

PL@NES - Reading Club

Actors à la **Akka**

Christophe.VanGinneken@cs.kuleuven.be

THE FOLLOWING **PRESENTATION** IS **NOT** ABOUT A
SCIENTIFIC PAPER. IT INTRODUCES AN **INDUSTRY**-GRADE
TECHNOLOGY THAT IS REPRESENTATIVE FOR
THE LEVEL OF ADOPTION OF **THE ACTOR MODEL**.
OR MAYBE NOT...



STALLONE



RAMBO I

"FIRST BLOOD"

MARIO KASSAR et ANDREW VAJNA Présentent

SYLVESTER STALLONE

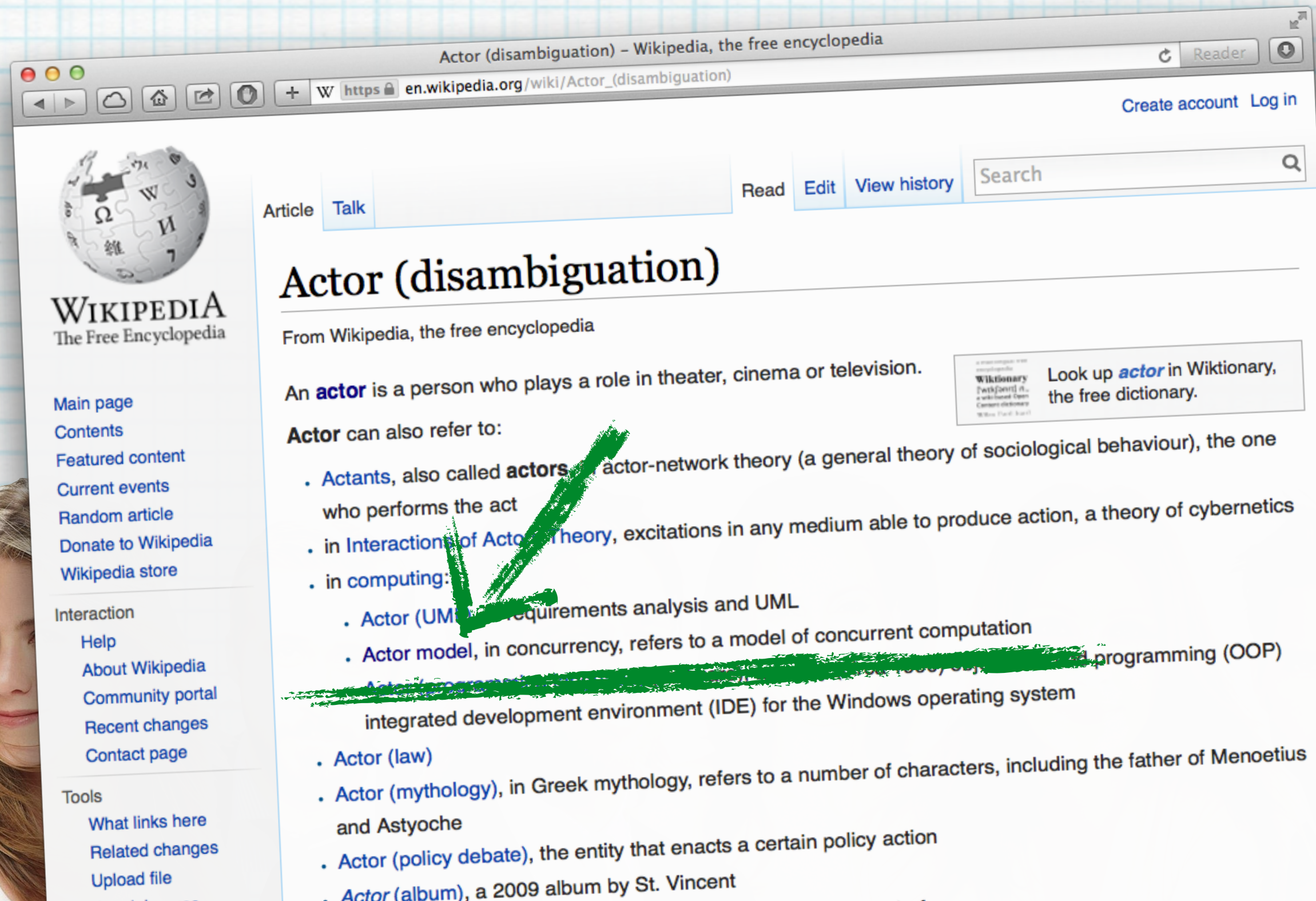
"RAMBO " I "

RICHARD CRENNAN BRIAN DENNEHY. Un film de TED KOTCHEFF. Musique de JERRY GOLDSMITH
Directeur de la photographie ANDREW LASZLO. Producteurs exécutifs MARIO KASSAR
et ANDREW VAJNA. Coproducteur exécutif HERB NANAS. Produit par BUZZ FEITSHANS

What are Actors?



What are Actors?



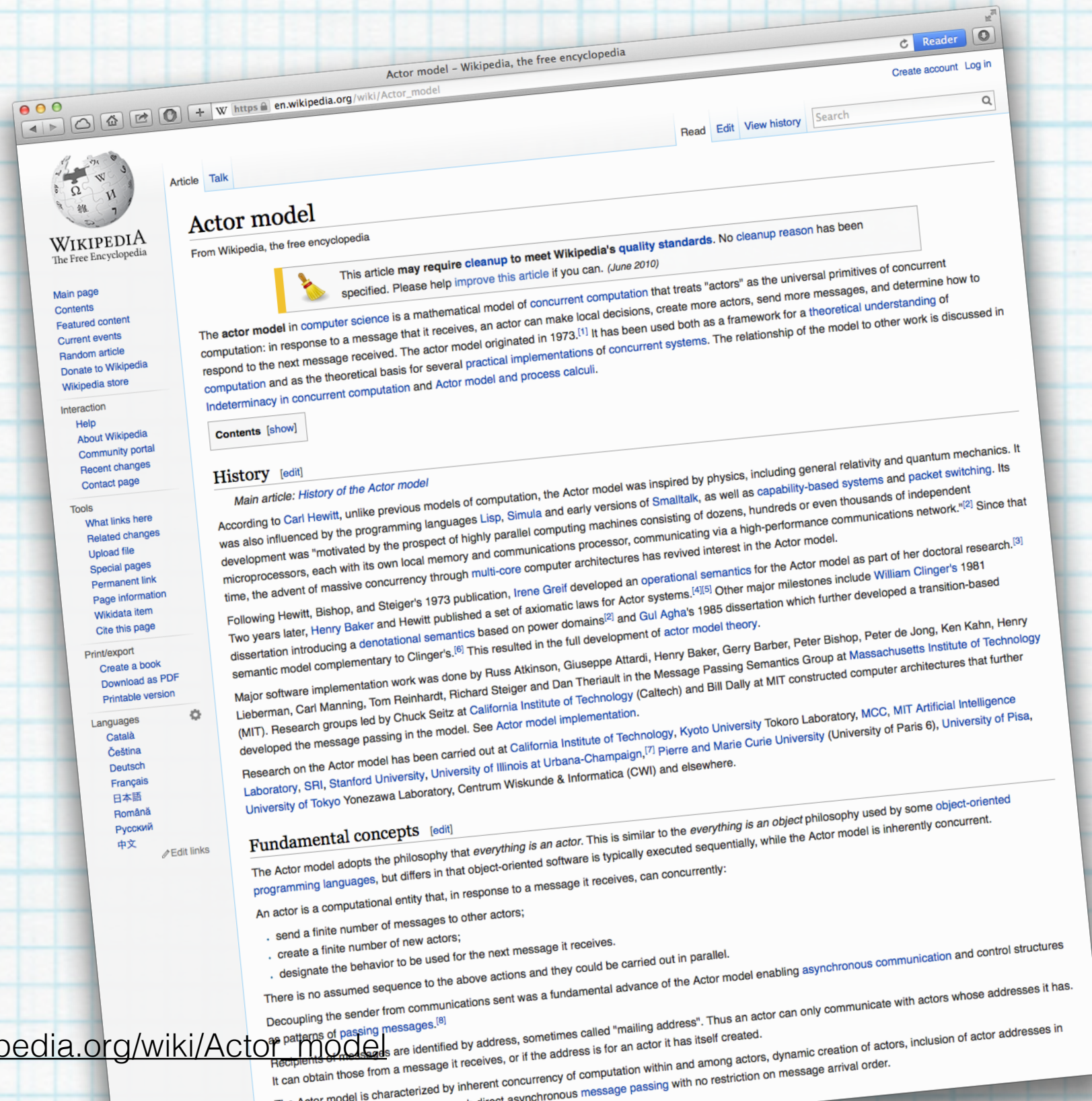
The screenshot shows the Wikipedia page for "Actor (disambiguation)". The browser window title is "Actor (disambiguation) - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia". The URL is "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Actor_(disambiguation)". The page features the Wikipedia logo and a sidebar with links to the Main page, Contents, Featured content, Current events, Random article, Donate to Wikipedia, and Wikipedia store. The main content area has tabs for "Article" and "Talk", and buttons for "Read", "Edit", and "View history". A search bar is located in the top right. The article title is "Actor (disambiguation)" with the subtitle "From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia". The text defines an actor as a person who plays a role in theater, cinema or television. It then lists other meanings of the word "Actor":

- **Actants**, also called **actors** in actor-network theory (a general theory of sociological behaviour), the one who performs the act
- in **Interaction of Actor theory**, excitations in any medium able to produce action, a theory of cybernetics
- in computing:
 - **Actor (UML)**, requirements analysis and UML
 - **Actor model**, in concurrency, refers to a model of concurrent computation
 - **Actor framework**, a programming (OOP) integrated development environment (IDE) for the Windows operating system
- **Actor (law)**
- **Actor (mythology)**, in Greek mythology, refers to a number of characters, including the father of Menoetius and Astyoche
- **Actor (policy debate)**, the entity that enacts a certain policy action
- **Actor (album)**, a 2009 album by St. Vincent

A green arrow points from the "Actor (UML)" entry to the "Actor framework" entry. A green highlight is under the "Actor framework" entry.

