

# Vert.X:

This ain't your Dad's Node!



*Tim Fox*  
*Father of Vert.x*

Matt Stine

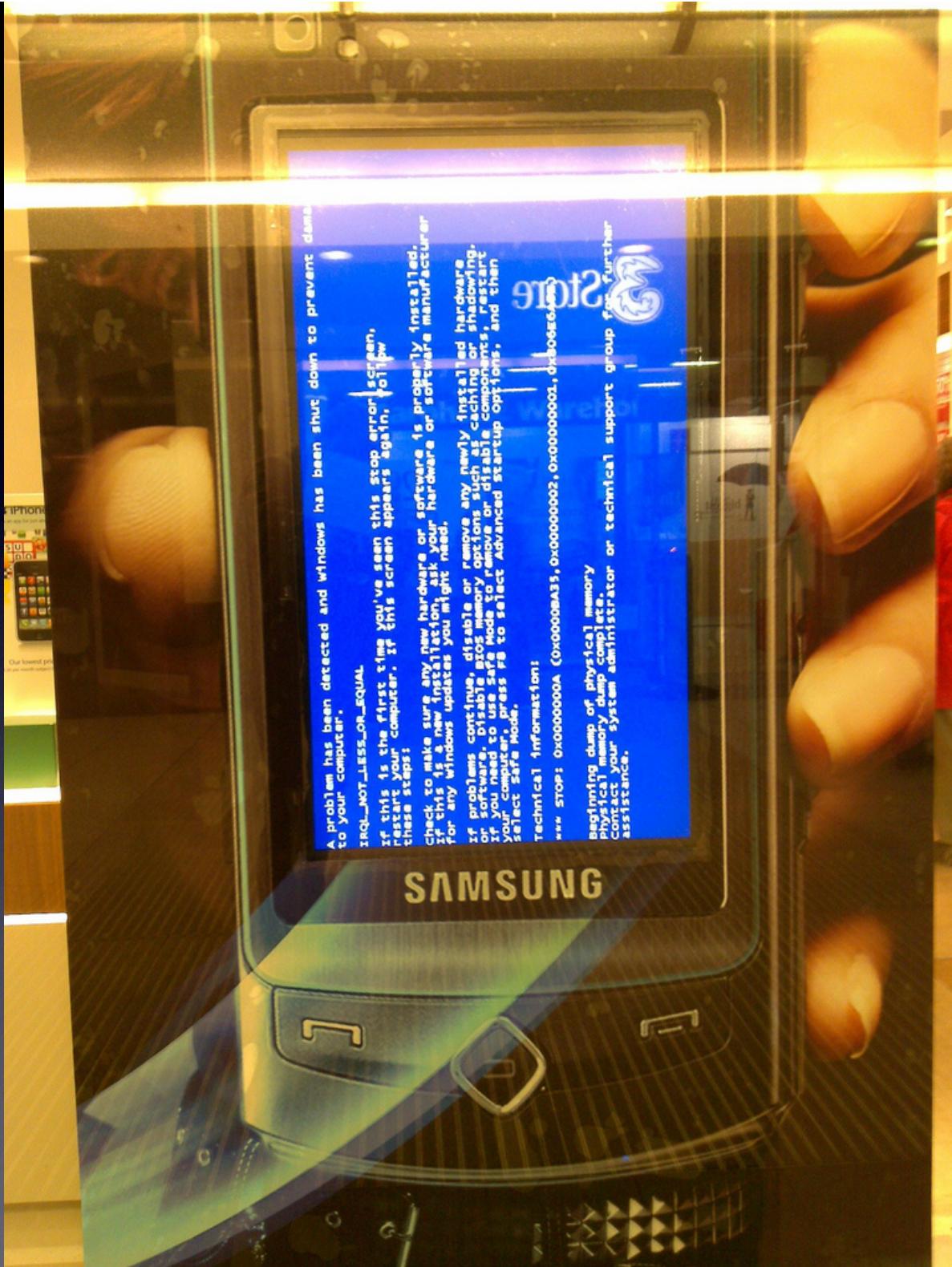
Enterprise Java/Cloud Consultant

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<http://mattstine.com>

Twitter: @mstine

# The C10K Problem



SERVER  
PUSH



*Ryan Dahl  
Father of Node.js*

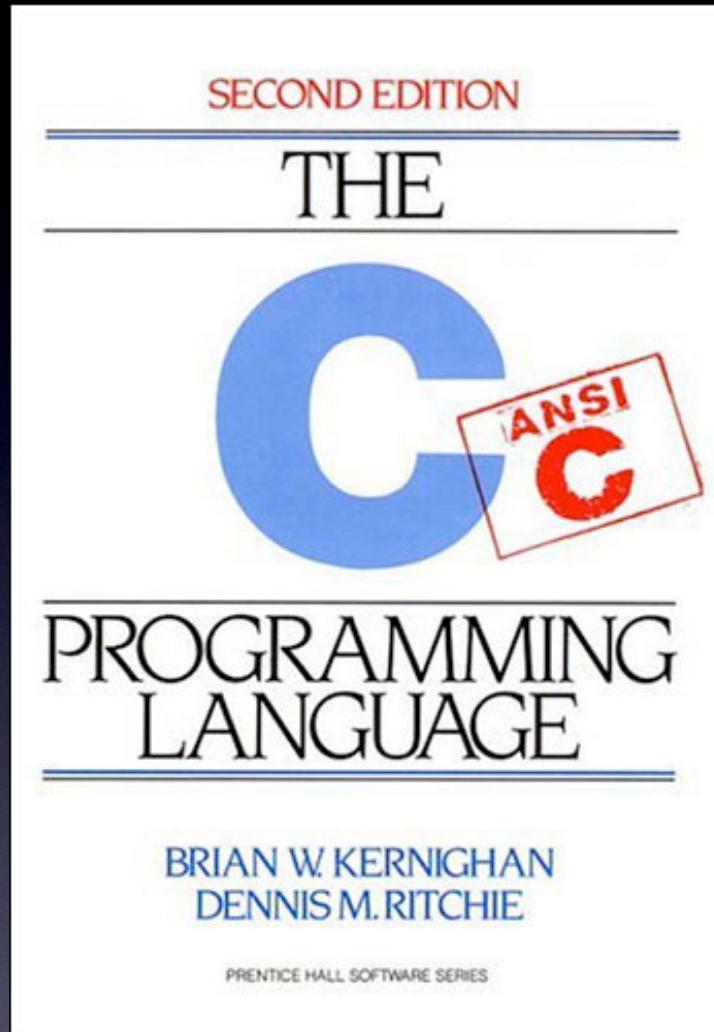
# How?!?!

2008:

