

Coroutines in PHP

Aurelijus Banelis



VilniusPHP 0x4F
2019-06-06



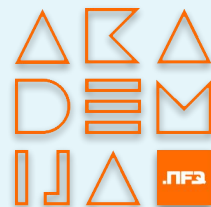
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PGP 0x320205E7**539B6203**
130D C446 1F1A 2E50 D6E3
3DA8 3202 05E7 539B 6203



Coroutines in PHP

...and other asynchronous stuff



Goroutines



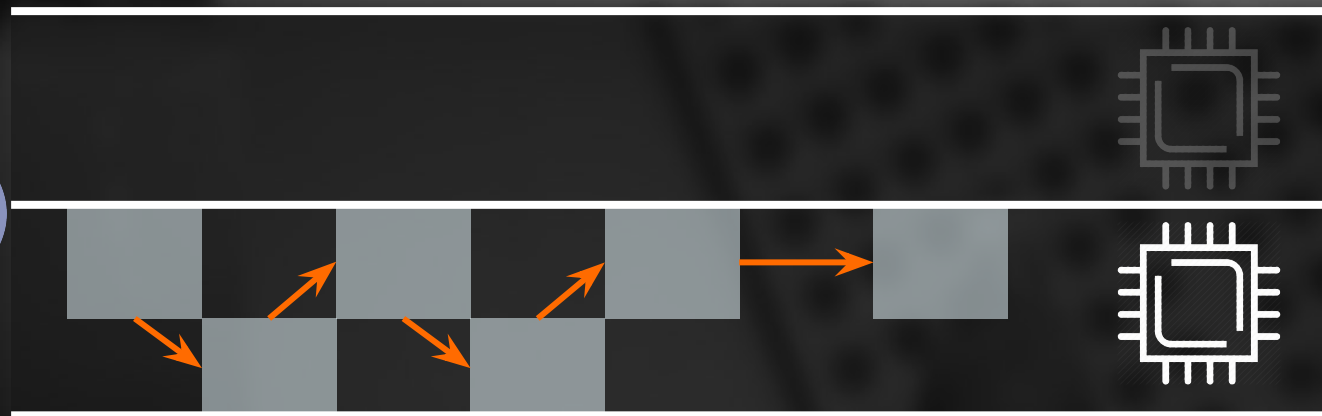
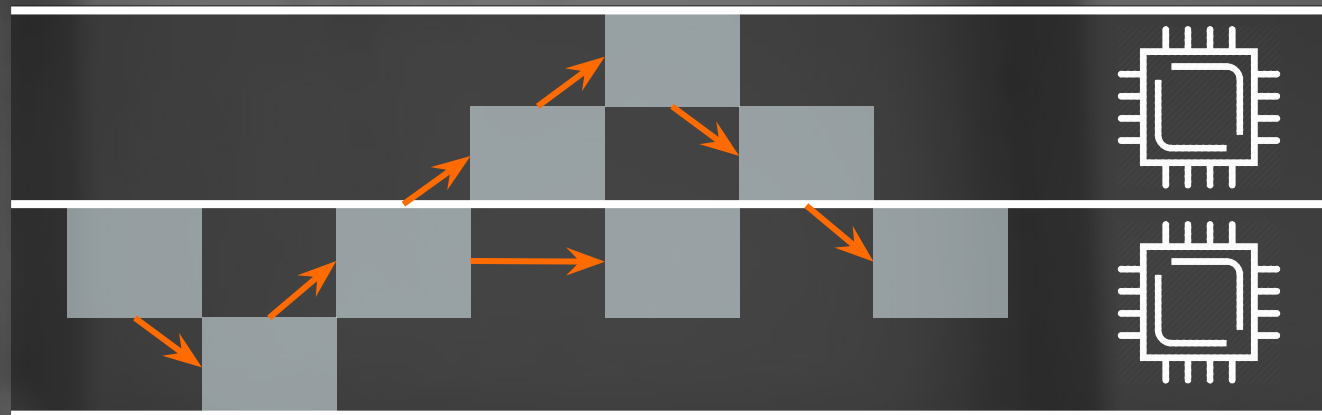
Coroutines



A goroutine is a **lightweight thread** managed by the Go runtime



Coroutines are computer program components that **generalize subroutines** for non-preemptive multitasking, by allowing execution to be **suspended and resumed.**