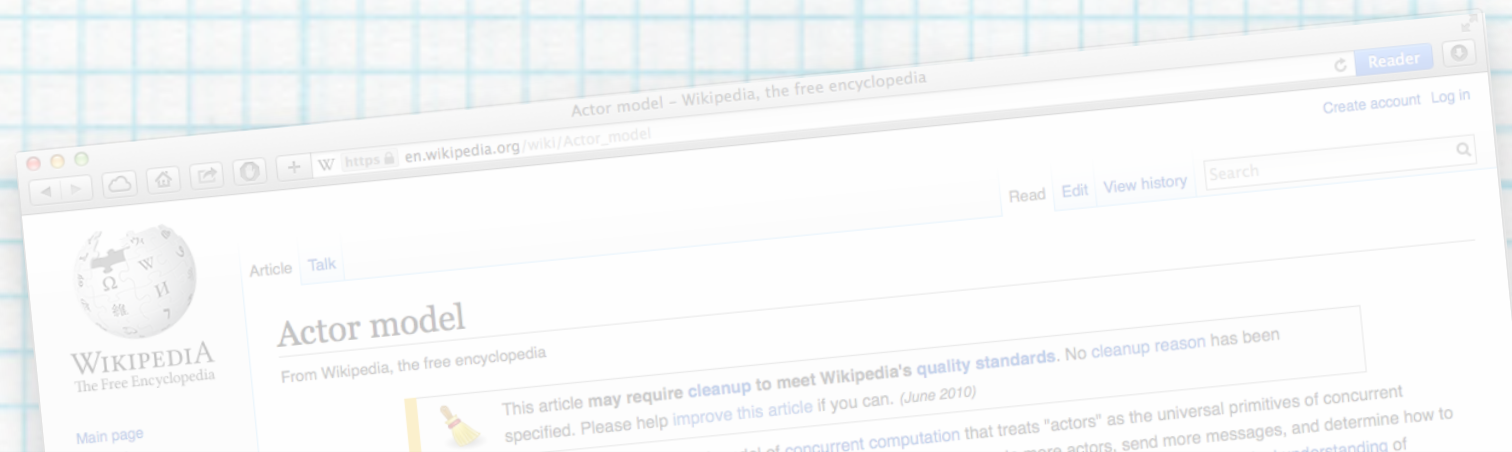
Wiktionary Look up **actor** in Wiktionary, the free dictionary.

The Actor Model

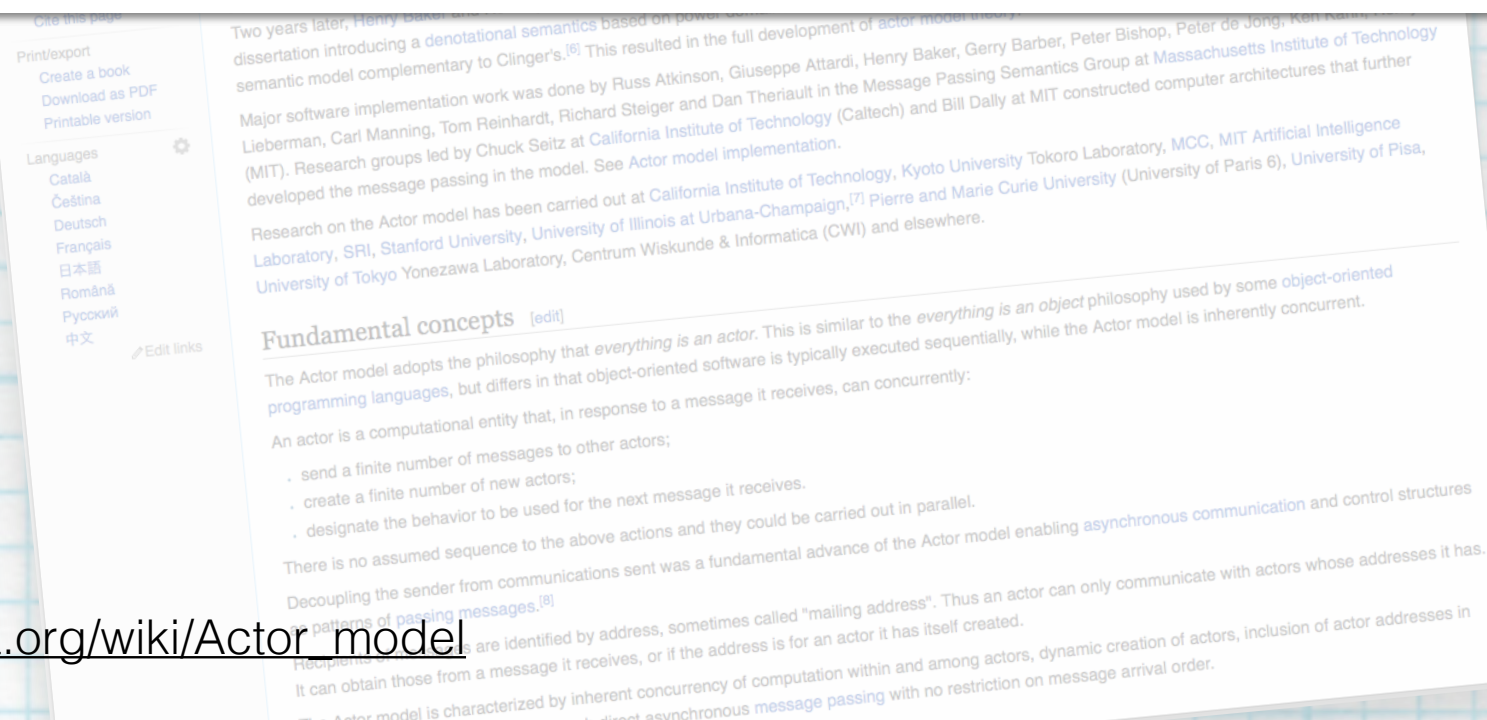


source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Actor_model

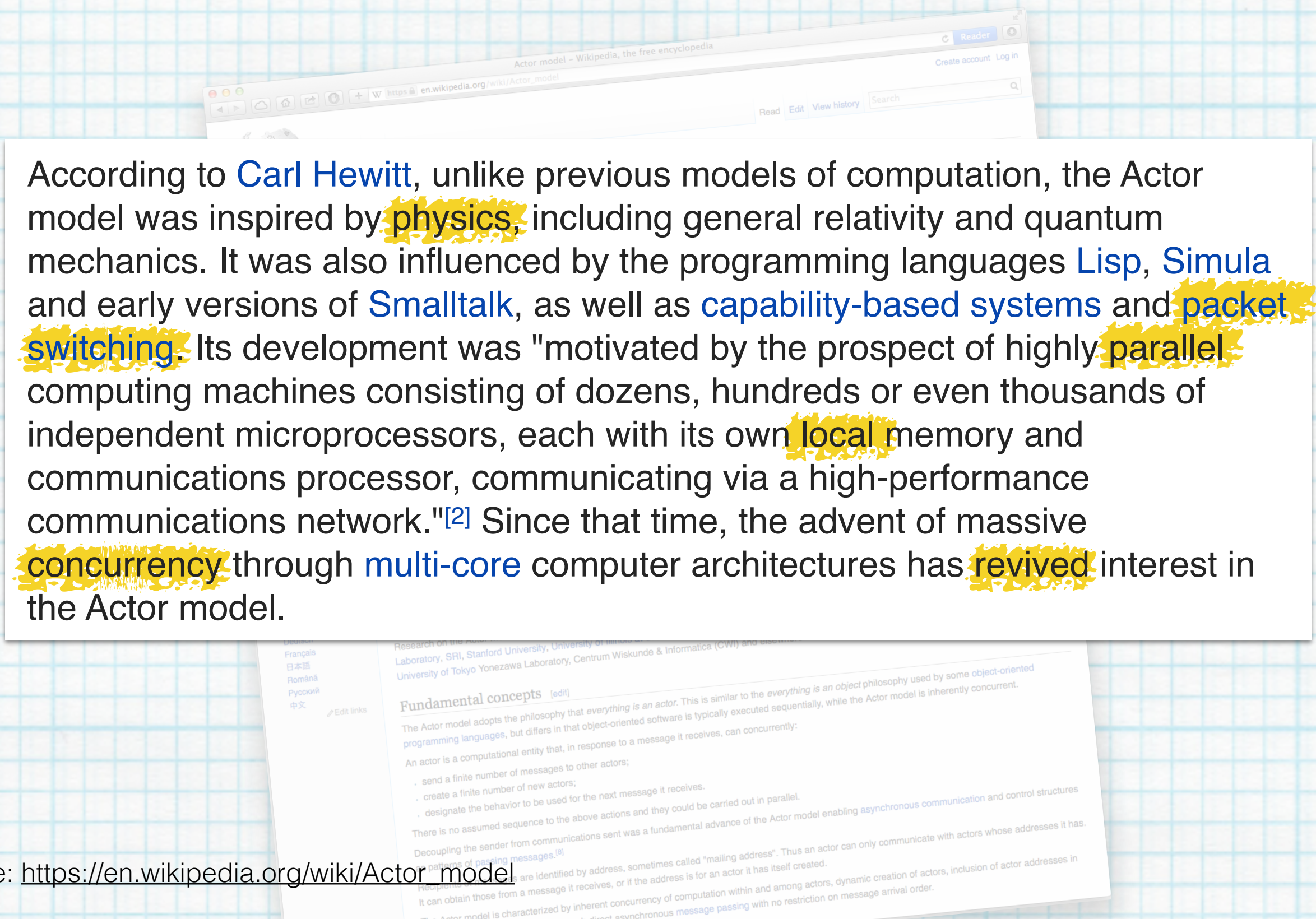
The Actor Model



The **actor model** in **computer science** is a mathematical **model of concurrent computation** that treats "actors" as the universal primitives of concurrent computation: in response to a **message** that it receives, an actor can make **local** decisions, create more actors, send more messages, and determine how to respond to the next message received.



The Actor Model



According to [Carl Hewitt](#), unlike previous models of computation, the Actor model was inspired by [physics](#), including general relativity and quantum mechanics. It was also influenced by the programming languages [Lisp](#), [Simula](#) and early versions of [Smalltalk](#), as well as [capability-based systems](#) and [packet switching](#). Its development was "motivated by the prospect of highly [parallel](#) computing machines consisting of dozens, hundreds or even thousands of independent microprocessors, each with its own [local](#) memory and communications processor, communicating via a high-performance communications network."^[2] Since that time, the advent of massive [concurrency](#) through [multi-core](#) computer architectures has [revived](#) interest in the Actor model.

source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Actor_model

The Actor Model

Fundamental concepts

The Actor model adopts the philosophy that *everything is an actor*. This is similar to the *everything is an object* philosophy used by some **object-oriented programming languages**, but differs in that object-oriented software is typically *executed sequentially*, while the Actor model is inherently *concurrent*.

An actor is a computational entity that, in response to a message it receives, can concurrently:

- *send a finite number of messages to other actors;*
- *create a finite number of new actors;*
- *designate the behavior to be used for the next message it receives.*

There is no assumed sequence to the above actions and they could be carried out in *parallel*.

