

Monads and Effects (1/2)

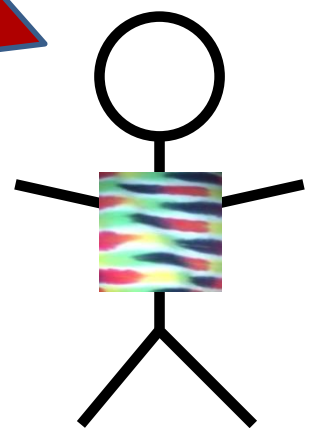
Principles of Reactive Programming

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.**

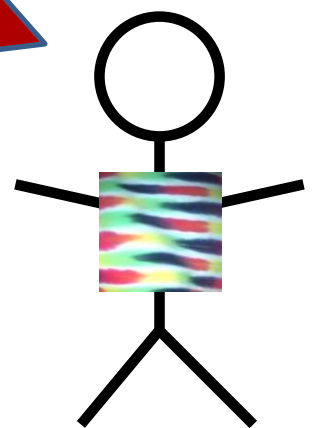
**The only artifact you can trust is actual source
code.**



Warning

When we show code fragments in these lectures we really mean code *fragments*.

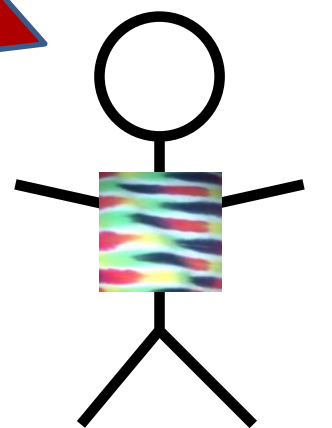
In particular, do not expect to be able to cut & past working code from the slides. You can find running & up-to-date on the GitHub site for this course.



Warning

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

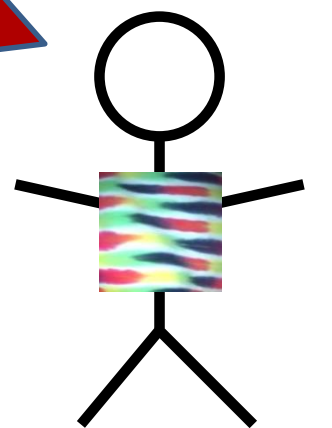
The RxScala method names do not necessarily correspond 1:1 with the underlying RxJava method names.



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

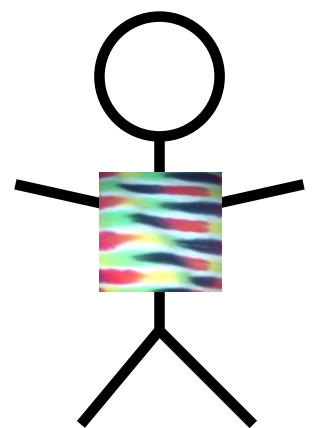
	One	Many
Synchronous	<code>T/Try[T]</code>	<code>Iterable[T]</code>
Asynchronous	<code>Future[T]</code>	<code>Observable[T]</code>

A simple adventure game

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

**Not as rosy
as it looks!**

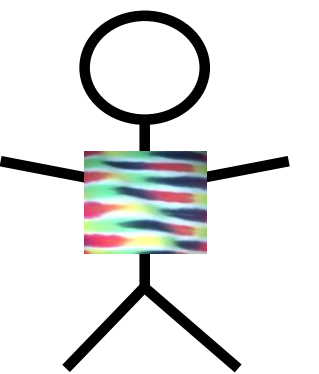
```
val adventure = Adventure()  
val coins = adventure.collectCoins()  
val treasure = adventure.buyTreasure(coins)
```



Actions may fail

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

**The return
type is
dishonest**



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

Actions may fail

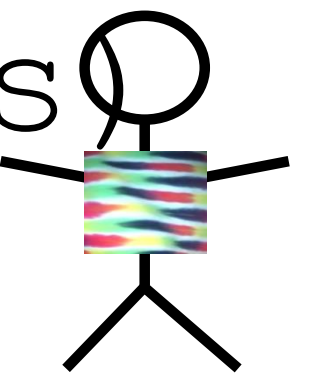
```
def buyTreasure(coins: List[Coin]):  
    Treasure = {  
        if (coins.sumBy(_.value) < treasureCost)  
            throw new GameOverException("Nice try!")  
        Diamond  
    }  
}
```

```
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.collectCoin  
// 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**

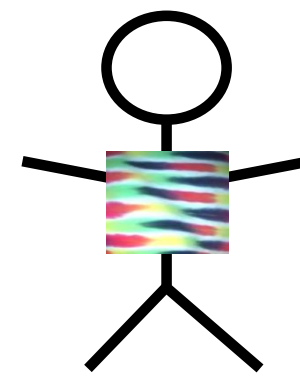


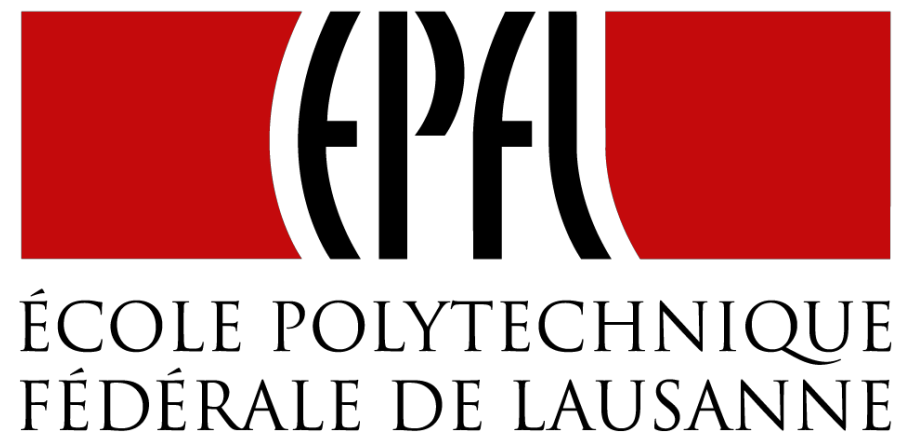
Expose possibility of failure in the types, honestly

$T \Rightarrow S$

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

$T \Rightarrow \text{Try}[S]$

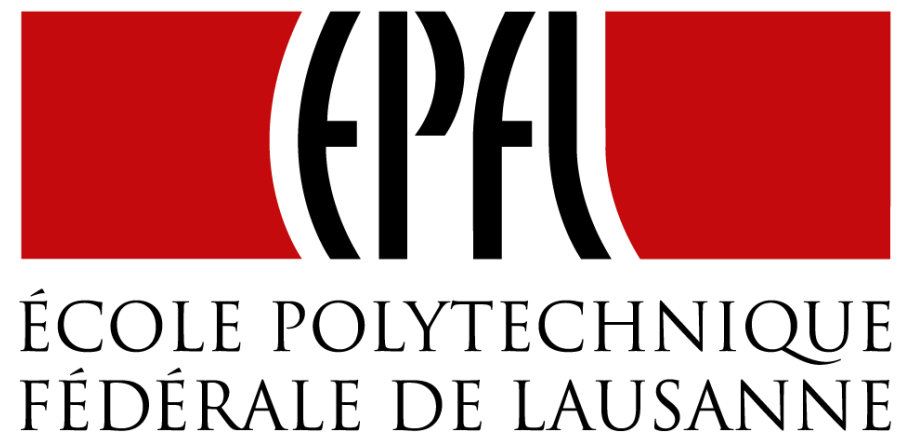




End of Monads and Effects (1/2)

Principles of Reactive Programming

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Monads and Effects (2/2)

Principles of Reactive Programming

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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]

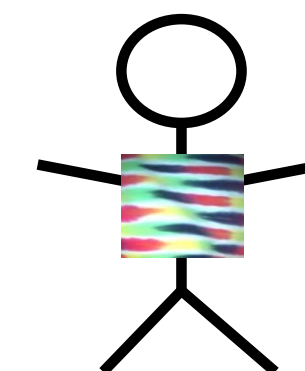
A monad that handles **exceptions**.

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()

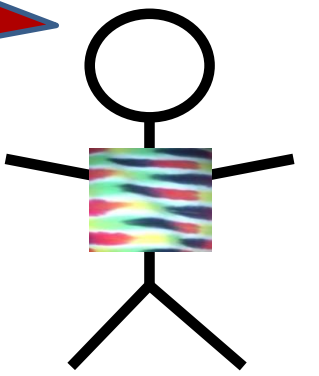
val treasure: Try[Treasure] = for {
  coins      <- adventure.collectCoins()
  treasure <- buyTreasure(coins)
} yield treasure
```

