



Consistent Hashing

in your python applications

Europython 2017



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CTO at [Numberly](#)

History & main use cases

Distributed (web) **caching** (Akamai)

P2P (Chord & BitTorrent)

Distributed **databases** (data distribution / sharding)

- Amazon DynamoDB
- Cassandra / ScyllaDB
- Riak
- CockroachDB



MAPPING

referential -> information

Map logic






MAP

key -> value



Python dict()

{key: value}



Python `dict()` is a Hash Table

Hash Table logic

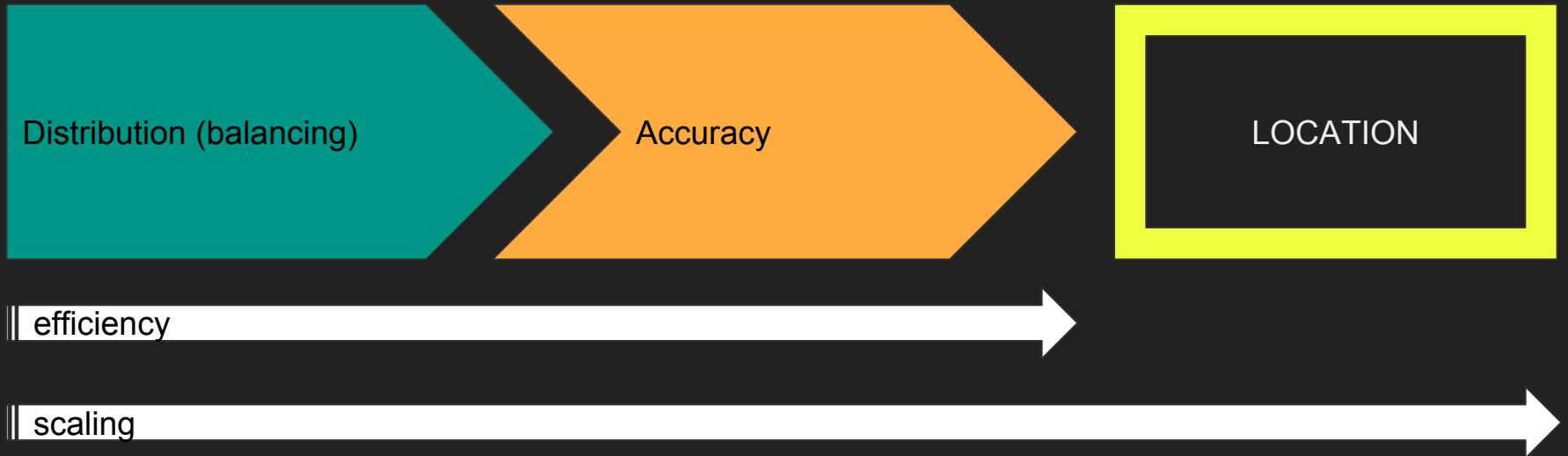


Python dict() implementation