The Actor Model

Applications

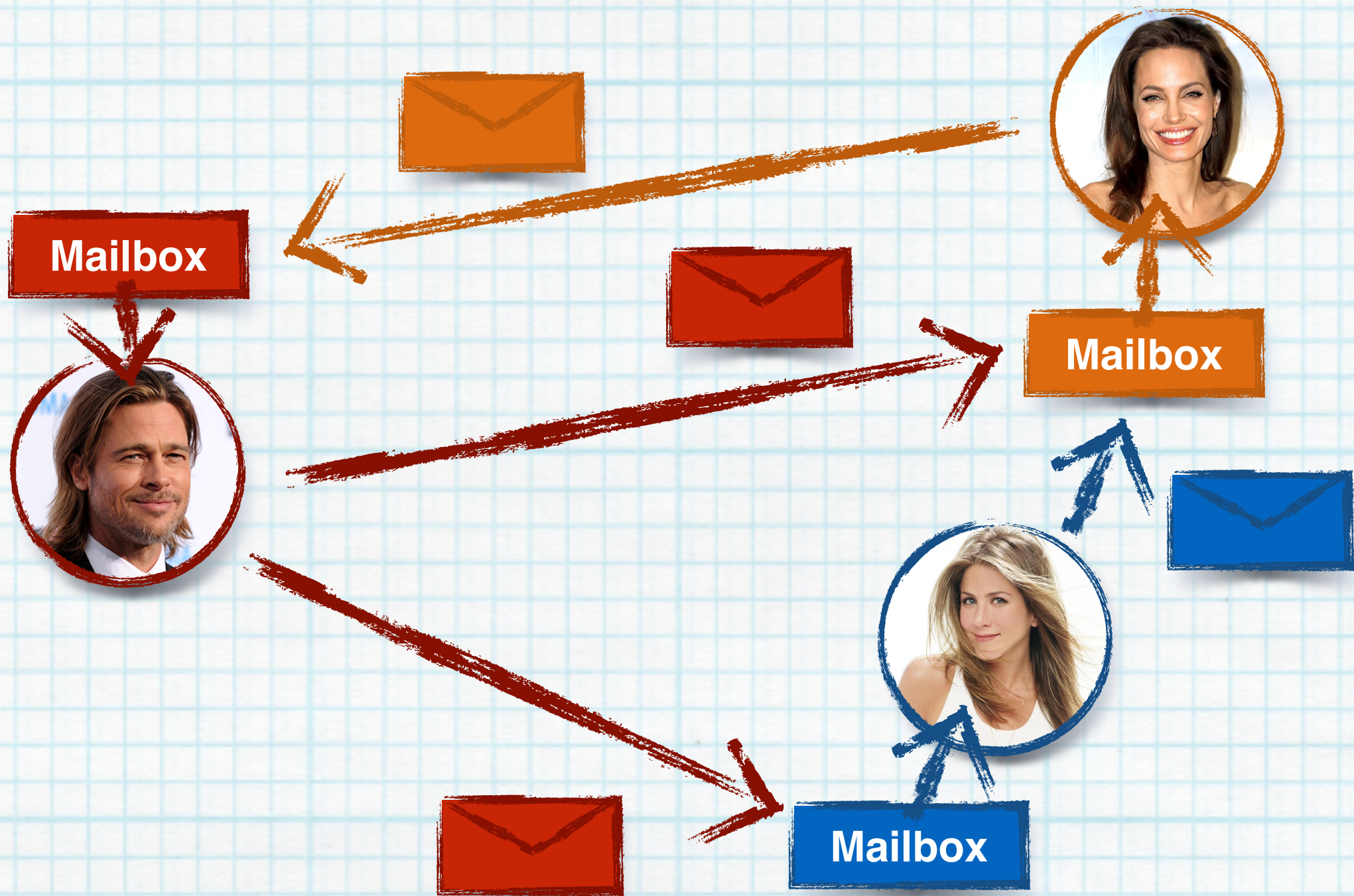


This article **needs additional citations for verification**. Please help [improve this article](#) by [adding citations to reliable sources](#). Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. *(December 2006)*

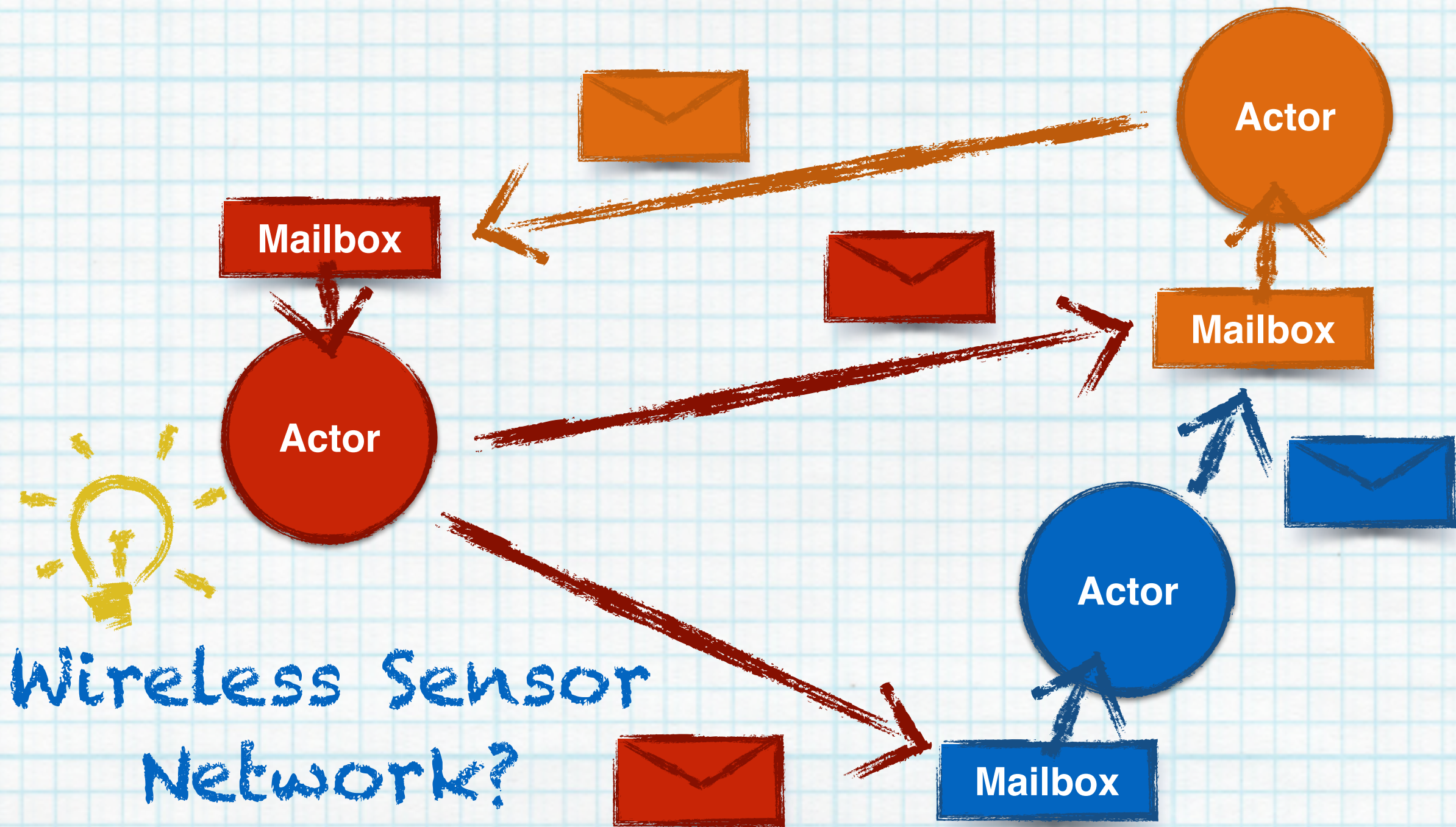
The Actors model can be used as a framework for modelling, understanding, and reasoning about, a wide range of [concurrent systems](#). For example:

- [Electronic mail](#) (e-mail) can be modeled as an Actor system. Accounts are modeled as Actors and [email addresses](#) as Actor addresses.
- [Web Services](#) can be modeled with [SOAP](#) endpoints modeled as Actor addresses.
- [Objects with locks](#) (e.g., as in [Java](#) and [C#](#)) can be modeled as a **Serializer**, provided that their implementations are such that messages can continually arrive (perhaps by being stored in an internal queue). A serializer is an important kind of Actor defined by the property that it is continually available to the arrival of new messages; every message sent to a serializer is guaranteed to arrive.

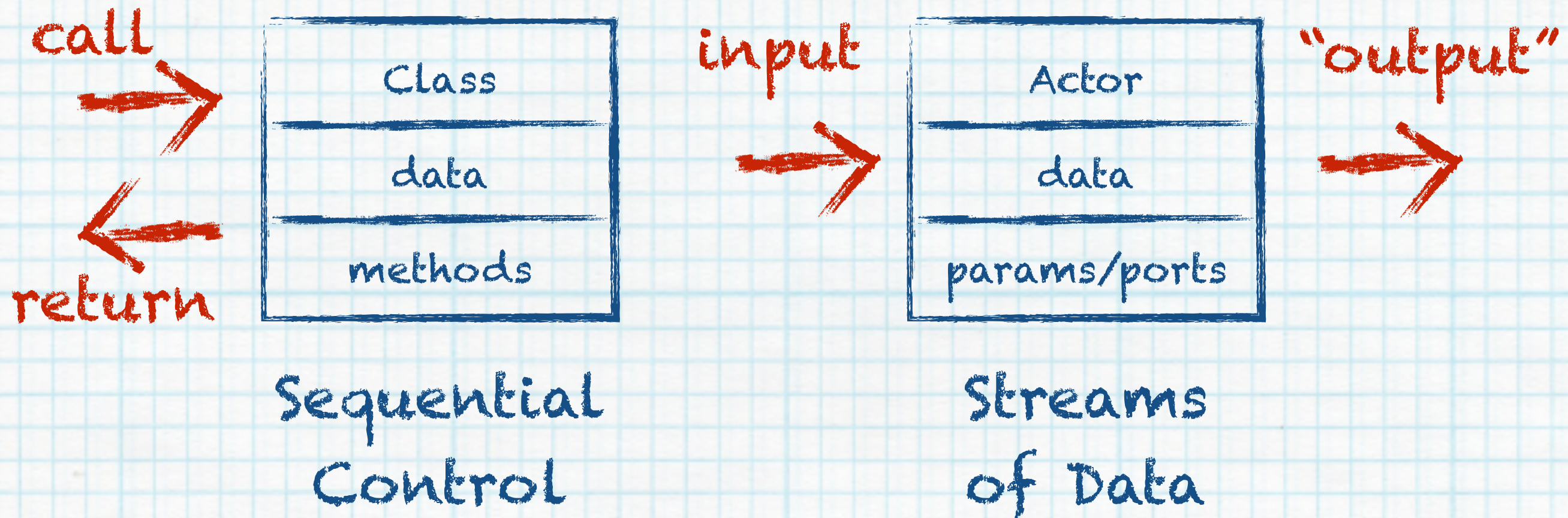
The Actor Model



The Actor Model

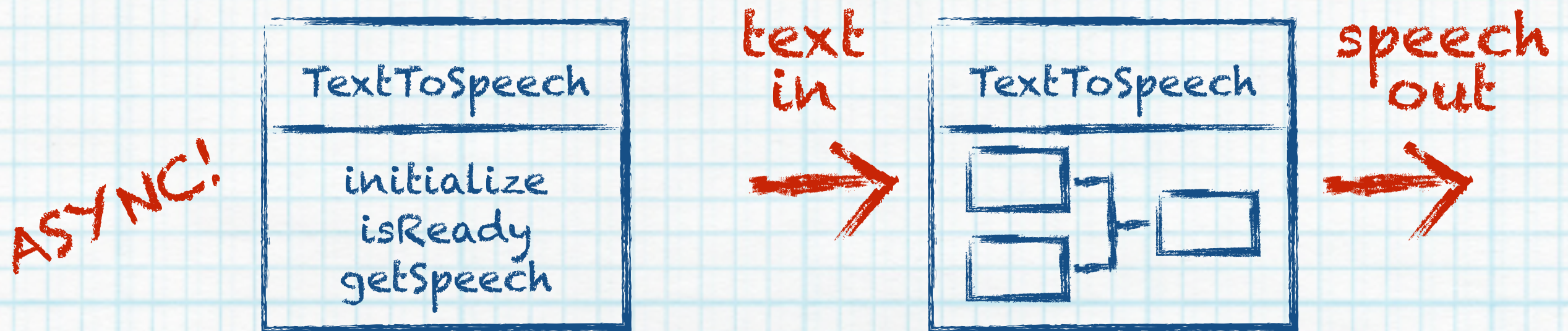


OOP vs Actor Model



source: Lee, Edward A. "Model-driven development-from object-oriented design to actor-oriented design." Workshop on Software Engineering for Embedded Systems: From Requirements to Implementation (aka The Monterey Workshop), Chicago. 2003.

