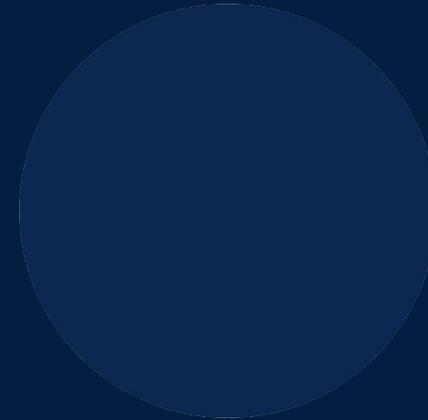


# Infinite scale is a design principle

Our journey from using a database cluster to the spaces concept



# Agenda

- 1 Database less storage with decomposedFS
- 2 Spaces as technical management units
- 3 Federated Storage
- 4 Next Steps



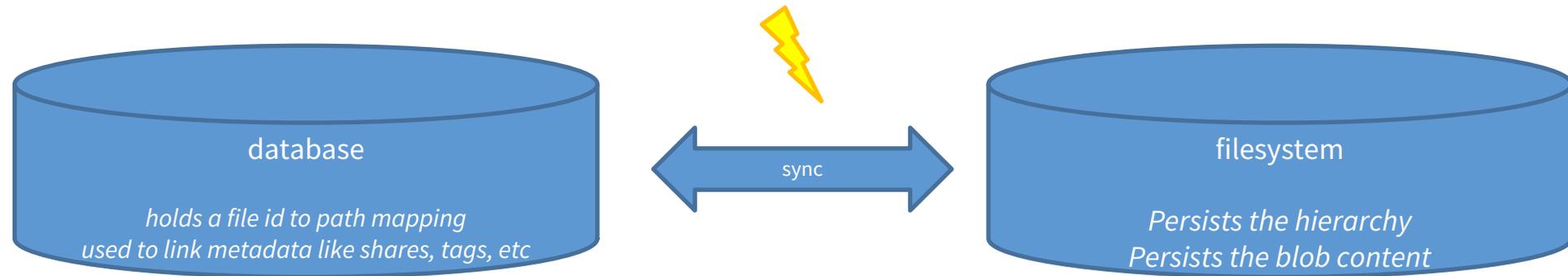
**Jörn Dreyer**  
oCIS Lead Architect



**Michael Barz**  
Product Owner &  
Team Lead oCIS

# Why does ownCloud 10 need a database?

- ownCloud 10 needs to assign a **stable ID** to files to attach additional metadata for:
  - Share permissions, expiry, link tokens, etc..
  - Tags, Comments, and App data



- Keeping database and filesystem in sync has been a cause of bugs and performance issues in the past

