

# Sexy async code without await?

A first look into Project Loom in Java

# What is this talk about?



- Blocking vs. non-blocking APIs
- Thread per request vs. event loop
- Callbacks and Futures?
- What is async/await?
- What is the blue/red world problem?
- Project Loom = *async/await* in Java?

# About

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Developer @ Senacor

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# *Chapter 1*

Threads and what is a  
blocking call?



# Super Duper Bank

“super duper product“:

- Giro account
- Savings account

Boss B. “The Boss” Bossy



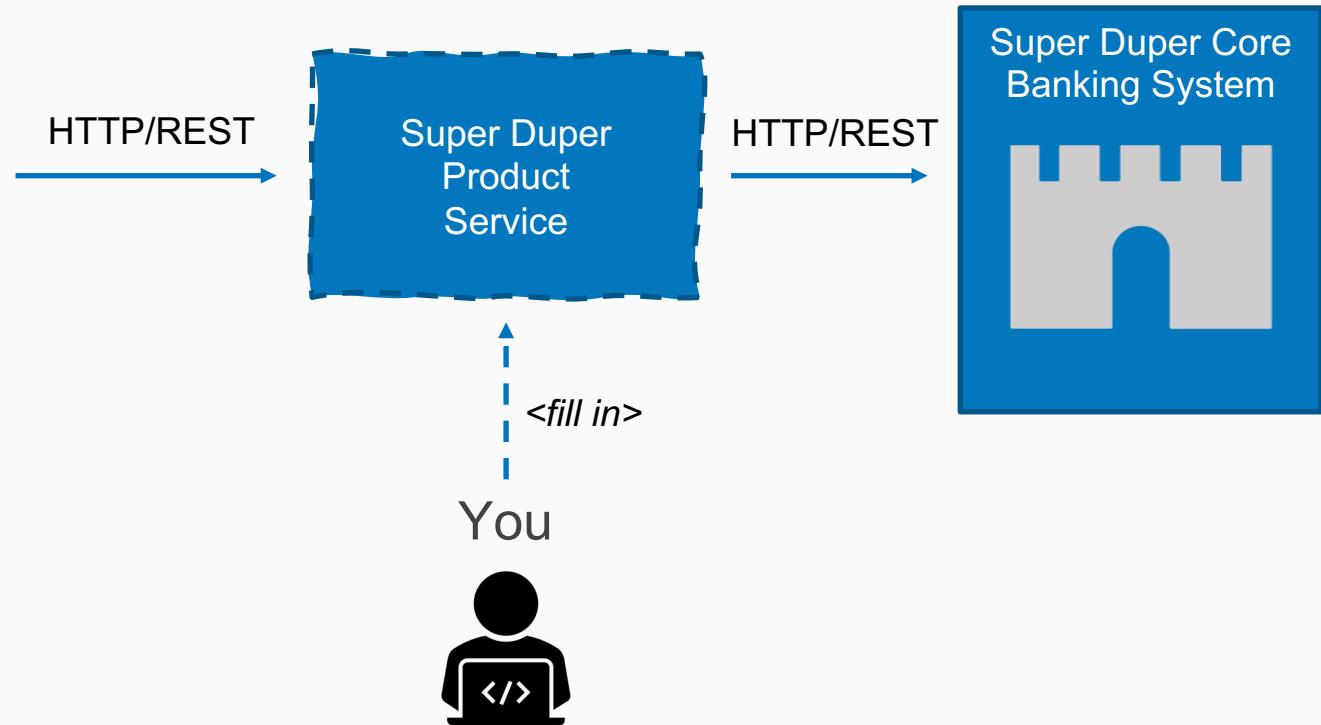
>



You



# Super Duper Bank



Spring Initializr x +

start.spring.io

≡  **spring initializr** ☰

**Project**  Maven Project  Java  Kotlin  
 Gradle Project  Groovy

**Spring Boot**  
 2.4 (SNAPSHOT)  2.3.1 (SNAPSHOT)  2.3.0  
 2.2.8 (SNAPSHOT)  2.2.7  
 2.1.15 (SNAPSHOT)  2.1.14

**Project Metadata**

Group com.superduperbank

Artifact superduperproduct-server

Name superduperproduct-server

Description Super Duper Product Server

Package name com.superduperbank.superduperproduct-server

Packaging  Jar  War

Java  14  11  8

**Dependencies** ADD ... ⌘ + B

**Spring Web** WEB  
Build web, including RESTful, applications using Spring MVC. Uses Apache Tomcat as the default embedded container.

  GENERATE ⌘ + ↵ EXPLORE CTRL + SPACE SHARE...



```
package com.superduperbank.superduperproduct.sync;

/**
 * The core banking system of the super duper bank
 */
public interface BankingApi {
    /**
     * Creates a customer for the super duper bank
     *
     * @param name name of the customer
     * @return the created customer
     * @throws BankingApiException
     */
    Customer createCustomer(String name) throws BankingApiException;

    /**
     * Creates an account for a customer of the super duper bank
     *
     * @param customer the customer for which the account is created
     * @param accountType type of account, currently supported: giro or savings
     * @return the created account
     * @throws BankingApiException
     */
    Account createAccount(Customer customer, String accountType) throws BankingApiException;
}
```



spring-boot-server – superduperproduct/accounts/AccountsController.java [spring-boot-server.main]

```
package com.superduperbank.superduperproduct.sync;

import org.springframework.beans.factory.annotation.Autowired;
import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.PostMapping;
import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.RestController;

@RestController
public class AccountsController {
    @Autowired
    BankingApiClient bankingApiClient;

    @PostMapping("/super-duper-product")
    String createSuperDuperProduct() {
        try {
            Customer customer = bankingApiClient.createCustomer(name: "Maxi Mustermann");
            Account giro = bankingApiClient.createAccount(customer, accountType: "giro");
            Account savings = bankingApiClient.createAccount(customer, accountType: "savings");
            return String.format("Successfully created super duper product for you:\nYour customer number is %d\nYour giro account number is %d\nYour savings account number is %d", customer.getId(), giro.getIban(), savings.getIban());
        } catch (BankingApiException e) {
            e.printStackTrace();
            return "We cannot create the product for you right now, please come back later.";
        }
    }
}
```

```
λ ~ curl -XPOST localhost:8080/super-duper-product
Successfully created super duper product for you:
Your customer number is: 1
Your giro account is: AT48321957377948380
Your savings account is: AT48321957377948381
λ ~ █
```

