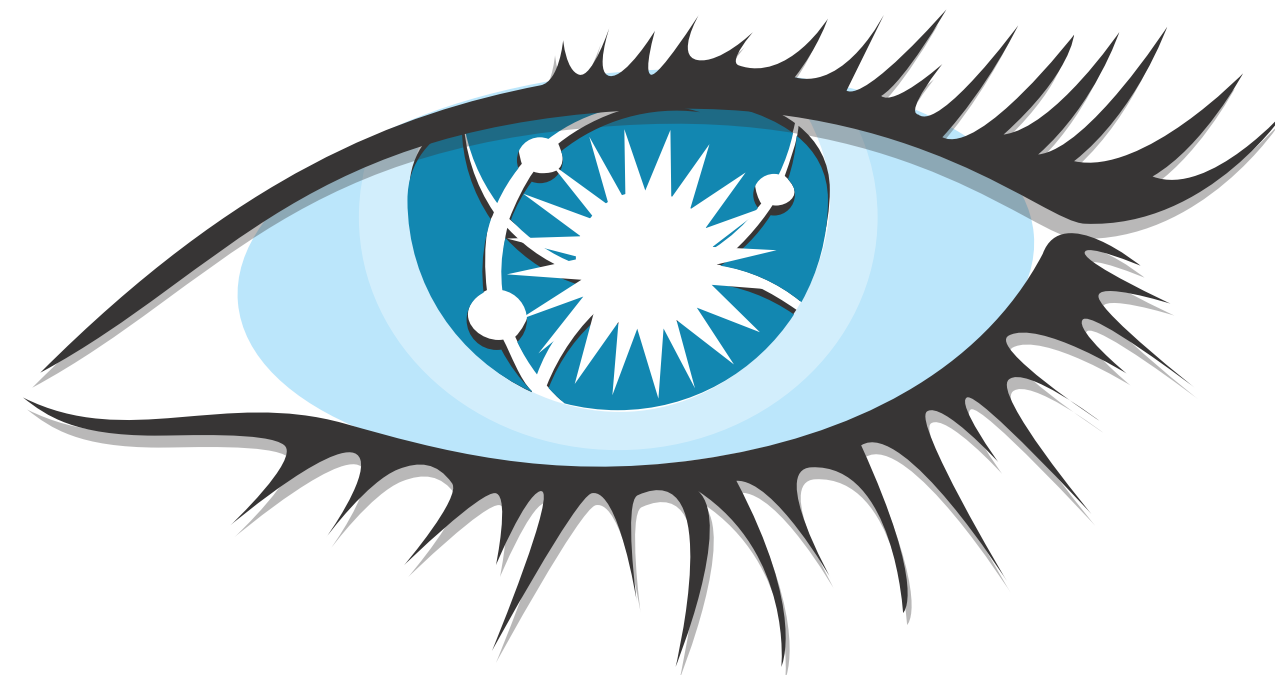


Two years in the making: What is new in Apache Cassandra 4.0?

