

How *Redis* plays a key role in the world's coolest case management solution

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Code examples available



https://github.com/sebdehne/redis-at-skatt-talk





Agenda

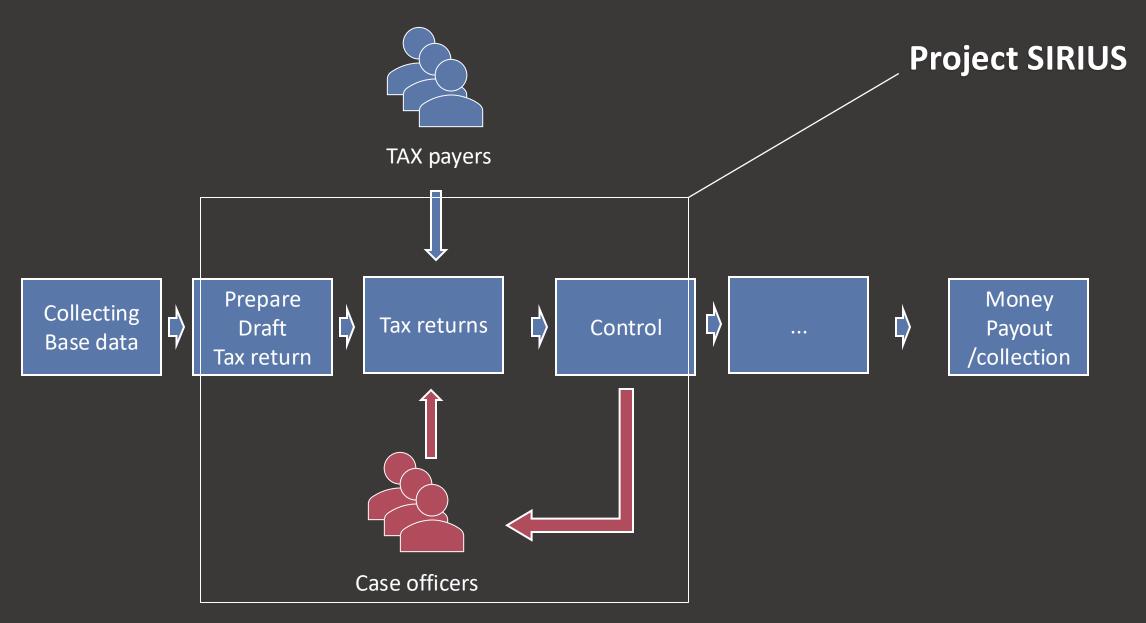
- Project SIRIUS
- Locking with Redis
- Running processes with Redis
- Other Redis use-cases
- Conclusion / lessions learned



https://github.com/ sebdehne/redis-atskatt-talk



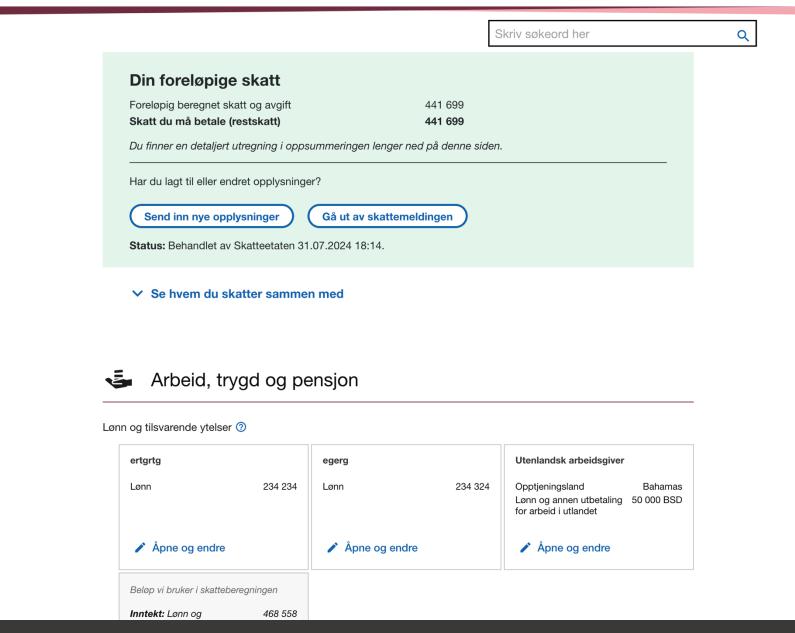


















6 million public TAX payers





"SME" (Tax return for the public)

Project SIRIUS



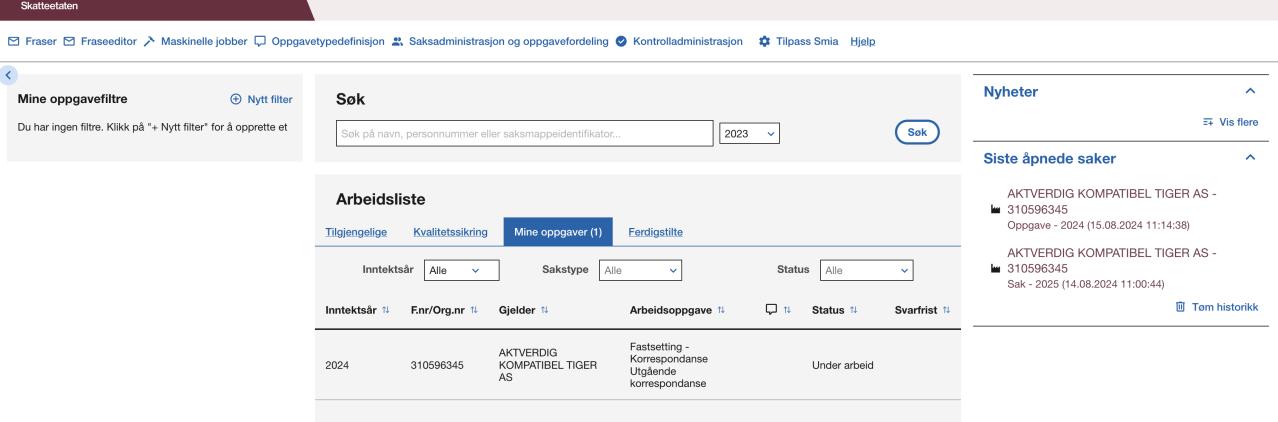




Project SIRIUS

Hjemmeside SMIA











6 million public TAX payers





"SME" (Tax return for the public)



Team Vulcan

Project SIRIUS









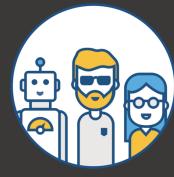


2500 internal Case officers





"SMIA" (Internal case Management)



Team Laika





6 million public TAX payers

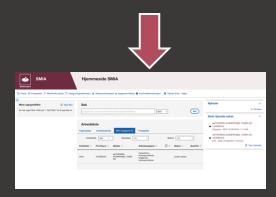




"SME" (Tax return for the public)

Project SIRIUS Architecture

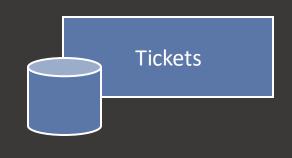




"SMIA" (Internal case Management)











A typical transaction...

