facebook

Finding a needle in Haystack: Facebook's photo storage

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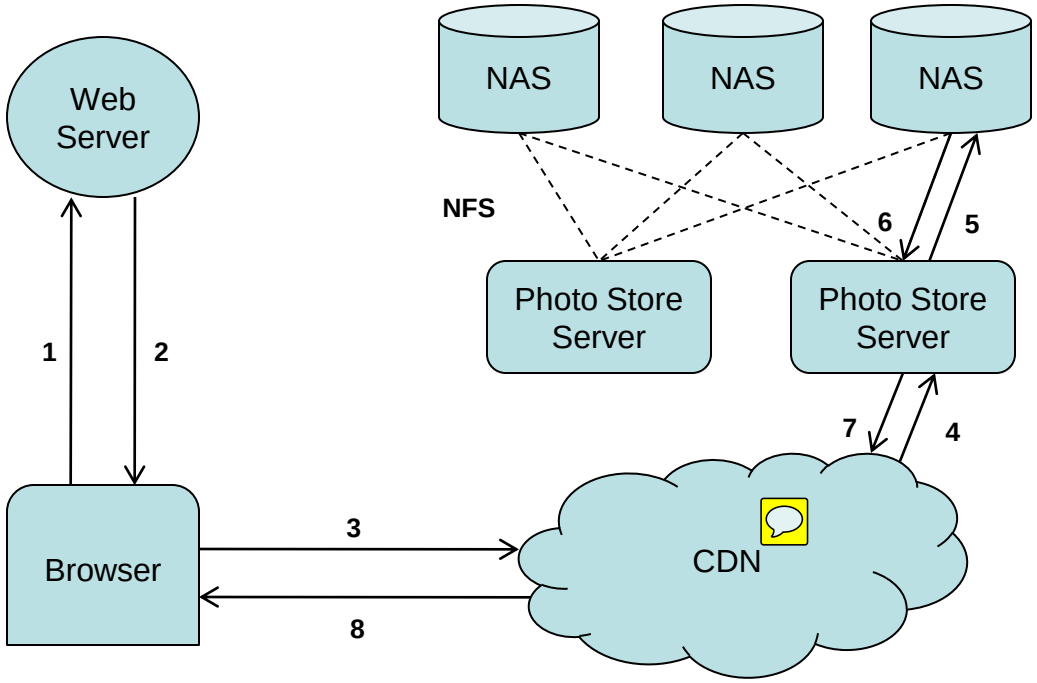
Photos @ Facebook

	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

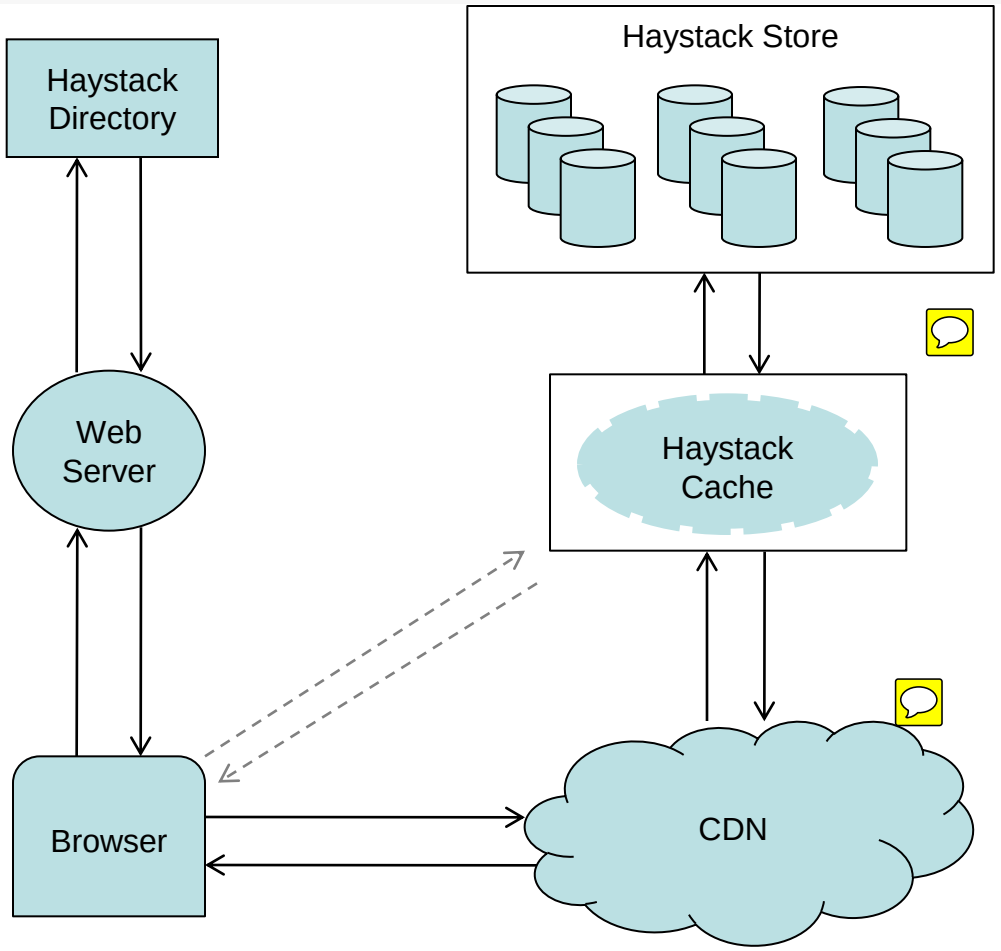
- Facebook
  - Large working set
  - Frequent access of old content 
  - 80% CDN hit rate

