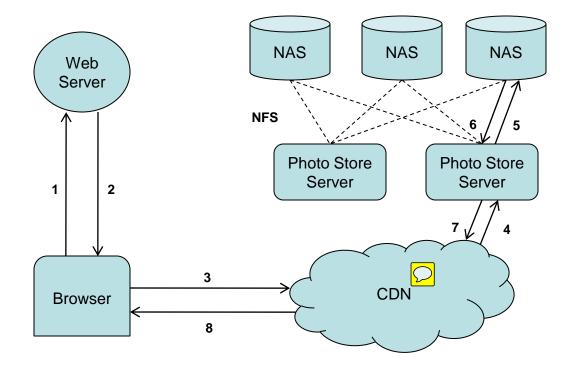
Finding a needle in Haystack: Facebook's photo storage

Doug Beaver, Sanjeev Kumar, Harry C. Li, Jason Sobel, Peter Vajgel

Photos @ Facebook

| | April 2009 | Current |
|--------------|---|---|
| Total | 15 billion photos 60 billion images 1.5 petabytes | 65 billion photos 260 billion images 20 petabytes |
| Upload Rate | 220 million photos / week 25 terabytes | 1 billion photos / week 60 terabytes |
| Serving Rate | 550,000 images / sec | 1 million images / sec |

NFS based Design



NFS based Design

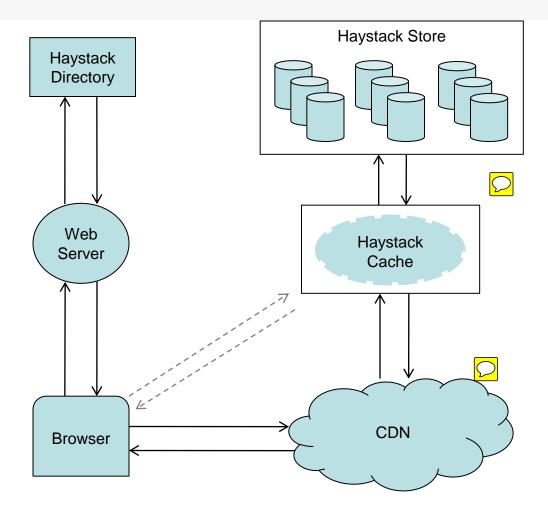
Typical website

- Small working set
- Infrequent access of old content
- ~99% CDN hit rate
- Facebook
 - Large working set
 - Frequent access of old content \bigcirc
 - 80% CDN hit rate

NFS based Design

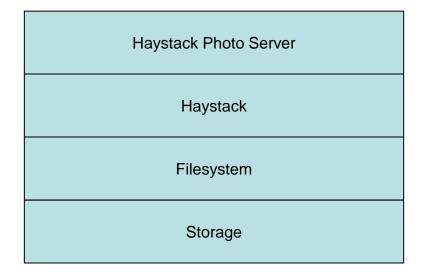
- Metadata bottleneck
 - Each image stored as a file
 - Large metadata size severely limits the metadata hit ratio
- Image read performance
 - ~10 iops / image read (large directories thousands of files)
 - ~3 iops / image read (smaller directories hundreds of files)
 - ~2.5 iops / image read (file handle cache) \square





Haystack Store

Replaces Storage and Photo Server in NFS based Design



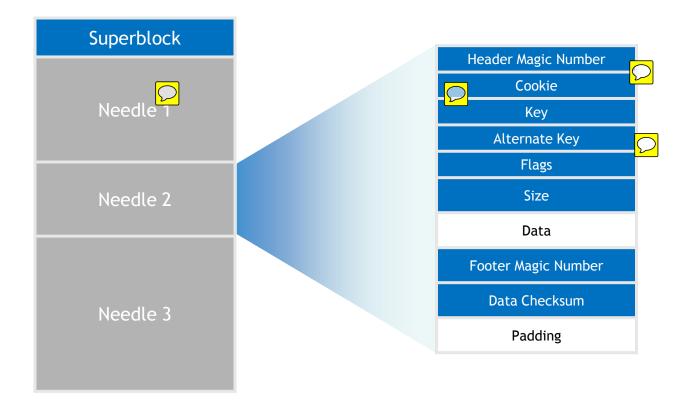
Haystack Store

- Storage
 - 12x 1TB SATA, RAID6
- Filesystem

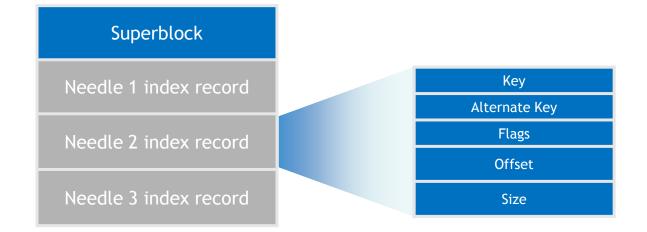


- Haystack
 - Log structured, append only object store containing needles as object abstractions
 - 100 haystacks per node each 100GB in size

