

# St Louis Java Users Group

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slides: <http://speakerdeck/csharp>



Disclaimer



I can't talk about Go

Go {around,down,in,into,on,out,up} Goes without saying

Go for it



Disclaimer



Go begging

Go there

Don't Go there

I can't talk about Go

RTL

LTR

Google

Go for the gold

Go long

Go crazy

Go get it

Go to the mat(tresses)

Go one better

Go fly a kite

Go away

Go for broke

Get goin'

I could go on...

# Tonight's Best Laid Plans:

- What is this Go thing?
- Go's origins: the people and their languages.
- Language aims and purposes.
- Reading Go:
  - Some are the same
  - Some seem the same but are different
  - Some are just flat different

```
package main
```

```
import "fmt"
```

```
func main() {
```

```
    var iterations int = 10
```

```
    c := fibonacci()
```

```
    for n := 0; n < iterations; n++ {
```

```
        fmt.Printf("%d ", <- c)
```

```
    }
```

```
    fmt.Println()
```

```
func fibonacci() chan int {
```

```
    c := make(chan int)
```

```
    go func() {
```

```
        for i, j := 0, 1; ; i, j = i+j, i {
```

```
            c <- i
```


```
        }
```

```
    }()
```


```
    return c
```

```
}
```

*Fibonacci in Go!*


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# The Go Programming Language

Go is an open source programming language that makes it easy to build **simple**, **reliable**, and **efficient** software.

<https://go.dev/doc>

...Language Goals...

Evolution of Go - Robert Griesemer (Gophercon 2015)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ReKdcpNyQg>

The task of the programming language designer  
"is consolidation, not innovation."

("Hints on programming-language design", Hoare, 1973)

## ...Language Goals

### Guiding principles:

- **Simplicity**, safety, and readability are paramount.
- Striving for orthogonality in design.
- Minimal: One way to write a piece of code.
- It's about **expressing algorithms**, not the type system.
- *Collective unconscious history of programming languages.*

# Who designed Go?

- Ken Thompson
- Rob Pike
- Robert Griesemer

# Ken Thompson...

- Regular Expressions - QED (Multics/BCPL) (mid-60s)
- Unix(69/73), Plan 9(mid-80s/92), Inferno(90's/96)
- ACM Turing Award - 1983 ("Reflections on Trusting Trust")
- Co-creator UTF-8 (1992)
- Bell Labs: 1966 - 2000

# Rob Pike

- Wrote the first window system for Unix in 1981.
- Squeak (w/Cardelli) and NewSqueak (1985)
- Co-creator UTF-8 (1992)
- Worked on Sawzall
- Co-author (w/Brian Kernighan):
  - The Unix Programming Environment (1984)
  - Practice of Programming (1999)
- Bell Labs: 1980 - 2002

