

Kafka Fundamentals Brain Teasers: M2: Use Cases and Motivations

Overview

The first part of learning Kafka fundamentals is understanding what Kafka is good at and exploring use cases. Key concepts are:

- Real time vs. batch processing
- Use cases

Here's the [quick quiz on Module 2](https://forms.gle/ww7MZ74BmLsYrc1R6) (<https://forms.gle/ww7MZ74BmLsYrc1R6>) from the Online Talk Series.

Note: For this form of these brain teasers, I've opted to number the problems so that they correspond with module numbers from the Fundamentals course. Thus, we start with Problem #2, corresponding to Module 2; there is no #1.

Problem #2A: Applying Kafka to a Digital Jukebox Use Case

Suppose you are building a network of digital jukeboxes that operate in restaurants, bars, event spaces, etc. Users can maintain accounts and use credit cards and a phone app to purchase credits to play songs. Using the same app, users can play songs, as long as they are located within a reasonable distance of a jukebox they are targeting. So, thinking of some of the things Kafka is cut out for, what are at least 3 reasons Kafka is well-suited for this application? (Hint: Review the Module 2: Motivation & Customer Use Cases lecture and/or the handbook.)

Problem #2B: How Kafka Can Make the Digital Jukeboxes Go Even Further

Suppose you are partnered with a company that sells tickets to concerts and music-related merchandise. Could you add additional services to your existing Kafka cluster? What kinds of things could you do to advance both businesses? What Kafka features would be important?