Advanced Networking and Distributed Systems

Introduction to Distributed Systems

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Grading

Assignments = 50%

- 3 so far, 3-4 more
- Final assignment will have greater weight

Exams = 40%

- Midterm (today!)
- Quizzes (starting soon!)

Participation = 10%

- In class Q&A
- Surveys

From Networks to Distributed Systems

Networking:

- Protocols to provide efficient, reliable communication

Distributed Systems:

- ???

Why are distributed systems hard?

Challenges

Heterogeneity

- Different types of hardware/resources

Openness

- Different components need to be able to reach each other, protocols need to be understandable for others to join

Security

- can be under attack, or components could be malicious

Failure Handling

- need to recover from some components failing, can affect load distribution, single point of failure, detection of failure vs slow network

Concurrency

Challenges

Concurrency

- handle processing many tasks at once, load assignment, data consistency

Quality of Service

- performance impact of slow components

Scalability

- Should be able to make use of more resources to get better performance

Transparency

- What abstractions to make visible and what to hide

Types of Distributed Systems

Example Distributed Systems?

Req/Response

google.com

Database

Stream Processing

Twitch

Spark

Batch Processing

Hadoop

Dist Infrastructure

velocity9

AWS

blockchain

microkernel OS

Distributed System

Any multi-threaded program!

