

# Kubernetes Native Java and Eclipse MicroProfile (plus other things)

Mark Little, VP Engineering, Red Hat

# Who am I?

- Research into fault-tolerant distributed systems since 1986
  - Arjuna, Argus, Isis/Horus, Emerald, Xerox, ...
  - DCE, DCOM, CORBA, HTTP, Web Services, ...
- Implemented world's first 100% Java transaction service in 1995
  - Yes, we're still using it today!
- Active in OMG, OASIS, W3C, JCP, GGF and others
  - Co-author of a number of specifications and standards
- Visiting Professor at Newcastle and Lyon
- Industry ...
  - Various startups
  - Bluestone Distinguished Engineer, HP Distinguished Engineer
  - JBoss CTO in 2009
- These days spend far too much time on conference calls, meetings etc!

# Overview

- Why Java in the age of Kubernetes and Linux Containers?
  - Java is dead, right?
- Why did Enterprise Java need to change?
  - Kubernetes and Immutability
  - Incompatibilities with Java and Application Containers
- Eclipse MicroProfile
  - Eclipse Jakarta EE
- Quarkus and principles behind it may be a game changer
  - Optimised for immutable architectures
  - Can work in constrained environments, e.g., low memory footprint

# Why is Java still important?

- Still a de-facto language for enterprise developers\*
- Large skills base (7-10 million Java devs.)\*\*
- Large and diverse ecosystem
  - Amazon, Fujitsu, Google, IBM, Microsoft, Netflix, Oracle, Pivotal, Red Hat, ...
- Large, resilient community
- Much more than just the language!
- The innovation continues
  - Eclipse MicroProfile
  - Eclipse Jakarta EE
  - Java SE faster schedule
  - SubstrateVM

Sources:

\*Tiobe Index : <https://www.tiobe.com/tiobe-index/>

\* IEEE Spectrum : <https://spectrum.ieee.org/static/interactive-the-top-programming-languages-2018>

! \*\* SlashData - 7.6 million active Java developers (State of Developer Nation, 16th Edition, Q4 2018)

# Historical Enterprise Java Stack

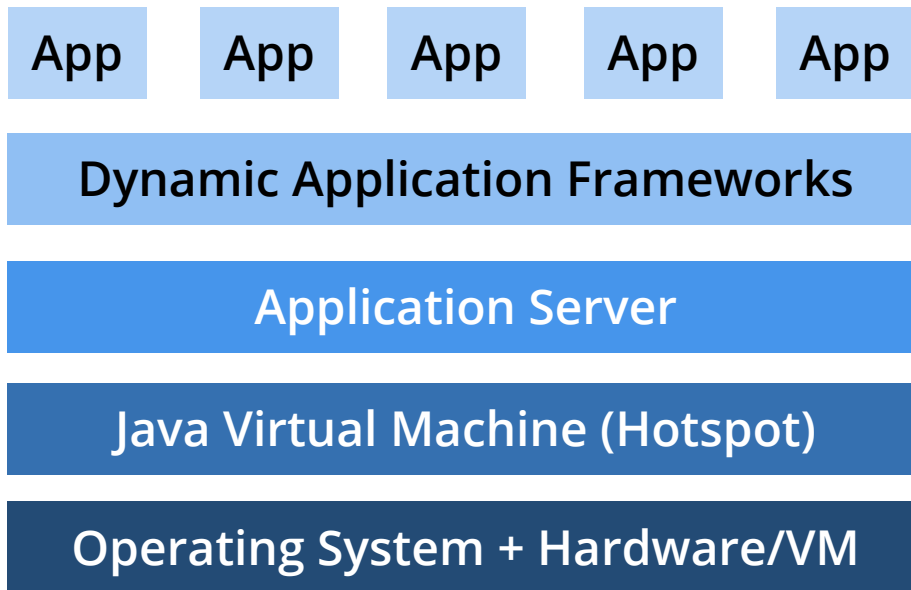
Architecture: **Monoliths**

Deployment: **multi-app,  
appserver**

App Lifecycle: **Months**

Memory: **1GB+ RAM**

Startup Time: **10s of sec**

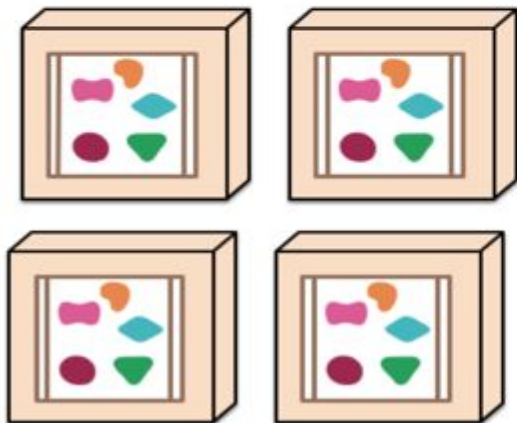


# And then along came ...

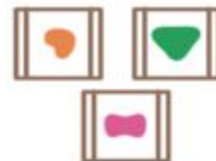
*A monolithic application puts all its functionality into a single process...*



