

# CS 61C: Great Ideas in Computer Architecture (Machine Structures)

## *Lecture 39: IO Disks*

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<http://inst.eecs.Berkeley.edu/~cs61c/>

# Technology in the News

## Google: Self-driving cars are mastering city streets



By **Doug Gross**, CNN

updated 12:20 PM EDT, Mon April 28, 2014 | Filed under: **Innovations**



[www.cnn.com/2014/04/28/tech/innovation/google-self-driving-car/](http://www.cnn.com/2014/04/28/tech/innovation/google-self-driving-car/)

# Review

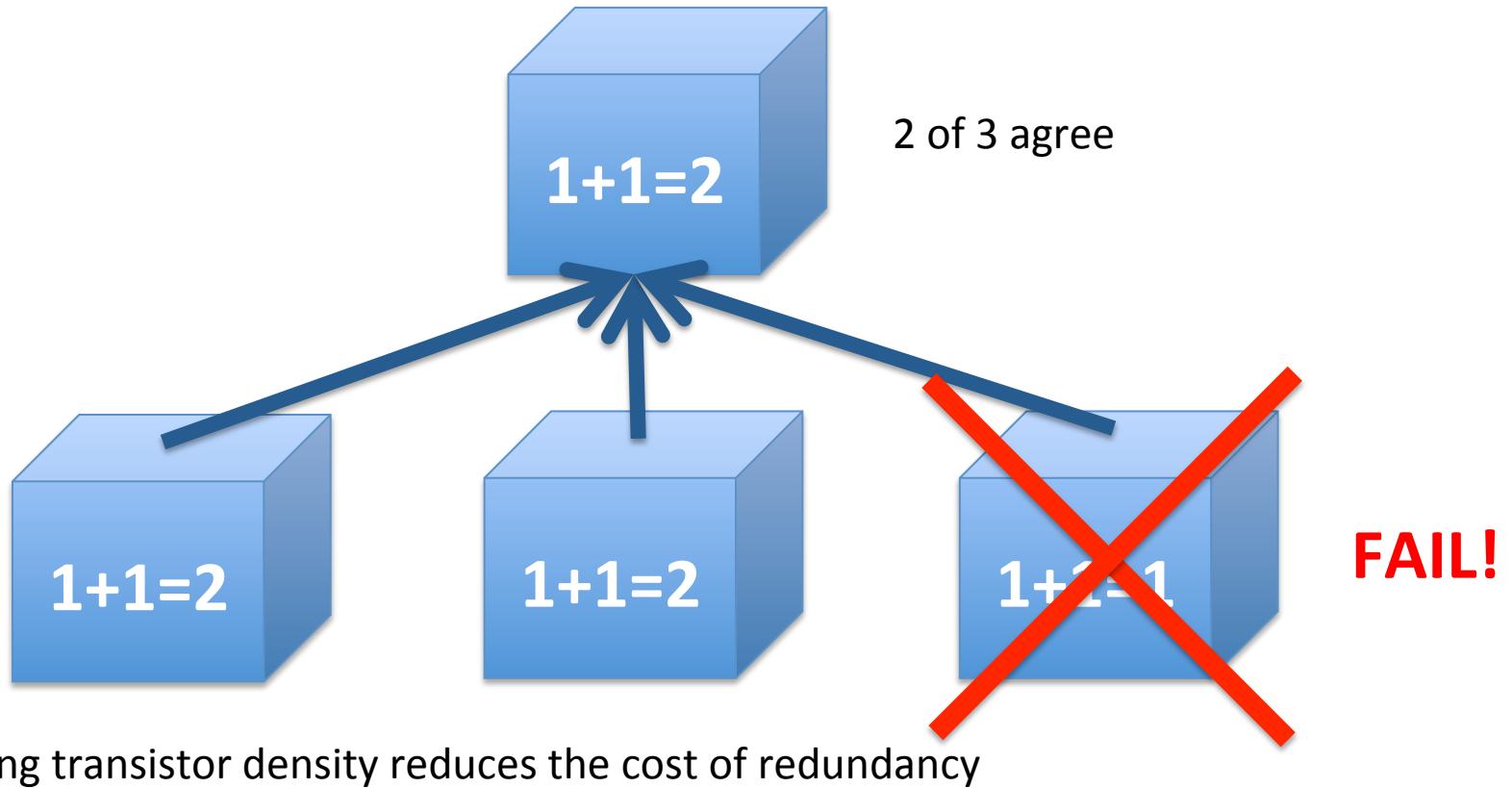
- Exceptions are “Unexpected” events
- Interrupts are asynchronous
  - can be used for interacting with I/O devices
- Need to handle in presence of pipelining, etc.
- Networks are another form of I/O
- Protocol suites allow networking of heterogeneous components
  - Another form of principle of abstraction
- Interested in Networking?
  - EE122 (CS-based in Fall, EE –based in Spring)

