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JRuby on Rails: Agility for the Enterprise

Thomas E Enebo, Charles O Nutter

JRuby Core Developers Sun Microsystems, Inc. http://www.jruby.org/

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Goal of This Talk What You Will Gain

Get an introduction to Ruby, JRuby, and Ruby on Rails. See how the other 8% lives.



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Introduction

Ruby JRuby Ruby on Rails JRuby on Rails Futures



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Introductions

- Charles Oliver Nutter and Thomas Enebo
- Engineers at Sun Microsystems
- Full-time JRuby developers
- Over ten years Java technology experience each
- Formerly a Java[™] Platform, Enterprise Edition (Java[™] EE platform) architect
 - Also C/C++, Win32, C#, .NET, CLDC
- Tom was a web application architect
 - Also C, Perl, Jini[™] network technology, Java Platform, Micro Edition (Java ME platform)
- Working to make Ruby a first-class Java Virtual Machine (JVM[™]) language

The terms "Java Virtual Machine" and "JVM" mean a Virtual Machine for the Java™ platform.

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Introductions Ruby JRuby Ruby on Rails JRuby on Rails Futures



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What Is Ruby?

- Dynamically-typed pure object-oriented programming language
 - Focus on simplicity, productivity, and "fun"
 - Interpreted
 - Open source, written in C
 - Implementation is the Specification
- Created 1993 by Yukihiro "Matz" Matsumoto
 - "More powerful than Perl and more OO than Python"
- Very active community, wide range of apps

Ruby Quick Tour: Pure OO

- Pure Object-oriented language
- Absolutely everything is an object
 - 7.class
- => Fixnum
- "hello".length => 5
- 3.times { |i| puts "Number #{i}" }
 - => Number 1
 - Number 2
 - Number 3

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Ruby Quick Tour: Sweet Sugar

- Common syntactical sugar
 - Regular expressions: /^foo.*bar/
 - Arrays: ['one', 1, Ein.new]
 - Associative arrays: { 'a' => 3, 'b' => 4 }
 - Strings: "foo"

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Ruby Quick Tour: Dynamic Typing

- Dynamically-typed language
 - No need to declare variables
 - Duck-typing
 - "If it quacks like a duck and waddles like a duck, then ..."

```
def make_it_waddle(waddler)
   waddler.waddle
```

```
end
```

```
make_it_waddle(Duck.new)
make_it_waddle(Penguin.new)
make_it_waddle(Octopus.new)
```



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Ruby Quick Tour: Modules

Modules mix-in behavior

```
module ShapeStuff
  def diameter
    return 2 * @radius
    end
end
```

```
class Circle
    include ShapeStuff
```

. . .

```
end
Circle.new(4).diameter
```



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Ruby Quick Tour: Blocks

- Anonymous methods you can pass around and invoke
 - Add block to be invoked on end of method call
 - Removes repetitive code
 - list.each { |element| ... do something ...}
 - Internalizes transactional code
 - File.open(fname) {|file| line = file.gets
 ...}
 - Makes nice APIs

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Ruby Quick Tour: Metaprogramming

- Meta programming
 - Dynamically generate classes
 - Modify existing classes
 - Add/Alias/Remove/Replace methods
 - Include a module
 - Add instance/class variable
 - Special dispatching to pretend things exist
 - method_missing, const_missing



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Introductions Ruby **JRuby** Ruby on Rails JRuby on Rails Futures



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What Is JRuby?

- Started in 2002
- Java platform implementation of Ruby language
- Open source, many active contributors
- Aiming for compatibility with current Ruby version
- Integrates with Java technology
 - Call to Ruby from Java technology via Java Specification Request (JSR) 223, BSF, Spring
 - Use Java class files from Ruby (e.g., Script Java)
- Growing set of external projects based on JRuby
 - JRuby-extras (GoldSpike, ActiveRecord-JDBC,...)



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JRuby: Java Technology Integration

- Script Java
 - Power of Java technology with the Syntax of Ruby

```
require 'java'
list = java.util.ArrayList.new
list << 1
list << 3
list << 2</pre>
```

```
list.sort
```



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Why JRuby?