Isteinbrecher (zsh) ⌘1 deno-server (deno) ⚡ ⌘2 +



# Super Duper Bank

*How many customers  
can we serve?*

Boss B. “The Boss” Bossy



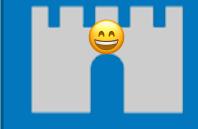
>

You

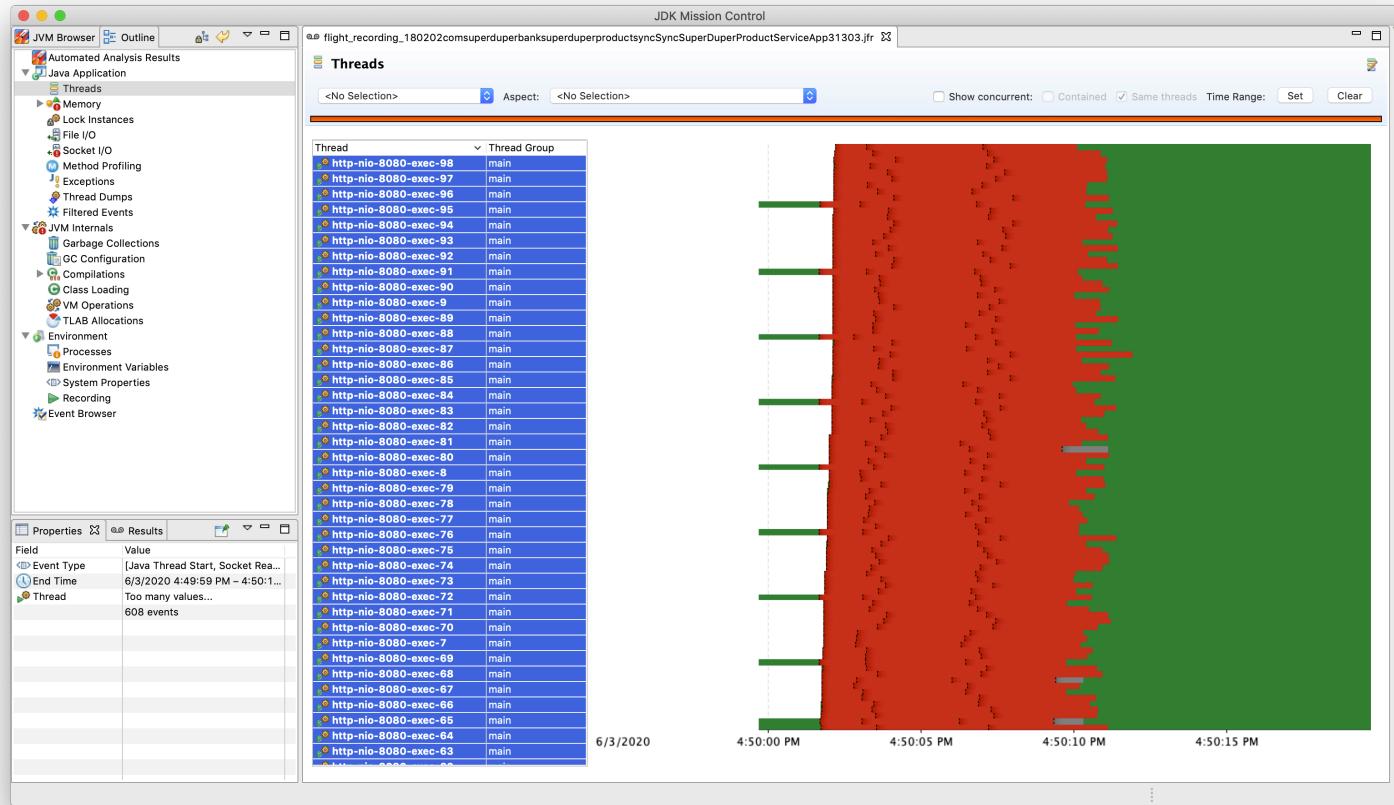


*I won't fall!*

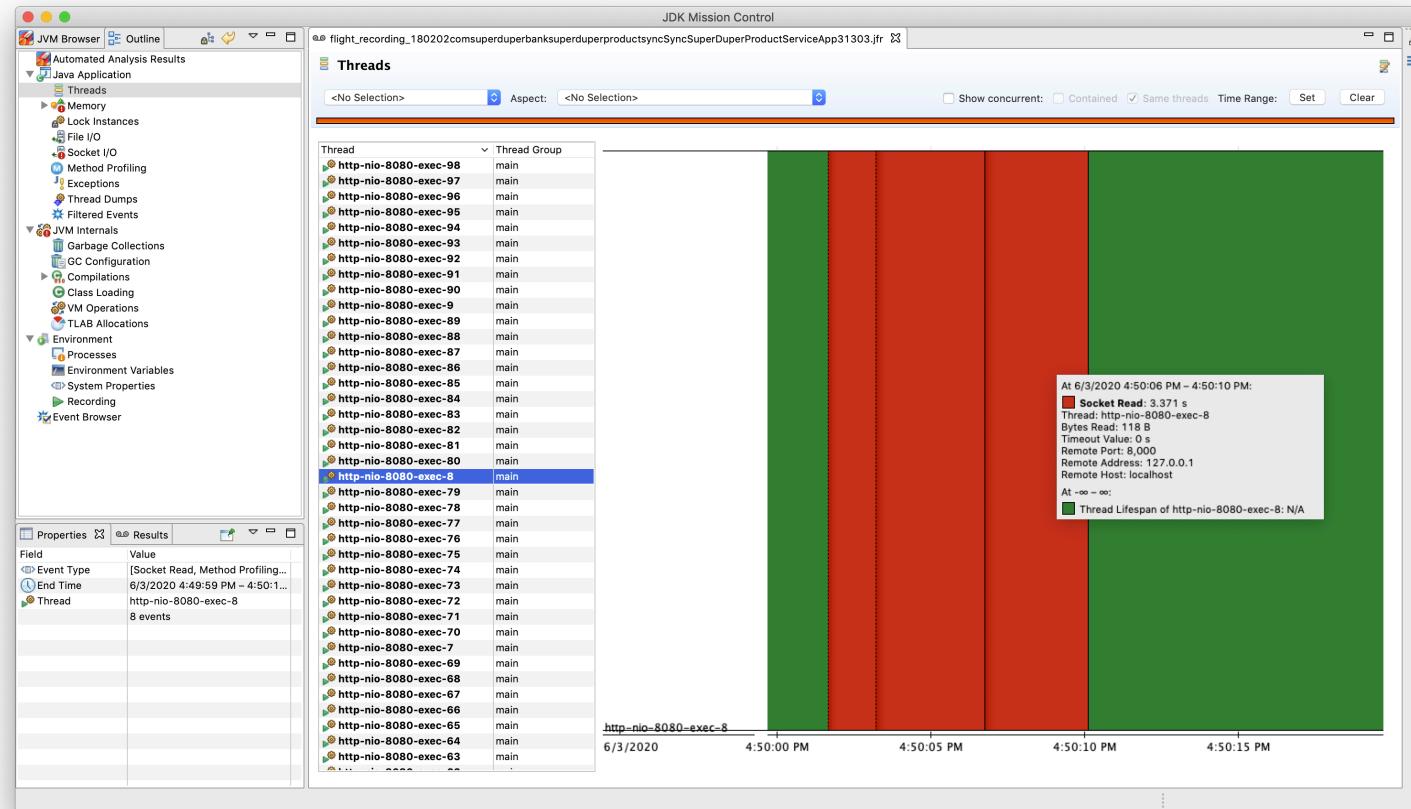
Super Duper Core  
Banking System



# Simulation of 100 requests in Spring Web

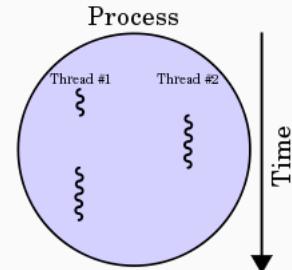


# Simulation of 100 requests in Spring Web



# The thread

- Mechanism to provide multitasking in one process
- OS<sup>1</sup> threads must support all use cases and programming languages → not very optimized
- Context-switching slow
- Relatively heavy (> 2kb metadata, > 1mb stack size)



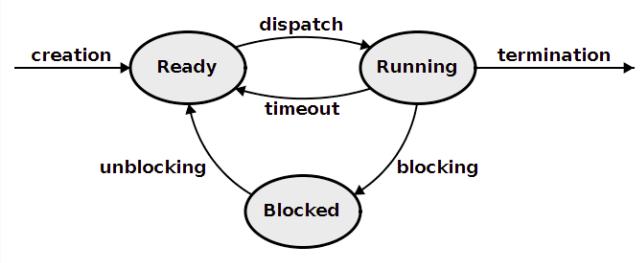
→ OS Threads are a limited resource, ~up to a few 1000 threads on a normal computer

<sup>1</sup> OS: Operating System

# Threads in Java

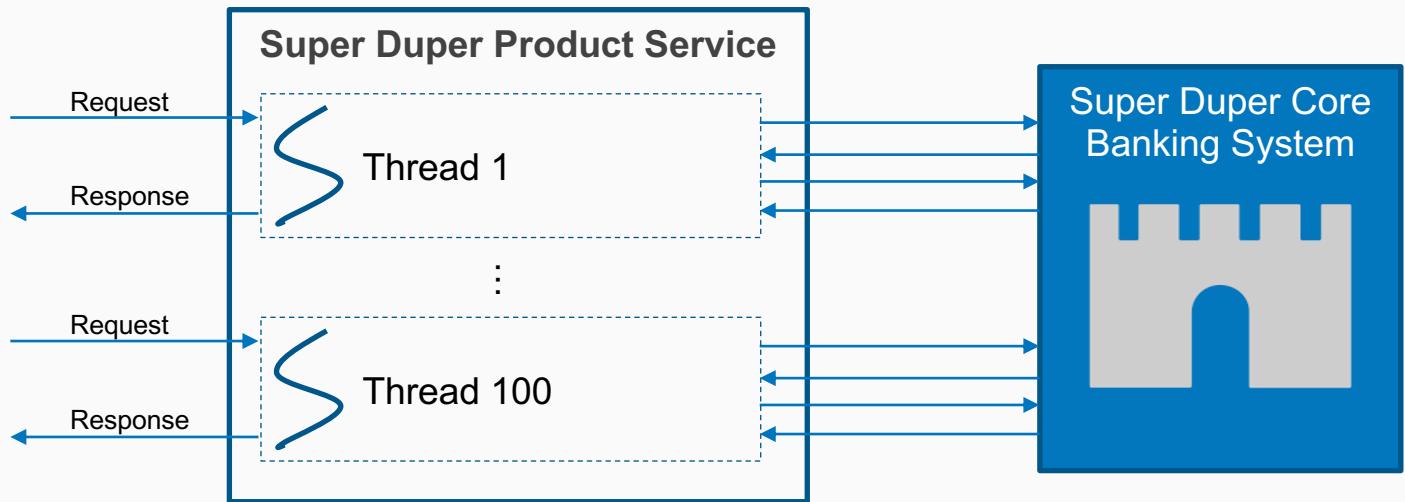
- `java.lang.Thread` wraps native OS threads
- To create a thread, create an instance of the `Thread` class and call the `start()` method
- `java.util.concurrent.Executors` for a higher level API (thread pools, etc.)

```
1 public class HelloRunnable implements Runnable {  
2     public void run() {  
3         System.out.println("Hello from a thread!");  
4     }  
5     public static void main(String args[]) {  
6         Thread myThread = new Thread(new HelloRunnable());  
7         myThread.start();  
8     }  
9 }  
10 }
```



