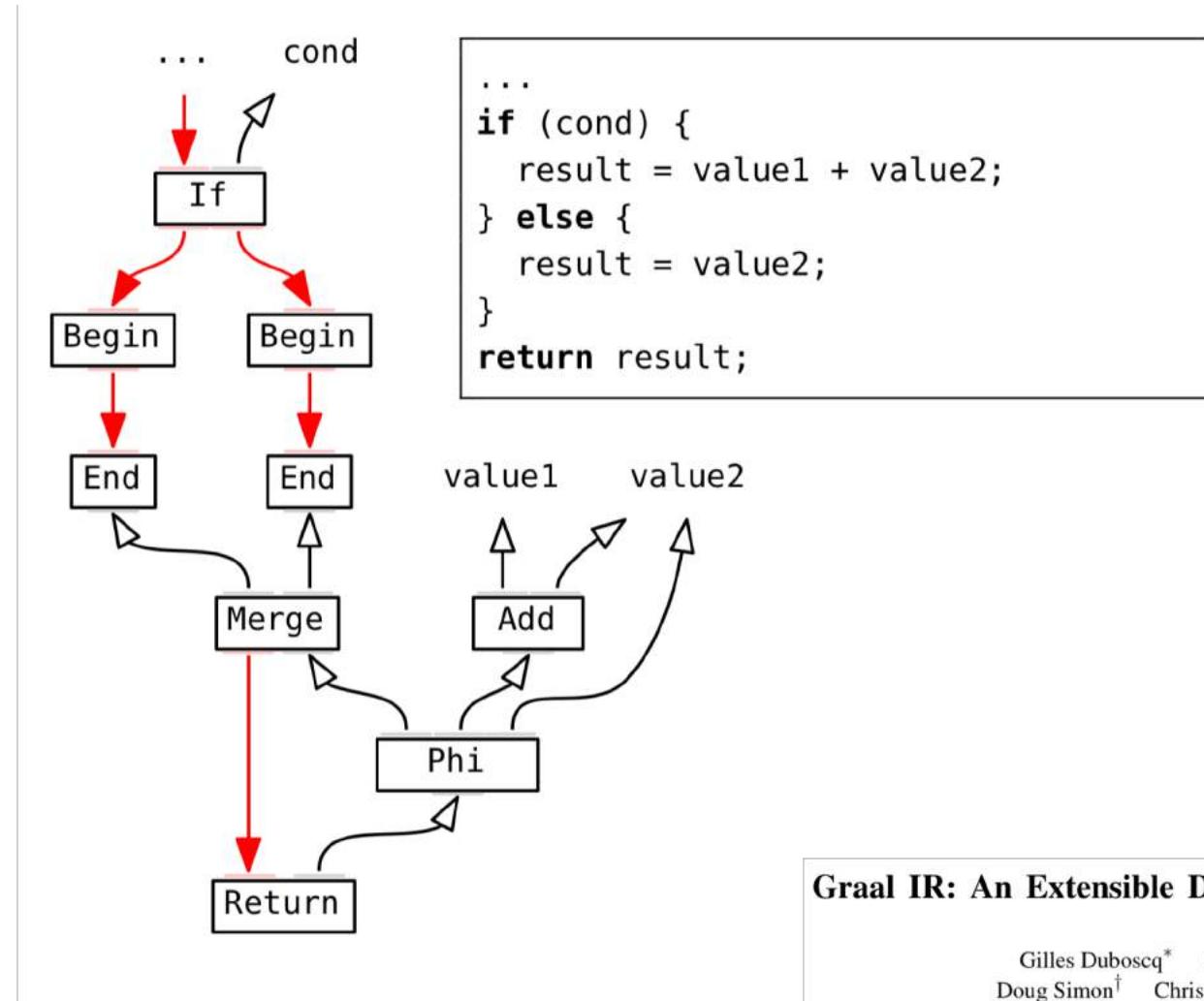


# *What is Graal?*

# What *is* Graal?

- A compiler from Java intermediate representations to native machine code\*
  - Intermediate representation could be JVM bytecode or Graal's own IR
  - 'Java' means any JVM language in general
  - Not a compiler from Java source code to Java bytecode
- It's a compiler library rather than being an executable, like GCC
- Some things I didn't tie Graal down to there:
  - I didn't say it was specifically a just-in-time compiler
  - I didn't say the bytecode or IR had to come directly from a program as written

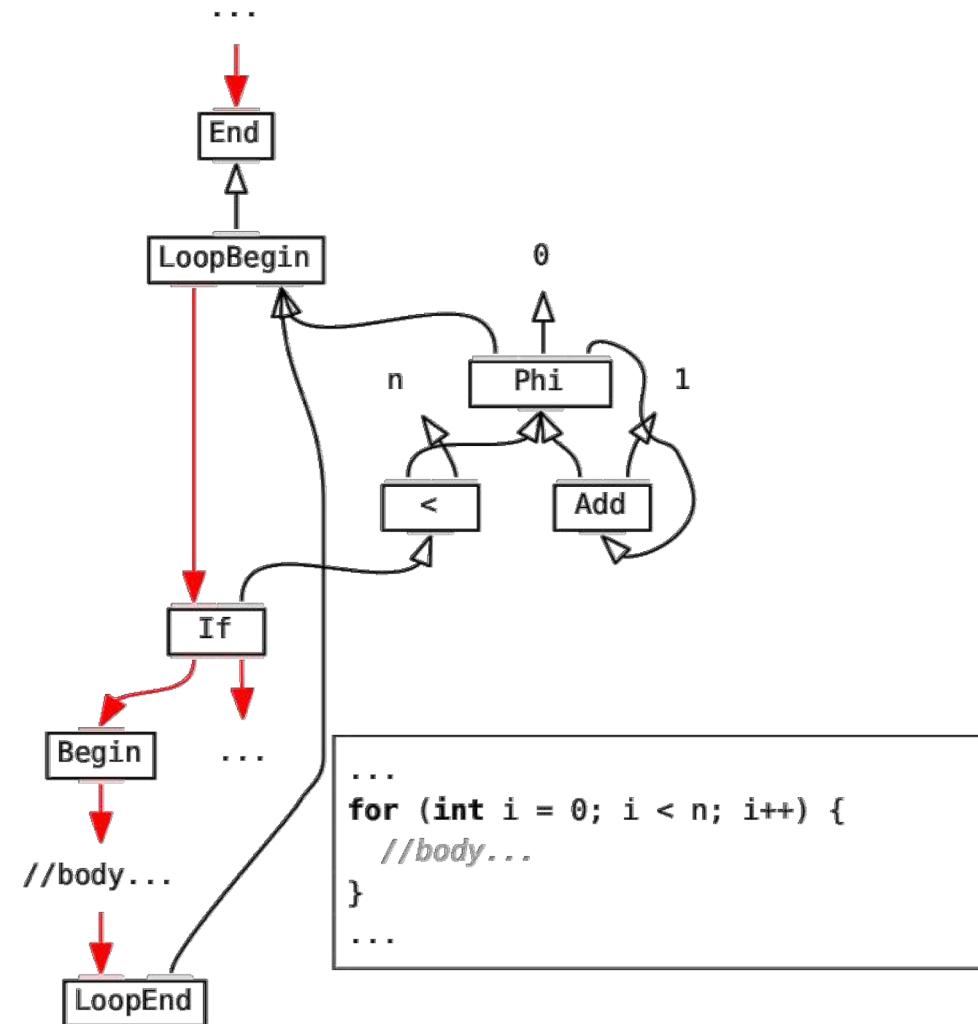
# Graal is *graphical*



**Graal IR: An Extensible Declarative Intermediate Representation**

Gilles Duboscq\* Lukas Stadler\* Thomas Würthinger†  
Doug Simon† Christian Wimmer† Hanspeter Mössenböck\*

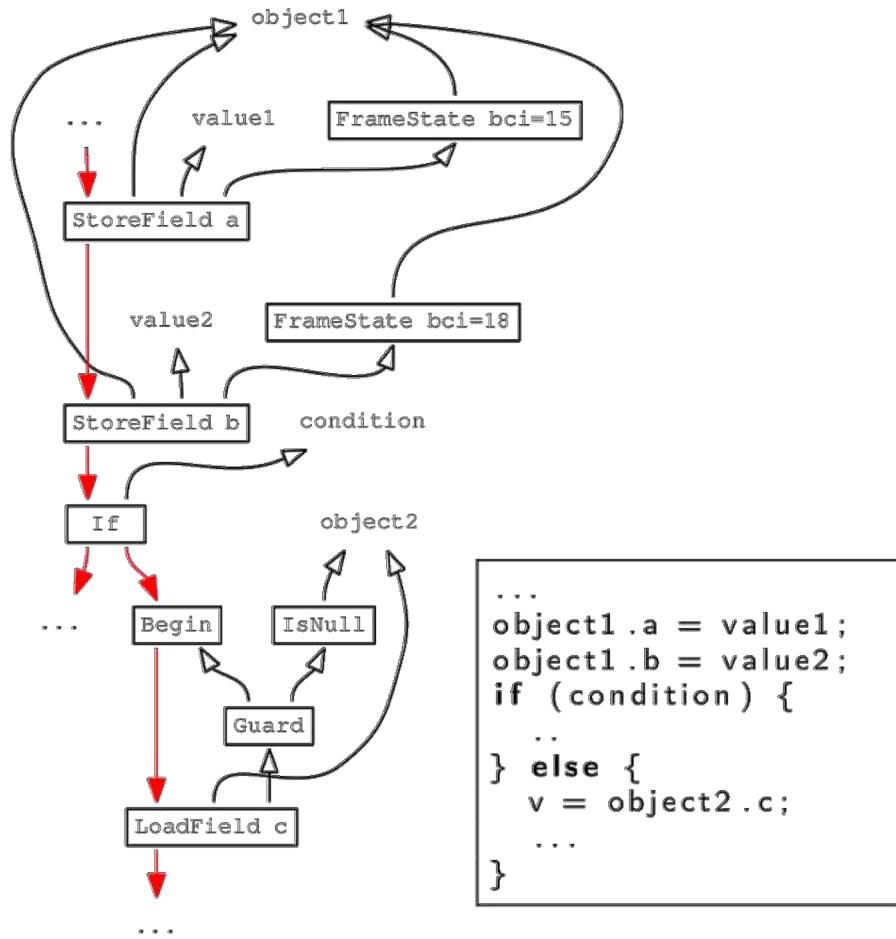
# Graal is *graphical*



**Graal IR: An Extensible Declarative Intermediate Representation**

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# Graal is *optimizing* and *speculative*\*



## An Intermediate Representation for Speculative Optimizations in a Dynamic Compiler

Gilles Duboscq\* Thomas Würthinger† Lukas Stadler\* Christian Wimmer† Doug Simon† Hanspeter Mössenböck\*

# Graal is a *Java library*

```
public byte[] compile(byte[] bytecode) {  
    ...  
}
```

# Where did Graal come from?

# **Maxine: An Approachable Virtual Machine For, and In, Java**

**CHRISTIAN WIMMER, MICHAEL HAUPT, MICHAEL L. VAN DE VANTER,  
MICK JORDAN, LAURENT DAYNÈS, and DOUGLAS SIMON, Oracle Labs**

ACM Transactions on Architecture and Code Optimization, Vol. 9, No. 4, Article 30, Publication date: January 2013.

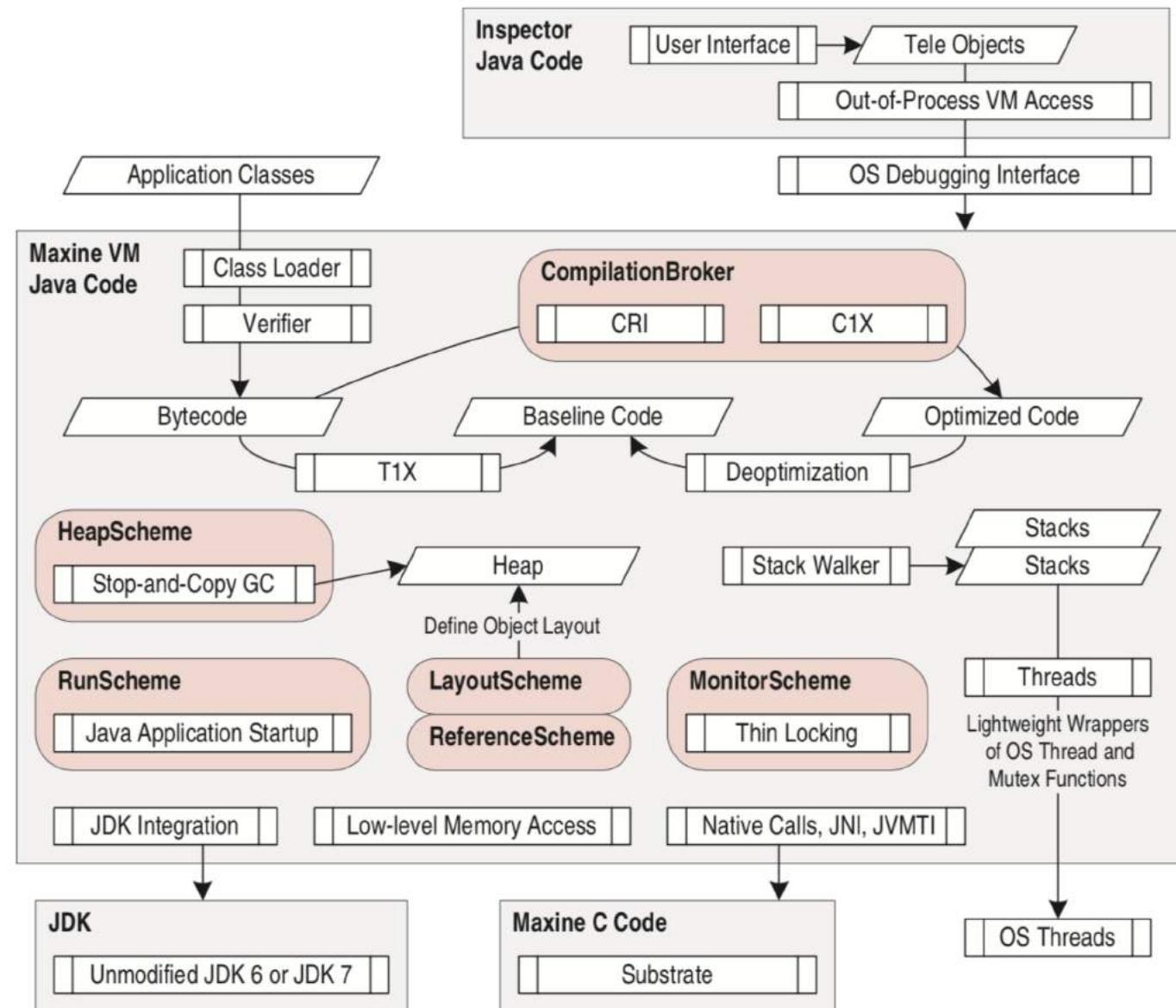


Fig. 1. Structure of the Maxine VM.