- JRuby over Ruby
 - Strong likelihood we will be faster soon
 - Better scalability with native threading
 - Native unicode support
 - Compilation
 - Integration with Java libraries
 - Easier path to getting Ruby in the enterprise
- JRuby over Java technology
 - Language features
 - Blocks, modules, metaprogramming, dynamic-typing
 - Ruby applications/libraries
 - Rails, Rspec, Rake, Raven, other R's

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Introductions Ruby JRuby **Ruby on Rails** JRuby on Rails Futures



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What Is Ruby on Rails?

- A full-stack MVC web development framework
- Open source (MIT), many contributors
- Written in Ruby
- Single-threaded design
- First released in 2004 by David Heinemeier Hansson
- Ruby and Rails book sales are outselling Perl book sales
- Shipping with "Leopard"



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Ruby on Rails Precepts

- Convention over configuration
 - Why punish the common cases?
 - Encourages standard practices
 - Everything simpler and smaller
- Don't Repeat Yourself (DRY)
 - Framework written around minimizing repetition
 - Repetitive code harmful to adaptability
- Agile development environment
 - No recompile, deploy, restart cycles
 - Simple tools to generate code quickly
 - Testing built into framework



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Why Ruby on Rails?

- Greatly simplified web development
 - "Less Rails code than Java application configuration"
 - Instant applications: working code in minutes
- Growing excited community of developers
- Makes small apps trivial to create
- Ruby is an excellent language



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Why JRuby on Rails?

- Deployment to Java application servers
- Java technology production environments pervasive
 - Easier to switch framework vs. whole architecture
 - Lower barrier to entry
- Broader, more scalable database support
- Integration with Java technology libs, legacy services
- No need to leave Java technology servers, libraries, reliability





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Rails Quick Tour: Project Layout

- All Rails apps have same layout myapp
 - + app
 - + controllers
 - + helpers
 - + models
 - + views
 - + config
 - + db
 - + lib
 - + public
 - + test



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Rails Quick Tour: Tools

- 'rails myapp' creates new application
- 'ruby script/generate' generates:
 - Models, views, and controllers
 - Migrations (Ruby DB-agnostic DDL management)
 - Scaffolding (quick CRUD maker)
 - Tests (unit and functional)
- 'rake' runs tasks
 - Perform migration
- 'ruby script/server' starts application
- Many more…



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Rails Quick Tour: Components

- ActiveRecord
 - ORM on steroids
- ActionPack
 - View and controller support
- Actionwebservice
 - Guess!
- Actionmailer
 - Email
- Activesupport
 - Unicode, JSON, miscellaneous helpers

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Ruby on Rails with JRuby

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JRuby on Rails: Java EE Platform

- Pool database connections
- Access any Java Naming and Directory Interface[™] (J.N.D.I.) API resource
- Access any Java EE platform TLA:
 - Java Persistence API (JPA)
 - Java Management Extensions (JMX[™])
 - Enterprise JavaBeans[™] (EJB[™])
 - Java Message Service (JMS) API
 - SOAP/WSDL/SOA



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JRuby on Rails: Deployment

- Mongrel
- Warfile deployment to:
 - Project GlassFish[™] V2
 - Servlet-based app server
- Project GlassFish[™] V3
- Go to technical keynote at 1:30



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JRuby on Rails: Futures

- Improve Java EE platform support for Rails
 - Rubify Java EE platform APIs
 - Create Rails plug-ins to make installable units
- Use Java technology native equivalents
 - Unicode support
 - XML support
- Port Ruby native libraries
 - RMagick

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More Information

- JRuby: www.jruby.org
- Ruby: www.ruby-lang.org
- Rails: www.rubyonrails.org
- NetBeans[™] IDE: www.netbeans.org
- Charles's blog: www.headius.blogspot.com
- Tom's blog: www.bloglines.com/blog/ThomasEEnebo





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Thank You

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