Dinesh A. Joshi



apache cassandra

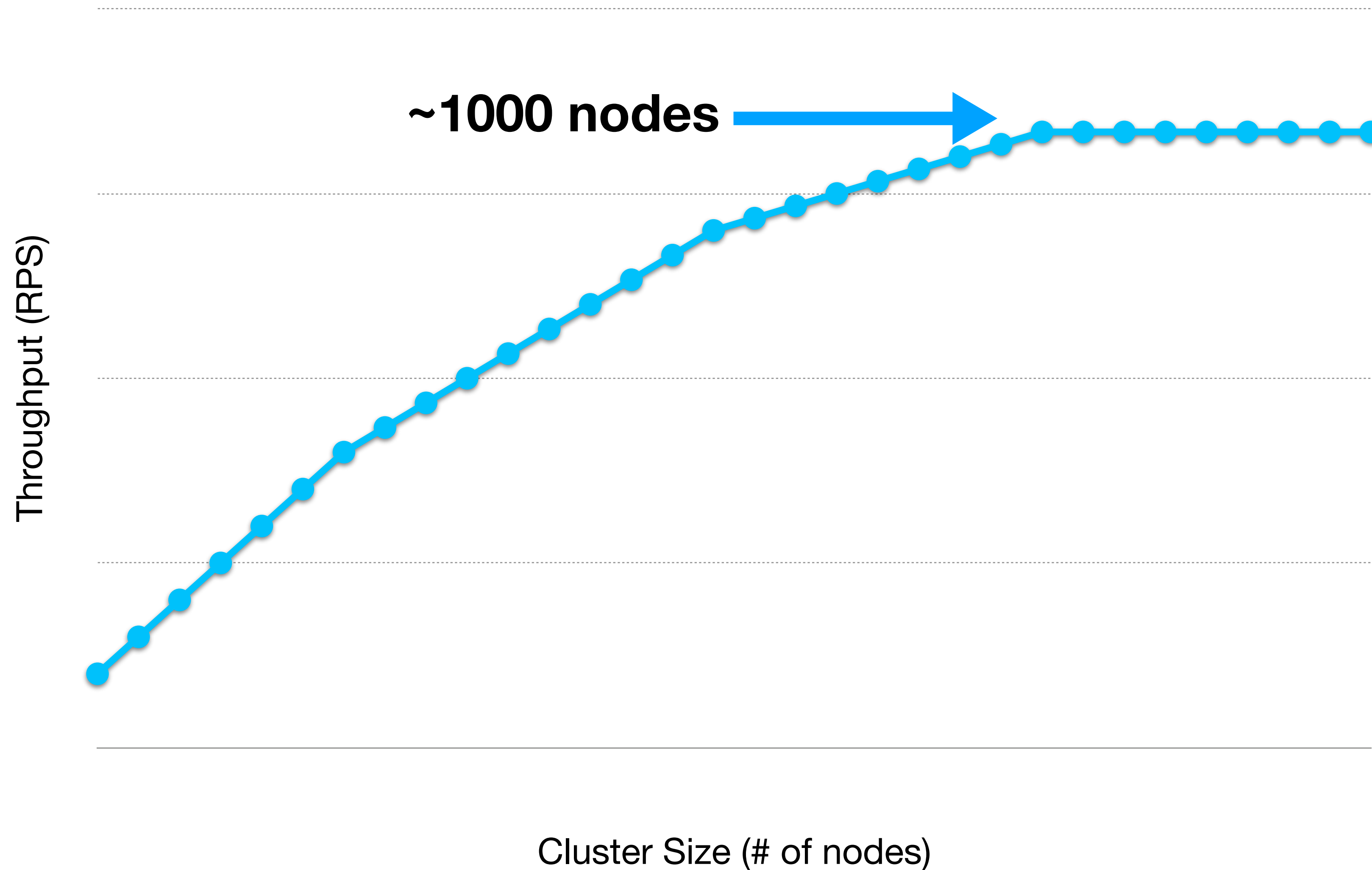
Agenda

- History
- Performance & Efficiency
- Reliability & Stability
- Operability & Observability
- Summary

Cassandra in Community

- Cassandra 2.x (stable, widely adopted)
- Cassandra 3.0.x (stable)
- Cassandra 3.11.x (ok, perf improvements over 3.0.x)

Throughput vs Cluster Size



Cassandra 4.0 Changes

The image displays a collage of screenshots from the Apache Cassandra GitHub repository, showing commit messages for version 4.0. A large blue '3.0' is overlaid on the left side, and a large blue arrow points from the '3.0' towards the commit messages on the right.

The commit messages are organized into sections, including:

- 3.0**
- 3.11.4**
- Merged from 3.0:**
 - Improve TokenMetadata cache populating performance avoid long locking (CASSANDRA-14668)
 - Fix static column order for SELECT * wildcard queries (CASSANDRA-14638)
 - stableloader should use discovered broadcast address to connect intra-cluster (CASSANDRA-14522)
 - Fix reading columns with non-UTF names from schema (CASSANDRA-14468)
- Merged from 2.2:**
 - Returns null instead of NaN or Infinity in JSON strings (CASSANDRA-14377)
- 3.11.3**
- 3.11.2**
- 3.11.1**
- 3.11.0**
- 3.10.4**
- 3.10.3**
- 3.10.2**
- 3.10.1**
- 3.10.0**
- 3.9.4**
- 3.9.3**
- 3.9.2**
- 3.9.1**
- 3.9.0**
- 3.8.4**
- 3.8.3**
- 3.8.2**
- 3.8.1**
- 3.8.0**
- 3.7.4**
- 3.7.3**
- 3.7.2**
- 3.7.1**
- 3.7.0**
- 3.6.4**
- 3.6.3**
- 3.6.2**
- 3.6.1**
- 3.6.0**
- 3.5.4**
- 3.5.3**
- 3.5.2**
- 3.5.1**
- 3.5.0**
- 3.4.4**
- 3.4.3**
- 3.4.2**
- 3.4.1**
- 3.4.0**
- 3.3.4**
- 3.3.3**
- 3.3.2**
- 3.3.1**
- 3.3.0**
- 3.2.4**
- 3.2.3**
- 3.2.2**
- 3.2.1**
- 3.2.0**
- 3.1.4**
- 3.1.3**
- 3.1.2**
- 3.1.1**
- 3.1.0**
- 3.0.4**
- 3.0.3**
- 3.0.2**
- 3.0.1**
- 3.0.0**

Repair

What is repair?

