

Re: defrag on linux system

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Christopher Browne <cbbrowne@acm.org> wrote:

>> *Believe me, 5% of a 4Tbytes RAID causes some raised eyebrows when
>> discussing volumes... and budgets!*

> *Why should this raise eyebrows?*

Well, I would imagine he would want to change it to some constant multiple of the largest file size that he will use.

> *5% of a 4TB RAID represents one 200GB disk drive; perhaps \$200 worth
> of disk space.*

Sure – but 5% is not a magic figure. Provided all his files are small, he can get away with a constant number of blocks somewhat bigger than the largest file, not a percentage. That is to say, I believe the intention is just to keep some free space hanging around in each cluster ("zone") in order to deal with allocations without having to scavenge for a bit here, a bit there, etc.

If all his files come in one of exactly three sizes, then I would maybe keep them on three different filesystems. I don't think there would be any fragmentation at all then (provided free space per zone was bigger than the files, yadda ...).

Peter