



The 2019 Edition of BSF4ooRexx

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Overview

- Brief history
- Bird-eye's view of BSF4ooRexx
- New Features in BSF4ooRexx 641.20190830
- Outlook
- Roundup
- Appendix: how to create a full JRE 11 from JDK 11 and OpenJavaFX 11?



Brief History, BSF4ooRexx, 1

- 2000/01: "BSF4Rexx"
 - Proof of concept at University Essen
 - Windows, OS/2
- Goals
 - Allow OS/2 Rexx programs to run on Windows, even GUI apps!
 - If possible extend to other operating systems
 - Run on all Rexx/SAA interpreters, last version:
 - 2008: <<http://wi.wu.ac.at/rgf/rexx/bsf4rexx/current/>>



Brief History, BSF4ooRexx, 2

- 2009: "BSF4ooRexx"
 - Exploiting new native ooRexx APIs introduced with the new kernel of ooRexx 4.0
 - Hence, *not* compatible with RexxSAA anymore!
 - Among many new features, that have become possible with the native ooRexx APIs, BSF4ooRexx allows to implement abstract Java methods with ooRexx (nifty for callbacks that get handled in Rexx)!
 - Abstract Java methods from Java interface classes can be fully implemented with ooRexx methods!
 - Java abstract classes can be extended by ooRexx classes!

Brief History, BSF4ooRexx, 3

- 2019: "BSF4ooRexx", some base information
 - Baseline for ooRexx: version **4.1**
 - Baseline for Java: version **6** (used to be the outdated version 1.4)
 - Hence BSF4ooRexx version "**641**.YYYYMMDD"
 - BSF4ooRexx kernel rewritten
 - Using `java.lang.reflect` and (new) `java.lang.invoke`
 - Allows Java **6**, **7**, **8** and new *modular* Java **9**, **10**, **11**, ...
 - Planned to be released in 2019

