Online data processing with S4 and Omid*

Flavio Junqueira

Microsoft Research, Cambridge

* Work done while in Yahoo! Research

Big Data defined

Wikipedia

In information technology, big data[1][2] is a collection of data sets so large and complex that it becomes difficult to process using on-hand database management tools or traditional data processing applications.

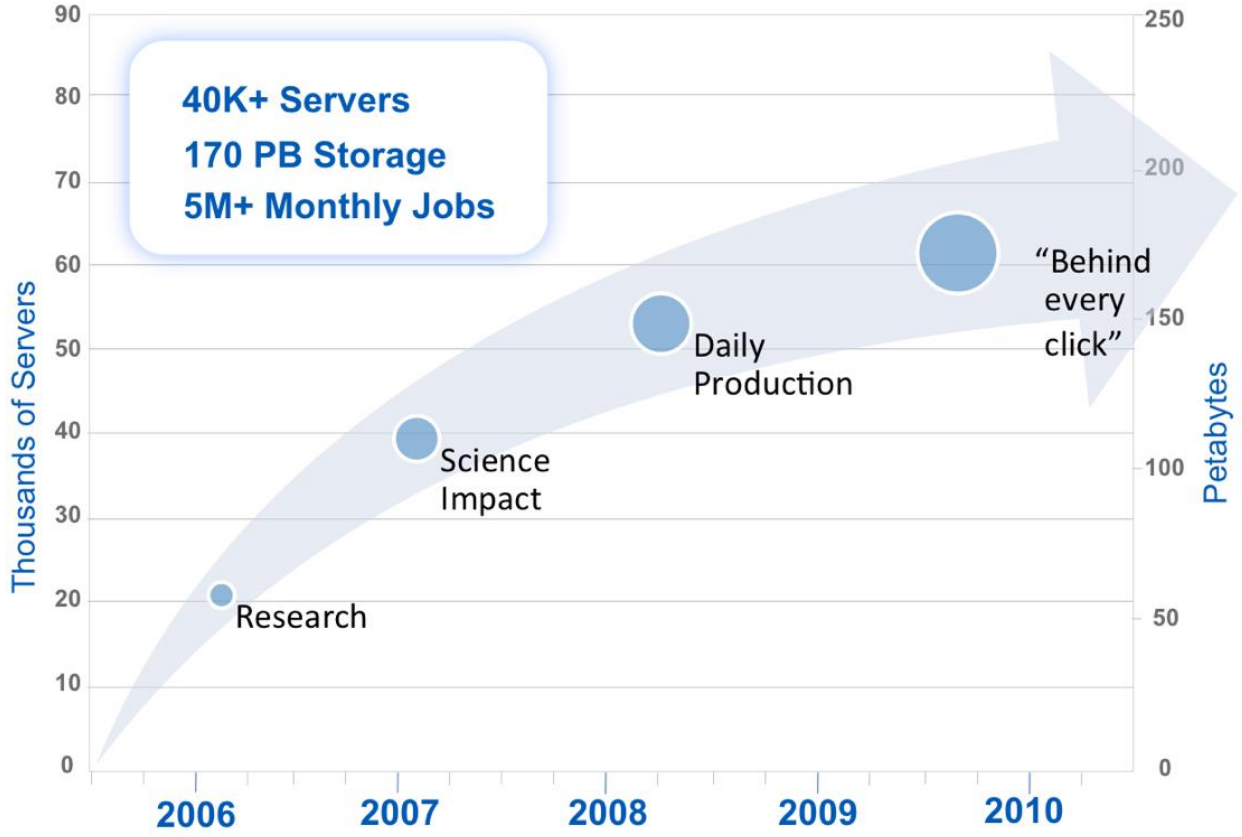
Hortonworks

A Big Data system has four properties:

- *It uses **local storage** to be fast but inexpensive*
- *It uses clusters of **commodity hardware** to be inexpensive*
- *It uses **free software** to be inexpensive*
- *It is **open source** to avoid expensive **vendor lock-in***

http://hortonworks.com/blog/big-data-defined/
http://hortonworks.com/blog/big-data-defined-part-deux-value-definition/

Hadoop @ Yahoo!



