# Enhancing Discoverability with Virtual Shelf Browse

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> NCSU Libraries Code4Lib 2010 24 February 2010

## Outline

- Motivation
- Demonstration
- Implementation
  - Back-end
  - Front-end
- Outcomes
- Future

## Why browse?

- Universal
  - We almost all browse shelves
  - The shelf is going away
  - Users like recommendations
- Local
  - No more OPAC
  - New ARS

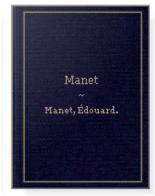
I**Y LIBRARY:** My Account | Course Reserves | Alerts | Library Tools | RefWorks

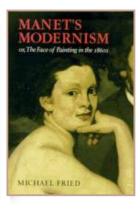
oaout

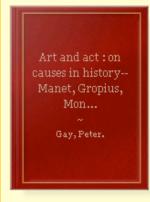
#### **Browse Shelf**



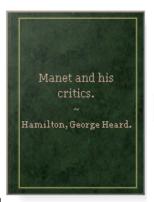
Cover View | List View











O Design

🕝 D.H. Hill

Design
D.H. Hill

The last flowers of Manet (1986) Gordon, Robert. ND553 .M3 G67 1986

Satellite

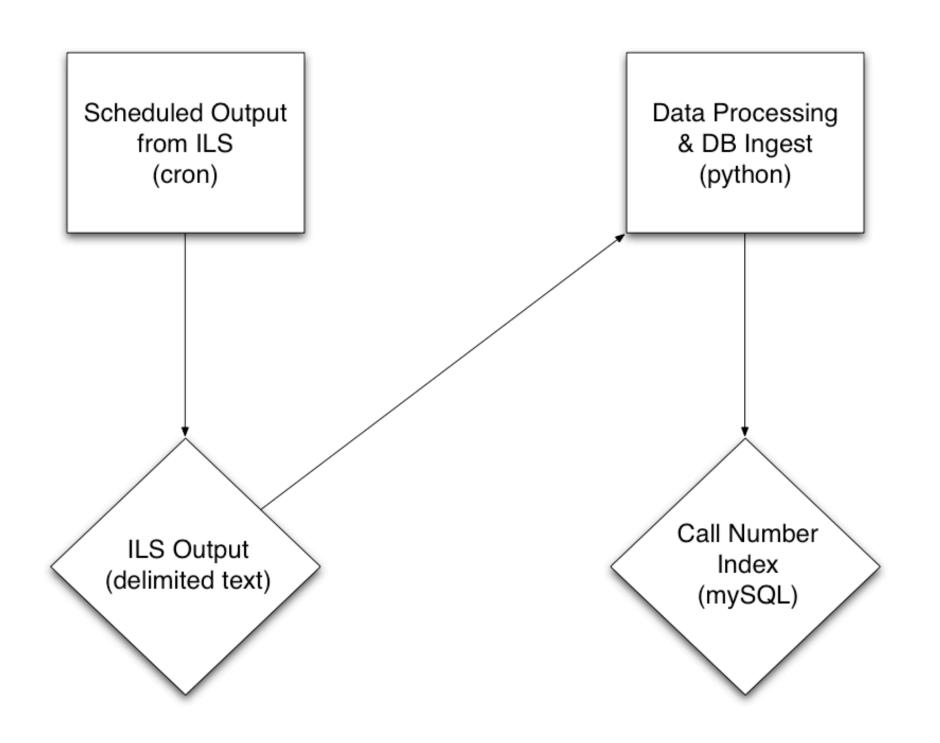
#### **Library Catalog Expand Your Search** ▼ Search ☑ Search for this call number at Triangle research. ND553 .M3 G38 1976 Call Number libraries Start Over NCSU plus Duke, NCCU & UNC **Browse Shelf** ◀ Previous | Next ▶ Cover View | List View Manet Author: Manet, Édouard, 1832-1883 Published: 1947. Call number: ND553 .M3 F54 Available Locations: Design Library: Manet's modernism, or, the face of painting in the 1860s Author: Fried, Michael. Published: 1996. Call number: ND553 .M3 F75 1996 Locations: D.H. Hill Library: Available Art and act : on causes in history--Manet, Gropius, Mondrian Author: Gay, Peter, 1923-Published: c1976. Call number: ND553 .M3 G38 1976 Locations: Design Library: Available: Unavailable D.H. Hill Library: The last flowers of Manet Author: Gordon, Robert, 1946-Published: 1986. Call number: ND553 .M3 G67 1986 Locations: D.H. Hill Library: Available Manet and his critics. Author: Hamilton, George Heard. Published: 1954. Call number: ND553 .M3 H3