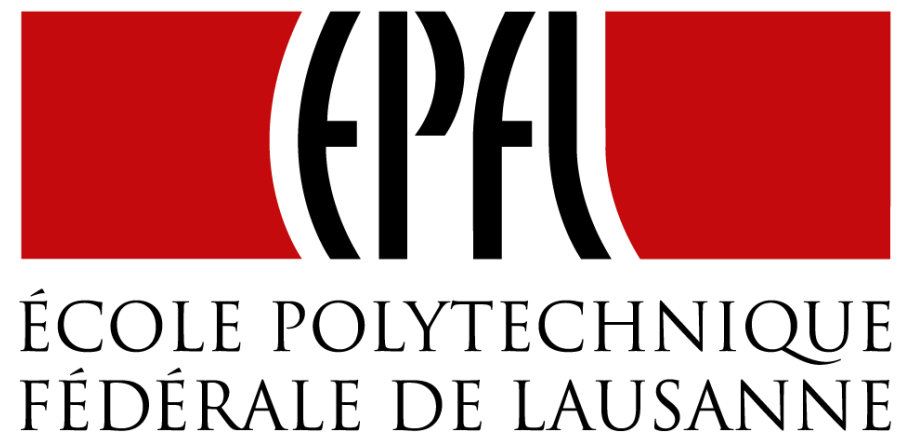
Higher-order Function to manipulate Try[T]

```
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**

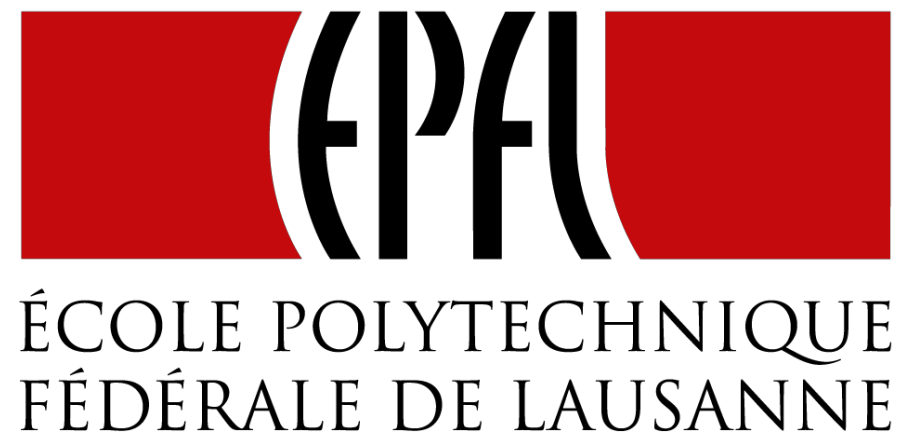




End of Monads and Effects (2/2)

Principles of Reactive Programming

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Latency as an Effect (1/2)

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The Four Essential Effects In Programming

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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

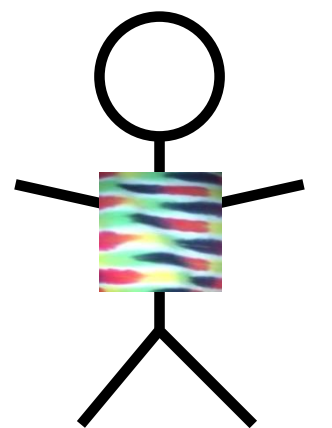
```
trait Adventure {  
  def readFromMemory(): List[Byte]  
  def sendToEurope(packet: List[Byte]) : Treasure  
}    Array[Byte]  
  
val socket = new SocketAdventure()  
val packet = socket.readFromMemory()  
val confirmation = adventure.buyTreasure(coins)  
socket.sendToEurope(packet)
```

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	$1/1,000,000,000 \text{ sec} = 1 \text{ nanosec}$
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>

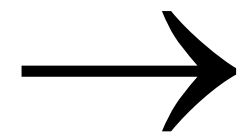
Sequential composition of actions that take time

