

# Build your own Brainf\*\*\* interpreter

# We've all seen

```
public class HelloLHD {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        System.out.println("Hello Local Hack Day");  
    }  
}
```

# This looks different in BF

```
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+++ .+++++.++ .+++++
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+++++.+++++
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-----.-.-.-.
```

Very different

Turing complete in 8  
instructions

+ - < > [ ] , .



Sometimes surprisingly  
powerful

# Cat - Java

```
import java.io.InputStreamReader;
import java.io.BufferedReader;
import java.io.IOException;
public class Cat {
    public static void main(String[] args) throws IOException {
        BufferedReader reader = new BufferedReader(new InputStreamReader(System.in));
        String line;
        while ((line = reader.readLine()) != null)
            System.out.println(line);
    }
}
```

Cat - BF

, [ . , ]



# How does it work?

- Operates like a turing machine
- Has a data tape initialised to zeros (may be implemented as an array)
- Has a pointer to the current location on the tape
- Operates on this pointer to interact with the tape and stdio

+ - < >

- + Increment value at location of pointer
- - Decrement value at location of pointer
- < Move pointer left
- > Move pointer right

[

[

if value at pointer is zero

skip until after matching bracket (])

]

]

goto opening bracket ([)

, "

,

read a byte from stdin into cell at pointer

•

write a byte from cell at pointer to standard out



# And now?

- Pull the repo - and try to run the BF programs inside with your own interpreter.
- HelloLHD.b does not need loops - probably best to start here.
- Feel free to ask for help!

<https://github.com/reynoldscem/Babfi>