

Hope is postponed disappointment

November 19, 2023 – JSConf JP

Luca Mugnaini

Rakuten Group, Inc.



Hope is
postponed
disappointment



Luca Mugnaini



Landwasser Viaduct, Graubunden, Switzerland -
Photo by Susanne Jutzeler

<https://www.pexels.com/photo/17675783/>

(November 8, 2023)





JS

```
json = '{ "name": "John" }';
user = JSON.parse(json);
console.log("Hi " + user.name);
```

JavaScript

JS

```
json = '{ "name": "John" }';
user = JSON.parse(json);
console.log("Hi " + user.name);
```

JavaScript



• • •

```
{ "name": "John" } -> Hi John
```

JavaScript

JS

```
json = '{ "name": "John" }';
user = JSON.parse(json);
console.log("Hi " + user.name);
```

JavaScript



• • •

```
{ "name": "John" } -> Hi John
{ "n": "John" }      -> Hi undefined
```

JavaScript



Ricky
@rickhanlonii

...

JavaScript is everywhere



ALT

JavaScript

Source <https://twitter.com/rickhanlonii/status/1718735181538795750> (November 8, 2023)

```
json = '{ "name": "Jo';  
user = JSON.parse(json);  
console.log("Hi " + user.name);
```

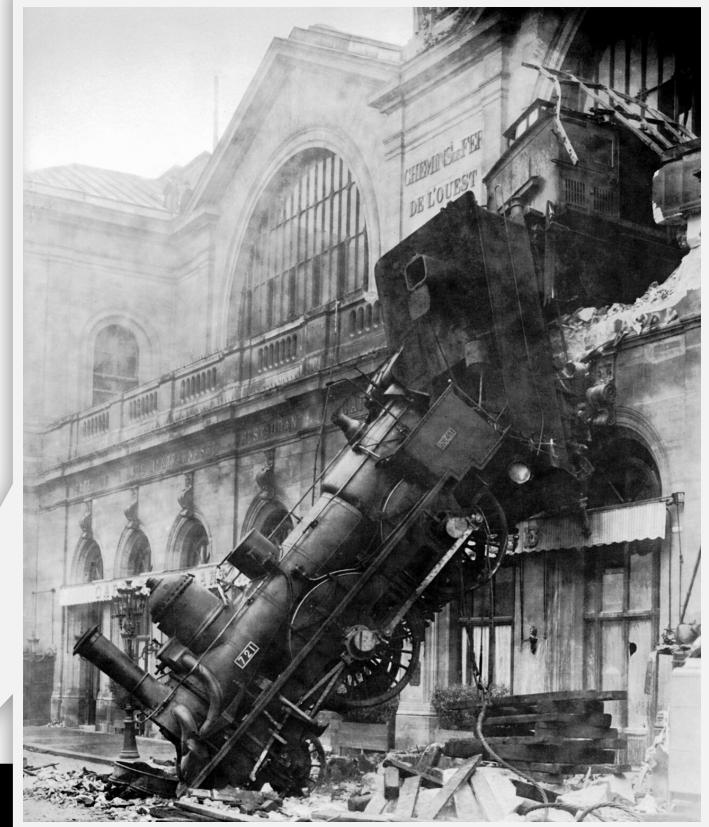
JS

JavaScript



```
{ "name": "John" } -> Hi John  
{ "n": "John" }      -> Hi undefined  
{ "name": "Jo"       -> Crashes with "SyntaxError: Unexpected end of JSON input"
```

JavaScript



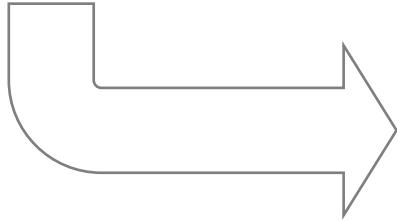
Handling errors requires discipline

Enhanced by disciplined developer



```
json = '{ "name": "John" }';
user = JSON.parse(json);
console.log("Hi " + user.name);
```

JavaScript



```
json = '{ "name": "John" }';
try {
    user = JSON.parse(json);
    if (!user.name) {
        throw new Error("Name is missing")
    }
    console.log("Hi " + user.name);
} catch(error) {
    console.log("Error: " + error.message);
}
```

JavaScript

Enhanced by disciplined developer



```
json = '{ "name": "John" }';
try {
    user = JSON.parse(json);
    if (!user.name) {
        throw new Error("Name is missing")
    }
    console.log("Hi " + user.name);
} catch(error) {
    console.log("Error: " + error.message);
}
```

JavaScript



```
{ "name": "John" } -> Hi John
```



JavaScript

Enhanced by disciplined developer



```
json = '{ "n": "John" }';
try {
    user = JSON.parse(json);
    if (!user.name) {
        throw new Error("Name is missing")
    }
    console.log("Hi " + user.name);
} catch(error) {
    console.log("Error: " + error.message);
}
```

JavaScript



```
{ "name": "John" } -> Hi John
{ "n": "John" }      -> Error: Name is missing
```



JavaScript

Enhanced by disciplined developer



```
json = '{ "name": "Jo';  
try {  
    user = JSON.parse(json);  
    if (!user.name) {  
        throw new Error("Name is missing")  
    }  
    console.log("Hi " + user.name);  
} catch(error) {  
    console.log("Error: " + error.message);  
}
```

JavaScript



```
{ "name": "John" } -> Hi John  
{ "n": "John" }      -> Error: Name is missing  
{ "name": "Jo"       -> Error: Unexpected end of JSON input
```

JavaScript

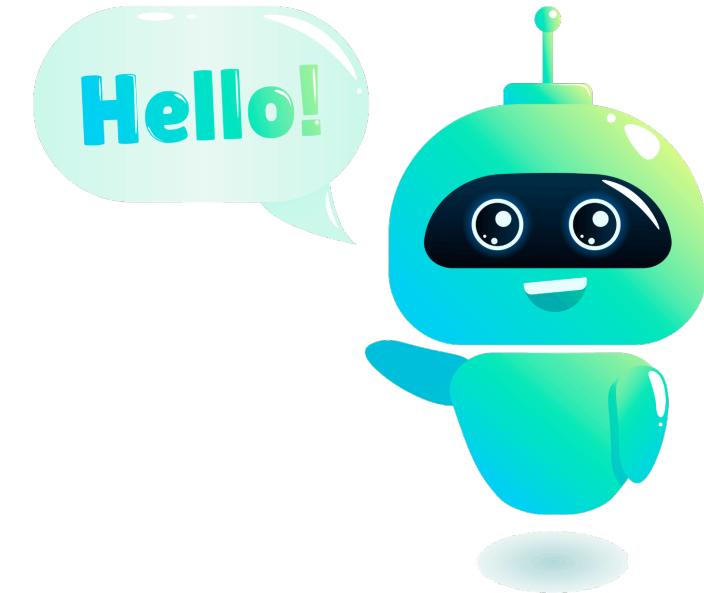


Can we replicate the **disciplined developers** with an assistant in the form of a **static type system compiler**?

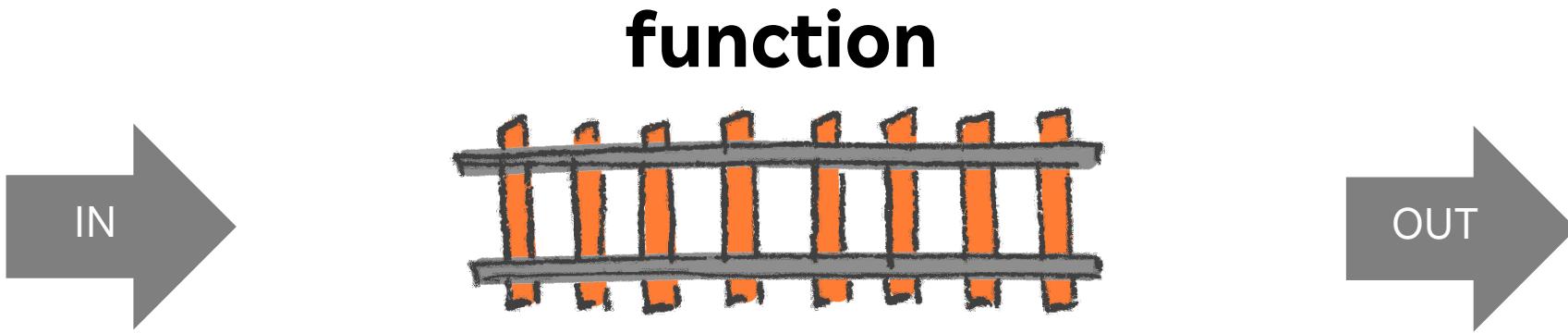


```
json = '{ "name": "Johm" }';
try {
    user = JSON.parse(json);
    if (!user.name) {
        throw new Error("Name is missing")
    }
    console.log("Hi " + user.name);
} catch(error) {
    console.log("Error: " + error.message);
}
```

