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GraalVM™ and Its Ecosystem

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Oracle Labs
April, 2018

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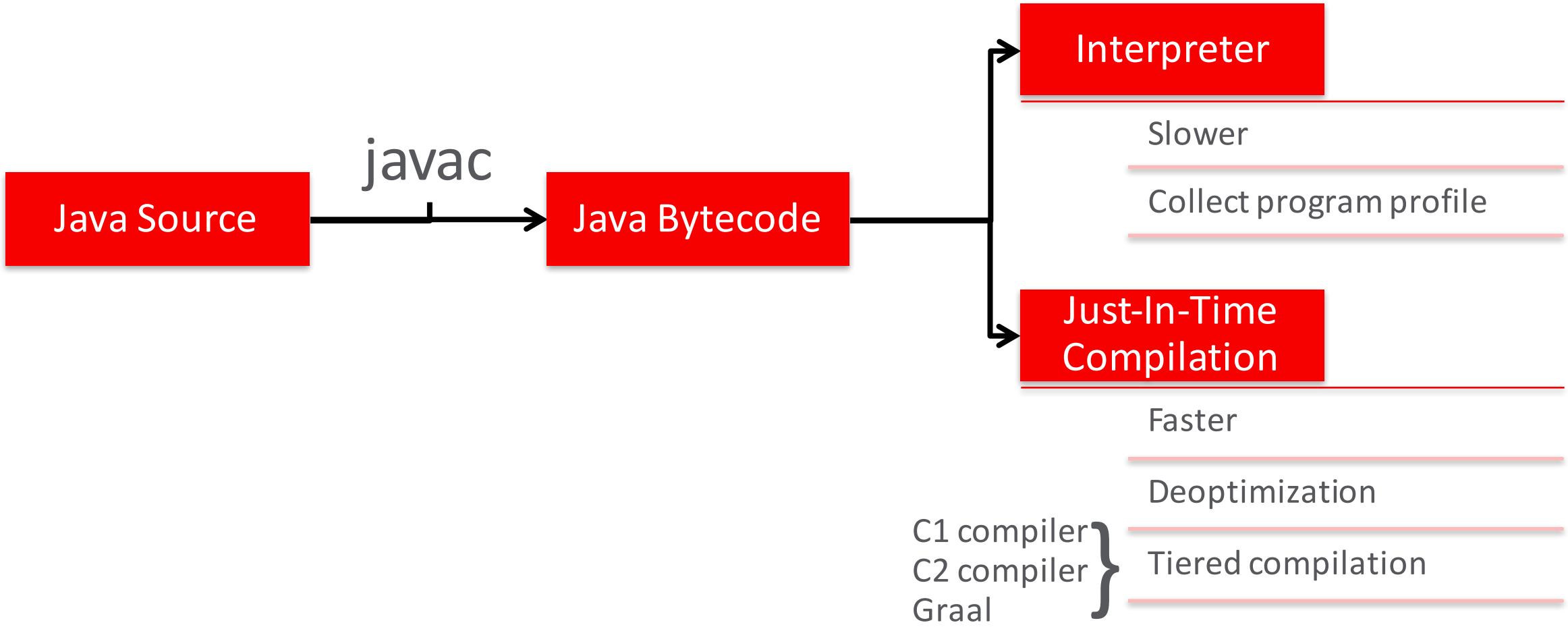
Java in a Nutshell



“Things I won’t do again: write a VM in C/C++.”

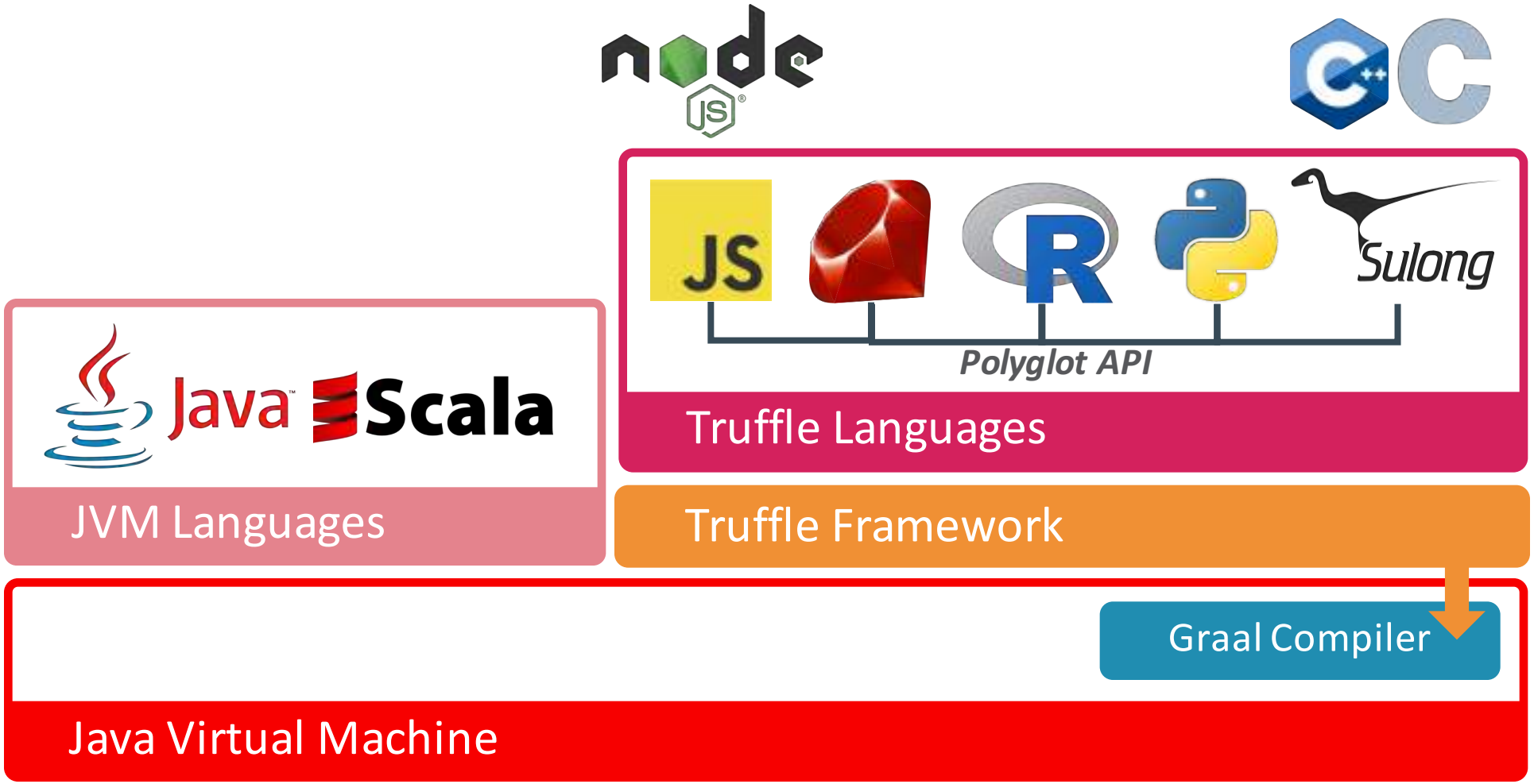
– Cliff Click, CTO, Neurensic; author of HotSpot C2 Compiler

"C2 is old and very complex;
Graal is easier to understand."

