This page's source is located here . Pull requests are welcome!

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 Lispinspired macros.

Julia was created in 2012.

Basics

answer = 42 Assignment 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 =#

x = y = z = 1 # right-to-left Chaining 0 < x < 3 # true

5 < x != y < 5 # false

function add_one(i)

Function definition return i + 1

end

Insert LaTeX symbols \delta + [Tab]

Operators

Basic arithmetic +, -,*,/ Exponentiation 2^3 == 8 Division 3/12 == 0.25Inverse division $7\3 == 3/7$ Remainder x % y Or rem(x,y)Integer division $7 \div 3 == 2$ Negation !true == false Equality a == bInequality a != bora ≠ b Less and larger than < and > Less than or equal to <= OΓ ≤ Greater than or equal to >= 0 ≥ [1, 2, 3] + [1, 2, 3] == [2, 4,Element-wise operation $[\bar{1}, 2, 3] .* [1, 2, 3] == [1, 4,$ [1 NaN] == [1 NaN] --> false Not a number isequal(NaN, NaN) --> true a == b ? "Equal" : "Not equal" Ternary operator Short-circuited AND and a && b and a || b OR Object equivalence

The shell a.k.a. REPL

	Recall last result	ans
	Interrupt execution	[Ctrl] + [C]
	Clear screen	[Ctrl] + [L]
	Run program	<pre>include("filename.jl")</pre>
	Get help for func is defined	?func
	See all places where func is defined	apropos("func")
	Command line mode	; on empty line
	Package Manager mode] on empty line
	Help mode	? on empty line
	Exit special mode / Return to REPL	[Backspace] on empty line
	Exit REPL	exit() or [Ctrl] + [D]
1		

a === b

Statiualu libialics

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 (humanreadable) Pkg.status()

Update all packages Pkg.update()

Use PackageName (after install) using PackageName

Remove PackageName Pkg.rm("PackageName")

In Interactive Package Mode

Add PackageName add PackageName Remove PackageName rm PackageName

Use development version update PackageName or dev GitRepoUrl

Stop using development version,

revert to public release

free PackageName

Characters and strings

```
Character
                                chr = 'C'
String
                                str = "A string"
Character code
                                Int('J') == 74
                                Char(74) == 'J'
Character from code
                                chr = ' \uXXXX'
                                                    # 4-
                                digit HEX
Any UTF character
                                chr = '\UXXXXXXXX' # 8-
                                digit HEX
                                for c in str
Loop through characters
                                    println(c)
                                str = "Learn" * " " *
Concatenation
                                "Julia"
                                a = b = 2
String interpolation
                                println("a * b = $(a*b)")
                                findfirst(isequal('i'),
First matching character or
                                "Julia") == 4
regular expression
                                replace("Julia", "a" =>
Replace substring or regular
                                "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 =
All occurrences
                                eachmatch(pat, 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

values by type typemax(Int64)
Complex types Complex{T}
Imaginary unit im
Machine precision cypemax(Int64)
typemax(Int64)
typemax(Int64)
typemax(Int64)
typemax(Int64)
eps() # same as

Machine precision eps() # same as eps(Float64)

round() # floating-point

round(Int, x) # integer

convert(TypeName, val) #

attempt/error

Type conversions typename(val) # calls

convert

рі # 3.1415... п # 3.1415...

im # real(im * im) == -1

More constants using Base.MathConstants

Julia does not automatically check for numerical overflow. Use package SaferIntegers for ints with overflow checking.

Random Numbers

Global constants

Many random number functions require using Random.

Set seed seed!(seed)

rand() # uniform

Random numbers [0,1)

randn() # normal (-

Inf, Inf)

using Distributions

my_dist_=

Random from Other Distribution Bernoulli(0.2) # For

example

rand(my_dist)

Random subsample elements from A

with inclusion probability p

randsubseq(A, p)

Random permutation elements of A shuffle(A)

Arrays

Declaration arr = Float64[]

Pre-allocation sizehint!(arr, 10^4)

Access and assignment arr = Any[1,2]

arr[1] = "Some text"

a = [1:10;]

b = a # b points to a

Comparison a[1] = -99a == b # true Copy elements (not b = copy(a)b = deepcopy(a)address) 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 Vector{Type}(undef,n) #undefs n equally spaced numbers range(start,stop=stop,length=n) from start to stop Array with n random Int8 rand(Int8, n) elements Fill array with val fill!(arr, val) Pop last element pop!(arr) popfirst!(a) Pop first element Push val as last element push!(arr, val) Push val as first element pushfirst!(arr, val) Remove element at index deleteat!(arr, idx) idx Sort sort!(arr) Append a with b append!(a,b) Check whether val is in(val, arr) or val in arr element Scalar product dot(a, b) == sum(a .* b)Change dimensions (if reshape(1:6, 3, 2)' == $[1 \ 2 \ 3;$ possible) 4 5 6] To string (with delimiter join(arr, del) del between elements)

Linear Algebra

For most linear algebra tools, use using LinearAlgebra.

I # just use variable I. Will Identity matrix automatically conform to dimensions required. Define matrix $M = [1 \ 0; \ 0 \ 1]$ Matrix size(M) dimensions Select i th row M[i.:] Select i th M[:, i] column 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 eigvals(M) eigenvalues Matrix eigvecs(M) eigenvectors Matrix inverse inv(M) Solve M*x == vM\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
                  for i in 1:10
Simple for loop
                       println(i)
                  end
                  for i in 1:10, j = 1:5
Unnested for
                       println(i*i)
loop
                  end
                   for (idx, val) in enumerate(arr)
                       println("the $idx-th element is
Enumeration
                   $val")
                  end
                  while bool expr
while loop
                       # 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
    println(arg)
end
```

