



APPROACHABLE CONCURRENCY FOR THE JVM WITH GPARS

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INTERNATIONAL
SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT
CONFERENCE



gotocon.com

Welcome!



Dierk König

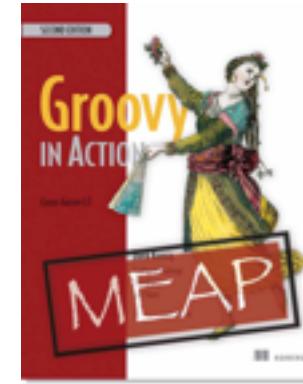
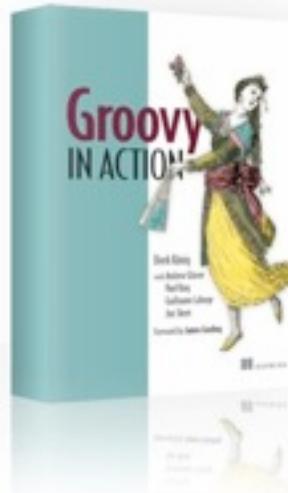
Fellow @ Canoo Engineering AG, Basel (CH)

Rich Internet Applications

Products, Projects, Consulting

www.canoo.com

Open-source committer Groovy, Grails, GPars



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Groovy & GPars mission

1

Built for Java developers

2

Mend with Java

3

Make concurrency **simpler**

The Java state of affairs

Starting new threads is easy.

Some real goodies in `java.util.concurrent.*` & Java 7

Manual thread-coordination is difficult.

Access to shared state is error-prone.

Scheduling issues for many threads with bad concurrency characteristics.

Good use of pooling is not obvious.

Concepts are rather „low level“.

It's all about coordination

Fork/Join

Working on collections with
fixed coordination

Map/Reduce

Actor

Explicit coordination

Safe

Delegated coordination

Dataflow

Implicit coordination



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more

Asynchronizer
STM



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Fork/Join on collections

```
import static groovyx.gpars.GParsPool.withPool

def numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
def squares = [1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36]

withPool {
    assert squares == numbers.collectParallel { it * it }
}
```

