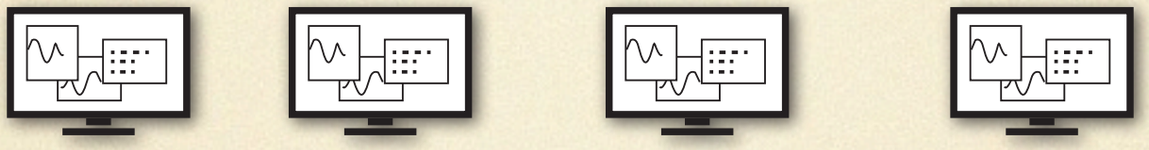
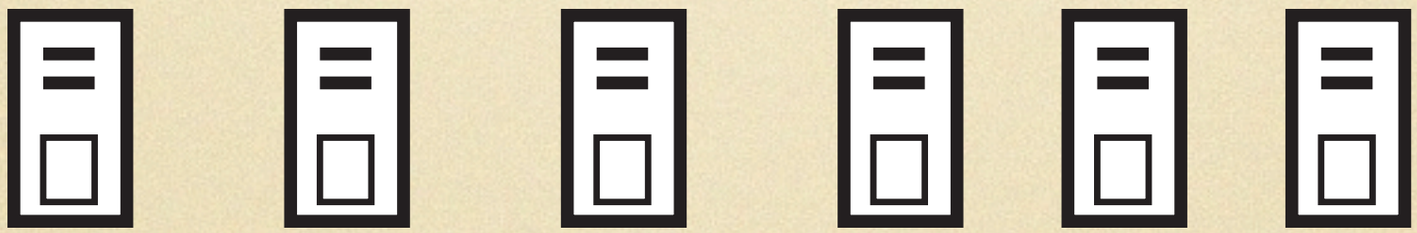
An attempt to innovate the standard model of control systems

R. Ammendola (INFN Roma TV)
C. Bisegni (INFN-LNF)
S. Calabrò (LAL & INFN-LNF)
L. Catani (INFN Roma TV)
P. Ciuffetti (INFN-LNF)
G. Di Pirro (INFN-LNF)
L. Foggetta (LAL & INFN-LNF)
G. Mazzitelli (INFN-LNF)
A. Stecchi (INFN-LNF)
F. Zani (INFN Roma TV)

"The *standard model* consists of a local area network providing communication between front end microcomputers, connected to the accelerator, and workstations, providing the operator interface and computational support."

