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From Parking Meters to
Netbooks: JavaTM Platform,
Standard Edition 6 for ARM-
Based Embedded Devices

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Introduction

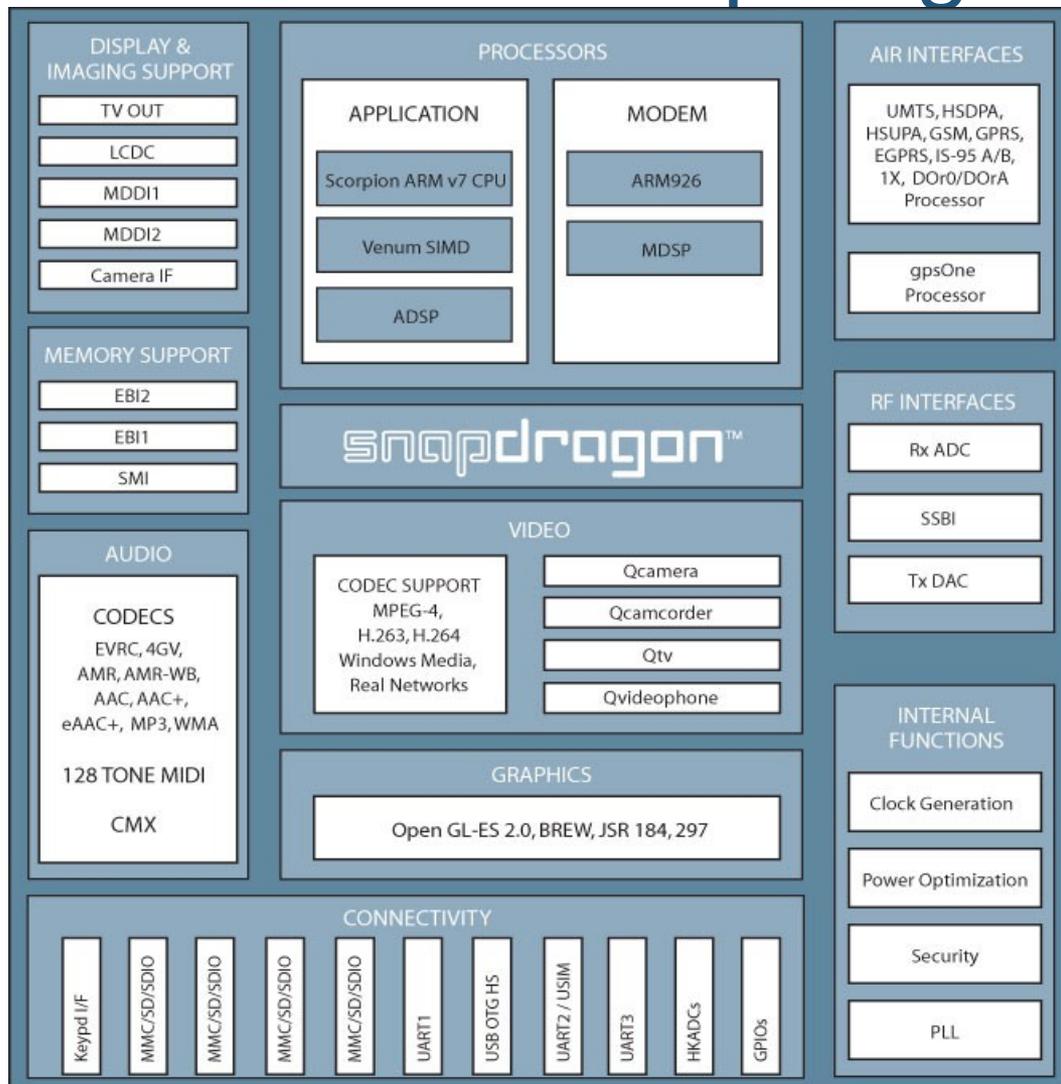
Java SE 6.0 for Linux ARM Devices

- > ARM Processors
- > Example Embedded Devices Using ARM
- > Challenges supporting ARM CPU's
- > Java SE Embedded Enhancements
- > Currently Supported Configurations
- > Tips for Developing Java on Java SE Embedded
- > Future Java SE Embedded Directions

