Hive v0.1 - User Guide

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1 Dependencies

The following section lists Hive's dependencies.

1.1 Erlang/OTP

Hive is known to build and run under Erlang R16B in the following setup:

```
$ erl
Erlang R16B (erts-5.10.1) [source-05f1189] [64-bit] [smp:2:2] [async-threads:10]
  [hipe] [kernel-poll:true]
  Eshell V5.10.1
```

Furthermore, Hive uses **escript** for scripting, so an instance has to be provided (it is usually boundled together with Erlang/OTP).

1.2 Build tools

- **rebar** Hive uses Rebar build tool for managing library dependencies and the building process in general. A version of **2.0.0** is required.
- make for convenience a Makefile build script is provided that wraps Rebar. Any make will do.
- git rebar uses git to fetch library dependencies from GitHub, so git in a recent-ish version is required.

1.3 3rd party libraries

The libraries, listed belowe, are downloaded automatically by Rebar via **git**, so no special set-up other than **Rebar and git** is required.

- Lager an easy to use logging library found here. Hive uses version 2.0.0.
- Cowboy a web server optimized for speed. Hive requires Cowboy 0.8.6.
- Ranch a TCP pool pulled in by Cowboy from here, Hive requires version 0.8.4.
- JSONx JSON parser optimized for speed, found here. There is **no stable version** as of September 27, 2013; Hive is known to build and run on commit **a8381a34d126a93eded62c248989dd0529cd257d**, so in case of any problems some fiddling might be required.
- Jesse JSON schema validator, found here. Hive is know to build and run using commit 6bd-fce3e988239a8878d7bd19877d7e3d46ae7d7.
- Ibrowse an HTTP client; Hive uses version v4.0.2.
- Folsom a monitoring tool; Hive requires version 0.7.4.
- Poolboy worker pool management library found here. Hive requires version 1.0.0.
- ERedis a Redis connector, Hive requires version v1.0.5.

2 Installation & Running

The following section describes how to build run the Hive server.

2.1 Obtaining Hive

Use **git** to clone the repository:

```
$ git clone https://host:port/path/to/hive.git hive
```

After the checkout you will be greeted with the following repository layout:

```
$ tree hive
 hive
                          - Documentation files.
  |-- docs
     '-- ...
  |-- include
                          - Erlang source files.
     '-- ...
  |-- etc
                          - Default configuration files.
                          - Config validation schema files.
     -- schema
     '-- ...
                          - Build script for make.
  |-- Makefile
                          - Hive plugins directory.
  |-- plugins
     '-- ...
                          - Additional scripts etc directory.
  |-- priv
     '-- ...
  -- rebar
                          - Rebar build tool.
  |-- rebar.config
                         - Rebar config (lists dependencies).
  |-- src
                          - Erlang source files.
     '-- ...
  '-- test
                          - Erlang unit-tests.
      '-- ...
```

2.2 Building Hive

Simply type **make** in the root of the repository and the supplied **Makefile** script will handle all of the build process for you:

\$ make

Building Hive for the first time takes a considerable amount of time as Rebar downloads and compiles all of the dependencies, go grab a coffee! Other build script options:

• Cleaning up the repository - this will clean up all temporary and compiled files:

\$ make clean

• Unit-testing - this will run **EUnit** testing framework and dump results into the **.eunit** directory:

\$ make unit-test

• Testing Hive configuration - this will test the Hive configuration file.

• Running Hive - this will run Hive as described in the next subsection:

```
    make run
    make run CONFIG=path/to/config.json
    make run-dev
    make run-dev CONFIG=path/to/config.json
    Runs in production mode using CONFIG.
    Runs in development mode.
    make run-dev CONFIG=path/to/config.json
    Runs in development mode using CONFIG.
```

2.3 Running Hive

Before running Hive make sure that the supplied configuration file is valid and loads properly by invoking:

```
$ make test-config CONFIG=path/to/config.json
```

If the configuration file loads properly you can attempt to run Hive. For convenience there's a **make** rule for running Hive defined in the Makefile:

```
$ make run CONFIG=path/to/config.json
```

After a quick boot-up you will be greeted by a log similar to this one (note that the order of the log lines might be different at each execution as Hive consists of multiple processes running in parallel):

```
18:21:02.724 [notice] Starting Hive...
18:21:02.734 [notice] Starting Hive Top-level Supervisor...
18:21:02.740 [notice] Starting Hive Environment Supervisor...
18:21:02.769 [notice] Starting Hive Monitor...
18:21:02.780 [notice] Hive Monitor started!
18:21:02.785 [notice] Starting Hive Plugins Manager...
18:21:02.791 [notice] Loading Hive Plugin: plugin_1
18:21:02.852 [notice] Hive Plugins Manager started!
18:21:02.860 [notice] Starting Hive Config Manager...
18:21:02.886 [notice] Hive Config Manager started!
18:21:02.886 [notice] Hive Environment Supervisor started!
18:21:02.894 [notice] Starting Hive Module Supervisor...
18:21:02.918 [notice] Starting Hive Connectors Supervisor...
18:21:02.925 [notice] Starting Hive Connectors Manager...
18:21:02.925 [notice] Hive Connectors Manager started!
18:21:02.926 [notice] Hive Connectors Supervisor started!
18:21:02.932 [notice] Starting Hive Connectors Pool Supervisor...
18:21:02.932 [notice] Hive Connectors Pool Supervisor started!
18:21:02.941 [notice] Starting Hive Router Supervisor...
18:21:02.945 [notice] Starting Hive Connector pool_1...
18:21:02.959 [notice] Starting Hive Router...
18:21:02.959 [notice] Hive Router started!
18:21:02.959 [notice] Hive Router Supervisor started!
18:21:02.969 [notice] Starting Hive Clients Supervisor...
18:21:02.969 [notice] Hive Clients Supervisor started!
18:21:02.974 [notice] Starting Hive Pub-Sub Supervisor...
18:21:02.996 [notice] Starting Hive Pub-Sub...
18:21:02.997 [notice] Hive Pub-Sub started!
18:21:02.998 [notice] Hive Pub-Sub Supervisor started!
18:21:03.008 [notice] Starting Hive Pub-Sub Channel Supervisor...
18:21:03.008 [notice] Hive Pub-Sub Channel Supervisor started!
18:21:03.014 [notice] Starting Hive Server Supervisor...
18:21:03.020 [notice] Starting Hive Monitor Server...
18:21:03.041 [notice] Hive Monitor Server started!
18:21:03.046 [notice] Starting Hive API Server...
18:21:03.058 [notice] Hive API Server started!
18:21:03.070 [notice] Starting Hive Server...
18:21:03.085 [notice] Hive Server started!
18:21:03.086 [notice] Hive Server Supervisor started!
18:21:03.086 [notice] Hive Module Supervisor started!
18:21:03.089 [notice] Hive Top-level Supervisor started!
18:21:03.089 [notice] Hive started!
```

...and the supervision tree will look something like this:

```
hive_root_sup - Top-level Hive supervisor.
|-- hive_env_sup - Hive environment supervisor.
```

```
|-- hive_config
                                            - Hive Config Manager.
  |-- hive monitor
                                            - Hive Monitor Manager.
   '-- hive_plugins
                                            - Hive Plugins supervisor.
1
'-- hive_sup
                                            - Hive Modules supervisor.
    nive_sup - Hive Modules supervisor.
|-- hive_connectors_sup - Hive Connectors supervisor.
| |-- hive_connectors - Hive Connectors Manager.
    '-- hive_connectors_pool_sup - Hive Connectors pool supervisor.
              |-- connector1 - Various Connectors.
| '-- ... - Connector pool work
                                             - Connector pool workers.
               '-- ...
                                   - Pub-Sub supervisor.
    |-- hive_pubsub_sup
       |-- hive_pubsub_channel_sup - Pub-Sub channel supervisor.
    - Various Pub-Sub ch
- hive_pubsub
- Pub-Sub manager.
- hive_router_sup
- Router supervisor.
- Clients supervisor.
         | '-- ...
                                               - Various Pub-Sub channels.
    - Client-related processes.
    - Hive_Server & Monitor Supervisor

- hive_api - The main Hive API Server entry point.

- hive_monitor_server - The Hive Monitor Server entry point.

- The main Hive Server entry point.
```

2.4 Stopping Hive

The Hive server employs a **graceful termination** strategy - after requesting a server termination Clients are asked *nicely* to close their connections and after a certain timeout Hive forces their termination by killing them. No new connections are accepted during the graceful termination period.

The configuration parameters responsible for the graceful termination behaviour are described here.

The graceful termination RESTful API is described here.

2.5 Repository layout reference

```
$ tree hive
 hive
 -- deps
                         - Dependencies directory.
 | '-- ...
 l-- docs
                         - Documentation files.
                         - YOU ARE HERE.
   |-- docs.pdf
 1
    '-- ...
 -- ebin
                         - Compiled Hive source files.
    '-- ...
 1
                         - Hive configuration files.
 |-- etc
 | '-- ...
 |-- include
                         - Hive Erlang include files.
   '-- ...
 1
 |-- log
 1
     '-- hive
       |-- console.log - Hive console log (similar to the one in console).
     |-- crash.log - Hive crash log (only crash reports).

'-- error.log - Hive error log (only error messages).

Makefile - Make rules file.
                         - Make rules file.
 |-- Makefile
                         - Hive plugins directory (source code).
 |-- plugins
    '-- ...
 |-- priv
                         - Directory containing additional stuff.
   |-- test_config.erl - Hive configuration testing script.
```

```
|-- tsung_hive.xml - A config file for Tsung.
| '-- ...
|-- rebar
                       - Rebar build tool.
|-- rebar.config
                       - Rebar config (lists dependencies).
|-- src
                       - Hive Erlang source files.
  |-- hive_client*
                      - Hive generic client code.
| |-- hive_websocket*
                      - Hive WebSocket client related code.
| |---hive_socketio*
                     - Hive Socket.IO related code.
| |-- hive_connectors* - Hive Connectors manager.
| |-- hive_*_connector* - Various connectors.
  |-- hive_*_client*
                      - Hive Client handler related code.
                      - Hive Hooks related code.
  |-- hive_hooks*
                     - Hive Internal Events related code.
   |-- hive_events*
  |-- hive_monitor* - Hive Monitor related code.
| |-- hive_pubsub*
                     - Hive Pub-Sub related code.
                     - Hive Router related code.
| |-- hive_router*
| |-- hive_config*
                     - Hive Config related code.
  |-- hive_api*
                     - Hive RESTful API related code.
1
   |-- hive_*_sup*
                     - Various Hive supervisors.
'-- ...
'-- test
                       - Hive unit-tests.
   '-- ...
```

8

3 Configuration & Tweaking

{

"sectionA" : {

The following section lists and describes various configuration parameters and their purpose. The configuration file uses **JSON** format that is later transformed into Erlang terms. It shouldn't matter, but keep this in mind in case something weird starts to happen *wink, wink*. The default configuration file is **etc/hive.json**. The configuration file is divided into several sections, each of which controls a different part of the Hive server. Section ordering in the configuration file does not matter, neither does parameter ordering mid-section. The general layout of the file is as follows:

```
"parameterA" : "valueA",
        "parameterB" : "valueB",
    },
    "sectionB" : {
        "parameterB" : "valueB",
        "parameterC" : "valueC",
    },
}
At the moment, there are several sections recognized by Hive and all of them are required. The sections are:
{
    "hive" : {
        // Contains general Hive related parameters.
    },
    "socketio" : {
        // Contains Socket.IO protocol related parameters.
    },
    "clients" : {
        // Contains Client FSM & Hooks related parameters.
    },
    "connectors" : {
        // Contains parameters controlling various Hive Connectors.
    },
    "pubsub" : {
        // Contains parameters controlling Hive Pub-Sub channels.
    },
    "api" : {
        // Contains parameters controlling the Hive API Server.
    },
    "monitor" : {
        // Contains parameters controlling the Hive Monitor.
    },
    "log" : {
        // Contains logging related parameters.
    }
}
```

3.1 Configuration parameters

Each of the configuration file sections, their parameters (some of which are optional) and accepted values are described in the following subsections. By convention each description will use the full qualified parameter name, for example:

```
sectionA.parameterB
sectionB.parameterB
```

3.1.1 hive

This subsection describes the **hive** part of the configuration file and corresponds to the general configuration of the Hive server - it contains stuff that didn't really fit elsewhere.

