



JNI

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Overview

- **Java Native Interface**
- Native:
 - Platform-specific shared library (.dll, .so, .dylib)
 - ~~Non-hybrid mobile app, React Native~~
 - C, C++
- Call native functions from Java and vice versa
- Other JVM languages supported
- JNI ≠ JNA

Foo.java:

```
static {  
    System.loadLibrary("foo");  
}
```

```
public native int getTextLength(String text);
```

Foo.java:

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static {  
    System.loadLibrary("foo");  
}
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```
public native int getLength(String text);
```

Foo.java:

```
static {  
    System.loadLibrary("foo");  
}
```

```
public native int getTextLength(String text);
```

foo.c:

```
#include <jni.h>
```

```
JNIEXPORT
```

```
jint
```

```
JNICALL Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_getTextLength(  
    JNIEnv *env,  
    jobject thiz,  
    jstring text
```

```
) {  
    return (*env)->GetStringUTFLength(env, text);  
}
```

Foo.java:

```
static {  
    System.loadLibrary("foo");  
}
```

```
public native int getLength(String text);
```

foo.c:

```
#include <jni.h>
```

```
JNIEXPORT
```

```
jint  
JNIEXPORT Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_getLength(  
    JNIEnv *env,  
    jobject thiz,  
    jstring text  
) {  
    return (*env)->GetStringUTFLength(env, text);  
}
```

Foo.java:

```
static {  
    System.loadLibrary("foo");  
}
```

```
public native int getTextLength(String text);
```

foo.c:

```
#include <jni.h>
```

```
JNIEXPORT
```

```
jint
```

```
JNICALL Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_getTextLength(  
    JNIEnv *env,  
    jobject thiz,  
    jstring text  
) {  
    return (*env)->GetStringUTFLength(env, text);  
}
```

Foo.java:

```
static {  
    System.loadLibrary("foo");  
}
```

```
public native int getTextLength(String text);
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foo.c:

```
#include <jni.h>
```

```
JNIEXPORT
```

```
jint
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```
JNICALL Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_getTextLength(  
    JNIEnv *env,  
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```
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Foo.java:

```
static {  
    System.loadLibrary("foo");  
}
```

```
public native int getTextLength(String text);
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foo.c:

```
#include <jni.h>
```

```
JNIEXPORT
```

```
jint
```

```
JNICALL Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_getTextLength(  
    JNIEnv *env,
```

```
    jobject thiz,  
    jstring text
```

```
) {
```

```
    return (*env)->GetStringUTFLength(env, text);
```

```
}
```

Foo.java:

```
static {  
    System.loadLibrary("foo");  
}
```

```
public native int getLength(String text);
```

foo.c:

```
#include <jni.h>
```

```
JNIEXPORT
```

```
jint
```

```
JNICALL Java_
```

pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo

_getLength(
 JNIEnv *env,
 jobject thiz,
 jstring text
)

```
{  
    return (*env)->GetStringUTFLength(env, text);  
}
```

```
}
```

Foo.java:

```
static {  
    System.loadLibrary("foo");  
}
```

```
public native int getTextLength(String text);
```

foo.c:

```
#include <jni.h>
```

```
JNIEXPORT
```

```
jint
```

```
JNICALL Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_getTextLength(  
    JNIEnv *env,
```

```
    jobject thiz,  
    jstring text
```

```
) {
```

```
    return (*env)->GetStringUTFLength(env, text);
```

```
}
```

Foo.java:

```
static {  
    System.loadLibrary("foo");  
}
```

```
public native int getTextLength(String text);
```

foo.c:

```
#include <jni.h>
```

```
JNIEXPORT
```

```
jint
```

```
JNICALL Java_p1_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_getTextLength(  
    JNIEnv *env,  
    jobject thiz,  
    jstring text
```

```
) {
```

```
    return (*env)->GetStringUTFLength(env, text);
```

```
}
```

Foo.java:

```
static {  
    System.loadLibrary("foo");  
}
```

```
public native int getTextLength(String text);
```

foo.c:

```
#include <jni.h>
```

```
JNIEXPORT
```

```
jint
```

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JNICALL Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_getTextLength(  
    JNIEnv *env,  
    jobject thiz,  
    jstring text
```

```
) {
```

```
    return (*env)->GetStringUTFLength(env, text);
```

```
}
```

Foo.java:

```
static {  
    System.loadLibrary("foo");  
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```
JNICALL Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_getTextLength(  
    JNIEnv *env,  
    jobject thiz,  
    jstring text
```

