
go get my/vulnerabilities

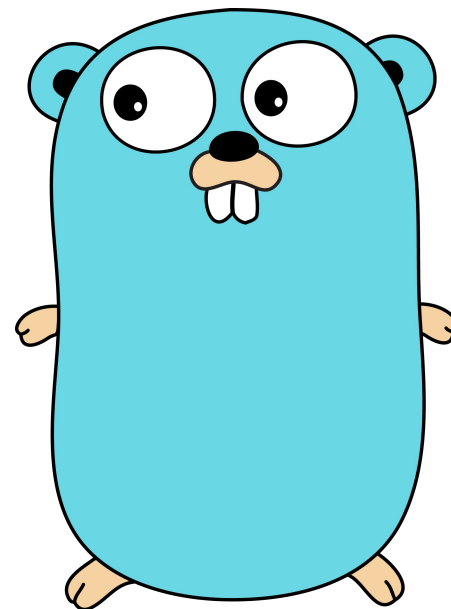
— Green threads are not eco
friendly threads —

Who

- (Web | Mobile) penetration tester
- Code reviewer
- Programmer

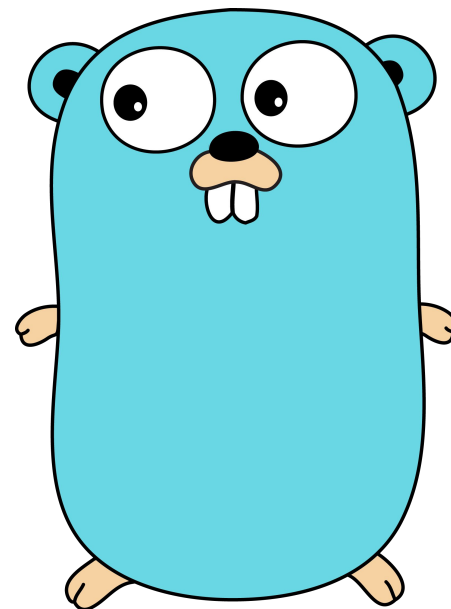
Go

- Google's language
- Born in 2007 (quite new)
- Widespread



Cool, but how do I break it?

- Memory safety, Garbage Collection
- Anti-XSS/SQLi sanitization
- Built-in thread-safe constructs

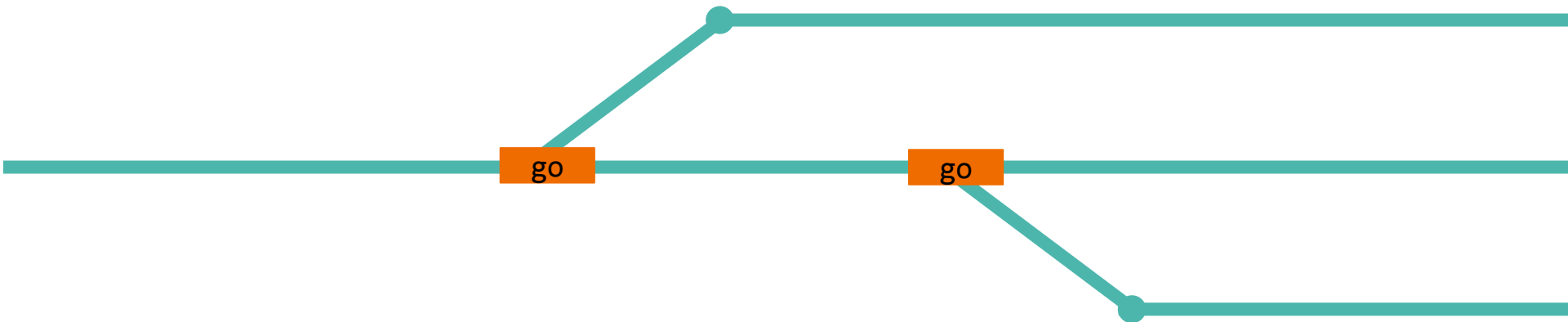


Let's start the digging

- New features usually lead to new vulnerabilities
- Goroutines are one of the main new features introduced by Go



Goroutines are concurrent function calls



```
go fmt.Println("Hello goroutines")
```

Let's try this

```
for i := 0; i <= 9; i++ {  
    go func() {  
        fmt.Println(i)  
    }()  
}
```

Expectation

1

3

2

...

