Java Grande (a.k.a. High Performance Java) Panels at SC98

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Geoffrey Fox

Northeast Parallel Architectures Center



Syracuse University
111 College Place
Syracuse NY
gcf@npac.syr.edu

http://www.javagrande.org

http://www.npac.syr.edu/users/gcf/jgfpanelsc98

Java Grande Panel I

- 8.30 Introduction to Java Grande and the Panels, Geoffrey Fox, Syracuse University
- 8.45 Report from the Numerics Working Group of the Java Grande Forum, Ron Boisvert NIST
- 9.05 Report from the Applications and Concurrency Working Group of the Java Grande Forum, Dennis Gannon, Indiana University and NASA Ames
- 9.25 Compilers and Performance of Java, Marc Snir, IBM
- 9.40 Linear Algebra in Java, Cleve Moler, The MathWorks

Java Grande Panel II

- 10.30 Building Libraries in Java, Jack Dongarra, University of Tennessee and Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- 10.40 Lessons from C++, John Reynders, Los Alamos
- 10.50 Application Experience in Oil Industry, Siamak Hassanzadeh, Sun Microsystems
- 11.00 Java Benchmarks, David Henty, Edinburgh Parallel Computing Center
- 11.10 MPI for Java, Vladimir Getov, Westminister University England
- 11.20 Java Framework for Computing Services (Desktop Access to Remote Resources), Gregor von Laszewski, Argonne National Laboratory
- 11.30 -12.00 Discussion

What is Java Grande?

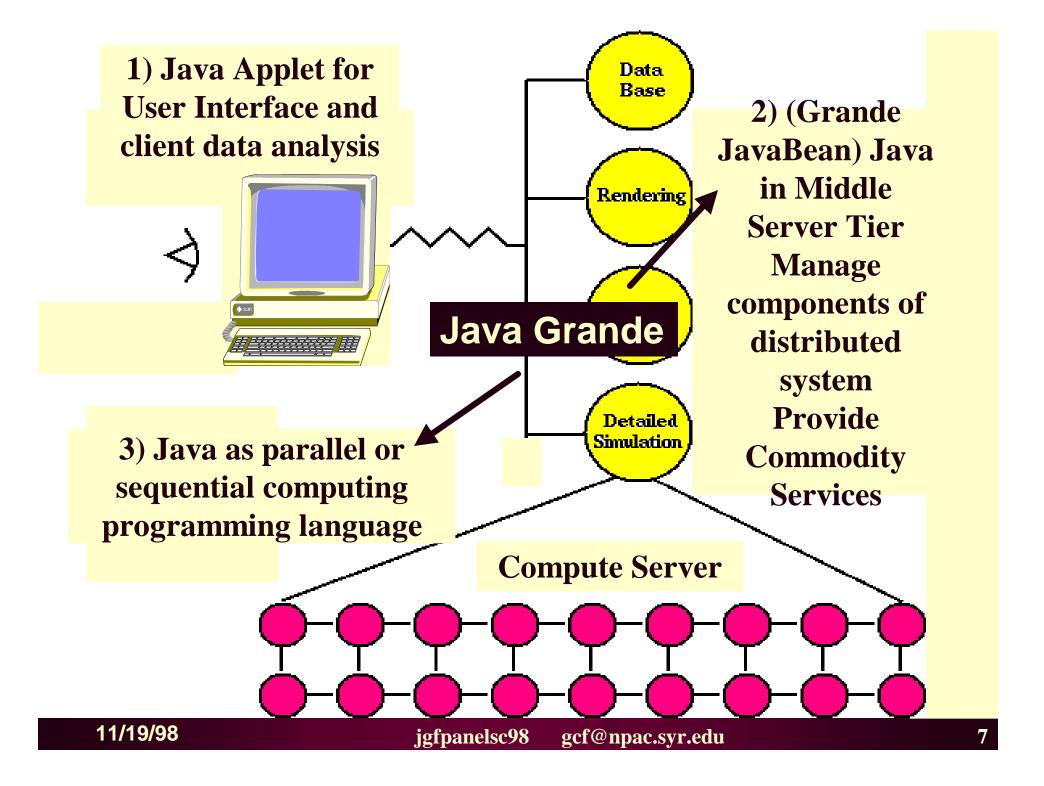
- Use of Java for:
- High Performance Network Computing
- Scientific and Engineering Computation
- (Distributed) Modeling and Simulation
- Parallel and Distributed Computing
- Data Intensive Computing
- Communication and Computing Intensive Commercial and Academic Applications
- HPCC Computational Grids
- Very difficult to find a "conventional name" that doesn't get misunderstood by some community!

