Fastest Way to learn Fortran

An answer to a question by Fortran on Reddit. I learned Fortran during my Physics PhD working with atmospheric transport models. It includes some old style choices, because code from 30 years back still has to work (and does!), but when you use it where it shines (anything with math, including the most complex math), it's actually not harder than Python.

While I learned it, I wrote two short tutorials (because that's the most effective way to learn), maybe they can help you:

- Writing a commandline program in Fortran
- Surprising behavior of Fortran (so it does not surprise you)

Fortran is pretty nice in that mathy parts read like Python, but are fast by default. Really fast. Fast as in "you notice it, when you exceed the L2 cache of your CPU".

Also a fun little example that shows that Fortran already did stuff Java and Javascript programmers dream of:

- Actually immutable function arguments

Have fun learning your namesake, Fortran!

Besides my own stuff, have a look at fortran-lang.org/learn/. For an overview, learnxinyminutes where X=Fortran looks useful.

List of Links

draketo.de: https://www.draketo.de 1
question by Fortran on Reddit: https://www.reddit.com/r/learnprogramming/comments/1dx4j8p/fastest_way_to_learn_fortran_as_teen/ 1
Writing a commandline program in Fortran: https://www.draketo.de/english/free-software/fortran 1
Surprising behavior of Fortran (so it does not surprise you): https://www.draketo.de/light/english/fortran-surprises 1
you notice it: http://www.draketo.de/english/free-software/fortran#orgheadline4 1
Actually immutable function arguments: https://www.draketo.de/english/free-software/immutable-java-js-fortran 1
fortran-lang.org/learn/: https://fortran-lang.org/learn/ 1

learnxinyminutes where X=Fortran: https://learnxinyminutes.com/docs/fortran/ 1