$\text{hash}(\text{key}) \& (\text{size of array} - 1) = \text{array index}$

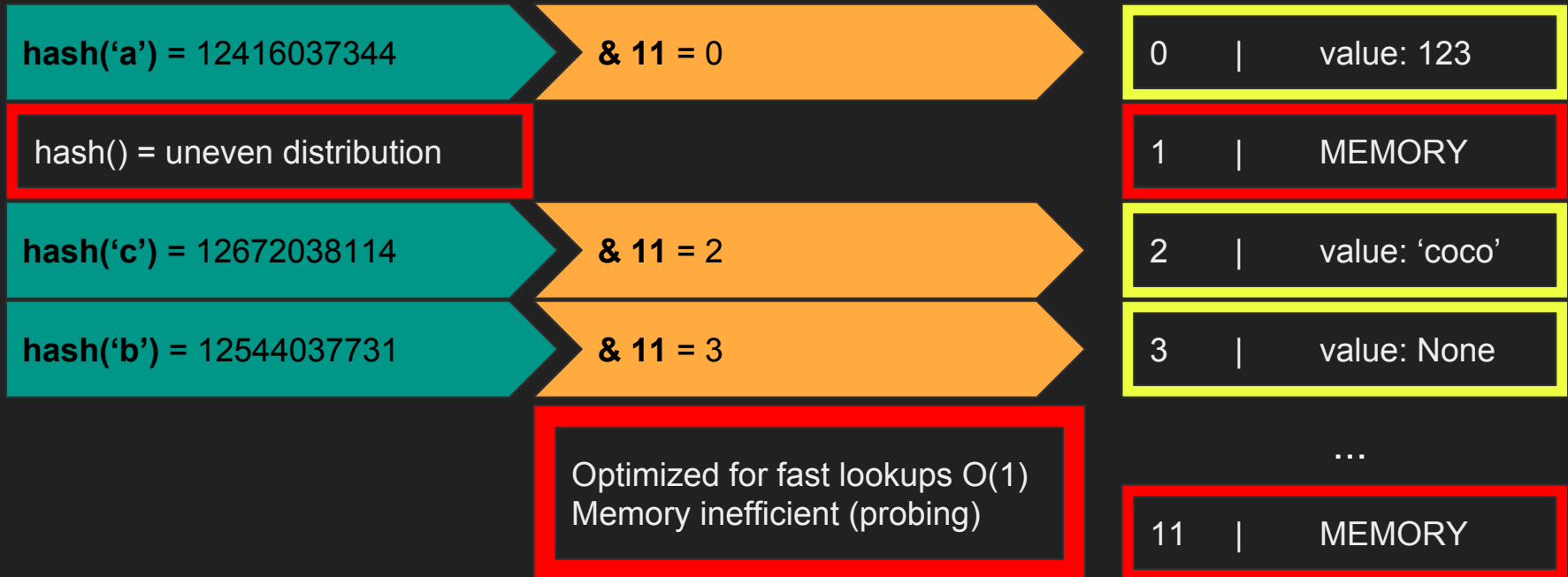


Key factors to consider



Python dict efficiency & scaling

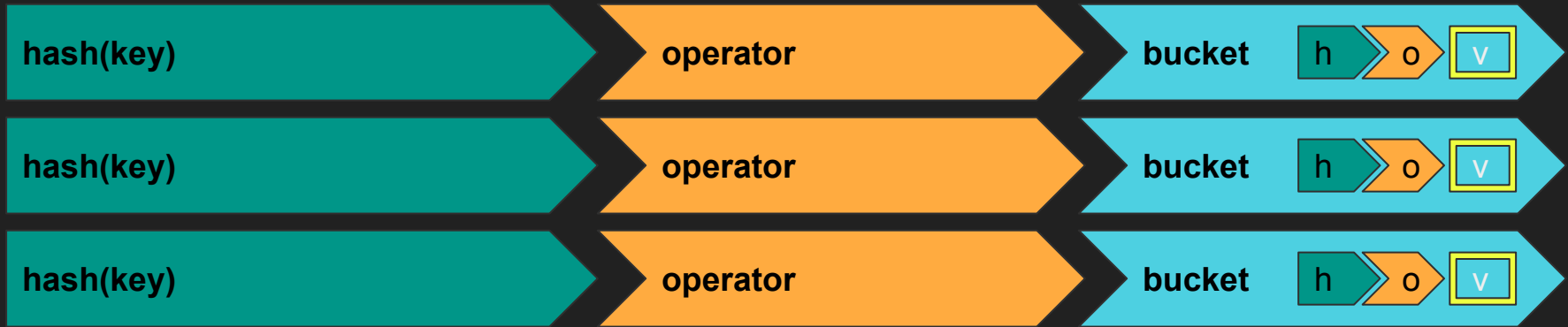
hash(key) & (size of array - 1) = array index





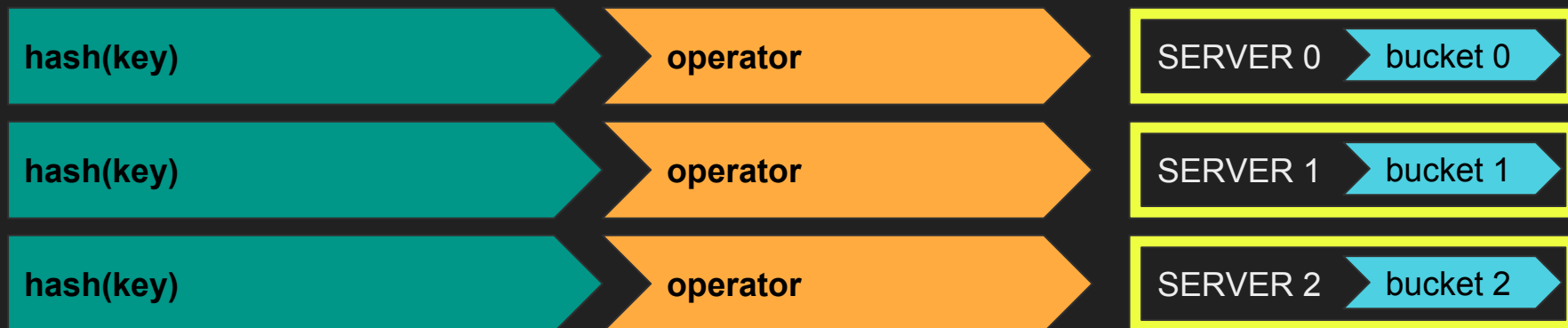
Distributed Hash Tables (DHT)

Split your key space into buckets



the hash function will impact the size of each bucket

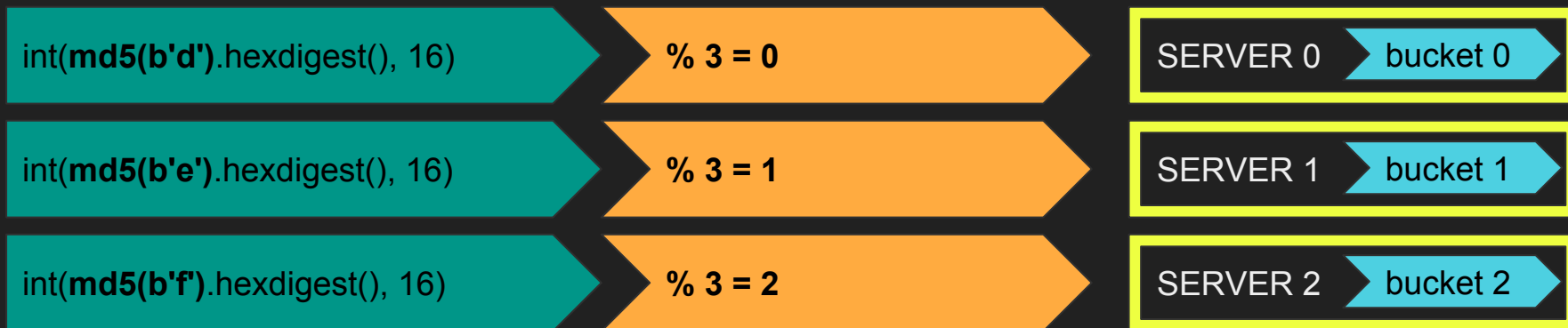
Distribute your buckets to servers



what's the best operator function to find the server hosting the bucket for my key
?

