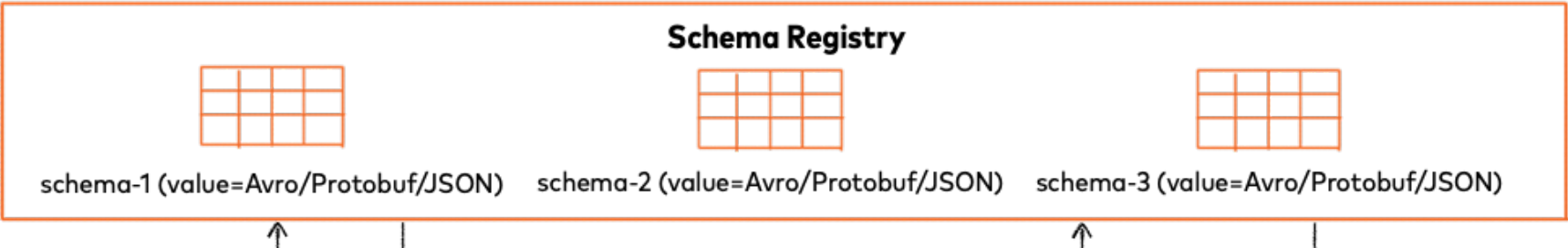


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# Schema Registry Overview

Confluent Schema Registry provides a serving layer for your metadata. It provides a RESTful interface for storing and retrieving your [Avro®](#), [JSON Schema](#), and [Protobuf schemas](#). It stores a versioned history of all schemas based on a specified [subject name strategy](#), provides multiple [compatibility settings](#) and allows evolution of schemas according to the configured compatibility settings and expanded support for these schema types. It provides serializers that plug into Apache Kafka® clients that handle schema storage and retrieval for Kafka messages that are sent in any of the supported formats.

Schema Registry lives outside of and separately from your Kafka brokers. Your producers and consumers still talk to Kafka to publish and read data (messages) to topics. Concurrently, they can also talk to Schema Registry to send and retrieve schemas that describe the data models for the messages.



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