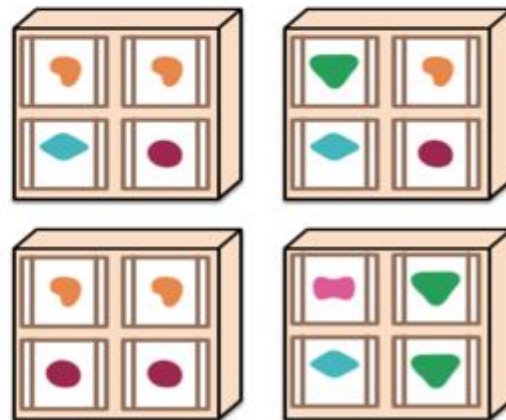
*... and scales by replicating the monolith on multiple servers*



*A microservices architecture puts each element of functionality into a separate service...*



*... and scales by distributing these services across servers, replicating as needed.*



# Monoliths are Evil? Microservices ..?

••••• 3 4G 14:04 67%

Tweet

 **stacks machine** @cemerick · 05/01/2015  
Uh, microservices. So, people are hooking minute bits of computation together via unmanaged pipes carrying opaque chunks of encoded data?

9 36 44

Christian Posta Retweeted

 **stacks machine** @cemerick

Replying to @cemerick

Microservices, because designing, implementing, deploying, monitoring, managing, and supporting network APIs is so fucking easy.

05/01/2015, 20:40

112 RETWEETS 109 LIKES

Tweet your reply

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**Nizar S.**  
@natewave

 Follow

Finally, thanks to microservices, my dream of being a detective has come true. Every bug is more like a murder mystery.

RETWEETS  
4

LIKES  
6



1:18 PM - 11 Jun 2016



 4

 6



**Jamison Dance**  
@jamison\_dance

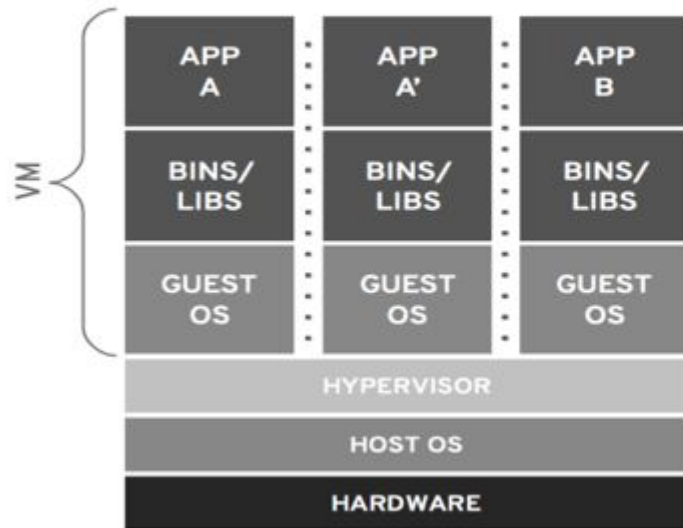
microservices vs monoliths is the "would you rather fight 50 duck-sized horses or one horse-sized duck" of software development

3:41 AM · Sep 28, 2019 · [Twitter Web App](#)

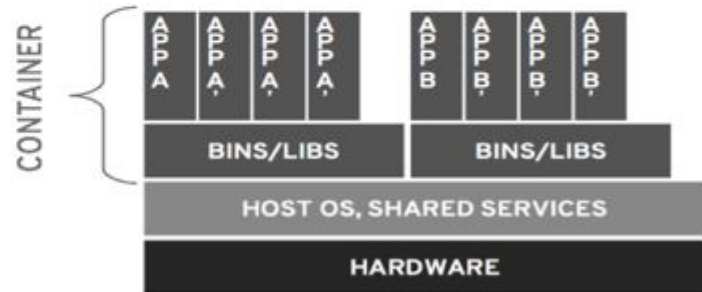
1.3K Retweets 4.9K Likes

# Followed closely by ...

## VIRTUALIZATION



## CONTAINERS





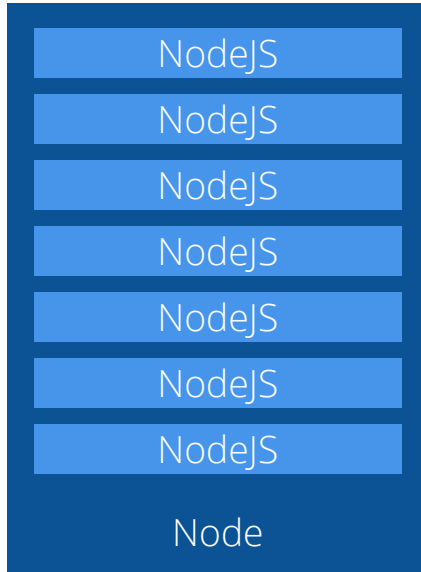
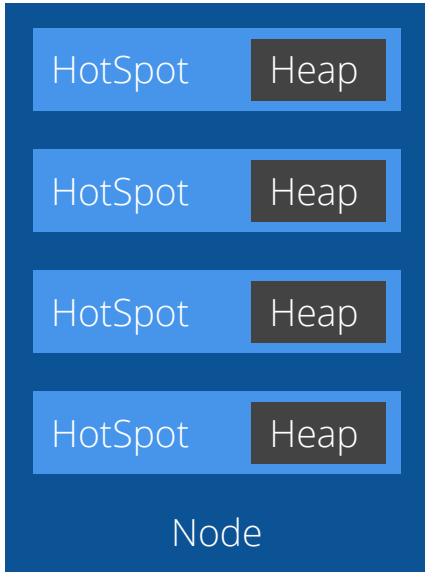
# And then ... Kubernetes

