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NFSv4 Multi-Domain Access  
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Abstract

The Network File System, version 4 (NFSv4) uses a representation of identity that allows the use of users and groups from multiple, distinct administrative domains, and NFSv4 allows the use of security mechanisms that authenticate principals from multiple, distinct administrative domains. This document describes methods by which NFSv4 clients and servers can handle principals, users, groups from multiple administrative domains.

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1. Requirements notation

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119].

## 2. Introduction

The NFS Version 4 [RFC3530] protocol enables the construction of a distributed file system which can join NFSv4.0 or NFSv4.1 [I-D.ietf-nfsv4-minorversion1] servers from multiple administrative domains, each potentially using separate name resolution services and separate security services, into a common multi-domain name space.

NFSv4 deals with two kinds of identities: authentication identities (referred to here as "principals") and authorization identities ("users" and "groups" of users). NFSv4 supports multiple authentication methods, each authenticating an "initiator principal" (typically representing a user) to an "acceptor principals" (always corresponding to the server). NFSv4 does not prescribe how to represent authorization identities on file systems. All file access decisions constitute "authorization" and are made by servers using information about client principals (such as username, group memberships, and so on) and file metadata related to authorization, such as a file's access control list (ACL).

Authentication in NFSv4 occurs at the the RPCSEC\_GSS [RFC2203] layer where GSS-API mechanisms [RFC2743] are used to authenticate users on NFSv4 clients to NFSv4 servers, and to provide security services such as confidentiality and integrity protection for the protocol's messages. The NFSv4 protocol specifies no particular representation for authentication identities as these are entirely GSS-API mechanism-specific.

Authorization for file object access is done at the NFSv4 protocol layer (i.e., above the RPCSEC\_GSS layer), on the server side, based on an authenticated client principal's authorization context and the authorization meta-data of the file system objects that the client wishes to access. File authorization meta-data is set and retrieved in the NFSv4 RPC [RFC1831] layer, specifically via the object's owner, owner\_group and acl, dacl and sacl attributes (the last three being ACLs). ACLs are lists of ACL entries (ACEs). Each ACE has a "who" field identifying a subject to whom some permission is granted or denied. The owner and owner\_group attributes and the who ACE field, all reference users and groups. On the wire, the protocol represents users and groups as strings of characters with this form: name@domain, where <name> is a user or group name, and <domain> is a the name of an administrative domain, more specifically a DNS [RFC1034] domainname.

NFSv4 server implementations usually do not, and really ought not, store authorization identities on disk in the same form as is used on the wire. The reason is that users' and groups' names change all too often, while searching for and updating file authorization meta-data

after a user/group name change is not trivial, particularly in a global namespace spanning multiple administrative domains.

NFSv4 servers therefore must perform two kinds of mappings:

1. Between the authentication identity and the authorization context (a principal's user ID, group memberships, etcetera)
2. Between the on-the-wire authorization identity representation and the on-disk authorization identity representation.

Many aspects of these mappings are entirely implementation-specific, but some require name resolution services, and in order to interoperate servers must use such services in compatible ways. Many implementations are limited to being able to represent users and groups from a single domain.

In this document we address both of those kind of mappings, describing possible implementation strategies, and specifying a name service for interoperation in a global namespace [I-D.ietf-nfsv4-federated-fs-reqts].

### 3. Background

NFSv4 uses a syntax of the form "name@domain" to represent, on the wire, the NFSv4 ACL name for users and groups. This design provides a level of indirection that allows a client and server with different internal representations of authorization identity to interoperate even when referring to authorization identities from different administrative domains.

Multi-domain capable sites need to meet certain requirements in order to ensure that clients and servers can map name@domain to internal representations reliably:

- o The name portion of name@domain MUST be unique within the specified DNS domain.
- o Every local representation of a user and of a group MUST have a canonical name@domain, and it must be possible to return the canonical name@domain for any identity stored on disk, at least when required infrastructure servers (such as name services) are online.

As described in [I-D.ietf-nfsv4-minorversion1] section 2.2.1.1 "RPC Security Flavors":

NFSv4.1 clients and servers MUST implement RPCSEC\_GSS. (This requirement to implement is not a requirement to use.) Other flavors, such as AUTH\_NONE, and AUTH\_SYS, MAY be implemented as well.

The AUTH\_NONE security flavor can be useful to the multi-domain NFSv4 or federated name space to grant universal access to public data without any credentials.

The AUTH\_SYS security flavor uses a host-based authentication model where the [weakly-authenticated] client asserts the user's authorization identities using small integers as user and group identity representations. Because of the small integer authorization ID representation, AUTH\_SYS can only be used in a name space where all clients and servers share a uidNumber and gidNumber translation service. A shared translation service is required because uidNumbers and gidNumbers are passed in the RPC credential; there is no negotiation of namespace in AUTH\_SYS. Collisions can occur if multiple translation services are used. These and other issues are addressed in [I-D.williams-rpcsecgssv3] which describes a new version of RPCSEC\_GSS that includes a modernized replacement for AUTH\_SYS.

#### 4. Terminology

Identity: a way to refer to a user or group.

Principal: an entity that is authenticated by RPCSEC\_GSS (usually, but not always, a user; rarely, if ever, a group; sometimes a host).

Authorization context: the set of user and group IDs, privileges, labels, and other items relevant to authorization, corresponding to a subject (user or principal).

Domain-local ID: Most installations assign numeric, local identifiers to users and groups, using a namespace local to their domain. We call this a domain-local ID.

Local representation of identity: an item such as a POSIX user Identifier (UID) or group ID (GID), or a Windows Security Identifier (SID), or other such representation of a user or a group of users. These can be local to a single host.

Global representation of identity: a tuple consisting of a domain identifier (possibly the domain's name itself) and a domain-local user/group ID. We do not propose a standard global representation of identity, but the concept is useful. [NEEDSWORK: we refer to the global representation form in the RPCSEC\_GSS PAC]

Group: a security entity representing zero, one or more users and, possibly, other groups. Can appear as the subject of an ACE.

Domain: a set of users, groups and computers administered by a single entity, and identified by a DNS domain name.

POSIX IDs: small non-negative integer (typically  $0..2^{31}$  or  $0..2^{32}$ ) identifiers. The namespace of user IDs (UIDs) is distinct from the namespace of group IDs (GIDs).

Windows SIDs: an identifier of security entities, including users and groups. The form of a SID is: S-1-*<authority>*-*<RID\_0>*-*<RID\_1>*-*<RID\_n>* By convention some authority numbers denote security entities, identified by *RID\_n*, local to a domain identified by *RIDs 0..n-1*. Domain *RIDs* are usually generated randomly within a "forest" of domains.

Name resolution: mapping from {domain, name} to {domain, ID}, and vice-versa via lookups. Can be applied to local or remote domains.

ID mapping: {remote domain, remote domain-local ID} to {local representation of ID} mappings.

## 5. Local Representations of Global Identity

Multi-domain support starts at the fileserver where local ID forms need to be able to represent global identities from both local and remote domains. Local representation of global identity also applies to clients, particularly clients with local filesystems. There's a range of local solutions to this multi-domain ID representation problem. In this section we describe several approaches to representing a <name>@<local or remote domain> on disk. None of these approaches are REQUIRED; all are INFORMATIVE. However, conventions relating to the use of name services are NORMATIVE.

### 5.1. Storing Name@Domainname

One simple approach to the multiple domain problem is to store the name@domain on disk.

This approach imposes a severe constraint on the administrators of these domains: user and group names must never be reused, as there is also no realistic way to keep the name@domain on disk representation up to date with user, group or domain renames and removals. Consider a remote domain's NFSv4 servers where real-time employee join/leave data may be (typically is!) considered privileged, and remote servers may not be sufficiently privileged to access it [NEEDSWORK].

### 5.2. Storing Remote-ID@Domainname

Most installations assign numeric, local identifiers to users and groups, using a namespace local to their domain. We call this a domain-local ID. We can then construct a global identity form consisting of a domain name and a domain-local user/group ID.

The user or group renaming issue can be addressed by using a global identity form where domain-local IDs are required. I.e., use name resolution to lookup name@domain to find the ID local to the specified domain, and join the ID with the specified domain name. This function still has a renaming problem with respect to DNS domain renames, but that is a more realistically manageable problem than the user/group renaming problem.

#### 5.2.1. Storing Remote-ID@Domain-ID

The DNS domain renaming issue in the previous section can be addressed by assigning and publishing a unique ID to each DNS domain. I.e., use name resolution to lookup name@domain to find some ID local to the domain, lookup the domain ID and store <remote-ID,domain-ID>. The Windows Security Identifier (SID) is an example of this form.

### 5.3. ID Mapping

Many file systems exported by NFS only store 32-bit user and group IDs which limit their ability to utilize the on disk representation described in Section 5.2. Such systems may need to use an additional service to map between <remote user ID, local user IDs> and <remote group IDs, local group IDs>. We call this an "ID mapping service".

The use of an ID mapping service is not strictly necessary if the system operates on IDs large enough and in a known format such that <user/group ID, domain ID> can be parsed and encoded into a native ID. However, a large class of operating systems, those which are Unix or Unix-like operating systems, such as Solaris and Linux, use 32-bit UIDs and GIDs in many interfaces and therefore need mapping for backwards compatibility reasons.

One example of such a service is to keep a local or distributed database for dynamically assigning a local 32 bit ID to every <ID>@<domain-ID>, or one could do that only for remote domains, reserving only a small part of the local 32-bit ID namespace for remote domains' users/groups.

The remote ID and remote domain are then used as inputs to a name resolution service which contacts the remote domain name service to resolve the remote name.

### 5.4. Use of Name Services

File systems often use a distributed directory service for resolving domain local 32 bit IDs to users and groups. The Network Information Service [NIS] and the Lightweight Directory Access Protocol [RFC4511] are the two broadly deployed distributed directory service protocols used for this purpose. LDAP is used instead of NIS in environments where scalability, security and/or extensibility are desired. Section 8.2 expands the LDAP protocol to include mappings between principals and local user and group IDs.

Support for LDAP [RFC4511] with the RFC2307 schema [RFC2307] is REQUIRED.

#### 5.4.1. Using LDAP with RFC2307 Schema

Name resolution consists of searches with scope 'sub', a base DN corresponding to a domain (more on this below) and a filter of either of these forms, with matching on objectClass being optional:

- o (objectClass=posixAccount)(uid="<username>)
- o (objectClass=posixGroup)(cn="<groupname>)
- o (objectClass=posixAccount)(uidNumber="<UID>)
- o (objectClass=posixGroup)(gidNumber="<GID>)

The base DN SHOULD be formatted from a domain's DNS domainname as follows. First format the domainname as a string, then strip the trailing dot ('.'), if any, then replace all dots ('.') with ",DC=", then prepend "DC=" to the resulting string. For example, foo.bar.example becomes "DC=foo,DC=bar,DC=example". This convention is REQUIRED to be implemented. Domains with base DNs that do not match this convention MAY be used, but their domainname-to-base-DN mappings must be published where NFSv4 clients and servers may find them; we provide no conventions for publishing such mappings. We RECOMMEND that LDAP referrals be used to publish such mappings (e.g., the client does an LDAP search using "DC=foo,DC=example" as the base DN and gets a referral that includes the correct non-standard base DN for "foo.example").

Client and server implementations MUST support the use of LDAP referrals to find LDAP servers authoritative for any given base DN.

For example, to resolve a user named joe@foo.bar.example to a remote ID a system would do an LDAP search with DC=foo,DC=bar,DC=example as the base DN, scope='sub' and with a filter of (objectClass=posixAccount)(uid="<username>) looking for the uidNumber attribute.

#### 5.4.2. Using Active Directory LDAP

[NEEDSWORK: Add text describing searches by which to resolve name@domain to SIDs and vice versa.]

#### 5.4.3. Mapping Domain Names to Domain IDs

[NEEDSWORK: Add text on mapping domainnames to domain IDs. Note that Windows SID does this.]

We need to have a common way to map Domain Names to Domain IDs to enable mult-domain numeric IDs as described in Section 5.2.1. Currently we have two suggestions:

1. Just use SIDs, first asking MSFT to allocate a suitable authority for non-Windows domain SIDs.

2. - Store 96-bit numeric IDs which means we:
  - \* cast those to domain SIDs later
  - \* define a non-SID large ID format. This is a fine fallback should MSFT be unwilling to assign authority numbers for this purpose

## 6. Resolving Cross-Domain Authorization Information

In order to authorize client principal access to files, the NFS server must map the RPCSEC\_GSS client principal name or the underlying GSS-API security context to authorization information including a local ID, a set of local group IDs and other local user privileges meaningful to the file system being exported.

In the cross-domain case where a client principal is seeking access to files on a server in a different NFSv4 domain, the NFS server needs to obtain, in a secure manner, the authorization information from an authoritative source: e.g. a directory service in the client principals NFS domain.

There are several methods the cross-domain authoritative authorization information can be obtained:

1. A mechanism specific GSS-API authorization payload containing credential authorization data such as a "privilege attribute certificate" or PAC.
2. An NFS server local domain directory query when there is a security agreement between the two cross-domain directory services plus regular update data feeds so that the NFS server local domain directory service is authoritative for the client principal domain.
3. A direct query from the NFS server to the client principal authoritative directory service.

The authorization data information SHOULD be obtained via the GSS-API name attribute interface [I-D.ietf-kitten-gssapi-naming-exts] either via a single attribute for the credential authorization data or via discrete GSS-API name attributes corresponding to the authorization data elements described in Section 6.1. Details for those attributes are TBD.

Note that the retrieval of attribute values used by the GSS-API name attribute interface implementation could utilize any of the above mentioned methods of obtaining the authorization information.

If the named attribute interface is not available, or the attributes are not available, other means of determining a principal's authorization data SHOULD be used, such as those described in Section 6.2 and Section 6.3.

### 6.1. Credential Authorization Data

Here we list in more detail the authorization information that an NFSv4 server needs in order to make a file access decision. The credential authorization data contains the user and group IDs corresponding to the client principal, in global representation of identity form. Note that the server may need to map the global IDs to local IDs as described in Section 5.3.

The ability to map IDs to the name@domain form is required for the NFSv4 server to be able to respond to file authorization meta-data (ACL) set and retrieve requests.

Credential authorization data consists of:

- o UserID: This field contains the principal's global ID and/or local ID mapping thereof, and the name@domain form thereof.
- o PrimaryGroupID: This field contains the global ID and/or local ID mapping thereof for the principal's primary group, and the name@domain form thereof.
- o Groups: This field contains an array of group IDs for the groups that the user is a member of, in global ID form and/or local ID mappings thereof, as well as in name@domain forms.
- o Optional field(s) for privileges and authorizations granted to the principal, if any.
- o Optional field(s) for other privilege information such as the multi-level security label range/set of the principal.
- o Optional implementation-specific items relevant to authorization.

### 6.2. Using Credential Authorization Data

Authorization context information can sometimes be obtained from the credentials authenticating a principal; the GSS-API represents such information as attributes of the initiator principal name. For example: Kerberos 5 [RFC4120] has a method for conveying "authorization data", both client-asserted as well as KDC-authenticated authorization data, and one KDC implementation uses this feature to convey a "privilege attribute certificate" (PAC) listing the principal's user and group "security identifiers" (SIDs). Another example is the Kerberos General PAC [I-D.sorce-krbwg-general-pac] which lists the principal's user and group "universal user identifiers" (UUIs) as well as their string representations and DNS domains. PKIX [RFC5280] certificates allow

for extensions that could be used similarly.

#### 6.2.1. Using a PAC

The Windows operating system uses an authorization context called a "PAC" [PAC], which contains a user Security IDentifier (SID) and a list of group SIDs. Some Kerberos Key Distribution Centers (KDCs), notably Windows KDCs, issue Kerberos Tickets with PACs as Kerberos authorization data.

Some KDCs (will) issue Kerberos Tickets with the General PAC [I-D.sorce-krbwg-general-pac] as authorization data. The General PAC authorization data MUST be authenticated in the sense that its contents must come from an authenticated, trusted source, such as a directory server or the issuer of the client principal's credential.

When a client principal is authenticated using such a ticket, the server SHOULD extract the PAC from the client's ticket and map, if need be, the SIDs or UUIIDs in the PAC to local ID representations.

The authorization context information in a PAC can be considered a single, authenticated, discrete GSS-API name attribute, in which case the server must parse it into its individual elements.

#### 6.3. Using Directory Services

If suitable and sufficient authenticated GSS-API name attributes for the client principal are not available, then the server may try to map the client principal name to a local notion of user account, and then lookup that user account's authorization context information through authenticated name service lookups.

##### 6.3.1. Mapping Principal Names to Username

One simple method for Kerberos principal-to-username mapping is to first apply an algorithmic or table-based Kerberos client principal realm name to domain name mapping, then a client principal name to username mapping. Finally, the server can look up the user's authorization context using the user's domain's name services.

A trivial Kerberos realm-name-to-domainname mapping consists of using the realm name as the domainname. [NEEDSWORK: Add notes about internationalization.] Servers SHOULD implement this mapping as an option, possibly as a default option.

A trivial Kerberos principal name to username mapping for 1-component principal names is to use the principal name, unmodified, as the username. Servers SHOULD implement this mapping as an option,

possibly as a default option.

#### 6.3.2. Using a Name Service to Map Principal Names to User Accounts

Name services such as the Solaris gsscred database where the local identity is looked up in a database keyed by the GSS exported name token, or LDAP with the extension described in Section 8.2, can be used to map principal names to user accounts.

## 7. Multi Domain User Group Membership Determination

User group membership is easy to determine for users in a system's local domain: the operating system will already know how to do that. For users in remote domains, the authentication service may provide group membership information. If not, we need methods for group membership determination.

[ NEEDSWORK:

1. provide a[n obviously limited] mode of operation that depends only on RFC2307 and therefore does not support group nesting;
2. provide a more full-fledged mode of operation that depends RFC2307bis;
3. provide a more full-fledged mode of operation that depends AD's schema.]

User group membership in remote domain's groups, and/or for remote users, may be determined using LDAP with the RFC2307 schema. The RFC2307 schema does not define the values of the 'memberUid' attribute, but in practice it seems that those are expected to be the names of users as found in the 'uid' attribute of 'posixAccount' entries. There is work in progress to update RFC2307 [I-D.howard-rfc2307bis] to allow the use of DNs in the member attribute. Group nesting is also enabled.

Assuming the ability to store DNs in the member attribute, then, group membership determination can be done as follows. Given a user ID whose DN has been determined:

1. Search the user's domain for groups that the user is a member of in the user's home domain. Since we cannot assume a domain is authoritative for another domains group membership, filter out groups that are not local to the user's home domain.
2. Search the server's domain for groups that the user is a member of in the server's home domain.
3. Search the server's domain for groups that the user's group memberships determined in steps 1 and 2 are members of.
4. Continue searching for nested group memberships given the list of groups from steps 2 and 3 while being careful to detect or prevent loops.

However, the above procedure has the same user/group name renaming

issue. By skipping step 2 we can get down to just a group renaming issue. To fully address the rename issue we need either a new attribute or value type for memberUid, storing user/group IDs in some global ID representation.

[NEEDSWORK: Add text defining such a new attribute/value type.]

## 8. LDAP and Multi-Domain NFSv4

Each of the three methods of retrieving cross-domain authorization information described in section Section 6 can require a directory service query. Cross-domain queries are not only inefficient, but also implies knowledge of multiple systems where two different domains rely on completely different infrastructures for user information.

[NEEDSWORK: Describe why LDAP is REQUIRED]

### 8.1. LDAP Service Discovery

[NEEDSWORK: this is just an idea place holder.]

Two potential methods:

1. Use local methods (configuration, DNS SRV RR lookups, ...) to discover local domain's servers, then depend on LDAP referrals for discovering all other domains servers.
2. Use DNS SRV RRs much the way AD does

NICO: I would prefer that we have one REQUIRED to implement service discovery mechanism as follows:

- o specify local DS discovery using DNS SRV RR lookups much like AD does (i.e., have a label to indicate the purpose of the LDAP service, not just `_ldap`). Make this general enough that clients could discover DSes of remote domains on their own.
- o use LDAP referrals (and DNS resolution of the host parts of the referrals) to discover DSes of other domains.

The main benefit of this mechanism is that we can leave the work of finding topologically-close caches and/or authoritative servers to the clients' local DSes, thus avoiding the need to deal directly with topology in our spec.

### 8.2. LDAP Attribute for Principal Name to Local ID Translation

The `gSSPrincipal` objectclass allows for the use of the `gSSAuthName` attribute described in the following section.

```
objectclass ( 1.3.6.1.4.1.250.10.7
  NAME 'gSSPrincipal'
  DESC 'GSS Principal Name'
  SUP posixAccount
```

MAY ( gSSAuthName ) )

The gSSAuthName attribute provides a method for the translations between a posixAccount and (multiple) GSS-API security principals, used as described in Section 6.3.1.

The gSSAuthName attribute stores a user's GSS-API principal name in exported name token form (see [RFC2743]).

```
attributetype ( 1.3.6.1.4.1.250.10.6
NAME ( 'gSSAuthName' )
DESC 'GSS-API exported principal name
exported token'
EQUALITY bitStringMatch
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.6)
```

### 8.3. Name Resolution and LDAP Caching

As noted in Section 5.2, most local representations require a name service to perform ID to name translations. Implementations are REQUIRED to support the use of LDAP as a name service, relying on LDAP referrals for federated namespace construction.

Note that in a topographically widely separated set of domains the need to do name service lookups in various domains' name services may prove brittle, resulting in non-deterministic server behavior (e.g., sometimes a user can access share, sometimes they cannot; sometimes they appear to be members of some group, sometimes they do not). To avoid this, site administrators may wish to maintain local caches of remote domains' name services such that LDAP searches for users/groups in remote domains can be satisfied locally for some set of key attributes (such as naming and ID attributes), with referrals used in all other cases.

Domains in a federated namespace may provide each other with LDAP LDIF delta feeds by which to maintain cached LDAP contents up to date. The LDAP DN hierarchy described in Section 5.4.1 has the advantage of aiding delta feeds from remote domains where each domain's information is in its own DN subtree.

## 9. Security Considerations

Caching of remote domains' LDAP search results presents some security considerations. For example, some attributes' values may not be visible unless a user's credentials are used. Some attributes' values may not be intended to be visible to users, but to hosts. Caching servers MUST be capable of issuing referrals as needed for attributes whose values they may not read. Some domain federations will want to have their domains trust each others' caching servers.

More considerations to come

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Abstract

This document describes a set of NFS operations for creating, maintaining and searching filesystem objects independent of the traditional hierarchical namespace.

Requirements Language

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119 [RFC2119].

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## 1. Terminology

NFS: Used to refer to Network File System irrespective of the version.

NFSv3: Network File System Version 3

NFSv4: Network File System Version 4

NFSv4.1: Network File System Version 4.1

ACL: Access Control List

HTTP: Hyper Text Transfer Protocol

REST: Representational State Transfer

## 2. Introduction

The NFS protocol is presently capable of interacting with objects which can be represented by a pathname and a filehandle, residing in a hierarchical namespace exported by the NFS server. However, such a hierarchical namespace which tries to resemble the UNIX filesystem layout and interface imposes restrictions on the filesystem object locations and does not scale well in the case we need to store billions of files inside a flat directory structure.

The rapidly developing distributed web applications of today, such as those implementing the HTTP REST protocol, need to store billions of objects, which do not need any directory hierarchy and instead must have the capability to specify custom object attributes and quickly search for the objects based on these attributes. To facilitate this, an object needs to become independent of the filesystem directory hierarchy that has been mandated by the NFS server until now. In other words, the requirement is to have filesystem objects which can be created, queried for and destroyed without being associated with a pathname. These objects do not need to become visible under a standard NFS exported hierarchical pathname but need to be looked up based on tags or custom attributes. This RFC presents the operations that are required by the NFS protocol to implement such a feature of pathless filesystem objects.

Separation of the pathname from the filesystem object provides the implementation greater flexibility on where to store the object, which can lead to an optimal distribution of the filesystem objects based on application requirements. Such an filesystem object is looked up by the client based on the attributes of the object, rather

than it's location in a directory, and is accessed by it's NFS filehandle directly. This new object, though it does not have a pathname, can still optionally have a name, which MAY be implemented as an attribute for the object. The existing set of NFS attributes needs to be extended to support a model where lookup of filesystem objects can be done based on attributes.

With the introduction of NFSv4, the NFS protocol enforces statefulness for interacting with filesystem objects. There are many applications which require the stateful model of NFSv4. But there are also many web oriented object stores, which can be simultaneously accessed over other stateless protocols such as http, ftp etc. and hence are not very interested in statefulness. Rather, they would like to have the flexibility of using the stateless nature of NFSv3 along with some interesting features of NFSv4 such as ACLs, Named Attributes, Compound Operations etc. which do not depend on the statefulness of the NFS server for functionality. Stateless operations provide the benefit of better performance as functional and maintenance costs for the implementations are significantly less. The object stores which will potentially handle billions of objects and have no need for state maintenance can greatly benefit from the improved performance of a stateless NFS implementation.

In light of the above, anonymous states are RECOMMENDED to be used with this RFC, which means a stateid of all zeroes SHOULD be used for NFSv4 and NFSv4.1 READ, WRITE and SETATTR operations on pathless objects. At the same time, also keeping in mind the requirements of applications which need to maintain locks at the server, advisory locking SHOULD be supported. Delegations and shared locking support is OPTIONAL with the implementation of this RFC.

### 3. Protocol Overview

#### 3.1. Pathless Objects and Object Sets

To create an object independent of a pathname, the client sends a request to the server to create the object without specifying any name or pathname and the server returns the NFS filehandle for the object thus created. A new object type called NF4NOPATHOBJ is defined in this RFC, which SHOULD be used to create pathless objects. Since pathless objects cannot be looked up based on pathname, a new type of attribute, called Search Attribute is defined in this RFC, which SHOULD be used to lookup the pathless objects. The NFSv4.1 READ and WRITE operations SHOULD be used to perform I/O on pathless objects and attributes, including search attributes, can be set using SETATTR and retrieved using GETATTR operations. A pathless object SHOULD support the mandatory set of attributes defined in RFC 5661

for a filesystem object.

Along with creating objects which are independent of pathnames, it is REQUIRED to have a mechanism to classify together such objects, for accessibility and scoped access resolution. This RFC uses the term "Object Set" for representing such a collection of objects. An Object Set works as a container for pathless objects and MUST be defined and created before a pathless object is created. It is analogous to a directory, where the object is analogous to a file inside the directory. An Object Set contains objects and MAY OPTIONALLY also contain other Object Sets.

When the client has created an Object Set or has access to an existing Object Set within the server, it can create pathless objects that are contained in the Object Set. The pathless object, even though it is contained in a Set, can be physically located anywhere. It is not necessary to implement a pathless object as a file. It can be any physical entity, which has a unique identifier in the form of a NFS filehandle. So the filehandle serves as an unique identifier for the object and there is no requirement that it SHOULD represent a file. The server is REQUIRED to maintain the linkage between the object and it's Set and is free to distribute and store the objects in the best possible way to satisfy the needs of the application.

An Object Set is expected to have certain access primitives associated with it, which are used by the server to provide access control for the objects contained in the Set. The server can implement a policy based mechanism to grant specific clients or groups of clients access to an Object Set. Such an implementation can be analogous to the exports mechanism commonly used with the NFS exported directories. The NFS server MUST keep track of all the Object Sets it has. The server SHOULD make visible all the exported Object Sets to the clients, subject to access control policies at the server. This RFC does not pose any other requirements on the implementation of an access policy for an Object Set.

An Object Set MUST have a name, which MAY be implemented as an attribute of the Set. However, unlike the name of a pathless object, the name of an Object Set MUST be unique for the NFS server. When the client first creates an Object Set, it MUST specify a name for the Object Set. The server returns a filehandle for the Object Set to the client.

### 3.2. Object Root Filehandle

The NFS server supporting the Object Set and pathless object creation MUST also have a well known public filehandle, hereby named as "Object Root Filehandle", in short form objrootfh. This public

filehandle is required for the purpose of informing the client that the server implements support for this RFC. The client SHOULD send an operation named PUTOBJROOTFH to set the current filehandle to objrootfh. The server which implements this RFC, MUST set the current filehandle to objrootfh and return NFS4\_OK. This objrootfh filehandle SHOULD be different from the public filehandle that an NFSv4 server supports under the PUTROOTFH operation. The Object Root Filehandle serves as a master container for all the Object Sets. The client can send a query to the server to list all the Object Sets that are available to it for access under the Object Root Filehandle. Such a query can be specified as {PUTOBJROOTFH, READDIR}, where the requested attributes specified in the READDIR request would indicate if the server should reply with the Object Sets under the current filehandle.

### 3.3. Optional Features

Since the pathless objects MAY not be implemented as files, and this RFC RECOMMENDS stateless operation as much as possible, the following features are explicitly being made OPTIONAL:

1. Supporting the POSIX semantics for interaction with pathless objects.
2. Specifying a name to create a pathless object. Note that Object Sets MUST have unique names.
3. Support for either Exclusive Create or Soft and Hard links.
4. Support for non-regular filesystem objects such as device files.
5. Support for delegations and share locks

If links are implemented, it SHOULD link to the object based on the object name attribute, rather than a pathname. So it is a matter of having multiple values for the attribute name, which is already a feature for the search attributes.

### 3.4. Interaction with stateful NFS operations

The pathless objects are RECOMMENDED to be stateless. As such, the anonymous stateid of zero SHOULD be used for operations like READ, WRITE, SETATTR etc. However, if a server wants to implement stateful NFSv4.1 operations with pathless objects, it can do so given that it conforms to the specifications of NFSv4.1 RFC. So, existing NFSv4 READ, WRITE operations will work with pathless objects without any changes to the operation definitions as stated in NFSv4.1 RFC. The NFSv4.1 locking model is applicable to pathless objects, but only

advisory locking MUST be supported. But if a server decides to implement support for share locks and delegations, it MUST follow the NFSv4.1 RFC locking semantics.

#### 4. New file types

The pathless objects are not necessarily files or any other filesystem object that can be defined with the existing `nfs_ftype4` type as specified in RFC 5661. The same holds for Object Sets. So two new types are being introduced with this RFC, namely `NF4NOPATH` and `NF4OBJSET`. So the definition of `nfs_ftype4` is changed to include the new file types and is as follows:

```
enum nfs_ftype4 {
    NF4REG          = 0x1;
    NF4DIR          = 0x2;
    NF4BLK         = 0x3;
    NF4CHR         = 0x4;
    NF4LNK         = 0x5;
    NF4SOCK        = 0x6;
    NF4ATTRDIR     = 0x7;
    NF4NAMEDATTR   = 0x8;
    NF4NOPATHOBJ   = 0x9;
    NF4OBJSET      = 0x10;
}
```

#### 5. Search Attributes

##### 5.1. Search Attributes Definition

In a hierarchical filesystem, the NFS client can do LOOKUP operations based on pathname for a filesystem object but this will not work in the case of pathless objects. So with pathless objects, the server SHOULD support some kind of attributes which can be used to search for such objects. These attributes are hereby called "Search Attributes". These attributes have a name and a list of values. The values can be of type integer or string. Search attributes can be combined to form a query which looks up objects matching the attributes specified in the query, as per the query semantics.

Two new attributes are added to the existing set of RECOMMENDED attributes for NFSv4.1. One is a boolean attribute called `sattrsupport` and the other is an array of strings called `srchattrlist`. The `sattrsupport` denotes whether the server supports search attributes. The `srchattrlist` contains the search attributes.

The GETATTR and SETATTR operations can be used to retrieve and set the search attributes. The sattrsupport applies to the filesystem and the srchattrlist applies to an object in that filesystem.

The basic data types used in this RFC are same as the data types defined in RFC 5661 Section 3.2. Some new structured data types are added in this section to define the Search Attributes. One is a type specifier for the Search Attribute value i. whether it is a number or a string and is defined as "svaltype". The "sval" represents a single value for a Search Attribute, of type svaltype. The "svalist" is a set of such values for the Search Attribute. The Search Attribute itself is defined as "srchattr" and contains a name of type component4, the svaltype and svalist. A collection of Search Attributes is defined as srchattrlist.

Name	Id	Data Type	Acc
sattrsupport	75	bool	R
srchattrlist	76	srchattr<>	R W

```
bool sattrsupport; /* indicates search attributes are supported */

enum svaltype {
    SVAL_TYPE_NUM = 0; /* Search Attribute value is a number */
    SVAL_TYPE_STR = 1; /* Search Attribute value is a string */
};

/* single search attribute value */
union sval switch (svaltype type) {
    case SVAL_TYPE_NUM:
        int64_t svalnum;
    case SVAL_TYPE_STR:
        component4 svalstr;
    default:
        void;
};

typedef struct sval svalist<>; /* array of attribute values */

struct srchattr {
    component4 srchattrname; /* name of the search attribute */
    svaltype type; /* type of the search attribute */
    svalist srchvalist; /* list of values for this attr */
};

typedef struct srchattr srchattrlist<>;
```

## 5.2. Search Attributes usage

Since there is no pathname, we cannot use the NFSv4 LOOKUP operation to lookup a pathless object. Instead, the new search attributes are used to look up a pathless object. These are represented as name value pairs where the name is a string and the value is an array of numbers or strings. A search attribute can have multiple values for the same object. A search can be done for one or more of these values. For example, a pathless object can have the attribute name as "weather" and values can be "sunny", "cloudy", "rainy" etc. If there are no values specified for a search attribute, a search is made for the objects having the search attribute, with or without any values.

Access control for a search attribute is governed by the access control for the corresponding object. The permissions to read or write the object's attributes apply to search attributes as well.

To lookup pathless objects, the client sends a list of the search attributes. A new operation PUTSRCHATTR is added to lookup objects based on search attributes. The search attributes as well as the operations are applicable to both pathless objects and Object Sets. To retrieve or set search attributes, GETATTR and SETATTR are used.

The PUTSRCHATTR operation MUST be used in conjunction with the READDIR operation to make use of the features provided by the READDIR operation, namely, a reply cursor, requested set of object attributes and maximum count of bytes in the reply. The PUTSRCHATTR operation MUST be immediately followed by a READDIR operation in the same COMPOUND operation to this effect. The client MUST request the object filehandles in the bitmap for requested attributes in the READDIR request. The READDIR reply contains the filehandles of all the objects matching the search attributes specified in PUTSRCHATTR.

A special search attribute with srchattrname as "objname" of type SVAL\_TYPE\_STR MUST always be present for a pathless object and denotes the name that the object was created with. For Object Sets, this should have a unique value in the NFS server. For pathless objects it defaults to an empty string i.e. "".

## 5.3. Search Attributes Query

The Search Attributes can be queried using the semantics defined in this section. A simple query is based on the Search Attribute name and on whether the Search Attribute matches a set of Search Attribute values. The match can be based on whether the Search Attribute name has a value that equals the value specified in the query or the match can also be based on whether the Search Attribute has a value lesser

than or greater than the value in the query. The lesser than and greater than comparisons are more effective when the Search Attribute has a svaltype of a number. Such queries can be logically joined or chained together using logical primitives such as AND and OR. A NOT primitive is also present to provide a logical negation of the query, which will match those objects that do not match the Search Attribute values specified in the query. Each query has a priority assigned to it and queries with higher priority will execute earlier. For example, let's say that there are 3 queries, which are joined like this: query 1 AND query 2 OR query 3". Suppose query 2 and query 3 have a higher priority than query 1. So the server would execute this query like this : query 1 AND (query 2 OR query 3), where brackets indicate a logical grouping and execution of queries of the same priority.

Some new structured data types are added in this section to define a Search Attribute query. The type "srelation" determines what is the nature of the match being done for the Search Attribute and it's values i.e. whether a match is done for equals, lesser than or greater than. The type "srchqueryjointype" specifies how two queries can be logically chained together or if a query needs to be logically negated. A Search Attribute query is defined as a combination of:

1. A srchattrlist, as defined in the section 5.1 of this RFC
2. A srelation, which specifies how the match for the Search Attributes inside the srchattrlist and their corresponding values are done.
3. A srchqueryjointype called sqjtypenext which specified how the query should be chained with the next query. The last query in a chain of queries MUST have this set to SQUERY\_NONE.
4. A priority which determines an ordering of the queries. A priority of 0 SHOULD be considered as the highest priority, followed by 1 and so on.
5. A flag which tells if the query is a logical NOT. A value of 1 for this flag SHOULD be interpreted as a logical NOT.

```
enum srelation {
    SRELN_EQUALS = 0;
    SRELN_GREATER = 1;
    SRELN_LESSER = 2;
};

enum srchqueryjointype {
    SQUERY_NONE = 0;
    SQUERY_AND = 1;
    SQUERY_OR = 2;
};

struct srchquery {
    srchattrlist search_attrs;
    srelation search_relation;
    srchqueryjointype sqjtypenext;
    uint32_t priority;
    uint32_t flag;
};

typedef struct srchquery srchquerylist<>;
```

The flag in srchquery denotes whether the query is a NOT. A value of 1 for the flag means it's a NOT. For example, if a search attribute list i.e. srchattrlist has 2 search attributes (A and B), each with multiple values, and if the flag has a value of 1, it can be described as NOT ((srchattrnameA (search\_relation i.e. EQ, LT, GT) srchattrvalues) && (srchattrnameB (search\_relation i.e. EQ, LT, GT) srchattrvalues))

The priority in srchquery determines the precedence. For example, in the searchquery (( A == B) AND ( C == D)) OR ( F == G), we want A==B and C==D computed before F==G. So assign equal priorities to query 1 and query 2, i.e. A==B and C==D and then assign a lower priority to query 3 i.e. F==G. Similarly to effect the query ( A == B) AND ((C == D)) OR ( F == G), query 2 and query 3 are assigned a higher priority than query 1. Since each query has a priority number, we can group queries that need to be executed in the same priority bucket, the same priority number. If the precedence is expressed in the form of brackets, then the priority is directly proportional to the number of brackets enclosing a query.

NOT combined with Greater gives us Lesser than or equal to. Similarly NOT combined with Lesser than gives us Greater than or equal to. So combining NOT with the search\_relation gives the flexibility to specify these special relations in a query.

## 6. New Operations

### 6.1. Operation 1: PUTOBJROOTFH - Set Object Root Filehandle

#### SYNOPSIS

```
- -> (cfh)
```

#### ARGUMENT

```
void;
```

#### RESULT

```
struct PUTOBJROOTFHres {  
    /* CURRENT_FH: objrootfh */  
    nfsstat4      status;  
};
```

#### DESCRIPTION

Replaces the current filehandle with the filehandle that represents the root of all the Objects Sets that the server contains.

#### IMPLEMENTATION

This is the first operator in a NFS request to set the context for the following operations. A READDIR following a PUTOBJROOTFH SHOULD list all the Object Sets with respect to this filehandle. The READDIR operation SHOULD list only Object Sets and not individual pathless objects.

#### ERRORS

```
NFS4ERR_BADSESSION  
NFS4ERR_DELAY  
NFS4ERR_NOTSUPP  
NFS4ERR_RESOURCE  
NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT
```

### 6.2. Operation 2: PUTSRCHATTR: Search for an Object based on Search Attributes

#### SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh), srchquerylist, -> (cfh)
```

#### ARGUMENT

```
struct PUTSRCHATTRargs {  
    /* CURRENT_FH: Object Set filehandle */  
    srchquerylist    search_query;  
};
```

#### RESULT

```
struct PUTSRCHATTRres {  
    /* CURRENT_FH: Object Set filehandle */  
    nfsstat4        status;  
};
```

#### DESCRIPTION

The PUTSRCHATTR operation searches for objects matching the search attributes. The scope is the Object Set as specified in the current filehandle (cfh). Instead of returning the matching filehandles, it just returns a status and uses READDIR operation's reply to construct the proper reply. The READDIR reply is used to return a variable list of filehandles of all the objects that matches the search query. The READDIR reply contains the filehandles for the matching objects in the set of attributes for the object. The object name is an empty string by default for pathless objects. A PUTSRCHATTR in a Compound request MUST be followed by a READDIR. If the PUTSRCHATTR is not followed by a READDIR, then NFS4ERR\_OP\_ILLEGAL MUST be returned by the NFS server.

#### IMPLEMENTATION

The compound operation for implementing the lookup based on search attributes is like this:  
PUTFH (filehandle of object set), PUTSRCHATTR (search attributes), READDIR (cookie, verifier, dircount, maxcount, requested\_attrs). It is RECOMMENDED that dircount be set to a value for zero for this sequence of operations as clients are not supposed to implement "ls" based on search attribute lookup.

#### ERRORS

```
NFS4ERR_ACCESS  
NFS4ERR_ATTRNOTSUPP
```

NFS4ERR\_BADCHAR  
NFS4ERR\_BADNAME  
NFS4ERR\_BADSESSION  
NFS4ERR\_BADXDR  
NFS4ERR\_DELAY  
NFS4ERR\_INVALID  
NFS4ERR\_IO  
NFS4ERR\_NAMETOOLONG  
NFS4ERR\_NOENT  
NFS4ERR\_NOFILEHANDLE  
NFS4ERR\_NOTSUPP  
NFS4ERR\_REP\_TOO\_BIG  
NFS4ERR\_RESOURCE  
NFS4ERR\_SERVERFAULT  
NFS4ERR\_STALE  
NFS4ERR\_WRONG\_TYPE

## 7. Modifications to existing NFSv4.1 operations

### 7.1. CREATE: Modifications

Object Sets MUST be created with the CREATE call. Pathless objects are RECOMMENDED to be created with the CREATE call, though they can also be created with the OPEN call. For an Object Set, a unique objname is MANDATORY. For a pathless object, objname can be an empty string, namely, "". In case any other objname is supplied with the CREATE call for a pathless object, it MAY be allowed. The objname SHOULD become part of the search attributes for the pathless object or the Object Set.

### 7.2. OPEN: Modifications

OPEN with a empty objname SHOULD create a pathless object under the current filehandle. The current filehandle MUST be the filehandle for an Object Set.

### 7.3. LOOKUP: Modifications

Since pathless objects can have a name associated with them, LOOKUP of an objname under the current filehandle of an Object Set can return a filehandle which maps to the name. However, there can be multiple objects which map to the same name and in that case, it MAY not be correct to return the name of any one of them. So if an objname maps to a single object filehandle, the LOOKUP operation MAY return that filehandle. Otherwise, it SHOULD return NFS4ERR\_WRONG\_TYPE.

#### 7.4. REaddir: Modifications

REaddir MUST be used immediately following a PUTSRCHATTR to lookup pathless objects. If the pathless objects do not have unique names REaddir will return empty names. If a REaddir operation is used standalone with current filehandle being set to the Object Set filehandle, the client MUST request filehandles in the requested set of attributes and the server SHOULD return filehandles for all the pathless objects in the Object Set. The REaddir following a PUTSRCHATTR MUST be used only to return the filehandles and attributes for the objects matching the query in PUTSRCHATTR. Any other intended use of REaddir following a PUTSRCHATTR SHOULD NOT be implemented.

#### 8. Migration and Replication

The RFC 5661 specifies the attributes `fs_locations` and `fs_locations_info` that can be used for migration and replication. For details, please refer to sections 11.9 and 11.10 of RFC 5661. Pathless objects can use the same attributes for migration and replication with some minor modifications. The Object Sets which act as containers for pathless objects are similar to the root path of a filesystem within a server. Hence, for pathless objects, "rootpath" and "fs-root" in `fs_location4` SHOULD be Object Set names. Similarly the "fli\_rootpath" and "fli\_fs\_root" for `fs_locations_info4` SHOULD contain Object Set names.

#### 9. Acknowledgements

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#### 10. IANA Considerations

This memo includes no request to IANA.

#### 11. Security Considerations

All considerations from RFC 3530 Section 16 [RFC3530]

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Storage Control Extensions for NFS Version 4  
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Abstract

Developments in storage systems have made it important for applications to have control over the characteristics of the storage that will be used for their particular files. The development of pNFS has added to the usefulness of such control mechanisms as it has created the opportunity for the hierarchical organization of file names to be separated from the control of storage characteristics for individual files, including the assignment to storage locations to reflect the performance or other needs of those specific files. This document proposes extensions to NFS version 4 to allow storage requirements to be communicated to the NFS version 4 server.

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## 1. Storage Control Issues

Storage to which files may be assigned can differ in a number of ways, raising the issue of how to control the choice of storage for specific files. The range of such choices is not static but can be expected to increase as flash memory becomes an option whose use needs to be controlled, or various choices of types of local caching need to be made. Although all files may well be helped by such approaches, the degree to which they will be helped will vary with the type of file and the typical application reference pattern for it. In addition, the value of improved access will differ with quick access to certain files being of much greater value, thereby justifying the allocation of more expensive storage resources to such files.

The traditional way that user decisions regarding assignment of storage resources have been effected is by assigning specific file systems to specific disks or sets of disks. Files placed in that file system thereby get the storage characteristics assigned to that file system. Where file systems contain storage of various types, various heuristics are used to assign files or pieces thereof, to storage of various types, generally without any external input about application needs.

The creation of pNFS modifies this pattern in that data and metadata are separated. Where pNFS is used, assigning a file to a specific file system now controls only where the metadata is located. Different files may have their data assigned to different sorts of storage, potentially located on different servers. This gives rise to the need for a means by which the storage choice for a particular file may be made.

NFS version 4.1 contains a layouthint attribute but this does not really address the problem. The focus of the layouthint attribute is on the striping configuration, but there is a need to control storage characteristics other than this. This is the case even when there is only a single stripe (that is, no striping). Even though this is not "parallel NFS," using pNFS in this way to provide a separation of data and metadata, with the ability to choose locations for data based on its characteristics subject to later change in a user-transparent manner is very powerful, particularly if the storage location is subject to intelligent management.

Additionally, more sophisticated storage management arrangements make it desirable to have a way to specify details for storage handling, even when pNFS is not used. When a file system contains different sorts of storage, input regarding desired or necessary storage characteristics can be used to make storage assignment choices more

in line with application needs.

As a result, the ability to specify desired storage characteristics can provide benefits, both when pNFS is used and when it is not, although pNFS has the most immediate set of needs for means by which to control storage selection.

## 2. Storage Choice and API Definition

It needs to be noted that existing API's may not provide means by which some of the storage characteristics described herein may be communicated to NFSv4 in-kernel clients and from there, to NFSv4 servers. Nevertheless, definition of a means by which these storage characteristics may be communicated to the NFSv4 server is still useful for a number of reasons:

Embedded clients for particular applications may specify this information even without any API definition.

Client implementations may use various less-than-perfect ways of specifying storage characteristics, assigning storage characteristics based on file ownership or other nominally unrelated characteristics that that correlate well with customer intentions.

Note that if the absence of a standard kernel API were sufficient to stop this work, it also probably be the case that the absence of a means to communicate the information to remote servers might make the definition of that API not worth the effort. By defining some storage characteristics and a general means of communicating them and others (via an extension mechanism) we allow for either:

The later development of API's to specify these storage characteristics.

The development of API's to specify different sets of storage characteristics that can then be easily assimilated to this mechanism as extensions.

### 3. Modes of Storage Choice

There are a number of different ways in which storage choices may be indicated:

- o The specific file system location(s) might be specified.
- o Specific types of storage might be specified with selection of such choices as SSD, SATA, or fiber channel SAN drives being made by the client and effected by the MDS.
- o Desired characteristics of storage including speed (latency and/or throughput), amount of storage that will be needed, safety (raid-level). Available storage would be selected to meet the required characteristics and would be subject to active management as the environment changes.

These different modes of storage choice are all useful in different environments. Specification of a specific file system imposes the least need for a storage management infrastructure but it requires user/application knowledge.

The other modes imply a sequence of progressively greater infrastructure requirements to map specifications to specific storage systems and a correspondingly smaller need for user/application knowledge of the storage environment. However, such modes of operation are very different from existing storage management paradigms and the precise ways in which applications and storage might communicate are not fully understood.

## 4. Assuring Extensability

### 4.1. Requirements for Extensability

As the examples of different modes of storage choice suggest, there are potentially a large number of specific items that might be specified in order to effect storage choice. Further, in many cases, expected future developments in the area of storage can be expected to extend and otherwise modify the characteristics which might be specified.

The need for extensibility is important as one might expect many ongoing developments, including those in the areas of storage hardware, and file systems, to create corresponding needs to specify relevant storage characteristics.

For example, local caching, including writeback caching using flash, creates the opportunity for greatly improved performance, at the risk of greater complexity in dealing with network failures. This raises the issue of allowing the user to make the choice of whether this greater performance is worth the risks and difficulties.

Similarly, the development of distributed file systems raises many choices where performance will need to be balanced against various forms of safety issues, with specific choices reflecting the specific needs of applications dealing with the storage.

These situations and others that we may not be able to predict, require that any attribute scheme in this area allow the specification of multiple storage characteristics with the ability to easily extend the specification so that it incorporates new characteristics to govern storage selection. Further, the need for actual use testing before incorporation in an IETF standard, imposes new requirements as far as organizing specification of the characteristics.

Having "working code" to effect characteristic selection is not sufficient to demonstrate usefulness. The working code may be trivial while finding out whether this set of characteristics make sense for applications to use or requires extension or modification before assuming its final form is not trivial. This may require significant trial use among a large set of users running different applications, before the details are ready to be standardized.

These factors increase the need for flexibility, including non-private use of characteristics not yet standardized. Accommodating this need for flexibility has the potential for unduly interfering with interoperability and the design of this feature will need to

avoid that.

#### 4.2. XDR Encoding for Extensability

While each storage property could conceivably be made its own attribute, the burden that this would place on the IETF process would be immense. There would be necessary co-ordination (and almost certain confusion) as individual experimental properties needed temporary attribute numbers and then had to shift them to other more permanent numbers. Further, and even more of an issue, storage property definition would seem to require a minor version, which seems too heavyweight. This would slow down the process beyond what should be for something which was its own standard-track RFC.

In order to address these issues, individual properties will be treated as sub-attributes within a single storage\_ctl attribute. To simplify assignment of sub-attribute numbers, mainly in support of experimental use, multiple sub-attribute spaces will be supported, to allow independent development of features each involving multiple storage properties. Once such a feature is standardized, the definition of the specific sub-attribute space could simply be made the subject of a standards-track RFC, with no change to those using it.

```
typedef uin32_t  spacenum_sc;    /* Individual property space id. */
typedef uint32_t bitmap_sc<*>; /* Bit map for the presence or
                               absence of individual properties
                               using bit numbers assigned for
                               the space. Like bitmap4.          */
typedef opaque  proplist_sc<*>; /* Data associated with each of the
                               properties in the bitmap_sc.
                               Like attrlist4.                  */

struct section_sc {
    spacenum_sc  SpaceSection; /* Section number.          */
    bitmap_sc    WhichProperties; /* Bit map of properties present. */
    proplist_sc  PropertyData; /* Data for each of the properties
                               specified in this section.      */
};

typedef section_sc fattr4_storage_ctl<*>;
                               /* The attribute may have one or
                               more property sections.          */
```

This form of property encoding allows the property set to be extended without requiring a new minor version. Also, by allowing property

space numbers to be assigned, property sets can be developed independently, and converted to a standard state without undue interruption to those using the earlier form.

## 5. Storage Control

Storage, along with compute, memory, and network, is an integral part of an application's resources. Much like the other types of resources consumed by an application, storage needs can be described using a set of properties. These properties may serve to describe the characteristics of the storage, the intended usage both temporal and spatial, quality of service expectations, physical layout over available storage media, data access locations, geographical distribution, just to name a few. The collection of such properties together define the control an application ultimately wants to have on storage; conversely, they enable the storage system to more effectively and dynamically meet the application's needs as specifically expressed, rather than inferred, based on fallible heuristics. Henceforth, we will use the term control to refer to the property collection.

It is not difficult to conceive various storage properties. In fact, there are numerous of them, due to the diversity of applications and the corresponding workload characteristics, the ever increasing storage value-adds in the form of data services, and the fast changing business requirements. It is an impossible task to capture all of them here. Rather, the goal of this document is to define a framework in which new properties can be easily added and new semantics of the properties can be introduced as necessary without disruption. It is desired that they be capable of being used in more limited situations, refined as necessary.

### 5.1. Property Types

There may be numerous storage properties as mentioned above. We need, however, to distinguish at least two types, namely, informative properties and enforceable properties. There may very well be other systems or criteria when it comes to the classification of storage properties; and extensibility shall apply in this case just as it does to adding new storage properties. However, there is a need to explicitly capture the distinctions between informative and enforceable properties in the data model, due to the impact on the storage protocol semantics.

#### 5.1.1. Informative Properties

An informative property, as the name suggests, provides some descriptive information about the storage in question. Such information is furnished in a single direction from the application to the storage system with absolutely no "contractual" implications. The storage system may use the information captured in such a property for storage optimization. But it is not obligated to do so.

More importantly, the application is not offered any transparency as to how the storage system may utilize this information. As such, the information flow is strictly one-way without the prospect for any feedback. Examples of informative properties are the access pattern of the storage in use, the expected capacity need, and the estimated growth rate.

#### 5.1.2. Enforceable Properties

In contrast, an enforceable property may have embedded in it varying degrees of binding effect. By that, it means the application specifying the property has expectations that the storage system not only acts upon but also conveys the action status back in some way. Unlike the case of an informative property, the information flow in this case is truly bi-directional, with the backward direction for monitoring property status, including information on whether a property has been satisfied or is in the process of being satisfied. In that sense, an enforceable property has a resemblance to an agreement, where one might monitor the performance of the other party.

Applications seeking tighter control of the storage may resort to the enforceable properties. Examples of enforceable properties could include the type and speed of storage but could also include the availability, reliability, and average throughput and latency.

##### 5.1.2.1. Enforcement Level

To allow varying degrees of control, an enforcement level may be associated with an enforceable property. There are two levels of control possible, namely, advisory and mandatory. Regardless of the level, the storage system should strive to fulfill an enforceable property. The difference lies in the treatment of an inability to do so. With an advisory enforcement level, the storage system shall continue to carry out the operation even if the property could not be fulfilled; whereas with mandatory, the storage shall fail the operation without making any modification. In any case, the failure to fulfill an enforceable property can be communicated to the application.

##### 5.1.2.2. Compliance Status

While control may suffice to describe the ultimate storage requirements, i.e., the intended behavior once it has been fully implemented, it does not by itself capture the dynamic aspects of the implementation process. This is encompassed by the concept of "compliance" which indicates the extent to which requested storage properties have or have not been provided or whether they are still

in the process of being provided. Note that the word "compliance" as used here has no connection with this word as used to describe issues conformance with a set of legal requirements for record-keeping, among other matters.

Control implementation can be a fairly heavyweight process by nature due to the data intensity involved. This may be true whether it is during the initial provisioning of storage, or the subsequent change management, or the remediation of compliance violation. The data intensive nature of the control implementation process implies that the transition from non-compliance to compliance will not be instantaneous in the general case. In other words, the implementation process remains asynchronous relative to the operation that triggers it.

The asynchronous nature of the control implementation process may be captured by the compliance status. The compliance status may have three different values, namely, Current, Complying, and Failed. The value Current represents a fully compliant state. The value Complying refers to a transient state in which the transition to current is in progress.

The value Failed represents an indefinite state of non-compliance. In the last case, the storage system may have made the determination that it is unable to fulfill some or all of the storage properties given the physical resources available. The application will work without, but its performance may not be what is desired.

The compliance status describes the state of the control fulfillment as it pertains to each property. It applies to an enforceable property only. Its presence is not a syntactic requirement as defined by the XDR specification. Depending on the operational context in which the enforceable property is specified, specification of compliance status may be either invalid, required, or optional with the specification of more than one such status values possible in some cases.

#### 5.1.2.3. XDR Encoding for Enforceable Properties

Enforceable properties contain a word which is of type `enforce_sc` and allows the enforcement level and compliance status to be specified. To allow greatest flexibility, all enforcement statuses and compliance status values are specified as bit values, allowing sets of enforcement levels and compliance status, to be specified, as appropriate.

```
typedef uint32_t enforce_sc;

const enforce_sc ENFORCE_MANDATORY = 0x1;
const enforce_sc ENFORCE_ADVISORY = 0x2;
const enforce_sc ENFORCE_CURRENT = 0x10;
const enforce_sc ENFORCE_COMPLYING = 0x20;
const enforce_sc ENFORCE_FAILED = 0x40;
```

For most purposes, enforcement words should have a single enforcement level, either ENFORCE\_MANDATORY or ENFORCE\_ADVISORY. Any enforcement word containing both bits will result in NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_BADENF being returned. Specification of an enforcement word containing neither will generally result in NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_BADENF being returned. However, it may be specified, when doing a SETATTR that specifies a reserved empty parameter value to remove a property specification. Also, it may be specified when doing a VERIFY or NVERIFY to specify a property without a defined enforcement level.

When specifying a storage property as part of a OPEN, CREATE, or SETATTR, no enforcement level bits should be specified. If they are, the error NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_BADENF is returned. For values returned by the server in response to GETATTR, enforcement words, containing exactly one compliance status bit will be returned. When using storage properties as part of VERIFY or NVERIFY compliance words containing no compliance bits or any subset of the valid compliance status bits may be specified.

## 5.2. Base Property Specifications

The goal for initial inclusion in an NFS version 4 minor version is to define a small set of property specifications that are generally useful and do not require a large management infrastructure to implement. The following are the three property specifications that fit the description.

```
const spacenum_sc SCNUM_BASE = 1; /* Base property space id for
                                   all properties in this
                                   group. */

const uint32_t SCBASE_SIZE = 0; /* Informative property for
                                   size. */

const uint32_t SCBASE_DURATION = 1; /* Informative property for
                                   duration. */

const uint32_t SCBASE_DEVFAIL = 2; /* Enforceable property for
                                   a device failure limit. */

const uint32_t SCBASE_SYSFAIL = 3; /* Enforceable property for
                                   a system failure limit. */

const uint32_t SCBASE_FAIL_RPO = 4; /* Enforceable property for
                                   a recovery point objective
                                   in the event of failure. */

const uint32_t SCBASE_SFAIL_RTO = 5; /* Enforceable property for
                                   a recovery time objective
                                   in the event of system
                                   failure. */

const uint32_t SCBASE_DLOSS_RTO = 6; /* Enforceable property for
                                   a recovery time objective
                                   in the event of data loss. */

const uint32_t SCBASE_DISASTER_RTO = 7; /* Enforceable property for a
                                   recovery time objective in the
                                   event of disaster. */
```

#### 5.2.1. Storage Size

The storage size is an informative property that allows the specification of the expected amount of storage to be needed. It may be used by the server in seeing if appropriate space is available and in reserving space. It is specified as a 64-bit unsigned value giving a quantity of storage expressed in bytes.

```
typedef uint64_t propbase_size;
```

This value may be different from the expected file size. Areas not allocated, because of holes for example, are not included. This amount of storage may not be required immediately if the file starts small and grows. Any derating of specified values is purely a matter of server implementation choice and will typically reflect the ability to move data to respond to storage overcommitment.

A value of zero is invalid and would result in the error NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_BADPARAM when used in an OPEN or CREATE. When used in SETATTR, it causes deletion of a previous storage size specification.

### 5.2.2. Storage Use Duration

The storage use duration is an informative property that allows the specification of the amount of time that the storage is expected to be needed. It may be used in assigning files to storage so that space conflicts are reduced. It is specified as a 64-bit unsigned value giving a duration in milliseconds.

```
typedef uint64_t propbase_duration;
```

This allows times from 1 millisecond up to approximately 500 million years to be specified. A value of zero is invalid and would result in the error NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_BADPARAM when used in an OPEN or CREATE. When used in SETATTR, it causes deletion of a previous storage duration specification.

### 5.2.3. Storage Device Failure Limit

The storage device failure limit is an enforceable property that allows the specification of a number of disk drives (or other devices) that can fail simultaneously with no data loss and that incurs zero recovery time. It must be the case that any set of devices of the specified can fail without data loss and with zero recovery time.

Even though there is no recovery time, there may be a significant recovery period of modestly reduced performance while adaptation to the failure is done and until the completion of which, additional device failures will be considered simultaneous.

The limit is specified as a 32-bit unsigned value giving the minimum count of simultaneous failures that can result in data loss to clients accessing the file. Storage is assigned which either matches this specification or provides a greater value. When pNFS is involved the specification applies to storage for the MDS and each DS.

```
typedef uint32_t prop_dev_fail_lim;

struct propbase_device_failure_limit {
    enforce_sc          DflEnforce;
    prop_dev_fail_lim  DflLimit;
};
```

This allows values from zero to approximately 4 billion to be specified. A value of zero is valid and specifies that data loss is tolerable in the event of single device failure. (e.g. RAID-0)

#### 5.2.4. Storage System Failure Limit

The storage system failure limit is an enforceable property that allows the specification of the number of storage systems that must be able to fail simultaneously without complete data loss. Storage is assigned which either matches this specification or provides a greater value. When pNFS is involved the specification applies to storage for the MDS and DS's as a unit.

```
typedef uint32_t prop_sys_fail_lim;

struct propbase_system_failure_limit {
    enforce_sc      SflEnforce;
    prop_sys_fail_lim SflLimit;
};
```

This allows values from zero to approximately four billion to be specified. A value of zero is valid and specifies data loss in the event of a single storage system failure is tolerable.

#### 5.2.5. Storage System Failure RPO

The recovery point objective (RPO) is the age of files that must be recovered from backup storage for normal operations to resume if a computer, system, device, or network failure results in data loss. The RPO is expressed backward in time (that is, into the past) from the instant at which the failure occurs, and can be specified in seconds. It is an important consideration in disaster recovery planning.

```
typedef uint64_t prop_sys_fail_RPO;

struct propbase_system_failure_RPO {
    enforce_sc      SfrpoEnforce;
    prop_sys_fail_RPO SfrpoTime;
};
```

This allows values from zero seconds to a value far beyond the age of the universe to be specified. A value of zero is valid and indicates that a real-time backup that reflects changes immediately as made is required.

#### 5.2.6. Storage System Failure RTO Properties

Recovery time objective (RTO) properties specify is the maximum tolerable length of time that storage assigned may be unavailable in the event of various classes of failures. There are three associated properties, each of which specifies this value for a particular class

of failure:

The system failure RTO property, with the property id SCBASE\_SFALL\_RTO, defines the recovery time objective in the event of failures that do not involve data loss or data corruption.

The data loss RTO property, with the property id SCBASE\_DLOSS\_RTO, defines the recovery time objective in the event of failures that do not involve the occurrence of a disaster, defined as a major environmental event such as a hurricane, earthquake, or flood, etc.

The system failure RTO property, with the property id SCBASE\_DISASTER\_RTO, defines the recovery time objective in the event of any failure including disasters.

The actual RTO is a function of the extent to which the interruption disrupts normal operations and the provisions made to ameliorate this situation. The desired RTO is a function of the urgency to re-establish operations and the consequences of failure to promptly do so. It is an important consideration in recovery planning.

