



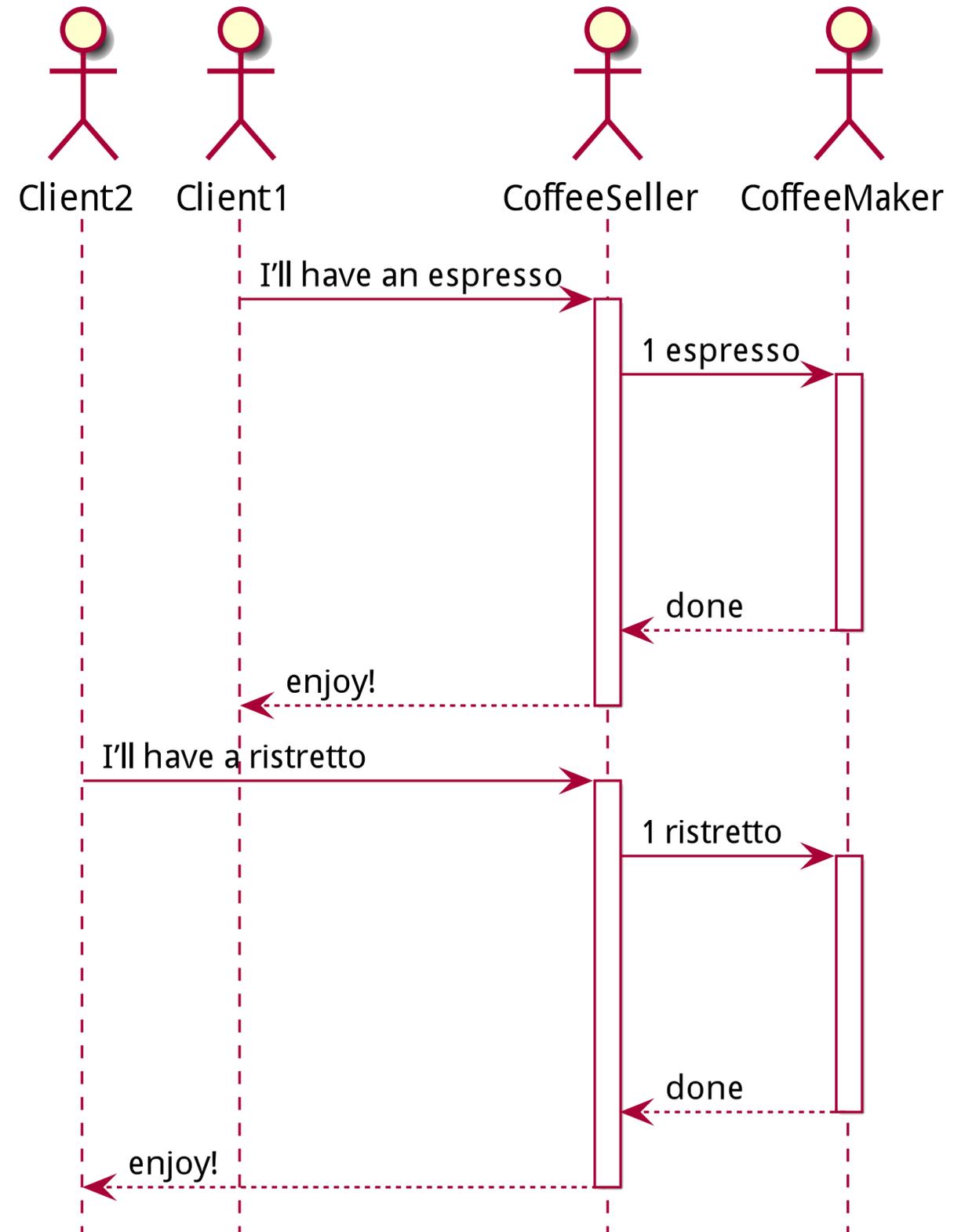
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Asynchronous Programming