Simple

What are
coroutines

HTTP

Why are
coroutines useful

Production

How to use
them in production

Simple

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Request for Comments: Generators

- Date: 2012-06-05
- Author: Nikita Popov [✉ nikic@php.net](mailto:nikic@php.net)
- Status: Implemented



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```
function generator()  
{  
    for ($i = 1; $i < 80; $i++) {  
        yield "VilniusPHP 0x" . dechex($i);  
    }  
}
```

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```
function generator()  
{  
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    }  
}
```



Return like iterator

Request for Comments: Generators

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Generators can also be used the other way around, i.e. instead of producing values they can also **consume** them. When used in this way they are often referred to as enhanced generators, reverse generators or **coroutines**.

- Date: 2012-06-05
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```
function receiver() {  
    $data = (yield);  
    print $data . " 0x4F\n";  
}  
receiver()->send("VilniusPHP");
```

Generators can also be used the other way around, i.e. instead of producing values they can also **consume** them. When used in this way they are often referred to as enhanced generators, reverse generators or **coroutines**.

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```
function receiver() {  
    $data = (yield);  Consume  
    print $data . " 0x4F\n";  
}  
receiver()->send("VilniusPHP");
```

Generators can also be used the other way around, i.e. instead of producing values they can also **consume** them. When used in this way they are often referred to as enhanced generators, reverse generators or **coroutines**.

Do you use **yield**?

Yield available since **PHP 5.5**

**Coroutines were initially
developed in the 1960's
and then just sort of
died quietly**

Wonder **why**?

Let's compare simple examples

Subroutines

Parsing started...
City: Vilnius
Language: PHP
Event: 0x4F
Finished...

Coroutines

Parsing started...
City: Vilnius
Parsing...
Language: PHP
Parsing...
Event: 0x4F
Finished...

```
function formatter($city, $language, $event)
{
    print "City: $city\n";
    print "Language: $language\n";
    print "Event: $event\n";
}

function main()
{
    print "Parsing started...\n";
    formatter("Vilnius", "PHP", "0x4F");
    print "Finished...\n";
}

main();
```

Link to Gist

Parsing started...
City: Vilnius
Language: PHP
Event: 0x4F
Finished...

<https://gist.github.com/aurelijusb/cacef3e4d57ca6e1772104e9a85079a9>

```
function formatter()
{
    $city = (yield);
    print "City: $city\n";
    $language = (yield);
    print "Language: $language\n";
    $event = (yield);
    print "Event: $event\n";
}

function main()
{
    $p = formatter();
    print "Parsing started...\n";
    $p->send("Vilnius");
    print "Parsing...\n";
    $p->send("PHP");
    print "Parsing...\n";
    $p->send("0x4F");
    print "Finished...\n";
}

main();
```

Yield

Parsing started...
City: Vilnius
Parsing...
Language: PHP
Parsing...
Event: 0x4F
Finished...

Parsing started...

“Vilnius”

“PHP”

“0x4F”

City: Vilnius

Language: PHP

Event: 0x4F

Finished...

Parsing started...

“Vilnius”

City: Vilnius

“PHP”

Language: PHP

“0x4F”

Event: 0x4F

Finished...

Parsing started...

Subroutines

“Vilnius”

“PHP”

“0x4F”

City: Vilnius

Language: PHP

Event: 0x4F

Finished...

Parsing started...

“Vilnius”

City: Vilnius

“PHP”

Language: PHP

“0x4F”

Event: 0x4F

Finished...

Parsing started...

Subroutines

"Vilnius"

"PHP"

"0x4F"

City: Vilnius

Language: PHP

Event: 0x4F

Finished...

Parsing started...

Coroutines

"Vilnius"

City: Vilnius

"PHP"

Language: PHP

"0x4F"

Event: 0x4F

Finished...

Parsing started...

"Vilnius"

"PHP"

"0x4F"

City: Vilnius

Language: PHP

Event: 0x4F

Finished...

Parsing started...

"Vilnius"

City: Vilnius

"PHP"

Language: PHP

"0x4F"

Event: 0x4F

Finished...

Spaghetti

Simple

Emit + receive in
the **middle of func**

HTTP

Why are
coroutines useful

Production

How to use
them in production

Simple

What are
coroutines

HTTP

Why are
coroutines useful

Production

How to use
them in production

Parsing started...