ARM Processor

- > ARM CPU History
 - First design in 1983.
- > Why is ARM popular?
 - Low power, most popular mobile embedded CPU
- > Multiple Vendors
 - ARM, Qualcomm, TI, Marvell, many more
- > What's new in ARM processors
 - Higher Clock Speeds
 - Multi-CPU and Multi-Core designs coming
 - High Level of Integration with video, 3D, wireless, bluetooth, gps

Qualcomm Snapdragon Chipset



- Fully integrated solution including modem, Cortex-A8 ARMv7 applications processor, GPU, multimedia, peripherals
- CDMA and UMTS modems
- First Superscalar 1GHz application processor for mobile devices
- Advanced hardware accelerated codecs, 2D and 3D graphics
- Sub-500mW applications processor

Java on ARM History

J2ME

- 2001 CLDC – Connection Limited Device Configuration
Used primarily in Cell Phones
- 2002 CDC – Connected Device Configuration

JAVA SE

- 2007 Java 2 Standard Edition for Embedded 1.4.2
Linux ARM Headless
- 2009 Java Standard Edition for Embedded 6.0
Linux ARM Headless and Headful Configurations

Sampling of Embedded Applications using Java SE Embedded on ARM



Parking Terminal



Plug Computer



NetBook



Video Gaming System



Multi Function Printer

Technical Challenges for Hotspot Support of ARM CPU's

- > Several popular ARM architecture versions
 - ARMv5, ARMv6, ARMv7
- > Many sub features to choose from
 - Thumb, Thumb2, Jazelle, RCT
 - Not available on all versions
 - Big Endian and Little Endian
- > Floating Point Support
 - Optional (Requires Software Floating Point Support)
 - Different implementations (VFPv2, VFPv3)

Java SE for Embedded ARM Processor Support

> Goals

- 100% compatible with Desktop Java SE 6.0
- Broadest coverage with least number of binaries
- Take advantage of specific performance improvement features on each architecture

> Implementation

- Four different little endian binaries supporting the most common use cases

armv5te	Software Floating Point
armv5te	VFP Hardware Floating Point
armv6	Software Floating Point
armv6	VFP hardware Floating Point

The armv6 binaries auto detect armv7 (Cortex-a8) and take advantage of v7 specific features

Java SE for Embedded ARM Processor Support cont.

> armv5te specific support

- atomic ops and Java level locking use mutexes after attempting a swap hashed on the address of the lock
- Use literal pools for loading 32 bit pointers and constants with relocation support. The JIT allocates literal pool in jit'd method memory.

> armv6 support

- Uses ldrex/strex for atomics and locking rather than slower armv5 support
- Use rev instruction for performing byte swap

> armv7 (Cortex-A8)

- All armv6 improvements plus, movw/movt instruction combinations are used for faster literal loading

