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Agenda of these lectures

- Intro:
 - Basic concepts on storage
 - ORFEO storage
 - Basic concept on File Systems
 - ORFEO filesystems
- Storage and I/O for HPC
- I/O stack for HPC system
- Parallel FS
- CEPH fs
- ORFEO CEPH fs
- Benchmarking I/O storage on ORFEO...

Intro: Basic concepts on storage

Key metrics

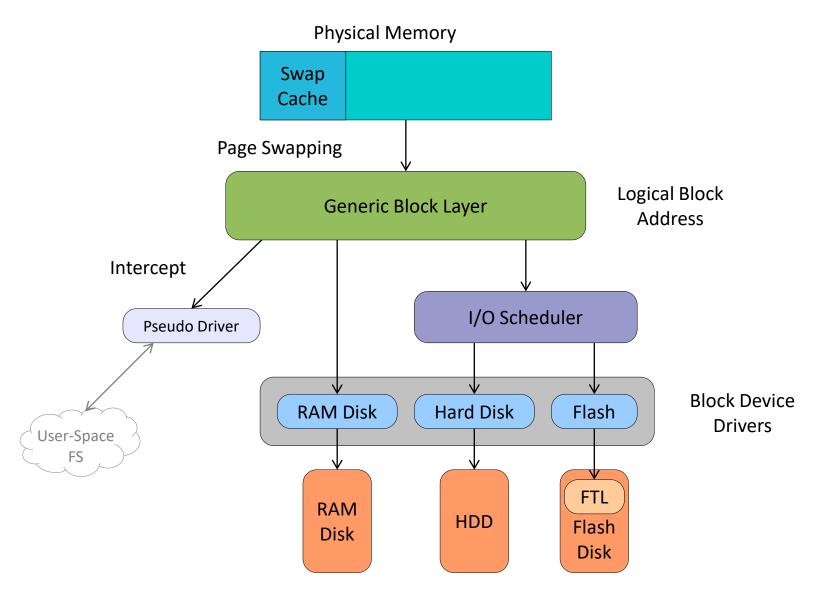
- Bandwidth: volume of data read/written in a second
 → throughput metric
- IOPs: number of I/O request processed by second
 - → Is it a latency or a throughput metric?
- Order of magnitudes:
 - Intel v2/v3 CPU-DRAM: 80/200 GB/s
 - Epyc node CPU-DRAM: 300 GB/sec
 - IB link: 12 GB/s
 - Hard Drive: ~100- 400 MB/s

Storage Hierarchy

- Storage follows a hierarchy with multiple levels:
 - RAM disk, I/O buffers or file system cache
 - Local disk (flash based, spinning disk) (SATA, SAS, RAID, SSD, JBOD, ...)
 - Local network attached device or file system server (NAS, SAN NFS, CIFS, PFS, Lustre, GPFS, CEPH)
 - Tape based archival system (often with disk cache)
 - External, distributed file systems (Cloud storage)

Same as with the memory hierarchy: Register -> Cache (L1->L2->L3) -> RAM

Storage Hierarchy



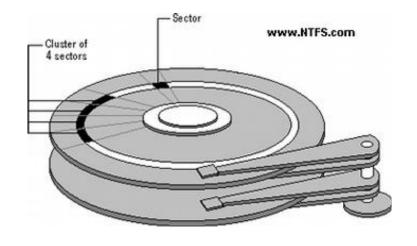
RAM Disk

- Unix-like OS environments very frequently create (small) temporary files in /tmp, etc.
 - faster access and less wear with RAM disk
 - Linux provides "dynamic RAM disk" (tmpfs)
 - only existing files consume RAM
 - automatically cleared on reboot (-> volatile)

					1
[cozzini@login ~]\$ df					
Filesystem	1K-blocks	Used	Availabl	e Use% Mounted	
on					
devtmpfs	1915112	0	1915112	0% /dev	
tmpfs	1939960	0	1939960	0% /dev/shm	
tmpfs	1939960	25316	1914644	2% /run	
tmpfs	1939960	0	1939960	0%	
/sys/fs/cgroup					
/dev/vda1	41931756	11442916	30488840	28% /	

Traditional disk: Hard Disk Drive (HDD)

- Rotating mechanical device
 - 7200, 10000, 15000 rpm.
- Head on the right track
 - (seek time) 4 ms
- Head on the right sector
 - (latency) 2ms
 - Capacity: 4-12 TB
- Bandwidth: Read / Write ~ 150/250 MB/s



At constant rotating speed, where should I put my data to get max bandwidth?

Current HDD technology

- Two main technologies today:
 - Serial Advanced Technology Attachment (SATA)
 - less expensive, and it's better suited for desktop file storage.
 - Up to 6 Gbit/sec
 - Serial Attached SCSI (SAS)
 - more expensive, and it's better suited for use in servers or in processing-heavy computer workstations.
 - Up to 12Gbit/sec

Solid State Drive: SSD

• pros:

- lower access time and latency
- no moving parts (silent, less susceptible to physical shock, low power consumption and heat production)
- available over SATA, SAS, PCIe

cons:

- expensive, low capacity; usage limited to special purposes only (hardly used for big data-servers)
- limited write-cycle durability (depending on technology and price)
 - SLC NAND flash ~ 100K erases per cell
 - MLC NAND flash ~ 5K-30K erases per cell
 - TLC NAND flash ~ 300-500 erases per cell

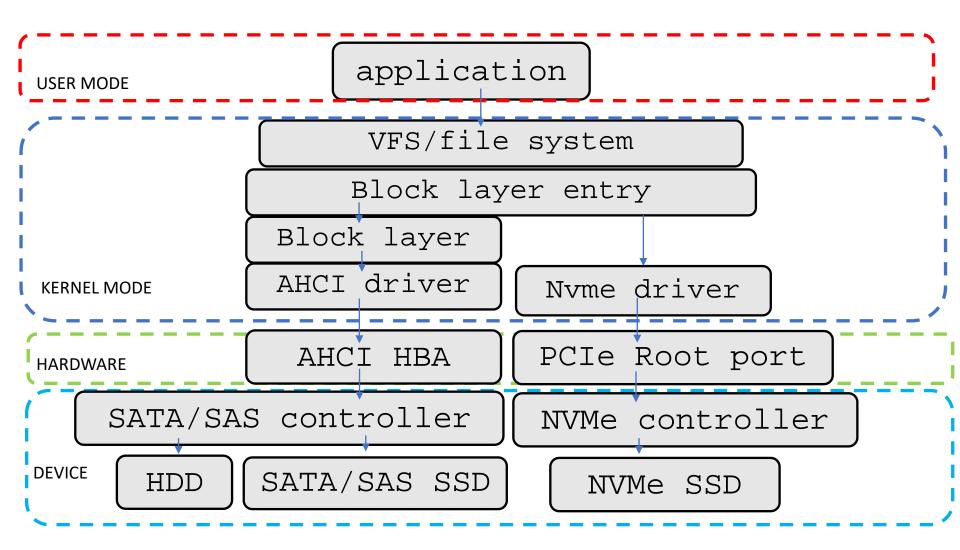
HDD vs SSD



NVMe (Non-volatile Memory express)

- NVMe is an "optimized, high-performance, scalable host controller interface with a streamlined register interface and command set designed for non-volatile memory based storage."
- Designed to fix many of the issues of legacy SAS/SATA.
 - SATA /SAS protocols for mechanical drive
 - Now the bottleneck
- Physical connectivity is much simplified, with devices connected directly on the PCIe bus

NVMe (Non-volatile Memory express)



A recent comparison: HDD vs SSD

- UltraStar DC HC620 with SAS 12GB/s interface
 - Sustained transfer rate: 255 MBps read and write
- Samsung 970 Evo with PCle 3 interface
 - Read speed 3,500 MBps
 - Write speed 2,500 MBps



From https://www.enterprisestorageforum.com/storage-hardware/ssdvs-hdd-speed.html

ORFEO storage: hardware as today...

	FAST storage (NVMe)	FAST storage (SSD)	Standard storage (HDD)	Long term preservation	
# of server	4		6	1	
RAM	6 x 16GB		6 x 16GB	6 x 16GB	
Disk per node	2x 1.6TB NVMe PCIe card	20 x 3.84TB	15 x 12TB	84 x 12TB + 42x 12TB	
Storage provider	CEPH parallel FS	CEPH parallel FS	CEPH parallel FS	Network FS (NFS)	
RAW storage	12TB	320 TB	1080 TB	1,512 TB	



ORFEO storage: hardware as Christmas

	FAST storage (NVMe)	FAST storage (SSD)	Standard storage (HDD)	Long term preservation
# of server	4		6 8	1
RAM	6 x 16GB		6 x 16GB	6 x 16GB
Disk per node	24 x 1.6TB NVMe PCIe card	20 x 3.84TB	15 18 x 12TB + 18x16TB + (on the 2 new server)	84 x 12TB + <mark>84</mark> 4 2 x 12TB+ 84x12TB
Storage provider	CEPH parallel FS	CEPH parallel FS	CEPH parallel FS	Network FS (NFS)
RAW storage	12 24 TB	320 TB	1080 1872 TB	1,512 3024 TB

The ORFEO basic brick: NVME

- Device Type
 - SSD –NVME no hot swap
 - Samsung PM1725b HHHL
- Capacity
 - 1.6 TB
- Form Factor
 - PCI-express
- Performance
 - 6,3 GB/s read
 - 3,3 GB/s write



See:

http://imageus.samsung.com/SamsungUS/PIM/Samsung 1725b Product.pdf

The ORFEO basic brick: SDD drive

- Device Type
 - SSD driver nearline hot swap
 - Intel SSDSC2KB038T8R
- Capacity
 - 3.84 TB
- Form Factor
 - 2.5"
- Interface
 - SATA 6 Gb/s
- Performance
 - 560 MB/s read
 - 510 MB/s write



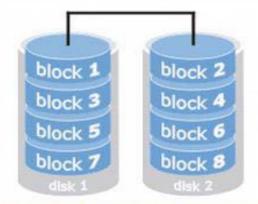
The ORFEO basic brick: HDD drive

- Device Type
 - Hard drive hot-swap nearline
- Capacity
 - 12 TB
- Form Factor
 - 3.5"
- Interface
 - SAS 12Gb/s
- Performance
 - 255MB/s



The disk bandwidth/reliability problem

- Disks are slow: use lots of them in a parallel file system
- However, disks are unreliable, and lots of disks are even more unreliable



This simple two-disk system is twice as fast, but half as reliable, as a single-disk system

RAID

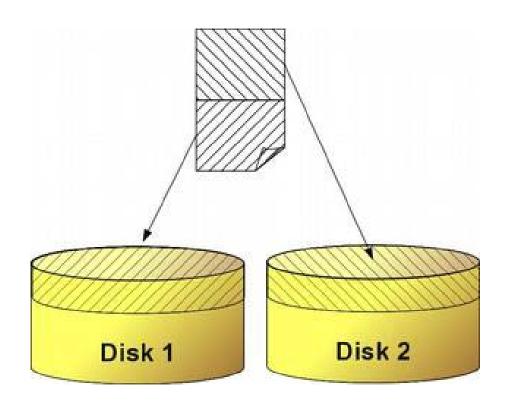
- RAID is a way to aggregate multiple physical devices into a larger virtual device
 - Redundant Array of Inexpensive Disks
 - Redundant Array of Independent Devices
- Invented by Patterson, Gibson, Katz, et al
 - hTtp://www.cs.cmu.edu/~garth/RAIDpaper/Patterson88.pdf
- Redundant data is computed and stored so the system can recover from disk failures
- RAID was invented for bandwidth
- RAID was successful because of its reliability

RAID reliability and performance..

