

FROM RESEARCH TO INDUSTRY



Take back control with RobinHood v3



LUG'17

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Project History

Robinhood Policy Engine

■ Mature

- Development started in 2005
- Constantly improved since then
- Now widely used in HPC centers of various size
- Large contributors base (sites, vendors...)

■ Open Source

- Initially developed for internal needs
- Open sourced in Feb. 2009 (now lives on <http://github.com/cea-hpc/robinhood>)

■ Versatile

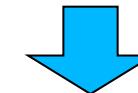
- Purging entries on temporary filesystems
- Conductor of Lustre/HSM installations
- Rich reporting and near-real time monitoring
- Powerful suite of companion tools

Robinhood 3 in a Nutshell

v2 “flavors”
and their
commands

	robinhood-tmpfs	robinhood-lhsm	robinhood-backup
robinhood		rbh-lhsm	rbh-backup
rbh-diff		rbh-lhsm-diff	rbh-backup-diff
rbh-report		rbh-lhsm-report	rbh-backup-report
rbh-du		rbh-lhsm-du	rbh-backup-du
rbh-find		rbh-lhsm-find	rbh-backup-find
			...

→ A static set of available policies per flavor



V3: a single instance to
manage all “legacy” policies
...and much more!

robinhood
robinhood
rbh-diff
rbh-report
rbh-undelete
rbh-du
rbh-find

→ Policies declared
in configuration

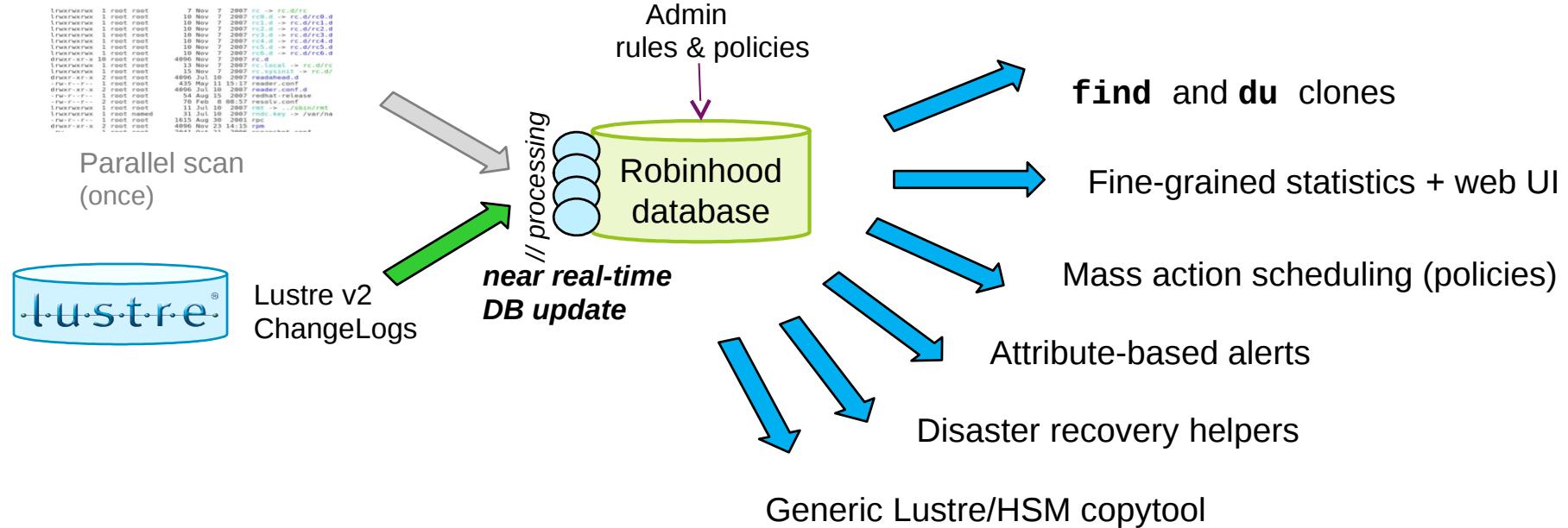
Robinhood in a Nutshell

Robinhood Policy Engine: overview

- Collects information about filesystems
 - Maintain a up-to-date image of filesystem metadata
 - Lustre: based on *MDT changelogs*
 - Posix: periodic scanning
- Define custom policies to schedule actions on filesystems entries
 - v2.x: archiving data, purging scratch filesystems, HSM...
 - v3+: way much more!
 - Flexible, fine-grained policy rules
- Provides an overall view of filesystems contents
 - File size profile per user, per group, ...
 - Classifying entries in arbitrary admin-defined sets (fileclasses)
- A set of convenient utilities to manage Lustre filesystem contents efficiently
 - rbh-find, rbh-du, rbh-diff...

