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# What is...?

Julia is an open-source, multi-platform, high-level, high-performance programming language for technical computing.

Julia has an LLVM-based JIT compiler that allows it to match the performance of languages such as C and FORTRAN without the hassle of low-level code. Because the code is compiled on the fly you can run (bits of) code in a shell or REPL, which is part of the recommended workflow.

Julia is dynamically typed, provides multiple dispatch, and is designed for parallelism and distributed computation.

Julia has a built-in package manager.

Julia has many built-in mathematical functions, including special functions (e.g. Gamma), and supports complex numbers right out of the box.

Julia allows you to generate code automagically thanks to Lisp-inspired macros.

Julia was born in 2012.

Basics	
Assignment	answer = 42 x, y, z = 1, [1:10; ], "A string" x, y = y, x # swap x and y
Constant declaration	const DATE_OF_BIRTH = 2012
End-of-line comment	i = 1 # This is a comment
Delimited comment	#= This is another comment =#
Chaining	<pre>x = y = z = 1  # right-to-left 0 &lt; x &lt; 3</pre>
Function definition	<pre>function add_one(i)     return i + 1 end</pre>
Insert LaTeX symbols	\delta + [Tab]

Operators	
Basic arithmetic	+, -,*,/
Exponentiation	2^3 == 8
Division	3/12 == 0.25
Inverse division	7\3 == 3/7
Remainder	x % yorrem(x,y)
Negation	!true == false
Equality	a == b
Inequality	a!=bora≠b
Less and larger than	< and >
Less than or equal to	<= 0Γ ≤
Greater than or equal to	>= 0
Element-wise operation	[1, 2, 3] .+ [1, 2, 3] == [2, 4, 6] [1, 2, 3] .* [1, 2, 3] == [1, 4, 9]
Not a number	isnan(NaN) not(!) NaN == NaN
Ternary operator	a == b ? "Equal" : "Not equal"
Short-circuited AND and OR	a && banda    b
Object equivalence	a === b

The shell a.k.a. REPL	
Recall last result	ans
Interrupt execution	[Ctrl] + [C]
Clear screen	[Ctrl] + [L]
Run program	include("filename.jl")
Get help for func is defined	?func
See all places where func is defined	apropos("func")
Command line mode	;
Package Manager mode	]
Help mode	?
Exit special mode / Return to REPL	[Backspace] on empty line
Exit REPL	exit() or [Ctrl] + [D]
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# Standard libraries

To help Julia load faster, many core functionalities exist in standard libraries that come bundled with Julia. To make their functions available, use using PackageName. Here are some Standard Libraries and popular functions.

Random	rand, randn, randsubseq
Statistics	mean, std, cor, median, quantile
LinearAlgebra	I, eigvals, eigvecs, det, cholesky
SparseArrays	sparse, SparseVector, SparseMatrixCSC
Distributed	@distributed,pmap,addprocs
Dates	DateTime, Date

# Package management

Packages must be registered before they are visible to the package manager. In Julia 1.0, there are two ways to work with the package manager: either with using Pkg and using Pkg functions, or by typing ] in the REPL to enter the special interactive package management mode. (To return to regular REPL, just hit BACKSPACE on an empty line in package management mode). Note that new tools arrive in interactive mode first, then usually also become available in regular Julia sessions through Pkg module.

# Using Pkg in Julia session

List installed packages (human-readable)	Pkg.status()
List installed packages (machine-readable)	Pkg.installed()
Update all packages	Pkg.update()
Install PackageName	<pre>Pkg.add("PackageName")</pre>
Rebuild PackageName	<pre>Pkg.build("PackageName")</pre>
Use PackageName (after install)	using PackageName
Remove PackageName	Pkg.rm("PackageName")

# In Interactive Package Mode

Add PackageName	add PackageName
Remove PackageName	rm PackageName
Update PackageName	update PackageName
Use development version	dev PackageName ог dev GitRepoUrl
Stop using development version, revert to public release	free PackageName

