

Understanding BlueStore Ceph's New Storage Backend

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Introduction to Ceph (the short, short version)

Ceph Provides

- A resilient, scale-out storage cluster
 - On commodity hardware
 - No bottlenecks
 - No single points of failure

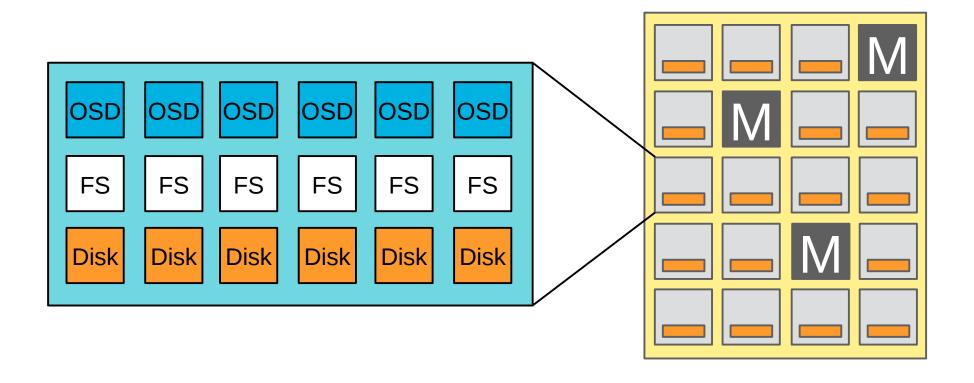
Three interfaces

- Object (radosgw)
- Block (rbd)
- Distributed Filesystem (cephfs)

Internally, Regardless of Interface

- All data stored as "objects"
 - Aggregated into Placement Groups
- Objects have:
 - Data (byte stream)
 - Attributes (key/value pairs)
- Objects live on Object Storage Devices
 - Managed by Ceph Object Storage Daemons
- An OSD is a disk, in a server

More Internally



Even More Internally

FileStore

- XFS (previously ext4, btrfs)
- Placement Group → directory
- Object → file
- LevelDB for key/value data

```
/var/lib/ceph/osd/ceph-0/
    current/
        0.1 head/
            object1
            object12
        0.7 head/
            object3
            object5
        0.a head/
            object4
            object6
        meta/
            # OSD maps
        omap/
            # leveldb files
```

Problems with FileStore

Double Writes

- No atomic write/update on POSIX filesystems
- Solution: Ceph Journal
 - Write → OSD journal (O_DIRECT)
 - Write → OSD filesystem (buffered)
 - Sync filesystem, trim journal
- Throughput halved

Enumeration Sucks

- Objects distributed by 32-bit hash
- Enumerated for scrub, rebalance etc.
- POSIX readdir() isn't ordered
- Directory tree with hash-value prefix
 - Split when > ~100 files
 - Merged when < ~50 files
- Complicated, odd performance issues

```
/DIR 1
/DIR_1/DIR_0/obj-xxxxxx01
/DIR_1/DIR_4/obj-xxxxxx41
/DIR 1/DIR 8/obj-xxxxxx81
/DIR_1/DIR_C/obj-xxxxxxC1
/DIR_A/DIR_1/obj-xxxxx1A
/DIR_A/DIR_5/obj-xxxxx5A
/DIR_A/DIR_9/obj-xxxxx9A
/DIR A/DIR D/obj-xxxxxDA
```

Other Problems

- CPU utilization
- Unpredictable filesystem flushing
- Still finding bugs/issues with FileStore...

Solutions with BlueStore

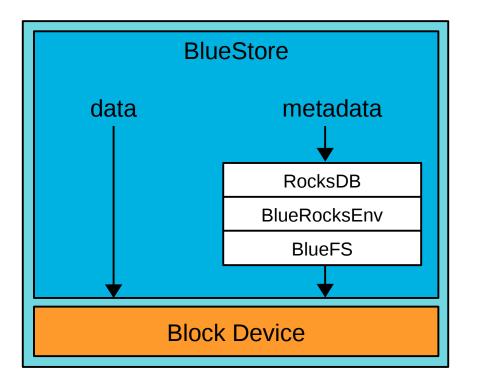
BlueStore = Block + NewStore

- Raw block devices
- RocksDB key/value store for metadata
- Data written direct to block device
- 2-3x performance boost over FileStore

Internally

 All data and metadata on same block device by default

- Optionally can be split, e.g.:
 - Data on HDD
 - DB on SSD
 - WAL on NVRAM



Bonus!

- Pluggable block allocator
- Pluggable compression
- Checksums on reads
- RBD and CephFS usable with EC pools

Availability

- Early prototype in Ceph Jewel (April 2016)
- Stable on-disk format in Ceph Kraken (January 2017)
- Recommended default in Ceph Luminous (RSN)
- Can co-exist with FileStore

Migration Strategies

Several Approaches

Fail in place

- Fail FileStore OSD
- Create new BlueStore OSD on same device

Disk-wise replacement

- Create new BlueStore OSD on spare disk
- Stop FileStore OSD on same host

Host-wise replacement

- Provision entire new host with BlueStore OSDs
- Swap into old host's CRUSH position

• Evacuate and rebuild in place

- Evacuate FileStore OSD, fail when empty
- Create new BlueStore OSD on same device

Several Approaches

- Fail in place
 - Fail FileStore OSD
 - Create new BlueStore OSD on same device
- → period of reduced redundancy

- Disk-wise replacement
 - Create new BlueStore OSD on spare disk
 - Stop FileStore OSD on same host

→ reduced *online* redundancy, requires extra drive slot

- Host-wise replacement
 - Provision entire new host with BlueStore OSDs
 - Swap into old host's CRUSH position

→ no reduced redundancy, requires spare host

- Evacuate and rebuild in place
 - Evacuate FileStore OSD, fail when empty
 - Create new BlueStore OSD on same device
- → no reduced redundancy, requires free disk space

Questions?



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