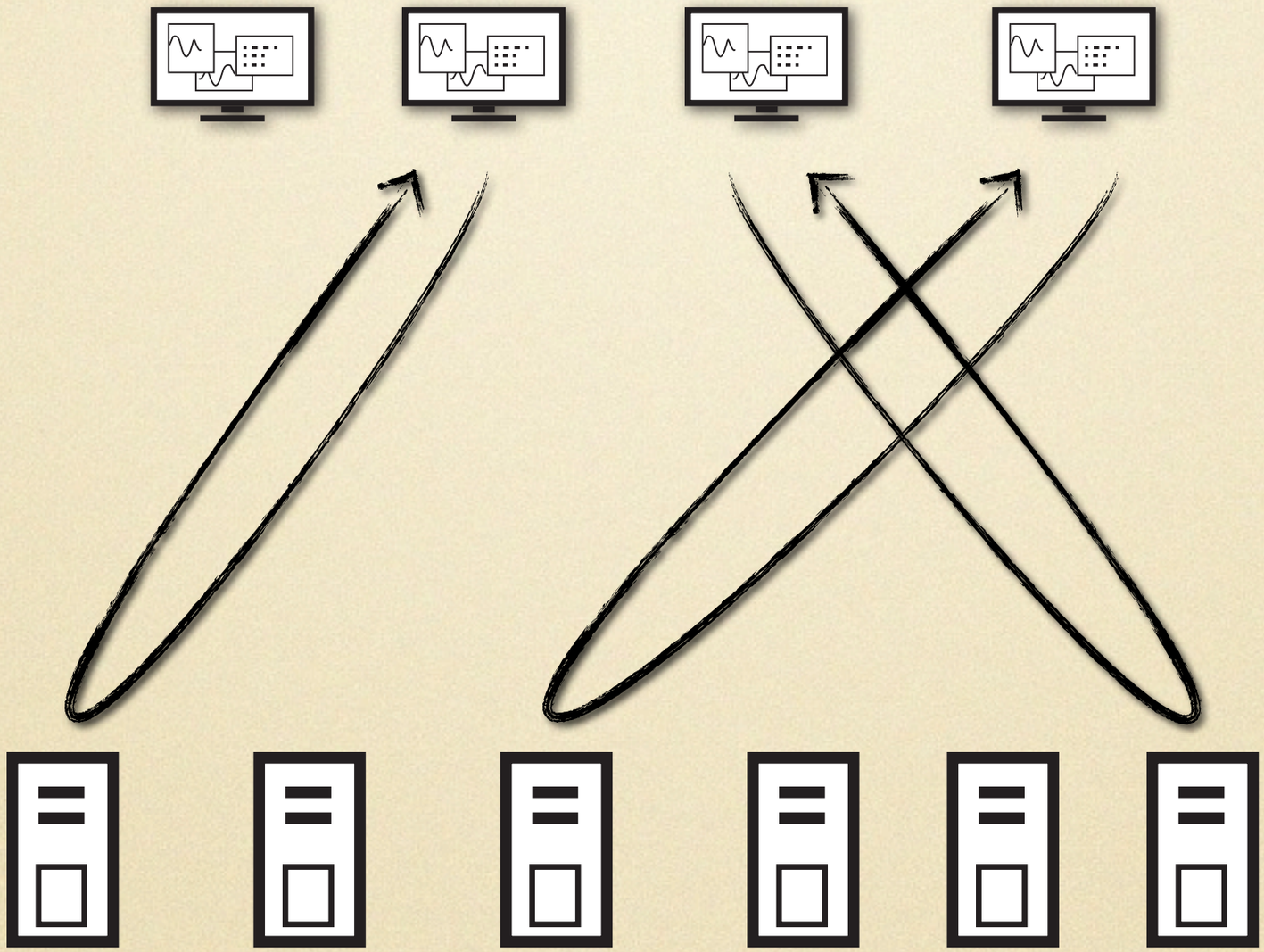
control room





accelerator

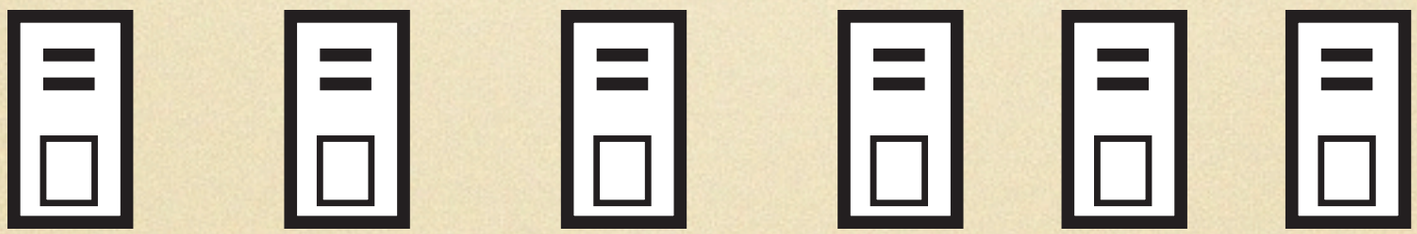
control room



accelerator

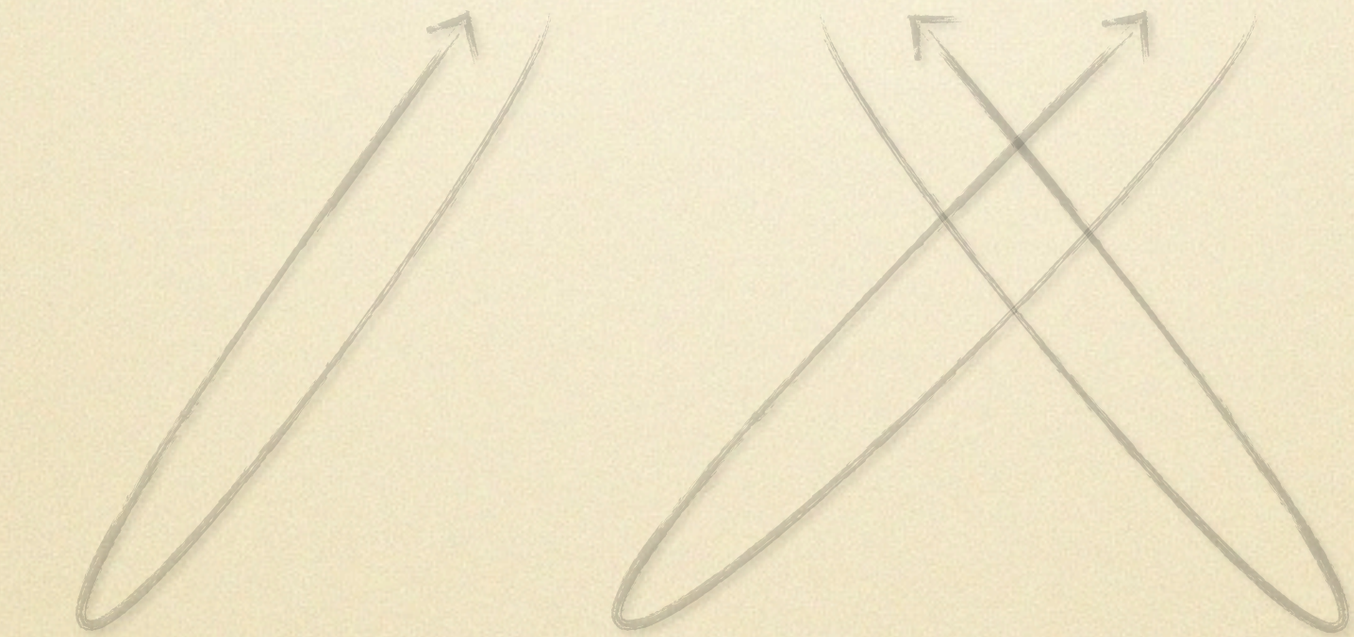
control room

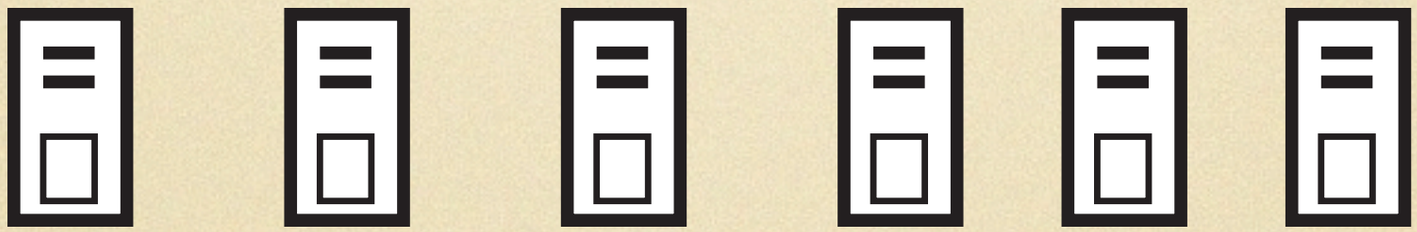
middle-layer



accelerator

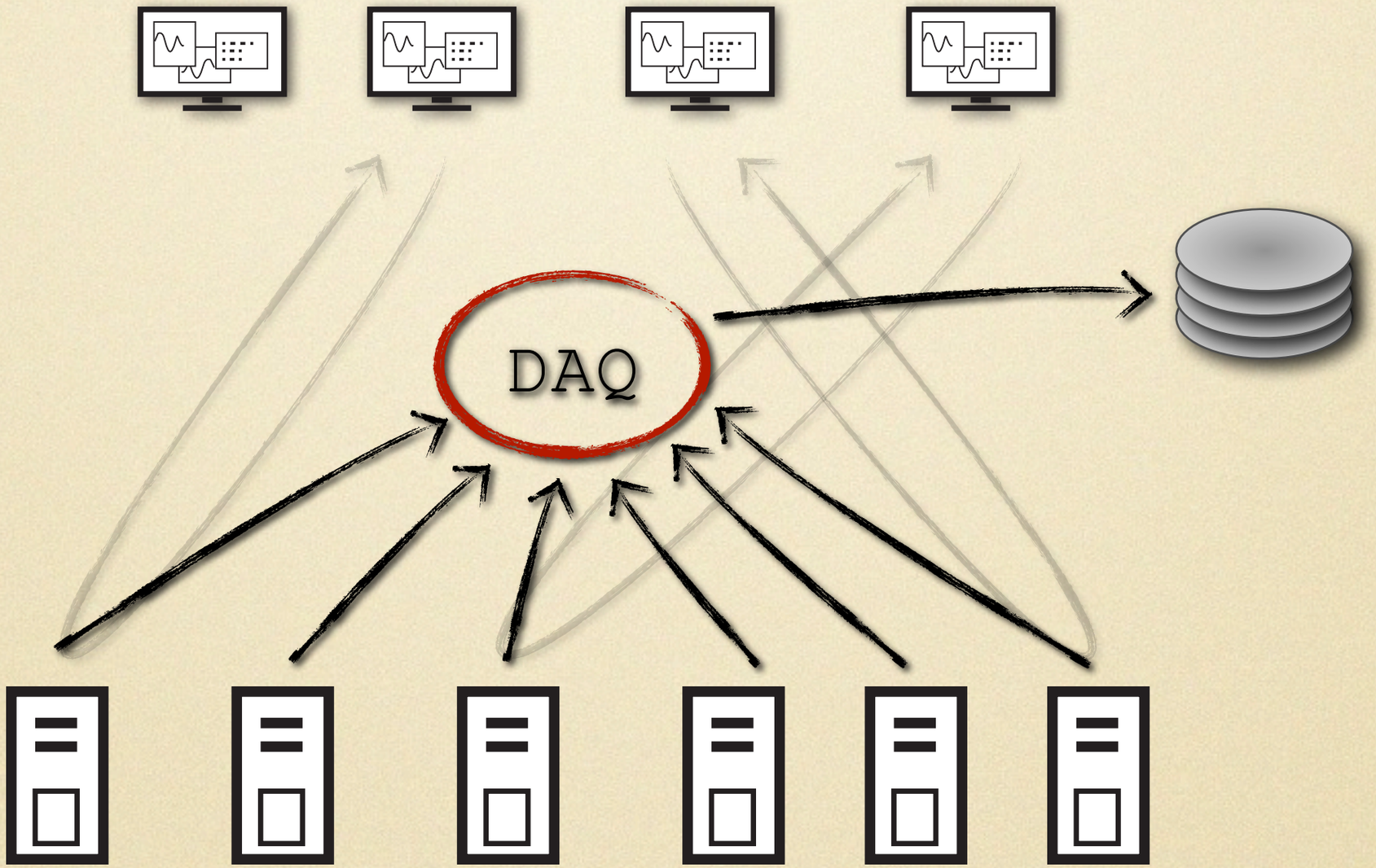
control room





accelerator

control room



accelerator

the starting point

- **goal**: develop a new solution for a control system's DAQ
- use key/value db as alternative to RDBMS
  - fast, scalable, distributed storage, low-cost servers