- Open source project from Google
- The de facto standard for cluster management for Linux containers
- Packages Orchestration, service discovery, load balancing
  - All behind a simple REST API
- Immutable architectures



# The “Java Problem”

- Designed for throughput at the expense of footprint
- Intended to be long running, less focus on startup speed
- Rich dynamic behavior built around mutable bare-metal systems
  - ... yet Linux containers are primarily immutable
  - ... frameworks and stacks built to leverage key Java capabilities such as dynamism
- Java is trying to pivot (JPMS, AOT, Graal, etc)
  - ... but architectural changes to frameworks are required to truly benefit

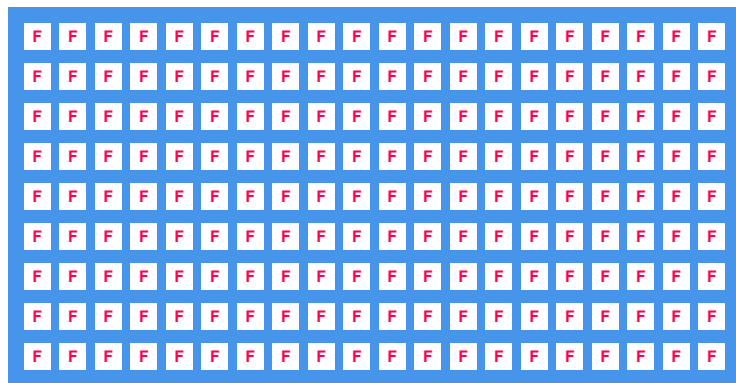
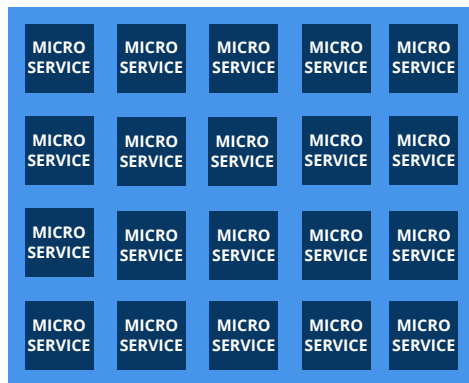


Container platform

# Why footprint matters in the cloud

- Memory is more important than throughput on containers
  - It's more expensive (requires permanence), unlike CPU cycles
- Microservices multiply overhead cost
  - One app becomes N microservices (e.g. 20 microservices  $\approx$  20GB today!)
- If we do nothing Java alternatives will take over (eventually)
  - Go, Python, Node, PHP, Rust etc. do not have this problem

# What we really want ...



- 1 monolith  $\approx$  20 microservices  $\approx$  200 functions
- Scale to 1 vs scale to 0
- Start up time