Thread Per Request/Response



<http://www.xtranormal.com/watch/6995033/mongo-db-is-web-scale>



# Non-blocking UNIX sockets

*Unearthing the excellence in JavaScript*

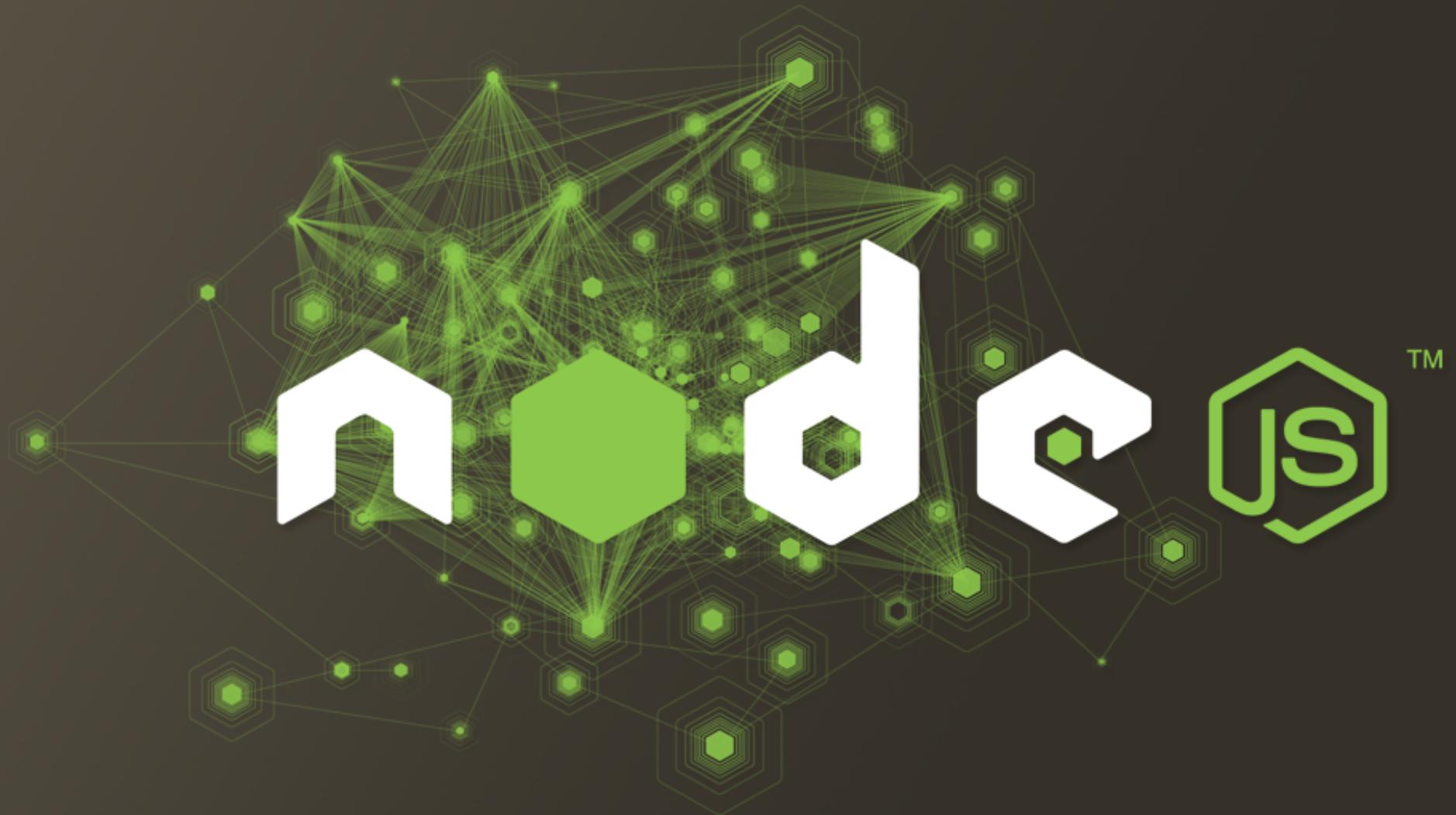


# JavaScript: The Good Parts

O'REILLY® | YAHOO! PRESS

Douglas Crockford





# But Node has some shortcomings...

1. JavaScript!
2. Vertical Scaling
3. Interprocess Communication
4. Event Loop



# vert.x

Effortless asynchronous application development for the modern web and enterprise

## Polyglot

Write your application components in **JavaScript**, **CoffeeScript**, **Ruby**, **Python**, **Groovy** or **Java**. Or mix and match several programming languages in a single app.

## Simplicity

...without being simplistic. Create real, scalable applications in just a few lines of code. No sprawling xml config.

## Scalability

Scale using messaging passing and immutable shared data to efficiently utilise your server cores.

## Concurrency

Super-simple concurrency model frees you from the hassles of traditional multi-threaded programming.

<http://vertx.io>



*Brendan Eich  
Father of JavaScript*

# *Problem #1:* JavaScript

```
failbowl:~(master!?) $ jsc
> [] + []
> []
> {} + []
[object Object]
> {} + []
0
> {} + {}
NaN
> []
```

WAT

<https://www.destroyallsoftware.com/talks/wat>



*Solution #1:*

# Polyglot Programming

*Neal Ford*

*Father of Polyglot Programming*

<http://memeagora.blogspot.com/2006/12/polyglot-programming.html>

# Hello World

in every Vert.x language!

```
import org.vertx.java.core.Handler;
import org.vertx.java.core.http.HttpServerRequest;
import org.vertx.java.deploy.Verticle;

public class HelloWorld extends Verticle {
    public void start() {
        vertx.createHttpServer()
            .requestHandler(new Handler<HttpServerRequest>() {
                public void handle(HttpServerRequest req) {
                    req.response.end("Hello World!");
                }
            }).listen(8080);
    }
}
```



Java

```
vertx.createHttpServer().requestHandler { req ->
    req.response.end "Hello World!"
}.listen(8080)
```



```
require "vertx"

Vertx::HttpServer.new.request_handler do |req|
  req.response.end "Hello World!"
end.listen(8080)
```



Ruby

```
import vertx

server = vertx.create_http_server()

@server.request_handler
def request_handler(req):
    req.response.end("Hello World!")
server.listen(8080)
```



Python

```
load('vertx.js')

vertx.createHttpServer().requestHandler(function(req) {
  req.response.end('Hello World!');
}).listen(8080)
```

JS

JavaScript

```
load "vertx.js"

vertx.createHttpServer().requestHandler((req) ->
  req.response.end "Hello World!"
).listen 8080
```



*CoffeeScript*

# FUTURE



Theoretically, any JVM language or language that compiles to a supported language (e.g. ClojureScript → JavaScript)



*Problem #2:*  
**Vertical  
Scaling**

*Lars Bak  
Father of V8*

But what about multiple-processor concurrency? Aren't threads necessary to scale programs to multi-core computers? You can start new processes via `child_process.fork()` these other processes will be scheduled in parallel. For load balancing incoming connections across multiple processes use `the cluster module`.

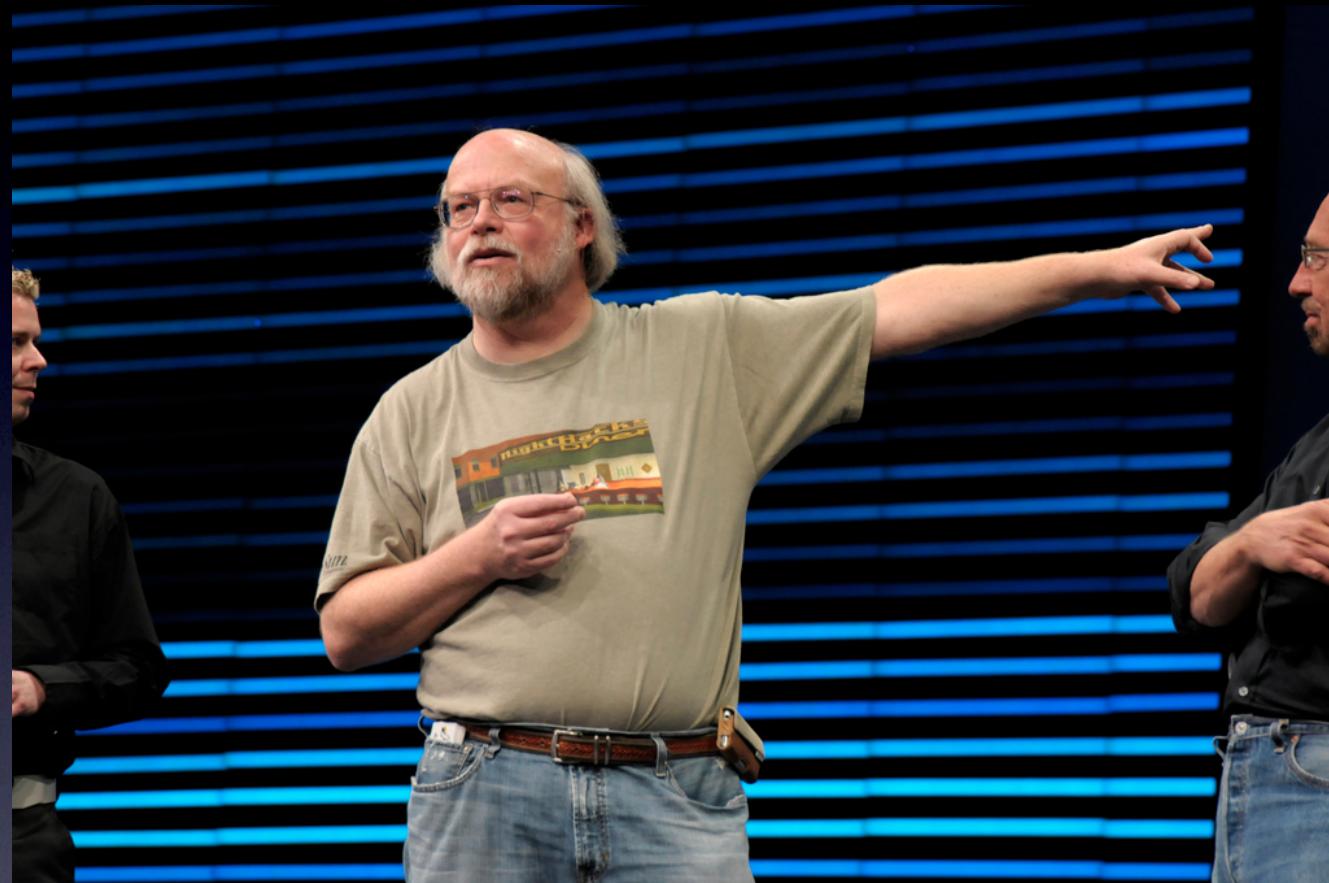
<http://nodejs.org/about/>

```
var cluster = require('cluster');
var http = require('http');
var numCPUs = require('os').cpus().length;

if (cluster.isMaster) {
  // Fork workers.
  for (var i = 0; i < numCPUs; i++) {
    cluster.fork();
  }
  cluster.on('death', function(worker) {
    console.log('worker ' + worker.pid + ' died');
  });
} else {
  // Worker processes have a http server.
  http.Server(function(req, res) {
    res.writeHead(200);
    res.end("hello world\n");
  }).listen(8000);
}
```

