

Web Engines Hackfest 2023

Inside Kotlin/Wasm

(or how your language could benefit from new proposals)

Zalim Bashorov

[@bashorov](#)





Kotlin



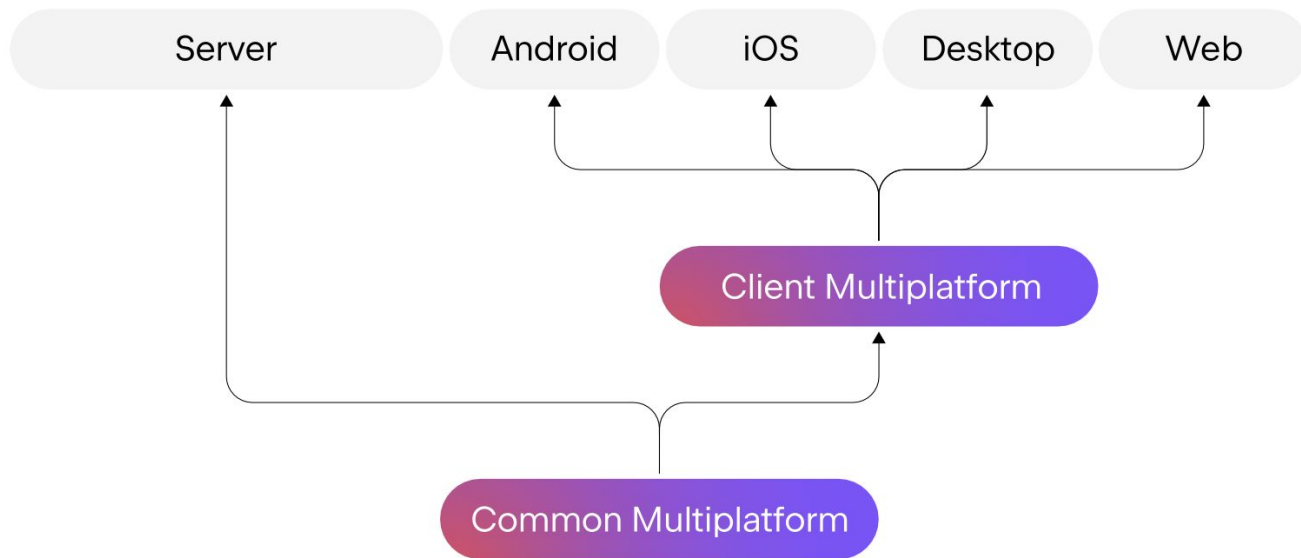
Programming Language

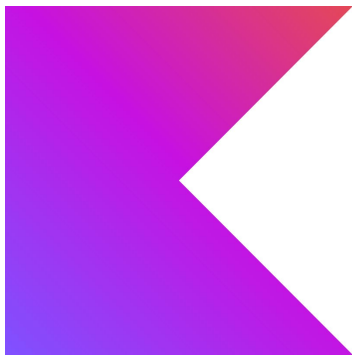
- Statically typed
- Concise and expressive
- Pragmatic but elegant
- Imperative and functional
- **Null-safety**



Ecosystem

- Multiple target platforms
 - JVM
 - Native (iOS, Linux, Windows,)
 - JavaScript
 - WebAssembly
- JVM based tooling
- Compiler plugins (Experimental)





Kotlin/Wasm new compiler

- Fast Compilation
- Incremental Compilation (later)

Kotlin/Wasm new compiler

- Fast Compilation
- Incremental Compilation (later)
- Great integration with hosts

Kotlin/Wasm new compiler

- Fast Compilation
- Incremental Compilation (later)
- Great integration with hosts
- Good Interop with hosts

```
import kotlinx.browser.document
import kotlinx.dom.appendText

fun main() {
    val p = document.createElement("p")
    p.innerHTML = "Hello World!"
    document.body?.appendChild(p)
}
```

Kotlin/Wasm new compiler

- Fast Compilation
- Incremental Compilation (later)
- Great integration with hosts
- Good Interop with hosts
- Small binaries

```
import k
import k
fun main
    val
        element("p")
    p.innerHTML = "Hello World!"
    document.body?.appendChild(p)
}
```

A large, bold, blue '3K' logo is positioned in the center of the slide, partially overlapping the Kotlin code on the left and the HTML code on the right. The '3' and 'K' are stylized and connected.

WebAssembly proposals we are using

✓	Reference Types	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
✓	Exception Handling	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
✓	Extended Name Section	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
🏗️	Typed Function References	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>
🏗️	Garbage Collection	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>

Trial for Wasm GC in Chrome 112.*

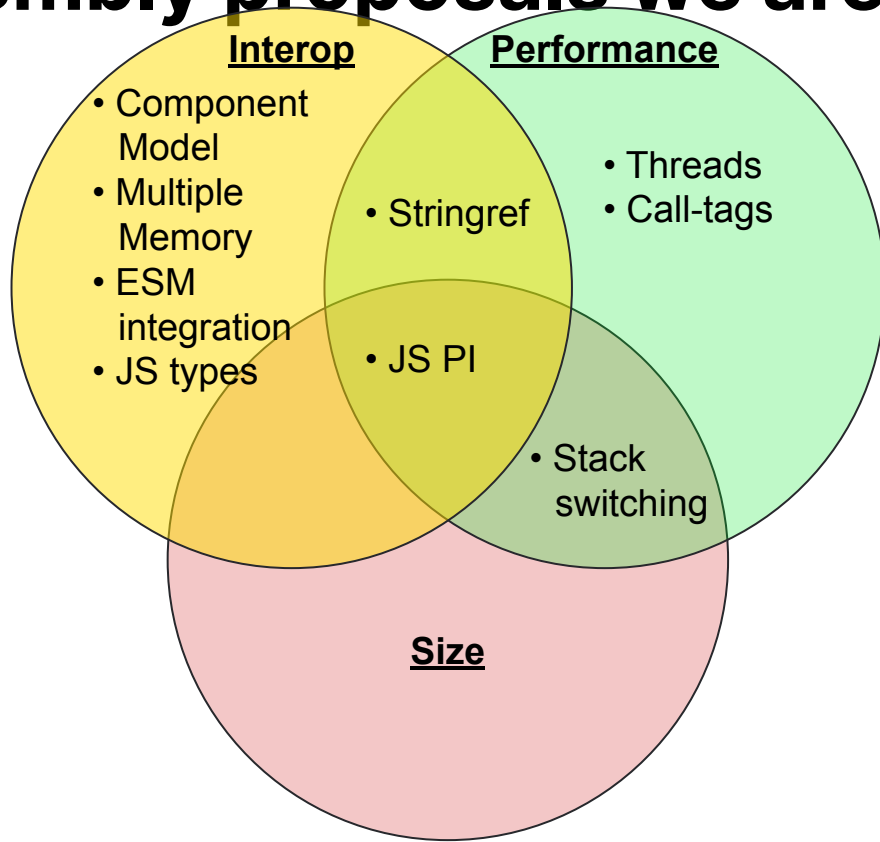


Turn on Wasm GC for your site!

