Apache httpd v2.4:

It's Not Your Daddy's Web Server!

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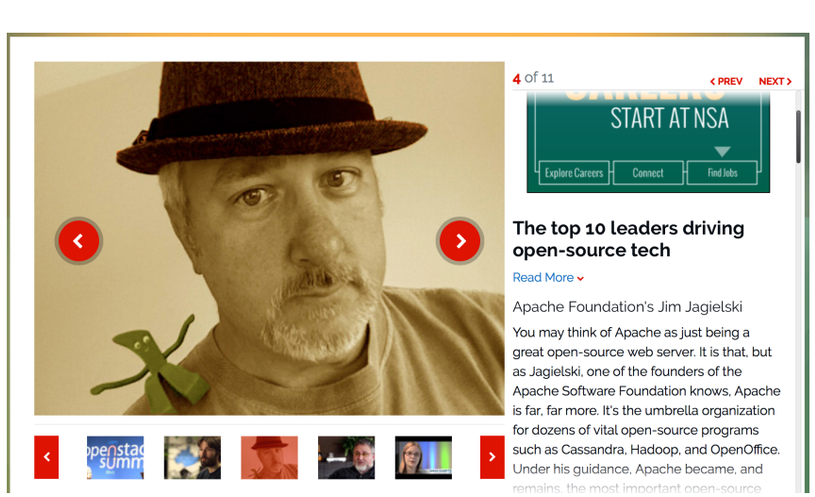
About Me

- Apache Software Foundation
  - Co-founder, Director Emeritus, Member and Developer
- Director Emeritus
  - Outercurve, MARSEC-XL, OSSI, OSI (ex)...
- Developer
  - Mega FOSS projects
- O'Reilly Open Source Award: 2013
- European Commission: Luminary Award
- Open Source Chef: ConsenSys



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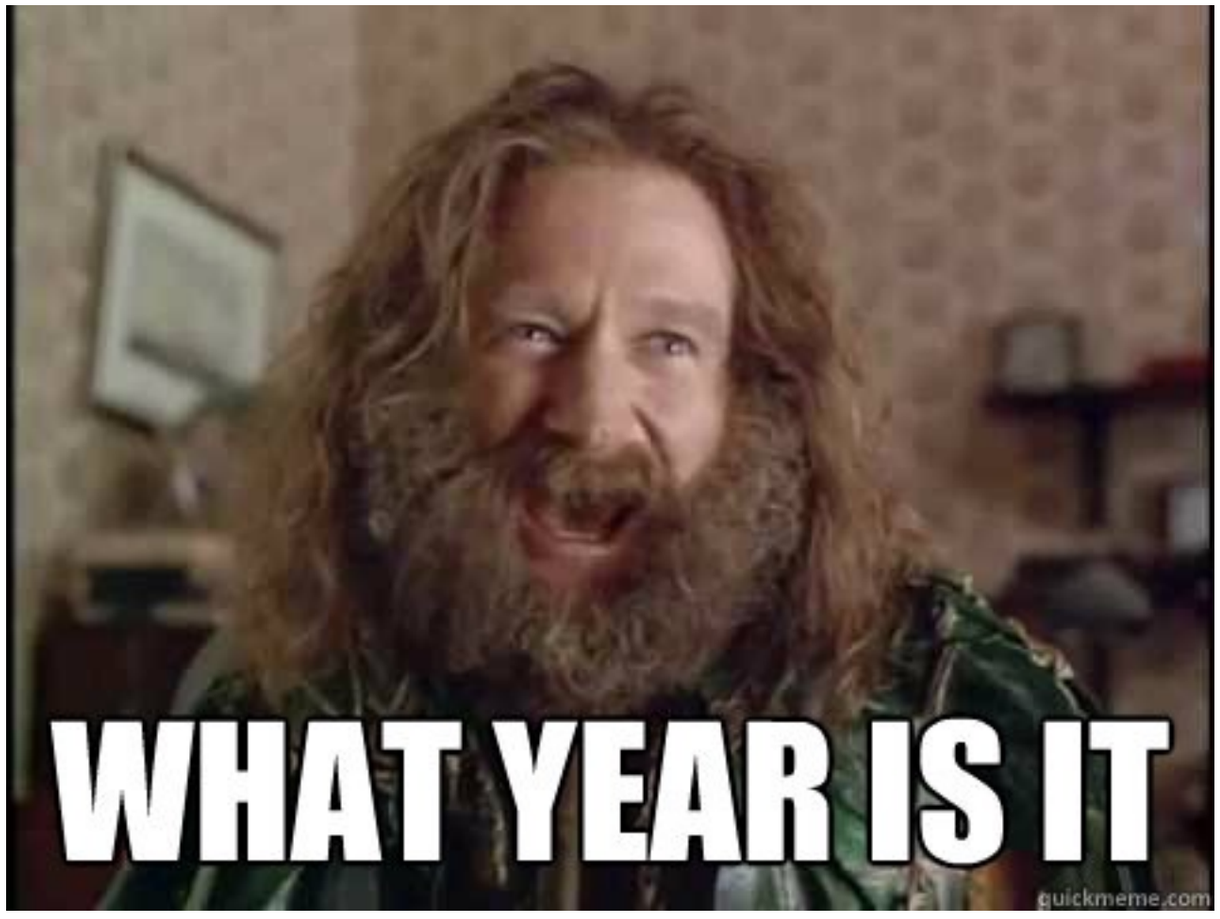
Hold on a tic

- How do you define “new”??

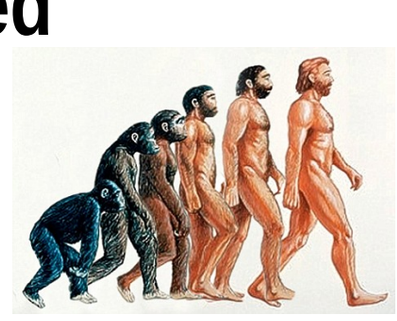


httpd is sooo old school (aka fud)

- Apache doesn't scale (its SLOW)
  - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bzkRVzciAZg

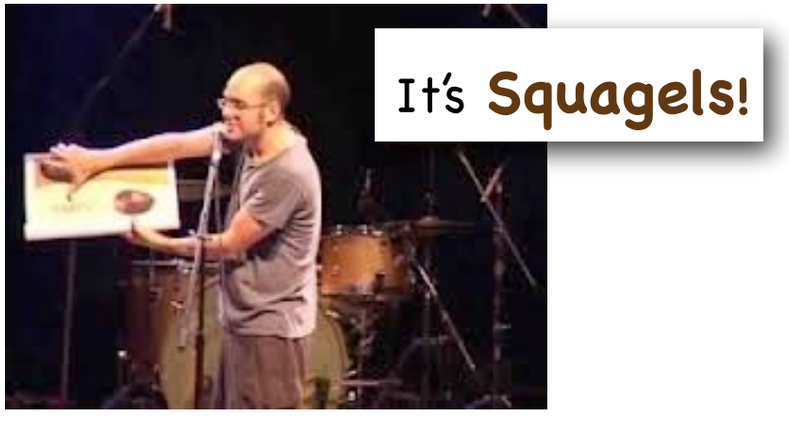
Node.js Is Bad Ass Rock Star Tech
by **gar1t** • 1 year ago • 52,419 views
A Q&A session on web servers turns existential.

