

# Big Data and the Evolution of Tape Technologies

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#### **Abstract**



- The explosion of Big Data is breaking the traditional ways we store data.
- Evolutions in tape technology have opened up new ways to store and manage these massive data sets.
- This session will look at new hardware and software that opens up new possibilities for massive data storage

# **Big Data**



- Data sets are getting more massive
- Most of the data growth is in unstructured data
- The growth will never end



## **Analytics changes the growth curve**



- Analytics is driving
  - New Value to old data
  - Data is now being used for unintended purposes



#### What should we save



- It isn't as easy to tell anymore what data has value
  - Server logs
  - Surveillance videos
  - What's the next thing?



## Scale causes new problems



- How do you effectively store Petabytes for years?
  - How do you protect it?
  - How do you move it?
    - 1 PB of data will take 10 days to move over a single 10 GbE link
  - How do you insure it's integrity?
  - How do you afford to store it all?

## Tape as a storage location



- □ Tape provides cost effective bulk digital storage
- Traditionally hidden behind a backup application
  - This made it difficult to use for storage needs outside of backup
- New Technologies allow you to use and integrate tape into non backup systems

## **Modern Tape**



- Most scalable storage systems in the world
  - Multiple library systems can scale to Exabytes
- Lowest energy consumption of any storage type
- Better Bit Error Rates than Disk



#### **Bit Error Rates**



Number of bits written before the failure of a bit

Device	Hard error rate in bits	PB equivalent
SATA consumer	1.00E+14	.11
SATA Enterprise	1.00E+15	1.11
Enterprise SAS/FC	1.00E+16	11.10
LTO	1.00E+17	111.02
Enterprise Tape Drives	1.00E+19	11,102.22

- Error rate for disk is number of bits before a failure of a sector
  512 bytes today, 4096 soon
- Error rate for tape is number of bits before the failure of a bit 2012 Storage Developer Conference. © Spectra Logic. All Rights Reserved.

#### **Time to Error**



What difference does a storage device make?

The number of hours of operation (per 100 devices) at maximum rated throughput before a write error occurs.

- Consumer SATA disk: 2.3 Hours
- Enterprise SATA disk: 21.6 Hours
- Enterprise SAS/FC disk: 6.7 Days
- LTO-5 tape: 96.2 Days
- Enterprise tape: 15 Years

## **Common Tape Features**



- LTO and TS1140 both support
  - □ AES-256 Encryption
  - Speed matching drives
  - Read back 2 generations
  - Write back 1 generation
  - LTFS
  - Compression
  - **ECC**





# LTO Tape



- Linear Tape-Open
  - Multiple drive and library manufactures
- Multi Vendor Open Format
- Over 80,000 PB of data protected so far
- Costs pennies per GB to store data in an automated system
- Roadmap through Generation 8

## LTO Tape



- □ LTO 6 will be shipping soon
  - Up to 6.25 TB compressed per tape\*
  - Up to 400MB/s compressed transfer rate\*
- LTO 6 more than doubles the density of LTO5
  - LTO5 density in enterprise library 352 TB/Sq Ft
  - LTO6 density in enterprise library 733 TB/Sq/Ft
  - \*LTO Consortium Press Release
  - http://www.lto-technology.com/pdf/LTO%20PR%20Maintains%20Top%20Momentum.pdf

# **TS1140 Tape**



- IBM manufactured drive supported by 2 library manufacturers
- Higher Capacity, Speed and better Bit Error Rate than LTO
  - □ TS1140 density in enterprise library 1,074 TB/Sq/Ft
  - 4 TB compressed per tape
  - 650 MB/sec compressed transfer rate
- □ Up formats TS1130 tapes to higher capacity
- Roadmap through Generation 6

# Linear Tape File System (LTFS)



- □ File interface to tape
- Introduced with LTO5
- Open source and specification
  - Stand alone tape drive looks like a USB memory key
  - Currently, the specification does not address tape libraries
- Makes the tape self describing

LTFS 2.0 Specification

http://www.ultrium.com/technology/LTFS\_Format\_To%20Print.pdf

#### **LTFS**



- Enhances Data Portability: Physical and Logical
  - Move data easily between sites
  - Move data between applications



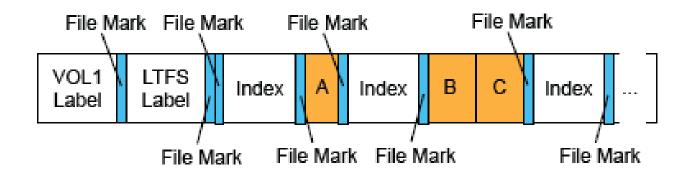
#### **LTFS**



- ☐ How does it work?
  - □ Tape is divided into 2 partitions
    - ■One Index partition
    - One data partition
      - Data partition has indexes as well
  - Indexing is XML based

#### LTFS Data Partition



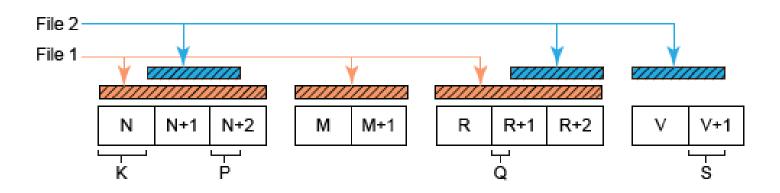


Source: LTO Consortium (http://www.ultrium.com/technology/LTFS Format To%20Print.pdf)

#### **LTFS**



#### The specification supports data reduction or deduplication



Source: LTO Consortium (http://www.ultrium.com/technology/LTFS Format To%20Print.pdf)

## **Tape and Big Data**



- NAS Tape
  - Leverage a NAS interface and LTFS to create an infinite file storage system
  - Easy to integrate into numerous external data systems

## **Tape and Big Data**



- Lowest cost storage available
- LTFS changes things
  - Easier than ever to use tape
  - You can create your own
  - Makes it easy to move massive data sets

## **Next Steps**



- Consider long term storage needs
- Should you buy or build?
- LTFS Format Specification Document



#### **Questions?**