Key features Overview



Syntax



Speed



Package

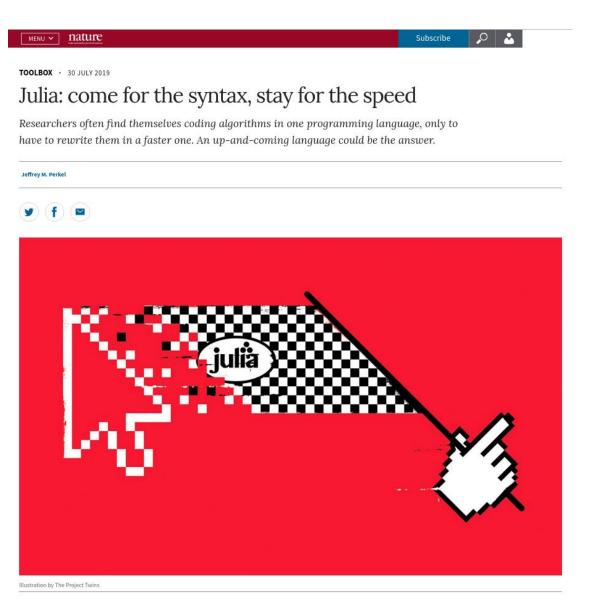


Language binding

Julia Syntax

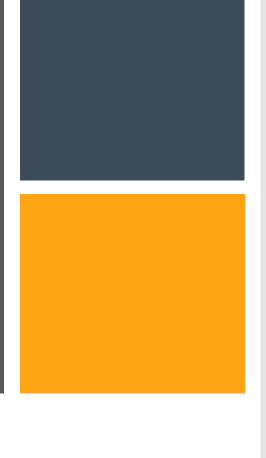
Article (30 July 2019) in Nature journal about Julia:

"Launched in 2012, Julia is an open-source language that combines the interactivity and syntax of 'scripting' languages, such as Python, Matlab and R, with the speed of 'compiled' languages such as Fortran and C."(Jeffrey M. Perkel)



Jeffrey M. Perkel, "Julia: come for the syntax, stay for the speed", Nature. 2019 Aug;572(7767):141-142. doi: 10.1038/d41586-019-02310-3.

Julia Syntax















Programming language comparison resources:

- Noteworthy Differences from other Languages
- Python vs R vs Julia for Data Sciences
- Julia Vs R Comparison Cheat Sheet
- MATLAB—Python—Julia cheatsheet
- The Matrix Cheatsheet Matlab— Python-R-Julia comparison







Libraries/Packages

To add a library/package:

install.packages("tidyverse")

conda install pandas pip install pandas

Pkg.add("DataFrames")

To load a library/package:

library(tidyverse)

import numpy as np import pandas as pd

using DataFrames, CSV, LinearAlgebra using Statistics, StatsBase

Control Structures

if / else if /else

```
if (x == a) {
    ...
} else if (x == b) {
    ...
} else {
    ...
}
```

```
if x == a:
...
elif x == b:
...
else:
...
```

```
if x == a
...
elseif x == b
...
else
...
else
...
end
```

for loop

for (i in I) { ... for i in I: ... for i in I ... end







Matrix

To create a matrix A_{2x3}

A <- matrix(c(1,2,3,4,5,6), 2, 3)

A = np.array([[1,2,3],[4,5,6]])

A = [1 2 3; 4 5 6]

2 x 2 matrix of zeros

A <- zeros(2,2)

A = np.zeros(2,2)

A = zeros(2,2)

2 x 2 identity matrix

A <- eye(2,2)

A = np.eye(2)

A = I

Select an element in matrix A

A[i,j]

A[i,j]

A[i,j]

Select a row in matrix A

A[i,]

A[i,:]

A[i,:]

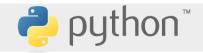
Select a column in matrix A

A[,j]

A[:,j]

A[:,j]







Function

To declare

```
 \begin{array}{lll} f <- \ function(x1, x2 = 3) \, \{ \\ y <- \ x2 - x1 \\ y \\ \} \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{lll} def \ f(x1, x2 = 3): \\ y = x2 - x1 \\ return \ y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ll} function \ f(x1, x2 = 3) \\ y = x2 - x1 \\ end \\ \# \ math \ notation \\ f(x1, x2) = x2 - x1 \end{array}
```