# Review - 6 Great Ideas in Computer Architecture

1. Layers of Representation/Interpretation
2. Moore's Law
3. Principle of Locality/Memory Hierarchy
4. Parallelism
5. Performance Measurement & Improvement
- 6. Dependability via Redundancy**

## Review - Great Idea #6: Dependability via Redundancy

- Redundancy so that a failing piece doesn't make the whole system fail



# Review - Great Idea #6: Dependability via Redundancy

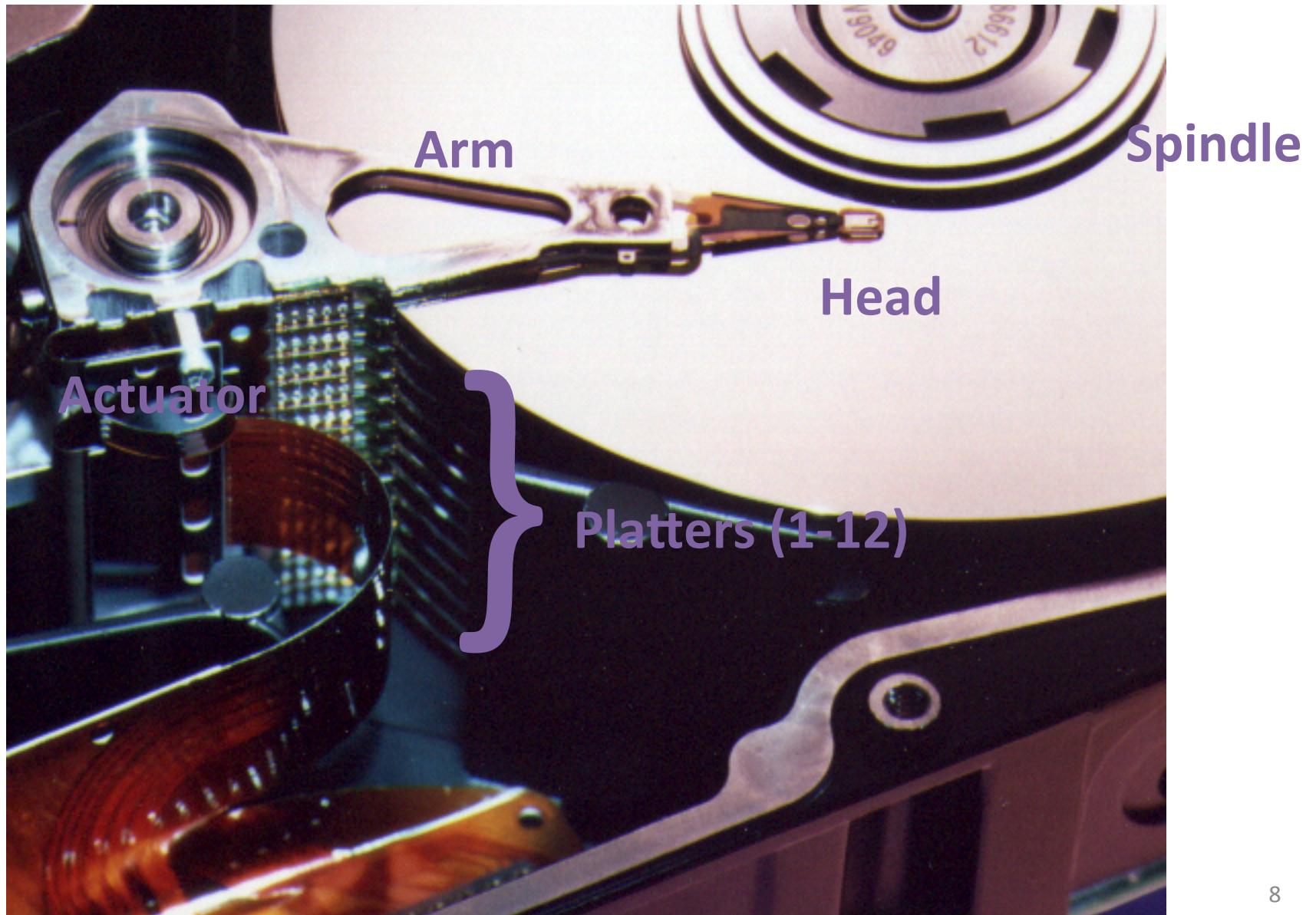
- Applies to everything from datacenters to memory
  - Redundant datacenters so that can lose 1 datacenter but Internet service stays online
  - Redundant routes so can lose nodes but Internet doesn't fail
  - Redundant disks so that can lose 1 disk but not lose data (Redundant Arrays of Independent Disks/RAID)
  - Redundant memory bits so that can lose 1 bit but no data (Error Correcting Code/ECC Memory)