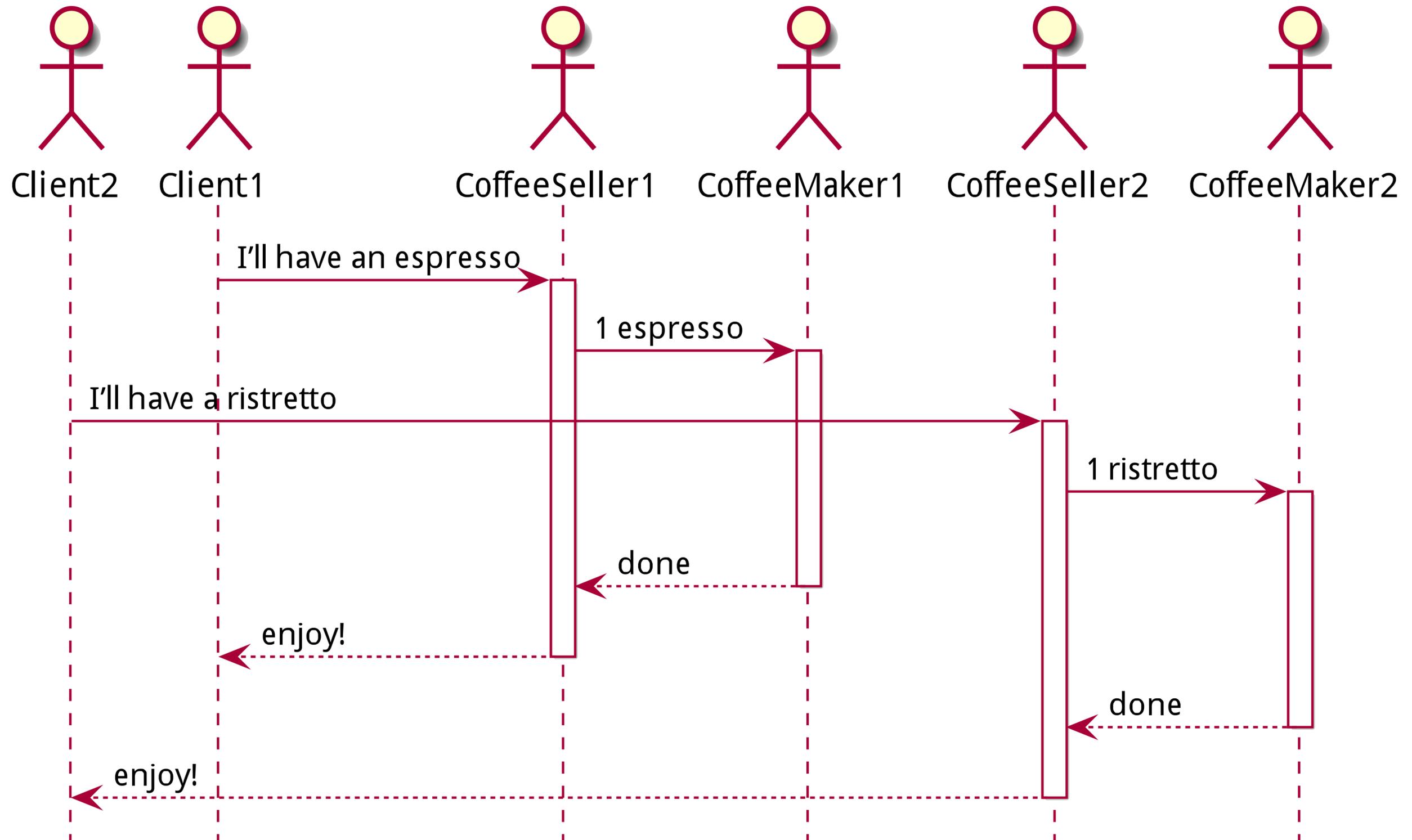
Programming Reactive Systems

Julien Richard-Foy

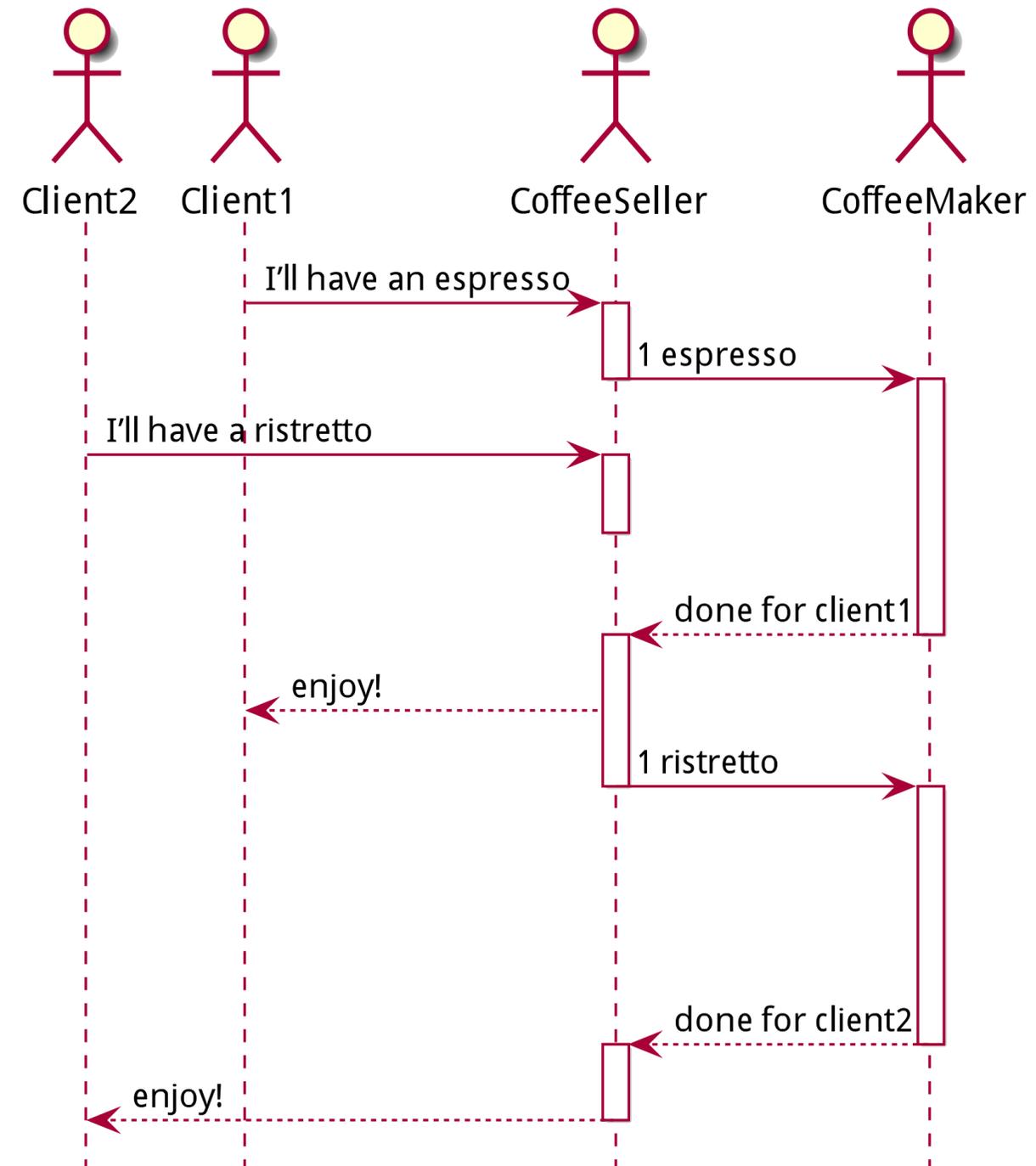
StarBlocks



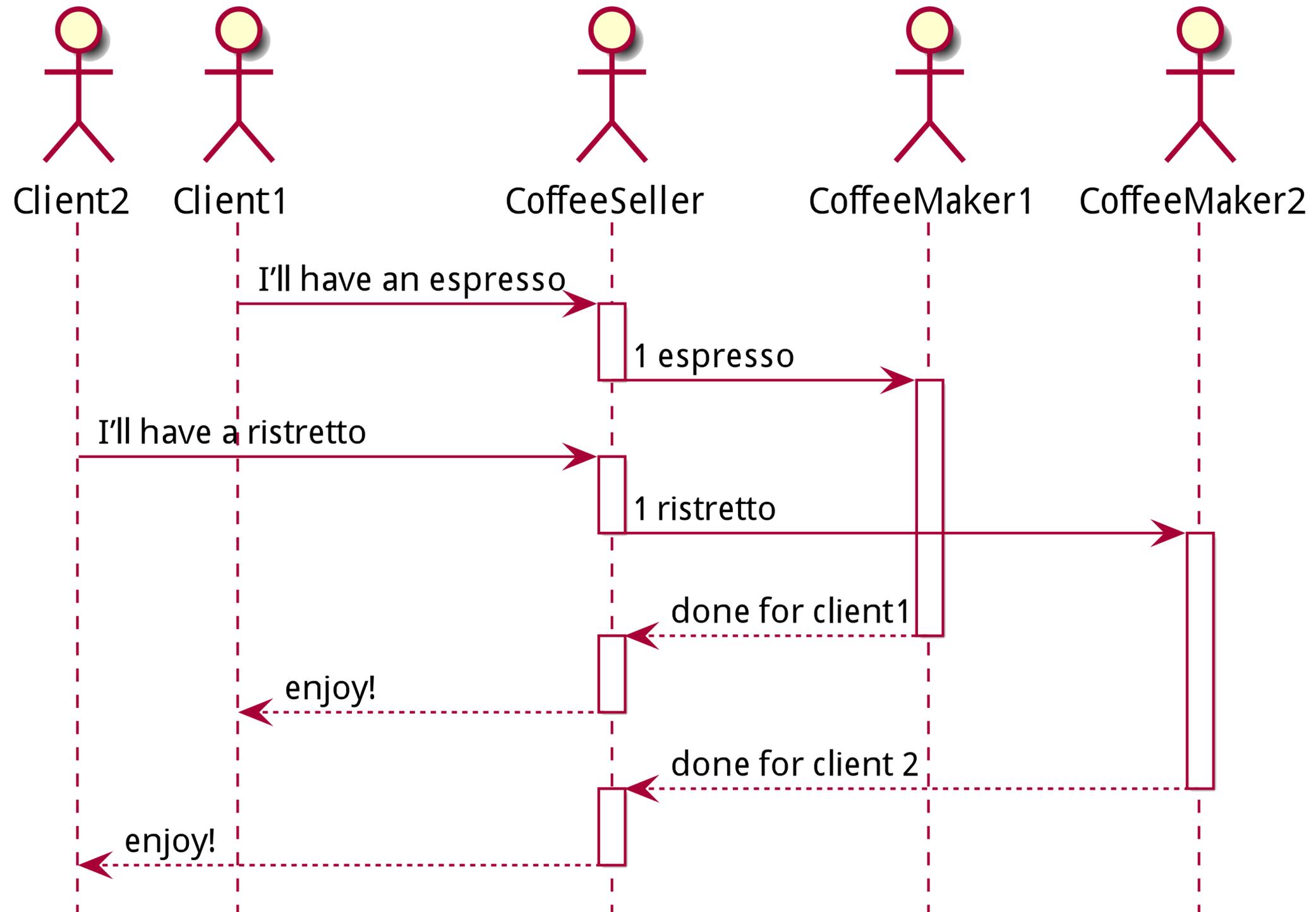
StarBlocks Scaled



ScalaBucks



ScalaBucks Scaled



Asynchronous Execution

- ▶ Execution of a computation on *another* computing unit, without *waiting* for its termination ;
- ▶ Better resource efficiency.

