But a single-node system is also way more likely to fail
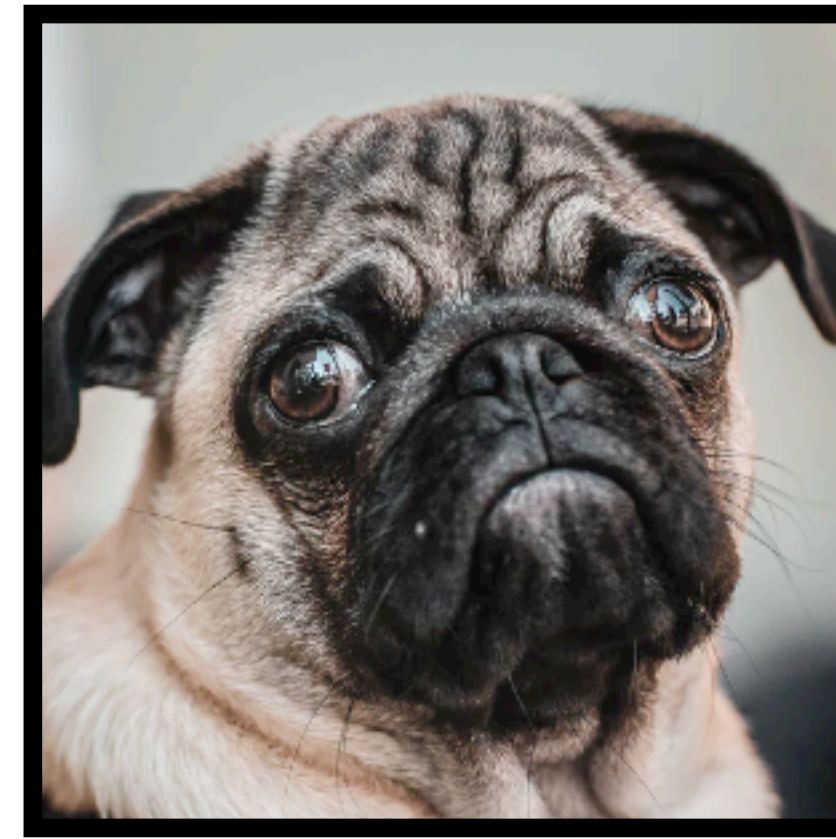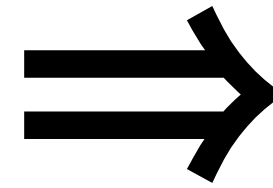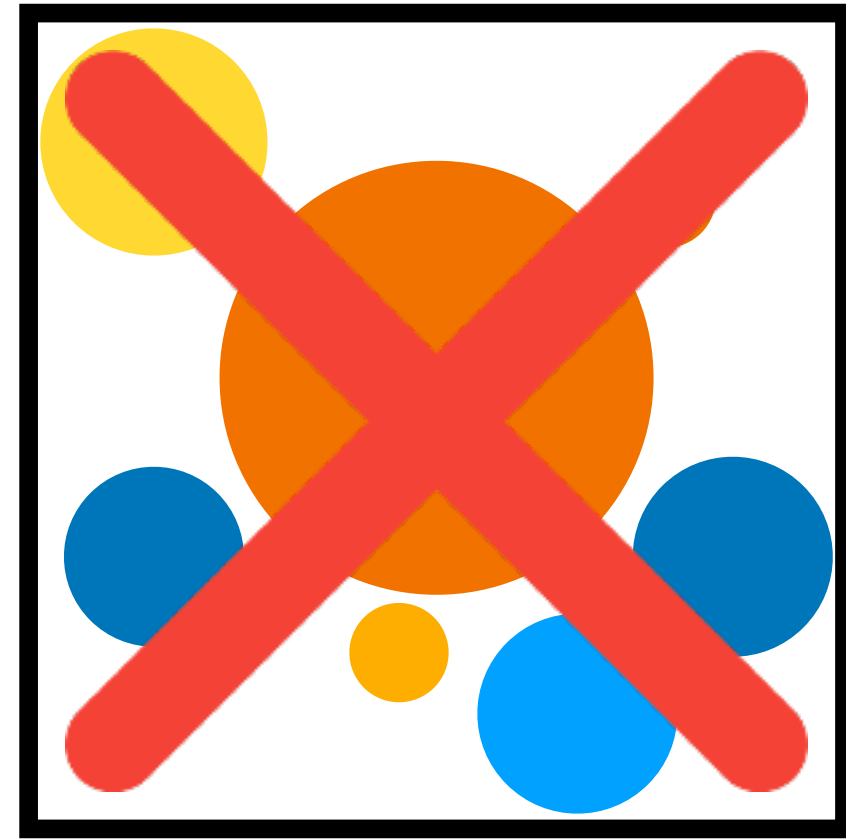
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The only way to achieve high-availability is with a distributed system