# Equivalent to JVMCI

Became Graal

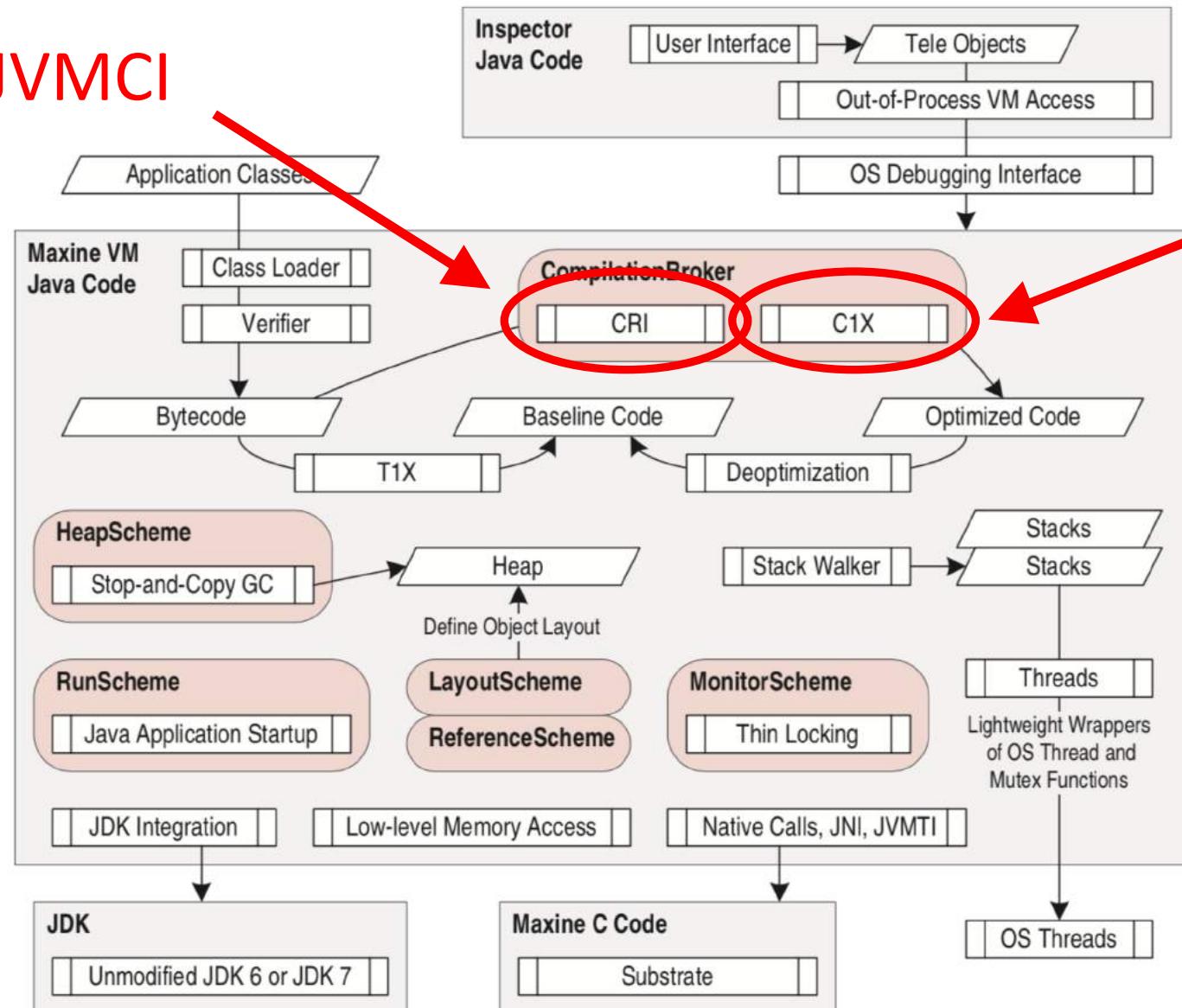


Fig. 1. Structure of the Maxine VM.

(This is the ‘future’ as at 2013.)



## 5. FUTURE WORK

The short-term plans for the Maxine VM focus on improving performance. We are working on a generational GC, which will reduce long GC pause times that currently occur with large heap sizes. Simultaneously, we are working on an improved optimizing compiler, which will work both in the Java HotSpot VM and the Maxine VM. It is developed in a separate OpenJDK project called Graal [Oracle 2012g]. The Graal Compiler-Runtime-Interface (CRI) is an improved version of the Maxine CRI, so the integration of Graal into Maxine will be straightforward. Finally, we will keep Maxine up to date with respect to improvements of the Java VM specification. We plan to implement method handles and the invokedynamic bytecode that were introduced for Java 7. Currently Maxine can work with a JDK 7 class library, but cannot execute applications needing VM features introduced for Java 7.

On the long term, we envision Maxine as a research platform for multiple languages. Exploiting the already modular structure and scheme abstractions, we want to make Maxine a truly modular VM. Benefits and a possible structure of a modular VM based on the Maxine VM are described in Wimmer et al. [2012].

# C1 to Graal

- C1 (the ‘client’ compiler)
  - I believe it’s actually newer than C2 (the ‘server’, or ‘optimizing’ or ‘opto’ compiler)
  - Designed to produce reasonably good code reasonably quickly
  - More than a template compiler
- Became C1X when rewritten in Java for Maxine
  - “more or less literal Java port of the C++ code of C1”
- Became Graal when made a component usable outside of Maxine
  - Not really sure this is quite an accurate thing to say
  - Graal used the same LIR as C1X, but the IR in Graal is sea-of-nodes, while C1 is CFG
  - The LIR has evolved a lot since then as well

## 5. FUTURE WORK

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# What does Graal look like today?

The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for the 'graal' project, specifically the 'compiler' branch. The repository has 369 stars and 480 forks. The commit history lists several recent changes, including moves of dependencies and improvements to documentation and CI jobs. The README.md file describes Graal as a dynamic compiler for the HotSpot JVM, focusing on performance and extensibility.

Branch: master ▾ **graal / compiler /**

**Commits**

Author	Commit Message	Time Ago
peter-hofer	From WordTypes, move dependency to InvokeCFunctionPointer to Substrat...	Latest commit a94102a a day ago
..		
ci_common	Fixed test timeout.	24 days ago
ci_includes	Adjust CI job durations	3 months ago
docs	updated Debugging.md and improved help text for a few options	a day ago
mx.compiler	[GR-13655] Integrate Truffle libgraal.	9 days ago
src	From WordTypes, move dependency to InvokeCFunctionPointer to Substrat...	23 hours ago
LICENSE.md	Move graal-compiler to compiler directory	2 years ago
README.md	Review comments	17 days ago

**README.md**

Graal is a dynamic compiler written in Java that integrates with the HotSpot JVM. It has a focus on high performance and extensibility. In addition, it provides optimized performance for [Truffle](#)-based languages running on the JVM.

## Setup

## JEP 243: Java-Level JVM Compiler Interface

*Owner* John Rose  
*Type* Feature  
*Scope* JDK  
*Status* Closed / Delivered  
*Release* 9  
*Component* hotspot / compiler  
*Discussion* hotspot dash compiler dash dev at openjdk dot java dot net  
*Effort* M  
*Duration* M  
*Reviewed by* Douglas Simon, Mikael Vidstedt, Thomas Wuerthinger, Vladimir Kozlov  
*Endorsed by* Mikael Vidstedt  
*Created* 2014/10/29 20:43  
*Updated* 2017/05/19 01:58  
*Issue* [8062493](#)

### Summary

Develop a Java based JVM compiler interface (JVMCI) enabling a compiler written in Java to be used by the JVM as a dynamic compiler.

### Goals

- Allow a Java component programmed against the JVMCI to be loaded at runtime and used by the JVM's compile broker.
- Allow a Java component programmed against the JVMCI to be loaded at runtime and used by trusted Java code to install machine code in the JVM that can be called via a Java reference to the installed code.

### Non-Goals

- Integration of a dynamic compiler (such as Graal) based on JVMCI.

```
public byte[] compile(byte[] bytecode) {  
    ...  
}
```

```
public byte[] compile(byte[] bytecode,  
                      MetaData profiledData) {  
    ...  
}
```

```
public void compile(byte[] bytecode,  
                    MetaData profiledData,  
                    CodeCache codeCache) {  
    codeCache.install(...);  
}
```

```
public void compile(Method method,  
                    MetaData profiledData,  
                    CodeCache codeCache) {  
    codeCache.install(... method.getBytecode() ...);  
}
```

```
public interface JVMMCCompiler {  
    CompilationRequestResult compileMethod(CompilationRequest request);  
}
```

# JVMCI

- An interface from a JVM to a compiler implemented in Java
- A bit like JVM agents
- Equivalent to CRI in Maxine
- Graal implements JVMCI
- Other compilers could as well
- And other JVM's could implement JVMCI
- Not really quite as simple as the interface suggests...
  - The compiler needs to know about the VM's object layout, deoptimization, safepoint mechanism, GC barriers, and more

# Run on OpenJDK 11 with Graal enabled

```
$ java -XX:+UnlockExperimentalVMOptions \
-XX:+EnableJVMCI \
-XX:+UseJVMCICompiler \
```

...

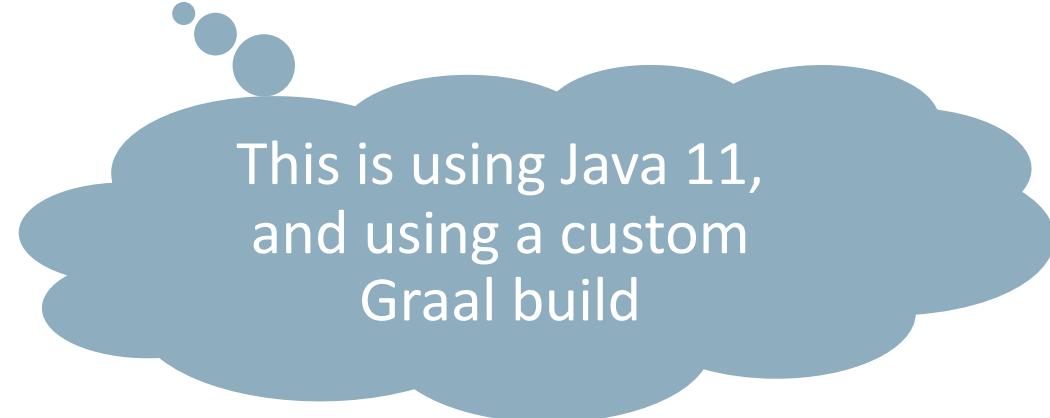


This is using  
Java 11, not  
GraalVM!

# Run on OpenJDK 11 with a custom Graal build

```
$ java -XX:+UnlockExperimentalVMOptions \
-XX:+EnableJVMCI \
-XX:+UseJVMCICompiler \
-Djvmci.class.path.append=graal.jar \
```

...



This is using Java 11,  
and using a custom  
Graal build

# Is this metacircularity for the sake of it?

# **Maxine: An Approachable Virtual Machine For, and In, Java**

**CHRISTIAN WIMMER, MICHAEL HAUPT, MICHAEL L. VAN DE VANTER,  
MICK JORDAN, LAURENT DAYNÈS, and DOUGLAS SIMON, Oracle Labs**

ACM Transactions on Architecture and Code Optimization, Vol. 9, No. 4, Article 30, Publication date: January 2013.

A highly productive platform accelerates the production of research results. The design of a Virtual Machine (VM) written in the Java™ programming language can be simplified through exploitation of interfaces, type and memory safety, automated memory management (garbage collection), exception handling, and reflection. Moreover, modern Java IDEs offer time-saving features such as refactoring, auto-completion, and code navigation. Finally, Java annotations enable compiler extensions for low-level “systems programming” while retaining IDE compatibility. These techniques collectively make complex system software more “approachable” than has been typical in the past.

The Maxine VM, a metacircular Java VM implementation, has aggressively used these features since its inception. A co-designed companion tool, the Maxine Inspector, offers integrated debugging and visualization of all aspects of the VM’s runtime state. The Inspector’s implementation exploits advanced Java language features, embodies intimate knowledge of the VM’s design, and even reuses a significant amount of VM code directly. These characteristics make Maxine a highly approachable VM research platform and a productive basis for research and teaching.

The screenshot shows the Eclipse IDE interface with the title bar "graal - org.graalvm.compiler.core/src/org/graalvm/compiler/core/GraalCompiler.java - Eclipse". The left side features the "Package Explorer" view, which lists various Java packages and files under "org.graalvm.compiler.core". The "GraalCompiler.java" file is selected in the Package Explorer and is displayed in the main editor area. The code in the editor is as follows:

```
2+ * Copyright (c) 2009, 2018, Oracle and/or its affiliates. All rights reserved.
25 package org.graalvm.compiler.core;
26
27+ import org.graalvm.compiler.code.CompilationResult;[]
51
52 /**
53  * Static methods for orchestrating the compilation of a {@linkplain StructuredGraph} graph
54  */
55 public class GraalCompiler {
56
57     private static final TimerKey CompilerTimer = DebugContext.timer("GraalCompiler").doc(
58     private static final TimerKey FrontEnd = DebugContext.timer("FrontEnd").doc("Time spent
59
60 /**
61  * Encapsulates all the inputs to a {@linkplain GraalCompiler#compile(Request)} compilation
62  */
63 public static class Request<T extends CompilationResult> {
64     public final StructuredGraph graph;
65     public final ResolvedJavaMethod installedCodeOwner;
66     public final Providers providers;
67     public final Backend backend;
68     public final PhaseSuite<HighTierContext> graphBuilderSuite;
69     public final OptimisticOptimizations optimisticOpts;
70     public final ProfilingInfo profilingInfo;
71     public final Suites suites;
72     public final LIRSuites lirSuites;
73     public final T compilationResult;
74     public final CompilationResultBuilderFactory factory;
75     public final boolean verifySourcePositions;
76
77 /**
78  * @param graph the graph to be compiled
79  * @param installedCodeOwner the method the compiled code will be associated with
80  * @param providers
81  * @param backend
82  * @param graphBuilderSuite
83  * @param optimisticOpts
84  * @param profilingInfo
85  * @param suites
86  * @param lirSuites
87  * @param compilationResult
88  * @param factory
89  */
90 }
```

```
synchronized (foo) {
```

```
    ...
```

```
}
```

```
synchronized (foo) {
```

```
    ...
```

```
}
```

The screenshot shows the Eclipse IDE interface with the following details:

- Title Bar:** graal - org.graalvm.compiler.phases.common/src/org/graalvm/compiler/phases/common/LockEliminationPhase.java - Eclipse
- Toolbar:** Standard Eclipse toolbar with icons for file operations, search, and navigation.
- Quick Access:** A button labeled "Quick Access" in the top right corner.
- Package Explorer:** On the left, it shows a tree view of the project structure under "com.oracle.truffle". The nodes listed include:
  - com.oracle.truffle.processor [graal master]
  - com.oracle.truffle.dsl.processor [graal master]
  - com.oracle.truffle.dsl.processor.interop [graal master]
  - com.oracle.truffle.nfi [graal master ↓647]
  - com.oracle.truffle.nfi.test [graal master ↓647]
  - com.oracle.truffle.nfi.types [graal master ↓647]
  - com.oracle.truffle.object [graal master ↓647]
  - com.oracle.truffle.object.basic [graal master]
  - com.oracle.truffle.object.basic.test [graal master]
  - com.oracle.truffle.object.dsl.processor [graal master]
  - com.oracle.truffle.polyglot [graal master ↓647]
  - com.oracle.truffle.regex [graal master ↓647]
  - com.oracle.truffle.regex.test [graal master ↓647]
  - com.oracle.truffle.sl [graal master ↓647]
  - com.oracle.truffle.sl.launcher [graal master ↓647]
  - com.oracle.truffle.sl.tck [graal master ↓647]
  - com.oracle.truffle.sl.test [graal master ↓647]
  - com.oracle.truffle.tck [graal master ↓647]
  - com.oracle.truffle.tck.common [graal master]
  - com.oracle.truffle.tck.instrumentation [graal master]
  - com.oracle.truffle.tck.tests [graal master ↓647]
  - GRAAL [graal master ↓647]
  - GRAAL\_API [graal master ↓647]
  - GRAAL\_COMPILER [graal master ↓647]
  - GRAAL\_COMPILER\_MATCH\_PROCESSOR [graal master]
  - GRAAL\_COMPILER\_MICRO\_BENCHMARKS [graal master]
  - GRAAL\_COMPILER\_WHITEBOX\_MICRO\_BENCHMARKS [graal master]
  - GRAAL\_GRAPHIO [graal master ↓647]
  - GRAAL\_HOTSPOT [graal master ↓647]
  - GRAAL\_MANAGEMENT [graal master ↓647]
  - GRAAL\_NODEINFO [graal master ↓647]
  - GRAAL\_NODEINFO\_PROCESSOR [graal master]
  - GRAAL\_OPTIONS [graal master ↓647]
  - GRAAL\_OPTIONS\_PROCESSOR [graal master]
  - GRAAL\_PROCESSOR\_COMMON [graal master]
  - GRAAL\_REPLACEMENTS\_PROCESSOR [graal master]
  - GRAAL\_RUNTIME [graal master ↓647]
  - GRAAL\_SDK [graal master ↓647]
- Editor:** The main window displays the Java code for the `LockEliminationPhase` class. The code handles monitor exit nodes and checks for compatibility between monitor enter nodes. It includes annotations like `@Override` and `assert`, and uses `GraphUtil` methods to remove unused inputs from nodes.
- Bottom Status Bar:** Shows "Writable", "Smart Insert", "39 : 34", and other standard Eclipse status bar items.

```
@Override
protected void run(StructuredGraph graph) {
    for (MonitorExitNode monitorExitNode : graph.getNodes(MonitorExitNode.TYPE)) {
        FixedNode next = monitorExitNode.next();
        if ((next instanceof MonitorEnterNode || next instanceof RawMonitorEnterNode)) {
            // should never happen, osr monitor enters are always direct successors of the graph
            // start
            assert !(next instanceof OSRMonitorEnterNode);
            AccessMonitorNode monitorEnterNode = (AccessMonitorNode) next;
            if (isCompatibleLock(monitorEnterNode, monitorExitNode)) {
                /*
                 * We've coarsened the lock so use the same monitor id for the whole region,
                 * otherwise the monitor operations appear to be unrelated.
                 */
                MonitorIdNode enterId = monitorEnterNode.getMonitorId();
                MonitorIdNode exitId = monitorExitNode.getMonitorId();
                if (enterId != exitId) {
                    enterId.replaceAndDelete(exitId);
                }
                GraphUtil.removeFixedWithUnusedInputs(monitorEnterNode);
                GraphUtil.removeFixedWithUnusedInputs(monitorExitNode);
            }
        }
    }
}
```

```

// Now see if we can optimize away this lock. We don't actually
// remove the lock here; we simply set the __align macro which
// removes macro expansion from expanding the lock. Since we don't
// modify the graph, the value returned from this function is the
// one computed above.
if (can_reshape && EliminateLocks && !is_non_esc_obj()) {
    //
    // If we are locking an unescaped object, the lock/unlock is unnecessary
    // ConnectionGraph *cgr = phase->c->ccongraph();
    if (cgr != NULL && cgr->not_global_escape(obj_node)) {
        assert(!is_eliminated() || is_coarsened()); "sanity";
        // The lock could be marked eliminated by lock coarsening
        // code during first IGM before EA. Replace coarsened flag
        // with all associated locks/unlocks.
#ifndef ASSERT
        this-&>log_lock_optimization(phase->C, "eliminate_lock_set_non_esc1");
#endif
        this->set_non_esc_obj();
        return result;
    }
    //
    // Try lock coarsening
    //
    PhaseIterGVN *iter = phase->is_IterGVN();
    if (iter != NULL && !is_eliminated()) {
        GrowableArray<AbstractLockNode*> lock_ops;
        Node *ctrl = next_control(in0);
        //
        // now search back for a matching Unlock
        if (!find_matching_unlock(ctrl, this, lock_ops)) {
            // found unlock directly preceding this lock. This is the
            // case of single unlock directly control dependent on a
            // single lock which is the trivial version of case 1 or 2.
        } else if (ctrl->is_Region()) {
            // found unlock preceded by multiple unlocks along all paths
            // joining at this point which is case 3 in description above.
        } else {
            // see if this lock comes from either half of an if and the
            // predecessors merges unlocks and the other half of the if
            // performs a lock.
            if (find_lock_and_unlock_through_if(ctrl, this, lock_ops)) {
                // found unlock splitting to an if with locks on both branches.
            }
        }
        if (lock_ops.length() > 0) {
            // add ourselves to the list of locks to be eliminated.
            lock_ops.append(this);
        }
#ifndef PRODUCT
        // PrintEliminateLocks {
        int locks = 0;
        int unlocks = 0;
        for (int i = 0; i < lock_ops.length(); i++) {
            AbstractLockNode* lock = lock_ops.at(i);
            if (lock->Opcode() == Op_Lock)
                locks++;
            else
                unlocks++;
            if (Verbose) {
                lock->dump(1);
            }
        }
        tty->print_cr("==>Eliminated %d unlocks and %d locks", unlocks, locks);
#endif
        //
        // for each of the identified locks, mark them
        // as eliminatable
        for (int i = 0; i < lock_ops.length(); i++) {
            AbstractLockNode* lock = lock_ops.at(i);
            lock->mark_as_eliminatable();
        }
        // Mark it eliminated by coarsening and update any counters
#ifndef ASSERT
        lock->log_lock_optimization(phase->C, "eliminate_lock_set_coarsened");
#endif
        lock->set_coarsened();
    }
    else if (ctrl->is_Region()) {
        // We weren't able to find any opportunities but the region this
        // lock is control dependent on hasn't been processed yet so put
        // this lock back on the worklist so we can check again once any
        // region simplification has occurred.
        iter->worklist.push(this);
    }
}
return result;
}

```

```

// This code corresponds to case 3 above.
bool AbstractLockNode::find_lock_and_unlock_through_if(Node* node, LockNode* lock,
                                                       GrowableArray<AbstractLockNode*>
                                                       lock_ops) {
    bool if_true = node->is_IfTrue();
    bool if_false = node->is_IfFalse();
    if (if_node->is_If() && if_node->out(0) == 2 && (if_true || node->is_IfFalse())) {
        Node *lock_ctrl = next_control(if_node->in(0));
        if (!find_matching_unlock(lock_ctrl, lock, lock_ops)) {
            Node *lock1_node = NULL;
            ProjNode *proj = if_node->as_Proj();
            if (if_true) {
                if (proj->is_IfFalse() && proj->outcnt() == 1) {
                    lock1_node = proj->unique_out();
                } else {
                    if (proj->is_IfTrue() && proj->outcnt() == 1) {
                        lock1_node = proj->unique_out();
                    }
                }
            } else {
                if (lock1_node != NULL && lock1_node->is_Lock()) {
                    LockNode *lock1_node1 = lock1_node->lock();
                    if (lock1_node1->model() == uncast(lock->obj_node())) &&
                        BoxLockNode::same_slot(lock->box_node(), lock1_node1->box_node()) &&
                        lock1_node1->is_eliminated() {
                        lock_ops.append(lock1_node1);
                        return true;
                    }
                }
            }
        }
        lock_ops.trunc_to(0);
        return false;
    }
}

bool AbstractLockNode::find_unlock_for_region(const RegionNode* region, LockNode* lock,
                                              GrowableArray<AbstractLockNode*> lock_ops) {
    // check each control merging at this point for a matching unlock.
    // in(0) should be self edge so skip it.
    for (int i = 1; i < (int)region->eq(); i++) {
        Node *in_node = next_control(region->in(i));
        if (in_node != NULL) {
            if (!find_matching_unlock(in_node, lock, lock_ops)) {
                // found a match so keep on checking.
                continue;
            }
            // If we fall through to here then it was some kind of node we
            // don't understand or there wasn't a matching unlock, so give
            // up and return false.
            lock_ops.trunc_to(0);
            return false;
        }
    }
    return true;
}

// Find the lock matching an unlock. Returns null if a safepoint
// or complicated control is encountered first.
LockNode* AbstractLockNode::find_matching_lock(UnlockNode* unlock) {
    LockNode* lock_result = NULL;
    // find the matching lock, or an intervening safepoint
    Node *ctrl = next_control(unlock->in(0));
    while (1) {
        assert(ctrl != NULL, "invalid control graph");
        assert(ctrl->is_Start() || "missing lock for unlock");
        assert(ctrl->in(0) == unlock, "dead control path");
        if (ctrl->is_Proj()) ctrl = ctrl->in(0);
        if (ctrl->is_SafePoint1()) {
            break; // found a safepoint (may be the lock we are searching for)
        } else if (ctrl->is_Region()) {
            // Check for a simple diamond pattern. Punt on anything more complex
            if (ctrl->reg(1) == ctrl->reg(2) && ctrl->in(1) == NULL && ctrl->in(2) != NULL) {
                Node *in1 = next_control(ctrl->in(1));
                Node *in2 = next_control(ctrl->in(2));
                if ((in1->is_IfTrue() && in2->is_IfFalse()) || (in2->is_IfTrue() && in1->is_IfFalse()) && (in1->in(0) == in2->in(0))) {
                    ctrl = next_control(in1->in(0));
                } else {
                    break;
                }
            } else {
                break;
            }
        } else {
            ctrl = next_control(ctrl->in(0)); // keep searching
        }
    }
    if (ctrl->is_Lock()) {
        LockNode *lock = ctrl->as_Lock();
        if (lock->obj_node() == uncast(unlock->obj_node()) &&
            BoxLockNode::same_slot(lock->box_node(), unlock->box_node())) {
            lock_result = lock;
        }
    }
    return lock_result;
}

```

# Partial Escape Analysis and Scalar Replacement for Java

Lukas Stadler  
Johannes Kepler University  
Linz, Austria  
[lukas.stadler@jku.at](mailto:lukas.stadler@jku.at)

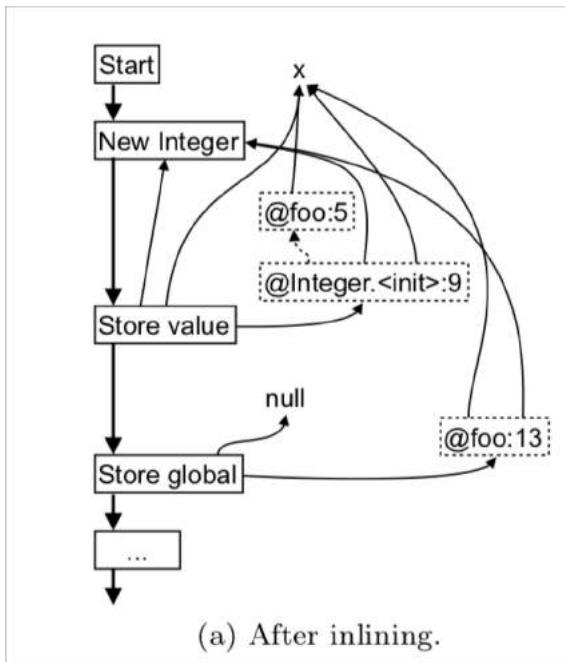
Thomas Würthinger  
Oracle Labs  
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Hanspeter Mössenböck  
Johannes Kepler University  
Linz, Austria  
[moessenboeck@ssw.jku.at](mailto:moessenboeck@ssw.jku.at)

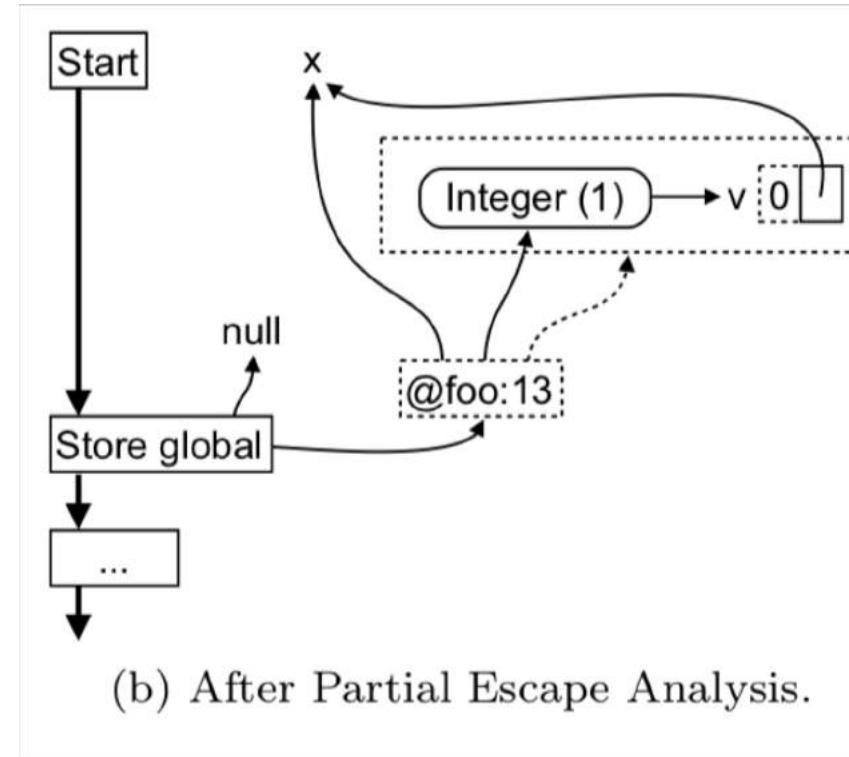
```

1 static Object global;
2 void foo(int x) {
3     Integer i = new Integer(x);
4     global = null;
5     ...
6 }

```



(a) After inlining.



(b) After Partial Escape Analysis.

## Partial Escape Analysis and Scalar Replacement for Java

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# Trace-based Register Allocation in a JIT Compiler

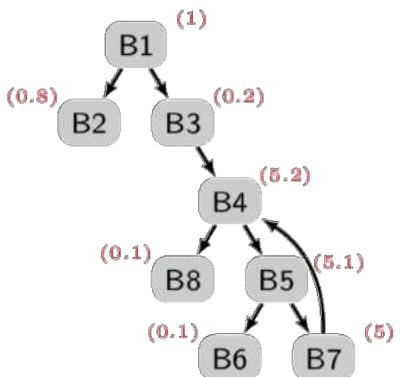
Josef Eisl<sup>†</sup>  
Institute for System Software  
Johannes Kepler University  
Linz, Austria

Matthias Grimmer<sup>†</sup>  
Institute for System Software  
Johannes Kepler University  
Linz, Austria

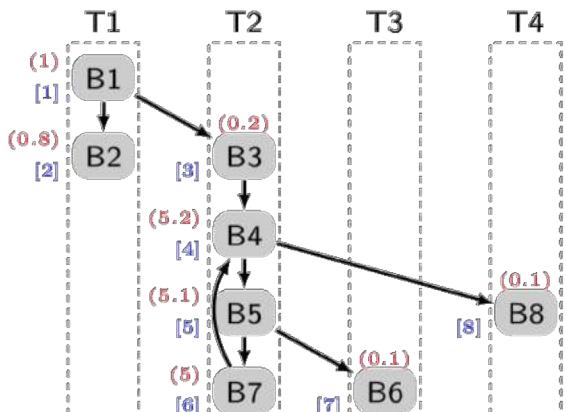
Doug Simon<sup>‡</sup>  
Oracle Labs  
Switzerland

Thomas Würthinger<sup>‡</sup>  
Oracle Labs  
Switzerland

Hanspeter Mössenböck<sup>†</sup>  
Institute for System Software  
Johannes Kepler University  
Linz, Austria



(a) Control-flow Graph

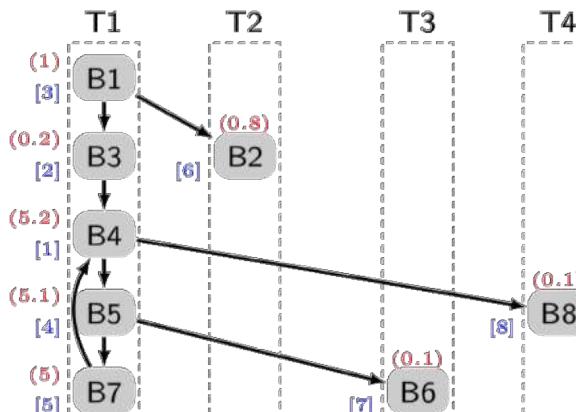


(c) Unidirectional Trace Builder

```

boolean equals(int[] a, int[] b) {
    /*B1*/ if (b.length != a.length)
    /*B2*/     return false;
    /*B3*/     int i = 0;
    /*B4*/     while (i < a.length) {
    /*B5*/         if (a[i] != b[i])
    /*B6*/             return false;
    /*B7*/         i++;
    }
    /*B8*/     return true;
}
  
