

# Cloud Programming with GreatFree

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# References

- Author blog  
*<http://greatfree.lofter.com>*
- Author email  
*[bing.li@asu.edu](mailto:bing.li@asu.edu)*
- Bing Li. Programming Clouds with GreatFree. Book. To be published. Downloadable at the below URL  
*<https://github.com/greatfree/Programming-Clouds>*

# References

- QQ group: 469024251
- Source code & samples  
*<https://github.com/greatfree/Programming-Clouds>*
- APIs  
*<http://greatfree.0fees.us>*
- Audio (Chinese)  
*<http://www.ximalaya.com/63922737/album/7023894>*
- Video (English & Chinese; To be published soon)

# Outline

- What is GreatFree?
- How does GreatFree define the concept of Cloud Programming?
- Why do we need to program with GreatFree?
- Is it easy to program with GreatFree?

# Outline

- Could you show me a sample?
- What applications can we program with GreatFree?
- What APIs and patterns are proposed by GreatFree?
- Are there any other competitors against GreatFree?

# Outline

- How do you get such an idea to design the programming environment?
- Have you made any experiments with GreatFree?
- What is the next step of GreatFree?

# What is GreatFree?

- At this time, GreatFree is a series of APIs and patterns for distributed programming
- It is implemented with Java SE, 1.7
- It intends to solve one of the most difficult problems for developers, i.e., how to program a distributed system in any scales for any scenarios
- Fortunately, it has achieved the goal

# How does GreatFree define the concept of Cloud Programming?

- It is weird many people talk about Cloud Computing
- Do you remember the terms, CORBA, Web Services, Pervasive Computing, Ubiquitous Computing, Autonomous Computing, Grid Computing or Service Computing?
- GreatFree believes that developers that focus on programming do not care about those terms



# How does GreatFree define the concept of Cloud Programming?

- They just desire to know what languages, APIs, patterns or tools can help them implement a computing system conveniently
- For that, GreatFree would rather define the concept of Cloud Programming as the programming techniques to build applications over unlimited scales in any distributed computing environments

# How does GreatFree define the concept of Cloud Programming?

- It is necessary to clarify the term of programming with other approaches
- In one case, developers do not need to learn the natures of the computing environment they work on
- Instead, they work with a virtualized development environment, such as object-oriented models or even scripts, which are independent of the physical contexts

# How does GreatFree define the concept of Cloud Programming?

- No matter what computing systems to be implemented, developers just need to know one particular script language or the object-oriented modeling
- GreatFree does not believe this approach is called programming
- Such an approach is more appropriate to be called the one of scripting

# How does GreatFree define the concept of Cloud Programming?

- Another approach is more simple since developers are required only to configure in order to set up an application based on a mature framework
- Configuring is not programming either
- Such phenomena are popular when implementing complicated applications, like the distributed ones, since it saves much effort

# How does GreatFree define the concept of Cloud Programming?

- GreatFree believes that programming specifies the procedure in which developers themselves are able to construct a high quality application with their knowledge about the computing environment as well as programming skills
- Ignoring domain knowledge and even programming skills is neither a proper methodology nor a programming environment for developers

# How does GreatFree define the concept of Cloud Programming?

- GreatFree feels confident that neither scripting nor configuring can be regarded as programming in accordance with the definition
- Even though they can construct high quality applications, that is the contributions of the underlying frameworks' designers rather than the developers

# Why do we need to program with GreatFree?

- For the perspective, GreatFree has to unveil underlying distributed techniques for developers such that they can employ their knowledge when programming
- On the other hand, GreatFree also aims to speed up the development efficiency such that it proposes rich APIs and patterns

# Why do we need to program with GreatFree?

- Thus, when you attempt to establish distributed applications in any scales for any computing environments through programming instead of scripting and configuring, GreatFree is your appropriate choice
- First, such an approach is fast because of the APIs and patterns even though you need to code



# Why do we need to program with GreatFree?

- Second, it offers you the flexibility to construct any types of distributed applications with your own algorithms
  - When distributed domain knowledge is unveiled, it represents that developers themselves need to apply them when programming
  - You can implement application level algorithms by GreatFree APIs and patterns as well as inject system level one by modifying GreatFree open source

# Why do we need to program with GreatFree?

- Third, programming is the greatest interest of Computer Science
  - Scripting and configuring always rob you of such an interest
  - They degenerate your skills such that you always have to rely on others' frameworks
  - You can never propose new systems, solutions or ideas for a new environment by scripting and configuring
  - You cannot fully control your system with scripting and configuring