Multiple components that need to interact

Big Data Analytics

Volume: The amount of data companies want to analyze is growing tremendously

- 40 trillion gigabytes by 2020

Variety: Data is often unstructured and/or user generated

- Tweets, videos, biometrics, much more

Velocity: Analysis must be fast to be useful

- 1TB of new data generated by NY Stock exchange each day

Map Reduce & Hadoop

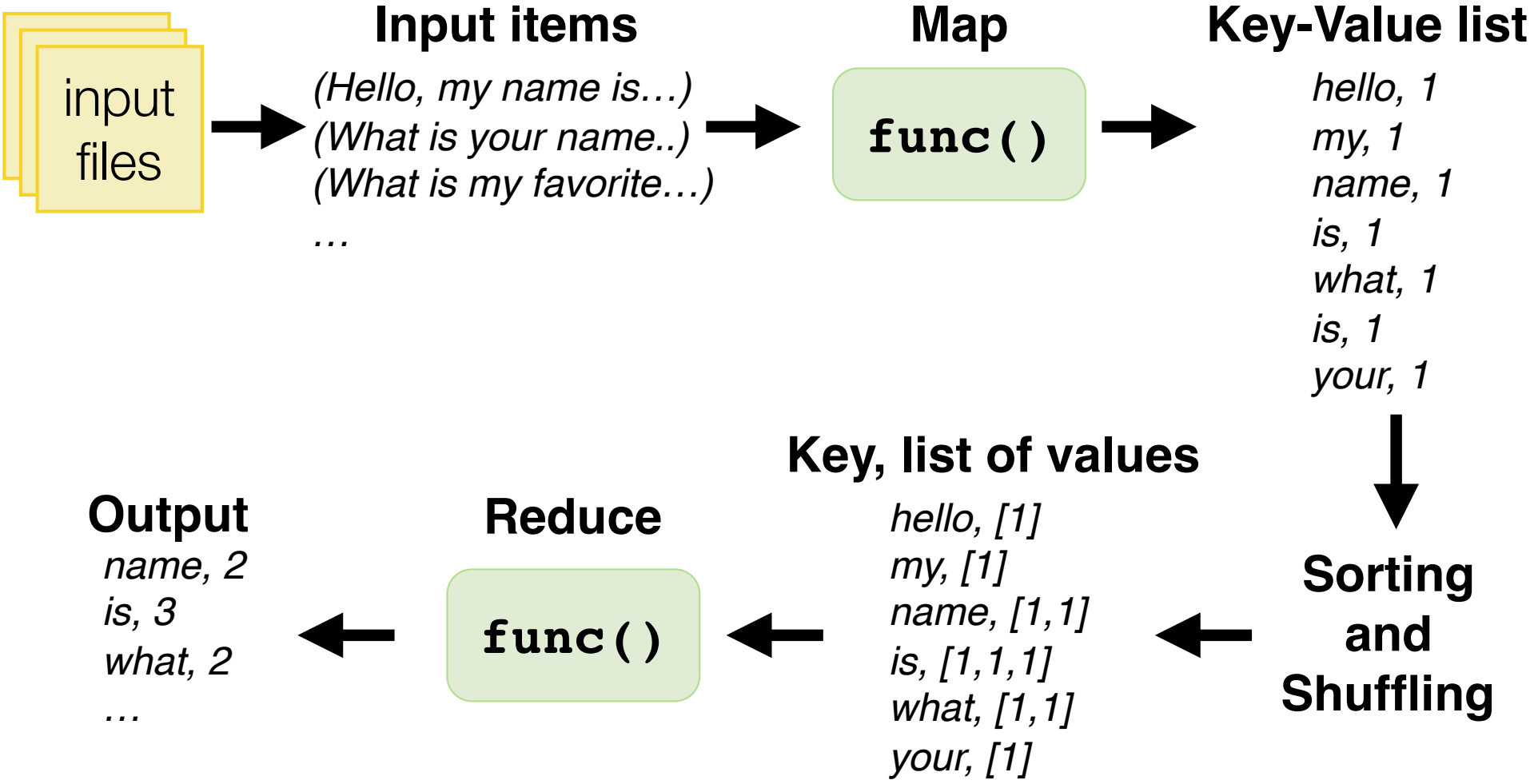
Map Reduce was developed at Google

- Large scale analytics
- Uses commodity servers
- Includes a distributed storage system
- Schedules tasks close to where data is located
- Detects and repeat failed or slow tasks
- New programming model: Map & Reduce

Hadoop is an open source version of Map Reduce

- Ideas are basically interchangeable

Map Reduce Flow



Stream Processing

Hadoop is for **batch** processing

- Long running jobs (minutes, hours total)

Sometimes you want **stream** processing

- Continuously arriving data with millisecond scale response

Storm is basically Hadoop for streams

- Define a graph of processing nodes
- Stream data through the graph
- Manage the workers (each executing a part of the graph)
- Detect failure, carefully buffer data in queues, etc