Eric Baldeschwieler @IBM Big Data, May 2011

Context: Back in 2008

- Needed scalable real-time processing
  - Direct feedback
  - Optimization
  - Adaptation
- Use case
  - Ad ranking with clickthrough analysis
- Solution
  - Distributed stream processing platform
  - At the time
    - No generic platform available
    - Research project

Source: unbounce.com

Stream Processing Platform

- Enables applications that process streams of events

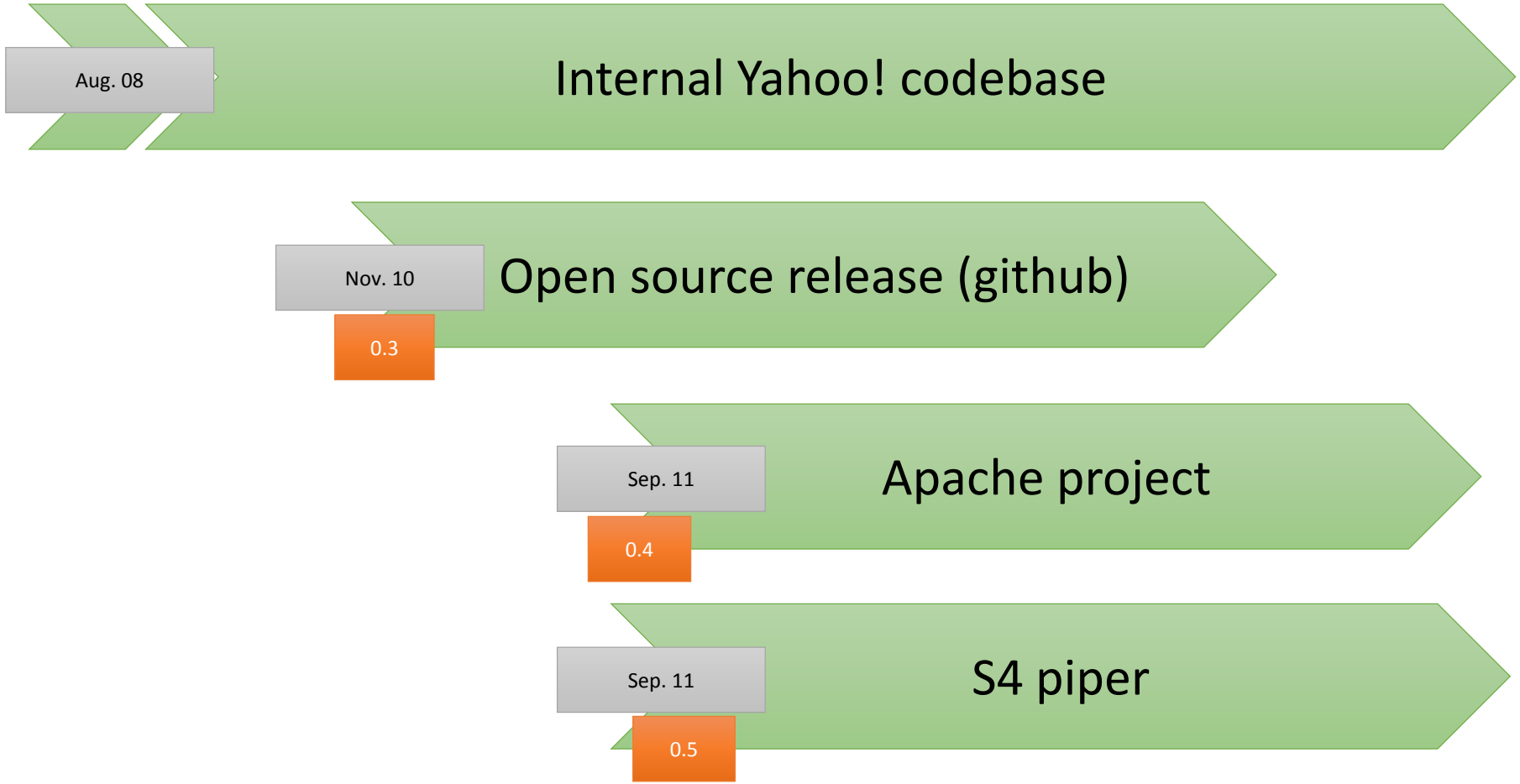
Source: ji-make.com

- Desirable properties
  - Online meaning low-latency
  - Best effort
  - Scalable
  - Fault tolerance (perhaps limited)
  - Flexible