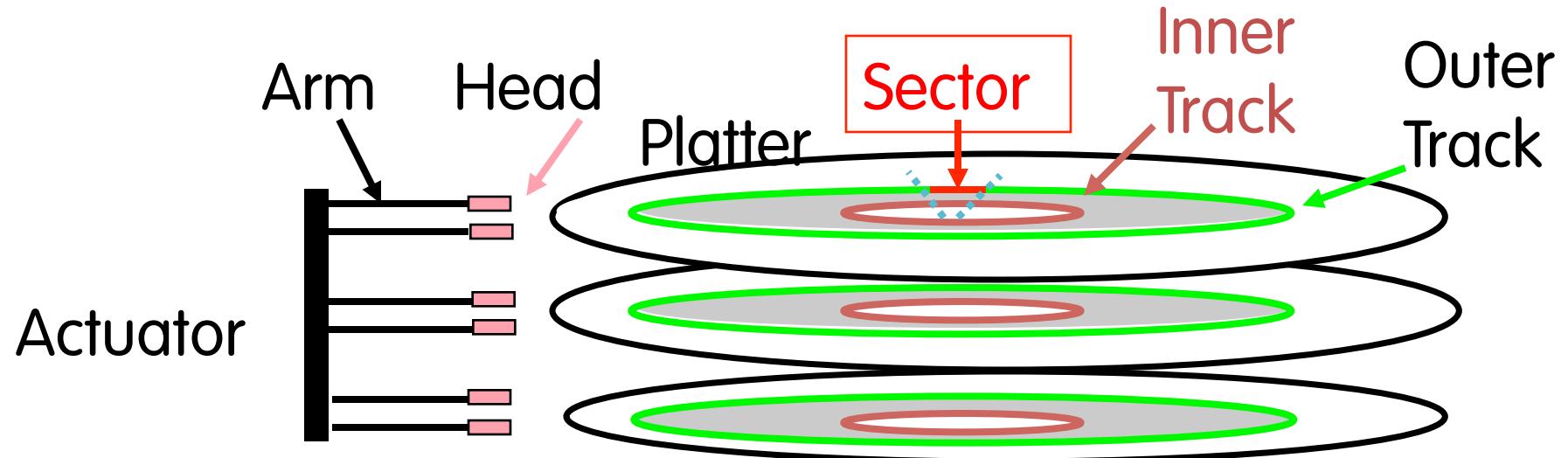
# Magnetic Disk – common I/O device

- A kind of computer memory
  - Information stored by magnetizing ferrite material on surface of rotating disk
    - similar to tape recorder except digital rather than analog data
- Nonvolatile storage
  - retains its value without applying power to disk.
- Two Types
  - Floppy disks – slower, less dense, removable.
  - Hard Disk Drives (HDD) – faster, more dense, non-removable.
- Purpose in computer systems (Hard Drive):
  - Long-term, inexpensive storage for files
  - “Backup” for main-memory. Large, inexpensive, slow level in the memory hierarchy (virtual memory)

# Photo of Disk Head, Arm, Actuator



# Disk Device Terminology



- Several platters, with information recorded magnetically on both surfaces (usually)
- Bits recorded in tracks, which in turn divided into sectors (e.g., 512 Bytes)
- Actuator moves head (end of arm) over track ("seek"), wait for sector rotate under head, then read or write

# Where does Flash memory come in?

- Microdrives and Flash memory (e.g., CompactFlash going head-to-head
  - Both non-volatile (no power, data ok)
  - Flash benefits: durable & lower power (no moving parts, need to spin μdrives up/down)
  - Flash limitations: finite number of write cycles (wear on the insulating oxide layer around the charge storage mechanism). **Most ≥ 100K, some ≥ 1M W/erase cycles.**
- How does Flash memory work?
  - NMOS transistor with an additional conductor between gate and source/drain which “traps” electrons. The presence/absence is a 1 or 0.