Fork/Join on collections

```
import static groovyx.gpars.GParsPool.withPool

def numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
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```

Variation

makeTransparent()

More such methods

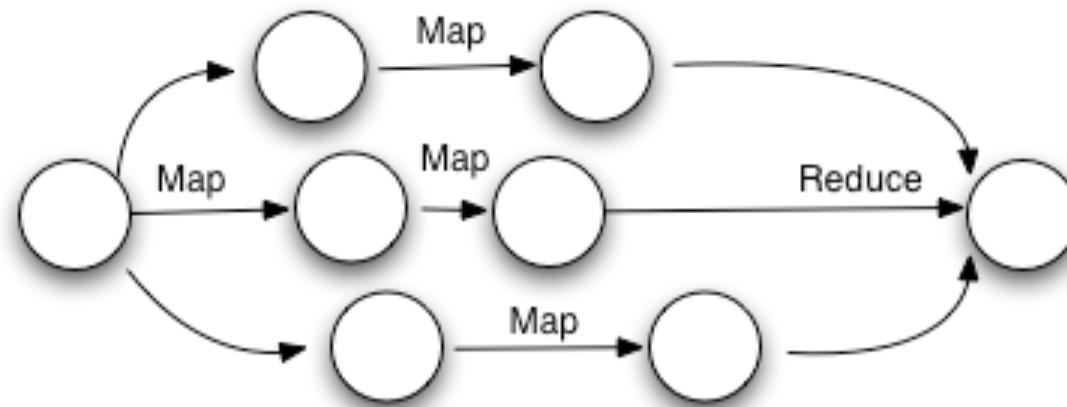
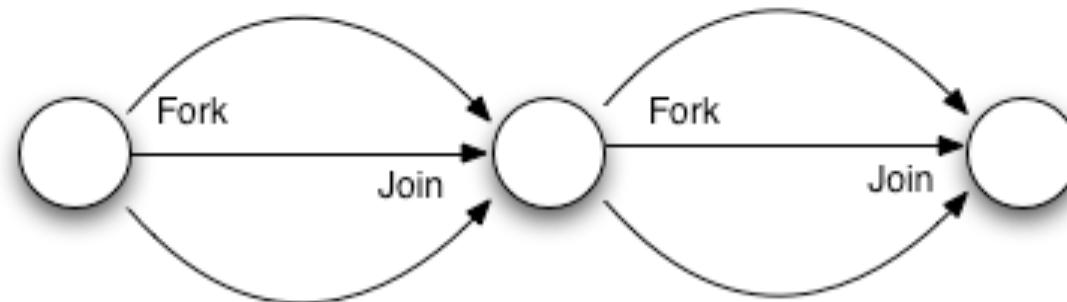
any { ... } collect { ... } count(filter)
each { ... } eachWithIndex{ ... }
every { ... }
find { ... } findAll { ... } findAny { ... }
fold { ... } fold(seed) { ... }
grep(filter)
groupBy { ... }
max { ... } max()
min { ... } min()
split { ... } sum()

Map/Reduce on collections

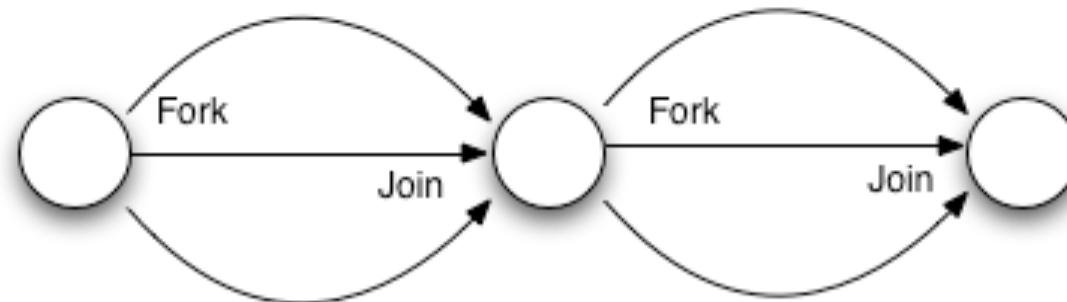
```
import static groovyx.gpars.GParsPool.withPool

withPool {
    assert 55 == [0, 1, 2, 3, 4].parallel
        .map { it + 1 }
        .map { it ** 2 }
        .reduce { a, b -> a + b }
}
```

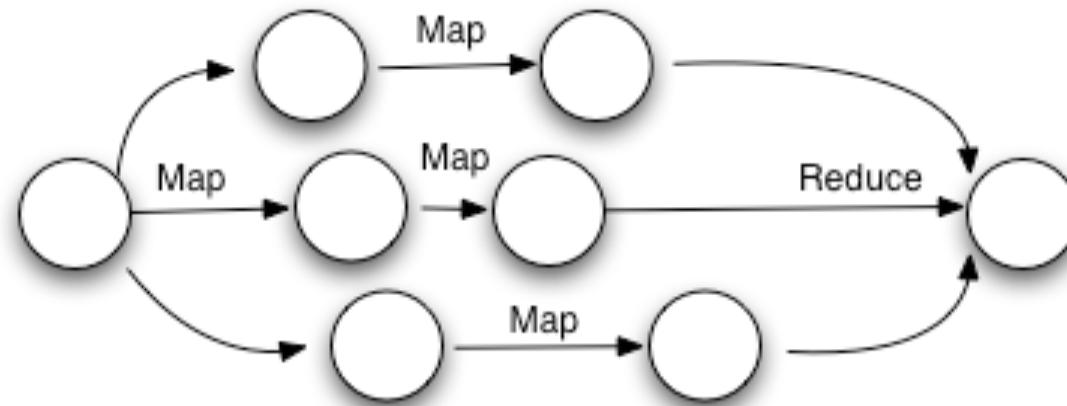
Fork/Join vs Map/Reduce



Fork/Join vs Map/Reduce



fixed coordination



Explicit coordination with Actors

