



360Flex - Unconference

Daniel Wanja | Flex with Ruby on Rails



#### Agenda



- 1.Intro
- 2. Create a Rails app
- 3. Rails Overview
- 4. Rails Console
- 5. Rails Architecture
- 6.REST
- 7. Flex HttpService
- 8. Rails Resource
- 9. Flex ActiveResource
- 10. Rails Nested Resource
- 11. Rails Nested Attributes
- 12.Rails Bulk-API

#### Bonus Topic as time permits

- *13.*Zlib
- *14*.AMF
- 15.Pusher
- 16.Gotcha's
- 17. Rails and the cloud
- 18.Heroku
- 19.Installing Rails



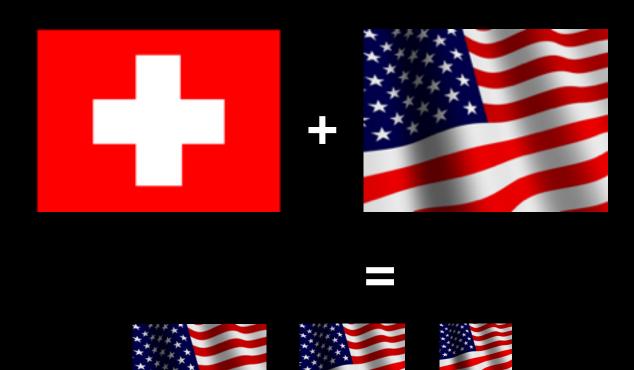


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### Hi...I'm Daniel!



- d@n-so.com
- @danielwanja
- onrails.org
- appsden.com
- flexonrails.com
- http://github.com/danielwanja