```
) {
```

```
    return (*env)->GetStringUTFLength(env, text);
```

```
}
```

Why JNI?

- Reuse existing native libraries
- Hinder reverse-engineering
- Increase performance (**in certain cases only**)
 - computation
- Implement operations not available in Java:
 - System clock - `System.currentTimeMillis()`
 - Filesystem access
 - other OS-specific features

Sample projects using JNI



[android-gif-drawable](#)

Views and Drawable for displaying animated GIFs on Android

● Java ★ 5.8k 🍴 1.4k

Java API

- `System.loadLibrary("foo")`
 - `System.mapLibraryName("foo")` → `"libfoo.so"`
 - `java.library.path` property
- `System.load("/usr/local/lib/libfoo.so")`

JNI types

- jbyte, jchar, jshort, jint, jlong, jfloat, jdouble
- jboolean: JNI_TRUE, JNI_FALSE
- jstring, jthrowable
- jarray, jintarray...
- jclass, jobject
- jmethodID, jfieldID

Calling Java from C

```
public static long min(long a, long b)
```

```
jclass mathClass = (*env)->FindClass(env, "java/lang/Math");
```

```
jmethodID minMethodID = (*env)->GetStaticMethodID(env, mathClass,  
"min", "(JJ)J");
```

```
jlong min = (*env)->CallStaticLongMethod(env, mathClass,  
minMethodID, x, y);
```

Calling Java from C

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public static long min(long a, long b)
```

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```

```
jmethodID minMethodID = (*env)->GetStaticMethodID(env, mathClass,  
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```
jlong min = (*env)->CallStaticLongMethod(env, mathClass,  
minMethodID, x, y);
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public static long min(long a, long b)
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"min", "(JJ)J");
```

```
jlong min = (*env)->CallStaticLongMethod(env, mathClass,  
minMethodID, x, y);
```

Calling Java methods

```
public static long min(long a, long b)
```

```
jclass mathClass = (*env)->FindClass(env, "java/lang/Math");
```

```
jmethodID minMethodID = (*env)->GetStaticMethodID(env, mathClass,  
"min", "JJJ");
```

```
jlong min = (*env)->CallStaticLongMethod(env, mathClass,  
minMethodID, x, y);
```

Accessing Java fields

```
jobject calendar = ...
```

```
jclass calendar_class = (*env)->GetObjectClass(env, calendar);
```

```
jfieldID time_field_id = (*env)->GetFieldID(env, calendar_class,  
                                             "time", "J");
```

```
jlong time = (*env)->GetLongField(env, calendar, time_field_id);
```


Creating Java objects

```
jclass foo_class = (*env)->FindClass(env,  
                                     "pl/droidsonroids/ndkdemo/Foo");  
jmethodID constructor_id = (*env)->GetMethodID(env, foo_class,  
                                                "<init>", "()V");  
jobject foo = (*env)->NewObject(env, foo_class, constructor_id);
```

Creating Java objects

```
jclass foo_class = (*env)->FindClass(env,  
                                     "pl/droidsonroids/ndkdemo/Foo");  
jmethodID constructor_id = (*env)->GetMethodID(env, foo_class,  
                                                "<init>", "()V");  
jobject foo = (*env)->NewObject(env, foo_class, constructor_id);
```

Creating Java objects

```
jobject foo = (*env)->AllocObject(env, foo_class);
```

Type signatures

| Type signature | Java type | Example |
|----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Z | boolean | |
| B | byte | |
| C | char | |
| S | short | |
| I | int | |
| J | long | |
| F | float | |
| D | double | |
| L<FQCN>; | FQCN | Lcom/foo/Foo; |
| [<type> | type[] | [Z |
| V | void | |

javap -s <class file>

abstract ArrayList<String> foo(String[] a, **boolean** b);

([Ljava/lang/String;Z)Ljava/util/ArrayList;



Reference types

- Local
- Global
- WeakGlobal (weaker than Java Weak and Soft)

Local references

```
object persistent_foo;
```

```
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL  
Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_foo(  
    JNIEnv *env,  
    jobject thiz,  
    jobject foo ← Local reference  
) {  
    persistent_foo = foo;  
    printf("foo");  
}
```

Global References

```
 jobject persistent_foo;
```

```
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL  
Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_foo(  
    JNIEnv *env,  
    jobject thiz,  
    jobject foo  
) {  
    persistent_foo = (*env)->NewGlobalRef(env, foo);  
    printf("foo");  
}
```

```
(*env)->DeleteGlobalRef(env, persistent_foo);
```