the next step

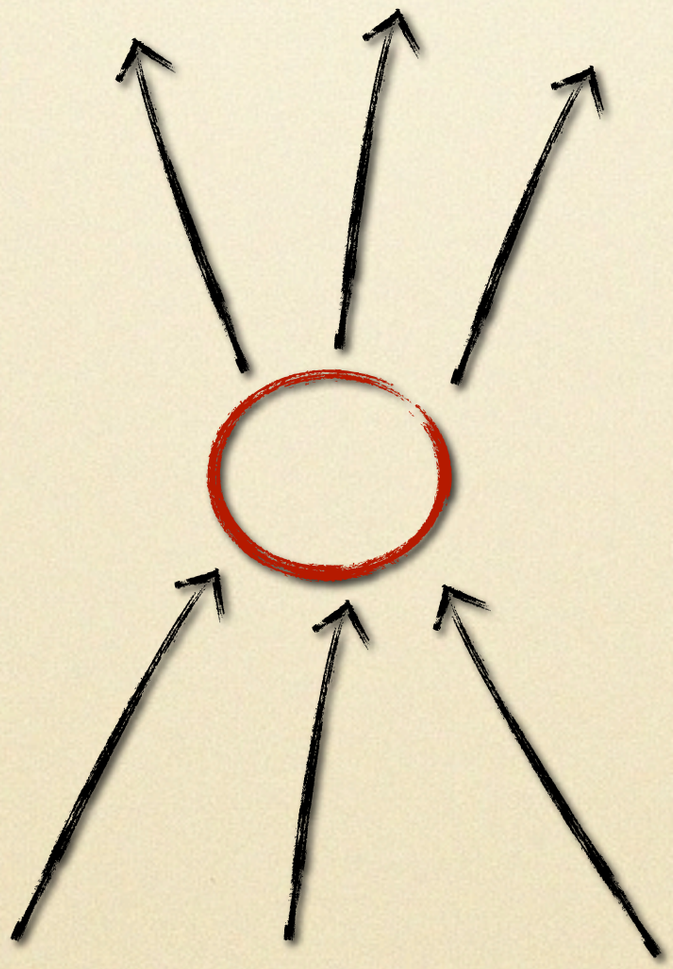
the next step

- **extended goal**: *key/value* db looks great, can we use it for **live data** ?
  - no, data retrieving too slow

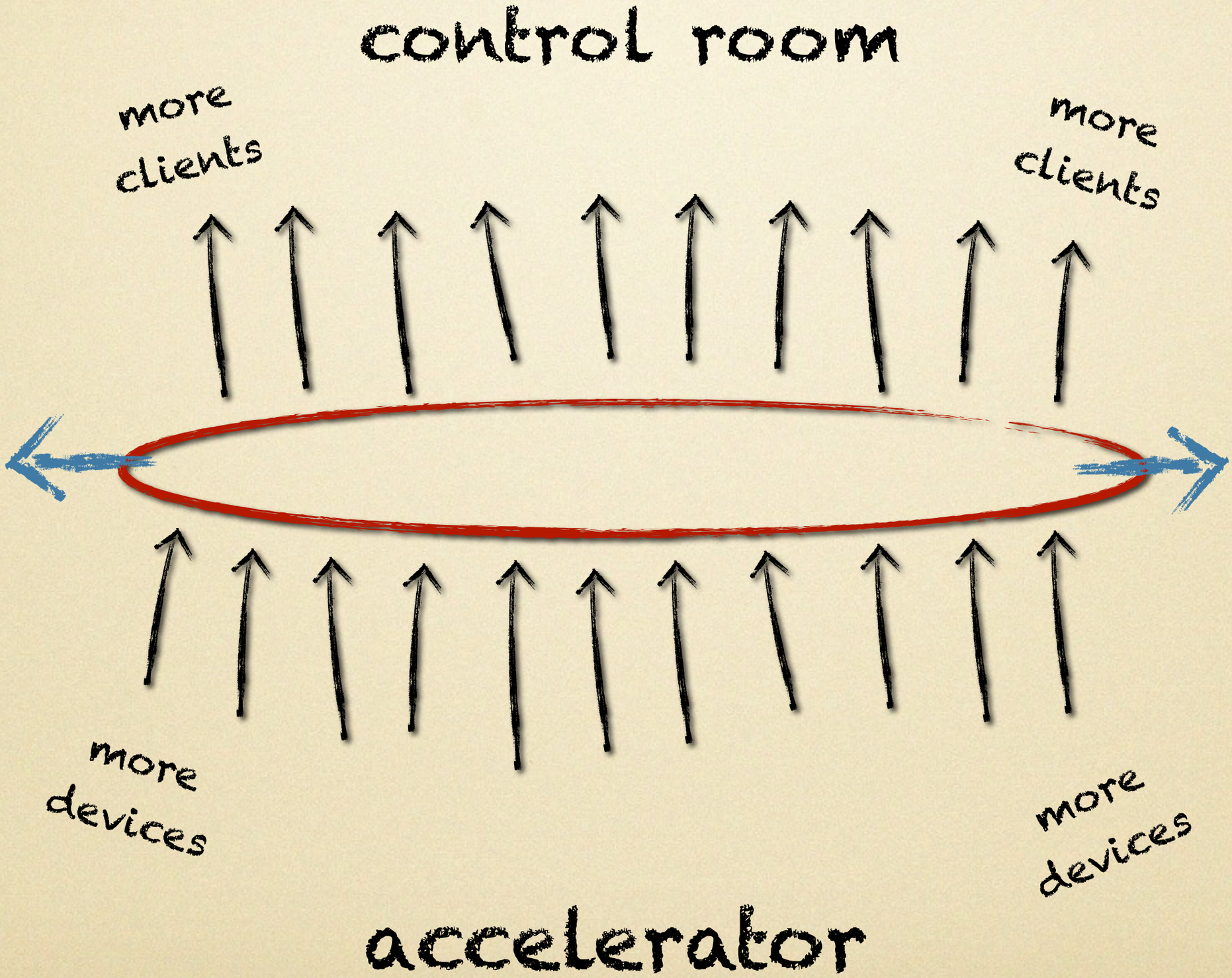
the next step

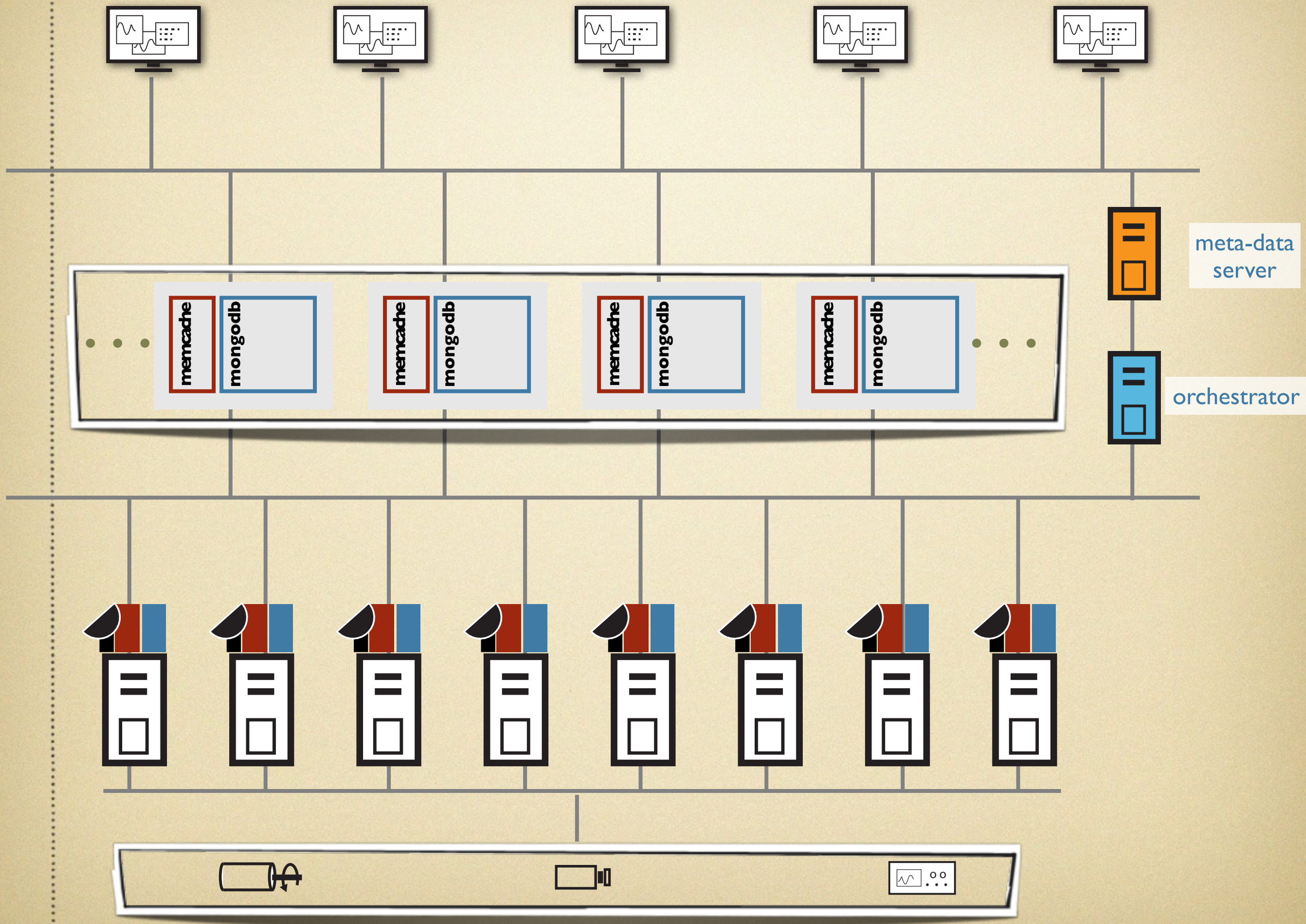
- **extended goal**: *key/value* db looks great, can we use it for **live data** ?
  - no, data retrieving too slow
- use distributed caching instead
  - same topology, same data structure, similar scalability