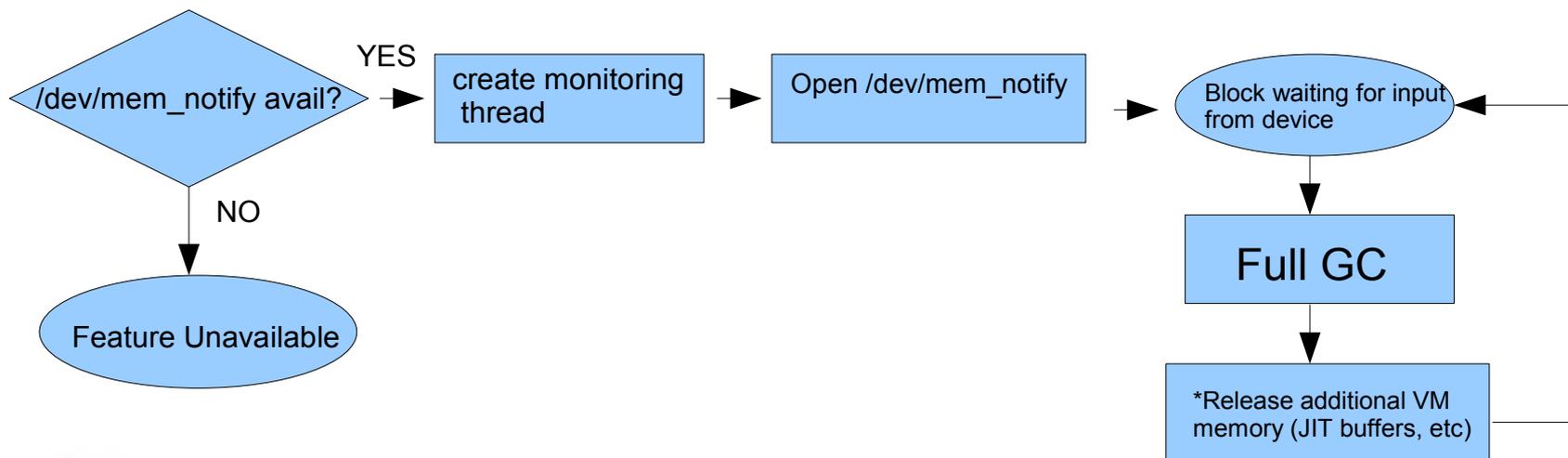
Java SE Embedded Specific Features

- > Headful and Headless builds
- > Software Floating Point
- > Low Memory Detection
- > Power Conservation
- > Gstreamer Audio Support
- > Alternate UI and Window Manager Support
 - **xfwm4***, Matchbox, ICEWM, metacity
- > Browser, Plug-in Support for Mobile Device Browsers
 - **Firefox***, Coolfox
- > Tested Linux Distributions
 - **Xandros***, Redflag Midinux, Fedora

Java SE Embedded Feature

Low Memory Support

- > The Linux community has been searching for solutions to handle low memory conditions
 - Killing processes is NOT the answer (SIGABORT, ouch!)
- > We chose to support `/dev/mem_notify`
 - Linux kernel driver monitoring available memory



Java SE Embedded Feature

Power Conservation

> Goal

- Reduce CPU usage to 0% when Java applications are idle in order to allow CPU clock to be reduced or suspended

> Modifications Performed

- Hotspot Virtual Machine
 - Eliminated all Polling Threads
- Java SE AWT/Swing Changes
 - Eliminated Polling for X Events when idle

Java Tips for Netbook devices

- > Don't assume overlapping Windows
- > Don't assume 640x480 resolution or higher
- > Eliminate polling for I/O in your Java and Native code
- > Only blink cursor when activity present

ThinkFree Java Application Experience

Optimizing ThinkFree Office Suite for Netbooks

> Netbook is

- Lower in Price
- Lower Power CPU
- Less RAM and Disk Space
- Lower Screen Resolution
- Consumer Oriented Device
- (Optionally) Touch Screen