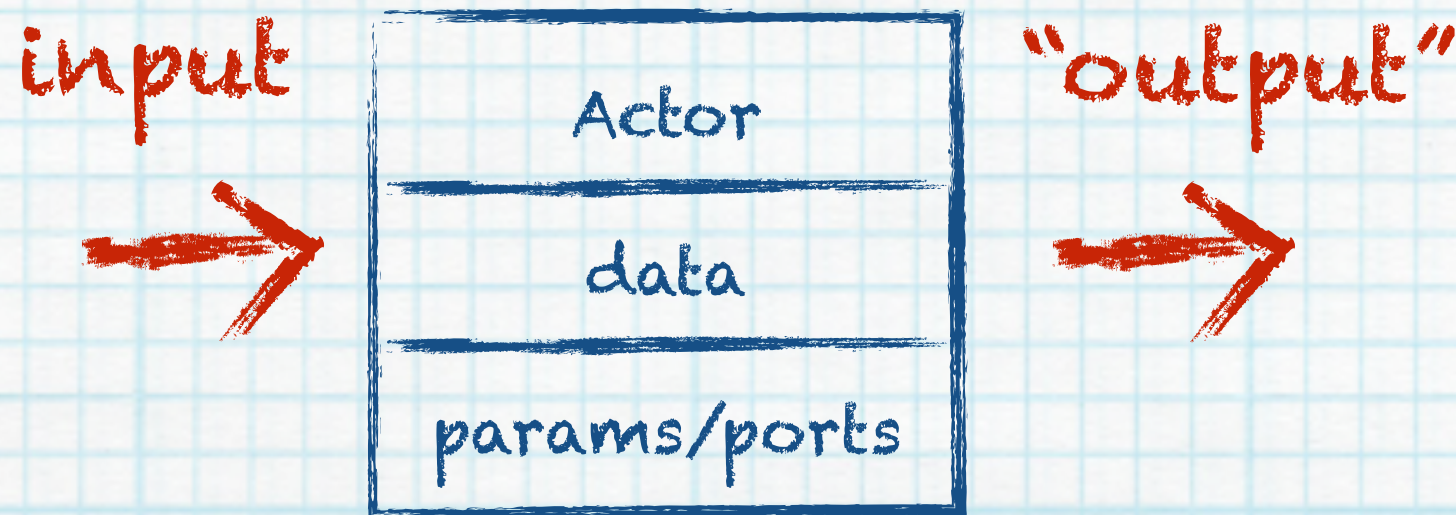
OOP vs Actor Model



OOP Interface
Procedures to be
invoked in sequence.

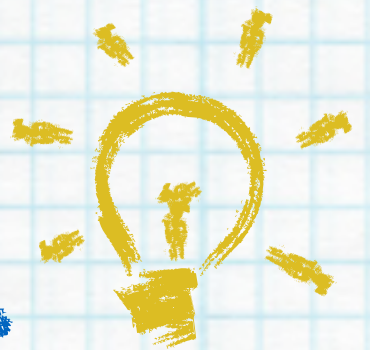
Actor Interface
"Give me text,
I'll give (you) Speech"

OOP vs Actor Model



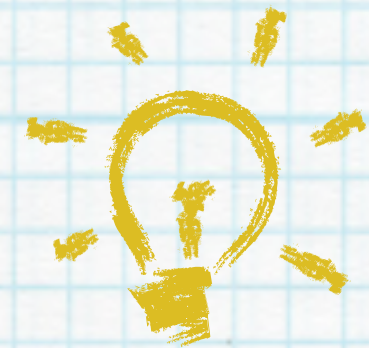
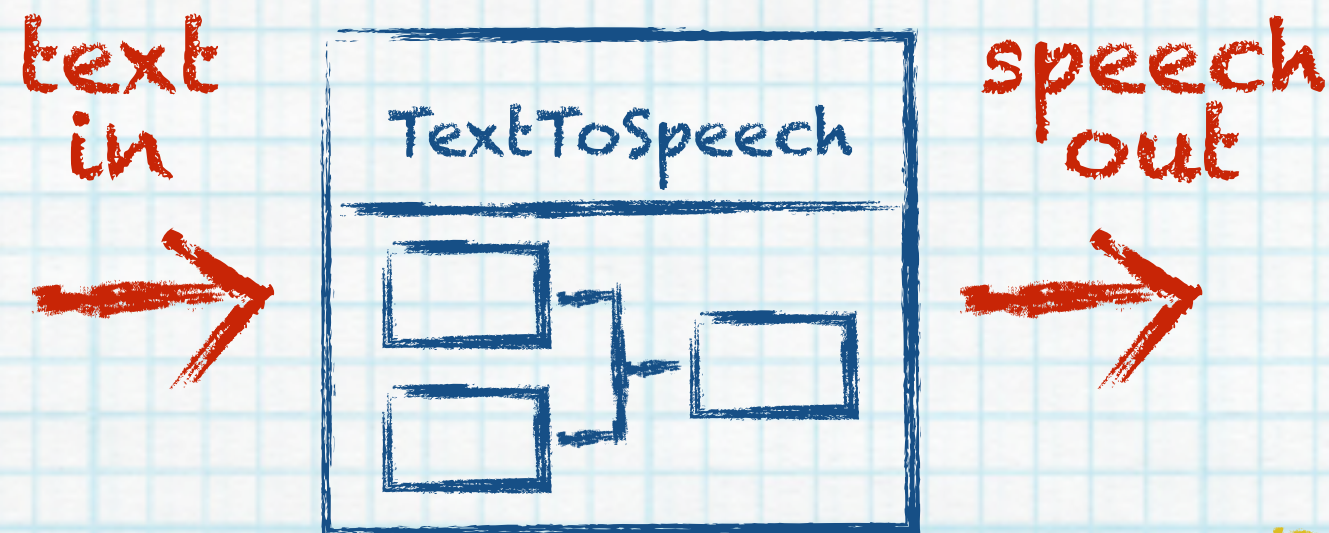
Streams
of Data

Reactive
Programming ?!



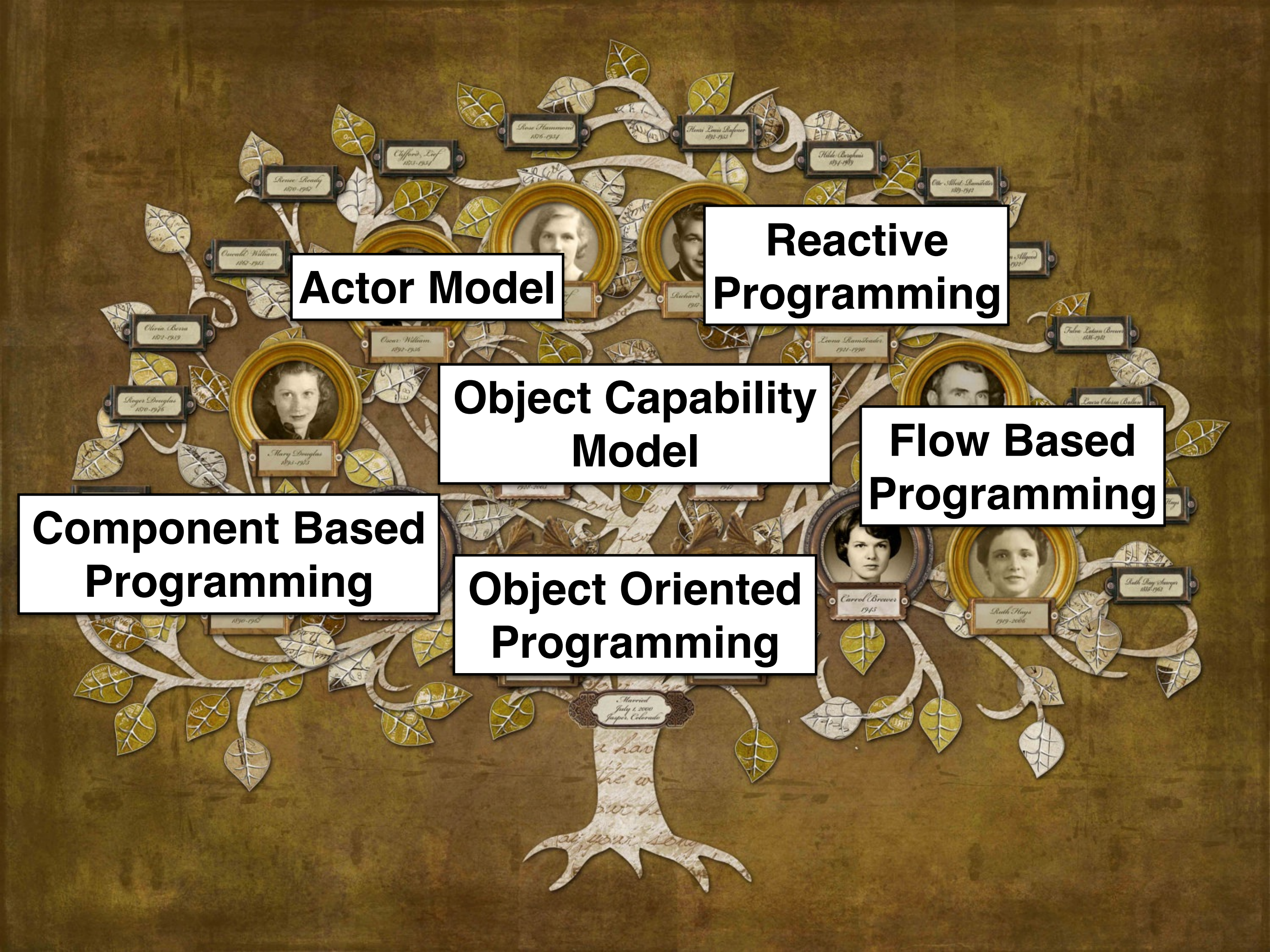
source: Lee, Edward A. "Model-driven development-from object-oriented design to actor-oriented design." Workshop on Software Engineering for Embedded Systems: From Requirements to Implementation (aka The Monterey Workshop), Chicago. 2003.

