

# **Futures from Scratch**

A Guided Tour of Concurrency  
in C++14 and Beyond  
(Concurrency TS, N3865, more)

# What's our goal?

```
Out compute_expensive_sum(In a, In b)
{
    Out oa = expensive_computation(a);
    Out ob = expensive_computation(b);
    return oa + ob;
}
```

# What's our goal?

```
Out compute_expensive_sum(In a, In b)
{
    Out oa;
    std::thread t1([&oa]() {
        oa = expensive_computation(a);
    });
    Out ob = expensive_computation(b);
    t1.join();
    return oa + ob;
}
```

# Manual thread management

- Just as bad as manual memory management
- Ugly: Hard to read and .". reason about
- Asymmetrical:  
“main thread” versus “other threads”

# What's our goal?

```
Out compute_expensive_sum(In a, In b)
{
    auto oa = async(expensive_computation, a);
    auto ob = async(expensive_computation, b);
    return oa.get() + ob.get();
}
```

**Part 1 of this talk  
will be about  
how to implement  
that `async()` thing.**

# Suppose we have a task scheduler

```
class Scheduler {  
    // details  
  
    public:  
        Scheduler(int num_worker_threads);  
  
        // fire-and-forget a simple task  
        void schedule(std::function<void()> unit);  
};
```

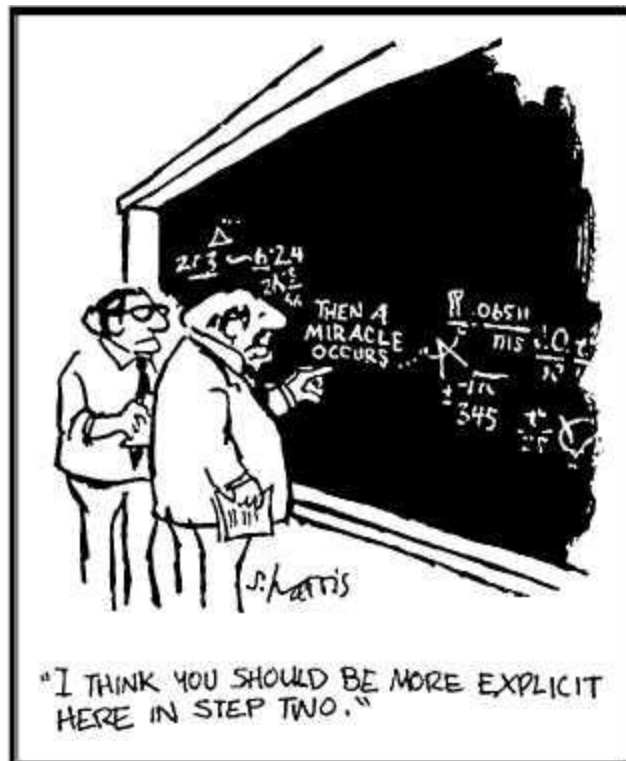
Sean Parent's "Better Code: Concurrency" covers the implementation of Scheduler, so I won't cover it here.

# Suppose we have a task scheduler

```
Scheduler s(10);
```

```
Out compute_expensive_sum(In a, In b) {  
    Out oa, ob;  
    s.schedule([&oa]() {  
        oa = expensive_computation(a);  
    });  
    s.schedule([&ob]() {  
        ob = expensive_computation(b);  
    });  
    // ... ????? ...  
    return oa + ob;  
}
```





# Metaphor time!



**This is Pat.**

**Pat is going to deliver a letter.**



**This is Frosty.**

**Frosty is waiting for a letter.**

# Mailboxes, flags, and cymbals



- Frosty goes to sleep next to the mailbox
- Pat puts a letter in the mailbox
- Pat raises the flag
- Pat clashes her cymbals
- Frosty wakes up, sees the flag raised, and looks in the mailbox

# Some minor details

- Frosty is lazy and wants to sleep as much as possible. But he is a light sleeper: we must handle *spurious wakeups*.
- Pat and Frosty can't both be touching the mailbox (or even looking at it) at the same time. We'll enforce this with a *mutex*.

# The pattern in code

Out oa;

```
std::mutex mtx_a; std::condition_variable cv_a;  
bool ready_a = false;
```

```
s.schedule([&]() {  
    oa = expensive_computation(a); // put a letter in the box  
    std::lock_guard<std::mutex> lock(mtx_a);  
    ready_a = true; // raise the flag  
    cv_a.notify_one(); // clash the cymbals  
});  
std::unique_lock<std::mutex> lock(mtx_a);  
while (!ready_a) cv_a.wait(lock); // sleep by the mailbox  
// look in the mailbox
```

# The problem with mailboxes

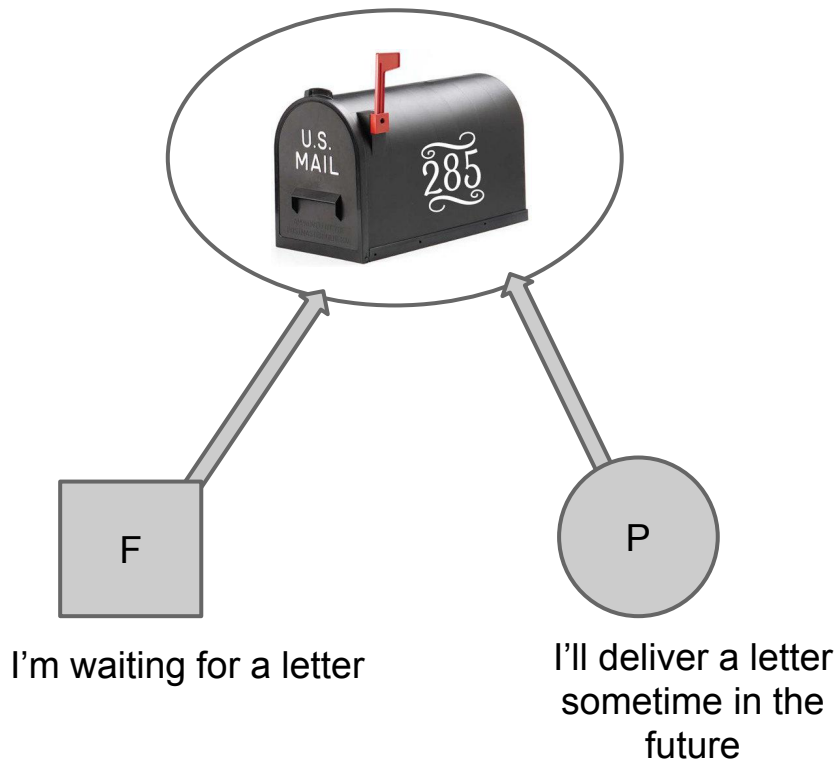


# The problem with mailboxes



- People move!
- Mailboxes aren't movable (because the mailman and the recipient both need to agree on the mailbox's location)
- We need a movable abstraction
- This is where **futures** come in!

# The problem with mailboxes

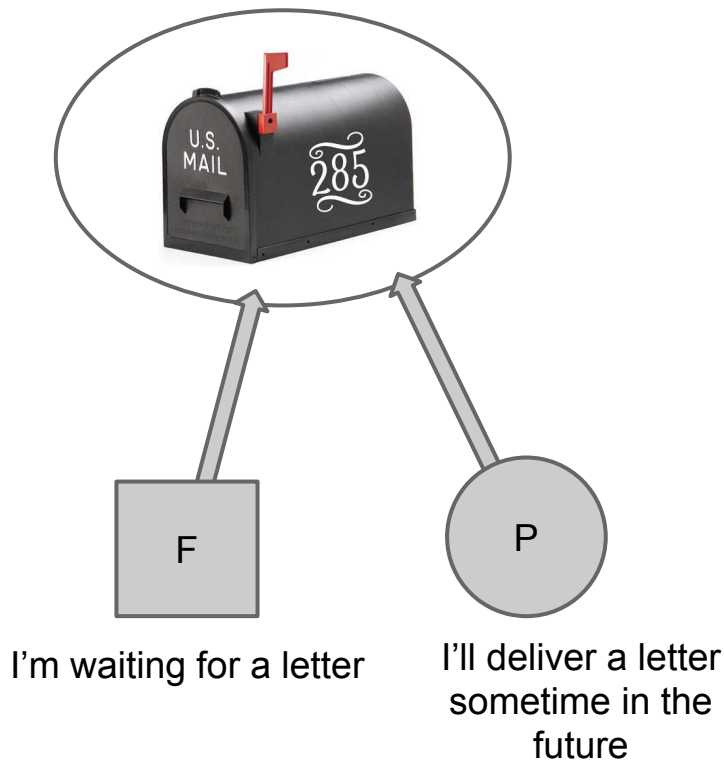


- We need a movable abstraction
- This is where **futures** come in!
- Mailbox lives on the heap
- Future and Promise each hold a ***pointer*** to the mailbox