Naive DHT implementation

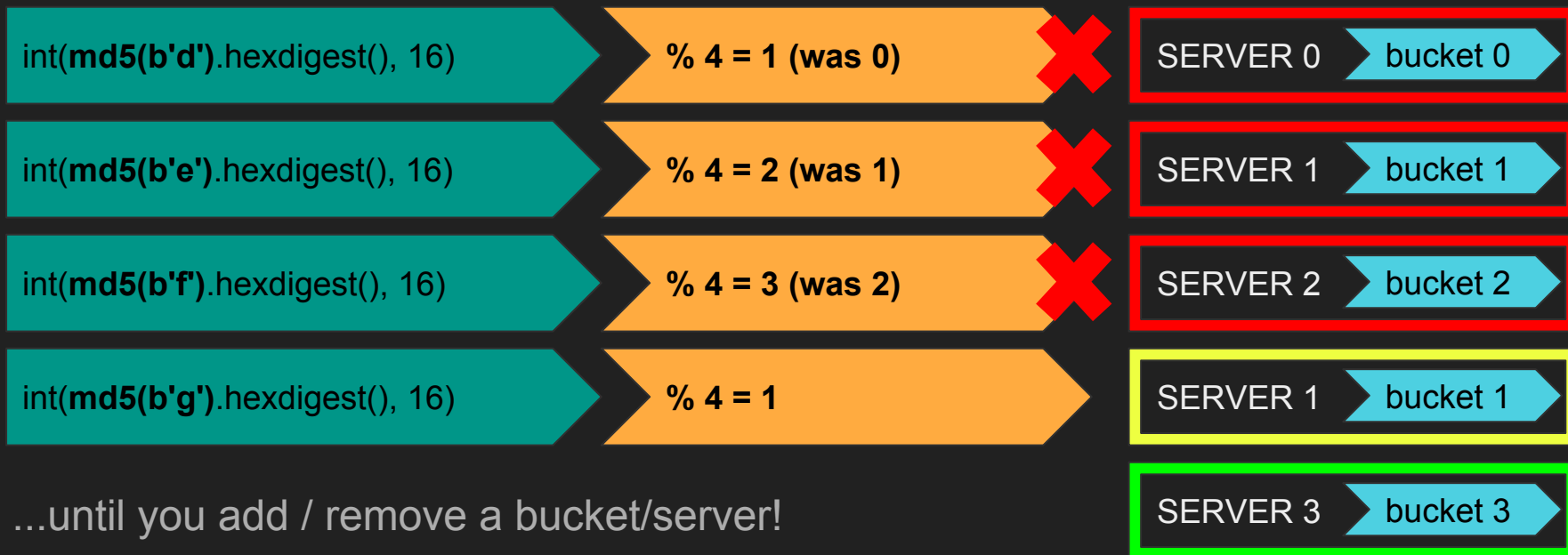
$\text{md5}(\text{key}) \% (\text{number of buckets}) = \text{server}$

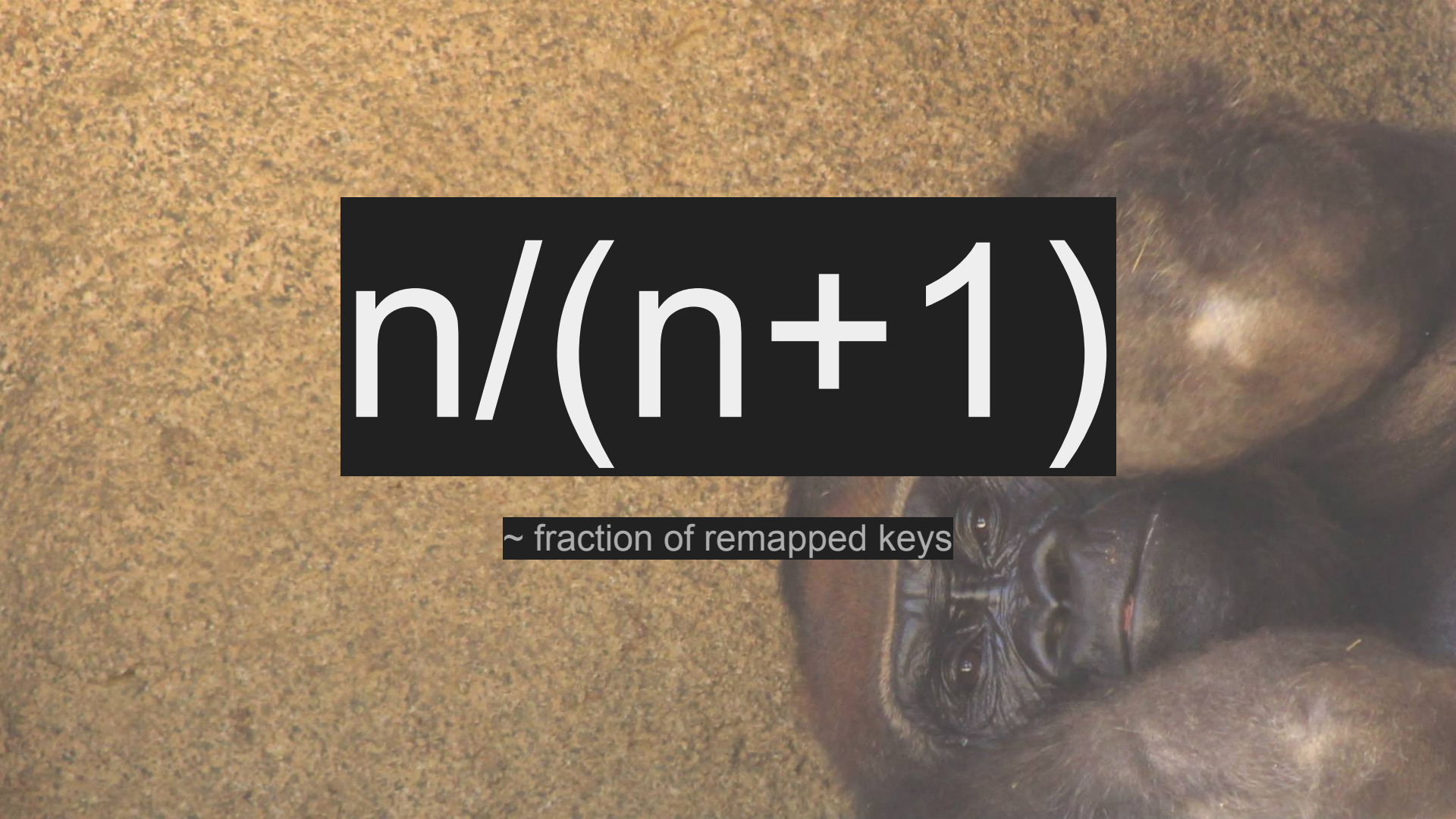


simple & looking good...