Required parameters:

- hive.acceptors the number of HTTP acceptors that receive and prepare HTTP connections. It is in no way related to the maximum number of connections. This has to be a positive integer.
- hive.port the port on which Hive will listen for incoming connections. It has to be a non-negative integer lower than 65536.
- hive.allowed_origins a JavaScript array of the origins that are allowed to access Hive services. Has to be an array of strings, each of which names a single origin a URL (possibly with wildcards) or the special value "null". Some examples:

```
"null", "*.*", "http://zadane.pl"
```

• hive.graceful_termination_timeout - the time (in milliseconds) after which Client Workers will be forced to terminate on server termination.

Additional, optional parameters:

- hive.direct_websocket a boolean flag determining whether WebSocket-based clients should skip the Hive Router in order to speed up the client-server communication. Skipping the router involves a trade off in that the router won't be able to manage clients communication (so no Socket.IO event related router logs, possible message counts inconsistencies, etc).
- hive.websocket_ping_timeout the timeout (in milliseconds) used by the WebSocket connection handlers to determine whether they are still active; if there is no pong message received from the client for this amount of time, its Client worker will be terminated. It has to be a positive integer.
- hive.max_processes the maximal number of processes that can exist in the Erlang VM. It has to be a positive integer. Keep in mind that the actual maximal number of processes might be higher (courtesy of the Erlang VM).

Example values:

```
"hive" : {
    "acceptors" : 1000,
    "port" : 8080,
    "allowed_origins" : ["http://zadane.pl"],
    "graceful_termination_timeout" : 10000,
    "direct_websocket" : true,
    "websocket_ping_timeout" : 500,
    "max_processes" : 15000
}
```

3.1.2 socketio

This subsection describes the **socketio** part of the configuration file. It is used to tweak the underlying **Socket.IO** protocol.

Required parameters:

- socketio.heartbeat_timeout the heartbeat timeout in milliseconds used by the server (the client receives around 110% of this value). It has to be a positive integer greater than or equal to 1000.
- socketio.reconnect_timeout the reconnection timeout in milliseconds, currently not used. It has to be a positive integer greater than or equal to 1000.
- socketio.poll_timeout the polling timeout in milliseconds, used by the server to bound message polling times that happens before sending a reply to the client. Has to be a positive integer.
- socketio.init_timeout the initialization timeout in milliseconds, it is started after the Socket.IO handshake in order to make sure that uninitialized clients don't clog the memory for all of eternity and beyond. Again, has to be a positive integer.

- socketio.session_timeout the session timeout in milliseconds; if there are no messages received from the client for this amount of time, its connection will be terminated. It has to be a positive integer.
- socketio.transports lists the available transport protocols for use by the Socket.IO protocol. Has to be a JavaScript array of strings, each of which names a single transport. Currently supported transports:

```
"xhr-polling", "websocket", "flashsocket"

Example values:

"socketio" : {
    "heartbeat_timeout" : 30000,
    "reconnect_timeout" : 120000,
    "poll_timeout" : 500,
    "init_timeout" : 5000,
    "session_timeout" : 120000,
    "transports" : ["websocket", "xhr-polling"]
}
```

3.1.3 clients

This subsection describes the **clients** part of the configuration file and corresponds to the general configuration of the Hive Client FSMs.

Required parameters:

- clients.state the descriptor of a State Manager to be used by the Client processes. It has to be a **JSON** object containing exactly three fields: state_manager, initial_value and args. State Management and available State Managers are described in greater detail in a later section.
- clients.actions a JSON object listing various internal event dispatchers recognized by the Client Workers on a per-action basis, that is, each field names an action will trigger Hive Internal Event dispatchers listed in this field's value. The value has to be a JavaScript array of Hive Internal Event dispatcher descriptors, each of which has to be a JSON object that defines several fields:
 - action the name of the Hive Internal Event dispatcher to run when triggered. Available Hive Internal Event dispatchers are described in greated detail in a later section.
 - args the arguments passed to the Hive Internal Event dispatcher when it is run. Accepted argument descriptions are found in a later section.
- clients.hooks a JSON object containing various Hive Hook definitions on a per-event basis, that is, each field of the JSON object names an event that will trigger Hive Hooks listed in this field's value. The value has to be a JavaScript array of Hive Hook descriptors, each of which has to be a JSON object that defines several fields:
 - hook the name of the Hive Hook to run when triggered. Available Hive Hooks are described in greated detail in a later section.
 - args the arguments passed to the Hive Hook when it is run. Accepted arguments descriptions are found in a later section.

Example values:

```
"clients" : {
    "state" : {
        "state_manager" : "sm.redis",
        "initial_value" : [1, 2, 3],
        "args" : {
              "connector" : "database",
              "expiration_timeout" : 60000
        }
    },
    "actions" : {
```

```
"action 1" : [
             {
                 "action" : "action.store",
                 "args" : null
             },
        ],
    },
    "hooks" : {
         "event_1" : [
             {
                 "hook" : "utils.echo",
                 "args" : null
             },
        ],
    }
}
```

3.1.4 connectors

This subsection describes the **connectors** part of the configuration file. It is used to control various Hive Connectors.

Required parameters:

- connectors.rent_timeout the timeout in milliseconds used when waiting for an available worker in a given connectors pool. If there are no available workers in a pool, the renting process will wait for at most this much time. It has to be a positive integer.
- connectors.pools a JSON object of name/pool descriptor pairs pairs of strings representing pool names and JSON objects representing pools themselves. Each pool descriptor has to define several required parameters:
 - size the base size of the pool; a non-negative integer.
 - overflow the maximum number of additional workers that are created under heavy server load (the total number of available workers is therefore size + overflow). It has to be a non-negative integer.
 - args the arguments that will be passed to the connector workers at initialization. The accepted values depend heavily on the type of the connector, and will be described later in an appropriate section
 - connector the name of the connector plugin to use for this pool. It has to be a string. The available Connector pools will be described in a later section.

Example values:

```
}
}
}
```

3.1.5 pubsub

This subsection describes the **pubsub** portion of the configuration file. It is used to control the Hive Pub-Sub facitily. More about the Hive Pub-Sub can be found in a later section. Required parameters:

- pubsub.channels a JSON object containing various Hive Pub-Sub channel definitions on a per-prefix basis, that is, each field of the JSON object names a Pub-Sub channel prefix which might later generate concrete Pub-Sub channels. Each channel descriptor has to be a JSON object that defines several fields:
 - timeout the time (in milliseconds) after which the channel will cease to exist if there are no more Client workers subscribed to it. It has to be a non-negative integer. A timeout of 0 means infinity (bviously) a permanent channel that never ceases to exist.
 - privilege the access type of a channel, specifies the privilege level required to operate (subscribe
 or unsubscribe) on a channel. It has to be a string. Accepted values:

3.1.6 api

This subsection describes the **api** part of the configuration file. Parameters described in this section control the behaviour of the Hive API Server.

Required parameters:

- api.acceptors similar to server.acceptors, names the number of HTTP listeners that accept new HTTP connections. Has to be a positive integer.
- api.port the port used by the API Server to listen for HTTP connections. Has to be a non-negative integer that is lower than 65536.
- api.hash an API key used to secure the Hive API Server accesses. It has to be a string of length 8
 or more.

Example values:

```
"api" : {
    "acceptors" : 100,
    "port" : 1235,
    "hash" : "abcde12345"
}
```

3.1.7 monitor

This subsection describes the **monitor** part of the configuration file. It controls the behaviour of the Hive Monitor.

Required parameters:

- monitor.acceptors similarly to server.acceptors names the number of HTTP listeners that accept new HTTP connections. Has to be a positive integer.
- monitor.port the port used by the Monitor to listen for HTTP connections. Has to be a non-negative integer that is lower than 65536.
- monitor.hash an API key used to secure the Hive Monitor accesses. It has to be a string of length 8 or more.

Example values:

```
"monitor" : {
    "acceptors" : 100,
    "port" : 1234,
    "hash" : "12345abcde"
}
```

3.1.8 log

This subsection describes the **log** part of the configuration file. It controls the behaviour of the logger. Required parameters:

• log.dir - the directory name for log files and crash dumps to reside on the hard drive. Has to be a string naming a valid file system location (the directory does not have to exist).

Additional, optional parameters:

• log.file_level - the minimal log-level of messages dumped to the log.file ("none" turns off any file logging). Has to be any of the following:

• log.console_level - the minimal log-level of messages dumped to the console ("none" turns off any console logging). Has to be any of the following:

3.2 Configuration validation

The configuration file can be validated using a supplied configuration testing script by invoking the following command in the root directory of the repository:

```
$ make testconfig CONFIG=path/to/config.json
```

Hive uses **JSON Schema** to validate its configuration files. The schema files used by the Hive Config validator can be found in **etc/schema** directory in the root repository. Each configuration sections' schema resides in a separate file named **section.jsonschema**. When defining new configuration parameters it is essential to include them in the validation schema.

3.3 Organizing the configuration

For convenience each configuration section can be stored in its own, separate file. If that is the case, the main configuration file has to list the file-name where a section configuration can be found relative to the main config file. For example:

4 Monitoring & Statistics

This section describes the monitoring facilities of the Hive server. Statistics gathering is performed by changing values of various in-memory counters during Hive run-time, using Folsom external library. All counters are represented by **non-negative integers**, and each of them corresponds to a specific metric of the Hive server.