# Can we put all metadata in the filesystem?

- Use the **filesystem** as a key/value store for id lookup and metadata storage

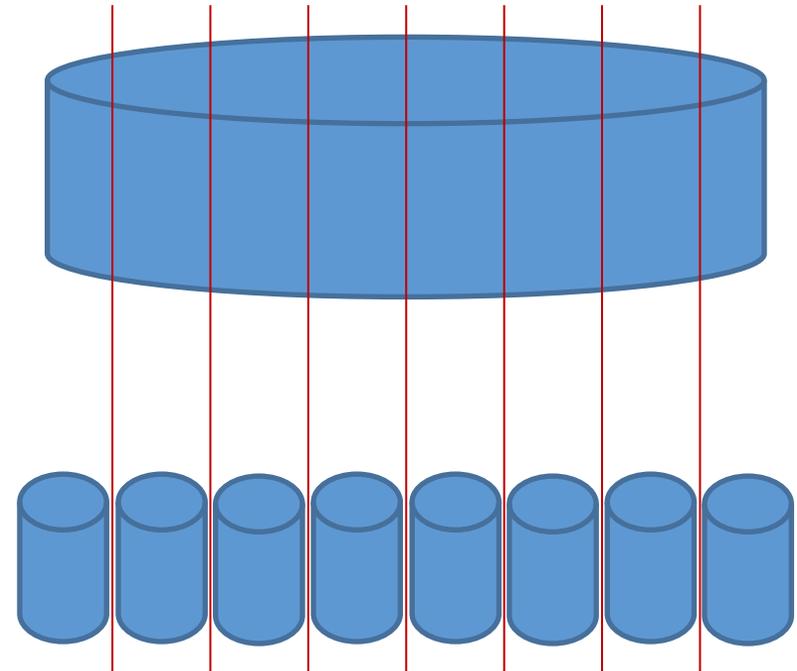
```
nodes
├── 16f197d0-ae69-4386-9139-b345fb18933e
├── 2cee1770-9ba5-4fc5-a5de-2d39559d967c
├── 3bfaf3cd-cf89-413f-a484-df5d67304d4e
│   └── ocis -> ../c98118ab-7c59-4863-b5c9-fad7d0ea5ac7
├── 4a8b465e-b75e-46cf-bb61-233b9ce16c6f
├── 4e258119-12b4-4604-8789-47baa8606bd7
├── 70c8907f-3159-48b1-8c81-28c553f83c14
├── 7fe90210-a17a-46a0-8df3-7b6e2b6895e5
│   └── space.png -> ../70c8907f-3159-48b1-8c81-28c553f83c14
├── 8780185a-cb1a-472a-9ec4-22cf994448d5
├── 932b4540-8d16-481e-8ef4-588e4b6b151c
├── c98118ab-7c59-4863-b5c9-fad7d0ea5ac7
│   └── space.yaml -> ../16f197d0-ae69-4386-9139-b345fb18933e
├── ddc2004c-0977-11eb-9d3f-a793888cd0f8
│   └── readme2.md -> ../4e258119-12b4-4604-8789-47baa8606bd7
└── f7fbf8c8-139b-4376-b307-cf0a8c2d0d9c
```

```
# file: home/vscode/.ocis/storage/users/nodes/4c510ada-c86b-4815-8820-42cdf82c3d51
user.ocis.blobid=""
user.ocis.blobsize="0"
user.ocis.grant.u:4c510ada-c86b-4815-8820-42cdf82c3d51="\000t=A:f=:p=rwadCcuUPvVq"
user.ocis.name="4c510ada-c86b-4815-8820-42cdf82c3d51"
user.ocis.owner.id="4c510ada-c86b-4815-8820-42cdf82c3d51"
user.ocis.owner.idp="https://cloud.ocis.test"
user.ocis.owner.type="primary"
user.ocis.parentid="root"
user.ocis.propagation="1"
user.ocis.space.name="Albert Einstein"
user.ocis.tmtime="2022-01-20T12:18:56.464014351Z"
user.ocis.treesize="0"
```

- Leverages the Linux Kernel **vfs cache** to look up a resource by id O(1)
- Tradeoff: full path lookup needs multiple stat calls (cached by kernel vfs)

# Divide et Impera

- A flat list of nodes **creates overhead**
  - Deleting a directory has to identify all children
  - Archiving a space has to identify all nodes that belong to a space, eg. when deprovisioning a user or project
- **Shard** nodes by space and make spaces the primary unit of management
- Storage providers identify resources **by a root ResourceID** and an optional relative path. Always!



*every space has a dedicated nodes folder, a dedicated trash, persists metadata and can list CS3 grants and mountpoints*

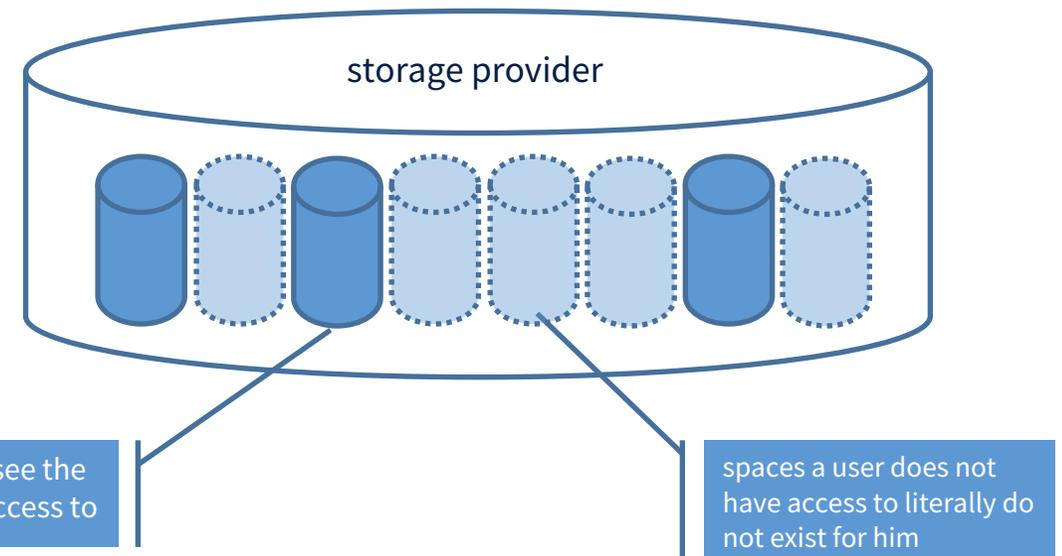
# Database less storage with decomposed FS

