Lustre and IO-500

Experiences with the Cambridge Data Accelerator

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Overview

- → Obtained #1 position in June ISC'19 IO-500 Full-List with our all-flash Lustre-based burst-buffer
- → This was our second submission on the same hardware; overall score improved nearly 4x over November 2018 List
- → This improvement came nearly entirely from software changes
 - Used the very latest features Lustre has to offer
 - LNET multirail
 - DNE2 24x MDTs
 - DoM
 - OST Over-Striping
 - Support and development effort from Whamcloud turbo-charged our effort, almost doubling our previous best score of the time
 - Tuning for benchmark
- → Provides an interesting view on what's possible with the latest Lustre releases

IO-500 Overview

Before:

#		information								
	institution	system	storage	filesystem	client	client total	data	score	bw	md
			vendor	type	nodes	procs			GiB/s	kIOP/s
2	University of Cambridg	e Data Accelerator	Dell EMC	Lustre	528	4224	zip	158.71	71.40	352.75
er:									ļ	
1	University of Cambridge	Data	Dell EMC	C Lustre	512	8192	zip	620.69	162.05	2377.44

Headline 'SCORE' in the IO-500 is combination of individual metrics, primarily based on Bandwidth and Metadata performance.

For our score, Metadata performance was the dominant contribution to improvement

IO-500 Overview

Talk at LUG'19: IO-500 - A Storage Benchmark for HPC - Andreas Dilger, Whamcloud

Made up of 5 Benchmark Scenarios

- Designed to provide balanced overall measurement
- Combination of 'best' and 'worst' case IO patterns

IOR 'easy'	Write and Read	Free to tune IOR parameters. Typically file-per-process, large, aligned chunks
IOR 'hard'	Write and Read	Limited options. Forced to use small, unaligned IO to a single shared file
mdtest 'easy'	Create, Stat, Delete	Free to tune mdtest parameters. Separate directory per process. Zero-size files.
mdtest 'hard'	Create, Stat, Delete	Limited options. Forces all process writing to single shared directory. 3901 byte files.
find	Namespace search	<pre>Find specific subset of files from those created in other 4 benchmarksnewer {timestamp} -size {mdtest_hard_size} -name *01*</pre>

IO-500 Overview

BW	phase	1	ior_easy_write
IOPS	phase	1	<pre>mdtest_easy_write</pre>
BW	phase	2	ior_hard_write
IOPS	phase	2	<pre>mdtest_hard_write</pre>
IOPS	phase	3	find
BW	phase	3	ior_easy_read
IOPS	phase	4	mdtest_easy_stat
BW	phase	4	ior_hard_read
IOPS	phase	5	mdtest_hard_stat
IOPS	phase	6	<pre>mdtest_easy_delete</pre>
IOPS	phase	7	<pre>mdtest_hard_read</pre>
IOPS	phase	8	mdtest_hard_delete

12 Test Phases overall

- 4 Bandwidth Phases (ior_easy_write, ior_easy_read...)
- 8 IOPS Phases (mdtest_easy_write, _stat, _delete, ...)

Each phase has a result - either GB/s for bandwidth or kIOPs for metadata

All WRITE phases must run for 300s minimum to be valid submission



IO-500 - How to get started - (Pt. 1)

```
$ git clone <u>https://github.com/VI4I0/io-500-dev</u>
$ cd io-500-dev
# Load your cluster's preferred MPI library
$ module load intelmpi...
# Run compilation script
$ ./utilities/prepare.sh
OK: All required software packages are now prepared
io500_fixed.sh ior mdtest mmfind.sh pfind sfind.sh testlib
$ ls
                              io500.sh lib README.md site-configs utilities
bin build CHANGELOG.md
                         doc
```

The io500.sh script is what you will use to run the benchmark. Simply run this in your batch job script

