

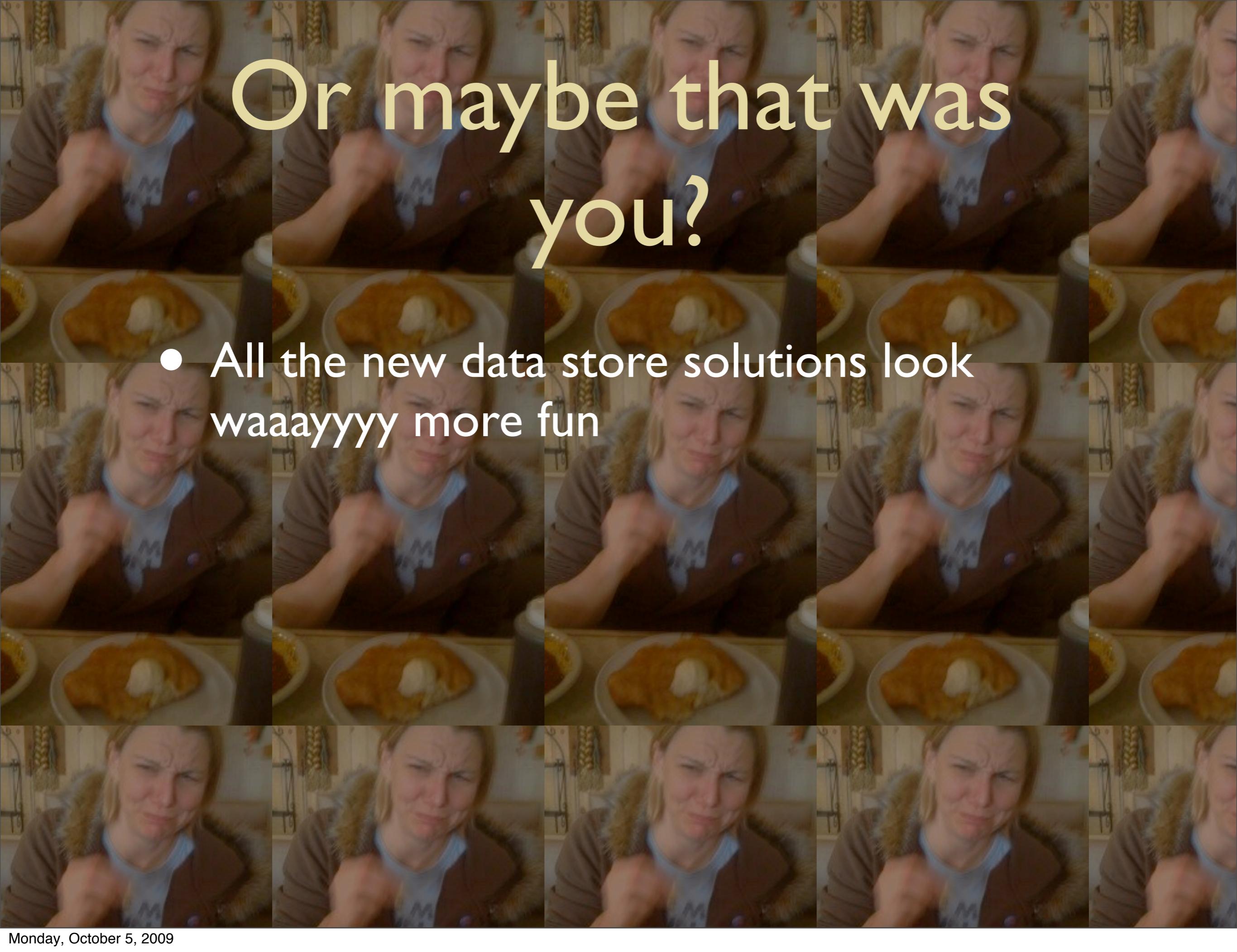
Hey... Is that your database crying?

Blythe Dunham

blythe@snowgiraffe.com

<http://snowgiraffe.com>

Or maybe that was
you?



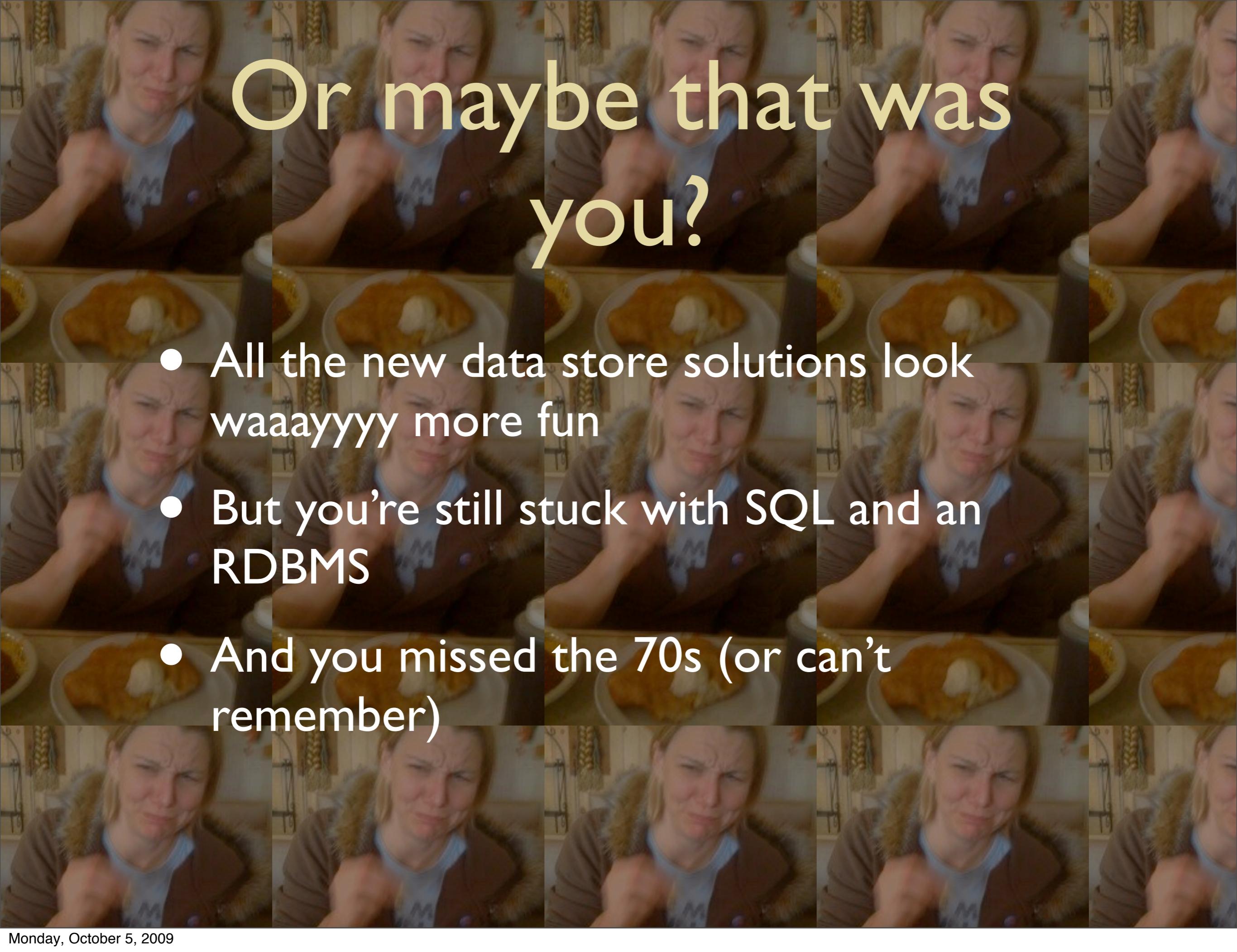
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- All the new data store solutions look waaayyyy more fun



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- But you're still stuck with SQL and an RDBMS



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Or maybe that was you?