```
import static groovyx.gpars.actor.Actors.*  
  
def printer    = reactor { println it }  
def decryptor = reactor { message ->  
    if (message in String) reply message.reverse()  
    else stop()  
}  
actor {  
    decryptor.send      'lellarap si yvoorG'  
    react {  
        printer.send  'Decrypted message: ' + it  
        decryptor.send false  
    }  
}.join()
```

Actors

Process one message at a time.

Dispatch on the message type,
which fits nicely with dynamic languages.

Are often used in composition,
which can lead to further problems down the road.

Personal note:
Actors are overrated

Delegate to an Agent

```
import groovyx.gpars.agent.Agent

def name = new Agent<List>( ['GPars'] )

name.send { it.add 'is safe!' }
name.send { updateValue it * 2 }

println name.val
```

Safe

Analogous to Clojure agents (atoms, refs, ...)

Implementations differ much in efficiency.

DataFlow for implicit coordination

```
import groovyx.gpars.dataflow.DataFlows
import static groovyx.gpars.dataflow.DataFlow.task

final flow = new DataFlows()
task { flow.result = flow.x + flow.y }
task { flow.x = 10 }
task { flow.y = 5 }

assert 15 == flow.result
```

DataFlow

Flavors: variables, streams, operators, tasks, flows

Write-Once, Read-Many (non-blocking)

Feel free to use millions of them

Fast, efficient, safe, and **testable!**

Model the flow of data,
not the control flow!

KanbanFlow in code

```
import static ProcessingNode.node
import groovyx.gpars.kanban.KanbanFlow

def producer = node { below -> below << 1 }
def consumer = node { above -> println above.take() }

