

# ST446 Distributed Computing for Big Data

## Lecture 2

### Distributed file systems and key-value stores



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<https://github.com/lse-st446/lectures2021>

# Goals of this lecture

- Learn basic principles of distributed file systems
- Learn basic principles of key-value stores
- Focus on the main principles of computer system architecture by considering how some existing systems are designed

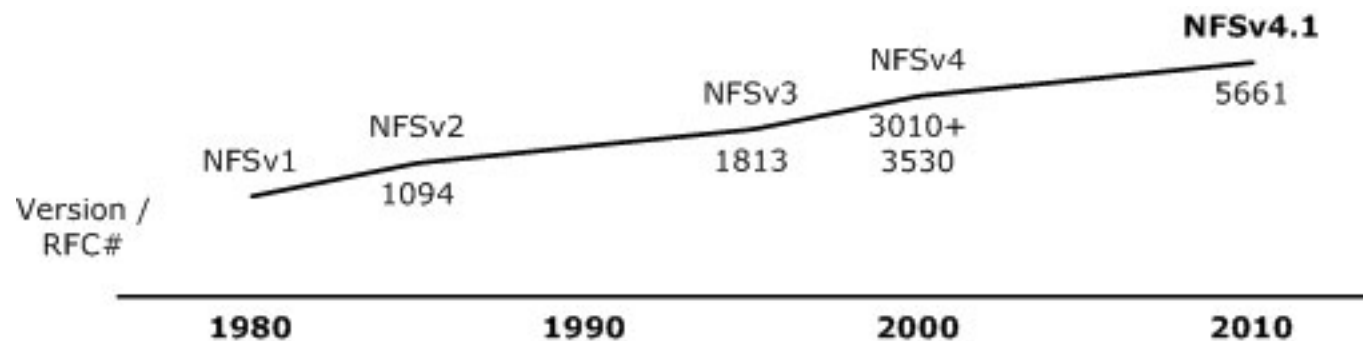
# Outline

- Distributed file systems: introduction
  - Google File System (GFS) example
- Distributed file systems: architecture
  - GFS architecture
  - Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS)
  - Windows Azure Storage
- Distributed key-value stores: introduction
  - Amazon Dynamo example
- Distributed key-value stores continued
  - Google Bigtable example

# Distributed file systems: introduction

# Network file systems

- **Network file system**: a network abstraction of a file system
  - Allows a remote client to access it over a network in a similar way to a local file system
  - Origin: File Access Listener, DEC, 1976
- **NFS**: the first modern network file system
  - Developed by Sun Microsystems in early 1980s
  - 1995: NFS v3, standard RFC 1813: more scalable, supporting large files (> 2GB), async writes, using TCP (Transport Protocol Protocol)
  - 2000: NFS v4, RFC 3010, enterprise applications
  - 2003: NFS v4 revision, RFC 3530
  - 2010: NFS v4.1, RFC 5661, added protocol support for parallel access across distributed servers



# POSIX semantics

- **POSIX**: Portable Operating System Interface
  - A family of standards specified by the IEEE Computer Society for **maintaining compatibility between different operating systems**
  - Defines API, command line shells and utility interfaces, for software compatibility with variants of Unix and other operating systems
- Original standard developed by IEEE Std 1003.1-1988
- POSIX standard sections:
  - POSIX.1: **core services** (includes IO port interface and control)
  - POSIX.1b: **real-time extensions** (IEEE Std 1003.1b-1993)
  - POSIX.1c: **threads extensions** (IEEE Std 1003.1c-1995)
  - POSIX.2: **shell and utilities** (IEEE Std 1003.2-1992)
- Modern distributed file systems: some requirements traded for high throughput
  - B. J. Layton, [POSIX IO Must Die!](#), Linux Magazine, 2010

# Distributed file systems

- Several distributed file systems used in practice:
  - Google: Google File System (GFS), new version Colossus
  - Apache: Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS)
  - Microsoft: Windows Azure Streams
- Common main design elements
  - Different designs influenced one another, ex. HDFS influenced by GFS
- Our focus is on GFS, one of early systems
  - Other systems have similar design properties
  - We will highlight some of the innovations introduced by other file systems

# Google File System

- A **scalable distributed file system** for **large distributed data-intensive applications**
  - The architecture described in a SOSP 2003 paper
- Design objectives:
  - **Fault tolerance**: running on inexpensive commodity hardware
  - **Batch data processing on large files**: original use case, web search index
- Non goals:
  - Support for **latency sensitive applications**
- Main architecture concepts:
  - Big files partitioned into chunks (originally 65MB chunk size)
  - Master node for metadata and chunk management
  - Chunks are replicated for reliability (typically 3x)



# Web search index use case

- *Search engine indexing*: collects, parses, and stores data to facilitate fast and accurate information retrieval
- Hundreds of web crawling clients
- Periodic batch analytics jobs like MapReduce (covered in the next lecture)
  - Later done through incremental processing (as new data arrives)
- Large data volume requires *scaling out*: ex. 100s of TB, 1000s of machines
- More on search engine index: [wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Search_engine_index)

# GFS design rationale

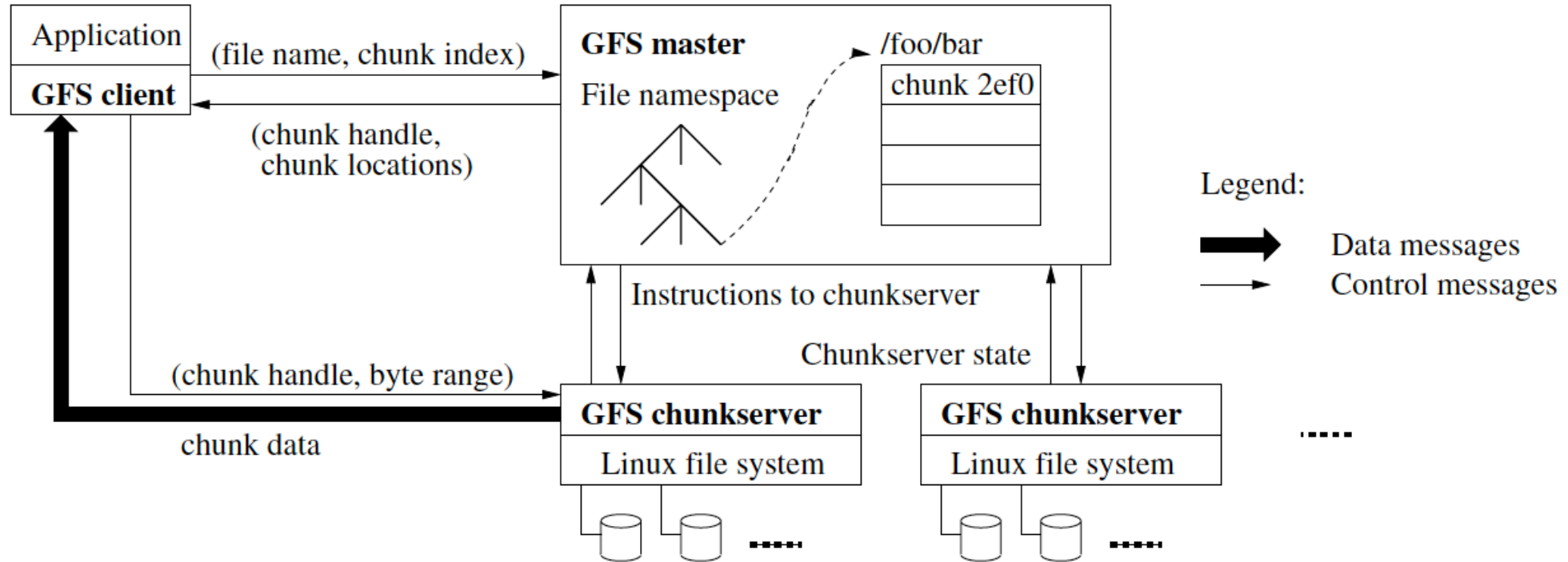
- Designed to satisfy the needs of batch data processing workloads:
  - Reads: *small reads* and *large streaming reads*
  - Writes: *many files written once*, other *files appended to*
- No support for *random writes*
  - Expensive and not needed for intended use cases

