

Scala Introduction

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Intro

Disclaimer

Prior knowledge

You are expected to already possess certain knowledge from previous programming courses. We will not explain basic programming concepts like classes, functions, variables etc. . .

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- knowledge of JVM platform
- knowledge of algorithms and data structures from CS

What is Scala?

Scala is a general-purpose programming language providing support for functional programming and a strong static type system. Designed to be concise, many of Scala's design decisions aimed to address criticisms of Java.

History

Java Generics

- Java had no generics pre 1.4
- May 1999: Sun proposes to Add Generics to Java, based on GJ
- May 2001: Sun releases prototype for Adding Generics to Java
- January 2003: Generics headed for inclusion in Java 1.5

WTF GJ?

GJ is an extension of the Java programming language that supports generic types

- support for generics
- superset of the Java programming language
- compatible with existing libraries
- efficient translation by erasure

GJ

A Generic Java Language Extension

WTF GJ?

GJ is an extension of the Java programming language that supports generic types



- move some ideas from FP into the Java space
- take three features from functional programming:
 - generics
 - higher-order functions
 - pattern matching
- work on Pizza has more or less stopped since 2002 †

Pizza

```
1 public final class Main {  
2     public int main(String args[]) {  
3         System.out.println(  
4             new Lines(new DataInputStream(System.in))  
5                 .takeWhile(nonEmpty)  
6                 .map(fun(String s) -> int { return Integer.parseInt(s); })  
7                 .reduceLeft(0, fun(int x, int y) -> int { return x + y; }));  
8         while(x == 0) { map.create.newInstance() }  
9     }  
10 }
```

“I wanted to design a language that was different from Java, it would always connect to the Java infrastructure — to the JVM and its libraries.”

— Martin Odersky

- Funnel — first attempt, beautiful but too abstract †
- midway between academic Funnel, and pragmatic but restrictive GJ
- first public release of Scala in 2003
- large redesign in early 2006



Academic vs Industrial

Academic

- Haskell
- Agda
- Idris
- ...

Industrial

- Java
- Python
- Scala ?
- ...

Scala benefits

Multiparadigm

Multiparadigm

OOP & Imperative

- traits & objects
- trait mixins
- abstract overrides
- self types
- ...

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Functional

- type inference
- lambdas
- higher-order functions
- lazy evaluation
- immutability
- pattern matching
- currying
- ADTs

Type Safety

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- monads
- ADTs
- immutability
- value types
- ...

- Akka — actor model implementation

Libraries and Frameworks

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- Spark — cluster computing system

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Why Scala?

Banking and Financial Institute majorly concerns for security, stability and sustainability support in the long terms. Scala will satisfy this needs.

- Tinkoff
- JP Morgan
- Credit Suisse
- Morgan Stanley
- ...

Scala responsibility

Compilation times

- using macros
- overuse of implicits
- overuse of libraries with macros and implicits


```
1  def main(args:Array[String]) = {  
2      10 PRINT "Enter a number"  
3      20 INPUT n  
4      30 PRINT "Square root of " % "n is " % SQR(n)  
5      40 END  
6      RUN  
7  }
```

```
1 trait WRGraph[N <: GNode[N, L], L <: GLink[N]] extends GNode[N, L] { this: N =>
2
3 def combo[AA <: A >: B <% String <% Int : M : Ordering] = ???
4 ...
5 }
```

- implicit hell
- mixing codestyles
- ...

Hands-on

Install Scala plugin

```
$ sbt
sbt:project> ;compile;test:compile
...
sbt:project> run
sbt:project> test
sbt:project> console
```

Practice