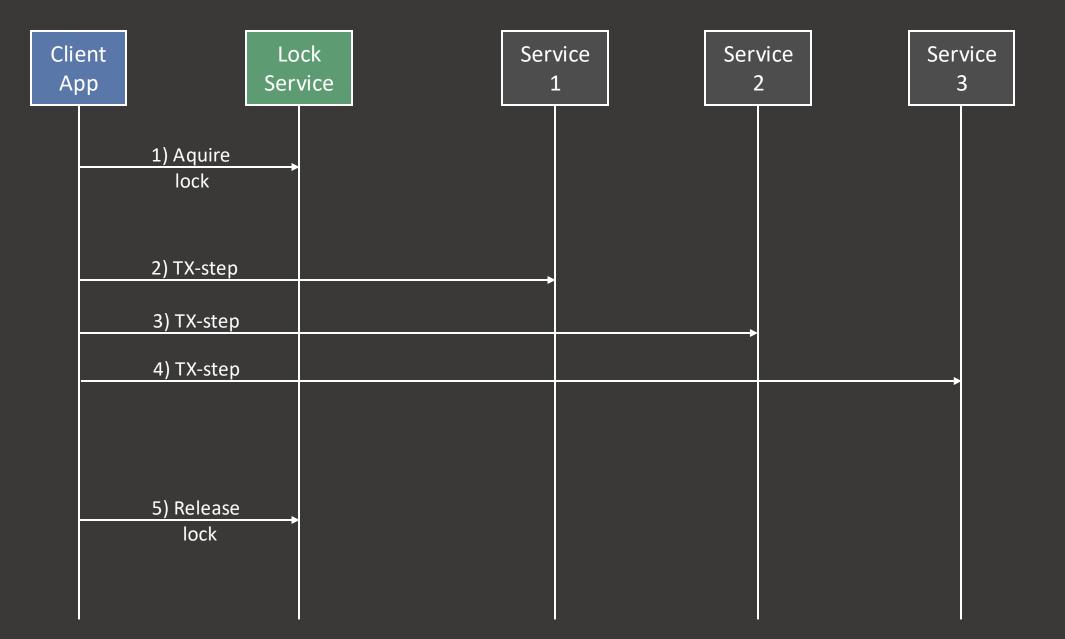
runLocked(customerId) {

- 1. Read current version of TAX return
- 2. Update and write new Tax return to document store
- 3. Update Journal store with new meta data
- 4. Send out letter
- 5. Update Journal store with sent letter meta data
- 6. Update (/close) ticket
- 7. Updated search indexes



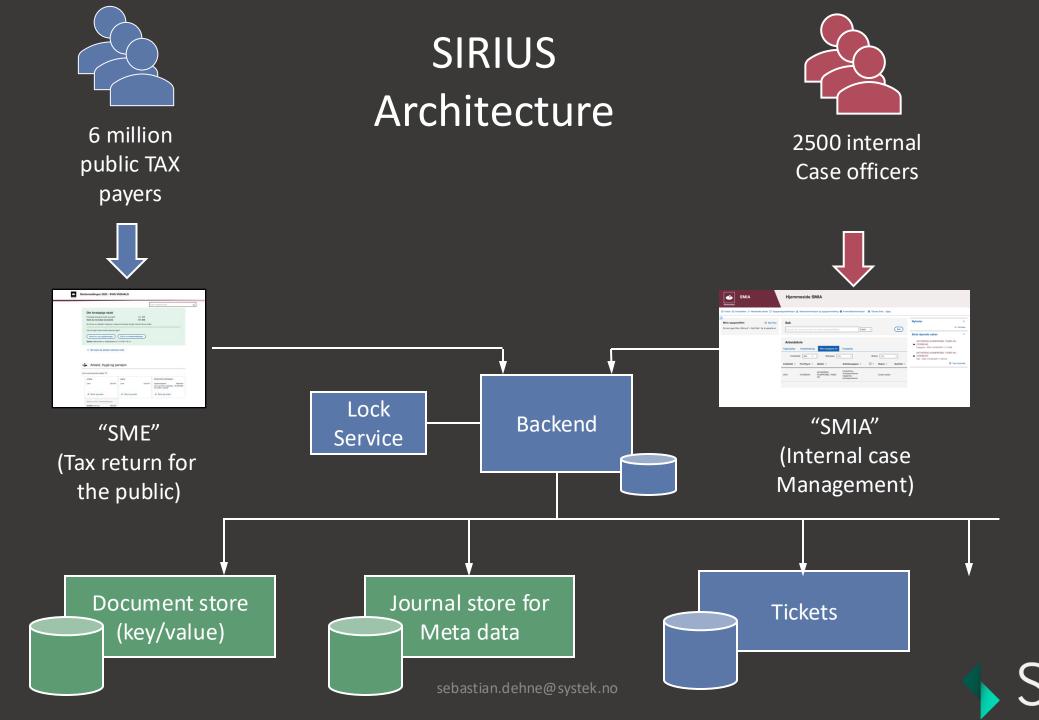












Possible solutions for "Lock Service"

- Postgres Advisory Locks
- Use Redis as a lock-service





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https://github.com/ sebdehne/redis-atskatt-talk





What is Redis

- In-memory key/value database
- Easy to use / reason about
- Very lightweight
 - Based on single-thread event loop
- High performant
- No security (out of the box)
- Redis is no longer open source
- Linux foundation created a fork: Valkey







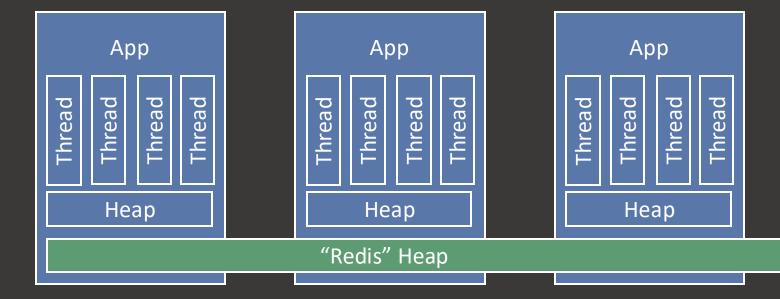
Demo







Load balancer











Redis features

- Data store:
 - Strings
 - Lists
 - Hashes
 - Sets
 - Sorted sets
- Publish/Subscribe/Notify
- Transactions
- Scripting





Our Redis setup

- Single instance no cluster (KISS)
- Disabled disk storage in memory only (use DB for persistence)
- Suitable for short lived state
- Which can be lost at any time
- Dataset small enough to fit into RAM
- Use TTL / expire
- Name spacing to avoid conflicts