Finalizers

```
public final class Foo {
    @Override
    protected void finalize() throws Throwable {
        releaseBar(bar);
        super.finalize();
    }

    private final long bar;

    public Foo() {
        bar = createBar();
    }

    private native long createBar();

    private native void releaseBar(long bar);
}
```


Finalizers

```
public final class Foo {  
    @Override  
    protected void finalize() throws Throwable {  
        releaseBar(bar);  
        super.finalize();  
    }  
  
    private final long bar;  
  
    public Foo() {  
        bar = createBar();  
    }  
  
    private native long createBar();  
  
    private native void releaseBar(long bar);  
}
```

Finalizers

```
public final class Foo {
    @Override
    protected void finalize() throws Throwable {
        releaseBar(bar);
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    }

    private final long bar;

    public Foo() {
        bar = createBar();
    }

    private native long createBar();

    private native void releaseBar(long bar);
}
```

Finalizer guardian

```
public class Foo {
```

```
    @SuppressWarnings("unused")  
    private final Object finalizer = new Object() {  
        @Override  
        protected void finalize() throws Throwable {  
            releaseBar(bar);  
        }  
    };
```

```
    private final long bar;
```

```
    public Foo() {  
        bar = createBar();  
    }
```

```
    private native long createBar();  
    private native void releaseBar(long bar);
```

```
}
```

JNI_OnLoad JNI_OnUnload

```
void *foo;  
JavaVM *global_vm;
```

```
JNIEXPORT  
jint JNICALL JNI_OnLoad(JavaVM *vm, void *reserved) {  
    global_vm = vm;  
  
    if (!init()) {  
        return JNI_ERR;  
    }  
  
    foo = malloc(1);  
  
    return JNI_VERSION_1_8;  
}
```

```
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL JNI_OnUnload(JavaVM *vm, void *reserved) {  
    free(foo);  
}
```

JNI_OnLoad JNI_OnUnload

```
void *foo;  
JavaVM *global_vm;
```

```
JNIEXPORT
```

```
jint JNICALL JNI_OnLoad(JavaVM *vm, void *reserved) {  
    global_vm = vm;  
  
    if (!init()) {  
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    }  
  
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JNI_OnLoad JNI_OnUnload

```
void *foo;  
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```

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JNIEXPORT
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jint JNICALL JNI_OnLoad(JavaVM *vm, void *reserved) {  
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    }  
  
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JNI_OnLoad JNI_OnUnload

```
void *foo;  
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```
JNIEXPORT
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    global_vm = vm;  
  
    if (!init()) {  
        return JNI_ERR;  
    }  
  
    foo = malloc(1);  
  
    return JNI_VERSION_1_8;  
}
```

```
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL JNI_OnUnload(JavaVM *vm, void *reserved) {  
    free(foo);  
}
```

Attaching to native threads

```
void *doSomething(void *args) {
    JavaVMAttachArgs attach_args = {
        .group = NULL,
        .name = "WorkerThread",
        .version = JNI_VERSION_1_6
    };

    JNIEnv *env;

    if ((*global_vm)->AttachCurrentThread(global_vm, &env,
        &attach_args) == JNI_OK) {
        //JNI function calls
        (*global_vm)->DetachCurrentThread(global_vm);
    }
}
```


Attaching to native threads

```
void *doSomething(void *args) {
    JavaVMAttachArgs attach_args = {
        .group = NULL,
        .name = "WorkerThread",
        .version = JNI_VERSION_1_6
    };

    JNIEnv *env;

    if ((*global_vm)->AttachCurrentThread(global_vm, &env,
                                          &attach_args) == JNI_OK) {
        //JNI function calls
        (*global_vm)->DetachCurrentThread(global_vm);
    }
}
```

Attaching to native threads

```
void *doSomething(void *args) {
    JavaVMAttachArgs attach_args = {
        .group = NULL,
        .name = "WorkerThread",
        .version = JNI_VERSION_1_6
    };

    JNIEnv *env;

    if ((*global_vm)->AttachCurrentThread(global_vm, &env,
                                          &attach_args) == JNI_OK) {
        //JNI function calls
        (*global_vm)->DetachCurrentThread(global_vm);
    }
}
```

- AttachCurrentThreadAsDaemon
- Detach using pthread_key_create destructor

Registering native methods

```
//Foo.java
```

```
public native int plus(int a, int b);
```

```
//Foo.c
```

```
static jint add(JNIEnv *env, jobject thiz, jint a, jint b) {  
    return a + b;  
}
```