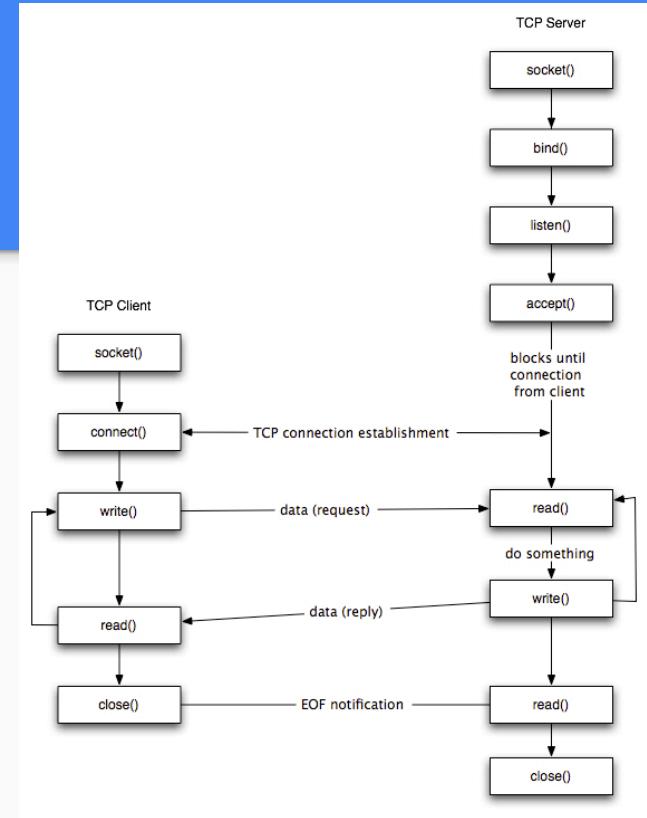
```
1 ExecutorService executor = Executors.newCachedThreadPool(5);  
2 executor.submit(new HelloRunnable());
```

# Thread per request model

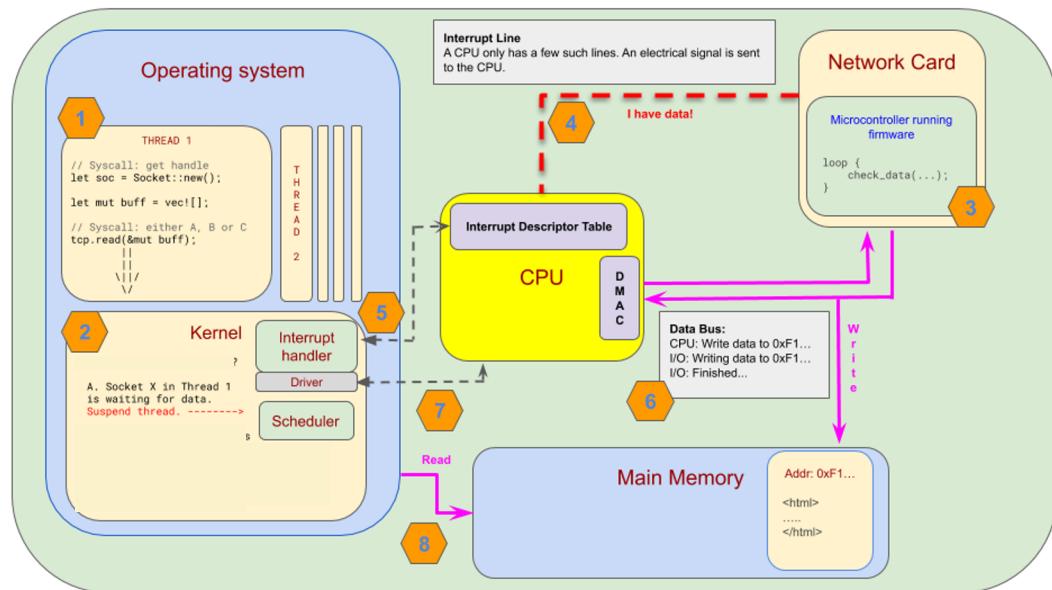
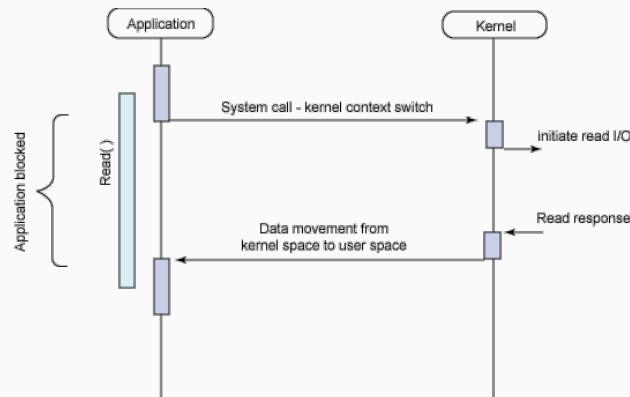


# Networking 101

- OS responsible for coordinating access to external devices, e.g. network card
- OS provides primitives and functions (syscalls) to access those resources
- → Sockets as the primitive to access the network
- Every programming language uses this primitives under the hood



# What happens inside a blocking syscall?



Source:

[https://cfsamson.github.io/book-exploring-async-basics/4\\_interrupts\\_firmware\\_io.html](https://cfsamson.github.io/book-exploring-async-basics/4_interrupts_firmware_io.html)

<https://medium.com/martinomburajr/rxjava2-schedulers-2-breaking-down-the-i-o-scheduler-7e83160df2ed>

SUNNY

HIGH 84° LOW 62° PAGE D8

# The Washington Times

THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 1989 \*

WASHINGTON, D.C.

PHONE: (202) 636-3000  
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## Major operating systems have been faking synchronous I/O for years

By Paul M. Rodriguez  
and George Archibald

A homosexual prostitution ring is under investigation by federal and District authorities and includes among its clients key officials of the Reagan and Bush administrations, military officers, congressional aides and U.S. and foreign businessmen with close social ties to Washington's political elite, documents obtained by The Washington Times reveal.

One of the ring's high-profile clients was so well-connected, in fact, that he could arrange a middle-of-the-night tour of the White House for his friends on Sunday, July 3, of last year. Among the six persons on the extraordinary 1 a.m. tour were two male prostitutes.

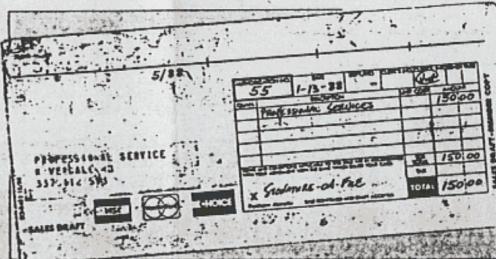
Federal authorities, including the Secret Service, are investigating

### linux, windows, os x all implicated in kernel scandal of the century

criminal aspects of the ring and have told male prostitutes and their homosexual clients that a grand jury will deliberate over the evidence throughout the summer, The Times learned.

Reporters for this newspaper examined hundreds of credit-card vouchers, drawn on both corporate and personal cards and made payable to the escort service operated by the homosexual ring. Many of the vouchers were run through a so-called "sub-merchant" account of the Chambers Funeral Home by a son of the owner, without the company's knowledge.

Among the client names contained in the vouchers — and identified by prostitutes and escort operators — are government officials, locally based U.S. military officers,



businessmen, lawyers, bankers, congressional aides and other professionals.

Editors of The Times said the newspaper would print only the

names of those found to be in sensitive government posts or positions of influence. "There is no intention of publishing names or facts about the operation merely for titillation."

said Wesley Pruden, managing editor of The Times.

The office of U.S. Attorney Jay B. Stephens, former deputy White House counsel to President Reagan, is coordinating federal aspects of the inquiry but refused to discuss the investigation or grand jury action.

Several former White House colleagues of Mr. Stephens are listed among clients of the homosexual prostitution ring, according to the credit-card records, and those persons have confirmed that the charges were theirs.

Mr. Stephens' office, after first saying it would cooperate with The Times' inquiry, withdrew the offer late yesterday and also declined to say whether Mr. Stephens would recuse himself from the case be-

cause of possible conflict of interest.

At least one highly placed Bush administration official and a wealthy businessman who procured homosexual prostitutes from the escort services operated by the ring are cooperating with the investigation, several sources said.

Among clients who charged homosexual prostitute services on major credit cards over the past 18 months are Charles K. Dutcher, former associate director of presidential personnel in the Reagan administration, and Paul R. Balach, Labor Secretary Elizabeth Dole's political personnel liaison to the White House.

In the 1970s, Mr. Dutcher was a congressional aide to former Rep. Robert Bauman, Maryland Republican, who resigned from the House after he admitted having engaged in sexual liaisons with teen-age male

see PROBE, page A7

# Blocking syscalls – what's the problem?

- OS suspends thread until result of operation is available
- To do  $n$  blocking calls at the same time you need  $n$  threads
- The longer a call blocks the more threads you need to serve more requests → Network calls are slow



*...but synchronous calls are natural and easy! :-/*

## Example – Little's law

$$L = \lambda W.$$

Avg. # of customers in system = arrival rate \* average time in system

### For our case:

Avg. # threads needed = requests rate \* response time of external system

### e.g.:

100 requests/s, 10s response time from CBS

⇒ 1000 threads on avg. needed

⇒ 1000 threads \* ~1MB = 1000 MB memory



# Super Duper Bank

Boss B. “The Boss” Bossy



>

You



*I think the bottleneck is  
the thread count, Sir.*



# Super Duper Bank

*We cannot accept this!  
How can we fully utilize  
our machine?*

Boss B. “The Boss” Bossy



>

You



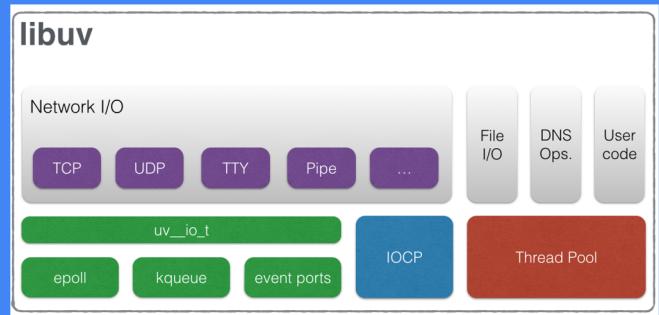
# *Chapter 2*

Let's fully utilize  
our machine

# Non-blocking syscalls as a solution for the thread bottleneck problem

- Non-blocking syscalls do not suspend your thread → handle more than one primitive per thread
- Different styles for non-blocking IO
  - Polling, Multiplexed Block, ...
- epoll (Linux), kqueue (Mac), IOCP (Windows) popular APIs for non-blocking networking – but all with different semantics
- libuv (Node.JS), mio (Tokio, Rust), Java NIO/Netty for Java: provide OS independent abstractions for non-blocking IO

# Asynchronous != non-blocking



Welcome to the libuv documentation

libuv 1.38.1-dev documentation »

next | index



Welcome to the libuv documentation

## Overview

libuv is a multi-platform support library with a focus on asynchronous I/O. It was primarily developed for use by Node.js, but it's also used by Luvit, Julia, pyuv, and others.