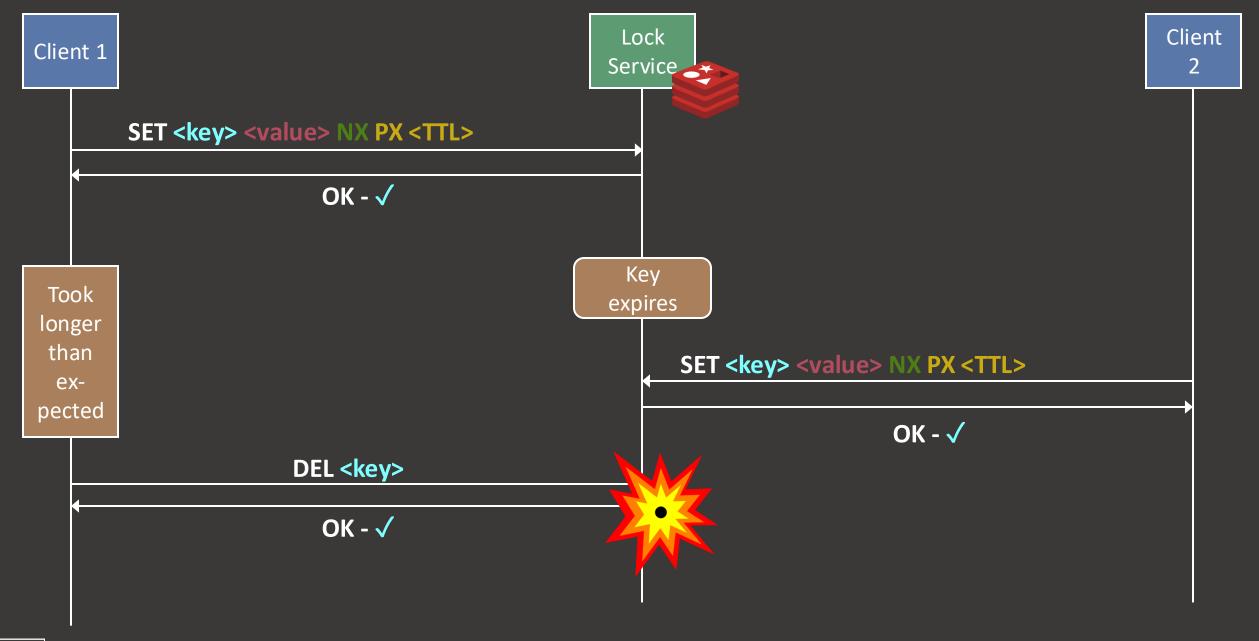
Let's design a basic lock in Redis ("RedLock")

```
SET <key> <value> NX PX <TTL> // lock

DEL <key> // unlock
```











Let's design a basic lock in Redis ("RedLock")

```
if redis.call('get', KEYS[1]) == ARGV[1] then
  return redis.call('del', KEYS[1])
else
  return 0
end
```





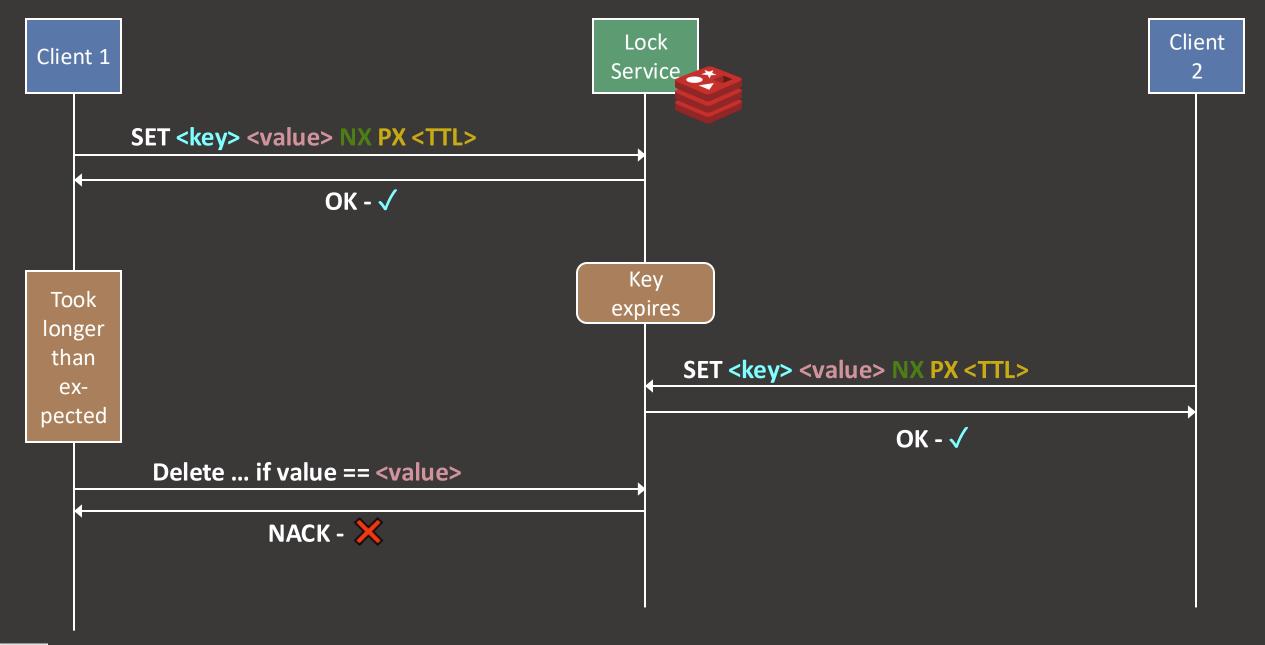
Let's design a basic lock in Redis ("RedLock")

SET <key> <random_value> NX PX <TTL>

EVAL "if redis.call('get',KEYS[1]) == ARGV[1] then return redis.call('del',KEYS[1]) else return 0 end" 1 <key> <random_value>











```
private fun namespaceKey(lock: String) = "${this::class.jανα.nαme}-$lock"
          private fun lock(lock: String, expiresSeconds: Long = 30): String? {
               val key = namespaceKey(lock)
               val randomValue = UUID.randomUUID().toString()
               return if (jedis.set(
                       key,
                       randomValue,
                       SetParams()
                           .nx()
                           .ex(expiresSeconds)
                    == null
                   null
               } else {
                   randomValue
25
```

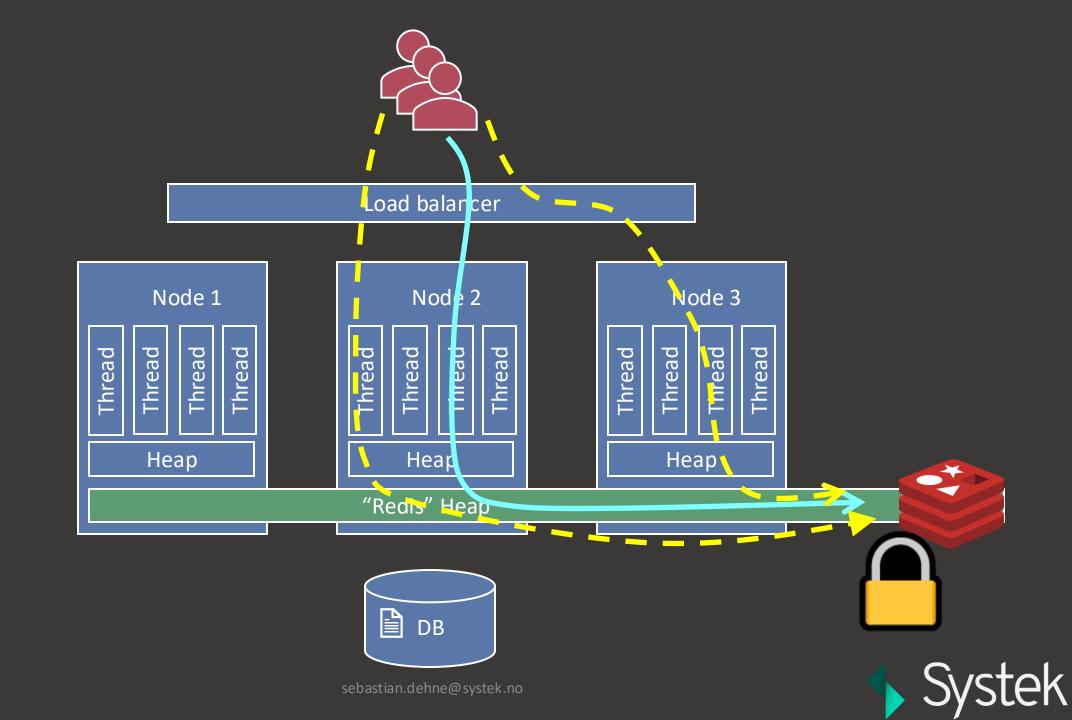


```
private fun unlock(lock: String, randomValue: String) {
29
                val key = namespaceKey(lock)
                jedis.eval(
32
                     11 11 11
33
                     if redis.call('get', KEYS[1]) == ARGV[1] then
                         return redis.call('del', KEYS[1])
36
                     else
                         return 0
38
                     end
                     """.trimIndent(),
                     listOf(key),
40
                     listOf(randomValue)
42
                               sebastian.dehne@systek.no
```

```
fun tryRunLocked(
               lock: String,
10
               expiresSeconds: Long = 30,
               fn: () -> Unit
           ): Boolean {
               val randomValue = lock(lock, expiresSeconds) ?: return false
               return try {
                   fn()
16
                   true
               } finally {
18
                   unlock(lock, randomValue)
```









