

# Realtime Java for Industrial and Critical Applications



Andy Walter  
Director of Sales, aicas GmbH  
June 2006

## The aicas group

- aicas GmbH was founded in March 2001 out of the FZI and the University of Karlsruhe in Karlsruhe, Germany
- Bringing object oriented technology to realtime and embedded systems
- aicas incorporated was founded in February 2005 in New Haven, CT to better serve the US market.



# aicas' partners

## Research



Fraunhofer Institut Integrierte Schaltungen

## Operating Systems



**WIND RIVER**



## Industrial

**BECKHOFF**



**MicroSys**



**TQ components**

## Trainings



**RP-Cube**

# Selected aicas Customers

**KEBA**<sup>®</sup>

Automation by innovation.

 **MULTIVAC**  
BETTER PACKAGING

| **Saurer**

**SICK**

Sensor Intelligence.

**SIEMENS**

**USTER**<sup>®</sup>  
Think quality

 **BOEING**<sup>®</sup>

 **EADS**

 **JAXA**  
Japan Aerospace  
Exploration Agency

 **esa** 

**THALES**

# aicas Resellers and Sales Offices

Value Added Reseller:



Canada



France:



Germany: GmbH



Japan: Japan



Space Domain:



USA: Incorporated



# Embedded Realtime Applications



Examples:

industrial automation, avionic/satellite,  
automotive, telecom, medical, ...

# Competitive Advantages

- Time to Market
- Reliability
- Flexibility
  - Look and feel
  - Extensibility
- Reuse
- Platform independence

## Java in Embedded Systems?

- Traditional Java systems have
  - High memory requirements
  - Poor runtime performance
  - Pauses during execution due to GC
    - Poor user interface feedback
    - Unacceptable for realtime, especially mission critical and safety critical systems
- JamaicaVM was designed for small, embedded realtime systems

## JamaicaVM in Embedded Systems!

- Static Compiler Technology with Profiling
  - Faster Code
  - Better time vs. space trade off
- Smart Linking
  - Only include what is necessary
- Deterministic Garbage Collection
  - GC does not interrupt other (realtime) tasks
  - No pauses in the application

# Aeronautics Example

- JamaicaVM takes off:
- EADS' Barracuda had it's first flight in May 2006



# Aerospace Example

## Java solution for Satellites



Result of a project with ESA and EADS Astrium



Partnership with EADS Astrium in Toulouse

# Aeronautics Example



- JamaicaVM selected for use in the Boeing 787 Dreamliner
- First milestone reached on time



# Industrial Automation Example

SIEMENS A&D

# SIEMENS

Siemens licensed the JamaicaVM for Industrial automation.

- Several Simotion Drive products use JamaicaVM

## Java Libraries

- Java provides many Standard Libraries:
  - Networking
  - Common data structures (Hash tables, trees, etc.)
  - Graphics
  - File I/O (incl. ZIPs)
- Many additional libraries available:
  - E.g., Bouncy Castle (free Crypto Library)

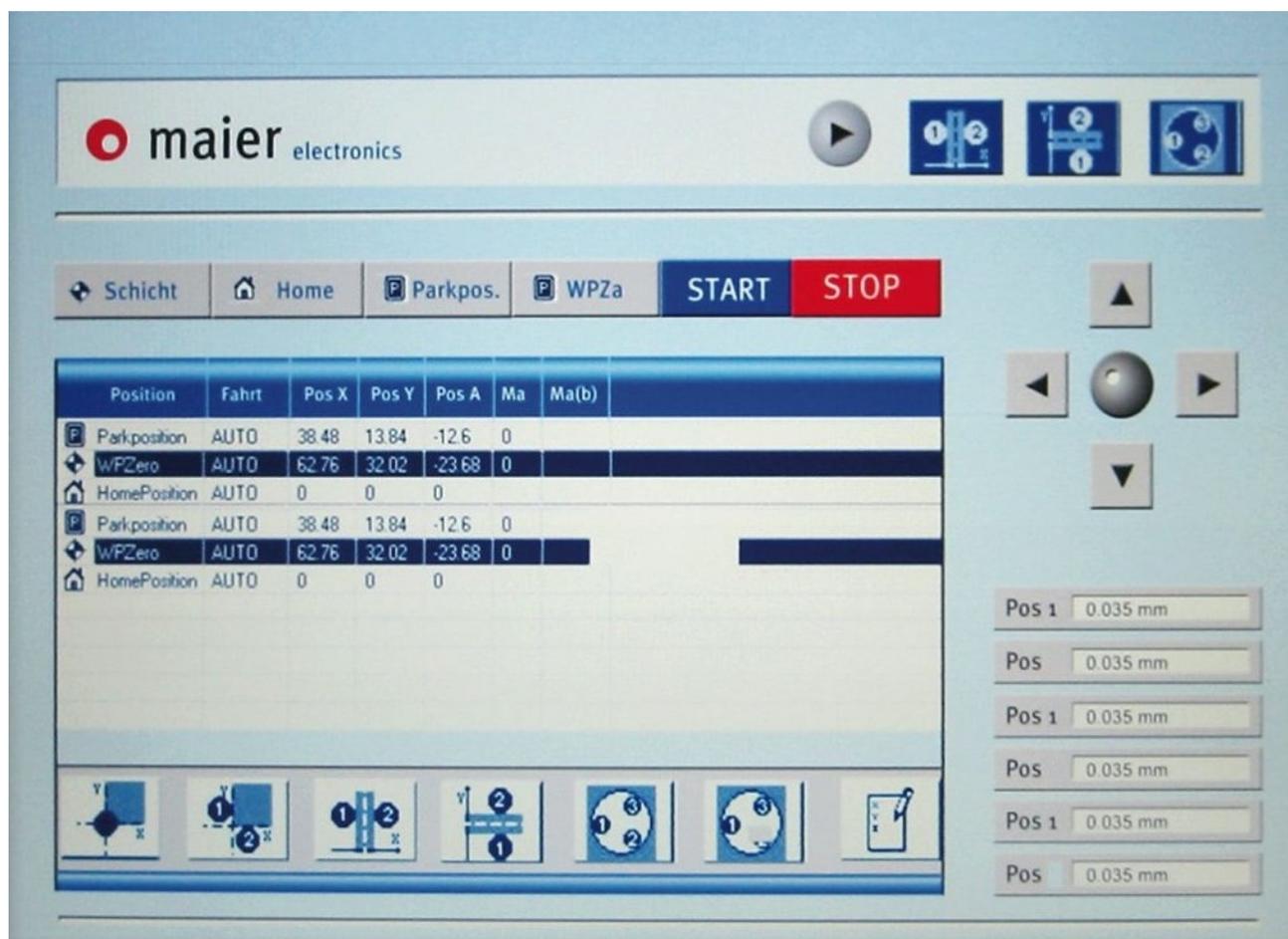
## Visualisation with Java

- Very Flexible
- Your Corporate Identity can be used
- Looks identical after OS or CPU change
- With JamaicaVM:
  - Fast response time
  - No stopping