Locations: Satellite Shelving Facility: Available

◆ Previous | Next ▶

### Data Model: Goals

- Browse arbitrary number of titles around a known item in call number order
- Include online + all locations
- Support browse searching
  - Partial and non-matches
- Browse by title NOT by item
- Forgiving call number searching



item_id	group_id	catalog_key	call_number	call_number_search	call_number_padded	classification
49070	19999	1505398	BD111 .S27 1995 e-book	BD111.S271995E-BOOK	BD 000111 .S27 1995 E-BOOK	LC
49071	20000	1941218	BD111 .S28 2005	BD111.S282005	BD 000111 .S28 2005	LC
49072	20001	592915	BD111 .S32 1983	BD111.S321983	BD 000111 .S32 1983	LC
49073	20002	711229	BD111 .S323 1988	BD111.S3231988	BD 000111 .S323 1988	LC
49074	20003	1417163	BD111 .S38 1955 v.1	BD111.S381955V.1	BD 000111 .S38 1955 V.000001	LC
49075	20003	1417163	BD111 .S38 1955 v.2	BD111.S381955V.2	BD 000111 .S38 1955 V.000002	LC

item_id	group_id	catalog_key	call_number	call_number_search	call_number_padded	classification
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### call\_number

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BD111 .S38 1955 v.1

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call_number_search
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BD111.S381955V.1
BD111.S381955V.2

call_number_padded	classification
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BD 000111 .S28 2005	LC
BD 000111 .S32 1983	LC
BD 000111 .S323 1988	LC
BD 000111 .S38 1955 V.000001	LC
BD 000111 .S38 1955 V.000002	LC

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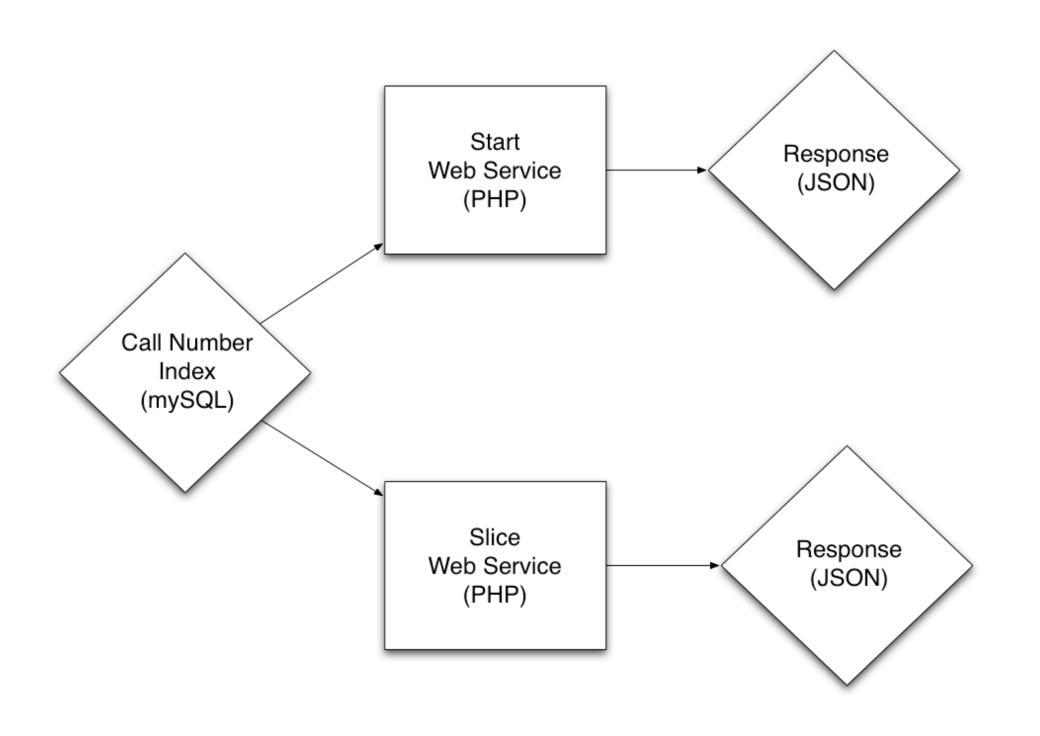
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	20000	1941218
	20001	592915
	20002	711229
	20003	1417163
	20003	1417163



## Start: Begins With

```
SELECT group_id
FROM sorted_call_no_index
WHERE call_number_search
LIKE 'BD111.S30%'
ORDER BY call_number_padded
LIMIT 1
```

### Start: Closest Match

```
SELECT group_id
FROM sorted_call_no_index
WHERE call_number_padded
> 'BD 000111 .S30'
AND classification = 'LC'
AND call_number_padded != "
LIMIT 1;
```

### Slice Web Service

SELECT group\_id, catalog\_key, MIN(call\_number) FROM sorted\_call\_no\_index

WHERE group\_id BETWEEN 20000 – 0 AND 20000 + 20

GROUP BY group\_id;

### Slice Web Service

```
SELECT group_id, catalog_key, MIN(call_number)
FROM sorted_call_no_index
WHERE group_id
BETWEEN 20000 – 0
AND 20000 + 20
GROUP BY group_id;
```