- All the new data store solutions look waaayyyy more fun
- But you're still stuck with SQL and an RDBMS
- And you missed the 70s (or can't remember)
- Its not so bad... really.

Hey... Is that your database crying?

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Welcome to the Boardshop

Model

Database
Table

Migration
Code

```
class Board < ActiveRecord::Base
end
```

```
CREATE TABLE `boards` (
  `id` int(11) NOT NULL AUTO_INCREMENT,
  `name` varchar(255) DEFAULT NULL,
  `type` varchar(255) DEFAULT NULL,
  `manufacturer_id` int(11) DEFAULT NULL,
  `style` varchar(255) DEFAULT NULL,
  `description` text,
  `created_at` datetime DEFAULT NULL,
  `updated_at` datetime DEFAULT NULL,
  PRIMARY KEY (`id`)
) ENGINE=InnoDB DEFAULT CHARSET=utf8
```

```
create_table :boards do |t|
  t.string :name
  t.string :type
  t.references :manufacturer
  t.string :style
  t.text :description

  t.timestamps
end
```

A large flock of birds, likely Canada geese, is flying across a clear blue sky. They are arranged in several V-shaped formations, creating a sense of movement and migration. The birds are dark-colored with distinct white patches on their wings.

3 Migration Dos

#| Not Null

```
t.string      :name,      :null => false  
t.references :manufacturer, :null => false
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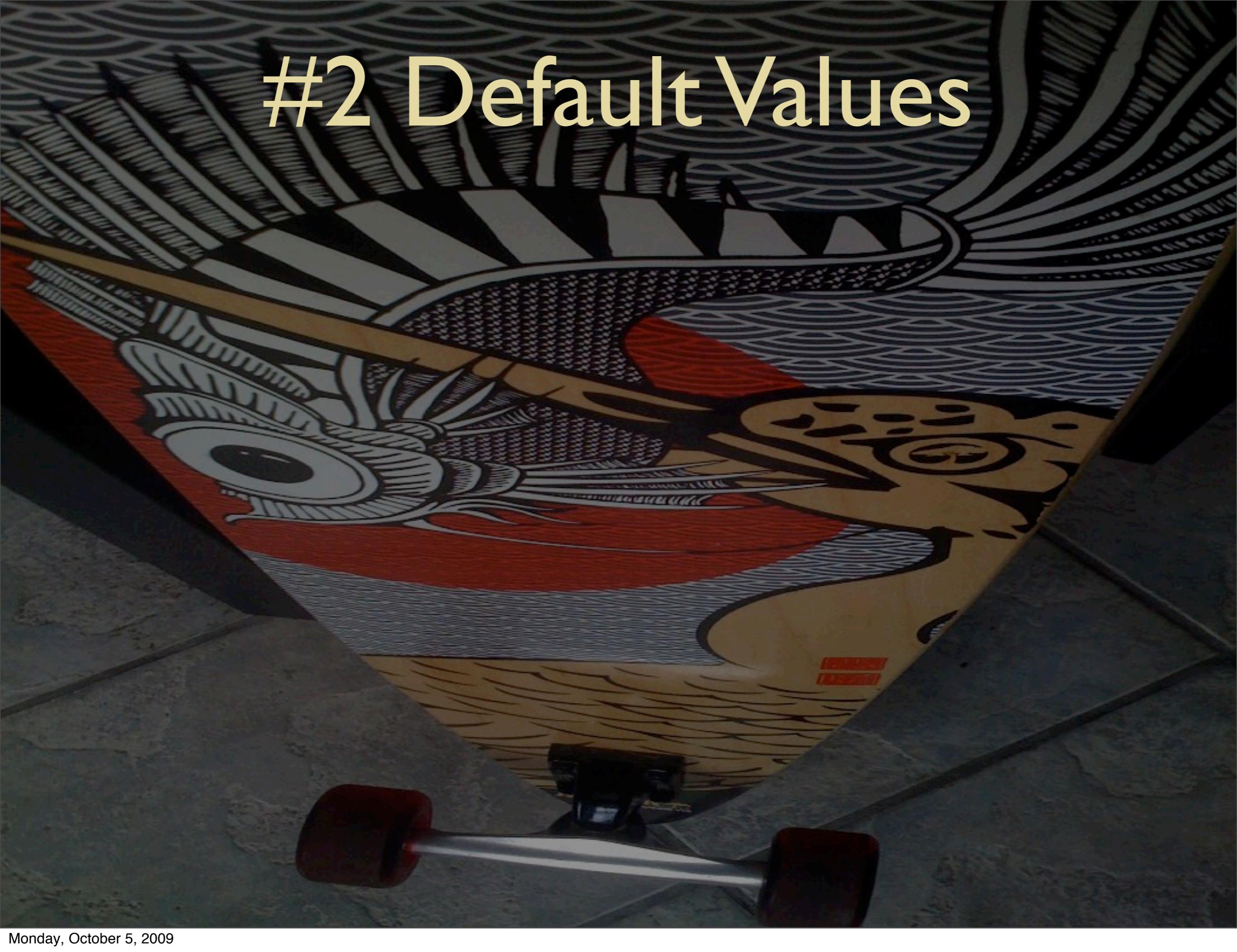
- Basic data integrity

#| Not Null

```
t.string      :name,      :null => false  
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```

