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Ruby on Rails 101

What is Rails?

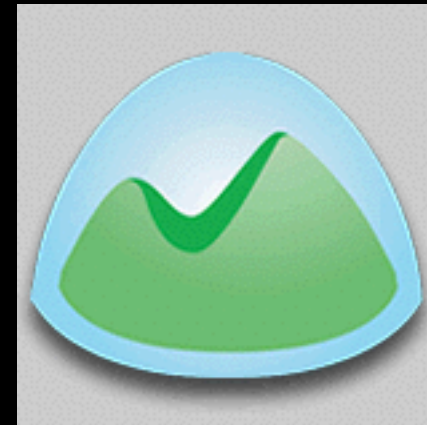
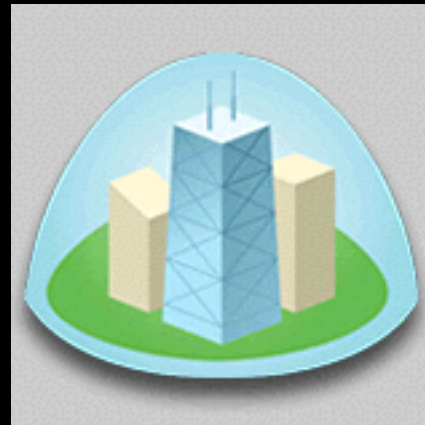
A framework for building web applications

**Optimized for web
developer happiness**

(That means you.)



David Heinemeier Hansson
(a.k.a DHH)

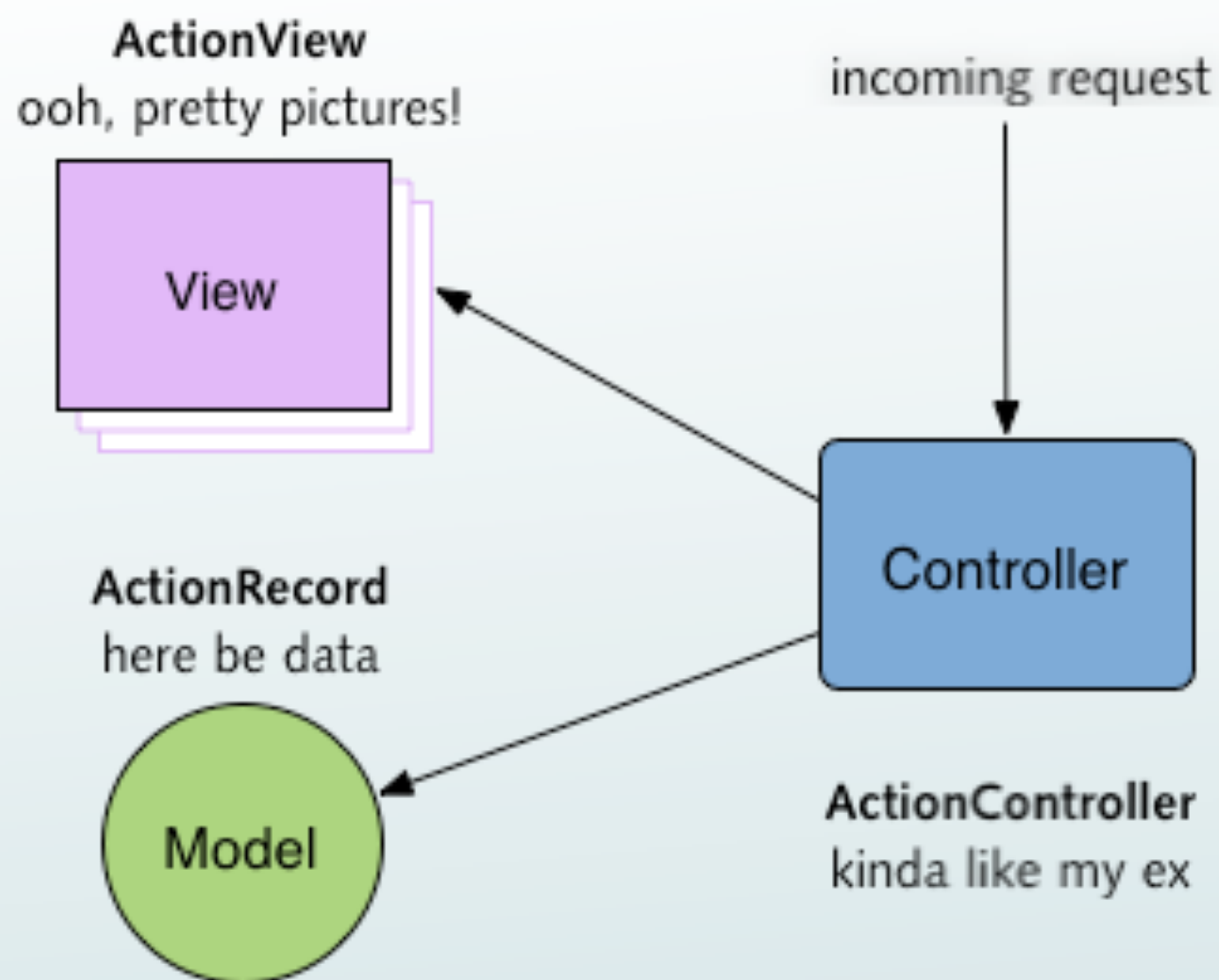


First used by 37Signals
(for Backpack, Basecamp,
and Highrise)

