

Dataflow Network Programming with Neuron

A stylized illustration of a neuron with a large purple nucleus, green mitochondria, and blue branching processes on a dark background.

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I. Meet Nick

Nick cares about cancer



Curing cancer is expensive





Lakhan Gulati

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This little baby has cancer and he need money for surgery

Facebook has decided to help by giving

1 Like = 2 dollars . 1 Comment = 4 dollars . 1 Share = 8 dollars

,

Please dont scroll down without typing Amen

Like Comment Share

Come on Facebook...

**just 40 more likes and I can
save that little girl's life**



II. Enter Neuron

The Neuron Framework

concurrency model

messaging API

process construction library

Lightweight Processes

```
(process (λ () (forever (emit (f (take))))))
```

Synchronous and Asymmetric

Simple Exchange

$(\text{give } \pi \ v) \rightarrow (\text{take})$

$(\text{recv } \pi) \leftarrow (\text{emit } v)$

Synchronous and Asymmetric

Mediated Exchange

$(\text{give } \pi_{\text{fwd}} \ v) \rightarrow (\text{forward-to } \pi) \rightarrow (\text{take})$

$(\text{recv } \pi_{\text{fwd}}) \leftarrow (\text{forward-from } \pi) \leftarrow (\text{emit } v)$

Serial Messaging Endpoints



Sockets



Codecs



Sockets

- input-output port
- simplified messaging API
- prevent half-open connections



Codecs

- **printer** and **parser** functions
- **encoder** and **decoder** functions

Parsers & Printers

parser :: (-> input-port? any/c)

read

read-json

printer :: (-> any/c output-port? void?)

writeln

write-json

Codecs

`decoder :: (-> parser (-> socket process))`

`encoder :: (-> printer (-> socket process))`

`codec :: (-> parser printer (-> socket process))`

UDP Endpoints

```
(define  $\pi_{\text{udp-src}}$  (udp-source read "::" 5000))
```

```
(define  $\pi_{\text{udp-snk}}$  (udp-sink write "somehost" 5000))
```

TCP Endpoints

```
(define  $\pi_{\text{tcp-cli}}$  (tcp-client "somehost" 1234))
```

```
(define  $\pi_{\text{tcp-srv}}$  (tcp-server 1234))
```

```
(define  $\pi_{\text{tcp-svc}}$  (tcp-service sexp-codec 1234))
```

III. Putting it all Together

Multiplayer Game Server

TCP service

register clients

UDP sinks

broadcast world state

world simulator

refresh world state (default 10 Hz)

Game Server: TCP Service

```
(define  $\pi_{\text{svc}}$  (tcp-service sexp-codec 3000))
```

```
(forever  
  (define-values (key msg) (recv  $\pi_{\text{svc}}$ ))  
  (match msg  
    [ `(SET ,host ,port) (set-client key host port)]  
    [ `(DROP ,host ,port) (drop-client key)]  
    [ `(MOVE , $\Delta x$  , $\Delta y$ ) (move-client key  $\Delta x$   $\Delta y$ )]))
```

Game Server: UDP Sinks

`(udp-sink writeln host port)`

Game Server: World Simulator

```
(define  $\pi_{\text{sim}}$  (simulator update-world))
```

```
(for ([ $\pi_{\text{pub}}$  (all-clients)])  
  (give  $\pi_{\text{pub}}$  the-world))
```

Complete Game Server

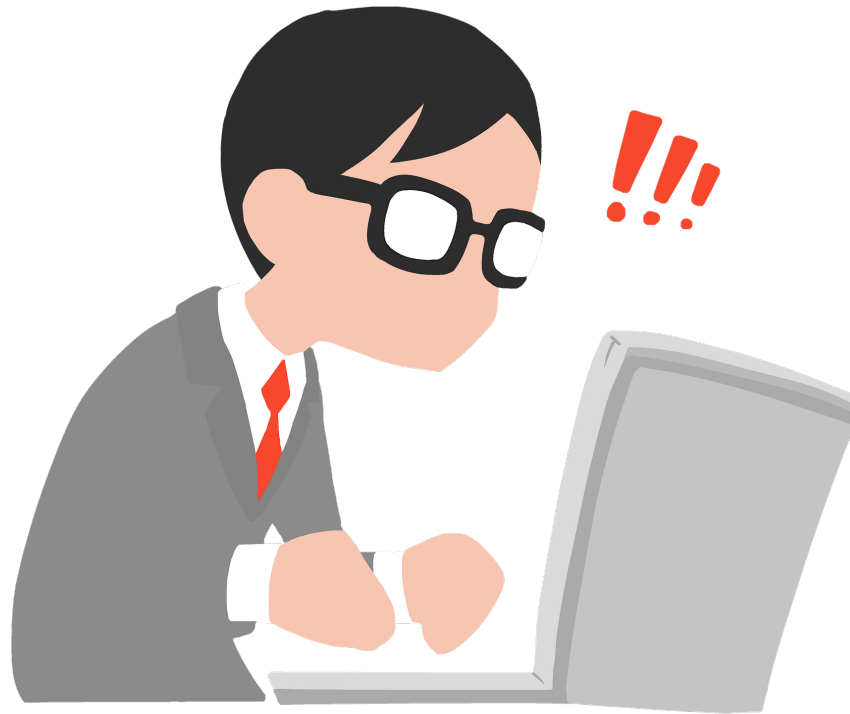
```
(define-values (world clients) (values (make-hash) (make-hash)))
(define  $\pi_{\text{svc}}$  (tcp-service sexp-codec 3000))
(define (set-client key host port)
  ...
  (hash-set! clients key (udp-sink writeln host port)))
(define (update-world  $\Delta t$ )
  ...
  (define the-world (hash->list world))
  (for ([ $\pi_{\text{pub}}$  (hash-values clients)])
    (give  $\pi_{\text{pub}}$  the-world)))
(define  $\pi_{\text{sim}}$  (simulator update-world))
(forever
  (define-values (key msg) (recv  $\pi_{\text{svc}}$ ))
  (match msg
    [ `(SET ,host ,port) (set-client key host port)]
    [ `(DROP ,host ,port) (drop-client key)]
    [ `(MOVE , $\Delta x$  , $\Delta y$ ) (move-client key  $\Delta x$   $\Delta y$ ) ])))
```


IV. Summary & Conclusion

Summary

- Neuron is a compositional framework
- Making network software development easy (and fun!)

What Happened to Nick?



Thank You

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