# Visualisation with Java



# Visualisation with Java



maier electronics

Schicht Home Parkpos. WPZa **START** STOP

| Position     | Fahrt | Pos X | Pos Y | Pos A  | Ma | Ma(b) |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|----|-------|
| Parkposition | AUTO  | 38.48 | 13.84 | -12.6  | 0  |       |
| WPZero       | AUTO  | 62.76 | 32.02 | -23.68 | 0  |       |
| HomePosition | AUTO  | 0     | 0     | 0      |    |       |
| Parkposition | AUTO  | 38.48 | 13.84 | -12.6  | 0  |       |
| WPZero       | AUTO  | 62.76 | 32.02 | -23.68 | 0  |       |
| HomePosition | AUTO  | 0     | 0     | 0      |    |       |

Pos 1 0.035 mm  
 Pos 0.035 mm  
 Pos 1 0.035 mm  
 Pos 0.035 mm  
 Pos 1 0.035 mm  
 Pos 0.035 mm

# Visualisation Java

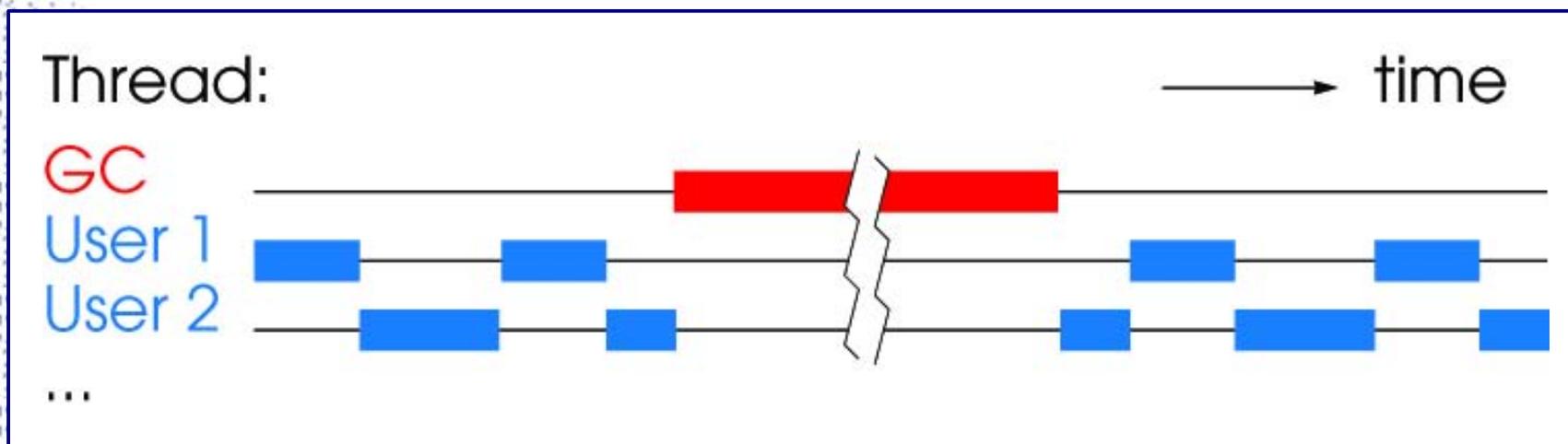


# Memory Garbage Collection

- Saves Development Time:
  - No need to release objects explicitly
- Is safe:
  - Lowers the danger of memory leaks Removal of living objects doesn't happen

# Classic Garbage Collector

GC can stop execution for long periods of time:

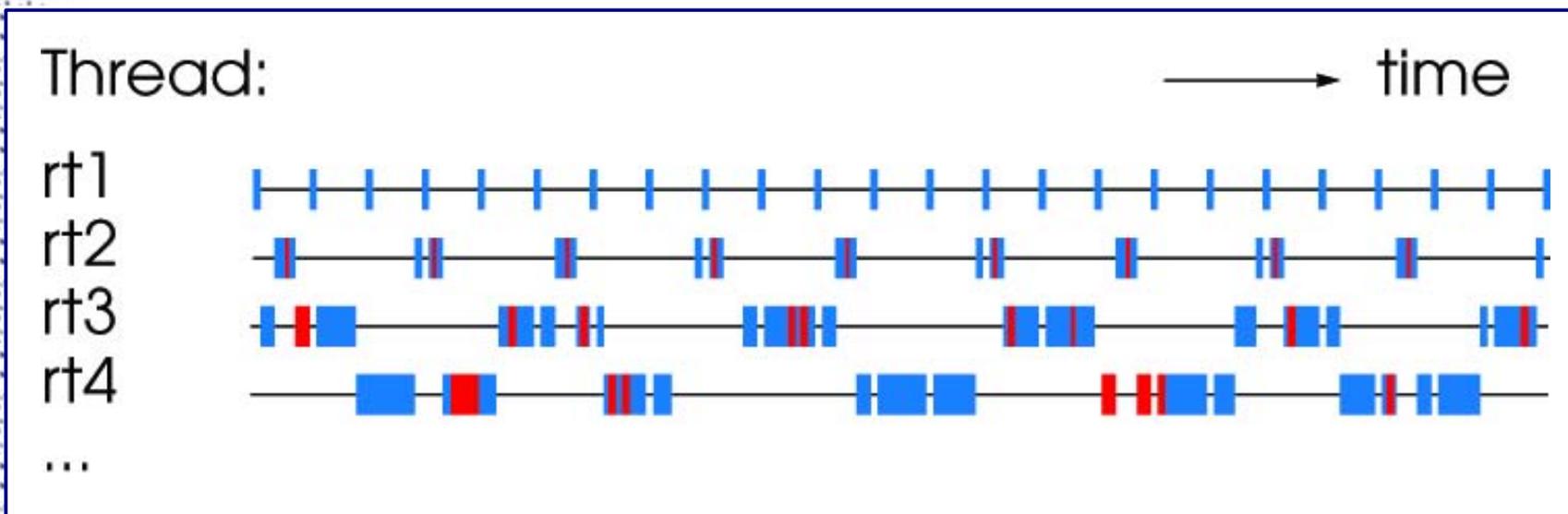


Problem:

long, unpredictable pauses

# Realtime Garbage Collection

All Java-Threads must be realtime threads:



- GC-work is performed at allocation time
- GC-work must be sufficient to recycle enough memory before free memory is exhausted
- WCET for memory allocation is required

