# ASSIGNMENT 5 Group 21

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Github Link: https://github.com/Tanmay7404/CS344 OsLab 2024/tree/main/Assignment%204

# Part 1: Introduction to the Filesystems and Features

## **Filesystems Chosen**

For this assignment, we selected ZFS and EXT4 to examine two distinctive features:

- Data Deduplication Available in ZFS, which helps eliminate redundant data storage.
- Large File Creation Optimised in EXT4, enhancing performance and storage management for large files.

#### **Overview of ZFS**

ZFS is an advanced file system and volume manager developed for the Solaris OS, designed to streamline disk and file management while boosting performance and compatibility. It emphasises data integrity, making it ideal for high-reliability environments. Key features include:

- **Data Deduplication**: Minimises storage by eliminating redundant data at the block level.
- Checksumming: Detects and corrects data corruption, enhancing reliability.
- Copy-on-Write (COW): Prevents data loss by writing updates to new locations instead of overwriting existing data.

These features collectively enhance data security, optimise storage, and prevent data corruption.

#### **Overview of EXT4**

EXT4 is a popular Linux filesystem designed for scalability and performance, particularly suited for handling large files efficiently. Key features include:

**Extents-based Mapping:** Reduces fragmentation by allocating larger, contiguous memory regions, improving performance.

**Delayed Allocation**: Defers physical block allocation until necessary, optimising memory usage.

**Multiblock Allocation**: Allows multiple contiguous blocks to be allocated in a single operation, minimising fragmentation.

These enhancements make EXT4 ideal for applications with large files and high write throughput.

#### **Deduplication in ZFS**

ZFS uses block-level deduplication to reduce storage usage by eliminating redundant data. The process involves:

- Hashing Data: Each block's SHA256 hash is compared against a table of existing hashes.
- **Synchronous Deduplication**: Duplicate data blocks aren't stored; instead, references to the existing data block are created in real-time.

This reduces storage needs but increases CPU and memory usage, particularly during high workloads.

#### **Large File Optimization in EXT4**

EXT4 optimise large file handling through features like:

- Extents-Based Mapping: Maps data in contiguous extents to reduce fragmentation.
- Multiblock Allocation: Allocates multiple contiguous blocks in a single operation.
- **Delayed Allocation**: Defers physical block assignment, allowing for larger, contiguous data chunks.

These features boost performance with large files, though they may introduce higher metadata overhead for smaller files.

#### Comparison

- **ZFS Deduplication**: Reduces storage but requires more CPU and memory.
- **EXT4 Large File Optimization**: Enhances performance for large files, with potential overhead for small files.

# Part 2:Installation and Setup for Experiments

To assess these filesystems, ZFS and EXT4 need to be set up on separate drives or partitions to allow for controlled testing and a direct performance comparison of each feature.

- ZFS Installation:
- EXT4 Installation:

After installation, we will perform tests to measure the benefits and trade-offs of each filesystem's unique feature—ZFS's deduplication and EXT4's large file optimization—and assess their performance under identical workloads.

#### Workload 1

This workload setup defines parameters for testing deduplication, file structure, file operations, and read performance in a ZFS environment.

#### 1. Deduplication Settings:

- o **dedupunit=1m**: Deduplicates 1 MB blocks, storing only unique blocks.
- dedup ratio=2: Targets a 2:1 deduplication ratio, expecting to store 1 MB for every 2 MB written.

#### 2. File System Descriptor (fsd):

- fsd=fsd1: File structure reference, with anchor=\$anchor as the root directory.
- o **depth=2**, **width=3**: Creates 9 directories with a 2-level hierarchy.
- o files=50, size=1m: Generates 50 files of 1 MB each.

#### 3. File Write Descriptor (fwd):

- **fwd=fwd1**: Describes file handling, linked to **fsd1**.
- o operation=read, xfersize=4k: Reads files in 4 KB chunks.
- fileio=sequential, fileselect=random: Sequential I/O with random file selection, using 2 threads for concurrent access.