*Node: Up and Running*  
Example 3-11: Using cluster to distribute work

# *Solution #2:* The JVM



*James Gosling*  
*Father of Java*

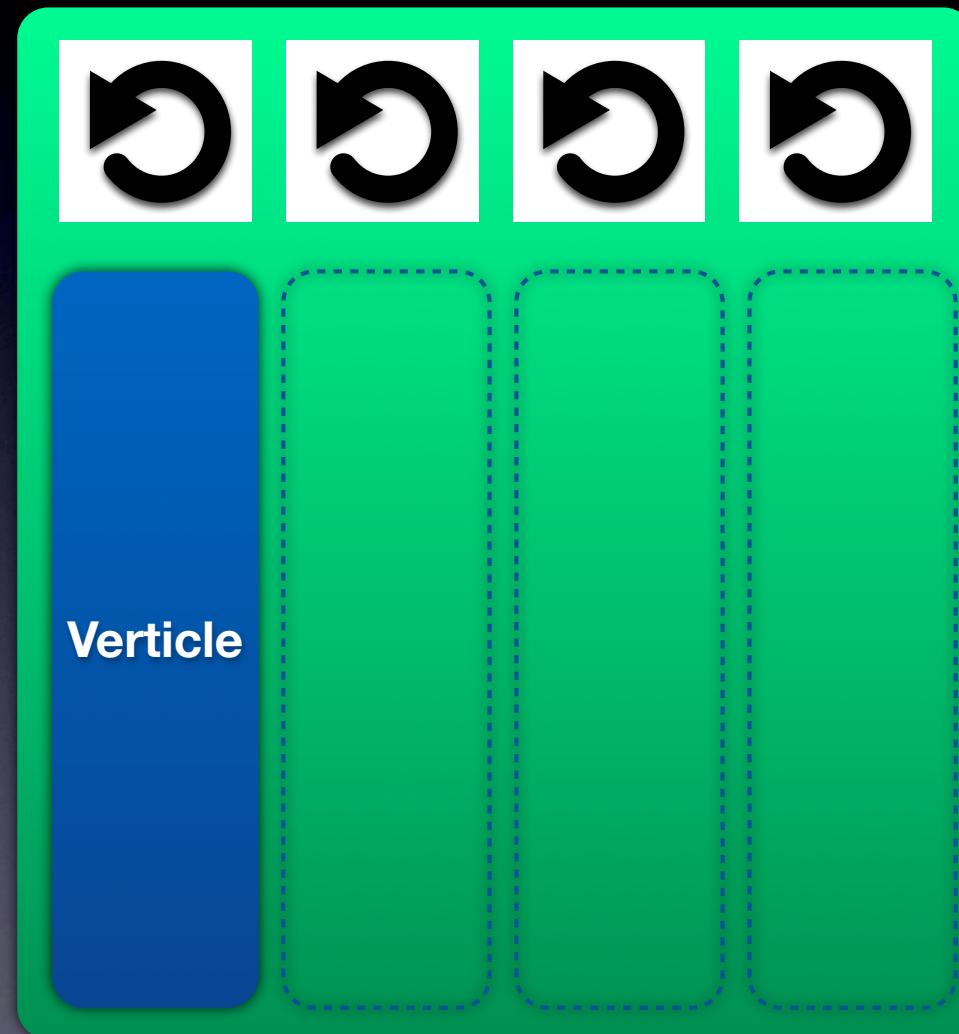
# The Verticle



- Unit of Deployment
- Script/Java Class

# Vert.x Instance

Event Loops  
→

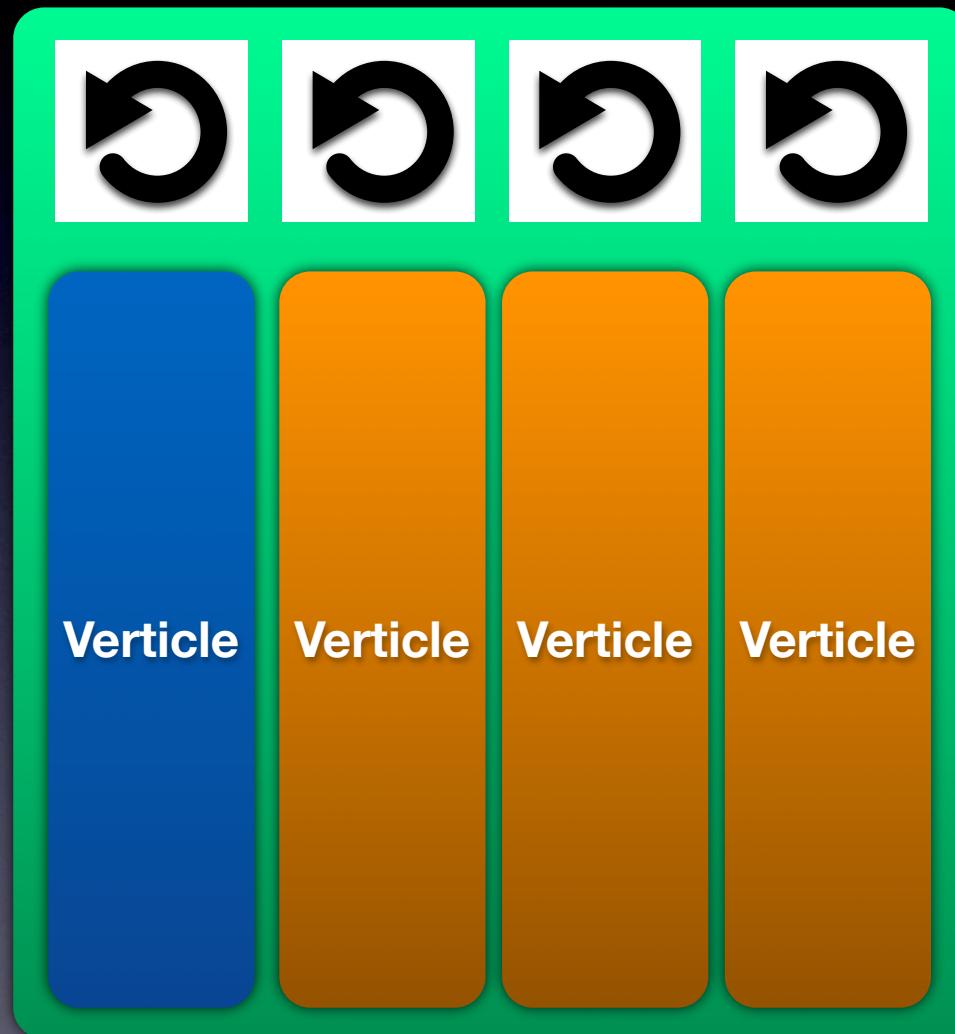


`Runtime.availableProcessors() == 4`

# Vert.x Instance

Event Loops  
→

```
vertx run  
HelloWorld  
-instances 4
```



```
Runtime.availableProcessors() == 4
```

# Concurrency

- Verticle instance assigned thread/event loop.
- Verticle instance **ALWAYS** executes on assigned thread.
- Verticles have isolated classloaders and cannot share global state (static members, global variables, etc.)
- Can write all code assuming single threading.



