

# Take a Ride on the Bus

## Practical Messaging and Queueing

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# Agenda

What's messaging?

Why would I want to use it?

Examples

Q&A

# Setting the Stage

Enterprise  
Patterns

## Scope

Intro to using messaging

Academic background (but not a lot)

Pointers to tools

Provide actionable info to use  
when you get back to work

ESB

Frameworks in  
depth

# Fact or Fiction?

Use of messaging can make your  
applications easier to  
build,  
understand,  
and maintain

# What is Messaging?

“Message passing in computer science is a form of communication used in parallel computing, object-oriented programming, and interprocess communication. In this model, processes or objects can send and receive messages (comprising zero or more bytes, complex data structures, or even segments of code) to other processes. By waiting for messages, processes can also synchronize.” - from Wikipedia

# What is Messaging?

(Practically Speaking)

A means of communication between two distinct  
programmatic constructs

Could be  
inter-process  
between simple objects  
asynchronous

# Sound Familiar?

CORBA

.NET Remoting

Java RMI

DCOM

AMQP

Erlang inter-process calls

Web Services

Ruby method calls

SOAP

Smalltalk method calls

RESTful APIs

# What is a message?

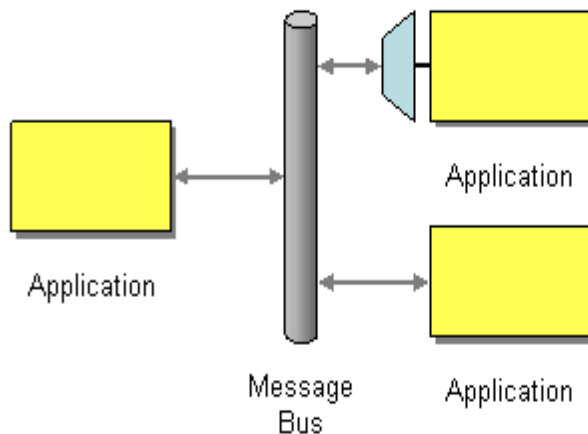
A defined series of bytes which can be encoded and decoded with consistent meaning



# What is a message bus?

An enterprise contains several existing systems that must be able to share data and operate in a unified manner in response to a set of common business requests.

**What is an architecture that enables separate applications to work together, but in a decoupled fashion such that applications can be easily added or removed without affecting the others?**



**Structure the connecting middleware between these applications as a *Message Bus* that enables them to work together using messaging.**

A *Message Bus* is a combination of a common data model, a common command set, and a messaging infrastructure to allow different systems to communicate through a shared set of interfaces. This is analogous to a communications bus in a computer system, which serves as the focal point for communication between the CPU, main memory, and peripherals. Just as in the hardware analogy, there are a number of pieces that come together to form the message bus:

from <http://www.eaipatterns.com/MessageBus.html>

# Warning...



[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Amargosa\\_desert.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Amargosa_desert.jpg)

# What is a message bus?

Characteristics

Anatomy

Patterns

# What is a message bus?

## Characteristics

# Characteristics of a Message Bus

Reliable Transfer

Preservation of Order

Broadcast/Collection

Synchronous/Async

# Characteristics of a Message Bus

## Reliable Transfer

Do you need guarantees of delivery?

Maybe Yes

Request processing  
System state change  
...

Maybe No

Status update  
“Tweets”  
Heartbeats

# Characteristics of a Message Bus

## Preservation of Order

Do you need messages delivered in the same order as sent?

Maybe Yes

Status update

System state change

...

No

Voting

“Tweets”

Heartbeats

# Characteristics of a Message Bus

## Broadcast/Collection

How many senders are talking to how many receivers?

One – One  
One – Many  
Many – One  
Many - Many



# Characteristics of a Message Bus

## Synchronous / Asynchronous

Do you need serial processing?

### Synchronous

RPC

Method invocation in OOP

...

### Asynchronous

Pub/Sub

Twitter

Facebook

Parallel Processing

# What is a message bus?

## Anatomy

# Anatomy of a Message Bus

Message Storage

Serialization Protocols

Transport Mechanism

# Anatomy of a Message Bus

## Message Storage

Frequently involves a Queue

Allows delayed processing

Can preserve order

Can offer fault tolerance

# Anatomy of a Message Bus

## Message Storage

Database Backed

File Backed

In Memory

# Anatomy of a Message Bus

## Message Storage

### Database Backed

#### Pros

- Simple to set up
- Tools are usually at hand
- Easy view into your queues

#### Cons

- Prone to contention at high volumes
- Dependency on additional tool

File Backed

In Memory

# Anatomy of a Message Bus

## Message Storage

Database Backed

File Backed

Pros

- Simple to set up
- Easy view into your queues

Cons

- Prone to contention at high volumes
- Management of files can be difficult

In Memory

# Anatomy of a Message Bus

## Message Storage

Database Backed

File Backed

In Memory

### Pros

- Very fast
- Can use caches to eliminate custom handling of memory
- Can make distributed

### Cons

- Can demand a lot of memory
- Danger of running out of memory



# Anatomy of a Message Bus

## Serialization Protocol

Interoperability

Size

Speed of encoding

Ease of use

There are many good standards already

Protocol Buffers, Thrift, MessagePack,...

# Anatomy of a Message Bus

## Transport Mechanism

What connects sender and receiver?

TCP/IP

UDP

HTTP

...

