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Friday, November 29, 13

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[Aaron Bedra](#),
Application Security
Lead, Braintree and
Co-Author of
Programming Clojure,
2nd Edition



[Adrian Cockcroft](#),
Director of
architecture for the
Cloud Systems team
at Netflix



[Andy Gross](#),
Co-Creator of Riak,
Chief Architect at
Basho



[Charlie Hunt](#),
JVM Expert



[Dan North](#),
Agile troublemaker,
developer, originator
of BDD



[David Nolen](#),
NYTimes Software
Engineer



[Eva Andreasson](#),
Cloudera



[Greg Young](#),
Independent
Consultant &
Entrepreneur



[Janne Jul Jensen](#),
Interaction Designer
and Usability
Specialist



[Jez Humble](#),
Author of
"Continuous
Delivery", Principal
Consultant,
ThoughtWorks



[Mark Madsen](#),
Thirdnature



[Martin Odersky](#),
Chairman, Chief
Architect & Co-
Founder at Typesafe



[Michael T. Nygard](#),
Author of "Release
It!"



[Randy Shoup](#),
Chief Technology
Officer at KIXEYE



[Trisha Gee](#),
MongoDB Inc

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Friday, November 29, 13

Copious Data: The “Killer App” for Functional Programming



Nov. 21, 2013
GOTO Chicago 2014 Night #2
dean.wampler@typesafe.com
polyglotprogramming.com/talks

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Friday, November 29, 13

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Photo: Cloud Gate (a.k.a. “The Bean”) in Millennium Park, Chicago, Illinois, USA

A photograph of the Chicago skyline and the Chicago River. The skyline features several prominent buildings, including the Wrigley Building and the Tribune Tower. In the foreground, the green water of the river is visible, with a small boat containing people. A bridge spans the river. The sky is blue with some white clouds.

Consultant at Typesafe

Dean Wampler...

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Typesafe builds tools for creating Reactive Applications, <http://typesafe.com/platform>. See also the Reactive Manifesto, <http://www.reactivemanifesto.org/>

Photo: The Chicago River

A photograph of the Chicago skyline featuring the Wrigley Building and other skyscrapers reflected in the water of the Chicago River in the foreground.

Founder,
Chicago-Area Scala
Enthusiasts
and co-organizer,
Chicago Hadoop User Group

Dean Wampler...

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Friday, November 29, 13

I've been doing Scala for 6 years and Big Data for 3.5 years.



Dean Wampler...

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My books...

What Is Big ... err... “Copious” Data?



DevOps Borat @DEVOPS_BORAT

8 Jan

Big Data is any thing which is crash Excel.

[Expand](#)



DevOps Borat @DEVOPS_BORAT

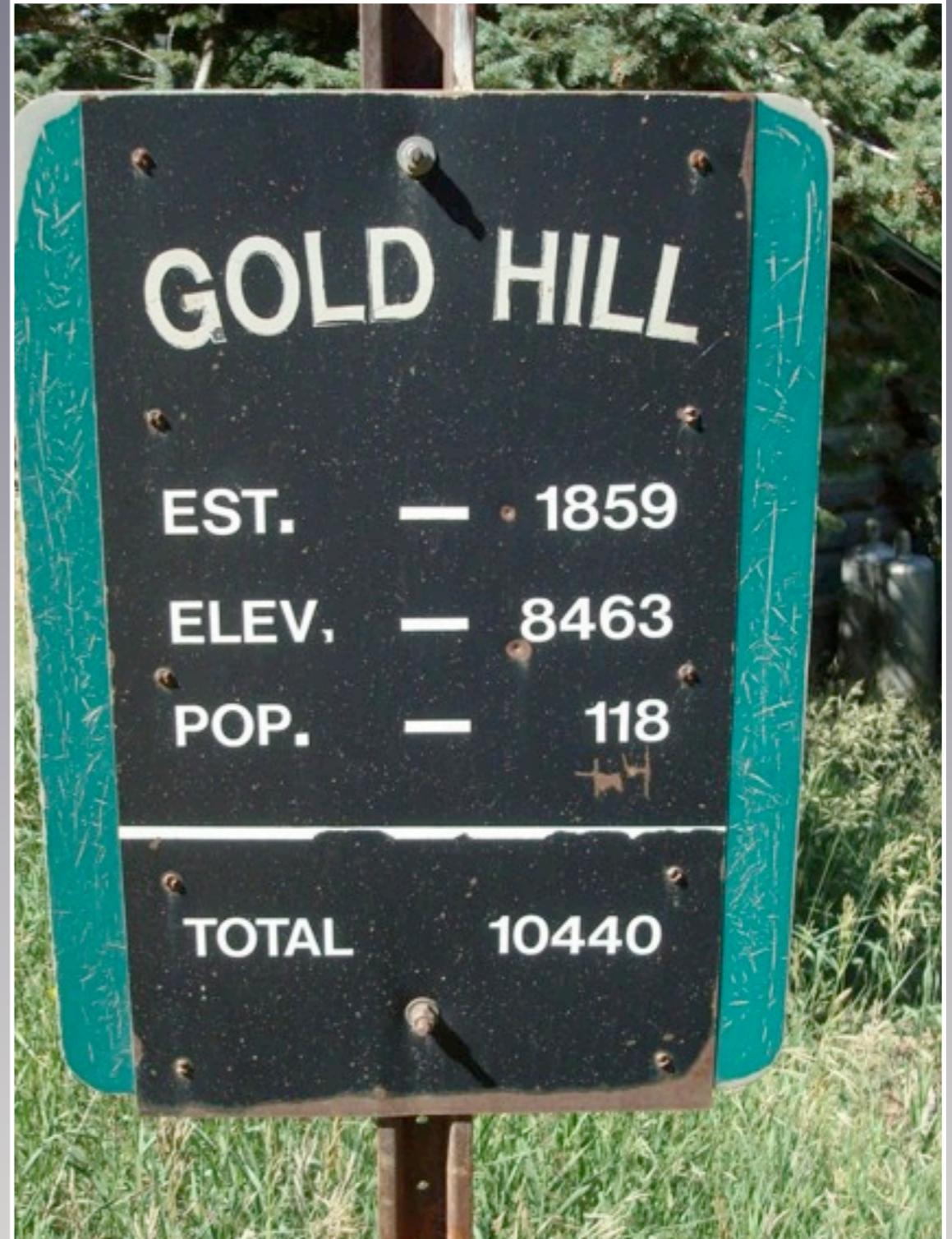
6 Feb

Small Data is when is fit in RAM. Big Data is when is crash because is not fit in RAM.

[Expand](#)

Copious Data

Data so big that traditional solutions are too slow, too small, or too expensive to use.



Hat tip: Bob Korbus

“Big Data” a buzz word, but generally associated with the problem of data sets too big to manage with traditional SQL databases. A parallel development has been the NoSQL movement that is good at handling semistructured data, scaling, etc.

3 Trends

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Three prevailing trends driving data-centric computing.

Photo: Prizker Pavilion, Millenium Park, Chicago (designed by Frank Gehry)

Data Size ↑



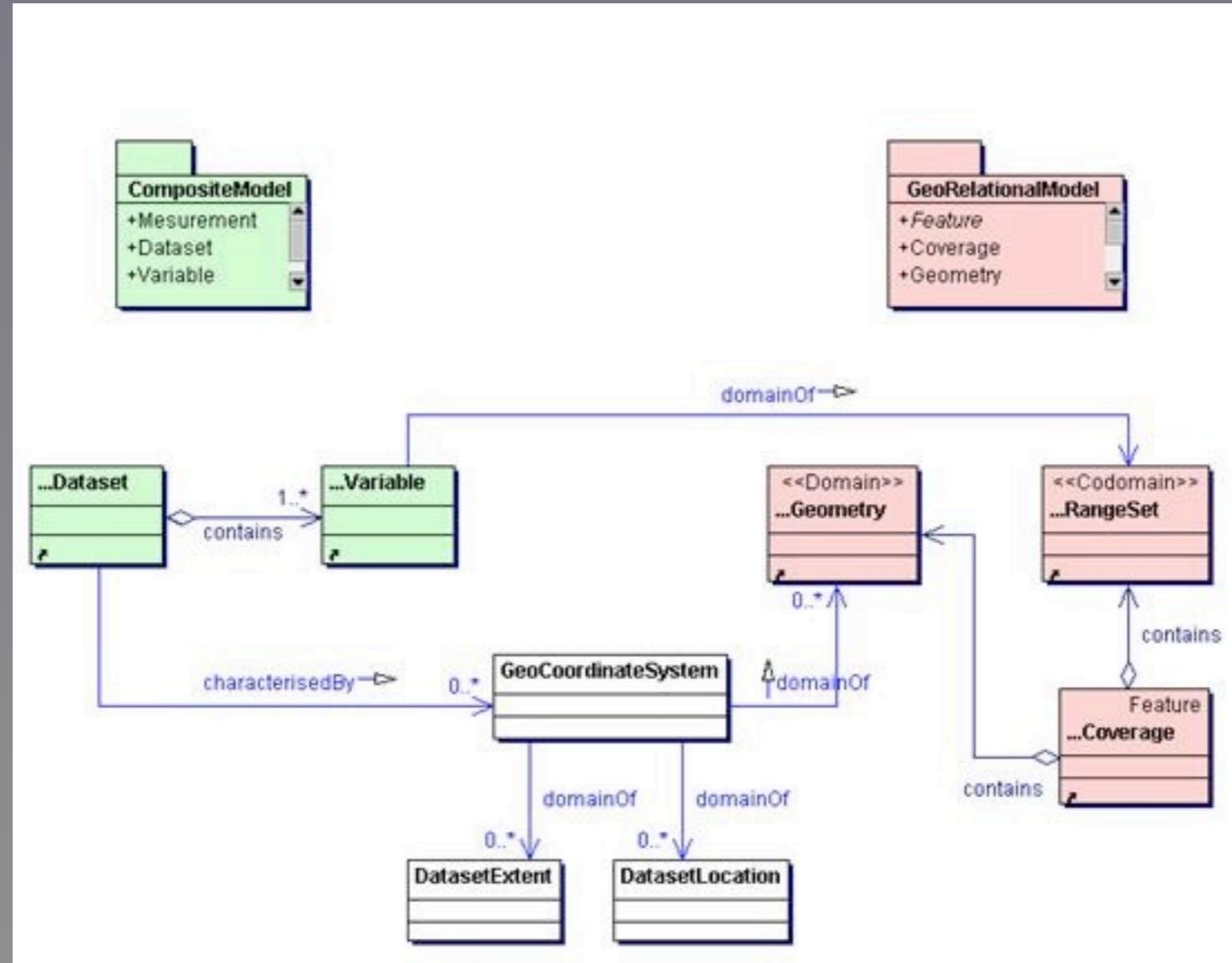
11

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Data volumes are obviously growing... rapidly.
Facebook now has over 600PB (Petabytes) of data in Hadoop clusters!

Formal Schemas



There is less emphasis on “formal” schemas and domain models, i.e., both relational models of data and OO models, because data schemas and sources change rapidly, and we need to integrate so many disparate sources of data. So, using relatively-agnostic software, e.g., collections of things where the software is more agnostic about the structure of the data and the domain, tends to be faster to develop, test, and deploy. Put another way, we find it more useful to build somewhat agnostic applications and drive their behavior through data...

Data-Driven Programs ↑



This is the 2nd generation “Stanley”, the most successful self-driving car ever built (by a Google-Stanford) team. Machine learning is growing in importance. Here, generic algorithms and data structures are trained to represent the “world” using data, rather than encoding a model of the world in the software itself. It’s another example of generic algorithms that produce the desired behavior by being application agnostic and data driven, rather than hard-coding a model of the world. (In practice, however, a balance is struck between completely agnostic apps and some engineering towards for the specific problem, as you might expect...)