8

9

Reality

10

10

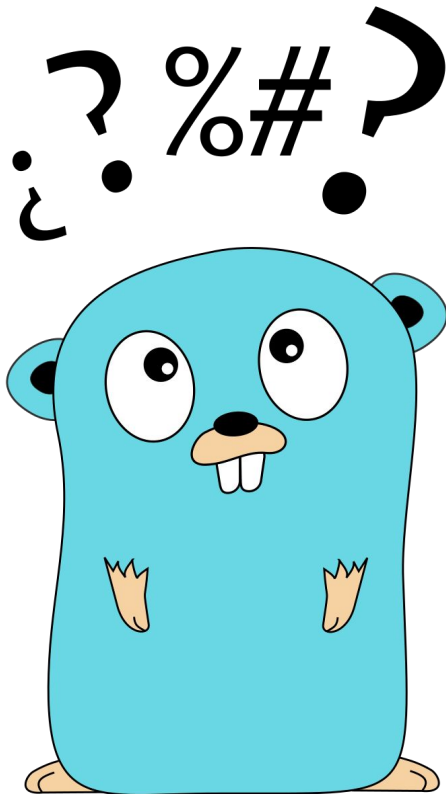
10

...

10

10

Wait...



Special functions #1: goroutines

- Concurrent
- Lightweight
- Multiplexed on OS Threads

```
go func(){  
    //Code here  
}()
```

Special functions #2: closures

```
freeVar := "Hello "  
f := func(s string){  
    fmt.Println(freeVar + s)  
}  
f("Closures")  
// Hello Closures
```

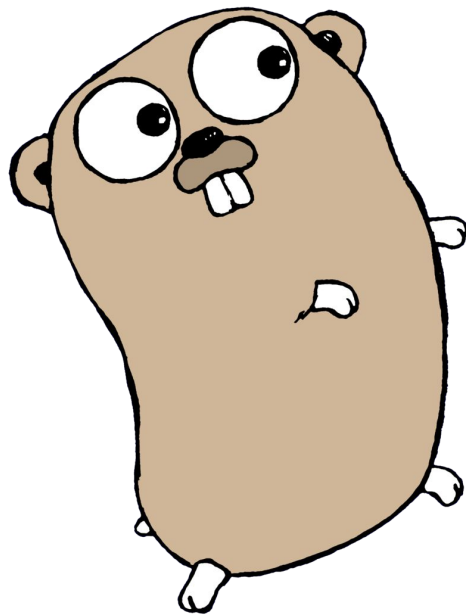
Special functions #(1+2): closed goroutines

```
for i := 0; i <= 9; i++ {  
    go func() {  
        fmt.Println(i)  
    }()  
}
```

```
// Here i == 10
```

