



Database reliability engineering for MySQL

Matthias Crauwels

ConFoo 2022 - Online

Wed Feb 23rd 2022

Pythian

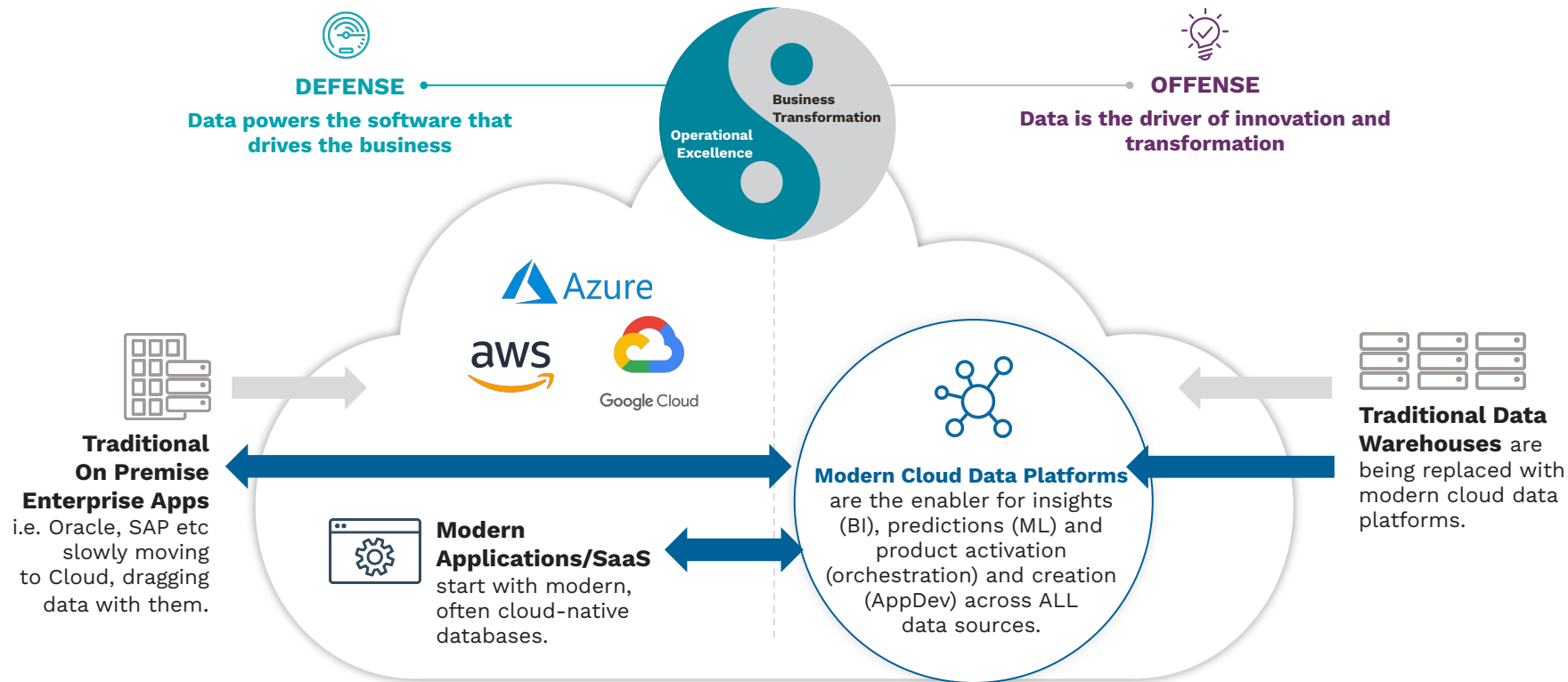
Speaker

Matthias Crauwels

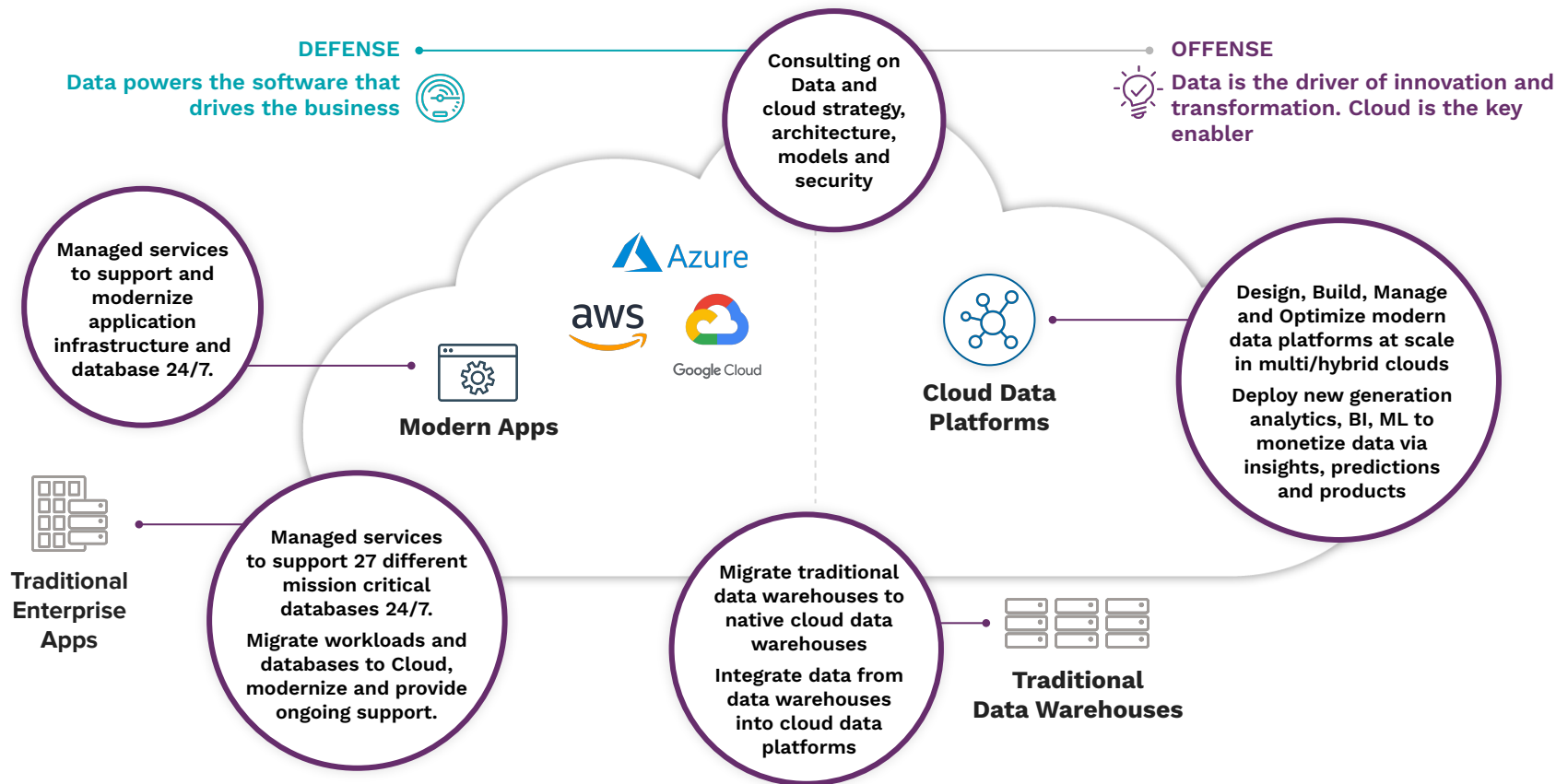
Principal Consultant
Pythian - OSDB



How the data estate is evolving



Pythian's Services Across the Data Estate



Other presentation

- Tomorrow at 10:30 I have another presentation

Getting started with InnoDB Cluster in MySQL 8

Since MySQL 5.7 InnoDB Cluster saw the light. Back then it was not as popular because it was considered too new technology. As with any new product, there were numerous bug reports. With MySQL 8.0 the solution has matured a lot, many of the problems have been addressed and so it has become a full scale high availability solution for MySQL.

AGENDA

- (High) Availability
- Service Discovery
- Observability
- Disaster Recovery

The background of the slide is a solid purple color. Overlaid on this is a complex network diagram. It consists of numerous small red circular nodes of varying sizes, connected by thin red lines. The lines and nodes are scattered across the entire frame, creating a web-like pattern that suggests connectivity and a distributed system.

(High) Availability

Availability for MySQL

- **When do we consider MySQL available?**
- **We need:**
 - Just one server to write transactions to
 - At least one server to read transactions from