- Basic data integrity
- Faster joins

#2 Default Values

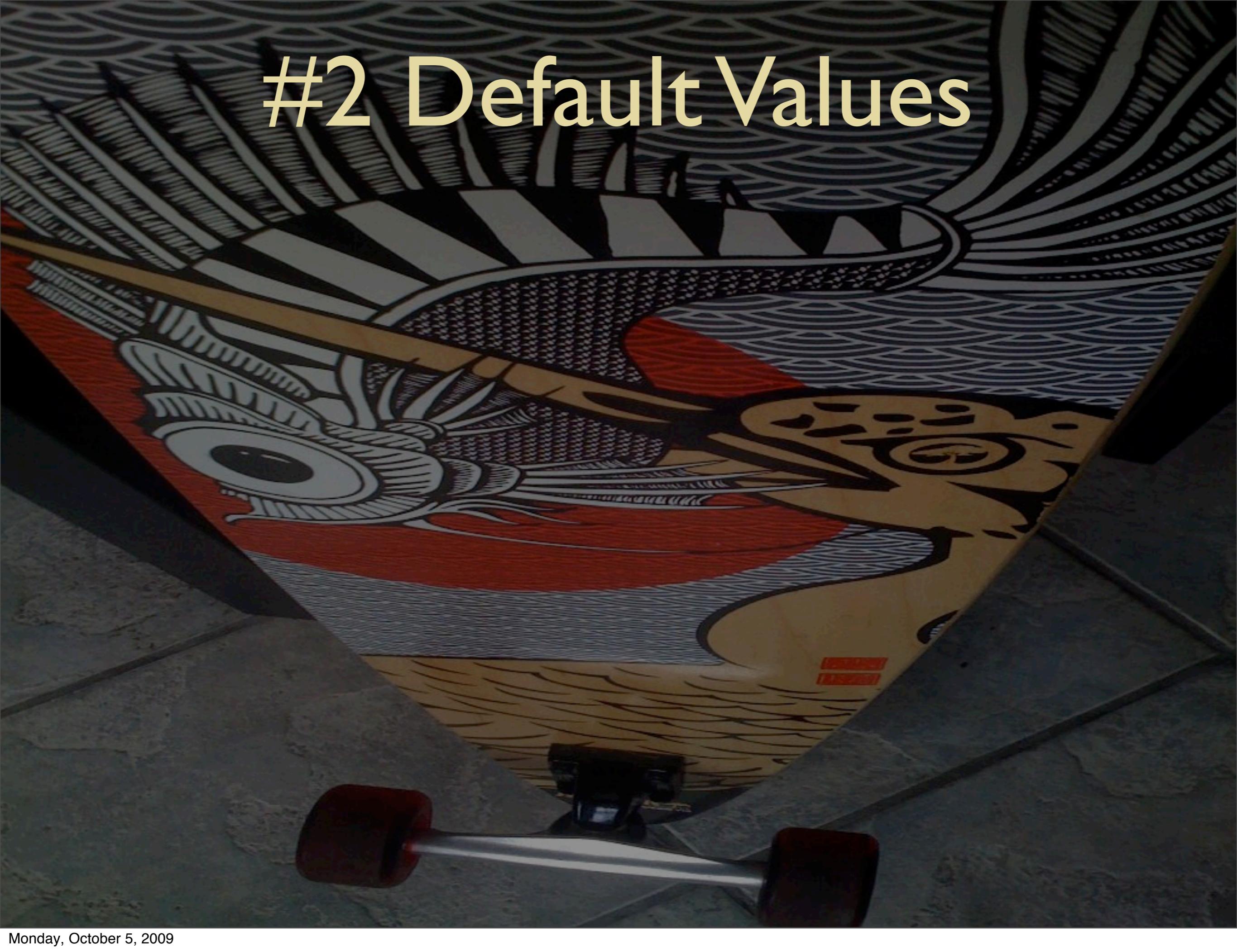


#2 Default Values

```
class Board < ActiveRecord::Base
  def initialize( args = nil )
    super( args )
    self.manufacturer ||= Manufacturer.first
  end

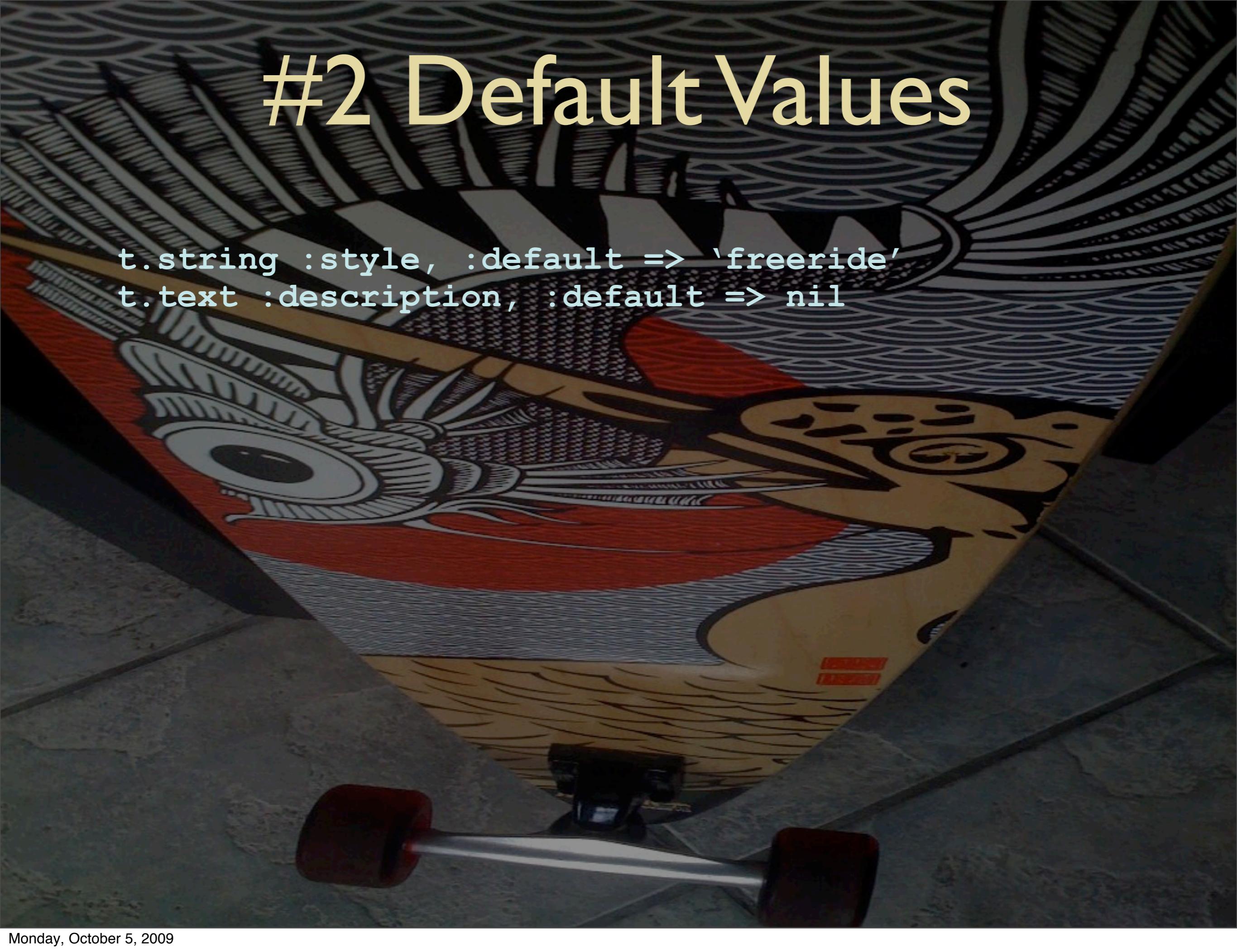
  def self.create_freeride( args = nil )
    new( args )
    self.style ||= 'freeride'
  end
end
```

#2 Default Values



#2 Default Values

```
t.string :style, :default => 'freeride'  
t.text :description, :default => nil
```



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```

- Cleans up the ORM code

#2 Default Values

```
t.string :style, :default => 'freeride'  
t.text :description, :default => nil
```

- Cleans up the ORM code
- One less column to populate

ActiveRecord Defaults

```
class Board < ActiveRecord::Base
  default_value :name => 'freeride'
  defaults :manufacturer => lambda { |board|
    Manufacturer.first
  }
end
```

ActiveRecord Defaults

```
class Board < ActiveRecord::Base
  default_value :name => 'freeride'
  defaults :manufacturer => lambda { |board|
    Manufacturer.first
  }
end
```

Default Value For

```
script/plugin install git://github.com/FooBarWidget/default_value_for.git
```

ActiveRecord Defaults

```
script/plugin install
http://svn.viney.net.nz/things/rails/plugins/active\_record\_defaults
```