- Requires **no RDBMS**
- Uses a **POSIX** filesystem as a key/value store
- **Atomic** by mapping all write operations to either rename or symlink creation
- Prefer **additional reads** over expensive writes
- **Metadata** and **blob storage** can easily be put on true key/value stores like S3
  - Blobstore on S3 is implemented
  - Metadata in Redis, anyone?

```
nodes
├── 16f197d0-ae69-4386-9139-b345fb18933e
├── 2cee1770-9ba5-4fc5-a5de-2d39559d967c
├── 3bfaf3cd-cf89-413f-a484-df5d67304d4e
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├── 4e258119-12b4-4604-8789-47baa8606bd7
├── 70c8907f-3159-48b1-8c81-28c553f83c14
├── 7fe90210-a17a-46a0-8df3-7b6e2b6895e5
│   └── space.png -> ../70c8907f-3159-48b1-8c81-28c553f83c14
├── 8780185a-cb1a-472a-9ec4-22cf994448d5
├── 932b4540-8d16-481e-8ef4-588e4b6b151c
├── c98118ab-7c59-4863-b5c9-fad7d0ea5ac7
│   └── space.yaml -> ../16f197d0-ae69-4386-9139-b345fb18933e
├── ddc2004c-0977-11eb-9d3f-a793888cd0f8
│   └── readme2.md -> ../4e258119-12b4-4604-8789-47baa8606bd7
└── f7fbf8c8-139b-4376-b307-cf0a8c2d0d9c
```

# Storage providers become storage space providers

- Storage providers **learn to recognize** spaces
- A mandatory **rootID** in every request allows the storage provider to identify the correct space
- A root id may be any node in a space
- An **optional path** is always relative to the root id
- All other space properties are sharded as well:
  - Arbitrary **metadata** and **policies**
  - **Grants** and **mountpoints**,
  - **Trash**, **lifecycle** and **workflows**
  - **Search** indexes



# The reva storage registry becomes a storage space registry

- Active spaces discovery
- Metadata aggregation and caching
- A “bookmarking” service for spaces

userID	spaceID	mount path	mtime	address
einstein	90891c44	/users/einstein	1643126310	127.0.0.1:9157
marie	7cadd5d6	/users/marie	1643143253	127.0.0.1:9157
marie	ec597ff5	/projects/moon	1643128601	cernbox.cern.ch:9161
richard	ec597ff5	/projects/moon	1643128601	cernbox.cern.ch:9161
richard	b5c2d969	/users/richard	1643114320	127.0.0.1:9157

