Sun + Oracle



Java · MySQL
ZFS · Solaris

the $7.4 billion deal · and the road to Linux

SOLARIS 11.4 → 2037



A MYWEBUNIVERSITY STORY

Sun + Oracle

Java · Solaris · MySQL and the Big Merger

ZFS · VirtualBox · Oracle DB



Scott McNealy · Sun



Larry Ellison · Oracle

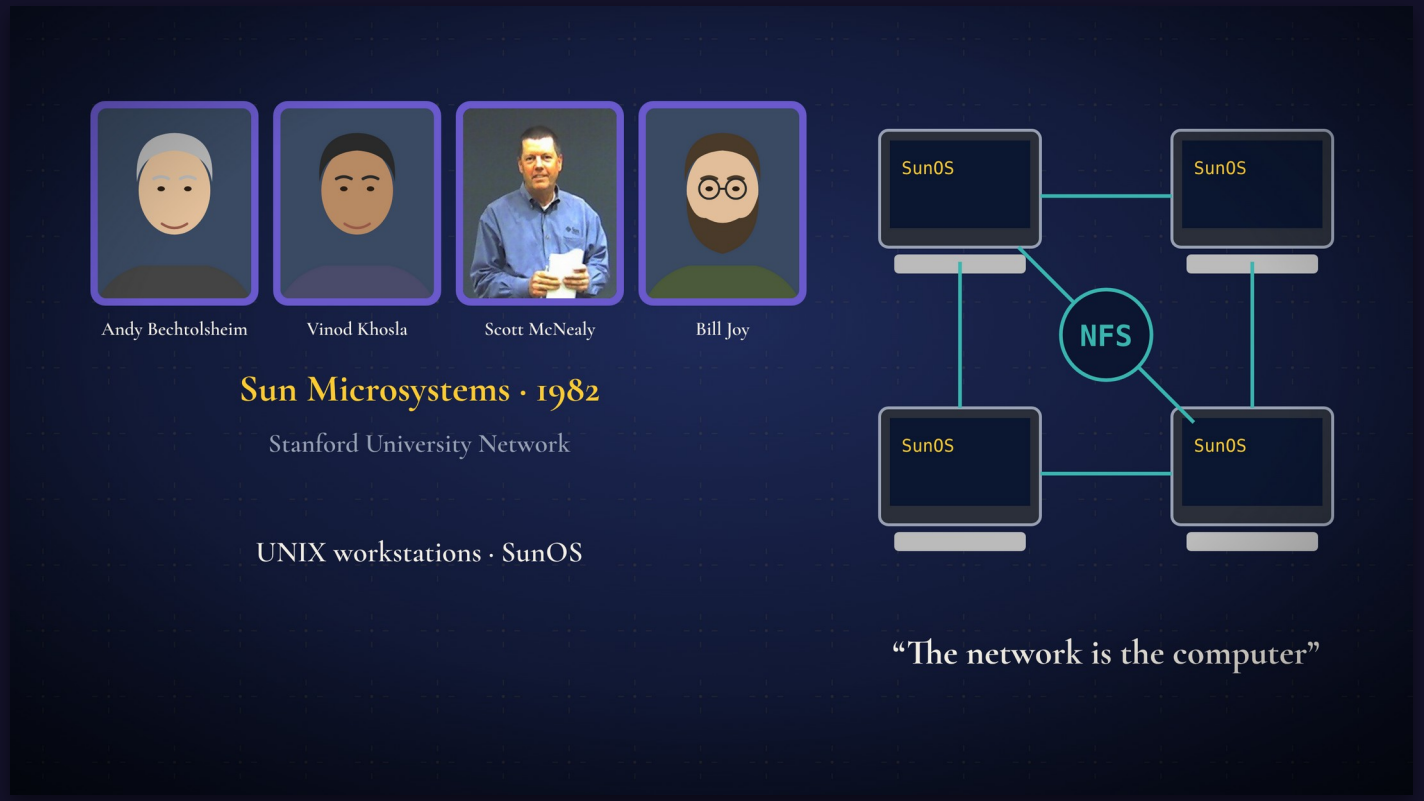
Oracle Begins, 1977



- 1970: Edgar Codd's relational model (tables + keys)
- 1977: Larry Ellison, Bob Miner, Ed Oates start the company
- 1979: Oracle Version 2, an early commercial SQL database

