

# Turning the wheel - Streaming 4.4 billion events with Apache Kafka

Streaming customer, policy and vehicle  
information via Apache Kafka and MongoDB –  
and what we learnt on the way ...

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The iag logo is a white circle containing the lowercase letters 'iag' in a purple, sans-serif font.

# Agenda

## Tonight

- Context - what problem are we trying to solve
- Architecture of our data flow
- Kafka & Kafka Connect
- Challenges .. and solutions



# We've a lot of data

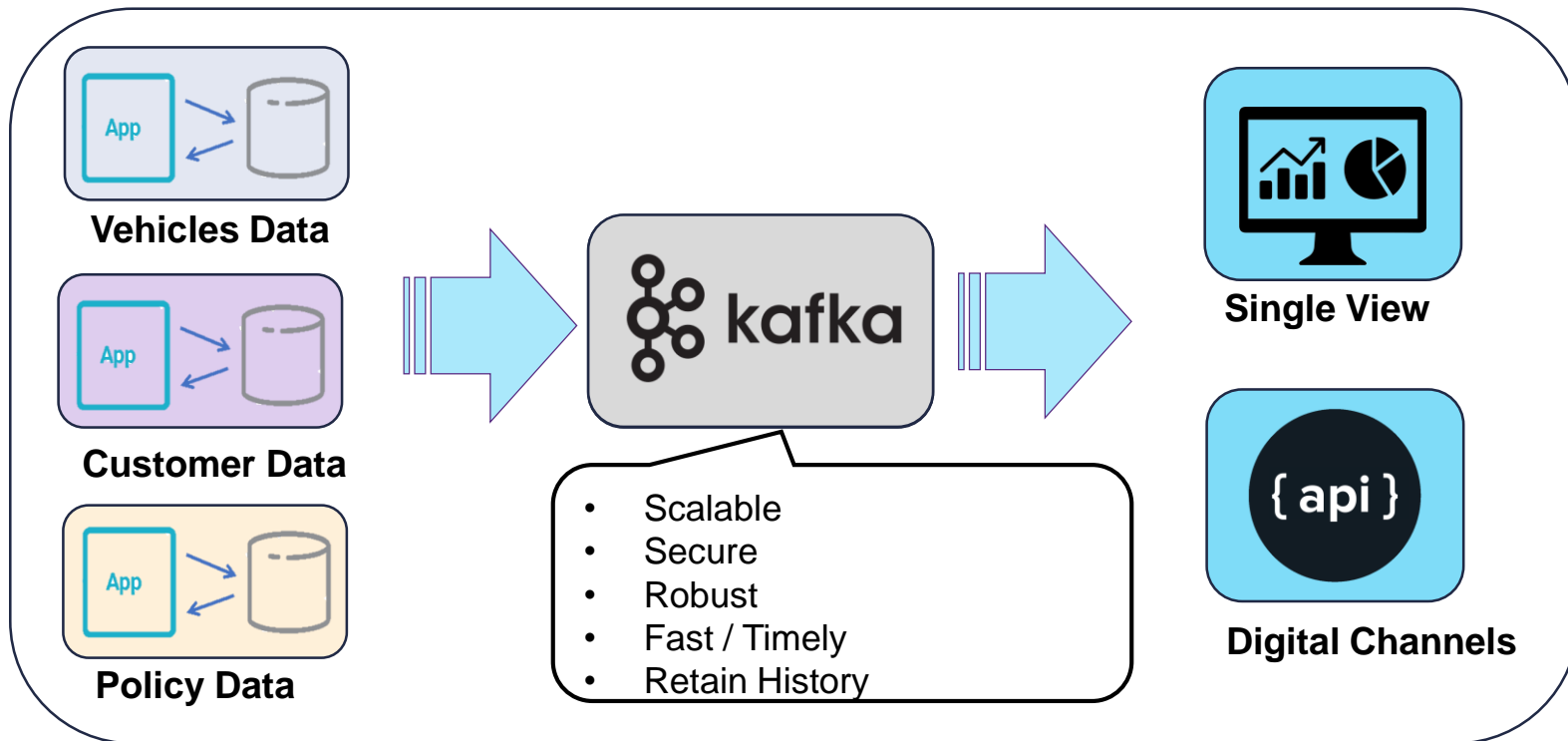
## Context #1

mvyear	mvmake	mvmodel	mvbody
1886	RUDGE	PENNY FARTHING	MBIKE
1896	FORD	QUADRICYCLE	CONVT
1896	FORD	QUADRICYCLE	CONVT
1896	FORD	QUADRICYCLE	CONVT
1896	FORD	QUADRICYCLE	CONVT
1896	FORD	QUADRICYCLE	CONVT
1896	FORD	QUADRICYCLE	CONVT
1896	FORD	QUADRICYCLE	CONVT
1896	FORD	QUADRICYCLE	CONVT
1900	MERCEDES		CONVT



# We've a lot of systems

## Context #2





# We want to tie it together

## Context #3

The screenshot shows the NRMA Insurance website. At the top is a navigation bar with links for Insurance, Claims, Renewals & payments, and Contact us, along with a search bar. Below the navigation bar is an orange banner with the text "Have you been affected by the recent storm?" and a link to "visit our emergency page to claim online now". The main content area features a large image of a dog drinking from a water bottle. Below this image are three buttons: "Get a quote", "Retrieve a quote", and "Watch the film". To the right of the image are three service boxes: "Loyalty Discount" (rewarding customers for their relationship), "Making a claim is easy" (guiding customers through the claim process), and "Existing customer" (providing access and management options).