NFS based Design

- Metadata bottleneck
  - Each image stored as a file
  - Large metadata size severely limits the metadata hit ratio

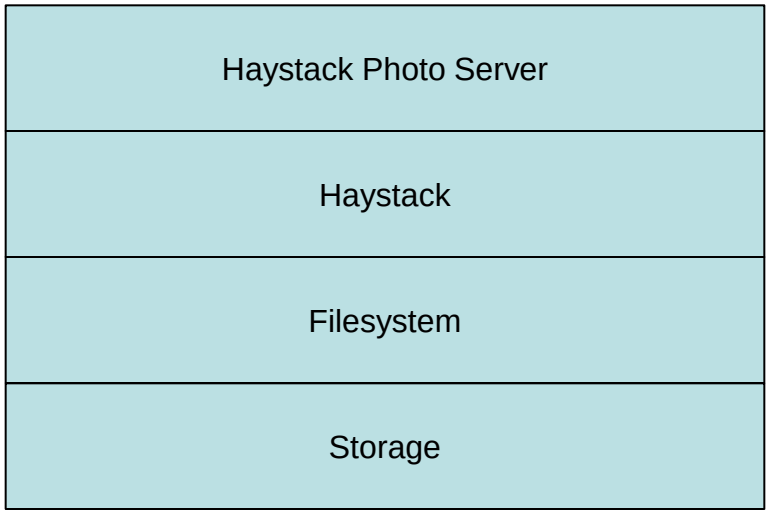
- Image read performance
  - ~10 iops / image read (large directories – thousands of files)
  - ~3 iops / image read (smaller directories – hundreds of files)
  - ~2.5 iops / image read (file handle cache)