- Reliability or performance (or both) can be increased using different RAID "levels".
- Let us examine some of the most important:
- Definitions:
 - S: Hard disk drive size.
 - N: Number of hard disk drives in the array.
 - P: Average performance of a single hard disk drive (MB/sec).

RAID 0: striping

- Performance = P * N
- Capacity = N * S

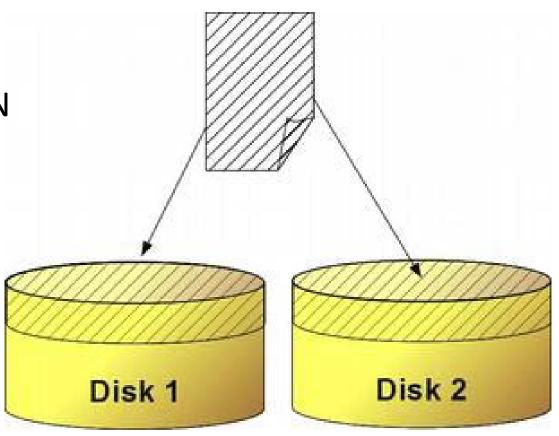


RAID 1: redundancy

• Write Perf. = P

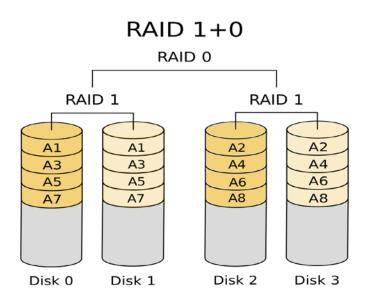
• Read Perf. = P * N

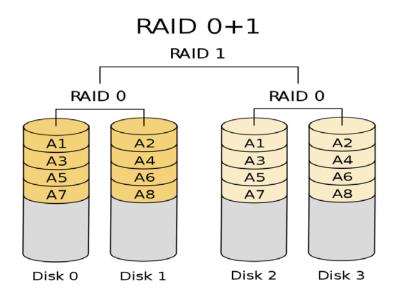
• Capacity = S



RAID 10: striping +redundancy (1+0 / 0+1)

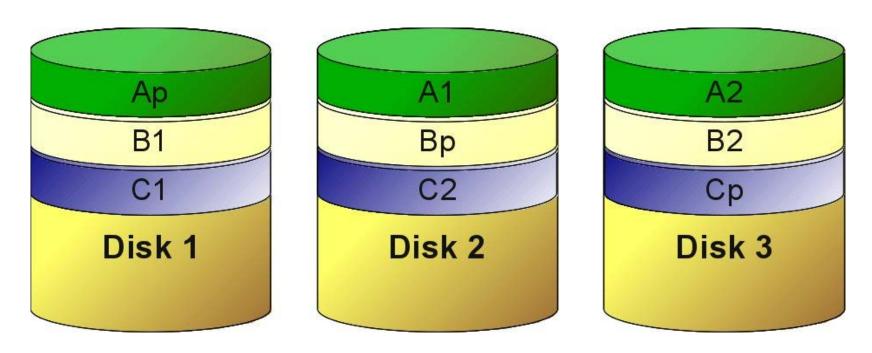
- Raid 1+0: mirrored sets in a striped set
- the array can sustain multiple drive losses so long as no mirror loses all its drives
- Raid 0+1: striped sets in mirrored set
- if drives fail on both sides of the mirror the data are lost





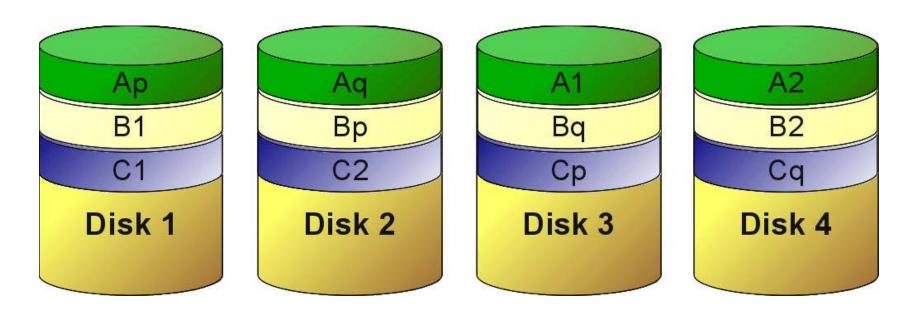
RAID 5

- One disk can fail
- Distributed parity



RAID 6

- Two disks can fail
- Double distributed parity code



RAID Parameters

Level	Description	Minimum # of drives	Space Efficiency	Fault Tolerance	Read Benefit	Write Benefit
RAID 0	Block-level striping without parity or mirroring.	2	1	0 (none)	nX	nX
RAID 1	Mirroring without parity or striping.	2	1/n	n-1 drives	nX	1X
RAID 4	Block-level striping with dedicated parity.	3	1-1/n	1 drive	(n-1)X	(n-1)X
RAID 5	Block-level striping with distributed parity.	3	1-1/n	1 drive	(n-1)X	(n-1)X
RAID 6	Block-level striping with double distributed parity.	4	1-2/n	2 drives	(n-2)X	(n-2)X
RAID 1+0/10	Striped set of mirrored sets.	4	*	needs 1 drive on each mirror set	*	*
RAID 0+1	Mirrored set of striped sets.	4	*	needs 1 working striped set	*	*

^{*} depends on the # of mirrored/striped sets and # of drives

Notes on redundancy

- Computing and updating parity negatively impact the performance. Upon drive failure, though, lost data can be reconstructed, and any subsequent read can be calculated from the distributed parity such that the drive failure is masked to the end user.
- However, a single drive failure results in reduced performance of the entire array until the failed drive has been replaced and the associated data rebuilt.
- The larger the drive, the longer the rebuild takes (up to several hours (even days) on busy systems or large disks/arrays).

Implementing RAID

- RAID is implemented both in hardware and software.
- RAID controller is the hardware part.
- Totally transparent to the users
- Configured when the system is installed
- No way to change it on the fly..



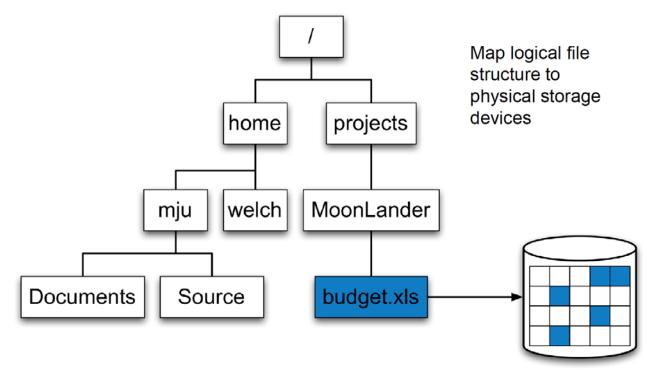
RAID on ORFEO storage

- RAID 1 on all nodes for OS reliability
- For actual storage: NONE
 - For CEPH FS redundancy managed at disk level (see later)
 - For long term storage redundancy managed at hardware/software layer within the NAS (see later)

Intro: Filesystems

Filesystem

- Provide a unique namespace (i.e. organize and maintain the file name space)
- Store your data on the medium (disk/array of disks etc)



File Systems: Basic Concepts (1/2)

- Disk: A permanent storage medium of a certain size.
- Block: The smallest unit writable by a disk or file system. Everything a file system does is composed of operations done on blocks.
- Partition: A subset of all the blocks on a disk.
- Volume: The term is used to refer to a disk or partition that has been initialized with a file system.
- Superblock: The area of a volume where a file system stores its critical data.

File Systems: Basic Concepts (2/2)

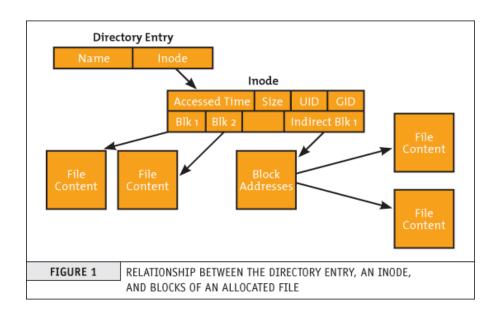
- Metadata: A general term referring to information that is about something but not directly part of it.
- Journaling: write data to journal, commit to file system when complete in atomic operation
 - reduces risk of corruption and inconsistency
- Attribute: A name and value associated with the name. The value may have a defined type (string, integer, etc.).

Filesystem: data layout

```
[root@elcid ~ | # tune2fs - | /dev/sda1
       tune2fs 1.41.12 (17-May-2010)
      Filesystem volume name:
                                 <none>
      Last mounted on:
                               /boot
      Filesystem UUID:
                              72228245-8322-4b2f-b043-317f5d9653df
      Filesystem magic number: 0xEF53
      Filesystem revision #: 1 (dynamic)
      Filesystem features: has_journal ext_attr resize_inode
dir_index filetype
       // needs_recovery extent flex_bg sparse_super large_
       // file huge_file uninit_bg dir_nlink extra_isize
      Filesystem flags:
                                 signed directory hash
      Default mount options:
                               user xattr acl
       Filesystem state:
                                 clean
       Errors behavior:
                               Continue
      Filesystem OS type:
                              Linux
       Inode count:
                                38400
      Block count:
                                 153600
      Reserved block count:
                                7680
      Free blocks:
                                 116833
      Free inodes:
                                 38336
      First block:
      Block size:
                                 4096
       Fragment size:
                                 4096
       Reserved GDT blocks:
                                 37
       Blocks per group:
                                 32768 [...]
```

File System: data layout and inode

- Data structure pointed by the inode number, a unique identifier of a file in the file system
 - address of data block on the storage media description of the file (POSIX)
 - Size of the file
 - Storage device ID
 - User ID of the file's owner.
 - Group ID of the file.
 - File type
 - File access right
 - Inode last modification time (ctime)
 - File content last modification time (mtime),
 - Last access time (atime).
 - Count of hard links pointed to the inode.
 - Pointers to the disk blocks that store the file's contents



Useful command to interact with FS

- |s -i
- stat filename
- df -i

```
[cozzini@login ~]$ df -ih
Filesystem
                                                 Inodes IUsed IFree IUse% Mounted on
10.128.6.211:6789,10.128.6.212:6789,10.128.6.213
                                                  969K
                                                                       - /fast
10.128.6.211:6789,10.128.6.213:6789,10.128.6.212/
                                                    48M
                                                                       - /large
10.128.4.201:/opt/area
                                                                       1% /opt/area
                                                   191M 797K 190M
10.128.2.231:/illumina_run
                                                   4.6G 1.9M 4.6G
                                                                       1%
/illumina_run
10.128.2.231:/storage
                                                    3.7G 462K 3.7G
                                                                       1% /storage
```

Data and metadata

- Meta-data: Data to describe data attribute (and extended attribute)
 - size, owner, creation date
- Meta-data are the bottleneck of scalability
 - How many times do you type ls in a day?
 How many times to you write a file?
- 1s means a scanning of all the files in the directory!