OOP vs Actor Model



Component Based
Programming ?!





Actor Model

**Reactive
Programming**

**Object Capability
Model**

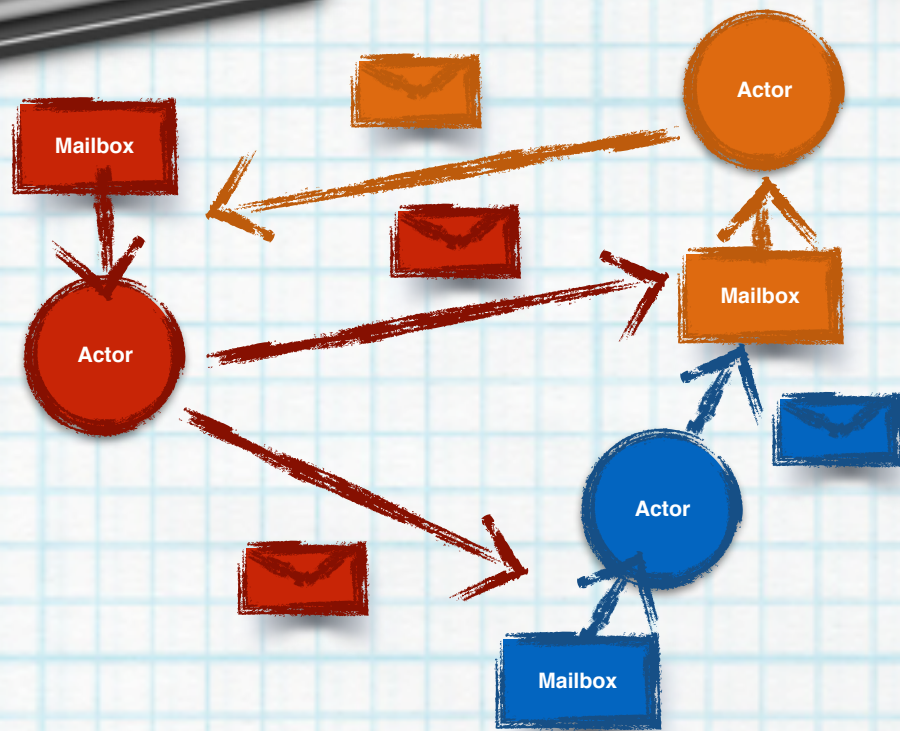
**Flow Based
Programming**

**Component Based
Programming**

**Object Oriented
Programming**



Success?



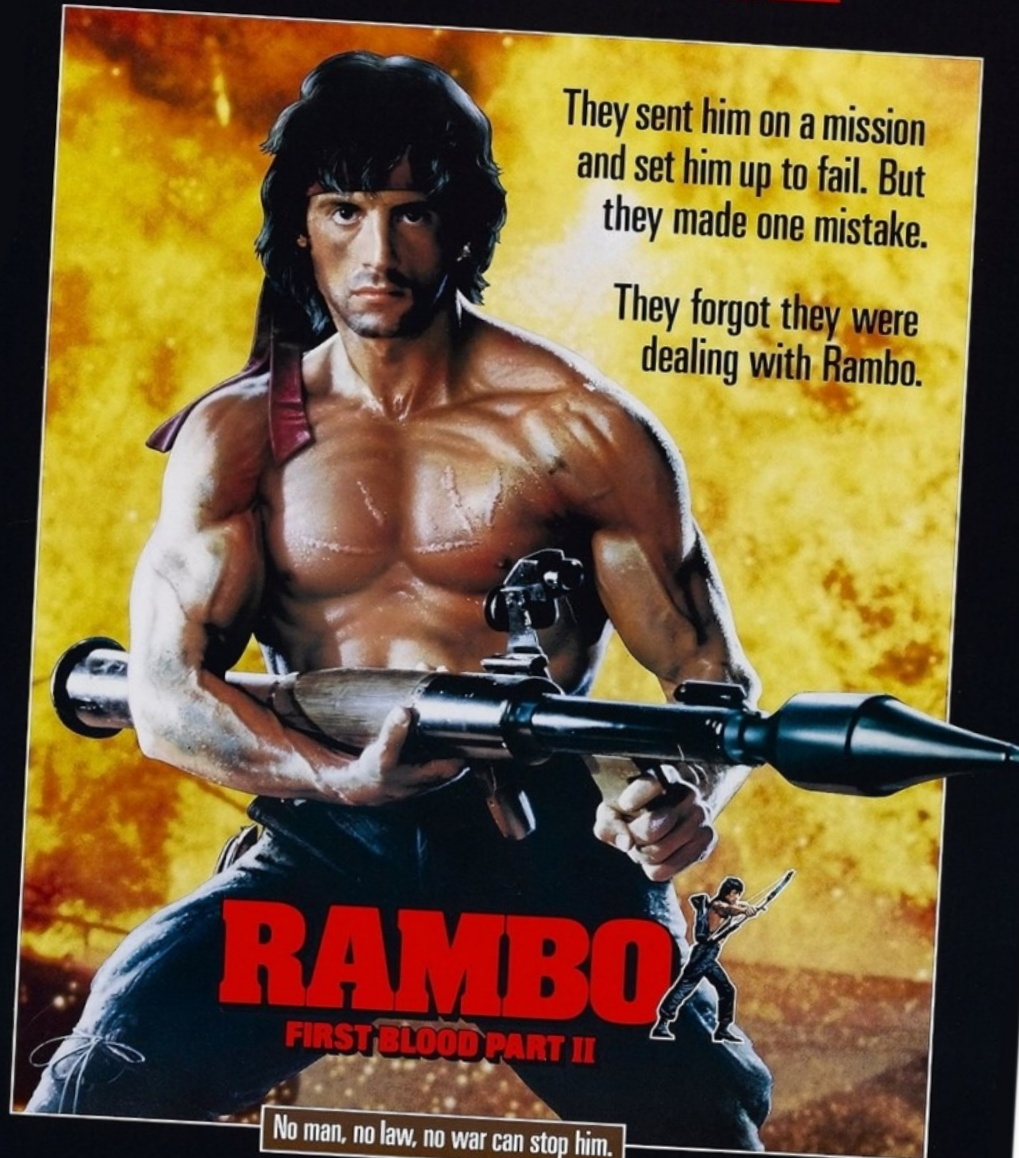
When the actor model was first proposed, the development of distributed networks was in its infancy. The conceptual model of actors is easy to understand as it allows state to be directly expressed. Also the only side effects of an actor are to send communications and to set a new behaviour. The simplicity of this model suggests that it would make programming for a distributed system simpler, but there proved to be difficulties associated with its implementation.

- No notion of inheritance/hierarchy
- Changing behaviour (storage,...)
- Dynamic behaviour versus static languages
- Asynchronous messaging versus algorithms

STALLONE

They sent him on a mission
and set him up to fail. But
they made one mistake.

They forgot they were
dealing with Rambo.



No man, no law, no war can stop him.



What is Akka?

Scalable real-time transaction processing

We believe building correct, fault-tolerant and scalable applications is hard. Most of the time, we are using the wrong tools and the wrong level of abstraction. There is a better platform for building responsive applications—see the [Real-time Manifesto](#) for more details. We will adopt the "let it crash" model which the telecom industry has used with success to build self-healing systems that never stop. Actors also provide the abstraction for distributed systems and the basis for truly scalable and fault-tolerant applications. Akka is Open Source and available under the Apache 2 License.

I LOVE MARKETING

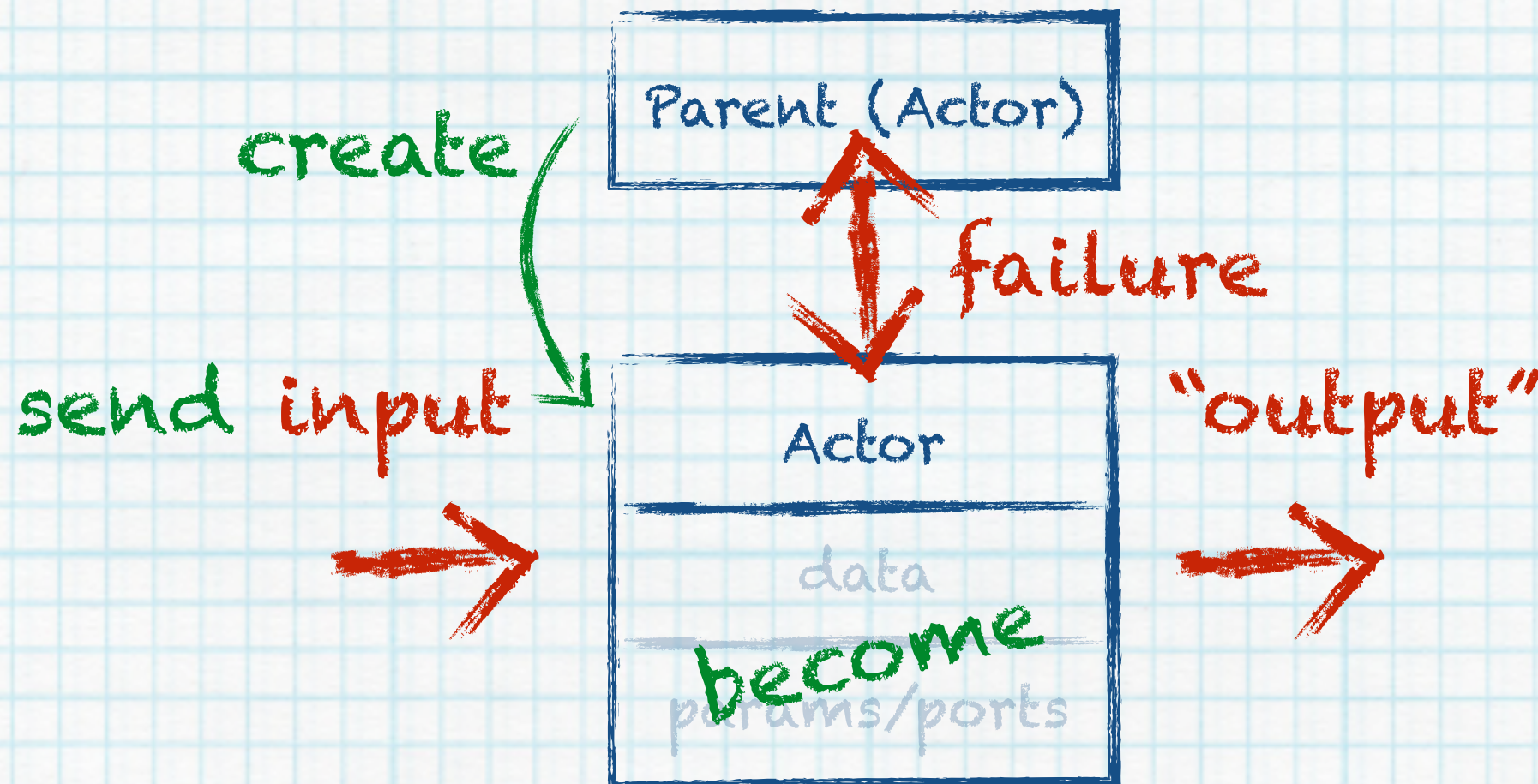


```
hello.java — Desktop
1 package sample.hello;
2
3 import akka.actor.Props;
4 import akka.actor.UntypedActor;
5 import akka.actor.ActorRef;
6
7 public class HelloWorld extends UntypedActor {
8
9     @Override
10    public void preStart() {
11        // create the greeter actor
12        final ActorRef greeter = getContext().actorOf(Props.create(Greeter.class), "greeter");
13        // tell it to perform the greeting
14        greeter.tell(Greeter.Msg.GREET, getSelf());
15    }
16
17    @Override
18    public void onReceive(Object msg) {
19        if (msg == Greeter.Msg.DONE) {
20            // when the greeter is done, stop this actor and with it the app
21            getContext().stop(getSelf());
22        } else
23            unhandled(msg);
24    }
25 }
26
Line: 10:27 | Java | Soft Tabs: 2 | preStart()
```