4.1 Statistics structure

There are many different metrics which are grouped into several sections, and subsections. The structure of the statistics sections is shown below:

```
{
    "hive" : {
        // Various general metrics.
        "memory" : {
            // Memory usage related metrics.
        },
        "router" : {
            // Hive Router related metrics.
        }
    },
    "clients" : {
        // Various general, client related metrics.
        "state_mgr" : {
            // Client State Manager related metrics.
        },
        "states" : {
            // Client FSM state related metrics.
        },
        "events" : {
            // Dispatched Socket.IO/internal events related metrics.
        },
        "transports" : {
            // Socket.IO transports related metrics.
        },
        "hooks" : {
            // Hive Hooks related metrics.
            "event1" : {
                // Hive Hooks related metrics (per event name).
            },
        }
    },
    "connectors" : {
        // Various Hive Connectors related metrics.
        "http" : {
            "connector1" : {
                // HTTP Connectors related metrics (per pool name).
            },
        },
        "redis" : {
            // Redis Connectors related metrics (per pool name).
        },
            // TCP Connectors related metrics (per pool name).
        },
    },
```

```
"pubsub" : {
    // Hive Pub-Sub related metrics.
    "channel_prefix1" : {
        // Various channel prefix related metrics.
    },
    ...
},
"api" : {
        // Hive API Server related metrics.
},
...
}
```

4.2 Statistics metrics

Each section and its metrics are described in the following subsections. By convention each description will use the full qualified metric name, for example:

```
hive.memory.total
connectors.redis.pool_name_2.errors
```

4.2.1 hive

This subsection describes the **hive** portion of the Hive statistics. Metrics found in this subsection measure various general quantities that didn't fit elsewhere:

- hive.uptime the uptime (in milliseconds) of the Hive.
- hive.errors the number of critical (mostly supervision tree related) Hive errors encountered; it does not include errors from other sections.
- hive.total_processes the number of Erlang processes currently executing in the VM.
- hive.plugins the number of currently loaded Hive Plugins.
- hive.plugin_errors the number of Hive Plugin related errors.
- hive.config_errors the number of Hive Manager errors.

4.2.2 hive.memory

This subsection describes the **hive.memory** portion of the Hive statistics. Metrics found in this subsection measure the memory usage of the Hive Server:

- hive.memory.total the total amount of memory used by the Erlang VM.
- hive.memory.processes the amount of memory used by the Erlang processes.
- hive.memory.system the amount of memory not directly related to any Erlang process. It includes atom, binary, code and ets values.
- hive.memory.atom the amount of memory used by the Erlang Atom table. This metric does not decrease as Atoms are not garbage collected by the Erlang VM.
- hive.memory.binary the amount of memory used by the Erlang VM to share binary data between the processes.
- hive.memory.code the amount of memory used by the loaded Erlang code.
- hive.memory.ets the amount of memory used by the Erlang ETS tables.

4.2.3 hive.router

This subsection describes the **hive.router** portion of the Hive statistics. Metrics found in this subsection measure the state of the Hive Router:

- hive.router.uptime the router uptime (in milliseconds).
- hive.router.spawned_clients the total number of client processes ever spawned by the Router.
- hive.router.current_clients the current number of running client processes managed by the Router.
- hive.router.requests the total number of requests processed by the Router.
- hive.router.msg_queue_length the length of the Erlang message queue of the Router process. Corresponds directly to the number of requests queued on the router.
- hive.router.routed_events the total number of internal events routed to the client processes by the Router.
- hive.router.routed_msgs the total number of Socket.IO messages (external events) routed to the client processes by the Router.
- hive.router.errors the total number of failed requests and other errors encountered by the Router.

4.2.4 clients

This subsection describes the **clients** part of the Hive statistics. Each metric found in this section measures the general quantities related to the Client FSMs:

- clients.total the total number of alive clients (for Router debugging purposes).
- clients.websocket the total number of alive WebSocket-based clients.
- clients.xhr_polling the total number of alive XHR-polling-based clients.
- clients.errors the total number of errors encountered by the client processes.

4.2.5 clients.states

This subsection describes the **clients.states** portion of the Hive statistics. Each metric found here describes the operation of the Client FSMs - state transitions and such:

- clients.states.generic the total number of generic (uninitialized via Socket.IO handshake) clients.
- clients.states.transient the total number of clients in transient state clients that are unable to send Socket.IO messages for various reasons (for example, waiting for XHR-polling GET request).
- clients.states.waiting the total number of clients in waiting state clients ready to communicate, but awaiting a response/action from the Hive server.
- clients.states.polling the total number of clients in **polling** state clients buffering and processing replies.
- clients.states.transitions the total number of state transitions of the client FSMs.

4.2.6 clients.events

This subsection describes the **clients.events** portion of the Hive statistics. Each metric found here describes the the operation of the Client logic - dispatched Socket.IO events, events received from the rest of the Hive server, etc:

- clients.events.total the total number of events processed by the Client processes, includes control, external and internal.
- clients.events.errors the total number of event related errors encountered by the Client processes, includes control_errors, external_errors and internal_errors.
- clients.events.external the total number of external events (Socket.IO messages received) processed by the Client processes.

- clients.events.internal the total number of internal events (internal messages and Socket.IO replies) processed by the Client processes.
- clients.events.control the total number of control events (messages used internally by various Hive submodules) processed by the Client processes.
- clients.events.internal_errors the total number of errors encountered when processing internal events.
- clients.events.external_errors the total number of errors encountered when processing external events (Socket.IO messages).
- clients.events.control_errors the total number of errors encountered when processing control events.

4.2.7 clients.state_mgr

This subsection describes the $clients.state_{mgr}$ portion of the Hive statistics. Metrics in this subsection correspond to various Client State Manager quantities.

- clients.state_mgr.requests the total number of State Manager requests.
- clients.state_mgr.errors the total number of errors encountered by the State Manager.
- clients.state_mgr.init the total number of State Manager init requests.
- clients.state_mgr.get the total number of State Manager get requests.
- clients.state_mgr.set the total number of State Manager set requests.
- clients.state_mgr.cleanup the total number of State Manager cleanup requests.

4.2.8 clients.transports

This subsection describes the **clients.transports** portion of the Hive statistics. Metrics in this subsection measure the underlying transport protocols state and operation. Currently there are two subsections defined, for **WebSocket** and **XHR-polling** transports respectively:

- clients.transports.http.requests the total number of HTTP requests received (includes the Socket.IO handshakes but not HTTP Connectors, etc).
- clients.transports.http.errors the total number of bad requests and errors encountered by the transports.
- clients.transports.http.2XX the total number of HTTP code 2XX replies.
- clients.transports.http.4XX the total number of HTTP code 4XX replies.
- clients.transports.http.5XX the total number of HTTP code 5XX replies.
- clients.transports.http.??? the total number of HTTP replies with other codes.
- clients.transports.http.hang_up the total number of prematurely closed connections (for example, browser closing).
- clients.transports.websocket.requests the total number of WebSocket requests (corresponds directly to the number of WebSocket protocol upgrades).
- clients.transports.websocket.errors the total number of errors encountered when processing Web-Socket errors.
- clients.transports.websocket.frames the total number of WebSocket frames received.
- clients.transports.websocket.ok the total number of "good" WebSocket replies (analogous to http.2XX).
- clients.transports.websocket.bad the total number of "bad" WebSocket replies (analogous to http.4XX and http.5XX).
- clients.transports.websocket.hang_up the total number of prematurely closed connections (for example, browser closing).

4.2.9 clients.hooks

This subsection describes the **clients.hooks** portion of the Hive statistics. Metrics in this subsection measure various quantities related to the Hive Hooks facility:

- clients.hooks.calls the total number of Hive Hooks invocations (either due to Client Messages or external dispatch requests).
- clients.hooks.errors the total number of Hive Hooks errors encountered by the Client processes.

Additionally, the same set of counters is defined on a per-hook-event basis. For an event named **\$(name)**, the following counters will be added to the Monitor. Due to the dynamic nature of the hooks and their per-client character, **counters described below are added on use** and may not be included in the Monitor output at all times:

- clients.hooks.\$(name).calls the total number of Hive Hooks invocations.
- clients.hooks.\$(name).errors the total number of Hive Hooks errors encountered by the Client processes.
- clients.hooks.cp

The Hive Protocol hook related metrics.

- clients.hooks.cp.get the total number of cp.get Hook invocations.
- clients.hooks.cp.put the total number of cp.put Hook invocations.
- clients.hooks.cp.post the total number of cp.post Hook invocations.

Additionally, the same set of counters is defined on a per-hook-event basis. For an event named **\$(name)**, the following counters will be added to the Monitor. Due to the dynamic nature of the hooks and their per-client character, **counters described below are added on use** and may not be included in the Monitor output at all times:

- clients.hooks.\$(name).cp.get the total number of cp.get Hook invocations.
- clients.hooks.\$(name).cp.put the total number of cp.put Hook invocations.
- clients.hooks.\$(name).cp.post the total number of cp.post Hook invocations.
- clients.hooks.pubsub

The Hive Pub-Sub hook related metrics.

- clients.hooks.pubsub.publish the total number of Pub-Sub channel publish requests.
- clients.hooks.pubsub.subscribe the total number of Pub-Sub channel subscriptions.
- clients.hooks.pubsub.unsubscribe the total number of Pub-Sub channel unsubscriptions.

Additionally, the same set of counters is defined on a per-hook-event basis. For an event named **\$(name)**, the following counters will be added to the Monitor. Due to the dynamic nature of the hooks and their per-client character, **counters described below are added on use** and may not be included in the Monitor output at all times:

- clients.hooks.\$(name).pubsub.publish the total number of name channel publish requests.
- clients.hooks.\$(name).pubsub.subscribe the total number of name channel subscriptions.
- clients.hooks.\$(name).pubsub.unsubscribe the total number of name channel unsubscriptions.

4.2.10 connectors

This subsection describes the **connectors** part of the Hive statistics. Each metric found here measures the general quantities related to the Hive Connectors:

- connectors.requests the total number of requests to the Connectors Manager.
- connectors.errors the total number of errors encountered by the Connectors Manager.
- connectors.pools the total number of connector pools running in the Hive server.

- connectors.starts the total number of pool starts.
- connectors.stops the total number of pool stops.
- connectors.unsafe_transactions the total number of unsafe transactions performed on the Connector
 pools.
- connectors.safe_transactions the total number of safe transactions performed on the Connector pools.
- connectors.rents the total number of Connector rents (acquisition from a pool for later use).
- connectors.returns the total number of Connector returns (returns to a pool).

The connector pools are grouped by their type and the name they were given, so it is possible to measure multiple instances of each connector pool type.

4.2.11 connectors.http

This subsection describes the **connectors.http.\$(name)** portion of the Hive statistics. Each metric found here is related to an HTTP connector pool named **name**:

- connectors.http.\$(name).workers the total number of active workers in the pool.
- connectors.http.\$(name).requests the total number of requested actions performed by the workers.
- connectors.http.\$(name).errors the total number of errors encountered by the workers.
- connectors.http.\$(name).sync_gets the total number of synchronous GET requests requested.
- connectors.http.\$(name).sync_posts the total number of synchronous POST requests.
- connectors.http.\$(name).async_posts the total number of asynchronous POST requests.

4.2.12 connectors.redis

This subsection describes the **connectors.redis.\$(name)** portion of the Hive statistics. Each metric in this subsection is related to the Redis connector pool named **name**:

- connectors.redis.\$(name).workers the total number of active workers in the pool.
- connectors.redis.\$(name).requests the total number of requested actions performed by the workers.
- connectors.redis.\$(name).errors the total number of errors encountered by the workers.
- connectors.redis.\$(name).queries the total number of Redis queries sent by the workers.

4.2.13 connectors.tcp

This subsection describes the **connectors.tcp.\$(name)** part of the Hive statistics. Each metric in here is related to the TCP connector pool named **name**:

- connectors.tcp.\$(name).workers the total number of active workers in the pool.
- connectors.tcp.\$(name).requests the total number of requested actions performed by the workers.
- connectors.tcp.\$(name).errors the total number of errors encountered by the workers.
- connectors.tcp.\$(name).send the total number of send requests processed by the workers.
- connectors.tcp.\$(name).recv the total number of recv requests processed by the workers.