### Characters and strings chr = 'C'Character String str = "A string" Character code Int('J') == 74Character from code Char(74) == 'J' $chr = ' \uXXXX'$ # 4-diait HEX Any UTF character chr = '\UXXXXXXXX' # 8-digit HEX for c in str Loop through characters println(c) end Concatenation str = "Learn" \* " " \* "Julia" a = b = 2String interpolation println("a \* b = \$(a\*b)")First matching character or regular findfirst(isequal('i'), "Julia") expression == 4 Replace substring or regular replace("Julia", "a" => "us") == "Julius" expression Last index (of collection) lastindex("Hello") == 5 Number of characters length("Hello") == 5 Regular expression pattern = r"l[aeiou]" str = "+1 234 567 890" pat = r" + ([0-9]) ([0-9]+)"Subexpressions m = match(pat, str) m.captures == ["1", "234"] [m.match for m = eachmatch(pat, All occurrences str)] All occurrences (as iterator) eachmatch(pat, str) Beware of multi-byte Unicode encodings in UTF-8: 10 == lastindex("Angström") != length("Angström") == 8 Strings are immutable.

Numbers	
Integer types	IntN and UIntN, with N ∈ {8, 16, 32, 64, 128}, BigInt
Floating-point types	FloatN with N $\in$ {16, 32, 64} BigFloat
Minimum and maximum values by type	<pre>typemin(Int8) typemax(Int64)</pre>
Complex types	Complex{T}
lmaginary unit	im
Machine precision	eps() # same as eps(Float64)
Rounding	<pre>round() # floating-point round(Int, x) # integer</pre>
Type conversions	<pre>convert(TypeName, val) # attempt/error typename(val) # calls convert</pre>
Global constants	рі # 3.1415 п # 3.1415 im # real(im * im) == -1
More constants	using Base.MathConstants
Julia does not automatically of SaferIntegers for ints with over	theck for numerical overflow. Use package flow checking.

Random Numbers	
Many random number functions require using	g Random.
Set seed	seed!(seed)
Random numbers	<pre>rand() # uniform [0,1) randn() # normal (-Inf, Inf)</pre>
Random from Other Distribution	<pre>using Distributions my_dist = Bernoulli(0.2) # For example rand(my_dist)</pre>
Random subsample elements from A with inclusion probability p	randsubseq(A, p)
Random permutation elements of A	shuffle(A)

Arrays	
Declaration Pre-allocation	arr = Float64[] sizehint!(arr, 10^4)
Access and assignment	arr = Any[1,2] arr[1] = "Some text"
Comparison	a = [1:10;] b = a  # b points to a a[1] = -99 a == b  # true
Copy elements (not address)	b = copy(a) b = deepcopy(a)
Select subarray from m to n	arr[m:n]
n-element array with 0.0s	zeros(n)
n-element array with 1.0s	ones(n)
n-element array with #undefs	<pre>Vector{Type}(undef,n)</pre>
n equally spaced numbers from start to stop	<pre>range(start,stop=stop,length=n)</pre>
Array with n random Int8 elements	rand(Int8, n)
Fill array with val	fill!(arr, val)
Pop last element	pop!(arr)
Pop first element	popfirst!(a)
Push val as last element	push!(arr, val)
Push val as first element	pushfirst!(arr, val)
Remove element at index idx	deleteat!(arr, idx)
Sort	sort!(arr)
Append a with b	append!(a,b)
Check whether val is element	in(val, arr) or val in arr
Scalar product	dot(a, b) == sum(a .* b)
Change dimensions (if possible)	reshape(1:6, 3, 2)' == [1 2 3; 4 5 6]
To string (with delimiter del between elements)	join(arr, del)

# Linear Algebra

For most linear algebra tools, use using LinearAlgebra.

```
I # just use variable I. Will automatically
Identity matrix
                    conform to dimensions required.
Define matrix
                    M = [1 0; 0 1]
Matrix dimensions
                   size(M)
Select i th row
                    M[i,:]
Select i th column
                   M[:, i]
Concatenate
                    M = [a b] or M = hcat(a, b)
horizontally
Concatenate
                    M = [a ; b] or M = vcat(a, b)
vertically
Matrix
                    transpose(M)
transposition
Conjugate matrix
                    M' or adjoint(M)
transposition
Matrix trace
                    tr(M)
Matrix
                    det(M)
determinant
Matrix rank
                    rank(M)
Matrix eigenvalues
                   eigvals(M)
Matrix
                    eigvecs(M)
eigenvectors
Matrix inverse
                    inv(M)
Solve M*x == v
                    M\v is better than inv(M)*v
Moore-Penrose
                    pinv(M)
pseudo-inverse
```

Julia has built-in support for matrix decompositions.