"Vilnius"

"PHP"

"0x4F"

City: Vilnius

Language: PHP

Event: 0x4F

Finished...

Parsing started...

"Vilnius"

City: Vilnius

"PHP"

Language: PHP

"0x4F"

Event: 0x4F

Finished...

Spaghetti

Parsing started...

"Vilnius"

"PHP"

"0x4F"

City: Vilnius

Language: PHP

Event: 0x4F

Finished...

Parsing started...

"Vilnius"

"PHP"

"0x4F"

City: Vilnius

Language: PHP

Event: 0x4F

Finished...

BUT
Reactive?

Parse full

Parse chunked

```
2019-06-05 17:35:57.484100 Receiving...
2019-06-05 17:36:02.490600 Received
2019-06-05 17:36:02.491000 Closed
2019-06-05 17:36:02.491200 Transformation started
2019-06-05 17:36:02.491300 Result: data: 0
2019-06-05 17:36:02.991700 Transformation finished
2019-06-05 17:36:02.991900 Transformation started
2019-06-05 17:36:02.992200 Result: data: 1
2019-06-05 17:36:03.492400 Transformation finished
2019-06-05 17:36:03.492600 Transformation started
2019-06-05 17:36:03.492700 Result: data: 2
2019-06-05 17:36:03.992900 Transformation finished
2019-06-05 17:36:03.993200 Transformation started
2019-06-05 17:36:03.993300 Result: data: 3
2019-06-05 17:36:04.493500 Transformation finished
2019-06-05 17:36:04.493800 Transformation started
2019-06-05 17:36:04.493900 Result: data: 4
2019-06-05 17:36:04.994200 Transformation finished
2019-06-05 17:36:04.994400 Transformation started
2019-06-05 17:36:04.994500 Result:
2019-06-05 17:36:05.494800 Transformation finished
2019-06-05 17:36:05.494900 Took: 8.01
```

```
2019-06-05 17:35:58.445000 Receiving...
2019-06-05 17:35:59.639100 <<< RECEIVED
2019-06-05 17:35:59.639200 Transformation started
2019-06-05 17:35:59.639300 Result: data: 0
2019-06-05 17:36:00.139500 Transformation finished
2019-06-05 17:36:00.639200 <<< RECEIVED
2019-06-05 17:36:00.639300 Transformation started
2019-06-05 17:36:00.639400 Result: data: 1
2019-06-05 17:36:01.139500 Transformation finished
2019-06-05 17:36:01.639600 <<< RECEIVED
2019-06-05 17:36:01.639800 Transformation started
2019-06-05 17:36:01.639900 Result: data: 2
2019-06-05 17:36:02.140100 Transformation finished
2019-06-05 17:36:02.639800 <<< RECEIVED
2019-06-05 17:36:02.640000 Transformation started
2019-06-05 17:36:02.640000 Result: data: 3
2019-06-05 17:36:03.140200 Transformation finished
2019-06-05 17:36:03.640200 <<< RECEIVED
2019-06-05 17:36:03.640400 Transformation started
2019-06-05 17:36:03.640600 Result: data: 4
2019-06-05 17:36:04.140800 Transformation finished
2019-06-05 17:36:04.141200 Received
2019-06-05 17:36:04.141400 Closed
2019-06-05 17:36:04.141500 Took: 5.7
```

```
curl_setopt($ch,  
CURLOPT_RETURNTRANSFER, 1);
```

```
// ...
```

```
foreach ($result as $item) {  
    transform($item);  
}
```

```
2019-06-05 17:35:57.484100 Receiving...  
2019-06-05 17:36:02.490600 Received  
2019-06-05 17:36:02.491000 Closed  
2019-06-05 17:36:02.491200 Transformation started  
2019-06-05 17:36:02.491300 Result: data: 0  
2019-06-05 17:36:02.991700 Transformation finished  
2019-06-05 17:36:02.991900 Transformation started  
2019-06-05 17:36:02.992200 Result: data: 1  
2019-06-05 17:36:03.492400 Transformation finished  
2019-06-05 17:36:03.492600 Transformation started  
2019-06-05 17:36:03.492700 Result: data: 2  
2019-06-05 17:36:03.992900 Transformation finished  
2019-06-05 17:36:03.993200 Transformation started  
2019-06-05 17:36:03.993300 Result: data: 3  
2019-06-05 17:36:04.493500 Transformation finished  
2019-06-05 17:36:04.493800 Transformation started  
2019-06-05 17:36:04.493900 Result: data: 4  
2019-06-05 17:36:04.994200 Transformation finished  
2019-06-05 17:36:04.994400 Transformation started  
2019-06-05 17:36:04.994500 Result:  
2019-06-05 17:36:05.494800 Transformation finished  
2019-06-05 17:36:05.494900 Took: 8.01
```