## Realtime Specification for Java (RTSJ)

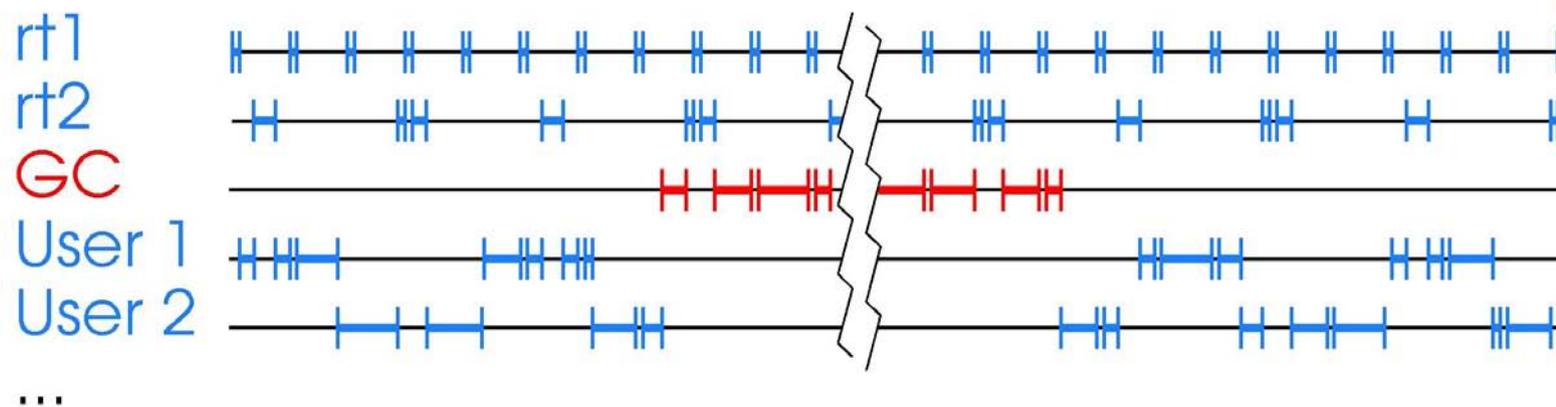
- Official Java Community Specification (JCP)
- Access of specific memory areas possible
- Accurate clocks and timers (ns)
- Asynchronous Control Flow
- Asynchronous Event Handlers ("Interrupt Handler")
- Priority Ceiling
- Priority Inheritance
- Can be implemented based on Standard JVMs

# Garbage Collection in RTSJ

- Realtime application with RTSJ

Thread:

→ time



- Separation of realtime- and non-realtime part
- No direct synchronisation possible
- No Garbage Collection in realtime threads

# Memory Reclamation without GC

## ScopedMemory

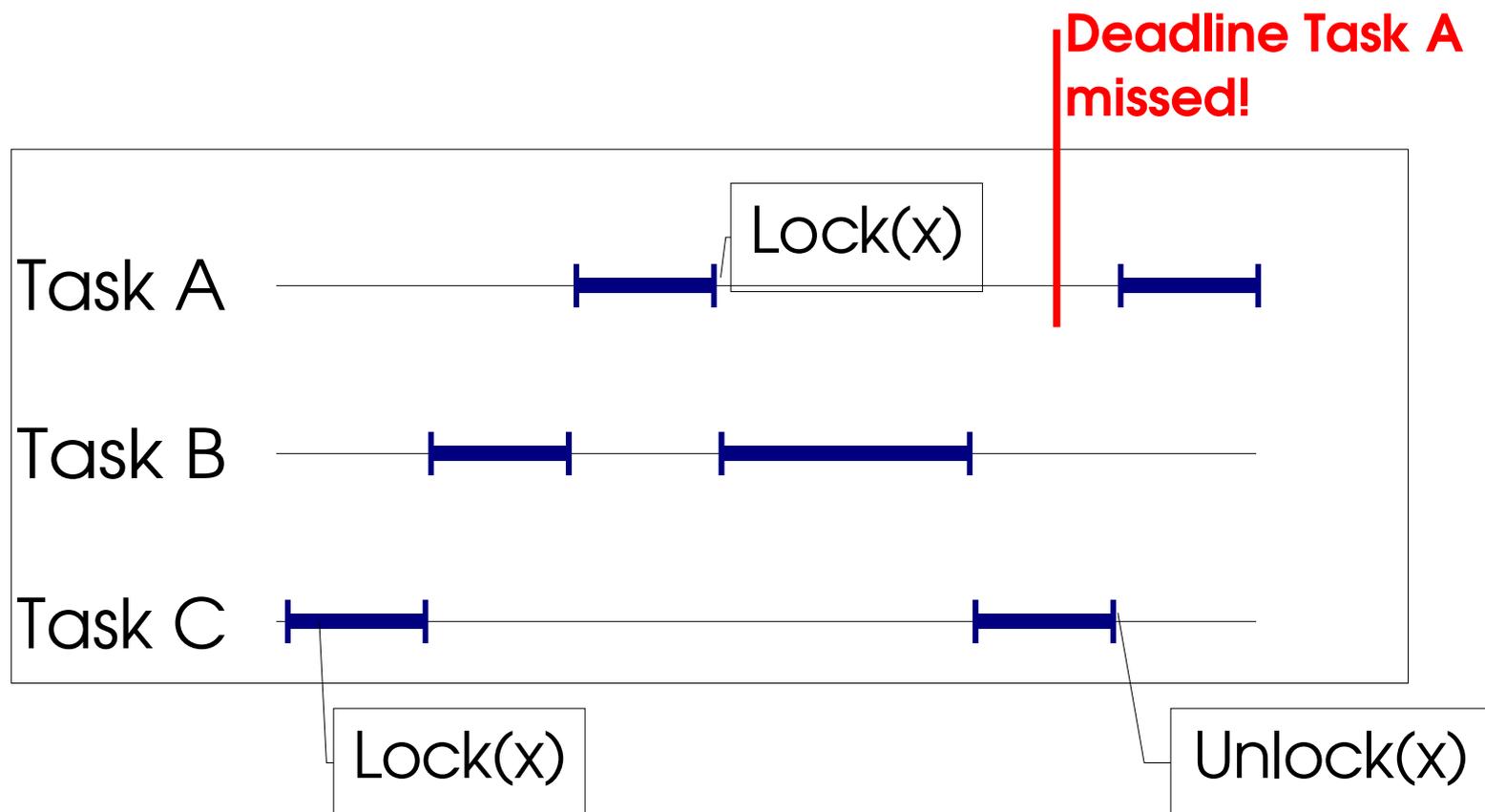
- region based memory management
- only active if entered explicitly
- memory is reclaimed automatically when exited
- Avoiding dangling and false references
- assignment rules prohibit creation of potential dangling references
- IllegalAssignmentError if assignment rule violated

## Access to Physical Memory

- `RawMemoryAccess` for getting and setting bytes of physical memory
  - Reading memory mapped sensors
  - Device control
- `LTPhysicalMemory` and `VTPhysicalMemory` for mapping Java object to special memory areas
  - Make special memory available for Java objects, e.g. fast memory.

