

IPNI & Double Hashing





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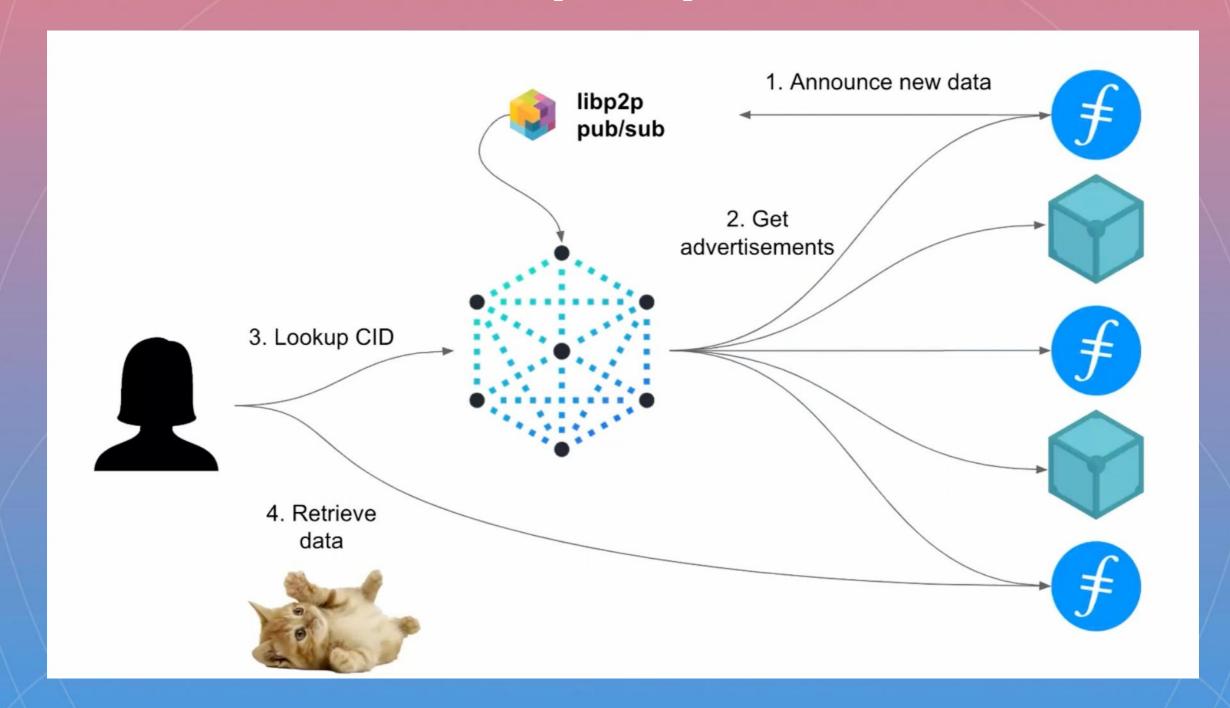
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Inter-Planetary Network Indexer (IPNI)





Necessity & Benefits



How IPNI benefits IPFS

The indexer offers several benefits to IPFS, including:

- Faster data retrieval: By maintaining an additional layer of information on top of the DHT, the indexer can help speed up data location and retrieval in IPFS.
- Reduced resource consumption: The indexer can help reduce the amount of bandwidth and processing power needed to locate and retrieve data, improving the performance of individual nodes and the overall network.
- Improved scalability: With the indexer, IPFS can better handle growth in user base and data volume, allowing it to scale more effectively and support larger networks.