Might be dictated by other decisions

(db backed -> db client)

# Anatomy of a Message Bus

## Build

- Pros
  - Flexibility
  - Deep knowledge
  - Fun
- Cons
  - A lot of work
  - Tricky to get right in all cases

## “Buy”

- Pros
  - Many good choices
  - More “testers”
  - Support for getting it right
- Cons
  - Can be very expensive
  - Might impose trade-offs

# Anatomy of a Message Bus

Many good Open Source Systems  
Exist

RabbitMQ

ActiveMQ

ZeroMQ

Resque

Delayed Job

Beanstalkd

JMS

Amazon SQS

NServiceBus

Mass Transit

...

# What is a message bus?

## Patterns

# Patterns of Usage of a Message Bus

Exclusive Pair

Request – Reply

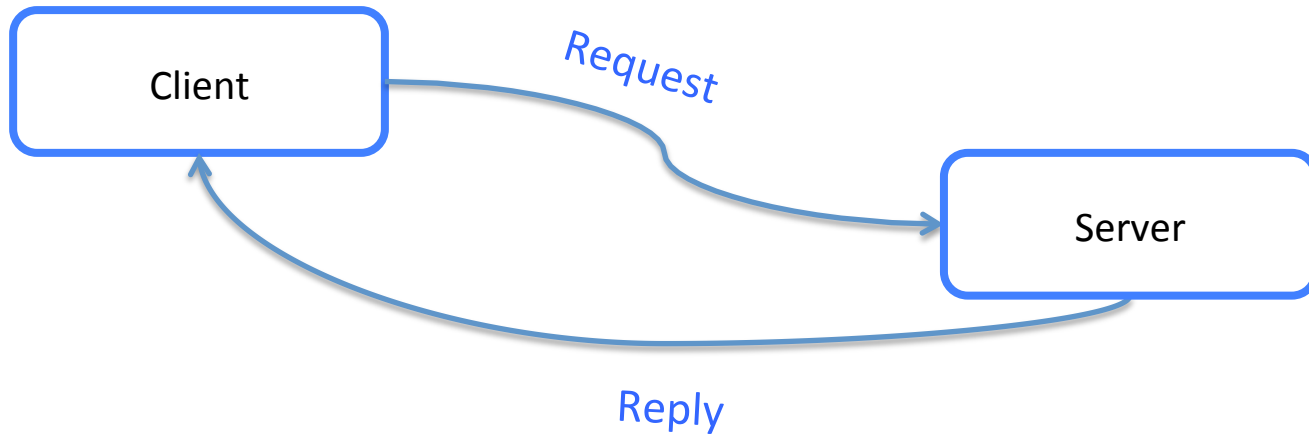
Competing Consumer

Pub / Sub

Fan-in

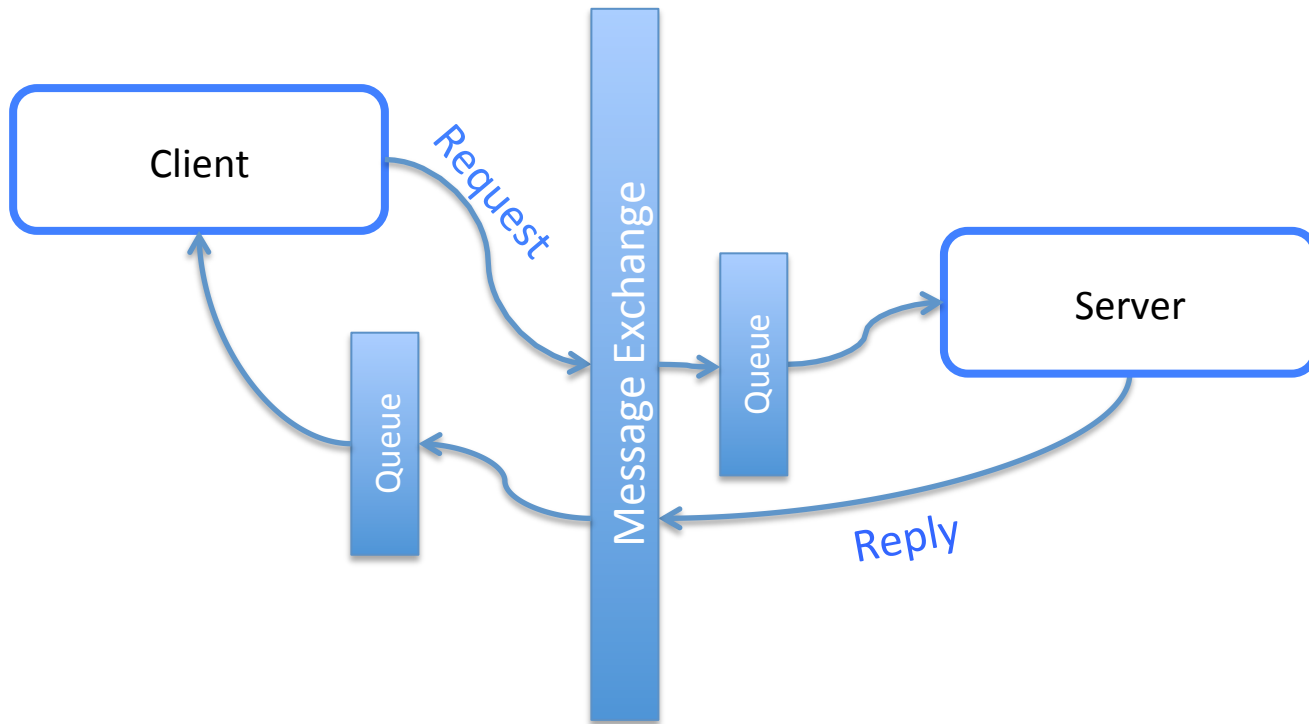
# Patterns of Usage of a Message Bus

Direct Pair



# Patterns of Usage of a Message Bus

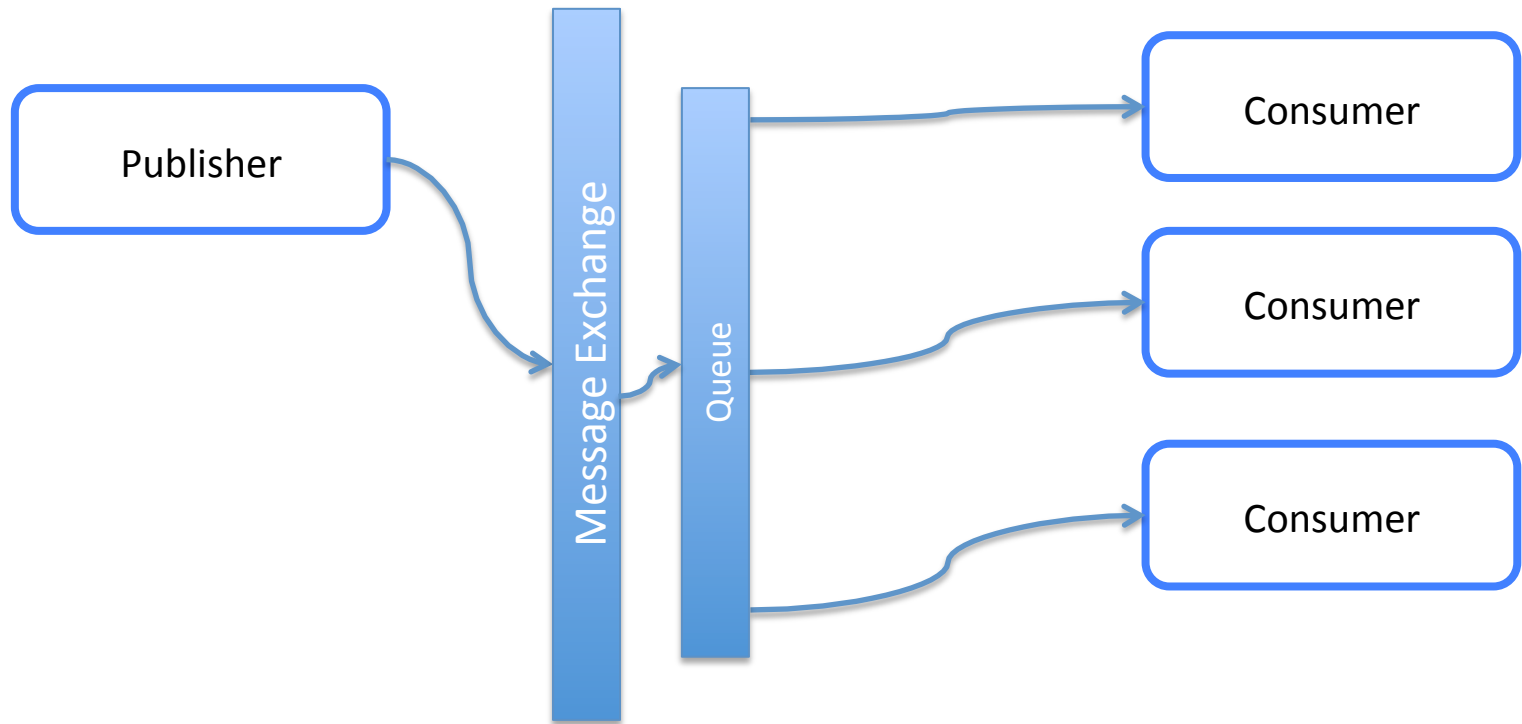
## Request - Reply





# Patterns of Usage of a Message Bus

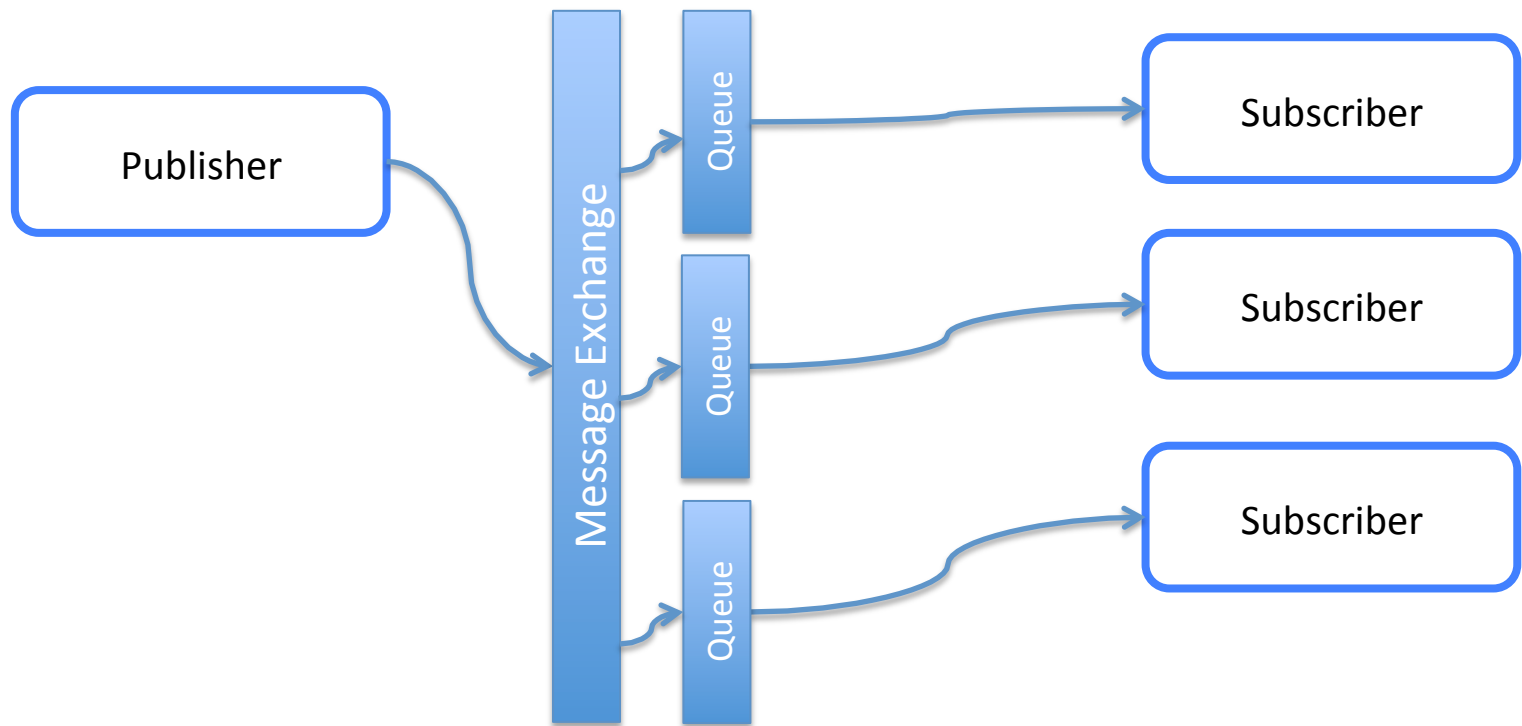
## Competing Consumer



Only one consumer receives a given message  
“first come, first served”

