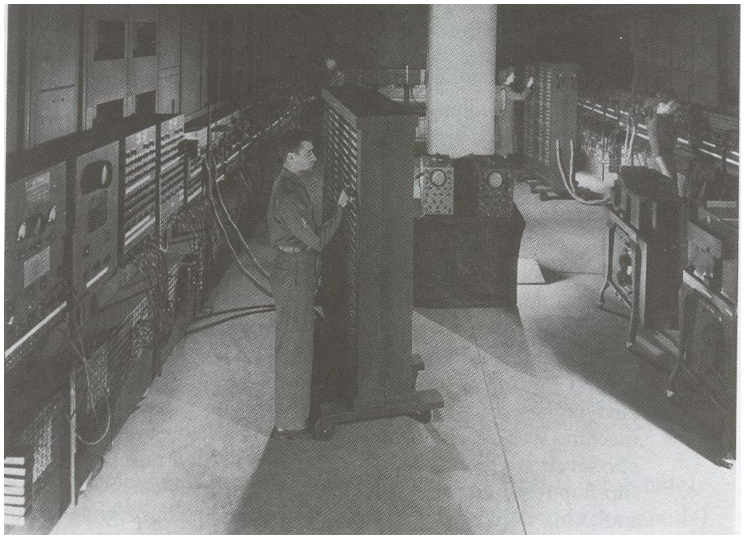
Java History

Background information about Java and how it affected it's development

James Tam

Java: History

•Computers of the past



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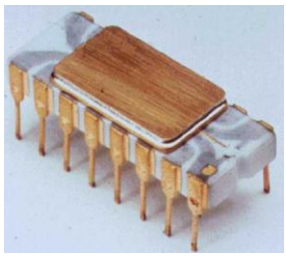
Java: History (2)

•The invention of the microprocessor revolutionized computers



Intel microprocessor

Commodore Pet microcomputer

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Java: History (3)

•It was believed that the logical next step for microprocessors was to have them run intelligent consumer electronics

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Java History (4)

•Sun Microsystems funded an internal research project "Green" to investigate this opportunity.

- Result: A programming language called "Oak"

Blatant advertisement: James Gosling was a graduate of the U of C Computer Science program.

Wav file from "The Simpsons" © Fox, Image from the website of Sun Microsystems

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Java History (5)

- Problem: There was already a programming language called Oak.
- The "Green" team met at a local coffee shop to come up with another name...
  - •Java!

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Java: History (6)

- The concept of intelligent devices didn't catch on.
- Project Green and work on the Java language was nearly canceled.

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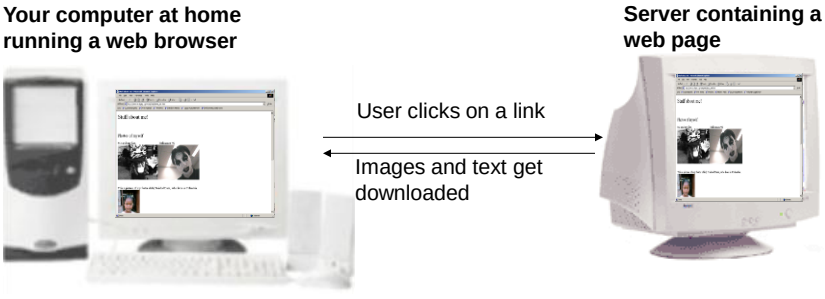
Java: History (7)

- The popularity of the Internet resulted in Sun's re-focusing of Java on computers.
- Prior to the advent of Java, web pages allowed you to download only text and images.



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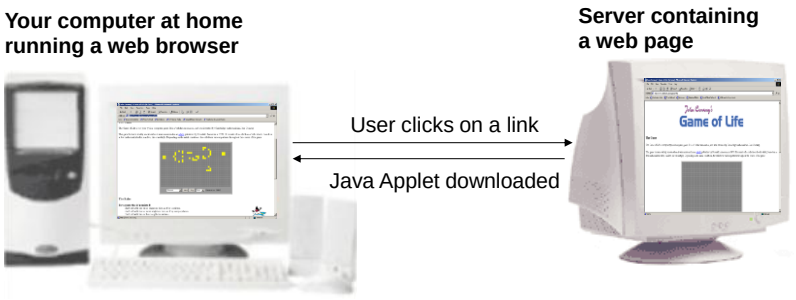
Java: History (8)

- Java enabled web browsers allowed for the downloading of programs (Applets).
- Java is still used in this context today:
  - Facebook (older version)
  - Hotmail (older version)



Java version of the Game of Life: http://www.bitstorm.org/gameoflife/

Online checkers: http://www.darkfish.com/checkers/index.html

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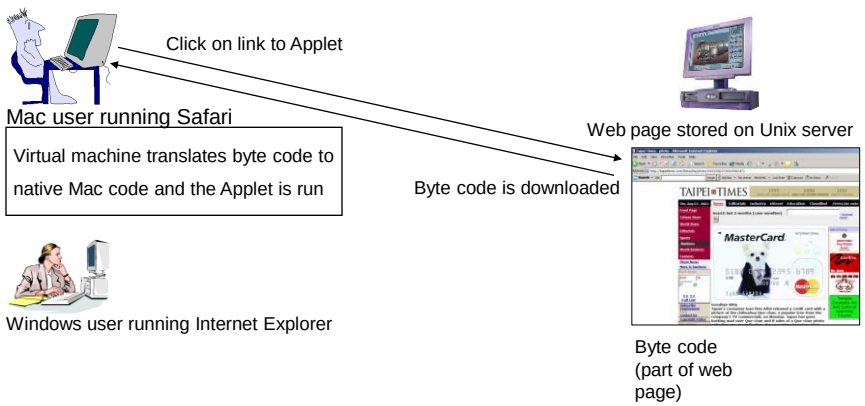
Java: Write Once, Run Anywhere

- Consequence of Java's history: platform-independence



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Java: Write Once, Run Anywhere

- Consequence of Java's history: platform-independent

Mac user running Safari

Web page stored on Unix server

Click on link to Applet

Byte code is downloaded

Windows user running Internet Explorer

Virtual machine translates byte code to native Windows code and the Applet is run

James Tam

After This Section You Should Now Know

- How Java was developed and the impact of it's roots on the language
- Major players and events in the development of Java

James Tam