*Tony Hoare*  
*Father of CSP*  
*([http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?  
doid=359576.359585](http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?doid=359576.359585))*

*Problem #3:*

# Interprocess Communication

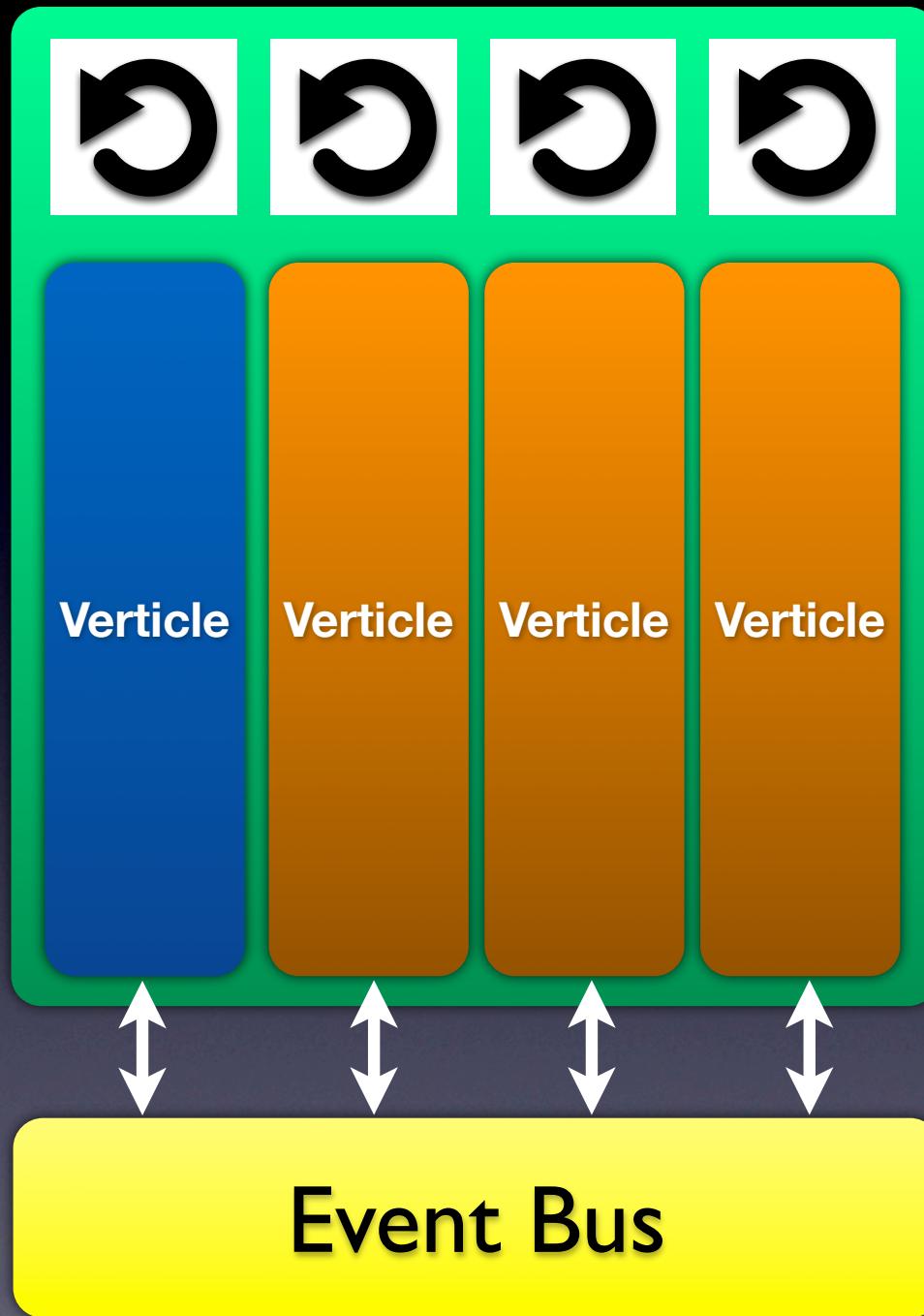
# Node.js Communication Options

- TCP/UDP/UNIX Sockets
- Redis Pub/Sub (<http://redis.io/>)
- ZeroMQ (<http://www.zeromq.org/>)
- Process Signaling/Cluster Module
- Eventing Frameworks: Hook.io (dead), JS-Signals, Bean, etc.
- Memcached
- Etc...

# *Solution #3.1:* The Event Bus



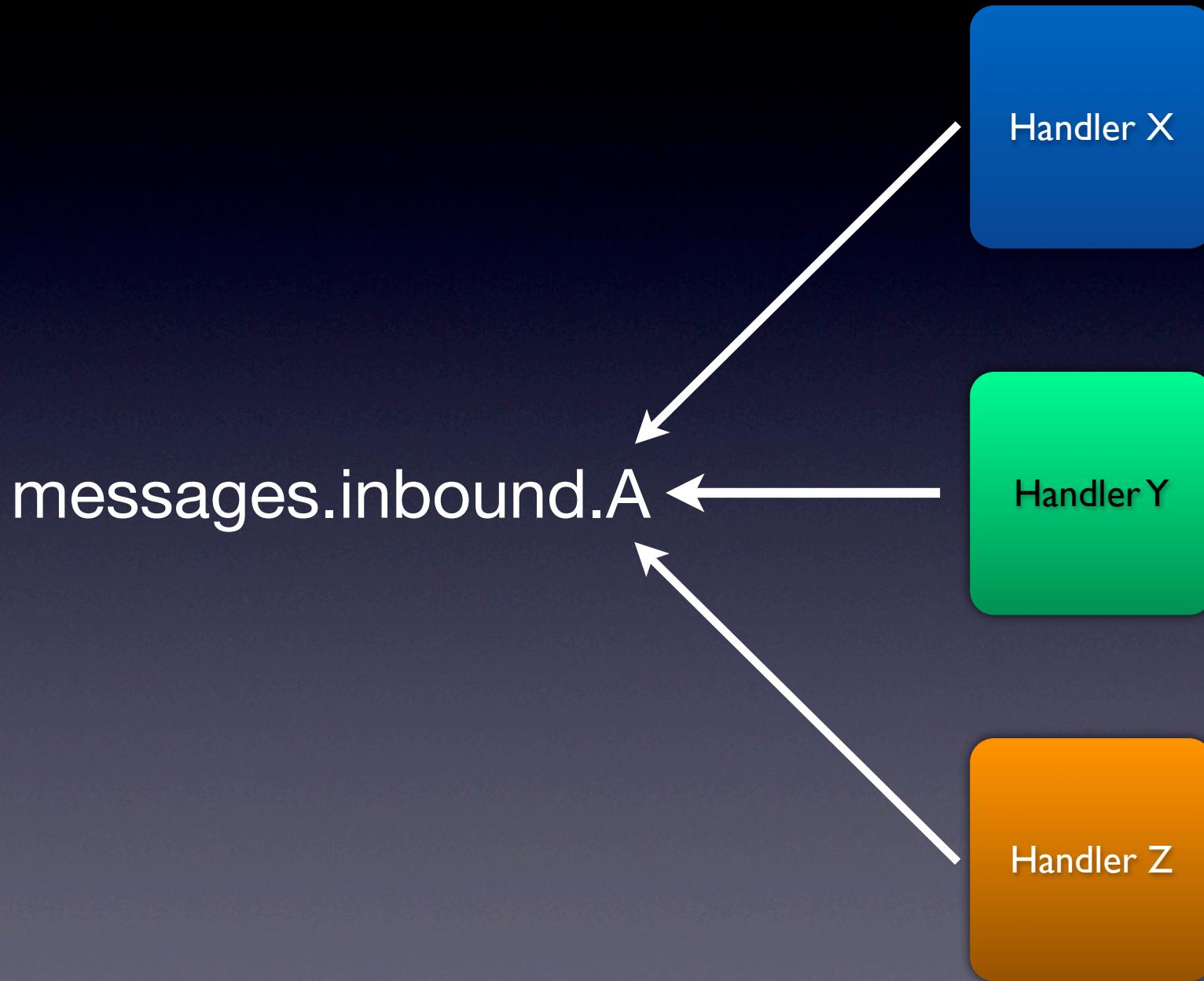
*Alan Kay  
Father of Smalltalk*



# Addressing

- Simply a String
- Dot-style namespacing recommended
- e.g. “messages.inbound.A”