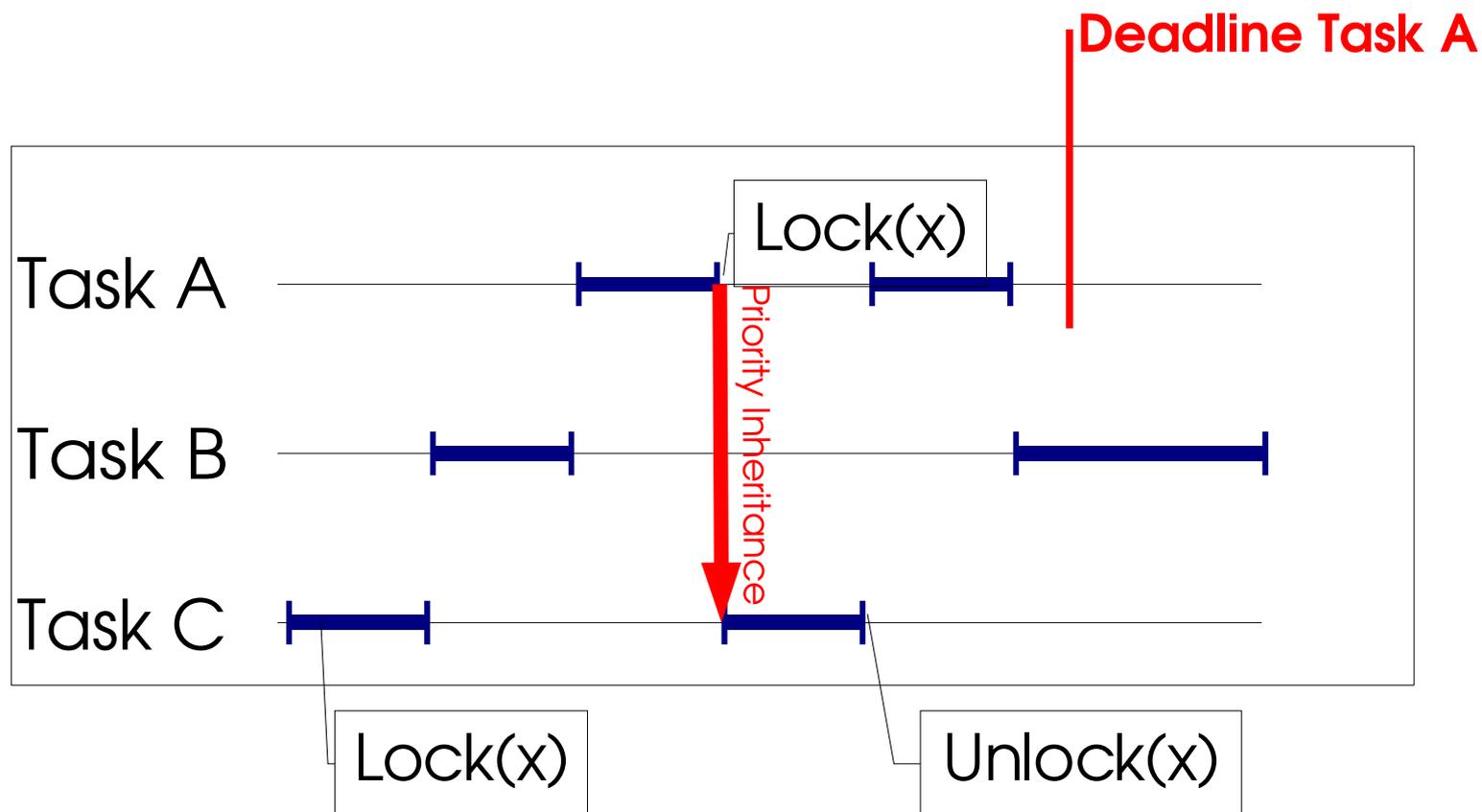
# Synchronisation

Priority Inversion can be problematic



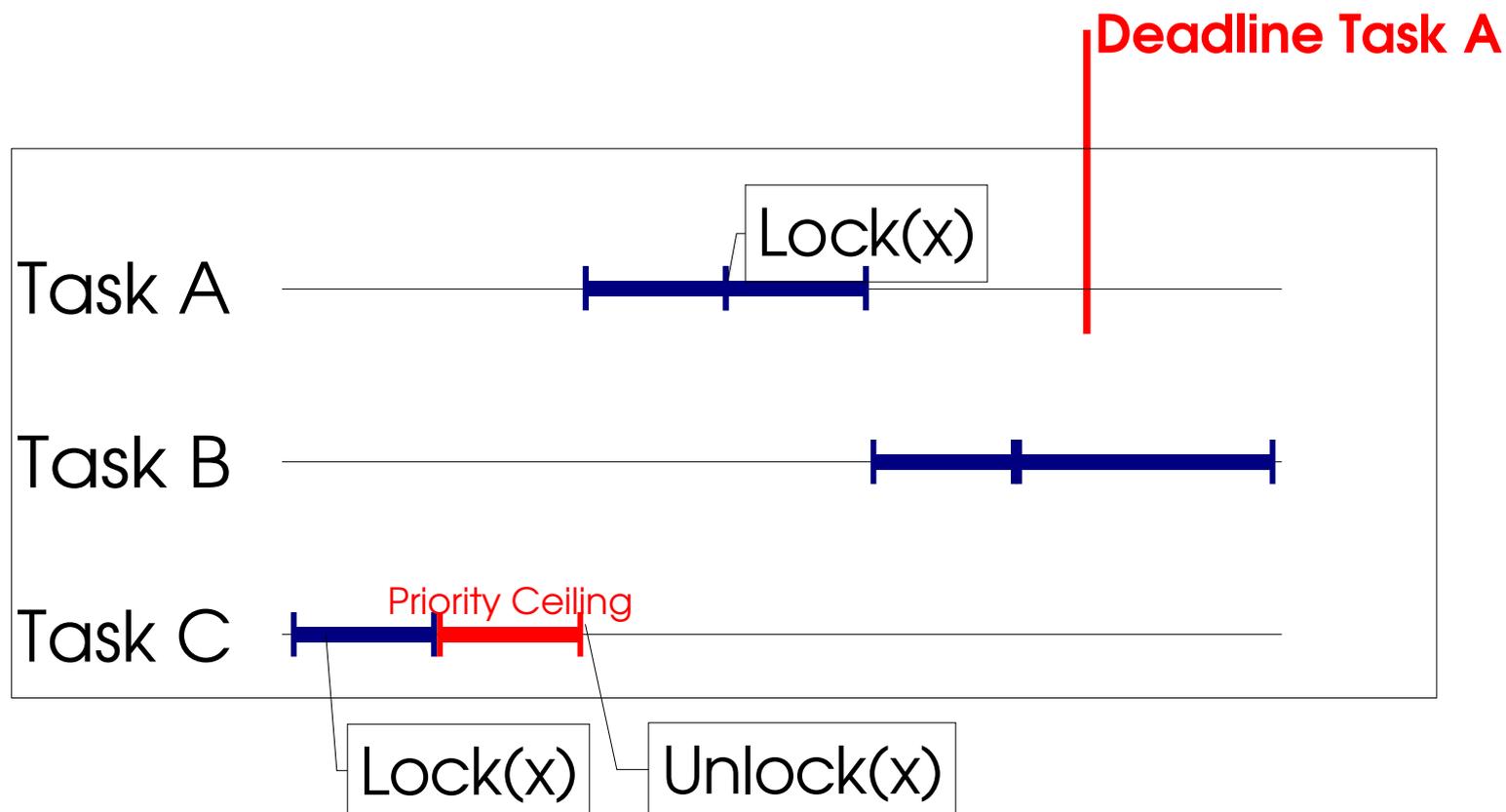
# Synchronization

## Priority Inheritance



# Synchronisation

## Priority Ceiling



# Priority Inheritance vs Priority Ceiling

## Priority Inheritance

- + Does not need any user configuration
- Deadlock can occur

## Priority Ceiling

- + Is inherently deadlock free
- Requires manual selection of ceiling priority
- may block threads more often than needed

## Asynchronous Event Handlers

- Bind `Schedulable` object to an event for immediate processing upon reception
- Provides an additional processing paradigm besides `RealtimeThreads`
- Light weight (>10,000 possible)
- Executed in a thread context but need not be bound to one