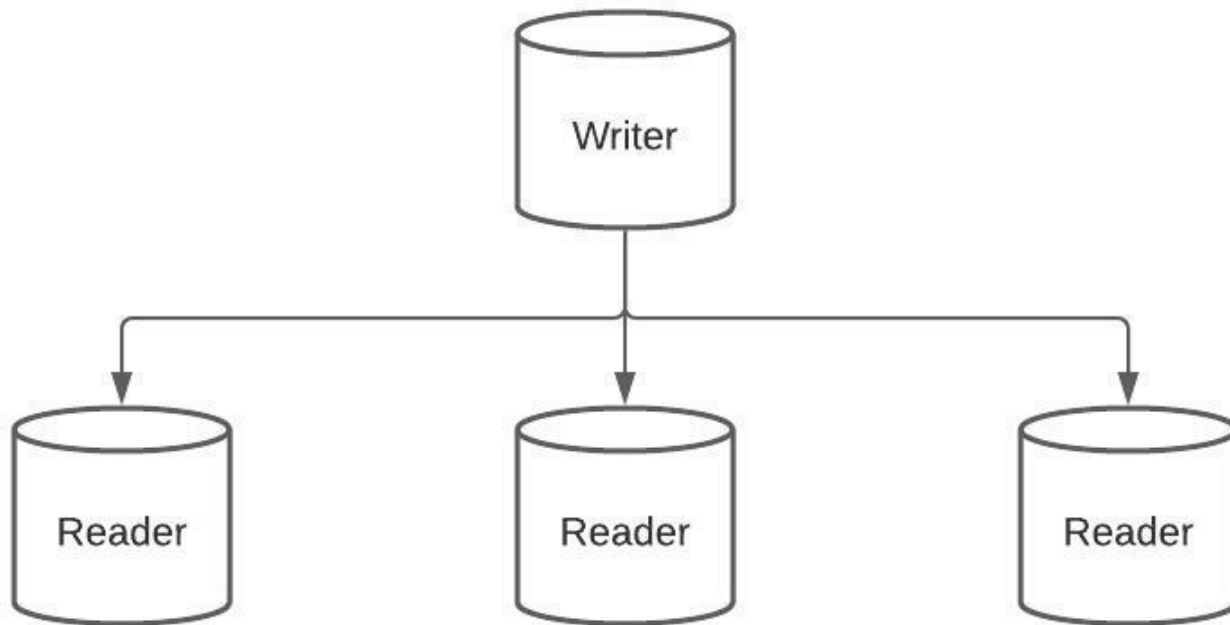
Availability vs High Availability



Availability vs High Availability

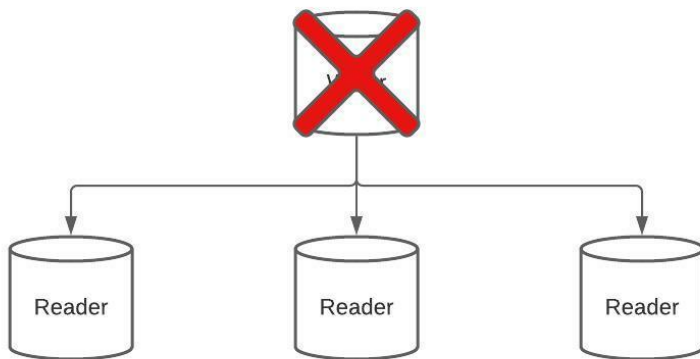


High Availability for MySQL



MySQL - Single point of failure

- The "writer" is the single-point-of-failure in this topology
- No more writes can happen
- Application will likely be down or at least degraded
- We shall introduce a topology management tool to handle these failures.



Orchestrator

Orchestrator is a High Availability and replication management tool.

It can be used for:

- Discovery of a topology
- Visualisation of a topology
- Refactoring of a topology
- Recovery of a topology

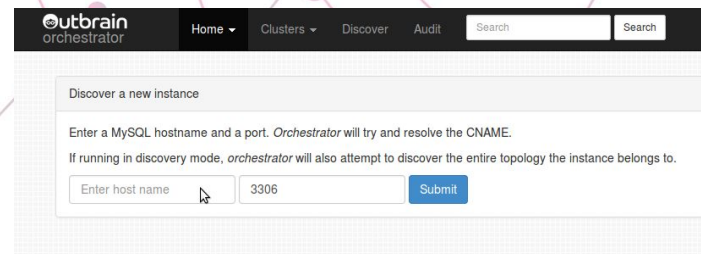


Orchestrator: Discovery

Orchestrator can (and will) discover your entire replication topology as soon as you connect it to a single server in the topology.

It will use regular DBA commands such as: `SHOW SLAVE HOSTS`, `SHOW PROCESSLIST`, `SHOW SLAVE STATUS` to try and connect to the other servers in the topology.

Requirement: the `orchestrator_topology_user` needs to be created on every server in the cluster so it can connect.



The screenshot shows the Outbrain Orchestrator web interface. The top navigation bar includes the logo, a search bar, and links for Home, Clusters, Discover, and Audit. The main content area is titled 'Discover a new instance' and contains instructions for entering a MySQL hostname and port. A form with two input fields and a 'Submit' button is visible.