# Handler Registration



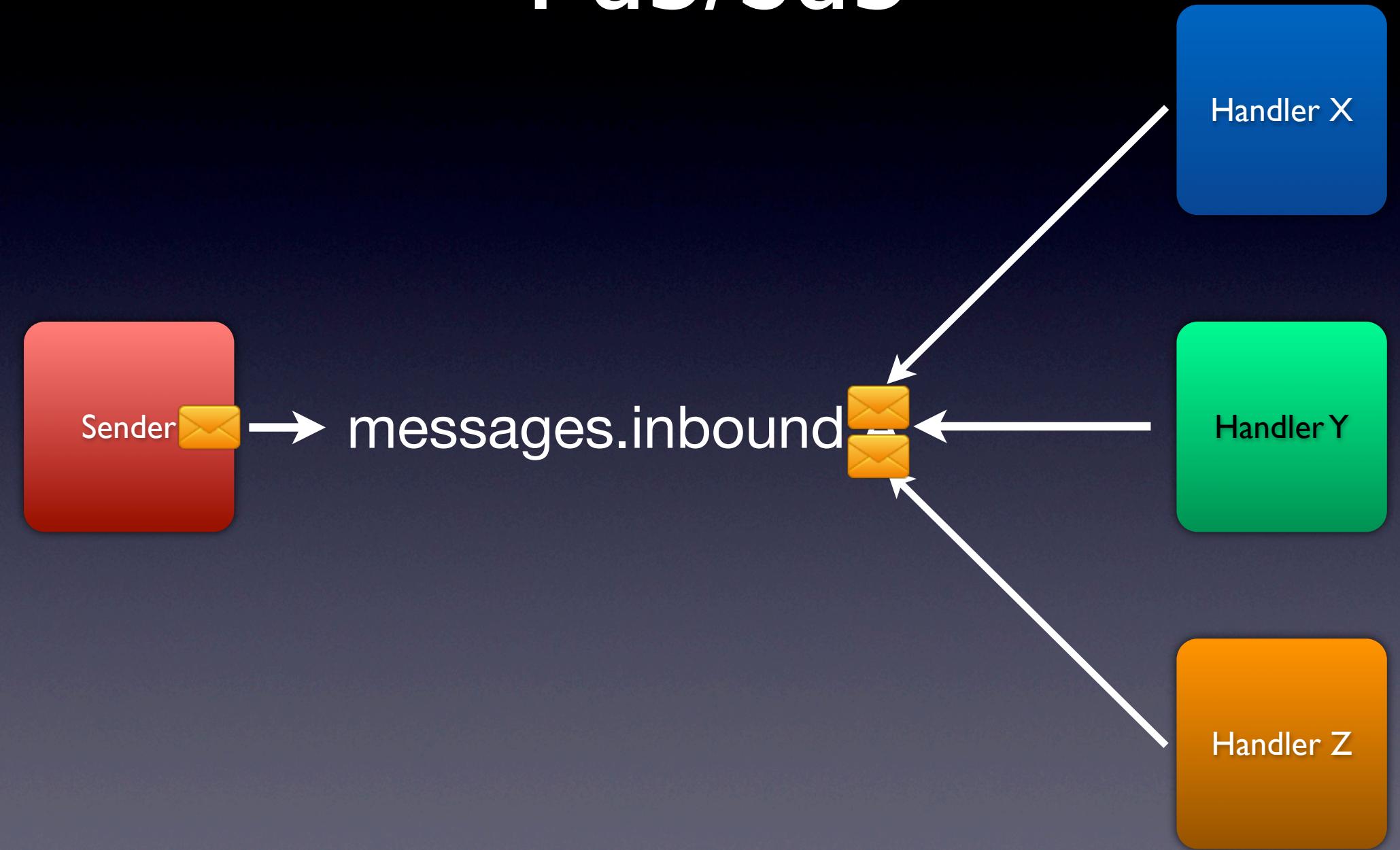
# Handler Registration

```
EventBus eb = vertx.eventBus();

Handler<Message> myHandler = new Handler<Message>() {
    public void handle(Message message) {
        System.out.println("I received a message " + message.body());
    }
};

eb.registerHandler("test.address", myHandler);
```