## Portfolio







# https://www.quiltivate.com



Adobe

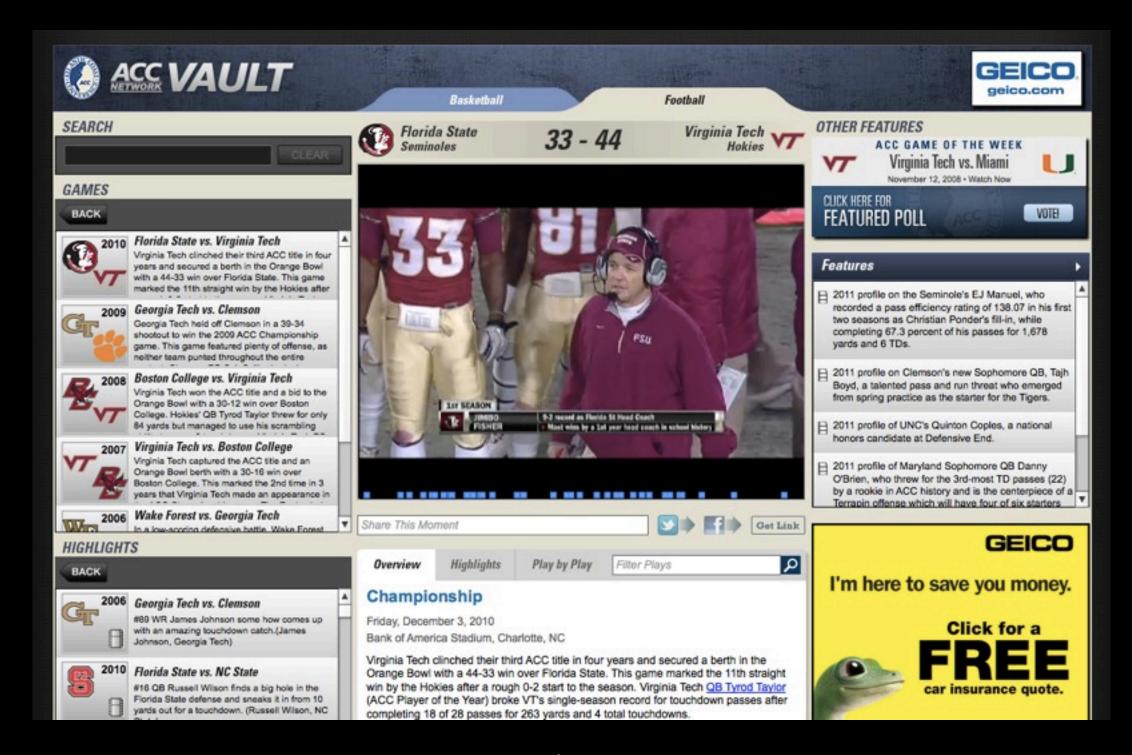


# http://vault.ncaa.com





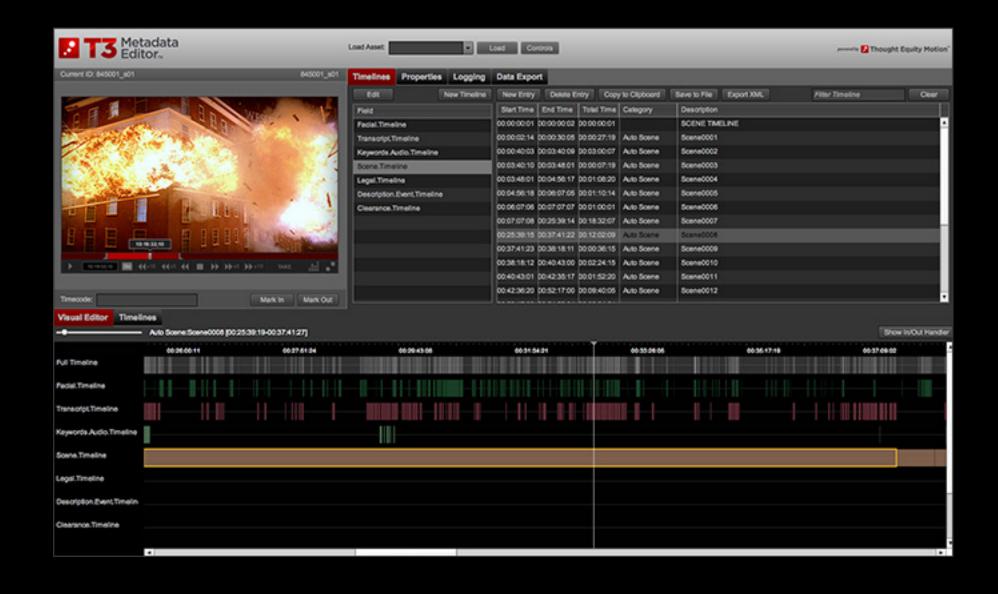
# http://vault.theacc.com/



#### Portfolio



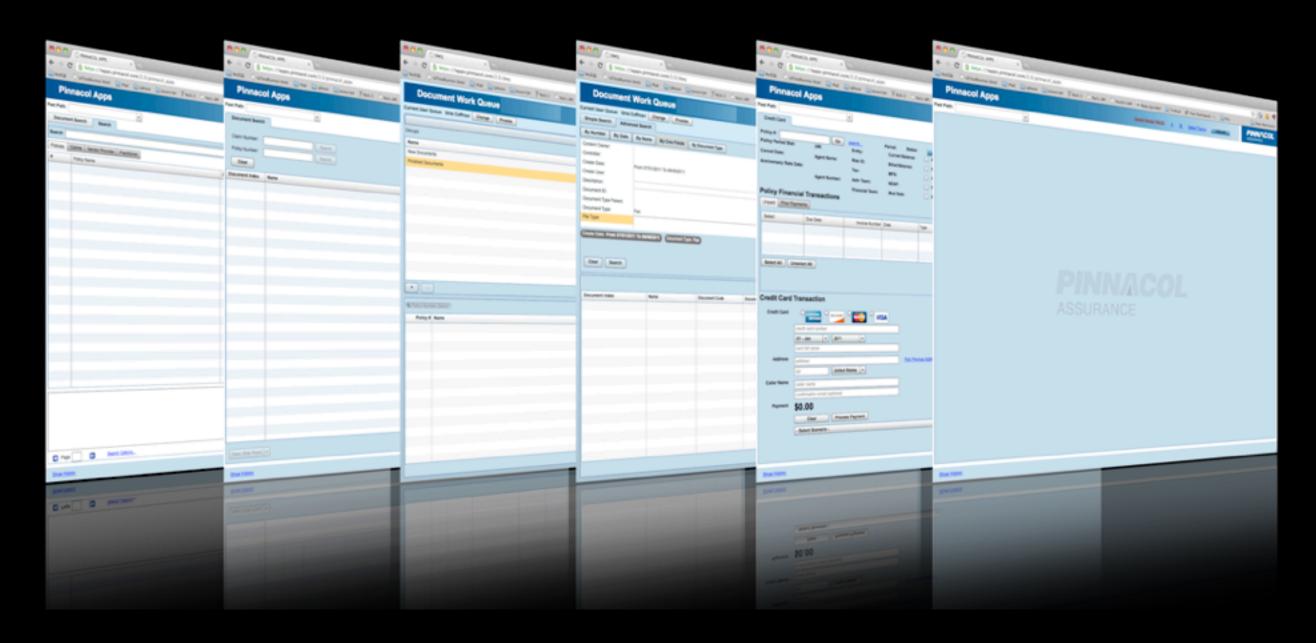
## T3 Metadata Editor



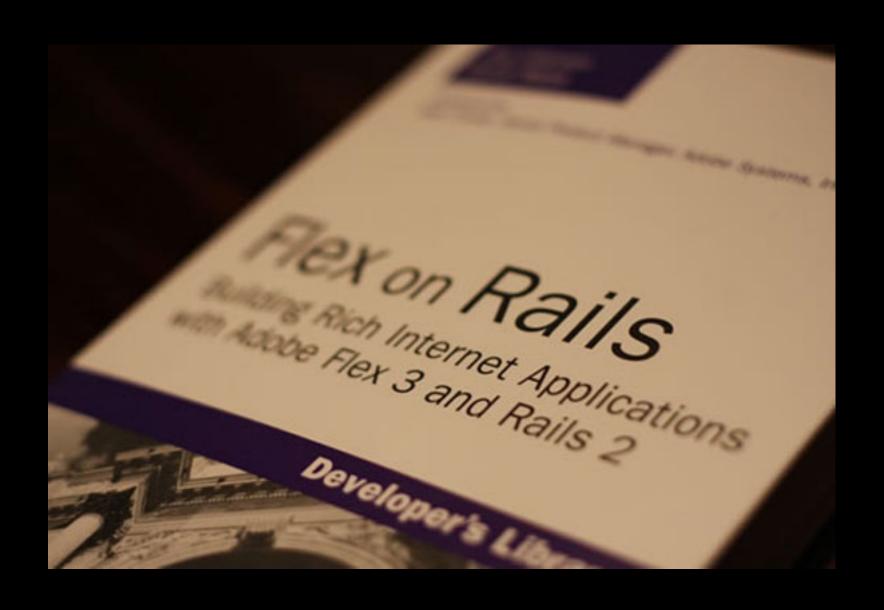
9

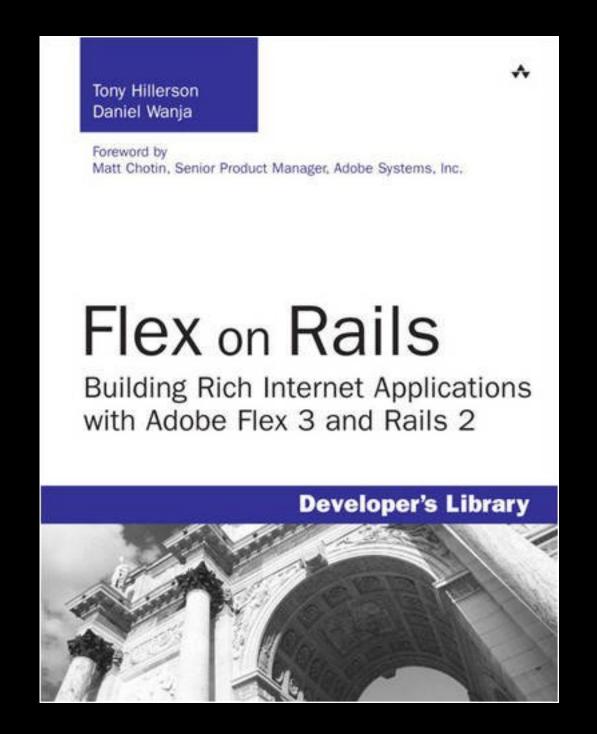
#### Pinnacol -> Flex + Rails













### Why Flex and Rails?

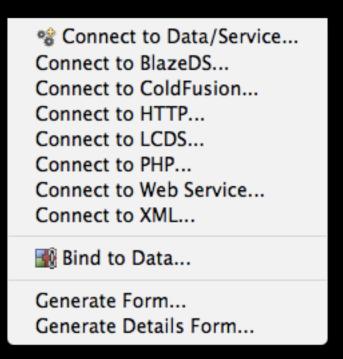


- Well Flex is cool, Rails is Cool...
- For the Rails developer: for advanced visualization, product configurator, admin tool, fast data entry, ...
- For the Flex developer: if you need to store data, secure some assets (i.e. S3), push notification, ...
- So let's check out how we can use them together
- Assumptions: your are a Flex developer...
- So I'll show a bit more of Rails

#### Different Options to Connect Flex to a Server



- HTTPService: XML/JSON/AMF
- Sockets/WebSockets
- URLLoader
- Lifecycle Data Services
- SOAP
- Flash Builder Data Menu



