

# **SKEPTICAL ZOOKEEPER**

**A HIGH-LEVEL GUIDE ON WHEN TO USE  
ZOOKEEPER, AND WHEN TO RECONSIDER**

**CAMILLE FOURNIER, RENT THE RUNWAY**

**ZOOKEEPER PMC MEMBER**

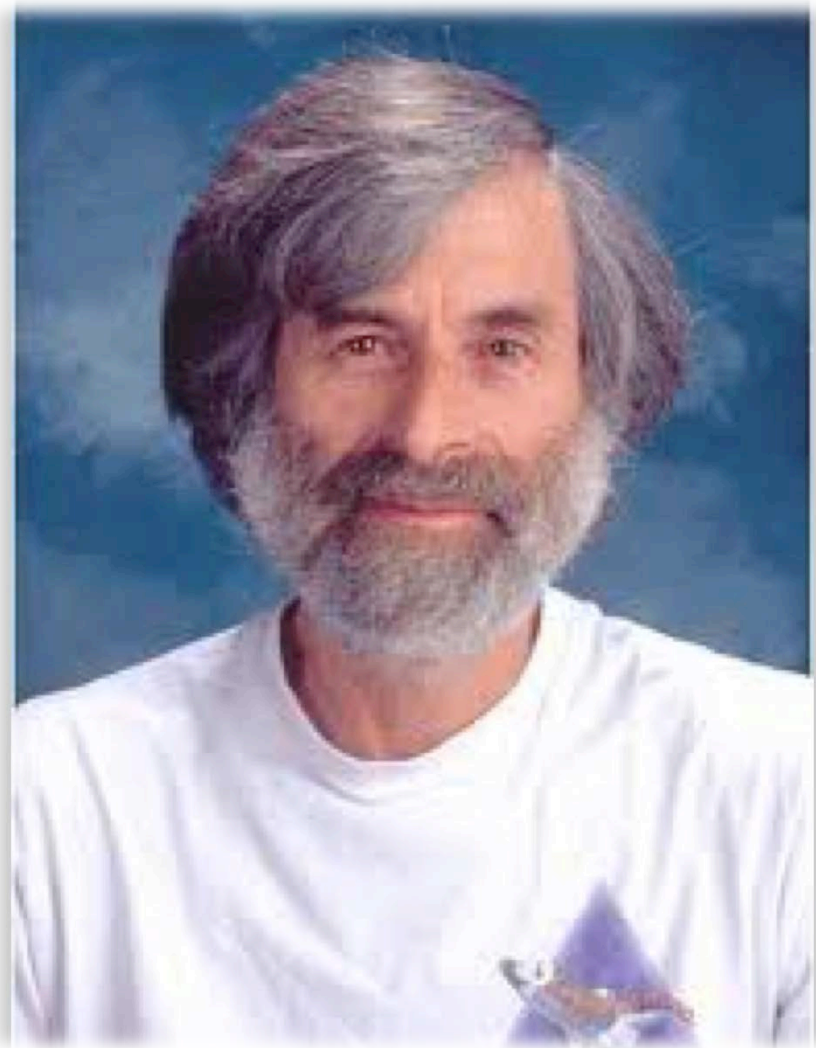
**@SKAMILLE**

**ZOOKEEPER  
IS  
EVERYWHERE**



**“LOOK INSIDE OF BING OR GOOGLE OR AMAZON— WHERE THEY’VE GOT ROOMS FULL OF COMPUTERS, THEY’LL PROBABLY BE RUNNING AN INSTANCE OF PAXOS.”**

**Leslie Lamport**



**WHO ISN'T  
USING  
ZOOKEEPER?**

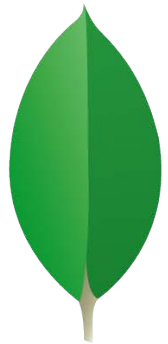




riak



***Cassandra***



mongoDB



# WHY NOT?

\$\$\$

**OPERATIONAL COMPLEXITY**

**AVAILABILITY**



**BUT ALSO...**

RENTTHERUNWAY  
love. wear. return.