Julia tries to infer whether matrices are of a special type (symmetric, hermitian, etc.), but sometimes fails. To aid Julia in dispatching the optimal algorithms, special matrices can be declared to have a structure with functions like Symmetric, Hermitian, UpperTriangular, LowerTriangular, Diagonal, and more.

Control flow and loops		
Conditional	if-elseif-else-end	
Simple for loop	for i in 1:10 println(i) end	
Unnested for loop	<pre>for i in 1:10, j = 1:5     println(i*j) end</pre>	
Enumeration	<pre>for (idx, val) in enumerate(arr)     println("the \$idx-th element is \$val") end</pre>	
while loop	while bool_expr # do stuff end	
Exit loop	break	
Exit iteration	continue	

## **Functions**

All arguments to functions are passed by reference.

Functions with ! appended change at least one argument, typically the first: sort!(arr).

Required arguments are separated with a comma and use the positional notation.

Optional arguments need a default value in the signature, defined with =.

Keyword arguments use the named notation and are listed in the function's signature after the semicolon:

```
function func(req1, req2; key1=dflt1, key2=dflt2)
    # do stuff
end
```

The semicolon is *not* required in the call to a function that accepts keyword arguments.

The return statement is optional but highly recommended.

Multiple data structures can be returned as a tuple in a single return statement.

Command line arguments julia script.jl arg1 arg2... can be processed from global constant ARGS:

```
for arg in ARGS
```

```
pr tirttifary
Anonymous functions can best be used in collection functions or list
comprehensions: x -> x^2.
Functions can accept a variable number of arguments:
 function func(a...)
     println(a)
 end
 func(1, 2, [3:5]) # tuple: (1, 2, UnitRange{Int64}[3:5])
Functions can be nested:
 function outerfunction()
     # do some outer stuff
     function innerfunction()
         # do inner stuff
         # can access prior outer definitions
     # do more outer stuff
 end
Functions can have explicit return types
 # take any Number subtype and return it as a String
 function stringifynumber(num::T)::String where T <: Number</pre>
     return "$num"
 end
Functions can be vectorized by using the Dot Syntax
 # here we broadcast the subtraction of each mean value
 # by using the dot operator
 julia> using Statistics
 julia > A = rand(3, 4);
 julia> B = A .- mean(A, dims=1)
 3×4 Array{Float64,2}:
   0.0387438
                                       0.455245
                 0.112224 -0.0541478
   0.000773337 0.250006 0.0140011 -0.289532
  -0.0395171
                -0.36223
                            0.0401467 -0.165713
 julia> mean(B, dims=1)
 1×4 Array{Float64,2}:
  -7.40149e-17 7.40149e-17 1.85037e-17 3.70074e-17
```

Julia generates specialized versions of functions based on data types. When a function is called with the same argument types again, Julia can look up the native machine code and skip the compilation process.

Since **Julia 0.5** the existence of potential ambiguities is still acceptable, but actually calling an ambiguous method is an **immediate error**.

Stack overflow is possible when recursive functions nest many levels deep. Trampolining can be used to do tail-call optimization, as Julia does not do that automatically yet. Alternatively, you can rewrite the tail recursion as an iteration.

### **Dictionaries** d = Dict(key1 => val1, key2 => val2, Dictionary d = Dict(:key1 => val1, :key2 => val2, All keys (iterator) keys(d) All values (iterator) values(d) for (k,v) in d Loop through key-value println("key: \$k, value: \$v") pairs end Check for key:k haskey(d, :k) arr = collect(keys(d)) Copy keys (or values) to arr = [k for (k,v) in d]arrav Dictionaries are mutable; when symbols are used as keys, the keys are immutable.