```

(b) Java Source



(d) Bidirectional Trace Builder

## Trace-based Register Allocation in a JIT Compiler

Josef Eisl<sup>†</sup>  
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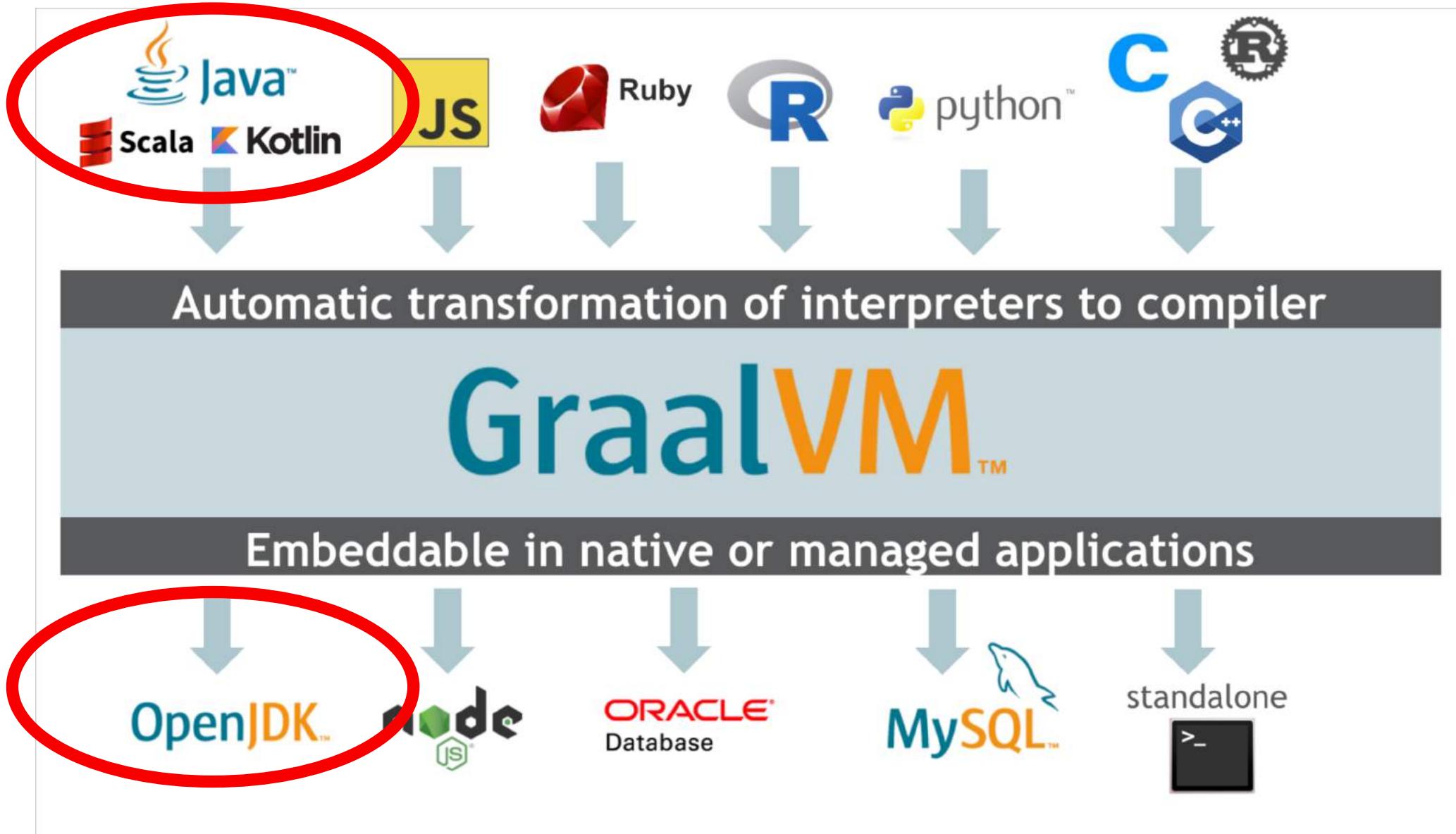
Thomas Würthinger<sup>†</sup>  
Oracle Labs  
Switzerland

Hanspeter Mössenböck<sup>†</sup>  
Institute for System Software  
Johannes Kepler University  
Linz, Austria

# What are the applications of Graal?

**What are the applications of Graal?**

**Graal as a JIT compiler for JVM languages**



```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    Arrays.stream(args)
        .flatMap(TopTen::fileLines)
        .flatMap(line -> Arrays.stream(line.split("\b")))
        .map(word -> word.replaceAll("[^a-zA-Z]", ""))
        .filter(word -> word.length() > 0)
        .map(word -> word.toLowerCase())
        .collect(Collectors.groupingBy(Function.identity(), Collectors.counting()))
        .entrySet().stream()
        .sorted((a, b) -> -a.getValue().compareTo(b.getValue()))
        .limit(10)
        .forEach(e -> System.out.format("%s = %d%n", e.getKey(), e.getValue()));
}
```

# Running using the GraalVM EE distribution

```
$ javac TopTen.java  
$ time java TopTen large.txt  
...  
real 0m18.905s
```

# Compare to standard OpenJDK

```
$ time java -XX:-UseJVMCICompiler TopTen large.txt  
...  
real 0m23.102s
```

**What are the applications of Graal?**

**Graal as a specialized compiler for JVM  
applications**

# Graal as a specialized compiler for JVM applications

- Graal is modular, and the JVMBI has a plug-in architecture
- Can we write custom optimization passes for specific applications and plug them into Graal?
  - Optimizations that only make sense for your application?
  - Optimizations that break the normal rules of the JVM Spec but you're happy they're safe for your application?
- [github.com/jruby/jruby-graal](https://github.com/jruby/jruby-graal)

```
public static class JRubyGraalCompilerConfiguration extends CoreCompilerConfiguration {
    @Override
    public PhaseSuite<HighTierContext> createHighTier(OptionValues options) {
        HighTier highTier = new HighTier(options);
        ListIterator iter = highTier.findPhase(PartialEscapePhase.class);
        iter.previous();
        iter.add(new JRubyVirtualizationPhase());
        return highTier;
    }
}
```

```
@Override
protected void run(StructuredGraph structuredGraph, PhaseContext phaseContext) {
    NodeIterable<Node> nodes = structuredGraph.getNodes();
    nodes.forEach(n -> {
        if (n.getClass() == NewInstanceNode.class) {
            NewInstanceNode newInstance = (NewInstanceNode) n;
            if (isVirtual(newInstance.instanceClass())) {
                System.out.println("virtualizing fixnum: " + newInstance);
                JRubyNewInstanceNode jnin = structuredGraph.add(new JRubyNewInstanceNode(
                    newInstance.instanceClass(), newInstance.fillContents(), newInstance.stateBefore()));
                structuredGraph.replaceFixedWithFixed(newInstance, jnin);
            }
        }
    });
}
```

```
private boolean isVirtual(ResolvedJavaType type) {
    String name = type.getName();

    if (name.contains("RubyFixnum") || name.contains("RubyFloat")) return true;

    return false;
}
```

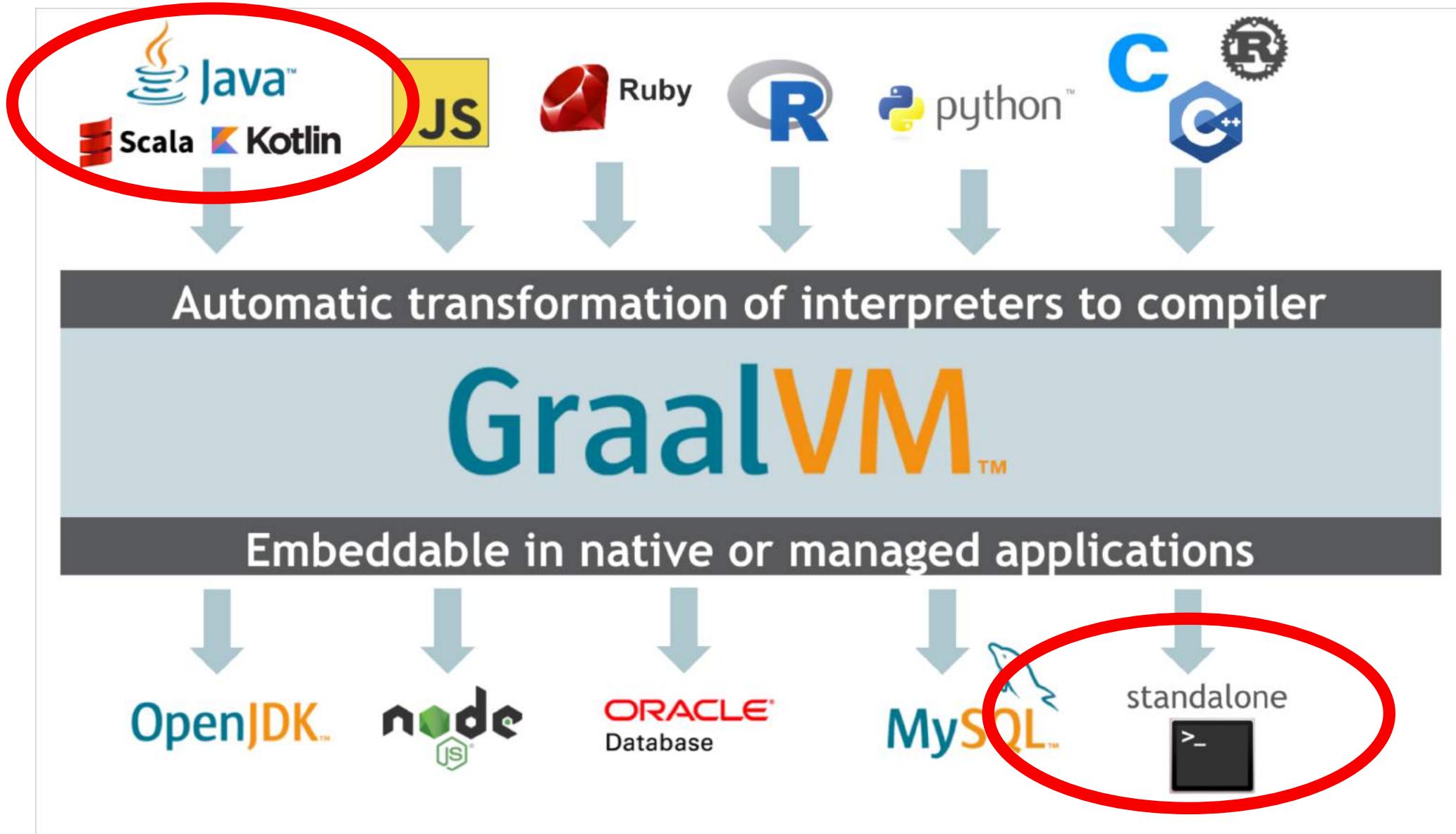
```
public static class JRubyNewInstanceNode extends NewInstanceNode {

    public JRubyNewInstanceNode(ResolvedJavaType type, boolean fillContents, FrameState stateBefore) {
        super(type, fillContents, stateBefore);
    }

    @Override
    public void virtualize(VirtualizerTool tool) {
        /*
         * This is always for virtualizable JRuby objects, so always virtualize.
         */
        VirtualInstanceNode virtualObject = new VirtualInstanceNode(instanceClass(), false);
        ResolvedJavaField[] fields = virtualObject.getFields();
        ValueNode[] state = new ValueNode[fields.length];
        for (int i = 0; i < state.length; i++) {
            state[i] = defaultFieldValue(fields[i]);
        }
        tool.createVirtualObject(virtualObject, state, Collections.<MonitorIdNode> emptyList(), false);
        tool.replaceWithVirtual(virtualObject);
    }
}
```

**What are the applications of Graal?**

**Graal as an AOT compiler for JVM languages**



# Run as normal

```
$ time java TopTen small.txt
```

...

```
real 0m0.408s
```

# Compile to native using native-image

```
$ native-image TopTen
```

...

```
$ time ./topten small.txt
```

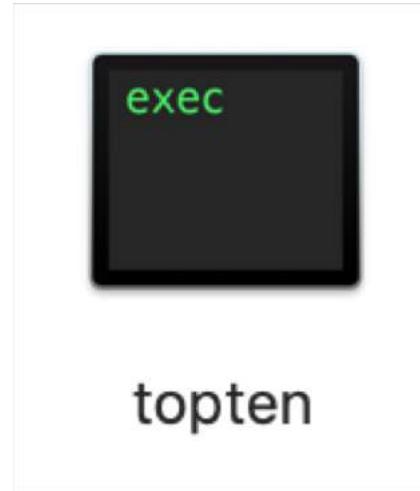
...

```
real 0m0.112s
```

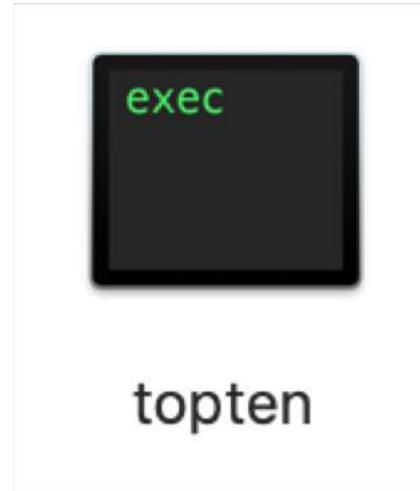


exec

topten



```
$ du -h topten  
8.8M topten
```



```
$ otool -L topten
topten:
/usr/lib/libSystem.B.dylib
/usr/lib/libz.1.dylib
/System/Library/CoreFoundation
```

topten.hop

Remove HI/LO macros    Remove potentially dead code    Remove NOPs    No code duplication

```

int _java.lang.Character.toLowerCase(int)int(int arg0) {
    rdi = arg0;
    rsp = rsp - 0x18;
    if ((rdi & 0xfffff00) != 0x0) {
        rsi = rdi >> 0x10;
        if (rsi < 0xe) {
            if (rsi <= 0x2) {
                if (rsi != 0x0) {
                    if (rsi != 0x1) {
                        rsi = *qword_value_4298892832;
                    }
                    else {
                        rsi = *qword_value_4298892816;
                    }
                }
                else {
                    rsi = *qword_value_4298892848;
                }
            }
            else {
                rsi = *qword_value_4298892864;
            }
        }
        else {
            rsi = *qword_value_4298892832;
        }
    }
    else {
        if (rsi <= 0x10) {
            if ((rsi < 0x10) && (rsi == 0xe)) {
                rsi = *qword_value_4298892880;
            }
            else {
                rsi = *qword_value_4298892784;
            }
        }
        else {
            rsi = *qword_value_4298892832;
        }
    }
}

```

> dataflow analysis of procedures in segment \_\_LINKEDIT  
> dataflow analysis of procedures in segment External Symbols  
> Analysis pass 9/10: remaining prologs search  
> Analysis pass 10/10: searching contiguous code area  
> Last pass done  
Background analysis ended in 0'46

>>> Python Command

Address 0x10009c0b5, Segment \_\_TEXT, \_java.lang.Character.toLowerCase(int)int + 133, Section \_\_text, file offset 0x9c0b5

**File Information**

- Path: /Users/chrisseaton/Documents/orac
- Loader: Mach-O
- CPU: intel/x86\_64
- Branch always stops procedures
- CPU Syntax Variant: AT&T
- Calling Convention: System V

**Address Information**

- Type: Procedure
- Prolog Heuristic: Not a procedure pro
- Prolog Mode: Use Heuristic

**Navigation History**

- 0x100008d30 (\_com.oracle.svm.core.code.CEntryF
- 0x1000019e0 (\_TopTen.main(java.lang.String[])void
- 0x1000b0430 (\_java.lang.Math.scalb(double,int)dc
- 0x1000b0190 (\_java.lang.Math.log(double)double)
- 0x1000b05a0 (\_java.lang.Math.toIntExact(long)int)

**Graphic Views**

**Procedure**

- 21 basic blocks
- int func(int)

Calling Convention: File default (System...)

**Call graph**

Type	Callers
Direct	_java.util.regex.Pattern\$SliceU.match...
Direct	_java.lang.String\$CaseInsensitiveCo...
Direct	_java.lang.String.regionMatches(bool...
Direct	_java.lang.String.toLowerCase(java.u...

