

Modern Staged Dependency Injection for Scala

Modular Functional Programming
with
Context Minimization
through
Garbage Collection

Septimal Mind Ltd team@7mind.io

The motivation behind DI pattern and DI frameworks

- 1. Systems we work with may be represented as graphs. Nodes are components (usually instances), edges are references,
- Graph transformation complexity grows non-linearly with nodes count (need to add one constructor parameter, have to modify k classes),
- Graph composition has combinatoric complexity (need to run tests choosing between mock/production repositories and external APIs, have to write four configurations).

We have several possible options to address these problems:

- 1. Singletons and Factories: solves tight coupling but expensive tests and refactorings,
- 2. Service Locator: bit less coupling but still expensive,
- 3. Dependency Injection: less invasive and supports isolation but requires more complex machinery.

"DI doesn't compose with FP": Problems

- Typical DI framework is OOP oriented and does not support advanced concepts required for modern FP (typeclasses, higher-kinded types),
- Almost all the DI frameworks are working in runtime while many modern FP concepts are compile-time by their nature,
- 3. Less guarantees: program which compiles correctly can break on wiring in runtime. After a huge delay,
- 4. Wiring is non-determenistic: Guice can spend several minutes trying to re-instantiate heavy instance multiple times (once per dependency) then fail,
- 5. Wiring is opaque: it's hard or impossible to introspect the context. E.g. in Guice it's a real pain to close all the instantiated Closeables. Adding missing values into the context (config injections) is not trivial as well.

"DI doesn't compose with FP": Notes

- We have some compile-time DI frameworks or mechanisms (see MacWire) allowing us to implement DI as pattern though purely compile-time tools are not convenient when we have to deal with purely runtime entities (like plugins and config values),
- 2. Graph composition problem is not addressed by any existing tool.

DI implementations are broken...

- ...so we may build better one, which must:
 - 1. be well-integrated with type system of our target language (higher-kinded types, implicits, typeclasses),
 - 2. allow us to introspect and modify our context on the fly,
 - 3. be able to detect as many as possible problems quickly, better during compilation,
 - 4. give us a way to stop making atomic or conditional contexts.

Staged approach

- 1. Let's apply Late Binding,
- 2. let's collect our graph information first,
- 3. then build a DAG representing our context (so-called *Project Network*, let's call it *Plan*),
- 4. then analyse this graph for errors (missing references, conflicts),
- 5. then apply additional transformations,
- 6. then interpret the graph.

This is a cornercase of more generic pattern – PPER (Percept, Plan, Execute, Repeat).

Staged approach: outcome

What we get:

- 1. Planner is pure: it has no side-effects,
- 2. A plan is a Turing-incomplete program for a simple machine. It will always terminate in known finite time,
- 3. An interpreter may perform instantiations at runtime or...just generate Scala code that will do that when compiled,
- 4. All the job except of instantiations can be done in compile-time,
- 5. Interpreter is free to run independent instantiations in parallel,
- 6. Extremely important: we can transform (rewrite) the plan before we run iterpreter.

Compile-Time and Runtime DI

A Plan:

```
myRepository := create[MyRepository]()
myservice := create[MyService](myRepository)
```

May be interpreted as:

Code tree (compile-time):

Set of instances (runtime):

Incomplete plans

This code:

```
class UsersRepoImpl(cassandraCluster: Cluster)
extends UsersRepo
class UsersService(repository: UsersRepo)

class UsersModule extends ModuleDef {
make[UsersRepo].from[UsersRepoImpl]
make[UsersService]
}
```

May produce a plan like:

```
cassandraCluster := import[Cluster]
usersRepo: UsersRepo := create[UsersRepoImpl](cassandraCluster)
usersService := create[UsersService](usersRepo)
```

patterns and Extensions



Patterns and Extensions

Pattern: Plan completion

Once we have such a plan:

```
cassandraCluster := import[Cluster]
usersRepo: UsersRepo := create[UsersRepoImpl](cassandraCluster)
usersService := create[UsersService](usersRepo)
```