# Patterns of Usage of a Message Bus

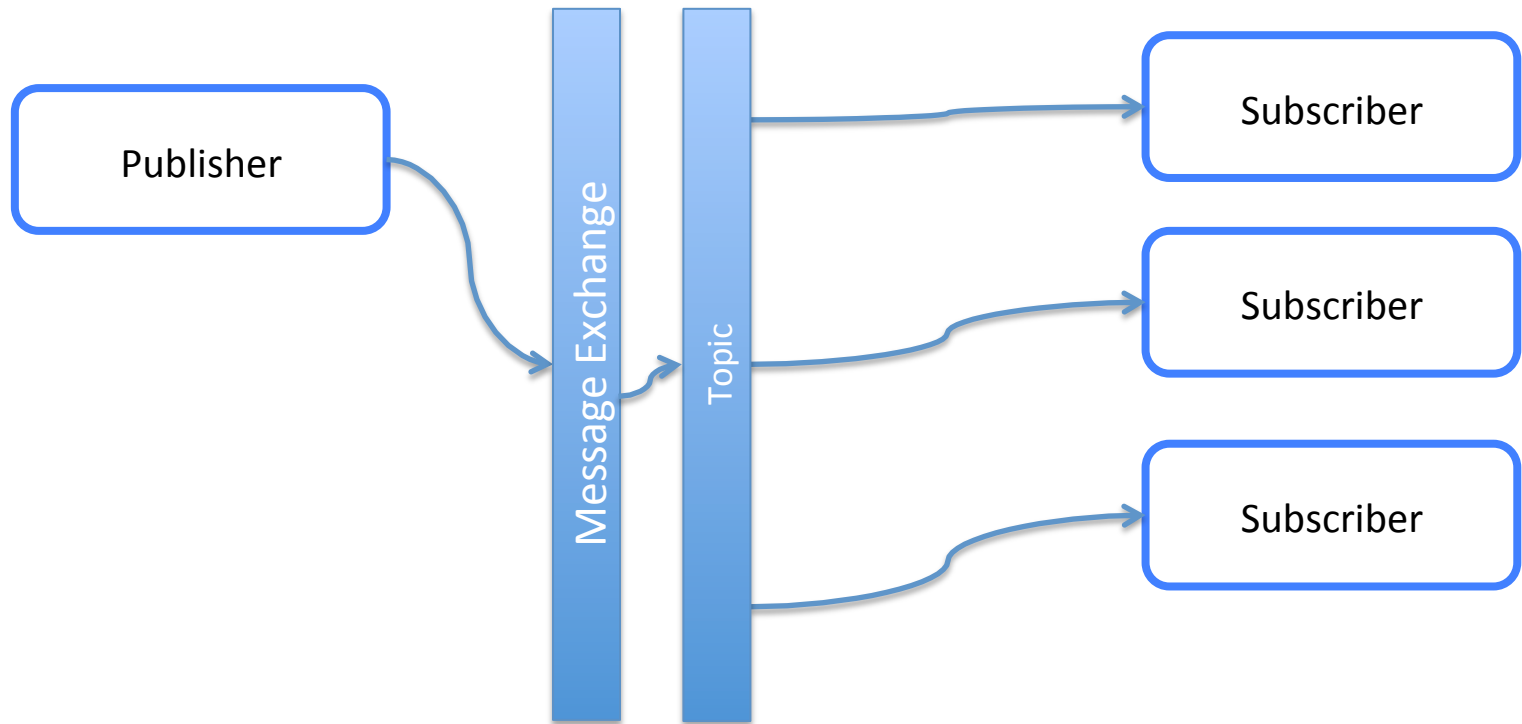
Pub / Sub



One message is copied to many subscribers/consumers

# Patterns of Usage of a Message Bus

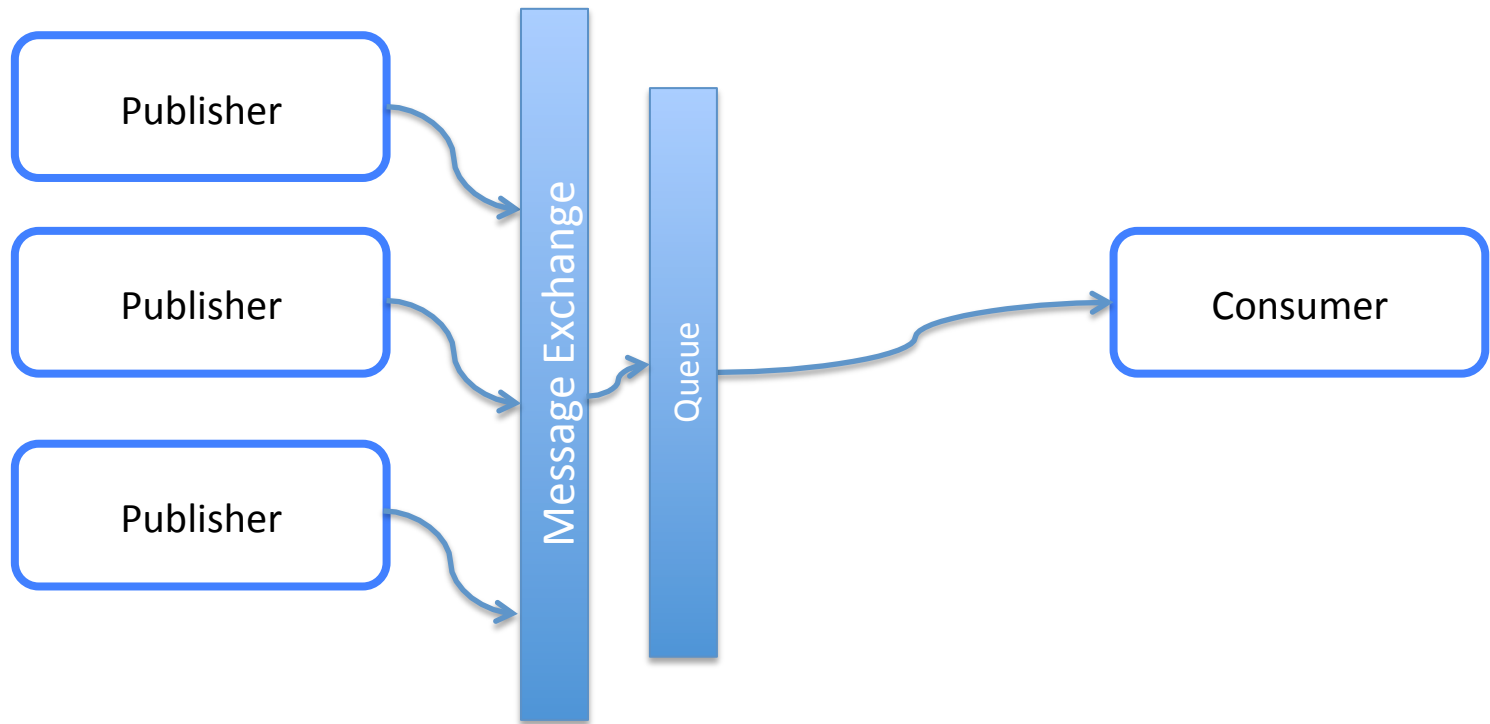
Pub / Sub



One message is copied to many subscribers/consumers

# Patterns of Usage of a Message Bus

Fan-in



Why Messaging?

# Why Messaging?

Offload Work

Distribute Work

SOA

Easy Expansion

Easier to Conceptualize than  
Threading

# Why Messaging?

## “Normal” Alternatives

### Threading vs. Messaging

- Pros
  - Visualization is easier
  - No shared state
  - Distribution
  - Resiliency
- Cons
  - New tools to learn
  - Not native to language  
(most of the time)

# Why Messaging?

## “Normal” Alternatives

### RPC vs. Messaging

- Pros
  - Loose coupling
  - Easier distribution
  - Resiliency
  - Can have lower overhead to set up (WCF)
- Cons
  - New tools to learn
  - Not native to language (most of the time)



# Why Messaging?

## “Normal” Alternatives

### Load Balancers vs. Messaging

- Pros
  - Doesn't require expensive LB hardware
  - LB & failover becomes an application concern vs. networking
  - Control and tuning
- Cons
  - Requires planning
  - Can't just “stand it up”
  - May require server(s) to do the work