Concurrency Control of Asynchronous Programs

What if a program A *depends on* the result of an asynchronously executed program B?

```
def coffeeBreak(): Unit = {  
    val coffee = makeCoffee()  
    drink(coffee)  
    chatWithColleagues()  
}
```

Callback

```
def makeCoffee(coffeeDone: Coffee => Unit): Unit = {  
  // work hard ...  
  // ... and eventually  
  val coffee = ...  
  coffeeDone(coffee)  
}
```

```
def coffeeBreak(): Unit = {  
  makeCoffee { coffee =>  
    drink(coffee)  
  }  
  chatWithColleagues()  
}
```

From Synchronous to Asynchronous Type Signatures

A synchronous type signature can be turned into an asynchronous type signature by:

- ▶ returning `Unit`
- ▶ and taking as parameter a **continuation** defining what to do after the return value has been computed

```
def program(a: A): B
```

```
def program(a: A, k: B => Unit): Unit
```

Combining Asynchronous Programs (1)

```
def makeCoffee(coffeeDone: Coffee => Unit): Unit = ...
```

```
def makeTwoCoffees(coffeesDone: (Coffee, Coffee) => Unit): Unit = ???
```

Combining Asynchronous Programs (2)

```
def makeCoffee(coffeeDone: Coffee => Unit): Unit = ...

def makeTwoCoffees(coffeesDone: (Coffee, Coffee) => Unit): Unit = {
  var firstCoffee: Option[Coffee] = None
  val k = { coffee: Coffee =>
    firstCoffee match {
      case None           => firstCoffee = Some(coffee)
      case Some(coffee2) => coffeesDone(coffee, coffee2)
    }
  }
  makeCoffee(k)
  makeCoffee(k)
}
```

Callbacks All the Way Down (1)

What if another program *depends on* the coffee break to be done?

```
def coffeeBreak(): Unit = ...
```

- ▶ We need to make coffeeBreak take a callback too!

Callbacks all the Way Down (2)

```
def coffeeBreak(breakDone: Unit => Unit): Unit = ...
```

```
def workRoutine(workDone: Work => Unit): Unit = {  
  work { work1 =>  
    coffeeBreak { _ =>  
      work { work2 =>  
        workDone(work1 + work2)  
      }  
    }  
  }  
}
```

Callbacks all the Way Down (2)

```
def coffeeBreak(breakDone: Unit => Unit): Unit = ...
```

```
def workRoutine(workDone: Work => Unit): Unit = {  
  work { work1 =>  
    coffeeBreak { _ =>  
      work { work2 =>  
        workDone(work1 + work2)  
      }  
    }  
  }  
}
```

- ▶ Order of execution follows the indentation level!

Handling Failures

- ▶ In synchronous programs, failures are handled with exceptions ;
- ▶ What happens if an asynchronous call fails?
 - ▶ We need a way to propagate the failure to the call site

Handling Failures

- ▶ In synchronous programs, failures are handled with exceptions ;
- ▶ What happens if an asynchronous call fails?
 - ▶ We need a way to propagate the failure to the call site

```
def makeCoffee(coffeeDone: Try[Coffee] => Unit): Unit = ...
```

Summary

In this video, we have seen:

- ▶ How to *sequence* asynchronous computations using **callbacks**
- ▶ Callbacks introduce complex type signatures
- ▶ The continuation passing style is tedious to use



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Asynchronous Programming with Future

Programming Reactive Systems

Julien Richard-Foy

From Synchronous to Asynchronous Type Signatures (using Future)

Remember the transformation we applied to a synchronous type signature to make it asynchronous:

```
def program(a: A): B
```

```
def program(a: A, k: B => Unit): Unit
```

From Synchronous to Asynchronous Type Signatures (using Future)

Remember the transformation we applied to a synchronous type signature to make it asynchronous:

```
def program(a: A): B
```

```
def program(a: A, k: B => Unit): Unit
```

What if we could model an asynchronous result of type T as a return type Future[T]?

```
def program(a: A): Future[B]
```

From Continuation Passing Style to Future

```
def program(a: A, k: B => Unit): Unit
```

Let's massage this type signature...

From Continuation Passing Style to Future

```
def program(a: A, k: B => Unit): Unit
```

Let's massage this type signature...

```
// by currying the continuation parameter
```

```
def program(a: A): (B => Unit) => Unit
```

From Continuation Passing Style to Future

```
def program(a: A, k: B => Unit): Unit
```

Let's massage this type signature...

```
// by currying the continuation parameter
```

```
def program(a: A): (B => Unit) => Unit
```

```
// by introducing a type alias
```

```
type Future[+T] = (T => Unit) => Unit
```

```
def program(a: A): Future[B]
```

From Continuation Passing Style to Future

```
def program(a: A, k: B => Unit): Unit
```

Let's massage this type signature...

```
// by currying the continuation parameter
```

```
def program(a: A): (B => Unit) => Unit
```

```
// by introducing a type alias
```

```
type Future[+T] = (T => Unit) => Unit
```

```
def program(a: A): Future[B]
```

```
// bonus: adding failure handling
```

```
type Future[+T] = (Try[T] => Unit) => Unit
```

Towards a Brighter Future

```
type Future[+T] = (Try[T] => Unit) => Unit
```

Towards a Brighter Future

```
type Future[+T] = (Try[T] => Unit) => Unit

// by reifying the alias into a proper trait
trait Future[+T] extends ((Try[T] => Unit) => Unit) {
  def apply(k: Try[T] => Unit): Unit
}
```

Towards a Brighter Future

```
type Future[+T] = (Try[T] => Unit) => Unit

// by reifying the alias into a proper trait
trait Future[+T] extends ((Try[T] => Unit) => Unit) {
  def apply(k: Try[T] => Unit): Unit
}

// by renaming 'apply' to 'onComplete'
trait Future[+T] {
  def onComplete(k: Try[T] => Unit): Unit
}
}
```

coffeeBreak Revisited With Future

```
def makeCoffee(): Future[Coffee] = ...

def coffeeBreak(): Unit = {
  val eventuallyCoffee = makeCoffee()
  eventuallyCoffee.onComplete { tryCoffee =>
    tryCoffee.foreach(drink)
  }
  chatWithColleagues()
}
```

Handling Failures

```
def makeCoffee(): Future[Coffee] = ...

def coffeeBreak(): Unit = {
  makeCoffee().onComplete {
    case Success(coffee) => drink(coffee)
    case Failure(reason) => ...
  }
  chatWithColleagues()
}
```

Handling Failures

```
def makeCoffee(): Future[Coffee] = ...

def coffeeBreak(): Unit = {
  makeCoffee().onComplete {
    case Success(coffee) => drink(coffee)
    case Failure(reason) => ...
  }
  chatWithColleagues()
}
```

- ▶ However, most of the time you want to transform a successful result and delay failure handling to a later point in the program

Transformation Operations

- ▶ onComplete suffers from the same composability issues as callbacks
- ▶ Future provides convenient high-level transformation operations

(Simplified) API of Future:

```
trait Future[+A] {  
  def onComplete(k: Try[A] => Unit): Unit  
  // transform successful results  
  def map[B](f: A => B): Future[B]  
  def flatMap[B](f: A => Future[B]): Future[B]  
  def zip[B](fb: Future[B]): Future[(A, B)]  
  // transform failures  
  def recover(f: Exception => A): Future[A]  
  def recoverWith(f: Exception => Future[A]): Future[A]  
}
```

map Operation on Future

```
trait Future[+A] {  
  def map[B](f: A => B): Future[B]  
}
```

- ▶ Transforms a successful Future[A] into a Future[B] by applying a function $f: A \Rightarrow B$ after the Future[A] has completed
- ▶ Automatically propagates the failure of the former Future[A] (if any), to the resulting Future[B]

```
def grindBeans(): Future[GroundCoffee]  
def brew(groundCoffee: GroundCoffee): Coffee
```

```
def makeCoffee(): Future[Coffee] =  
  grindBeans().map(groundCoffee => brew(groundCoffee))
```

flatMap Operation on Future

```
trait Future[+A] {  
  def flatMap[B](f: A => Future[B]): Future[B]  
}
```

- ▶ Transforms a successful Future[A] into a Future[B] by applying a function `f: A => Future[B]` after the Future[A] has completed
- ▶ Returns a failed Future[B] if the former Future[A] failed or if the Future[B] resulting from the application of the function `f` failed.

```
def grindBeans(): Future[GroundCoffee]
```

```
def brew(groundCoffee: GroundCoffee): Future[Coffee]
```

```
def makeCoffee(): Future[Coffee] =  
  grindBeans().flatMap(groundCoffee => brew(groundCoffee))
```

zip Operation on Future

```
trait Future[+A] {  
  def zip[B](other: Future[B]): Future[(A, B)]  
}
```