# Distributed file systems: system architecture

# GFS system architecture

- Main components: **client**, **master**, **chunk servers**
- Single master architecture
  - Use of shadow masters for replication
- Master stores metadata (in memory):  
(filename, list of chunk ids) and (chunk id, list of chunk servers)
- Master *does not* store file content
- Interface:
  - Application-level library, not a POSIX file system
  - File system operations: create, delete, open, close, read, write
  - Concurrent writes not guaranteed to be consistent (trading consistency for speed)
  - Record *append* guaranteed to be atomic

# Read operations



# Read operation steps

1. Client translates a file name and byte offset specified by the application into a chunk index within the file
2. Client sends a request to master containing the file name and chunk index
3. Master returns to client with the chunk handle and locations of the replicas
4. Client caches this information using the file name and chunk index as the key
5. Client sends a request to one of the replicas, most likely the closest one: the request specifies the chunk handle and a byte range within that chunk

- Notes:

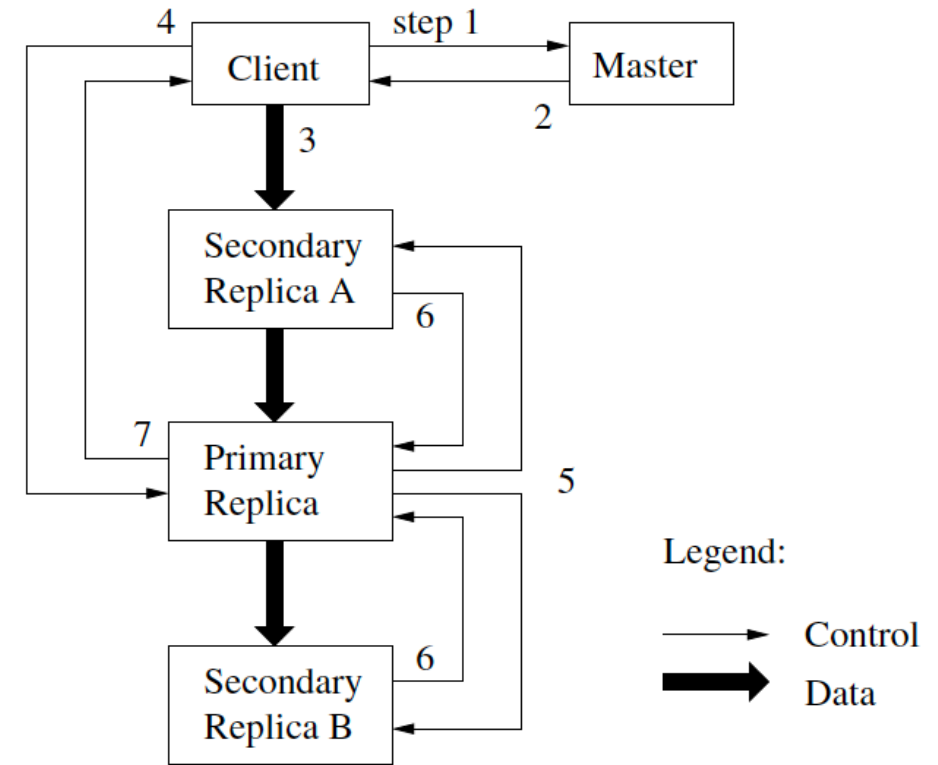
- Subsequent reads of the same chunk require no client-master interaction until the cached information expires or the file is reopened
- Client typically asks for multiple chunks in the same request

# Write operations

- Mutation is either write or append
  - No support for modify
- Lease mechanism:
  - Master picks one replica as primary; gives it a lease
  - Primary defines a serial order of mutations
- Important: data flow decoupled from control flow
  - Minimal involvement of the master for scalability reasons

# Write operation steps

1. **Application** sends a request to **master** to return **chunk indices** for input (**file name, data**)
2. **Master** returns **chunk handle replica locations** (primary + secondary)
3. **Client** pushes write data to all locations
4. **Client** sends write command to **primary**
5. **Primary** determines a serial order for data instance stored in its buffer and writes the instances in that order to the chunk; primary sends serial order to the secondaries and tells them to perform the write
6. **Secondaries** respond to the **primary**
7. **Primary** responds back to the **client**





# GFS upgrades

- Original system scaled to order 50M files and 10PB total data size in production
- Typical system size was in the order of 1,000 servers, now order 10,000 servers
- Workload changes:
  - 100PB total data size
  - Not everything is batch updates to small files
- Around 2010, moved to incremental index updates, instead of periodic rebuilding of the index with MapReduce
- Needed a new file system design: Colossus

# GFS upgrades: Colossus

- A next-generation cluster-level file system
- Scalability of a single master improved by **automatically sharded metadata layer**
- Added ***data coding for fault tolerance*** (previously used only *data replication*)
- Support 100M files per master and smaller chunk sizes (1MB instead of 64MB)
- Client-driven replication, encoding and replication
- Metadata space has enabled availability analyses

# Coding in storage systems

- Original approach to fault tolerance:
  - 3-way replication (3 copies of each data chunk stored)
    - 2x overhead, 0.33 storage efficiency, 2 failures tolerance, easy recovery
    - Def overhead =  $S / D$ , storage efficiency =  $D / (S + D)$ ,  $D$  = data size,  $S$  = stored size
- Coding now widely-deployed as an alternative in different distributed file systems:
  - Google Colossus: (6,3) Reed-Solomon code
    - 1.5x overhead, 0.67 storage efficiency, 3 failures tolerance
  - Facebook HDFS: (10,4) Reed-Solomon code
    - 1.4x overhead, 0.71 storage efficiency, 4 failures tolerance, expensive recovery
  - Microsoft Azure: (12,4) Local Reconstruction Code (LRC)
    - 1.33x overhead, 0.75 storage efficiency, 4 failures tolerance, same recovery cost as Colossus
- Note: (m,k) Reed-Solomon code  
m data symbols per block out of which k are check (parity) symbols

# Basic facts about coding

- Read-Solomon code
  - Error-correcting code introduced by Reed and Solomon in 1960
  - Applied to consumer technologies such as *storage* (CDs, DVDs, Blu-ray discs, RAID 6) and *data transmission* (DSL, WiMAX, DVB)
  - To probe further [Wikipedia](#)
- Local Reconstruction Code (LRC)
  - LRC is an erasure code introduced by Huang et al, [Erasure Coding in Windows Azure Storage](#), USENIX 2012, for distributed file systems
  - Erasure code: a forward error correction code assuming bit erasures (not bit errors)
  - An erasure code transforms a message of  $s$  data symbols into a message of  $c \geq s$  codeword symbols
  - Each original data message can be recovered from any subset of  $s$  codeword symbols
  - Erasure code has code rate  $r = s/c$

# Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS)

- Designed to reliably store very large files across machines in a large cluster
- The system design inspired by GFS
- Main system properties:
  - Handling hardware failures
  - Streaming data access: design for batch processing rather than interactive use
  - Large datasets (typical files from GB to TB in size)
  - Simple coherency model: [write-once-read-many access model](#)
  - Moving computation considered cheaper than moving data
  - Portability across heterogeneous hardware and software platforms

# HDFS system architecture

- Similar to GFS: master : namenode, chunk server : datanode, chunk : block
- Default block size: 128MB
- **Namenode resilience to failure**
  - Backup files for persisting the state of the filesystem metadata
    - Ex. write to local disk or a remote NFS mount
  - Secondary namenode periodically merging the namespace image with the edit log
    - To prevent the edit log from becoming too large
- **Scaling the namenode**
  - HDFS federation: multiple namenodes each managing a portion of the filesystem namespace
    - Ex. `/user` and `/share`
- **HDFS high availability**
  - Use of a pair of namenodes in an active standby configuration

# Hadoop filesystems

- Hadoop abstraction: filesystems
  - HDFS is just one implementation in this abstraction
  - The client interface to a file system is represented by a Java abstract class
    - Java abstract class: `org.apache.hadoop.fs.FileSystem`
- Example Hadoop filesystems:

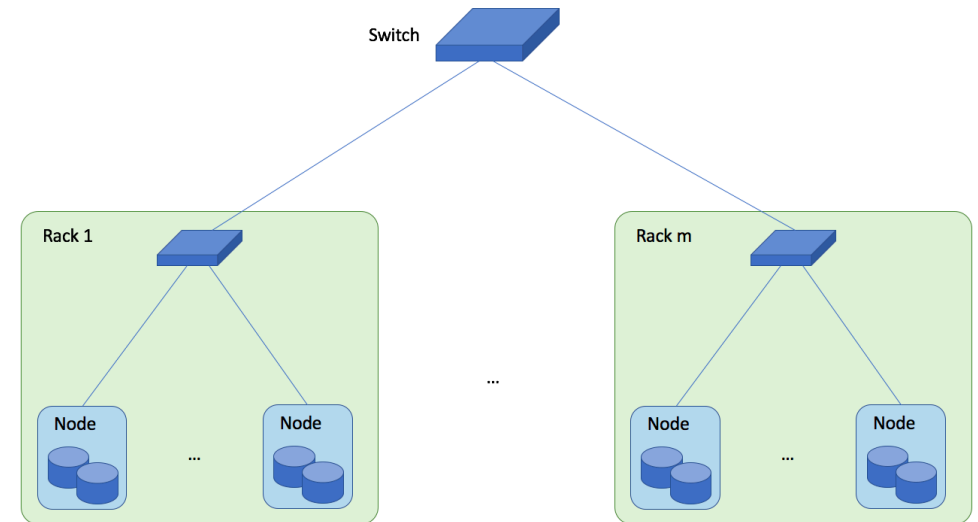
Filesystem	URI	Description
local	file	A file system for a locally connected disk
HDFS	hdfs	HDFS designed to work efficiently in conjunction with Mapreduce
WebHDFS	webhdfs	Authenticated read/write access to HDFS over HTTP
FTP	ftp	A filesystem backed by an FTP server
S3	s3a	Amazon S3 filesystem
Azure	wasb	Microsoft Azure filesystem
Swift	swift	OpenStack file system

# Data block location optimization

- A typical Hadoop cluster architecture consists of a two-level network topology

Default block replica placement:

- **First replica**: placed on the same node as the client
  - If the client is running outside the cluster, a node is chosen at random
- **Second replica**: placed on a different rack from the first (off-rack)
- **Third replica**: placed on the same rack as the second, but on a different node chosen randomly
- **Any further replicas**: placed on random nodes in the cluster





# Distributed key-value stores: introduction

# Distributed key-value stores

- Simple data model: (key, value) records
- Key design objectives:
  - Fast reads and writes
  - Scalability
- Example systems:
  - Amazon Dynamo (not directly exposed externally as a web service; some technology elements used for external services such as S3)
  - Voldemort LinkedIn (inspired by Dynamo)
  - Github, Digg, Blizzard: Redis
  - Facebook, Twitter, Zynga: Memcached
  - Apache Cassandra: a schema-based distributed key-value store

# Example: Amazon Dynamo

- **Amazon Dynamo**: a highly available key-value storage system
- Used by Amazon's core services to provide an "always-on" experience
  - Reliability is one of the most important requirements
  - Outages cost money and impact customer trust
- Key design objectives:
  - **High availability**: achieved by
    - trading-off consistency under certain failure scenarios
    - using object versioning
    - application-assisted conflict resolution
  - **Scalability**: highly scalable to support a continuous growth
- Superseded original use of a relational database to increase scale and availability

# Example use cases in Amazon example

- Shopping baskets
- Best seller lists
- Customer preferences
- Session management
- Sales ranks
- Product catalog
- ...

# Application Programming Interface (API)

- Basic data access operations:
  - `get(key)`
    - Locates the object replicas associated with the key in the storage system
    - Returns a single object and a context (or a list of objects with conflicting versions)
  - `put(key, context, object)`
    - Determines where the object replicas should be placed based on the key
    - Writes the replicas to disk
- **Context**: encodes system metadata about the object that is opaque to the caller and includes information such as the object's version

# Main system architecture concepts

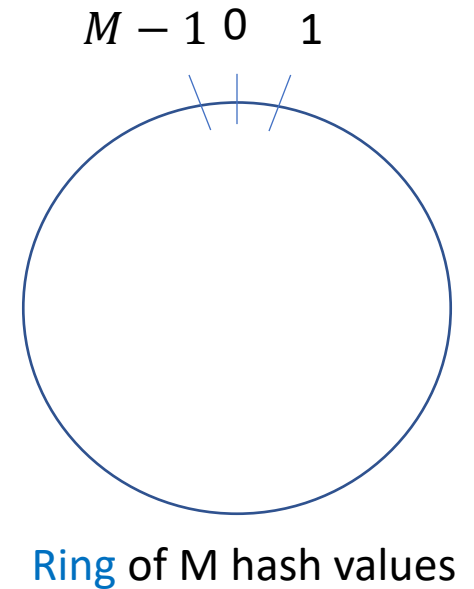
- **Consistent hashing**: using hashing for mapping data keys to nodes (machines)
- **Object versioning**: data object versioning for consistency
- **Simple quorum method** for consistency of data replicas
- **Decentralized replication** and using a **synchronization protocol**
- **Gossip protocol** for distributed failure detection and membership

# Hash functions

- **Hash function:** a function that maps an input message to a hash value

$$x \rightarrow h(x)$$

- A hash function needs to ensure *no collisions*
  - Two distinct inputs map to distinct hash values (with high probability)
- The set of hash values is often represented by a **ring**
- We may think of a hash function as assigning each input an independent random sample of a hash value from the set of hash values
- **MD5 hash (used by Amazon Dynamo):** a hash function mapping to 128-bit hashes
  - Developed by Ronald Rivest, 1991, used in cryptography, more [wikipedia](#)



# MD5 hashes

```
LSE021353:~ vojnovic$ man md5
```

```
MD5(1)
```

```
BSD General Commands Manual
```

```
MD5(1)
```

## NAME

```
md5 -- calculate a message-digest fingerprint (checksum) for a file
```

## SYNOPSIS

```
md5 [-pqrtx] [-s string] [file ...]
```

## DESCRIPTION

The **md5** utility takes as input a message of arbitrary length and produces as output a ``fingerprint'' or ``message digest'' of the input. It is conjectured that it is computationally infeasible to produce two messages having the same message digest, or to produce any message having a given prespecified target message digest. The MD5 algorithm is intended for digital signature applications, where a large file must be ``compressed'' in a secure manner before being encrypted with a private (secret) key under a public-key cryptosystem such as RSA.

