
data
distributed
database
DBMS
parallel
shared
system
architecture
processing
network
systems
DBMSs
access
processors
Distributed
DDBMS
performance
multiple
centralized
memory
Parallel
processor
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site
disk
computer
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applications
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local
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Database System Concept (CSE 3103)

Lecture 09-Day 02

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RAID

- **RAID: Redundant Arrays of Independent Disks**
  - disk organization techniques that manage a large numbers of disks, providing a view of a single disk of
    - high capacity and high speed by using multiple disks in parallel,
    - high reliability by storing data redundantly, so that data can be recovered even if a disk fails
- The chance that some disk out of a set of *N* disks will fail is much higher than the chance that a specific single disk will fail.
  - E.g., a system with 100 disks, each with MTTF of 100,000 hours (approx. 11 years), will have a system MTTF of 1000 hours (approx. 41 days)
  - Techniques for using redundancy to avoid data loss are critical with large numbers of disks
- Originally a cost-effective alternative to large, expensive disks
  - I in RAID originally stood for ``inexpensive''
  - Today RAIDs are used for their higher reliability and bandwidth.
    - The "I" is interpreted as independent

Improvement of Reliability via Redundancy

- **Redundancy** – store extra information that can be used to rebuild information lost in a disk failure
- E.g., **Mirroring** (or **shadowing**)
  - Duplicate every disk. Logical disk consists of two physical disks.
  - Every write is carried out on both disks
    - Reads can take place from either disk
  - If one disk in a pair fails, data still available in the other
    - Data loss would occur only if a disk fails, and its mirror disk also fails before the system is repaired
      - Probability of combined event is very small
        - Except for dependent failure modes such as fire or building collapse or electrical power surges
- **Mean time to data loss** depends on mean time to failure, and **mean time to repair**
  - E.g. MTTF of 100,000 hours, mean time to repair of 10 hours gives mean time to data loss of $500*10^6$ hours (or 57,000 years) for a mirrored pair of disks (ignoring dependent failure modes)

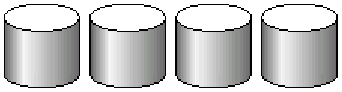
Improvement in Performance via Parallelism

- Two main goals of parallelism in a disk system:
  1. Load balance multiple small accesses to increase throughput
  2. Parallelize large accesses to reduce response time.
- Improve transfer rate by striping data across multiple disks.
- **Bit-level striping** – split the bits of each byte across multiple disks
  - In an array of eight disks, write bit *i* of each byte to disk *i.*
  - Each access can read data at eight times the rate of a single disk.
  - But seek/access time worse than for a single disk
    - Bit level striping is not used much any more
- **Block-level striping** – with *n* disks, block *i* of a file goes to disk (*i* mod *n*) + 1
  - Requests for different blocks can run in parallel if the blocks reside on different disks
  - A request for a long sequence of blocks can utilize all disks in parallel

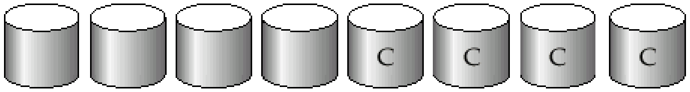
RAID Levels

- Schemes to provide redundancy at lower cost by using disk striping combined with parity bits
  - Different RAID organizations, or RAID levels, have differing cost, performance and reliability characteristics

- **RAID Level 0**: Block striping; non-redundant.
  - Used in high-performance applications where data loss is not critical.
- **RAID Level 1**: Mirrored disks with block striping
  - Offers best write performance.
  - Popular for applications such as storing log files in a database system.



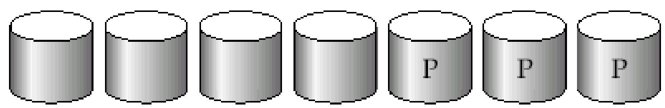
(a) RAID 0: nonredundant striping



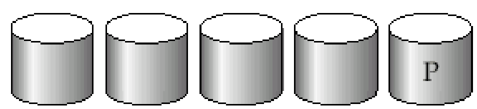
(b) RAID 1: mirrored disks

RAID Levels (Cont.)