<https://zal.im/tryWasmGC>

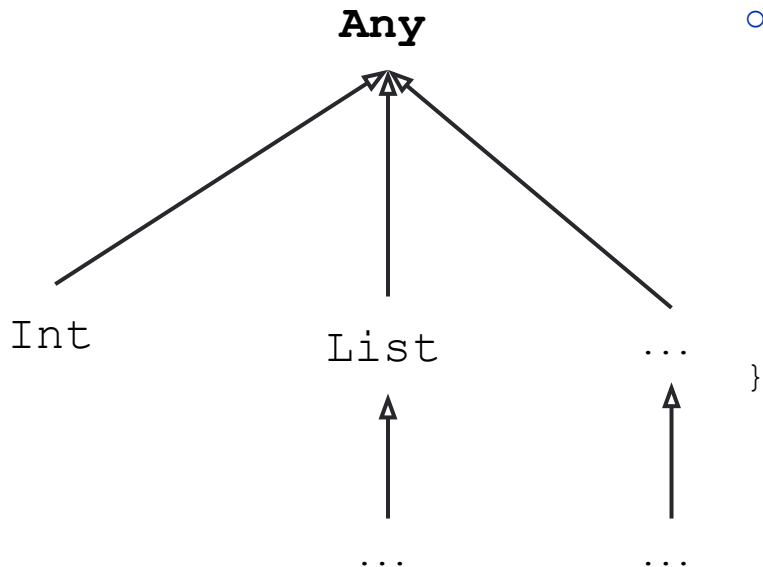


WebAssembly proposals we are interested in



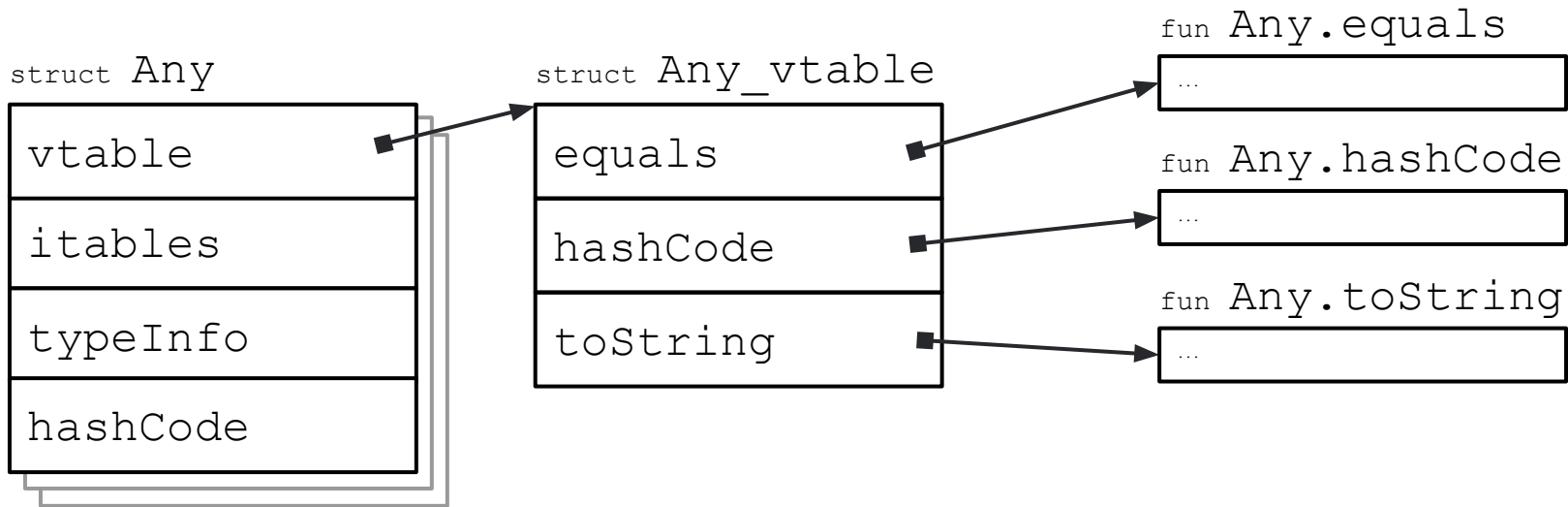
Kotlin/Wasm deep dive

Class kotlin.Any

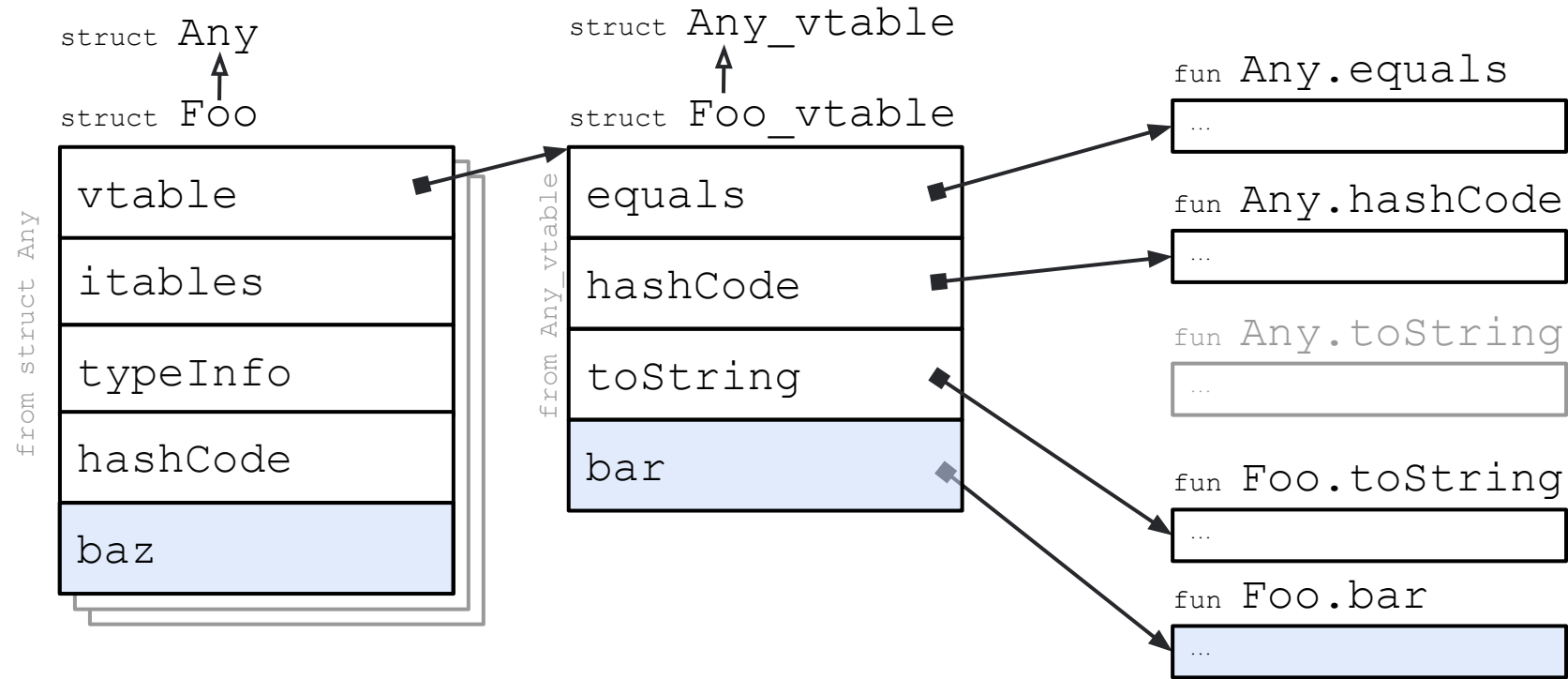


```
open class Any {  
  
    open fun equals(other: Any?): Boolean  
  
    open fun hashCode(): Int  
  
    open fun toString(): String  
  
}
```

Class kotlin.Any



Class extension



Access to fields

Local:

d: Foo

struct Foo



vtable

itables

typeInfo

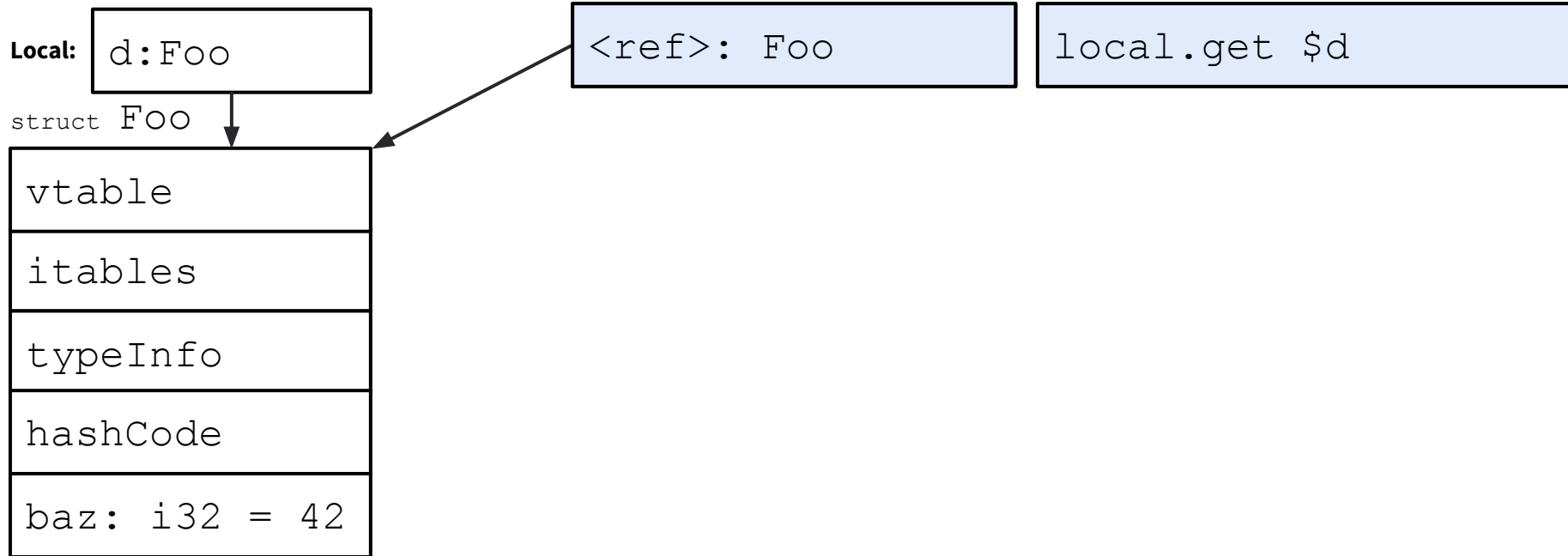
hashCode

baz: i32 = 42

Stack:

Instructions:

Access to fields



Access to fields

Local: `d: Foo`

`struct Foo`



`vtable`

`itables`

`typeInfo`

`hashCode`

`baz: i32 = 42`

Stack:

42

Instructions:

`local.get $d`

`struct.get $baz`

Stack:

Instructions:

Virtual Method call

Local:

d: Foo

struct Foo

vtable
itables
typeInfo
hashCode
baz: i32 = 42

struct Foo_vtable

equals
hashCode
toString
bar

fun Foo.bar

...



Virtual Method call

Local: d: Foo

struct Foo

vtable
itables
typeInfo
hashCode
baz: i32 = 42

Stack:

<ref>: Foo

<ref>: Foo

struct Foo_vtable

equals
hashCode
toString
bar

Instructions:

local.get \$d

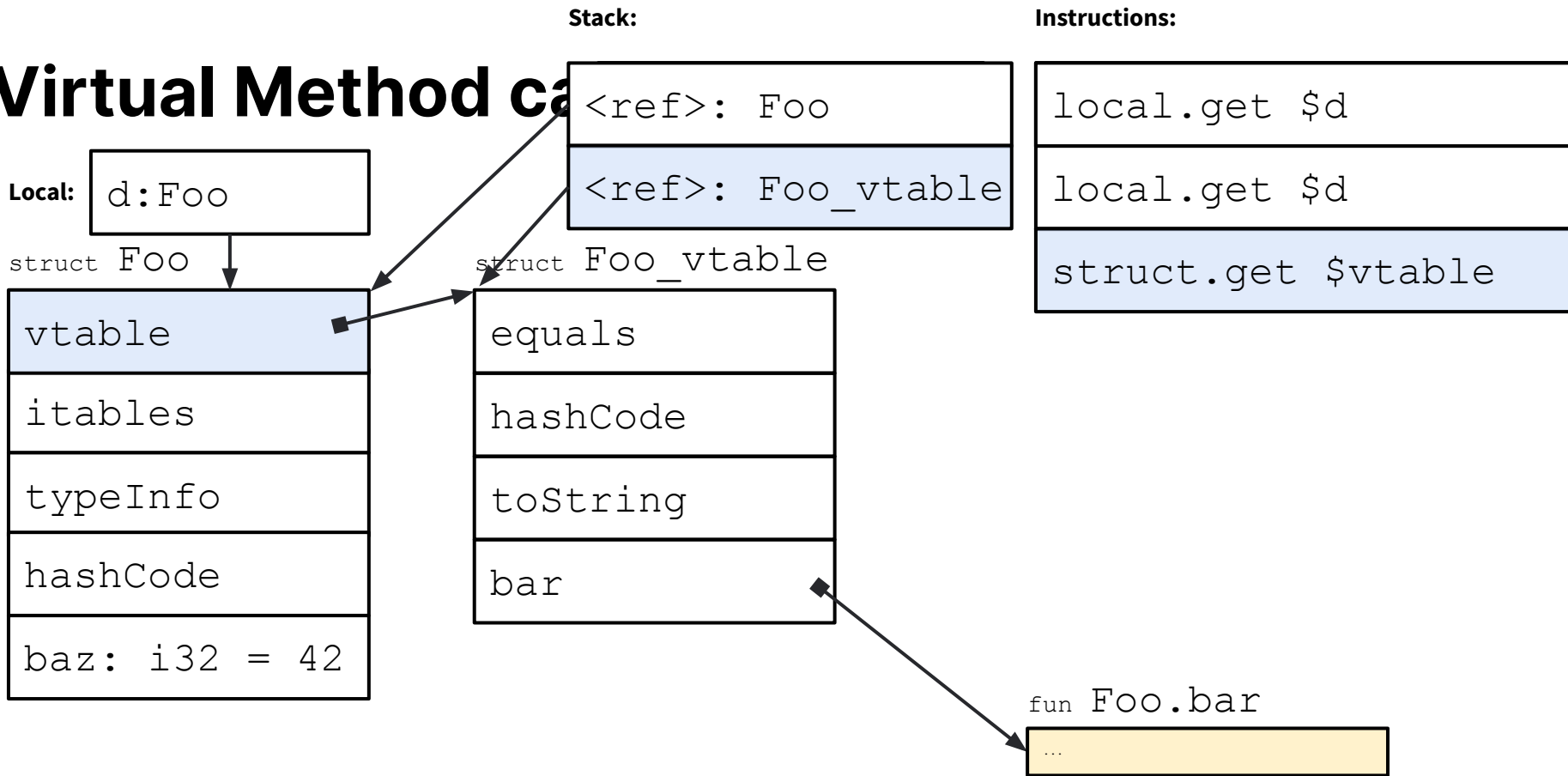
local.get \$d

fun Foo.bar

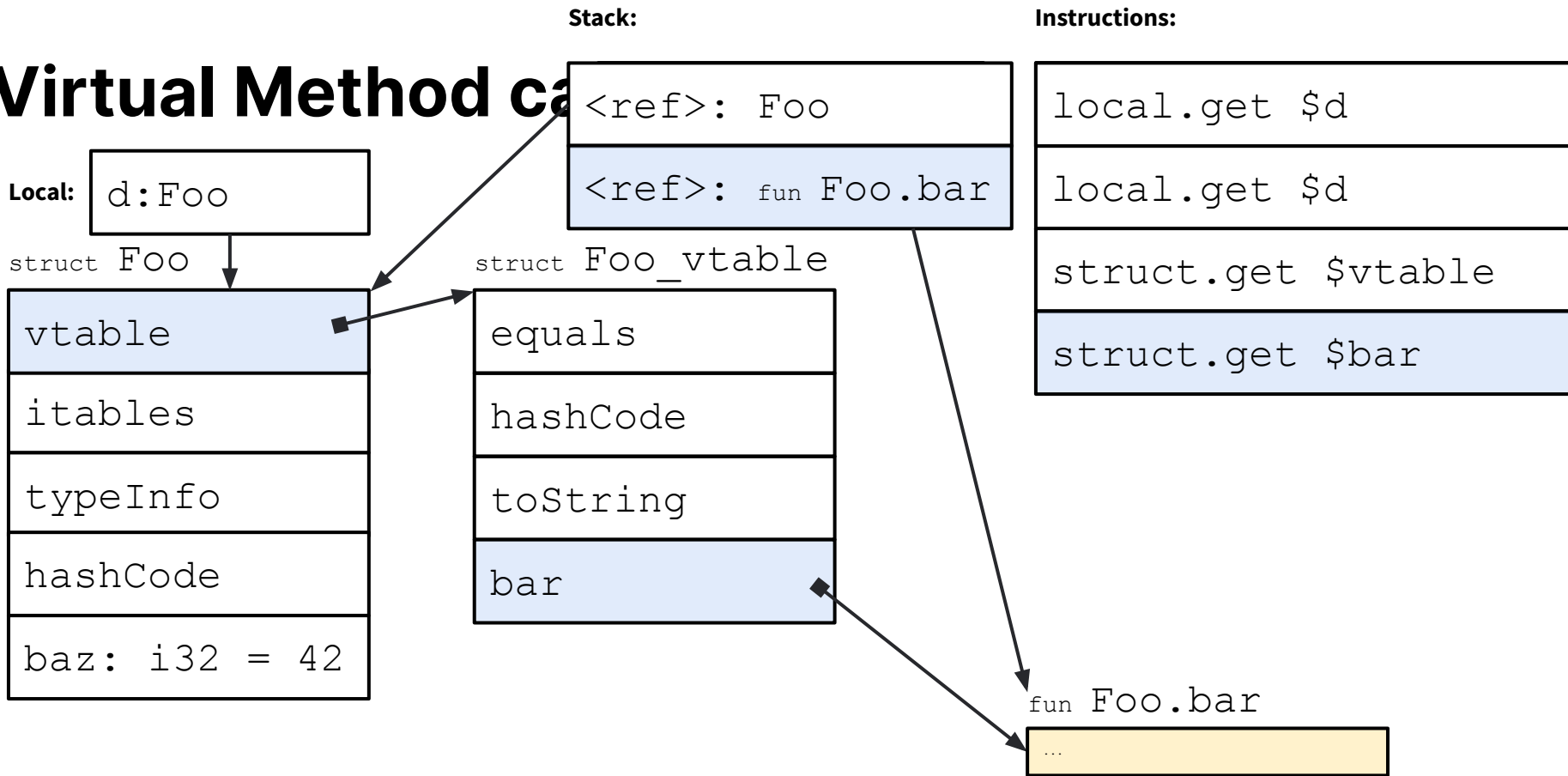
...



Virtual Method call



Virtual Method call



Virtual Method call

Stack:

27

Instructions:

Local: d: Foo

struct Foo

vtable
itables
typeInfo
hashCode
baz: i32 = 42

struct Foo_vtable

equals
hashCode
toString
bar

local.get \$d

local.get \$d

struct.get \$vtable

struct.get \$bar

call_ref

fun Foo.bar

...



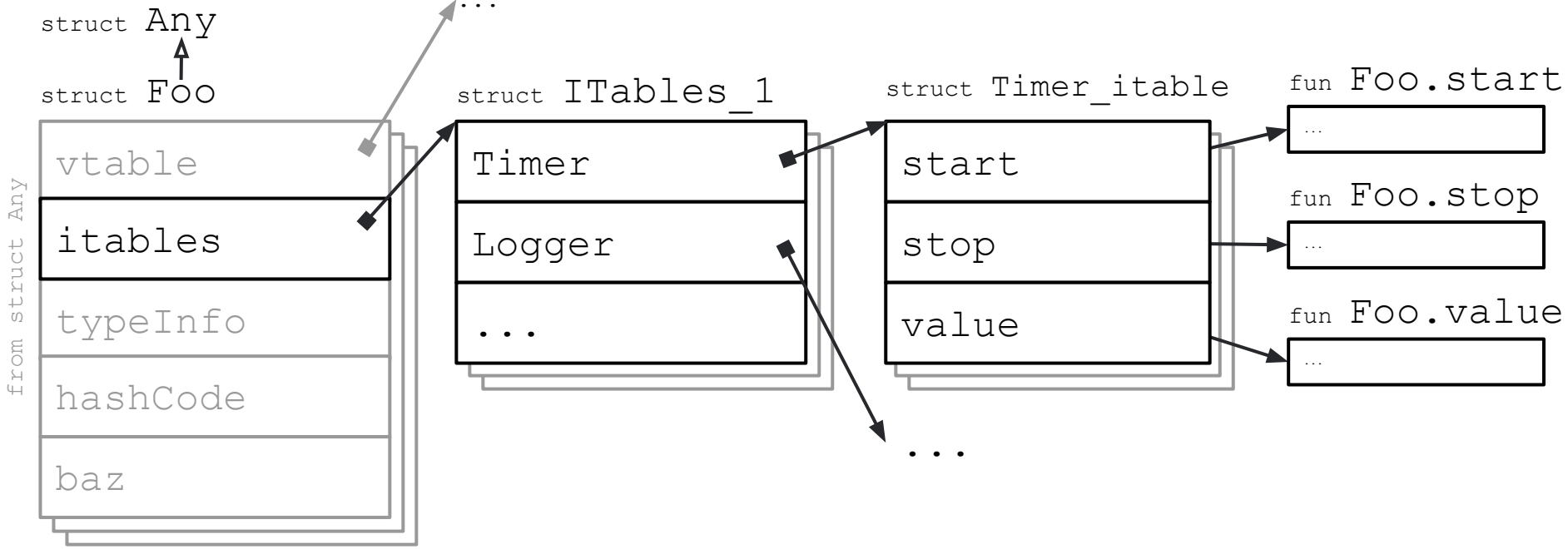
Static Method calls

```
call $getTime
```

Static Method calls

<code>i32.const 1</code>
<code>i32.const 2</code>
<code>call \$add</code>

Interfaces



Different kind of calls

Static function

<code>call \$getTime</code>

Class / virtual method

<code>local.get \$d</code>

<code>local.get \$d</code>

<code>struct.get \$vtable</code>

<code>struct.get \$bar</code>

<code>call_ref</code>

Interface method

<code>local.get \$d</code>

<code>local.get \$d</code>

<code>struct.get \$itables</code>

<code>ref.cast \$Itables_1</code>

<code>struct.get \$Timer</code>

<code>struct.get \$value</code>

<code>call_ref</code>

Strings

Strings are everywhere!