Sets	
Declaration	s = Set([1, 2, 3, "Some text"])
Union s1 U s2	union(s1, s2)
Intersection s1 n s2	<pre>intersect(s1, s2)</pre>
Difference s1 \\ s2	setdiff(s1, s2)
Difference s1 $\triangle$ s2	symdiff(s1, s2)
Subset s1 ⊆ s2	issubset(s1, s2)
Checking whether an ele	ment is contained in a set is done in O(1).

<pre>map(f, coll) or map(coll) do elem     # do stuff with elem     # must contain return end</pre>
filter(f, coll)
arr = [f(elem) for elem in coll]

## **Types**

Julia has no classes and thus no class-specific methods.

Types are like classes without methods.

Abstract types can be subtyped but not instantiated.

Concrete types cannot be subtyped.

By default, struct s are immutable.

Immutable types enhance performance and are thread safe, as they can be shared among threads without the need for synchronization.

Objects that may be one of a set of types are called Union types.

```
Type annotation
                          var::TypeName
                          struct Programmer
                               name::String
Type declaration
                               birth vear::UInt16
                               fave language::AbstractString
                           end
Mutable type declaration
                          replace struct with mutable struct
Type alias
                          const Nerd = Programmer
Type constructors
                          methods(TypeName)
                          me = Programmer("Ian", 1984, "Julia")
Type instantiation
                          me = Nerd("Ian", 1984, "Julia")
                          abstract type Bird end
                          struct Duck <: Bird
Subtype declaration
                              pond::String
                           end
                          struct Point{T <: Real}</pre>
                               x::T
                               y::T
Parametric type
                           end
                          p =Point{Float64}(1,2)
                          Union{Int. Strina}
Union types
Traverse type hierarchy
                          supertype(TypeName) and subtypes(TypeName)
Default supertype
                           Any
All fields
                          fieldnames(TypeName)
All field types
                          TypeName.types
```

When a type is defined with an *inner* constructor, the default *outer* constructors are not available and have to be defined manually if need be. An inner constructor is best used to check whether the parameters conform to certain (invariance) conditions. Obviously, these invariants can be violated by accessing and modifying the fields directly, unless the type is defined as imputable. The new knowled may be used to create an object

of the same type.

parameters Tvpe invariant, which means that аге Point{Float64} <: Point{Real} is false, even though Float64 <: Real. the Tuple types, on other hand, covariant: аге Tuple{Float64} <: Tuple{Real}.</pre>

The type-inferred form of Julia's internal representation can be found with code\_typed(). This is useful to identify where Any rather than type-specific native code is generated.

Missing and Nothing				
Programmers Null	nothing			
Missing Data	missing			
Not a Number in Float	NaN			
Filter missings	<pre>collect(skipmissing([1, 2, missing])) == [1,2]</pre>			
Replace missings	<pre>collect((df[:col], 1))</pre>			
Check if missing	ismissing(x) <b>not</b> x == missing			

```
Exceptions
Throw
                  throw(SomeExcep())
SomeExcep
Rethrow current
                  rethrow()
exception
                  struct NewExcep <: Exception</pre>
                      v::String
                  end
Define NewExcep
                  Base.showerror(io::I0, e::NewExcep) = print(io,
                  "A problem with $(e.v)!")
                  throw(NewExcep("x"))
Throw error with
                  error(msg)
msg text
                  trv
                      # do something potentially iffy
                  catch ex
                      if isa(ex, SomeExcep)
                          # handle SomeExcep
                      elseif isa(ex, AnotherExcep)
Handler
                          # handle AnotherExcep
                      else
                          # handle all others
                      end
                  finally
                      # do this in any case
                  end
```

