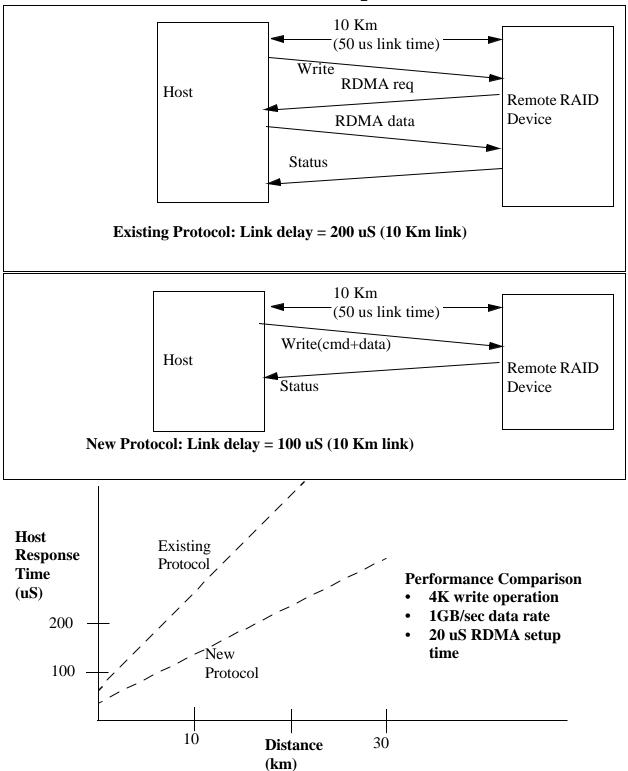
Sending Write Data with SRP Commands

Giles Frazier

Problem

- Short write data operations are costly in SRP
 - 3 round-trips on link before first write data arrives at target
 - RDMA setup required for relatively small data transfers
 - Significant performance degradation for many applications
 - * Real-time remote mirroring
 - * Backups requiring multiple updates of small data segments
 - * Remote transaction processing
 - * Batch data backup operations
- Other protocols have eliminated these delays
 - FCP
 - FC-SB-2
 - SDP
 - iSCSI
- SRP needs this capability to be competitive

Performance Comparisons:



Solution

- Define a new Command-data IU (or modify existing Command IU):
 - Payload includes a command + immediate data
 - Amount of data limited by maximum initiator to target IU length
- Discovery of support:
 - New Login bit: "immediate data requested/supported"
 - or: Non-zero "first burst" parameter in Disconnect/Reconnect mode page

Alternative I: Modify Existing Command IU

Bit Byte	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0		
0	TYPE(02)									
1-4	Reserved									
5	DATA-OUT BUFFER DESCRIPTOR FORMAT DATA-IN BUFFER DESCRIPTOR FORMAT									
6	DATA-OUT BUFFER DESCRIPTOR COUNT									
7	DATA-IN BUFFER DESCRIPTOR COUNT									
8-15	TAG									
16-19	Reserved									
20-27	LOGICAL UNIT NUMBER									
28	Reserved									
29	Reserved						TASK ATTRIBUTE			
30	Reserved									
31	ADDITIONAL CDB LENGTH = n						Reserved			
32 - 47	CDB									
48 -	ADDITIONAL CDB									
47 +4*n										
48+4*n 47+4*n+do	DATA-OUT BUFFER DESCRIPTOR									
48+4*n+do 47+4*n+do+di	DATA-IN BUFFER DESCRIPTOR									
48+4*n+do+di (<max iu="" size)<="" th=""><th colspan="9">IMMEDIATE DATA OUT</th></max>	IMMEDIATE DATA OUT									

Alternative II: New Command-Data IU

Bit Byte	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0		
0	TYPE(0x)									
1-7	Reserved									
8-15	TAG									
16-19	Reserved									
20-27	LOGICAL UNIT NUMBER									
28-31	Reserved									
32 - 47	CDB (max 16 bytes)									
48 - n	Command data (limited by max IU size)									

Potential advantage: Start of data is always at a fixed location in IU.

⁻ May enable the target to more easily route the command data to appropriate location

Large Write Operations

- Primary usage of this new capability is for short writes
 - ..but could be used for large writes also

Three alternatives for long writes:

- Do not send any immediate data, use RDMA exclusively
- Send small amount of immediate data, use RDMA subsequently
 - Probably not desirable--small performance improvement
- Adjust login parameters to allow data to be sent with command:
 - Large MAXIMUM INITIATOR TO TARGET IU SIZE
 - Small REQUEST LIMIT

The third option eliminates start-up delays for write operations without wasting excessive buffer space at the target