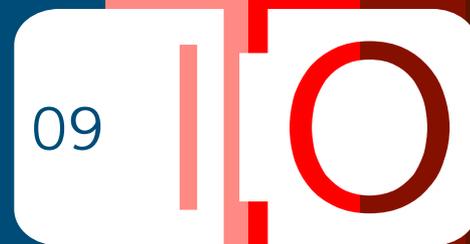


Google™



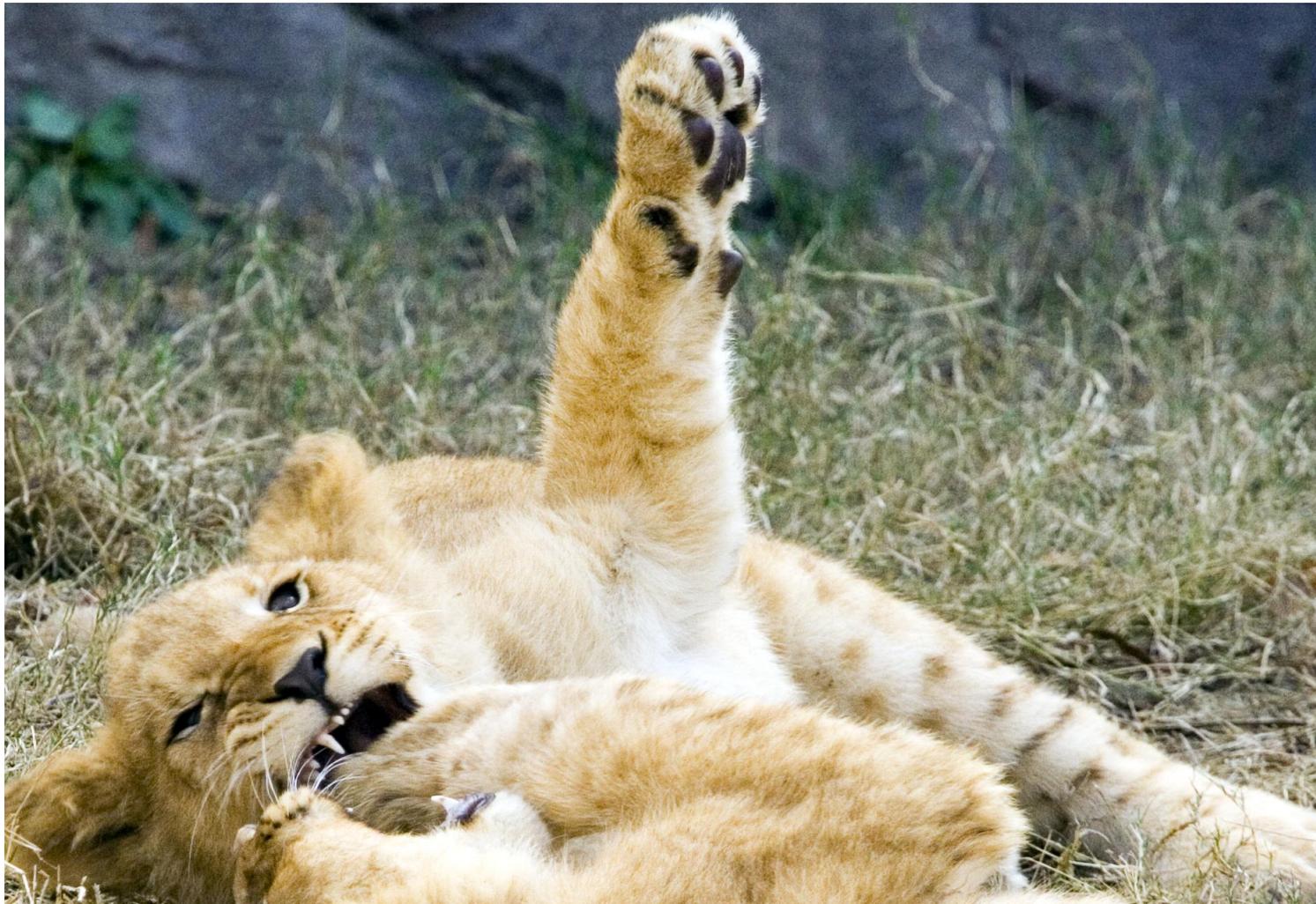
# Going Social with the YouTube APIs

Jeff Fisher, Jochen Hartmann  
May 29th, 2009

Post your questions for this talk on Google Moderator:  
<http://tinyurl.com/io-social-youtube>



# Raise Your Hand



# Why Do I Care?

- Bring YouTube activity into
  - Social networks
  - Existing social applications
  - Devices
  - Gadgets
- Create a better YouTube search experience by tracking content that a user's friends like.
- Educate your application about what a user is doing on-site to create a better user experience.