- ▶ Joins two successful Future[A] and Future[B] values into a single successful Future[(A, B)] value
- ▶ Returns a failure if any of the two Future values failed
- ▶ Does *not* create any dependency between the two Future values!

```
def makeTwoCoffees(): Future[(Coffee, Coffee)] =  
  makeCoffee() zip makeCoffee()
```

zip vs flatMap

```
def makeTwoCoffees(): Future[(Coffee, Coffee)] =  
  makeCoffee() zip makeCoffee()
```

```
def makeTwoCoffees(): Future[(Coffee, Coffee)] =  
  makeCoffee().flatMap { coffee1 =>  
    makeCoffee().map(coffee2 => (coffee1, coffee2))  
  }
```

zip vs flatMap (2)

```
def makeTwoCoffees(): Future[(Coffee, Coffee)] =  
  makeCoffee() zip makeCoffee()
```

```
def makeTwoCoffees(): Future[(Coffee, Coffee)] = {  
  val eventuallyCoffee1 = makeCoffee()  
  val eventuallyCoffee2 = makeCoffee()  
  eventuallyCoffee1.flatMap { coffee1 =>  
    eventuallyCoffee2.map(coffee2 => (coffee1, coffee2))  
  }  
}
```

Sequencing Futures (1)

```
def work(): Future[Work] = ...
def coffeeBreak(): Future[Unit] = ...

def workRoutine(): Future[Work] = {
  work().flatMap { work1 =>
    coffeeBreak().flatMap { _ =>
      work().map { work2 =>
        work1 + work2
      }
    }
  }
}
```

Sequencing Futures (2)

```
def work(): Future[Work] = ...
def coffeeBreak(): Future[Unit] = ...

def workRoutine(): Future[Work] =
  for {
    work1 <- work()
    _ <- coffeeBreak()
    work2 <- work()
  } yield work1 + work2
```

- ▶ Back to a familiar layout to sequence computations!

coffeeBreak, Again

```
def coffeeBreak(): Future[Unit] = {  
  val eventuallyCoffeeDrunk = makeCoffee().flatMap(drink)  
  val eventuallyChatted     = chatWithColleagues()  
  
  eventuallyCoffeeDrunk.zip(eventuallyChatted)  
    .map(_ => ())  
}
```

recover and recoverWith Operations on Future

Turn a failed Future into a successful one

```
trait Future[+A] {  
  def recover[B >: A](pf: PartialFunction[Throwable, B]): Future[B]  
  def recoverWith[B >: A](pf: PartialFunction[Throwable, Future[B]]): Future[B]  
}
```

```
grindBeans()  
  .recoverWith { case BeansBucketEmpty =>  
    refillBeans().flatMap(_ => grindBeans())  
  }  
  .flatMap(coffeePowder => brew(coffeePowder))
```

Execution Context

- ▶ So far, we haven't said anything about where continuations are executed, *physically*
- ▶ How do we control that?
 - ▶ Single thread? Fixed size thread pool?

Execution Context

- ▶ So far, we haven't said anything about where continuations are executed, *physically*
- ▶ How do we control that?
 - ▶ Single thread? Fixed size thread pool?

```
trait Future[+A] {  
  def onComplete(k: Try[A] => Unit)(implicit ec: ExecutionContext): Unit  
}
```

```
import scala.concurrent.ExecutionContext.Implicits.global
```

Lift a Callback-Based API to Future (1)

```
def makeCoffee(  
  coffeeDone: Coffee => Unit,  
  onFailure: Exception => Unit  
): Unit  
  
def makeCoffee2(): Future[Coffee] = ...
```

Lift a Callback-Based API to Future (2)

```
def makeCoffee(  
  coffeeDone: Coffee => Unit,  
  onFailure: Exception => Unit  
): Unit  
  
def makeCoffee2(): Future[Coffee] = {  
  val p = Promise[Coffee]()  
  makeCoffee(  
    coffee => p.trySuccess(coffee),  
    reason => p.tryFailure(reason)  
  )  
  p.future  
}
```

Summary

In this video, we have seen:

- ▶ The Future[T] type is an equivalent alternative to continuation passing
- ▶ Offers convenient *transformation* and *failure recovering* operations
- ▶ map and flatMap operations introduce *sequentiality*

Backup Slides



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Monads and Effects (1/2)

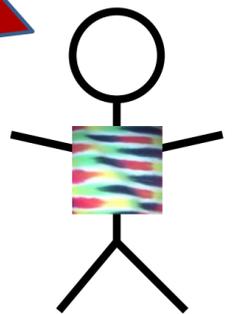
Principles of Reactive Programming

Erik Meijer

Warning

There is no type-checker for PowerPoint yet, hence these slides might contain typos and bugs. Hence, do not take these slides as the gospel or ultimate source of truth.

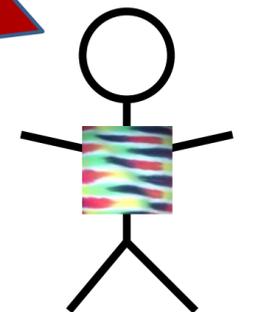
The only artifact you can trust is actual source code.



Warning

When we use RxScala in these lectures, we assume version 0.23. Different versions of RxScala might not be compatible.

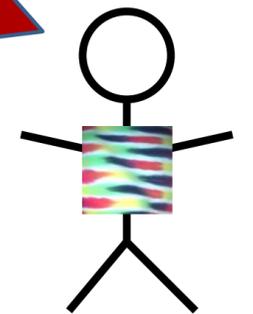
The RxScala method names do not necessarily correspond 1:1 with the underlying RxJava method names.



Warning

When we say “*monad*” in these lectures we mean a generic type with a constructor and a `flatMap` operator.

In particular, we’ll be fast and loose about the monad laws (that is, we completely ignore them).



The Four Essential Effects In Programming

	One	Many
Synchronous	<code>T/Try[T]</code>	<code>Iterable[T]</code>
Asynchronous	<code>Future[T]</code>	<code>Observable[T]</code>

The Four Essential Effects In Programming

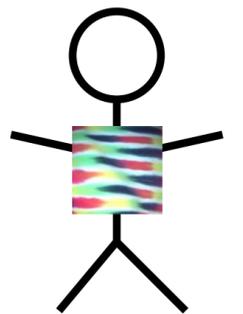
	One	Many
Synchronous	<code>T/Try[T]</code>	<code>Iterable[T]</code>
Asynchronous	<code>Future[T]</code>	<code>Observable[T]</code>

A simple adventure game

```
trait Adventure {  
  def collectCoins(): List[Coin]  
  def buyTreasure(coins: List[Coin]):  
Treasure  
}
```

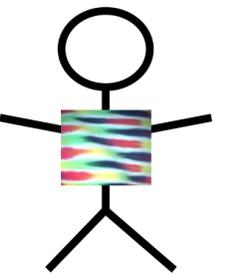
```
val adventure = Adventure()  
val coins = adventure.collectCoins()  
val treasure = adventure.buyTreasure(coins)
```

**Not as rosy
as it looks!**



Actions may fail

```
def collectCoins(): List[Coin] = {  
  if (eatenByMonster(this))  
    throw new GameOverException(  
    "Oops")  
  List(Gold, Gold, Silver)  
}
```



```
val adventure = Adventure()  
val coins = adventure.collectCoins()  
val treasure = adventure.buyTreasure(coins)
```

Actions may fail

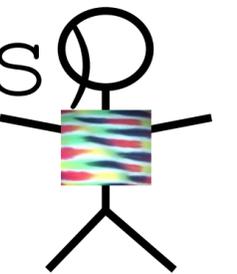
```
def buyTreasure(coins: List[Coin]):  
    Treasure = {  
        if (coins.sumBy(_.value) < treasureCost)  
            throw new GameOverException("Nice try!")  
        Diamond  
    }  
}
```

```
val adventure = Adventure()  
val coins = adventure.collectCoins()  
val treasure = adventure.buyTreasure(coins)
```

Sequential composition of actions that may fail

```
val adventure = Adventure()  
val coins = adventure.collectCoins  
// block until coins are collected  
// only continue if there is no exception  
val treasure = adventure.buyTreasure(coins)  
// block until treasure is bought  
// only continue if there is no exception
```

Lets make the
happy path and
the unhappy
path explicit

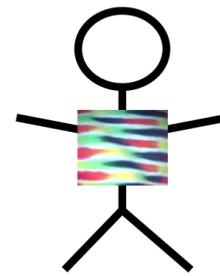


Expose possibility of failure in the types, honestly

$\mathbb{T} \approx \mathcal{S}$

We say one
thing, but we
really mean...