To call

f(5,12) # position matters	f(5,12) # position matters	f(5,12) # position matters
f(x2=12, x1=5) # order free	f(x2=12, x1=5) # order free	f(x2=12, x1=5) # if named arguments

To pass multiple arguments or keyword arguments to a function

```
f <- function(x1, x2 = 7, ...) {
    y <- func_foo(x1, x2, ...)
    y
}

def f(x1, x2 = 7, *args, **kwargs):
    y = func_foo(x1, x2, args, kwargs)
    return y

function f(x1, x2 = 7, args...;kwargs...)
    y = func_foo(x1,x2,args;kwargs)
    end
```

Numeric Types

Julia supports a range of numeric types, including integer, floating-point, and complex numbers. Here's a list of the most common numeric types:

- Int8, Int16, Int32, Int64, Int128: signed integers of 8, 16, 32, 64, and 128 bits, respectively
- UInt8, UInt16, UInt32, UInt64, UInt128: unsigned integers of 8, 16, 32, 64, and 128 bits, respectively
- Float16, Float32, Float64: floating-point numbers of 16, 32, and 64 bits, respectively
- ComplexF32, ComplexF64: complex numbers of 32 and 64 bits, respectively

String, Character, and Boolean Type

• The String type in Julia represents a sequence of Unicode characters. Here's an example of how to define and use a String type:

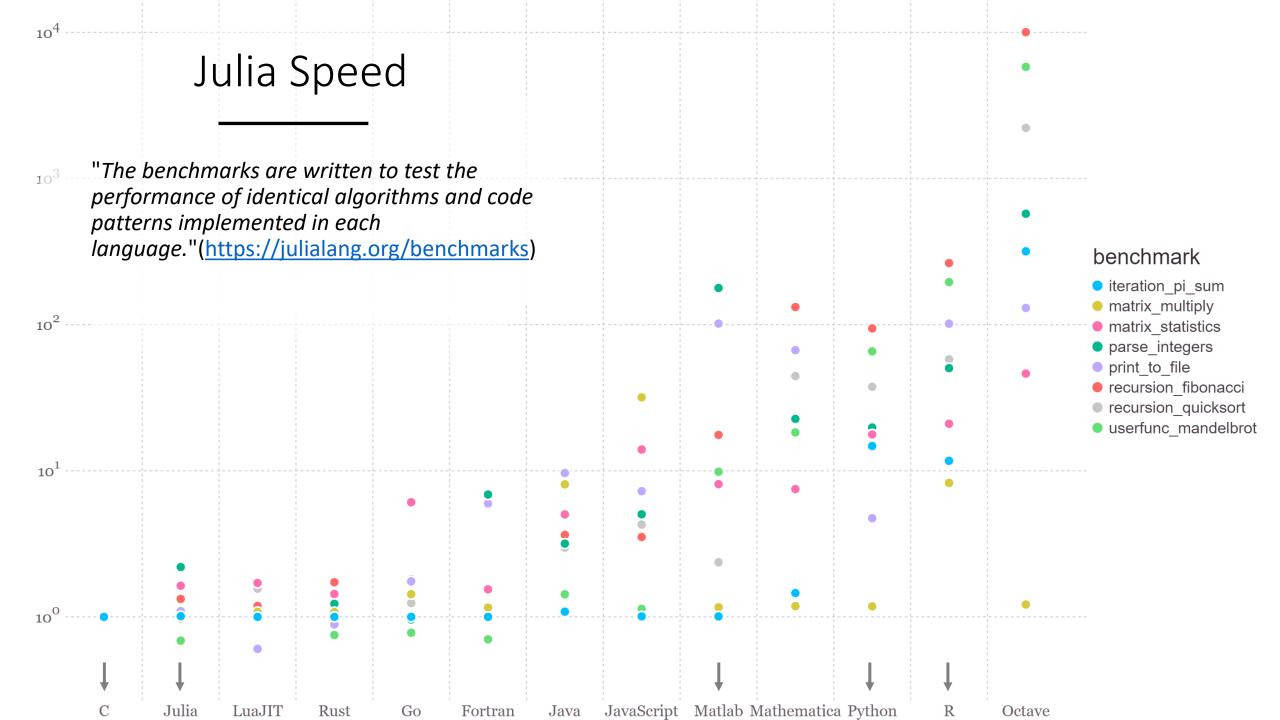
```
julia> my_string = "Hello World!"
```