# Brief overview of YouTube Data API

- Google Data API based on Atom Publishing Protocol
- Versions (2 > 1)
- Exposes metadata for most things on YouTube
- Allows for programmatic creation / upload
- Use our open-source client libraries
  - .NET, Java, PHP, Python, Objective-C



# YouTube Activity Feeds



# YouTube Activity Feeds

The screenshot shows a YouTube channel's activity feed. At the top, there is an "Embed This Channel:" section with an embed code. Below that is the "Recent Activity" section, which is highlighted with a red box. In the top right corner of this section, a "privacy settings" link is highlighted with a red box. The activity feed lists several actions by the user "apitestjhartmann":

- Attach a video (with a "post bulletin" button)
- apitestjhartmann subscribed to [googletechtalks](#) (10 minutes ago)
- apitestjhartmann subscribed to [gdpython](#) (10 minutes ago)
- apitestjhartmann favorited a video (12 minutes ago)
  - Video: [Kefka - Final Fantasy VI / ...](#)
  - Description: This is Kefka's theme music, as requested by werasiolreeee. The music w... [more](#)
- apitestjhartmann uploaded a new video (1 day ago)
  - Video: [test44](#)
  - Description: Uploaded via Tchotchke: LINK
- apitestjhartmann uploaded a new video (1 day ago)
  - Video: [test](#)
  - Description: Uploaded via Tchotchke: LINK

Below the activity feed is the "Subscriptions (14)" section, which shows a grid of subscription thumbnails, including a "Google" logo. To the right of the activity feed, there is a "Video Log" section with a "You h" header and a "Did vide have" header. Below that is a "Favorites" section with a video thumbnail.

# YouTube Activity Viewer Demo

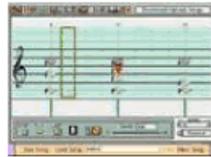
## Activity for apitestjhartmann

Thu Apr 30 2009 18:07:37 GMT-0700 (PDT)

+ apitestjhartmann has subscribed to **TheOnion's** videos

Wed Apr 29 2009 11:49:43 GMT-0700 (PDT)

+ apitestjhartmann has favorited a video uploaded by **HCBailly**



**Kefka - Final Fantasy VI / III, Mario Paint** (video id: 64ISZ1c7uIA)

View count: 13579

Average rating: 4.87013 (rated by 77 users)

Mon Apr 27 2009 13:41:01 GMT-0700 (PDT)

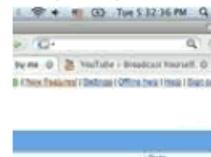
+ apitestjhartmann has uploaded a video



**test44** (video id: mNhSmtvHBnM)

Fri Apr 24 2009 12:09:44 GMT-0700 (PDT)

+ apitestjhartmann has favorited a video uploaded by **apitestjhartmann**



**Re: Test-movie** (video id: KaWuVYf937Q)

View count: 12

# YouTube Activity Feed URL

```
http://gdata.youtube.com/feeds/api/users  
/googledevelopers/events?v=2
```

**Your application**

**YouTube  
API**

Events of user:

**GoogleDevelopers**

# YouTube Activity Feeds: Friend activity

```
http://gdata.youtube.com/feeds/api/users  
/googledevelopers/friendsactivity?v=2
```

**Your application**

**YouTube  
API**

**GoogleDevelopers**

**Friends**

# Types of activities in the API

## **Video activities**

- video\_rated
- video\_shared
- video\_favorited
- video\_commented
- video\_uploaded

## **User activities**

- friend\_added
- user\_subscription\_added

# YouTube Activity Feed Entry (Simplified)

```
<entry>
  <id>tag:youtube.com,2008:user:googledevelopers:event:RvZ...</id>

  <updated>2009-04-30T15:21:36.000Z</updated>
  <category
    scheme='http://gdata.youtube.com/schemas/2007/userevents.cat'
    term='video_uploaded' />

  <title>GoogleDevelopers has uploaded a video</title>
  <author>
    <name>GoogleDevelopers</name>
  </author>

  <yt:videoid>4agYZmIQ3aE</yt:videoid>

</entry>
```