4.2.14 pubsub

This subsection describes the **pubsub** portion of the Hive statistics. Metrics in this subsection measure various quantities related to the Hive Pub-Sub facility:

- pubsub.requests the total number of Hive Pub-Sub requests.
- pubsub.errors the total number of errors encountered by Hive Pub-Sub facility.
- pubsub.total_channels the total number of active Hive Pub-Sub channels.
- pubsub.status the total number of status requests issued to the Pub-Sub channels.
- pubsub.subscribe the total number of subscribe requests issued to the Pub-Sub channels.
- pubsub.unsubscribe the total number of unsubscribe requests issued to the Pub-Sub channels.
- pubsub.join the total number of join requests issued to the Pub-Sub channels.
- pubsub.leave the total number of leave requests issued to the Pub-Sub channels.
- pubsub.publish the total number of publish requests issued to the Pub-Sub channels.
- pubsub.published_events the total number of events published on the Pub-Sub channels.

Additionally, a similar set of counters is defined on a per-channel-prefix basis. For a channel prefixed **\$(name)**, the following counters will be added to the Monitor.

- pubsub.channels.\$(name).requests the total number of Hive Pub-Sub requests issued to channels with prefix name.
- pubsub.channels.\$(name).errors the total number of errors encountered by Hive Pub-Sub channels with prefix name.
- pubsub.channels.\$(name).total_channels the total number of active Hive Pub-Sub channels with prefix name.
- pubsub.channels.\$(name).status the total number of status requests issued to channels with prefix name.
- pubsub.channels.\$(name).subscribe the total number of subscribe requests issued to channels with prefix name.
- pubsub.channels.\$(name).unsubscribe the total number of unsubscribe requests issued to channels with prefix name.
- pubsub.channels.\$(name).publish the total number of publish requests issued to channels with prefix name.
- pubsub.channels.\$(name).subscribed_clients the total number of Clients subscribed to channels with prefix name (note that a Client subscribed to several channels with the same prefix will appear multiple times in this metric).
- pubsub.channels.\$(name).published_events the total number of events published on channels with prefix name.

4.2.15 api

This subsection describes the **api** portion of the Hive statistics. Metrics in this subsection measure various quantities related to the Hive API Server:

- api.requests the total number of Hive API Server requests.
- api.errors the total number of errors encountered by the Hive API Server while processing requests.

4.2.16 api.hive

This subsection describes the **api.hive** portion of the Hive statistics. Metrics in this subsection measure various quantities related to the Pub-Sub part of the Hive API:

- api.hive.requests the total number of Hive API Server related requests.
- api.hive.errors the total number of errors encountered by the Hive API Server while processing general requests.

4.2.17 api.router

This subsection describes the **api.router** portion of the Hive statistics. Metrics in this subsection measure various quantities related to the Pub-Sub part of the Hive API:

- api.pubsub.requests the total number of Hive API Server Router related requests.
- api.pubsub.errors the total number of errors encountered by the Hive API Server while processing Router related requests.

4.2.18 api.pubsub

This subsection describes the **api.pubsub** portion of the Hive statistics. Metrics in this subsection measure various quantities related to the Pub-Sub part of the Hive API:

- api.pubsub.requests the total number of Hive API Server Pub-Sub related requests.
- api.pubsub.errors the total number of errors encountered by the Hive API Server while processing Pub-Sub related requests.

4.2.19 api.clients

This subsection describes the **api.clients** portion of the Hive statistics. Metrics in this subsection measure various quantities related to the Clients related parte of the Hive API:

- api.clients.requests the total number of Hive API Server Clients related requests.
- api.clients.errors the total number of errors encountered by the Hive API Server while processing Clients related requests.

4.3 Monitor API

This section describes the RESTful API exposed by the Hive Monitor.

The API is available on the same host as the rest of the Hive server, on a configured port. The structure of the Hive Monitor URL is as follows:

```
Host [ ':' Port ] '/monitor/' APIKey [ '/' StatisticsSection ]
```

The APIKey can be configured via the Hive configuration file. The StatisticsSection is the full qualified name of a statistics section, or a metric, for example:

```
host:port/monitor/apikey/hive.memory
host:port/monitor/apikey/connectors.http.pool_name
host:port/monitor/apikey/clients.transports.websocket.frames
```

Hive Monitor supports two HTTP methods:

- DELETE Resets the value of a given metric to 0. The StatisticsSection portion of the URL has to be a full qualified name of a metric.
- GET Returns the value of a given section of the Hive statistics in the format described in the next subsection. The StatisticsSection portion of the URL has to be a valid statistics section, or a metric.

In case of a bad request an appropriate error message is returned.

4.4 Monitor response format

This section describes the format of data returned by the Hive Monitor via its RESTful API. The Hive Monitor uses JSON format to represent its output. If a Monitor request results in an error, a convention described in the next section is used, otherwise the returned JSON objects are structured as described in statistics structure section. The resulting JSON object always wraps the output in all requested sections. Example (pretty formatted) Hive Monitor output:

```
// GET host:port/monitor/apikey/hive.memory
{
    "hive" : {
        "memory" : {
            "total" : 22668016,
            "system" : 13182056,
            "processes" : 9485960,
            "ets" : 672616,
            "code" : 8332965,
            "binary" : 249856,
            "atom" : 339441
        }
    }
}
// GET host:port/monitor/apikey/clients.hooks.on_connect.calls
{
    "clients" : {
        "hooks" : {
            "on_connect" : {
                "calls" : 1
            }
        }
    }
}
```

5 Logging & Errors

This section describes how error handling and logging is performed in the Hive server.

5.1 Log

Hive uses Lager for logging purposes and therefore all of its quirks apply. The only difference is the configuration, which is intercepted by Hive and greatly simplified for convenience (described earlier). In general, the logging back-ends use a fairly simple log format shown below:

```
Timestamp '[' LogLevel ']' Pid '@' ModuleName ':' FunctionName ':' Line LogMessage
```

Each log line consists of a timestamp, a log level, a Pid of the process that the log line originated from (useful for live-debugging) and the exact location of the log line in the source code. The timestamp is in the following format:

YYYY-MM-DD HH:MM:SS.mmm

5.1.1 Log file

The log file back-end uses the full logging format and provides all the necessary information needed to identify the origin of the log line and (usually) the reason for its existence. The log file is named **hive.log** and its associated log-level can be configured in the configuration file.

5.1.2 Console log

The console logging back-end uses a simplified logging format for obvious reasons of clarity:

```
Timestamp '[' LogLevel ']' LogMessage
```

It provides sufficient information to identify problems, and the timestamp can be easily searched for in the log file if need-be. Additionally, a copy of the console log is stored in logging directory under **console.log** file.

5.1.3 Error log

The error log (error.log) is a filtered version of the Log file that contains only highest priority messages, namely, the error ones. It is created by default and it always exists. You can thank me later.

5.1.4 Crash log

The crash log (**crash.log**) does not strictly follow the logging convention, because it consists of crash reports, which might occur even before the logging is set up. It is created by default and always exists. Additionally, unaltered Erlang VM crash dumps are stored in the log directory as well.

5.2 Error messages

This section gives various details concerting error messages that are generated throught the Hive server. Internally, errors are represented as Erlang tuples consisting of an error_code (an Erlang symbol) and a short description (usually an Erlang binary string):

```
{ error_code, <<"Short error description.">>> }
```

Errors are logged at the place of their origin and additionally at each *layer* they pass through providing an error-trace useful for debugging. For example:

This behaviour can be adjusted using the log-levels of the **log** section of the configuration file. The following diagram presents a **simplified** Hive layer model (errors generated in top layers "sink" to the lower layers and eventually reach the bottom, where they are reported to the Client):

Connectors	+ State	Manager	+ -	
Hooks	Interna	al Events	- -	
	Hooks Client			
Client (XHR)	•	(WebSocket)	 	+
XHR Handler +	•	et Handler	Pub-Sub Channels +	
Router		Pub-Sub		Config Validator
API		HTTP Servers		Monitor

5.3 Error codes

This section lists and gives a short destription of various error codes used throughout the Hive server. Longer problem descriptions (hopefully sufficient to determine the solution) are attached to every error instance.

- bad_api_request invalid Hive API Server request.
- bad_monitor_request invalid Hive Monitor request.
- bad_request invalid Hive HTTP Server request (mostly invalid initial Socket.IO requests).
- bad_origin origin specified in the request header is not accepted by the Hive server.
- connectors_error generic Hive Connectors error (most likely internal event resulting in unhandled requests).
- bad_connector_id tried accessing an invalid Hive Connector id (most likely a Hive Connector has been shut down and not restarted).
- http_error Hive HTTP Connector related error, usually signalizes a bad HTTP response received by the connector.
- tcp_error Hive TCP Connector related error, usually signalizes a TCP socket error encountered by the connector.
- cp_error Hive Protocol Hook related error, usually signalizes a problem with the backend that Hive talks to.
- redis_error Hive Redis Connector related error, usually signalizes problems with the Redis database encountered by the connector.
- router_error Hive Router related error (most likely an unhandled Hive Router request).
- bad_session_id tried accessing (via Hive Router) a nonexistent Session ID.
- pubsub_error Hive Pub-Sub related error (most likely an unhandled Hive Pub-Sub request).
- bad_channel_id tried accessing (via Hive Pub-Sub) a nonexistent Channel ID.
- access_denied privilege level specified for a Hive Pub-Sub requests is insufficient to perform it.
- pubsub_channel_error Hive Pub-Sub Channel related error (most likely an unhandled Hive Pub-Sub Channel request or lack of privileges).
- client_error Hive Client related error (most likely problems with Client initialization).
- hive_error critical Hive server error, indicates some serious problems concerning the supervision tree, or various Hive modules.

- bad_internal_event JSON related, indicates malformed Internal Event.
- bad_external_event JSON related, indicase malformed External Event.
- big_num JSON related, indicates invalid numeric value.
- invalid_json JSON related, indicates malformed JSON data.
- invalid_string JSON related, indicates invalid JSON string literal.
- trailing_data JSON related, indicates trailing JSON data in an otherwise valid JSON object.
- internal_error generic error code, returned by the error internal event action, or in production mode.
- value_undefined Hive Config validator related error, indicates that a required value wasn't defined in the configuration file.
- invalid_config Hive Config validator related error, indicates that a value wasn't conforming to its constraints (for example, by being outside of accepted range).
- bad_hook_descriptor Hive Hooks related error, indicates that a supplied Hive Hook descriptor was malformed.
- bad_connector_descriptor Hive Connectors related error, indicates that a supplied Hive Connectors descriptor was malformed.
- file_missing Hive Config validator related error, indicates that a configuration file (or a JSON schema file) could not be found.
- file_error Hive Config validator related error, indicates that a configuration file could not be accessed (most likely wrong permission).
- bad_subschema_id Hive Config validator related error, indicates that a requested JSON Schema ID could
 not be resolved.
- Other Hive Plugins may return their own error codes and descriptions.