Link to Gist



<https://gist.github.com/aurelijusb/cc18fc9e856b42753075906e3f96bffc>

```
curl_setopt($ch,  
CURLOPT_WRITEFUNCTION, $reader);
```

```
// ...
```

```
$reader = function ($curl, $data) {  
    transform($data);  
    return strlen($data);  
};
```



Callable

```
2019-06-05 17:35:58.445000 Receiving...  
2019-06-05 17:35:59.639100 <<< RECEIVED  
2019-06-05 17:35:59.639200 Transformation started  
2019-06-05 17:35:59.639300 Result: data: 0  
2019-06-05 17:36:00.139500 Transformation finished  
2019-06-05 17:36:00.639200 <<< RECEIVED  
2019-06-05 17:36:00.639300 Transformation started  
2019-06-05 17:36:00.639400 Result: data: 1  
2019-06-05 17:36:01.139500 Transformation finished  
2019-06-05 17:36:01.639600 <<< RECEIVED  
2019-06-05 17:36:01.639800 Transformation started  
2019-06-05 17:36:01.639900 Result: data: 2  
2019-06-05 17:36:02.140100 Transformation finished  
2019-06-05 17:36:02.639800 <<< RECEIVED  
2019-06-05 17:36:02.640000 Transformation started  
2019-06-05 17:36:02.640000 Result: data: 3  
2019-06-05 17:36:03.140200 Transformation finished  
2019-06-05 17:36:03.640200 <<< RECEIVED  
2019-06-05 17:36:03.640400 Transformation started  
2019-06-05 17:36:03.640600 Result: data: 4  
2019-06-05 17:36:04.140800 Transformation finished  
2019-06-05 17:36:04.141200 Received  
2019-06-05 17:36:04.141400 Closed  
2019-06-05 17:36:04.141500 Took: 5.7
```

Receiving...

Data 1

Data 2

Data 3

Data 4

Received

Closed

Transform

Transform

Transform

Transform

Receiving...

Data 1

Data 2

Data 3

Data 4

Received

Closed

Transform

Transform

Transform

Transform

Receiving...

Data 1

Data 2

Data 3

Data 4

Transform

Transform

Transform

Transform

Received

Closed

Receiving...

Data 1

Data 2

Data 3

Data 4

Received

Closed



**Input
Output (IO)
blocked**

Transform

Transform

Transform

Transform

Parse **full**

Receiving...

Data 1

Data 2

Data 3

Data 4

Transform

Transform

Transform

Transform

Received

Closed

Receiving...

Data 1

Data 2

Data 3

Data 4

Received

Closed

Transform

Transform

Transform

Transform

Parse **full**

**Input /
Output
blocked**

Receiving...

Data 1

Data 2

Data 3

Data 4

Received

Closed

Parse **chunked**

CPU

Transform

Transform

Transform

Transform

I/O



Receiving...

Parse **full**

Receiving...

Parse **chunked**

Latency Numbers Every Programmer Should Know

■ 1 ns

■ L1 cache reference: 0.5 ns

■ Branch mispredict: 5 ns

■ L2 cache reference: 7 ns

■ Mutex lock/unlock: 25 ns

■ = 100 ns

■ Main memory reference: 100 ns

■ = 1 μ s

■ Compress 1 KB with Zippy: 3 μ s

■ = 10 μ s

■ Send 1 KB over 1 Gbps network: 10 μ s

■ SSD random read (1Gb/s SSD): 150 μ s

■ Read 1 MB sequentially from memory: 250 μ s

■ Round trip in same datacenter: 500 μ s

■ = 1 ms

■ Read 1 MB sequentially from SSD: 1 ms

■ Disk seek: 10 ms

■ Read 1 MB sequentially from disk: 20 ms

■ Packet roundtrip CA to Netherlands: 150 ms

Source: <https://gist.github.com/2841832>

Transform

Receiving...