MD5's designer Ron Rivest has stated "md5 and sha1 are both clearly broken (in terms of collision-resistance)". So MD5 should be avoided when creating new protocols, or implementing protocols with better options. SHA256 and SHA512 are better options as they have been more resilient to attacks (as of 2009).

```
:
```

```
[LSE021353:Documents vojnovic$ md5 a.txt
```

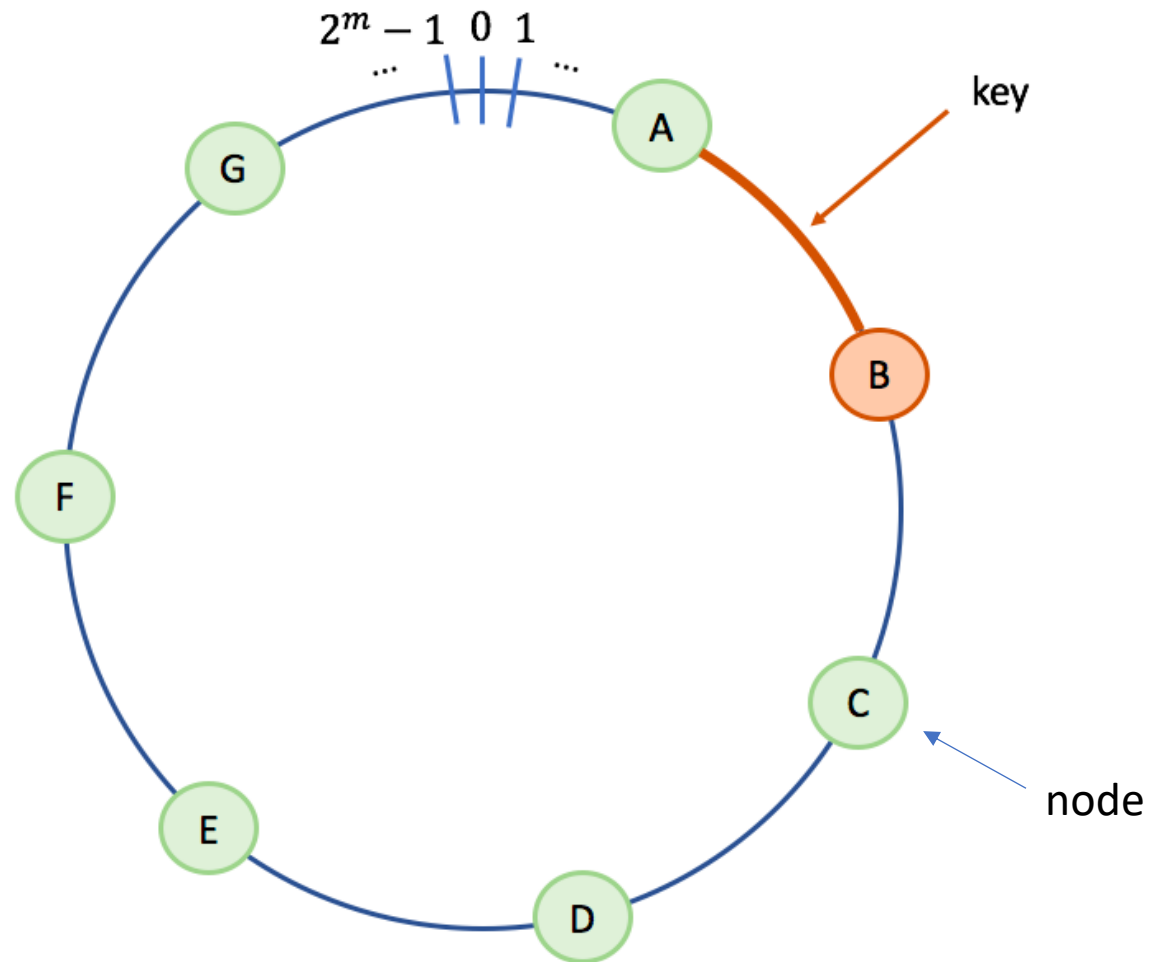
```
MD5 (a.txt) = d41d8cd98f00b204e9800998ecf8427e
```



# Data partitioning

- Nodes and data keys are assigned hash values by using a hash function
  - **Node address -> hash value**: each **node** is assigned a hash value which represents its position (address) on the ring
  - **Key -> hash value**: each **key** of a key-value data is assigned a hash value which represents its position on the ring
- **Partitioning of data key-value pairs over nodes**: each node is responsible for keys with value between its hash value and the hash value of its predecessor node
- **Key-value look up**: the ring is traversed clockwise to find the first node with position larger than the item's position

# Consistent hashing illustrated



- $m$  = number of bits output by the hash function

# Advantages of consistent hashing

- A distributed hash table needs to be resized when nodes are removed or added to the system and this can be done efficiently by using consistent hashing
- When a distributed hash table is resized on average only  $M/N$  of keys need to be remapped to nodes where  $M$  is the number of keys and  $N$  is the number of nodes
  - Adding or removing a node only affects its immediate neighbor nodes, other nodes are unaffected
- Distributed hashing tables can be designed such that getting the value of a key can be done in a small number of search steps

Note: Consistent hashing used in P2P systems: distributed hash tables (DHTs), ex. [Chord](#)

