Examination, December 17, 2012

Assignment 1 Amdahl's law states the maximum available speedup of a program which has proportion P of parallel code and 1 - P of sequential code, and N processors working in parallel. Compute the speedup of code with N = 64.

a) In the case
$$P = 50\%$$
. (1p)

b) In the case
$$P = 75\%$$
. (1p)

c) In the case
$$P = 90\%$$
. (1p)

Assignment 2 In this problem we assume that a single disk inside a RAID 5 array has died. In order to recompute the missing data, the data stored on all the remaining disks has to be read. The task is to consider the number of expected read errors during the reconstruction of the data.

When using consumer hard disks in RAID 5 configuration, compute the expected number of URE errors during RAID 5 array rebuild. Use a Bernoulli process model model the URE errors with the typical consumer URE rate of 1 bit error per 10¹⁵ bits read.

Assume the RAID 5 arrays are full of data and consist of the following amounts of storage space, where we use $1 \text{ TB} = 10^{12} \text{ bytes}$:

Assignment 3 Briefly (using at most half a page of text maximum) describe what is the statement called as the FLP Theorem and what implications does it have for design of distributed systems both on the theoretical as well as on the practical level. (4p)

Assignment 4 Bloom filters are a probabilistic data structure for storing sets of items. Consider the case of a Bloom filter with 10 megabytes of memory, where we would like to insert at most n = 5000000 items. What is the approximate optimal number of hash functions k (rounded to the nearest integer) to minimize the number of false positives? What is the false positive probability with using that k after having inserted n unique items? (4p)

Note! More assignments on the other side of the paper.

The name of the course, the course code, the date, your name, your student id, and your signature must appear on every sheet of your answers.

Aalto University, Department of Information and Computer Science T-79.5308 Scalable Cloud Computing Examination, December 17, 2012

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Assignment 5 Please briefly (using maximum of three sentences for each case) define what are the following concepts as used the the course lectures:

a) CAP Theorem	(1p)
b) RAID Write hole problem	(1p)
c) RAID 6	(1p)
d) BASE	(1p)
e) Scaling out	(1p)
f) Key-value store	(1p)

Assignment 6 Briefly (using at most half a page of text maximum) describe the consistent hashing approach to implementing a distributed hash table (DHT), together with the potential benefits or drawbacks of the approach when adding or removing servers to a DHT. (4p)

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