

Go Language

September 2016

Giacomo Tartari

PhD student, University of Tromsø

Go

Why?

Rob Pike's take (one of the Go instigator) (<http://talks.golang.org/2012/splash.article>)

Briefly

Languages used at Google at the time (mostly Java, C++, and Python) were not satisfactory

- slow builds
- uncontrolled dependencies
- each programmer using a different subset of the language
- poor program understanding (code hard to read, poorly documented, and so on)
- duplication of effort
- difficulty of writing automatic tools
- cross-language builds

Engineering not Research

C-like syntax, simple and fast to learn

Compiled and type safe (static and strong typed)

Concurrent (CSP-like)

Garbage collected

Composition and not inheritance

Batteries included, rich std lib

Hello World

```
package main

import "fmt"

func main() {
    fmt.Println("Hello, 世界")
}
```

[Run](#)

Simple and fast to learn

The code does what it says

```
package main

import "fmt"

type Vertex struct {
    X int
    Y int
}

func (v1 Vertex) Add(v2 Vertex) Vertex {
    return Vertex{
        X: v1.X + v2.X,
        Y: v1.Y + v2.Y,
    }
}

func main() {
    p := Vertex{1, 2}
    q := Vertex{X: 4}

    fmt.Println(p.Add(q))
    fmt.Printf("%T\n", q)
}
```

[Run](#)

Visibility

```
package main

import (
    "fmt"
    "math"
)

func main() {
    fmt.Println(math.pi)
}
```

[Run](#)

Composition not inheritance

```
type Person struct {  
    Name string  
    Age  int  
}  
  
type User struct {  
    P Person  
    Id int  
}  
  
func main() {  
    u := User{}  
    u.P.Name = "Adam"  
    u.P.Age = 42  
    u.Id = 1  
    fmt.Printf("%+v\n", u)  
}
```

[Run](#)

Embedding ~ inheritance

```
type Person struct {  
    Name string  
    Age  int  
}  
  
type User struct {  
    Person  
    Id    int  
}  
  
func main() {  
    u := User{}  
    u.Name = "Adam" // u.Person.Name = "Adam"  
    u.Age = 42      //u.Person.Age = 42  
    u.Id = 1  
    fmt.Println(u)  
}
```

[Run](#)

Embedding ~ inheritance

```
type Person struct {  
    Name string  
}  
  
func (p Person) Greet() string {  
    return "Hello " + p.Name  
}  
  
type User struct {  
    Person  
    Id int  
}  
  
func main() {  
    u := User{}  
    u.Name = "Adam"  
    u.Id = 1  
    fmt.Println(u.Greet())  
}
```

[Run](#)

Encapsulation

```
type Person struct {  
    Name string  
}  
  
func (p Person) Greet() string {  
    return "Hello " + p.Name  
}  
  
type User struct {  
    Person  
    Id int  
}  
  
func (u User) Greet() string {  
    return fmt.Sprintf("%s, Id: %d\n", u.Person.Greet(), u.Id)  
}  
  
func main() {  
    u := User{}  
    u.Name = "Adam"  
    u.Id = 1  
    fmt.Println(u.Greet())  
}
```

[Run](#)

Interfaces

Just behavior

An interface type is defined as a set of method signatures

A value of interface type can hold any value that implements those methods

Interfaces are implemented implicitly

Go tour (<https://tour.golang.org/methods/9>)

Implicit implementation

```
type Greeter interface {  
    Greet() string  
}  
  
func (p Person) Greet() string {  
    return "Hello " + p.Name  
}  
  
func (u User) Greet() string {  
    return fmt.Sprintf("%s, Id: %d\n", u.Person.Greet(), u.Id)  
}  
  
func main() {  
    var g Greeter  
    u := User{}  
    u.Name = "Cody Coder"  
    u.Id = 1  
    g = u  
    fmt.Println(g.Greet())  
  
    p := Person{Name: "Tony Tester"}  
    g = p  
    fmt.Println(g.Greet())  
}
```

[Run](#)

Caveat emptor

```
package main

import "fmt"

func main() {
    var i interface{}
    x := 127
    i = x
    fmt.Println("i:", i)
    v := struct{ π, e float32 }{3.14159, 2.71828}
    i = v
    fmt.Println("i:", i)
}
```

[Run](#)

Type assertions

```
package main

import "fmt"

func main() {
    var i interface{} = "hello"

    s := i.(string)
    fmt.Println(s)

    s, ok := i.(string)
    fmt.Println(s, ok)

    f, ok := i.(float64)
    fmt.Println(f, ok)

    f = i.(float64) // panic
    fmt.Println(f)
}
```

[Run](#)

See Go tour

Assignability and type conversions

Read the docs

[Effective Go](https://golang.org/doc/effective_go.html) (https://golang.org/doc/effective_go.html)

[Language Specs](https://golang.org/ref/spec) (https://golang.org/ref/spec)

Or just try it out with 10 line of code

```
package main

import "fmt"

func main() {
    // do stuff

    fmt.Println(resutlt)
}
```

Portability

Portable

```
$ go tool dist list
```

android/386

android/amd64

android/arm

android/arm64

darwin/386

darwin/amd64

darwin/arm

darwin/arm64

dragonfly/amd64

freebsd/386

freebsd/amd64

freebsd/arm

...