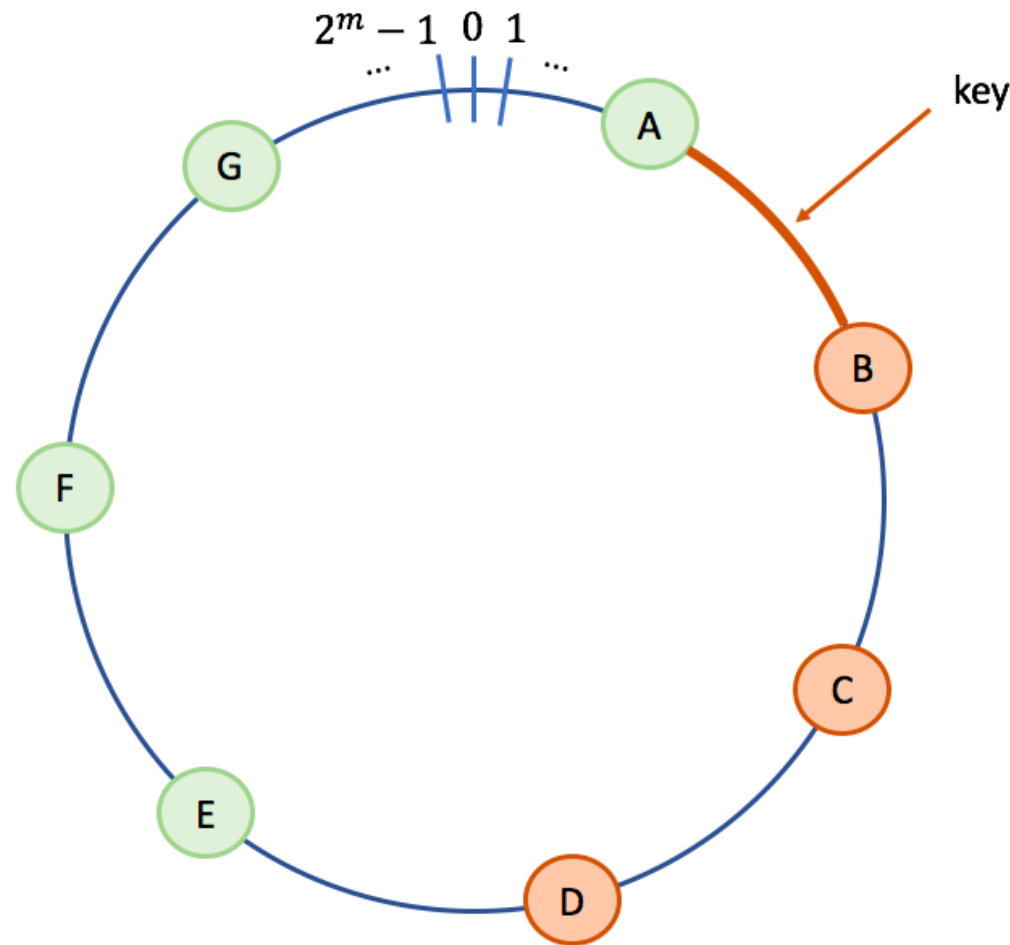
# Data replication

- **Replication**: each node is assigned to multiple points (virtual nodes) in the ring for better load balancing and dealing with node performance heterogeneity
- **Virtual node**: looks like a single node in the system
  - Each node can be responsible for one or more virtual nodes
  - The number of virtual nodes per node is determined based on the node capacity, accounting for heterogeneity of the physical infrastructure and other factors
- **Load balancing advantages of using virtual nodes**:
  - If a node becomes unavailable, the set of keys for which this node is responsible is evenly partitioned across the available nodes
  - When a node becomes available again, or a new node is added to the system, the newly available node accepts an equivalent amount of data keys from each of the other available nodes

# Data replication (cont'd)

- Data replicated across multiple nodes for high availability and durability
  - Each data item is replicated on  $k$  nodes
- Coordinator node: responsible for replication of data items falling within its range
- Coordinator node's responsibilities:
  - Locally stores each key within its range
  - Replicates these keys at  $k-1$  clockwise successor nodes in the ring (each node is responsible for the region of the ring between it and its  $k$ -th predecessor)
- The list of nodes responsible for storing a key is called the **preference list**

# Consistent hashing ring with replication



- Nodes B, C and D store data items in the range (A,B]

# Consistency

- Coordinator node handles read and write operations
  - Default: the first node in the top  $k$  nodes in the preference list
- Read and write operations involve the first  $k$  available nodes in the preference list
- Consistency protocol used is similar to a quorum system
  - Two configurable parameters:  $r$  and  $w$
  - $r$  = min number of nodes that must participate in a successful read operation
  - $w$  = min number of nodes that must participate in a successful write operation
- $r$  and  $w$  set such that  $r + w > k$

## Distributed key-value stores continued (bigtable)



# Bigtable

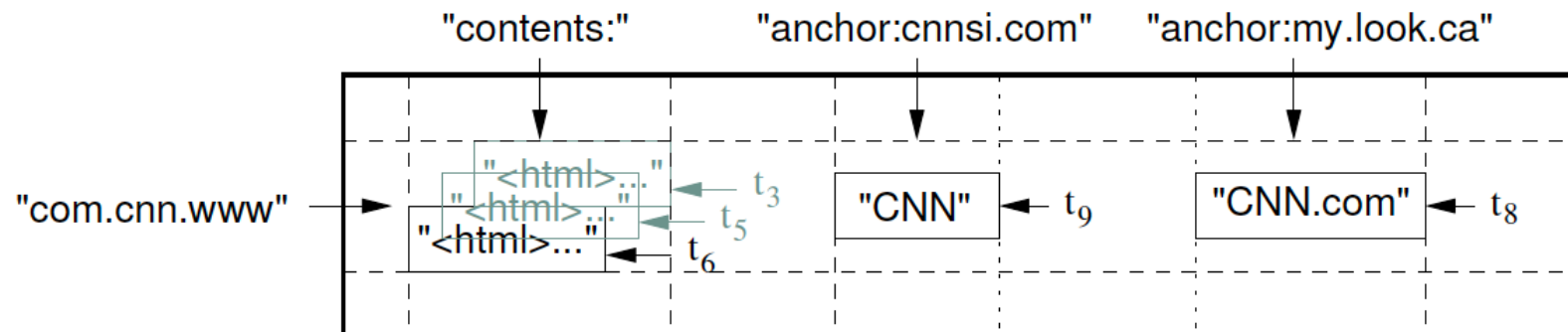
- Distributed storage system for managing *structured data*
- Architecture described in an OSDI 2006 paper
- Designed to scale to very large data sizes
  - PBs of data across 1,000s of commodity servers
- Use cases: web indexing, Google Earth, Google Finance, ...
- Data model: multidimensional array
  - Clients have control over data layout and format
- Offered as a service by Google Cloud Platform
  - Open source cousin: Apache HBase

# Data model

- Data model: **sparse, distributed, persistent multidimensional sorted map**
- Map indexed by **a row key, a column key and a timestamp**, byte array values

**(row:string, column:string, time:int64) -> string**

- Example: store a large collection of web pages and related information
  - Row key: URL
  - Column name: aspect of the web page (e.g. anchor)



# Rows and tablets

- **Row keys**: arbitrary strings
  - Originally 64KB with 10-100 bytes being a typical size
- **Data order**: lexicographic order by row key
  - Allows for dynamic partitioning into row ranges
- **Atomic updates**: atomic reads or writes under a single row key
  - Makes it easier for clients to reason about system behavior for concurrent updates to the same row
- **Tablet**: a range of table rows
  - Basic unit used for data distribution and load balancing
  - Efficient read of short row ranges as they typically require communication with only a small number of machines
  - Clients can exploit this by selecting their row keys so that they get good locality for their data accesses

# Tablets

	"language:"	"contents:"
"com.aaa"		
"com.cnn.edition"	EN	<html>...
"com.cnn.money"		
"com.cnn.www"		
"com.cnn.www/sports.html"		
"com.cnn.www/world/"		
"com.dodo.www"		
...		
"com.website"		
"com.yahoo/kids.html"		
"com.yahoo/kids.html?d"		
"com.zuppa/menu.html"		

**Tablet:**  
Start: com.aaa  
End: com.cnn.www

**Tablet:**  
Start: com.cnn.www  
End: com.dodo.www

# Columns and column families

- **Column family**: a group of column keys
  - Basic unit for access control
- **Column family data type**: all data stored in a column family usually of the same type
  - Data in the same column family is compressed together
- **Creation of column families**: each column family must be created before data can be stored under any column key in that family
- **Design assumptions**:
  - Number of distinct column families in a table is small (in the order of 100s)
  - Column families rarely change during operation
  - A table may have a virtually unbounded number of columns