```
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

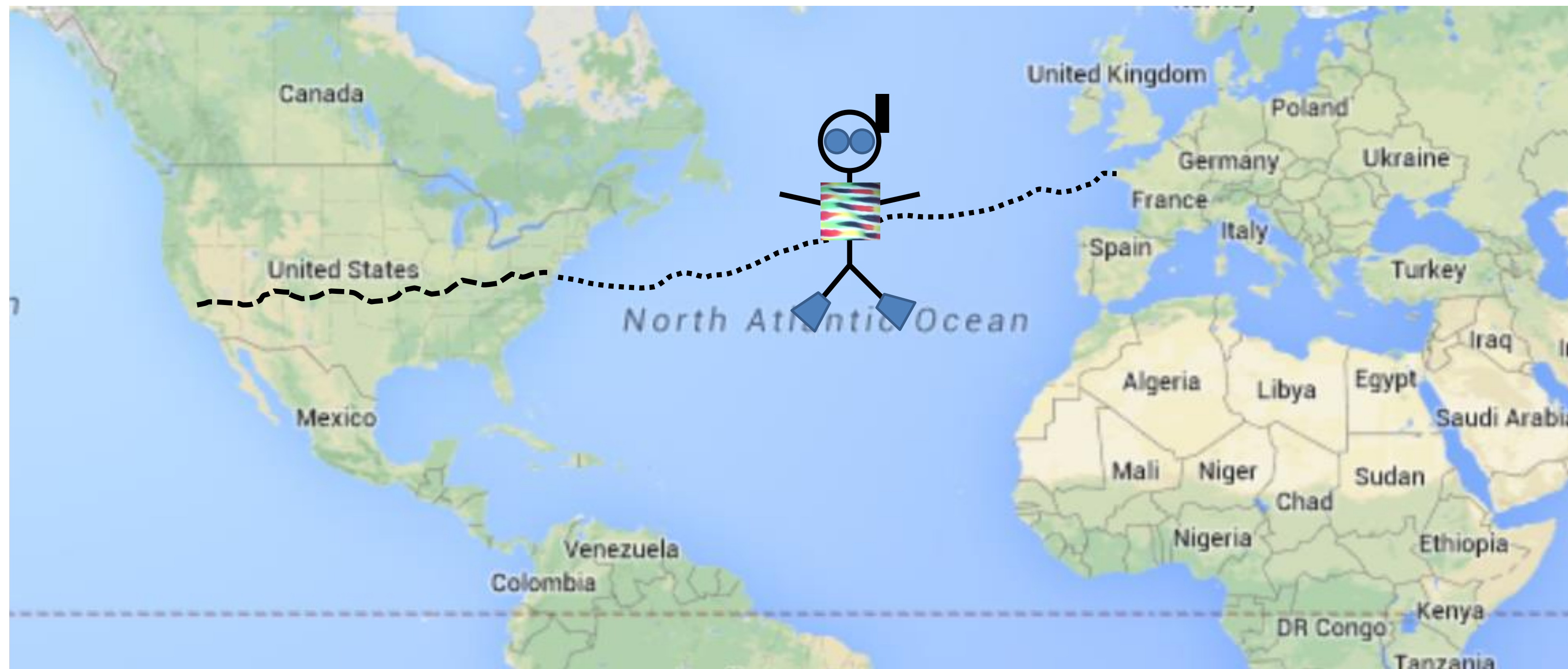
execute typical instruction	1 second
fetch from L1 cache memory	0.5 seconds
branch misprediction	5 seconds
fetch from L2 cache memory	7 seconds
Mutex lock/unlock	½ minute
fetch from main memory	1½ minutes
send 2K bytes over 1Gbps network	5½ hours
read 1MB sequentially from memory	3 days
fetch from new 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
```

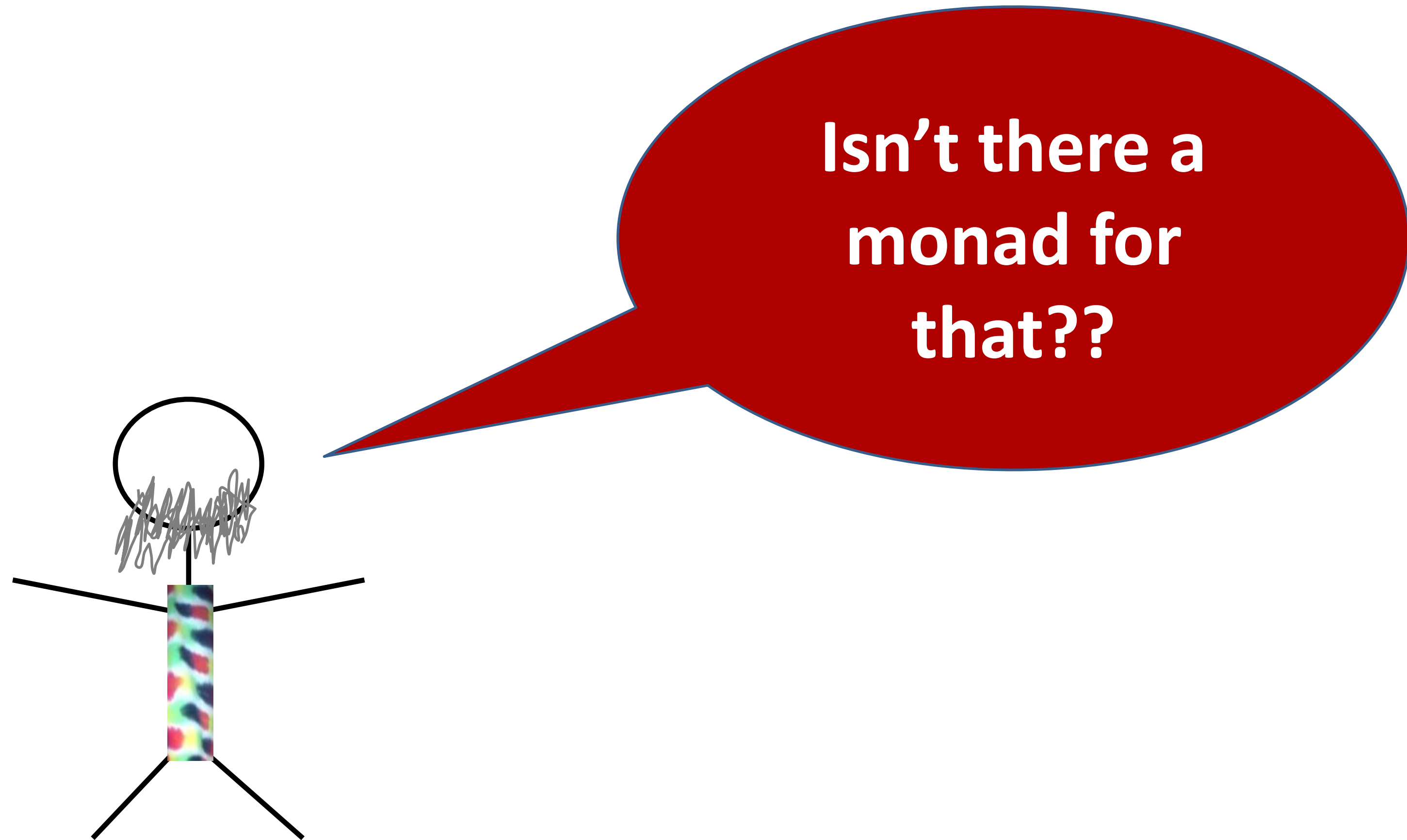
Sequential composition of actions

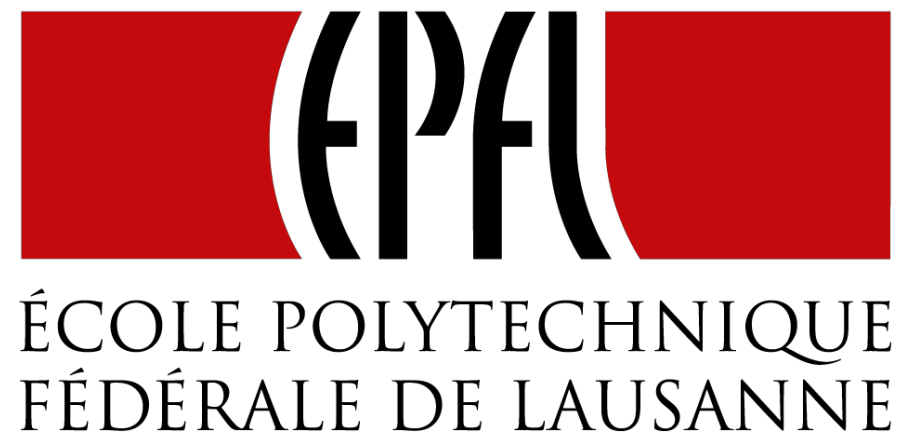
12 months to walk coast-to-coast
3 months to swim across the Atlantic