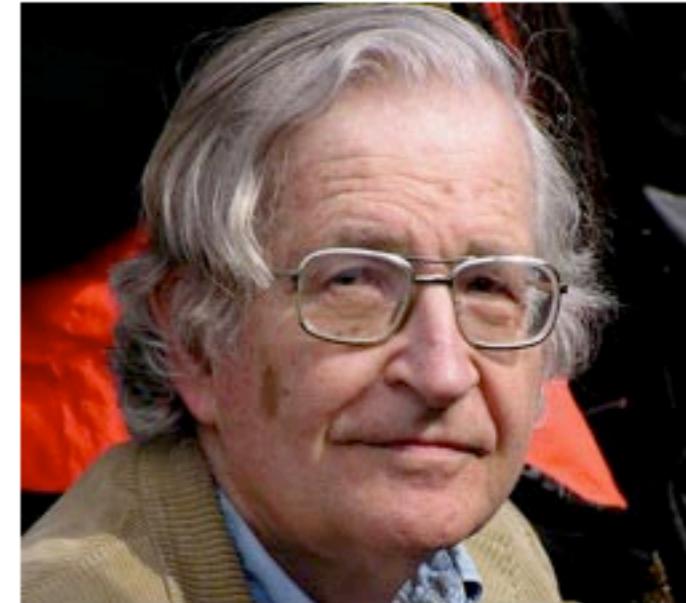
Probabilistic Models vs. Formal Grammars

[tor.com/blogs/...](http://www.tor.com/blogs/...)

Norvig vs. Chomsky and the Fight for the Future of AI

KEVIN GOLD

When the Director of Research for Google compares one of the most highly regarded linguists of all time to Bill O'Reilly, you know it is *on*. Recently, Peter Norvig, Google's Director of Research and co-author of [the most popular artificial intelligence textbook in the world](#), wrote a [webpage](#) extensively criticizing Noam Chomsky, arguably the most influential linguist in the world. Their disagreement points to a revolution in artificial intelligence that, like many revolutions, threatens to destroy as much as it improves. Chomsky, one of the old guard, wishes for an elegant theory of intelligence and language that looks past human fallibility to try to see simple structure underneath. Norvig, meanwhile, represents the new philosophy: truth by statistics,



Chomsky photo by Duncan Rawlinson and his Online Photography School. Norvig photo by Peter Norvig

What Is MapReduce?

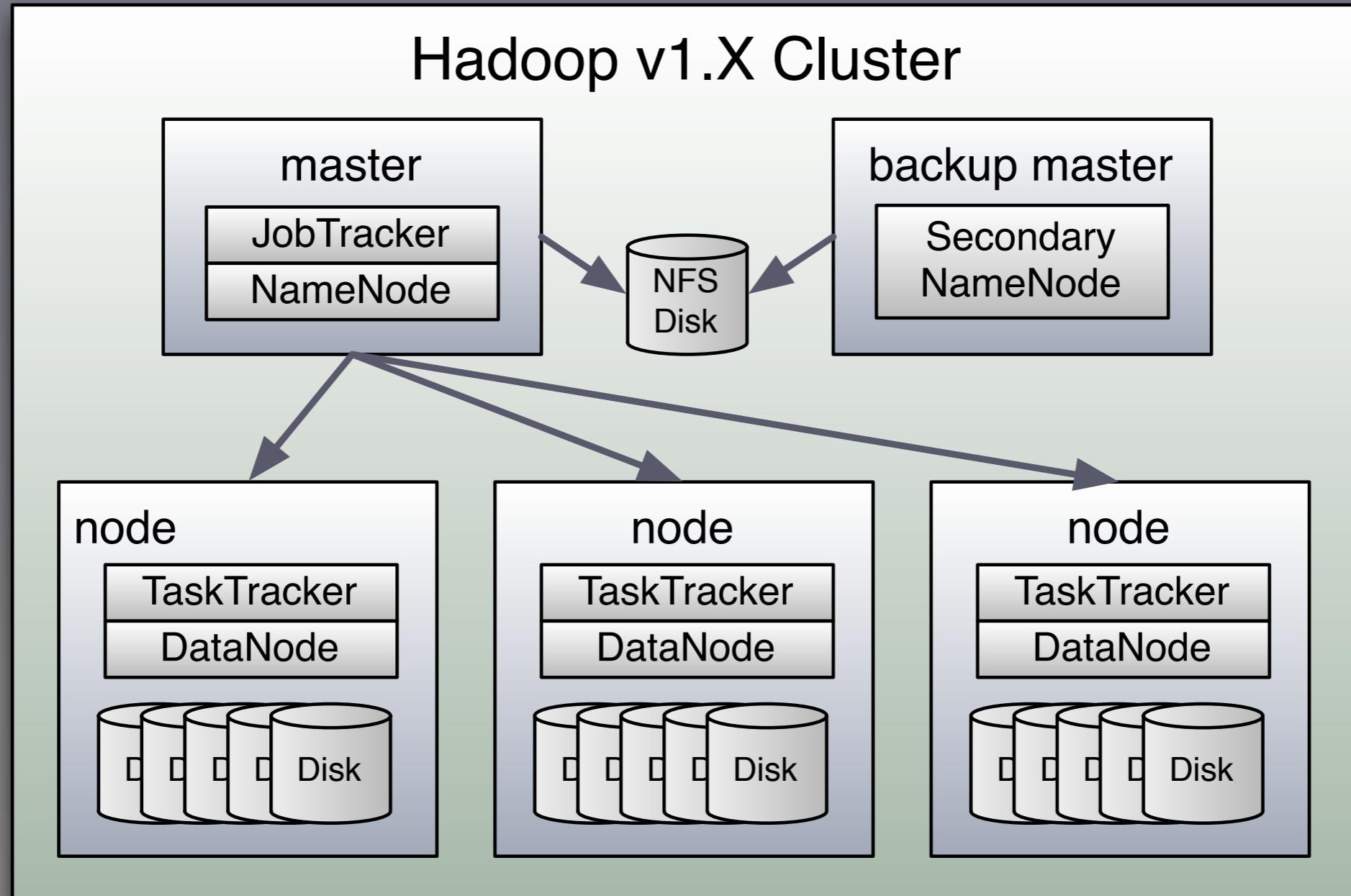


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Cloud Gate – “The Bean” – in Millenium Park, Chicago, on a sunny day – with some of my relatives ;)

Hadoop is the dominant
copious data platform
today.

A Hadoop Cluster



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A Hadoop v1.X cluster. (V2.X introduces changes in the master processes, including support for high-availability and federation...). In brief:
JobTracker (JT): Master of submitted MapReduce jobs. Decomposes job into tasks (each a JVM process), often run where the “blocks” of input files are located, to minimize net IO.

NameNode (NN): HDFS (Hadoop Distributed File System) master. Knows all the metadata, like block locations. Writes updates to a shared NFS disk (in V1) for use by the Secondary NameNode.

Secondary NameNode (SNN): periodically merges in-memory HDFS metadata with update log on NFS disk to form new metadata image used when booting the NN and SNN.

TaskTracker: manages each task given to it by the JT.

DataNode: manages the actual blocks it has on the node.

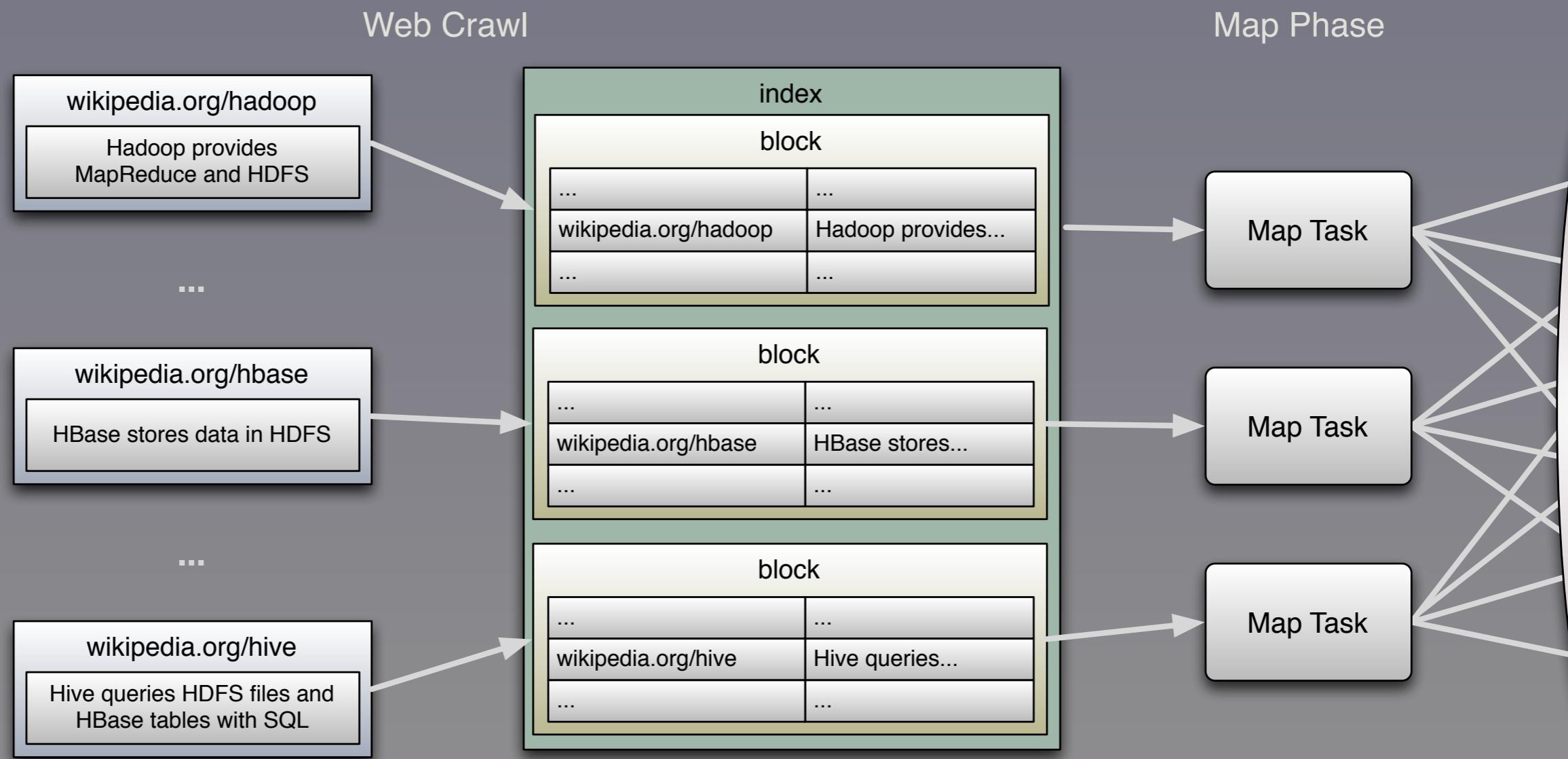
Disks: By default, Hadoop just works with “a bunch of disks” – cheaper and sometimes faster than RAID. Blocks are replicated 3x (default) so most HW failures don’t result in data loss.

MapReduce in Hadoop

Let's look at a
MapReduce algorithm:
Inverted Index.