# Columns and column families (cont'd)

- Column key naming syntax: `family:qualifier`
- Column family names must be printable, but qualifiers may be arbitrary strings
  - Ex. `family = html anchor`
- Access control, disk and memory accounting performed at column-family level
- **Timestamps**: each cell of a table can contain multiple versions of the data
  - Different versions are indexed by timestamps (64-bit integers)
  - Timestamps are either assigned by the system (microseconds) or explicitly assigned by client applications
  - Automatic garbage collection: client can specify either that only the last  $n$  versions of a cell are kept, or that only recent enough versions are kept (e.g. only keep values that were written in the last seven days)

# Schema design

- Key idea: de-normalize your database
- Replicate, cluster data if you can
- In contrast to RDBMS that aim to normalize the data

# Bigtable API

- Basic functions:
  - Creating, deleting tables and column families
  - Changing cluster, table, and column family metadata (ex access control rights)
- Client applications can
  - write or delete values in a table
  - look up values for individual rows
  - iterate over a subset of rows in a table
- Transactions: support for single-row transactions
  - Can be used to perform atomic read-modify-write sequences on data stored under a single row key
- Original design did not support general transactions across row keys



# Bigtable API example: connect

- Python source: [GCP](#)

Importing bigtable module

```
from google.cloud import bigtable
```

user input data: project\_id, instance\_id, table\_id

Connecting to bigtable:

```
client = bigtable.Client(project=project_id, admin=True)
instance = client.instance(instance_id)
```

# Bigtable API example: create and delete

## Creating a table:

```
table = instance.table(table_id)
table.create()
```

## Creating a column family:

```
column_family_id = 'cf1'
cf1 = table.column_family(column_family_id)
cf1.create()
```

## Deleting a table:

```
table.delete()
```

# Bigtable API example: writing rows

## Writing rows example:

```
column_id = 'greeting'.encode('utf-8')
greetings = [
    'Hello World!',
    'Hello Cloud Bigtable!',
    'Hello Python!',
]

for i, value in enumerate(greetings):
    row_key = 'greeting{}'.format(i)
    row = table.row(row_key)
    row.set_cell(
        column_family_id,
        column_id,
        value.encode('utf-8'))
    row.commit()
```

# Bigtable API example: reading rows

## Getting a row by key:

```
key = 'greeting0'
row = table.read_row(key.encode('utf-8'))
value = row.cells[column_family_id][column_id][0].value
print('\t{}: {}'.format(key, value.decode('utf-8')))
```

## Scanning all rows:

```
partial_rows = table.read_rows()
partial_rows.consume_all()

for row_key, row in partial_rows.rows.items():
    key = row_key.decode('utf-8')
    cell = row.cells[column_family_id][column_id][0]
    value = cell.value.decode('utf-8')
    print('\t{}: {}'.format(key, value))
```

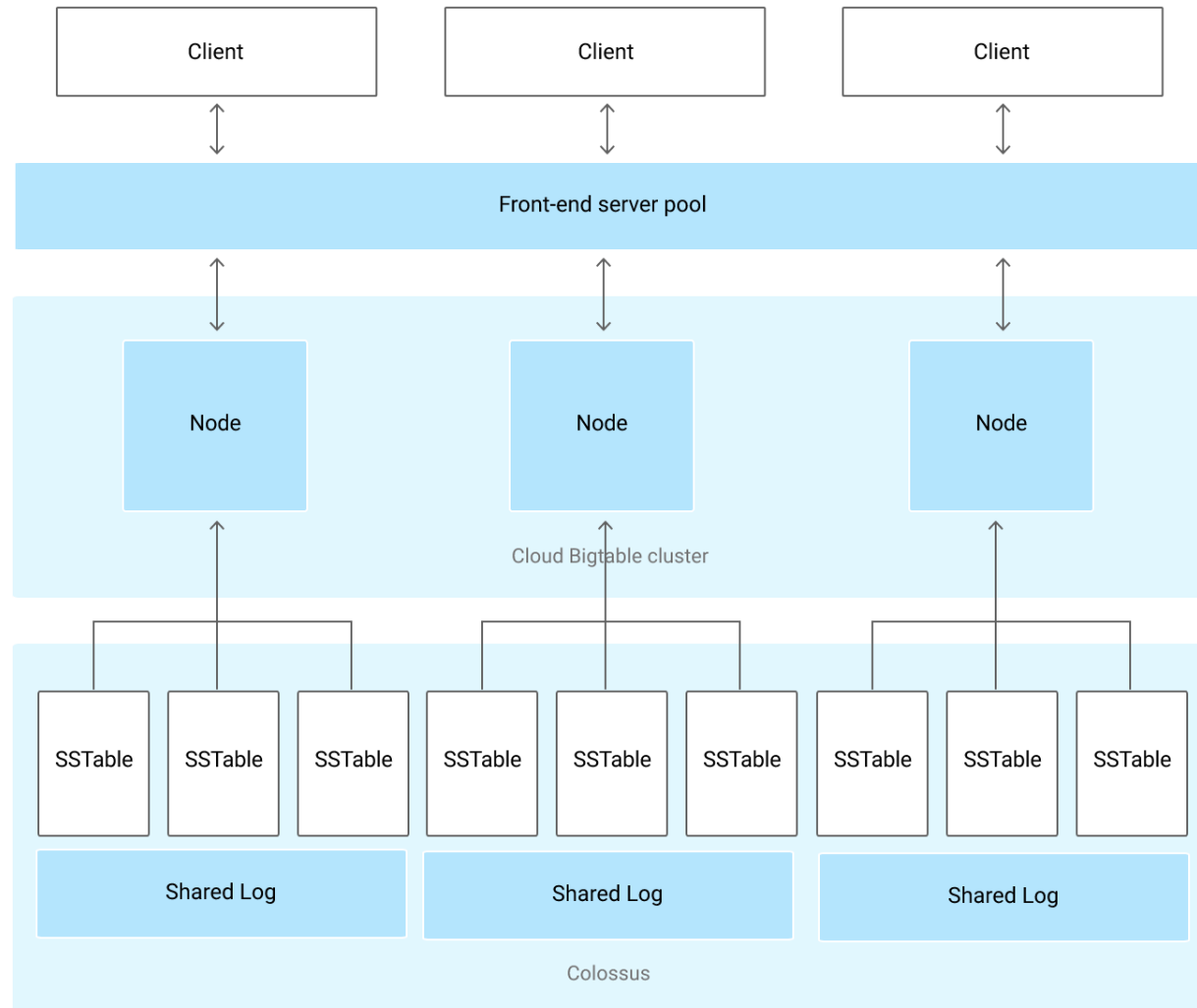
# System architecture components

- Storing log and data files: using a distributed file system
  - Colossus
- Persistent storage: storing [ordered immutable key-value pairs](#)
  - Google SSTable file format (Sorted String Table)
- Distributed lock service: using distributed lock service Chuby
  - Five active replicas, one of which is elected to be master and actively serve requests
  - Chuby uses Paxos algorithm to keep its replicas consistent in case of failures
  - Paxos: distributed consensus protocol (more [wikipedia](#))