Haystack Store - Haystack file Layout



Haystack Store - Haystack Index File Layout



Haystack Store - Photo Server

- Accepts HTTP requests and translates them to corresponding Haystack operations
- Builds and maintains an incore index of all images in the Haystack
- 32 bytes per photo (8 bytes per image vs. ~600 bytes per inode)
- ~5GB index / 10TB of images

| 64-bit photo key | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1 st scaled image 32-bit offset / 16-bit size | | |
| 2 nd scaled image 32-bit offset / 16-bit size | | |
| 3 rd scaled image 32-bit offset / 16-bit size | | |
| 4 th scaled image 32-bit offset / 16-bit size | | |

Haystack Store Operations

Read

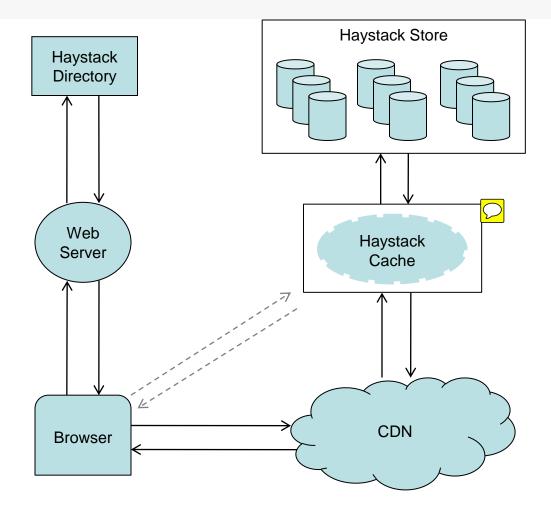
- Lookup offset / size of the image in the incore index
- Read data (~1 iop)
- Multiwrite (Modify)
 - Asynchronously append images one by one to the haystack file
 - Flush haystack file
 - Asynchronously append index records to the index file \sim
 - Flush index file if too many dirty index records
 - Update incore index

Haystack Store Operations

Delete

- Lookup offset of the image in the incore index
- Synchronously mark image as "DELETED" in the needle header
- Update incore index
- Compaction
 - Infrequent online operation
 - Create a copy of haystack skipping duplicates and deleted photos

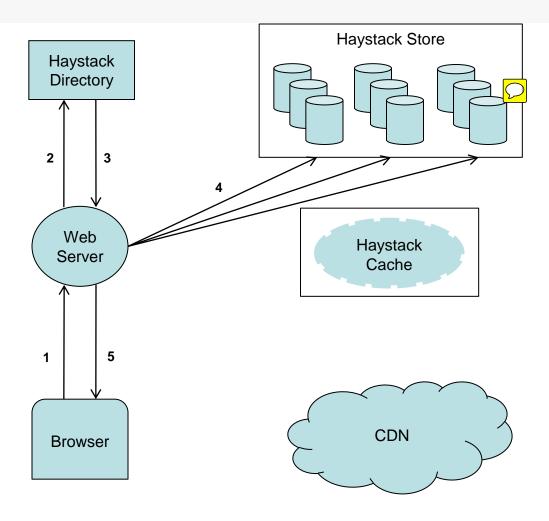
Haystack based Design



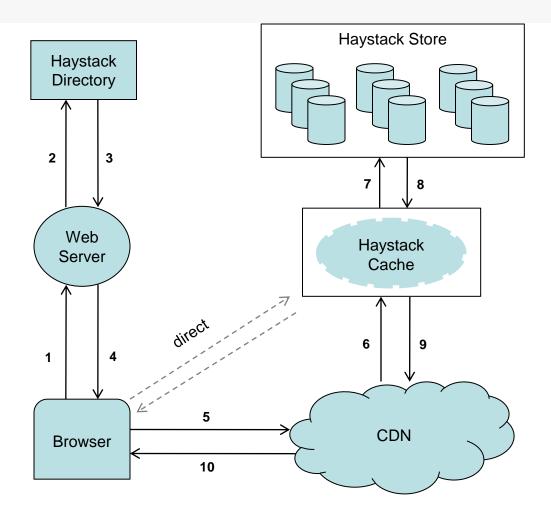
Haystack Directory

- Logical to physical volume mapping
 - 3 physical haystacks (on 3 nodes) per one logical volume
- URL generation
 - http://<CDN>/<Cache>/<Node>/<Logical volume id, Image id>
- Load Balancing
 - Writes across logical volumes
 - Reads across physical haystacks
- Caching strategy
 - External CDN or Local cache?

Haystack based Design - Photo Upload



Haystack based Design - Photo Download



Conclusion

- Haystack simple and effective storage system
 - Optimized for random reads (~1 I/O per object read)
 - Cheap commodity storage
 - 8,500 LOC (C++)
 - 2 engineers 4 months from inception to initial deployment
- Future work
 - Software RAID6
 - Limit dependency on external CDN
 - Index on flash

Q&A

Thanks!