We may add missing values¹:

```
val plan = Injector.plan(definitions)
val resolved = plan.map {
   case i: Import if i.is[Cluster] =>
   val cluster: Cluster = ???
   Reference(cluster)
   case op => op
}
```

¹Pseudocode, real API is bit different

Extension: Configuration Support

distage has HOCON configuration support implemented as an extension.

```
case class HostPort(host: String, port: Int)
class HttpServer(@ConfPath("http.listen") listenOn: HostPort) {
    // ...
}
```

The extension:

- 1. Takes all the Imports of a Plan,
- 2. Searches them for a specific @ConfPath annotation,
- 3. Tries to find corresponding sections in config,
- 4. Extends plan with config values,

All the config values are resolved even before the services being instantiated \Rightarrow problems are being shown quickly and all at once.

Extension: Automatic Sets

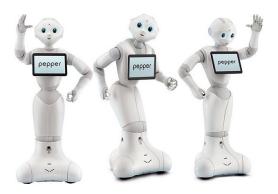
- 1. distage can find all instances type T (like AutoCloseable) in the context, put them all into a Set[T] then inject that set.
- 2. \Rightarrow basic lifecycle support, free of charge.

```
trait Resource {
      def start(): Unit
2
      def stop(): Unit
3
4
    trait App { def main(): Unit }
5
    locator.run { (resources: Set[Resource], app: App) =>
6
      trv {
         resources.foreach( .start())
8
         app.main()
9
      } finally {
10
         resources.foreach(_.close())
11
12
13
```

patterns and Extensions

The Principle Behind: Feedback Loops

They use so-called Feedback Loops in robotics...



The Principle Behind: PPER Loop¹

We found a very generic and important pattern of *Feedback Loop* class:

- 1. Acquire data from the outer world (*Percept*)
- 2. Produce a Project Network, *Plan*. It may be incomplete, but should allow us to progress (*Plan*)
 - ▶ Plan is a DAG, actions are nodes, edges are dependencies
- 3. Execute the Plan (Execute).
 - Perform the steps of the Plan
 - Mark your Plan nodes according to the results of their execution
 - Let's call marked plan as *Trace*
- 4. Go to step 1 unless termination criteria reached (Repeat)

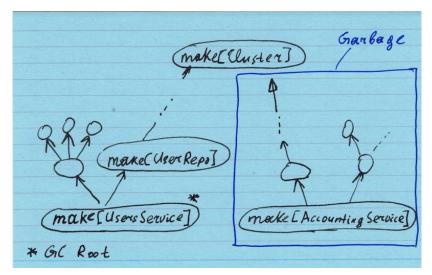
Let's call it PPER (and pronounce pepper).

¹Slides: https://goo.gl/okZ8Bw

Garbage Collector and Context Minimization

- Let's assume that we have a UsersService and AccountingService in your context,
- and we want to write a test for UsersService only,
- 3. We may exploit staged design and *collect the garbage* out of Plan before executing it.
- 4. We define a garbage collection root, UsersService, and keep only the operations it transitively depends on. The rest is being thrown out even before it's being instantiated,
- 5. Garbage Collector allows us to compose contexts easier.

Garbage Collector and Context Minimization



Context Minimization for Tests

Context minimization allows us to:

- 1. Instantiate only the instances which are required for your tests,
- 2. Save on test startup time (savings may be significant),
- 3. Save on configuring per-test contexts manually (savings may be substantial).

Context Minimization for Deployment

Context minimization allows us to:

- 1. Have one image with all our software components (Roles¹),
- 2. ... keeping development flows of these components isolated,
- Decide which components we want to run when we start the image,
- 4. Have higher computational density
- 5. substantially simplify development flows: we may run full environment with a single command on a low-end machine,
- 6. Fuse Microservices with Monoliths keeping *all* their benefits.

```
server1# docker run -ti company/product +analytics
server2# docker run -ti company/product +accounting +users
laptop# docker run -ti company/product --run-everything
```