- **RAID Level 2**: Memory-Style Error-Correcting-Codes (ECC) with bit striping.
- **RAID Level 3**: Bit-Interleaved Parity
  - a single parity bit is enough for error correction, not just detection, since we know which disk has failed
    - When writing data, corresponding parity bits must also be computed and written to a parity bit disk
    - To recover data in a damaged disk, compute XOR of bits from other disks (including parity bit disk)



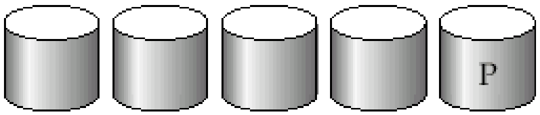
(c) RAID 2: memory-style error-correcting codes



(d) RAID 3: bit-interleaved parity

RAID Levels (Cont.)

- **RAID Level 3** (Cont.)
  - Faster data transfer than with a single disk, but fewer I/Os per second since every disk has to participate in every I/O.
  - Subsumes Level 2 (provides all its benefits, at lower cost).
- **RAID Level 4:** Block-Interleaved Parity; uses block-level striping, and keeps a parity block on a separate disk for corresponding blocks from *N* other disks.
  - When writing data block, corresponding block of parity bits must also be computed and written to parity disk
  - To find value of a damaged block, compute XOR of bits from corresponding blocks (including parity block) from other disks.



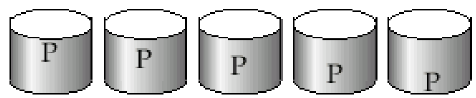
(e) RAID 4: block-interleaved parity

RAID Levels (Cont.)

- **RAID Level 4** (Cont.)
  - Provides higher I/O rates for independent block reads than Level 3
    - block read goes to a single disk, so blocks stored on different disks can be read in parallel
  - Provides high transfer rates for reads of multiple blocks than no-striping
  - Before writing a block, parity data must be computed
    - Can be done by using old parity block, old value of current block and new value of current block (2 block reads + 2 block writes)
    - Or by recomputing the parity value using the new values of blocks corresponding to the parity block
      - More efficient for writing large amounts of data sequentially
  - Parity block becomes a bottleneck for independent block writes since every block write also writes to parity disk

RAID Levels (Cont.)

- **RAID Level 5:** Block-Interleaved Distributed Parity; partitions data and parity among all *N* + 1 disks, rather than storing data in *N* disks and parity in 1 disk.
  - E.g., with 5 disks, parity block for *n*th set of blocks is stored on disk (*n mod* 5) + 1, with the data blocks stored on the other 4 disks.

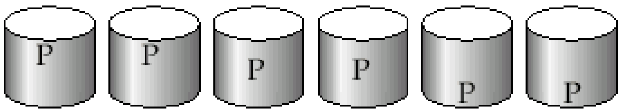


(f) RAID 5: block-interleaved distributed parity

P0	0	1	2	3
4	P1	5	6	7
8	9	P2	10	11
12	13	14	P3	15
16	17	18	19	P4

RAID Levels (Cont.)

- **RAID Level 5** (Cont.)
  - Higher I/O rates than Level 4.
    - Block writes occur in parallel if the blocks and their parity blocks are on different disks.
  - Subsumes Level 4: provides same benefits, but avoids bottleneck of parity disk.
- **RAID Level 6**: P+Q Redundancy scheme; similar to Level 5, but stores extra redundant information to guard against multiple disk failures.
  - Better reliability than Level 5 at a higher cost; not used as widely.



(g) RAID 6: P + Q redundancy

Choice of RAID Level

- Factors in choosing RAID level
  - Monetary cost
  - Performance: Number of I/O operations per second, and bandwidth during normal operation
  - Performance during failure
  - Performance during rebuild of failed disk
    - Including time taken to rebuild failed disk
- RAID 0 is used only when data safety is not important
  - E.g. data can be recovered quickly from other sources
- Level 2 and 4 never used since they are subsumed by 3 and 5
- Level 3 is not used anymore since bit-striping forces single block reads to access all disks, wasting disk arm movement, which block striping (level 5) avoids
- Level 6 is rarely used since levels 1 and 5 offer adequate safety for most applications

Choice of RAID Level (Cont.)

- Level 1 provides much better write performance than level 5
  - Level 5 requires at least 2 block reads and 2 block writes to write a single block, whereas Level 1 only requires 2 block writes
  - Level 1 preferred for high update environments such as log disks
- Level 1 had higher storage cost than level 5
  - disk drive capacities increasing rapidly (50%/year) whereas disk access times have decreased much less (x 3 in 10 years)
  - I/O requirements have increased greatly, e.g. for Web servers
  - When enough disks have been bought to satisfy required rate of I/O, they often have spare storage capacity
    - so there is often no extra monetary cost for Level 1!
- Level 5 is preferred for applications with low update rate, and large amounts of data
- Level 1 is preferred for all other applications