01

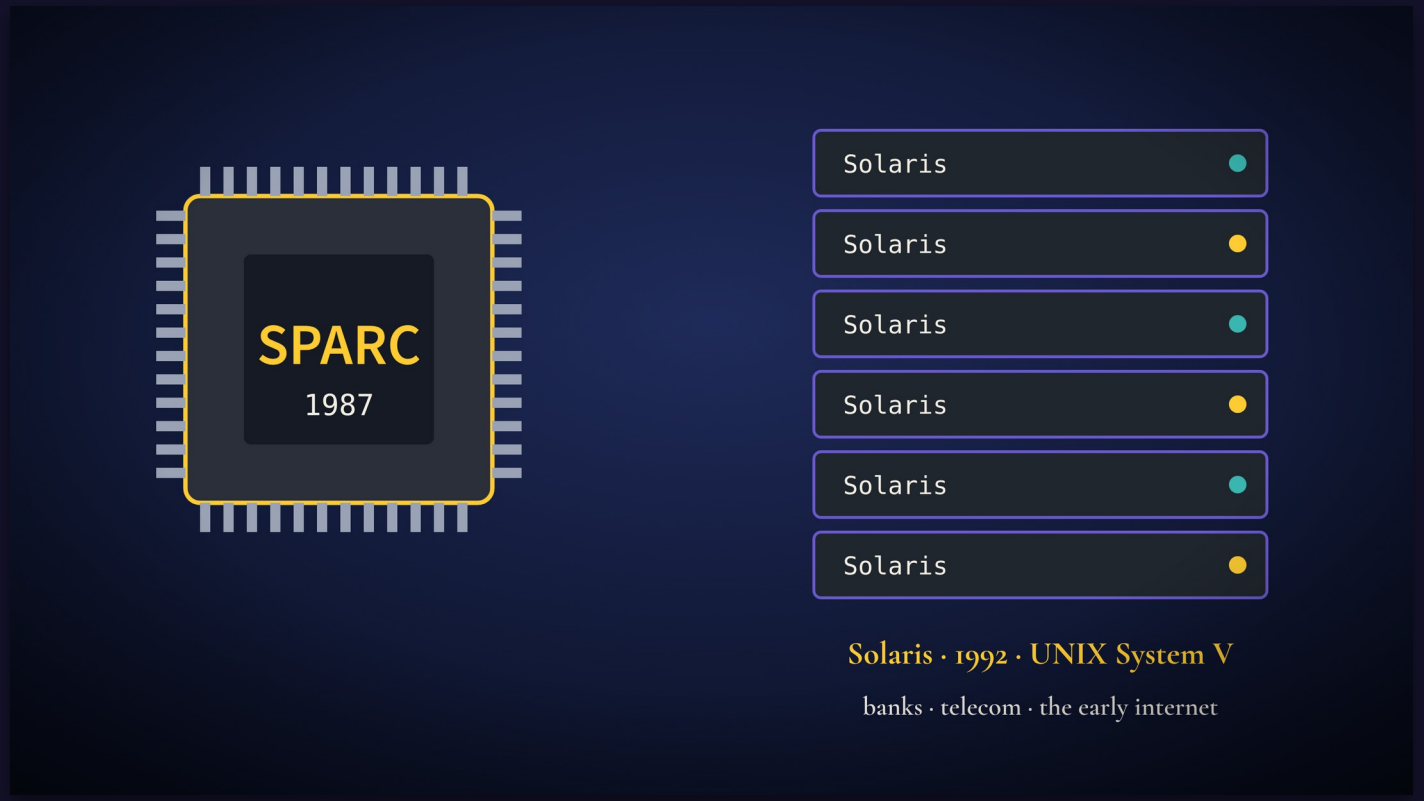
Sun Rises, 1982



- 1982: Bechtolsheim, Khosla, McNealy found Sun; Bill Joy joins
- SUN = Stanford University Network
- SunOS workstations · NFS · "The network is the computer"