Type	At	Method Called
------	----	---------------

# SubstrateVM using Graal

- The native-image tool is using SubstrateVM and Graal
- SubstrateVM does closed-world analysis on a Java application
- Produces a set of methods to compile
- Runs Graal to compile them
  - (literally calls a method called `GraalCompiler.compile`)
  - Replaces the in-memory code-cache with an on-disk code cache
- Details around configuring for static code, but the big idea translates pretty literally to the code

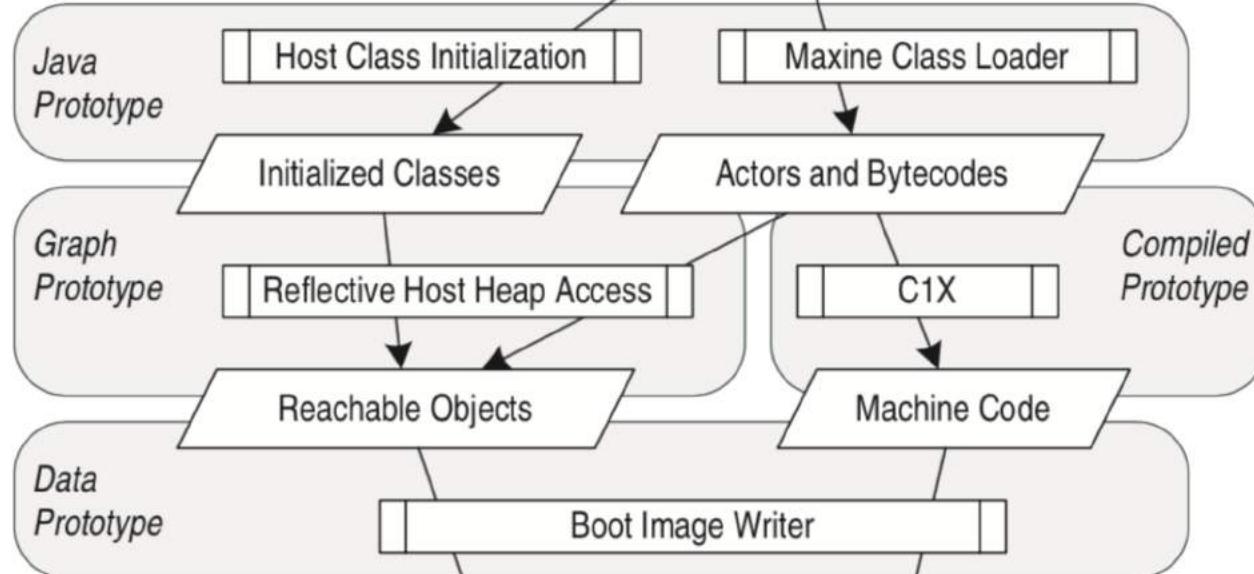
# **Maxine: An Approachable Virtual Machine For, and In, Java**

**CHRISTIAN WIMMER, MICHAEL HAUPT, MICHAEL L. VAN DE VANTER,  
MICK JORDAN, LAURENT DAYNÈS, and DOUGLAS SIMON, Oracle Labs**

ACM Transactions on Architecture and Code Optimization, Vol. 9, No. 4, Article 30, Publication date: January 2013.

**Development****Boot Image Generation**

Running on Host VM  
Executing Maxine VM  
code in Hosted mode

**Execution****Boot Image**

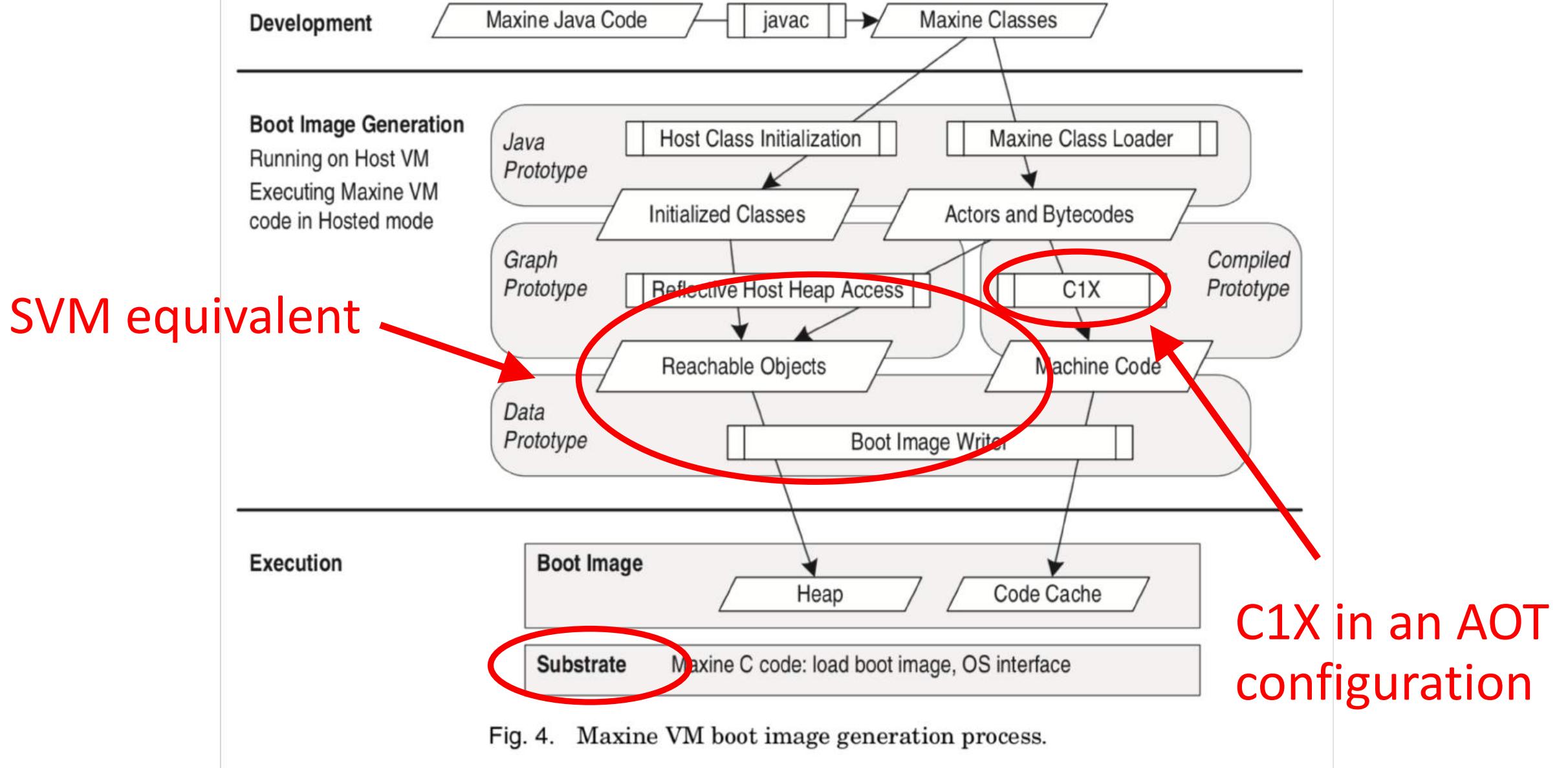
Heap

Code Cache

**Substrate**

Maxine C code: load boot image, OS interface

Fig. 4. Maxine VM boot image generation process.



SVM provides much of this,  
much like Maxine

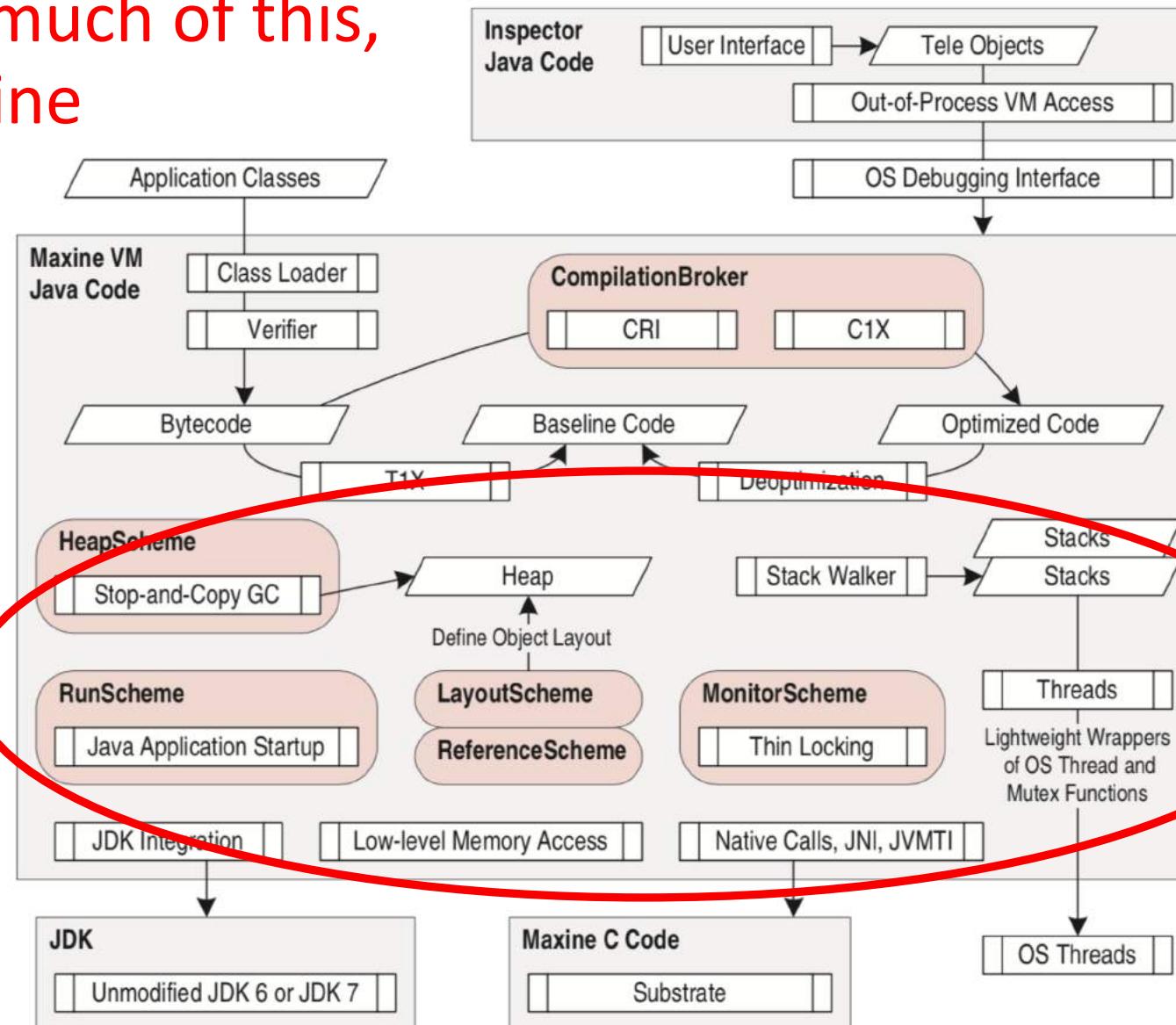


Fig. 1. Structure of the Maxine VM.

Doesn't provide this

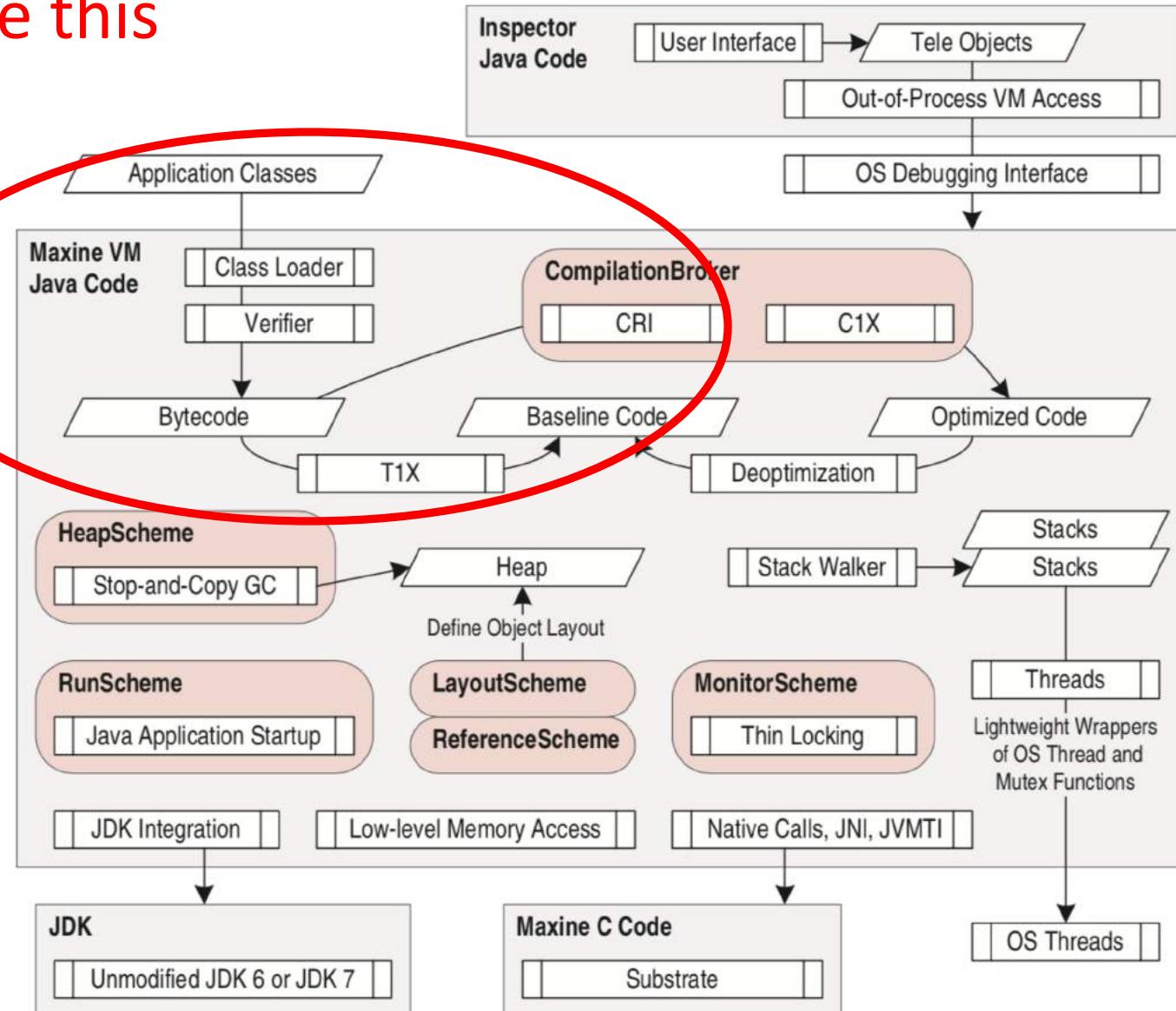
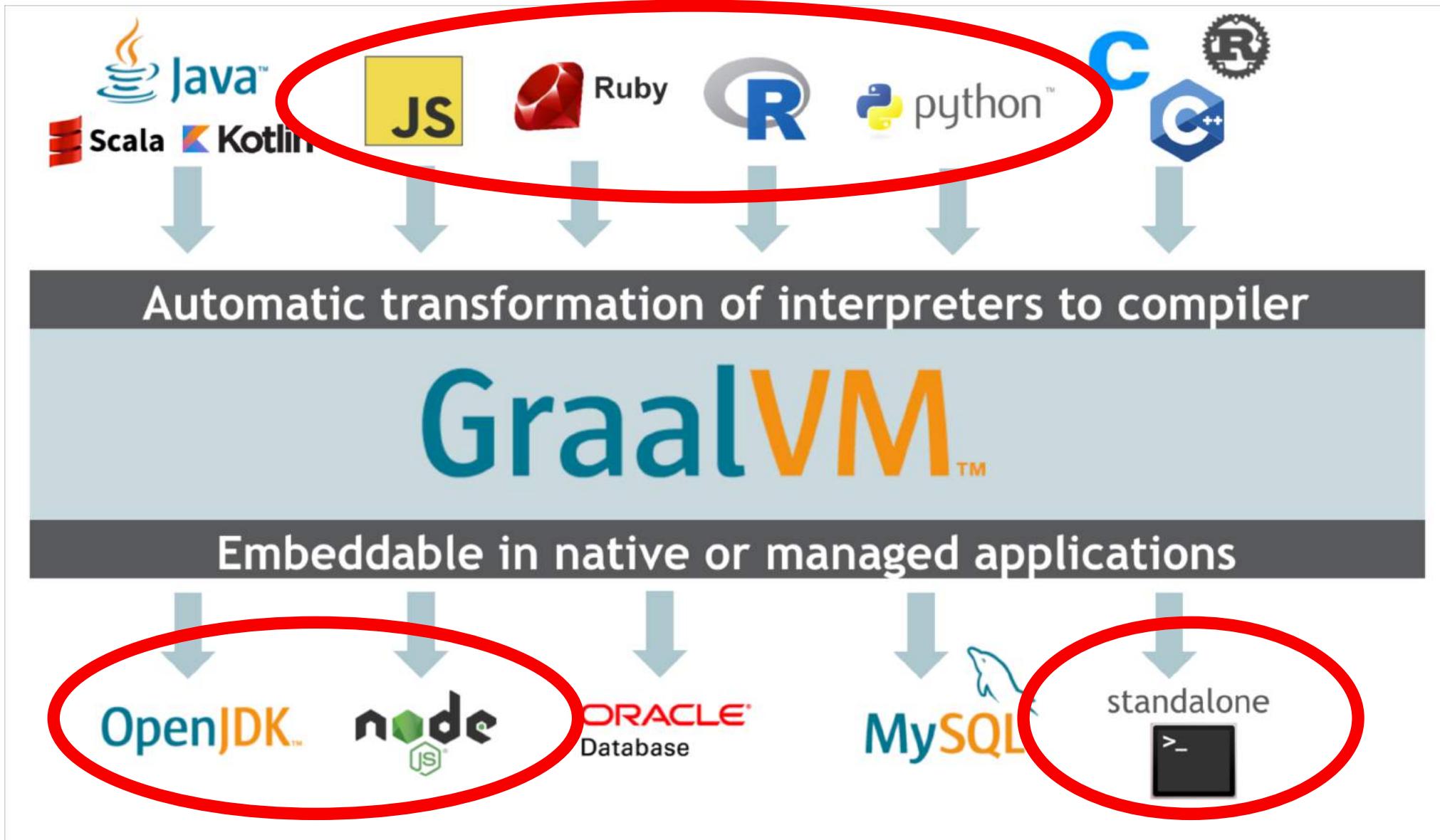


Fig. 1. Structure of the Maxine VM.