### Modules

Modules are separate global variable workspaces that group together similar functionality.

```
module PackageName
                  # add module definitions
Definition
                  # use export to make definitions accessible
                  end
Include
                  include("filename.jl")
filename.jl
                  usina ModuleName
                                          # all exported names
                  using ModuleName: x, y
                                                      # only x, y
                  import ModuleName
                                          # only ModuleName
Load
                  import ModuleName: x, y
                                                      # only x, y
                  import ModuleName.x, ModuleName.y # only x, y
                  # Get an array of names exported by Module
                  names(ModuleName)
                  # include non-exports. deprecateds
                  # and compiler-generated names
Exports
                  names(ModuleName, all::Bool)
                  #also show names explicitly imported from other
                  modules
                  names(ModuleName, all::Bool, imported::Bool)
```

With using Foo you need to say function Foo.bar(... to extend module Foo's function bar with a new method, but with import Foo.bar, you only need to say function bar(... and it automatically extends module Foo's function bar.

# **Expressions**

Julia is homoiconic: programs are represented as data structures of the language itself. In fact, everything is an expression Expr.

Symbols are interned strings prefixed with a colon. Symbols are more efficient and they are typically used as identifiers, keys (in dictionaries), or columns in data frames. Symbols cannot be concatenated.

```
Quoting :( ... ) or quote ... end creates an expression, just like Meta.parse(str), and Expr(:call, ...).
```

```
x = 1
line = "1 + $x"  # some code
expr = Meta.parse(line) # make an Expr object
typeof(expr) == Expr  # true
dump(expr)  # generate abstract syntax tree
eval(expr) == 2  # evaluate Expr object: true
```

### Macros

Macros allow generated code (i.e. expressions) to be included in a program.

```
macro macroname(expr)
Definition
                   # do stuff
               end
Usage
               macroname(ex1, ex2, ...) or @macroname ex1, ex2, ...
                               # equal (exact)
               0test
                              # isapprox(x, y)
               0test x ≈ v
                               # assert (unit test)
               @assert
               @which
                               # types used
                               # time and memory statistics
               Otime
                               # time elapsed
               @elapsed
Built-in macros
               @allocated
                               # memory allocated
               @profile
                               # profile
               @spawn
                               # run at some worker
                               # run at specified worker
               @spawnat
                               # asynchronous task
               @asvnc
               @distributed
                               # parallel for loop
               @evervwhere
                               # make available to workers
```

Rules for creating hygienic macros:

- Declare variables inside macro with local.
- Do not call eval inside macro.
- Escape interpolated expressions to avoid expansion: \$(esc(expr))

# Parallel Computing

Parallel computing tools are available in the Distributed standard library.

	Launch REPL with N workers	julia -p N	
	Number of available workers	nprocs()	
	Add N workers	addprocs(N)	
	See all worker ids	<pre>for pid in workers()     println(pid) end</pre>	
	Get id of executing worker	myid()	
	Remove worker	rmprocs(pid)	
	Run f with arguments args on pid	<pre>r = remotecall(f, pid, args) # or: r = @spawnat pid f(args) fetch(r)</pre>	
	Run f with arguments args on pid (more efficient)	<pre>remotecall_fetch(f, pid, args)</pre>	
	Run f with arguments args on any worker	r = @spawn f(args) fetch(r)	
	Run f with arguments args on all workers	<pre>r = [@spawnat w f(args) for w in workers()] fetch(r)</pre>	
	Make expr available to all workers	@everywhere expr	
	Parallel for loop with reducer function red	<pre>sum = @distributed (red) for i in 1:10^6     # do parallelstuff end</pre>	
	Apply f to all elements in collection coll	pmap(f, coll)	
ı			

Workers are also known as concurrent/parallel processes.

Modules with parallel processing capabilities are best split into a functions file that contains all the functions and variables needed by all workers, and a driver file that handles the processing of data. The driver file obviously has to import the functions file.

A non-trivial (word count) example of a reducer function is provided by Adam DeConinck.