Naive DHT implementation

$\text{md5}(\text{key}) \% (\text{number of buckets}) = \text{server}$




$$n/(n+1)$$

~ fraction of remapped keys



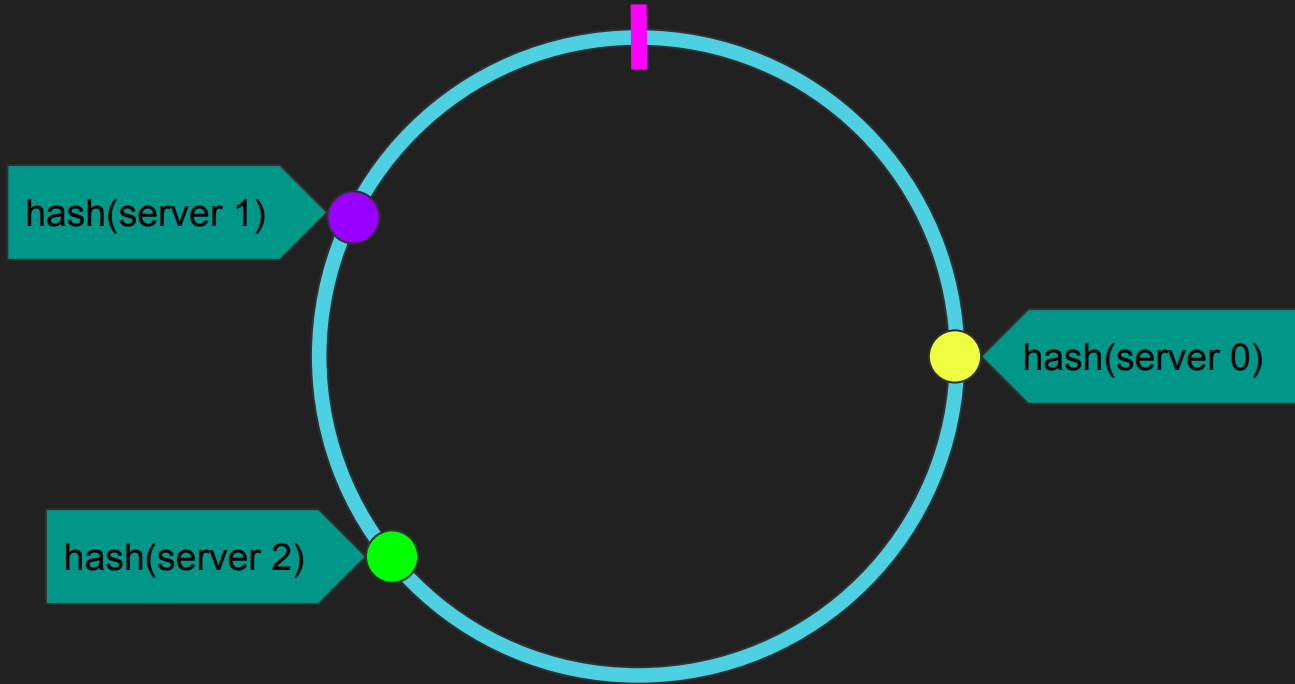
HELP!

we need consistency

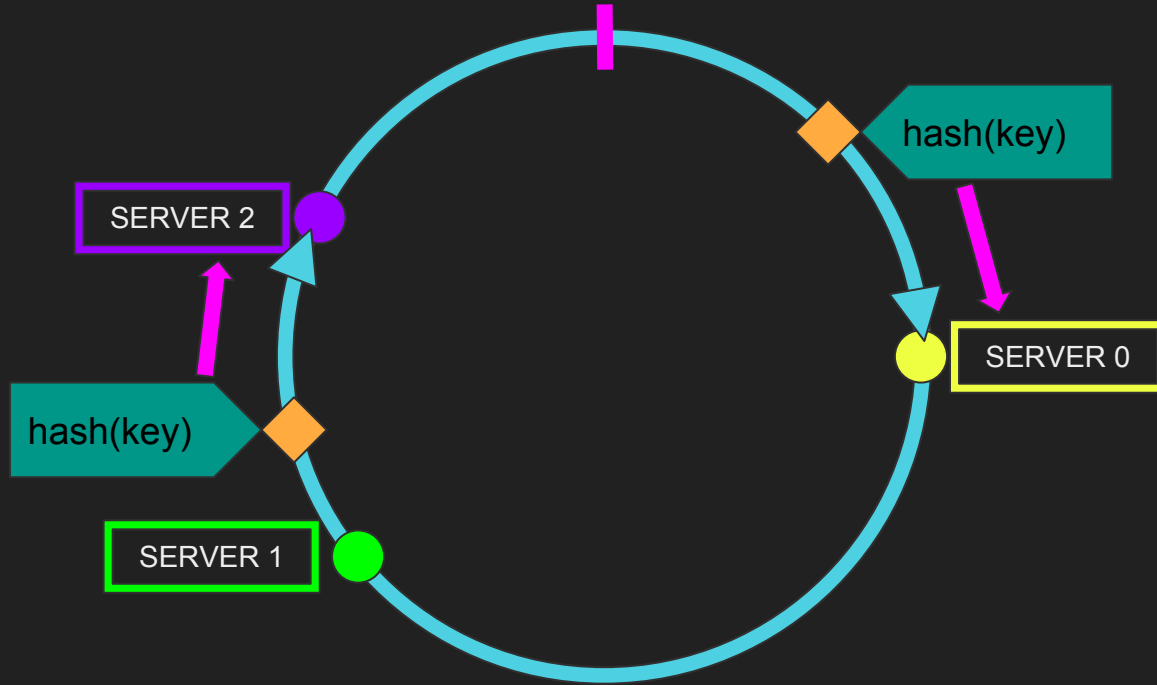
A close-up, high-resolution shot of a blue-skinned creature, likely a Na'vi from the movie Avatar. The creature has large, expressive blue eyes with black pupils, looking directly at the viewer with an intense, wide-eyed expression. Its skin is a vibrant blue with visible texture and fine lines. It has large, pointed ears on the left side of its head. Its mouth is slightly open, revealing sharp, white teeth. The creature's hands are visible at the bottom of the frame, with fingers curled as if holding something. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting an indoor or cave-like setting.