- Apache is too generalized



VS

- Apache is too complex (config file)
  - really?
- Apache is too old
  (yeah, just like Linux)



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Apache httpd 2.4 - design drivers

- New features and improve old ones
- Support for async I/O w/o dropping support for older systems
- Larger selection of usable MPMs: added Event, Motorz, etc...
- Leverage higher-performant versions of APR
- Increase performance
- Reduce memory utilization
- The Cloud

Currently at version 2.4.33 (2.4.1 went GA Feb 21, 2012)

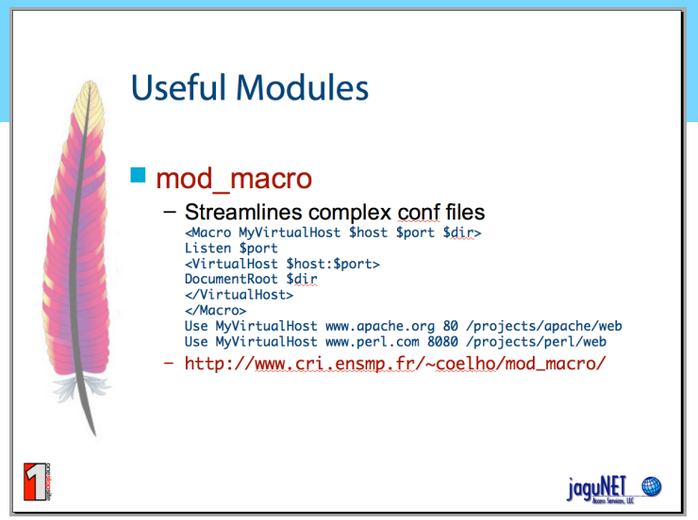
What's New: Apache httpd 2.4

- Configuration / Runtime Improvements
- New Modules / Capabilities
- Cloud / Proxy Enhancements
- Performance Increases
- HTTP/2

Configuration - Runtime

➡ mod_macro

From my ApacheCon 2000 Preso




```
<Macro VHost $name $domain>
<VirtualHost *:80>
    ServerName $domain
    ServerAlias www.$domain

    DocumentRoot /var/www/vhosts/$name
    ErrorLog /var/log/httpd/$name.error_log
    CustomLog /var/log/httpd/$name.access_log combined
</VirtualHost>
</Macro>

Use VHost example example.com
Use VHost myhost hostname.org
Use VHost apache apache.org

UndefMacro VHost
```

Configuration - Runtime

- **<If> supports per-request conditions**

```
# Compare the host name to example.com and
# redirect to www.example.com if it matches
<If "%{HTTP_HOST} == 'example.com'">
    Redirect permanent / http://www.example.com/
<ElseIf "%{HTTP_HOST} == ‘foobarfoo.com'">
    Redirect permanent / http://www2.example.com/
</If>
```

Configuration - Runtime

- **Simple config-file variables: <Define>**

```
<IfDefine TEST>
  Define servername test.example.com
</IfDefine>
<IfDefine !TEST>
  Define servername www.example.com
  Define SSL
</IfDefine>

DocumentRoot /var/www/${servername}/htdocs
```

Configuration - Runtime

- Finer control of timeouts, esp. during requests
  - mod_reqtimeout
  - KeepAliveTimout down to the millisecond
- Finer control over logging
  - per module/per directory
  - new logging levels (TRACE[1-8])

```
LogLevel info ssl:warn
<Directory "/usr/local/apache/htdocs/foo">
    LogLevel debug
</Directory>
```

Configuration - Runtime

- Other stuff:
  - No more NameVirtualHost
  - General purpose expression parser (BNF compatible)
  - AllowOverrideList

```
AllowOverride None
AllowOverrideList Redirect RedirectMatch Header
```

- Loadable MPM modules
  - Recall that different MPMs have different config directives!

```
./configure –enable-mpms-shared=all
LoadModule mpm_event_module modules/mod_mpm_event.so
```

Configuration - Runtime

- **Require**
  - **Removes order deny/allow insanity!**
  - `mod_access_compat` **for backwards combat**

```
AuthType Basic
AuthName "Restricted Resource"
AuthBasicProvider file
AuthUserFile /web/users
AuthGroupFile /web/groups
Require group admin
<Directory /www/docs>
    <RequireAll>
        Require group alpha beta
        Require not group reject
    </RequireAll>
</Directory>
<Directory /www/docs2>
    Require all granted
</Directory>
```

New Modules

➡ mod_lua

```
<Files *.lua>
    SetHandler lua-script
</Files>
…
example.lua
require "string"
function handle(r)
    r.content_type = "text/plain"

    if r.method == 'GET' then
        r:puts("Hello Lua World!\n")
        for k, v in pairs( r:parseargs() ) do
            r:puts( string.format("%s: %s\n", k, v) )
        end
    elseif r.method == 'POST' then
        r:puts("Hello Lua World!\n")
        for k, v in pairs( r:parsebody() ) do
            r:puts( string.format("%s: %s\n", k, v) )
        end
    elseif r.method == 'PUT' then
        r:puts("Unsupported HTTP method " .. r.method)
        r.status = 405
        return apache2.ok
    else
       return 501
    end
    return apache2.OK
end
```

New Modules

- mod_buffer
  - buffer the i/o stacks w/i httpd
- mod_sed
  - True sed functionality, alternate to mod_substitute

```
<Directory "/var/www/docs/status">
    AddOutputFilter Sed html
    OutputSed "s/complete/DONE/g"
    OutputSed “s/in-progress/TODO/g"
</Directory>
```

- mod_remoteip
  - allow access to the *real* client IP address

```
RemoteIPHeader X-Client-IP
```

  - Also provides HA PROXY support

New Modules

- mod_session
  - easily maintain application server state
- mod_auth_form
  - Form-based auth can now be handled internally

```
<Location /dologin.html>
    SetHandler form-login-handler
    AuthFormLoginRequiredLocation http://example.com/login.html
    AuthFormLoginSuccessLocation http://example.com/success.html
    AuthFormProvider file
    AuthUserFile conf/passwd
    AuthType form
    AuthName realm
    Session On
    SessionCookieName session path=/
    SessionCryptoPassphrase secret
</Location>
```

New Modules

- mod_log_debug
  - Add debug logging at any hook

```
<Location /foo>
  LogMessage “subreq to foo” hook=type_checker expr=%{IS_SUBREQ}
</Location>
```

- mod_ratelimit
  - (basic) bandwidth limiting for clients

```
<Location /downloads>
    SetOutputFilter RATE_LIMIT
    SetEnv rate-limit 400
</Location>
```

Even more!