Anonymous functions can best be used in collection functions or list comprehensions: $x \rightarrow x^2$.

Functions can accept a variable number of arguments:

https://cheatsheet.juliadocs.org/ Page 8 of 19

```
tunction stringitynumber(num::1)::String where I <:</pre>
 Number
     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
                  0.112224
                            -0.0541478
                                         0.455245
   0.000773337
                  0.250006
                                        -0.289532
                             0.0140011
  -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

keys are immutable.

```
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-
                             println("key: $k, value: $v")
value pairs
                        end
Check for key:k
                        haskey(d, :k)
                        arr = collect(kevs(d))
Copy keys (or values)
                        arr = [k for (k,v) in d]
to array
Dictionaries are mutable; when symbols are used as keys, the
```

Sets

O(1).

Declaration s = Set([1, 2, 3, "Some text"])Union s1 U s2 union(s1, s2) Intersection s1 \cap s2 intersect(s1, s2) Difference s1 \setminus s2 setdiff(s1, s2) Difference s1 \triangle s2 symdiff(s1, s2) Subset s1 \subseteq s2 issubset(s1, s2) Checking whether an element is contained in a set is done in

Collection functions

Apply f to all elements of collection coll

Apply f to all elements of # do stuff with elem # must contain return end

Filter coll for true values of 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_year::UInt16

fave_language::AbstractString

~~4

בווט Mutable type replace struct with mutable struct declaration Type alias const Nerd = Programmer methods(TypeName) Type constructors me = Programmer("Ian", 1984, Type instantiation "Julia") me = Nerd("Ian", 1984, "Julia") abstract type Bird end struct Duck <: Bird Subtype declaration pond::String end struct Point{T <: Real}</pre> x::Ty::T Parametric type end p =Point{Float64}(1,2) Union{Int, String} Union types Traverse type supertype(TypeName) and hierarchy

hierarchy 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 immutable. The new keyword may be used to create an object of the same type.

Type parameters are invariant, which means that Point{Float64} <: Point{Real} is false, even though Float64 <: Real. Tuple types, on the other hand, are covariant: Tuple{Float64} <: Tuple{Real}.

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
NaN

```
Filter missings collect(skipmissing([1, 2, missing]))
== [1,2]
Replace missings collect((df[:col], 1))
Check if missing ismissing(x) not x == missing
```

```
Exceptions
Throw
                throw(SomeExcep())
SomeExcep
Rethrow
                rethrow()
current
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
                error(msg)
with msg text
                try
                    # 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
```

```
מככבסט נט נכ
               end
Include
                include("filename.jl")
filename.jl
               using ModuleName
                                        # all exported
                names
                using ModuleName: x, y
                                                    # only
Load
                import ModuleName
                                    # only ModuleName
                import ModuleName: x, y
                                                    # only
                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
```

N/100400

Wacros

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