Outbrain
orchestrator

Home ▾ Clusters ▾ Discover Audit

Search Search

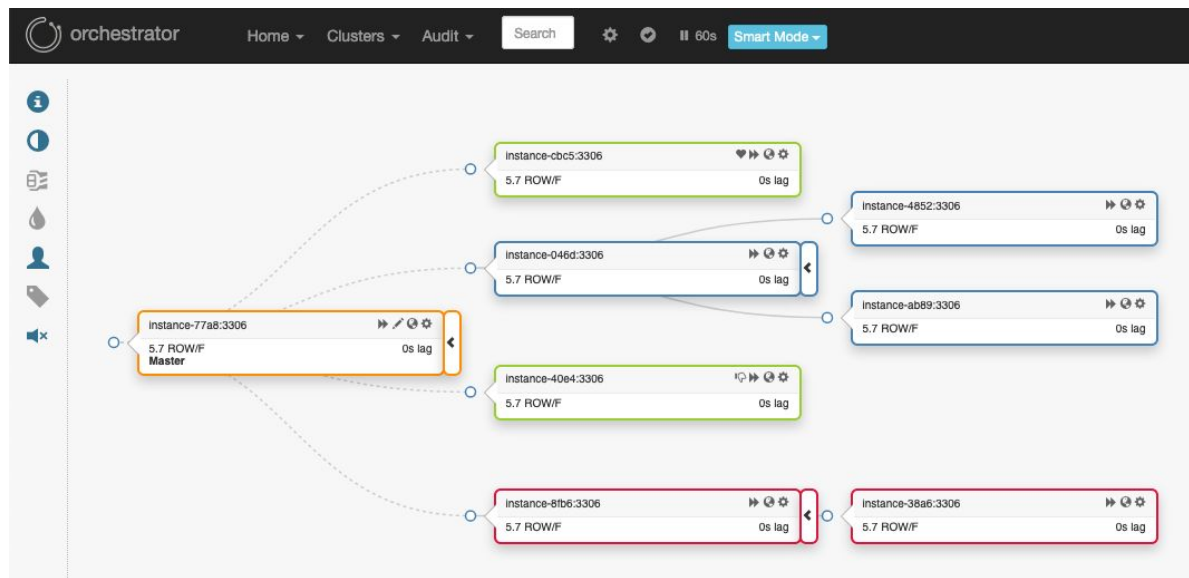
Discover a new instance

Enter a MySQL hostname and a port. *Orchestrator* will try and resolve the CNAME.
If running in discovery mode, *orchestrator* will also attempt to discover the entire topology the instance belongs to.

Enter host name 3306 Submit

Orchestrator: Visualization

Orchestrator comes with a web interface that visualizes the servers in the topology.





Orchestrator: Refactoring

Orchestrator can be used to refactor the topology.

This can be done from the **command line tool**, via the **API** or even via the web interface by **dragging and dropping**.

You can do things like

- Repoint a replica to a new master
- Promote a server to a (co-)master
- Start / Stop replica
- ...



Orchestrator: Recovery

All of these features are nice, but they still require a human to execute them. This doesn't help you much when your master goes down at 3AM and you get paged to resolve this.

Orchestrator can be configured to automatically recover your topology from an outage.

Orchestrator: How recovery works?

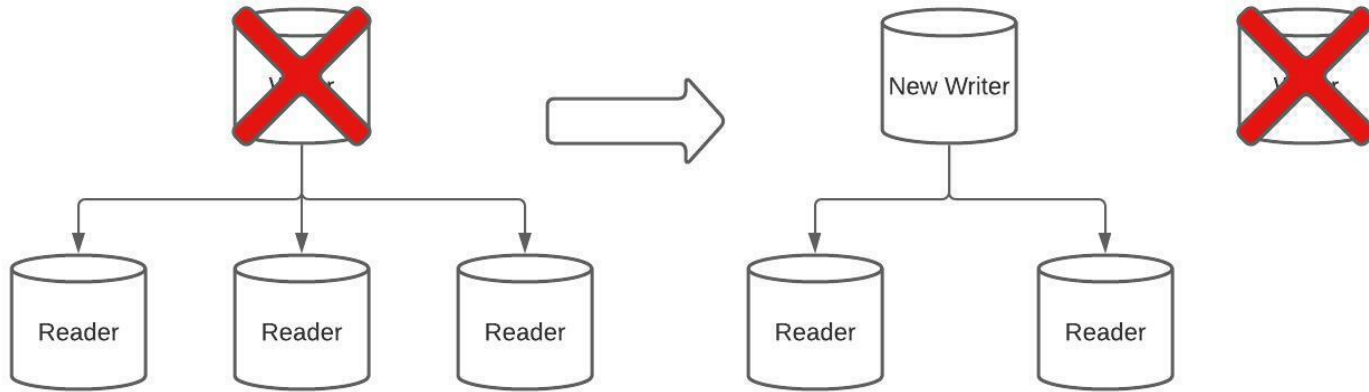
To be able to perform a recovery, Orchestrator first needs to detect a failure.

Typical monitoring tools (think nagios) will probe the master, but what to do on failure? Take immediate action? Retry? How many retries?

As indicated before Orchestrator connects to every server in the topology and gathers information from each of the instances.

Orchestrator uses this information to make decisions on the best action to take. They call this the holistic approach.