The Hash Ring

Place your servers on the **continuum** (ring)



Keys' bucket is on the **next** server in the ring

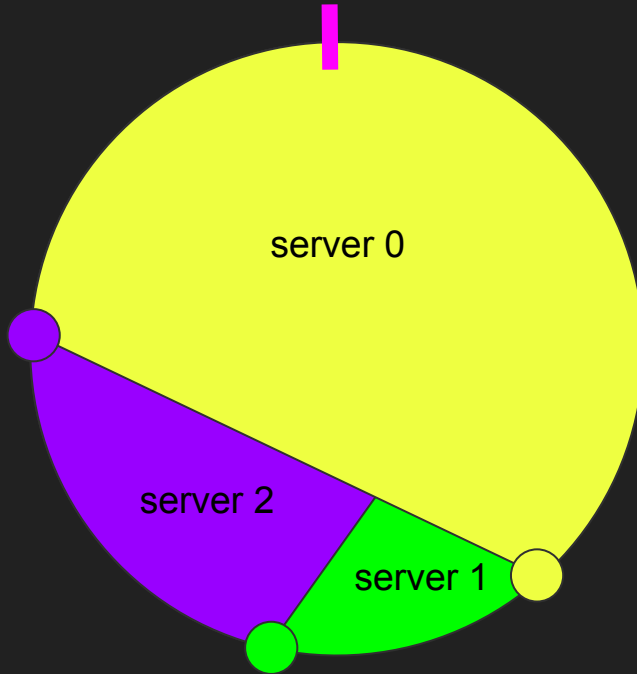


A photograph of a gorilla lying on its back on a sandy surface. The gorilla's face is visible, looking towards the camera. The background is a textured, light brown sand.

$1/n$

~ fraction of remapped keys

Uneven partitions lead to hotspots



hash functions are not perfect

Which hash function to use ?

Cryptographic hash functions

- MD5
- SHA1
- SHA256

+ standard

+ adoption

- need conversion to int

Non cryptographic hash functions

- CityHash (google)
- Murmur (v3)