[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flash\\_memory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flash_memory)

# What does Apple put in its iPods?

Toshiba flash  
2 GB



Samsung flash  
16 GB



Toshiba 1.8-inch HDD  
80, 120, 160 GB



Toshiba flash  
32, 64 GB

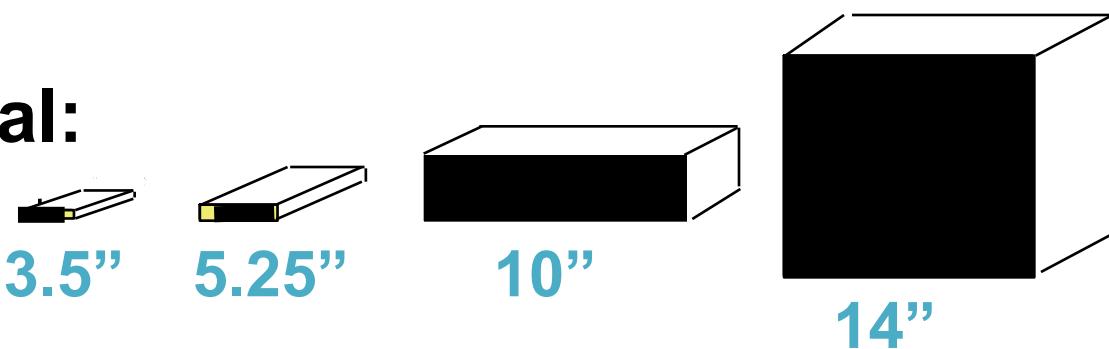


# Use Arrays of Small Disks...

- Katz and Patterson asked in 1987:
  - Can smaller disks be used to close gap in performance between disks and CPUs?

**Conventional:**

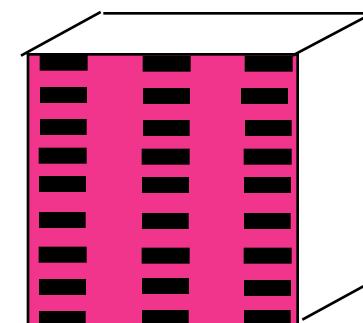
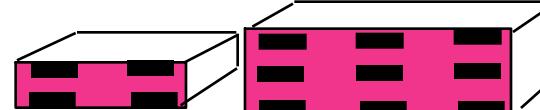
**4 disk  
designs**



**Low End** → **High End**

**Disk Array:**  
**1 disk design**

**3.5"**



# **Replace Small # of Large Disks with Large # of Small!**

(1988 Disks)

## **IBM 3390K   IBM 3.5" 0061**

|                  | <b>IBM 3390K</b> | <b>IBM 3.5" 0061</b> |
|------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Capacity</b>  | 20 GBytes        | 320 MBytes           |
| <b>Volume</b>    | 97 cu. ft.       | 0.1 cu. ft.          |
| <b>Power</b>     | 3 KW             | 11 W                 |
| <b>Data Rate</b> | 15 MB/s          | 1.5 MB/s             |
| <b>I/O Rate</b>  | 600 I/Os/s       | 55 I/Os/s            |
| <b>MTTF</b>      | 250 KHrs         | 50 KHrs              |
| <b>Cost</b>      | \$250K           | \$2K                 |

Disk Arrays potentially high performance, high MB per cu. ft., high MB per KW, but what about reliability?

# Replace Small # of Large Disks with Large # of Small!

(1988 Disks)

|                  | <b>IBM 3390K</b> | <b>IBM 3.5" 0061</b> | <b>x70</b>  |    |
|------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------|----|
| <b>Capacity</b>  | 20 GBytes        | 320 MBytes           | 23 GBytes   |    |
| <b>Volume</b>    | 97 cu. ft.       | 0.1 cu. ft.          | 11 cu. ft.  | 9X |
| <b>Power</b>     | 3 KW             | 11 W                 | 1 KW        | 3X |
| <b>Data Rate</b> | 15 MB/s          | 1.5 MB/s             | 120 MB/s    | 8X |
| <b>I/O Rate</b>  | 600 I/Os/s       | 55 I/Os/s            | 3900 I/Os/s | 6X |
| <b>MTTF</b>      | 250 KHrs         | 50 KHrs              | ??? Hrs     |    |
| <b>Cost</b>      | \$250K           | \$2K                 | \$150K      |    |

Disk Arrays potentially high performance, high MB per cu. ft., high MB per KW, but what about reliability?

# Array Reliability

- Reliability - whether or not a component has failed
  - measured as Mean Time To Failure (MTTF)
- Reliability of N disks  
= Reliability of 1 Disk  $\div$  N  
(assuming failures independent)
  - 50,000 Hours  $\div$  70 disks = 700 hour
- Disk system MTTF:  
Drops from 6 years to 1 month!
- Disk arrays too unreliable to be useful!