Haystack based Design



Haystack Store

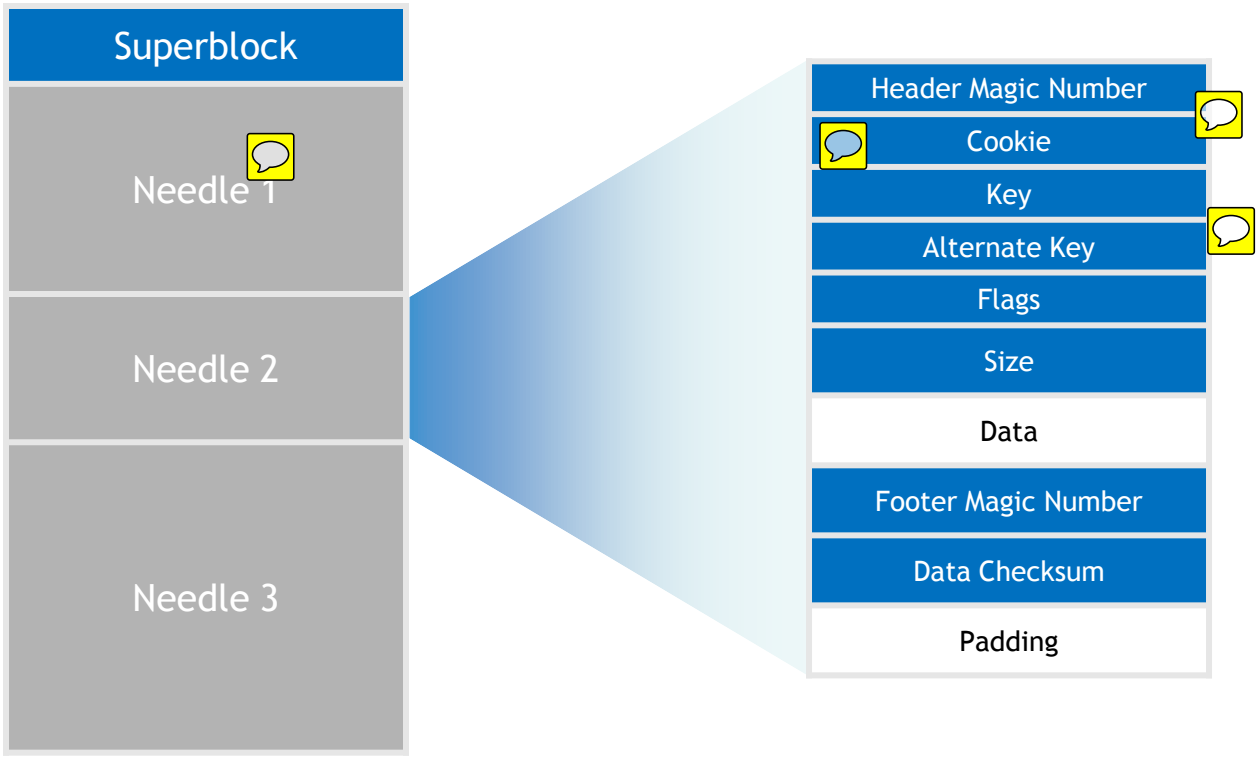
- Replaces Storage and Photo Server in NFS based Design



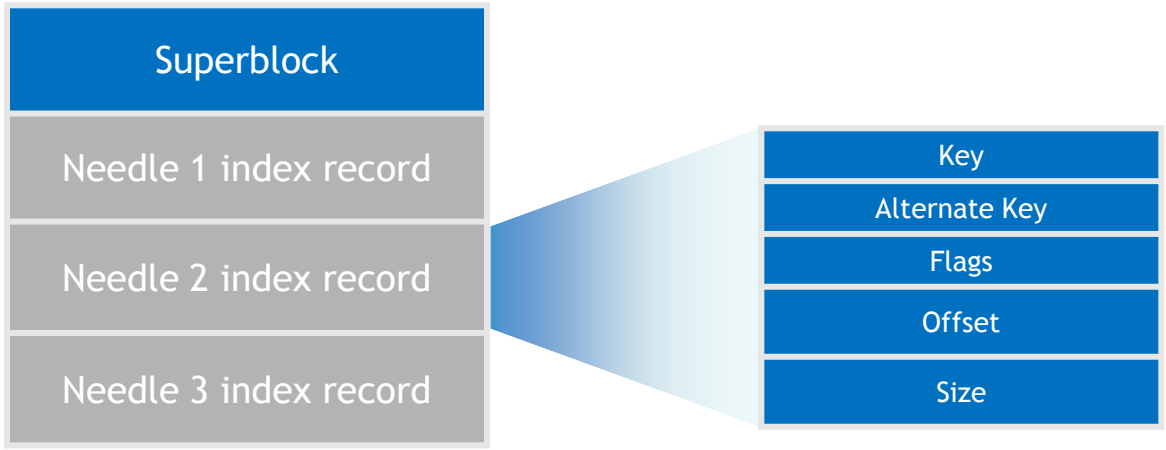
Haystack Store

- Storage
  - 12x 1TB SATA, RAID6
- Filesystem
  - Single ~10TB xfs 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
1st scaled image 32-bit offset / 16-bit size
2nd scaled image 32-bit offset / 16-bit size
3rd scaled image 32-bit offset / 16-bit size
4th 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)

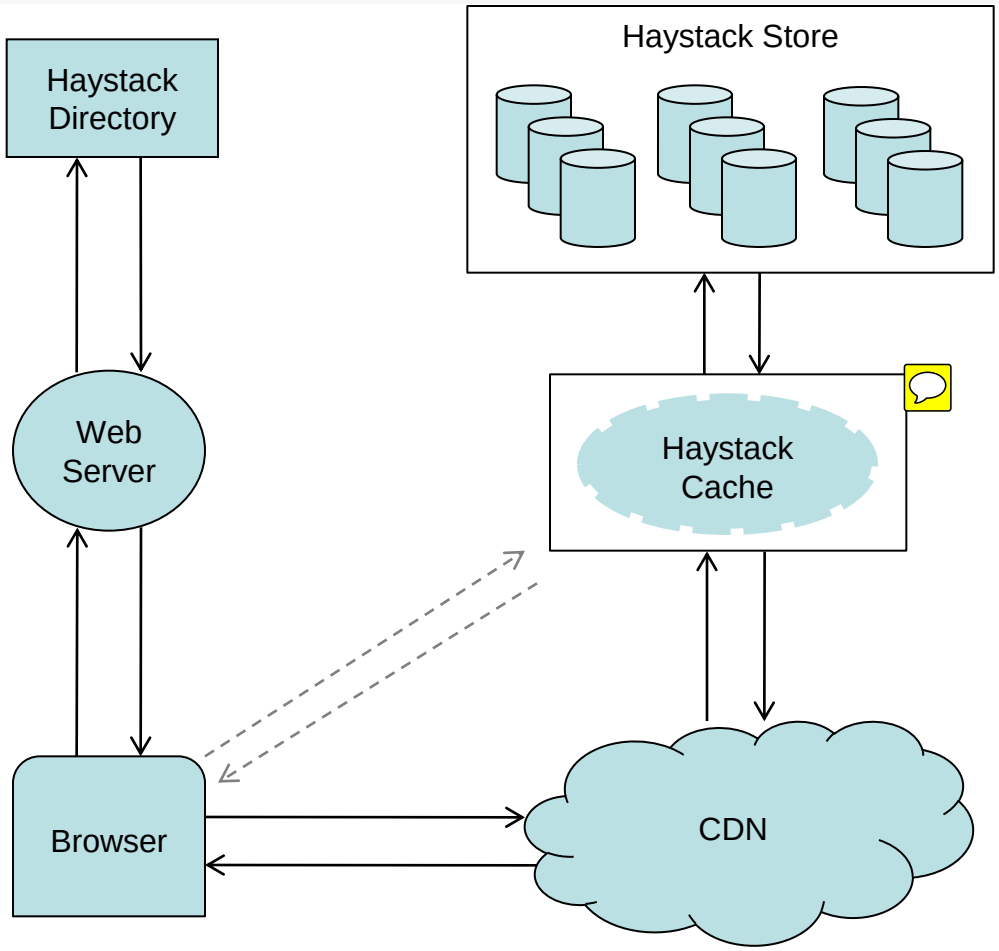
- Multiwrite (Modify)
  - Asynchronously append images one by one to the haystack file
  - Flush haystack file
  - Asynchronously append index records to the index file
  - Flush index file if too many dirty index records
  - Update incore index