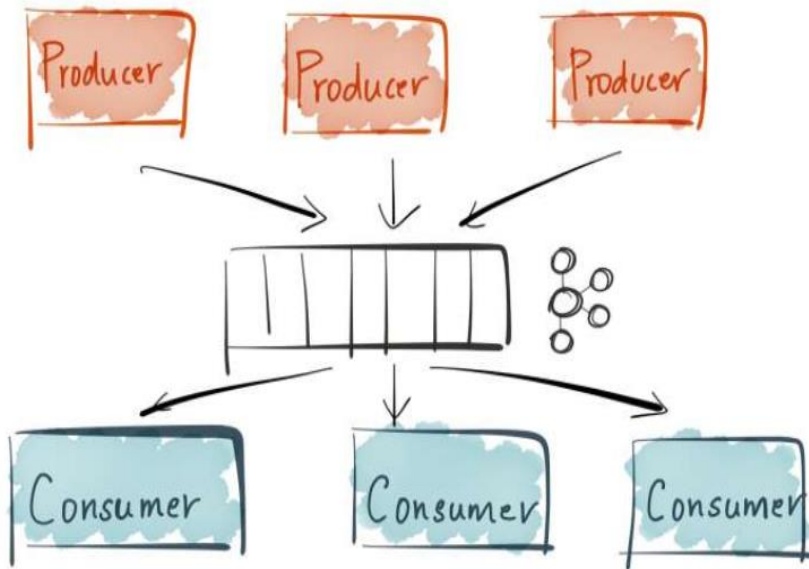
The screenshot shows a vehicle information page. At the top, it displays the vehicle's make and model, "Nissan X-Trail", and its year, "2010". Below this is a line graph showing the vehicle's value over time, from 2010 to 2019. The graph shows a steady decline in value, starting at approximately \$29,910 in 2010 and ending at approximately \$15,000 in 2019. Below the graph is a section titled "This vehicle has had 3 registration plates" with a list of plates: "XNA", "XZ", and "XAN". To the right of the graph is a "Policy History" section with a list of policies: "CTP insurance on a 2016 BMW X5 XDRIVE", "Comprehensive insurance on a 2016 BMW X5 XDRIVE", "CTP insurance on a 2011 NISSAN MAXIMA", "Comprehensive insurance on a 2011 NISSAN MAXIMA", "CTP insurance on a 2009 NISSAN MAXIMA", "Finalised a claim on a 2009 NISSAN MAXIMA", "Lodged a claim on a 2009 NISSAN MAXIMA", and "Comprehensive insurance on a 2009 NISSAN MAXIMA". Below the policy history is a "Communication History" section with a list of activities: "Took out CTP insurance on a 2016 BMW X5 XDRIVE", "Took out comprehensive insurance on a 2016 BMW X5 XDRIVE", "Took out CTP insurance on a 2011 NISSAN MAXIMA", "Took out comprehensive insurance on a 2011 NISSAN MAXIMA", "Took out CTP insurance on a 2009 NISSAN MAXIMA", "Finalised a claim on a 2009 NISSAN MAXIMA", "Lodged a claim on a 2009 NISSAN MAXIMA", and "Took out comprehensive insurance on a 2009 NISSAN MAXIMA".