These pointers are movable



# The problem with mailboxes



- We need a movable abstraction
- This is where **futures** come in!
- Mailbox lives on the heap
- Future and Promise each hold a ***pointer*** to the mailbox

These pointers are movable

# Preliminaries: SharedState

```
template<class R> struct Promise;  
template<class R> struct Future;
```

```
template<class R>  
struct SharedState {           // this is our mailbox class  
    R value_;  
    std::exception_ptr exception_;  
    bool ready_ = false;       // the mailbox flag  
    std::mutex mtx_;  
    std::condition_variable cv_; // the cymbals  
};
```

The purple bit is basically an `expected<R>` (Folly::Try<R>); see [www.hyc.io/boost/expected-proposal.pdf](http://www.hyc.io/boost/expected-proposal.pdf)

# Futures: basically this

```
template<class R> struct Promise {  
    std::shared_ptr<SharedState<R>> state_;  
  
    void set_value(R value) {  
        std::lock_guard<std::mutex> lock(state_>mtx_);  
        std::tie(state_>value_, state_>ready_) = std::make_tuple(r, true);  
        state_>cv_.notify_all();  
    }  
};
```

```
template<class R> struct Future {  
    std::shared_ptr<SharedState<R>> state_;  
  
    R get() {  
        std::unique_lock<std::mutex> lock(state_>mtx_);  
        while (!state_>ready_) state_>cv_.wait(lock);  
        return state_>value_;  
    }  
};
```

Up next: Not *really* this

# Promise (the real deal)

```
template<class R> struct Promise {  
  
    std::shared_ptr<SharedState<R>> state_;  
    ...  
  
    void set_value(R r) {  
        if (!state_) throw "no_state";  
        std::lock_guard<std::mutex> lock(state_->mtx_);  
        if (state_->ready_) throw "promise_already_satisfied";  
        state_->value_ = std::move(r);  
        state_->ready_ = true;  
        state_->cv_.notify_all();  
    }  
  
    ...  
};
```

# Promise (the real deal)

```
template<class R> struct Promise {  
  
    std::shared_ptr<SharedState<R>> state_  
    ...  
  
    void set_value(R r) {  
        if (!state_) throw "no_state";  
        std::lock_guard<std::mutex> lock(state_->mtx_);  
        if (state_->ready_) throw "promise_already_satisfied";  
        state_->value_ = std::move(r);  
        state_->ready_ = true;  
        state_->cv_.notify_all();  
    }  
  
    ...  
};
```

# I'm too lazy to write this:

```
throw std::future_error(std::future_errc::no_state);  
  
throw std::future_error(std::future_errc::future_already_retrieved);  
  
throw std::future_error(std::future_errc::promise_already_satisfied);
```

## But not too lazy to write this:

```
throw "no_state";
```

# Promise (the real deal)

```
template<class R> struct Promise {  
  
    std::shared_ptr<SharedState<R>> state_  
    ...  
  
    void set_exception(std::exception_ptr p) {  
        if (!state_) throw "no_state";  
        std::lock_guard<std::mutex> lock(state_->mtx_);  
        if (state_->ready_) throw "promise_already_satisfied";  
        state_->exception_ = std::move(p);  
        state_->ready_ = true;  
        state_->cv_.notify_all();  
    }  
  
    ...  
};
```

Up next: How do we create a future, anyway?

# get\_future() works only once

```
template<class R> struct Promise {  
  
    std::shared_ptr<SharedState<R>> state_  
    bool future_already_retrieved_ = false;  
  
    void set_value(R r) { ... }  
    void set_exception(std::exception_ptr p) { ... }  
  
    Future<R> get_future() {  
        if (!state_) throw "no_state";  
        if (future_already_retrieved_) throw "future_already_retrieved";  
        future_already_retrieved_ = true;  
        return Future<R>(state_);  
    }  
};
```

Up next: The future side of things



# Future (the real deal)

```
template<class R> struct Future {  
  
    std::shared_ptr<SharedState<R>> state_;  
  
    void wait() const {  
        if (!state_) throw "no_state";  
        std::unique_lock<std::mutex> lock(state_>mtx_);  
        while (!state_>ready_) state_>cv_.wait(lock);  
    }  
  
    R get() {  
        wait();  
        auto sp = std::move(state_); // after this line, !this->valid()  
        if (sp->exception_) {  
            std::rethrow_exception(sp->exception_);  
        }  
        return std::move(sp->value_);  
    }  
};
```

# Future (the real deal)

```
template<class R> struct Future {  
  
    std::shared_ptr<SharedState<R>> state_;  
  
    void wait() const;    // C++11 also provides wait_for(), wait_until()  
    R get();  
  
    bool valid() const { return (state_ != nullptr); }  
  
    bool ready() const { // N3721 "Improvements to std::future<T> and Related APIs"  
        if (!state_) return false;  
        std::lock_guard<std::mutex> lock(state_>mtx_);  
        return state_>ready_;  
    }  
};
```

Up next: How do we use this thing, anyway?

# Usage example: This works!

```
Scheduler s(10);
```

```
Out compute_expensive_sum(In a, In b)
{
    Promise<Out> pa, pb;
    Future<Out> oa = pa.get_future();
    Future<Out> ob = pb.get_future();

    s.schedule([&]() {
        pa.set_value( expensive_computation(a) );
    });
    s.schedule([&]() {
        pb.set_value( expensive_computation(b) );
    });

    return oa.get() + ob.get();
}
```

Up next: Move semantics, right?

# Capture each promise “by move”

```
Scheduler s(10);
```

```
Out compute_expensive_sum(In a, In b)
{
    Promise<Out> pa, pb;
    Future<Out> oa = pa.get_future();
    Future<Out> ob = pb.get_future();

    s.schedule([pa = std::move(pa)]() mutable {
        pa.set_value( expensive_computation(a) );
    });
    s.schedule([pb = std::move(pb)]() mutable {
        pb.set_value( expensive_computation(b) );
    });

    return oa.get() + ob.get();
}
```

Up next: What if we destroy the promise without calling `set_value`?

# But what if this happens?

```
Scheduler s(10);
```

```
Out compute_expensive_sum(In a, In b)
```

```
{  
    Promise<Out> pa, pb;  
    Future<Out> oa = pa.get_future();  
    Future<Out> ob = pb.get_future();  
  
    s.schedule([pa = std::move(pa)]() mutable {  
        if (random()) pa.set_value( expensive_computation(a) ); // uh-oh!  
    });  
    s.schedule([pb = std::move(pb)]() mutable {  
        pb.set_value( expensive_computation(b) );  
    });  
  
    return oa.get() + ob.get();  
}
```

# Broken promises

```
template<class R> struct Promise {  
  
    void set_value(R r);  
    void set_exception(std::exception_ptr p);  
    Future<R> get_future();  
  
    void abandon_state_() {  
        if (!state_ || !future_already_retrieved_) return;  
        std::lock_guard<std::mutex> lock(state_->mtx_);  
        if (state_->ready_) return;  
        state_->exception_ = std::make_exception_ptr("broken_promise");  
        state_->ready_ = true;  
        state_->cv_.notify_all();  
    }  
  
    ~Promise() { abandon_state_(); }  
    Promise& operator=(Promise&& rhs) { ... abandon_state_(); ... }  
};
```

This completes C++11 future/promise.