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

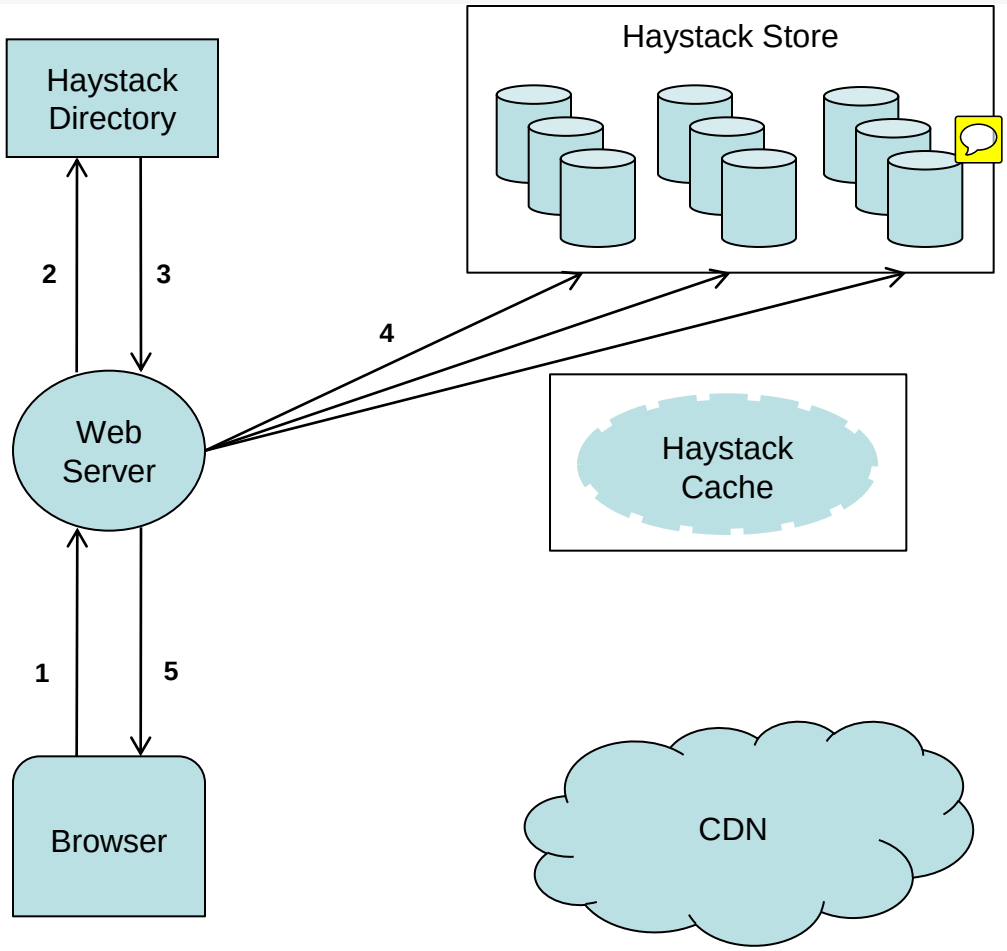
Haystack based Design



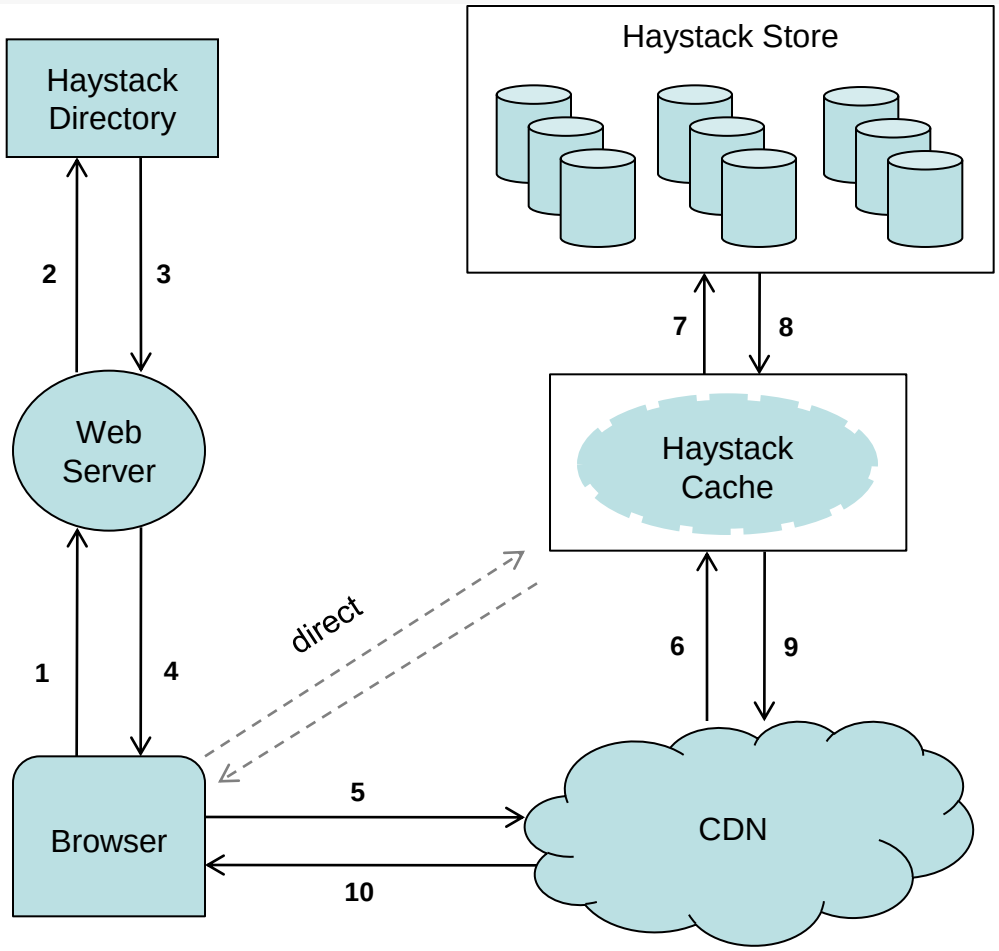
Haystack Directory

- 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!