$\mathbb{T} \approx \text{Try}[\mathcal{S}]$





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End of Monads and Effects (1/2)

Principles of Reactive Programming

Erik Meijer



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Monads and Effects (2/2)

Principles of Reactive Programming

Erik Meijer

Making failure evident in types

```
abstract class Try[T]
case class Success[T](elem: T) extends Try[T]
case class Failure(t: Throwable)
                                extends Try[Nothing]

trait Adventure {
  def collectCoins(): Try[List[Coin]]
  def buyTreasure(coins: List[Coin]):
                                Try[Treasure]
}
```

Dealing with failure explicitly

```
val adventure = Adventure()

val coins: Try[List[Coin]] =
    adventure.collectCoins()

val treasure: Try[Treasure] = coins match {
    case Success(cs) =>
        adventure.buyTreasure(cs)
    case failure@Failure(e) => failure
}
```

Higher-order Functions to manipulate Try[T]

```
def flatMap[S] (f: T=>Try[S]) : Try[S]
```

```
def flatten[U <: Try[T]] : Try[U]
```

```
def map[S] (f: T=>S) : Try[T]
```

```
def filter(p: T=>Boolean) : Try[T]
```

```
def recoverWith(f:  
PartialFunction[Throwable, Try[T]]) : Try[T]
```

Monads guide you through the happy path

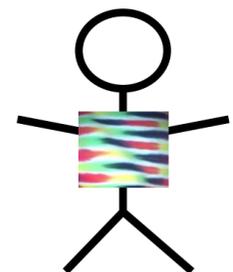
Try [T]

A monad that handles **exceptions**.

Noise reduction

```
val adventure = Adventure()  
  
val treasure: Try[Treasure] =  
  adventure.collectCoins().flatMap(  
    coins => {  
      adventure.buyTreasure(coins)  
    })
```

**FlatMap is the
plumber for the
happy path!**



Using comprehension syntax

```
val adventure = Adventure()

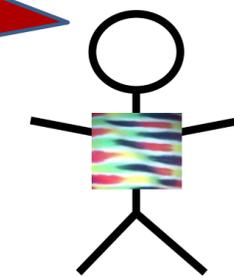
val treasure: Try[Treasure] = for {
  coins      <- adventure.collectCoins()
  treasure <- buyTreasure(coins)
} yield treasure
```

Higher-order Function to manipulate Try[T]

```
def map[S] (f: T=>S) : Try[S] = this match {  
  case Success (value)      => Try (f (value))  
  case failure@Failure (t)  => failure  
}
```

```
object Try {  
  def apply[T] (r: =>T) : Try[T] = {  
    try { Success (r) }  
    catch { case t => Failure (t) }  
  }  
}
```

**Materialize
exceptions**





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End of Monads and Effects (2/2)

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Latency as an Effect (1/2)

Principles of Reactive Programming

Erik Meijer

The Four Essential Effects In Programming

	One	Many
Synchronous	<code>T/Try[T]</code>	<code>Iterable[T]</code>
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The Four Essential Effects In Programming

	One	Many
Synchronous	<code>T/Try[T]</code>	<code>Iterable[T]</code>
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Recall our simple adventure game

```
trait Adventure {  
  def collectCoins(): List[Coin]  
  def buyTreasure(coins: List[Coin]): Treasure  
}  
  
val adventure = Adventure()  
val coins = adventure.collectCoins()  
val treasure = adventure.buyTreasure(coins)
```

Recall our simple adventure game

```
trait Adventure {  
  def readFromMemory(): List[Byte]  
  def sendToEurope(packet: List[Byte]) : Treasure  
}   Array[Byte]
```

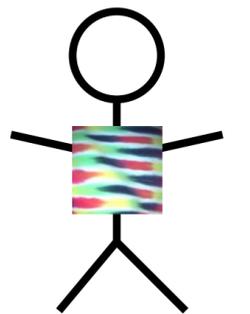
```
val socket = new SocketAdventure()  
val packet = socket.readFromMemory()  
val confirmation = adventure.buyTreasure(coins)  
socket.sendToEurope(packet)
```

It is actually very similar to a simple network stack

```
trait Socket {  
  def readFromMemory(): Array[Byte]  
  def sendToEurope(packet: Array[Byte]):  
Array[Byte]  
}
```

**Not as rosy
as it looks!**

```
val socket = Socket()  
val packet = socket.readFromMemory()  
val confirmation = socket.sendToEurope(packet)
```



Timings for various operations on a typical PC

execute typical instruction	$1/1,000,000,000$ sec = 1 nanosec
fetch from L1 cache memory	0.5 nanosec
branch misprediction	5 nanosec
fetch from L2 cache memory	7 nanosec
Mutex lock/unlock	25 nanosec
fetch from main memory	100 nanosec
send 2K bytes over 1Gbps network	20,000 nanosec
read 1MB sequentially from memory	250,000 nanosec
fetch from new disk location (seek)	8,000,000 nanosec
read 1MB sequentially from disk	20,000,000 nanosec
send packet US to Europe and back	150 milliseconds = 150,000,000 nanosec

<http://norvig.com/21-days.html#answers>

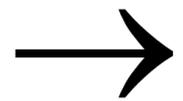
Sequential composition of actions that take time

```
val socket = Socket()
val packet = socket.readFromMemory()
// block for 50,000 ns
// only continue if there is no exception
val confirmation = socket.sendToEurope(packet)
// block for 150,000,000 ns
// only continue if there is no exception
```

Sequential composition of actions

Lets translate this into human terms.

1 nanosecond



1 second (then hours/days/months/years)

