pNFS Parallel Network File System

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NorStore



UNINETT, UNINETT Sigma, UiO (University of Oslo), NTNU (Norwegian University of Science and Technology, UiB (University of Bergen), UiT (University of Tromsø) Main research question:

" Is pNFS capable of transferring the large amounts of data required in the NorStore context?"

Thesis:

" pNFS will be capable of transferring large amounts of data but is currently still missing good integration with underlying file systems and under heavy development. Therefore it is currently not ready for production use." Approach:

- Reading, setting up PoC
- Analyse
- Analyse some more...
- Making sense of it all

pNFS?

Example current solutions:

- Panasas PanFS
- IBM GPFS
- Lustre
- PVFS2
- EMC MPFS

Working on pNFS:

- NetApp
- Sun Microsystems

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- ► EMC
- Panasas
- CITI/UMICH



Figure: pNFS network overview

- 1. Client \Rightarrow MDS OPEN
- 2. Client \leftarrow MDS Reply OPEN
- 3. Client \Rightarrow MDS LAYOUTGET
- 4. Client \leftarrow MDS Reply LAYOUTGET
- 5. Client \Rightarrow DSs Parallel I/O
- 6. Client \Rightarrow MDS LAYOUTCOMMIT
- 7. Client \leftarrow MDS Reply LAYOUTCOMMIT
- 8. Client \Rightarrow MDS CLOSE
- 9. Client \leftarrow MDS Reply CLOSE

- Layout size & file size
- Small files
- Big files

pNFS availability & status

- File based: Sun, IBM, DESY, NetApp, Red Hat, CITI
- Object based: Panasas
- Block/Volume based: EMC

Pnfs != pNFS

pNFS file system?

2009...

- Any decent storage platform!
- Combined with existing tools as GridFTP

 pNFS is usefull for the NorStore platform and is able to transfer large amounts of data. Conclusions:

" Is pNFS capable of transferring the large amounts of data required in the NorStore context?"

Thesis:

" pNFS will be capable of transferring large amounts of data but is currently still missing good integration with underlying file systems and under heavy development. Therefore it is currently not ready for production use.

Future work:

- Wait until pNFS (near)ready!
- Use a real 10Gbit environment, these things are tricky!
- Use two different storage back-ends, test interoperability.

Questions?