- mod_cache
  - Can serve stale data if required
  - `X-Cache-Header` now supports `HIT/MISS/REVALIDATE`
  - Can cache `HEAD`
  - `htcacheclean` improvements
  - *Redis* and *memcached* (And *Apache Geode*)
- mod_socache / mod_slotmem
  - Data object/blog storage mechanisms
- mod_brotli

New Modules

- mod_proxy submodules:
  - mod_proxy_fcgi
  - mod_proxy_scgi
  - mod_proxy_uwsgi
  - mod_proxy_wstunnel
  - mod_proxy_html
  - mod_proxy_express
  - mod_proxy_hcheck

Cloud and Performance

- The Cloud is a game changer for web servers
  - Horizontal scalability is no longer as painful
  - Concurrency is no longer the sole consideration
  - ... or maybe even the primary one
  - What's important now? Transaction Time! (because it *CAN* be)
    - Low latency
    - Fast req/resp turnover
  - Does density still matter? *Of course!*
  - *micro-services*
  - Are there environs where *super-mega* concurrency is the bugaboo? *You betcha!* *(but the cloud makes these more and more rare, and you're likely using a bad architecture anyway)*

Cloud and Dynamics

- The Cloud is a game changer for web servers
  - The cloud is a dynamic place
  - automated reconfiguration
  - horizontal, not vertical scaling
  - self-aware environments

OK, maybe not THAT self-aware

Why Dynamic Proxy Matters

- Apache httpd still the most frequently used front-end
- Proxy capabilities must be cloud friendly
- Front-end must be dynamic friendly

Apache httpd 2.4 proxy

- Reverse Proxy Improvements
  - Supports FastCGI, SCGI, Websockets in balancer
  - Additional load balancing mechanisms
  - Runtime changing of clusters w/o restarts
  - Support for dynamic configuration
  - mod_proxy_express
  - mod_fcgid and fcgistarter
  - Support for Unix Domain Sockets

Backend Status

- Dynamic Health Checks !
  - TCP/IP Ping
  - *OPTIONS*
  - *HEAD*
  - *GET*

```
ProxyHCExpr ok234 {%{REQUEST_STATUS} =~ /^[234]/}
ProxyHCExpr gdown {%{REQUEST_STATUS} =~ /^[5]/}
ProxyHCExpr in_maint {hc('body') !~ /Under maintenance/}

<Proxy balancer://foo/>
  BalancerMember http://www.example.com/  hcmethod=GET hcexpr=in_maint hcuri=/status.php
  BalancerMember http://www2.example.com/  hcmethod=HEAD hcexpr=ok234 hcinterval=10
  BalancerMember http://www3.example.com/ hcmethod=TCP hcinterval=5 hcpasses=2 hcfails=3
  BalancerMember http://www4.example.com/
</Proxy>

ProxyPass "/" “balancer://foo/"
ProxyPassReverse "/" “balancer://foo/"
```

Mass Reverse Proxy

- Use the new mod_proxy_express module
  - ProxyPass mapping obtained via db file
  - Fast and efficient
  - Still dynamic, with no config changes required
  - micro-services? You betcha!

ProxyExpress map file

```
##
##express-map.db:
##

www1.example.com      http://192.168.002.2:8080
www2.example.com      http://192.168.002.12:8088
www3.example.com      http://192.168.002.10
 ...
www6341.example.com   http://192.168.211.26
```

httpd.conf file

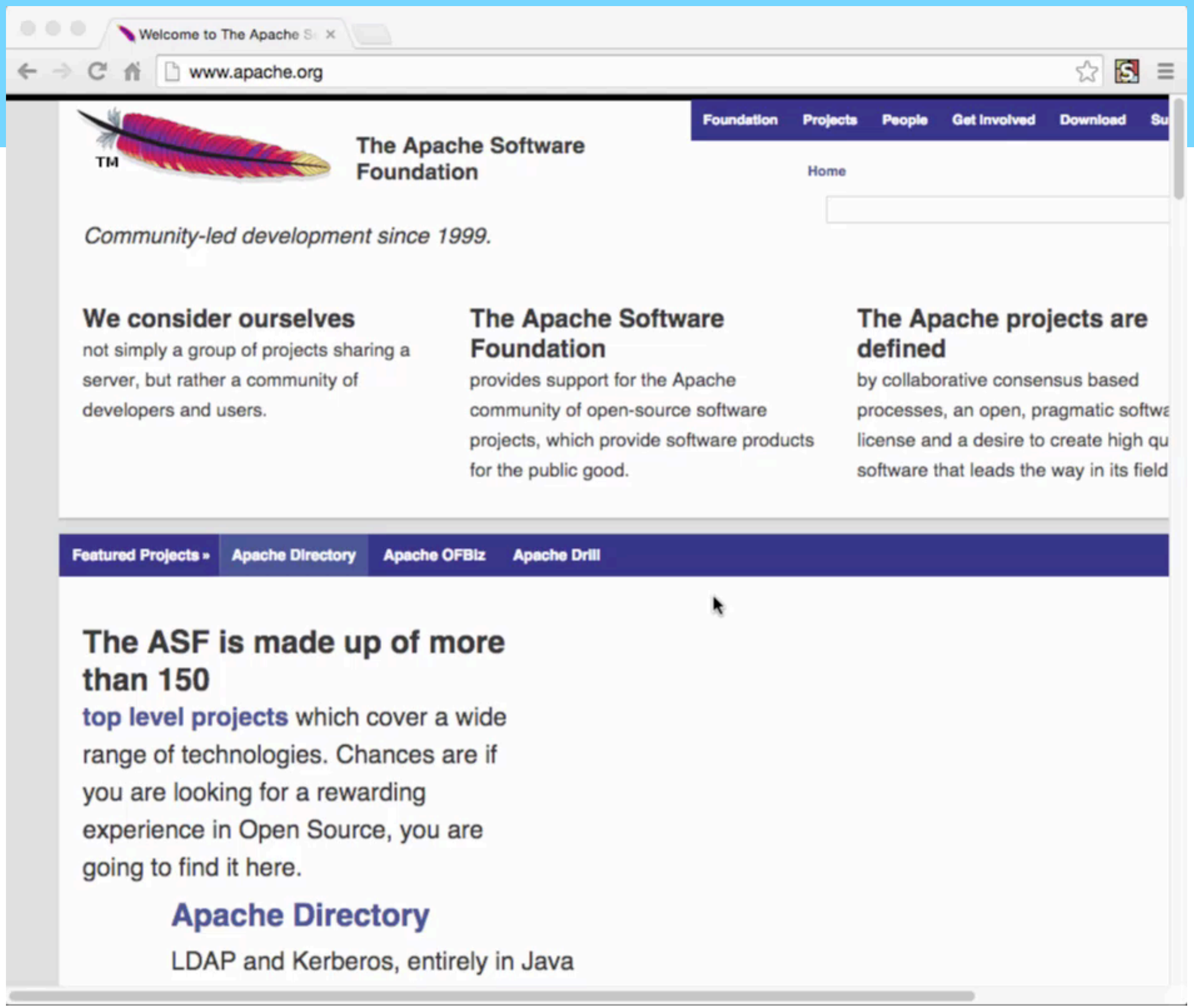
```
ProxyExpressEnable On
ProxyExpressDBMFile express-map.db
```

