

Name: mcp-404-cswg-workshop-draft-ism-paper-review

Title: Draft ISM Paper Review

Status: Draft -- anyone can edit.

See the [MCP index](#) to create or find documents, or [mcp-0-readme](#) for an overview.

The headers above are machine-readable; please preserve format.

Text checkins

- Steve
 - sleepy (up since 4 a.m.)
 - recovering from Thanksgiving
 - hilarity ensued last week after we had a flight canceled due to a snowstorm in Seoul...
- Donaldo
 - I still haven't setup my 3D printer, need to do by Thursday (before Microcenter 15 day return window)
 - Purchased lots of filament on Black Friday - telling myself it will pay for itself haha
 - Back from drive home, pothole cause shaking
 - Mechanic said wheel is bent, might need to replace soon; unfortunately not something I can easily do myself
 - I've started going through Go Tutorial book
 - Forked the exercise repo, I plan to adapt into notes document for any future reference
- JJ
 - Had an amazing Thanksgiving!!! Cooked 10 different things...Mysore Dal, Masala Dosas with spiced potato curry, Cranberries, Mashed potatoes, 2 batches of stuffing, Raita, Paneer Tikka Masala, samosas, potato naan, and Palak Paneer
 - Had a mini trip when I picked up kid from Pullman, WA
 - Cyber Monday: Classes!
 - Fixed the dishwasher!!! Yippe! Then I helped my friend fix her dishwasher.
 - Listening to a bunch of
 - Mark Burgess videos
 - Also AI talks. Liked: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4manxX5U-0>
 -
- Rebecca
 - I have gone in half with Adric on a very nice Bambu printer during their black friday sale. Very excited, I had really enjoyed this printer in my class last year.

- Went to two different vegetarian thanksgivings on Thurs and Fri. Very nice drive Thurs up to the mountains, in town on Friday. Botanical Garden with out of town peeps on Saturday
- Sunday I had makerspace board meeting, stewards meeting, and community meeting. Hopefully opening within about 2 months as the insurance situation is looking hopeful.
- Going to work on CNC machining tomorrow
- Need to put together something about end of year donations for Quelab
- Molly the cat has an update: she has a new hobby, watching bird videos for cats

Plan lineup for following weeks

- (Steve set up gcal/discord hooks):
- 03 Dec: Steve: paper; concepts and edits
 - Read the [abstract](#) & [history](#) section of the paper
 - (Stop when you get to “XXX Stop Here”)
 - Follow on with Donald’s Theory of Computation workshop
- 04 Dec: Decentralized AI roundtable <https://lu.ma/j0uxdk4o?tk=sg0qnG>
- 10 Dec: debrief Decentralize AI Roundtable presentations
- 17 Dec: Steve: grid-poc code
 - Rebecca out at least the first half on the 17th
- 24 Dec: xmas eve
- 31 Dec: New Year’s eve
- 07 Jan: JJ: Interfaces in Go, mocking, etc.
- 14 Jan: Steve: tentative: blue sky and the AT protocol
 - <https://bsky.app/profile/stevegt.infrastructures.org>
 - Possibly useful article <https://anderegg.ca/2024/11/15/maybe-bluesky-has-won>
 - Increased popularity of BlueSky is raising the awareness of the importance and utility of open source decentralized protocols
- TBD: Richard: LMS demo
 - Backup plan: debrief Decentralize AI Roundtable presentations

Draft ISM Paper Review

- Reading (10-20 mins):
 - <https://github.com/promisegrid/paper-ism/blob/main/README.adoc>
 - <https://htmlpreview.github.io/?https://github.com/promisegrid/paper-ism/blob/main/README.html>
- Discussion (30 mins):
 - (Before Reading) Rebecca mentioned [r/borrow](#), a reputation based lending money subreddit
 - Similar to informal peer banking

- JJ:
 - Need consistency with world lines (not worldlines), git and Git
 - Theory section really needs graph. I was trying to use the state definitions from last week and compare to yours and thought a diagram would not only make it much clearer for me, but for the readers. Also, a diagram with Git might be nice too. 😊
 - Could this be divisive and needlessly stir things up? I feel like there might be a better way to say the same thing...
 - On top of the tribal drama, I was bothered by the thought that much of the controversy was about the wrong thing. I was pretty sure that the centralized systems that were the subject of debate were not the future. I was also pretty sure Mark was thinking the same thing; he later started firming up his own thoughts in public with his Promise Theory work. [\[promisetheory\]](#)
 - “I was also pretty sure Mark was thinking the same thing”. This could be stronger...
 - Would it be appropriate to have the History in a separate paper, “Promise Theory, DevOps, and the Future of Distributed Systems”. Then reference it.
 - Mark Burgess discusses a similar model in [\[sst1\]](#), using the concept of world lines to represent states and transitions in a spacetime model. **Figure 41** of that document shows a notional X/Y plane of states in space, and a Z axis of time moving upward. Our own attempt at a more detailed graph, showing more states and transitions, is [Figure 1](#).
 - If this Figure is referenced, should you have it in the document:

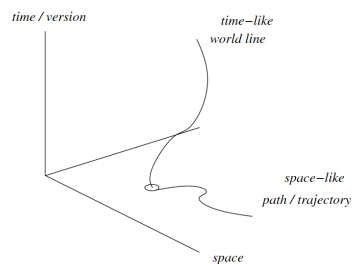


Figure 41: World lines may be space-like (stories) or time-like (histories).

- Rebecca:
 - Reading the narrative story reminds me of writing style for some of the tales in 2600! I do notice that company not named specifically but "with generous support and encouragement from George Sherman, I was able to get in contact with my counterparts on other continents, hire Joel Huddleston and then a larger team", kind of stands out but I'm assuming that you wish to specifically give these folks credit... maybe a mention of a title or function for the reader who is not familiar. (I'm assuming that confidentiality of the unnamed company isn't too much of a concern, since unlike some of 2600 you are not writing under an alias)
 - "On top of the tribal drama, I was bothered by the thought that much of the controversy was about the wrong thing. I was pretty sure that the centralized

systems that were the subject of debate were not the future" -- perhaps something like Tribal drama aside, I was more bothered by... -- implying that the time for tribal drama has passed

- "Decentralization needs to be applied to LLMs as well" -- consider "can be" to avoid a reader possibly having a feeling of disagreement
- Steve: look for more opportunities to split parts of the History section off as appendices
 - for some background see Eric Sorenson's talk at https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLBZBkixHEiewcUZzIAimVEBOI_Zenblc
-- maybe start at timestamp 8:30 or 12:30, though the whole thing is good
- Donaldo:
 - Abstract first sentence?
 - I feel world line needs to be briefly defined soon in paper
 - Storyline of history section seems a bit more choppy than last read, possibly leaning out a bit too much or new stuff better massaged in
 - Checking out previous version on Nov 12
 - <https://github.com/promisegrid/paper-ism/blob/d3fcbf4d02df8656d1d6c4c3444704b62968c10d/README.adoc>
 - History section geared toward DevOp geeks who know the insider references, not a terrible thing, but leaves some blindspots
 - World Line Discovery Process section
 - Jumps into talking about Promise Theory without quick summary
 - Practical example of a git repo more prominent, helpful if a running example. I think most people reading will be asking "why does this all matter?" circling back to this virtually-universal example that developers know helps ground the impact.
 - I need to take a look at Semantic Spacetime papers
 - Steve recommends uploading the pdf into LLM and have it explained from there to more quickly understand
 - <http://markburgess.org/spacetime.html>
 - <https://www.amazon.com/Smart-Spacetime-information-challenges-process/dp/1797773704>