#### 4. Read Descriptor (rd):

- o rd=rd1: Configures reading, linked to fwd1.
- fwdrate=max: Maximises read rate over 30 seconds, reporting results every second for analysis.

This setup evaluates storage efficiency, file handling, and concurrent read performance under load.

This workload is designed to evaluate ZFS deduplication efficiency, space savings, and performance compared to ext4.

#### 1. File Creation:

- Structure: 450 files are created in a two-level directory structure, with each file being 1 MB.
- Total Files: Files are distributed across directories with 50 files per subdirectory.

#### 2. Data Deduplication:

- Parameters: The deduplication unit size is set to 1 MB (matching file size), allowing ZFS to detect duplicate files effectively.
- Expected Deduplication: A deduplication ratio of 2 indicates that half of the files are expected to be duplicates, potentially halving storage requirements to 225 MB.

#### 3. Sequential Read Operations:

 Purpose: A 30-second sequential read operation assesses read performance without directly impacting the deduplication results.

#### 4. Anchor Directory:

 Configuration: The test uses a root directory within a ZFS pool to ensure deduplication functions as expected.

#### **Key Outcomes:**

- Space Savings: Deduplication in ZFS should result in significant storage reduction.
- **Performance Metrics**: Sequential read speed and responsiveness for both ZFS and ext4 will be analysed.
- **Deduplication Efficiency**: The deduplication ratio will indicate how well ZFS manages redundancy.

The overall purpose is to evaluate ZFS deduplication in saving space and its performance impact compared to ext4, guiding file system choices based on efficiency and speed requirements.

#### Workload 2

This workload, designed to test large file creation, assesses ext4's performance compared to ZFS.

#### **Workload Details:**

- 1. File Set Definition (fsd1):
  - **Anchor**: Files created in the specified anchor directory (e.g., /zfs\_pool).
  - Depth=0, Width=1: Files are placed directly in the anchor without subdirectories.
  - o Files=2, Size=1G: Creates two 1 GB files, totaling 2 GB.
- 2. File Workload Definition (fwd1):
  - **Operation=create**: Files are created sequentially.
  - File Selection=random: Files selected randomly for creation.
  - **Threads=2**: Two concurrent threads perform the creation.
- 3. Run Definition (rd1):
  - **fwdrate=max**: Runs at the maximum rate for 30 seconds.
  - **Format=yes**: Filesystem is formatted before the test.
  - Interval=1: Logs performance every second.

This setup examines the sequential write performance of the filesystem with large files and concurrent threads, providing insight into ext4's large file handling advantages

## **Finding the Anchors**

To run workloads on the file systems, we need to identify the corresponding anchor directories.

• **ZFS Pool Anchor**: If the ZFS pool is mounted at /zfs\_pool, this becomes the anchor.

Anchor: /zfs\_pool

```
Audbhav@Udbhav514:~/Desktop/ass4$ ls /
dbin dev lib libx32 mnt root snap sys var
boot etc lib32 lost+found opt run srv tmp zfs_disk.img
cdrom home lib64 media proc sbin swapfile usr zfs_pool
udbhav@Udbhav514:~/Desktop/ass4$ mount | column -t | grep zfs_pool
zfs_pool on /zfs_pool
type zfs (rw,xattr,noacl,casesensitive)
udbhav@Udbhav514:~/Desktop/ass4$
```

• ext4 Partition Anchor: If the ext4 partition is mounted at /mnt/virtual\_ext4, this becomes the anchor.

Anchor: /mnt/virtual\_ext4

Without these anchors, the workloads will not run correctly.

#### Now we install and run vdbench

- Add both the workload files (workload 1 and workload 2) to your vdbench directory.
- Navigate (cd) to your vdbench directory in the terminal. And run the following commands.