Timings for various operations on a typical PC on human scale

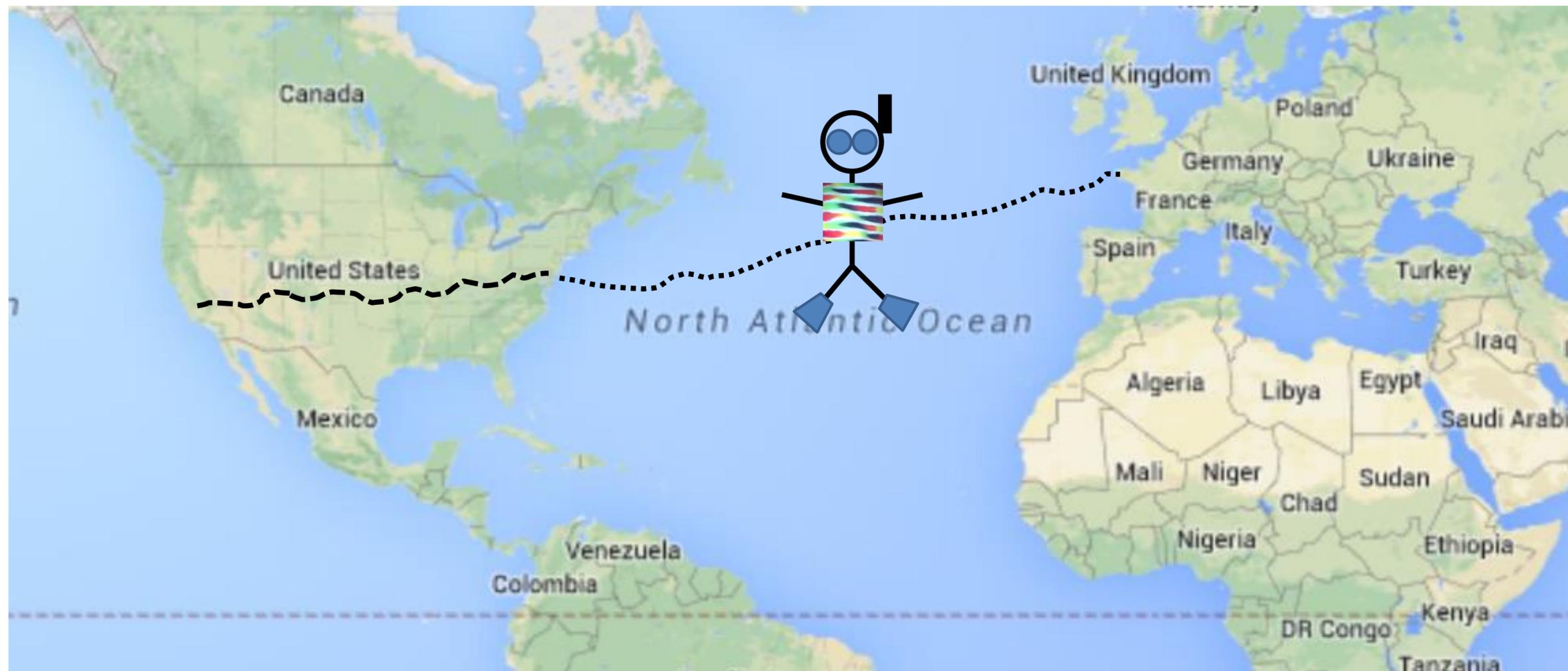
execute typical instruction	1 second
fetch from L1 cache memory	0.5 seconds
branch misprediction	5 seconds
fetch from L2 cache memory	7 seconds
Mutex lock/unlock	½ minute
fetch from main memory	1½ minutes
send 2K bytes over 1Gbps network	5½ hours
read 1MB sequentially from memory	3 days
fetch from new disk location (seek)	13 weeks
read 1MB sequentially from disk	6½ months
send packet US to Europe and back	5 years

Sequential composition of actions

```
val socket = Socket()
val packet = socket.readFromMemory()
// block for 3 days
// only continue if there is no exception
val confirmation = socket.sendToEurope(packet)
// block for 5 years
// only continue if there is no exception
```

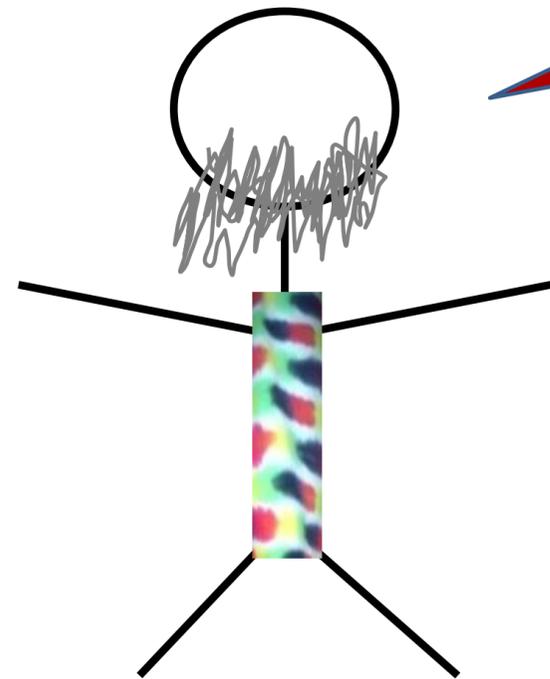
Sequential composition of actions

12 months to walk coast-to-coast
3 months to swim across the Atlantic
3 months to swim back
12 months to walk back



Humans are twice as fast as computers!

Sequential composition of actions that take time and fail



Isn't there a
monad for
that??



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End of Latency as an Effect (1/2)

Principles of Reactive Programming

Erik Meijer



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Latency as an Effect (2/2)

Principles of Reactive Programming

Erik Meijer

Monads guide you through the happy path

Future [T

]

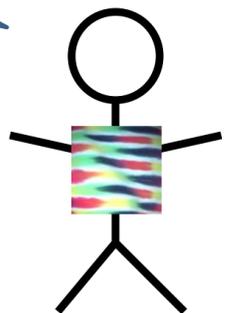
A monad that handles exceptions and **latency**.

Futures asynchronously notify consumers

```
import scala.concurrent._
import
scala.concurrent.ExecutionContext.Implicits.global

trait Future[T] {
  def onComplete(callback: Try[T] => Unit)
    (implicit executor: ExecutionContext): Unit
}
```

We will totally ignore execution contexts

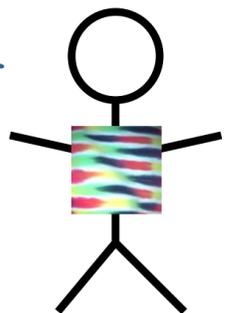


Futures asynchronously notify consumers

```
trait Future[T] {  
  def onComplete(callback: Try[T] => Unit)  
    (implicit executor: ExecutionContext): Unit  
}
```

**callback needs
to use pattern matching**

```
ts match {  
  case Success(t) =>  
    onNext(t)  
  case Failure(e) =>  
    onError(e)
```

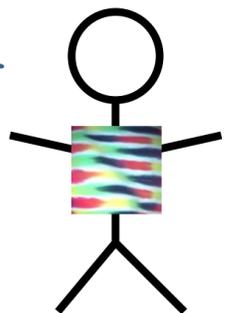


Futures asynchronously notify consumers

```
trait Future[T] {  
  def onComplete(callback: Try[T] => Unit)  
    (implicit executor: ExecutionContext): Unit  
}
```

boilerplate code

```
ts match {  
  case Success(t) =>  
    onNext(t)  
  case Failure(e) =>  
    onError(e)  
}
```



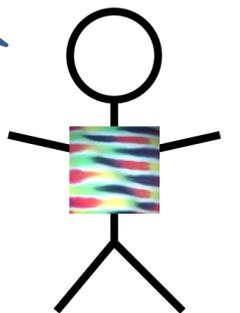
Futures alternative designs

```
trait Future[T] {  
  def onComplete  
    (success: T => Unit, failed: Throwable =>  
Unit): Unit
```

```
  def onComplete(callback: Observer[T]) • Unit  
}
```

```
trait Observer[T] {  
  def onNext(value: T): Unit  
  def onError(error: Throwable): Unit  
}
```

An *object* is a closure with multiple methods. A *closure* is an object with a single method.



Futures asynchronously notify consumers

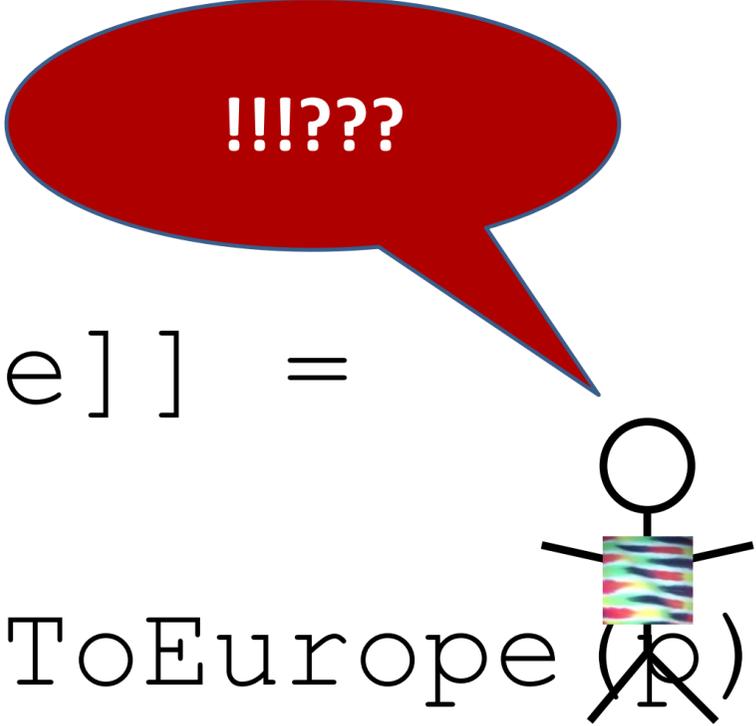
```
trait Future[T] {  
  def onComplete(callback: Try[T] => Unit)  
    (implicit executor: ExecutionContext): Unit  
}
```

```
trait Socket {  
  def readFromMemory(): Future[Array[Byte]]  
  def sendToEurope(packet: Array[Byte]):  
Future[Array[Byte]]  
}
```