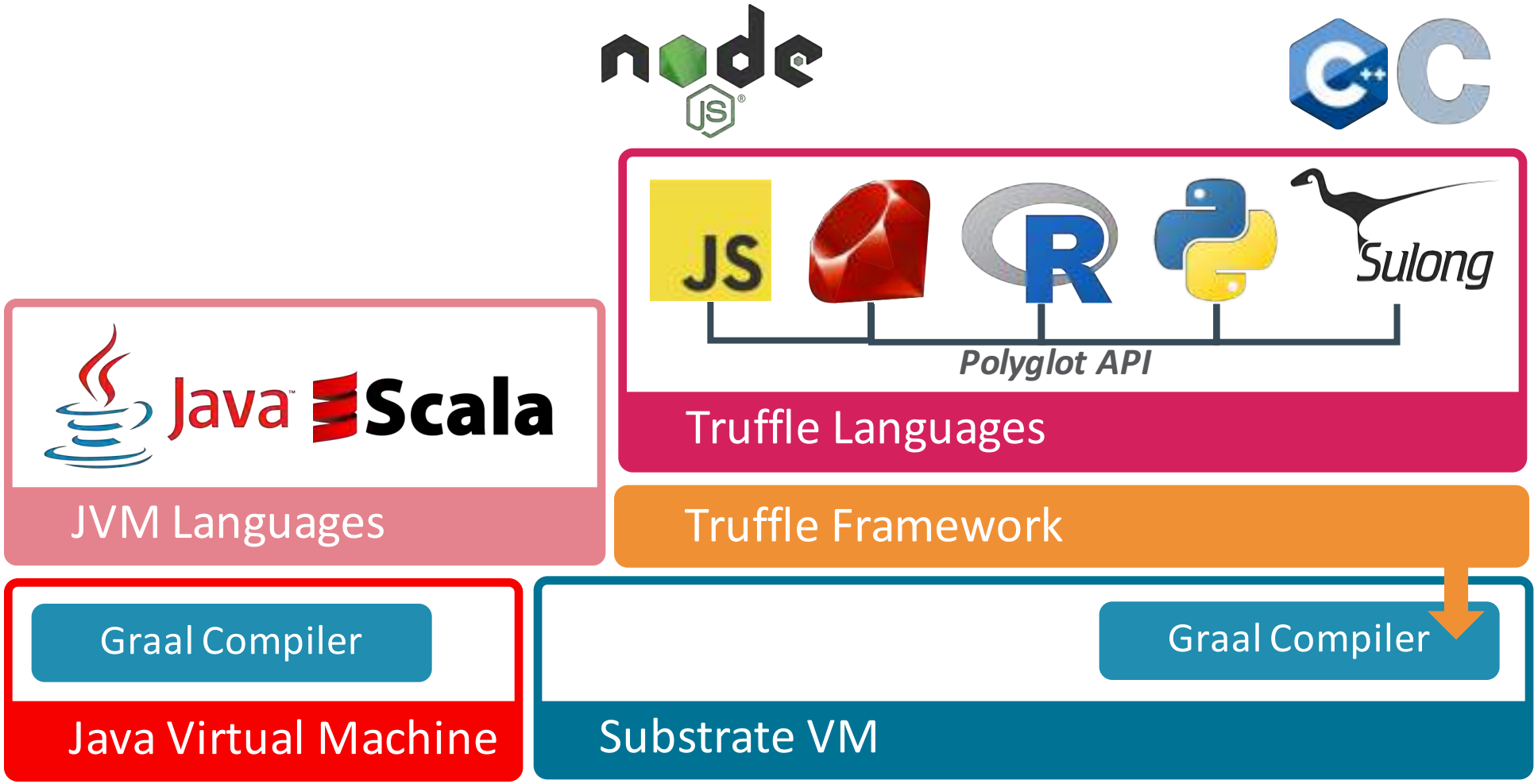
– Chris Thalinger, Staff Software Engineer, Twitter

More Than A JIT Compiler

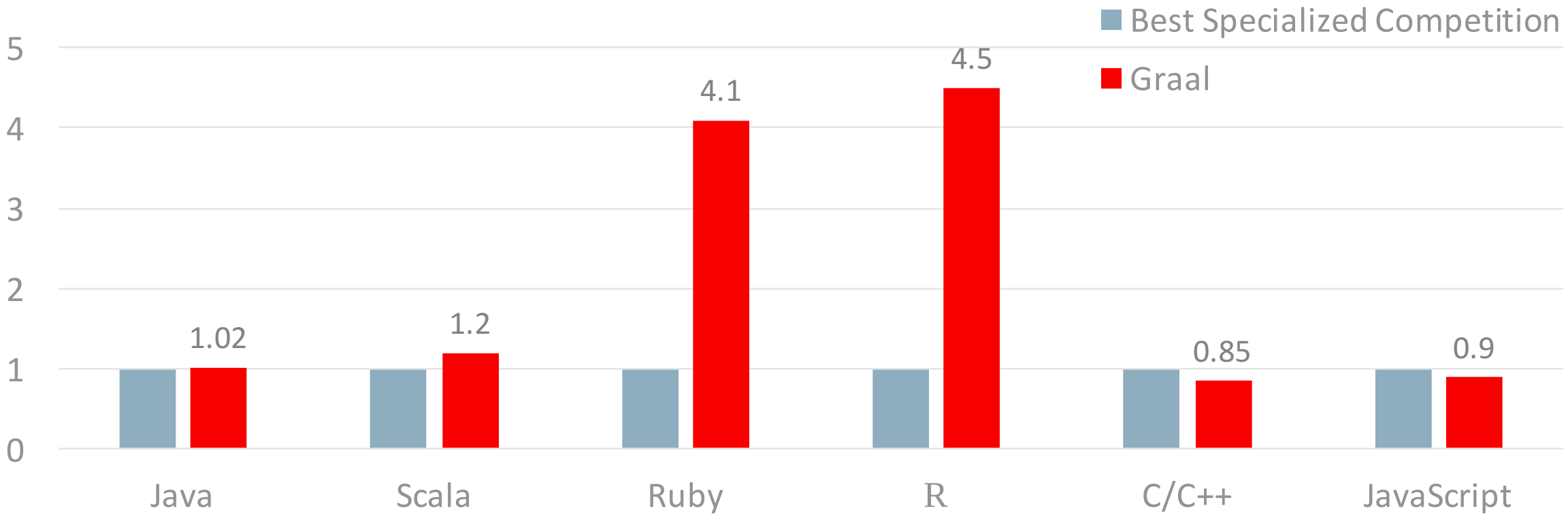
GraalVM and Its Ecosystem



GraalVM and Its Ecosystem



Performance: GraalVM



Performance relative to:
HotSpot/C2, HotSpot/C2 running JRuby, GNU R, LLVM AOT compiled, V8

Part 1: The Graal Compiler

Key Features of Graal Compiler

- Designed for aggressive speculative optimizations
  - Specialization based on program profile
  - Metadata for deoptimization is propagated through all optimization phases
    - Target method & bytecode index
    - State of local variables and expression stack

Deoptimization

- Switch to interpreter in the middle of compiled machine code
  - Example:

```
int negate(int n) {
  if (n == Integer.MIN_VALUE)
    throw new ArithmeticException();
  return -n;
}
```



```
int negate(int n) {
  if (n == Integer.MIN_VALUE)
    deoptimize();
  return -n;
}
```

  - Less compilation time; more compact emitted code
  - Expensive, better put in slow path
  - Java-level assumption

