GPFS Troubleshooting & Daily Operations

Hands-On Technical Training for HPC at Keysight





Agenda / Index

1. Daily Operations Overview	Understand the normal state to detect failures
Storage Backend Troubleshooting	Investigating NetApp and LUN-related issues
3. Network Fabric Diagnostics	Ethernet, Infiniband, and Omni-Path failures
4. GPFS Services (CES, NFS/CIFS)	Diagnosing shared access issues
5. Quota & Fileset Issues	Space problems and user error resolution
6. Node Management Scenarios	Adding/Removing nodes, license handling
7. Log-Based Troubleshooting	Using logs and event history to identify root causes.
8. Q&A and Wra-Up	Open discussion and review

Module 1: Daily Operations Node Status & Health Checks





Node Status & Health Checks

Objective	Command	
View full cluster status	mmgetstate -av	
View node health summary	mmhealth node show	
Check node health history	mmhealth node eventlog	
Identify GPFS roles & license	mmlscluster, mmlsconfig	

Goal: Identify if all nodes are active, and spot nodes in unknown or degraded state.



Module 2: Storage Backend Troubleshooting

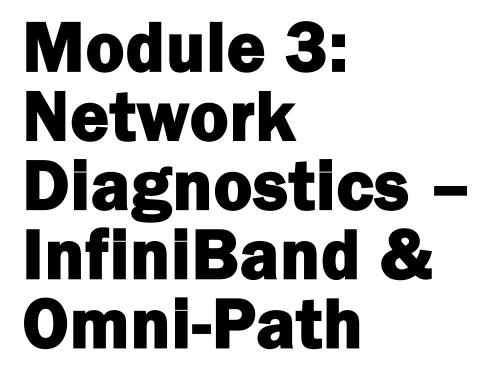
- **@** Purpose:
- Introduce how to troubleshoot issues related to storage backend, especially LUNs and NetApp (E2800/E2812), as used in your GPFS cluster.





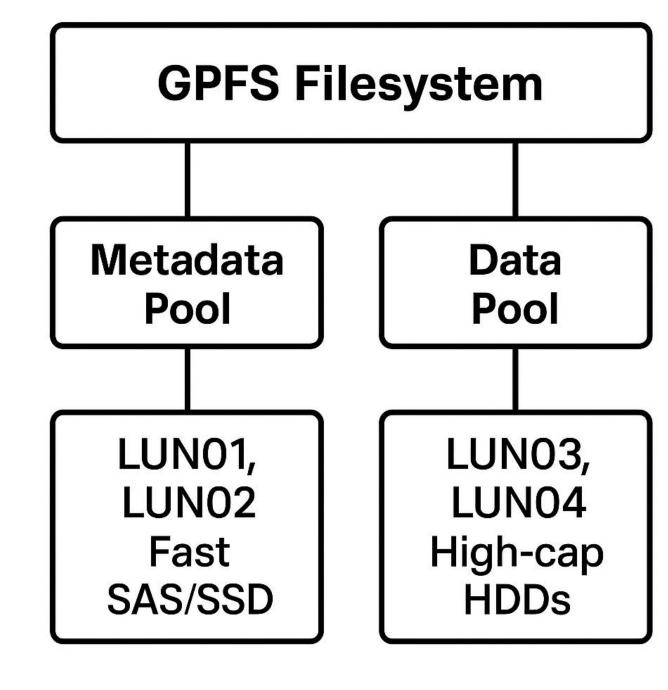
Detecting LUN failures, storage disconnections, and SAN issues

Check	Command	Use Case
List Disks by Filesystem	mmlsfs -d	View Disk State in GPFS
To verify disk state and identity offline or missing disks	mmlsdisk gpfs	Which LUNs (NSDs) are metadata vs data
Check web GUI also	https://bruclu015- e2800b.vbr.is.keysight.com/sm/en-US/#/home https://bruclu015- e2812a.vbr.is.keysight.com/sm/en-US/#/home	to verify any error in the hardware or checking the respective log in the UI
Check Physical Path (Optional)	multipath -ll lsblk	Check the disks attached in the Netapp SAN





