JazzScheme: Evolution of a Lisp-Based Development System

> Guillaume Cartier Louis-Julien Guillemette SFP 2010

Outline

- What is JazzScheme?
- Why JazzScheme?
- Some applications
- History
 - Port from C++ to Gambit
- Jedi IDE
- Future work

Why JazzScheme?

Good question!



- Little Lisper
- Lisp machines
 - Complete programming environment
- Common Lisp
 - Macintosh Common Lisp
- Scheme
- Prisme (1990) (screenshots)
 - Highly graphical applications for real-life clients
 - Full access to the source code of the system



�



Load done.

0

Prisme Program

4

What is JazzScheme?

Development system based on **Scheme** and **Gambit**

- Module system
- Hygienic macros
- Object-oriented programming
- Optional typing
- Cross-platform UI based on Cairo
- Binaries for Mac OS X, Windows and Linux
- Lisp-based IDE

Why (contd.)

- Build commercial software in Lisp
- Promote Lisp
 - Not by trying to convince people of its advantages
 - By creating a Lisp-based development system to write complex applications that would have been extremely difficult to develop using main stream languages (time, cost, feasibility, ...)

Requirements

- Year 1998
- Large-scale enterprise development support
- Open-source
- Built entirely in its own language

Built entirely in Lisp

• Rapid development cycle

- High-level language and tools
- Only one language to learn and master
- Fast evolution
- Live by your word
 - New features & optimisations
 - Constant testing
 - Tribute to Lisp
- Openness to the community

Some applications

- MetaModeler
 - Database modeling
- Scheduler (screenshot)
 - Automated rule-based scheduler for hospitals
- Uranos
 - Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)
- Jedi
 - Lisp-based IDE all written in Jazz

Scheduler Explore	r - MCH-block	c13-up	dated	l.ssb															_	8 ×	
File Edit Simulation Window Help															8 ×						
🗈 🖻 🖁 🕹 🖻																					
x 🖇 🎾 🧳 👗															2						
User	#0 N	lax	Fail 🔺	Rule	ule 🔺									Attribute							
🗉 💁 Al-Ahmadi, Turki 75 60				-	4	🛿 War	d-sr						K Surgery								
🗄 💁 Al-Backer, Nouf 0 0 60					4	SER	-sr					🖳 Weekend 👘									
🗄 👲 Al-Fares, Ahmed	45	90	-	4	1 9C						-		🔛 Night 🗾 🚽								
* 🍫 🥬						I	>	9. (En	8	1	ar	@Ye	ellow	:Mon	18 -	dep	th 49] 📫	×	
Shift	Period	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22 -	
PICU-9D	17:00 - 08:00	MS	RAS	1616	MS	RAS	1616	MS	VH	RAS	MS	VH	RAS	2839	VH	2740	2988	2740	2740	280:	
NICU-9C	17:00 - 08:00	TAA	9C	IA	1543	ZAI	TAA	IA	9C	TAA	9C	9C	ZAI	TAA	IA	ZAI	9C	2884	3247	330(
RVH/JGH	17:00 - 08:00	1247								1298		1276			į,	1273	1276				
Ward sr	08:00 - 20:00	WAM	PL	WAM	PL	WAM	1616	WAM	PL	WAM	PL	WAM	PL	1564	PL	WAM	PL	WAM	PL	WAN	
NF	20:00 - 08:00	SAZ	SAZ	SAZ	1799	SAZ	SAZ	1616	RF	1833	RF	RF	RF	RF	1564	SAZ	SAZ	SAZ	1819	SAZ	
Blue	17:00 - 08:00	1715	1782	AR	КН	EST	AR	КН	1588	EST	КН	1564	AR	EST	КH	1561	EST	1561	1585	AR	
Yellow	17:00 - 08:00	SS	AAF	OA	SS	AAF	1276	SS	OA	3027	2970	СТ	OA	AAF	1276	3585	3475	3475	СТ	347!	
ER senior Day	08:00 - 17:00	1669	1669	1744	1748	1748	1748	1744	1748	1767	1671	1767	1771	1771	1767	1744	1744	1670	1679	167!	
ER senior Evening	17:00 - 00:00	1669	1744	1744	1748	1744	1744	1744	1744	1679	1767	1767	1771	1767	1767	1744	1744	1679	1679	168:	
ER senior Night	23:00 - 08:00	MW	ZAS	HV	MAG	MAG	NF	NF	MAG	л	ZAS	ZAS	MW	HV	HV		л	MW			
FR senior Night (float)	23:00 - 08:00													n i		1561			AB	1708	
Variable Value							Name						Result Value								
• dirty? #f						.											ù.		1		
attribute-weights	<unbound< td=""><td>1></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>_</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></unbound<>	1>				_															
• rank 2																					
decisions {Vector {@Scheduler-Decision Al-Back																					
							-														