5.4 Error response format

This section describes the format of error messages that are sent to the outside world (via API/Monitor replies or otherwise directly to the Client). Errors are represented as **JSON objects** that define exactly two fields: error and description:

```
{
    "error" : "error_code",
    "description" : "A short description."
}

Example (pretty formatted) error responses:

// Hive error response:
{
    "error" : "bad_channel_id",
    "description" : "Tried unsubscribing an unknown channel: foo.bar.baz"
}

// Monitor error message:
{
    "error" : "bad_monitor_request",
    "description" : "Requested metric \"foo\" does not exist."
}
```

Error responses that are sent to the Client are additionally wrapped in a **Socket.IO event** of the following form:

6 API Servers

This section describes the RESTful API exposed by the Hive Server.

The API is available on the same host as the rest of the Hive server, on a configured port. The structure of the Hive Monitor URL is as follows:

```
Host [ ':' Port ] '/api/' APIKey '/' APISection '/' Action [ '/' Arguments ... ]
```

The APIKey can be configured via the Hive configuration file. The APISection is the name of an API section while Action and Arguments are the name of an action to take and its arguments respectively, for example:

```
host:port/api/apikey/pubsub/publish/...
host:port/api/apikey/clients/dispatch/...
```

6.1 RESTful API

The following subsections describe various parts of the Hive API. Each section names an endpoint, consisting of APISection, Action and Arguments, used to perform the action, lists HTTP request methods it accepts and describes the structure of data required by the action.

6.1.1 /hive/stop/

- Accepted HTTP methods:
 - POST initiates graceful termination of the **entire Hive Server**.
- Data format none.

6.1.2 /router/enable/

- Accepted HTTP methods:
 - POST enables the Hive Router to accept new connections.
- Data format none.

6.1.3 /router/disable/

- Accepted HTTP methods:
 - POST disables the Hive Router. While disabled, Hive Router won't accept any new connections.
- Data format none.

6.1.4 /router/terminate/

- Accepted HTTP methods:
 - POST assumes the body of the request is in a string representing a termination reason and initiates graceful termination of the currently connected Client Workers. The Hive Router will be disabled during the termination and will stay disabled until explicitly enabled with a separate API call.
- Data format a string.

6.1.5 /clients/action/sid/

- Accepted HTTP methods:
 - POST assumes the body of the request is an **internal event** (or a JavaScript array of internal events) and routes it to the **sid** Client worker.
- Data format an internal event, as described in a later section.

6.1.6 /pubsub/action/cid/

- Accepted HTTP request methods:
 - POST assumes the body of the request is an internal event (or a JavaScript array of internal events) and publishes it to the Hive Pub-Sub channel cid.
- Data format an internal event, as described in a later section.

6.1.7 /pubsub/publish/cid/

- Accepted HTTP request methods:
 - POST assumes the body of the request is a single external event and publishes it directly to the Hive Pub-Sub channel cid.
- Data format an external event.

6.1.8 /pubsub/subscribe/id/

- Accepted HTTP request methods:
 - GET returns the total number of Clients subscribed to the Hive Pub-Sub Channel id.
 - POST assumes the body of the request to be an array of Hive Pub-Sub Channel IDs and subscribes the Client worker corresponding to the session id id to them.
 - DELETE assumes the body of the request to be an array of Hive Pub-Sub Channel IDs and unsubscribes the Client worker corresponding to the session id id to them.
- Data format a JSON array of strings representing Hive Pub-Sub Channel IDs.

6.2 API response format

The Hive API Server responses (if any) are encoded as **simple JSON objects**. In case of encountering any errors, an error response conforming to a previously defined format will be genarated. Example Hive API Server output:

```
{
    "subscribed_clients" : 1
}
```

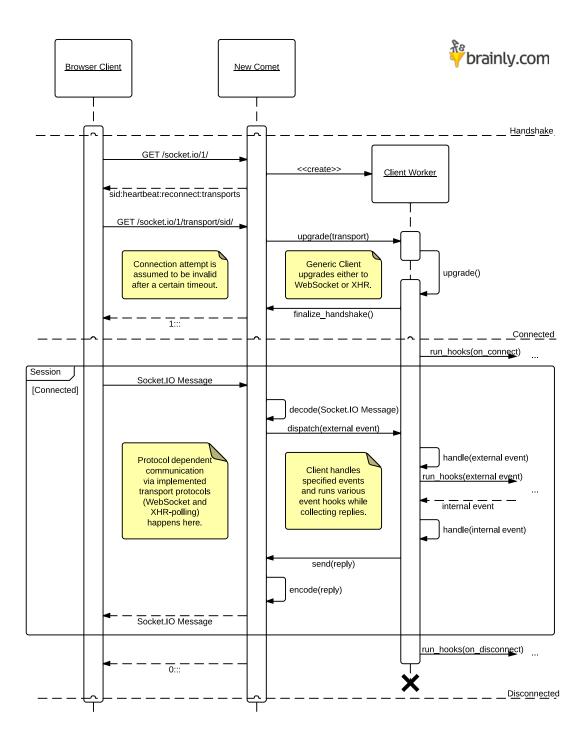
7 Hive Modules

The following section describes various Hive modules and gives a general idea of how they work and interact with each-other.

7.1 Client Workers

7.1.1 Client/Server communication

The following diagram shows the Client-Server communication routine.



Client initializes the connection to the Hive server and receives a Socket.IO handshake response. Next, the client is obliged to attempt to finalize the handshake by sending an initial request to the assigned **session ID** under a **transport of his choice**. During the handshake period a **generic client worker** process is created, which is later upgraded to a **specific client worker** once a transport has been selected. Connection attempt is assumed invalid after an **initialization timeout** specified in the configuration file of the Hive server and the client worker is removed.

Once the Socket.IO handshake has been finalized, Client-Server communication may take place. The Client sends Socket.IO messages to the Hive server over the selected transport; the Hive server decodes them into an internal format, routes them to the correct Client worker process (specified by the session ID) and handles them using a worker module. Every such external event (external as in "outside of the Brainly.com infrastructure") may trigger several actions of the following types:

- running event hooks described in greater detail here and here; this may generate internal events (internal as in "originating from the Brainly.com infrastructure") which are handled similarly to the external ones, producing replies, state updates or running other event hooks, in turn generating even more internal events,
- updating the client worker state described here,
- **sending a reply** the trivial case, where a reply is sent to the client immediately (this is generally used for Socket.IO control messages, error handling and such).

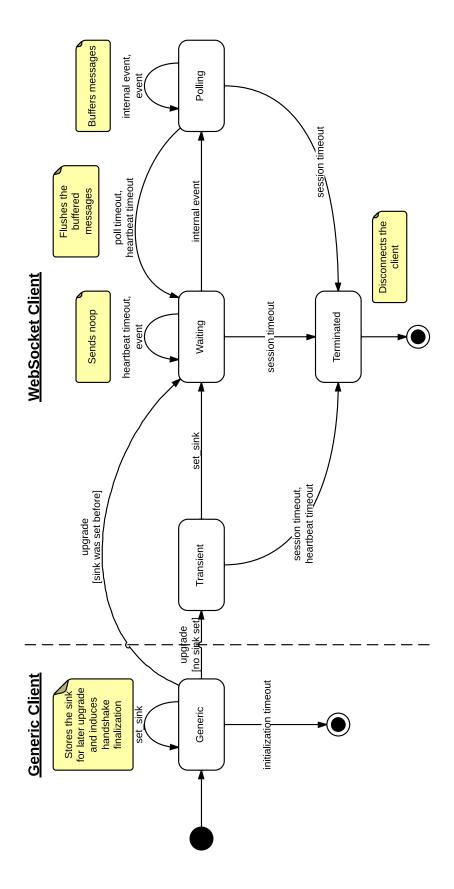
If a reply has been generated the Hive server starts polling for a specified amount of time (**poll timeout**) collecting more replies. Each reply is encoded and fed to the underlying transport handling code, which sends it back to the Client. If no replies are generated for a specified amount of time (**heartbeat timeout**) the Hive server will send an empty response to make sure the connection is kept alive. When a session is terminated (either by the client closing the connection, a session timeout or for any other internal reason, such as receiving a specific internal event) the connection is closed and the Client worker process is terminated.

It is easier to think (and it is the case of the implementation!) that the Client worker acts as a **finite state** machine with a given set of states and a state transition function. The states are:

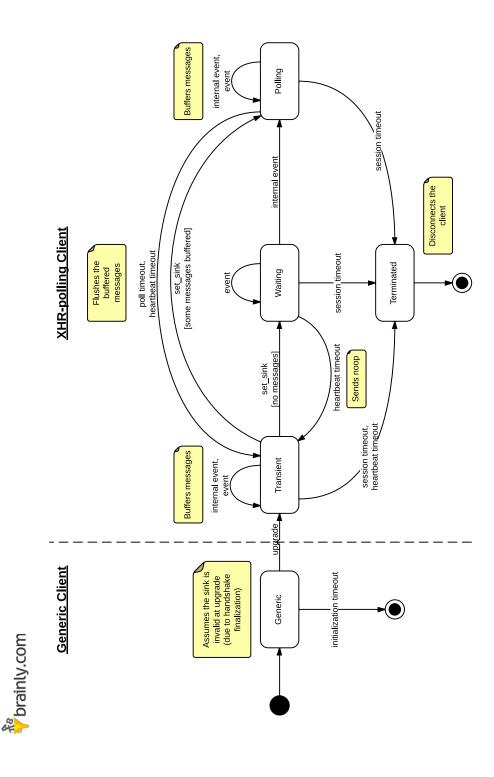
- Generic a state in which the Client worker is initialized, but not yet finalized; the only valid action for this state is to transition to either of the other states after the client upgrade (upgrade that happens once the Client connects via a specified transport); if the Client fails to finalize the connection in a specified time (initialization timeout), the FSM transitions to the Terminated state,
- Transient a "synchronization" state where all the Client worker initialization happens; received events are queued in this state and will be handled as soon as the FSM transitions to another state,
- Waiting a state in which the Client worker is waiting for external and internal events to handle; events are handled and in case of a **reply** the FSM transitions to the **Polling** state,
- **Polling** a state in which the Client worker is collecting more replies to send them as a batch; events are handled and replies are queued; after a specified time (**poll timeout**) the messages are sent to the Client and the FSM transitions to the **Waiting** state,
- **Terminated** a state where the Client worker cleans-up after itself and is terminated; no state transitions are valid for this state.

The state transition scheme outlined above is very general and *not quite true* as it turns out, because different transport protocols require different approaches and special behaviours to be taken care of. For example, **the sink** (an abstraction representing the underlying transport handling code, where the Client worker **flushes** the replies) once initialized is always valid for WebSocket, but only until a reply is sent for XHR-polling meaning that XHR-polling clients will occasionally enter the Transient state for short periods of time but the WebSocket ones won't. For this reason the following subsections contain correct and complete state transition diagrams for the concrete Client worker types (currently **WebSocket** and **XHR-polling**).





7.1.3 XHR-polling Client



7.1.4 Client Hooks

This subsection describes the Hive Hooks facility. Hooks are used to dispatch received **external** and **internal events** and perform certain actions based on the event's type and payload.

· Hook basics

The Hive hooks are defined on a per-event basis, that is, each event type may (or may not) have several hooks associated with it. These hooks will be triggered, and actions they encapsulate will be performed each time an event of that type is received by a Client worker. This holds true for all **external events** (those originating from the Client) but not for all **internal events** (those originating from the rest of the system), the later must request further event dispatch (described here). There are several **special event types** that trigger Hive hooks, that are not received from the Client nor the rest of the system:

- on_connect event generated once the Client worker is upgraded to the final, specialized type; hooks associated with this event must not return any replies, as it is not yet certain that the connection is valid, and sending replies might fail,
- on_terminate event generated on graceful Hive termination; this hook is called shortly before the server termination; any return values are dispatched as normal, but keep in mind that the Client Process might be forced to terminate before any meaningful actions are taken,
- on_disconnect event generated on Client worker termination; any return values of the hooks associated with this event are **ignored and discarded**.

