CS 137: File Systems

Class Overview

Today's Topics

- Purpose of class
- How class will be run
- Project
- Sources of filesystem papers
- Early reading
- Introduction to disk technology

Class Purpose

- Understand how filesystems work
- Review current research in filesystems
- Go away with graduate-level understanding

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- Review current research in filesystems
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- Get me to read good FS papers!

Class Mechanics

- Begin with general information on disk drives, SSDs, file systems
- Rest of term will be reading & discussing papers
- Early papers will be assigned by me
 - Give you background
 - Discuss in class
- See class calendar on Web site:

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http://www.cs.hmc.edu/~geoff/cs137
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- Later papers chosen by you
 - Goal is to have fun, learn lots
 - You will take turns leading discussion

Filesystem Homework

- 20% of grade
- We will use FUSE as a development framework
 - Frees you from kernel development
 - Otherwise quite similar to "real thing"
- First assignment: "Hello, world" filesystem
- Assignments 2 & 3: FAT filesystem

Class Project

- Filesystem development project
- Filesystem measurement project
- Written/oral report on some aspect of filesystems research
 - E.g. survey paper on RAID technology
- But I'm open to other ideas & suggestions
- 70% of grade
 - ▶ Other components: homework (20%), general participation during term (10%)

Where to Find FS Papers

- Specialized FS conferences
 - File and Storage Technology (FAST) (recent)
 - IEEE Mass Storage Conference (MassStor)
 - SIGOPS International Systems and Storage Conference (SYSTOR)
- Supercomputing conferences
 - IEEE High Performance Distributed Computing
 - Supercomputing

Where to Find Papers (cont'd)

- Filesystems are part of operating systems
 - So big OS conferences have FS papers
 - Symposium on Operating Systems Principles (SOSP)
 - Operating Systems Design & Implementation (OSDI)
 - Usenix Annual Technical Conference
 - Eurosys
- Important journals (current & older stuff)
 - ACM Transactions on Storage
 - ACM Transactions on Computer Systems
 - Communications of the ACM
 - IEEE Computer

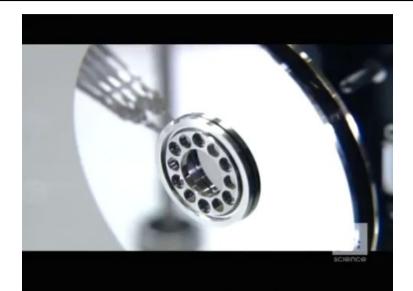
Where to Find Papers (cont'd)

- Database conferences
 - ACM SIGMOD
 - Very Large Databases (VLDB)
- Architectural Support for Programming Languages and Operating Systems (ASPLOS)
- Sometimes architecture, networking, applications conferences
- Random other places—list is constantly changing

First Papers We'll Read

- How nasty disks really are (Ruemmler & Wilkes; Anderson; Patterson et al)
- Original Unix file system (for elegance)
- BSD Fast Filesystem (for speed)
- FAT32 (for ugliness) and NTFS (for breadth)

Disks In 2 Minutes



YouTube

Disks In 7 More Minutes



A Running Disk



Slowing That Down

THIS IS A 500GB HARD DRIVE.

YouTube 14/16

Disks From the Beginning

(To be done on the board)

- Head/platter arrangements
- Motion technology
- Winchester drives
- Sectors and gaps
- Sector alignment and timing
- Encodings and ECC
- General block layout
- Modern complexities
- Shingling

Shouting in the Datacenter