02

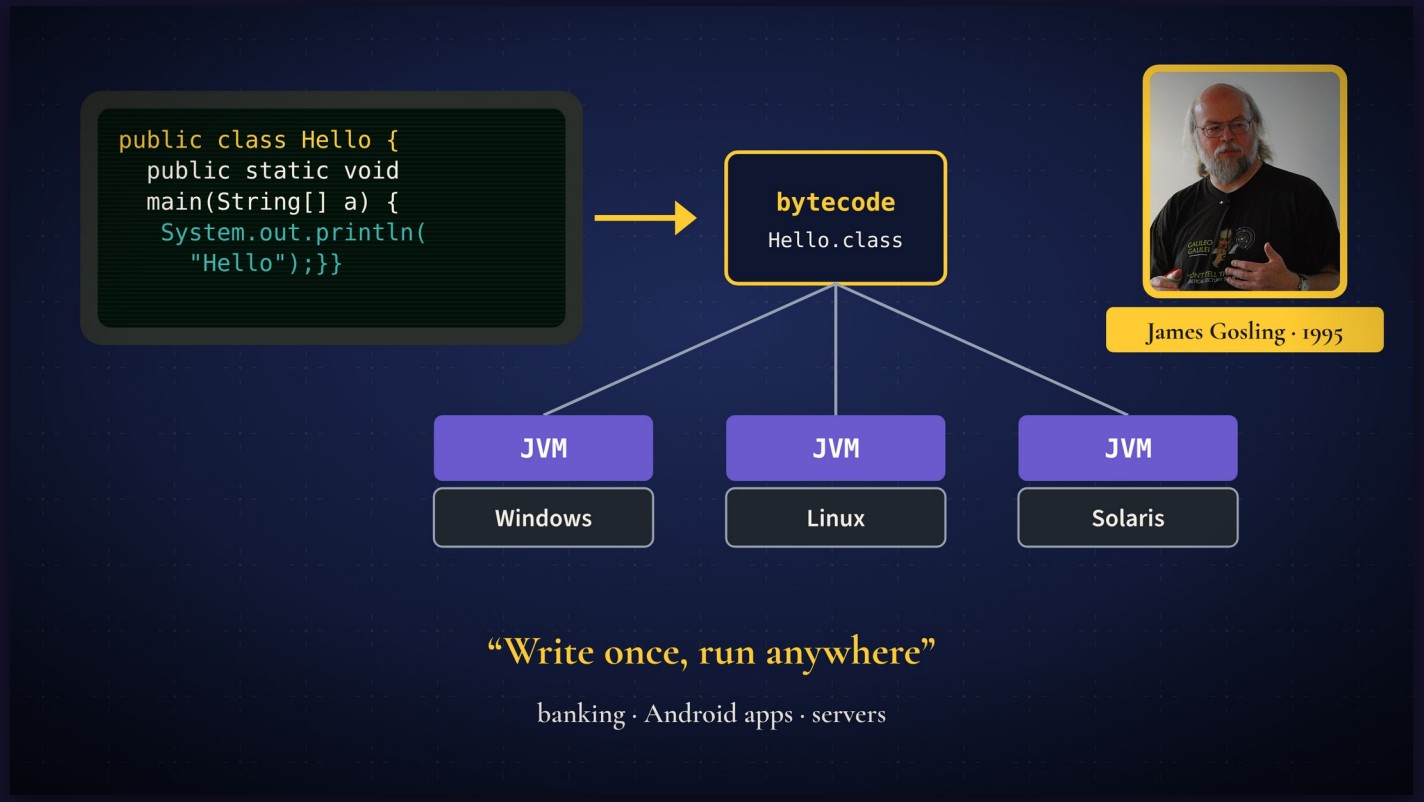
SPARC and Solaris



- 1987: SPARC processors
- 1992: Solaris, based on UNIX System V
- Powered banks, telecoms and the early internet

03

Java: Write Once, Run Anywhere



- 1995: Java, led by James Gosling
- "Write once, run anywhere" on a virtual machine
- Still runs banks, Android apps and servers

04

ZFS and StorageTek



- 2005: Sun buys StorageTek (tape and storage)
- ZFS by Jeff Bonwick and Matthew Ahrens
- Checksums every block · instant snapshots