# Problem: `s.schedule()` is fragile

- Fire-and-forget tasks require onerous bookkeeping (if you want to use the results, anyway)
- And it's fragile: you have to catch your own exceptions.

```
Promise<Out> pa;  
Future<Out> oa = pa.get_future();  
  
s.schedule([pa = std::move(pa)]() mutable {  
    try {  
        pa.set_value( expensive_computation(a) );  
    } catch (...) {  
        pa.set_exception( std::current_exception() );  
    }  
});
```

# Solution: PackagedTask

Analogous to `std::function`, but “delayed action”

*// Template specialization, just like for `std::function`*

```
template<class Signature> struct PackagedTask;
```

```
template<class R, class... A> struct PackagedTask<R(A...)> {
```

```
    ...
```

```
};
```



# Solution: PackagedTask

```
template<class R, class... A> struct PackagedTask<R(A...)> {  
  
    UniqueFunction<void(A...)> task_;           // N4543 "A polymorphic wrapper for..."  
    Future<R> future_;  
    bool promise_already_satisfied_ = false;  
  
    template<class F> PackagedTask(F&& f) {  
        Promise<R> pa;  
        future_ = pa.get_future();  
        task_ = [pa = std::move(pa), f = std::forward<F>(f)](A... args) mutable {  
            try {  
                pa.set_value( f(std::forward<A>(args)... ) );  
            } catch (...) {  
                pa.set_exception( std::current_exception() );  
            }  
        };  
    }  
    ...  
};
```

# Solution: PackagedTask

```
template<class R, class... A> struct PackagedTask<R(A...)> {  
    // ...  
    template<class F> PackagedTask(F&& f) { ... }  
  
    bool valid() const { return task_ != nullptr; }  
  
    Future<R> get_future() {  
        if (task_ == nullptr) throw "no_state";  
        if (!future_.valid()) throw "future_already_retrieved";  
        return std::move(future_);  
    }  
  
    void operator()(A... args) {  
        if (task_ == nullptr) throw "no_state";  
        if (promise_already_satisfied_) throw "promise_already_satisfied";  
        promise_already_satisfied_ = true;  
        task_(std::forward<A>(args)...);  
    }  
};
```

# Conversions and operator()

```
template<class R, class... A> struct PackagedTask<R(A...)> {  
    // ...  
    template<class F> PackagedTask(F&& f) { ... }  
  
    bool valid() const { ... }  
  
    Future<R> get_future() { ... }  
  
    void operator()(A... args) { ... }  
};
```

```
UniqueFunction<int(char)> intfn = ...;
```

```
PackagedTask<int(char)> pt { std::move(intfn) };
```

```
UniqueFunction<void(char)> voidfn = std::move(pt);
```

**Now, we can use `PackagedTask`  
to build a safer abstraction**

# The safer abstraction is `async()`

```
inline Scheduler& SystemScheduler() {  
    static Scheduler sys(10);  
    return sys;  
}
```

```
template<typename Func, typename R = decltype(std::declval<Func>())()>  
Future<R> async(Func func)  
{  
    PackagedTask<R()> task(std::move(func));  
    Future<R> result = task.get_future();  
    SystemScheduler().schedule(std::move(task)); // execute it on another  
thread  
    return result;  
}
```

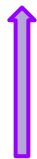
Up next: More than you wanted to know.

# What was our goal again?

```
Out compute_expensive_sum(In a, In b)
{
    auto oa = async(expensive_computation, a);
    auto ob = async(expensive_computation, b);
    return oa.get() + ob.get();
}
```

# What was our goal again?

```
Out compute_expensive_sum(In a, In b)
{
    auto oa = async(expensive_computation, a);
    auto ob = async(expensive_computation, b);
    return oa.get() + ob.get();
}
```



Technically, we're still missing the ability to pass arguments to `async()`. But we can fix that.

# Capturing a pack “by move” is hard

```
template<typename Func, typename... Args>
auto async(Func func, Args... args)
    -> Future<decltype(func(std::move(args)...))>
{
    using R = decltype(func(std::move(args)...));
    PackagedTask<R(Args...)> task(std::move(func));
    Future<R> result = task.get_future();

    auto bound = [
        task = std::move(task),
        args... = std::move(args)... // this line doesn't compile
    ]() {
        task(std::move(args)...);
    };
    SystemScheduler().schedule(std::move(bound));
    return result;
}
```



# Capturing a pack “by move” is hard

```
template<typename Func, typename... Args>
auto async(Func func, Args... args)
    -> Future<decltype(func(std::move(args)...))>
{
    using R = decltype(func(std::move(args)...));
    PackagedTask<R(Args...)> task(std::move(func));
    Future<R> result = task.get_future();

    auto bound = [
        task = std::move(task),
        argtuple = std::make_tuple(std::move(args)...)]() {
        std::experimental::apply(task, std::move(argtuple));
    };
    SystemScheduler().schedule(std::move(bound));
    return result;
}
```

# Capturing a pack “by move” is hard

```
template<typename Func, typename... Args>
auto async(Func func, Args... args)
    -> Future<decltype(func(std::move(args)...))>
{
    using R = decltype(func(std::move(args)...));
    PackagedTask<R(Args...)> task(std::move(func));
    Future<R> result = task.get_future();

    auto bound = std::bind(
        [](auto& task, Args&... args) { task(std::move(args)...); },
        std::move(task),
        std::move(args)...
    );

    SystemScheduler().schedule(std::move(bound));
    return result;
}
```

# What was our goal again?

```
Out compute_expensive_sum(In a, In b)
{
    auto oa = async(expensive_computation, a);
    auto ob = async(expensive_computation, b);
    return oa.get() + ob.get();
}
```

**Hey, we've just implemented that completely from scratch!**

# Let's make C++ look like Javascript

The technical content in the next part comes from [N3784](#)

“Improvements to `std::future<T>` and Related APIs”  
(Gustafsson, Laksberg, Sutter, Mithani)

a.k.a. [N3721](#), a.k.a. [N3634](#)

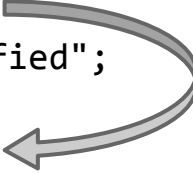
# Some clever refactoring

```
template<class R> struct Promise {  
  
    std::shared_ptr<SharedState<R>> state_  
    ...  
  
    void set_value(R r) {  
        if (!state_) throw "no_state";  
        std::lock_guard<std::mutex> lock(state_>mtx_);  
        if (state_>ready_) throw "promise_already_satisfied";  
        state_>value_ = std::move(r);  
  
        state_>ready_ = true;  
        state_>cv_.notify_all();  
    }  
  
    ...  
};
```

The (unique) Promise is the only possible **writer** of `state_>ready`, so it itself doesn't need to hold the lock while **reading** it.

# Some clever refactoring

```
template<class R> struct Promise {  
  
    std::shared_ptr<SharedState<R>> state_;  
    ...  
  
    void set_value(R r) {  
        if (!state_) throw "no_state";  
  
        if (state_->ready_) throw "promise_already_satisfied";  
        state_->value_ = std::move(r);  
        std::lock_guard<std::mutex> lock(state_->mtx_);  
        state_->ready_ = true;  
        state_->cv_.notify_all();  
    }  
  
    ...  
};
```



The (unique) Promise is the only possible **writer** of `state_->ready`, so it itself doesn't need to hold the lock while **reading** it.

# Some clever refactoring

```
template<class R> struct Promise {  
    ...  
  
    void set_value(R r) {  
        if (!state_) throw "no_state";  
        if (state_->ready_) throw "promise_already_satisfied";  
        state_->value_ = std::move(r);  
        set_ready();  
    }  
  
    void set_ready() {  
        std::lock_guard<std::mutex> lock(state_>mtx_);  
        state_->ready_ = true;  
        state_>cv_.notify_all();  
    }  
  
    ...  
};
```

Next up: Refactor `Promise::set_exception()` in the same way.

# Some clever refactoring

```
template<class R> struct Promise {  
    ...  
  
    void set_value(R r) {  
        if (!state_) throw "no_state";  
        if (state_->ready_) throw "promise_already_satisfied";  
        state_->value_ = std::move(r);  
        set_ready();  
    }  
  
    void set_exception(std::exception_ptr p) {  
        if (!state_) throw "no_state";  
        if (state_->ready_) throw "promise_already_satisfied";  
        state_->exception_ = std::move(p);  
        set_ready();  
    }  
  
    ...  
};
```

Next up: Let's make `set_ready()` more complicated!