Embedded Admin

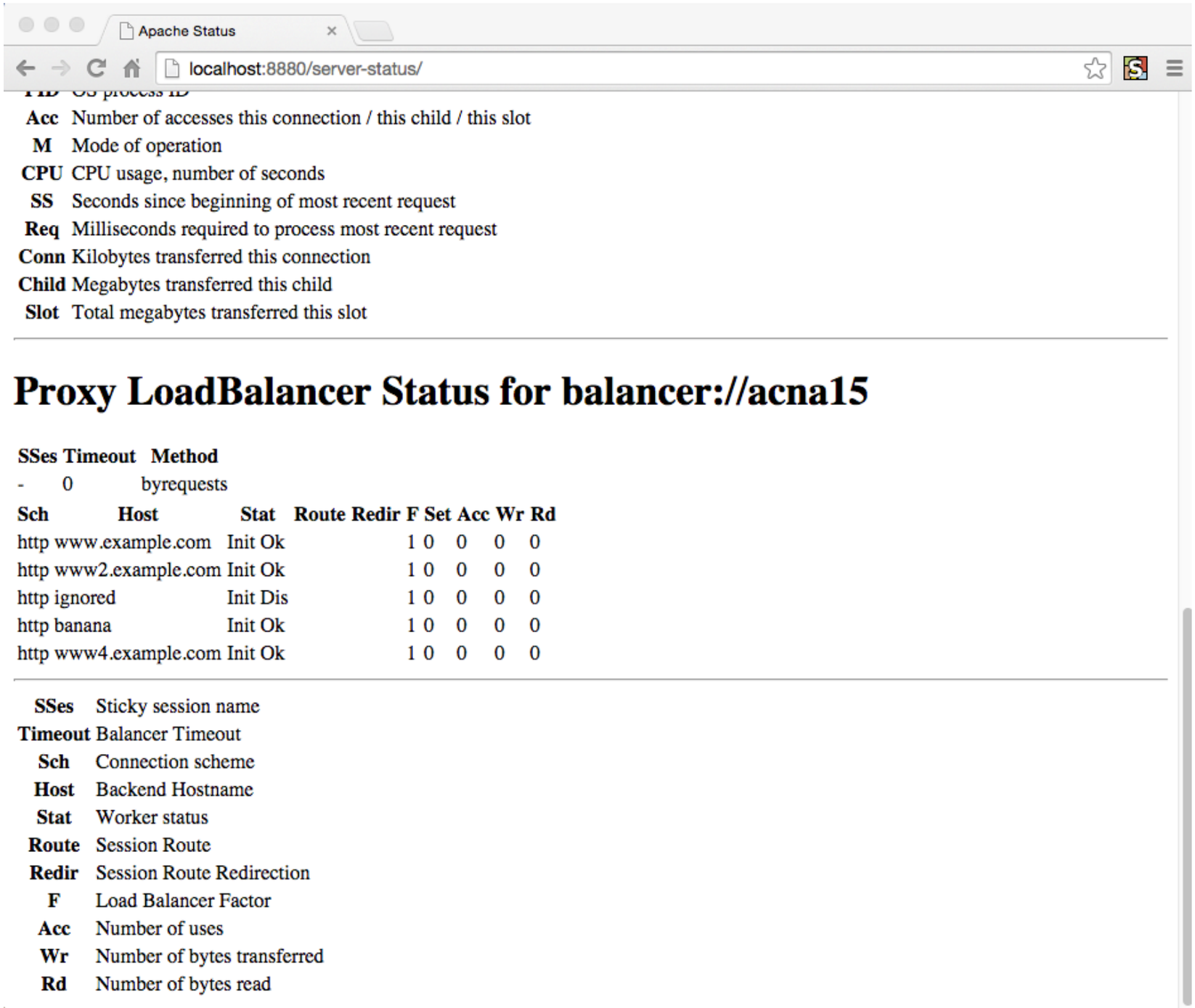
- Allows for real-time
  - Addition of *new* workers/nodes
  - Change of LB methods
  - Can be *persistent!*
  - More RESTful
  - Can be CLI-driven

Easy setup

```
<Location /balancer-manager>
   SetHandler balancer-manager
   Require 192.168.2.22
</Location>
```



server-status aware



Performance

- **From Nic Rosenthal Battle of the stacks**
  (http://www.slideshare.net/AllThingsOpen/battle-of-the-stacks)