¹Slides: https://goo.gl/iaMt43



Scala Typesystem Integration: Fusional Programming

Kind-Polymorphic Type Tags

- distage uses types as lookup keys
- But scalac has TypeTags only for kind *!
- distage added any-kinded 'Tag's
- Modules can be polymorphic on types of any kind

```
type TagK[F[_]] = HKTag[{ type Arg[A] = F[A] }]
type TagKK[F[_, _]] = HKTag[{ type Arg[A, B] = F[A, B] }]
```

¹Tag.auto.T macro will be added in next version

Typeclass instance injection (Implicit Injection)

- 1. distage wires all parameters, inleuding implicits
- Leaving implicits solely to implicit resolution would've been unmodular, because we want to bind instances late, not at definition time
- 3. Therefore implicits should be declared explicitly
- 4. Tagless-final style is encouraged add implicit parameters, instead of importing concrete implicits!

```
def polyModule[F[_]: Sync: TagK] = new ModuleDef {
   make[Sync[F]].from(implicitly[Sync[F]])
   make[F[Unit]].named("hello").from(
        S: Sync[F] => S.delay(println("Hello World!")))
}
Injector()
   .produce(polyModule[cats.effect.IO])
   .get[IO[Unit]]("hello").unsafeRunSync()
```

Lambda Injection, ProviderMagnet

- 1. We can bind functions as constructors
- 2. Arbitraryarity functions can run with arguments from Locator
- 3. Put annotations on types to summon named instances or config values (from distageconfig)

```
case class A()
     case class B(a: A)
    val ctx: Locator = Injector(config).produce(new ModuleDef {
3
      make[A].from(() \Rightarrow A())
4
      make[B].from(B())
5
    7)
6
    case class C(a: A, b: B, host: HostPort)
7
    val c: C = ctx.run {
       (a: A, b: B, host: HostPort @ConfPath("http.listen")) =>
9
        C(a, b, host)
10
11
```

Scala Typesystem Integration: Fusional Programming

Code example: IO Injection

```
trait MonadFilesystem[F[_, _]] {
      def readFile(fileName: String): F[Exception, String]
2
    }
3
4
    class ZioFilesystemModule extends ModuleDef {
5
      make[MonadFilesystem[IO]].from(new MonadFilesystem[IO] {
6
        def readFile(fileName: String) =
           IO.syncException(Source.fromFile(fileName)("UTF-8")
8
             .mkString)
      })
10
    }
11
12
    class GetCpusModule extends ModuleDef {
13
      make[IO[Exception, Int]].named("getCpus").from {
14
        fs: MonadFilesystem[I0] =>
15
           fs.readFile("/proc/cpuinfo").flatMap(...)
16
17
18
```

Code example: Tagless Final Style

```
trait Interaction[F[]] {
1
       def say(msg: String): F[Unit]
2
       def ask(prompt: String): F[String]
3
    }
4
5
     class TaglessHelloWorld[F[_]: Monad: Interaction] {
6
       def program = for {
           userName <- Interaction[F].ask("What's your name?")</pre>
                     <- Interaction[F].say(s"Hello $userName!")</pre>
      } yield ()
10
    }
11
12
    val wiring = new ModuleDef {
13
      make[TaglessHelloWorld[Try]]
14
      make[Interaction[Try]].from(new Interaction[Try] {...})
15
16
```

Scala Typesystem Integration: Fusional Programming

Path-dependent types

- 1. Path-dependent types and projections are supported
- 2. Path-prefix should be wired for the child type to be wired

```
trait Cake { trait Child }
1
2
3
    val cakeModule = new ModuleDef {
      make [Cake]
4
      make [Cake#Child]
5
6
    val cake = Injector().produce(cakeModule).get[Cake]
7
8
    val instanceCakeModule = new ModuleDef {
9
      make[cake.type].from[cake.type](cake: cake.type)
10
      make[cake.Child]
11
12
    val cakeChild = Injector().produce(instanceCakeModule)
13
       .get[cake.Child]
14
```



Features to boost productivity

Dynamic Plugins

Just drop your modules into your classpath:

```
class AccountingModule extends PluginDef {
   make[AccountingService].from[AccountingServiceImpl]
   // ...
}
```

Then you may pick up all the modules and build your context:

```
val plugins = new PluginLoaderDefaultImpl(
PluginConfig(Seq("com.company.plugins"))
).load()
// ... pass to an Injector
```

- 1. Useful while you prototyping your app,
- 2. In maintenance phase you may switch to static configuration.

Dynamic Testkit (ScalaTest)

- 1. You don't need to setup your context, it's done automatically by Plugin Loader and Garbage Collector,
- 2. And it takes just milliseconds, not like in Spring,
- 3. Garbage collection roots are inferred from test's signature,
- 4. Only the things required for a particular test are being instantiated.

Tags

- 1. Each binding may be marked with a tag,
- 2. Some bindings may be excluded from the context before planning by a predicate,
- 3. This is unsafe but convenient way to reconfigure contexts conditionally.

```
class ProductionPlugin extends PluginDef {
1
      tag("production", "cassandra")
2
      make[UserRepo].from[CassandraUserRepo]
3
4
    class MockPlugin extends PluginDef {
5
      tag("test", "mock")
6
      make [UserRepo] . from [MockUserRepo]
    // ...
    val disabledTags = t"mock" && t"dummy"
10
    val plan = injector.plan(definition.filter(disabledTags))
11
```

Circular dependencies

- 1. Supported, Proxy concept used,
- By-name parameters (class C(param: => P)) supported, no runtime code-generation requried,
- Other cases are supported as well with runtime code-generation,
- 4. Limitations: typical. You cannot use an injected parameter immediately in a constructor, you cannot have circular non-by-name dependencies with final classes,
- 5. Circular dependency resolution is optional, you may turn it off.

Plan Introspection: example context

```
class Cluster
    trait UsersService
2
    trait AccountingService
    trait UserRepo
4
    trait AccountsRepo
5
6
7
    class UserRepoImpl(cluster: Cluster) extends UserRepo
    class AccountsRepoImpl(cluster: Cluster) extends AccountsRepo
8
    class UserServiceImpl(userRepo: UserRepo) extends UsersService
9
    class AccountingServiceImpl(accountsRepo: AccountsRepo)
10
        extends AccountingService
11
12
    class UsersApiImpl(service: UsersService
13
         , accountsApi: AccountsApiImpl)
14
    class AccountsApiImpl(service: AccountingService
15
         , usersApi: UsersApiImpl) // circular dependency
16
    class App(uapi: UsersApiImpl, aapi: AccountsApiImpl)
17
```

Plan Introspection: example bindings¹

```
val definition = new ModuleDef {
        make[Cluster]
2
        make[UserRepo].from[UserRepoImpl]
3
        make[AccountsRepo].from[AccountsRepoImpl]
4
        make[UsersService].from[UserServiceImpl]
5
        make[AccountingService].from[AccountingServiceImpl]
6
        make[UsersApiImpl]
        make[AccountsApiImpl]
8
        make [App]
9
10
    val injector = Injector()
11
    val plan = injector.plan(definition)
12
```

¹Full code example: https://goo.gl/7ZwHfX

Plan Introspection: plan dumps

println(plan.render) // look for the circular dependency!

```
Cluster (BasicTest.scala:353) := make[Cluster] ()
UserRepo (BasicTest.scala:354) := make[UserRepoImpl] (
  par cluster: Cluster = lookup(Cluster)
AccountsRepo (BasicTest.scala:355) := make[AccountsRepoImpl] (
  par cluster: Cluster = lookup(Cluster)
AccountingService (BasicTest.scala:357) := make[AccountingServiceImpl] (
  par accountsRepo: AccountsRepo = lookup(AccountsRepo)
UsersService (BasicTest.scala:356) := make[UserServiceImpl] (
  par userRepo: UserRepo = lookup(UserRepo)
AccountsApiImpl (BasicTest.scala:359) := proxy(UsersApiImpl) {
 AccountsApiImpl (BasicTest.scala:359) := make[AccountsApiImpl] (
    par service: AccountingService = lookup(AccountingService)
    par usersApi: UsersApiImpl = lookup(UsersApiImpl)
UsersApiImpl (BasicTest.scala:358) := make[UsersApiImpl] (
 par service: UsersService = lookup(UsersService)
 par accountsApi: AccountsApiImpl = lookup(AccountsApiImpl)
App (BasicTest.scala:360) := make[App] (
 par uapi: UsersApiImpl = lookup(UsersApiImpl)
 par aapi: AccountsApiImpl = lookup(AccountsApiImpl)
AccountsApiImpl (BasicTest.scala:359) -> init(UsersApiImpl)
```