· We'll mainly focus on HTTPService tonight, as it's a good fit for Rails



@danielwanja

#### Create a Rails app



```
$ rails new demo1
$ cd demo1
$ rails generate scaffold post title:string body:text
$ rake db:migrate
$ rails s
```

http://localhost:3000/posts

http://localhost:3000/posts.json

#### Rails Console



```
$ rails c
> Post.count
=> 1
> Post first
 => #<Post id: 1, title: "Demo 1", body: "Getting started with Rails
in 5 minutes", created_at: "2011-09-11 17:17:36", updated_at:
"2011-09-11 17:17:36">
> Post.create(title: "Ruby Rocks!", body:"This is the content")
 => #<Post id: 2, title: "Ruby Rocks!", body: "This is the content",
created_at: "2011-09-11 20:34:43", updated_at: "2011-09-11 20:34:43">
```

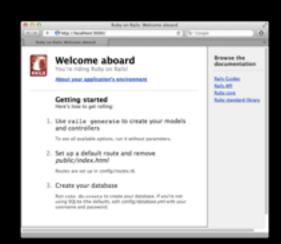


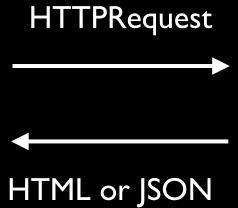
# 

# OVERVIEW

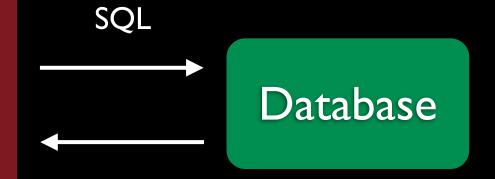
#### Rails Overview







Rails Server



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#### Rails Architecture



ActionView

ActionController

ActionDispatch

ActiveSupport

ActionMailer

ActiveRecord / ActiveModel

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### Rails - Request Call Stack



## ActionDispatch

I. Handle request

2. Routes matches URL

#### ActionController

3. Filters are invoked

4. Actions is called

**ActionView** 

5. View is rendered

6. Response sent to client

#### ActionDispatch - details



Session deserialization Browser Standards Mode Cookie Abstraction Management Deserialization of Content Types like JSON, XML Reloading Handling IP Spoofing Routing Broswer Caching (ETags, Last\_Modifed) Content Negociation (Mime) Caching

# ActionDispatch - under the hood



Request	Flash	Rescue	Routing	Parameter Filter
Response	Head	Show Exceptions	Cache	Filter Parameters
Best Standards Support	Params Parser	Static	Headers	Upload
Callbacks	Reloader	Closed Error	Mime Negotiation	Uploaded File
Cookies	Remote Ip	Middleware Stack	Parameters	URL

Adobe

### ActionController - under the hood



Caching	Data Streaming	Implicit Render	Renderers	Streaming	Action Controller Error
Metal	Force SSL	Instrument ation	Rendering	Testing	Unknown Http Method
Middlewar e	Head	Mime Responds	Request Forgery Protection	UrlFor	Render Error
Compatibil ity	Helpers	Params Wrapper	Rescue	UrlWriter	Routing Error
Conditiona I Get	Hide Actions	Rack Delegation	Responder	Routing	Method Not Allowed
Cookies	Http Authentica tion	Redirectin g	Session Managem ent	Record Identifier	Missing File

# ActiveSupport - under the hood



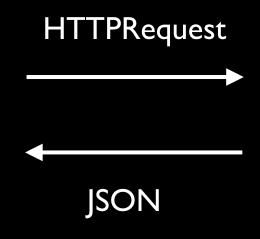
Descendants Tracker	Basic Object	Configurable	Message Encryptor	Rescuable
FileUpdate Checker	Benchmarka ble	Deprecation	Message Verifier	Secure Random
Log Subscriber	Buffered Logger	Gzip	Multibyte	String Inquirer
Notifications	Cache	Inflector	Option Merger	Xml Mini
Backtrace Cleaner	Callbacks	JSON	Ordered Hash	Safe Buffer
Base64	Concern	Memoizable	Ordered Options	