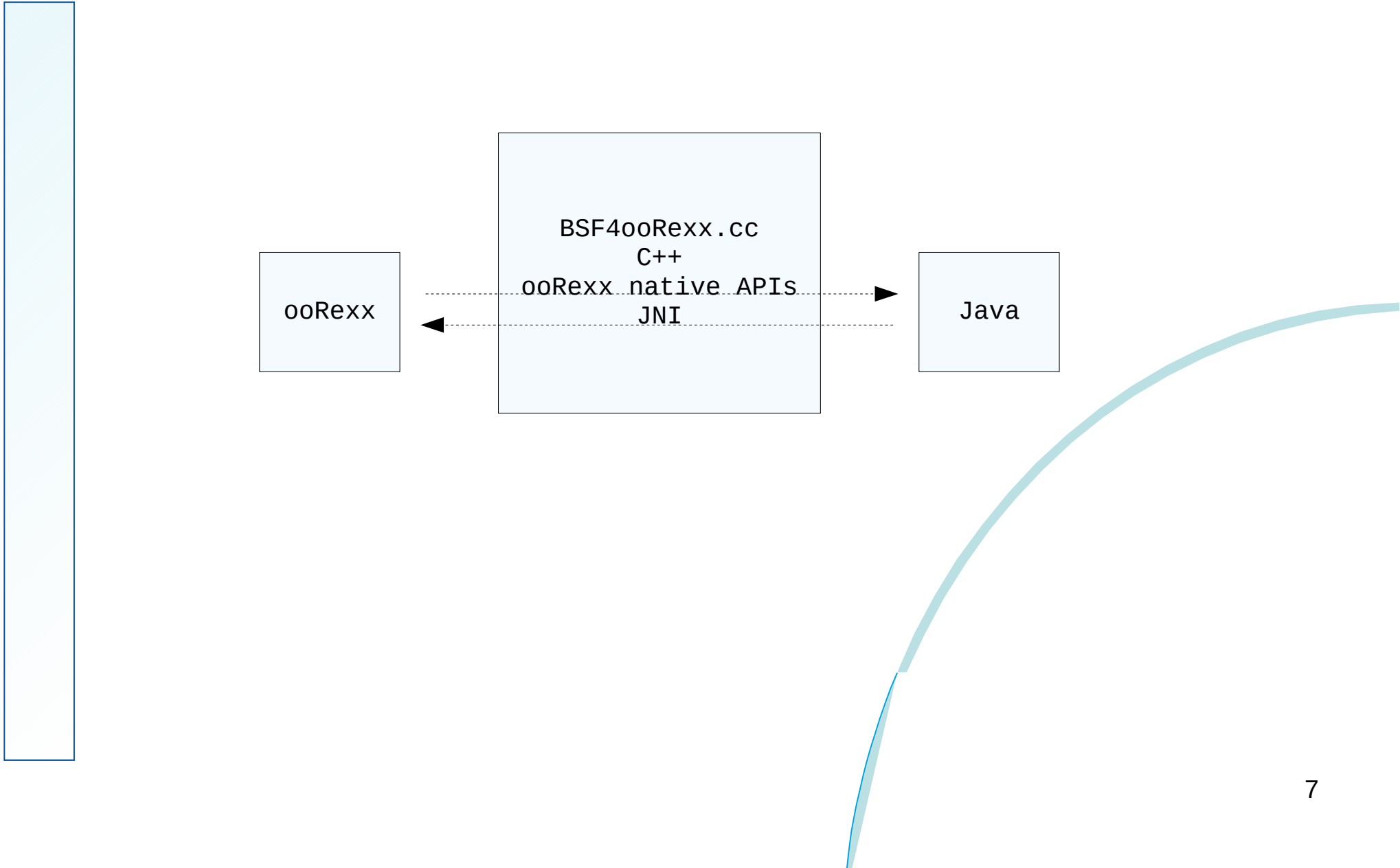


Bird-Eye's view of BSF4ooRexx, 1

- External ooRexx function package
 - C++ (ooRexx native APIs)
 - Maintains ooRexx objects for Java interaction in a registry
 - JNI (C++ bridge to Java)
 - Java ooRexx support package (set of Java classes)
 - Maintains Java objects for ooRexx interaction in a registry
 - ooRexx support package (program) **BSF.CLS**
 - Turns Java into a dynamic, message based language
 - Makes it easy for Rexx programmers to exploit Java



Bird-Eye's view of BSF4ooRexx, 2





Bird-Eye's view of BSF4ooRexx, 3

Example, 1

- Use the Java class `java.awt.Dimension`
 - Find documentation about that Java class on the net
 - All Java classes get documented in interlinked HTML pages!
 - Javadoc on the Internet, search for e.g.,
`java 11 javadoc java.awt.Dimension`
 - Could yield a link like
`https://docs.oracle.com/en/java/javase/11/docs/api/java.desktop/java/awt/Dimension.html`
 - Stores the `width` and `height` dimension
 - Has methods to change the field (attribute) values

Bird-Eye's view of BSF4ooRexx, 4

Example, 2

- An example

```
dim=.bsf~new("java.awt.Dimension", 123,456) -- create Dimension object
say "width: " dim~width -- get width value
say "height:" dim~height -- get height value
say "dim~toString:" pp(dim~toString) -- use Java method toString()
say
say "changing dimension to 777x888 ..."
dim~setSize(777,888) -- use Java method setSize(...)
say "width: " dim~width -- get width value
say "height:" dim~height -- get height value
say "dim~toString:" pp(dim~toString) -- use Java method toString()

::requires "BSF.CLS" -- get the Java bridge, camouflage Java as ooRexx
```

- Output

```
width: 123
height: 456
dim~toString: [java.awt.Dimension[width=123,height=456]]
```

```
changing dimension to 777x888 ...
width: 777
height: 888
dim~toString: [java.awt.Dimension[width=777,height=888]]
```



New Features in BSF4ooRexx, 1

- Most important changes and additions since the last International Rexx Symposium
 - For a complete list please consult the log entries in the files (located in the BSF4ooRexx install directory)
 - [changesBSF4ooRexx.txt](#)
 - [changesOOo.txt](#)
- Demonstration of some new features
 - With nutshell examples or pointing to sample programs installed with BSF4ooRexx
 - Hint: Load the file [samples/index.html](#) into your browser!



New Features in BSF4ooRexx, 2

Character Set Translations, 1

- New features in `BSF.CLS`
 - New public routine `bsf.iconv(str,fromCp,toCp)`
 - Allows character set translations of the string (`str`) from a given encoding (`fromCP`) to another encoding (`toCp`), returns supplied string (`str`) in the other encoding (`toCp`)
 - E.g. translating an 8-Bit Windows encoded string to UTF-16 encoding or vice-versa
 - Examples
 - List charsets available in your current JRE
`samples\1-040_list_charsets.rxj`
 - Demonstrate usage of `bsf.iconv(...)`
`samples\1-080_charsetTranslations.rxj`

New Features in BSF4ooRexx, 3

Character Set Translations, 2

- An example

```
str="hi," || "0d0a"x || "there!"      -- note CR-LF embedded
say "str:"                          -- show string
say "c2x(str):"                      -- show string in hex
strUtf16=bsf.iconv(str, "cp850", "utf-16") -- change to UTF-16
say "strUtf16:"                      -- show UTF-16 string
say "strUtf16~c2x:"                  -- show UTF-16 string in hex

::requires "BSF.CLS" -- get the Java bridge, camouflage Java as ooRexx
```