# The next step: .then()

```
template<class R>
struct SharedState {
    R value_;
    std::exception_ptr exception_;
    std::list<UniqueFunction<void()>> continuations_;
    ...
};

void Promise<R>::set_ready() {
    std::lock_guard<std::mutex> lock(state_->mtx_);
    state_->ready_ = true;
    for (auto& task : state_->continuations_) {
        SystemScheduler().schedule(std::move(task));
    }
    state_->continuations_.clear();
    state_->cv_.notify_all();
}
```

Next up: How to populate continuations\_

# The next step: .then()

```
template<class F> auto Future<R>::then(F func)
{
    using R2 = decltype(func(move(*this)));
    if (state_ == nullptr) throw "no_state";
    auto sp = state_; // after this line, !this->valid()
    PackagedTask<R2()> task([func = move(func), arg = move(*this)]() mutable {
        return func(move(arg));
    });
    Future<R2> result = task.get_future();
    std::lock_guard<std::mutex> lock(sp->mtx_);
    if (!sp->ready_) {
        sp->continuations_.emplace_back(move(task));
    } else {
        SystemScheduler().schedule(move(task)); // schedule it immediately
    }
    return result;
}
```

# What's our motivation?

```
Out compute_expensive_sum(In a, In b)
{
    auto oa = async(expensive1, a);
    auto ob = async(expensive1, b);
    return expensive2(oa.get())
        + expensive2(ob.get());
}
```

# What's our motivation?

```
Out compute_expensive_sum(In a, In b)
{
    Future<Mid> ma = async(expensive1, a);
    Future<Out> oa = ma.then([](auto x) {
        return expensive2(x.get());
    });
    // ...
    return oa.get() + ob.get();
}
```

Javascript programmers are cringing at this point...

# Let's make C++ look like <sup>Haskell?</sup> ~~JavaScript~~

This next part is largely due to Bartosz Milewski's blog post  
“C++17: I See a Monad in Your Future!” <http://bartoszmilewski.com/2014/02/26/c17-i-see-a-monad-in-your-future/>

The technical content comes from [N3865](#)  
“More improvements to `std::future<T>`”  
(Vicente J. Botet Escriba)

see also [http://cplusplus.github.io/concurrency\\_ts/](http://cplusplus.github.io/concurrency_ts/)

# What's our motivation?

```
Out compute_expensive_sum(In a, In b)
{
    Future<Mid> ma = async(expensive1, a);
    Future<Out> oa = ma.then([](auto x) {
        return expensive2(x.get());
    });
    // ...
    return oa.get() + ob.get();
}
```

Javascript programmers are cringing at this point...

# Convenience wrapper `.next()`

```
Out compute_expensive_sum(In a, In b)
{
    Future<Mid> ma = async(expensive1, a);
    Future<Out> oa = ma.next(expensive2);

    // ...
    return oa.get() + ob.get();
}
```

# Convenience wrapper `.next()`

```
Out compute_expensive_sum(In a, In b)
{
    auto oa = async(exp1, a).next(exp2);
    auto ob = async(exp1, b).next(exp2);
    return oa.get() + ob.get();
}
```



# Implementing .next() is easy

```
template<class F>  
auto Future<R>::next(F func)  
{  
    return this->then(  

```

```
        [func = std::move(func)](Future<R> x) {  
            return func(x.get());  
        }  

```

```
    );  

```

```
}
```

*// As Travis Gockel showed on Tuesday, we can do it a lot  
// more efficiently if we care to. I won't show that here.*

# .recover() is just like .next()

```
template<class F>
auto Future<R>::recover(F func) -> Future<R>
{
    return this->then(
        [func = std::move(func)](Future<R> x) {
            try {
                return x.get();
            } catch (...) {
                return func(std::current_exception());
            }
        }
    );
}
```

# Now we have Javascript!

```
extern std::string build_string();
```

```
Future<double> fd =  
    async(  
        build_string  
    ).next(  
        [](auto s){ return std::stod(s); }  
    ).recover(  
        [](auto){ return std::nan(nullptr); }  
    );
```

```
double d = fd.get();  // stod or NaN
```

# `.fallback_to()` wraps `.recover()`

```
extern std::string build_string();
```

```
Future<double> fd =  
    async(  
        build_string  
    ).next(  
        [](auto s){ return std::stod(s); }  
    ).fallback_to(  
        std::nan(nullptr)  
    );
```

```
double d = fd.get(); // stod or NaN
```

# `.fallback_to()` wraps `.recover()`

```
template<class R>
auto Future<R>::fallback_to(R fallback_value) -> Future<R>
{
    return this->recover(

        [fbv = std::move(fallback_value)](std::exception_ptr) {
            return fbv;
        }

    );
}
```

**Time for a quick recap of the  
interface we've built**

# Our current interface: Promise<R>

```
template<class R> struct Promise {  
  
    Future<R> get_future();  
    void set_value(R);  
    void set_exception(std::exception_ptr);  
  
private:  
    void set_ready();  
    void abandon_state();  
};
```

# Things we won't cover in this talk

```
template<class R> struct Promise {  
  
    void set_value_at_thread_exit(R);  
    void set_exception_at_thread_exit(std::exception_ptr);  
};
```

These exploit the obscure C++11 feature

```
void std::notify_all_at_thread_exit(  
    std::condition_variable&  
    std::unique_lock<std::mutex>  
);
```



# Our current interface: Future<R>

```
template<class R> struct Future {  
  
    R get();  
    void wait() const;  
    bool valid() const;  
    bool ready() const;                                // N3784 (TS)  
  
    template<class F> auto then(F&&);                  // N3784 (TS)  
    template<class F> auto next(F&&);                  // N3865  
    template<class F> Future<R> recover(F&&);          // N3865  
    Future<R> fallback_to(R);                          // N3865  
  
};
```

# Things we won't cover in this talk

```
template<class R> struct Future {  
  
    void wait_for(std::chrono::duration<...>) const;  
    void wait_until(std::chrono::time_point<...>) const;  
};
```

These exploit the C++11 features  
`std::condition_variable::wait_for()` `std::`  
`condition_variable::wait_until()`

# Things we won't cover in this talk

```
template<class R> struct Future {  
  
    SharedFuture<R> share();  
};
```

SharedFuture is just like Future, except that it's copyable.  
SharedFuture<R>::get() returns a const R& instead of moving the R.  
Neither .get() nor .then() invalidate a SharedFuture.

# `when_any()` and `when_all()`

I have implementations of these in the GitHub repo, but I don't have enough interesting stuff to say about them here to make it worth the time. Go check them out if you care.

Okay, one complaint about the current TS:  
`when_any()` on a list of zero items returns a ready future.  
This is weird, mathematically speaking.

**“Work-dropping”**  
**.then() with cancellation**  
**(not currently proposed)**

# .then() with cancellation, take 1

```
template<class R, class... A>
template<class F> PackagedTask<R(A...)>::PackagedTask(F&& f)
{
    Promise<R> pa;
    future_ = pa.get_future();
    task_ = [pa = std::move(pa), f = std::forward<F>(f)](A... args) mutable {

        try {
            pa.set_value( f(std::forward<A>(args)...) );
        } catch (...) {
            pa.set_exception( std::current_exception() );
        }

    };
}
```

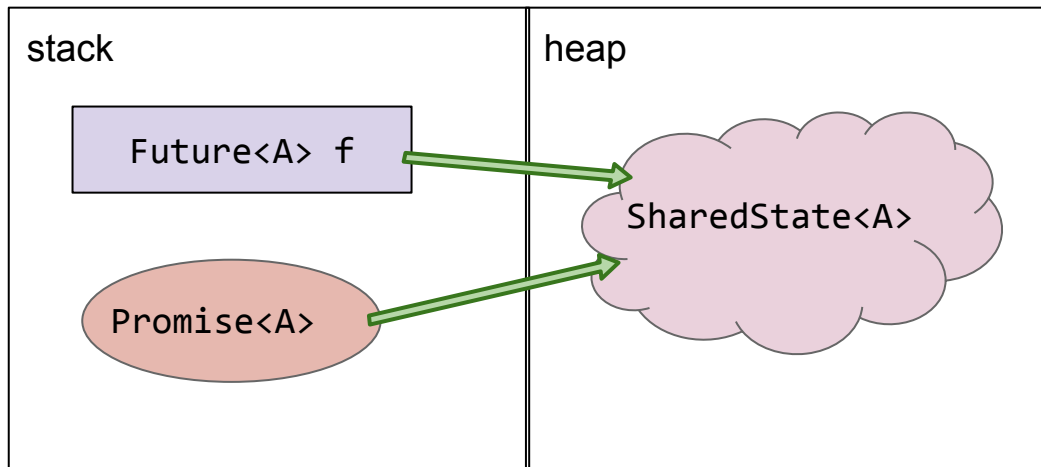
# .then() with cancellation, take 1

```
template<class R, class... A>
template<class F> PackagedTask<R(A...)>::PackagedTask(F&& f)
{
    Promise<R> pa;
    future_ = pa.get_future();
    task_ = [pa = std::move(pa), f = std::forward<F>(f)](A... args) mutable {
        if (pa.has_extant_future()) {
            try {
                pa.set_value( f(std::forward<A>(args)...) );
            } catch (...) {
                pa.set_exception( std::current_exception() );
            }
        }
    };
}
```

```
bool Promise<R>::has_extant_future() const {
    return state_ && future_already_retrieved_ && !state_.unique();
}
```

