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Replication in MongoDB

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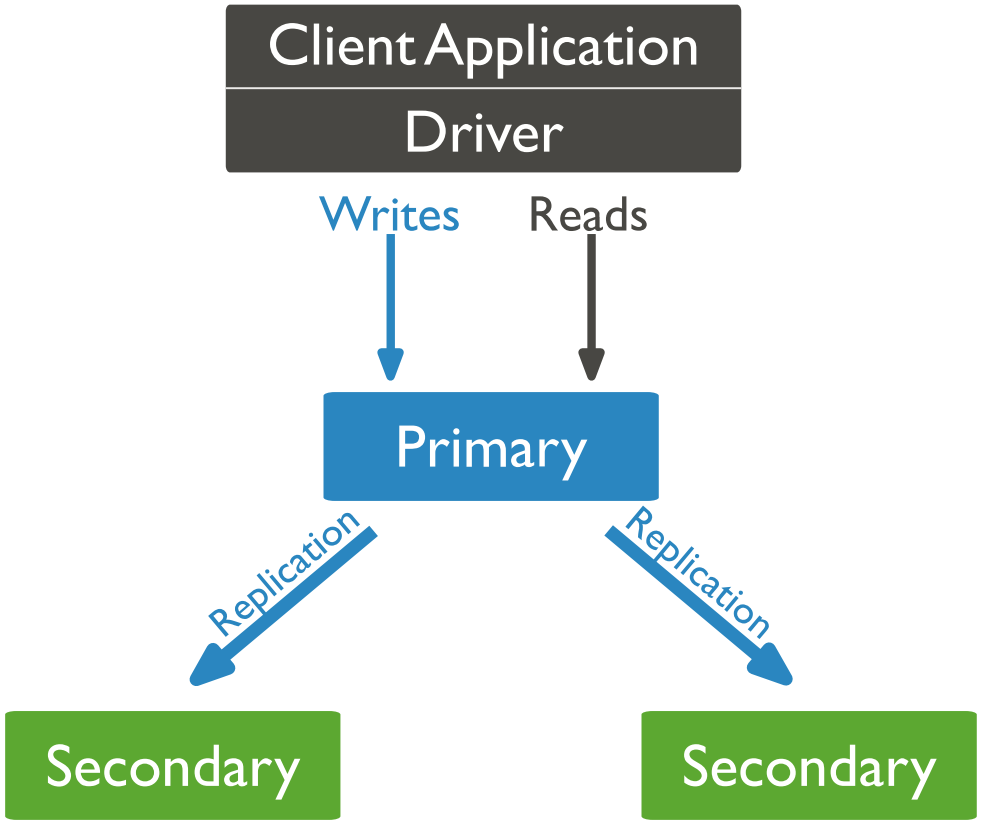
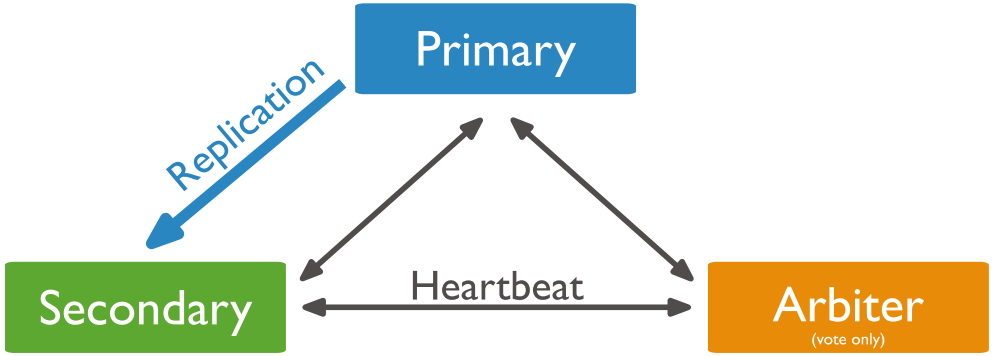
Key Concepts