Key Features of Graal Compiler

- Designed for aggressive speculative optimizations
  - Specialization based on program profile
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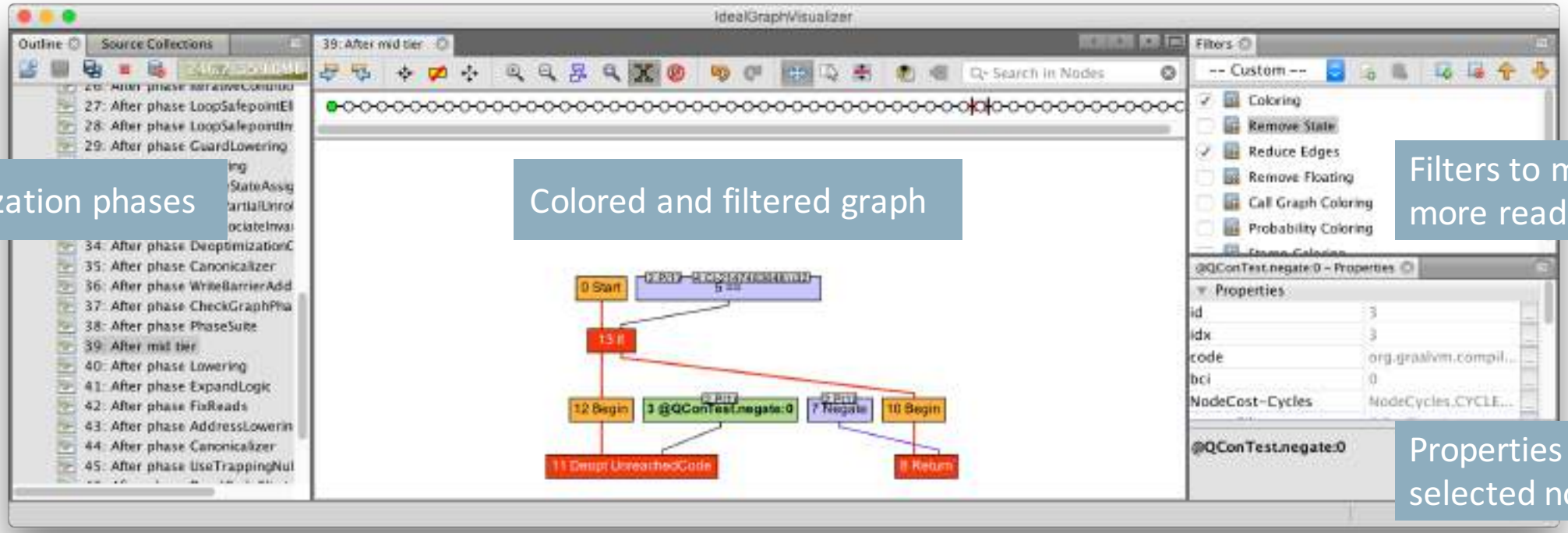
    - Target method & bytecode index
    - State of local variables and expression stack
- Graph-based intermediate representation

Ideal Graph Visualizer

Visualizing compilation on-the-fly



Optimization phases

Colored and filtered graph

Filters to make graph more readable

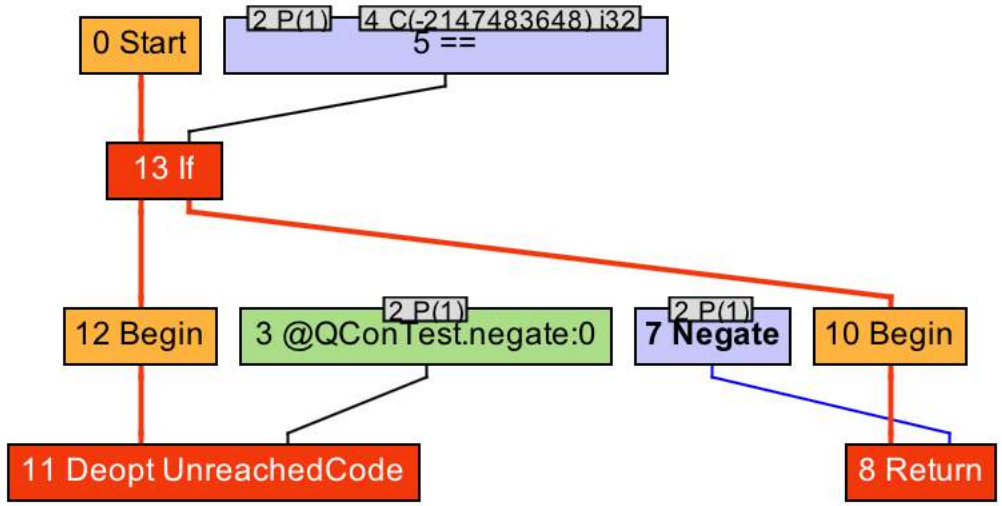
Properties for the selected node

Ideal Graph Visualizer

Visualizing compilation on-the-fly

- Control flow (in **red**) v.s. data flow
- Fixed node v.s. floating node
- Schedule
- Global value numbering
- FrameState

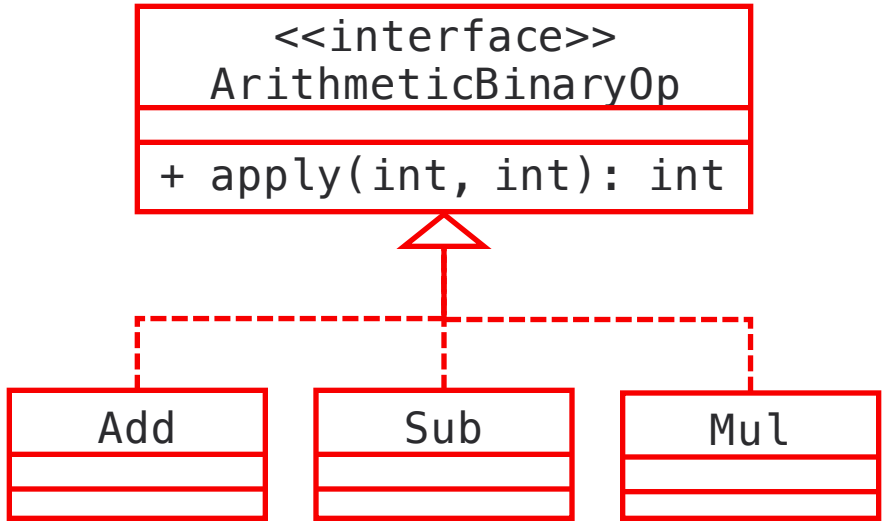
```
int negate(int n) {
  if (n == Integer.MIN_VALUE)
    deoptimize();
  return -n;
}
```



Speculative Optimization: Inlining of Virtual Methods

- What is inlining?

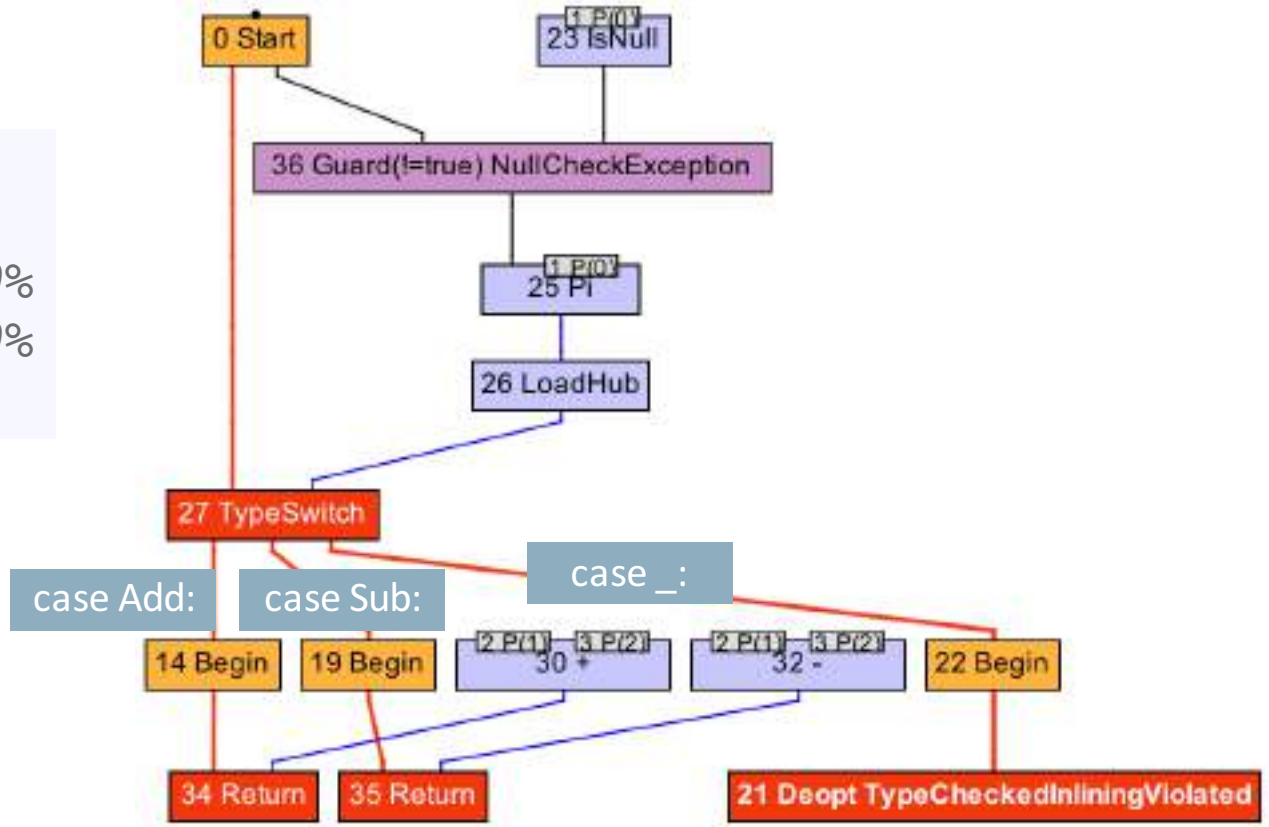
```
int apply(ArithmeticBinaryOp op,
          int x, int y) {
  return op.apply(x, y); // Add: 50%
                         // Sub: 50%
}
```



