Java Native Interface

JNI is a mechanism that allows

- a Java program to call a function in a C or C++ program.
- a C or C++ program to call a method in a Java program.

Reasons for using Native Methods

- Get access to system features that can be handled more easily in C or C++.
- Need access to legacy code that has been well tested.
- Need the performance that C provides and that Java does not have (yet).

What about Languages other than C and C++?

- Tools for working with other languages can be built, but have not been yet.
- Alternative: Go through C or C++ to get to other programming languages.

Important: Native code is not portable

- The Java part is portable.
- Everything else is machine dependent.

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Steps In Using JNI

- 1. Java code (write and compile)
 - Declare native methods using native and no body.

public native void nativeOne();

 Ensure that a shared library, to be created later, is loaded before the native method is called.

System.loadLibrary("NativeLib");

Usually executed in a static initializer block in the class that calls the native method(s).

2. Create a C header file containing function prototypes for the native methods.

javah -jni NativeMethods

where NativeMethods is the Java class containing the native methods.

3. Write C implementations of native methods using mangled names and extra parameters.

Native (C/C++) code function names are formed from the following pieces:

'Java_'

Mangled fully qualified class name with periods becoming underscores

'_'

Mangled method name

For overloaded Java methods:

Continue with two underscores '___'
Mangled argument types

Better: Get prototype from header file created in step 2.

Linux and HP Version

JNIEXPORT
void JNICALL
Java_NativeMethods_nativeOne(
JNIEnv * env, jobject thisObj)

Note: JNIEXPORT and JNICALL are currently defined to be nothing.

4. Compile C code and Create shared library

% gcc -I/usr/java/j2sdk1.4.2_05/include

I /usr/java/j2sdk1.4.2_05/include/linux
 -shared clmplOne.c clmplTwo.c
 -o libNativeLib.so

Note that the name of the shared library has the prefix "lib" in front of it.

5. Execute Java program% java Main

Example

A Java program with two native methods that perform simple output in C.

The Java main method and the native methods are in separate classes.

Following the code is a unix script file, called *linuxC*, that performs the steps to compile and execute the native code example.

```
// File: NativeMethods.java
public class NativeMethods
{
     public native void nativeOne();
     public native void nativeTwo();
}
// File: Main.java
// Loads a native library.
// Creates an object and invokes native methods.
public class Main
     static
          System.loadLibrary("NativeLib");
     public static void main(String [] args)
    {
          NativeMethods nm = new NativeMethods();
         nm.nativeOne();
         nm.nativeTwo();
}
```

NativeMethods.h

```
/* DO NOT EDIT THIS FILE - it is machine generated */
#include <ini.h>
/* Header for class NativeMethods */
#ifndef Included NativeMethods
#define _Included_NativeMethods
#ifdef __cplusplus
extern "C" {
#endif
* Class: NativeMethods
* Method: nativeOne
* Signature: ()V
*/
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL
         Java NativeMethods nativeOne
                                      (JNIEnv *, jobject);
* Class: NativeMethods
* Method: nativeTwo
* Signature: ()V
*/
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL
         Java_NativeMethods_nativeTwo
                                      (JNIEnv *, jobject);
#ifdef cplusplus
#endif
#endif
```

```
/* File: clmplOne.c
* Implements nativeOne in NativeMethods
*/
#include <stdio.h>
#include "NativeMethods.h"
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL
         Java NativeMethods nativeOne
                        (JNIEnv* env, jobject thisObj)
{
    printf("Hello Advanced Java World\n");
}
/* File: clmplTwo.c
* Implements nativeTwo in NativeMethods
#include <stdio.h>
#include "NativeMethods.h"
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL
         Java NativeMethods nativeTwo
                        (JNIEnv* env, jobject thisObj)
{
    printf("Hello from the second method\n");
}
```

File: linuxC JNI_INCLUDE= "-I/usr/java/j2sdk1.4.2_05/include -I/usr/java/j2sdk1.4.2_05/include/linux" export LD LIBRARY PATH=. echo javac NativeMethods.java Main.java echo 'Java files compiled' echo javah -jni NativeMethods echo 'Header file created' echo gcc \$JNI_INCLUDE -shared cImplOne.c cImplTwo.c -o libNativeLib.so echo 'Shared library created' echo echo ">>> Output <<<<" java Main echo Output Java files compiled Header file created Shared library created >>> Output <<<< Hello Advanced Java World Hello from the second method