HHVM + NGINX
http://ldr.io/1ogvD7X

vs

HHVM + Apache 2.4
http://ldr.io/1ogD7b3

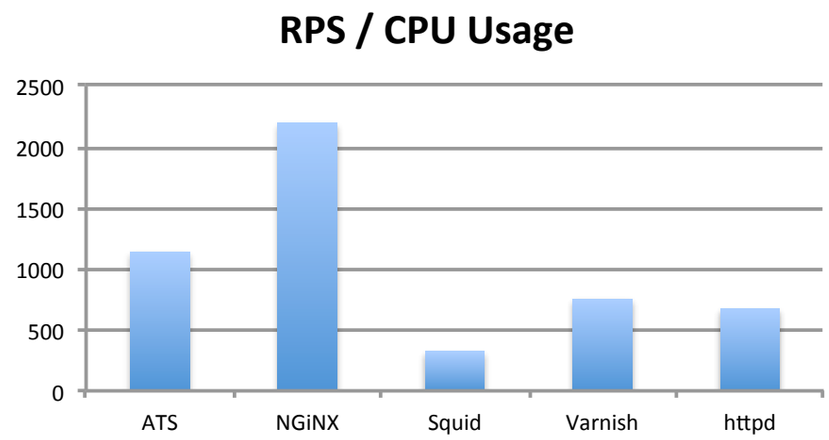
HHVM + NGINX
Response time: 76ms

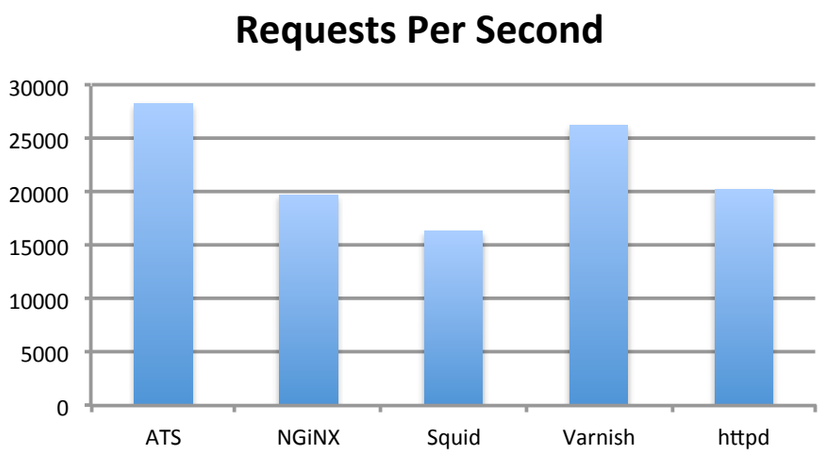
HHVM + Apache 2.4
Response time: 60ms

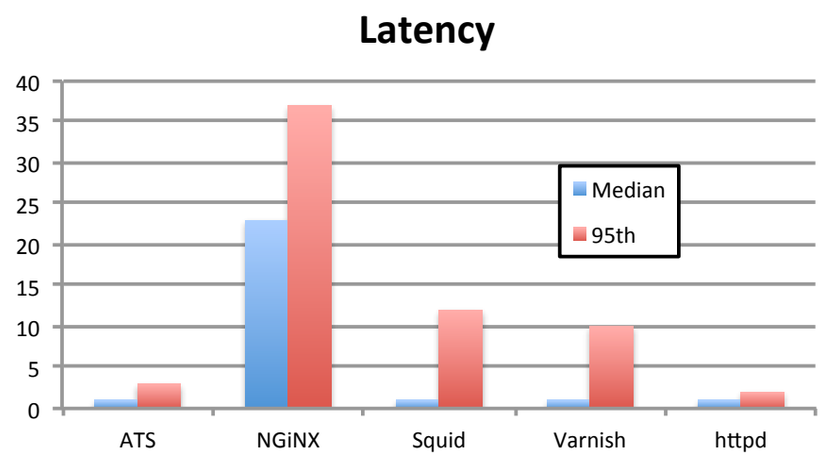
Performance

- **From Bryan Call's 2014 ApacheCon preso (http://www.slideshare.net/bryan_call/choosing-a-proxy-server-apachecon-2014)**

  - Squid used the most CPU again
  - NGiNX had latency issues
  - ATS most throughput







Raw Performance

- Event MPM : no longer experimental
  - non-blocking
  - async
- Faster, more efficient APR
- Smaller memory footprint
- More efficient data structures (worker and event)

Apache httpd vs nginx

- Why nginx? Everyone asks about it...
- Benchmark: local and reverse proxy transaction times
  - Apache httpd 2.4.22-dev, nginx 1.8.1
  - CentOS6, Dual Xeon 3.33GHz
  - 4GB memory
  - localhost loopback and external (no firewall)
  - Double checked results: OSX 10.11.2 (8-core), Fedora 23 (4-core)

Setup

Setup 1:

Setup 2:

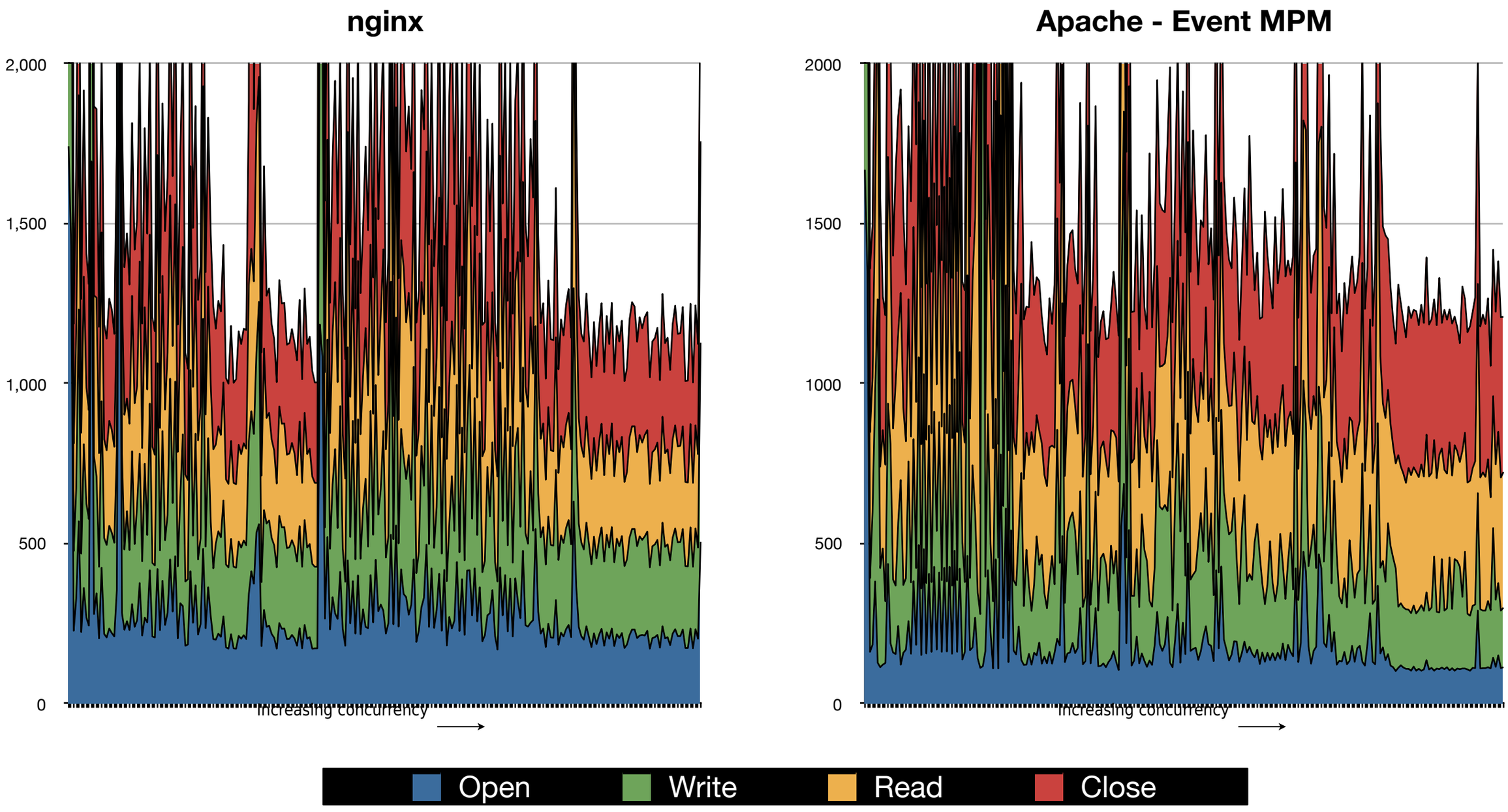
Setup 3:

Setup 3:

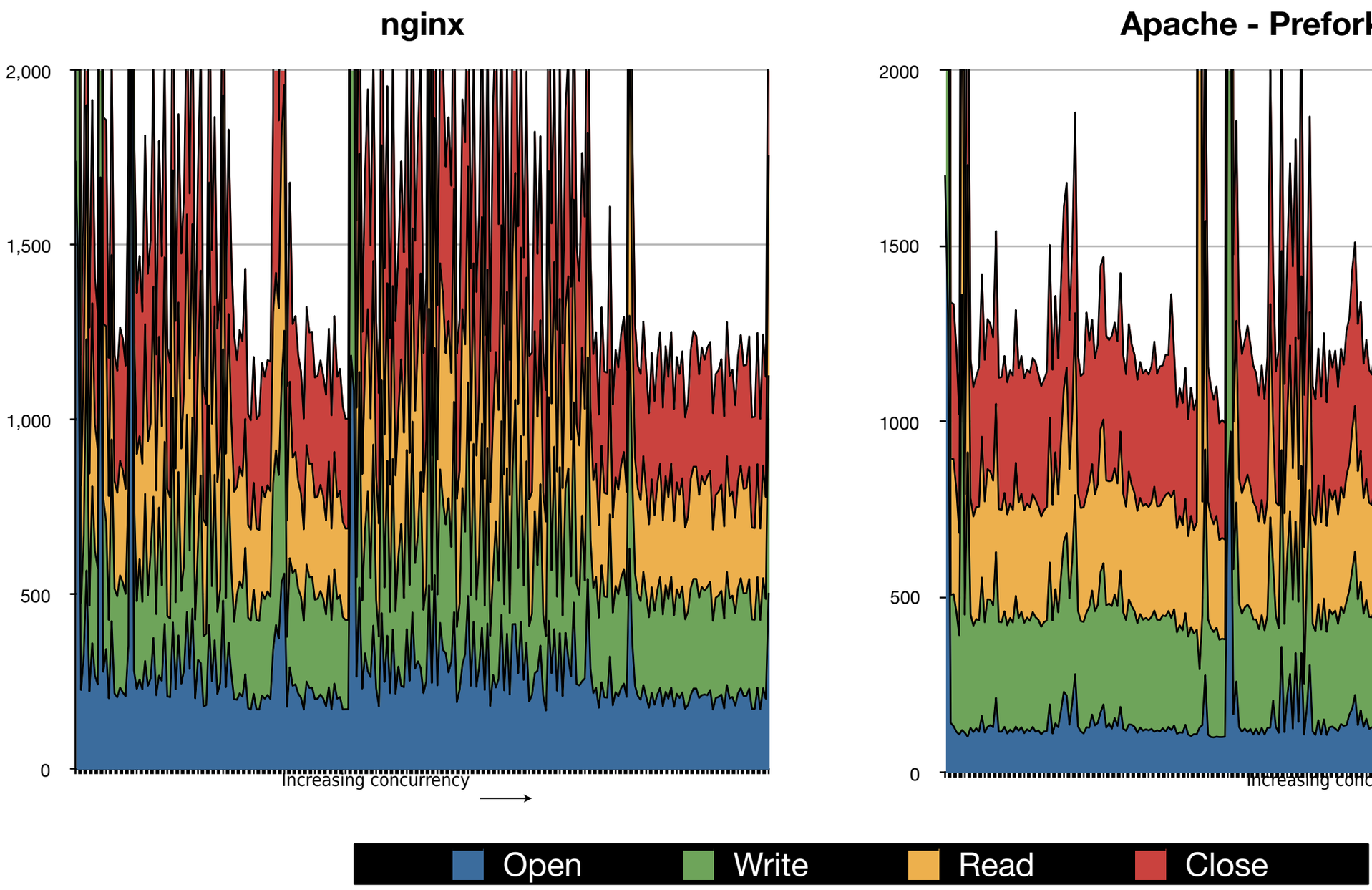
Considerations

- Multiple benchmarking systems:
  - flood (50/250/5/2, 50/100/5/2, 50/5/5/2)
  - httperf (num-conns=100->20000, numcalls=3,10,100)
  - weighttp
- Full URL requests (www.example.com/index.html)
- Static local requests
- Static reverse proxy requests
- All Apache httpd MPMs
- No significant “tuning” efforts (mostly out of the box configs)