```
macro macroname(expr)
Definition
                 # do stuff
             end
             Qmacroname(ex1, ex2, ...) or
Usage
             Qmacroname ex1 ex2 ...
                             # equal (exact)
             0test
                            # isapprox(x, y)
             @test x \approx y
             @assert
                             # assert (unit test)
             @which
                             # types used
                             # time and memory statistics
             @time
             @elapsed
                             # time elapsed
Built-in
                             # memory allocated
             @allocated
macros
                             # profile
             @profile
                             # run at some worker
             @spawn
             @spawnat
                             # run at specified worker
             @async
                             # asynchronous task
             @distributed
                             # parallel for loop
             @everywhere
                             # 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

Run f with arouments aros

Parallel computing tools are available in the Distributed

```
standard library.
Launch REPL with N
                            julia -p N
workers
Number of available
                            nprocs()
workers
Add N workers
                            addprocs(N)
                            for pid in workers()
See all worker ids
                                println(pid)
                            end
Get id of executing worker
                            myid()
Remove worker
                            rmprocs(pid)
                            r = remotecall(f, pid, args...)
                            # or:
```

```
r =  (args)
on pid
                            fetch(r)
                            remotecall fetch(f, pid,
Run f with arguments args
on pid (more efficient)
                            args...)
Run f with arguments args
                            r = @spawn f(args) ... fetch(r)
on any worker
                            r = [0spawnat w f(args) for w
Run f with arguments args
                            in workers()] ... fetch(r)
on all workers
Make expr available to all
                            @everywhere expr
workers
                            sum = @distributed (red) for i
                            in 1:10<sup>6</sup>
Parallel for loop with
reducer function red
                                # do parallelstuff
                            end
Apply f to all elements in
                            pmap(f, coll)
collection coll
```

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.

```
1/0
                 stream = stdin
                 for line in eachline(stream)
Read stream
                     # do stuff
                 end
                 open(filename) do file
                     for line in eachline(file)
                         # do stuff
Read file
                     end
                 end
                 using CSV
Read CSV file
                 data = CSV.read(filename)
                 using CSV
Write CSV file
                 CSV.write(filename, data)
Save Julia
                 using JLD
                 save(filename, "object key", object, ...)
Object
                 using JLD
Load Julia
                 d = load(filename) # Returns a dict of
Object
                 objects
```

Save HDF5
using HDF5
h5write(filename, "key", object)
using 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
                          v = df[:col]
col
                          sort!(df, [:col])
Sort by col
Categorical col
                          categorical!(df, [:col])
List col levels
                          levels(df[:col])
All observations with
                          df[df[:col] .== val, :]
col==val
                          stack(df, [1:n; ])
Reshape from wide to
                          stack(df, [:col1, :col2, ...])
long format
                          melt(df, [:col1, :col2])
Reshape from long to
                          unstack(df, :id, :val)
wide format
                          allowmissing!(df) or
Make Nullable
                          allowmissing!(df, :col)
                          for r in eachrow(df)
                               # do stuff.
                               # r is Struct with fields of
Loop over Rows
                          col 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
                               Qwhere r.col1 > 40
                               @select {new_name=r.col1,
Query
                          r.col2}
                               @collect DataFrame #
                          Default: iterator
                          end
```

Introspection and reflection

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 form Julia[Topic].

Statistics JuliaStats

Scientific Machine SciML (DifferentialEquations.il)

Learning

Automatic JuliaDiff

differentiation

Numerical

optimization JuliaOpt

Plotting JuliaPlots

Network (Graph)

Analysis

JuliaGraphs

Web JuliaWeb
Geo-Spatial JuliaGeo
Machine Learning JuliaML

DataFrames # linear/logistic

regression

Distributions # Statistical

distributions

Super-used Packages Flux # Machine learning

Gadfly # ggplot2-

likeplotting

Graphs # Network analysis

TextAnalysis # NLP

Naming Conventions

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

Variable names are in lower (or enake) cace, comovariable

variable fiailles are ill lower (or strake) case, sorievar lable.

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, maintenance-only mode)
- Jupyter (online IJulia notebook)
- Emacs Julia mode (editor)
- Pluto.jl (online IJulia notebook)
- 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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