% ls

Main.java Main.class

NativeMethods.java NativeMethods.class

NativeMethods.h

clmplOne.c clmplOne.o clmplTwo.o

linuxC libNativeLib.so

Type Encoding (Mangling)

Basic codes

boolean Z

char C

byte B

short S

int

long J

float F

double D

void V

array of *type* [type

class name Lfully-qualified-name;

method type (arg-types) result-type

Name munging

Sample Signatures and Prototypes

These methods are found in a class called Sigs.

```
public static native void staticMeth();
     Signature: ()V
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL
         Java Sigs staticMeth(JNIEnv *, jclass);
public native void fun meth();
     Signature: ()V
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL
         Java_Sigs_fun_1meth__(JNIEnv *, jobject);
public native int fun meth(double d, String s);
     Signature: (DLjava/lang/String;)I
JNIEXPORT iint JNICALL
    Java_Sigs_fun_1meth__DLjava_lang_String_2
                   (JNIEnv *, jobject, idouble, jstring);
public native String fun meth(Date [] d);
     Signature: ([Ljava/util/Date;)Ljava/lang/String;
JNIEXPORT jstring JNICALL
    Java_Sigs_fun_1meth___3Ljava_util_Date_2
                          (JNIEnv *, jobject, jobjectArray);
```

Native Types Corresponding to Java Types

Java	C/C++
boolean	jboolean
char	jchar
byte	jbyte
short	jshort
int	jint
long	jlong
float	jfloat
double	jdouble
void	void
Object	jobject
Class	jclass
String	jstring
array	jarray
Throwable	jthrowable
true	JNI_TRUE
false	JNI_FALSE
	jsize

The definitions of these C/C++ types are machine dependent.

Every native method gets two additional parameters when translated into C or C++:

- JNI Interface (environment) pointer
 JNIEnv * env
- 2. Object or class parameter

For instance methods: jobject thisObj
For class methods: jclass theClass

In the next example, note the conversion of Java types into the new C types and the additional parameters in the implementation of the native method.

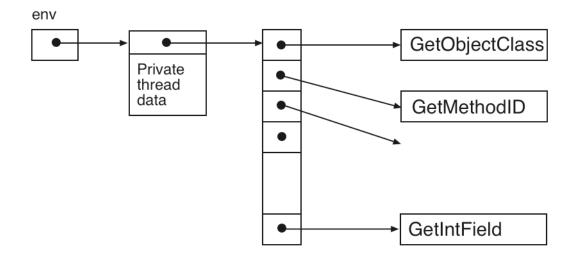
Example

```
public class Compute
{
    static native double compute(int m, long n);
    static
    { System.loadLibrary("ComputeJNI"); }
    public static void main(String [] args)
    {
        double answer = compute(45, 67L);
        System.out.println("answer = " + answer);
    }
}
```

JNI Support

Over 200 native functions, declared in jni.h, can be used to support Java data types, objects, and classes in C and C++.

Every native method receives a JNIEnv pointer as its first parameter; this pointer provides access to the JNI support functions.



JNI

Example

Observe that C++ calls are simpler because its version of the JNIEnv class provides inline member functions that handle the function pointer lookup.

The environment pointer can be omitted from the parameter list when using C++.

A C++ Example

Use JNI functions to convert between a Java String and a C/C++ string in a function that reverses the string.

Write the native code in C++.

```
Java Class
public class Reverse // File: Reverse.java
     static
        System.loadLibrary("Reverse"); }
     public static native String reverse(String s);
     public static void main(String [] arg)
         String s = reverse("to be or not to be");
         System.out.println(s);
}
Conversion functions (using UTF-8 strings)
const char * GetStringUTFChars(
         JNIEnv * env, jstring s, jboolean * isCopy)
jstring NewStringUTF(JNIEnv * env,
                             const char * bytes)
```

C++ Code

```
#include "Reverse.h"
                              // File: reverse.cpp
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>
JNIEXPORT istring JNICALL
                   Java Reverse reverse(
                        JNIEnv * env, jclass cl, jstring s)
{
     const char * inString =
                  env->GetStringUTFChars(s, NULL);
     int len = env->GetStringUTFLength(s);
     char * outString = (char *)malloc(strlen(inString)+1);
     for (int k=0; k<len; k++)
          outString[k] = inString[len-k-1];
     outString[len] = '\0';
     return env->NewStringUTF(outString);
}
```

We need a slightly different unix script file, called *linuxCPP*, that performs the steps to compile and execute the native code example using the C++ implementation.