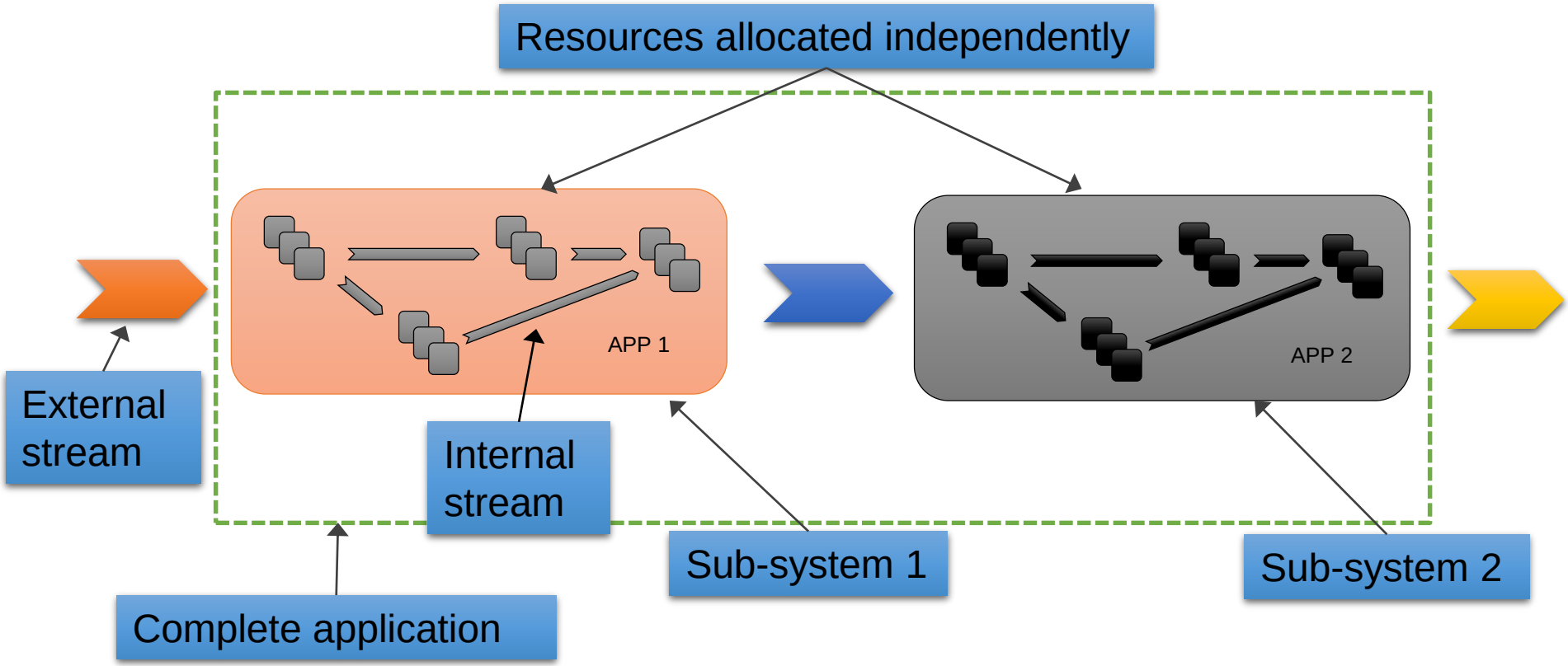
S4: Simple Scalable Streaming System

http://incubator.apache.org/s4

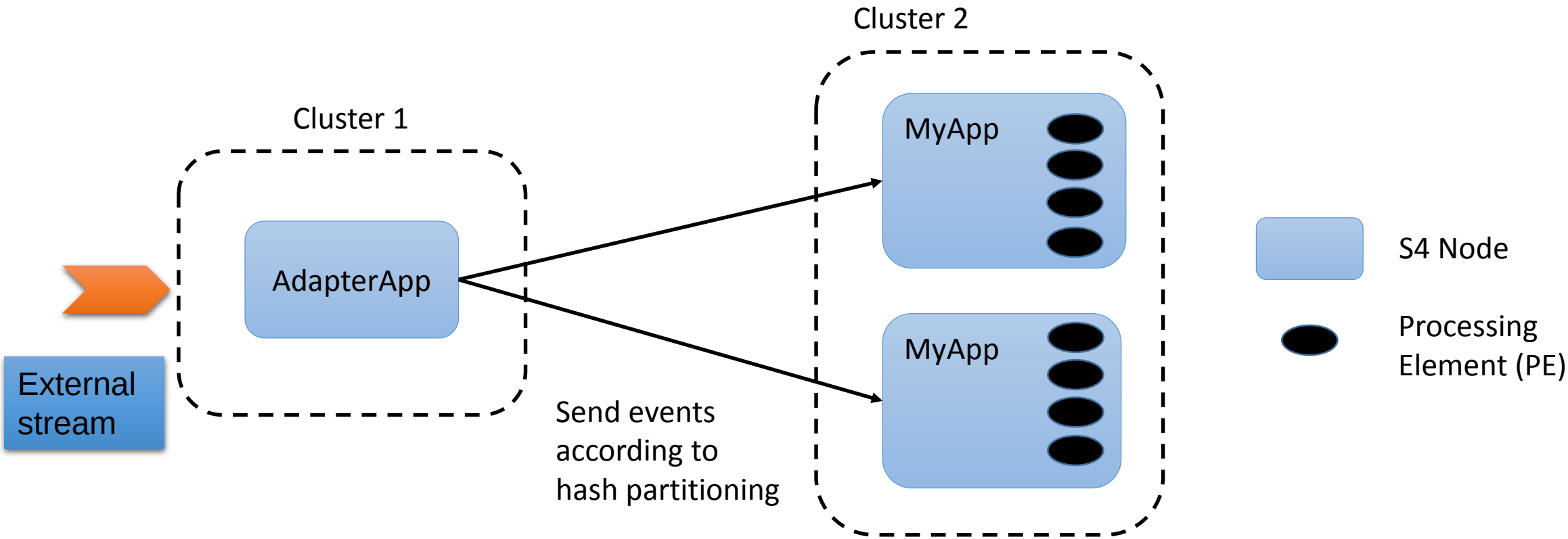
S4 Evolution



System overview

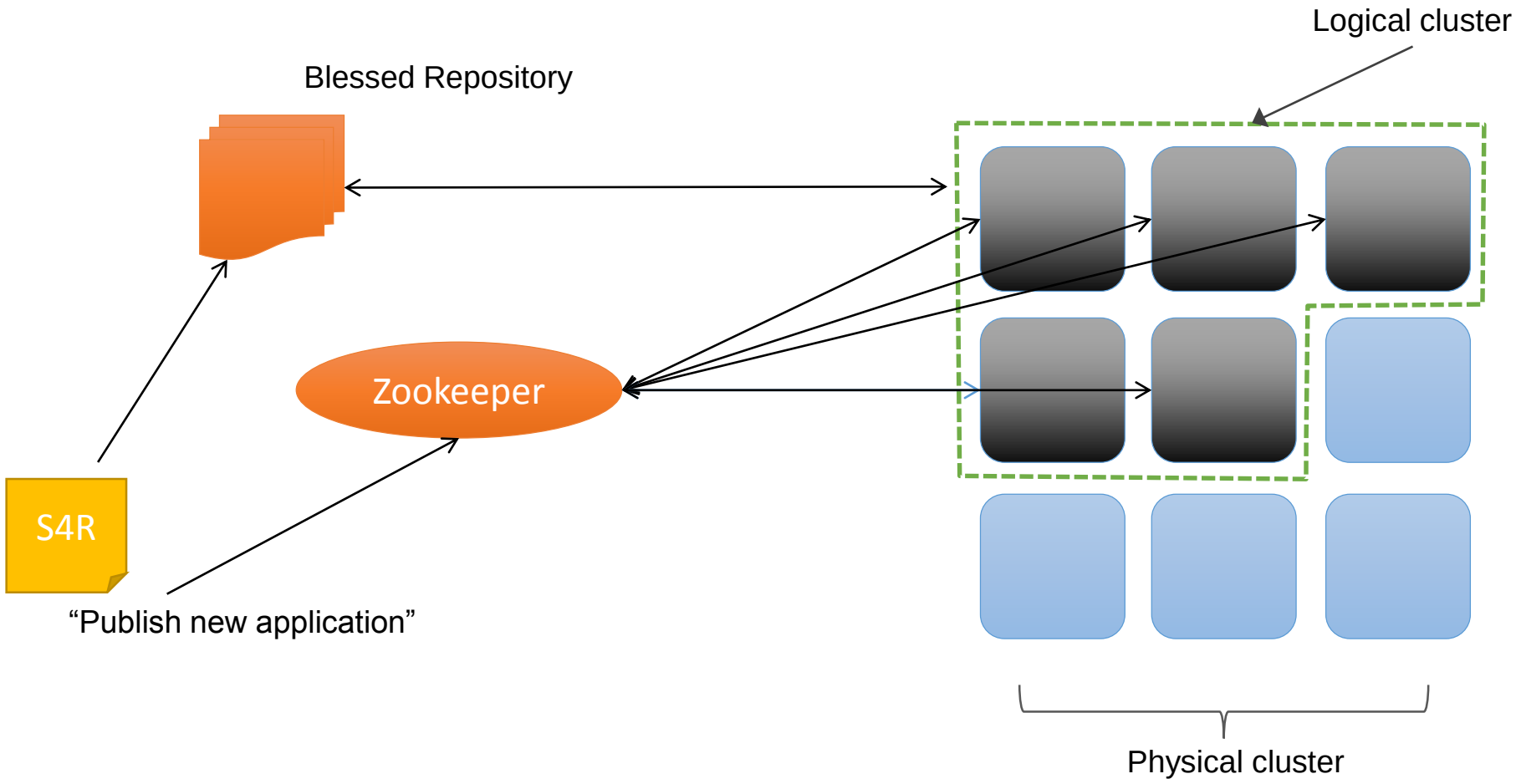


App

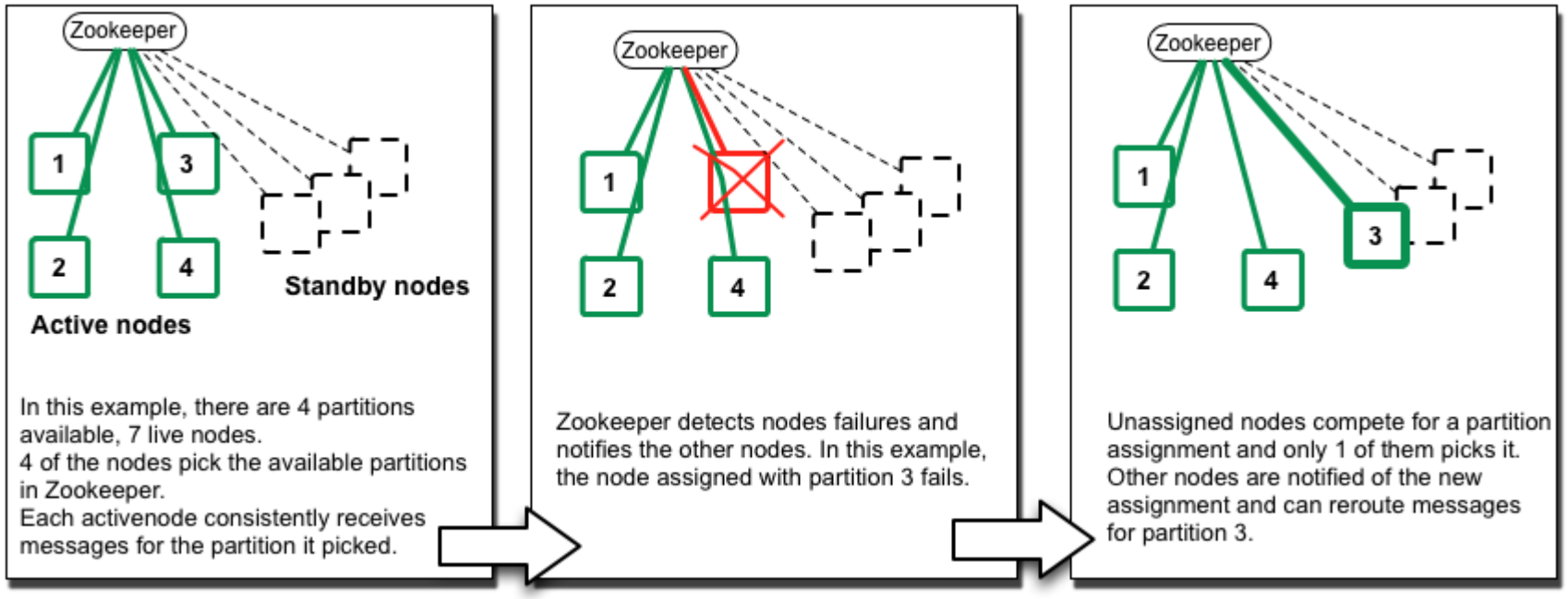


- App defines keys
- One PE per key

Deployment

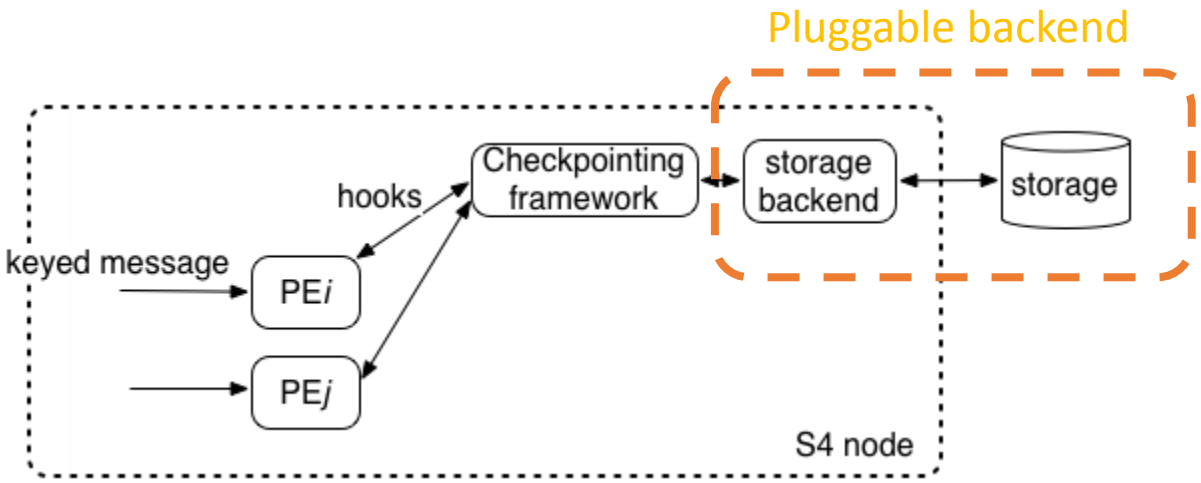

Logical cluster
Blessed Repository
Zookeeper
S4R
“Publish new application”
Physical cluster

Fault tolerance: Fail-over



http://incubator.apache.org/s4/doc/0.6.0/fault_tolerance/

Fault tolerance: Checkpointing



- Uncoordinated and Asynchronous checkpoints
- Lazy recovery
  - PE state recovered upon message

- Scheme is lossy
- Prevents loss of state accumulated over extended periods