new KanbanFlow().with {
    link producer to consumer
    start()
    links*.addTray()
    // run for a while
    stop()
}
```

Efficient Producer-Consumer

KanbanFlow pattern by /me

<http://people.canoo.com/mittie/kanbanflow.html>

Simple idea, amazing results

Resource efficient, composable, testable

Non-blocking writes,
Deadlock-free by design

Takeaways



Experiment with GPars!



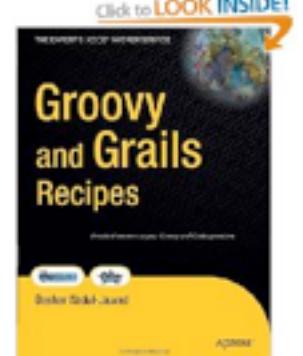
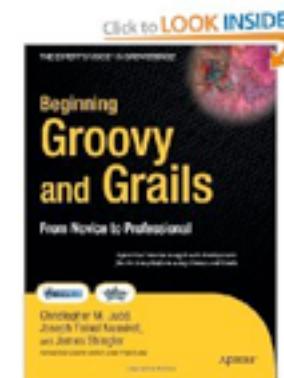
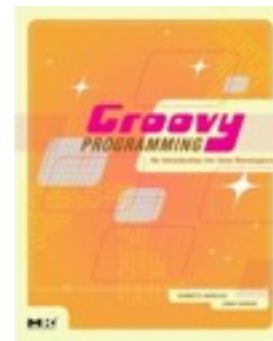
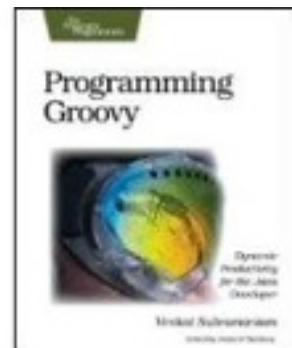
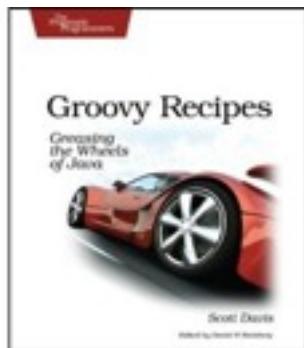
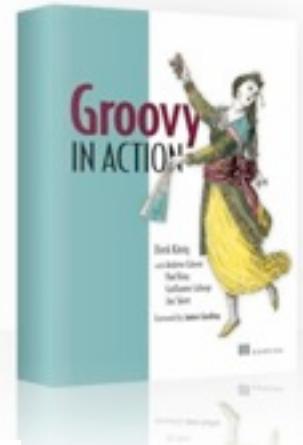
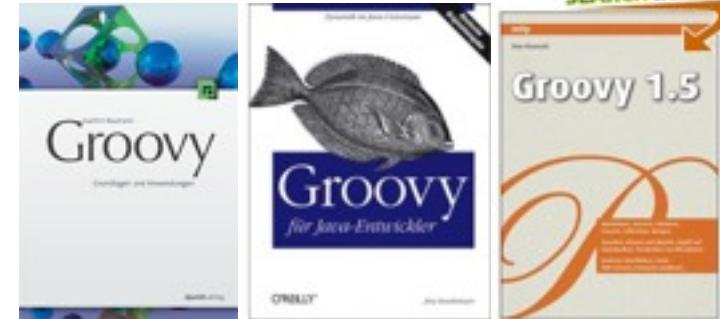
Great for learning concepts!



Get involved!

Further reading

- **Groovy in Action** groovy.canoo.com/gina
Manning, 2007, Foreword by James Gosling
König with Glover, Laforge, King, Skeet
- groovy.codehaus.org
gpars.codehaus.org



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Chronicle / Deanne Fitzmaurice

Discussion

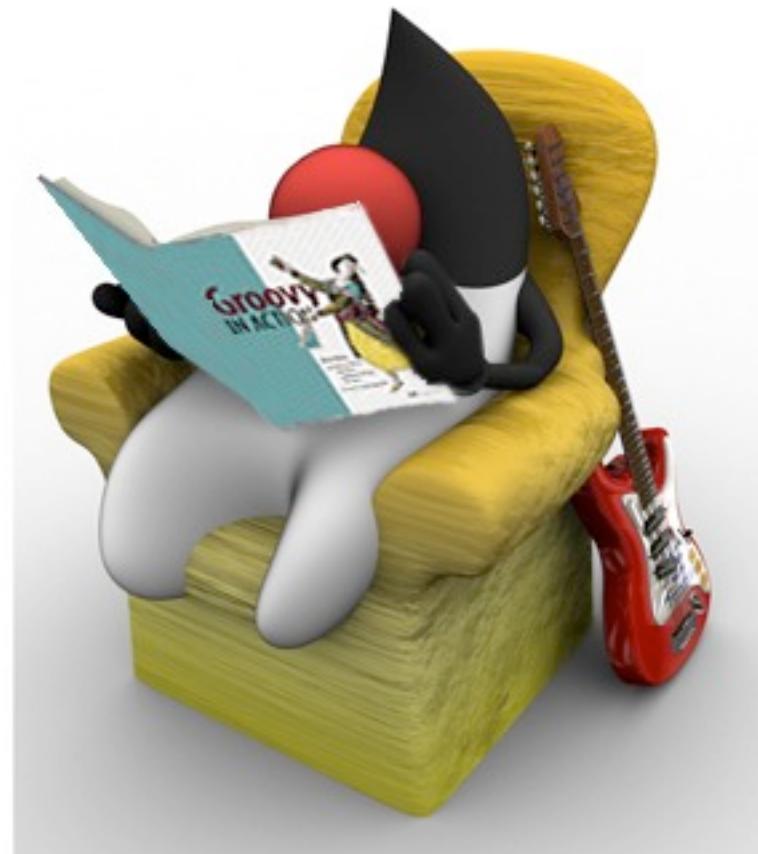


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Discussion

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