Building for Success and Failure with DISQUS

AtlantaPHP, October 2014

"Let's Build a Blog!"

Says Every Developer Ever

What is it?

- Discussion web service

- Free as in beer

- Integrates with everything

- Quality content

- OAuth and SSO

- Embeddable widget

- Web API

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15 comments

Leave a message...

Best ▾   **Community**   **My Disqus**

Ann · 3 minutes ago

I've always wondered where they film car com
Sometimes I like the car, sometimes I don't. Bu
the scenery. Guess you can't buy scenery.

2 ⌃ | ⌄   Reply   Share ›

Steve · 3 minutes ago

Ah, but you can take a pic along the way. This
stop along Highway 1 in Sonoma County, CA.

CELEBRATE THE SMALL WINS
that parents achieve each and every day
with regards to helping their families

+ ADD you...
to v...

ADD YOUR TINY VICTORY

First Name

Last Name

Email

Tiny Victory

Category   Select ▾

☐ I agree to the **Official Rules** of the sweepstakes

☐ I'd like to receive the **Whole Foods Market** newsletter

CANCEL   **SUBMIT**

PREV

NEXT

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DISQUS Fundamentals

A crash course

Forum

Thread

15 comments   ⭐ 12

[Leave a message...]

Best ▾   Community   My Disqus   Share ↗   ⚙ ▾
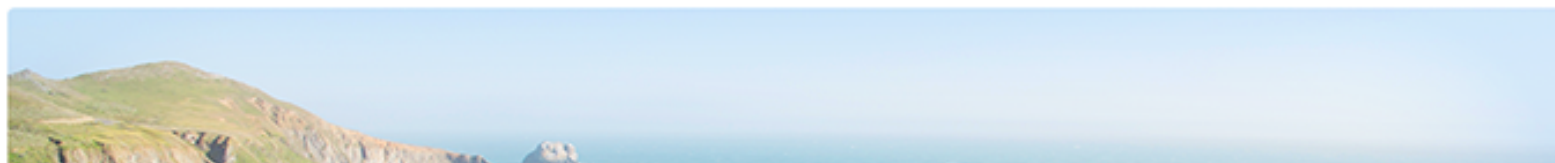
Post

Ann · 3 minutes ago

I've always wondered where they film car commercials. Sometimes I like the car, sometimes I don't. But I always love the scenery. Guess you can't buy scenery.

2 ⌃ | ⌄   Reply   Share ›

Steve · 3 minutes ago

Ah, but you can take a pic along the way. This is from a quick stop along Highway 1 in Sonoma County, CA. # 3 on the list.

Category Limitations

- Categories may only be created using the API.

- Moderation may not be performed on posts by Category, only by Forum and Thread.

Disqus API

threads/create
threads/list

posts/create
posts/list
posts/report

Full documentation is available at ***http://disqus.com/api***

Registering Your App

https://disqus.com/api/applications/register/

1. **Specify Domains**

2. **Set Permissions**

   Read
   Read and Write
   Read, Write, and Manage

3. **Save Tokens**

   Access Token
   API Key
   API Secret

DISQUS

API Resources

Documentation   Applications   Console

Register Application

Label:

My Application Name

This will be used to identify your application.

Description:

Describe briefly what your application does.

Organization:

Your organization, or company.

Website:

Your application's website.

Create a Forum

https://disqus.com/admin/create/

1. **Name your site**

2. **Specify a unique domain**

Creating an application does not implicitly create a forum!

DISQUS

Add Disqus to your site

Site profile

Site name

My Blog

Choose your unique Disqus URL

myblog | .disqus.com

This is where you'll access moderation tools and site settings. This will also become your site's "shortname".

Category

Please select a category

Posting to Disqus

As a user

Authenticate via OAuth

As a guest

1. Enable "Allow guests to comment" (Settings > General)

2. Application domain must be set correctly

3. Use the magic API key:

   ```
   E8Uh5l5fHZ6gD8U3KycjAIAk46f68Zw7
   C6eW8WSjZvCLXebZ7p0r1yrYDrLilk2F
   ```

```php
<?php

require 'vendor/autoload.php';

$forum = 'disqus-demo-app';
$secret_key = ''; // replace with your application secret key
$guest_api_key = 'E8Uh5l5fHZ6gD8U3KycjAIAk46f68Zw7'
               . 'C6eW8WSjZvCLXebZ7p0r1yrYDrLilk2F';

$disqus = new DisqusAPI($secret_key);

$thread_response = $disqus->threads->create([
    'forum' => $forum,
    'title' => 'Test thread',
]);

$post_response = $disqus->posts->create([
    'thread' => $thread_response->response->id,
    'message' => 'Test post',
    'author_name' => 'Guest User',
    'author_email' => 'someone@gmail.com',
    'api_key' => $guest_api_key,
]);
```

drexarj/disqus-php

github.com/disqus/disqus-php
Composer: drexarj/disqus-php

What could possibly go wrong?