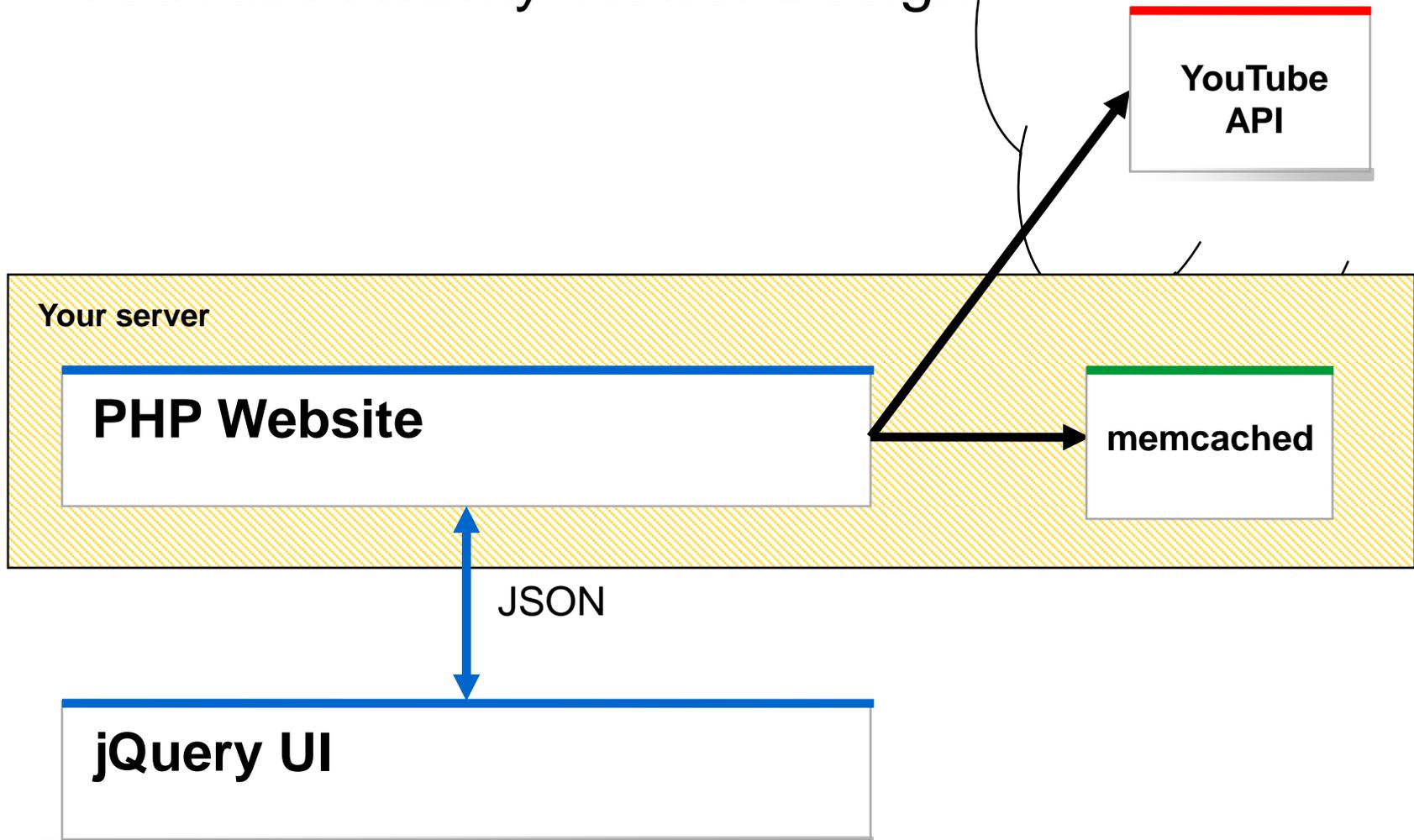
# Full YouTube Activity Feed XML

```
- <feed gd:etag="W/"Dk8NR347eCp7ImA9WxJSEU0.">
  <id>tag:youtube.com,2008:user:googledevelopers:events</id>
  <updated>2009-04-30T15:21:36.000Z</updated>
  <category scheme="http://schemas.google.com/g/2005#kind" term="http://gdata.youtube.com/schemas/2007#userEvent"/>
  <title>Recent activity of googledevelopers</title>
  - <logo>
    http://www.youtube.com/img/pic_youtubelogo_123x63.gif
  </logo>
  <link rel="updates" type="application/json" href="http://gdata.youtube.com/sup?seconds=300#3b47c0e2"/>
  <link rel="http://schemas.google.com/g/2005#feed" type="application/atom+xml" href="http://gdata.youtube.com/feeds/api/Google-AtomViewer-mqdfuljp-0"/>
  <link rel="http://schemas.google.com/g/2005#batch" type="application/atom+xml" href="http://gdata.youtube.com/feeds/api/batch?client=ytagapi-Google-AtomViewer-mqdfuljp-0"/>
  <link rel="self" type="application/atom+xml" href="http://gdata.youtube.com/feeds/api/users/googledevelopers/events?startGoogle-AtomViewer-mqdfuljp-0"/>
  <link rel="service" type="application/atomsvc+xml" href="http://gdata.youtube.com/feeds/api/users/googledevelopers/event
- <author>
  <name>YouTube</name>
  <uri>http://www.youtube.com/</uri>
</author>
<generator version="2.0" uri="http://gdata.youtube.com/">YouTube data API</generator>
<openSearch:totalResults>12</openSearch:totalResults>
<openSearch:startIndex>1</openSearch:startIndex>
<openSearch:itemsPerPage>25</openSearch:itemsPerPage>
- <entry gd:etag="W/"Dk8NR347eCp7ImA9WxJSEU0.">
  - <id>
    tag:youtube.com,2008:user:googledevelopers:event:R29vZ2xlRGV2ZWxvcGVycyExMjQxMTA0ODk2MzQ2MzU2NjI
  </id>
  <updated>2009-04-30T15:21:36.000Z</updated>
  <category scheme="http://schemas.google.com/g/2005#kind" term="http://gdata.youtube.com/schemas/2007#userEvent"/>
  <category scheme="http://gdata.youtube.com/schemas/2007/userevents.cat" term="video_uploaded"/>
  <title>GoogleDevelopers has uploaded a video</title>
  <link rel="alternate" type="text/html" href="http://www.youtube.com"/>
  <link rel="http://gdata.youtube.com/schemas/2007#video" type="application/atom+xml" href="http://gdata.youtube.com/4agYZmIQ3aE?client=ytagapi-Google-AtomViewer-mqdfuljp-0"/>
```