#3 Smaller Data Types

```
t.string  :name,  :limit => 64  
t.integer :count, :limit => 2
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t.integer :count, :limit => 2
```

- String (varchar): 1 byte + length
- int(11) -> 11 is the display width, not the number of bytes
- Not such a huge deal (when not indexed)
- Most important: match data types on joined columns

Enumerated Columns



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```
t.string :style,  :default => 'freeride'
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Enumerated Columns

```
t.string :style,  :default => 'freeride'  
t.enum    :style,  :default => 'freeride',  
           :limit => %w(freeride all_terrain freestyle)
```

Enumerated Columns

```
t.string :style,  :default => 'freeride'  
t.enum    :style,  :default => 'freeride',  
           :limit => %w(freeride all_terrain freestyle)  
  
board.style == :freeride
```

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t.string :style,    :default => 'freeride'  
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- Enumerated Column Plugin

<script/plugin install http://rubyforge.org/var/svn/enum-column>

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board.style == :freeride
```

- Enumerated Column Plugin
<script/plugin install http://rubyforge.org/var/svn/enum-column>
- Enum column < 255 values uses one byte
- Try with Single Table Inheritance

FYI... Procedure analyse

```
mysql> select * from boards PROCEDURE ANALYSE(10, 200000) \G
***** 1. row *****
Field_name: boardshop_development.boards.id
Min_value: 1
Max_value: 2037203465
Min_length: 1
Max_length: 10
Empties_or_zeros: 0
Nulls: 0
Avg_value_or_avg_length: 1018601733.0000
Std: 1018601732.0000
Optimal_fieldtype: INT(10) UNSIGNED NOT NULL
***** 2. row *****
Field_name: boardshop_development.boards.name
Min_value: Custom X
Max_value: Vinsen
Min_length: 6
Max_length: 8
Empties_or_zeros: 0
Nulls: 0
Avg_value_or_avg_length: 7.3333
Std: NULL
Optimal_fieldtype: ENUM('Custom X','Vinsen') NOT NULL
***** 3. row *****
```

2 Migration gotchas



#1 Migration Failures

A photograph of a giraffe standing behind a large, fallen tree trunk. The giraffe is facing the camera, its long neck and patterned coat clearly visible. The background shows a savanna landscape with other trees under a clear sky.

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- MySQL alter table cannot be rolled back
- use create table :force => true do |t| ... end
- in development:
 - comment out
 - script/console
- in production: rewrite migration with begin/rescue

#2 Custom DDL



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Sometimes you need to write custom DDL

```
#case sensitive password (encrypted)
execute "ALTER TABLE `boards` ADD `permalink` 
varchar(25) character set latin1
collate latin1_bin NOT NULL"
```

#2 Custom DDL

Sometimes you need to write custom DDL

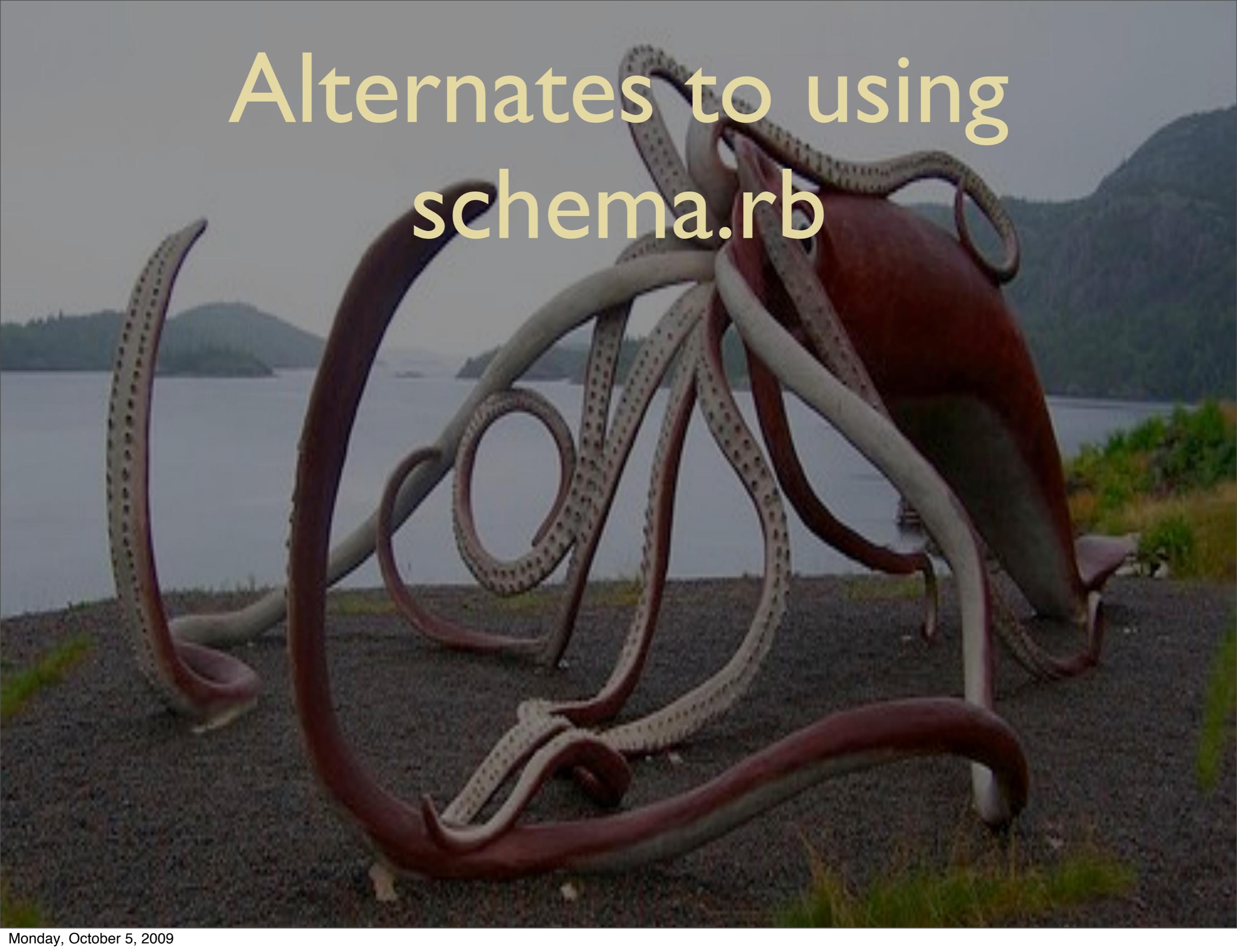
```
#case sensitive password (encrypted)
execute "ALTER TABLE `boards` ADD `permalink` 
  varchar(25) character set latin1
  collate latin1_bin NOT NULL"
```

which can create invalid schema.rb files

```
t.string :permalink, :limit => 0
```

and rake db:schema:load fails

Alternates to using schema.rb



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- Change the schema format in environment.rb

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```
config.active_record.schema_format :sql
```

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- Always migrate from 000

Alternates to using schema.rb

- Change the schema format in environment.rb
`config.active_record.schema_format :sql`
- Always migrate from 000
- Clone production/staging database

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a brown jacket over a blue shirt, is shown from the chest up. She is holding a long tray with several white frosted donuts. Her expression is one of distress or crying, with tears visible in her eyes and on her cheeks. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

