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History

- Created by Jeff Bezanson, Stefan Karpinski, Viral B. Shah, and Alan Edelman
- Launched in 2012
- Developed at MIT
- Today, it has been downloaded by users at more than 10,000 companies and 1,500 universities (JuliaComputing)

What is Julia?

- General Purpose Language
- New High Level Dynamic Programming Language
- Designed for Numerical Analysis and Computational Science
- Stems from Various Low Level and High Level Languages
 - C, Python, R, MATLAB
- Free and Open Source

"For the work we do - scientific computing, machine learning, data mining, large-scale linear algebra, distributed and parallel computing - each one is perfect for some aspects of the work and terrible for others. Each one is a trade - off. We are greedy: we want more" (Karpinski and Bezanson)

Why is Julia Popular?

- Combines the syntax of scripting languages like Python, MATLAB, R with the speed of compiled languages like C
- Compiled at run time (Just In Time for Execution)
- Simple Syntax
- Can call libraries from C, Python, and Fortran
- Specifically designed for machine learning and linear algebra

How It Has Helped

- Michael Stump, a systems biologist researcher at the University of Melbourne, saw an 800 fold time improvement after rewriting his computational models from R to Julia (Perkel)
- Jane Herriman, a materials science researcher at Caltech, had tenfold faster runs after rewriting her code from Python to Julia (Perkel)
- "You can do things in an hour that would otherwise take weeks or months", says Michael Stump, a systems biologist at the University of Melbourne (Perkel)

Agenda(Jupyter Notebook)

- Basics of Julia
 - Operators
 - Variables
 - Strings
 - Data Structures (arrays, dictionaries, tuples)
 - Looping and Conditionals
 - Data Frames
 - Files
- Example and demo
 - Plotting
 - Decision Tree / Random Forests
 - Image Segmentation

Citations

Perkel, J. M. (2019, July 30). *Julia: Come for the syntax, stay for the speed*. Nature News. Retrieved November 14, 2021, from https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-02310-3.

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