Plan Introspection: dependency trees

You may explore dependencies of a component:

```
val dependencies = plan.topology.dependencies
println(dependencies.tree(DIKey.get[AccountsApiImpl]))
```

Circular dependencies are specifically marked.

Trait Completion

We may bind this trait directly, without an implementating class:

```
1 | make[UsersService]
```

- 1. Corresponding class will be generated by distage,
- 2. Null-arg abstract methods will be wired with context values,
- 3. Works in both runtime and compile-time.

Factory Methods (Assisted Injection)

```
class UserActor(sessionId: UUID, sessionRepo: SessionRepo)

trait ActorFactory {
   def createActor(sessionId: UUID): UserActor
}
```

- createActor is a factory method,
- createActor will be generated by distage,
- 3. non-null-arg abstract methods are treated as factory methods,
- 4. Non-invasive assisted injection: sessionId: UUID will be taken from method parameter, sessionRepo: SessionRepo will be wired from context.
- 5. Useful for Akka, lot more convenient than Guice,
- 6. Works in both runtime and compile-time.

☐7mind Stack



7mind Stack

distage: status and things to do

distage is:

- 1. ready to use,
- 2. in real production,
- 3. all Runtime APIs are available,
- 4. Compile-time verification, trait completion, assisted injections and lambda injections are available.

Our plans:

- 1. Refactor Roles API,
- Support running Producer within a monad (to use with Scalaz ZIO, Monix, cats-effect, etc),
- Support Scala.js,
- 4. Support optional isolated classloaders (in foreseeable future),
- 5. Publish compile-time Producer,
- 6. Check our GitHub: https://github.com/pshirshov/izumi-r2.

distage is just a part of our stack

We have a vision backed by our tools:

- 1. Idealingua: transport and codec agnostic gRPC alternative with rich modeling language,
- 2. LogStage: zero-cost logging framework,
- 3. Fusional Programming and Design guidelines. We love both FP and OOP,
- 4. Continous Delivery guidelines for Role-based process,
- Percept-Plan-Execute Generative Programming approach, abstract machine and computational model. Addresses Project Planning (see Operations Research). Examples: orchestration, build systems.

Altogether these things already allowed us to significantly reduce development costs and delivery time for our client.

More slides to follow.

└─7mind Stack

You use Guice? Switch to distage!



└─7mind Stack

Teaser: LogStage

A log call ...

```
1 | log.info(s"$user logged in with $sessionId!")
```

...may be rendered as a text like 17:05:18 UserService.login user=John Doe logged in with sessionId=DEADBEEF!
...or a structured JSON:

```
"user": "John Doe",
"sessionId": "DEADBEEF",
"_template": "$user logged in with $sessionId!",
"_location": "UserService.scala:265",
"_context": "UserService.login",
"]
```

└─7mind Stack

Teaser: Idealingua

- 1. Convenient Data and Interface Definition Language,
- 2. Extensible, transportagnostic, abstracted from wire format,
- 3. JSON + HTTP / WebSocket at the moment,
- 4. C#, go, Scala, TypeScript at the moment,
- 5. Better than gRPC/ REST / Swagger/ etc.

Thank you for your attention

https://izumi.7mind.io/

We're looking for clients, contributors, adopters and colleagues;)

About the author:

- 1. coding for 18 years, 10 years of hands-on commercial engineering experience,
- has been leading a cluster orchestration team in Yandex, "the Russian Google",
- implemented "Interstellar Spaceship" an orchestration solution to manage 50K+ physical machines across 6 datacenters,
- 4. Owns an Irish R&D company, https://7mind.io,
- 5. Contacts: team@7mind.io,
- 6. Github: https://github.com/pshirshov