- Assumption: the receiver type of this callsite will always be Add/Sub

Speculative Optimization: Inlining of Virtual Methods

```
int apply(ArithmeticBinaryOp op,
          int x, int y) {
  return op.apply(x, y); // Add: 50%
                         // Sub: 50%
}
```



Aggressive Optimization: Partial Escape Analysis

- Escape analysis determines the dynamic scope of an Object
  - Synchronization elision
  - Heap allocation -> stack allocation
    - Breaking up objects & scalar replacement

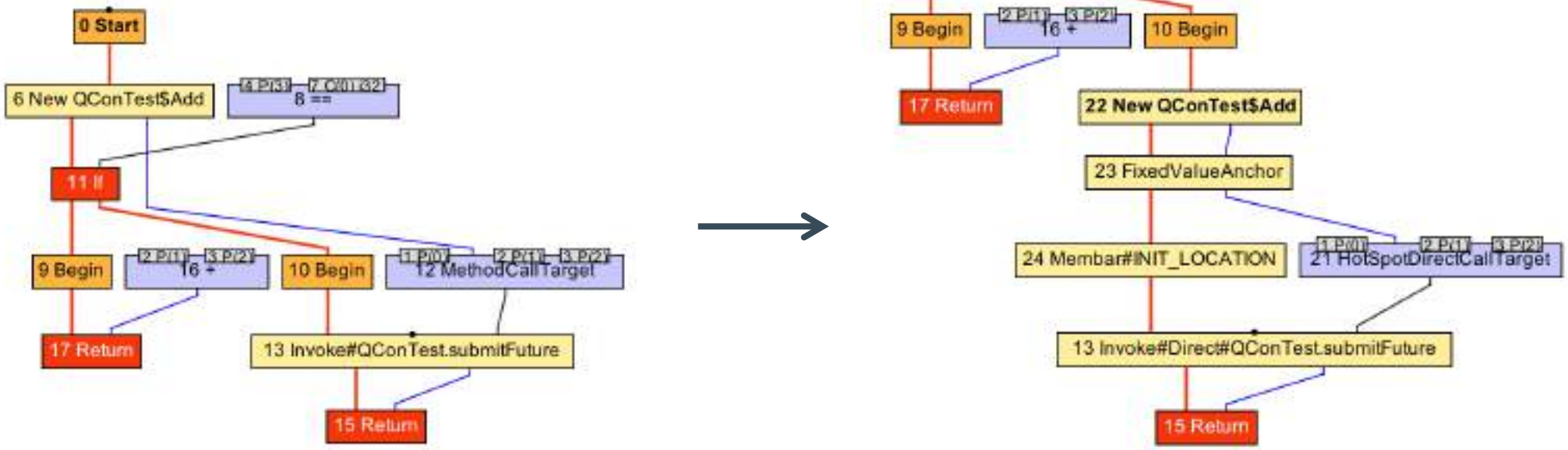
```
int add(int x, int y) {
  return new Add().apply(x, y);
}
```

```
int add(int x, int y) {
  return x + y;
}
```

- Partial escape analysis
  - Control flow sensitive
  - Defer allocation into sub-branches where needed

Aggressive Optimization: Partial Escape Analysis

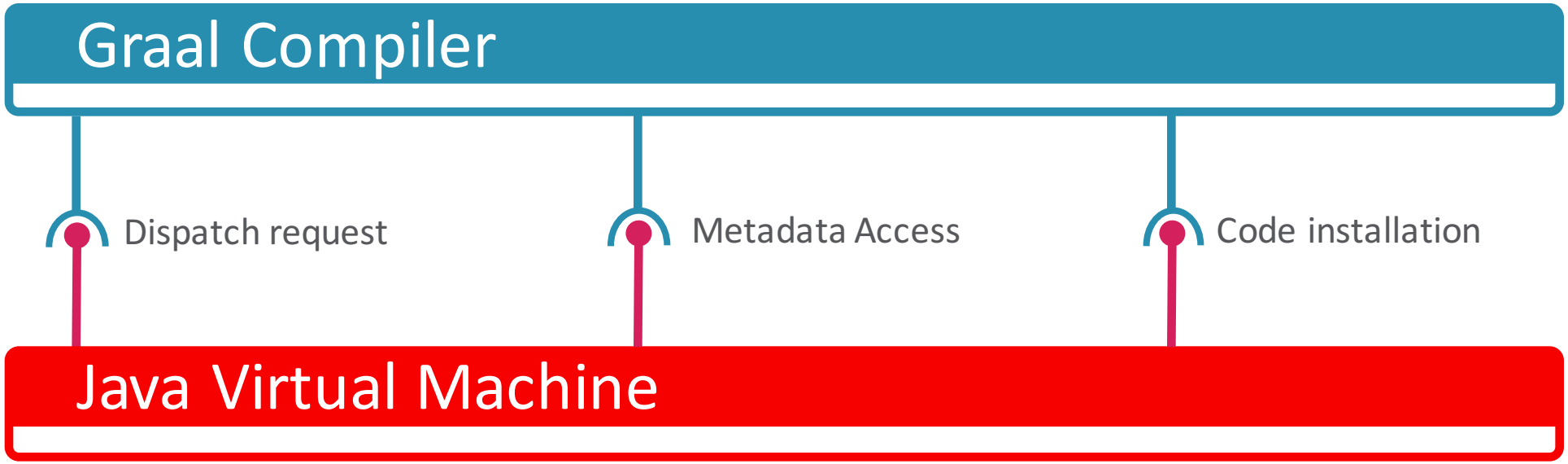
```
int add(int x, int y, boolean cond) {
  Add op = new Add();
  if (cond)
    return submitFuture(op, x, y);
  return op.apply(x, y);
}
```



Key Features of Graal

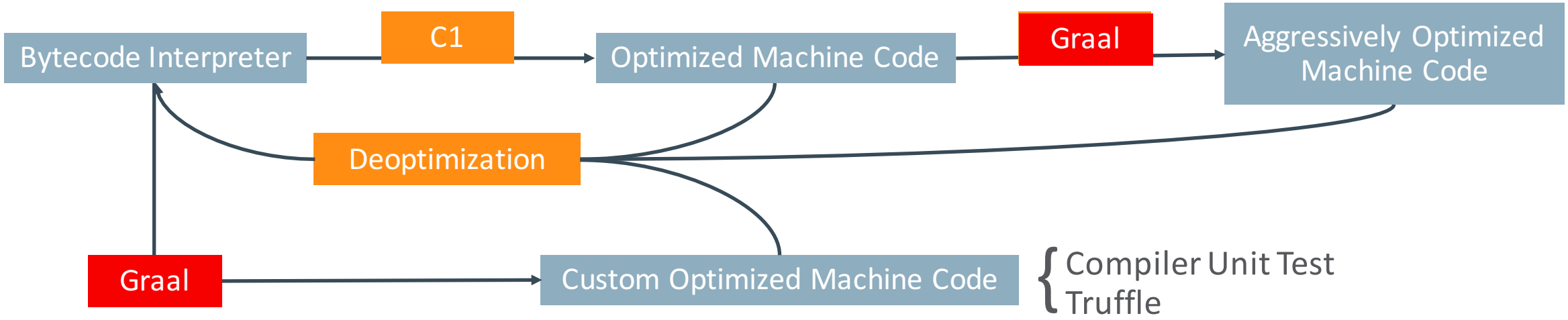
- Designed for aggressive speculative optimizations
  - Specialization based on program profile
  - Metadata for deoptimization is propagated through all optimization phases
    - Target method & bytecode index
    - State of local variables and expression stack
- Graph-based intermediate representation
- Modular architecture
  - Compiler-VM separation