http://incubator.apache.org/s4/doc/0.6.0/fault_tolerance/

Writing an app

Skeleton of an app

- HelloInputAdapter
  - Events from external source
- HelloApp
  - Creates topology
  - Connects adapter to first PE
- HelloPE
  - Process events

Skeleton of an app

- HelloInputAdapter
  - Events from external source
- HelloApp
  - Creates topology
  - Connects adapter to first PE
- HelloPE
  - Process events

```
public class HelloInputAdapter extends AdapterApp {
 …
   @Override
   protected void onStart() {

    …
         Event event = new Event();
         event.put("name", String.class, line);
         getRemoteStream().put(event);
         connectedSocket.close();

    …
   }

…
}
```

Skeleton of an app

- HelloInputAdapter
  - Events from external source
- HelloApp
  - Creates topology
  - Connects adapter to first PE
- HelloPE
  - Process events

```
public class HelloApp extends App {
    …
    @Override
    protected void onInit() {
        // create a prototype
        HelloPE helloPE = createPE(HelloPE.class);
        // Create a stream that listens to the "names" stream and
        // passes events to the helloPE instance.
        createInputStream("names", new KeyFinder<Event>() {
            @Override
            public List<String> get(Event event) {
                return Arrays.asList(new String[] { event.get("name") });
            }
        }, helloPE);
    }
  …
}
```

Skeleton of an app

- HelloInputAdapter
  - Events from external source
- HelloApp
  - Creates topology
  - Connects adapter to first PE
- HelloPE
  - Process events

```
public class HelloPE extends ProcessingElement {
…
    public void onEvent(Event event) {
        System.out.println("Hello " + (seen ? "again " : "") +
event.get("name") + "!");
    }
…
}
```

S4 Piper

Lessons learned

Lessons from initial design

- State loss upon node crash
- Rigid communication layer
  - UDP only
  - No retransmission, no flow control
- Hard to use/debug/deploy
  - Subjective, but that’s the overall feeling
- Isolated applications
- No regression tests

S4 Piper improvements

- Dynamic coupling of applications
  - Via a simple registration scheme
- Communication via TCP
  - Throttling
  - Retransmission and flow control
- Fault tolerance
  - Checkpointing
  - Node failover

