Java History

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

Java: History

- Computers of the past
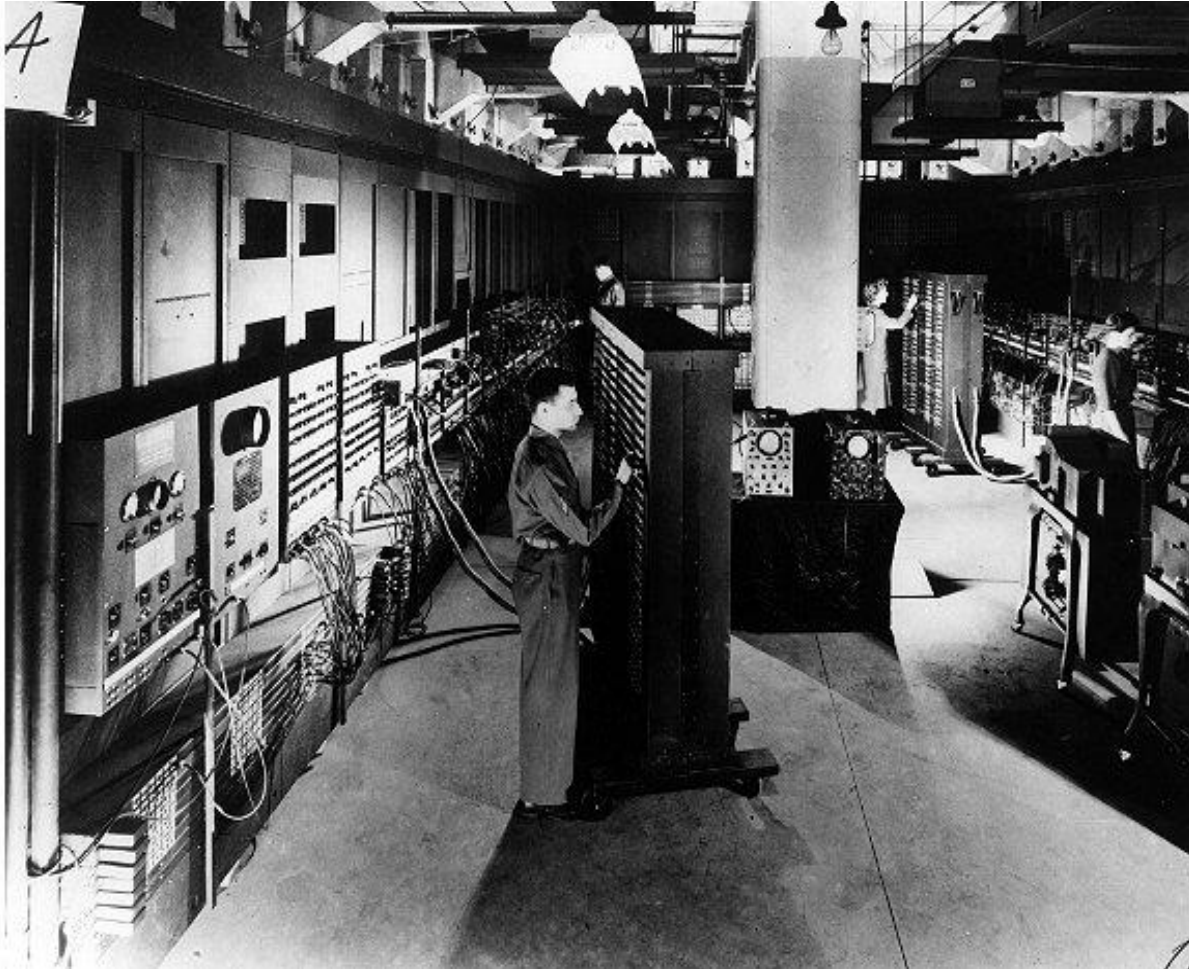

Image © University of Pennsylvania

Java: History (2)

- The invention of the microprocessor revolutionized computers

From the "Intel museum" www.intel.com

Image courtesy of James Tam

Java: History (3)

- It was believed that the logical next step for microprocessors was to have them run intelligent consumer electronics.
  - "Smart homes"
  - "Smart washer-dryers"
  - "Smart vacuums"

Java History (4)

- Sun Microsystems funded an internal research project "Green" to investigate this opportunity.
  - Result: A programming language called "Oak"

Alumnus James Gosling was voted as the fourth greatest IT person of all time. / External Relations Photo Bank

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

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!

Java: History (6)

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

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.

Your computer at home running a web browser

Server containing a web page
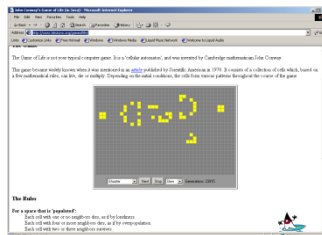
User clicks on a link

Images and text get downloaded

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)
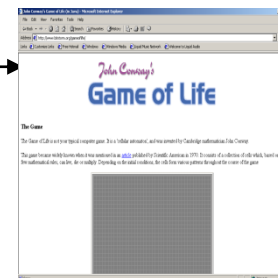 - Hotmail (older version)

Your computer at home running a web browser

Server containing a web page

User clicks on a link

Java applet downloaded

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

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

Why 'Javac' & 'Java': Consequence Of Java History
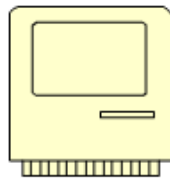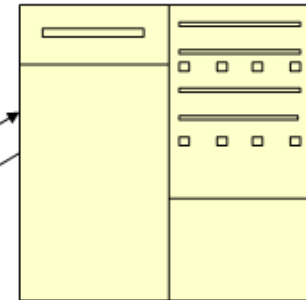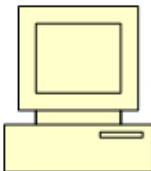
James Tam

Adding Java Code To A Webpage

- The code can be run through a web browser instead of manually invoked via the command line.
  - These Java programs are 'applets'
  - How to create a simple Java applet:
    - http://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/deployment/applet/getStarted.html
  - How to get an applet to run when your web page is accessed
    - http://www.ehow.com/how_7306707_run-java-applet-html.html

References

- http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javase/overview/javahistory-index-198355.html

After This Section You Should Now Know

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