Robinhood Policy Engine

Big picture



Filesystems and Databases

Respective benefits

Data intensive workloads



Filesystem



Database



Search & aggregate

Goals

- Optimize data access
 - Bandwidth, data allocation
- Optimize metadata access for POSIX
 - lookup/readdir/create/unlink

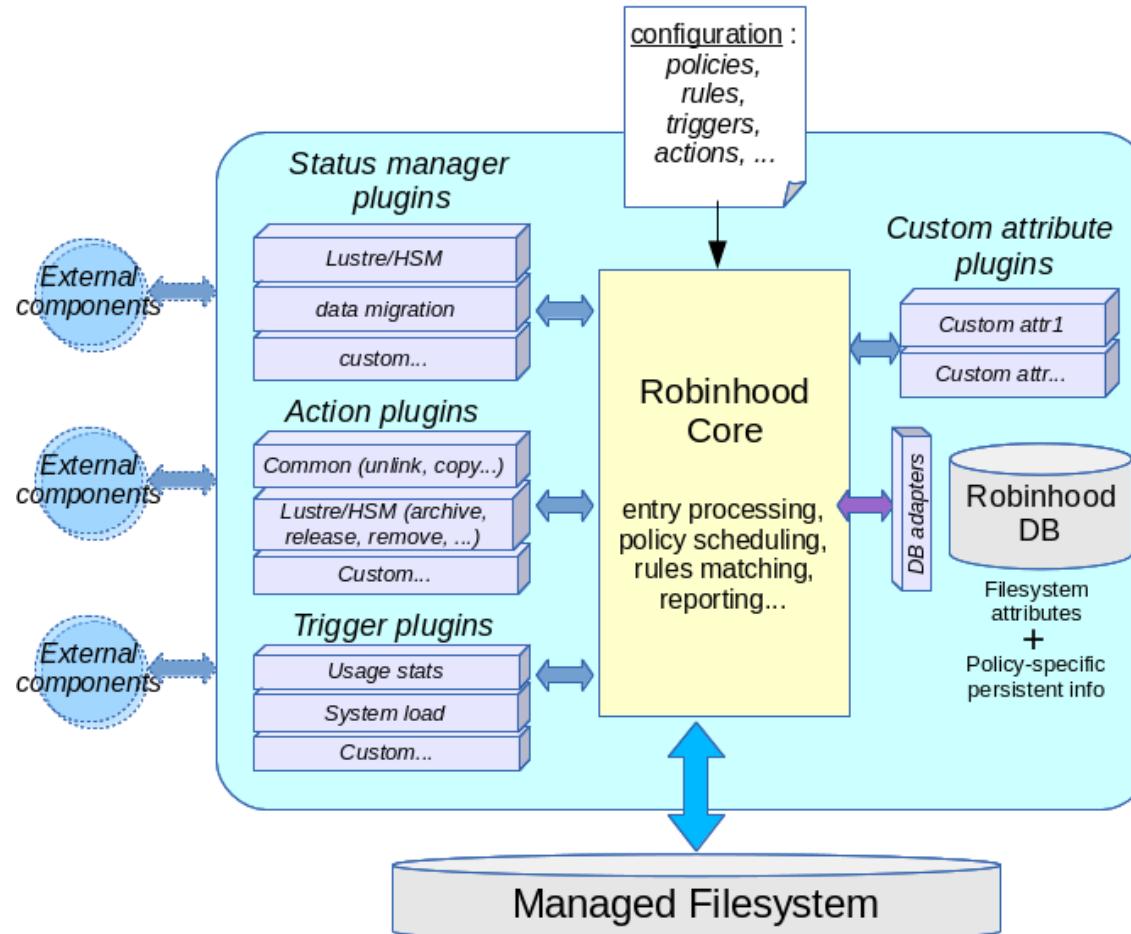
Goals

- Optimize per-record access
 - select/insert/update
- Optimize multi-criteria searches
- Optimize aggregating/sorting information

```
lfs find . -user foo -size -1024 |  
wc -l
```

```
select count(*) from ENTRIES where  
user='foo' and size<1024
```