IO-500 - How to get started - (Pt. 2)

io500.sh script contains some simple functions that can be edited before running:

```
function setup directories {
# set directories for where the benchmark files are created and where the results will go.
io500 workdir=/lustre/scratch/io500
                                                 # directory where the data will be stored
io500 result dir=$PWD/results/$timestamp
                                                 # the directory where the output results will be kept
timestamp=`date +%Y.%m.%d-%H.%M.%S`
io500 ior easy=$io500 workdir/ior easy
io500 ior hard=$io500 workdir/ior hard
io500 mdt easy=$io500 workdir/mdt easy
io500 mdt hard=$io500 workdir/mdt hard
mkdir -p $io500 workdir $io500 result dir $io500 ior easy $io500 ior_hard $io500_mdt_easy $io500_mdt_hard
# set striping settings on directories here
 . . .
function setup paths
# Set the paths to the binaries. If you ran ./utilities/prepare.sh successfully, then binaries are in ./bin/
io500 ior cmd=$IO500 DIR/bin/ior
io500 mdtest cmd=$IO500 DIR/bin/mdtest
io500 mdreal cmd=$IO500 DIR/bin/md-real-io
io500 mpirun="srun"
io500 mpiargs="--mpi=pmi2 --cpu bind=socket"
```

IO-500 - How to get started - (Pt. 3)

Script also contains permitted parameters to tweak for each benchmark:

```
function setup ior easy {
    io500 ior easy size=160
    # 16M transfer size, 160GB per proc, file per proc, 0 DIRECT
    io500_ior_easy_params="-a=POSIX --posix.odirect -C -t 16m -b ${io500_ior_easy_size}g -F"
}
function setup mdt easy {
    io500 mdtest easy params="-u -L" # unique dir per thread, files only at leaves
    io500_mdtest_easy_files_per_proc=540000
}
function setup ior hard {
    io500 ior_hard_other_options="-a MPIIO" #e.g., -E to keep precreated files using lfs setstripe, or -a MPIIO
}
function setup mdt hard {
    io500 mdtest_hard_files_per_proc=32000
    io500_mdtest_hard_files_per_proc=32000
    io500_mdtest_hard_other_options=""
```

Tweaking these values is where you will used to spend most of your time!

Current io500.sh simplifies this, removing the need to set number of writes-per-process for example

IO-500 - General Tips

- → Get Organised once you are up and running with benchmark
 - Make a separate working directory and parameterize your 10500.sh
 - Think about how you will keep track of parameters used and results for that configuration
- → Repeat configurations!
 - Can be surprising the amount of variation in performance between identical runs
 - Check server/client logs, fabric monitoring might encounter issues to follow up

→ Time

- Full run of the benchmark take over an hour
- Can use variables in io500.sh to evaluate each benchmark stage separately

eg:

Run 'ior_easy' phases only - probe what works/doesn't in a quicker feedback loop. Helps to find parameter values quickly.

'Data Accelerator'

Our all-flash Lustre burst-buffer



Hardware Platform

24x Dell R740xd Servers

- 12x Intel SSD P4600 1.4TiB
 NVMe per server
- 2x Intel Omnipath HFIs
 @100Gbps per server
- 2x Intel Xeon Gold 6142 CPU 32C @2.60GHz
- 192GiB DDR4





How we use it - Lustre Filesystems-on-demand



Slurm Integration

https://github.com/RSE-Cambridge/data-acc

- Repo contains installation instructions, as well as quickstart demo environments deployable with Docker or Openstack
- Core code written in Golang, along with Ansible to do Lustre filesystem creation/deletion
- Contributions/Feedback welcome!

DAC in IO-500

- Filesystem-on-demand is perfect for benchmarking.
 - Create/Destroy filesystem with each job, no user-contention, no degradation
- Allows agility in testing new Lustre versions no persistency to worry about
- We chose not to utilise any RAID on top of the NVMe devices due to ephemeral nature of any one Filesystem
 - If a device is lost, just restart the job
 - > Optimising for performance over long-term resiliency
- All of this helps the system in this kind of benchmark achieve a peak-performance
 - > Not really representative of a typical persistent scratch filesystem

Filesystem Layout for IO-500

- Filesystem configuration used all NVMe's
 - > 1x MDT per server = 24 MDTs
 - 12x OSTs per server = 288 OSTs
- One device per-server partitioned to give MDT and OST on same device.
 - Each MDT was 100GiB in size
 - Each OST approx 1.4TiB
- Overall filesystem:
 - ~450TiB in size

~1Billion inodes - Important given number of files created during mdtest_easy at peak performance!