### Front-end: Goals

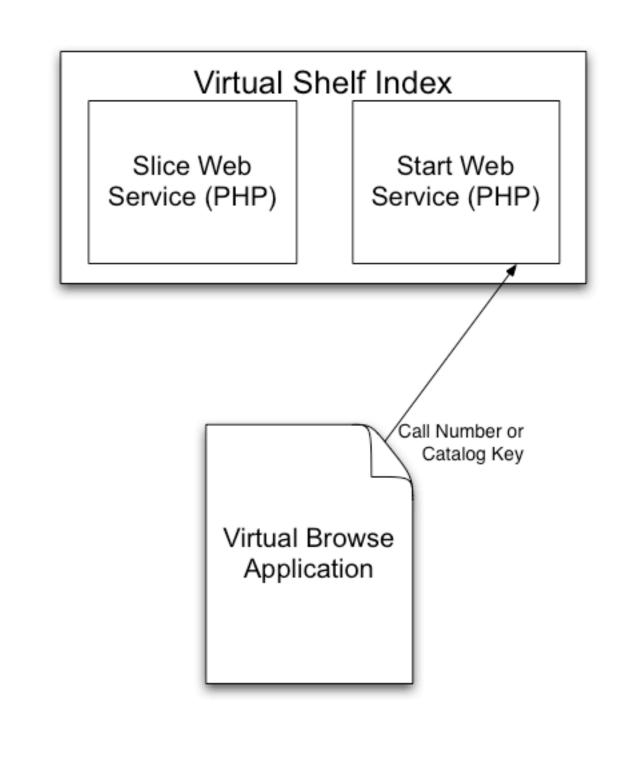
- Access to "infinite" shelf
- Interactive visual browsing experience
- Design cues from Google Books
- High performance
- Satisfy both patrons and staff

### Virtual Shelf Index

Slice Web Service (PHP) Start Web Service (PHP)

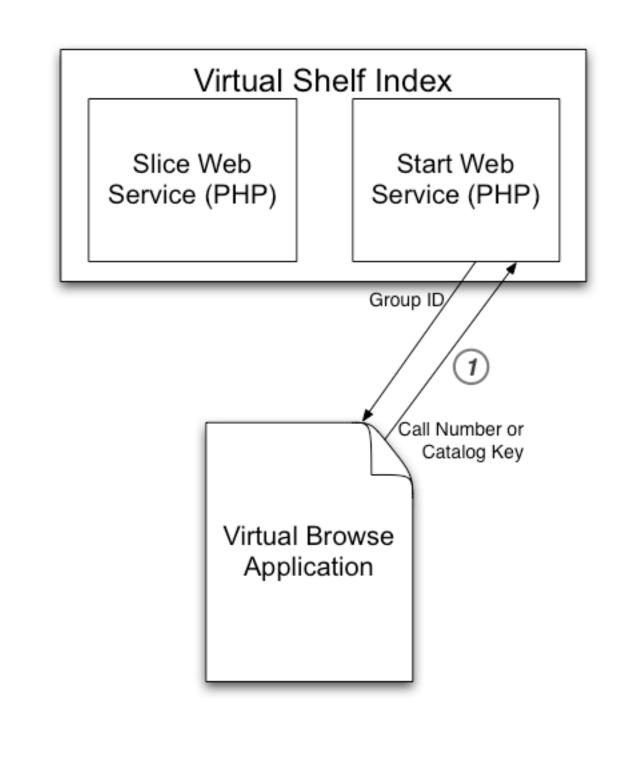
Endeca Index

Syndetics API Service Virtual Browse Application



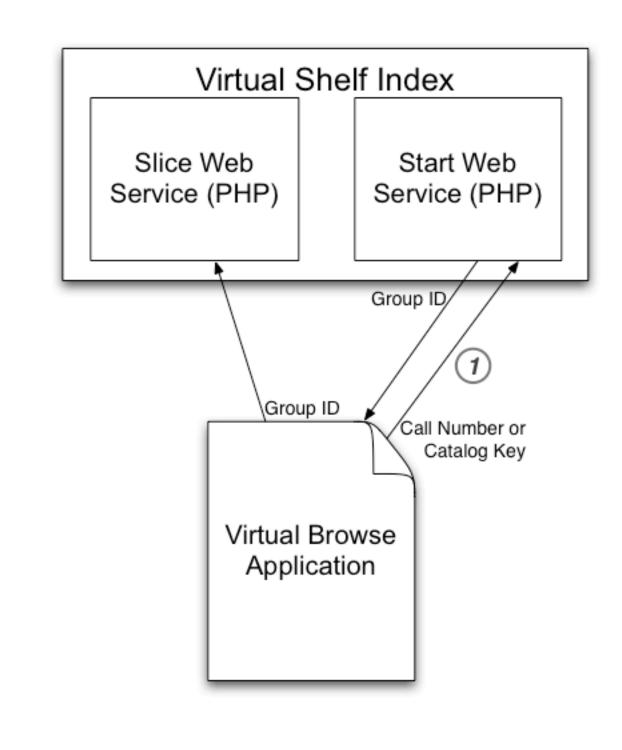
Endeca Index