Java Grande Process: Approach and Activities

- We have had several conferences with 50-->100-->200 attendees
 - Syracuse December 96
 - Las Vegas June 97
 - Palo Alto February 98
 - Southampton (Europe) September 98
 - Next one just before JavaOne next year (June 99)
- Topics of conference papers:
 - Applications; algorithms; benchmarking; compilers; Javabased programming tools; parallel computing (tightly coupled) and high performance distributed computing
- "Spun off" Java Grande forum to promote needed community standards and activities.
- Must be proactive because Grande computer market is perhaps
 1% of total computing market -- not Sun's highest priority

Why is Java Grande Worth Looking at?

- The Java Language has several good design features
 - secure, safe (wrt bugs), object-oriented, familiar (to C C++ and even Fortran programmers)
- Java has a very good set of libraries covering everything from commerce, multimedia, images to math functions (under development at http://math.nist.gov/javanumerics)
- Java has best available electronic and paper training and support resources
- Java is rapidly getting best integrated program development environments
- Java naturally integrated with network and universal machine supports potentially powerful "write once-run anywhere" model
- There is a large and growing trained labor force
- Can we exploit this in Grande Computing / computational science?



What is Goal of Java Grande Forum?

- Java has potential to be a better environment for "Grande application development" than any previous languages such as Fortran and C++
- The Forum Goal is to develop community consensus and recommendations for either changes to Java or establishment of standards (frameworks) for "Grande" libraries and services
- These Language changes or frameworks are designed to realize "best ever Grande programming environment"
- First Meeting Mar 1 Palo Alto at Java 98 -- 200 Attendees set Agenda -- 30 permanent people and further meetings May 9-10, Aug 6-7
- Public Discussion SC98 Orlando November 13 (3 hour panel)
- http://www.npac.syr.edu/projects/javaforcse
- http://www.javagrande.org

Two types of Things we are doing

- 1) Most important in the near term -- encourage Sun to make a few key changes in Java to allow it to be a complete efficient Grande Programming Language
 - floating point, arrays, complex etc.
- 2) As a community, recognize that sometimes standards are more appropriate than creativity and pool results of experiments to produce a Java Grande framework covering libraries and computer access
 - Fiscally important fields such as databases, have established such standards -- we should follow their example
- 1) requires us to work with the computing mainstream --
 - 2) is internal to community

Activities of the Java Grande Forum I

- Two major working groups promoting standards and community actions
- Numerics: Java as a language for mathematics led by Ron Boisvert and Roldan Pozo from NIST
 - Changes in Java controversial handling of floating point which currently has goal of reproducible results but this leads to non optimal accuracy
 - Addition of Complex types or classes
 - Lightweight classes and Operator overloading -- enables implementation of complex as a class
 - "Fortran rectangular multidimensional arrays" -- Java naturally has "arrays of arrays"
 - High quality math libraries with agreed interfaces -- FFT,
 Matrices, Transcendental functions

Activities of the Java Grande Forum II

- Distributed and Parallel Computing led by Dennis Gannon and Denis Caromel (INRIA, France)
 - Performance of RMI (Attractive Java distributed object model
 "remote method invocation")
 - Performance of Java runtime (the virtual machine VM) with lots of threads, I/O, memory use
 - Parallel Computing interfaces including Java MPI binding
 - Development of universal (Condor, Globus, Legion UNICORE WebSubmit ..) Java interface to computing resources -- enables seamless computing (easier than metacomputing!)
 - Special seamless computing meeting at Argonne October 98
- Development of Grande Application benchmarks
 - http://math.nist.gov/scimark

Where are we now?

- Both working groups have made substantial progress
 - Numerics and Concurrency working groups have preliminary reports -- Our suggestions for floating point submitted to Sun
- We are initiating Community actions
 - Help us collect Java Grande benchmarks
 - Work with community on standard classes and libraries
 - Participate in seamless computing framework (desktop access to remote resources)
 - Stress Java and Java runtime (the VM) with large applications
 where are performance problems?
- Note European involvement has been excellent so far
- Now is a good time for full international community to comment on and participate in activities

What should you do as a Java Grande believer?

- Don't need to rewrite existing codes in Java!
- Rather use Java freely at client and middle tier
- One can wrap existing codes as CORBA or Java distributed objects
- Conduct suitable experiments in using Java in complete Grande applications
- Make certain your interests are represented in Java Grande Forum
- Retrain your staff in Java Web and distributed object technologies
- Put "High Performance Grande Forum compliant" Java support into your RFP's for hardware and software