

# Kinesis Client Library (KCL)

- A Java library that helps read record from a Kinesis Data Stream with distributed applications sharing the read workload
- Each shard is to be read by only one KCL instance
  - 4 shards = max. 4 KCL instances
  - 6 shards = max. 6 KCL instances
- Progress is checkpointed into DynamoDB (needs IAM access)
- Track other workers and share the work amongst shards using DynamoDB
- KCL can run on EC2, Elastic Beanstalk, and on-premises
- Records are read in order at the shard level
- Versions:
  - KCL 1.x (supports shared consumer)
  - KCL 2.x (supports shared & enhanced fan-out consumer)