# SSTable (sorted string table)

- A simple abstraction for storing **immutable key/value string pairs**, sorted by keys
  - Persistent, ordered immutable map from keys to values
  - Both keys and values are arbitrary byte strings
  - Operations to look up value for a specified key, and to iterate over key/value pairs in a specified key range
- Internal design:
  - Each SSTable contains a sequence of blocks: typical block size is 64KB
  - A block index (stored at the end of the SSTable) is used to locate blocks; the index is loaded into memory when the SSTable is opened
  - Efficient look-ups: a lookup can be performed with a single disk seek: first the appropriate block is found by performing a binary search in the in-memory index, and then reading the appropriate block from disk
  - Optionally, an SSTable can be completely mapped into memory, which allows to perform lookups and scans without touching the disk

# Bigtable: system architecture



# System components

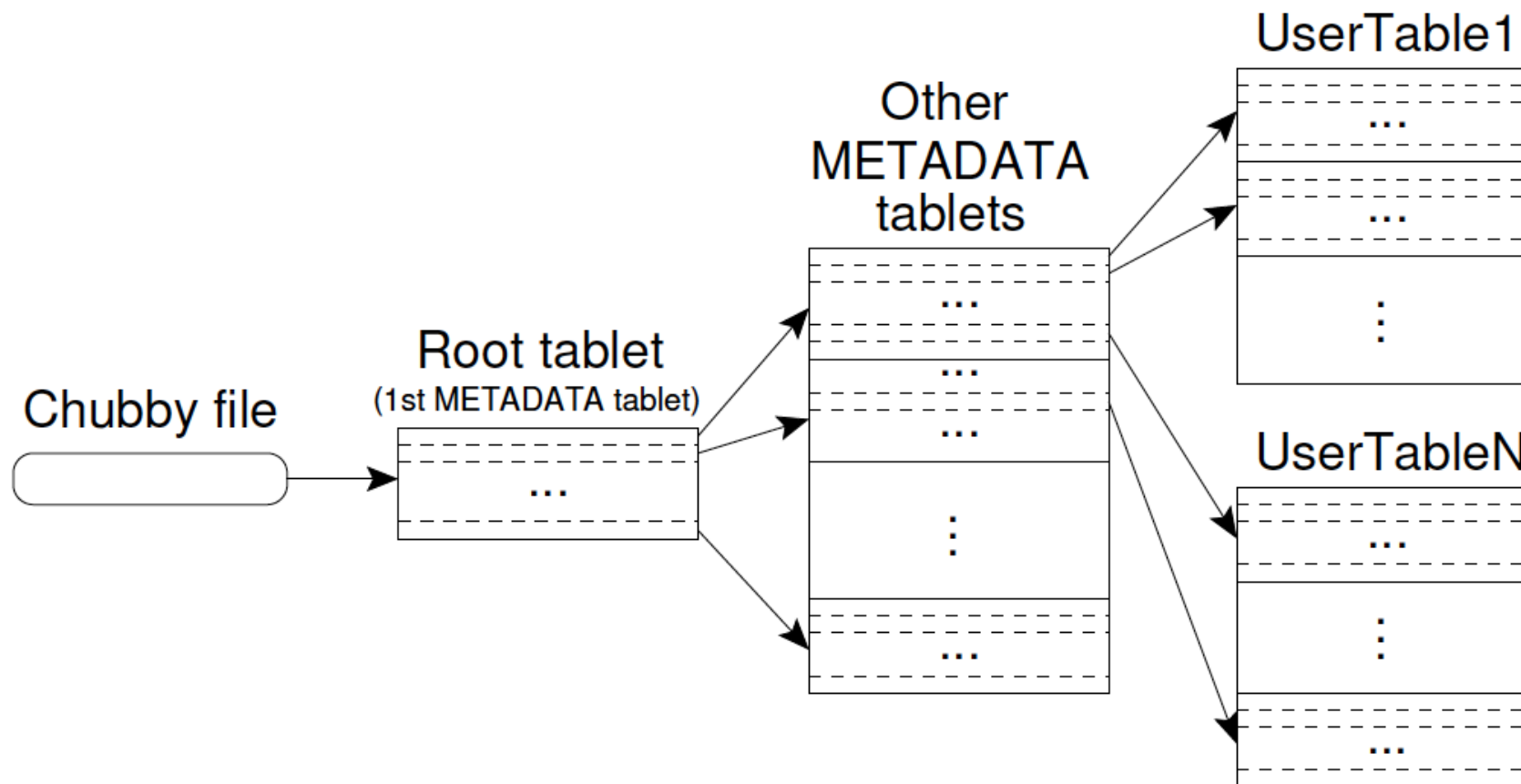
- **Client library**
  - Library linked into every client
- **Master server**: single master
  - Assigning tablets to tablet servers
  - Detecting addition and expiration of tablet servers
  - Garbage collection of files in the file system
  - Handling schema changes such as table and column family creation
- **Tablet servers**: multiple (many) servers
  - Managing a set of tablets (typically 10-1000 tablets)
  - Handling read and write requests to the tablets that it has loaded
  - Splitting tablets that have grown too large
- **Scalability**: separation of data and control flow
  - Clients communicate directly with tablet servers for data reads and writes



# Tablet locations

- Three-level data structure used to store tablet location information
  - 1: a file that contains the location of the **root tablet**
  - 2: the root tablet contains the location of all tablets in a METADATA table
  - 3: each METADATA tablet contains the location of a set of user tablets
- Caching tablet locations: the client library caches tablet locations
  - If the client does not know the location of a tablet, or it discovers that cached location information is incorrect, then it recursively moves up the tablet location hierarchy

# Tablet locations (cont'd)



# Additional system features

- **Locality group**: clients can group multiple *column families* into a locality group
  - A separate SSTable is generated for each locality group in each tablet
  - More efficient reads by segregating column families that are infrequently accessed together into separate locality groups
  - A locality group can be declared to be in-memory
- **Compression**: clients can control whether SSTables in a locality group are compressed, and if so, which compression format is used
  - Common to use a two-pass custom compression scheme: in the first pass compressing long common strings across a large window; in the second pass using a fast compression algorithm for repetitions in a small window of data
- **Caching for read performance**: tablets use two levels of caching
  - High-level cache: caches key-value pairs returned by the SSTable interface to the tablet server code (useful for applications that read the same data repeatedly)
  - Low-level cache: caches SSTables blocks that were read from the file system (useful for applications that tend to read data that is close to the data they recently read)