String naïve impl

```
struct String
```

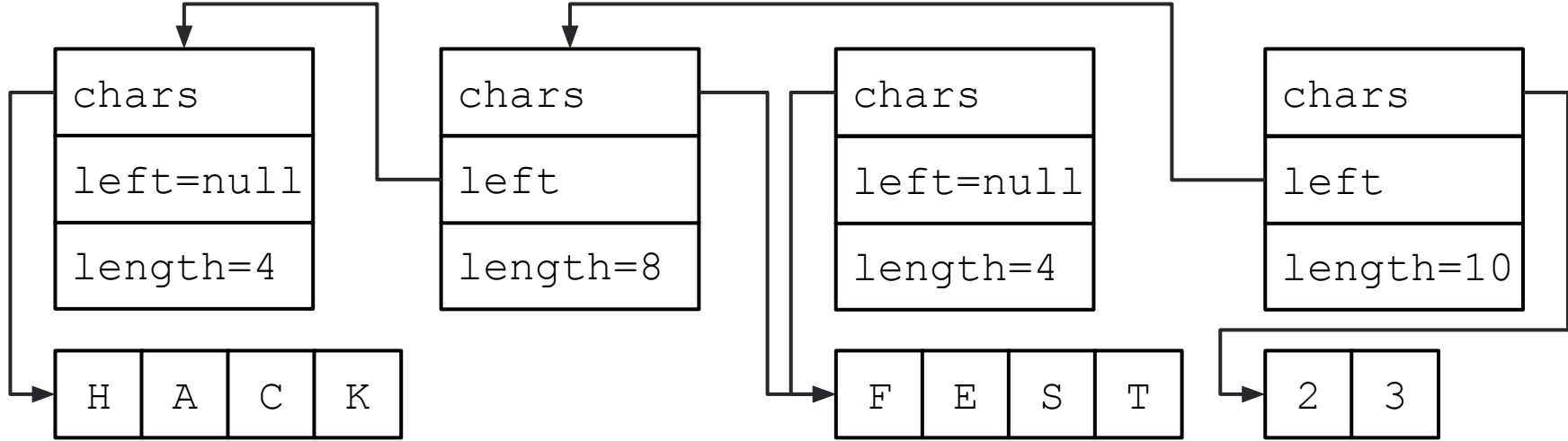
```
chars: CharArray
```


String optimized

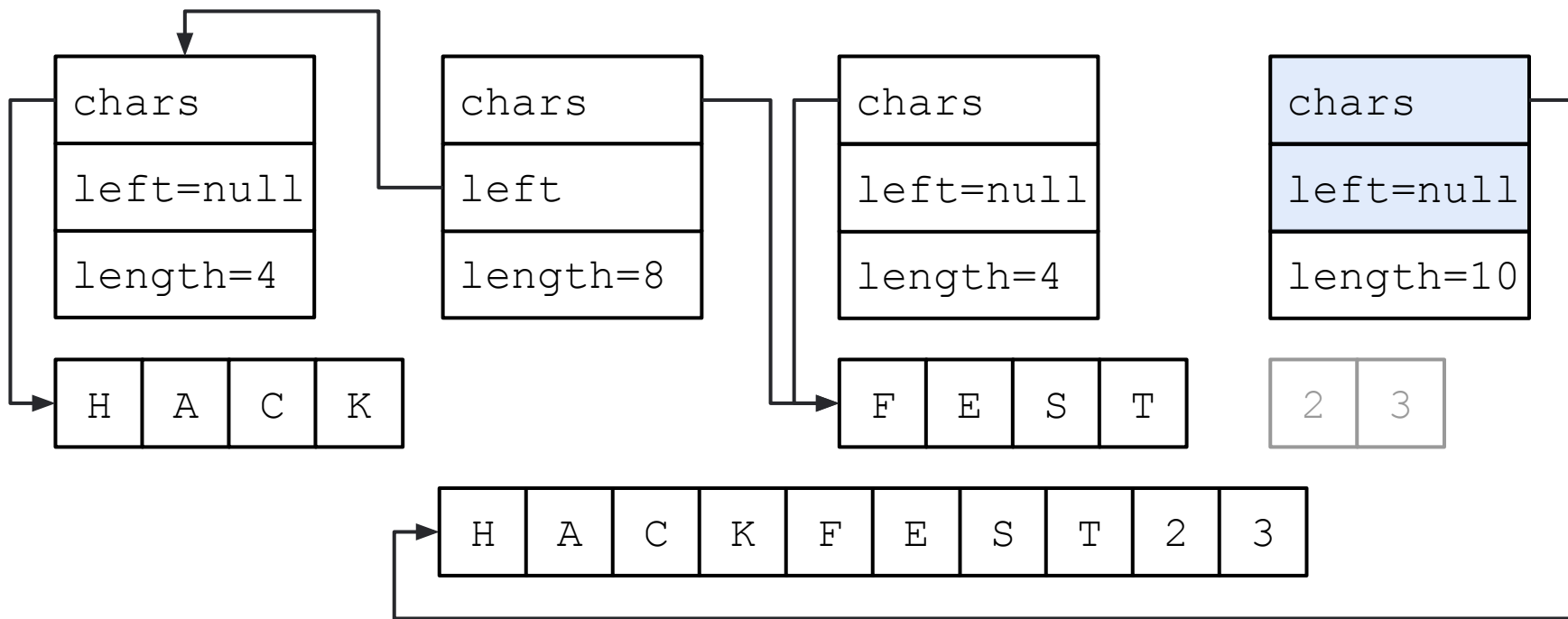
```
struct String
```

chars: CharArray
left: String null
length: i32

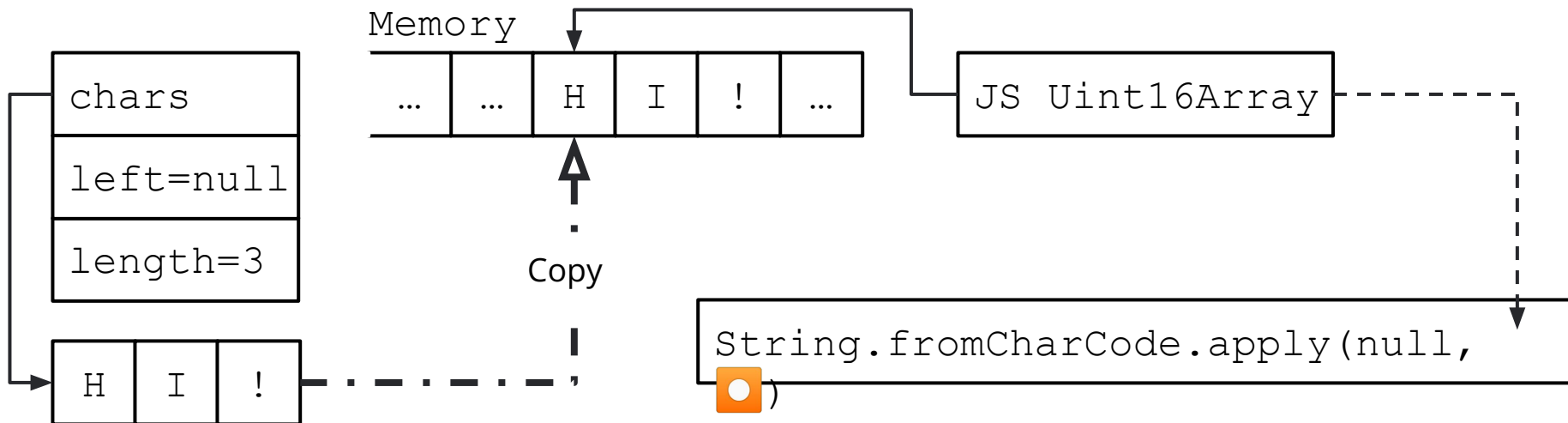
String optimized: example



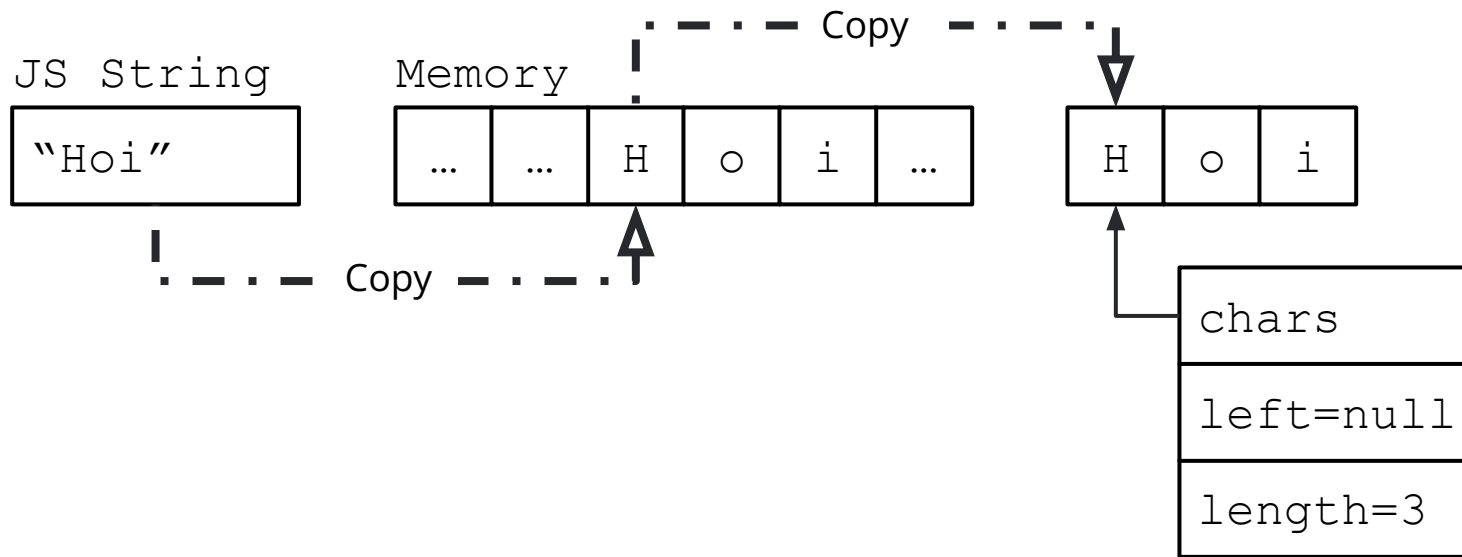
String optimized: example



String transfer to JS



String transfer from JS



String literals

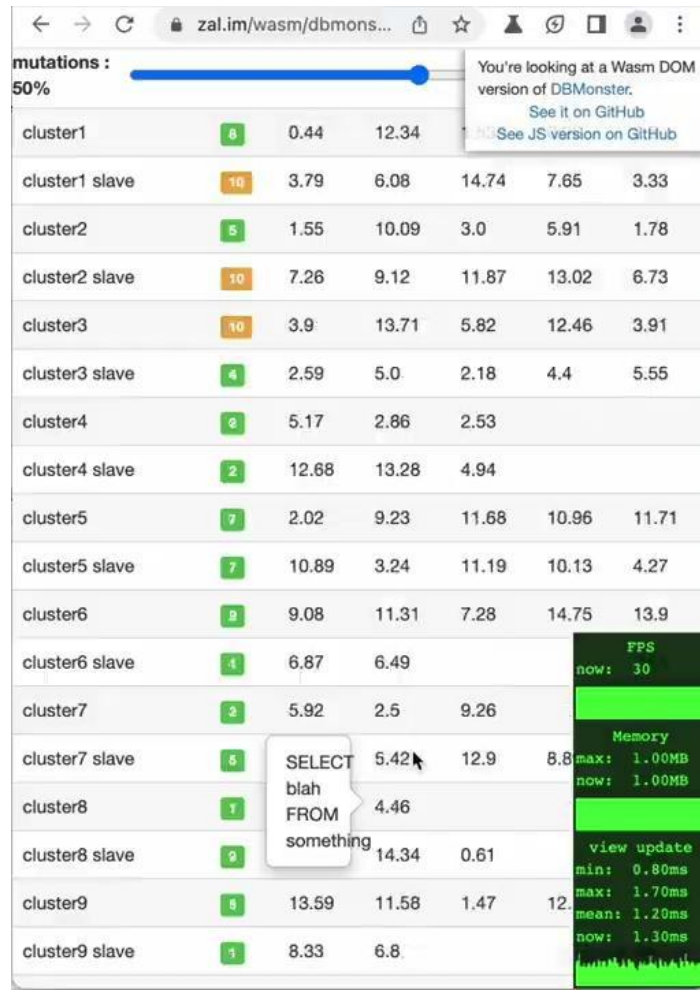
- **Intern** all compile time string constants
- Store in **data section**
 - Fast at runtime (`array.new_data`)
- Runtime **cache** for string literals
- Optimize for Latin1

Stringref proposal

Preliminary results:

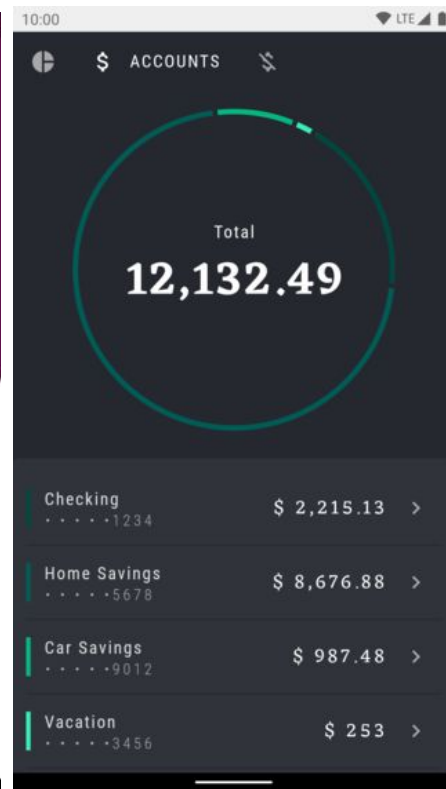
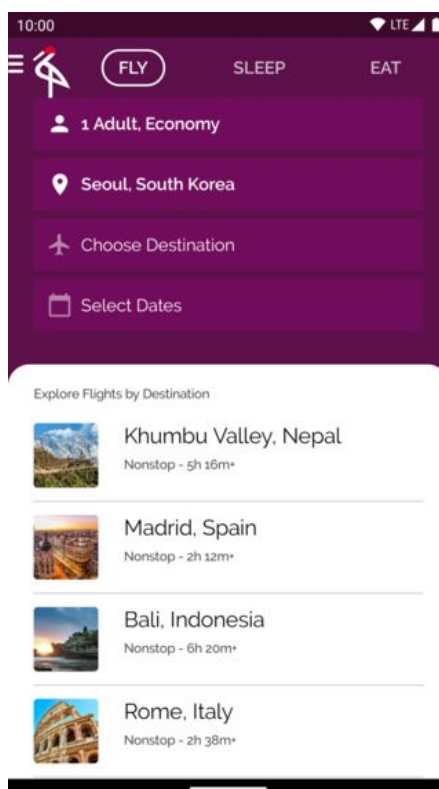
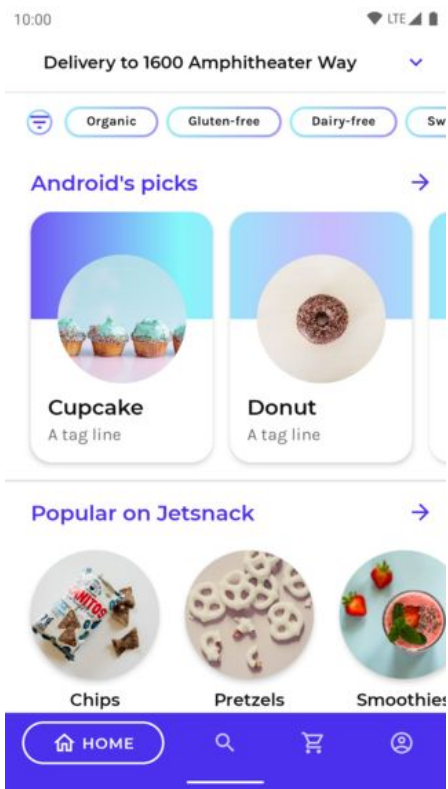
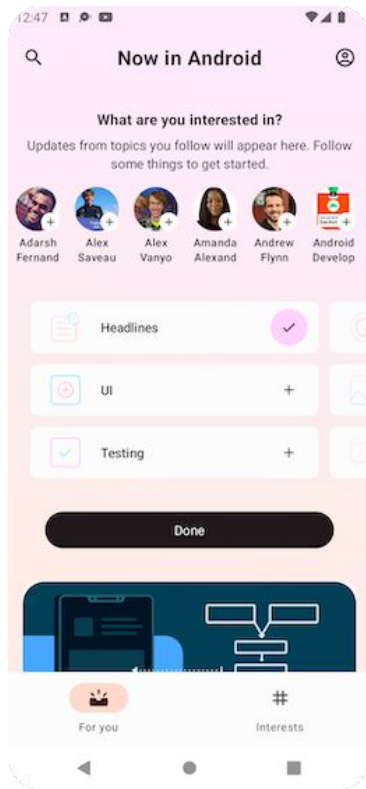
- 60 times faster on interop microbenchmarks
- Up to 3 times faster on DBMonster benchmark^{1 2}

