

Introduction to



Scala



A Tiny Book Library in Java (I)

```
public class Book {  
    private String author, title;  
  
    public Book(String author, String title) {  
        this.author = author; this.title = title;  
    }  
  
    public String getAuthor() { return author; }  
    public void setAuthor(String author) { this.author = author; }  
  
    public String getTitle() { return title; }  
    public void setTitle(String title) { this.title = title; }  
  
    public String toString() {  
        return "Book(" + author + "," + title + ")";  
    }  
}
```



A Tiny Book Library in Java (II)

```
public class JavaLibrary {  
    private final List<Book> shelf = new LinkedList<>();  
  
    public void addBook(Book book) {  
        shelf.add(book);  
    }  
  
    public List<Book> booksByAuthor(String author) {  
        List<Book> result = new LinkedList<>();  
        for (Book b : shelf) {  
            if (b.getAuthor().equals(author))  
                result.add(b);  
        }  
        return result;  
    }  
    ...  
}
```



A Tiny Book Library in Java (III)

...

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    JavaLibrary lib = new JavaLibrary();  
    lib.addBook(new Book("A", "A1")); lib.addBook(new Book("A", "A2"));  
    lib.addBook(new Book("B", "B1"));  
  
    List<Book> booksByA = lib.booksByAuthor("A");  
    Collections.sort(booksByA, new Comparator<Book>() {  
        public int compare(Book b1, Book b2) {  
            return b1.getTitle().compareTo(b2.getTitle());  
        }  
    });  
    System.out.print(booksByA);  
}
```

Java Pros & Cons

- **Pros**

- Popularity and acceptance
- Libraries, Tools
- **Java Virtual Machine (JVM)**
 - Platform independent / Highly optimized: JIT, GC
- Several Languages were defined on top of the JVM:
 - Clojure / Groovy / JRuby / Scala



- **Cons**

- Very imperative: **How** instead of **What**
- Not designed for highly concurrent programs
 - Original Thread model was wrong
 - It is almost impossible to write thread-safe programs
- Verbose, too much boilerplate code (=> Eclipse: Source code generators)
 - Getters & Setters, Constructors, Equals + hashCode, ...



Same in Scala

```
object ScalaLibrary {  
  
  case class Book(author: String, title: String)  
  
  val books = List(Book("A", "A2"), Book("A", "A1"),  
                    Book("B", "B1"))  
  
  def booksByAuthor(author: String): List[Book] =  
    books.filter(b => b.author == author)  
  
  def main(args: Array[String]): Unit =  
    println(booksByAuthor("A").sortBy(b => b.title))  
}
```



Same in Java 14 preview

```
record Book(String author, String title) {}

public class Java14Library {
    public static final List<Book> books =
        List.of(new Book("A", "A1"), new Book("A", "A2"), new Book("B", "B1"));

    public static List<Book> booksByAuthor(String author) {
        return books.stream()
            .filter(b -> b.getAuthor().equals(author))
            .collect(Collectors.toList());
    }

    public static void main(String[] args) {
        var booksByA = booksByAuthor("A").stream()
            .sorted(Comparator.comparing(b -> b.author()))
            .collect(Collectors.toList());

        System.out.print(booksByA);
    }
}
```

Scala Advantages over Java

- **In Scala functions are first class and can be passed around**
 - This encourages functional programming with all its advantages
- **In Scala immutability is the default**
 - `val elems = List(1,2,3)`
 - elems is a final reference and the referenced List is immutable
- **In Scala all values are objects (pure object-oriented)**
 - The compiler turns them into primitives, so no efficiency is lost
- **In Scala operators are just methods**
 - `a * b ⇔ a.*(b)`
- **Scala is statically typed (as Java) but uses type inference**
 - `val m = HashMap[String,List[String]]()`

Why Scala for Concurrent Programming

- **Helps to reduce code which deals with shared mutable state**
 - by promoting programming with immutable values and functions
 - Expressions yield a result instead of messing with mutable variables
- **Provides libraries which simplify concurrent programming**
 - Immutable data structures avoid race conditions
 - Software Transactional Memory Library
 - Reactive programming libraries (asynchrony without "callback hell")
 - Actor Library for coarse-grained concurrency

"If I were to pick a language
to use today other than
Java, it would be **Scala**."

-- James Gosling, creator of Java



Source: <http://jonasboner.com/2009/01/30/slides-pragmatic-real-world-scala.html>

I can honestly say if someone had shown me the Programming in **Scala** book by Martin Odersky [...] back in 2003 I'd probably have never created Groovy.

-- James Strachan, creator of Groovy



Source: <http://macstrac.blogspot.ch/2009/04/scala-as-long-term-replacement-for.html>

Teach Yourself!

- <http://docs.scala-lang.org/>
- <https://docs.scala-lang.org/tour/tour-of-scala.html>
- http://twitter.github.io/scala_school/
- <http://www.scala-lang.org/api/current/>
- <https://docs.scala-lang.org/cheatsheets/index.html>
- <https://scala-lang.org/files/archive/spec/2.13/>



NETFLIX

twitter



foursquare®

theguardian

Spark

airbnb