3 Reasons the RDBMS Cries When Talking to Rails

#1 Indexing

```
add_index :boards, :manufacturer_id,  
          :name => 'board_manufacturer_index'
```

- speeds up queries on big tables
- huge cause of slowness

Composite Indexes

```
add_index :board,  
          [:manufacturer_id, :manufacturer_type],  
          :name => 'board_manufacturer_type_index'
```

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add_index :board,  
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- Index across multiple columns
- Order is important. Only the leftmost prefix is used

Composite Indexes

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add_index :board,  
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```

- Index across multiple columns
- Order is important. Only the leftmost prefix is used
- Might use a composite with Polymorphism

Unique Keys

```
add_index :boards, :name,  
          :unique => true,  
          :name => 'uk_boards_name'
```

Unique Keys

```
add_index :boards, :name,  
          :unique => true,  
          :name => 'uk_boards_name'
```

ORM checks do not guaranty data integrity!!!

```
class Boards < ActiveRecord::Base  
  validates_uniqueness_of :name  
end
```

Fasten your
Foreign Key Seatbelts

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- Provides referential integrity

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- Provides referential integrity
- Without can easily orphan records with `update_all`, `delete_all`
- Easier and faster to delete related records
- Index for free

The Rails Way

```
class Manufacturer < ActiveRecord::Base  
  has_many :boards, :dependent => :nullify  
end
```



The Rails Way

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class Manufacturer < ActiveRecord::Base  
  has_many :boards, :dependent => :nullify  
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```

:**dependent** option database equivalents (MySQL):



YOU ARE LEAVING
THE SKI RESORT
**YOU CAN
DIE**
THIS IS YOUR DECISION



The Rails Way

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class Manufacturer < ActiveRecord::Base  
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:dependent option database equivalents (MySQL):

- :nullify => ON DELETE SET NULL



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:**dependent** option database equivalents (MySQL):

- :**nullify** => ON DELETE SET NULL
- :**delete_all** => ON DELETE CASCADE



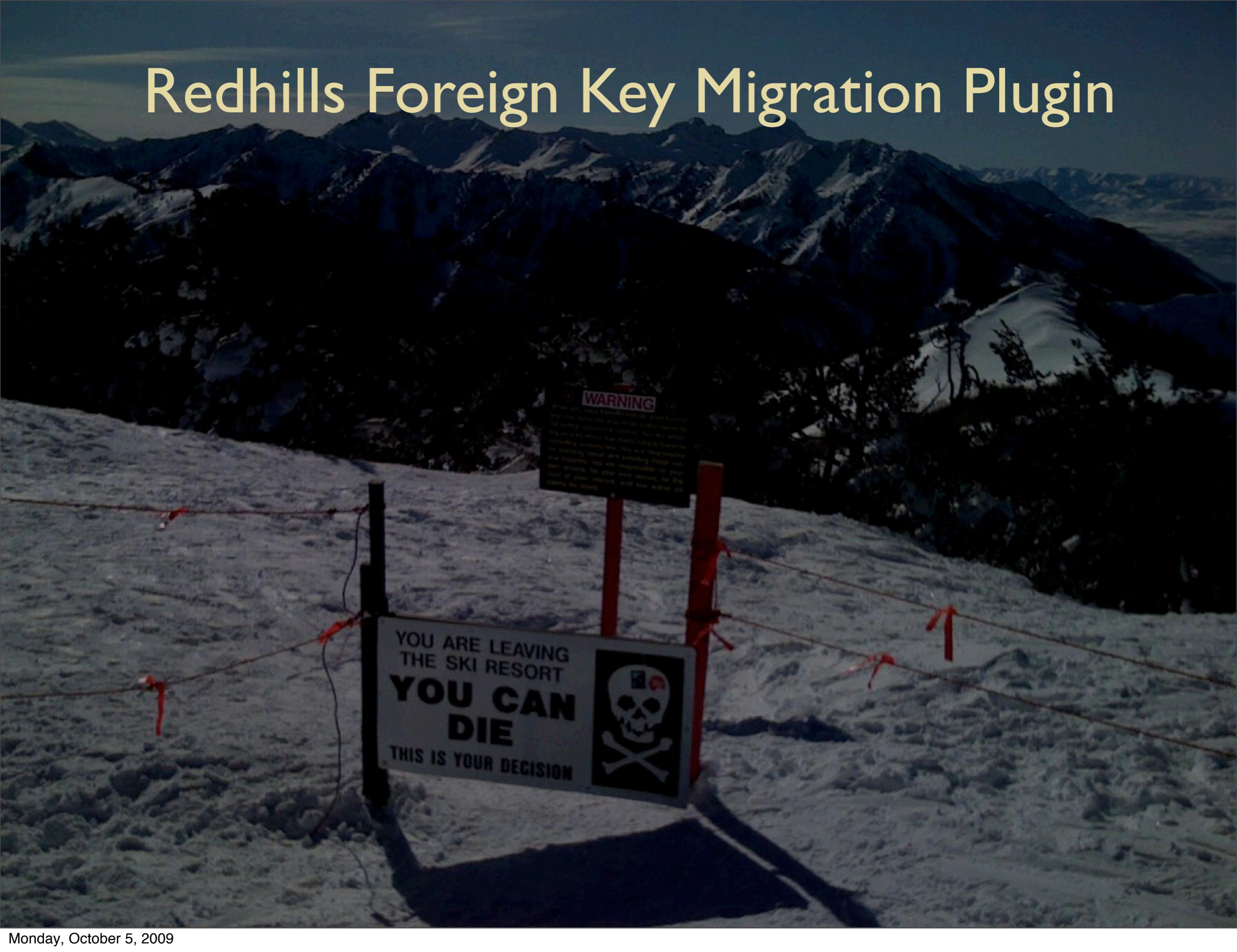
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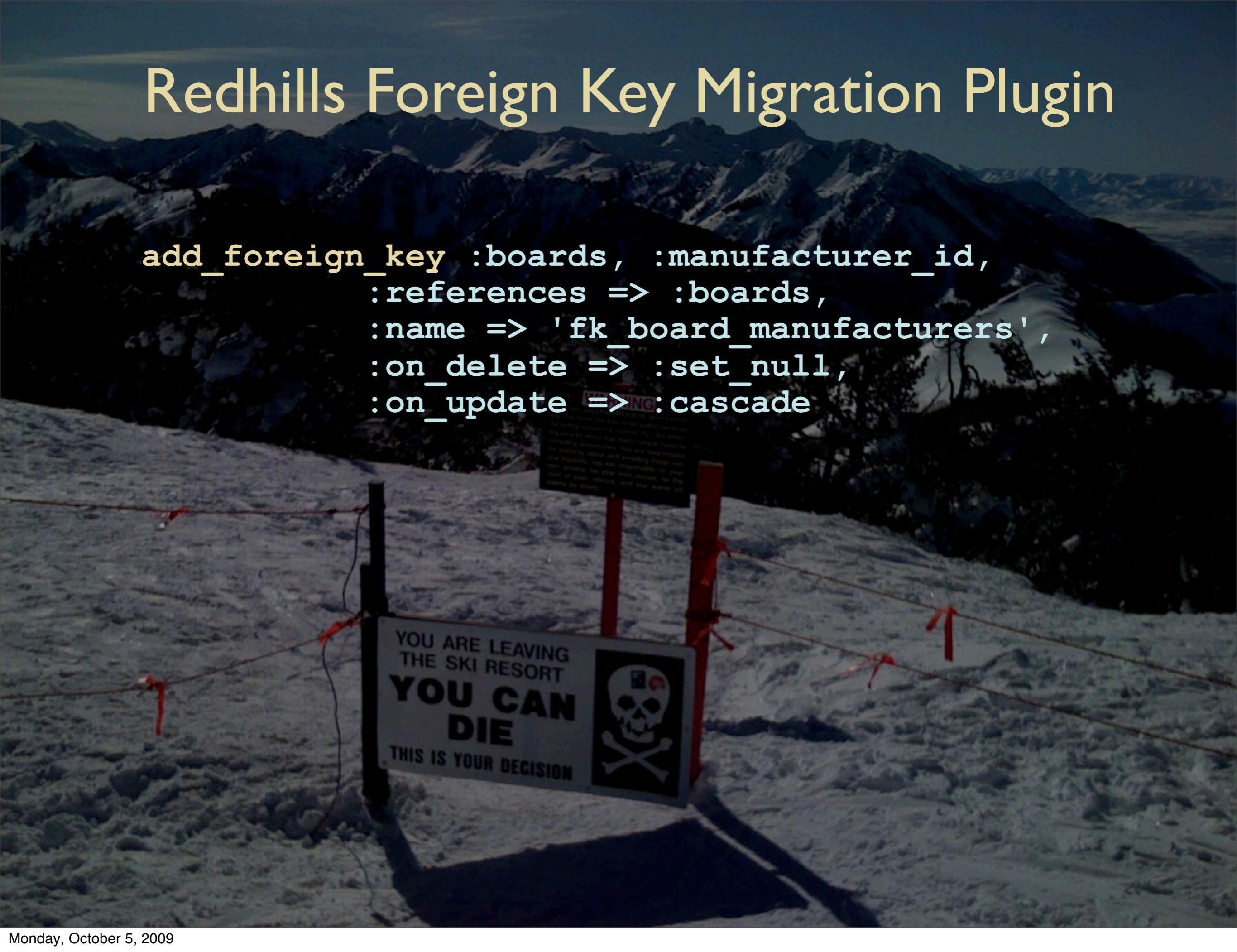
- :**nullify** => ON DELETE SET NULL
- :**delete_all** => ON DELETE CASCADE
- :**destroy** => No SQL equivalent. Every association is instantiated and callbacks are executed before destruction