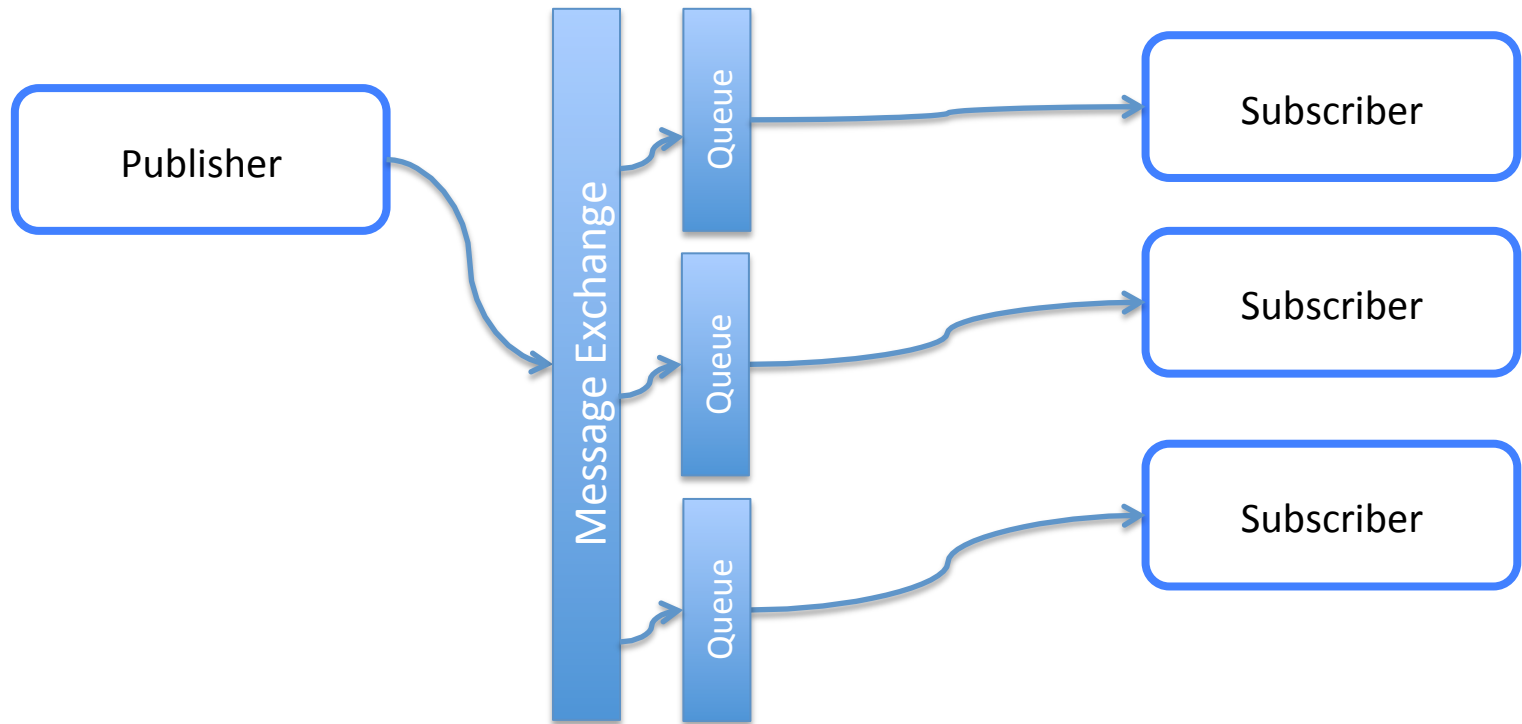
# You made it!



[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hanauma\\_bay\\_\(3\).jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hanauma_bay_(3).jpg)

Ready for some examples?

# Simple Pub / Sub



# Simple Pub/Sub

Publisher

```
1  require 'stomp'
2
3  cli = Stomp::Client.new("admin","password","localhost",61613)
4  5.times do |i|
5      puts "Publishing message #{i}"
6      cli.publish("/topic/pubsub1","Pub/sub msg #{i}")
7  end
```

Subscriber

```
1  require 'stomp'
2
3  num = ARGV[0]
4  cli = Stomp::Client.new("admin","password","localhost",61613)
5  puts "Listening for messages"
6  cli.subscribe("/topic/pubsub1", {"id" => "t#{num}"}) { |m|
7      puts "Listener #{num} Recieved a message: #{m.body}"
8  }
9
10 while true
11     sleep 5
12 end
```

Files: example1\_publisher.rb & example1\_subscriber.rb

# Event Broadcast

Pub/Sub works great

Good for

- Logging
- Notifying system components of events as they occur
- Monitoring
- System diagnostics

# Event Broadcast

Publisher

```
1  require 'stomp'
2
3  locs = ["NewYork", "Washington", "Orlando", "Phoenix", "Austin", "Chattanooga"]
4  infos = ["Weather", "Traffic", "Forecast"]
5
6  cli = Stomp::Client.new("admin","password","localhost",61613)
7
8  #first clear the client screens
9  cli.publish("/topic/reset","Clear for new run")
10
11  5.times do |i|
12    msg = "#{locs.sample}.#{infos.sample}"
13    puts "Publishing message #{i} to #{msg}"
14    cli.publish("/topic/#{msg}","Pub/sub msg #{i}")
15  end
```