# Redundant Arrays of (Inexpensive) Disks

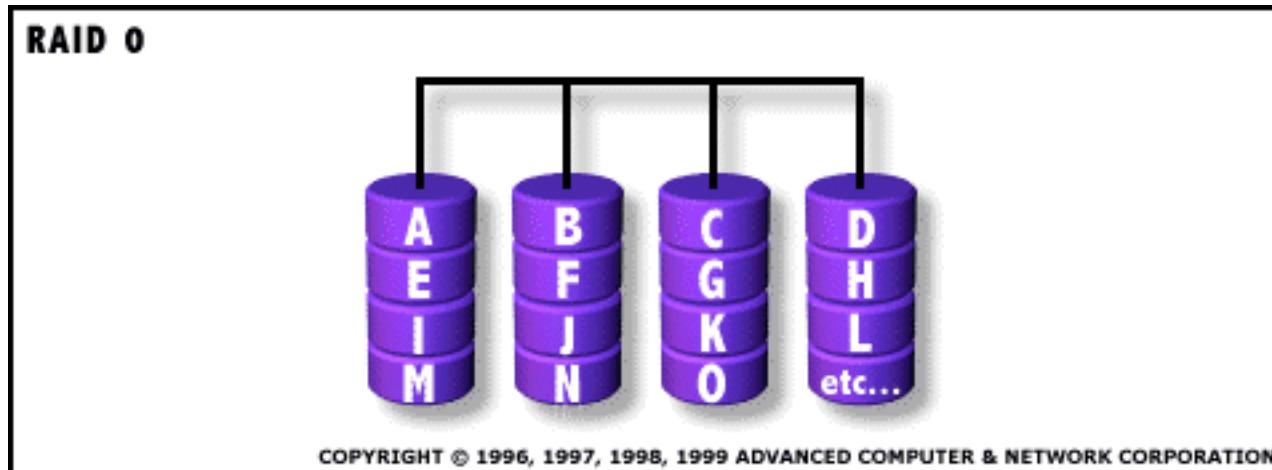
- Files are “striped” across multiple disks
- Redundancy yields high data availability
  - Availability: service still provided to user, even if some components failed
- Disks will still fail
- Contents reconstructed from data redundantly stored in the array
  - ⇒ Capacity penalty to store redundant info
  - ⇒ Bandwidth penalty to update redundant info

# RAID : Redundant Array of Inexpensive Disks

- Invented @ Berkeley (1989)
- A multi-billion industry  
80% non-PC disks sold in RAIDs
- Idea:
  - Files are “striped” across multiple disks
  - Redundancy yields high data availability
    - Disks will still fail
  - Contents reconstructed from data redundantly stored in the array
    - ⇒ Capacity penalty to store redundant info
    - ⇒ Bandwidth penalty to update redundant info



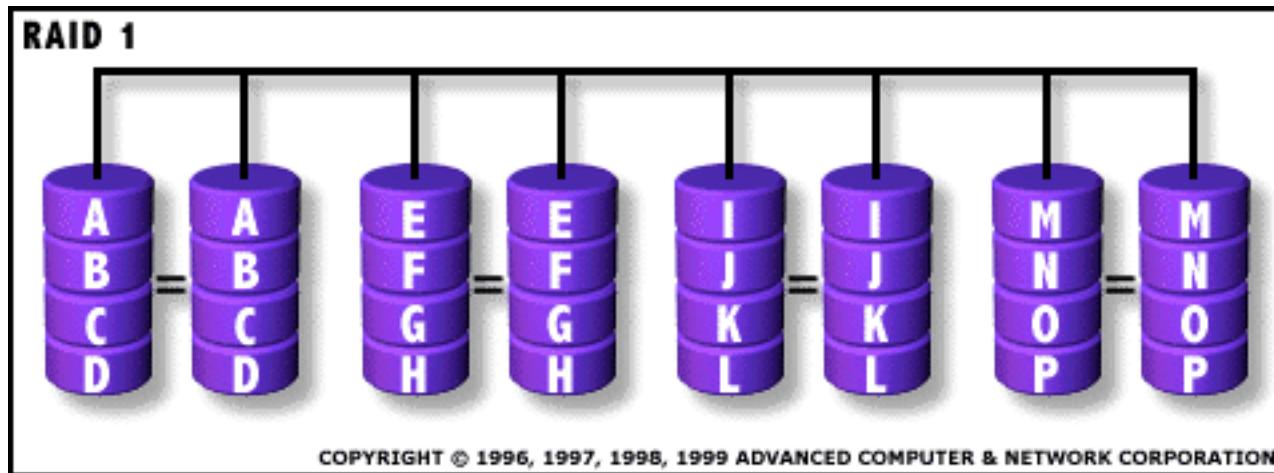
# “RAID 0”: No redundancy = “AID”