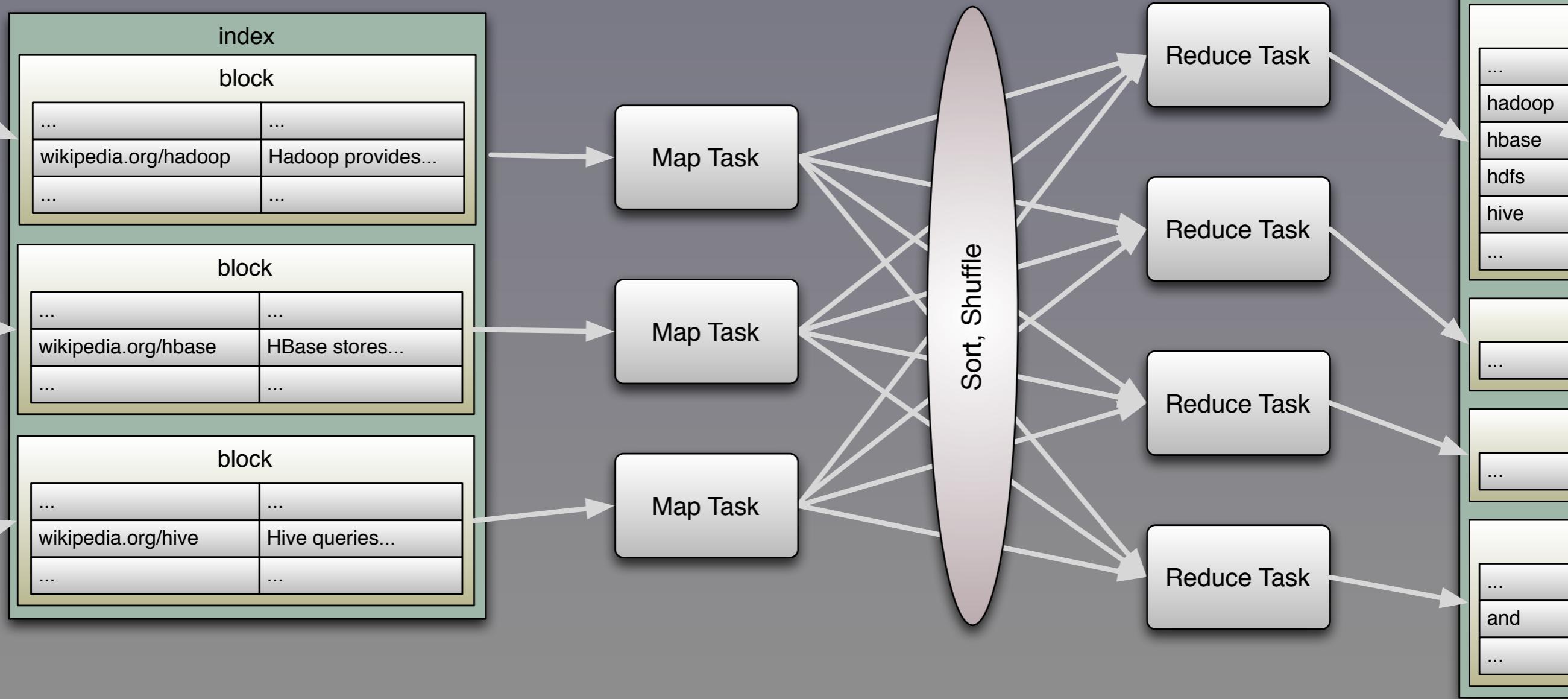
Used for text/web search.

Crawl teh Interwebs



Compute Inverse Index

o Crawl



Compute Inverse Index

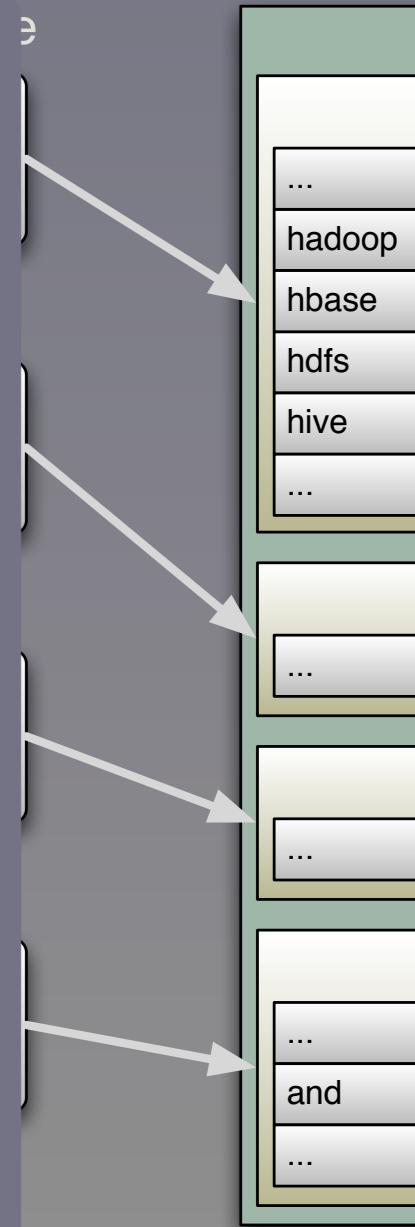
Crawl



Map Task

(hadoop,(wikipedia.org/hadoop,1))
(provides,(wikipedia.org/hadoop,1))
(mapreduce,(wikipedia.org/hadoop, 1))
(and,(wikipedia.org/hadoop,1))
(hdfs,(wikipedia.org/hadoop, 1))

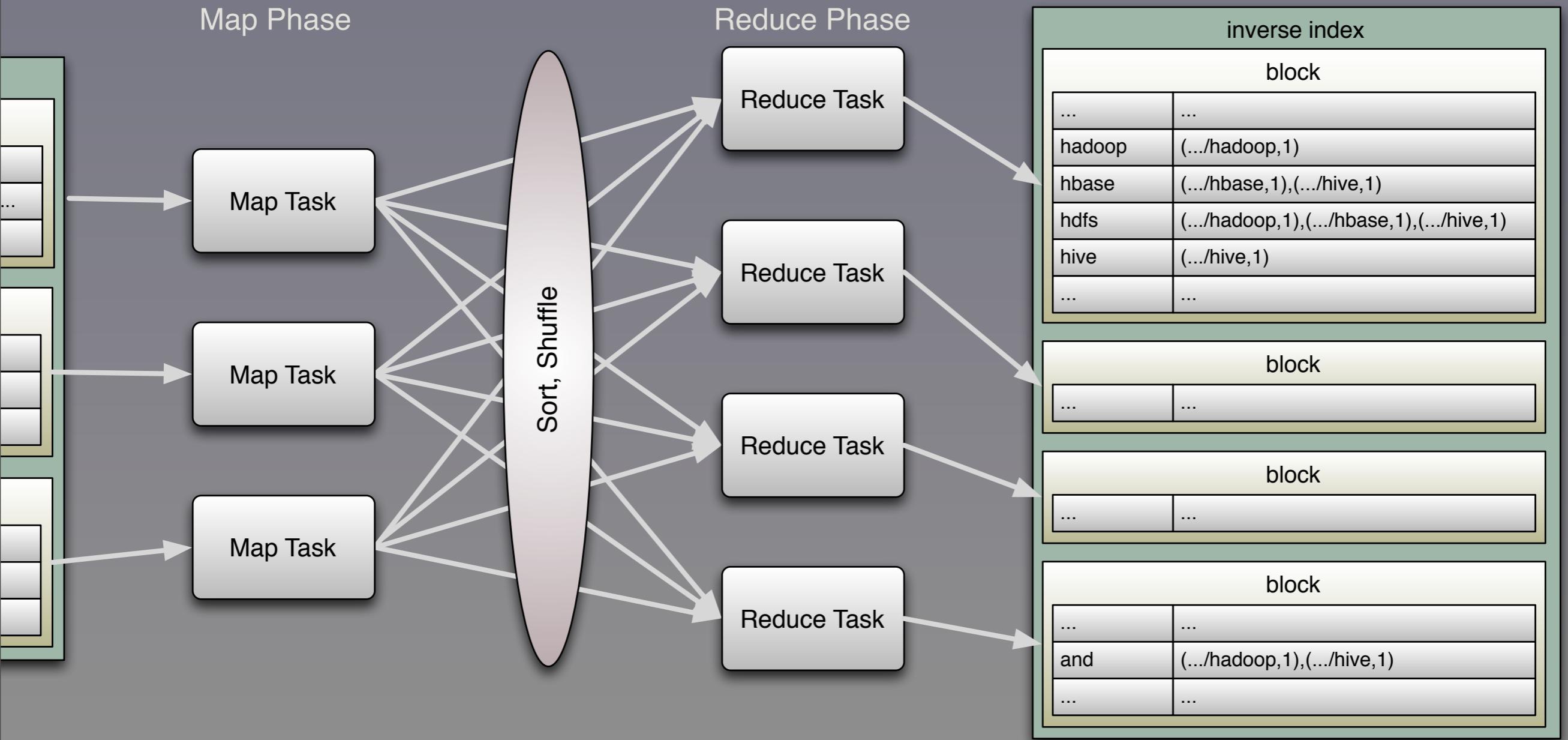
Key-values output
by first map task



Now run a MapReduce job, where a separate Map task for each input block will be started. Each map tokenizes the content in to words, counts the words, and outputs key-value pairs...

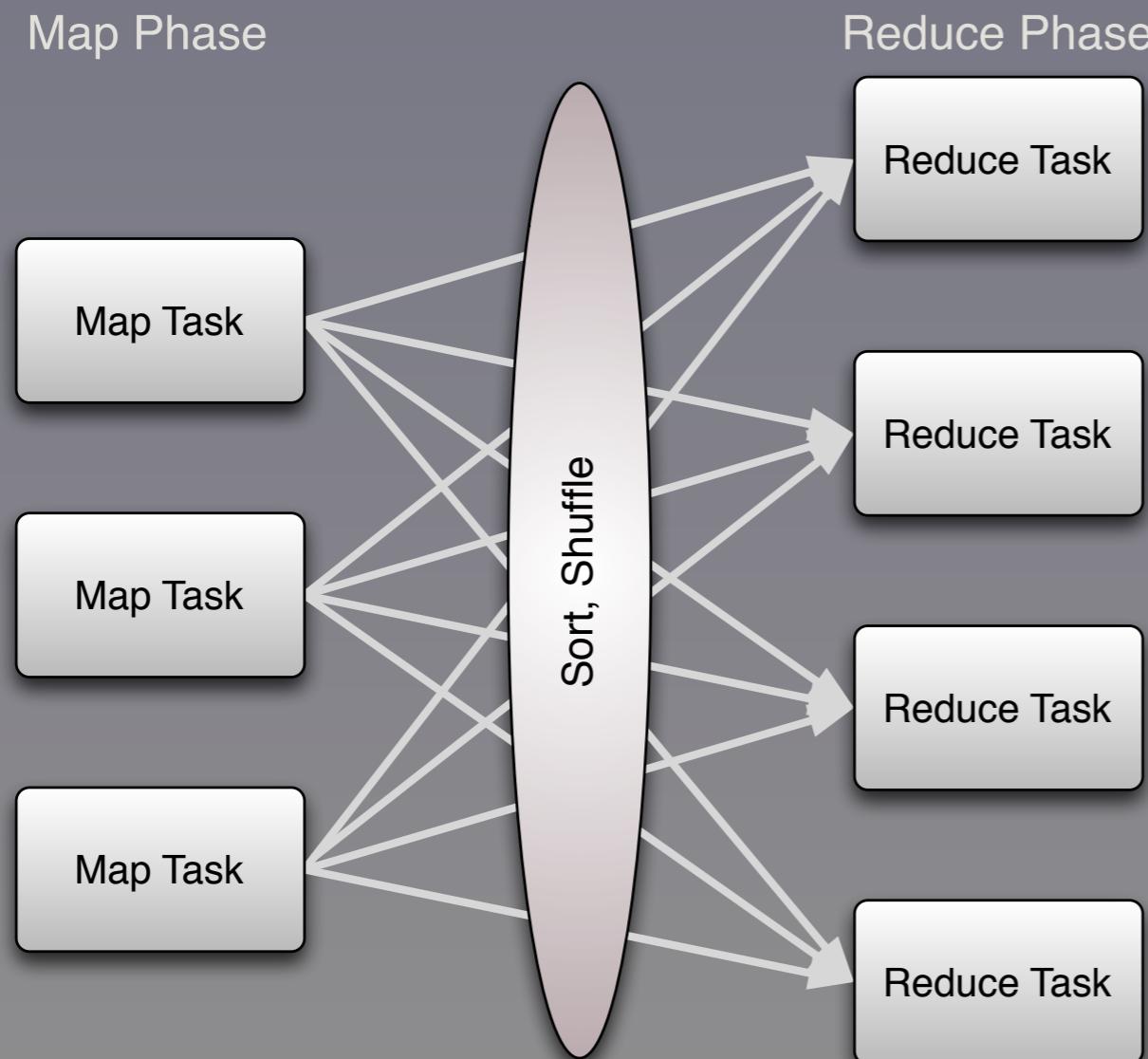
... Each key is a word that was found and the corresponding value is a tuple of the URL (or other document id) and the count of the words (or alternatively, the frequency within the document). Shown are what the first map task would output (plus other k-v pairs) for the (fake) Wikipedia "Hadoop" page. (Note that we convert to lower case...)