control room



accelerator


control room
more clients
more clients
more devices
more devices
accelerator


memcache
mongodb
memcache
mongodb
memcache
mongodb
memcache
mongodb
meta-data server
orchestrator

query data

memcache
mongodb
memcache
mongodb
memcache
mongodb
memcache
mongodb

meta-data server

orchestrator

write db data

query data

pull data

memcache

mongodb

meta-data server

orchestrator

write db data

push live data

query data

pull data

command

memcache

mongodb

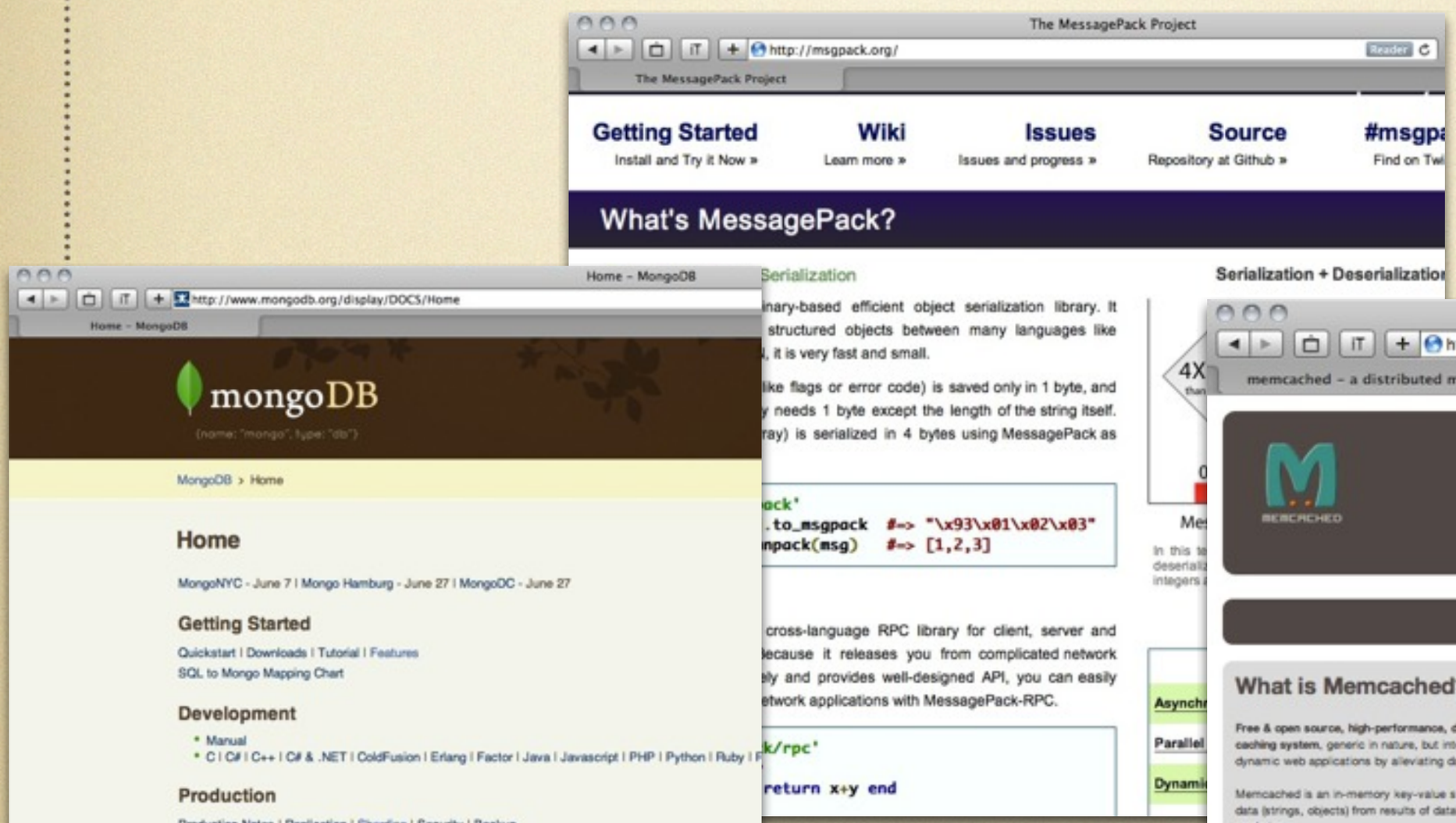
meta-data server

orchestrator

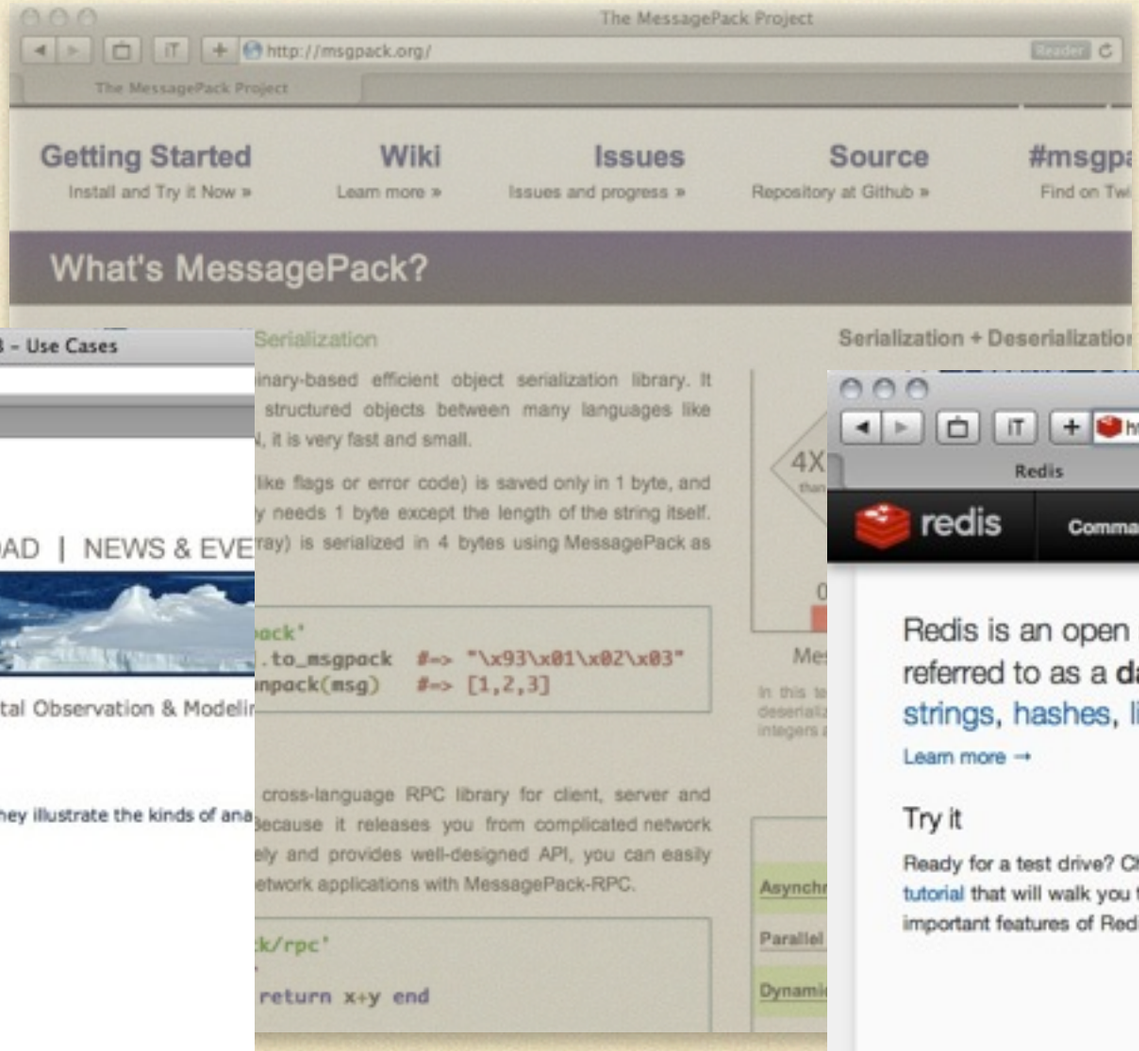
write db data

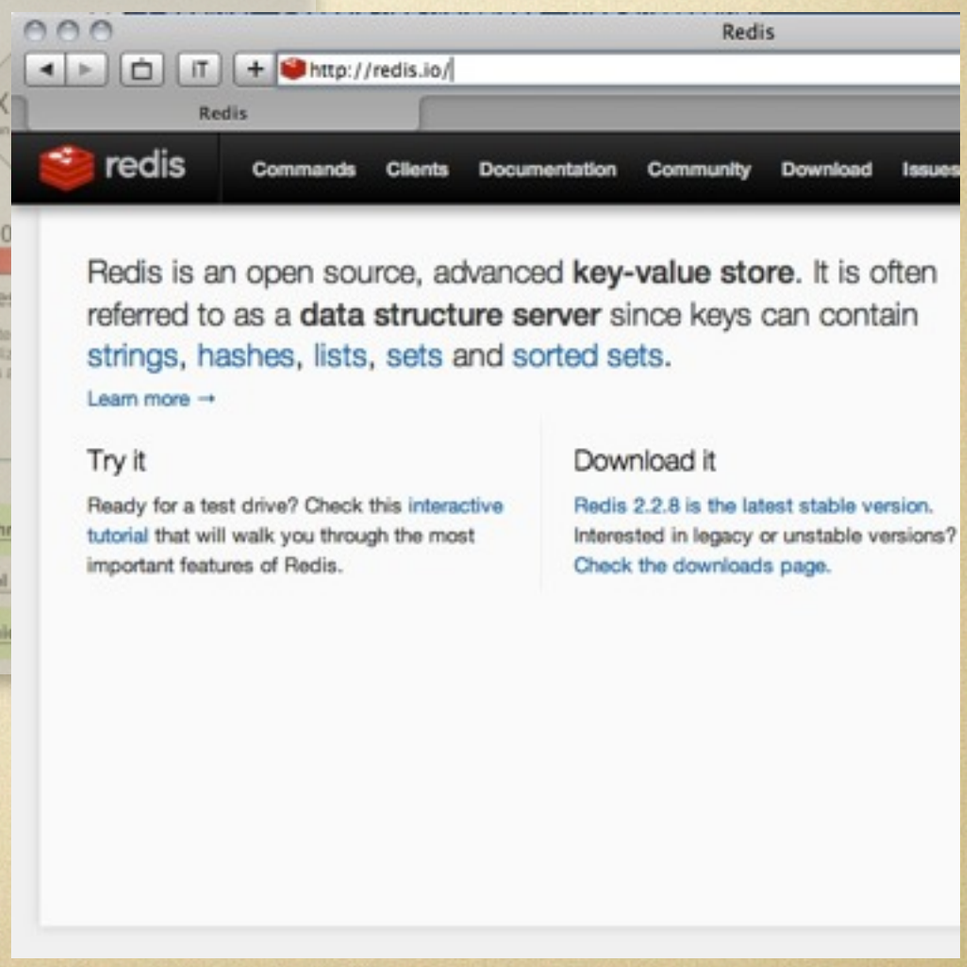
push live data

core services candidates

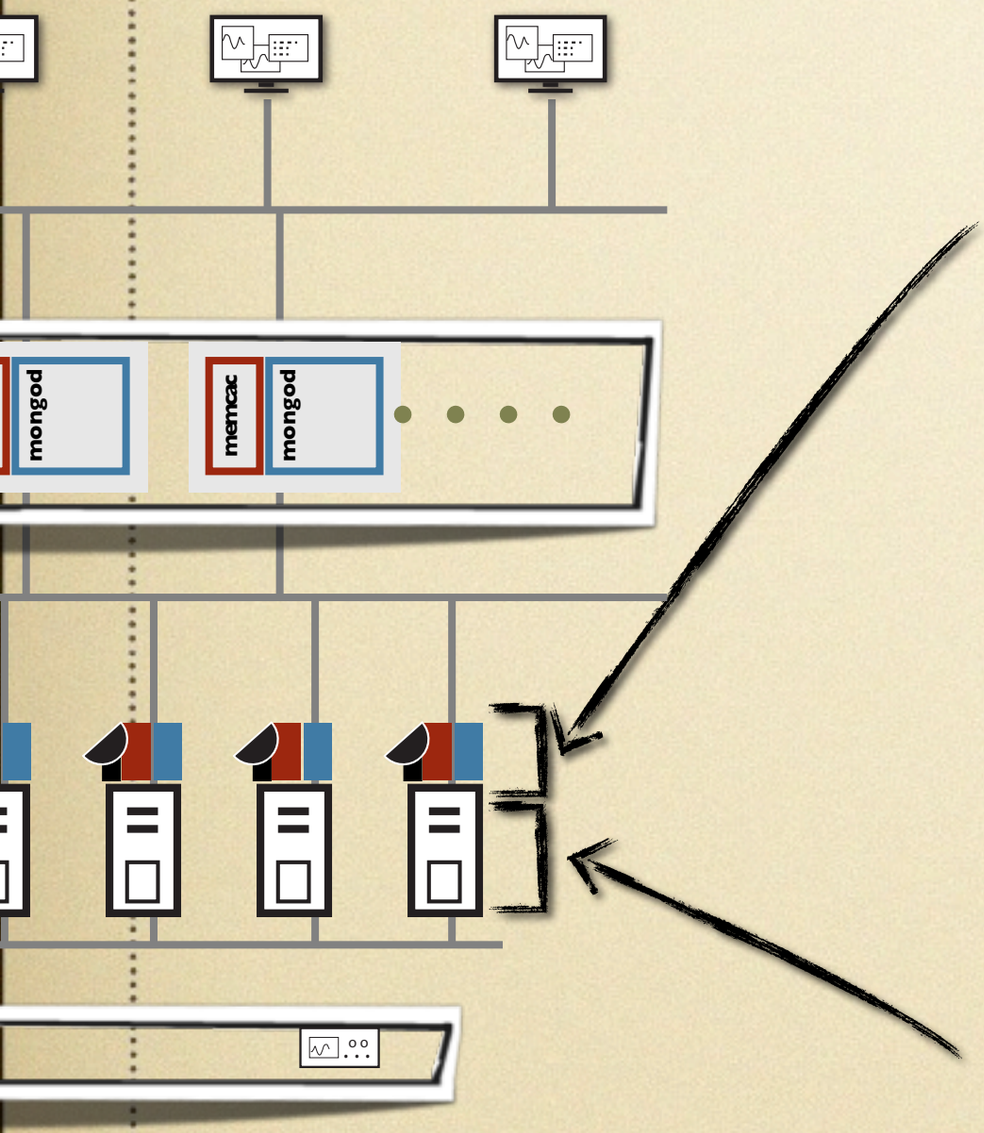


core services alternatives





Control Library e Control Unit



multi-threads

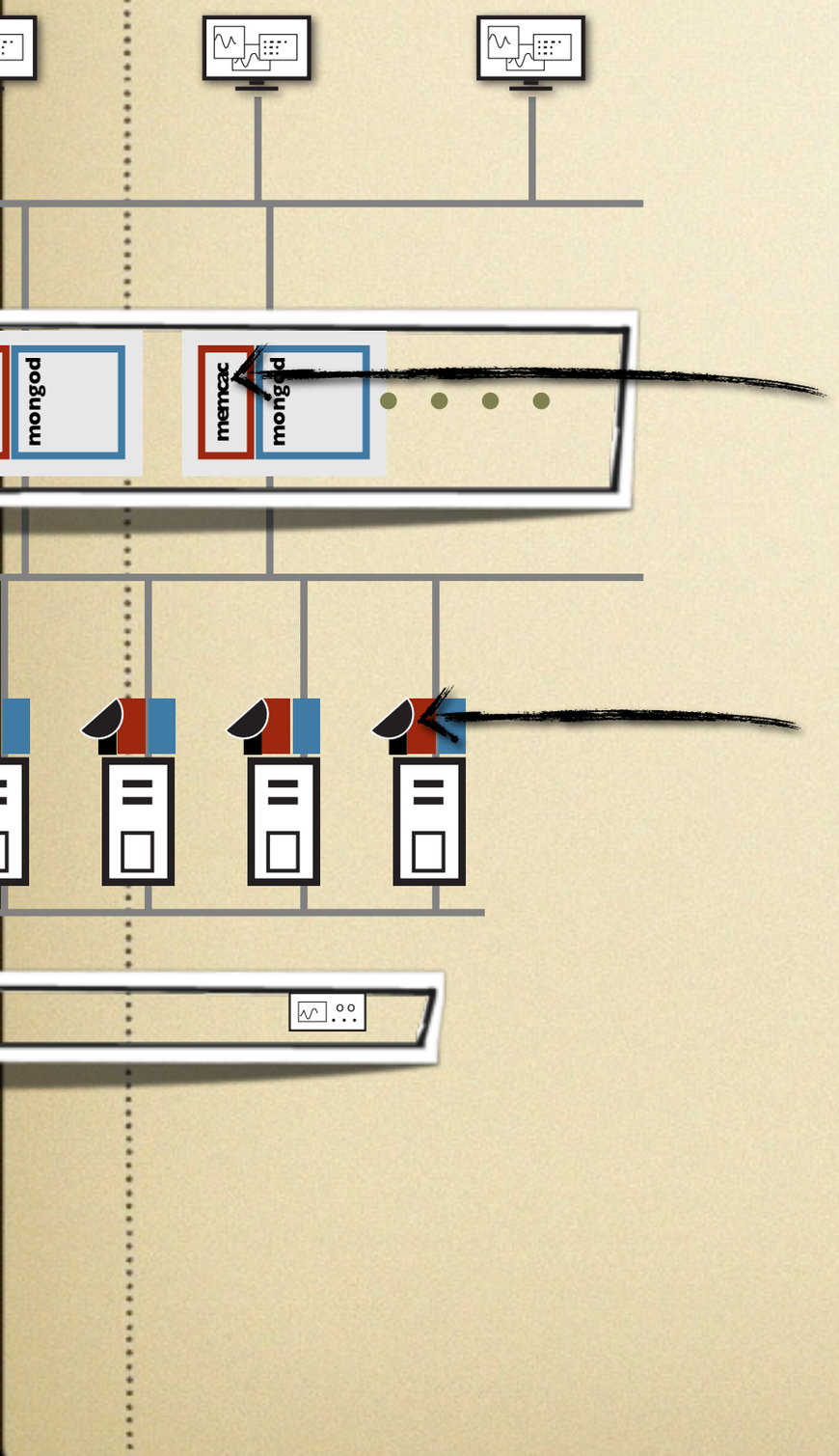
- The Control Library is the set of functions needed to hw-driver developer to communicate with the CS.

API allows:

- Manage configurations
- writing data to Live and History
- Commands handling

- The Control Unit implements the CL to control an accelerator component or a family thereof.

Live data

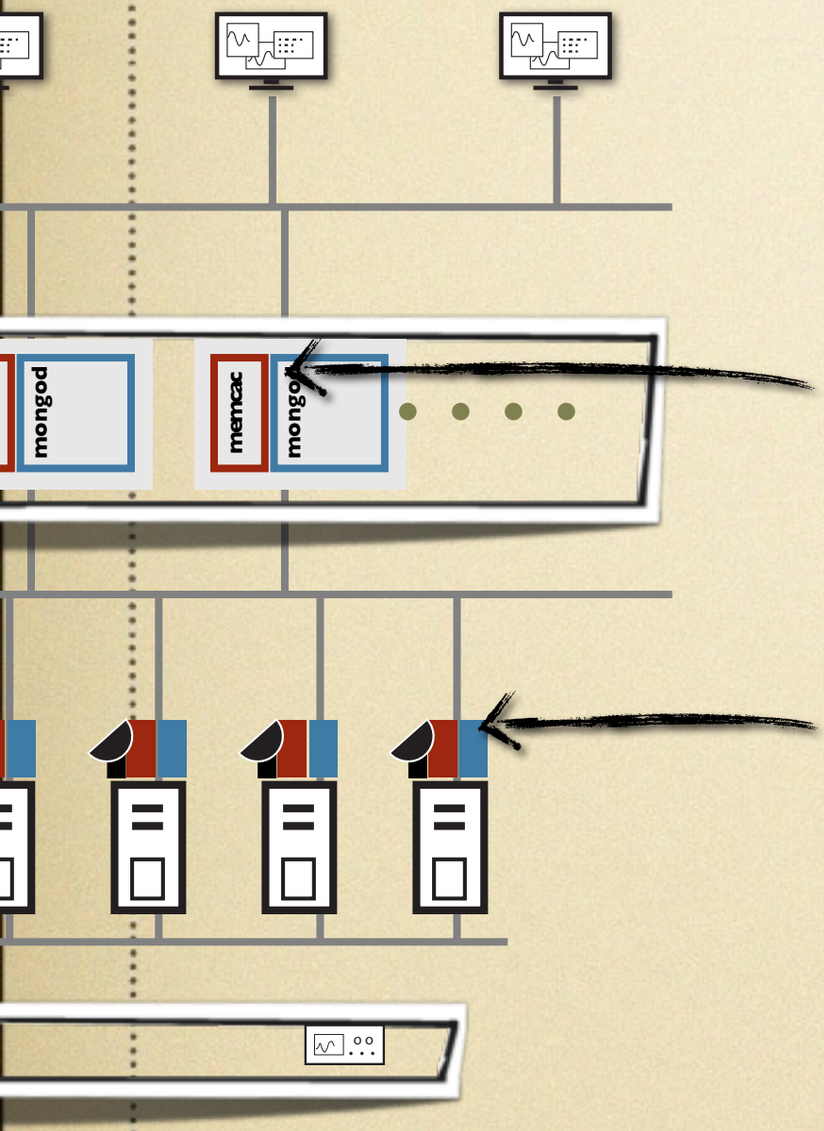


- Allows high-performance caching of data produced by all components managed by CS.