JavaScript

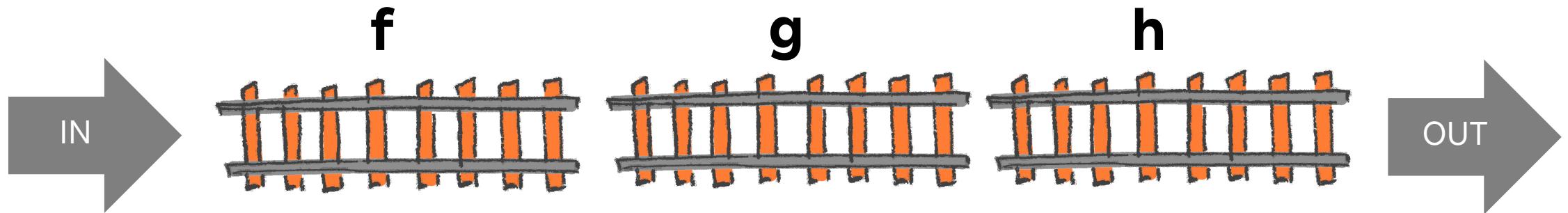


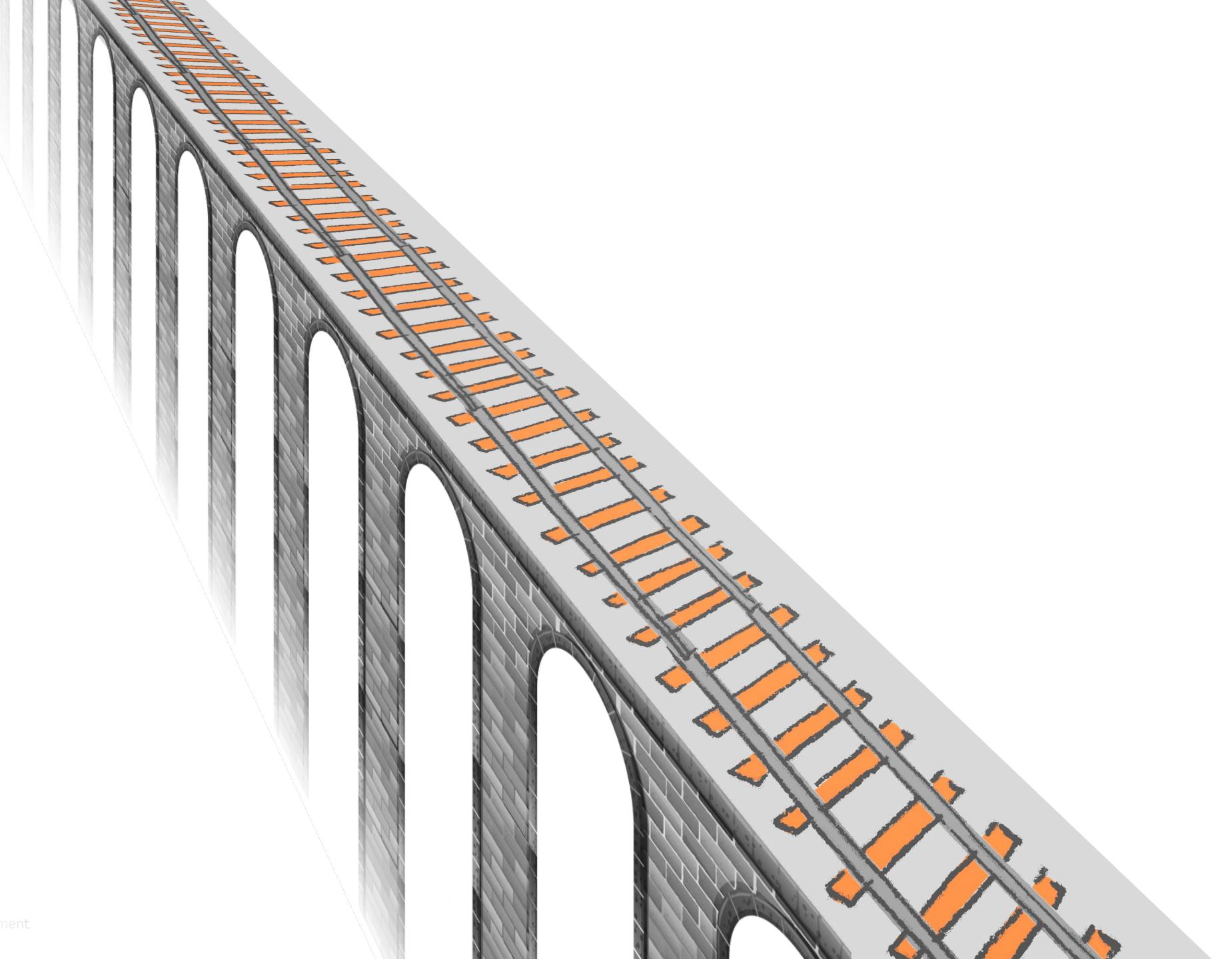
Railway Metaphor



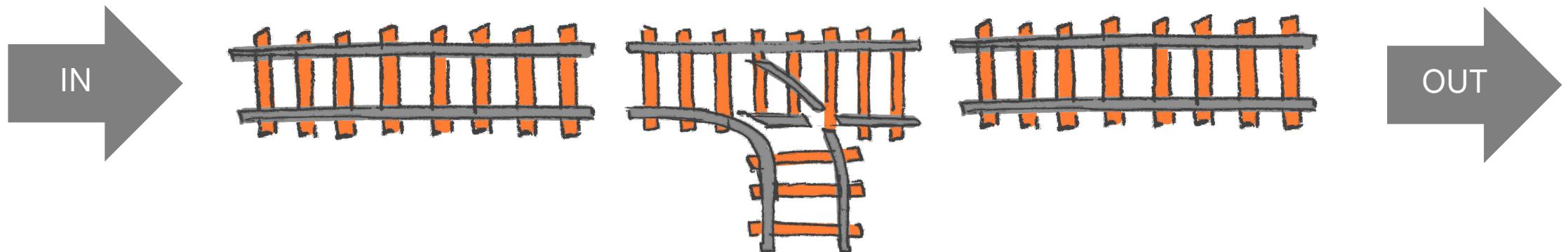
Railway Metaphor – Function composition

$$\text{OUT} = h(g(f(\text{IN})))$$



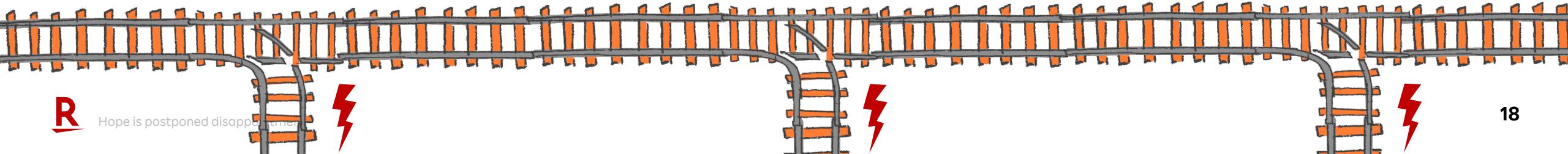


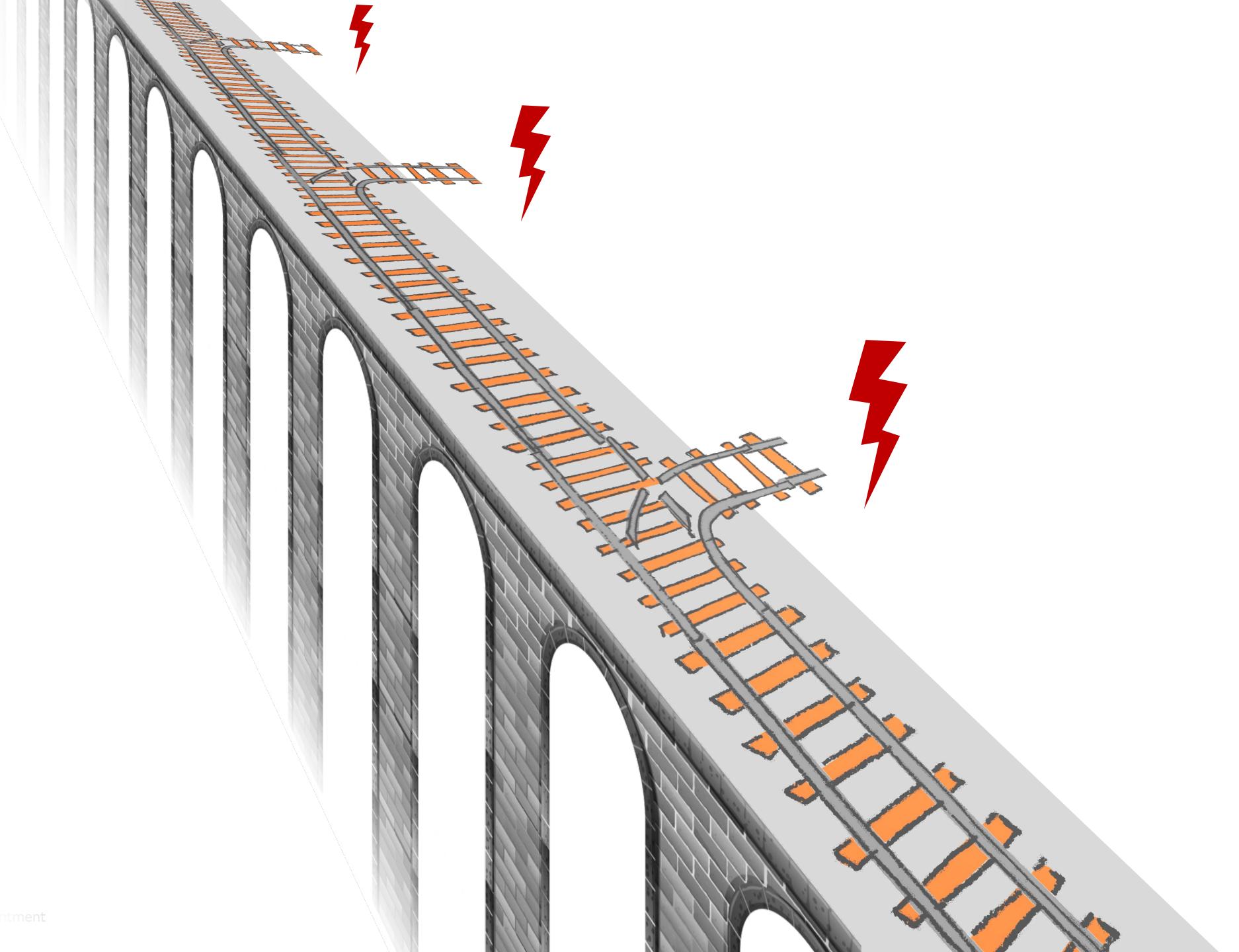
Throwing exceptions

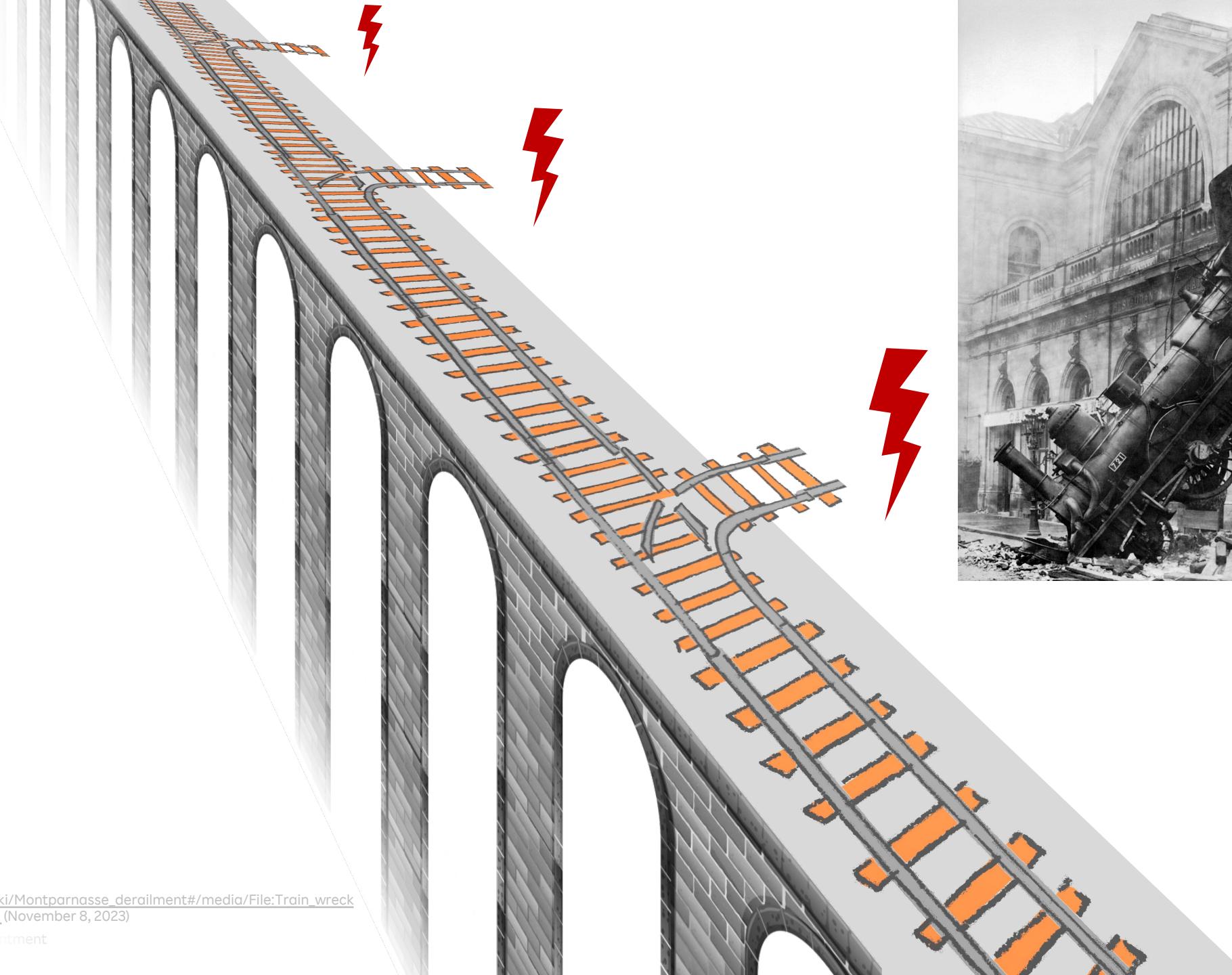


Throw an error is a side effect that derailing the flow from the main track.