Robinhood v3 Plugin-Based Architecture



Robinhood core made generic

- Purpose-specific code moved out of robinhood core: now dynamic plugins loaded at run-time
- All policy behaviors made configurable
- Vendors/users can write their own plugins for specific needs

Generic Policies (v3.0): Motivation

Before v3

- Static set of policies, statically defined
- 1 mode = 1 robinhood instance = 1 set of commands
- Instances can't coexist on the same filesystem

Package	"migration" policy	"purge" policy	"hsm_remove" policy	"rmdir" policy
robinhood-tmpfs lustre posix	-	rm (old files)	-	rmdir, rm -rf
robinhood-backup	Copy to storage backend	-	rm in storage backend	-
robinhood-lhsm	Lustre HSM archive	Lustre HSM release	Lustre HSM remove	-

Robinhood v2.x packages and policies

- E.g. Lustre/HSM purpose
 - Package: robinhood-lhsm
 - Commands: rbh-lhsm-*
 - Only implements HSM-related policies (*archive, release, remove*)
 - Cannot manage other actions (delete old files, ...)

Generic Policies (V3.0): Overview

Robinhood v3

- A single Robinhood instance for all purposes:

Lustre filesystems:

	Package	Generic policies
Lustre filesystems:	<code>robinhood-lustre</code>	Fully configurable
Other filesystems:	Package	Generic policies
	<code>robinhood-posix</code>	Fully configurable

Other filesystems:

- Robinhood core: **generic** policy implementation
- Specific aspects:
 - Specified by **configuration** (policy templates)
 - Possibly as specific **plugins** (dynamic libraries)
- Policies at will
 - Schedule any conceivable action
 - Just by writing a few lines of configuration

Generic Policies (V3.0): Example

Example: configurable pool migration with just a few lines of config

- Declare policy

```
declare_policy move_pool {  
    scope { type == file and status != ok }  
    default_action = cmd("lfs migrate -p {pool} -c {count} {path}");  
    status_manager = basic ; # manages ok/failed status  
}
```

- Specify rules

```
move_pool_rules {  
    rule migr_movies {  
        target_fileclass = movie_types;  
        action_params { pool = "pool1"; count = 2; }  
        condition { last_mod > 6h }  
    }  
    rule migr_hpc_data {  
        target_fileclass = big_hpc_files;  
        action_params { pool = "pool2"; count = 16; }  
        condition { last_mod > 6h }  
    }  
}
```

Rbh-report: see what is going on

Examples of reports

- Inode count and volume usage

```
$ rbh-report -u foo* -S
user , group,    type,   count, spc_used, avg_size
fool , proj001, file, 422367, 71.01 GB, 335.54 KB
...
Total: 498230 entries, 77918785024 bytes used (72.57 GB) 00
```

- File size profiles per user, per group...

```
$ rbh-report --szprof -i|-u 'foo*' |-g 'bar*'
```

- Printf option to rbh-find (contributed by Cray)

