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Big Data System Engineering with Scala

Spring 2022

Assignment No. 7



Task

Web Crawler

- Implement the 3 'to be implemented' parts in *WebCrawler.scala*.
 1. `WebCrawler.wget.getURLs(ns: Node): Seq[Try[URL]]`
 2. `WebCrawler.wget(u: URL): Future[Seq[URL]]` for-comprehension
 3. `WebCrawler.wget(us: Seq[URL]): Future[Seq[Either[Throwable, Seq[URL]]]]`
- Implement the 2 'to be implemented' parts in *MonadOps.scala*
 1. `MonadOps.mapFuture`
 2. `MonadOps.sequence`
- [Optional] Suggestions on how to improve the web crawler

Task

Suggestions

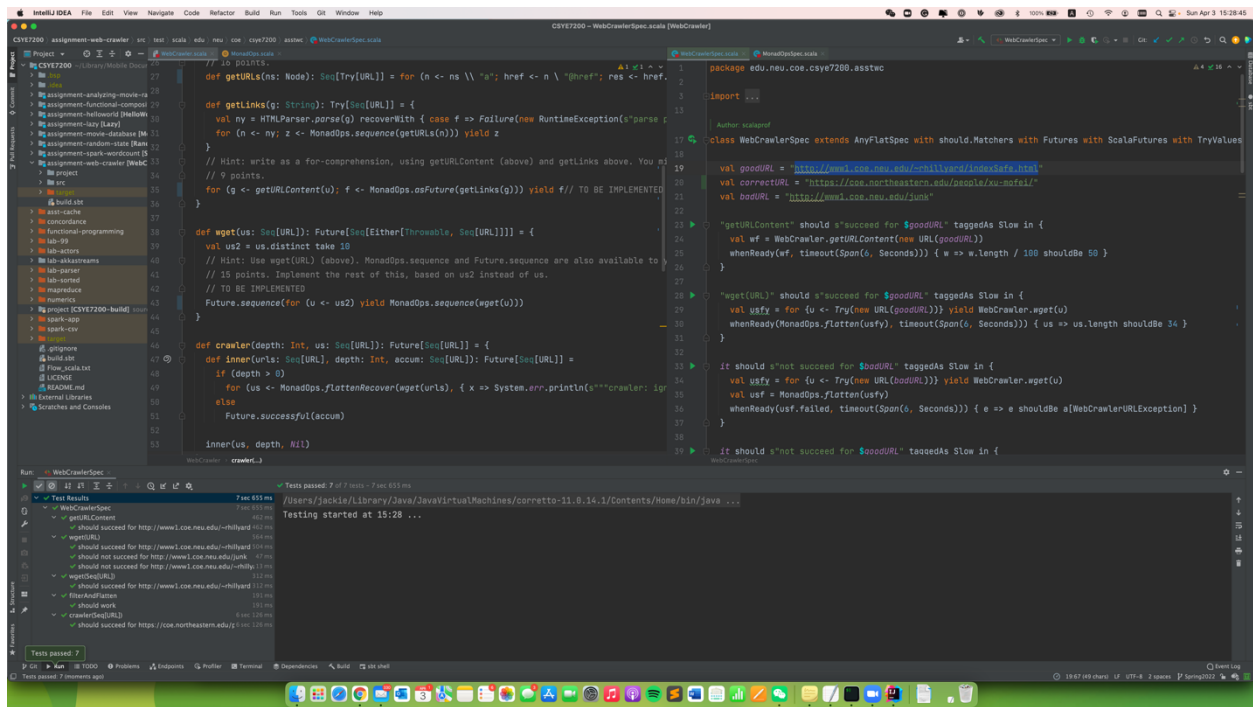
I suggest refactoring the code by embedding an open-source toolkit called *akka* and using *Apache Kafka* as a buffer and load distributor for the crawling jobs. Firstly, *Akka* provides multiple high-performance programming models for concurrency (e.g., actor-based concurrency). Secondly, it provides an asynchronous, non-blocking HTTP client that enables a high degree of parallelism while keeping resource requirements to a minimum. Moreover, thanks to its high-level encapsulation, the whole web-crawling process can be simplified. As a result, our code can be much more readable and easier to develop and maintain.

According to a case study of the improvement of *PayPal*'s web crawler. It shows that by using the *akka* toolkit, the performance has increased tenfold for the reason that *akka* uses a much lower number of threads and achieves an incredible CPU utilization rate of around 90%.

[*\(PayPal scales to billions of daily transactions with Scala and Akka Platform from Lightbend\)*](#)

Solution/Unit test (screenshot)

A. Unit Test



Project Source

<https://github.com/eikcaj16/CSYE7200/tree/Spring2022/assignment-web-crawler>