"NoSQL marketing is confusing... Everything does everything and at a small scale everything works."

"If you're evaluating Mongo vs. Riak or Couch vs. Cassandra you don't understand either your problem or the technologies."

- Andy Gross, VP Engineering at Basho Technologies (approximate paraphrasing, hopefully not grossly misquoted)

What does Riak give me?

- HTTP access
- Simple Key-Value Database
- Masterless Clustering
- CAP Tuning
- Map/Reduce using Javascript or Erlang
- Full Text Search via Solr
- Linear Scalability
- Link Walking
- Automatic Sharding / Consistent Hashing
- Commit Hooks using Javascript or Erlang
- Secondary Indexes
- "Shared-nothing" Architecture



Basically it's a Key-Value store.

Very simple data models consisting of:

- Bucket Name
- Key Name
- Data
- Indexes

```
$ curl -XPUT "http://localhost:8098/riak/bucket/key"\
   --header "Content-Type: application/json" \
   --data '{"living_in":"the future!"}'

$ curl -XGET "http://localhost:8098/riak/bucket/key"
   {"living_in":"the future!"}
```

Binary Data

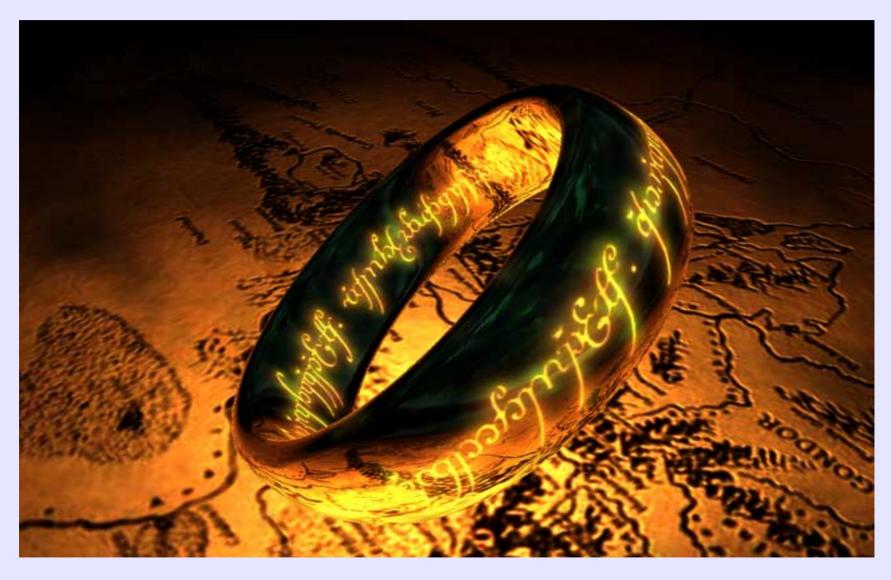
```
$ curl -XPUT "http://localhost:8098/riak/images/horse.jpg"\
    --header "Content-Type: image/jpeg" \
    --data-binary @/home/user/horse_pic.jpg

$ curl -XGET "http://localhost:8098/riak/images/horse.jpg" >
/home/user/new_horse.jpg

$ md5sum /home/user/horse_pic.jpg
3f9bdc9366aec1f98839f47717ada5bf horse_pic.jpg

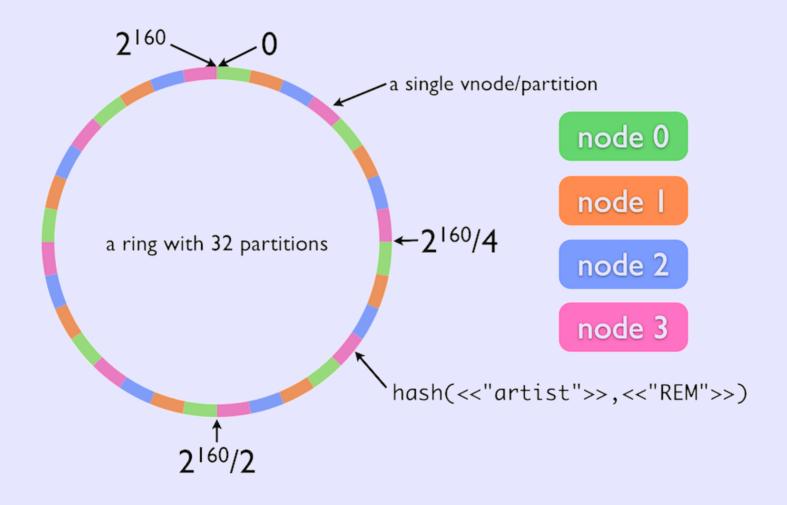
$ md5sum /home/user/new_horse.jpg
3f9bdc9366aec1f98839f47717ada5bf new_horse.jpg
```