**What are the applications of Graal?**

**Graal as a JIT compiler for dynamic languages**



## Current situation

## How it should be

Prototype a new language

Parser and language work to build syntax tree (AST), AST Interpreter

Write a “real” VM

In C/C++, still using AST interpreter, spend a lot of time implementing runtime system, GC, ...

People start using it

People complain about performance

Define a bytecode format and write bytecode interpreter

Performance is still bad

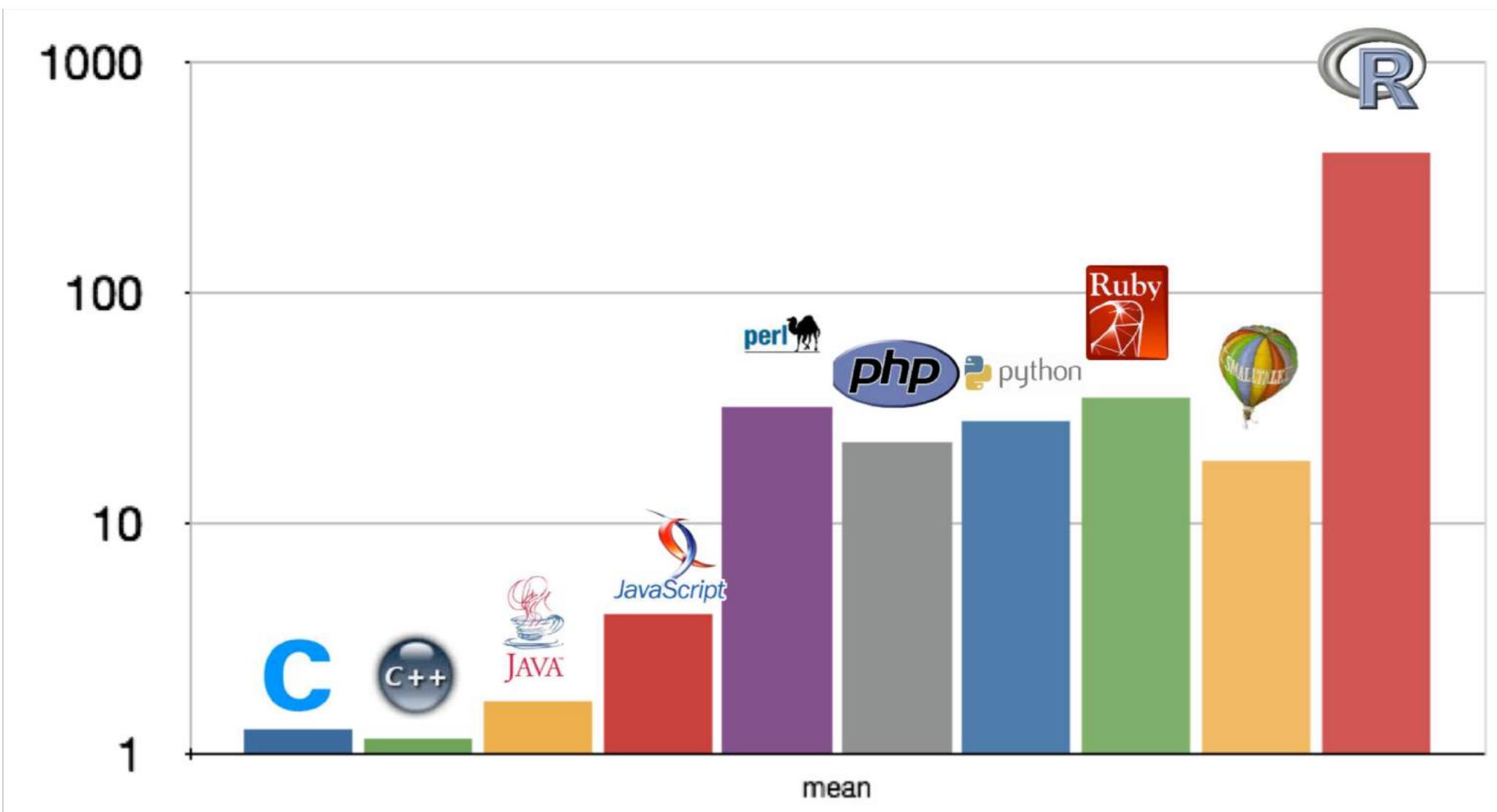
Write a JIT compiler  
Improve the garbage collector

Prototype a new language in Java

Parser and language work to build syntax tree (AST)  
Execute using AST interpreter

People start using it

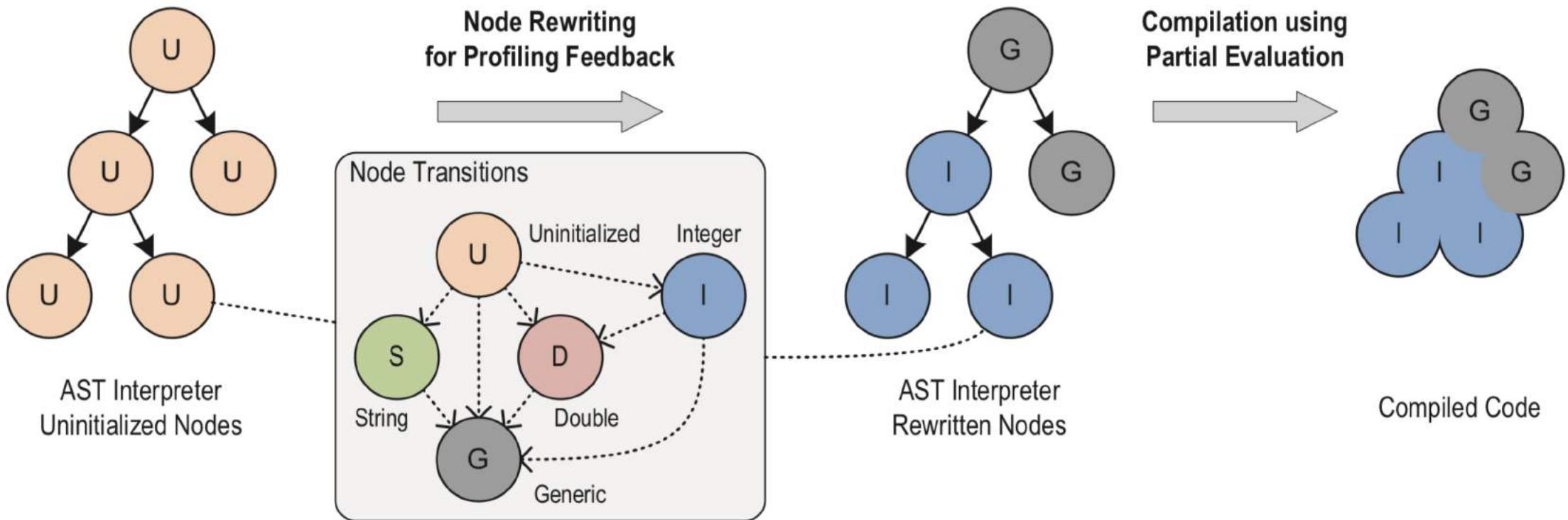
And it is already fast

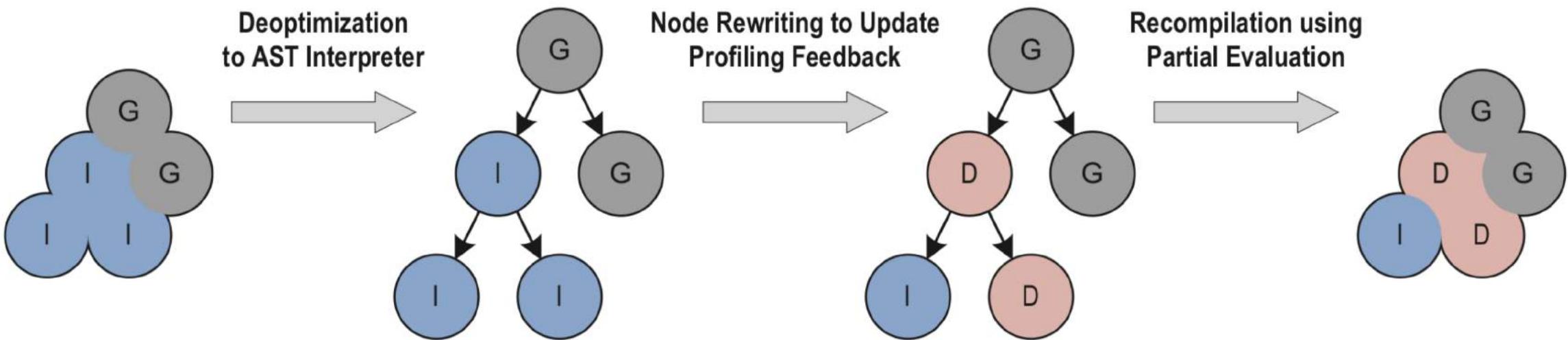


# One VM to Rule Them All

Thomas Würthinger\*   Christian Wimmer\*   Andreas Wöß†   Lukas Stadler†  
Gilles Duboscq†   Christian Humer†   Gregor Richards§   Doug Simon\*   Mario Wolczko\*

*Onward! 2013, October 29–31, 2013, Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.*





```
@Specialization(rewriteOn=ArithmetcException.class)
int addInt(int a, int b) {
    return Math.addExact(a, b);
}

@Specialization
double addDouble(double a, double b) {
    return a + b;
}

@Generic
Object addGeneric(Frame f, Object a, Object b) {
    // Handling of String omitted for simplicity.
    Number aNum = Runtime.toNumber(f, a);
    Number bNum = Runtime.toNumber(f, b);
    return Double.valueOf(aNum.doubleValue() +
        bNum.doubleValue());
}
```

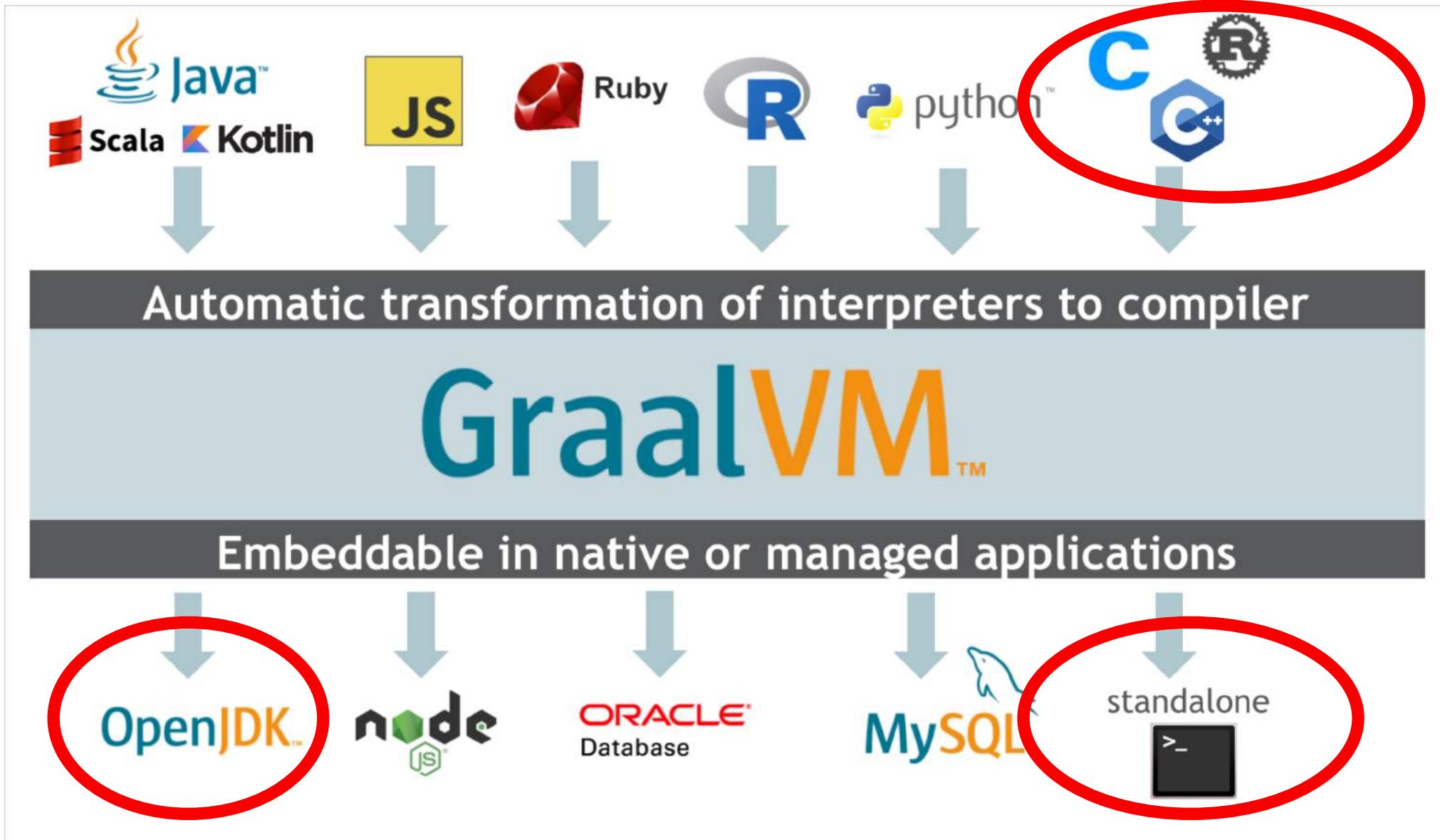
```
boolean interpreterCall(OptimizedCallTarget callTarget) {
    int intCallCount = ++callCount;
    int intAndLoopCallCount = ++callAndLoopCount;
    if (!callTarget.isCompiling() && !compilationFailed) {
        // Check if call target is hot enough to compile, but took not too long to get hot.
        int callThreshold = compilationCallThreshold; // 0 if TruffleCompileImmediately
        int callAndLoopThreshold = compilationCallAndLoopThreshold;
        if ((intAndLoopCallCount >= callAndLoopThreshold && intCallCount >= callThreshold) || callThreshold == 0) {
            return callTarget.compile(!multiTierEnabled);
        }
    }
    return false;
}
```