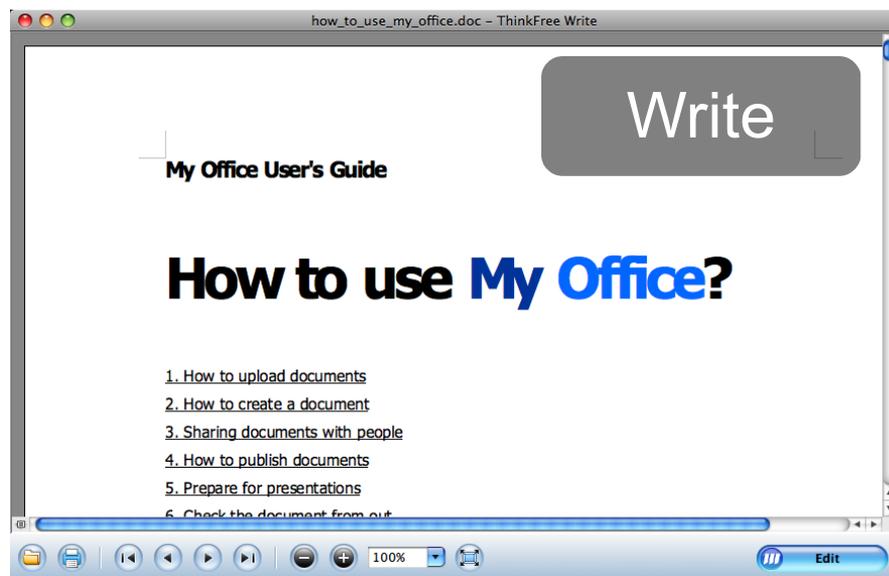
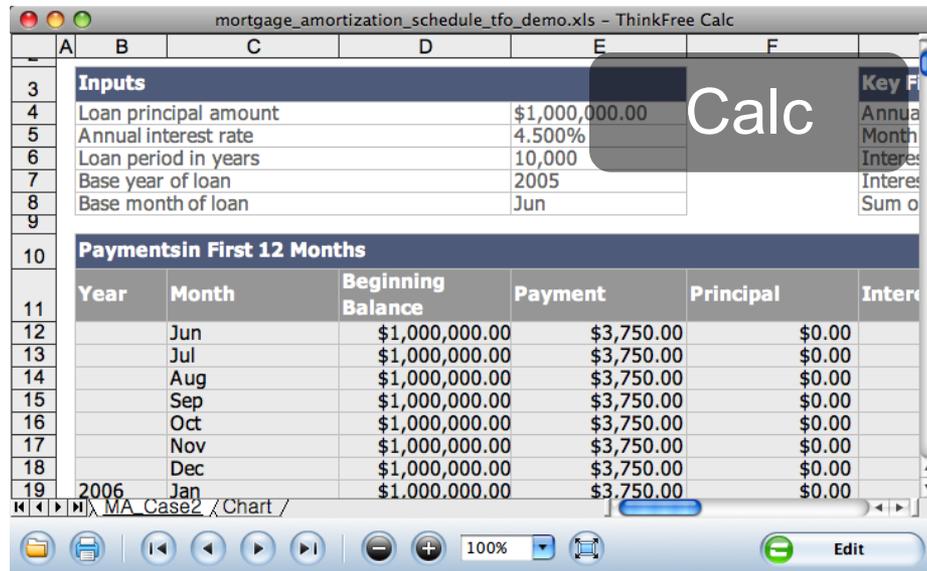


Thanks to Geon Goo (accent@thinkfree.com) for input on ThinkFree optimizations

ThinkFree Java Application Experience

ThinkFree Mobile Viewer

- > Optimized for Smaller Screen (Simplified UI)
- > Faster Startup
 - Split Viewer functionality from Document Editor
 - Document Editor is one click away
 - Less Java Code Loading
 - Class Data Sharing Enabled helped by 25%
 - Used Native Splash Screen Support from SE 6
- > Issue GC operations during idle times to reduce interruptions but eventually block to conserve power
- > Reduced Cursor Polling by Decaying timer