# A) ZFS

a. We run this workload on the ZFS file system by setting anchor to the directory of the ZFS Pool (basically the folder pointing to the ZFS Pool):

#### Workload 1

```
12; files: 450; bytes: 450.000m (471,859,200)
nch/vdbench SlaveJvm -m localhost -n localhost-10-241030-00.26.57.192 -l localhost-0 -p 5570
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                                                                                                                                                                                                          Miscellaneous statistics:
(These statistics do not include activity between the last reported interval and shutdown.)
READ OPEN
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```

#### Workload 2:

```
### Company of Front Programmer | Co
```

#### b. For ext4:

- Navigate to the folder containing the ext4 anchor in the GUI File manager for Ubuntu

#### Workload 1

```
udbhav@Udbhav514:~/Desktop/ass4/vdbench$ cd /mnt/virtual_ext4
udbhav@Udbhav514:/mnt/virtual_ext4$ xdg-open /mnt/virtual_ext4
```

```
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#### Workload 2:

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You can view the summary for the last workload run in the summary.html file in the Output folder in the vdbench directory

# **RESULTS**

## Workload 1

#### • ZFS:

#### **Before Workload:**

NAME	SIZE	ALLOC	FREE	CKPOINT	EXPANDSZ	FRAG	CAP	DEDUP	HEALTH
ALTROOT zfs_pool	4.50G	108K	4.50G			0%	0%	1.00x	ONLINE

#### After Workload:

#### **Data Calculation:**

• New Data Added:

The allocated space increased from 108 KB to 226 MB, meaning the new workload added approximately:

226 MB - 108 KB ≈ 225.9 MB

Intended Space Usage:

The workload was designed to add 450 MB of data (assuming 450 files, each 1 MB in size).

• Actual Space Used: Due to the 2.00x deduplication ratio, only 225.9 MB was required for storage.

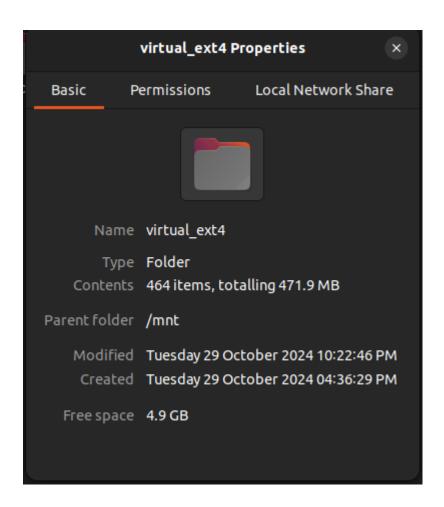
• Storage Savings: 450 MB - 225.9 MB = 224.1 MB saved through Deduplication

#### **Explanation of Deduplication:**

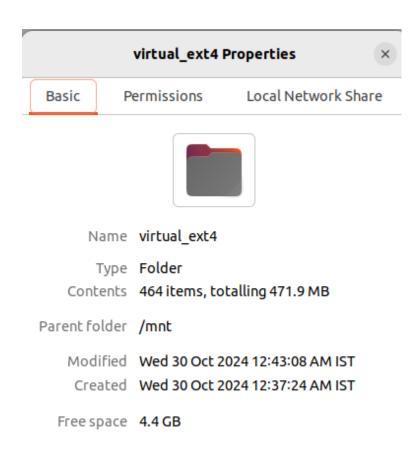
- With a 2.00x deduplication ratio, ZFS reduces the storage required for duplicate data by half.
- Instead of storing identical blocks multiple times, ZFS uses pointers to reference existing blocks, saving space.
- As a result, the actual storage used (226 MB) is much less than the intended space (450 MB).
- This highlights the efficiency of ZFS's deduplication in conserving storage space. This breakdown explains how ZFS deduplication efficiently manages storage by referencing existing data blocks rather than duplicating them, resulting in substantial space savings.
- Avg CPU Utilisation in ZFS is 40.2% and Write Rate is 160.6 Mb/s. This w

#### • EXT4

#### **Before Workload**



#### After Workload



Free Space:

• Before the workload, there is 4.9 GB of free space.

• After the workload, the free space has reduced to 4.4 GB. This suggests that the workload has consumed around 500 MB of disk space, which aligns with the overall increase in the size of items within the folder.