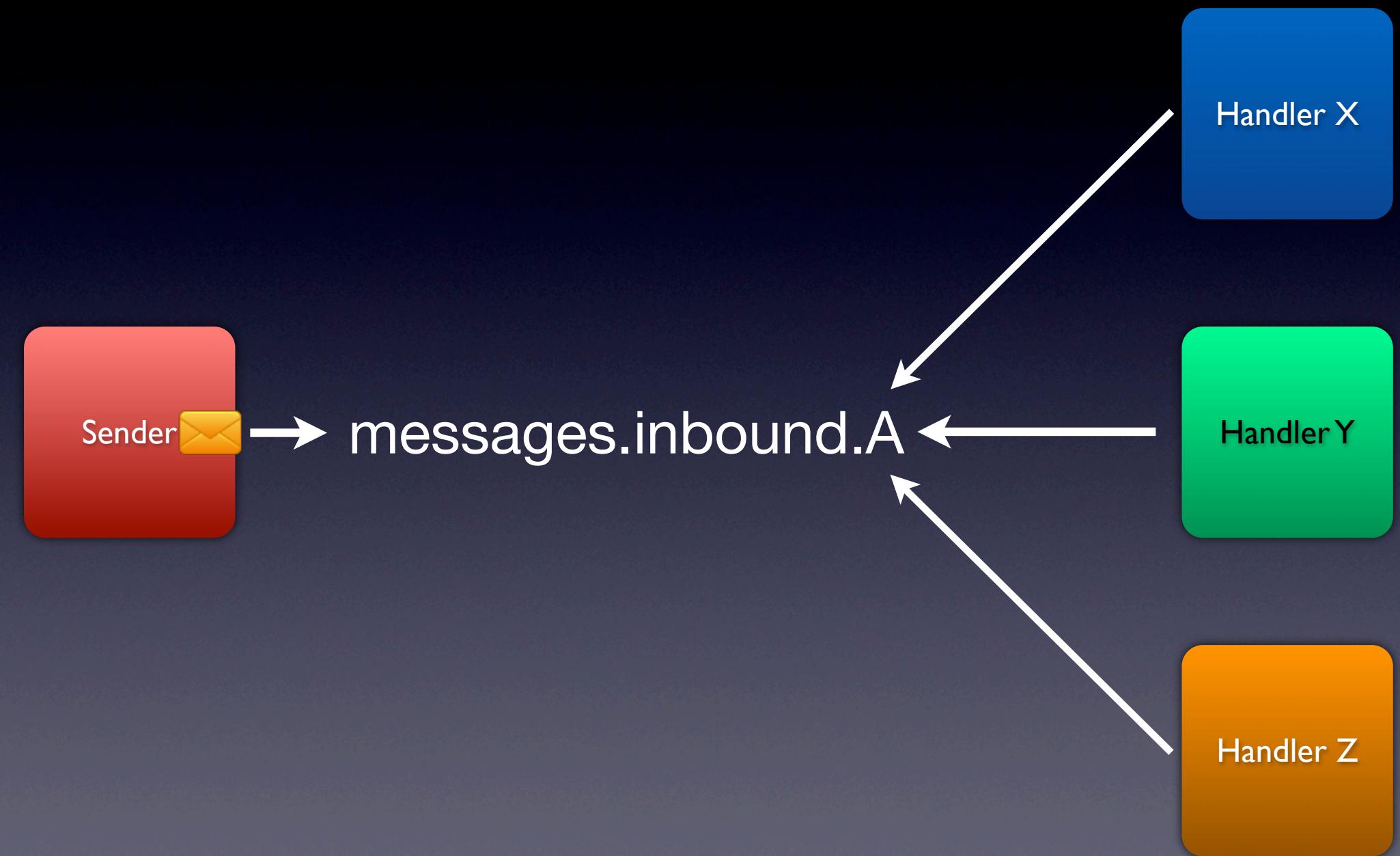
# Pub/Sub



# Pub/Sub

```
eb.publish("test.address", "hello world");
```

# P2P



# P2P

```
eb.send("test.address", "hello world");
```

## Sender:

```
eb.send("test.address", "This is a message", new Handler<Message<String>>() {  
    public void handle(Message<String> message) {  
        System.out.println("I received a reply " + message.body);  
    }  
});
```

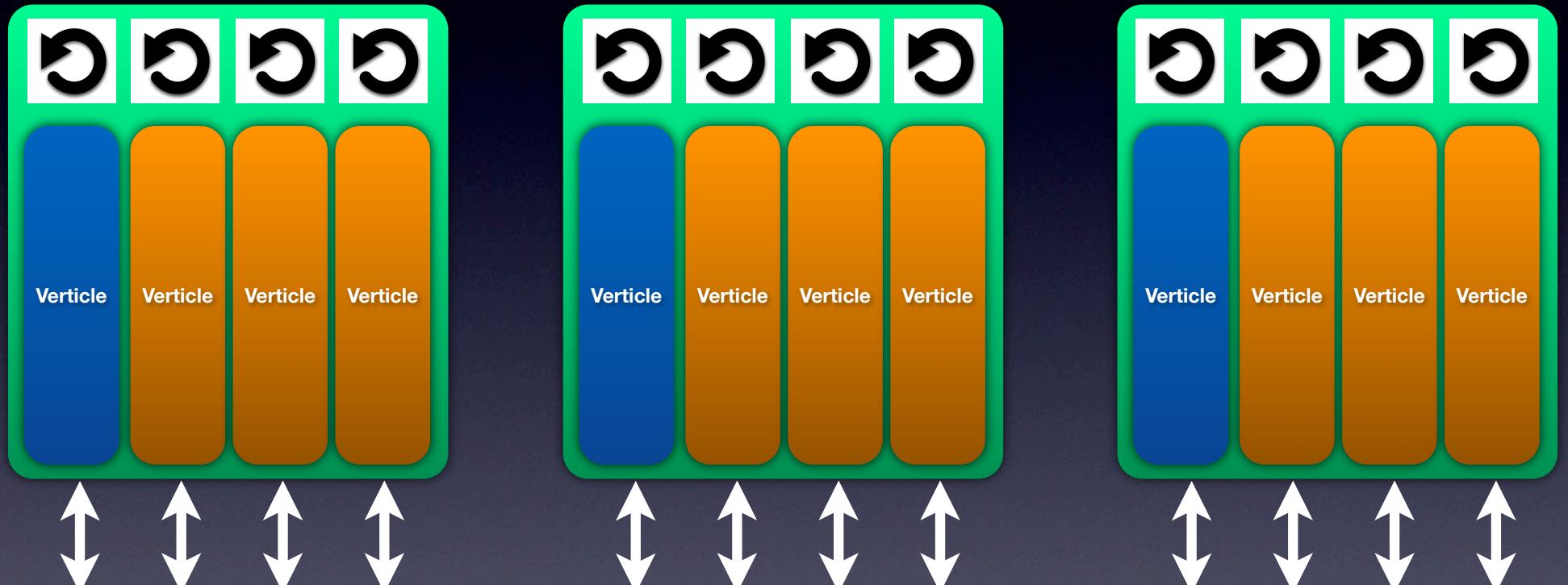
## Receiver:

```
Handler<Message<String>> myHandler = new Handler<Message<String>>() {  
    public void handle(Message<String> message) {  
        System.out.println("I received a message " + message.body);  
  
        // Do some stuff  
  
        message.reply("This is a reply");  
    }  
};  
  
eb.registerHandler("test.address", myHandler);
```

# Message Types

- String
- Primitives (int, long, short, float, double, ...)
- Boxed Primitives
- boolean/Boolean
- org.vertx.java.core.json.JsonObject
- org.vertx.java.core.buffer.Buffer