## RTSJ & Realtime Garbage Collection

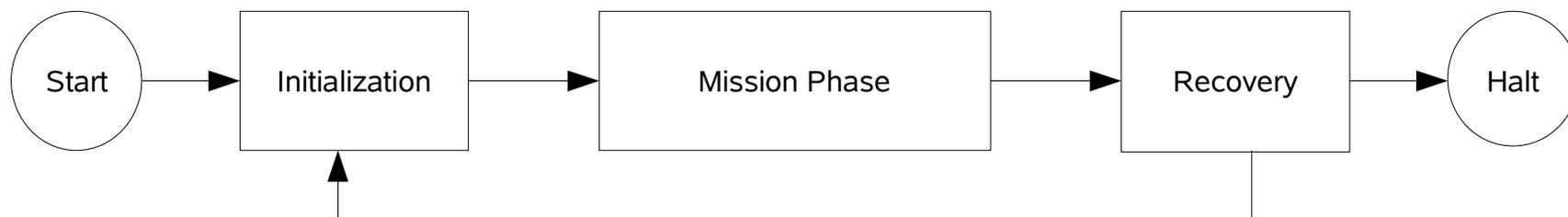
- The RTSJ provides necessary features for realtime programming
- Memory area restrictions can be relaxed
  - Can use `RealtimeThread` instead of `NoHeapRealtimeThread`
  - Heap allocation possible in realtime code
  - Synchronization possible with non realtime tasks without GC interference
  - GC does not interrupt thread execution

## New: Safety Critical Java (SCJava)

- Aim: Java Subset, DO-178B, Lv. A certifiable
- OpenGroup Consortium with members aicas, Aonix, Boeing, Lockheed-Martin, Raytheon, SUN, Thales and many others
- Votes for aicas' specification proposal: 83%
- Will be base for JSR (Java Specification Request) within the Java Community
- SCJava will be closely related to RTSJ

# SCJava Proposal

- Only RealtimeThreads are allowed
- No heap objects/ no GC
- Object allocation in initialisation phase only



- Thread priorities may not be changed
- Always priority ceiling emulation
- OutOfMemoryError may not occur
- Shared Objects must be annotated

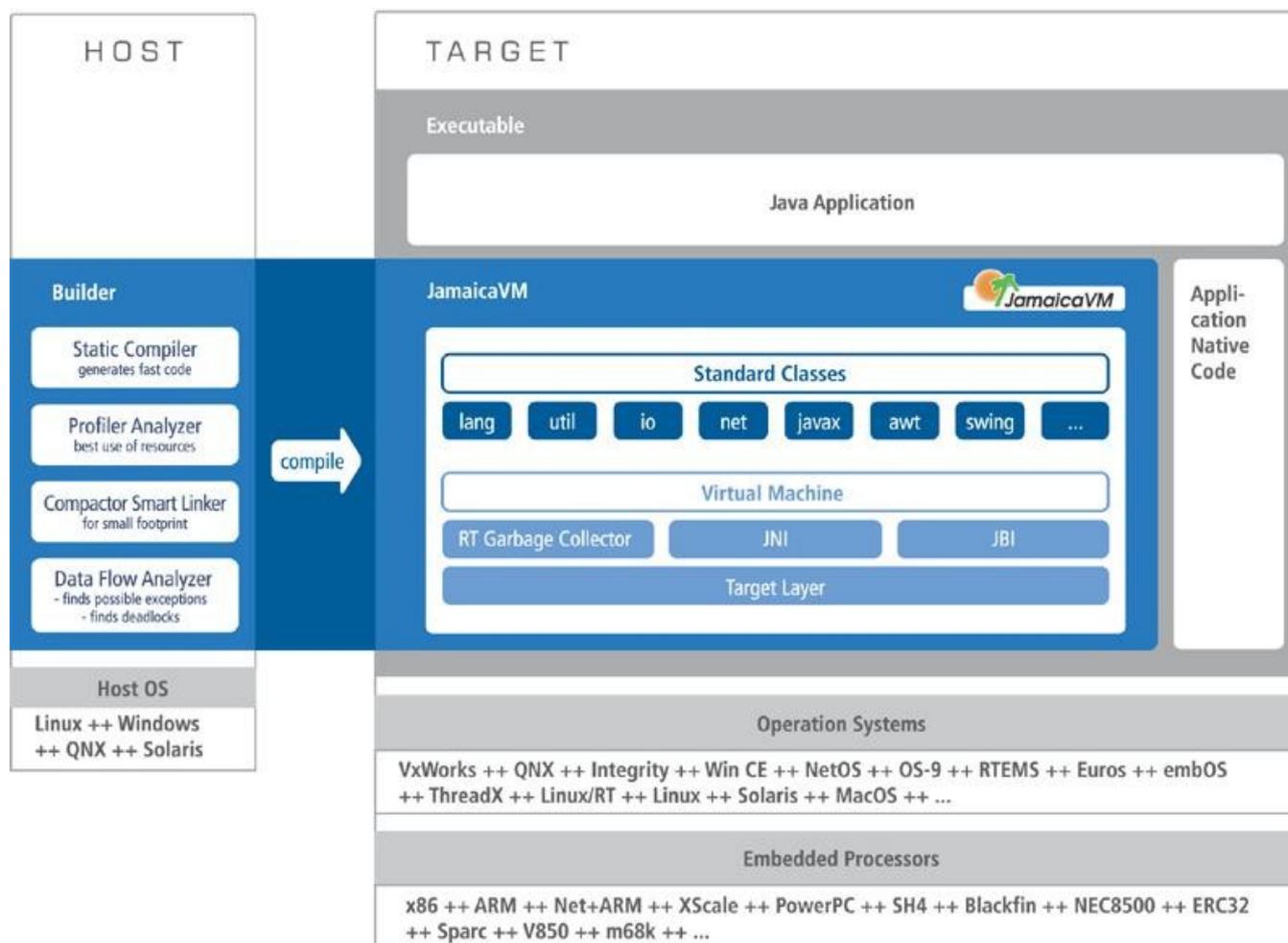
## Class Libraries for SCJava

- Base: CLDC (IMP - Information Module Profile) with
  - Floating point support
  - Error Handling
  - JNI
  - RTSJ-Subset (javax.realtime)

