



# The Concurnas Programming Language

- Jason Tatton. Founder Concurnas Ltd.



# Jason Tatton

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- Coding since age 9
- 10 years experience in building automated trading systems
- Created Concurnas in 2017

# Concurnas

A JVM Programming Language!



Easy to Learn

*Pythonic Syntax*



Easy to Scale

*Use the same code on a laptop, server or the cloud*



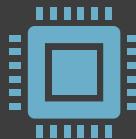
High Performance

*Runs on the JVM*



Multi Paradigm, multi Domain

*Enterprise, scientific computing, finance*



Supporting modern concurrency

*Multi-core GPU and GPU hardware*



Open Source

*MIT license*

# Hello World!

```
def gcd(x int){  
    y = 3  
    while(y){  
        (x, y) = (y, x mod y)  
    }  
    x  
}  
  
for(x in 101 to 105){  
    System.out.println("hello world {x} => {gcd(x)}")!  
}
```

Output:

```
hello world 102 => 3  
hello world 104 => 1  
hello world 101 => 1  
hello world 105 => 3  
hello world 103 => 1
```

- Functions may exist in isolation
- Function return type is implicit
- Type of y is inferred
- All types can be used in Boolean expressions
- Tuples are supported
- return statement is implicit
- Numerical range expression
- ! creates a concurrent 'isolate' (light-weight thread)
- String formatting
- Utilizing the JDK

Your output may vary!

# Modern engineering problems?



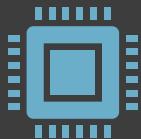
Performance

*Most code needs to be fast*



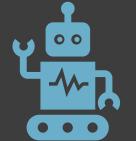
Productivity

*Developer performance*



Hardware architecture

*Multi-core CPU and GPU's*



Modern problems

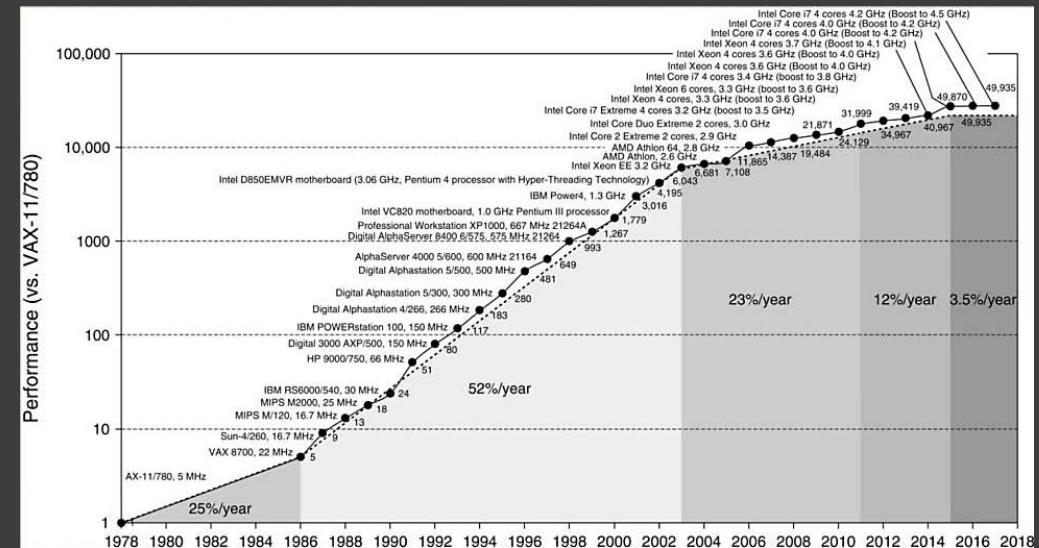
*Reactive Systems, AI, ML*



Heterogenous teams

*Not everyone is a software engineer*

CPU's aren't getting quicker!