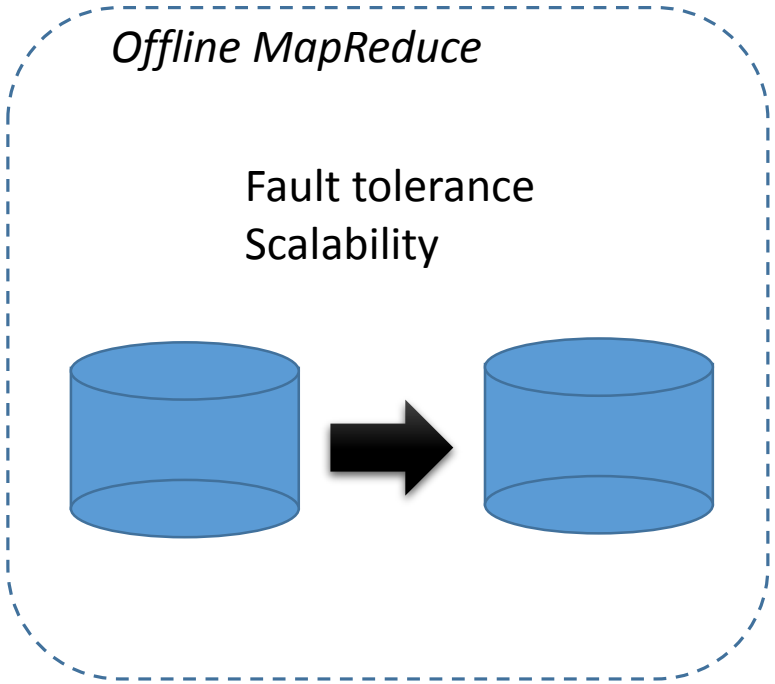
Other ways of achieving low latency?

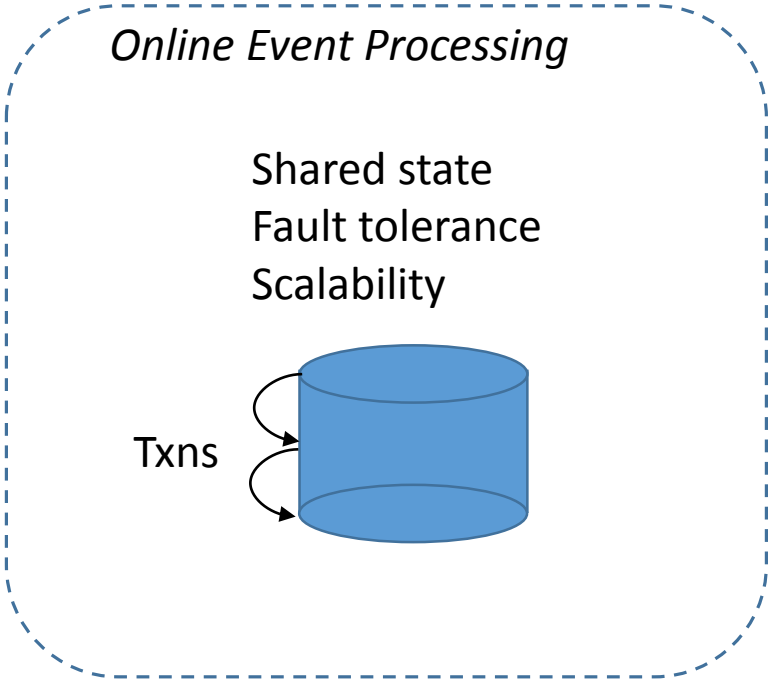
Omid project: https://github.com/yahoo/omid

Context

- Incremental processing a la Percolator (Google, OSDI 2010)
  - Distributed transactions
  - Observers
  - Bigtable
- Use case
  - Search index
  - Online updates
  - Crawl to index in 5s
- Omid is about transactions…

Why transactions?





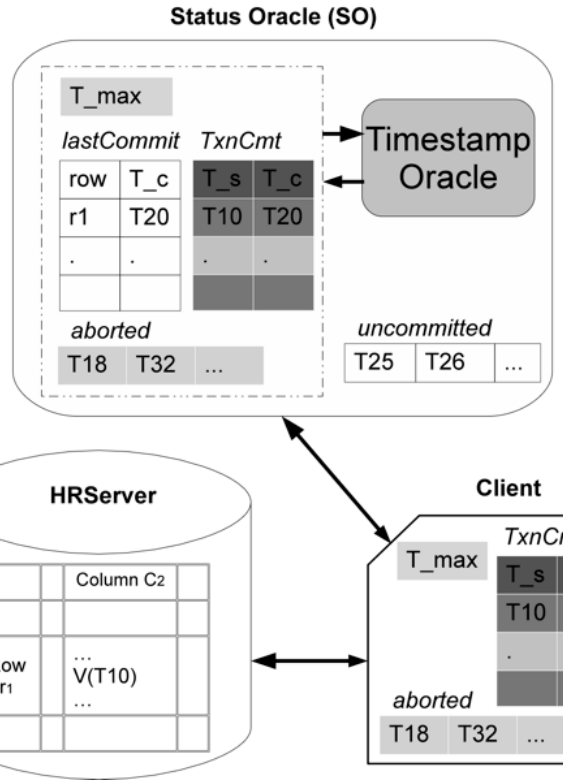
How does it differ from S4 stream processing?