Compute Inverse Index



Finally, each reducer will get some range of the keys. There are ways to control this, but we'll just assume that the first reducer got all keys starting with "h" and the last reducer got all the "and" keys. The reducer outputs each word as a key and a list of tuples consisting of the URLs (or doc ids) and the frequency/count of the word in that document, sorted by most frequent first. (All our docs have only one occurrence of any word, so the sort is moot...)

Anatomy: MapReduce Job



Map (or Flatmap):

- Transform one input to 0-N outputs.

Reduce:

- Collect multiple inputs into one output.

 **Andrew Whang**
@whangs

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MapReduce without the Reducer
pic.twitter.com/5lQSFYmhAT

Reply Retweeted Favorite More



34 RETWEETS 16 FAVORITES

24

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Quiz. Do you understand this tweet?

So, MapReduce is
a mashup of our friends
flatmap and reduce.

Today,
Hadoop is our best,
general-purpose tool
for horizontal scaling
of Copious Data.

MapReduce and Its Discontents

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Is MapReduce the end of the story? Does it meet all our needs? Let's look at a few problems...
Photo: Gratuitous Romantic beach scene, Ohio St. Beach, Chicago, Feb. 2011.

MapReduce doesn't fit
all computation needs.
HDFS doesn't fit all
storage needs.

It's hard to implement
many algorithms
in MapReduce.

Even word count is not “obvious”. When you get to fancier stuff like joins, group-bys, etc., the mapping from the algorithm to the implementation is not trivial at all. In fact, implementing algorithms in MR is now a specialized body of knowledge.

MapReduce is very course-grained.

1-Map, 1-Reduce phase...

Even word count is not “obvious”. When you get to fancier stuff like joins, group-bys, etc., the mapping from the algorithm to the implementation is not trivial at all. In fact, implementing algorithms in MR is now a specialized body of knowledge.

Multiple MR jobs
required for some
algorithms.

Each one flushes its
results to disk!

MapReduce is designed
for offline, batch-mode
analytics.

High latency; not
suitable for event
processing.

The Hadoop Java API is hard to use.

Let's look at code for a simpler algorithm,
Word Count.

(Tokenize as before, but
ignore original
document locations.)

In Word Count, the mapper just outputs the word-count pairs. We forget about the document URL/id. The reducer gets all word-count pairs for a word from all mappers and outputs each word with its final, global count.

```

import org.apache.hadoop.io.*;
import org.apache.hadoop.mapred.*;
import java.util.StringTokenizer;

class WCMapper extends MapReduceBase
    implements Mapper<LongWritable, Text, Text, IntWritable> {

    static final IntWritable one = new IntWritable(1);
    static final Text word = new Text(); // Value will be set in a non-thread-safe way!

    @Override
    public void map(LongWritable key, Text valueDocContents,
                    OutputCollector<Text, IntWritable> output, Reporter reporter) {
        String[] tokens = valueDocContents.toString.split("\\s+");
        for (String wordString: tokens) {
            if (wordString.length > 0) {
                word.set(wordString.toLowerCase());
                output.collect(word, one);
            }
        }
    }
}

class Reduce extends MapReduceBase
    implements Reducer[Text, IntWritable, Text, IntWritable] {

    public void reduce(Text keyword, java.util.Iterator<IntWritable> valuesCounts,
                      OutputCollector<Text, IntWritable> output, Reporter reporter) {
        int totalCount = 0;
        while (valuesCounts.hasNext()) {
            totalCount += valuesCounts.next.get();
        }
        output.collect(keyword, new IntWritable(totalCount));
    }
}

```

This is intentionally too small to read and we're not showing the main routine, which doubles the code size. The algorithm is simple, but the framework is in your face. In the next several slides, notice which colors dominate. In this slide, it's dominated by green for types (classes), with relatively few yellow functions that implement actual operations (i.e., do actual work).

The main routine I've omitted contains boilerplate details for configuring and running the job. This is just the "core" MapReduce code. In fact, Word Count is not too bad, but when you get to more complex algorithms, even conceptually simple ideas like relational-style joins and group-bys, the corresponding MapReduce code in this API gets complex and tedious very fast!

```

import org.apache.hadoop.io.*;
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            totalCount += valuesCounts.next().get();
        }
        output.collect(keyword, new IntWritable(totalCount));
    }
}

```

The interesting bits

This is intentionally too small to read and we're not showing the main routine, which doubles the code size. The algorithm is simple, but the framework is in your face. In the next several slides, notice which colors dominate. In this slide, it's dominated by green for types (classes), with relatively few yellow functions that implement actual operations (i.e., do actual work).

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                output.collect(word, one);
            }
        }
    }
}

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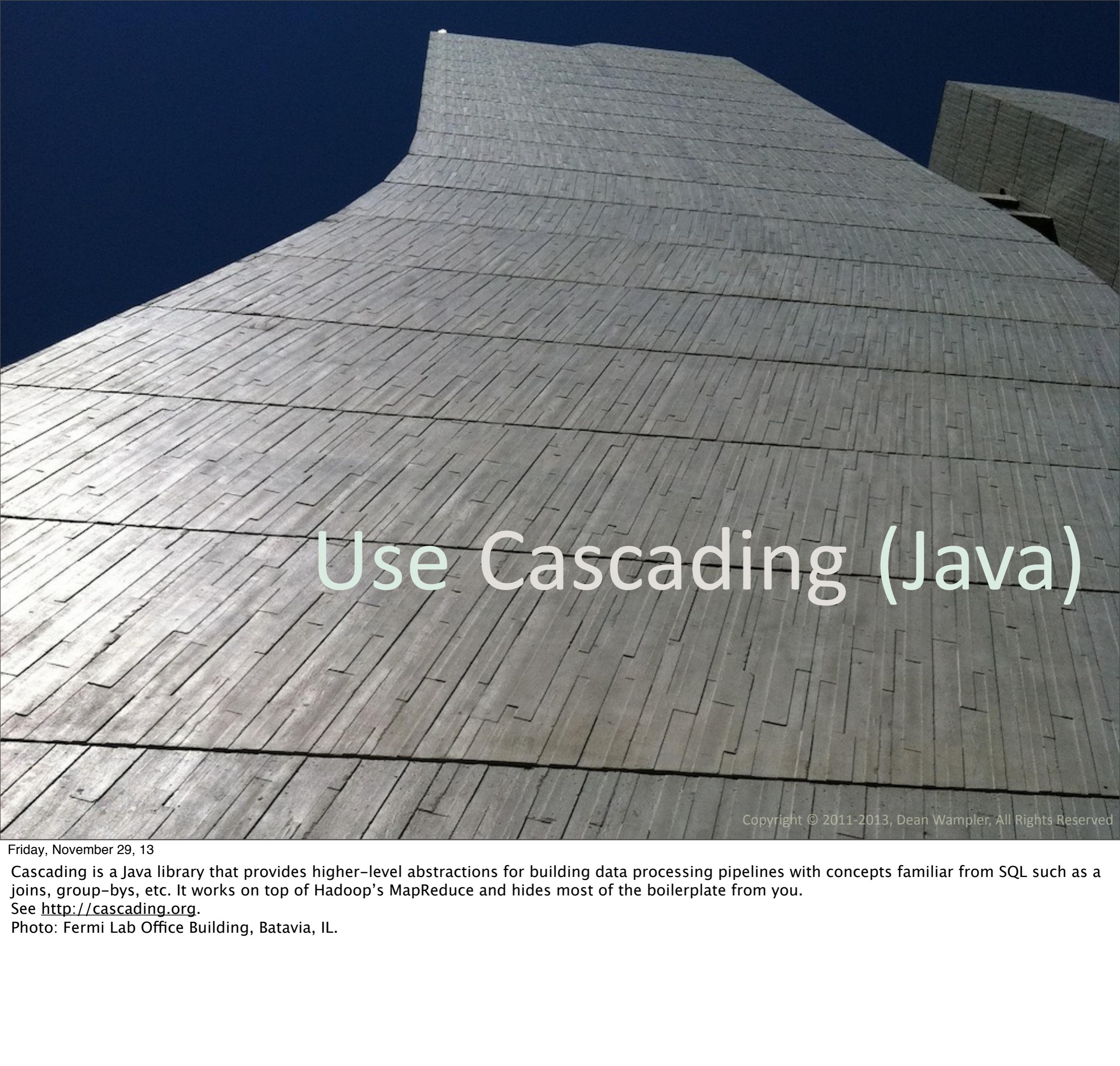
    public void reduce(Text keyword, java.util.Iterator<IntWritable> valuesCounts,
                      OutputCollector<Text, IntWritable> output, Reporter reporter) {
        int totalCount = 0;
        while (valuesCounts.hasNext()) {
            totalCount += valuesCounts.next.get();
        }
        output.collect(keyword, new IntWritable(totalCount));
    }
}

```

The '90s called. They want their EJBs back!

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Use Cascading (Java)

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Cascading is a Java library that provides higher-level abstractions for building data processing pipelines with concepts familiar from SQL such as a joins, group-bys, etc. It works on top of Hadoop's MapReduce and hides most of the boilerplate from you.

See <http://cascading.org>.

Photo: Fermi Lab Office Building, Batavia, IL.

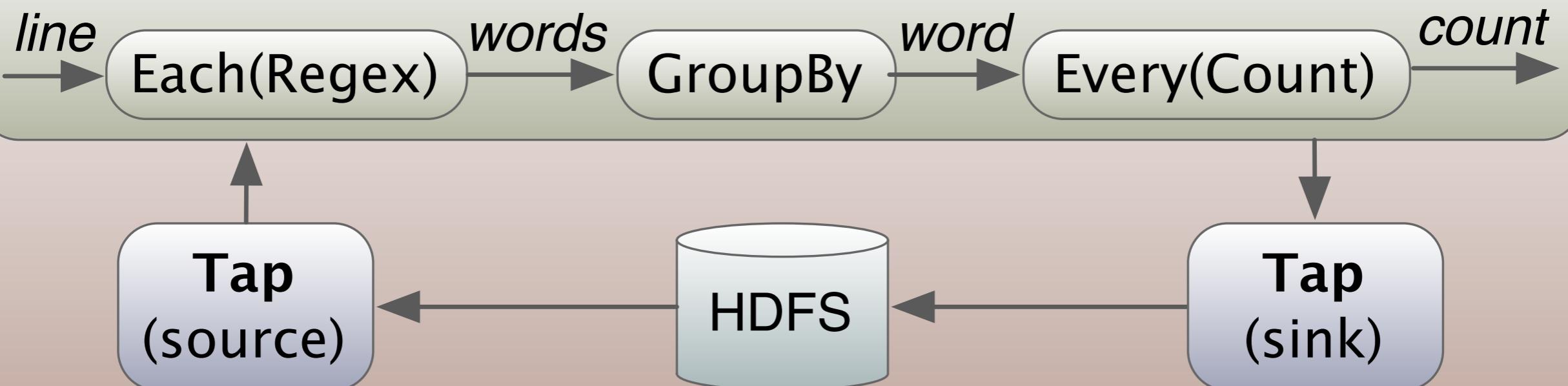
Cascading Concepts

Data flows consist of
source and sink Taps
connected by Pipes.

Word Count

Flow

Pipe ("word count assembly")



Schematically, here is what Word Count looks like in Cascading. See <http://docs.cascading.org/cascading/1.2/userguide/html/ch02.html> for details.