+ optimized for key lookups

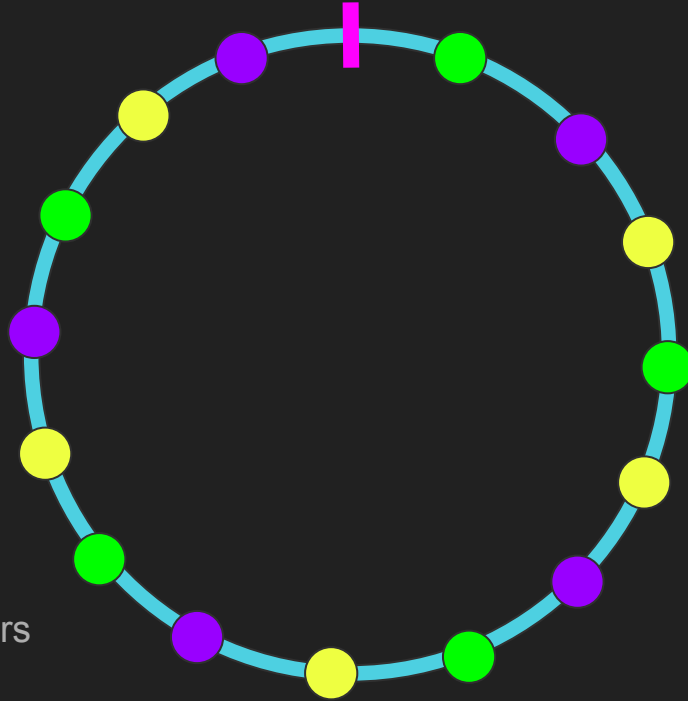
+ fast

- need of C libs

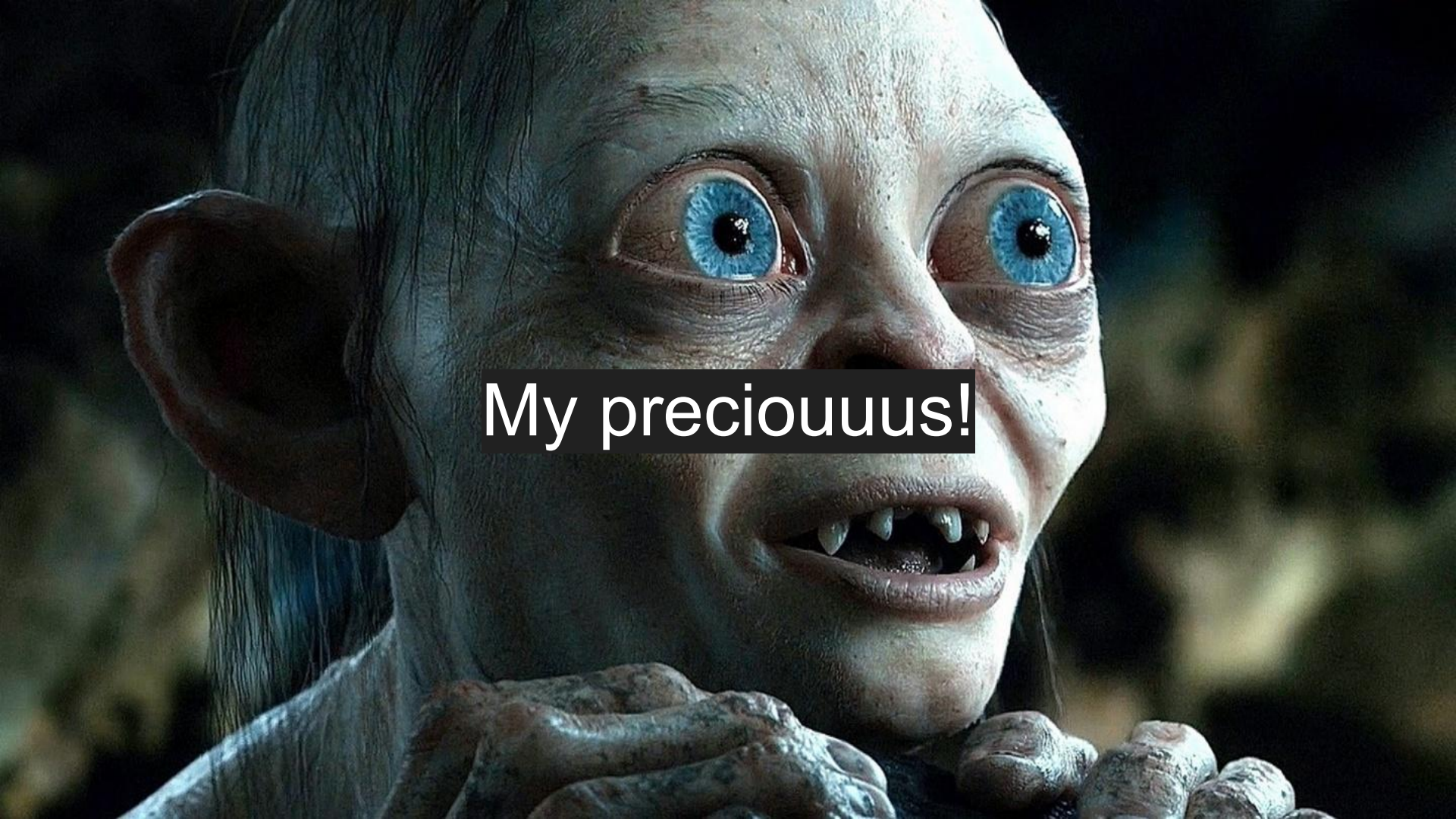
SHAX - MD5 - CityHash128 - Murmur3 - CityHash64 - CityHash32

speed

Hash Rings **vnodes** & **weights** mitigate hotspots



reduces load variance on servers



My preciouuus!

Consistent Hashing implementations in **python**

ConsistentHashing

A simple implement of consistent hashing

consistent_hash

The algorithm is the same as libketama

hash_ring

Using md5 as hashing function

python-continuum

Using md5 as hashing function

uhashring

Full featured, ketama compatible

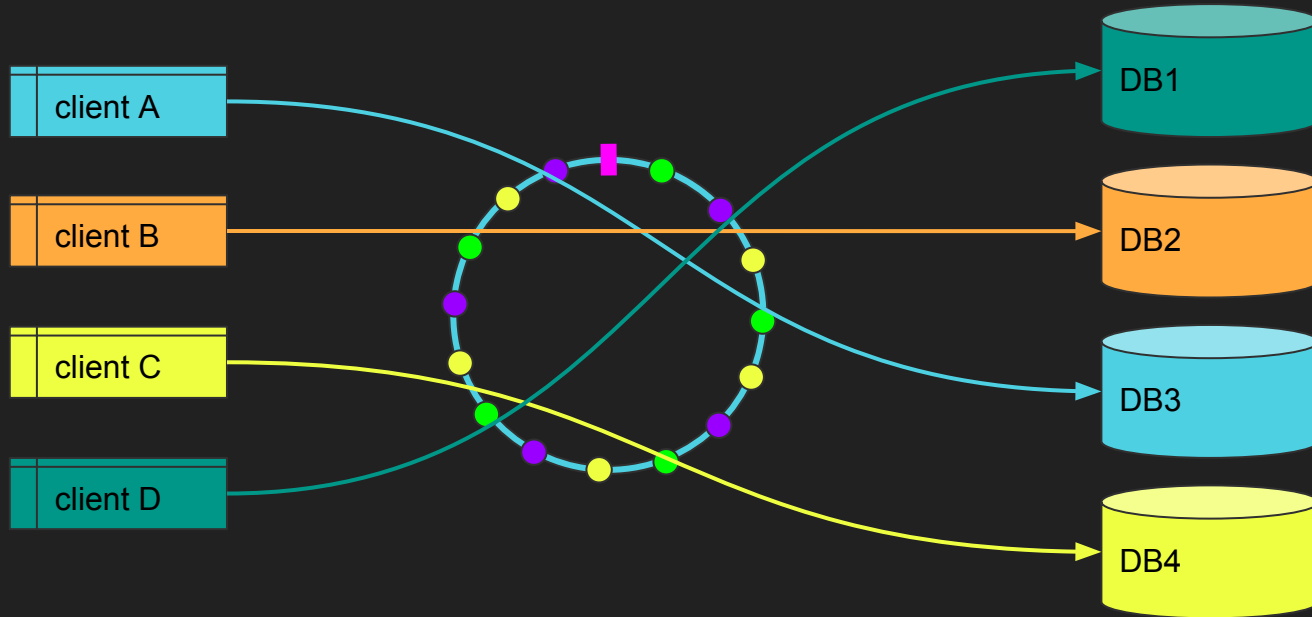
```
In [1]:
```

uhashring

```
In [29]: nodes = {  
...:     '/mnt/disk1/': {  
...:         'instance': open('/mnt/disk1/commitlog', 'a')  
...:     },  
...:     '/mnt/disk2/': {  
...:         'instance': open('/mnt/disk2/commitlog', 'a')  
...:     },  
...:     '/mnt/disk3/': {  
...:         'instance': open('/mnt/disk3/commitlog', 'a')  
...:     },  
...:     '/mnt/disk4/': {  
...:         'instance': open('/mnt/disk4/commitlog', 'a')  
...:     },  
...: }
```