05

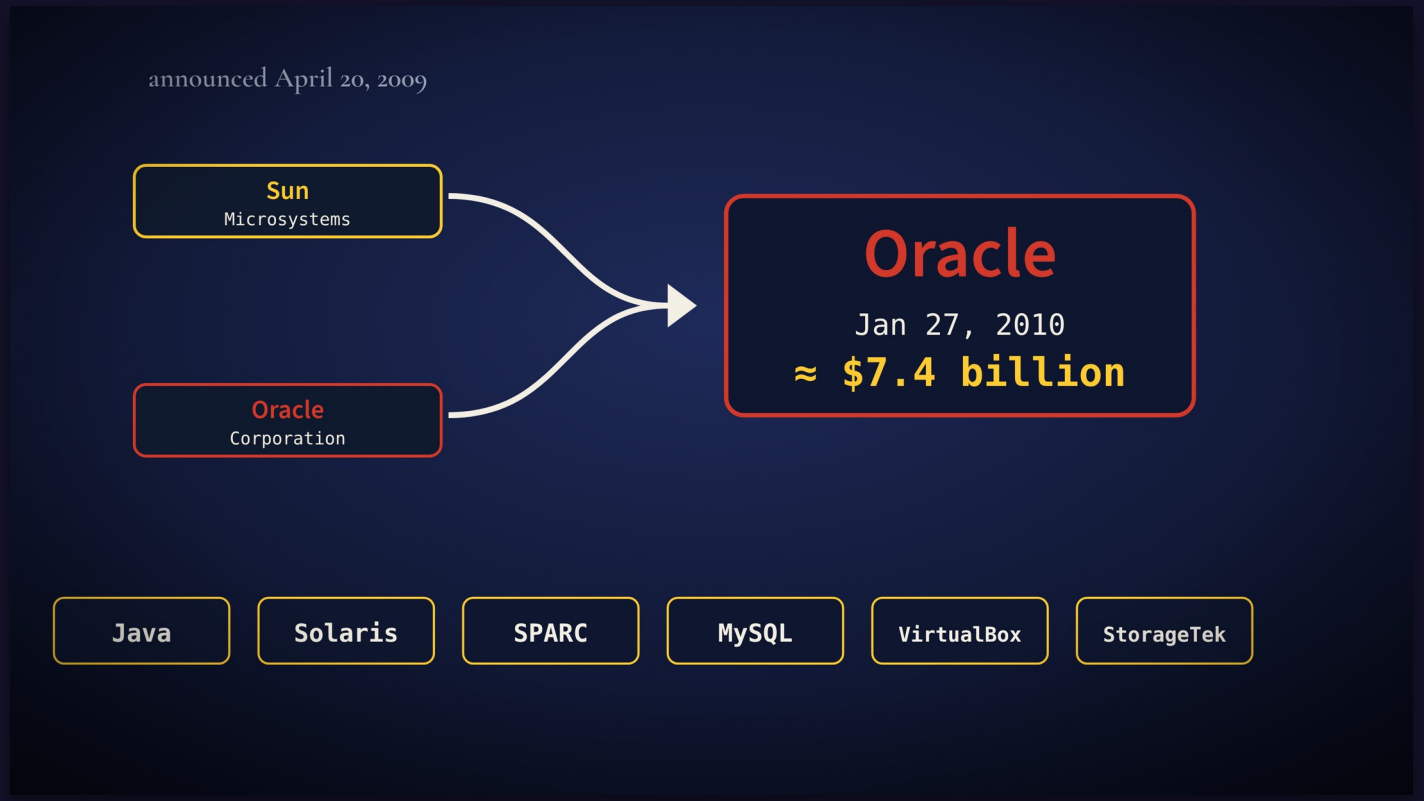
Sun Opens Up



- OpenSolaris: Solaris source code opened
- 2008: MySQL bought for ~$1 billion
- 2008: innotek (VirtualBox) acquired