We **hope** that someone will take care of the error down the line





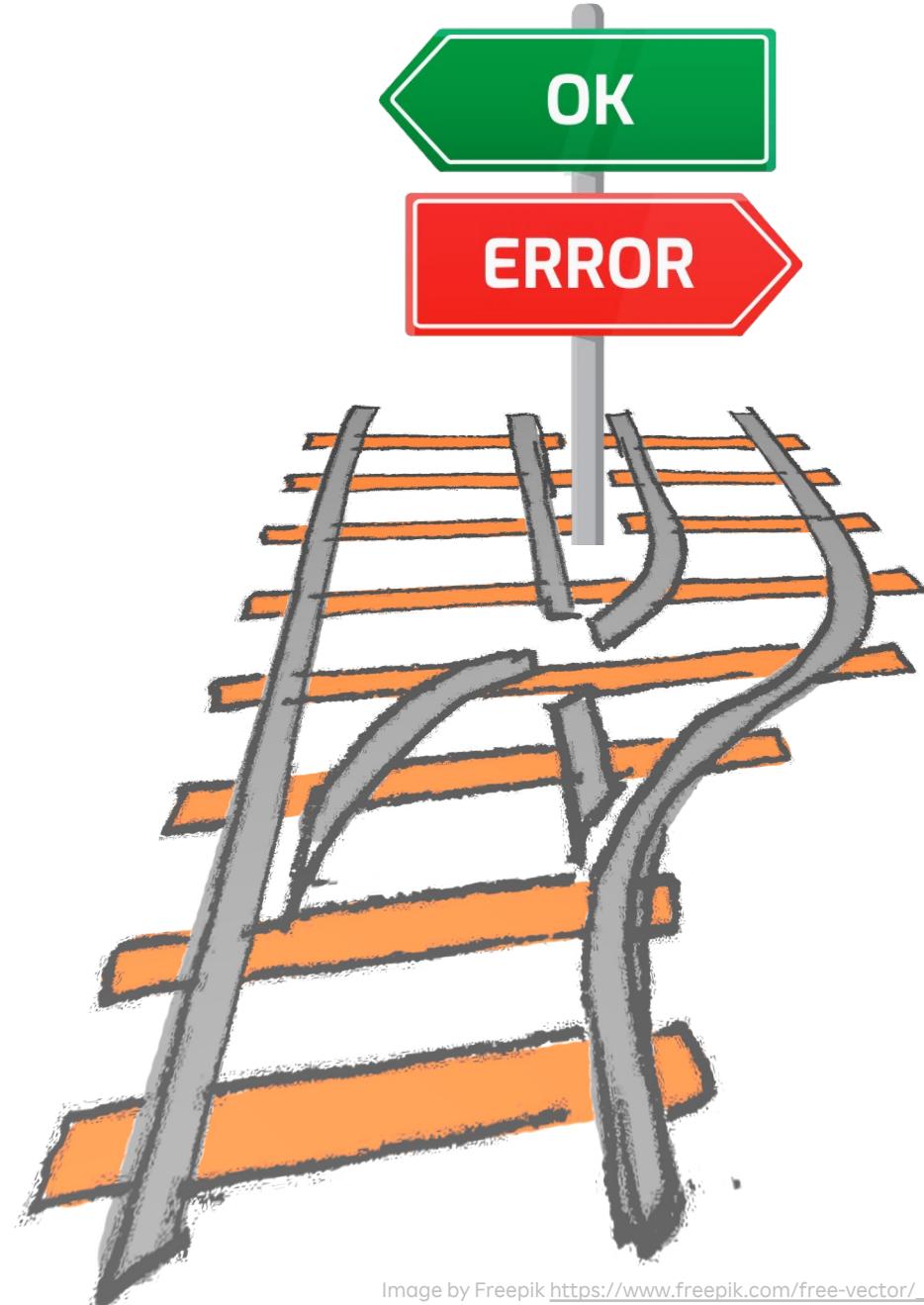


https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montparnasse_derailment#/media/File:Train_wreck_at_Montparnasse_1895.jpg (November 8, 2023)

Hope is postponed disappointment

The Result Type

A type holding an **ok value**
or an **error value**

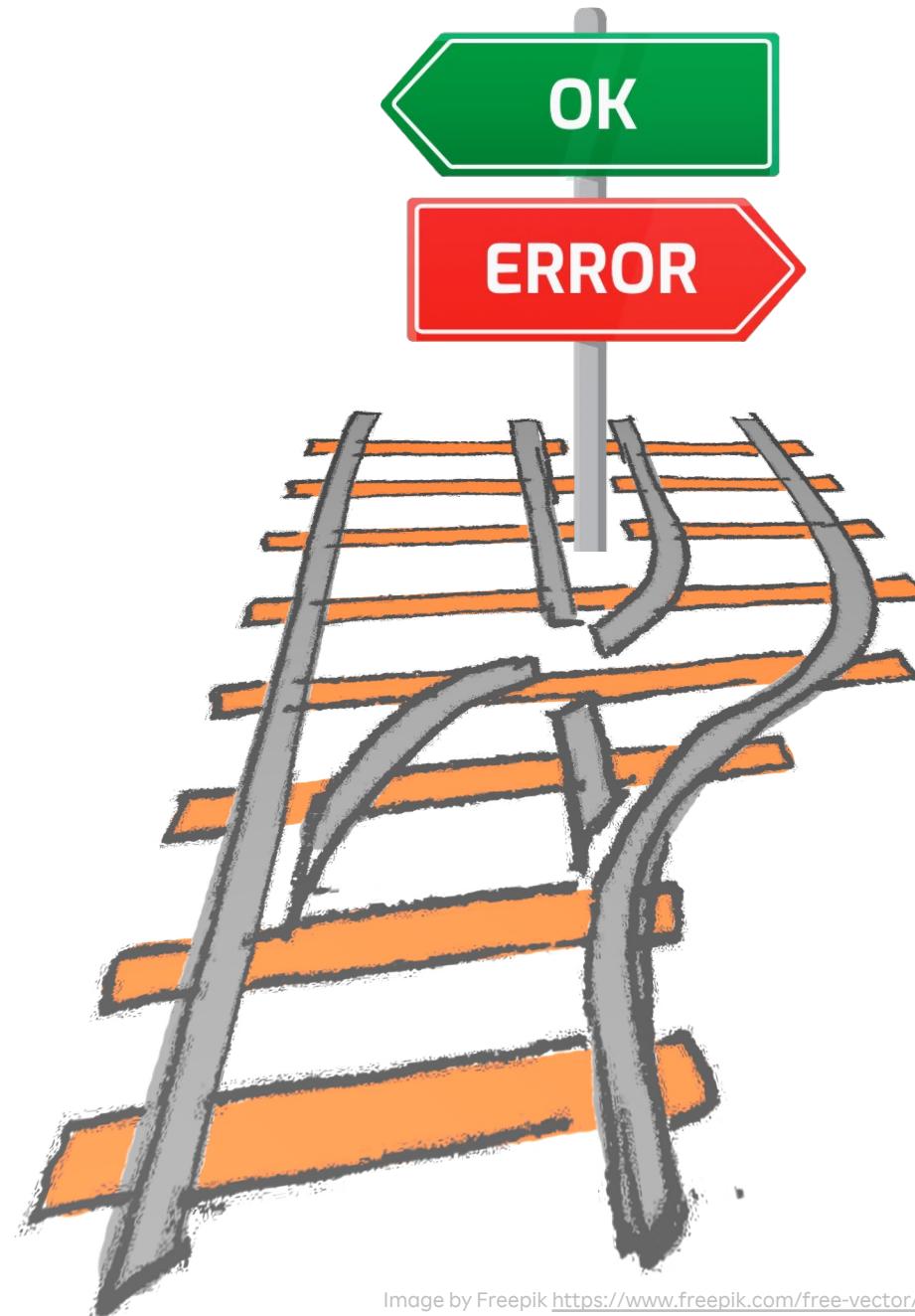
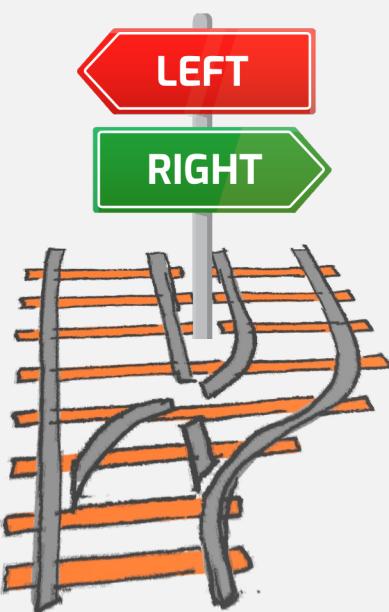