#### **Folder Content:**

- Both screenshots show the folder containing 464 items totaling 471.9 MB.
- The size of the folder contents remains the same, which could mean that the workload involved read operations, metadata changes, or operations outside the tracked folder, which consumed disk space but did not affect the size or count of items within virtual\_ext4. ext4 Filesystem Behavior:
- On the ext4 filesystem, certain operations, such as creating or modifying files, can consume additional space temporarily due to journaling, metadata updates, or inode table usage.
- If the workload involved creating, modifying, or deleting files, ext4 journaling mechanism might reserve some space temporarily, even if the folder contents appear unchanged.

## Workload 2

**Zfs**: It takes 19 seconds to create the files

Oct 30. 2024	IntervalRegstdOpscpu%	readread	rite	mb/sec mb/sec	.xfer	mkdir	rmd	ir	crea	te	open	clc	se	del	ete
	rate resp total sys			read write total	size				rate		rate res			rate	resp
00:51:15.142	1 1087.0 0.107 20.0 9.44			0.00 135.8 135.88				0.062		9.000	2.0 3.81	4 0.0	0.000 4	450.0	
00:51:16.040	2 1113.0 1.658 41.5 24.8	0.0 0.0 0.000 1113.	0 1.658	0.00 139.1 139.12	131072	0.0 0.00	0.0	0.000	0.0	9.000	0.0 0.00	9.9	0.000	0.0	0.000
00:51:17.074	3 1193.0 2.205 19.3 10.3		0 2.205			0.0 0.00		0.000		9.000	0.0 0.00				0.000
00:51:18.014	4 0.0 0.000 13.4 9.07	0.0 0.0 0.000 0.	0.000	0.00 0.00 0.00	θ	0.0 0.00	0.0	0.000		9.000	0.0 0.00	9.0			0.000
00:51:19.080	5 1270.0 3.160 16.9 10.6	0.0 0.0 0.000 1270.	0 3.160	0.00 158.7 158.75	131072	0.0 0.00	0.0	0.000	0.0	9.000	0.0 0.00	9.0	0.000		0.000
00:51:20.011	6 0.0 0.000 15.1 8.67		0.000	0.00 0.00 0.00	θ	0.0 0.00		0.000		9.000	0.0 0.00				0.000
00:51:21.010	7 1195.0 2.399 18.2 15.9				131072	0.0 0.00		0.000		9.000	0.0 0.00				0.000
00:51:22.020	8 1196.0 2.019 22.6 19.6	0.0 0.0 0.000 1196	0 2.019	0.00 149.5 149.50		0.0 0.00	0.0	0.000	0.0	9.000	0.0 0.00	9.0	0.000	0.0	0.000