The Ring



Source: http://lotr.wikia.com/wiki/File:One_Ring_To_Rule_Them_All

Distributed / Clustered



Source: http://docs.basho.com/shared/1.4.2/images/riak-ring.png?1383243838

Horizontal Scaling

Simply add additional nodes to the ring:

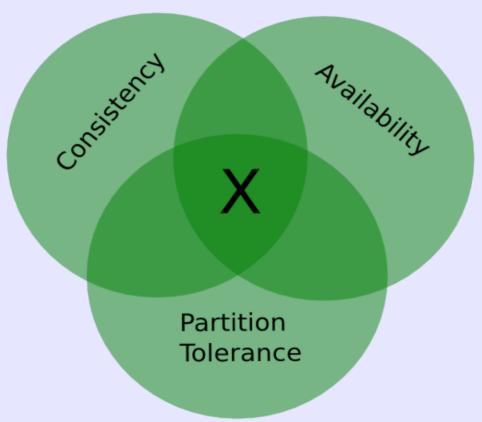
```
$ riak-admin cluster join riak@my_other_node.net
```

This causes no downtime and does not require you to reshard your data.

CAP Theorem

"If you have a system that can get a network partition you have a choice: do you want to be consistent or do you want to be available?"

- Martin Fowler



Where does Riak fit?

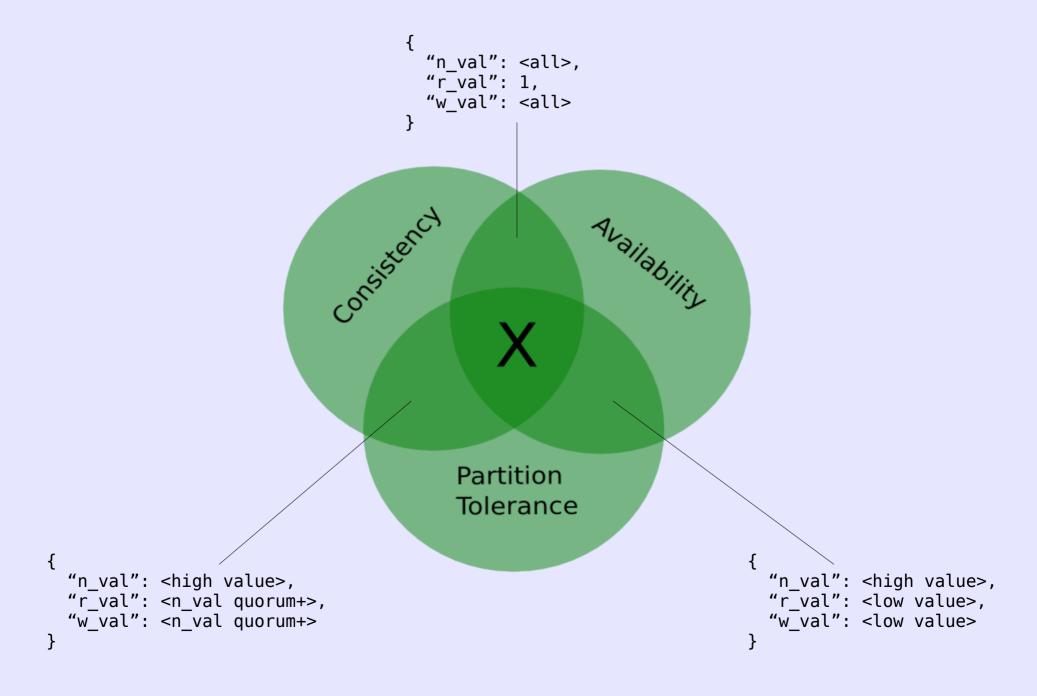
CAP Tuning

Request based CAP tuning via three primary properties:

- N: Copies of each key stored
- R: Number of nodes which must agree on a value for a read
- W: Number of nodes that must confirm receipt for a write

There are also two advanced options: **DW** and **RW**.