- one *key* per data (a single "container" continuously updated)

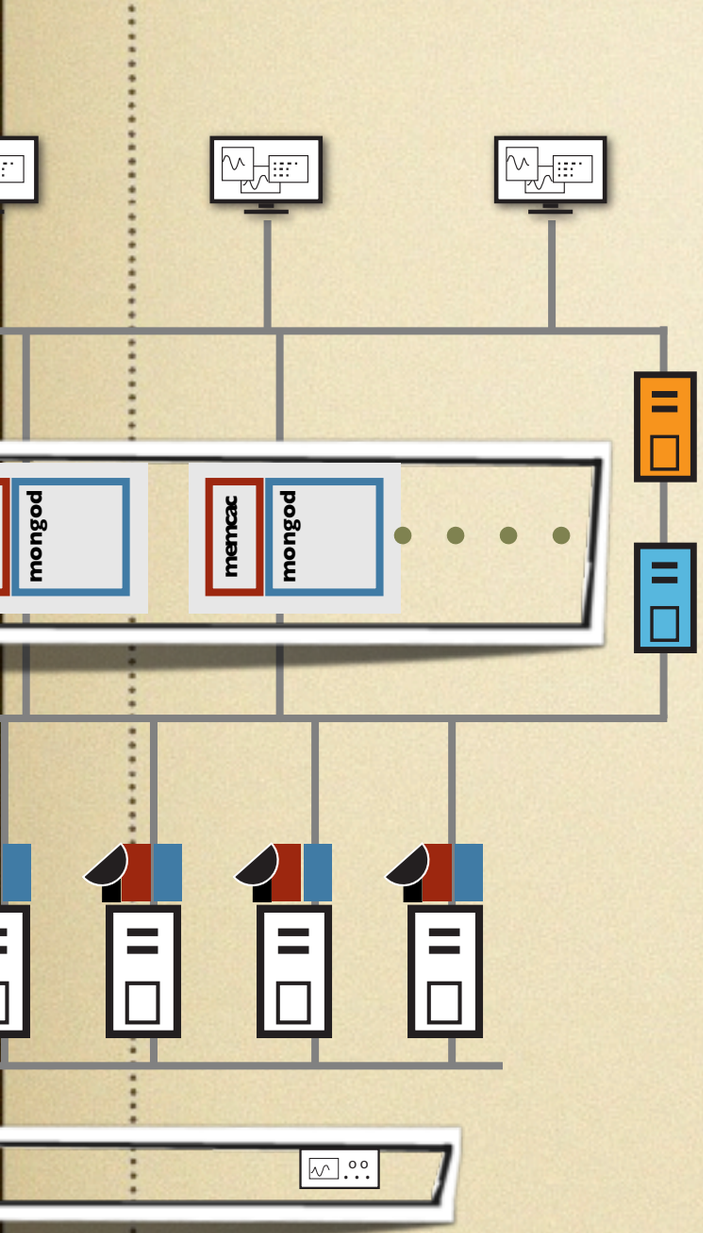
- dynamical *keys* re-distribution allows automatic failover by distributing to other server the load of failed one.
- Scalability is also guaranteed by the same feature

History data



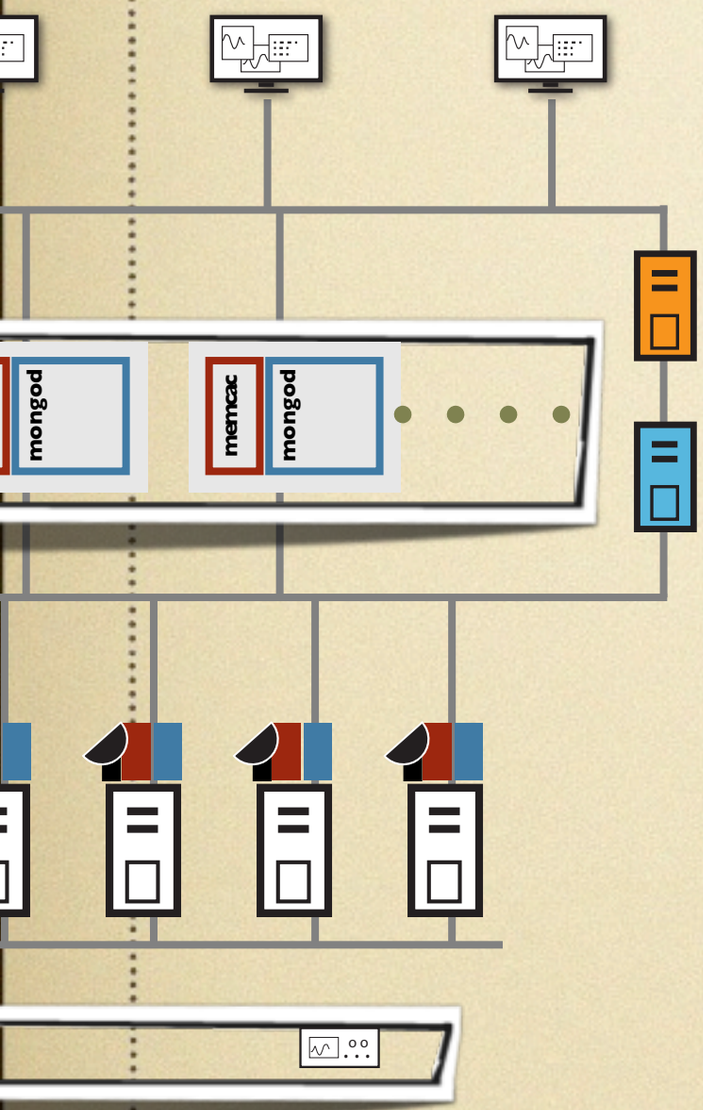
- *key/value* non-relational data-base
- scalability and load balancing by *sharding*
- fast record writing (simpler structure because it has no tables)
- fast queries on primary keys
- (fast) parallel search on cluster nodes

Metadata Server



- CU configuration manager
  (e.g. managing of push data rate)
- Semantic of data (e.g. db records structure)
- Command's list and semantic
- Naming service

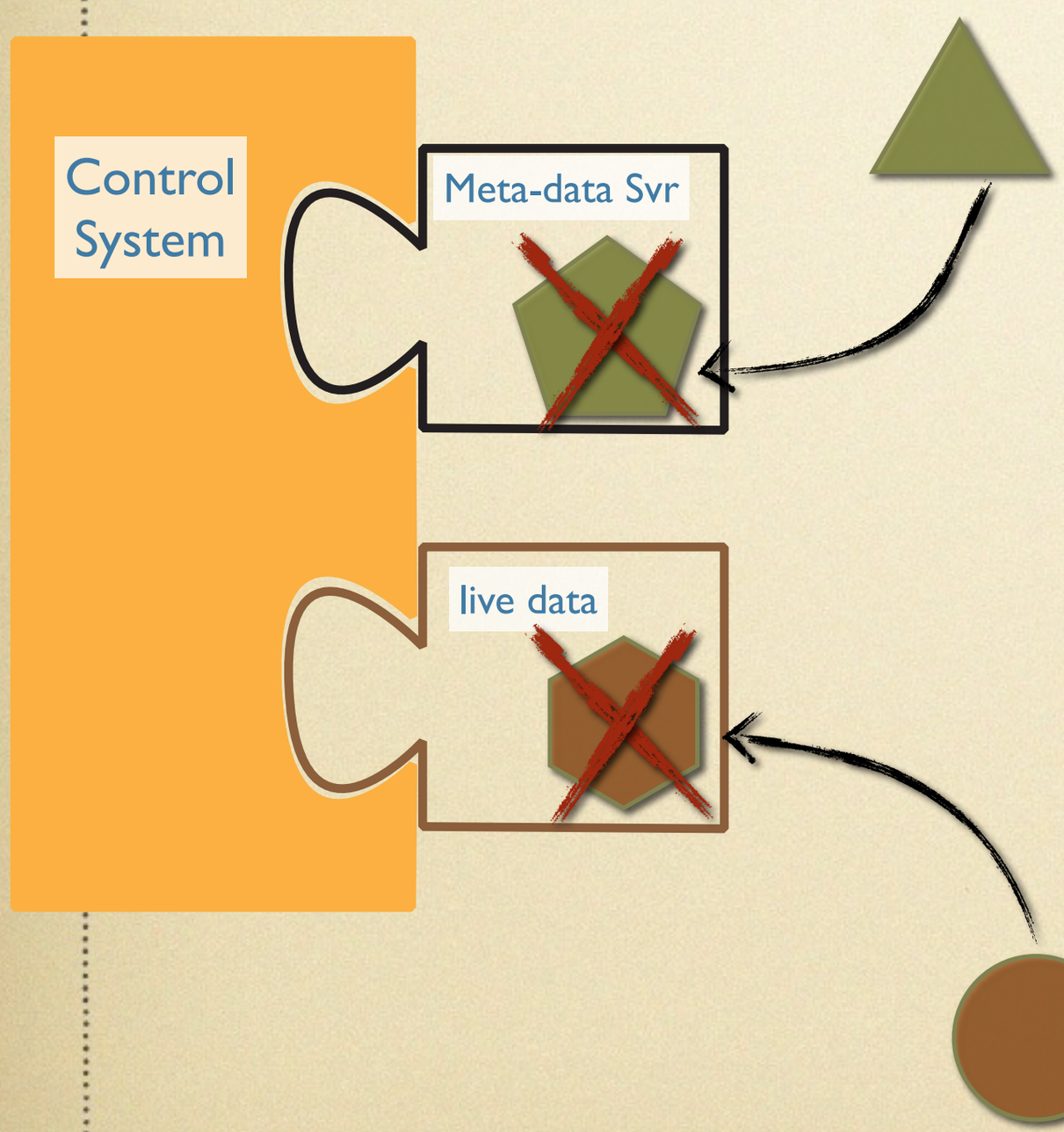
Orchestrator



- Provides middle-layer services, e.g. locking of CUs to prevent command conflicts

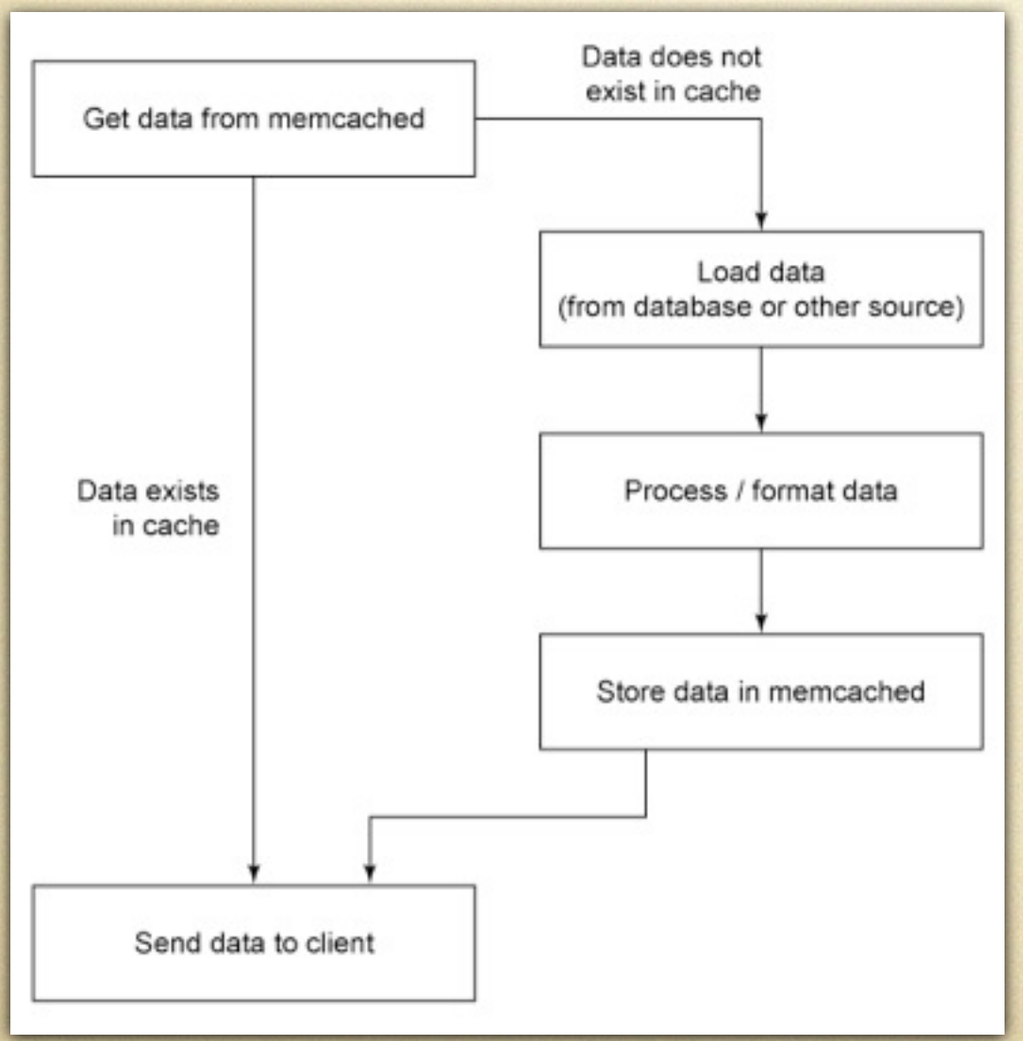
- multi-CUs commands, e.g.
  - global set-points save/restore
  - software feedback
  - on-line measurements
  - ...

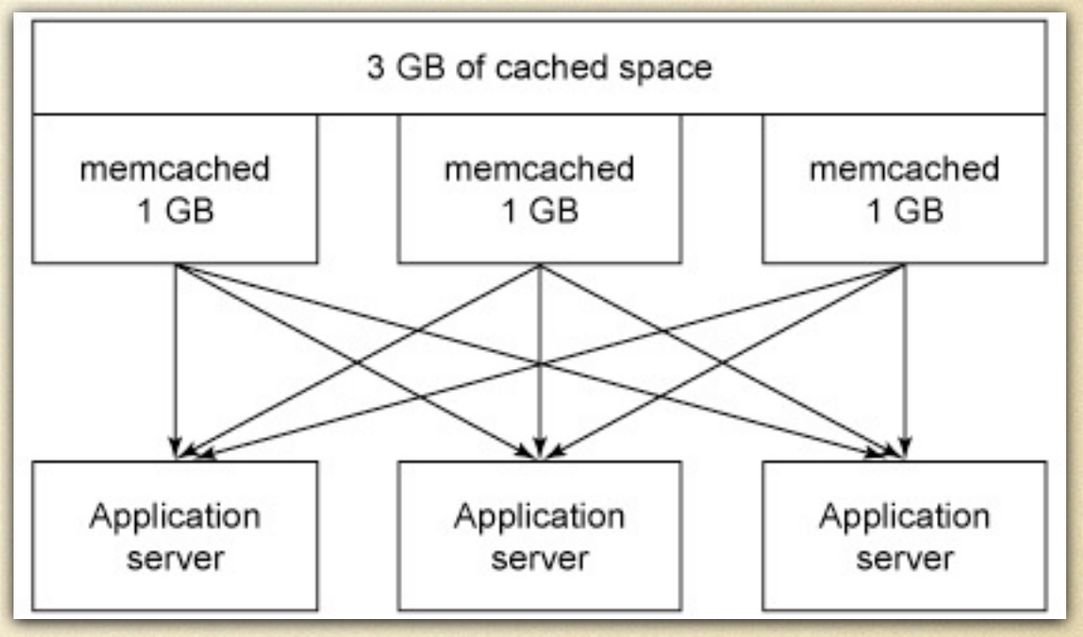
Abstraction of components

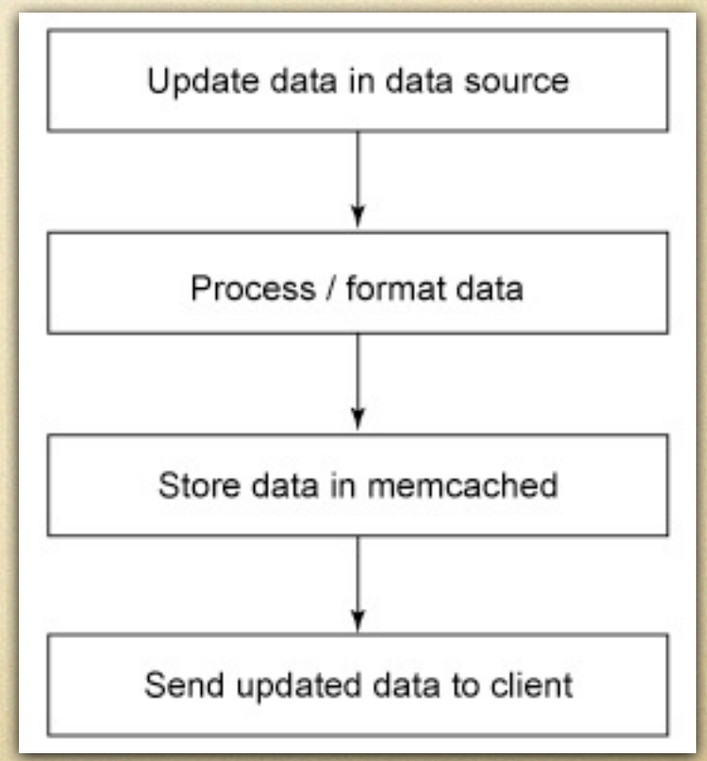


- each service isn't directly offered to users; glueing and wrapping routines will be developed to provide an high level of abstraction
- updates of core services doesn't influence the user applications
- higher flexibility in defining API

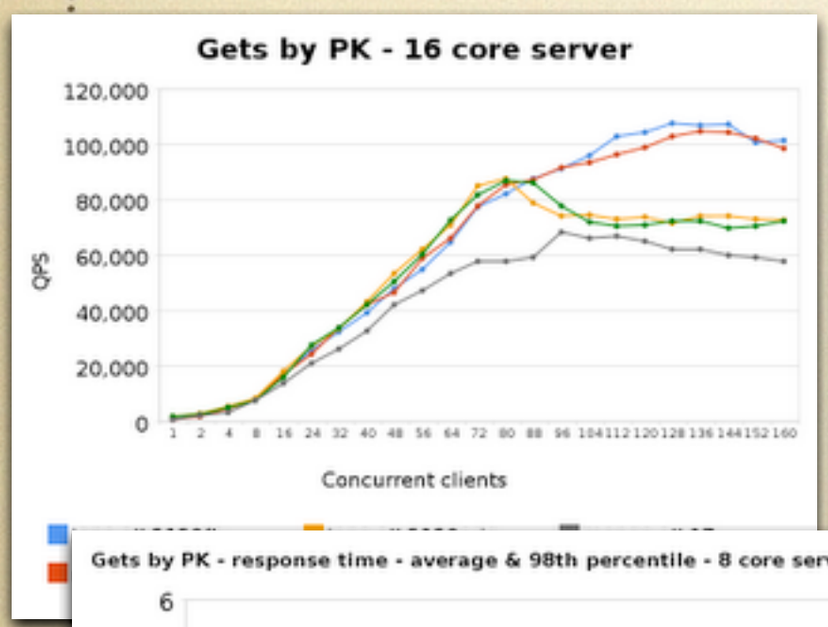
memcached

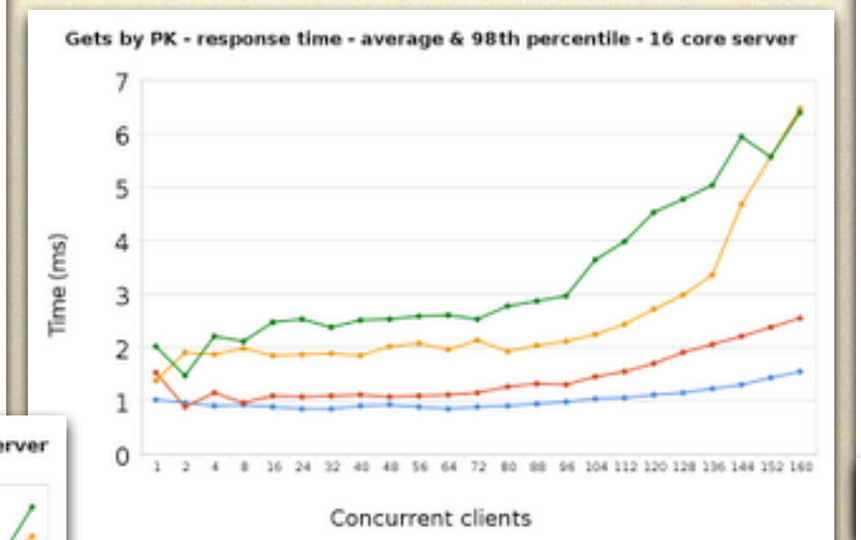

Get data from memcached
Data does not exist in cache
Load data (from database or other source)
Process / format data
Store data in memcached
Data exists in cache
Send data to client

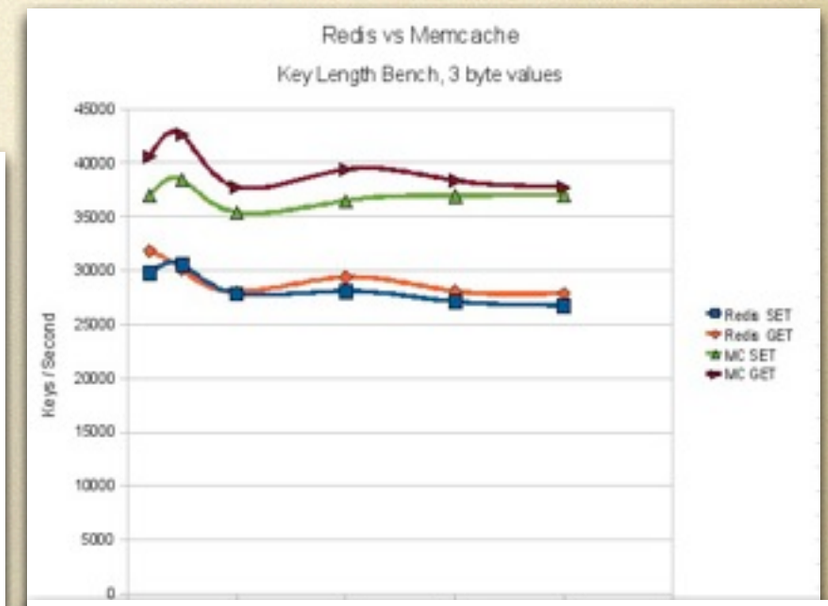

3 GB of cached space
memcached 1 GB
memcached 1 GB
memcached 1 GB
Application server
Application server
Application server

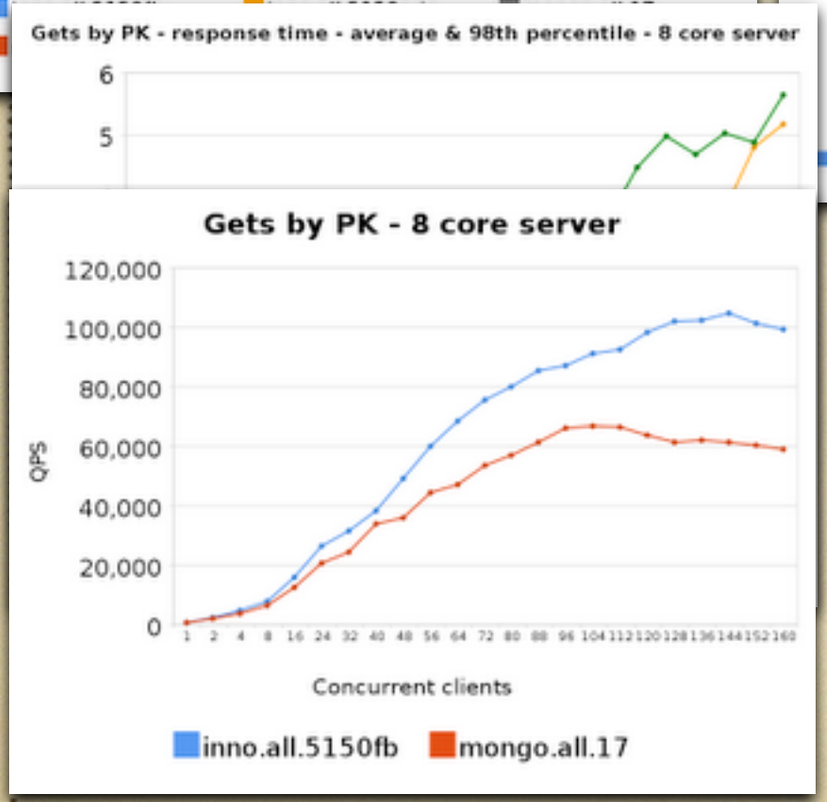

Update data in data source
Process / format data
Store data in memcached
Send updated data to client