- S4
  - Data lives in memory
  - Access to databases is expensive
- Incremental processing
  - Computation is close to the data
  - Higher latency

- Omid
  - Targets lower latency for transactions

Omid architecture

WAL for recoverability

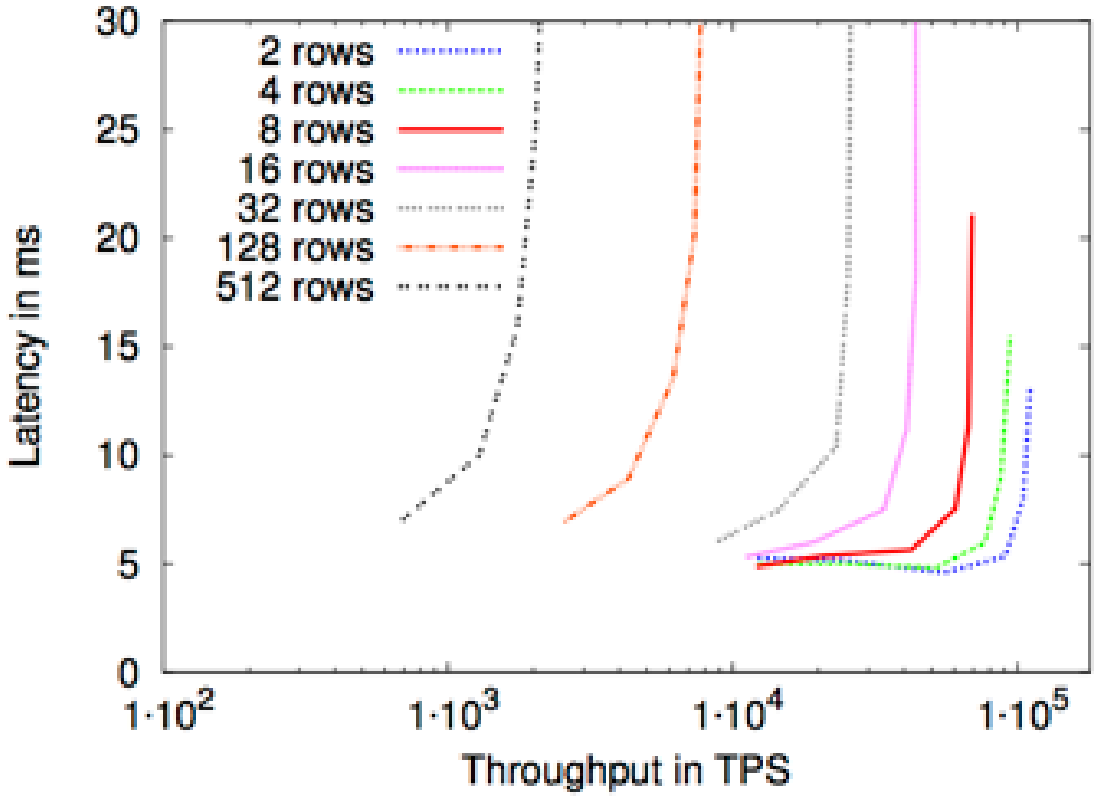


- Centralized Status Oracle
- Lock-free scheme

Runs on unmodified HBase

- Status replicated to clients
- Replication reduces SO load

Throughput vs. Latency



Use case

- News recommendation system
- Users with similar interests are clustered
- Upon a new article
  - Check which clusters might be interested in that article
  - Recommend article to users in the cluster
- Problems txns solve
  - Concurrent operations reconfiguring the clusters
  - Queries while clusters are being reconfigured

http://www.slideshare.net/DanielGmezFerro/omid-efficient-transaction-management-and-incremental-processing-for-hbase-hadoop-summit-europe-2013

Wrap up

Online processing

- Goal
  - Receive events
  - Make them ready for consumption fast
- Two techniques
  - Stream processing
    - Events processed against small amount of local memory
    - Very low latency (+250k events/node/s)
  - Incremental processing
    - Shared state in the form of a datastore
    - Events processed against the datastore
    - Higher latency

Acknowledgements

- S4
  - Matthieu (lead developer)
  - Daniel Gómez Ferro
  - Leo Neumeyer
  - Kishore Gopalakrishna

S4 project: http://incubator.apache.org/s4

- Omid
  - Daniel Gómez Ferro (lead developer)
  - Maysam Yabandeh
  - Ivan Kelly
  - Ben Reed

Omid project: https://github.com/yahoo/omid