# Why do we need to program with GreatFree?

- Fourth, if the problems in a specific domain cannot be resolved by programming, this must be the disgrace of computer science scientists
  - Until now, such a technology is not available
  - Traditional languages, such as C, C++ and Java, bring heavy workload to developers
  - Some new languages are proposed, such as Google Go and Scala, but they are far from fully-fledged

# Is it easy to program with GreatFree?

- Sure, it is easy because of GreatFree APIs and patterns
- If you are lazy guys, you can even program an application with really simplified behaviors, such as copy-paste-replace (CPR)
- If you are proficient developers, you can either CPR or update from the bottom to the top since GreatFree is completely open source

# Could you show me a sample?

- OK, I suggest you to read the book if you are not lazy
- Let me show you an example with as limited pages of slides as possible
- The simplest distributed system is the one based on the pattern of C/S
- GreatFree provides developers with such a pattern

# Could you show me a sample?

- To program it to be a specific application, you need to accomplish the below tasks in GreatFree
  - Program your messages transmitted between the client and the server by CPR
  - Program the thread at the server side to process the messages by CPR
  - Program the eventer and reader at the client side to send the message by CPR
- I do not believe this is difficult for anybody

# Could you show me a sample?

- What does CPR mean in the context of GreatFree programming?
- Since the open source in GreatFree is highly patterned, you can program distributed applications following existing templates exactly
- In another word, when you program, you always have existing highly patterned code to mimic

# Could you show me a sample?

```
1  package com.greatfree.testing.message;
2
3  import com.greatfree.multicast.ServerMessage;
4  import com.greatfree.testing.data.Weather;
5
6  /*
7   * The notification contains the data of weather. It is sent to a server such that the data
8   * on the server can be updated. 02/06/2016, Bing Li
9   */
10
11  // Created: 02/06/2016, Bing Li
12  public class WeatherNotification extends ServerMessage
13  {
14      private static final long serialVersionUID = 3555195575233260451L;
15
16      private Weather weather;
17
18      public WeatherNotification(Weather weather)
19      {
20          super(MessageType.WEATHER_NOTIFICATION);
21          this.weather = weather;
22      }
23
24      public Weather getWeather()
25      {
26          return this.weather;
27      }
28  }
```

This is the existing message!

List 3.1 The code of WeatherNotification.java



# Could you show me a sample?

```
1  package com.greatfree.testing.message;
2
3  import com.greatfree.multicast.ServerMessage;
4
5  // Created: 03/10/2017, Bing Li
6  public class TestNotification extends ServerMessage
7  {
8      private static final long serialVersionUID = -6936158947185462689L;
9
10     private String testMessage;
11
12     public TestNotification(String testMessage)
13     {
14         super(MessageType.TEST_NOTIFICATION);
15         this.testMessage = testMessage;
16     }
17
18     public String getTestMessage()
19     {
20         return this.testMessage;
21     }
22
23     public void setTestMessage(String testMessage)
24     {
25         this.testMessage = testMessage;
26     }
27 }
```

This is the message you CPR!

List 3.3 The complete code of TestNotification.java

# Could you show me a sample?

```
1 package com.greatfree.testing.server;
2
3 import com.greatfree.concurrency.NotificationQueue;
4 import com.greatfree.testing.data.ServerConfig;
5 import com.greatfree.testing.message.WeatherNotification;
6 import com.greatfree.testing.server.resources.WeatherDB;
7
8 /*
9  * The thread implements following the pattern of notification queue. It receives a notification that contains the
10  * weather information to set the weather instance on the server. 02/11/2016, Bing Li
11  */
12
13 // Created: 02/10/2016, Bing Li
14 public class SetWeatherThread extends NotificationQueue<WeatherNotification>
15 {
16     /*
17     * Initialize the thread. 02/11/2016, Bing Li
18     */
19     public SetWeatherThread(int taskSize)
20     {
21         super(taskSize);
22     }
23 }
```

This is the existing thread!

# Could you show me a sample?

```
24  /*
25  * This is the kernel of the notification pattern that sets the weather instance
26  * concurrently. 02/11/2016, Bing Li
27  */
28  public void run()
29  {
30      // Declare an instance of WeatherNotification. 02/11/2016, Bing Li
31      WeatherNotification notification;
32      // The thread always runs until it is shutdown by the NotificationDispatcher. 02/11/2016, Bing Li
33      while (!this.isShutdown())
34      {
35          // Check whether the notification queue is empty. 02/11/2016, Bing Li
36          while (!this.isEmpty())
37          {
38              try
39              {
40                  // Dequeue the notification. 02/11/2016, Bing Li
41                  notification = this.getNotification();
42                  // Set the value of the weather. 02/11/2016, Bing Li
43                  WeatherDB.SERVER().setWeather(notification.getWeather());
44                  // Collect the resource kept by the notification. 02/11/2016, Bing Li
45                  this.disposeMessage(notification);
46              }
47              catch (InterruptedException e)
48              {
49                  e.printStackTrace();
50              }

```

This is the existing thread!