Very portable

...

linux/386

linux/amd64

linux/arm

linux/arm64

linux/mips64

linux/mips64le

linux/ppc64

linux/ppc64le

linux/s390x

nacl/386

nacl/amd64p32

nacl/arm

...

Can't be too portable!

...

netbsd/386

netbsd/amd64

netbsd/arm

openbsd/386

openbsd/amd64

openbsd/arm

plan9/386

plan9/amd64

plan9/arm

solaris/amd64

windows/386

windows/amd64

Cross compilation

```
$export GOOS=linux  
$export GOARCH=arm
```

```
$go build
```

Done!

Easy deployment

Very easy deployment!

```
scp gobin remote@host:/path
```

Done!

Some conditions may apply

Some functionalities (net package) require to call C code

But it is possible to avoid that

```
$export CGO=0
```

Concurrent

Concurrency vs Parallelism

Rob Pike talk about the difference (<http://concur.rspace.googlecode.com/hg/talk/concur.html#title-slide>)

- Concurrency != parallelism
- Concurrency is the composition of independently executing processes
- Concurrency enables parallelism
- Concurrency is about structure
- Parallelism is about execution
- A concurrent program can be executed correctly on one CPU

Concurrency at language level

- *go* statement allows us to run functions independently in different **goroutines**
- Goroutines live in the same address space
- Think of them as a very lightweight threads

Hello Goroutines

```
package main

import (
    "fmt"
    "time"
)

func main() {
    say("world")
    say("hello")
}

func say(s string) {
    for i := 0; i < 5; i++ {
        time.Sleep(100 * time.Millisecond)
        fmt.Printf("%s\n", s)
    }
}
```

[Run](#)

Hello Channels

```
package main

import "fmt"

func sum(s []int, c chan int) {
    sum := 0
    for _, v := range s {
        sum += v
    }
    c <- sum // send sum to c
}

func main() {
    s := []int{7, 2, 8, -9, 4, 0}

    c := make(chan int)
    go sum(s[:len(s)/2], c)
    go sum(s[len(s)/2:], c)
    x, y := <-c, <-c // receive from c

    fmt.Println(x, y, x+y)
}
```

[Run](#)

Goroutine

Workers with random amount of work

```
func main() {  
    t0 := time.Now()  
    for i := 0; i < 5; i++ {  
        do(rand.Intn(1000), i)  
    }  
    fmt.Printf("total time %v\n", time.Now().Sub(t0))  
}  
  
func do(work, id int) {  
    t0 := time.Now()  
    time.Sleep(time.Duration(work) * time.Millisecond)  
    fmt.Printf("done %d [%v]\n", id, time.Now().Sub(t0))  
}
```

[Run](#)

Goroutine & channels

```
func main() {  
    t0 := time.Now()  
    done := make(chan string)  
    for i := 0; i < 5; i++ {  
        go do(rand.Intn(1000), i, done)  
    }  
    for i := 0; i < 5; i++ {  
        fmt.Println(<-done)  
    }  
    fmt.Printf("total time %v\n", time.Now().Sub(t0))  
  
}  
  
func do(work, id int, ch chan string) {  
    t0 := time.Now()  
    time.Sleep(time.Duration(work) * time.Millisecond)  
    ch <- fmt.Sprintf("done %d [%v]", id, time.Now().Sub(t0))  
}
```

[Run](#)

Avoid channels in signatures

```
func main() {  
    seed := time.Now().UnixNano()  
    rand.Seed(seed)  
    t0 := time.Now()  
    done := make(chan string)  
    for i := 0; i < 5; i++ {  
        go func(wid int) {  
            res := do(rand.Intn(1000), wid)  
            done <- res  
        }(i)  
    }  
    for i := 0; i < 5; i++ {  
        fmt.Println(<-done)  
    }  
    fmt.Printf("total time %v\n", time.Now().Sub(t0))  
}  
  
func do(work, id int) string {  
    t0 := time.Now()  
    time.Sleep(time.Duration(work) * time.Millisecond)  
    return fmt.Sprintf("done %d [%v]", id, time.Now().Sub(t0))  
}
```

[Run](#)