**Rails was shaped by
four central ideas...**

- **DRY (Don't repeat yourself)**
- **Convention over configuration**
- **Agile development**
- **MVC design pattern**

Model View Controller



Rails Components and MVC

ActiveRecord

```
@posts = Post.find(:all)
```

```
@posts = Post.find(:all)
```

```
SELECT * FROM posts
```

```
@posts = Post.find(:all,  
                  :order => "name",  
                  :limit => 10)
```

```
@posts = Post.find(:all,  
                  :order => "name",  
                  :limit => 10)
```

```
SELECT * FROM posts  
ORDER BY name LIMIT 10
```

Associations

```
class Post < ActiveRecord::Base
  belongs_to :user
  has_many :comments
  has_and_belongs_to_many :categories
end
```

```
class User < ActiveRecord::Base
  has_many :comments
  has_many :posts
end
```

```
class Comment < ActiveRecord::Base
  belongs_to :user
  belongs_to :post
end
```

```
class Category < ActiveRecord::Base  
  has_and_belongs_to_many :posts  
  
end
```

Routes

Regular route

```
map.connect 'posts/:id',  
  :controller => 'posts',  
  :action => 'show',  
  :id => :id
```

Named route

```
map.newest '/newest',  
  :controller => 'posts',  
  :action => 'newest'
```

RESTful route

```
map.resources :posts
```

Default routes

```
map.connect ':controller/:action/:id'  
map.connect ':controller/:action/:id.:format'
```

Helpers

```
link_to "Rails 101", :action =>  
"show", :id => @post.id
```

```
<a href="/posts/3">Rails 101</a>
```

Migrations

```
class CreatePosts < ActiveRecord::Migration
  def self.up
    create_table :posts do |t|
      t.string :name
      t.text :body
      t.references :user
      t.boolean :published, :default => 0
      t.timestamps
    end
  end

  def self.down
    drop_table :posts
  end
end
```

DEMO

A few pros...

Write less code

- **Be DRY (Don't repeat yourself)**
- **Stop writing database code**
- **Use helpers to write less html**
- **How much less code?**

Work on the real problem

Write well-tested apps

- **Unit (model)**
- **Functional (controller)**
- **Integration (several actions)**
- **Test Driven Development**
- **Behavior Driven Development**

Automate deployments with Capistrano

- **Stop server**
- **Upload new files**
- **Make schema changes to db**
- **Check everything**
- **Restart server**

- **cap deploy**
- **cap disable_web**
- **cap rollback**
- **cap enable web**

**Lots of great open
source code**

- **Plugins**
- **Gems**
- **Blog posts**
- **Podcasts**

A few cons...

High learning curve

- **Ruby**
- **ActiveRecord**
- **Associations**
- **Migrations**
- **REST**
- **and more!**

**Harder to deploy
(at first)**

- **Avoid shared hosting**
- **VPS or dedicated**
- **Pick a distro**
- **Web server (Apache/Nginx)**
- **App server (Mongrel)**
- **SCM (Subversion/Git)**

**Rails isn't right for
everything**

- **Blogs**
- **Sites with static content**
- **Content management**
- **Do-everything-ware**

Rails doesn't scale

- **FALSE!**
- **Scaling = fixing problems**
- **Do you even need to scale?**
- **Scaling is always hard**

How to work with Rails developers

- **GOOD: Wireframes**
- **GOOD: Flows**
- **GOOD: User stories**
- **BAD: Spec documents**
- **BAD: Entire project at once**

How to get started with Ruby on Rails

<http://rubyonrails.org>

The
Pragmatic
Programmers

Agile Web Development with Rails

Second Edition



The Facets



of Ruby Series

RUBY FOR RAILS

Ruby techniques for Rails developers

David A. Black

 MANNING



Addison-Wesley Professional Ruby Series



THE RAILS WAY

Foreword by **David H. Hansson**
creator of Ruby on Rails

OBIE FERNANDEZ

with MATT BAUER • DAVID A. BLACK • TROTTER CASHION
MATT PELLETIER • JODI SHOWERS



<http://peepcode.com>



SD Ruby

We are San Diego's Ruby community.

The End

