Use of Java / JVM at Twitter

tprintezis@twitter.com



#JCP EC Twitter reps

Tony Printezis

- VM Team | Infrastructure Org | Twitter
- ex-HotSpot (Sun / Oracle, 6+ years), ex-SunLabs (3+ years)

Ramki Ramakrishna

- VM Team | Infrastructure Org | Twitter
- ex-HotSpot (Sun / Oracle, 10+ years)



#Twitter



#Twitter: the short version

#Platform
#RealTime



#Twitter: services

- A #huge distributed system
 - huge number of machines running a huge number of JVMs
 - multiple data centers
 - services communicate with other services via RPC
 - typically, many JVMs per service
- Most services run on
 - CentOS Linux distribution (x64)
 - OpenJDK distribution (TwitterJDK)
 - Mesos (data center scheduling)
 - Finagle (async RPC for Scala / Java)



#Twitter: programming languages

server-side

- Scala (most used by far)
- Java
- Ruby (moving away from it...)
- C/C++ (a bit)
- Python (a bit)



#Twitter: Java libraries

- We rely heavily on
 - NIO
 - collections
 - concurrent collections
 - concurrent utilities
 - etc.



#TwitterJDK



#TwitterJDK: vm team

- Infrastructure Org
- Responsible for releasing, maintaining, customizing, improving
 - TwitterJDK
- Developer support
 - consultancy
 - troubleshooting
 - education



#TwitterJDK: why?

Why deploy our own JDK?

- Commercial support wouldn't work for us
 - too expensive
 - too slow
- OpenJDK development is slow
 - dreadfully slow process
 - change turnaround feels like eternity
 - current development repo is JDK 9, months / years away
 - backports to JDK 8: slow turnaround
- We believe we can support ourselves best

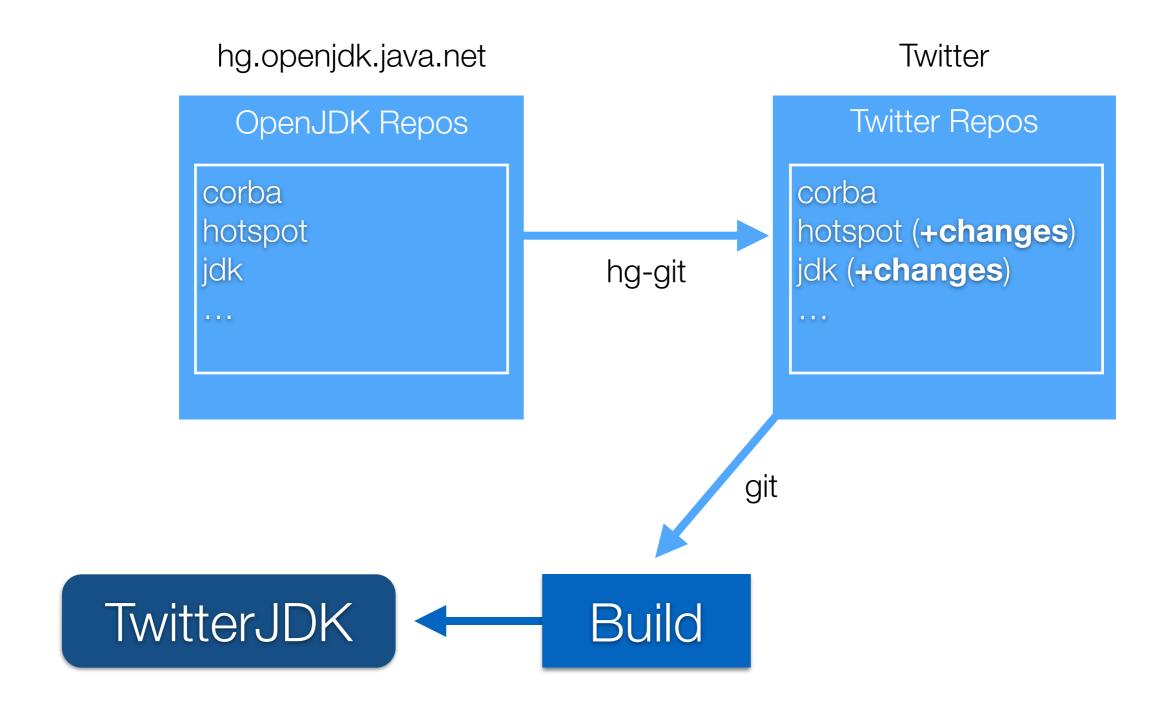


#TwitterJDK: pushing the limits

- We push the JVM's limits more than most
 - large heaps
 - huge scale
 - strict latency requirements
- Optimize for our stack
 - Scala, Finagle, CentOS, x64, etc.
- Optimize for our workloads
 - quite different vs. most other JVM workloads I'm familiar with



#TwitterJDK: release





#TwitterJDK: release

- Based on OpenJDK
 - Synced up to the latest update release
 - leverage all OpenJDK testing
 - Plus our own changes
 - which we'll be happy to contribute back BTW...
 - Plus (small number of) additional patches (e.g., security / critical fixes)
- Monthly releases
- Current main release
 - JDK 8 / Tiered Compilation / 64-bit / CentOS



#TwitterJDK: enhancements

- Heap Profiling
- Binary Logging Framework (JVM + Java tracepoints)
- Intermediate Generation(s) for G1 GC
- Misc Bug / Performance Fixes
- Mostly in HotSpot + a few small patches to the JDK libraries



#Questions