# **3 AREAS FOR EVALUATION**



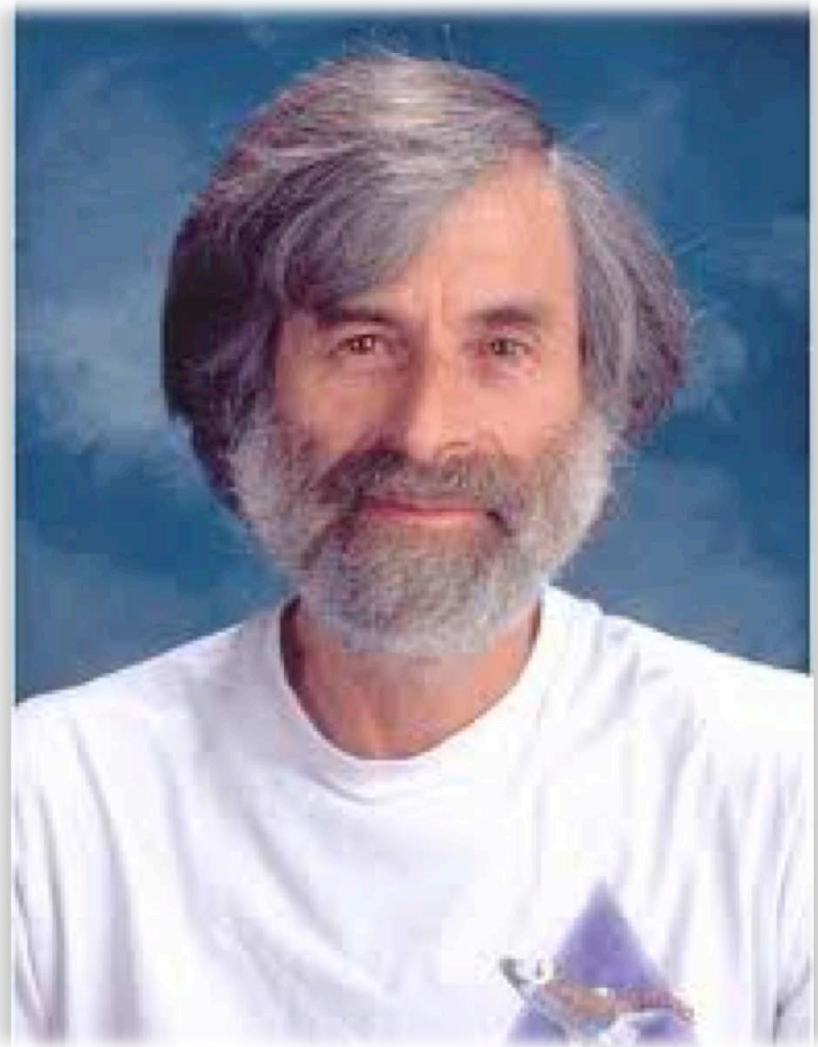


**WHERE IS  
IT  
RUNNING?**



**“A DISTRIBUTED SYSTEM IS ONE IN WHICH THE FAILURE OF A COMPUTER YOU DIDN'T KNOW EXISTED CAN RENDER YOUR OWN COMPUTER UNUSABLE”**

**Leslie Lamport**



**ENVIRONMENT**

**OPERATIONAL SUPPORT**

**RAPID GROWTH**

**DYNAMIC**



**WHAT IS IT  
DOING?**



# **USE CASE**

**DISTRIBUTED LOCKING**

**SERVICE MANAGEMENT**



# **SERVICE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES**

**LOAD BALANCER**

**DNS**

**DATABASE**



**WHAT ARE**  
**WE USING?**



**PRIMITIVES**

**CONSISTENCY**

**EPHEMERAL NODES**

**WATCHES**







**Henry Robinson**

@HenryR



Following

@skamille @aphyr @coda but ZK seems to have some identity problems: is it for coordination? is it a kind of K-V store? is it pub-sub?

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# CHALLENGES



# **CLIENTS RUN AMOK**

**DON'T SHARE**

**CODE REVIEW**

**PROVIDE WRAPPERS**



# **ODD NUMBERS RULE**

**3 OR 5 QUORUM MEMBERS**

**ALSO APPLIES TO DATA  
CENTERS**



**ZOOKEEPER  
OWNS YOUR  
AVAILABILITY**



# **ALTERNATIVES**



# NEW ALTERNATIVES

etcd

<https://github.com/coreos/etcd>

Consul

<http://www.consul.io/>

Serf

<http://www.serfdom.io/>

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[http://whilefalse.blogspot.com/2012/12/  
building-global-highly-available.html](http://whilefalse.blogspot.com/2012/12/building-global-highly-available.html)

<http://labs.spotify.com/tag/zookeeper/>