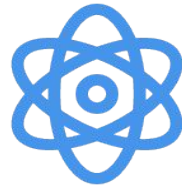
# We need a Kubernetes native stack



Monolith



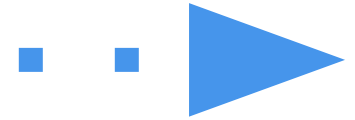
Cloud Native



Microservices



Serverless



Event-Driven  
Architecture



kubernetes



Istio

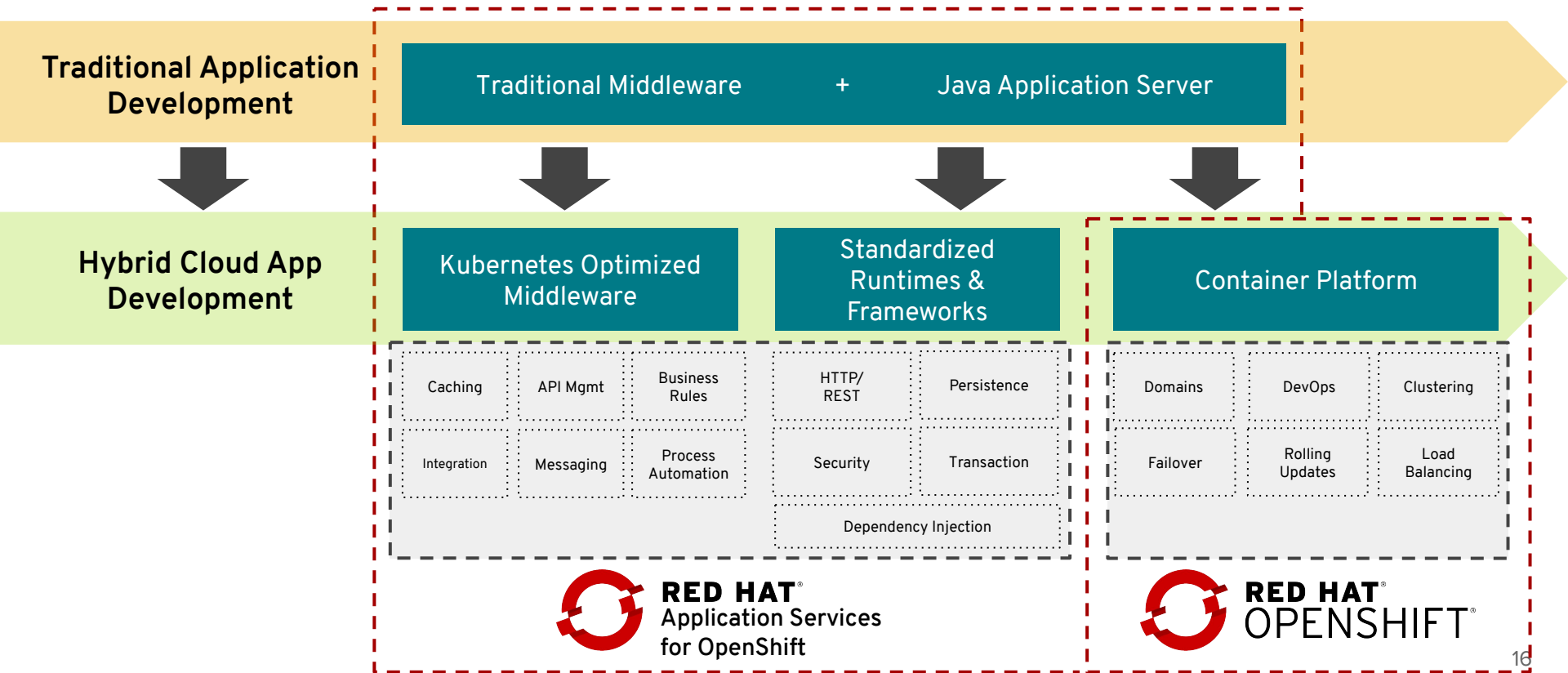


Knative

# It starts with the JVM

- Linux container aware JVM efforts
  - Memory utilisation
  - Processor utilisation
- OpenJDK evolved to work better with Linux Containers
  - Shenandoah GC
- Eclipse OpenJ9 performance improvements
  - JIT-as-a-Service
- Compiled Java?
  - gcj
  - ... Dalvik?
  - Avian
  - Excelsior JET
  - GraalVM
- JVM improvements are necessary but not sufficient

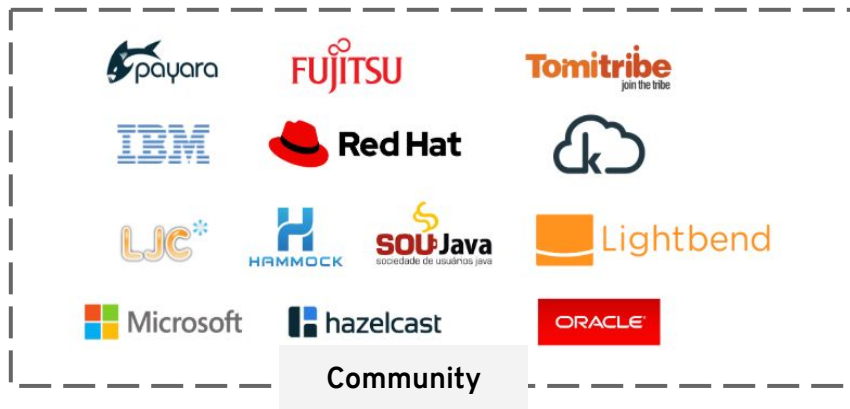
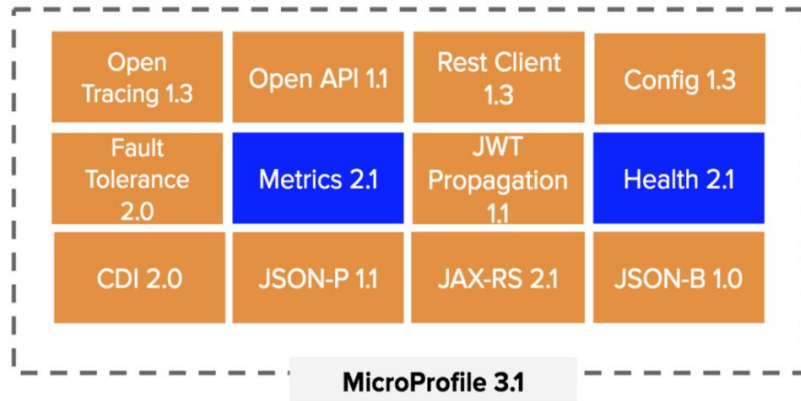
# APPLICATION SERVER TRANSITION