**Note:** In case you find errors in this documentation you can help by sending pull requests!

## Features

- Full-featured event loop backed by epoll, kqueue, IOCP, event ports.
- Asynchronous TCP and UDP sockets
- Asynchronous DNS resolution
- Asynchronous file and file system operations
- File system events
- ANSI escape code controlled TTY
- IPC with socket sharing, using Unix domain sockets or named pipes (Windows)
- Child processes
- Thread pool
- Signal handling
- High resolution clock
- Threading and synchronization primitives

v: v1.x

Design overview — libuv documentation

always performed in a single thread, each loop's thread.

**Note:** While the polling mechanism is different, libuv makes the execution model consistent across Unix systems and Windows.

## File I/O

Unlike network I/O, there are no platform-specific file I/O primitives libuv could rely on, so the current approach is to run blocking file I/O operations in a thread pool.

For a thorough explanation of the cross-platform file I/O landscape, checkout this post.

libuv currently uses a global thread pool on which all loops can queue work. 3 types of operations are currently run on this pool:

- File system operations
- DNS functions (getaddrinfo and getnameinfo)
- User specified code via `uv_queue_work()`

**Warning:** See the [Thread pool work scheduling](#) section for more details, but keep in mind the thread pool size is quite limited.

libuv 1.38.1-dev documentation »

previou v: v1.x ix

Copyright 2014-present, libuv contributors. Created using Sphinx 1.8.5.

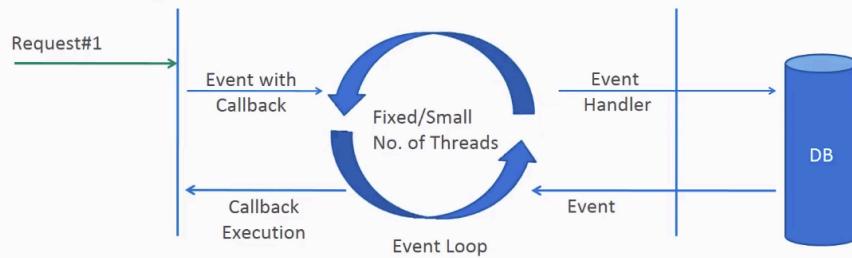
# Event based execution model

- Relies on async base –  
“Don’t block the event loop”

```
def eventloop_main():
    forever:
        e = wait for next event
        if there is a callback associated with e in our list:
            call the callback
```

```
def read_from_socket_async(socket s, callback):
    tell OS we are interested in events from socket s
    save callback in our list
```

e.g. Node.JS, Eclipse Vert.x,  
Project Reactor/Spring  
WebFlux



# How do we handle the asynchronous operations?

Recap: Synchronous style:



A screenshot of a Java code editor showing a file named `AccountsController.java`. The code defines a `@RestController` class with a `@PostMapping` annotated method `createSuperDuperProduct()`. Inside this method, there is a `try` block that calls two methods on a `BankingApiClient`: `createCustomer()` and `createAccount()`. The code uses a `Customer` object and an `Account` object, both of which are created using the `name` and `accountType` parameters.

```
spring-boot-server – superduperproduct/sync/AccountsController.java [spring-boot-server.main]

@RestController
public class AccountsController {
    @Autowired
    BankingApiClient bankingApiClient;

    @PostMapping("/super-duper-product")
    String createSuperDuperProduct() {
        try {
            Customer customer = bankingApiClient.createCustomer(name: "Maxi Mustermann");
            Account giro = bankingApiClient.createAccount(customer, accountType: "giro");
            // ...
        }
    }
}
```

# The callback

- Idea: For every asynchronous operation, pass a function which is called when the operation is complete
- Functions as “first class object”, in Java: Function object
- Hollywood principle: “Don’t call us, we’ll call you”
- Hard to compose → callback hell

```
spring-boot-server - callback/BankingApi.java [spring-boot-server.main]
package com.superduperbank.superduperproduct.callback;

import java.util.function.Consumer;

/**
 * The core banking system of the super duper bank
 */
public interface BankingApi {
    /**
     * Creates a customer for the super duper bank
     *
     * @param name name of the customer
     * @return the created customer
     */
    void createCustomer(String name, Consumer<Customer> onComplete, Consumer<Throwable> onError);

    /**
     * Creates an account for a customer of the super duper bank
     *
     * @param customer the customer for which the account is created
     * @param accountType type of account, currently supported: giro or savings
     * @return the created account
     */
    void createAccount(Customer customer, String accountType, Consumer<Account> onComplete, Consumer<Throwable> onError);
}
```

```
spring-boot-server – callback/AccountsController.java [spring-boot-server.main]
package com.superduperbank.superduperproduct.callback;

import org.springframework.beans.factory.annotation.Autowired;
import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.PostMapping;
import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.RestController;

import java.util.function.Consumer;

@RestController
public class AccountsController {
    @Autowired
    BankingApiClient bankingApiClient;

    @PostMapping("/super-duper-product")
    void createSuperDuperProduct(Consumer<String> responseCallback) {
        Consumer<Throwable> onError = error -> {
            responseCallback.accept("We cannot create the product for you right now, please come back later.");
        };

        bankingApiClient.createCustomer(name: "Maxi Mustermann", customer -> {
            bankingApiClient.createAccount(customer, accountType: "giro", giro -> {
                bankingApiClient.createAccount(customer, accountType: "savings", savings -> {
                    responseCallback.accept(
                        String.format("Successfully created super duper product for you:\nYour customer number is %s",
                        customer.getId(),
                        giro.getIban(),
                        savings.getIban()));
                }, onError);
            }, onError);
        }, onError);
    }
}
```

# The Future<sup>1</sup> abstraction

- Explicit abstraction for an asynchronous operation
- Future represents the result of an asynchronous computation (which may not yet be completed) and can have three states: *Pending*, *Error*, *Done*
- Better composability than callbacks
- Semantic superset of Future: Reactive extensions

<sup>1</sup> called *Promise* in JavaScript



# Super Duper Bank

*Make my service more  
scalable!!!!!!  
(until tomorrow)*

B. Boss Bossy



>

*Let's use non-blocking  
I/O, Sir!*

You

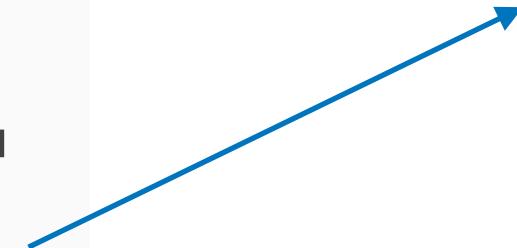




# Super Duper Bank

## Reactive Microservices With Spring Boot

You



The Spring portfolio provides two parallel stacks. One is based on a Servlet API with Spring MVC and Spring Data constructs. The other is a fully reactive stack that takes advantage of Spring WebFlux and Spring Data's reactive repositories. In both cases, Spring Security has you covered with native support for both stacks.

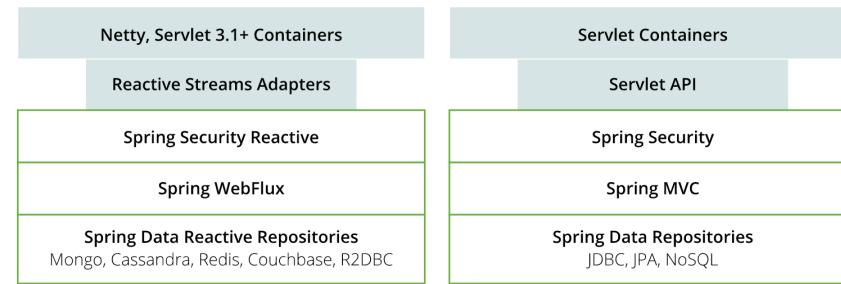


### Reactive Stack

Spring WebFlux is a non-blocking web framework built from the ground up to take advantage of multi-core, next-generation processors and handle massive numbers of concurrent connections.

### Servlet Stack

Spring MVC is built on the Servlet API and uses a synchronous blocking I/O architecture with a one-request-per-thread model.



Spring Initializr

start.spring.io

spring initializr

☰ ☀ ☁

**Project**

Maven Project  Java  Kotlin  
 Gradle Project  Groovy

**Spring Boot**

2.4 (SNAPSHOT)  2.3.1 (SNAPSHOT)  2.3.0  
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**Project Metadata**

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Name superduperproduct-server

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Packaging  Jar  War

Java  14  11  8

**Dependencies** ADD ... ⌘ + B

**Spring Web** WEB

Build web, including RESTful, applications using Spring MVC. Uses Apache Tomcat as the default embedded container.