3 months to swim back
12 months to walk back



Humans are twice as fast as computers!

Sequential composition of actions that take time and fail

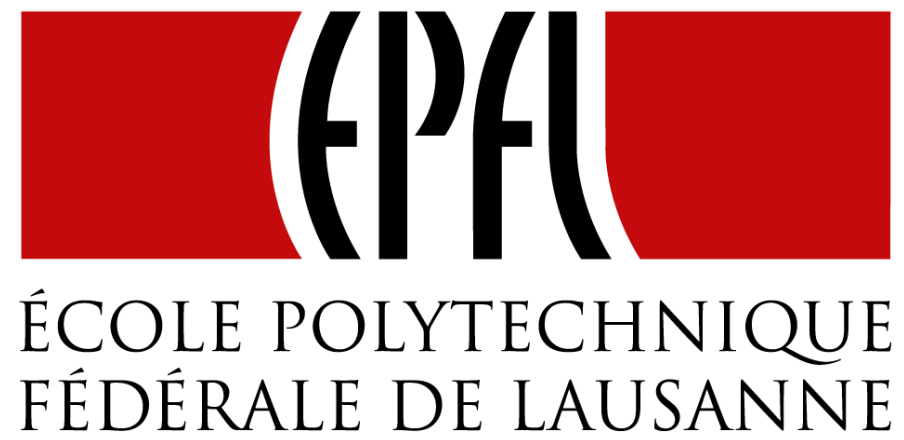




End of Latency as an Effect (1/2)

Principles of Reactive Programming

Erik Meijer



Latency as an Effect (2/2)

Principles of Reactive Programming

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Monads guide you through the happy path

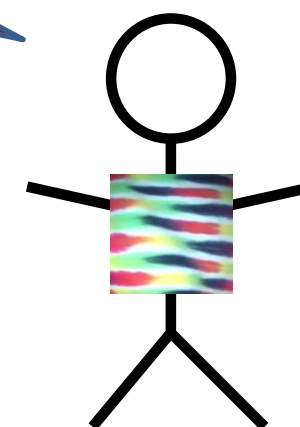
Future [T
]

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

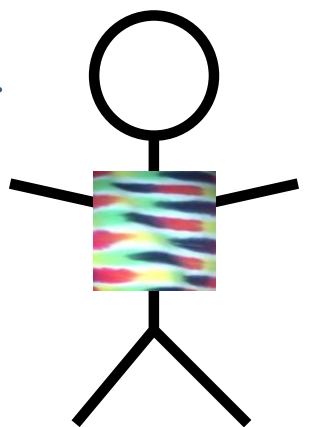


Futures asynchronously notify consumers