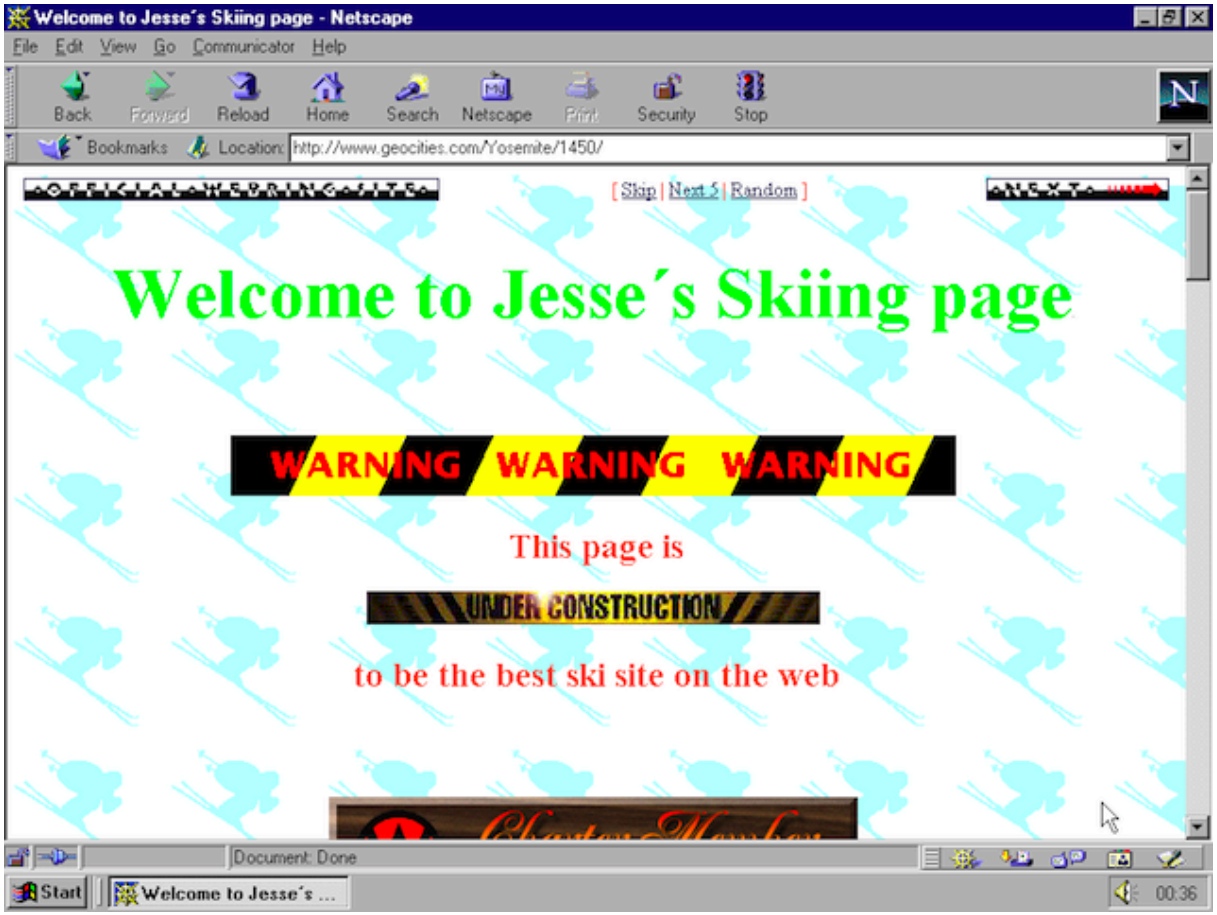
Antique Web Servers

Serve static content

- Read a file from disk and send it back to the client
- images, HTML

Dynamic Content

- CGI Bin
- executes a program
- Not very safe or convenient for development…



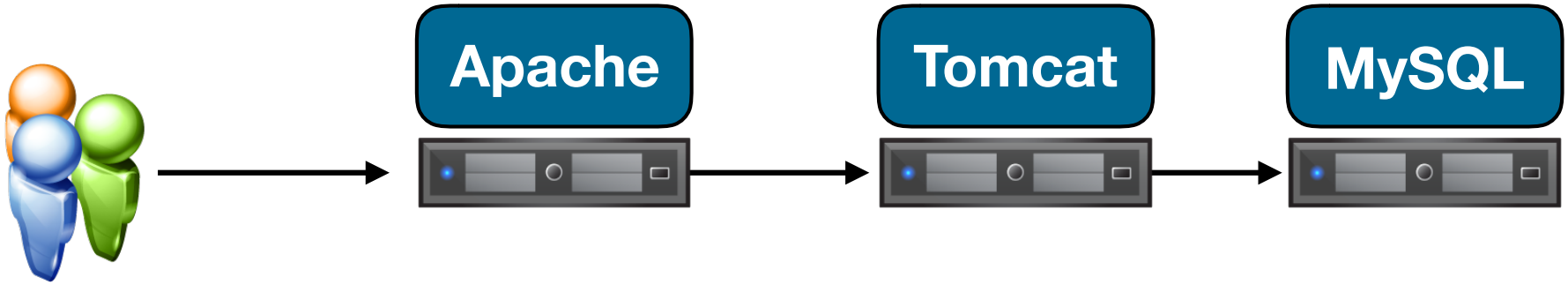
3-tier Web Applications

LAMP = Linux, Apache, MySQL, PHP

Separation of duties:

- Front-end web server for static content (Apache, lighttpd, nginx)
- Application tier for dynamic logic (PHP, Tomcat, node.js)
- Database back-end holds state (MySQL, MongoDB, Postgres)

Why divide up in this way?



Stateful vs Stateless

The multi-tier architecture is based largely around whether a tier needs to worry about state

Front-end - totally **stateless**

- There is no data that must be maintained by the server to handle subsequent requests

Application tier - maintains **per-connection state**

- There is some temporary data related to each user, e.g., my shopping cart
- May not be critical for reliability - might just store in memory

Database tier - global state

- Maintains the global data that application tier might need
- Persists state and ensures it is consistent