File: linuxCPP

JNI_INCLUDE= "-I/usr/java/j2sdk1.4.2_05/include -I/usr/java/j2sdk1.4.2_05/include/linux"
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=.
echo "=============""
echo
javac Reverse.java
echo 'Java files compiled' echo
javah -jni Reverse
echo 'Header file created'
echo
g++ -Wall \$JNI_INCLUDE -shared reverse.cpp
-o libReverse.so echo 'Shared library created'
echo "====================================
echo
echo ">>> Output <<<<"
java Reverse
echo "====================================
echo
Output
Java files compiled
Header file created
Shared library created
>>> Output <<<

eb ot ton ro eb ot

Two Other Types

jfieldID for variable names jmethodID for method names

Altering Variables

To access or change an instance variable or a class variable, we need this information:

- Class object of type jclass for the class containing the variable.
- Name of the field as a C string.
- Type (signature) of the field as a C string.

To get a field object of type jfieldID use:

```
jfieldID GetFieldID(

JNIEnv * env, jclass cl,

const char * name, const char * sig)
```

JNI has two different sets of functions for accessing and setting variables, one for class variables and one for instance variables.

Each function includes the type of the datum being accessed in its identifier.

Accessor and Mutation Functions

where *<fType>* can be one of the following:

Boolean, Char, Byte, Short,

Int, Long, Float, Double, Object.

and <iniType> can be one of the following:

jboolean, jchar, jbyte, jshort,

jint, jlong, jfloat, jdouble, jobject.

Consequence

Private and protected variables can be accessed and altered from outside of their class by means of native functions.

Example

SomeVars: A class with two private variables.

SetSomeVars: A class with two native methods that will alter

the private variables in a SomeVars object.

Driver: A class with a main method that creates a SomeVars object and a SetSomeVars object and modifies the private variables by calling the native methods.

```
File: SomeVars.java
public class SomeVars
{
   private int aPrivate = 5;
   private static double aStaticPrivate = 7.77;
   public void printAPrivate()
      System.out.println("aPrivate = " + aPrivate);
   public void printAStaticPrivate()
      System.out.println("aStaticPrivate = " + aStaticPrivate);
}
File: SetSomeVars.java
public class SetSomeVars
{
   public native void setAPrivate(SomeVars v, int val);
   public native void setAStaticPrivate(Class c, double val);
}
File: Driver.java
public class Driver
   static
   { System.loadLibrary("SomeVars"); }
```

```
public static void main(String [] args)
                        throws ClassNotFoundException
      SomeVars sv = new SomeVars();
      SetSomeVars ssv = new SetSomeVars();
      sv.printAPrivate();
      sv.printAStaticPrivate();
      ssv.setAPrivate(sv, 135);
      Class svClass = Class.forName("SomeVars");
//
      OR: Class svClass = sv.getClass();
      ssv.setAStaticPrivate(svClass, 246.8);
      sv.printAPrivate();
      sv.printAStaticPrivate();
}
File: setvars.cpp
#include "SetSomeVars.h"
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL
      Java SetSomeVars setAPrivate(
               JNIEnv *env, jobject thisObj,
                                  jobject obj, jint val)
{
   iclass c = env->GetObjectClass(obj);
   ifieldID fid = env->GetFieldID(c, "aPrivate", "I");
   env->SetIntField(obj, fid, val);
}
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL
      Java SetSomeVars setAStaticPrivate(
            JNIEnv * env, jobject thisObj, jclass c, jdouble val)
{
```

```
jfieldID fid = env->GetStaticFieldID(c, "aStaticPrivate", "D");
env->SetStaticDoubleField(c, fid, val);
}
```

Output

Calling Java Methods

Methods can be called from native code, even private methods.

