Summary of “CAP Twelve Years Later: How the “Rules” Have Changed”

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In the article of this week, author briefly reviewed the CAP theorem and analyzed that if there is anything new regarding the theorem. CAP stands for three properties of a distributed system: consistency, availability and the tolerance for network partition. Basically, CAP theorem means that the designers of a system will always have to trade off for certain property so that overall can meet the requirement and people can also open their mind to explore further. However, CAP can sometimes be misleading, since partition will not happen that often and different priority for C and A can be used for each layer of the system or each subsystem. Author believes that if partitions are handled explicitly with well-defined strategies, all three properties can all be optimized and achieve certain goals. Also, there are strategies for operation during the partition and after partition. During partitioning, depending on requirement, some priority will give to C or A. After partition, things like compensating mistakes and merging operation are the major concern. And different organizations or enterprises may come up with different solutions.

Overall, I find this article is relatively easy to read. And the idea the author try to pass is quite straight forward. There are several additional materials, which is helpful for reading.