Performance

- Writing to file is slow
- Aware scheduling
- Runtime waits only if necessary

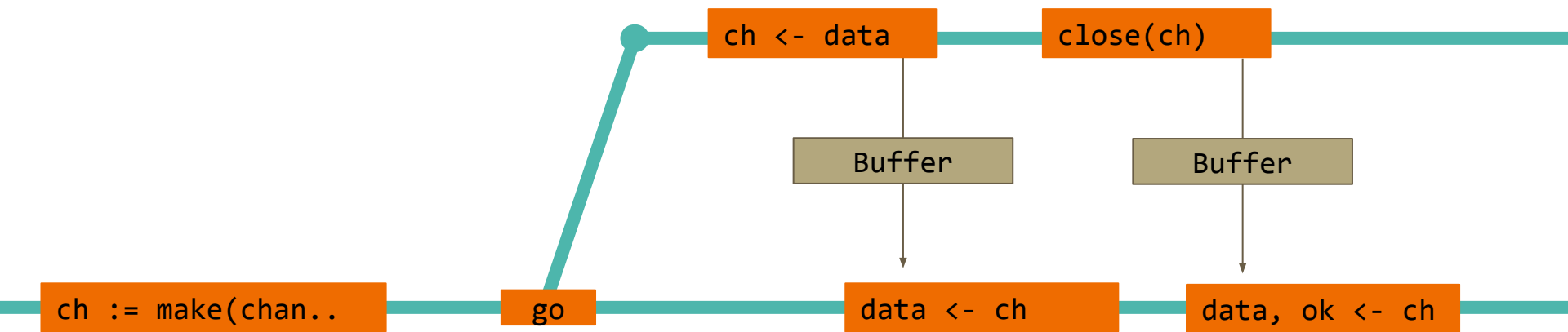


The (odd) fix

```
for i := 0; i <= 9; i++ {  
    i := i  
    go func() {  
        fmt.Println(i)  
    }()  
}
```

```
for req := range queue {  
    req := req // Create new instance of req for the goroutine.  
}
```

Channels



```
for data := range ch {
```

Information Leakage

```
func Serve(queue chan *http.Request) {  
    for req := range queue {  
        go func() {  
            process(req)  
        }()  
    }  
}
```

responses to the wrong requests

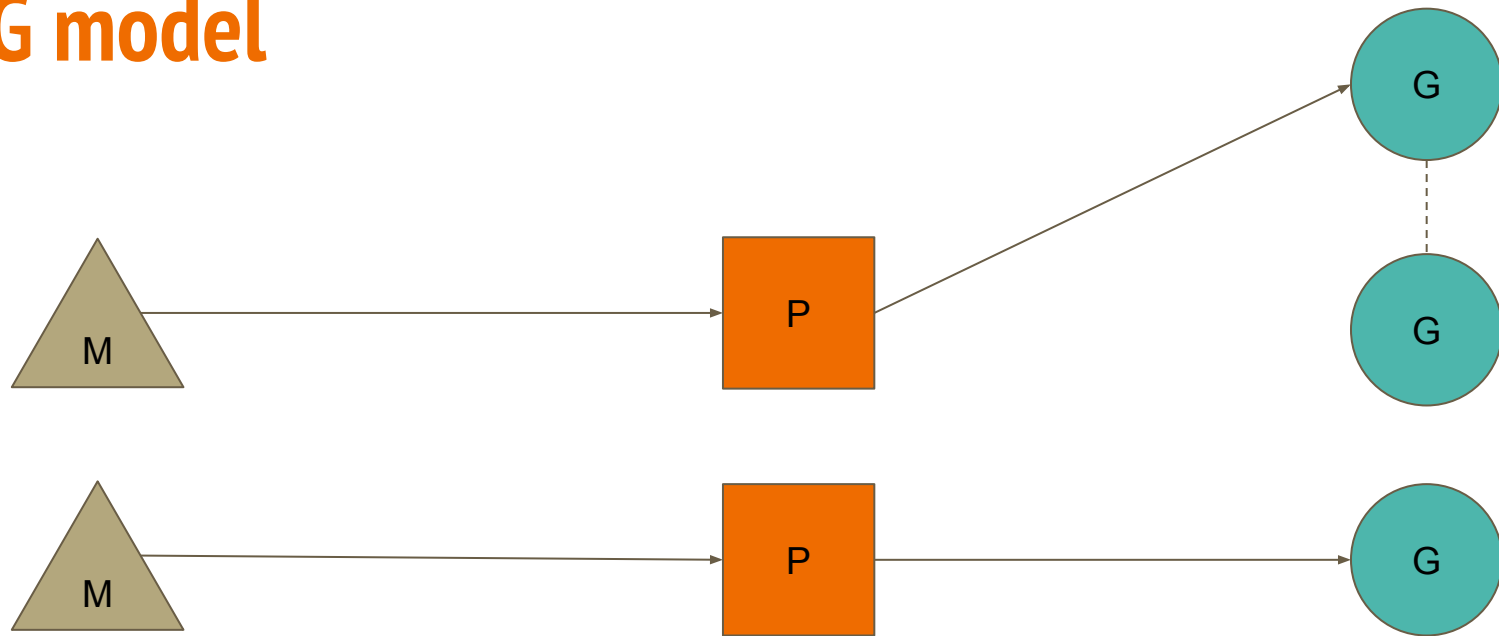
Checkpoint

- **Variable scoping** is a nice point to focus on
- **Aware** scheduling can make it easier to abuse races

how aware is the scheduler?