# OMG Kittens



# YouTube Activity Viewer Design



# Be Smart

- Request more metadata for each item
- Video metadata can be retrieved by ID
- User metadata can be retrieved by username
- Request only what you need as you need it

# Be Scalable

memcached

- Cache the metadata you get back
- Caching trades freshness for speed and scale
- Hitting a local cache is much cheaper than an HTTP request to the API
- memcached is an excellent lightweight caching system

# Be Robust

- Errors can happen anytime!
- Be graceful on API service errors
- Provide nice messages to your user in the event of a problem

# PHP Website functions

## PHP Website

- Use an authenticated **Zend\_Gdata\_YouTube** service object
- Fetch activity and friend activity feeds for user
- Fetch video metadata from You Tube API
- Create and return JSON feeds
- Store data in memcache

# Using the PHP client library

- Getting a reference to the YouTube service object:

```
// create a HTTP client
$httpclient = Zend_Gdata_AuthSub::getHttpClient(
    $_SESSION['sessionToken']);

// create a service
$yt = new Zend_Gdata_YouTube($httpClient, $applicationId,
    $clientId, $devKey);

// set the service's version
$yt->setMajorProtocolVersion(2);
```

# Using other client libraries to do the same thing

- Getting a reference to the YouTube service object:

```
// in Java
YouTubeService service = new YouTubeService(clientID,
    developer_key);
service.setAuthSubToken(sessionToken, null);

// in .NET
YouTubeRequestSettings settings = new YouTubeRequestSettings(
    "example app", clientID, developerKey, (String) SessionToken);
YouTubeRequest request = new YouTubeRequest(settings);

// in Python
yt_service = gdata.youtube.service.YouTubeService()
yt_service.SetAuthSubToken(authsub_token)
yt_service.UpgradeToSessionToken()
```

# Using the PHP client library

- Getting activity:

```
$activityFeed = $yt->getActivityForUser($username);  
  
$friendActivityFeed = $yt->getFriendActivityForCurrentUser();
```

# YouTube Activity Viewer Design: PHP Website

- Getting video metadata

```
$yt = getYtService();
try {
    $videoEntry = $yt->getVideoEntry($videoId);

    // create light-weight array for json encoding
    $video = Array();
    $video['id'] = $videoEntry->getVideoId();
    $video['title'] = $videoEntry->getVideoTitle();

} catch (Zend_Gdata_App_HttpException $e) {
    $httpStatus = $e->getResponse()->getStatus();

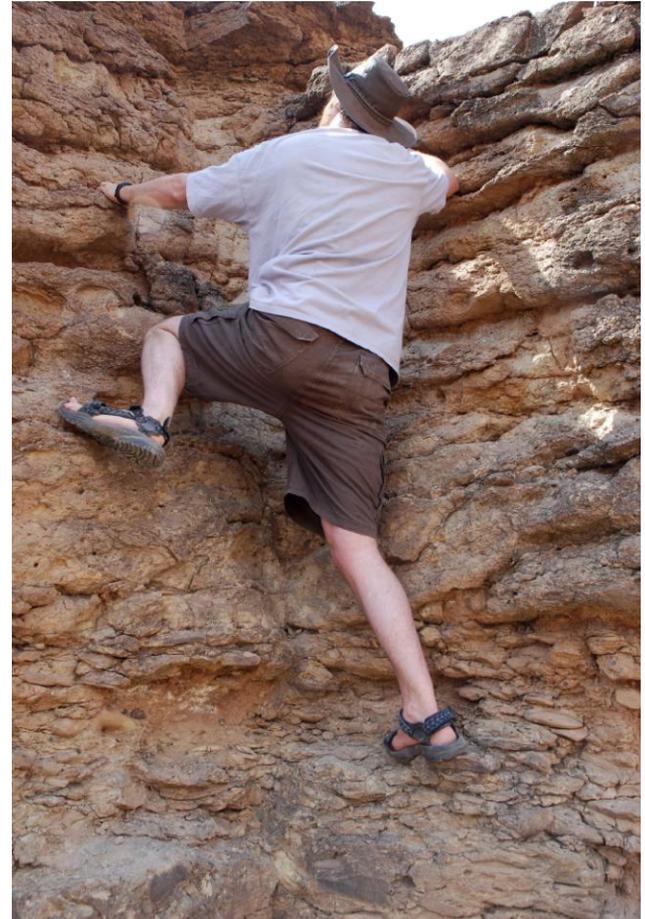
    if ($httpStatus >= 500) {
        $video = 'SERVER_ERROR';
    } else {
        $video = 'NOT_AVAILABLE';
    }
}
```