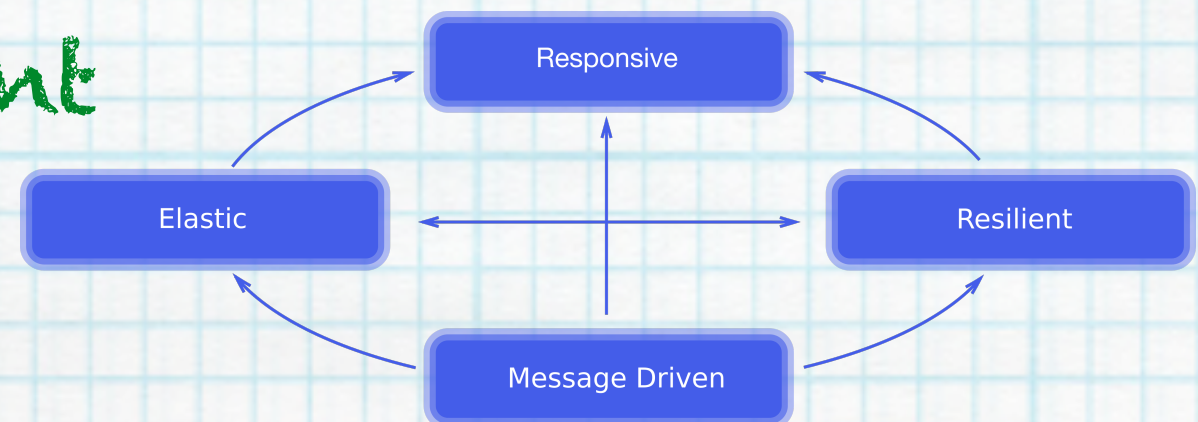
```
main.java — Desktop
1 package sample.hello;
2
3 public class Main {
4
5     public static void main(String[] args) {
6         akka.Main.main(new String[] { HelloWorld.class.getName() });
7     }
8 }
9
Line: 9 | Java | Soft Tabs: 2
```

```
greeter.java — Desktop
1 package sample.hello;
2
3 import akka.actor.UntypedActor;
4
5 public class Greeter extends UntypedActor {
6
7     public static enum Msg {
8         GREET, DONE;
9     }
10
11    @Override
12    public void onReceive(Object msg) {
13        if (msg == Msg.GREET) {
14            System.out.println("Hello World!");
15            getSender().tell(Msg.DONE, getSelf());
16        } else
17            unhandled(msg);
18    }
19
20 }
21
Line: 21 | Java | Soft Tabs: 2
```

Actors à la Akka



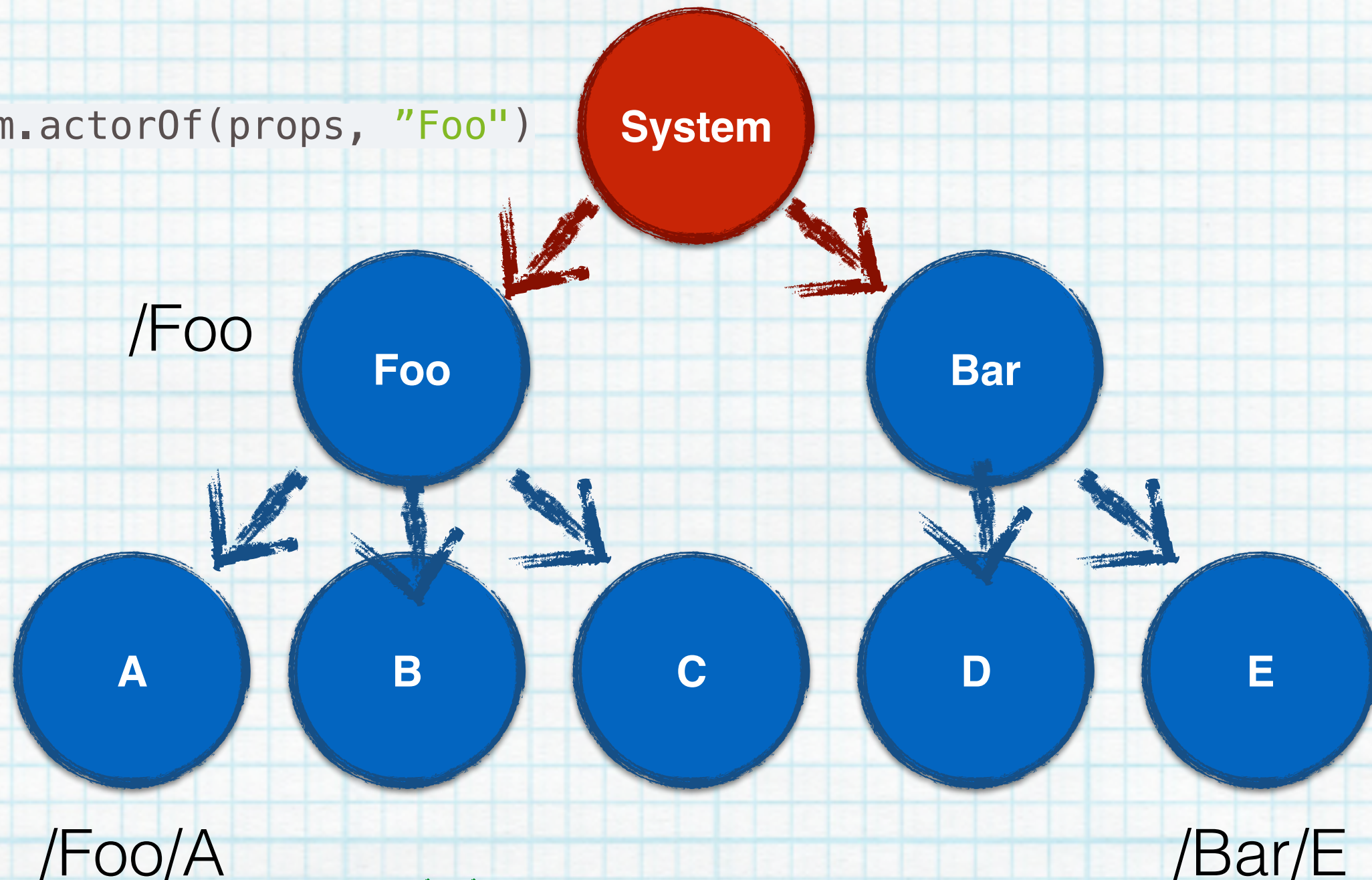
purely reactive component
(act on receive)