# What is Kafka?

## A very quick intro

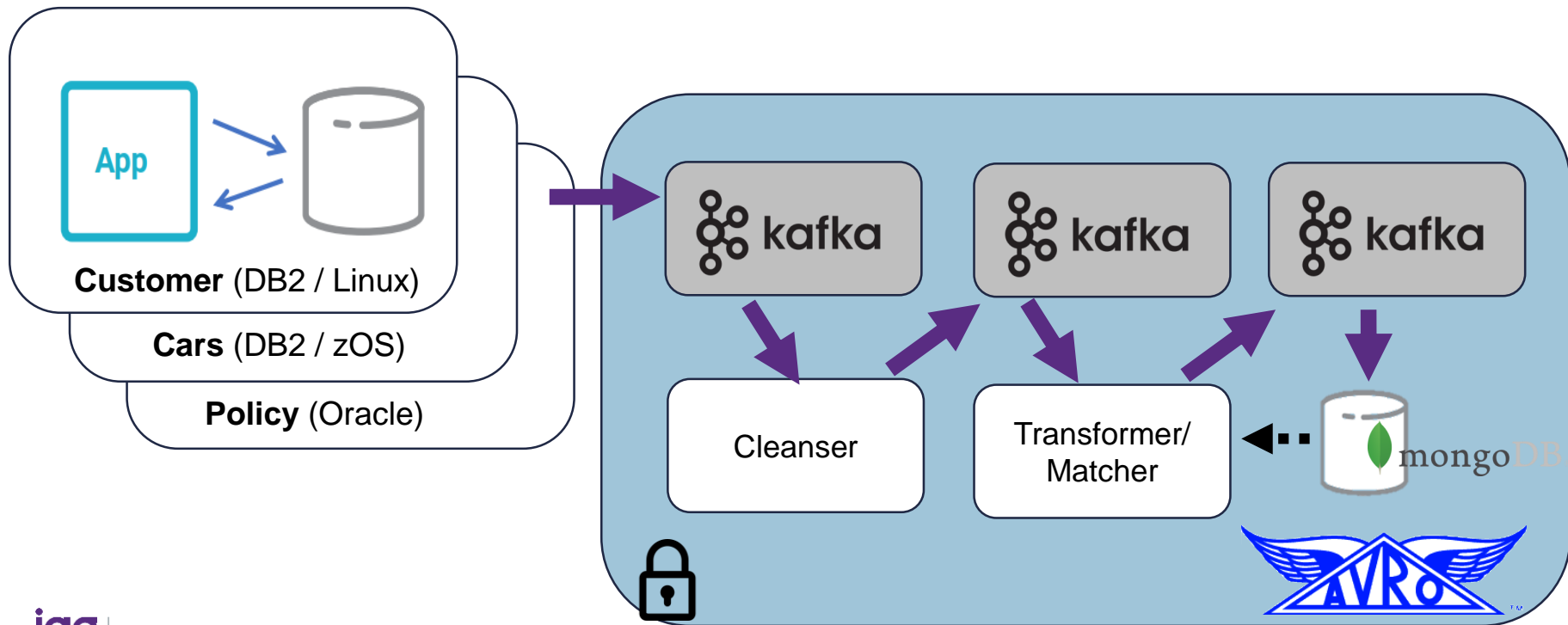
Apache Kafka : *Unified, high-throughput, low-latency platform for handling real-time data feeds*

- Originally developed by LinkedIn, open sourced in early 2011
- “The global commit log thingy”
- Kafka maintains feeds of messages in topics
- Appends ; ordered, immutable sequence



