

Compare and contrast NFSv2 and AFS. Which features/properties of NFS seem superior and which features/properties of AFS?

Answer:

The most important difference is that AFS has stateful servers, whereas NFS has stateless servers. Another difference between the two file systems is that AFS provides location independence (the physical storage location of the file can be changed, without having to change the path of the file, etc.) as well as location transparency (the file name does not hint at its physical storage location), but NFS has only location transparency. In NFS, clients use delayed write, but in AFS, clients use write-on-close. In a word, NFS's goal is fast crash recovery and simple, but AFS's goal is scale.

NFS: fast crash recovery; stateless server

AFS: read and write faster; better in scale; performance better with frequent read and writes operation