# Why a new Language?

- Concurrent programming is really hard  
*Thread and lock with shared mutable state is hard*
- Why not library based solutions?  
*Work around the core issue*
- Why not augment an existing language?  
*Works ok but limits options*
- Why not modify an existing language?  
*Good luck!*
- New languages let us embrace modern techniques  
*Such as: improved object oriented model, null safety, vectorization etc*

# Concurnas Goals

- First class citizen support for concurrency  
*A new simplified model on the CPU, on the GPU*
- Easy to learn, productive and high performance  
*Familiar syntax, with optimized machine code*
- Runs on the JVM  
*Garbage Collection, use existing Java code (and the JDK)*
- Optionally lightweight syntax  
*Some code should be verbose!*
- Dynamically typed syntax with type safety  
*Like python but with Java scale*
- Principle of least surprise  
*Concurnas code needs to look familiar*
- Scale with minimal effort  
*From prototype to production to the cloud*
- Large data sets  
*More data than can fit in RAM*
- Modern software engineering practices  
*null safety, better object orientation, pattern matching*
- Extensible  
*Embed other languages in Concurnas code*
- Domain Specific Language support  
*Solving domain problems*
- Around for a long time  
*The next 30 years!*

# Time for some code!

# Expressions & Variables

```
π = Math.PI      //unicode
πString = "π=" + π //π=3.141592653589793
/* ~~~ multiline comment ~~~ */
10, 9., 10e5, 10.0f, 345345L, true, 'c' //normal constants

[1 2 3 4]      //an integer array
[1, 2, 3, 4] //an integer list
[1 2 ; 3 4] //an integer matrix definition

2+2**4 mod 5          //expression
a == 3 or b < 9       //boolean expression
2 if something() else 15 //if expression
```

```
anint = 8
avar int = 99        //explicit type
var reassignOk = 12   //new variable
val nonReassign = 99 //new variable cannot reassign
```

# Control flow

```
for(a in [1 2 3]){
    processIt(a)
} //iterator for

for(a = 1; a <= 3; a++) {
    processIt(a)
} //c style for

while(xyz()){
    doSomething()
}

loop{ //while(true)
    if(doSomething()){
        break
    }
}
```

```
while(xyz()){
    doSomething()
}else{ //if while loop never entered
    onfail()
}
```

```
if(a){
    doThis()
}elseif(b){
    doAnother()
}else{
    another()
}
```

# All blocks can return

```
speed = {  
    distance = 100  
    time = 24.  
    distance/time  
}// all bracketed blocks return
```

```
astring = if(condition()){ "value1" } else{ "value2" }
```

```
pows = for(x in 2 to 6){  
    2**x  
}  
//pows == [4, 8, 16, 32, 64]
```

# Functions - Compact Syntax

```
//an ordinary function:  
def adder(a int, b int) int {  
    return a + b  
}  
  
//we can use => to compact the function to:  
def adder(a int, b int) int => return a + b  
  
//infer the return type:  
def adder(a int, b int) => return a + b  
  
//implicit return expression - most compact form!  
def adder(a int, b int) => a + b
```

```
//calling a function  
adder(8, 7) // == 15
```

# Functions

```
def adder(a int, b int) => a + b
def adder(a int, b float) => a + b
def adder(a int) => adder(a, 10) //overloading
```

```
def manyAdder(a int, nums int...) => for(n in nums){n + a}

//varargs called as:
manyAdder(10, 1, 2, 3) // returns: [11, 12, 13]
```

```
def wdefaults(a=10, b=2, c=3) => a + b * c //default args

wdefaults()      //== 16

wdefaults(c=10) //named parameter == 30
```

# Exceptions

```
class ArgumentException(msg String) < Exception(msg)

def process(a int) int {
    if(a < 2){
        throw new ArgumentException("a is smaller than 2")
    }
    a ** 2
}

result = try{
    process(1)
}catch(e ArgumentException){
    0 //react as appropriate
}catch(e){
    throw e //re-throw
} finally{
    afterProcCall() //always called
}
```

# Object Oriented Programming

# Basic Objects

```
class Person(~name String, ~surname String){  
    this(surname String) => this('dave', surname )  
    likes = java.util.HashSet<String>()  
    def addLike(like String) boolean => likes.add(like)  
}  
  
p1 = new Person('talyor')  
p2 = Person('amber', 'smith')  
  
p1.addLike('sprouts')  
oldname = p1.name //same as: oldname =p1.getName()  
p1.name = "jon"    //same as: p1.setName("jon")  
  
p3 = p1@ //copy operator  
  
assert p1 == p3 //== p1.equals(p3)  
assert p1 &<> p2//p1 <> p3  
  
people = set()  
people..add(p1).add(p3)  
assert people.size() == 1//one item stored by value
```