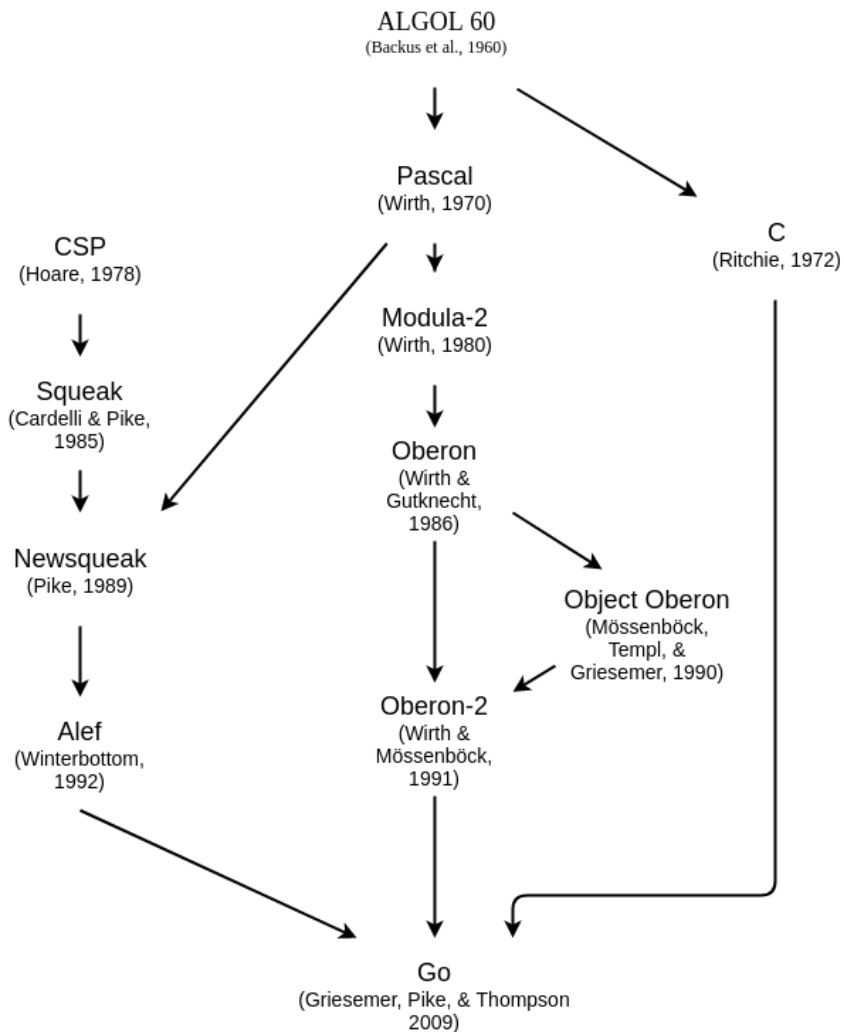


# Robert Griesemer

- PhD ETH Zurich, Switzerland 1993
- Studied and worked **Nicholas Wirth** Institute
- Strongtalk team at Longview (bought by Sun 1997)
- **Java Hotspot**
- Code generation for Google's V8 JavaScript engine
- Design/Implementation of Sawzall
- Did ***not*** work at Bell Labs

# History...

## Predecessors: (Not just C)



# Russ Cox (rsc)

Interview: <http://www.pl-enthusiast.net/2015/03/25/interview-with-gos-russ-cox-and-sameer-ajmani/>

I was finishing my PhD in spring 2008 and visited Google. I had worked with Rob at Bell Labs, and both he and Ken told me about Go, and I was hooked. When I joined the team in August, the language was still just a prototype, with almost no library. I took over the compiler and runtime, and I got to help to develop the standard library and all the revisions and refinements to the language prompted by that experience. Today, Rob and I lead the overall Go project at Google together.

# When all is (being) said and (being) done.

- simple, minimalistic and consistent language design
- open source
- C-style syntax
- statically typed variables
- managed memory using garbage collection
- compiled into stand-alone executables
- concurrency features built into the language core
- comprehensive standard library
- fast compilation and execution speed
- tooling addresses traditional problems, i.e., formatting and documentation

# What's is it good for?

... especially well-suited for programs that **involve networking** or **other concurrent tasks**; goroutines are very convenient and efficient, and there is also good support for more traditional **shared-memory approaches**. Empirically, people who write new networking code tend to like Go. I personally would use it for anything where in the past I might have used C or Java or C++.

Brian Kernighan

<https://features.slashdot.org/story/15/11/18/1748247/interviews-alan-donovan-and-brian-kernighan-answer-your-questions>