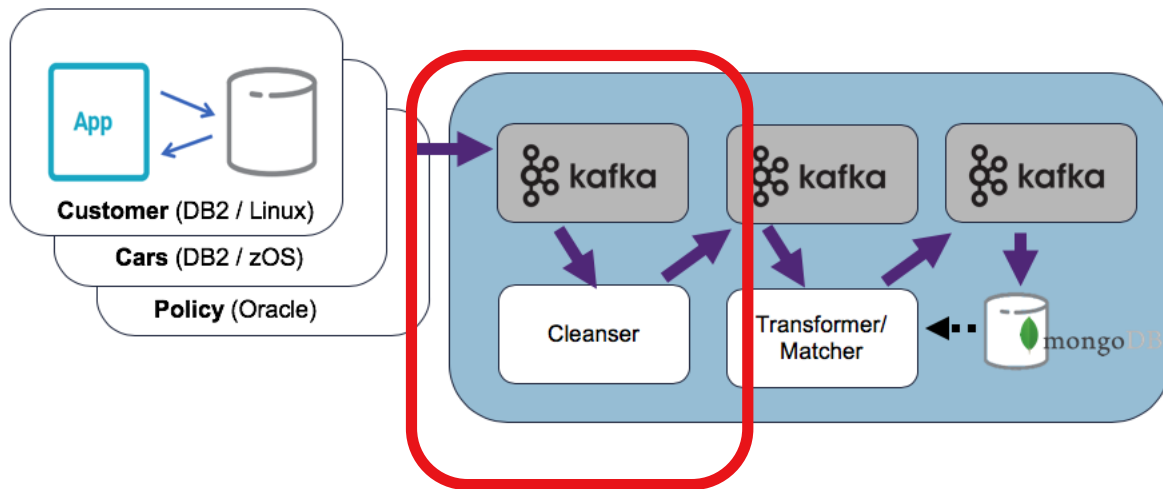
# Architecture of our data flow

Lots of boxes



# Part 1 - Extract

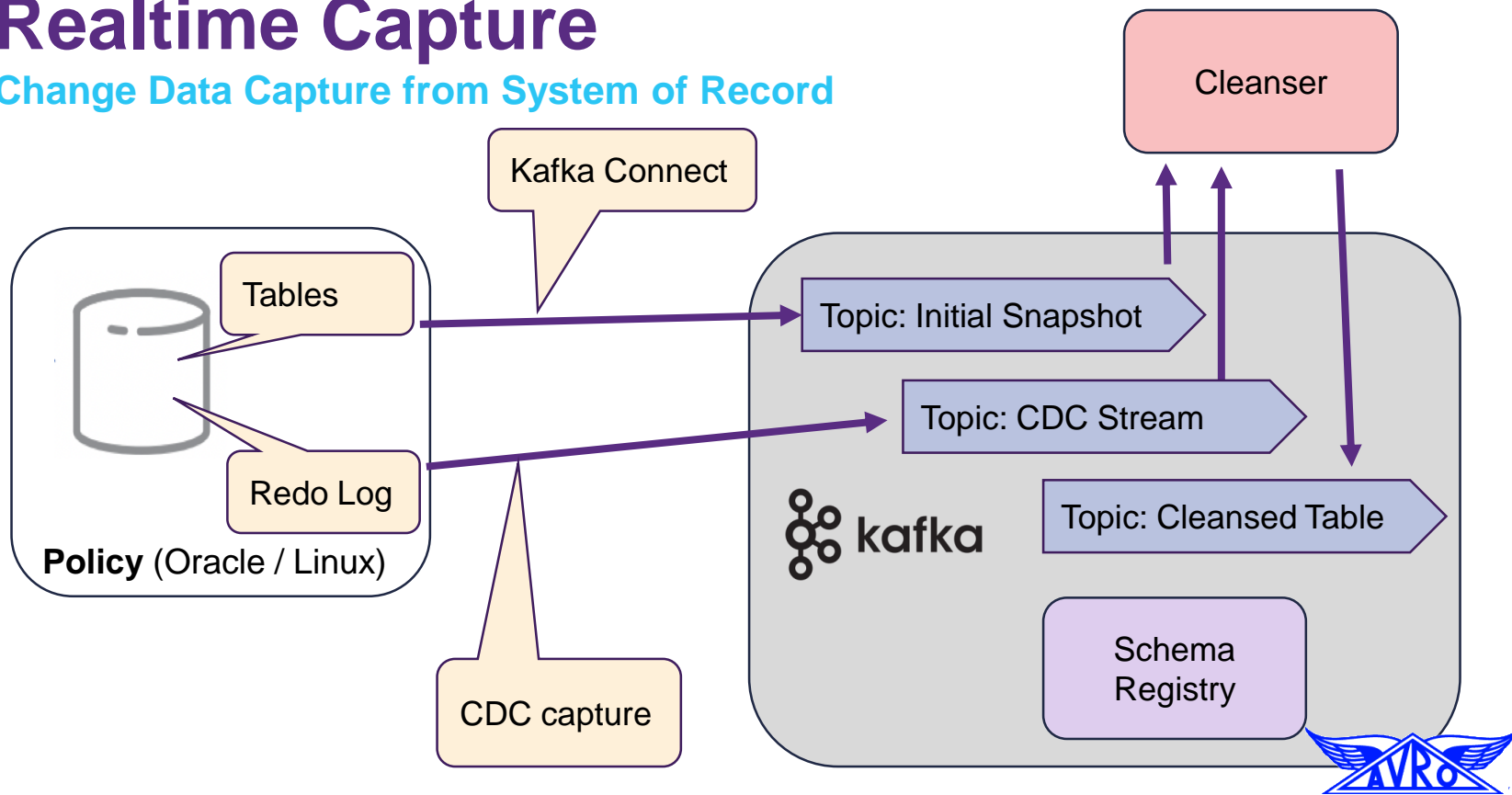
## Source System Low Touch Data Acquisition