# .then() with cancellation, take 1

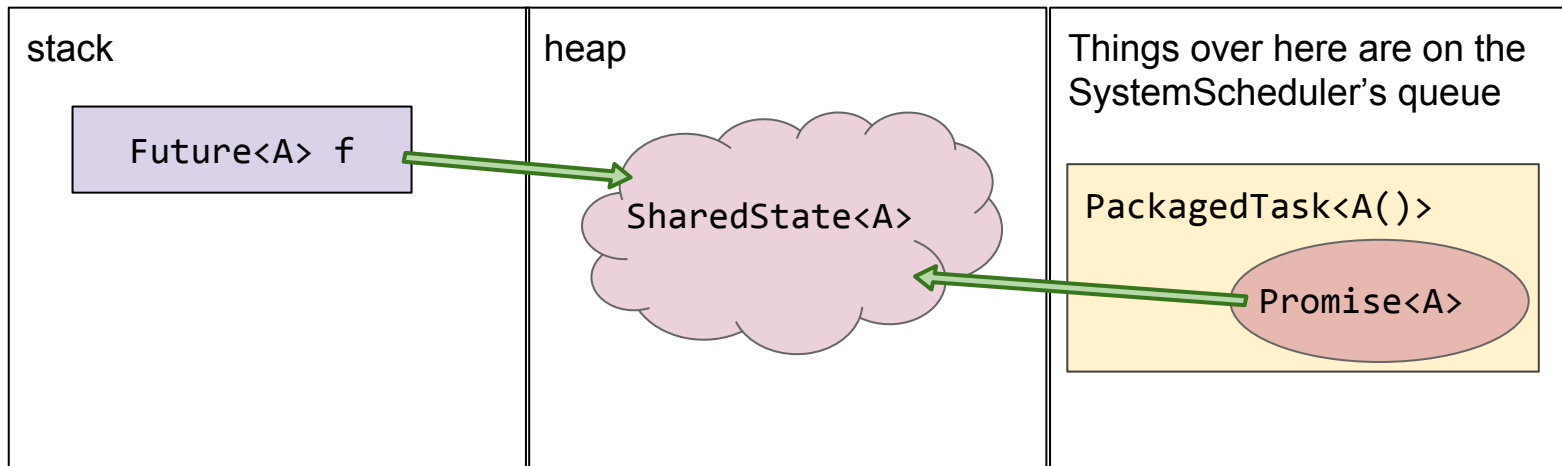
```
Future<A> f = async(some_task);
```





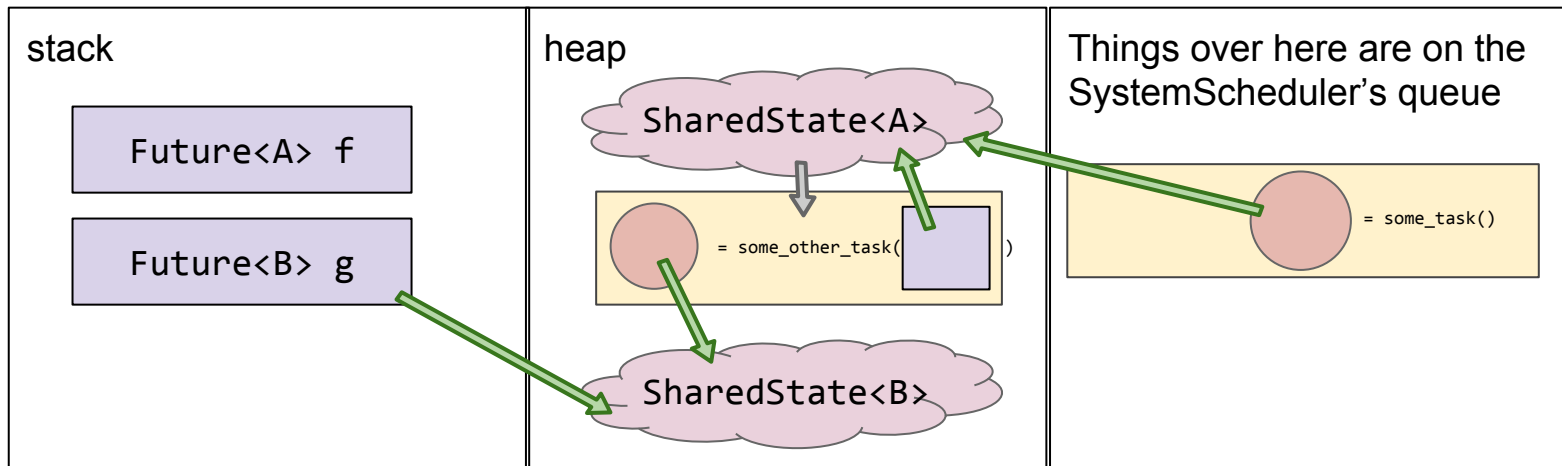
# .then() with cancellation, take 1

```
Future<A> f = async(some_task);
```



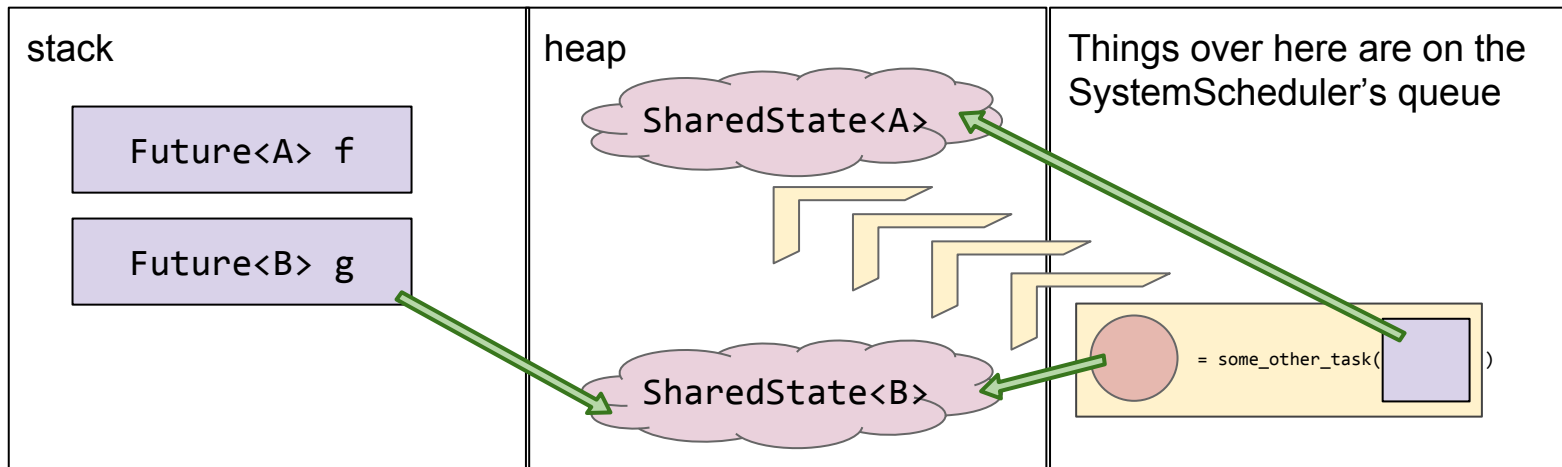
# .then() with cancellation, take 1

```
Future<A> f = async(some_task);  
Future<B> g = f.next(some_other_task);  // auto some_other_task(A) -> B;
```