<0> Alkandari, Omar@Yellow:Mon 18 - depth 49

Birth of "classic" Jazz

Year 1998
C++-based

Birth of JazzScheme

- Year 2006
- Meeting Marc Feeley
- Jazz becomes open-source JazzScheme
- Scheme-based
 - (Chicken, PLT, Bigloo but not Gambit!)
- Port to Gambit

Why Gambit?

- Lightweight, high-quality Scheme implementation
- Conformance (R5RS and IEEE Scheme standards)
- Portability
- Performance
- Reliability
- Debugging
- Rich API
 - C foreign-function interface
 - Lightweight thread system that can support millions of concurrent threads
 - Networking
 - Unicode support

Port to Gambit

- Scheme was just too great!
 - Jazz becomes a radically different language
- We ended up having to
 - Port the language from C++ to Gambit
 - Port the libraries to the new incompatible language
 - Port the UI code from Windows to X11 and Mac OS X
- Lisp's syntax saves the day
- Port
 - 200,000 lines of C++
 - 15,000 lines of Scheme

Optimisations

First working version

95x slower than C++-based Jazz

Statprof

- Statistical profiler used to identify all the hotspots
- The current version
 - Gambit-based kernel now faster than the old C++-based kernel

Class-of

- class-of
 - Edit definitions
 - Edit references
- %%class-of
 - Multi-scheme Jazz (Chicken, PLT, Bigloo)
- Back / forward navigation

The present

- Auphelia
 - Christian Perreault
 - QT vs Jazz
 - Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)
- Team
- Continuous evolution of the JazzScheme platform
- Part-time collaborators
 - Marc Feeley
 - Alex Shinn



- Project
- Remote debugger
 - Backtrace
 - Inspect variable
 - Dynamic redefinition



- Code walker
 - Compile time highlight of errors
- Snapshots
 - Uses the same debugger infrastructure as the Jazz, Gambit and SWANK debuggers
- Inspector
 - Full support for Gambit data types
- Profiler
- View explorer
 - F8 / Edit Action Handler on Start Profile

Future work

- Deterministic profiler
- Code coverage
- Console-based REPL
- Stepper
- Designer
- SWANK debugger

Resources

• Website: www.jazzscheme.org

- Documentation
- Tutorials
- FAQ
- Discussion Group
 - groups.google.com/group/jazzscheme
- IRC on Freenode
 - #jazzscheme
 - #gambit

Thank you!

Jazz as a macro

- Usual language development approach
 - Write a compiler that generates to a target language
 - Write the runtime support (GC, memory management, ...)
 - Write an interpreter (optional)
- As a macro
 - Reuse of all the work invested in Gambit
 - Written in a high-level language
 - Only a code walker needs to be developed
 - No performance penalty



- Find definitions & references
- Dynamic redefinition
- Incremental search
- Search & replace with IrRegex
- Syntax highlighting
- Clipboard ring
- Mouse copy
- Emacs