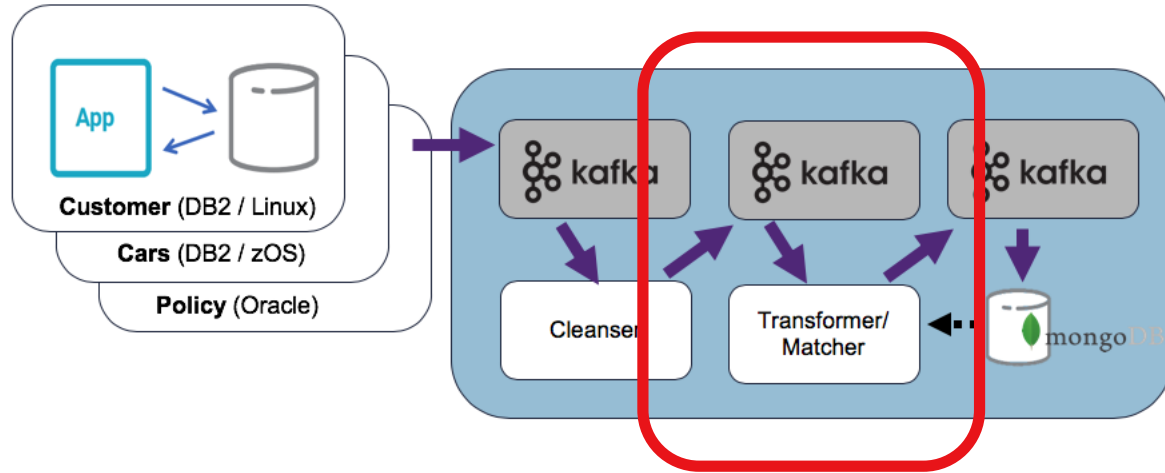
# Realtime Capture

## Change Data Capture from System of Record



# Part 2 – Transformation & Matching

## Finding stuff



# Transform & Match



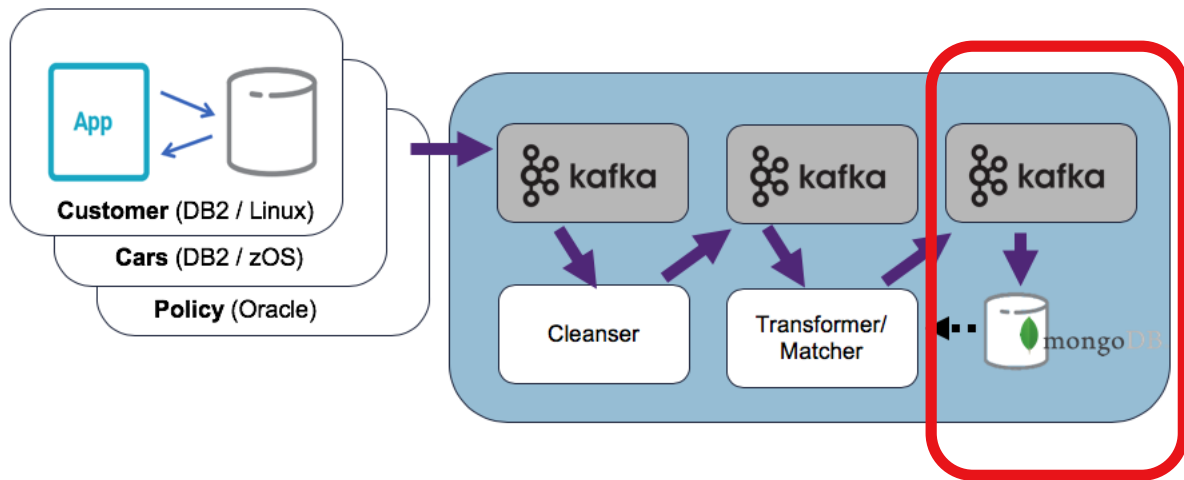
Transformer/  
Matcher

```
CREATE STREAM insurance_event_with_repairer AS \
SELECT *, geo_distance(iel.pc_lat, iel.pc_long, rct.lat, rct.long,
'km') AS dist_to_repairer_km
FROM insurance_event_with_location iel \
INNER JOIN repair_center_tab rct ON iel.pc_state = rct.repair_state;
```

```
final KTable<CcuserCcPolicyKey, ClaimDetails> claimDetailsTable = ccPiSorStreams.claim() KSt
.flatMapValues(statefulFilter(validClaim)) KStream<CcuserCcClaimKey, CcuserCcClaimEnvelope>
.mapValues((k, v) -> v.getAfter()) KStream<CcuserCcClaimKey, CcuserCcClaim>
.leftJoin(
    ccPiGlobalTables.brandExt(),
    (k, v) -> new BrandTypeCodeKey(v.getCLAIMNUMBER().substring(0, 3).toUpperCase()),
    (claim, brandExtEnv) -> {...}) KStream<CcuserCcClaimKey, ClaimDetails>
.groupBy((k, v) -> new CcuserCcPolicyKey(v.getPolicyId()), serdes.groupedWith()) KGrouped
.reduce((prev, latest) -> latest, serdes.materializedAs( topicName: "claimDetails")) KTabl
.join(
    policyTable,
    (claimDetails, policy) ->
        ClaimDetails.newBuilder(claimDetails)
            .setPolicyDetails(
                PolicyDetails.newBuilder()
                    .setBrand(policy.getDIDISTRIBUTOR())
                    .setPolicyNumber(policy.getPOLICYNUMBER())
                    .build())
            .build(),
    serdes.materializedAs( topicName: "claimDetailsWithPolicy"));
```