Each Hive hook encapsulates a simple action that ts performes upon its invocation. The concrete actions depend on the hook type, and are described in a later section, but a general convention is kept that each action is described in terms of **metadata**, **arguments**, **modification** and **return values**:

- Actions receive some Client worker **metadata** and have it available during execution (more on this later).
- Actions take additional **arguments**, that can be specified in the configuration file.
- Actions may **modify** the state of the Client worker during their execution.
- Actions **return** one of three result types:
 - * no reply an empty response,
 - * reply returns a reply that will be sent to the Client,
 - * error signalizes an error that will be sent to the Client,
 - \ast $\,$ stop stops the hooks execution and terminates the Client worker.

Hooks are run until either of **stop** or **error** result is encountered or until there are no more hooks to run. All **replies** are accumulated and sent to the Client as a batch. Hook order **does** matter, since each hook might modify the Client workers state, which will be then passed to the next hook in the list.

Hook actions may produce **internal events** that will be dispatched the same way as mentioned previously. Example hook definitions:

Hooks defined above will cause each Hive Client worker to print "Connected!" and "Disconnected!" to the console on their initialization and termination respectively. Additionally, a ping event will be logged and echoed back to the Client each time it is received.

• Client metadata

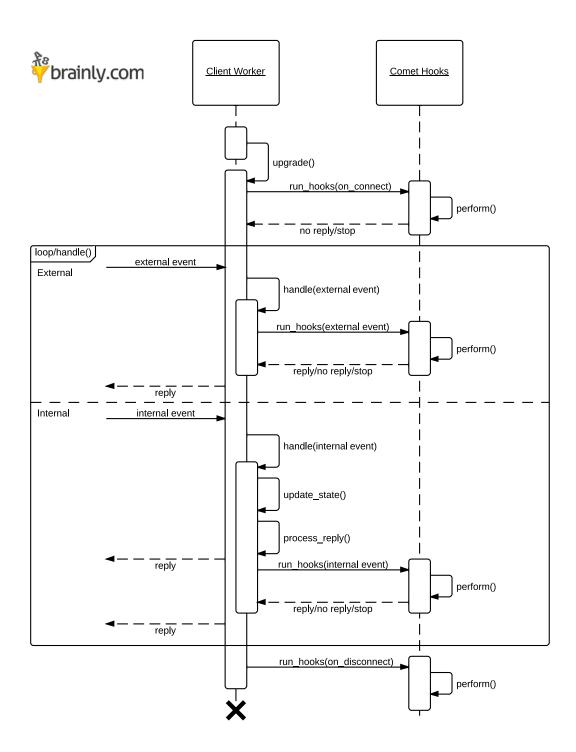
This subsection describes the metadata used by various Hive Hooks. The metadata consists of the internal state of a Client worker, its Session ID and the event that triggered the hook. It is passed to the hook together with additional arguments defined in the configuration file and it is represented as a **JSON object** conforming to the following format:

```
{
    "sid" : "the Session ID of a Client",
    "state" : "the state of the Client worker",
    "trigger" : "the hook-triggering event or null if not present"
}

For example:
{
    "sid" : "1238db436e20dbffff182466c8efaa5d757231",
    "trigger" : {
        "name" : "ping",
        "args" : ["pong"]
    },
    "state" : {
        "initial_value" : null
    }
}
```

• Hooks summary

The Client worker/hook interaction is summarized on the following diagram:



7.1.5 Client state management

This subsection describes the Client State Manager - a facility used to manage the Client worker state as a key-value store. Most of the technical details have been omitted for various reasons.

The configuration file has to specify a state manager descriptor, which defines several fields:

```
{
    "state_manager" : "The name of the State Manager to use, e.g. sm.redis.",
    "initial_value" : "Initial state of the Client.",
```

```
"args" : "Additional arguments required by the State Manager." }
```

The initial_value may be any JSON value, however since the State Manager provides a key-value store interface, JSON objects are treated as lists of key-value pairs with each value stored at each key, and values other than JSON objects are stored using initial_value key. For example:

```
"initial_value" : {"foo" : "bar", "bar" : "baz"} // Stored as: foo:bar, bar:baz
"initial_value" : [1, 2, 3] // Stored as: initial_value:[1, 2, 3]
"initial_value" : "foo" // Stored as: initial_value:foo
```

A list all available State Managers and their configuration parameters can be found here.

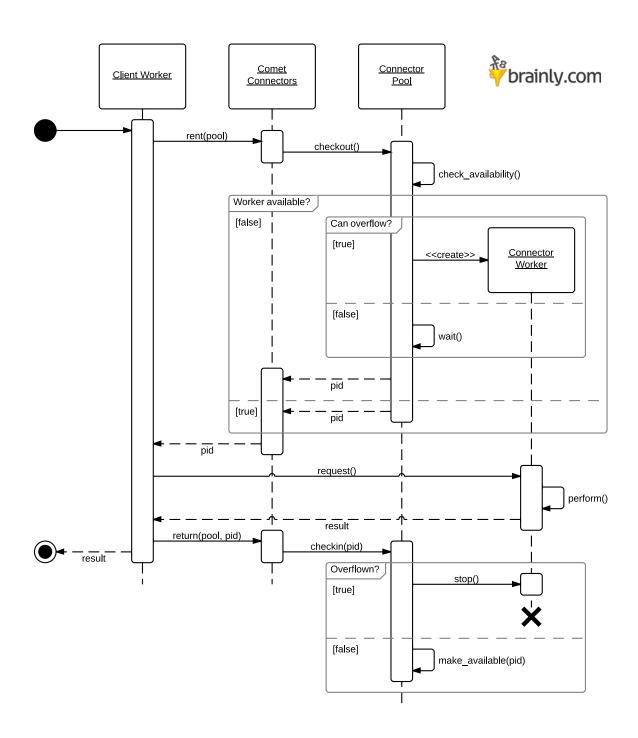
7.2 Service Connectors

This section describes other details of the Hive Connectors facility. The Hive Connectors facility that provides access to various services, such as Redis databases or HTTP servers, uses several schemes of worker pool management. A pool consists of a supervisor and a number of **worker processes**, which are **rented** by various other Hive modules (for example Hive Protocol hooks). Technical details of pool management and worker renting were omitted from this user guide.

Each pool can be **named** and has a configurable size that may increase temporarily during run-time, therefore each pool can be described in terms of its **name**, a **connector plugin**, **size** and **overflow** (the maximum number of additional worker processes to spawn under heavy server load) and **arguments** it uses for set-up, which, incidentally, are the configuration parameters required by each Hive Connectors pool. A list all available Connector pools can be found here.

7.2.1 Connectors summary

The Client worker/Connector pool interaction is summarized on the following diagram:



7.3 Pub-Sub Channels

This subsection and its subsections describe the Hive Pub-Sub facility.

7.3.1 Channel templates

A set of Pub-Sub channel templates can be defined in the Hive configuration file. Each template consists of a **channel prefix** - the first part of the channel ID, and a **channel descriptor** - as described here. At runtime, channels are created using one of the templates determined by their channel ID. Any attempt at creating a

channel that doesn't follow any channel template defined in the configuration file will fail and an error response will be produced.

7.3.2 Channel types

Each template defines a channel type. Hive Pub-Sub currently supports two types of channels:

- **private** channels accesible only via the Hive API Server or via Client Pub-Sub Hook with a sufficient privilege level.
- public channels accessible by all Clients.

7.3.3 Channel management

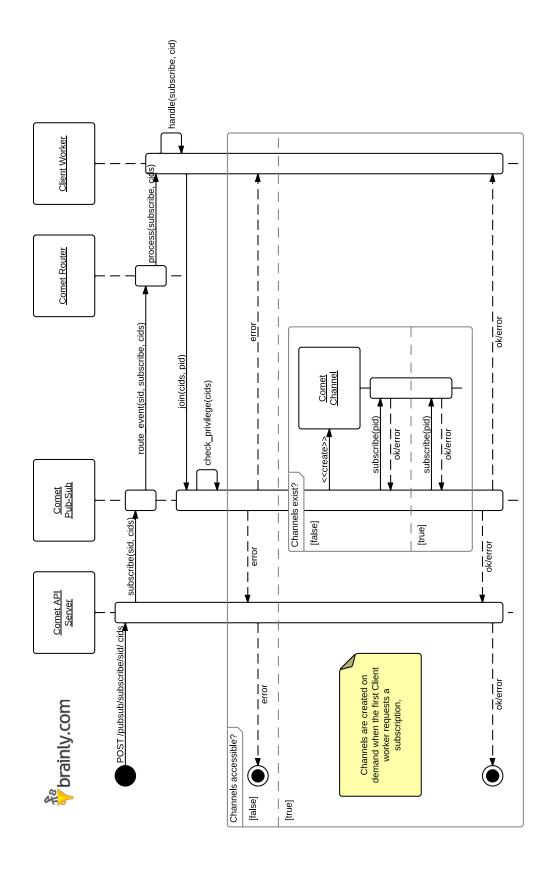
Each Pub-Sub channel is created with the first Client attempting a subscription. As long as there are Clients subscribed to a channel it'll stay active and publish messages to its subscribents. When the last Client unsubscribes from the channel, depending on the timeout that was configured for the corresponding channel template, the channel might expire and cease to exist, or continue waiting for more subscribents. Channel (un)subscriptions can be managed in either of the following ways:

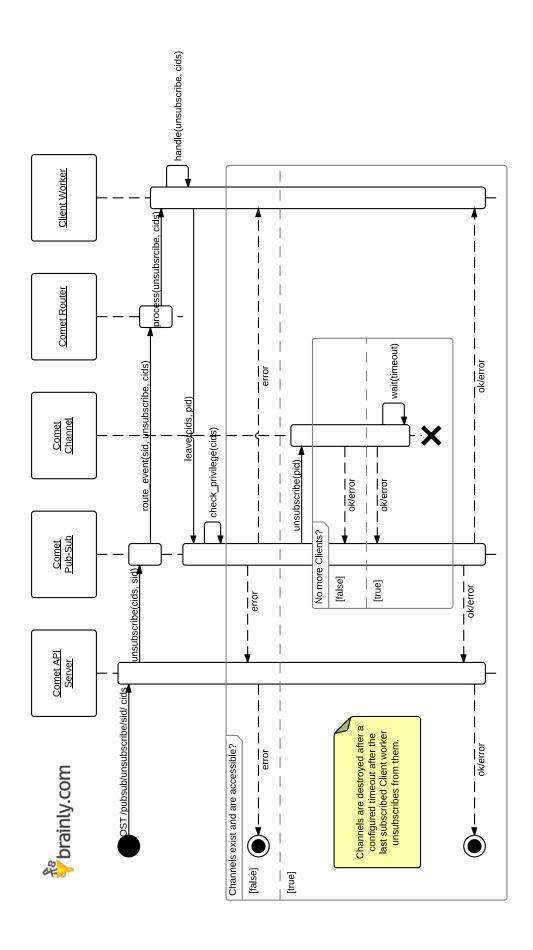
- via the Hive API Server as described here,
- via the Hive Pub-Sub Hook as described here.