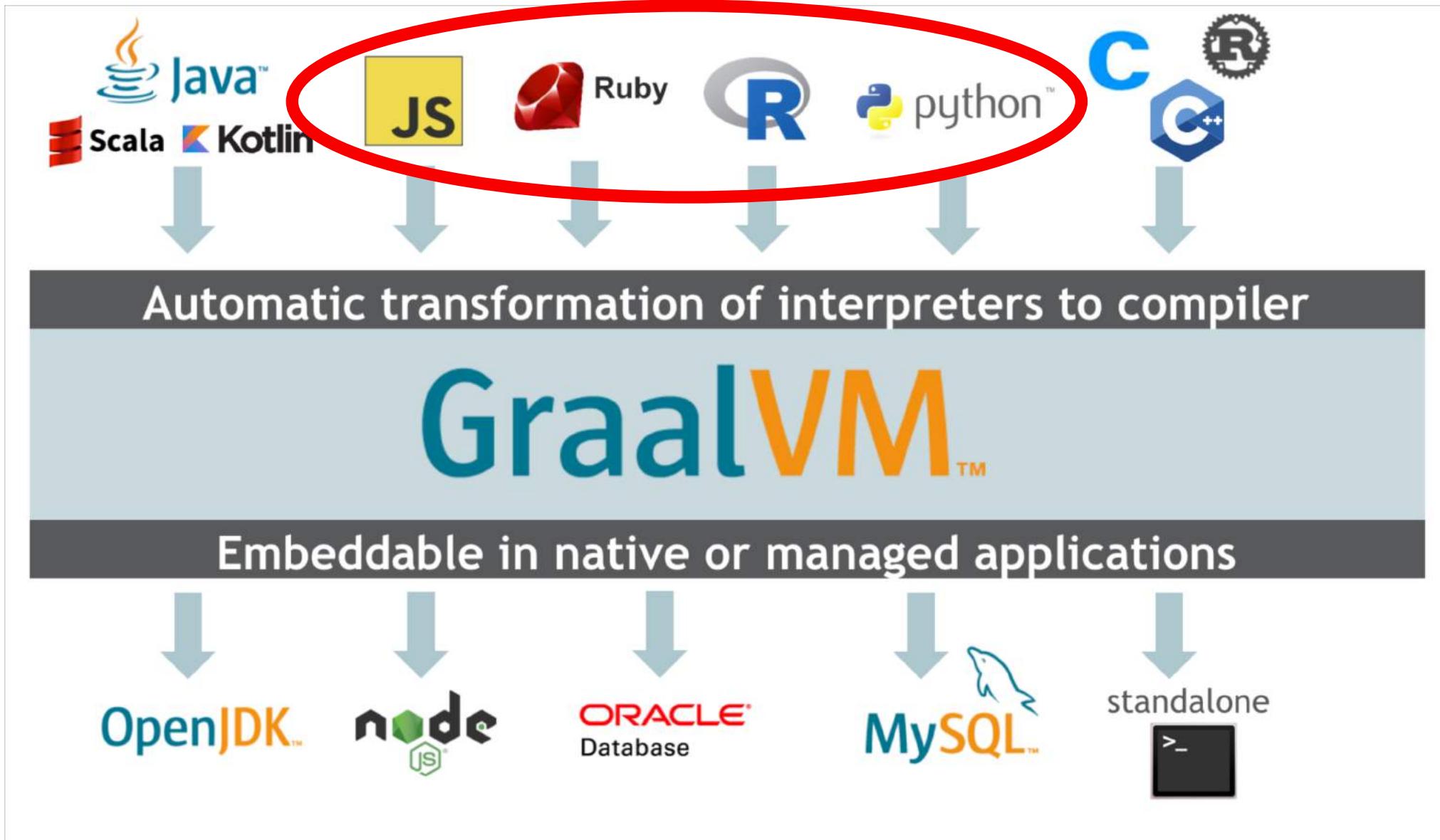
```
protected PEGraphDecoder createGraphDecoder(...) {
    final GraphBuilderConfiguration newConfig = configForParsing.copy();
    ...
    Plugins plugins = newConfig.getPlugins();
    ...
    plugins.appendInlineInvokePlugin(new ParsingInlineInvokePlugin(replacements, parsingInvocationPlugins, loopExplosionPlugin));
    ...
    return new CachingPEGraphDecoder(..., newConfig, ...);
}
```

```
public InlineKind getInlineKind(ResolvedJavaMethod original, boolean duringPartialEvaluation) {
    TruffleBoundary truffleBoundary = getAnnotation(TruffleBoundary.class, original);
    if (truffleBoundary != null) {
        if (duringPartialEvaluation || !truffleBoundary.allowInlining()) {
            // Since this method is invoked by the bytecode parser plugins, which can be invoked
            // by the partial evaluator, we want to prevent inlining across the boundary during
            // partial evaluation,
            // even if the TruffleBoundary allows inlining after partial evaluation.
            if (!truffleBoundary.throwsControlFlowException() && truffleBoundary.transferToInterpreterOnException()) {
                return InlineKind.DO_NOT_INLINE_DEOPTIMIZE_ON_EXCEPTION;
            } else {
                return InlineKind.DO_NOT_INLINE_WITH_EXCEPTION;
            }
        }
    } else if (getAnnotation(TruffleCallBoundary.class, original) != null) {
        return InlineKind.DO_NOT_INLINE_WITH_EXCEPTION;
    }
    return InlineKind.INLINE;
}
```

**What are the applications of Graal?**

**Graal as a JIT compiler for native languages**





```

VALUE psd_native_util_clamp(VALUE self,
    VALUE r_num, VALUE r_min, VALUE r_max) {
    int num = FIX2INT(r_num);
    int min = FIX2INT(r_min);
    int max = FIX2INT(r_max);

    return num > max ? r_max : (num < min ? r_min : r_num);
}

define i8* @psd_native_util_clamp(i8* %self,
    i8* %r_num, i8* %r_min, i8* %r_max) nounwind uwtable ssp {
    %1 = call i32 @FIX2INT(i8* %r_num)
    %2 = call i32 @FIX2INT(i8* %r_min)
    %3 = call i32 @FIX2INT(i8* %r_max)
    %4 = icmp sgt i32 %1, %3
    br i1 %4, label %5, label %6
    ; <label>:5                                ; preds = %0
    br label %12                               ; preds = %0
    ; <label>:6                                ; preds = %0
    %7 = icmp slt i32 %1, %2
    br i1 %7, label %8, label %9
    ; <label>:8                                ; preds = %6
    br label %10                               ; preds = %6
    ; <label>:9                                ; preds = %6
    br label %10                               ; preds = %6
    ; <label>:10                               ; preds = %9, %8
    %11 = phi i8* [ %r_min, %8 ], [ %r_num, %9 ]
    br label %12                               ; preds = %10, %5
    %13 = phi i8* [ %r_max, %5 ], [ %11, %10 ]
    ret i8* %13
}

```

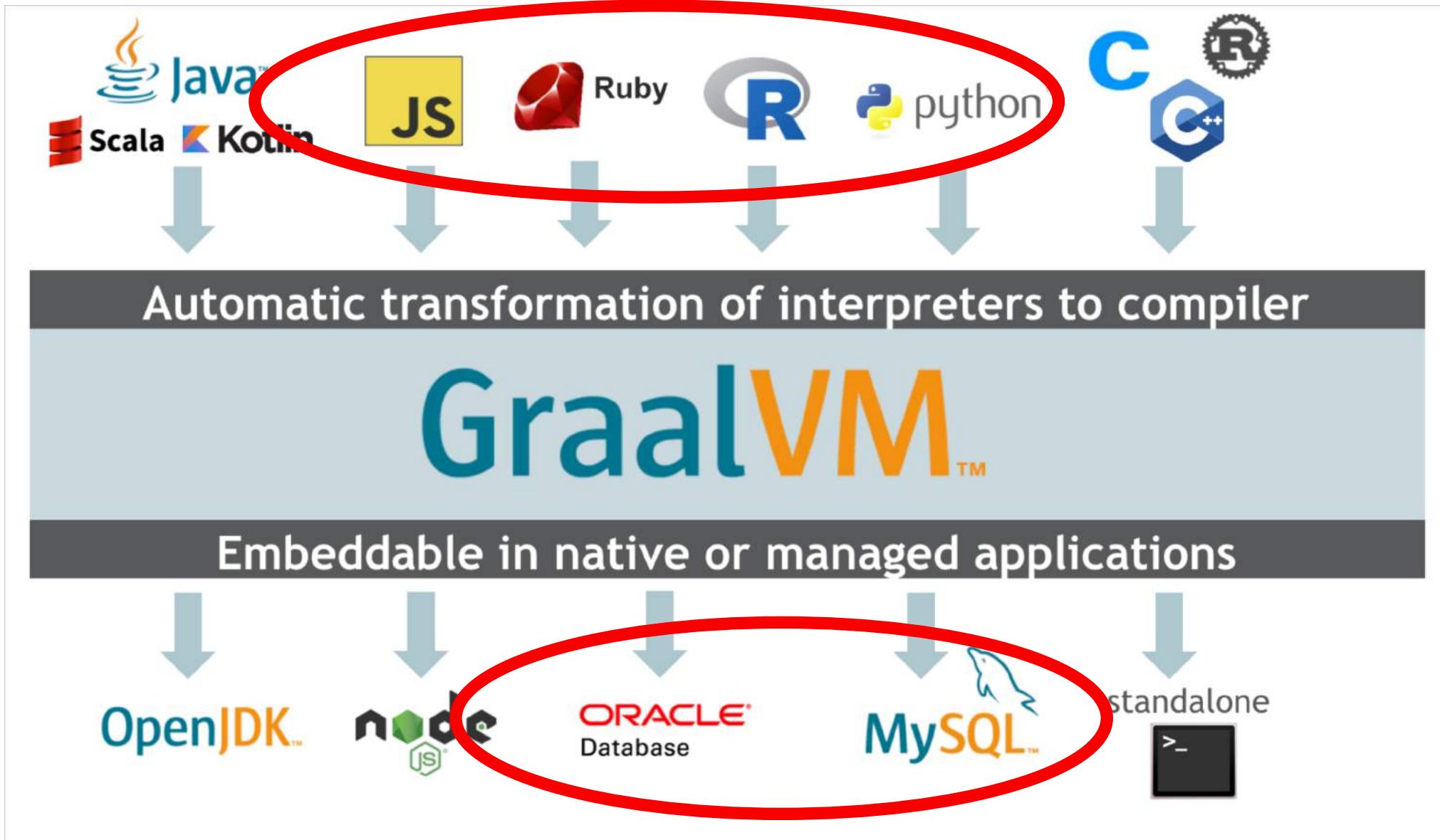
```
t4 = t1 > t3
if t4
    goto l5
else
    goto l6
end

l5: goto l12
l6: t7 = t1 < t2
if t7
    goto l8
else
    goto l9
end

%4 = icmp sgt i32 %1, %3
br i1 %4, label %5, label %6
; <label>:5
br label %12
; <label>:6
%7 = icmp slt i32 %1, %2
br i1 %7, label %8, label %9
```

**What are the applications of Graal?**

**Graal as a tool for embedding languages**





JS

JS

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npm Enterprise Features Pricing Docs Support

validator

validator String validation and sanitization 10.8.0

Validator Client-side Javascript Validator library. Ports from Laravel 5.2 1.0.5

validator-core Fast, Lightweight, Flexible Validator 1.13.3

validator-nu HTML5 validator using validator.nu, but not remotely 2.2.2

validator-codec Codec for validator presets 1.0.0

validator-json

validator-laravel

validator-as-promised

validator-nu-angular

validator-factory

Sign up

log in or sign up

validator.js

npm v10.8.0 build passing downloads 6M/m

A library of string validators and sanitizers.

## Strings only

This library validates and sanitizes strings only.

If you're not sure if your input is a string, coerce it using `input + ''`. Passing anything other than a string is an error.

## Installation and Usage

### Server-side usage

Install the library with `npm install validator`

### No ES6

```
var validator = require('validator');

validator.isEmail('foo@bar.com'); //=> true
```

### ES6

```
import validator from 'validator';
```

install

```
> npm i validator
```

weekly downloads

827,075 

version license

10.8.0 MIT

open issues pull requests

31 2

homepage repository

github.com  github

last publish

a month ago

collaborators



Test with RunKit

Report a vulnerability

# Demo using the Oracle Database MLE

- Multi-lingual (polyglot) edition
- Available as a Docker image
- Subject to the Oracle Technology Network license agreement, so you need to accept that and download it yourself

<https://oracle.github.io/oracle-db-mle/releases/0.2.7/docker/>

```
$ npm install validator
$ npm install @types/validator

$ dbjs deploy -u ... -p ... -c localhost:1521/ORCLCDB validator

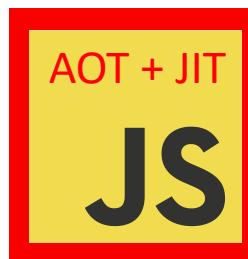
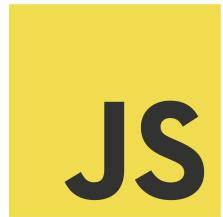
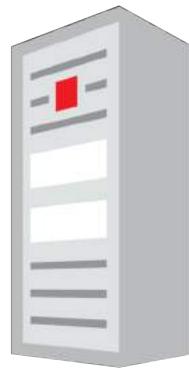
$ sqlplus .../...@localhost:1521/ORCLCDB
```

(Demo simplified - see the website to get specifics)

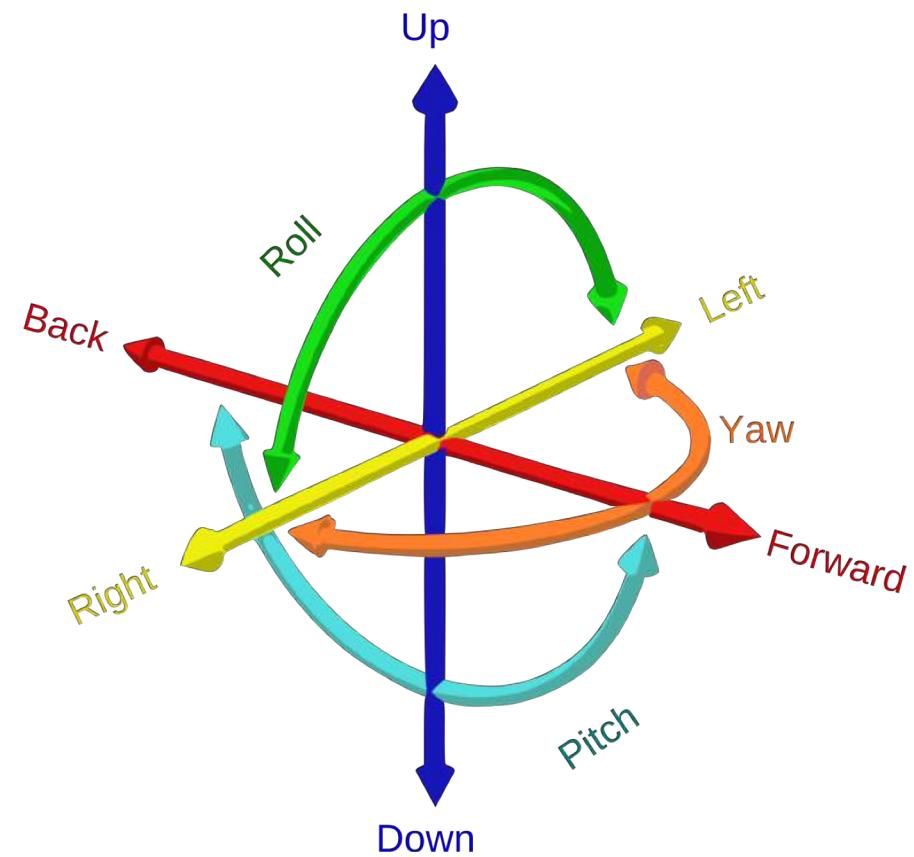
```
SQL> select validator.isEmail('chris.seaton@oracle.com');  
0
```

```
SQL> select validator.isEmail('chris.seaton');  
1
```

(Demo simplified - see the website to get specifics)



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The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Apache SIS™ library homepage. The URL in the address bar is `sis.apache.org`. The page has a dark header with the Apache SIS™ logo and navigation links for About, Project Documentation, and ASF. A sidebar on the left contains links for APACHECON North America (September 24-27, 2018, Montréal, Canada), Home (which is selected and highlighted in blue), License, Mailing Lists, Project Team, PROJECT, DOCUMENTATION, Developer guide, Online Javadoc, Downloads, Source Code, Code patterns, FAQ, Issue Tracker, ASF, The Foundation, Donate, Thanks, and Security. The main content area features a circular logo for "S.I.S" with a globe graphic. The title "The Apache SIS™ library" is prominently displayed. Below the title, there is a brief introduction to the Apache Spatial Information System (SIS) and its features, followed by a detailed list of features including Geographic metadata, Referencing by coordinates, Referencing by identifiers, and Units of measurement.