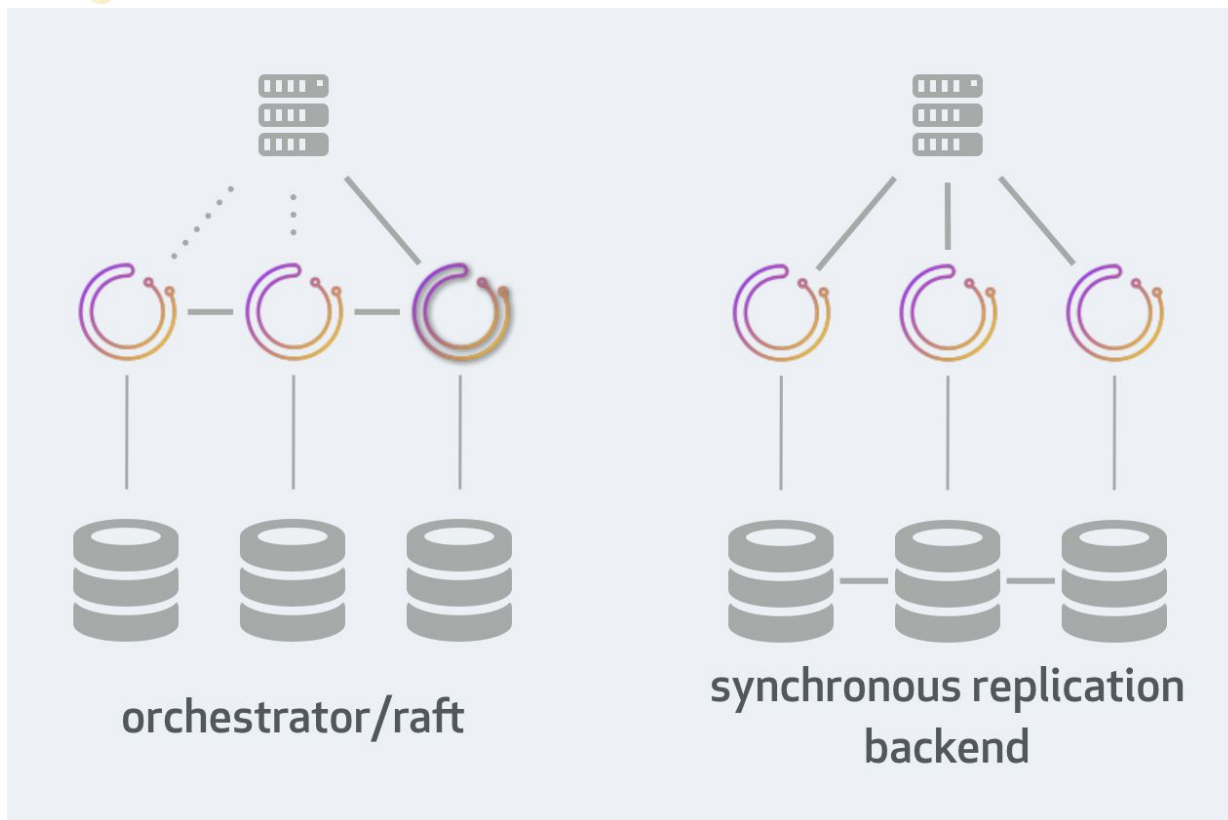
MySQL HA - back to our example



Orchestrator/raft

- Since Orchestrator 3.x
- Orchestrator backend db becomes standalone
 - requirement for MySQL as backend db was dropped (but still available)
 - introduced sqlite as possible backend db
- Implements RAFT consensus protocol, responsible for
 - leader election
 - distribution of data
- Minimal 3 nodes for a HA setup (50% + 1 node quorum)

Orchestrator shared db vs raft



The background of the slide is a solid purple color. Overlaid on this is a complex, abstract network diagram. It consists of numerous small, semi-transparent red circles (nodes) of varying sizes. These nodes are interconnected by thin, light red lines, creating a web-like structure that spans the entire frame. The lines and nodes are more densely packed in some areas and more sparse in others, giving it a dynamic, interconnected feel.

Service Discovery

What is service discovery?

- Know where the writer server is
- Know where the reader server is
- Several options
 - Application deploy?
 - DNS change?
 - Floating Virtual IP?
 - Proxy-server?

ProxySQL: What?



ProxySQL

ProxySQL is a high performance layer 7 proxy application for MySQL.

- It provides 'intelligent' load balancing of application requests onto multiple databases
- It understands the MySQL traffic that passes through it, and can split reads from writes.
- It understands the underlying database topology, whether the instances are up or down
- It shields applications from the complexity of the underlying database topology, as well as any changes to it
- ...

ProxySQL: Terminology

- **Hostgroup**

All backend MySQL servers are grouped into hostgroups. These “hostgroups” will be used for query routing.