- Output (Windows, code page 850)

```
str:          [hi,
There! ]
c2x(str):     [68692C0D0A746865726521]
strUtf16:     [■ h i ,
t h e r e ! ]
strUtf16~c2x: [FEFF00680069002C000D000A007400680065007200650021]
```

BOM
(byte order mark)

New Features in BSF4ooRexx, 4

New Class "AwtGuiThread"

- New features in `BSF.CLS`
 - New public class `AwtGuiThread`
 - Class that allows to update `awt/swing` GUIs asynchronously
 - Exactly the same protocol as in the public class `FxGuiThread`
 - Cf. <http://www.rexxla.org/events/2018/schedule.html>
 - Slides+article: "The New BSF4ooRexx 6.00" and
 - Slides+article: "Anatomy of a GUI (Graphical User Interface) Application for Rexx Programmers"
 - Example
 - Demonstrate usage of `AwtGuiThread`
`samples\3-090_update_awtSwing_GUI-from-non-GUI-thread.rxj`
 - Example comparable to
`samples\javafx\javafx_update_GUI-from-non-GUI-thread.rxj`



New Features in BSF4ooRexx, 5

New Entries in **.BSF4Rexx** Directory

- New entries relating to BSF.CLS
 - **".bsf4rexx~boolean.true"**, **".bsf4rexx~boolean.false"**
 - Returns the cached `java.lang.Boolean` truth values
 - **".bsf4rexx~bsf.cls.fullPath"**
 - Returns the fully qualified path to BSF.CLS in use
 - **".bsf4rexx~bsf.cls.location"**
 - Returns the location of BSF.CLS in use
 - **".bsf4rexx~display.version"**
 - Returns a string with version information, e.g.,
"ooRexx 5.0.0 r11909 (30 Aug 2019) / BSF 641.20190830 / Java 1.8.0_171, 32-bit"
 - **".bsf4rexx~rexx.version"**
 - Returns the current Rexx version as a decimal number in the form "major.minor", e.g. "4.1", "4.2", "5.0"

New Features in BSF4ooRexx, 6

Context ClassLoader Related

- New features in `BSF.CLS`
 - New public routine `bsf.contextClassLoader([urlOrDirOrFileName | urlCollection])`
 - Without arguments
 - returns current Java thread context `ClassLoader`
 - With arguments
 - New Java `URLClassLoader` gets created that also looks up the supplied locations in addition
 - The current Java thread context `ClassLoader` gets set to the new one, which then gets returned by the routine
 - Examples
 - Sample that employs the new routine
`samples\JavaFX\fxm1_05\staff.rxj`

▼ New Features in BSF4ooRexx, 7

Box.StrictArg()

- New features in `BSF.CLS`
 - Added, just in case future class/type musings in future Java versions need this :-)
 - New public routine `box.strictArg(type,value[,bPrimitive])`
 - Allows to pick strictly by the supplied `type` using an instance of the new Java class `RexxStrictArgument`
 - `type` either a specific Java class, but may also be one of the indicator strings from `box()`
 - `value` to be boxed
 - `bPrimitive`: if `.true` and value is primitive, then type of candidate method/constructor arguments must be primitive

▼ New Features in BSF4ooRexx, 8

Changed `bsf.import()`

- New features in `BSF.CLS`
 - Changed public routine `bsf.import(javaClass)`
 - Will *not* import abstract Java classes anymore!
 - Will raise a condition with the advice to use the routine `bsf.loadClass(javaClass)` instead
 - Reasoning
 - `bsf.import()` will add the ooRexx `new` class method, although abstract Java classes cannot be instantiated as the presence of an ooRexx `new` class method implies
 - Use `bsf.loadClass(javaClass)` instead

New Features in BSF4ooRexx, 9

Changed RexxScriptEngine

- Changed `org.rexxla.bsf.engines.rexx.jsr223.RexxScriptEngineFactory`
 - Defined additional mime types: "text/rexx", "text/oorex", "application/rexx", "application/oorex"
 - Running "`samples\Java\javax.script\RexxRunScript.rex -i`" therefore yields about the ooRexx Java script engine e.g.,

```
ooRexx
  getEngineName      : Open Object Rexx (ooRexx)
  getEngineVersion   : 100.20190726
  getExtensions      : [rex, rexx, orx, cls, rxj, rexxj, jrexx, rxo]
  getLanguageName    : ooRexx
  getLanguageVersion : REXX-ooRexx_5.0.0(MT)_32-bit 6.05 30 Aug 2019
  getMimeTypeNames   : [text/rexx, text/oorex, application/rexx,
application/oorex, text/x-rexx, text/x-rexx-java, text/x-rexx-java-oo]
  getNames           : [rexx, Rexx, oorex, ooRexx, orexx, oRexx]
  getParameter(THREADING) : MULTITHREADED
```