```
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)
```

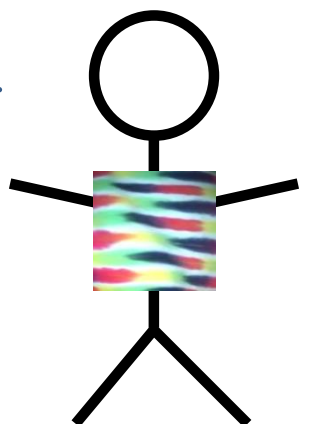


Futures asynchronously notify consumers

```
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)  
}
```



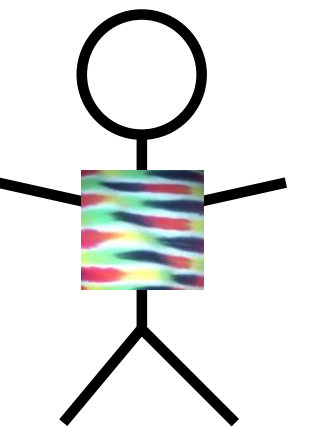
Futures alternative designs

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

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

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

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



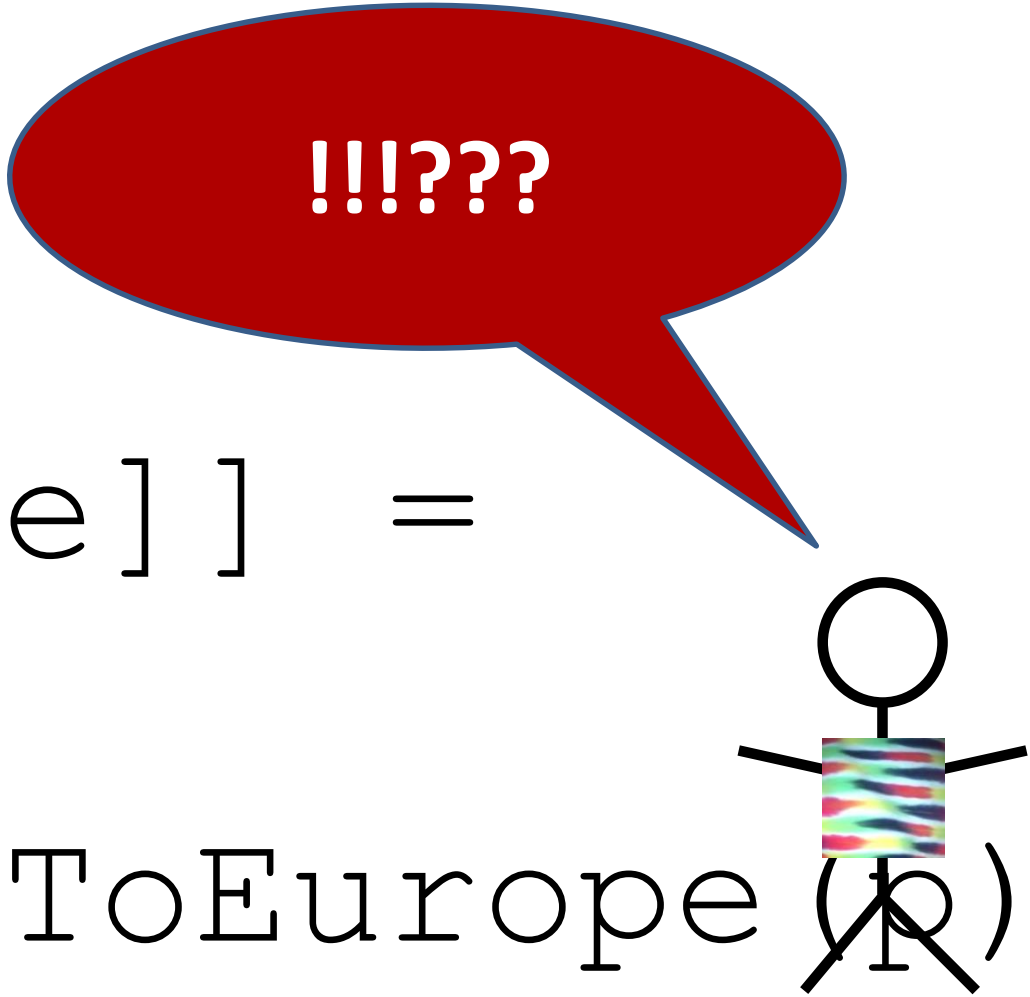
Futures asynchronously notify consumers

```
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) => ...
  }
```

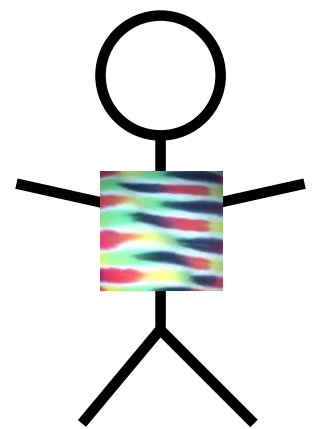
A stick figure with a speech bubble containing the text '!!!???' is pointing towards the code. The figure has a rainbow-colored shirt and a black 'X' over its lower body. The speech bubble is red with a blue outline. The code is in a monospaced font with purple keywords and black text. A red wavy line is under the 'Future' type in the third line of code.

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
```

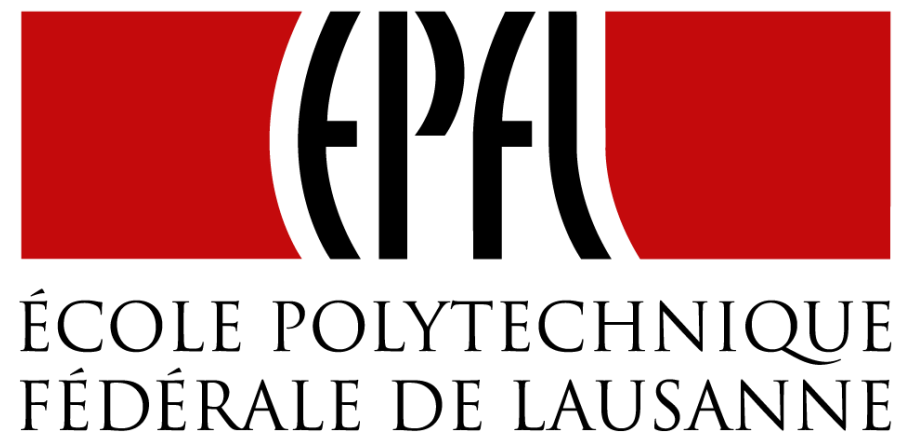
```
object Future {  
  def apply(body: =>T)  
    (implicit context: ExecutionContext):  
      Future[T]  
}
```