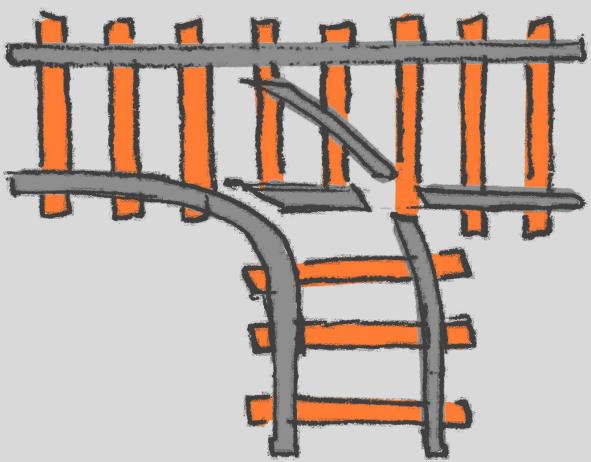
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A type holding an **ok value**
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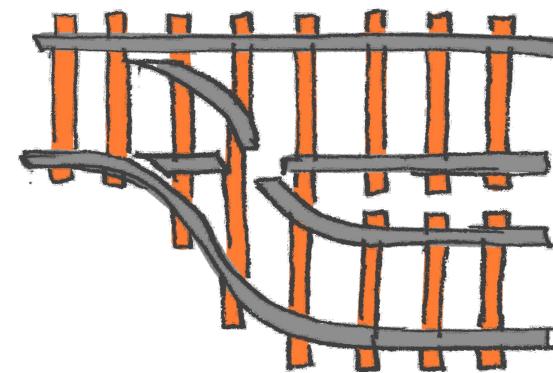
The Either Type





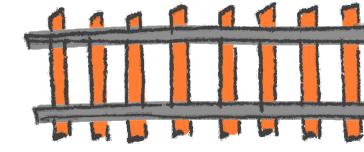
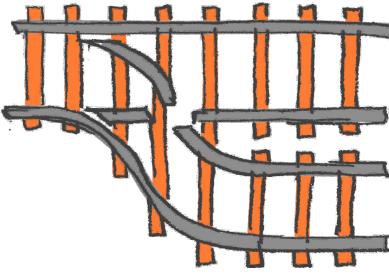
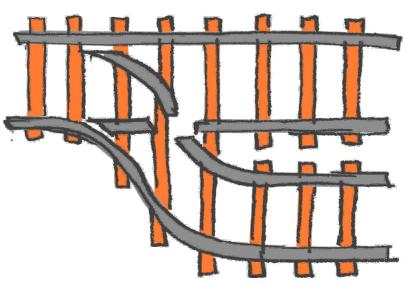
value