- Cassandra is an AP system (CAP theorem)
- Nodes can be out of sync
- Eventually consistent
- Repair ensures nodes are consistent

Incremental Repair

- Pre 4.0 repair took long time
- Run repairs all the time!
- Shorter data reconciliation times
- Enables Transient Replication

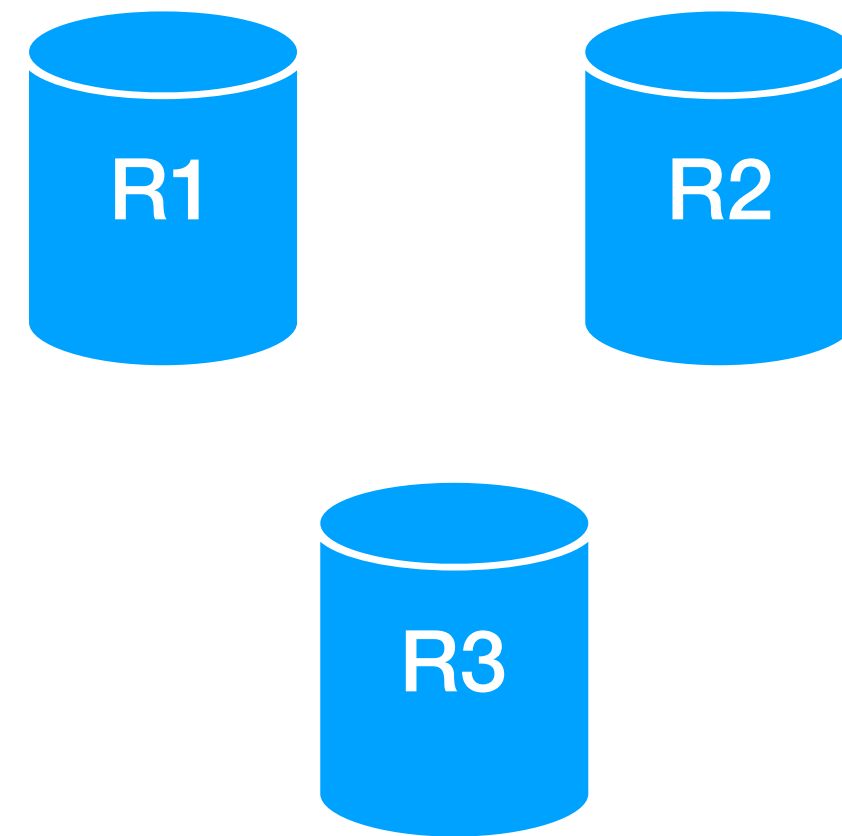
Impact

- Pre 4.0 repair took hours / days / weeks
- Run repair continuously

Transient Replication

Replication

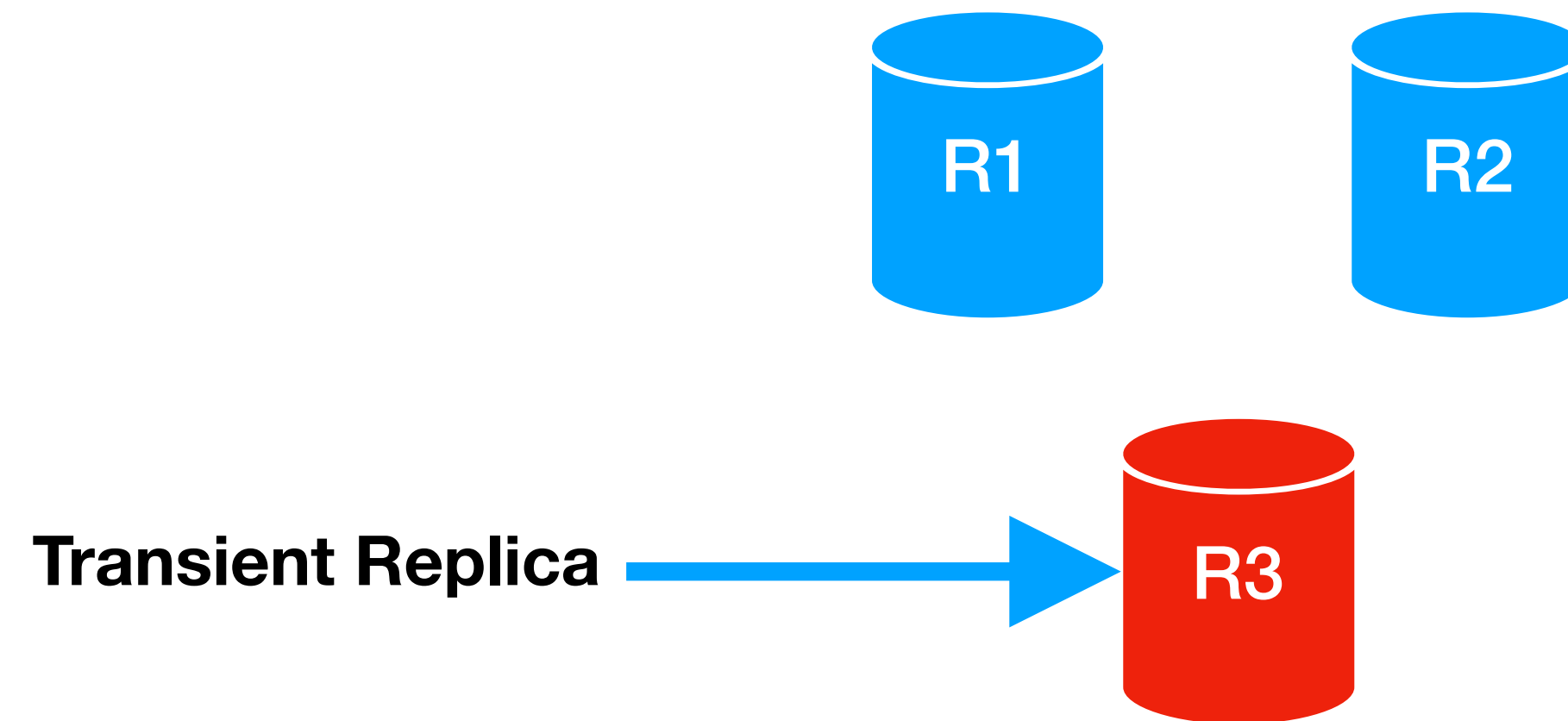
Replication Factor = 3



All nodes are full replicas

Transient Replication

Replication Factor = 3



Transient Replication

- Voting with witnesses
- Cheap quorums
- Brings storage efficiency

Impact

- Up to 33% reduction for $RF=3$
- Leverages Incremental Repair

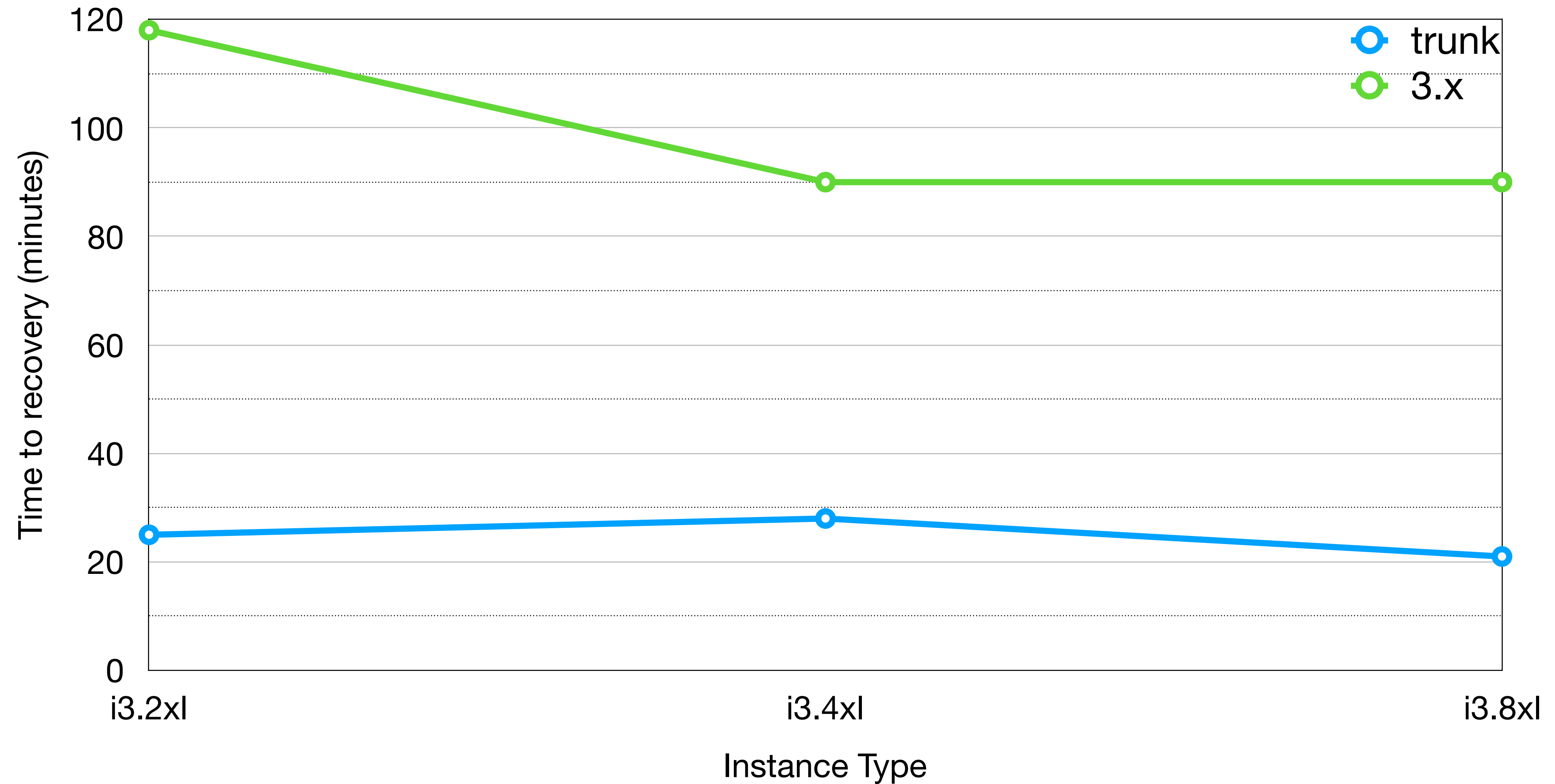
Async Internode Messaging

- Lower Latencies (**40%** lower avg **60%** lower p99)
- Memory Efficiency (~10x reduction)
- Scalable internode encryption (~4x throughput)
- Better throughput & response times (~2x vs 3.0)

Zero Copy Streaming

- Speeds up all Streaming operations (~5x)
- IO Bound (Disk, NIC)
- Dramatically reduces MTTR
- Lowers operational cost

Impact



BTree Build Performance

- Affects hot path
- Bulk loads BTree
- ~2.6x speed up in throughput

Reliability & Stability

- Checksummed Native Protocol
- Checksummed SSTable Metadata

Audit Logging

- Logs everything
- Performant (Binary Logging)
- Helps in compliance for Enterprises

Virtual Tables

Virtual Tables

- Table backed by an API
- Queried through CQL
- NO JMX!
- Driver support

Virtual Tables

```
cqlsh> select * from virtual.tables5 where keyspace_name = 'my_ks' and metric > 'memtable' and  
metric < 'memtableZ' ALLOW FILTERING;
```

keyspace_name	table_name	metric	value
my_ks	monitoring_example	memtableOnHeapSize	{"value":95201}
my_ks	monitoring_example	memtableOffHeapSize	{"value":44811}
my_ks	monitoring_example	memtableLiveDataSize	{"value":42128}
my_ks	monitoring_example	memtableColumnsCount	{"value":248}
my_ks	monitoring_example	memtableSwitchCount	{"count":4}

...

Virtual Tables

```
cqlsh> show VARIABLES ;
```

variable	value
authenticator	AllowAllAuthenticator
authorizer	AllowAllAuthorizer
auto_snapshot	true
batch_size_fail_threshold_in_kb	50
batch_size_warn_threshold_in_kb	5
batchlog_replay_throttle_in_kb	1024
cas_contention_timeout_in_ms	1000
cluster_name	snapshot
column_index_size_in_kb	64
commit_failure_policy	stop
commitlog_directory	/Users/jeff/.ccm/snapshot/node1/commitlogs
commitlog_segment_size_in_mb	33554432
commitlog_sync	periodic
commitlog_sync_period_in_ms	10000
compaction_throughput_mb_per_sec	16
concurrent_compactors	2

SSL Certificates Hot Reloading

- Certificates hot reload on update
- Optional Manual trigger via nodetool
- No disruption to live traffic
- Operators love it

Full Query Logging (FQL)

- High performance query capture
- Replay tool (fqltool replay)
- Compare tool (fqltool compare)
- Useful for replaying traffic

Summary (4.0 vs 3.0)

- Better operability
- Better scalability
- Better latencies
- Faster recovery