1. <https://zal.im/wasm/dbmonster/>
2. <https://zal.im/wasm/dbmonster-stringref/>

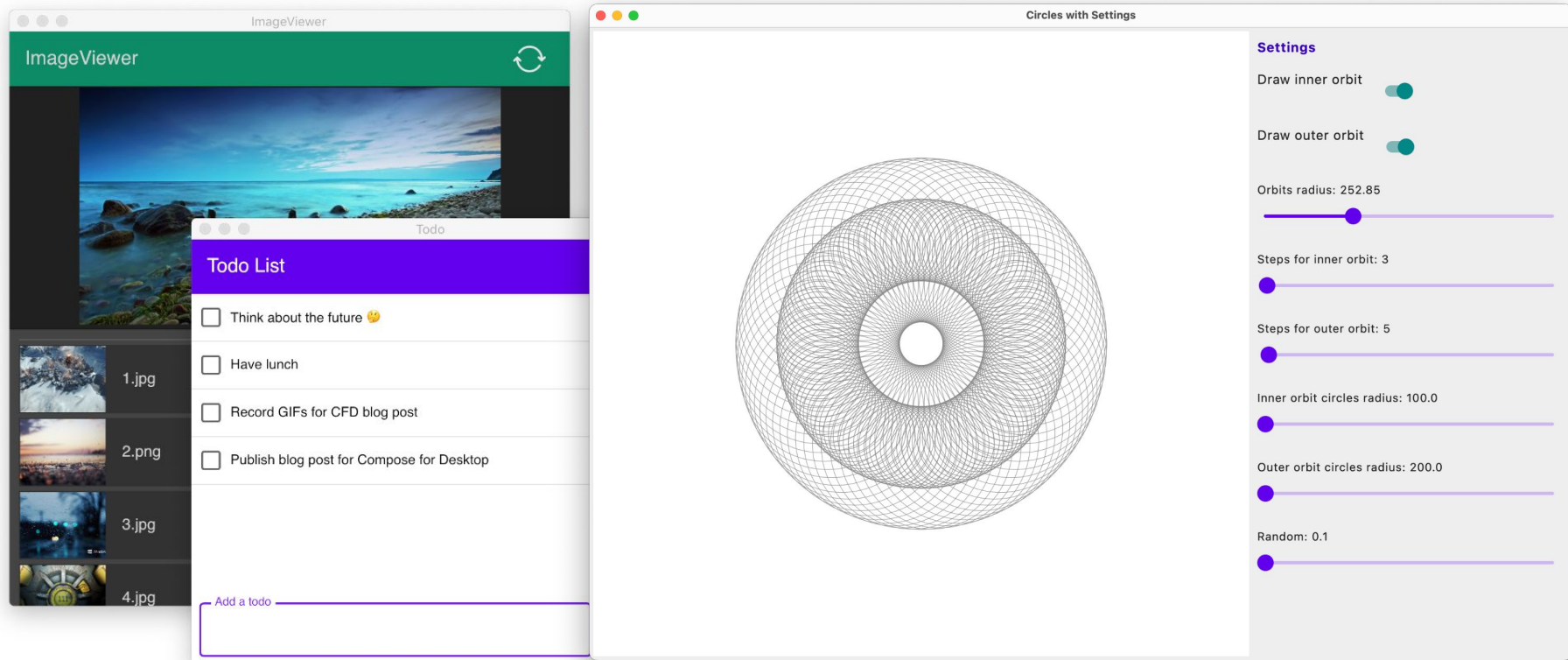


Kotlin/Wasm applications today and tomorrow

Jetpack Compose (Android)



Compose Multiplatform for Desktop



Compose Multiplatform: example

```
fun CircleOfCirclesWithSettings () = application {  
    Window(title = "Circles with Settings" ) {  
        MaterialTheme {  
            var settings by remember { mutableStateOf(Settings()) }  
  
            Row(modifier = Modifier.padding(5.dp)) {  
                Canvas(...) {  
                    if(settings.drawOuterOrbit){  
                        outerOrbit(settings)  
                    }  
                    if (settings.drawInnerOrbit) {  
                        innerOrbit(settings)  
                    }  
                }  
                SettingsPanel(settings) { settings = it }  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

zal.im/wasm/jetsnack/

Chrome Canary File Edit View History Bookmarks Profiles Tab Window Help


JetSnack with K/Wasm x +

localhost:8080

Huidekoperstraat 26-28, 1017 ZM Amsterdam | <https://kotlin.in/wasm-gio23>


Organic Gluten-free Dairy-free Sweet Savory

Android's picks




Cupcake

A tag line



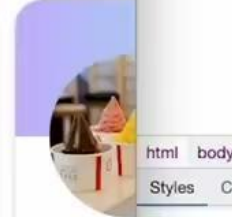
Donut

A tag line



Eclair


A tag line





Froyo


A tag line


Popular on Jetsnack











HOME

DevTools - localhost:8080/

Elements Console Sources Network Performance >> 1

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
  <head>
  </head>
  <body>
    <canvas id="jetsnackCanvas" width="1340" height="1232" tabindex="0" style="width: 670px; height: 616px;">
    </body>
  </html>
```

html body

Styles Computed Layout Event Listeners DOM Breakpoints Properties Accessibility

Filter :hov .cls +

```
element.style {
}

html, body {
  width: 100%;
  height: 100%;
  margin: 0;
  padding: 0;
  background-color: gray;
  overflow: hidden;
}

body {
  display: block;
  margin-top: 8px;
}
```

(index):9

user agent stylesheet

margin

Compose Multiplatform Kotlin/Wasm Demo

CircleOfCirclesWithSettings

CircleOfCircles

SeedOfLife

Spiral

DrawingRandomShapes

DrawingStrokes

Settings

Draw inner orbit



Draw outer orbit



Orbits radius: 300.0



Steps for inner orbit: 3



Steps for outer orbit: 5



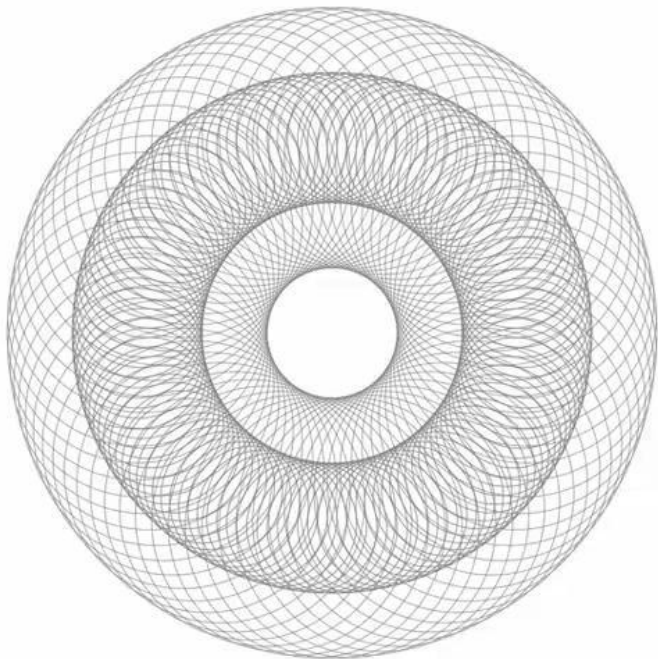
Inner orbit circles radius: 100.0



Outer orbit circles radius: 200.0



Random: 0.10



Compose Multiplatform Kotlin/Wasm Demo

CircleOfCircles



```
59
60 private fun DrawScope.outerOrbit(settings: Settings) {
61     for (ang in 0..359 step settings.stepsOuterOrbit) {
62         drawOffsetCircle(
63             ang,
64             settings.orbitRadius.toFloat(),
65             settings.outerCirclesRadius.toFloat(),
66             randomCoefficient = settings.randomCoefficient
67         )
68     }
69 }
70
71 private fun DrawScope.innerOrbit(settings: Settings) {
72     for (ang in 0..359 step settings.stepsInnerOrbit) {
73         drawOffsetCircle(
74             ang,
75             settings.orbitRadius.toFloat(),
76             settings.innerCirclesRadius.toFloat(),
77             strokeWidth = 1.3f,
78         )
79     }
80 }
```

▼ Scope

▼ Expression

- **stack:** Stack {}

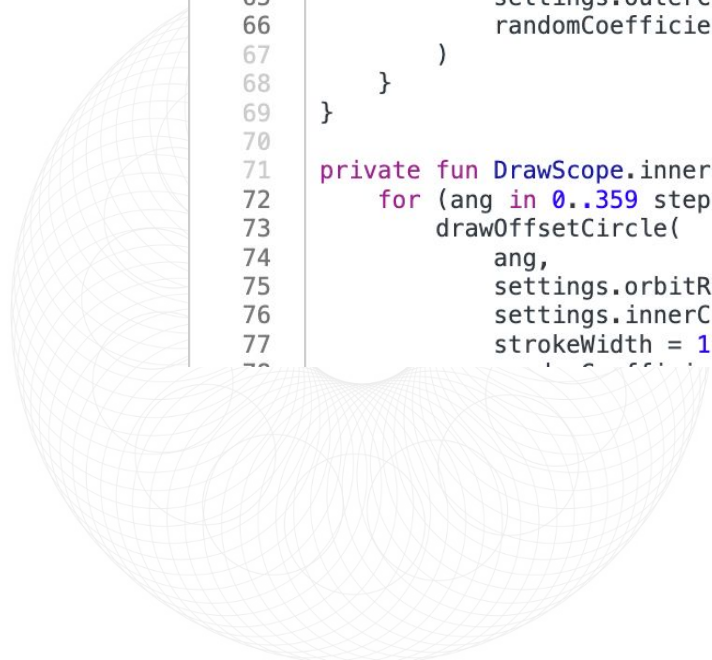
▼ Local

- **\$<this>:** (ref \$androidx.compose.ui.no
- **\$ang:** i32 {value: 0}
- **\$inductionVariable:** i32 {value: 5}
- **\$last:** i32 {value: 355}
- **\$settings:** (ref \$compose.demo.Setting
- **\$step:** i32 {value: 5}
- **\$stepArg:** i32 {value: 5}
- **\$tmp:** (ref null \$kotlin.text.StringBu

► Module

▼ Call Stack

- \$compose.demo.outerOrbit CircleOfCirclesV



```
82 private fun DrawScope.drawOffsetCircle(
83     angle: Int,
84     offsetRadius: Float,
85     circleRadius: Float,
86     strokeWidth: Float = 1.1f,
87     randomCoefficient: Double = 1.0
88 ) {
89     val rad = convertDegreesToRadians(angle)
90
91     //The offsets create minor glitches in the overall
92     //that make it look as if these are hand-drawn
93     val offsetX = (offsetRadius * cos(rad) + Random.nextGaussian() * 0.1f)
94     val offsetY = (offsetRadius * sin(rad) + Random.nextGaussian() * 0.1f)
95
96     drawCircle(
97         color = Color.Gray,
98         radius = circleRadius,
99         stroke = Stroke(strokeWidth, Color.Gray)
100     )
101 }
```

Soon!