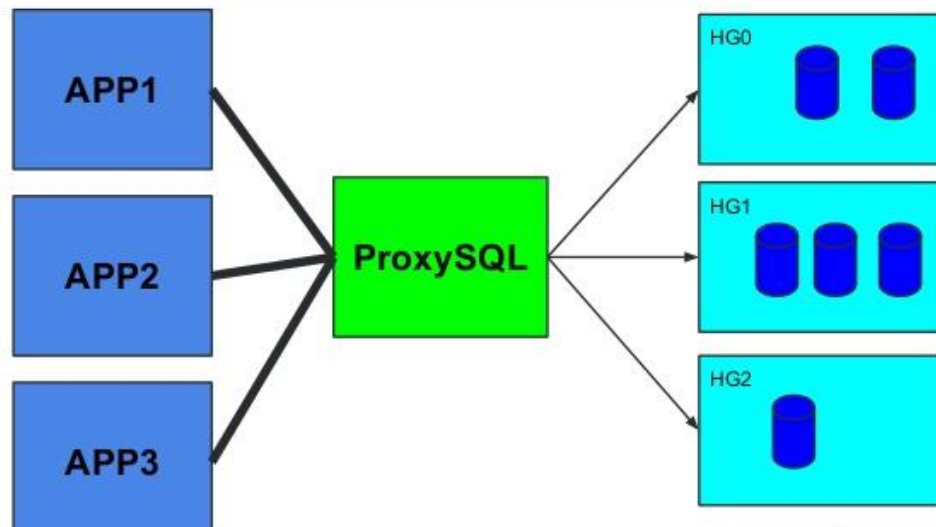
- **Query rules**

Query rules are used for routing, mirroring, rewriting or blocking queries. They are at the heart of ProxySQL’s functionalities

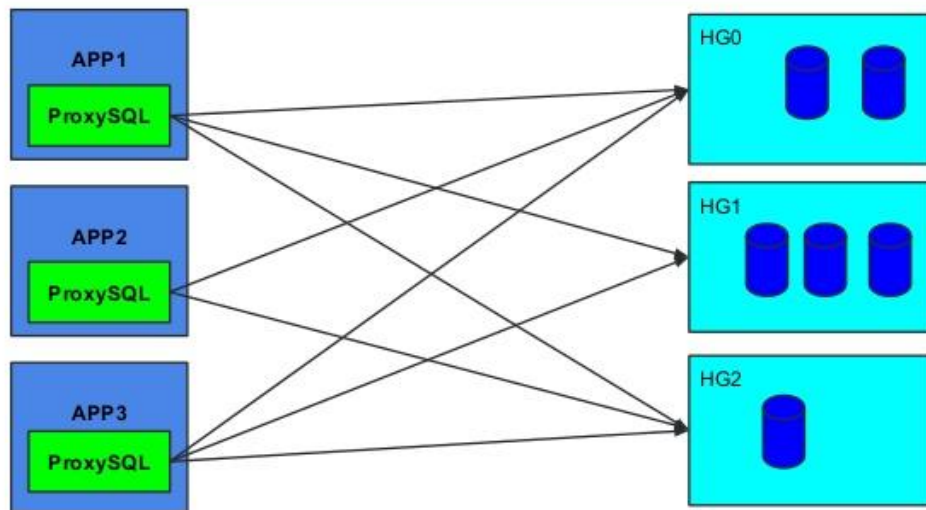
- **MySQL users and servers**

These are configuration items which the proxy uses to operate

ProxySQL: Basic design (1)



ProxySQL: Basic design (2)



The background of the slide is a solid purple color. Overlaid on this is a complex network of thin, light pink lines connecting various-sized, semi-transparent pink circular nodes. The nodes are scattered across the frame, with some appearing as single points and others as part of small clusters or larger, interconnected web-like structures. The overall effect is a sense of a dynamic, interconnected system.

Observability

What is observability

- Know if your systems have an issue (alerting)
 - Pager
 - IM
 - Email
- Troubleshoot performance and/or diagnose issue (graphs)
 - dashboards
 - comparison to a past situation

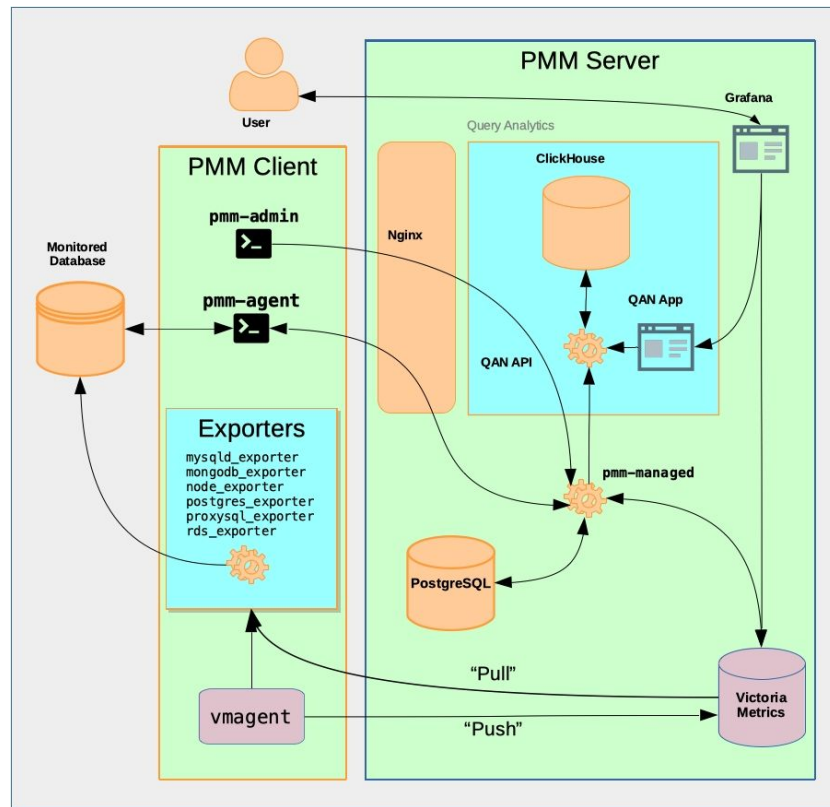
Percona Monitoring and Management (PMM)



