Operating Systems HDD + RAID

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Status checks: polling vs. interrupts

Data: PIO vs. DMA

Control: special instructions *vs.* memory-mapped I/O

Disks

Doing an I/O requires:

- seek
- rotate
- transfer

What is expensive?





When reading 16 after 15, the head won't settle quick enough, so we need to do a rotation.





Other Improvements

Track Skew

Zones

Cache

Zones



Zones







Should we have equal number of sectors for all tracks?

Zones



Should we have equal number of sectors for all tracks? Sector density decreases with increasing radius?









Divide disk into zones — all tracks in a zone have equal number of sectors

Other Improvements

Track Skew

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Cache

Drive Cache

- Drives may cache both reads and writes.
- What advantage does drive have for reads?
 - Anticipate disk reads and put them into cache
 - Return data from cache directly
- What advantage does drive have for writes?
 - Put data in cache —> tell OS that write done (write back caching or immediate reporting)

Given a stream of requests, in what order should they be served?

How long (roughly) does the below workload take? The integers are sector numbers.

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300001, 700001, 300002, 700002, 300003, 700003 (~60ms) 300001, 300002, 300003, 700001, 700002, 700003 (~20ms)

Schedulers



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- Currently head is at 30, should next be 19 or 7?
- 19 would have lesser seek time
- Cons?
 - Starvation if enough requests from close by sectors, then requests from far by sectors will be largely ignored

Shortest ... Time First



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Shortest Seek Time First: always choose the request that will take the least time for **seeking.**



• What if currently head is at 30, next choice between 16 & 8



- What if currently head is at 30, next choice between 16 & 8
- 16 would have lesser seek time, but more rotation time. Maybe 8 is a better choice!
 - Called Shortest Positioning Time First

Sweep back and forth, from one end of disk to the other, serving requests as you go.

Pros/Cons?



- Sweep back and forth, from one end of disk to the other, serving requests as you go.
- Pros
 - Doesn't cause starvation
- Cons
 - Favours middle tracks more
- Better: C-SCAN (circular scan)
 - Only sweep in one direction
- Another variant F-Scan (Freeze scan)
 - Freeze the request queue when doing a sweep

Work conserving schedulers always try to do I/O if there's I/O to be done.

Sometimes, it's better to wait instead if you anticipate another request will appear nearby.

Such non-work-conserving schedulers are called anticipatory schedulers.

RAID












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Sometimes we want many disks — why? - capacity

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Challenge: most file systems work on only one disk.

Solution 1: JBOD



Application is smart, stores different files on different file systems.

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JBOD: Just a Bunch Of Disks



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- You can often get many commodity H/W components for the same price as a few expensive components.
- Strategy: write S/W to build high-quality logical devices from many cheap devices.
- Alternative to RAID: buy an expensive, high-end disk.

General Strategy

Build fast, large disk from smaller ones.



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Add even more disks for reliability.



Mapping

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Static mapping: use math - RAID

RAID volume is fixed-sized, dense

Redundancy

Redundancy: how many copies?

System engineers are always trying to increase or decrease redundancy.

Increase: replication (e.g., RAID) Decrease: deduplication (e.g., code sharing)

Redundancy

Increase: improves <u>reliability</u> Decrease: improves <u>space efficiency</u>

One strategy: reduce redundancy as much is possible. Then add back just the right amount.

Workload: types of reads/writes issued by app

RAID: system for mapping logical to physical addrs

Metric: capacity, reliability, performance

RAID "algebra", given 2 variables, find the 3

f(W, R) = M

RAID Decisions

Which logical blocks map to which physical blocks?

How do we use extra physical blocks (if any)?

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 - seeking and rotation have significant cost
 - Disk speed: R MB/s
 - R << S

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 - $R = 10 \text{ KB}/(7+3+(10 \text{KB}/50 \text{MB/s})) \sim 1 \text{ MB/s}$

Capacity: how much space can apps use?

Reliability: how many disks can we safely lose?

Performance: how long does each workload take?

Capacity: how much space can apps use?

Reliability: how many disks can we safely lose? (assume fail stop!) Performance: how long does each workload take? Optimize for capacity. No redundancy (weird name).



Disk 0	Disk 1
0	1
2	3
4	5
6	7

4 disks

Disk 0	Disk 1	Disk 2	Disk 4
0	1	2	3
4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15

4 disks

	Disk 0	Disk 1	Disk 2	Disk 4
-	0	1	2	3
stripe:	4	5	6	7
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	12	13	14	15

How to Map

Given logical address A, find: Disk = A % disk_count Offset = A / disk_count

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We'll assume chunk size of 1 for today. Sizes of 64KB are typical in deployment.

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Buying more disks improves throughput, but not latency!

RAID-1: Mirroring

Keep two copies of all data.



Assumptions

Assume disks are fail-stop.

- they work or they don't
- we know when they don't

Tougher Errors:

- latent sector errors
- silent data corruption

Disk 0	Disk 1
0	0
1	1
2	2
3	3

4 disks

Disk 0	Disk 1	Disk 2	Disk 3
0	0	1	1
2	2	3	3
4	4	5	5
6	6	7	7

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