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 History

 1 contributor

Build Cloud File Storage System

Real-life examples

- Google Drive
- Microsoft OneDrive
- Dropbox

Requirements clarification

- **Functional requirements**
 - Upload and download: Users can upload and download files.
 - Share: Users can share their files with other users.
 - Synchronization: After updating a file on one device, it should get synchronized on all devices.
- **Non-functional requirements**
 - High availability (Users can access their files whenever and wherever they like).
 - High reliability (Any file uploaded should not be lost).
 - High consistency is desirable (It should be ok for a user doesn't see a file for a while).

Estimation

- **Traffic estimation**
 - Our system will have huge read and write volumes.
 - Read-write ratio is expected to be nearly the same.
 - Users
 - 500 million users. (Assumed)
 - 100 million daily active users. (Assumed)

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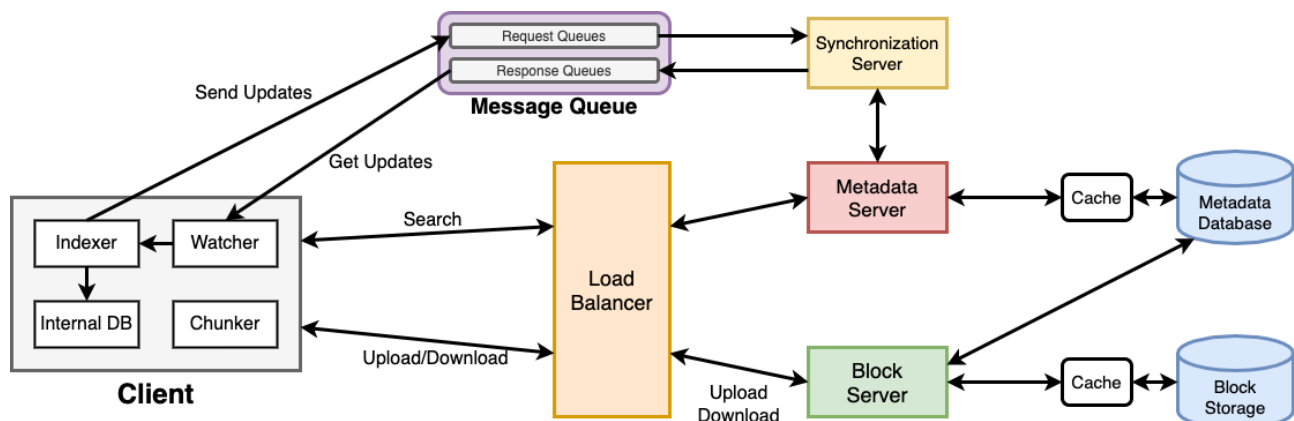
- Average file size = 100 KB (Assumed)

- **Storage estimation**
 - Total capacity needed = Number of total users x Number of files per user x Average file size = 500 million x 200 x 100 KB = 10 PB
- **Bandwidth estimation**

System interface definition

Data model definition

High-level design



- **Block Server**
 - Handle upload/download file operations.
 - Update the file metadata to the metadata database after uploading files.
- **Block Storage**
 - Store chunks of files uploaded by clients.

- **Metadata Server**
 - Handle metadata-related operation.
- **Metadata Database**
 - Maintain the versioning and metadata information about files/chunks, users, devices and workspaces (sync folders).
- **Synchronization Server**
 - Get file updates from clients.
 - Synchronize file updates to clients.
 - It is designed to transmit less data between clients and the cloud storage to achieve a better response time.
- **Message Queue**
 - A communication middleware between clients and the Synchronization Server for improving efficiency and scalability.
 - Types of queues
 - Request Queues
 - Global queue and all clients will share it.
 - Response Queues
 - Each client will have its own queue for getting updates only for itself.
- **Client**
 - Components
 - Internal DB
 - Keep track of all the files, chunks, their versions, and their location in the file system.
 - Chunker
 - Split the files into smaller chunks (for uploading).
 - Reconstruct a file from its chunks (for downloading).
 - Watcher
 - Monitor the local workspace folders and notify the Indexer of any action performed by the users.
 - Listens to any changes happening on other clients that are broadcasted by the Synchronization Server.
 - Indexer
 - Process the events received from the Watcher and update the internal DB about the chunks of the modified files.
 - Notify the file changes to the Synchronization Server for broadcasting the changes to other clients.