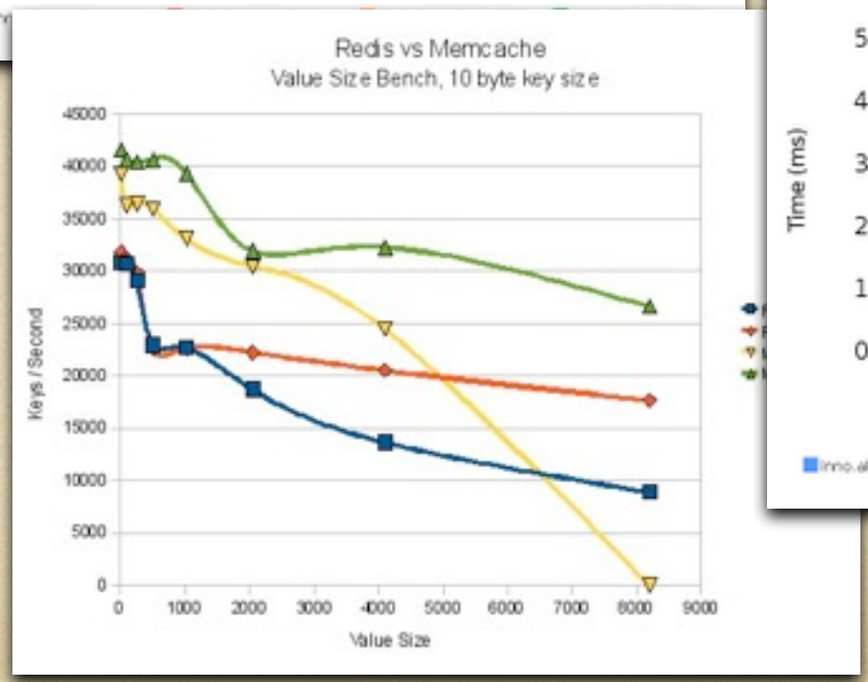
memcached performance

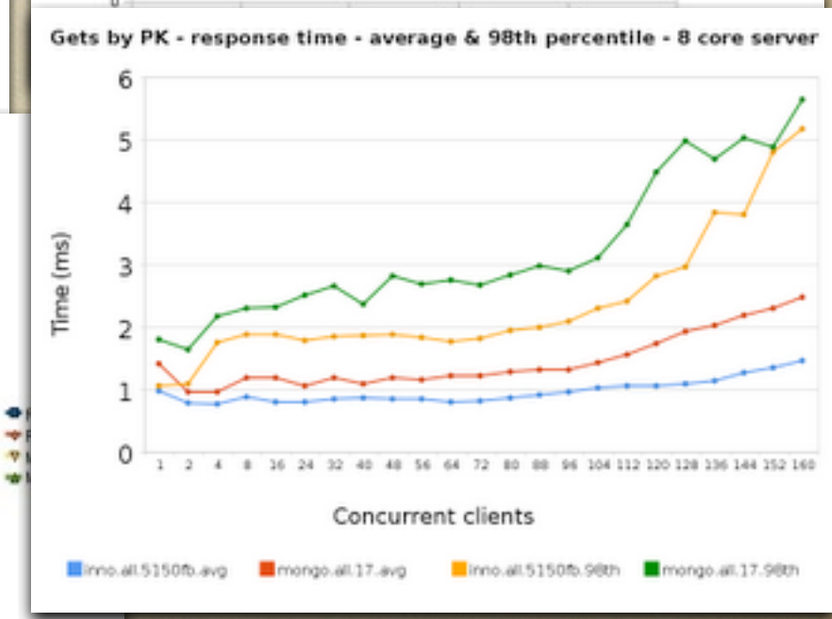




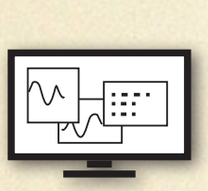




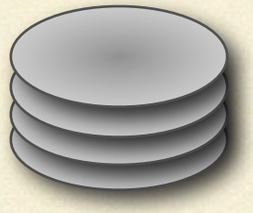




pull live data

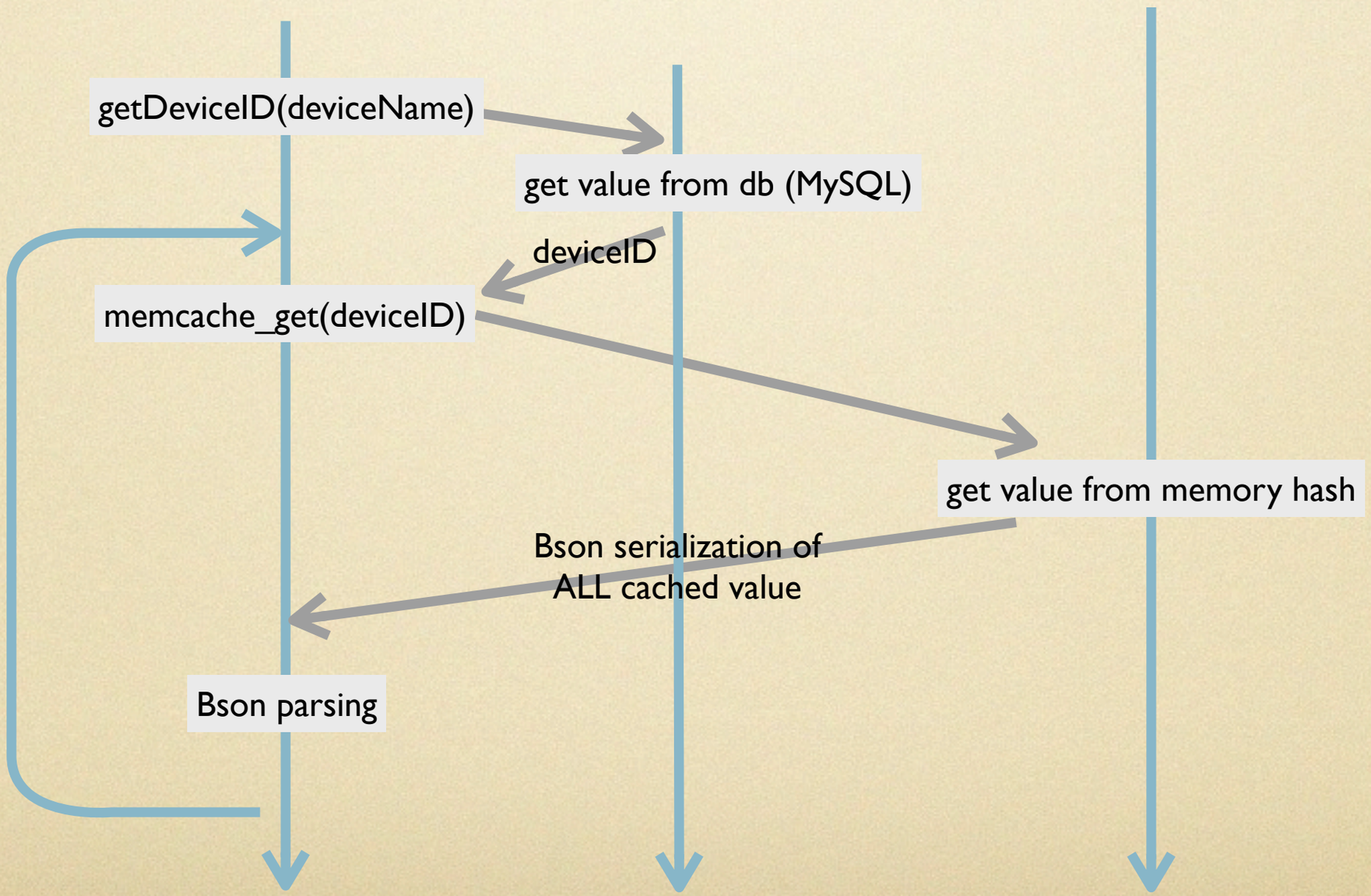


client



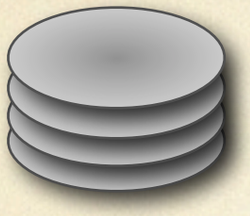
meta-data server

live data server



send command

client

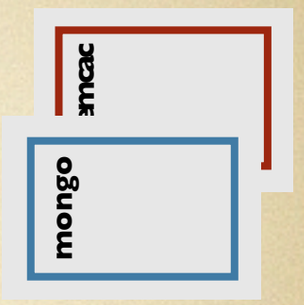


meta-data server

Control Unit Host

Control Library

Control Unit



getDeviceSocket(deviceName)

build Command

get value from db (e.g. MySQL)

device socket

send Command

detect CU

command

msg received

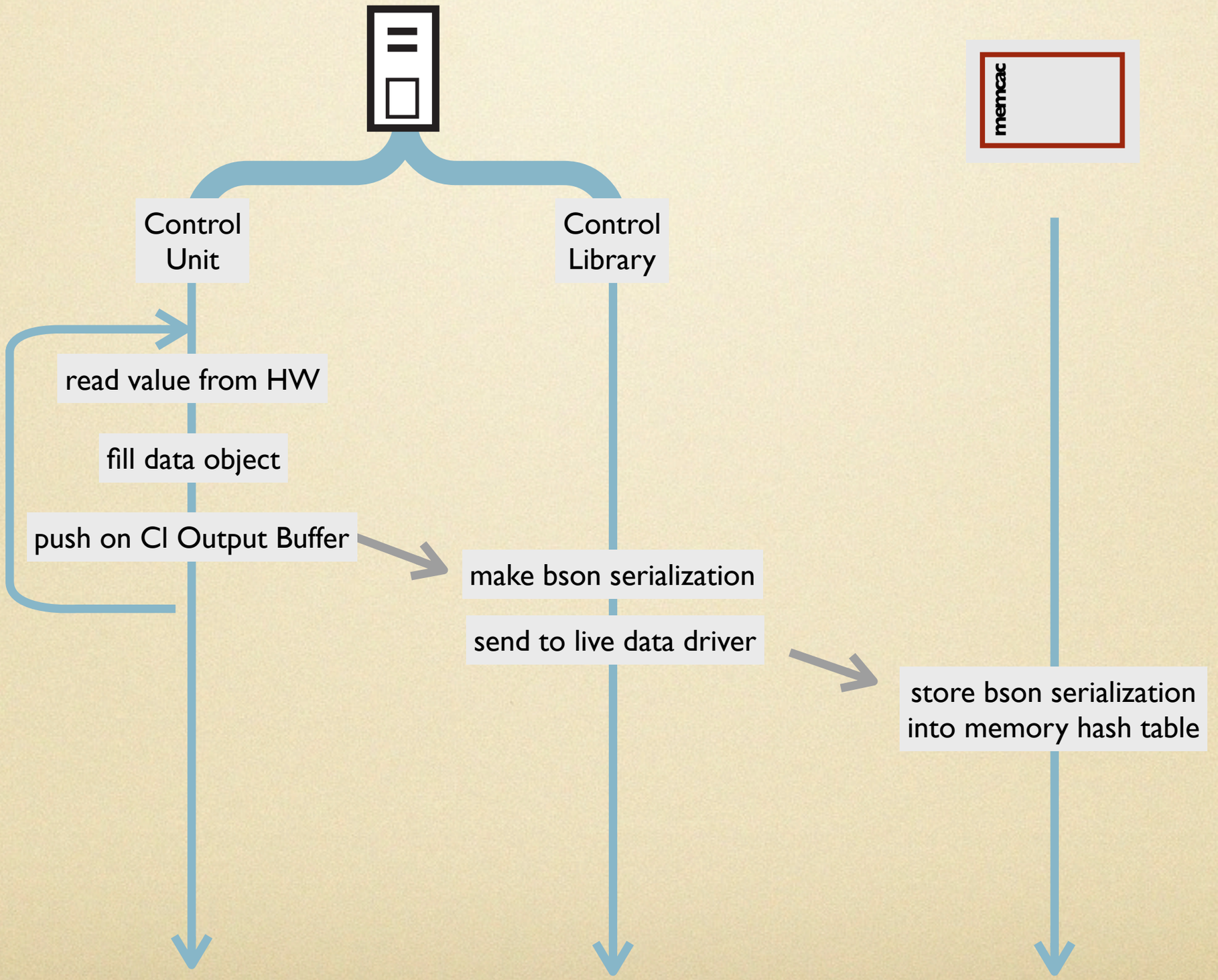
(....)