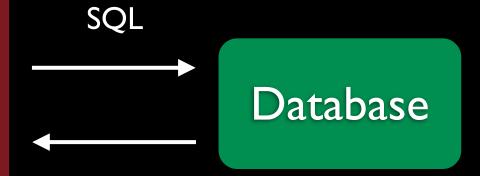
### Rails and Flex - Via REST







Rails REST API



#### **REST - CRUD**



#### \$ rake routes



# SERVICE

#### Flex HTTPService



$\Theta \circ \Theta$	FR_01_Demo1.html			M M
+   file:///Users/daniel/GitProjects/talks/FlexRailsInTheClo				0
FR_01_Demo1.html				+
body	created_at	id	title	updated_at
body  Getting started with Rails in 5 minutes	created_at 2011-09-11T17:17:36Z	id 1	title Demo 1	updated_at 2011-09-11T17:17:36Z

#### Flex and REST



- Index, Create, Update, Delete, Show -> That's 5 HTTPServices
- Create one class that wraps 5 HTTPServices for you
- Or use a Framework



# ACTIVE

# RESCURCE



- My try at a framework to use Rails
- Under active development
- Target 1.0 end of November
- REST, Nested Resources, Nested Attributes, BulkAPI support
- Custom Verbs (soon)



- https://github.com/danielwanja/activeresource
- Move active\_resource.swc to /libs
- No gem required on the Rails side



```
package model
    import active_resource.ActiveResource;
    dynamic public class Post extends ActiveResource
        public function Post(attributes:0bject=null)
            super(attributes);
        public var id:*;
        public var title:String;
        public var body:String;
        public var created_at:Date;
        public var updated_at:Date;
        /* static block */
        resource("posts", Post);
```



```
// Find ALL
var call:AsyncToken = ActiveResource.findAll(Post)
call.addResponder(new AsyncResponder(resultHandler, faultHandler));

// Find One
var call:AsyncToken = ActiveResource.find(Post, 1)
call.addResponder(new AsyncResponder(resultHandler, faultHandler));
```

▼_o posts	mx.collections.ArrayCollection (@2b039701)
(inherited)	
▼ ⊚ [0]	model.Post (@1d975ba1)
(inherited)	
<ul><li>body</li></ul>	"the description"
o created_at	<tue 15:42:43="" 2011="" 4="" gmt-0700="" oct=""> (@22151841)</tue>
id	1
title	"Rails rocks"
o updated_at	<tue 15:42:43="" 2011="" 4="" gmt-0700="" oct=""> (@22151821)</tue>
▶ <u></u> source	[] (@1fa0ee49)

id	title	body	created_at
1	Rails rocks	the description	Tue Oct 4 15:42:43 GMT-0700 2011

#### Flex ActiveResource Framework



```
// Create
var post:Post = new Post();
post.title = "Flex Rocks!";
post.body = "Getting started with Rails in 5 minutes";
var call:AsyncToken = post.save();
call.addResponder(new AsyncResponder(resultHandler, faultHandler));
// Update
post.body = "Getting started with Flex in 5 minutes";
var call:AsyncToken = post.save();
call.addResponder(new AsyncResponder(resultHandler, faultHandler));
// Delete
var call:AsyncToken = post.destroy();
call.addResponder(new AsyncResponder(resultHandler, faultHandler));
```



# RESOURCES

#### Nested Resources



More complex apps: Post has\_many comments

```
$ rails generate scaffold comments post_id:integer email:string
title:string body:text
```

Model

```
class Post < ActiveRecord::Base
   has_many :comments
end</pre>
class Comment < ActiveRecord::Base
   belongs_to :post
end
```

```
> Post.first.comments.create(email:"d@n-so.com", title:"This is great",
body:"long description...")
```

#### Nested Resources - nested routes



#### routes.rb

```
Demo2::Application.routes.draw do
  resources :posts do
  resources :comments
  end
end
```

#### rake routes

#### Nested Resources - constrain child controller by parent id

CONNECT, DISCOVER, INSPIRE

constrain Comment controller by params[:post\_id]

```
class CommentsController < ApplicationController</pre>
  before_filter :get_post
  def index
    @comments = @post.comments.all
    respond_to do | format|
      format.html # index.html.erb
      format.json { render json: @comments }
    end
  end
  private
  def get_post
    @post = Post.find(params[:post_id])
  end
end
```



#### Nested Resources - Flex ActiveResource



Comments are nested by given post

#### Create

```
comment.save({nestedBy:post})
```

```
[POST] "/posts/1/comments.json" // http.headers={X_HTTP_METHOD_OVERRIDE:'put'};
```

#### Update

```
comment.save({nestedBy:post})
```

```
[POST] "/posts/1/comments/3.json"
```

#### Delete

```
comment.destroy({nestedBy:post})
```

```
[POST] "/posts/1/comments/3.json" // http.headers={X_HTTP_METHOD_OVERRIDE:'delete'};
```