# Could you show me a sample?

```
51     }
52     try
53     {
54         // Wait for a moment after all of the existing notifications are processed. 01/20/2016, Bing Li
55         this.holdOn(ServerConfig.NOTIFICATION_THREAD_WAIT_TIME);
56     }
57     catch (InterruptedException e)
58     {
59         e.printStackTrace();
60     }
61 }
62 }
63 }
```

List 3.4 The code of SetWeatherThread.java

This is the existing thread!

# Could you show me a sample?

```
1  package com.greatfree.testing.server;
2
3  import com.greatfree.concurrency.NotificationQueue;
4  import com.greatfree.testing.data.ServerConfig;
5  import com.greatfree.testing.message.TestNotification;
6
7  // Created: 03/15/2017, Bing Li
8  public class TestNotificationThread extends NotificationQueue<TestNotification>
9  {
10     /*
11      * Initialize the thread. 02/11/2016, Bing Li
12      */
13     public TestNotificationThread(int taskSize)
14     {
15         super(taskSize);
16     }
17 }
```

This is the thread you CPR!

# Could you show me a sample?

```
18  /*
19  * This is the kernel of the notification pattern that sets the weather instance
20  * concurrently. 02/11/2016, Bing Li
21  */
22  public void run()
23  {
24      TestNotification notification;
25      // The thread always runs until it is shutdown by the NotificationDispatcher. 02/11/2016, Bing Li
26      while (!this.isShutdown())
27      {
28          // Check whether the notification queue is empty. 02/11/2016, Bing Li
29          while (!this.isEmpty())
30          {
31              try
32              {
33                  // Dequeue the notification. 02/11/2016, Bing Li
34                  notification = this.getNotification();
35                  // Do something on your notification. 03/16/2017, Bing Li
36                  System.out.println(notification.getTestMessage());
37                  // Collect the resource kept by the notification. 02/11/2016, Bing Li
38                  this.disposeMessage(notification);
39              }
40              catch (InterruptedException e)
41              {
42                  e.printStackTrace();
43              }

```

This is the thread you CPR!

# Could you show me a sample?

```
44     }
45     try
46     {
47         // Wait for a moment after all of the existing notifications are processed. 01/20/2016, Bing Li
48         this.holdOn(ServerConfig.NOTIFICATION_THREAD_WAIT_TIME);
49     }
50     catch (InterruptedException e)
51     {
52         e.printStackTrace();
53     }
54 }
55 }
56 }
```

List 3.5 The code of TestNotificationThread.java after all of classes related to SetWeatherThread are removed

This is the thread you CPR!

# Could you show me a sample?

```
38 // Created: 09/20/2014, Bing Li
39 public class MyServerDispatcher extends ServerMessageDispatcher<ServerMessage>
40 {
41     // Declare a notification dispatcher to process the registration
42     // notification concurrently. 11/04/2014, Bing Li
43     private NotificationDispatcher<RegisterClientNotification, RegisterClientThread,
44         RegisterClientThreadCreator> registerClientNotificationDispatcher;
45     // Declare a request dispatcher to respond users sign-up requests
46     // concurrently. 11/04/2014, Bing Li
47     private RequestDispatcher<SignUpRequest, SignUpStream, SignUpResponse,
48         SignUpThread, SignUpThreadCreator> signUpRequestDispatcher;
49     // Declare a notification dispatcher to set the value of Weather when an instance of
50     // WeatherNotification is received. 02/15/2016, Bing Li
51     private NotificationDispatcher<WeatherNotification, SetWeatherThread,
52         SetWeatherThreadCreator> setWeatherNotificationDispatcher;
53     // Declare a request dispatcher to respond an instance of WeatherResponse to
```