# Eclipse MicroProfile

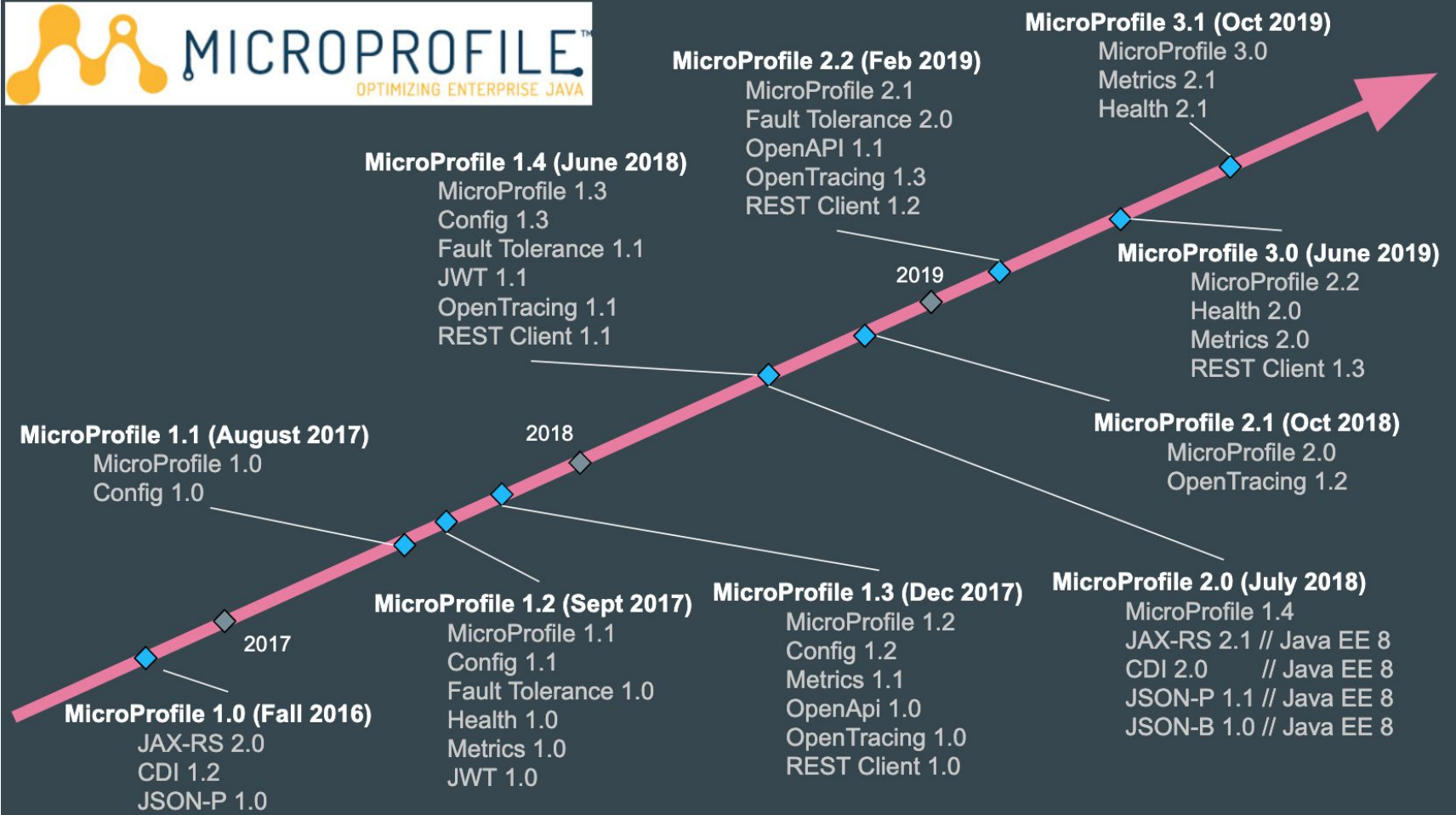
- Open Source community specifications for Enterprise Java microservices
- 9 releases in 3 years
- 5 specifications in the pipeline