Posix interface

- API to access data and metadata (1988)
- POSIX interface is a useful, ubiquitous interface for building basic I/O tools.
- Standard I/O interface across many platforms.
- open, read/write, close functions in C/C++/Fortran
- It allows buffered file I/O (streams) within (c/sdtio)

Posix interface (2)

- Posix assumes atomicity and ubiquity
 - Changes are visible immediately to all clients
- Problem for parallel accesses:
 - POSIX requires a strict consistency to sequential order : lock
 - (Create a directory is an atomic operation with immediate global view)
 - No support for non-continuous I/O
 - No hint / prefetching

MPI-IO can be useful here. (see later..)

Local FS: some examples

- Linux
 - Ext2
 - Ext3
 - ext4
 - Raiserfs
 - Jfs
 - Xfs...

Size of the disks (and FS)

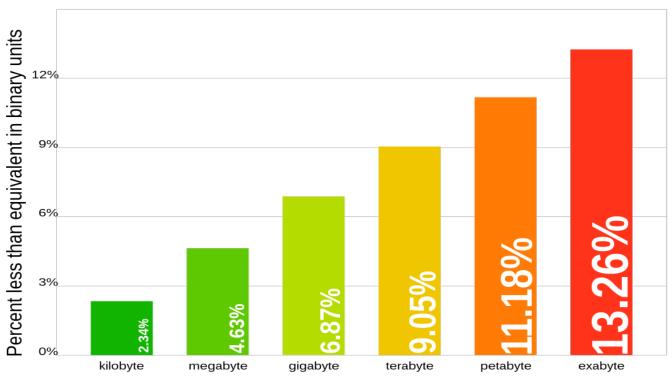
- Vendor sells disk in Terabyte
 - 12 TB = 12x1012 byte
- Filesystem size are computed in (power of two) byte
 - 1kilobyte = 1024 byte = 2¹⁰
- For kilobyte difference is small: just 24 byte
- For Terabyte difference is not so small...

Comparison table..

Multiple-byte units V·T·E						
Decimal		Binary				
Value	Metric	Value	IEC	Memory		
1000	kB kilobyte	1024	KiB kibibyte	KB kilobyte		
1000 ²	MB megabyte	1024 ²	MiB mebibyte	MB megabyte		
1000 ³	GB gigabyte	1024 ³	GiB gibibyte	GB gigabyte		
1000 ⁴	TB terabyte	1024 ⁴	TiB tebibyte	TB terabyte		
1000 ⁵	PB petabyte	1024 ⁵	PiB pebibyte	_		
1000 ⁶	EB exabyte	1024 ⁶	EiB exbibyte	_		
1000 ⁷	ZB zettabyte	1024 ⁷	ZiB zebibyte	_		
1000 ⁸	YB yottabyte	1024 ⁸	YiB yobibyte	-		

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Byte#Multiple-byte units

Comparison of decimal and binary units



Metric storage capacity (log scale)

And so...

- My 512GB SDD disk is just
 - 512x (100-6,87) = 476 Gigibyte
- My 12TB disk is just seen:
 - 12x (100 -9.05)= 11.4 Tebibyte

I/O FS on ORFEO:

Home

- once logged in, each user will land in its home in `/u/[name_of_group]/[name_of_user]
- e.g. the home of user area is in /u/area/[name_of_users]
- it's physically located on ceph large FS, and exported via infiniband to all the computational nodes
- quotas are enforced with a default limit of 2TB for each users
- soft link are available there for the other areas

I/O FS on ORFEO:

/Scratch

- it is large area intended to be used to store data that need to be elaborated
- it is also physically located on ceph large FS, and exported via infiniband to all the computational nodes

```
[cozzini@login ~]$ df -h /scratch
Filesystem
Size Used Avail Use% Mounted on
10.128.6.211:6789,10.128.6.213:6789,..:/ 598T 95T 503T 16% /large
```

/fast

- is a fast space available for each user, on all the computing nodes
- is intended to be a **fast scratch area** for data intensive application

```
[cozzini@login ~] df -h /fast
Filesystem
Size Used Avail Use% Mounted on
10.128.6.211:6789,10.128.6.212:6789,..:/ 88T 4.3T 83T 5% /fast
```

I/O FS on ORFEO:

- Long term storage:
 - it is NFS mounted via InfiniBand
 - it is intended for long-term storage of final processed dataset
 - Plenty of room to be allocated...

```
[root@login ~]# df -h | grep 231
10.128.6.231:/illumina run
                                128T
                                      109T
                                           20T
                                                  85% /illumina_run
10.128.6.231:/lage archive
                                128T
                                       94T 34T 74% /lage archive
10.128.6.231:/onp_run_1
                                       56T
                                             61T
                                117T
                                                  48% /onp run
10.128.6.231:/burlo_lon
                                91T 8.6T
                                            83T 10% /burlo_long_term_storage
10.128.6.231:/analisi_da_cons
                                       56T
                                           45T 56% /analisi_da_consegnare
                                100T
10.128.6.231:/lala_storage
                                4.6T 2.4T 2.3T
                                                  52% /lala_storage
10.128.6.231:/opt/area
                                477G
                                      210G
                                            267G
                                                  45% /opt/area
```

The messy situation on nfs01

```
/dev/mapper/test_vol
                                                         33M 187G 1% /test_vol
/dev/mapper/orfeo repo
                                                    94G
                                                         33M
                                                               94G
                                                                     1% /orfeo repo
                                                       218M
/dev/mapper/read the docs
                                                    94G
                                                               93G
                                                                     1% /read the docs
/dev/mapper/illumina_decode
                                                   1.9T 936G 927G 51% /illumina_decode
/dev/mapper/nep
                                                    94G
                                                         94G 148K 100% /nep
                                                    477G 210G 267G 45% /opt/area
/dev/mapper/opt_area
/dev/mapper/storage
                                                   37T 1.1T 36T 3% /storage
/dev/mapper/orfeo_replicated_share
                                                    9.1T 3.8T 5.4T 42% /orfeo_replicated_share
/dev/mapper/borg repos
                                                    14T 8.2G
                                                               14T
                                                                     1% /borg repos
/dev/mapper/lala_storage
                                                    4.6T 2.4T 2.3T 52% /lala_storage
/dev/mapper/tesi fabrici
                                                   9.1T 3.1T 6.1T 34% /tesi fabrici
/dev/mapper/illumina_run
                                                   128T 109T
                                                                20T
                                                                    85% /illumina_run
                                                    91T 8.6T
/dev/mapper/burlo long term storage
                                                                    10% /burlo long term storage
                                                                61T 48% /onp_run 1
                                                    117T
/dev/mapper/onp_run_1
                                                          56T
/dev/mapper/lage archive
                                                    128T
                                                          94T
                                                                     74% /lage archive
/dev/mapper/analisi_da_consegnare
                                                   100T
                                                                45T 56% /analisi_da_consegnare
                                                          56T
/dev/mapper/long term storage
                                                   128T 112T
                                                                17T 88% /long term storage
/dev/mapper/onpLVMVolGroup-onpLV
                                                    510T
                                                          62M 510T
                                                                      1% /TEST onp run
```

Measure (raw) performance on FS

• dd command..

```
$dd if=/dev/zero of=/dev/null count=1
1+0 records in
1+0 records out
512 bytes (512 B) copied, 0.000242478 s, 2.1 MB/s
$dd if=/dev/zero of=~/big-write count=1M
1048576+0 records in
1048576+0 records out
536870912 bytes (537 MB) copied, 3.43889 s, 156 MB/s
```

• Questions:

- Why such a difference between the two runs?
- Why copying unit of 512B? (

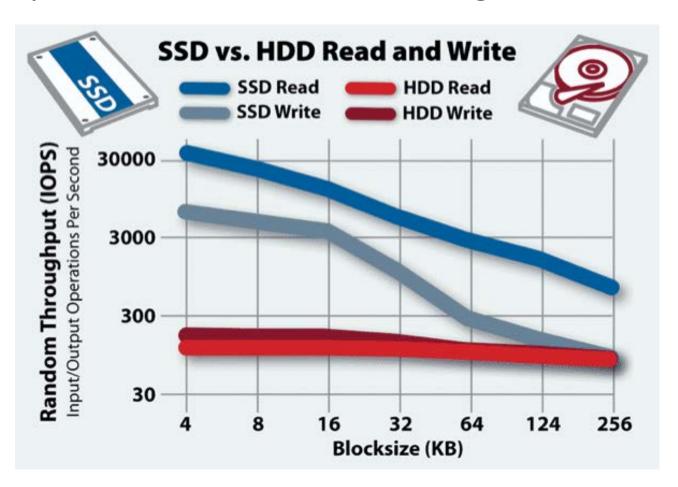
Blocksize on FS

- 512 byte is a typical block-size of the disk:
- It cannot read less than 512 bytes, if you want to read less, read 512 bytes and discard the rest.
- File System block-size can be different

```
[cozzini@login ~]$ cd /local_scratch/
[cozzini@login local_scratch]$ stat -f .
  File: "."
    ID: fd0000000000 Namelen: 255         Type: xfs
Block size: 4096         Fundamental block size: 4096
Blocks: Total: 51175000         Free: 47979308         Available: 47979308
Inodes: Total: 102400000 Free: 102244219
```

Blocksize effect in the Random access

The performance DISK is not a single number



Proposed exercise

- Identify your FileSystem and its properties
- Measure/Estimate the rough performance of your hard-drive
- Compare it with the ramfs on your linux box and on your cluster system

cozzini@login ~]\$ df					
Filesystem	1K-blocks	Used	Available	Use%	
Mounted on					
/dev/mapper/SysVG-Root	51474912	33126208	15710880	68%	/
devtmpfs	16358128	0	16358128	0%	
/dev					
tmpfs	16371480	501024	15870456	4%	
/dev/shm					

Parallel I/O in HPC

A couple of citations

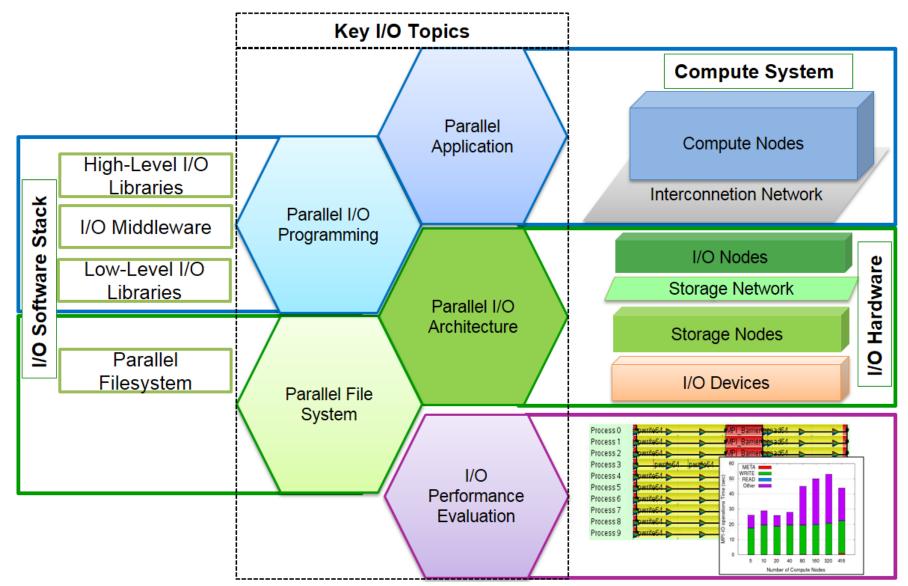
"Very few large scale applications of practical importance are NOT data intensive."

A supercomputer is a device for converting a CPU-bound problem into an I/O bound problem." [Ken Batcher]

HPC I/O ecosystem

- HPC I/O system is the hardware and software that assists in accessing data during simulations and analysis and keeping data between these activities
- It composed by
 - Hardware: disks, disk enclosures, servers, networks, etc.
 - Software: parallel file system, libraries, parts of the OS
 - Brainware: people who take care of it

Parallel I/O in HPC



I/O for scientific computing

Scientific applications use I/O:

- to load initial conditions or datasets for processing (input)
- to store dataset from simulations for later analysis (output)
- checkpointing to files that save the state of an application in case of system failure
- (Implementing "out-of-core" techniques for algorithms that process more data than can fit in system memory)

Checkpoint/restart

- For long-running applications, the cautious user checkpoints
- Application-level checkpoint involves the application saving its own state
 - –Portable!
- A canonical representation is preferred
 - Independent of number of processes
- Restarting is then possible
- Canonical representation aids restarting with a different number of processes
- Also eases data analysis (when using same output)

Flavors of I/O applications

- Two "flavors" of I/O from applications:
 - Defensive: storing data to protect results from data loss due to system faults
 - Productive: storing/retrieving data as part of the scientific workflow
 - Note: Sometimes these are combined (i.e., data stored both protects from loss and is used in later analysis)
- "Flavor" influences priorities:
 - Defensive I/O: Spend as little time as possible
 - Productive I/O: Capture provenance, organize for analysis

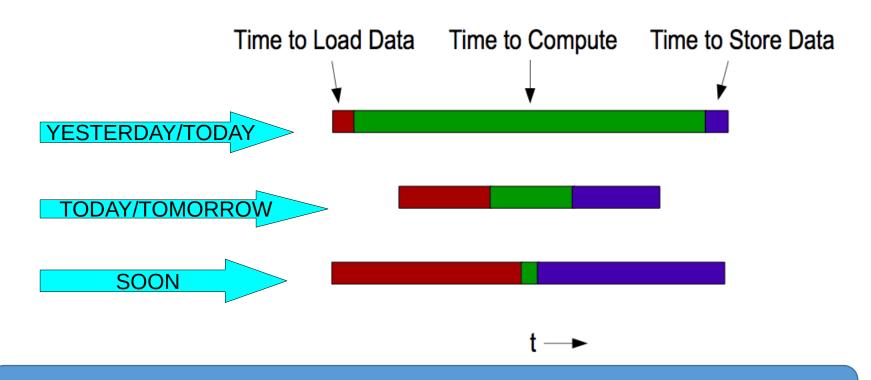
Preprocessing/Post-processing phases..

- Pre-/post processing:
 - Preparing input
 - Processing output
- These phases are becoming comparable or even larger in time than the computational phases..

HPC optimization works

- Most optimization work on HPC applications is carried out on:
 - Single node performance
 - Network performance (communication)
 - I/O only when it becomes a real problem

Do we need to start optimizing I/O?



We are not counting here pre/post processing phases!!

I/O challenge in HPC

Large parallel machines should perform large calculations

=> Critical to leverage parallelism in all phases including I/O

(do you remember Amdahl law?)

Factors which affect I/O

- How is I/O performed?
 - I/O pattern
 - Number of processes and files.
 - Characteristics of file access.
- Where is I/O performed?
 - Characteristics of the computational system.
 - Characteristics of the file system.

Challenges in Application I/O

- Leveraging aggregate communication and I/O bandwidth of clients
 - but not overwhelming a resource limited I/O system with uncoordinated accesses!
- Limiting number of files that must be managed
 - Also a performance issue
- Avoiding unnecessary post-processing
- Often application teams spend so much time on this that they never get any further:
 - Interacting with storage through convenient abstractions
 - Storing in portable formats

Parallel I/O software is available to help fixing ALL these problem

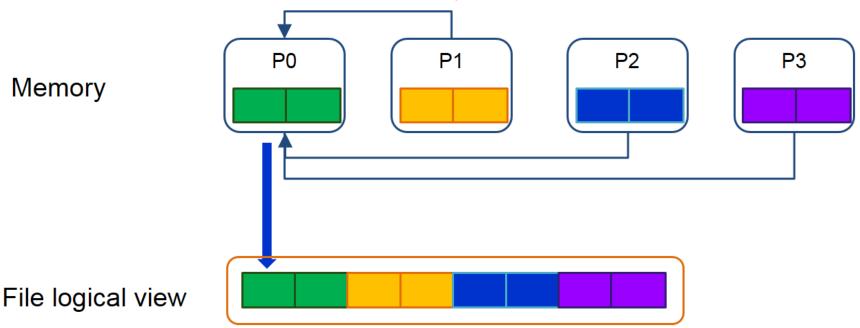
Application dataset complexity vs I/O

- I/O systems have very simple data models
 - Tree-based hierarchy of containers
 - Some containers have streams of bytes (files)
 - Others hold collections of other containers (directories or folders)
- Applications have data models appropriate to domain
 - Multidimensional typed arrays, images composed of scan lines, variable length records
 - Headers, attributes on data
- How to map from one to the other?

How to perform input/output on HPC

Serial I/O: spokeperson

- One process performs I/O.
 - Data Aggregation or Duplication
 - Limited by single I/O process.
- Simple solution, easy to manage, but Pattern does not scale.
 - Time increases linearly with amount of data.
 - Time increases with number of processes.

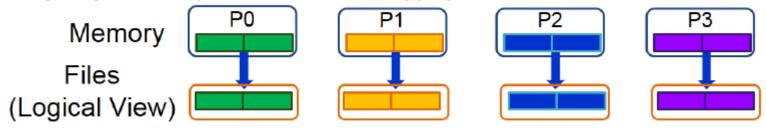


Parallel I/O: File-per-Process

All processes perform I/O to individual files.

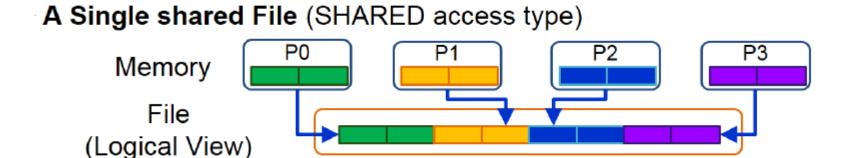
- Limited by file system.
 - Pattern does not scale at large number of processes
 - Number of files creates bottleneck with metadata operations.
 - Number of simultaneous disk accesses creates contention for file system resources.
- Manageability issues:
 - What about managing thousand of files ???
 - What about checkpoint/restart procedures on different number of processors?

1 file per process (UNIQUE access type)



Parallel I/O

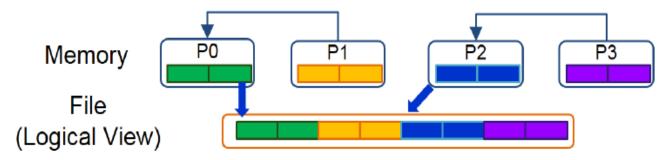
- Each process performs I/O to a single file which is shared.
- Performance Data layout within the shared file is very important.
- Possible contention for file system resources when large number of processors involved..



Parallel I/O on very large system..

- Accessing a shared filesystem from large numbers of processes could potentially overwhelm the storage system and not only..
- In some cases we simply need to reduce the number of processes accessing the storage system in order to match number of servers or limit concurrent access.

Single file shared for "N" processes



What does Parallel I/O mean?

- At the program level:
 - Concurrent reads or writes from multiple processes to a common file
- At the system level:
 - A parallel file system and hardware that support such concurrent access

I/O access patterns

I/O Operation

Read only

Write only

Request size

Fixed / Variable

Small / Medium / Large

Spatial Patterns



Contiguous



Non-contiguous: Strided Fixed strided / 2D-strided / Negative strided /Random strided/ kD-strided



Combination of contiguous and noncontiguous patterns Temporal intervals

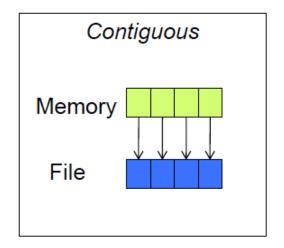
Fixed

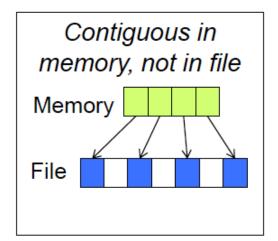
Random

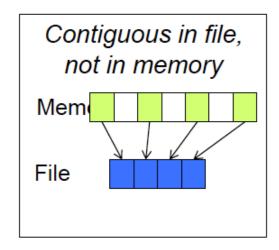
Repetition

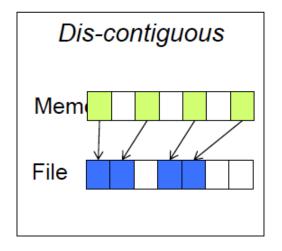
Single Occurrence Multiple Ocurrence

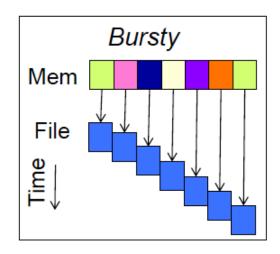
Access Patterns

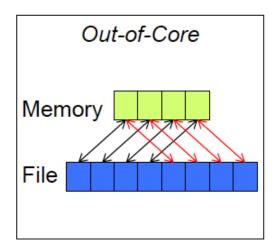












Software/Hardware stack for I/O

High-Level I/O Library

maps application abstractions onto storage abstractions and provides data portability.

HDF5, Parallel netCDF, ADIOS

I/O Forwarding

bridges between app. tasks and storage system and provides aggregation for uncoordinated I/O.

IBM ciod, IOFSL, Cray DVS

Application High-Level I/O Library I/O Middleware I/O Forwarding Parallel File System I/O Hardware

I/O Middleware

organizes accesses from many processes, especially those using collective I/O.

