

A dramatic landscape featuring a dark, stormy sky with heavy, dark grey clouds. In the foreground, a paved road curves through a green field. The background shows a line of trees and a small white building. The overall mood is ominous and powerful.

# TORNADO IN DEPTH

*thor*

*thunder*

*tro*

*tronar*

*tronada*

*tornar*

*tornada*



*tornada*

*tronada*

+

*tornada*

**TORNADO**

## *what is it?*

Non-blocking web server

Based on epoll / kqueue

Handles 1000s of connections

Powers FriendFeed

paylogic

*why do you even care?*

Know what you use

I can't trust  
what I don't know

Learning and sharing: fun!

*what do you use it for?*

We built a

Scalable

Distributed

Fault tolerant

High load

...thing

[CITATION NEEDED]



**paylogic**

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**TORNADO**

*what is it made of?*

IOLoop

Callbacks, Tasks, Timeouts

TCPServer

Application

RequestHandler

Generators

*can I extend it?*

Sure!

It's easy

How would we make  
a simple TCPServer?

*show me the source!*

0b\_tcpserver.py

**GETTING  
STARTED**

*how do I make the simplest app?*

Define a `RequestHandler`

Implement `get`

Define an `Application`

Tell the application to `listen`

Start the `IOLoop`

*show me the source!*

01\_getting\_started.py



# *what is an Application?*

Collection of **RequestHandlers**

Implements **listen**:

Starts an **HTTPServer**

Sets the Application as **request callback**

Implements **\_\_call\_\_**:

Handles the user requests

*show me the source!*

t1\_application\_listen.py

*what does `Application.__call__` do?*

Parses the URL

Decides which **handler** to use  
and creates an **instance** of it

(each connection gets one)

**`__executes`** it

(passing any defined transforms to it -e.g. Gzip compression)

*show me the source!*

t2\_application\_call.py

*what*

*does RequestHandler.\_execute do?*

Calls the handler method

Checks XSRF cookie

Maybe closes the connection

*show me the source!*

t3\_request\_handler\_  
\_execute.py

# IOLOOP

CALLBACK  
TIMEOUT  
EVENT

# *what is the IOLoop?*

Core of Tornado

Usable standalone or with WSGI

Used for server and client

Single instance per process

Small!



# *what does the IOLoop do?*

Loops forever

Executes:

Callbacks (asap)

Timeouts (when due)

Events (when occurred)

# *what is an Event?*

Something that **happened** on a socket (fd)

(e.g. a user opened a connection)

**Applications** define **handlers** for Events

## *how do I wait for an Event?*

```
add_handler(fd, handler, events)
update_handler(fd, handler, events)
remove_handler(fd, handler)
```

“Notify me when I can READ or WRITE,  
or when there is an ERROR”

# IOLOOP

**THE LOOP**  
IN FOUR STEPS

*first process the Callbacks*

Process Callbacks

They were scheduled by previous:

Callbacks

Event handlers

## *second process the Timeouts*

For each Timeout:

Is it due now?

Run its callback

Calculate the **time** till next Timeout

# *third poll for Events*

Poll timeout:

Callbacks? Then 0

Timeouts? Then **time** until the next **Timeout**

Neither? 1 hour

Here the IOLoop **blocks**

## *and fourth process the Events*

For each (file descriptor, Event):