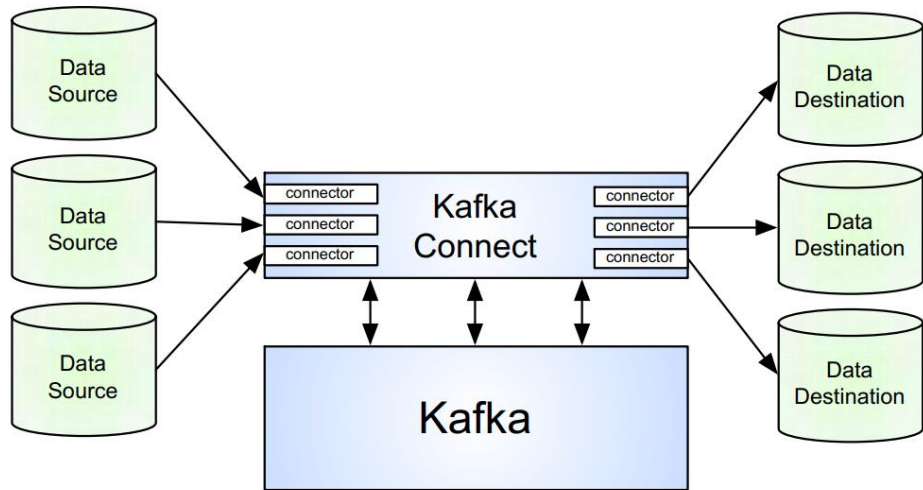
# Part 3 – Serving Layer

## Sinking Results



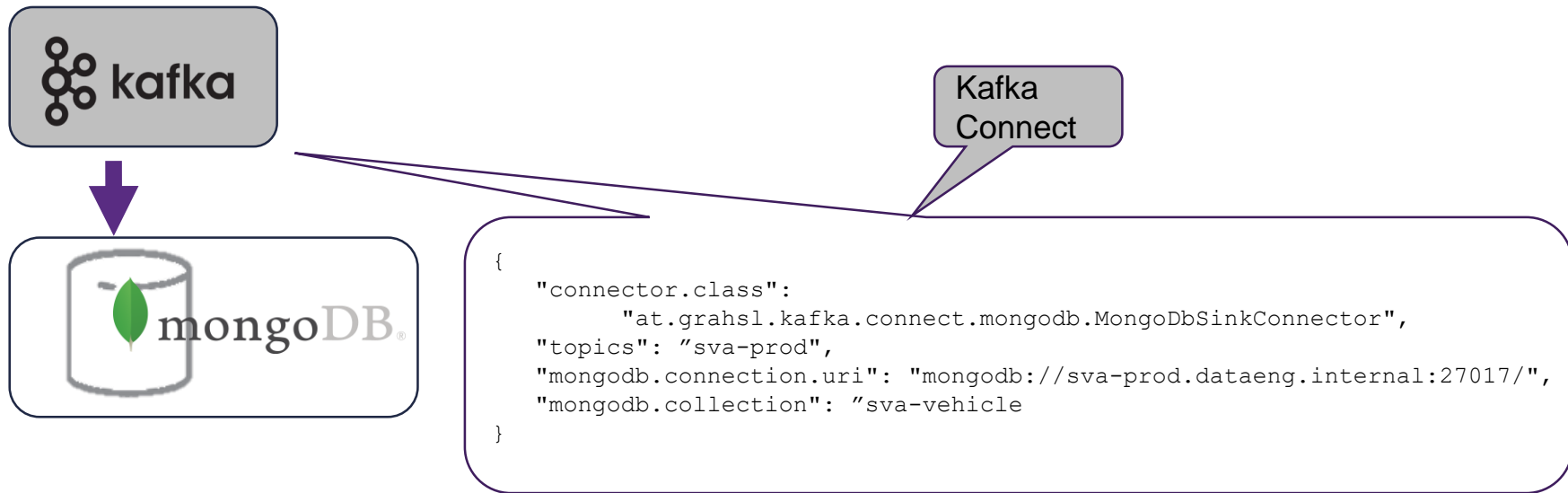
# Kafka Connect

- Distributed, scalable, fault-tolerant service designed to reliably stream data between Kafka and other data systems
- **Source Connectors** import data from another system (e.g. a relational database into Kafka)
- **Sink Connectors** export data (e.g. the contents of a Kafka topic to an HDFS file).



# Kafka Connect Sink

## Writing to MongoDB Serving Layer





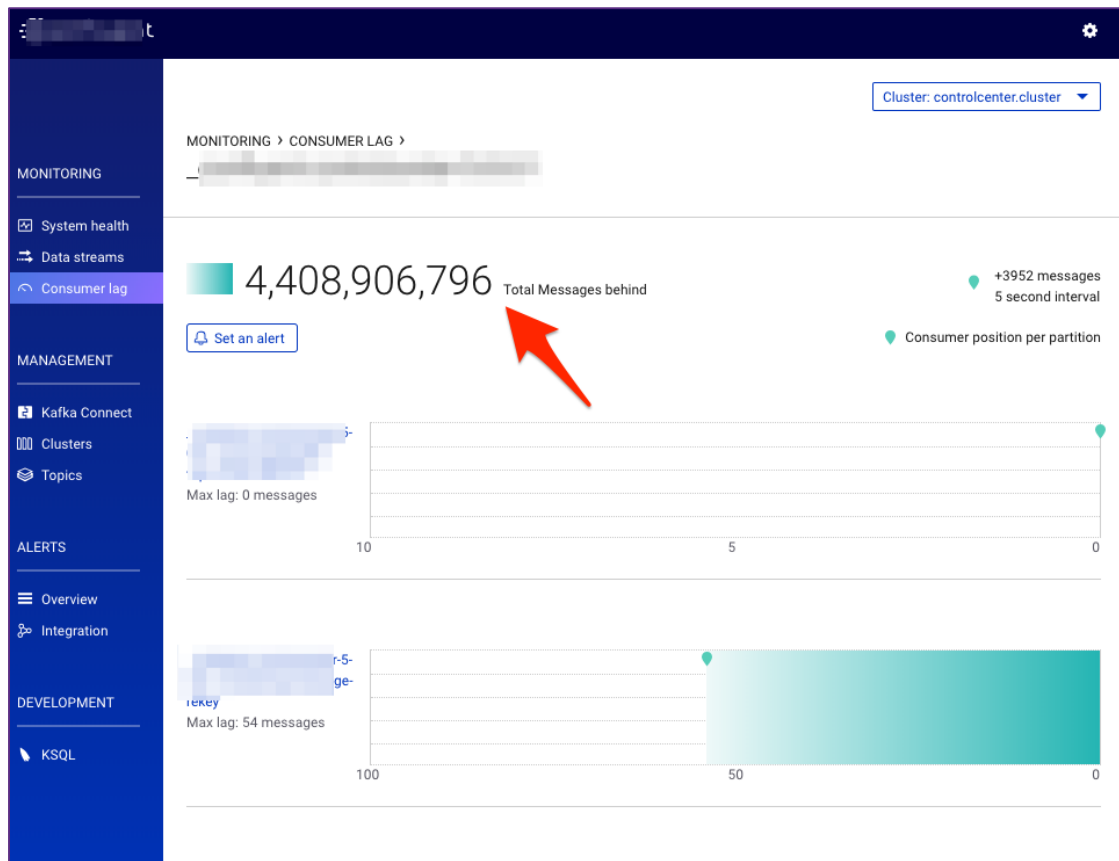
# What did we discover?