```
typedef uint64_t propbase_sys_fail_RTO;

struct propbase_system_failure_RTO {
    enforce_sc      SfrtoEnforce;
    prop_sys_fail_RTO SfrtoTime;
};
```

RTO values for all of these properties is specified as a 64-bit integer which specifies a number of microseconds. Although sub-second RTO values may be difficult, the specification allows small values which might be useful in the future. The maximum value is approximately five-hundred thousand years.

## 6. Uses of the Attribute storage\_ctl

There are four occasions in which the storage\_ctl attribute is referred to as part of an fattr4 when the storage\_ctl mask is present.

- o As an attribute specified when creating a file or similar object by means of an OPEN or CREATE operation, in order to specify the specific storage properties to control the locations on which the data is to be put and other associated properties.
- o As an attribute set in a SETATTR operation to change the requested location properties. Servers may or may not have the ability to change locations on request, but the operation structure will indicate whether the server has or doesn't have this ability when it is requested.
- o As an attribute read in a GETATTR or REaddir operation to determine the currently requested storage properties and the degree to which they are current being complied with.
- o As an attribute specified in VERIFY or NVERIFY to test for current location property compliance status.

In addition to the above, a fattr4\_storage\_ctl of the of the same structure as storage\_ctl attribute (although not within an fattr) also appears within the response data in the following situations.

For the OPEN, CREATE, and SETATTR operations, when the error returned is NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_FAIL. (See Use of storage\_ctl when creating a file and Use of storage\_ctl in SETATTR for details).

For the response to the FETCH\_SCNOTE operation, when there is a pending storage control note to be reported.

For most purposes, a fattr4\_storage\_ctl which appears in OPEN, CREATE, and SETATTR requests are handled the same and a fattr4\_storage\_ctl which appears in the responses for OPEN, CREATE, and SETATTR are handled similarly, while the VERIFY and NVERIFY requests form a third similarity group.

### 6.1. Use of storage\_ctl when creating a file

When the storage\_ctl attribute is specified when creating a file, it helps decide on the location selected for the file data. If all enforceable properties can be immediately satisfied, then the operation proceeds normally.

If an enforceable property specified as with the mandatory enforcement level cannot be satisfied then the operation fails with the error NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_FAIL. The response contains, for the case NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_FAIL, a fattr4\_storage\_ctl value which consists all such enforceable properties which could not be satisfied.

If there is a situation which is not as serious as the failure above, but still of note, then information relevant to that situation is stored as a pending storage control note, where it can be fetched (in the same COMPOUND) by the FETCH\_SCNOTE operation.

The following three classes of items are included in situations leading to a pending storage control note being created.

- o An enforceable property of the advisory enforcement level which could not be satisfied, i.e its compliance status is indicated as failed.
- o An enforceable property of the advisory enforcement level which could not be immediately satisfied, i.e. its compliance status is indicated as Complying.
- o An enforceable property of the mandatory enforcement level which could not be immediately satisfied, i.e. its compliance status is indicated as Complying.

## 6.2. Use of storage\_ctl in SETATTR

A value of the storage\_ctl attribute with a structure similar to the OPEN case is used to change properties for an existing file. Existing elements properties, not changed by the storage\_ctl attribute remain in effect.

An enforceable property type and the same enforcement level status is overridden by a corresponding one in the new attributes. To delete such an enforceable property element without setting a new one, an enforceable property with no parameter values is used. Similarly, an informative property will override an existing one of the same type and use of the that property specification with no parameters is used to delete an existing informative property specification without replacing it.

Failures and notifications are indicated via the error code NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_FAILED and creation of pending storage control notes, just as in the case of OPEN.

### 6.3. Use of storage\_ctl in GETATTR/REaddir

When the storage\_ctl attribute is requested as part of GETATTR or REaddir, the fattr4\_storage\_ctl returned within the file attributes reflects the current informative properties together with the enforceable properties and together with its current compliance status.

The order of the elements need not reflect that used when the attribute was first set. When enforceable properties specify a range of multiple possible values, the one returned in the attribute will reflect the value actually assigned.

### 6.4. Use of storage\_ctl in VERIFY/NVERIFY

The storage\_ctl attribute presented to VERIFY or NVERIFY is interpreted as a series of properties each of which results in a truth value. When the truth value for all properties presented is true, VERIFY succeeds and NVERIFY fails. Conversely when not all properties have that truth value, VERIFY fails and NVERIFY succeeds.

When informative properties are present they are compared to the value set at OPEN, CREATE, or the last SETATTR. If no such value had been previously set, the result is treated as non-matching.

Enforceable properties are classified according to three criteria:

- o Whether they have parameters that indicate specific values (With-P) or are the special values defined for that purpose for each parameter, which are treated as without parameters (Non-P) where the parameter values taken are those specified in the corresponding property within the file's attributes.
- o Whether they are, an enforcement level specified (With-Enf) or not (Non-Enf).
- o Whether they are together with one or more compliance level levels specified (With-Comp) or not (Non-Comp).

Given the above classifications, the following sets of characteristics for enforceable properties in the context of storage\_ctl for VERIFY, NVERIFY are treated as errors and should cause the return of the error NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_BAD.

- o Non-Comp/Non-Enf/Non-P
- o Non-Comp/Non-Enf/With-P

- o With-Comp/non-Enf/Non-P
- o With-Comp/With-Enf/With-P

Given the above classifications, the following sets of characteristics for enforceable properties in the context of storage\_ctl for VERIFY, NVERIFY are handled as discussed below.

Non-Comp/With-Enf/Non-P: is true iff there exists an enforceable property containing elements of the associated enforcement status as part of the storage\_ctl attribute of the file.

Non-Comp/With-Enf/With-P: is true iff the enforceable property specified is compatible with the corresponding enforceable property of the associated enforcement level, i.e. if it is possible to satisfy both at the same time, without reference to whether both or either actually is satisfied.

With-Comp/Non-Enf/With-P: is true iff the enforceable property (including a set of of property specifications of the same type) which appear in the storage\_ctl attribute passed to the op is consistent with the set of compliance levels (often a single level but sometimes two) in the specification. That is, the actual compliance level must be one of the ones that is specified.

With-CompB/With-Enf/Non-P: is true iff the enforceable property designated by this specification (i.e. that being of the same type of specification and the same enforcement level) is consistent with the set of compliance levels (often a single level but sometimes two) in this specification. That is, the actual compliance level must be one of the ones that is specified.

## 7. The FETCH\_SCNOTE Operation

### 7.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh) -> note_pres, note_fattr
```

### 7.2. ARGUMENT

```
/* CURRENT_FH: */  
void;
```

### 7.3. RESULT

```
enum SCFres_type {  
    SCFres_ABSENT = 0,  
    SCFres_PRESENT = 1  
};  
  
union SCFresok switch (SCFres_type note_pres) {  
    case FETCH_PRESENT:  
        fattr4_storage_ctl note_attr;  
  
    case FETCH_ABS:  
        void;  
};  
  
union FETCHres switch (nfsstat4 status) {  
    case NFS4_OK:  
        /* CURRENT_FH: opened file */  
        FETCH4resok      resok4;  
    default:  
        void;  
};
```

### 7.4. DESCRIPTION

The FETCH\_SCNOTE operation is used to fetch a pending storage control note for a specified file handle (the current file handle). Note that these notes are stored according to the current file handle when the operation which gave rise to them was executed. Thus it will be the directory on (most) OPENS, and the specific file in the event of SETATTR.

This operation uses the current filehandle value to identify the storage control note being sought.

The operation returns an indication of whether the note is present

and if it is a `fattr4_storage_ctl` value which consists all enforceable properties where there is a lack of adequate compliance to be noted. The use of the the enum `scnote_respval` rather than a boolean value allows later extension.

If the note is present, it ceases to be so once the operation is executed.

#### 7.5. IMPLEMENTATION

Storage control note items are maintained on a per-COMPOUND-request basis and cease to exist when a COMPOUND fails due to completion or an the occurrence of an error. This makes it desirable to place the `FETCH_SCNOTE` operation close to, generally immediately after the operation capable of generating the storage control note.

## 8. Attribute Extension

### 8.1. Experimental and Other Non-standardized Extensions

In order to support development of extensions to allow control of new file system support attributes, extensions may be defined, each with their own proper space id. The goal is to allow quick deployment of new features, including those that are vendor-specific at the time with the definitions of extensions being publicly available.

Each such extension set should be registered with IANA. The registration will include

- o A short name (a few words) by which the extension will be known.
- o The name or corporate identity of the owner of the extension.
- o Data for the first version of the namespace extension, as described below.

IANA will assign a space id by which the extension will be known.

Successive versions of spaceid properties should be registered by the owner of the extension. The registration should include:

- o The namespace name and number.
- o The namespace version number. The version number is in the form a series of small (< 256) integers. The length of the series will probably be restricted to something between four and six. The version numbers will not be checked for order but only that they are unique for a given extension.
- o A document in the form of an internet draft with information on the namespace elements paralleling this one. The document will contain definitions and property numbers with the space id for all of properties within the extension.

Successive version may add properties but may not delete them, clarifications to the semantics of existing properties may be made but substantive changes in their semantics should not be made.

Existing properties may not be defines as invalid or mandatory-to-not-implement but they may be defined as incompatible with some set of new properties.

The definitional document should be subject to expert review but the purpose of the review is to ensure that the document describes the

extension adequately. It should not be rejected simply because the expert would do things differently or believe the specified properties are useful.

## 8.2. Standardized Extensions

Storage properties may be extended via a standards-track document in a number of ways. Such an extension may be part of a new minor version, but may also be done independent of in a standards-track document other than for a new NFSv4 minor version. When the extension occurs in a new minor version the document should make clear whether the additional properties are recommended (as is normally the case) or mandatory.

The following forms of extension are all valid options:

Adding additional properties to existing standardized property set such as PROP\_BASE.

Creating a new property set its own property set id.

Converting a previous experimental property set to standards-track status based on the publication of the RFC [Need to clarify any possible transfer of ownership issues.]

## 8.3. The storage\_ext attribute

The storage\_ext attribute is a per-fs attribute which contains information on the storage\_ctl extensions supported by the server when used on the associated file system. Servers will often report the same value of the storage\_ext attribute for all file systems, but client should not assume that this is the case.

```
struct section_se {
    spacenum_sc   SpaceSction;    /* Section number. */
    bitmap_sc     WhichProperties; /* Supported properties. */
};

typedef section_se fattr4_storage_ext<#65533;>;
```

The storage\_ext attribute consists of section\_se arrays, each of which specify the supported properties for a specific space\_id. The section\_se arrays should be reported in ascending numeric order of spacenum\_sc values.

## 9. Summary

This chapter serves a reference guide to things discussed above. For a more discursive treatment, with less attention due syntax details, see above.

### 9.1. Errors

This proposal would involve adding the following new errors to the NFS version 4 minor version in which it is included.

**NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_BADPROP** Returned when the `storage_ctl` attribute contains properties with a space id unknown to the server, or with property bits whose displacement in the bitmap corresponds to property numbers not known to the server as being associated with the current space id.

This error is returnable by `OPEN`, `CREATE`, `SETATTR`, `VERIFY`, and `NVERIFY`.

**NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_BADPARG** Returned when the `storage_ctl` attribute contains parameters defined as not valid in connection with the current property. This includes situations in which multiple properties contain values that are defined as inconsistent (as opposed to not being satisfiable).

This error is returnable by `OPEN`, `CREATE`, `SETATTR`, `VERIFY`, and `NVERIFY`.

**NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_BADENF** Returned when the `storage_ctl` attribute contains an enforceable property whose `enforce_sc` is invalid, in that it contains multiple enforcement level bits, contains no enforcement level bits, in a context in which that is not allowed or contains a set of compliance specification bits that is not appropriate in the current context.

This error is returnable by `OPEN`, `CREATE`, `SETATTR`, `VERIFY`, and `NVERIFY`.

**NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_BADDATA** Returned when the `storage_ctl` contains a `section_sc` whose `PropertyData` array does not match the length of the properties specified in the associated `WhichProperties`.

This error is returnable by `OPEN`, `CREATE`, `SETATTR`, `VERIFY`, and `NVERIFY`.

NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_FAIL Returned when a required storage\_ctl element cannot be satisfied. This is as opposed to the case in which it is not being able to be satisfied immediately but is in the process of being satisfied.

This error is returnable by OPEN, CREATE, and SETATTR only.

## 9.2. Semantic constraints

This section lists the semantic constraints on property specifications. We will have situations in which the attribute will fully match specified XDR specification but the specification will not be in line with appropriate contextual constraints. This section will list those constraints, in order to complement the XDR definition above.

There are four categories of constraints that need to be dealt with:

- o Whether the properties have the associated parameters specified.
- o Whether the properties have an associated enforcement level specified.
- o Whether the properties have associated compliance level(s) specified.
- o Constraints that involve the validity of combinations of what are otherwise allowed situations with regard to the above.

Each property specifies a particular value which is invalid and is to be treated as indicating the absence of property parameters (zero values, zero-length arrays, etc.). Specification of the parameters associated with storage properties are generally required and so these special value result in NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_BADPARAM being returned. The only exceptions are SETATTR, for which a storage property without parameters serves to delete the corresponding storage property in the existing attribute, and VERIFY/NVERIFY where it is allowed under some circumstances, to be discussed below.

Specification of the enforcement level is generally required for enforceable properties. The only exception is VERIFY/NVERIFY where it is allowed under some circumstances, to be discussed below.

Specification of the compliance status for enforceable properties depends on the context in which the properties appears. For OPEN, CREATE, and SETATTR, specification of compliance status is not allowed. VERIFY/NVERIFY specification of multiple compliance status values is allowed, subject to the specific combination constraints

appropriate to VERIFY and NVERIFY as listed below. For all other contexts, whether in GETATTR, REaddir, the responses in the NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_FAIL case, or in the response to the FETCH\_SCNOTE operation, specification of compliance status is required but only a single compliance status must appear.

In addition to the constraints listed above, in the case of a storage\_ctl attribute within VERIFY/NVERIFY, the properties within the attribute must meet the additional constraints described in the section Use of storage\_ctl in VERIFY/NVERIFY

When sending responses to GETATTR, REaddir, OPEN, CREATE, and SETATTR, the server MUST obey these constraints. When receiving OPEN, SETATTR, VERIFY, and NVERIFY requests that contain the storage\_ctl attribute, the server MUST return the error NFS4ERR\_SCTL\_BADENF if the attribute does not follow the specified constraints and is otherwise valid (matching the XDR property definition).

These constraints apply to properties introduced by extensions to the storage\_ctl attribute unless explicitly overridden in the document defining the extension. Such a document may add other contextual constraints that apply to the properties defined by that extension.

## 10. Possible Future Work

This document describes a basic framework for storage control and a basic set of properties. It is a base for development of this feature and could have considerable additions before incorporation in NFSv4 an minor version. On the other hand, the feature is intended to be defined with sufficient flexibility that many of these additions to the feature might be done as subsequent extensions, after the basic feature is made part of an NFSv4 minor version.

The question of which additions are required for an initial version of the feature, which are best deferred to later and which proposed extensions don't really belong is a complex one and will be a major subject of the development of the feature.

The following list, illustrates some of the possible additions that have had some preliminary discussion. It is not intended to be exhaustive, and the examination of other additions not yet thought of is definitely part of the work to be done:

- Addition of other properties to those in this document, that make sense as a basic set of properties, both informative and enforceable, for an initial set to be part of an NFSv4 minor version.

- Mechanisms to allow a set of properties to be applied to a large set of files, including those that are directory-based (with inheritance a possible part of the mix), by bulk attribute change on a client-specified set of files, or by allowing the client to store some set of properties as a persistent object in file system, and allowing subsequent storage control attributes to reference that persistent object.

- Mechanisms to enable the client to determine possible choices (or ranges) for some properties within the context of a given server. This would be to simplify and streamline property negotiation.

- Mechanisms by which a server could advertise various possible sets of property choices to deal with environments where there only exists a small set of possible choices each effecting a particular choice for many properties, as opposed to a case where multiple independent property choices are possible.

## 11. Acknowledgments

Mike Eisler reviewed early drafts of this work and made important contributions in helping define the direction of the effort.

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Abstract

This document proposes a new operating to efficiently initialize files.

Status of this Memo

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## 1. Introduction

Enterprise applications (such as databases) have requirements that go beyond the traditional use cases for NFS. The requirements falls into two broad categories: (1) data integrity and (2) quality of service. This document proposes a set of operations for a future minor version of NFSv4 to support requirements of enterprise applications.

### 1.1. Requirements Language

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119 [RFC2119].

## 2. Operation XX: INITIALIZE - Initialize File

### 2.1. ARGUMENT

```
struct INITIALIZE4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: file */
    stateid4      ia_stateid;
    offset4       ia_offset;
    length4       ia_blocksize;
    length4       ia_blockcount;
    length4       ia_reloff_pattern;
    length4       ia_reloff_blocknum;
    opaque        ia_pattern<>;
};
```

### 2.2. RESULT

```
nfsstat4;
```

### 2.3. MOTIVATION

Most enterprise applications that use files almost always need to initialize such files to a known state. Even with existing files, after such a file grows, the application needs to initialize the expanded region the file. The most trivial initial state is initialize every byte to zero. The problem with initializing to zero is that it is often difficult to distinguish a byte-range of initialized to all zeroes from data corruption, since a pattern of zeroes is a probable pattern for corruption. Instead, some applications, such as database management systems, use pattern consisting of bytes or words of non-zero values. Ideally one would

like to efficiently initialize an entire file to a specified pattern without having to send WRITE requests for the entire file. The INITIALIZE operation is bandwidth conserving operation for initializing file state.

#### 2.4. DESCRIPTION

The INITIALIZE operation is used to initialize an open file to an iterated pattern. The pattern consists of a fixed string, and a block number. The pattern is defined by the arguments.

- o `ia_offset`: where to start the iterated pattern. This value is specified in bytes.
- o `ia_blocksize`: the size of each iteration of the pattern. Each iteration is called a block.
- o `ia_reloff_pattern`: the relative offset within a block where to write the specified pattern encoded in `ia_pattern`.
- o `ia_reloff_blocknum`: the relative offset within a block where to write a 64 bit block number. The block number is incremented once a block is written. The block number is always written in little endian order. If `ia_reloff_blocknum` is set to `NFS4_UINT64_MAX`, then this informs the server that no block number is to be written.
- o `ia_pattern`: a fixed string written to every block. If the length of `ia_pattern` is zero, then this informs the server that no string is to be written.

The field `ia_stateid` is the `stateid` corresponding to the current filehandle's share reservation, delegation, or byte range lock.

An example will illustrate how the client uses INITIALIZE. Suppose the arguments (except for `ia_stateid`) are: { 0, 500, 1000, 8, 0, "DeadBeef" }. Then starting with offset zero, the content of the file will have these contents.

```

offset value (decimal or ASCII)
0      0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0
8      'D' 'e' 'a' 'd' 'B' 'e' 'e' 'f'
16-499 zeroes

500    0  0  0  0  0  0  0  1
508    'D' 'e' 'a' 'd' 'B' 'e' 'e' 'f'
516-999 zeroes

...

499500 0  0  0  0  0  0  3  231
499508 'D' 'e' 'a' 'd' 'B' 'e' 'e' 'f'
499516-499999 zeroes

```

## 2.5. IMPLEMENTATION

When an NFS server receives this operation, instead of writing the iterated pattern over each block, it should de-allocate the data of affected range of the file and record the the values of `ia_offset`, `ia_blocksize`, `ia_blockcount`, `ia_reloff_pattern`, `ia_reloff_blocknum`, and `ia_pattern<>` in the file's system metadata. When a client sends a READ request, instead of returning zeroes, it should construct a response corresponding to the pattern specified in the arguments to INITIALIZE.

An application likely has a legacy pattern for initialized blocks which cannot be mapped to that specified for INITIALIZE. The application should modified to detect that the block corresponds to INITIALIZE's pattern. When the application sees such a block, it can overwrite the block with the legacy pattern. Note that will cause the block to be allocated on the NFS server.

When the length of `ia_pattern` is zero and the value of `ia_reloff_blocknum` is `NFS4_UINT64_MAX`, then the client is requesting that a hole be punched into the file.

3. Operation XX: `IO_ADVISE` - Advise server of client's intended I/O access pattern

## 3.1. ARGUMENT

```
enum io_advise_type {
    IO_ADVISE4_SEQUENTIAL_CACHE      = 0,
    IO_ADVISE4_SEQUENTIAL_DONTCACHE  = 1,
    IO_ADVISE4_RANDOM                 = 2,
    IO_ADVISE4_PREFETCH               = 3,
    IO_ADVISE4_PREFETCH_OPPORTUNISTIC = 4,
    IO_ADVISE4_INTENT_TO_WRITE        = 5,
    IO_ADVISE4_RECENTLY_USED          = 6
};

struct io_directions {
    stateid4      iod_stateid;
    offset4       iod_offset;
    bitmap4       iod_flags;
};

struct IO_ADVISE4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: file */
    io_directions ioaa_directions;
    length4       ioaa_count;
};
```

## 3.2. RESULT

```
struct IO_ADVISE4resok {
    bitmap4      ioar_flags;
};

union IO_ADVISE4res switch (nfsstat4 ioar_status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        IO_ADVISE4resok ioar_resok4;
    default:
        void;
};
```

## 3.3. MOTIVATION

The client is in a better position to deduce the intended I/O pattern than the server, especially if the application provides this information. With this information, the server can optimize I/O to the file.

### 3.4. DESCRIPTION

The `IO_ADVISE` operation is used advise the server as to how the holder of the `stateid` intends to access the file over the specified byte range (`iod_offset` through `iod_offset + ioaa_count - 1`).

- o `IO_ADVISE4_SEQUENTIAL_CACHE`: Sequential access to data expected. The server should leave data in its cache.
- o `IO_ADVISE4_SEQUENTIAL_DONTCACHE`: Sequential access to data expected. The server does not need to leave data in its cache.
- o `IO_ADVISE4_RANDOM`: Random access to data expected.
- o `IO_ADVISE4_PREFETCH`: `Stateid` holder expects to access the data soon; prefetch data in preparation.
- o `IO_ADVISE4_PREFETCH_OPPORTUNISTIC`: `Stateid` holder expects to access the data soon; prefetch if it can be done at a marginal cost.
- o `IO_ADVISE4_INTENT_TO_WRITE`: Byte range will be written soon so no point in caching data.
- o `IO_ADVISE4_RECENTLY_USED`: The client has recently accessed the byte range in its own cache. This informs the server that the data in the byte range remains important to the client. When the server reaches resource exhaustion, knowing which data is more important allows the server to make better choices about which data to, for example purge from a cache, or move to secondary storage. It also informs the server which delegations are more important, since if delegations are working correctly, once delegated to a client, a server might never receive another I/O request for the file.

The results indicate which advice the server intends to follow. The server **MUST NOT** return an error if it does not recognize or does not support the requested advice. The server **MAY** return different advice than what the client requested. If it does, then this might be due to one of several conditions, including, but not limited to: another client advising of a different I/O access pattern; a different I/O access pattern from another client that that the server has heuristically detected; or the server is not able to support the requested I/O access pattern, perhaps due to a temporary resource limitation (for example, a request for `IO_ADVISE4_SEQUENTIAL_CACHE` might not be supported because the server cannot afford to cache data, and/or cannot afford to queue read-a-head requests).

## 4. Operation XX: READ\_WITH\_ADVICE - READ with advice

## 4.1. ARGUMENT

```
enum io_advise_type {
    IO_ADVISE4_SEQUENTIAL_CACHE          = 0,
    IO_ADVISE4_SEQUENTIAL_DONTCACHE     = 1,
    IO_ADVISE4_RANDOM                    = 2,
    IO_ADVISE4_PREFETCH                  = 3,
    IO_ADVISE4_PREFETCH_OPPORTUNISTIC   = 4,
    IO_ADVISE4_INTENT_TO_WRITE          = 5,
    IO_ADVISE4_RECENTLY_USED            = 6
};

struct io_directions {
    stateid4      iod_stateid;
    offset4       iod_offset;

    bitmap4       iod_flags;
};

struct READ_WITH_ADVICE4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: file */
    io_directions rwa_directions;
    length4       rwa_count;
};
```

## 4.2. RESULT

```
const NFS4_TWO_GB          = 0x80000000;

typedef opaque twoGB_byte_array4[NFS4_INT32_MAX];

struct fourGB_buffer4 {
    twoGB_byte_array4[2];
}

struct large_buffer4 {
    fourGB_buffer4 lb_big_buffers<>;
    opaque         lb_small_buffer<>;
}

struct READ_WITH_ADVICE4resok {
    bool          rwar_eof;
    bitmap4       rwar_flags;
    large_buffer4 rwar_data;
};

union READ_WITH_ADVICE4res switch (nfsstat4 rwar_status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        READ_WITH_ADVICE4resok rwar_resok4;
    default:
        void;
};
```

## 4.3. MOTIVATION

Under some circumstances, the IO\_ADVICE operation is insufficient when the client is also performing a READ operation. Some advice needs to be communicated atomically with the READ operation and an IO\_ADVICE in the same COMPOUND operation as the READ operation would fail to provide the necessary advice. For example, if IO\_ADVICE proceeded READ, and the server was given advice to not cache the data requested by READ, the IO\_ADVICE would be too late, because the server might already have cached the data. If IO\_ADVICE preceded READ, in order to be effective, the advice would have to be communicated across two operations in the same COMPOUND. This would complicate the server implementation.

#### 4.4. DESCRIPTION

The `READ_WITH_ADVICE` operation is used read from a file and to advise the server as to how the reader of intends to access the file over the specified byte range (`iod_offset` through `iod_offset + rwa_count - 1`).

- o `IO_ADVICE4_SEQUENTIAL_CACHE`: Sequential access to data expected. The server should leave data in its cache.
- o `IO_ADVICE4_SEQUENTIAL_DONTCACHE`: Sequential access to data expected. The server does not need to leave data in its cache.
- o `IO_ADVICE4_RANDOM`: Random access to data expected.
- o `IO_ADVICE4_PREFETCH`: Not applicable.
- o `IO_ADVICE4_PREFETCH_OPPORTUNISTIC`: Not applicable.
- o `IO_ADVICE4_INTENT_TO_WRITE`: Byte range will be written soon so no point in caching data.
- o `IO_ADVICE4_RECENTLY_USED`: Explicit hint to keep data of byte range in cache.

The results indicate which advice the server intends to follow. The server **MUST NOT** return an error if it does not recognize or does not support the requested advice.

The intent is that `READ_WITH_ADVICE` is preferred over `READ`. In addition to providing I/O hints, `READ_WITH_ADVICE` uses 64 bit data lengths, which anticipates the expected improvements in average network speeds and network buffer capacities. Because the XDR standard does not support 64 bit array lengths, the `large_buffer4` data type is introduced to encode an array of zero or more buffers of fixed size of  $2^{32}$  bytes, followed by a variable length array of up to  $2^{32} - 1$  bytes

#### 5. Operation XX: `WRITE_WITH_ADVICE` - `WRITE` with advice

## 5.1. ARGUMENT

```
enum stable_how4 { /* from NFSv4.0 */
    UNSTABLE4      = 0,
    DATA_SYNC4    = 1,
    FILE_SYNC4     = 2,
    LAYOUT_SYNC4   = 3 /* new */
};

enum io_advise_type {
    IO_ADVISE4_SEQUENTIAL_CACHE      = 0,
    IO_ADVISE4_SEQUENTIAL_DONTCACHE  = 1,
    IO_ADVISE4_RANDOM                 = 2,
    IO_ADVISE4_PREFETCH               = 3,
    IO_ADVISE4_PREFETCH_OPPORTUNISTIC = 4,
    IO_ADVISE4_INTENT_TO_WRITE        = 5,
    IO_ADVISE4_RECENTLY_USED         = 6
};

struct io_directions {
    stateid4      iod_stateid;
    offset4      iod_offset;
    bitmap4      iod_flags;
};

struct WRITE_WITH_ADVICE4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: file */
    stable_how4    waa_stable;
    io_directions waa_directions;
    large_buffer4 waa_data<>;
};
```

## 5.2. RESULT

```
struct WRITE_WITH_ADVICE4resok {
    length4          wwar_count;
    stable_how4     wwar_committed;
    bitmap4         wwar_flags;
};

union WRITE_WITH_ADVICE4res switch (nfsstat4 wwar_status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        WRITE_WITH_ADVICE4resok  wwar_resok4;
    default:
        void;
};
```

## 5.3. MOTIVATION

Under some circumstances, the IO\_ADVICE operation is insufficient when the client is also performing a WRITE operation. Some advice needs to be communicated atomically with the WRITE operation and an IO\_ADVICE in the same COMPOUND operation as the WRITE operation would fail to provide the necessary advice. For example, if IO\_ADVICE proceeded WRITE and the server was given advice to not cache the data requested by WRITE the IO\_ADVICE would be too late, because the server might already have cached the data. If IO\_ADVICE preceded WRITE in order to be effective, the advice would have to be communicated across two operations in the same COMPOUND. This would complicate the server implementation.

This operation adds a new enumerated value for stable\_how4 called LAYOUT\_SYNC4 in order to reduce the need for LAYOUT\_COMMIT operations.

## 5.4. DESCRIPTION

The WRITE\_WITH\_ADVICE operation is used write to a file and to advise the server as to how the writer intends to access the file over the specified byte range (iod\_offset through iod\_offset + amount of data in wwa\_data - 1).

- o IO\_ADVICE4\_SEQUENTIAL\_CACHE: Sequential access to data expected. The server should leave data in its cache.

- o `IO_ADVISE4_SEQUENTIAL_DONTCACHE`: Sequential access to data expected. The server does not need to leave data in its cache.
- o `IO_ADVISE4_RANDOM`: Random access to data expected.
- o `IO_ADVISE4_PREFETCH`: Not applicable.
- o `IO_ADVISE4_PREFETCH_OPPORTUNISTIC`: Not applicable.
- o `IO_ADVISE4_INTENT_TO_WRITE`: Byte range will be over-written soon so no point in caching data.
- o `IO_ADVISE4_RECENTLY_USED`: Explicit hint to keep data of byte range in cache.

The results indicate which advice the server intends to follow. The server MUST NOT return an error if it does not recognize or does not support the requested advice.

The intent is that `WRITE_WITH_ADVICE` is preferred over `WRITE`. In addition to providing I/O hints, `WRITE_WITH_ADVICE` uses 64 bit data lengths, which anticipates the expected improvements in average network speeds and network buffer capacities. Because the XDR standard does not support 64 bit array lengths, the `large_buffer4` data type is introduced to encode an array of zero or more buffers of fixed size of  $2^{32}$  bytes, followed by a variable length array of up to  $2^{32} - 1$  bytes

If general, if the value of `waa_stable` is valid, then the value of `wwar_committed` in the reply MUST NOT be less than the value of `waa_stable`. The exception is if the `waa_stable` is `LAYOUT_SYNC4`. `LAYOUT_SYNC4` is an enumerated value that can be used by the client when the server is an pNFS data server, and the client has a layout that covers the byte range specified by `iod_offset` and the amount of data in `waa_data`. If the client sends a `WRITE_WITH_ADVICE` to a data server with `waa_stable` set to `LAYOUT_SYNC4`, then a successful reply MUST return value of `wwar_committed` equal to `LAYOUT_SYNC4` or `FILE_SYNC4`. Regardless what value `waa_stable` is, if the server is a pNFS data server, it MAY return a value of `wwar_committed` equal to `LAYOUT_SYNC4`. Whenever `wwar_committed` is `LAYOUT_SYNC4`, this indicates that range of the layout covered by `iod_offset` and `wwar_count` has been committed to the metadata server, and there is not need to send a `LAYOUT_COMMIT` for that range.

6. Operation XX: `SET_WORKFLOW_TAG` - Sets the workflow tag of a given session

## 6.1. ARGUMENT

```
struct SET_WORKFLOW_TAG 4args {  
    uint64_t swta_tag;  
};
```

## 6.2. RESULT

```
nfsstat4
```

## 6.3. MOTIVATION

Enterprise applications require guarantees of quality and/or priority of service. Providing end-to-end guarantees requires awareness at the file services level of the necessary quality and/or priority.

## 6.4. DESCRIPTION

Sets the workflow tag of a given session. All operations in progress before the server receives SET\_WORKFLOW\_TAG use the previous tag (if any). All operations received after the server receives SET\_WORKFLOW\_TAG use the new tag.

## 7. Operation XX: SESSION\_CTL - Adjust session parameters

## 7.1. ARGUMENT

```
struct channel_attrs4 { /* from NFSv4.1 */
    count4          ca_headerpadsize;
    count4          ca_maxrequestsize;
    count4          ca_maxresponsesize;
    count4          ca_maxresponsesize_cached;
    count4          ca_maxoperations;
    count4          ca_maxrequests;
    uint32_t        ca_rdma_ird<lt1>;
};

/* from NFSv4.1 */

const CREATE_SESSION4_FLAG_PERSIST          = 0x00000001;
const CREATE_SESSION4_FLAG_CONN_BACK_CHAN  = 0x00000002;
const CREATE_SESSION4_FLAG_CONN_RDMA      = 0x00000004;

struct session_ctl4 {
    uint32_t        sc_flags;
    channel_attrs4 sc_fore_chan_attrs;
    channel_attrs4 sc_back_chan_attrs;
};

typedef session_ctl SESSION_CTL4args;
```

## 7.2. RESULT

```
union SESSION_CTL4res switch (nfsstat4 scr_status) {
case NFS4_OK:
    session_ctl4  scr_resok4;
default:
    void;
};
```

## 7.3. MOTIVATION

The introduction of the session model in NFSv4.1 imposes an explicit limitation on the number of outstanding requests a client can make of an NFS server. In enterprise applications, it is possible each NFS request corresponds to a single application request. Thus, the size of the slot table can bound the number of outstanding application

requests. While there are workarounds (examples include (1) implement a mapping layer between application's request slot list and the client's slot table (2) create additional sessions in order to preserve a one-to-one mapping between application and client slots), these workarounds introduce complexity. The application's needs for more slots are dynamic. The NFSv4.1 model assumes a dynamic slot table, but the size of the slot table is driven by the server via the reply to the SEQUENCE operation and the CB\_RECALL\_SLOT operation. What is missing is a method for the client to request a larger slot table.

#### 7.4. DESCRIPTION

This operation allows the client to request changes to the session's parameters. There are three major fields in the arguments and results:

- o `sc_flags`. These flags correspond to the `csa_flags` and `csr_flags` argument and result of `CREATE_SESSION`. In the result, the value of a bit in `sc_flags` MUST be one of:
  - \* The corresponding bit in `sc_flags` of the arguments to `SESSION_CTL`.
  - \* The corresponding bit in `sc_flags` of the result of the previous `SESSION_CTL` that the server executed.
  - \* If the server has not executed a previous `SESSION_CTL`, then the corresponding bit in the `csr_flags` field of the reply the `CREATE_SESSION` operation that created the session.
- o `sc_fore_chan_attrs`. In the arguments of `SESSION_CTL`, the fields within `sc_fore_chan_attrs` correspond to the fields of the argument `csa_fore_chan_attrs` in the arguments of `CREATE_SESSION`. In the results of `SESSION_CTL`, the values fields within `sc_fore_chan_attrs` correspond to the fields of the result `csr_fore_chan_attrs` in the response to `CREATE_SESSION`. The values of the fields in the result `sc_fore_chan_attrs` are governed according to the same rules that govern the values of the fields of `csr_fore_chan_attrs`.
- o `sc_back_chan_attrs`. In the arguments of `SESSION_CTL`, the fields within `sc_back_chan_attrs` correspond to the fields of the argument `csa_back_chan_attrs` in the arguments of `CREATE_SESSION`. In the results of `SESSION_CTL`, the values fields within `sc_back_chan_attrs` correspond to the fields of the result `csr_back_chan_attrs` in the response to `CREATE_SESSION`. The values of the fields in the result `sc_back_chan_attrs` are governed

according to the same rules that govern the values of the fields of `csr_back_chan_attrs`.

The `SESSION_CTL` operation MUST be sent on a `COMPOUND` operation prefixed by a `SEQUENCE` operation with the `sa_slotid` argument set to zero. If `SESSION_CTL` requests a smaller slot table on the fore channel, and there are operations in progress on other slots of the fore channel, the server MUST do one of (1) return `NFS4ERR_FORE_CHAN_BUSY` (a new error); (2) allow `SESSION_CTL` to succeed, wait for the in progress operations to complete and reply to those operations before replying to `SESSION_CTL`; or (3) if all the in progress operations allow the one or both of the errors `NFS4ERR_DELAY` or `NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT`, allow `SESSION_CTL` to succeed, abort the in progress operations, reply with to those operations with either `NFS4ERR_DELAY` or `NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT`, and then reply to `SESSION_CTL`. Because a server is free to return `NFS4ERR_FORE_CHAN_BUSY`, it is strongly RECOMMENDED that when a client sends a `SESSION_CTL` operation that it have no other requests in progress.

If `SESSION_CTL` request a smaller slot table on the backchannel and there are operations in progress on other slots of the backchannel, the server MUST do one of (1) return `NFS4ERR_BACK_CHAN_BUSY`; (2) allow `SESSION_CTL` to succeed, and for wait replies to the in progress backchannel operations before replying to `SESSION_CTL`; or (3) if all the in progress operations allow the one or both of the errors `NFS4ERR_DELAY` or `NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT`, allow `SESSION_CTL` to succeed, abort the in progress operations, reply with to those operations with either `NFS4ERR_DELAY` or `NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT`, and then reply to `SESSION_CTL`. Before a client sends a `SESSION_CTL` operation, it SHOULD reply to all in progress backchannel requests of the same session as the `SESSION_CTL` operation.

## 8. Modification to Operation 42: `EXCHANGE_ID` - Instantiate Client ID

### 8.1. ARGUMENT

```
/* new */  
const EXCHGID4_FLAG_SUPP_FENCE_OPS = 0x00000004;
```

### 8.2. RESULT

Unchanged

### 8.3. MOTIVATION

Enterprise applications require guarantees that an operation has either aborted or completed. NFSv4.1 provides this guarantee as long as the session is alive: simply send a SEQUENCE operation on the same slot with a new sequence number, and the successful return of SEQUENCE indicates the previous operation has completed. However, if the session is lost, there is no way to know when any in progress operations have aborted or completed. In hindsight, the NFSv4.1 specification should have mandated that DESTROY\_SESSION abort/complete all outstanding operations.

### 8.4. DESCRIPTION

A client SHOULD request the EXCHGID4\_FLAG\_SUPP\_FENCE\_OPS capability when it sends an EXCHANGE\_ID operation. The server SHOULD set this capability in the EXCHANGE\_ID reply whether the client requests it or not. If the client ID is created with this capability then the following will occur:

- o The server will not reply to DESTROY\_SESSION until all operations in progress are completed or aborted.
- o The server will not reply to subsequent EXCHANGE\_ID invoked on the same Client Owner with a new verifier until all operations in progress on the Client ID's session are completed or aborted.
- o When DESTROY\_CLIENTID is invoked, if there are sessions (both idle and non-idle), opens, locks, delegations, layouts, and/or wants (Section 18.49) associated with the client ID are removed. Pending operations will be completed or aborted before the sessions, opens, locks, delegations, layouts, and/or wants are deleted.
- o The NFS server SHOULD support client ID trunking, and if it does and the EXCHGID4\_FLAG\_SUPP\_FENCE\_OPS capability is enabled, then a session ID created on one node of the storage cluster MUST be destroyable via DESTROY\_SESSION. In addition, DESTROY\_CLIENTID and an EXCHANGE\_ID with a new verifier affects all sessions regardless what node the sessions were created on.

## 9. Acknowledgements

Contributors to this document include: Sumanta Chatterjee, Steve Daniel, Mike Eisler, Jeff Kimmel, Akshay Shah, Margaret Susairaj, and Lynne Thieme. Reviewers of this document include: Dave Noveck.

## 10. IANA Considerations

The IO\_ADVISE4 flags are considered extendable. Values 32 through 63 are reserved for private use. All others are standards track.

## 11. Security Considerations

None.

## 12. References

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Storage De-Duplication Awareness and Sub-File Caching in NFS  
draft-eisler-nfsv4-pnfs-dedupe-01.txt

Abstract

This Internet-Draft describes a means to add awareness of de-duplication storage to NFS in order to save resources on NFS client and to reduce bandwidth for servicing READ and WRITE operations. The means presented leads to a second benefit of providing sub-file, block-granular caching.

Requirements Language

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119 [1].

Status of this Memo

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## 1. Introduction and Motivation

De-duplication is an emerging trend in the data storage. De-duplication means that two files that have common content derive that content from a common location on the same storage device. As a result, the total storage used is less than the total length of each file. De-duplication is also called folding.

Some file systems have the capability to avoid allocation of storage space when the value of each byte in a contiguous range is zero. Such a range of a file in such a file system is called a "hole", and a file with one or more holes is called a "sparse" file. Sparse files represent a trivial form of de-duplication since the value of every hole of X bytes in length is the common.

De-duplication is accomplished in several ways including,

- o Hierarchical de-duplication, where one file is derived from another, usually by one file starting of as copy of another, but zero, or nearly zero bytes of data are actually copied or moved. Instead, the two files share common blocks of data storage. An example is a snapshot, where a snapshot is made of a file system, such that the snapshot and active file system are equal at the time snapshot is taken, and share the same data storage, and thus are effectively copies that involve zero or near zero movement of data. As the source file system changes, the number of shared blocks of data storage reduces. A variation of this is a writable snapshot (aka clone) which is taken of a file system. In this variation as the source and cloned file systems each change, there are fewer shared blocks.
- o In-line de-duplication, where a storage access protocol initiator (e.g. an NFS client) creates content via write operations, and the target of the storage access protocol checks if the content being written is duplicated some where else on the target's storage. If so, the data is not written, but instead the logical content refers to the duplicate.
- o Background de-duplication, where a background task on the storage access protocol target scans for duplicate blocks, and frees all but one of the duplicates, mapping the pointers to the now free blocks to the remaining duplicate.

The use of de-duplicated storage does not require changes to the NFS protocol. However if the NFS client is caching content from an NFS server that provides access to de-duplicated files, without changes to the protocol, inefficient use of the resources like memory and network bandwidth will result. E.g., two files of length 1024 bytes

are exactly the same and are de-duplicated. The client reads, and caches the first file. A process on the client requests to read the second file. If the client were aware the second file was a duplicate of the first, it would not have read the second file, nor would it have to cache the second file. A classic use case is hypervisors, which switch between multiple guest operating systems on a single physical computer. If each of these guest operating systems were cloned from a single source, or if each guest was installed from the same operating system installation image, then much of the data of each guest might be highly de-duplicated. De-duplication awareness is consistent with the typical reasons for deploying a hypervisor: reducing costs by reducing utilization of memory, computer cycles, and network.

Sub-file caching is most useful when two conditions are met:

- o Multiple NFS clients need to access the same file.
- o At least one client is modifying the same file, provided this client updates a relatively small subset of the file.

Under these two conditions many situations can occur where whole file caching, as enabled by NFSv4 delegations, at best provides no benefit and at worst presents a drawback. Examples include:

- o One client frequently updates range X of a file, and another client frequently reads range Y of a file where X and Y do not overlap. With whole file delegations, each client enters a cycle of obtain a delegation, process a recall, perform a READ or WRITE to the server, with delegations providing no benefit, and thus resources being unnecessarily consumed on the client and server.
- o Two clients randomly read and write different ranges of the same file, and for a sufficiently large file, the probability that they need the to access overlapping ranges is very small. Again, with whole file delegations, the clients are locked in the same cycle as above.

This document describes a method by which NFSv4.1 clients can be aware of de-duplicated storage for optimizing READ requests. As proposed, optimization of READ requests not require a new minor version of NFSv4. Instead, it requires several new layout types, and thus uses the pNFS protocol [2]. The approach presented here for de-duplication awareness is easily extended to support sub-file caching at arbitrary granularities and for arbitrary sets of byte ranges of a file.

This document also describes a method by which NFSv4.x clients can

optimize WRITE requests. The method does require a minor version of NFS.

The XDR description is provided in this document in a way that makes it simple for the reader to extract into a ready to compile form. The reader can feed this document into the following shell script to produce the machine readable XDR description of the de-duplication layout:

```
#!/bin/sh
grep "^ *///" | sed 's?^ */// ??' | sed 's?^.*///??'
```

I.e. if the above script is stored in a file called "extract.sh", and this document is in a file called "spec.txt", then the reader can do:

```
sh extract.sh < spec.txt > dd.x
```

The effect of the script is to remove leading white space from each line of the specification, plus a sentinel sequence of "///".

## 2. Terminology

- o Source file, the file that contains the de-duplicated data.
- o Target file, the file the client has opened.
- o Block, the smallest unit of de-duplication or caching that the server is willing to support.
- o Slab, a byte range that refers to lists of other byte ranges that contain de-duplicated data (either in whole, or part). A slab can refer to a lists of smaller slabs, or lists of blocks.
- o Regular file: An object of file type NF4REG or NF4NAMEDATTR.

## 3. De-Duplication

### 3.1. Scope of De-Duplication

This document only de-duplicates the data contents of regular files. Everything else is considered metadata, and de-duplication of metadata is not considered in this document. [[Comment.1: Some metadata, including the contents of directories and symbolic links, as well as attributes (e.g. ACLs) are practical to de-duplicate, but not at the granularity of fixed sized blocks. A future revision of

this document might address de-duplication of metadata.]]

De-duplication awareness of regular file content in NFS has two aspects:

- o Optimizing READ requests. Here the goal is to avoid reading a pattern of data the client might already have cached.
- o Optimizing WRITE requests. Here the goal is to avoid writing a pattern of data the server might already have elsewhere, such that the pattern can be de-duplicated.

### 3.2. READ Optimization via De-Duplication and pNFS

Providing awareness of de-duplication to clients needs to be practical. If the data structures the server provides to the client are not compact, or require expensive processing and/or network bandwidth, then de-duplication awareness is not practical. The approach presented in this document uses leaf bitmaps to indicate whether a byte range of a file has been de-duplicated, and if so from what offset of what file. Since the granularity of de-duplication will vary by implementation, and by file, the NFS server has the option of providing indirect bitmaps that refer to bitmaps of finer grained byte ranges. An indirect bitmap can refer to another indirect bitmap or a leaf bitmap.

As noted in Section 1, de-duplication can be the result of hierarchical, inline, or background processes. This document presents an approach to providing awareness of de-duplication allows servers to optimize for any approach.

NFSv4.1 introduces pNFS, which allows clients to access data from multiple storage devices. This means that the NFS server is distributed across a set of nodes on a network. Such a server might be capable of de-duplication among the server's nodes. The de-duplication awareness feature will allow servers to present awareness of cross-node de-duplication to NFS clients.

#### 3.2.1. The Definition of De-Duplication Layouts

##### 3.2.1.1. Name of De-Duplication Striping Layout Type

There are multiple de-duplication layout types, in order to support multiple levels of indirection plus a leaf level. Since the maximum sized file in pNFS is  $2^{64} - 1$  bytes, a total of 63 levels of indirection are provided.

There are two sets of de-duplication layout types.

- o Within the first set, the name of the top-level de-duplication layout type is LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_TOP. The names of the remaining de-duplication layout types are in this set LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_LEVEL\_<xx>, where <xx> is a two digit decimal number that ranges between 02 and 64. The server MUST NOT return LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_LEVEL\_<xx> in the response to a GETATTR request for the fs\_layout\_type attribute.
- o Within the second set, the name of the top-level de-duplication layout type is LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_ROC\_TOP. The names of the remaining de-duplication layout types are in this set LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_ROC\_LEVEL\_<xx>, where <xx> is a two digit decimal number that ranges between 02 and 64. The server MUST NOT return LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_LEVEL\_<xx> in the response to a GETATTR request for the fs\_layout\_type attribute.

### 3.2.1.2. Value of De-Duplication Striping Layout Type

See Section 7.

### 3.2.1.3. Definition of the da\_addr\_body Field of the device\_addr4 Data Type

```

///  #include "nfs4_prot.h"
///
///  /* Encoded in the da_addr_body field. */
///
///  union dd_layout_addr switch (bool ddla_simple) {
///     case TRUE:
///         multipath_list4 ddla_simple_addr;
///     case FALSE:
///         layouttype4         ddla_complex_addr;
///     };

```

Figure 1

The device address is only used in leaf layouts, and even then, only when cross server-node de-duplication is in effect. There are two types of device addresses, a simple network address, with zero or more alternate addresses for multipathing, or a complex address which is the value of another layout type. The value of ddla\_complex\_addr.ddldp\_ltype MUST NOT be LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_TOP or any of LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_LEVEL\_<xx>.

## 3.2.1.4. Definition of the loh\_body Field of the layouthint4 Data Type

```

/// enum dd_layout_hint_care4 {
///
///     DD4_CARE_STRIPE_UNIT_SIZE      = 0x040,
///     DD4_CARE_STRIPE_UNIT_ALIGN    = 0x100
/// };
/// %
/// %/* Encoded in the loh_body field of type layouthint4: */
/// %
/// struct dd_layouthint4 {
///     uint32_t      ddlh_care;
///     length4      ddlh_stripe_unit_size;
///     length4      ddlh_stripe_unit_align;
/// };

```

Figure 2

The layout-type specific content for the LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_TOP layout type is composed of three fields. The first field, `ddlh_care`, is a set of flags indicating which values of the hint the client cares about. If `DD4_CARE_STRIPE_UNIT_SIZE` is set, then the client indicates in the second field, preferred unit of granularity for de-duplication in bytes. If `DD4_CARE_STRIPE_UNIT_ALIGN` is set, then the client indicates in the third field, the preferred minimum alignment de-duplicated units. For example, if the client specifies `ddlh_stripe_unit_size` as 1024, and `ddlh_stripe_unit_align` as 128, then if two files have in common content a string of bytes that is 1024 bytes long, and the string is at offset zero in the first file, and offset  $1024 + 128 = 1152$  in the second file, then the client would like the server to de-duplicate the common 1024 byte string. Note that the leaf layouts returned by the server are unable to indicate byte ranges that are not whole multiples of the unit size the server uses, so if the server accepts a layout hint with `ddlh_stripe_unit_align` less than `ddlh_stripe_unit_size`, it will report units that are equal to `ddlh_stripe_unit_align`. If the client specifies a value in `ddlh_stripe_unit_align` that is greater than the value of `ddlh_stripe_unit_size`, the server will ignore the `ddlh_stripe_unit_align` hint.

## 3.2.1.5. Definition of the loc\_body Field of the layout\_content4 Data Type

```

///  /*
///  /* How the bits of each element
///  /* * of ddll_blockmap are split up
///  /* */
///  const DDLL4_BLKMAP_MASK_ACTIVE      = 0x8000000000000000;
///
///  /* The remain bits follow DDLL4_BITS_* */
///  const DDLL4_BLKMAP_MASK_PARTITIONED = 0x7FFFFFFFFFFFFFFF;
///
///  /* These constants index into ddll_bmap_partition */
///  const DDLL4_BITS_FOR_DEVID_IDX      = 0;
///  const DDLL4_BITS_FOR_FH_IDX         = 1;
///  const DDLL4_BITS_FOR_BLK_NUM_IDX    = 2;
///
///  struct dd_layout_leaf4 {
///      length4      ddll_block_size;
///
///  /* /* ddll_blockmap_partition[0-2] MUST add up to 63 */
///
///      opaque      ddll_blockmap_partition[4];
///      verifier4   ddll_fhsuffix;
///      nfs_fh4     ddll_fhlist<>;
///      uint64_t    ddll_change_attr<>;
///      deviceid4   ddll_devlist<>;
///      uint64_t    ddll_blockmap<>;
///  };
///
///  struct dd_layout_indirect4 {
///      length4      ddli_slab_size;
///      layouttype4 ddli_next_level;
///      bitmap4      ddli_bitmap;
///  };
///
///  union dd_layout4_u switch (bool ddl_is_leaf) {
///      case TRUE:
///          dd_layout_leaf4      ddl_leaf;
///      case FALSE:
///          dd_layout_indirect4  ddl_indirect;
///  };
///  struct dd_layout4 {
///      offset4      ddl_firstoff;
///      offset4      ddl_lastoff;
///      dd_layout4_u ddl_u;
///  };

```

Figure 3

The first fields further bound the layout.

- o `ddl_firstoff`, the first offset in the file that the layout has de-duplication information for. The relationship between the `lo_offset` field of the layout4 data type that envelops the de-duplication layout and `ddl_firstoff` is that `ddl_firstoff` MUST be greater than or equal to `lo_offset`. If `ddl_firstoff` is not equal to `lo_offset`, then this means that the byte range from `lo_offset` through `ddl_firstoff - 1` inclusive either has not been de-duplicated or the server has decided to not provide the information. The value of the field `ddl_firstoff` MUST be a whole multiple of `ddli_slab_size` or `ddl_block_size`.
- o `ddl_lastoff`, the last offset in the file that the layout has de-duplication information for. Field `ddl_lastoff` MUST be greater than or equal to `ddl_firstoff`. Field `ddl_lastoff` MUST be less than or equal to `lo_offset + lo_length - 1`. If the difference between `ddl_lastoff` and `lo_offset + lo_length - 1` exceeds zero, then this means that byte range from offset `ddl_lastoff + 1` through `lo_offset + lo_length - 1` inclusive either has not been de-duplicated or the server has decided to not provide the information. The value of the `ddl_lastoff + 1` MUST be a whole multiple of `ddli_slab_size` or `ddl_block_size`, even if this means `ddl_lastoff` goes beyond the end of file.

The remainder of the de-duplication layout is either a leaf layout or an indirect layout.

An indirect layout consists of,

- o `ddli_slab_size` is the length, in bytes of each slab represented by the `ddli_bitmap` bitmap array.
- o `ddli_next_level` is the layout type the NFS client MUST use when using `LAYOUTGET` to get finer grained de-duplication information about the de-duplication of one or more slabs. This field SHOULD be one of `LAYOUT4_DEDUP_LEVEL_<xx>`. The use of `ddli_next_level` provides a hint to the server for what slab or block size to use on the next level of de-duplication.
- o `ddli_bitmap` is a bitmap. If bit `N` is set in `ddli_bitmap`, then this means that slab `N` has de-duplicated content. Each bit respects a byte range (a slab) of size `ddli_slab_size`, such that `ddl_firstoff` is the start of the first slab (slab zero, relative to `ddl_firstoff`). Slab `N` represents the byte range `ddl_firstoff + N * ddli_slab_size` to `ddl_firstoff + (N + 1) * ddli_slab_size - 1`,

inclusive. The field `ddli_bitmap` is an array of elements each consisting of a 32 bit unsigned integer. The number of elements in `ddli_bitmap` MUST be greater than or equal to  $((((ddl\_lastoff - ddl\_firstoff) + 1) / ddl\_slab\_size) / 32)$  rounded up to the next whole number.

A leaf layout consists of,

- o `ddll_block_size` is the length, in bytes of each slab represented by the `ddll_blockmap` array.
- o `ddll_blockmap_partition` is an array of bytes, the first three of which are inspected by the client. This array indicates how each element of `ddll_blockmap` is partitioned.
- o `ddll_fhlist` is an array of zero or more filehandles. Each element of `ddll_blockmap` can correspond to a filehandle in `ddll_fhlist`. Each filehandle represents a source file that has a de-duplicated block that it shares with the target file. If the array is of zero length, then the source file for all de-duplicated blocks is the target file.
- o `ddll_fhsuffix` MUST be appended to each filehandle in `ddll_fhlist` that the client uses for READ or LAYOUTGET operations. This allows the server to detect if the client is using an invalid layout.
- o `ddll_change_attr` is an array of zero or more change attributes. If the value of the layout type is between `LAYOUT4_DEDUP_TOP` and `LAYOUT4_DEDUP_LEVEL_64`, inclusive, then the length of `ddll_change_attr` MUST be greater than or equal to 1. If the value of the layout type is between `LAYOUT4_DEDUP_ROC_TOP` and `LAYOUT4_CACHE_LEVEL_64`, inclusive, then the length of `ddll_change_attr` MUST be zero.
- o If `ddll_change_attr` is not zero in length, then each element corresponds an element in `ddll_fhlist` with the same position in the array. I.e. `ddll_change_attr[i]` is the change attribute for the source file identified by `ddll_fhlist[i]`. If the array is of zero length, then for each byte range represented by an element of `ddl_blockmap` that has `DDLL4_BLKMAP_MASK_ACTIVE` set, the server promises to recall the layout of the byte range before the data on the range mapped from the source file (represented by an element of `ddl_fhlist`) is changed and before data on range of the target file changed. If the `ddll_fhlist` array is of zero length, and the `ddll_change_attr` array has one element, then `ddll_change_attr[0]` is the change attribute for the source file, which also happens to be the target file.

- o `ddll_devlist` is an array of zero or more device IDs, for the purpose of enabling cross-node de-duplication. Each element of `ddll_blockmap` can correspond to a device ID in `ddll_devlist`. Each device ID represents a device that has a source file with a de-duplicated block. The device ID is always for a `LAYOUT4_DEDUP_TOP` device, and can either map to a network address of an MDS, or a non-de-duplication layout type. The device ID will map to an MDS network address if the source file has not been striped. Otherwise, the device ID will be the layout type used for striping the file. By providing the layout type, the client does not have to send a `GETATTR` request on the source file for `fs_layout_type` attribute.
- o `ddll_blockmap` is an array of elements, each a 64 bit unsigned integer. Each element corresponds to a block of size `ddll_block_size`. E.g., the first element, `ddll_blockmap[0]` corresponds to the byte range, `ddl_firstoff` through `ddl_firstoff + ddll_block_size - 1` inclusive.
  - \* If `ddll_blockmap[i] & DDLL4_BLKMAP_MASK_ACTIVE` is non-zero, then this element corresponds to a block that is de-duplicated. Otherwise, the element does not correspond to a de-duplicated block, and the rest of the element is undefined.
  - \* The mask `ddll_blockmap[i] & DDLL4_BLKMAP_MASK_PARTITIONED` represents a bit field that is partitioned according to the content of `ddll_blockmap_partition`.

The element `ddll_blockmap_partition[DDLL4_BITS_FOR_DEVID_IDX]` indicates how many bits at the start of the bit field are for indexing into the `ddll_devlist` array. The number of elements in `ddll_devlist` MUST be less than or equal to  $2^{\text{ddll\_blockmap\_partition[DDLL4\_BITS\_FOR\_DEVID\_IDX]}}$ . If `ddll_blockmap_partition[DDLL4_BITS_FOR_DEVID_IDX]` is zero, then this means that the blocks of the source file come from the same MDS as the target file.

The element `ddll_blockmap_partition[DDLL4_BITS_FOR_FH_IDX]` indicates how many bits in the middle of the bit field are for indexing into the `ddll_fhlist` array. The number of elements in `ddll_fhlist` MUST be less than or equal to  $2^{\text{ddll\_blockmap\_partition[DDLL4\_BITS\_FOR\_FH\_IDX]}}$ . If `ddll_blockmap_partition[DDLL4_BITS_FOR_FH_IDX]` is zero, this means that the source file is the same as the target file in every element of `ddll_blockmap_partition`.

The element `ddll_blockmap_partition[DDLL4_BITS_FOR_BLK_NUM_IDX]` indicates how many bits at the end of the bit field correspond

to an absolute block number into the source file. The absolute offset is calculated by computing the product of `ddl_block_size` and the absolute block number. If `ddl_blockmap_partition[DDL4_BITS_FOR_BLK_NUM_IDX]` is zero, then this means the absolute block number of the source is the same as the absolute block number of the target.

The dynamic partitioning of the `ddl_blockmap` element allows for several optimizations. If the de-duplication in the range identified by the layout is due to hierarchical de-duplication, then there is no need for a block number, so `ddl_blockmap_partition[DDL4_BITS_FOR_BLK_NUM_IDX]` will be zero. If there is no cross node de-duplication in the range then `ddl_blockmap_partition[DDL4_BITS_FOR_DEVID_IDX]` will be zero. If all the de-duplication in the range is confined to the target file, i.e. the duplicate blocks were only in the target file and no other file, then `ddl_blockmap_partition[DDL4_BITS_FOR_FH_IDX]` will be zero.