Call its handler

...and repeat the loop



# THE EXAMPLE

WHAT IT  
REALLY DOES

*show me the source!*

01\_getting\_started.py

*what does the example do?*

Application.listen

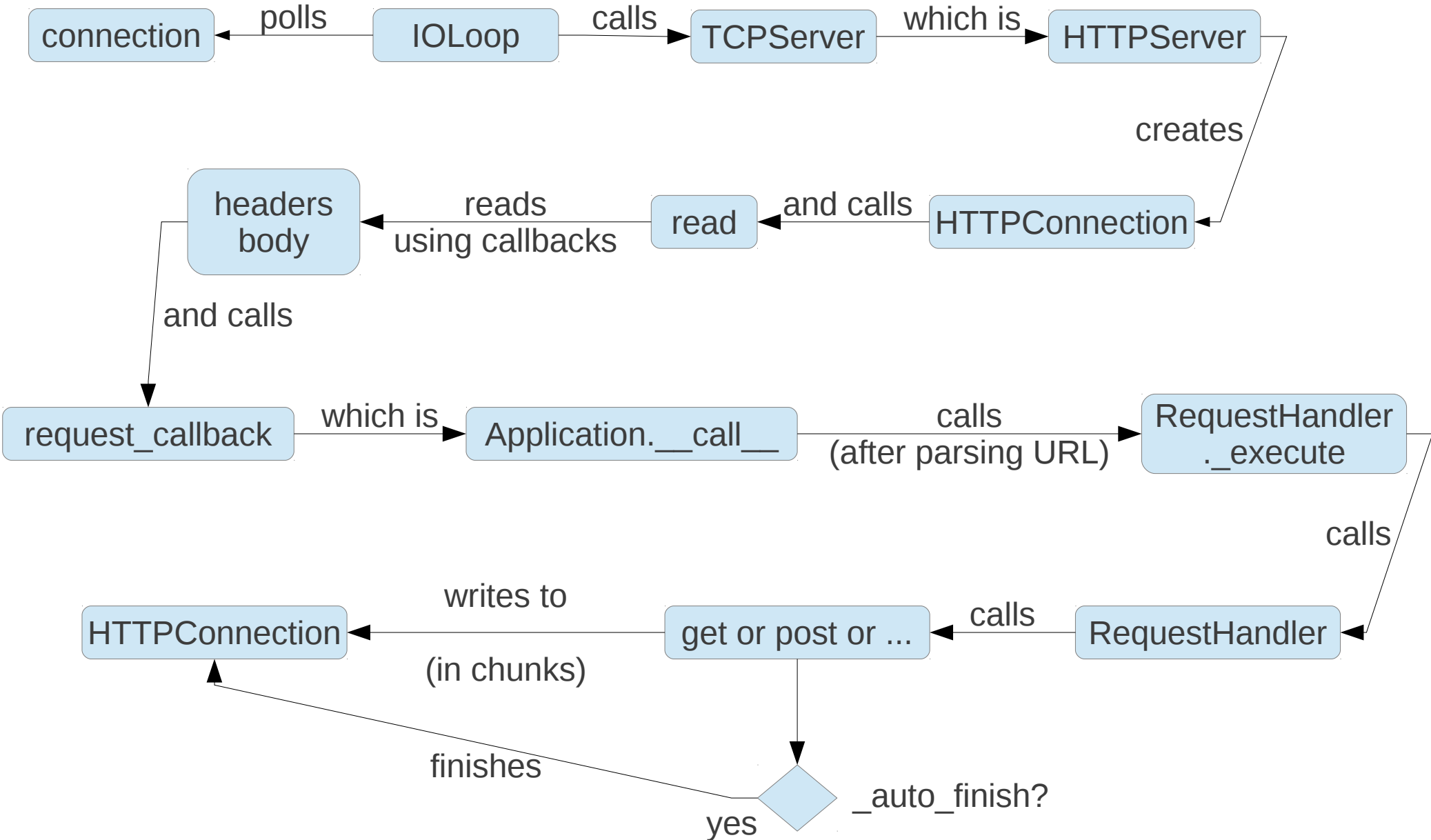
starts HTTPServer

calls IOLoop.add\_accept\_handler

(Application.\_\_call\_\_ will handle the ACCEPT event)

and when a client connects...

# *what does the example do?*



*show me the source!*

t4\_simple\_ioloop.py

# SCHEDULED TASKS

*how do we schedule a task?*

Call me back **asap**

`loop.add_callback`

Call me back **later**

`loop.add_timeout`

Call me **often**

`PeriodicCallback`

*show me the source!*

02\_scheduled\_tasks.py



*how does add\_callback work?*

Adds the callback to the list of  
callbacks.

(and wraps it in a threadlocal-like stack context)

*what do you mean, threadlocal-like?*

StackContext

Keeps track of the socket connection

Handles association between socket and  
Application classes

*show me the source!*

t6\_add\_callback.py

*how does add\_timeout work?*

Pushes the timeout to the **heap**  
of timeouts.

(and wraps it in a threadlocal-like stack context too)

*show me the source!*

t7\_add\_timeout.py

# *how do PeriodicCallbacks work?*

start

Schedules the next **timeout** to call **\_run**

Marks the PeriodicCallback as **running**

stop

Removes the next **timeout**

Marks the PeriodicCallback as **stopped**

**\_run**

Calls the **callback**

(unless **stop** was called)

*show me the source!*

t8\_periodic\_callback.py

*what about Callback?*

Indeed.



