

scalafmt: opinionated code formatter for Scala

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Today's agenda

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Background
- 3 scalafmt
- 4 Results
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Overview

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What is code formatting?

Unformatted

```
object    MyApp
  extends App {
    Initialize ( context, config(port (
      "port.http"),
      settings + custom))
    Loop(  )
  }
```

What is code formatting?

Formatted

```
object MyApp extends App {  
  Initialize(  
    context,  
    config(port("port.http"),  
           settings + custom))  
  Loop()  
}
```

Why?

Reason 1: Collaborative environments

 **sjrd** and 1 other commented on an outdated diff 8 days ago


⚙ Hide comments

...scalajs/testsuite/niobuffer/SupportsTypedArrays.scala

Coverage error

[View full outdated diff](#)

11	12	
12	13	<code>import org.scalajs.testsuite.utils.Platform</code>
13	14	
14	15	<code>trait SupportsTypedArrays {</code>
15	16	<code> @BeforeClass def assumeThatContextSupportsTypedByteArrays(): Unit = {</code>
16		<code>- Assume.assumeTrue(Platform.areTypedArraysSupported)</code>
	17	<code>+ assumeTrue("Typed arrays are supported", Platform.areTypedArraysSupported)</code>

 **sjrd** added a note 8 days ago

Scala.js member



Double space.

Reason 2: Refactoring

Large-Scale Automated Refactoring Using ClangMR¹

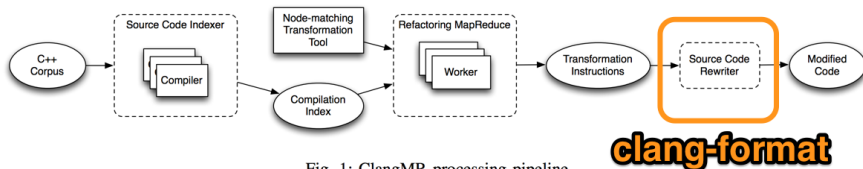


Fig. 1: ClangMR processing pipeline

¹Source: <http://research.google.com/pubs/pub41342.html>

Problem statement

What *algorithms* and *data structures* allow us to develop a Scala code formatter with the following features?

- *Maximum line length setting*
- *Opinionated setting*
- *Vertical alignment*
- *Good performance*

Maximum line length setting

```
// 40 character max line length |
object MyApp extends App {
  // BAD
  Initialize(context, config(port("port.http"),
    settings + custom))

  // OK
  Initialize(
    context,
    config(port("port.http"),
      settings + custom))
}
```

Opinionated setting

My definition

Disregard line breaking decisions in the original source to ensure that formatted sources follow a uniform coding style.

```
// Bin-pack
class Point(val x: Int, val y: Int,
            val z: Int)
```

```
// No bin-pack
class Point(val x: Int,
            val y: Int,
            val z: Int)
```

Vertical alignment

```
object VerticalAlignment {  
  x match {  
    case 1  => 1  -> 2  // first  
    case 11 => 11 -> 22 // second  
  }  
  
  def name      = column[String] ("name")  
  def status    = column[Int]    ("status")  
  
  libraryDependencies ++= Seq(  
    "org.scala-lang" % "scala-compiler" % "2.11.7",  
    "com.lihaoyi"    %% "sourcecode"    % "0.1.1"  
  )  
}
```

Performance

- IDEs: reformat file on save
- Build tools: reformat file on compile
- Continuous integration: reformat diff before code review

Overview

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- Scalariform (2010)
- ClangFormat (2013)
- rfmt (2016)

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Scalariform

- No maximum line length setting
- No opinionated setting

ClangFormat²

²Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s7JmdCfI__c

Parser

- Custom *UnwrappedLine* parser for C, C++, Objective-C, Java, JavaScript and Protobuf
 - handles invalid code code
 - ~4.000 LOC

```
void f() {  
    someFunction(Parameter1,  
#define A Parameter2  
    A) ;  
}
```

The diagram illustrates how the parser handles line wrapping. It shows four lines of code with labels 'line 1' through 'line 4' connected by lines to their respective parts. 'line 1' points to the opening brace of the function. 'line 2' points to the first argument of the function call. 'line 3' points to the second argument of the function call. 'line 4' points to the closing brace of the function. The lines are wrapped such that the opening brace is on line 1, the first argument is on line 2, the second argument is on line 3, and the closing brace is on line 4.