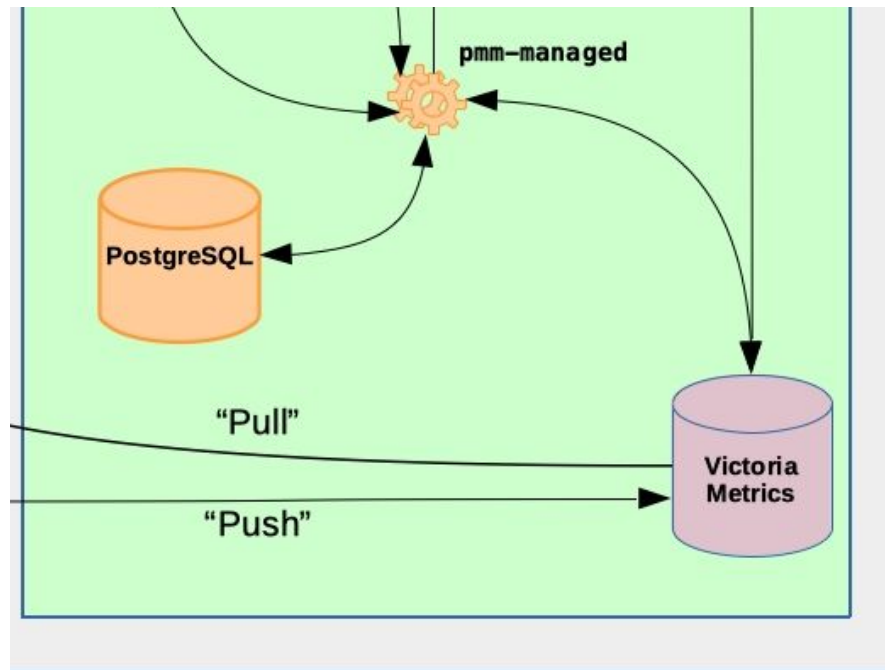
What is PMM?

- All-in-one solution for Observability, focussed on databases
- Free and open source
- Out-of-the-box solutions for
 - MySQL
 - PostgreSQL
 - MongoDB
 - ProxySQL
- Available as
 - docker container
 - OVF (VM image)
 - AMI (AWS)