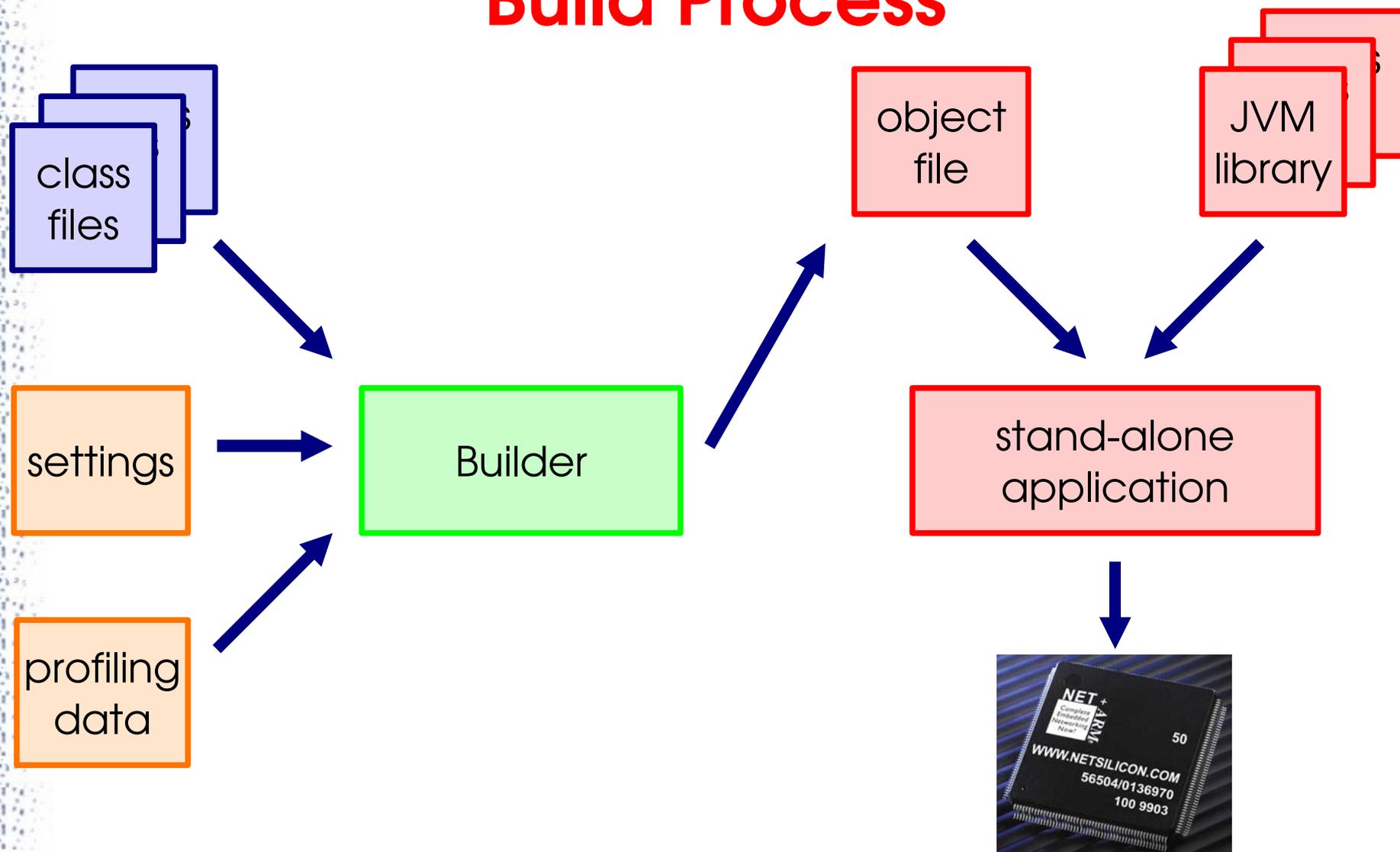
==> circa: lang, reflect, io, net, util, and realtime

- Exact library set has not been fixed
- Super sets for DO-178B, Level B and C will be specified.