#### Index

ActiveResource.find(Comment, 1, {nestedBy:post})

```
[GET] "/posts/1/comments.json"
```



@danielwanja



# 

# ATRIBUTES

#### Rails Nested Attributes



- Another approach is nested attributes
- introduced with the advent of JavaScript
- Reduces HTTPService requests
- Update the Parent and the children in one request
- Can be deeply nested

#### Rails Nested Attributes



Enabled at Active Record Level

```
class Post < ActiveRecord::Base
   has_many :comments
   accepts_nested_attributes_for :comments, :allow_destroy => true
end
Post

Comments

Comments
```

HTTPService needs to send parent and children as nested attributes

Controller doesn't change (as simple resource)

```
post.update(params[:post])
```



#### Flex Nested Attributes - Flex ActiveResource



Children are saved with the parent

```
post.comments.getItemAt(0).body = "changed comment"
post.comments.getItemAt(1)._destroy = true
post.comments.addItem(new Comment({title:"fancy", body:"Another description"}))
post.save({nestedAttributes:['comments']})
```



# BULKAPI

#### Rails Bulk-API



- Rails: https://github.com/drogus/bulk\_api
- Flex: <a href="https://github.com/danielwanja/bulk\_data\_source\_flex">https://github.com/danielwanja/bulk\_data\_source\_flex</a>
- Will certainly be merged into the Flex ActiveResource Framework

### Bulk API demo





Adobe



# Create the Rails application

\$ rails new todos

### Edit the Gemfile and add

```
gem 'bulk_api'
```

Setup the bulk\_api, add a todo resource, migrate the database and start the server

```
$ bundle install
$ rails generate bulk:install
$ rails g scaffold todo title:string done:boolean
$ rake db:migrate
$ rails s
```

Ok, we are done on the Rails side.

#### Bulk API - Flex



```
package resources
    import bulk_api.BulkResource;
    [RemoteClass(alias="Todo")]
    public dynamic class Todo extends BulkResource
        public function Todo(attributes:Object=null) {
            super(attributes);
        resource("todos", Todo)
```

#### Bulk API - Flex



#### Create

```
var todo:Todo = new Todo({title:newTodo.text, done:false})
var call:AsyncToken = BulkResource.create(Todo, {todos:new ArrayCollection([todo])});
call.addResponder(new AsyncResponder(addTodoResult, faultHandler));

private function addTodoResult(event:ResultEvent, token:Object=null):void
{
   todos.addItem(event.result.todos.getItemAt(0));
   newTodo.text = "";
}
```

#### Update

```
var call:AsyncToken = BulkResource.update(Todo, {todos:new ArrayCollection(todos)});
```

#### Delete

```
var done:Array = [];
for each (var todo:Todo in todos) {
   if (todo.done) done.push(todo.id);
}
var call:AsyncToken = BulkResource.destroy(Todo, {todos:new ArrayCollection(done)});
```









```
require 'zlib'
File.open('data_to_compress.zlib','w') do |f|
    z = Zlib::Deflate.new(9)  # 9 = Z_BEST_COMPRESSION
    f.write z.deflate(s.to_xml, Zlib::FINISH)
    z.close
end
```

Thanks to the @theaboutbox

http://www.onrails.org/2007/11/27/flash-utils-bytearray-compressing-4-1mb-to-20k

#### Zlib - Flex



 http://help.adobe.com/en\_US/FlashPlatform/reference/actionscript/3/flash/utils/ CompressionAlgorithm.html

```
import flash.utils.ByteArray;
private function loadData():void {
    var loader:URLLoader = new URLLoader();
    loader.dataFormat = "binary";
    loader.addEventListener(Event.COMPLETE, completeHandler);
    var request:URLRequest = new URLRequest("data.zlib");
    loader.load(request);
private function completeHandler(event:Event):void {
    var loader:URLLoader = URLLoader(event.target);
    var ba:ByteArray = loader.data;
    ba.uncompress();
    var s:String = ba.toString();
    var xml:XML = new XML(s);
```





Rails: add RocketAMF and rails3-amf to Gemfile

```
gem 'RocketAMF', :git => 'git://github.com/warhammerkid/rocket-amf.git'
gem 'rails3-amf', :git => 'git://github.com/warhammerkid/rails3-amf.git'
```

Rails: in application.rb add the class mapping

```
module Demo4
  class Application < Rails::Application

# ...
  config.rails3amf.class_mapping do ImI
    m.map :as => 'model.Post', :ruby => 'Post'
    m.map :as => 'model.Comment', :ruby => 'Comment'
    end
end
end
```