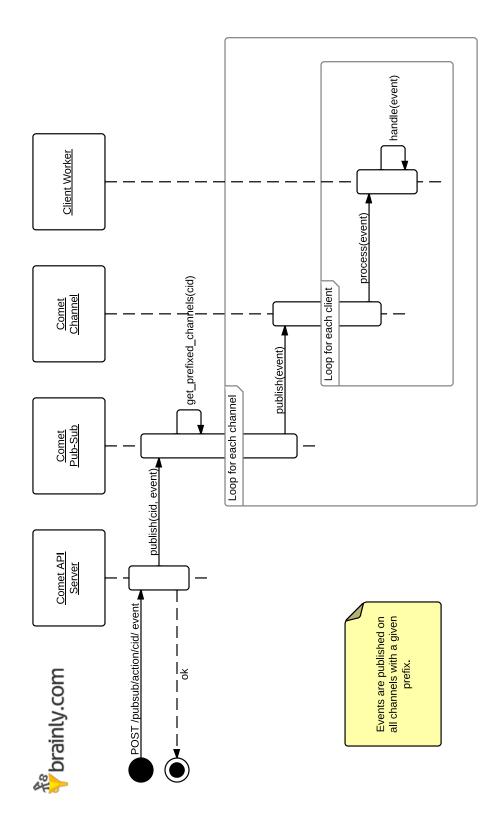
Events can be published to the Hive Pub-Sub channel only via the Hive API Server (as described here).

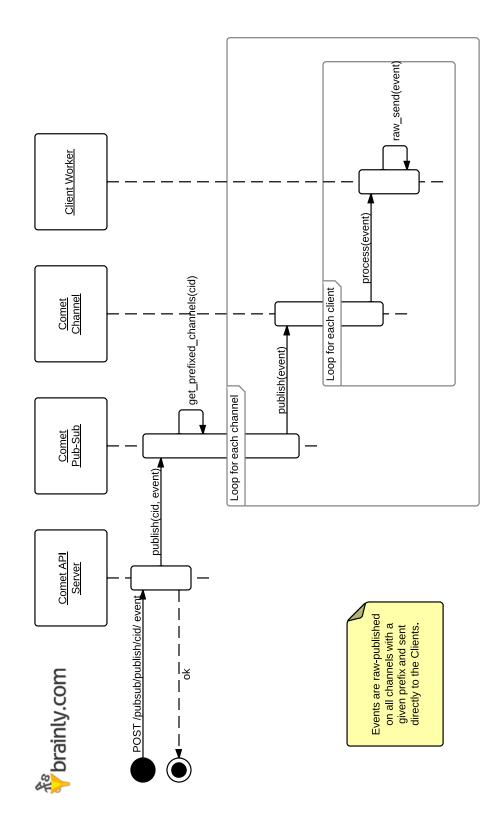
7.3.4 Pub-Sub summary

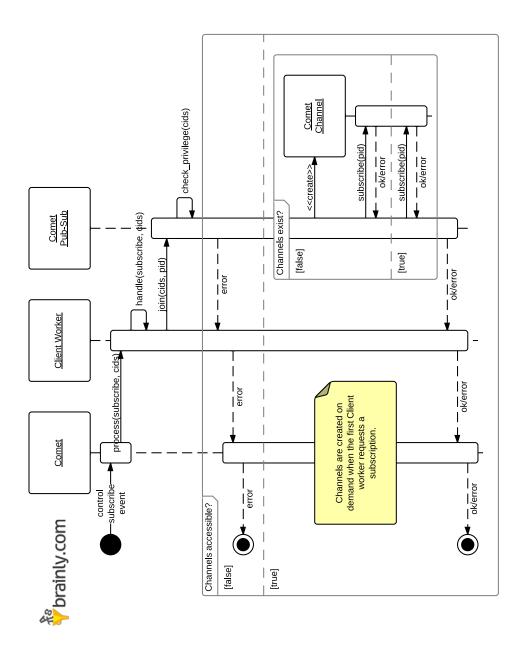
The following diagrams summarize the Hive Pub-Sub channel operation.

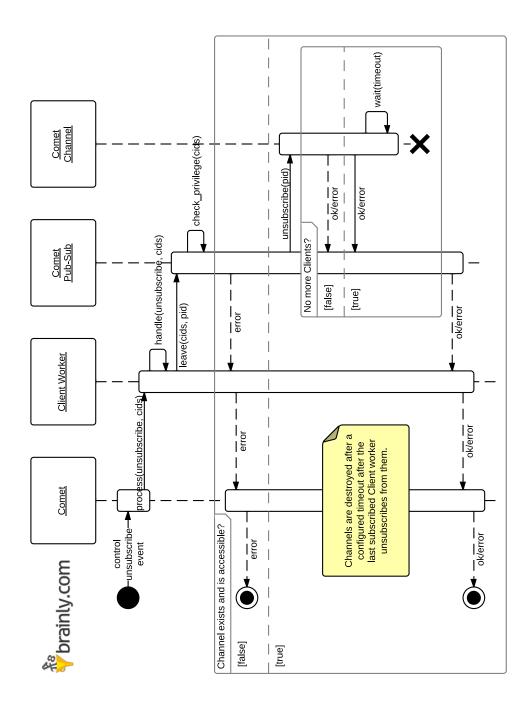












7.4 Non-Erlang modules

The Hive server may be combined with a number of modules written in non-Erlang programming languages for convenience and easy integration with existing backends. All that is needed is a little Hive Protocol conformance on the backend side.

7.4.1 Hive Protocol basics

The **Hive Protocol** is a set of communication rules and data formats that are recognized by the Hive server. It involves three components:

- Internal Events & Client Metadata JSON described in detail here and here.
- Hive Protocol hook described in detail here.
- **Hive API** described in detail previously.

Hive Protocol communication is either **simplex** or **duplex**:

- Simplex communication on the Hive-Backend path results in Client Metadata being sent to the Backend.
- Simplex communication on the Backend-Hive path results in Internal Events being dispatched on vaia Hive API calls.
- Duplex communication on the Hive-Backend path results in Client Metadata being sent to the Backend and Internal Events being received from the Backend as a response. This is the only duplex communication in the Hive Protocol.

An example of a Hive Protocol based communication is presented below:

```
// Browser Client sends an event:
{
    "name" : "ping",
    "args" : []
}

// Hive Worker dispatches on the event
// using ping hook configured as follows:
"ping" : [
    {
        "hook" : "cp.post",
        "args" : {
        "endpoint" : "ping.php",
```

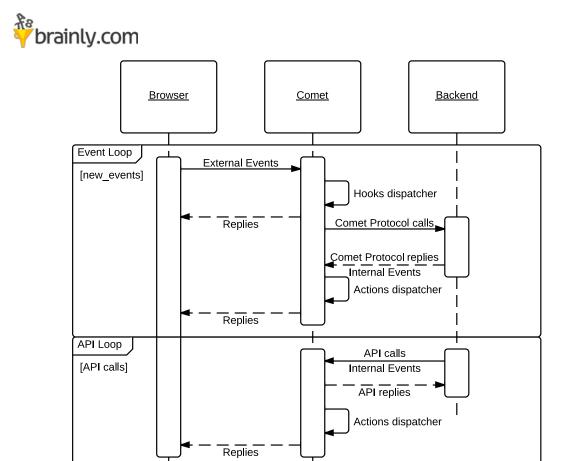
```
"connector" : "php_backend"
        }
    }
]
// A Client Metadata JSON is passed to the backend via
// php_backend connector in a POST request:
    "sid" : "client_id",
    "trigger" : {
        "name" : "ping",
        "args" : []
    },
    "state" : {
        "initial_value" : null
    }
}
// The backend processes the request and generates a reply:
    "action" : "reply",
    "args" : {
        "name" : "pong",
        "args" : ["one"]
}
// The backend proceeds to send more events via
// a request to Hive API /client/action/client_id endpoint:
{
    "action" : "reply",
    "args" : {
        "name" : "pong",
        "args" : ["two"]
    }
}
// The Hive API passes the event to the Client Worker.
// The Client worker dispatches on the replies
// using reply dispatcher configured as follows:
"reply" : [
    {
        "action" : "action.send_event",
        "args" : null
    }
]
// Both replies are sent to the Browser client:
    "name" : "pong",
    "args" : ["one"]
},
{
    "name" : "pong",
    "args" : ["two"]
}
```

7.4.2 Non-Erlang modules summary

The Hive-Backend interaction is somewhat simplistic. It uses all of the major built-it Hive facilities such as the Hive Hooks, Hive Internal Event dispatchers and Hive API servers and can be divided into two itertwinded flows that run simultaneously

- the Event loop this is a reactive event loop where external events originating from the Clients are dispatched resulting in **Hive Protocol Hooks** invocations and Hive-Backend communication.
- the API loop this is a proactive loop where API calls originating from the Backend are handled what may result in a number of Internal Event dispatchers invocations and Hive-Browser communication.

The Hive-Backend interaction has been summarized on the following diagram:



8 Hive Plugins

Hive Plugins framework is an elaborate way to define extentions for the Hive server. Detailed description of the Hive Plugins framework is outside of the scope of this document. This section describes the Hive Plugins framework and gives a brief description of the available built-in plugins.

8.1 Plugins basics

Hive Plugins reside in the **plugins** directory and are written in the Erlang programming language. Plugins are *loosely* structured and do not have to reside in a single module, however plugins must follow several conventions: The **type convention** - Hive server supports currently for types of plugins that differ in their API:

- State Managers manage the state of the Hive Workers,
- Hooks allow the Hive Workers to perform some actions,
- Internal Events allow the backend to control the Hive Workers,
- Service Connectors provide the means to connect to various services.

The **API convention** - Hive server defines a common Hive Plugin API in addition to the specific plugin-type API that allows for an automated plugins loading during Hive startup:

- load loads plugins from a plugin-module and performs all necessary initial checks; there may be several plugins defined in a single plugin module,
- validate validates plugin configuration and performs all additional checks,
- unload unloads a plugin and performs all necessary cleanup.

And least importantly, the **naming convention** - plugins once loaded reside in a common namespace. Some care must be taken to avoid name clashes. Generally, the following naming convention is used:

- sm.plugin names a State Manager,
- purpose.plugin names a Hook that serves some purpose,
- action.plugin names an Internal Event dispatcher,
- connector.plugin names a Service Connector.

Every plugin expects to receive a configuration descriptor on initialization. The descriptor should be of the following format ("type" is either connector, state_manager, hook or event depending on the plugin type):

```
{
    "type" : "plugin",
    "args" : "Additional arguments",
    "additional" : "fields",
    ...
}
```

The built-in plugins are described shortly in the following subsections.

8.2 Client Hooks

8.2.1 utils.echo

Echoes any received Socket.IO messages back to the Client.

- metadata used none,
- arguments taken either none or an external event to reply with,
- modifications to the state none,
- results in always replies with a Socket.IO message.

Example declarations:

```
{ "hook" : "utils.echo", "args" : null }
{ "hook" : "utils.echo", "args" : { "name" : "event", "args" : "arguments" } }
```

8.2.2 utils.console_dump

Dumps the state of a Client worker to the console together with a distinct message passed as an argument. Meant for debugging purposes.

