



UCL Department of Computer Science
CS M038/GZ06: Mobile and Cloud Computing
Spring 2014
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One-pager: An Analysis of Facebook Photo Caching (Huang *et al.*, 2013) Due: Start of lecture, 21st March 2014

Instructions: in your own words, answer the following questions as succinctly as possible (in 200–500 words total, but shorter answers within this range are encouraged). Quoting figures or text from the assigned reading or from any other source is specifically prohibited.

Imagine you are the engineer in charge of Facebook’s photo caching architecture: you are weighing the pros and cons of changing the cache replacement algorithm in use at edge caches. On the basis of Table 4 and Figure 10(a), your colleague Louis Reasoner suggests that you switch to a Least Frequently Used (LFU) caching policy, as it is simple to implement and raises object hit ratios somewhat.

Is Louis’ suggestion a good idea? If so, explain why; if not, explain why not, make a counterproposal based on the data, and justify your counterproposal.

Hint: Think about the role the edge cache plays in Facebook’s caching hierarchy.