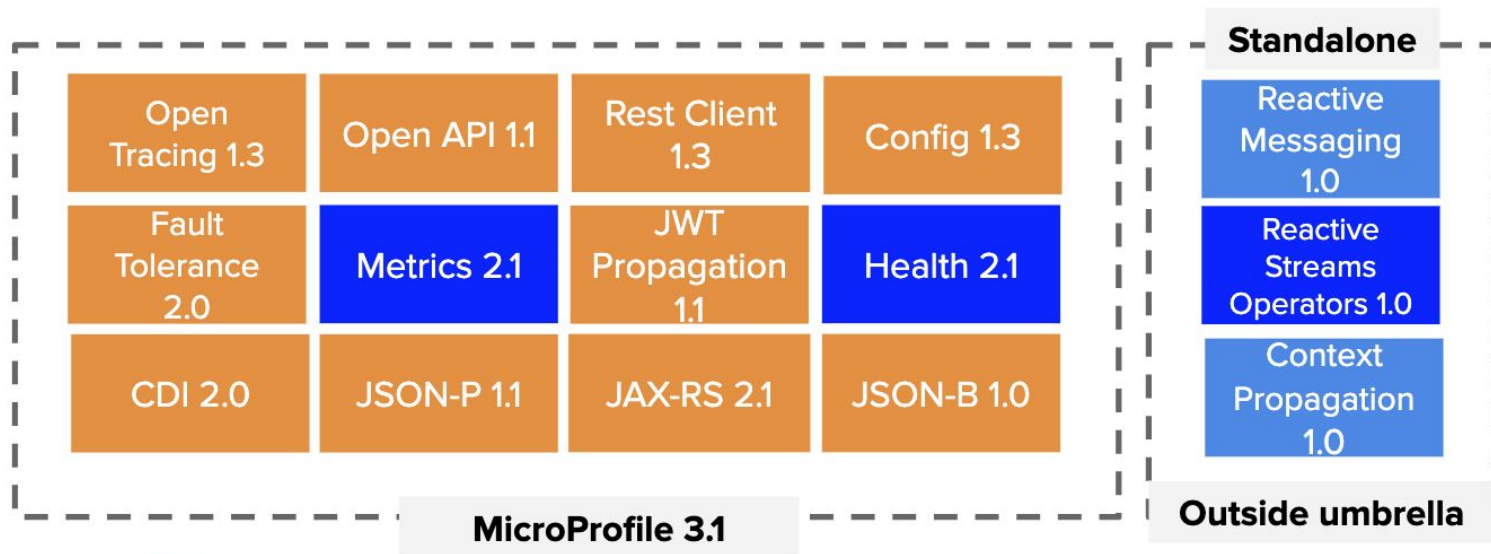
# Eclipse MicroProfile

## Optimizing Enterprise Java for a Microservices Architecture





# Eclipse MicroProfile 3.1 (Oct 2019)



- Light blue box = New
- Dark blue box = Updated
- Orange box = No change from last release (MicroProfile 3.0)

# Roadmap items

- Long Running Actions (yes, transactions for microservices!)
- GraphQL
- Reactive Relational Database Access
- Event Data
- Service meshes
- start.microprofile.io

MicroProfile Starter "Beta"  
Generate MicroProfile Maven Project with Examples

groupId \*  
com.example

artifactId \*  
demo

MicroProfile Version \*  
▼

Java SE Version  
Java 8 ▼

Project Options

MicroProfile Server \*  
▼

Examples for specifications

DOWNLOAD





# Jakarta EE

The New Home of Cloud Native Java

Powered by participation, Jakarta EE is focused on enabling community-driven collaboration and open innovation for the cloud.

[Jakarta EE Working Group](#)[Stay Connected](#)

## Strategic Members

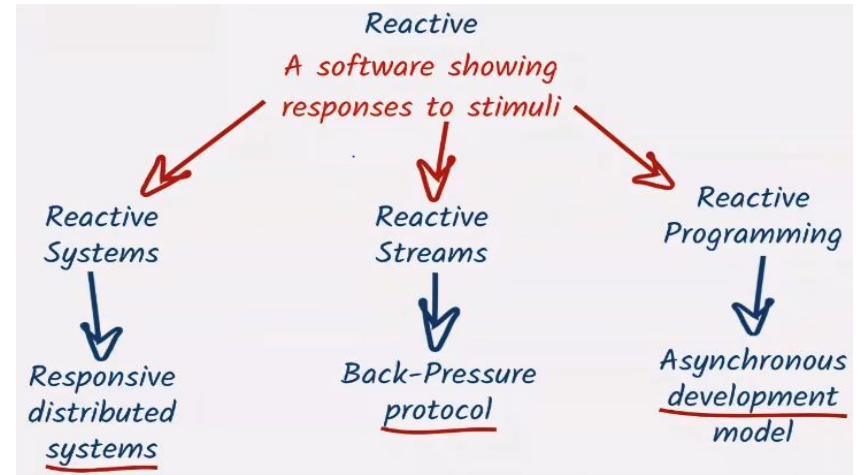


## Participating Members



# Eclipse Vert.x

- Responsive: fast, is able to handle a large number of events / connections
- Elastic: scale up and down by just starting and stopping nodes, round-robin
- Resilient: failure as first-class citizen, self-healing
- Asynchronous message-passing: asynchronous non-blocking development model
- 2014 JAX Innovations Award Winner







# WHAT IS QUARKUS?

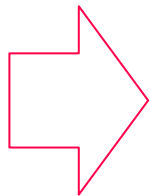
**QUARK:** elementary particle / **US:** hardest thing in computer science

# Moving to Compile-Time Boot



## What does a framework do at startup time?

- Parse config files
- Classpath & classes scanning
  - for annotations, getters or other metadata
- Build framework metamodel objects
- Prepare reflection and build proxies
- *Start and open IO, threads etc*