Syndetics API Service



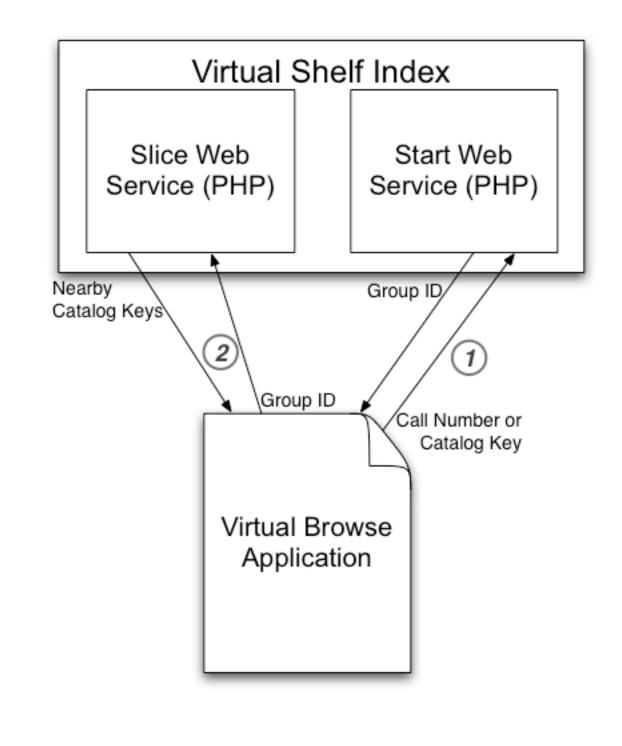


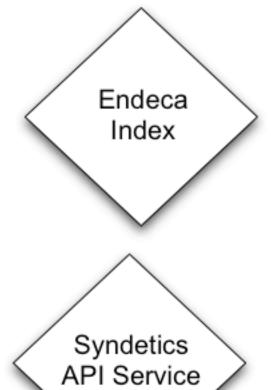
Syndetics API Service

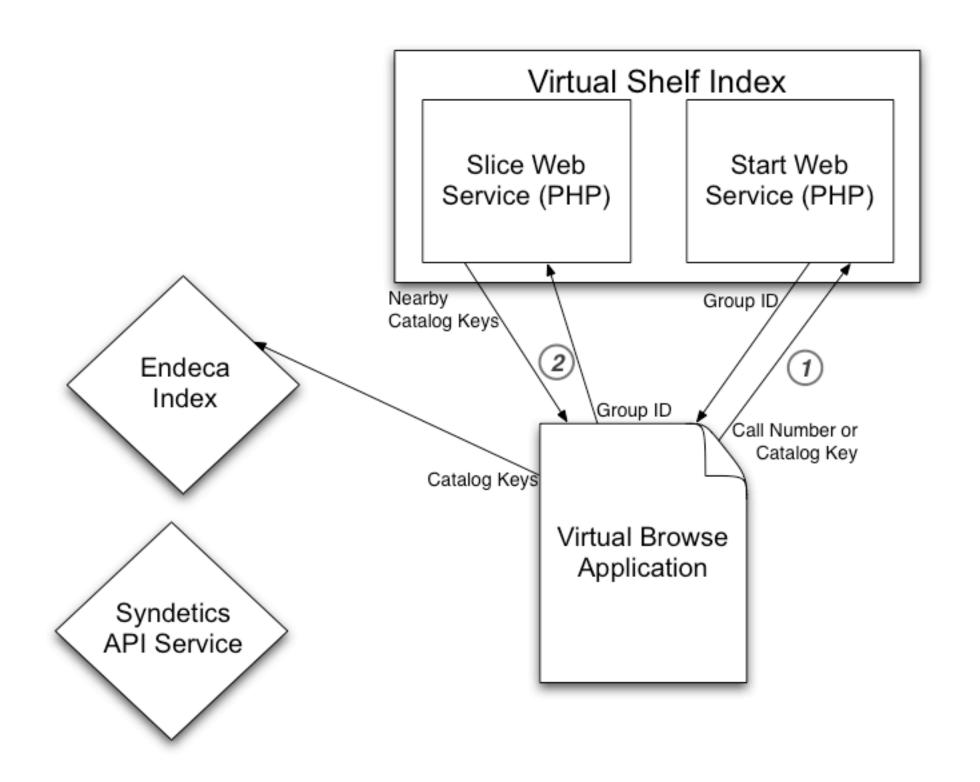