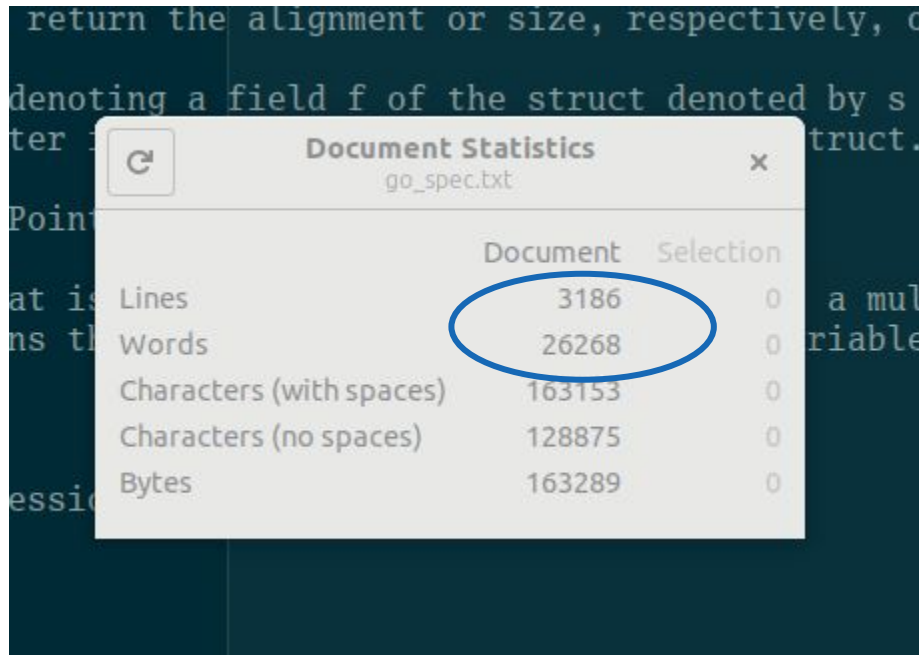
Go Open Source: 10 November, 2009

Go 1.0: March 28, 2012

Go 1.10: 16 February, 2018

$26268 / 300 = 87.56$   
 $26268 / 450 = 58.37$

Go Spec, 1.10, 16 Feb, 2018



The screenshot shows a 'Document Statistics' window for the file 'go\_spec.txt'. The window displays a table with two columns: 'Document' and 'Selection'. The 'Words' row is circled in blue, highlighting the value 26268. The background shows snippets of Go code, including comments about struct alignment and field denotation.

	Document	Selection
Lines	3186	0
Words	26268	0
Characters (with spaces)	163153	0
Characters (no spaces)	128875	0
Bytes	163289	0

# Resources

The Go Programming Language: <https://golang.org/>

Documentation Page: <https://golang.org/doc>

- A Tour of Go
- How To Write Go
- Effective Go
- FAQ
- Specification

Go Blog: <https://blog.golang.org/>

Go Talks: <https://talks.golang.org/>



# Let's Go play!

<https://golang.org>

<https://play.golang.org>

# Language...

Types

Keywords

Function signatures

Packages

Initialization and execution

Tools

# Comments

`// -- line`

`/* ... block ... */`

`//` Comments right before package are package comments.

Comments do ***not*** nest

Comments are used by `go doc` for automated document generation.

`go doc` versus `godoc`

# Printf verbs

- `%x %o %b` hex, octal, binary
- `%d` decimal integer
- `%f %g %e` float formats
- `%t` boolean true or false
- `%c %s => %q` rune, string, quoted as appropriate
- `%v` fitting format
- `%T` type
- `%%` %

# increment/decrement are statements

- Only postfix; no prefix
- Stands alone (pretty much)
- As statements -- not expressions -- can not do:

```
j = i++
```

```
a = b[idx++]
```

# Keywords

break	default	func	interface	select
case	defer	go	map	struct
chan	else	goto	package	switch
const	fallthrough	if	range	type
continue	for	import	return	var

# const

```
const (  
    i = 1  
    j = 2  
    k = 3  
)
```

vs

```
const (  
    i = 0  
    j  
    k  
)
```

vs

```
const (  
    i = iota  
    j  
    k  
)
```

# var

A variable declaration creates one or more variables, binds corresponding identifiers to them, and gives each a type and an initial value.

```
var i int
var U, V, W float64
var k = 0
var x, y float32 = -1, -2
var (
    i          int
    u, v, s = 2.0, 3.0, "bar"
)
var re, im = complexSqrt(-1)
var _, found = entries[name]
```



# Variables ... Four ways to create a variable

1. `var stringVarName string = "JUG"`
2. `var stringVarName = "JUG"`
3. `var stringVarName string // initialized to ""`
4. `stringVarName := "JUG"`