- Assume have 4 disks of data for this example, organized in blocks
- Large accesses faster since transfer from several disks at once

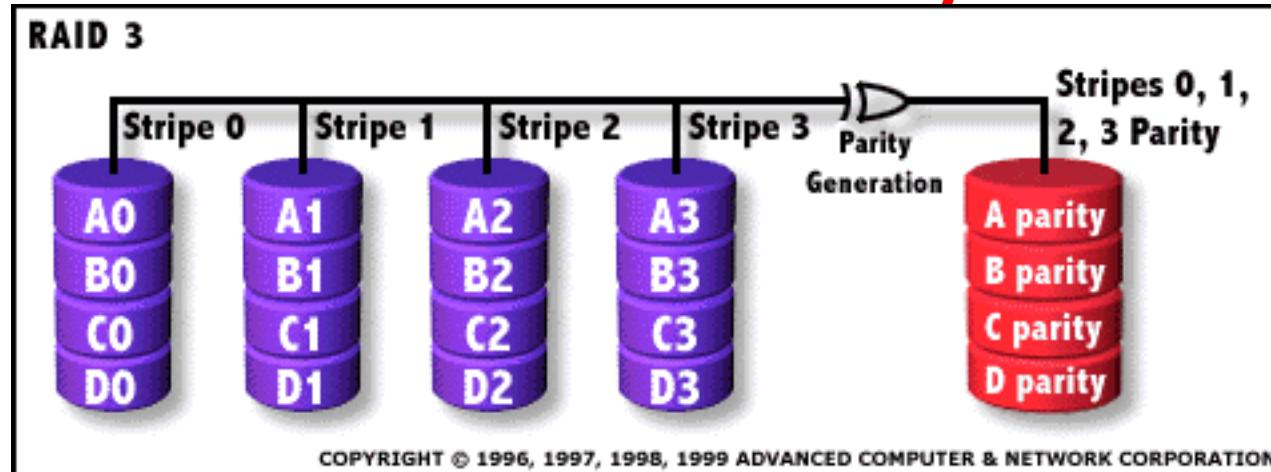
This and next 5 slides from [RAID.edu](http://www.acnc.com/04_01_00.html), [http://www.acnc.com/04\\_01\\_00.html](http://www.acnc.com/04_01_00.html)  
[http://www.raid.com/04\\_00.html](http://www.raid.com/04_00.html) also has a great tutorial

# RAID 1: Mirror data



- Each disk is fully duplicated onto its “mirror”
  - Very high availability can be achieved
- Bandwidth reduced on write:
  - 1 Logical write = 2 physical writes
- Most expensive solution: 100% capacity overhead