# Distributed Vert.x

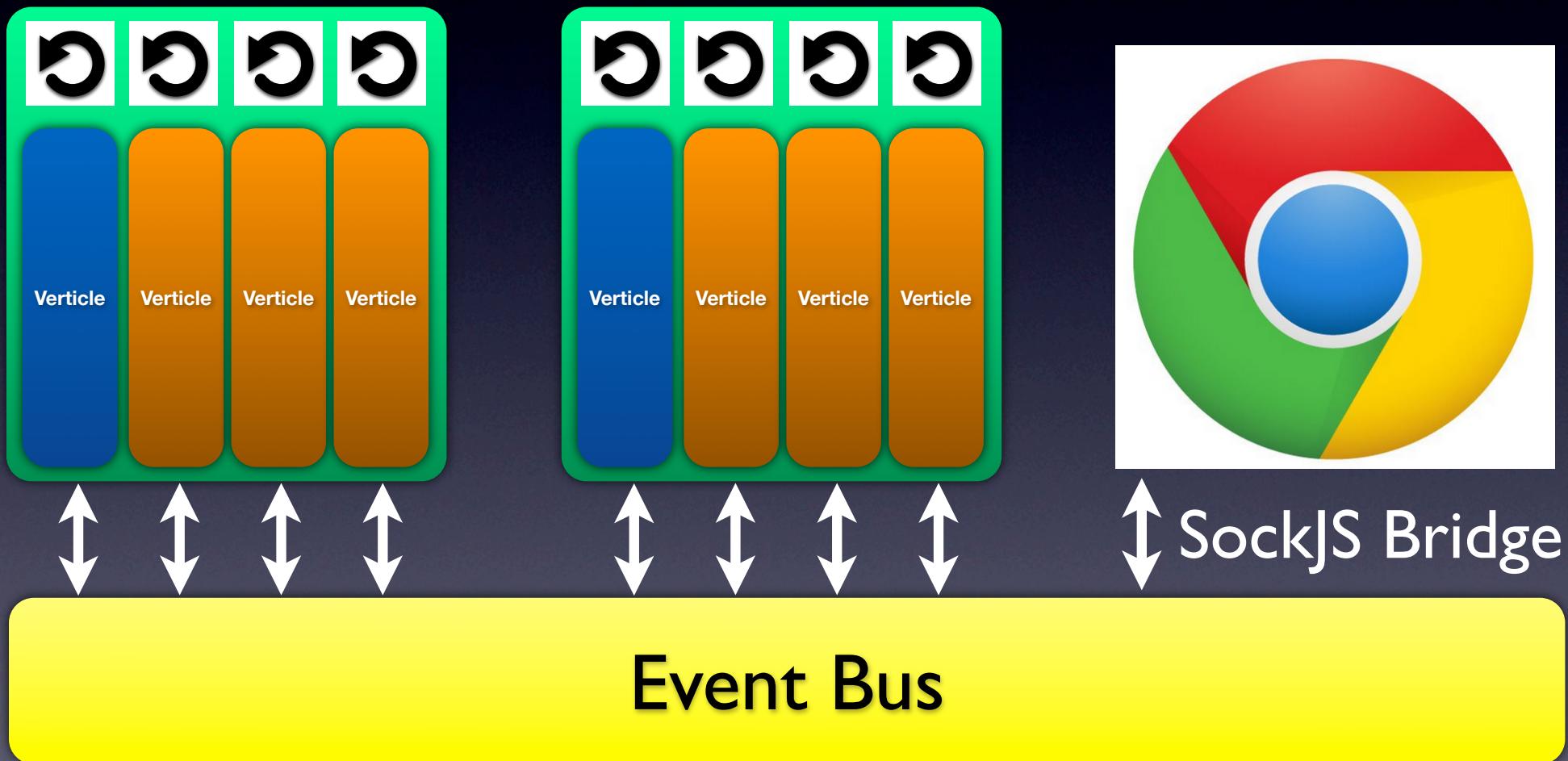


Event Bus



**HAZELCAST**  
SOFTWARE

# Into the Browser!



# The Server

```
HttpServer server = vertx.createHttpServer();

server.requestHandler(new Handler<HttpServerRequest>() {
    public void handle(HttpServerRequest req) {
        if (req.path.equals("/")) req.response.sendFile("index.html");
        if (req.path.endsWith("vertxbus.js")) req.response.sendFile("vertxbus.js");
    }
});

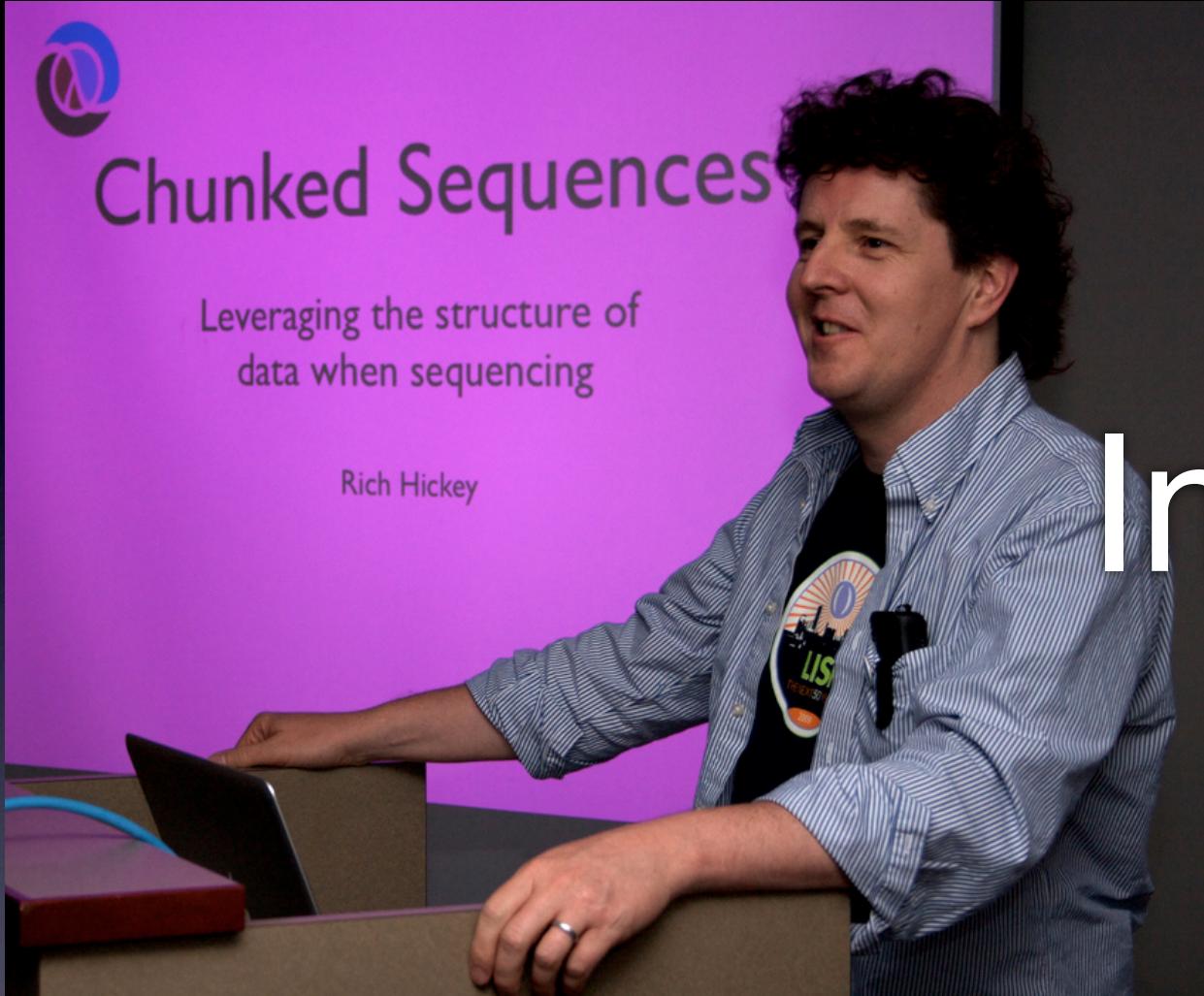
SockJSServer sockJSServer = vertx.createSockJSServer(server);
sockJSServer.bridge(new JsonObject().putString("prefix", "/eventbus"),
    new JSONArray().add(new JsonObject()),
    new JSONArray().add(new JsonObject()));
server.listen(8080);
```

# The Client

```
<script src="http://cdn.sockjs.org/sockjs-0.2.1.min.js"></script>
<script src='vertxbus.js'></script>
<script>
var eb = new vertx.EventBus('http://localhost:8080/eventbus');

eb.onopen = function() {
  eb.registerHandler('msgs.echo', function(message) {
    alert('Echoing message: ' + JSON.stringify(message));
  });
}
</script>
```

# Demo



*Rich Hickey  
Father of Clojure*

# *Solution #3.2:* Shared Immutable State

e.g. In-memory Web  
Cache

Message Passing?

~~FAIL~~

Shared state only  
dangerous if it is  
**MUTABLE!**

# Vert.x Shared State

- SharedData Object (`vertx.sharedData()`)
  - collection of  
`java.util.concurrent.ConcurrentMap<K,V>`
  - collection of `java.util.Set<E>` (backed by  
`ConcurrentMap`)
- Elements MUST be immutable values (well,  
sort of...)
- Currently only available *within* a Vertx.  
instance, not across a cluster.

# Allowed Values

- Strings
- Boxed Primitives
- byte[]
- org.vertx.java.core.buffer.Buffer
- Implementors of  
org.vertx.java.core.shareddata.  
Shareable

DANGER!

# Shared Map

```
// In one verticle...
ConcurrentMap<String, Integer> map = vertx.sharedData().getMap("app.cache");
map.put("user-id", 42);

// In another verticle...
ConcurrentMap<String, Integer> map = vertx.sharedData().getMap("app.cache");
Integer userId = map.get("user-id");
```

# Shared Set

```
// In one verticle...
Set<String> set = vertx.sharedData().getSet("app.sessions");
set.add("076146D0-11B3-11E2-892E-0800200C9A66");

// In another verticle...
Set<String> sessions = vertx.sharedData().getSet("app.sessions");
for (String session : sessions) {
    // Do something w/ each session ID
}
```

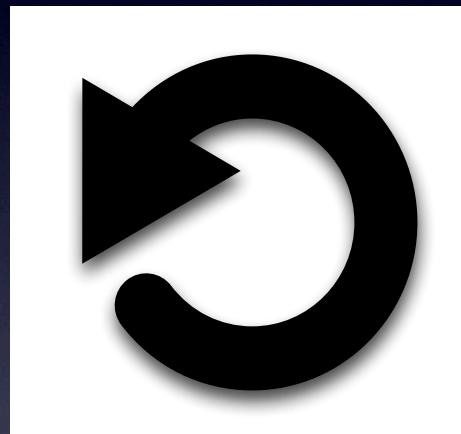


*Douglas Schmidt  
Father of the Reactor Pattern*

*Problem #4:*  
**The  
Event  
Loop**

# Reactor Pattern Review

Application  
registers  
handlers...



...events  
trigger  
handlers.