MPI-IO

Parallel File System

maintains logical space and provides efficient access to data.

PVFS, PanFS, GPFS, Lustre

I/O middleware

- Match the programming model (e.g. MPI)
 - Facilitate concurrent access by groups of processes
 - Collective I/O
 - Atomicity rules
- Expose a generic interface
- Good building block for high-level libraries
- Efficiently map middleware operations into PFS ones
- Leverage any rich PFS access constructs, such as
 - Scalable file name resolution
 - Rich I/O descriptions

Overview of MPI I/O

- I/O interface specification for use in MPI apps
- Available in MPI-2.0 standard on
- Data model is a stream of bytes in a file
- Same as POSIX and stdio
- Features:
 - Noncontiguous I/O with MPI datatypes and file views
 - Collective I/O
 - Nonblocking I/O
- Fortran/C bindings (and additional languages)
- API has a large number of routines..

NOTE: you simply compile and link as you would any normal MPI program.

Why MPI is good for I/O?

- Writing is like sending a message and reading is like receiving one.
- Any parallel I/O system will need to
 - define collective operations (MPI communicators)
 - define noncontiguous data layout in memory and file (MPI datatypes)
 - Test completion of nonblocking operations (MPI request objects)
 - i.e., lots of MPI-like machinery needed

NOTE: you simply compile and link as you would any normal MPI program.

Parallel I/O using MPI?

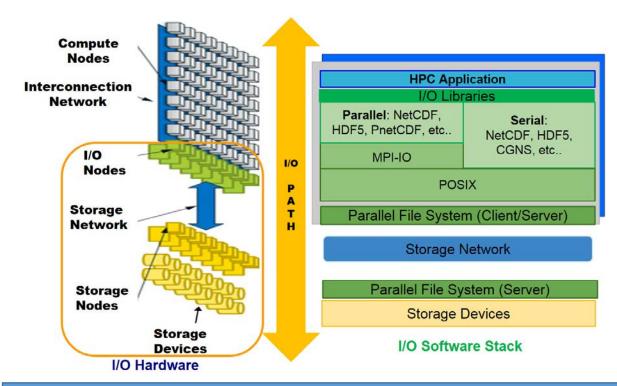
- Why do I/O in MPI?
- Why not just POSIX?
 - Parallel performance
 - Single file (instead of one file / process)
- MPI has replacement functions for POSIX I/O
- Multiple styles of I/O can all be expressed in MPI
 - Contiguous vs non contiguous etc....

To be continued...

Elements of a PFS

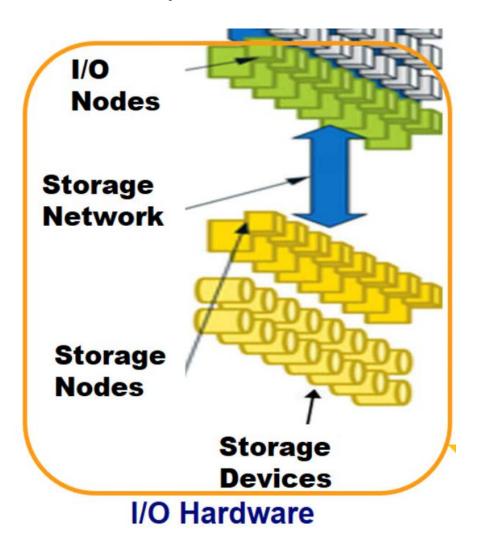
- A parallel solution usually is made of
 - several Storage Servers that hold the actual filesystem data
 - one or more Metadata Servers that help clients to identify/manage data stored in the file system
 - a redundancy layer that replicates in some way information in the storage cluster, so that the file system can survive the loss of some component server
- and optionally:
 - monitoring software that ensures continuous availability of all needed components

A graphical view:



Picture from: http://www.prace-ri.eu/best-practice-guide-parallel-i-o/#id-1.3.5

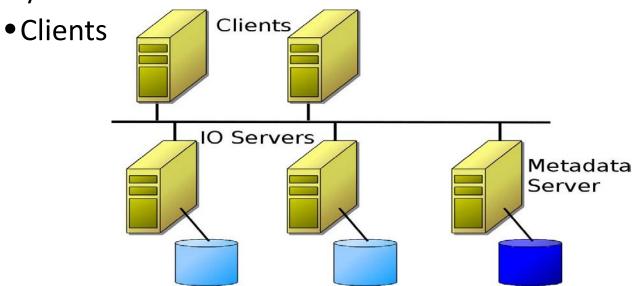
Parallel File System: I/O hardware



Parallel File System: components

- •In general, a Parallel File Systems has the following components
 - Metadata Server





Hardware to build a PFS:

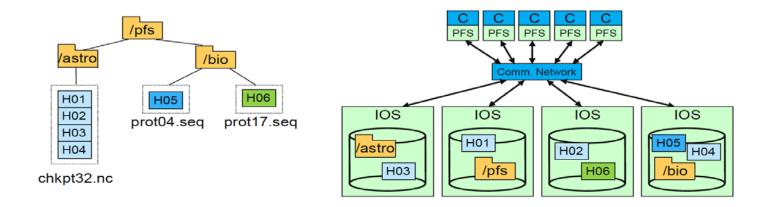
- Nodes, Disks, controllers, and interconnects
- Hardware defines the peak performance of the I/O system:
 - raw bandwidth
 - Minimum latency
- At the hardware level, data is accessed at the granularity of blocks, either physical disk blocks or logical blocks spread across multiple physical devices such as in a RAID array
- Parallel File Systems takes care of
 - managing data on the storage hardware,
 - presenting this data as a directory hierarchy,
 - coordinating access to files and directories in a consistent manner

An important disclaimer...

- Parallel File Systems are usually optimized for high performance rather than general purpose use,
- Optimization criteria:
 - Large block sizes (≥ 64kB)
 - Relatively slow metadata operations (eg. fstat()) compared to reads and writes..)
 - Special APIs for direct access and additional optimizations. i.e. no Posix sometime/somewhere

Parallel FS approaches..

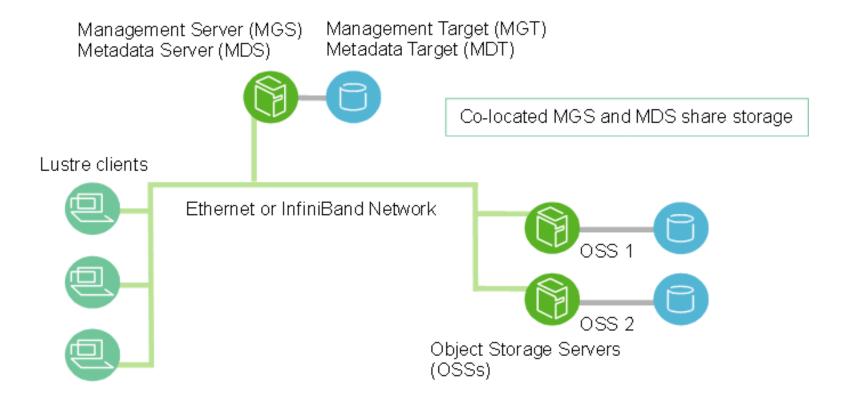
 An example parallel file system, with large astrophysics checkpoints distributed across multiple I/O servers (IOS) while small bioinformatics files are each stored on a single IOS



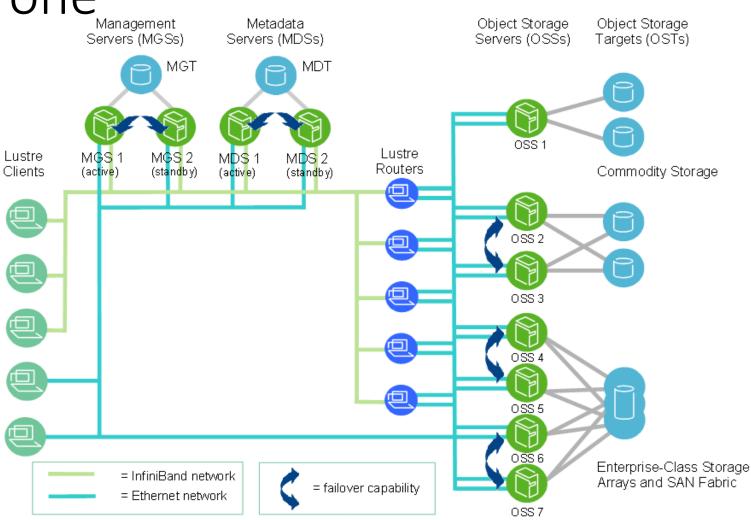
What is available on the market?

- BeeGFS
 - Developed at Fraunhofer Institute, freely available not open
 - http://www.fhgfs.com/cms/
- Lustre
 - open and Free owned by Intel DDN
 - Intel no longer sells tools to manage and support (\$\$\$)
 - http://lustre.opensfs.org/
- GPFS (now known as Spectrum Scale)
 - IBM proprietary \$\$\$
 - Very nice solution and expensive ones!
- And many others (WekalO/MooseFS/Panasas... etc)