Line breaking: shortest path search

- Dijkstra's shortest path for optimal line breaking.
 - Non-whitespace tokens are nodes
 - Whitespace tokens are edges

```

aaaaaaa (aaaaaaaaaaaaa, aaaaaaaaaaaaaa (aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa (
                                     aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa) ),
                                     Penalty: 100
                                     aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa) ),
                                     Penalty: 41
aaaaaaa (aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa (
                                     aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa) ));
                                     Total: 241

```

rfmt³

³Source: <http://research.google.com/pubs/pub44667.html>

Formatting algebra

- Three layout operators

Lorem ipsum dolor

Lorem ipsum dolor
consectetur adipiscing elit

Lorem ipsum dolor
consectetur adipiscing elit Aliquam erat volutpat
condimentum vitae leo sit

'txt'

$l_1 \updownarrow l_2$

$l_1 \leftrightarrow l_2$

- one *choice* operator “?”

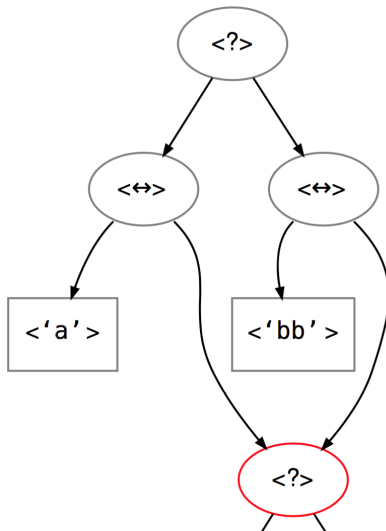
Translating R to formatting algebra

- Custom R parser
 - ~ 1.000 LOC
 - Comments are AST nodes
- “Block language” implemented in terms of primitive combinators

ChoiceBlock(
 LineBlock(
 LineBlock(
 TextBlock(f), TextBlock('(')),
 WrapBlock(a_1, \dots, a_m),
 TextBlock(')'),
 StackBlock(
 LineBlock(
 TextBlock(f), TextBlock('(')),
 IndentBlock(4, WrapBlock(a_1, \dots, a_m)),
 TextBlock(')'),
)
)
)
)

Line breaking: dynamic programming

- Dynamic programming to find optimal line breaking
 - (AST node, column) pairs are keys
 - can extrapolate missing columns



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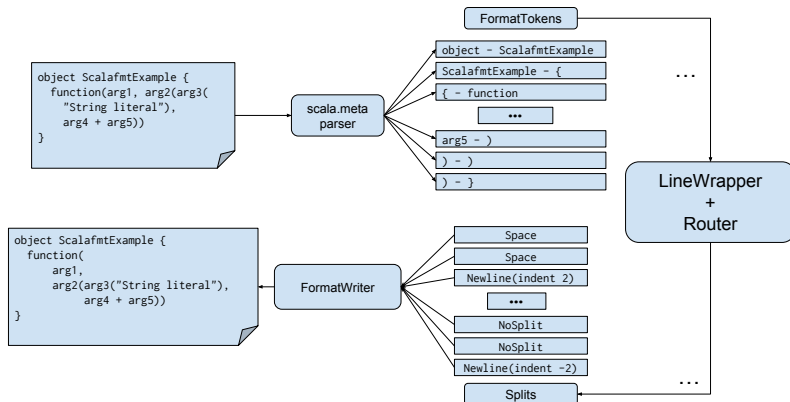
3 scalafmt