This is the location you place  
your thread at the server side



# Could you show me a sample?

```

46 // concurrently. 11/04/2014, Bing Li
47 private RequestDispatcher<SignUpRequest, SignUpStream, SignUpResponse,
48     SignUpThread, SignUpThreadCreator> signUpRequestDispatcher;
49 // Declare a notification dispatcher to set the value of Weather when an instance of
50 // WeatherNotification is received. 02/15/2016, Bing Li
51 private NotificationDispatcher<WeatherNotification, SetWeatherThread,
52     SetWeatherThreadCreator> setWeatherNotificationDispatcher;
53 private NotificationDispatcher<TestNotification, TestNotificationThread,
54     TestNotificationThreadCreator> testNotificationDispatcher;
55 // Declare a request dispatcher to respond an instance of WeatherResponse to
56 // the relevant remote client when an instance of WeatherReques is received. 02/15/2016, Bing Li
57 private RequestDispatcher<WeatherRequest, WeatherStream, WeatherResponse,
58     WeatherThread, WeatherThreadCreator> weatherRequestDispatcher;
59 // Declare a notification dispatcher to deal with instances of InitReadNotification from
60 // "InitReadNotification" to the "InitReadNotificationThread"

```

Your code is placed at the server side by CPR as well!

# Could you show me a sample?

```
20  /*
21  * The class is an example that applies SynchRemoteEventer and AsyncRemoteEventer. 11/05/2014, Bing Li
22  */
23
24  // Created: 11/05/2014, Bing Li
25  public class ClientEventer
26  {
27      // Declare the ip of the remote server. 11/07/2014, Bing Li
28      private String ip;
29      // Declare the port of the remote server. 11/07/2014, Bing Li
30      private int port;
31      // The synchronous eventer to send the online notification. 11/07/2014, Bing Li
32      private SyncRemoteEventer<OnlineNotification> onlineEventer;
33      // The synchronous eventer to send the registering notification. 11/07/2014, Bing Li
34      private SyncRemoteEventer<RegisterClientNotification> registerClientEventer;
35      // The synchronous eventer to send the unregistering notification. 11/07/2014, Bing Li
36      private SyncRemoteEventer<UnregisterClientNotification> unregisterClientEventer;
37      // The asynchronous eventer to send one instance of WeatherNotification to the remote server
38      // to set the value of the weather. 02/15/2016, Bing Li
39      private AsyncRemoteEventer<WeatherNotification> weatherEventer;
40  }
```

Now the client!

# Could you show me a sample?

```
25 // Created: 11/05/2014, Bing Li
26 public class ClientEventer
27 {
28     // Declare the ip of the remote server. 11/07/2014, Bing Li
29     private String ip;
30     // Declare the port of the remote server. 11/07/2014, Bing Li
31     private int port;
32     // The synchronous eventer to send the online notification. 11/07/2014, Bing Li
33     private SyncRemoteEventer<OnlineNotification> onlineEventer;
34     // The synchronous eventer to send the registering notification. 11/07/2014, Bing Li
35     private SyncRemoteEventer<RegisterClientNotification> registerClientEventer;
36     // The synchronous eventer to send the unregistering notification. 11/07/2014, Bing Li
37     private SyncRemoteEventer<UnregisterClientNotification> unregisterClientEventer;
38     // The asynchronous eventer to send one instance of WeatherNotification to the remote server
39     // to set the value of the weather. 02/15/2016, Bing Li
40     private AsyncRemoteEventer<WeatherNotification> weatherEventer;
41
42     private AsyncRemoteEventer<TestNotification> testEventer;
43 }
```

Now the client is done by CPR!

# Could you show me a sample?

- For the limited pages, I cannot show you the details
- Anyway, you can taste that GreatFree must be a distinct and convenient approach
- Whether it will be classic, it depends on whether it gets other competitors
- Fortunately, until now, it is still distinguished

# What applications can we program with GreatFree?

- Any distributed applications on any scales
- According to the characters of applications
  - Chatting
  - E-commerce
  - Video
  - Storage
  - Search
  - Social networks

# What applications can we program with GreatFree?

- From the protocol's point of view
  - The messaging system
  - The streaming system
- Based on the volume of transmitted data
  - Heavyweight data systems
  - Lightweight data systems

# What applications can we program with GreatFree?

- With respect to the distributed models
  - The client/server (C/S) one
  - The peer-to-peer (P2P) one
- In accordance with the distributed topology
  - The centralized one
  - The decentralized one

# What applications can we program with GreatFree?

- From the scale's perspective
  - The small scale one
  - The large scale one
- Over the Internet
  - Stable systems
  - Churning systems



# What applications can we program with GreatFree?

- According to the difference degree of the computing power or behaviors within a particular system
  - The homogeneous one
  - The heterogeneous one
- Taking into account the social issues
  - The system dominated by social behaviors
  - The system controlled by machine algorithms only

