Deumbrellization

Artur Sulej



Artur Sulej @ Fresha.com





Why?

- Independent applications
- Faster compile time
- Scalability
- Local development
- Less effort than e.g. gRPC

Umbrella

- Subapps
- One config
- Deps

```
todo_app
   apps
> config
  a.formatter.exs
  mix.exs
  oitignore.
  README.md
  mix.lock
```

```
# apps/todo_web/mix.exs
defp deps do
[
    {:todo, in_umbrella: true},
    # ...
]
end
```

Splitting

- Remove in_umbrella dependencies
- Separate configs
- Adjust mix.exs
- Set up communication

Communication

```
defmodule TodoWeb.TaskController do
    use TodoWeb, :controller

alias Todo.TodoLists

def index(conn, _params) do
    tasks = TodoLists.list_tasks()
    render(conn, "index.html", tasks: tasks)
end
```

We can't just invoke this code, because it's no longer available locally.

Nodes

- A node is an instance of the Erlang Virtual Machine.
- Nodes can communicate between each other.
- Together they form distributed system.

```
todo > iex --sname tomato -S mix
iex(tomato@MacBook-Pro-8)1> Node.list
[]
iex(tomato@MacBook-Pro-8)2> Node.connect(:"cucumber@MacBook-Pro-8")
true
iex(tomato@MacBook-Pro-8)3> Node.list
[:"cucumber@MacBook-Pro-8"]

todo_web > iex --sname cucumber -S mix
iex(cucumber@MacBook-Pro-8)1> Node.list
[]
iex(cucumber@MacBook-Pro-8)2> Node.list
[]
iex(cucumber@MacBook-Pro-8)2> Node.list
[:"tomato@MacBook-Pro-8"]
```

libcluster

A library that provides a mechanism for automatically forming clusters of nodes.

```
defmodule TodoWeb.Application do
 @moduledoc false
 use Application
 @impl true
 def start(_type, _args) do
   topologies = [
     local_epmd:
       strategy: Cluster.Strategy.LocalEpmd
   children = [
      {Cluster.Supervisor, [topologies, [name: TodoWeb.ClusterSupervisor]]},
     # ...
   opts = [strategy: :one_for_one, name: TodoWeb.Supervisor]
   Supervisor.start_link(children, opts)
 end
end
```

:rpc

Erlang has a built-in library: rpc for remote calls.

```
iex(todo_web@MacBook-Pro-8)10> :rpc.call(:"deumbrellization-todo@MacBook-Pro-8",
Todo.TodoLists, :list_tasks, [])
[debug] QUERY OK source="tasks" db=0.7ms idle=542.5ms
SELECT t0."id", t0."description", t0."inserted_at", t0."updated_at" FROM "tasks"
AS t0 []
                                                                defmodule TodoWeb.TaskController do
4 :erpc.execute_call/4, at: erpc.erl:589
                                                                 use TodoWeb, :controller
  %{
                                                                 alias Todo. TodoLists
    __meta__: #Ecto.Schema.Metadata<:loaded, "tasks">,
                                                                 @node :"todo@MacBook-Pro-3"
    __struct__: Todo.TodoLists.Task,
    description: "Fix tap",
                                                                 def index(conn, _params) do
    id: 24,
                                                                   tasks = TodoLists.list tasks()
    inserted_at: ~N[2023-02-21 23:41:20],
                                                                   tasks = :rpc.call(@node, Todo.TodoLists, :list tasks, [])
    updated_at: ~N[2023-02-21 23:41:20]
                                                                   render(conn, "index.html", tasks: tasks)
                                                                 end
```

Syntactic sugar

```
defmodule RemoteCallMacro do
  defmacro remote(node_name, do: ast) do
    # {{:., [line: 10], [{:_aliases__, [line: 10], [:Todo, :TodoLists]}, :list_tasks]}, [], []}
    \{\{:., \_, [\{\_, \_, aliases\}, function_name]\}, \_, args\} = ast
    module = Module.concat(aliases)
    auote do
       :rpc.call(unquote(node_name), unquote(module), unquote(function_name), unquote(args))
    end
                                                    defmodule TodoWeb.TaskController do
  end
                                                     use TodoWeb, :controller
end
                                                      import RemoteCallMacro
                                                     @node Application.compile_env!(:todo_web, [:nodes, :todo, :short_name])
                                                     def index(conn, _params) do
                                                       tasks =
                                                         remote(@node) do
                                                          Todo.TodoLists.list_tasks()
                                                         end
                                                       render(conn, "index.html", tasks: tasks)
                                                      end
```

```
defmodule RemoteCallMacro do
  defmacro remote(node_short_name, do: ast) do
   {{:., _, [{_, _, aliases}, function_name]}, _, args} = ast
   module = Module.concqt(aliases)
    quote do
     node_name =
        Enum. find(Node.list(), fn node \rightarrow
          node ▷ Atom.to_string() ▷ String.split("@") ▷ hd() = unquote(node_short_name)
        end)
     node_name || raise "Error node not found: #{inspect(unquote(node_short_name))}"
      response = :rpc.call(node_name, unquote(module), unquote(function_name), unquote(args))
      case response do
        \{: badrpc, \_\} \rightarrow
          raise "Error calling node #{inspect(node_name)} via rpc: #{inspect(response)}"
        response →
          response
      end
    end
  end
end
```

Tests

Strategies:

- Running nodes
- Dummy implementation
- {:app, in_umbrella: true, only: [:test]}
- Extend macro and mock

Tests – mock

```
defmodule TodoWeb.TaskControllerTest do
 use TodoWeb, ConnCase
 describe "index" do
   test "lists all tasks", %{conn: conn} do
     Process.put(
       {Todo.TodoLists, :list_tasks, []},
          %{
            __struct__: Todo.TodoLists.Task,
           id: 5,
           description: "Do some stuff"
     conn = get(conn, Routes.task_path(conn, :index))
     assert html_response(conn, 200) =~ "Do some stuff"
   end
 end
end
```

```
defmodule RemoteCallMacro do
  defmacro remote(node_short_name, do: ast) do
   {{:., _, [{_, _, aliases}, function_name]}, _, args} = ast
   module = Module.concat(aliases)

if Mix.env() = :test do
   quote do
   Process.delete({unquote(module), unquote(function_name), unquote(args)})
   end
   else
   quote do
```

Why not?

- No isolation
- Elixir/Erlang only
- Not explicit
- Deumbrellization is not despaghettization

Resources

- Anton Mishchuk:
 https://medium.com/matic-insurance/designing-scalable-application-with-elixir-from-umbrella-project-to-distributed-system-42f28c7e62f1
- Karol Słuszniak: https://heyplay.io/blog/building-multiplayer-gaming-gamedev-platform-with-e
 lixir-phoenix-liveview-and-rust
- libcluster: https://github.com/bitwalker/libcluster
- Repo: https://github.com/Artur-Sulej/deumbrellization