*Introduces  
indirection!*

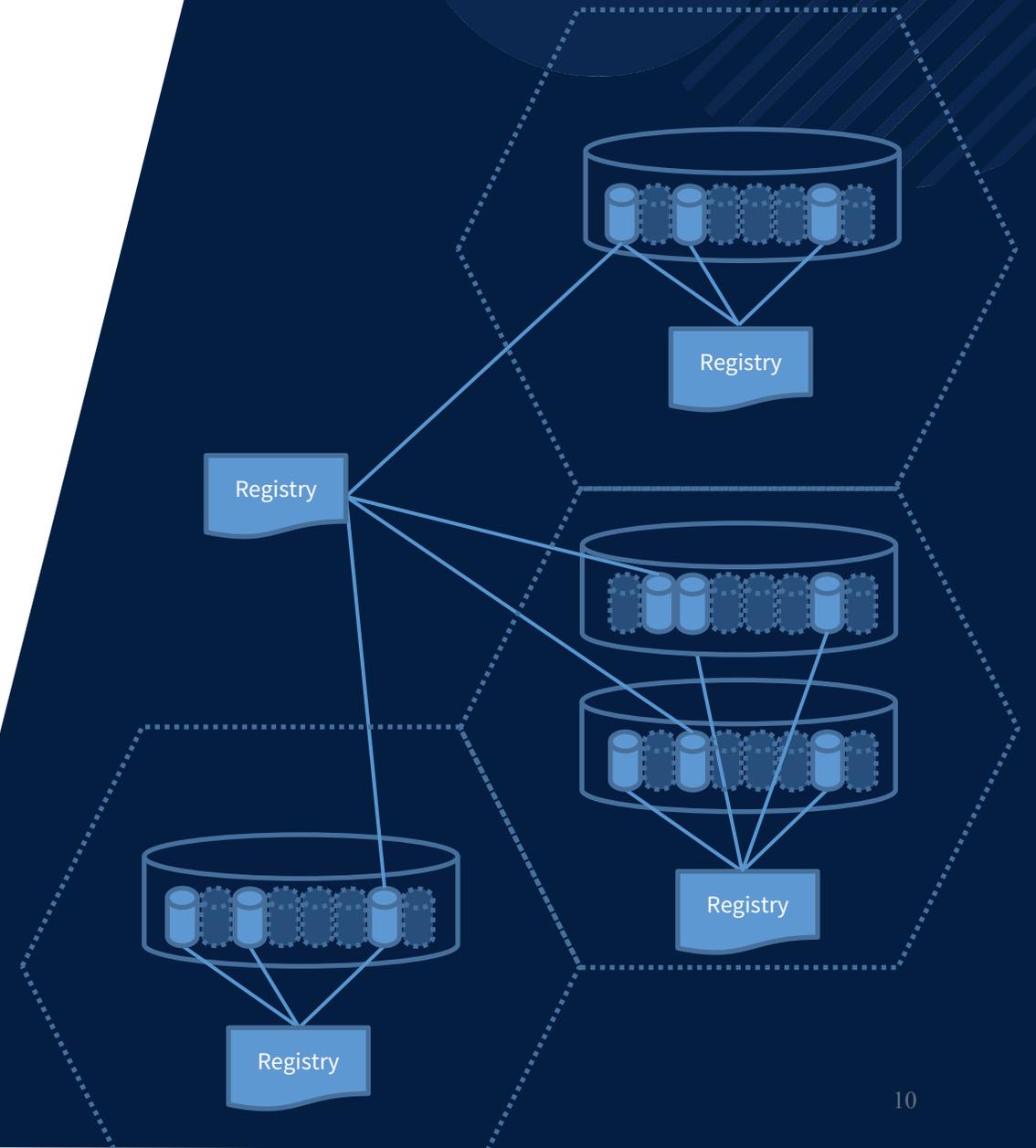
a user can change the mount path to his liking, constrained by instance rules





# Federated Storage

- Spaces as **primary unit** of management
  - Capture the storage lifecycle of users, groups, projects and eg. apps
  - Allow choosing different tradeoffs for workflows, geo-replication and more
- Registries and spaces do **not** have to be hosted **on the same domain**
- **OpenID Connect** allows spaces and registries to work as a federated storage