# What applications can we program with GreatFree?

- In an extreme case, those properties can be merged together into one particular system
- For example, the one called, the globe-scale heterogeneous socialized distributed system
- I believe GreatFree can handle all of them by programming such that GreatFree is a generic programming tool for the domain of distributed systems

# What applications can we program with GreatFree?

- GreatFree believes that the following issues are crucial when programming distributed systems
  - Distributed concurrency
  - Distributed modeling
  - Distributed caching
  - Distributed multicasting
  - Distributed clustering
- So the APIs and the patterns need to cover them

# What APIs and patterns are proposed by GreatFree?

- GreatFree APIs
  - Communication
  - Serialization
  - Asynchronous & synchronous programming (concurrency programming)
  - Resource management
  - Distributed modeling

# What APIs and patterns are proposed by GreatFree?

- GreatFree APIs (continued)
  - Distributed caching
  - Distributed eventing
  - Distributed requesting/responding
  - Distributed multicasting
  - Distributed clustering

# What APIs and patterns are proposed by GreatFree?

- It needs to emphasize that GreatFree patterns are really code-level ones rather than an abstract model developers have to transform them into their real world systems
- Conventionally, code-level patterns are called idioms, which are the code that can be mimic in a straightforward manner, i.e., CPR

# What APIs and patterns are proposed by GreatFree?

- The distributed component idioms
  - The client
  - The server
  - The peer
  - The client on a cluster
  - The server on a cluster
  - The peer on a cluster

# What APIs and patterns are proposed by GreatFree?

- The distributed model idioms
  - The client/server model
  - The peer-to-peer model
  - The client/server chatting model
  - The peer-to-peer chatting model
  - The cluster model
  - The client/server model on clusters
  - The peer-to-peer model on clusters
  - The client/server chatting model on clusters
  - The peer-to-peer chatting model on clusters



# What APIs and patterns are proposed by GreatFree?

- The server side idioms
  - SP – The starting point
  - MS – The main server
  - SD – The server dispatcher
  - RD – The request dispatcher
  - ND – The notification dispatcher
  - BND – The bound notification dispatcher
  - BRD – the bound request dispatcher

# What APIs and patterns are proposed by GreatFree?

- The client side idioms
  - RR – The remote reader
  - RE – The remote eventer
  - CR – The cluster root
  - MN – The multicasting notifier
  - MR – The multicasting reader
  - CC – The cluster child
  - CBN – The child broadcasting notifier
  - CBR – The child broadcasting reader

# What APIs and patterns are proposed by GreatFree?

- In addition, although GreatFree provides many patterns, through which developers can CPR only if the the infrastructure meets their requirements, it does not cover all of them
- You can see the complexity of distributed application from the previous topic
- Fortunately, developers can program with existing APIs and patterns to generate new APIs and patterns that are compatible with the new environments

# Are there any other competitors against GreatFree?

- Until now, some programming languages are proposed to solve the distributed programming issues
  - Google Go
  - Scala
- However, their solutions are far from GreatFree
  - Go's main contribution is the concurrency
  - Scala is scalable to be extended

# How do you get such an idea to design the programming environment?

- I had no any plan to do that
- I decided to program the most complicated distributed system as mentioned previously, the globe-scale heterogeneous socialized distributed system years ago
- I believed that that was the alias of the Internet
- I got some fundamental new designs for the system

# How do you get such an idea to design the programming environment?

- To program such a system, I had to inject my new solutions such that I could not establish the system with the support of existing frameworks by scripting and configuring
- That means I had to program with generic programming languages to handle everything in the complicated computing environment

# How do you get such an idea to design the programming environment?

- After a long term to work on that, I got the system almost done
- Meanwhile, the APIs and patterns were proposed during the long procedure
- So, it is possible to program any distributed systems with such a tool

# Have you made any experiments with GreatFree?

- Yes, since I need to program the globe-scale heterogeneous socialized distributed system and the APIs and patterns were summarized during the procedure, the code is robust
- I always program with them since I have no other choices



# Have you made any experiments with GreatFree?

- So it is tested
- I need to keep doing that after the globe system is launched
- In addition, I have taught the class in my university for two months
- Nearly seventy students learned it
- Some of them practice it by programming systems, such as file sharing

# What is the next step of GreatFree?

- Until now, GreatFree is called a programming environment instead of a programming language
- So I decide to push the evolution such that GreatFree can be turned into a new language
- I notice that Scala is really scalable to be extended
- I might try to embed GreatFree into Scala first