Listener

```
1  require 'stomp'
2
3  mask = ARGV[0]
4  system("clear")
5
6  cli = Stomp::Client.new("admin","password","localhost",61613)
7
8  puts "Listening for messages related to #{mask}"
9  cli.subscribe("/topic/#{mask}", {"id" => "Listening"}) { |m|
10    puts "Listener #{mask} Recieved a message - Topic: #{m.headers['destination']} Body: #{m.body}"
11    cli.publish("/queue/resp","Done working on #{m.body}")
12  }
13
14  cli.subscribe("/topic/reset", {"id" => "reset"}) { |m|
15    system("clear")
16    puts "Listener #{mask} Recieved a clear message: #{m.body}"
17  }
18  while true
19    sleep 5
20  end
21
```

Files: example3\_publisher.rb, example3\_subscriber.rb, example3\_subscriber.erl

# Work Distribution

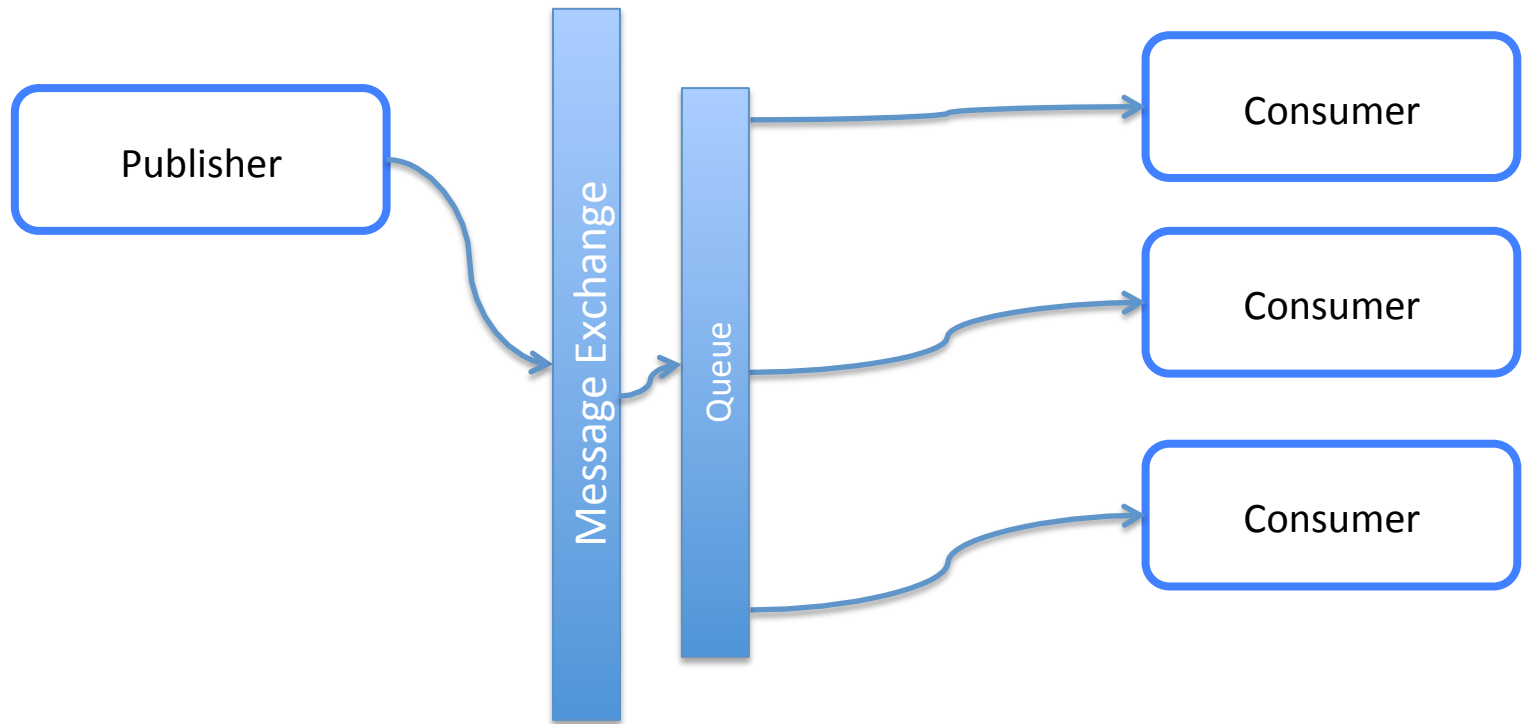
Competing consumer works great

Good for

- Email sending
- Long running job tasking



# Work Distribution



Only one consumer receives a given message  
“first come, first served”

# Work Distribution

Publisher

```
1  require 'stomp'
2
3  cli = Stomp::Client.new("admin","password","localhost",61613)
4  5.times do |i|
5      puts "Publishing message #{i}"
6      cli.publish("/queue/cc1","Do work! msg #{i}")
7  end
8
```

Worker

```
1  require 'stomp'
2
3  num = ARGV[0]
4  cli = Stomp::Client.new("admin","password","localhost",61613)
5  system("clear")
6  puts "Listening for messages"
7  cli.subscribe("/queue/cc1", {"id" => "t#{num}"}) { |m|
8      puts "Worker #{num} Recieved a message: #{m.body}"
9  }
10
11 while true
12     sleep 5
13 end
```