N-Tier Web Applications

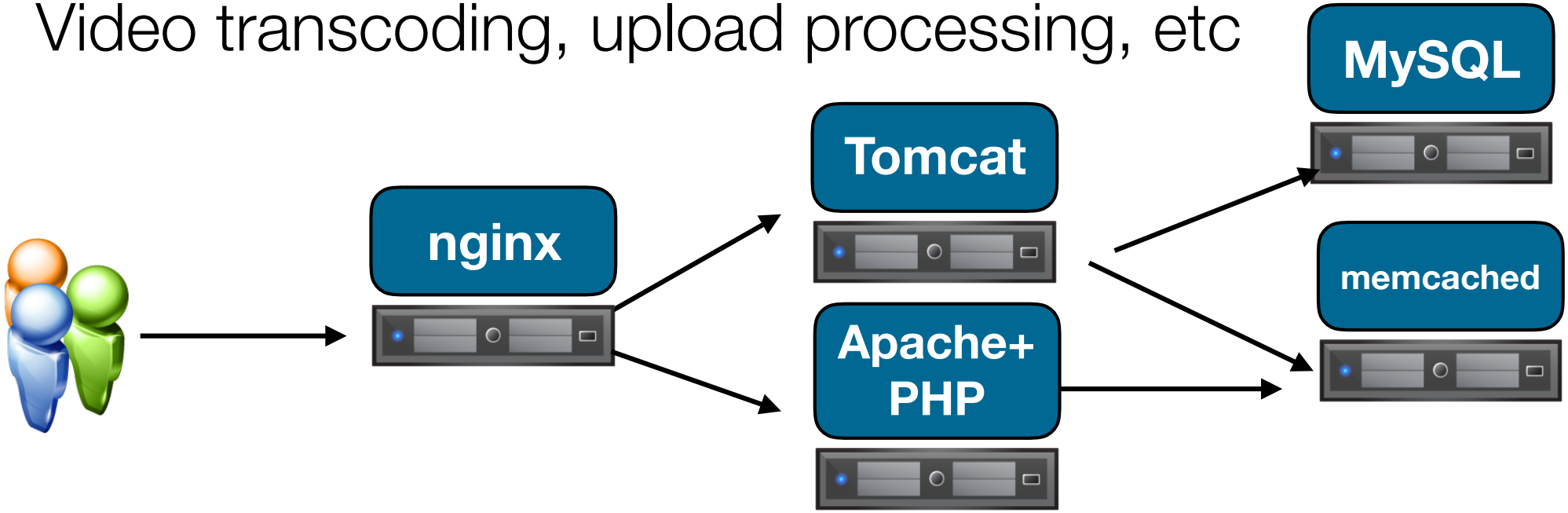
Sometimes 3 tiers isn't quite right

Database is often a bottleneck

- Add a cache! (stateful, but not persistent)

Authentication or other security services could be another tier

Video transcoding, upload processing, etc

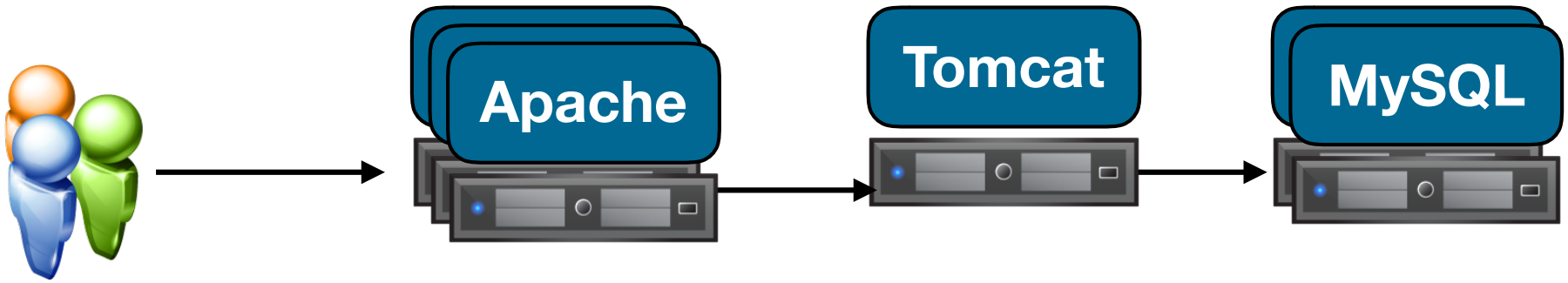


Replicated N-Tier

Replicate the portions of the system that are likely to become overloaded

How easy to scale…?

- Apache serving static content
- Tomcat Java application managing user shopping carts
- MySQL cluster storing products and completed orders



Tune number of replicas based on demand at each tier

Wikipedia: Big scale, cheap

5th busiest site in the world (according to alexa.com)

Runs on about **~ 1000** servers? (700 in 2012)