```

import org.cascading.*;
...
public class WordCount {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        String inputPath = args[0];
        String outputPath = args[1];
        Properties properties = new Properties();
        FlowConnector.setApplicationJarClass( properties, WordCount.class );

        Scheme sourceScheme = new TextLine( new Fields( "line" ) );
        Scheme sinkScheme = new TextLine( new Fields( "word", "count" ) );
        Tap source = new Hfs( sourceScheme, inputPath );
        Tap sink = new Hfs( sinkScheme, outputPath, SinkMode.REPLACE );

        Pipe assembly = new Pipe( "wordcount" );

        String regex = "(?<!\\pL)(?=\\pL)[^ ]*(?=<=\\pL)(?!\\pL)";
        Function function = new RegexGenerator( new Fields( "word" ), regex );
        assembly = new Each( assembly, new Fields( "line" ), function );
        assembly = new GroupBy( assembly, new Fields( "word" ) );
        Aggregator count = new Count( new Fields( "count" ) );
        assembly = new Every( assembly, count );

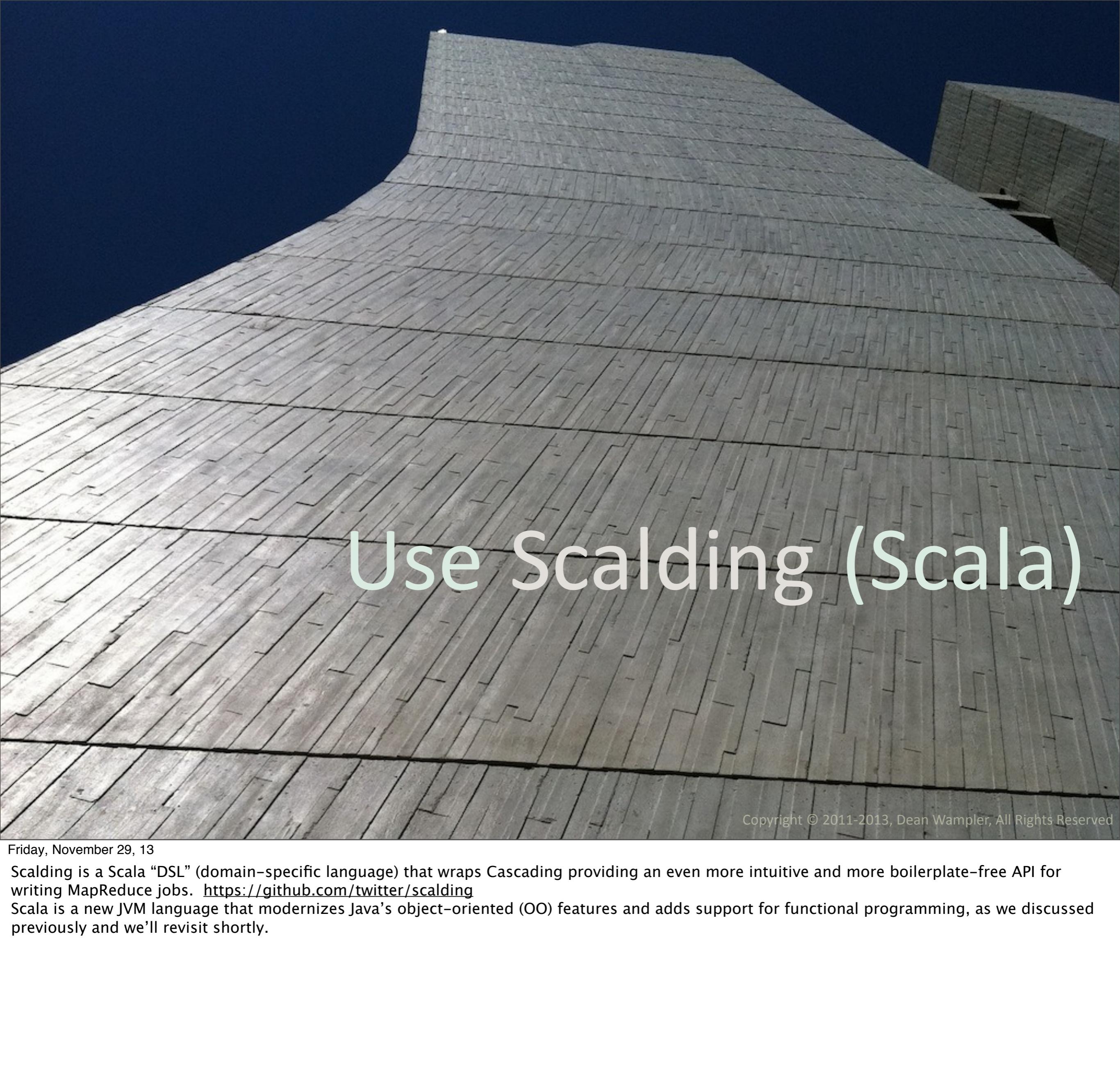
        FlowConnector flowConnector = new FlowConnector( properties );
        Flow flow = flowConnector.connect( "word-count", source, sink, assembly );
        flow.complete();
    }
}

```

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Here is the Cascading Java code. It's cleaner than the MapReduce API, because the code is more focused on the algorithm with less boilerplate, although it looks like it's not that much shorter. HOWEVER, this is all the code, where as previously I omitted the setup (main) code. See <http://docs.cascading.org/cascading/1.2/userguide/html/ch02.html> for details of the API features used here; we won't discuss them here, but just mention some highlights.

Note that there is still a lot of green for types, but at least the API emphasizes composing behaviors together.



Use Scalding (Scala)

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Scalding is a Scala “DSL” (domain-specific language) that wraps Cascading providing an even more intuitive and more boilerplate-free API for writing MapReduce jobs. <https://github.com/twitter/scalding>

Scala is a new JVM language that modernizes Java’s object-oriented (OO) features and adds support for functional programming, as we discussed previously and we’ll revisit shortly.

```

import com.twitter.scalding._

class WordCountJob(args: Args)
  extends Job(args) {
  TextLine( args("input") )
    .read
    .flatMap('line -> 'word) {
      line: String =>
      line.trim.toLowerCase
        .split("\\\\W+")
    }
    .groupBy('word) {
      group => group.size('count)
    }
  }
  .write(Tsv(args("output")))
}

```

That's It!!

This Scala code is almost pure domain logic with very little boilerplate. There are a few minor differences in the implementation. You don't explicitly specify the "Hfs" (Hadoop Distributed File System) taps. That's handled by Scalding implicitly when you run in "non-local" mode. Also, I'm using a simpler tokenization approach here, where I split on anything that isn't a "word character" [0-9a-zA-Z_].

There is little green, in part because Scala infers type in many cases. There is a lot more yellow for the functions that do real work!

What if MapReduce, and hence Cascading and Scalding, went obsolete tomorrow? This code is so short, I wouldn't care about throwing it away! I invested little time writing it, testing it, etc.



Use Cascalog (Clojure)

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<http://nathanmarz.com/blog/introducing-cascalog-a-clojure-based-query-language-for-hadoop.html>

Clojure is a new JVM, lisp-based language with lots of important concepts, such as persistent datastructures.

```
(defn lowercase [w] (.toLowerCase w))  
  
(?-< (stdout) [?word ?count]  
  (sentence ?s)  
    (split ?s :> ?word1)  
    (lowercase ?word1 :> ?word)  
    (c/count ?count))
```

Datalog-style queries

Other Improved APIs:

- Crunch (Java) & Scrunch (Scala)
- Scoobi (Scala)
- ...

See <https://github.com/cloudera/crunch>.

Others include Scoobi (<http://nicta.github.com/scoobi/>) and Spark, which we'll discuss next.



Use Spark (Not MapReduce)

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<http://www.spark-project.org/>

Spark started as a Berkeley project. recently, the developers launched Databricks to commercialize it, given the growing interest in Spark as a MapReduce replacement. It can run under YARN, the newer Hadoop resource manager (it's not clear that's the best strategy, though, vs. using Mesos, another Berkeley project being commercialized by Mesosphere) and Spark can talk to HDFS, the Hadoop Distributed File System.

```
import org.apache.spark.SparkContext

object WordCountSpark {
  def main(args: Array[String]) {
    val ctx = new SparkContext("...")
    val file = ctx.textFile(args(0))
    val counts = file.flatMap(
      line => line.split("\\W+"))
      .map(word => (word, 1))
      .reduceByKey(_ + _)
    counts.saveAsTextFile(args(1))
  }
}
```

Also small and concise!

Spark is a Hadoop MapReduce alternative:

- Distributed computing with in-memory caching.
- ~30x faster than MapReduce (in part due to caching of intermediate data).

Spark is a Hadoop MapReduce alternative:

- Originally designed for machine learning applications.
- Developed by Berkeley AMP.



Use SQL!
Hive, Shark, Impala,
Presto, or Lingual

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Using SQL when you can! Here are 5 (and growing!) options.

Use SQL when you can!

- Hive: SQL on top of MapReduce.
- Shark: Hive ported to Spark.
- Impala & Presto: HiveQL with new, faster back ends.
- Lingual: ANSI SQL on Cascading.

See <http://hive.apache.org/> or my book for Hive, <http://shark.cs.berkeley.edu/> for shark, and <http://www.cloudera.com/content/cloudera/en/products/cloudera-enterprise-core/cloudera-enterprise-RTQ.html> for Impala. <http://www.facebook.com/notes/facebook-engineering/presto-interacting-with-petabytes-of-data-at-facebook/10151786197628920> for Presto. Impala & Presto are relatively new.

Word Count in Hive SQL!