MPG model

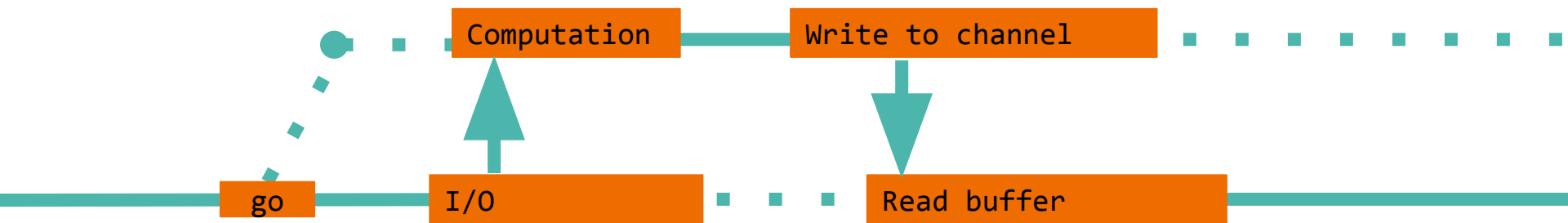


OS Threads

GOMAXPROCS
Logical processors

Goroutines

Schedule me please

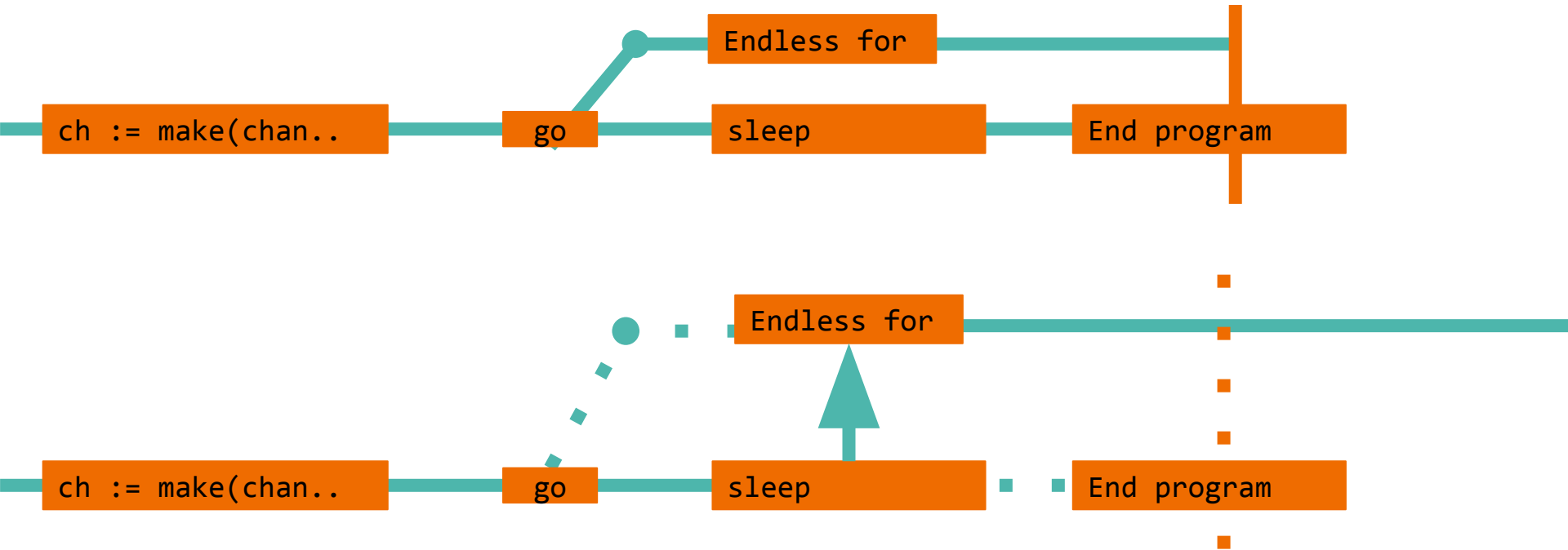


Scheduler calls are emitted at **compile time**

Consequences are weird

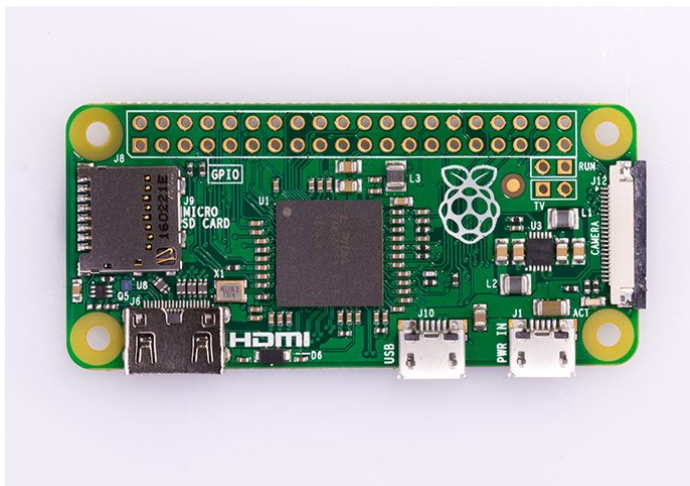
```
go func() {  
    for i := 0; true ; i++ {  
    }  
}()  
time.Sleep(2 * time.Second)  
fmt.Println("Done")
```

Cores amount matter



Runs the same way everywhere...