Follow these steps

- Get the class of the object that contains methods to be called. jclass GetObjectClass(JNIEnv * env, jobject ob)
- Get a method ID "object" for the method to be called using the class, the method name, and the method signature as parameters.

```
jmethodID GetMethodID(JNIEnv * env, jclass cl, const char * name, const char * sig)
```

 Call the method using the object (for instance methods) or the class (for class methods) that owns it, the method ID object, and the arguments to the method as parameters.

jdouble CallDoubleMethod(jobject obj, jmethodID m, jint n)

Functions for Calling Methods

where <type> can be one of the following:

Void, Boolean, Char, Byte, Short, Int, Long, Float, Double, Object,

and "..." represents the arguments passed to the method.

Note: JNI has two other sets of method for calling functions that handle the arguments differently as well as a set for "nonvirtual" methods.

- One set takes an array of jvalue for parameters.
- The other set uses the *va_list* mechanism.

These functions allow native methods to violate the security principles of Java:

Private and protected methods can be invoked.

Example

Call a private instance method and a private class method from outside of their class.

File: SomeMethods.java

```
public class SomeMethods
    private double methOne(int m, double x)
         return m + x;
    private static void methTwo(String s)
         System.out.println(s);
}
File: CallMethods.java
public class CallMethods
 public native double callOne(SomeMethods s);
 public native void callTwo(Class c);
File: MainCaller.java
public class MainCaller
{
    static
    { System.loadLibrary("SomeMethods"); }
```

```
public static void main(String [] args)
                            throws ClassNotFoundException
    {
         SomeMethods sm = new SomeMethods();
         CallMethods cm = new CallMethods();
         double d = cm.callOne(sm);
         System.out.println("d = " + d);
         Class smClass = Class.forName("SomeMethods");
         cm.callTwo(smClass);
}
File: methods.cpp
#include "CallMethods.h"
JNIEXPORT idouble JNICALL
       Java CallMethods callOne
            (JNIEnv * env, jobject thisObj, jobject obj)
{
  iclass cl = env->GetObjectClass(obj);
  imethodID mid =
            env->GetMethodID(cl, "methOne", "(ID)D");
  return env->CallDoubleMethod(obj, mid, -99, -6.6);
}
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL
       Java CallMethods callTwo
            (JNIEnv *env, jobject thisObj, jclass cl)
{
  jmethodID mid = env->GetStaticMethodID(cl, "methTwo",
                                 "(Ljava/lang/String;)V");
```

Output

Obtaining Signatures

The utility operation *javap* can be used to identify the signatures of the methods in a class.

```
private static void methTwo(java.lang.String);
          /* (Ljava/lang/String;)V */
     public SomeMethods();
          /* ()V */
}
% javap -s -private SomeVars
Compiled from SomeVars.java
public synchronized class SomeVars
                         extends java.lang.Object
/* ACC_SUPER bit set */
     private int aPrivate;
          /* | */
     private static double aStaticPrivate;
          /* D */
     public void printAPrivate();
          /* ()V */
     public void printAStaticPrivate();
         /* ()V */
     public SomeVars();
          /* ()V */
     static static {}; // To initialize class variables
         /* ()V */
}
```

Using javap

% javap -help

Usage: javap <options> <classes>...

where options include:

-b Backward compatibility with javap in JDK 1.1

-c Disassemble the code

-classpath <directories separated by colons> List directories in which to look for classes

-extdirs <dirs>

Override location of installed extensions

-help Print this usage message

-J<flag> Pass <flag> directly to the runtime system

-1 Print line number and local variable tables

-public Show only public classes and members

-protected Show protected/public classes

and members

-package Show package/protected/public

classes and members (default)

-private Show all classes and members

-s Print internal type signatures

-bootclasspath <pathlist>

Override location of class files loaded

by bootstrap class loader

-verbose Print stack size, number of locals

and args for methods

Constructing Objects in Native Code

Instances of Java classes can be constructed and used in native code functions using the following steps.