- metadata used the Client workers internal state (Session ID, stored values, event that triggered the hook),
- arguments taken a short message to be printed in the console; has to be a string,
- modifications to the state none (but accesses the stored values),
- results in never replies nor stops.

Example declaration:

```
{ "hook" : "utils.console_dump", "args" : "Hello Hive!" }
```

8.2.3 utils.dispatch

Dispatches on the triggering external event as if it were an interternal one.

- metadata used the Client workers internal state (Session ID, stored values, event that triggered the hook),
- arguments taken none,
- modifications to the state may modify anything as it treats the triggering event as an internal event,
- results in might return either **reply**, **no reply** or even stop the Client worker.

Example declaration:

```
{ "hook" : "utils.dispatch", "args" : null }
```

8.2.4 pubsub.subscribe

Subscribes a Client to the Hive Pub-Sub channels specified in arguments of the triggering event.

- metadata used the Client workers internal state (Session ID, stored values, event that triggered the hook),
- arguments taken a string representing the privilege level of this hook,
- modifications to the state none,
- results in does **not reply**, might stop the Client worker in case of a failure.

Example declaration:

8.2.5 pubsub.unsubscribe

Unsubscribes a Client from the Hive Pub-Sub channels specified in arguments of the triggering event.

- metadata used the Client workers internal state (Session ID, stored values, event that triggered the hook),
- arguments taken a string representing the privilege level of this hook,
- modifications to the state none,
- results in does **not reply**, might stop the Client worker in case of a failure.

Example declaration:

8.2.6 pubsub.publish

Publishes internal events passed as the arguments of the triggering event on a Hive Pub-Sub channels specified in arguments.

- metadata used the Client workers internal state (Session ID, stored values, event that triggered the hook),
- arguments taken a **JSON object** containing the Hive Pub-Sub channel IDs and the privilege level of this hook,
- modifications to the state none,
- results in does **not reply**, might stop the Client worker in case of a failure.

Example declaration:

}

8.2.7 cp.get

Performs a synchronous request, similar in semantics to an HTTP GET, to a given endpoint using a given Hive Protocol compatible Hive Connector pool (listed here).

- metadata used none,
- arguments taken a JSON object that contains: endpoint a string representing the endpoint, connector name of the Hive Protocol compatible Hive Connectors pool to use.
- modifications to the state none,
- results in dispatches the reply immediately and may **not reply**, **reply**, **error** or even **stop** the Client worker.

Example declaration:

```
{
    "hook" : "cp.get",
    "args" : {
        "endpoint" : "/",
        "connector" : "connector1"
    }
}
```

8.2.8 cp.put

Performs an asynchronous request, similar in semantics to an HTTP PUT, to a given endpoint using a given Hive Protocol compatible Hive Connector pool (listed here).

- metadata used the Client workers internal state (Session ID, stored values, event that triggered the hook),
- arguments taken a JSON object that contains: endpoint a string representing the endpoint, connector name of the Hive Connectors pool to use,
- modifications to the state none,
- results in does not wait for a reply, but might **error** or **stop** the Client in case of connection errors in the underlying Hive Connector.

Example declaration:

```
{
    "hook" : "cp.put",
    "args" : {
        "endpoint" : "/",
        "connector" : "connector1"
    }
}
```

8.2.9 cp.post

Performs a synchronous request, similar in semantics to an HTTP POST, to a given endpoint using a given Hive Protocol compatible Hive Connector pool (listed here).

- metadata used the Client workers internal state (Session ID, stored values, event that triggered the hook),
- arguments taken a JSON object that contains: endpoint a string representing the endpoint, connector name of the Hive Connectors pool to use,
- modifications to the state none,
- results in transfers the Client metadata and awaits a reply which it then treats as an **internal event**; may result in either **reply**, **no reply**, **error** or even **stop**.

Example declaration:

```
{
    "hook" : "cp.post",
    "args" : {
        "endpoint" : "/",
        "connector" : "connector1"
    }
}
```

8.3 Internal Events

Internal events are used to control the Hive server. These events are generated via the Hive API Server requests or received as a response to a hook action invoked earlier. Internal events must conform to the following format:

```
{
    "action" : "action_id",
    "args" : "action arguments"
}
```

Currently supported actions are listed below.

8.3.1 action.stop

Stops the Client worker. args is a string with a short termination reason. Example event:

```
{
    "action" : "stop_client",
    "args" : "Rage-quit"
}
```

Example declaration:

8.3.2 action.error

]

Signalizes an error to the Client worker. args is a string with a short error description. The error is sent to the Client as oon as possible. Example event:

```
{
    "action" : "signalize_error",
    "args" : "Core melting!"
}

Example declaration:

"signalize_error" : [
    {
        "action" : "action.error",
        "args" : null
    }
```

8.3.3 action.send_event, action.send_message, action.send_json

Replies to the Client using event/message/json Socket.IO message types. args is a JSON encoded reply. Example event:

```
// message action:
{
    "action" : "message",
    "args" : "About to rage-quit..."
}
// event action:
    "action" : "event",
    "args" : {
        "name" : "ping",
        "args" : ["pong"]
    }
}
Example declarations:
// message declaration:
"message" : [
    {
        "action" : "action.send_message",
        "args" : null
],
// Event declaration:
"event" : [
    {
        "action" : "action.send_event",
        "args" : null
    }
]
```

$8.3.4 \verb| action.update_state|$

Updates the internal Client worker state via its State Manager. Assumes args to be a JSON object, and sets each field-name key to its corresponding value in the internal state. Example event:

```
{
    "action" : "store",
    "args" : {
        "field_1" : "value_1",
        "field_2" : [1, 2, 3, 4, 5],
        "field_3" : null
    }
}

Example declaration:

"store" : [
    {
        "action" : "action.update_state",
        "args" : null
    }
]
```

8.3.5 action.dispatch

Dispatches the event passed in <code>args</code> and treats it as an external event causing associated hooks to trigger. Assumes <code>args</code> to be a valid Socket.IO event. Example event:

```
{
    "action" : "dispatch",
    "args" : {
        "name" : "ping",
        "args" : ["pong"]
    }
}

Example declaration:

"dispatch" : [
        {
            "action" : "action.dispatch",
            "args" : null
        }
]
```

8.3.6 action.add_hooks

Dynamically validates, initializes and adds hooks to the Client worker hooks. Assumes args to be a JavaScript array of hook descriptors (same as described before). Example event:

```
{
    "action" : "add_hooks",
    "args" : {
        "event 1" : [
            { "hook" : "hook_1", "args" : null },
            { "hook" : "hook_2", "args" : [1, 2, 3] },
        ],
    }
}
Example declaration:
"add_hooks" : [
    {
        "action" : "action.add_hooks",
        "args" : null
    }
]
```

8.3.7 action.remove_hooks

Removes hooks from the Client worker. args is assumed to be a JavaScript array of event names which hooks should be removed. Example event:

```
{
    "action" : "remove_hooks",
    "args" : ["event_1", "event_2", ...]
}

Example declaration:

"remove_hooks" : [
    {
        "action" : "action.remove_hooks",
        "args" : null
    }
]
```

8.3.8 action.start_connectors

{

Starts Hive Connector pools. Assumes args to be a JSON object representing name/Connector descriptor pairs (the same as described before). Example event:

```
"action" : "start_connector",
    "args" : {
        "bar_fo" : {
             "worker_module" : "module1",
             "size" : 10,
             "overflow" 23,
             "args" : ...
        },
        "foo_bar" : {
             "worker_module" : "module2",
             "size" : 10,
             "overflow" 23,
             "args" : ...
        }
    }
}
Example declaration:
"start_connectors" : [
    {
        "action" : "action.start_connectors",
        "args" : null
    }
]
8.3.9 action.stop_connectors
Stops Hive Connector pools. Assumes args to be a JavaScript array of Connector pool names. Example
event:
```

```
{
    "action" : "stop_connectors",
    "args" : ["foo_bar", "baz_foo"]
```

Example declaration:

```
"stop_connectors" : [
        "action" : "action.stop_connectors",
        "args" : null
    }
]
```

8.4 Service Connectors

Currently available Hive Connector pool types and their arguments are described below:

8.4.1 connector.redis

The Redis database connector.

- connector connector.redis
- args a JSON object containing the following fields:
 - host a string representing the host name to connect to,

- port a non-negative integer lower than 65536, the port on which to connect,
- database a non-negative integer, the Redis database index,
- password a string, the Redis database password,
- restart_timeout a non-negative integer, the timeout in milliseconds between periodical Connector worker restarts,
- reconnect_timeout a non-negative integer, the timeout in milliseconds between reconnect attempts (in case of a connection error).
- max_reconnect_timeout a non-negative integer, the timeout in milliseconds after which a connection is assumed to be dead and no further reconnection attempts should be performed.

8.4.2 connector.http

A Hive Protocol compatible HTTP connector. Provides Hive Protocol interface over HTTP. All data is transfered in the bodies of the HTTP requests with no additional encapsulation or serialization.

- connector connector.http
- args a JSON object containing the following fields:
 - base_url a string representing the base URL each worker will connect to; the URL should specify
 the port unless the default port 80 is meant to be used. The specific endpoint will be supplied later,
 per request.
 - max_connections a non-negative integer, the maximal number of simultaneous HTTP keep-alive connections.
 - max_connection_timeout a non-negative integer, the timeout in milliseconds after which a connection is assumed to be dead.

8.4.3 connector.tcp

A Hive Protocol compatible TCP connector. Provides Hive Protocol interface over TCP using a pool of connection listeners and a simple data serialization subprotocol - all data sent to/received from a given endpoint are encoded as Socket.IO messages with the **message** opcode and are preceded by a short header consisting of a frame marker, a string representation of the message length and another frame marker:

```
"\UFFFD", "string representation of the message length", "\UFFFD", "3::", Endpoint, ":", Payload
```

- connector connector.tcp
- args a JSON object containing the following fields:
 - port a non-negative integer lower than 65536, the port on which to listen (listening set to true) or connect (listening set to false),
 - restart_timeout a non-negative integer, the timeout in milliseconds between periodical Connector worker restarts,
 - max_connection_timeout a non-negative integer, the timeout in milliseconds after which a connection is assumed to be dead.

8.5 State Managers

This section lists and describes all available Hive Client State Managers.

8.5.1 sm.local

The Local State Manager does not require any additional arguments. It stores the Client workers state internally within the Client worker process, decreasing access time and increasing memory use. Example Local State Manager descriptor:

```
{
    "state_manager" : "sm.local",
    "initial_value" : "value",
    "args" : null
}
```

8.5.2 sm.redis

The Redis State Manager stores the Client workers state in a remote Redis database. Client workers' state is stored as a Redis hash map (accessed via HGET and HSET) with non-trivial objects serialized to JSON format (integers, strings and other simple values are stored as-is while JavaScript arrays and objects are serialized and stored as strings). The hash map is accessible under a key equal to the **Session ID** of the Client session. Additionally a Client Worker-side cacheing is employed to limit unnecessary Redis database requests. Arguments received in args:

- connector the Redis Connector pool to use to access the database; must be a string naming a valid Hive Connector pool,
- expiration_timeout an expiration timeout (in milliseconds) of the data stored in the database; optional, but must be a non-negative integer if defined; the default value is 48 hours.

Example Redis State Manager descriptor: