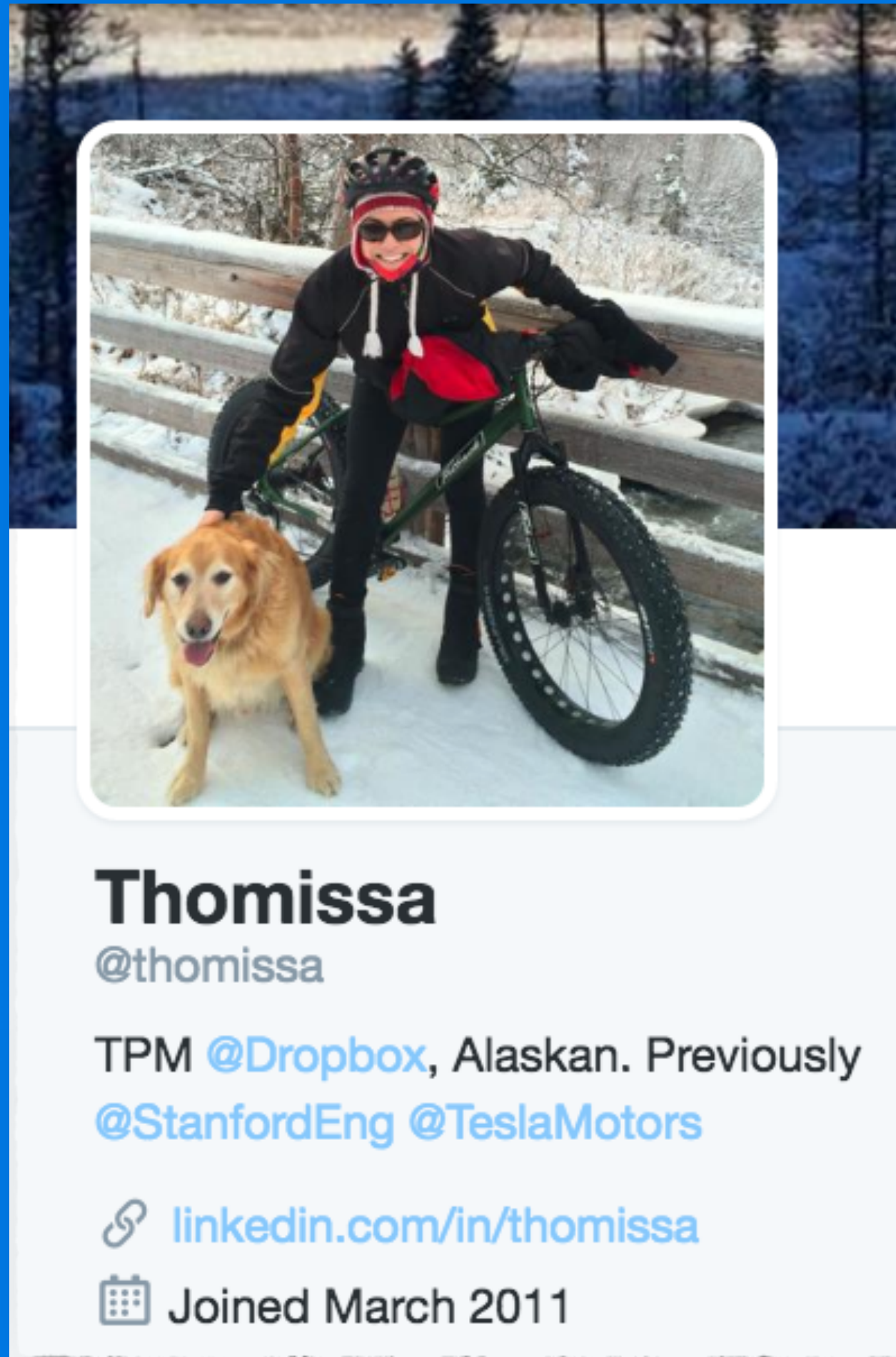


Thomissa Comellas & Tammy Butow

0-100 Days - Running DRTs at Dropbox

Thomissa





Tammy



Tammy Bütow

@tammybutow

SRE Manager @Dropbox Metadata
Storage. I like team traditions, databases,
automation, Go, Linux & death metal. \m/
Previously @DigitalOcean @NAB @QUT.

📍 San Francisco, CA

🔗 tammybutow.com

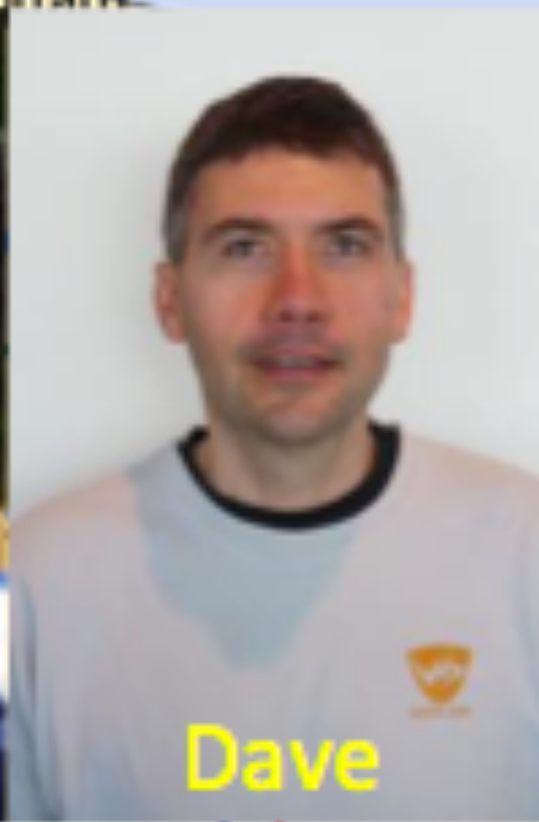
📅 Joined June 2009



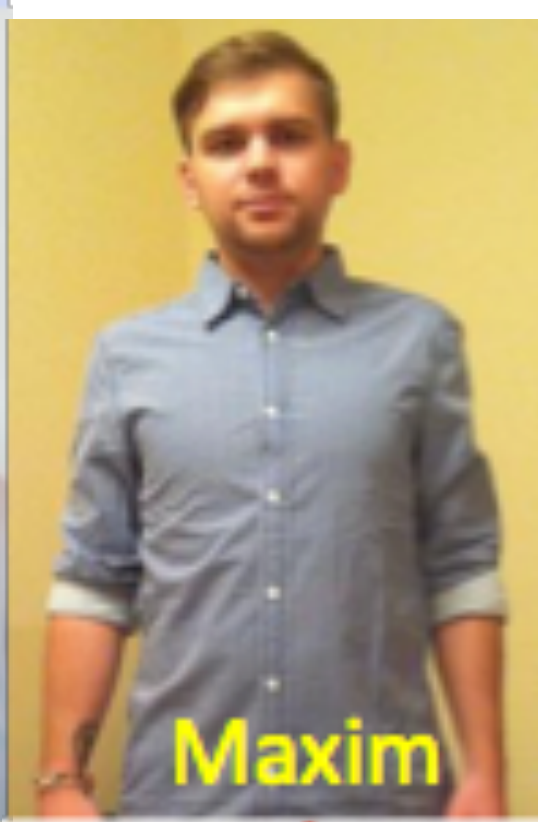
Tammy



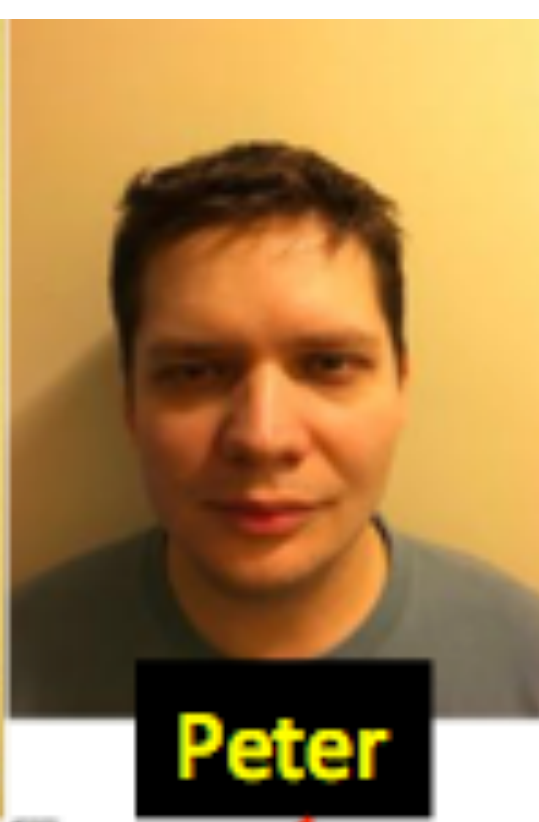
Renjish



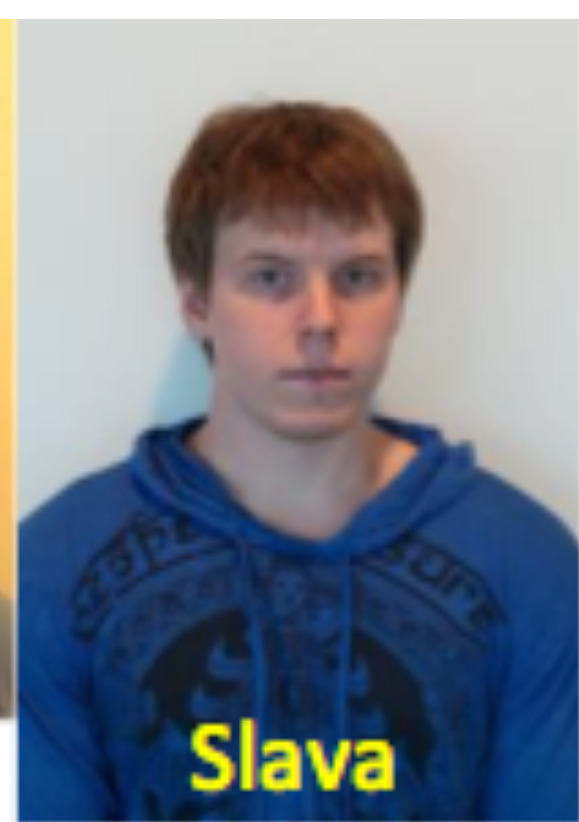
Dave



Maxim



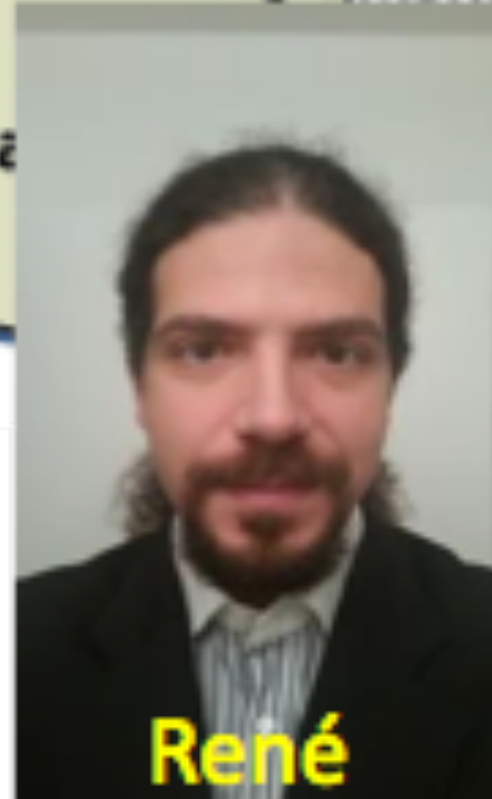
Peter



Slava



Brian



René



Tool & Maynard James Keenan Are Making New Album Via Dropbox

Rock Music

[Alternative](#)

Hard Rock

Rock Features

Headlines

Metal

by [Brett Buchanan](#) - Nov 23, 2015

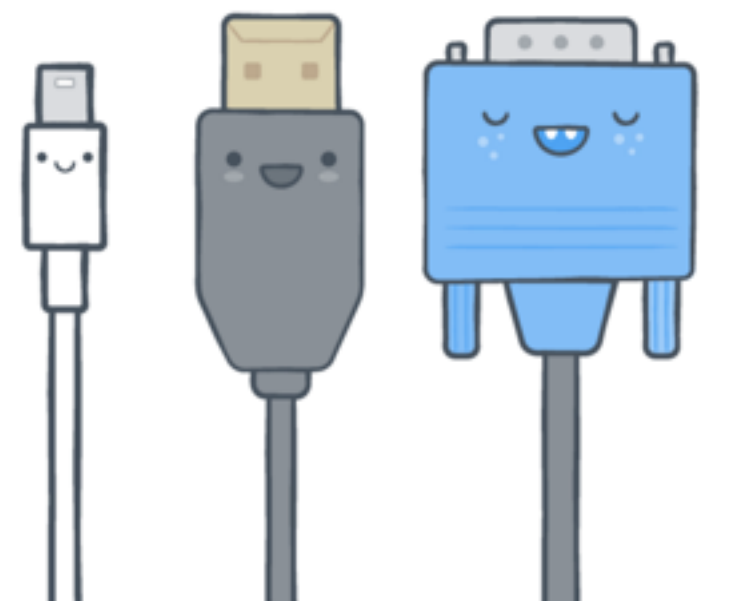


Adam Jones discussed Tool's new album in a recent [Rolling Stone](#) interview.



What will we share today?

- Background on Dropbox
- Thomissa's 100 days transforming DRTs at Dropbox
- Tammy's examples of how we currently run DRTs
- What the future looks like for “anti-fragile” at Dropbox



Dropbox

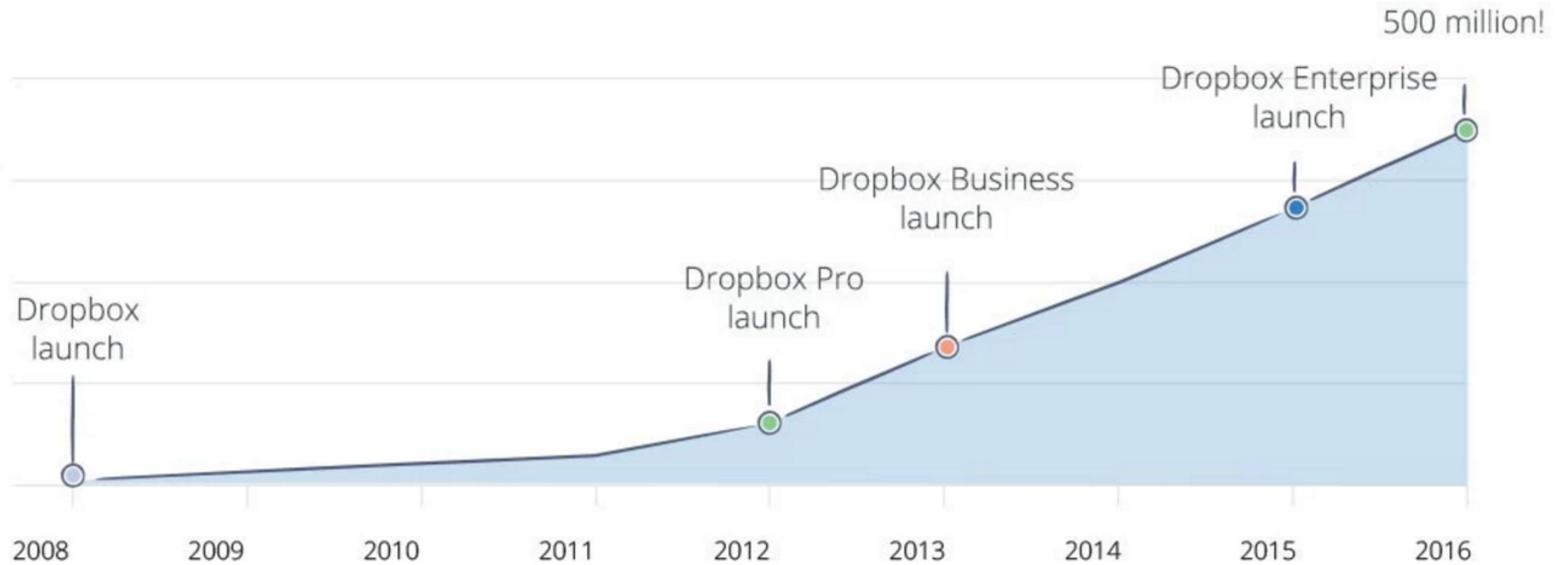




500 million users is the start of something big.
We wouldn't be here without you.



We've scaled to meet your needs...



3,300,000,000

sharing connections have
been created with Dropbox



1,200,000,000

files are saved on Dropbox
every day





DRTs at Dropbox



Disaster Recovery Test

Where do DRTs fit in?

Testing Tools	
Chaos Monkey Greg Orzell Netflix	Chaos Kong Luke Koweski Netflix
DRTD  Tim Doug, David Mah & Brian Cain Dropbox	

Testing Methods	
GameDays Jesse Robbins Amazon	DiRTs Kripa Krishnan Google
DRTs  Thomissa Comellas & Tammy Butow Dropbox	



0–25 Days “Learning and Reflection”



BREAK IT

FIX IT

DRT

Disaster Recovery Test

SEV

High Severity Incident



Sweat The Details

Streamline the SEV reporting process

Derive analytics from failures

Increase view of the details related to SEVs and DRTs

Become more data driven



25–50 Days “Determining the WHY?”

Report a SEV

The incident so far:

Reporter: thomissa

Category: Unavailability

What's the nature of your production emergency?

(Pick the first applicable option)

- ☐ **Data Integrity** - user data may be missing or corrupt
- ☐ **Security Leak** - user data or Dropbox secrets may be exposed to unauthorized users
- ☐ **Product Abuse** - people are doing mean things to our product or other users
- ☐ **Other Security Issue** - not covered above
- ☒ **External Unavailability** - Dropbox is erroring out or performing badly for some users
- ☐ **Internal Tool Unavailability** - something non-user-visible is erroring out or performing badly
- ☐ **I'm not sure**

Is the emergency currently happening or are you reporting a resolved issue?

- ☒ The emergency is ongoing
- ☐ The emergency has been resolved

Does the emergency last more than 20 minutes?

- ☒ YES!
- ☐ No/Don't know.

Are any of these bonus catastrophes currently occurring? If multiple are occurring, pick the first one on the list.[X](#)


- ☐ Users can't login
- ☐ Network capacity is <50% of normal
- ☐ >25% of billing requests are failing
- ☐ This is affecting third-party sites via the API
- ☐ None of the above





Romantic
Hedgehog

Create issue

 **Configure Fields** ▾

Issue Type*

 SEV

▼



Some issue types are unavailable due to incompatible field configuration and/or workflow associations.

Summary*

SEV Level

None ▴ ▾

IMOC



Start typing to get a list of possible matches.

TLOC



Start typing to get a list of possible matches.

Affected System(s)
(Infra Only)

Contbin/Replication
Databases
Delphi
DNS
Edgestore
Emailservice

Start Time (UTC)



Date and time when the SEV began



SEVs & DRTs at Dropbox

DropSev:
SEV filed

SEV auto-named

JIRA ticket
created w/ initial
data

Ticket complete
w/ Als, DRTs, etc
assigned

Weekly
Reliability
Review [SEVs]

DRTs

Reliability Working Group: Every Two Weeks



DRTs as a Product

How do teams run DRTs?

How have DRTs changed over time?

What do teams like / dislike about DRTs?

How do teams prioritize DRTs?

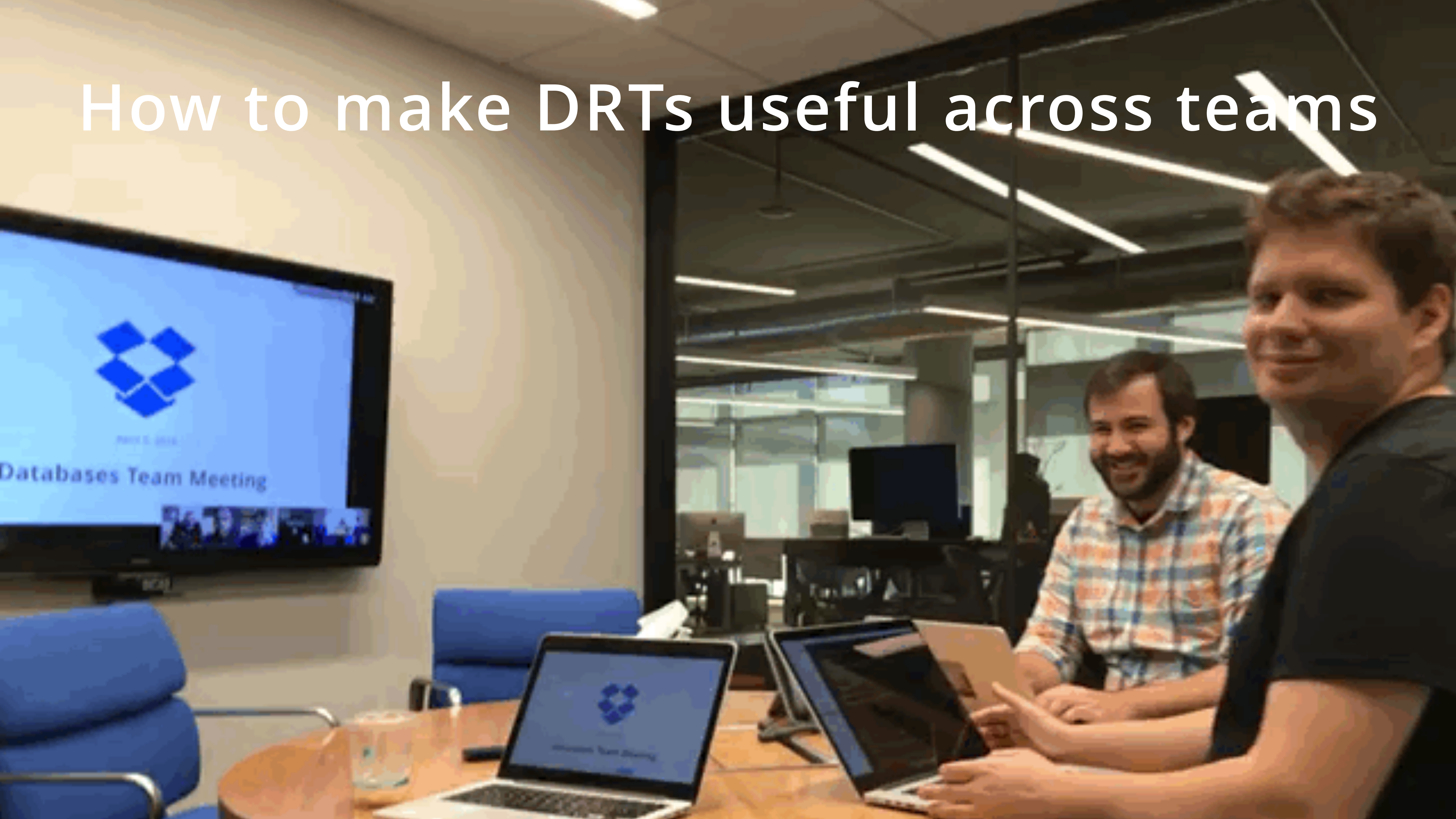
Try my MVP?

	Known	Unknown
Known	Compliance (K/K)	Change (K/U)
Unknown	Checking (U/K)	Control (U/U)



50–75 Days “Determining the HOW”

How to make DRTs useful across teams



Questions To Guide Teams

What are the weaknesses

How does code behavior differ from expected

How can you improve visibility

How confident are you in regards to failure modes

How well do you know your system inter-dependencies



75–100 Days “Determining the WHAT”

What do you do now?

Maturity level 2

Start with past SEVs impacting the system

Test the most general hardware and software failure modes

And do the tests you've meaning to run, you know, for a while.



Script for Magic Pocket DRT: mp_shed_block_load_via_dns.py

Living Runbook

<https://paper.dropbox.com/doc/Cluster>

Living document (e.g. paper doc) describing current state of DRT runbook

Cadence

None
Every two weeks
Every four weeks
Every six weeks
Every quarter

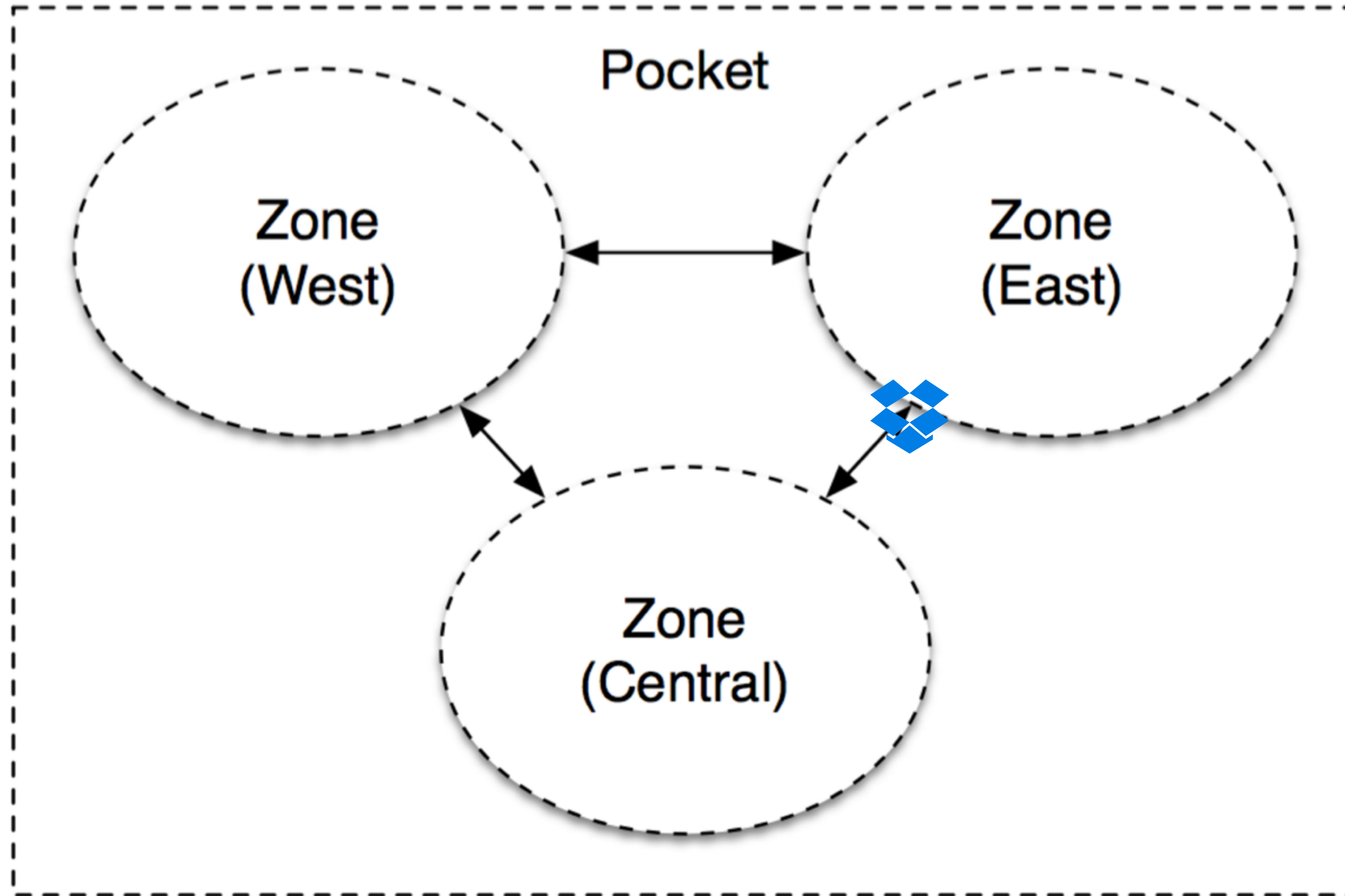
How often DRT should be repeated until retired

Affected System(s)
(Infra Only)

Hedwig
IPVS
Kafka
Livefill
Magic Pocket



MP Failover DRT



Failover - block-misc

CPU Report

EASTERN ZONE



This chart displays the CPU usage for the Eastern Zone. The y-axis represents CPU usage percentage, with horizontal grid lines at 10% intervals. The x-axis represents time, with vertical grid lines every 10 minutes. The chart shows a pink area at the bottom representing the active CPU usage, which starts at approximately 5%, peaks at about 10% around the 20-minute mark, and then gradually declines to near 0% by the 60-minute mark. A black line tracks the top of the pink area, and a thin red line is visible just below it.

CPU Report

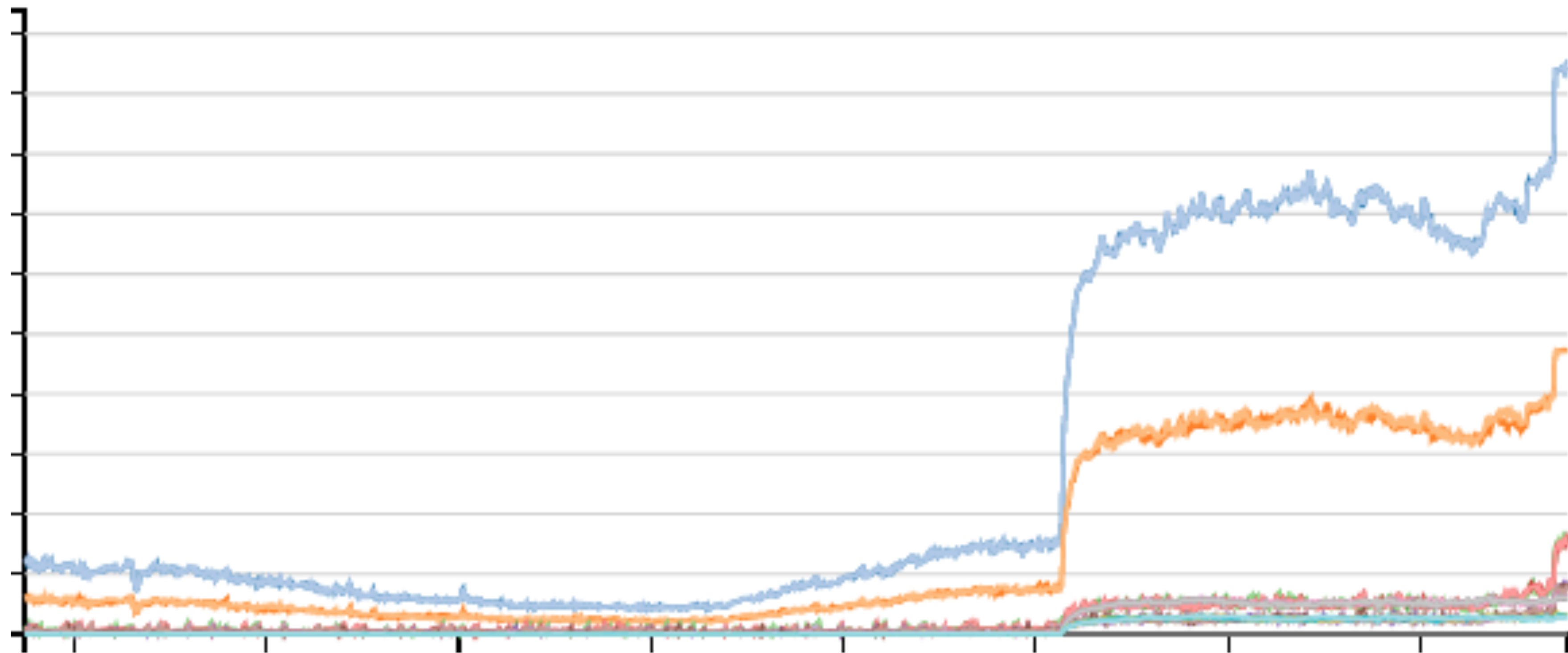
CENTRAL ZONE



This chart displays the CPU usage for the Central Zone. The y-axis represents CPU usage percentage, with horizontal grid lines at 10% intervals. The x-axis represents time, with vertical grid lines every 10 minutes. The chart shows a pink area at the bottom representing the active CPU usage, which starts at approximately 2%, rises to about 10% by the 20-minute mark, and then fluctuates between 8% and 12% for the remainder of the 60-minute period. A black line tracks the top of the pink area, and a thin red line is visible just below it.



Networking



Learning from your DRTs

Engage Networking team for DRTs

Communicate in advance of DRTs

DRT automated calendar

DRT dashboards for teams



Databases DRTs at Dropbox

Databases DRTS at Dropbox


Database Failure

Alerting

Monitoring



dropbox/Pygerduty

 This repository Search

ExploreFeaturesEnterprisePricing

Sign upSign in

dropbox / pygerduty

Watch 36Star 66Fork 45

<> CodeIssues 2Pull requests 0PulseGraphs

A Python library for PagerDuty.

94 commits1 branch0 releases18 contributors

Branch: masterNew pull requestNew fileFind fileHTTPShttps://github.com/dropbox/pygerdutyDownload ZIP

gmjosack Bump versionLatest commit 40d0e51 14 days ago

bin	Change .list() to an iterator (instead of returning a list), make pag...	2 years ago
pygerduty	Bump version	14 days ago
tests	Renamed container test file for consistency	20 days ago
.gitignore	Bump version. Add MANIFEST to ignore	2 years ago
.travis.yml	Drop Cartesian product of py versions in CI	4 months ago
LICENSE	Initial commit of pygerduty.	3 years ago
MANIFEST.in	Add some documentation	3 years ago
README.rst	Add support for Python 2 and 3	4 months ago
setup.py	Add support for Python 2 and 3	4 months ago



Example #2: server_file_journal

```
CREATE TABLE `server_file_journal` (  
  `id` int(10) unsigned,  
  `filename` varchar(255),  
  `latest` tinyint(1),  
  `ns_id` int(10) unsigned,  
  `prev_rev` int(10) unsigned,  
  [...]  
  PRIMARY KEY (`ns_id`, `latest`, `id`)  
) ENGINE=InnoDB;
```



52:05 / 1:08:16

STANFORD
UNIVERSITY

How We've Scaled Dropbox



Stanford



Subscribe

535,006

61,935 views



Add to



Share



More



509



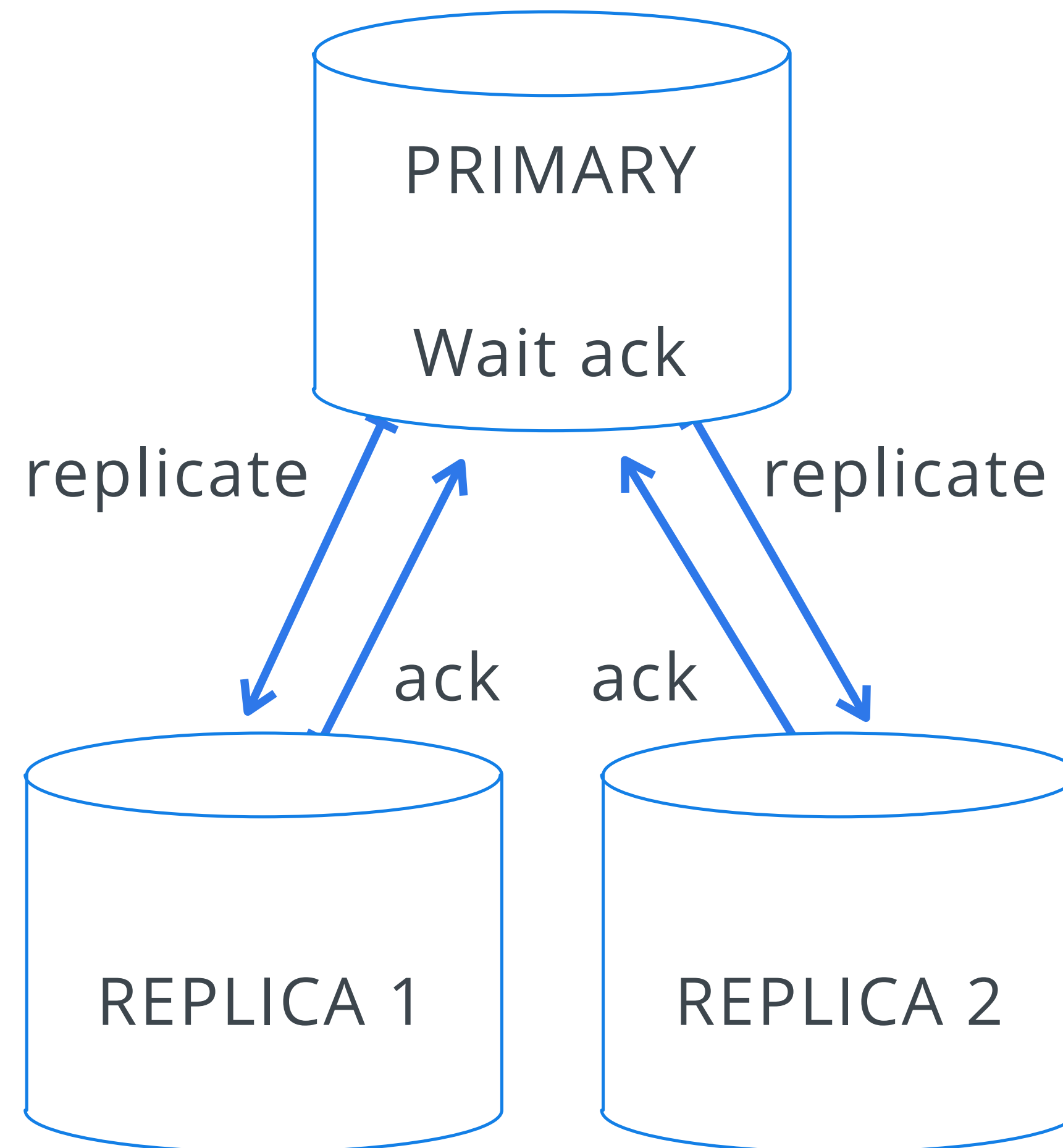
15

Published on Sep 10, 2012

(Feburary 22, 2012) Kevin Modzelewski talks about Dropbox and its History. He describes the technological issues faced by Dropbox and the actions they have to take in order to continuously improve it.



Testing Server File Journal



MySQL 5.6
semi-sync



Running a database primary DRT

Item	Response	Reasoning
Due Date [Date Scheduled]	5/11/16	Surfaces potential clash with other teams Allows for sprint planning (and entry on calendar)
Assignee [Person executing]	Brian C	Fame
Assignee Team	Databases, Filesystems	Tag needed for board / tracking
Summary [Title / Description]	SFJ Primary Failure	Readability / Reference
Affected Systems	Server File Journal (SFJ)	Tracking dependencies, educating for additional DRTs, future scheduling
**Living runbook link (e.g. paper doc)	+Filesystems DRT with Databases	Visibility into historical vs. current (could be a web link field)
**Cadence	Every quarter	[every six weeks, every two weeks, every quarter] determine effective scheduling / KTLO budgeting

We check that the daily push has happened or will happen later

“At x:xx I will be performing a controlled primary failure for SFJ. This will affect xxx, xxx and xxx, impact should be minimal. I will be monitoring graphs. In case of issues please alert me in #databases or #serving-team.”

[0:00]

Choose host to perform DRT on with Filesystems team

Check threads running for the primary host are low and steady



[0:20] Run command:

```
$ select hostname, global.rpl_semi_sync_slave_enabled
```

Expected outcome:

```
host1 1
```

```
host2 1
```

```
host3 1
```

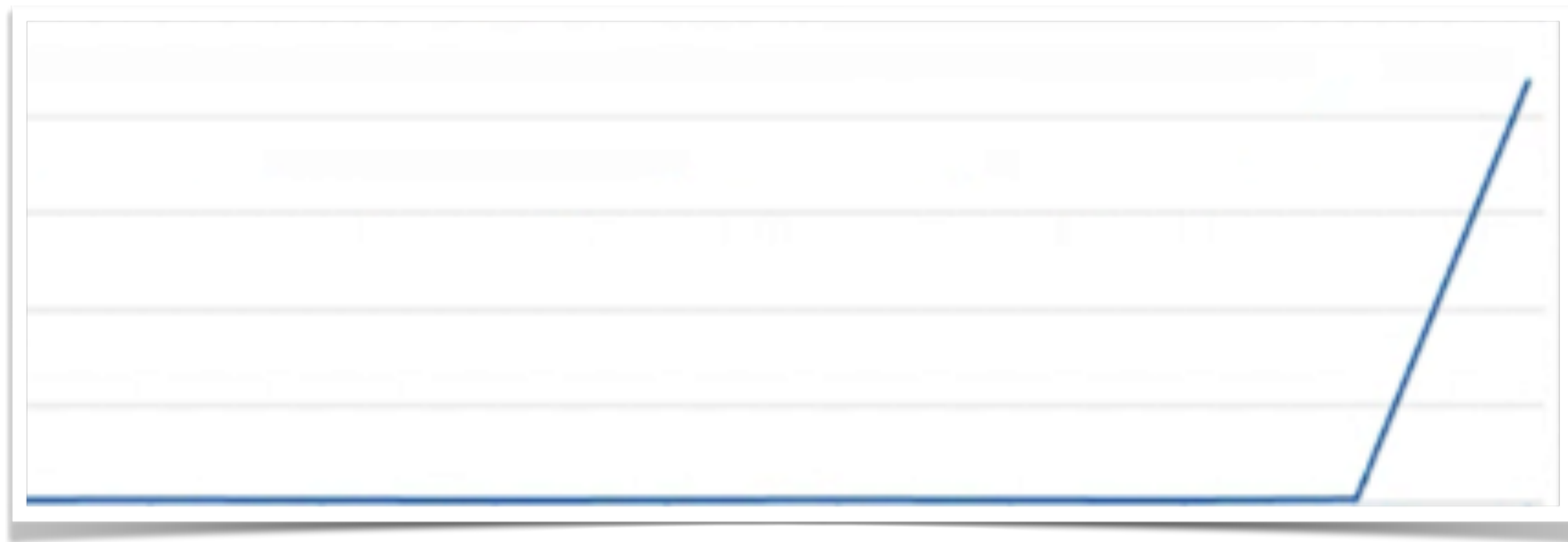
[0:22] Run command:

```
$ stop slave; set global rpl_semi_sync_slave_enabled=0; start slave;
```

Expected outcome:

“Waiting for semi-sync ACK from slave”

[0:26] Check if threads running has spiked on mysql perf dashboard



[0:27] Likely to see a spike in lock failures and commit errors going up on SFJ dashboards:



[0:30] Threads running will continue to rise

[0:32] You should receive a PagerDuty alert for “threads_running_sfj”



SlackerDuty-DB BOT 14:48 ☆

[database-ops #107273] threads_connected_slaves with 1 firing vortex alert:



[0:34] End the DRT by enabling semi-sync, you will start to see it drop back down, it will take a few minutes

Run command:

```
$ stop slave; set global rpl_semi_sync_slave_enabled=1; start slave
```

[0:39] Expect to see a large drop in threads running

[0:40] DRT Complete, resolve PagerDuty alert



Running a SQL Proxy DRT

Assignee [Person executing]	Brian C	Fame
Assignee Team	Databases	Tag needed for board / tracking
Summary [Title / Description]	SQL Proxy Failure	Readability / Reference
Affected Systems	SQL Proxy	Tracking dependencies, educating for additional DRTs, future scheduling
**Cadence	Every quarter	[every six weeks, every two weeks, every quarter] determine effective scheduling / KTLO budgeting

[0:00]

Log into to any sql-proxy host

[0:20] Run command:

```
$ status sqlproxy
```

Expected outcome:

```
sqlproxy_0 SubTaskRunning   started:2016-5-31T04:55:23Z uptime:
```

[0:22] Run command:

```
$ stop sqlproxy_global
```

[0:26] Wait for a few mins and monitor the availability graphs



[0:27] Now start sql proxy again
\$ start sqlproxy_global

Expected outcome:
start successful: sqlproxy

[0:27] DRT passed!

Send an email that it is finished



Running a databases replica DRT

Assignee [Person executing]	Peter B	Fame
Assignee Team	Databases Filesystems	Tag needed for board / tracking
Summary [Title / Description]	Server File Journal Replica Failure	Readability / Reference
Affected Systems	Server File Journal (SFJ)	Tracking dependencies, educating for additional DRTs, future scheduling
**Living <u>runbook</u> link (e.g. paper doc)		Visibility into historical vs. current (could be a web link field)
**Cadence	Every quarter	[every six weeks, every two weeks, every quarter] determine effective scheduling / KTLO budgeting



We check that the daily push has happened or will happen later

We send an email to serving-announce mailing list

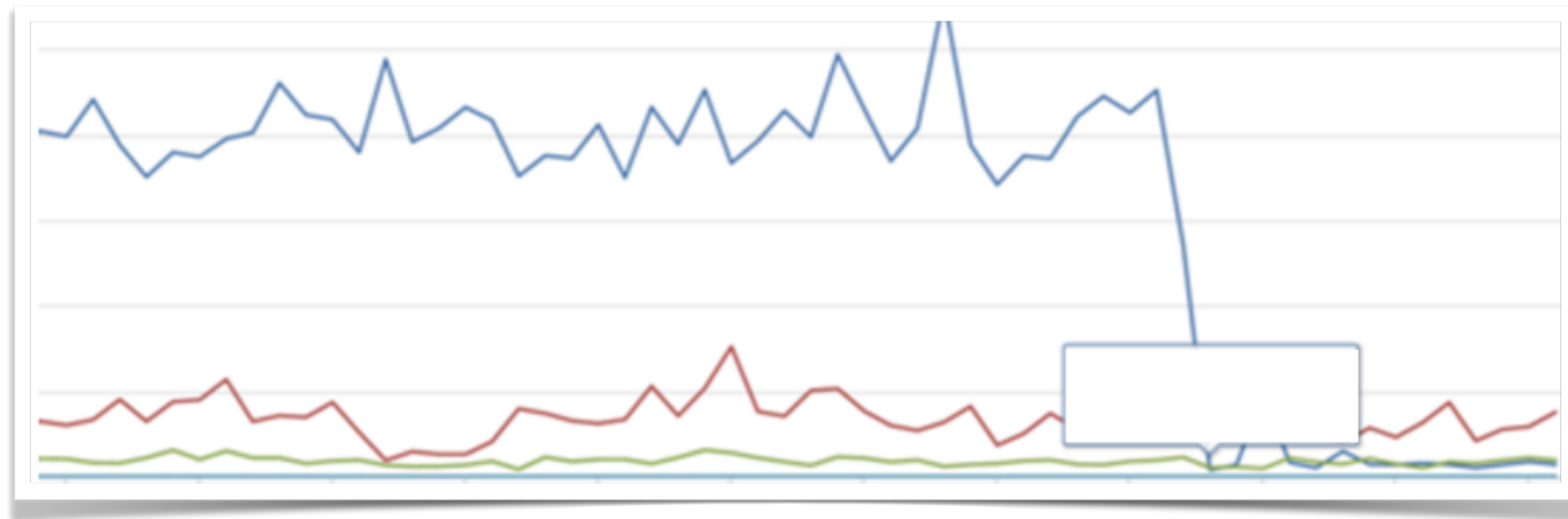
“At x:xx I will be performing a controlled replica failure for SFJ. This will affect xxx, xxx and xxx, impact should be minimal. I will be monitoring graphs. In case of issues please alert me in #databases or #serving-team.”



[0:00] Choose host to perform DRT on with Filesystems team

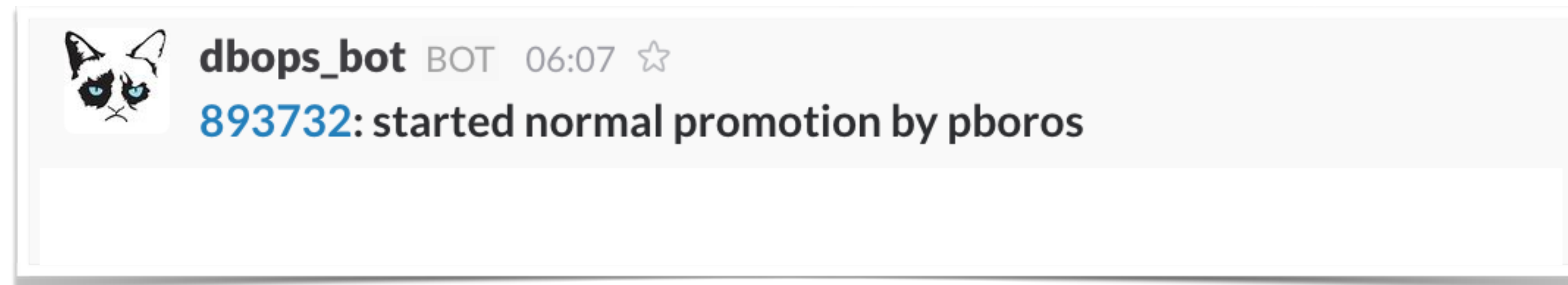


- [0:10] Fail one replica from production by killing mysqld on host
- [0:13] Filesystems team will let you know that the build is back to green
- [0:15] InnoDB reads will drop to almost 0
- [0:15] auto_replace script will kick in and cloning will commence



DRT complete and passed:

- dbops bot will post in slack
- Clone will complete successfully



Running an Edgestore stage DRT

[0:20] Run command:

```
$ select hostname, global.rpl_semi_sync_slave_enabled
```

Expected outcome:

```
host1 1
```

```
host2 1
```

```
host3 1
```

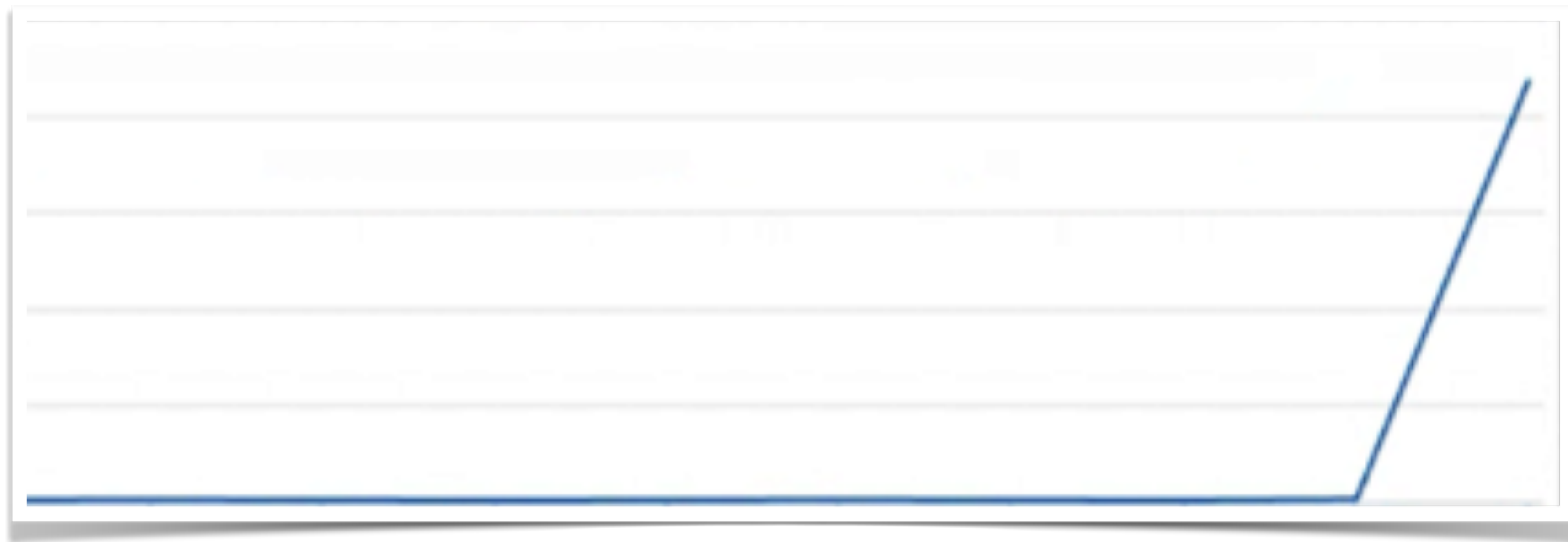
[0:22] Run command:

```
$ stop slave; set global rpl_semi_sync_slave_enabled=0; start slave;
```

Expected outcome:

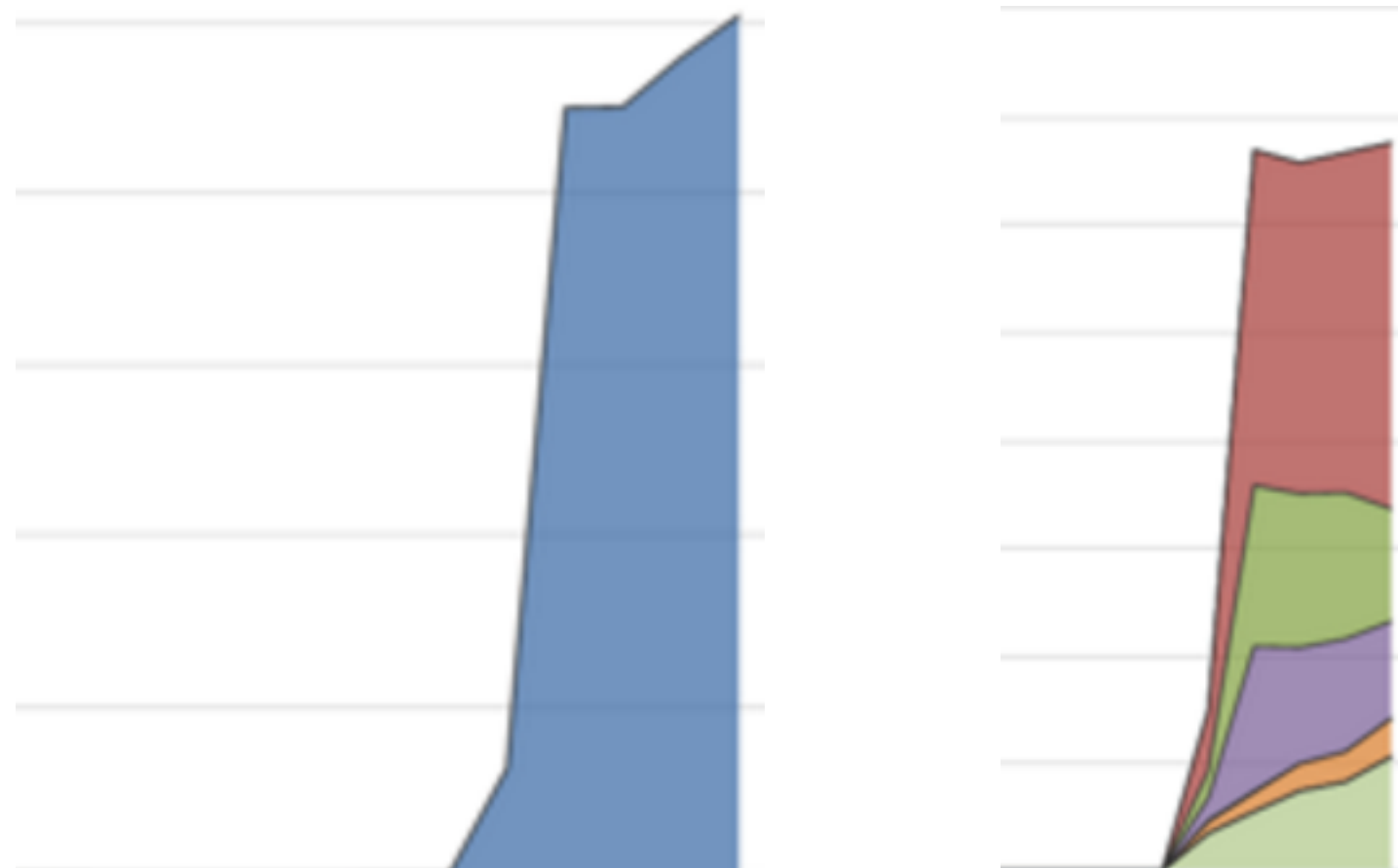
“Waiting for semi-sync ACK from slave”

[0:26] Check if threads running has spiked on mysql perf dashboard



[0:27] Likely to see a spike in errors on the edgestore stage dashboard
You will see alerts in Slack “slave_rpl_semi_sync_slave_status”

[database-ops #106431] slave_rpl_semi_sync_slave_status with 2 firing vortex alert:



[0:30] Threads running and threads connected will continue to rise

[0:32] You should receive a PagerDuty alert

[0:34] End the DRT by enabling semi-sync, you will start to see it drop back down, it will take a few minutes

Run command:

```
$ stop slave; set global rpl_semi_sync_slave_enabled=1; start slave
```

DRT is finished!



pboros 10:42

all those pages are because of edgestore drt



Learning from databases DRTs

Als



DRIs





Edit



Recommended by Vaibhav Bhembre, Richard Murby, and 1 other



Tammy Butow

SRE Manager @Dropbox ☁️❤️ I like databases, storage, automation, performance, go, Linux & death ...

Apr 16 · 6 min read

Better Sprints with Team Traditions

TEAM TRADITIONS



Tammy Butow



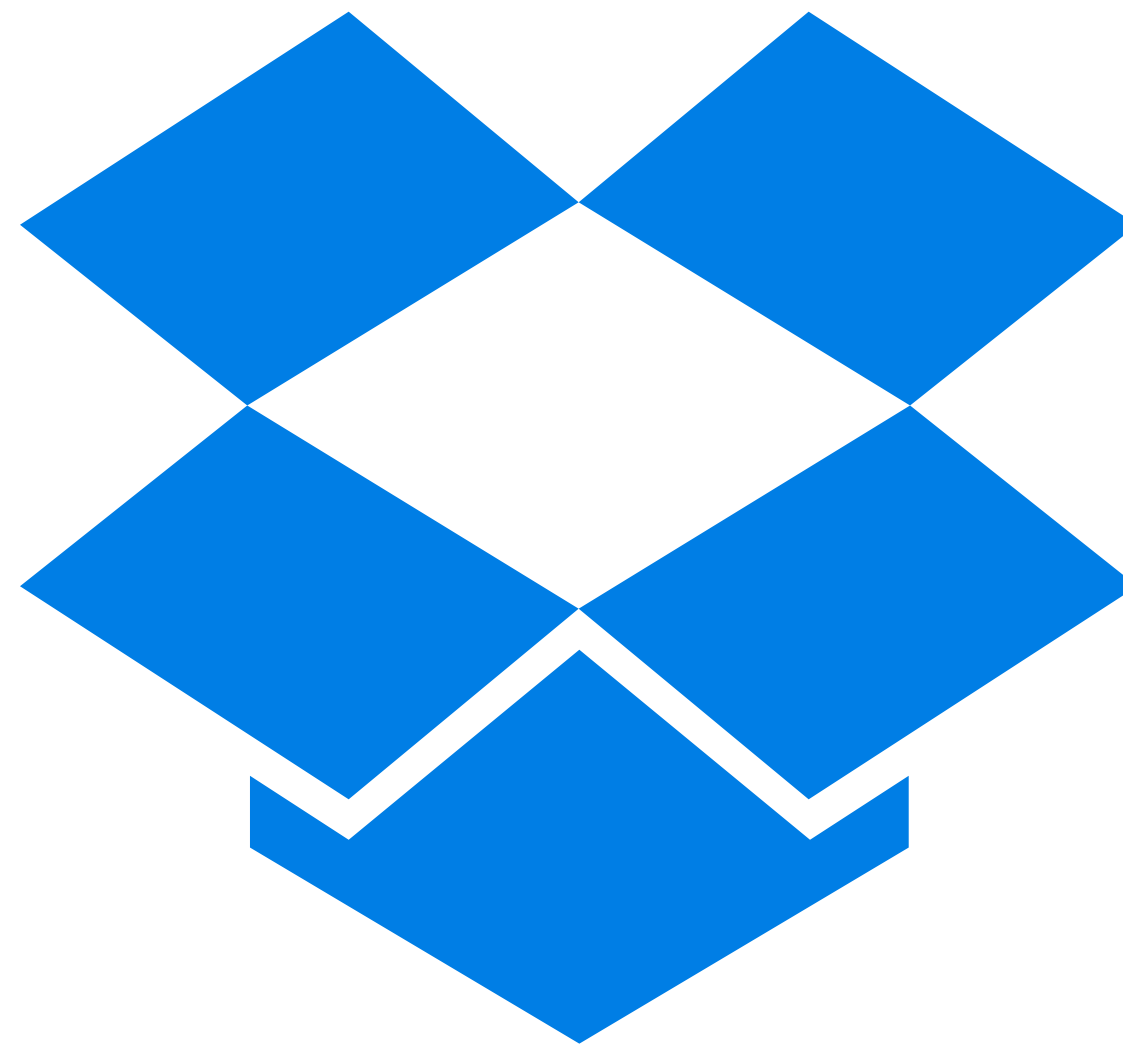
<https://medium.com/@tammybutow/better-sprints-with-team-traditions>

Improvements For Distributed Teams



The Future of anti-fragile at Dropbox

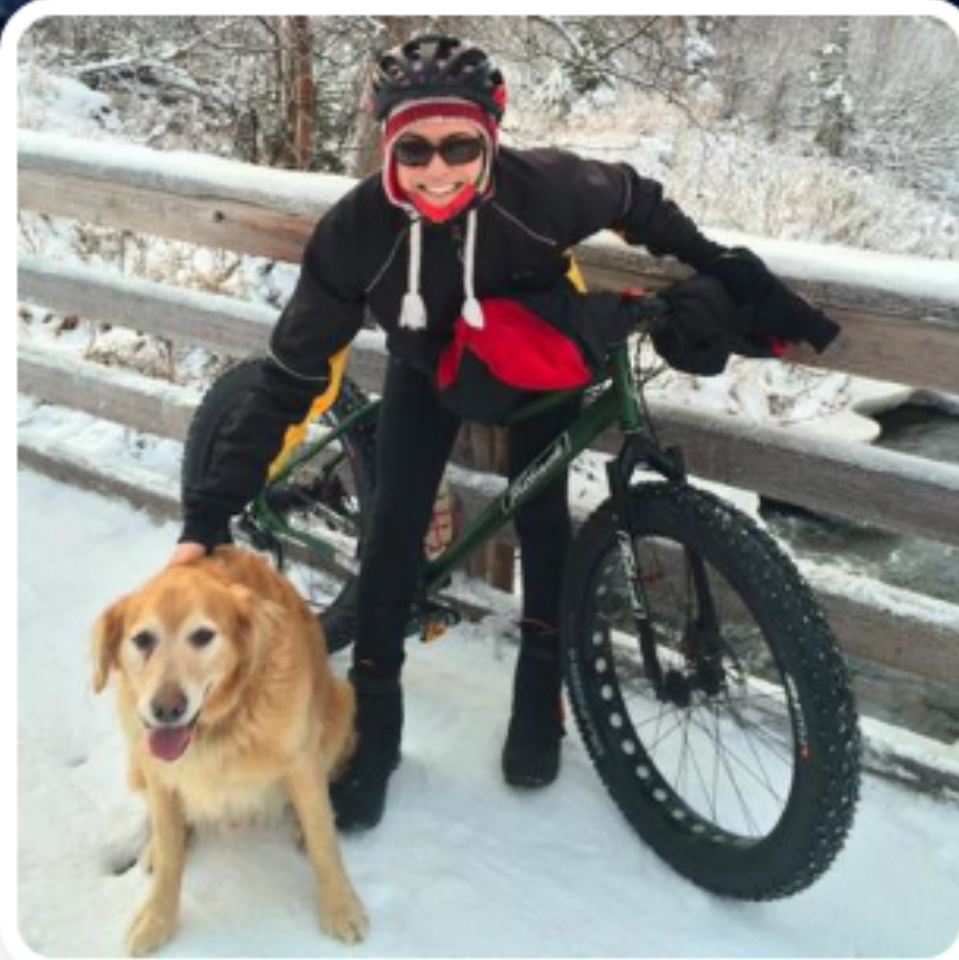




0-100 Days - Running DRTs at Dropbox

Thank you!

Q & A



Thomissa

@thomissa

TPM @Dropbox, Alaskan. Previously
@StanfordEng @TeslaMotors

[linkedin.com/in/thomissa](https://www.linkedin.com/in/thomissa)

Joined March 2011



Tammy Bütow

@tammybutow

SRE Manager @Dropbox Metadata
Storage. I like team traditions, databases,
automation, Go, Linux & death metal. \m/
Previously @DigitalOcean @NAB @QUT.

San Francisco, CA

tammybutow.com

Joined June 2009