



# Version 2.1

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# Demographics?

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Content?

# Rails Version 2.1

- 6 months since version 2.0
- 1400 contributors
- 1600 patches
- Vibrant community

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version

**2.1**

# We'll cover...

- Better Timezone Support
- Dirty Tracking
- Better Caching Support
- UTC-based Migrations



**Not Opinionated**  
(although generally positive)

# Better Time Zone Support

# Better Time Zone Support

- Previous functionality in Time Zone Gem and tzinfo plugin
- Handles Daylight Savings Time Automatically

```
# config/environment.rb  
config.time_zone = 'Central Time (US & Canada)'
```

Times stored internally in UTC format

# Better Time Zone Support

- Rake -T time
  - rake time:zones:all
  - rake time:zones:us
  - rake time:zones:local

# Better Time Zone Support

```
$ rake time:zones:local
```

```
* UTC -06:00 *
```

```
Central America
```

```
Central Time (US & Canada)
```

```
Guadalajara
```

```
Mexico City
```

```
Monterrey
```

```
Saskatchewan
```

# Dirty Tracking

# Dirty Tracking

Allows for the tracking of changes to a specific attribute

# Dirty Tracking

```
article = Article.find(:first)
article.changed?  #=> false

# Track changes to individual attributes with
# attr_name_changed? accessor
article.title  #=> "Title"
article.title = "New Title"
article.title_changed?  #=> true

# Access previous value with attr_name_was accessor
article.title_was  #=> "Title"

# See both previous and current value with attr_name_change accessor
article.title_change  #=> ["Title", "New Title"]
```

When using Rails setters methods only (i.e, not `title.upcase`)

`article.title_will_change` to get around



# Dirty Tracking

Also Provides Partial  
Updates

```
ActiveRecord::Base.partial_updates = true
```

# Better Caching

# Better Caching

- Built-in support for memcached
- Version 1.5.0 is bundled with Rails so no need to install separate Gem

# Better Caching

ActiveSupport::Cache::MemoryStore

ActiveSupport::Cache::FileStore

ActiveSupport::Cache::DRbStore

ActiveSupport::Cache::MemCacheStore (uses Memcached and memcached-client)  
(Also compressed format using GZip)

# UTC-Based Migrations

# UTC-Based Migrations

Really targeted at teams with larger number of developers

001\_create\_users.rb

vs.

20080402122512\_create\_users\_one.rb  
(avoids collisions - based on timestamp)

New table: schema\_migrations  
(lists migrations that have been run)



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