Send packets using futures I

```
val socket = Socket()
val packet: Future[Array[Byte]] =
  socket.readFromMemory()

val confirmation: Future[Array[Byte]] =
  packet.onComplete {
    case Success(p) => socket.sendToEurope(p)
    case Failure(t) => ...
  }
```

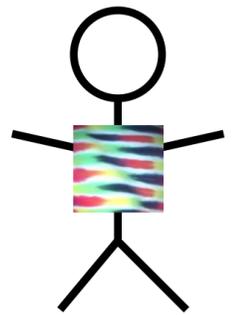
A red speech bubble with a blue outline and a tail pointing towards a stick figure. Inside the bubble, the text '!!!???' is written in white. The stick figure is simple, with a black circle for a head, a vertical line for a body, and two horizontal lines for arms. It is wearing a shirt with vertical rainbow-colored stripes. The figure is positioned to the right of the code, looking towards the 'confirmation' variable.

Send packets using futures II

```
val socket = Socket()
val packet: Future[Array[Byte]] =
  socket.readFromMemory()

packet.onComplete {
  case Success(p) => {
    val confirmation: Future[Array[Byte]] =
      socket.sendToEurope(p)
  }
  case Failure(t) => ...
}
```

Meeeh..



Creating Futures

```
// Starts an asynchronous computation  
// and returns a future object to which you  
// can subscribe to be notified when the  
// future completes
```

```
object Future {  
  def apply(body: =>T)  
    (implicit context: ExecutionContext):  
    Future[T]  
}
```

Creating Futures

```
import scala.concurrent.ExecutionContext.Implicits.global
import akka.serializer._

val memory = Queue[EMailMessage] (
  EMailMessage(from = "Erik", to = "Roland"),
  EMailMessage(from = "Martin", to = "Erik"),
  EMailMessage(from = "Roland", to = "Martin"))

def readFromMemory(): Future[Array[Byte]] = Future {
  val email = queue.dequeue()
  val serializer = serialization.findSerializerFor(email)
  serializer.toBinary(email)
}
```



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Combinators on Futures (1/2)

Principles of Reactive Programming

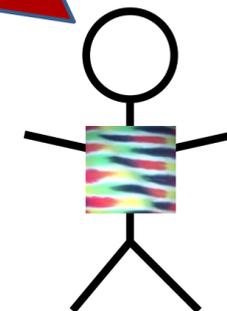
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Futures recap

```
trait Awaitable[T] extends AnyRef {  
  abstract def ready(atMost: Duration): Boolean  
  abstract def result(atMost: Duration): T  
}
```

**All these methods
take an implicit
execution context**

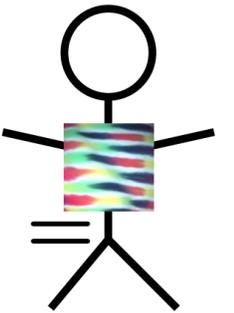
```
trait Future[T] extends Awaitable[T] {  
  def filter(p: T=>Boolean): Future[T]  
  def flatMap[S](f: T=>Future[S]): Future[U]  
  def map[S](f: T=>S): Future[S]  
  def recoverWith(f: PartialFunction[Throwable,  
Future[T]]): Future[T]  
}  
object Future {  
  def apply[T](body : =>T): Future[T]  
}
```



Sending packets using futures

```
val socket = Socket()
val packet: Future[Array[Byte]] =
  socket.readFromMemory()
packet onComplete {
  case Success(p) => {
    val confirmation: Future[Array[Byte]] =
      socket.sendToEurope(p)
  }
  case Failure(t) => ...
}
```

Remember
this mess?



Flatmap to the rescue

```
val socket = Socket()
val packet: Future[Array[Byte]] =
  socket.readFromMemory()

val confirmation: Future[Array[Byte]] =
  packet.flatMap(p => socket.sendToEurope(p))
```

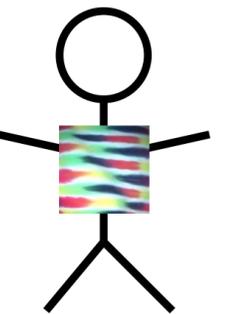
Sending packets using futures under the covers

```
import scala.concurrent.ExecutionContext.Implicits.global
import scala.imaginary.Http._

object Http {
  def apply(url: URL, req: Request): Future[Response] =
    {... runs the http request asynchronously ...}
}

def sendToEurope(packet: Array[Byte]): Future[Array[Byte]] =
  Http(URL("mail.server.eu"), Request(packet))
  .filter(response => response.isOK)
  .map(response => response.toByteArray)
```

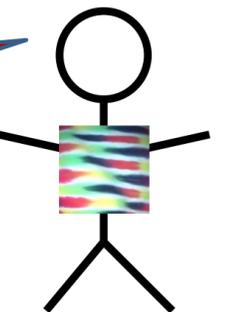
**But, this can
still fail!**



Sending packets using futures robustly (?)

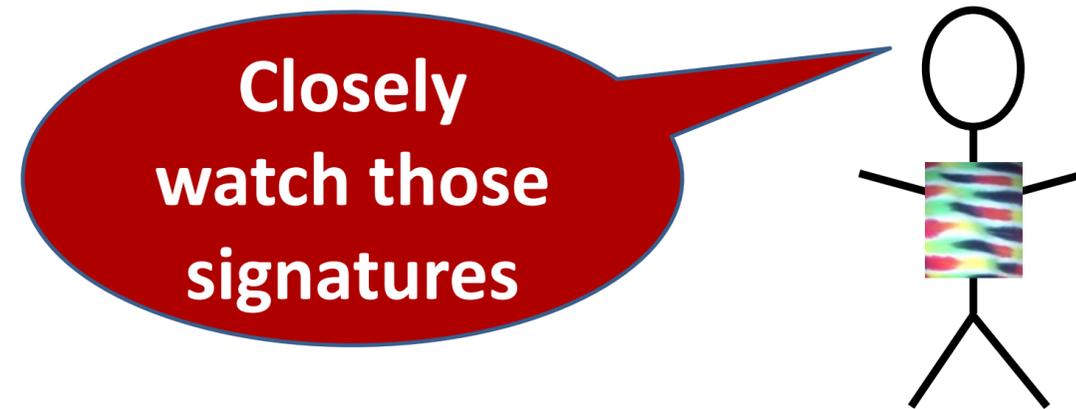
```
def sendTo(url: URL, packet: Array[Byte]): Future[Array[Byte]]  
  Http(url, Request(packet))  
    .filter(response => response.isOK)  
    .map(response => response.toByteArray)  
  
def sendToAndBackup(packet: Array[Byte]):  
  Future[(Array[Byte], Array[Byte])] = {  
  
  val europeConfirm = sendTo(mailServer.europe, packet)  
  val usaConfirm = sendTo(mailServer.usa, packet)  
  europeConfirm.zip(usaConfirm)  
}
```

Cute, but no
cigar



Send packets using futures robustly

```
def recover(f: PartialFunction[Throwable, T]): Future[T]
```



```
def recoverWith(f: PartialFunction[Throwable, Future[T]])  
: Future[T]
```