# Traits & Generics

```
abstract class AbstractFooClass{
  def foo() => "version AbstractFooClass"
}

trait A{ def foo() => "version A" }
trait B{ def foo() => "version B" }

class FooClass extends AbstractFooClass with B, A{
  override def foo() => "" + [super[AbstractFooClass].foo(), super[A].foo(), super[B].foo()]
}

FooClass().foo() //returns [version AbstractFooClass, version A, version B]
```

```
class Pair<X, Y>(-x X, -y Y) //generic class

p1 = Pair<String, int>("one", 1)
p2 = Pair("name", "another")
```

# Objects - Others

```
enum Food{Tomatoes, Beans, Bread, Grapes, Pizza}

annotation MapsTo{//a custom annotation
    name String
    mapTo String
    repeat = 1//annotation field default value
}
class MyClass2{
    @MapsTo(name = "mappingName", mapTo = "anotherName")
    afield int = 99//afield is annotated with MapsTo
}
```

```
class Robot{
    -path = ""
    private def add(dir String) => path += dir
    def up() => add("U")
    def down() => add("D")
    def left() => add("L")
    def right() => add("R")
}

result = with(Robot()){
    up(); up(); left(); down(); right()
    path
}//result == UULDR
```

# Null Safe

```
aString String = "something"  
aString = null //compilation error, aString is not of a nullable type.
```

```
aString String? = "something"  
aString = null //this is ok
```

```
len = aString.length()      // compilation error
```

```
len = aString?.length()     // ok - null handled
```

```
len = (aString?:"").length() // ok - null handled
```

```
len = aString???.length()    // ok - null handled (sort of)
```

```
len = if(null == aString){  
    -1  
}else{  
    aString.length() // ok - cannot be null  
}
```

# Functional Programming

# Function references & Lambdas

```
def plus(a int, b int) => a + b
op2 (int, int) int = plus&

result = op2(10, 1)
```

```
op (int) int = plus&(10, int)

result = op(1)
```

```
def toEach(opon int[], func (int) int) {
  for(o in opon) {
    func(o)
  }
}

toEach([1 2 3], op)
```

```
toEach([1 2 3], a => a+10) //lambda definition
```

# Pattern Matching

```
class Person(-yearOfBirth int)

def matcher(an Object){
  match(an){
    Person(yearOfBirth < 1970) => "Person. Born: {an.yearOfBirth}"
    Person      => "A Person"
    int; < 10 => "small number"
    int        => "another number"
    x          => "unknown input"
  }
}

res = matcher(x) for x in [Person(1829), Person(2010), "oops", 43, 5]
//res == [Person. Born: 1829, A Person, unknown input, another number, small number]
```

# Concurrency!

# Isolates

```
def gcd(x int){  
    y = 25  
    while(y){  
        (x, y) = (y, x % y)  
    }  
    x  
}  
  
res1 int: = gcd(92312)! // int: is a ref type  
res2      = {gcd(2438210)}! //complex calculation here  
  
larger     = res1 if res1 > res2 else res2  
  
await(res1)
```

```
n = 10  
nplusone = { n += 1; n }!  
nminusone = { n -= 1; n }!  
  
assert n == 10  
assert nplusone == 11  
assert nminusone == 9
```

# Reactive Computing

```
asset1price int:;  
asset2price int:;  
  
every(asset1price, asset2price){  
    if(asset1price > asset2price){  
        //... initiate trading action here!  
        return//terminate future invocation of the every block  
    }  
}
```

```
a int:  
b int:  
  
c = every(a, b){ a + b }  
  
every(c){  
    System.out.println("latest sum: " + c)  
}
```

```
c <= a + b
```

# Actors

```
actor IdGenerator(prefix String){  
    cnt = 0//implicit private state  
    def getNextId(){  
        toReturn = prefix + "-" + cnt  
        cnt += 1  
        toReturn  
    }  
}  
  
idGen = IdGenerator("IDX")//create an actor  
anId1 = idGen.getNextId()//==> IDX-0  
anId2 = idGen.getNextId()//==> IDX-1
```

```
setService = actor java.util.HashSet<int>()  
setService.add(65)
```