create

Actors à la Akka

```
system.actorOf(props, "Foo")
```

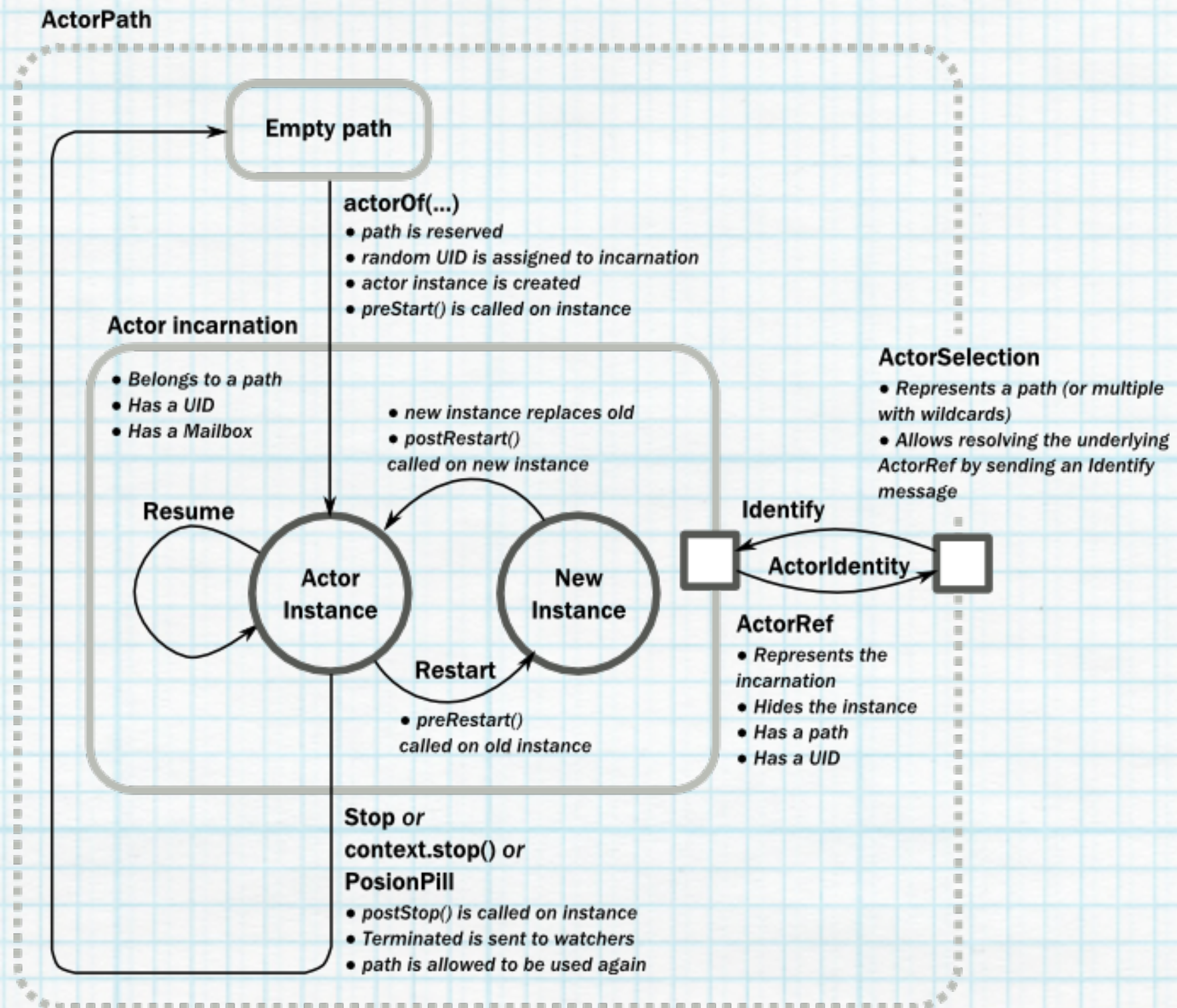


addressing/selection

```
context.actorSelection("/Bar/E")
```

create

Actors à la Akka



send

Actors à la Akka

```
context.actorSelection("/Foo/A").send(msg)
```

Message Delivery Reliability

1. **at-most-once** delivery





**DEAL
WITH
IT.**

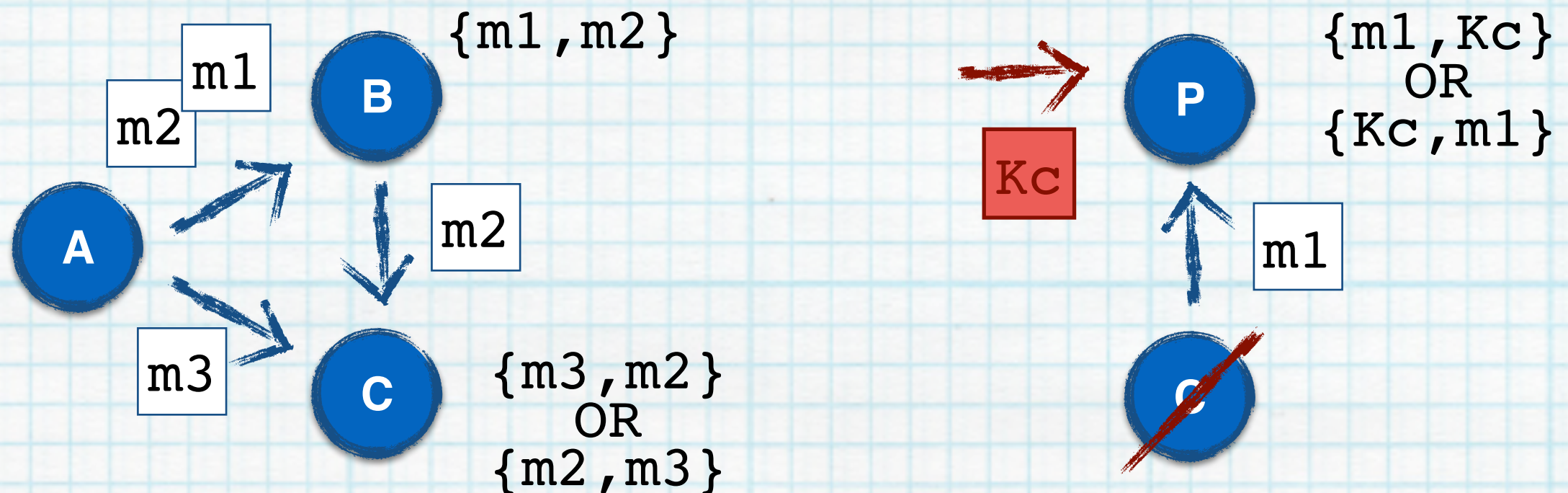
send

Actors à la Akka

```
context.actorSelection("/Foo/A").send(msg)
```

Message Delivery Reliability

1. **at-most-once** delivery
2. message ordering per sender-receiver pair



become



Actors à la Akka

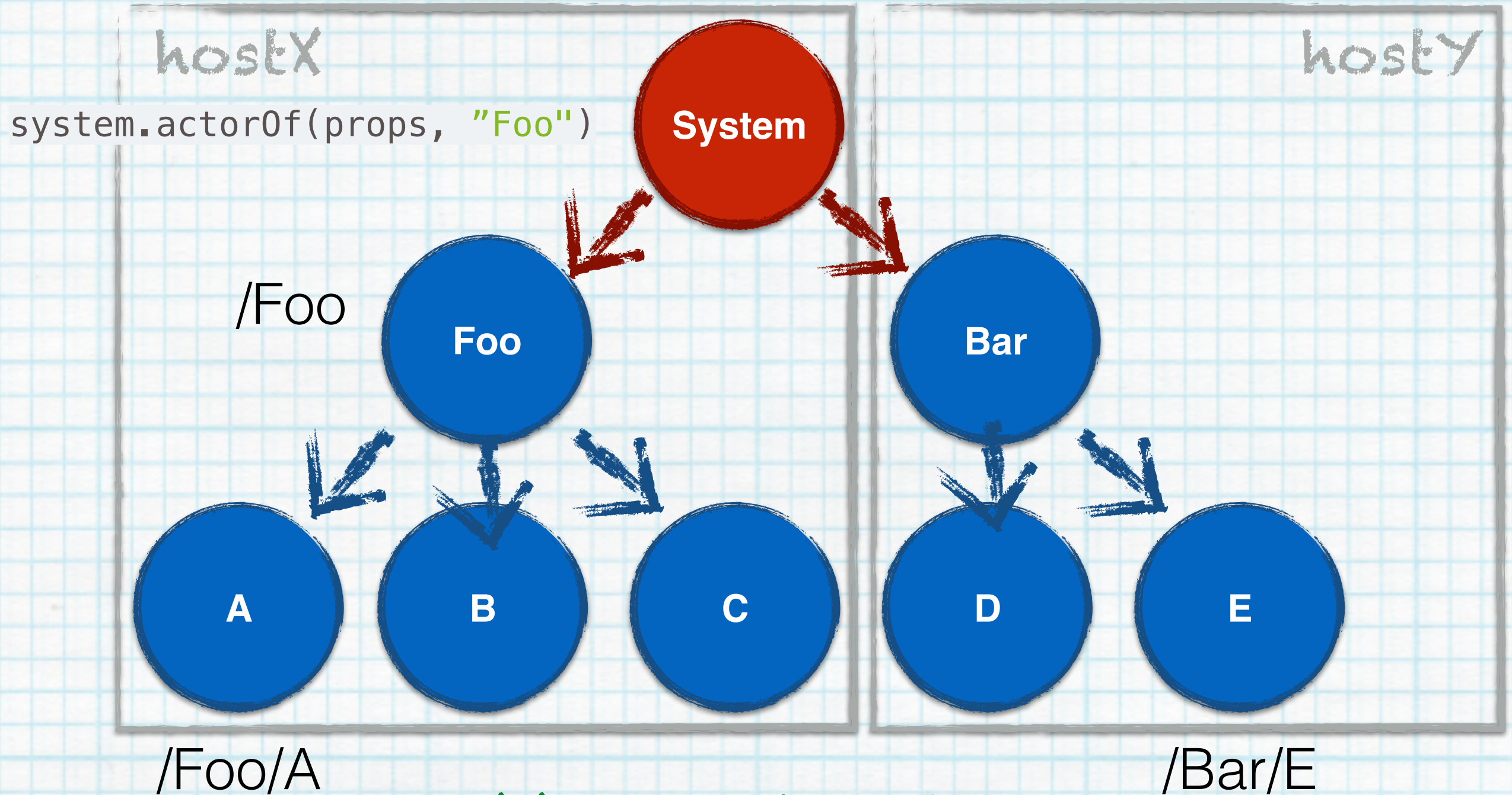
```
become.java — Desktop

1 public class HotSwapActor extends UntypedActor {
2
3   Procedure<Object> angry = new Procedure<Object>() {
4     @Override
5     public void apply(Object message) {
6       if (message.equals("bar")) {
7         getSender().tell("I am already angry?", getSelf());
8       } else if (message.equals("foo")) {
9         getContext().become(happy);
10      }
11    }
12  };
13
14  Procedure<Object> happy = new Procedure<Object>() {
15    @Override
16    public void apply(Object message) {
17      if (message.equals("bar")) {
18        getSender().tell("I am already happy :-)", getSelf());
19      } else if (message.equals("foo")) {
20        getContext().become(angry);
21      }
22    }
23  };
24
25  public void onReceive(Object message) {
26    if (message.equals("bar")) {
27      getContext().become(angry);
28    } else if (message.equals("foo")) {
29      getContext().become(happy);
30    } else {
31      unhandled(message);
32    }
33  }
```

create +remoting



Actors à la Akka



addressing/selection

```
context.actorSelection("akka.tcp://system@hostY:1234/Bar/E")
```

