Overview of Apache ZooKeeper

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What's Ahead?

- Tonight I will explain
 - What ZooKeeper is
 - What problems it can help you solve
 - How it works
 - * How to install, configure and run it
 - Where you can learn more

What is ZooKeeper?

- ✤ A distributed coordination service
 - Reliable and highly-available
 - Inspired by Google's Chubby lock service
 - But quite a bit different in design philosophy
- ✤ A top-level Apache project
 - Originally created at Yahoo!

What's So Great About it?

✤ Flexible

- Library
- Corresponding network service
- Simple
 - Primitives
 - Recipes
- ✤ Loosely-coupled
- Built-in security

Why is ZooKeeper Needed?

- Imagine you've got a multithreaded program
 - And you need a lock to coordinate among threads
 - So you use the java.util.concurrent package
- And later your program has trouble scaling up
 - So you decide to scale out
- How do you handle locking across machines?

Why is ZooKeeper Needed?

"The network is reliable"

✤ Peter Deutsch, et al.



What Can You Do With It?

- Distributed locks
- Distributed queues
- Group membership
- Master elections
- Distributed configuration
- ✤ And much more...

Other ZooKeeper Properties

- Operations are ordered
 - Distributed state can lag, but it's never wrong
- Updates are atomic
 - They either succeed completely or fail completely
 - There are no partially applied modifications
- Changes are durable
 - ✤ A change, once applied, will persist
 - * Even if the machine fails. Even if Godzilla attacks.

Who Is Using It?

- ZooKeeper is part of the "Hadoop Ecosystem"
- Many Hadoop-related projects depend on it
 - ✤ HBase
 - HDFS High Availability
 - Flume
- But it's not specific to Hadoop
 - No external dependencies (aside from Java)

Who Else Uses It?

- Other open source projects are using it too
 - Neo4J
 - Apache Solr (Cloud Edition)
 - Eclipse Communication Framework
- Many organizations also use ZooKeeper
 - Yahoo
 - Rackspace
 - Lots of others who choose not to be named...

ZooKeeper's Data Model

- ZooKeeper models a hierarchical filesystem
 - Nodes in this tree are called *znodes*
 - A znode may contain data and/or other znodes*



Znode Paths

- Every znode exists at some path
 - Paths are always both absolute and canonical
 - The API uses UNIX-style paths (e.g. /rock/punk)



The ZooKeeper API

- The API defines just a few operations, mainly
 - Create a node
 - Check if a node exists / Access the node
 - Delete a node
 - Get / set children
 - ✤ Get / set data
 - Plus a few others
 - Synchronizing state, registering watches, handling ACLs

Znode Types

- There are two main types of znodes
 - Persistent
 - Available until explicitly removed
 - Ephemeral
 - Tied to the session of the client which created it
 - ✤ Only available for the duration of that session
 - Ephemeral nodes cannot have children
- ✤ The type is specified at time of creation

Sequential Znodes

- Znodes optionally allow a sequence number
 - Just set a flag when creating the node
 - Actual name based on a counter's current value
 For example, foo becomes foo-000000001
 - * This is handy for maintaining a global order
 - ✤ Such as when creating a distributed lock

Security

- ZooKeeper now supports Kerberos security
- Authorization is done via ACLs
- Supports several types of restrictions
 - Message digest
 - Hostname
 - ✤ IP address
- Can limit access by function
 - * Read, write, delete, etc.

ZooKeeper Standalone Mode

- Standalone mode is mainly used for development
- There is a single ZooKeeper daemon running
 - Handles both read and write requests from clients



ZooKeeper Clustered Mode

- There's an *ensemble* of servers
 - One server is elected as the leader
 - Followers only service read requests



How Do You Install It?

Get it from a mirror (zookeeper.apache.org)

```
$ tar -zxvf zookeeper-3.4.3.tar.gz
$ cd zookeeper-3.4.3
$ export PATH=$PATH:`pwd`/bin
```

✤ It's also part of CDH

- Cloudera's Distribution including Apache Hadoop
- You can install from packages (yum, apt-get, etc.)
- This offers other conveniences (init scripts, etc.)

How Do You Configure It?

- # NOTE: we're in the zookeeper-3.4.3 directory
 \$ cp conf/zoo_sample.cfg conf/zoo.cfg
- \$ vi conf/zoo.cfg

- Three required configuration parameters
 - tickTime: basic unit of time in ZooKeeper
 - dataDir: local filesystem where data is stored
 - clientPort: TCP port to which clients connect
- ✤ If using cluster mode, list other ZK nodes too

How Do You Run It?

✤ If you installed from a tarball

\$ zkServer.sh start

✤ If you installed from CDH packages

\$ sudo service zookeeper-server start

How Do You Use It?

- Put the ZooKeeper JAR in your project
 - ✤ Just as you would for any other library
- ✤ Use the API to create an application

Where Do You Learn More?

- ✤ Apache ZooKeeper Web site
- Cloudera's CDH4 documentation
- ✤ Hadoop: The Definitive Guide (O'Reilly)
 - Chapter 14 covers ZooKeeper in detail