Redhills Foreign Key Migration Plugin



Redhills Foreign Key Migration Plugin

```
add_foreign_key :boards, :manufacturer_id,  
  :references => :boards,  
  :name => 'fk_board_manufacturers',  
  :on_delete => :set_null,  
  :on_update => :cascade
```



Redhills Foreign Key Migration Plugin

```
add_foreign_key :boards, :manufacturer_id,
  :references => :boards,
  :name => 'fk_board_manufacturers',
  :on_delete => :set_null,
  :on_update => :cascade

create_table :boards do |t|
  t.integer :manufacturer_id,
  :on_delete => :cascade,
  :null => false

  t.references :manufacturers,
  :on_delete => :set_null,
  :default => nil
end
```

OMG. I think you have
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- Overhead for inserts/updates/deletes
- Indexes do takes up a bit of space
- Too many indexes can confuse the database
- Indexes are not always used by the database

General Guidelines

Unless the table is small:

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- Index Foreign Relationships

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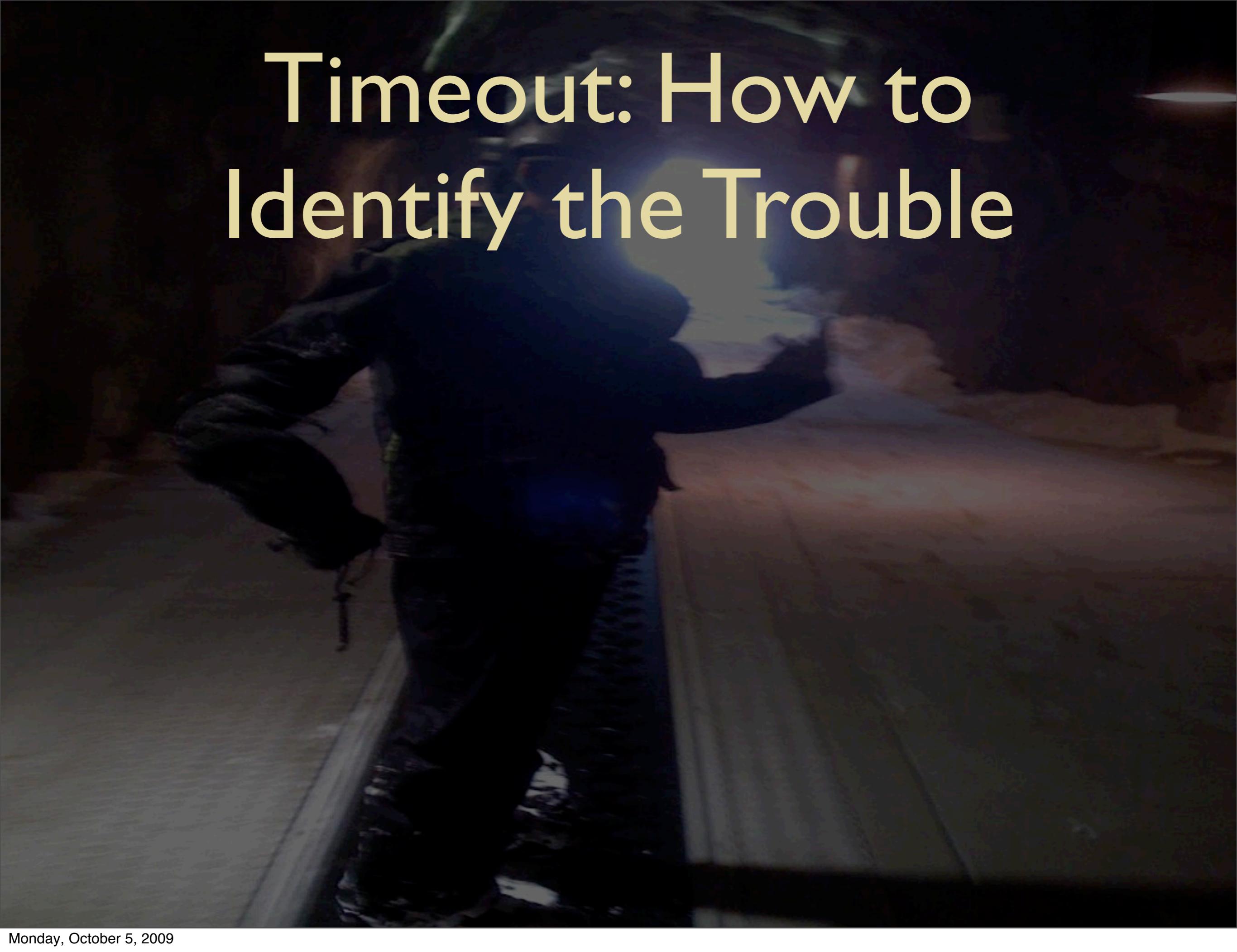
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General Guidelines

Unless the table is small:

- Index Foreign Relationships
- Unique Columns
- Columns that are queried on or sorted on

Timeout: How to Identify the Trouble



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- Familiarize yourself with Rails interaction with DB