# Try It Yourself

```
http://www.GoogleCodeSamples.com
```

# Scaling YouTube Activity Feeds

- What if you have 1,000,000 users?
- What if you have your own friend graph?
- What if you have 1,000,000 users AND your own friend graph?



# What's SUP?



Not much, you?

# What is SUP?

"[The] Simple Update Protocol is a simple and compact 'ping feed' that web services can produce in order to alert the consumers of their feeds when a feed has been updated."

<http://code.google.com/p/simpleupdateprotocol>

# YouTube SUP Feed

```
http://gdata.youtube.com/sup
```

# Anatomy of a SUP Feed

```
{ "updated_time": "2009-04-28T21:29:20Z",  
  "since_time": "2009-04-28T21:24:19Z",  
  "period": 300,  
  "available_periods": {  
    "300": "http://gdata.youtube.com/sup?seconds=300",  
    "900": "http://gdata.youtube.com/sup?seconds=900",  
    "600": "http://gdata.youtube.com/sup?seconds=600"  
  },  
  "updates": [  
    ["159aa827", "6e19"],  
    ["9559d1d", "6e19"],  
    ...  
  ]  
}
```

# Anatomy of a SUP Feed

```
{ "updated_time": "2009-04-28T21:29:20Z",  
  "since_time": "2009-04-28T21:24:19Z",  
  "period": 300,  
  "available_periods": {  
    "300": "http://gdata.youtube.com/sup?seconds=300",  
    "900": "http://gdata.youtube.com/sup?seconds=900",  
    "600": "http://gdata.youtube.com/sup?seconds=600"  
  },  
  "updates": [  
    ["159aa827", "6e19"],  
    ["9559d1d", "6e19"],  
    ...  
  ]  
}
```

# Discovering User Hashes

```
http://gdata.youtube.com/feeds/api/users/  
googledevelopers/events?v=2
```

```
<link rel='updates' type='application/json'  
href='http://gdata.youtube.com/sup?seconds=300#3b47c0e2' />
```



SUP With You ?  
The *Über* Activity Viewer



# YouTube *Über*Activity Viewer Application Demo

## Über Activity Viewer

(add yourself)

« previous page of results next page of results »

bbcworldnews has uploaded a video on 2009-05-11 02:46:23



Duration 2:3

Viewed 32 times so far.

### Gordon Brown makes expenses apology

2009-05-11

The prime minister has apologised for the scandal of MPs' expenses claims. ...

Tags: BBC News Gordon Brown makes

Category: News

Ratings so far: Average : 1.0 | NumRaters : 1 |

Watch page: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XDYwq2oOo9c>

bbcworldnews has uploaded a video on 2009-05-11 02:16:24



Duration 1:41

Viewed 22 times so far.

### Every MP should feel 'ashamed' - Duncan

2009-05-11

The shadow leader of the Commons, Alan Duncan, has said every MP should feel "as ...

Tags: BBC News Every MP should

Category: News

Ratings so far: Average : 1.0 | NumRaters : 1 |

Watch page: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YbbJXmp4A6I>

bbcworldnews has uploaded a video on 2009-05-11 00:16:13



Duration 0:57

Viewed 160 times so far.

### US police paraglide on patrol

2009-05-10

A US police department is training officers to fly powered paragliders for search ...