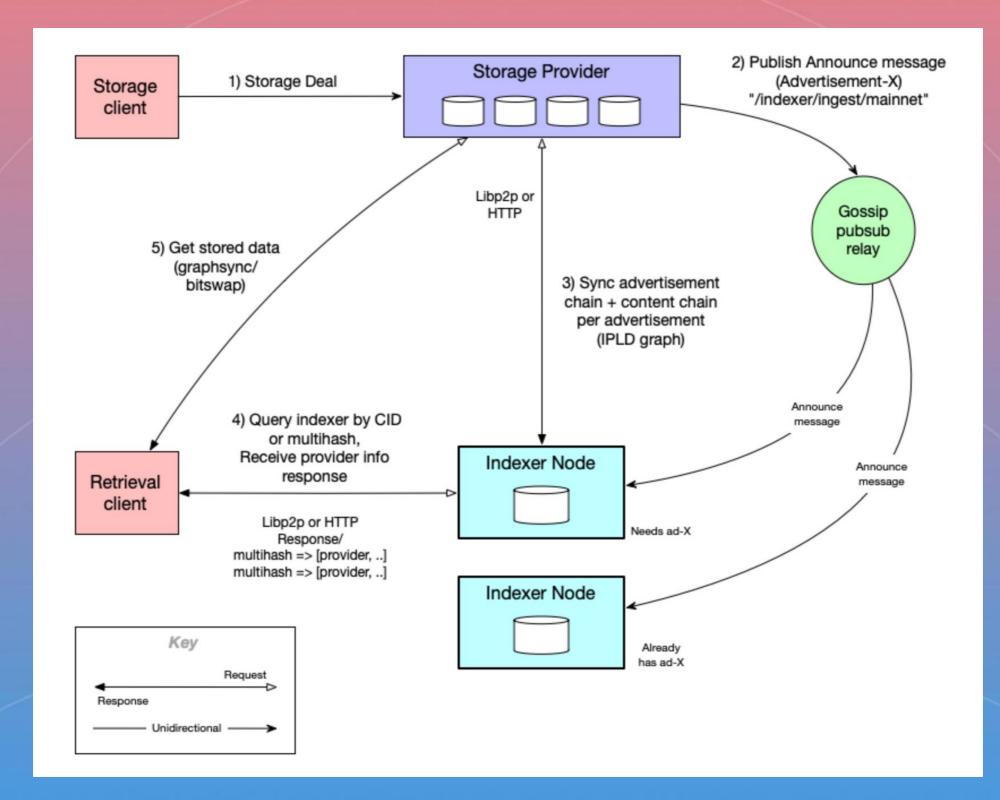
https://filecoin.io/blog/posts/introducing-the-network-indexer/





IPNI Filecoin Retrieval





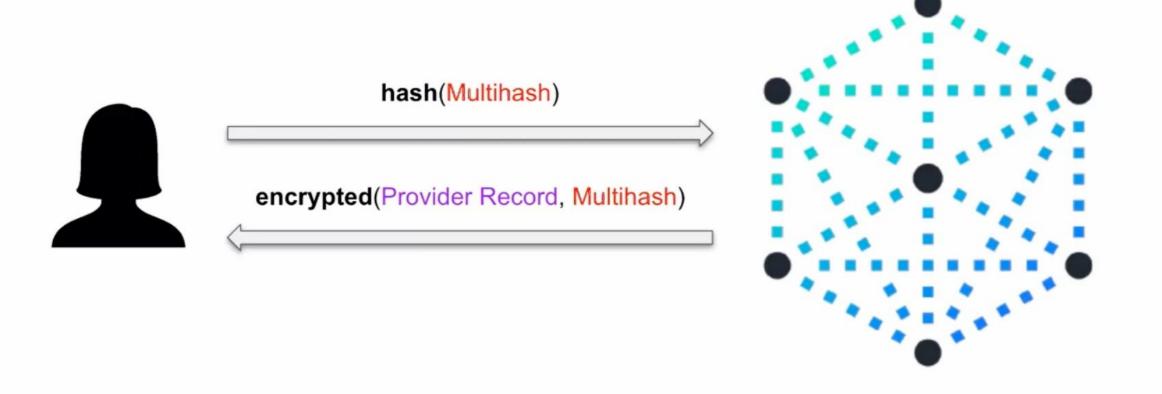
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Privacy == Double Hashing