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- Pinpoint trouble

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 - Examine Single Actions (enable caching)

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- Familiarize yourself with Rails interaction with DB
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 - See the picture with FiveRuns, NewRelic, rawk, rails_analyzer_tools, query analyzer
- Pinpoint trouble
 - Examine Single Actions (enable caching)
 - Ruby Prof <http://ruby-prof.rubyforge.org/>

#2 Big Queries on Giant Columns

Pagination

```
<% boards.each do |board| %>
  <%= board.manufacturer %>
<% end %>
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Will Paginate Gem/Plugin
http://github.com/mislav/will_paginate

```
#controller
@boards = Board.paginate :page => params[:page]
```

Pagination

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```
#controller
@boards = Board.paginate :page => params[:page]
```

Rails Pagination
Board.find_each(:batch_size => 2) do |board|
 board.surf!
end

:include

```
<% boards.each do |board| %>
  <%= board.manufacturer %>
<% end %>
```



:include

```
<% boards.each do |board| %>
  <%= board.manufacturer %>
<% end %>
```

Eager load references that are called often

```
@boards = Board.all(
  :conditions => ...,
  :include => [:manufacturer, :pro_riders]
)
```

:include

```
>> Board.all :include => :manufacturer
Board Load (0.4ms)  SELECT * FROM `boards`
Manufacturer Load (0.3ms)  SELECT * FROM `manufacturers` WHERE
(`manufacturers`.`id` IN (1,2))
```



:include

```
>> Board.all :include => :manufacturer
Board Load (0.4ms)  SELECT * FROM `boards`
Manufacturer Load (0.3ms)  SELECT * FROM `manufacturers` WHERE
(`manufacturers`.`id` IN (1,2))
```

Conditions can generate huge queries

```
>> Board.all :include => :manufacturer,
:conditions => {'manufacturers.name' => 'Burton'}
Board Load Including Associations (1.2ms)  SELECT `boards`.`id` AS
t0_r0, `boards`.`name` AS t0_r1, `boards`.`type` AS t0_r2,
`boards`.`manufacturer_id` AS t0_r3, `boards`.`style` AS t0_r4,
`boards`.`description` AS t0_r5, `boards`.`created_at` AS t0_r6,
`boards`.`updated_at` AS t0_r7, `manufacturers`.`id` AS t1_r0,
`manufacturers`.`name` AS t1_r1, `manufacturers`.`description` AS t1_r2,
`manufacturers`.`created_at` AS t1_r3, `manufacturers`.`updated_at` AS
t1_r4 FROM `boards` LEFT OUTER JOIN `manufacturers` ON `manufacturers`.id =
`boards`.manufacturer_id WHERE (`manufacturers`.`name` = 'Burton')
```

:select

```
Board.all :select => 'DISTINCT style'  
  
class Manufacturer < ActiveRecord::Base  
  has_many :boards,  
            :select => 'boards.name, boards.id'  
end
```

:select

```
Board.all :select => 'DISTINCT style'

class Manufacturer < ActiveRecord::Base
  has_many :boards,
            :select => 'boards.name, boards.id'
end

class Board < ActiveRecord::Base
  named_scope :simple,
              { :select => 'id, name' }
end
```

:select

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Board.all :select => 'DISTINCT style'

class Manufacturer < ActiveRecord::Base
  has_many :boards,
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end

class Board < ActiveRecord::Base
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```

- Data is retrieved faster when fewer columns are selected

:select

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Board.all :select => 'DISTINCT style'

class Manufacturer < ActiveRecord::Base
  has_many :boards,
            :select => 'boards.name, boards.id'
end

class Board < ActiveRecord::Base
  named_scope :simple,
              { :select => 'id, name' }
end
```

- Data is retrieved faster when fewer columns are selected
- Error if you reference a column not selected

:select doesn't work with :include

```
Board.all :include => :manufacturer,  
           :select => 'name, manufacturer.name'
```

:select doesn't work with :include

```
Board.all :include => :manufacturer,  
           :select => 'name, manufacturer.name'
```

- Use :joins (inner) instead of :include
- Eager loading plugin
- Redefine Relationships

Redefine Relationships



Redefine Relationships

Queries text or large string columns can really slow things down

```
create_table :boards do |t|
  t.text
  ...
end
```



Redefine Relationships

Queries text or large string columns can really slow things down

```
create_table :boards do |t|
  t.text
  ...
end
```

```
create_table :board_descriptions do |t|
  t.text      :description
  t.references :board
end
```

Redefine Relationships

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create_table :board_descriptions do |t|
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Redefine Relationships

```
create_table :board_descriptions do |t|
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class Board < ActiveRecord::Base
```

```
end
```



Redefine Relationships

```
create_table :board_descriptions do |t|
  t.text      :description
  t.references :board
end
```

```
class Board < ActiveRecord::Base
  has_one :board_description
end
```



Redefine Relationships

```
create_table :board_descriptions do |t|
  t.text      :description
  t.references :board
end
```

```
class Board < ActiveRecord::Base
  has_one :board_description

  delegate :description,
            :to => :board_description,
            :prefix => false

end
```



Redefine Relationships

```
create_table :board_descriptions do |t|
  t.text      :description
  t.references :board
end
```

```
class Board < ActiveRecord::Base
  has_one :board_description

  delegate :description,
            :to => :board_description,
            :prefix => false

  named_scope :with_description,
              { :include => :board_description }

end
```



A close-up photograph of a large group of King penguins. They are packed tightly together, filling the frame. Their characteristic black and white plumage is visible, along with their yellow-tipped black beaks and dark eyes. The perspective is from a low angle, looking up at the backs of the penguins.

#3 Inserting eleventy billion
records one by one

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Insert each snowboard one by one

```
Board.create! (:name => 'Custom X',  
              :style => 'all_terrain')  
  
Board.create! (:name => 'Vinsen',  
              :style => 'freeride')
```

and so on....

Import

```
Board.import([
    Board.new(:name => 'Custom X',
              :style => 'all_terrain'),
    Board.new(:name => 'Vinsen',
              :style => 'freeride')
])
```

AR-Extensions:
sudo gem install ar-extensions

Avoid instantiating models

```
columns = [ :name, :style ]
values = [
  ['Custom X', 'all-terrain'],
  ['Vinsen', 'freeride']
]
options = {
  :validate => false,
  :timestamps => false
}
Board.import columns, values, options
```

Update or ignore existing records

- Update or ignore existing records using SQL
- Only works with unique key constraints

Update or ignore existing records

```
Board.import(  
    columns,  
    values,  
    :on_duplicate_key_update => [:style, :updated_at]  
)
```

- Update or ignore existing records using SQL
- Only works with unique key constraints

Update or ignore existing records

```
Board.import(  
  columns,  
  values,  
  :on_duplicate_key_update => [:style, :updated_at]  
)  
  