Metadata / Data Pool





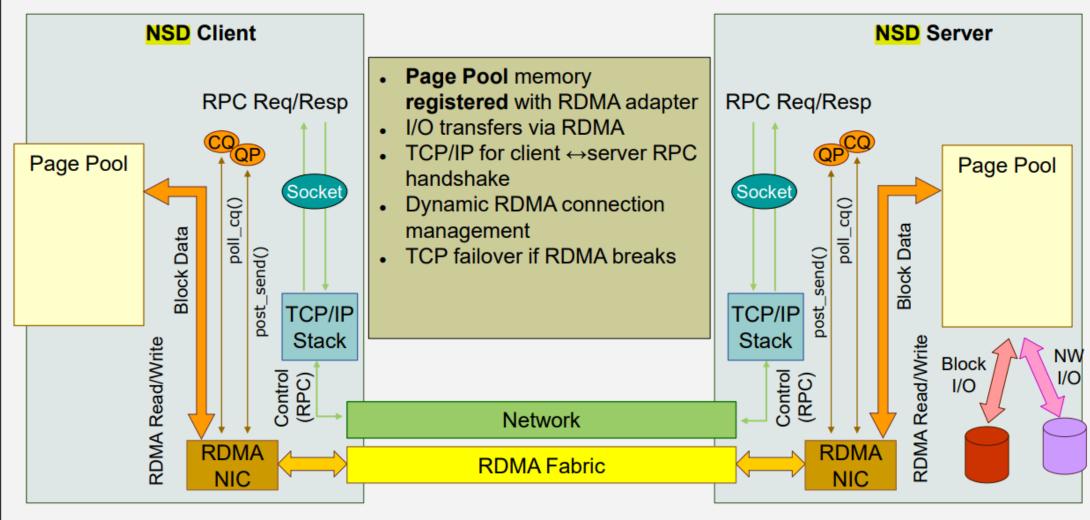
Main commands

Check	Command	Use Case
IB adapter status	ibstat	Verify IB card is up and active
IB ping to a node	ibping <hostname></hostname>	Test Infiniband-level connectivity
Omni-Path adapter info	opainfo	Show OPA HFI devices and port state
Show OPA HFI devices and port state	ibnetdiscover or opaquery	Visualize IB/OPA fabric connectivity



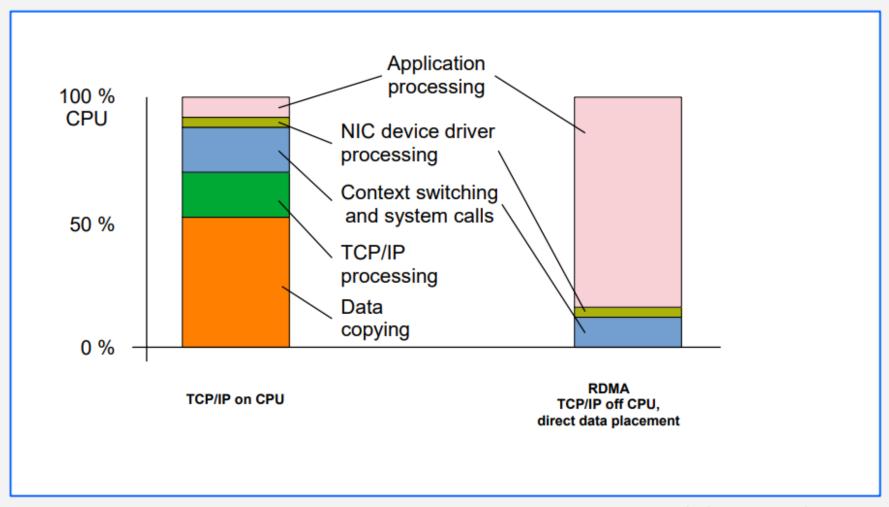
Spectrum Scale I/O Model with RDMA I/O (verbsRdma = yes)





IBM Spectrum Scale – RDMA Deep Dive – Ralph Würthner - © 2021 IBM Corporation

RDMA - What does it gain?



Sample data, may vary by use case



Module 4: CES Services

NFS, CIFS & Shared Access Troubleshooting



Learn how to verify and troubleshoot file sharing from GPFS via NFS/CIFS

Component	Command	Purpose
CES Node List	nmces node list	Show CES-enabled nodes
Address List	nmces address list	See floating IPs used by CES
CES Services	nmces service list	Show if NFS/CIFS/S3 are running
NFS Exports	nmnfs export list	Check active NFS exports
Config Check	mmlsconfig	grep ces

Main commands









Main commands

Check	Command	Use Case
List quota by user	mmlsquota -u <user> block-size auto</user>	View usage and limits per user
List quota by group	mmlsquota -g <group> block-size auto</group>	View usage and limits per group
Fileset-level quota	mmlsquota -j scratch- mstr gpfs	View quotas for each fileset
Fileset config	mmlsfs gpfs -Q	Show if quotas are enabled and where
Edit quota (admin only)	mmrepquota -u <user></user>	Set/modify quota limits
Quota report summary	mmrepquota -u -v gpfs - block-size auto	Full report of all quotas by user

Module 6: Node Management Scenarios

Action	Command	Purpose
List all nodes	mmlsnodeclass	View all nodes in each group from GPFS
Check node state	mmgetstate -a	Show current GPFS state of all nodes
Add a new node	mmaddnode <nodename></nodename>	Add one or more nodes to the cluster
Remove a node	mmdelnode <nodename></nodename>	Remove a node safely
Rebalance quorum	mmchnode -quorum-manager <nodename></nodename>	Set or change quorum/manager nodes
View node licenses	mmlslicense	Check GPFS licenses per node





Module 7: Log-Based Troubleshooting





How to check specific GPFS Logs

Log location	What to look for:	Purpose:
/var/adm/ras/mmfs.log.latest	mmfsd errors, quorum, disk issues	Main GPFS log file
/var/adm/ras/mmfs.log*	Older rotated logs (e.g1, .2.gz)	Look for past incidents
/var/adm/ras/log.smbd /var/adm/ras/log.winbindd	Samba/Winbind CES logs (very relevant for NFS/SMB debug)	
/var/adm/ras/mmsysmonitor*.log	System monitoring logs (CPU, memory trends, alerts)	
/var/adm/ras/mmwatch.log Monitors CES-related services and GPFS runtime health checks		iPFS runtime health checks