Flex Declare the Value Objects

```
package model
{
    [RemoteClass(alias="model.Post")]
    public class Post
    {
        public var id:int;
        public var title:String;
        public var body:String;
        public var created_at:Date;
        public var updated_at:Date;
        public var comments:Array = [];
    }
}
```

```
package model
{
    [RemoteClass(alias="model.Comment")]
    public class Comment
    {
        public var id:int;
        public var title:String;
        public var body:String;
}
}
```



Rails: Add :amf support to the PostController

```
class PostsController < ApplicationController
    respond_to :html, :json, :amf

def index
    @posts = Post.all
    respond_with(@posts) do Iformat!
    format.amf { render amf: @posts.to_amf(:include => [:comments]) }
    end
end
end
```



Flex Declare the Value Objects

Call the Rails controller via AMF

```
postsController.index.send();
```

Typed Objects are Returned

```
protected function indexResultHandler(event:ResultEvent):void
{
    posts = new ArrayCollection(event.result as Array)
}
```



All Posts are loaded including Comments

Create new Post								
Posts								
body		comments	created_at		id	test	title	updated_at
Getting started with Rails in 5 minutes		[object Object]	Sun Sep 11 11:17:36 GMT-0600 2011		1	tested	Demo 1	Sun Sep 11 11:17:36 GMT-0600 2011
This is the content			Sun Sep 11 14:34:43 GMT-0600 2011		2		Ruby Rocks!	Sun Sep 11 14:34:43 GMT-0600 2011
Comments							111	
body	created_at		email	id	post_id	title		updated_at
long description Sun Sep 11 15:20:04		20:04 GMT-0600 2011	d@n-so.com	1	1 1	This is great		Sun Sep 11 15:20:04 GMT-0600 2011