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)
}
```



Combinators on Futures (1/2)

Principles of Reactive Programming

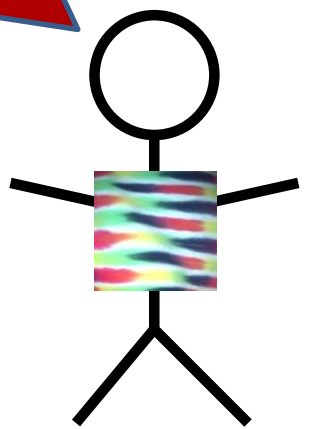
Erik Meijer

Futures recap

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

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

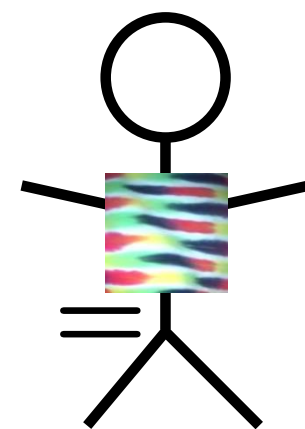
```
trait Future[T] extends Awaitable[T] {  
  def filter(p: T=>Boolean): Future[T]  
  def flatMap[S] (f: T=>Future[S]): Future[U]  
  def map[S] (f: T=>S): Future[S]  
  def recoverWith(f: PartialFunction[Throwable,  
Future[T]]): Future[T]  
}  
object Future {  
  def apply[T] (body : =>T): Future[T]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



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))
```

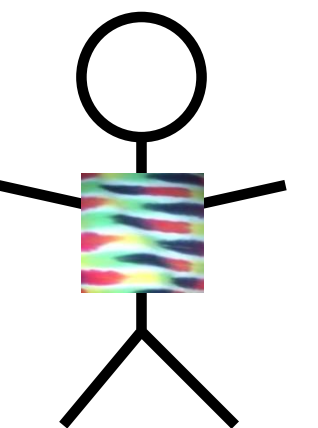
Sending packets using futures under the covers

```
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)
```

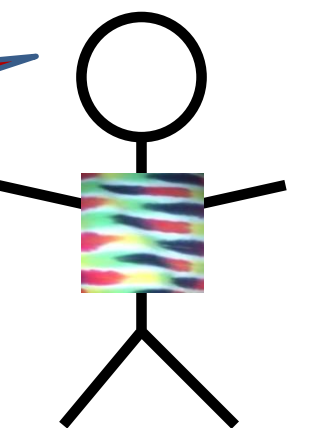
**But, this can
still fail!**



Sending packets using futures robustly (?)

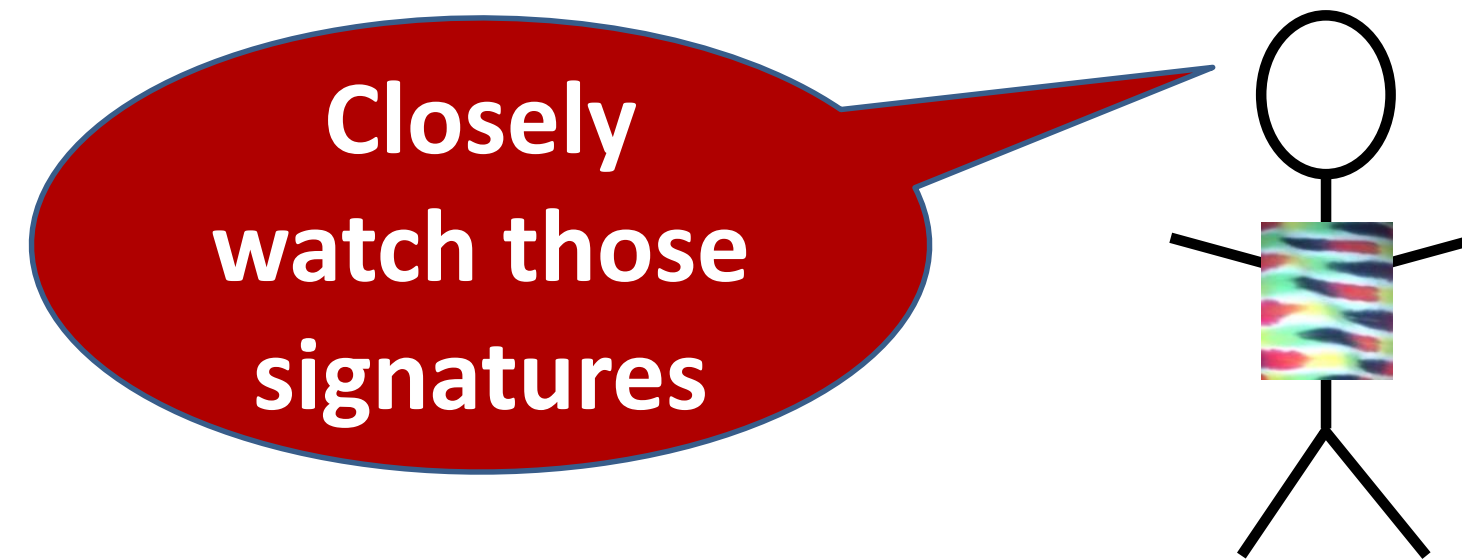
```
def sendTo(url: URL, packet: Array[Byte]): Future[Array[Byte]]  
  Http(url, Request(packet))  
    .filter(response => response.isOK)  
    .map(response => response.toByteArray)  
  
def sendToAndBackup(packet: Array[Byte]):  
  Future[(Array[Byte], Array[Byte])] = {  
  
    val europeConfirm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

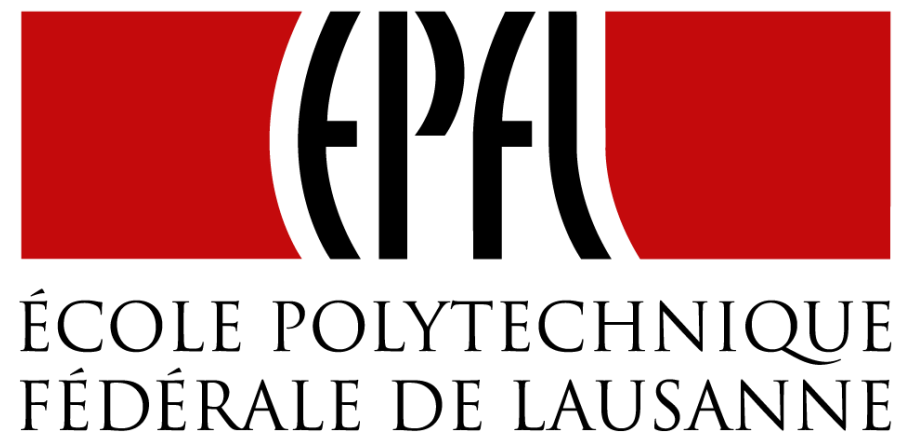


```
def recoverWith(f: PartialFunction[Throwable, Future[T]])  
: Future[T]
```