JEP 243: Java-Level JVM Compiler Interface (JVMCI)



Mixed-Mode Execution

- Default configuration of Java HotSpot VM in production:
- Graal replaces the C2 compiler:
- Graal used only for custom compilations:



Part 2: GraalVM’s Ecosystem

“Write Your Own Language”

Current Situation

- **Prototype a new language**
  - Parser and language work to build syntax tree (AST), AST Interpreter
- **Write a “real” VM**
  - In C/C++, still using AST interpreter, spend a lot of time implementing runtime system, GC, ...
- **People start using it**
- **People complain about the performance**
  - Define a bytecode format and write bytecode interpreter
- **Performance is still bad**
  - Write a JIT compiler, improve the garbage collector

How it should be

- **Prototype a new language**
  - Parser and language work to build syntax tree (AST)
  - Execute using AST interpreter
- **People start using it**
  - And it is already fast.
  - And it integrates with other languages.
  - And it has tool support, e.g., debugger

Partial Evaluation

```
// Sample program (arg[0] + arg[1]) + arg[2]
sample = new Add(new Add(new Arg(0), new Arg(1)), new Arg(2));
sample.execute(new int[]{0, 1, 2});
```

```
abstract class Node {
  abstract int execute(int[] args);
}
```

```
class Arg extends Node {
  final int index;

  Arg(int i) { this.index = i; }

  int execute(int[] args) {
    return args[index];
  }
}
```

```
class Add extends Node {
  final Node left, right;

  Add(Node left, Node right) {
    this.left = left;
    this.right = right;
  }

  int execute(int[] args) {
    return left.execute(args) +
           right.execute(args);
  }
}
```

Partial Evaluation

```
// Sample program (arg[0] + arg[1]) + arg[2]
sample = new Add(new Add(new Arg(0), new Arg(1)), new Arg(2));
```

```
int interpret(Node node, int[] args) {
  return node.execute(args);
}
```

Partial Evaluation

```
// Sample program (arg[0] + arg[1]) + arg[2]
sample = new Add(new Add(new Arg(0), new Arg(1)), new Arg(2));
```

```
int interpret(int[] args) {
  return sample .execute(args);
}
```

(

class Add

```
int execute(int[] args) {
  return left.execute(args) +
         right.execute(args);
}
```

)

Partial Evaluation

```
// Sample program (arg[0] + arg[1]) + arg[2]
sample = new Add(new Add(new Arg(0), new Arg(1)), new Arg(2));
```

```
int interpret(int[] args) {
  return sample.left .execute(args) +
         sample.right .execute(args);
}
```

(

class Add

```
int execute(int[] args) {
  return left.execute(args) +
         right.execute(args);
}
```

,

class Arg

```
int execute(int[] args) {
  return args[ index ];
}
```

)

Partial Evaluation

```
// Sample program (arg[0] + arg[1]) + arg[2]
sample = new Add(new Add(new Arg(0), new Arg(1)), new Arg(2));
```

```
int interpret(int[] args) {
  return sample.left.left .execute(args) +
         sample.left.right .execute(args) +
         args[ sample.right.index ];
}
```

(

```
class Arg
int execute(int[] args) {
  return args[ index ];
}
```

)

Partial Evaluation

```
// Sample program (arg[0] + arg[1]) + arg[2]
sample = new Add(new Add(new Arg(0), new Arg(1)), new Arg(2));
```

```
int interpret(int[] args) {
  return args[ sample.left.left.index ] +
         args[ sample.left.right.index ] +
         args[2];
}
```

Partial Evaluation

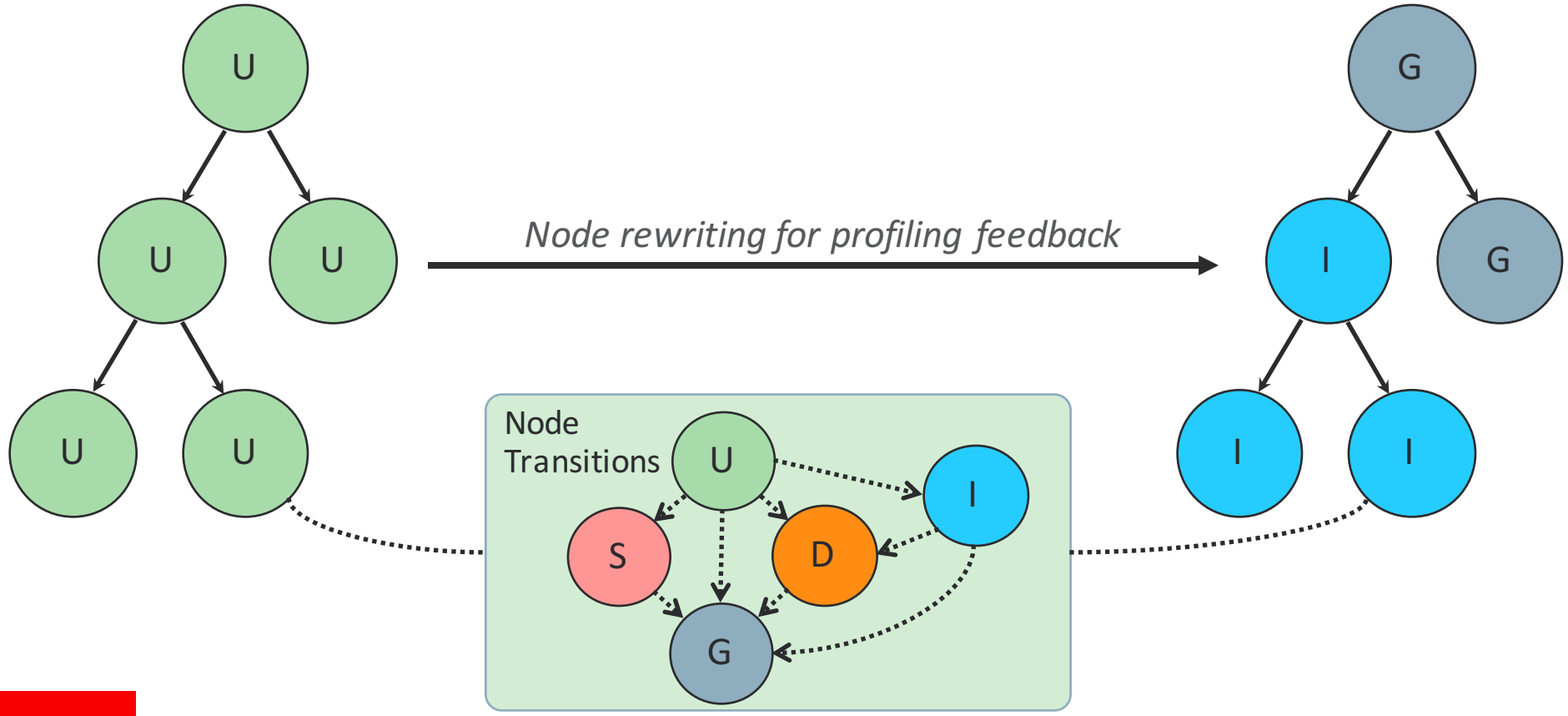
```
// Sample program (arg[0] + arg[1]) + arg[2]
sample = new Add(new Add(new Arg(0), new Arg(1)), new Arg(2));
```

```
int interpret(int[] args) {
  return args[0] + args[1] + args[2];
}
```

Truffle

- A Language Implementation Framework that uses Graal for Custom Compilation

```
// Sample program (arg[0] + arg[1]) + arg[2]
```