Tags: BBC News US police paraglide

Category: News

Ratings so far: Average : 3.6666667 | NumRaters : 3 |

Watch page: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HCt7e-04Mdc>

bbcworldnews has uploaded a video on 2009-05-11 00:01:22



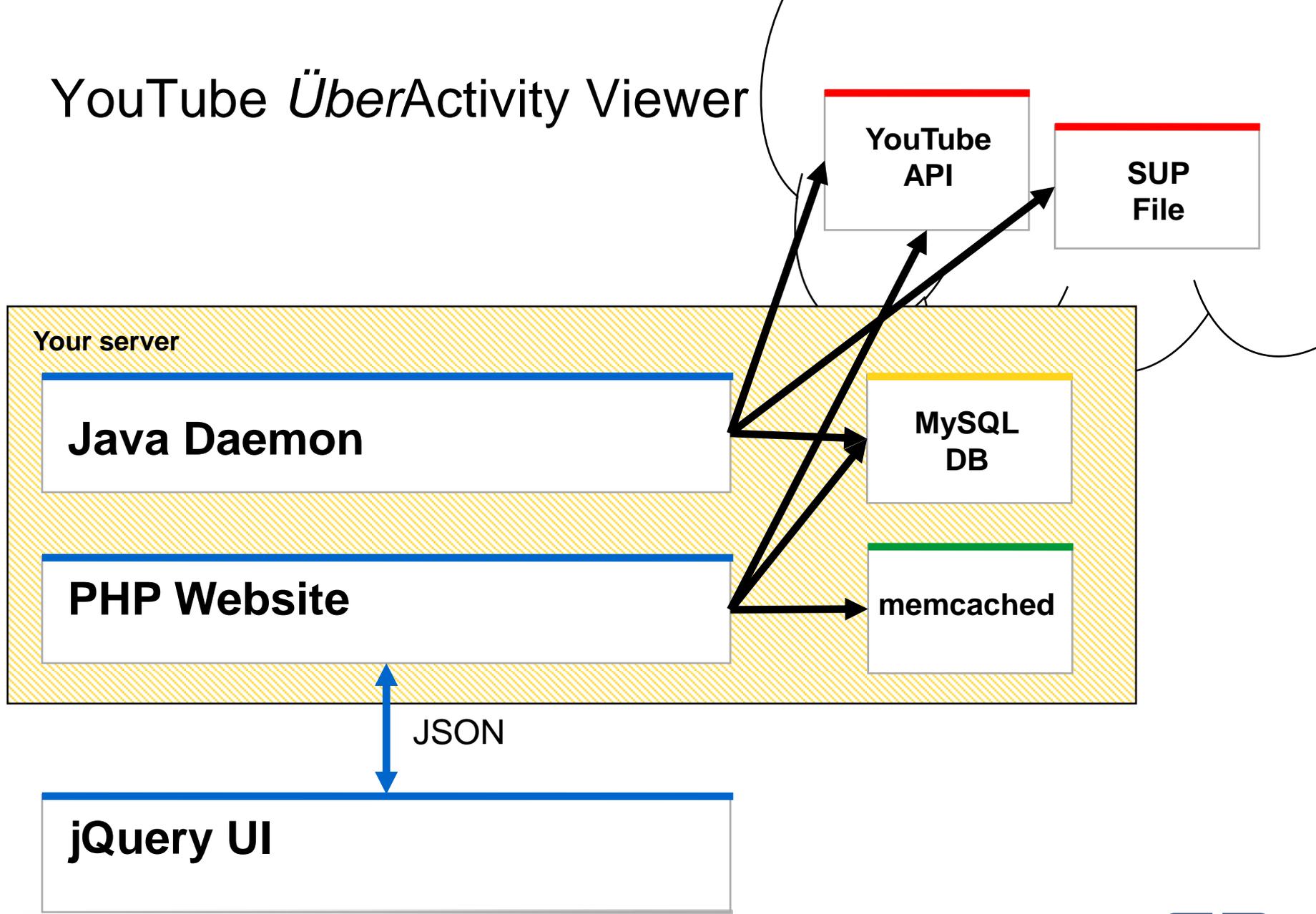
### Inquiry begins into Australia fires

2009-05-10

# Try It Yourself

```
GoogleCodeSamples.com/uberviewer
```

# YouTube *ÜberActivity* Viewer



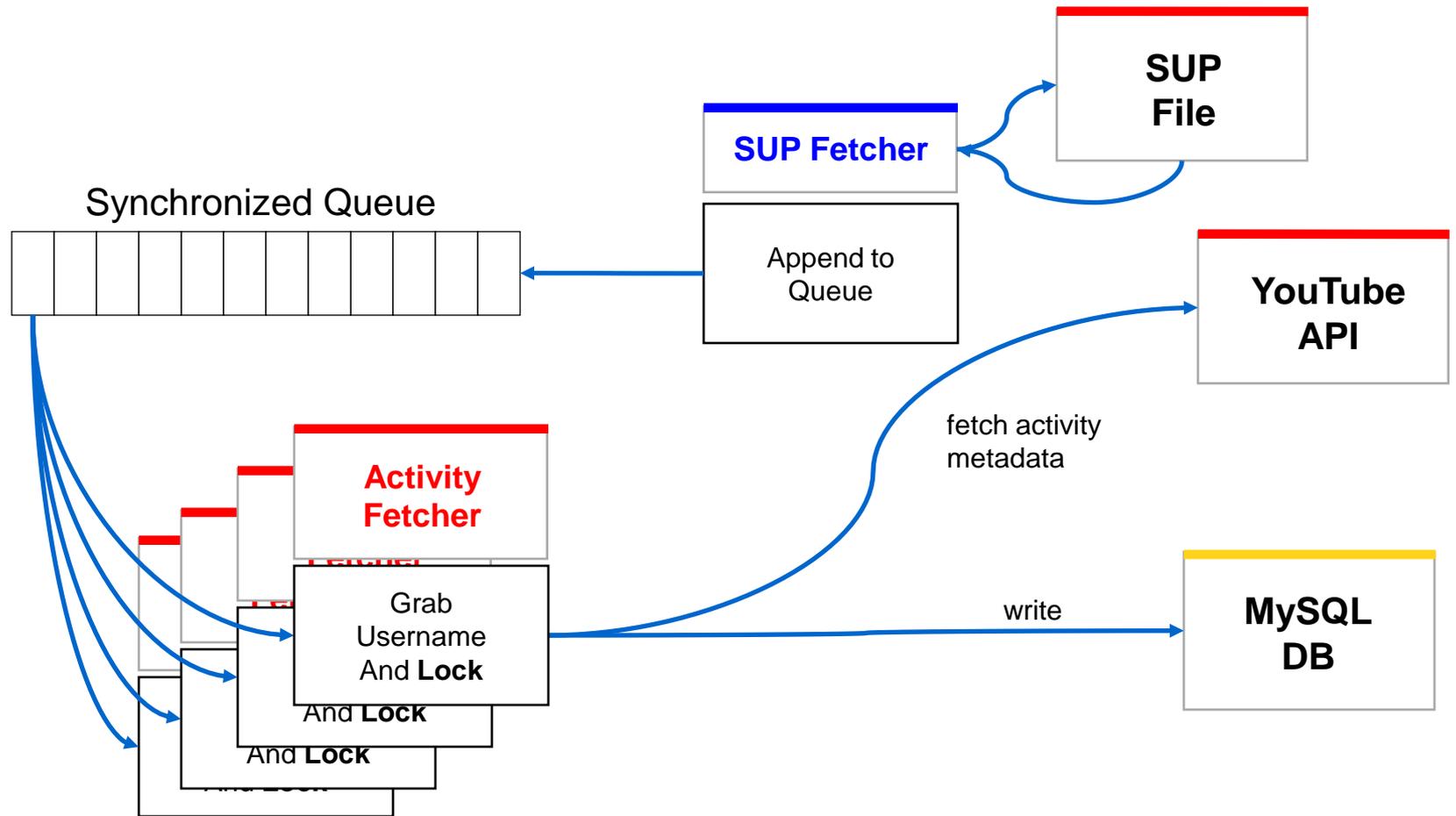
# ÜberActivity Viewer Daemon Threads

## Java Daemon

- Why Java? Why Threads?
- Main thread
- SUP Fetcher thread
- X Activity Fetcher threads



# ÜberActivity Viewer Threading Overview



# ÜberActivity Viewer Threading

- Starting threads

```
supFetcher = new Thread(new SupFetcher(config, queue));  
  
supFetcher.start();  
  
for (int i = 0; i < activityThreadCount; i++) {  
    activityFetchers[i] = new Thread(  
        new ActivityFetcher(config, queue, userLocks));  
    activityFetchers[i].start();  
}
```

# ÜberActivity Viewer Threading

- Closing threads using interrupt

```
for (int i = 0; i < activityThreadCount; i++) {  
    activityFetchers[i].interrupt();  
}  
  
supFetcher.interrupt();  
supFetcher.join();  
  
for (int i = 0; i < activityThreadCount; i++) {  
    activityFetchers[i].join();  
}
```

# ÜberActivity Viewer Threading

- Sharing state between threads

```
// configuration file settings
private ConfigData config;

// queue of usernames to updated, shared between threads
private BlockingQueue<String> queue;

// mutex locks to prevent activity fetchers from colliding
private ConcurrentMap<String, Lock> userLocks;
```

# ÜberActivity Viewer **Main Thread**

- Read configuration files
- Set up logging with log4j
- Initialize **SUP fetcher** and **activity fetcher** threads
- Listen on shutdown port

```
// Accept connections only on the local loopback (127.0.0.1)

ServerSocket shutdownSocket = new ServerSocket(
    config.getShutdownPort(), 0, InetAddress.getByName(null));
shutdownSocket.accept();
```

# *ÜberActivity* Viewer **SUP Fetcher Thread**

- Retrieve users from DB
- Retrieve SUP feed
- For each found user hash, add their username to a queue