# Additional system features (cont'd)

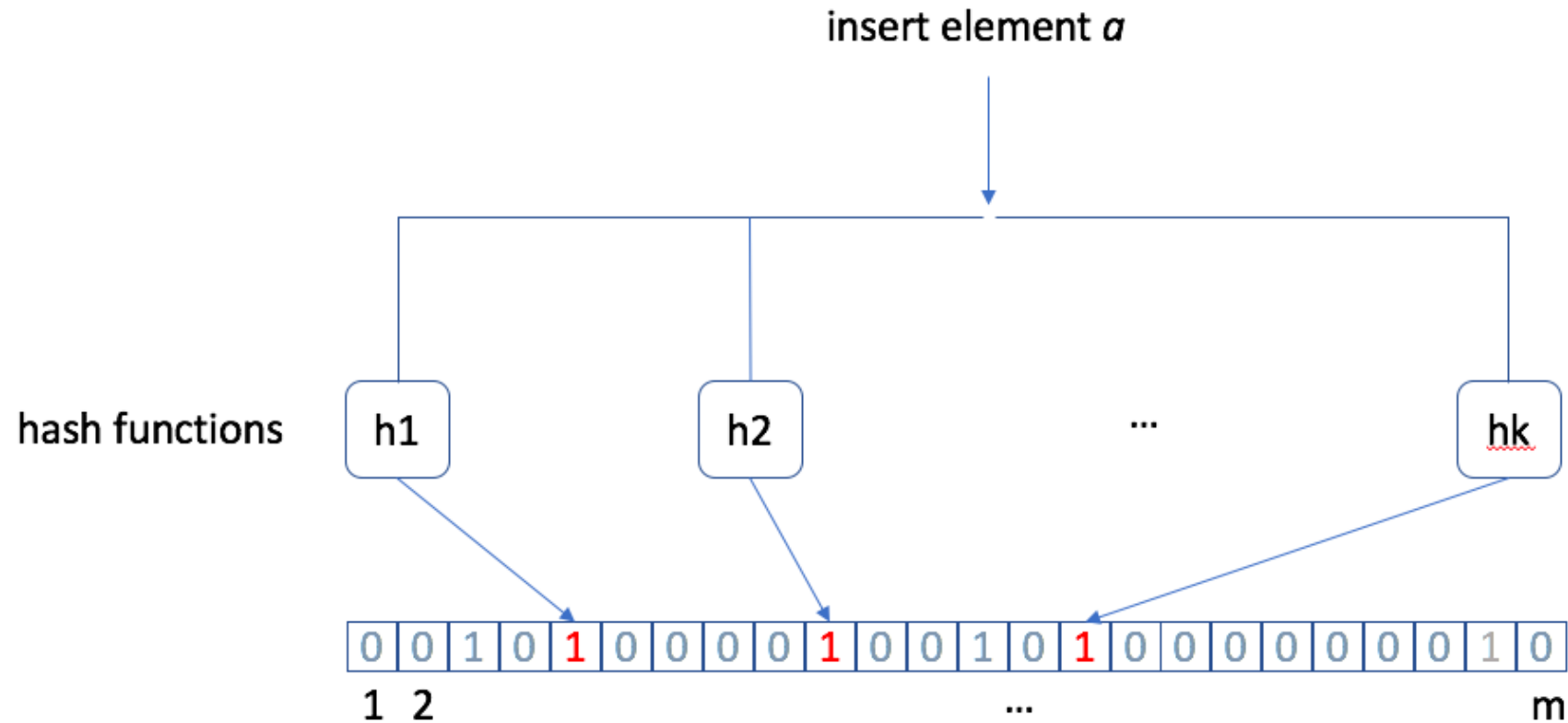
- **Bloom filters**: a read operation must read from all SSTables that make a tablet
- If these SSTables are not in memory, may end up doing many disk accesses
- Reduced by allowing clients to specify that Bloom filters should be created for SSTables in a locality group
- Allows to ask **whether an SSTable *might* contain any data for a specified row/column pair**
- **Commit log implementation**: a single commit log per tablet server is used

# Bloom filter

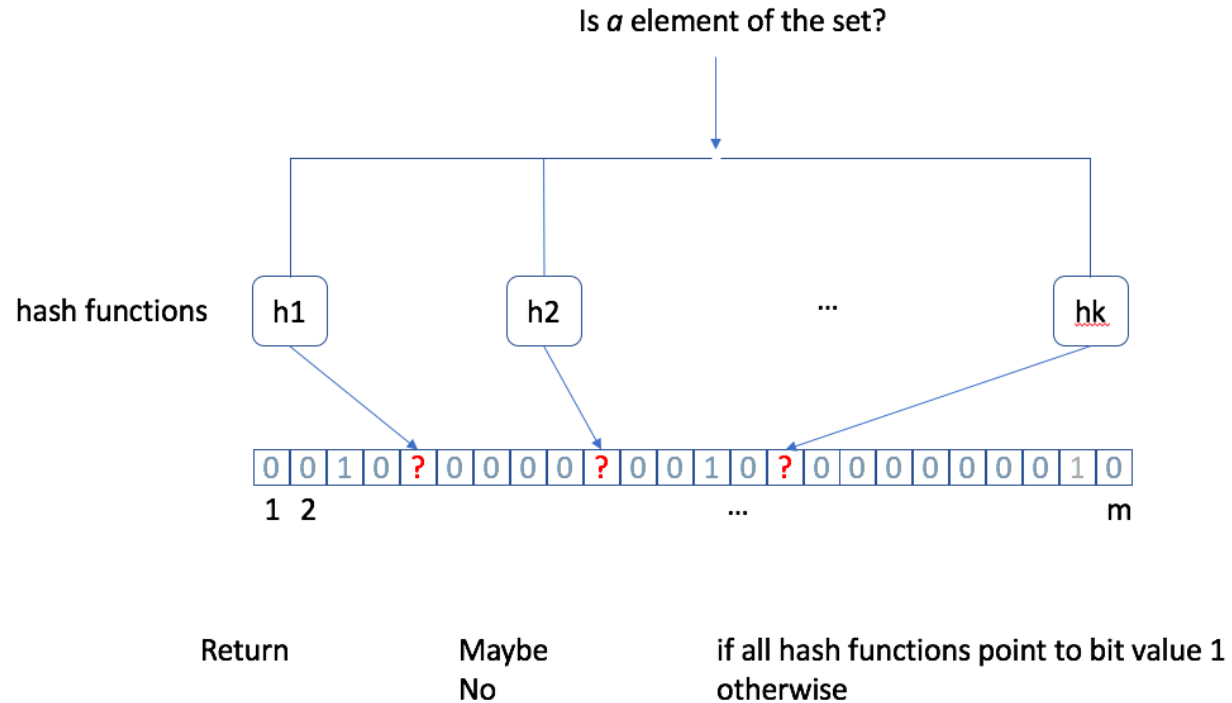
- Bloom filter: a space-efficient probabilistic data structure for  
testing whether an element is in a set:  $a \in S$  ?
  - Conceived by Burton Howard Bloom in 1970
- Key properties:
  - False positive answers are possible
  - False negative answers are *not* possible
  - A query returns either "possibly in set" or "definitely not in set"
  - Elements can be added to the set, but not removed !
  - The more elements are added, the larger the probability of false positives
- Data structure: array of  $m$  bits and  $k$  hash functions
  - Each hash function maps an input element to one of  $m$  bits

# Bloom filter: insert element

- Input element mapped to  $k$  array positions by hash functions, which are all set to 1



# Bloom filter: query



- Query: check the values of bits at  $k$  array positions corresponding to the queried element
- If all are 1, then return "possibly in set"  
(either the element is in the set, or the bits have by chance been set to 1 during the insertion of some other element, resulting in a false positive)
- Else if any of the bits at these positions is 0, then return "not in the set"  
(the element is definitely not in the set)

# Seminar class 2: HDFS and Bigtable

- Before class: get started with Hadoop
- HDFS: basic HDFS commands, admin commands, run a mapreduce job
- Bigtable: using Bigtable on GCP from a Jupyter notebook on your laptop

<https://github.com/lse-st446/lectures2021/blob/master/Week02/class/README.md>



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  - Ch 3: The Hadoop distributed file system
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  - Ch 10: Setting Up a Hadoop Cluster, Network Topology (p. 286-288)
  - Ch 20: Hbase
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