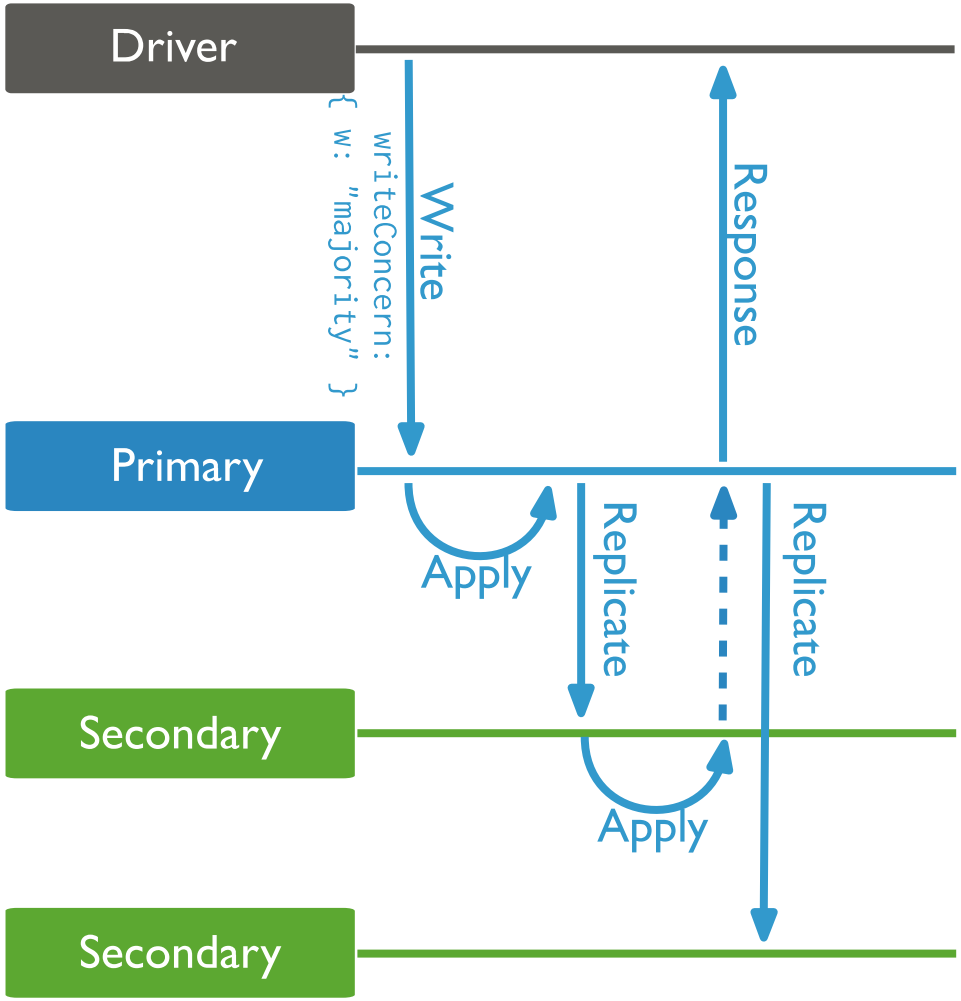
- A replica set is a group of *mongod* instances that maintain the same data set (rendundancy):
  - 1 **primary** node, and **only one**
  - **secondary** nodes (all the other nodes containing a copy of the **data**)
  - 1 **arbiter** (optional)
- Primary node
  - receives all **write** operations
  - confirming writes with *{ w: "majority" }* **write concern,** i.e., the number of data-bearing members (primary and secondaries, but not arbiters) that must acknowledge a write operation before the operation returns as successful
- Secondary node
  - replicates the **primary's oplog** and apply the operations to their data sets
  - if the primary is unavailable, an eligible secondary will hold an **election** to elect itself the new primary
  - secondaries may have additional configurations for special usage profiles. For example, secondaries may be **non-voting** or with different **priority** levels
- Arbiters
  - does **not** hold **data**! (will always be an arbiter, cannot be elected primary)
  - maintains a quorum in a replica set by responding **election** requests by other replica set members (and keeping the heartbeat)