# Distributed Computing

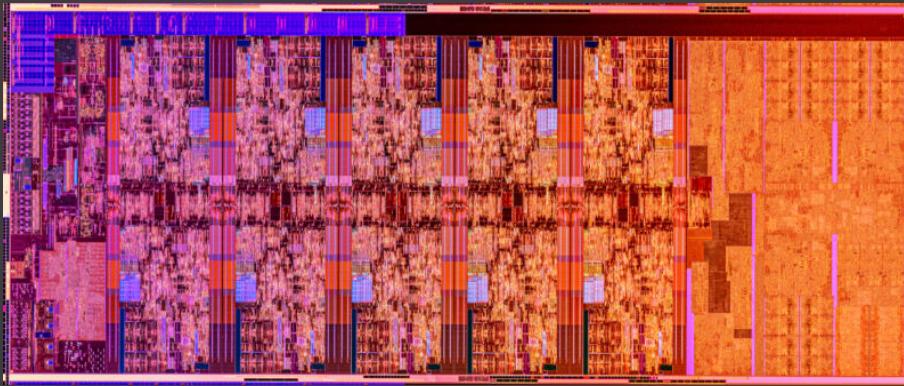
```
//A remote server:  
remServer = new com.concurnas.lang.dist.RemoteServer(port = 42001)  
remServer.startServer()  
//wait until time to terminate...  
remServer.close()
```

```
//A client:  
rm = Remote('localhost', port = 42001)  
//execute code remotely, returning a ref:  
ans int: = {10+10}!(rm.onfailRetry())  
rm.close()  
//ans == 20
```

# GPU Computing

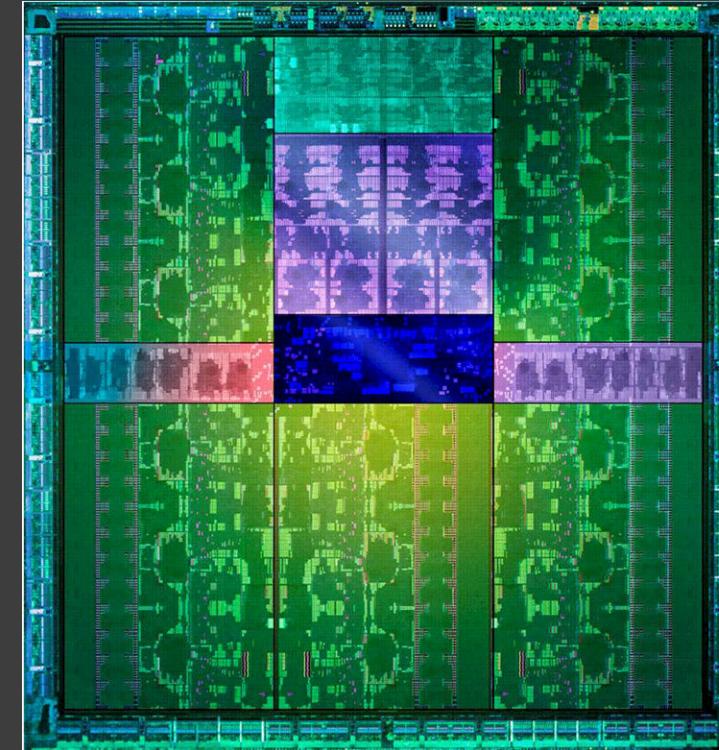
# Motivation

Modern CPU Die



*64 cores*

Modern GPU Die



*4,000+ cores*

# Utilizing the GPU

```
gpukernel 1 twoArrayOp(global in A float[], global in B float[], global out result float[])
{
    idx = get_global_id(0)
    result[idx] = A[idx]**2 + B[idx] + 10
}

//select a GPU device...
device = gpus.GPU().getGPUDevices()[0].devices[0]

//we create three arrays of size 10 on this GPU, 2 as input
inGPU1 = device.makeOffHeapArrayIn(float[].class, 10)
inGPU2 = device.makeOffHeapArrayIn(float[].class, 10)
result = device.makeOffHeapArrayOut(float[].class, 10) //1 output

//now we write to the arrays on the GPU
c1 := inGPU1.writeToBuffer([ 1.f 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ])
c2 := inGPU2.writeToBuffer([ 1.f 2 1 2 3 1 2 1 2 1 ])

inst = twoArrayOp(inGPU1, inGPU2, result)
compute := device.exe(inst, [10], c1, c2)//run 10 cores to process
ret = result.readFromBuffer(compute)
```