**Spring Reactive Web** WEB

Build reactive web applications with Spring WebFlux and Netty.

GitHub Twitter

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```
spring-boot-server – futures/async/BankingApi.java [spring-boot-server.main]
package com.superduperbank.superduperproduct.futures.async;

import java.util.concurrent.CompletableFuture;

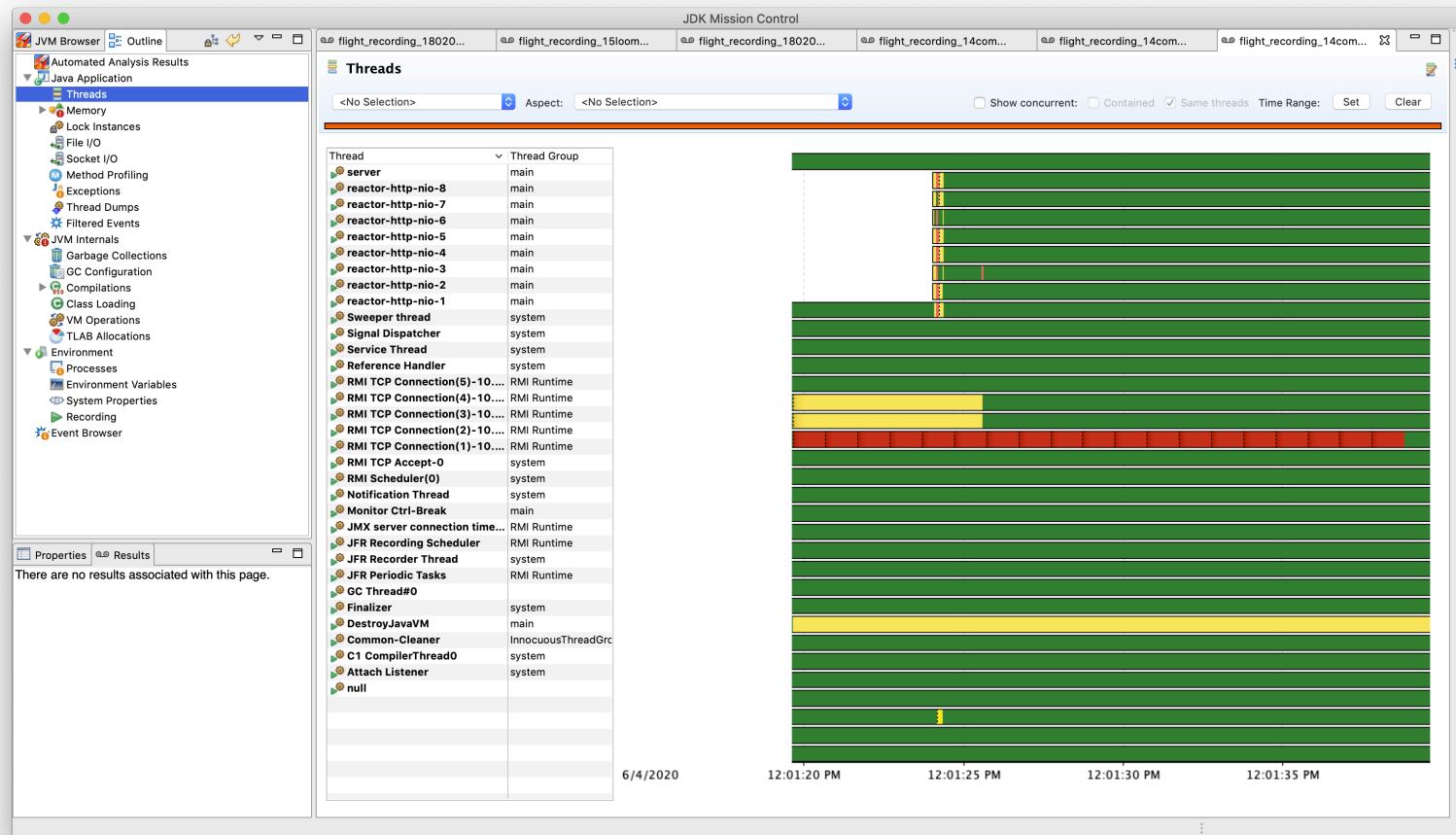
/**
 * The core banking system of the super duper bank
 */
public interface BankingApi {
    /**
     * Creates a customer for the super duper bank
     *
     * @param name name of the customer
     * @return the created customer
     */
    CompletableFuture<Customer> createCustomer(String name);

    /**
     * Creates an account for a customer of the super duper bank
     *
     * @param customer the customer for which the account is created
     * @param accountType type of account, currently supported: giro or savings
     * @return the created account
     */
    CompletableFuture<Account> createAccount(Customer customer, String accountType);
}
```

```
spring-boot-server – futures/async/AccountsController.java [spring-boot-server.main]
@RestController
public class AccountsController {
    @Autowired
    BankingApiClient bankingApiClient;

    @PostMapping("/super-duper-product")
    CompletableFuture<String> createSuperDuperProduct() {
        Result result = new Result();
        return bankingApiClient.createCustomer(name: "Maxi Mustermann") CompletableFuture<Customer>
            .thenApply(result::setCustomer) CompletableFuture<Result>
            .thenCompose(r ->
                bankingApiClient.createAccount(result.customer, accountType: "giro")
                    .thenApply(r::setGiro))
            .thenCompose(r ->
                bankingApiClient.createAccount(result.customer, accountType: "savings")
                    .thenApply(r::setSavings))
            .thenApply(r -> {
                return String.format("Async: Successfully created super duper product for you:\nYour customer number is %s, your giro IBAN is %s, and your savings IBAN is %s",
                    r.customer.getId(),
                    r.giro.getIban(),
                    r.savings.getIban());
            })
            .exceptionally(e -> {
                e.printStackTrace();
                return "We cannot create the product for you right now, please come back later.";
            });
    }
}
```

# Simulation of 100 requests in Spring WebFlux





# Super Duper Bank

*Not that easy...*

You



# async/await

- “Syntactic sugar” for writing asynchronous functions that look like synchronous code
- Under the hood async/await syntax is converted to *Future/Promise* chains
- Still implicitly (or explicitly) return an asynchronous result
- Recently arrived in C#, Rust, JavaScript, Python, ...

# How async/await could look like in Java (hypothetical)

```
● ● ●

1 package com.superduperbank.superduperproduct.await.async;
2
3 import com.superduperbank.superduperproduct.sync.Account;
4 import com.superduperbank.superduperproduct.sync.BankingApiException;
5 import com.superduperbank.superduperproduct.sync.Customer;
6 import org.springframework.beans.factory.annotation.Autowired;
7 import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.PostMapping;
8 import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.RestController;
9
10 import java.util.concurrent.CompletableFuture;
11
12 @RestController
13 public class AccountsController {
14     @Autowired
15     BankingApiClient bankingApiClient;
16
17     @PostMapping("/super-duper-product")
18     CompletableFuture<String> createSuperDuperProduct() {
19         try {
20             Customer customer = await bankingApiClient.createCustomer("Maxi Mustermann");
21             Account giro = await bankingApiClient.createAccount(customer, "giro");
22             Account savings = await bankingApiClient.createAccount(customer, "savings");
23             return String.format("Successfully created super duper product for you:\nYour customer number is
24             %d\nYour giro account is %s\nYour savings account is %s\n",
25                     customer.getId(),
26                     giro.getIban(),
27                     savings.getIban());
28         } catch (BankingApiException e) {
29             e.printStackTrace();
30             return "We cannot create the product for you right now, please come back later.";
31         }
32     }
33 }
```

# About blue and red worlds

```
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 * The core banking system of the super duper bank
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spring-boot-server – futures/async/BankingApi.java [spring-boot-server.main]
package com.superduperbank.superduperproduct.futures.async;

import java.util.concurrent.CompletableFuture;

/**
 * The core banking system of the super duper bank
 */
public interface BankingApi {
    /**
     * Creates a customer for the super duper bank
     *
     * @param name name of the customer
     * @return the created customer
     */
    CompletableFuture<Customer> createCustomer(String name);

