Caching in an Erlang HTTP stack

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- Software Architect
- Passionate Erlang developer
- Testing enthusiast
- Love beautiful code!

Not Covered:

- Client Side Caching
- Caching Proxies
- CDN Acceleration



Introduction

About Spilgames









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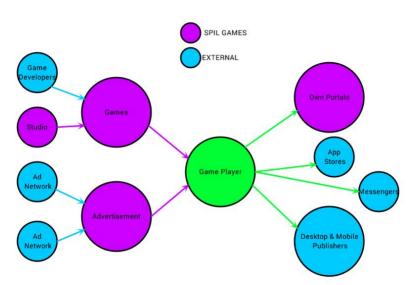




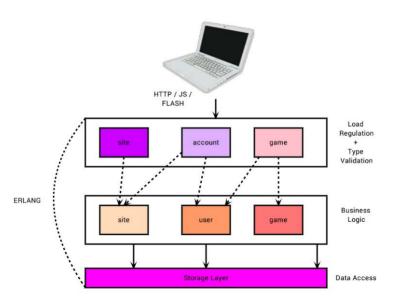


Introduction

About Spilgames



About Spilgames





- To avoid disk/DB access
- To avoid calculations
- To avoid resource bottlenecks



- To reduce backend load
- To mitigate outages impact





Common pitfalls

- Caching layers
- Deployments and cold start misses
- Server maintenance (on caching pools)
- Cache flushing for debugging

Considerations

- Dataset & Entry size
- Should it survive restart?
 - ► Distribution VS replication



Considerations

- Amount of different keys
- Request & Update Frequency
 - ► Validity & eviction strategies



Considerations

- Caching Error Values
 - ▶ If done, how to recover quickly?
 - If not done, what about overload?





Good For

- Not reinventing the wheel
- Distributed caching
- Caching outside the node
- System Administrators

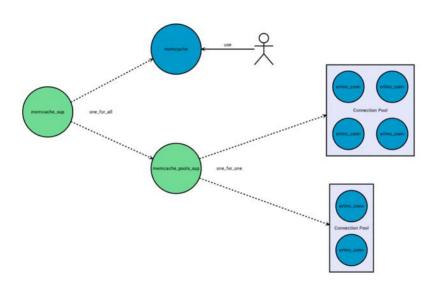


erl-memcache

- Memcached
- Pool of tcp connections
- Memcached binary protocol
- · Detailed memory management
- If local, memcached can be supervised







Used At Spilgames For

- Minimizing disk/DB access in Spilgames Storage Platform
- https://github.com/spilgames/erl-memcache

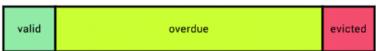
erl-cache

- In node caching (small datasets)
- Concurrency + long lived data
- Per key caching strategies
- Error awareness
- Non intrusive memoization



- gen_servers with protected ETSs
- Per cache server stats
- Periodic eviction
- Auto refresh overdue entries

Data Status



- start_cache(Cache, DefaultOpts)
- stop_cache(Cache)
- get(Cache, Key, Opts)

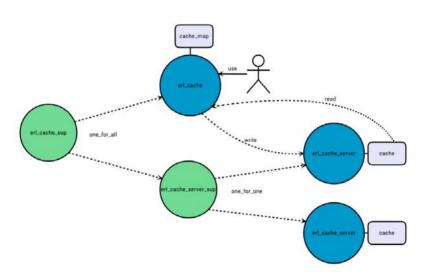
- set(Cache, Key, Value, Opts)
- evict(Cache, Key)
- get_stats(Cache)

Configuration per server:

- · validity & eviction times
- refresh_callback
- wait_for_refresh
- sync or async set & evict
- is error callback
- error validity

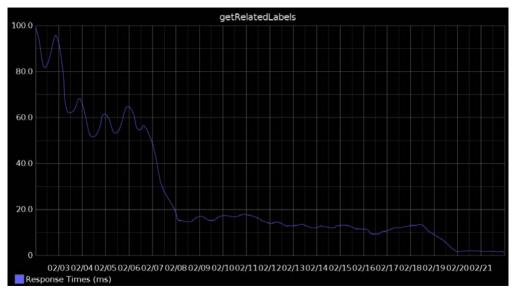


erl-cache Flexibility

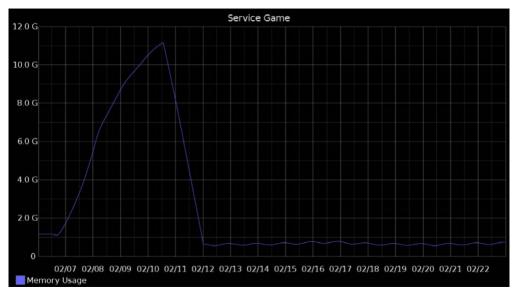


- Avoiding inline expensive calculations
- Protecting the app running the bussiness logic
- https://github.com/spilgames/erl-cache

erl-cache Used At Spilgames For



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Summing Up

Today's Lessons

Memory Control
+ Survive Restarts
Distributed Caching
-----erl-memcache



Summing Up

Today's Lessons

Small Data Set + Auto refresh Error Awareness

erl-cache



- Poolboy for worker pools
- Lager for logging

- http://github.com/spilgames/erl-memcache
- http://github.com/spilgames/erl-cache
- http://github.com/spilgames/erl-decorator-pt