Beyond the browsers

KoWasm (kowasm.org)

by Sébastien Deleuze ([@sdeleuze](https://twitter.com/sdeleuze))

Server-side and full stack development with
Kotlin and WebAssembly, by leveraging WASI and
Component Model



Deployment

Today

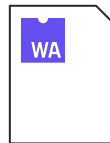


app.wasm



```
node --experimental-wasi-unstable-preview1 \  
--experimental-wasm-gc app.mjs
```

Tomorrow



app.wasm



Kubernetes



Cloud/Edge

```
docker run -dp 8080:8080  
--runtime=io.containerd.wasmtime.v1 \  
# or --runtime=io.containerd.wasmedge.v1 \  
--platform=wasi/wasm32 \  
sdeleuze/app
```

What's next?

- General availability of Wasm GC in browsers (soon)
- Kotlin/Wasm
 - Developer experience (DX)
 - Compose for Web with Kotlin/Wasm
 - Target standalone runtimes (Wasmtime, WasmEdge, etc.)

kotlin.in/wasm

Thank you!

Zalim Bashorov

[@bashorov](#)

Stack:

Instructions:

Interface method

Local:

d: Any

struct Foo

vtable
itables
typeInfo
hashCode
baz

from struct Any

struct ITables_1

Timer
Logger
...

struct Timer_itable

start
stop
value

fun Foo.start

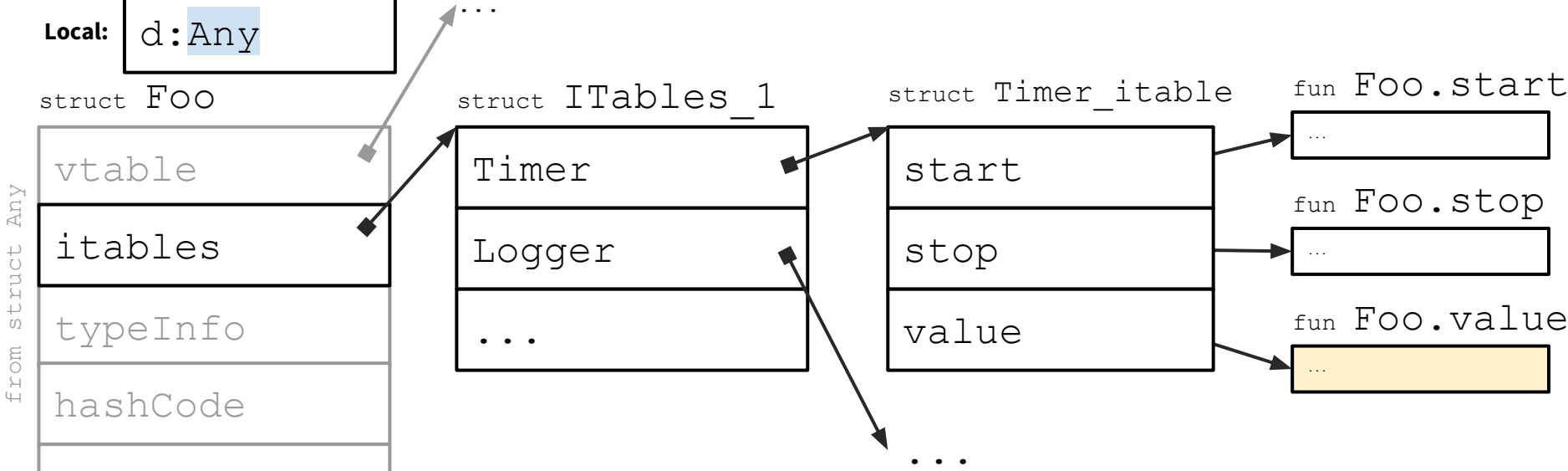
...

fun Foo.stop

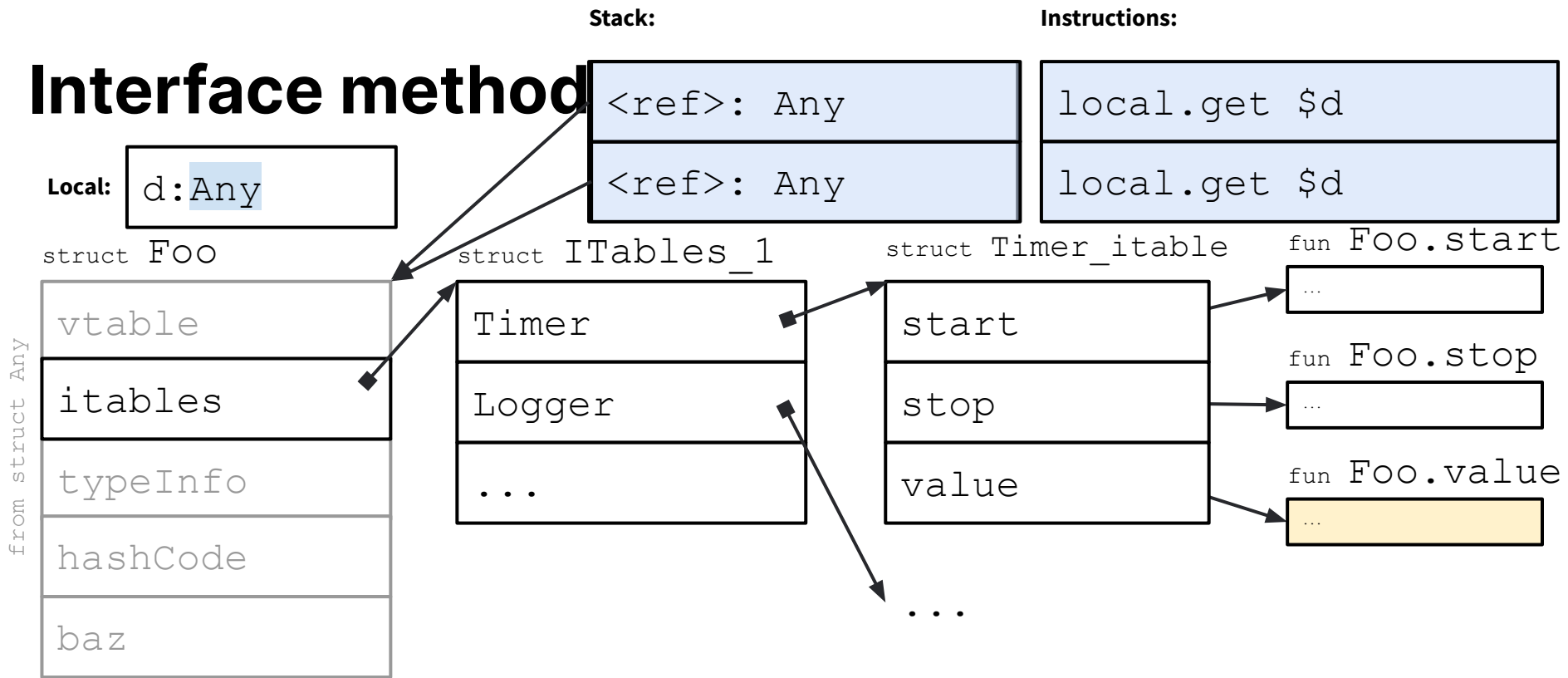
...

fun Foo.value

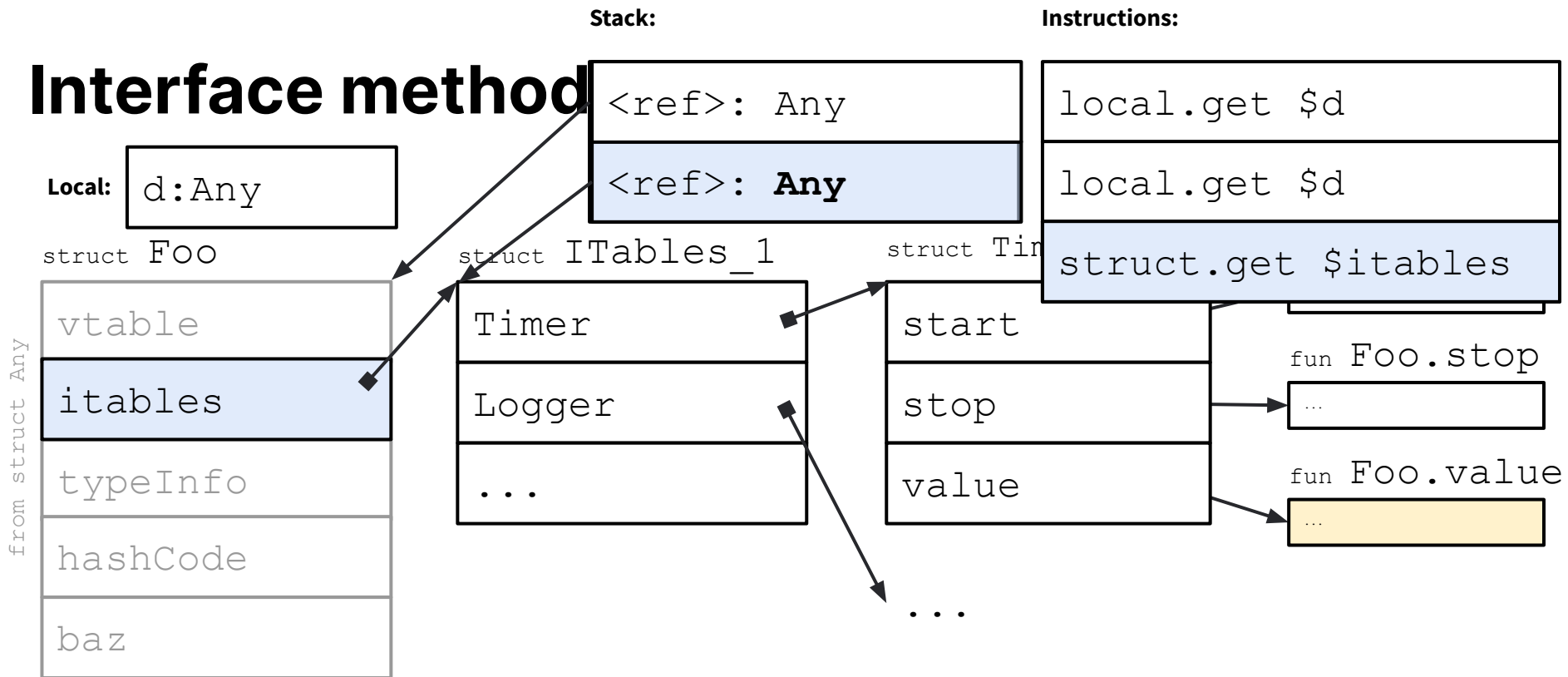
...