Example use case #1

Database instances distribution



Example use case #1

Database instances distribution

```
4 import pymysql.cursors
5
6 from uhashring import HashRing
7
8 nodes = {
9     'mydb1.local': {
10         'instance': pymysql.connect(host='mydb1.local', user='user', password='passwd', db='db'),
11         'port': 3306
12     },
13     'mydb2.local': {
14         'instance': pymysql.connect(host='mydb2.local', user='user', password='passwd', db='db'),
15         'port': 3306
16     },
17     'mydb3.local': {
18         'instance': pymysql.connect(host='mydb3.local', user='user', password='passwd', db='db'),
19         'port': 3306
20     },
21     'mydb4.local': {
22         'instance': pymysql.connect(host='mydb4.local', user='user', password='passwd', db='db'),
23         'port': 3306
24     },
25 }
```

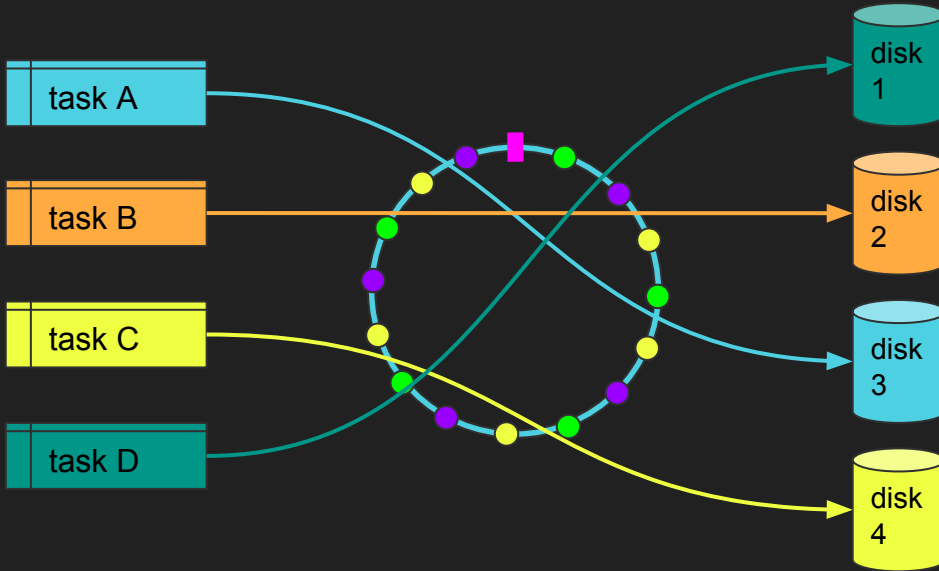

Example use case #1

Database instances distribution

```
27 # create the ring
28 hr = HashRing(nodes)
29
30 # we have some data and use the key to distribute it on the right server
31 some_data = {
32     'client A': 'user data of client A',
33     'client B': 'user data of client B',
34     'client C': 'user data of client C',
35     'client D': 'user data of client D'
36 }
37
38 # use the ring intuitively
39 for partition_key, data in some_data.items():
40     with hr[partition_key].cursor() as cursor:
41         sql = "INSERT INTO `users` (`data`) VALUES (%s)"
42         cursor.execute(sql, (data))
43
44     # hr[partition_key] == 'instance' of selected node (pymysql.connect)
45     hr[partition_key].commit()
```

Example use case #2

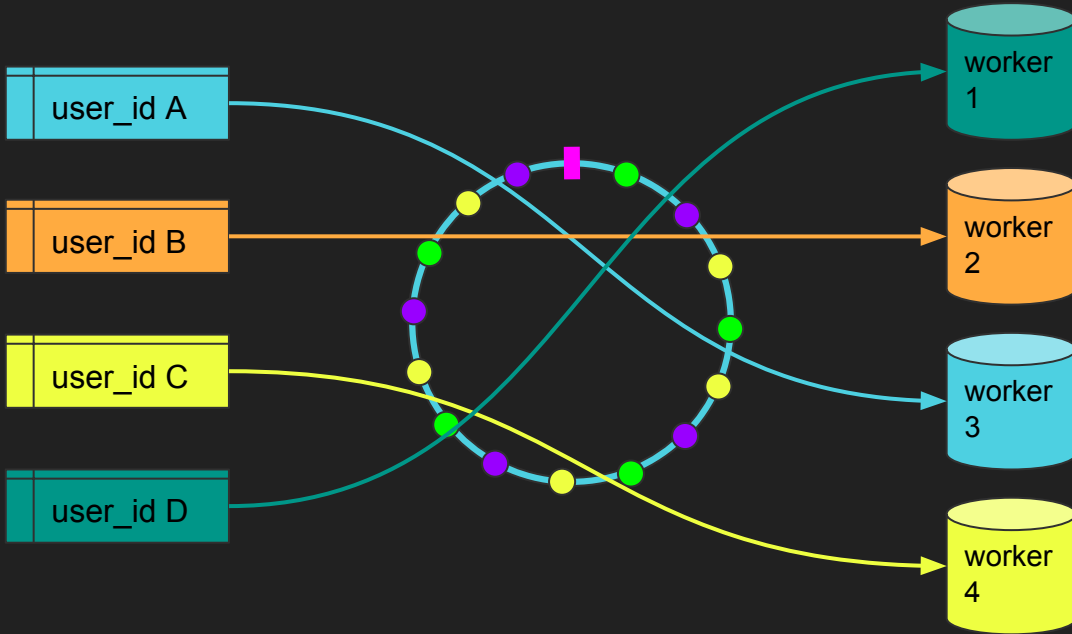
Disk & network I/O distribution



```
8 nodes = {
9     '/mnt/disk1/': {
10         'instance': open('/mnt/disk1/commitlog', 'a')
11     },
12     '/mnt/disk2/': {
13         'instance': open('/mnt/disk2/commitlog', 'a')
14     },
15     '/mnt/disk3/': {
16         'instance': open('/mnt/disk3/commitlog', 'a')
17     },
18     '/mnt/disk4/': {
19         'instance': open('/mnt/disk4/commitlog', 'a')
20     },
21 }
22 hr = HashRing(nodes)
23
24
25 # dummy function to showcase disk I/O write balancing
26 def dummy_writer(task_id):
27     output_data = '{} output'.format(task_id)
28
29     # keep a trace of our write time
30     write_id = str(uuid4())
31     hr[task_id].write('{}:{}\n'.format(write_id, task_id))
32
33     # write the actual data on a file
34     file_path = '{}/{}/out'.format(hr.get_node(task_id), write_id)
35     with open(file_path, 'w') as output_file:
36         output_file.write(output_data)
37
38
39 # dummy function to showcase disk I/O read balancing
40 def dummy_reader(task_id):
41     output_files = listdir(hr.get_node(task_id))
42     for file_name in output_files:
43         if file_name.endswith('.out'):
44             file_path = '{}/{}/'.format(hr.get_node(task_id), file_name)
45             with open(file_path, 'r') as input_file:
46                 print(input_file.read())
47
48
49 dummy_writer('task_for_real')
50 dummy_writer('task_for_the_win')
51 dummy_writer('task_down')
52 dummy_writer('task_is_known')
53 dummy_writer('task_g')
54 dummy_reader('task_for_the_win')
```