Send packets using futures robustly

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

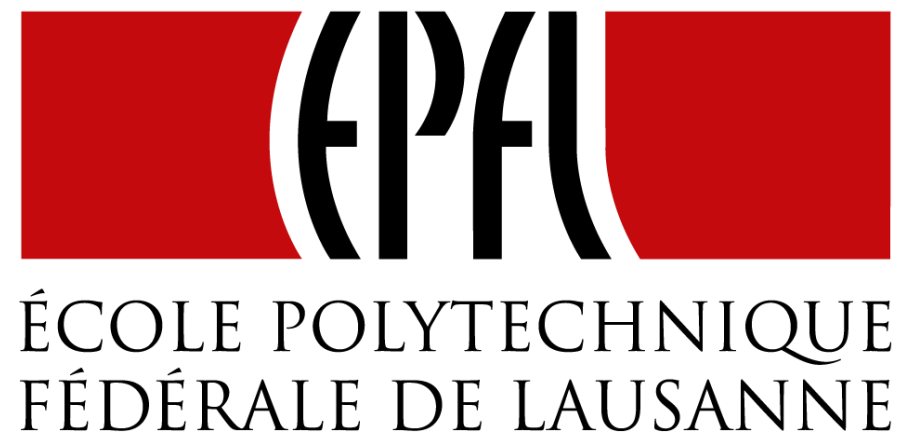
```
def sendToSafe(packet: Array[Byte]):  
Future[Array[Byte]] =  
  sendTo(mailServer.europe, packet) recoverWith {  
    case europeError =>  
      sendTo(mailServer.usa, packet) recover {  
        case usaError => usaError.getMessage.toByteArray  
      }  
  }
```



End of Combinators on Futures (1/2)

Principles of Reactive Programming

Erik Meijer



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(_))

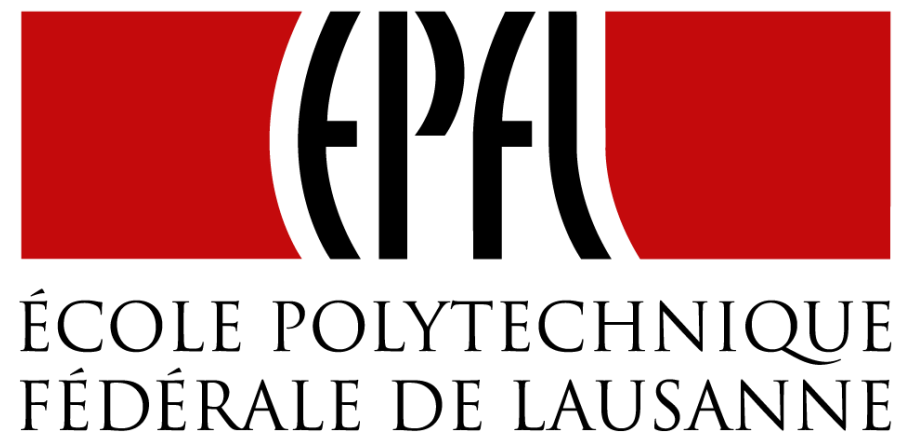
val c = Await.result(confirmation, 2 seconds)
println(c.toText)
```

Duration

```
import scala.language.postfixOps

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

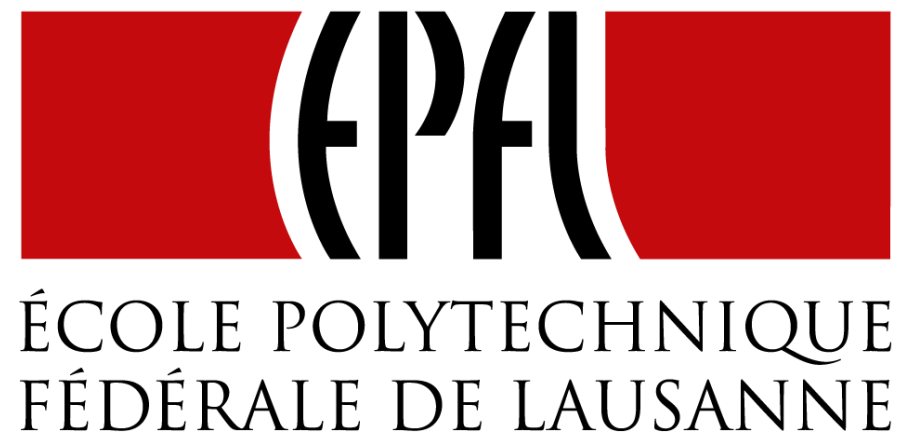
val fiveYears = 1826 minutes
```



End of Combinators on Futures (2/2)

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Composing Futures (1/2)

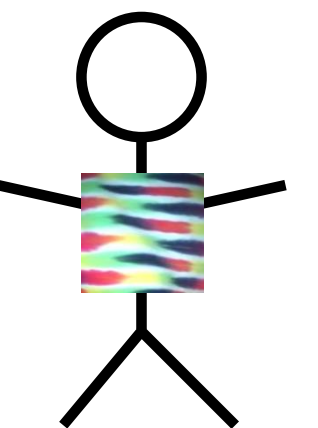
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Flatmap ...