06

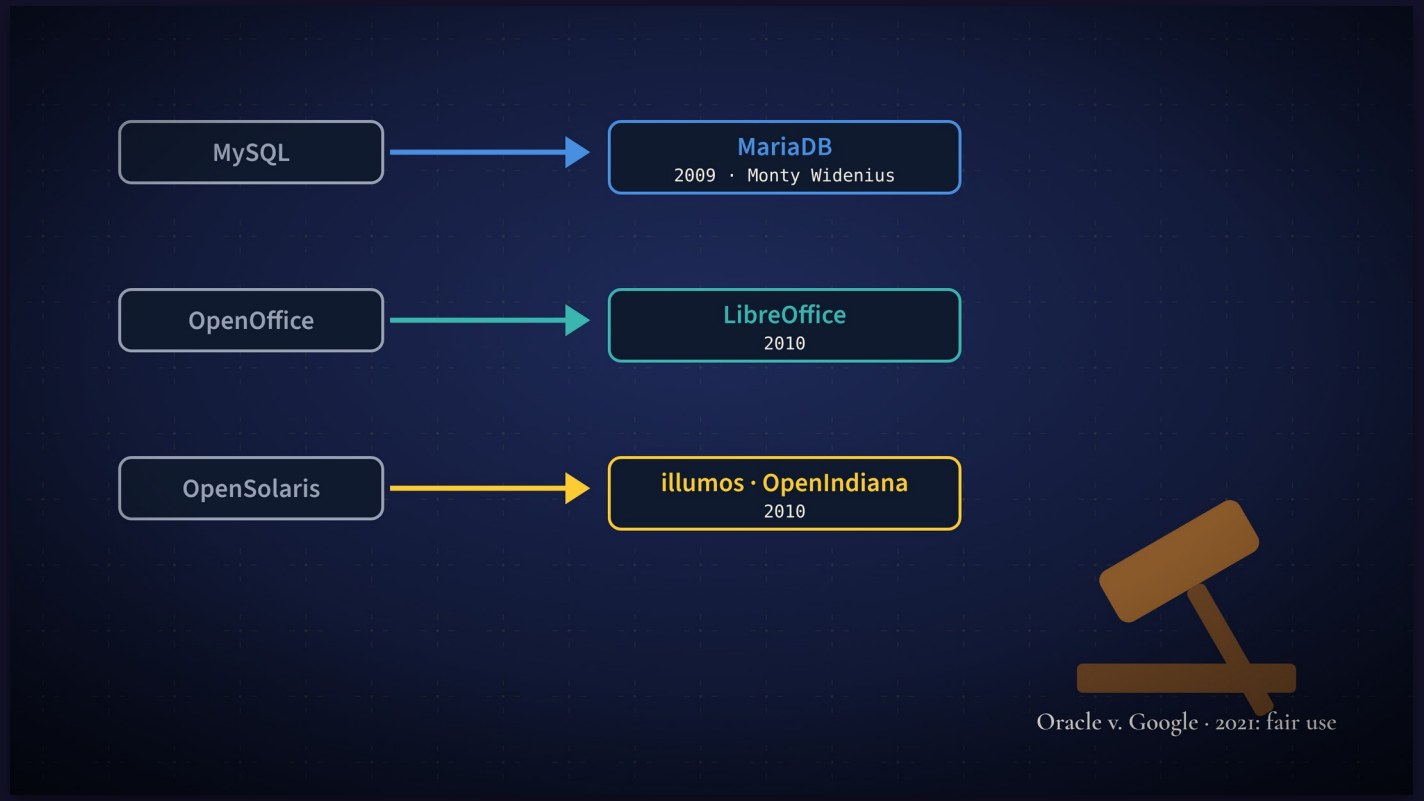
Oracle Buys Sun



- Announced April 20, 2009
- Closed January 27, 2010 · ~$7.4 billion
- Oracle now owns Java, Solaris, SPARC, MySQL, VirtualBox