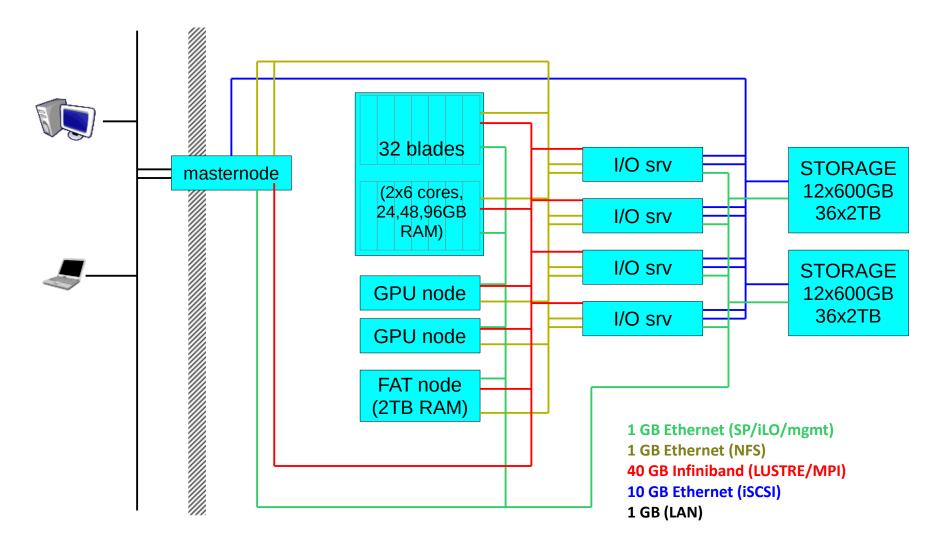
Lustre in two pictures: simple one



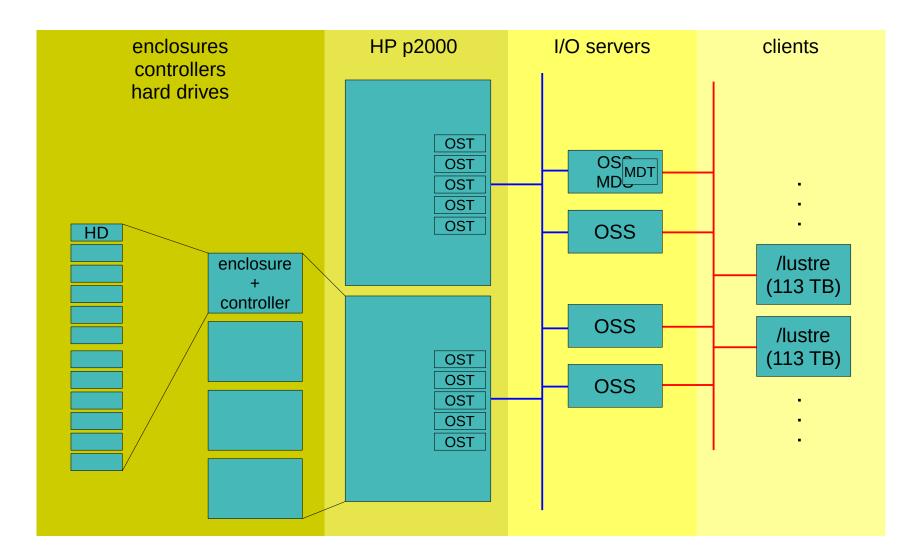
Lustre in two pictures: complex one



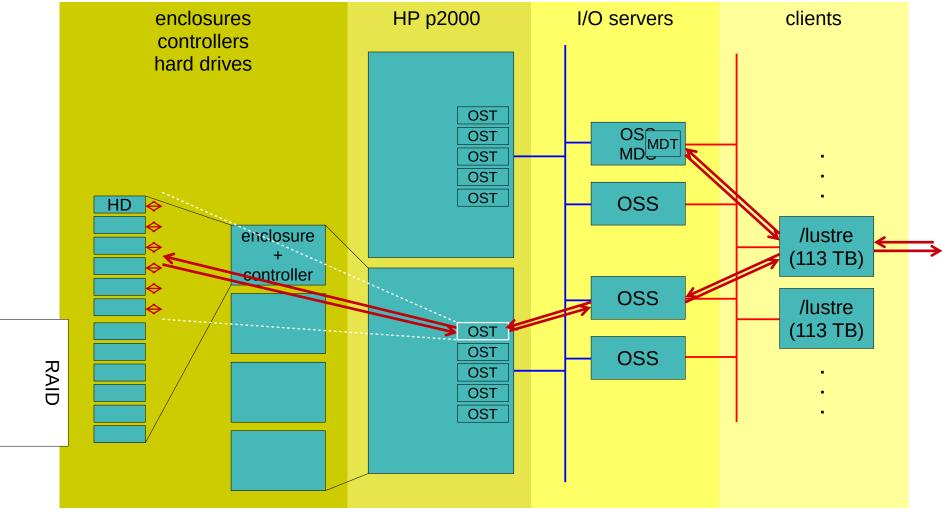
HPC infrastructure @ CRIBI



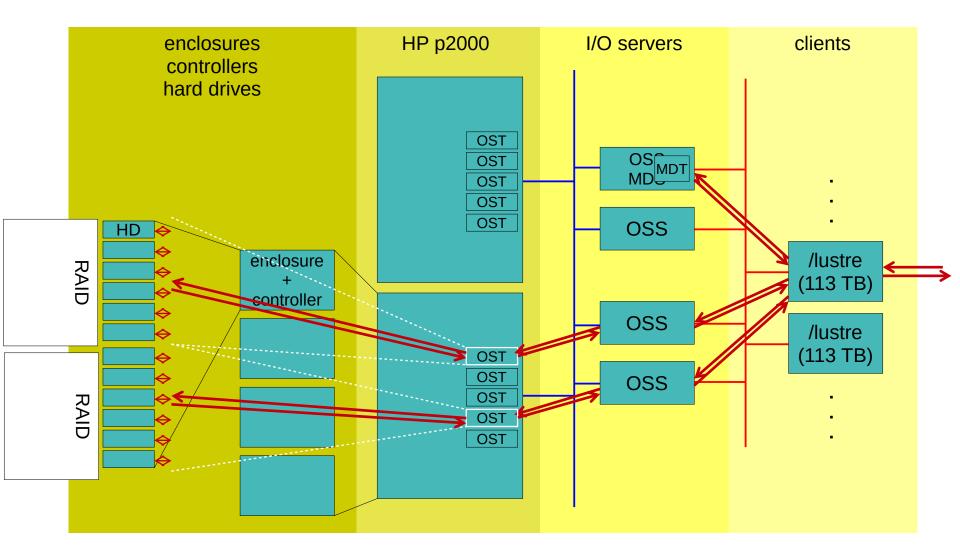
LUSTRE@CRIBI as storage solution



accessing LUSTRE filesystem



why "parallel" filesystem?



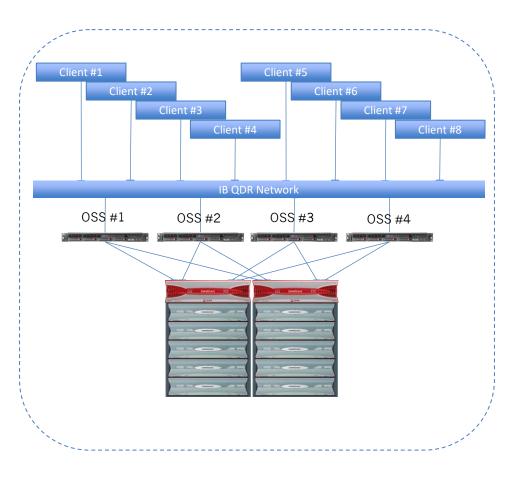
Expected performance

- Elements of the infrastructure:
 - Network Speed: Infiniband QDR :3.2GB/sec for server
 - --> Network aggregate bandwith: 3.2 x 4 ~ 12GB/se
 - •4 IO-SRV two OST each
 - Each OST: RAID 6 6 disks
 - •OST Aggregate bandwith: (6-2)*100 = 400 Mb/seconds
 - [Disk speed: 100 Mb/seconds]
 - •Node Aggregate bandwith 400x 2 = 800 Mb/sec

Peak performance: 4 x 800 = 3.2 GB/sec read/write

 $10^{29/11/2022}$

overall LUSTRE performance



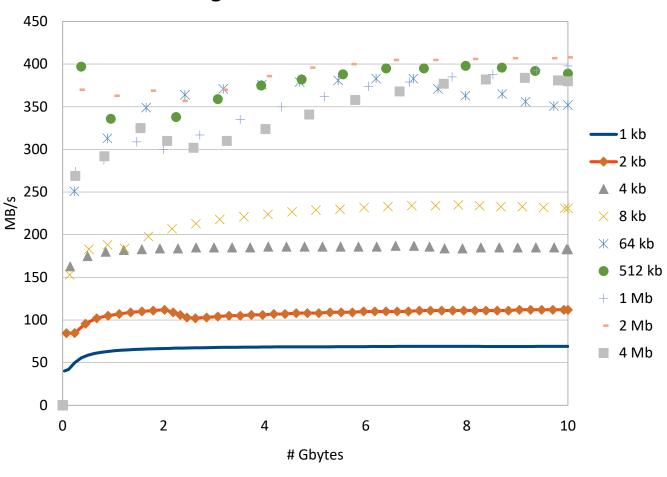
- > sequential write/read by iozone
- > 1 ~ 8 clients, 1 ~ 4 proc/client
- > 32 GB files writing
- ➤ 64 GB files reading



- ~ 1.7 GB/sec writing
- 32 clients, 32 GB files
- ~ 1.2 GB/sec reading
- 32 clients, 64 GB files

LUSTRE can be disappointing too...

writing 1 file with variable block size



ORFEO choice: CEPH

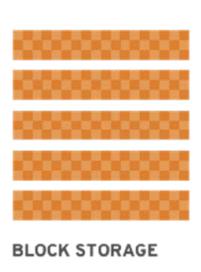
- A unique storage solution for both HPC and Cloud infrastructure
- Main Users: Bioinformatics with many files
- Open and free
- Scalable..

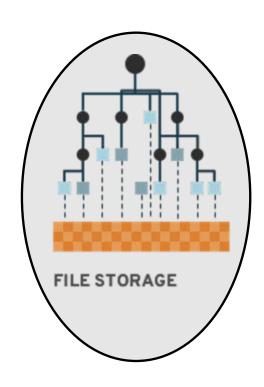
A short introduction to CEPH

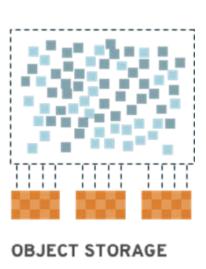
CEPH storage

- Open-source distributed storage solution
- Object based storage
- Highly scalable
- Built around the CRUSH algorithm, by Sage Weil http://ceph.com/papers/weil-crush-sc06.pdf
- Supports multiple access methods [File, Block, Object]

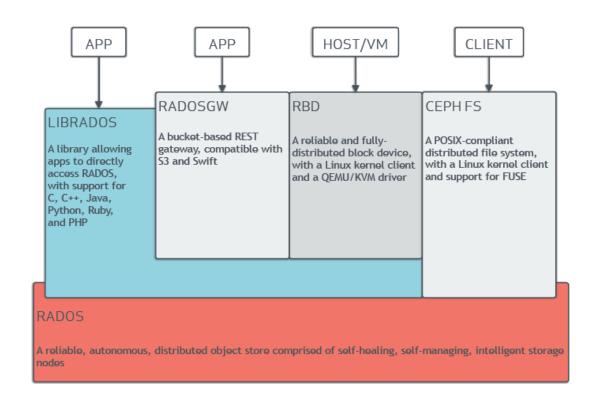
Access methods:







CEPH Storage Architecture



CEPH storage cluster: RADOS

- RADOS (Reliable Autonomic Distributed Object Store)
 - This layer provides the CEPH software defined storage with the ability to store data (serve IO requests, protect the data, check the consistency and the integrity of the data through built-in mechanisms).
- The RADOS layer is composed of the following daemons:
 - MONs or Monitors
 - OSDs or Object Storage Devices
 - MGRs or Managers
 - MDSs or Meta Data Servers (only for CEPHfs)

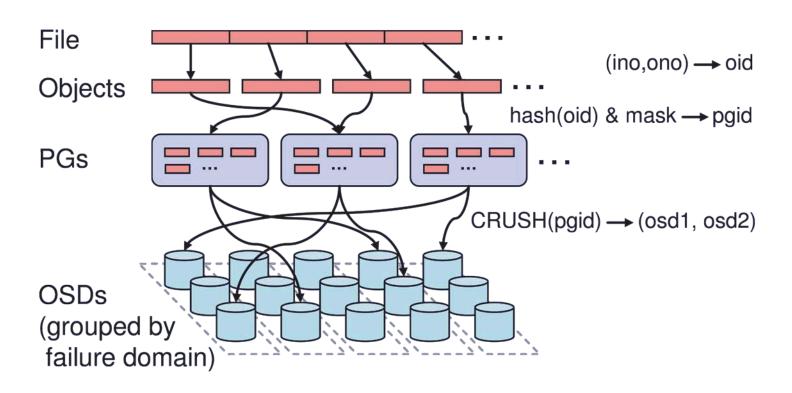
What are they doing?