# ASYNCHRONOUS HANDLERS

@ASYNCHRONOUS  
&  
\_AUTO\_FINISH

*how does @asynchronous work?*

Sets `_auto_finish` to `False`

(and does some Exception wrapping)

The connection remains `open`

after `get`, `post`...

Close it `yourself`

(`whenever` you want)

*show me the source!*

03\_fetch\_async.py

*I put a callback on your callback*

Nested callbacks  
make ugly code.

*what about Callback?*

Indeed.

**GENERATORS**

*how do I avoid callbacks?*

Use **Callback**

(finally!)

and **yield**

Or **Task**

*show me the source!*

04\_fetch\_gen.py



# YIELD POINTS

*what is a YieldPoint?*

Something you **yield**

Then **stuff** happens

## *what is a YieldPoint?*

Callback

Sends a **result** for a key

Wait

**Waits** till a **result** for a key arrives

WaitMany

Same as **Wait**, for many keys

*what is a YieldPoint?*

Task

Wait + Callback

(with an auto-generated key)

Multi

List of YieldPoints

*how do we do async processing?*

```
callback=(yield Callback("key"))
```

When a result arrives, send it for the  
key "key"

*how do we do async processing?*

```
response=yield Wait("key")
```

When the result is sent, read it into  
response.

*show me the source!*

04\_fetch\_gen.py

*show me the source!*

05\_task.py



*show me the source!*

t9\_yield\_points.py

**WEBSOCKETS**

*how do we use websockets?*

Extend **WebSocketHandler**

(instead of RequestHandler)

Implement **on\_message**

*show me the source!*

06\_websocket.py

# *how do websockets work?*

Similar to **@asynchronous**

(the connection is kept open)

After writing, read for more

(asynchronously- see IOStream)

To Application, it looks like a RequestHandler

# *how does WebSocket work?*

`_execute`

**Accepts** the connection

Decides the **version** of the protocol.

Instantiates a **WebSocketProtocol** class

# *how does WebSocketProtocol work?*

`accept_connection`

**Sends** the required initial message

**Reads** the next message (asynchronously)

`_write_response`

**Writes** a response on the socket

**Reads** the next message (asynchronously)

*show me the source!*

ta\_websocket.py



**I O S T R E A M**

*what does IOStream do?*

Communicates with the **socket**

**Asynchronous**

Uses IOLoop **Callbacks**

# *how does IOStream work?*

`_add_io_state`

“Notify me when I can **READ** or **WRITE**, or when **ERROR**”  
schedules **Callback** for an event (READ, WRITE, ...)

`_handle_events`

Can I read? Call `_handle_read`

Can I write? Call `_handle_write`

Handles errors

# *how does IOStream work?*

## `_handle_read`

Store data in read buffer

Call the read callback (`_read_from_buffer`)

## `_handle_write`

Write data from the buffer into the socket (handling funny circumstances)

Call the write callback (if it exists)

# *how does IOStream work?*

socket.**connect**

**\_add\_io\_state**(WRITE)

Set callback

Data in read buffer? Return it

Read buffer empty? **\_add\_io\_state**(READ)

Add data to write buffer

**\_add\_io\_state**(WRITE)

connect

read

write

*how do I use IOStream directly?*

read\_until\_regex

read\_until

read\_bytes

read\_until\_close

All take a callback

*how do I use streaming callbacks?*

read\_bytes

read\_until\_close

Param: streaming\_callback

Data is sent to callback as it arrives

*show me the source!*

0a\_async\_callback.py



**DATABASE**

*how do I talk to a database?*

```
database.connection
```

```
query("SQL")
```

Returns an iterable

Very simple

*show me the source!*

07\_db.py

**NOT ASYNC!**

**ASYNCMONGO**

*what is asyncmongo?*

**Asynchronous** MongoDB client

Uses Tornado's **IOLoop**

*how do I use asyncmongo?*

asyncmongo.Client

db.find

takes a **callback** parameter

*show me the source!*

08\_mongo.py



# *how does asyncmongo work?*

Implements a **Connection**

Many: **ConnectionPool**

Sends data via Tornado's **IOStream**

Commands send via **Cursor**

**Cursor.send\_message**

Uses Connection to communicate asynchronously

# *can we write our own asyncmysql?*

Difficult

C driver has **blocking** calls

mysql\_query

mysql\_store\_result

mysql\_use\_result

Alternative

Use Twisted's **txMySQL** with `tornado.platform.twisted`

Slower

**Q & A**



# GRAZIE!

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source: uncertain (sorry!)