    /**
     * Creates an account for a customer of the super duper bank
     *
     * @param customer the customer for which the account is created
     * @param accountType type of account, currently supported: giro or savings
     * @return the created account
     */
    CompletableFuture<Account> createAccount(Customer customer, String accountType);
}
```

# About blue and red worlds

- Going into **asynchronous** world break your old interfaces and you have to decide beforehand which world you want
- Hard to go from **synchronous** world to **asynchronous** world
- Often, we anyway just want a **synchronous** programming model but are forced to use **asynchronous** abstractions because of the underlying execution model
- `async/await` can make it look like **synchronous**, but we are still in the **asynchronous** world

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the title "File System | Node.js v14.3.0 Docs". The URL in the address bar is "nodejs.org/api/fs.html". The page content is the Node.js API documentation for the `fs` module. On the left, there is a sidebar with links to other documentation sections. The main content area lists various methods under the `fs` namespace, each preceded by a green square bullet point.

- `fs.access(path[, mode], callback)`
- `fs.accessSync(path[, mode])`
- `fs.appendFile(path, data[, options], callback)`
- `fs.appendFileSync(path, data[, options])`
- `fs.chmod(path, mode, callback)`
  - `File modes`
- `fs.chmodSync(path, mode)`
- `fs.chown(path, uid, gid, callback)`
- `fs.chownSync(path, uid, gid)`
- `fs.close(fd, callback)`
- `fs.closeSync(fd)`
- `fs.constants`
- `fs.copyFile(src, dest[, mode], callback)`
- `fs.copyFileSync(src, dest[, mode])`

A screenshot of a GitHub browser interface, likely from a Mac OS X system, displaying the file `deno.exists.ts` at the master branch of the `denoland/deno` repository. The page shows the code for the `exists` and `existsSync` functions.

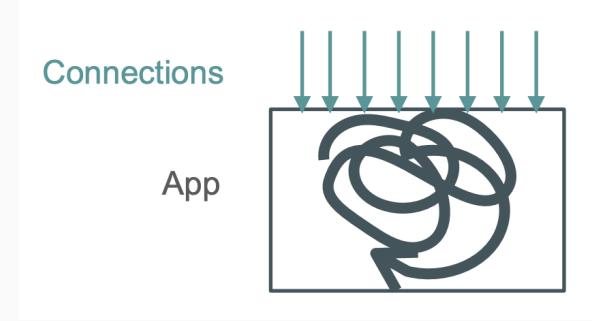
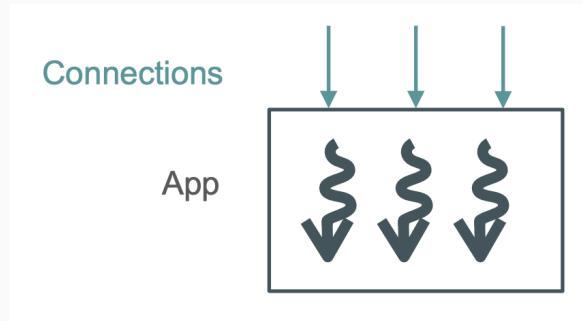
The code is as follows:

```
32 lines (30 sloc) | 733 Bytes
1 // Copyright 2018-2020 the Deno authors. All rights reserved. MIT license.
2 const { lstat, lstatSync } = Deno;
3 /**
4  * Test whether or not the given path exists by checking with the file system
5  */
6 export async function exists(filePath: string): Promise<boolean> {
7   try {
8     await lstat(filePath);
9     return true;
10  } catch (err) {
11    if (err instanceof Deno.errors.NotFound) {
12      return false;
13    }
14
15    throw err;
16  }
17}
18
19 /**
20  * Test whether or not the given path exists by checking with the file system
21 */
22 export function existsSync(filePath: string): boolean {
23   try {
24     lstatSync(filePath);
25     return true;
26   } catch (err) {
27     if (err instanceof Deno.errors.NotFound) {
28       return false;
29     }
30     throw err;
31   }
32 }
```

# *Chapter 3*

I want my blocking  
code back :-/

Choose between:



## Synchronous style

- 😊 Simple
- 😊 Language integration (Exceptions, control flow)
- 😊 Not very efficient (OS Thread per request -> limited resource)
- 😢 Advanced stuff is more complex (e.g. do two things in parallel)

## Asynchronous style

- 😢 Hard to read (without `async/await`), complex, hard to debug
- 😢 Blue and red worlds, virality
- 😢 Rewrite your Application
- 😊 Efficient



# Is my website up in go? – Synchronous

```
1 package main
2
3 import (
4     "fmt"
5     "net/http"
6 )
7
8 func main() {
9     // A slice of sample websites
10    urls := []string{
11        "https://www.easyjet.com/",
12        "https://www.skyscanner.de/",
13        "https://www.ryanair.com",
14        "https://wizzair.com/",
15        "https://www.swiss.com/",
16    }
17    for _, url := range urls {
18        checkUrl(url)
19    }
20 }
21
22 //checks and prints a message if a website is up or down
23 func checkUrl(url string) {
24     _, err := http.Get(url)
25     if err != nil {
26         fmt.Println(url, "is down !!!")
27         return
28     }
29     fmt.Println(url, "is up and running.")
30 }
```

# Is my website up in go? – Asynchronous

```
1 package main
2
3 import (
4     "fmt"
5     "net/http"
6 )
7
8 func main() {
9     // A slice of sample websites
10    urls := []string{
11        "https://www.easyjet.com/",
12        "https://www.skyscanner.de/",
13        "https://www.ryanair.com",
14        "https://wizzair.com/",
15        "https://www.swiss.com/",
16    }
17    for _, url := range urls {
18        go checkUrl(url)
19    }
20 }
21
22 //checks and prints a message if a website is up or down
23 func checkUrl(url string) {
24     _, err := http.Get(url)
25     if err != nil {
26         fmt.Println(url, "is down !!!")
27         return
28     }
29     fmt.Println(url, "is up and running.")
30 }
```

# Is my website up in go?

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14        "https://wizzair.com/",
15        "https://www.swiss.com/",
16    }
17    for _, url := range urls {
18        checkUrl(url)
19    }
20 }
21
22 //checks and prints a message if a website is up or down
23 func checkUrl(url string) {
24     _, err := http.Get(url)
25     if err != nil {
26         fmt.Println(url, "is down !!!")
27         return
28     }
29     fmt.Println(url, "is up and running.")
30 }
```

go\_async\_part1.go hosted with ❤ by GitHub

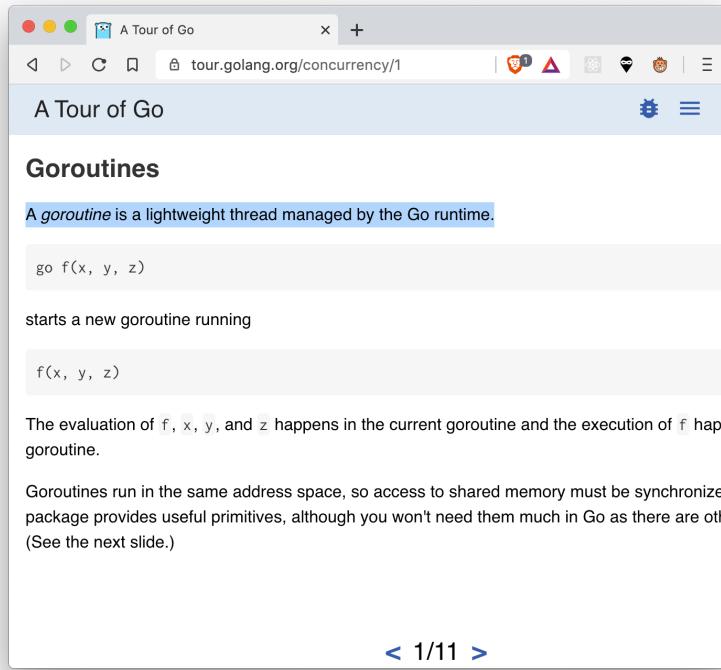
[view raw](#)

```
1 package main
2
3 import (
4     "fmt"
5     "net/http"
6 )
7
8 func main() {
9     // A slice of sample websites
10    urls := []string{
11        "https://www.easyjet.com/",
12        "https://www.skyscanner.de/",
13        "https://www.ryanair.com",
14        "https://wizzair.com/",
15        "https://www.swiss.com/",
16    }
17    for _, url := range urls {
18        go checkUrl(url)
19    }
20 }
21
22 //checks and prints a message if a website is up or down
23 func checkUrl(url string) {
24     _, err := http.Get(url)
25     if err != nil {
26         fmt.Println(url, "is down !!!")
27         return
28     }
29     fmt.Println(url, "is up and running.")
30 }
```

go\_async\_part2.go hosted with ❤ by GitHub

[view raw](#)

# Is my website up in go?



A screenshot of a web browser window titled "A Tour of Go". The URL in the address bar is "tour.golang.org/concurrency/1". The main content area displays the "Goroutines" section of the tour. It includes a definition of a goroutine as "a lightweight thread managed by the Go runtime", followed by code examples for starting a new goroutine and executing a function. A note explains that the evaluation of parameters happens in the current goroutine and the execution of the function happens in a new goroutine. The bottom right corner of the slide contains navigation arrows.

A Tour of Go

## Goroutines

A *goroutine* is a lightweight thread managed by the Go runtime.

```
go f(x, y, z)
```

starts a new goroutine running

```
f(x, y, z)
```

The evaluation of `f`, `x`, `y`, and `z` happens in the current goroutine and the execution of `f` happens in a new goroutine.

Goroutines run in the same address space, so access to shared memory must be synchronized. The `sync` package provides useful primitives, although you won't need them much in Go as there are other ways to synchronize access to shared memory. (See the next slide.)