• The Char type in Julia represents a single Unicode character. Here's an example of how to define and use a Char type:

```
julia> my char = 'G'
```

The Boolean type in Julia represents logical values, which can be either true or false.
 Here's an example of how to define and use a Boolean type:

```
julia> isvalid = true
```



Programming languages:

- Julia 1.8.5
- Python 3.11.1
- C gcc (Ubuntu 12.2.0-3ubuntu1) 12.2.0
- Lisp SBCL 2.3.0
- Java openjdk 19 2023-02-14

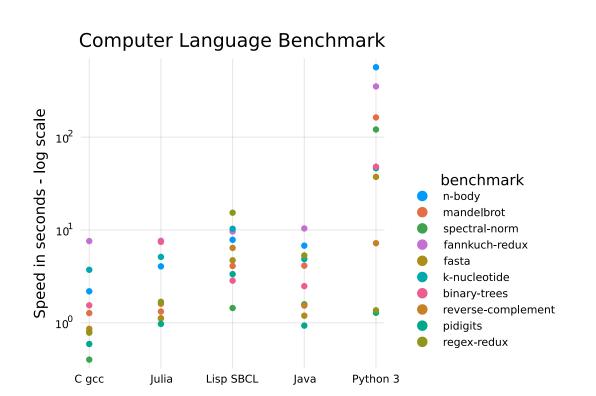
CPU: quad-core 3.0GHz Intel® i5-3330®

RAM: 15.8 GiB

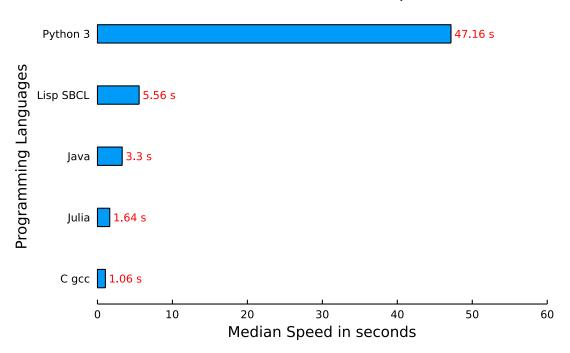
HDD: 2TB SATA disk drive

OS: *Ubuntu™ 22.10 x86_64 GNU/Linux 5.19.0-29-generic*

The Computer Language Benchmarks Games



Benchmark Median Speed



Julia Packages

Julia has over 9114 registered packages. They are a substantial part of the Julia ecosystem.

To explore existing packages related to your area of interest you can check out the following link: https://juliahub.com/ui/Packages

Julia comes with a built-in package manager named Pkg, and also an interactive Package Mode: Example

Julia Packages Worth Mentioning

- Statistics and Math: StatsBase (Basic functionalities for statistics), LinearAlgebra (Linear algebra operations), Distributions (Probability distributions), GLM (Generalized linear models), Turing (Bayesian Inference)
- Data tools: DataFrames (Essential tools for tabular data), Queryverse (A meta package for data science), CSV (For working with CSV files), XLSX (Excel file reader and writer), Tidier (100% Julia implementation of the R tidyverse mini-language)
- Biology: Bio (Framework for computational biology and bioinformatics)
- Machine Learning: Flux (ML library), TensorFlow (A wrapper around TensorFlow), Knet (Deep learning framework), ScikitLearn (Scikit-learn framework), MLJ (A Machine Learning Framework for Julia)
- Plot: Plots (Julia visualizations and data analysis), PyPlot (matplotlib plotting like), Gadfly (ggplot2 plotting like), UnicodePlots (Unicode-based scientific plotting for working in the terminal), Makie (data visualization ecosystem)
- Language binding: PyCall (For Python calling), RCall (For R calling)
- Notebooks: IJulia (Jupyter Julia kernel), Pluto (Interactive Julia native notebooks)

Language Binding



Even though, the package ecosystem still has room to grow. Julia has excellent foreign function interfaces. Easily call into other languages such as python with with PyCall or R with Rcall.



This means that you don't have to wait until the Julia ecosystem is fully mature, and that you don't have to give up your favorite package/library from another language when moving to Julia!

Notebooks



GETTING STARTED



MACROS



DATA STRUCTURES