```
CREATE TABLE docs (line STRING);
LOAD DATA INPATH '/path/to/docs'
INTO TABLE docs;
```

```
CREATE TABLE word_counts AS
SELECT word, count(1) AS count FROM
(SELECT explode(split(line, '\W+')) AS word
FROM docs) w
GROUP BY word
ORDER BY word;
```

... and similarly for the other SQL tools.

We're in the era I call
The SQL Strikes Back!

(with apologies to
George Lucas...)

Combinators



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Friday, November 29, 13

Photo: The defunct Esquire movie theater on Oak St., off the "Magnificent Mile", in Chicago. Now completely gone!

Why were the
Scala, Clojure, and SQL
solutions so concise
and appealing??

Data problems are fundamentally Mathematics!

evanmiller.org/mathematical-hacker.html

Category Theory

- Monads - Structure.
- Abstracting over collections.
- Control flow and mutability containment.

Monads generalize the properties of containers, like lists and maps, such as applying a function to each element and returning a new instance of the same container type. This also applies to encapsulations of state transformations and “principled mutability”, as used in Haskell.

Category Theory

- Monoids, Groups, Rings, etc.
- Abstracting over addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

Monoid: Addition

- $(a + b) + (c + d)$ for some a, b, c, d .
- “Add All the Things”, Avi Bryant,
StrangeLoop 2013.

infoq.com/presentations/abstract-algebra-analytics

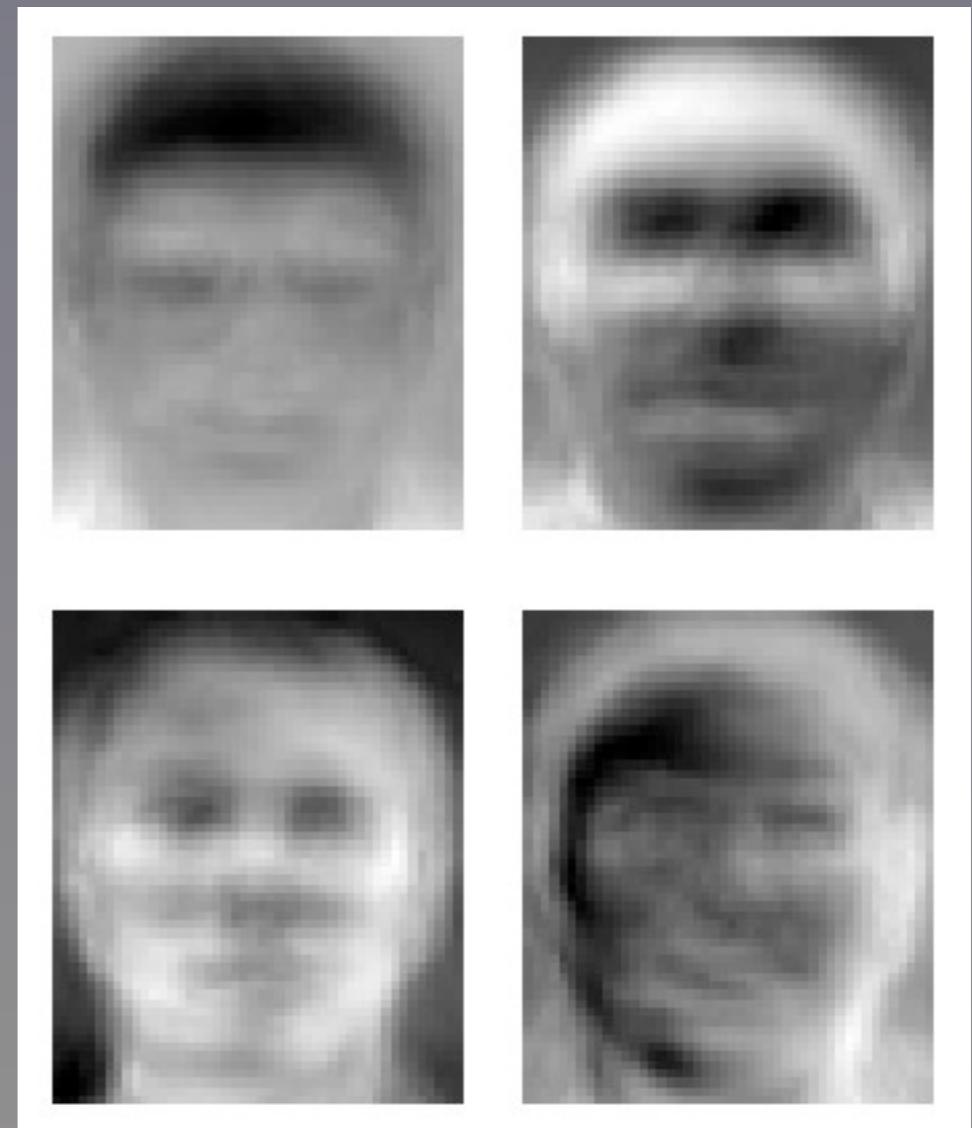
Linear Algebra

- Eigenvector and Singular Value Decomposition.
- Essential tools in machine learning.

$$Av = \lambda v$$

Example: Eigenfaces

- Represent images as vectors.
- Solve for “modes”.
- Top N modes approx. faces!



<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Eigenfaces.png>

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Set Theory and First-Order Logic

- Relational Model.
- Data organized into tuples, grouped by relations.

Information Retrieval

A Relational Model of Data for Large Shared Data Banks

E. F. CODD

IBM Research Laboratory, San Jose, California

Future users of large data banks must be protected from having to know how the data is organized in the machine (the internal representation). A prompting service which supplies such information is not a satisfactory solution. Activities of users at terminals and most application programs should remain

The relational view
Section 1 appears to be
graph or network mod
inferential systems. It
with its natural struct
posing any additional s
purposes. Accordingly,
data language which w
tween programs on the
tion and organization.

A further advantag
forms a sound basis fo
and consistency of rela
2. The network model

<http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?doid=362384.362685>

Formulated by Codd in '69. Most systems don't follow it exactly, like allowing identical records, where set elements are unique. Codd's original model didn't support NULLs either ("unknown"), but he later proposed a revision to allow them.

Set Theory and First-Order Logic

- Relational Model.
- Most RDBMSs deviate from RM.

Formulated by Codd in '69. Most systems don't follow it exactly, like allowing identical records, where set elements are unique. Codd's original model didn't support NULLs either ("unknown"), but he later proposed a revision to allow them.

What are Combinators?

- Functions that are side-effect free.
- They get all their information from their inputs and write all their work to their outputs.

Let's look at
4 relational operators
and the corresponding
functional combinators.

Recall our Word Counts:

```
CREATE TABLE word_counts (
    word    CHARACTER(64),
    count   INTEGER);
```

(ANSI SQL syntax)

```
val word_counts: Stream[(String, Int)]
```

(Scala)

Our word_counts table from before, using ANSI SQL syntax this time.

The corresponding Scala might be any kind of collection, e.g., a List. Here, I'll use a Stream, which is a lazy collection useful for large data structures like I/O... Note that it's a stream of a two-element tuple, a String (for the word) and an Int (for the count).

Restrict

```
SELECT * FROM word_counts  
WHERE word = 'Chicago';
```

vs.

```
word_counts.filter {  
  case (word, count) =>  
    word == "Chicago"  
}
```

Project

`SELECT word FROM word_counts;`

vs.

```
word_counts.map {  
    case (word, count) =>  
        word  
}
```

Join

```
CREATE TABLE dictionary (
    word      CHARACTER(64),
    definition CHARACTER(256));
```

Table for join examples.

Join - SQL

```
SELECT w.word, d.definition  
FROM   word_counts AS w  
       dictionary AS d  
WHERE  w.word = d.word;
```

Join - Scalding

```
val word_counts =  
  Csv("/path...", ('wword', 'count)).read  
val definitions =  
  Csv("/path...", ('dword', 'definition')).read  
  
word_counts  
.joinWithLarger('wword -> 'dword,  
  dictionary)  
.project('wword, 'definition)
```

Join

```
SELECT w.word, d.definition  
FROM   word_counts AS w  
        dictionary AS d  
WHERE  w.word = d.word;
```

vs.

```
...  
word_counts  
  .joinWithLarger('wword -> 'dword,  
    dictionary)  
  .project('wword, 'definition)
```

Joins are expensive.
Your data system needs
to exploit
optimizations.

Group By

```
SELECT count, size(word) AS size  
FROM word_counts  
GROUP BY count  
ORDER BY size DESC;
```

vs.

```
word_counts.groupBy {  
  case (word, count) => count  
}.toList.map {  
  case (count, words) => (count, words.size)  
}.sortBy {  
  case (count, size) => -size  
}
```

How many words appeared once, twice, 3 times, ..., N-times? Order this list descending.

I'm back to the Scala library (as opposed to Scalding). The code inputs a collections of tuples, (word,count) and groups by count. This creates a map with the count as the key and a list of the words as the value.

Next we convert this to a list of tuples (count,List(words)) and map it to a list of tuples with the (count, size of List(words)), then finally sort descending by the list sizes.

Example

```
scala> val word_counts = List(  
("a", 1), ("b", 2), ("c", 3),  
("d", 2), ("e", 2), ("f", 3))
```

```
scala> val out = word_counts.groupBy {  
  case (word, count) => count  
}.toList.map {  
  case (count, words) => (count, words.size)  
}.sortBy {  
  case (count, size) => -size  
}
```