Outlook

- Release planned for 2019
 - Last version that supports ooRexx 4.1.x and 4.2.x
 - Next version of BSF4ooRexx will be based on ooRexx 5.0!
 - Adding e.g., redirectable command handlers at runtime that can be implemented either in Java, NetRexx or BSF4ooRexx
- Possible changes
 - Changing the package name of the ooRexx Apache OpenOffice (AOO)/LibreOffice (LO) support to the org.rexxla namespace
 - Changing the installation/uninstallation logic for AOO/LO



Roundup

- New Features in BSF4ooRexx 641.20190830
 - Since 2014 in the works
 - Based on ooRexx 4.1 and Java 6
 - Some JavaFX samples need ooRexx 5 for stability reasons
 - BSF4ooRexx kernel reworked to support modular Java
 - Plentiful of new features, utility classes and utility routines
 - Still easy to learn and to use
 - Installation package can be directly used for
 - Windows (32/64bit), Linux (32/64bit), MacOS (32/64bit), *IBM s390x* :)
 - Questions?
... hang on ! ;)



URLs

- RexxLA-Homepage (non-profit SIG, owner of ooRexx, BSF4ooRexx)
<<http://www.rexxla.org/>>
- ooRexx 5.0 beta on Sourceforge
<<https://sourceforge.net/projects/ooorexx/files/ooorexx/5.0.0beta/>>
- BSF4ooRexx on Sourceforge (ooRexx-Java bridge)
<<https://sourceforge.net/projects/bsf4ooorexx/>>
- Introduction to ooRexx (254 pages)
<<https://www.facultas.at/Flatscher>>
- JetBrains "IntelliJ IDEA", powerful IDE for all operating systems
 - <<https://www.jetbrains.com/idea/download>>, free "Community-Edition"
 - Alexander Seik's ooRexx-Plugin with readme (as of: 2019-08-27)
 - <<https://sourceforge.net/projects/bsf4ooorexx/files/Sandbox/aseik/ooRexxIDEA/beta/1.0.5/>>



Appendix: Howto

Create JRE 11 with JavaFX11, 1

- Java modules introduced with Java 9
 - Only distributed as "JDK" Java development kit
 - Environment needs to be adjusted to modules
 - Needs may be different at compile and runtime!
 - Idea: create smallest possible footprint for Java applications by using only the needed modules!
 - JavaFX donated to the opensource community by Oracle
 - JDK11 *removed* JavaFX!
 - Download opensource JavaFX modules from Gluon
 - <https://gluonhq.com/products/javafx/>



Appendix: Howto

Create JRE 11 with JavaFX11, 2

- Need for a full Java runtime environment (JRE), e.g.,
 - Server configurations where many different servlets need many different Java modules
 - Scripting, ad-hoc programs
 - Unforeseeable need for Java modules
- JDK comes with a tool named [jlink](#)
 - Allows to create a tailored Java runtime environment
 - Can be used to create a full JRE from any modular JDK!



Appendix: Howto

Create JRE 11 with JavaFX11, 3

- Steps
 - Download JDK11 (e.g. <https://adoptopenjdk.net>)
 - Locate JDK home directory and assign it to the `JAVA_HOME` environment variable
 - All JDK modules in: `$JAVA_HOME/jmods`
 - Download Open JavaFX
 - Locate JavaFX directory and assign it to the environment `FX_DIR` variable
 - All JavaFX modules in: `$FX_DIR/jmods`

Appendix: Howto

Create JRE 11 with JavaFX11, 4

- Steps

- Open a command line/terminal window

- Define environment variables

```
set JAVA_HOME=path-to-JDK-home  
set FX_DIR=path-to-JavaFX-directory
```

- Issue the **jlink** command (Windows)

```
%JAVA_HOME%\bin\jlink -p %JAVA_HOME%\jmods,%FX_DIR%\jmods --add-modules ALL-MODULE-PATH --output tgt_dir
```

- Issue the **jlink** command (Unix)

```
$JAVA_HOME/bin/jlink -p $JAVA_HOME/jmods,$FX_DIR/jmods --add-modules ALL-MODULE-PATH --output tgt_dir
```

- '**tgtdir**' will contain the appropriate JRE with all modules from JDK and from JavaFX!

```
Windows: tgt_dir\bin\java --list-modules  
Unix:    tgt_dir/bin/java --list-modules
```