- Algorithms
- Testing
- Tooling

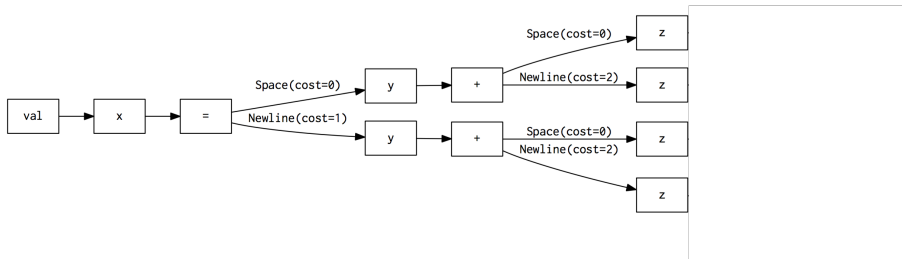
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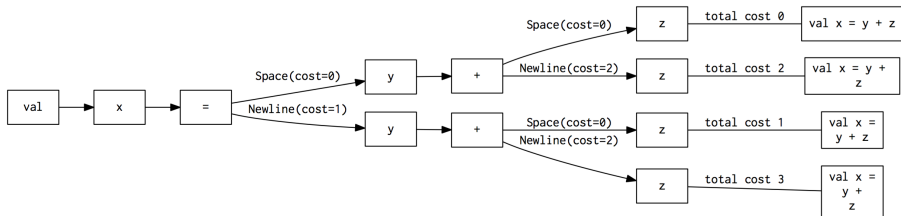
Architecture



LineWrapper + Router



LineWrapper + Router



Router

- One big pattern match (~ 1.100 LOC) on pairs of tokens

```
case FormatToken(_: Keyword, _) => Seq(Split(Space, 0))
case FormatToken(_, _: '=' )    => Seq(Split(Space, 0))
case FormatToken(_: '=', _)    => Seq(Split(Space, 0)
                                     Split(Newline, 1))

// ...
```

Naïve best-first search

- Small: ~ 20 LOC
- Exponential running time for basic programs

Optimization 1: dequeueOnNewStatements

```
def x = {  
  function1(argument1, argument2, argument3)  
  function2(argument1, argument2, argument3)  
}
```

Optimization 2: OptimalToken

```
Database (UserObject (name1, age1),  
          UserObject (name2, age2),  
          // ...  
          UserObject (nameN, ageN) )
```

Optimization 3: escapeInPathologicalCases

- Give up, default behavior
- **Best-effort**, `-bestEffortInDeeplyNestedCode`

```
Defn.Object (Nil, Term.Name("State"), Template(Nil,
  Seq(Ctor.Ref.Name("Logger")), Term.Param(Nil,
    Name.Anonymous(), None, None),
  Some(Seq(Defn.Val(Nil,
    Seq(Pat.Var.Term(Term.Name("start"))), None,
    Term.Apply(Term.Name("State"), Seq()),
    Defn.Def( /* ... */))))))
```

Vertical alignment

- Implementation: 130 LOC imperative
- Running time: linear
- Configuration: `-alignTokens =>;Case,->;Infix,//;.*`

```
x match {  
  case 1  => 1  -> 2  // first  
  case 11 => 11 -> 22 // second  
}
```


Summary: algorithms

Component	Lines of code
Router	1.070
FormatWriter	175
Best-first search	369
Utilities and data structures	1.547
Total	3.161

Testing?

Property 1: can format

```
forAll { code =>
  whenever(scalaCompilerCanParse(code)) {
    format(code).asInstanceOf[Success]
  }
}
```

Property 2: can format

```
forAll { code =>  
  ast(code) == ast(format(code))  
}
```

Property 3: idempotent

```
forAll { code =>  
  format(code) == format(format(code))  
}
```

