

reflect2

 used by **7.2k projects**  **documentation**  **failing**  **65%**  **A+**

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reflect api that avoids runtime reflect.Value cost

- reflect get/set interface{}, with type checking
- reflect get/set unsafe.Pointer, without type checking
- `reflect2.TypeByName` works like `Class.forName` found in java

[json-iterator](#) use this package to save runtime dispatching cost. This package is designed for low level libraries to optimize reflection performance. General application should still use reflect standard library.

reflect2.TypeByName

```
// given package is github.com/your/awesome-package
type MyStruct struct {
    // ...
}

// will return the type
reflect2.TypeByName("awesome-package.MyStruct")
// however, if the type has not been used
// it will be eliminated by compiler, so we can not get it in runtime
```

reflect2 get/set interface{}

```
valType := reflect2.TypeOf(1)
i := 1
j := 10
valType.Set(&i, &j)
// i will be 10
```

to get set `type`, always use its pointer `*type`

reflect2 get/set unsafe.Pointer

```
valType := reflect2.TypeOf(1)
i := 1
j := 10
```

```
valType.UnsafeSet(unsafe.Pointer(&i), unsafe.Pointer(&j))  
// i will be 10
```

to get set `type` , always use its pointer `*type`

benchmark

Benchmark is not necessary for this package. It does nothing actually. As it is just a thin wrapper to make go runtime public. Both `reflect2` and `reflect` call same function provided by `runtime` package exposed by go language.

unsafe safety

Instead of casting `[]byte` to `sliceHeader` in your application using unsafe. We can use `reflect2` instead. This way, if `sliceHeader` changes in the future, only `reflect2` need to be upgraded.

`reflect2` tries its best to keep the implementation same as `reflect` (by testing).