Redis transactions

- All Redis commands are atomic
 - Redis is single threaded (event-loop)
- Use Redis transactions for read-modify-write





Redis transactions

- 1. WATCH <key>
- 2. GET <key>
- 3. // eval value in code
- 4. MULTI
- 5. SET <key> <new value>
- 6. EXEC

Demo





Better locks

- Want to capture more information:
 - Track who owns the lock at a given moment in time
 - See who had it last
- Instead of storing a <random value>, we store an object "Lock":

```
data class Lock(
    val id: String,
    val ownerHost: String,
    val ownerThread: String,
    val validUntil: Long,
    val updatedAt: Instant,
fun Lock?.isAvailable(time: Long) = if (this == null) true else validUntil < time</pre>
```



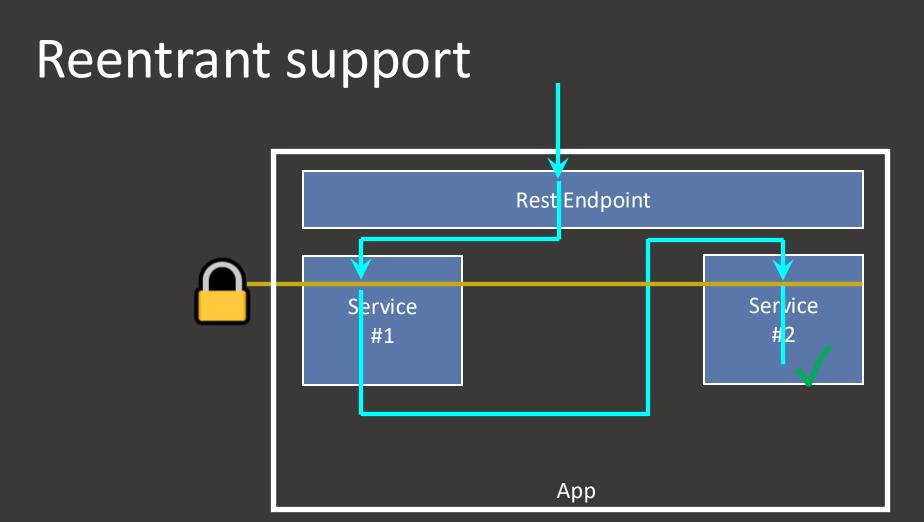
```
private fun readModifyWrite(lock: String, fn: (existing: Lock?) -> Lock?): Boolean {
    val key = namespaceKey(lock)
    for (i in 0 \le ... \le 100) {
        jedis.watch(key)
        val existing = jedis.get(key)?.let {
            objectMapper.readValue<Lock>(it)
        val updated = fn(existing) ?: return false
        val ok = jedis.multi().let { tx ->
            tx.set(
                key,
                objectMapper.writeValueAsString(updated)
            tx.exec().size == 1
        if (ok) return true
    error("Too many retries")
                                 sebastian.dehne@systek.no
```

```
private fun lock(lock: String, expiresSeconds: Long = 30): String? {
15
               val now = Instant.now()
               var lockId: String? = null
18
               readModifyWrite(lock) { existingLock ->
                   if (!existingLock.isAvailable(now.toEpochMilli())) {
20
                       return@readModifyWrite null
                   Lock(
                       id = UUID.randomUUID().toString(),
                        ownerHost = System.getenv( name: "POD_NAME") ?: "unknown",
                        ownerThread = Thread.currentThread().name,
                        validUntil = now.toEpochMilli() + (expiresSeconds * 1000),
                       updatedAt = now
                   ).apply { lockId = id }
               return <u>lockId</u>
                                     sebastian.dehne@systek.no
```

```
private fun unlock(lock: String, id: String) {
36
               readModifyWrite(lock) { existingLock ->
37
                   if (existingLock?.id != id) {
38
39
                        null
                    } else {
40
                        existingLock.copy(
                            validUntil = 0,
42
                            updatedAt = Instant.now()
43
44
45
46
```





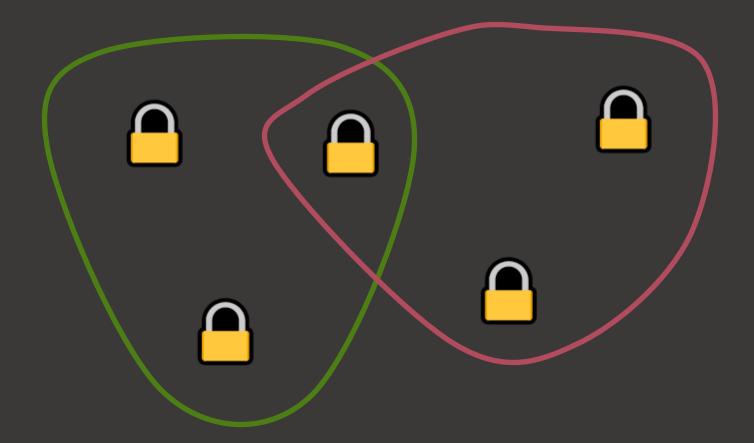






```
private val reentrant: ThreadLocal<LinkedList<String>> = ThreadLocal()
fun tryRunLocked(lock: String, expiresSeconds: Long = 30, fn: () -> Unit): Boolean {
    var lockId: String? = null
    if (reentrant.get() == null) { reentrant.set(LinkedList()) } // first entry
    if (lock !in reentrant.get()!!) { // new, unknown lock
        lockId = lock(lock, expiresSeconds) ?: return false
    reentrant.get()!!.addLast(lock)
    return try {
        fn()
                                                                                   Level 3: Lock2
        true
    } finally {
                                                                                   Level 2: Lock1
        if (lockId != null) {
            unlock(lock, lockId)
                                                                                  Level 1: Lock1
        reentrant.get()!!.removeLast()
        if (reentrant.get()!!.isEmpty()) {
            reentrant.set(null) // last exit, cleanup
                                        sebastian.dehne@systek.no
```