Tooling

Heatmap

```

2  4  8  16  32  64  128  256
{
  test("add") {
    val blocks: Seq[((Int, Int), Matrix)] =
      Seq(((0, 0), new DenseMatrix(2, 2, Array(1.0, 0.0, 0.0, 2.0))),
          ((0, 1), new DenseMatrix(2, 2, Array(0.0, 1.0, 0.0, 0.0))),
          ((1, 0), new DenseMatrix(2, 2, Array(3.0, 0.0, 1.0, 1.0))),
          ((1, 1), new DenseMatrix(2, 2, Array(1.0, 2.0, 0.0, 1.0))),
          ((2, 0), new DenseMatrix(1, 2, Array(1.0, 0.0))), // This comment will make scalafmt go crazy
          ((2, 1), new DenseMatrix(1, 2, Array(1.0, 5.0))))
    }
  }
}

```

Diff heatmap

2 4 8 16 32 64

```
List(Split(Space,
            0,
            policy = SingleLineBlock(close),
            ignoreIf = blockSize > style.maxColumn),
      Split(nl, 1, policy = {
        case Decision(t@FormatToken(_, `close`, _), s) =>
          Decision(t, List(Split(Newline, 0)))
      })
```


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- Performance
- User adoption

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Macro benchmark

Insight

How does scalafmt perform in a continuous integration setup?

Task

Format Scala.js repo.

Macro benchmark

Benchmark	Cores	Score	Error	Units
Parallel.scalafmt	4	14.616	0.632	s/op
Parallel.scalariform	4	2.810	0.641	s/op
Ratio		5.20		
Synchronous.scalafmt	1	35.654	0.459	s/op
Synchronous.scalariform	1	5.951	0.135	s/op
Ratio		5.99		

Micro benchmark

Insight

How does scalafmt perform in an interactive software developer workflow?

Task

Format single source file.

File sizes

Table: Lines of code per source file. Collected from sample of $\sim 27,000$ source files with total 3.2 million lines of code.

25th	Median	Mean	75th	90th	95th	99th	Max
16	46	106	113	248	400	945	11.723

- Small: ~ 50 LOC
- Medium: ~ 300 LOC
- Large: $\sim 1,000$ LOC
- Extra large: $\sim 4,500$ LOC

Micro benchmark: results

Benchmark	Score	Error	Units
Small.scalafmt	6.968	0.104	ms/op
Small.scalariform	1.176	0.025	ms/op
Ratio	5.93		
Medium.scalafmt	79.616	2.013	ms/op
Medium.scalariform	15.934	0.441	ms/op
Ratio	5.00		

Micro benchmark: results

Benchmark	Score	Error	Units
Large.scalafmt	355.819	17.385	ms/op
Large.scalariform	39.324	3.395	ms/op
Ratio	9.05		
ExtraLarge.scalafmt	1423.140	103.360	ms/op
ExtraLarge.scalariform	219.820	14.450	ms/op
Ratio	6.50		

Installations

Table: Download numbers for scalafmt

Channel	Version	Installations
IntelliJ	v0.2.5	847
	All	3.273
Maven	v0.2.5	788
	All	2.657
Github	v0.2.5	102
	All	929
Sum	v0.2.5	1.737
	All	6.859

Installations

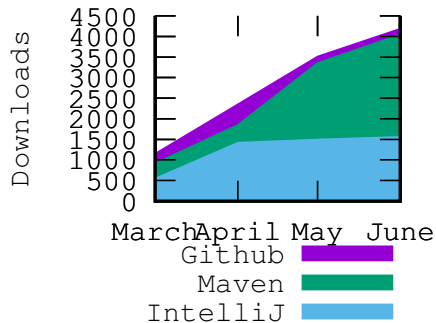


Figure: Scalafmt installations by month by channel

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Conclusions

Maximum line length setting	X
Opinionated settings	X
Vertical alignment	X
Performance	? ⁴

⁴Seems many users are OK with current performance

“Verizon is now including scalafmt (with reformat on compile settings) in the default template for all new projects (which, in a sizable microservices shop, is a lot of projects)”

— Daniel Spiewak⁵

⁵Source:

<https://gitter.im/olafurpg/scalafmt?at=5776b518cdab7a1f4fbefd31>

The End

Thank you!