07

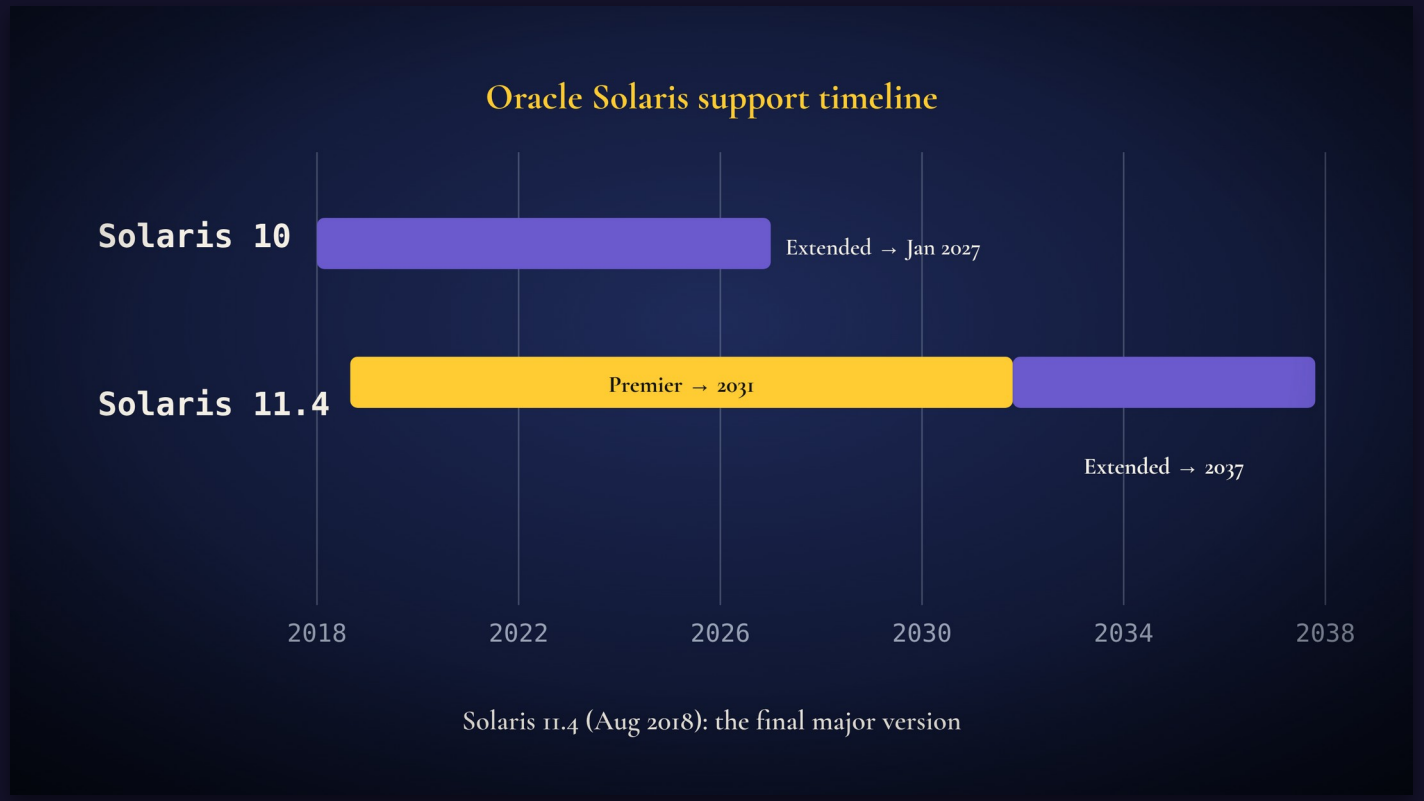
The Community Forks



- MariaDB (Monty Widenius) · LibreOffice
- OpenSolaris → illumos and OpenIndiana
- 2021: U.S. Supreme Court: Google's Java use was fair use