Registering native methods

```
//Foo.java
```

```
public native int plus(int a, int b);
```

```
//Foo.c
```

```
static jint add(JNIEnv *env, jobject thiz, jint a, jint b) {  
    return a + b;  
}
```

```
JNIEXPORT
```

```
jint JNICALL JNI_OnLoad(JavaVM *vm, void *reserved) {
```

```
    JNIEnvMethod methods[] = {  
        {"plus", "(II)I", (void *) add},  
    };
```

```
    return JNI_VERSION_1_6;
```

```
}
```

Registering native methods

```
//Foo.java
```

```
public native int plus(int a, int b);
```

```
//Foo.c
```

```
static jint add(JNIEnv *env, jobject thiz, jint a, jint b) {  
    return a + b;  
}
```

```
JNIEXPORT
```

```
jint JNICALL JNI_OnLoad(JavaVM *vm, void *reserved) {
```

```
    JNINativeMethod methods[] = {  
        {"plus", "(II)I", (void *) add}  
    };
```

```
    JNIEnv *env;
```

```
    (*vm)->GetEnv(vm, (void **) &env, JNI_VERSION_1_6);
```

```
    jclass foo_class = (*env)->FindClass(env,  
                                         "pl/droidsonroids/ndkdemo/Foo");
```

```
    (*env)->RegisterNatives(env, foo_class, methods, 1);
```

```
    return JNI_VERSION_1_6;
```

```
}
```

Handling exceptions

- C++ exceptions are **not** converted to Java counterparts
- JNI functions:
 - ExceptionCheck
 - ExceptionOccured
 - ExceptionClear
 - FatalError
 - ExceptionDescribe

Catching exceptions

```
(*env)->CallVoidMethod(env, foo, fooMethodID);  
if ((*env)->ExceptionCheck(env) == JNI_TRUE) {  
    (*env)->ExceptionClear(env);          catch  
    (*env)->CallVoidMethod(env, foo, barMethodID);  
}
```

- Need to clear exception or return before JNI calls

Throwing Exceptions

```
jclass exceptionClass = (*env)->FindClass(env, "android/system/  
ErrnoException");
```

```
jmethodID const constructorID = (*env)->GetMethodID(env,  
exceptionClass, "<init>", "(Ljava/lang/String;I)V");
```

```
jobject exception = (*env)->NewObject(env, exceptionClass,  
constructorID, number);
```

```
(*env)->Throw(env, exception);
```


Throwing Exceptions

```
jclass exceptionClass = ...
```

```
(*env)->ThrowNew(env, exceptionClass, "Foo failed");
```

Arrays

```
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL
```

```
Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_foo(JNIEnv *env, jobject thiz,  
                                       jintArray points) {  
    jsize length = (*env)->GetArrayLength(env, points);  
    jint *native_points = (*env)->GetIntArrayElements(env, points,  
                                                       NULL);  
    //...  
    (*env)->ReleaseIntArrayElements(env, points, native_points, 0);  
}
```

Arrays

```
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL
```

```
Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_foo(JNIEnv *env, jobject this,  
                                       jintArray points) {  
    jsize length = (*env)->GetArrayLength(env, points);  
    jint *native_points = (*env)->GetIntArrayElements(env, points,  
                                                       NULL);  
    //...  
    (*env)->ReleaseIntArrayElements(env, points, native_points, 0);  
}
```

Arrays

```
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL
```

```
Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_foo(JNIEnv *env, jobject thiz,  
                                       jintArray points) {
```

```
    jsize length = (*env)->GetArrayLength(env, points);
```

```
    jint *native_points = (*env)->GetIntArrayElements(env, points,  
                                                       NULL);
```

```
    //...
```

```
    (*env)->ReleaseIntArrayElements(env, points, native_points, 0);
```

```
}
```

Release mode

Arrays

```
JNIEXPORT void JNICALL
```

```
Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_foo(JNIEnv *env, jobject this,  
                                       jintArray points) {  
    jsize length = (*env)->GetArrayLength(env, points);  
    jint *native_points = (*env)->GetIntArrayElements(env, points,  
                                                       NULL); *isCopy  
    //...  
    (*env)->ReleaseIntArrayElements(env, points, native_points, 0);  
}
```

Arrays

JNIEXPORT void JNICALL

```
Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_foo(JNIEnv *env, jobject this,
                                       jintArray points) {
    jsize length = (*env)->GetArrayLength(env, points);
    jint *native_points = (*env)->GetIntArrayElements(env, points,
                                                       NULL);

    //...
    (*env)->ReleaseIntArrayElements(env, points, native_points, 0);
}
```

