

Re: Problems with software RAID on SATA

Source: <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Debian/2005-08/2173.html>

From: Stephen Tait (tait_at_digitallaw.co.uk)

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To: debian-user@lists.debian.org

At 16:37 18/08/2005, you wrote:

>Quoting Stephen Tait (tait@digitallaw.co.uk):

>

>>I'm just in the process of setting up a Sarge server to be used as a sort
>>of backup server. The main PATA discs are used to boot the OS off of
>>software RAID1, with the rest of the disc space used in JBOD for
>>not-so-important backups. However, I'm having problems getting the new
>>disc array up and running.

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>>We've put a SATA controller in the box, a cheap-as-chips PCI Adaptec
>>1210SA which, according to `lspci`, uses the Silicon Image SI3112 chipset
>>to provide two SATA channels. Connected to this are two 320GB drives
>>which I want to turn into a RAID1 array. When the system booted first, I
>>used `mdadm` to create the RAID1 array `md2` (`mdadm --create /dev/md2`
>>`--level=1 --raid-disks=2 /dev/sda1 /dev/sdb1`), checked `/proc/mdstat` to
>>wait for the array to finish syncing, and then formatted it `ext3` and
>>mounted it. Everything seemed to work fine until I rebooted, whereupon
>>the mount failed with the report that it wasn't a valid `ext[2|3]`
>>superblock; `fsck` confirmed this and on further inspection it seemed that
>>it wasn't a RAID device any more either.

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>>...and booted with that instead after editing `GRUB's menu.lst`. The exact
>>same error occurred, and I'm now at a bit of a loss to explain what's
>>happening. If I try and mount the discs on their own (i.e. `mount /dev/sdX`
>>`/mnt/somedir`) then they work just fine, so the hardware works fine – so
>>I'm almost certain it's a problem with initting the RAID arrays at boot.
>>At the moment I'm just rebuilding the array to see what happens when I
>>don't try and mount it at boot, but only after the OS has finished