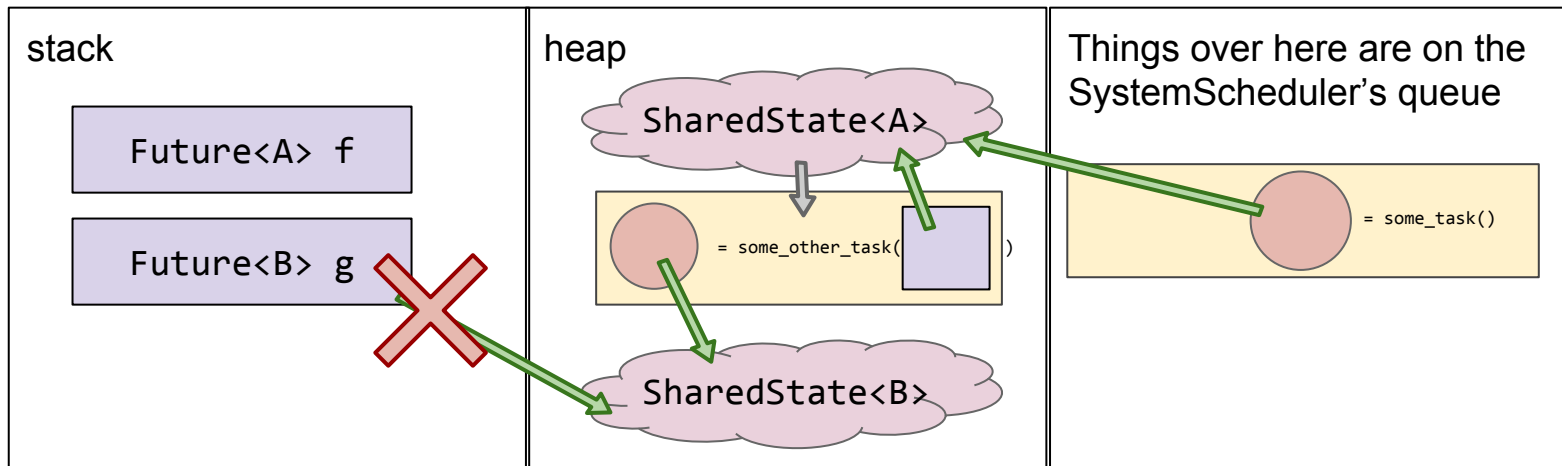
# .then() with cancellation, take 1

```
Future<A> f = async(some_task);  
Future<B> g = f.next(some_other_task);  // auto some_other_task(A) -> B;
```



# The problem is this...

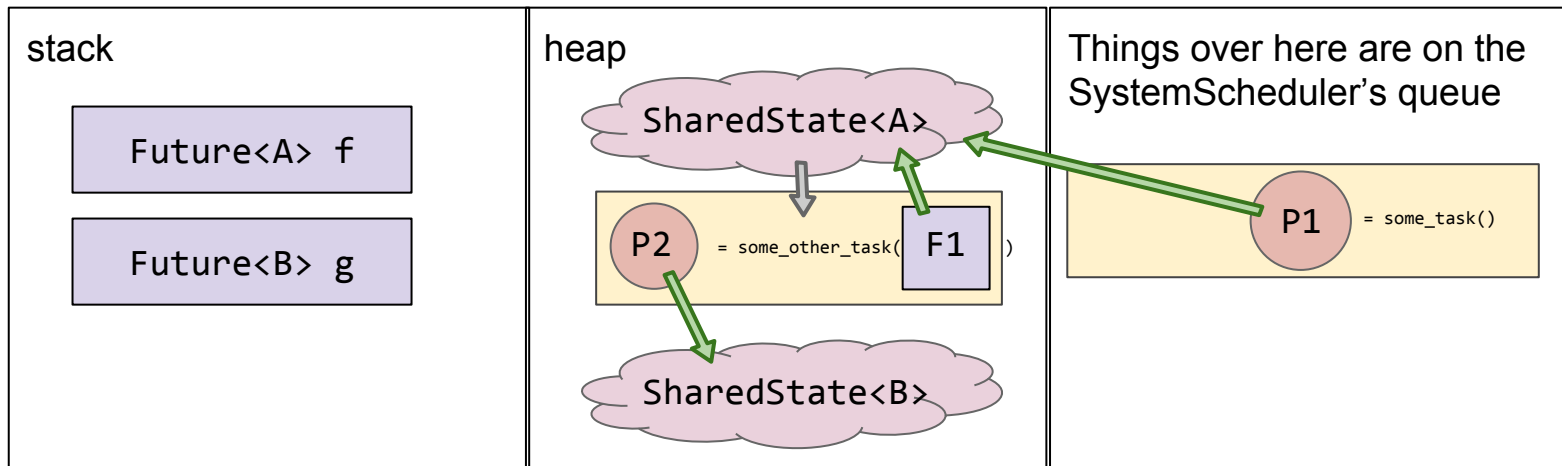
```
Future<A> f = async(some_task);  
Future<B> g = f.next(some_other_task);  
g = Future<B>{}; // or g.reset(); — basically, drop it on the floor
```



# The problem is this...

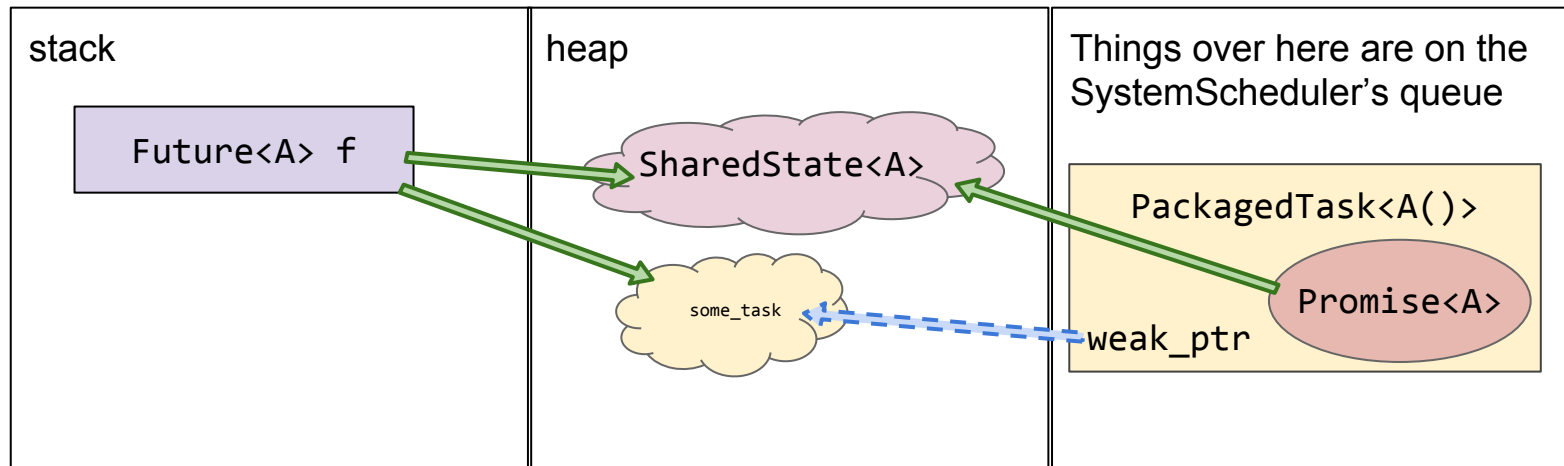
Without `g` to keep it relevant, `some_other_task` will never be executed because `P2` has no extant future.

However, since `F1` exists (captured by the continuation attached to `P1->state_`), `P1` **does** have an extant future and `some_task` will still be executed. Oops!



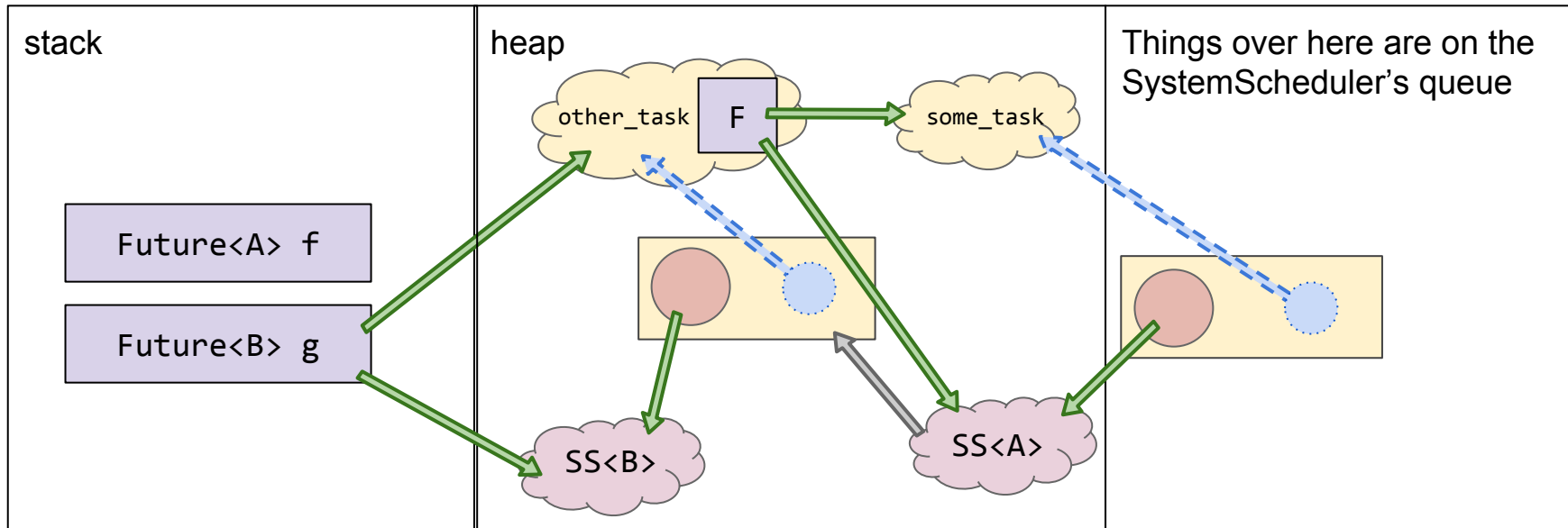
# .then() with cancellation, take 2

```
Future<A> f = async(some_task);
```