Benchmarking Process

- Worked with *customised* DAC ansible directly
 - Manually overriding the Filesystem layout the produced Ansible inventory
 - Added new plays to apply Server/Client 'tunings'

```
- name: Set client 16M RPCs
    command: "sudo lctl set_param osc.{{ fs_name
}}-OST*.max_pages_per_rpc=16M"
    register: client_max_pages_per_rpc_result
    retries: 3
    delay: 10
    until: client max pages per rpc result.rc == 0
```

- Most of this is currently still *outside* the DAC upstream code-base
 - Aiming to integrate most of this work in the upstream project for November IO-500 runs
 - Run benchmark on upstream DAC burst-buffer
 - Can then match benchmark score to specific Ansible inventory and DAC codebase version as part of a reproducible configuration

```
# Example of produced Ansible Inventory
dac-prod:
 children:
   fs1:
     hosts:
       dac-e-1.fabric.cluster :
         fs1 mdts:
           nvme7n1: 0
         fs1 mgs: sdb
         fs1 osts:
           nvme0n1: 0
           nvme10n1: 9
           nvmellnl: 11
           nvme1n1: 2
           nvme2n1: 4
       dac-e-10.fabric.cluster :
     vars:
       lustre checksums : 0
       lustre fs name : fs1
       lustre ldlm lru size : 4000000
       lustre lnet network : o2ib1
       lustre max dirty mb : 512
       lustre max mod rpcs in flight : 127
       lustre max read ahead mb : 2048
       lustre max read ahead per file mb : 256
       lustre max rpcs in flight : 128
```

Initial Experimentation - April 2019

- Began playing with IO-500 in April around LUG'19
- LOTS of early failures trial and error started out small-scale with few clients.
 - ▶ Worked up gradually to larger numbers of clients (10, 32, 64, 128...)
 - Large parameter space to explore. Needed to find right set of io500.sh parameters to produce valid runs at each stage
 - \succ Many problems along the way:
 - Remember to clean up failed runs can easily fill filesystem with mdtest files
 - Bug in IO-500 pfind, not matching any files (Resolved in <u>https://github.com/VI4IO/io-500-dev/issues/37</u>)
 - Was not using a Slurm reservation of nodes originally, different compute nodes in each run
 - Switched to reservation and team-members did node health-check on compute nodes with HPL which identified some sub-par nodes got good working set of nodes important at high client counts
 - Higher node-count jobs in-general was a learning curve got help from other team-members about configuring MPI library for our fabric

Initial Best Large-Scale Results

November 2018

Servers: Lustre 2.11 528 Clients - 8ppn: Lustre 2.10.5

May 2019

Servers: Lustre 2.12.2 502 Clients - 16ppn: Lustre 2.10.7

ion occumulto	227 001 CD/a
_ior_easy_write	337.091 GB/S
mdtest_easy_write	1846.370 kiops
ior_hard_write	14.413 GB/s
mdtest_hard_write	558.397 kiops
find	1863.750 kiops
ior_easy_read	532.529 GB/s
mdtest_easy_stat	3138.370 kiops
ior_hard_read	81.216 GB/s
mdtest_hard_stat	1053.720 kiops
mdtest_easy_delete	1015.380 kiops
mdtest_hard_read	772.956 kiops
mdtest_hard_delete	441.478 kiops

Nov 2018: [SCORE] Bandwidth 71.4032 GB/s : IOPS 352.754 kiops : TOTAL 158.707 May 2019: [SCORE] Bandwidth 120.47 GB/s : IOPS 1103.69 kiops : TOTAL 364.639

Why the Improvement?