Communicate with more channels

```
func main() {  
    timeout := time.After(3 * time.Second)  
    done := make(chan string)  
    t0 := time.Now()  
    for i := 0; i < 5; i++ {  
        go func(wid int) {  
            res := do(rand.Intn(5000), wid)  
            done <- res  
        }(i)  
    }  
    for i := 0; i < 5; i++ {  
        select {  
        case res := <-done:  
            fmt.Println(res)  
        case <-timeout:  
            fmt.Printf("timeout, workers done: %d\n", i)  
            return  
        }  
    }  
    fmt.Printf("total time %v\n", time.Now().Sub(t0))  
}
```

[Run](#)

Workers pool

The worker, of which we'll run several concurrent instances

These workers will receive work on the jobs channel and send the corresponding results on results

We'll sleep a second per job to simulate an expensive task

```
func worker(id int, jobs <-chan int, results chan<- int) {  
    for j := range jobs {  
        fmt.Println("worker", id, "processing job", j)  
        time.Sleep(time.Second)  
        results <- j * 2  
    }  
}
```

Workers pool

In order to use our pool of workers we need to send them work and collect their results

We make 2 channels for this

```
jobs := make(chan int, 100)
results := make(chan int, 100)
```

This starts up 3 workers, initially blocked because there are no jobs yet

```
for w := 1; w <= 3; w++ {
    go worker(w, jobs, results)
}
```

Workers pool

Here we send 9 jobs and then close that channel to indicate that's all the work we have terminated

```
for j := 1; j <= 9; j++ {  
    jobs <- j  
}  
close(jobs)
```

Finally we collect all the results of the work

```
for a := 1; a <= 9; a++ {  
    <-results  
}
```

Workers pool

```
func worker(id int, jobs <-chan int, results chan<- int) {  
    for j := range jobs {  
        fmt.Println("worker", id, "processing job", j)  
        time.Sleep(time.Second)  
        results <- j * 2  
    }  
}  
  
func main() {  
    jobs := make(chan int, 100)  
    results := make(chan int, 100)  
    for w := 1; w <= 3; w++ {  
        go worker(w, jobs, results)  
    }  
    for j := 1; j <= 9; j++ {  
        jobs <- j  
    }  
    close(jobs)  
    for a := 1; a <= 9; a++ {  
        <-results  
    }  
}
```

[Run](#)

Go concurrency patterns

concurrency patterns (<https://talks.golang.org/2012/concurrency.slide#1>)

pipelines and cancellation (<https://blog.golang.org/pipelines>)

context (<https://blog.golang.org/context>)

advanced concurrency patterns (<https://blog.golang.org/advanced-go-concurrency-patterns>)

Batteries included

Standard library

packages (<https://golang.org/pkg/>)

Hello WWW

File server

```
package main

import (
    "log"
    "net/http"
)

func main() {
    // Simple static webserver:
    log.Fatal(http.ListenAndServe(":8080", http.FileServer(http.Dir("/usr/share/doc"))))
}
```

net/http package is production ready

Third party

GoDoc (<https://godoc.org/>)

Standard tools

- Go tool
- godoc
- golang.org/x/tools

Tests and benchmark

golang.org/pkg/testing/ (<http://golang.org/pkg/testing/>)

Put your tests/benchmark in a file ending in `_test.go`

```
import testing

func TestXxx(t *testing.T){
    ...
}

func BenchmarkXxx(b *testing.B){
    ...
}
```

```
$cd $GOPATH/src/mypackage
$go test
$go test -bench=.
```

golang.org/cmd/go/#Description_of_testing_flags (http://golang.org/cmd/go/#Description_of_testing_flags)

Perf tools

Debugging performance issues in Go (<https://software.intel.com/en-us/blogs/2014/05/10/debugging-performance-issues-in-go-programs>)

Profile (<http://blog.golang.org/profiling-go-programs>)

Trace (<https://golang.org/cmd/trace/>)

Race detector (https://golang.org/doc/articles/race_detector.html)

Fuzzer (<https://github.com/dvyukov/go-fuzz>)

Go is boring

asymptotically approaching boring (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Dr8FXs9ajM>)

Boring is Beautiful (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6l62RYyeLp8>)

Good foundations are boring

[github.com most stars](https://github.com/search?o=desc&q=language%3Ago&s=stars&type=Repositories) (https://github.com/search?o=desc&q=language%3Ago&s=stars&type=Repositories)

The fun is upstairs

[Go for Data Science](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D5tDubyXLrQ&list=PL2ntRZ1ySWBdliXelGAltjzTMxy2WQh0P&index=6) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D5tDubyXLrQ&list=PL2ntRZ1ySWBdliXelGAltjzTMxy2WQh0P&index=6)

[Pachyderm](http://www.pachyderm.io/) (http://www.pachyderm.io/)

[GoUsers](https://github.com/golang/go/wiki/GoUsers) (https://github.com/golang/go/wiki/GoUsers)

Thank you

Giacomo Tartari

PhD student, University of Tromsø

giacomo.tartari@uit.no (mailto:giacomo.tartari@uit.no)