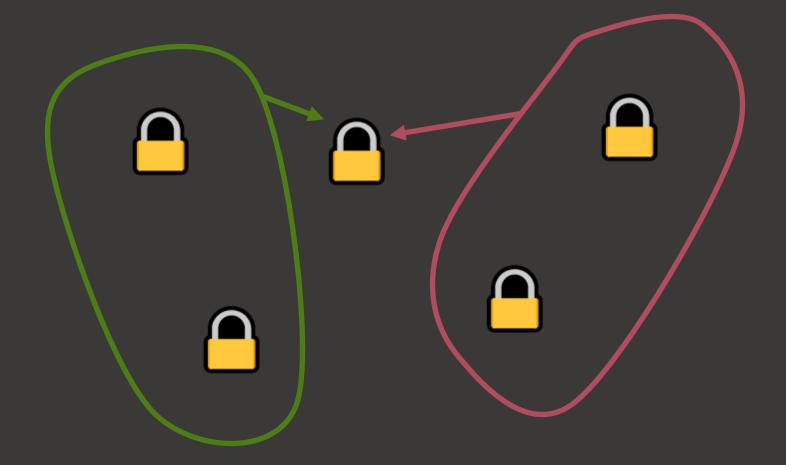
Acquiring multiple locks







Acquiring multiple locks & Reentrant







```
private fun readModifyWrite(locks: Set<String>, fn: (existing: Map<String, Lock?>) -> Lock?): Boolean {
    val keys = locks.map { namespaceKey(it) }
    for (i in 0 \le ... \le 100) {
        jedis.watch(*keys.toTypedArray())
        val existing = keys.associateWith { l ->
            jedis.get(l)?.let { objectMapper.readValue<Lock>(it) }
        }
        val updated = fn(existing) ?: return false
        val ok = jedis.multi().let { tx ->
            keys.forEach { l -> tx.set(l, objectMapper.writeValueAsString(updated)) }
            tx.exec().size == keys.size
        }
        if (ok) return true
    error("Too many retries")
```





```
private fun lock(locks: Set<String>, expiresSeconds: Long = 30): String? {
    val now = Instant.now()
    var lockId: String? = null
    readModifyWrite(locks) { existing ->
        if (!existing.values.all { it.isAvailable(now.toEpochMilli()) }) {
            return@readModifyWrite null
        }
        Lock(
            id = UUID.randomUUID().toString(),
            ownerHost = System.getenv( name: "POD_NAME") ?: "unknown",
            ownerThread = Thread.currentThread().name,
            validUntil = now.toEpochMilli() + (expiresSeconds * 1000),
            updatedAt = now
        ).apply { lockId = id }
    return lockId
                              sebastian.dehne@systek.no
```

50

56

```
private fun unlock(locks: Set<String>, id: String) {
63
               readModifyWrite(locks) { existing ->
64
65
                   if (existing.values.αll { it?.id == id }) {
66
                       existing.values.firstOrNull()?.copy(
67
68
                            validUntil = 0,
                            updatedAt = Instant.now()
69
70
                   } else {
                       null
73
75
```





```
private val reentrant: ThreadLocal<LinkedList<Set<String>>> = ThreadLocal()
fun tryRunLocked(locks: Set<String>, expiresSeconds: Long = 30, fn: () -> Unit): Boolean {
    var lockId: String? = null
    if (reentrant.get() == null) { reentrant.set(LinkedList()) }
    val newLocks = locks - (reentrant.get()!!.flatten().toSet())
    if (newLocks.isNotEmpty()) { // first time entry
        lockId = lock(newLocks, expiresSeconds) ?: return false
    reentrant.get()!!.add(newLocks)
                                                                                    Level 2: Lock3
    return try {
        fn()
        true
                                                                                    Level 1: Lock1, Lock2
    } finally {
        if (lockId != null) {
            unlock(newLocks, lockId)
        reentrant.get()!!.removeLast()
        if (reentrant.get()!!.isEmpty()) {
            reentrant.set(null) // last exit, cleanup
                                        sebastian.dehne@systek.no
```

Lock API – different types

lock():

• blocks until available

tryLock(): Boolean

• returns immediately, returning true if acquired; false if unavailable

tryLock(t: Duration): Boolean

Blocks until success or timeout





Redis Publish/Subscribe/Notify

• Demo





Redis Publish/Subscribe/Notify

- At-most-once best effort
- Listening requires one dedicated TCP connection
 - we use a single subscription with sub-channels on top
 - distribute incoming messages internally
 - robustness auto restart of this listener (in case of I/O errors)



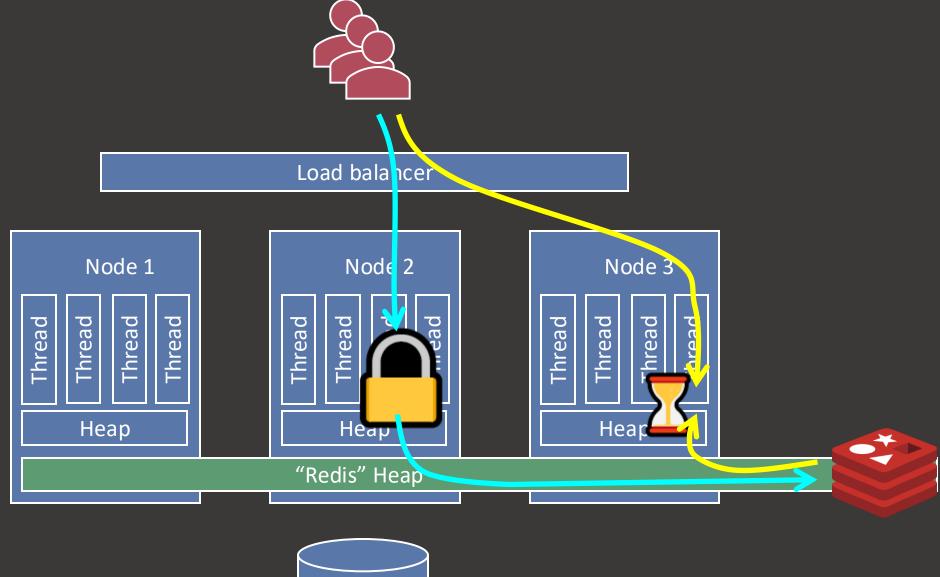


```
fun tryRunLocked(
    locks: Set<String>,
    timeout: Duration,
    lockTTL: Long = 30,
    fn: () -> Unit
): Boolean {
    if (tryRunLocked(locks, lockTTL, fn)) return true
    val deadLine = System.nanoTime() + timeout.toNanos()
    val sub = groupChatService.subscribe(channelIds = locks.map { namespaceKey(it) }.toSet())
    try {
        while (System.nanoTime() < deadLine) {</pre>
            if (tryRunLocked(locks, lockTTL, fn)) return true
            sub.poll(Duration.ofSeconds( seconds: 10))
        return false
    } finally {
        sub.unsubscribe()
                                   sebastian.dehne@systek.no
```

```
private fun unlock(locks: Set<String>, id: String) {
    var <u>unlocked</u> = false
    readModifyWrite(locks) { existing ->
        if (existing.values.all { it?.id == id }) {
            <u>unlocked</u> = true
            existing.values.first()!!.copy(
                validUntil = 0,
                updatedAt = Instant.now()
        } else {
            null
    if (unlocked) {
        groupChatService.notify(channelIds = locks.map { namespaceKey(it) }.toSet(), msg = "unlocked")
```













