

merb

flexibility
&
performance

merb



Me

merb

Matt



Aimonetti

Me

irc: m a t t e t t i

<http://github.com/mattetti>

merb

core team member
&
evangelist



Matt



merb

don't work
at Engine Yard



Matt

<http://engineyard.com>

merb

don't work
at Engine Yard



Matt



<http://engineyard.com>

merb



Consultant
based in San Diego, CA

Matt





Who are we?

[Yehuda Katz](#) and [Matt Aimonetti](#), both **Merb core team members**, have between them more than **20 years of web development experience**.



experience.

Yehuda is well known and respected by the web community for his involvement in projects like [jQuery](#) and [DataMapper](#). He is currently employed by [Engine Yard](#), working full time as the **lead developer on Merb**. Yehuda is often invited to present in conferences, including [RubyConf](#), [RailsConf](#), [MerbCamp](#), and [jQuery Camp](#). He is an **experienced and well structured speaker**, with previous classroom



Matt runs a [consulting company](#) in **San Diego, CA** offering **release planning sessions, consulting, training and development**. Before spending so much time on [Merb](#) and [DataMapper](#), Matt was an **active Rails contributor**. He wrote many [Ruby gems](#) and [Rails plugins](#) and is currently running [two](#) popular [blogs](#).

What do we cover?

Yehuda and Matt decided to **share their knowledge** of Merb with people who are interested in **building flexible and powerful web applications** using the Merb web framework.

<http://ma-agile.com/training>

Blogs:

<http://merbist.com>

<http://railsonthesun.com>

The screenshot shows the Merbist blog homepage. At the top, there's a header with the title "The Merbist" and a subtitle "A person who is dedicated to the accurate or beautiful use of Merb". Below the header is a navigation menu with links like "Home", "About the Merbist", and "Blog the Merbist". The main content area features several articles:

- merbist scrapbook [sept-25]**: A collection of links to various Merb-related content, including a new Merb 0.9.7 release, a new Merb 0.9.7 release, and a new Merb 0.9.7 release.
- News from the front line - Sept 24 2008**: A news item discussing the Merb 0.9.7 release and the upcoming Merb 1.0 release.
- Deploying a bundled merb app [merb 0.9.7+]**: An article discussing the deployment of Merb applications.
- Definition**: A section defining the term "merbist" and providing a list of references.

The page also includes a sidebar with navigation links and a footer with contact information.



merb

Q: What is the attention span of a squirrel?

[\[Edit\]](#)

In: [Chipmunks and Squirrels](#)

A:

[\[Edit\]](#)

A squirrel has an attention span on normal things of about one second and about four minutes on acorns and nuts.