- A CEPH Monitor maintains a master copy of the cluster map. A cluster of CEPH monitors ensures high availability should a monitor daemon fail. Storage cluster clients retrieve a copy of the cluster map from the CEPH Monitor.
- A CEPH OSD Daemon checks its own state and the state of other OSDs and reports back to monitors.
- A CEPH Manager acts as an endpoint for monitoring, orchestration, and plug-in modules.
- A CEPH Metadata Server (MDS) manages file metadata when CephFS is used to provide file services.

Distributed Object Storage

- Files are split across objects
- Objects are members of placement groups
- Placement groups (PG) are distributed across OSDs.
- CRUSH (Controlled Replication Under Scalable Hashing) algorithm takes care of distributing objects and uses rules to determine the mapping of the PGs to the OSDs.

Distributed Object Storage



CRUSH

- CRUSH(x) -> (osdn1, osdn2, osdn3)
 - Inputs
 - x is the placement group
 - Hierarchical cluster map
 - Placement rules
 - Outputs a list of OSDs
- Advantages
 - Anyone can calculate object location
 - Cluster map infrequently updated

Cluster partitions

- The CEPH cluster is separated into logical partitions, known as pools. Each pool has the following properties that can be adjusted:
 - An ID (immutable)
 - A name
 - A number of PGs to distribute the objects across the OSDs
 - A CRUSH rule to determine the mapping of the PGs for this pool
 - Parameters associated with the type of protection
 - Number of copies for replicated pools
 - K and M chunks for Erasure Coding

Data protection

Support two types: redundancy and erasure code



FULL COPIES OF STORED OBJECTS

- · Very high durability
- Quicker recovery
- · Performance optimized

ONE COPY PLUS PARITY

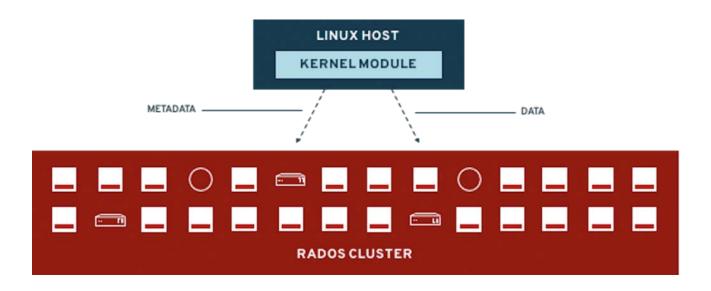
- . Cost-effective durability
- Expensive recovery
- · Capacity optimized

Erasure code vs replication

- Replicated pools provide better performance in almost all cases at the cost of a lower usable to raw storage ratio (1 usable byte is stored using 3 bytes of raw storage by default)
- Erasure Coding provides a cost-efficient way to store data with less performance.
- Standard Erasure Coding profiles
 - 4+2 (1:1.666 ratio)
 - 8+3 (1:1.375 ratio)
 - 8+4 (1:1.666 ratio)

CEPHfs

clients access a shared POSIX compliant filesystem.



Client access example:

- 1. Client sends open request to MDS
- 2. MDS returns capability, file inode, file size and stripe information
- 3. Client read/write directly from/to OSDs
- 4. MDS manages the capability
- 5. Client sends *close* request, relinquishes capability, provides details to MDS

Synchronization

- Adheres to POSIX
- Includes HPC oriented extensions
 - Consistency / correctness by default
 - Optionally relax constraints via extensions
 - Extensions for both data and metadata
- Synchronous I/O used with multiple writers or mix of readers and writers

ORFEO storage

ORFEO storage: hardware

	FAST storage (NVMe)	FAST storage (SSD)	Standard storage (HDD)	Long term preservation
# of server	4		6	1
RAM	6 x 16GB		6 x 16GB	6 x 16GB
Disk per node	2x 1.6TB NVMe PCle card	20 x 3.84TB	15 x 12TB	84 x 12TB + 42 x 12TB
Storage provider	EPH parallel FS	CEPH parallel FS	CEPH parallel FS	Network FS (NFS)
RAW storage	1218	320 TB	1080 7B	1,512 TB

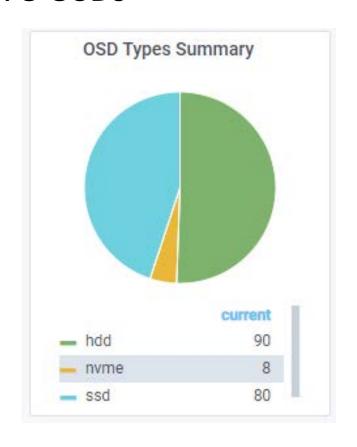
ORFEO CEPH storage cluster

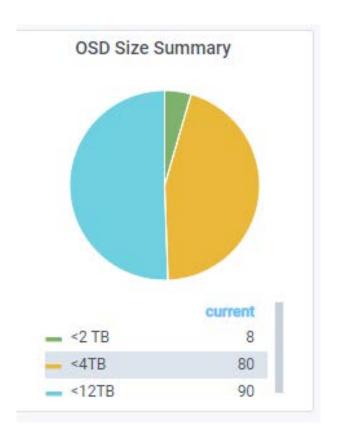
• 10 nodes

Hosts List Overall Performance Services 1: Hostname \$ osd.63, osd.64, osd.65, osd.66, osd.67, osd.68, osd.69, osd.70, osd.71, osd.72, osd.73, osd.74, osd.75, osd.76, osd.77 ct1ps-ceph005 ct1ps-ceph006 osd.78, osd.79, osd.80, osd.81, osd.82, osd.83, osd.84, osd.85, osd.86, osd.87, osd.88, osd.89, osd.90, osd.91, osd.92 osd 100, osd 101, osd 102, osd 103, osd 104, osd 105, osd 106, osd 107, osd 93, osd 94, osd 95, osd 96, osd 97, osd 98, osd 99 ct1ps-ceph007 ct1ps-ceph008 osd.108, osd.109, osd.110, osd.111, osd.112, osd.113, osd.114, osd.115, osd.116, osd.117, osd.118, osd.119, osd.120, osd.121, osd.122 ct1ps-ceph009 osd.148, osd.149, osd.150, osd.151, osd.152, osd.153, osd.154, osd.155, osd.156, osd.157, osd.158, osd.159, osd.160, osd.161, osd.162 osd.163 , osd.164 , osd.165 , osd.166 , osd.167 , osd.168 , osd.169 , osd.170 , osd.171 , osd.172 , osd.173 , osd.174 , osd.175 , osd.176 , osd.177 ct1ps-ceph010 ct1ps-ceph001 mds.ct/ps-ceph001, mgr.ct/ps-ceph001, mon.ct/ps-ceph001, osd.0, osd.1, osd.10, osd.11, osd.12, osd.124, osd.125, osd.126, osd.126, osd.128, osd.129, osd.129, osd.13, osd.2, osd.3, osd.4, osd.5, osd.56, osd.6, osd.60, osd.7, osd.8, osd.9, rgw.ct1ps-ceph001 ct1ps-ceph002 mds.cttps-ceph002 , mgr.cttps-ceph002 , mon.cttps-ceph002 , osd.130 , osd.131 , osd.132 , osd.133 , osd.134 , osd.135 , osd.14 , osd.15 , osd.16 , osd.17 , osd.18 , osd.19 , osd.20 , osd.21 , osd.22 , osd.23 , osd.24 , osd.25 , osd.26 , osd.27 , osd.57 , osd.61 , rgw.ct1ps-ceph002 ct1ps-ceph003 mds.ct1ps-ceph003, mgr.ct1ps-ceph003, mon.ct1ps-ceph003, osd.136, osd.137, osd.138, osd.139, osd.140, osd.141, osd.28, osd.29, osd.30, osd.31, osd.32, osd.33, osd.34, osd.35, osd.36, osd.37, osd.38, osd.39, osd.40, osd.41, osd.58, osd.62, rgw.ct1ps-ceph003 ct1ps-ceph004 mds.ct1ps-ceph004 , mgr.ct1ps-ceph004 , mgr.ct1ps-ceph004 , mgr.ct1ps-ceph004 , mgr.ct1ps-ceph004 , osd.123 , osd.143 , osd.144 , osd.145 , osd.146 , osd.147 , osd.42 , osd.43 , osd.44 , osd.45 , osd.46 , osd.47 , osd.48 , osd.49 , osd.50 , osd.51 , osd.52 , osd.53 , osd.54 , osd.55 , osd.59 , rgw.ct1ps-ceph004 0 selected / 10 total

ORFEO CEPH storage cluster

• 178 OSDs





ORFEO CEPH Crush map

Cluster » CRUSH map

CRUSH map viewer

- ▼ default (root)
 - ct1ps-ceph005 (host)
 - ct1ps-ceph006 (host)
 - ct1ps-ceph007 (host)
 - ▼ ct1ps-ceph001 (host)
 - up osd.0 (osd)
 - up osd.1 (osd)
 - up osd.10 (osd)
 - up osd.11 (osd)
 - up osd.12 (osd)
 - up osd.124 (osd)
 - up osd.125 (osd)
 - up osd.126 (osd)
 - up osd.127 (osd)
 - up osd.128 (osd)
 - up osd.129 (osd)
 - up osd.13 (osd)
 - up osd.2 (osd)
 - up osd.3 (osd)
 - up osd.4 (osd)
 - up osd.5 (osd)
 - up osd.56 (osd)

osd.56 (osd)

crush_weight	1.454986572265625	
depth	2	
device_class	nvme	
exists	1	
id	56	
primary_affinity	1	
reweight	1	
type_id	0	

ORFEO CEPH storage cluster

• 4 monitors:

In Quorum

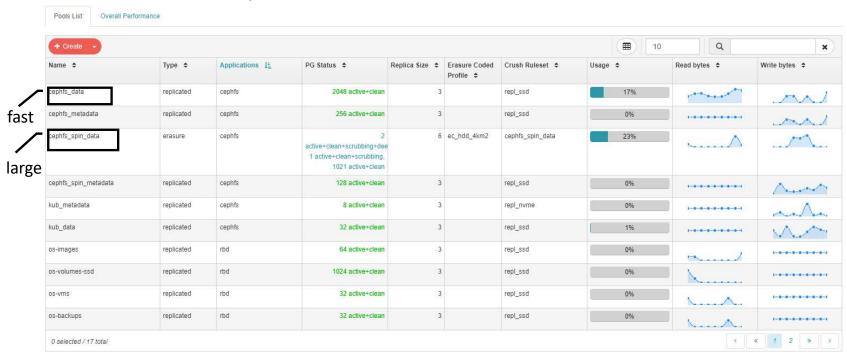


Not In Quorum



ORFEO CEPH pools..