Automatic extending expire time

- No control over how long a lock is being held
- Need a way to extend the expire time, just in case





```
private fun extendTTL(lockId: String, locks: Set<String>, expiresSeconds: Long): Boolean =
    readModifyWrite(locks) { existing ->
        val now = Instant.now()
        if (!existing.values.all { it.isAvailable(now.toEpochMilli()) && it?.id == lockId }) {
           null
       } else {
            existing.values.first()!!.copy(
                updatedAt = now,
                validUntil = now.toEpochMilli() + (expiresSeconds + 1000)
```





```
fun tryRunLocked(
    locks: Set<String>,
    expiresSeconds: Long = 30,
    fn: (isStillHoldingLock: () -> Boolean) -> Unit
): Boolean {
    var lockId: String? = null
    val isHoldingLock = AtomicBoolean(initialValue: true)
    val autoExtendingTask = lockId?.let {
        timer.scheduleWithFixedDelay({
            executorService.submit {
                if (isHoldingLock.get()) {
                     isHoldingLock.set(extendTTL(<u>lockId</u>, locks, expiresSeconds))
        }, initialDelay: expiresSeconds / 2, delay: expiresSeconds / 2, TimeUnit.SECONDS)
    return try {
        fn { isHoldingLock.get() }
        true
    } finally {
        autoExtendingTask?.cancel( mayInterruptIfRunning: false)
        // ..
                                        sebastian.dehne@systek.no
```





```
class LockService(...) {
    fun tryRunLocked(
        locks: Set<String>,
        timeout: Duration,
        lockTTL: Long = 30,
        fn: (isStillHoldingLock: () -> Boolean) -> Unit
    ): Boolean {...}
    fun tryRunLocked(
        locks: Set<String>,
        expiresSeconds: Long = 30,
        fn: (isStillHoldingLock: () -> Boolean) -> Unit
    ): Boolean {...}
    private fun tryRunLocked(locks: Set<String>, expiresSeconds: Long = 30): String? {...}
    private fun extendTTL(lockId: String, locks: Set<String>, expiresSeconds: Long): Boolean ={...}
    private fun unlock(locks: Set<String>, id: String) {...}
    private fun readModifyWrite(locks: Set<String>, fn: (existing: Map<String, Lock?>) -> Lock?): Boolean {...}
    private fun namespaceKey(lock: String) = "${this::class.java.name}-$lock"
    private val reentrant: ThreadLocal<LinkedList<Set<String>>> = ThreadLocal()
    private val timer = Executors.newSingleThreadScheduledExecutor()
                                           sebastian.dehne@systek.no
```

Agenda

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https://github.com/ sebdehne/redis-atskatt-talk





Processes

Processes

Managed

Single threaded

- Read bulkdata from database
- DB-maintenance
- DB-migrations
- Read Atom-feeds
- File processing

Concurrent

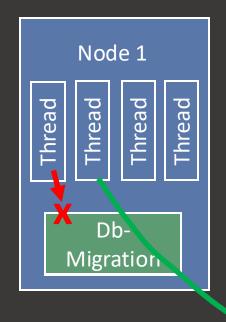
- Kafka consumers
- Task processing
- ..

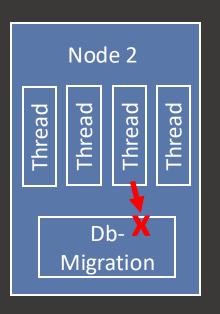
Unmanaged / ad-hoc

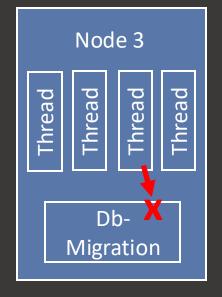
- Slow (file) downloads
- Slow SQL queries
- Typically something triggered by a user

Systek

Processes / Managed / Single







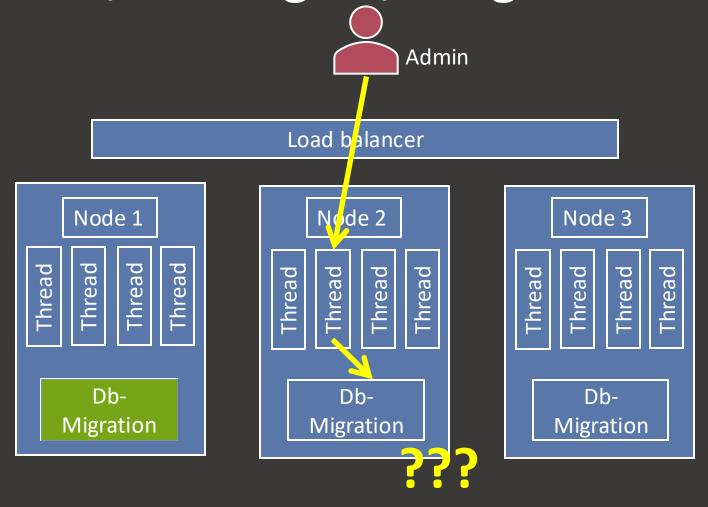








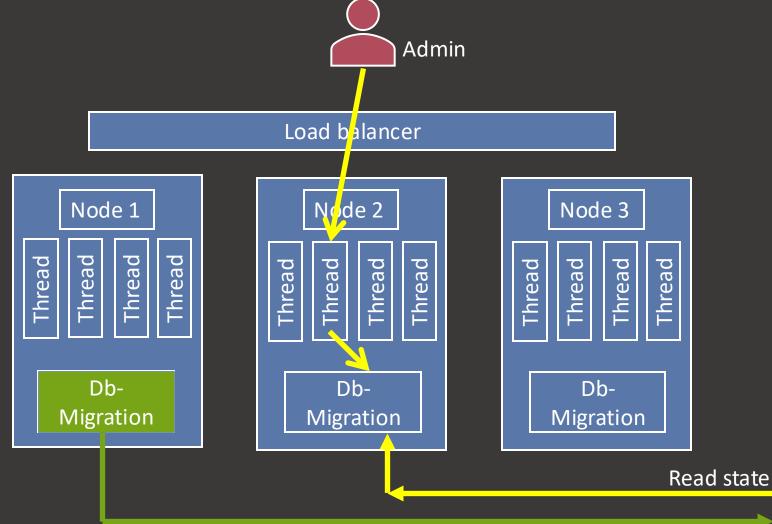
Processes / Managed / Single





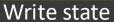


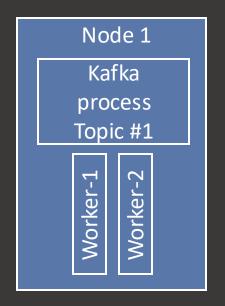
Processes / Managed / Single



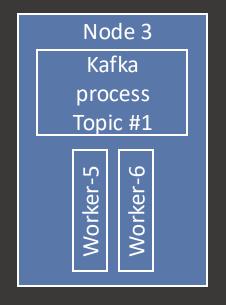










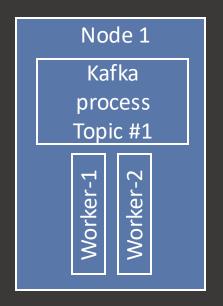




```
Config {
workers: 6
}
```













```
Config {
workers: 4
}
```