# .then() with cancellation, take 2

```
Future<A> f = async(some_task);  
Future<B> g = f.next(other_task);  // auto other_task(A) -> B;
```



# .then() with cancellation, take 2

```
template<class R>
struct Future {

    std::shared_ptr<SharedState<R>> state_;
    std::shared_ptr<void> cancellable_task_state_;

    void attach_cancellable_task_state(std::shared_ptr<void> p) {
        cancellable_task_state_ = std::move(p);
    }
};
```



# .then() with cancellation, take 2

```
template<class F> PackagedTask<R(A...)>::PackagedTask(F&& f)
{

    Promise<R> pa; future_ = pa.get_future();

    task_ = [pa = std::move(pa), f = std::forward<F>(f)](A... args) mutable {

        try {
            pa.set_value( f(std::forward<A>(args)...) );
        } catch (...) {
            pa.set_exception( std::current_exception() );
        }

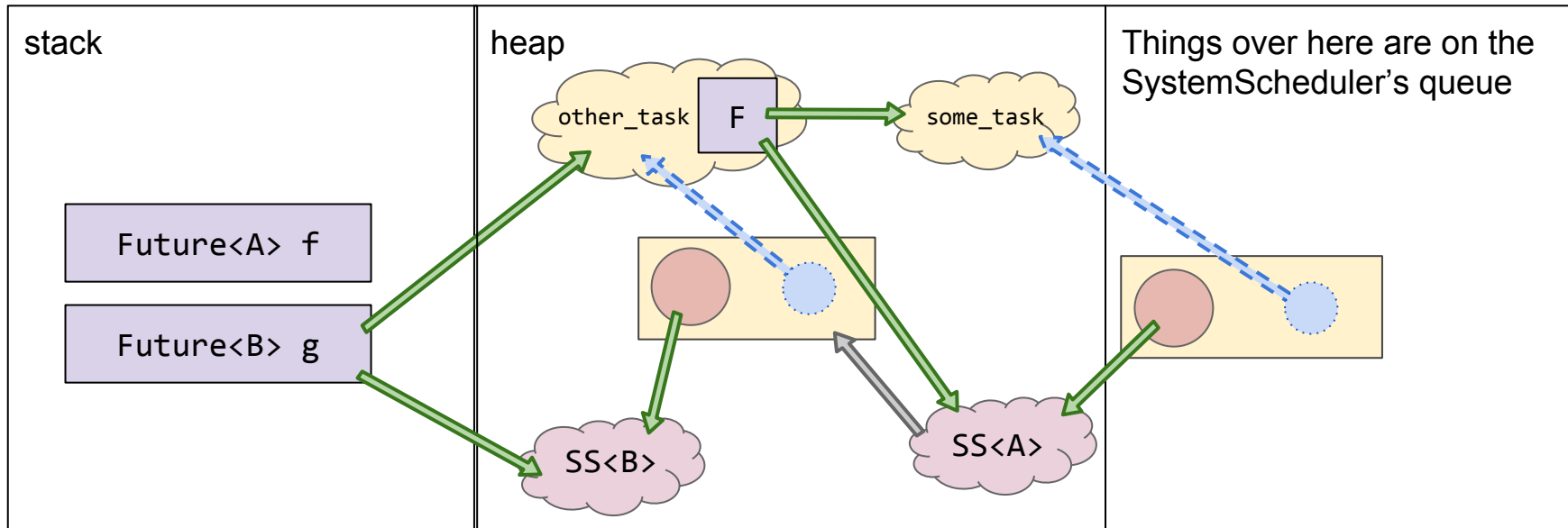
    };
}
```

# .then() with cancellation, take 2

```
template<class F> PackagedTask<R(A...)>::PackagedTask(F&& f)
{
    using FF = std::remove_reference_t<decltype(F)>;
    auto sptr = std::make_shared<FF>(std::forward<F>(f));
    Promise<R> pa; future_ = pa.get_future();
    future_.attach_cancellable_task_state(sptr);
    task_ = [pa = std::move(pa), wptr = sptr.unlock()](A... args) mutable {
        if (auto sptr = wptr.lock()) {
            try {
                pa.set_value( (*sptr)(std::forward<A>(args)...) );
            } catch (...) {
                pa.set_exception( std::current_exception() );
            }
        }
    };
}
```

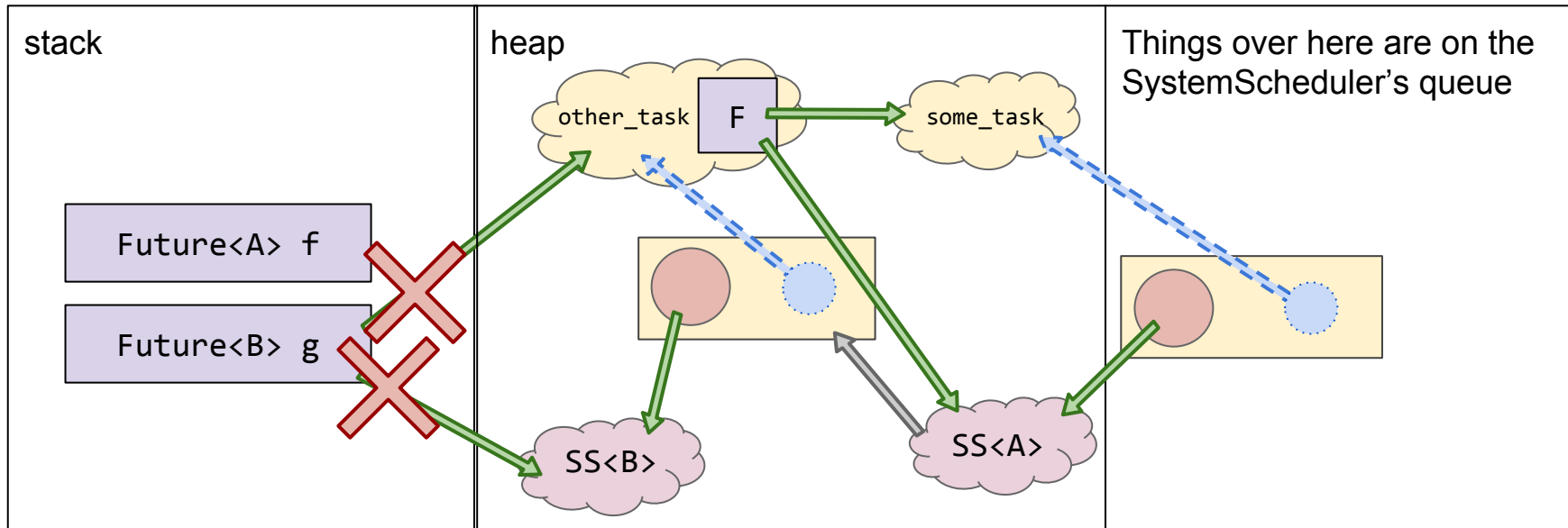
# .then() with cancellation, take 2

```
Future<A> f = async(some_task);  
Future<B> g = f.next(other_task);  // auto other_task(A) -> B;
```