Slow to fast ... to *really* fast!



# Challenge

Lots of data



# Hot code #1

## A bit of caching

Before: very slow transform  
30 records / sec / table

```
- doApply = transform[R](new AvroData(new AvroDataConfig(props)), schemaFetcher, registerSchema)
+ doApply = transform[R](new AvroData(new AvroDataConfig(props)), cachingSchemaFetcher, registerSchema)
```

After: add cache for schema lookup  
200 records / sec / table

```
val cachingSchemaFetcher: ConnectRecord[R] => Throwable \/ Schema =
  record => schemaCache.get(record.topic()) match {
    case Some(schema) => schema.right[Throwable]
    case None =>
      val result = for {
        initTopicName <- \/.fromEither(TopicName.fetch(record.topic))
        .leftMap(_ => new IllegalArgumentException(s"Invalid init topic format: ${record.topic()}"))
        schema <- schemaFetcher.apply(initTopicName)
      } yield schema
      result.foreach(schema => schemaCache = schemaCache + (record.topic() -> schema))
      result
  }
```

# Hot code #2

## A bit more caching

Before: still slow transform  
200 records / sec / table

```
doApply = transform[R](new AvroData(new AvroDataConfig(props)), cachingSchemaFetcher, registerSchema)
doApply = transform[R](new AvroData(new AvroDataConfig(props)), cachingSchemaFetcher, registerSchema, cachingDocParser)
```

After: add cache for field metadata  
5,500 records / sec / table

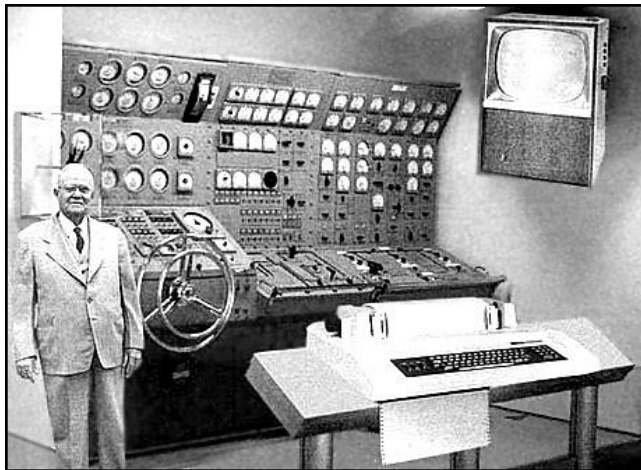
```
val cachingDocParser: String => String \/ PwxAvroFieldDocComment =
  docField => docCommentCache.get(docField) match {
    case Some(docComment) => docComment.right[String]
    case None =>
      val result = PwxAvroFieldDocComment.parse(docField)
      result.foreach(docComment => docCommentCache = docCommentCache + (docField -> docComment))
      result
  }
```

# Horizontal scaling?

## Theory

**To scale out, you simply start another instance of your stream processing application, e.g. on another machine. The instances of your application will become aware of each other and automatically begin to share the processing work.**

*<https://www.confluent.io/blog/elastic-scaling-in-kafka-streams/>*



# Horizontal scaling ... scales horizontally!

## Testing



9:55 AM

scaling out huon now

will expand to 6 nodes then restart them all clearing out state store

that will spread the work more evenly, otherwise it will leave a lot of the stateful work on the original two nodes (since it favours nodes that have already run tasks previously so it doesn't rebuild state stores)

that should hopefully move things along 😊

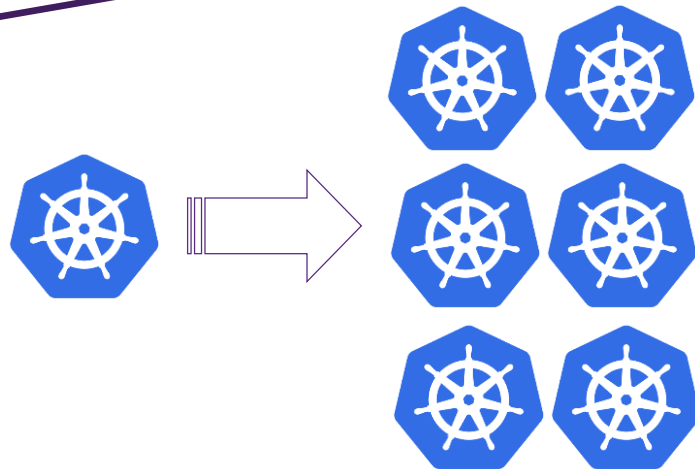
Service: huon-motorvehicle in cld-sva-transform