Example use case #3

Log & tracing consistency

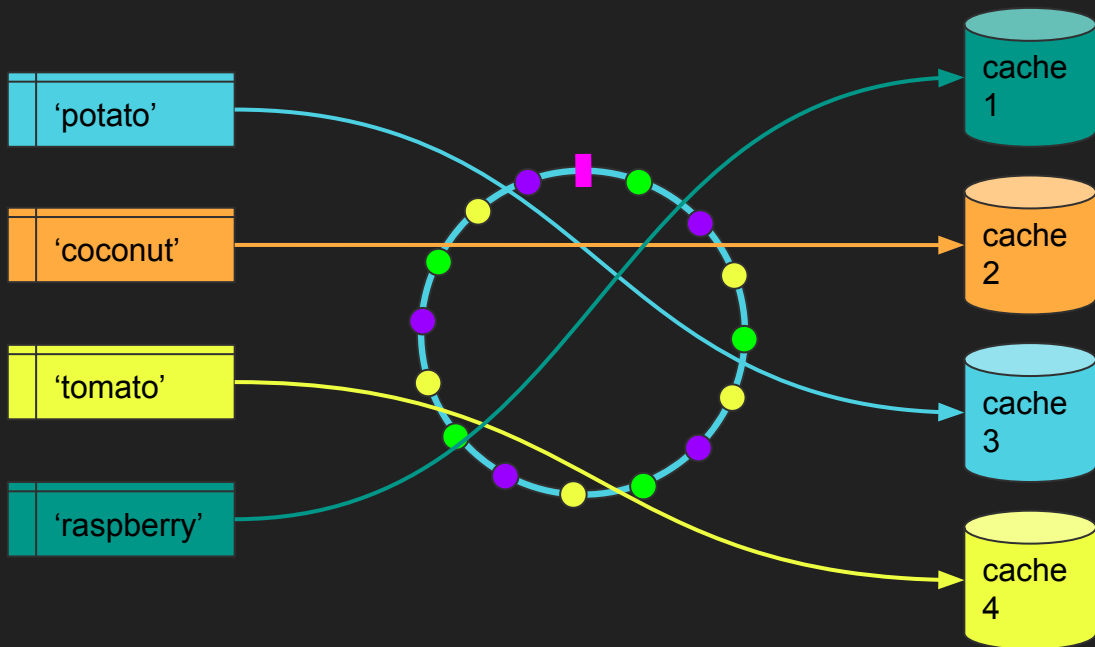


```
4 from beanstalkc import Connection
5 from uhashring import HashRing
6
7 nodes = {
8     'server_1': {
9         'instance': Connection(host='server_1'),
10        'port': 11300
11    },
12    'server_2': {
13        'instance': Connection(host='server_2'),
14        'port': 11300
15    },
16    'server_3': {
17        'instance': Connection(host='server_3'),
18        'port': 11300
19    },
20    'server_4': {
21        'instance': Connection(host='server_4'),
22        'port': 11300
23    },
24 }
25
26 # create the ring
27 hr = HashRing(nodes)
28
29 # we get some jobs from a local beanstalkd server
30 # and forward them based on their content
31 local_bean = Connection(host='localhost')
32 while True:
33     job = local_bean.reserve()
34
35     # assume that the first char of the job
36     # content is the routing key
37     routing_key = job.body[0]
38
39     # forward the job based on the routing key
40     hr[routing_key].put(job.body)
41
42     # delete our local copy
43     job.delete()
```

Example use case #4

python-memcached consolidation

```
1 #!/usr/bin/env python3
2 # -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
3
4 import memcache
5
6 from uhashring import monkey
7 monkey.patch_memcache()
8
9 mc = memcache.Client(['node1:11211', 'node2:11211'])
10
```





Live demo raffle

List of GIFs

One of the GIF is the winner



Every participant is a node (bucket)

`hash(WINNER_GIF_URL)` picks the winner node



<http://ep17.nbly.co>

(silly live demo)



Thanks

github.com/ultrabug/ep2017

github.com/ultrabug/uhashring

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