An outline for an algorithm for processing `aread()` system call when the potential for de-duplicated data exists follows. This algorithm illustrates how the layout is interpreted. In this algorithm, we assume that the client always starts with a layout that spans the entire file.

```

/*
 * Returns a vector call "result" of elements
 * containing key / value pairs of ((offset,
 * length), (status, source_mds, source_fh,
 * source_offset)).
 */
dedupe_read(read_offset, read_length, target_fh,
            layout4 logr_layout[]) {

    if (number of elements in logr_layout == zero) {
        result[(read_offset, read_length)] =
            NO_DEDUP_AVAILABLE;

        return result;
    }

    for i from the end of logr_layout to start {
        if (logr_layout[i].lo_offset > read_offset) {
            continue;
        }
    }
}

```

```

/* check for range split across segments */
if (logr_layout[i].lo_length <
    read_length) {

    read_offset_A = read_offset;
    read_length_A = logr_layout[i].lo_length;
    read_offset_B = logr_layout[i+1].lo_offset;
    read_length_B = read_length -
        read_length_A;

    result[(read_offset_A, read_length_A)] =
        dedupe_read(read_offset_A, read_length_A,
            target_fh, logr_layout);

    result[(read_offset_B, read_length_B)] =
        dedupe_read(read_offset_B, read_length_B,
            target_fh, logr_layout);

    return result;
}

/*
 * If requested offset exceeds last offset of this layout
 * segment, then we have no de-dupe opportunity.
 */
if (read_offset > ddl_lastoff) {
    result[(read_offset, read_length)] =
        NO_DEDUP_AVAILABLE;
    return result;
}

last_offset = read_offset + read_length - 1;

if (last_offset > ddl_lastoff) {
    /* we cannot de-dupe the entire range */

    result[(ddl_lastoff + 1, last_offset -
        ddl_lastoff)] = NO_DEDUP_AVAILABLE;
    last_offset = ddl_lastoff;
}
if (read_offset < ddl_firstoff) {
    /* we cannot de-dupe the entire range */

    result[(read_offset, ddl_firstoff -
        read_offset)] = NO_DEDUP_AVAILABLE;
    read_offset = ddl_firstoff;
}

```

```

if (ddl_is_leaf == FALSE) {
/*
 * Indirect layout. See if the slabs that correspond
 * to the affected range are de-duplicated.
 */

let trunc_read_off = read_offset truncated
to next lowest multiple of
ddli_slab_size;

let round_last_off = (last_offset rounded
to next highest multiple of
ddli_slab_size) - 1;

first_bit = trunc_read_off /
ddli_slab_size;
last_bit =
(round_last_off + 1) / ddli_slab_size;

for (j = first_bit; j++; j <= last_bit) {
k = j / 32;
l = j mod 32;
bit = 1 << l;

if (j == first_bit) {
read_offset_A = read_offset;
read_length_A = trunc_read_off +
ddli_slab_size - read_offset;
} else {
read_offset_A = ddl_firstoff + (j *
ddli_slab_size);
read_length_A = ddli_slab_size;
}

if ((ddli_bitmap[k] & bit) == 1) {
next_layout_off = j * ddli_slab_size +
trunc_read_off;

next_layout_length = ddli_slab_size;
next_layout_type = ddli_next_level;

if (client does not have layout for
(next_layout_off,
next_layout_length, and
ddli_next_level) {

send a LAYOUTGET request;
}
}
}

```



```

    }

    mask_for_fh = mask_for_fh <<
        bits_for_blknum;

    bits_for_dev = ddll_blockmap_partition
        [DDL4_BITS_FOR_DEVID_IDX];

    mask_for_dev = 0;
    for (j = 0; j < bits_for_dev; j++) {
        mask_for_dev = (mask_for_dev << 1)
            | 1;
    }
    mask_for_dev = mask_for_dev <<
        (bits_for_blknum + mask_for_fh);

    if ((bits_for_blknum + bits_for_fh +
        bits_for_dev) != 63) {

        result[(read_offset, read_length)] =
            CORRUPT_LAYOUT;

        return result;
    }

    first_block = trunc_read_off /
        ddll_block_size;
    last_block = (round_last_off + 1) /
        ddll_block_size;
    slopoff = read_offset - trunc_read_off;
    sloplen = round_last_off - last_offset;

    read_offset_A = trunc_read_off;

    for (j = first_block; j++, read_offset_A +=
        ddll_block_size; j <= last_block) {

        if (ddll_blockmap[j] &
            DDL4_BLKMAP_MASK_ACTIVE) {

            blockmap = ddll_blockmap[j] &
                DDL4_BLKMAP_MASK_PARTITIONED;

            source_length = ddll_block_size;
            source_change = 0;
            source_dev = 0;

            if (mask_for_blknum == 0) {

```

```

    source_offset = ddl_firstoff + j *
        ddl_block_size;
} else {
    source_offset = (blockmap &
        mask_for_blknum) * ddl_block_size;
}

if (j == first_block) {
    source_offset += slopoff;
    read_offset_B = read_offset;
} else {
    read_offset_B = read_offset_A;
}

if (j == last_block) {
    source_length -= sloplen;
}

if (mask_for_fh == 0) {
    source_fh = target_fh;

    if (number of elements in
        ddl_change_attr > 0) {
        source_change = ddl_change_attr[0];
    }
} else {
    fhidx = (blockmap & mask_for_fh) >>
        bits_for_blknum;
    source_fh = ddl_fhlist[fhidx];
    if (number of elements in
        ddl_change_attr > 0) {
        source_change =
            ddl_change_attr[fhidx];
    }
}
read_source_fh = source_fh concatenated
    with ddl_fhsuffix;
source_ltype = 0;
source_mds = MDS of target_fh;
if (mask_for_dev != 0) {
    devidx = (blockmap & mask_for_dev) >>
        bits_for_blknum;
    source_dev = ddl_devlist[devidx];

    if (client does not have device
        address for source_dev) {
        send a GETDEVICEINFO
            (LAYOUT4_DEDUP_TOP, source_dev);
    }
}

```

```

    }

    if (ddla_simple from GETDEVICEINFO is
        TRUE) {
        let source_mds be an element of
            ddla_simple_addr;
    } else {
        source_ltype = ddldp_ltype;

        if (client does not have layout for
            (source_mds, source_fh,
             source_ltype, source_offset,
             source_length)) {

            send a LAYOUTGET request for
                (read_source_fh, source_ltype,
                 source_dev, source_offset,
                 source_length) to target_fh's
                MDS;

            cache LAYOUTGET result;
        }

        if (client still does not have
            layout for (source_mds, source_fh,
                       source_ltype, source_offset,
                       source_length)) {
            source_ltype = 0;
        } else {
            let source_layout = the layout
                from cache;
        }
    }
}

if (source_change == 0 || client has
    delegation on source_fh) {

    if ({source_fh, source_mds,
        source_offset, source_length} in
        cache) {

        result[(read_offset_B,
                source_length)] =

            (SATISFY_READ_FROM_CACHE,
             source_mds, source_fh,
             source_offset;)
    }
}

```

```
    } else {
      if (source_ltype == 0) {
        if (read_source_fh not yet open)
          {
            send an OPEN request for
              read_source_fh;
          }
        send a { PUTFH read_source_fh,
          READ source_offset,
          source_length } request to
            source_mds;

        enter results in cache;

      } else {
        read from read_source_fh,
          source_offset, source_length
          according to source_layout;

        enter results in cache;
      }
      result[(read_offset_B,
        source_length)] =
        (SATISFY_READ_FROM_CACHE,
        source_mds, source_fh,
        source_offset);
    }
  } else {
    if ({source_mds, source_fh,
      source_offset, source_length} in
      cache) {

      send a { PUTFH source_fh, GETATTR
        change } request to source_mds;

      if (change attribute ==
        source_change) {

        result[(read_offset_B,
          source_length)] =
          (SATISFY_READ_FROM_CACHE,
          source_mds, source_fh,
          source_offset);

      } else {
        result[(read_offset_B,
          source_length)] =

```

```

        (STALE_DEDUP_LAYOUT,
         source_mds, source_fh,
         source_offset);
    }
}
}
}
}
}
return result;
}
}

/* should never get here */
result[(read_offset, read_length)] =
    CORRUPT_LAYOUT;

return result;
}

```

Figure 4

There is a trade off between resources (space and time) used for providing de-duplication layouts (especially leaf layouts) and resources for redundant caching of de-duplicated storage. E.g., if a client has to descend through 52 levels of caching to avoid caching a single 4096 byte block twice, then it is not cost effective for the server to return a layout. On the other hand, if 99% of a file is using de-duplicated storage, then having a complete block map for a one gigabyte file, or at least the parts of the file the client wants to cache, is more effective than redundantly caching nearly one gigabyte of storage.

#### 3.2.1.6. Definition of the `lou_body` Field of the `layoutupdate4` Data Type

```

///  %/*
///  % * LAYOUT4_DEDUP_TOP or any of LAYOUT4_DEDUP_LEVEL_<xx>.
///  % * Encoded in the lou_body field of type layoutupdate4:
///  % *      Nothing. lou_body is a zero length array of octets.
///  % */
///  %

```

Figure 5

The `LAYOUT4_DEDUP_TOP` and `LAYOUT4_DEDUP_LEVEL_<xx>` layout types have no content for `lou_body` field of the `layoutupdate4` data type.

### 3.2.1.7. Storage Access Protocols

The LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_TOP and LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_LEVEL\_<xx> layout types use NFSv4.1 operations (and potentially, operations of higher minor versions of NFSv4, subject to the definition of a minor version of NFSv4) to access de-duplicated data. The de-duplication layout types do not affect access to storage devices. Thus a client might be able to obtain both a de-duplication layout type and a non-de-duplication layout type (e.g., LAYOUT4\_NFSV4\_1\_FILES, LAYOUT4\_OSD2\_OBJECTS, or LAYOUT4\_BLOCK\_VOLUME) on the same regular file.

### 3.2.1.8. Revocation of Layouts

Servers MAY revoke de-duplication layouts. A client using a de-duplication layout SHOULD check if the change attribute of the source file has changed. The use of the `ddl_fhsuffix` will prevent clients using revoked de-duplication layouts from using potentially stale information. Attempts to use filehandles with the value of `ddl_fhsuffix` appended, will result in NFS4ERR\_STALE.

### 3.2.1.9. Recovery

[[Comment.2: it is likely this section will follow that of the files layout type specified in the NFSv4.1 specification.]]

#### 3.2.1.9.1. Failure and Restart of Client

TBD

#### 3.2.1.9.2. Failure and Restart of Server

TBD

#### 3.2.1.9.3. Failure and Restart of Storage Device

TBD

### 3.2.2. Negotiation

A pNFS client sends a GETATTR request for the `fs_layout_type` attribute to see if the LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_TOP layout type is supported.

### 3.2.3. Operational Recommendation for Deployment

Deploy the de-duplication layouts when it a significant fraction of data storage is de-duplicated.

### 3.3. WRITE Optimization When De-Duplication Is Present

There are two goals

- o Avoid a WRITE of a pattern if client knows that server has stored that pattern somewhere else besides the combination of target file and byte range. the server
- o Even if the client does not know if the pattern is stored somewhere, provide a hint to the server that allows it to quickly determine if the pattern is present.

Accomplishing the former merely requires an operation that refers the server to a byte of a file it has stored. One way to is to leverage the proposed COPY operation [3]. Accomplishing the latter can be done by the client providing checksums of byte range it would like to avoid writing. However, to do so would require that client and server agree on checksum algorithm, which has the practical problem that clients and servers with pre-existing de-duplication features are likely to not agree on the checksum algorithm. For this reason, this version of the document does not pursue the second goal.

One caveat using COPY to achieve the first goal (avoiding a WRITE when the client knows the server has stored the pattern elsewhere) is that there is a window between the time the client has cached a byte range of the source file and the time the server receives the COPY request. The use of a de-duplication layout that guarantees a recall before the relevant byte range of the source file is changed. Note that this guarantee is only present if `ddl_change_attr` is of zero length. The client requires a way to force the server to return such de-duplication layouts. When the client requests the top level de-duplication layout with a type equal to `LAYOUT4_DEDUP_TOP | LAYOUT4_DEDUP_RECALL_ON_CHANGE`. The value of `LAYOUT4_DEDUP_RECALL_ON_CHANGE` is mask with one bit set:

```
/// const LAYOUT4_DEDUP_RECALL_ON_CHANGE = 0x40;
```

Figure 6

## 4. Sub-File Caching

Sub-file caching is built using the concepts and data structures defined in Section 3.2, which introduces a set of layout types that allow customers to optimize READ operations when the NFS client and server support de-duplication. Sub-file caching provides a subset of the functionality defined by the `LAYOUT4_DEDUP_ROC_TOP` layout type (and layout types `LAYOUT4_DEDUP_ROC_LEVEL_02` through

LAYOUT4\_DEDUP4\_ROC\_LEVEL\_64 inclusive). The primary similarity is that a sub-file cache leaf layout provides a guarantee that if a block is mapped in the bitmap, then the server will recall a layout covering that block before allowing the block to be modified. The primary difference is that sub-file cache leaf layout does not have de-duplication references.

#### 4.1. Value of the Sub-File Caching Layout Type

See Section 7.

#### 4.2. Sub-File Caching Indirect Layouts

Indirect layouts for sub-file caching have the same format and data types as indirect layouts for de-duplication.

#### 4.3. Sub-File Caching Leaf Layouts

Leaf layouts for sub-file caching have the same format and data types as indirect layouts for de-duplication. However, there are the following restrictions:

- o The value of `ddl_blockmap_partition[DDL4_BITS_FOR_DEVID_IDX]` MUST be zero.
- o The value of `ddl_blockmap_partition[DDL4_BITS_FOR_FH_IDX]` MUST be zero.
- o The value of `ddl_blockmap_partition[DDL4_BITS_FOR_BLK_NUM_IDX]` MUST be 63.
- o The length of `ddl_fhlist` MUST be zero.
- o The length of `ddl_change_attr` MUST be zero.
- o The length of `ddl_devlist` MUST be zero.

The effect of the length of `ddl_change_attr` being of zero length is that server will recall the layout of a block before allowing that block to be modified. Except for the restriction that `ddl_change_attr` is of zero length, the effect of the above restrictions is to disable de-duplication when using the sub-file caching layout types. If client wants both sub-file caching and de-duplication awareness, it can request the `LAYOUT4_DEDUP_ROC_TOP` layout type.

Note that the client can safely cache a block of file only if block's corresponding element in the `ddl_blockmap` array has the

DDL4\_BLKMAP\_MASK\_ACTIVE bit set. The rest of the bits of the element of `ddl_blockmap` MUST be equal to the array index of the element.

## 5. Acknowledgements

Thanks to Pranoop Erasani, Arthur Lent, and Dave Noveck for validating the strategy described in this document.

## 6. Security Considerations

If an ACCESS operation by the principal on the source file would fail, then the server has take care when processing requests for de-duplication layouts of the target file. If the server is unable to perform access control at the granularity of the a byte-range, then the server MUST NOT allow the principal to read the source file. A related concern is that if the server can provide per-byte-range access, then the server will need to allow an OPEN operation of the source file by the principal. The server will need to reject READ operations for the non-de-duplicated data. The reader should adjust the algorithm in Figure 4 accordingly.

## 7. IANA Considerations

This specification requires 196 additions to the Layout Types registry described in Section 22.4 of [2]. Each added entry has five fields. The first entry is:

1. Name of layout type: LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_TOP.
2. Value of layout type: TBD1. [[Comment.3: Note to IANA. Assign LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_TOP a value that is a whole multiple of 64.]]
3. Standards Track RFC that describes this layout: RFCTBD65, which is the RFC of this document.
4. How the RFC Introduces the specification: L.
5. Minor versions of NFSv4 that can use the layout type: 1.

The second through 64th additions to the Layout Types registry each have the following form, where <xx> is a decimal number between 02 and 64, inclusive:

1. Name of layout type: LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_LEVEL\_<xx>.
2. Value of layout type: The result of the expression: <xx> - 1 + LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_TOP.
3. Standards Track RFC that describes this layout: RFCTBD65, which is the RFC of this document.
4. How the RFC Introduces the specification: L.
5. Minor versions of NFSv4 that can use the layout type: 1.

The 65th entry is:

1. Name of layout type: LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_ROC\_TOP
2. Value of layout type: The value assigned to LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_TOP logically Ored with LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_RECALL\_ON\_CHANGE.
3. Standards Track RFC that describes this layout: RFCTBD65, which is the RFC of this document.
4. How the RFC Introduces the specification: L.
5. Minor versions of NFSv4 that can use the layout type: 1.

The 66th through 128th additions to the Layout Types registry each have the following form, where <xx> is a decimal number between 2 and 64, inclusive:

1. Name of layout type: LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_ROC\_LEVEL\_<xx>.
2. Value of layout type: The result of the expression: <xx> - 1 + LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_ROC\_TOP.
3. Standards Track RFC that describes this layout: RFCTBD65, which is the RFC of this document.
4. How the RFC Introduces the specification: L.
5. Minor versions of NFSv4 that can use the layout type: 1.

The 129th entry is:

1. Name of layout type: LAYOUT4\_CACHE\_TOP
2. Value of layout type: The value assigned to LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_TOP + 2 \* LAYOUT4\_DEDUP\_RECALL\_ON\_CHANGE.

3. Standards Track RFC that describes this layout: RFCTBD65, which is the RFC of this document.
4. How the RFC Introduces the specification: L.
5. Minor versions of NFSv4 that can use the layout type: 1.

The 130th through 192nd additions to the Layout Types registry each have the following form, where <xx> is a decimal number between 2 and 64, inclusive:

1. Name of layout type: LAYOUT4\_CACHE\_LEVEL\_<xx>.
2. Value of layout type: The result of the expression: <xx> - 1 + LAYOUT4\_CACHE\_TOP.
3. Standards Track RFC that describes this layout: RFCTBD65, which is the RFC of this document.
4. How the RFC Introduces the specification: L.
5. Minor versions of NFSv4 that can use the layout type: 1.

#### 8. Normative References

- [1] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", RFC 2119, March 1997.
- [2] Shepler, S., Eisler, M., and D. Noveck, "NFS Version 4 Minor Version 1", RFC RFC5661, Jan 2010.
- [3] Lentini, J., Eisler, M., and D. Kenchamma, "NFS Version 4 Minor Version 1", draft-lentini-nfsv4-server-side-copy-05.txt (work in progress), Jul 2010.

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Metadata Striping for pNFS  
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Abstract

This Internet-Draft describes a means to add metadata striping to pNFS.

Requirements Language

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119 [1].

Status of this Memo

This Internet-Draft is submitted in full conformance with the provisions of BCP 78 and BCP 79.

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## 1. Introduction and Motivation

The NFSv4.1 specification describes pNFS [2]. In NFSv4.1, pNFS is limited to the data contents of regular files. The content of regular files is distributed (striped) across multiple storage devices. Metadata is not distributed or striped, and indeed, the model presented in the NFSv4.1 specification is that of a single metadata server. This document describes a means to add metadata striping to pNFS, which includes the notion of multiple metadata servers. With metadata striping, multiple metadata servers may work together to provide a higher parallel performance.

This document does not require a new minor version of NFSv4. Instead, it requires a new layout type.

The XDR description is provided in this document in a way that makes it simple for the reader to extract into a ready to compile form. The reader can feed this document into the following shell script to produce the machine readable XDR description of the metadata layout:

```
#!/bin/sh
grep "^ *///" | sed 's?^ */// ??' | sed 's?^.*///??'
```

I.e. if the above script is stored in a file called "extract.sh", and this document is in a file called "spec.txt", then the reader can do:

```
sh extract.sh < spec.txt > md.x
```

The effect of the script is to remove leading white space from each line of the specification, plus a sentinel sequence of "///".

## 2. Terminology

- o Initial Metadata Server (I-MDS). The I-MDS is the metadata server the client obtains a filehandle from prior to acquiring any layout on the file.
- o Layout Metadata Server (L-MDS). The L-MDS is the metadata server the client obtains a filehandle from after direction from a layout.
- o Regular file: An object of file type NF4REG or NF4NAMEDATTR.

### 3. Scope of Metadata Striping

This proposal assumes a model where there are two or more servers capable of supporting NFSv4.1 operations. At least one server is an I-MDS, and the I-MDS should be thought of as a normal NFSv4.1 server, with the additional capability of granting metadata layouts on demand. The I-MDS might also be capable of granting non-metadata layouts, but this is irrelevant to the scope of metadata striping. The model also requires at least one additional server, an L-MDS, that is capable of supporting NFSv4.1 operations that are directed to the server by the I-MDS. It is permissible for an I-MDS to also be an L-MDS, and an L-MDS to also be an I-MDS. Indeed, a simple submodel is for every NFSv4.1 server in a set to be both an I-MDS and L-MDS.

Metadata striping applies to all NFSv4.1 operations that operate on file objects. These operations can be broken down into three classes:

- o Filehandle-only. These are operations that take just filehandles as arguments, i.e. the current filehandle, or both the current filehandle and the saved filehandle, and no component names of files. When a client obtains a filehandle of a file object from an NFS server, it can obtain a metadata layout that indicates the optimal destination in the network to send filehandle-only operations for that file object. For example, after obtaining the filehandle via OPEN, and the metadata layout via LAYOUTGET, the client wants to get a byte range lock on the file. The client sends the LOCK request to the network address specified in the metadata layout.
- o Name-based. These are operations that take one or two filehandles (i.e. the current file handle, or both the current file handle and the saved filehandle) and one or two component names of files. When a client obtains a filehandle of a file object that is of type directory, it can obtain a metadata layout that indicates the optimal destinations in the network to send name-based operations for that directory. The optimal destinations MUST apply to the current filehandle that the operation uses. In other words, for LINK and RENAME, which take both the saved filehandle and the current filehandle as parameters, the pNFS client would use the metadata layout of the target directory (indicated in the current filehandle) for guidance where to send the operation. Note that if an L-MDS accepts a LINK or RENAME operation, the L-MDS MUST perform the operation atomically. If it cannot, then the L-MDS MUST return the error NFS4ERR\_XDEV, and the client MUST send the operation to the I-MDS.

The choice of destination is a function of the name the client is requesting. For example, after the client obtains the filehandle of a directory via LOOKUP and the metadata layout via LAYOUTGET, the client wants to open a regular file within the directory. As with the LAYOUT4\_NFSV4\_1\_FILES layout type, the client has a list network addresses to which to send requests. With the LAYOUT4\_NFSV4\_1\_FILES layout, the choice of the index in the list of network addresses was computed from the offset of the read or write request. With the metadata layout, the choice of the index is derived from the name (or some other method, such as the name and one or more attributes of the directory, such as the filehandle, fileid, etc.) passed to OPEN.

- o Directory-reading. These are operations that take one filehandle and return the contents of a directory (currently, NFSv4 has just one such operation, READDIR). When a client obtains a filehandle of a file object that is of type directory, it can obtain a metadata layout that indicates the optimal destination in the network to send directory reading operations for that directory. For example, after the client obtains the filehandle of a directory via LOOKUP and the metadata layout via LAYOUTGET, the client wants to read the directory. As with the LAYOUT4\_NFSV4\_1\_FILES layout type, the client has a list network addresses to which to send requests. With the LAYOUT4\_NFSV4\_1\_FILES layout, the choice of the index in list of network addresses was computed from the offset of the read or write request. Since directories have cookies which resemble offsets, the choice of the index is computed from the the "cookie" argument to the operation.

#### 4. The Definition of Metadata Striping Layout

##### 4.1. Name of Metadata Striping Layout Type

The name of the metadata striping layout type is LAYOUT4\_METADATA.

##### 4.2. Value of Metadata Striping Layout Type

The value of the metadata striping layout type is TBD1.

4.3. Definition of the `da_addr_body` Field of the `device_addr4` Data Type

```

///  #include "nfs4_prot.h"
///  union md_layout_addr4 switch (bool mdla_simple) {
///      case TRUE:
///          multipath_list4          mdla_simple_addr;
///      case FALSE:
///          nfsv4_1_file_layout_ds_addr4 mdla_complex_addr;
///  };

```

Figure 1

If `mdla_simple` is `TRUE`, the remainder of the device address contains a list of elements (`mdla_simple_addr`), where each element represents a network address of an L-MDS which can serve equally as the target of metadata operations (typically the filehandle-only operations). See Section 13.5 of [2] for a description of how the `multipath_list4` data type supports multi-pathing.

If `mdla_simple` is `FALSE`, the remainder of the device address is the same as the `LAYOUT4_NFSV4_1_FILES` device address, consisting of an array of lists of L-MDSes servers (`nflda_multipath_ds_list`), and an array of indices (`nflda_stripe_indices`). Each element of `nflda_multipath_ds_list` contains one or more subelements, and each subelement represents a network address of an L-MDS which may serve equally as the target of name-based and directory-reading operations (see Section 13.5 of [2]). The number of elements in `nflda_multipath_ds_list` array might be different than the stripe count. The stripe count is the number of elements in `nflda_stripe_indices`. The value of each element of `nflda_stripe_indices` is an index into `nflda_multipath_ds_list`, and thus the value of each element of `nflda_stripe_indices` MUST be less than the number of elements in `nflda_multipath_ds_list`.

## 4.4. Definition of the loh\_body Field of the layouthint4 Data Type

```

/// enum md_layout_hint_care4 {
///     MD4_CARE_STRIPE_UNIT_SIZE      = 0x040,
///     MD4_CARE_STRIPE_CNT_NAMEOPS    = 0x080,
///     MD4_CARE_STRIPE_CNT_DIRRDOPS    = 0x100
/// };
/// %
/// /* Encoded in the loh_body field of type layouthint4: */
/// %
/// struct md_layouthint4 {
///     uint32_t      mdlh_care;
///     count4        mdlh_stripe_cnt_nameops;
///     count4        mdlh_stripe_cnt_dirrdops;
///     nfs_cookie4   mdlh_stripe_unit_size;
/// };

```

Figure 2

The layout-type specific content for the LAYOUT4\_METADATA layout type is composed of four fields. The first field, `mdlh_care`, is a set of flags indicating which values of the hint the client cares about. If `MD4_CARE_STRIPE_CNT_NAMEOPS` is set, then the client indicates in the second field, `mdlh_stripe_cnt_nameops` the preferred stripe count for name-based operations. If `MD4_CARE_STRIPE_CNT_DIRRDOPS` is set, then the client indicates in the third field, `mdlh_stripe_cnt_dirrdops`, the preferred stripe count for directory-reading operations. If `MD4_CARE_STRIPE_UNIT_SIZE` is set, then the client indicates in the fourth field, `mdlh_stripe_unit_size`, the preferred stripe unit size for directory-reading operations.

## 4.5. Definition of the loc\_body Field of the layout\_content4 Data Type

```

/// struct md_layout_fhonly {
///     deviceid4    mdlf_devid;
///     nfs_fh4      mdlf_fh<1>;
/// };
///
/// struct md_layout_namebased {
///     deviceid4    mdln_devid;
///     uint32_t     mdln_namebased_alg;
///     uint32_t     mdln_first_index;
///     nfs_fh4      mdln_fh_list<>;
/// };
///
/// union md_layout_dirread_fhlist
///     switch (bool mdlldf_use_namebased) {
///     case TRUE:
///         void;
///     case FALSE:
///         nfs_fh4      mdlldf_fh_list<>;
///     };
///
/// struct md_layout_dirread {
///     deviceid4          mdlld_devid;
///     nfs_cookie4        mdlld_first_cookie;
///     nfs_cookie4        mdlld_unit_size;
///     uint32_t           mdlld_first_index;
///     md_layout_dirread_fhlist mdlld_fh_list;
/// };
///
/// struct md_layout4 {
///     md_layout_fhonly    mdl_fhops_layout<1>;
///     md_layout_namebased mdl_nameops_layout<1>;
///     md_layout_dirread  mdl_dirrdops_layout_segments<>;
/// };

```

Figure 3

The reply to a successful LAYOUTGET request MUST contain exactly one element in `logr_layout`. The element contains the metadata layout. The metadata layout consists of three variable length arrays. At least one of the arrays MUST be of non-zero length.

- o `mdl_fhops_layout`. This is an array of up to one element. If there is one element, the element indicates the preferred set L-MDSes as the target of filehandle-only operations. The element contains two fields, `mdlf_devid`, the pNFS device ID of the L-MDS

and `mdlf_fh`, an array of up to one filehandle.

When the client receives a layout that has a `mdl_fhops_layout` array with one element, it uses `GETDEVICEINFO` to map `mdlf_devid` to a device address, of data type `md_layout_addr4`. The value of the device address field `mdla_simple` MUST be `TRUE`. The client can then select any element in `mdla_simple_addr` to send a filehandle-only operation. The field `mdlf_devid` MUST map to a device address with `mdla_simple` set to `TRUE`. The current filehandle REQUIRED for use with the filehandle-only operation is either `mdlf_fh[0]` (if and only if `mdlf_fh` has one element) or it is the filehandle the pNFS client used as the current filehandle to the `LAYOUTGET` operation that returned the metadata layout.

- o `mdl_nameops_layout`. This is an array of up to one element. If there is one element, the element indicates the preferred set of L-MDS servers to as the target of name-based operations. The list of L-MDSes is mapped from the `mdl_n_devid` device ID. The array `mdl_n_fh_list` is used to select a filehandle for accessing an L-MDS. The number of elements in this array MUST be one of three values:
  - \* Zero. This means that filehandles used for each L-MDS are the same as the filehandle used as the current filehandle to `LAYOUTGET`.
  - \* One. This means that every L-MDS uses filehandle in `mdl_n_fh_list[0]`.
  - \* The same number of elements as `mdla_complex_addr.nflda_multipath_ds_list`. Thus, when sending a name-based operation to any L-MDS in `mdla_complex_addr.nflda_multipath_ds_list[X]`, the filehandle in `mdl_n_fh_list[X]` MUST be used.

The field `mdld_first_index` is the index into the first element of the of `mdla_complex_addr.nflda_stripe_indices` array to use. The field `mdl_n_namebased_alg` identifies the algorithm used to compute the actual element in the `mdla_complex_addr.nflda_stripe_indices` array to use.

When the client receives a layout that has a `mdl_nameops_layout` array with one element, it uses `GETDEVICEINFO` to map `mdl_n_devid` to a device address of data type `md_layout_addr4`. The value of the device address field `mdla_simple` MUST be set to `FALSE`.

The client determines the filehandle and the set of L-MDS network addresses to send a name-based operation via the following

```
algorithm:

let F be the function designated by
    mdl_n_namebased_alg;

let X = (x1, x2, x3, ...) some set of inputs for
    function F, such that x1 SHOULD be the
    component name of the file;

stripe_unit_number = F(X);
stripe_count = number of elements in
    mdla_complex_addr.nflda_stripe_indices;

j = (stripe_unit_number + mdl_n_first_index) %
    stripe_count;

idx = nflda_stripe_indices[j];

fh_count = number of elements in mdl_n_fh_list;
lmds_count = number of elements in
    mdla_complex_addr.nflda_multipath_ds_list;

switch (fh_count) {
case lmds_count:
    fh = mdl_n_fh_list[idx];
    break;

case 1:
    fh = mdl_n_fh_list[0];
    break;

case 0:
    fh = current filehandle passed to LAYOUTGET;
    break;

default:
    throw a fatal exception;
    break;
}

address_list =
    mdla_complex_addr.nflda_multipath_ds_list[idx];
```

Figure 4

The client would then select an L-MDS from `address_list`, and send the name-based operation using the filehandle specified in `fh`.

If value of `stripe_count` is one, then in the above, the value of the `stripe_unit_number` derived from `mdl_n_namebased_alg` and the value of `mdl_n_first_index` will not change the index into `nflda_stripe_indices` because that index will always be zero. Hence when `stripe_count` is one, the value `mdl_n_namebased_alg` does not matter. Thus, when `mdla_complex_addr.nflda_stripe_indices` has a length of one, the client MUST ignore the value of `mdl_n_namebased_alg`. This means that all name-based operations on the directory can be sent any among the set of L-MDSes indicated in one element of `mdla_complex_addr.nflda_multipath_ds_list`. This serves the common case of where whole directories are distributed across a set L-MDSes, but the directories themselves are not striped.

- o `mdl_dirops_layout_segments`. This is an array of zero or more elements. Each element indicates the preferred set of L-MDSes as the preferred destination for directory reading operations and the pattern over which directory reading operations iterates over the L-MDSes. The set of L-MDSes is mapped from the value of the device ID in the field `mdl_d_devid`. The field `mdl_d_first_cookie` indicates the first directory entry cookie that a directory reading operation can use for the first unit of the pattern in this element. E.g., the value of `mdl_d_first_cookie` can be used as the value of the "cookie" field in `REaddir4args`. In the first element, `mdl_d_first_cookie` MUST be zero. The last cookie that can be used on the pattern can be no higher than one less than the value of `mdl_d_first_cookie` of the next element. If there is no next element, then the pattern is valid for all cookies from `mdl_d_first_cookie` through `NFS4_UINT64_MAX` inclusive. The field `mdl_d_unit_size` indicates the maximum number of cookies that can be read from each unit of a pattern, and thus indicates the lowest value of the "cookie" field in `REaddir4args` for each unit after the first unit. For example, if `mdl_d_unit_size` is 100000, and `mdl_d_first_cookie` is zero, then value of the "cookie" field in the `REaddir4args` of the `REaddir` operation sent to the second unit MUST be greater than or equal to 100000, and less than 200000. The field `mdl_d_fh_list` is used to select a filehandle for accessing an L-MDS. It is a switched union with a boolean discriminator `mdl_d_use_namebased`. If `mdl_d_use_namebased` is `TRUE`, then the array `mdl_nameops_layout` MUST be of length equal to one and the filehandle MUST be selected from `mdl_nameops_layout.mdl_n_fh_list`. Note however, that the device address MUST still be mapped from `mdl_d_devid` and not `mdl_n_devid`.
- o If `mdl_d_use_namebased` is `FALSE`, then `mdl_d_fh_list` is present, and number of elements in `mdl_d_fh_list` MUST be one of three values:

- \* Zero. This means that filehandles used for each L-MDS are the same as the filehandle used as the current filehandle to LAYOUTGET.
- \* One. This means that every L-MDS uses the filehandle in `mdld_fh_list[0]`.
- \* The same number of elements as `mdld_complex_addr.nflda_multipath_ds_list`. Thus, when sending a directory-reading operation to any L-MDS in `mdld_complex_addr.nflda_multipath_ds_list[X]`, the filehandle in `mdld_fh_list[X]` MUST be used.

The field `mdld_first_index` is the index into the first element of the `mdld_complex_addr.nflda_stripe_indices` array to use.

When the client receives a layout that has a `mdl_dirrops_layout_segments` array with more than zero elements, it uses GETDEVICEINFO to map the `mdl_n_devid` of each element of the array to a device address of data type `md_layout_addr4`. The value of the device address field `mdla_simple` MUST be set to FALSE. The client determines the filehandle and the set of L-MDS network addresses to send a name-based operation via the following algorithm:

```
let cookie_arg be the cookie the pNFS client will
    use as the value of the cookie argument to a
    directory reading operation;

segment_count = number of elements in
    mdl_dirrops_layout_segments;

find index k, such that (cookie_arg >=
    mdl_dirrops_layout_segments[k].mdld_first_cookie)
    && ((k == (segment_count - 1)) || (cookie_arg
    < mdl_dirrops_layout_segments[k+1]));

relative_cookie = cookie_arg -
    mdl_dirrops_layout_segments[k].mdld_first_cookie;

address = the result of GETDEVICEINFO on
    mdl_dirrops_layout_segments[k].mdld_devid;

i = floor(relative_cookie /
    mdl_dirrops_layout_segments[k].mdld_unit_size);

stripe_count = number of elements in
    address.mdla_complex_addr.nflda_stripe_indices;
```

```

j = (stripe_unit_number + mdld_first_index) % stripe_count;

idx = nflda_stripe_indices[j];
lmds_count = number of elements in
    address.mdla_complex_addr.nflda_multipath_ds_list;

if (mdl_dirrdops_layout_segments[k].
    mdldf_use_namebased == TRUE) {
    fh_count = number of elements in mdl_nameops_layout[0].mdl_n_fh_list;
    address.mdla_complex_addr.nflda_multipath_ds_list;
} else {
    fh_count = number of elements in
        mdl_dirrdops_layout_segments[k].mdld_fh_list.
        mdldf_fh_list;
}

switch (fh_count) {
case lmds_count:
    if (mdl_dirrdops_layout_segments[k].
        mdldf_use_namebased == TRUE) {
        fh = mdl_n_fh_list[idx];
    } else {
        fh = mdl_dirrdops_layout_segments[k].mdld_fh_list.
            mdldf_fh_list[idx];
    }
    break;

case 1:
    if (mdl_dirrdops_layout_segments[k].
        mdldf_use_namebased == TRUE) {
        fh = mdl_n_fh_list[0];
    } else {
        fh = mdl_dirrdops_layout_segments[k].mdld_fh_list.
            mdldf_fh_list[0];
    }
    break;

case 0:
    fh = current filehandle passed to LAYOUTGET;
    break;

default:
    throw a fatal exception;
    break;
}

address_list = address.mdla_complex_addr.
    nflda_multipath_ds_list[idx];

```

Figure 5

The client would then select an L-MDS from `address_list`, and send the directory-reading operation using the filehandle specified in `fh`. When the client is reading the beginning of the directory, `cookie_arg` is always zero. Subsequent directory-reading operations to read the rest of the directory will use the last cookie returned by the L-MDS. An MDS returning a metadata layout SHOULD return cookies that can be used directly to the I-MDS that returned the layout. However this might not always be possible. For example, the directory design of the filesystem of the MDS, might not return cookies in ascending order, or any order at all for that matter. Whereas, striping by definition requires an ordering. In such cases, if a directory is restriped while a pNFS client is reading its contents from the L-MDSes, it is possible that client will be unable to complete reading the directory, and as a result an error is returned to process reading the directory. To mitigate this, servers that have sent a `CB_LAYOUTRECALL` on the directory SHOULD NOT revoke the layout as long as they detect that the client is completing a read of the entire directory. Once a client has received a `CB_LAYOUTRECALL`, it SHOULD NOT send a directory-reading operation to an L-MDS with a cookie argument of zero. If the server has sent a `CB_LAYOUTRECALL`, the L-MDS SHOULD reject requests to read the directory that have a cookie argument zero and return the error `NFS4ERR_PNFS_NO_LAYOUT`.

#### 4.6. Definition of the `lou_body` Field of the `layoutupdate4` Data Type

```

///  %/*
///  % * LAYOUT4_METADATA.
///  % * Encoded in the lou_body field of type layoutupdate4:
///  % *      Nothing. lou_body is a zero length array of octets.
///  % */
///  %

```

Figure 6

The `LAYOUT4_METADATA` layout type has no content for `lou_body` field of the `layoutupdate4` data type.

#### 4.7. Storage Access Protocols

The `LAYOUT4_METADATA` layout type uses NFSv4.1 operations (and potentially, operations of higher minor versions of NFSv4, subject to the definition of a minor version of NFSv4) to access striped metadata. The `LAYOUT4_METADATA` does not affect access to storage devices. Thus a client might be able to obtain both a `LAYOUT4_METADATA` layout, and a non-`LAYOUT4_METADATA` layout type

(e.g., LAYOUT4\_NFSV4\_1\_FILES, LAYOUT4\_OSD2\_OBJECTS, or LAYOUT4\_BLOCK\_VOLUME) on the same regular file. Of course, for a non-regular file, a pNFS client will be unable to get layouts of types LAYOUT4\_NFSV4\_1\_FILES, LAYOUT4\_OSD2\_OBJECTS, or LAYOUT4\_BLOCK\_VOLUME).

#### 4.8. Revocation of Layouts

Servers MAY revoke layouts of type LAYOUT4\_METADATA. A client detects if layout has been revoked if the operation is rejected with NFS4ERR\_PNFS\_NO\_LAYOUT. In NFSv4.1, the error NFS4ERR\_PNFS\_NO\_LAYOUT could be returned only by READ and WRITE. When the server returns a layout of type LAYOUT4\_METADATA, the set of operations that can return NFS4ERR\_PNFS\_NO\_LAYOUT is: ACCESS, CLOSE, COMMIT, CREATE, DELEGRETURN, GETATTR, LINK, LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU, LOOKUP, LOOKUPP, NVERIFY, OPEN, OPENATTR, OPEN\_DOWNGRADE, READ, READDIR, READLINK, REMOVE, RENAME, SECINFO, SETATTR, VERIFY, WRITE, GET\_DIR\_DELEGATION, SECINFO, SECINFO\_NO\_NAME, and WANT\_DELEGATION.

#### 4.9. Stateids

The pNFS specification for LAYOUT4\_NFSV4\_1\_FILES states data servers MUST be aware of the stateids granted by MDS so that the stateids passed to READ and WRITE can be properly validated. This requirement extends to the LAYOUT4\_METADATA layout type: the L-MDS MUST be aware of any non-layout stateids granted by the I-MDS, if and only if the client is in contact the L-MDS under direction of a metadata layout returned by the I-MDS, and the I-MDS has not recalled or revoked that layout. In addition, because an L-MDS can accept operations like OPEN and LOCK that create or modify stateids, the I-MDS MUST be aware of stateids that an L-MDS has returned to a client, if and only if the I-MDS granted the client a metadata layout that directed the client to the L-MDS.

In some cases, one L-MDS MUST be aware of a stateid generated by another L-MDS. For example a client can obtain a stateid from the L-MDS serving as the destination of name-based operations, which includes OPEN. However operations that use the stateid will be filehandle-only operations, and the L-MDS the OPEN operation is sent to might differ from the L-MDS the LOCK operation for the same target file is sent to.

#### 4.10. Lease Terms

Any state the client obtains from an I-MDS or L-MDS is guaranteed to last for an interval lasting as long as the maximum of the lease\_time attribute of the the I-MDS, and any L-MDS the client is directed to as the result of a metadata layout. The client has a lease for each

client ID it has with an I-MDS or L-MDS, and each lease MUST be renewed separately for each client ID.

#### 4.11. Layout Operations Sent to an L-MDS

An L-MDS MAY allow a LAYOUTGET operation. One reason the L-MDS might allow a LAYOUTGET operation is to allow hierarchical striping. For example, for name-based operations, the pNFS server might use a radix tree, (which the field `mdl_n_namebased_alg` would indicate). The first four bytes of the component name would be combined to form a 32 bit `stripe_unit_number`. Once the client contacted the L-MDS, it would repeat the algorithm on the second four bytes of the component, and so on until the component name was exhausted.

Once an L-MDS grants a layout, the client MUST use only the L-MDS that granted the layout to send LAYOUTUPDATE, LAYOUTCOMMIT, and LAYOUTRETURN.

#### 4.12. Filehandles in Metadata Layouts

The filehandles returned in a metadata layout are subject to becoming stale at any time. The L-MDS SHOULD NOT return NFS4ERR\_STALE unless the I-MDS has recalled or revoked the corresponding layout.

#### 4.13. READ and WRITE Operations

READ and WRITE are filehandle-only operations, and thus the pNFS client SHOULD attempt to obtain a non-metadata layout for a regular file. If it cannot, then it MAY use the metadata layout to send READ and WRITE operations to an L-MDS. An L-MDS MUST accept a READ or WRITE operation if the layout the I-MDS returned to the client included a filehandle-only layout.

#### 4.14. Recovery

[[Comment.1: it is likely this section will follow that of the files layout type specified in the NFSv4.1 specification.]]

##### 4.14.1. Failure and Restart of Client

TBD

##### 4.14.2. Failure and Restart of Server

TBD

#### 4.14.3. Failure and Restart of Storage Device

TBD

### 5. Negotiation

An pNFS client sends a GETATTR operation for attribute `fs_layout_type`. If the reply contains the metadata layout type, then metadata striping is supported, subject to further verification by a LAYOUTGET operation. If not, the client cannot use metadata striping.

### 6. Operational Recommendation for Deployment

Deploy the metadata striping layout when it is anticipated that the workload will involve a high fraction of non-I/O operations on filehandles.

### 7. Acknowledgements

Brent Welch had the idea of returning a separate device ID for filehandle-only operations in the metadata layout. Pranoop Erasani, Dave Noveck, and Richard Jernigan provided valuable feedback.

### 8. Security Considerations

The security considerations of Section 13.12 of [2] which are specific to data servers apply to lMDSes. In addition, each lMDS server and client are, respectively, a complete NFSv4.1 server and client, and so the security considerations of [2] apply to any client or server using the metadata layout type.

### 9. IANA Considerations

This specification requires an addition to the Layout Types registry described in Section 22.4 of [2]. The five fields added to the registry are:

1. Name of layout type: LAYOUT4\_METADATA
2. Value of layout type: TBD1.

3. Standards Track RFC that describes this layout: RFCTBD2, which is the RFC of this document.
4. How the RFC Introduces the specification: L.
5. Minor versions of NFSv4 that can use the layout type: 1.

This specification requires the creation of a registry of hash algorithms for supporting the field `mdl_namebased_alg`. Details TBD.

#### 10. Normative References

- [1] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", RFC 2119, March 1997.
- [2] Shepler, S., Eisler, M., and D. Noveck, "NFS Version 4 Minor Version 1", draft-ietf-nfsv4-minorversion1-26 (work in progress), Sep 2008.

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Administration Protocol for Federated Filesystems  
draft-ietf-nfsv4-federated-fs-admin-15

Abstract

This document describes the administration protocol for a federated file system that enables file access and namespace traversal across collections of independently administered file servers. The protocol specifies a set of interfaces by which file servers with different administrators can form a file server federation that provides a namespace composed of the filesystems physically hosted on and exported by the constituent file servers.

Requirements Language

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119].

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## 1. Introduction

A federated filesystem enables file access and namespace traversal in a uniform, secure and consistent manner across multiple independent file servers within an enterprise (and possibly across multiple enterprises) with reasonably good performance.

Traditionally, building a namespace that spans multiple file servers has been difficult for two reasons. First, the file servers that export pieces of the namespace are often not in the same administrative domain. Second, there is no standard mechanism for the file servers to cooperatively present the namespace. File servers might provide proprietary management tools and in some cases an administrator might be able to use the proprietary tools to build a shared namespace out of the exported filesystems. Relying on vendor-proprietary tools does not work in larger enterprises or when collaborating across enterprises because it is likely that the system will contain file servers running different software, each with their own protocols, with no common protocol to manage the namespace or exchange namespace information.

The requirements for federated namespaces are described in [RFC5716].

The filesystem federation protocol described in [FEDFS-NSDB] allows file servers from different vendors and/or with different administrators to cooperatively build a namespace.

This document describes the protocol used by administrators to configure the file servers and construct the namespace.

### 1.1. Definitions

**Administrator:** A user with the necessary authority to initiate administrative tasks on one or more servers.

**Admin Entity:** A server or agent that administers a collection of file servers and persistently stores the namespace information.

**File-access Client:** Standard off-the-shelf network attached storage (NAS) client software that communicates with file servers using a standard file-access protocol.

**Federation:** A set of file server collections and singleton file servers that use a common set of interfaces and protocols in order to provide to file-access clients a federated namespace accessible through a filesystem access protocol.

**Fileserver:** A server that stores physical fileset data, or refers file-access clients to other file servers. A fileserver provides access to its shared filesystem data via a file-access protocol.

**Fileset:** The abstraction of a set of files and the directory tree that contains them. A fileset is the fundamental unit of data management in the federation.

Note that all files within a fileset are descendants of one directory, and that filesets do not span filesystems.

**Filesystem:** A self-contained unit of export for a fileserver, and the mechanism used to implement filesets. The fileset does not need to be rooted at the root of the filesystem, nor at the export point for the filesystem.

A single filesystem MAY implement more than one fileset, if the file-access protocol and the fileserver permit this.

**File-access Protocol:** A network filesystem access protocol such as NFSv3 [RFC1813], NFSv4 [3530bis], or CIFS (Common Internet File System) [MS-SMB] [MS-SMB2] [MS-CIFS].

**FSL (Fileset Location):** The location of the implementation of a fileset at a particular moment in time. An FSL MUST be something that can be translated into a protocol-specific description of a resource that a file-access client can access directly, such as an `fs_locations` attribute (for NFSv4), or a share name (for CIFS).

**FSN (Fileset Name):** A platform-independent and globally unique name for a fileset. Two FSLs that implement replicas of the same fileset MUST have the same FSN, and if a fileset is migrated from one location to another, the FSN of that fileset MUST remain the same.

**Junction:** A filesystem object used to link a directory name in the current fileset with an object within another fileset. The server-side "link" from a leaf node in one fileset to the root of another fileset.

**Namespace:** A filename/directory tree that a sufficiently authorized file-access client can observe.

**NSDB (Namespace Database) Service:** A service that maps FSNs to FSLs. The NSDB may also be used to store other information, such as annotations for these mappings and their components.

**NSDB Node:** The name or location of a server that implements part of the NSDB service and is responsible for keeping track of the FSLs (and related info) that implement a given partition of the FSNs.

**Referral:** A server response to a file-access client access that directs the client to evaluate the current object as a reference to an object at a different location (specified by an FSL) in another fileset, and possibly hosted on another fileserver. The client re-attempts the access to the object at the new location.

**Replica:** A replica is a redundant implementation of a fileset. Each replica shares the same FSN, but has a different FSL.

Replicas may be used to increase availability or performance. Updates to replicas of the same fileset **MUST** appear to occur in the same order, and therefore each replica is self-consistent at any moment.

We do not assume that updates to each replica occur simultaneously. If a replica is offline or unreachable, the other replicas may be updated.

**Server Collection:** A set of fileservers administered as a unit. A server collection may be administered with vendor-specific software.

The namespace provided by a server collection could be part of the federated namespace.

**Singleton Server:** A server collection containing only one server; a stand-alone fileserver.

## 2. Protocol

The RPC protocol used by the administration operations is ONC RPC [RFC5531]. The data structures used for the parameters and return values of these procedures are expressed in this document in XDR [RFC4506].

The XDR definitions below are formatted to allow the reader to easily extract them from the document. The reader can use the following shell script to extract the definitions:

```
<CODE BEGINS>

#!/bin/sh
grep '^ *///' | sed 's?^ */// ??' | sed 's?^ *///$??'

<CODE ENDS>
```

If the above script is stored in a file called "extract.sh", and this document is in a file called "spec.txt", then the reader can do:

```
<CODE BEGINS>

sh extract.sh < spec.txt > admin1.xdr

<CODE ENDS>
```

The effect of the script is to remove leading white space from each line, plus a sentinel sequence of "///".

The protocol definition in XDR notation is shown below. We begin by defining basic constants and structures used by the protocol. We then present the procedures defined by the protocol.

```
<CODE BEGINS>

/// /*
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/// * as authors of the code. All rights reserved.
/// *
/// * The authors of the code are the authors of
/// * [draft-ietf-nfsv4-federated-fs-admin-xx.txt]: J. Lentini,
/// * C. Everhart, D. Ellard, R. Tewari, and M. Naik.
/// *
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/// * ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE.
/// */
///
/// enum FedFsStatus {
///     FEDFS_OK = 0,
///     FEDFS_ERR_ACCESS = 1,
///     FEDFS_ERR_BADCHAR = 2,
///     FEDFS_ERR_BADNAME = 3,
///     FEDFS_ERR_NAMETOOLONG = 4,
///     FEDFS_ERR_LOOP = 5,
///     FEDFS_ERR_BADXDR = 6,
///     FEDFS_ERR_EXIST = 7,
///     FEDFS_ERR_INVALID = 8,
///     FEDFS_ERR_IO = 9,
///     FEDFS_ERR_NOSPC = 10,
///     FEDFS_ERR_NOTJUNCT = 11,
///     FEDFS_ERR_NOTLOCAL = 12,
///     FEDFS_ERR_PERM = 13,
///     FEDFS_ERR_ROFS = 14,
///     FEDFS_ERR_SVRFAULT = 15,
///     FEDFS_ERR_NOTSUPP = 16,
///     FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_ROUTE = 17,
///     FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_DOWN = 18,
///     FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_CONN = 19,
///     FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_AUTH = 20,
///     FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_LDAP = 21,
///     FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_LDAP_VAL = 22,

```

```

/// FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_NONCE = 23,
/// FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_NOFSN = 24,
/// FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_NOFSL = 25,
/// FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_RESPONSE = 26,
/// FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_FAULT = 27,
/// FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_PARAMS = 28,
/// FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_LDAP_REFERRAL = 29,
/// FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_LDAP_REFERRAL_VAL = 30,
/// FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_LDAP_REFERRAL_NOTFOLLOWED = 31,
/// FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_PARAMS_LDAP_REFERRAL = 32,
/// FEDFS_ERR_PATH_TYPE_UNSUPP = 33,
/// FEDFS_ERR_DELAY = 34,
/// FEDFS_ERR_NO_CACHE = 35,
/// FEDFS_ERR_UNKNOWN_CACHE = 36,
/// FEDFS_ERR_NO_CACHE_UPDATE = 37
/// };
///
/// typedef opaque utf8string<>;
/// typedef utf8string ascii_REQUIRED4;
/// typedef utf8string utf8val_REQUIRED4;
///
/// typedef opaque FedFsUuid[16];
///
/// struct FedFsNsdbName {
///     unsigned int port;
///     utf8val_REQUIRED4 hostname;
/// };
///
/// typedef ascii_REQUIRED4 FedFsPathComponent;
/// typedef FedFsPathComponent FedFsPathName<>;
///
/// struct FedFsFsn {
///     FedFsUuid fsnUuid;
///     FedFsNsdbName nsdbName;
/// };
///
/// enum FedFsFslType {
///     FEDFS_NFS_FSL = 0
/// };
///
/// struct FedFsNfsFsl {
///     FedFsUuid fslUuid;
///     unsigned int port;
///     utf8val_REQUIRED4 hostname;
///     FedFsPathName path;
/// };
///
/// union FedFsFsl switch(FedFsFslType type) {

```

```

/// case FEDFS_NFS_FSL:
///     FedFsNfsFsl             nfsFsl;
/// };
///
/// enum FedFsPathType {
///     FEDFS_PATH_SYS = 0,
///     FEDFS_PATH_NFS = 1
/// };
///
/// union FedFsPath switch(FedFsPathType type) {
///     case FEDFS_PATH_SYS: /* administrative path */
///         FedFsPathName     adminPath;
///     case FEDFS_PATH_NFS: /* NFS namespace path */
///         FedFsPathName     nfsPath;
/// };
///
/// struct FedFsCreateArgs {
///     FedFsPath             path;
///     FedFsFsn             fsn;
/// };
///
/// enum FedFsResolveType {
///     FEDFS_RESOLVE_NONE = 0,
///     FEDFS_RESOLVE_CACHE = 1,
///     FEDFS_RESOLVE_NSDB = 2
/// };
///
/// struct FedFsLookupArgs {
///     FedFsPath             path;
///     FedFsResolveType     resolve;
/// };
///
/// struct FedFsLookupResOk {
///     FedFsFsn             fsn;
///     FedFsFsl             fsl<>;
/// };
///
/// struct FedFsLookupResReferralVal {
///     FedFsNsdbName       targetNsdb;
///     unsigned int        ldapResultCode;
/// };
///
/// union FedFsLookupRes switch (FedFsStatus status) {
///     case FEDFS_OK:
///     case FEDFS_ERR_NO_CACHE_UPDATE:
///         FedFsLookupResOk     resok;
///     case FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_LDAP_VAL:
///         unsigned int         ldapResultCode;

```

```

/// case FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_LDAP_REFERRAL:
/// case FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_PARAMS_LDAP_REFERRAL:
///     FedFsNsdbName          targetNsdb;
/// case FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_LDAP_REFERRAL_VAL:
///     FedFsLookupResReferralVal resReferralVal;
/// default:
///     void;
/// };
///
/// enum FedFsConnectionSec {
///     FEDFS_SEC_NONE = 0,
///     FEDFS_SEC_TLS = 1 /* StartTLS mechanism; RFC4513, Section 3 */
/// };
///
/// union FedFsNsdbParams switch (FedFsConnectionSec secType) {
///     case FEDFS_SEC_TLS:
///         opaque          secData<>;
///     default:
///         void;
/// };
///
/// struct FedFsSetNsdbParamsArgs {
///     FedFsNsdbName          nsdbName;
///     FedFsNsdbParams        params;
/// };
///
/// union FedFsGetNsdbParamsRes switch (FedFsStatus status) {
///     case FEDFS_OK:
///         FedFsNsdbParams        params;
///     default:
///         void;
/// };
///
/// union FedFsGetLimitedNsdbParamsRes switch (FedFsStatus status) {
///     case FEDFS_OK:
///         FedFsConnectionSec      secType;
///     default:
///         void;
/// };
///
/// program FEDFS_PROG {
///     version FEDFS_V1 {
///         void FEDFS_NULL(void) = 0;
///         FedFsStatus FEDFS_CREATE_JUNCTION(
///             FedFsCreateArgs) = 1;
///         FedFsStatus FEDFS_DELETE_JUNCTION(
///             FedFsPath) = 2;
///         FedFsLookupRes FEDFS_LOOKUP_JUNCTION(

```

```

///          FedFsLookupArgs) = 3;
/// FedFsStatus FEDFS_CREATE_REPLICATION(
///          FedFsCreateArgs) = 7;
/// FedFsStatus FEDFS_DELETE_REPLICATION(
///          FedFsPath) = 8;
/// FedFsLookupRes FEDFS_LOOKUP_REPLICATION(
///          FedFsLookupArgs) = 9;
/// FedFsStatus FEDFS_SET_NSDB_PARAMS(
///          FedFsSetNsdbParamsArgs) = 4;
/// FedFsGetNsdbParamsRes FEDFS_GET_NSDB_PARAMS(
///          FedFsNsdbName) = 5;
/// FedFsGetLimitedNsdbParamsRes FEDFS_GET_LIMITED_NSDB_PARAMS(
///          FedFsNsdbName) = 6;
/// } = 1;
/// } = 100418;

```

<CODE ENDS>

### 3. Error Values

The results of successful operations will consist of a status of FEDFS\_OK. The results of unsuccessful operations will begin with a status, other than FEDFS\_OK, that indicates the reason why the operation failed.

Many of the error status names and meanings (and the prose for their descriptions) are taken from the specification for NFSv4 [3530bis]. Note, however, that the numeric values for the status codes are different. For example, the name and meaning of FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS was inspired by NFSv4's NFS4ERR\_ACCESS, but their numeric values are different.

The status of an unsuccessful operation will generally only indicate the first error encountered during the attempt to execute the operation.

FEDFS\_OK: No errors were encountered. The operation was a success.

FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS: Permission denied. The caller does not have the correct permission to perform the requested operation.

FEDFS\_ERR\_BADCHAR: A UTF-8 string contains a character which is not supported by the server in the context in which it being used.

FEDFS\_ERR\_BADNAME: A name string in a request consisted of valid UTF-8 characters supported by the server, but the name is not supported by the server as a valid name for the current operation.

FEDFS\_ERR\_NAMETOOLONG: Returned when the pathname in an operation exceeds the server's implementation limit.

FEDFS\_ERR\_LOOP: Returned when too many symbolic links were encountered in resolving pathname.

FEDFS\_ERR\_BADXDR: The server encountered an XDR decoding error while processing an operation.

FEDFS\_ERR\_EXIST: The junction specified already exists.

FEDFS\_ERR\_INVALID: Invalid argument for an operation.

FEDFS\_ERR\_IO: A hard error occurred while processing the requested operation.

FEDFS\_ERR\_NOSPC: The requested operation would have caused the server's filesystem to exceed some limit (for example, if there is a fixed number of junctions per fileset or per server).

FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTJUNCT: The caller specified a path that does not end in a junction as the operand for an operation that requires the last component of the path to be a junction.

FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTLOCAL: The caller specified a path that contains a junction in any position other than the last component.

FEDFS\_ERR\_PERM: The operation was not allowed because the caller is either not a privileged user or not the owner of an object that would be modified by the operation.

FEDFS\_ERR\_ROFS: A modifying operation was attempted on a read-only filesystem.

FEDFS\_ERR\_SVRFAULT: An unanticipated non-protocol error occurred on the server.

FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_ROUTE: The fileserver was unable to find a route to the NSDB.

FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_DOWN: The fileserver determined that the NSDB was down.

- FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_CONN: The fileserver was unable to establish a connection with the NSDB.
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_AUTH: The fileserver was unable to authenticate and establish a secure connection with the NSDB.
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP: An LDAP error occurred on the connection between the fileserver and NSDB.
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_VAL: Indicates the same error as FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP, and allows the LDAP protocol error value to be returned back to an ADMIN protocol client.
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_NONCE: The fileserver was unable to locate the NCE in the appropriate NSDB.
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_NOFSN: The fileserver was unable to locate the given FSN in the appropriate NSDB.
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_NOFSL: The fileserver was unable to locate any FSLs for the given FSN in the appropriate NSDB.
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_RESPONSE: The fileserver received a malformed response from the NSDB. This includes situations when an NSDB entry (e.g., FSN or FSL) is missing a required attribute.
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_FAULT: An unanticipated error related to the NSDB occurred.
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_PARAMS: The fileserver does not have any connection parameters on record for the specified NSDB.
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL: The fileserver received an LDAP referral that it was unable to follow.
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL\_VAL: Indicates the same error as FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL, and allows the LDAP protocol error value to be returned back to an ADMIN protocol client.
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL\_NOTFOLLOWED: The fileserver received an LDAP referral that it chose not to follow, either because the fileserver does not support following LDAP referrals or LDAP referral following is disabled.
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_PARAMS\_LDAP\_REFERRAL: The fileserver received an LDAP referral that it chose not to follow because the fileserver had no NSDB parameters for the NSDB targeted by the LDAP referral.

FEDFS\_ERR\_PATH\_TYPE\_UNSUPP: The fileserver does not support the specified FedFsPathType value.

FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTSUPP: The fileserver does not support the specified procedure.

FEDFS\_ERR\_DELAY: The fileserver initiated the request, but was not able to complete it in a timely fashion. The ADMIN protocol client should wait and then try the request with a new RPC transaction ID.

FEDFS\_ERR\_NO\_CACHE: The fileserver does not implement an FSN-to-FSL cache.

FEDFS\_ERR\_UNKNOWN\_CACHE: The software receiving the ONC RPC request is unaware if the fileserver implements an FSN-to-FSL cache or unable to communicate with the FSN-to-FSL cache if it exists.

FEDFS\_ERR\_NO\_CACHE\_UPDATE: The fileserver was unable to update its FSN-to-FSL cache.

#### 4. Data Types

The basic data types defined above are formatted as follows:

FedFsUuid: A universally unique identifier (UUID) as described in [RFC4122] as a version 4 UUID. The UUID MUST be formatted in network byte order.

FedFsNsdbName: A (hostname, port) pair.

The hostname is a variable length UTF-8 string that represents an NSDB's network location in DNS name notation. It SHOULD be prepared using the server4 rules defined in Chapter 12 "Internationalization" of [3530bis]. The DNS name MUST be represented using a fully qualified domain name.

The port value in the FedFsNsdbName indicates the LDAP port on the NSDB (see [RFC4511]). The value MUST be in the range 0 to 65535. A value of 0 indicates that the standard LDAP port number, 389, MUST be assumed.

FSNs are immutable and invariant. The attributes of an FSN, including the fedfsNsdbName, are expected to remain constant. Therefore, a FedFsNsdbName MUST NOT contain a network address, such as an IPv4 or IPv6 address, as this would indefinitely assign the network address.

**FedFsPathComponent:** A case sensitive UTF-8 string containing a filesystem path component. It MUST be prepared using the component4 rules defined in Chapter 12 "Internationalization" of [3530bis].

**FedFsPathName:** A variable length array of FedFsPathComponent values representing a filesystem path. The path's first component is stored at the first position of the array, the second component is stored at the second position of the array, and so on.

The path "/" MUST be encoded as an array with zero components.

A FedFsPathName MUST NOT contain any zero-length components.

**FedFsPath:** A pathname container. The format and semantics of the pathname are defined by the FedFsPathType value.

**FedFsPathType:** The type specific description of a pathname.

A FEDFS\_PATH\_SYS is an implementation dependent administrative pathname. For example, it could be a local file system path.

A FEDFS\_PATH\_NFS is a pathname in the NFSv4 server's single-server namespace.

**FedFsNsdbParams:** A set of parameters for connecting to an NSDB. Conceptually the fileserver contains a data structure that maps an NSDB name (DNS name and port value) to these LDAP connection parameters.

The secType field indicates the security mechanism that MUST be used to protect all connections to the NSDB with the connection parameters.

A value of FEDFS\_SEC\_NONE indicates that a transport security mechanism MUST NOT be used when connecting to the NSDB. In this case, the secData array will have a length of zero.

A value of FEDFS\_SEC\_TLS indicates that the StartTLS security mechanism [RFC4513] MUST be used to protect all connections to the NSDB. In this case, the secData array will contain an X.509v3 root certificate in binary DER format [RFC5280] fulfilling the TLS requirement that root keys be distributed independently from the TLS protocol. The certificate MUST be used by the fileserver as a Trust Anchor to validate the NSDB's TLS server certificate list chain (see section 7.4.2 of [RFC5246]) and thus authenticate the identity of the NSDB. The certificate could be that of a certificate authority or a self-signed certificate. To ensure

that this security configuration information does not cause vulnerabilities for other services, trust anchors provided through secData MUST only be used for the NSDB service (as opposed to being installed as system-wide trust anchors for other services). Most popular TLS libraries provide ways in which this can be done such as denoting a private file system location for the certificates.

#### 4.1. FedFsNsdbName Equality

Two FedFsNsdbNames are considered equal if their respective hostname and port fields contain the same values. The only exception to this rule is that a value of 0 in the port field always matches the standard LDAP port number, 389.

Therefore, the FedFsNsdbName "(nsdb.example.com, 0)" is considered equal to "(nsdb.example.com, 389)" but not equal to "(nsdb.example.com, 1066)" since the port numbers are different, or "(nsdb.foo.example.com, 389)" since the hostnames are different.

## 5. Procedures

The procedures defined in Section 2 are described in detail in the following sections.

Fileservers that participate as "internal" nodes in the federated namespace MUST implement the following procedures:

```
FEDFS_NULL
FEDFS_CREATE_JUNCTION
FEDFS_DELETE_JUNCTION
FEDFS_LOOKUP_JUNCTION
FEDFS_SET_NSDB_PARAMS
FEDFS_GET_NSDB_PARAMS
FEDFS_GET_LIMITED_NSDB_PARAMS
```

and SHOULD implement the following procedures:

```
FEDFS_CREATE_REPLICATION
FEDFS_DELETE_REPLICATION
FEDFS_LOOKUP_REPLICATION
```

Fileservers that participate as "leaf" nodes in the namespace (i.e., filesystems that host filesets that are the target of junctions, but that do not contain any junctions) are not required to implement any of these operations.

Operations that modify the state of a replicated fileset MUST result in the update of all of the replicas in a consistent manner. Ideally all of the replicas SHOULD be updated before any operation returns. If one or more of the replicas are unavailable, the operation MAY succeed, but the changes MUST be applied before the unavailable replicas are brought back online. We assume that replicas are updated via some protocol that permits state changes to be reflected consistently across the set of replicas in such a manner that the replicas will converge to a consistent state within a bounded number of successful message exchanges between the servers hosting the replicas.

## 5.1. FEDFS\_NULL

### 5.1.1. Synopsis

The standard NULL procedure.

### 5.1.2. Description

The null RPC, which is included, by convention, in every ONC RPC protocol. This procedure does not take any arguments and does not produce a result.

### 5.1.3. Errors

None.

## 5.2. FEDFS\_CREATE\_JUNCTION

### 5.2.1. Synopsis

Create a new junction from some location on the server (defined as a pathname) to an FSN.

### 5.2.2. Description

This operation creates a junction from a server-relative path to a (potentially) remote fileset named by the given FSN.

The junction directory on the server is identified by a pathname in the form of an array of one or more UTF-8 path component strings. It is not required that this path be accessible in any other manner (e.g., to a file-access client). This path does not appear in the federated namespace, except by coincidence; there is no requirement that the global namespace parallel the server namespace, nor is it required that this path be relative to the server pseudo-root. It does not need to be a path that is accessible via NFS (although the

junction will be of limited utility if the directory specified by the path is not also accessible via NFS).

If the fileset is read-only, then this operation MUST indicate this with a status of FEDFS\_ERR\_ROFS.

If the path contains a character that is not supported by the server, then status FEDFS\_ERR\_BADCHAR MUST be returned.

The path is REQUIRED to exist and be completely local to the server. It MUST NOT contain a junction. If the last component of the path is a junction (i.e., this operation is attempting to create a junction where one already exists), then this operation MUST return the error FEDFS\_ERR\_EXIST (even if the requested junction is identical to the current junction). If any other component of the path is a junction, then this operation MUST fail with status FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTLOCAL. The path might contain a symbolic link (if supported by the local server), but the traversal of the path MUST remain within the server-local namespace.

If any component of the path does not exist, then the operation MUST fail with status FEDFS\_ERR\_INVALID.

The server MAY enforce the local permissions on the path, including the final component. If a server wishes to report that a path cannot be traversed because of insufficient permissions, or the final component is an unexecutable or unwritable directory, then the operation MUST fail with status FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS.

The operation SHOULD fail with status FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_PARAMS if the fileserver does not have any connection parameters on record for the specified NSDB, or the server may allow the operation to proceed using some set of default NSDB connection parameters.

The association between the path and the FSN MUST be durable before the operation returns successfully. If the operation return codes indicates success, then the junction was successfully created and is immediately accessible.

If successful, subsequent references via NFSv4.0 [3530bis] or NFSv4.1 [RFC5661] clients to the directory that has been replaced by the junction will result in a referral to a current location of the target fileset [FEDFS-NSDB].

The effective permissions of the directory that is converted, by this operation, into a junction are the permissions of the root directory of the target fileset. The original permissions of the directory (and any other attributes it might have) are subsumed by the

junction.

This operation does not create a fileset at the location targeted by the junction. If the target fileset does not exist, the junction will still be created. An NFS client will discover the missing fileset when it traverses the junction.

### 5.2.3. Errors

- FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS
- FEDFS\_ERR\_BADCHAR
- FEDFS\_ERR\_BADNAME
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NAME\_TOO\_LONG
- FEDFS\_ERR\_LOOP
- FEDFS\_ERR\_BADXDR
- FEDFS\_ERR\_EXIST
- FEDFS\_ERR\_INVALID
- FEDFS\_ERR\_IO
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NOSPC
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTLOCAL
- FEDFS\_ERR\_PERM
- FEDFS\_ERR\_ROFS
- FEDFS\_ERR\_SVRFAULT
- FEDFS\_ERR\_PATH\_TYPE\_UNSUPP
- FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTSUPP
- FEDFS\_ERR\_DELAY

### 5.3. FEDFS\_DELETE\_JUNCTION

#### 5.3.1. Synopsis

Delete an existing junction from some location on the server (defined as a pathname).

#### 5.3.2. Description

This operation removes a junction specified by a server-relative path.

As with FEDFS\_CREATE\_JUNCTION, the junction on the server is identified by a pathname in the form of an array of one or more UTF-8 path component strings. It is not required that this path be accessible in any other manner (e.g., to a file-access client). This path does not appear in the federated namespace, except by coincidence; there is no requirement that the global namespace reflect the server namespace, nor is it required that this path be relative to the server pseudo-root. It does not need to be a path that is accessible via NFS.

If the fileset is read-only, then this operation MUST indicate this with a status of FEDFS\_ERR\_ROFS.

If the path contains a character that is not supported by the server, then status FEDFS\_ERR\_BADCHAR MUST be returned.

The path used to delete a junction might not be the same path that was used to create the junction. If the namespace on the server has changed, then the junction might now appear at a different path than where it was created. If there is more than one valid path to the junction, any of them can be used.

The path is REQUIRED to exist and be completely local to the server. It MUST NOT contain a junction, except as the final component, which MUST be a junction. If any other component of the path is a junction, then this operation MUST fail with status FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTLOCAL. If the last component of the path is not a junction then this operation MUST return status FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTJUNCT. The path might contain a symbolic link (if supported by the local server), but the traversal of the path MUST remain within the server-local namespace.

The server MAY enforce the local permissions on the path, including the final component. If a server wishes to report that a path cannot be traversed because of insufficient permissions, or the final component is an unexecutable or unwritable directory, then the operation MUST fail with status FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS.

The removal of the association between the path and the FSN MUST be durable before the operation returns successfully. If the operation return codes indicates success, then the junction was successfully destroyed.

The effective permissions and other attributes of the directory that is restored by this operation SHOULD be identical to their value prior to the creation of the junction.

After removal of the junction, the fileserver MAY check if any of its existing junctions reference the NSDB specified in the removed junction's FSN. If the NSDB is not referenced, the fileserver MAY delete the connection parameters of the unreferenced NSDB.

### 5.3.3. Errors

FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADCHAR

FEDFS\_ERR\_BADNAME  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NAMETOOLONG  
FEDFS\_ERR\_LOOP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADXDR  
FEDFS\_ERR\_INVALID  
FEDFS\_ERR\_IO  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTJUNCT  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTLOCAL  
FEDFS\_ERR\_PERM  
FEDFS\_ERR\_ROFS  
FEDFS\_ERR\_SVRFAULT  
FEDFS\_ERR\_PATH\_TYPE\_UNSUPP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTSUPP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_DELAY

#### 5.4. FEDFS\_LOOKUP\_JUNCTION

##### 5.4.1. Synopsis

Query the server to discover the current value of the junction (if any) at a given path in the server namespace.

##### 5.4.2. Description

This operation queries a server to determine whether a given path ends in a junction, and if so, the FSN to which the junction refers and the filerserver's ability to resolve the junction.

Ordinary NFSv4 operations do not provide any general mechanism to determine whether an object is a junction -- there is no encoding specified by the NFSv4 protocol that can represent this information.

As with FEDFS\_CREATE\_JUNCTION, the pathname MUST be in the form of an array of one or more UTF-8 path component strings. It is not required that this path be accessible in any other manner (e.g., to a file-access client). This path does not appear in the federated namespace, except by coincidence; there is no requirement that the global namespace reflect the server namespace, nor is it required that this path be relative to the server pseudo-root. It does not need to be a path that is accessible via NFS.

If the path contains a character that is not supported by the server, then status FEDFS\_ERR\_BADCHAR MUST be returned.

The path used to lookup a junction might not be the same path that was used to create the junction. If the namespace on the server has changed, then a junction might now appear at a different path than where it was created. If there is more than one valid path to the

junction, any of them might be used.

The path is REQUIRED to exist and be completely local to the server. It MUST NOT contain a junction, except as the final component. If any other component of the path is a junction, then this operation MUST fail with status FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTLOCAL. If the last component of the path is not a junction then this operation MUST return the status FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTJUNCT. The path might contain a symbolic link (if supported by the local server), but the traversal of the path MUST remain within the server-local namespace.

The server MAY enforce the local permissions on the path, including the final component. If a server wishes to report that a path cannot be traversed because of insufficient permissions, or the final component is an unexecutable or unwritable directory, then the operation MUST fail with status FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS.

If the junction exists, the resolve parameter allows for testing the fileserver's ability to resolve the junction. If the junction does not exist, the fileserver will ignore the resolve parameter.

If the junction exists and the resolve parameter is set to FEDFS\_RESOLVE\_NONE, the fileserver MUST NOT attempt to resolve the FSN. This will allow the administrator to obtain the junction's FSN even if the resolution would fail. Therefore on success, the result of a FEDFS\_RESOLVE\_NONE call will return a 0 length fsl list in the FedFsLookupResOk structure.

If the junction exists and the resolve parameter is set to FEDFS\_RESOLVE\_CACHE, the fileserver MUST attempt to resolve the FSN using its FSL cache, if one exists. The fileserver MUST NOT resolve the FSN by contacting the appropriate NSDB. If the fileserver's cache does not have a mapping for the FSN in question, the result of the operation MUST be FEDFS\_OK with 0 elements in the FedFsLookupResOk structure's fsl array. The operation MAY fail with status FEDFS\_ERR\_NO\_CACHE if the fileserver does not contain an FSN-to-FSL cache or with status FEDFS\_ERR\_UNKNOWN\_CACHE if the state of the cache is unknown.

If the junction exists and the resolve parameter is set to FEDFS\_RESOLVE\_NSDB, the fileserver MUST attempt to resolve the FSN by contacting the appropriate NSDB. The FSN MUST NOT be resolved using cached information. The resolution MAY fail with FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_ROUTE, FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_DOWN, FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_CONN, FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_AUTH, FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP, FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_VAL, FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_NOFSN, FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_NOFSL, FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_NONCE, FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_RESPONSE, FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_FAULT, FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL, FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL\_VAL,

FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL\_NOTFOLLOWED, or  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_PARAMS\_LDAP\_REFERRAL, depending on the nature of the failure.

In the case of a LDAP failure, the fileserver MUST return either FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP or FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_VAL. FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP indicates that an LDAP protocol error occurred during the resolution. FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_VAL also indicates that an LDAP protocol error occurred during the resolution and allows the LDAP protocol error value to be returned in the FedFsLookupRes's ldapResultCode field (see the resultCode values in Section 4.1.9 of [RFC4511]).

If the NSDB responds with an LDAP referral, either the Referral type defined in Section 4.1.10 of [RFC4511] or the SearchResultReference type defined in Section 4.5.3 of [RFC4511], the fileserver SHOULD process the LDAP referral using the same policies as the fileserver's file-access protocol server. The fileserver MUST indicate a failure while processing the LDAP referral using FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL, FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL\_VAL, FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL\_NOTFOLLOWED, or FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_PARAMS\_LDAP\_REFERRAL. The FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL\_VAL is analogous to the FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_VAL error and allows the LDAP protocol error value to be returned in the FedFsLookupResReferralVal's ldapResultCode field. The FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL and FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_PARAMS\_LDAP\_REFERRAL errors allow the NSDB targeted by the LDAP referral to be returned in the FedFsLookupRes's targetNsdb field. Similarly, the FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL\_VAL error includes this information in the FedFsLookupResReferralVal's targetNsdb.

If the fileserver has a cache of FSL records, the process of resolving an FSN using an NSDB SHOULD result in the cache being updated. A failure to update the cache MAY be indicated with the FEDFS\_ERR\_NO\_CACHE\_UPDATE status value, or the operation may complete successfully.

When updating the cache, new FSLs for the given FSN SHOULD be added to the cache and deleted FSLs SHOULD be removed from the cache. This behavior is desirable because it allows an administrator to proactively request that the fileserver refresh its FSL cache. For example, the administrator might like to refresh the fileserver's cache when changes are made to an FSN's FSLs.

If the junction is resolved, the fileserver will include a list of UUIDs for the FSN's FSLs in the FedFsLookupResOk structure's fsl array.

### 5.4.3. Errors

FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADCHAR  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADNAME  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NAMETOOLONG  
FEDFS\_ERR\_LOOP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADXDR  
FEDFS\_ERR\_INVALID  
FEDFS\_ERR\_IO  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTJUNCT  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTLOCAL  
FEDFS\_ERR\_PERM  
FEDFS\_ERR\_SVRFAULT  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_ROUTE  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_DOWN  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_CONN  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_AUTH  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_VAL  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_NONCE  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_NOFSN  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_NOFSL  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_RESPONSE  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_FAULT  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_PARAMS  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL\_VAL  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL\_NOTFOLLOWED  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_PARAMS\_LDAP\_REFERRAL  
FEDFS\_ERR\_PATH\_TYPE\_UNSUPP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTSUPP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_DELAY  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NO\_CACHE  
FEDFS\_ERR\_UNKNOWN\_CACHE  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NO\_CACHE\_UPDATE

### 5.5. FEDFS\_CREATE\_REPLICATION

#### 5.5.1. Synopsis

Set an FSN representing the replication information for the fileset containing the pathname.

#### 5.5.2. Description

This operation indicates the replication information to be returned for a particular fileset. An NFSv4 client might request `fs_locations`

or `fs_locations_info` at any time to detect other copies of this fileset, and this operation supports this by supplying the FSN the fileserver should use to respond. This FSN should be associated with the entire fileset in which the path resides, and should be used to satisfy `fs_locations` or `fs_locations_info` attribute requests whenever no junction is being accessed; if a junction is being accessed, the FSN specified by `FEDFS_CREATE_JUNCTION` will take precedence. Setting the replication FSN on a fileset that already has a replication FSN set is allowed.

This operation differs from `FEDFS_CREATE_JUNCTION` in that it controls a fileset-wide attribute not associated with a junction.

The server SHOULD permit this operation even on read-only filesets, but MUST return `FEDFS_ERR_ROFS` if this is not possible.

If the path contains a character that is not supported by the server, then status `FEDFS_ERR_BADCHAR` MUST be returned.

The path is REQUIRED to exist and be completely local to the server. It MUST NOT contain a junction. If any component of the path is a junction, then this operation MUST fail with status `FEDFS_ERR_NOTLOCAL`. The path might contain a symbolic link (if supported by the local server), but the traversal of the path MUST remain within the server-local namespace.

The server MAY enforce the local permissions on the path, including the final component. If a server wishes to report that a path cannot be traversed because of insufficient permissions, or the final component is an unexecutable or unwritable directory, then the operation MUST fail with status `FEDFS_ERR_ACCESS`.

The operation SHOULD fail with status `FEDFS_ERR_NSDB_PARAMS` if the fileserver does not have any connection parameters on record for the specified NSDB, or the server may allow the operation to proceed using some set of default NSDB connection parameters.

The same FSN value SHOULD be associated with all replicas of a filesystem. Depending on the underlying representation, the FSN associated with a filesystem might or might not be replicated automatically with the filesystem replication mechanism. Therefore if `FEDFS_CREATE_REPLICATION` is used on one replica of a filesystem, it SHOULD be used on all replicas.

### 5.5.3. Errors

FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADCHAR  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADNAME  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NAMETOOLONG  
FEDFS\_ERR\_LOOP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADXDR  
FEDFS\_ERR\_EXIST  
FEDFS\_ERR\_INVALID  
FEDFS\_ERR\_IO  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NOSPC  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTLOCAL  
FEDFS\_ERR\_PERM  
FEDFS\_ERR\_ROFS  
FEDFS\_ERR\_SVRFAULT  
FEDFS\_ERR\_PATH\_TYPE\_UNSUPP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTSUPP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_DELAY

## 5.6. FEDFS\_DELETE\_REPLICATION

### 5.6.1. Synopsis

Remove the replication information for the fileset containing the pathname.

### 5.6.2. Description

This operation removes any replication information from the fileset in which the path resides, such that NFSv4 client requests for `fs_locations` or `fs_locations_info` in the absence of a junction will not be satisfied.

This operation differs from `FEDFS_DELETE_JUNCTION` in that it controls a fileset-wide attribute not associated with a junction.

The server SHOULD permit this operation even on read-only filesets, but MUST return `FEDFS_ERR_ROFS` if this is not possible.

If the path contains a character that is not supported by the server, then status `FEDFS_ERR_BADCHAR` MUST be returned.

The path is REQUIRED to exist and be completely local to the server. It MUST NOT contain a junction. If any component of the path is a junction, then this operation MUST fail with status `FEDFS_ERR_NOTLOCAL`.

The server MAY enforce the local permissions on the path, including the final component. If a server wishes to report that a path cannot

be traversed because of insufficient permissions, or the final component is an unexecutable or unwritable directory, then the operation MUST fail with status `FEDFS_ERR_ACCESS`.

### 5.6.3. Errors

`FEDFS_ERR_ACCESS`  
`FEDFS_ERR_BADCHAR`  
`FEDFS_ERR_BADNAME`  
`FEDFS_ERR_NAMETOOLONG`  
`FEDFS_ERR_LOOP`  
`FEDFS_ERR_BADXDR`  
`FEDFS_ERR_INVALID`  
`FEDFS_ERR_IO`  
`FEDFS_ERR_NOTJUNCT`  
`FEDFS_ERR_NOTLOCAL`  
`FEDFS_ERR_PERM`  
`FEDFS_ERR_ROFS`  
`FEDFS_ERR_SVRFAULT`  
`FEDFS_ERR_PATH_TYPE_UNSUPP`  
`FEDFS_ERR_NOTSUPP`  
`FEDFS_ERR_DELAY`

## 5.7. `FEDFS_LOOKUP_REPLICATION`

### 5.7.1. Synopsis

Query the server to discover the current replication information (if any) at the given path.

### 5.7.2. Description

This operation queries a server to determine whether a fileset containing the given path has replication information associated with it, and if so, the FSN for that replication information.

This operation differs from `FEDFS_LOOKUP_JUNCTION` in that it inquires about a fileset-wide attribute not associated with a junction.

If the path contains a character that is not supported by the server, then status `FEDFS_ERR_BADCHAR` MUST be returned.

The path is REQUIRED to exist and be completely local to the server. It MUST NOT contain a junction. If any component of the path is a junction, then this operation MUST fail with status `FEDFS_ERR_NOTLOCAL`.

The server MAY enforce the local permissions on the path, including

the final component. If a server wishes to report that a path cannot be traversed because of insufficient permissions, or the final component is an unexecutable or unwritable directory, then the operation MUST fail with status FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS.

Interpretation of the 'resolve' parameter and the procedure's results shall be the same as specified in Section 5.4 for the FEDFS\_LOOKUP\_JUNCTION operation.

### 5.7.3. Errors

FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADCHAR  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADNAME  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NAMETOOLONG  
FEDFS\_ERR\_LOOP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADXDR  
FEDFS\_ERR\_INVALID  
FEDFS\_ERR\_IO  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTJUNCT  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTLOCAL  
FEDFS\_ERR\_PERM  
FEDFS\_ERR\_SVRFAULT  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_ROUTE  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_DOWN  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_CONN  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_AUTH  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_VAL  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_NONCE  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_NOFSN  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_NOFSL  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_RESPONSE  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_FAULT  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_PARAMS  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL\_VAL  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_LDAP\_REFERRAL\_NOTFOLLOWED  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_PARAMS\_LDAP\_REFERRAL  
FEDFS\_ERR\_PATH\_TYPE\_UNSUPP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTSUPP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_DELAY  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NO\_CACHE  
FEDFS\_ERR\_UNKNOWN\_CACHE

## 5.8. FEDFS\_SET\_NSDB\_PARAMS

### 5.8.1. Synopsis

Set the connection parameters for the specified NSDB.

### 5.8.2. Description

This operations allows the administrator to set the connection parameters for a given NSDB.

If a record for the given NSDB does not exist, a new record is created with the specified connection parameters.

If a record for the given NSDB does exist, the existing connection parameters are replaced with the specified connection parameters.

An NSDB is specified using a FedFsNsdbName. The rules in Section 4.1 define when two FedFsNsdbNames are considered equal.

The given NSDB need not be referenced by any junctions on the fileserver. This situation will occur when connection parameters for a new NSDB are installed.

The format of the connection parameters is described above.

On success, this operation returns FEDFS\_OK. When the operation returns, the new connection parameters SHOULD be used for all subsequent LDAP connections to the given NSDB. Existing connections MAY be terminated and re-established using the new connection parameters. The connection parameters SHOULD be durable across fileserver reboots.

On failure, an error value indicating the type of error is returned. If the operation's associated user does not have sufficient permissions to create/modify NSDB connection parameters, the operation MUST return FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS.

### 5.8.3. Errors

FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADCHAR  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADNAME  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADXDR  
FEDFS\_ERR\_INVALID  
FEDFS\_ERR\_IO

FEDFS\_ERR\_NOSPC  
FEDFS\_ERR\_SVRFAULT  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTSUPP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_DELAY

## 5.9. FEDFS\_GET\_NSDB\_PARAMS

### 5.9.1. Synopsis

Get the connection parameters for the specified NSDB.

### 5.9.2. Description

This operations allows the administrator to retrieve connection parameters, if they exist, for the given NSDB.

An NSDB is specified using a FedFsNsdbName. The rules in Section 4.1 define when two FedFsNsdbNames are considered equal.

A set of connection parameters is considered a match if their associated NSDB is equal (as defined above) to the operation's NSDB argument. Therefore, there is at most one set of connection parameters that can match the query described by this operation.

The format of the connection parameters is described above.

On success, this operation returns FEDFS\_OK and the connection parameters on record for the given NSDB.

On failure, an error value indicating the type of error is returned. This operation MUST return FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_PARAMS to indicate that there are no connection parameters on record for the given NSDB. If the operation's associated user does not have sufficient permissions to view NSDB connection parameters, the operation MUST return FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS.

### 5.9.3. Errors

FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADCHAR  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADNAME  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADXDR  
FEDFS\_ERR\_INVALID  
FEDFS\_ERR\_IO  
FEDFS\_ERR\_SVRFAULT  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_PARAMS

FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTSUPP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_DELAY

## 5.10. FEDFS\_GET\_LIMITED\_NSDB\_PARAMS

### 5.10.1. Synopsis

Get a limited subset of the connection parameters for the specified NSDB.

### 5.10.2. Description

This operation allows the administrator to retrieve a limited subset of information on the connection parameters, if they exist, for the given NSDB.

A NSDB is specified using a FedFsNsdbName. The rules in Section 4.1 define when two FedFsNsdbNames are considered equal.

A set of connection parameters is considered a match if their associated NSDB is equal (as defined above) to the operation's NSDB argument. Therefore, there is at most one set of connection parameters that can match the query described by this operation.

This operation returns a limited subset of the connection parameters. Only the FedFsConnectionSec mechanism that is used to protect communication between the fileserver and NSDB is returned.

Viewing the limited subset of NSDB connection parameters returned by FEDFS\_GET\_LIMITED\_NSDB\_PARAMS MAY be a less privileged operation than viewing the entire set of NSDB connection parameters returned by FEDFS\_GET\_NSDB\_PARAMS. For example, the full contents of an NSDB's connection parameters could contain sensitive information for some security mechanisms. FEDFS\_GET\_LIMITED\_NSDB\_PARAMS allows the fileserver to communicate a subset of the connection parameters (the security mechanism) to users with sufficient permissions without revealing more sensitive information.

On success, this operation returns FEDFS\_OK and the FedFsConnectionSec value on record for the given NSDB.

On failure, an error value indicating the type of error is returned. This operation MUST return FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_PARAMS to indicate that there are no connection parameters on record for the given NSDB. If the operation's associated user does not have sufficient permissions to view the subset of NSDB connection parameters returned by this procedure, the operation MUST return FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS.

### 5.10.3. Errors

FEDFS\_ERR\_ACCESS  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADCHAR  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADNAME  
FEDFS\_ERR\_BADXDR  
FEDFS\_ERR\_INVALID  
FEDFS\_ERR\_IO  
FEDFS\_ERR\_SVRFAULT  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NSDB\_PARAMS  
FEDFS\_ERR\_NOTSUPP  
FEDFS\_ERR\_DELAY

## 6. Security Considerations

The Security Considerations of [RFC5531] apply to the protocol described in this document. The ONC RPC protocol supports authentication, integrity and privacy via the RPCSEC\_GSS framework [RFC2203]. Fileservers which support the FedFS administration protocol described above MUST support RPCSEC\_GSS.

As with NFSv4.1 (see Section 2.2.1.1.1.1 of [RFC5661]), FedFS administration protocol clients and servers MUST support RPCSEC\_GSS's integrity and authentication services. FedFS administration protocol servers MUST support RPCSEC\_GSS's privacy service. FedFS administration protocol clients SHOULD support RPCSEC\_GSS's privacy service. When RPCSEC\_GSS is employed on behalf of the FedFS administration protocol, RPCSEC\_GSS data integrity SHOULD be used.

It is strongly RECOMMENDED that an Access Control Service be employed to restrict access to a fileserver's FedFS administration configuration data via the FedFS administrative protocol to prevent FedFS namespace corruption, and protect NSDB communication parameters.

For example, when the FedFsNsdbParams secType field value FEDFS\_SEC\_TLS is chosen, the payload is used to provision the trust anchor root certificate for TLS secure communication between the fileserver and the NSDB. In this case, RPCSEC\_GSS with data integrity SHOULD be employed along with an Access Control Service to restrict access to domain administrators

FEDFS\_GET\_LIMITED\_NSDB\_PARAMS's interaction with the NSDB's connection parameters is discussed in Section 5.10.2.

## 7. IANA Considerations

A range of ONC RPC program numbers were assigned for use by FedFS using the procedure described in Section 7.3 "Program Number Assignment" of [RFC5531]. The FedFS range is:

IETF NFSv4 Working Group - FedFS 100418 - 100421

This document describes version 1 of the ONC RPC program 100418 with the short name "fedfs\_admin", a Description of "FedFS Administration", and a reference of [RFCTBD10]. Program 100418 will be removed from the reserved FedFS range and assigned these new values.

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## Appendix A. Acknowledgments

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The `extract.sh` shell script and formatting conventions were first described by the authors of the NFSv4.1 XDR specification [RFC5662].

#### Appendix B. RFC Editor Notes

[RFC Editor: please remove this section prior to publishing this document as an RFC]

[RFC Editor: prior to publishing this document as an RFC, please replace all occurrences of RFCTBD10 with RFCxxxx where xxxx is the RFC number of this document]

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NSDB Protocol for Federated Filesystems  
draft-ietf-nfsv4-federated-fs-protocol-15

Abstract

This document describes a filesystem federation protocol that enables file access and namespace traversal across collections of independently administered file servers. The protocol specifies a set of interfaces by which file servers with different administrators can form a file server federation that provides a namespace composed of the filesystems physically hosted on and exported by the constituent file servers.

Requirements Language

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119].

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## 1. Introduction

A federated filesystem enables file access and namespace traversal in a uniform, secure and consistent manner across multiple independent filesystems within an enterprise or across multiple enterprises.

This document specifies a set of protocols that allow filesystems, possibly from different vendors and with different administrators, to cooperatively form a federation containing one or more federated filesystems. Each federated filesystem's namespace is composed of the filesystems physically hosted on and exported by the federation's filesystems. A federation comprises a common namespace across all its filesystems. A federation can project multiple namespaces and enable clients to traverse each one. A federation can contain an arbitrary number of namespace repositories, each belonging to a different administrative entity, and each rendering a part of the namespace. A federation might also have an arbitrary number of administrative entities responsible for administering disjoint subsets of the filesystems.

Traditionally, building a namespace that spans multiple filesystems has been difficult for two reasons. First, the filesystems that export pieces of the namespace are often not in the same administrative domain. Second, there is no standard mechanism for the filesystems to cooperatively present the namespace. Filesystems may provide proprietary management tools and in some cases an administrator may be able to use the proprietary tools to build a shared namespace out of the exported filesystems. However, relying on vendor-specific proprietary tools does not work in larger enterprises or when collaborating across enterprises because the filesystems are likely to be from multiple vendors or use different software versions, each with their own namespace protocols, with no common mechanism to manage the namespace or exchange namespace information.

The federated filesystem protocols in this document define how to construct a namespace accessible by an NFSv4.0 [3530bis], NFSv4.1 [RFC5661] or newer client and have been designed to accommodate other file access protocols in the future.

The requirements for federated filesystems are described in [RFC5716]. A protocol for administering a filesystem's namespace is described in [FEDFS-ADMIN]. The mechanism for discovering the root of a federated namespace is described in [RFC6641].

In the rest of the document, the term filesystem denotes a filesystem that is part of a federation.

## 2. Overview of Features and Concepts

### 2.1. File-access Protocol

A file-access protocol is a network protocol for accessing data. The NFSv4.0 protocol [3530bis] is an example of a file-access protocol.

### 2.2. File-access Client

File-access clients are standard off-the-shelf network attached storage (NAS) clients that communicate with file servers using a standard file-access protocol.

### 2.3. Fileserver

File servers are servers that store physical fileset data, or refer file-access clients to other file servers. A file server provides access to its shared filesystem data via a file-access protocol. A file server may be implemented in a number of different ways, including a single system, a cluster of systems, or some other configuration.

### 2.4. Referral

A referral is a mechanism by which a file server redirects a file-access client to a different file server or export. The exact information contained in a referral varies from one file-access protocol to another. The NFSv4.0 protocol, for example, defines the `fs_locations` attribute for returning referral information to NFSv4.0 clients. The NFSv4.1 protocol introduces the `fs_locations_info` attribute that can return richer referral information to its clients. NFSv4.1 file servers may use either attribute during a referral. Both attributes are defined in [RFC5661].

### 2.5. Namespace

The goal of a unified namespace is to make all managed data available to any file-access client via the same path in a common filesystem namespace. This should be achieved with minimal or zero configuration on file-access clients. In particular, updates to the common namespace should not require configuration changes to any file-access client.

Filesets, which are the unit of data management, are a set of files and directories. From the perspective of file-access clients, the common namespace is constructed by mounting filesets that are physically located on different file servers. The namespace, which is defined in terms of fileset names and locations, is stored in a set

of namespace repositories, each managed by an administrative entity.

The namespace schema defines the model used for populating, modifying, and querying the namespace repositories. It is not required by the federation that the namespace be common across all file servers. It should be possible to have several independently rooted namespaces.

## 2.6. Fileset

A fileset is loosely defined as a set of files and the directory tree that contains them. The fileset abstraction is the basic unit of data management. Depending on the configuration, a fileset may be anything from an individual directory of an exported filesystem to an entire exported filesystem on a file server.

## 2.7. Fileset Name (FSN)

A fileset is uniquely represented by its fileset name (FSN). An FSN is considered unique across a federation. After an FSN is created, it is associated with one or more fileset locations (FSLs) on one or more file servers.

An FSN consists of:

**NsdbName:** the network location of the Namespace Database (NSDB) node that contains authoritative information for this FSN.

**FsnUuid:** a UUID (universally unique identifier), conforming to [RFC4122], that is used to uniquely identify an FSN.

**FsnTTL:** the time-to-live of the FSN's FSL information, in seconds. File servers MUST NOT use cached FSL records after the parent FSN's FsnTTL has expired. An FsnTTL value of zero indicates that file servers MUST NOT cache the results of resolving this FSN.

The NsdbName is not physically stored as an attribute of the record. The NsdbName is obvious to any client that accesses an NSDB, and is indeed authenticated in cases where TLS security is in effect.

The FsnUuid and NsdbName values never change during an FSN's lifetime. However, an FSN's FSL information can change over time, and is typically cached on file servers for performance. More detail on FSL caching is provided in Section 2.8.3.

An FSN record may also contain:

Annotations: name/value pairs that can be interpreted by a fileserver. The semantics of this field are not defined by this document. These tuples are intended to be used by higher-level protocols.

Descriptions: text descriptions. The semantics of this field are not defined by this document.

## 2.8. Fileset Location (FSL)

An FSL describes one physical location where a complete copy of the fileset's data resides. An FSL contains generic and type specific information which together describe how to access the fileset data at this location. An FSL's attributes can be used by a fileserver to decide which locations it will return to a file-access client.

An FSL consists of:

FslUuid: a UUID, conforming to [RFC4122], that is used to uniquely identify an FSL.

FsnUuid: the UUID of the FSL's FSN.

NsdbName: the network location of the NSDB node that contains authoritative information for this FSL.

The NsdbName is not stored as an attribute of an FSL record for the same reason it is not stored in FSN records.

An FSL record may also contain:

Annotations: name/value pairs that can be interpreted by a fileserver. The semantics of this field are not defined by this document. These tuples are intended to be used by higher-level protocols.

Descriptions: text descriptions. The semantics of this field are not defined by this document.

In addition to the attributes defined above, an FSL record contains attributes that allow a fileserver to construct referrals. For each file-access protocol, a corresponding FSL record subtype is defined.

This document defines an FSL subtype for NFS. An NFS FSL contains information suitable for use in one of the NFSv4 referral attributes (e.g., fs\_locations or fs\_locations\_info, described in [RFC5661]). Section 4.2.2.4 describes the contents of an NFS FSL record.

A fileset also may be accessible by file-access protocols other than NFS. The contents and format of such FSL subtypes are not defined in this document.

#### 2.8.1. The NFS URI scheme

To capture the location of an NFSv4 fileset, we extend the NFS URL scheme specified in [RFC2224]. This extension follows rules for defining Uniform Resource Identifier schemes (see [RFC3986]). In the following text, we refer to this extended NFS URL scheme as an NFS URI.

An NFS URI MUST contain both an authority and a path component. It MUST NOT contain a query component or a fragment component. Use of the familiar "nfs" scheme name is retained.

##### 2.8.1.1. The NFS URI authority component

The rules for encoding the authority component of a generic URI are specified in section 3.2 of [RFC3986]. The authority component of an NFS URI MUST contain the host subcomponent. For globally-scoped NFS URIs, a hostname used in such URIs SHOULD be a fully qualified domain name. See section 3.2.2 of [RFC3986] for rules on encoding non-ASCII characters in hostnames.

An NFS URI MAY contain a port subcomponent as described in section 3.2.3 of [RFC3986]. If this subcomponent is missing, a port value of 2049 is assumed, as specified in [3530bis], Section 3.1.

##### 2.8.1.2. The NFS URI path component

The rules for encoding the path component of a generic URI are specified in section 3.3 of [RFC3986].

According to sections 5 and 6 of [RFC2224], NFS URLs specify a pathname relative to an NFS fileserver's "public filehandle." However, NFSv4 fileservers do not expose a "public filehandle." Instead, NFSv4 pathnames contained in an NFS URI are evaluated relative to the pseudoroot of the fileserver identified in the URI's authority component.

Each component of an NFSv4 pathname is represented as a component4 string (see Section 3.2, "Basic Data Types" of [RFC5661]). The component4 elements of an NFSv4 pathname are encoded as path segments in an NFS URI. NFSv4 pathnames MUST be expressed in an NFS URI as an absolute path. An NFS URI path component MUST NOT be empty. The NFS URI path component starts with a slash ("/") character, followed by one or more path segments which each start with a slash ("/")

character [RFC3986].

Therefore, a double slash always follows the authority component of an NFS URI. For example, the NFSv4 pathname "/" is represented by two slash ("/") characters following an NFS URI's authority component.

The component4 elements of an NFSv4 pathname MUST be prepared using the component4 rules defined in Chapter 12 "Internationalization" of [3530bis] prior to encoding the path component of an NFS URI. As specified in [RFC3986], any non-ASCII characters and any URI-reserved characters, such as the slash ("/") character, contained in a component4 element MUST be represented by URI percent encoding.

#### 2.8.1.3. Encoding an NFS location in an FSL

The path component of an NFS URI encodes the "rootpath" field of the NFSv4 fs\_location4 data type or the "fli\_rootpath" of the NFSv4 fs\_locations\_item4 data type (see [RFC5661]).

In its "server" field, the NFSv4 fs\_location4 data type contains a list of universal addresses and DNS labels. Each may optionally include a port number. The exact encoding requirements for this information is found in Section 12.6 of [3530bis]. The NFSv4 fs\_locations\_item4 data type encodes the same data in its "fli\_entries" field (see [RFC5661]). This information is encoded in the authority component of an NFS URI.

The "server" and "fli\_entries" fields can encode multiple server hostnames that share the same pathname. An NFS URI, and hence an FSL record, represents only a single hostname and pathname pair. An NFS fileserver MUST NOT combine a set of FSL records into a single fs\_location4 or fs\_locations\_item4 unless each FSL record in the set contains the same rootpath value and extended filesystem information.

#### 2.8.2. Mutual Consistency across Fileset Locations

All of the FSLs that have the same FSN (and thereby reference the same fileset) are equivalent from the point of view of access by a file-access client. Different fileset locations for an FSN represent the same data, though potentially at different points in time. Fileset locations are equivalent but not identical. Locations may either be read-only or read-write. Typically, multiple read-write locations are backed by a clustered filesystem while read-only locations are replicas created by a federation-initiated or external replication operation. Read-only locations may represent consistent point-in-time copies of a read-write location. The federation protocols, however, cannot prevent subsequent changes to a read-only

location nor guarantee point-in-time consistency of a read-only location if the read-write location is changing.

Regardless of the type, one file-access client may be referred to a location described by one FSL while another client chooses to use a location described by another FSL. Since updates to each fileset location are not controlled by the federation protocol, it is the responsibility of administrators to guarantee the functional equivalence of the data.

The federation protocols do not guarantee that different fileset locations are mutually consistent in terms of the currency of their data. However, they provide a means to publish currency information so that all file servers in a federation can convey the same information to file-access clients during referrals. Clients use this information to ensure they do not revert to an out-of-date version of a fileset's data when switching between fileset locations. NFSv4.1 provides guidance on how replication can be handled in such a manner. In particular see Section 11.7 of [RFC5661].

### 2.8.3. Caching of Fileset Locations

To resolve an FSN to a set of FSL records, a file server queries the NSDB node named in the FSN for FSL records associated with this FSN. The parent FSN's `FsnTTL` attribute (see Section 2.7) specifies the period of time during which a file server may cache these FSL records.

The combination of FSL caching and FSL migration presents a challenge. For example, suppose there are three file servers named A, B, and C. Suppose further that file server A contains a junction J to fileset X stored on file server B (see Section 2.10 for a description of junctions).

Now suppose that fileset X is migrated from file server B to file server C, and the corresponding FSL information for fileset X in the authoritative NSDB is updated.

If file server A has cached FSLs for fileset X, a file-access client traversing junction J on file server A will be referred to file server B, even though fileset X has migrated to file server C. If file server A had not cached the FSL records, it would have queried the NSDB and obtained the correct location of fileset X.

Typically, the process of fileset migration leaves a redirection on the source file server in place of a migrated fileset (without such a redirection, file-access clients would find an empty space where the migrated fileset was, which defeats the purpose of a managed migration).

This redirection might be a new junction that targets the same FSN as other junctions referring to the migrated fileset, or it might be some other kind of directive, depending on the fileserver implementation, that simply refers file-access clients to the new location of the migrated fileset.

Back to our example. Suppose, as part of the migration process, a junction replaces fileset X on fileserver B. Later, either:

- o New file-access clients are referred to fileserver B by stale FSL information cached on fileserver A, or
- o File-access clients continue to access fileserver B because they cache stale location data for fileset X.

In either case, thanks to the redirection, file-access clients are informed by fileserver B that fileset X has moved to fileserver C.

Such redirecting junctions (here, on fileserver B) would not be required to be in place forever. They need to stay in place at least until FSL entries cached on fileserver and locations cached on file-access clients for the target fileset are invalidated.

The FsnTTL field in the FSL's parent FSN (see Section 2.7) specifies an upper bound for the lifetime of cached FSL information, and thus can act as a lower bound for the lifetime of redirecting junctions.

For example, suppose the FsnTTL field contains the value 3600 seconds (one hour). In such a case, administrators SHOULD keep the redirection in place for at least one hour after a fileset migration has taken place, because a referring fileserver might cache the FSL data during that time before refreshing it.

To get file-access clients to access the destination fileserver more quickly, administrators SHOULD set the FsnTTL field of the migrated fileset to a low number or zero before migration begins. It can be reset to a more reasonable number at a later point.

Note that some file-access protocols do not communicate location cache expiry information to file-access clients. In some cases it may be difficult to determine an appropriate lifetime for redirecting junctions because file-access clients may cache location information indefinitely.

#### 2.8.4. Generating A Referral from Fileset Locations

After resolving an FSN to a set of FSL records, the fileserver generates a referral to redirect a file-access client to one or more

of the FSN's FSLs. The fileserver converts the FSL records to a referral format understood by a particular file-access client, such as an NFSv4 `fs_locations` or `fs_locations_info` attribute.

To give file-access clients as many options as possible, the fileserver SHOULD include the maximum possible number of FSL records in a referral. However, the fileserver MAY omit some of the FSL records from the referral. For example, the fileserver might omit an FSL record because of limitations in the file access protocol's referral format.

For a given FSL record, the fileserver MAY convert or reduce the FSL record's contents in a manner appropriate to the referral format. For example, an NFS FSL record contains all the data necessary to construct an `fs_locations_info` attribute, but an `fs_locations_info` attribute contains several pieces of information that are not found in the simpler `fs_locations` attribute. A fileserver constructs entries in an `fs_locations` attribute using the relevant contents of an NFS FSL record.

Whenever the fileserver converts or reduces FSL data, the fileserver SHOULD attempt to maintain the original meaning where possible. For example, an NFS FSL record contains the rank and order information that is included in an `fs_locations_info` attribute (see NFSv4.1's `FSLI4BX_READRANK`, `FSLI4BX_READORDER`, `FSLI4BX_WRITERANK`, and `FSLI4BX_WRITEORDER`). While this rank and order information is not explicitly expressible in an `fs_locations` attribute, the fileserver can arrange the `fs_locations` attribute's locations list based on the rank and order values.

Another example: A single NFS FSL record contains the hostname of one fileserver. A single `fs_locations` attribute can contain a list of fileserver names. An NFS fileserver MAY combine two or more FSL records into a single entry in an `fs_locations` or `fs_locations_info` array only if each FSL record contains the same pathname and extended filesystem information.

Refer to the NFSv4.1 protocol specification [RFC5661], sections 11.9 and 11.10, for further details.

## 2.9. Namespace Database (NSDB)

The NSDB service is a federation-wide service that provides interfaces to define, update, and query FSN information, FSL information, and FSN to FSL mapping information.

An individual repository of namespace information is called an NSDB node. The difference between the NSDB service and an NSDB node is

analogous to that between the DNS service and a particular DNS server.

Each NSDB node is managed by a single administrative entity. A single administrative entity can manage multiple NSDB nodes.

Each NSDB node stores the definition of the FSNs for which it is authoritative. It also stores the definitions of the FSLs associated with those FSNs. An NSDB node is authoritative for the filesets that it defines.

An NSDB MAY be replicated throughout the federation. If an NSDB is replicated, the NSDB MUST exhibit loose, converging consistency as defined in [RFC3254]. The mechanism by which this is achieved is outside the scope of this document. Many LDAP implementations support replication. These features MAY be used to replicate the NSDB.

#### 2.9.1. NSDB Client

Each NSDB node supports an LDAP [RFC4510] interface. An NSDB client is software that uses the LDAP protocol to access or update namespace information stored on an NSDB node. Details of these transactions are discussed in Section 4.

A domain's administrative entity uses NSDB client software to manage information stored on NSDB nodes.

Fileservers act as an NSDB client when contacting a particular NSDB node to resolve an FSN to a set of FSL records. The resulting location information is then transferred to file-access clients via referrals. Therefore file-access clients never have need to access NSDBs directly.

#### 2.10. Junctions and Referrals

A junction is a point in a particular fileset namespace where a specific target fileset may be attached. If a file-access client traverses the path leading from the root of a federated namespace to the junction referring to a target fileset, it should be able to mount and access the data in that target fileset (assuming appropriate permissions). In other words, a junction can be viewed as a reference from a directory in one fileset to the root of the target fileset.

A junction can be implemented as a special marker on a directory, or by some other mechanism in the fileserver's underlying filesystem. What data is used by the fileserver to represent junctions is not

defined by this document. The essential property is that given a junction, a fileserver must be able to find the FSN for the target fileset.

When a file-access client reaches a junction, the fileserver refers the client to a list of FSLs associated with the FSN targeted by the junction. The client can then mount one of the associated FSLs.

The federation protocols do not limit where and how many times a fileset is mounted in the namespace. Filesets can be nested; a fileset can be mounted under another fileset.

#### 2.11. Unified Namespace and the Root Fileset

The root fileset, when defined, is the top-level fileset of the federation-wide namespace. The root of the unified namespace is the top level directory of this fileset. A set of designated file servers in the federation can export the root fileset to render the federation-wide unified namespace. When a file-access client mounts the root fileset from any of these designated file servers it can view a common federation-wide namespace.

#### 2.12. UUID Considerations

To ensure FSN and FSL records are unique across a domain, FedFS employs UUIDs conforming to [RFC4122] to form the distinguished names of LDAP records containing FedFS data (see Section 4.2.2.2).

Because junctions store a tuple containing an FSN UUID and the name and port of an NSDB node, an FSN UUID must be unique only on a single NSDB node. An FSN UUID collision can be detected immediately when an administrator attempts to publish an FSN or FSL by storing it under a specific NSDB Container Entry (NCE) on an authoritative NSDB host.

Note that one NSDB node may store multiple NCEs, each under a different namingContext. If an NSDB node must contain more than one NCE, the federation's admin entity SHOULD provide a robust method for preventing FSN UUID collisions between FSNs that reside on the same NSDB node but under different NCEs.

Because FSLs are children of FSNs, FSL UUIDs must be unique for just a single FSN. As with FSNs, as soon as an FSL is published, its uniqueness is guaranteed.

A fileserver performs the operations described in Section 5.2 as an unauthenticated user. Thus distinguished names of FSN and FSL records, as well as the FSN and FSL records themselves, are required to be readable by anyone who can bind anonymously to an NSDB node.

Therefore FSN and FSL UUIDs should be considered public information.

Version 1 UUIDs contain a host's MAC address and a time stamp in the clear. This gives provenance to each UUID, but attackers can use such details to guess information about the host where the UUID was generated. Security-sensitive installations should be aware that on externally-facing NSDBs, UUIDs can reveal information about the hosts where they are generated.

In addition, version 1 UUIDs depend on the notion that a hardware MAC address is unique across machines. As virtual machines do not depend on unique physical MAC addresses and in any event an administrator can modify the physical MAC address, version 1 UUIDs are no longer considered sufficient.

To minimize the probability of UUIDs colliding, a consistent procedure for generating UUIDs should be used throughout a federation. Within a federation, UUIDs SHOULD be generated using the procedure described for version 4 of the UUID variant specified in [RFC4122].

### 3. Examples

In this section we provide examples and discussion of the basic operations facilitated by the federated filesystem protocol: creating a fileset, adding a replica of a fileset, resolving a junction, and creating a junction.

#### 3.1. Creating a Fileset and its FSL(s)

A fileset is the abstraction of a set of files and the directory tree that contains them. The fileset abstraction is the fundamental unit of data management in the federation. This abstraction is implemented by an actual directory tree whose root location is specified by a fileset location (FSL).

In this section, we describe the basic requirements for starting with a directory tree and creating a fileset that can be used in the federation protocols. Note that we do not assume that the process of creating a fileset requires any transformation of the files or the directory hierarchy. The only thing that is required by this process is assigning the fileset a fileset name (FSN) and expressing the location of the implementation of the fileset as an FSL.

There are many possible variations to this procedure, depending on how the FSN that binds the FSL is created, and whether other replicas of the fileset exist, are known to the federation, and need to be

bound to the same FSN.

It is easiest to describe this in terms of how to create the initial implementation of the fileset, and then describe how to add replicas.

### 3.1.1. Creating a Fileset and an FSN

1. Choose the NSDB node that will keep track of the FSL(s) and related information for the fileset.
2. Create an FSN in the NSDB node.

The FSN UUID is chosen by the administrator or generated automatically by administration software. The former case is used if the fileset is being restored, perhaps as part of disaster recovery, and the administrator wishes to specify the FSN UUID in order to permit existing junctions that reference that FSN to work again.

At this point, the FSN exists, but its fileset locations are unspecified.

3. For the FSN created above, create an FSL in the NSDB node that describes the physical location of the fileset data.

### 3.1.2. Adding a Replica of a Fileset

Adding a replica is straightforward: the NSDB node and the FSN are already known. The only remaining step is to add another FSL.

Note that the federation protocols provide only the mechanisms to register and unregister replicas of a fileset. Fileserver-to-fileserver replication protocols are not defined.

## 3.2. Junction Resolution

A fileset may contain references to other filesets. These references are represented by junctions. If a file-access client requests access to a fileset object that is a junction, the fileserver resolves the junction to discover one or more FSLs that implement the referenced fileset.

There are many possible variations to this procedure, depending on how the junctions are represented by the fileserver and how the fileserver performs junction resolution.

Step 4 is the only step that interacts directly with the federation protocols. The rest of the steps may use platform-specific

interfaces.

1. The fileserver determines that the object being accessed is a junction.
2. The fileserver does a local lookup to find the FSN of the target fileset.
3. Using the FSN, the fileserver finds the NSDB node responsible for the target FSN.
4. The fileserver contacts that NSDB node and asks for the set of FSLs that implement the target FSN. The NSDB node responds with a (possibly empty) set of FSLs.
5. The fileserver converts one or more of the FSLs to the location type used by the file-access client (e.g., an NFSv4 `fs_locations` attribute as described in [RFC5661]).
6. The fileserver redirects (in whatever manner is appropriate for the client) the client to the location(s).

### 3.3. Example Use Cases for Fileset Annotations

Fileset annotations can convey additional attributes of a fileset. For example, fileset annotations can be used to define relationships between filesets that can be used by an auxiliary replication protocol. Consider the scenario where a fileset is created and mounted at some point in the namespace. A snapshot of the read-write FSL of that fileset is taken periodically at different frequencies (say, a daily or weekly snapshot). The different snapshots are mounted at different locations in the namespace.

The daily snapshots are considered as different filesets from the weekly ones, but both are related to the source fileset. We can define an annotation labeling the filesets as source and replica. The replication protocol can use this information to copy data from one or more FSLs of the source fileset to all the FSLs of the replica fileset. The replica filesets are read-only while the source fileset is read-write.

This follows the traditional Andrew File System (AFS) model of mounting the read-only volume at a path in the namespace different from that of the read-write volume [AFS].

The federation protocol does not control or manage the relationship among filesets. It merely enables annotating the filesets with user-defined relationships.

Another potential use for annotations is recording references to an FSN. A single annotation containing the number of references could be defined; or multiple annotations, one per reference, could be used to store detailed information on the location of each reference.

As with the replication annotation described above, the maintenance of reference information would not be controlled by the federation protocol. The information would most likely be non-authoritative because the ability to create a junction does not require the authority to update the FSN record. In any event, such annotations could be useful to administrators for determining if an FSN is referenced by a junction.

#### 4. NSDB Configuration and Schema

This section describes how an NSDB is constructed using an LDAP Version 3 [RFC4510] Directory. Section 4.1 describes the basic properties of the LDAP configuration that **MUST** be used in order to ensure compatibility between different implementations. Section 4.2 defines the new LDAP attribute types, the new object types, and specifies how the distinguished name (DN) of each object instance **MUST** be constructed.

##### 4.1. LDAP Configuration

An NSDB is constructed using an LDAP Directory. This LDAP Directory **MAY** have multiple naming contexts. The LDAP Directory's DSA-specific entry (its rootDSE) has a multi-valued `namingContext` attribute. Each value of the `namingContext` attribute is the DN of a naming context's root entry (see [RFC4512]).

For each naming context that contains federation entries (e.g., FSNS and FSLs):

1. There **MUST** be an LDAP entry that is superior to all of the naming context's federation entries in the Directory Information Tree (DIT). This entry is termed the NSDB Container Entry (NCE). The NCE's children are FSNS. An FSN's children are FSLs.
2. The naming context's root entry **MUST** include the `fedfsNsdbContainerInfo` (defined below) as one of its object classes. The `fedfsNsdbContainerInfo`'s `fedfsNcedn` attribute is used to locate the naming context's NCE.

If a naming context does not contain federation entries, it will not contain an NCE and its root entry will not include a `fedfsNsdbContainerInfo` as one of its object classes.

A `fedfsNsdbContainerInfo`'s `fedfsNceDN` attribute contains the Distinguished Name (DN) of the NSDB Container Entry residing under this naming context. The `fedfsNceDN` attribute MUST NOT be empty.

For example, an LDAP directory might have the following entries:

```

-+ [root DSE]
  |   namingContext: o=fedfs
  |   namingContext: dc=example,dc=com
  |   namingContext: ou=system
  |
+---- [o=fedfs]
  |   fedfsNceDN: o=fedfs
  |
+---- [dc=example,dc=com]
  |   fedfsNceDN: ou=fedfs,ou=corp-it,dc=example,dc=com
  |
+---- [ou=system]

```

In this case, the `o=fedfs` namingContext has an NSDB Container Entry at `o=fedfs`, the `dc=example,dc=com` namingContext has an NSDB Container Entry at `ou=fedfs,ou=corp-it,dc=example,dc=com`, and the `ou=system` namingContext has no NSDB Container Entry.

The NSDB SHOULD be configured with one or more privileged LDAP users. These users are able to modify the contents of the LDAP database. An administrator that performs the operations described in Section 5.1 SHOULD authenticate using the DN of a privileged LDAP user.

It MUST be possible for an unprivileged (unauthenticated) user to perform LDAP queries that access the NSDB data. A fileserver performs the operations described in Section 5.2 as an unprivileged user.

All implementations SHOULD use the same schema. At minimum, each MUST use a schema that includes all objects named in the following sections, with all associated attributes. If it is necessary for an implementation to extend the schema defined here, consider using one of the following ways to extend the schema:

- o Define a `fedfsAnnotation` key and values (see Section 4.2.1.6). Register the new key and values with IANA (see Section 7.1).
- o Define additional attribute types and object classes, then have entries inherit from a class defined in this document and from the

implementation-defined ones.

Given the above configuration guidelines, an NSDB SHOULD be constructed using a dedicated LDAP server. If LDAP directories are needed for other purposes, such as to store user account information, use of a separate LDAP server for those is RECOMMENDED. By using an LDAP server dedicated to storing NSDB records, there is no need to disturb the configuration of any other LDAP directories that store information unrelated to an NSDB.

#### 4.2. LDAP Schema

The schema definitions provided in this document use the LDAP schema syntax defined in [RFC4512]. The definitions are formatted to allow the reader to easily extract them from the document. The reader can use the following shell script to extract the definitions:

```
<CODE BEGINS>

#!/bin/sh
grep '^ *///' | sed 's?^ */// ??' | sed 's?^ *///$??'

<CODE ENDS>
```

If the above script is stored in a file called "extract.sh", and this document is in a file called "spec.txt", then the reader can do:

```
<CODE BEGINS>

sh extract.sh < spec.txt > fedfs.schema

<CODE ENDS>
```

The effect of the script is to remove leading white space from each line, plus a sentinel sequence of "///".

Code components extracted from this document must include the following license:

```
<CODE BEGINS>
```

```
/// #
/// # Copyright (c) 2010-2012 IETF Trust and the persons identified
/// # as authors of the code. All rights reserved.
/// #
/// # The authors of the code are the authors of
/// # [draft-ietf-nfsv4-federated-fs-protocol-xx.txt]: J. Lentini,
/// # C. Everhart, D. Ellard, R. Tewari, and M. Naik.
/// #
/// # Redistribution and use in source and binary forms, with
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/// #   Trust, nor the names of specific contributors, may be
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/// # EVENT SHALL THE COPYRIGHT OWNER OR CONTRIBUTORS BE
/// # LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL,
/// # EXEMPLARY, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING, BUT
/// # NOT LIMITED TO, PROCUREMENT OF SUBSTITUTE GOODS OR
/// # SERVICES; LOSS OF USE, DATA, OR PROFITS; OR BUSINESS
/// # INTERRUPTION) HOWEVER CAUSED AND ON ANY THEORY OF
/// # LIABILITY, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY,
/// # OR TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE) ARISING
/// # IN ANY WAY OUT OF THE USE OF THIS SOFTWARE, EVEN IF
/// # ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE.
/// #
```

<CODE ENDS>

#### 4.2.1. LDAP Attributes

The following definitions are used below:

- o The "name" attribute described in [RFC4519].
- o The Integer syntax (1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27) described in [RFC4517].
- o The "integerMatch" rule described in [RFC4517].
- o The Octet String syntax (1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.40) described in [RFC4517].
- o The "octetStringMatch" rule described in [RFC4517].
- o The Boolean syntax (1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.7) described in [RFC4517].
- o The "booleanMatch" rule described in [RFC4517].
- o The "distinguishedNameMatch" rule described in [RFC4517].
- o The DN syntax (1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.12) described in [RFC4517].
- o The "labeledURI" attribute described in [RFC2079].
- o The UUID syntax (1.3.6.1.1.16.1) described in [RFC4530].
- o The UuidMatch rule described in [RFC4530].
- o The UuidOrderingMatch rule described in [RFC4530].

##### 4.2.1.1. fedfsUuid

A fedfsUuid is the base type for all of the universally unique identifiers (UUIDs) used by the federated filesystem protocols.

The fedfsUuid type is based on rules and syntax defined in [RFC4530].

A fedfsUuid is a single-valued LDAP attribute.

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
///     1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.1 NAME 'fedfsUuid'  
///     DESC 'A UUID used by NSDB'  
///     EQUALITY uuidMatch  
///     ORDERING uuidOrderingMatch  
///     SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.1.16.1  
///     SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

#### 4.2.1.2. fedfsFsnUuid

A fedfsFsnUuid represents the UUID component of an FSN. An NSDB SHOULD ensure that no two FSNs it stores have the same fedfsFsnUuid.

This attribute is single-valued.

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
///     1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.4 NAME 'fedfsFsnUuid'  
///     DESC 'The FSN UUID component of an FSN'  
///     SUP fedfsUuid  
///     SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

#### 4.2.1.3. fedfsFsnTTL

A fedfsFsnTTL is the time-to-live in seconds of a cached FSN and its child FSL records. It corresponds to the FsnTTL as defined in Section 2.7. See also Section Section 2.8.3 for information about caching FSLs. A fedfsFsnTTL MUST be encoded as an Integer syntax value [RFC4517] in the range [0, 4294967295].

This attribute is single-valued.

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
///     1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.11 NAME 'fedfsFsnTTL'  
///     DESC 'Time to live of an FSN tree'  
///     EQUALITY integerMatch  
///     SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
///     SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27 is the Integer syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.4. fedfsNceDN

A fedfsNceDN stores a distinguished name (DN).

This attribute is single-valued.

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
///     1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.14 NAME 'fedfsNceDN'  
///     DESC 'NCE Distinguished Name'  
///     EQUALITY distinguishedNameMatch  
///     SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.12  
///     SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.12 is the DN syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.5. fedfsFslUuid

A fedfsFslUuid represents the UUID of an FSL. An NSDB SHOULD ensure that no two FSLs it stores have the same fedfsFslUuid.

This attribute is single-valued.

<CODE BEGINS>

```

///
/// attributetype (
///     1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.8 NAME 'fedfsFslUuid'
///     DESC 'UUID of an FSL'
///     SUP fedfsUuid
///     SINGLE-VALUE
/// )
///

```

<CODE ENDS>

#### 4.2.1.6. fedfsAnnotation

A fedfsAnnotation contains an object annotation formatted as a key/value pair.

This attribute is multi-valued; an object type that permits annotations may have any number of annotations per instance.

A fedfsAnnotation attribute is a human-readable sequence of UTF-8 characters with no non-terminal NUL characters. The value MUST be formatted according to the following ABNF [RFC5234] rules:

```

ANNOTATION = KEY "=" VALUE
KEY = ITEM
VALUE = ITEM
ITEM = *WSP DQUOTE UTF8-octets DQUOTE *WSP

```

DQUOTE and WSP are defined in [RFC5234], and UTF8-octets is defined in [RFC3629].