Truffle

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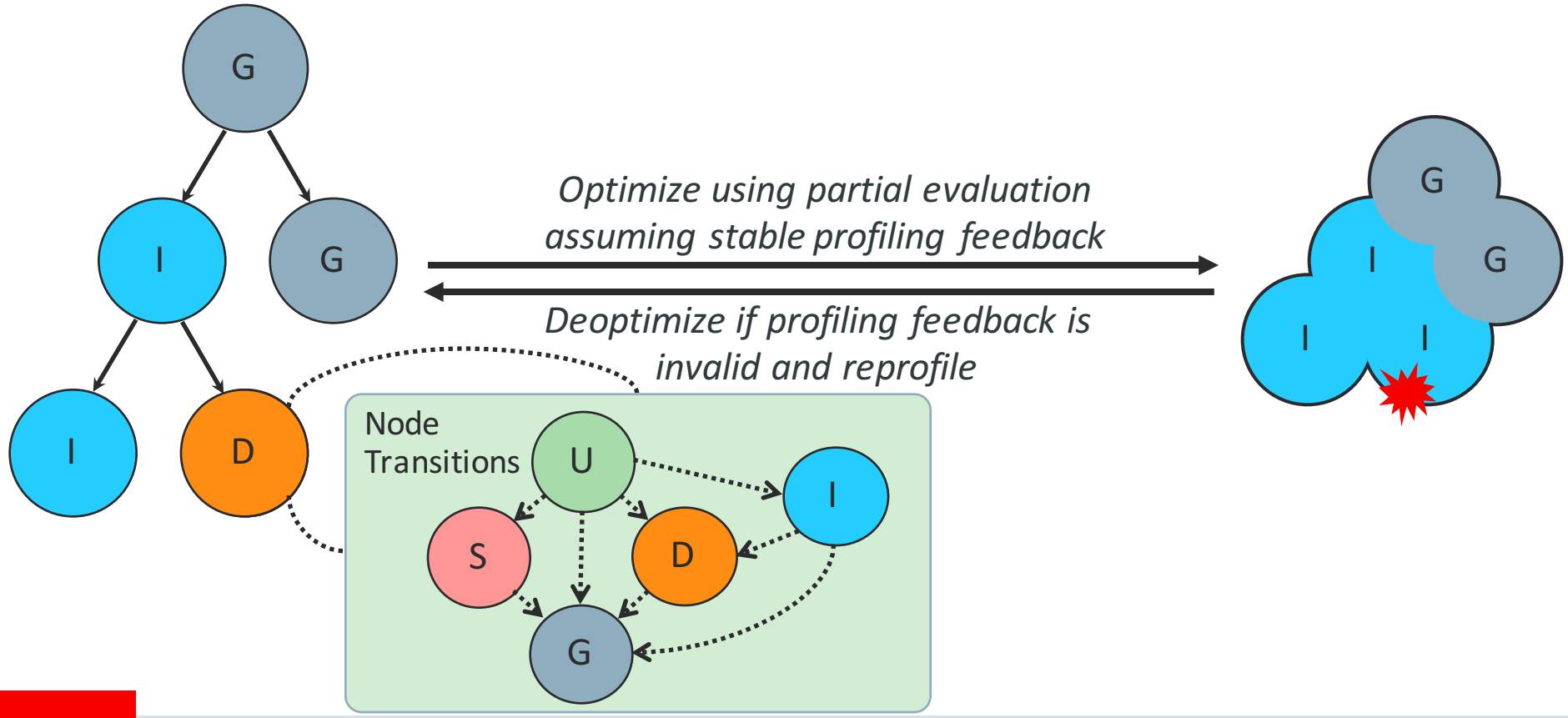

Truffle

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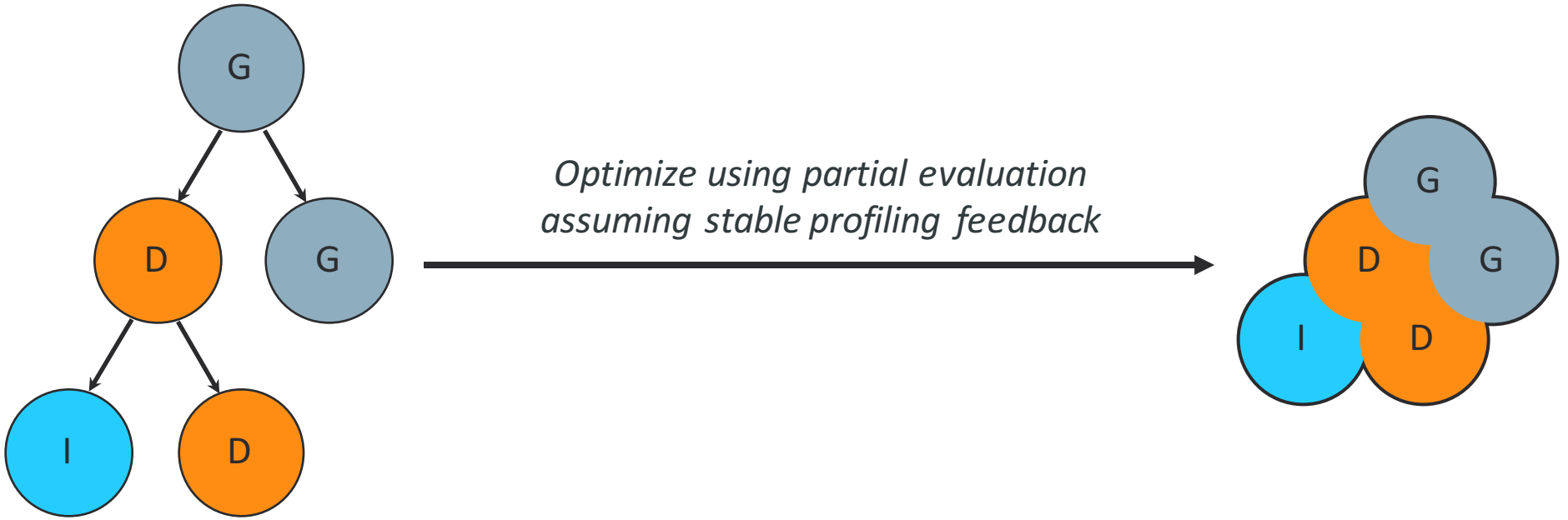
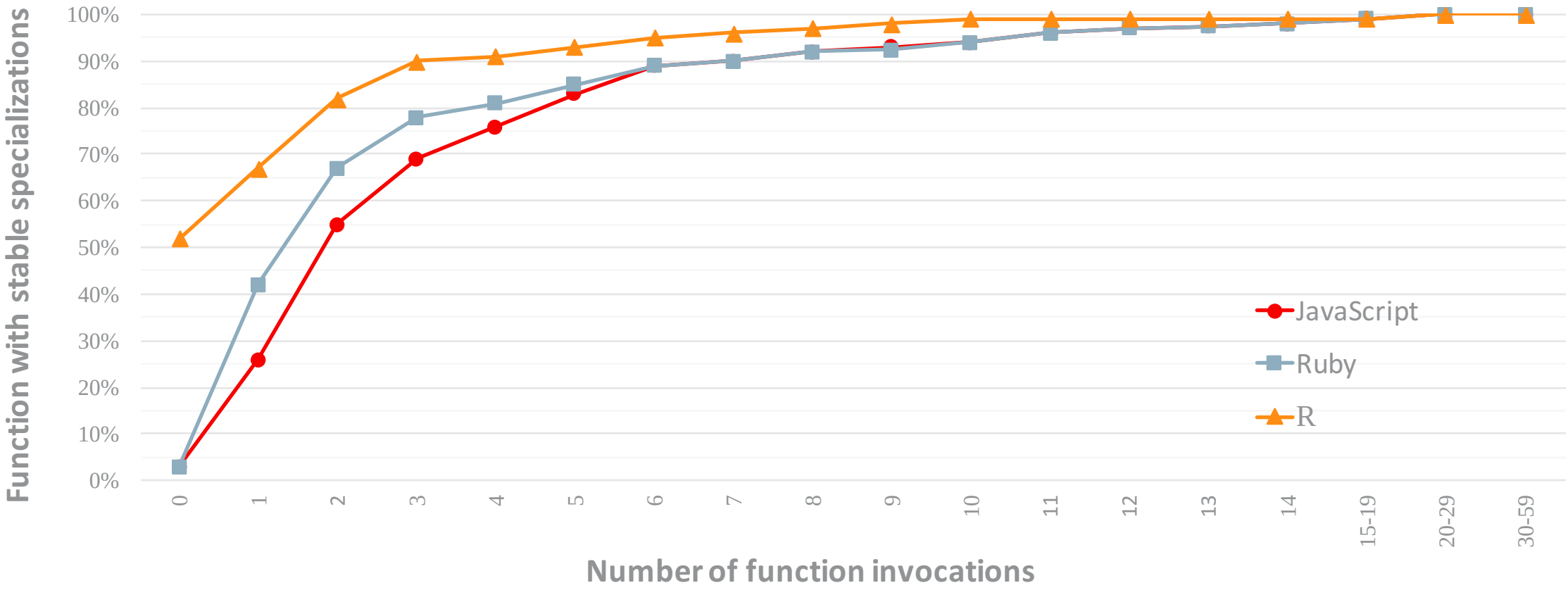