# The Apache SIS™ library

Apache Spatial Information System (SIS) is a free software, Java language library for developing geospatial applications. SIS provides data structures for geographic features and associated metadata along with methods to manipulate those data structures. The library is an implementation of [GeoAPI 3.0](#) interfaces and can be used for desktop or server applications.

The SIS metadata module forms the base of the library and enables the creation of metadata objects which comply with the model of international standards. The SIS referencing module enable the construction of geodetic data structures for geospatial referencing such as axis, projection and coordinate reference system definitions, along with the associated operations which enable the conversion or transformation of coordinates between different systems of reference. The SIS storage modules will provide a common approach to the reading and writing of metadata, features and coverages.

Some Apache SIS features are:

- Geographic metadata (ISO 19115-1:2014)
  - Read from or written to ISO 19139 compliant XML documents.
  - Read from netCDF, GeoTIFF, Landsat, GPX and Moving Feature CSV encoding.
  - Automatic conversions between the model published in 2003 and the revision published in 2014.
- Referencing by coordinates (ISO 19111:2007)
  - Well Known Text (WKT) version 1 and 2 (ISO 19162:2015).
  - Geographic Markup Language (GML) version 3.2 (ISO 19136:2007).
  - [EPSG geodetic dataset](#) for geodetic definitions and for coordinate operations. See the list of [supported coordinate reference systems](#).
  - Mercator, Transverse Mercator, Lambert Conic Conformal, stereographic and more map projections. See the list of [supported operation methods](#).
  - Optional [bridge to Proj.4](#) as a complement to Apache SIS own referencing engine.
- Referencing by identifiers (ISO 19112:2003)
  - Geohashes (a simple encoding of geographic coordinates into short strings of letters and digits).
  - Military Grid Reference System (MGRS), also used for some civilian uses.
- Units of measurement
  - Implementation of [JSR-363](#) with parsing, formating and unit conversion functionalities.

```
...
import org.graalvm.nativeimage.IsolateThread;
import org.graalvm.nativeimage.c.function.CEntryPoint;

public class Distance {

    ...

    @CEntryPoint(name = "distance")
    public static double distance(IsolateThread thread,
        double a_lat, double a_long,
        double b_lat, double b_long) {
        return DistanceUtils.getHaversineDistance(a_lat, a_long, b_lat, b_long);
    }

    ...
}

}
```

```
$ native-image -cp sis.jar:. -H:Kind=SHARED_LIBRARY \
-H:Name=libdistance
```

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>

#include <libdistance.h>

int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    graal_isolate_t *isolate = NULL;
    graal_isolatethread_t *thread = NULL;

    if (graal_create_isolate(NULL, &isolate) != 0 || (thread = graal_current_thread(isolate)) == NULL) {
        fprintf(stderr, "initialization error\n");
        return 1;
    }

    double a_lat    = strtod(argv[1], NULL);
    double a_long   = strtod(argv[2], NULL);
    double b_lat    = strtod(argv[3], NULL);
    double b_long   = strtod(argv[4], NULL);

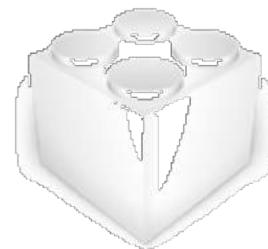
    printf("%f km\n", distance(thread, a_lat, a_long, b_lat, b_long));

    return 0;
}
```

The screenshot shows the Eclipse IDE interface with the title bar "graal - com.oracle.svm.hosted/src/com/oracle/svm/hosted/image/NativeBootImage.java - Eclipse". The left side features the "Package Explorer" view displaying the project structure under "com.oracle.svm.hosted". The right side is the main editor area showing the Java code for "NativeBootImage.java".

```
148     Header header = headerClass == Header.class ? defaultHeaderAnnotation(imageName) : instantiateHeader(header);
149     writeHeaderFile(outputDir, header, methods, dynamic);
150 }
151
152 private void writeHeaderFile(Path outDir, CHeader.Header header, List<HostedMethod> methods, boolean dynamic) {
153     CSourceCodeWriter writer = new CSourceCodeWriter(outDir.getParent());
154     String imageHeaderGuard = "__" + header.name().toUpperCase().replaceAll("[^A-Z0-9]", "_") + "_H";
155     String dynamicSuffix = dynamic ? "_dynamic.h" : ".h";
156
157     writer.appendLn("#ifndef " + imageHeaderGuard);
158     writer.appendLn("#define " + imageHeaderGuard);
159
160     writer.appendLn();
161
162     QueryCodeWriter.writeCStandardHeaders(writer);
163
164     List<String> dependencies = header.dependsOn().stream()
165         .map(NativeBootImage::instantiateHeader)
166         .map(depHeader -> "<" + depHeader.name() + dynamicSuffix + ">").collect(Collectors.toList());
167     writer.includeFiles(dependencies);
168
169     ByteArrayOutputStream baos = new ByteArrayOutputStream();
170     PrintWriter printWriter = new PrintWriter(baos);
171     header.writePreamble(printWriter);
172     printWriter.flush();
173
174     for (String line : baos.toString().split("\r?\n")) {
175         writer.appendLn(line);
176     }
177
178     if (methods.size() > 0) {
179         writer.appendLn();
180         writer.appendLn("#if defined(__cplusplus)");
181         writer.appendLn("extern \"C\" {");
182         writer.appendLn("#endif");
183         writer.appendLn();
184
185         methods.forEach(m -> writeMethodHeader(m, writer, dynamic));
186
187         writer.appendLn("#if defined(__cplusplus)");
188         writer.appendLn("}");
189         writer.appendLn("#endif");
190     }
191
192     writer.appendLn("#endif");
193
194     String fileName = outDir.getFileName().resolve(header.name() + dynamicSuffix).toString();
195     writer.writeFile(fileName, false);
196 }
197 }
```

```
$ clang -I. -L. -ldistance distance.c -o distance
$ otool -L distance
distance:
    libdistance.dylib
    /usr/lib/libSystem.B.dylib
$ ./distance 51.507222 -0.1275 40.7127 -74.0059
5570.25 km
```



**libdistance.dylib**

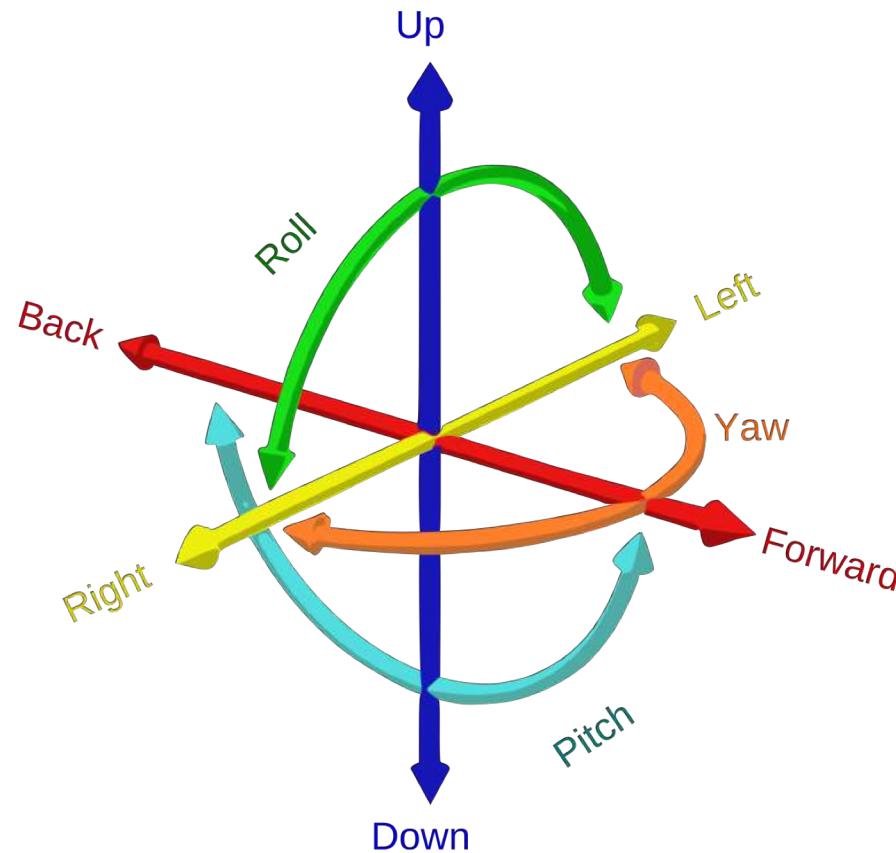
# How is Graal being used today?

# How is Graal being used today?

- Graal as a Java JIT
  - JVM bytecode → **Graal** → machine code
- Graal as a custom Java JIT
  - JVM bytecode → **Graal** → custom phases → **Graal** → machine code
- Graal as a Java AOT
  - JVM classes → **Graal** → executable or shared library
- Graal as a dynamic language JIT
  - source → interpreter → **Truffle PE** → **Graal** → machine code
- Graal as a native language JIT
  - LLVM bitcode → Sulong → **Truffle PE** → **Graal** → machine code
- Graal as a language embedded
  - interpreter → **Graal** → executable or shared library

# Why is there both Graal and GraalVM?

# “We’re running on Graal / GraalVM”



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# Graal and GraalVM?

- Graal is a compiler
  - Runs in different configurations
    - Ahead-of-time
    - Just-in-time
  - Used in different applications
    - Java compiler
    - Dynamic language compiler
    - Native language compiler
  - Distributed in different ways
    - Inside OpenJDK
    - In GraalVM
- GraalVM is a distribution of the wider Graal ecosystem
  - Compilers, tools, language implementations
  - Includes Graal configured as
    - A JVM language JIT compiler
    - A JVM language AOT compiler
    - A JIT compiler for dynamic languages
    - A JIT compiler for native languages
  - Realizes the potential of Graal
  - Graal is the enabler of all this

The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for the 'graal' project, specifically the 'compiler' branch. The repository has 369 stars and 480 forks. The commit history lists several recent changes, including moves of dependencies and improvements to documentation and CI jobs. The README.md file describes Graal as a dynamic compiler for the HotSpot JVM, focusing on performance and extensibility.

Branch: master ▾ **graal / compiler /**

**Commits**

**peter-hofer** From WordTypes, move dependency to InvokeCFunctionPointer to Substrat... · ... · Latest commit a94102a a day ago

..

**ci\_common** Fixed test timeout. · 24 days ago

**ci\_includes** Adjust CI job durations · 3 months ago

**docs** updated Debugging.md and improved help text for a few options · a day ago

**mx.compiler** [GR-13655] Integrate Truffle libgraal. · 9 days ago

**src** From WordTypes, move dependency to InvokeCFunctionPointer to Substrat... · 23 hours ago

**LICENSE.md** Move graal-compiler to compiler directory · 2 years ago

**README.md** Review comments · 17 days ago

**README.md**

Graal is a dynamic compiler written in Java that integrates with the HotSpot JVM. It has a focus on high performance and extensibility. In addition, it provides optimized performance for [Truffle](#)-based languages running on the JVM.

## Setup

The screenshot shows the official GraalVM website at [graalvm.org](https://graalvm.org). The page has a dark teal header with navigation links for Home, Docs, Downloads, and Community, along with social media icons for Twitter and GitHub, and a star rating of 7,827. The main title "GraalVM™" is prominently displayed in large white letters. Below it is the tagline "Run Programs Faster Anywhere". Two buttons are visible: "WHY GRAALVM" in an orange box and "GET STARTED" in a white box with a blue border. To the right, there's a central graphic showing a central white cube labeled "GraalVM" containing an orange cube labeled "JAVA", surrounded by smaller white cubes labeled "Standard VM", "MySQL", "OpenJDK", "Oracle Database", and "Node.js". The bottom section features a large white box with the text "High-performance polyglot VM" on the left and a detailed description of GraalVM's capabilities on the right.

# GraalVM™

Run Programs Faster Anywhere

WHY GRAALVM    GET STARTED

## High-performance polyglot VM

GraalVM is a universal virtual machine for running applications written in JavaScript, Python, Ruby, R, JVM-based languages like Java, Scala, Kotlin, Clojure, and LLVM-based languages such as C and C++.

GraalVM removes the isolation between programming languages and enables interoperability.

# Where is Graal going in the future?

From: John Rose  
To: discuss@openjdk.java.net  
Subject: Call for Discussion: New Project: Metropolis

I would like to invite discussion on a proposal for a new OpenJDK Project[1], to be titled “Project Metropolis”, an incubator for experimenting with advanced JVM implementation techniques. Specifically, we wish to re-implement significant parts of Hotspot’s C++ runtime in Java itself, a move we call *Java-on-Java*. The key experiments will center around investigating Graal[2] as a code generator for the JVM in two modes: as an online compiler replacing one or more of Hotspot’s existing JITs, and as an offline compiler for Java code intended to replace existing C++ code in Hotspot. In the latter role, we will experiment with static compilation techniques (such as the Substrate VM[3]) to compile Java into statically restricted formats that can easily integrate with C++ as used in Hotspot.

The Project will be an experimental technology incubator, similar to the Lambda, Panama, Valhalla, and Amber projects. Such incubator projects absorb changes from the current Java release, but do not directly push to Java releases. Instead, they accumulate prototype changes which are sometimes discarded and sometimes merged by hand (after appropriate review) into a Java release.

(In this model, prototype changes accumulate quickly, since they are not subject to the relatively stringent rules governing JDK change-sets. These rules involving review, bug tracking, regression tests, and pre-integration builds. The Metropolis project will have similar rules, of course, but they are likely to be more relaxed.)

Implementing the Java runtime in the Java-on-Java style has **numerous advantages**, including:

- **Self-optimization:** We obtain more complete control of optimization techniques used for compiling the JVM itself.
- **Self-determination:** We can decouple the JVM from changes (possibly destabilizing ones) in other implementation languages (C++NN).
- **Simplification:** More consistent usage of the “native” language of the Java ecosystem, reducing costs to contributors and maintainers.
- **Speed:** More agile delivery of new JVM backends (future hardware), new JVM frontends (value type bytecodes), new bytecode shapes (stream optimizations), and application formats (static application assembly).

However, the Java-on-Java tactic has **significant risks** which must be investigated and reduced before we can think about deploying products. These risks are:

- **Startup:** Startup overheads for Java code must not harm overall JVM startup.
- **Isolation:** GC or JIT activity required by Java-on-Java execution must not interfere with application execution.
- **Density:** Java-based data structures may require enhancement (such as value types) to support dense data structures competitive with C++.
- **Succession:** Adoption of Java-on-Java implementations must not cause regressions for customers who rely on the quality and performance of existing modules.

If these experiments are successful, numerous **additional experiments** are possible within the overall goal of implementing Java-on-Java:

- Using Graal as a replacement for the client JIT (C1).
- Using Graal to code-generate a bytecode interpreter.
- Using Graal to spin adapters, such as native-to-Java bindings.
- Using Graal to dynamically customize other JVM hot paths.
- Prototyping new JVM features, such as value types, in Graal.
- Coding native methods in statically-compiled Java.
- Coding metadata access and processing in Java.
- Coding smaller JVM modules in statically-compiled Java, such as class file parsing or verification.
- Coding GC logic in statically-compiled Java.

# Learning more and getting in touch

# Learning more and getting in touch

- Website – [graalvm.org](http://graalvm.org)
- Papers – [graalvm.org/community/publications](http://graalvm.org/community/publications)
- GitHub – [github.com/oracle/graal](https://github.com/oracle/graal)
- Gitter – [gitter.im/graalvm/graal-core](https://gitter.im/graalvm/graal-core)
- Twitter – @GraalVM
- Mailing lists – [graal-dev@openjdk.java.net](mailto:graal-dev@openjdk.java.net), [graalvm-users@oss.oracle.com](mailto:graalvm-users@oss.oracle.com)
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