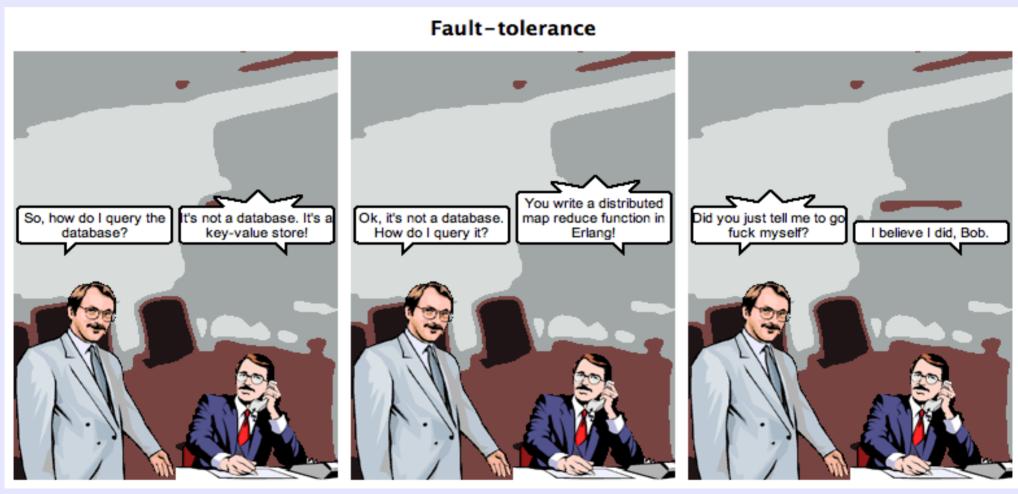
Customize N,R,W to meet your CAP needs



Sample 1 - riak-client gem

```
require 'rubygems'
require 'riak'
# Create a client for localhost
@client = Riak::Client.new
# Specify a bucket
@bucket = @client.bucket('sample-bucket')
# Build an object
@object = @bucket.get or new('sample-key')
@object.content_type = 'application/json'
@object.data = '{"sample":"data"}'
@object.store
# Access the object
@bucket.get('sample-key')
#=> #<Riak::RObject {sample-bucket,sample-key} [#<Riak::RContent \</pre>
[application/ison]:"{\"sample\":\"data\"}">]>
```

Sample 2 – Map/Reduce



source: http://sistrix.net/19

Map/Reduce Data Seed

```
$ curl -XPUT "http://localhost:8098/riak/users/btables@gmail.com"\
    --header "Content-Type: application/json" \
    --data '{
            "first_name":"Bobby",
            "last_name":"Tables"
            }'
```

For this example, assume we have many records like this in the 'users' bucket.

Map/Reduce Request

```
$ curl -XPOST "http://localhost:8098/mapred"\
  --header "Content-Type: application/json" \
  --data '{
           "inputs": "users",
              "query":[{
             "map":{
                "language":"javascript",
                "source": "function(record) {
                   var record data = JSON.parse(record.values[0].data);
                   return [
                       record.key,
                       record data.first name,
                       record data.last name
                 }"}}]
           } '
# Returns:
[["gabe@gabekoss.com", "Gabe", "Koss"],
["sam@stelfox.net", "Sam", "Stelfox"],
["btables@gmail.com", "Bobby", "Tables"]]
```

What shouldn't I use Riak for?

- Key listing / Bucket enumeration (MyRiakObject.all() == :bad)
- Mass deletion from certain backends
- Large map-reduce in real-time operations

What should I use Riak for?

- Clustered operations
- Straight key-value gets & puts
- Sibling resolution / link walking

Resources

- Basho Technologies https://basho.com/
- Sean Cribbs @seancribbs
- Little Riak Book http://littleriakbook.com/
- Learn You Some Erlang for Great Good http://learnyousomeerlang.com/

```
$ curl -v -XGET "http://localhost:8098/riak/presentations/riak"
* About to connect() to localhost port 8098 (#0)
* Trying 127.0.0.1... connected
> GET /riak/presentations/riak HTTP/1.1
> User-Agent: curl/7.22.0 (x86 64-pc-linux-gnu) libcurl/7.22.0
OpenSSL/1.0.1 zlib/1.2.3.4 libidn/1.23 librtmp/2.3
> Host: localhost:8098
> Accept: */*
< HTTP/1.1 200 OK
< X-Riak-Vclock: a85hYGBgzGDKBVIcypz/fgauOPIqgymRPY+VQe7kv9N8WQA=
< Vary: Accept-Encoding
< Server: MochiWeb/1.1 WebMachine/1.9.2 (someone had painted it blue)</pre>
< Link: </riak/presentations>; rel="up"
< Last-Modified: Mon, 18 Nov 2013 17:23:42 GMT
< ETag: "7GBSRHNtXWBpYtpuv56JHT"
< Date: Mon, 18 Nov 2013 17:35:46 GMT
< Content-Type: application/json
< Content-Length: 131
<
    "subject": "Riak",
    "presenters": [
      ["Sam Stelfox", "@SamStelfox", "http://stelfox.net"],
      ["Gabe Koss", "@granolocks", "http://gabekoss.com"]
```