Stability



Substrate VM

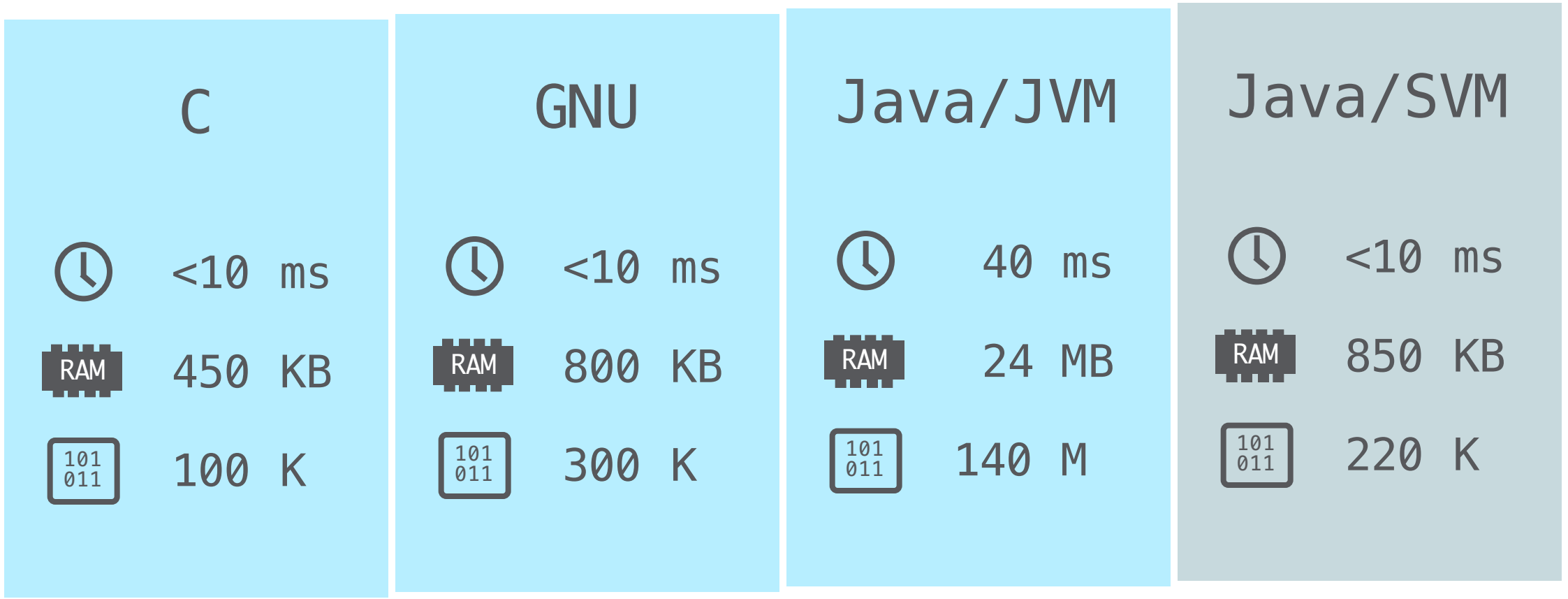
Static Analysis and Ahead-of-Time Compilation using Graal

All Java classes from application, JDK, and Substrate VM

Reachable methods, fields, and classes

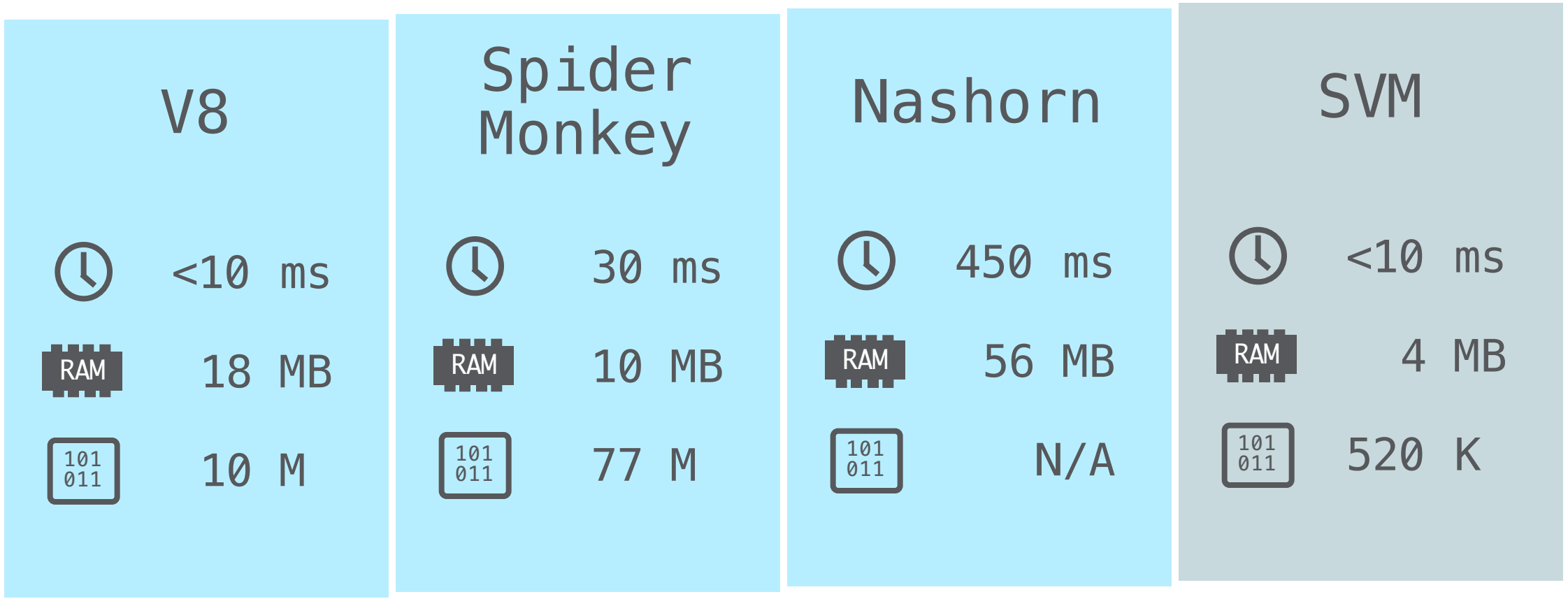
Application running without dependency on JDK and without Java class loading

"Hello World" in C, Java



* *Operating system*: **Linux**; *Time,* Memory: **/usr/bin/time** ... ; *Instructions*: **valgrind** --tool=callgrind ...;

