ZOOKEEPER

Coordinating your cluster

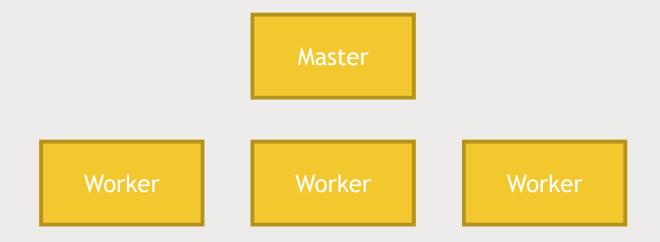
What is Zookeeper?



- It basically keeps track of information that must be synchronized across your cluster
 - Which node is the master?
 - What tasks are assigned to which workers?
 - Which workers are currently available?
- It's a tool that applications can use to recover from partial failures in your cluster.
- An integral part of HBase, High-Availability (HA) MapReduce, Drill, Storm, Solr, and much more

Failure modes

- Master crashes, needs to fail over to a backup
- Worker crashes its work needs to be redistributed
- Network trouble part of your cluster can't see the rest of it



"Primitive" operations in a distributed system

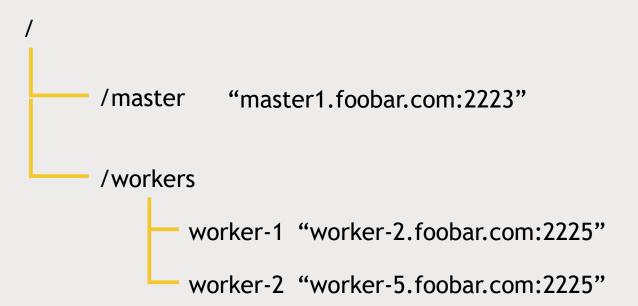
- Master election
 - One node registers itself as a master, and holds a "lock" on that data
 - Other nodes cannot become master until that lock is released
 - Only one node allowed to hold the lock at a time
- Crash detection
 - "Ephemeral" data on a node's availability automatically goes away if the node disconnects, or fails to refresh itself after some time-out period.
- Group management
- Metadata
 - List of outstanding tasks, task assignments

But Zookeeper's API is not about these primitives.

■ Instead they have built a more general purpose system that makes it easy for applications to implement them.

Zookeeper's API

- Really a little distributed file system
 - With strong consistency guarantees
 - Replace the concept of "file" with "znode" and you've pretty much got it
- Here's the ZooKeeper API:
 - Create, delete, exists, setData, getData, getChildren



Notifications

- A client can register for notifications on a znode
 - Avoids continuous polling
 - Example: register for notification on /master if it goes away, try to take over as the new master.



Persistent and ephemeral znodes

- Persistent znodes remain stored until explicitly deleted
 - i.e., assignment of tasks to workers must persist even if master crashes
- Ephemeral znodes go away if the client that created it crashes or loses its connection to ZooKeeper
 - i.e., if the master crashes, it should release its lock on the znode that indicates which node is the master!



Zookeeper Architecture

Master ZK client

Worker

ZK client

Worker

ZK client

Worker

ZK client

Clients have a list of Zookeeper servers to connect to.

Zookeeper server

Zookeeper server

Zookeeper server

Zookeeper server

Zookeeper server

Zookeeper ensemble

Zookeeper quorums

Zookeeper Zookeeper Zookeeper server Zookeeper server Zookeeper

Zookeeper ensemble

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Zookeeper server

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Zookeeper server

Zookeeper server

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Zookeeper ensemble

Sounds a lot like how MongoDB works



Let's play with the ZooKeeper.