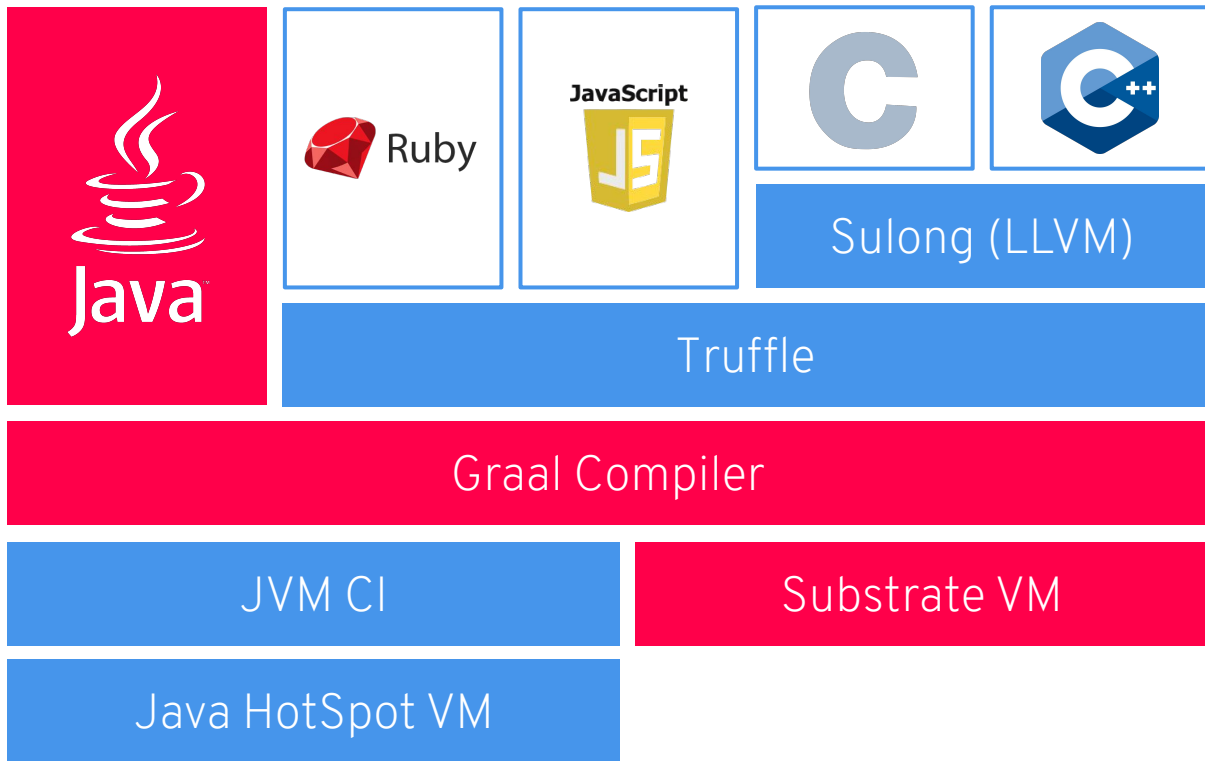


## Framework Optimizations

- Moved as much as possible to build phase
- Minimized runtime dependencies
- Maximize dead code elimination
- Introduced clear metadata contracts
- Spectrum of optimization levels  
(all → some → no runtime reflection)

# What about MicroProfile?

- Quarkus implements MicroProfile
- We all know the benefits of open standards ...
  - No vendor lock-in so applications can be ported across implementations
  - Don't like something then come in and help evolve it
- MicroProfile in Quarkus enables skills to be immediately brought to the problem
  - And applications from other implementations too!
- Aim to feed more innovations back to MicroProfile and beyond
  - Remember ... the JVM needs love too, not just frameworks



# Benefit No. 1: Developer Joy

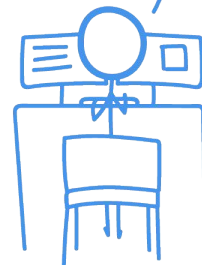
A cohesive platform for optimized developer joy:

- Based on standards (e.g., **MicroProfile**), but not limited
- Unified configuration
- Zero config, live reload in the blink of an eye
- Streamlined code for the 80% common usages, flexible for the 20%
- No hassle native executable generation
- Unifies imperative and reactive programming
  - Vert.x FTW!
- Re-architected many projects
  - Hibernate, Narayana, Netty, Infinispan, ...

WAIT.  
SO YOU JUST SAVE IT,  
AND YOUR CODE IS RUNNING?  
AND IT'S JAVA?!



I KNOW, RIGHT?  
SUPERSONIC JAVA, FTW!

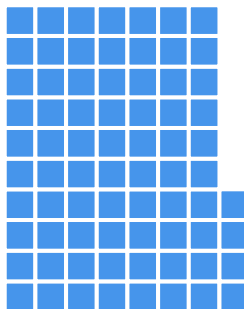


## Benefit No. 2: Supersonic Subatomic Java

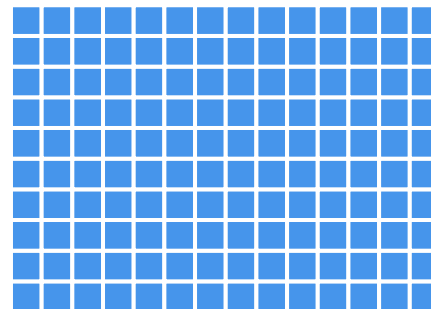
REST



Quarkus + SubstrateVM  
**13 MB**



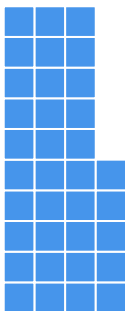
Quarkus + OpenJDK Hotspot  
**74 MB**



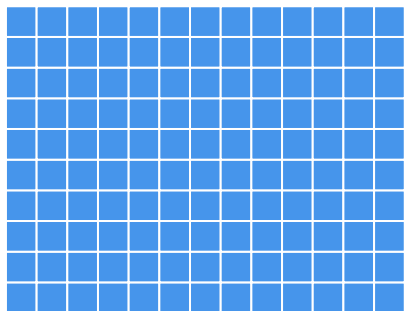
Traditional Cloud Native Stack  
+ OpenJDK Hotspot  
**140 MB**