Event Loop

# Reactor Pattern Review

- Single thread / single event loop
- **EVERYTHING** runs on it
- You **MUST NOT** block the event loop

# Reactor Pattern Problems

- Some work is naturally blocking:
  - Intensive data crunching
  - 3rd-party blocking API's (e.g. JDBC)
- Pure reactor (e.g. Node.js) is not a good fit for this kind of work!



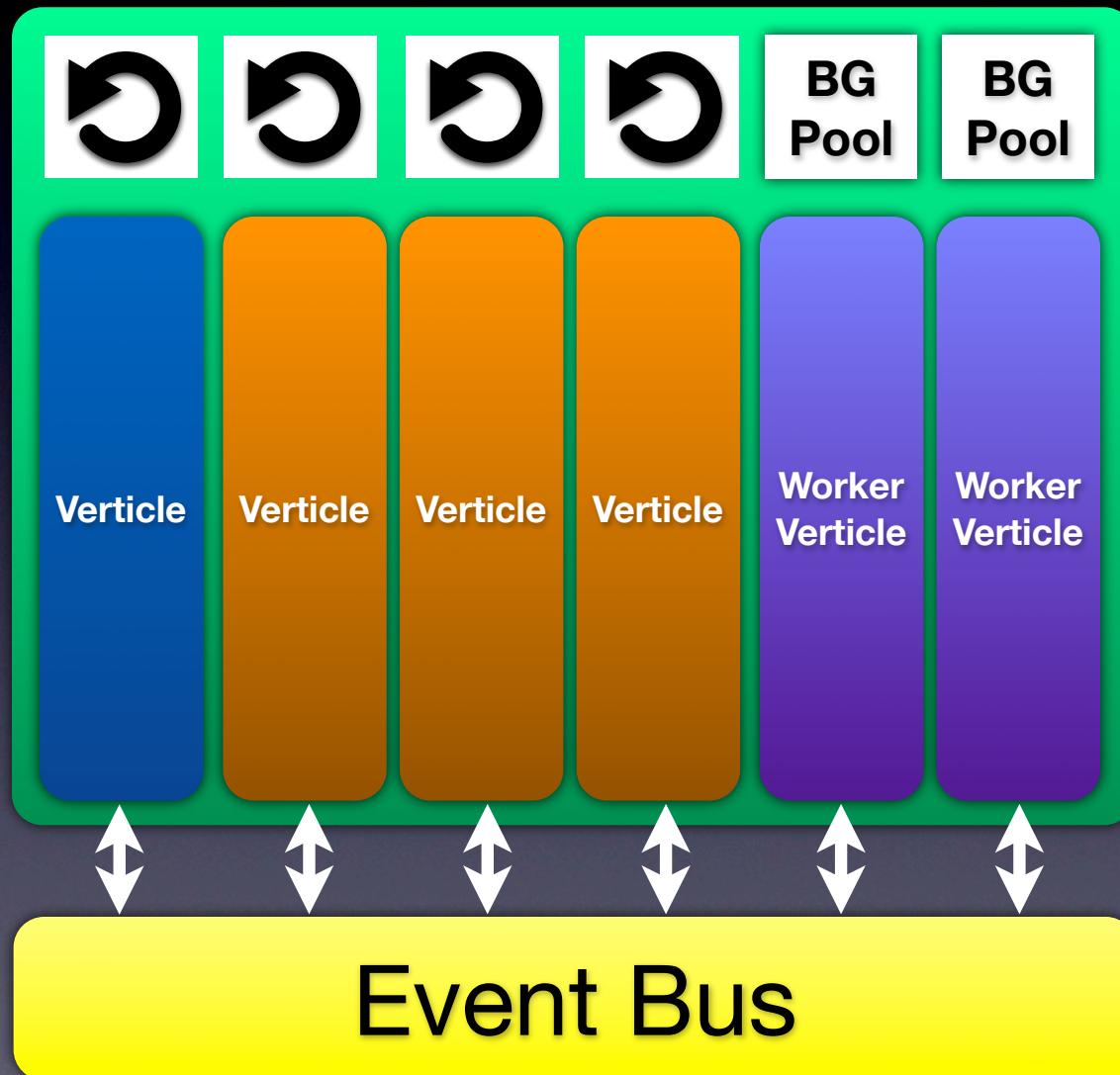
*Carl Hewitt  
Father of the Actor Model*

*Solution #4:*  
**Worker  
Verticles**

# Worker Verticles

- Not assigned a Vert.x event loop thread
- Executes on background thread pool
- Never executed concurrently by more than one thread
- Not allowed to use TCP or HTTP clients/servers
- Communicate using the event bus
- Should be kept to a minimum

# The “Multi-reactor”



```
public class FibonacciWorker extends Verticle {

    @Override
    public void start() throws Exception {
        final EventBus eventBus = vertx.eventBus();

        eventBus.registerHandler("fib.request", new Handler<Message<Integer>>() {
            @Override
            public void handle(Message<Integer> message) {
                Integer result = fib(message.body.intValue());
                JsonObject resultMessage = new JsonObject()
                    .putString("number", message.body.toString())
                    .putString("result", result.toString());
                eventBus.send("fib.response", resultMessage);
            }
        });
    }

    private int fib(int number) {
        if (number == 0) {
            return 0;
        } else if (number == 1) {
            return 1;
        } else {
            return fib(number - 2) + fib(number - 1);
        }
    }
}
```

```
public class WorkerExample extends Verticle {
    @Override
    public void start() throws Exception {
        final EventBus eventBus = vertx.eventBus();

        Handler<Message<JsonObject>> resultHandler = new Handler<Message<JsonObject>>() {
            @Override
            public void handle(Message<JsonObject> message) {
                System.out.println("Fib(" +
                    +message.body.getString("number")+")=" +
                    +message.body.getString("result"));
            }
        };

        eventBus.registerHandler("fib.response", resultHandler);

        container.deployWorkerVerticle("worker.FibonacciWorker",
            new JsonObject(), 1, new Handler<String>() {
                @Override
                public void handle(String s) {
                    eventBus.send("fib.request", 20);
                }
            });
    }
}
```

# Problem/Solution Summary

- Node.js compels the use of JavaScript
- Vert.x is Polyglot
- Node.js is inherently single-threaded
- Vert.x leverages the multi-threaded JVM

# Problem/Solution Summary

- Node.js doesn't help much w/ interprocess communication
- Vert.x features a distributed event bus which reaches all the way into the browser
- Node.js requires all code to run on the event loop
- Vert.x features background workers that allow blocking work to be done off of the event loops

# Other Goodies

- Growing Module Repository
  - web server
  - persistors (Mongo, JDBC, ...)
  - work queue
  - authentication manager
  - session manager
  - Socket.IO
- TCP/SSL servers/clients
- HTTP/HTTPS servers/clients
- WebSockets support
- SockJS support
- Timers
- Buffers
- Streams and Pumps
- Routing
- Asynchronous File I/O

# Case Study

The screenshot shows a web application titled "Welcome to Twit.x!" which is a "Twitter-clone" implemented using Vert.x, Twitter Bootstrap and Knockout.js. The interface includes a posting form on the left and a message stream on the right.

**What's up, Matt Stine?**

Type the message you want to post:

Hacking on Vert.x...

Twit.x it!

**Your message stream:**

- joeuser: @mstine trying it myself
- mstine: Try the clearing...
- joeuser: @mstine I am demonstrating the coolness...like a boss.
- joeuser: @joeuser I am demonstrating the coolness...like a boss.
- joeuser: Here we go again!!!!
- joeuser: @mstine this is crazy

<https://github.com/mstine/twitx>

# Get Involved!

- Google Group: <http://groups.google.com/group/vertx>
- GitHub: <https://github.com/vert-x/vert.x>
- IRC: <irc://freenode.net/vertx>
- Needs:
  - language implementations
  - modules (esp. persistence, security, ...)
  - examples/blogs/documentation help



*Please fill out an evaluation:*

<http://speakerrate.com/talks/16821>

# Vert.X:

This ain't your Dad's Node!

Matt Stine

Enterprise Java/Cloud Consultant

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<http://mattstine.com>

Twitter: @mstine

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