Get a class object from a string name.

```
jclass FindClass(JNIEnv * env, const char * className)
```

 Get a constructor method ID object using the signature of the constructor. Note <init> string.

 Create the new object, passing actual parameters to the constructor.

```
jobject NewObject(JNIEnv * env, jclass c, jmethodID m, ...)
```

Note: JNI has two other object creation functions that handle the constructor parameters differently.

Example

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Construct Domino objects in native code.

File: MakeDominoes.java

```
public class MakeDominoes
{
    static
    { System.loadLibrary("Dominoes"); }
    public static native Domino createDomino();
```

```
public static native Domino createDomino(
                                      int m, int n, boolean b);
  public static native Domino createDomino(boolean b);
  public static void main(String [] args)
     Domino d1 = (Domino)createDomino();
     Domino d2 = (Domino)createDomino(2, 6, true);
     Domino d3 = (Domino)createDomino(false);
    Object d = createDomino(1, 9, true);
     System.out.println("d1 = " + d1);
     System.out.println("d2 = " + d2);
     System.out.println("d3 = " + d3);
    System.out.println("d = " + d);
  }
}
class Domino
{
  private int spots1, spots2;
  private boolean faceUp;
}
File: dominoes.cpp
#include "MakeDominoes.h"
JNIEXPORT jobject JNICALL
            Java_MakeDominoes_createDomino___
                             (JNIEnv * env, jclass thisClass)
{
```

JNI

```
iclass c = env->FindClass("Domino");
  imethodID cid = env->GetMethodID(c, "<init>", "()V");
  jobject newObj = env->NewObject(c, cid);
  return newObj;
}
JNIEXPORT jobject JNICALL
       Java MakeDominoes createDomino IIZ
             (JNIEnv * env, jclass thisClass,
                             jint m, jint n, jboolean b)
{
  jclass c = env->FindClass("Domino");
  jmethodID cid = env->GetMethodID(c, "<init>", "(IIZ)V");
  return env->NewObject(c, cid, m, n, b);
}
JNIEXPORT jobject JNICALL
       Java MakeDominoes createDomino Z
          (JNIEnv * env, jclass thisClass, jboolean b)
{
  iclass c = env->FindClass("Domino");
  jmethodID cid = env->GetMethodID(c, "<init>", "(Z)V");
  return env->NewObject(c, cid, b);
}
```

The native methods return entities of type jobject. These come back to Java as type Object and must be cast to Domino explicitly in the Java code to be assigned to Domino variables.

JNI

Output

% linuxCPP

Java files compiled

Header file created

Shared library created

>>> Output <<<

d1 = <0, 0> DOWN

d2 = <2, 6> UP

d3 = <4, 8> DOWN

d = <1, 9> UP

Reference Types

```
Object
jobject
    I--- jclass
                                              Class
    I--- jstring
                                              String
    I--- jarray
             I--- jobjectArray
                                              Object []
             I--- jbooleanArray
                                              boolean []
             I--- jcharArray
                                              char []
             I--- jbyteArray
                                              byte []
             I--- jshortArray
                                              short []
             I--- jintArray
                                              int []
             I--- jlongArray
                                              long []
             I--- jfloatArray
                                              float []
             I--- jdoubleArray
                                              double []
   I--- jthrowable
                                              Throwable
```

Arrays of Primitive Types

Arrays can be passed to native methods, can be created in native methods, and can be returned from these methods.

The JNI functions that implement arrays of primitive type use the following identifier specification and native types:

<ptype></ptype>	<pjnitype></pjnitype>	<pjniarraytype></pjniarraytype>
Boolean	jboolean	jbooleanArray
Char	jchar	jcharArray
Byte	jbyte	jbyteArray
Short	jshort	jshortArray
Int	jint	jintArray
Long	jlong	jlongArray
Float	jfloat	jfloatArray
Double	jdouble	jdoubleArray
	C types	Java array types in C

Main Operations

 Create a C array corresponding to a jni array, which corresponds to a Java array.

isCopy is an out parameter that indicates whether the new array is sharing the memory of the original array or is a copy of it. Release the C array associated with a jni array. If it is a copy, the components must be updated in the jni array.

If *mode* is 0, the elements of the C array *cArr* will be copied into the jni array object *jArr*.