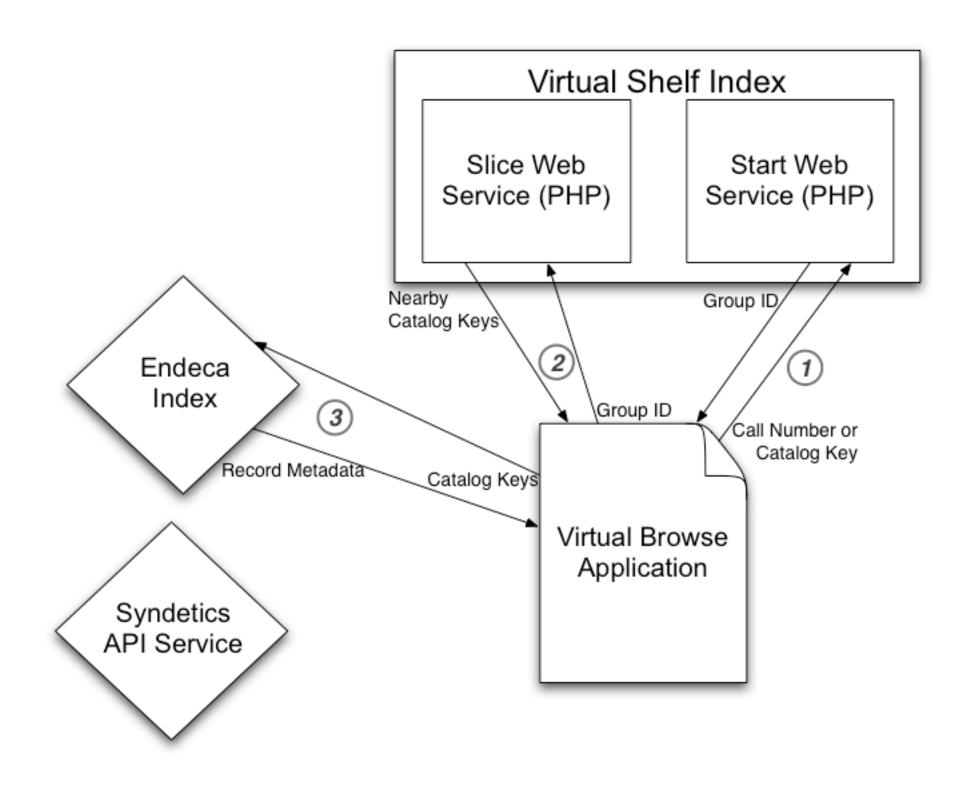


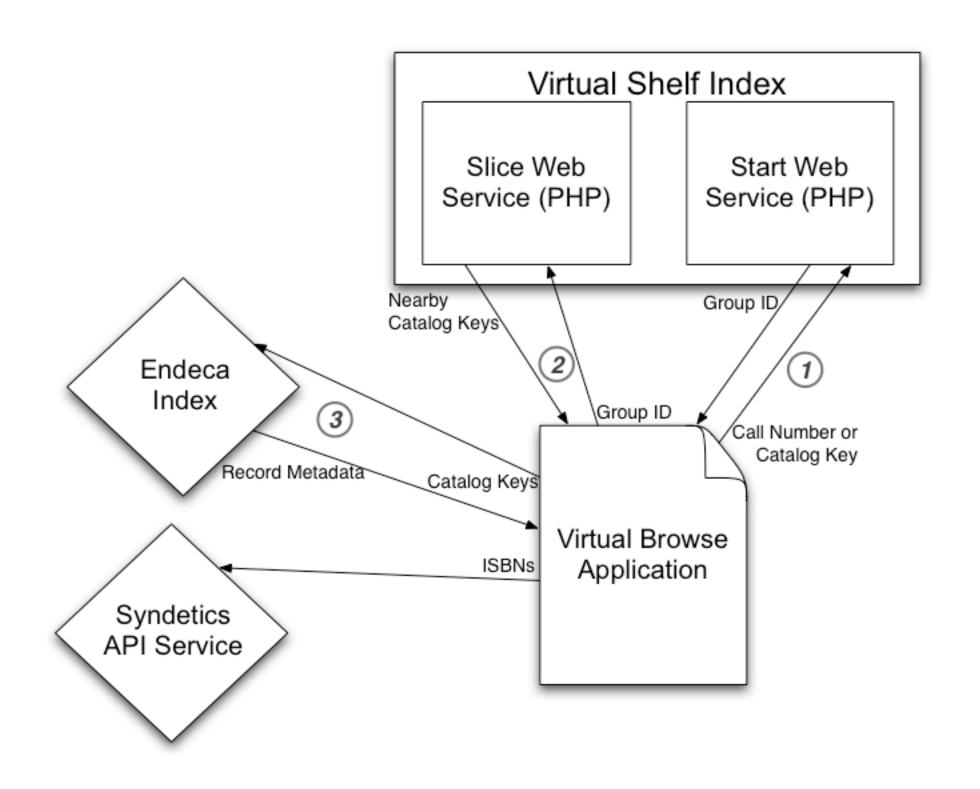
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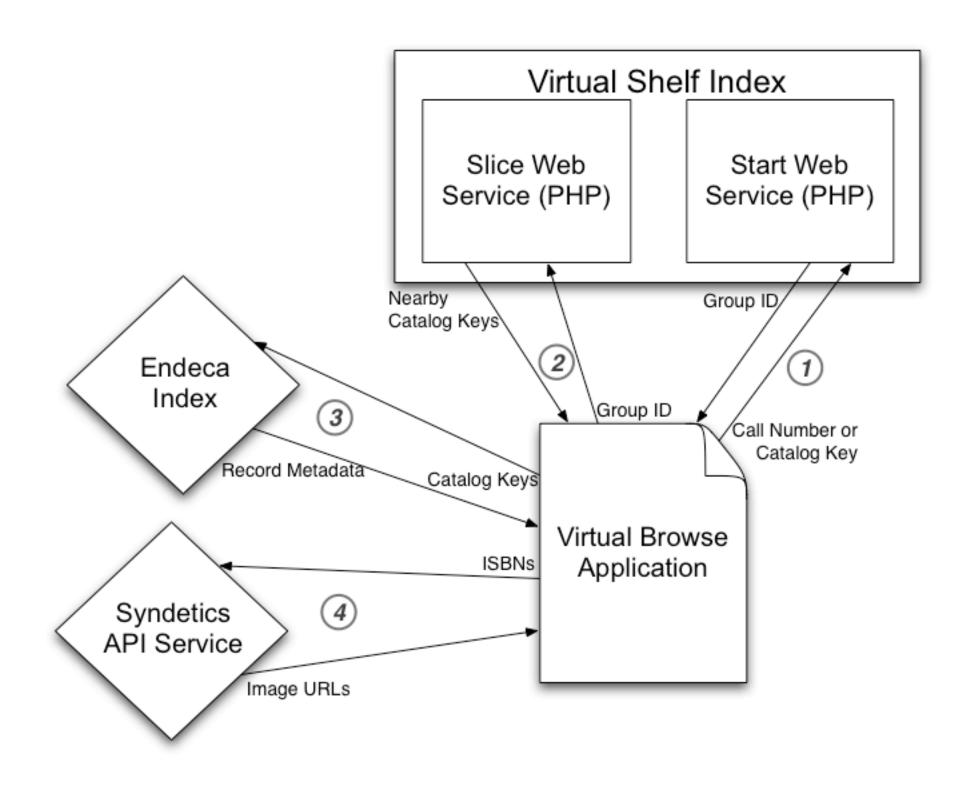


