

Asynchronous Events in Clojure

@stuartsierra

Clojure NYC
November 17, 2010

ØMQ

```
int main () {
    void *context = zmq_init (1);

    // Socket to talk to clients
    void *responder = zmq_socket (context, ZMQ_SUB);
    zmq_bind (responder, "tcp://*:5555");

    while (1) {
        // Wait for next request from client
        zmq_msg_t request;
        zmq_msg_init (&request);
        zmq_rcv (responder, &request, 0);
        printf ("Received request: [%s]\n",
            (char *) zmq_msg_data (&request));
    }
}
```

ØMQ

```
(defn start-receiver []  
  (future  
    (let [socket (.socket zmq-context ZMQ/SUB)]  
      (.bind socket "tcp://*:5555")  
      (loop []  
        (let [message (.recv socket)]  
          ;; do some work  
          (recur))))))
```

Erlang

- Fast process creation/destruction
- Ability to support >> 10 000 concurrent processes with largely unchanged characteristics.
- Fast asynchronous message passing.
- Copying message-passing semantics (share-nothing concurrency).
- Process monitoring.
- Selective message reception.

-Ulf Wiger of Erlang Solutions, Ltd.

<http://ulf.wiger.net/weblog/2008/02/06/what-is-erlang-style-concurrency/>

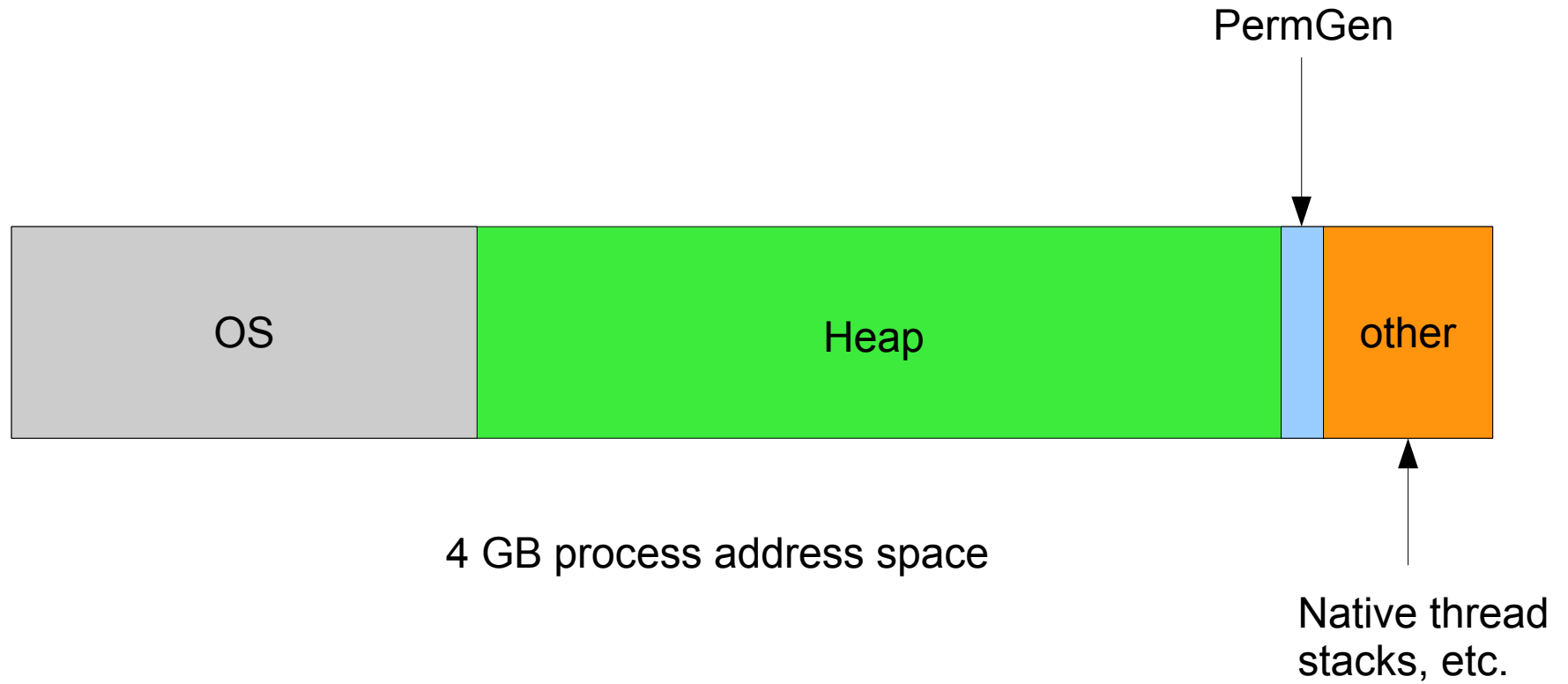
Erlang

```
loop(Users, N) ->
  receive
    {connect, Pid, User, Password} ->
      io:format("connection request from:~p ~p ~p~n",
                [Pid, User, Password]),
      case member({User, Password}, Users) of
        true ->
          Max = max_connections(),
          if
            N > Max ->
              Pid ! {ftp_server,
                    {error, too_many_connections}},
              loop(Users, N);
            true ->
              New = spawn_link(?MODULE, handler, [Pid]),
              Pid ! {ftp_server, {ok, New}},
              loop(Users, N + 1)
```

Actors in Clojure?

- Inbox: a `LinkedBlockingQueue`
 - Has an address of `UUID@hostname:port`
- Actor: a function looping in a `Future`
- Node: all actors / inboxes on one JVM
- server-listener actor listens on TCP port
- node-supervisor actor monitors other actors

32-bit JVM Memory



<http://java-monitor.com/forum/showthread.php?t=570>

Lamina

```
(defprotocol AlephChannel
  (listen- [ch fs])
  (receive-while- [ch callback-predicate-map])
  (receive- [ch fs])
  (receive-all- [ch fs])
  (cancel-callback- [ch fs])
  (enqueue- [ch msgs])
  (enqueue-and-close- [ch msgs])
  (on-zero-callbacks- [ch fs])
  (sealed? [ch])
  "Returns true if no further messages can be enqueued.")
  (closed? [ch])
  "Returns true if queue is sealed and there are no pending
  messages."))
```


Lamina

```
(defn map*
```

```
  "Maps 'f' over all messages from 'ch'. Returns a new  
channel which is receive-only."
```

```
  [f ch]
```

```
  (fork (wrap-channel ch f)))
```

```
(defn filter* [f ch]
```

```
  "Filters all messages from 'ch'. Returns a new channel  
which is receive-only."
```

```
  (fork (wrap-channel ch #(if (f %) % ::ignore))))
```

```
(defn take*
```

```
  "Returns a receive-only channel which will contain the  
first 'n' messages from 'ch'."
```

RX

```
public interface IObservable<out T> {  
    IDisposable Subscribe(IObserver<T> observer);  
}
```

```
public interface IObserver<in T> {  
    void OnCompleted();  
    void OnError(Exception error);  
    void OnNext(T value);  
}
```