Type: Service

Scale: 1

Image: swrepos.ai:latest

Entrypoint:





# Horizontal scaling ... meet efficient code

## Reality

30 records / sec

Approx 100,000 / hr



33,500 records / sec

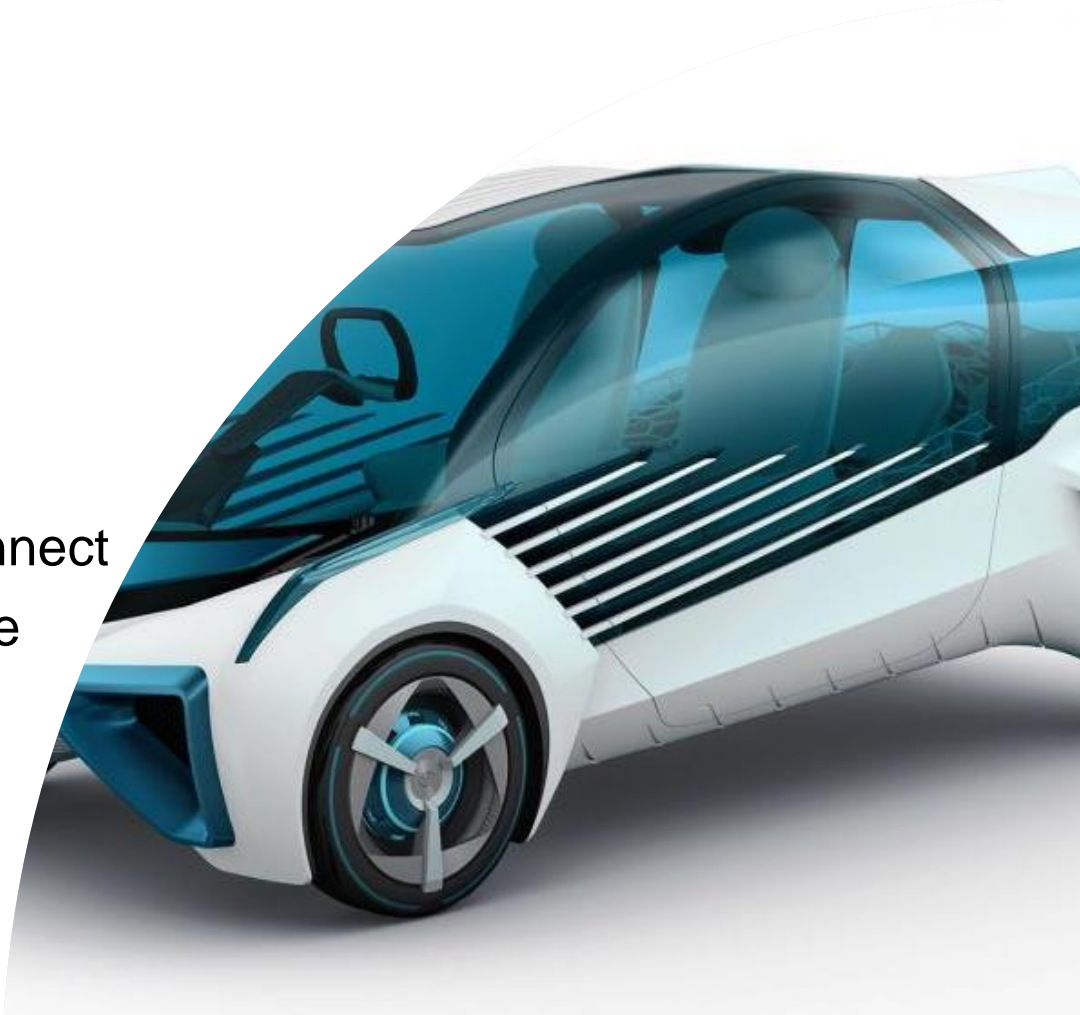
Approx 130 mill / hr



# Summary

What did we cover again?

- Architecture of our data flow
  - Extract - Low touch CDC
  - Transformation & Match
  - Serving ; Kafka & Kafka Connect
- Solutions for high performance



A large, vibrant purple circle is centered on the slide, containing the word "Questions?". The background is a photograph of a vast, sandy desert dune under a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. In the lower right foreground, two children are captured mid-jump, their bodies suspended in the air as they play on the sand. The child on the left is wearing a blue t-shirt and patterned shorts, while the child on the right is wearing a black and white patterned crop top and black shorts. The overall scene conveys a sense of freedom and exploration.

# Questions?



Australia



New Zealand



Asia