Send packets using futures robustly

```
def sendTo(url: URL, packet: Array[Byte]):  
Future[Array[Byte]] =  
  Http(url, Request(packet))  
    .filter(response => response.isSuccess)  
    .map(response => response.toByteArray)
```

```
def sendToSafe(packet: Array[Byte]):  
Future[Array[Byte]] =  
  sendTo(mailServer.europe, packet) recoverWith {  
    case europeError =>  
      sendTo(mailServer.usa, packet) recover {  
        case usaError => usaError.getMessage.toByteArray  
      }  
  }
```



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End of Combinators on Futures (1/2)

Principles of Reactive Programming

Erik Meijer



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Combinators on Futures (2/2)

Principles of Reactive Programming

Erik Meijer

Better recovery with less matching

```
def sendToSafe(packet: Array[Byte]): Future[Array[Byte]] =  
  sendTo(mailServer.europe, packet) recoverWith {  
    case europeError =>  
      sendTo(mailServer.usa, packet) recover {  
        case usaError => usaError.getMessage.toByteArray  
      }  
  }
```

```
def fallbackTo(that: =>Future[T]): Future[T] = {  
  ... if this future fails take the successful result  
  of that future ...  
  ... if that future fails too, take the error of  
  this future ...  
}
```

Better recovery with less matching

```
def sendToSafe(packet: Array[Byte]): Future[Array[Byte]] =  
  sendTo(mailServer.europe, packet) fallbackTo {  
    sendTo(mailServer.usa, packet)  
  } recover {  
    case europeError =>  
      europeError.getMessage.toByteArray  
  }  
def fallbackTo(that: => Future[T]): Future[T] = {  
  .. if this future fails take the successful result  
  of that future ...  
  .. if that future fails too, take the error of  
  this future ...  
}
```

Fallback implementation

```
def fallbackTo(that: =>Future[T]): Future[T] = {  
  this recoverWith {  
    case _ => that recoverWith { case _ => this }  
  }  
}
```

Asynchronous where possible, blocking where necessary

```
trait Awaitable[T] extends AnyRef {  
  abstract def ready(atMost: Duration): Unit  
  abstract def result(atMost: Duration): T  
}
```

```
trait Future[T] extends Awaitable[T] {  
  def filter(p: T ⇒ Boolean): Future[T]  
  def flatMap[S](f: T ⇒ Future[S]): Future[U]  
  def map[S](f: T ⇒ S): Future[S]  
  def recoverWith(f: PartialFunction[Throwable,  
Future[T]]): Future[T]  
}
```

Asynchronous where possible, blocking where necessary

```
val socket = Socket()
val packet: Future[Array[Byte]] =
  socket.readFromMemory()
val confirmation: Future[Array[Byte]] =
  packet.flatMap(socket.sendToSafe(_))

val c = Await.result(confirmation, 2 seconds)
println(c.toText)
```

Duration

```
import scala.language.postfixOps

object Duration {
  def apply(length: Long, unit: TimeUnit) :
Duration
}

val fiveYears = 1826 minutes
```



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End of Combinators on Futures (2/2)

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Composing Futures (1/2)

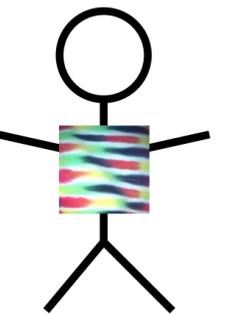
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Flatmap ...

```
val socket = Socket()
val packet: Future[Array[Byte]] =
  socket.readFromMemory()
val confirmation: Future[Array[Byte]] =
  packet.flatMap(socket.sendToSafe(_))
```

**Hi! Looks like
you're trying to
write for-
comprehensions.**



Or comprehensions?

```
val socket = Socket()
val confirmation: Future[Array[Byte]] = for {
  packet      <- socket.readFromMemory()
  confirmation <- socket.sendToSafe(packet)
} yield confirmation
```

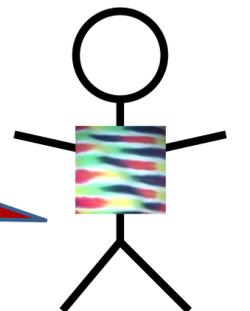
Retrying to send

```
def retry(noTimes: Int) (block: =>Future[T]) :  
Future[T] = {  
  .. retry successfully completing block  
  at most noTimes  
  .. and give up after that  
}
```

Retrying to send

```
def retry(noTimes: Int) (block: =>Future[T]) :  
Future[T] = {  
  if (noTimes == 0) {  
    Future.failed(new Exception("Sorry"))  
  } else {  
    block fallbackTo {  
      retry(noTimes-1) { block }  
    }  
  }  
}
```

**Recursion is the
GOTO of Functional
Programming
(Erik Meijer)**





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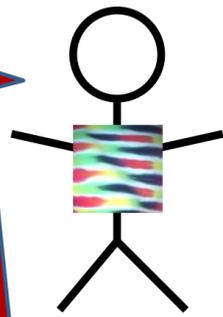
Composing Futures (2/2)

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Avoid Recursion

Let's Geek
out for a
bit ...



And pose
like FP
hipsters!

```
foldRight  
foldLeft
```

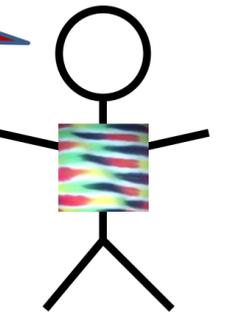
Folding lists

`List (a, b, c) . foldRight (e) (f)`

`=`

`f (a, f (b, f (c, e)))`

**Northern wind
comes from the
North
(Richard Bird)**



`List (a, b, c) . foldLeft (e) (f)`

`=`

`f (f (f (e, a), b), c)`

Retrying to send using foldLeft

```
def retry(noTimes: Int) (block: =>Future[T]) :  
Future[T] = {  
  val ns = (1 to noTimes).toList  
  val attempts = ns.map(_ => ()=>block)  
  val failed = Future.failed(new Exception("boom"))  
  val result = attempts.foldLeft(failed)  
    ((a,block) => a recoverWith { block() })  
  result  
}  
  
retry(3) { block }  
= unfolds to  
((failed recoverWith {block1()})  
  recoverWith {block2()})  
  recoverWith { block3() }
```

Retrying to send using foldLeft

```
def retry(noTimes: Int) (block: =>Future[T]) :  
Future[T] = {  
  ...  
  val attempts = ns.map(_=> ()=>block)  
  ...  
}  
  
ns = List(1, 2, ..., noTimes)
```

Retrying to send using foldLeft

```
def retry(noTimes: Int) (block: =>Future[T]) :  
Future[T] = {  
  ...  
  val attempts = ns.map(_=> ()=>block)  
  ...  
}  
  
ns = List(1, 2, ..., noTimes)  
attempts = List(()=>block, ()=>block, ..., ()=>block)
```

Retrying to send using foldLeft

```
def retry(noTimes: Int) (block: =>Future[T]) :  
Future[T] = {  
  ...  
  val result = attempts.foldLeft(failed)  
    ((a,block) => a recoverWith { block() })  
  result  
}  
  
ns = List(1, 2, ...,  
noTimes)  
attempts = List(()=>block1, ()=>block2, ...,  
()=>blocknoTimes)  
result = (...((failed recoverWith { block1() })))
```

Retrying to send using foldRight

```
def retry(noTimes: Int) (block: =>Future[T]) = {  
  val ns = (1 to noTimes).toList  
  val attempts: = ns.map(_ => () => block)  
  val failed = Future.failed(new Exception)  
  val result = attempts.foldRight(() =>failed)  
    ((block, a) => () => { block() fallbackTo { a()  
  result ()  
}
```

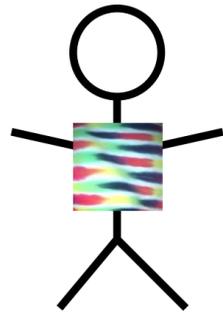
```
retry(3) { block } ()
```

= unfolds to

```
block1 fallbackTo { block2 fallbackTo { block3 fallbackTo  
{ failed }}}
```

Use Recursion

Often,
straight
recursion is
the way to
go



```
foldRight  
foldLeft
```

And just leave the
HO functions to
the FP hipsters!



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End of Composing Futures (2/2)

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