"Hello World" in JavaScript



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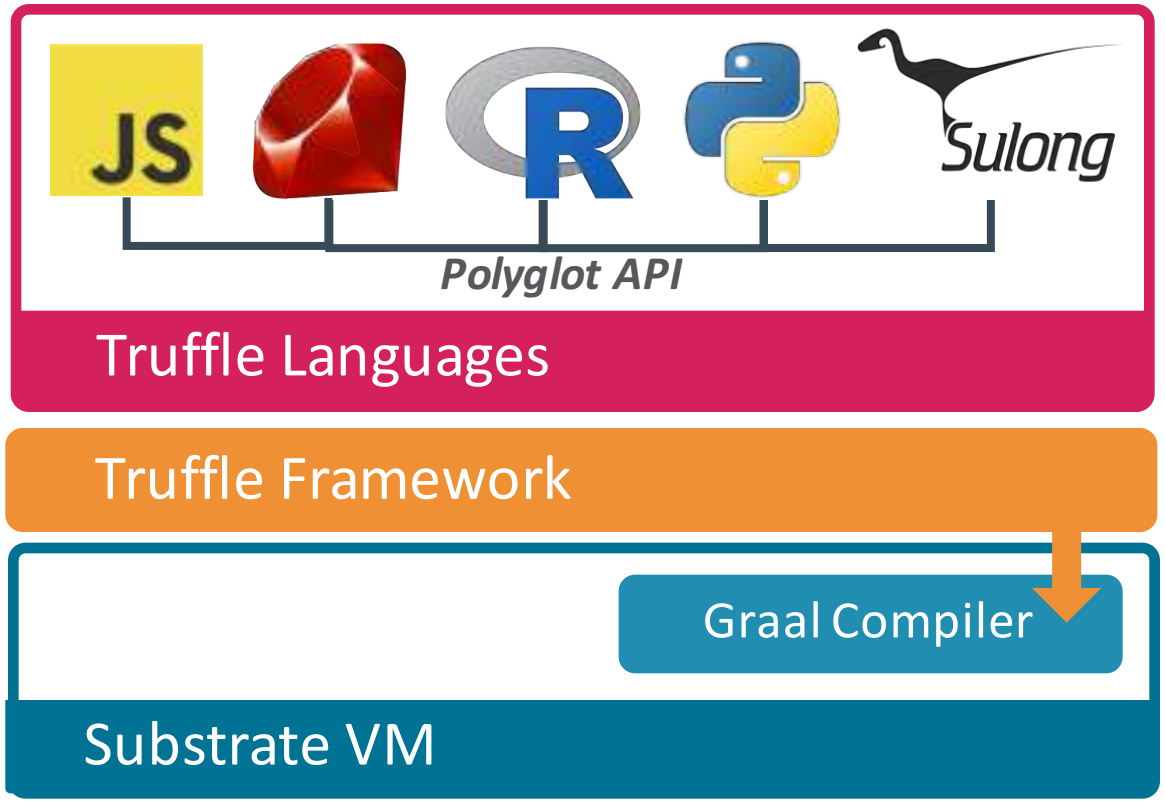
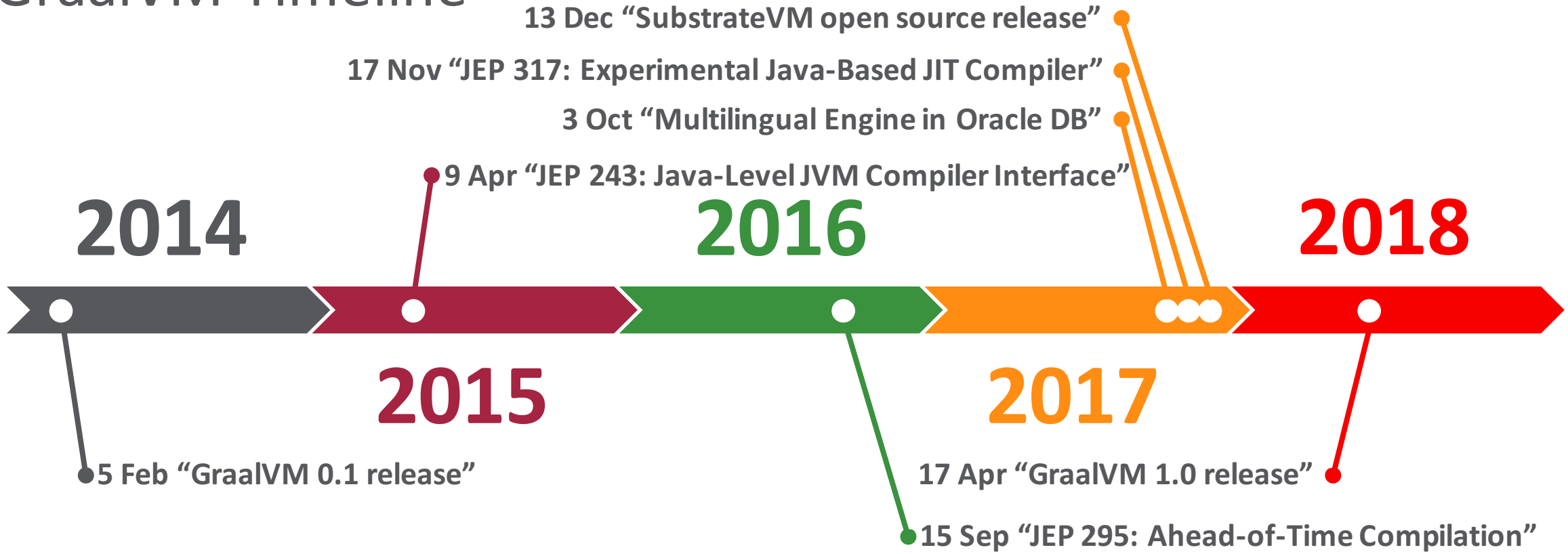
Embeddability



* http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/database/multilingual-engine/downloads/index.html

Summary

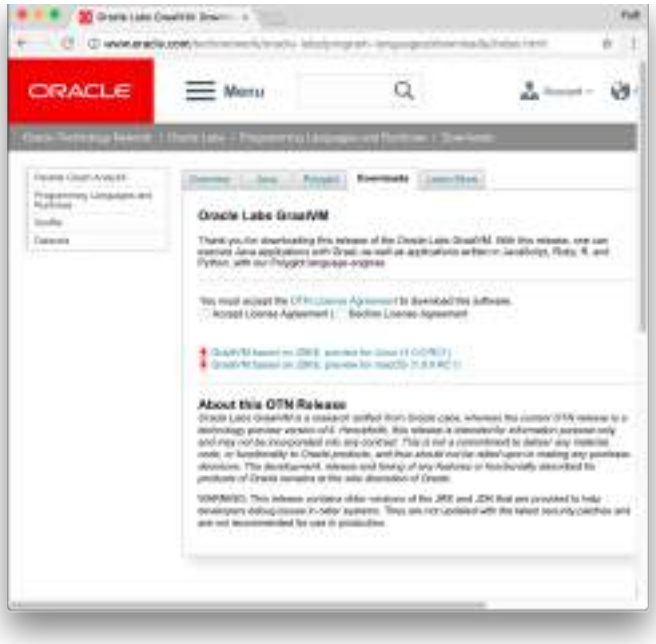
GraalVM Timeline



Get Started

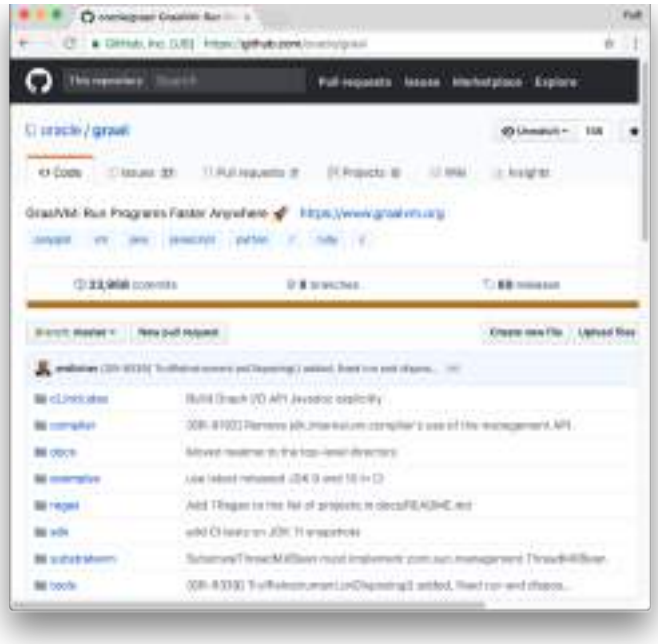
Documentation

https://www.graalvm.org/



Enterprise Release

Search for “OTN Graal”



Open source on GitHub

https://github.com/oracle/graal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