00:51:23.007	9 1202.0 2.049 24.2 20.7	0.0 0.0 0.000 1202	0 2.049	0.00 150.2 150.25	131072	0.0 0.00	0.0	0.000	0.0	9.000	0.0 0.00	9.0	0.000		0.000
00:51:24.012	10 0.0 0.000 7.3 5.53	0.0 0.0 0.000 0.	0.000	0.00 0.00 0.00	Θ	0.0 0.00	0.0	0.000	0.0	9.000	0.0 0.00	9.9	0.000	0.0	0.000
00:51:25.005	11 1179.0 2.261 19.7 17.7	0.0 0.0 0.000 1179.	0 2.261	0.00 147.3 147.38	131072	0.0 0.00	0.0	0.000	0.0	9.000	0.0 0.00	9.0	0.000	0.0	0.000
00:51:26.018	12 1128.0 2.201 23.3 20.3	0.0 0.0 0.000 1128	0 2.201	0.00 141.0 141.00	131072	0.0 0.00	0.0	0.000	0.0	9.000	0.0 0.00	9.0	0.000	0.0	0.000
00:51:27.007	13 1083.0 2.559 22.0 17.6			0.00 135.3 135.38		0.0 0.00		0.000	0.0	9.000	0.0 0.00		0.000		0.000
00:51:28.022	14 1036.0 2.173 21.9 13.3	0.0 0.0 0.000 1036.	0 2.173	0.00 129.5 129.50	131072	0.0 0.00	0.0	0.000	0.0	9.000	0.0 0.00	9.9	0.000	0.0	0.000
00:51:29.080	15 994.0 2.173 17.0 12.4	0.0 0.0 0.000 994	0 2.173	0.00 124.2 124.25	131072	0.0 0.00	0.0	0.000	0.0	9.000	0.0 0.00	9.0	0.000	0.0	0.000
00:51:30.009	16 0.0 0.000 15.6 9.79	0.0 0.0 0.000 0.	0.000	0.00 0.00 0.00	θ	0.0 0.00	0.0	0.000	0.0	9.000	0.0 0.00	9.0	0.000	0.0	0.000
00:51:31.004	17 950.0 2.891 23.8 17.4	0.0 0.0 0.000 950.	0 2.891	0.00 118.7 118.75	131072	0.0 0.00	0.0	0.000	0.0	9.000	0.0 0.00	9.9	0.000	0.0	0.000
00:51:32.007	18 913.0 2.674 24.2 22.4	0.0 0.0 0.000 913.	0 2.674	0.00 114.1 114.12	131072	0.0 0.00	0.0	0.000	0.0	9.000	0.0 0.00	9.9	0.000	0.0	0.000
00:51:33.011	19 845.0 2.846 8.3 4.80	0.0 0.0 0.000 845.	0 2.846	0.00 105.6 105.62	131072	0.0 0.00	0.0	0.000	2.0	18165	0.0 0.00	9 2.0	0.059	0.0	0.000
00:51:33.015	avg 2-19 849.8 2.364 19.7 14.5	0.0 0.0 0.000 849.	8 2.364	0.00 106.2 106.23	131072	0.0 0.00	0.0	0.000	0.1	18165	0.0 0.00	9 0.1	0.059		0.000
00:51:33.015	std 2-19 480.5 54.631		5 54.631						0.5			0.5			
00:51:33.015	max 2-19 1270.0 1943.2	1270.	0 1943.2			0.06	7	0.098	2.0	18170	3.81	5 2.0	0.097		2.811