### I/O stream = stdin for line in eachline(stream) Read stream # do stuff end open(filename) do file for line in eachline(file) Read file # do stuff end end using CSV Read CSV file data = CSV.read(filename) using CSV Write CSV file CSV.write(filename, data) using JLD Save Julia Object save(filename, "object key", object, ...) using JLD Load Julia Object d = load(filename) # Returns a dict of objects using HDF5 Save HDF5 h5write(filename, "key", object) using HDF5 Load HDF5 h5read(filename, "key")

### **DataFrames** For dplyr-like tools, see DataFramesMeta.jl. Read Stata, SPSS, etc. StatFiles Package Describe data frame describe(df) Make vector of column col v = df[:col] Sort by col sort!(df, [:col]) Categorical col categorical!(df, [:col]) List col levels levels(df[:col]) All observations with col==val df[df[:col] .== val, :] stack(df, [1:n; ]) Reshape from wide to long stack(df, [:col1, :col2, ...] format melt(df, [:col1, :col2]) [ Reshape from long to wide unstack(df, :id, :val) format allowmissing!(df) or Make Nullable allowmissing!(df, :col) for r in eachrow(df) # do stuff. # r is Struct with fields of col Loop over Rows names. end for c in eachcol(df) # do stuff. Loop over Columns # c is tuple with name, then vector end Apply func to groups by(df, :group\_col, func) using Query query = @from r in df begin@where r.col1 > 40Query @select {new name=r.col1, r.col2} @collect DataFrame # Default:

iterator end

# Type typeof(name) Type check isa(name, TypeName) List subtypes subtypes(TypeName) List supertype supertype(TypeName) Function methods methods(func) JIT bytecode code\_llvm(expr) Assembly code code\_native(expr)

Noteworthy packages and projects				
Many core packages are managed by communities with names of the for Julia[Topic].				
Statistics	JuliaStats			
Differential Equations Automatic differentiation	JuliaDiffEq (Dif	ferentialEquations.jl)		
Numerical optimization	JuliaOpt			
Plotting Network (Graph) Analysis	JuliaPlots JuliaGraphs			
Web Geo-Spatial	JuliaWeb JuliaGeo			
Machine Learning	JuliaML			
Super-used Packages	DataFrames Distributions Flux Gadfly LightGraphs TextAnalysis	<pre># linear/logistic regression # Statistical distributions # Machine learning # ggplot2-likeplotting # Network analysis # NLP</pre>		

# Naming Conventions

The main convention in Julia is to avoid underscores unless they are required for legibility.

Variable names are in lower (or snake) case: somevariable.

Constants are in upper case: SOMECONSTANT.

Functions are in lower (or snake) case: somefunction.

Macros are in lower (or snake) case: @somemacro.

Type names are in initial-capital camel case: SomeType.

Julia files have the jl extension.

For more information on Julia code style visit the manual: style guide.

# Performance tips

- Avoid global variables.
- Write type-stable code.
- Use immutable types where possible.
- Use sizehint! for large arrays.
- Free up memory for large arrays with arr = nothing.
- Access arrays along columns, because multi-dimensional arrays are stored in column-major order.
- Pre-allocate resultant data structures.
- Disable the garbage collector in real-time applications: disable\_gc().
- Avoid the splat (...) operator for keyword arguments.
- Use mutating APIs (i.e. functions with ! to avoid copying data structures.
- Use array (element-wise) operations instead of list comprehensions.
- Avoid try-catch in (computation-intensive) loops.
- Avoid Any in collections.
- Avoid abstract types in collections.
- Avoid string interpolation in I/O.
- Vectorizing does not improve speed (unlike R, MATLAB or Python).
- Avoid eval at run-time.

# IDEs, Editors and Plug-ins

- Juno (editor)
- JuliaBox (online IJulia notebook)
- Jupyter (online IJulia notebook)
- Emacs Julia mode (editor)
- vim Julia mode (editor)
- VS Code extension (editor)

### Resources

- Official documentation .
- Learning Julia page.
- Month of Julia
- Community standards .
- Julia: A fresh approach to numerical computing (pdf)
- Julia: A Fast Dynamic Language for Technical Computing (pdf)

## **Videos**

- The 5th annual JuliaCon 2018
- The 4th annual JuliaCon 2017 (Berkeley)
- The 3rd annual JuliaCon 2016
- Getting Started with Julia by Leah Hanson
- Intro to Julia by Huda Nassar
- Introduction to Julia for Pythonistas by John Pearson

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