throw

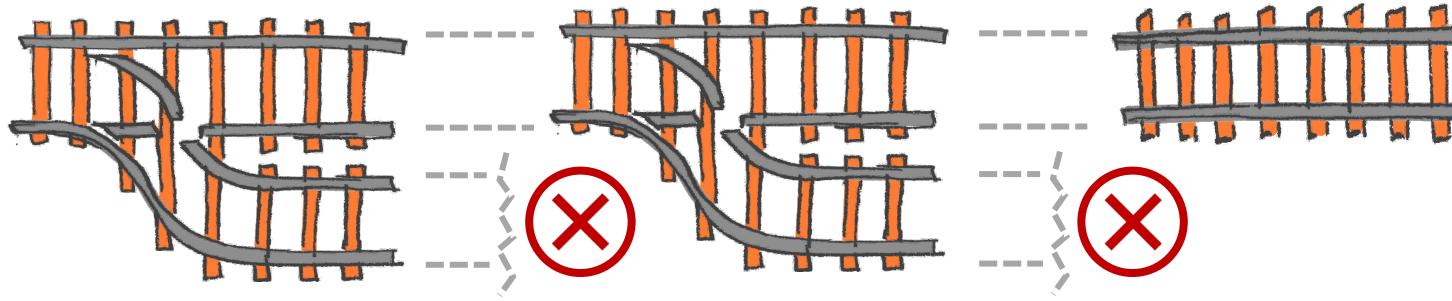


Ok value
Err error

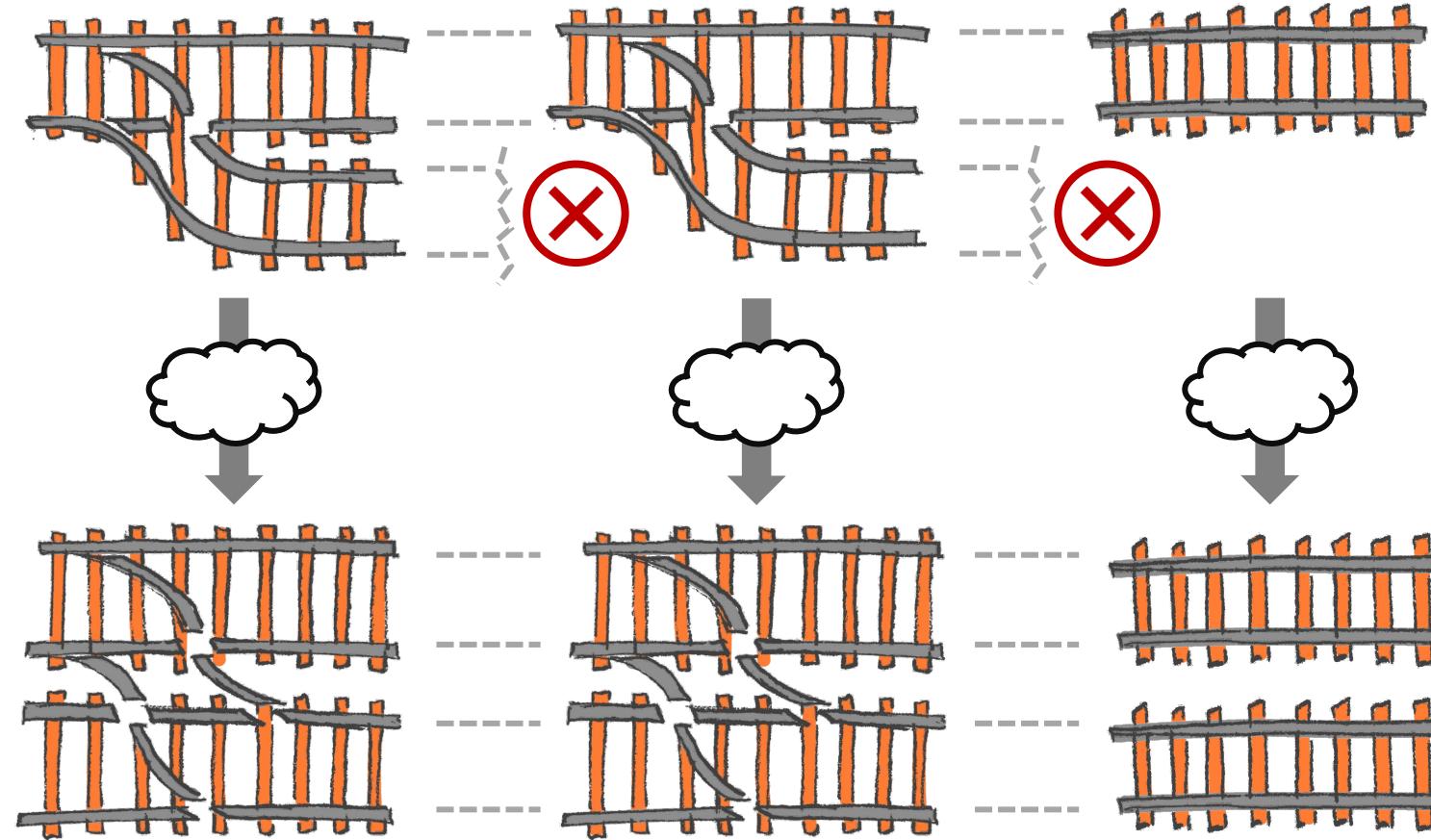
The Result Type - Composition



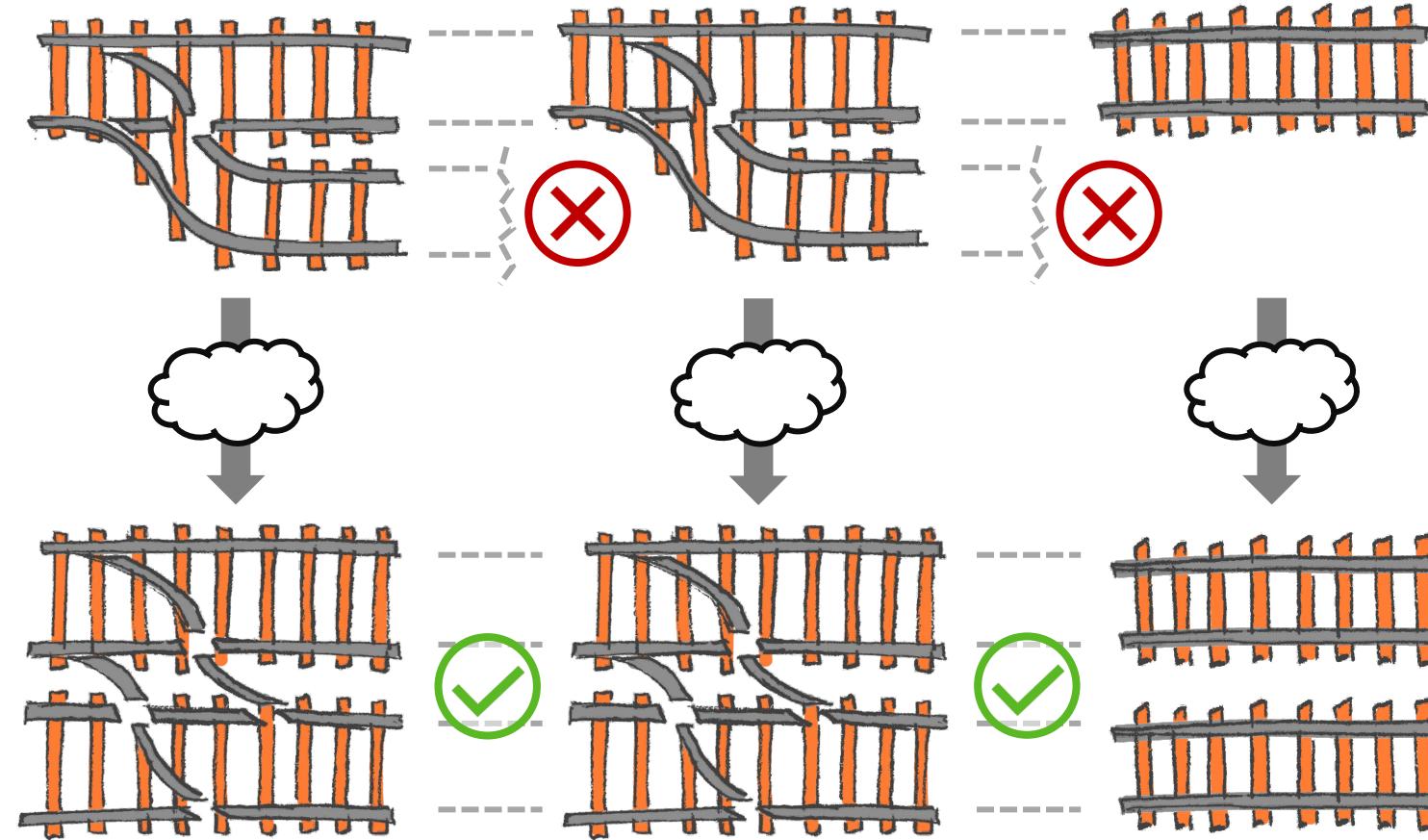
The Result Type - Composition

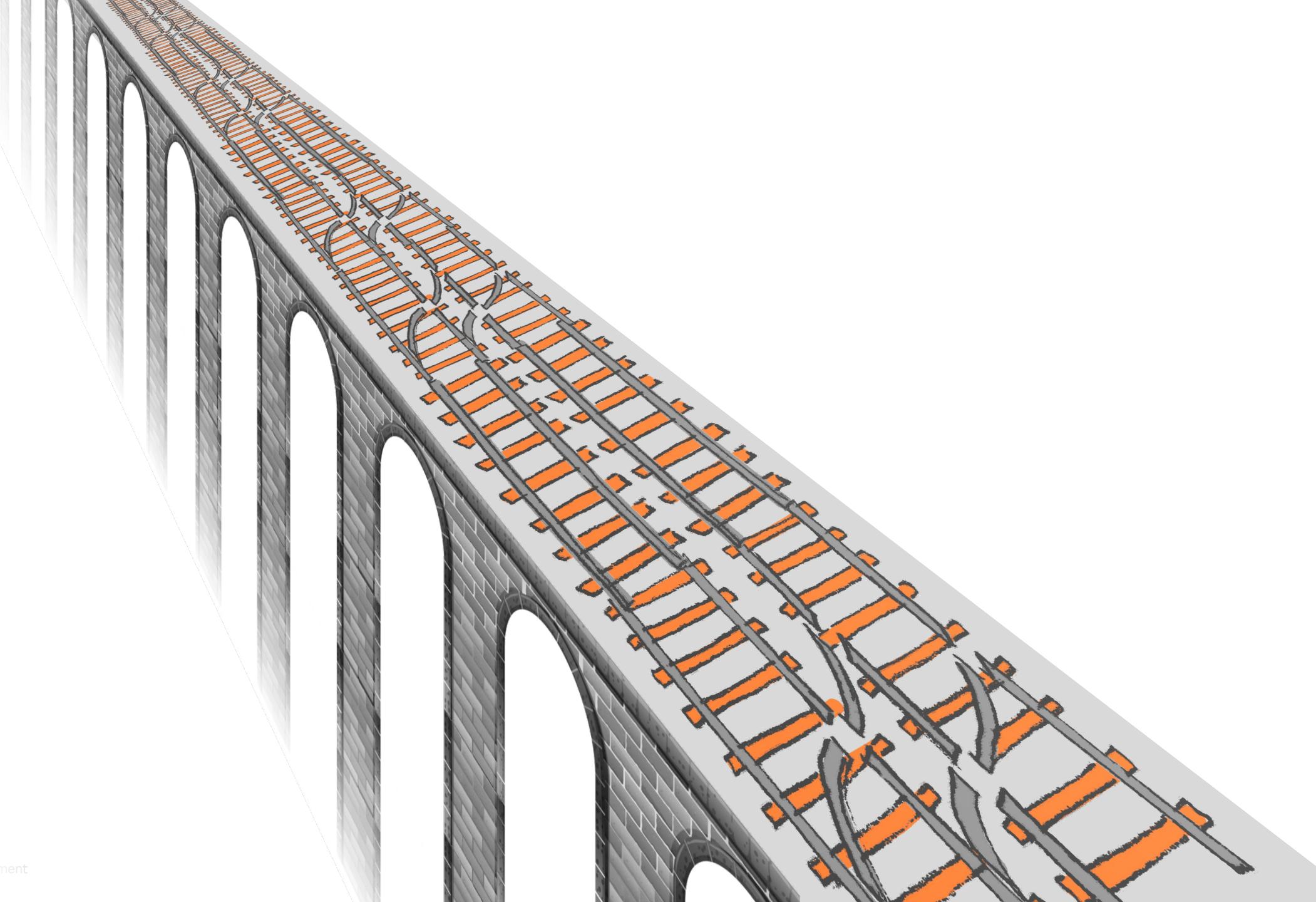


The Result Type - Composition



The Result Type - Composition





R

Hope is postponed disappointment

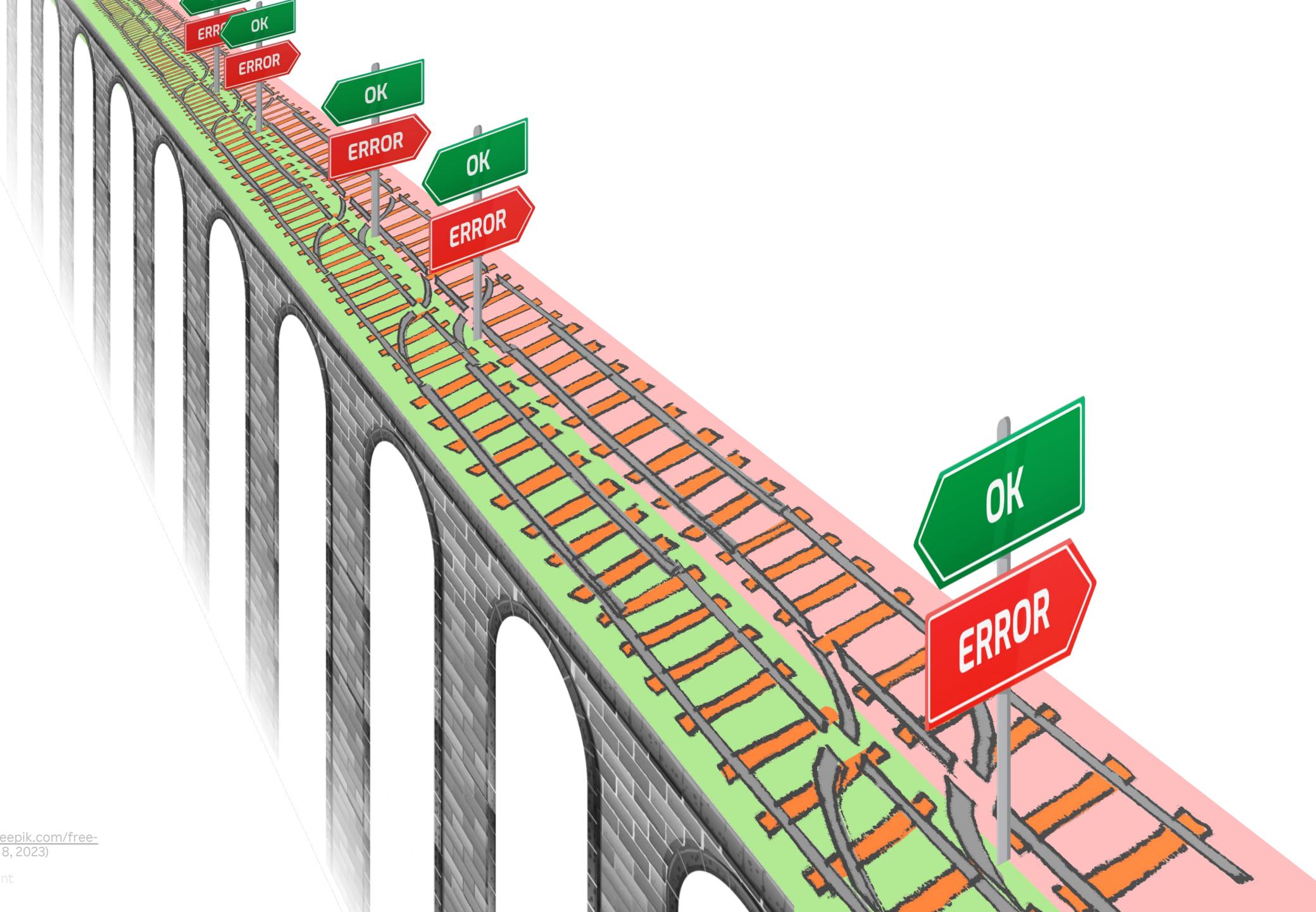
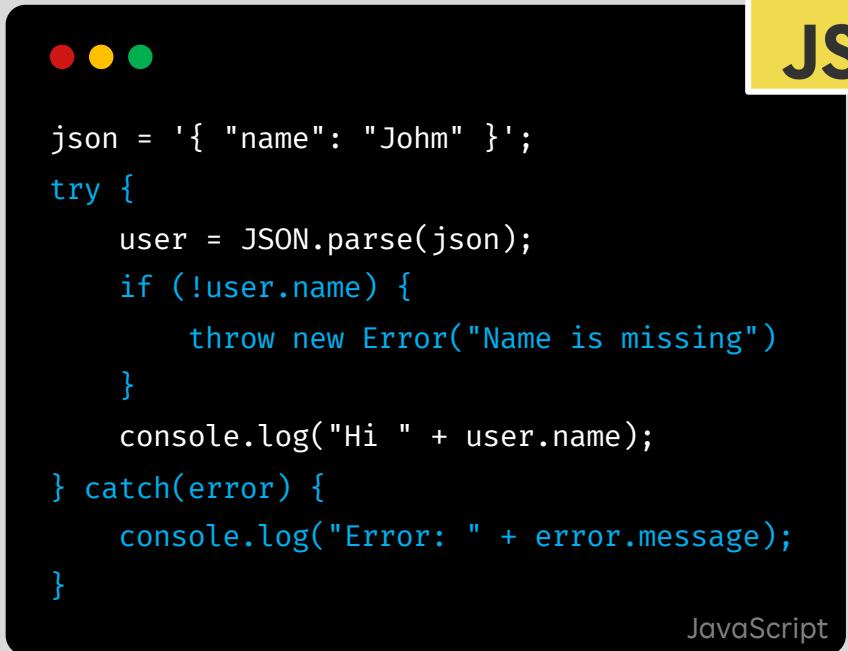