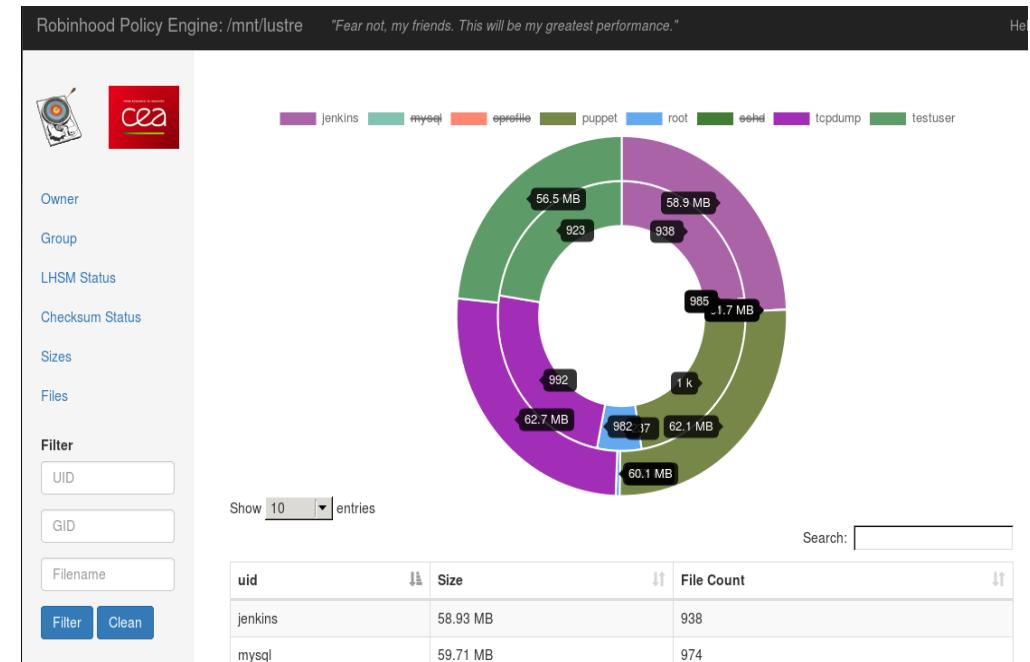
```
$ rbh-find -status lhsm:released -printf "%p %Rm{lhsm.archive_id}\n"
```

- Top users, top groups, top file sizes, top directories...
- Changelog statistics: operations rate (create, mkdir, setattr...)

Nice new features since last year

New web interface (in 3.0)

- New WebUI, compatible with robinhood 3 DB schema
- Modern widgets and layout
- Fine-grained authentication
- Compatibility with newer MySQL versions



Nice new features since last year

REST interface (in 3.0)

- Makes it possible to query robinhood DB through a standard protocol (HTTP)
- 3 possible output format:

■ Classic JSON (key-value)

[http://server/api/native/...](http://server/api/native/)

■ Datatables.js:

<http://server/api/data/...>

■ GraphJS:

<http://server/api/graph/...>

- Simple and convenient query language:

> Returns usage stats about all users and status (as JSON)

[http://rbh/api/native/acct/...](http://rbh/api/native/acct/)

> Returns usage stats about a given user (as JSON)

<http://rbh/api/native/acct/uid.filter/foo>

Advanced querying. Example: split user's info by gid

<http://rbh/api/native/acct/uid.filter/foo/gid.group>

- Allow querying robinhood stats from scripts, dashboards, ...
 - E.g: take usage stats into account for job scheduling

```
{
  "uid": "root",
  "gid_set": "root",
  "type_set": "dir,file",
  "lhsm_status_set": ",new",
  "checksum_status_set": ",ok",
  "size": "975872",
  "blocks": "1912",
  "count": "237",
  "sz0": "0",
  "sz1": "0",
  "sz32": "0",
  "sz1K": "237",
  "sz32K": "0",
  "sz1M": "0",
  "sz32M": "0",
  "sz1G": "0",
  "sz32G": "0",
  "sz1T": "0"
}
```

Plugins: extending robinhood

Example of plugin: “checker” (v3.0)

“Checker” policy plugin

- Executes admin-defined commands and stores their output to rbh's DB
- Saves OK/failed status
- Manages specific attributes: last execution time and last success time
- Example applications:
 - **Detecting silent corruption:** run “md5” on files at regular interval, and check the output is unchanged.
 - **Audit filesystem contents:** run “file” utility on all files, then generate a report by file type

```
SELECT ... GROUP BY file_output
```

Example of plugin: “modeguard”

Community-contributed policy plugin

- Enforces mode on selected entries
- Maintains OK/Invalid status on entries
- Two parameters: “set mask” and “clear mask”

- Example applications:
 - Force user directories to be setgid: `set_mask=02000`
 - Remove executable bits on files: `clear_mask=0111`