Architecture





Write concern



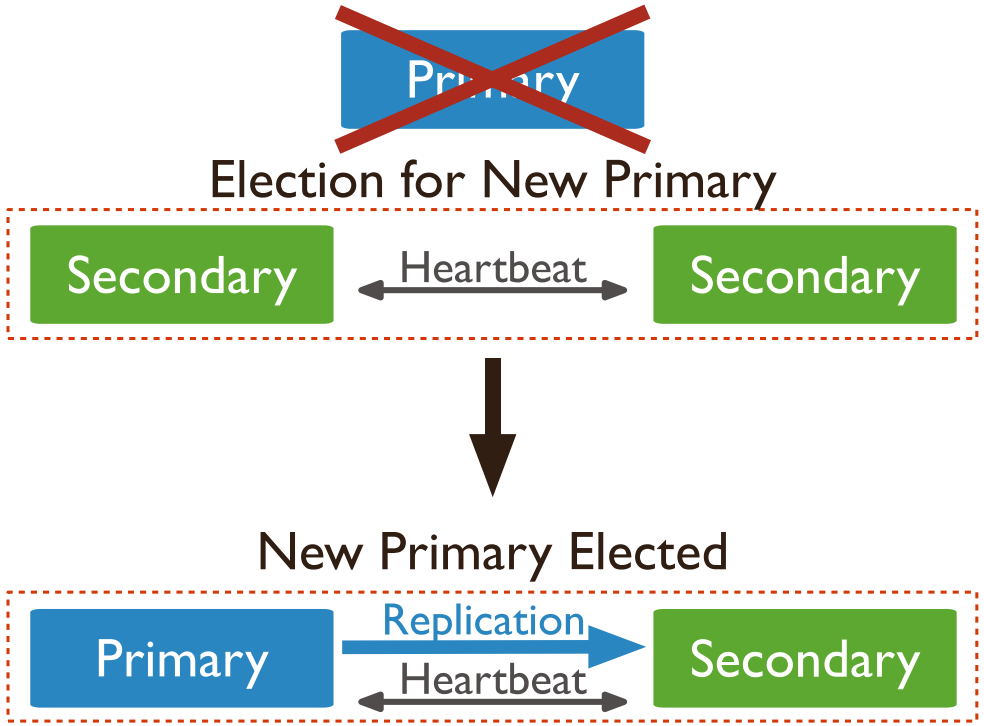
For write concern of
- w **>1** or
- w : "**majority**"

the primary waits until the required number of secondaries acknowledge the write before returning write concern acknowledgment.

For write concern of **w: 1,** the primary can return write concern acknowledgment as soon as it locally applies the write.

Automatic Failover

- When a primary does not communicate with the other members of the set for more than the configured *electionTimeoutMillis* period (**10 seconds** by default)
- The replica set cannot process **write** operations until the election completes successfully
- The replica set can continue to serve **read** queries if such queries are configured to run **on secondaries** while the primary is offline
- The median time for primary election should not typically exceed **12 seconds**

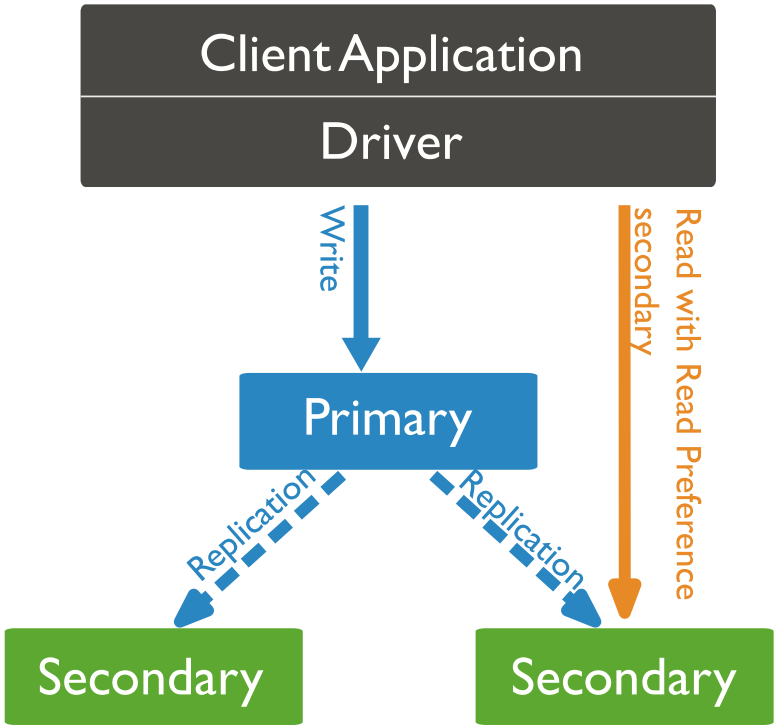


Fault tolerance

Number of Members	Majority Required to Elect a New Primary	Fault Tolerance
3	2	1
4	3	1
5	3	2
6	4	2

Read Operations

- By default, clients read from the primary
- **Asynchronous replication** to secondaries means that reads from secondaries may return data that does not reflect the state of the data on the primary
- Multi-document **transactions** that contain read operations must use read preference primary. All operations in a given transaction must route to the same member
- Until a transaction commits, the data changes made in the transaction are not visible outside the transaction