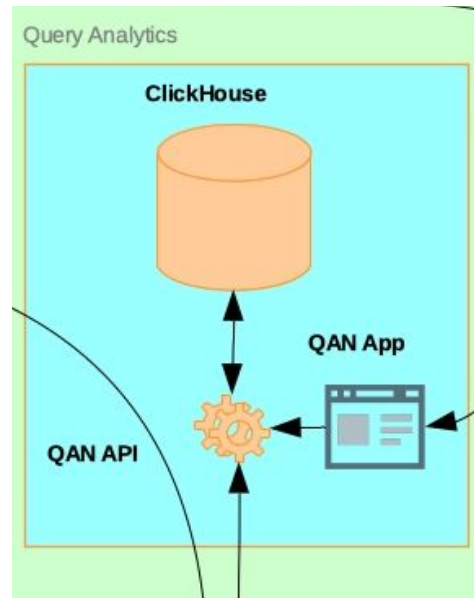
PMM: Components



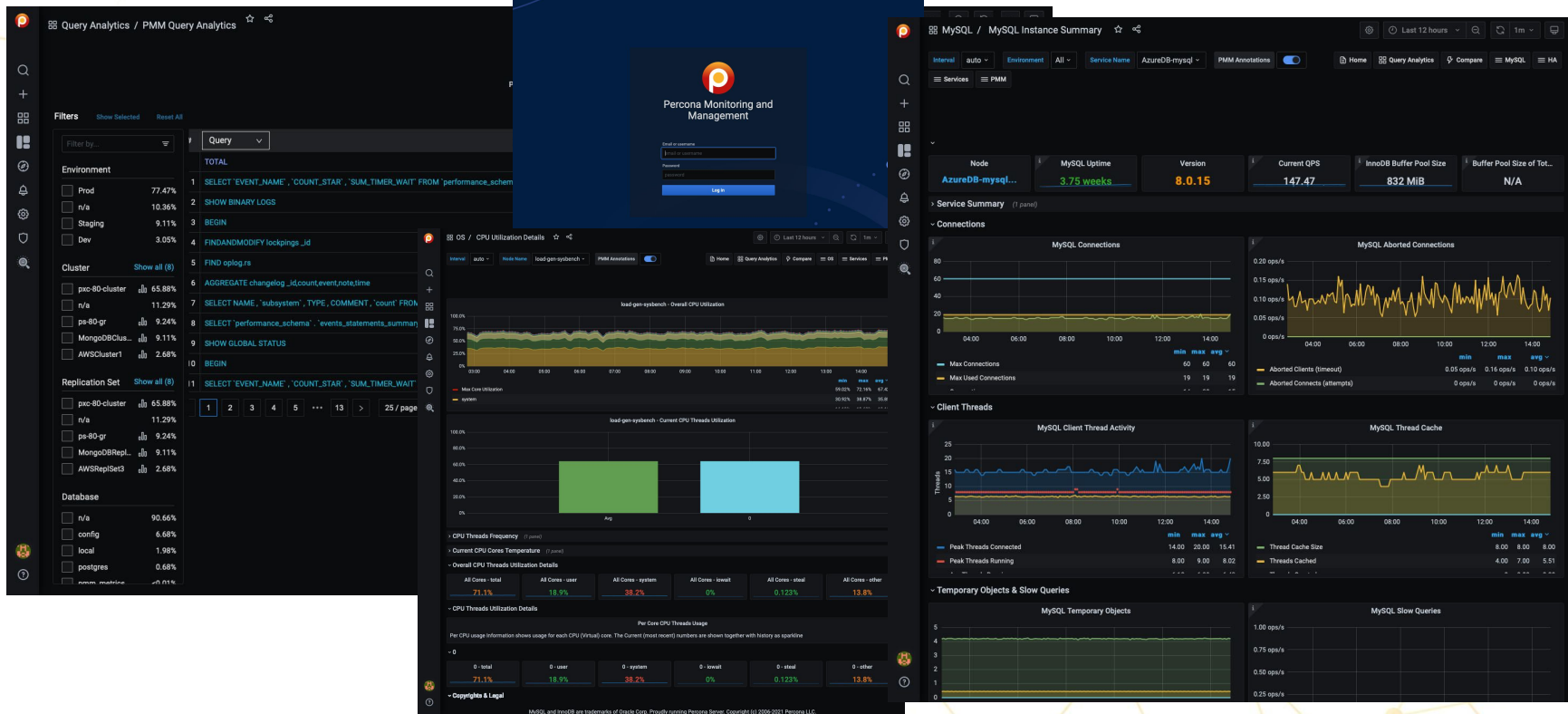
PMM: Components



PMM: Components



PMM



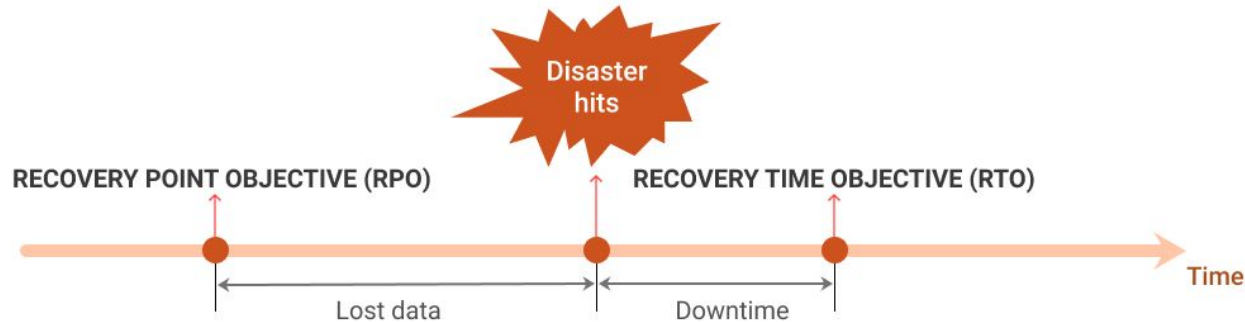


Disaster Recovery

What is Disaster Recovery (DR)

- The ability to recover from a catastrophic event or a human error
- RTO vs RPO

RPO and RTO explained



Backups

- Fastest RTO is usually achieved with disk snapshots
- How to make consistent snapshot?
 - either stop MySQL on a replica cleanly (`innodb_fast_shutdown = 0`)
 - run a `FLUSH TABLES WITH READ LOCK` + freeze the filesystem
- Both options block normal operations, so they should be ran on a designated replica.

Backups - Percona Xtrabackup

- supports online, non blocking backups for InnoDB
- full backups
- incremental backups
- physical backup
- make sure to match the Xtrabackup version that corresponds with your MySQL version.

Point-in-time recovery

- use the MySQL binary logs to recover your environment to a specific point-in-time
- if done right this can reduce your RPO to 0
- stream your binary logs to a backup (DR) location
- doing PITR will increase your RTO

Conclusion



Conclusion

- MySQL replication is required for High Availability
- Orchestrator can automate your writer-availability
- ProxySQL will help with Service Discovery
- PMM will expose the environment metrics for observability
- Backups are important for Disaster Recovery



Questions?



Thank you!

crauwels@pythian.com
@mcrauwel