exec

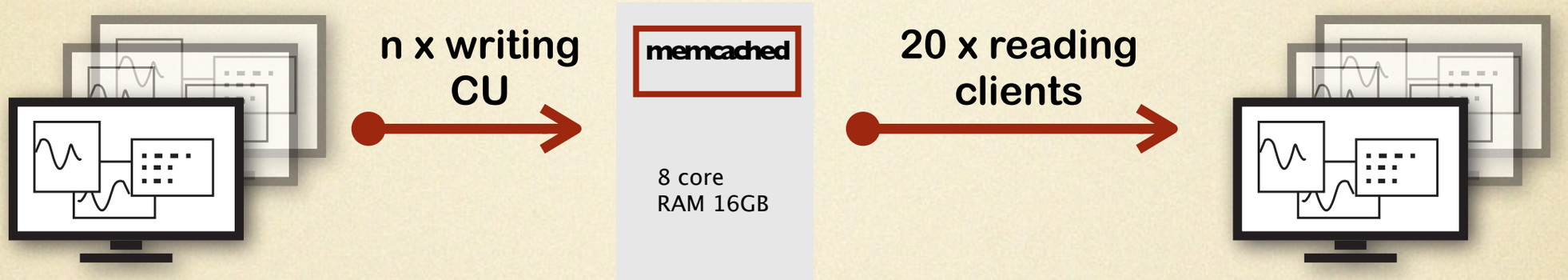
message dispatched

increase live&hst
refresh rate during
message execution

push live data

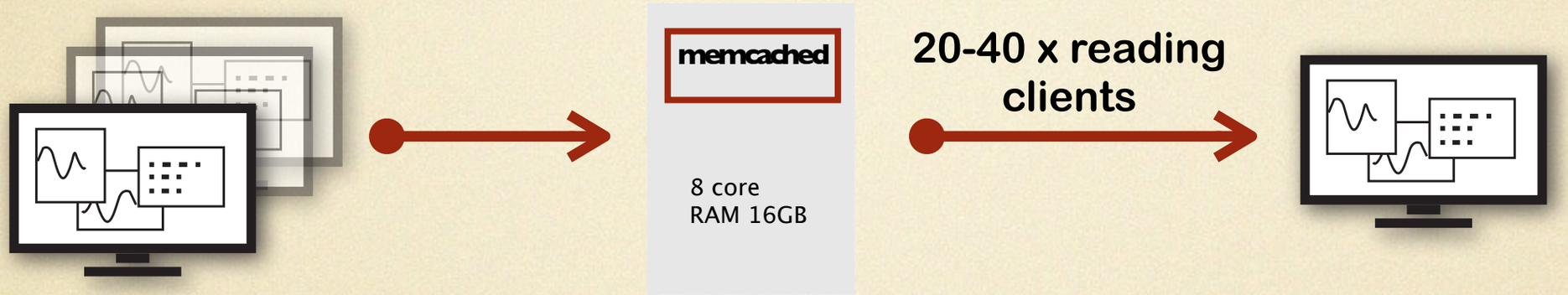


test#3.1



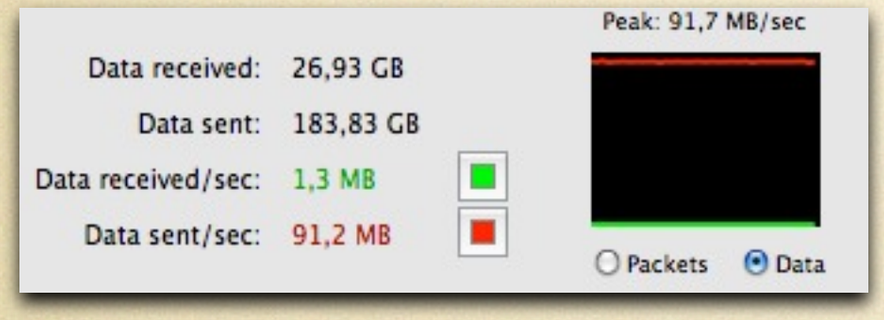
writing every... (msec)	#CU (Write)	#clients (Read)	#servers	#processes/ server	CPU load (%)
20	60	20	1	1	3-5
20	80	20	1	1	4-6
20	80	20	2	1	2-3
50	60	20	1	1	1-3
50	80	20	2	1	0-2
100	60	20	1	1	?
100	80	20	2	1	?

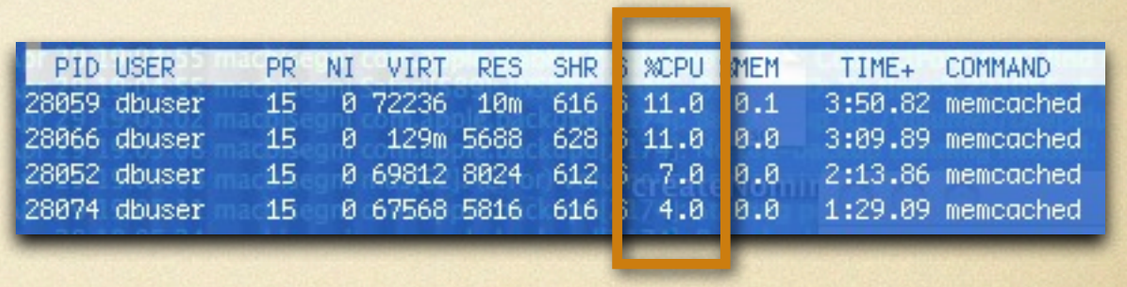
test#3.2



writing every... (msec)	#CU (Write)	#clients (Read)	#servers	#processes/ server	CPU load (%)
20	80	20	1	4 (1 per core)	2-3
20	80	40	1	4 (1 per core)	2-3
		40	1	4 (1 per core)	0

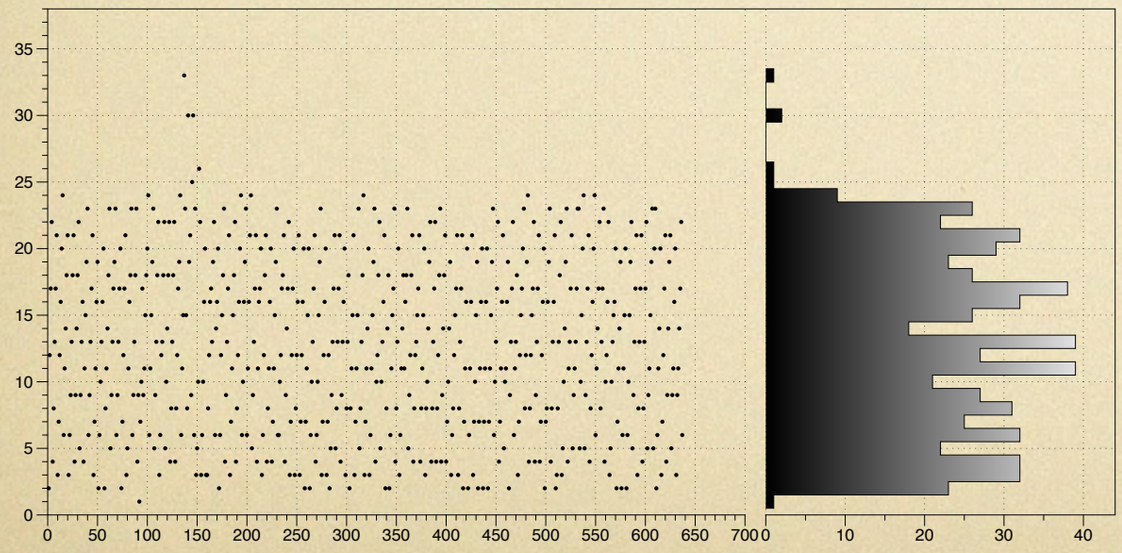
test#4



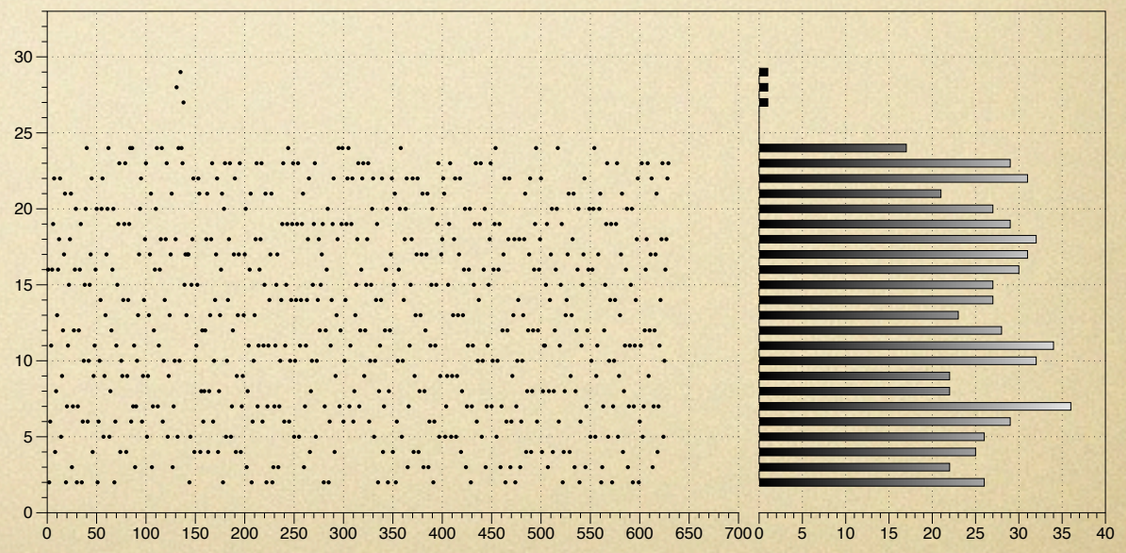


PID	USER	PR	NI	VIRT	RES	SHR	%CPU	%MEM	TIME+	COMMAND
28059	dbuser	15	0	72236	10m	616	11.0	0.1	3:50.82	memcached
28066	dbuser	15	0	129m	5688	628	11.0	0.0	3:09.89	memcached
28052	dbuser	15	0	69812	8024	612	7.0	0.0	2:13.86	memcached
28074	dbuser	15	0	67568	5816	616	4.0	0.0	1:29.09	memcached

s4_hardware1_w20_m20_buff100000_rd10.log



s4_hardware1_w20_m20_buff100000_rd12.log



conclusions and future plans

motivated by the results of preliminary tests and consistency of the overall design:

- continue R&D for completing system design and continue stress tests of components
- prepare a prototype to be tested on the field (test the system during real-life DAFNE & SPARC operations)
- finalize the project as a candidate for the SuperB Control and DAQ System
- evaluate costs, man power and define time schedule