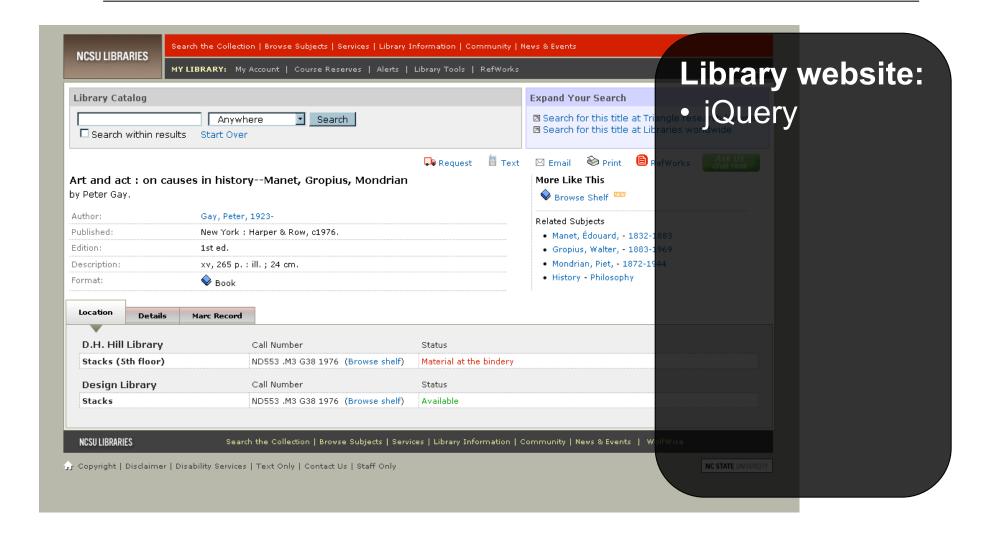


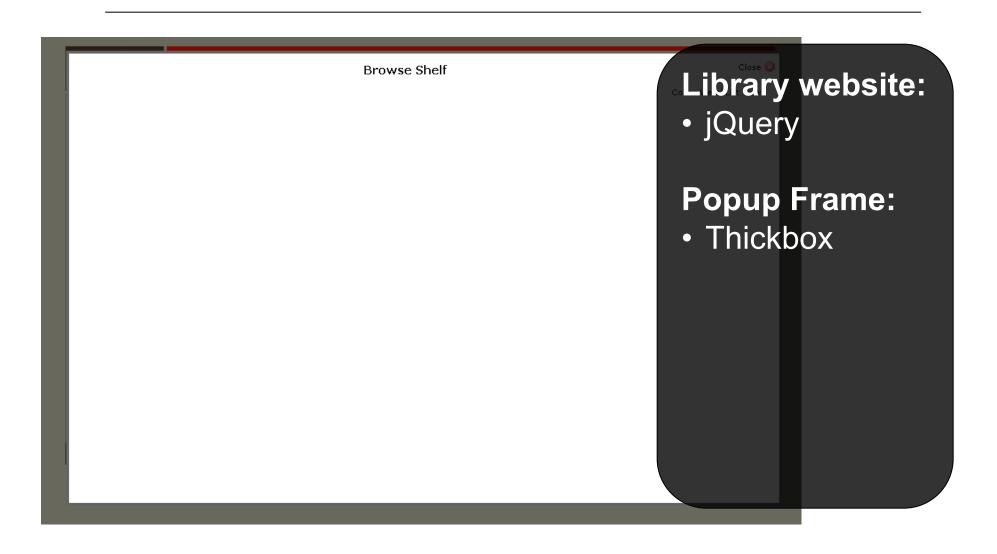


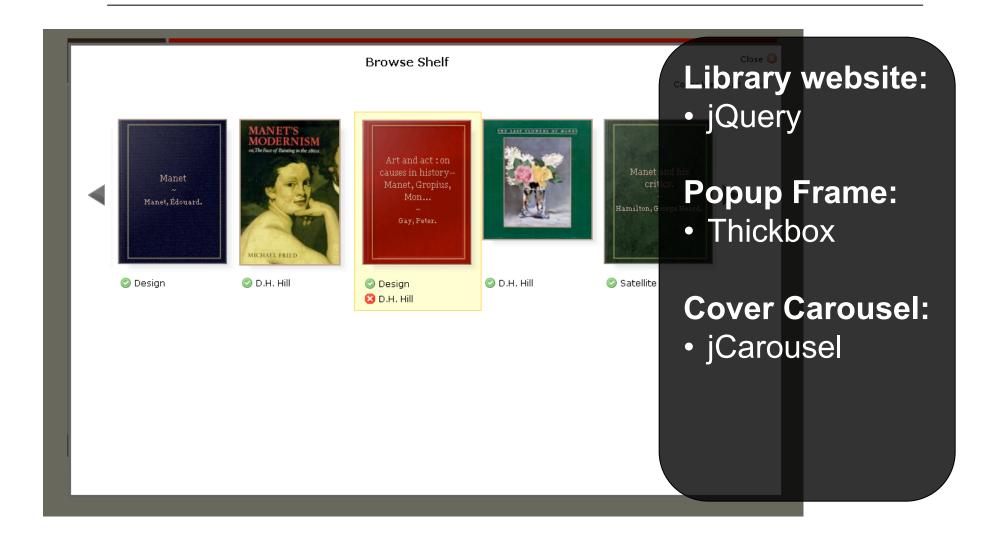


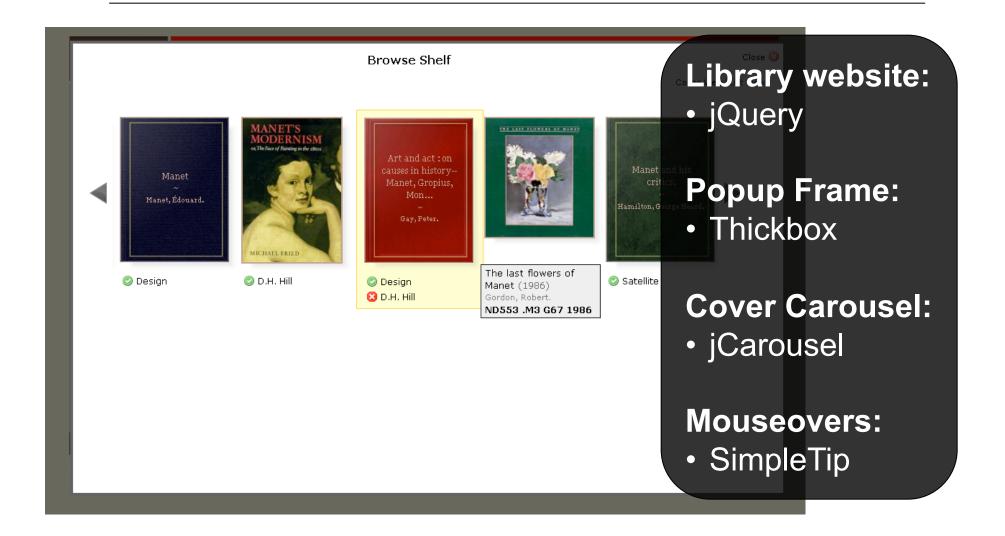








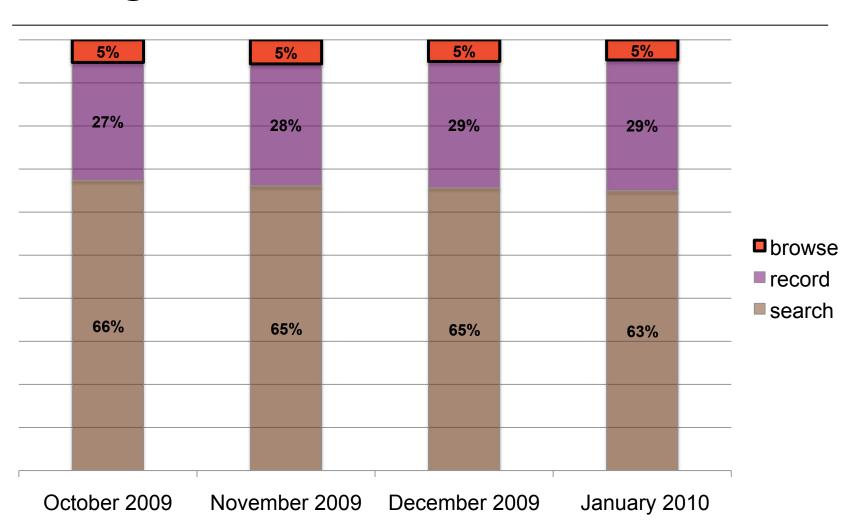




## Front-end: Challenges

- DOM = SLOW
- Plugin + Plugin + Plugin = Headache
- Remote servers = Latency roulette
- Too much Ajax = Browser bottleneck
- IE != Your friend

## Usage



### Anecdotal Feedback

- very positive reaction
- where is "browse shelf"?
- "find more" resonates with current behavior
- open the book within browse context
- don't care about call number specifics

### **Future**

- TRLN consortial implementation
  - Filtering across institution / location
- Virtual Browse Project
  - Find more along other dimensions of likeness
  - More integrated presentation of 3<sup>rd</sup> party supplemental content and licensed full text