- Lots of improvements across the board
 - > More time dedicated to benchmarking. Some configuration mistakes made when rushing in November 2018
 - \succ Verified 'known-good' group of compute nodes \rightarrow Lessons learned feeding back into general service
 - > Identified congested ISLs in Fabric → Reorganised DAC servers to reduce this
 - Lustre 2.12.2 on servers
 - MANY performance improvements, particularly for Flash See talks from LUG2019 (<u>Lustre Optimizations and Improvements for Flash Storage – Shuichi Ihara, Whamcloud</u>)
 - > 24x MDTs Started using DNE at larger scale

```
DNE1 remote directories for mdtest_easy:lfs setdirstripe -c -1 $mdtest_easy_testdirDNE2 striped directory for mdtest_hard:lfs setdirstripe -c -1 -D $io500_mdt_hard
```

- > More client processes-per-node: $8ppn \rightarrow 16ppn$
- POSIX O_DIRECT on ior_easy. MPIIO on ior_hard Servers/Clients tuned to 16MiB RPCs.
 - Managed to get much closer to 'peak' ior_easy bandwidth

Final Large-Scale Submission

May 2018

Servers: Lustre 2.12.2 502 Clients - 16ppn: Lustre 2.10.7

BWphaseIOPSphaseBWphaseIOPSphaseBWphaseIOPSphaseBWphaseIOPSphaseIOPSphaseIOPSphaseIOPSphase	1 1 2 2 3 4 4 5 6 7	ior_easy_write mdtest_easy_write ior_hard_write mdtest_hard_write find ior_easy_read mdtest_easy_stat ior_hard_read mdtest_hard_stat mdtest_easy_delete mdtest_hard_read	337.891 1846.370 14.413 558.397 1863.750 532.529 3138.370 81.216 1053.720 1015.380 772.956	GB/s kiops GB/s kiops GB/s kiops GB/s kiops kiops
IOPS phase IOPS phase IOPS phase	6 7 8	<pre>mdtest_easy_delete mdtest_hard_read mdtest_hard_delete</pre>	772.956	kiops kiops kiops

June 2019 Servers: Lustre 'master' branch + patches 512 Clients - 16ppn: Lustre 'master' branch + patches

328.875	GB/s	
1784.640	kiops	
50.664	GB/s	
558.621	kiops	
1721.020	kiops	
509.259	GB/s	
183233.000	kiops	
81.267	GB/s	
5763.560	kiops	
1122.060	kiops	
858.445	kiops	
584.785	kiops	
	328.875 1784.640 50.664 558.621 1721.020 509.259 183233.000 81.267 5763.560 1122.060 858.445 584.785	328.875 GB/s 1784.640 kiops 50.664 GB/s 558.621 kiops 1721.020 kiops 509.259 GB/s 183233.000 kiops 81.267 GB/s 5763.560 kiops 1122.060 kiops 858.445 kiops 584.785 kiops

May 2019: [SCORE] Bandwidth 120.47 GB/s : IOPS 1103.69 kiops : TOTAL 364.639
June 2019: [SCORE] Bandwidth 162.049 GB/s : IOPS 2377.44 kiops : TOTAL 620.695

Why the Improvement? (Pt.1)

- Engagement from Whamcloud post-LUG'19
 - Discussion about developments going on at the time with specific performance improvements particularly around metadata.
 - Shared with me a number of patches that were landing at the time and tunings that they were testing with
 - Working off 'master' branch Upgraded all Servers **and Clients** to the current tip of 'master' at the time, applied patches on top. Having 2.12+ clients opened up new features to utilise!
 - 'master' branch also contained the new Lustre Overstriping feature presented at LUG2019 (<u>Lustre Overstriping-Improving Shared File Write Performance – Patrick Farrell, Whamcloud</u>)

BW	phase 2	ior_hard_write	14.413 GB/s	ior_hard_write	50.664 GB/s
BW	phase 4	ior_hard_read	81.216 GB/s	ior_hard_read	81.267 GB/s

```
lfs setstripe -C $((288*5)) -S 16M $io500_ior_hard
```

Huge ~4x improvement in ior_hard_write performance

Why the Improvement? (Pt.2)

Data-on-Metadata

- > 2.12+ Clients enabled us to make use of DoM
- > With all NVMe MDTs and OSTs possibly little benefit to create performance (mdtest_easy_write)
- ▶ However combination of DoM + specific patches [LU-12325] [LU-11623] + tunings shared by WC:

[MDS] \$ lctl set_param mdt.*.dom_lock=trylock # Very Large number of client-side locks in LRU cache # Function of available server RAM - fortunately we have 24x 192GB MDS [Clients] \$ lctl set param ldlm.namespaces.*.lru size=4000000

Lead to **HUGE** 'mdtest_stat_*' improvements - particularly 'mdtest_easy_stat'

IOPS phase IOPS phase	4 5	mdtest_easy_stat mdtest_hard_stat	3138.370 kiops 1053.720 kiops
IOPS phase	6	mdtest_easy_delete	1015.380 kiops
IOPS phase	7	mdtest_hard_read	772.956 kiops
IOPS phase	8	mdtest_hard_delete	441.478 kiops

mdtest_easy_stat	183233.000	kiops
mdtest_hard_stat	5763.560	kiops
mdtest_easy_delete	1122.060	kiops
mdtest_hard_read	858.445	kiops
mdtest_hard_delete	584.785	kiops
		-

mdtest_easy_stat

- Score was suspiciously large. How is 183M stats per second even possible?
 - Essentially for mdtest_easy with DoM, the patches and tunings applied, and the large client 'Iru_size' the files the client has to stat is in cache locally on the node - no need to contact the MDT because it already holds the lock.
 - Possible because mdtest was not running in 'strided' mode eg: perform 'stat' lookup of a file from different client to the one that created it
 - > So this is measuring a cache effect
- This has been noted and fixed in the current IO-500 script
 - > mdtest now force the '-N 1' flag to enforce strided behaviour on both 'easy' and 'hard' tests
 - I haven't re-run yet since these changes were introduced but expecting big reductions in mdtest_stat_* scores

ISC'19 Results

#		in	formation						io500	
	institution	system	storage vendor	filesystem	client	client total	data	score	bw	md
				type	nodes	procs			GiB/s	klOP/s
1	University of Cambridge	Data Accelerator	Dell EMC	Lustre	512	8192	zip	620.69	162.05	2377.44
2	Oak Ridge National Laboratory	Summit	IBM	Spectrum Scale	504	1008	zip	330.56	88.20	1238.93
3	JCAHPC	Oakforest- PACS	DDN	IME	2048	2048	zip	275.65	492.06	154.41
4	Korea Institute of Science and Technology Information (KISTI)	NURION	DDN	IME	2048	4096	zip	156.91	554.23	44.43
5	DDN	IME140	DDN	IME	17	272	zip	112.67	90.34	140.52
6	DDN Colorado	DDN IME140	DDN	IME	10	160	zip	109.42	75.79	157.96
7	DDN	AI400	DDN	Lustre	10	160	zip	104.34	19.65	553.98
8	CSIRO	bracewell	Dell/ThinkParQ	BeeGFS	26	260	zip	88.26	67.44	115.50
9	KAUST	ShaheenII	Cray	DataWarp	1024	8192	zip	77.37	496.81	12.05
10	University of Cambridge	Data Accelerator	Dell EMC	BeeGFS	184	5888	zip	74.58	58.81	94.57

https://www.vi4io.org/io500/list/19-06/start

ISC'19 10-Node Challenge Results

#			information						io500	
	institution	system	storage vendor	filesystem type	client	client total	data	score	bw	md
					nodes	procs			GiB/s	kIOP/s
1	DDN Colorado	DDN IME140	DDN	IME	10	160	zip	109.42	75.79	157.96
2	DDN	AI400	DDN	Lustre	10	160	zip	104.34	19.65	553.98
3	University of Cambridge	Data Accelerator	Dell EMC	Lustre	10	320	zip	98.31	26.94	358.85
4	DDN	IME140	DDN	IME	10	160	zip	95.10	76.89	117.62
5	DDN Japan	AI400	DDN	Lustre	10	160	zip	74.10	12.22	449.28
6	HHMI Janelia Research Campus	Weka	WekalO		10	3200	zip	66.43	27.74	159.12
7	CSIRO	bracewell	Dell/ThinkParQ	BeeGFS	10	160	zip	63.46	34.85	115.56
8	DDN	400NV	DDN	GRIDScaler	10	30	zip	59.49	13.55	261.21
9	WekalO		WekalO	WekalO Matrix	10	700	zip	58.25	27.05	125.43
10	Oak Ridge National Laboratory	Summit	IBM	Spectrum Scale	10	160	zip	44.30	9.84	199.48