Node 1

Kafka

process

Topic #1

Node 2

Kafka

process

Topic #1

Node 3

Kafka

process

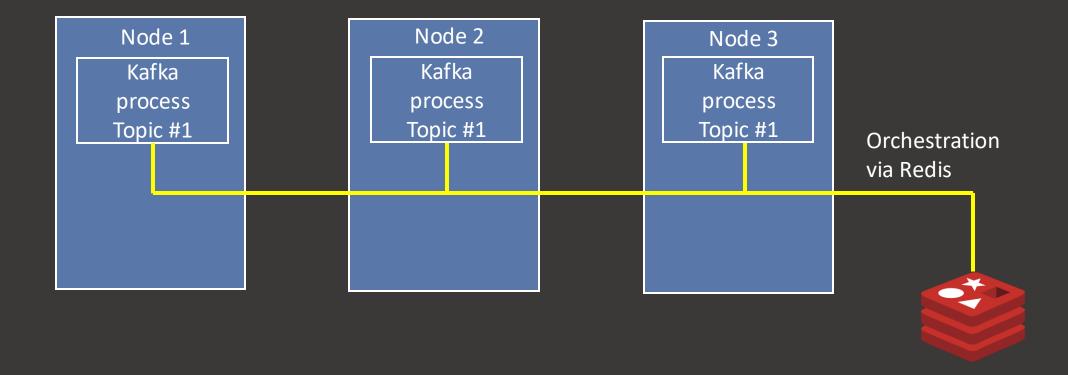
Topic #1



```
Config {
 workers: 4,
 status: stopped
}
```











Node 1

Kafka

process

Topic #1

```
ClusterState {
   nodes: [
      {
       id: node1,
       activeWorkers: 0,
       heartbeat: <timestamp>
      }
   ]
}
```



```
Config {
 workers: 4,
 status: stopped
}
```





Node 1

Kafka

process

Topic #1

```
ClusterState {
   nodes: [
      {
       id: node1,
       activeWorkers: 0,
       heartbeat: <timestamp>
      }
   ]
}
```



```
Config {
workers: 4,
status: running
}
```

Admin



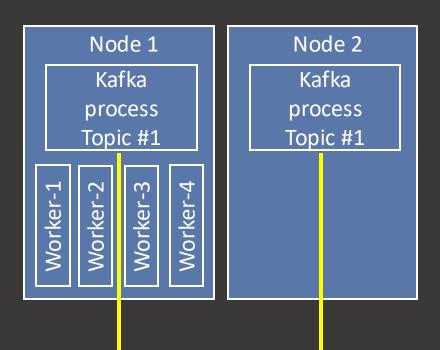
```
Worker-1
Worker-3
Worker-4
Worker-4
```

```
ClusterState {
  nodes: [
    {
     id: node1,
      activeWorkers: 4,
     heartbeat: <timestamp>
    }
  ]
}
```



```
Config {
workers: 4,
status: running
}
```





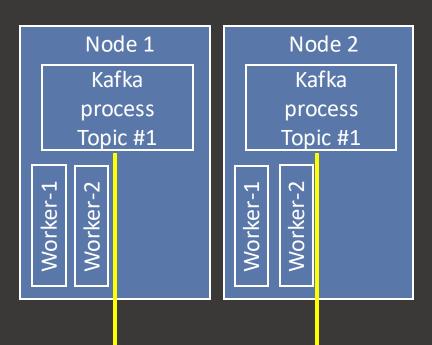
```
ClusterState {
nodes: [
   id: node1,
   activeWorkers: 4,
   heartbeat: <timestamp>
   id: node2,
   activeWorkers: 0,
   heartbeat: <timestamp>
```



```
Config {
workers: 4,
status: running
}

Admin
```





```
ClusterState {
nodes: [
   id: node1,
   activeWorkers: 2,
   heartbeat: <timestamp>
   id: node2,
   activeWorkers: 2,
   heartbeat: <timestamp>
```



```
Config {
workers: 4,
status: running
}
```



```
data class ClusterState(
    val nodes: Map<String, NodeState> = emptyMαp()
) {
    fun validNeighbors(myNodeName: String) = nodes.values
        .filter { it.isAlive() && it.nodeName != myNodeName }
    fun update(n: NodeState) = copy(
        nodes = nodes.filter { it.value.isAlive() } + (n.nodeName to n))
}
data class NodeState(
    val nodeName: String,
    val heartbeat: Instant,
    val activeWorkers: Int,
fun NodeState.isAlive() = heartbeat.plusSeconds(secondsToAdd: 30).isAfter(Instant.now())
```

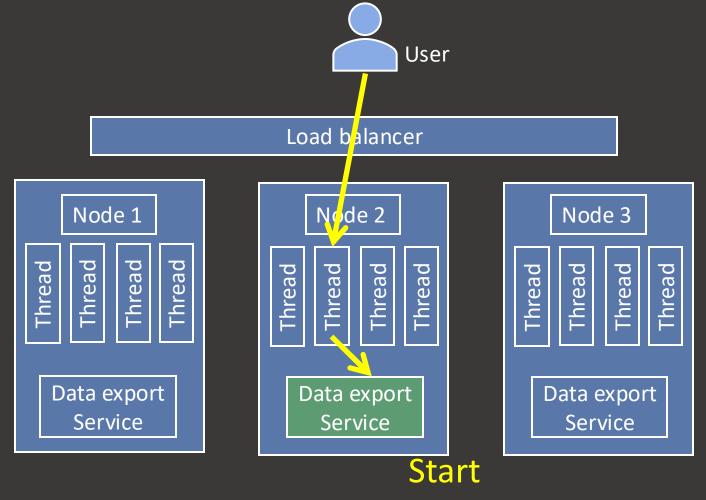




```
private fun readWriteModify(processName: String, fn: (existing: ClusterState) -> ClusterState?) {
    val key = namespaceKey(processName)
    for (i in 0 \le ... \le 100) {
        jedis.watch(key)
        val existing = jedis.get(key)?.let {
            objectMapper.readValue(it)
        } ?: ClusterState()
        val updated = fn(existing) ?: return
        val ok = jedis.multi().let { tx ->
            tx.set(key, objectMapper.writeValueAsString(updated))
            tx.exec().size == 1
        if (ok) return
    error("Too many retries")
                                     sebastian.dehne@systek.no
```

```
val myNodeName = System.getenv( name: "NODE_NAME")
private val workers: List<Worker> = mutαbleList0f()
fun heartBeat() { // runs every 10 seconds
    var startOrStopWorkers = 0
    val config = getConfig()
    readWriteModify(processName) { clusterState ->
        startOrStopWorkers = calculateWorkers(
            need = if (config.running) config.workers else 0,
            activeRemote = clusterState.validNeighbors(myNodeName).sumOf { it.activeWorkers },
            activeLocally = workers.size
        clusterState.update(
            NodeState(
                nodeName = myNodeName,
                heartbeat = Instant.now(),
                activeWorkers = workers.size
    if (startOrStopWorkers != 0) {
        startOrStopWorkers(<u>startOrStopWorkers</u>)
                                       sebastian.dehne@systek.no
```