The following escape sequences are allowed:

escape sequence	replacement
\\	\
\"	"

A fedfsAnnotation value might be processed as follows:

1. Parse the attribute value according to the ANNOTATION rule, ignoring the escape sequences above.
2. Scan through results of the previous step and replace the escape sequences above.

A fedfsAnnotation attribute that does not adhere to this format SHOULD be ignored in its entirety. It MUST NOT prevent further processing of its containing entry.

The following are examples of valid fedfsAnnotation attributes:

```
"key1" = "foo"
"another key" = "x=3"
"key-2" = "A string with \" and \\ characters."
"key3"="bar"
```

which correspond to the following key/value pairs:

key	value
key1	foo
another key	x=3
key-2	A string with " and \ characters.
key3	bar

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///
/// attributetype (
///     1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.12 NAME 'fedfsAnnotation'
///     DESC 'Annotation of an object'
///     SUP name
/// )
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

#### 4.2.1.7. fedfsDescr

A fedfsDescr stores an object description. The description MUST be encoded as a UTF-8 string.

This attribute is multi-valued which permits any number of descriptions per entry.

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
///     1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.13 NAME 'fedfsDescr'  
///     DESC 'Description of an object'  
///     SUP name  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

#### 4.2.1.8. fedfsNfsURI

A fedfsNfsURI stores the host and pathname components of an FSL. A fedfsNfsURI MUST be encoded as an NFS URI (see Section 2.8.1).

The fedfsNfsURI is a subtype of the labeledURI type [RFC2079], with the same encoding rules.

This attribute is single-valued.

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
///     1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.120 NAME 'fedfsNfsURI'  
///     DESC 'Location of fileset'  
///     SUP labeledURI  
///     SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

#### 4.2.1.9. fedfsNfsCurrency

A fedfsNfsCurrency stores the NFSv4.1 fs\_locations\_server's fls\_currency value [RFC5661]. A fedfsNfsCurrency MUST be encoded as an Integer syntax value [RFC4517] in the range [-2147483648, 2147483647].

This attribute is single-valued.

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
///     1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.103 NAME 'fedfsNfsCurrency'  
///     DESC 'up-to-date measure of the data'  
///     EQUALITY integerMatch  
///     SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
///     SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27 is the Integer syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.10. fedfsNfsGenFlagWritable

A fedfsNfsGenFlagWritable stores the value of an FSL's NFSv4.1 FSLI4GF\_WRITABLE bit [RFC5661]. A value of "TRUE" indicates the bit is set. A value of "FALSE" indicates the bit is not set.

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
///     1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.104 NAME 'fedfsNfsGenFlagWritable'  
///     DESC 'Indicates if the filesystem is writable'  
///     EQUALITY booleanMatch  
///     SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.7  
///     SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.7 is the Boolean syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.11. fedfsNfsGenFlagGoing

A fedfsNfsGenFlagGoing stores the value of an FSL's NFSv4.1 FSLI4GF\_GOING bit [RFC5661]. A value of "TRUE" indicates the bit is set. A value of "FALSE" indicates the bit is not set.

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
/// 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.105 NAME 'fedfsNfsGenFlagGoing'  
/// DESC 'Indicates if the filesystem is going'  
/// EQUALITY booleanMatch  
/// SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.7  
/// SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.7 is the Boolean syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.12. fedfsNfsGenFlagSplit

A fedfsNfsGenFlagSplit stores the value of an FSL's NFSv4.1 FSLI4GF\_SPLIT bit [RFC5661]. A value of "TRUE" indicates the bit is set. A value of "FALSE" indicates the bit is not set.

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
/// 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.106 NAME 'fedfsNfsGenFlagSplit'  
/// DESC 'Indicates if there are multiple filesystems'  
/// EQUALITY booleanMatch  
/// SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.7  
/// SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.7 is the Boolean syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.13. fedfsNfsTransFlagRdma

A fedfsNfsTransFlagRdma stores the value of an FSL's NFSv4.1 FSLI4TF\_RDMA bit [RFC5661]. A value of "TRUE" indicates the bit is set. A value of "FALSE" indicates the bit is not set.

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
/// 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.107 NAME 'fedfsNfsTransFlagRdma'  
/// DESC 'Indicates if the transport supports RDMA'  
/// EQUALITY booleanMatch  
/// SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.7  
/// SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.7 is the Boolean syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.14. fedfsNfsClassSimul

A fedfsNfsClassSimul contains the FSL's NFSv4.1 FSLI4BX\_CLSIMUL [RFC5661] value. A fedfsNfsClassSimul MUST be encoded as an Integer syntax value [RFC4517] in the range [0, 255].

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
/// 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.108 NAME 'fedfsNfsClassSimul'  
/// DESC 'The simultaneous-use class of the filesystem'  
/// EQUALITY integerMatch  
/// SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
/// SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27 is the Integer syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.15. fedfsNfsClassHandle

A fedfsNfsClassHandle contains the FSL's NFSv4.1 FSLI4BX\_CLHANDLE [RFC5661] value. A fedfsNfsClassHandle MUST be encoded as an Integer syntax value [RFC4517] in the range [0, 255].

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
/// 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.109 NAME 'fedfsNfsClassHandle'  
/// DESC 'The handle class of the filesystem'  
/// EQUALITY integerMatch  
/// SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
/// SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27 is the Integer syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.16. fedfsNfsClassFileid

A fedfsNfsClassFileid contains the FSL's NFSv4.1 FSLI4BX\_CLFILEID [RFC5661] value. A fedfsNfsClassFileid MUST be encoded as an Integer syntax value [RFC4517] in the range [0, 255].

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
/// 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.110 NAME 'fedfsNfsClassFileid'  
/// DESC 'The fileid class of the filesystem'  
/// EQUALITY integerMatch  
/// SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
/// SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27 is the Integer syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.17. fedfsNfsClassWritever

A fedfsNfsClassWritever contains the FSL's NFSv4.1 FSLI4BX\_CLWRITEVER [RFC5661] value. A fedfsNfsClassWritever MUST be encoded as an Integer syntax value [RFC4517] in the range [0, 255].

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
/// 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.111 NAME 'fedfsNfsClassWritever'  
/// DESC 'The write-verifier class of the filesystem'  
/// EQUALITY integerMatch  
/// SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
/// SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27 is the Integer syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.18. fedfsNfsClassChange

A fedfsNfsClassChange contains the FSL's NFSv4.1 FSLI4BX\_CLCHANGE [RFC5661] value. A fedfsNfsClassChange MUST be encoded as an Integer syntax value [RFC4517] in the range [0, 255].

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
/// 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.112 NAME 'fedfsNfsClassChange'  
/// DESC 'The change class of the filesystem'  
/// EQUALITY integerMatch  
/// SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
/// SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27 is the Integer syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.19. fedfsNfsClassReaddir

A fedfsNfsClassReaddir contains the FSL's NFSv4.1 FSLI4BX\_CLREADDIR [RFC5661] value. A fedfsNfsClassReaddir MUST be encoded as an Integer syntax value [RFC4517] in the range [0, 255].

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
/// 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.113 NAME 'fedfsNfsClassReaddir'  
/// DESC 'The readdir class of the filesystem'  
/// EQUALITY integerMatch  
/// SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
/// SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27 is the Integer syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.20. fedfsNfsReadRank

A fedfsNfsReadRank contains the FSL's NFSv4.1 FSLI4BX\_READRANK [RFC5661] value. A fedfsNfsReadRank MUST be encoded as an Integer syntax value [RFC4517] in the range [0, 255].

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
/// 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.114 NAME 'fedfsNfsReadRank'  
/// DESC 'The read rank of the filesystem'  
/// EQUALITY integerMatch  
/// SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
/// SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27 is the Integer syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.21. fedfsNfsReadOrder

A fedfsNfsReadOrder contains the FSL's NFSv4.1 FSLI4BX\_READORDER [RFC5661] value. A fedfsNfsReadOrder MUST be encoded as an Integer syntax value [RFC4517] in the range [0, 255].

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
/// 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.115 NAME 'fedfsNfsReadOrder'  
/// DESC 'The read order of the filesystem'  
/// EQUALITY integerMatch  
/// SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
/// SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27 is the Integer syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.22. fedfsNfsWriteRank

A fedfsNfsWriteRank contains the FSL's FSLI4BX\_WRITERANK [RFC5661] value. A fedfsNfsWriteRank MUST be encoded as an Integer syntax value [RFC4517] in the range [0, 255].

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
/// 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.116 NAME 'fedfsNfsWriteRank'  
/// DESC 'The write rank of the filesystem'  
/// EQUALITY integerMatch  
/// SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
/// SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27 is the Integer syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.23. fedfsNfsWriteOrder

A fedfsNfsWriteOrder contains the FSL's FSLI4BX\_WRITEORDER [RFC5661] value. A fedfsNfsWriteOrder MUST be encoded as an Integer syntax value [RFC4517] in the range [0, 255].

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
///     1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.117 NAME 'fedfsNfsWriteOrder'  
///     DESC 'The write order of the filesystem'  
///     EQUALITY integerMatch  
///     SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
///     SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27 is the Integer syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.24. fedfsNfsVarSub

A fedfsNfsVarSub stores the value of an FSL's NFSv4.1 FSLI4IF\_VAR\_SUB bit [RFC5661]. A value of "TRUE" indicates the bit is set. A value of "FALSE" indicates the bit is not set.

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///  
/// attributetype (  
///     1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.118 NAME 'fedfsNfsVarSub'  
///     DESC 'Indicates if variable substitution is present'  
///     EQUALITY booleanMatch  
///     SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.7  
///     SINGLE-VALUE  
/// )  
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.7 is the Boolean syntax [RFC4517].

#### 4.2.1.25. fedfsNfsValidFor

A fedfsNfsValidFor stores an FSL's NFSv4.1 fs\_locations\_info fli\_valid\_for value [RFC5661]. A fedfsNfsValidFor MUST be encoded as an Integer syntax value [RFC4517] in the range [-2147483648, 2147483647].

An FSL's parent's fedfsFsntTTL value and its fedfsNfsValidFor value MAY be different.

This attribute is single-valued.

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///
/// attributetype (
///     1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.19 NAME 'fedfsNfsValidFor'
///     DESC 'Valid for time'
///     EQUALITY integerMatch
///     SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27
///     SINGLE-VALUE
/// )
///
```

OID 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27 is the Integer syntax [RFC4517].

<CODE ENDS>

#### 4.2.2. LDAP Object Classes

##### 4.2.2.1. fedfsNsdbContainerInfo

A fedfsNsdbContainerInfo describes the location of the NCE.

A fedfsNsdbContainerInfo's fedfsNceDN attribute is REQUIRED.

A fedfsNsdbContainerInfo's fedfsAnnotation and fedfsDescr attributes are OPTIONAL.

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///
/// objectclass (
///     1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.1001 NAME 'fedfsNsdbContainerInfo'
///     DESC 'Describes NCE location'
///     SUP top AUXILIARY
///     MUST (
///         fedfsNceDN
///     )
///     MAY (
///         fedfsAnnotation
///         $ fedfsDescr
///     ))
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

#### 4.2.2.2. fedfsFsn

A fedfsFsn represents an FSN.

A fedfsFsn's fedfsFsnUuid and fedfsFsnTTL attributes are REQUIRED.

A fedfsFsn's fedfsAnnotation and fedfsDescr attributes are OPTIONAL.

The DN of an FSN is REQUIRED to take the following form: "fedfsFsnUuid=\$FSNUUID,\$NCE", where \$FSNUUID is the UUID of the FSN and \$NCE is the DN of the NCE. Since LDAP requires a DN to be unique, this ensures that each FSN entry has a unique UUID value within the LDAP directory.

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///
/// objectclass (
///     1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.1002 NAME 'fedfsFsn'
///     DESC 'Represents a fileset'
///     SUP top STRUCTURAL
///     MUST (
///         fedfsFsnUuid
///         $ fedfsFsnTTL
///     )
///     MAY (
///         fedfsAnnotation
///         $ fedfsDescr
///     ))
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

#### 4.2.2.3. fedfsFsl

The fedfsFsl object class represents an FSL.

The fedfsFsl is an abstract object class. Protocol specific subtypes of this object class are used to store FSL information. The fedfsNfsFsl object class defined below is used to record an NFS FSL's location. Other subtypes MAY be defined for other protocols (e.g., CIFS).

A fedfsFsl's fedfsFslUuid and fedfsFsnUuid attributes are REQUIRED.

A fedfsFsl's fedfsAnnotation, and fedfsDescr attributes are OPTIONAL.

The DN of an FSL is REQUIRED to take the following form:

"fedfsFslUuid=\$FSLUUID,fedfsFsnUuid=\$FSNUUID,\$NCE" where \$FSLUUID is the FSL's UUID, \$FSNUUID is the FSN's UUID, and \$NCE is the DN of the NCE. Since LDAP requires a DN to be unique, this ensures that each FSL entry has a unique UUID value within the LDAP directory.

<CODE BEGINS>

```
///
/// objectclass (
///     1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.1003 NAME 'fedfsFsl'
///     DESC 'A physical location of a fileset'
///     SUP top ABSTRACT
///     MUST (
///         fedfsFslUuid
///         $ fedfsFsnUuid
///     )
///     MAY (
///         fedfsAnnotation
///         $ fedfsDescr
///     ))
///
```

<CODE ENDS>

#### 4.2.2.4. fedfsNfsFsl

A fedfsNfsFsl is used to represent an NFS FSL. The fedfsNfsFsl inherits all of the attributes of the fedfsFsl and extends the fedfsFsl with information specific to the NFS protocol.

The DN of an NFS FSL is REQUIRED to take the following form:  
"fedfsFslUuid=\$FSLUUID,fedfsFsnUuid=\$FSNUUID,\$NCE" where \$FSLUUID is the FSL's UUID, \$FSNUUID is the FSN's UUID, and \$NCE is the DN of the NCE. Since LDAP requires a DN to be unique, this ensures that each NFS FSL entry has a unique UUID value within the LDAP directory.

<CODE BEGINS>

```

///
/// objectclass (
///   1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.1004 NAME 'fedfsNfsFsl'
///   DESC 'An NFS location of a fileset'
///   SUP fedfsFsl STRUCTURAL
///   MUST (
///     fedfsNfsURI
///     $ fedfsNfsCurrency
///     $ fedfsNfsGenFlagWritable
///     $ fedfsNfsGenFlagGoing
///     $ fedfsNfsGenFlagSplit
///     $ fedfsNfsTransFlagRdma
///     $ fedfsNfsClassSimul
///     $ fedfsNfsClassHandle
///     $ fedfsNfsClassFileid
///     $ fedfsNfsClassWritever
///     $ fedfsNfsClassChange
///     $ fedfsNfsClassReaddir
///     $ fedfsNfsReadRank
///     $ fedfsNfsReadOrder
///     $ fedfsNfsWriteRank
///     $ fedfsNfsWriteOrder
///     $ fedfsNfsVarSub
///     $ fedfsNfsValidFor
///   )
///

```

<CODE ENDS>

## 5. NSDB Operations

The operations defined by the protocol can be described as several sub-protocols that are used by entities within a federation to perform different roles.

The first of these sub-protocols defines how the state of an NSDB node can be initialized and updated. The primary use of this sub-protocol is by an administrator to add, edit, or delete filesets, their properties, and their fileset locations.

The second of these sub-protocols defines the queries that are sent to an NSDB node in order to perform resolution (or to find other information about the data stored within that NSDB node) and the responses returned by the NSDB node. The primary use of this sub-protocol is by a fileserver in order to perform resolution, but it may also be used by an administrator to query the state of the system.

The first and second sub-protocols are defined as LDAP operations, using the schema defined in the previous section. If each NSDB node is a standard LDAP server, then, in theory, it is unnecessary to describe the LDAP operations in detail, because the operations are ordinary LDAP operations to query and update records. However, we do not require that an NSDB node implement a complete LDAP service, and therefore we define in these sections the minimum level of LDAP functionality required to implement an NSDB node.

The NSDB sub-protocols are defined in Section 5.1 and Section 5.2. The descriptions of LDAP messages in these sections use the LDAP Data Interchange Format (LDIF) [RFC2849]. In order to differentiate constant and variable strings in the LDIF specifications, variables are prefixed by a \$ character and use all upper case characters. For example, a variable named FOO would be specified as \$FOO.

This document uses the term NSDB client to refer to an LDAP client that uses either of the NSDB sub-protocols.

The third sub-protocol defines the queries and other requests that are sent to a fileserver in order to get information from it or to modify the state of the fileserver in a manner related to the federation protocols. The primary purpose of this protocol is for an administrator to create or delete a junction or discover related information about a particular fileserver.

The third sub-protocol is defined as an ONC RPC protocol. The reason for using ONC RPC instead of LDAP is that all fileservers support ONC RPC but some do not support an LDAP Directory server.

The ONC RPC administration protocol is defined in [FEDFS-ADMIN].

## 5.1. NSDB Operations for Administrators

The admin entity initiates and controls the commands to manage fileset and namespace information. The protocol used for communicating between the admin entity and each NSDB node MUST be the LDAPv3 [RFC4510] protocol.

The names we assign to these operations are entirely for the purpose of exposition in this document, and are not part of the LDAP dialogs.

### 5.1.1. Create an FSN

This operation creates a new FSN in the NSDB by adding a new fedfsFsn entry in the NSDB's LDAP directory.

A fedfsFsn entry contains a fedfsFsnUuid. The administrator chooses

the `fedfsFsnUuid` by a process described in Section 2.12). A `fedfsFsn` entry also contains a `fedfsFsnTTL`. The `fedfsFsnTTL` is chosen by the administrator as described in Section 2.8.3.

#### 5.1.1.1. LDAP Request

This operation is implemented using the LDAP ADD request described by the LDIF below.

```
dn: fedfsFsnUuid=$FSNUUID,$NCE
changeType: add
objectClass: fedfsFsn
fedfsFsnUuid: $FSNUUID
fedfsFsnTTL: $TTL
```

For example, if the `$FSNUUID` is "e8c4761c-eb3b-4307-86fc-f702da197966", the `$TTL` is "300" seconds, and the `$NCE` is "o=fedfs" the operation would be:

```
dn: fedfsFsnUuid=e8c4761c-eb3b-4307-86fc-f702da197966,o=fedfs
changeType: add
objectClass: fedfsFsn
fedfsFsnUuid: e8c4761c-eb3b-4307-86fc-f702da197966
fedfsFsnTTL: 300
```

#### 5.1.2. Delete an FSN

This operation deletes an FSN by removing a `fedfsFsn` entry in the NSDB's LDAP directory.

If the FSN entry being deleted has child FSL entries, this function MUST return an error. This ensures that the NSDB will not contain any orphaned FSL entries. A compliant LDAP implementation will meet this requirement since Section 4.8 of [RFC4511] defines the LDAP delete operation to only be capable of removing leaf entries.

Note that the FSN delete function removes the fileset only from a federation namespace (by removing the records for that FSN from the NSDB node that receives this request). The fileset and its data are not deleted. Any junction that has this FSN as its target may continue to point to this non-existent FSN. A dangling reference may be detected when a fileserver tries to resolve a junction that refers to the deleted FSN.

#### 5.1.2.1. LDAP Request

This operation is implemented using the LDAP DELETE request described by the LDIF below.

```
dn: fedfsFsnUuid=$FSNUUID,$NCE
changeType: delete
```

For example, if the \$FSNUUID is "e8c4761c-eb3b-4307-86fc-f702da197966" and \$NCE is "o=fedfs", the operation would be:

```
dn: fedfsFsnUuid=e8c4761c-eb3b-4307-86fc-f702da197966,o=fedfs
changeType: delete
```

### 5.1.3. Create an FSL

This operation creates a new FSL for the given FSN by adding a new `fedfsFsl` entry in the NSDB's LDAP directory.

A `fedfsFsl` entry contains a `fedfsFslUuid` and `fedfsFsnUuid`. The administrator chooses the `fedfsFslUuid`. The process for choosing the `fedfsFslUuid` is described in Section 2.12. The `fedfsFsnUuid` is the UUID of the FSL's FSN.

The administrator will also set additional attributes depending on the FSL type.

#### 5.1.3.1. LDAP Request

This operation is implemented using the LDAP ADD request described by the LDIF below (NOTE: the LDIF shows the creation of an NFS FSL)

```

dn: fedfsFslUuid=$FSLUUID,fedfsFsnUuid=$FSNUUID,$NCE
changeType: add
objectClass: fedfsNfsFsl
fedfsFslUuid: $FSLUUID
fedfsFsnUuid: $FSNUUID
fedfsNfsURI: nfs://$HOST:$PORT/$PATH
fedfsNfsCurrency: $CURRENCY
fedfsNfsGenFlagWritable: $WRITABLE
fedfsNfsGenFlagGoing: $GOING
fedfsNfsGenFlagSplit: $SPLIT
fedfsNfsTransFlagRdma: $RDMA
fedfsNfsClassSimul: $CLASS_SIMUL
fedfsNfsClassHandle:$CLASS_HANDLE
fedfsNfsClassFileid:$CLASS_FILEID
fedfsNfsClassWritever:$CLASS_WRITEVER
fedfsNfsClassChange: $CLASS_CHANGE
fedfsNfsClassReaddir: $CLASS_READDIR
fedfsNfsReadRank: $READ_RANK
fedfsNfsReadOrder: $READ_ORDER
fedfsNfsWriteRank: $WRITE_RANK
fedfsNfsWriteOrder: $WRITE_ORDER
fedfsNfsVarSub: $VAR_SUB
fedfsNfsValidFor: $TIME
fedfsAnnotation: $ANNOTATION
fedfsDescr: $DESCR

```

For example, if the \$FSNUUID is "e8c4761c-eb3b-4307-86fc-f702da197966", the \$FSLUUID is "ba89a802-41a9-44cf-8447-dda367590eb3", the \$HOST is "server.example.com", \$PORT is "20049", the \$PATH is stored in the file "/tmp/fsl\_path", \$CURRENCY is "0" (an up-to-date copy), the FSL is writable, but not going, split, or accessible via RDMA, the simultaneous-use class is "1", the handle class is "0", the fileid class is "1", the write-verifier class is "1", the change class is "1", the readdir class is "9", the read rank is "7", the read order is "8", the write rank is "5", the write order is "6", variable substitution is false, \$TIME is "300" seconds, \$ANNOTATION is ""foo" = "bar"", \$DESC is "This is a description.", and the \$NCE is "o=fedfs", the operation would be (for readability the DN is split into two lines):

```
dn: fedfsFslUuid=ba89a802-41a9-44cf-8447-dda367590eb3,  
   fedfsFsnUuid=e8c4761c-eb3b-4307-86fc-f702da197966,o=fedfs  
changeType: add  
objectClass: fedfsNfsFsl  
fedfsFslUuid: ba89a802-41a9-44cf-8447-dda367590eb3  
fedfsFsnUuid: e8c4761c-eb3b-4307-86fc-f702da197966  
fedfsNfsURI: nfs://server.example.com:20049//tmp/fsl_path  
fedfsNfsCurrency: 0  
fedfsNfsGenFlagWritable: TRUE  
fedfsNfsGenFlagGoing: FALSE  
fedfsNfsGenFlagSplit: FALSE  
fedfsNfsTransFlagRdma: FALSE  
fedfsNfsClassSimul: 1  
fedfsNfsClassHandle: 0  
fedfsNfsClassFileid: 1  
fedfsNfsClassWritever: 1  
fedfsNfsClassChange: 1  
fedfsNfsClassReaddir: 9  
fedfsNfsReadRank: 7  
fedfsNfsReadOrder: 8  
fedfsNfsWriteRank: 5  
fedfsNfsWriteOrder: 6  
fedfsNfsVarSub: FALSE  
fedfsNfsValidFor: 300  
fedfsAnnotation: "foo" = "bar"  
fedfsDescr: This is a description.
```

#### 5.1.3.2. Selecting fedfsNfsFsl Values

The fedfsNfsFsl object class is used to describe NFSv4 accessible filesets. For the reasons described in Section 2.8.4, administrators SHOULD choose reasonable values for all LDAP attributes of an NFSv4 accessible fedfsNfsFsl even though some of these LDAP attributes are not explicitly contained in an NFSv4 fs\_locations attribute.

When the administrator is unable to choose reasonable values for the LDAP attributes not explicitly contained in an NFSv4 fs\_locations attribute, the values in the following table are RECOMMENDED.

LDAP attribute	LDAP value	Notes
fedfsNfsCurrency	negative value	Indicates that the server does not know the currency (see 11.10.1 of [RFC5661]).
fedfsNfsGenFlagWritable	FALSE	Leaving unset is not harmful (see 11.10.1 of [RFC5661]).
fedfsNfsGenFlagGoing	FALSE	NFS client will detect a migration event if the FSL becomes unavailable.
fedfsNfsGenFlagSplit	TRUE	Safe to assume that the FSL is split.
fedfsNfsTransFlagRdma	TRUE	NFS client will detect if RDMA access is available.
fedfsNfsClassSimul	0	0 is treated as non-matching (see 11.10.1 of [RFC5661]).
fedfsNfsClassHandle	0	See fedfsNfsClassSimul note.
fedfsNfsClassFileid	0	See fedfsNfsClassSimul note.
fedfsNfsClassWritever	0	See fedfsNfsClassSimul note.
fedfsNfsClassChange	0	See fedfsNfsClassSimul note.
fedfsNfsClassReaddir	0	See fedfsNfsClassSimul note.
fedfsNfsReadRank	0	Highest value ensures FSL will be tried.
fedfsNfsReadOrder	0	See fedfsNfsReadRank note.
fedfsNfsWriteRank	0	See fedfsNfsReadRank note.
fedfsNfsWriteOrder	0	See fedfsNfsReadRank note.
fedfsNfsVarSub	FALSE	NFSv4 does not define variable substitution in paths.
fedfsNfsValidFor	0	Indicates no appropriate refetch interval (see 11.10.2 of [RFC5661]).

#### 5.1.4. Delete an FSL

This operation deletes an FSL record. The admin requests the NSDB node storing the fedfsFsl to delete it from its database. This operation does not result in fileset data being deleted on any fileserver.

##### 5.1.4.1. LDAP Request

The admin sends an LDAP DELETE request to the NSDB node to remove the FSL.

```
dn: fedfsFslUuid=$FSLUUID,fedfsFsnUuid=$FSNUUID,$NCE
changeType: delete
```

For example, if the \$FSNUUID is "e8c4761c-eb3b-4307-86fc-f702da197966", the \$FSLUUID is "ba89a802-41a9-44cf-8447-dda367590eb3", and the \$NCE is "o=fedfs", the operation would be (for readability the DN is split into two lines):

```
dn: fedfsFslUuid=ba89a802-41a9-44cf-8447-dda367590eb3,
   fedfsFsnUuid=e8c4761c-eb3b-4307-86fc-f702da197966,o=fedfs
changeType: delete
```

#### 5.1.5. Update an FSL

This operation updates the attributes of a given FSL. This command results in a change in the attributes of the fedfsFsl at the NSDB node maintaining this FSL. The values of the fedfsFslUuid and fedfsFsnUuid attributes MUST NOT change during an FSL update.

##### 5.1.5.1. LDAP Request

The admin sends an LDAP MODIFY request to the NSDB node to update the FSL.

```
dn: fedfsFslUuid=$FSLUUID,fedfsFsnUuid=$FSNUUID,$NCE
changeType: modify
replace: $ATTRIBUTE-TYPE
```

For example, if the \$FSNUUID is "e8c4761c-eb3b-4307-86fc-f702da197966", the \$FSLUUID is "ba89a802-41a9-44cf-8447-dda367590eb3", the \$NCE is "o=fedfs", and the administrator wished to change the NFS read rank to 10, the operation would be (for readability the DN is split into two lines):

```
dn: fedfsFslUuid=ba89a802-41a9-44cf-8447-dda367590eb3,
   fedfsFsnUuid=e8c4761c-eb3b-4307-86fc-f702da197966,o=fedfs
changeType: modify
replace: fedfsNfsReadClass
fedfsNfsReadRank: 10
```

## 5.2. NSDB Operations for Fileservers

### 5.2.1. NSDB Container Entry (NCE) Enumeration

To find the NCEs for the NSDB nsdb.example.com, a fileserver would do the following:

```
nce_list = empty
connect to the LDAP directory at nsdb.example.com
for each namingContext value $BAR in the root DSE
/* $BAR is a DN */
query for a fedfsNceDN value at $BAR
/*
 * The RFC 4516 LDAP URL for this search would be
 *
 * ldap://nsdb.example.com:389/$BAR?fedfsNceDN??
 *                               (objectClass=fedfsNsdbContainerInfo)
 *
 */
if a fedfsNceDN value is found
    add the value to the nce_list
```

### 5.2.2. Lookup FSLs for an FSN

Using an LDAP search, the fileserver can obtain all of the FSLs for a given FSN. The FSN's fedfsFsnUuid is used as the search key. The following examples use the LDAP Universal Resource Identifier (URI) format defined in [RFC4516].

To obtain a list of all FSLs for \$FSNUUID on the NSDB named \$NSDBNAME, the following search can be used (for readability the URI is split into two lines):

```
for each $NCE in nce_list
    ldap://$NSDBNAME/fsnUuid=$FSNUUID,$NCE??one?
      (objectClass=fedfsFsl)
```

This search is for the children of the object with DN "fedfsFsnUuid=\$FSNUUID,\$NCE" with a filter for "objectClass=fedfsFsl". The scope value of "one" restricts the search to the entry's children (rather than the entire subtree below the entry) and the filter ensures that only FSL entries are returned.

For example if \$NSDBNAME is "nsdb.example.com", \$FSNUUID is "e8c4761c-eb3b-4307-86fc-f702da197966", and \$NCE is "o=fedfs", the search would be (for readability the URI is split into three lines):

```
ldap://nsdb.example.com/  
    fsnUuid=e8c4761c-eb3b-4307-86fc-f702da197966,o=fedfs  
    ??one?(objectClass=fedfsFsl)
```

The following search can be used to obtain only the NFS FSLs for \$FSNUUID on the NSDB named \$NSDBNAME (for readability the URI is split into two lines):

```
for each $NCE in nce_list  
    ldap://$NSDBNAME/fsnUuid=$FSNUUID,$NCE??one?  
    (objectClass=fedfsNfsFsl)
```

This also searches for the children of the object with DN "fedfsFsnUuid=\$FSNUUID,\$NCE", but the filter for "objectClass = fedfsNfsFsl" restricts the results to only NFS FSLs.

For example if \$NSDBNAME is nsdb.example.com, \$FSNUUID is "e8c4761c-eb3b-4307-86fc-f702da197966", and \$NCE is "o=fedfs", the search would be (for readability the URI is split into three lines):

```
ldap://nsdb.example.com/  
    fsnUuid=e8c4761c-eb3b-4307-86fc-f702da197966,o=fedfs  
    ??one?(objectClass=fedfsNfsFsl)
```

The fileserver will generate a referral based on the set of FSLs returned by these queries using the process described in Section 2.8.4.

### 5.3. NSDB Operations and LDAP Referrals

The LDAPv3 protocol defines an LDAP referral mechanism that allows an LDAP server to redirect an LDAP client. LDAPv3 defines two types of LDAP referrals: the Referral type defined in Section 4.1.10 of [RFC4511] and the SearchResultReference type defined in Section 4.5.3 of [RFC4511]. In both cases, the LDAP referral lists one or more URIs for services that can be used to complete the operation. In the remainder of this document, the term LDAP referral is used to indicate either of these types.

If an NSDB operation results in an LDAP referral, the NSDB client MAY follow the LDAP referral. An NSDB client's decision to follow an LDAP referral is implementation and configuration dependent. For example, an NSDB client might be configured to follow only those LDAP

referrals that were received over a secure channel, or only those that target an NSDB that supports encrypted communication. If an NSDB client chooses to follow an LDAP referral, the NSDB client MUST process the LDAP referral and prevent looping as described in Section 4.1.10 of [RFC4511].

## 6. Security Considerations

Both the NFSv4 and LDAPv3 protocols provide security mechanisms. When used in conjunction with the federated filesystem protocols described in this document, the use of these mechanisms is RECOMMENDED. Specifically, the use of RPCSEC\_GSS [RFC2203], which is built on the GSS-API [RFC2743], is RECOMMENDED on all NFS connections between a file-access client and fileserver. The "Security Considerations" sections of the NFSv4.0 [3530bis] and NFSv4.1 [RFC5661] specifications contain special considerations for the handling of GETATTR operations for the `fs_locations` and `fs_locations_info` attributes.

NSDB nodes and NSDB clients MUST implement support for TLS [RFC5246], as described in [RFC4513]. For all LDAP connections established by the federated filesystem protocols, the use of TLS is RECOMMENDED.

If an NSDB client chooses to follow an LDAP referral, the NSDB client SHOULD authenticate the LDAP referral's target NSDB using the target NSDB's credentials (not the credentials of the NSDB that generated the LDAP referral). The NSDB client SHOULD NOT follow an LDAP referral that targets an NSDB for which it does not know the NSDB's credentials.

Within a federation, there are two types of components an attacker may compromise: a fileserver and an NSDB.

If an attacker compromises a fileserver, the attacker can interfere with a file-access client's filesystem I/O operations (e.g., by returning fictitious data in the response to a read request) or fabricating a referral. The attacker's abilities are the same regardless of whether or not the federation protocols are in use. While the federation protocols do not give the attacker additional capabilities, they are additional targets for attack. The LDAP protocol described in Section 5.2 SHOULD be secured using the methods described above to defeat attacks on a fileserver via this channel.

If an attacker compromises an NSDB, the attacker will be able to forge FSL information and thus poison the fileserver's referral information. Therefore an NSDB should be as secure as the filesystems which query it. The LDAP operations described in

Section 5 SHOULD be secured using the methods described above to defeat attacks on an NSDB via this channel.

A fileserver binds anonymously when performing NSDB operations. Thus the contents and distinguished names of FSN and FSL records are required to be readable by anyone who can bind anonymously to an NSDB service. Section 2.12 presents the security considerations in the choice of the type of UUID used in these records.

It should be noted that the federation protocols do not directly provide access to filesystem data. The federation protocols only provide a mechanism for building a namespace. All data transfers occur between a file-access client and fileserver just as they would if the federation protocols were not in use. As a result, the federation protocols do not require new user authentication and authorization mechanisms or require a fileserver to act as a proxy for a client.

## 7. IANA Considerations

### 7.1. Registry for the fedfsAnnotation Key Namespace

This document defines the fedfsAnnotation key in Section 4.2.1.6. The fedfsAnnotation key namespace is to be managed by IANA. IANA is to create and maintain a new registry entitled "FedFS Annotation Keys". The location of this registry should be under a new heading called "Federated File System (FedFS) Parameters". The URL address can be based off of the new heading name, for example:  
<http://www.iana.org/assignments/fedfs-parameters/> ...

Future registrations are to be administered by IANA using the "First Come First Served" policy defined in [RFC5226]. Registration requests MUST include the key (a valid UTF-8 string of any length), a brief description of the key's purpose, and an email contact for the registration. For viewing, the registry should be sorted lexicographically by key. There are no initial assignments for this registry.

### 7.2. Registry for FedFS Object Identifiers

Using the process described in [RFC2578], one of the authors was assigned the Internet Private Enterprise Numbers range 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.x. Within this range, the subrange 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.x is permanently dedicated for use by the federated file system protocols. Unassigned OIDs in this range MAY be used for Private Use or Experimental Use as defined in [RFC5226]. New permanent FedFS OID assignments MUST NOT be made using OIDs in

this range.

IANA is to create and maintain a new registry entitled "FedFS Object Identifiers" for the purpose of recording the allocations of FedFS Object Identifiers (OIDs) specified by this document. No future allocations in this registry are allowed.

The location of this registry should be under the heading "Federated File System (FedFS) Parameters", created in Section 7.1. The URL address can be based off of the new heading name, for example:  
<http://www.iana.org/assignments/fedfs-parameters/> ...

For viewing, the registry should be sorted numerically by OID value. The contents of the FedFS Object Identifiers registry are given in Table 1.

Note: A descriptor designated below as "historic" reserves an OID used in a past version of the NSDB protocol. Registering such OIDs retains compatibility among existing implementations of the NSDB protocol. This document does not otherwise refer to historic OIDs.

OID	Description	Reference
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.1	fedfsUuid	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.2	fedfsNetAddr	historic
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.3	fedfsNetPort	historic
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.4	fedfsFsnUuid	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.5	fedfsNsdbName	historic
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.6	fedfsNsdbPort	historic
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.7	fedfsNcePrefix	historic
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.8	fedfsFslUuid	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.9	fedfsFslHost	historic
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.10	fedfsFslPort	historic
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.11	fedfsFslTTL	historic
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.12	fedfsAnnotation	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.13	fedfsDescr	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.14	fedfsNceDN	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.15	fedfsFsnTTL	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.100	fedfsNfsPath	historic
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.101	fedfsNfsMajorVer	historic
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.102	fedfsNfsMinorVer	historic
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.103	fedfsNfsCurrency	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.104	fedfsNfsGenFlagWritable	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.105	fedfsNfsGenFlagGoing	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.106	fedfsNfsGenFlagSplit	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.107	fedfsNfsTransFlagRdma	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.108	fedfsNfsClassSimul	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.109	fedfsNfsClassHandle	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.110	fedfsNfsClassFileid	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.111	fedfsNfsClassWritever	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.112	fedfsNfsClassChange	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.113	fedfsNfsClassReaddir	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.114	fedfsNfsReadRank	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.115	fedfsNfsReadOrder	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.116	fedfsNfsWriteRank	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.117	fedfsNfsWriteOrder	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.118	fedfsNfsVarSub	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.119	fedfsNfsValidFor	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.120	fedfsNfsURI	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.1001	fedfsNsdbContainerInfo	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.1002	fedfsFsn	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.1003	fedfsFsl	RFC-TBD1
1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.1004	fedfsNfsFsl	RFC-TBD1

Table 1

### 7.3. LDAP Descriptor Registration

In accordance with Section 3.4 and Section 4 of [RFC4520], the object identifier descriptors defined in this document (listed below) will be registered via the Expert Review process.

Subject: Request for LDAP Descriptor Registration  
Person & email address to contact for further information: See  
"Author/Change Controller"  
Specification: draft-ietf-nfsv4-federated-fs-protocol  
Author/Change Controller: IESG (iesg@ietf.org)

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.1  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsUuid  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.2  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNetAddr  
Usage: attribute type (historic)

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.3  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNetPort  
Usage: attribute type (historic)

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.4  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsFsnUuid  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.5  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNsdbName  
Usage: attribute type (historic)

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.6  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNsdbPort  
Usage: attribute type (historic)

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.7  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNcePrefix  
Usage: attribute type (historic)

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.8  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsFslUuid  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.9  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsFslHost  
Usage: attribute type (historic)

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.10  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsFslPort  
Usage: attribute type (historic)

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.11  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsFslTTL  
Usage: attribute type (historic)

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.12  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsAnnotation  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.13  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsDescr  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.14  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNceDN  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.15  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsFsnTTL  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.100  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsPath  
Usage: attribute type (historic)

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.101  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsMajorVer  
Usage: attribute type (historic)

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.102  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsMinorVer  
Usage: attribute type (historic)

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.103  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsCurrency  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.104  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsGenFlagWritable  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.105  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsGenFlagGoing  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.106  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsGenFlagSplit  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.107  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsTransFlagRdma  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.108  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsClassSimul  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.109  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsClassHandle  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.110  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsClassFileid  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.111  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsClassWritever  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.112  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsClassChange  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.113  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsClassReaddir  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.114  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsReadRank  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.115  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsReadOrder  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.116  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsWriteRank  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.117  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsWriteOrder  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.118  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsVarSub  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.119  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsValidFor  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.120  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsURI  
Usage: attribute type

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.1001  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNsdbContainerInfo  
Usage: object class

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.1002  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsFsn  
Usage: object class

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.1003  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsFsl  
Usage: object class

Object Identifier: 1.3.6.1.4.1.31103.1.1004  
Descriptor (short name): fedfsNfsFsl  
Usage: object class

## 8. Glossary

Administrator: A user with the necessary authority to initiate administrative tasks on one or more servers.

**Admin Entity:** A server or agent that administers a collection of file servers and persistently stores the namespace information.

**File-access Client:** Standard off-the-shelf network attached storage (NAS) client software that communicates with file servers using a standard file-access protocol.

**Federation:** A set of file server collections and singleton file servers that use a common set of interfaces and protocols in order to provide to file-access clients a federated namespace accessible through a filesystem access protocol.

**Fileserver:** A server that stores physical fileset data, or refers file-access clients to other file servers. A file server provides access to its shared filesystem data via a file-access protocol.

**Fileset:** The abstraction of a set of files and the directory tree that contains them. A fileset is the fundamental unit of data management in the federation.

Note that all files within a fileset are descendants of one directory, and that filesets do not span filesystems.

**Filesystem:** A self-contained unit of export for a file server, and the mechanism used to implement filesets. The fileset does not need to be rooted at the root of the filesystem, nor at the export point for the filesystem.

A single filesystem MAY implement more than one fileset, if the file-access protocol and the file server permit this.

**File-access Protocol:** A network filesystem access protocol such as NFSv3 [RFC1813], NFSv4 [3530bis], or CIFS (Common Internet File System) [MS-SMB] [MS-SMB2] [MS-CIFS].

**FSL (Fileset Location):** The location of the implementation of a fileset at a particular moment in time. An FSL MUST be something that can be translated into a protocol-specific description of a resource that a file-access client can access directly, such as an `fs_locations` attribute (for NFSv4), or a share name (for CIFS).

**FSN (Fileset Name):** A platform-independent and globally unique name for a fileset. Two FSLs that implement replicas of the same fileset MUST have the same FSN, and if a fileset is migrated from one location to another, the FSN of that fileset MUST remain the same.

**Junction:** A filesystem object used to link a directory name in the current fileset with an object within another fileset. The server-side "link" from a leaf node in one fileset to the root of another fileset.

**Namespace:** A filename/directory tree that a sufficiently authorized file-access client can observe.

**NSDB (Namespace Database) Service:** A service that maps FSNs to FSLs. The NSDB may also be used to store other information, such as annotations for these mappings and their components.

**NSDB Node:** The name or location of a server that implements part of the NSDB service and is responsible for keeping track of the FSLs (and related info) that implement a given partition of the FSNs.

**Referral:** A server response to a file-access client access that directs the client to evaluate the current object as a reference to an object at a different location (specified by an FSL) in another fileset, and possibly hosted on another fileserver. The client re-attempts the access to the object at the new location.

**Replica:** A replica is a redundant implementation of a fileset. Each replica shares the same FSN, but has a different FSL.

Replicas may be used to increase availability or performance. Updates to replicas of the same fileset **MUST** appear to occur in the same order, and therefore each replica is self-consistent at any moment.

We do not assume that updates to each replica occur simultaneously. If a replica is offline or unreachable, the other replicas may be updated.

**Server Collection:** A set of fileservers administered as a unit. A server collection may be administered with vendor-specific software.

The namespace provided by a server collection could be part of the federated namespace.

**Singleton Server:** A server collection containing only one server; a stand-alone fileserver.

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#### Appendix A. Acknowledgments

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NFS operation over IPv4 and IPv6  
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Abstract

This Internet-Draft provides the description of problem set faced by NFS and its various side band protocols when implemented over IPv4 and IPv6 networks in various deployment scenarios. Solution to the various problems are also given in the draft and are sought for approval in the respective NFS and side band protocol versions.

Foreword

This "forward" section is an unnumbered section that is not included in the table of contents. It is primarily used for the IESG to make comments about the document. It can also be used for comments about the status of the document and sometimes is used for the RFC2119 requirements language statement.

Requirements Language

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119 [RFC2119].

Status of this Memo

This Internet-Draft is submitted in full conformance with the provisions of BCP 78 and BCP 79.

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## 1. Terminology

**Host:** Used to refer to the client or the server where the specific(s) of client or the server does not matter.

**IPv4:** Internet Protocol Version 4.

**IPv6:** Internet Protocol Version 6.

**NFS:** Used to refer to Network File System irrespective of the version.

**NFSv2:** Network File System Protocol Version 2.

**NFSv3:** Network File System Protocol version 3.

**NFSv4:** Network File System Protocol version 4.

**NFSv4.1:** Network File System Protocol version 4.1.

**NLM:** Network Lock Manager Protocol.

**NSM:** Network Status Monitor Protocol.

**Operation:** Refers to the NFS operation when its mode of request or response is inconsequential.

## 2. Introduction

This draft addresses problems associated with operating NFS in an environment that has a mix of IPv4 and IPv6.

## 3. Various Deployment Scenarios

The various deployment scenarios involving a mix of IPv4 and IPv6, are as follows:

- (a) Client in IPv4-only network and Server in IPv6-only network.
- (b) Client in IPv6-only network and Server in IPv4-only network.
- (c) Client in IPv4 and IPv6 capable network and Server too in IPv4 and IPv6 capable network.

The first two scenarios can be called asymmetric single stack mode. The third scenario can be called dual stack mode.

Note: These scenarios -

- (a) Client in IPv4-only network and Server in IPv4-only network.
- (b) Client in IPv6 only network and Server in IPv6-only network.

can be referred to as symmetric single stack mode. They are not discussed in this document, as the focus of this document is scenarios that have a mix of IPv4 and IPv6.

The problems discussed below are primarily related to sharing of NFS state across different protocol address families. State come into picture in NFS, in case of NLM/NSM, and NFSv4.

#### 4. PORTMAP and RPCBIND

Clients SHOULD use PORTMAP (version 2) while querying IPv4 server addresses, and RPCBIND (version 3/4) while querying IPv6 server addresses.

Similarly, servers should use PORTMAP (version 2) while querying clients for making callbacks to IPv4 client addresses and RPCBIND (version 3/4) while querying clients making callbacks to IPv6 client addresses.

Callbacks from server to client are needed in case of port information verification (NFSv4), asynchronous lock requests (NLM), and delegation recalls (NFSv4).

#### 5. NLM and NSM

Clients and servers should use the "caller\_name" (in the NLM\_LOCK call), and the "mon\_name" (in the SM\_NOTIFY call) as the identity of the caller. This will make the identify of the caller independent of the protocol address family, and will help in proper operation in the situations described below in this section.

A dual stack NSM server implementation with persistent recording of source IP address, SHOULD record at least one IPv4 and one IPv6 address for the client (from the caller\_name in the NLM\_LOCK request), so that in case of a reboot, it can send out NOTIFY messages to the client via either/both protocol address families.

This will ensure proper operation in scenarios like these :

- (a) Client1 connects to the server using IPv6 address.
- (b) Client2 connects to the server using IPv4 address.
- (c) The server switches from dual stack to single stack mode of operation.
- (d) Server restarts.

Step 'c' can happen due to a network or interface disruption, or it could also happen as part of step 'd' (due to administrative action during step 'd'). Either way, it will result in loss of ability of the server to communicate with the clients via one of the protocol address families.

To handle such scenarios, the server SHOULD associate one IP address for each protocol address family, with the client (caller\_name from the NLM\_LOCK call). Otherwise, after step 'd', the server will not be able to send a SM\_NOTIFY to some of the clients. This will result in those clients incorrectly assuming that the server is holding their locks, when in fact the server is not.

When clients receive a SM\_NOTIFY from a server via one address family, they SHOULD try to determine whether they hold locks on that server (mon\_name in the SM\_NOTIFY call) via the other address family, and if so, they SHOULD reclaim those locks too from the server.

Similarly, to handle the scenario where a dual stack client switches to a single stack mode, and restarts, a server, when it receives a SM\_NOTIFY from a client on one address family, should try to determine whether it holds any lock for that client (mon\_name in the SM\_NOTIFY call), on another address family, and if so, it should clear those locks too.

## 6. Client Identification

In the case of NFSv4.1, the short hand clientid is very similar to NFSv4.0 clientid. Since states are tied to clientid, state sharing across and within sessions are immune to individual connection failures. The sessions from individual connections of an address family can be failed over to another address family if available.

For NFSv4 however, RFC3530 [RFC3530] says - that a client MUST send a different client string in SETCLIENTID to a different destination address(es)/family of address(s). Even if the same server is servicing on a different network address/address family the server MUST return a different clientid to the client. This is to prevent confusion on the client side as there is no way of determining whether the server to which the client is connecting again is the same or not.

The client using different client strings for different network addresses / address families might result in a case that the multiple requests from the same client conflict with each other on a multihomed server, and result in revocation of delegation. This can happen in this scenario:

- (a) Client establishes a connection to server on address X and then opens the file Z in write mode.
- (b) Server grants the client a write delegation.
- (c) The connection the client had established with server address X in step a), breaks for some reason. Client establishes another connection with server address Y, and then tries to open the file Z.

In step c) as client is trying to connect to a different server address/address family, it would send the SETCLIENTID with different client string than in step a). Since servers generate clientid based on client string, the clientid generated by the server in step c) will be different than the clientid generated by the server in step a). The server will then end up revoking the delegation granted in step b).

Step c) can happen if the client side faced a disruption on one of its address families and then connected on a different address family to the server. Example would be client connected using IPv6 in step a) and then client IPv6 stack or interfaces faced disruption after step b). Client then used IPv4 to connect to the server in step c).

To handle such scenarios, the implementations should do the following -

- (a) The client SHOULD use the same client string irrespective of which server address or address family it is communicating with.
- (b) For generating the clientid, the server SHOULD use a combination of the client string with its own server identifier. The server identifier should be generated in a unique way on similar lines as that of the client identifier. Specifically the server identifier should be such that no two servers should use the same server identifier. An example of well generated server identifier can be the one that includes the following:
  - (a) a) MAC address
  - (b) b) Machine serial number
- (c) The client SHOULD always send the SETCLIENTID as the first request on the connection; even if the client is retransmitting the request. If the clientid returned by server is the same as a clientid that the client has received from some server in the past, the client SHOULD conclude that both the connections are

to the same server. To prevent the server from expunging the client due to non renewal, the client should send a RENEW even if it does not have a lease after a SETCLIENTID to the server.

With the above mechanism, in the preceding example, the client string in step c) would have been the same as step a) and therefore the server would not revoke the delegation granted in step b). Additionally, the clientid returned by the server in step c) would be the same as that in step a), and so the client would know that it is communicating to the same server as in step a).

#### 7. Dual to single stack mode transition

Dual stack implementations of NFS over IPv4 and IPv6 should ensure that the shutdown of one stack implementation does not leave any data in indeterminate state. This means that state like locks that is shared between both IPv4 and IPv6 paths, should be handled carefully. A shutdown of one path could result in a partial or complete unreachability to the client, temporarily or permanently. To allow for possible reconnects after reachability condition are restored, the states SHOULD be left intact. To handle scenarios where reachability is not expected to be restored within any reasonable period of time, administrative action SHOULD be used for clearing the appropriate states (removal, cleanup etc).

Shutting down of one address family stack, or loss of all interfaces of one address family, SHOULD NOT lead to NFSv4 client states being removed upon lease period expiry. This is required so that server does not grant conflicting access to other clients via a different address family; otherwise, they may find data file to be in some inconsistent state, leading to corruption.

Consider this scenario -

- a) An IPv6 client A is connected to the server and is accessing file X, and has some state on the server, for that file.
- b) The partial reachability condition happens for IPv6.
- c) An IPv4 client B connects to the server and tries to access file X on which the client A had states.

If after step b), the server had removed the state, then client B might find the file to be in unusable state and so the state for client A should be maintained unless the disruption due to step b) is permanent, in which case the administrator needs to take some steps to check / restore file X to some proper state, and then clear the

state the server had for client A, for file X.

For NFSv4, one of the ways to implement the above recommendation is that the server should mark the client and the states associated with it as temporarily unusable but should not remove the state associated with the clients in such case. After the complete reachability is restored the server should go into partial restart case for only the clients that had their state marked as temporarily unusable and thus should allow such clients to regain their state. The server should identify the clientid/states that are marked as temporarily unusable and should send those client the NFSERR\_STALE\_CLIENTID/NFSERR\_STALE\_STATEID errors, which will start the state recovery procedure on the client side. The server can remove the client state if the clients have not recovered the state in the grace period after the complete reachability condition has been restored.

For example, if the partial reachability condition affected only the clients accessing the server over IPv6, then after the reachability is restored, the grace period should be started only for the clients coming over IPv6. Till the time the grace period completes, clients coming over IPv4, trying to take locks that conflict with ones being held by IPv6 clients, should be denied.

In such cases, for NLM, the SM\_NOTIFYs should be sent only to the IPv6 clients (the ones that were affected due to partial reachability condition).

#### 8. NFSv4 Callback Information

The NFSv4 server implementation SHOULD verify the netid information in the callbacks corresponds to respective address families. The netid used for IPv6 address SHOULD be tcp6 and for IPv4 addresses, it SHOULD be tcp. Otherwise, the callback information SHOULD be rejected as incorrect.

#### 9. Reply cache tuples for NFSv4

Reply cache implementations usually use some combination of elements like client address, client port, server address, protocol, RPC XID, etc., to index into the reply cache. Use of the client IP usually has a drawback; for example, a client using a different source IP address + port while retransmitting a request, might result in a reply cache miss on the server.

In environments where there is a mix of IPv4 and IPv6, there are greater chances of a server seeing a different source IP + port for a

client retransmission. For example, one address family being completely disabled on a client, might cause the client to send retransmissions from a different address family (and therefore different source IP), as compared to the original request.

Therefore, reply cache indexing mechanisms, that don't rely on client IP address, will add considerable value in environments having a mix of IPv4 and IPv6. One alternative could be using the client string instead of the client IP address, for the indexing, as explained here -

As mentioned in Client Identification (Section 6) -

The client SHOULD always send the same client string, irrespective of the server address that it is communicating with. Also, the NFSv4.0 client should always send the SETCLIENTID procedure as the first request on any connection to the server. If a request is to be retransmitted on a different connection, the first procedure sent out should be a SETCLIENTID with no change in the callback address or client string or verifier. This will help the server to associate the new connection with the clientid.

Once a connection is associated with an existing clientid (and therefore, an existing client string), any request retransmission on the new connection can then successfully be indexed to its match in the reply cache, in a NFSv4 reply cache implementation that uses the client string instead of the client IP address, for indexing into the reply cache.

## 10. Other optimizations

### 10.1. Address Persistence

There are scenarios where NFS implementations need to store IP addresses in persistent storage, like -

NSM monitor/notify database.

persistent reply cache.

In such scenarios, to support dual stack mode, or a switch to/from it, implementations should store the protocol address family information explicitly, along with the IP address. This information can be used during upgrades and downgrades, across versions which have may or may not have turned on support for NFS over IPv6.

## 10.2. IP addresses as keys

Functionalities like export checks require information to be indexed based on client IP, for efficient insertion / updation, and lookup.

When using IP addresses as keys in these scenarios, the variability of the bits in the IP addresses SHOULD be considered. In IPv6, for the same interface, the different addresses might differ mostly in the subnet part (the lower order bits are often generated from the MAC address of the interface and are therefore mostly static). In IPv4 however, that may not be the case. Depending on the implementation specifics, different indexing algorithms might be needed for IPv4 and IPv6 addresses.

## 10.3. NFSv4 Id Mapping

The "dns\_domain" in "user@dns\_domain" as referred to in section 5.8 [RFC3530], used to map owners, groups, users and user groups string principals, to internal representations (usually numeric id) at the client and server SHOULD be the same for the same client accessing an NFSv4 server simultaneously over IPv4 and IPv6.

## 11. Acknowledgments

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## 12. IANA Considerations

This memo includes no request to IANA.

## 13. Security Considerations

All considerations from RFC 3530 Section 16 [RFC3530]

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NFS operation over IPv6  
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Abstract

This Internet-Draft provides the description of problems faced by NFS and its various side band protocols, when implemented over IPv6 in various deployment scenarios. Solutions to the various problems are also given in the draft and are sought for approval.

Foreword

This "forward" section is an unnumbered section that is not included in the table of contents. It is primarily used for the IESG to make comments about the document. It can also be used for comments about the status of the document and sometimes is used for the RFC2119 requirements language statement.

Requirements Language

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119 [RFC2119].

Status of this Memo

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## 1. Terminology

**Host:** Used to refer to the client or the server where the specific(s) of client or the server does not matter.

**IPv4:** Internet Protocol Version 4.

**IPv6:** Internet Protocol Version 6.

**NFS:** Used to refer to Network File System irrespective of the version.

**NFSv2:** Network File System Protocol Version 2.

**NFSv3:** Network File System Protocol version 3.

**NFSv4:** Network File System Protocol version 4.

**NFSv4.1:** Network File System Protocol version 4.1.

**NLM:** Network Lock Manager Protocol.

**NSM:** Network Status Monitor Protocol.

**Operation:** Refers to the NFS operation when its mode of request or response is inconsequential.

## 2. Introduction

NFS being a application layer protocol can operate over several network layer protocols. This draft addresses problems associated with NFS operation over an IPv6 only network.

## 3. RPCBIND

NFS servers supporting IPv6 MUST support RPCBINDv3 as defined in [RFC1833], over IPv6. Additionally, RPCBINDv4 SHOULD be supported, as noted later in this section.

RPCBINDv3/4 protocols 'use a transport-independent format for the transport address'. Using RPCBINDv3/4, a client can clearly communicate to the server which transport (IPv4/v6, TCP/UDP) it is interested in for contacting a service. The server can communicate clearly to the client, the various transports on which a service is available. RPCBINDv2 (aka PORTMAP) provides limited support in this area.

RPCBINDv4 SHOULD be supported because it introduces useful procedures --

- o RPCBPROC\_GETVERSADDR - to query the server for the address of a specific version of an RPC service.

- o RPCBPROC\_GETADDRLIST - to query the server for a list of all addresses / transports on which an RPC service is available.

Clients SHOULD use those procedures wherever those procedures enable them to get the information of interest in one go, instead of making multiple RPCBPROC\_GETADDR calls.

The netid and address formats in the RPCBINDv3/4 procedures, MUST be as per those defined for netid and universal addresses, in netid\_ID draft [netid\_ID]. The implementation MUST NOT use IPv4 embedded IPv6 addresses defined in Section 2.5.5 [RFC4291], for the RPCBINDv3/4 procedures.

An NFS client SHOULD specify a proper universal address in a RPCBPROC\_GETADDR call; specifically, it SHOULD match the server's IP address on which the client made the call.

While processing the RPCBPROC\_GETADDR call, the NFS server needs to know which local address the client is querying on; the server SHOULD pull that address from the network layer instead (the local address on which the RPCBPROC\_GETADDR call was received; similar to what [RFC1833] recommends for the "r\_netid" parameter -

The "r\_netid" field of the argument is ignored and the "r\_netid" is inferred from the network identifier of the transport on which the request came in.)

#### 4. NFSv4 Callback Information

In the case of NFSv4.0 procedure SETCLIENTID, the netid and address formats in the callback information MUST be as per those defined for netid and universal addresses, in netid\_ID draft [netid\_ID]. The implementation MUST NOT use IPv4 embedded IPv6 addresses defined in Section 2.5.5 [RFC4291].

#### 5. Handling of link-local addresses in multi-homed hosts

[RFC4007] describes link-local IPv6 addresses.

There may be environments where hosts operate only with auto-

configured (link-local) addresses. NFS implementations SHOULD support link-local addresses, so they can operate in such environments. For example, hosts booting over the network, via NFS. However, since link-local addresses are link-scoped, they can cause ambiguity on multi-homed hosts.

An NFS implementation on a multi-homed host MUST keep track of the local interface (zone) when communicating with a link-local address of another host. Alternately, such hosts can support a default zone, which the network layer can use when no interface info is specified explicitly. See the 'Scope Zones' section of RFC 4007 [RFC4007] for more on (scope) zones and their implementation.

While making a callback to an address received in a NLM LOCK call or a NFSv4 SETCLIENTID call, a server MUST specify the local interface via which the call needs to be made (or let the default zone be selected, if supported).

An NFS implementation on multi-homed hosts MUST also make sure that a link-local address of any one of it's (local) interfaces is not advertised out in any way, via any of it's other (local) interfaces. For instance, the address list that a NFS server returns in a RPCBPROC\_GETADDRLIST response, MUST NOT contain a link-local address any interface other than the one on which the request was received (which will be same as the one which the response is being sent out).

## 6. Acknowledgments

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## 7. IANA Considerations

This memo includes no request to IANA.

## 8. Security Considerations

All considerations from RFC 3530 Section 16 [RFC3530]

## 9. References

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- [RFC5234] Crocker, D. and P. Overell, "Augmented BNF for Syntax Specifications: ABNF", STD 68, RFC 5234, January 2008.

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#### Abstract

This document extends the pNFS protocol to communicate errors caused by inability to access data servers referenced by layouts, including checks performed by both clients and the MDS. The extension provides means for clients to communicate client-detected access denial errors to the MDS, including the case in which a client requests direct NFS access via the MDS that the MDS cannot perform.

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1. Introduction

Figure 1 shows the overall architecture of a Parallel NFS (pNFS) system:

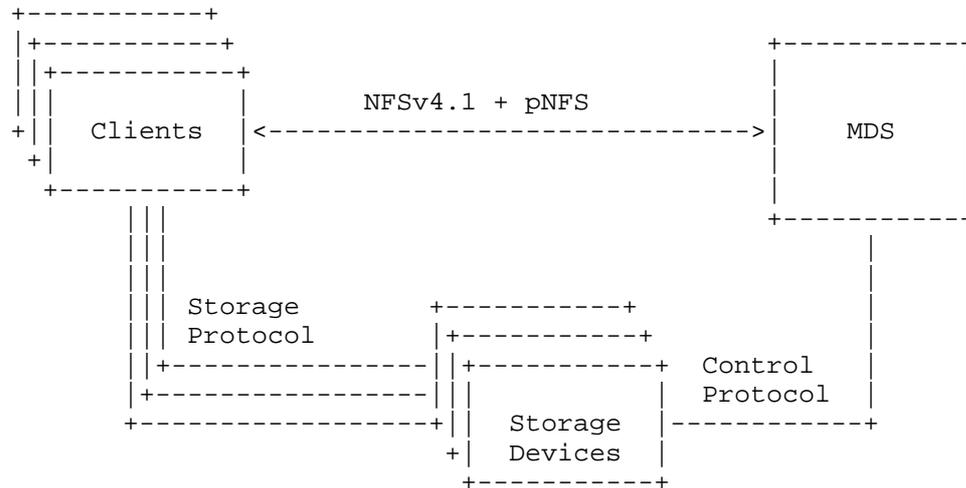


Figure 1 pNFS Architecture

In this document, "storage device" is used as a general term for a data server and/or storage server for the file, block or object pNFS layouts.

The current pNFS protocol [RFC5661] assumes that a client can access every storage device (SD) included in a valid layout sent by the MDS server, and provides no means to communicate client access failures to the MDS. Access failures can impair pNFS performance scaling and allow significant errors to go unreported. If the MDS can access all the storage devices involved, but the client doesn't have sufficient access rights to some storage devices, the client may choose to fall back to accessing the file system using NFSV4.1 without pNFS support; there are environments in which this behavior is undesirable, especially if it occurs silently. An important example is addition of a new storage device to which a large population of pNFS clients (e.g., 1000s) lacks access permission. Layouts granted that use this new device, result in client errors, requiring that all I/Os to that new storage device be served by the MDS server. This creates a performance and scalability bottleneck that may be difficult to detect based on I/O behavior because the other storage devices are functioning correctly.

The preferable approach to this scenario is to report the access failures before any client attempts to issue any I/Os that can only be serviced by the MDS server. This makes the problem explicit, rather than forcing the MDS, or a system administrator, to diagnose the performance problem caused by client I/O using NFS instead of pNFS. There are limits to this approach because complex mount structures may prevent a client from detecting this situation at mount time, but at a minimum, access problems involving the root of the mount structure can be detected.

The most suitable time for the client to report inability to access a storage device is at mount time, but this is not always possible. If the application uses a special tag or a switch to the mount command (e.g., `-pnfs`) and `syscall` to declare its intention to use pNFS, at the client, the client can check for both pNFS support and device accessibility.

This document introduces an error reporting mechanism that is an extension to the return of a pNFS layout; a pNFS client MAY use this mechanism to inform the MDS that the layout is being returned because one or more data servers are not accessible to the client. Error reporting at I/O time is not affected because the result of an inaccessible data server may not be an I/O error if a subsequent retry of the operation via the MDS is successful.

There is a related problem scenario involving an MDS that cannot access some storage devices and hence cannot perform I/Os on behalf of a client. In the case of the block layout [RFC5663] if the MDS lacks access to a storage device (e.g., LUN), MDS implementations generally do not export any filesystem using that storage device. In contrast to the block layout, MDSs for the file [RFC5661] and object [RFC5664] layouts may be unable to access the storage devices that store data for an exported filesystem. This enables a file or object layout MDS to provide layouts that contain client-inaccessible devices. For the specific case of adding a new storage device to a filesystem, MDS issuance of test I/Os to the newly added device before using it in layouts avoids this problem scenario, but does not cover loss of access to existing storage devices at a later time.

In addition, [RFC5661] states that a client can write through or read from the MDS, even if it has a layout; this assumes that the MDS can access all the storage devices. This document makes that assumed access an explicit requirement.

## 2. Conventions used in this document

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC-2119 [RFC2119].

## 3. Changes to Operation 51: LAYOUTRETURN (RFC 5661)

The existing LAYOUTRETURN operation is extended by introducing three new layout return types that correspond to the existing types:

- o LAYOUT4\_RET\_REC\_FILE\_NO\_ACCESS at file scope;
- o LAYOUT4\_RET\_REC\_FSID\_NO\_ACCESS at fsid scope; and
- o LAYOUT4\_RET\_REC\_ALL\_NO\_ACCESS at client scope.

The first return type returns the layout for an individual file and informs the server that the reason for the return is a storage device connectivity problem. The second return type performs that function for all layouts held by the client for the filesystem that corresponds to the current filehandle used for the LAYOUTRETURN operation. The third return type performs that function for all layouts held by the client; it is intended for situations in which a device is shared across all or most of the filesystems from a server for which the client has layouts.

### 3.1. ARGUMENT (18.44.1)

The ARGUMENT specification of the LAYOUTRETURN operation in section 18.44.1 of [RFC5661] is replaced by the following XDR code [XDR]:

```

/* Constants used for new LAYOUTRETURN and CB_LAYOUTRECALL */
const LAYOUT4_RET_REC_FILE      = 1;
const LAYOUT4_RET_REC_FSID      = 2;
const LAYOUT4_RET_REC_ALL       = 3;
const LAYOUT4_RET_REC_FILE_NO_ACCESS    = 4;
const LAYOUT4_RET_REC_FSID_NO_ACESSSS  = 5;
const LAYOUT4_RET_REC_ALL_NO_ACCESS    = 6;

enum layoutreturn_type4 {
    LAYOUTRETURN4_FILE = LAYOUT4_RET_REC_FILE,
    LAYOUTRETURN4_FSID = LAYOUT4_RET_REC_FSID,
    LAYOUTRETURN4_ALL  = LAYOUT4_RET_REC_ALL,

```

```

    LAYOUTRETURN4_FILE_NO_ACCESS = LAYOUT4_RET_REC_FILE_NO_ACCESS,
    LAYOUTRETURN4_FSID_NO_ACCESS = LAYOUT4_RET_REC_FSID_NO_ACCESS,
    LAYOUTRETURN4_ALL_NO_ACCESS  = LAYOUT4_RET_REC_ALL_NO_ACCESS
};

struct layoutreturn_file4 {
    offset4      lrf_offset;
    length4     lrf_length;
    stateid4    lrf_stateid;
    /* layouttype4 specific data */
    opaque      lrf_body<>;
};

struct layoutreturn_device_no_access4 {
    deviceid4   lrdna_deviceid;
    nfsstat4    lrdna_status;
};

struct layoutreturn_file_no_access4 {
    offset4     lrfna_offset;
    length4    lrfna_length;
    stateid4   lrfna_stateid;
    deviceid4  lrfna_deviceid;
    nfsstat4   lrfna_status;
    /* layouttype4 specific data */
    opaque     lrfna_body<>;
};

union layoutreturn4 switch(layoutreturn_type4 lr_returntype) {
    case LAYOUTRETURN4_FILE:
        layoutreturn_file4          lr_layout;
    case LAYOUTRETURN4_FILE_NO_ACCESS:
        layoutreturn_file_no_access4 lr_layout_na;
    case LAYOUTRETURN4_FSID_NO_ACCESS:
    case LAYOUTRETURN4_ALL_NO_ACCESS:
        layoutreturn_device_no_access4 lr_device<>;
    default:
        void;
};

```

### 3.2. RESULT (18.44.2)

The RESULT of the LAYOUTRETURN operation is unchanged; see section 18.44.2 of [RFC5661].

### 3.3. DESCRIPTION (18.44.3)

The following text is added to the end of the LAYOUTRETURN operation DESCRIPTION in section 18.44.3 of [RFC5661]:

There are three NO\_ACCESS layoutreturn\_type4 values that indicate a persistent lack of client ability to access storage device(s), LAYOUT4\_RET\_REC\_FILE\_NO\_ACCESS, LAYOUT4\_RET\_REC\_FSID\_NO\_ACCESS and LAYOUT4\_RET\_REC\_ALL\_NO\_ACCESS. A client uses these return types to return a layout (or portion thereof) for a file, return all layouts for an FSID or all layouts from that server held by the client, and in all cases to inform the server that the reason for the return is the client's inability to access one or more storage devices. The same stateid may be used or the client MAY force use of a new stateid in order to report a new error.

An NFS error value (nfsstat4) is included for each device for these three NO\_ACCESS return types to provide additional information on the cause. The allowed NFS errors are those that are valid for an NFS READ or WRITE operation, and NFS4ERR\_NXIO is also allowed to report an inaccessible device. The server SHOULD log the received NFS error value, but that error value does not affect server processing of the LAYOUTRETURN operation. All uses of the NO\_ACCESS layout return types that report NFS errors SHOULD be logged by the client.

The client MAY use the new LAYOUT4\_RET\_REC\_FILE\_NO\_ACCESS when only one file, or a small number of files are affected. If the access problem affects multiple devices, the client may use multiple file layout return operations; each return operation SHOULD return a layout extent obtained from the device for which an error is being reported. In contrast, both LAYOUT4\_RET\_REC\_FSID\_NO\_ACCESS and LAYOUT4\_RET\_REC\_ALL\_NO\_ACCESS include an array of <device, status> pairs to enable a single operation to report errors for multiple devices in a single operation.

### 3.4. IMPLEMENTATION (18.44.4)

The following text is added to the end of the LAYOUTRETURN operation IMPLEMENTATION in section 18.4.4 of [RFC5661]:

A client that expects to use pNFS for a mounted filesystem SHOULD check for pNFS support at mount time. This check SHOULD be performed by sending a GETDEVICELIST operation, followed by layout-type-specific checks for accessibility of each storage device returned by GETDEVICELIST. If the NFS server does not support pNFS, the GETDEVICELIST operation will be rejected with an NFS4ERR\_NOTSUPP error; in this situation it is up to the client to determine whether it is acceptable to proceed with NFS-only access.

Clients are expected to tolerate transient storage device errors, and hence clients SHOULD NOT use the NO\_ACCESS layout return types for device access problems that may be transient. The methods by which a client decides whether an access problem is transient vs. persistent are implementation-specific, but may include retrying I/Os to a data server under appropriate conditions.

When an I/O fails because a storage device is inaccessible, the client SHOULD retry the failed I/O via the MDS. In this situation, before retrying the I/O, the client SHOULD return the layout, or inaccessible portion thereof, and SHOULD indicate which storage device or devices was or were inaccessible. If the client does not do this, the MDS may issue a layout recall callback in order to perform the retried I/O.

Backwards compatibility may require a client to perform two layout return operations to deal with servers that don't implement the NO\_ACCESS layoutreturn\_type4 values and hence respond to them with NFS4ERR\_INVALID. In this situation, the client SHOULD perform an ordinary layout return operation and remember that the new layout NO\_ACCESS return types are not to be used with that server.

The metadata server (MDS) SHOULD NOT use storage devices in pNFS layouts that are not accessible to the MDS. At a minimum, the server SHOULD check its own storage device accessibility before exporting a filesystem that supports pNFS and when the device configuration for such an exported filesystem is changed (e.g., to add a storage device).

If an MDS is aware that a storage device is inaccessible to a client, the MDS SHOULD NOT include that storage device in any pNFS layouts sent to that client. An MDS SHOULD react to a client return of inaccessible layouts by not using the inaccessible storage devices in layouts for that client, but the MDS is not required to indefinitely retain per-client storage device inaccessibility information. An MDS is also not required to automatically reinstate use of a previously inaccessible storage device; administrative intervention may be required instead.

A client MAY perform I/O via the MDS even when the client holds a layout that covers the I/O; servers MUST support this client behavior, and MAY recall layouts as needed to complete I/Os.

#### 3.4.1. Storage Device Error Mapping (18.44.4.1, new)

The following text is added as new subsection 18.44.4.1 of [RFC5661]:

An NFS error value is sent for each device that the client reports as inaccessible via a NO\_ACCESS layout return type. In general:

- o If the client is unable to access the storage device, NFS4ERR\_NXIO SHOULD be used.
- o If the client is able to access the storage device, but permission is denied, NFS4ERR\_ACCESS SHOULD be used.

Beyond these two rules, error code usage is layout-type specific:

- o For the pNFS file layout, an indicative NFS error from a failed read or write operation on the inaccessible device SHOULD be used.
- o For the pNFS block layout, other errors from the Storage Protocol SHOULD be mapped to NFS4ERR\_IO. In addition, the client SHOULD log information about the actual storage protocol error (e.g., SCSI status and sense data), but that information is not sent to the pNFS server.
- o For the pNFS object layout, occurrences of the object error types specified in [RFC5664] SHOULD be mapped to the following NFS errors for use in LAYOUTRETURN:
  - o PNFS\_OSD\_ERR\_EIO -> NFS4ERR\_IO
  - o PNFS\_OSD\_ERR\_NOT\_FOUND -> NFS4ERR\_STALE
  - o PNFS\_OSD\_ERR\_NO\_SPACE -> NFS4ERR\_NOSPC
  - o PNFS\_OSD\_ERR\_BAD\_CRED -> NFS4ERR\_INVALID
  - o PNFS\_OSD\_ERR\_NO\_ACCESS -> NFS4ERR\_ACCESS
  - o PNFS\_OSD\_ERR\_UNREACHABLE -> NFS4ERR\_NXIO
  - o PNFS\_OSD\_ERR\_RESOURCE -> NFS4ERR\_SERVERFAULT

The LAYOUTRETURN NO\_ACCESS return types are used for persistent device errors; they do not replace other error reporting mechanisms that also apply to transient errors (e.g., as specified for the object layout in [RFC5664]).

#### 4. Change to NFS4ERR\_NXIO Usage

This document specifies that the NFS4ERR\_NXIO error SHOULD be used to report an inaccessible storage device. To enable that usage, this document updates [RFC5661] to allow use of the currently obsolete NFS4ERR\_NXIO error in the ARGUMENT of LAYOUTRETURN; NFS4ERR\_NXIO remains obsolete for all other uses of NFS errors.

#### 5. Security Considerations

This document adds a small extension to the NFSv4 LAYOUTRETURN operation. The NFS and pNFS security considerations in [RFC5661], [RFC5663] and [RFC5664] apply to the extended LAYOUTRETURN operation.

#### 6. IANA Considerations

There are no additional IANA considerations in this document beyond the IANA Considerations covered in [RFC5661].

#### 7. Conclusions

This draft specifies additions to the pNFS protocol addressing inability to access storage devices used in pNFS layouts.

#### 8. References

##### 8.1. Normative References

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STD 67, RFC 4506, May 2006.

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#### Changes from draft-faibish-nfsv4-pnfs-access-permissions-check-03

- First nfsv4 WG draft version.
- Add ALL NO\_ACCESS return type, so that there's a NO\_ACCESS return type for every current return type.
- Use NFS4ERR\_ACCESS instead of NFS4ERR\_PERM, and allow use of NFS4ERR\_NXIO for an unreachable data server.
- Simplify recommendation for initial access checks to only discuss GETDEVICELIST.
- Add client guidance on riding through transient errors.
- State that server does not need to indefinitely retain device inaccessibility information, and administrative intervention may be required to restore use of a previously inaccessible storage device.
- Remove "MUST" requirement for layout return if retry via MDS fails. Add warning that if the layout isn't returned in advance of MDS I/O retry, the MDS may issue a callback to get it.
- Specify allowed errors (in payload) via reference to errors allowed for READ and WRITE, plus allow NFS4ERR\_NXIO.
- Provide information about how to map device errors (especially from non-file layout types) to NFS errors.

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Abstract

The Network File System (NFS) version 4 is a distributed file system protocol which builds on the heritage of NFS protocol version 2, RFC 1094, and version 3, RFC 1813. Unlike earlier versions, the NFS version 4 protocol supports traditional file access while integrating support for file locking and the mount protocol. In addition, support for strong security (and its negotiation), compound operations, client caching, and internationalization have been added. Of course, attention has been applied to making NFS version 4 operate well in an Internet environment.

This document, together with the companion XDR description document, RFCNFSv4XDR, obsoletes RFC 3530 as the definition of the NFS version 4 protocol.

Requirements Language

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119 [RFC2119] except where "REQUIRED" and "RECOMMENDED" are used as qualifiers to distinguish classes of attributes as described in Section 1.3.3.2 and Section 5.

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. NFS Version 4 Goals

The Network Filesystem version 4 (NFSv4) protocol is a further revision of the NFS protocol defined already by versions 2 [RFC1094] and 3 [RFC1813]. It retains the essential characteristics of previous versions: design for easy recovery, independent of transport protocols, operating systems and file systems, simplicity, and good performance. The NFSv4 revision has the following goals:

- o Improved access and good performance on the Internet.

The protocol is designed to transit firewalls easily, perform well where latency is high and bandwidth is low, and scale to very large numbers of clients per server.

- o Strong security with negotiation built into the protocol.

The protocol builds on the work of the Open Network Computing (ONC) Remote Procedure Call (RPC) working group in supporting the RPCSEC\_GSS protocol (see both [RFC2203] and [RFC5403]). Additionally, the NFS version 4 protocol provides a mechanism to allow clients and servers the ability to negotiate security and require clients and servers to support a minimal set of security schemes.

- o Good cross-platform interoperability.

The protocol features a file system model that provides a useful, common set of features that does not unduly favor one file system or operating system over another.

- o Designed for protocol extensions.

The protocol is designed to accept standard extensions that do not compromise backward compatibility.

This document, together with the companion XDR description document [RFCNFSv4XDR], obsoletes [RFC3530] as the authoritative document describing NFSv4. It does not introduce any over-the-wire protocol changes, in the sense that previously valid requests remain valid.

#### 1.2. Definitions in the companion document NFS Version 4 Protocol are Authoritative

[RFCNFSv4XDR], "Network File System (NFS) Version 4 External Data Representation Standard (XDR) Description", contains the definitions in XDR description language of the constructs used by the protocol. Inside this document, several of the constructs are reproduced for purposes of explanation. The reader is warned of the possibility of errors in the reproduced constructs outside of [RFCNFSv4XDR]. For any part of the document that is inconsistent with [RFCNFSv4XDR], [RFCNFSv4XDR] is to be considered authoritative.

#### 1.3. Overview of NFSv4 Features

To provide a reasonable context for the reader, the major features of NFSv4 protocol will be reviewed in brief. This will be done to provide an appropriate context for both the reader who is familiar with the previous versions of the NFS protocol and the reader who is

new to the NFS protocols. For the reader new to the NFS protocols, some fundamental knowledge is still expected. The reader should be familiar with the XDR and RPC protocols as described in [RFC5531] and [RFC4506]. A basic knowledge of file systems and distributed file systems is expected as well.

### 1.3.1. RPC and Security

As with previous versions of NFS, the External Data Representation (XDR) and RPC mechanisms used for the NFSv4 protocol are those defined in [RFC5531] and [RFC4506]. To meet end to end security requirements, the RPCSEC\_GSS framework (both version 1 in [RFC2203] and version 2 in [RFC5403]) will be used to extend the basic RPC security. With the use of RPCSEC\_GSS, various mechanisms can be provided to offer authentication, integrity, and privacy to the NFS version 4 protocol. Kerberos V5 will be used as described in [RFC4121] to provide one security framework. With the use of RPCSEC\_GSS, other mechanisms may also be specified and used for NFS version 4 security.

To enable in-band security negotiation, the NFSv4 protocol has added a new operation which provides the client with a method of querying the server about its policies regarding which security mechanisms must be used for access to the server's file system resources. With this, the client can securely match the security mechanism that meets the policies specified at both the client and server.

### 1.3.2. Procedure and Operation Structure

A significant departure from the previous versions of the NFS protocol is the introduction of the COMPOUND procedure. For the NFSv4 protocol, there are two RPC procedures, NULL and COMPOUND. The COMPOUND procedure is defined in terms of operations and these operations correspond more closely to the traditional NFS procedures.

With the use of the COMPOUND procedure, the client is able to build simple or complex requests. These COMPOUND requests allow for a reduction in the number of RPCs needed for logical file system operations. For example, without previous contact with a server a client will be able to read data from a file in one request by combining LOOKUP, OPEN, and READ operations in a single COMPOUND RPC. With previous versions of the NFS protocol, this type of single request was not possible.

The model used for COMPOUND is very simple. There is no logical OR or ANDing of operations. The operations combined within a COMPOUND request are evaluated in order by the server. Once an operation

returns a failing result, the evaluation ends and the results of all evaluated operations are returned to the client.

The NFSv4 protocol continues to have the client refer to a file or directory at the server by a "filehandle". The COMPOUND procedure has a method of passing a filehandle from one operation to another within the sequence of operations. There is a concept of a "current filehandle" and "saved filehandle". Most operations use the "current filehandle" as the file system object to operate upon. The "saved filehandle" is used as temporary filehandle storage within a COMPOUND procedure as well as an additional operand for certain operations.

### 1.3.3. Filesystem Model

The general file system model used for the NFSv4 protocol is the same as previous versions. The server file system is hierarchical with the regular files contained within being treated as opaque byte streams. In a slight departure, file and directory names are encoded with UTF-8 to deal with the basics of internationalization.

The NFSv4 protocol does not require a separate protocol to provide for the initial mapping between path name and filehandle. Instead of using the older MOUNT protocol for this mapping, the server provides a ROOT filehandle that represents the logical root or top of the file system tree provided by the server. The server provides multiple file systems by gluing them together with pseudo file systems. These pseudo file systems provide for potential gaps in the path names between real file systems.

#### 1.3.3.1. Filehandle Types

In previous versions of the NFS protocol, the filehandle provided by the server was guaranteed to be valid or persistent for the lifetime of the file system object to which it referred. For some server implementations, this persistence requirement has been difficult to meet. For the NFSv4 protocol, this requirement has been relaxed by introducing another type of filehandle, volatile. With persistent and volatile filehandle types, the server implementation can match the abilities of the file system at the server along with the operating environment. The client will have knowledge of the type of filehandle being provided by the server and can be prepared to deal with the semantics of each.

#### 1.3.3.2. Attribute Types

The NFSv4 protocol has a rich and extensible file object attribute structure, which is divided into REQUIRED, RECOMMENDED, and named attributes (see Section 5).

Several (but not all) of the REQUIRED attributes are derived from the attributes of NFSv3 (see definition of the `fat` data type in [RFC1813]). An example of a REQUIRED attribute is the file object's type (Section 5.8.1.2) so that regular files can be distinguished from directories (also known as folders in some operating environments) and other types of objects. REQUIRED attributes are discussed in Section 5.1.

An example of the RECOMMENDED attributes is an `acl` (Section 6.2.1). This attribute defines an Access Control List (ACL) on a file object. An ACL provides file access control beyond the model used in NFSv3. The ACL definition allows for specification of specific sets of permissions for individual users and groups. In addition, ACL inheritance allows propagation of access permissions and restriction down a directory tree as file system objects are created. RECOMMENDED attributes are discussed in Section 5.2.

A named attribute is an opaque byte stream that is associated with a directory or file and referred to by a string name. Named attributes are meant to be used by client applications as a method to associate application-specific data with a regular file or directory. NFSv4.1 modifies named attributes relative to NFSv4.0 by tightening the allowed operations in order to prevent the development of non-interoperable implementations. Named attributes are discussed in Section 5.3.

#### 1.3.3.3. Multi-server Namespace

A single-server namespace is the file system hierarchy that the server presents for remote access. It is a proper subset of all the file systems available locally. NFSv4 contains a number of features to allow implementation of namespaces that cross server boundaries and that allow and facilitate a non-disruptive transfer of support for individual file systems between servers. They are all based upon attributes that allow one file system to specify alternative or new locations for that file system. I.e., just as a client might traverse across local file systems on a single server, it can now traverse to a remote file system on a different server.

These attributes may be used together with the concept of absent file systems, which provide specifications for additional locations but no actual file system content. This allows a number of important facilities:

- o Location attributes may be used with absent file systems to implement referrals whereby one server may direct the client to a file system provided by another server. This allows extensive multi-server namespaces to be constructed.

- o Location attributes may be provided for present file systems to provide the locations of alternative file system instances or replicas to be used in the event that the current file system instance becomes unavailable.
- o Location attributes may be provided when a previously present file system becomes absent. This allows non-disruptive migration of file systems to alternative servers.

#### 1.3.4. OPEN and CLOSE

The NFSv4 protocol introduces OPEN and CLOSE operations. The OPEN operation provides a single point where file lookup, creation, and share semantics (see Section 9.9) can be combined. The CLOSE operation also provides for the release of state accumulated by OPEN.

#### 1.3.5. File Locking

With the NFSv4 protocol, the support for byte range file locking is part of the NFS protocol. The file locking support is structured so that an RPC callback mechanism is not required. This is a departure from the previous versions of the NFS file locking protocol, Network Lock Manager (NLM) [RFC1813]. The state associated with file locks is maintained at the server under a lease-based model. The server defines a single lease period for all state held by a NFS client. If the client does not renew its lease within the defined period, all state associated with the client's lease may be released by the server. The client may renew its lease with use of the RENEW operation or implicitly by use of other operations (primarily READ).

#### 1.3.6. Client Caching and Delegation

The file, attribute, and directory caching for the NFSv4 protocol is similar to previous versions. Attributes and directory information are cached for a duration determined by the client. At the end of a predefined timeout, the client will query the server to see if the related file system object has been updated.

For file data, the client checks its cache validity when the file is opened. A query is sent to the server to determine if the file has been changed. Based on this information, the client determines if the data cache for the file should be kept or released. Also, when the file is closed, any modified data is written to the server.

If an application wants to serialize access to file data, file locking of the file data ranges in question should be used.

The major addition to NFSv4 in the area of caching is the ability of the server to delegate certain responsibilities to the client. When the server grants a delegation for a file to a client, the client is guaranteed certain semantics with respect to the sharing of that file with other clients. At OPEN, the server may provide the client either a read (OPEN\_DELEGATE\_READ) or a write (OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE) delegation for the file (see Section 10.4). If the client is granted a OPEN\_DELEGATE\_READ delegation, it is assured that no other client has the ability to write to the file for the duration of the delegation. If the client is granted a OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation, the client is assured that no other client has read or write access to the file.

Delegations can be recalled by the server. If another client requests access to the file in such a way that the access conflicts with the granted delegation, the server is able to notify the initial client and recall the delegation. This requires that a callback path exist between the server and client. If this callback path does not exist, then delegations cannot be granted. The essence of a delegation is that it allows the client to locally service operations such as OPEN, CLOSE, LOCK, LOCKU, READ, or WRITE without immediate interaction with the server.

#### 1.4. General Definitions

The following definitions are provided for the purpose of providing an appropriate context for the reader.

**Anonymous Stateid:** Special locking object defined in Section 9.1.4.3.

**Absent File System:** A file system is "absent" when a namespace component does not have a backing file system.

**Byte:** In this document, a byte is an octet, i.e., a datum exactly 8 bits in length.

**Client:** The client is the entity that accesses the NFS server's resources. The client may be an application that contains the logic to access the NFS server directly. The client may also be the traditional operating system client that provides remote file system services for a set of applications.

With reference to byte-range locking, the client is also the entity that maintains a set of locks on behalf of one or more applications. This client is responsible for crash or failure recovery for those locks it manages.

Note that multiple clients may share the same transport and connection and multiple clients may exist on the same network node.

**Client ID:** A 64-bit quantity used as a unique, short-hand reference to a client supplied Verifier and ID. The server is responsible for supplying the Client ID.

**File System:** The file system is the collection of objects on a server that share the same fsid attribute (see Section 5.8.1.9).

**Lease:** An interval of time defined by the server for which the client is irrevocably granted a lock. At the end of a lease period the lock may be revoked if the lease has not been extended. The lock must be revoked if a conflicting lock has been granted after the lease interval.

All leases granted by a server have the same fixed duration. Note that the fixed interval duration was chosen to alleviate the expense a server would have in maintaining state about variable length leases across server failures.

**Lock:** The term "lock" is used to refer to both record (byte-range) locks as well as share reservations unless specifically stated otherwise.

**Lock-Owner:** Each byte-range lock is associated with a specific lock-owner and an open-owner. The lock-owner consists of a Client ID and an opaque owner string. The client presents this to the server to establish the ownership of the byte-range lock as needed.

**Open-Owner:** Each open file is associated with a specific open-owner, which consists of a Client ID and an opaque owner string. The client presents this to the server to establish the ownership of the open as needed.

**READ Bypass Stateid:** Special locking object defined in Section 9.1.4.3.

**Server:** The "Server" is the entity responsible for coordinating client access to a set of file systems.

**Stable Storage:** NFSv4 servers must be able to recover without data loss from multiple power failures (including cascading power failures, that is, several power failures in quick succession), operating system failures, and hardware failure of components

other than the storage medium itself (for example, disk, nonvolatile RAM).

Some examples of stable storage that are allowable for an NFS server include:

- (1) Media commit of data, that is, the modified data has been successfully written to the disk media, for example, the disk platter.
- (2) An immediate reply disk drive with battery-backed on-drive intermediate storage or uninterruptible power system (UPS).
- (3) Server commit of data with battery-backed intermediate storage and recovery software.
- (4) Cache commit with uninterruptible power system (UPS) and recovery software.

**Stateid:** A stateid is a 128-bit quantity returned by a server that uniquely identifies the open and locking states provided by the server for a specific open-owner or lock-owner/open-owner pair for a specific file and type of lock.

**Verifier:** A 64-bit quantity generated by the client that the server can use to determine if the client has restarted and lost all previous lock state.

#### 1.5. Changes since RFC 3530

The main changes from RFC 3530 [RFC3530] are:

- o The XDR definition has been moved to a companion document [RFCNFSv4XDR].
- o The IETF intellectual property statements were updated to the latest version.
- o There is a restructured and more complete explanation of multi-server namespace features.
- o The handling of domain names were updated to reflect Internationalized Domain Names in Applications (IDNA) [RFC5891].
- o The previously required LIPKEY and SPKM-3 security mechanisms have been removed.

- o Some clarification on a client re-establishing callback information to the new server if state has been migrated.
- o A third edge case was added for Courtesy locks and network partitions.
- o The definition of stateid was strengthened.

#### 1.6. Changes between RFC 3010 and RFC3530

The definition of the NFSv4 protocol in [RFC3530] replaced and obsoleted the definition present in [RFC3010]. While portions of the two documents remained the same, there were substantive changes in others. The changes made between [RFC3010] and [RFC3530] reflect implementation experience and further review of the protocol.

The following list is not all inclusive of all changes but presents some of the most notable changes or additions made:

- o The state model has added an `open_owner4` identifier. This was done to accommodate Posix based clients and the model they use for file locking. For Posix clients, an `open_owner4` would correspond to a file descriptor potentially shared amongst a set of processes and the `lock_owner4` identifier would correspond to a process that is locking a file.
- o Clarifications and error conditions were added for the handling of the owner and group attributes. Since these attributes are string based (as opposed to the numeric uid/gid of previous versions of NFS), translations may not be available and hence the changes made.
- o Clarifications for the ACL and mode attributes to address evaluation and partial support.
- o For identifiers that are defined as XDR opaque, limits were set on their size.
- o Added the `mounted_on_fileid` attribute to allow Posix clients to correctly construct local mounts.
- o Modified the `SETCLIENTID/SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM` operations to deal correctly with confirmation details along with adding the ability to specify new client callback information. Also added clarification of the callback information itself.
- o Added a new operation `RELEASE_LOCKOWNER` to enable notifying the server that a `lock_owner4` will no longer be used by the client.

- o RENEW operation changes to identify the client correctly and allow for additional error returns.
- o Verify error return possibilities for all operations.
- o Remove use of the pathname4 data type from LOOKUP and OPEN in favor of having the client construct a sequence of LOOKUP operations to achieve the same effect.

## 2. Protocol Data Types

The syntax and semantics to describe the data types of the NFS version 4 protocol are defined in the XDR [RFC4506] and RPC [RFC5531] documents. The next sections build upon the XDR data types to define types and structures specific to this protocol. As a reminder, the size constants and definitive definitions can be found in [RFCNFSv4XDR].

### 2.1. Basic Data Types

These are the base NFSv4 data types.

Data Type	Definition
int32_t	typedef int int32_t;
uint32_t	typedef unsigned int uint32_t;
int64_t	typedef hyper int64_t;
uint64_t	typedef unsigned hyper uint64_t;
attrlist4	typedef opaque attrlist4<>; Used for file/directory attributes.
bitmap4	typedef uint32_t bitmap4<>; Used in attribute array encoding.
changeid4	typedef uint64_t changeid4; Used in the definition of change_info4.
clientid4	typedef uint64_t clientid4; Shorthand reference to client identification.
count4	typedef uint32_t count4; Various count parameters (READ, WRITE, COMMIT).
length4	typedef uint64_t length4; Describes LOCK lengths.
mode4	typedef uint32_t mode4; Mode attribute data type.
nfs_cookie4	typedef uint64_t nfs_cookie4; Opaque cookie value for READDIR.
nfs_fh4	typedef opaque nfs_fh4<NFS4_FHSIZE>; Filehandle definition.
nfs_ftype4	enum nfs_ftype4;

nfsstat4	Various defined file types. enum nfsstat4;
nfs_lease4	Return value for operations. typedef uint32_t nfs_lease4;
offset4	Duration of a lease in seconds. typedef uint64_t offset4;
qop4	Various offset designations (READ, WRITE, LOCK, COMMIT). typedef uint32_t qop4;
sec_oid4	Quality of protection designation in SECINFO. typedef opaque sec_oid4<>; Security Object Identifier. The sec_oid4 data type is not really opaque. Instead it contains an ASN.1 OBJECT IDENTIFIER as used by GSS-API in the mech_type argument to GSS_Init_sec_context. See [RFC2743] for details.
seqid4	Sequence identifier used for file locking. typedef uint32_t seqid4;
utf8string	UTF-8 encoding for strings. typedef opaque utf8string<>;
utf8str_cis	Case insensitive UTF-8 string. typedef utf8string utf8str_cis;
utf8str_cs	Case sensitive UTF-8 string. typedef utf8string utf8str_cs;
utf8str_mixed	UTF-8 strings with a case sensitive prefix and a case insensitive suffix. typedef utf8string utf8str_mixed;
component4	Represents pathname components. typedef utf8str_cs component4;
linktext4	Symbolic link contents ("symbolic link" is defined in an Open Group [openg_symlink] standard). typedef opaque linktext4<>;
ascii_REQUIRED4	String is sent as ASCII and thus is automatically UTF-8. typedef utf8string ascii_REQUIRED4;
pathname4	Represents path name for fs_locations. typedef component4 pathname4<>;
nfs_lockid4	typedef uint64_t nfs_lockid4;
verifier4	Verifier used for various operations (COMMIT, CREATE, OPEN, READDIR, WRITE) typedef opaque verifier4[NFS4_VERIFIER_SIZE]; NFS4_VERIFIER_SIZE is defined as 8.

End of Base Data Types

Table 1

## 2.2. Structured Data Types

### 2.2.1. nfstime4

```
struct nfstime4 {
    int64_t      seconds;
    uint32_t     nseconds;
};
```

The `nfstime4` structure gives the number of seconds and nanoseconds since midnight or 0 hour January 1, 1970 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). Values greater than zero for the seconds field denote dates after the 0 hour January 1, 1970. Values less than zero for the seconds field denote dates before the 0 hour January 1, 1970. In both cases, the `nseconds` field is to be added to the seconds field for the final time representation. For example, if the time to be represented is one-half second before 0 hour January 1, 1970, the seconds field would have a value of negative one (-1) and the `nseconds` field would have a value of one-half second (500000000). Values greater than 999,999,999 for `nseconds` are considered invalid.

This data type is used to pass time and date information. A server converts to and from its local representation of time when processing time values, preserving as much accuracy as possible. If the precision of timestamps stored for a file system object is less than defined, loss of precision can occur. An adjunct time maintenance protocol is recommended to reduce client and server time skew.

### 2.2.2. time\_how4

```
enum time_how4 {
    SET_TO_SERVER_TIME4 = 0,
    SET_TO_CLIENT_TIME4 = 1
};
```

### 2.2.3. settime4

```
union settime4 switch (time_how4 set_it) {
    case SET_TO_CLIENT_TIME4:
        nfstime4      time;
    default:
        void;
};
```

The above definitions are used as the attribute definitions to set time values. If `set_it` is `SET_TO_SERVER_TIME4`, then the server uses its local representation of time for the time value.

#### 2.2.4. `specdata4`

```
struct specdata4 {
    uint32_t specdata1; /* major device number */
    uint32_t specdata2; /* minor device number */
};
```

This data type represents additional information for the device file types `NF4CHR` and `NF4BLK`.

#### 2.2.5. `fsid4`

```
struct fsid4 {
    uint64_t      major;
    uint64_t      minor;
};
```

This type is the file system identifier that is used as a `REQUIRED` attribute.

#### 2.2.6. `fs_location4`

```
struct fs_location4 {
    utf8str_cis      server<>;
    pathname4        rootpath;
};
```

#### 2.2.7. `fs_locations4`

```
struct fs_locations4 {
    pathname4        fs_root;
    fs_location4     locations<>;
};
```

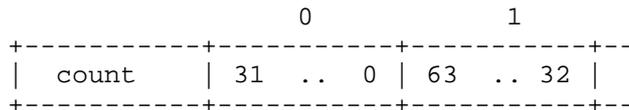
The `fs_location4` and `fs_locations4` data types are used for the `fs_locations` `RECOMMENDED` attribute which is used for migration and replication support.

#### 2.2.8. `fattr4`

```
struct fattr4 {
    bitmap4          attrmask;
    attrlist4        attr_vals;
};
```

The `fatattr4` structure is used to represent file and directory attributes.

The `bitmap` is a counted array of 32 bit integers used to contain bit values. The position of the integer in the array that contains bit `n` can be computed from the expression  $(n / 32)$  and its bit within that integer is  $(n \bmod 32)$ .



#### 2.2.9. `change_info4`

```
struct change_info4 {
    bool        atomic;
    changeid4   before;
    changeid4   after;
};
```

This structure is used with the `CREATE`, `LINK`, `REMOVE`, `RENAME` operations to let the client know the value of the change attribute for the directory in which the target file system object resides.

#### 2.2.10. `clientaddr4`

```
struct clientaddr4 {
    /* see struct rpcb in RFC 1833 */
    string r_netid<>; /* network id */
    string r_addr<>; /* universal address */
};
```

The `clientaddr4` structure is used as part of the `SETCLIENTID` operation to either specify the address of the client that is using a client ID or as part of the callback registration. The `r_netid` and `r_addr` fields respectively contain a network id and universal address. The network id and universal address concepts together with formats for TCP over IPv4 and TCP over IPv6 are defined in [RFC5665], specifically Tables 2 and 3 and Sections 5.2.3.3 and 5.2.3.4.

#### 2.2.11. `cb_client4`

```
struct cb_client4 {
    unsigned int  cb_program;
    clientaddr4  cb_location;
};
```

This structure is used by the client to inform the server of its call back address; includes the program number and client address.

#### 2.2.12. nfs\_client\_id4

```
struct nfs_client_id4 {
    verifier4      verifier;
    opaque         id<NFS4_OPAQUE_LIMIT>;
};
```

This structure is part of the arguments to the SETCLIENTID operation.

#### 2.2.13. open\_owner4

```
struct open_owner4 {
    clientid4      clientid;
    opaque         owner<NFS4_OPAQUE_LIMIT>;
};
```

This structure is used to identify the owner of open state.

#### 2.2.14. lock\_owner4

```
struct lock_owner4 {
    clientid4      clientid;
    opaque         owner<NFS4_OPAQUE_LIMIT>;
};
```

This structure is used to identify the owner of file locking state.

#### 2.2.15. open\_to\_lock\_owner4

```
struct open_to_lock_owner4 {
    seqid4         open_seqid;
    stateid4       open_stateid;
    seqid4         lock_seqid;
    lock_owner4    lock_owner;
};
```

This structure is used for the first LOCK operation done for an open\_owner4. It provides both the open\_stateid and lock\_owner such that the transition is made from a valid open\_stateid sequence to that of the new lock\_stateid sequence. Using this mechanism avoids the confirmation of the lock\_owner/lock\_seqid pair since it is tied to established state in the form of the open\_stateid/open\_seqid.

### 2.2.16. stateid4

```
struct stateid4 {
    uint32_t      seqid;
    opaque        other[NFS4_OTHER_SIZE];
};
```

This structure is used for the various state sharing mechanisms between the client and server. For the client, this data structure is read-only. The server is required to increment the seqid field monotonically at each transition of the stateid. This is important since the client will inspect the seqid in OPEN stateids to determine the order of OPEN processing done by the server.

## 3. RPC and Security Flavor

The NFSv4 protocol is a RPC application that uses RPC version 2 and the XDR as defined in [RFC5531] and [RFC4506]. The RPCSEC\_GSS security flavors as defined in version 1 ([RFC2203]) and version 2 ([RFC5403]) MUST be implemented as the mechanism to deliver stronger security for the NFSv4 protocol. However, deployment of RPCSEC\_GSS is optional.

### 3.1. Ports and Transports

Historically, NFSv2 and NFSv3 servers have resided on port 2049. The registered port 2049 [RFC3232] for the NFS protocol SHOULD be the default configuration. Using the registered port for NFS services means the NFS client will not need to use the RPC binding protocols as described in [RFC1833]; this will allow NFS to transit firewalls.

Where an NFSv4 implementation supports operation over the IP network protocol, the supported transport layer between NFS and IP MUST be an IETF standardized transport protocol that is specified to avoid network congestion; such transports include TCP and Stream Control Transmission Protocol (SCTP). To enhance the possibilities for interoperability, an NFSv4 implementation MUST support operation over the TCP transport protocol.

If TCP is used as the transport, the client and server SHOULD use persistent connections. This will prevent the weakening of TCP's congestion control via short lived connections and will improve performance for the Wide Area Network (WAN) environment by eliminating the need for SYN handshakes.

As noted in Section 17, the authentication model for NFSv4 has moved from machine-based to principal-based. However, this modification of the authentication model does not imply a technical requirement to

move the TCP connection management model from whole machine-based to one based on a per user model. In particular, NFS over TCP client implementations have traditionally multiplexed traffic for multiple users over a common TCP connection between an NFS client and server. This has been true, regardless of whether the NFS client is using AUTH\_SYS, AUTH\_DH, RPCSEC\_GSS or any other flavor. Similarly, NFS over TCP server implementations have assumed such a model and thus scale the implementation of TCP connection management in proportion to the number of expected client machines. It is intended that NFSv4 will not modify this connection management model. NFSv4 clients that violate this assumption can expect scaling issues on the server and hence reduced service.

#### 3.1.1.1. Client Retransmission Behavior

When processing a NFSv4 request received over a reliable transport such as TCP, the NFSv4 server MUST NOT silently drop the request, except if the established transport connection has been broken. Given such a contract between NFSv4 clients and servers, clients MUST NOT retry a request unless one or both of the following are true:

- o The transport connection has been broken
- o The procedure being retried is the NULL procedure

Since reliable transports, such as TCP, do not always synchronously inform a peer when the other peer has broken the connection (for example, when an NFS server reboots), the NFSv4 client may want to actively "probe" the connection to see if has been broken. Use of the NULL procedure is one recommended way to do so. So, when a client experiences a remote procedure call timeout (of some arbitrary implementation specific amount), rather than retrying the remote procedure call, it could instead issue a NULL procedure call to the server. If the server has died, the transport connection break will eventually be indicated to the NFSv4 client. The client can then reconnect, and then retry the original request. If the NULL procedure call gets a response, the connection has not broken. The client can decide to wait longer for the original request's response, or it can break the transport connection and reconnect before re-sending the original request.

For callbacks from the server to the client, the same rules apply, but the server doing the callback becomes the client, and the client receiving the callback becomes the server.

### 3.2. Security Flavors

Traditional RPC implementations have included AUTH\_NONE, AUTH\_SYS, AUTH\_DH, and AUTH\_KRB4 as security flavors. With [RFC2203] an additional security flavor of RPCSEC\_GSS has been introduced which uses the functionality of GSS-API [RFC2743]. This allows for the use of various security mechanisms by the RPC layer without the additional implementation overhead of adding RPC security flavors. For NFSv4, the RPCSEC\_GSS security flavor MUST be used to enable the mandatory to implement security mechanism. Other flavors, such as, AUTH\_NONE, AUTH\_SYS, and AUTH\_DH MAY be implemented as well.

#### 3.2.1. Security mechanisms for NFSv4

RPCSEC\_GSS, via GSS-API, supports multiple mechanisms that provide security services. For interoperability, NFSv4 clients and servers MUST support the Kerberos V5 security mechanism.

The use of RPCSEC\_GSS requires selection of mechanism, quality of protection (QOP), and service (authentication, integrity, privacy). For the mandated security mechanisms, NFSv4 specifies that a QOP of zero is used, leaving it up to the mechanism or the mechanism's configuration to map QOP zero to an appropriate level of protection. Each mandated mechanism specifies a minimum set of cryptographic algorithms for implementing integrity and privacy. NFSv4 clients and servers MUST be implemented on operating environments that comply with the required cryptographic algorithms of each required mechanism.

##### 3.2.1.1. Kerberos V5 as a Security Triple

The Kerberos V5 GSS-API mechanism as described in [RFC4121] MUST be implemented with the RPCSEC\_GSS services as specified in Table 2. Both client and server MUST support each of the pseudo flavors.

Mapping pseudo flavor to service

Number	Name	Mechanism's OID	RPCSEC_GSS service
390003	krb5	1.2.840.113554.1.2.2	rpc_gss_svc_none
390004	krb5i	1.2.840.113554.1.2.2	rpc_gss_svc_integrity
390005	krb5p	1.2.840.113554.1.2.2	rpc_gss_svc_privacy

Table 2

Note that the pseudo flavor is presented here as a mapping aid to the implementer. Because this NFS protocol includes a method to negotiate security and it understands the GSS-API mechanism, the pseudo flavor is not needed. The pseudo flavor is needed for NFSv3 since the security negotiation is done via the MOUNT protocol as described in [RFC2623].

At the time this document was specified, the Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) with HMAC-SHA1 was a required algorithm set for Kerberos V5. In contrast, when NFSv4.0 was first specified in [RFC3530], weaker algorithm sets were REQUIRED for Kerberos V5, and were REQUIRED in the NFSv4.0 specification, because the Kerberos V5 specification at the time did not specify stronger algorithms. The NFSv4 specification does not specify required algorithms for Kerberos V5, and instead, the implementer is expected to track the evolution of the Kerberos V5 standard if and when stronger algorithms are specified.

#### 3.2.1.1.1. Security Considerations for Cryptographic Algorithms in Kerberos V5

When deploying NFSv4, the strength of the security achieved depends on the existing Kerberos V5 infrastructure. The algorithms of Kerberos V5 are not directly exposed to or selectable by the client or server, so there is some due diligence required by the user of NFSv4 to ensure that security is acceptable where needed. Guidance is provided in [RFC6649] as to why weak algorithms should be disabled by default.

### 3.3. Security Negotiation

With the NFSv4 server potentially offering multiple security mechanisms, the client needs a method to determine or negotiate which mechanism is to be used for its communication with the server. The NFS server can have multiple points within its file system name space that are available for use by NFS clients. In turn the NFS server can be configured such that each of these entry points can have different or multiple security mechanisms in use.

The security negotiation between client and server SHOULD be done with a secure channel to eliminate the possibility of a third party intercepting the negotiation sequence and forcing the client and server to choose a lower level of security than required or desired. See Section 17 for further discussion.

### 3.3.1. SECINFO

The SECINFO operation will allow the client to determine, on a per filehandle basis, what security triple (see [RFC2743]) is to be used for server access. In general, the client will not have to use the SECINFO operation except during initial communication with the server or when the client encounters a new security policy as the client navigates the name space. Either condition will force the client to negotiate a new security triple.

### 3.3.2. Security Error

Based on the assumption that each NFSv4 client and server MUST support a minimum set of security (i.e., Kerberos-V5 under RPCSEC\_GSS), the NFS client will start its communication with the server with one of the minimal security triples. During communication with the server, the client can receive an NFS error of NFS4ERR\_WRONGSEC. This error allows the server to notify the client that the security triple currently being used is not appropriate for access to the server's file system resources. The client is then responsible for determining what security triples are available at the server and choose one which is appropriate for the client. See Section 15.33 for further discussion of how the client will respond to the NFS4ERR\_WRONGSEC error and use SECINFO.

### 3.3.3. Callback RPC Authentication

Except as noted elsewhere in this section, the callback RPC (described later) MUST mutually authenticate the NFS server to the principal that acquired the client ID (also described later), using the security flavor of the original SETCLIENTID operation used.

For AUTH\_NONE, there are no principals, so this is a non-issue.

AUTH\_SYS has no notions of mutual authentication or a server principal, so the callback from the server simply uses the AUTH\_SYS credential that the user used when he set up the delegation.

For AUTH\_DH, one commonly used convention is that the server uses the credential corresponding to this AUTH\_DH principal:

```
unix.host@domain
```

where host and domain are variables corresponding to the name of server host and directory services domain in which it lives such as a Network Information System domain or a DNS domain.

Regardless of what security mechanism under RPCSEC\_GSS is being used, the NFS server MUST identify itself in GSS-API via a GSS\_C\_NT\_HOSTBASED\_SERVICE name type. GSS\_C\_NT\_HOSTBASED\_SERVICE names are of the form:

```
service@hostname
```

For NFS, the "service" element is

```
nfs
```

Implementations of security mechanisms will convert nfs@hostname to various different forms. For Kerberos V5, the following form is RECOMMENDED:

```
nfs/hostname
```

For Kerberos V5, nfs/hostname would be a server principal in the Kerberos Key Distribution Center database. This is the same principal the client acquired a GSS-API context for when it issued the SETCLIENTID operation, therefore, the realm name for the server principal must be the same for the callback as it was for the SETCLIENTID.

#### 4. Filehandles

The filehandle in the NFS protocol is a per server unique identifier for a file system object. The contents of the filehandle are opaque to the client. Therefore, the server is responsible for translating the filehandle to an internal representation of the file system object.

##### 4.1. Obtaining the First Filehandle

The operations of the NFS protocol are defined in terms of one or more filehandles. Therefore, the client needs a filehandle to initiate communication with the server. With the NFSv2 protocol [RFC1094] and the NFSv3 protocol [RFC1813], there exists an ancillary protocol to obtain this first filehandle. The MOUNT protocol, RPC program number 100005, provides the mechanism of translating a string based file system path name to a filehandle which can then be used by the NFS protocols.

The MOUNT protocol has deficiencies in the area of security and use via firewalls. This is one reason that the use of the public filehandle was introduced in [RFC2054] and [RFC2055]. With the use of the public filehandle in combination with the LOOKUP operation in the NFSv2 and NFSv3 protocols, it has been demonstrated that the

MOUNT protocol is unnecessary for viable interaction between NFS client and server.

Therefore, the NFSv4 protocol will not use an ancillary protocol for translation from string based path names to a filehandle. Two special filehandles will be used as starting points for the NFS client.

#### 4.1.1. Root Filehandle

The first of the special filehandles is the ROOT filehandle. The ROOT filehandle is the "conceptual" root of the file system name space at the NFS server. The client uses or starts with the ROOT filehandle by employing the PUTROOTFH operation. The PUTROOTFH operation instructs the server to set the "current" filehandle to the ROOT of the server's file tree. Once this PUTROOTFH operation is used, the client can then traverse the entirety of the server's file tree with the LOOKUP operation. A complete discussion of the server name space is in Section 7.

#### 4.1.2. Public Filehandle

The second special filehandle is the PUBLIC filehandle. Unlike the ROOT filehandle, the PUBLIC filehandle may be bound or represent an arbitrary file system object at the server. The server is responsible for this binding. It may be that the PUBLIC filehandle and the ROOT filehandle refer to the same file system object. However, it is up to the administrative software at the server and the policies of the server administrator to define the binding of the PUBLIC filehandle and server file system object. The client may not make any assumptions about this binding. The client uses the PUBLIC filehandle via the PUTPUBFH operation.

#### 4.2. Filehandle Types

In the NFSv2 and NFSv3 protocols, there was one type of filehandle with a single set of semantics, of which the primary one was that it was persistent across a server reboot. As such, this type of filehandle is termed "persistent" in NFS Version 4. The semantics of a persistent filehandle remain the same as before. A new type of filehandle introduced in NFS Version 4 is the "volatile" filehandle, which attempts to accommodate certain server environments.

The volatile filehandle type was introduced to address server functionality or implementation issues which make correct implementation of a persistent filehandle infeasible. Some server environments do not provide a file system level invariant that can be used to construct a persistent filehandle. The underlying server

file system may not provide the invariant or the server's file system programming interfaces may not provide access to the needed invariant. Volatile filehandles may ease the implementation of server functionality such as hierarchical storage management or file system reorganization or migration. However, the volatile filehandle increases the implementation burden for the client.

Since the client will need to handle persistent and volatile filehandles differently, a file attribute is defined which may be used by the client to determine the filehandle types being returned by the server.

#### 4.2.1. General Properties of a Filehandle

The filehandle contains all the information the server needs to distinguish an individual file. To the client, the filehandle is opaque. The client stores filehandles for use in a later request and can compare two filehandles from the same server for equality by doing a byte-by-byte comparison. However, the client **MUST NOT** otherwise interpret the contents of filehandles. If two filehandles from the same server are equal, they **MUST** refer to the same file. However, it is not required that two different filehandles refer to different file system objects. Servers **SHOULD** try to maintain a one-to-one correspondence between filehandles and file system objects but there may be situations in which the mapping is not one-to-one. Clients **MUST** use filehandle comparisons only to improve performance, not for correct behavior. All clients need to be prepared for situations in which it cannot be determined whether two different filehandles denote the same object and in such cases, avoid assuming that objects denoted are different, as this might cause incorrect behavior. Further discussion of filehandle and attribute comparison in the context of data caching is presented in Section 10.3.4.

As an example, in the case that two different path names when traversed at the server terminate at the same file system object, the server **SHOULD** return the same filehandle for each path. This can occur if a hard link is used to create two file names which refer to the same underlying file object and associated data. For example, if paths /a/b/c and /a/d/c refer to the same file, the server **SHOULD** return the same filehandle for both path names traversals.

#### 4.2.2. Persistent Filehandle

A persistent filehandle is defined as having a fixed value for the lifetime of the file system object to which it refers. Once the server creates the filehandle for a file system object, the server **MUST** accept the same filehandle for the object for the lifetime of the object. If the server restarts or reboots the NFS server must

honor the same filehandle value as it did in the server's previous instantiation. Similarly, if the file system is migrated, the new NFS server must honor the same filehandle as the old NFS server.

The persistent filehandle will become stale or invalid when the file system object is removed. When the server is presented with a persistent filehandle that refers to a deleted object, it MUST return an error of NFS4ERR\_STALE. A filehandle may become stale when the file system containing the object is no longer available. The file system may become unavailable if it exists on removable media and the media is no longer available at the server or the file system in whole has been destroyed or the file system has simply been removed from the server's name space (i.e., unmounted in a UNIX environment).

#### 4.2.3. Volatile Filehandle

A volatile filehandle does not share the same longevity characteristics of a persistent filehandle. The server may determine that a volatile filehandle is no longer valid at many different points in time. If the server can definitively determine that a volatile filehandle refers to an object that has been removed, the server should return NFS4ERR\_STALE to the client (as is the case for persistent filehandles). In all other cases where the server determines that a volatile filehandle can no longer be used, it should return an error of NFS4ERR\_FHEXPIRED.

The REQUIRED attribute "fh\_expire\_type" is used by the client to determine what type of filehandle the server is providing for a particular file system. This attribute is a bitmask with the following values:

**FH4\_PERSISTENT:** The value of FH4\_PERSISTENT is used to indicate a persistent filehandle, which is valid until the object is removed from the file system. The server will not return NFS4ERR\_FHEXPIRED for this filehandle. FH4\_PERSISTENT is defined as a value in which none of the bits specified below are set.

**FH4\_VOLATILE\_ANY:** The filehandle may expire at any time, except as specifically excluded (i.e., FH4\_NOEXPIRE\_WITH\_OPEN).

**FH4\_NOEXPIRE\_WITH\_OPEN:** May only be set when FH4\_VOLATILE\_ANY is set. If this bit is set, then the meaning of FH4\_VOLATILE\_ANY is qualified to exclude any expiration of the filehandle when it is open.

**FH4\_VOL\_MIGRATION:** The filehandle will expire as a result of migration. If FH4\_VOLATILE\_ANY is set, FH4\_VOL\_MIGRATION is redundant.

**FH4\_VOL\_RENAME:** The filehandle will expire during rename. This includes a rename by the requesting client or a rename by any other client. If **FH4\_VOLATILE\_ANY** is set, **FH4\_VOL\_RENAME** is redundant.

Servers which provide volatile filehandles that may expire while open (i.e., if **FH4\_VOL\_MIGRATION** or **FH4\_VOL\_RENAME** is set or if **FH4\_VOLATILE\_ANY** is set and **FH4\_NOEXPIRE\_WITH\_OPEN** not set), should deny a **RENAME** or **REMOVE** that would affect an **OPEN** file of any of the components leading to the **OPEN** file. In addition, the server **SHOULD** deny all **RENAME** or **REMOVE** requests during the grace period upon server restart.

Note that the bits **FH4\_VOL\_MIGRATION** and **FH4\_VOL\_RENAME** allow the client to determine that expiration has occurred whenever a specific event occurs, without an explicit filehandle expiration error from the server. **FH4\_VOLATILE\_ANY** does not provide this form of information. In situations where the server will expire many, but not all filehandles upon migration (e.g., all but those that are open), **FH4\_VOLATILE\_ANY** (in this case with **FH4\_NOEXPIRE\_WITH\_OPEN**) is a better choice since the client may not assume that all filehandles will expire when migration occurs, and it is likely that additional expirations will occur (as a result of file **CLOSE**) that are separated in time from the migration event itself.

#### 4.2.4. One Method of Constructing a Volatile Filehandle

A volatile filehandle, while opaque to the client, could contain:

```
[volatile bit = 1 | server boot time | slot | generation number]
```

- o slot is an index in the server volatile filehandle table
- o generation number is the generation number for the table entry/slot

When the client presents a volatile filehandle, the server makes the following checks, which assume that the check for the volatile bit has passed. If the server boot time is less than the current server boot time, return **NFS4ERR\_FHEXPIRED**. If slot is out of range, return **NFS4ERR\_BADHANDLE**. If the generation number does not match, return **NFS4ERR\_FHEXPIRED**.

When the server reboots, the table is gone (it is volatile).

If volatile bit is 0, then it is a persistent filehandle with a different structure following it.

#### 4.3. Client Recovery from Filehandle Expiration

If possible, the client should recover from the receipt of an NFS4ERR\_FHEXPIRED error. The client must take on additional responsibility so that it may prepare itself to recover from the expiration of a volatile filehandle. If the server returns persistent filehandles, the client does not need these additional steps.

For volatile filehandles, most commonly the client will need to store the component names leading up to and including the file system object in question. With these names, the client should be able to recover by finding a filehandle in the name space that is still available or by starting at the root of the server's file system name space.

If the expired filehandle refers to an object that has been removed from the file system, obviously the client will not be able to recover from the expired filehandle.

It is also possible that the expired filehandle refers to a file that has been renamed. If the file was renamed by another client, again it is possible that the original client will not be able to recover. However, in the case that the client itself is renaming the file and the file is open, it is possible that the client may be able to recover. The client can determine the new path name based on the processing of the rename request. The client can then regenerate the new filehandle based on the new path name. The client could also use the compound operation mechanism to construct a set of operations like:

```
RENAME A B
LOOKUP B
GETFH
```

Note that the COMPOUND procedure does not provide atomicity. This example only reduces the overhead of recovering from an expired filehandle.

#### 5. Attributes

To meet the requirements of extensibility and increased interoperability with non-UNIX platforms, attributes need to be handled in a flexible manner. The NFSv3 `fattnr3` structure contains a fixed list of attributes that not all clients and servers are able to support or care about. The `fattnr3` structure cannot be extended as new needs arise and it provides no way to indicate non-support. With the NFSv4.0 protocol, the client is able to query what attributes the

server supports and construct requests with only those supported attributes (or a subset thereof).

To this end, attributes are divided into three groups: REQUIRED, RECOMMENDED, and named. Both REQUIRED and RECOMMENDED attributes are supported in the NFSv4.0 protocol by a specific and well-defined encoding and are identified by number. They are requested by setting a bit in the bit vector sent in the GETATTR request; the server response includes a bit vector to list what attributes were returned in the response. New REQUIRED or RECOMMENDED attributes may be added to the NFSv4 protocol as part of a new minor version by publishing a Standards Track RFC which allocates a new attribute number value and defines the encoding for the attribute. See Section 11 for further discussion.

Named attributes are accessed by the OPENATTR operation, which accesses a hidden directory of attributes associated with a file system object. OPENATTR takes a filehandle for the object and returns the filehandle for the attribute hierarchy. The filehandle for the named attributes is a directory object accessible by LOOKUP or READDIR and contains files whose names represent the named attributes and whose data bytes are the value of the attribute. For example:

```
+-----+-----+-----+
| LOOKUP | "foo" | ; look up file |
| GETATTR | attrbits | |
| OPENATTR | | ; access foo's named attributes |
| LOOKUP | "xllicon" | ; look up specific attribute |
| READ | 0,4096 | ; read stream of bytes |
+-----+-----+-----+
```

Named attributes are intended for data needed by applications rather than by an NFS client implementation. NFS implementers are strongly encouraged to define their new attributes as RECOMMENDED attributes by bringing them to the IETF Standards Track process.

The set of attributes that are classified as REQUIRED is deliberately small since servers need to do whatever it takes to support them. A server should support as many of the RECOMMENDED attributes as possible but, by their definition, the server is not required to support all of them. Attributes are deemed REQUIRED if the data is both needed by a large number of clients and is not otherwise reasonably computable by the client when support is not provided on the server.

Note that the hidden directory returned by OPENATTR is a convenience for protocol processing. The client should not make any assumptions

about the server's implementation of named attributes and whether or not the underlying file system at the server has a named attribute directory. Therefore, operations such as SETATTR and GETATTR on the named attribute directory are undefined.

#### 5.1. REQUIRED Attributes

These MUST be supported by every NFSv4.0 client and server in order to ensure a minimum level of interoperability. The server MUST store and return these attributes, and the client MUST be able to function with an attribute set limited to these attributes. With just the REQUIRED attributes some client functionality can be impaired or limited in some ways. A client can ask for any of these attributes to be returned by setting a bit in the GETATTR request. For each such bit set, the server MUST return the corresponding attribute value.

#### 5.2. RECOMMENDED Attributes

These attributes are understood well enough to warrant support in the NFSv4.0 protocol. However, they may not be supported on all clients and servers. A client MAY ask for any of these attributes to be returned by setting a bit in the GETATTR request but MUST handle the case where the server does not return them. A client MAY ask for the set of attributes the server supports and SHOULD NOT request attributes the server does not support. A server should be tolerant of requests for unsupported attributes and simply not return them rather than considering the request an error. It is expected that servers will support all attributes they comfortably can and only fail to support attributes that are difficult to support in their operating environments. A server should provide attributes whenever they don't have to "tell lies" to the client. For example, a file modification time should be either an accurate time or should not be supported by the server. At times this will be difficult for clients, but a client is better positioned to decide whether and how to fabricate or construct an attribute or whether to do without the attribute.

#### 5.3. Named Attributes

These attributes are not supported by direct encoding in the NFSv4 protocol but are accessed by string names rather than numbers and correspond to an uninterpreted stream of bytes that are stored with the file system object. The name space for these attributes may be accessed by using the OPENATTR operation. The OPENATTR operation returns a filehandle for a virtual "named attribute directory", and further perusal and modification of the name space may be done using operations that work on more typical directories. In particular,

REaddir may be used to get a list of such named attributes, and LOOKUP and OPEN may select a particular attribute. Creation of a new named attribute may be the result of an OPEN specifying file creation.

Once an OPEN is done, named attributes may be examined and changed by normal READ and WRITE operations using the filehandles and stateids returned by OPEN.

Named attributes and the named attribute directory may have their own (non-named) attributes. Each of these objects must have all of the REQUIRED attributes and may have additional RECOMMENDED attributes. However, the set of attributes for named attributes and the named attribute directory need not be, and typically will not be, as large as that for other objects in that file system.

Named attributes might be the target of delegations. However, since granting of delegations is at the server's discretion, a server need not support delegations on named attributes.

It is RECOMMENDED that servers support arbitrary named attributes. A client should not depend on the ability to store any named attributes in the server's file system. If a server does support named attributes, a client that is also able to handle them should be able to copy a file's data and metadata with complete transparency from one location to another; this would imply that names allowed for regular directory entries are valid for named attribute names as well.

In NFSv4.0, the structure of named attribute directories is restricted in a number of ways, in order to prevent the development of non-interoperable implementations in which some servers support a fully general hierarchical directory structure for named attributes while others support a limited but adequate structure for named attributes. In such an environment, clients or applications might come to depend on non-portable extensions. The restrictions are:

- o CREATE is not allowed in a named attribute directory. Thus, such objects as symbolic links and special files are not allowed to be named attributes. Further, directories may not be created in a named attribute directory, so no hierarchical structure of named attributes for a single object is allowed.
- o If OPENATTR is done on a named attribute directory or on a named attribute, the server MUST return an error.

- o Doing a RENAME of a named attribute to a different named attribute directory or to an ordinary (i.e., non-named-attribute) directory is not allowed.
- o Creating hard links between named attribute directories or between named attribute directories and ordinary directories is not allowed.

Names of attributes will not be controlled by this document or other IETF Standards Track documents. See Section 18 for further discussion.

#### 5.4. Classification of Attributes

Each of attributes accessed using SETATTR and GETATTR (i.e., REQUIRED or RECOMMENDED attributes) can be classified in one of three categories:

1. per server attributes for which the value of the attribute will be the same for all file objects that share the same server.
2. per file system attributes for which the value of the attribute will be the same for some or all file objects that share the same server and fsid attribute (Section 5.8.1.9). See below for details regarding when such sharing is in effect.
3. per file system object attributes

The handling of per file system attributes depends on the particular attribute and the setting of the homogeneous (Section 5.8.2.12) attribute. The following rules apply:

1. The values of the attribute supported\_attrs, fsid, homogeneous, link\_support, and symlink\_support are always common to all object within the given file system.
2. For other attributes, different values may be returned for different file system objects if the attribute homogeneous is supported within the file system in question and has the value false.

The classification of attributes is as follows. Note that the attributes time\_access\_set and time\_modify\_set are not listed in this section because they are write-only attributes corresponding to time\_access and time\_modify, and are used in a special instance of SETATTR.

- o The per-server attribute is:

lease\_time

- o The per-file system attributes are:

supported\_attrs, fh\_expire\_type, link\_support, symlink\_support, unique\_handles, aclsupport, cansettime, case\_insensitive, case\_preserving, chown\_restricted, files\_avail, files\_free, files\_total, fs\_locations, homogeneous, maxfilesize, maxname, maxread, maxwrite, no\_trunc, space\_avail, space\_free, space\_total, time\_delta,

- o The per-file system object attributes are:

type, change, size, named\_attr, fsid, rgetattr\_error, filehandle, acl, archive, fileid, hidden, maxlink, mimetype, mode, numlinks, owner, owner\_group, rawdev, space\_used, system, time\_access, time\_backup, time\_create, time\_metadata, time\_modify, mounted\_on\_fileid

For quota\_avail\_hard, quota\_avail\_soft, and quota\_used, see their definitions below for the appropriate classification.

#### 5.5. Set-Only and Get-Only Attributes

Some REQUIRED and RECOMMENDED attributes are set-only; i.e., they can be set via SETATTR but not retrieved via GETATTR. Similarly, some REQUIRED and RECOMMENDED attributes are get-only; i.e., they can be retrieved via GETATTR but not set via SETATTR. If a client attempts to set a get-only attribute or get a set-only attribute, the server MUST return NFS4ERR\_INVALID.

#### 5.6. REQUIRED Attributes - List and Definition References

The list of REQUIRED attributes appears in Table 3. The meaning of the columns of the table are:

- o Name: The name of attribute
- o Id: The number assigned to the attribute. In the event of conflicts between the assigned number and [RFCNFSv4XDR], the latter is authoritative, but in such an event, it should be resolved with Errata to this document and/or [RFCNFSv4XDR]. See [IESG\_ERRATA] for the Errata process.
- o Data Type: The XDR data type of the attribute.
- o Acc: Access allowed to the attribute. R means read-only (GETATTR may retrieve, SETATTR may not set). W means write-only (SETATTR

may set, GETATTR may not retrieve). R W means read/write (GETATTR may retrieve, SETATTR may set).

- o Defined in: The section of this specification that describes the attribute.

#### REQUIRED attributes

Name	Id	Data Type	Acc	Defined in:
supported_attrs	0	bitmap4	R	Section 5.8.1.1
type	1	nfs_ftype4	R	Section 5.8.1.2
fh_expire_type	2	uint32_t	R	Section 5.8.1.3
change	3	changeid4	R	Section 5.8.1.4
size	4	uint64_t	R W	Section 5.8.1.5
link_support	5	bool	R	Section 5.8.1.6
symlink_support	6	bool	R	Section 5.8.1.7
named_attr	7	bool	R	Section 5.8.1.8
fsid	8	fsid4	R	Section 5.8.1.9
unique_handles	9	bool	R	Section 5.8.1.10
lease_time	10	nfs_lease4	R	Section 5.8.1.11
rdattr_error	11	nfsstat4	R	Section 5.8.1.12
filehandle	19	nfs_fh4	R	Section 5.8.1.13

Table 3

#### 5.7. RECOMMENDED Attributes - List and Definition References

The RECOMMENDED attributes are defined in Table 4. The meanings of the column headers are the same as Table 3; see Section 5.6 for the meanings.

#### RECOMMENDED attributes

Name	Id	Data Type	Acc	Defined in:
acl	12	nfsace4<>	R W	Section 6.2.1
aclsupport	13	uint32_t	R	Section 6.2.1.2
archive	14	bool	R W	Section 5.8.2.1
cansettime	15	bool	R	Section 5.8.2.2
case_insensitive	16	bool	R	Section 5.8.2.3
case_preserving	17	bool	R	Section 5.8.2.4
chown_restricted	18	bool	R	Section 5.8.2.5
fileid	20	uint64_t	R	Section 5.8.2.6
files_avail	21	uint64_t	R	Section 5.8.2.7
files_free	22	uint64_t	R	Section 5.8.2.8
files_total	23	uint64_t	R	Section 5.8.2.9
fs_locations	24	fs_locations4	R	Section 5.8.2.10
hidden	25	bool	R W	Section 5.8.2.11
homogeneous	26	bool	R	Section 5.8.2.12
maxfilesize	27	uint64_t	R	Section 5.8.2.13
maxlink	28	uint32_t	R	Section 5.8.2.14
maxname	29	uint32_t	R	Section 5.8.2.15
maxread	30	uint64_t	R	Section 5.8.2.16
maxwrite	31	uint64_t	R	Section 5.8.2.17
mimetype	32	ascii_	R W	Section 5.8.2.18
		REQUIRED4<>		
mode	33	mode4	R W	Section 6.2.2
mounted_on_fileid	55	uint64_t	R	Section 5.8.2.19
no_trunc	34	bool	R	Section 5.8.2.20
numlinks	35	uint32_t	R	Section 5.8.2.21
owner	36	utf8str_mixed	R W	Section 5.8.2.22
owner_group	37	utf8str_mixed	R W	Section 5.8.2.23
quota_avail_hard	38	uint64_t	R	Section 5.8.2.24
quota_avail_soft	39	uint64_t	R	Section 5.8.2.25
quota_used	40	uint64_t	R	Section 5.8.2.26
rawdev	41	specdata4	R	Section 5.8.2.27
space_avail	42	uint64_t	R	Section 5.8.2.28
space_free	43	uint64_t	R	Section 5.8.2.29
space_total	44	uint64_t	R	Section 5.8.2.30
space_used	45	uint64_t	R	Section 5.8.2.31
system	46	bool	R W	Section 5.8.2.32
time_access	47	nfstime4	R	Section 5.8.2.33
time_access_set	48	settime4	W	Section 5.8.2.34
time_backup	49	nfstime4	R W	Section 5.8.2.35
time_create	50	nfstime4	R W	Section 5.8.2.36
time_delta	51	nfstime4	R	Section 5.8.2.37
time_metadata	52	nfstime4	R	Section 5.8.2.38
time_modify	53	nfstime4	R	Section 5.8.2.39
time_modify_set	54	settime4	W	Section 5.8.2.40

Table 4

## 5.8. Attribute Definitions

## 5.8.1. Definitions of REQUIRED Attributes

## 5.8.1.1. Attribute 0: supported\_attrs

The bit vector that would retrieve all REQUIRED and RECOMMENDED attributes that are supported for this object. The scope of this attribute applies to all objects with a matching fsid.

## 5.8.1.2. Attribute 1: type

Designates the type of an object in terms of one of a number of special constants:

- o NF4REG designates a regular file.
- o NF4DIR designates a directory.
- o NF4BLK designates a block device special file.
- o NF4CHR designates a character device special file.
- o NF4LNK designates a symbolic link.
- o NF4SOCK designates a named socket special file.
- o NF4FIFO designates a fifo special file.
- o NF4ATTRDIR designates a named attribute directory.
- o NF4NAMEDATTR designates a named attribute.

Within the explanatory text and operation descriptions, the following phrases will be used with the meanings given below:

- o The phrase "is a directory" means that the object's type attribute is NF4DIR or NF4ATTRDIR.
- o The phrase "is a special file" means that the object's type attribute is NF4BLK, NF4CHR, NF4SOCK, or NF4FIFO.
- o The phrase "is a regular file" means that the object's type attribute is NF4REG or NF4NAMEDATTR.

- o The phrase "is a symbolic link" means that the object's type attribute is NF4LNK.

#### 5.8.1.3. Attribute 2: fh\_expire\_type

Server uses this to specify filehandle expiration behavior to the client. See Section 4 for additional description.

#### 5.8.1.4. Attribute 3: change

A value created by the server that the client can use to determine if file data, directory contents, or attributes of the object have been modified. The server MAY return the object's time\_metadata attribute for this attribute's value but only if the file system object cannot be updated more frequently than the resolution of time\_metadata.

#### 5.8.1.5. Attribute 4: size

The size of the object in bytes.

#### 5.8.1.6. Attribute 5: link\_support

TRUE, if the object's file system supports hard links.

#### 5.8.1.7. Attribute 6: symlink\_support

TRUE, if the object's file system supports symbolic links.

#### 5.8.1.8. Attribute 7: named\_attr

TRUE, if this object has named attributes. In other words, object has a non-empty named attribute directory.

#### 5.8.1.9. Attribute 8: fsid

Unique file system identifier for the file system holding this object. The fsid attribute has major and minor components, each of which are of data type uint64\_t.

#### 5.8.1.10. Attribute 9: unique\_handles

TRUE, if two distinct filehandles are guaranteed to refer to two different file system objects.

## 5.8.1.11. Attribute 10: lease\_time

Duration of the lease at server in seconds.

## 5.8.1.12. Attribute 11: rdattrib\_error

Error returned from an attempt to retrieve attributes during a REaddir operation.

## 5.8.1.13. Attribute 19: filehandle

The filehandle of this object (primarily for REaddir requests).

## 5.8.2. Definitions of Uncategorized RECOMMENDED Attributes

The definitions of most of the RECOMMENDED attributes follow. Collections that share a common category are defined in other sections.

## 5.8.2.1. Attribute 14: archive

TRUE, if this file has been archived since the time of last modification (deprecated in favor of time\_backup).

## 5.8.2.2. Attribute 15: cansettime

TRUE, if the server is able to change the times for a file system object as specified in a SETATTR operation.

## 5.8.2.3. Attribute 16: case\_insensitive

TRUE, if file name comparisons on this file system are case insensitive. This refers only to comparisons, and not to the case in which file names are stored.

## 5.8.2.4. Attribute 17: case\_preserving

TRUE, if file name case on this file system is preserved. This refers only to how file names are stored, and not to how they are compared. File names stored in mixed case might be compared using either case-insensitive or case-sensitive comparisons.

## 5.8.2.5. Attribute 18: chown\_restricted

If TRUE, the server will reject any request to change either the owner or the group associated with a file if the caller is not a privileged user (for example, "root" in UNIX operating environments or in Windows 2000, the "Take Ownership" privilege).

## 5.8.2.6. Attribute 20: fileid

A number uniquely identifying the file within the file system.

## 5.8.2.7. Attribute 21: files\_avail

File slots available to this user on the file system containing this object -- this should be the smallest relevant limit.

## 5.8.2.8. Attribute 22: files\_free

Free file slots on the file system containing this object - this should be the smallest relevant limit.

## 5.8.2.9. Attribute 23: files\_total

Total file slots on the file system containing this object.

## 5.8.2.10. Attribute 24: fs\_locations

Locations where this file system may be found. If the server returns NFS4ERR\_MOVED as an error, this attribute MUST be supported.

The server specifies the root path for a given server by returning a path consisting of zero path components.

## 5.8.2.11. Attribute 25: hidden

TRUE, if the file is considered hidden with respect to the Windows API.

## 5.8.2.12. Attribute 26: homogeneous

TRUE, if this object's file system is homogeneous, i.e., all objects in the file system (all objects on the server with the same fsid) have common values for all per-file-system attributes.

## 5.8.2.13. Attribute 27: maxfilesize

Maximum supported file size for the file system of this object.

## 5.8.2.14. Attribute 28: maxlink

Maximum number of hard links for this object.

## 5.8.2.15. Attribute 29: maxname

Maximum file name size supported for this object.

## 5.8.2.16. Attribute 30: maxread

Maximum amount of data the READ operation will return for this object.

## 5.8.2.17. Attribute 31: maxwrite

Maximum amount of data the WRITE operation will accept for this object. This attribute SHOULD be supported if the file is writable. Lack of this attribute can lead to the client either wasting bandwidth or not receiving the best performance.

## 5.8.2.18. Attribute 32: mimetype

MIME media type/subtype of this object.

## 5.8.2.19. Attribute 55: mounted\_on\_fileid

Like fileid, but if the target filehandle is the root of a file system, this attribute represents the fileid of the underlying directory.

UNIX-based operating environments connect a file system into the namespace by connecting (mounting) the file system onto the existing file object (the mount point, usually a directory) of an existing file system. When the mount point's parent directory is read via an API like readdir(), the return results are directory entries, each with a component name and a fileid. The fileid of the mount point's directory entry will be different from the fileid that the stat() system call returns. The stat() system call is returning the fileid of the root of the mounted file system, whereas readdir() is returning the fileid that stat() would have returned before any file systems were mounted on the mount point.

Unlike NFSv3, NFSv4.0 allows a client's LOOKUP request to cross other file systems. The client detects the file system crossing whenever the filehandle argument of LOOKUP has an fsid attribute different from that of the filehandle returned by LOOKUP. A UNIX-based client will consider this a "mount point crossing". UNIX has a legacy scheme for allowing a process to determine its current working directory. This relies on readdir() of a mount point's parent and stat() of the mount point returning fileids as previously described. The mounted\_on\_fileid attribute corresponds to the fileid that readdir() would have returned as described previously.

While the NFSv4.0 client could simply fabricate a fileid corresponding to what `mounted_on_fileid` provides (and if the server does not support `mounted_on_fileid`, the client has no choice), there is a risk that the client will generate a fileid that conflicts with one that is already assigned to another object in the file system. Instead, if the server can provide the `mounted_on_fileid`, the potential for client operational problems in this area is eliminated.

If the server detects that there is no mounted point at the target file object, then the value for `mounted_on_fileid` that it returns is the same as that of the fileid attribute.

The `mounted_on_fileid` attribute is RECOMMENDED, so the server SHOULD provide it if possible, and for a UNIX-based server, this is straightforward. Usually, `mounted_on_fileid` will be requested during a READDIR operation, in which case it is trivial (at least for UNIX-based servers) to return `mounted_on_fileid` since it is equal to the fileid of a directory entry returned by `readdir()`. If `mounted_on_fileid` is requested in a GETATTR operation, the server should obey an invariant that has it returning a value that is equal to the file object's entry in the object's parent directory, i.e., what `readdir()` would have returned. Some operating environments allow a series of two or more file systems to be mounted onto a single mount point. In this case, for the server to obey the aforementioned invariant, it will need to find the base mount point, and not the intermediate mount points.

#### 5.8.2.20. Attribute 34: `no_trunc`

If this attribute is TRUE, then if the client uses a file name longer than `name_max`, an error will be returned instead of the name being truncated.

#### 5.8.2.21. Attribute 35: `numlinks`

Number of hard links to this object.

#### 5.8.2.22. Attribute 36: `owner`

The string name of the owner of this object.

#### 5.8.2.23. Attribute 37: `owner_group`

The string name of the group ownership of this object.

## 5.8.2.24. Attribute 38: quota\_avail\_hard

The value in bytes that represents the amount of additional disk space beyond the current allocation that can be allocated to this file or directory before further allocations will be refused. It is understood that this space may be consumed by allocations to other files or directories.

## 5.8.2.25. Attribute 39: quota\_avail\_soft

The value in bytes that represents the amount of additional disk space that can be allocated to this file or directory before the user may reasonably be warned. It is understood that this space may be consumed by allocations to other files or directories though there may exist server side rules as to which other files or directories.

## 5.8.2.26. Attribute 40: quota\_used

The value in bytes that represents the amount of disk space used by this file or directory and possibly a number of other similar files or directories, where the set of "similar" meets at least the criterion that allocating space to any file or directory in the set will reduce the "quota\_avail\_hard" of every other file or directory in the set.

Note that there may be a number of distinct but overlapping sets of files or directories for which a quota\_used value is maintained, e.g., "all files with a given owner", "all files with a given group owner", etc. The server is at liberty to choose any of those sets when providing the content of the quota\_used attribute, but should do so in a repeatable way. The rule may be configured per file system or may be "choose the set with the smallest quota".

## 5.8.2.27. Attribute 41: rawdev

Raw device number of file of type NF4BLK or NF4CHR. The device number is split into major and minor numbers. If the file's type attribute is not NF4BLK or NF4CHR, this attribute SHOULD NOT be returned, and any value returned SHOULD NOT be considered useful.

## 5.8.2.28. Attribute 42: space\_avail

Disk space in bytes available to this user on the file system containing this object -- this should be the smallest relevant limit.

## 5.8.2.29. Attribute 43: space\_free

Free disk space in bytes on the file system containing this object -- this should be the smallest relevant limit.

## 5.8.2.30. Attribute 44: space\_total

Total disk space in bytes on the file system containing this object.

## 5.8.2.31. Attribute 45: space\_used

Number of file system bytes allocated to this object.

## 5.8.2.32. Attribute 46: system

This attribute is TRUE if this file is a "system" file with respect to the Windows operating environment.

## 5.8.2.33. Attribute 47: time\_access

The time\_access attribute represents the time of last access to the object by a READ operation sent to the server. The notion of what is an "access" depends on the server's operating environment and/or the server's file system semantics. For example, for servers obeying Portable Operating System Interface (POSIX) semantics, time\_access would be updated only by the READ and REaddir operations and not any of the operations that modify the content of the object [16], [17], [read\_api], [readdir\_api], [write\_api]. Of course, setting the corresponding time\_access\_set attribute is another way to modify the time\_access attribute.

Whenever the file object resides on a writable file system, the server should make its best efforts to record time\_access into stable storage. However, to mitigate the performance effects of doing so, and most especially whenever the server is satisfying the read of the object's content from its cache, the server MAY cache access time updates and lazily write them to stable storage. It is also acceptable to give administrators of the server the option to disable time\_access updates.

## 5.8.2.34. Attribute 48: time\_access\_set

Sets the time of last access to the object. SETATTR use only.

## 5.8.2.35. Attribute 49: time\_backup

The time of last backup of the object.

## 5.8.2.36. Attribute 50: time\_create

The time of creation of the object. This attribute does not have any relation to the traditional UNIX file attribute "ctime" or "change time".

## 5.8.2.37. Attribute 51: time\_delta

Smallest useful server time granularity.

## 5.8.2.38. Attribute 52: time\_metadata

The time of last metadata modification of the object.

## 5.8.2.39. Attribute 53: time\_modify

The time of last modification to the object.

## 5.8.2.40. Attribute 54: time\_modify\_set

Sets the time of last modification to the object. SETATTR use only.

## 5.9. Interpreting owner and owner\_group

The RECOMMENDED attributes "owner" and "owner\_group" (and also users and groups used as values of the "who" field within nfs4ace structures used in the acl attribute) are represented in the form of UTF-8 strings. This format avoids use of a representation that is tied to a particular underlying implementation at the client or server. Note that section 6.1 of [RFC2624] provides additional rationale. It is expected that the client and server will have their own local representation of owners and groups that is used for local storage or presentation to the application via API's that expect such a representation. Therefore, the protocol requires that when these attributes are transferred between the client and server, the local representation is translated to a string of the form "identifier@dns\_domain". This allows clients and servers that do not use the same local representation to effectively interoperate since they both use a common syntax that can be interpreted by both.

Similarly, security principals may be represented in different ways by different security mechanisms. Servers normally translate these representations into a common format, generally that used by local storage, to serve as a means of identifying the users corresponding

to these security principals. When these local identifiers are translated to the form of the owner attribute, associated with files created by such principals, they identify, in a common format, the users associated with each corresponding set of security principals.

The translation used to interpret owner and group strings is not specified as part of the protocol. This allows various solutions to be employed. For example, a local translation table may be consulted that maps a numeric identifier to the `user@dns_domain` syntax. A name service may also be used to accomplish the translation. A server may provide a more general service, not limited by any particular translation (which would only translate a limited set of possible strings) by storing the owner and owner\_group attributes in local storage without any translation or it may augment a translation method by storing the entire string for attributes for which no translation is available while using the local representation for those cases in which a translation is available.

Servers that do not provide support for all possible values of user and group strings SHOULD return an error (`NFS4ERR_BADOWNER`) when a string is presented that has no translation, as the value to be set for a `SETATTR` of the owner or owner\_group attributes or as part of the value of the `acl` attribute. When a server does accept a user or group string as valid on a `SETATTR`, it is promising to return that same string (for which see below) when a corresponding `GETATTR` is done, as long as there has been no further change in the corresponding attribute before the `GETATTR`. For some internationalization-related exceptions where this is not possible, see below. Configuration changes (including changes from the mapping of the string to the local representation) and ill-constructed name translations (those that contain aliasing) may make that promise impossible to honor. Servers should make appropriate efforts to avoid a situation in which these attributes have their values changed when no real change to either ownership or acls has occurred.

The `"dns_domain"` portion of the owner string is meant to be a DNS domain name. For example, `"user@example.org"`. Servers should accept as valid a set of users for at least one domain. A server may treat other domains as having no valid translations. A more general service is provided when a server is capable of accepting users for multiple domains, or for all domains, subject to security constraints.

As an implementation guide, both clients and servers may provide a means to configure the `"dns_domain"` portion of the owner string. For example, the DNS domain name of the host running the NFS server might be `"lab.example.org"`, but the user names are defined in `"example.org"`. In the absence of such a configuration, or as a

default, the current DNS domain name of the server should be the value used for the "dns\_domain".

As mentioned above, it is desirable that a server when accepting a string of the form "user@domain" or "group@domain" in an attribute, return this same string when that corresponding attribute is fetched. Internationalization issues make this impossible under certain circumstances and the client needs to take note of these. See Section 12 for a detailed discussion of these issues.

In the case where there is no translation available to the client or server, the attribute value will be constructed without the "@". Therefore, the absence of the "@" from the owner or owner\_group attribute signifies that no translation was available at the sender and that the receiver of the attribute should not use that string as a basis for translation into its own internal format. Even though the attribute value cannot be translated, it may still be useful. In the case of a client, the attribute string may be used for local display of ownership.

To provide a greater degree of compatibility with NFSv3, which identified users and groups by 32-bit unsigned user identifiers and group identifiers, owner and group strings that consist of ASCII-encoded decimal numeric values with no leading zeros can be given a special interpretation by clients and servers that choose to provide such support. The receiver may treat such a user or group string as representing the same user as would be represented by an NFSv3 uid or gid having the corresponding numeric value.

A server SHOULD reject such a numeric value if the security mechanism is using Kerberos. I.e., in such a scenario, the client will already need to form "user@domain" strings. For any other security mechanism, the server SHOULD accept such numeric values. As an implementation note, the server could make such an acceptance be configurable. If the server does not support numeric values or if it is configured off, then it MUST return an NFS4ERR\_BADOWNER error. If the security mechanism is using Kerberos and the client attempts to use the special form, then the server SHOULD return an NFS4ERR\_BADOWNER error when there is a valid translation for the user or owner designated in this way. In that case, the client must use the appropriate user@domain string and not the special form for compatibility.

The client MUST always accept numeric values if the security mechanism is not RPCSEC\_GSS. A client can determine if a server supports numeric identifiers by first attempting to provide a numeric identifier. If this attempt rejected with an NFS4ERR\_BADOWNER error,

then the client should only use named identifiers of the form "user@dns\_domain".

The owner string "nobody" may be used to designate an anonymous user, which will be associated with a file created by a security principal that cannot be mapped through normal means to the owner attribute.

#### 5.10. Character Case Attributes

With respect to the `case_insensitive` and `case_preserving` attributes, case insensitive comparisons of Unicode characters SHOULD use Unicode Default Case Folding as defined in Chapter 3 of the Unicode Standard [UNICODE], and MAY override that behavior for specific selected characters with the case folding defined in the `SpecialCasing.txt` [SPECIALCASING] file in section 3.13 of the Unicode Standard.

The `SpecialCasing.txt` file replaces the Default Case Folding with locale and context-dependent case folding for specific situations. An example of locale and context-dependent case folding is that LATIN CAPITAL LETTER I ("I", U+0049) is default case folded to LATIN SMALL LETTER I ("i", U+0069); however, several languages (e.g. Turkish) treat an "I" character with a dot as a different letter than an "I" character without a dot, therefore in such languages, unless an I is before a `dot_above`, the "I" (U+0049) character should be case folded to a different character, LATIN SMALL LETTER DOTLESS I (U+0131).

The [UNICODE] and [SPECIALCASING] references in this RFC are for version 6.3.0 of the Unicode standard, as that was the latest version of Unicode when this RFC was published. Implementations SHOULD always use the latest version of Unicode (<http://www.unicode.org/versions/latest/>).

[RFC Editor: please check that 6.3.0 is the latest version before publication of this document as an RFC.]

### 6. Access Control Attributes

Access Control Lists (ACLs) are file attributes that specify fine grained access control. This chapter covers the "acl", "aclsupport", "mode", file attributes, and their interactions. Note that file attributes may apply to any file system object.

#### 6.1. Goals

ACLs and modes represent two well established models for specifying permissions. This chapter specifies requirements that attempt to meet the following goals:

- o If a server supports the mode attribute, it should provide reasonable semantics to clients that only set and retrieve the mode attribute.
- o If a server supports ACL attributes, it should provide reasonable semantics to clients that only set and retrieve those attributes.
- o On servers that support the mode attribute, if ACL attributes have never been set on an object, via inheritance or explicitly, the behavior should be traditional UNIX-like behavior.
- o On servers that support the mode attribute, if the ACL attributes have been previously set on an object, either explicitly or via inheritance:
  - \* Setting only the mode attribute should effectively control the traditional UNIX-like permissions of read, write, and execute on owner, owner\_group, and other.
  - \* Setting only the mode attribute should provide reasonable security. For example, setting a mode of 000 should be enough to ensure that future opens for read or write by any principal fail, regardless of a previously existing or inherited ACL.
- o When a mode attribute is set on an object, the ACL attributes may need to be modified so as to not conflict with the new mode. In such cases, it is desirable that the ACL keep as much information as possible. This includes information about inheritance, AUDIT and ALARM ACEs, and permissions granted and denied that do not conflict with the new mode.

## 6.2. File Attributes Discussion

Support for each of the ACL attributes is RECOMMENDED and not required, since file systems accessed using NFSV4 might not support ACL's.

### 6.2.1. Attribute 12: acl

The NFSv4.0 ACL attribute contains an array of access control entries (ACEs) that are associated with the file system object. Although the client can read and write the acl attribute, the server is responsible for using the ACL to perform access control. The client can use the OPEN or ACCESS operations to check access without modifying or reading data or metadata.

The NFS ACE structure is defined as follows:

```
typedef uint32_t      acetype4;

typedef uint32_t      aceflag4;

typedef uint32_t      acemask4;

struct nfsace4 {
    acetype4          type;
    aceflag4         flag;
    acemask4         access_mask;
    utf8str_mixed    who;
};
```

To determine if a request succeeds, the server processes each `nfsace4` entry in order. Only ACEs which have a "who" that matches the requester are considered. Each ACE is processed until all of the bits of the requester's access have been ALLOWED. Once a bit (see below) has been ALLOWED by an `ACCESS_ALLOWED_ACE`, it is no longer considered in the processing of later ACEs. If an `ACCESS_DENIED_ACE` is encountered where the requester's access still has unALLOWED bits in common with the "access\_mask" of the ACE, the request is denied. When the ACL is fully processed, if there are bits in the requester's mask that have not been ALLOWED or DENIED, access is denied.

Unlike the ALLOW and DENY ACE types, the ALARM and AUDIT ACE types do not affect a requester's access, and instead are for triggering events as a result of a requester's access attempt. Therefore, AUDIT and ALARM ACEs are processed only after processing ALLOW and DENY ACEs.

The NFSv4.0 ACL model is quite rich. Some server platforms may provide access control functionality that goes beyond the UNIX-style mode attribute, but which is not as rich as the NFS ACL model. So that users can take advantage of this more limited functionality, the server may support the acl attributes by mapping between its ACL model and the NFSv4.0 ACL model. Servers must ensure that the ACL they actually store or enforce is at least as strict as the NFSv4 ACL that was set. It is tempting to accomplish this by rejecting any ACL that falls outside the small set that can be represented accurately. However, such an approach can render ACLs unusable without special client-side knowledge of the server's mapping, which defeats the purpose of having a common NFSv4 ACL protocol. Therefore servers should accept every ACL that they can without compromising security. To help accomplish this, servers may make a special exception, in the case of unsupported permission bits, to the rule that bits not ALLOWED or DENIED by an ACL must be denied. For example, a UNIX-style server might choose to silently allow read attribute permissions even though an ACL does not explicitly allow those

permissions. (An ACL that explicitly denies permission to read attributes should still result in a denial.)

The situation is complicated by the fact that a server may have multiple modules that enforce ACLs. For example, the enforcement for NFSv4.0 access may be different from, but not weaker than, the enforcement for local access, and both may be different from the enforcement for access through other protocols such as Server Message Block (SMB) [MS-SMB]. So it may be useful for a server to accept an ACL even if not all of its modules are able to support it.

The guiding principle with regard to NFSv4 access is that the server must not accept ACLs that give an appearance of more restricted access to a file than what is actually enforced.

#### 6.2.1.1. ACE Type

The constants used for the type field (acetype4) are as follows:

```
const ACE4_ACCESS_ALLOWED_ACE_TYPE      = 0x00000000;
const ACE4_ACCESS_DENIED_ACE_TYPE       = 0x00000001;
const ACE4_SYSTEM_AUDIT_ACE_TYPE        = 0x00000002;
const ACE4_SYSTEM_ALARM_ACE_TYPE        = 0x00000003;
```

All four bit types are permitted in the acl attribute.

Value	Abbreviation	Description
ACE4_ACCESS_ALLOWED_ACE_TYPE	ALLOW	Explicitly grants the access defined in <code>acemask4</code> to the file or directory.
ACE4_ACCESS_DENIED_ACE_TYPE	DENY	Explicitly denies the access defined in <code>acemask4</code> to the file or directory.
ACE4_SYSTEM_AUDIT_ACE_TYPE	AUDIT	LOG (in a system dependent way) any access attempt to a file or directory which uses any of the access methods specified in <code>acemask4</code> .
ACE4_SYSTEM_ALARM_ACE_TYPE	ALARM	Generate a system ALARM (system dependent) when any access attempt is made to a file or directory for the access methods specified in <code>acemask4</code> .

The "Abbreviation" column denotes how the types will be referred to throughout the rest of this chapter.

#### 6.2.1.2. Attribute 13: `aclsupport`

A server need not support all of the above ACE types. This attribute indicates which ACE types are supported for the current file system. The bitmask constants used to represent the above definitions within the `aclsupport` attribute are as follows:

```
const ACL4_SUPPORT_ALLOW_ACL    = 0x00000001;
const ACL4_SUPPORT_DENY_ACL     = 0x00000002;
const ACL4_SUPPORT_AUDIT_ACL    = 0x00000004;
const ACL4_SUPPORT_ALARM_ACL    = 0x00000008;
```

Servers which support either the ALLOW or DENY ACE type SHOULD support both ALLOW and DENY ACE types.

Clients should not attempt to set an ACE unless the server claims support for that ACE type. If the server receives a request to set an ACE that it cannot store, it MUST reject the request with NFS4ERR\_ATTRNOTSUPP. If the server receives a request to set an ACE that it can store but cannot enforce, the server SHOULD reject the request with NFS4ERR\_ATTRNOTSUPP.

#### 6.2.1.3. ACE Access Mask

The bitmask constants used for the access mask field are as follows:

```
const ACE4_READ_DATA           = 0x00000001;
const ACE4_LIST_DIRECTORY      = 0x00000001;
const ACE4_WRITE_DATA          = 0x00000002;
const ACE4_ADD_FILE            = 0x00000002;
const ACE4_APPEND_DATA         = 0x00000004;
const ACE4_ADD_SUBDIRECTORY    = 0x00000004;
const ACE4_READ_NAMED_ATTRS    = 0x00000008;
const ACE4_WRITE_NAMED_ATTRS   = 0x00000010;
const ACE4_EXECUTE             = 0x00000020;
const ACE4_DELETE_CHILD        = 0x00000040;
const ACE4_READ_ATTRIBUTES     = 0x00000080;
const ACE4_WRITE_ATTRIBUTES    = 0x00000100;

const ACE4_DELETE              = 0x00010000;
const ACE4_READ_ACL            = 0x00020000;
const ACE4_WRITE_ACL           = 0x00040000;
const ACE4_WRITE_OWNER         = 0x00080000;
const ACE4_SYNCHRONIZE         = 0x00100000;
```

Note that some masks have coincident values, for example, ACE4\_READ\_DATA and ACE4\_LIST\_DIRECTORY. The mask entries ACE4\_LIST\_DIRECTORY, ACE4\_ADD\_FILE, and ACE4\_ADD\_SUBDIRECTORY are intended to be used with directory objects, while ACE4\_READ\_DATA, ACE4\_WRITE\_DATA, and ACE4\_APPEND\_DATA are intended to be used with non-directory objects.

##### 6.2.1.3.1. Discussion of Mask Attributes

ACE4\_READ\_DATA

Operation(s) affected:

READ

OPEN

Discussion:

Permission to read the data of the file.

Servers SHOULD allow a user the ability to read the data of the file when only the ACE4\_EXECUTE access mask bit is set.

#### ACE4\_LIST\_DIRECTORY

Operation(s) affected:

READDIR

Discussion:

Permission to list the contents of a directory.

#### ACE4\_WRITE\_DATA

Operation(s) affected:

WRITE

OPEN

SETATTR of size

Discussion:

Permission to modify a file's data.

#### ACE4\_ADD\_FILE

Operation(s) affected:

CREATE

LINK

OPEN

RENAME

Discussion:

Permission to add a new file in a directory. The CREATE operation is affected when nfs\_ftype4 is NF4LNK, NF4BLK, NF4CHR, NF4SOCK, or NF4FIFO. (NF4DIR is not listed because it is covered by ACE4\_ADD\_SUBDIRECTORY.) OPEN is affected when

used to create a regular file. LINK and RENAME are always affected.

#### ACE4\_APPEND\_DATA

Operation(s) affected:

WRITE

OPEN

SETATTR of size

Discussion:

The ability to modify a file's data, but only starting at EOF. This allows for the notion of append-only files, by allowing ACE4\_APPEND\_DATA and denying ACE4\_WRITE\_DATA to the same user or group. If a file has an ACL such as the one described above and a WRITE request is made for somewhere other than EOF, the server SHOULD return NFS4ERR\_ACCESS.

#### ACE4\_ADD\_SUBDIRECTORY

Operation(s) affected:

CREATE

RENAME

Discussion:

Permission to create a subdirectory in a directory. The CREATE operation is affected when nfs\_ftype4 is NF4DIR. The RENAME operation is always affected.

#### ACE4\_READ\_NAMED\_ATTRS

Operation(s) affected:

OPENATTR

Discussion:

Permission to read the named attributes of a file or to lookup the named attributes directory. OPENATTR is affected when it is not used to create a named attribute directory. This is

when 1.) `createdir` is `TRUE`, but a named attribute directory already exists, or 2.) `createdir` is `FALSE`.

#### ACE4\_WRITE\_NAMED\_ATTRS

Operation(s) affected:

OPENATTR

Discussion:

Permission to write the named attributes of a file or to create a named attribute directory. OPENATTR is affected when it is used to create a named attribute directory. This is when `createdir` is `TRUE` and no named attribute directory exists. The ability to check whether or not a named attribute directory exists depends on the ability to look it up, therefore, users also need the ACE4\_READ\_NAMED\_ATTRS permission in order to create a named attribute directory.

#### ACE4\_EXECUTE

Operation(s) affected:

READ

Discussion:

Permission to execute a file.

Servers SHOULD allow a user the ability to read the data of the file when only the ACE4\_EXECUTE access mask bit is set. This is because there is no way to execute a file without reading the contents. Though a server may treat ACE4\_EXECUTE and ACE4\_READ\_DATA bits identically when deciding to permit a READ operation, it SHOULD still allow the two bits to be set independently in ACLs, and MUST distinguish between them when replying to ACCESS operations. In particular, servers SHOULD NOT silently turn on one of the two bits when the other is set, as that would make it impossible for the client to correctly enforce the distinction between read and execute permissions.

As an example, following a SETATTR of the following ACL:

```
nfsuser:ACE4_EXECUTE:ALLOW
```

A subsequent GETATTR of ACL for that file SHOULD return:

nfsuser:ACE4\_EXECUTE:ALLOW

Rather than:

nfsuser:ACE4\_EXECUTE/ACE4\_READ\_DATA:ALLOW

#### ACE4\_EXECUTE

Operation(s) affected:

LOOKUP

OPEN

REMOVE

RENAME

LINK

CREATE

Discussion:

Permission to traverse/search a directory.

#### ACE4\_DELETE\_CHILD

Operation(s) affected:

REMOVE

RENAME

Discussion:

Permission to delete a file or directory within a directory.  
See Section 6.2.1.3.2 for information on how ACE4\_DELETE and  
ACE4\_DELETE\_CHILD interact.

#### ACE4\_READ\_ATTRIBUTES

Operation(s) affected:

GETATTR of file system object attributes

VERIFY

NVERIFY

READDIR

Discussion:

The ability to read basic attributes (non-ACLs) of a file. On a UNIX system, basic attributes can be thought of as the stat level attributes. Allowing this access mask bit would mean the entity can execute "ls -l" and stat. If a READDIR operation requests attributes, this mask must be allowed for the READDIR to succeed.

ACE4\_WRITE\_ATTRIBUTES

Operation(s) affected:

SETATTR of time\_access\_set, time\_backup,  
time\_create, time\_modify\_set, mimetype, hidden, system

Discussion:

Permission to change the times associated with a file or directory to an arbitrary value. Also permission to change the mimetype, hidden and system attributes. A user having ACE4\_WRITE\_DATA or ACE4\_WRITE\_ATTRIBUTES will be allowed to set the times associated with a file to the current server time.

ACE4\_DELETE

Operation(s) affected:

REMOVE

Discussion:

Permission to delete the file or directory. See Section 6.2.1.3.2 for information on ACE4\_DELETE and ACE4\_DELETE\_CHILD interact.

ACE4\_READ\_ACL

Operation(s) affected:

GETATTR of acl

NVERIFY

VERIFY

Discussion:

Permission to read the ACL.

ACE4\_WRITE\_ACL

Operation(s) affected:

SETATTR of acl and mode

Discussion:

Permission to write the acl and mode attributes.

ACE4\_WRITE\_OWNER

Operation(s) affected:

SETATTR of owner and owner\_group

Discussion:

Permission to write the owner and owner\_group attributes. On UNIX systems, this is the ability to execute chown() and chgrp().

ACE4\_SYNCHRONIZE

Operation(s) affected:

NONE

Discussion:

Permission to use the file object as a synchronization primitive for interprocess communication. This permission is not enforced or interpreted by the NFSv4.0 server on behalf of the client.

Typically, the ACE4\_SYNCHRONIZE permission is only meaningful on local file systems, i.e., file systems not accessed via NFSv4.0. The reason that the permission bit exists is that some operating environments, such as Windows, use ACE4\_SYNCHRONIZE.

For example, if a client copies a file that has ACE4\_SYNCHRONIZE set from a local file system to an NFSv4.0 server, and then later copies the file from the NFSv4.0 server to a local file system, it is likely that if ACE4\_SYNCHRONIZE was set in the original file, the client will want it set in the second copy. The first copy will not have the permission set unless the NFSv4.0 server has the means to set the ACE4\_SYNCHRONIZE bit. The second copy will not have the permission set unless the NFSv4.0 server has the means to retrieve the ACE4\_SYNCHRONIZE bit.

Server implementations need not provide the granularity of control that is implied by this list of masks. For example, POSIX-based systems might not distinguish ACE4\_APPEND\_DATA (the ability to append to a file) from ACE4\_WRITE\_DATA (the ability to modify existing contents); both masks would be tied to a single "write" permission. When such a server returns attributes to the client, it would show both ACE4\_APPEND\_DATA and ACE4\_WRITE\_DATA if and only if the write permission is enabled.

If a server receives a SETATTR request that it cannot accurately implement, it should err in the direction of more restricted access, except in the previously discussed cases of execute and read. For example, suppose a server cannot distinguish overwriting data from appending new data, as described in the previous paragraph. If a client submits an ALLOW ACE where ACE4\_APPEND\_DATA is set but ACE4\_WRITE\_DATA is not (or vice versa), the server should either turn off ACE4\_APPEND\_DATA or reject the request with NFS4ERR\_ATTRNOTSUPP.

#### 6.2.1.3.2. ACE4\_DELETE vs. ACE4\_DELETE\_CHILD

Two access mask bits govern the ability to delete a directory entry: ACE4\_DELETE on the object itself (the "target"), and ACE4\_DELETE\_CHILD on the containing directory (the "parent").

Many systems also take the "sticky bit" (MODE4\_SVTX) on a directory to allow unlink only to a user that owns either the target or the parent; on some such systems the decision also depends on whether the target is writable.

Servers SHOULD allow unlink if either ACE4\_DELETE is permitted on the target, or ACE4\_DELETE\_CHILD is permitted on the parent. (Note that this is true even if the parent or target explicitly denies the other of these permissions.)

If the ACLs in question neither explicitly ALLOW nor DENY either of the above, and if MODE4\_SVTX is not set on the parent, then the server SHOULD allow the removal if and only if ACE4\_ADD\_FILE is

permitted. In the case where `MODE4_SVTX` is set, the server may also require the remover to own either the parent or the target, or may require the target to be writable.

This allows servers to support something close to traditional UNIX-like semantics, with `ACE4_ADD_FILE` taking the place of the write bit.

#### 6.2.1.4. ACE flag

The bitmask constants used for the flag field are as follows:

```
const ACE4_FILE_INHERIT_ACE           = 0x00000001;
const ACE4_DIRECTORY_INHERIT_ACE     = 0x00000002;
const ACE4_NO_PROPAGATE_INHERIT_ACE  = 0x00000004;
const ACE4_INHERIT_ONLY_ACE          = 0x00000008;
const ACE4_SUCCESSFUL_ACCESS_ACE_FLAG = 0x00000010;
const ACE4_FAILED_ACCESS_ACE_FLAG    = 0x00000020;
const ACE4_IDENTIFIER_GROUP           = 0x00000040;
```

A server need not support any of these flags. If the server supports flags that are similar to, but not exactly the same as, these flags, the implementation may define a mapping between the protocol-defined flags and the implementation-defined flags.

For example, suppose a client tries to set an ACE with `ACE4_FILE_INHERIT_ACE` set but not `ACE4_DIRECTORY_INHERIT_ACE`. If the server does not support any form of ACL inheritance, the server should reject the request with `NFS4ERR_ATTRNOTSUPP`. If the server supports a single "inherit ACE" flag that applies to both files and directories, the server may reject the request (i.e., requiring the client to set both the file and directory inheritance flags). The server may also accept the request and silently turn on the `ACE4_DIRECTORY_INHERIT_ACE` flag.

##### 6.2.1.4.1. Discussion of Flag Bits

###### `ACE4_FILE_INHERIT_ACE`

Any non-directory file in any sub-directory will get this ACE inherited.

###### `ACE4_DIRECTORY_INHERIT_ACE`

Can be placed on a directory and indicates that this ACE should be added to each new directory created.

If this flag is set in an ACE in an ACL attribute to be set on a non-directory file system object, the operation attempting to set the ACL SHOULD fail with `NFS4ERR_ATTRNOTSUPP`.

###### `ACE4_INHERIT_ONLY_ACE`

Can be placed on a directory but does not apply to the directory; ALLOW and DENY ACEs with this bit set do not affect access to the directory, and AUDIT and ALARM ACEs with this bit set do not trigger log or alarm events. Such ACEs only take effect once they are applied (with this bit cleared) to newly created files and directories as specified by the above two flags.

If this flag is present on an ACE, but neither ACE4\_DIRECTORY\_INHERIT\_ACE nor ACE4\_FILE\_INHERIT\_ACE is present, then an operation attempting to set such an attribute SHOULD fail with NFS4ERR\_ATTRNOTSUPP.

#### ACE4\_NO\_PROPAGATE\_INHERIT\_ACE

Can be placed on a directory. This flag tells the server that inheritance of this ACE should stop at newly created child directories.

#### ACE4\_SUCCESSFUL\_ACCESS\_ACE\_FLAG

#### ACE4\_FAILED\_ACCESS\_ACE\_FLAG

The ACE4\_SUCCESSFUL\_ACCESS\_ACE\_FLAG (SUCCESS) and ACE4\_FAILED\_ACCESS\_ACE\_FLAG (FAILED) flag bits may be set only on ACE4\_SYSTEM\_AUDIT\_ACE\_TYPE (AUDIT) and ACE4\_SYSTEM\_ALARM\_ACE\_TYPE (ALARM) ACE types. If during the processing of the file's ACL, the server encounters an AUDIT or ALARM ACE that matches the principal attempting the OPEN, the server notes that fact, and the presence, if any, of the SUCCESS and FAILED flags encountered in the AUDIT or ALARM ACE. Once the server completes the ACL processing, it then notes if the operation succeeded or failed. If the operation succeeded, and if the SUCCESS flag was set for a matching AUDIT or ALARM ACE, then the appropriate AUDIT or ALARM event occurs. If the operation failed, and if the FAILED flag was set for the matching AUDIT or ALARM ACE, then the appropriate AUDIT or ALARM event occurs. Either or both of the SUCCESS or FAILED can be set, but if neither is set, the AUDIT or ALARM ACE is not useful.

The previously described processing applies to ACCESS operations even when they return NFS4\_OK. For the purposes of AUDIT and ALARM, we consider an ACCESS operation to be a "failure" if it fails to return a bit that was requested and supported.

#### ACE4\_IDENTIFIER\_GROUP

Indicates that the "who" refers to a GROUP as defined under UNIX or a GROUP ACCOUNT as defined under Windows. Clients and servers MUST ignore the ACE4\_IDENTIFIER\_GROUP flag on ACEs with a who value equal to one of the special identifiers outlined in Section 6.2.1.5.

## 6.2.1.5. ACE Who

The "who" field of an ACE is an identifier that specifies the principal or principals to whom the ACE applies. It may refer to a user or a group, with the flag bit `ACE4_IDENTIFIER_GROUP` specifying which.

There are several special identifiers which need to be understood universally, rather than in the context of a particular DNS domain. Some of these identifiers cannot be understood when an NFS client accesses the server, but have meaning when a local process accesses the file. The ability to display and modify these permissions is permitted over NFS, even if none of the access methods on the server understands the identifiers.

Who	Description
OWNER	The owner of the file.
GROUP	The group associated with the file.
EVERYONE	The world, including the owner and owning group.
INTERACTIVE	Accessed from an interactive terminal.
NETWORK	Accessed via the network.
DIALUP	Accessed as a dialup user to the server.
BATCH	Accessed from a batch job.
ANONYMOUS	Accessed without any authentication.
AUTHENTICATED	Any authenticated user (opposite of ANONYMOUS).
SERVICE	Access from a system service.

Table 5

To avoid conflict, these special identifiers are distinguished by an appended "@" and should appear in the form "xxxx@" (with no domain name after the "@"). For example: ANONYMOUS@.

The `ACE4_IDENTIFIER_GROUP` flag MUST be ignored on entries with these special identifiers. When encoding entries with these special identifiers, the `ACE4_IDENTIFIER_GROUP` flag SHOULD be set to zero.

## 6.2.1.5.1. Discussion of EVERYONE@

It is important to note that "EVERYONE@" is not equivalent to the UNIX "other" entity. This is because, by definition, UNIX "other" does not include the owner or owning group of a file. "EVERYONE@" means literally everyone, including the owner or owning group.

### 6.2.2. Attribute 33: mode

The NFSv4.0 mode attribute is based on the UNIX mode bits. The following bits are defined:

```
const MODE4_SUID = 0x800; /* set user id on execution */
const MODE4_SGID = 0x400; /* set group id on execution */
const MODE4_SVTX = 0x200; /* save text even after use */
const MODE4_RUSR = 0x100; /* read permission: owner */
const MODE4_WUSR = 0x080; /* write permission: owner */
const MODE4_XUSR = 0x040; /* execute permission: owner */
const MODE4_RGRP = 0x020; /* read permission: group */
const MODE4_WGRP = 0x010; /* write permission: group */
const MODE4_XGRP = 0x008; /* execute permission: group */
const MODE4_ROTH = 0x004; /* read permission: other */
const MODE4_WOTH = 0x002; /* write permission: other */
const MODE4_XOTH = 0x001; /* execute permission: other */
```

Bits MODE4\_RUSR, MODE4\_WUSR, and MODE4\_XUSR apply to the principal identified in the owner attribute. Bits MODE4\_RGRP, MODE4\_WGRP, and MODE4\_XGRP apply to principals identified in the owner\_group attribute but who are not identified in the owner attribute. Bits MODE4\_ROTH, MODE4\_WOTH, MODE4\_XOTH apply to any principal that does not match that in the owner attribute, and does not have a group matching that of the owner\_group attribute.

Bits within the mode other than those specified above are not defined by this protocol. A server MUST NOT return bits other than those defined above in a GETATTR or REaddir operation, and it MUST return NFS4ERR\_INVAL if bits other than those defined above are set in a SETATTR, CREATE, OPEN, VERIFY or NVERIFY operation.

## 6.3. Common Methods

The requirements in this section will be referred to in future sections, especially Section 6.4.

### 6.3.1. Interpreting an ACL

#### 6.3.1.1. Server Considerations

The server uses the algorithm described in Section 6.2.1 to determine whether an ACL allows access to an object. However, the ACL may not be the sole determiner of access. For example:

- o In the case of a file system exported as read-only, the server may deny write permissions even though an object's ACL grants it.

- o Server implementations MAY grant ACE4\_WRITE\_ACL and ACE4\_READ\_ACL permissions to prevent a situation from arising in which there is no valid way to ever modify the ACL.
- o All servers will allow a user the ability to read the data of the file when only the execute permission is granted (i.e., If the ACL denies the user the ACE4\_READ\_DATA access and allows the user ACE4\_EXECUTE, the server will allow the user to read the data of the file).
- o Many servers have the notion of owner-override in which the owner of the object is allowed to override accesses that are denied by the ACL. This may be helpful, for example, to allow users continued access to open files on which the permissions have changed.
- o Many servers have the notion of a "superuser" that has privileges beyond an ordinary user. The superuser may be able to read or write data or metadata in ways that would not be permitted by the ACL.

#### 6.3.1.2. Client Considerations

Clients SHOULD NOT do their own access checks based on their interpretation the ACL, but rather use the OPEN and ACCESS operations to do access checks. This allows the client to act on the results of having the server determine whether or not access should be granted based on its interpretation of the ACL.

Clients must be aware of situations in which an object's ACL will define a certain access even though the server will not have adequate information to enforce it. For example, the server has no way of determining whether a particular OPEN reflects a user's open for read access, or is done as part of executing the file in question. In such situations, the client needs to do its part in the enforcement of access as defined by the ACL. To do this, the client will send the appropriate ACCESS operation (or use a cached previous determination) prior to servicing the request of the user or application in order to determine whether the user or application should be granted the access requested. For examples in which the ACL may define accesses that the server does not enforce see Section 6.3.1.1.

#### 6.3.2. Computing a Mode Attribute from an ACL

The following method can be used to calculate the MODE4\_R\*, MODE4\_W\* and MODE4\_X\* bits of a mode attribute, based upon an ACL.

First, for each of the special identifiers OWNER@, GROUP@, and EVERYONE@, evaluate the ACL in order, considering only ALLOW and DENY ACEs for the identifier EVERYONE@ and for the identifier under consideration. The result of the evaluation will be an NFSv4 ACL mask showing exactly which bits are permitted to that identifier.

Then translate the calculated mask for OWNER@, GROUP@, and EVERYONE@ into mode bits for, respectively, the user, group, and other, as follows:

1. Set the read bit (MODE4\_RUSR, MODE4\_RGRP, or MODE4\_ROTH) if and only if ACE4\_READ\_DATA is set in the corresponding mask.
2. Set the write bit (MODE4\_WUSR, MODE4\_WGRP, or MODE4\_WOTH) if and only if ACE4\_WRITE\_DATA and ACE4\_APPEND\_DATA are both set in the corresponding mask.
3. Set the execute bit (MODE4\_XUSR, MODE4\_XGRP, or MODE4\_XOTH), if and only if ACE4\_EXECUTE is set in the corresponding mask.

#### 6.3.2.1. Discussion

Some server implementations also add bits permitted to named users and groups to the group bits (MODE4\_RGRP, MODE4\_WGRP, and MODE4\_XGRP).

Implementations are discouraged from doing this, because it has been found to cause confusion for users who see members of a file's group denied access that the mode bits appear to allow. (The presence of DENY ACEs may also lead to such behavior, but DENY ACEs are expected to be more rarely used.)

The same user confusion seen when fetching the mode also results if setting the mode does not effectively control permissions for the owner, group, and other users; this motivates some of the requirements that follow.

#### 6.4. Requirements

The server that supports both mode and ACL must take care to synchronize the MODE4\_\*USR, MODE4\_\*GRP, and MODE4\_\*OTH bits with the ACEs which have respective who fields of "OWNER@", "GROUP@", and "EVERYONE@" so that the client can see semantically equivalent access permissions exist whether the client asks for owner, owner\_group and mode attributes, or for just the ACL.

Many requirements refer to Section 6.3.2, but note that the methods have behaviors specified with "SHOULD". This is intentional, to

avoid invalidating existing implementations that compute the mode according to the withdrawn POSIX ACL draft ([P1003.1e]), rather than by actual permissions on owner, group, and other.

#### 6.4.1. Setting the mode and/or ACL Attributes

##### 6.4.1.1. Setting mode and not ACL

When any of the nine low-order mode bits are changed because the mode attribute was set, and no ACL attribute is explicitly set, the `acl` attribute must be modified in accordance with the updated value of those bits. This must happen even if the value of the low-order bits is the same after the mode is set as before.

Note that any AUDIT or ALARM ACEs are unaffected by changes to the mode.

In cases in which the permissions bits are subject to change, the `acl` attribute MUST be modified such that the mode computed via the method in Section 6.3.2 yields the low-order nine bits (`MODE4_R*`, `MODE4_W*`, `MODE4_X*`) of the mode attribute as modified by the attribute change. The ACL attributes SHOULD also be modified such that:

1. If `MODE4_RGRP` is not set, entities explicitly listed in the ACL other than `OWNER@` and `EVERYONE@` SHOULD NOT be granted `ACE4_READ_DATA`.
2. If `MODE4_WGRP` is not set, entities explicitly listed in the ACL other than `OWNER@` and `EVERYONE@` SHOULD NOT be granted `ACE4_WRITE_DATA` or `ACE4_APPEND_DATA`.
3. If `MODE4_XGRP` is not set, entities explicitly listed in the ACL other than `OWNER@` and `EVERYONE@` SHOULD NOT be granted `ACE4_EXECUTE`.

Access mask bits other than those listed above, appearing in `ALLOW` ACEs, MAY also be disabled.

Note that ACEs with the flag `ACE4_INHERIT_ONLY_ACE` set do not affect the permissions of the ACL itself, nor do ACEs of the type `AUDIT` and `ALARM`. As such, it is desirable to leave these ACEs unmodified when modifying the ACL attributes.

Also note that the requirement may be met by discarding the `acl` in favor of an ACL that represents the mode and only the mode. This is permitted, but it is preferable for a server to preserve as much of the ACL as possible without violating the above requirements.

Discarding the ACL makes it effectively impossible for a file created with a mode attribute to inherit an ACL (see Section 6.4.3).

#### 6.4.1.2. Setting ACL and not mode

When setting the `acl` and not setting the mode attribute, the permission bits of the mode need to be derived from the ACL. In this case, the ACL attribute SHOULD be set as given. The nine low-order bits of the mode attribute (`MODE4_R*`, `MODE4_W*`, `MODE4_X*`) MUST be modified to match the result of the method Section 6.3.2. The three high-order bits of the mode (`MODE4_SUID`, `MODE4_SGID`, `MODE4_SVTX`) SHOULD remain unchanged.

#### 6.4.1.3. Setting both ACL and mode

When setting both the mode and the `acl` attribute in the same operation, the attributes MUST be applied in this order: mode, then ACL. The mode-related attribute is set as given, then the ACL attribute is set as given, possibly changing the final mode, as described above in Section 6.4.1.2.

### 6.4.2. Retrieving the mode and/or ACL Attributes

This section applies only to servers that support both the mode and ACL attributes.

Some server implementations may have a concept of "objects without ACLs", meaning that all permissions are granted and denied according to the mode attribute, and that no ACL attribute is stored for that object. If an ACL attribute is requested of such a server, the server SHOULD return an ACL that does not conflict with the mode; that is to say, the ACL returned SHOULD represent the nine low-order bits of the mode attribute (`MODE4_R*`, `MODE4_W*`, `MODE4_X*`) as described in Section 6.3.2.

For other server implementations, the ACL attribute is always present for every object. Such servers SHOULD store at least the three high-order bits of the mode attribute (`MODE4_SUID`, `MODE4_SGID`, `MODE4_SVTX`). The server SHOULD return a mode attribute if one is requested, and the low-order nine bits of the mode (`MODE4_R*`, `MODE4_W*`, `MODE4_X*`) MUST match the result of applying the method in Section 6.3.2 to the ACL attribute.

#### 6.4.3. Creating New Objects

If a server supports any ACL attributes, it may use the ACL attributes on the parent directory to compute an initial ACL attribute for a newly created object. This will be referred to as

the inherited ACL within this section. The act of adding one or more ACEs to the inherited ACL that are based upon ACEs in the parent directory's ACL will be referred to as inheriting an ACE within this section.

In the presence or absence of the mode and ACL attributes, the behavior of CREATE and OPEN SHOULD be:

1. If just the mode is given in the call:

In this case, inheritance SHOULD take place, but the mode MUST be applied to the inherited ACL as described in Section 6.4.1.1, thereby modifying the ACL.

2. If just the ACL is given in the call:

In this case, inheritance SHOULD NOT take place, and the ACL as defined in the CREATE or OPEN will be set without modification, and the mode modified as in Section 6.4.1.2

3. If both mode and ACL are given in the call:

In this case, inheritance SHOULD NOT take place, and both attributes will be set as described in Section 6.4.1.3.

4. If neither mode nor ACL are given in the call:

In the case where an object is being created without any initial attributes at all, e.g., an OPEN operation with an opentype4 of OPEN4\_CREATE and a createmode4 of EXCLUSIVE4, inheritance SHOULD NOT take place. Instead, the server SHOULD set permissions to deny all access to the newly created object. It is expected that the appropriate client will set the desired attributes in a subsequent SETATTR operation, and the server SHOULD allow that operation to succeed, regardless of what permissions the object is created with. For example, an empty ACL denies all permissions, but the server should allow the owner's SETATTR to succeed even though WRITE\_ACL is implicitly denied.

In other cases, inheritance SHOULD take place, and no modifications to the ACL will happen. The mode attribute, if supported, MUST be as computed in Section 6.3.2, with the

MODE4\_SUID, MODE4\_SGID and MODE4\_SVTX bits clear. If no inheritable ACEs exist on the parent directory, the rules for creating acl attributes are implementation defined.

#### 6.4.3.1. The Inherited ACL

If the object being created is not a directory, the inherited ACL SHOULD NOT inherit ACEs from the parent directory ACL unless the ACE4\_FILE\_INHERIT\_FLAG is set.

If the object being created is a directory, the inherited ACL should inherit all inheritable ACEs from the parent directory, those that have ACE4\_FILE\_INHERIT\_ACE or ACE4\_DIRECTORY\_INHERIT\_ACE flag set. If the inheritable ACE has ACE4\_FILE\_INHERIT\_ACE set, but ACE4\_DIRECTORY\_INHERIT\_ACE is clear, the inherited ACE on the newly created directory MUST have the ACE4\_INHERIT\_ONLY\_ACE flag set to prevent the directory from being affected by ACEs meant for non-directories.

When a new directory is created, the server MAY split any inherited ACE which is both inheritable and effective (in other words, which has neither ACE4\_INHERIT\_ONLY\_ACE nor ACE4\_NO\_PROPAGATE\_INHERIT\_ACE set), into two ACEs, one with no inheritance flags, and one with ACE4\_INHERIT\_ONLY\_ACE set. This makes it simpler to modify the effective permissions on the directory without modifying the ACE which is to be inherited to the new directory's children.

## 7. NFS Server Name Space

### 7.1. Server Exports

On a UNIX server the name space describes all the files reachable by pathnames under the root directory or "/". On a Windows server the name space constitutes all the files on disks named by mapped disk letters. NFS server administrators rarely make the entire server's file system name space available to NFS clients. More often portions of the name space are made available via an "export" feature. In previous versions of the NFS protocol, the root filehandle for each export is obtained through the MOUNT protocol; the client sends a string that identifies an object in the exported name space and the server returns the root filehandle for it. The MOUNT protocol supports an EXPORTS procedure that will enumerate the server's exports.

## 7.2. Browsing Exports

The NFSv4 protocol provides a root filehandle that clients can use to obtain filehandles for these exports via a multi-component LOOKUP. A common user experience is to use a graphical user interface (perhaps a file "Open" dialog window) to find a file via progressive browsing through a directory tree. The client must be able to move from one export to another export via single-component, progressive LOOKUP operations.

This style of browsing is not well supported by the NFSv2 and NFSv3 protocols. The client expects all LOOKUP operations to remain within a single server file system. For example, the device attribute will not change. This prevents a client from taking name space paths that span exports.

An automounter on the client can obtain a snapshot of the server's name space using the EXPORTS procedure of the MOUNT protocol. If it understands the server's pathname syntax, it can create an image of the server's name space on the client. The parts of the name space that are not exported by the server are filled in with a "pseudo file system" that allows the user to browse from one mounted file system to another. There is a drawback to this representation of the server's name space on the client: it is static. If the server administrator adds a new export the client will be unaware of it.

## 7.3. Server Pseudo Filesystem

NFSv4 servers avoid this name space inconsistency by presenting all the exports within the framework of a single server name space. An NFSv4 client uses LOOKUP and READDIR operations to browse seamlessly from one export to another. Portions of the server name space that are not exported are bridged via a "pseudo file system" that provides a view of exported directories only. A pseudo file system has a unique fsid and behaves like a normal, read only file system.

Based on the construction of the server's name space, it is possible that multiple pseudo file systems may exist. For example,