- Again: the scope of the policy is defined in the configuration

Developers: how to write a policy plugin? (1/2)

Anatomy of a robinhood plugin

- Plugins are Shared Object Libraries
 - Loaded on demand
 - Cached by the application
 - Can be included within the project or distributed separately

- Expose a clearly defined interface
 - `mod_get_name()`
 - `mod_get_version()`
 - `mod_get_{status_manager, action, scheduler}()`

Developers: how to write a policy plugin? (2/2)

Exposed methods (details)

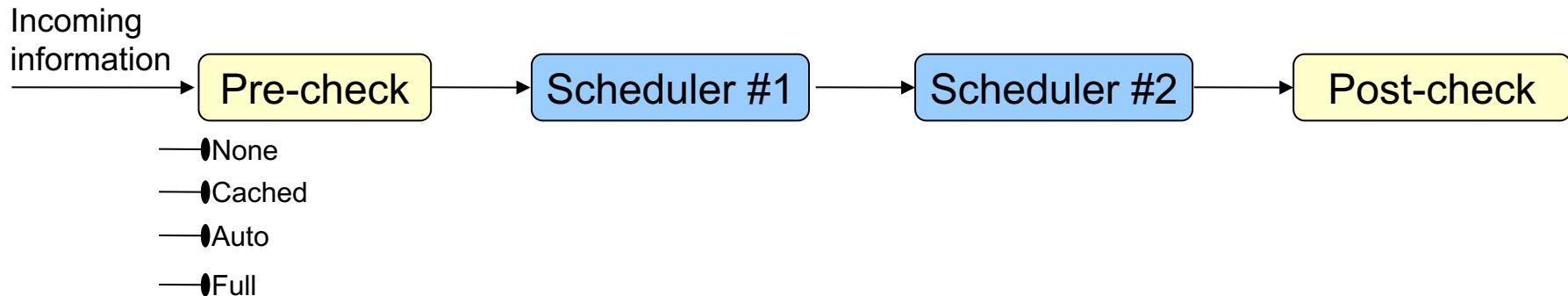
- Pick a name
- Define the parameters of your module
- Define the status manager
 - Set of all possible states of an entry
 - How to store them in the DB (type, default value...)
 - A couple callbacks for rbh to operate the state machine
- Define the exposed actions
 - Core functions of the policy
 - Set mode, rename file, delete directory, archive file...
- See the existing ones in: <http://github.com/cea-hpc/robinhood/src/modules>

Development status and roadmap

New in v3.1: schedulers

Problem: how to regulate the pace of actions and order them properly?

- 1st example: avoid overwhelming the coordinator with archive requests
 - No existing feedback mechanism from MDT to Robinhood
- 2nd example: archive into a rate-limited system
 - Interleave big and small files to maximise rate and throughput



Schedulers

Implemented as plugins

- Enabled and parametrized from configuration files
- Stackable
- Entry handling function can decide to:
 - Take the entry (forward it to the next level of processing)
 - Skip the entry for this run
 - Pause the handling of new entries for a while
 - Stop the handling of new entries for this run
 - Stop and cancel in-flight entries in the other schedulers

Upcoming features

Robinhood v3.1 (1H2017)

- Fixes from 3.0
- Schedulers
 - TBF rate limiting
 - Per run-limitations
- New policy plugins
 - Modeguard
 - Deferred purges
- Performance improvements
- Improved GUI