· Create a new jni array object.

Set elements in a jni array object from a C array buffer.

• Get the length of a jarray.

jsize GetArrayLength(JNIEnv * env, jarray ja)

Example

Pass an array of integers to a native method and have method reverse the array and return the result.

Two versions of the native code are given.

- 1. In the first version, the C array is reversed in place. Therefore, we need to make certain that the jni array is updated to reflect the changes made.
- 2. In the second version, a new C array is created and given the original components in reverse order. A new jni array object is then created and given the element of this C array.

File: ReverseA.java

```
public class ReverseA
    public static native int [] reverse(int [] arr);
    public static void main(String [] args)
        int [] intA = new int [9];
        for (int k = 0; k < intA.length; k++)
            intA[k] = k*k;
        printA(intA);
        int [] b = reverse(intA);
        printA(b);
    }
    static
       System.loadLibrary("ReverseA"); }
    private static void printA(int [] arr)
        System.out.println("Output from Java");
        for (int k = 0; k < arr.length; k++)
            System.out.print(arr[k] + " ");
        System.out.println();
    }
}
```

File: reverse.cpp (version 1)

```
#include "ReverseA.h"
JNIEXPORT jintArray JNICALL
   Java ReverseA reverse
        (JNIEnv * env, jclass clazz, jintArray intArr)
{
   jboolean isCopy;
   jint * ia = env->GetIntArrayElements(intArr, &isCopy);
   jsize len = env->GetArrayLength(intArr);
   for (int k = 0; k < len/2; k++)
       jint temp = ia[k];
       ia[k] = ia[len-k-1];
       ia[len-k-1] = temp;
   }
   if (isCopy == JNI_TRUE)
       env->ReleaseIntArrayElements(intArr, ia, 0);
   return intArr;
}
```

File: reverse.cpp (version 2)

Output

% linuxCPP

Java files compiled

Header file created

Shared library created

>>> Output <<<

Output from Java

0 1 4 9 16 25 36 49 64

Output from Java

64 49 36 25 16 9 4 1 0

Arrays of Objects

An array of objects can be created as a jarray in a native function.

Main Operations

Create a jni array of objects.

jarray NewObjectArray(JNIEnv * env, jsize length, jclass cl, jobject initVal) Set an element of an Object array.

· Get an element from an Object array.

```
jobject GetObjectArrayElement(JNIEnv * env,
jobjectArray joa,
jsize index)
```

Delete a local reference.

```
void DeleteLocalRef(JNIEnv * env, jobject ob)
```

Example

Create an array of randomly generated dominoes in a native function and print the components of the array in Java.

File: DominoArray.java

```
}
}
class Domino
{ ... }
```

File: dominoArray.cpp

```
#include "DominoArray.h"
#include <iostream.h>
JNIEXPORT jobjectArray JNICALL
              Java_DominoArray_mkDominoArray
                        (JNIEnv * env, jclass thisClass, jint sz)
{
   jclass c = env->FindClass("Domino");
   jobjectArray arr = env->NewObjectArray(sz, c, NULL);
   imethodID cid = env->GetMethodID(c, "<init>", "(Z)V");
   cout << "Creating object array in native code.\n";
   for (int k = 0; k < sz; k++)
   {
       jobject dom = env->NewObject(c, cid, JNI_TRUE);
       env->SetObjectArrayElement(arr, k, dom);
       env->DeleteLocalRef(dom);
   }
   return arr;
}
```

Output

% linuxCPP

Java files compiled

Header file created

Shared library created

>>> Output <<<

Creating object array in native code.

elem[0] = <0, 8> UP

elem[1] = <7, 8> UP

elem[2] = <4, 9> UP

elem[3] = <1, 5> UP

elem[4] = <2, 7> UP

Type jvalue

When calling a Java method or constructor from a native function, parameters can be passed as a C array of jvalue.

The type jvalue is defined as follows:

```
typedef union jvalue
     jboolean
                   Ζ;
     jchar
                   C;
     jbyte
                   b;
     jshort
                   s;
     jint
                   i;
                   j;
     jlong
     jfloat
                   f;
     jdouble
                   d;
     jobject
                   Ο;
} jvalue;
```