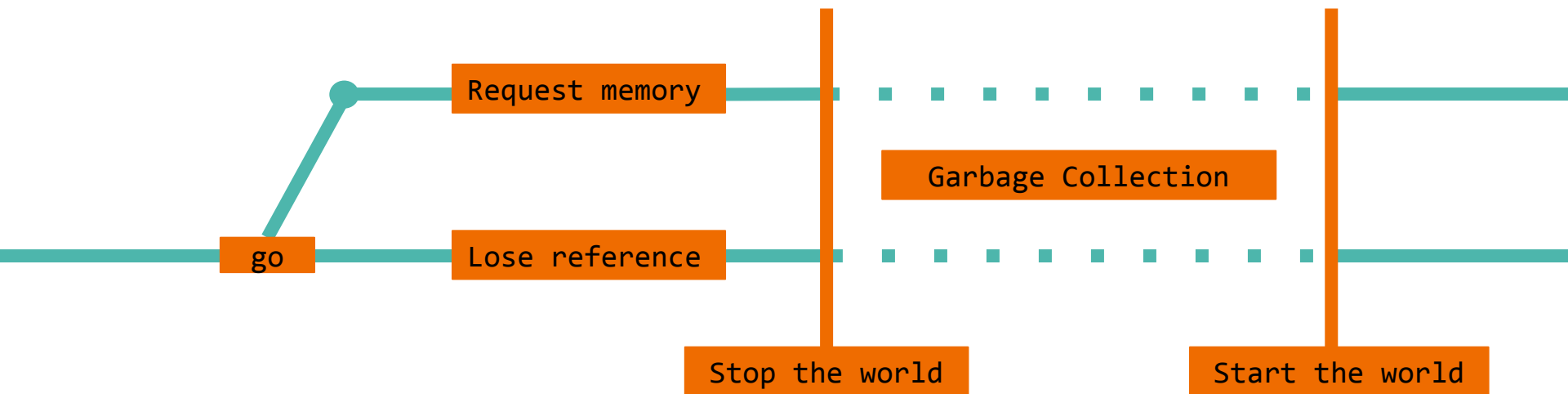
```
runtime.GOMAXPROCS(1)
```



Statically Strongly Typed

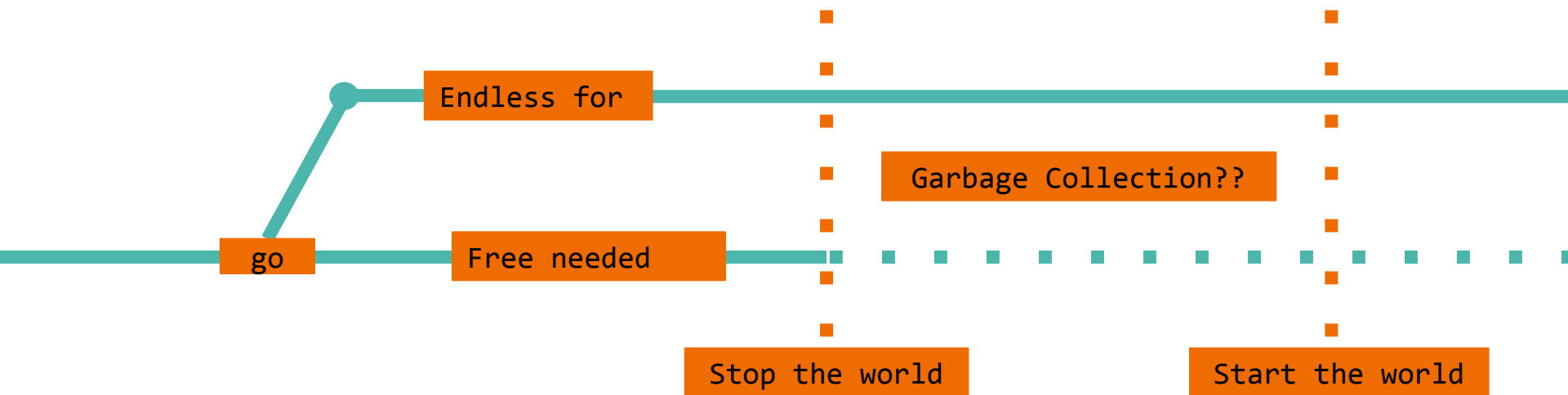
```
go func() {  
    for i := range lst {  
        for ; i <= 255 ; i++ {  
            // Computation  
        }  
    }  
}()
```

Hidden problem: Garbage Collector



Garbage collector needs to stop goroutines

Garbage Collection?



GC politely asks goroutines to stop

Consequences are bad

```