remoting Actors à la Akka

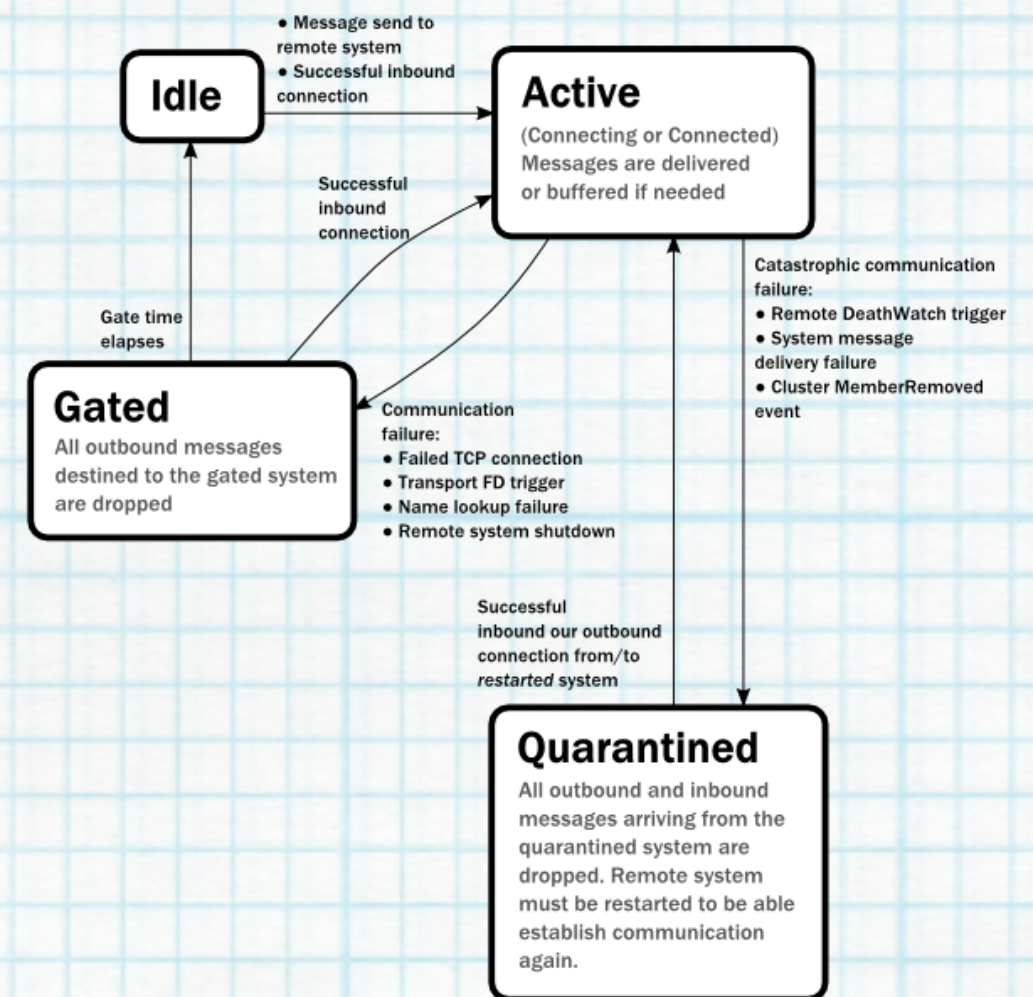


The Phi Accrual Failure Detector

<http://ddg.jaist.ac.jp/pub/HDY+04.pdf>

Routers

Remote Events



Actors à la Akka

clustering

Ring-structured Cluster

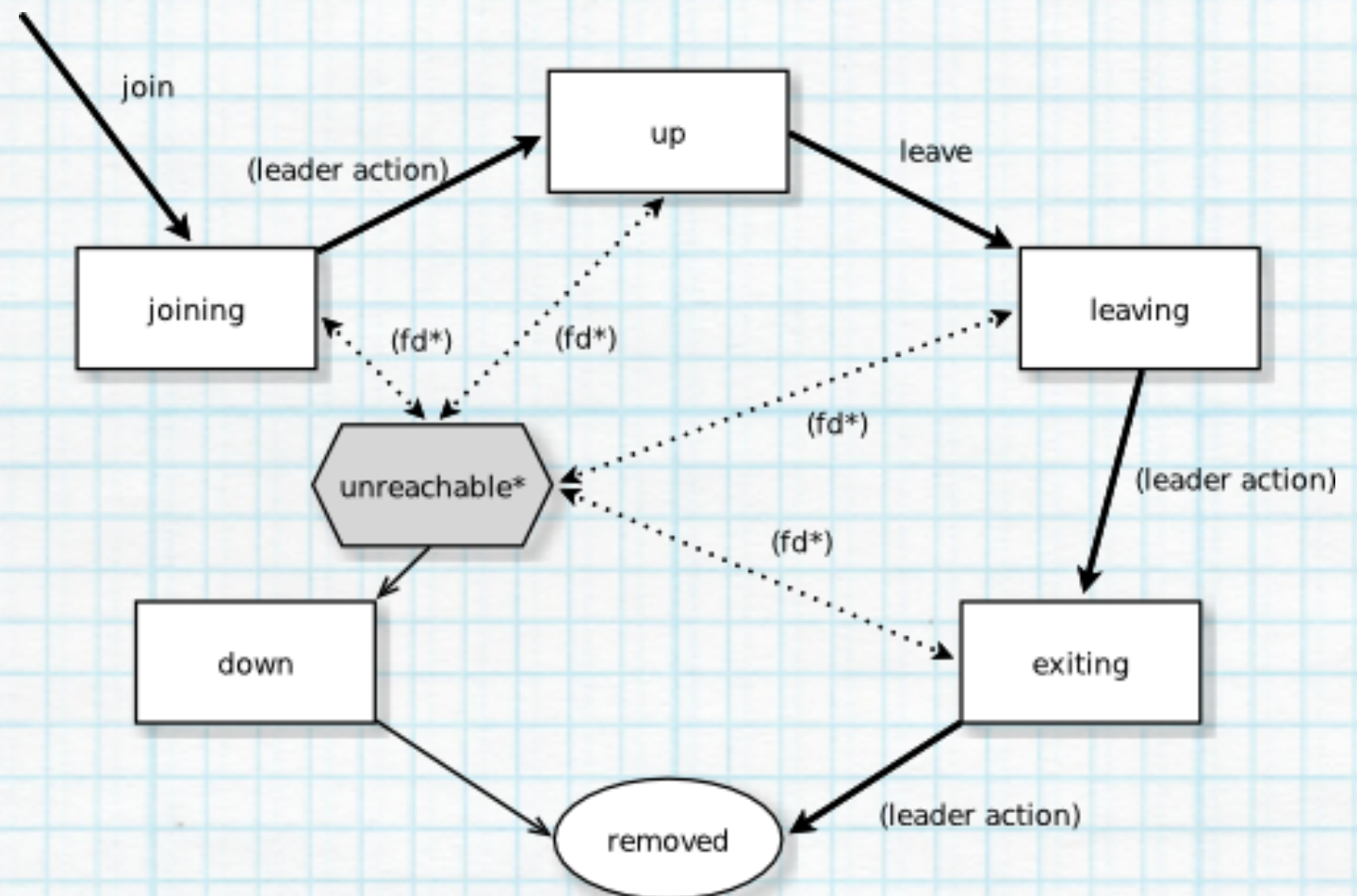
à la Dynamo, Riak

Gossip Protocol

for membership,
leader determination,
configuration

Vector Clocks

Leaders are **not** elected

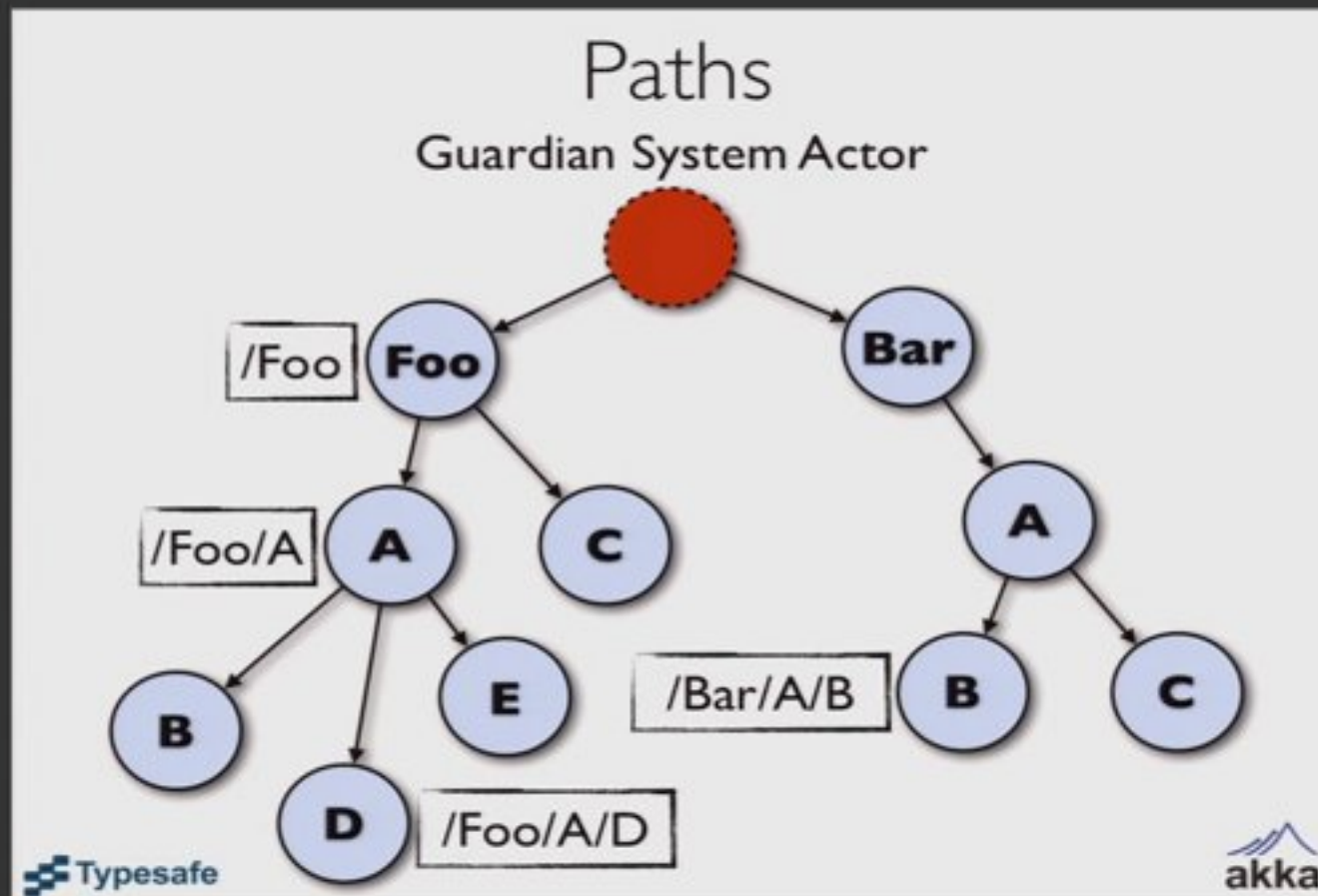


Actors à la Akka

- Create, send, become
- Parents handle failures
- Purely reactive components
- Remoting with basic guarantees
- Clustering

Actors à la Akka

flatMap(0s1o)



42:39

HD :: vimeo

<http://2013.flatmap.no/klang.html>

The first was for himself. The second was for his country.
This time is for his friend.

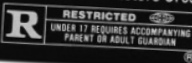
STALLONE



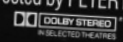
RAMBO III

MARIO KASSAR and ANDREW VAJNA Present
SYLVESTER STALLONE
RAMBO® III

RICHARD CRENNNA Music by JERRY GOLDSMITH Director of Photography JOHN STANIER, G.B.C.T.
Associate Producer TONY MUNAFO Executive Producers MARIO KASSAR and ANDREW VAJNA
Based on Characters Created by DAVID MORRELL Written by SYLVESTER STALLONE and SHELDON LETTICH
Produced by BUZZ FEITSHANS Directed by PETER MACDONALD A TRI-STAR RELEASE



Read the Jove Novel by DAVID MORRELL
Rambo® is a Registered Trademark owned by CAROLCO.



© 1988 Tri-Star Pictures, Inc. All Rights Reserved.



PL@NES - Reading Club
Actors à la **Akka**

Christophe.VanGinneken@cs.kuleuven.be

KU LEUVEN

DistriNet
Mines KU LEUVEN

Christophe.VanGinneken@cs.kuleuven.be

<http://www.slideshare.net/christophevg/actors-la-akka>