Data 1

Data 2

Data 3

Data 4

Received

Closed

Took: 8s

Transform

Transform

Transform

Transform

Parse full

Receiving...

Data 1

Data 2

Data 3

Data 4

Received

Closed

Took: 6s

Transform

Transform

Transform

Transform

Parse chunked

Source: <https://gist.github.com/2841832>



Simple

What are
coroutines

HTTP

Async via chunks:
Use **CPU** while
I/O is blocking

Production

How to use
them in production

Simple

What are
coroutines

HTTP

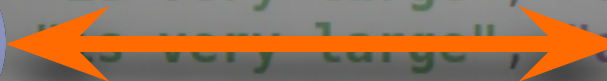
Why are
coroutines useful

Production

How to use
them in production

Batch import/export

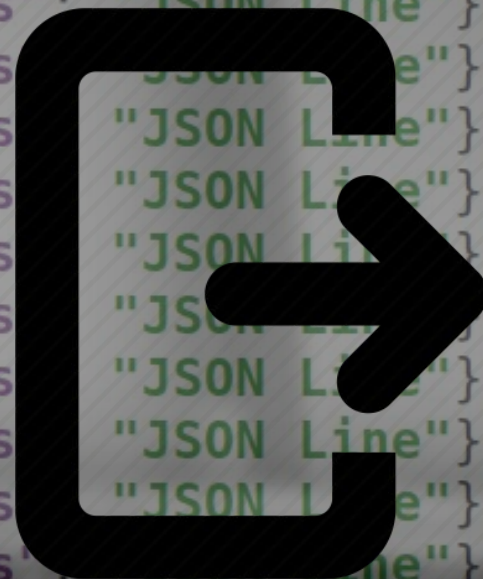
php



[

← Flush start

```
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line"},  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line"},  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line"},  
← { "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line"},  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line"},  
← { "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line"},  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line"},  
← { "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line"},  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line"},  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line"},  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line"},  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line"},  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line"},  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line"},  
← { "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line"},
```



Last comma →

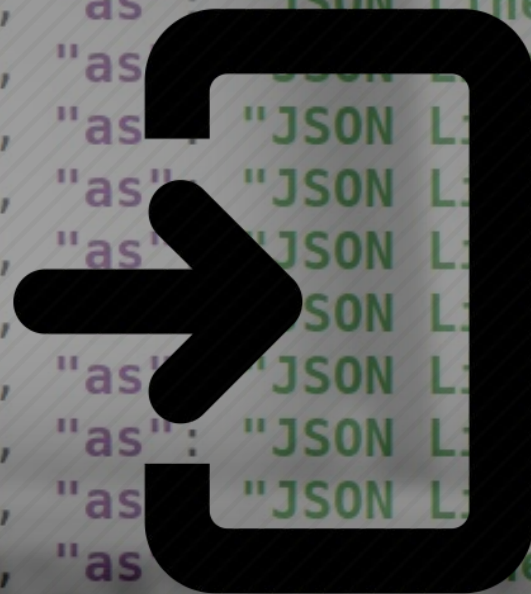
]

← Flush end

[

← Ignore no data

```
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line" },  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line" },  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line" },  
← { "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line" },  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line" },  
← { "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line" },  
← { "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line" },  
← { "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line" },  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line" },  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line" },  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line" },  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line" },  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line" },  
{ "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line" },  
← { "my": "data", "that": "is very large", "as": "JSON Line" },
```



]

← Ignore no data

Trim commas →

Simple

What are
coroutines

HTTP

Why are
coroutines useful

Production

Flush/read **JSON**
items **as lines**

Async is complex

Rely on basics

Coroutines

Thank you

Questions?

Aurelijus Banelis



References / further reading

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coroutine>
- <https://wiki.php.net/rfc/generators>
- <https://gist.github.com/aurelijusb/cacef3e4d57ca6e1772104e9a85079a9>
- <https://gist.github.com/aurelijusb/cc18fc9e856b42753075906e3f96bffc>
- https://symfony.com/doc/current/best_practices/tests.html#functional-tests
- <https://amphp.org/>