Image by Freepik https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/_1253756.htm (November 8, 2023)

R

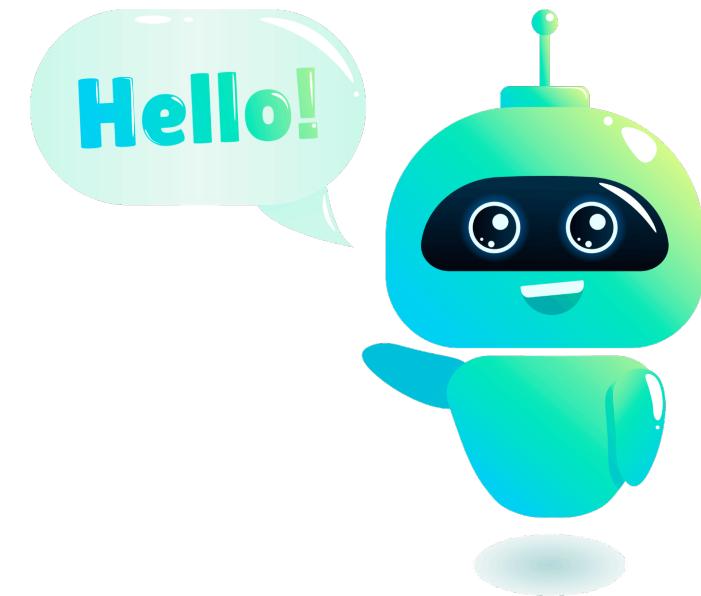
Hope is postponed disappointment

Can we replicate the **disciplined developers** with an assistant in the form of a **static type system compiler**?



```
json = '{ "name": "Johm" }';
try {
    user = JSON.parse(json);
    if (!user.name) {
        throw new Error("Name is missing")
    }
    console.log("Hi " + user.name);
} catch(error) {
    console.log("Error: " + error.message);
}
```

JavaScript



Using the Result type in Elm

HI! I'M THE
JSON PARSER AND
I CAN FAIL!



The analog of **JSON.parse()** in Elm returns a **Result Type** because it is a function that can fail

Using the returned value directly will cause a **type mismatch** error

Elm Compiler error:

This `user` value is a: **Result Error User**
But I need a record with a `name` field!



Robot graphic by svstudioart on Freepik https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/_13830698.htm (November 8, 2023)

Hope is postponed disappointment

Using the Result type in Elm

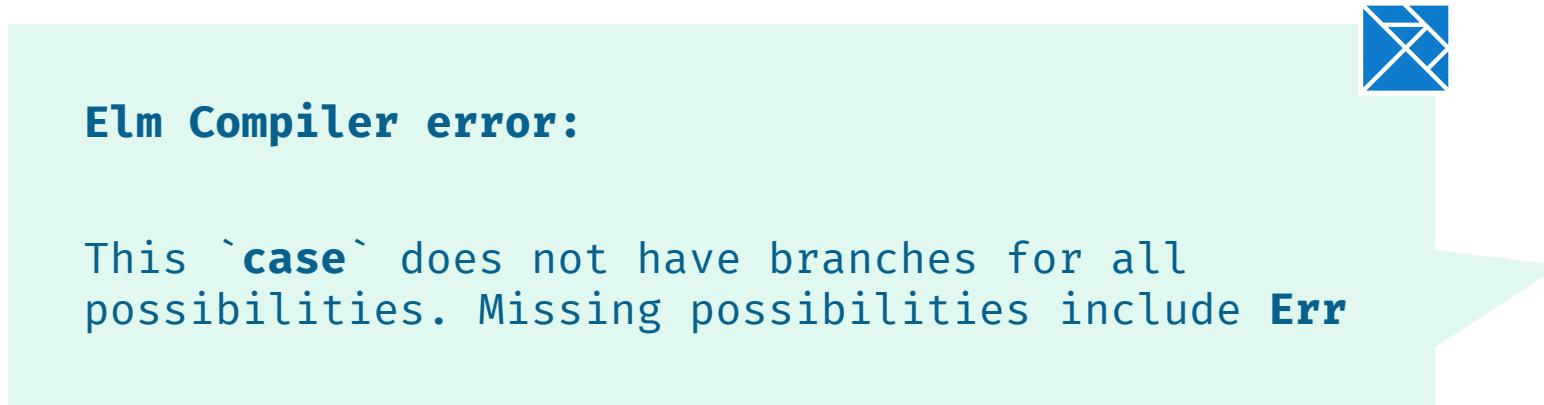
We need to unbox the returned value before using it (via pattern matching):



```
case result of
    Ok user -> text ("Hi " ++ user.name)
```

Elm

We forgot to consider the error case but `case...of` is an exhaustive switch statement so the code will not compile



Using the Result type in Elm

```
case result of
    Ok user -> text ("Hi " ++ user.name)
    Err error -> text ("Error: " ++ errorToString error)
```

Elm



The **ResultType** and the **compiler guided us** in the right direction, regardless our discipline level

From JavaScript to Elm, with the assistance of the compiler



JavaScript code:

```
json = '{ "name": "Johm" }';
try {
  user = JSON.parse(json);
  if (!user.name) {
    throw new Error("Name is missing")
  }
  console.log("Hi " + user.name);
} catch(error) {
  console.log("Error: " + error.message);
}
```

JavaScript



Elm code:

```
type alias User = { name : String }

parseJSON : String -> Result Error User
parseJSON =
  field "name" string |> map User |> decodeString

json = "{ \"name\": \"John\" }"
result = parseJSON json

main = case result of
  Ok user ->
    text ("Hi " ++ user.name)
  Err error ->
    text ("Error: " ++ errorToString error)
```

Elm

It looks good!

Let's try to achieve a similar result using the type system of TypeScript



The Result Type TypeScript (and other languages)



```
// TypeScript
type Result <E, T> = { tag: 'Ok'; value: T } | { tag: 'Err'; error: E }
```

TypeScript

The Result Type TypeScript (and other languages)



```
// TypeScript  
type Result <E, T> = { tag: 'Ok'; value: T } | { tag: 'Err'; error: E }
```



TypeScript



```
-- Elm  
type Result error value = Ok value | Err error
```



Elm



```
// Kotlin  
sealed class Result <out E, out T> {  
    data class Ok <T>(val value: T) : Result<Nothing, T>()  
    data class Err <E>(val error: E) : Result<E, Nothing>()  
}
```



Kotlin

From Elm to TypeScript



```
-- type Result error value = Ok value | Err error

type alias User = { name : String }

parseJSON : String -> Result Error User
parseJSON =
    field "name" string |> map User |> decodeString

json = "{ \"name\": \"John\" }"
result = parseJSON json

main = case result of
    Ok user ->
        text ("Hi " ++ user.name)

    Err error ->
        text ("Error: " ++ errorToString error)
```

Elm

```
type Result <Err, Ok> = { kind: 'Ok'; value: Ok } | { kind: 'Err'; error: Err };

type User = { name: string };

function parseJSON (json: string | undefined): Result <string, User> {
    try {
        if (json === undefined) {
            return { kind: 'Err', error: 'JSON is undefined' };
        }
        const user = JSON.parse(json) as User;
        if (!user || !user.name) {
            return { kind: 'Err', error: '"name" key is missing' };
        }
        return { kind: 'Ok', value: user };
    } catch (error) {
        return { kind: 'Err', error: `Invalid JSON ${error}` };
    }
}

const json = '{ "name": "John" }';
const result = parseJSON(json);

switch (result.kind) {
    case 'Ok':
        console.log("Hi " + result.value.name);
        break;
    case 'Err':
        console.log("Error: " + result.error);
        break;
    default:
        const exhaustiveCheck: never = result;
        break;
}
```

TypeScript



```
-- type Result error value = Ok value | Err error

type alias User = { name : String }

parseJSON : String -> Result Error User
parseJSON =
    field "name" string |> map User |> decodeString

json = "{ \"name\": \"John\" }"
result = parseJSON json

main = case result of
    Ok user ->
        text ("Hi " ++ user.name)

    Err error ->
        text ("Error: " ++ errorToString error)
```