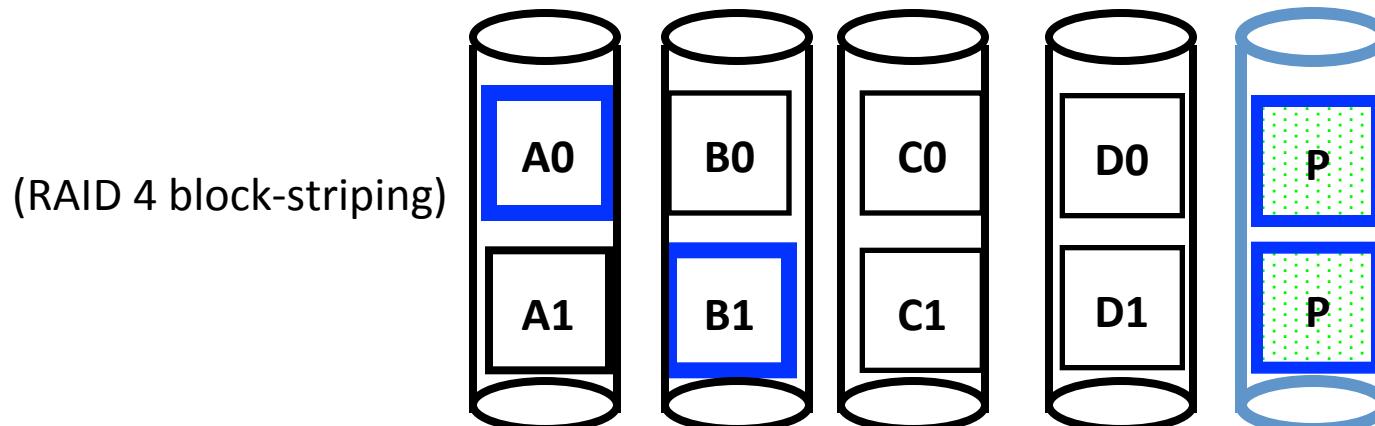
# RAID 3: Parity



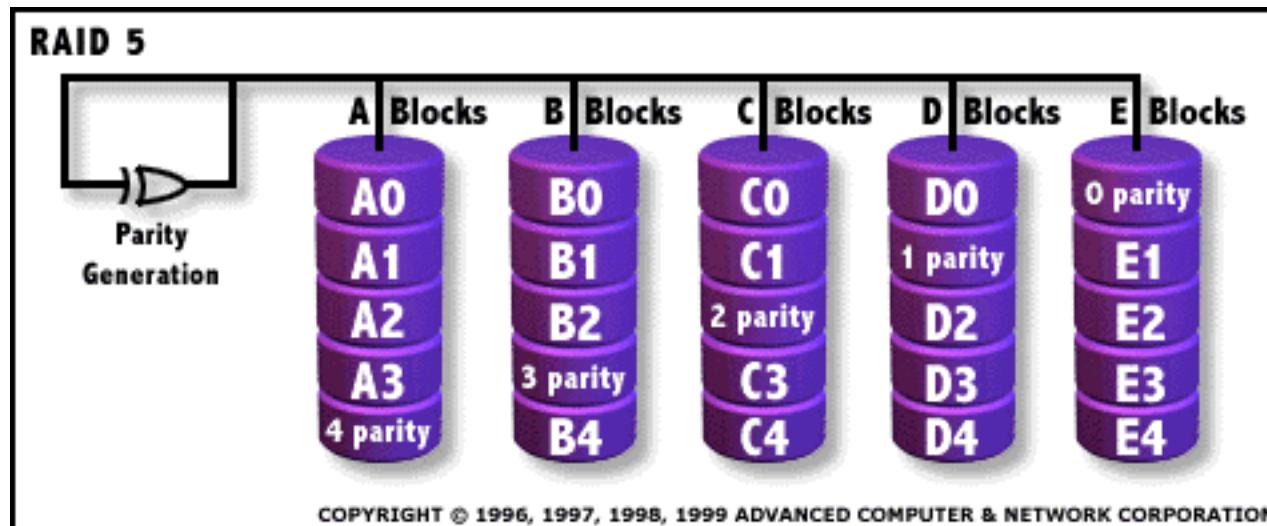
- Spindles synchronized, each sequential byte on a diff. drive
- Parity computed across group to protect against hard disk failures, stored in P disk
- Logically, a single high capacity, high transfer rate disk
- 25% capacity cost for parity in this example vs. 100% for RAID 1 (5 disks vs. 8 disks)
- Q: How many drive failures can be tolerated?

# Inspiration for RAID 5 (RAID 4 block-striping)

- Small writes (write to one disk):
  - Option 1: read other data disks, create new sum and write to Parity Disk (access all disks)
  - Option 2: since P has old sum, compare old data to new data, add the difference to P:  
**1 logical write = 2 physical reads + 2 physical writes to 2 disks**
- Parity Disk is bottleneck for Small writes: Write to A0, B1 → both write to P disk



# RAID 5: Rotated Parity, faster small writes



- Independent writes possible because of interleaved parity
  - Example: write to A0, B1 uses disks 0, 1, 4, 5, so can proceed in parallel
  - Still 1 small write = 4 physical disk accesses

# Peer Instruction

1. RAID 1 (mirror) and 5 (rotated parity) help with performance and availability
2. RAID 1 has higher cost than RAID 5
3. Small writes on RAID 5 are slower than on RAID 1

|    | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|----|---|---|---|
| A: | F | F | F |
| B: | F | F | T |
| B: | F | T | F |
| C: | F | T | T |
| C: | T | F | F |
| D: | T | F | T |
| D: | T | T | F |
| E: | T | T | T |

# Peer Instruction Answer

1. All RAID (0-5) helps with performance, only RAID0 doesn't help availability. TRUE
2. Surely! Must buy 2x disks rather than 1.25x (from diagram, in practice even less) TRUE
3. RAID5 (2R,2W) vs. RAID1 (2W). Latency worse, throughput (ll writes) better. TRUE