### Thanks!

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### More Information

### Project Page:

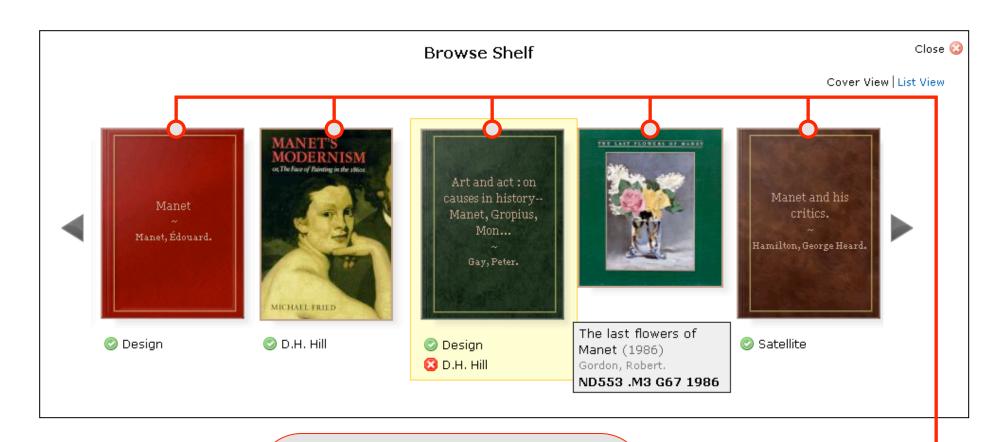
http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/dli/projects/virtualshelfindex/

### Web Service Docs:

http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/catalog/virtualshelfindex/documentation.html

### Try It:

http://www2.lib.ncsu.edu/catalog/record/ NCSU1879640



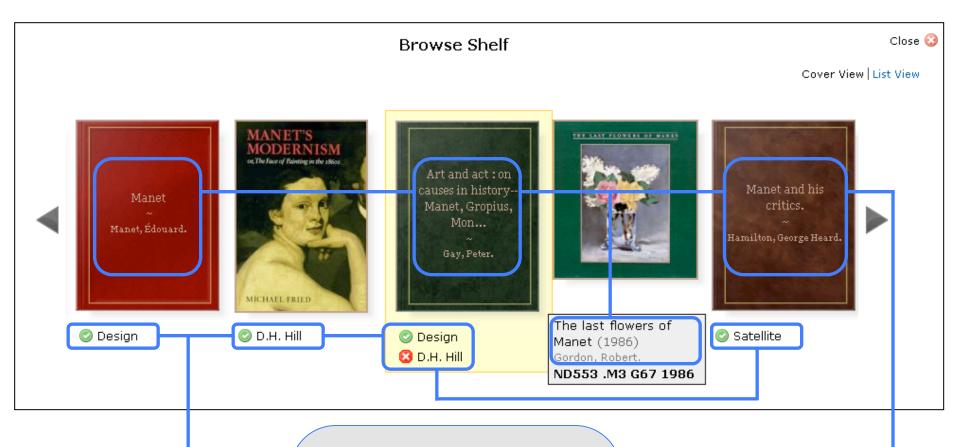
### VIRTUAL SHELF INDEX

#### Given:

- Call number of starting item (or)
- Bibliographic ID of starting item

#### **Provides:**

• Title ordering & selection



#### **ENDECA INDEX**

### Given:

Bibliographic IDs of displayed items

#### **Provides:**

- Bibliographic metadata
- Availability information



### THIRD-PARTY ENHANCED CONTENT PROVIDER

#### Given:

• ISBNs of displayed items

#### **Provides:**

• Cover images, as available