## Benefit No. 2: Supersonic Subatomic Java

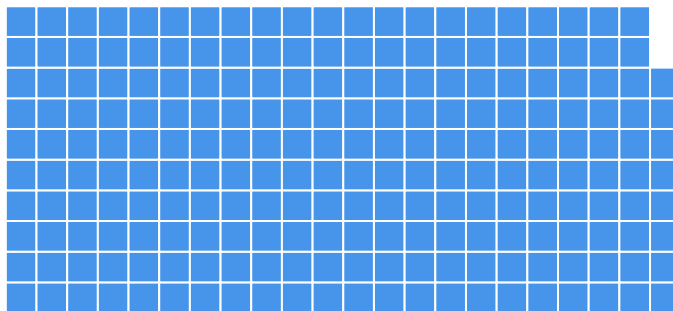
REST + CRUD



Quarkus + SubstrateVM  
**35 MB**



Quarkus + OpenJDK Hotspot  
**130 MB**

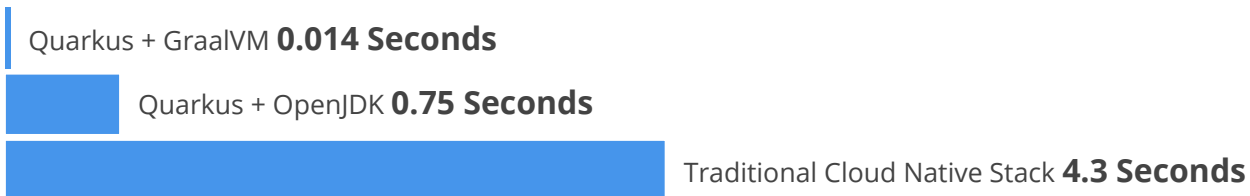


Traditional Cloud Native Stack  
+ OpenJDK Hotspot  
**218 MB**



# Benefit No. 2: Supersonic Subatomic Java

REST

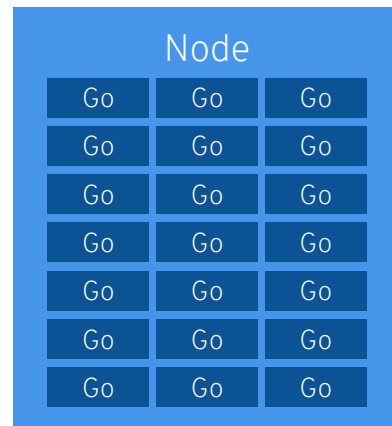
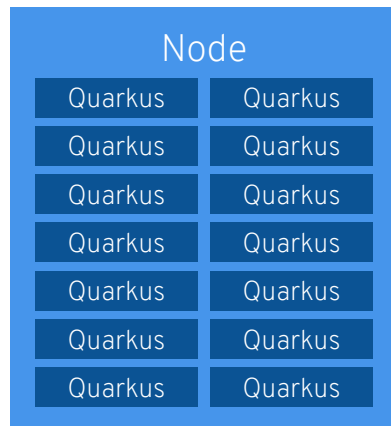
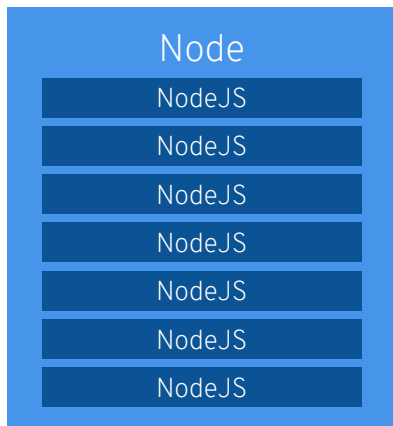
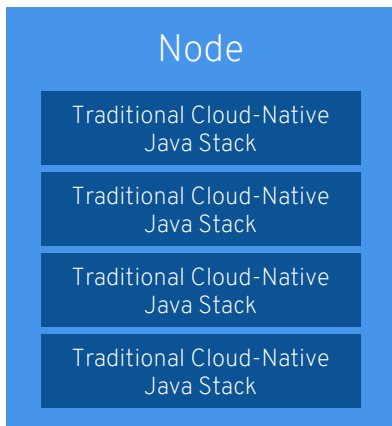


REST + CRUD



Time to first response

# The New Truth about Java + Containers



CONTAINER ORCHESTRATION

# Conclusions: rethinking the problem

- Our problems are not the same as they were 10 years ago
  - We can't expect the same solutions to make sense!
  - Containers are small and primarily immutable
- To adapt, we must truly understand conditions and make *different* trade-offs
  - Eclipse MicroProfile offers a standard way to trim down services
  - But there's still a lot more work to do across the entire stack
- Enable millions of Java developers to become truly cloud native