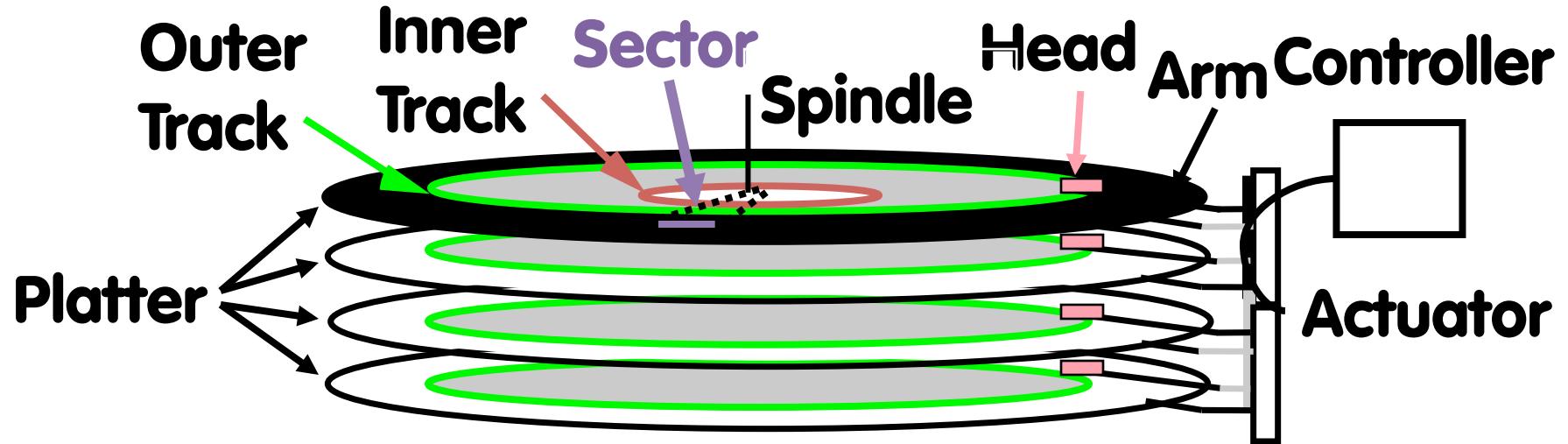
1. RAID 1 (mirror) and 5 (rotated parity) help with performance and availability
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|    |                |   |   |
|----|----------------|---|---|
|    | 1              | 2 | 3 |
| A: | FFF            |   |   |
| B: | FFT            |   |   |
| B: | FTF            |   |   |
| C: | F <del>T</del> |   |   |
| C: | TFF            |   |   |
| D: | TFT            |   |   |
| D: | TTF            |   |   |
| E: | TTT            |   |   |

## “And in conclusion...”

- I/O gives computers their 5 senses
- I/O speed range is 100-million to one
- Processor speed means must synchronize with I/O devices before use: Polling vs. Interrupts
- Networks are another form of I/O
- Protocol suites allow networking of heterogeneous components
  - Another form of principle of abstraction
- RAID
  - Higher performance with more disk arms per \$
  - More disks == More disk failures
  - Different RAID levels provide different cost/speed/reliability tradeoffs

## Bonus: Disk Device Performance (1/2)



- **Disk Latency = Seek Time + Rotation Time + Transfer Time + Controller Overhead**
  - Seek Time? depends on no. tracks to move arm, speed of actuator
  - Rotation Time? depends on speed disk rotates, how far sector is from head
  - Transfer Time? depends on data rate (bandwidth) of disk ( $f(\text{bit density}, \text{rpm})$ ), size of request

# Bonus: Disk Device Performance (2/2)

- Average distance of sector from head?
- 1/2 time of a rotation
  - 7200 Revolutions Per Minute  $\Rightarrow$  120 Rev/sec
  - 1 revolution =  $1/120$  sec  $\Rightarrow$  8.33 milliseconds
  - 1/2 rotation (revolution)  $\Rightarrow$  4.17 ms
- Average no. tracks to move arm?
  - Disk industry standard benchmark:
    - Sum all time for all possible seek distances from all possible tracks / # possible
    - Assumes average seek distance is random
- Size of Disk cache can strongly affect perf!
  - Cache built into disk system, OS knows nothing

## BONUS : Hard Drives are Sealed. Why?

- The closer the head to the disk, the smaller the “spot size” and thus the denser the recording.
  - Measured in Gbit/in<sup>2</sup>. ~60 is state of the art.
- Disks are sealed to keep the dust out.
  - Heads are designed to “fly” at around 5-20nm above the surface of the disk.
  - 99.999% of the head/arm weight is supported by the air bearing force (air cushion) developed between the disk and the head.