# Blank Identifier

\_ (Underscore)

```
for _, arg := range os.Args[1:] {  
    fmt.Println(arg)  
}
```

# Types

Boolean

Pointer

Numeric

Function

String

Interface

Array

Map

Slice

Channel

Struct

# Numeric types

- uint8, uint16, uint32, uint64
- int8, int16, int32, int64
- float32, float64
- complex64, complex128
- byte        alias for uint8
- rune        alias for int32

# Language - Predefined Numeric types

There is also a set of predeclared numeric types with implementation-specific sizes:

- `uint`        either 32 or 64 bits
- `int`         same size as `uint`
- `uintptr`     an unsigned integer large enough to store the uninterpreted bits of a pointer value

# rune

A rune literal represents a rune constant, an integer value identifying a [Unicode code point](#). A rune literal is expressed as one or more characters enclosed in single quotes, as in 'x' or '\n'. Within the quotes, any character may appear except newline and unescaped single quote. A single quoted character represents the Unicode value of the character itself, while multi-character sequences beginning with a backslash encode values in various formats.

[https://golang.org/ref/spec#Rune literals](https://golang.org/ref/spec#Rune_literals)

# type

A type determines a set of values together with operations and methods specific to those values.

```
type (  
    // Point and struct{...} are different types  
    Point struct { x, y float64 }  
  
    // polar and Point denote different types  
    polar Point  
)
```

# Data structures...

- Arrays
  - numbered sequence of elements
  - fixed number of elements
  - number of elements is the length; never negative; found with len, e.g.,  
`length = myAry.len()`
- Slices
  - contiguous segment of an underlying array.
  - slice created with make always allocates a new, hidden array.
  - len is discovered with len(), capacity is discovered with cap()
  - number of elements can be extended with append().



## ...Data structures...

- Maps
  - unordered set of elements on one type
  - indexed key-value pairs
  - created with `make`
- Structs
  - sequence of named elements (fields) with a name and type
  - names may be explicit or implicit
  - within a struct, names must be unique

# Slice

A slice is a descriptor for a contiguous segment of an *underlying array* and provides access to a numbered sequence of elements from that array.

A slice literal is declared just like an array literal, except you leave out the element count: `letters := []string{"a", "b", "c", "d"}`

A slice can be created with the built-in function called `make`, which has the signature: `func make([]T, len, cap) []T`, e.g., `make([]int, 50, 100)`

<https://blog.golang.org/go-slices-usage-and-internals>

# defer

Execution is deferred to the moment the surrounding function returns:

- return statement,
- reached the end of its function body,
- corresponding goroutine is panicking

Used most often with locks/opens:

- Don't forget to perform the function.
- Close to open/lock

```
f, err := os.Open(filename)
if err != nil {
    return "", err
}
defer f.Close()
... process file ...
```

# for

```
// Like a C for  
for init; condition; post { }
```

```
// Like a C while  
for condition { }
```

```
// Like a C for(;;)  
for { }
```

```
for key, value := range oldMap {  
    if !key.expired() {  
        newMap[key] = value  
    }  
}
```

if (with a short statement)

```
func pow(x, n, lim float64) float64 {  
    if v := math.Pow(x, n); v < lim {  
        return v  
    }  
    return lim  
}
```

# switch...

```
switch os := runtime.GOOS; os {  
case "darwin":  
    fmt.Println("OS X.")  
case "linux":  
    fmt.Println("Linux.")  
default:  
    // freebsd, openbsd,  
    // plan9, windows...  
    fmt.Printf("%s.", os)  
}
```

... switch ...

```
switch t:= time.Now(); {  
case t.Hour() < 12:  
    fmt.Println("Good morning!")  
case t.Hour() < 17:  
    fmt.Println("Good afternoon.")  
default:  
    fmt.Println("Good evening.")  
}
```

... switch

```
switch i := x.(type) {  
case nil:  
    printString("x is nil") // type of x (interface{})  
case int:  
    printInt(i)             // i is type of int  
case float64:  
    printFloat64(i)         // i is type of float64  
default:  
    printString("don't know the type")  
}
```