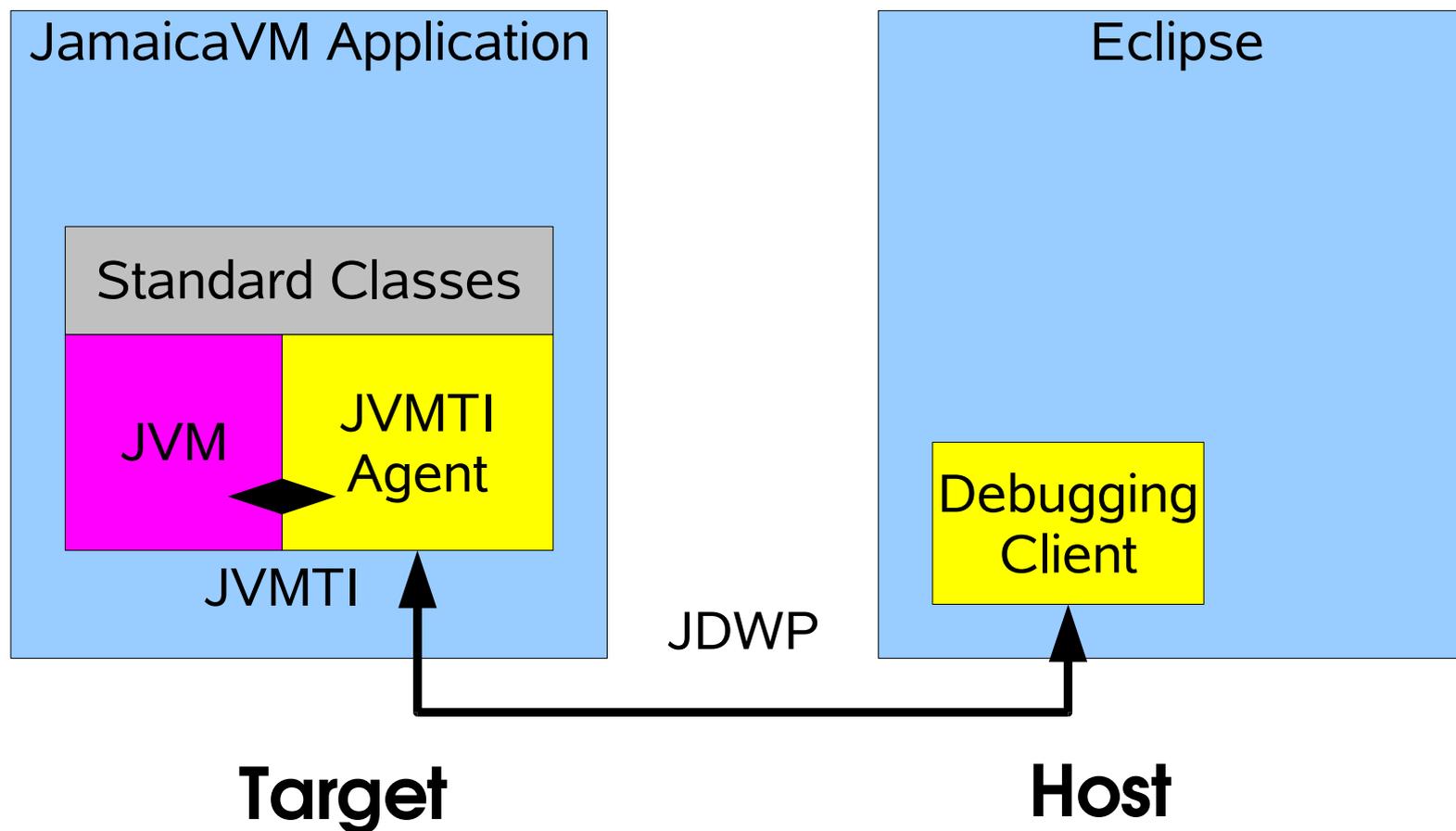
# The JamaicaVM Toolset Overview



# Build Process



# Debugging and Monitoring in Java



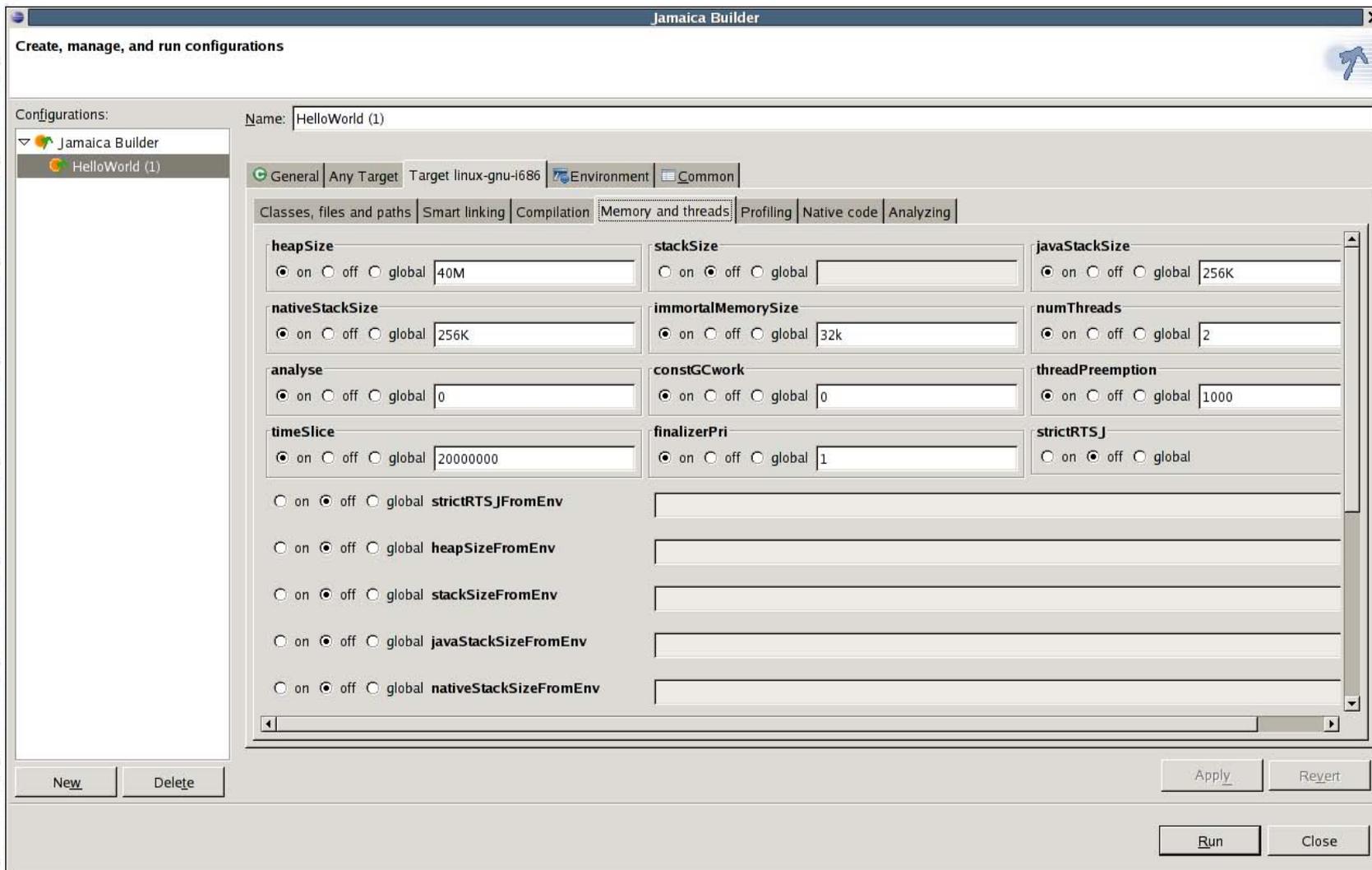
## Debugging Capabilities

- Set breakpoints
- Stop and start threads
- Stepping
  - by byte code or line
  - into and out of methods
- Examine variables, objects, their fields, and array elements.

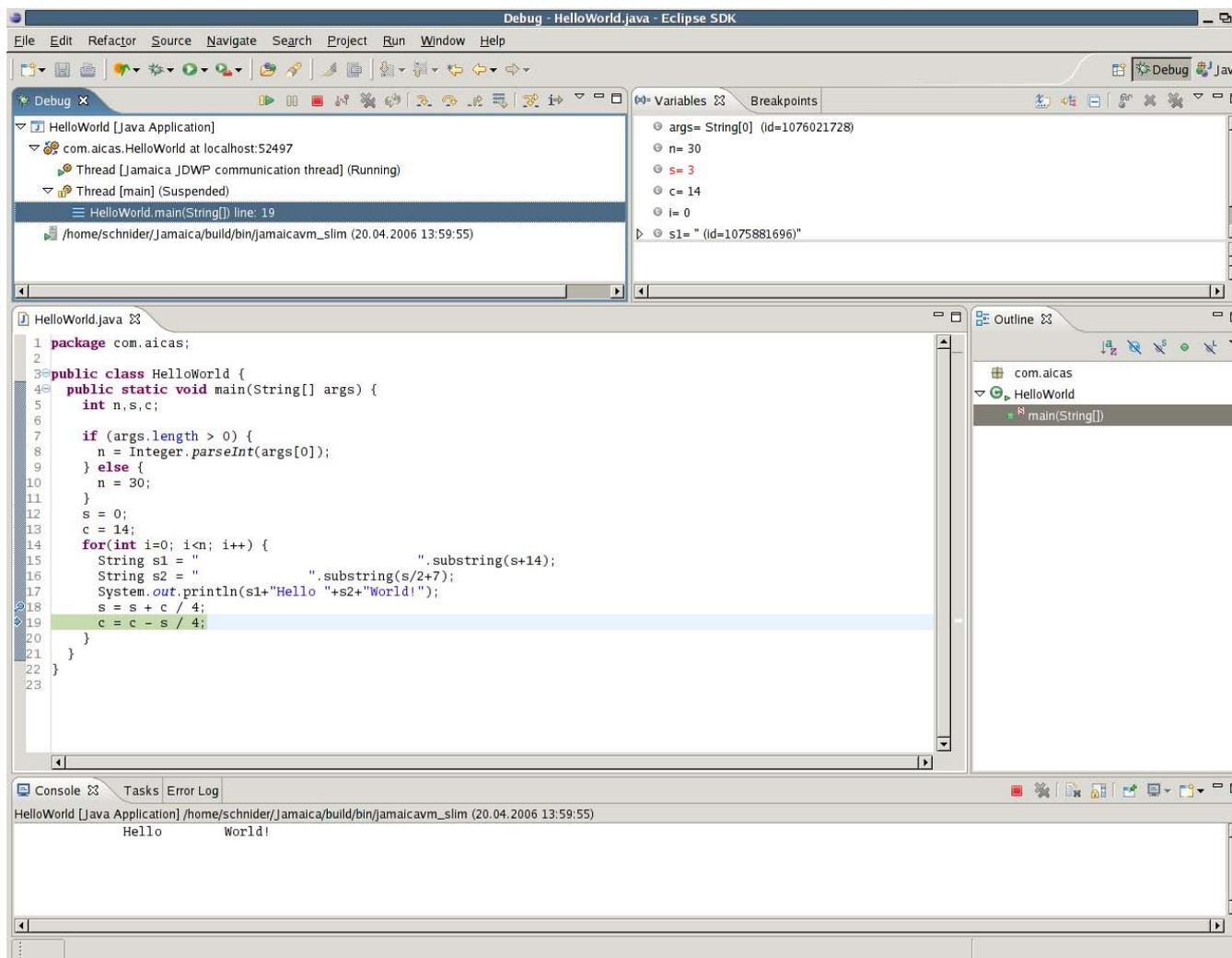
## Debug Cycle

- Edit code in Eclipse
- Build executable w/ JamaicaVM Plug-in
- Download onto target
- Start executable
- Control application with debugger
  - Set breakpoints
  - Step and examine objects and variables
  - Continue execution