Deploy a replica set

- Three-member replica sets provide enough redundancy to survive most network partitions and other system failures
- These sets also have sufficient capacity for many distributed read operations
- Replica sets should always have an odd number of members to ensure that elections will proceed smoothly
- Maintain as much separation between members as possible by hosting the mongod instances on separate machines
- Place each mongod instance on a separate host server serviced by redundant power circuits and redundant network paths
- Install MongoDB on each system that will be part of your replica set

Considerations

- Architecture
  - deploy each member to its own machine
  - if possible, bind to the standard port *27017*
- Hostnames
  - use a logical DNS hostname instead of an ip address
- IP Binding
  - use the *bind_ip* option to ensure that MongoDB listens for connections from applications on configured addresses
  - *mongod --bind_ip localhost,My-Hostname*
- *Connectivity*
  - establish a virtual private network
  - configure access control
  - configure networking and firewall rules

Members Configuration

- Set *replication.replSetName* option to the replica set name
- Set *net.bindIp* option to the hostname/ip
- Set any other settings as appropriate for your deployment

Replica Set Member	Hostname
Member 0	mongodbo.example.net
Member 1	mongodb1.example.net
Member 2	mongodb2.example.net

```
mongod --replSet "rso" --bind_ip localhost,<hostname(s) | ip address(es)>
```

Deploy a Replica Set for Testing (1)

- Create the necessary data directories for each member

```
mkdir -p /srv/mongodb/rs0-0 /srv/mongodb/rs0-1 /srv/mongodb/rs0-2
```

- Start your mongod instances in their own shell windows

```
1) mongod --replSet rs0 --port 27017 --bind_ip localhost,<hostname(s)|ip address(es)> --dbpath /srv/mongodb/rs0-0  --oplogSize 128
2) mongod --replSet rs0 --port 27018 --bind_ip localhost,<hostname(s)|ip address(es)> --dbpath /srv/mongodb/rs0-1  --oplogSize 128
3) mongod --replSet rs0 --port 27019 --bind_ip localhost,<hostname(s)|ip address(es)> --dbpath /srv/mongodb/rs0-2 --oplogSize 128
```

Deploy a Replica Set for Testing (2)

- Connect to one of your mongod instances through the mongo shell

```
mongo --port 27017
```

- Initiate the replica set

```
rsconf = {
                _id: "rso",
                members: [
                                { _id: 0, host: "<hostname>:27017" },
                                { _id: 1, host: "<hostname>:27018" },
                                { _id: 2, host: "<hostname>:27019" }
                ]
}
rs.initiate( rsconf )
```

Add members

- Start the new mongod instance

```
mongod --dbpath /srv/mongodb/dbo --replSet rso  --bind_ip localhost,<hostname(s)|ip address(es)>
```

- Connect to the replica set's primary
- Add the new member to the replica set

```
rs.add( { host: "mongodb3.example.net:27017", priority: 0, votes: 0 } )
```

- Ensure that the new member has reached *SECONDARY* state
- Update the newly added member's priority and votes if needed

```
var cfg = rs.conf();
cfg.members[4].priority = 1
cfg.members[4].votes = 1
rs.reconfig(cfg)
```

Remove members

- Shut down the mongod instance for the member you wish to remove
- Connect to the replica set's current primary
- Use *rs.remove()*

```
rs.remove("mongod3.example.net:27017")
rs.remove("mongod3.example.net")
```

Verify replica set

- View the replica set configuration

```
rs.conf()
```

- Ensure that the replica set has a primary

```
rs.status()
```

Configuration info

```
{ "_id" : "rso",
"version" : 1,
"protocolVersion" : NumberLong(1),
"members" : [
                { "_id" : 0, "host" :
                "mongodbo.example.net:27017",
                "arbiterOnly" : false,
                "buildIndexes" : true,
                "hidden" : false,
                "priority" : 1, // higher values to make a member more eligible to become primary, zero is ineligible to become primary.
                "tags" : { },
                "slaveDelay" : NumberLong(0),
                "votes" : 1 },
                 ... ],
"settings" : {
                 "chainingAllowed" : true,
                "heartbeatIntervalMillis" : 2000,
                "heartbeatTimeoutSecs" : 10,
                "electionTimeoutMillis" : 10000,
                "catchUpTimeoutMillis" : -1,
                 "getLastErrorModes" : { },
                "getLastErrorDefaults" : { "w" : 1, "wtimeout" : 0 },
                "replicaSetId" : ObjectId("585ab9df685f726db2c6a840")
} }
```