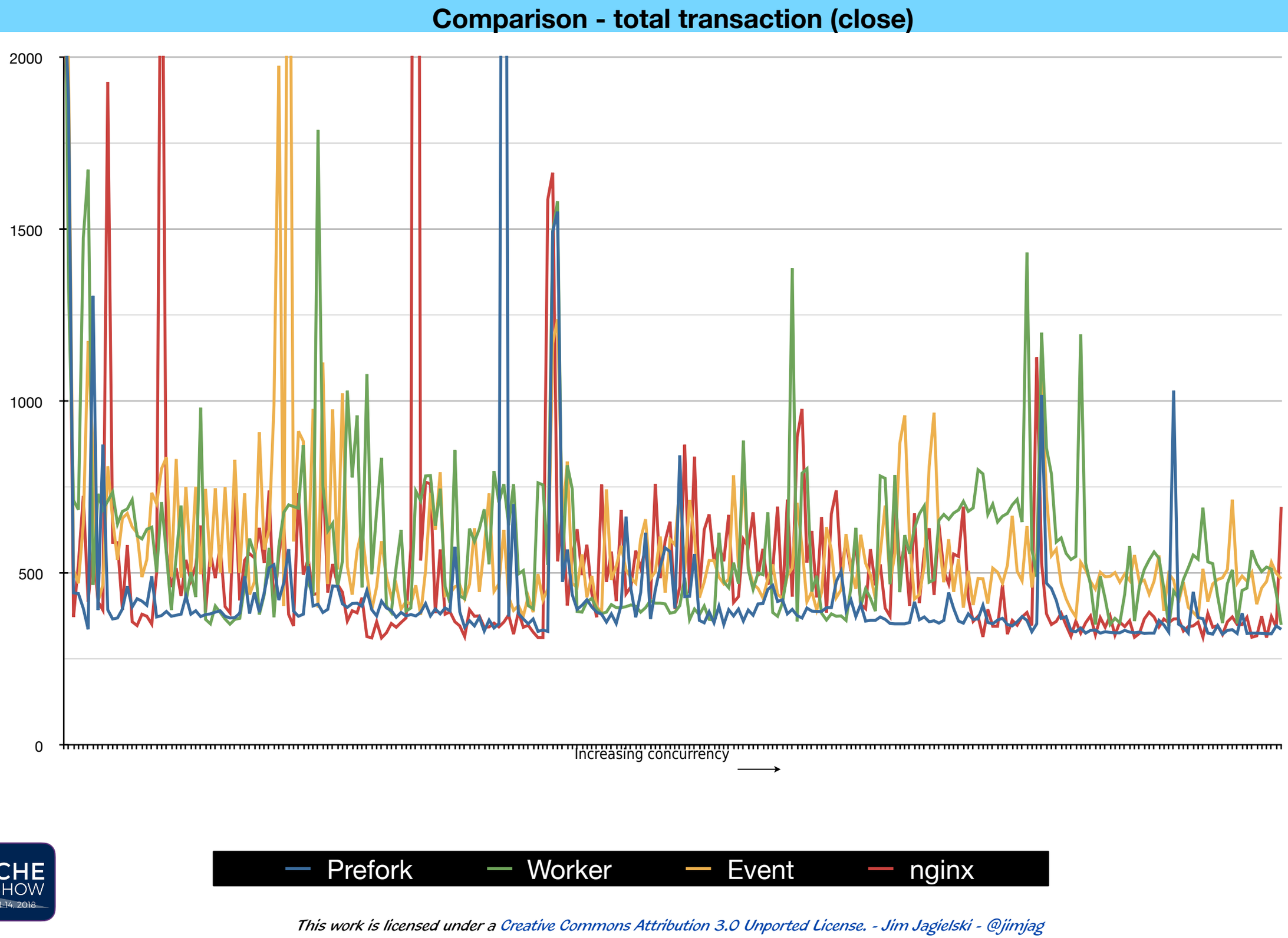
nginx vs Event (typical)



nginx vs Prefork (typical)

