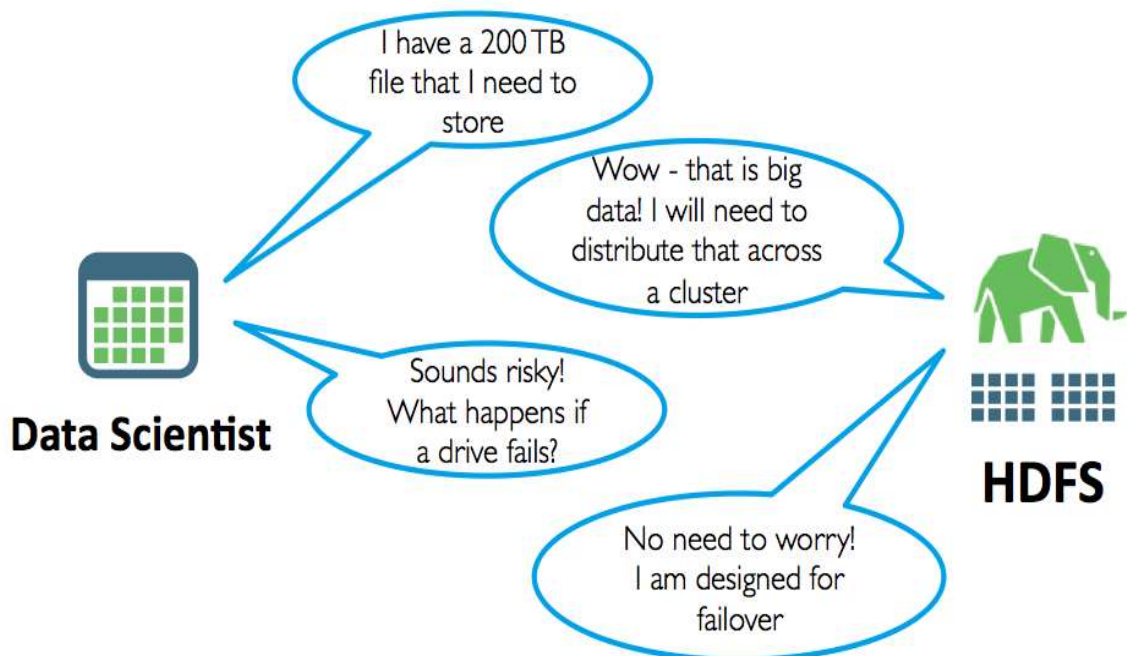# What Is HDFS?

Let's suppose you happen to be a data scientist in an enterprise organization who just came into possession of the most precious data set. The data set consists of files, but it is also large (which means you cannot really store it on your server's hard drive, as you normally would). In fact, you have to use multiple servers just to store the data. And remember: this is the most precious data set - so, you need to make sure that, when you store it on multiple servers, you can still read it, even if any of the drives in any of the servers fail.

Storing and Reading Data with HDFS (by Hortonworks, Inc.)

This is precisely what HDFS (Hadoop distributed file system) has been designed for, and it does that while maintaining a very familiar, user-friendly interface.

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