Concurrent Elixir

program i1 i2 i3 ... in

concurrency

multiple sequential programs parts of a greater whole



system

web server proxy load balancer database server message queue home automation

system

runs for a long time does multiple things at once

non-binary success

high availability

essential for any software system

BEAM concurrency is designed for high availability



process

sequential program runtime execution context not an OS process (nor thread)

process A

end)





receive do message → do_something_with(message) end

```
n = 10
caller_pid = self()
spawn(fn \rightarrow
  x = fib(n)
  send(caller_pid, {:fib, x})
end)
receive do
  \{:fib, x\} \rightarrow
    IO.inspect(x)
end
```

```
db_queries = [...]
caller_pid = self()
Enum.each(
  db_queries,
  fn query \rightarrow
    spawn(fn \rightarrow
       result = run_query(query)
       send(caller_pid, {:result, result})
    end)
  end
```



```
Enum.map(
   db_queries,
   fn _query →
      receive do
      {:result, result} → result
      end
   end
)
```

The bartender asks what they want. Two threads walk into a bar.

```
init mem = :erlang.memory(:total)
Enum.each(
  1..100_000,
 fn _ → spawn(fn → Process.sleep(:infinity) end) end
round((:erlang.memory(:total) - init_mem) / 1_000_000)
```

264 MB



demo







context switching

preemptive typically every Ims or less

=> fair distribution of CPU stable progress of the entire system

demo









fault tolerance

provide service in the presence of errors self-heal as soon as possible

process crash

caused by an unhandled exception only the affected process goes down other processes can be notified



demo



understanding production behaviour

demo

distributed Elixir

terminal

\$ iex --- name node1@127.0.0.1

OOC

iex(node1@127.0.0.1)1>

terminal \$ iex --- name node2@127.0.0.1 iex(node2@127.0.0.1)1>



on node2
Node.connect(:"node1@127.0.0.1")



```
# on node2
Node.spawn(
    :"node1@127.0.0.1",
    fn ->
        I0.puts("Hello from #{node()}")
    end
)
# Hello from node1@127.0.0.1
```

location transparency

pid may point to a remote process



concurrency == distributed programming

demo

lightweight processes message-passing concurrency preemptive scheduling process isolation termination notifications remote shell distribution

case study



ingestion steps

consume bytes compose event xml parse event xml apply event to the model notify connected users store to database





db writing challenge

frequent db insertions



batching

inserting n rows at once

















requirement	system A	system B
http server	Nginx	Erlang
request processing	Ruby on Rails	Erlang
long-running requests	Go	Erlang
server-wide state	Redis	Erlang
stored data	Redis and MongoDB	Erlang
background jobs	cron, bash, ruby	Erlang
crash recovery	upstart	Erlang

demo project source code

https://github.com/sasa1977/soul_of_erlang_and_elixir

https://bsky.app/profile/sasajuric.bsky.social
 https://www.linkedin.com/in/sasajuric/
 https://x.com/sasajuric