DISQUS

Uh oh... Something didn't work.

This page doesn't seem to exist. You might have followed a bad link or mistyped the address, feel free to try again. Alternatively, you can return to the home page, or visit the help page for more options.

Stop being *afraid* of what could go wrong and focus on what could go *right*

Caching to the Rescue
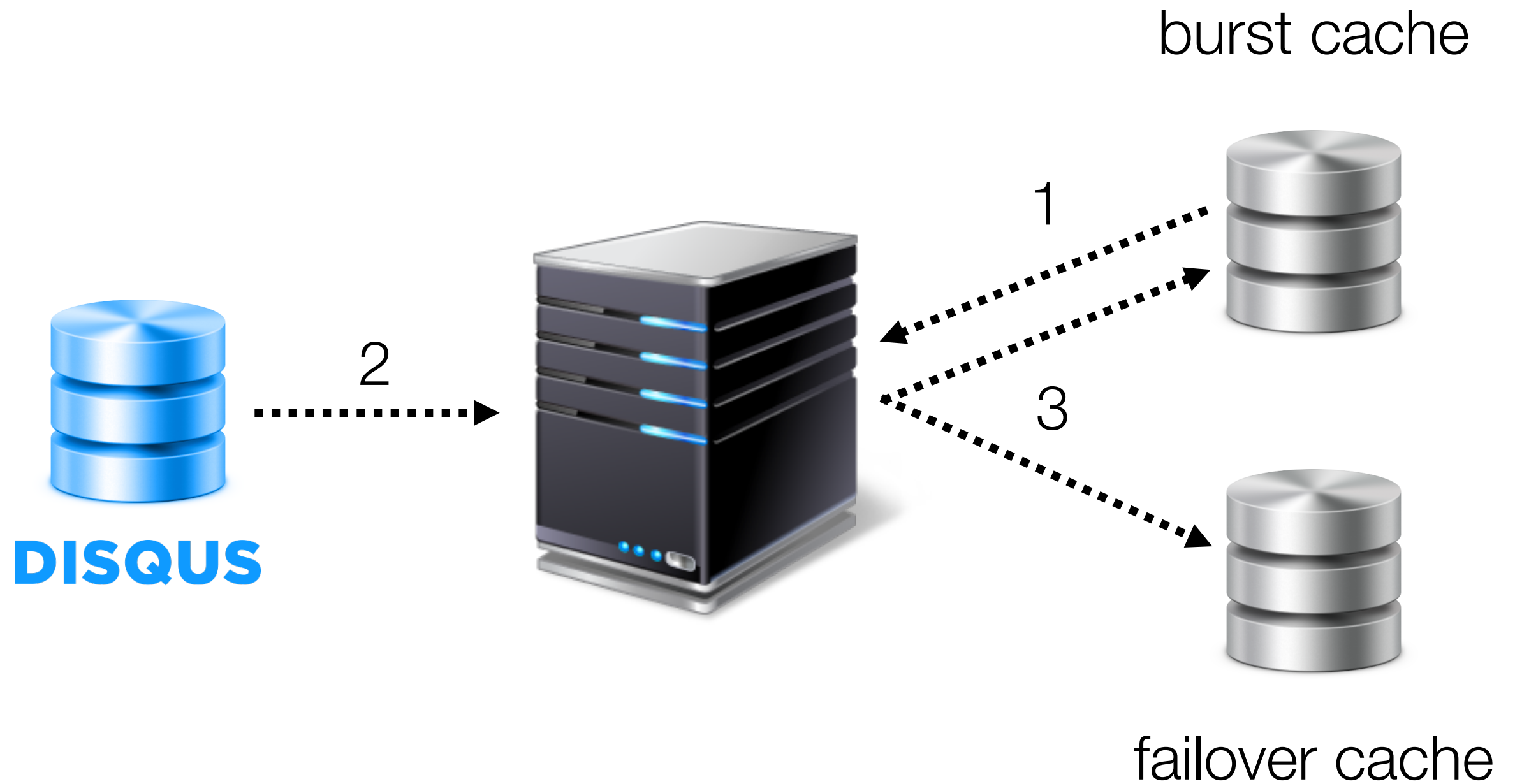
Caching to the Rescue