# The JamaicaVM Builder Plugin



# Eclipse Debugger & JamaicaVM



# Data Flow Analysis

Additional tools can detect

- many runtime errors
  - Possible exceptions
  - Possible Deadlocks
- maximum stack usage

# Runtime Errors

```
...  
if (device instanceof MyDevice  
{  
    MySensor s = (MySensor) device.sensor;  
  
    int value = s.reading();  
  
    ...  
}  
...
```

# Runtime Errors

```
...  
if (device instanceof MyDevice)  
{  
    MySensor s = (MySensor) device.sensor;  
  
    int value = s.reading();  
  
    ...  
}  
...
```

**NullPointerException**

# Runtime Errors

```
...  
if (device instanceof MyDevice)  
{  
    MySensor s = (MySensor) device.sensor;  
    int value = s.reading();  
    ...  
}  
...
```

**NullPointerException**

**ClassCastException**

# Runtime Errors

```

...
if (device instanceof MyDevice)
{
    MySensor s = (MySensor) device.sensor;
                                NullPointerException
                                ClassCastException

    int value = s.reading();
                    NullPointerException
    ...
}
...

```

# Runtime Errors

```

...
                                device != null
if (device instanceof MyDevice)
{
    MySensor s = (MySensor) device.sensor;
                                NullPointerException
                                ClassCastException
    int value = s.reading();
                                NullPointerException
    ...
}
...

```

# Runtime Errors

```

...
                                device != null
if (device instanceof MyDevice)
{
    MySensor s = (MySensor) device.sensor;
                                NullPointerException
                                ClassCastException
    int value = s.reading();
                                NullPointerException
    ...
}
...

```

# Runtime Errors

```

...
    device != null
    if (device instanceof MyDevice)
    {
        MySensor s = (MySensor) device.sensor;
        int value = s.reading();
    }
...

```

Annotations in the code:

- A blue oval around `(device instanceof MyDevice)` has an arrow pointing to the text `device != null`.
- A red circle around `(MySensor)` has an arrow pointing to the text `ClassCastException`.
- A green circle around `device.sensor` has an arrow pointing to the text `NullPointerException ✓`.
- A red circle around `s.reading()` has an arrow pointing to the text `NullPointerException`.

# Runtime Errors

```

...
if (device instanceof MyDevice)
{
    MySensor s = (MySensor) device.sensor;
    int value = s.reading();
    ...
}
...

```

**NullPointerException ✓** (circled in green)

**ClassCastException** (circled in red)

**NullPointerException** (circled in red)

# Runtime Errors

```

...
if (device instanceof MyDevice)
{
    MySensor s = (MySensor) device.sensor;
    int value = s.reading();
    ...
}
...

```

**NullPointerException ✓**

**ClassCastException**

**NullPointerException**

values(MyDevice.sensor)  
contains only MySensor

# Runtime Errors

```

...
if (device instanceof MyDevice)
{
    MySensor s = (MySensor) device.sensor;
    int value = s.reading();
    ...
}
...

```

ClassCastException

NullPointerException ✓

values(MyDevice.sensor) contains only MySensor

NullPointerException

# Runtime Errors

```

...
if (device instanceof MyDevice)
{
    MySensor s = (MySensor) device.sensor;
    int value = s.reading();
    ...
}
...

```

NullPointerException ✓  
ClassCastException ✓  
NullPointerException

values(MyDevice.sensor) contains only MySensor

# Runtime Errors

```

...
if (device instanceof MyDevice)
{
    MySensor s = (MySensor) device.sensor;
    int value = s.reading();
    ...
}
...

```

NullPointerException ✓  
ClassCastException ✓  
NullPointerException

# Runtime Errors

```

...
if (device instanceof MyDevice)
{
    MySensor s = (MySensor) device.sensor;
    int value = s.reading();
}
...

```

NullPointerException ✓  
ClassCastException ✓ null ≠ values(MyDevice.sensor)  
NullPointerException

# Runtime Errors

```

...
if (device instanceof MyDevice)
{
    MySensor s = (MySensor) device.sensor;
    int value = s.reading();
}
...

```

NullPointerException ✓  
ClassCastException ✓ null ≠ values(MyDevice.sensor)  
NullPointerException

# Runtime Errors

```

...
if (device instanceof MyDevice)
{
    MySensor s = (MySensor) device.sensor;
    int value = s.reading();
    ...
}
...

```

NullPointerException ✓  
ClassCastException ✓ null ≠ values(MyDevice.sensor)  
NullPointerException ✓

# Runtime Errors

```

...
if (device instanceof MyDevice)
{
    MySensor s = (MySensor) device.sensor;
                                NullPointerException ✓
                                ClassCastException ✓

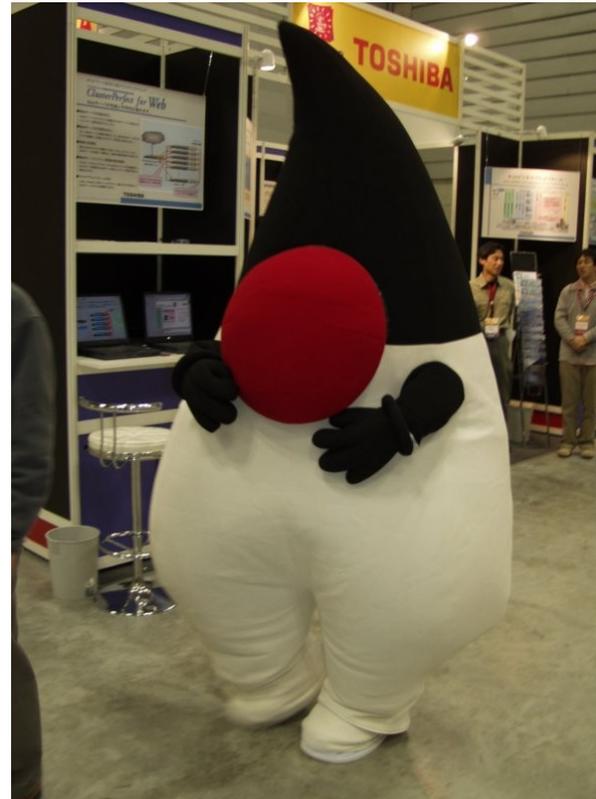
    int value = s.reading();
                    NullPointerException ✓
    ...
}
...

```

# Java in Device Systems

- Java brings
  - Higher productivity (Stand Libraries, Code Reuse)
  - Platform independence
  - Robustness (type and pointer safety)
  - Flexibility





**Thank you for your attention!**