https://www.vi4io.org/io500/list/19-06/10node

Same Benchmark suite, but everyone limited to 10 Client nodes - fairer comparison between configurations

We actually had 10 nodes with dual-OPA multi-rail for this, boosting our bandwidth score - Not normal on our cluster

Overall Experience

- Lot of effort put in for just a benchmark, but useful learning experience for the team
 - > Not often that we are so focused around performance outside of new-system provisioning
 - Was quite disruptive to our core cluster towards the end: re-imaging compute nodes to experimental Lustre builds required moving large portion of cluster out of active-service for intense couple of days of benchmarking
 - However the work helped us implement a number of network, troubleshooting and monitoring improvements that we are able to benefit from in future
 - > Looking to apply some of what we learned for improving our more traditional disk-based scratch-tier
 - Provided interesting view into the latest features of Lustre. Things that we can learn from to guide design/improve future persistent-tier. Not often get to experiment with these things.
 - Fortunate to have a platform that provides ability to blow away and experiment with ideal scenario for this kind of competition

Future Plans

- Focused now on improving the DAC software for our user-base
 - Working with one of our bigger users, SKA Science
 Data Processor team at Cambridge
 - They have already been using the DAC to find bottlenecks in their applications/workflows
 - Read/Writing lots of HDF5 files benefitting from large bandwidth improvements over our current scratch
- Working on upgrading cluster to new 2.12.X Lustre baseline so can make use of latest features with the DAC in production
- Will aim to keep submitting to IO-500 in future, and also aim to start testing our traditional disk-based Lustre filesystems as a way to monitor performance of the filesystem over time





Future Plans - Probing DNE at larger scales?

- Have done some experiments looking at how 'mdtest' results scale with more MDTs
 - ▶ Used 24 (1 per server) for IO-500 submission, but what happens if we add more per server?

Have done some quick benchmarks with 2-per-server (48 MDTs) and saw further scaling, particularly for write/delete

Results shown here used our 'production' DAC configuration:

Servers: Lustre 2.12.2 Clients: Lustre 2.10.7

What about 3-per-server? (72 MDTs)

What about MDT on every device? (288 MDTs + DoM)



Acknowledgements

- Special thanks to all the engineers at Whamcloud for the help and support given. Particularly: Patrick Farrell, Shuichi Ihara, Amir Shehata, Peter Jones and Andreas Dilger
- Thanks to all my colleagues at Cambridge for support with the hardware and fabric
- And apologies to our users for the long queue times during the weekend around 8th June...

Other Slides



Lustre version used

Base commit: 85db9b258c - New tag 2.12.54 (tag: v2 12 54)

Patches applied:

647e37f LU-12043 llite: improve single-thread read performance 7dc9cfe LU-12043 llite, readahead: don't use max RPC size always 6967cf8 LU-11518 ldlm: control lru size for extent lock d6f2913 LU-12325 dom: use LCK PR with 'trylock' mode 1f4f496 LU-11623 mdt: Opportunistically return UPDATE and PERM bits on open - https://review.whamcloud.com/#/c/33585

Commit reverted:

ce37c38691 LU-10213 lnd: calculate qp max send wrs properly

Workaround for an OPA issue encountered during testing - Tracked under [LU-12385] - Now resolved for 2.13

This was from a particular point in time - with expert support - not a recommendation of something to still use!

Recommended to start with latest feature-release, or 'master' if adventurous in testing

- https://review.whamcloud.com/#/c/34095
- https://review.whamcloud.com/#/c/35033
- https://review.whamcloud.com/#/c/33371
- https://review.whamcloud.com/#/c/35031