# select

A select statement chooses which of a set of possible send or receive operations will proceed.

```
var c1, c2 chan int
var i1, i2 int
select {
case i1 = <-c1:
    print("received ", i1, " from c1\n")
case c2 <- i2:
    print("sent ", i2, " to c2\n")
default:
    print("no communication\n")
}
```

# Functions...

Functions:

- Are types.
- Function declarations associate a name to a function body
  - `func IndexRune(s string, r rune) int { ... function body ... }`
  - `func flushICache(begin, end uintptr) // external`
- May have variadic parameters
  - `func Fprintf(w io.Writer, format string, a ...interface{}) (n int, err error)`

Functions do ***not*** manipulate state ... the same input *always* produces the same output.

# Functions

## Methods:

- Functions with receivers are called methods.
- Associates method body with receiver's base type
  - `func (c *Client) Get(url string) (resp *Response, err error)`

Methods are often used when state manipulation is required.

# packages

should be same as directory name

std lib > 100 packages

main is special (must have a main)

must import exactly what you need -- more or less will not compile

import must follow package statement

goimports (gofmt)

# Packages ...

Packages:

- Go programs are constructed by linking packages together.
- Packages consist of one or more source files.
- All constants, types, variables, and functions are accessible to all files in package.
- main package is special -- all applications must have a main package
- Must import exactly what you need -- more or less will not compile
- import must follow package statement

# ... Packages ...

Package initialization:

- Variables are initialized in declaration order but after any variables they depend on.
- One or more no argument, no return functions named init. Executed in order in a single goroutine.

Program execution:

- Single, unimported package called main with a function that takes no arguments and returns no value.

## ... Packages

### Importing Packages:

- `import "lib/math" // use math.Sin`
- `import m "lib/math" // use m.Sin`
- `import . "lib/math" // use Sin`
- `import ( ... )`
- `import "github.com/yuin/gopher-lua"`

# Concurrency - Goroutines

A "go" statement starts the execution of a function call as an independent concurrent thread of control, or goroutine, within the same address space.

`go <Expression>`

The expression must be a function or method call; it cannot be parenthesized.

They're called *goroutines* because the existing terms—threads, coroutines, processes, and so on—convey inaccurate connotations. A goroutine has a simple model: it is a function executing concurrently with other goroutines in the same address space. It is lightweight, costing little more than the allocation of stack space. And the stacks start small, so they are cheap, and grow by allocating (and freeing) heap storage as required.

[https://golang.org/doc/effective\\_go.html#goroutines](https://golang.org/doc/effective_go.html#goroutines)



# Concurrency - Channels ...

A channel provides a mechanism for concurrently executing functions to communicate by sending and receiving values of a specified element type. The value of an uninitialized channel is nil.

```
chan T           // used to send and receive values of type T
chan<- float64   // can only be used to send float64s
<-chan int       // can only be used to receive ints
```

A new, initialized channel value can be made using the built-in function `make`, which takes the channel type and an optional capacity as arguments:

```
make(chan int, 100)
```

## ... Concurrency - Channels...

Straight read:

```
n <- c // returns 0
```

Read with error:

```
x, ok := x <- c // returns 0, nil
```

Read over range:

```
for x := range c { // completes after close  
...  
}
```

```
make (c <- int)  
...  
close(c)
```

## ... Concurrency - Channels...

Straight read:

```
n <- c // returns 0
```

Read with error:

```
x, ok := x <- c // returns 0, nil
```

Read over range:

```
for x := range c { // completes after close  
...  
}
```

```
make (c <- int)  
...  
close(c)
```

# Interfaces

An interface type specifies a method set called its interface. A variable of interface type can store a value of any type with a method set that is any superset of the interface.

```
type Block interface {  
    BlockSize() int  
    Encrypt(src, dst []byte)  
    Decrypt(src, dst []byte)  
}
```