< 1/11 >

# Virtual thread

aka lightweight thread 

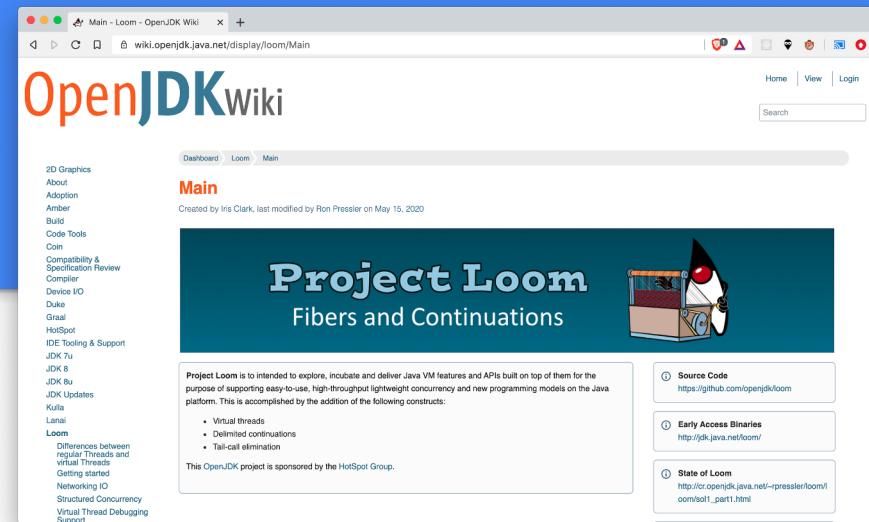
aka fiber

aka green thread

aka user-mode thread

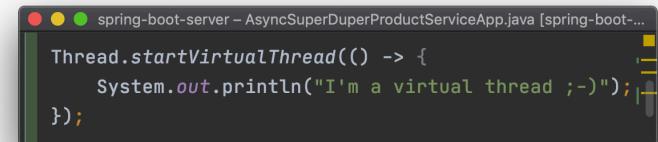
# Project Loom

- Official OpenJDK Project to implement virtual threads on the Java platform (JVM)
- Currently in development
- Can be tried out by using a preview build JDK



# What is a virtual thread in Java?

- Like OS threads but
  - Lightweight – have as many as you want
  - Fast – context switches are cheap
- Managed by the Java Runtime
- Use existing APIs (*Thread, Executors, ...*)
- No timeslice-based preemption (by default)



A screenshot of a Java IDE showing a code editor with the following Java code:

```
spring-boot-server - AsyncSuperDuperProductServiceApp.java [spring-boot...]
Thread.startVirtualThread(() -> {
    System.out.println("I'm a virtual thread ;-)");
});
```

# virtual thread =

Representation of the state of a computation

+

Something which can control the execution of the computation

virtual thread =

Continuation

+

Scheduler

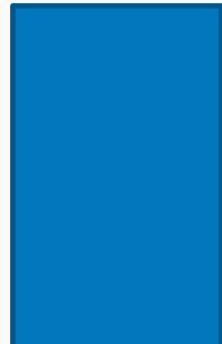
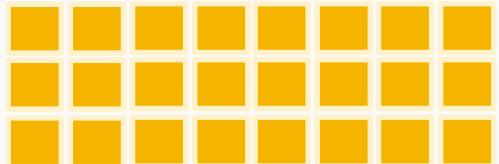
# Continuation (*coroutine*)

- Piece of sequential code that can suspend itself and may be continued at a later point
- Low level API, not to be used directly

```
package java.lang;
public class Continuation implements Runnable {
    public Continuation(ContinuationScope scope, Runnable target);
    public final void run();
    public static void yield(ContinuationScope scope);
    public boolean isDone();
}
```

# Scheduler

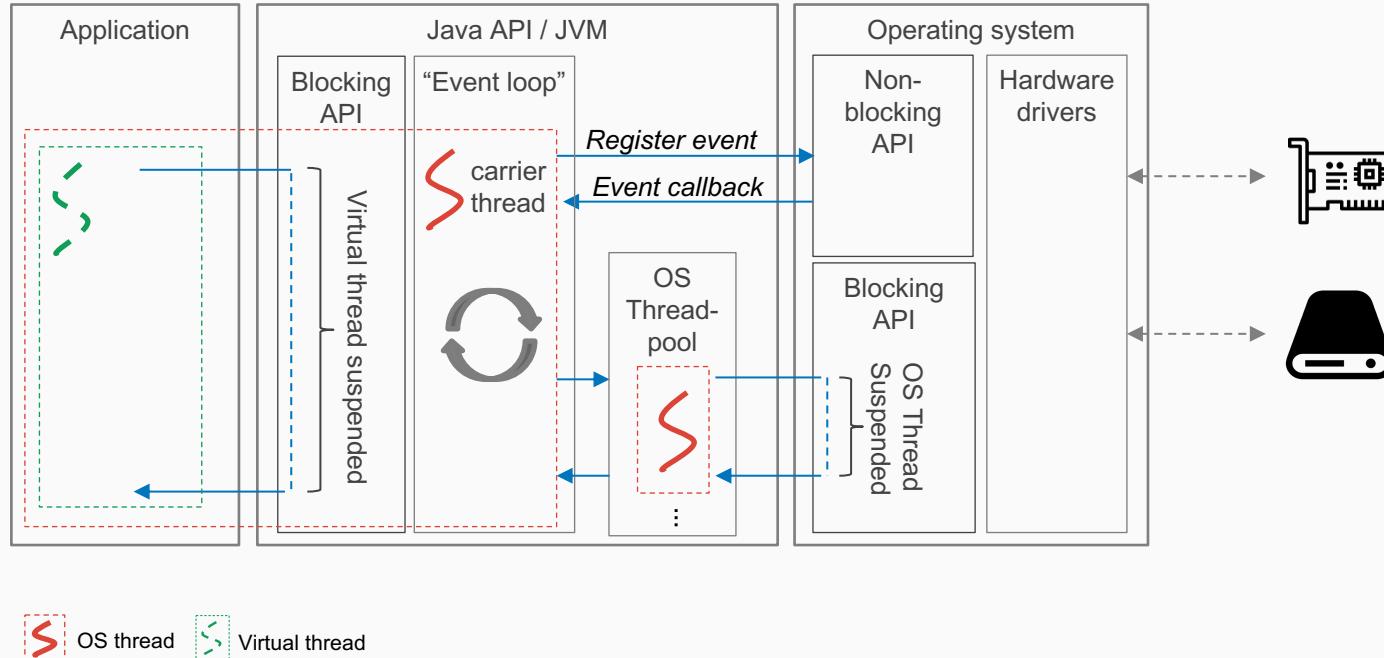
- Scheduler schedules the continuations onto real worker OS threads (carrier thread)
- By default *ForkJoinPool* Scheduler is used which distributes work among all CPU cores
- Possible to change scheduler (e.g. choose to have only one carrier thread -> Node.JS like)



# Why virtual threads instead of asynchronous abstractions?

- Enables non-blocking code to be (virtual-thread)-synchronous
  - Normal language constructs for conditional logic, error handling, ...
  - Easy debugging
- No need to break your interfaces, no forced blue world for non-blocking IO
  - Libraries that use the JDK primitives will also automatically play well with virtual threads (e.g. Spring Web, JDBC, ...)
  - Works with legacy code without changes (in the best case)
- For advanced stuff, e.g. do two things in parallel
  - → use asynchronous abstractions (Future, Reactive) or structured concurrency on the consumer side

# Virtual threads allow to translate asynchronous to synchronous APIs



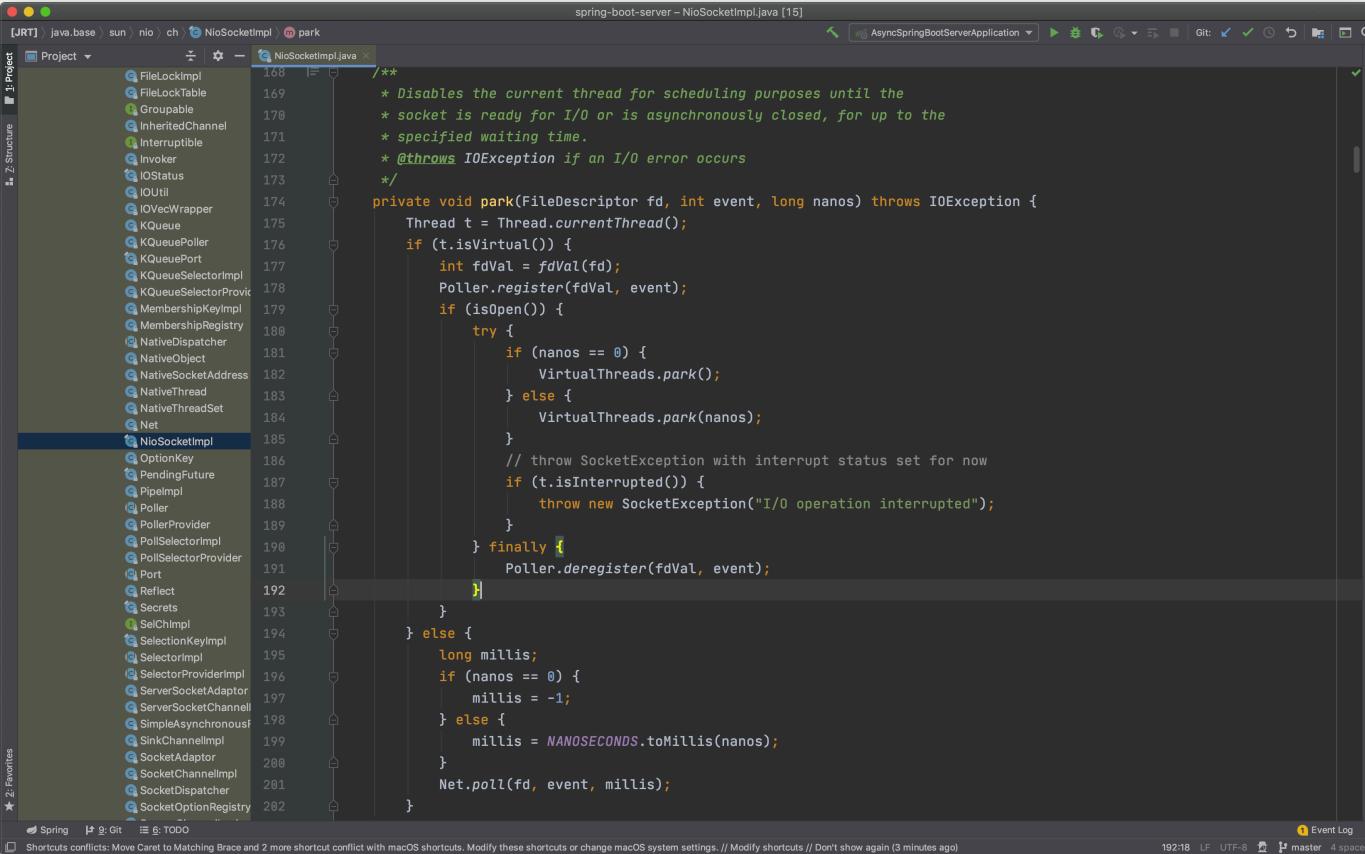
# Example: New Socket API implementation ready for virtual threads

