WEB ASSEMBLY

RUNNING NATIVE CODE IN THE BROWSER (AND BEYOND)

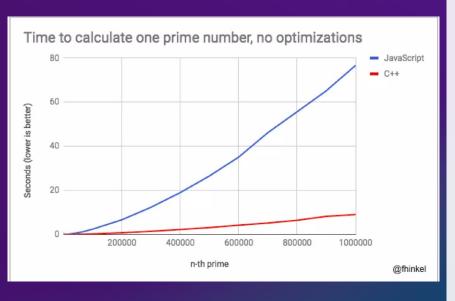
SHIVAM GUPTA | APR 9, 2024



AGENDA

- Javascript & Browsers
- Web Assembly Intro, History, Browsers supported
- Compilers
- Languages supported
- Demo
- Applications
- Resources

JAVASCRIPT



Why so slow?

- JavaScript was the only language that web browsers can run.
- JavaScript was originally created to manage user interactions with DOM.
- Now, we can write complete web applications on it.

WHAT IS WEB ASSEMBLY?

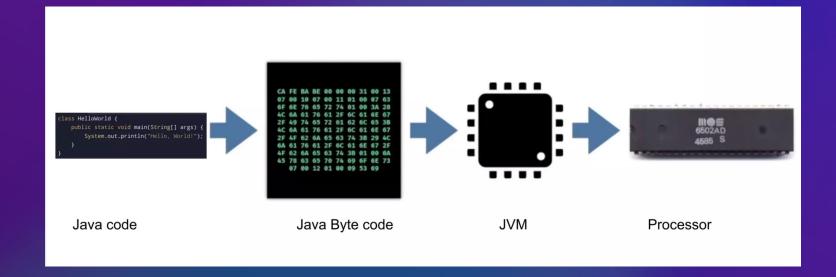
"WebAssembly (abbreviated Wasm) is a <u>binary instruction format</u> for a <u>stack-based virtual</u> <u>machine</u>. Wasm is designed as a portable compilation target for high-level languages like C/C++/Rust/Blazor, etc., enabling <u>deployment on the web for client and server applications</u>."

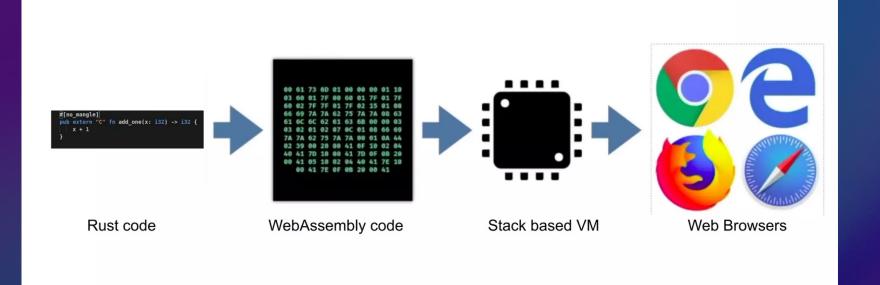
June 2015 – Web Assembly was March 2016 – Google, Microsoft, March 2017 – Begins to be first announced Mozilla preview WA in their shipped on-by-default in browsers



https://caniuse.com/?search=wasm

COMPILERS





LANGUAGES

Some of the languages that can be used with (or compiled to) WebAssembly

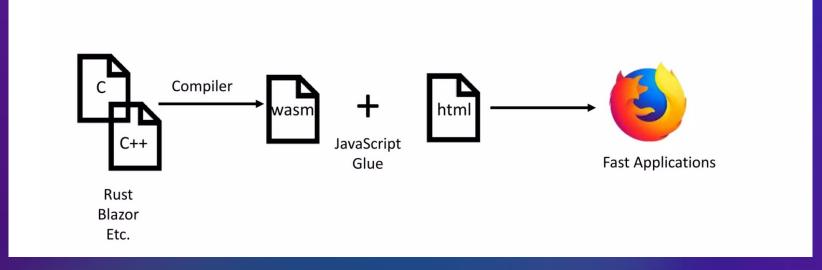
- C/C++ with Emscripten
- Kotlin with Kotlin/Native
- Swift with SwiftWasm
- C# with Mono or Blazer
- Java TeaVM
- Python Pyodide
- Rust with official compiler (rustc)

