# You Are a Scala Contributor

Seth Tisue @SethTisue Scala team, Lightbend







# or you can be, if you want to.

here's how.

# you are a Scala contributor

If you open an issue
If you comment on an issue
or a pull request

If you make a pull request. Even for a typo.

# modest beginnings



Scala Programming Language / SI-725

typo in error message ("incompatibe")

#### Reporter:



Seth Tisue

Votes:



Martin Odersky added a comment - 05/Apr/08 7:24

will be fixed in next release.

# use your GitHub identity

issues
pull requests
chat
forums

### help is available

chat (Gitter)

https://gitter.im/scala/contributors (web or app)

forum (Discourse)

https://contributors.scala-lang.org (web or email)

#### where to ask?

- 1. chat
- 2. forum
- 3. open a pull request!

# half-baked pull requests are okay

You'll get help getting it across the finish line.

# where is everything?

what's out there?

# our GitHub organizations

scala/\*
scalacenter/\*
lampepfl/\*

# main scala/\* repos

scala/scala-lang = scala-lang.org
scala/docs.scala-lang = docs.scala-lang.org

scala/scala = compiler, stdlib, spec
scala/bug = no code just bugs
scala/scala-dev = work tracking

### scala module repos

scala/scala-java8-compat scala/scala-parallel-collections scala/scala-collection-compat scala/scala-async

more soon?

scala/scala-dev#323

community maintained scala/scala-xml
scala/scala-parser-combinators
scala/scala-swing
scala/scala-continuations

### the Scala websites

# Scala. Do you know it?

Kind of? Still learning?

new contributors welcome at:

https://github.com/scala/scala-lang

https://github.com/scala/docs.scala-lang

#### the Scala websites

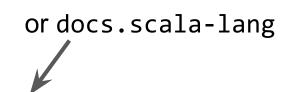
Do you have web skills? Some issues that need those.

Can you put words together? That's needed, too.

Also: translators wanted!

#### zero to website PR:

easiest: GitHub web UI a little harder:







hub clone scala/scala-lang cd scala-lang bundle install bundle exec jekyll serve --watch edit foo/bar.md

#### website issues

look for the "good first issue" label

```
website enhancement good first issue help wanted
on good first issue
ement good first issue help wanted
are broken in 2.12.0 bug good first issue
```

#### Scala modules

# modules: contributing

modules are ordinary libraries

independent versioning independent release schedule (can be rapid)

standard tools: sbt, Travis-CI typically: ScalaTest and/or ScalaCheck

#### scala/scala

#### scala/scala

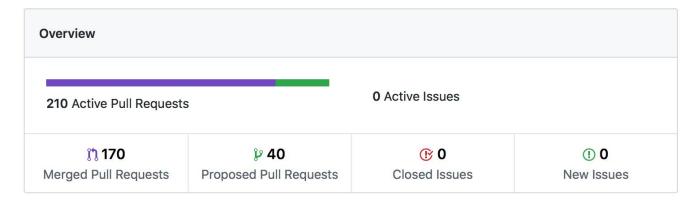
language specification standard library (Scaladoc) standard library (code) compiler

### scala/scala sample month

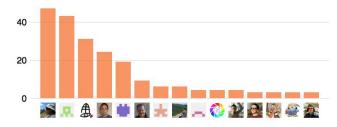
May 19, 2018 – June 19, 2018

Period: 1 month -

majority of commits are from outside contributors



Excluding merges, **33 authors** have pushed **224 commits** to 2.13.x and **228 commits** to all branches. On 2.13.x, **861 files** have changed and there have been **10,387 additions** and **5,193 deletions**.



# scala/scala: language specification

Issues: "spec" label in scala/bug

"most wanted": merge in accepted SIPs

separate contributor doc: <a href="mailto:spec/README.md">spec/README.md</a> separate tools: Markdown, Jekyll, MathJax

# scala/scala: contributor docs

README.md
CONTRIBUTING.md

# scala/scala: Scaladoc (content)

tools: Scaladoc, sbt (light)

#### zero to Scaladoc PR:

```
hub clone scala/scala
cd scala
edit src/library/scala/Foo.scala
sbt
> library/doc
(view in browser)
```

# standard library

scala/scala:

# scala/scala: standard library

run tests using sbt

new tests should use
JUnit or ScalaCheck
existing tests may be partest-based.

to test performance, see test/benchmarks/README.md

# scala/scala: compiler

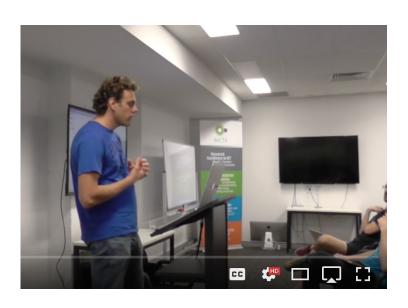
# scala/scala: compiler

most tests are partest-based. partest shines here.

test/files/pos, test/files/neg, test/files/run test/files/\*/\*.check

Jenkins and Travis-CI run the full test suite.