08

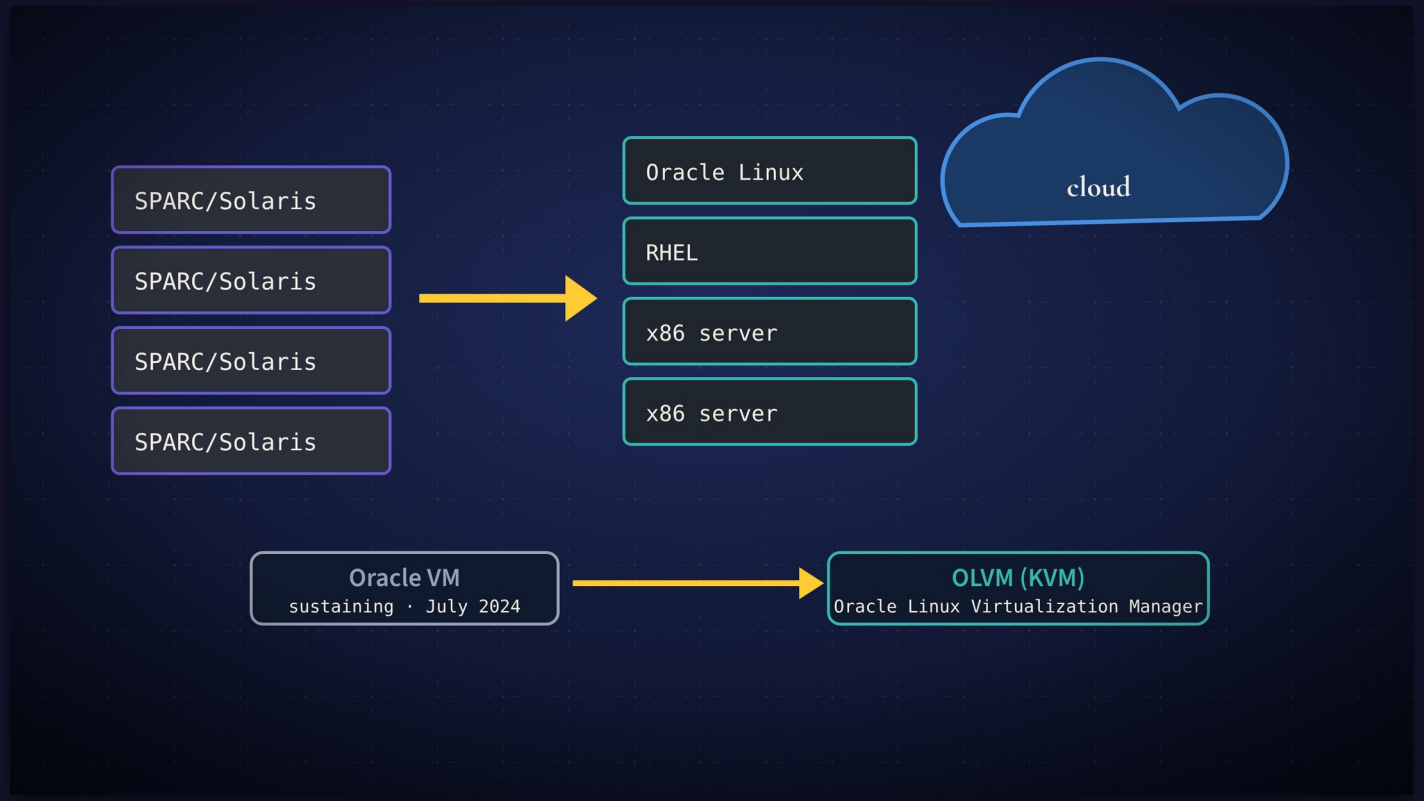
The Long Goodbye of Solaris



- Solaris 11.4 (Aug 2018): final major version
- 11.4: Premier Support to 2031 · Extended to 2037
- Solaris 10: Extended Support to January 2027

09

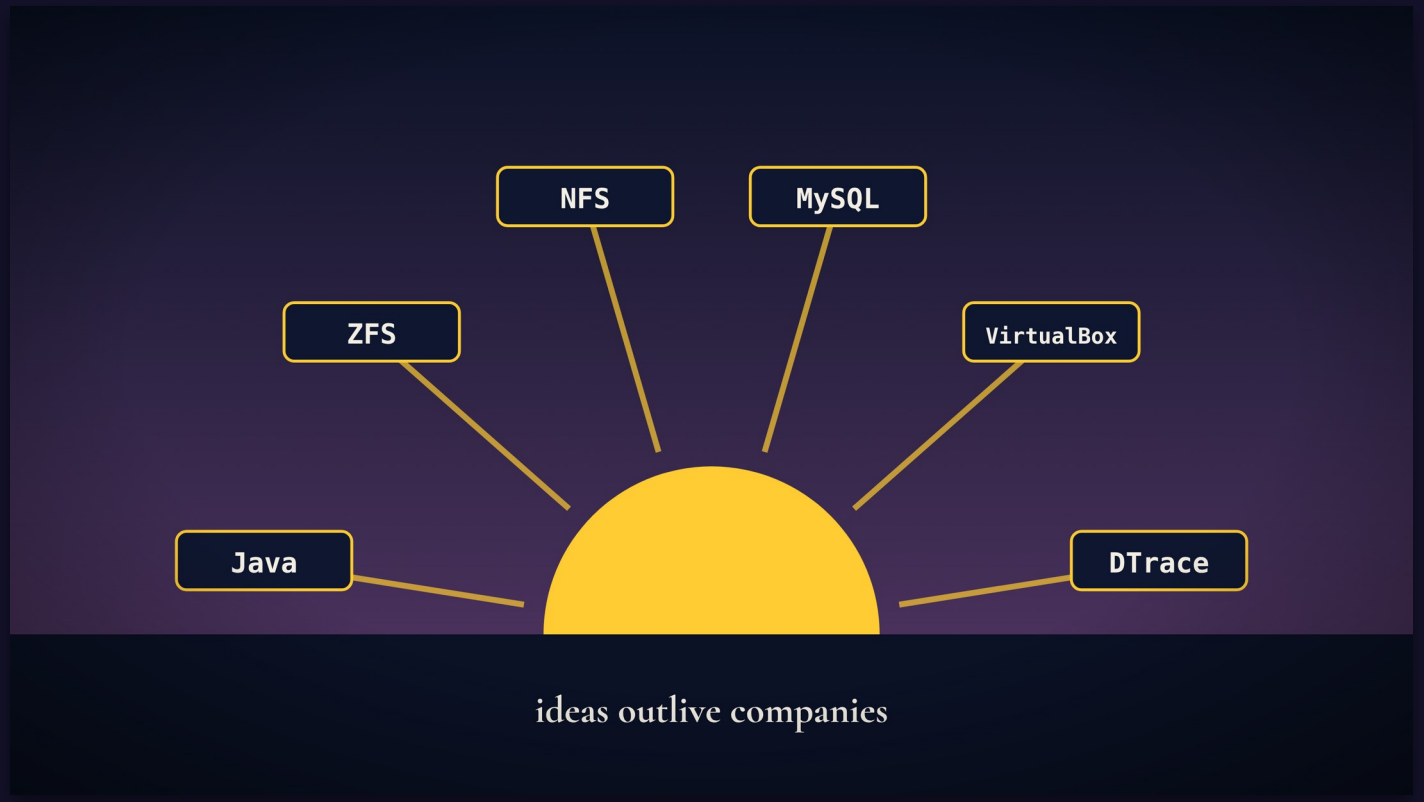
Moving to Linux



- Solaris/SPARC → Linux on x86 and the cloud
- Oracle Linux or Red Hat Enterprise Linux
- Oracle VM → sustaining support (July 2024); OLVM on KVM replaces it