Elm

```
type Result <Err, Ok> = { kind: 'Ok'; value: Ok } | { kind: 'Err'; error: Err };

type User = { name: string };

function parseJSON (json: string | undefined): Result <string, User> {
    try {
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        const user = JSON.parse(json) as User;
        if (!user || !user.name) {
            return { kind: 'Err', error: '"name" key is missing' };
        }
        return { kind: 'Ok', value: user };
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    }
}

const json = '{ "name": "John" }';
const result = parseJSON(json);

switch (result.kind) {
    case 'Ok':
        console.log("Hi " + result.value.name);
        break;
    case 'Err':
        console.log("Error: " + result.error);
        break;
    default:
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}
```

TypeScript





```
-- type Result error value = Ok value | Err error

type alias User = { name : String }

parseJSON : String -> Result Error User
parseJSON =
    field "name" string |> map User |> decodeString
```

BE CAREFUL,
I CAN FAIL!



```
json = "{ \"name\": \"John\" }"
result = parseJSON json

main = case result of
    Ok user ->
        text ("Hi " ++ user.name)

    Err error ->
        text ("Error: " ++ errorToString error)
```

Elm



```
type Result <Err, Ok> = { kind: 'Ok'; value: Ok } | { kind: 'Err'; error: Err };

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    try {
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        }
        const user = JSON.parse(json) as User;
        if (!user || !user.name) {
            return { kind: 'Err', error: '"name" key is missing' };
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        return { kind: 'Ok', value: user };
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    }
}
```

```
const json = '{ "name": "John" }';
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    case 'Ok':
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        break;
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        console.log("Error: " + result.error);
        break;
    default:
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```

TypeScript



```
-- type Result error value = Ok value | Err error

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parseJSON : String -> Result Error User
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json = "{ \"name\": \"John\" }"
result = parseJSON json

main = case result of
    Ok user ->
        text ("Hi " ++ user.name)

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```

Elm



```
type Result <Err, Ok> = { kind: 'Ok'; value: Ok } | { kind: 'Err'; error: Err };

type User = { name: string };

function parseJSON (json: string | undefined): Result <string, User> {
    try {
        if (json === undefined) {
            return { kind: 'Err', error: 'JSON is undefined' };
        }
        const user = JSON.parse(json) as User;
        if (!user || !user.name) {
            return { kind: 'Err', error: '"name" key is missing' };
        }
        return { kind: 'Ok', value: user };
    } catch (error) {
        return { kind: 'Err', error: `Invalid JSON ${error}` };
    }
}

const json = '{ "name": "John" }';
const result = parseJSON(json);

switch (result.kind) {
    case 'Ok':
        console.log("Hi " + result.value.name);
        break;
    case 'Err':
        console.log("Error: " + result.error);
        break;
    default:
        const exhaustiveCheck: never = result;
        break;
}
```

TypeScript



```
-- type Result error value = Ok value | Err error

type alias User = { name : String }

parseJSON : String -> Result Error User
parseJSON =
    field "name" string |> map User |> decodeString
```

```
json = "{ \"name\": \"John\" }"
result = parseJSON json
```

```
main = case result
  Ok user ->
    text ("Hi " ++ user.name)
  Err error ->
    text ("Error: " ++ error.message)
```

TypeScript Compiler error:

Property '**value**' does not exist on type
'Result<string, User>'

```
type Result <Err, Ok> = { kind: 'Ok'; value: Ok } | { kind: 'Err'; error: Err };

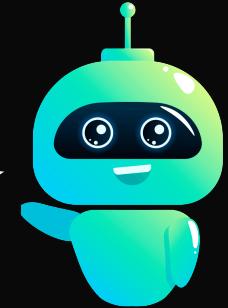
type User = { name: string };

function parseJSON (json: string | undefined): Result <string, User> {
    try {
        const user = JSON.parse(json);
        if ('name' in user) {
            return { kind: 'Ok', value: user };
        }
    } catch (error) {
        return { kind: 'Err', error: `Invalid JSON ${error}` };
    }
}

const json = '{ "name": "John" }';
const result = parseJSON(json);
```

Elm Compiler error:

This `user` value is a: **Result Error User**
But I need a record with a `name` field!



TS



TypeScript



```
-- type Result error value = Ok value | Err error

type alias User = { name : String }

parseJSON : String -> Result Error User
parseJSON =
    field "name" string |> map User |> decodeString
```

```
json = "{ \"name\": \"John\" }"
result = parseJSON json
```

```
main = case result
  Ok user ->
    text ("Hi " ++ user.name)
  Err error ->
    text ("Error: " ++ error.message)
```

TypeScript Compiler error:

Type '{ kind: "Err"; error: string; }' is not assignable to type 'never'.



Robot graphic by svstudioart on Freepik https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/_13830698.htm (November 8, 2023)

Hope is postponed disappointment



```
type Result <Err, Ok> = { kind: 'Ok'; value: Ok } | { kind: 'Err'; error: Err };
```

```
type User = { name: string };
```

```
function parseJSON (json: string | undefined): Result <string, User> {
  try {
```

Elm Compiler error:

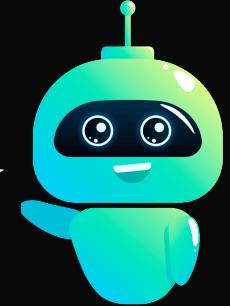
This `case` does not have branches for all possibilities. Missing possibilities include **Err**

```
} catch (error) {
  return { kind: 'Err', error: `Invalid JSON ${error}` };
}
}
```

```
const json = '{ "name": "John" }';
const result = parseJSON(json);
```



TypeScript



```

type alias User = { name : String }

parseJSON : String -> Result Error User
parseJSON =
    field "name" string |> map User |> decodeString

json = "{ \"name\": \"John\" }"
result = parseJSON json

main = case result of
    Ok user ->
        text ("Hi " ++ user.name)

    Err error ->
        text ("Error: " ++ errorToString)

```



It looks good!



Elm

```

type Result <Err, Ok> = { kind: 'Ok'; value: Ok } | { kind: 'Err'; error: Err }

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function parseJSON (json: string | undefined): Result <string, User> {
    try {
        if (json === undefined) {
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        const user = JSON.parse(json) as User;
        if (!user || !user.name) {
            return { kind: 'Err', error: '"name" key is missing' };
        }
        return { kind: 'Ok', value: user };
    } catch (error) {
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    }
}

const json = '{ "name": "John" }';
const result = parseJSON(json);

switch (result.kind) {
    case 'Ok':
        console.log("Hi " + result.value.name);
        break;
    case 'Err':
        console.log("Error: " + result.error);
        break;
    default:
        const exhaustiveCheck: never = result;
        break;
}

```

TS

It looks good too!



Do we need to rewrite all our functions?

No, only the one that fail



```
const multiplyBy = (a: number, b: number): number => {
    return a * b;
}
```

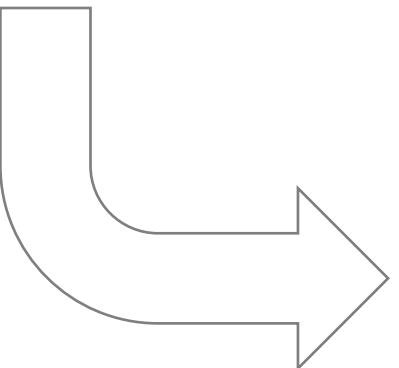
```
const divideBy = (a: number, b: number): number => {
    return { tag: 'Ok', value: b / a };
}
```



TS

```
const multiplyBy = (a: number, b: number): number => {
    return a * b;
}
```

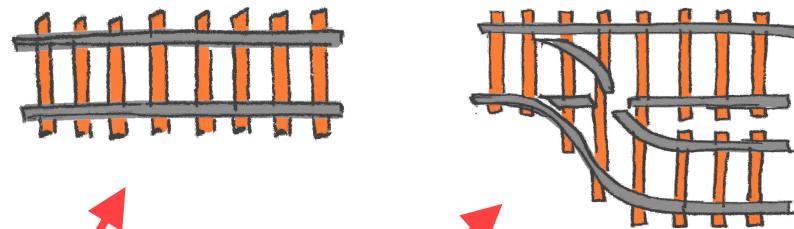
```
const divideBy = (a: number, b: number): number => {
    return { tag: 'Ok', value: b / a };
}
```



R

Hope is postponed disappointment

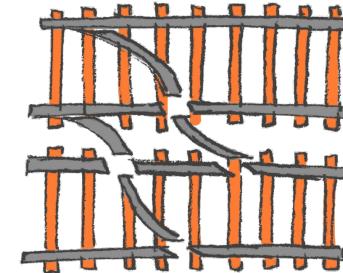
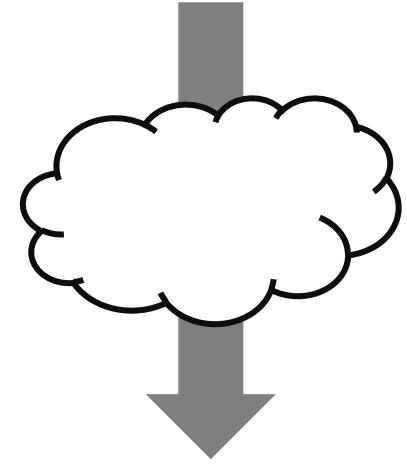
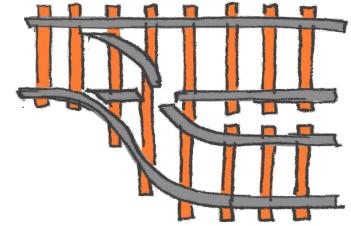
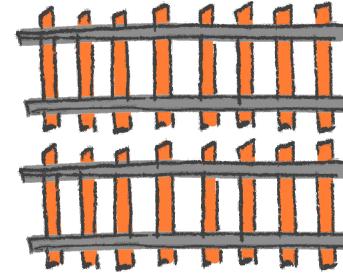
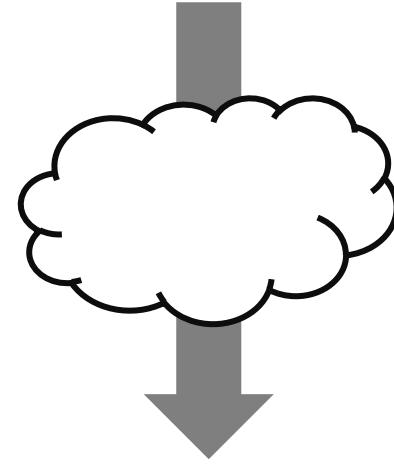
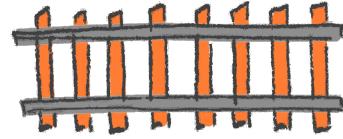
48



```
const multiplyBy = (a: number, b: number): number => {
    return a * b;
}

const divideBy = (a: number, b: number): Result<string, number> => {
    if (a === 0) {
        return { tag: 'Err', error: 'Divided by 0' };
    } else {
        return { tag: 'Ok', value: b / a };
    }
}
```