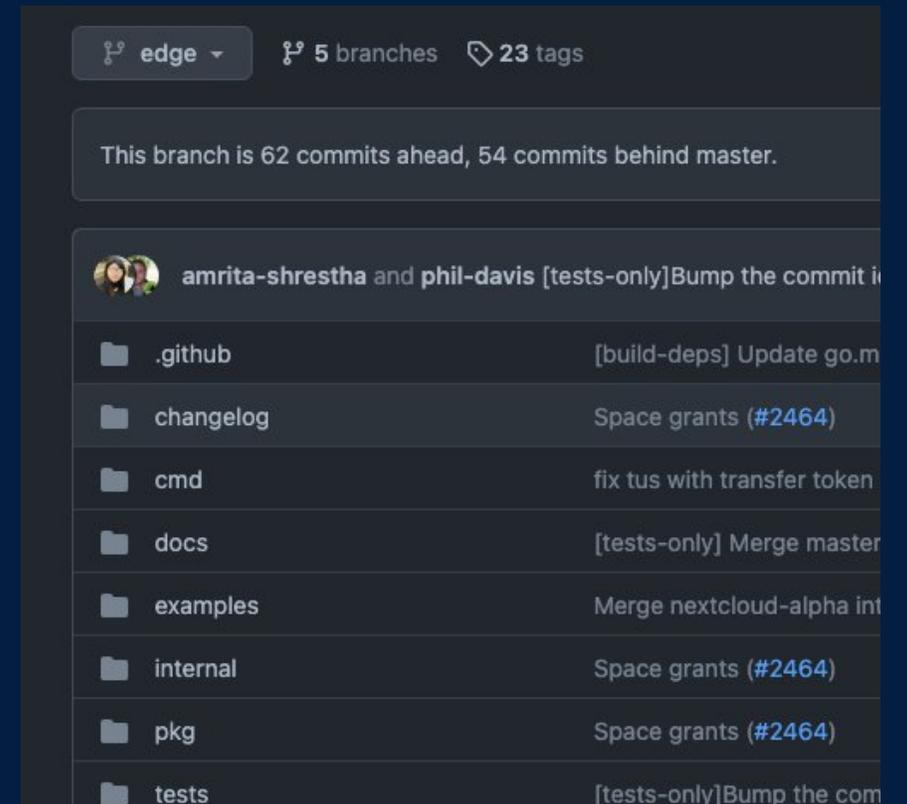


# We started the edge branch

- Already implemented the spaces architecture
- oCIS master is running on “edge” already
- The Gateway has been **simplified** dramatically and could be replaced by a middleware

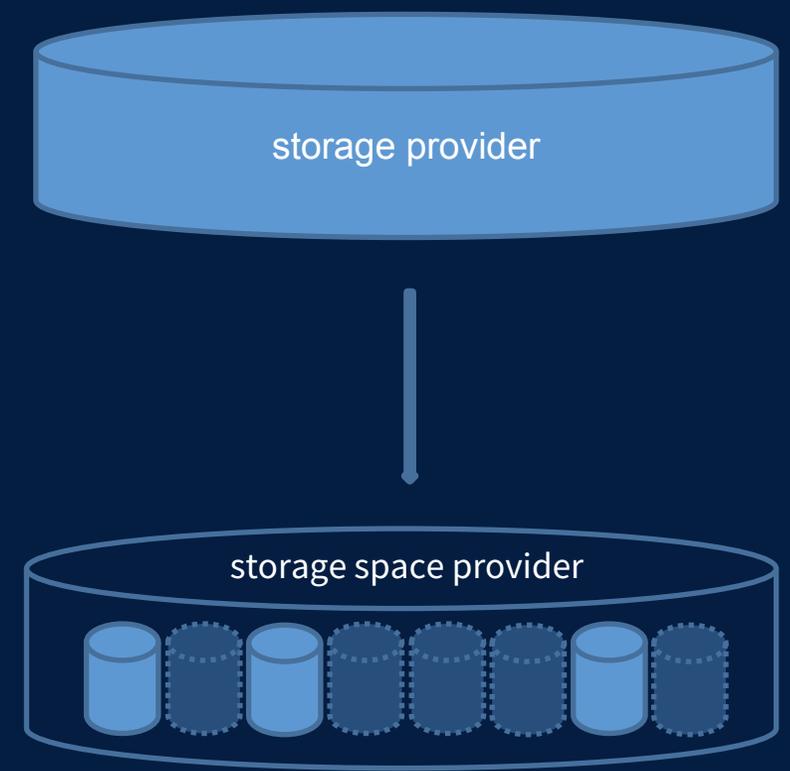
*thanks Hugo! :-)*

- The **WebDAV** service has adapted
  - Former urls still work
  - New endpoint was added directly access the space by ID



# Transform existing implementations

- Storage drivers need to **become aware** of spaces
- Actually **simplified the implementation** as it makes the home enabled flag unnecessary
- All other services which access resources via the CS3 APIs need to reference them by **spaceID** and **relative path** (e.g WOPI Server)
- Clients can discover the spaceID for a path using the **storage space registry**
- Clients **are empowered** to build an optimal namespace for the user



# Proving our concept

- **oCIS is running on it** with full test coverage (E2E-, API-, and Integration tests) using the decomposedFS
- CERN and ownCloud are collaborating on bringing an **EOS testsystem** into the CI to prove this approach also for **CERNBox** *what about CephFS?*
- We created the **cs3api-validator** as a standalone litmus testing tool
- Our K6 based **performance benchmarks** are monitoring the changes nightly
- We are looking forward to get **edge merged into master**



COME  
RUN  
WITH  
US

# Thank you!

## Links

- Libre Graph Api <https://github.com/owncloud/libre-graph-api>
- Edge branch <https://github.com/cs3org/reva/tree/edge>
- Spaces Registry <https://owncloud.dev/extensions/storage/spacesregistry/>
- K6 Benchmark Tests <https://github.com/owncloud/cdperf>
- cs3api-validator <https://github.com/owncloud/cs3api-validator>

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