go func() {  
    var i byte  
    for i = 0; i <= 255; i++ {  
    }  
}()  
runtime.Gosched() //yield execution  
runtime.GC()  
fmt.Println("Done")
```

Here is the solution

Weird solution: use **non-inlinable function calls** in loops

The correct one: use ***channels***

Checkpoint

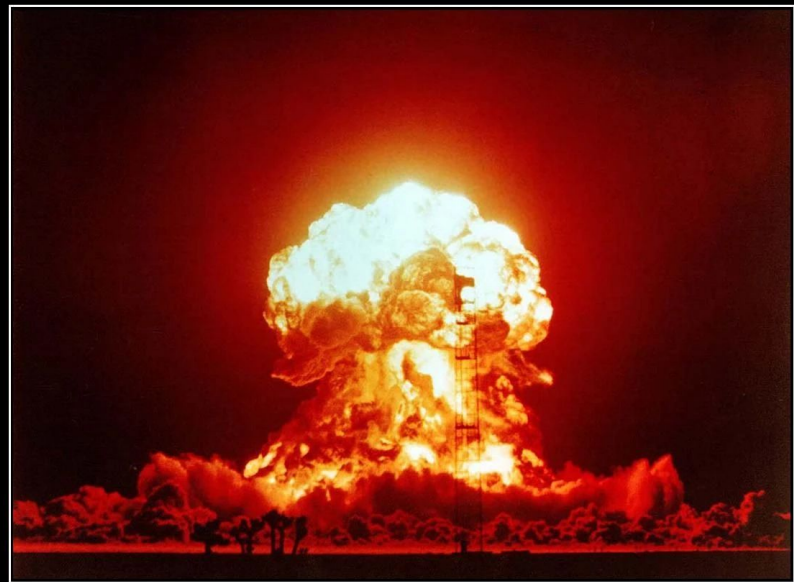
- **Scheduling** must be taken into account
- **Goroutines** that don't yield have potential for DoS

how do goroutines die?



