

Re: ATA driver/gmirror problems, multiple boxes...

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Johan Ström wrote:

Hello

I got a few boxes, elfi crus and gw-1, running gmirror. These are three completely different boxes, but all are running 6.1. They all have multiple disks which are gmirrored, two of them SATA-only and one has a mirror between one SATA and one ATA. Some times now and then they all have different problems with the mirrors.. All three in different ways.. although elfi being the one crashing most, its also the one with most disk IO so that might be "expected" (not that it crashes but that its the one crashing most often).. First, some HW spec:

[...]

Yes.. it fails and then the whole box totally HANGS... No input possible at all.. had to hard-reboot it with the button... Not good at all.. I have been running the disks that are now in elfi in this machine before, and at that time I had the same problem.. disk problems -> total hang.. That was with sata only, this appears to be a problem with the ATA disk too?..

I have never succeeded to force these crashes.. they appear now and then but I can never produce them on demand.. The crashes happens now and then, no regular intervals though.. For elfi:

Apr 24 05:20:27 elfi kernel: GEOM_MIRROR: Device gm0s1: provider ad6 disconnected.
(I actually cant find any other entry in the logs, but judging from IRC logs: march 28, march 12, feb 13, jan 22, jan 18)

For crus:

Apr 23 13:46:14 crus kernel: GEOM_MIRROR: Device gm1: provider ad8 disconnected.
Apr 13 09:57:49 crus kernel: GEOM_MIRROR: Device gm1: provider ad8 disconnected.
I think it has happened once more, but thats it..

For gw-1 it's luckily only once so far.. At least with the current install, it has had problems when the maxtor disks was running in it (and i think it was 6.0 back then)

So.. Three different boxes, with three different chipsets... With three different crash scenarios.. But they all have problems.. So where is the actual problem? The HW? The chipset drivers? Gmirror code? I have run SMART tests on the crashing disks, no errors.. I

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have run powermax (maxtors own test program) a while back on the maxtor disks, no problems.. I have tried changing SATA cables on some of the disks, no difference..

Does anyone have any clue about what can be causing this? What is most likely? How do we hunt this down?

I have same problems for a long time (you can found my posts in this list last year). From my point of view – this is HW problem. For example: I have 4 same machines Sun Fire X2100 and one of them have this problem (always on same ATA channel), others not.

HW becomes cheaper and cheaper at cost of lower quality.

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