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A PROOF-OF-CONCEPT IMPLEMENTATION OF PERSISTENCE IN A HIERARCHICAL STORAGE SYSTEM

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Abstract

The concept of providing transparent access to a collection of files in a mass storage system is a familar one. The goal of this project was to investigate the feasibility of providing similar access to a collection of persistent, complex objects. We describe an architecture for interfacing a persistent store of complex objects to a hierarchical storage system. Persistent object stores support the uniform creation, storage, and access of complex objects, regardless of their lifetimes. In other words, a mechanism is provided so that persistent objects outlive the processes which create them and can be accessed in a uniform manner by other processes. We validated this architecture by implementing a proof-of-concept system and testing the system on two stores of data. These tests indicate that this architecture supports the creation, storage and access of very large persistent object stores.

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