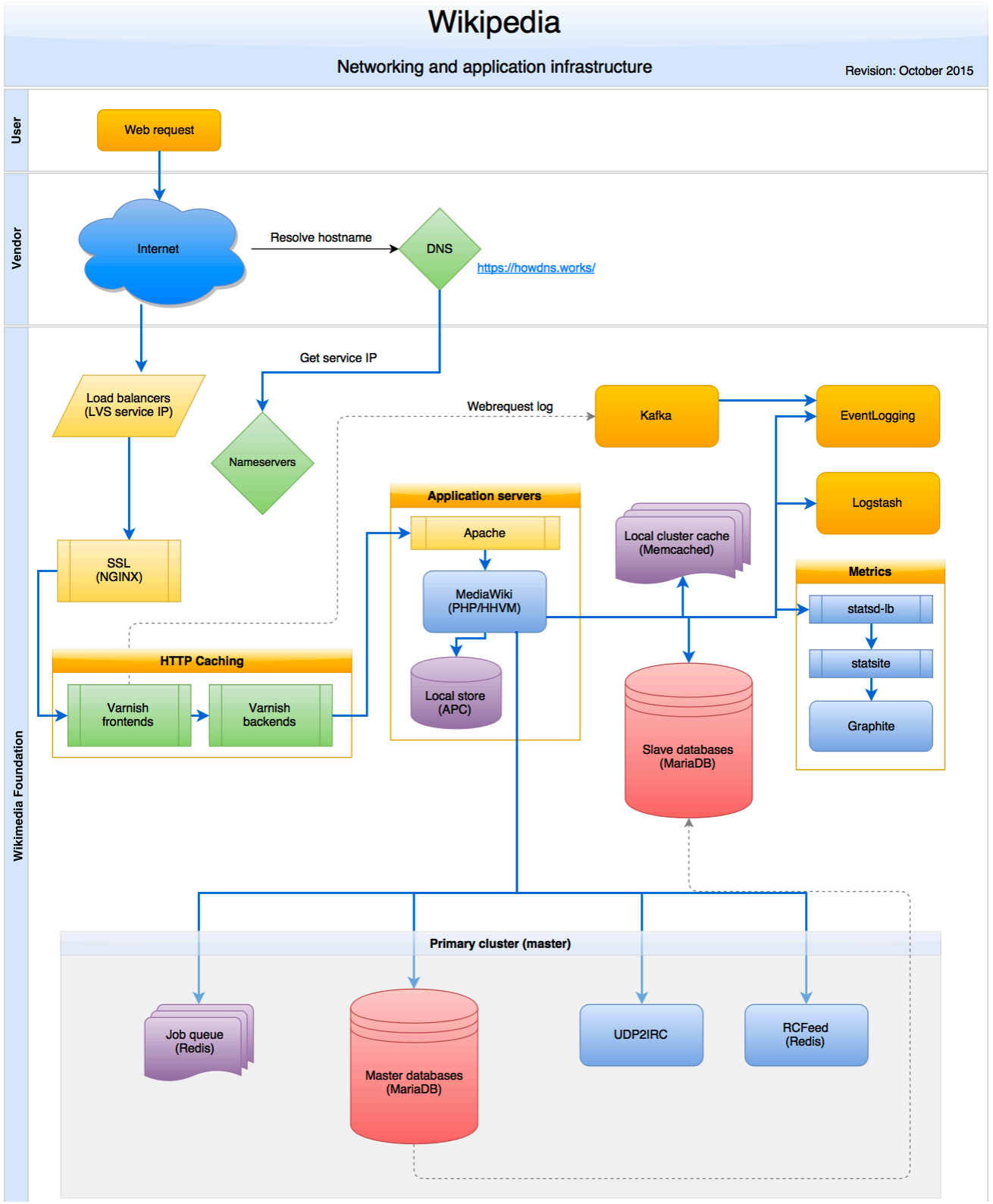
All open source software:

- PHP, MariaDB, Squid proxy, memcached, Ubuntu

Goals:

- Store lots of content (6TB of text data as of 2018)
- Make available worldwide
- Do this as cheaply as possible
- Relatively weak consistency guarantees

Stats: https://grafana.wikimedia.org


Wikipedia
Networking and application infrastructure
Revision: October 2015
User
Vendor
Wikimedia Foundation
Web request
Internet
Resolve hostname
DNS
https://howdns.works/
Get service IP
Load balancers
(LVS service IP)
Nameservers
Webrequest log
Kafka
EventLogging
Logstash
Application servers
Apache
MediaWiki
(PHP/HHVM)
Local store
(APC)
Local cluster cache
(Memcached)
Metrics
statsd-lb
statsite
Graphite
SSL
(NGINX)
HTTP Caching
Varnish
frontends
Varnish
backends
Slave databases
(MariaDB)
Primary cluster (master)
Job queue
(Redis)
Master databases
(MariaDB)
UDP2IRC
RCFeed
(Redis)