Goroutines end

The only way for a goroutine to terminate is for it to **return**, or for **the program to end**.

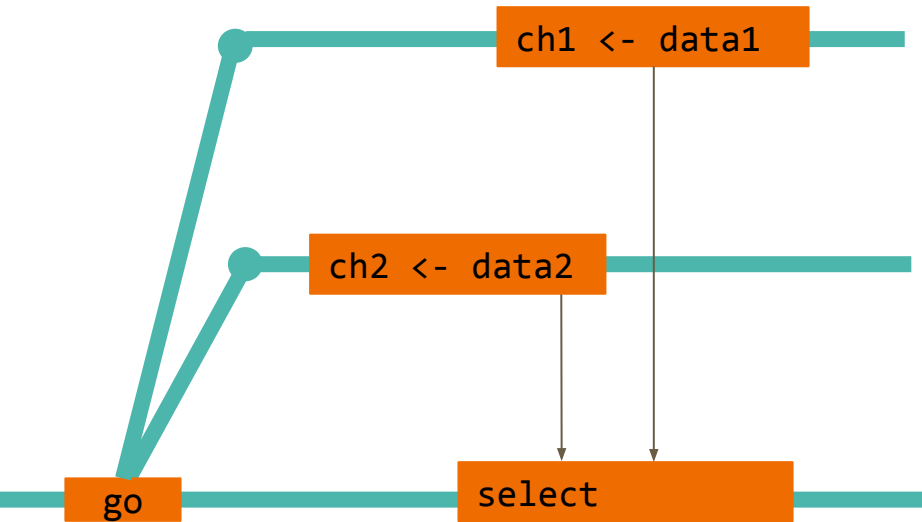


NUKE IT FROM ORBIT

Goroutines are not Garbage Collected

They **must be signalled to end** or they constitute an insidious opening for DoS

select the right solution?



```
select {  
  case d1 <- ch1:  
  case d2, ok <- ch2:  
  default:  
}
```

Max execution time in PHP

```
<?php
    set_time_limit(2);
    for($i=0;;$i++){
    }
?>

// Maximum execution time of
// 2 seconds exceeded
```


Max execution time in go

func TimeoutHandler

```
func TimeoutHandler(h Handler, dt time.Duration, msg string) Handler
```

TimeoutHandler returns a Handler that runs h with the given time limit.

The new Handler calls h.ServeHTTP to handle each request, but if a call runs for longer than its time limit, the handler responds with a 503 Service Unavailable error and the given message in its body. (If msg is empty, a suitable default message will be sent.) After such a timeout, writes by h to its ResponseWriter will return ErrHandlerTimeout.

So is this magic?

This is NOT PHP

```
type simpleHandler struct {
}
func (t *simpleHandler) ServeHTTP(w http.ResponseWriter,
    r *http.Request) {
    time.Sleep(10 * time.Second)
    fmt.Println("Got here")
}
func main() {
    sh := &simpleHandler{}
    tsh := http.TimeoutHandler(sh,
        time.Second*2,
        "Timeout!")
    http.ListenAndServe(":8080", tsh)
```

Just a click away

func [TimeoutHandler](#) ¶



```
func TimeoutHandler(h Handler, dt time.Duration, msg string) Handler
```

TimeoutHandler returns a Handler that runs h with the given time limit.

The new Handler calls h.ServeHTTP to handle each request, but if a call runs for too long (or the handler responds with a 503 Service Unavailable error and the given message in its suitable default message will be sent.) After such a timeout, writes by h to its Response.ErrHandlerTimeout.

Dive into sources

```
// Create timer
go func() {
    h.handler.ServeHTTP(tw, r)
    // Signal done channel
}()
select {
case <-done:
    // Handle HTTP stuff
case <-timeout:
    // Write error
}
```

Mind the gap

The standard library isn't more powerful than you are, if you can't kill a goroutine, neither can the stdlib.