```
out: List[(Int, Int)] =  
List((2, 3), (3, 2), (1, 1))
```

We could go on, but
you get the point.

Declarative, functional
combinators are a
natural tool for data.

SQL vs. FP

- SQL
 - Lots of optimizations for data manipulation.
- FP
 - More combinators.
 - First class functions!

A drawback of SQL is that it doesn't provide first class functions, so (depending on the system) you're limited to those that are built-in or UDFs (user-defined funcs) that you can write and add. FP languages make this easy!!

FP to the Rescue!



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Outside my condo window one Sunday morning...

Popular Claim:
Multicore concurrency
is driving FP adoption.

My Claim:

Data will drive the next
wave of widespread
FP adoption.

Even today, most developers get by without understanding concurrency. Many will just use an Actor or Reactive model to “solve” their problems. I think more devs will have to learn how to work with data at scale and that fact will drive them to FP. This will be the next wave.



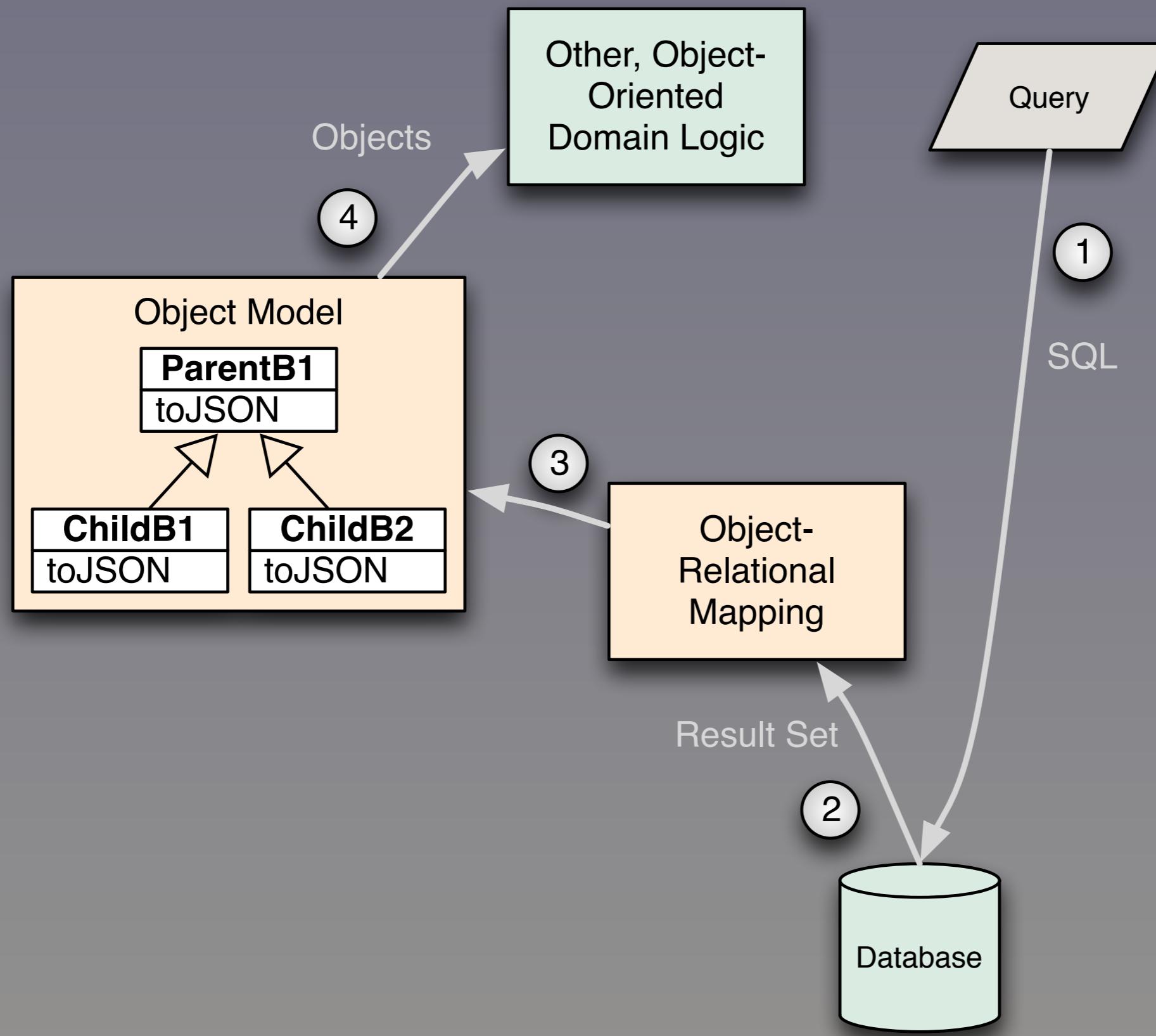
Data Architectures

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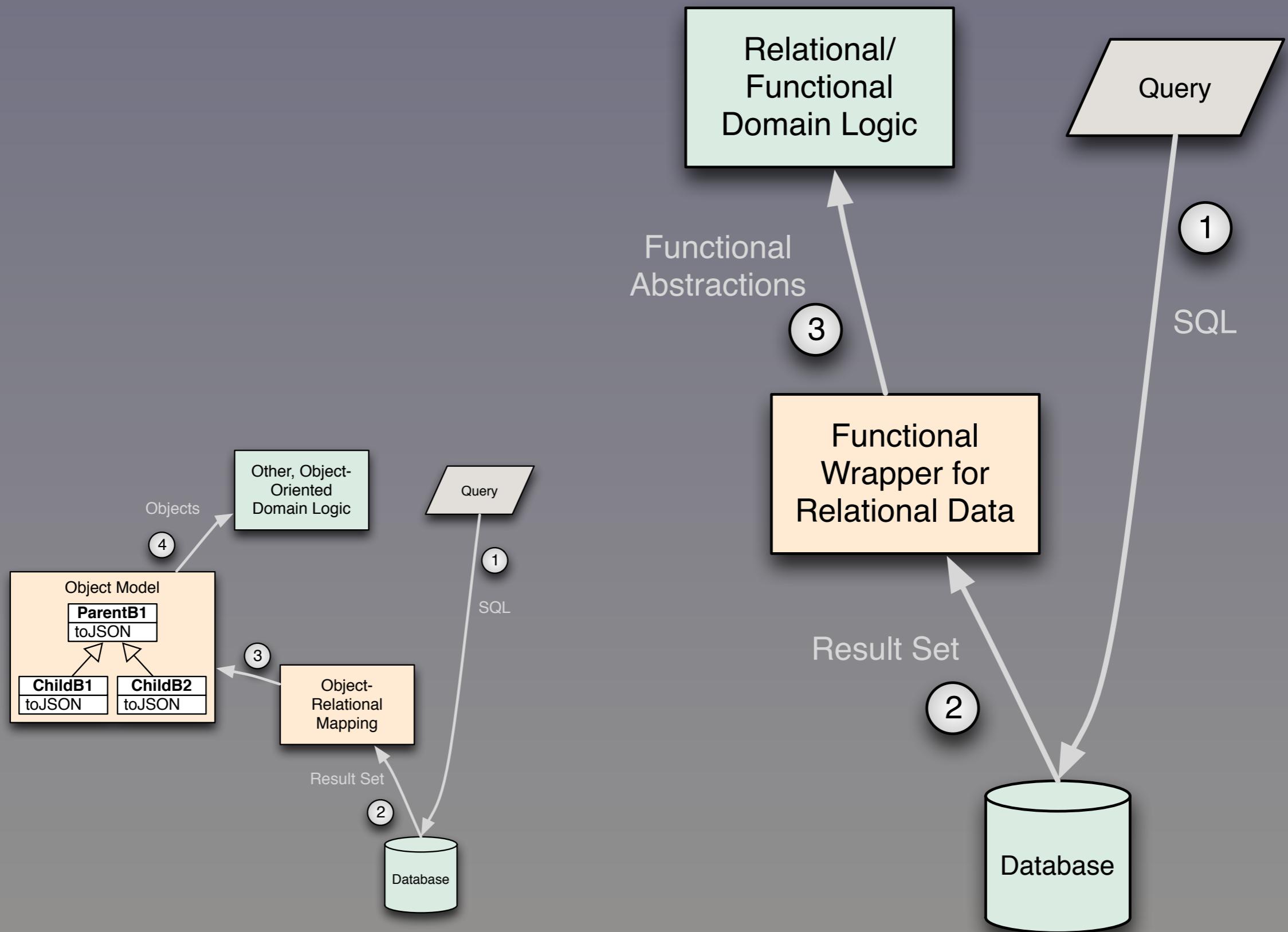
What should software architectures look like for these kinds of systems?

Photo: Two famous 19th Century Buildings in Chicago.



Traditionally, we've kept a rich, in-memory domain model requiring an ORM to convert persistent data into the model. This is resource overhead and complexity we can't afford in big data systems. Rather, we should treat the result set as it is, a particular kind of collection, do the minimal transformation required to exploit our collections libraries and classes representing some domain concepts (e.g., Address, StockOption, etc.), then write functional code to implement business logic (or drive emergent behavior with machine learning algorithms...)

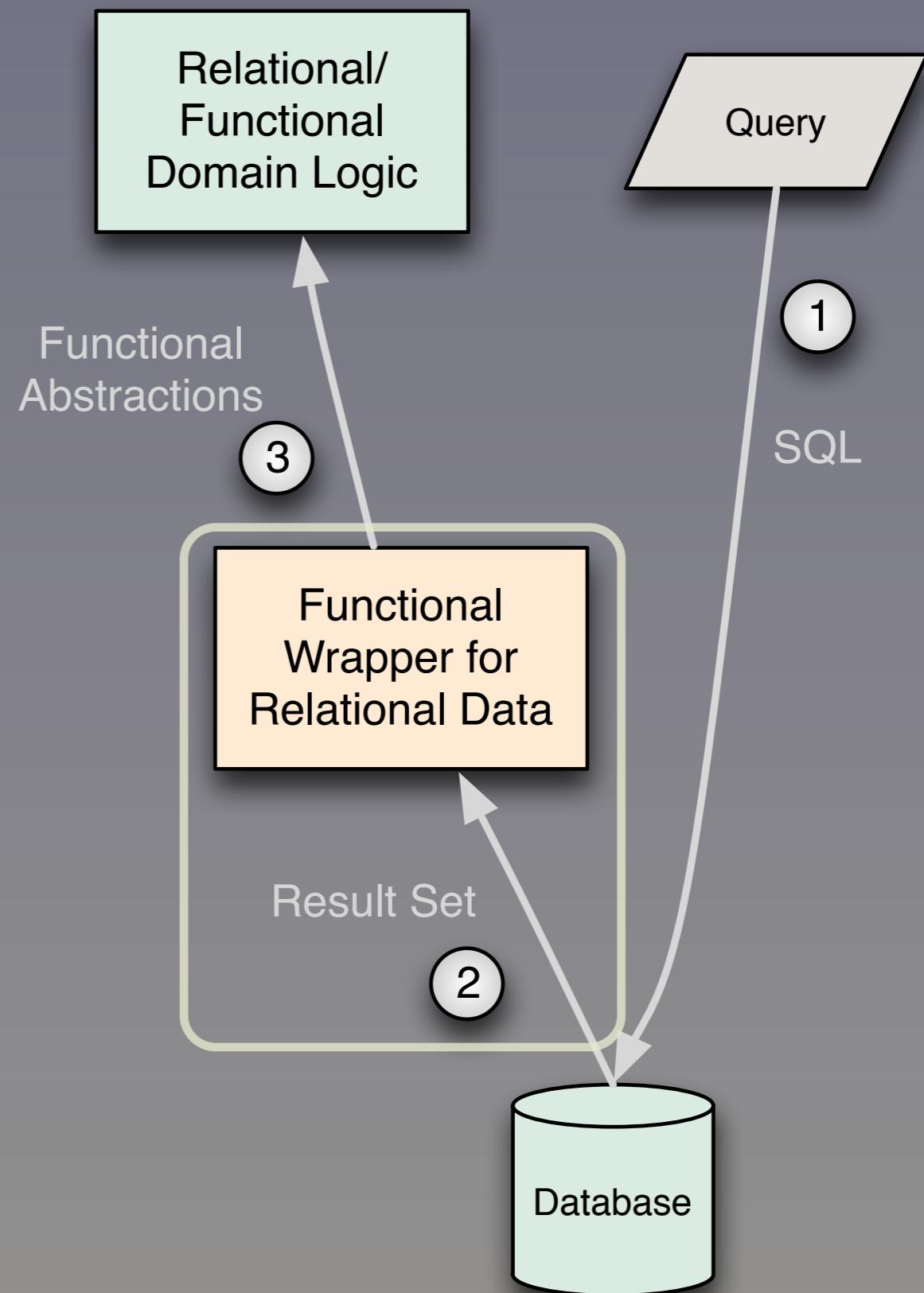
The `toJSON` methods are there because we often convert these object graphs back into fundamental structures, such as the maps and arrays of JSON so we can send them to the browser!

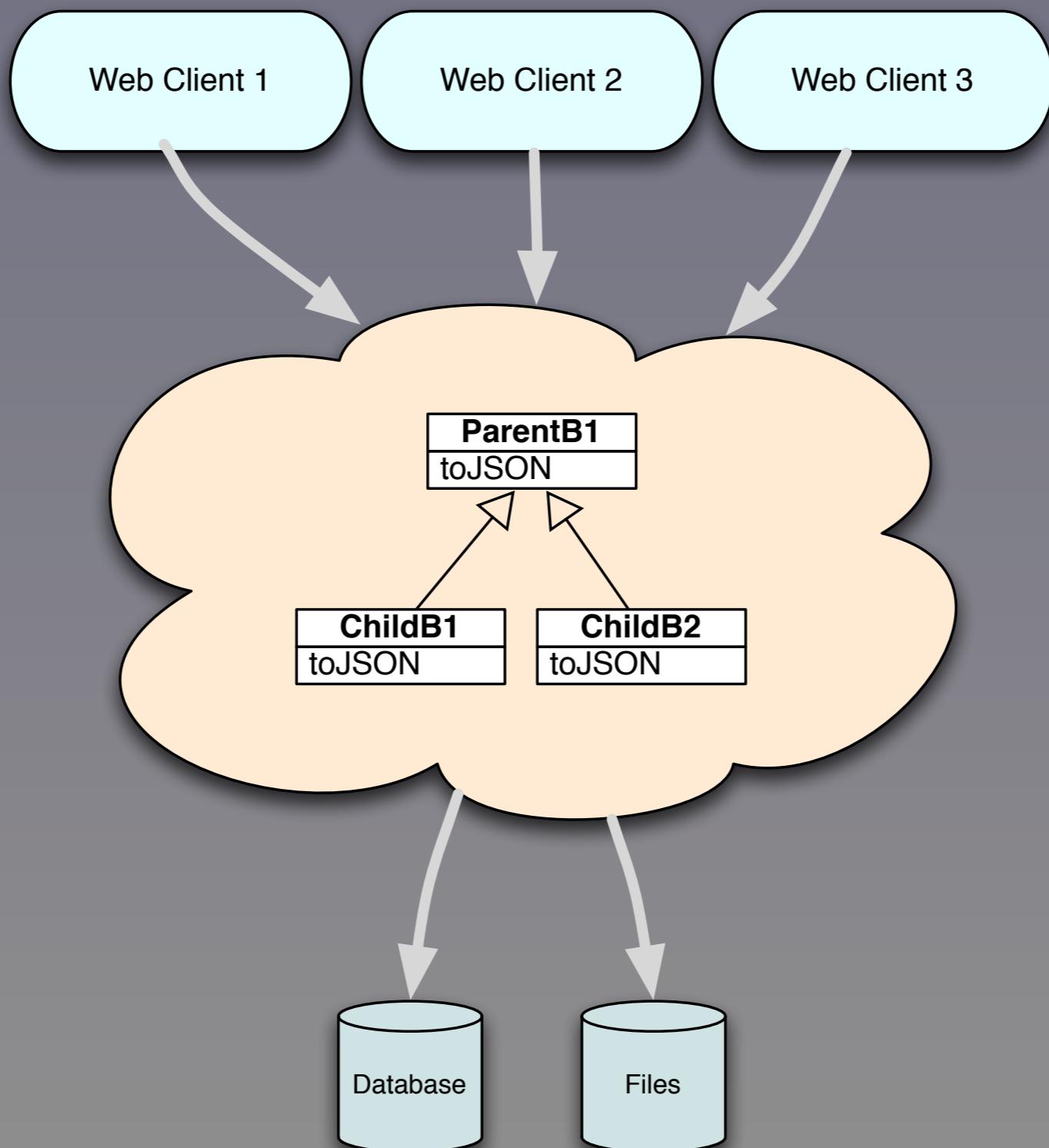


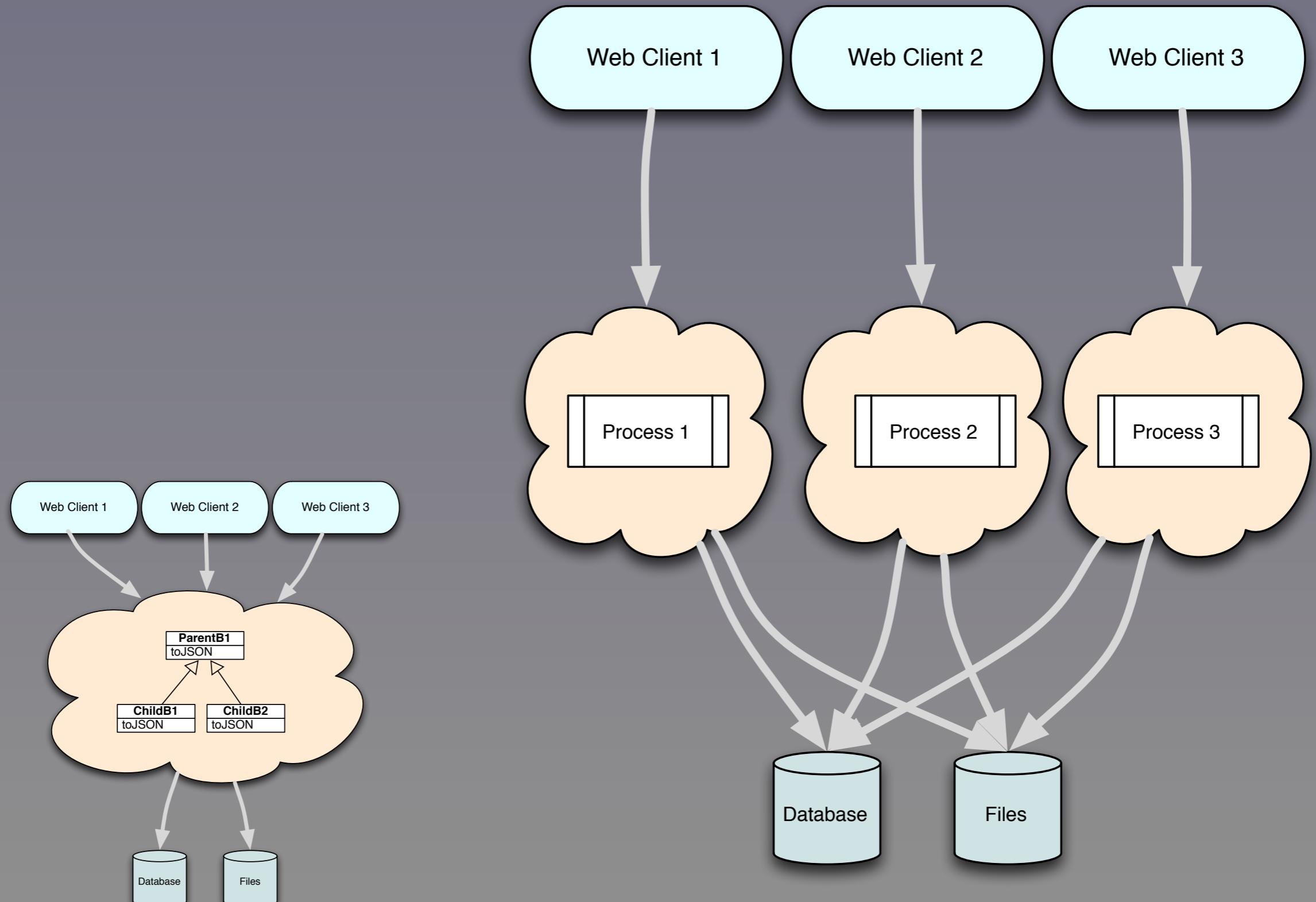
But the traditional systems are a poor fit for this new world: 1) they add too much overhead in computation (the ORM layer, etc.) and memory (to store the objects). Most of what we do with data is mathematical transformation, so we're far more productive (and runtime efficient) if we embrace fundamental data structures used throughout (lists, sets, maps, trees) and build rich transformations into those libraries, transformations that are composable to implement business logic.

- Focus on:

- Lists
- Maps
- Sets
- Trees
- ...





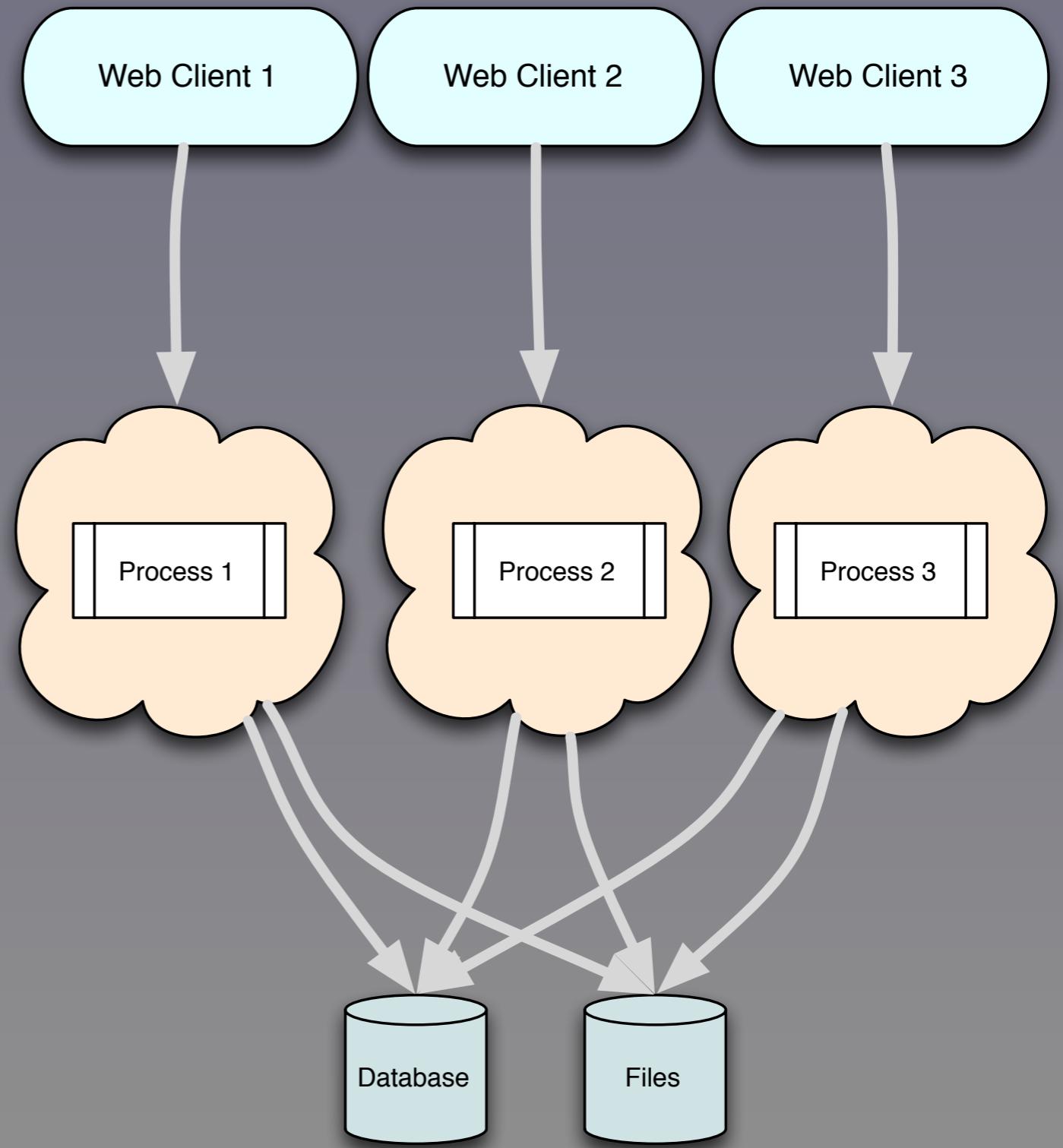


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In a broader view, object models tend to push us towards centralized, complex systems that don't decompose well and stifle reuse and optimal deployment scenarios. FP code makes it easier to write smaller, focused services that we compose and deploy as appropriate. Each "ProcessN" could be a parallel copy of another process, for horizontal, "shared-nothing" scalability, or some of these processes could be other services...