# ÜberActivity Viewer Threading

- SUP fetch logic: High level overview

```
// determine next run date
Date nextRun = new Date();

while(true) {
    // if ready to run
    Date now = new Date();
    if(now.after(nextRun)) {
        // Process SUP feed using activity threads
    } else {
        // Sleep until next run time
        Thread.sleep(SLEEP_TIME);
    }
}
```

# ÜberActivity Viewer Threading

- SUP fetch logic: Setting the next run time

```
// set next run time
Calendar cal = Calendar.getInstance();
cal.add(Calendar.SECOND, POLL_FREQUENCY);
nextRun = cal.getTime();
```

# ÜberActivity Viewer Threading

- SUP fetch logic: Adding usernames of interest to our queue

```
// create map for usernames and data
Map<String, String> userMap;

userMap = db.getUserMap();

// create map for SUP feed data
Map<String, String> supData = getSupFeedData();

//remove all keys that are not being updated right now
userMap.keySet().retainAll(supData.keySet());

// add values into synchronized queue
queue.addAll(userMap.values());
```

# ÜberActivity Viewer **Activity Fetcher Thread(s)**

- Grab username off the queue
- Acquire lock on that username
- Retrieve activity feed for user
- Add activity entries to database (ignore duplicates)
- Release lock

# ÜberActivity Viewer Threading

- Activity fetcher logic: Get username from queue

```
String username;  
  
username = queue.take();  
  
// ensure one lock per username  
Lock newLock = new ReentrantLock();  
Lock lock = userLocks.putIfAbsent(username, newLock);  
  
if(lock == null) {  
    lock = newLock;  
}
```

# ÜberActivity Viewer Threading

- Activity fetcher logic: Get Activity for username

```
if(lock.tryLock()) {  
  
    String etag = db.getEtagForUser(username);  
    String updated = db.getFeedUpdatedForUser(username);  
  
    UserEventFeed activity = api.getActivityFeed(  
        username, etag, updated);  
  
    db.updateFeedUpdatedForUser(  
        username, activity.getUpdated().toString());  
    db.updateEtagForUser(username, activity.getEtag());  
    db.updateUserActivities(activity);  
  
}
```

# Daemon Things To Watch Out For

- SUP feed hasn't been updated
- SUP feed or API feeds return temporary service errors
- DB connection has died

# In the Real World

- Other daemon processes can filter and aggregate this data
- Notifications can be sent to users or devices
- Learn from user behavior

# ÜberActivity Viewer Website

## PHP Website

- Same frontend, except:
  - Handle log-in
    - use AuthSub single use token only to verify username
    - retrieve SUP hash (unauthenticated)
    - Write username & hash to DB
  - Read JSON from DB
    - Page in MySQL
    - Add metadata from API
    - Write paged feed, video entry and user entry to memcache

# ÜberActivity Viewer Website

- Handle log-in, use AuthSub single use token only

```
// Using authenticated YouTube service,  
// get profile for currently authenticated user  
$UserProfile = $yt->getUserProfile('default');  
  
// Get username and user hash for activity  
$username = $UserProfile->getUsername();  
  
$feed = $yt->getFeed(  
    'http://gdata.youtube.com/feeds/api/users/' . $username .  
    '/events');  
  
$hashHref = $feed->getLink('updates')->getHref();  
// strip out hash token  
  
// write to DB
```

# ÜberActivity Viewer Website

- Get activity feed from DB, add metadata, json\_encode

```
$dbFeedArray = getFeedFromDB($page);  
$metaDataFeedArray = addMetaData($dbFeedArray);  
$jsonOutput = json_encode($metaDataFeedArray);  
  
// user profile metadata  
$userProfile = $yt->getUserProfile($username);  
$profileData['about_me'] = $userProfile->getAboutMe()->text;  
. . .  
  
// video entry metadata  
$videoEntry = $yt->getVideoEntry($videoId);
```

# ÜberActivity Viewer Website

- Memcache each paged section
- Page in MySQL:



```
// clean the page variable, making sure its integer or
// default to 1

$statement = $mysqli->prepare(
    "SELECT username, updated, json FROM activity ORDER BY " .
    "updated DESC LIMIT ? OFFSET ?");
$offset = $numItemsPerPage*$page;
$statement->bind_param('ii', $numItemsPerPage, $offset);
```

# Resources



- [code.google.com/apis/youtube](https://code.google.com/apis/youtube)
- **Office hours:** now - 4 outside!

# Q & A

Post your [questions](#) for this talk on Google Moderator:  
**<http://tinyurl.com/io-social-youtube>**

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- Lion image:  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/mirsasha/312674919>
- Kittens: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/mathias-erhart/2562106102>
- Scaling: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/roblee/810410426>
- SUP Cat: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/rezsox/397041105>
- Book page:  
[http://www.flickr.com/photos/just\\_jump/2972461681](http://www.flickr.com/photos/just_jump/2972461681)

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