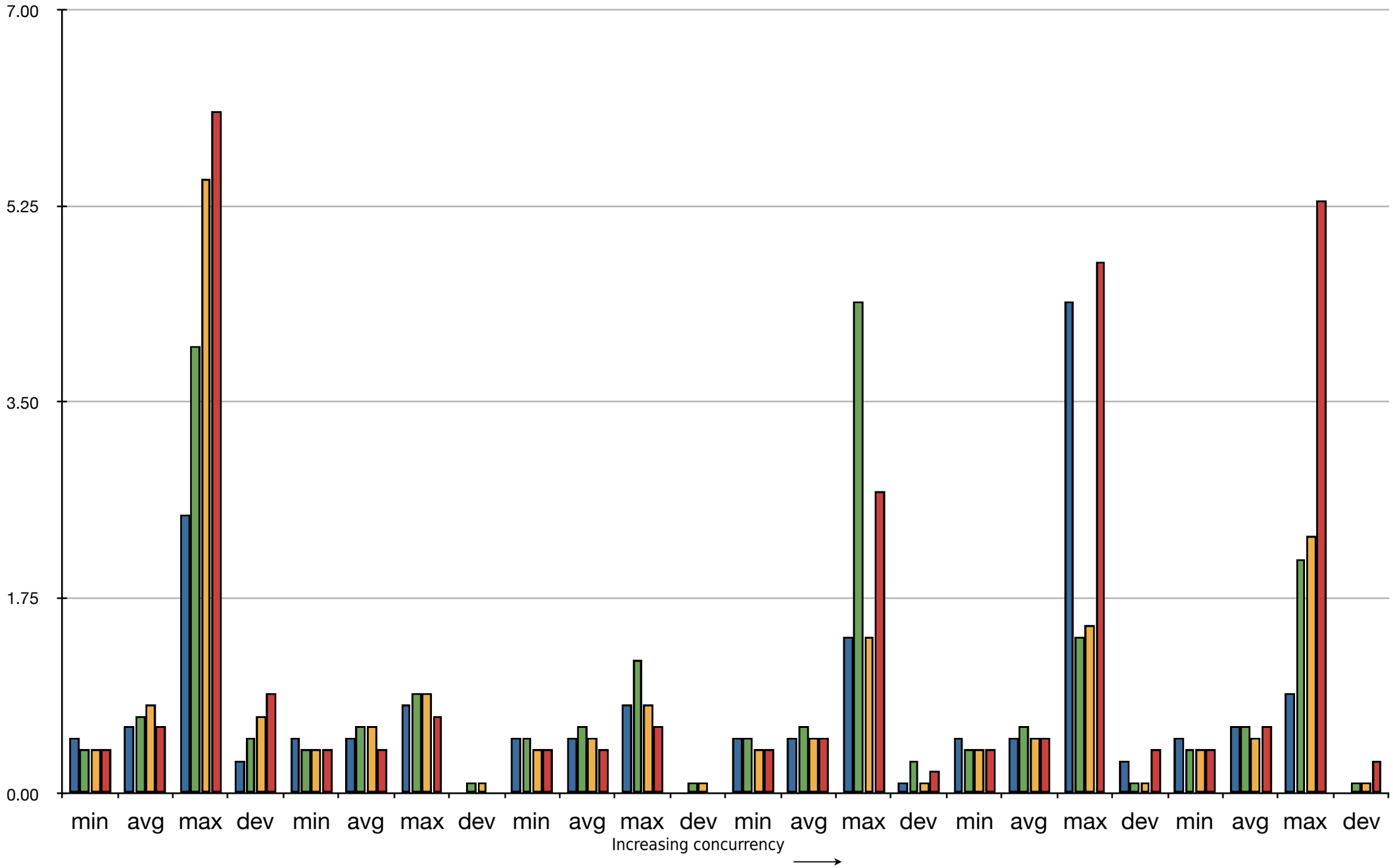


Total req/resp time



Resp to Req. Bursts - httperf

100 ---> 20000



Independent benchmarks

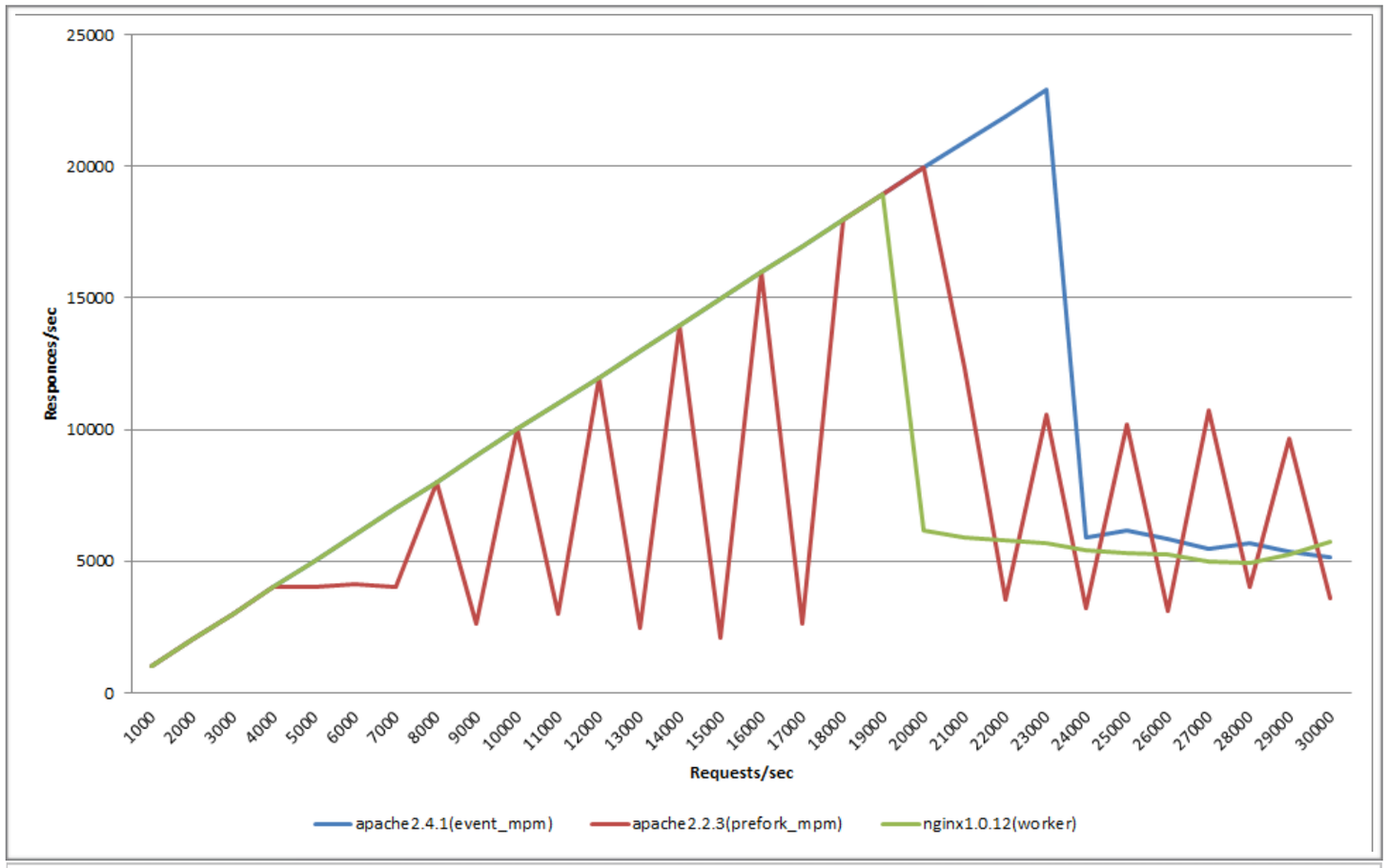
表 1　テスト環境（クライアント）

Table 1　Experimentation Environment for Client

PREV	クライアント
	Intel Core2Duo E8400 3.00GHz
Memory	4GB

```
#!/bin/sh
RESULT='./result.txt'

for port in 80 8080 8888
do
    #for count in 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 8000
9000 10000
    #for count in 11000 12000 13000 14000 15000 16000 17000
18000 19000 20000
    for count in 21000 22000 23000 24000 25000 26000 27000
28000 29000 30000
    do
        echo -n "$port $count " >> $RESULT
        httperf --rate $count --num-conns 25000 --server
ipaddr --port $port \
                --uri=/test.html | grep "Request rate:" >>
$RESULT.$port
        sleep 60
    done
done
```



Source: Ryosuke Matsumoto : http://blog.matsumoto-r.jp/?p=1812

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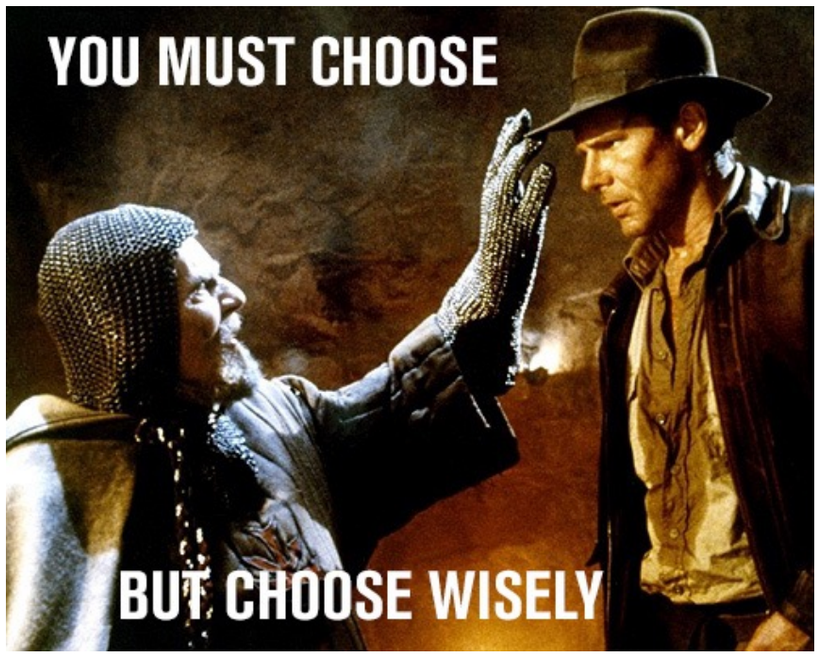
Take-away

- Today, the web-server isn't the slow link in the chain.
- Benchmarks get stale… fast!
- Real world trumps test environs
- Choose the right tool for the right job



HTTP/2

- Implements RFC 7540
- Supports both h2 (HTTP/2 over TLS) and h2c (HTTP/2 over TCP[cleartext])
- Enterprise-ready regarding stability, performance, etc.
- Also supported in mod_proxy
- Perfect compliance

Thanks

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