Smaller, focused services scale better, especially horizontally. They also don't encapsulate more business logic than is required, and this (informal) architecture is also suitable for scaling ML and related algorithms.

- Data Size ↑
- Formal Schema ↓
- Data-Driven Programs ↑





Hadoop is the Enterprise Java Beans of our time.

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I worked with EJBs a decade ago. The framework was completely invasive into your business logic. There were too many configuration options in XML files. The framework “paradigm” was a poor fit for most problems (like soft real time systems and most algorithms beyond Word Count). Internally, EJB implementations were inefficient and hard to optimize, because they relied on poorly considered object boundaries that muddled more natural boundaries. (I’ve argued in other presentations and my “FP for Java Devs” book that OOP is a poor modularity tool...) The fact is, Hadoop reminds me of EJBs in almost every way. It’s a 1st generation solution that mostly works okay and people do get work done with it, but just as the Spring Framework brought an essential rethinking to Enterprise Java, I think there is an essential rethink that needs to happen in Big Data, specifically around Hadoop. The functional programming community, is well positioned to create it...

MapReduce is waning

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We've seen a lot of issues with MapReduce. Already, alternatives are being developed, either general options, like Spark and Storm, or special-purpose built replacements, like Impala. Let's consider other options...

Emerging replacements are based on Functional Languages...

```
import com.twitter.scalding._

class WordCountJob(args: Args) extends Job(args) {
  TextLine( args("input") )
    .read
    .flatMap('line -> 'word) {
      line: String =>
        line.trim.toLowerCase
        .split("\\\\W+")
    }
    .groupBy('word) {
      group => group.size('count) }
  }
  .write(Tsv(args("output")))
}
```

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FP is such a natural fit for the problem that any attempts to build big data systems without it will be handicapped and probably fail.

Let's consider other MapReduce options...

... and SQL

```
CREATE TABLE docs (line STRING);
LOAD DATA INPATH '/path/to/docs'
INTO TABLE docs;
```

```
CREATE TABLE word_counts AS
SELECT word, count(1) AS count FROM
(SELECT explode(split(line, '\W+'))
 AS word FROM docs) w
GROUP BY word
ORDER BY word;
```

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FP is such a natural fit for the problem that any attempts to build big data systems without it will be handicapped and probably fail.

Let's consider other MapReduce options...

Questions?



Nov. 21, 2013
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Photo: Building in fog on Michigan Avenue