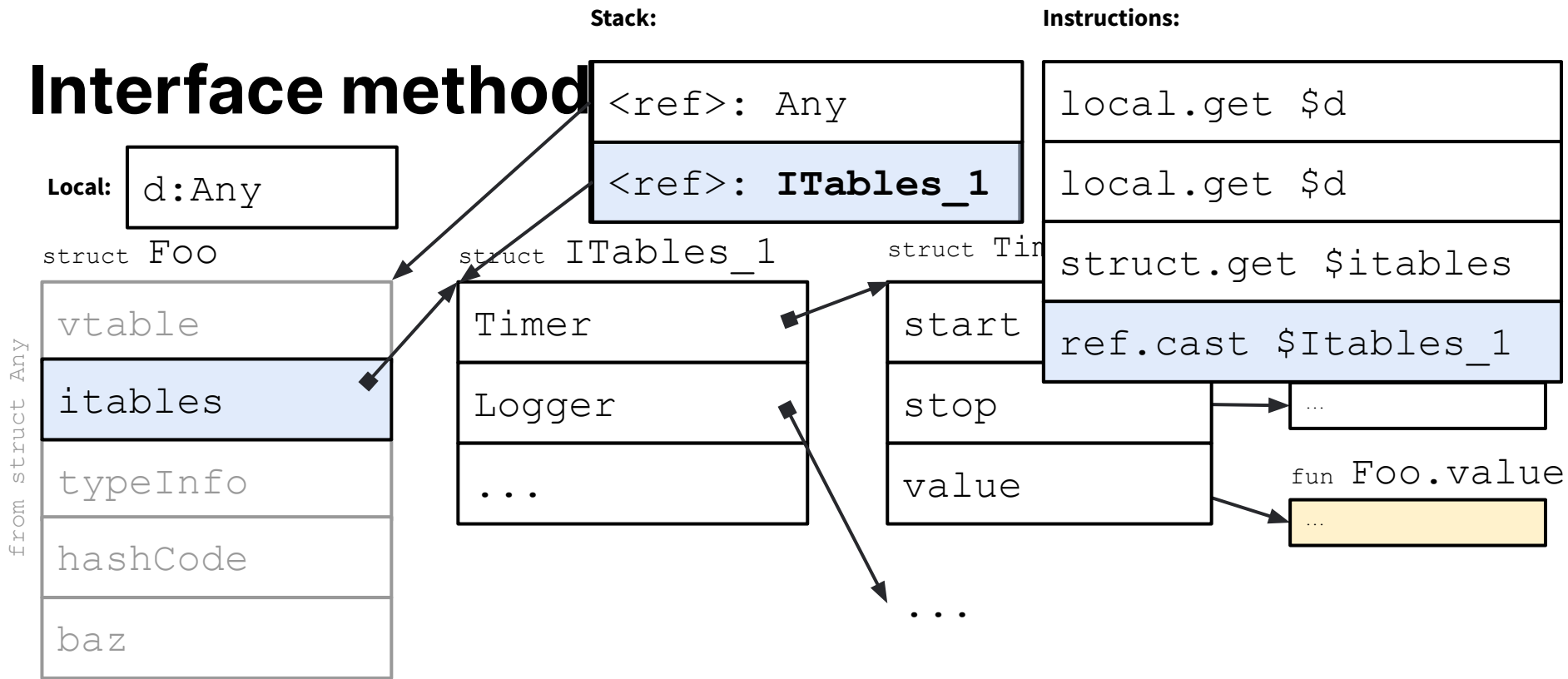
Interface method



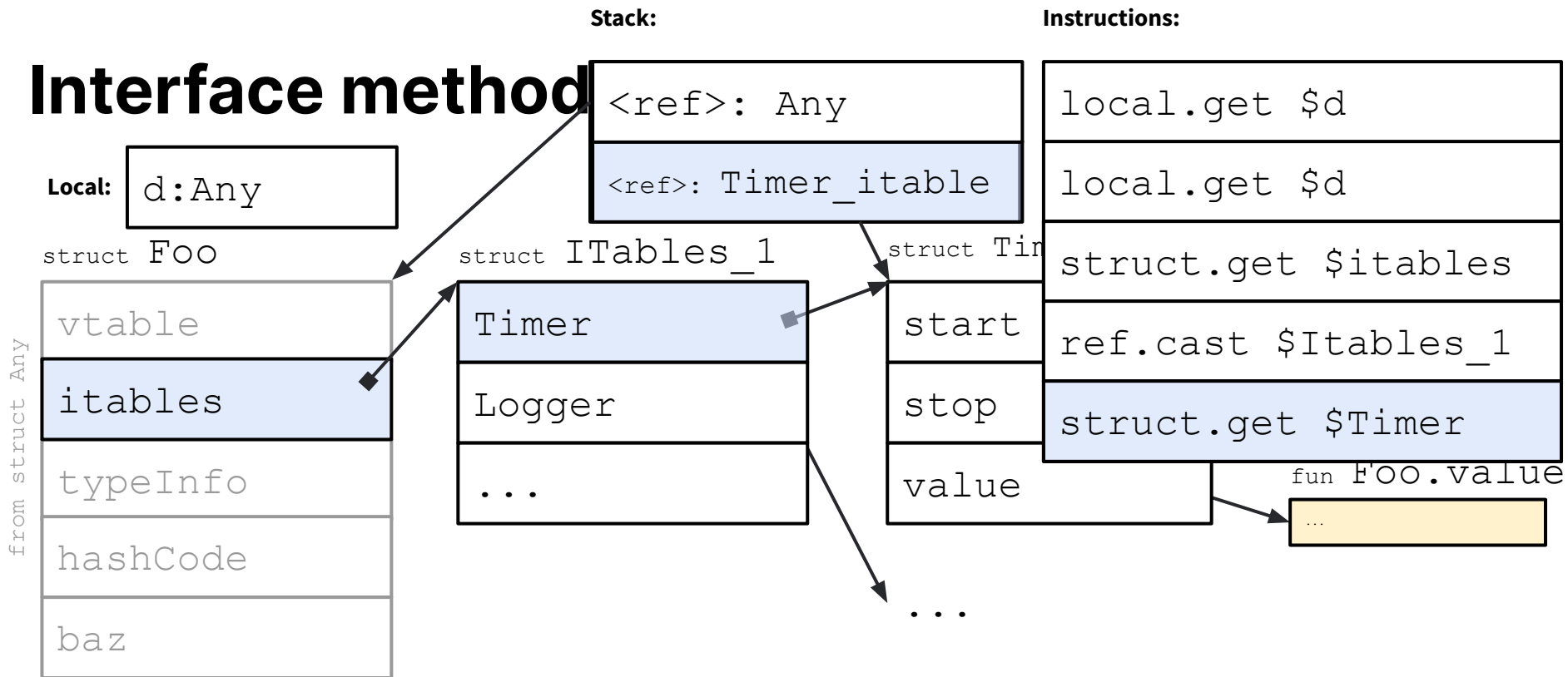
Interface method



Interface method



Interface method



Interface method

from struct Any

Local: d:Any

struct Foo

vtable

itables

typeInfo

hashCode

baz

Stack:

<ref>: Any

<ref>: fun value

Instructions:

local.get \$d

local.get \$d

struct.get \$itables

ref.cast \$Itables_1

struct.get \$Timer

struct.get \$value

struct ITables_1

Timer

Logger

...

struct Timer

start

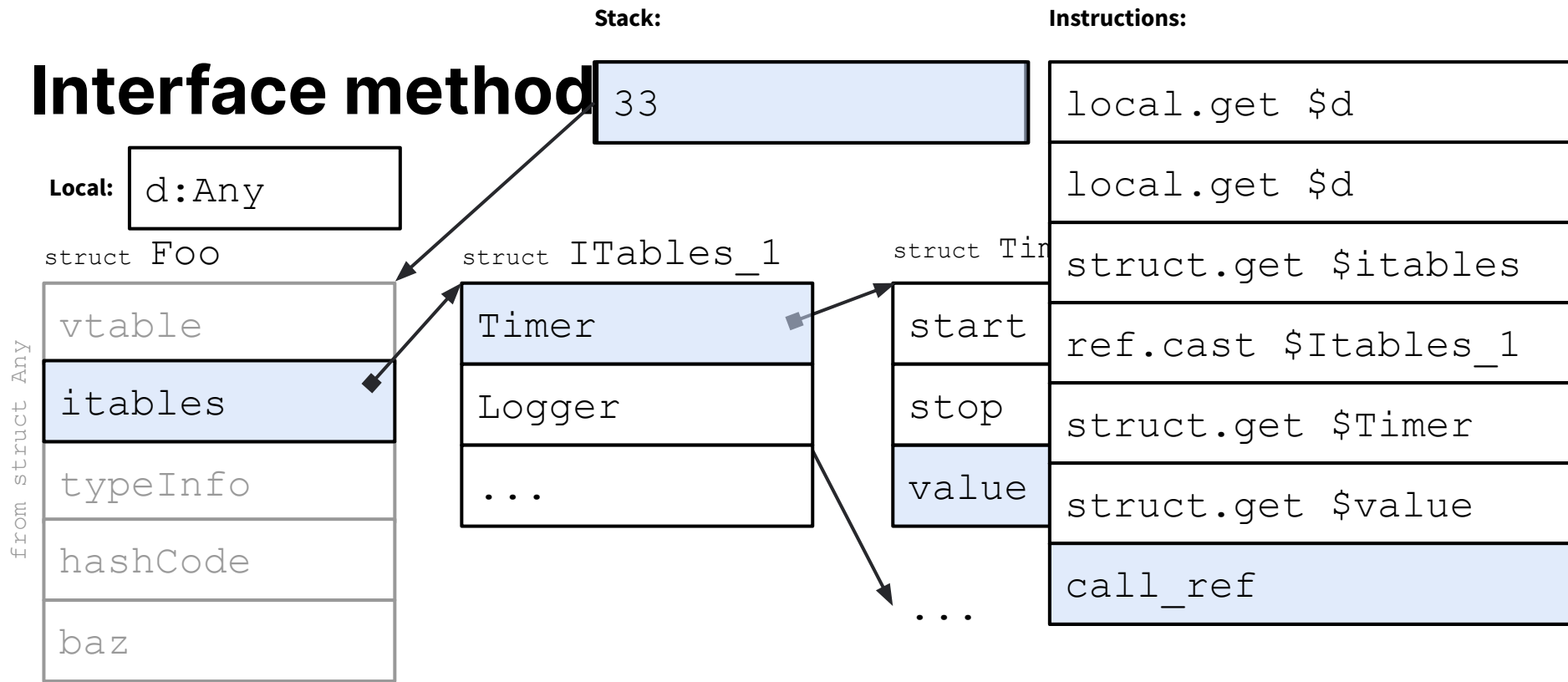
stop

value

...