Robinhood v3 Roadmap

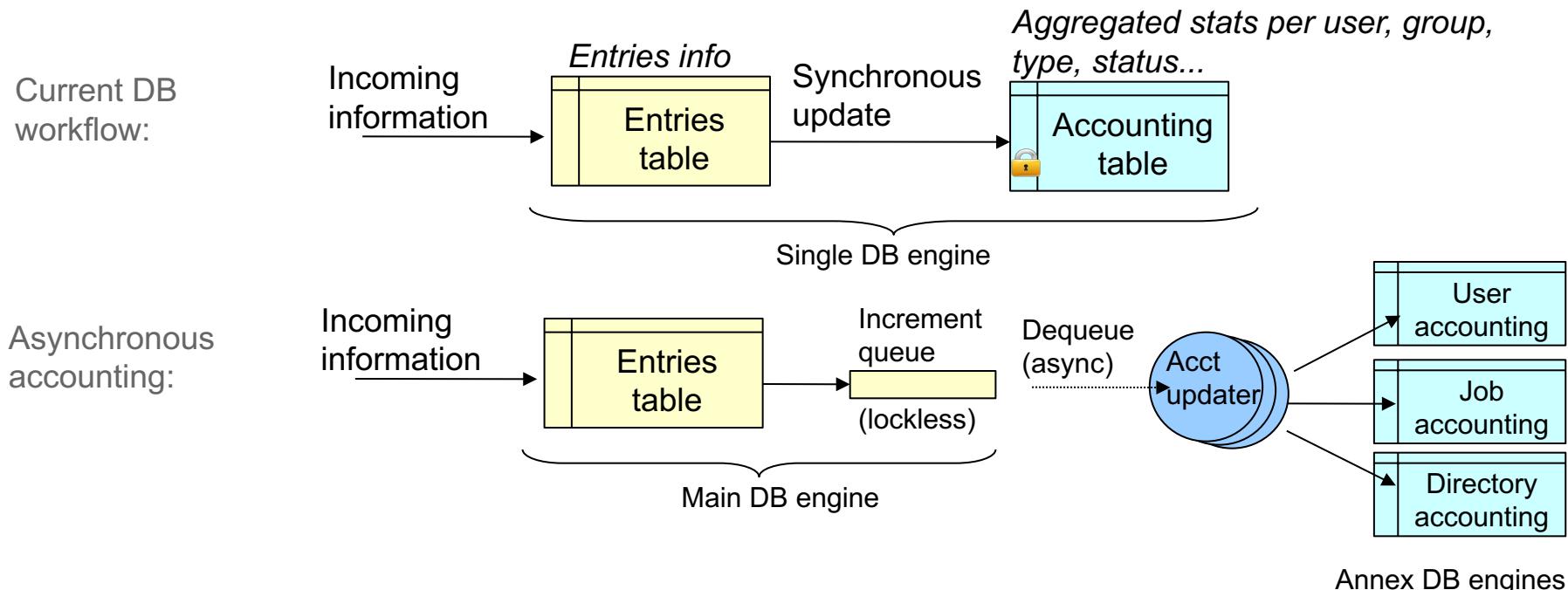
Candidate features for v3.2 (2H2017)

- **Asynchronous 'stat' of entries:** higher ingest rate
 - No 'stat' performed synchronously when processing changelogs
 - Changelog are ingested directly to the DB (high throughput!)
 - Background (asynchronous) update of entry metadata in DB
- **Asynchronous accounting:** more information, reduced impact on performance
 - Reduce the impact of 'accounting' on DB performance
 - Can possibly be offloaded to a 2nd server
 - Allows implementing much more aggregated stats (track users activity, jobs activity...)

Next Plans: Asynchronous Accounting

■ Asynchronous accounting

- Goal: reduce the impact of accounting on ingest rate.
- Make it possible to distribute the accounting processing and its DB.



Lustre contributions from the robinhood project

Misc. performance and stability enhancements

■ New changelog distribution interface

- Character device to efficiently deliver records from kernel to userland
- Orders of magnitude faster than the venerable “KUC” pipe
- Landed for 2.10 (LU-7659)

■ QoS for HSM requests on the coordinator

- Reduce the impact of massive archiving campaigns on Lustre/HSM
- Target 2.10 (LU-9482)

■ New LustreAPI

- Work by Cray tracked by LU-5969
- Optimize massive entry handling
 - Avoid continuous open/close of FS root and “fid” directory for IOCTLs

Getting involved

What can robinhood do for you?

■ Administrators

- Install (or upgrade to) v3
- Give us feedback on the mailing lists (robinhood-support@sf.net)
- Tell us about the limitations you encounter, the features you would need

■ Developers

- Implement new plugins and make people happy
- Help experimenting with alternative DBMS
- Get in touch on robinhood-devel@sf.net

■ Vendors

- Consider the added value of solution-specific plugins

Thank you for your attention !

Questions ?

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