```
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
```

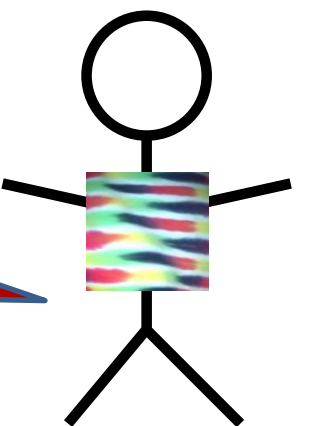
Retrying to send

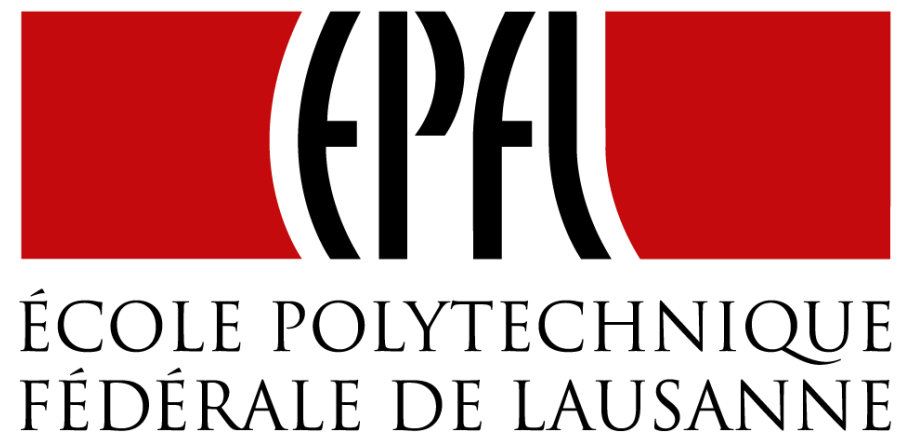
```
def retry(noTimes: Int) (block: =>Future[T]) :  
Future[T] = {  
    ... retry successfully completing block  
    at most noTimes  
    ... and give up after that  
}
```

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)**

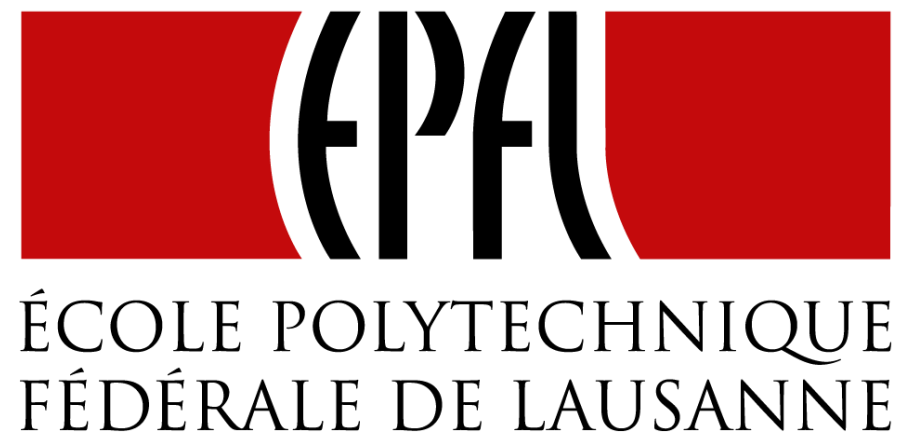




End of Composing Futures (1/2)

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ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE
FÉDÉRALE DE LAUSANNE

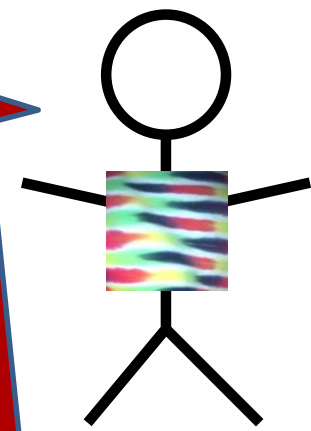
Composing Futures (2/2)

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Avoid Recursion

**Let's Geek
out for a
bit ...**



**And pose
like FP
hipsters!**

```
foldRight  
foldLeft
```

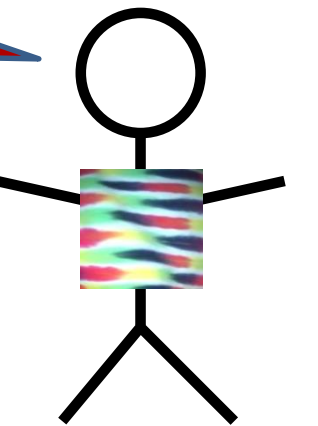
Folding lists

`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 ()  
    }  
}
```

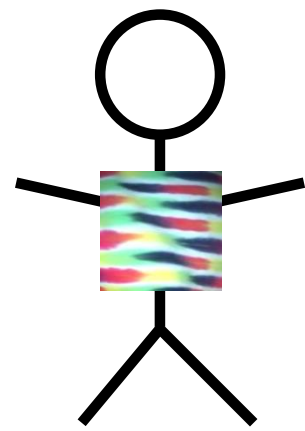
```
retry(3) { block } ()
```

= unfolds to

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

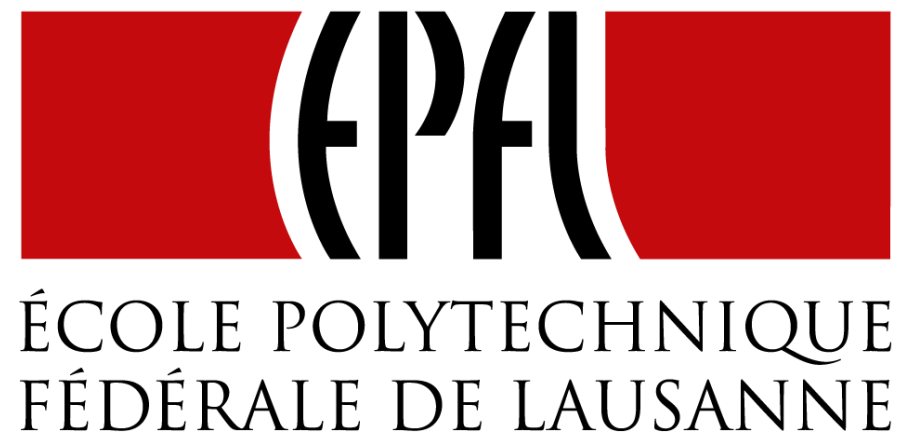
Use Recursion

**Often,
straight
recursion is
the way to
go**



```
foldRight  
foldLeft
```

**And just leave the
HO functions to
the FP hipsters!**



End of Composing Futures (2/2)

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Erik Meijer