Double Hashing

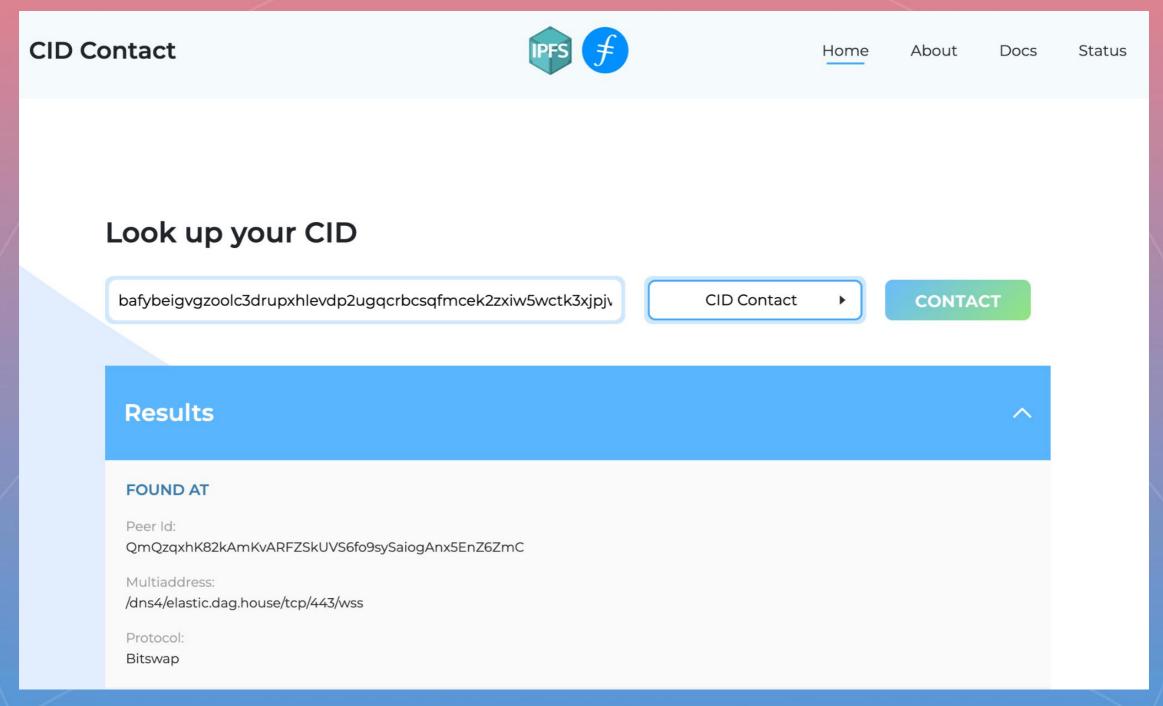


https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cqDkNF6agPo



Sample IPNI Response





Try it Here: https://cid.contact/

Sample CID: bafybeigvgzoolc3drupxhlevdp2ugqcrbcsqfmcek2zxiw5wctk3xjpjwy

Running your own Indexer



Creating an Index Provider

An Overview of the Indexer system

There are a couple players here. I'll use specific examples to make it clearer, but note that some of these can be generalized.

- 1. Filecoin Storage Provider Hosts data for folks and proves it via the Filecoin Network Chain. Aka Storage Provider.
- 2. Indexer (aka <u>storetheindex</u>) A service that can answer the question: "Given this CID, who has a copy?". This is little more than a lookup table.
- 3. Index Provider A service that runs alongside a Storage Provider and tells the Indexer what content this storage provider has.

The Index Provider serves as the interface between the storage provider and the indexer. It can be used from within Lotus so that the publishing of new data happens automatically. But it can also happen separately.

The Index Provider serves advertisements <u>Advertisement</u> for the indexer to fetch using a "sync" operation. Each advertisement references the previous advertisement so that they forms an advertisement chain. The state of the indexer is basically a function of consuming this chain from the initial Advertisement to the latest one.

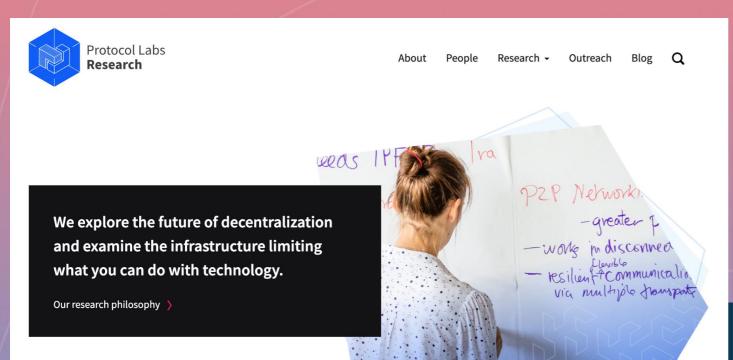
https://github.com/ipni/storetheindex/blob/main/doc/creating-an-index-provider.md





Further Reading





https://research.protocol.ai/



https://blog.ipfs.tech/2023-introducing-lassie/





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