

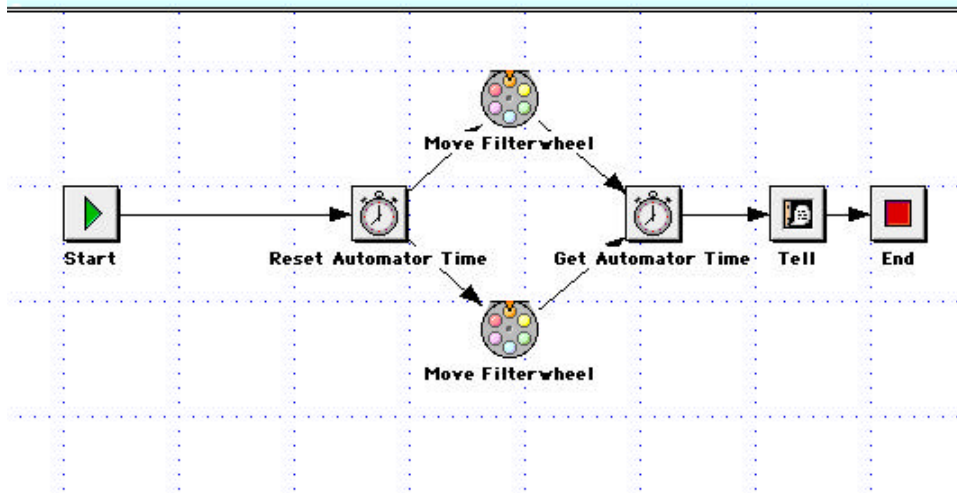
Topic

The Automator is a Multithreaded program that allows the parallel execution of tasks. This means that the Automator can perform two tasks at the same time. An example of its use is given below.

Discussion

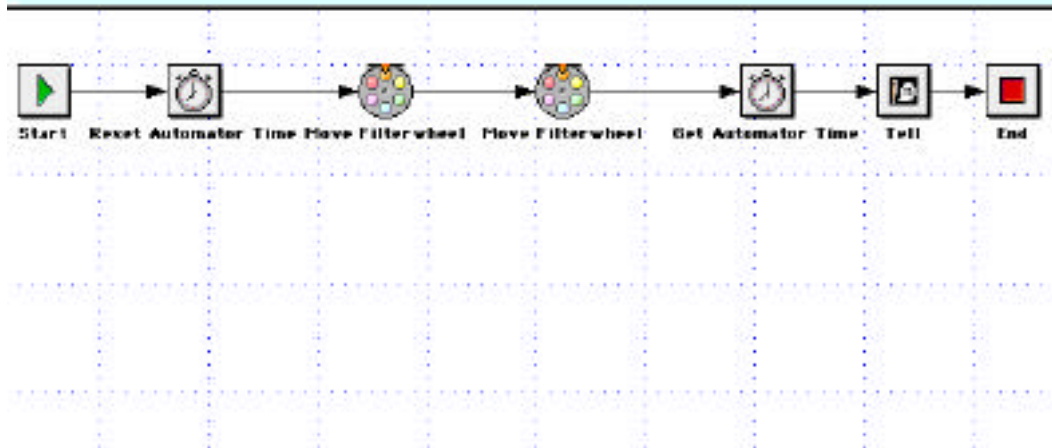
This automation was written with a Ludl dual filter wheel in mind.

+00:00:00.163 "Tell" : That took just 0.163 seconds to move both wheels from position 4 to position 1
+00:00:00.165 Automation stopped running at 9:36:03 AM on Wednesday, February 27, 2002



Alternatively the automation could have been written as a series of tasks.

+00:00:00.000 Automation started running at 9:40:48 AM on Wednesday, February 27, 2002
+00:00:00.208 "Tell" : That took 0.208 seconds to move both wheels from position 4 to position 1
+00:00:00.209 Automation stopped running at 9:40:48 AM on Wednesday, February 27, 2002



Notice from the automator trace the difference in timing: The first automation (parallel) completed the moves in just 0.163 seconds, whereas the second automation (series) came a close second with 0.208 seconds.

It is very difficult to achieve parallel execution of tasks with a text based program language, but very easy to achieve with the Automator.

This is just one of the Automator's unique features which make it both powerful and easy to use.