It's Dynamic Data…

- New posts submitted

- Moderator approves post

- Moderator disapproves post

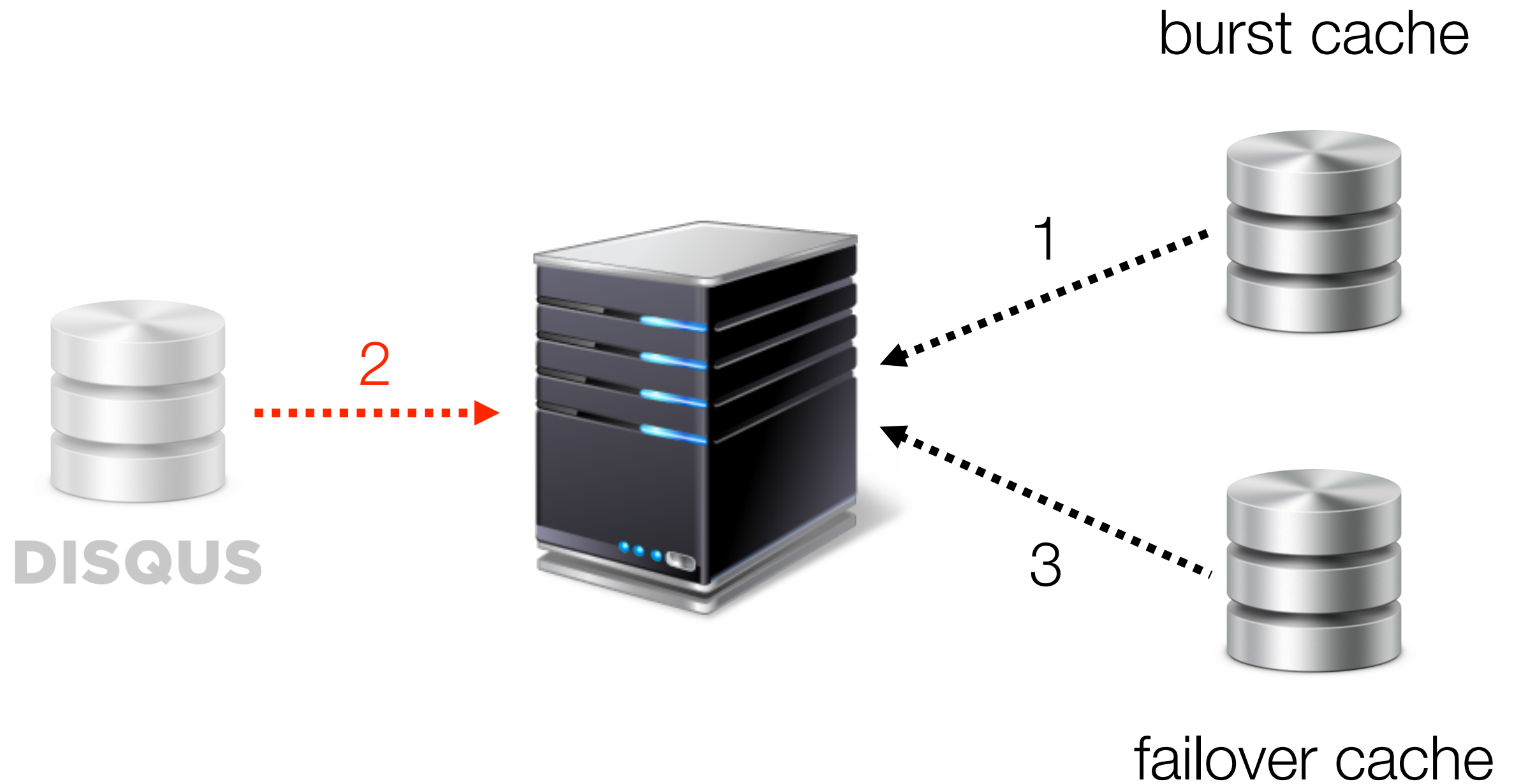- User flags a post as objectionable

Conflicting Objectives

- High load

  - Short cache expiration

- Failover

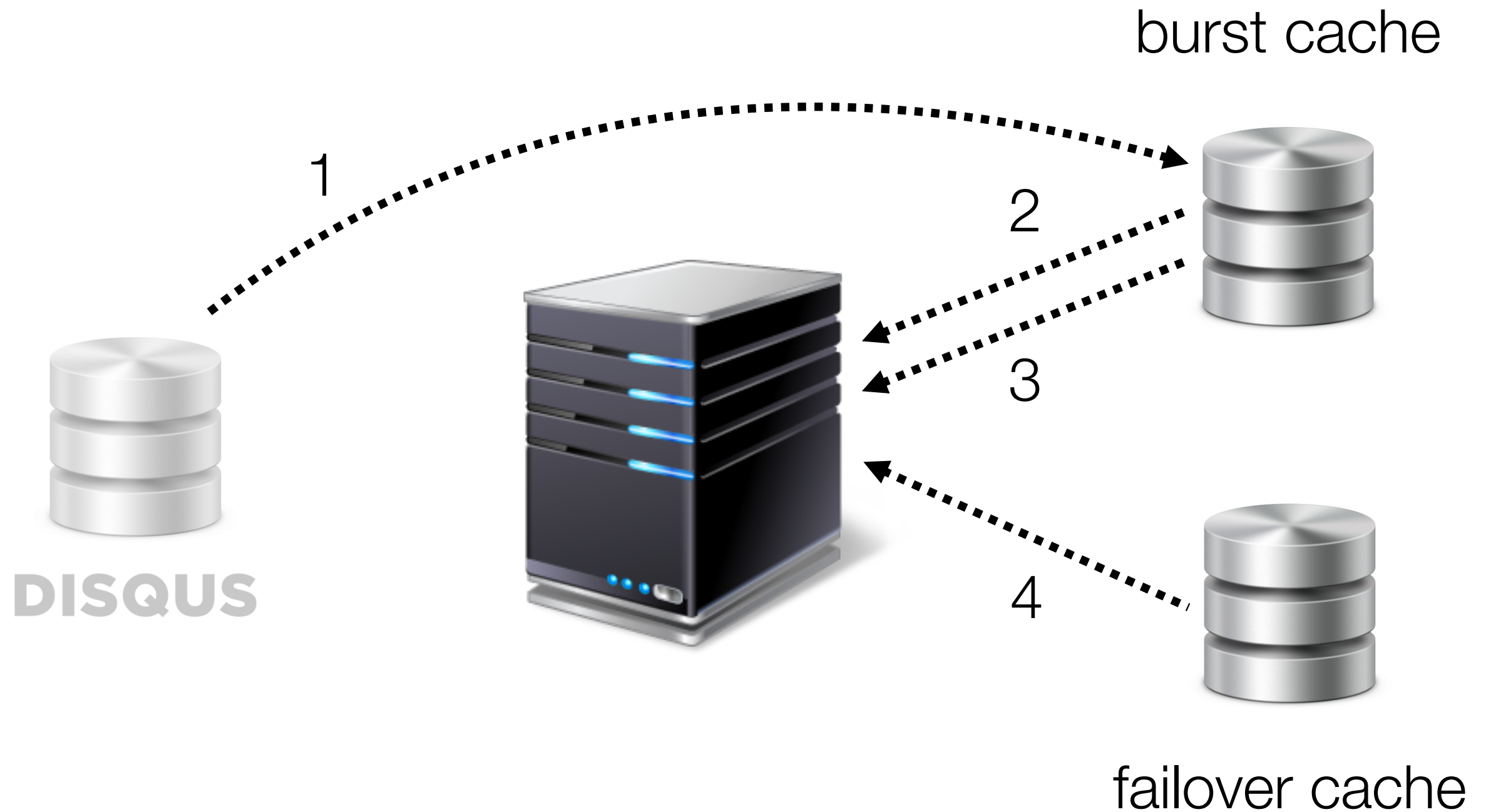 - No cache expiration

  - How to synchronize?

Adding a Failover Cache

Failing Over

burst cache

failover cache

Adding a Health Check

burst cache

failover cache

DISQUS

1 2 3 4

Caching Health Status

- If health status expires, everything just fails over

- Adjust the health status expiration to back off:

  - FAIL 1: expiration=2 minutes

  - FAIL 2: expiration=4 minutes

  - FAIL 3: expiration=8 minutes

  - …etc

"Is it worth it?"

–You

Implementation: Cache Servers

- Burst: memcached

- Failover: MongoDB (or Redis)

Implementation: Scripts

- Health check

- Cache warmup

- Thread creation

Implementation: API Client

- Guzzle-based client (compwright/disguz)

- Custom Guzzle Cache adapters

Building for Success and Failure with DISQUS

AtlantaPHP, October 2014

Thank you!

- https://github.com/compwright/disqus-demo

- https://github.com/compwright/disguz

- https://github.com/compwright/disqus-cli

Feedback: https://joind.in/12119