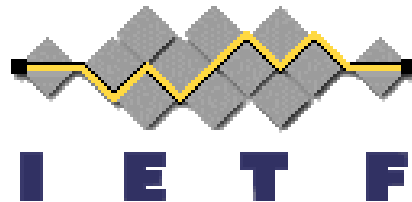

NFS Version 4 Attributes

Rob Thurlow

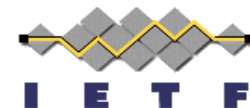
thurlow@Eng.Sun.Com

**IETF NFS V4 wg @ Connectathon
San Jose, CA
March 9, 1999**



Attributes Update

- Attributes work in current protocol strawman - thanks, Spencer!
 - OPENATTR, quota stuff still to come
- “Capability” attributes should be mandatory
 - e.g. booleans like `persistant_fh` (or its inverse), extended
 - had thought that absence implies no support for feature, but there’s no reason for servers not to make a stronger statement
- Discarded some V3 attributes: `read_pref`, `read_mult`, `write_pref`, `write_mult`
- Splitting “`fsid`” up into major and minor components
- Confusion: “extended attributes”
 - I mean attributes accessed by OPENATTR and name
 - Not meant to be past tense of extensibility in requirements doc
 - Should we call them “named attributes” instead?
- No progress on ACLs (sigh)
 - Thanks to some folks who shared prior work!



Unresolved Issues

- **Mandatory vs. Recommended**
 - Need justifications to declare attributes mandatory
 - Current standard: a lot of clients need the attribute and it is hard for the client to derive value
 - Want the effect to be that implementors support all they can without making things up
- **What effect on interoperability?**
 - If servers and clients don't implement useful and overlapping subsets, how well will they interoperate? (Dan Trufasiu)
 - Could lead to lots of fingerpointing, which customers already don't like
 - How can we prevent this from being a problem?