10

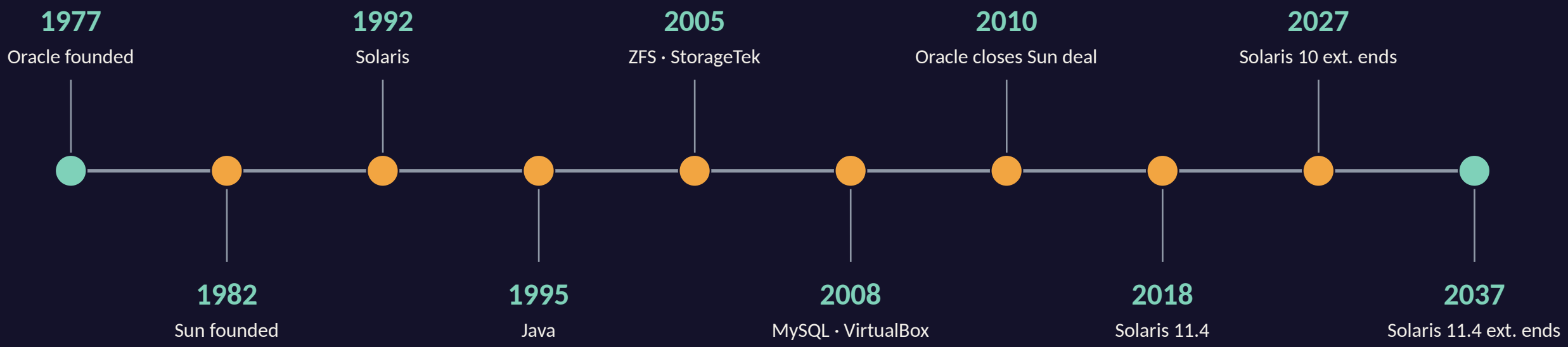
Ideas Outlive Companies



- Java · ZFS · NFS · MySQL · VirtualBox live on
- Used by millions every day
- Shared technology outlives its company

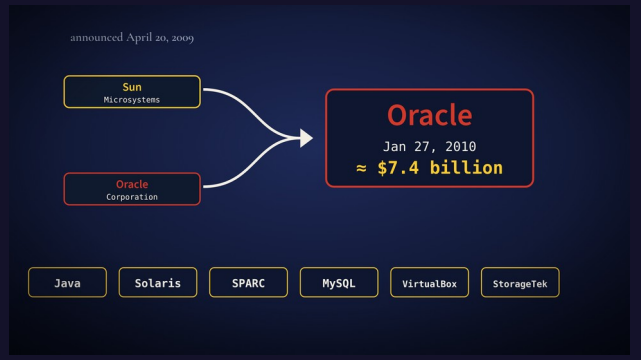
11

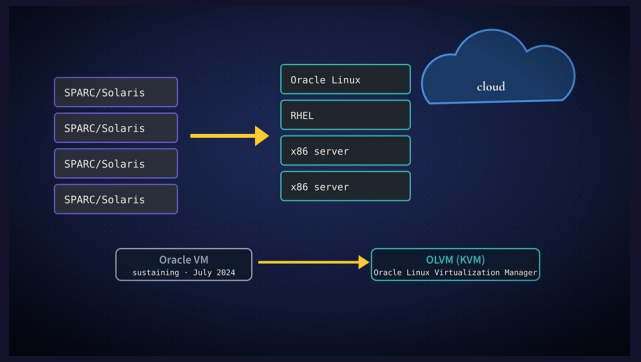
Timeline: 1977 to 2037



Sources and Further Reading

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2. Oracle, “Oracle Completes Acquisition of Sun,” January 27, 2010 — oracle.com
3. Oracle Lifetime Support Policy: Oracle and Sun System Software — oracle.com
4. Oracle VM Server and Oracle Linux Virtualization Manager documentation — oracle.com
5. Google LLC v. Oracle America, Inc., U.S. Supreme Court, April 5, 2021
6. Photos: Larry Ellison, Scott McNealy, James Gosling — via Wikimedia Commons (original authors and licenses listed there).





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