# Working with Data

# Working with Data

```
anArray = [1 2 3 4 5 6]
aList = [1,2,3,4,5,6]
aMatrix = [1 2 3 ; 4 5 6]
aMap = {"one" -> 1, "two" -> 2, "three" -> 3}

cont = "one" in aMap //checking for a value in a map
del aMap["one"]      //remove element from aMap
arrayValue = anArray[2] //individual value from array
arrayValue = aMatrix[0,1] //individual value from matrix
subarray = anArray[4 ...] //a sub array; [5 6]

longNames = aMap[key] for key in aMap if key.length() > 3
ret = i+10 for i in aList if i mod 2 == 0

def getDetails() => ("dave", 27) //returns a tuple
(name, age) = getDetails() //tuple decomposition

reversed(enumerate(zip([1,2,3], [4,5,6])))
// [(2, (3, 6)), (1, (2, 5)), (0, (1, 4))]
```

# Vectorization & ranges

```
mat = [1 2 ; 3 4]

mat2 = mat^*2 + 1 //==> [3 5 ; 7 9]

mat^^*2 + 1      //in-place vectorized operation.

mat3 = mat + 1   //implicit vectorization
```

```
numRange = 0 to 10      //a range of: [0, ..., 10]
tepRange = 0 to 10 step 2 //a range of: [0, 2, ..., 10]
revRange = tepRange reversed //a reversed range of: [10, 8, ..., 0]
decRange = 10 to 0 step 2 //a range of: [10, 8, ..., 0]
infRange = 0 to          //an infinite sequence [0,... ]
steInfRa = 0 to step 2   //a stepped infinite sequence [0, 2,... ]
decInfRa = 0 to step (-1) //a stepped infinitely decreasing sequence [0, -1,... ]

val = x for x in numRange //list comprehension over a range
check = 2 in numRange    //checking for the presence of a value
```

# Other Languages

```
from com.mycompany.myproduct.langs using mylisp, myFortran, myAPL
calc = mylisp||(+ 1 2 (* 2 3))|| // == 9

myFortran|| program hello print *, "Hello World!" end program hello|| //prints "Hello World!"

lotto = myAPL || x[↓x<6?40] || //6 unique random numbers from 1 to 40
```

```
from com.mycompany.myproduct.langs using mylisp, mySQL, myAPL
class Person(name String, yearOfBirth int)
people list<Person>;

millennials = mySQL||select name from people where yearOfBirth between 1980 and 2000||

myAPL||fact{x/\omega}||
fact(10) //use of function defined in myAPL. returns: 3628800
```

```
from com.mycompany.myproduct.langs using mylisp
aString = "i'm a String!“

invalidCode = mylisp||(+ 1 2 (* 2 aString))|| //results in compilation time error
moreInvalidCode = mylisp||(+ 1 2 (* 2 3)||    //oops! Missing a closing ''
```

That's most of the code!

# Performance

- On a par with Java  
*~5% overhead from stack rolling and unrolling*
- Isolates scale better  
*Than conventional threads*  
*Easier to reason about*
- Developer productivity  
*Concurnas requires less code to do more*  
*Null safety leads to better code*
- The JVM is always improving  
*Concurnas gets incremental upgrades for free*

# Future Developments – 2020!

- Better development tools
  - IDE (including debugger)*
  - Documentation generator*
  - Code formatter*
  - Gradle build plugin*
- Better Off Heap Memory Management
  - Value types*
  - Better language support*
- Faster Compiler
  - Runtime is really quick*
  - Compiler needs some work*
- Better GPU Computing
  - Objects*
  - Simplified GPU computing*
  - Cleaner interface*
- Automatic Differentiation
  - For Finance*
  - For Machine Learning*

# Concurnas Ltd.



Commercial support

*For Concurnas*

*Packages to suit all sizes of client*



Consultancy

*Language development*

*Financial services, enterprise computing*



Sponsored development

*Have a feature you'd like to see in Concurnas?*

*Get in touch!*

# Further Information

- Concurnas website  
[concurnas.com](http://concurnas.com)  
*Documentation*  
*Articles*  
*Videos*
- Download  
[concurnas.com/download.html](http://concurnas.com/download.html)  
*Or use: SKMAN! -* [sdkman.io](http://sdkman.io)  
  
`sdk install concurnas`
- Join us on discord  
[discord.gg/jFHfsqR](https://discord.gg/jFHfsqR)  
*Help and support*  
*Ideas and chat*
- Contribute  
[github.com/Concurnas/Concurnas](https://github.com/Concurnas/Concurnas)

# Questions?