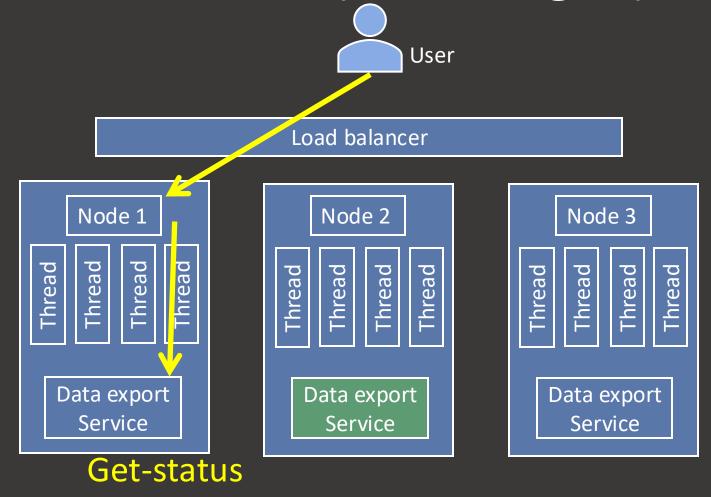
Processes / Ad-hoc (unmanaged)







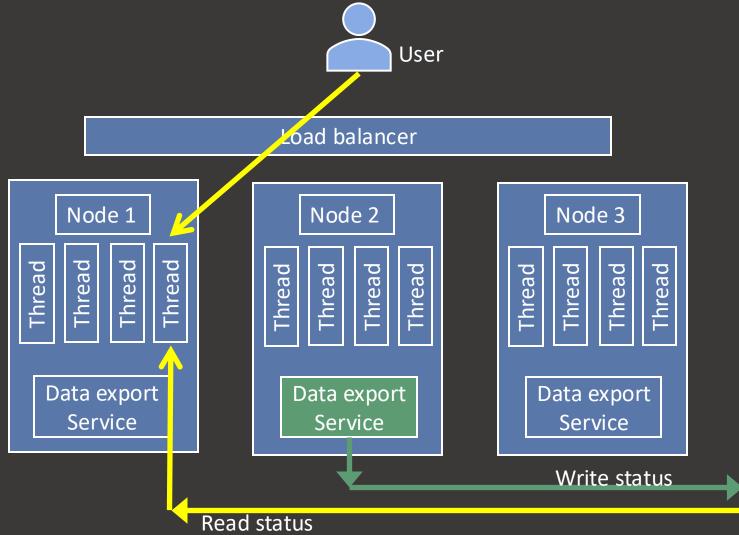
Processes / Ad-hoc (unmanaged)







Processes / Ad-hoc (unmanaged)







```
10 @ v abstract class AdhocProcess<I, 0>(
          private val objectMapper: ObjectMapper,
          private val jedisSource: () -> Jedis,
          private val executorService: ExecutorService,
          private val ttlInSeconds: Long = 300,
      ) {
17 Q
          abstract fun inputArgumentsToStableId(inputArguments: I): String
18 Q
          abstract fun runAdhocTask(inputArguments: I, updateProgress: (progress: String?) -> Unit): 0
          // Polled by the client
          fun startOrGetStatus(inputArguments: I, restartIfNotRunning: Boolean = false): AdhocProcessState<0>? {...}
          private fun start(id: String, inputArguments: I) {...}
          private fun readModifyWrite(id: String, fn: (existing: AdhocProcessState<0>?) -> AdhocProcessState<0>?): Boolean {...}
          private fun namespaceKey(id: String) = "${this::class.java.name}-$id"
      data class AdhocProcessState<T>(
          val id: String,
          val startedAt: Instant = Instant.now(),
          val stoppedAt: Instant? = null,
          val progress: String? = null,
          val error: String? = null,
          val result: T? = null
```

```
// Polled by the client
fun startOrGetStatus(inputArguments: I, restartIfNotRunning: Boolean = false): AdhocProcessState<0>? {
    var start = false
    val id = inputArgumentsToStableId(inputArguments)
    var status: AdhocProcessState<0>? = AdhocProcessState(id)
    readModifyWrite(id) { existing ->
        if ((existing == null || existing.stoppedAt != null) && restartIfNotRunning) {
            start = true
            status
        } else {
            status = existing
            null
    if (start) {
        executorService.submit { start(id, inputArguments) }
    return status
                                     sebastian.dehne@systek.no
```

Agenda

- Project SIRIUS
- Locking with Redis
- Running processes with Redis
- Other Redis use-cases
- Conclusion / lessions learned

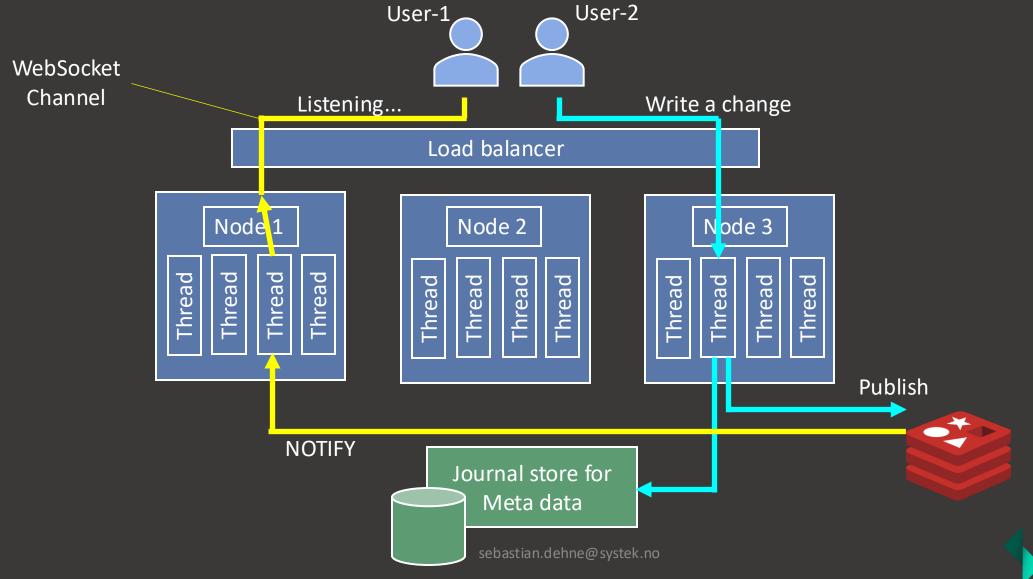


https://github.com/ sebdehne/redis-atskatt-talk





Pushing events to frontend





Download dumps from a *specific instance*

- Need to fetch a thread-dump or a heap-dump from a specific instance
- Have all instances publish their IP-addr to Redis
- If a fetch-request is not for the local instance
 - 1. Fetch the IP for the target instance
 - 2. Proxy the request to that target instance (remember to stream the response!)





Other use cases we use Redis for...

- Distribute configuration changes at runtime
 - Feature toggles
- Invalidate caches across instances





Conclusion / lessions learned

- On paper, building locks on Redis (single instance) is not "fault tolerant"
- But in practice, Redis is the most *stable* component in the entire project
- Redis is more stable than Kafka, which runs as a "HA-cluster"
- We added metrics, but nobody cares about them
- Handles many thousands reads/writes per second
- Nobody talks about Redis (in our team), because it always just works
- It has been a real enabler to solve many problems related to multi-node deployments





End

Thank you for your attention



https://github.com/ sebdehne/redis-atskatt-talk