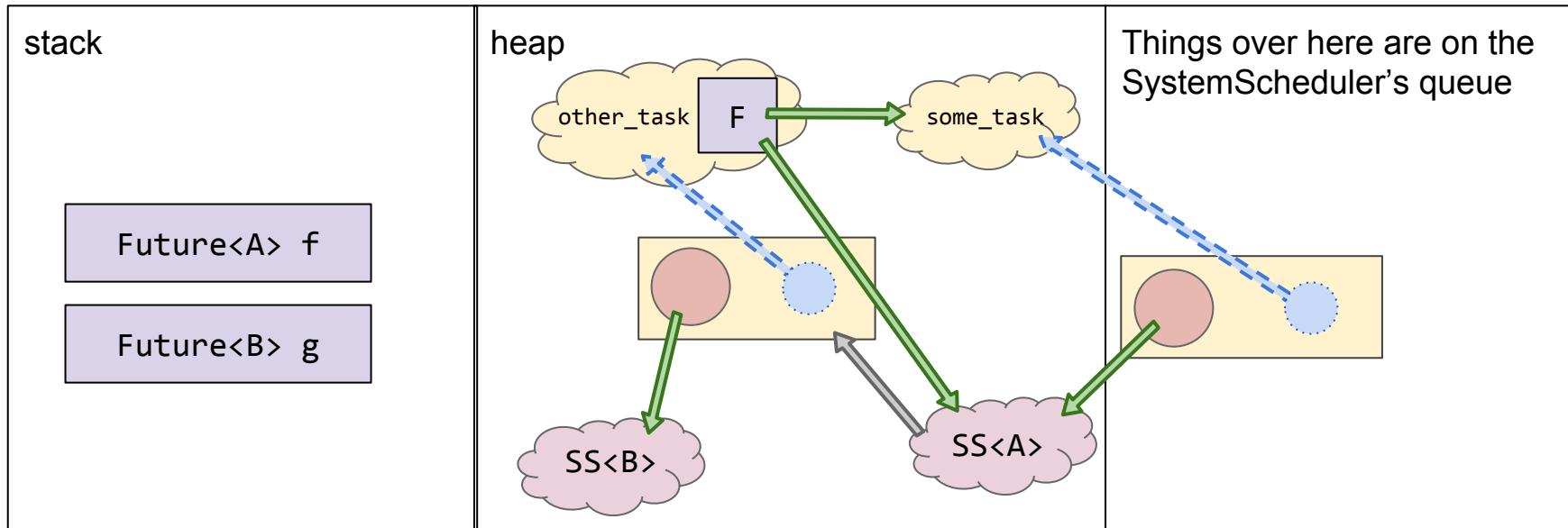
# .then() with cancellation, take 2

```
Future<A> f = async(some_task);  
Future<B> g = f.next(other_task); // auto other_task(A) -> B;  
g.reset(); // drop it on the floor
```



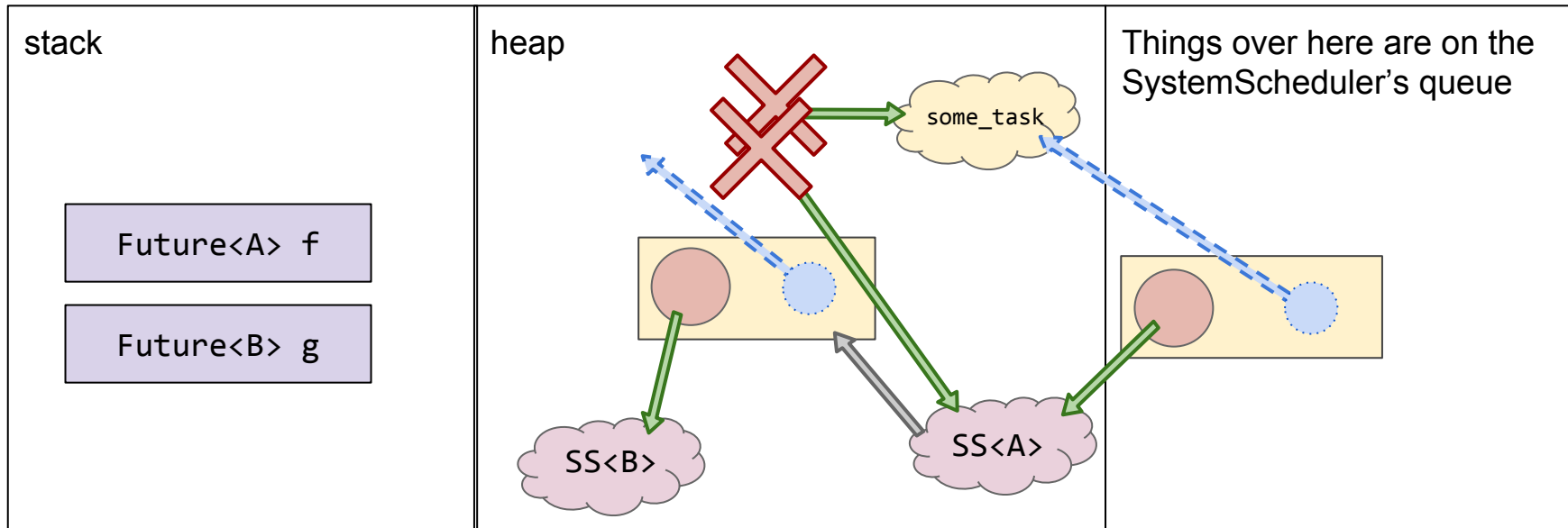
# .then() with cancellation, take 2

```
Future<A> f = async(some_task);  
Future<B> g = f.next(other_task); // auto other_task(A) -> B;  
g.reset(); // drop it on the floor
```



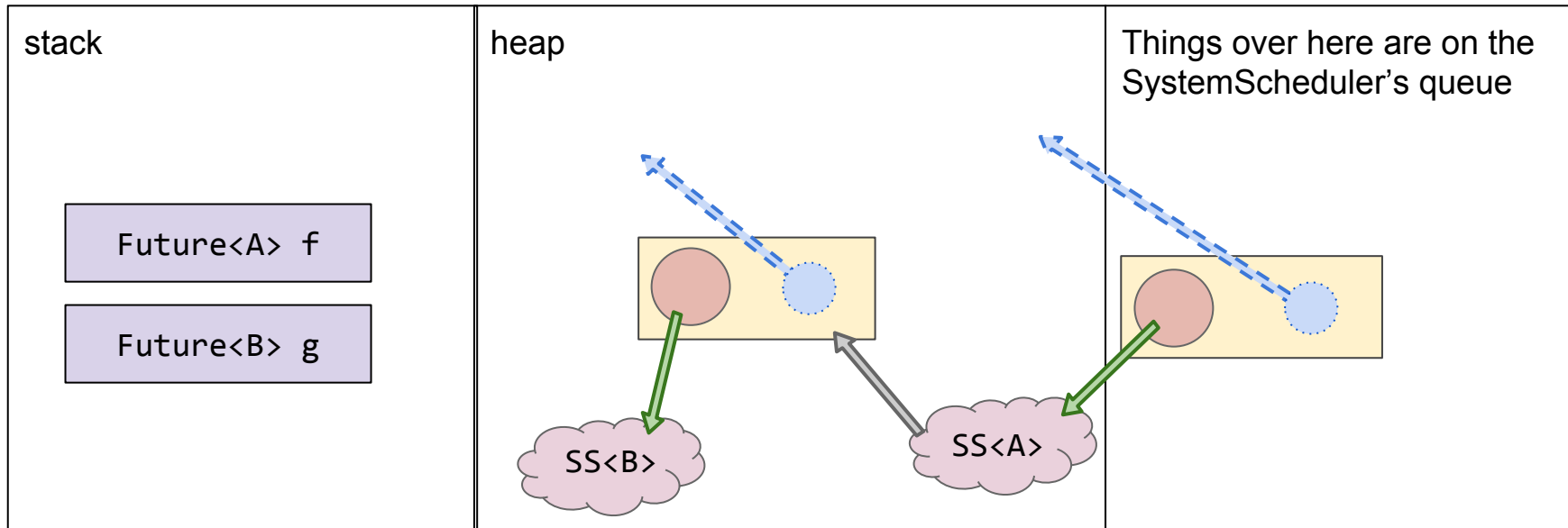
# .then() with cancellation, take 2

```
Future<A> f = async(some_task);  
Future<B> g = f.next(other_task); // auto other_task(A) -> B;  
g.reset(); // drop it on the floor
```



# .then() with cancellation, take 2

```
Future<A> f = async(some_task);  
Future<B> g = f.next(other_task); // auto other_task(A) -> B;  
g.reset(); // drop it on the floor
```





**SO YOU HAVE  
QUESTIONS**

**HOW NICE**

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