

*The "Isolator" Element as a means of
protection and control in the Movable Feast Machine*

Abstract

The Movable Feast Machine (MFM) architecture provides robustness by localizing the interactions of its computational pieces, namely Elements, with the concept of the "Event Window". The MFM provides flexibility by allowing those Elements arbitrary read and write access to any site within their Event Window. This policy shows an obvious danger, however; runaway or malicious Elements can cause serious damage to a computational system running on the MFM. The purpose of the "Isolator" Element is to provide a robust means of isolating Elements from each other and allowing their interactions to be controlled and predictable. The Isolator can allow, for example, a producer element such as Emitter to make and spread data into the MFM while protecting the source from being destroyed.

Hoped-for conclusion

In the spirit of emergent behavior, it is hoped that an effective but relatively simple Isolator Element can be implemented in the MFM architecture. The fabled "u-shaped" curve will likely come from a sweet spot between how much the Isolator separates the Element from the rest of the MFM and how much that Element can still effect the world outside of its Isolator "bubble". Basically, the independent parameter(s) to be varied will related to how much or little protection the Isolator can provide its "nucleus" Elements versus how much they can interact with the outside MFM world.