The Result Type - Helpers



The Result Type - Helpers



```
map : (a -> b) -> Result x a -> Result x b
map callback result =
  case result of
    Err err -> Err err
    Ok value -> Ok (callback value)
```



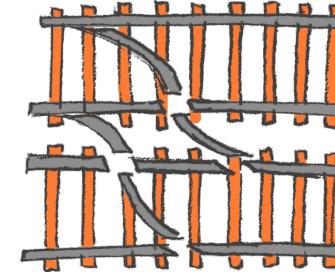
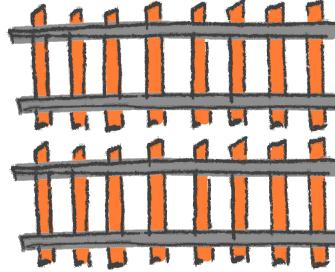
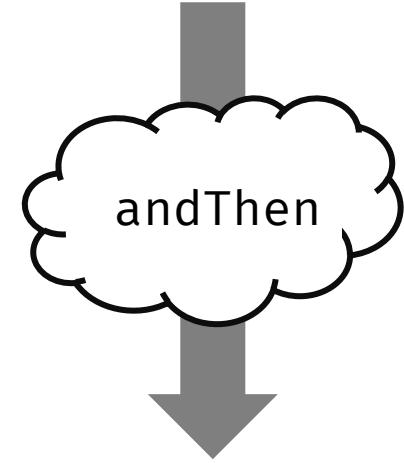
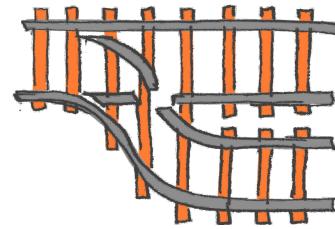
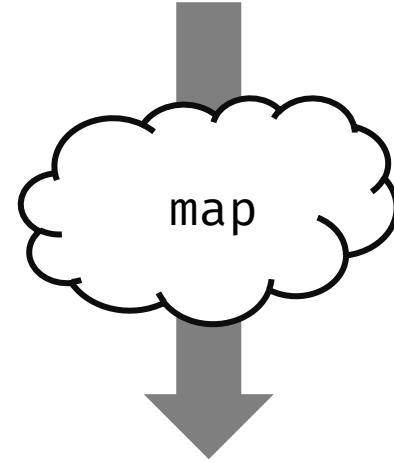
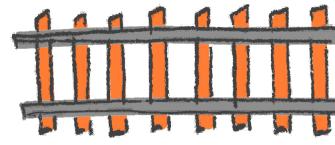
Elm



```
andThen : (a -> Result x b) -> Result x a -> Result x b
andThen callback result =
  case result of
    Err err -> Err err
    Ok value -> callback value
```



Elm



The Result Type - Helpers



```
map : (a -> b) -> Result x a -> Result x b
map callback result =
  case result of
    Err err  -> Err err
    Ok value -> Ok (callback value)
```



Elm

TS

```
function map<X, A, B>(callback: (value: A) => B, result: Result...):
  switch (result.tag) {
    case 'Err': return { tag: 'Err', error: result.error };
    case 'Ok' : return { tag: 'Ok', value: callback(result.value) };
  }
}
```

TypeScript



```
andThen : (a -> Result x b) -> Result x a -> Result x b
andThen callback result =
  case result of
    Err err  -> Err err
    Ok value -> callback value
```



Elm

TS

```
function andThen<X, A, B>(callback: (value: A) => Result<X, B>...):
  switch (result.tag) {
    case 'Err': return { tag: 'Err', error: result.error };
    case 'Ok' : return callback(result.value);
  }
}
```

TypeScript

9 / 3 * 10 / 5 * 2

9 / 3 * 10 / 5 * 2

TS

```
total =  
  map ( res =>  
multiplyBy ( 2, res ),  
andThen ( res => divideBy  
( 5, res ), map ( res =>  
multiplyBy ( 10, res ),  
andThen ( res => divideBy  
( 3, res ), { tag: 'Ok',  
value: 9 } ) ) );
```

9 / 3 * 10 / 5 * 2

TS

```
total =  
  map ( res =>  
    multiplyBy ( 2, res ),  
    andThen ( res => divideBy  
      ( 5, res ), map ( res =>  
        multiplyBy ( 10, res ),  
        andThen ( res => divideBy  
          ( 3, res ), { tag: 'Ok',  
            value: 9 } ) ) );
```

TS

```
total =  
  map ( res => multiplyBy ( 2, res ),  
    andThen ( res => divideBy ( 5, res ),  
      map ( res => multiplyBy ( 10, res ),  
        andThen ( res => divideBy ( 3, res ),  
          {tag: 'Ok', value: 9 } )));
```

Partial application



TS

```
multiplyBy = (a: number, b: number): number => a * b;  
// multiplyBy( 3, 2 ) -> 6
```



TS

```
const multiplyBy = (a: number) => (b: number): number => a * b;  
// multiplyBy( 3 ) -> function: b => 3 * b  
// multiplyBy( 3 )( 2 ) -> 6
```

$$9 \ / \ 3 \ * \ 10 \ / \ 5 \ * \ 2$$

TS

```
total =  
  map ( res =>  
    multiplyBy ( 2, res ),  
    andThen ( res => divideBy  
      ( 5, res ), map ( res =>  
        multiplyBy ( 10, res ),  
        andThen ( res => divideBy  
          ( 3, res ), { tag: 'Ok',  
            value: 9 } ) ) ) );
```

TS

```
total =  
  map ( res => multiplyBy ( 2, res ),  
    andThen ( res => divideBy ( 5, res ),  
      map ( res => multiplyBy ( 10, res ),  
        andThen ( res => divideBy ( 3, res ),  
          {tag: 'Ok', value: 9 } )) );
```

TS

```
total =  
  map ( multiplyBy ( 2 ) )(  
    andThen ( divideBy ( 5 ) )(  
      map ( multiplyBy ( 10 ) )(  
        andThen ( divideBy ( 3 ) )(  
          {tag: 'Ok', value: 9 } )) );
```

9 / 3 * 10 / 5 * 2



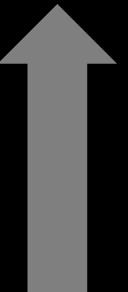
total =
 map (multiplyBy (2))(
 andThen (divideBy (5))(
 map (multiplyBy (10))(
 andThen (divideBy (3))(
 { tag: 'Ok', value: 9 }))));



9 / 3 * 10 / 5 * 2



total =
 map (multiplyBy (2))(
 andThen (divideBy (5))(
 map (multiplyBy (10))(
 andThen (divideBy (3))(
 { tag: 'Ok', value: 9 }))));



proposal-pipeline-operator
Pipe Operator (|>) for JavaScript
Stage 2
<https://github.com/tc39/proposal-pipeline-operator>
(November 8, 2023)



proposal-partial-application
Partial Application for JavaScript
Stage 1
<https://github.com/tc39/proposal-partial-application>
(November 8, 2023)



The syntax is the paradigm

A diagram illustrating the transformation of a complex chain of map and andThen operations into a simplified pipe operator expression. On the left, a dark gray box contains the original code:

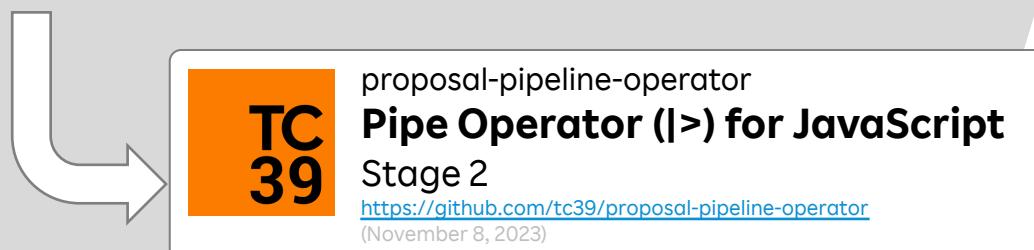
```
total =  
  map ( multiplyBy ( 2 ) )(  
    andThen ( divideBy ( 5 ) )(  
      map ( multiplyBy ( 10 ) )(  
        andThen ( divideBy ( 3 ) )(  
          { tag: 'Ok', value: 9 } ))));
```

An upward-pointing arrow originates from the bottom of this code and points towards a blue square containing the letters "TS".

A diagram illustrating the resulting simplified pipe operator expression. On the right, a dark gray box contains the transformed code:

```
total =  
  0k 9  
  | > andThen ( divideBy 3 )  
  | > map ( multiplyBy 10 )  
  | > andThen ( divideBy 5 )  
  | > map ( multiplyBy 2 )
```

A downward-pointing arrow originates from the bottom of this code and points towards a yellow smiley face icon.



Third-party Libraries



For Elm

Built in the language



For TypeScript

- `NeverThrow`
- `ts-toolbelt`
- `ts-results`
- `purify-ts`
- `fp-ts`



For Kotlin

- `Arrow`
- `kotlin-result`
- `result4k`

The Result Type

A type holding an **ok value** or an **error value**

A way to **manage errors using the type system** without throwing exceptions, possibly **improving both the DX and the UX**.

code available at



[github.com
/lucamug/hope](https://github.com/lucamug/hope)



Hope is postponed disappointment

Photo by Johannes Hofmann on Unsplash
[https://unsplash.com/photos/approaching-red-train-
across-mountains-PM5a_R83-YQ](https://unsplash.com/photos/approaching-red-train-across-mountains-PM5a_R83-YQ)
(November 8, 2023)



Rakuten