## What is Storm?

* Hadoop is ideal for batch-mode processing over massive data sets, but it doesn’t support event-stream (a.k.a. message-stream) processing, i.e., responding to individual events within a reasonable time frame. (For limited scenarios, you could use a NoSQL database like HBase to capture incoming data in the form of append updates.)
* Storm is a general-purpose, event-processing system that is growing in popularity for addressing this gap in Hadoop
* Like Hadoop, Storm uses a cluster of services for scalability and reliability. In Storm terminology you create a topology that runs continuously over a stream of incoming data, which is analogous to a Hadoop job that runs as a batch process over a fixed data set and then terminates
* An apt analogy is a continuous stream of water flowing through plumbing. The data sources for the topology are called **spouts** and each processing node is called a **bolt**
* Bolts can perform arbitrarily sophisticated computations on the data, including output to data stores and other services
* It is common for organizations to run a combination of Hadoop and Storm services to gain the best features of both platforms.