### compiler hacking



Jason Zaugg (Scala team) "Scalac Survival Guide"

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=06oP5IXWveM

# compiler hacking

Eugene Burmako's "Scala Hacker Guide"

https://scala-lang.org/contribute/hacker-guide.html

# compiler hacking: ramping up

```
learn phases, get the big picture:
    scalac -Xshow-phases
scalac -Xprint:all Foo.scala
```

# compiler hacking: ramping up

set up IntelliJ (src/intellij/README.md)

IntelliJ debugger can attach to a running JVM

hardcore compiler hackers swear by IntelliJ

# compiler hacking: ramping up

fix/improve errors & warnings
use the Scala reflection API
write a few macros
write a compiler plugin or two
(see "Compiler Plugins 101")

# what about Scala 3?

#### what about Scala 3?

Scala 2.14 theme: align with Dotty

Scala 2.14 and Scala 3 will share:

- standard library
- compiler back end
- library ecosystem, via Tasty
  - much else

work on Scala 2.14 \*is\* work on Scala 3

#### what about Scala 3?

#### code:

https://github.com/lampepfl/dotty

discussions:

https://github.com/lampepfl/dotty/issues

chat:

https://gitter.im/lampepfl/dotty

specific suggestions

### help improve (& translate) "A Tour of Scala"

https://docs.scala-lang.org/tour/tour-of-scala.html

### please help triage bugs in scala/bug

We have too many old tickets and too many new ones.

Is it clear, actionable, still reproducible?
Is it well labeled?
Is it a "good first issue"?

Triage is needed and valued.

### please help review PRs in scala/scala

Not for core maintainers only!

PR review includes asking questions. It isn't just thumbs up/down.

PR review is usually about improving PR quality.

If you don't understand the code, consider: testing; documentation; clarity; performance; Is the change justified?

### help the ecosystem move to sbt 1

many projects have upgraded quite a few have not

# help the ecosystem move to Scala 2.13.0-M5

every library needs help with this right now

help your favorite library (& help their upstream dependencies)

### please help test and polish 2.13 collections

report issues you find when upgrading libraries and personal projects to M5

fix issues being reported, they are usually manageable in difficulty

# deprecations, removals, modularization

adding code is human

deleting code is divine

### get an early start on Scala 2.14

#### Features

- Opaque types (#448)
- Trait parameters (#439)
- Type lambdas (#576)
- Align name-based pattern matching with Dotty (#533)
- Configurable error reporting / warning suppression (#333)

general thoughts

start small

scratch your own itch

get ideas from Gitter, Stack Overflow, ...

how long is the release cycle?

assess your personal capacity for delayed gratification

seek especially welcoming and responsive maintainers and communities

look for "good first issue" labels
look for a contributor's guide
ask a question in chat, try a modest sample PR
(request feedback)

### staying motivated

### staying motivated

Expect delays. Expect some failures.

Pursue multiple pull requests in parallel. Write everything down.

## redefine failure as progress

Give up? Tell others what you saw. Describe where you got stuck.

This is contributing, too.

Someone else may pick it up. It happens all the time.

## redefine failure as progress

In the end, your PR didn't make it?

You learned something.

And the PR stands as documentation of a path not taken.

This is contributing, too.

### staying motivated

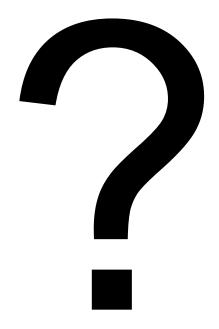
Seek online collaborators. Help others as soon as you are able.

Seek local collaborators.

### Scala Open Source Sprees

organized by the Scala Center / follow @scala\_lang











### no prerequisites

this is not a compiler internals session

### pull request validation

most scala/\* repos have PR validation

scala/scala: 28 minutes (other repos are faster)

### (half-baked issues are less okay)

communities vary, but:

In scala/bug and many other Scala repos, issues aren't for questions.

Use chat and forums for questions.

### more scala/\* repos

scala/collection-strawman

scala/scabot scala/scala-jenkins-infra scala/community-builds

scala/scala-dist scala/scala-dist-smoketest scala/make-release-notes

### where to {open, find} issues

in the repo where the bug is! ask if unsure (chat or forum)

GitHub has organization-wide search (demo)

### why two repos?

Good reasons and bad.

scala/scala-lang:
why Scala, getting started,
downloads, news, community.
small enough to be high quality & fully up-to-date

docs.scala-lang.org: language tour, feature guides, etc.

#### scala/scala: sbt build



since 2016

Scala is a normal sbt project

(\*) pretty normal

### tips for exploring

Use tab completion in sbt

Tab completion is available in some surprising places, e.g. for test names, flags to "scala" and "partest" tasks, etc

Use tab completion in the REPL

### scala/scala: Scaladoc (tool)

### Scaladoc tool hacking

challenge: Scaladoc is part of the compiler

good news: you're consuming compiler data structures, not modifying

caveat: Dottydoc is coming.

Some changes should be done there instead.

watch Gitter, Stack Overflow, etc.

watch for common pitfalls and sticking points

ask yourself: could I fix that? could I document that?

### legal stuff

license: BSD

**CLA:** very nearly Apache 2

coming soon: Apache 2 for both

https://www.scala-lang.org/news/license-change.html

### we're all in this together