#### **EXT4** - Takes 15 seconds to create files. Remember, these are 1GB files!

00:53:59.003	Starting RD=format_for_rd2	ı															
Oct 30, 2024	IntervalReqstdOps	cpu% r	eadrea	dwr	ite	mb/sec	mb/sec	.xfer	mkd:	ir	rmd	ir	cre	ate	ор	en	
	rate resp		pct rate			read write		size	rate		rate	resp	rate	resp	rate	resp	ra
00:54:00.069	1 4288.0 0.228		0.0 0.0	0.000 4288.0	0.228					0.076	12.0	0.037	0.0	0.000		4.063	
00:54:01.038	2 1601.0 1.216	31.4 21.0	0.0 0.0	0.000 1601.0	1.216	0.00 200.1	200.12	131072	0.0	0.000	Θ.Θ	0.000	0.0	0.000	Θ.Θ	0.000	Θ
00:54:02.034	3 1440.0 1.384	30.0 23.6	0.0 0.0	0.000 1440.0	1.384	0.00 180.0	180.00	131072	0.0	0.000	Θ.Θ	0.000	0.0	0.000	Θ.Θ	0.000	Θ
00:54:03.032	4 1298.0 1.532	2 27.6 21.6	0.0 0.0	0.000 1298.0	1.532	0.00 162.2	162.25	131072	0.0	0.000	Θ.Θ	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	Θ
00:54:04.011	5 1002.0 1.998	3 25.7 16.4	0.0 0.0	0.000 1002.0	1.998	0.00 125.2	125.25	131072	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	Θ
00:54:05.022	6 934.0 2.136	13.6 8.12	0.0 0.0	0.000 934.0	2.136	0.00 116.7	116.75	131072	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	Θ
00:54:06.018	7 406.0 4.953	3 14.4 10.0	0.0 0.0	0.000 406.0	4.953	0.00 50.75	50.75	131072	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	Θ
00:54:07.018	8 949.0 2.104	13.2 7.65	0.0 0.0	0.000 949.0	2.104	0.00 118.6	118.62	131072	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	Θ
00:54:08.017	9 786.0 2.529	9 19.3 16.9	0.0 0.0	0.000 786.0	2.529	0.00 98.25	98.25	131072	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0
00:54:09.017	10 581.0 3.473	3 21.3 16.6	0.0 0.0	0.000 581.0	3.473	0.00 72.62	72.62	131072	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	Θ
00:54:10.013	11 1480.0 1.342	15.2 6.28	0.0 0.0	0.000 1480.0	1.342	0.00 185.0	185.00	131072	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	Θ
00:54:11.016	12 588.0 3.383	3 10.6 6.75	0.0 0.0	0.000 588.0	3.383	0.00 73.50	73.50	131072	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	Θ
00:54:12.016	13 531.0 3.778	3 12.9 9.51	0.0 0.0	0.000 531.0	3.778	0.00 66.38	66.38	131072	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	Θ
00:54:13.014	14 490.0 2.526	12.2 6.89	0.0 0.0	0.000 490.0	2.520	0.00 61.25	61.25	131072	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	1.0	12721	0.0	0.000	1
00:54:14.010	15 9.0 4.489	20.3 13.9	0.0 0.0	0.000 9.0	4.489	0.00 1.13	1.13	131072	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	1.0	13512	0.0	0.000	1
00:54:14.013	avg_2-15 863.9 2.083	3 19.1 13.2	0.0 0.0	0.000 863.9	2.083	0.00 107.9	107.99	131072	0.0	0.000	0.0	0.000	0.1	13117	0.0	0.000	Θ
00:54:14.014	std 2-15 466.4 11.077	1		466.4	11.077								0.4	559.40			Θ
00:54:14.014	max_2-15 1601.0 617.72	!		1601.0	617.72					0.076		0.074	1.0	13512		4.072	1

#### **Disadvantages of Deduplication:**

#### 1. Performance Impact:

- Deduplication reduces disk space but slows I/O operations due to real-time block comparisons, particularly with large files. Comparing Write Rates below
- o In Workload 1: Zfs 160.6 Mb/s, EXT4: 179.2 Mb/s
- In Workload 2: Zfs 849.8 Mb/s. EXT4: 863.6 Mb/s
- Also it took 19 sec to create files in ZFS and 15 in EXT4.
- Reason: The system analyses and compares block hashes to detect duplicates, introducing latency.
- Impact: Less suitable for high-speed, low-latency applications like transactional databases.

#### 2. Higher CPU Utilisation:

- Deduplication consumes CPU resources due to hashing, comparison, and indexing for each block. Comparing CPU Util % below
- o In Workload 1: Zfs 46.3%, EXT4: 36.8%
- In Workload 2: Zfs 14.5%, EXT4: 13.2%
- Reason: Hashing and metadata indexing for duplicates add computational overhead.
- Impact: Can bottleneck systems with limited CPU capacity, affecting throughput under heavy load.

#### **Disadvantages of Large File Optimization:**

#### 1. Greater Metadata Overhead for Small Files:

- Ext4's large file optimization increases metadata overhead when handling small files due to extent-based allocation.
- o In ZFS: 224.1 MB used, while 500 MB in EXT4.
- Reason: Extent trees are efficient for large files but inefficient for small, scattered files
- Impact: Ext4 may be less space-efficient with many small files compared to other filesystems like ZFS.

#### 2. Lack of Data Recovery Mechanism:

- Ext4 optimises large file performance at the cost of data integrity, lacking block-level checksums or recovery mechanisms.
- **Reason**: Limited metadata for large files limits error detection and correction.
- **Impact**: Increased vulnerability to undetected data corruption, particularly for large, fragmented files.

#### Conclusion:

- Deduplication saves space but reduces performance and increases CPU load, making it less ideal for time-sensitive workloads.
- Ext4's large file optimization enhances performance for large files but adds metadata overhead for small files and limits data recovery. The choice of filesystem should align with workload needs and system requirements.