Files: example2\_publisher.rb & example2\_consumer.rb

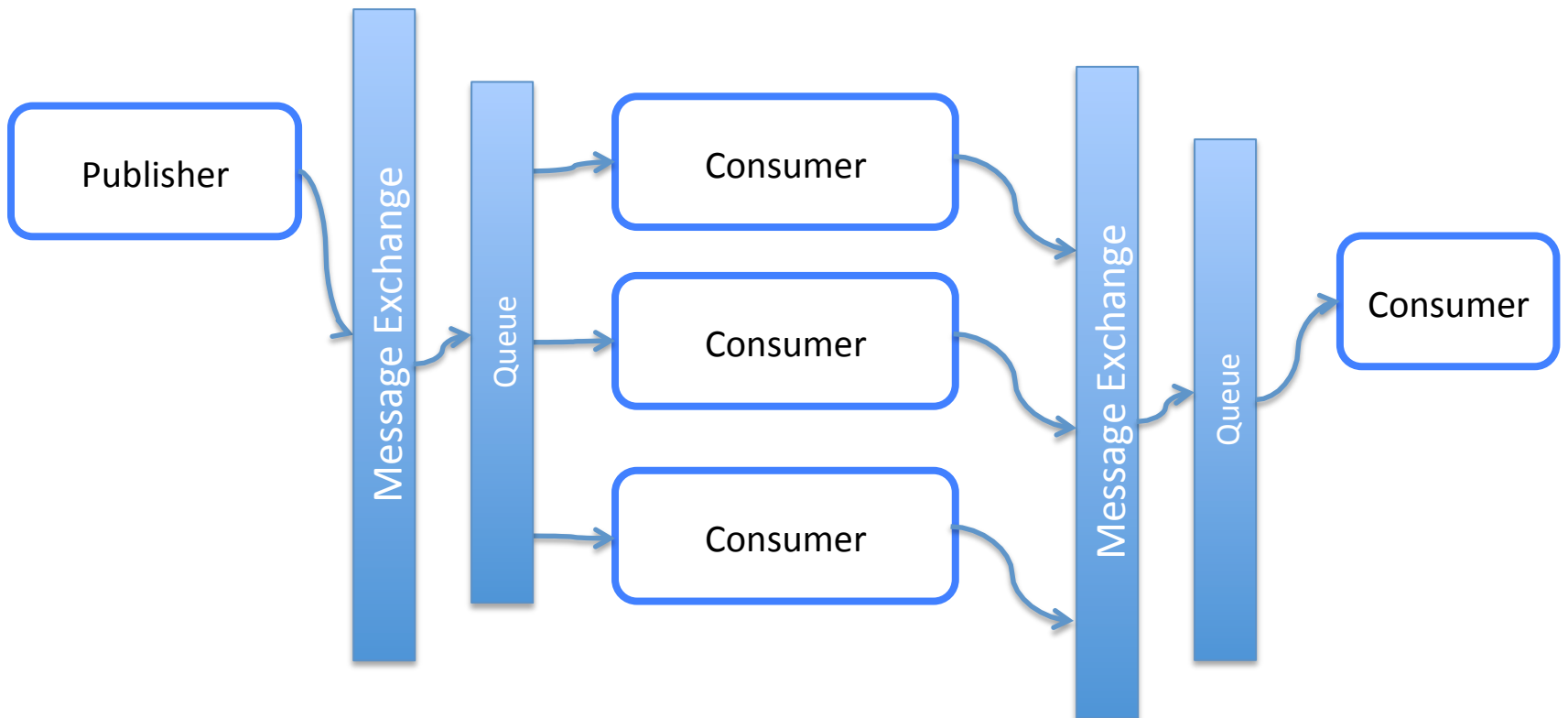
# Work Distribution & Consolidation

Adds one more step of  
complexity

Good for

- Distributed workflows
- Asynchronous workflows

# Work Distribution



# Work Distribution

Publisher

```
1 require 'stomp'
2
3 cli = Stomp::Client.new("admin","password","localhost",61613)
4
5 #first clear the client screens
6 cli.publish("/topic/reset","Clear for new run")
7
8 5.times do |i|
9   puts "Publishing message #{i} to do work"
10  cli.publish("/queue/workdist","Do work msg #{i}")
11 end
```

Final Worker

```
1 require 'stomp'
2
3 cli = Stomp::Client.new("admin","password","localhost",61613)
4
5 cli.subscribe("/queue/resp", {"id" => "resp"}) { |m|
6   puts "Recieved finished task #{m.body}"
7 }
8
9 while true
10  sleep 5
11 end
```

Worker

```
1 require 'stomp'
2
3 system("clear")
4
5 cli = Stomp::Client.new("admin","password","localhost",61613)
6
7 puts "Listening for messages to do work"
8 cli.subscribe("/queue/workdist", {"id" => "Listening"}) { |m|
9   load = [0,1,2,3].sample
10
11   puts "Recieved a message - Body: #{m.body}"
12   puts "Working for #{load} secs"
13   sleep load
14   cli.publish("/queue/resp","Done working on #{m.body}")
15 }
16
17 cli.subscribe("/topic/reset", {"id" => "reset"}) { |m|
18   system("clear")
19   puts "Recieved a clear message: #{m.body}"
20 }
21 while true
22   sleep 5
23 end
```

Files: example4\_publisher.rb, example4\_worker & example4\_final.rb

Questions?

# More info

We just scratched the surface

Google

I'd be glad to talk

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<https://github.com/meadoch1/PracticalMessaging>