

INF 5170: Models of Concurrency

Fall 2025

Group Session 5

17.10.2025

Topic: Actors and Message Passing

Exercise 1 Implement an actor for a calculator that has two states (DUAL and SNGL). In state DUAL, it accepts messages of the following form.

- Message (`from`, `ADD`, `n`, `m`) should send back `n+m` to the sending actor `from`
- Message (`from`, `SNGL`) should switch to state `SNGL`

In state `SNGL`, it accepts messages of the following form.

- Message (`from`, `STORE`, `n`) should store value `n` in the memory of the actor
- Message (`from`, `INC`, `n`) should send back the sum of `n` and the stored value to the sending actor `from`
- Message (`from`, `DUAL`) should switch to state `DUAL`

Exercise 2 Implement an actor process for calculators as above in Go. You find the code skeleton in Listing 1.

Exercise 3 We discussed how to encode single-read futures with channels in the lecture.

- Describe in words how to encode multi-read futures with channels, in particular how to type the channel and what effect your encoding has on termination.
- Use your encoding in Go and write a small program that uses goroutine that takes two numbers, computes their sum and sends back the results using a multi-read future (according to your encoding).

You can use the skeleton in Listing 2.

Listing 1: A skeleton for an actor process for calculators in Go

```

1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 type OP int
6
7 const (
8     ADD   OP = 0
9     INC   OP = 1
10    STORE OP = 2
11    DUAL  OP = 3
12    SNGL  OP = 4
13 )
14
15 type Msg struct {
16     op OP
17     p1 int
18     p2 int
19     ret chan int
20 }
21
22 type State struct {
23     /* define state here*/
24 }
25
26 func loop1(ch chan Msg, state State) {
27     /* add code here*/
28 }
29
30 /* add functions here */
31
32 func main() {
33     // simple test case ,write more
34     input := make(chan Msg)
35     go loop1(input, /* your starting state */)
36     res := make(chan int)
37     input <- Msg{STORE, 2, 0, res}
38     input <- Msg{INC, 5, 0, res}
39     fmt.Println(<-res) //should print 7
40 }

```

Listing 2: A skeleton for Exercise 3

```

1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func f(fut /* add type here*/, p1 int, p2 int) {
6     /* add code here */
7 }
8
9 func main() {
10     ch := make( /* add type here */ )
11     go f(ch, 1, 2)
12
13     //should work for any number of reads, test with 2
14     fmt.Println(<-ch)
15     fmt.Println(<-ch)
16 }

```