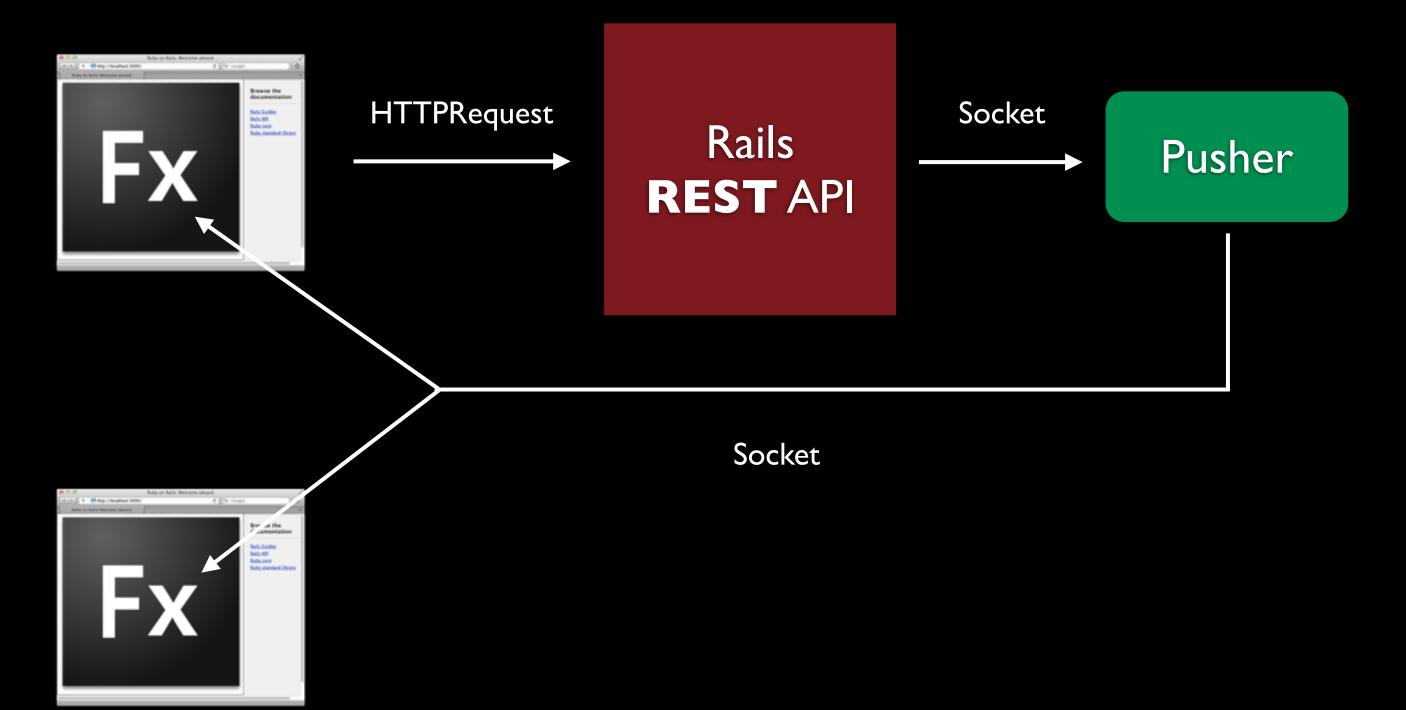
# PUSHER R

WebSockets and Pusher



### Pusher





#### Publish/Subscribe uses



- messaging
- screen synchronization
- notification
- inbox/queue count update
- system wide alarms

#### Pusher.com



- Add realtime features in minutes!
- Free sandbox (20 connections and 100,000 messages per day)
- \$49/month: 500 Max Connections + 1 millionMessages per day
- Why use pusher.com: easy setup
- Alternatives: <a href="http://socket.io/">http://socket.io/</a>, pywebsocket, EM-WebSocket, ...

#### Pusher and Rails?



- Rails is not needed, can be useful (security, control)
- Can be Flex-->Pusher-->Flex (not secure)

#### Add Pusher to your Rails app



Add the pusher Gem to your Gemfile

```
gem 'pusher'
```

- Signup at <a href="http://pusher.com/">http://pusher.com/</a>
- Get your pusher api key from the website
- config/environments/development.rb

```
require 'pusher'
Pusher.app_id = 6182
Pusher.key = 'a0b74a20a5d8df2db432'
Pusher.secret = '057c1aac0e15defa3a55'
```



### Rails: add message controller



```
$ rails g controller Message hello
```

Implement a notification method

```
class MessageController < ApplicationController

def hello
   Pusher['test_channel'].trigger('greet', {
        :greeting => "Hello there!"
    })
   end
end
```

#### Pusher and Flex?



- https://github.com/smakinson/Pusher-ActionScript-Library ("not quite ready for use")
- https://github.com/y8/websocket-as
- Implement listener method

```
private var pusher:Pusher;
private var channel:Channel;
protected function setup():void
{
    pusher = new Pusher('a0b74a20a5d8df2db432', "pusherexample" );
    channel = pusher.subscribe('test_channel');
    channel.bind('greet', gotData);
}

protected function gotData(data:Object):void {
    Alert.show(ObjectUtil.toString(data));
}
```



# GOTCHA'S

### Flex Gotcha's



- authentication\_token
- crossdomain.xml
- error\_handling



#### Rails and the cloud



- Many provider
- Amazon -> Roll you own
- Engineyard -> Professional help
- Heroku -> Takes care of tons for you
- CloudFoundry

•••



#### Heroku



Install Heroku (as a gem)

```
$ gem install heroku
$ heroku create myapp --stack cedar
```

Create a Rails app

```
$ rails new myapp
$ cd myapp
$ rails generate scaffold post title:string body:text
```

In Gemfile add Postgress to Production and use sqlite only in development

```
group :production do
gem 'pg'
end

group :development do
gem 'sqlite3'
end
```

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#### Heroku



Add code the first time

```
$ git init
$ git add .
$ git commit -m "Initial commit"
$ git remote add heroku git@heroku.com:myapp.git
$ git push heroku master
$ heroku run rake db:migrate

git push deploys the app!
```

Add code subsequent time

```
$ git add .
$ git commit -m "Subsequent commit"
$ git push heroku master
```

The App is in the Cloud

http://myapp.herokuapp.com/posts



### Installing Rails



- OSX: \$ gem install rails
- Windows: RAILSINSTALLER (<a href="http://railsinstaller.org/">http://railsinstaller.org/</a>)





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#### Links



#### These slides

 https://github.com/danielwanja/talks/tree/master/ FlexWithRubyOnRails/slides

#### ActiveResource

https://github.com/danielwanja/activeresource

#### **Bulk API**

- https://github.com/drogus/bulk\_api
- https://github.com/danielwanja/bulk\_data\_source\_flex

#### RestfulX

http://restfulx.github.com/

#### Rocket/Rails AMF

- https://github.com/warhammerkid/rocket-amf
- https://github.com/warhammerkid/rails3-amf
- https://github.com/rubyamf/rocketamf

#### Pusher

- http://pusher.com
- https://github.com/smakinson/Pusher-ActionScript-Library

#### Heroku

http://heroku.com







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