All types implement the *empty* interface: `interface{}`

# Interfaces - [https://golang.org/ref/spec#Interface\\_types](https://golang.org/ref/spec#Interface_types)

```
type Locker interface {  
    Lock()  
    Unlock()  
}
```

```
type ReadWriter interface {  
    Read(b Buffer) bool  
    Write(b Buffer) bool  
}
```

```
type File interface {  
    ReadWriter // same as adding the methods of ReadWriter  
    Locker     // same as adding the methods of Locker  
    Close()  
}
```

# The Standard Library and more, much more

- Go 1.10: more than 100 packages in stdlib (including builtin and unsafe)
- Documented at <https://golang.org/pkg/>
- Many Go packages documented at <https://godoc.org>
  - Hosts documentation for Go packages on Bitbucket, GitHub, Launchpad and Google Project Hosting.

# Tools - go command ...

go <command> [arguments]

- build compile packages and dependencies
- clean remove object files and cached files
- doc show documentation for package or symbol
- env print Go environment information
- bug start a bug report
- fix update packages to use new APIs
- fmt gofmt (reformat) package sources
- generate generate Go files by processing source

## ... Tools - go command

go <command> [arguments]

- get        download and install packages and dependencies
- install    compile and install packages and dependencies
- list        list packages
- run        compile and run Go program
- test      test packages
- tool        run specified go tool
- version    print Go version
- vet        report likely mistakes in packages



# Tools - standalone

- Cgo enables the creation of Go packages that call C code.
- Cover analyzes the coverage profiles generated by "go test -coverprofile"
- Fix finds Go programs that use old features of the language and libraries and rewrites them to use newer ones.
- Fmt formats Go packages, it is also available as an independent gofmt command with more general options.
- Godoc extracts and generates documentation for Go packages.
- Vet examines Go source code and reports suspicious constructs, such as Printf calls whose arguments do not align with the format string.

# Resources...

The Go Programming Language: <https://golang.org/>

Documentation Page: <https://golang.org/doc>

- A Tour of Go
- How To Write Go
- Effective Go
- FAQ
- Specification

Go Blog: <https://blog.golang.org/>

Go Talks: <https://talks.golang.org/>

## ... Resources...

GoWiki: <https://github.com/golang/go/wiki>

Exercism: <http://exercism.io/languages/go/about>

YouTube: numerous GopherCon sessions -- search for golang

Gophers Slack Team: <https://gophers.slack.com>

Golang Weekly - <https://golangweekly.com/>

A weekly newsletter about the Go programming language.

... Resources...

Golang weekly - 197

## IN BRIEF

[A Comprehensive Guide to Publishing Go Libraries](#) **TUTORIAL**

Covers dependencies, docs, tests, CI, and licensing.

*DARA HAYES*

[Simply Scale Go-libvirt with Code Generation on DigitalOcean](#) **TUTORIAL**

Use code generation to extend libvirt's extensive API without leaving the comfortable environment of Go.

*DIGITALOCEAN* **SPONSORED**

[Instrumenting a Go Service for Prometheus](#) **TUTORIAL**

Includes writing your own custom metrics, as well.

*ALEX DZYOBA*

[Building a JSON API in Go](#) **TUTORIAL**

*CORY FINGER*

[An Intro to dep: How to Manage Your Go Project Dependencies](#) **TUTORIAL**

*YING KIT YUEN*

[Writing a Space Invaders Game with Go](#) **TUTORIAL**

*SAU SHEONG CHANG*

[A Simple Echo Server in Go](#) **TUTORIAL**

*BEN HYRMAN*

[Advanced Go Debugging with Delve](#) **VIDEO**

*DEREK PARKER*

## ... Resources ...

### Books:

- **The Go Programming Language**  
by Alan A. A. Donovan, Brian W. Kernighan -- <http://a.co/dN2aDoN>
- **Concurrency in Go: Tools and Techniques for Developers**  
by Katherine Cox-Buday -- <http://a.co/j40WwrH>

## ... Resources

### Community:

- Gopher Slack Team

<https://blog.gopheracademy.com/gophers-slack-community/>

Gopher Academy

- StLGo Meetup

<https://www.meetup.com/StL-Go/>

Charles Sharp & Ciju John

*Thanks*

slides: <http://speakerdeck/csharp>