HSR CHALLENGE 2015 FAST AND FURIOUS

WOLFGANG GIERSCHE wgiersche@gmail.com wgi@zuehlke.com









THE CHALLENGE

- Write a method that...
 - takes some numerical input
 - calculates something, and ...
 - outputs a single number between 0 and 255
 - to minimise some other single numerical output

WELL, YES AND...

- Design it well
- Write and test it well
- Document it well (!!!)
- Publish it all on Github



```
/**
 * Super complete, fancy interesting java doc goes here...
 */
 public class MyPilot {
```

```
private PowerApi powerApi;
```

```
@Autowired
public MyPilot ( PowerApi api ) {
   this.powerApi = api;
```

```
public void input ( RaceEvent event ) {
```

```
// consider the new event
int power = consider ( event );
```

```
powerApi.setPower ( power );
```



POWERTO THE WHEELS

Integers [0, 255] translate into Voltage (Pulse width modulated)





VELOCITIES AND PENALTIES

Light barriers provide

- velocity data
- out-of-tarmac simulation by applying penalty brakes
- round time information





XBEE RADIO DATA

collecting speed information over the air



THE SLOT CAR

- RAZOR 9DOF Sensor
 3 x mag, 3 x gyro, 3 x acc
- Bluetooth
- 5V Lithium Battery









THE CHALLENGE

- Concurrency
- Fault Tolerance
- Noise
- Unpredictable latency
- Little time to learn
- Physical modelling



AGAIN: THE CHALLENGE

- Write a method that...
 - takes some numerical input
 - calculates something, and ...
 - outputs a single number between 0 and 255
 - to minimise some other single numerical output

INPUT: RACE EVENTS

- Race start
- Race stop
- Velocity measurement
- Penalty messages
- Sensor readings at 50Hz
- Round passed



RESILIANCE AND CONCURRENCY

- Actors or similar primitives
- Streams
- Event based design

• Starter Kit: Typesafe Akka



DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- First comes race track recognition
- Read about "unsupervised" learning, it may help a bit.
- "Learning" should be parallel to driving
- Strategies may develop during race time
- The street looks different at higher speed.
- Parametrise your algorithms

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Get your hands dirty on data visualisation
- Make yourself comfortable with a minimum of statistics and math (average, standard deviation,...)
- Do NOT use classic concurrency primitives, such as @Async, synchronised, etc unless you really love trouble.
- Consider using state-of-the-art technology, even distributed ones R Studio, Mathlab, Spark, Storm, Akka, RXJava, ReactJS...
- ... but be careful they're big!

TECHNICAL ENTRYPOINTS

 Akka Starter kit: <u>http://github.com/FastAndFurious/AkkaStarterKit</u>