Interface method



Browsers Setup/Requirements



Chrome 112+

Origin Tail <https://zal.im/tryWasmGC>

Chrome 110+ – in <chrome://flags>



WebAssembly Garbage Collection

Firefox 112+ – in <about:config>



- `javascript.options.wasm_function_references`

`javascript.options.wasm_gc`



Introducing KoWasm

<https://kowasm.org>

**Server-side and full
stack development with
Kotlin and
WebAssembly, by
leveraging WASI and
Component Model**

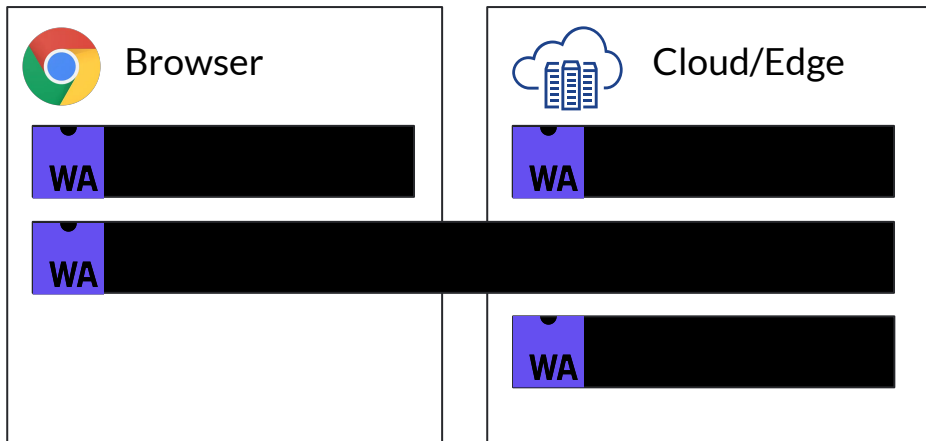


Introducing KoWasm

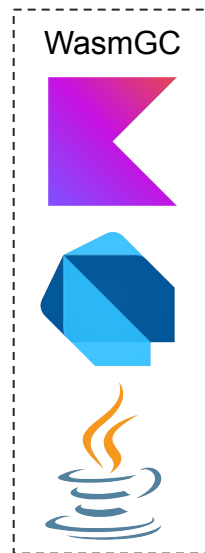
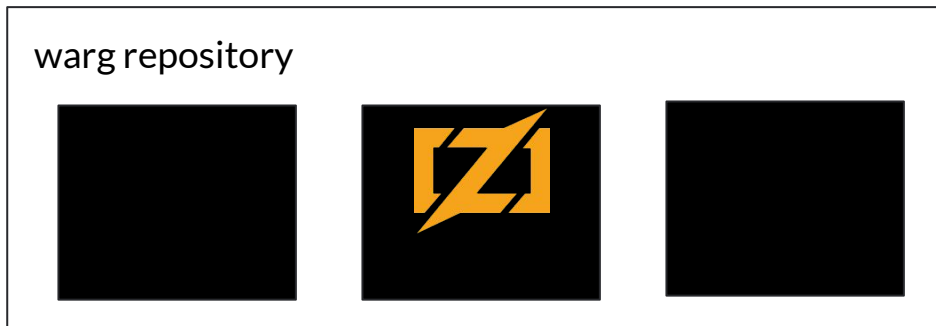
<https://kowasm.org>



Visio n



Component Model bindings





- core
- wasi
- web

All modules:

core

This module provide core KoWasm infrastructure.

wasi

This module exposes a Kotlin/Wasm API inspired from WASI Preview2 in order to expose low level WASI Preview1 capabilities.

web

This module allows to create a web server and defines HTTP routes using a proper DSL.



Memory allocator to bridge WasmGC with linear memory

```
@WasmImport("wasi_snapshot_preview1", "clock_res_get")
private external fun rawClockResGet(
    arg0: Int,
    arg1: Int,
): Int

fun clockResGet(id: ClockId): Timestamp {
    withScopedMemoryAllocator { allocator ->
        val pointer = allocator.allocate(8)
        val returnCode = rawClockResGet(id.ordinal, pointer.address.toInt())
        return if (returnCode == 0) {
            (Pointer(pointer.address.toInt().toUInt()).loadLong()
        } else {
            throw WasiError(errno.values()[returnCode])
        }
    }
}
```





Project ▾

- ▼ kowasm-demo ~/wasm/kowasm-
 - > .gradle
 - > .idea
 - > build
 - > gradle
 - ▼ src
 - ▼ wasmMain
 - ▼ kotlin
 - Main.kt
 - User
 - UserService
 - build.gradle.kts
 - gradlew
 - gradlew.bat
 - > External Libraries
 - > Scratches and Consoles

Search Everywhere Double Shift

Go to File Ctrl+Shift+N

Recent Files Ctrl+E

Navigation Bar Alt+Home

Drop files here to open them

WIT record to Kotlin

```
record person {  
    name: string,  
    age: option<u32>,  
}
```



```
data class Person(  
    val name: String,  
    val age: UInt? = null  
)
```



WIT variant to Kotlin

```
variant filter {  
    all,  
    none,  
    some(list<string>),  
}
```



```
sealed interface Filter {  
    object All : Filter  
    object None : Filter  
    class Some(val value: List<String>): Filter  
}
```



WIT result to Kotlin

```
enum code {  
    too-big,  
    too-small,  
}  
a: func(input: string) -> result<string, code>
```



```
enum class Code { TOO_BIG, TOO_SMALL }  
class CodeException(val code: Code) : Exception()  
  
fun a(input: String): String {  
    if (input.isNotEmpty()) return input  
    else throw CodeException(Code.TOO_SMALL)  
}
```

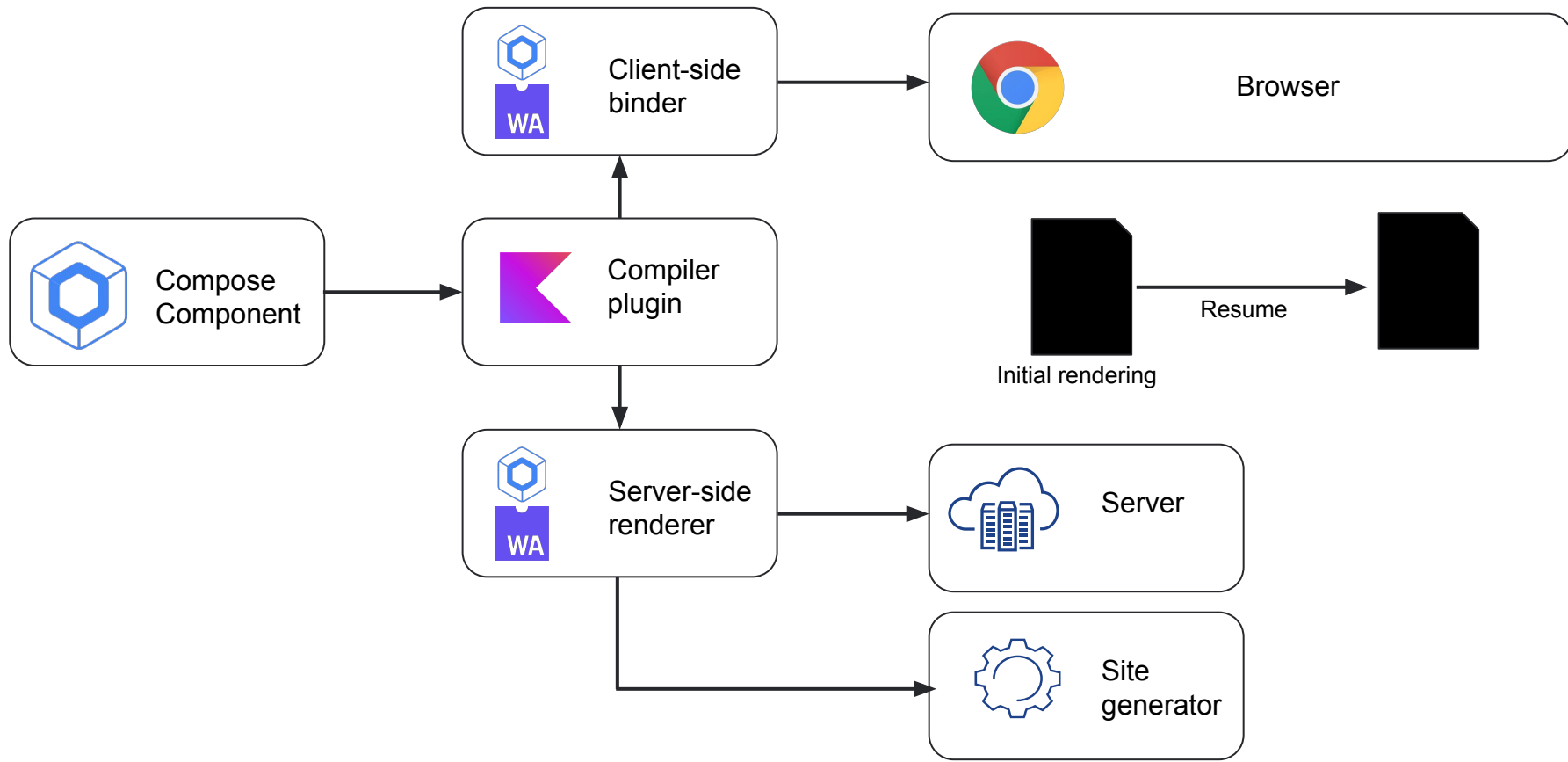


Compose for Web (HTML) with Kotlin/Wasm

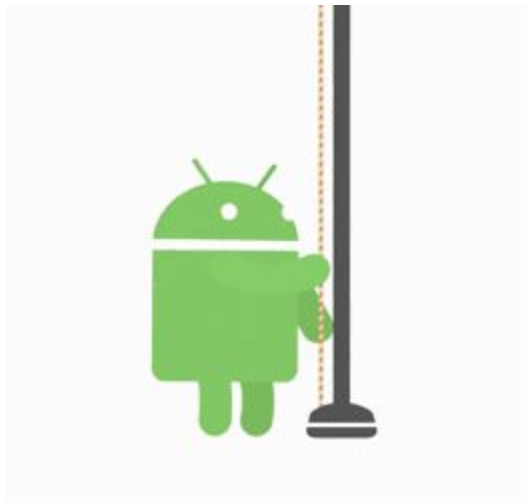
```
fun main() {  
    fun greet() = listOf("Hello", "Hallo", "Hola", "Servus").random()  
  
    renderComposable("greeting") {  
        var greeting by remember { mutableStateOf(greet()) }  
        Button(attrs = { onClick { greeting = greet() } }) {  
            Text(greeting)  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Hola

Fullstack rendering with Compose for Web and Kotlin/Wasm



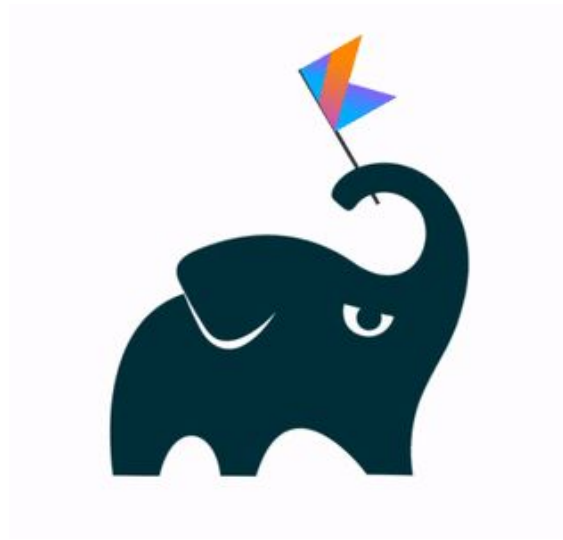
Kotlin



Mobile



Server-side



Build