ADVERTISEMENT

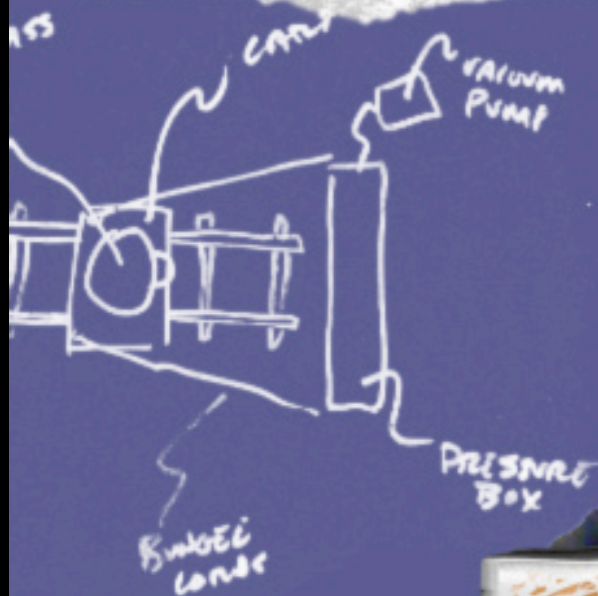
Conclusion

merb meets the Enterprise needs

✓ Cost

✓ Adaptability

✓ Scalability

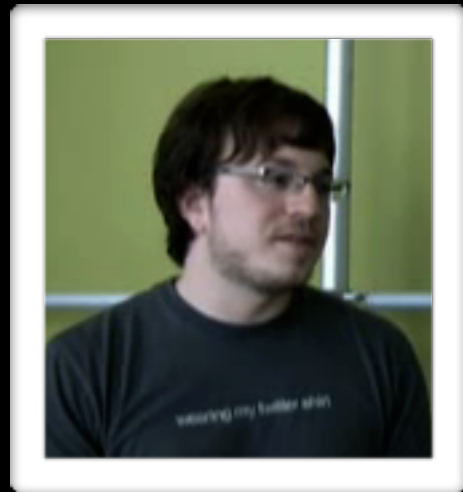


$$\text{Pascal} = \text{N}$$



SANDBAG ON EVERYTHING

TRACIA



“It’s also worth mentioning that there shouldn’t be doubt in anybody’s mind at this point that **Ruby itself is slow**. It’s great that people are hard at work on faster implementations of the language, but right now, it’s tough.”

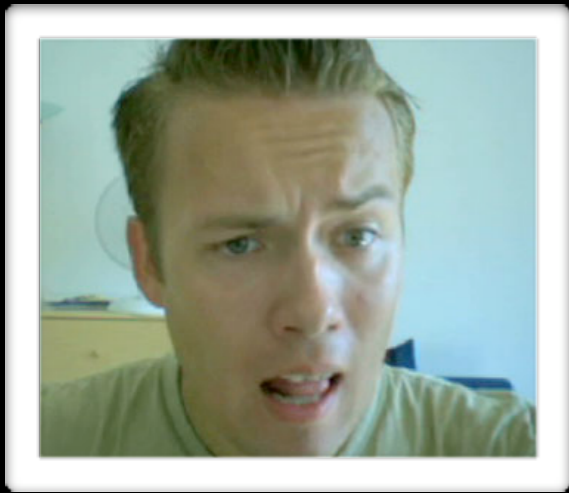
Alex Payne, Twitter

merb



I for one am scared of Ruby because ... **it's known to be slow**, so if you become The Next MySpace, you'll be buying 5 times as many boxes as the .NET guy down the hall.

Joel Spolsky



Rails is for the vast majority of web applications **Fast Enough**... I just happen to care much more about free developer cycles and am **willing to trade** the former for the latter.

David Heinemeier
Hansson

Rails is slow



merb

Ruby is **slow**



merb

“The **slowest** programming
language in the **world**”

benchmarks someone?



PHP framework comparison benchmarks

June 30th, 2008 | Ekerete.

[95 Responses](#)

In response to Wil's comment regarding the PHP framework performance comparisons I made in [my previous post](#), I have decided to post the results I got. My decision not post them initially was due to the benchmarks not being done in complete isolation (a separate client and server machine) but the scores relative to each should still be accurate and that's what I am testing for.

Furthermore, while I only used requests/sec as a performance yardstick, I do realize that other factors do affect a web application's response in the real world.




The Tools


The tests were run on a 1.8Ghz AMD sempron computer with 512Mb RAM running Ubuntu Gutsy (7.10) Desktop. I used [httpperf](#) to run the tests although I did run some of them again using apachebench and the results were consistent.

I created the same front page with CakePHP, CodeIgniter, Zend Framework and Ruby on Rails. I also duplicated the same functionality in HTML and in PHP using procedural code (aka. spaghetti code) to act as baselines.

I decided to include data access in the tests and the tests involve the application fetching four rows from the database and rendering the results.

Recent Work

 **German Number Plates**
Scope: Strategy, User Experience, XHTML and CSS, Content Management System, Ecommerce Development.

 **Mortgage Extra**
Scope: Interface Design, XHTML and CSS, Client Interface Development.

Journal Topics

- [General](#) (2)
- [Javascript](#) (2)
- [PHP](#) (5)
- [Rails](#) (2)
- [Web](#) (4)

Journal Archives

- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)

raw PHP:

331 rps

raw PHP:

331 rps

cake PHP:

3.6 rps / 8 rps (eaccelerator)

raw PHP:

331 rps

cake PHP:

3.6 rps / 8 rps (eaccelerator)

code igniter:

21.5 rps / 98.2 rps (eaccelerator)

raw PHP:

331 rps

cake PHP:

3.6 rps / 8 rps (eaccelerator)

code igniter:

21.5 rps / 98.2 rps (eaccelerator)

Rails:

88 rps

merb

Rails

is

pretty close to

the fastest PHP framework.

what about **merb**?

merb

hello world benchmarks

baseline results

apache serving static html:

hello.html

raw PHP:

```
<?php echo "Hello world"; ?>
```

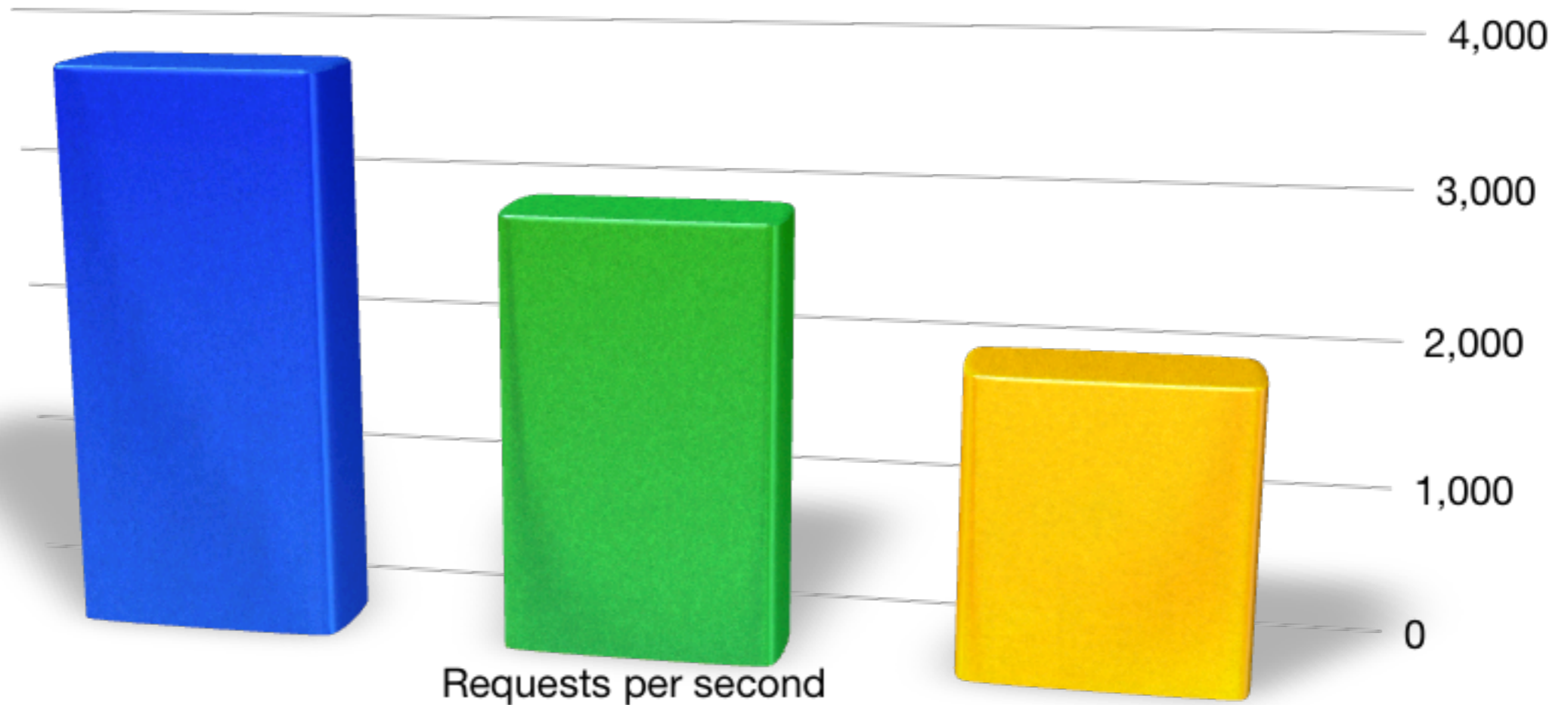
merb router:

```
match("/hello world")
```

■ Merb Router

■ Static HTML

■ raw php



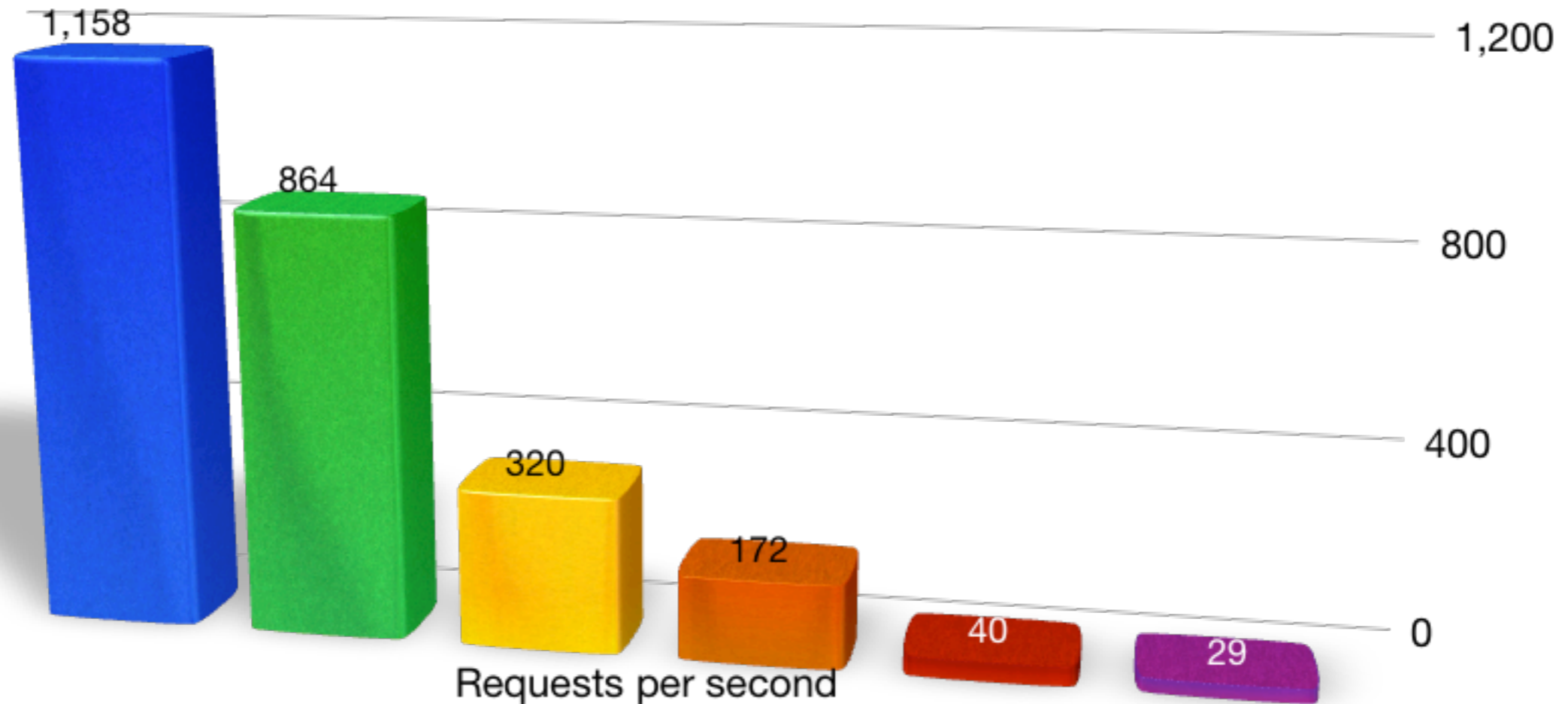
3783 req/s

2898 req/s

1995 req/s

hello world on various frameworks

Merb 1.0 Django 1.0.1 Rails 2.2.1 Code Igniter 1.6.3
Symfony Cake PHP



```
$ ab test: ab -c 10 -n 5000 http://0.0.0.0/benchmark
```

Ruby might be **slow** at
fibonacci benchmarks

who cares?

Ruby is fast at
real life web benchmarks
that's what matters!

merb

Ruby for the web
is NOT slow



merb

Enterprise



Enterprise

Enterprise needs
enterprise software

Enterprise



“Enterprise software is software intended to solve an enterprise problem (rather than a departmental problem) and often written using an Enterprise Software Architecture.”

Enterprise



enterprise problem

!=

departmental problem

Enterprise

an enterprise problem
covers problems from
many different departments

Enterprise

many different departments
means
different needs/challenges

Enterprise



“Enterprise software is software intended to solve an enterprise problem (rather than a departmental problem) and often written using an **Enterprise Software Architecture.**”

Enterprise

Enterprise Software Architecture

Enterprise



From US OMB 2006 FEA Practice Guidance

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enterprise_architecture

Enterprise

organization-specific software architecture

Enterprise



“Due to the cost of building what is often proprietary software, only large organizations attempt to build such software that models the entire business enterprise [...]”

Enterprise



Elite

merb

Enterprise



what about the **not so large companies?**

Enterprise



“As many business enterprises have similar departments and systems, enterprise software is often available as a suite of programs that have attached development tools to modify the common programs for the specific enterprise.”

Enterprise



“complex development programming tools
that
require specialist capabilities”.

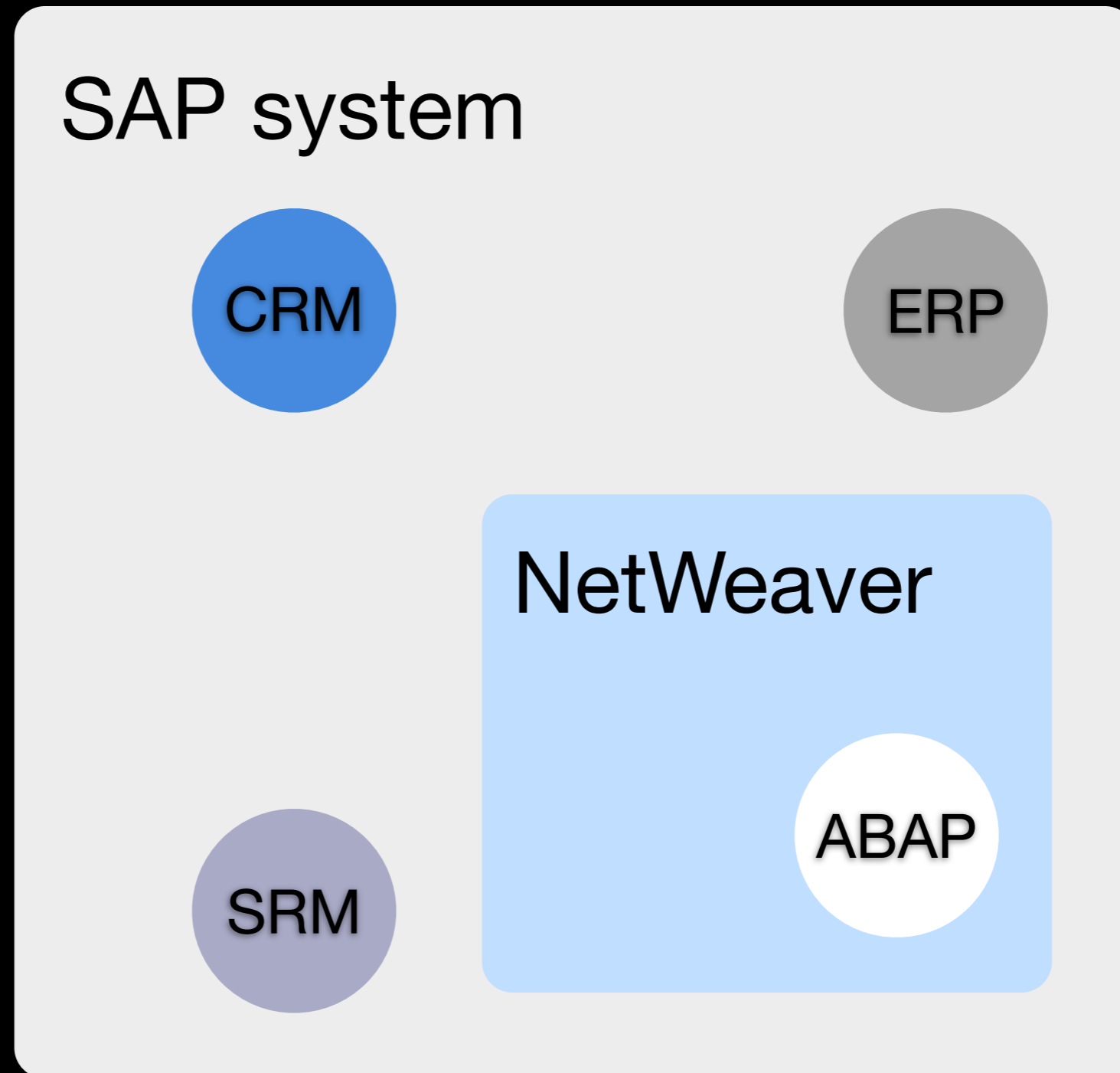
Enterprise



Business Software Solutions
Applications and Services

merb

Enterprise



Enterprise

Concerns:

cost

adaptability

Enterprise

Concerns:

Does it scale?

Enterprise

scalability

loads of req/s

easily extendable

swap/extract parts

what about **merb**?

because that's why I'm here

merb

cost
open source

free as in free speech

merb

cost

ruby



Great language - widely adopted - enjoyable
momentum

merb

bet on

Ruby



Rubinius

merb

bet on

Ruby



Rubinius



merb

cost

reusable

merb slices - mountable mini applications

merb

cost

reusable merb slices

```
Merb::Router.prepare do
  slice(:blog, :path => "blog")
  slice(:wiki, :path => "wiki")
  slice(:public_calendar, :path => "calendar")
end
```

cost

smooth transition



access your Java code directly from Merb



deploy your merb app like you deploy your java apps

merb

cost

choose

model the entire business enterprise

build common tools for common use

merb

adaptability
because needs differ and change

merb

adaptability

merb is truly modular



ORM

JS lib

testing
framework

template
engine

merb

```
$ merb-gen very_flat app-name
```



1 file

```
Merb::Router.prepare do
  match('/').to(:controller => 'very-flat-app', :action => 'index')
end
```

```
class VeryFlatApp < Merb::Controller
  def index
    "Hi, I am 'very flat' Merb application. I have everything in one single file
and well suited for dynamic stub pages."
  end
end
```

```
$ merb-gen app app-name
```

merb stack

- MVC architecture
- asset management
- caching
- view helpers
- mailer
- authentication
- exceptions handler

adaptability

pick and choose

add/remove dependencies

adaptability

pick and choose

extend

plugins - slices - API

adaptability

pick and choose

extend

replace

build around merb core

scalability

see benchmarks

modularity

small memory footprint

sum up



merb is **fast**

merb



merb is flexible

merb



<http://flickr.com/photos/ezyponchi/283381271/>



<http://bonluxat.com>

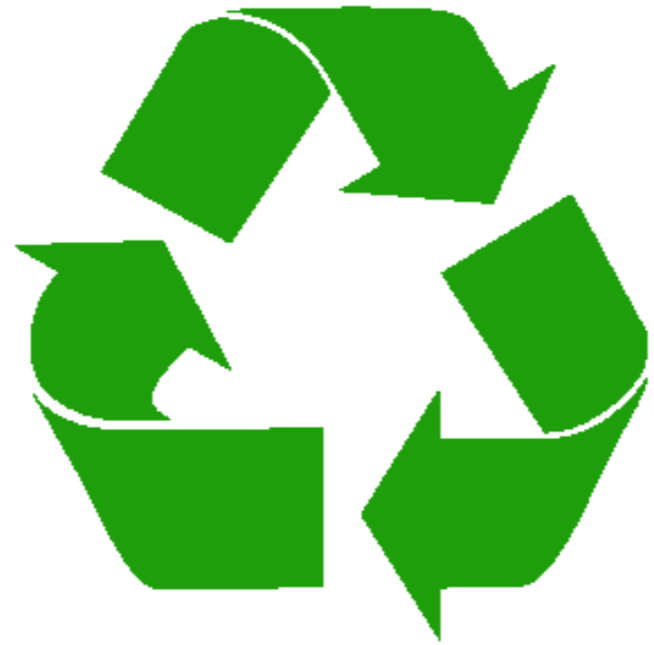
merb is modular

merb



merb can be **opinionated**

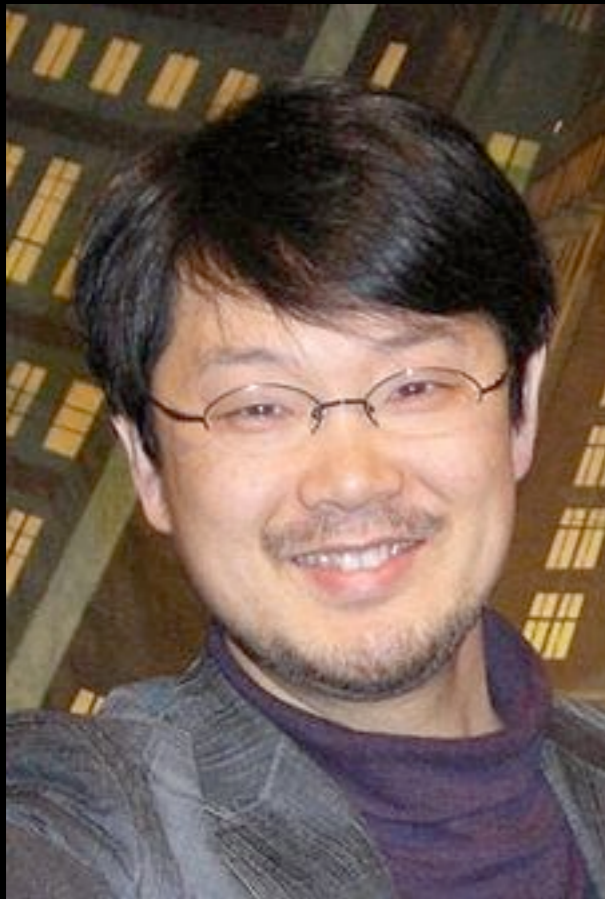
merb



GREENPEACE

merb  recycling

merb



Merb has a **bright future** for the people who are not satisfied by the fixed ways in Rails.

I think that **Merb** will give users **more freedom** in a **Ruby-ish way** of programming.

matz likes **merb**

merb

Conclusion

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questions?