Board.create!({:name => 'fun'}, :ignore => true)
```

- Update or ignore existing records using SQL
- Only works with unique key constraints

Using Native Database Functionality

*string compare, substring, regex, trim, upper, concat, random number,
stored routines*

Using Native Database Functionality

string compare, substring, regex, trim, upper, concat, random number, stored routines

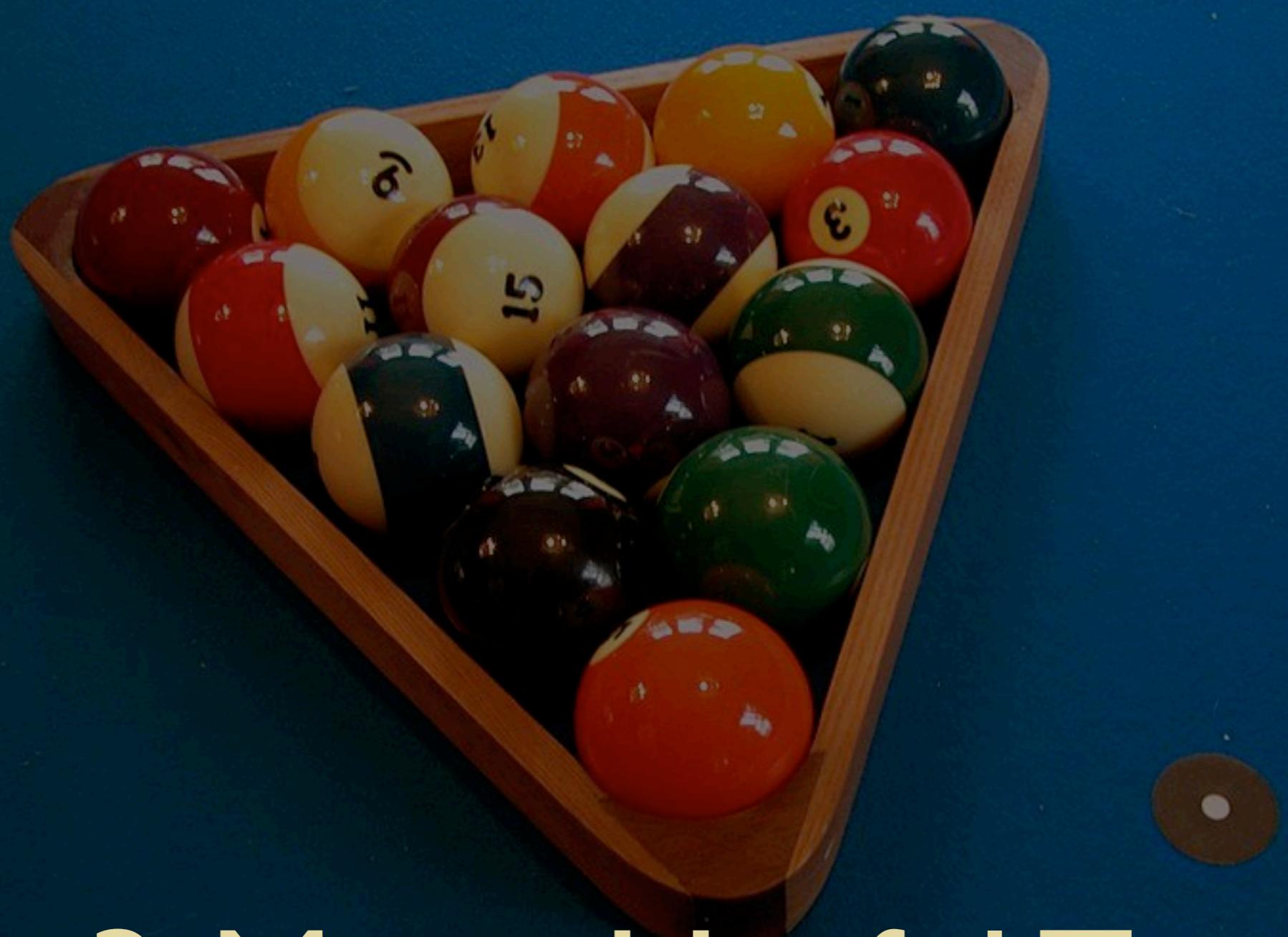
```
#slow
Board.find_each do |board|
  board.update_attribute(:name, "fun_#{board.name}")
end
```

Using Native Database Functionality

string compare, substring, regex, trim, upper, concat, random number, stored routines

```
#slow
Board.find_each do |board|
  board.update_attribute(:name, "fun_#{board.name}")
end
```

```
#better
Board.update_all(["name = CONCAT(?, name)", 'fun_'])
```



3 More Useful Tricks

#| Deadlock Retry

http://github.com/mperham/deadlock_retry

#1 Deadlock Retry

http://github.com/mperham/deadlock_retry

- Bigger queries mean more deadlock
- Tries 3 times before failing

#2 Caching



#2 Caching

- help from query cache

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- help from query cache
- memcache

#2 Caching

- help from query cache
- memcache
- page/action/fragment caching

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- Enumerate By

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[script/plugin install git://github.com/pluginaweek/enumerate_by](#)

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- memcache
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[script/plugin install git://github.com/pluginaweek/enumerate_by](#)
- StaticRecordCache

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- help from query cache
- memcache
- page/action/fragment caching
- ORM caches
- Enumerate By

[script/plugin install git://github.com/pluginaweek/enumerate_by](#)

- StaticRecordCache

[script/plugin install git://github.com/pluginaweek/enumerate_by](#)

#3 Replication



#3 Replication

- Reduce contention by load balancing requests
- Write to the master, read from the slave

It all started with masochism...

Read from the slave, write to the master

Masochism - The original

<http://github.com/technoweenie/masochism>

Master Slave Adapter - works with connection pooling

http://github.com/mauricio/master_slave_adapter

Data Fabric - sharding options

http://github.com/mperham/data_fabric

Multi DB - load balancing, nesting

http://github.com/schoefmax/multi_db

AR-Extensions <http://www.continuousthinking.com/tags/arext>

Eager Loading <http://www.snowgiraffe.com/tech/?p=329>

Will Paginate http://github.com/mislav/will_paginate/tree/master

Deadlock Retry http://agilewebdevelopment.com/plugins/deadlock_retry

Static Record Cache http://github.com/blythedunham/static_record_cache/tree/master

Default Value For http://github.com/FooBarWidget/default_value_for.git

ActiveRecord Defaults http://svn.viney.net.nz/things/rails/plugins/active_record_defaults

Enumerate By http://github.com/pluginaweek/enumerate_by

Enum Column <http://rubyforge.org/var/svn/enum-column>

Data Integrity http://github.com/blythedunham/rails_devs_for_data_integrity

geese migration: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/napix/3513353546/>
shopping cart: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/16029748@N00/3523449828/>
seatbelt: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/uncleboatshoes/8701484/>
big surf: <http://www.flickr.com/search/?q=giant+surf>
big wave: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/thewentworths/1384082774/>
big surf2: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/robygqh/3874411103/in/set-72157601637705625/>
omg shoes: http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_uB-BSH_BqAs/SUbo7ZY8iUI/AAAAAAAAC18/sAf9mM-Zmrg/s400/shoes+kelly.jpg
beach flame: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/twozdai/3506547419/>
surf boards stacked: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/bluxx999/2594658129/>
colorful surf boards: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/pinksherbet/173466867/>
1980's burton snowboards: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/21532294@N07/2425729083/>
march of the penguins: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/brynj/38666954/in/photostream/>
lotsa penguins: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/slowloris/87793361/>
wave: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/adrasteia9/3527880636>
columns and bench: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/adrasteia9/4068068/>
crusing with the top down: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/adrasteia9/16542569>
surf shark: http://www.guzer.com/pictures/surfing_shark_scare.jpg
redefining relationships: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/adrasteia9/2734990410>