• 17 different pools

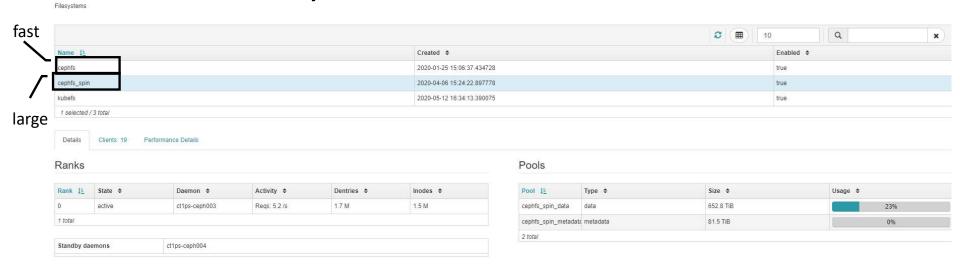


ORFEO /fast and /large from CEPH

- /large
 - 90 disks (12TB each) -> 90 OSDs
 - Erasure code: 4+2 (1:1.666 ratio)
 - 1080 raw capacity →648 useful size converti in Tib
- /fast
 - 80 disks (4TB each) → 80 OSDs
 - Replication: 3 copies each object
 - 320TB raw capacity → 320/3 =~ 100TB useful size

ORFEO CEPH file system

• 3 different file-system



ORFEO: long term storage

- A NAS for ORFEO Cluster
- Internally:
 - An entry level SAN

ORFEO: long term storage

 Dell EMC PowerEdge R640



SAS 12Gbps
Server to storage
Redundant connection

SAS 12Gbps
daisy chain

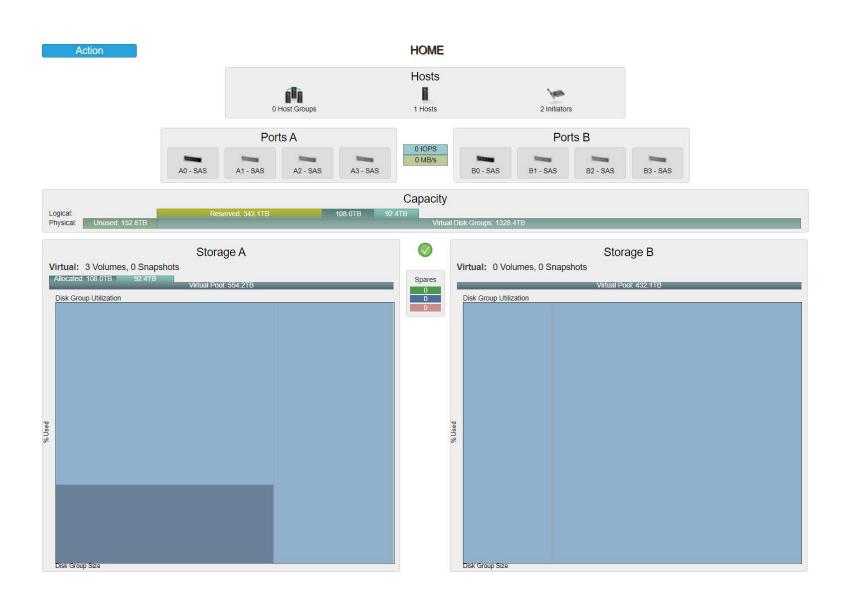
 Dell EMC PowerVault ME4084

84 x 12TB HDD

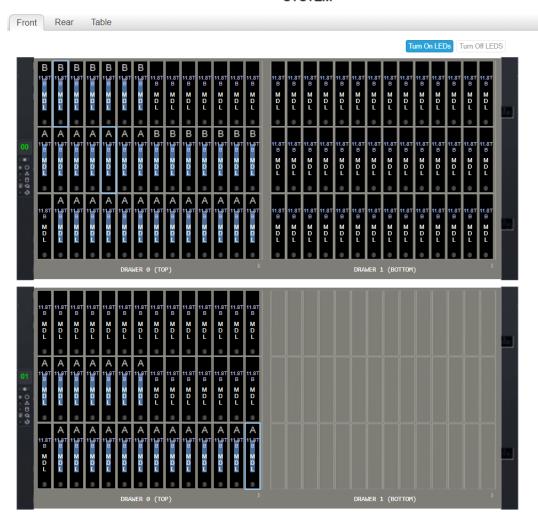
 + Dell EMC PowerVault ME4084

42 x 12TB HDD

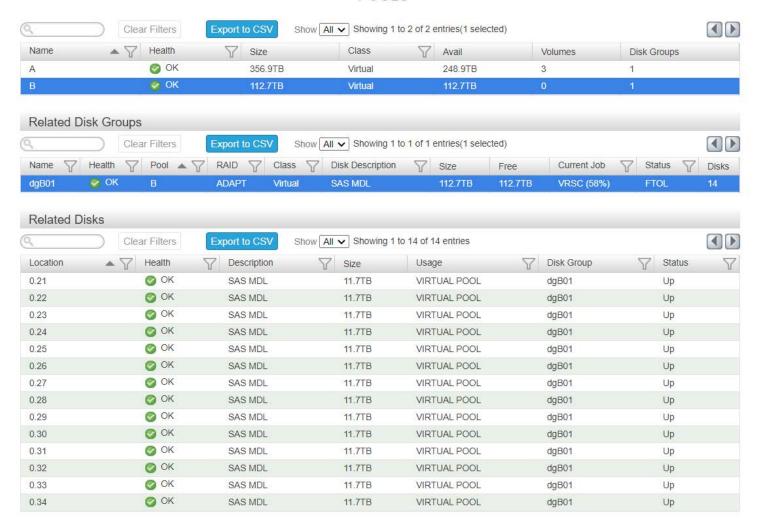
```
>df -h
10.128.2.231:/storage 37T 18T 20T 48% /storage
10.128.2.231:/illumina_run 46T 42T 4.2T 92% /illumina_run
```



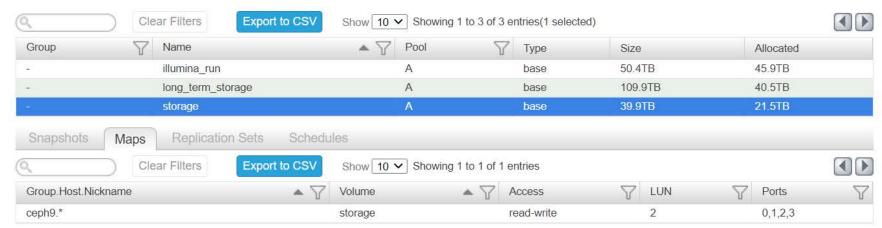
SYSTEM



POOLS



Action



[root@login bin]# df -h | grep storage
10.128.2.231:/storage 37T 18T 20T 48% /storage

Benchmarking I/O on ORFEO

I/O benchmarking...

• It is becoming more and more important

• I/O performance tends to be trickier than

CPU/memory ones...,

Application

I/O library

FS structure

RAID infrastructure

DISK structure

Application

I/O library

PFS client

Network structure

PFS server

RAID infrastructure

DISK structure

How to test a complex I/O infrastructure?

- Benchmark all the single component of the infrastructure
- Compare simple component Peak performance with measured numbers
- Combine all numbers together to get a performance model and some expected value
- Perform the high level benchmark and compare against what you evaluated.

I/O microbenchmarks to play...

- Measures one fundamental operation in isolation
 - Read throughput, write throughput, creates/sec, etc.
- Good for:
 - Tuning a specific operation
 - Post-install system validation
 - Publishing a big number in a press release
- Not as good for:
 - Modeling & predicting real application performance
 - Measuring broad system performance characteristics
- Example to play
 - IOR: https://github.com/hpc/ior
 - iozone (<u>www.iozone.org</u>)
 - Mdtest (included in the IOR)

Estimate I/O performance of ORFEO storage..

- Peak performance estimate:
 - Network:
 - Infiniband Network from server toward clients: 12GB/sec
 - Disks:
 - HDD: 150 MB/sec (estimate)
 - SDD: 600 MB/sec (estimate)

```
→
/fast: 80x600=32 GB/sec without replicas
/scratch: 90x150= 13GB/sec without erasure code
```

Measure performance of ORFEO storage..

Acceptance tests:

/fast without replica with 56 disks:

~ 20 GB/seconds

lozone

- Compilation trivial: see tutorial.
- Things to try:
- Test to run:
 - lozone -a (basic testing)
 - Large file (large than memory to avoid caching effects)

```
iozone -i 1 -i 0 -s 32g -r 1M -f ./32gzero2
```

Short introduction of basic flags:

```
http://www.thegeekstuff.com/2011/05/iozone-examples/
```

IOR: the de-facto I/O benchmark for HPC

HPC IO Benchmark Repository

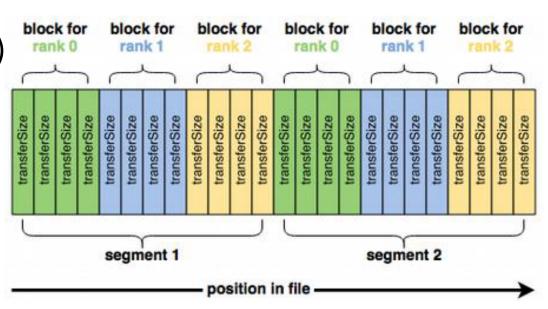
This repository contains the IOR and mdtest parallel I/O benchmarks. The official IOR/mdtest documention can be found in the docs/ subdirectory or on Read the Docs.

Building

- If configure is missing from the top level directory, you probably retrieved this code directly from the repository.
 Run ./bootstrap to generate the configure script. Alternatively, download an official IOR release which includes the configure script.
- 2. Run ./configure . For a full list of configuration options, use ./configure --help .
- 3. Run make
- 4. Optionally, run make install . The installation prefix can be changed via ./configure --prefix=....

IOR basic usage:

- IOR writes data sequentially with the following parameters:
 - blockSize (-b)
 - transferSize (-t)
 - segmentCount
 - numTasks (-n)



IOR number to collect...

- Compare performance of HDF5 vs MPIIO vs POSIX..
- Possible experiments:
 - mpirun -np 32 IOR -a [POSIX|MPIIO] -i 3 -d 32 -k -r -E -o yourfile_name -s 1 -b 60G -t 1m
 - mpirun -np 32 IOR -a [POSIX|MPIIO] -i 3 -d 32 -k -r -E -o yourfile_name -s 1 -b 16G -t 1m
 - mpirun -np 32 IOR -a [POSIX|MPIIO] -i 3-d 32 -k -r -E -o yourfile_name -s 1 -b 4G -t 1m

MD test

- How much does it cost metadata operations?
- Example to run:

```
mdtest -n 10 -i 200 -y -N 10 -t -u -d $test_directory
```

- -n: every process will creat/stat/remove # directories and files
- -i: number of iterations the test will run
- -y: sync file after writing
- -N: stride # between neighbor tasks for file/dir stat (local=0)
- -t: time unique working directory overhead
- -u: unique working directory for each task
- -d: the directory in which the tests will run

The end