Some more problems with signals

```
// The worker goroutine
for {
    select{
        case job <- jobs:
            process(job)
        case <-done:
            return
    }
}
```

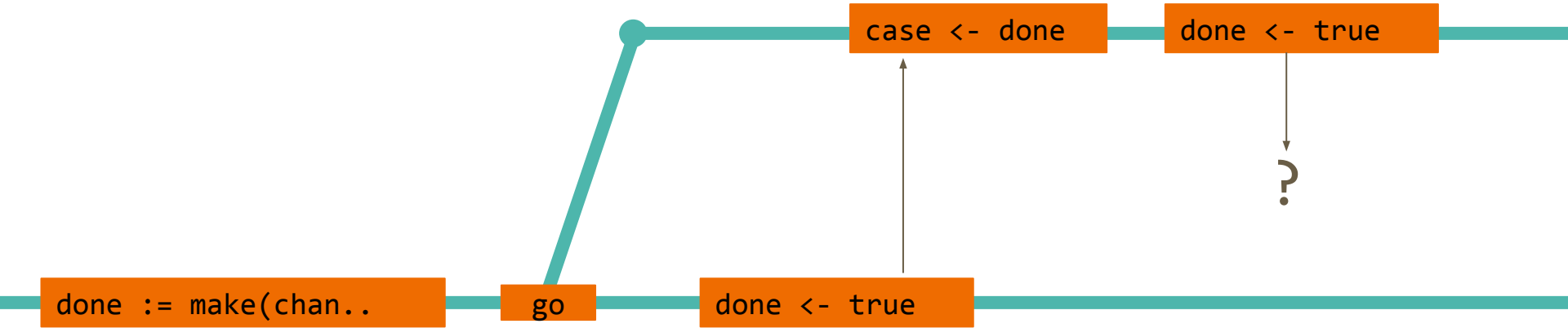
```
// The main goroutine:
go worker()
// Work needs to end:
done <- true
```

Other (still not) correct fixes

```
go worker()  
go worker()  
go worker()  
done <- true  
done <- true  
done <- true
```

```
case <- done:  
  done <- true  
  return  
  
go worker()  
done <- true
```

Even worse



Other (still not) correct fixes

```
case <- done:  
  done <- true  
  return
```

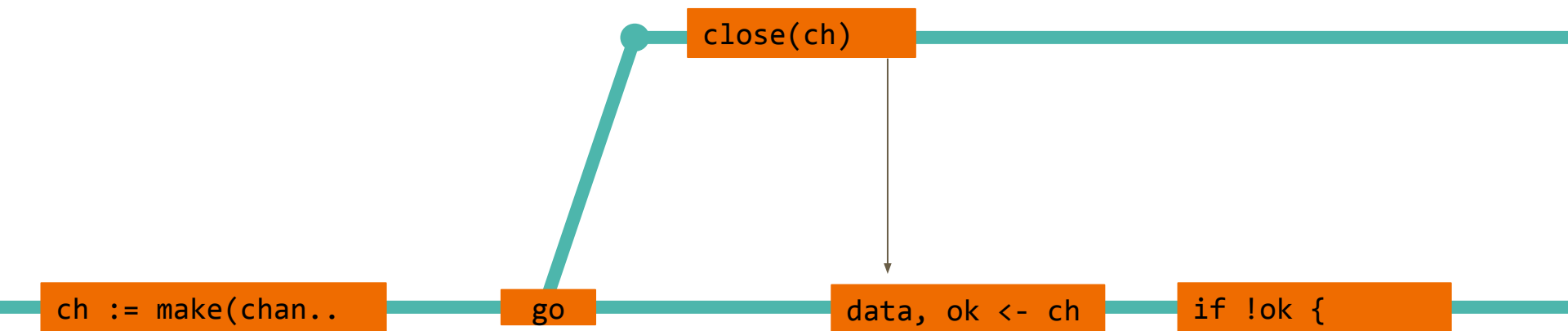
```
go worker()  
done <- true  
<- done
```

Just close it

```
go worker()  
go worker()  
go worker()  
close(done)
```



Close channels



```
for data := range ch {
```

Conclusions

- Mind race conditions
- Dive into sources
- Follow signals
- Check for yielding calls



Thanks

Roberto Clapis

@empijej