JNIEXPORT void JNICALL

```
Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_foo(JNIEnv *env, jobject this, jintArray
                                       points) {
    jsize start = 0;
    jsize size = 2;
    jint native_points[2];
    (*env)->GetIntArrayRegion(env, points, start, size, native_points);
    native_points[0] = native_points[1];
    (*env)->SetIntArrayRegion(env, points, start, size, native_points);
}
```

Arrays

JNIEXPORT void JNICALL

```
Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_foo(JNIEnv *env, jobject this,
                                       jintArray points) {
    jsize length = (*env)->GetArrayLength(env, points);
    jint *native_points = (*env)->GetIntArrayElements(env, points,
                                                       NULL);

    //...
    (*env)->ReleaseIntArrayElements(env, points, native_points, 0);
}
```

JNIEXPORT void JNICALL

```
Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_foo(JNIEnv *env, jobject this, jintArray
                                       points) {
    jsize start = 0;
    jsize size = 2;
    jint native_points[2];
    (*env)->GetIntArrayRegion(env, points, start, size, native_points);
    native_points[0] = native_points[1];
    (*env)->SetIntArrayRegion(env, points, start, size, native_points);
}
```

GC compaction

Java heap



- Copy



native heap

- Disable GC between Get and Release
- Pin



Release modes & isCopy

| Mode | Copy back | Free buffer |
|------------|-----------|-------------|
| 0 | ✓ | ✓ |
| JNI_COMMIT | ✓ | ✗ |
| JNI_ABORT | ✗ | ✓ |

Need to release with another mode

*isCopy == JNI_FALSE:

- skip useless commit
- restore original contents before abort

Direct byte buffers

JNIEXPORT

```
JNIEXPORT Java_pl_droidsonroids_ndkdemo_Foo_foo(  
    JNIEnv *env,  
    jobject this,  
    jobject buffer  
) {  
    void* bar = mmap(...  
    return (*env)->NewDirectByteBuffer(env, bar, capacity);  
}
```

- underlying buffer has to be released

Modified UTF-8

- Null-terminated
- No null byte inside
- U+0000 → 0xC0 0x80
- 4-byte UTF-8 format encoded using 2 x 3-bytes
- JNI functions:
 - *StringUTF* - modified UTF-8
 - native string APIs
 - *String* - standard UTF-8
 - raw bytes from native sources

Synchronization

```
(*env)->MonitorEnter(env, this);
```

```
//JNI function calls
```

```
(*env)->MonitorExit(env, this);
```

```
//or
```

```
(*global_vm)->DetachCurrentThread(global_vm);
```

JNA - Java Native Access

```
double modf(double x, double *intptr);
```

```
public interface CLibrary extends Library {  
    CLibrary INSTANCE = (CLibrary)  
        Native.loadLibrary((Platform.isWindows() ?  
            "msvcrt" : "c"),  
            CLibrary.class);  
  
    double modf(double x, DoubleByReference intptr);  
}
```

```
DoubleByReference intptrReference = new DoubleByReference();  
double fraction = CLibrary.INSTANCE.modf(1.234, intptrReference);
```

```
System.out.println(fraction);  
System.out.println(intptrReference.getValue());
```

JNA - Java Native Access

```
double modf(double x, double *intptr);
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Android POSIX API

`android.system.Os`

`android.system.OsConstants`

`static
FileDescriptor`

`accept(FileDescriptor fd,
InetSocketAddress peerAddress)
See accept\(2\).`

`static void`

`chown(String path, int uid, int gid)
See chown\(2\).`

`public static
final int`

`SIGSTOP`

`static boolean`

`WIFEXITED(int status)
Tests whether the child exited normally.`

Traps

- Signature inconsistency
- Exempt from obfuscation:
 - Native methods
 - Everything called from native
- Leaking `this` in `finalize`

Incomplete initialization

```
class Foo {  
    @NonNull private final File file;  
    private final FileOutputStream stream;  
  
    Foo(@NonNull File file) throws IOException {  
        stream = new FileOutputStream(file);  
        stream.write(0); ← IOException  
        this.file = file;  
    }  
  
    @Override  
    protected void finalize() throws Throwable {  
        System.out.println("Closing " + file.getPath());  
        try {  
            stream.close();  
        } finally {  
            super.finalize();  
        }  
    }  
}
```

NullPointerException

References

1. [Java Native Interface Specification](#)
2. [JNI Tips](#)
3. [The Java™ Native Interface Programmer's Guide and Specification](#)

Q&A