The screenshot shows the OpenJDK website with the JEP 353 page open. The page title is "JEP 353: Reimplement the Legacy Socket API". It contains detailed information about the JEP, including its owner (Alan Bateman), type (Feature), scope (JDK), status (Closed/Delivered), release (13), component (core-libs/java.net), discussion (net dash dev at openjdk dot java dot net), effort (S), reviewed by (Brian Goetz, Chris Hegarty, Michael McMahon), endorsed by (Brian Goetz), created (2019/02/06 13:49), updated (2019/08/16 07:21), and issue number (8218559). Below this is a "Summary" section describing the replacement of legacy socket APIs with a simpler, modern implementation. The "Motivation" section explains the pain of maintaining the legacy code and the need for a fiber-based implementation.

The screenshot shows the same JEP 353 page after the implementation has been completed. The "Annotations Pipeline" sidebar now lists the new implementation: "PlainSocketImpl" is extended by "NioSocketImpl", which is a drop-in replacement. The text describes how it uses Java.util.concurrent locks instead of synchronized methods, integrates with the buffer cache mechanism, and plays well with fibers. A list of points highlights the differences between the old and new implementations:

- **SocketImpl** is a legacy SPI mechanism and is very under-specified. The new implementation attempts to be compatible with the old implementation by emulating unspecified behavior and exceptions where applicable. The Risks and Assumptions section below details the behavior differences between the old and new implementations.
- **Socket operations using timeouts (connect, accept, read)** are implemented by changing the socket to non-blocking mode and polling the socket.
- The `java.lang.ref.Cleaner` mechanism is used to close sockets when the `SocketImpl` is garbage collected and the socket has not been explicitly closed.
- Connection reset handling is implemented in the same way as the old

# Example: New Socket API implementation ready for virtual threads



The screenshot shows the IntelliJ IDEA IDE interface with the following details:

- Title Bar:** [JRT] > java.base > sun > nio > ch > NioSocketImpl > park
- Editor:** The main editor window displays the `NioSocketImpl.java` file, which contains Java code for a socket implementation.
- Project Tree:** On the left, the project tree shows the package structure under `java.base/sun/nio/ch`, with `NioSocketImpl` selected.
- Toolbars and Status Bar:** The bottom of the screen includes standard IntelliJ toolbars and a status bar showing the current file path, revision, and other system information.

```
spring-boot-server - NioSocketImpl.java [15]
168     /**
169      * Disables the current thread for scheduling purposes until the
170      * socket is ready for I/O or is asynchronously closed, for up to the
171      * specified waiting time.
172      * @throws IOException if an I/O error occurs
173     */
174     private void park(FileDescriptor fd, int event, long nanos) throws IOException {
175         Thread t = Thread.currentThread();
176         if (t.isVirtual()) {
177             int fdVal = fdVal(fd);
178             Poller.register(fdVal, event);
179             if (isOpen()) {
180                 try {
181                     if (nanos == 0) {
182                         VirtualThreads.park();
183                     } else {
184                         VirtualThreads.park(nanos);
185                     }
186                     // throw SocketException with interrupt status set for now
187                     if (t.isInterrupted()) {
188                         throw new SocketException("I/O operation interrupted");
189                     }
190                 } finally {
191                     Poller.deregister(fdVal, event);
192                 }
193             }
194         } else {
195             long millis;
196             if (nanos == 0) {
197                 millis = -1;
198             } else {
199                 millis = NANOSECONDS.toMillis(nanos);
200             }
201             Net.poll(fd, event, millis);
202         }
203     }
```

# Limitations

## Temporary

- Limited debugging support
  - Dealing with a large number of virtual threads, Setting local variables, Suspending or resuming a virtual thread, Stack traces for fibers will include scheduler related frames
- Not all Java APIs virtual thread ready as of now

## Permanent

- Semantic differences to threads  
→ not all legacy code will work without changes
- Native frames not supported



# Super Duper Bank

B. Boss Bossy



>

You



How will the SDPS look  
like with virtual  
threads?



```
package com.superduperbank.superduperproduct.sync;

/**
 * The core banking system of the super duper bank
 */
public interface BankingApi {
    /**
     * Creates a customer for the super duper bank
     *
     * @param name name of the customer
     * @return the created customer
     * @throws BankingApiException
     */
    Customer createCustomer(String name) throws BankingApiException;

    /**
     * Creates an account for a customer of the super duper bank
     *
     * @param customer the customer for which the account is created
     * @param accountType type of account, currently supported: giro or savings
     * @return the created account
     * @throws BankingApiException
     */
    Account createAccount(Customer customer, String accountType) throws BankingApiException;
}
```



spring-boot-server – superduperproduct/accounts/AccountsController.java [spring-boot-server.main]

```
package com.superduperbank.superduperproduct.sync;

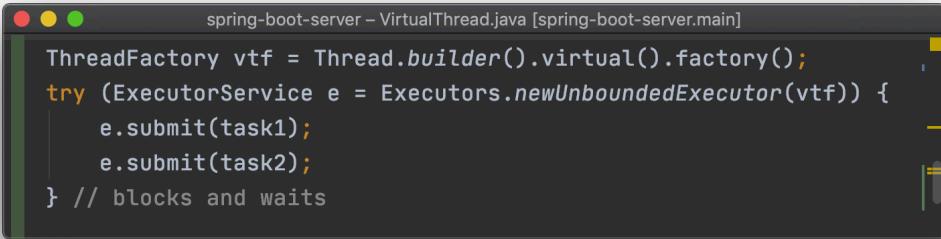
import org.springframework.beans.factory.annotation.Autowired;
import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.PostMapping;
import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.RestController;

@RestController
public class AccountsController {
    @Autowired
    BankingApiClient bankingApiClient;

    @PostMapping("/super-duper-product")
    String createSuperDuperProduct() {
        try {
            Customer customer = bankingApiClient.createCustomer(name: "Maxi Mustermann");
            Account giro = bankingApiClient.createAccount(customer, accountType: "giro");
            Account savings = bankingApiClient.createAccount(customer, accountType: "savings");
            return String.format("Successfully created super duper product for you:\nYour customer number is %d\nYour giro account number is %d\nYour savings account number is %d", customer.getId(), giro.getIban(), savings.getIban());
        } catch (BankingApiException e) {
            e.printStackTrace();
            return "We cannot create the product for you right now, please come back later.";
        }
    }
}
```

# Sneak peek: Structured concurrency

- Threads normally “float around” in application
- Idea: Bind thread lifetimes to code blocks
- Currently implemented with try-with-resources syntax
- Final design still in discussion



A screenshot of a Java IDE showing a code editor window. The title bar says "spring-boot-server – VirtualThread.java [spring-boot-server.main]". The code in the editor is:

```
ThreadFactory vtf = Thread.builder().virtual().factory();
try (ExecutorService e = Executors.newUnboundedExecutor(vtf)) {
    e.submit(task1);
    e.submit(task2);
} // blocks and waits
```

# Cool! How can I try it out?

<https://wiki.openjdk.java.net/display/loom>

- Download preview build <https://jdk.java.net/loom/>
- Configure new JDK in IntelliJ (or Eclipse 😊)
- Spawn 100k Virtual Threads
- Wait for release in Java 1X

# Key takeaways

- Blocking OS calls forces you to have one thread per "program" (e.g. request)
  - Non-Blocking I/O calls are complex
  - Event-based libraries (libuv, Netty) wrap non-blocking OS calls and provide asynchronous abstractions
    - Callback: simple, not composable, Futures: composable but "unnatural" usage
    - Async/await: Syntax to make working with Futures more natural
  - Project Loom implements lightweight virtual threads in the Java platform
    - No blue/red world problem, just write synchronous code as usual, use your favorite (synchronous-style) libraries and enjoy more efficiency (e.g. Spring Web, JDBC)
    - Virtual threads are cheap – have millions of them
    - Still uses non blocking IO under the hood – but wraps them in existing synchronous APIs
- Final question: Is the virtual thread approach superior to the event-loop model?

# I want to learn more!

In depth article about Project Loom and it's current state (May 2020)

[https://cr.openjdk.java.net/~rpressler/loom/loom/s01\\_part1.html](https://cr.openjdk.java.net/~rpressler/loom/loom/s01_part1.html)

Blue/red world problem

<http://journal.stuffwithstuff.com/2015/02/01/what-color-is-your-function/>

Build an event loop in Rust

[https://cfsamson.github.io/book-exploring-async-basics/1\\_concurrent\\_vs\\_parallel.html](https://cfsamson.github.io/book-exploring-async-basics/1_concurrent_vs_parallel.html)

Implement green threads in Rust in 200 lines

<https://cfsamson.gitbook.io/green-threads-explained-in-200-lines-of-rust/>

# Thank you! Questions?

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