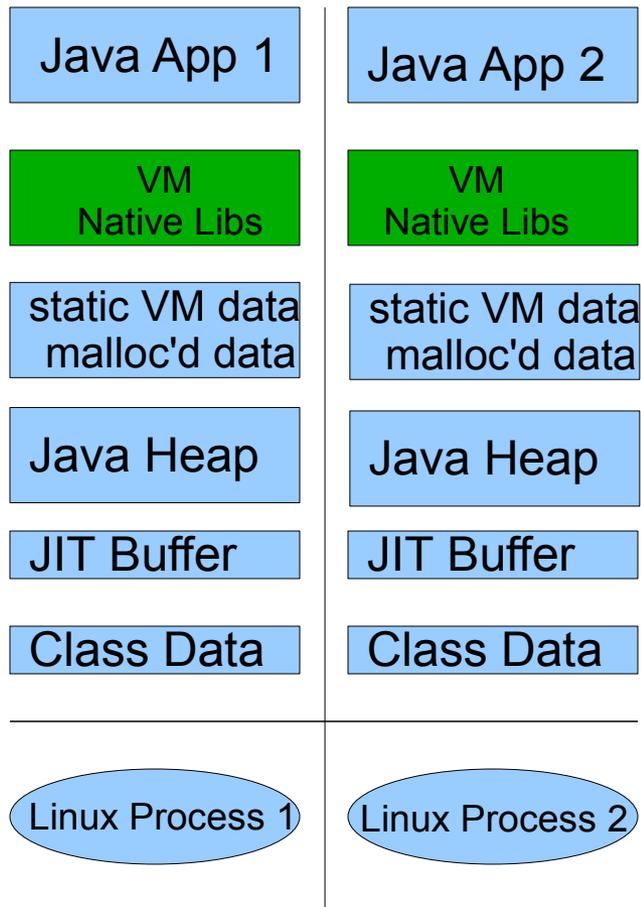
Java SE Embedded on ARM Futures

- > MVM Support
 - Multi Tasking Virtual Machine
- > Multi-Processor ARM Support
- > OpenGL ES Support
- > Thumb2 Support Evaluation
- > Java FX Graphics Acceleration

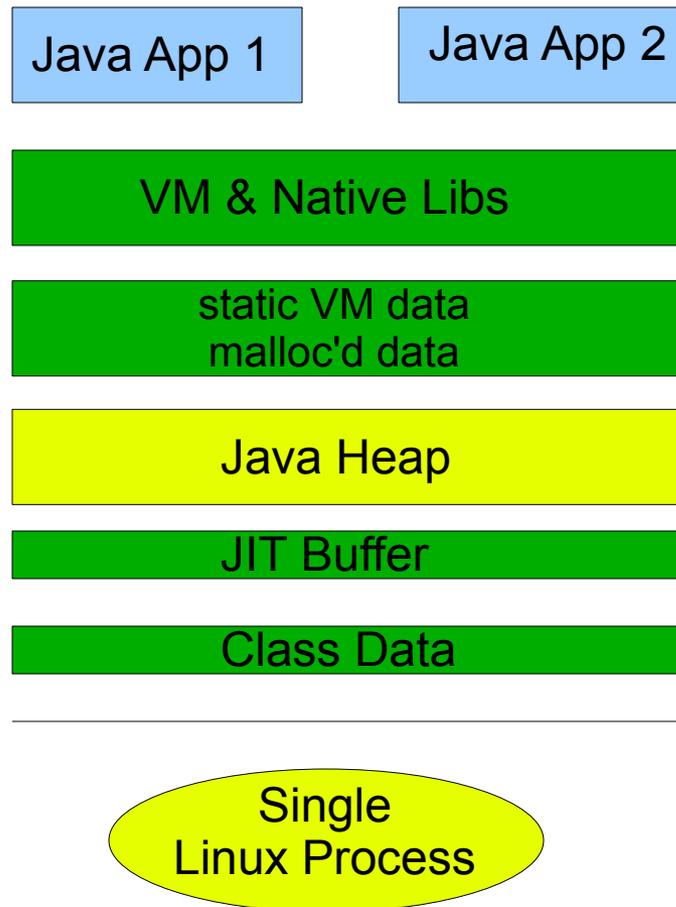
Multi-Tasking Virtual Machine

memory savings

Multiple Java Processes



MVM Java Processes



Sharing



Demonstrations

- > Linux ARM Netbook
 - Full Java SE 6.0 Compatibility on ARM Processor
 - Plug-In Support Launching FX Application
 - Java Office Productivity Application (ThinkFree)
- > Multi Tasking Virtual Machine
 - Startup Improvements
 - Memory Savings

Web addresses for more information on Java SE for Embedded

Java SE Embedded home page:

<http://java.sun.com/javase/embedded/index.jsp>

Java SE Embedded downloads page:

<http://java.sun.com/javase/downloads/embedded.jsp>

Java SE Embedded system requirements page:

http://java.sun.com/javase/embedded/system_requirements.jsp

Java SE Embedded customers page:

<http://java.sun.com/javase/embedded/customers.jsp>



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Thank You

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