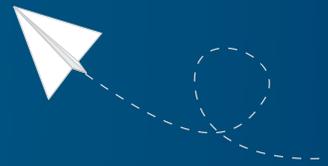# BackgrounDRb

A Job Scheduler for Ruby and Rails

Agenda

- Introduction

- Functionalities

- Internals

- Scenarios

- Demo

- Pros and Cons

Introduction

- BackgrounDRb is a job server and scheduler

- Can handle long-running tasks in Rails applications

- Suitable for standalone use as well
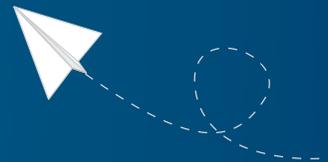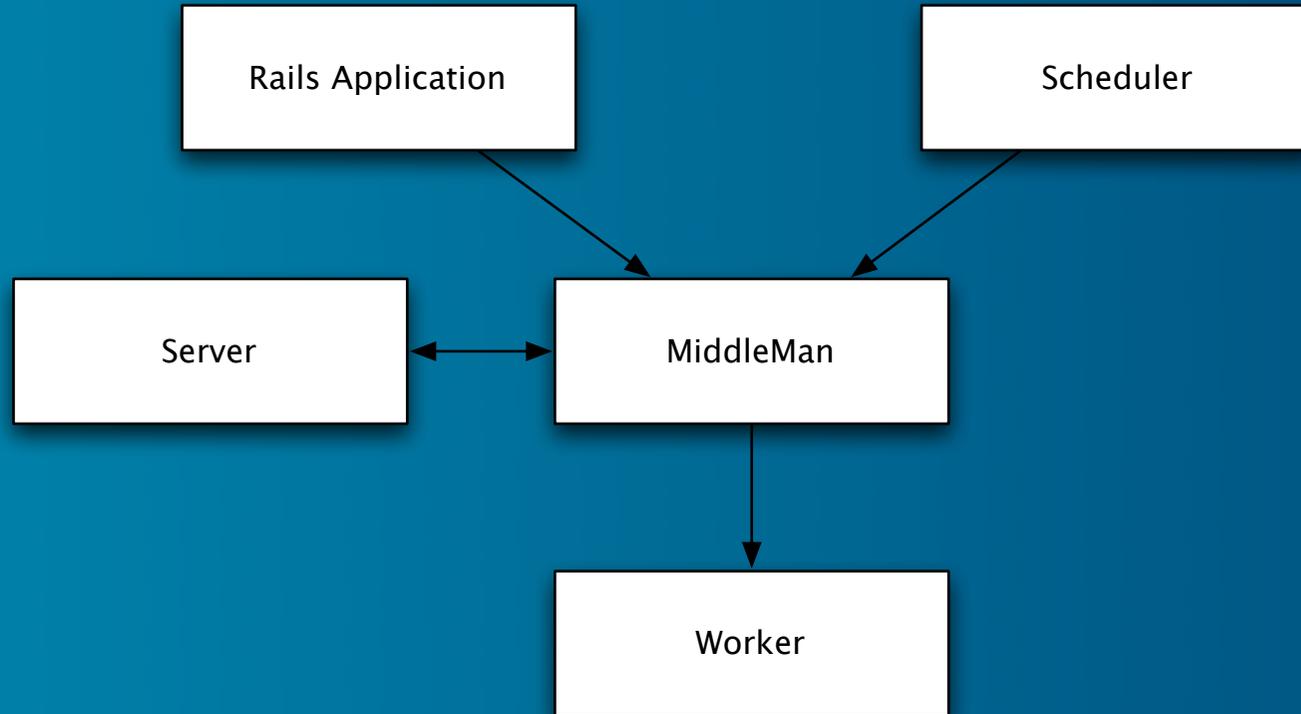
- Maintained by Ezra Zygmuntowicz

Functionality

- Based on a worker principle

- Tasks can be created from the application or through the scheduler

- Both create workers which run as separate processes

Internals

Scenarios/Usages

- The famous progress bar for uploads

- Cache rebuilding

- Ferret indexing

- Synchronisation tasks
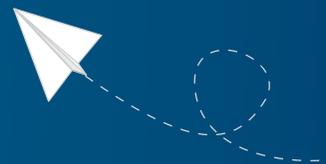
- Scheduled tasks

- etc.

Demo

Pros

- The only existing job processor and scheduler

- Good integration with Rails

- It's not rocket science

Cons

- Documentation is very sparse and contains errors

- Unstable in some aspects, esp. scheduling

- API not yet stable

- Test integration is rather messy

- Development has stalled

– Scheduling not really suitable for cron-like tasks, better to use cron and script/runner according to the author
– Some bugs in the scheduler prevent errors from being traceable, that's especially true for errors in the Rails environment setup
– Test support is in the works, has been committed as a patch

The Future

- Uncertain

- 0.3 is supposed to be production-ready