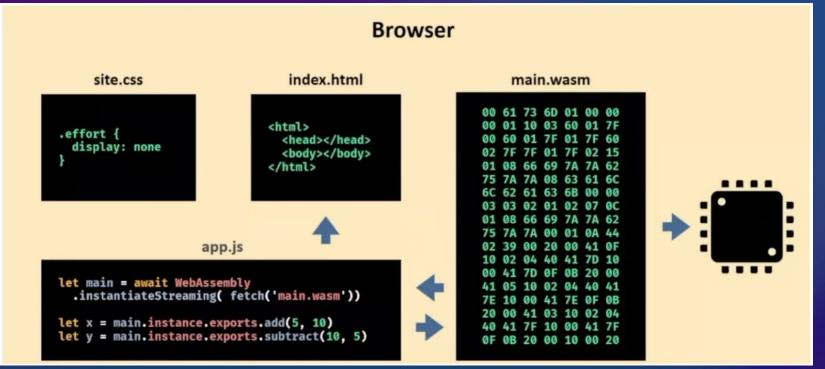
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

Rust source code	WebAssembly Text Format (.wat)	WebAssembly Binary Format (.wasm)
<pre>#[no_mangle] fn factorial(n: i64) -> i64 { if n == 0 { 1 } else { n * factorial(n - 1) } }</pre>	<pre>(func (param i64) (result i64) local.get 0 i64.eqz if (result i64)</pre>	00 61 73 6D 01 00 00 00 01 06 01 60 01 7E 01 7E 03 02 01 00 0A 17 01 15 00 20 00 50 04 7E 42 01 05 20 00 20 00 42 01 7D 10 00 7E 0B 0B

ID	Section	
0	custom section	
1	type section	
2	import section	
3	function section	
4	table section	
5	memory section	
6	global section	
7	export section	
8	start section	
9	element section	
10	code section	
11	data section	
12	data count section	

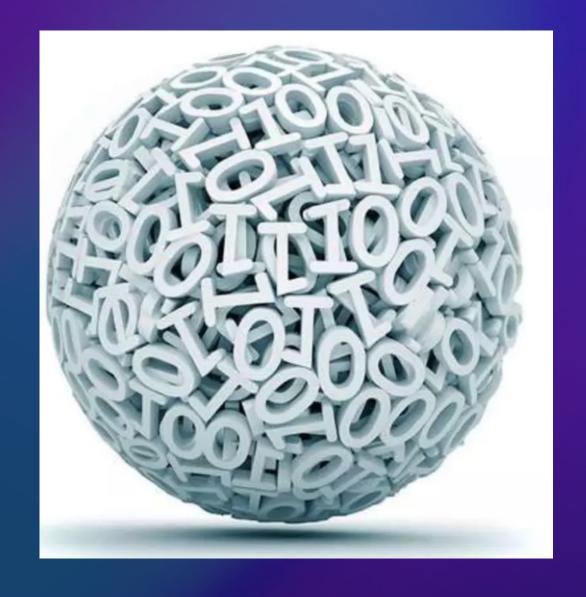
SIMPLIFIED





LET'S SEE IT IN ACTION

LINK TO DEMO REPO:



DEBUGGING WEB ASSEMBLY



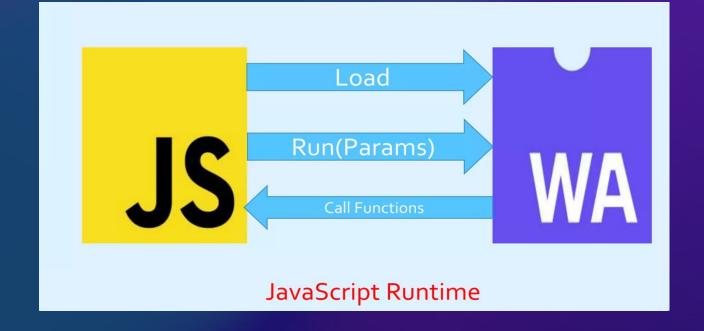


Debug C/C++
WebAssembly | DevTools | Chrome
for Developers

IS IT JAVASCRIPT REPLACEMENT?



- WebAssembly complements JavaScript
- Useful for heavier processes
- Most applications don't need complex processing



WEB ASSEMBLY APPLICATIONS





eBay barcode scanner – 50FPS vs 1FPS (scans per seconds), 95% vs 20% success rate



 Wordpress Gutenberg post parser – 96% - 317% parsing speed increase

Unity Engine



Quake



DEVALUE

WASM & TEAMS

Generalized WASM Import on T21 Web.docx (sharepoint.com)

Scalable secure solution for IC₃ team to create WebWorker and WASM compilation into Teams 2.x Web to support better audio processing for noise suppression, and any scenario utilizing WebWorker and WASM modules from IC₃.

Some efforts were also made in CDL to combine Rust/WASM. Reference

RESOURCES

- https://webassembly.org/
- https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/WebAssembly/C_to_was m
- https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/WebAssembly/Concepts
- https://emscripten.org/docs/gettin g_started/downloads.html#sdkdownload-and-install

Q&A

Thank you