```
/a          pseudo file system
/a/b        real file system
/a/b/c      pseudo file system
/a/b/c/d    real file system
```

Each of the pseudo file systems are considered separate entities and therefore will have a unique fsid.

#### 7.4. Multiple Roots

The DOS and Windows operating environments are sometimes described as having "multiple roots". Filesystems are commonly represented as disk letters. MacOS represents file systems as top level names. NFSv4 servers for these platforms can construct a pseudo file system above these root names so that disk letters or volume names are simply directory names in the pseudo root.

#### 7.5. Filehandle Volatility

The nature of the server's pseudo file system is that it is a logical representation of file system(s) available from the server. Therefore, the pseudo file system is most likely constructed dynamically when the server is first instantiated. It is expected that the pseudo file system may not have an on disk counterpart from which persistent filehandles could be constructed. Even though it is preferable that the server provide persistent filehandles for the pseudo file system, the NFS client should expect that pseudo file system filehandles are volatile. This can be confirmed by checking the associated "fh\_expire\_type" attribute for those filehandles in question. If the filehandles are volatile, the NFS client must be prepared to recover a filehandle value (e.g., with a multi-component LOOKUP) when receiving an error of NFS4ERR\_FHEXPIRED.

#### 7.6. Exported Root

If the server's root file system is exported, one might conclude that a pseudo file system is not needed. This would be wrong. Assume the following file systems on a server:

```
/      disk1  (exported)
/a     disk2  (not exported)
/a/b   disk3  (exported)
```

Because disk2 is not exported, disk3 cannot be reached with simple LOOKUPS. The server must bridge the gap with a pseudo file system.

#### 7.7. Mount Point Crossing

The server file system environment may be constructed in such a way that one file system contains a directory which is 'covered' or mounted upon by a second file system. For example:

```
/a/b           (file system 1)
/a/b/c/d       (file system 2)
```

The pseudo file system for this server may be constructed to look like:

```
 /                (place holder/not exported)
/a/b             (file system 1)
/a/b/c/d        (file system 2)
```

It is the server's responsibility to present the pseudo file system that is complete to the client. If the client sends a lookup request for the path "/a/b/c/d", the server's response is the filehandle of the file system "/a/b/c/d". In previous versions of the NFS protocol, the server would respond with the filehandle of directory "/a/b/c/d" within the file system "/a/b".

The NFS client will be able to determine if it crosses a server mount point by a change in the value of the "fsid" attribute.

#### 7.8. Security Policy and Name Space Presentation

Because NFSv4 clients possess the ability to change the security mechanisms used, after determining what is allowed, by using SECINFO the server SHOULD NOT present a different view of the namespace based on the security mechanism being used by a client. Instead, it should present a consistent view and return NFS4ERR\_WRONGSEC if an attempt is made to access data with an inappropriate security mechanism.

If security considerations make it necessary to hide the existence of a particular file system, as opposed to all of the data within it, the server can apply the security policy of a shared resource in the server's namespace to components of the resource's ancestors. For example:

```
 /                (place holder/not exported)
/a/b             (file system 1)
/a/b/MySecretProject (file system 2)
```

The /a/b/MySecretProject directory is a real file system and is the shared resource. Suppose the security policy for /a/b/MySecretProject is Kerberos with integrity and it is desired to limit knowledge of the existence of this file system. In this case, the server should apply the same security policy to /a/b. This allows for knowledge of the existence of a file system to be secured when desirable.

For the case of the use of multiple, disjoint security mechanisms in the server's resources, applying that sort of policy would result in the higher-level file system not being accessible using any security flavor. Therefore, that sort of configuration is not compatible with

hiding the existence (as opposed to the contents) from clients using multiple disjoint sets of security flavors.

In other circumstances, a desirable policy is for the security of a particular object in the server's namespace to include the union of all security mechanisms of all direct descendants. A common and convenient practice, unless strong security requirements dictate otherwise, is to make the entire pseudo file system accessible by all of the valid security mechanisms.

Where there is concern about the security of data on the network, clients should use strong security mechanisms to access the pseudo file system in order to prevent man-in-the-middle attacks.

## 8. Multi-Server Namespace

NFSv4 supports attributes that allow a namespace to extend beyond the boundaries of a single server. It is RECOMMENDED that clients and servers support construction of such multi-server namespaces. Use of such multi-server namespaces is optional, however, and for many purposes, single-server namespaces are perfectly acceptable. Use of multi-server namespaces can provide many advantages, however, by separating a file system's logical position in a namespace from the (possibly changing) logistical and administrative considerations that result in particular file systems being located on particular servers.

### 8.1. Location Attributes

NFSv4 contains RECOMMENDED attributes that allow file systems on one server to be associated with one or more instances of that file system on other servers. These attributes specify such file system instances by specifying a server address target (either as a DNS name representing one or more IP addresses or as a literal IP address) together with the path of that file system within the associated single-server namespace.

The `fs_locations` RECOMMENDED attribute allows specification of the file system locations where the data corresponding to a given file system may be found.

### 8.2. File System Presence or Absence

A given location in an NFSv4 namespace (typically but not necessarily a multi-server namespace) can have a number of file system instance locations associated with it via the `fs_locations` attribute. There may also be an actual current file system at that location, accessible via normal namespace operations (e.g., LOOKUP). In this

case, the file system is said to be "present" at that position in the namespace, and clients will typically use it, reserving use of additional locations specified via the location-related attributes to situations in which the principal location is no longer available.

When there is no actual file system at the namespace location in question, the file system is said to be "absent". An absent file system contains no files or directories other than the root. Any reference to it, except to access a small set of attributes useful in determining alternative locations, will result in an error, NFS4ERR\_MOVED. Note that if the server ever returns the error NFS4ERR\_MOVED, it MUST support the fs\_locations attribute.

While the error name suggests that we have a case of a file system that once was present, and has only become absent later, this is only one possibility. A position in the namespace may be permanently absent with the set of file system(s) designated by the location attributes being the only realization. The name NFS4ERR\_MOVED reflects an earlier, more limited conception of its function, but this error will be returned whenever the referenced file system is absent, whether it has moved or simply never existed.

Except in the case of GETATTR-type operations (to be discussed later), when the current filehandle at the start of an operation is within an absent file system, that operation is not performed and the error NFS4ERR\_MOVED is returned, to indicate that the file system is absent on the current server.

Because a GETFH cannot succeed if the current filehandle is within an absent file system, filehandles within an absent file system cannot be transferred to the client. When a client does have filehandles within an absent file system, it is the result of obtaining them when the file system was present, and having the file system become absent subsequently.

It should be noted that because the check for the current filehandle being within an absent file system happens at the start of every operation, operations that change the current filehandle so that it is within an absent file system will not result in an error. This allows such combinations as PUTFH-GETATTR and LOOKUP-GETATTR to be used to get attribute information, particularly location attribute information, as discussed below.

### 8.3. Getting Attributes for an Absent File System

When a file system is absent, most attributes are not available, but it is necessary to allow the client access to the small set of attributes that are available, and most particularly that which gives

information about the correct current locations for this file system, `fs_locations`.

### 8.3.1. GETATTR Within an Absent File System

As mentioned above, an exception is made for GETATTR in that attributes may be obtained for a filehandle within an absent file system. This exception only applies if the attribute mask contains at least the `fs_locations` attribute bit, which indicates the client is interested in a result regarding an absent file system. If it is not requested, GETATTR will result in an `NFS4ERR_MOVED` error.

When a GETATTR is done on an absent file system, the set of supported attributes is very limited. Many attributes, including those that are normally `REQUIRED`, will not be available on an absent file system. In addition to the `fs_locations` attribute, the following attributes `SHOULD` be available on absent file systems. In the case of `RECOMMENDED` attributes, they should be available at least to the same degree that they are available on present file systems.

`fsid`: This attribute should be provided so that the client can determine file system boundaries, including, in particular, the boundary between present and absent file systems. This value must be different from any other `fsid` on the current server and need have no particular relationship to `fsids` on any particular destination to which the client might be directed.

`mounted_on_fileid`: For objects at the top of an absent file system, this attribute needs to be available. Since the `fileid` is within the present parent file system, there should be no need to reference the absent file system to provide this information.

Other attributes `SHOULD NOT` be made available for absent file systems, even when it is possible to provide them. The server should not assume that more information is always better and should avoid gratuitously providing additional information.

When a GETATTR operation includes a bit mask for the attribute `fs_locations`, but where the bit mask includes attributes that are not supported, GETATTR will not return an error, but will return the mask of the actual attributes supported with the results.

Handling of `VERIFY/NVERIFY` is similar to GETATTR in that if the attribute mask does not include `fs_locations` the error `NFS4ERR_MOVED` will result. It differs in that any appearance in the attribute mask of an attribute not supported for an absent file system (and note that this will include some normally `REQUIRED` attributes) will also cause an `NFS4ERR_MOVED` result.

### 8.3.2. REaddir and Absent File Systems

A REaddir performed when the current filehandle is within an absent file system will result in an NFS4ERR\_MOVED error, since, unlike the case of GETATTR, no such exception is made for REaddir.

Attributes for an absent file system may be fetched via a REaddir for a directory in a present file system, when that directory contains the root directories of one or more absent file systems. In this case, the handling is as follows:

- o If the attribute set requested includes fs\_locations, then fetching of attributes proceeds normally and no NFS4ERR\_MOVED indication is returned, even when the rgetattr\_error attribute is requested.
- o If the attribute set requested does not include fs\_locations, then if the rgetattr\_error attribute is requested, each directory entry for the root of an absent file system will report NFS4ERR\_MOVED as the value of the rgetattr\_error attribute.
- o If the attribute set requested does not include either of the attributes fs\_locations or rgetattr\_error then the occurrence of the root of an absent file system within the directory will result in the REaddir failing with an NFS4ERR\_MOVED error.
- o The unavailability of an attribute because of a file system's absence, even one that is ordinarily REQUIRED, does not result in any error indication. The set of attributes returned for the root directory of the absent file system in that case is simply restricted to those actually available.

### 8.4. Uses of Location Information

The location-bearing attribute of fs\_locations provides, together with the possibility of absent file systems, a number of important facilities in providing reliable, manageable, and scalable data access.

When a file system is present, these attributes can provide alternative locations, to be used to access the same data, in the event of server failures, communications problems, or other difficulties that make continued access to the current file system impossible or otherwise impractical. Under some circumstances, multiple alternative locations may be used simultaneously to provide higher-performance access to the file system in question. Provision of such alternative locations is referred to as "replication" although there are cases in which replicated sets of data are not in

fact present, and the replicas are instead different paths to the same data.

When a file system is present and subsequently becomes absent, clients can be given the opportunity to have continued access to their data, at an alternative location. Transfer of the file system contents to the new location is referred to as "migration". See Section 8.4.2 for details.

Alternative locations may be physical replicas of the file system data or alternative communication paths to the same server or, in the case of various forms of server clustering, another server providing access to the same physical file system. The client's responsibilities in dealing with this transition depend on the specific nature of the new access path as well as how and whether data was in fact migrated. These issues will be discussed in detail below.

Where a file system was not previously present, specification of file system location provides a means by which file systems located on one server can be associated with a namespace defined by another server, thus allowing a general multi-server namespace facility. A designation of such a location, in place of an absent file system, is called a "referral".

Because client support for location-related attributes is OPTIONAL, a server may (but is not required to) take action to hide migration and referral events from such clients, by acting as a proxy, for example.

#### 8.4.1. File System Replication

The `fs_locations` attribute provides alternative locations, to be used to access data in place of or in addition to the current file system instance. On first access to a file system, the client should obtain the value of the set of alternative locations by interrogating the `fs_locations` attribute.

In the event that server failures, communications problems, or other difficulties make continued access to the current file system impossible or otherwise impractical, the client can use the alternative locations as a way to get continued access to its data. Multiple locations may be used simultaneously, to provide higher performance through the exploitation of multiple paths between client and target file system.

Multiple server addresses, whether they are derived from a single entry with a DNS name representing a set of IP addresses or from

multiple entries each with its own server address, may correspond to the same actual server.

#### 8.4.2. File System Migration

When a file system is present and becomes absent, clients can be given the opportunity to have continued access to their data, at an alternative location, as specified by the `fs_locations` attribute. Typically, a client will be accessing the file system in question, get an `NFS4ERR_MOVED` error, and then use the `fs_locations` attribute to determine the new location of the data.

Such migration can be helpful in providing load balancing or general resource reallocation. The protocol does not specify how the file system will be moved between servers. It is anticipated that a number of different server-to-server transfer mechanisms might be used with the choice left to the server implementer. The NFSv4 protocol specifies the method used to communicate the migration event between client and server.

When an alternative location is designated as the target for migration, it must designate the same data. Where file systems are writable, a change made on the original file system must be visible on all migration targets. Where a file system is not writable but represents a read-only copy (possibly periodically updated) of a writable file system, similar requirements apply to the propagation of updates. Any change visible in the original file system must already be effected on all migration targets, to avoid any possibility that a client, in effecting a transition to the migration target, will see any reversion in file system state.

#### 8.4.3. Referrals

Referrals provide a way of placing a file system in a location within the namespace essentially without respect to its physical location on a given server. This allows a single server or a set of servers to present a multi-server namespace that encompasses file systems located on multiple servers. Some likely uses of this include establishment of site-wide or organization-wide namespaces, or even knitting such together into a truly global namespace.

Referrals occur when a client determines, upon first referencing a position in the current namespace, that it is part of a new file system and that the file system is absent. When this occurs, typically by receiving the error `NFS4ERR_MOVED`, the actual location or locations of the file system can be determined by fetching the `fs_locations` attribute.

The locations-related attribute may designate a single file system location or multiple file system locations, to be selected based on the needs of the client.

Use of multi-server namespaces is enabled by NFSv4 but is not required. The use of multi-server namespaces and their scope will depend on the applications used and system administration preferences.

Multi-server namespaces can be established by a single server providing a large set of referrals to all of the included file systems. Alternatively, a single multi-server namespace may be administratively segmented with separate referral file systems (on separate servers) for each separately administered portion of the namespace. The top-level referral file system or any segment may use replicated referral file systems for higher availability.

Generally, multi-server namespaces are for the most part uniform, in that the same data made available to one client at a given location in the namespace is made available to all clients at that location.

#### 8.5. Location Entries and Server Identity

As mentioned above, a single location entry may have a server address target in the form of a DNS name that may represent multiple IP addresses, while multiple location entries may have their own server address targets that reference the same server.

When multiple addresses for the same server exist, the client may assume that for each file system in the namespace of a given server network address, there exist file systems at corresponding namespace locations for each of the other server network addresses. It may do this even in the absence of explicit listing in `fs_locations`. Such corresponding file system locations can be used as alternative locations, just as those explicitly specified via the `fs_locations` attribute.

If a single location entry designates multiple server IP addresses, the client should choose a single one to use. When two server addresses are designated by a single location entry and they correspond to different servers, this normally indicates some sort of misconfiguration, and so the client should avoid using such location entries when alternatives are available. When they are not, clients should pick one of IP addresses and use it, without using others that are not directed to the same server.

## 8.6. Additional Client-Side Considerations

When clients make use of servers that implement referrals, replication, and migration, care should be taken that a user who mounts a given file system that includes a referral or a relocated file system continues to see a coherent picture of that user-side file system despite the fact that it contains a number of server-side file systems that may be on different servers.

One important issue is upward navigation from the root of a server-side file system to its parent (specified as ".." in UNIX), in the case in which it transitions to that file system as a result of referral, migration, or a transition as a result of replication. When the client is at such a point, and it needs to ascend to the parent, it must go back to the parent as seen within the multi-server namespace rather than sending a LOOKUPP operation to the server, which would result in the parent within that server's single-server namespace. In order to do this, the client needs to remember the filehandles that represent such file system roots and use these instead of issuing a LOOKUPP operation to the current server. This will allow the client to present to applications a consistent namespace, where upward navigation and downward navigation are consistent.

Another issue concerns refresh of referral locations. When referrals are used extensively, they may change as server configurations change. It is expected that clients will cache information related to traversing referrals so that future client-side requests are resolved locally without server communication. This is usually rooted in client-side name look up caching. Clients should periodically purge this data for referral points in order to detect changes in location information.

A potential problem exists if a client were to allow an open-owner to have state on multiple file systems on server, in that it is unclear how the sequence numbers associated with open-owners are to be dealt with, in the event of transparent state migration. A client can avoid such a situation, if it ensures that any use of an open-owner is confined to a single file system.

A server MAY decline to migrate state associated with open-owners that span multiple file systems. In cases in which the server chooses not to migrate such state, the server MUST return NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID when the client uses those stateids on the new server.

The server MUST return NFS4ERR\_STALE\_STATEID when the client uses those stateids on the old server, regardless of whether migration has occurred or not.

### 8.7. Effecting File System Referrals

Referrals are effected when an absent file system is encountered, and one or more alternative locations are made available by the `fs_locations` attribute. The client will typically get an NFS4ERR\_MOVED error, fetch the appropriate location information, and proceed to access the file system on a different server, even though it retains its logical position within the original namespace. Referrals differ from migration events in that they happen only when the client has not previously referenced the file system in question (so there is nothing to transition). Referrals can only come into effect when an absent file system is encountered at its root.

The examples given in the sections below are somewhat artificial in that an actual client will not typically do a multi-component look up, but will have cached information regarding the upper levels of the name hierarchy. However, these example are chosen to make the required behavior clear and easy to put within the scope of a small number of requests, without getting unduly into details of how specific clients might choose to cache things.

#### 8.7.1. Referral Example (LOOKUP)

Let us suppose that the following COMPOUND is sent in an environment in which `/this/is/the/path` is absent from the target server. This may be for a number of reasons. It may be the case that the file system has moved, or it may be the case that the target server is functioning mainly, or solely, to refer clients to the servers on which various file systems are located.

- o PUTROOTFH
- o LOOKUP "this"
- o LOOKUP "is"
- o LOOKUP "the"
- o LOOKUP "path"
- o GETFH
- o GETATTR(fsid,fileid,size,time\_modify)

Under the given circumstances, the following will be the result.

- o PUTROOTFH --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is now the root of the pseudo-fs.
- o LOOKUP "this" --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is for /this and is within the pseudo-fs.
- o LOOKUP "is" --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is for /this/is and is within the pseudo-fs.
- o LOOKUP "the" --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is for /this/is/the and is within the pseudo-fs.
- o LOOKUP "path" --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is for /this/is/the/path and is within a new, absent file system, but ... the client will never see the value of that fh.
- o GETFH --> NFS4ERR\_MOVED. Fails because current fh is in an absent file system at the start of the operation, and the specification makes no exception for GETFH.
- o GETATTR(fsid,fileid,size,time\_modify) Not executed because the failure of the GETFH stops processing of the COMPOUND.

Given the failure of the GETFH, the client has the job of determining the root of the absent file system and where to find that file system, i.e., the server and path relative to that server's root fh. Note here that in this example, the client did not obtain filehandles and attribute information (e.g., fsid) for the intermediate directories, so that it would not be sure where the absent file system starts. It could be the case, for example, that /this/is/the is the root of the moved file system and that the reason that the look up of "path" succeeded is that the file system was not absent on that operation but was moved between the last LOOKUP and the GETFH (since COMPOUND is not atomic). Even if we had the fsids for all of the intermediate directories, we could have no way of knowing that /this/is/the/path was the root of a new file system, since we don't yet have its fsid.

In order to get the necessary information, let us re-send the chain of LOOKUPS with GETFHs and GETATTRs to at least get the fsids so we can be sure where the appropriate file system boundaries are. The client could choose to get fs\_locations at the same time but in most cases the client will have a good guess as to where file system boundaries are (because of where NFS4ERR\_MOVED was, and was not, received) making fetching of fs\_locations unnecessary.

OP01: PUTROOTFH --> NFS\_OK

- Current fh is root of pseudo-fs.

OP02: GETATTR(fsid) --> NFS\_OK

- Just for completeness. Normally, clients will know the fsid of the pseudo-fs as soon as they establish communication with a server.

OP03: LOOKUP "this" --> NFS\_OK

OP04: GETATTR(fsid) --> NFS\_OK

- Get current fsid to see where file system boundaries are. The fsid will be that for the pseudo-fs in this example, so no boundary.

OP05: GETFH --> NFS\_OK

- Current fh is for /this and is within pseudo-fs.

OP06: LOOKUP "is" --> NFS\_OK

- Current fh is for /this/is and is within pseudo-fs.

OP07: GETATTR(fsid) --> NFS\_OK

- Get current fsid to see where file system boundaries are. The fsid will be that for the pseudo-fs in this example, so no boundary.

OP08: GETFH --> NFS\_OK

- Current fh is for /this/is and is within pseudo-fs.

OP09: LOOKUP "the" --> NFS\_OK

- Current fh is for /this/is/the and is within pseudo-fs.

OP10: GETATTR(fsid) --> NFS\_OK

- Get current fsid to see where file system boundaries are. The fsid will be that for the pseudo-fs in this example, so no boundary.

OP11: GETFH --> NFS\_OK

- Current fh is for /this/is/the and is within pseudo-fs.

OP12: LOOKUP "path" --> NFS\_OK

- Current fh is for /this/is/the/path and is within a new, absent file system, but ...
- The client will never see the value of that fh.

OP13: GETATTR(fsid, fs\_locations) --> NFS\_OK

- We are getting the fsid to know where the file system boundaries are. In this operation, the fsid will be different than that of the parent directory (which in turn was retrieved in OP10). Note that the fsid we are given will not necessarily be preserved at the new location. That fsid might be different, and in fact the fsid we have for this file system might be a valid fsid of a different file system on that new server.
- In this particular case, we are pretty sure anyway that what has moved is /this/is/the/path rather than /this/is/the since we have the fsid of the latter and it is that of the pseudo-fs, which presumably cannot move. However, in other examples, we might not have this kind of information to rely on (e.g., /this/is/the might be a non-pseudo file system separate from /this/is/the/path), so we need to have other reliable source information on the boundary of the file system that is moved. If, for example, the file system /this/is had moved, we would have a case of migration rather than referral, and once the boundaries of the migrated file system was clear we could fetch fs\_locations.
- We are fetching fs\_locations because the fact that we got an NFS4ERR\_MOVED at this point means that it is most likely that this is a referral and we need the destination. Even if it is the case that /this/is/the is a file system that has migrated, we will still need the location information for that file system.

OP14: GETFH --> NFS4ERR\_MOVED

- Fails because current fh is in an absent file system at the start of the operation, and the specification makes no exception for GETFH. Note that this means the server will never send the client a filehandle from within an absent file system.

Given the above, the client knows where the root of the absent file system is (/this/is/the/path) by noting where the change of fsid occurred (between "the" and "path"). The fs\_locations attribute also gives the client the actual location of the absent file system, so

that the referral can proceed. The server gives the client the bare minimum of information about the absent file system so that there will be very little scope for problems of conflict between information sent by the referring server and information of the file system's home. No filehandles and very few attributes are present on the referring server, and the client can treat those it receives as transient information with the function of enabling the referral.

#### 8.7.2. Referral Example (READDIR)

Another context in which a client may encounter referrals is when it does a READDIR on a directory in which some of the sub-directories are the roots of absent file systems.

Suppose such a directory is read as follows:

- o PUTROOTFH
- o LOOKUP "this"
- o LOOKUP "is"
- o LOOKUP "the"
- o READDIR (fsid, size, time\_modify, mounted\_on\_fileid)

In this case, because `rdattr_error` is not requested, `fs_locations` is not requested, and some of the attributes cannot be provided, the result will be an `NFS4ERR_MOVED` error on the READDIR, with the detailed results as follows:

- o PUTROOTFH --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is at the root of the pseudo-fs.
- o LOOKUP "this" --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is for /this and is within the pseudo-fs.
- o LOOKUP "is" --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is for /this/is and is within the pseudo-fs.
- o LOOKUP "the" --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is for /this/is/the and is within the pseudo-fs.
- o READDIR (fsid, size, time\_modify, mounted\_on\_fileid) --> NFS4ERR\_MOVED. Note that the same error would have been returned if /this/is/the had migrated, but it is returned because the directory contains the root of an absent file system.

So now suppose that we re-send with `rdattr_error`:

- o PUTROOTFH
- o LOOKUP "this"
- o LOOKUP "is"
- o LOOKUP "the"
- o READDIR (`rdattr_error`, `fsid`, `size`, `time_modify`, `mounted_on_fileid`)

The results will be:

- o PUTROOTFH --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is at the root of the pseudo-fs.
- o LOOKUP "this" --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is for /this and is within the pseudo-fs.
- o LOOKUP "is" --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is for /this/is and is within the pseudo-fs.
- o LOOKUP "the" --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is for /this/is/the and is within the pseudo-fs.
- o READDIR (`rdattr_error`, `fsid`, `size`, `time_modify`, `mounted_on_fileid`) --> NFS\_OK. The attributes for directory entry with the component named "path" will only contain `rdattr_error` with the value NFS4ERR\_MOVED, together with an `fsid` value and a value for `mounted_on_fileid`.

So suppose we do another READDIR to get `fs_locations` (although we could have used a GETATTR directly, as in Section 8.7.1).

- o PUTROOTFH
- o LOOKUP "this"
- o LOOKUP "is"
- o LOOKUP "the"
- o READDIR (`rdattr_error`, `fs_locations`, `mounted_on_fileid`, `fsid`, `size`, `time_modify`)

The results would be:

- o PUTROOTFH --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is at the root of the pseudo-fs.
- o LOOKUP "this" --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is for /this and is within the pseudo-fs.
- o LOOKUP "is" --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is for /this/is and is within the pseudo-fs.
- o LOOKUP "the" --> NFS\_OK. The current fh is for /this/is/the and is within the pseudo-fs.
- o READDIR (rdattr\_error, fs\_locations, mounted\_on\_fileid, fsid, size, time\_modify) --> NFS\_OK. The attributes will be as shown below.

The attributes for the directory entry with the component named "path" will only contain:

- o rdattr\_error (value: NFS\_OK)
- o fs\_locations
- o mounted\_on\_fileid (value: unique fileid within referring file system)
- o fsid (value: unique value within referring server)

The attributes for entry "path" will not contain size or time\_modify because these attributes are not available within an absent file system.

#### 8.8. The Attribute fs\_locations

The fs\_locations attribute is defined by both fs\_location4 (Section 2.2.6) and fs\_locations4 (Section 2.2.7). It is used to represent the location of a file system by providing a server name and the path to the root of the file system within that server's namespace. When a set of servers have corresponding file systems at the same path within their namespaces, an array of server names may be provided. An entry in the server array is a UTF-8 string and represents one of a traditional DNS host name, IPv4 address, IPv6 address, or a zero-length string. A zero-length string SHOULD be used to indicate the current address being used for the RPC call. It is not a requirement that all servers that share the same rootpath be listed in one fs\_location4 instance. The array of server names is provided for convenience. Servers that share the same rootpath may

also be listed in separate `fs_location4` entries in the `fs_locations` attribute.

The `fs_locations4` data type and `fs_locations` attribute contain an array of such locations. Since the namespace of each server may be constructed differently, the `"fs_root"` field is provided. The path represented by `fs_root` represents the location of the file system in the current server's namespace, i.e., that of the server from which the `fs_locations` attribute was obtained. The `fs_root` path is meant to aid the client by clearly referencing the root of the file system whose locations are being reported, no matter what object within the current file system the current filehandle designates. The `fs_root` is simply the pathname the client used to reach the object on the current server (i.e., the object to which the `fs_locations` attribute applies).

When the `fs_locations` attribute is interrogated and there are no alternative file system locations, the server SHOULD return a zero-length array of `fs_location4` structures, together with a valid `fs_root`.

As an example, suppose there is a replicated file system located at two servers (`servA` and `servB`). At `servA`, the file system is located at path `/a/b/c`. At `servB` the file system is located at path `/x/y/z`. If the client were to obtain the `fs_locations` value for the directory at `/a/b/c/d`, it might not necessarily know that the file system's root is located in `servA`'s namespace at `/a/b/c`. When the client switches to `servB`, it will need to determine that the directory it first referenced at `servA` is now represented by the path `/x/y/z/d` on `servB`. To facilitate this, the `fs_locations` attribute provided by `servA` would have an `fs_root` value of `/a/b/c` and two entries in `fs_locations`. One entry in `fs_locations` will be for itself (`servA`) and the other will be for `servB` with a path of `/x/y/z`. With this information, the client is able to substitute `/x/y/z` for the `/a/b/c` at the beginning of its access path and construct `/x/y/z/d` to use for the new server.

Note that: there is no requirement that the number of components in each rootpath be the same; there is no relation between the number of components in rootpath or `fs_root`, and none of the components in each rootpath and `fs_root` have to be the same. In the above example, we could have had a third element in the locations array, with server equal to `"servC"`, and rootpath equal to `"/I/II"`, and a fourth element in locations with server equal to `"servD"` and rootpath equal to `"/aleph/beth/gimel/dalet/he"`.

The relationship between `fs_root` to a `rootpath` is that the client replaces the pathname indicated in `fs_root` for the current server for the substitute indicated in `rootpath` for the new server.

For an example of a referred or migrated file system, suppose there is a file system located at `serv1`. At `serv1`, the file system is located at `/az/buky/vedi/glagoli`. The client finds that object at `glagoli` has migrated (or is a referral). The client gets the `fs_locations` attribute, which contains an `fs_root` of `/az/buky/vedi/glagoli`, and one element in the `locations` array, with `server` equal to `serv2`, and `rootpath` equal to `/izhitsa/fita`. The client replaces `/az/buky/vedi/glagoli` with `/izhitsa/fita`, and uses the latter pathname on `serv2`.

Thus, the server **MUST** return an `fs_root` that is equal to the path the client used to reach the object to which the `fs_locations` attribute applies. Otherwise, the client cannot determine the new path to use on the new server.

## 9. File Locking and Share Reservations

Integrating locking into the NFS protocol necessarily causes it to be stateful. With the inclusion of share reservations the protocol becomes substantially more dependent on state than the traditional combination of NFS and NLM (Network Lock Manager) [xnfs]. There are three components to making this state manageable:

- o clear division between client and server
- o ability to reliably detect inconsistency in state between client and server
- o simple and robust recovery mechanisms

In this model, the server owns the state information. The client requests changes in locks and the server responds with the changes made. Non-client-initiated changes in locking state are infrequent. The client receives prompt notification of such changes and can adjust its view of the locking state to reflect the server's changes.

Individual pieces of state created by the server and passed to the client at its request are represented by 128-bit stateids. These stateids may represent a particular open file, a set of byte-range locks held by a particular owner, or a recallable delegation of privileges to access a file in particular ways or at a particular location.

In all cases, there is a transition from the most general information that represents a client as a whole to the eventual lightweight stateid used for most client and server locking interactions. The details of this transition will vary with the type of object but it always starts with a client ID.

To support Win32 share reservations it is necessary to atomically OPEN or CREATE files and apply the appropriate locks in the same operation. Having a separate share/unshare operation would not allow correct implementation of the Win32 OpenFile API. In order to correctly implement share semantics, the previous NFS protocol mechanisms used when a file is opened or created (LOOKUP, CREATE, ACCESS) need to be replaced. The NFSv4 protocol has an OPEN operation that subsumes the NFSv3 methodology of LOOKUP, CREATE, and ACCESS. However, because many operations require a filehandle, the traditional LOOKUP is preserved to map a file name to filehandle without establishing state on the server. The policy of granting access or modifying files is managed by the server based on the client's state. These mechanisms can implement policy ranging from advisory only locking to full mandatory locking.

#### 9.1. Opens and Byte-Range Locks

It is assumed that manipulating a byte-range lock is rare when compared to READ and WRITE operations. It is also assumed that server restarts and network partitions are relatively rare. Therefore it is important that the READ and WRITE operations have a lightweight mechanism to indicate if they possess a held lock. A byte-range lock request contains the heavyweight information required to establish a lock and uniquely define the owner of the lock.

The following sections describe the transition from the heavy weight information to the eventual stateid used for most client and server locking and lease interactions.

##### 9.1.1. Client ID

For each LOCK request, the client must identify itself to the server. This is done in such a way as to allow for correct lock identification and crash recovery. A sequence of a SETCLIENTID operation followed by a SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM operation is required to establish the identification onto the server. Establishment of identification by a new incarnation of the client also has the effect of immediately breaking any leased state that a previous incarnation of the client might have had on the server, as opposed to forcing the new client incarnation to wait for the leases to expire. Breaking the lease state amounts to the server removing all lock, share reservation, and, where the server is not supporting the

CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV claim type, all delegation state associated with same client with the same identity. For discussion of delegation state recovery, see Section 10.2.1.

Owners of opens and owners of byte-range locks are separate entities and remain separate even if the same opaque arrays are used to designate owners of each. The protocol distinguishes between open-owners (represented by open\_owner4 structures) and lock-owners (represented by lock\_owner4 structures).

Both sorts of owners consist of a clientid and an opaque owner string. For each client, the set of distinct owner values used with that client constitutes the set of owners of that type, for the given client.

Each open is associated with a specific open-owner while each byte-range lock is associated with a lock-owner and an open-owner, the latter being the open-owner associated with the open file under which the LOCK operation was done.

Client identification is encapsulated in the following structure:

```
struct nfs_client_id4 {
    verifier4      verifier;
    opaque         id<NFS4_OPAQUE_LIMIT>;
};
```

The first field, verifier, is a client incarnation verifier that is used to detect client reboots. Only if the verifier is different from that which the server has previously recorded for the client (as identified by the second field of the structure, id) does the server start the process of canceling the client's leased state.

The second field, id, is a variable length string that uniquely defines the client.

There are several considerations for how the client generates the id string:

- o The string should be unique so that multiple clients do not present the same string. The consequences of two clients presenting the same string range from one client getting an error to one client having its leased state abruptly and unexpectedly canceled.
- o The string should be selected so the subsequent incarnations (e.g., reboots) of the same client cause the client to present the same string. The implementer is cautioned against an approach

that requires the string to be recorded in a local file because this precludes the use of the implementation in an environment where there is no local disk and all file access is from an NFSv4 server.

- o The string should be different for each server network address that the client accesses, rather than common to all server network addresses. The reason is that it may not be possible for the client to tell if the same server is listening on multiple network addresses. If the client issues SETCLIENTID with the same id string to each network address of such a server, the server will think it is the same client, and each successive SETCLIENTID will cause the server to begin the process of removing the client's previous leased state.
- o The algorithm for generating the string should not assume that the client's network address won't change. This includes changes between client incarnations and even changes while the client is stilling running in its current incarnation. This means that if the client includes just the client's and server's network address in the id string, there is a real risk, after the client gives up the network address, that another client, using a similar algorithm for generating the id string, will generate a conflicting id string.

Given the above considerations, an example of a well generated id string is one that includes:

- o The server's network address.
- o The client's network address.
- o For a user level NFSv4 client, it should contain additional information to distinguish the client from other user level clients running on the same host, such as an universally unique identifier (UUID).
- o Additional information that tends to be unique, such as one or more of:
  - \* The client machine's serial number (for privacy reasons, it is best to perform some one way function on the serial number).
  - \* A MAC address (for privacy reasons, it is best to perform some one way function on the MAC address).
  - \* The timestamp of when the NFSv4 software was first installed on the client (though this is subject to the previously mentioned

caution about using information that is stored in a file, because the file might only be accessible over NFSv4).

- \* A true random number. However since this number ought to be the same between client incarnations, this shares the same problem as that of the using the timestamp of the software installation.

As a security measure, the server MUST NOT cancel a client's leased state if the principal that established the state for a given id string is not the same as the principal issuing the SETCLIENTID.

Note that SETCLIENTID (Section 15.35) and SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM (Section 15.36) have a secondary purpose of establishing the information the server needs to make callbacks to the client for the purpose of supporting delegations. It is permitted to change this information via SETCLIENTID and SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM within the same incarnation of the client without removing the client's leased state.

Once a SETCLIENTID and SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM sequence has successfully completed, the client uses the shorthand client identifier, of type clientid4, instead of the longer and less compact nfs\_client\_id4 structure. This shorthand client identifier (a client ID) is assigned by the server and should be chosen so that it will not conflict with a client ID previously assigned by the server. This applies across server restarts or reboots. When a client ID is presented to a server and that client ID is not recognized, as would happen after a server reboot, the server will reject the request with the error NFS4ERR\_STALE\_CLIENTID. When this happens, the client must obtain a new client ID by use of the SETCLIENTID operation and then proceed to any other necessary recovery for the server reboot case (See Section 9.6.2).

The client must also employ the SETCLIENTID operation when it receives a NFS4ERR\_STALE\_STATEID error using a stateid derived from its current client ID, since this also indicates a server reboot which has invalidated the existing client ID (see Section 9.6.2 for details).

See the detailed descriptions of SETCLIENTID (Section 15.35.4) and SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM (Section 15.36.4) for a complete specification of the operations.

#### 9.1.2. Server Release of Client ID

If the server determines that the client holds no associated state for its client ID, the server may choose to release the client ID. The server may make this choice for an inactive client so that

resources are not consumed by those intermittently active clients. If the client contacts the server after this release, the server must ensure the client receives the appropriate error so that it will use the SETCLIENTID/SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM sequence to establish a new identity. It should be clear that the server must be very hesitant to release a client ID since the resulting work on the client to recover from such an event will be the same burden as if the server had failed and restarted. Typically a server would not release a client ID unless there had been no activity from that client for many minutes.

Note that if the id string in a SETCLIENTID request is properly constructed, and if the client takes care to use the same principal for each successive use of SETCLIENTID, then, barring an active denial of service attack, NFS4ERR\_CLID\_INUSE should never be returned.

However, client bugs, server bugs, or perhaps a deliberate change of the principal owner of the id string (such as the case of a client that changes security flavors, and under the new flavor, there is no mapping to the previous owner) will in rare cases result in NFS4ERR\_CLID\_INUSE.

In that event, when the server gets a SETCLIENTID for a client ID that currently has no state, or it has state, but the lease has expired, rather than returning NFS4ERR\_CLID\_INUSE, the server MUST allow the SETCLIENTID, and confirm the new client ID if followed by the appropriate SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM.

### 9.1.3. Use of Seqids

In several contexts, 32-bit sequence values, called "seqids" are used as part of managing locking state. Such values are used:

- o To provide an ordering of locking-related operations associated with a particular lock-owner or open-owner. See Section 9.1.7 for a detailed explanation.
- o To define an ordered set of instances of a set of locks sharing a particular set of ownership characteristics. See Section 9.1.4.2 for a detailed explanation.

Successive seqid values for the same object are normally arrived at by incrementing the current value by one. This pattern continues until the seqid is incremented past NFS4\_UINT32\_MAX, in which case one (rather than zero) is to be the next seqid value.

When two seqid values are to be compared to determine which of the two is later, the possibility of wraparound needs to be considered. In many cases, the values are such that simple numeric comparisons can be used. For example, if the seqid values to be compared are both less than one million, the higher value can be considered the later. On the other hand, if one of the values is at or near NFS\_UINT32\_MAX and the other is less than one million, then implementations can reasonably decide that the lower value has had one more wraparound and is thus, while numerically lower, actually later.

Implementations can compare seqids in the presence of potential wraparound by adopting the reasonable assumption that the chain of increments from one to the other is shorter than  $2^{31}$ . So, if the difference between the two seqids is less than  $2^{31}$ , then the lower seqid is to be treated as earlier. If, however, the difference between the two seqids is greater than or equal to  $2^{31}$ , then it can be assumed that the lower seqid has encountered one more wraparound and can be treated as later.

#### 9.1.4. Stateid Definition

When the server grants a lock of any type (including opens, byte-range locks, and delegations), it responds with a unique stateid that represents a set of locks (often a single lock) for the same file, of the same type, and sharing the same ownership characteristics. Thus, opens of the same file by different open-owners each have an identifying stateid. Similarly, each set of byte-range locks on a file owned by a specific lock-owner has its own identifying stateid. Delegations also have associated stateids by which they may be referenced. The stateid is used as a shorthand reference to a lock or set of locks, and given a stateid, the server can determine the associated state-owner or state-owners (in the case of an open-owner/lock-owner pair) and the associated filehandle. When stateids are used, the current filehandle must be the one associated with that stateid.

All stateids associated with a given client ID are associated with a common lease that represents the claim of those stateids and the objects they represent to be maintained by the server. See Section 9.5 for a discussion of the lease.

Each stateid must be unique to the server. Many operations take a stateid as an argument but not a clientid, so the server must be able to infer the client from the stateid.

#### 9.1.4.1. Stateid Types

With the exception of special stateids (see Section 9.1.4.3), each stateid represents locking objects of one of a set of types defined by the NFSv4 protocol. Note that in all these cases, where we speak of a guarantee, it is understood there are situations such as a client restart, or lock revocation, that allow the guarantee to be voided.

- o Stateids may represent opens of files.

Each stateid in this case represents the OPEN state for a given client ID/open-owner/filehandle triple. Such stateids are subject to change (with consequent incrementing of the stateid's seqid) in response to OPENS that result in upgrade and OPEN\_DOWNGRADE operations.

- o Stateids may represent sets of byte-range locks.

All locks held on a particular file by a particular owner and all gotten under the aegis of a particular open file are associated with a single stateid with the seqid being incremented whenever LOCK and LOCKU operations affect that set of locks.

- o Stateids may represent file delegations, which are recallable guarantees by the server to the client that other clients will not reference, or will not modify, a particular file until the delegation is returned.

A stateid represents a single delegation held by a client for a particular filehandle.

#### 9.1.4.2. Stateid Structure

Stateids are divided into two fields, a 96-bit "other" field identifying the specific set of locks and a 32-bit "seqid" sequence value. Except in the case of special stateids (see Section 9.1.4.3), a particular value of the "other" field denotes a set of locks of the same type (for example, byte-range locks, opens, or delegations), for a specific file or directory, and sharing the same ownership characteristics. The seqid designates a specific instance of such a set of locks, and is incremented to indicate changes in such a set of locks, either by the addition or deletion of locks from the set, a change in the byte-range they apply to, or an upgrade or downgrade in the type of one or more locks.

When such a set of locks is first created, the server returns a stateid with seqid value of one. On subsequent operations that

modify the set of locks, the server is required to advance the "seqid" field by one whenever it returns a stateid for the same state-owner/file/type combination and the operation is one that might make some change in the set of locks actually designated. In this case, the server will return a stateid with an "other" field the same as previously used for that state-owner/file/type combination, with an incremented "seqid" field.

Seqids will be compared, by both the client and the server. The client uses such comparisons to determine the order of operations while the server uses them to determine whether the NFS4ERR\_OLD\_STATEID error is to be returned. In all cases, the possibility of seqid wraparound needs to be taken into account, as discussed in Section 9.1.3

#### 9.1.4.3. Special Stateids

Stateid values whose "other" field is either all zeros or all ones are reserved. They MUST NOT be assigned by the server but have special meanings defined by the protocol. The particular meaning depends on whether the "other" field is all zeros or all ones and the specific value of the "seqid" field.

The following combinations of "other" and "seqid" are defined in NFSv4:

Anonymous Stateid: When "other" and "seqid" are both zero, the stateid is treated as a special anonymous stateid, which can be used in READ, WRITE, and SETATTR requests to indicate the absence of any open state associated with the request. When an anonymous stateid value is used, and an existing open denies the form of access requested, then access will be denied to the request.

READ Bypass Stateid: When "other" and "seqid" are both all ones, the stateid is a special READ bypass stateid. When this value is used in WRITE or SETATTR, it is treated like the anonymous value. When used in READ, the server MAY grant access, even if access would normally be denied to READ requests.

If a stateid value is used which has all zero or all ones in the "other" field, but does not match one of the cases above, the server MUST return the error NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID.

Special stateids, unlike other stateids, are not associated with individual client IDs or filehandles and can be used with all valid client IDs and filehandles.

#### 9.1.4.4. Stateid Lifetime and Validation

Stateids must remain valid until either a client restart or a server restart or until the client returns all of the locks associated with the stateid by means of an operation such as CLOSE or DELEGRETURN. If the locks are lost due to revocation as long as the client ID is valid, the stateid remains a valid designation of that revoked state. Stateids associated with byte-range locks are an exception. They remain valid even if a LOCKU frees all remaining locks, so long as the open file with which they are associated remains open.

It should be noted that there are situations in which the client's locks become invalid, without the client requesting they be returned. These include lease expiration and a number of forms of lock revocation within the lease period. It is important to note that in these situations, the stateid remains valid and the client can use it to determine the disposition of the associated lost locks.

An "other" value must never be reused for a different purpose (i.e. different filehandle, owner, or type of locks) within the context of a single client ID. A server may retain the "other" value for the same purpose beyond the point where it may otherwise be freed but if it does so, it must maintain "seqid" continuity with previous values.

One mechanism that may be used to satisfy the requirement that the server recognize invalid and out-of-date stateids is for the server to divide the "other" field of the stateid into two fields.

- o An index into a table of locking-state structures.
- o A generation number which is incremented on each allocation of a table entry for a particular use.

And then store in each table entry,

- o The client ID with which the stateid is associated.
- o The current generation number for the (at most one) valid stateid sharing this index value.
- o The filehandle of the file on which the locks are taken.
- o An indication of the type of stateid (open, byte-range lock, file delegation).
- o The last "seqid" value returned corresponding to the current "other" value.

- o An indication of the current status of the locks associated with this stateid. In particular, whether these have been revoked and if so, for what reason.

With this information, an incoming stateid can be validated and the appropriate error returned when necessary. Special and non-special stateids are handled separately. (See Section 9.1.4.3 for a discussion of special stateids.)

When a stateid is being tested, and the "other" field is all zeros or all ones, a check that the "other" and "seqid" fields match a defined combination for a special stateid is done and the results determined as follows:

- o If the "other" and "seqid" fields do not match a defined combination associated with a special stateid, the error NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID is returned.
- o If the combination is valid in general but is not appropriate to the context in which the stateid is used (e.g., an all-zero stateid is used when an open stateid is required in a LOCK operation), the error NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID is also returned.
- o Otherwise, the check is completed and the special stateid is accepted as valid.

When a stateid is being tested, and the "other" field is neither all zeros or all ones, the following procedure could be used to validate an incoming stateid and return an appropriate error, when necessary, assuming that the "other" field would be divided into a table index and an entry generation. Note that the terms "earlier" and "later" used in connection with seqid comparison are to be understood as explained in Section 9.1.3.

- o If the table index field is outside the range of the associated table, return NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID.
- o If the selected table entry is of a different generation than that specified in the incoming stateid, return NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID.
- o If the selected table entry does not match the current filehandle, return NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID.
- o If the stateid represents revoked state or state lost as a result of lease expiration, then return NFS4ERR\_EXPIRED, NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID, or NFS4ERR\_ADMIN\_REVOKED, as appropriate.

- o If the stateid type is not valid for the context in which the stateid appears, return NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID. Note that a stateid may be valid in general, but be invalid for a particular operation, as, for example, when a stateid which doesn't represent byte-range locks is passed to the non-from\_open case of LOCK or to LOCKU, or when a stateid which does not represent an open is passed to CLOSE or OPEN\_DOWNGRADE. In such cases, the server MUST return NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID.
- o If the "seqid" field is not zero, and it is later than the current sequence value corresponding to the current "other" field, return NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID.
- o If the "seqid" field is earlier than the current sequence value corresponding to the current "other" field, return NFS4ERR\_OLD\_STATEID.
- o Otherwise, the stateid is valid and the table entry should contain any additional information about the type of stateid and information associated with that particular type of stateid, such as the associated set of locks, such as open-owner and lock-owner information, as well as information on the specific locks, such as open modes and byte ranges.

#### 9.1.4.5. Stateid Use for I/O Operations

Clients performing Input/Output (I/O) operations need to select an appropriate stateid based on the locks (including opens and delegations) held by the client and the various types of state-owners sending the I/O requests. SETATTR operations that change the file size are treated like I/O operations in this regard.

The following rules, applied in order of decreasing priority, govern the selection of the appropriate stateid. In following these rules, the client will only consider locks of which it has actually received notification by an appropriate operation response or callback.

- o If the client holds a delegation for the file in question, the delegation stateid SHOULD be used.
- o Otherwise, if the entity corresponding to the lock-owner (e.g., a process) sending the I/O has a byte-range lock stateid for the associated open file, then the byte-range lock stateid for that lock-owner and open file SHOULD be used.
- o If there is no byte-range lock stateid, then the OPEN stateid for the current open-owner, i.e., the OPEN stateid for the open file in question, SHOULD be used.

- o Finally, if none of the above apply, then a special stateid SHOULD be used.

Ignoring these rules may result in situations in which the server does not have information necessary to properly process the request. For example, when mandatory byte-range locks are in effect, if the stateid does not indicate the proper lock-owner, via a lock stateid, a request might be avoidably rejected.

The server however should not try to enforce these ordering rules and should use whatever information is available to properly process I/O requests. In particular, when a client has a delegation for a given file, it SHOULD take note of this fact in processing a request, even if it is sent with a special stateid.

#### 9.1.4.6. Stateid Use for SETATTR Operations

In the case of SETATTR operations, a stateid is present. In cases other than those that set the file size, the client may send either a special stateid or, when a delegation is held for the file in question, a delegation stateid. While the server SHOULD validate the stateid and may use the stateid to optimize the determination as to whether a delegation is held, it SHOULD note the presence of a delegation even when a special stateid is sent, and MUST accept a valid delegation stateid when sent.

#### 9.1.5. lock-owner

When requesting a lock, the client must present to the server the client ID and an identifier for the owner of the requested lock. These two fields are referred to as the lock-owner and the definition of those fields are:

- o A client ID returned by the server as part of the client's use of the SETCLIENTID operation.
- o A variable length opaque array used to uniquely define the owner of a lock managed by the client.

This may be a thread id, process id, or other unique value.

When the server grants the lock, it responds with a unique stateid. The stateid is used as a shorthand reference to the lock-owner, since the server will be maintaining the correspondence between them.

#### 9.1.6. Use of the Stateid and Locking

All READ, WRITE and SETATTR operations contain a stateid. For the purposes of this section, SETATTR operations which change the size attribute of a file are treated as if they are writing the area between the old and new size (i.e., the range truncated or added to the file by means of the SETATTR), even where SETATTR is not explicitly mentioned in the text. The stateid passed to one of these operations must be one that represents an OPEN (e.g., via the open-owner), a set of byte-range locks, or a delegation, or it may be a special stateid representing anonymous access or the READ bypass stateid.

If the state-owner performs a READ or WRITE in a situation in which it has established a lock or share reservation on the server (any OPEN constitutes a share reservation) the stateid (previously returned by the server) must be used to indicate what locks, including both byte-range locks and share reservations, are held by the state-owner. If no state is established by the client, either byte-range lock or share reservation, the anonymous stateid is used. Regardless whether an anonymous stateid or a stateid returned by the server is used, if there is a conflicting share reservation or mandatory byte-range lock held on the file, the server MUST refuse to service the READ or WRITE operation.

Share reservations are established by OPEN operations and by their nature are mandatory in that when the OPEN denies READ or WRITE operations, that denial results in such operations being rejected with error NFS4ERR\_LOCKED. Byte-range locks may be implemented by the server as either mandatory or advisory, or the choice of mandatory or advisory behavior may be determined by the server on the basis of the file being accessed (for example, some UNIX-based servers support a "mandatory lock bit" on the mode attribute such that if set, byte-range locks are required on the file before I/O is possible). When byte-range locks are advisory, they only prevent the granting of conflicting lock requests and have no effect on READs or WRITES. Mandatory byte-range locks, however, prevent conflicting I/O operations. When they are attempted, they are rejected with NFS4ERR\_LOCKED. When the client gets NFS4ERR\_LOCKED on a file it knows it has the proper share reservation for, it will need to issue a LOCK request on the region of the file that includes the region the I/O was to be performed on, with an appropriate locktype (i.e., READ\*\_LT for a READ operation, WRITE\*\_LT for a WRITE operation).

With NFSv3, there was no notion of a stateid so there was no way to tell if the application process of the client sending the READ or WRITE operation had also acquired the appropriate byte-range lock on

the file. Thus there was no way to implement mandatory locking. With the stateid construct, this barrier has been removed.

Note that for UNIX environments that support mandatory file locking, the distinction between advisory and mandatory locking is subtle. In fact, advisory and mandatory byte-range locks are exactly the same in so far as the APIs and requirements on implementation. If the mandatory lock attribute is set on the file, the server checks to see if the lock-owner has an appropriate shared (read) or exclusive (write) byte-range lock on the region it wishes to read or write to. If there is no appropriate lock, the server checks if there is a conflicting lock (which can be done by attempting to acquire the conflicting lock on the behalf of the lock-owner, and if successful, release the lock after the READ or WRITE is done), and if there is, the server returns NFS4ERR\_LOCKED.

For Windows environments, there are no advisory byte-range locks, so the server always checks for byte-range locks during I/O requests.

Thus, the NFSv4 LOCK operation does not need to distinguish between advisory and mandatory byte-range locks. It is the NFS version 4 server's processing of the READ and WRITE operations that introduces the distinction.

Every stateid other than the special stateid values noted in this section, whether returned by an OPEN-type operation (i.e., OPEN, OPEN\_DOWNGRADE), or by a LOCK-type operation (i.e., LOCK or LOCKU), defines an access mode for the file (i.e., READ, WRITE, or READ-WRITE) as established by the original OPEN which began the stateid sequence, and as modified by subsequent OPENS and OPEN\_DOWNGRADES within that stateid sequence. When a READ, WRITE, or SETATTR which specifies the size attribute, is done, the operation is subject to checking against the access mode to verify that the operation is appropriate given the OPEN with which the operation is associated.

In the case of WRITE-type operations (i.e., WRITES and SETATTRs which set size), the server must verify that the access mode allows writing and return an NFS4ERR\_OPENMODE error if it does not. In the case, of READ, the server may perform the corresponding check on the access mode, or it may choose to allow READ on opens for WRITE only, to accommodate clients whose write implementation may unavoidably do reads (e.g., due to buffer cache constraints). However, even if READs are allowed in these circumstances, the server MUST still check for locks that conflict with the READ (e.g., another open specifying denial of READs). Note that a server which does enforce the access mode check on READs need not explicitly check for conflicting share reservations since the existence of OPEN for read access guarantees that no conflicting share reservation can exist.

A READ bypass stateid MAY allow READ operations to bypass locking checks at the server. However, WRITE operations with a READ bypass stateid MUST NOT bypass locking checks and are treated exactly the same as if an anonymous stateid were used.

A lock may not be granted while a READ or WRITE operation using one of the special stateids is being performed and the range of the lock request conflicts with the range of the READ or WRITE operation. For the purposes of this paragraph, a conflict occurs when a shared lock is requested and a WRITE operation is being performed, or an exclusive lock is requested and either a READ or a WRITE operation is being performed. A SETATTR that sets size is treated similarly to a WRITE as discussed above.

#### 9.1.7. Sequencing of Lock Requests

Locking is different than most NFS operations as it requires "at-most-one" semantics that are not provided by ONC RPC. ONC RPC over a reliable transport is not sufficient because a sequence of locking requests may span multiple TCP connections. In the face of retransmission or reordering, lock or unlock requests must have a well defined and consistent behavior. To accomplish this, each lock request contains a sequence number that is a consecutively increasing integer. Different state-owners have different sequences. The server maintains the last sequence number (L) received and the response that was returned. The server SHOULD assign a seqid value of one for the first request issued for any given state-owner. Subsequent values are arrived at by incrementing the seqid value, subject to wraparound as described in Section 9.1.3.

Note that for requests that contain a sequence number, for each state-owner, there should be no more than one outstanding request.

When a request is received, its sequence number (r) is compared to that of the last one received (L). Only if it has the correct next sequence, normally L + 1, is the request processed beyond the point of seqid checking. Given a properly-functioning client, the response to (r) must have been received before the last request (L) was sent. If a duplicate of last request (r == L) is received, the stored response is returned. If the sequence value received is any other value, it is rejected with the return of error NFS4ERR\_BAD\_SEQID. Sequence history is reinitialized whenever the SETCLIENTID/SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM sequence changes the client verifier.

It is critical the server maintain the last response sent to the client to provide a more reliable cache of duplicate non-idempotent requests than that of the traditional cache described in [Chet]. The traditional duplicate request cache uses a least recently used

algorithm for removing unneeded requests. However, the last lock request and response on a given state-owner must be cached as long as the lock state exists on the server.

The client MUST advance the sequence number for the CLOSE, LOCK, LOCKU, OPEN, OPEN\_CONFIRM, and OPEN\_DOWNGRADE operations. This is true even in the event that the previous operation that used the sequence number received an error. The only exception to this rule is if the previous operation received one of the following errors: NFS4ERR\_STALE\_CLIENTID, NFS4ERR\_STALE\_STATEID, NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID, NFS4ERR\_BAD\_SEQID, NFS4ERR\_BADXDR, NFS4ERR\_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR\_NOFILEHANDLE, or NFS4ERR\_MOVED.

#### 9.1.8. Recovery from Replayed Requests

As described above, the sequence number is per state-owner. As long as the server maintains the last sequence number received and follows the methods described above, there are no risks of a Byzantine router re-sending old requests. The server need only maintain the (state-owner, sequence number) state as long as there are open files or closed files with locks outstanding.

LOCK, LOCKU, OPEN, OPEN\_DOWNGRADE, and CLOSE each contain a sequence number and therefore the risk of the replay of these operations resulting in undesired effects is non-existent while the server maintains the state-owner state.

#### 9.1.9. Interactions of multiple sequence values

Some Operations may have multiple sources of data for request sequence checking and retransmission determination. Some Operations have multiple sequence values associated with multiple types of state-owners. In addition, such Operations may also have a stateid with its own seqid value, that will be checked for validity.

As noted above, there may be multiple sequence values to check. The following rules should be followed by the server in processing these multiple sequence values within a single operation.

- o When a sequence value associated with a state-owner is unavailable for checking because the state-owner is unknown to the server, it takes no part in the comparison.
- o When any of the state-owner sequence values are invalid, NFS4ERR\_BAD\_SEQID is returned. When a stateid sequence is checked, NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID, or NFS4ERR\_OLD\_STATEID is returned as appropriate, but NFS4ERR\_BAD\_SEQID has priority.

- o When any one of the sequence values matches a previous request, for a state-owner, it is treated as a retransmission and not re-executed. When the type of the operation does not match that originally used, NFS4ERR\_BAD\_SEQID is returned. When the server can determine that the request differs from the original it may return NFS4ERR\_BAD\_SEQID.
- o When multiple of the sequence values match previous operations, but the operations are not the same, NFS4ERR\_BAD\_SEQID is returned.
- o When there are no available sequence values available for comparison and the operation is an OPEN, the server indicates to the client that an OPEN\_CONFIRM is required, unless it can conclusively determine that confirmation is not required (e.g., by knowing that no open-owner state has ever been released for the current clientid).

#### 9.1.10. Releasing state-owner State

When a particular state-owner no longer holds open or file locking state at the server, the server may choose to release the sequence number state associated with the state-owner. The server may make this choice based on lease expiration, for the reclamation of server memory, or other implementation specific details. Note that when this is done, a retransmitted request, normally identified by a matching state-owner sequence may not be correctly recognized, so that the client will not receive the original response that it would have if the state-owner state was not released.

If the server were able to be sure that a given state-owner would never again be used by a client, such an issue could not arise. Even when the state-owner state is released and the client subsequently uses that state-owner, retransmitted requests will be detected as invalid and the request not executed, although the client may have a recovery path that is more complicated than simply getting the original response back transparently.

In any event, the server is able to safely release state-owner state (in the sense that retransmitted requests will not be erroneously acted upon) when the state-owner is not currently being utilized by the client (i.e., there are no open files associated with an open-owner and no lock stateids associated with a lock-owner). The server may choose to hold the state-owner state in order to simplify the recovery path, in the case in which retransmissions of currently active requests are received. However, the period for which it chooses to hold this state is implementation specific.

In the case that a LOCK, LOCKU, OPEN\_DOWNGRADE, or CLOSE is retransmitted after the server has previously released the state-owner state, the server will find that the state-owner has no files open and an error will be returned to the client. If the state-owner does have a file open, the stateid will not match and again an error is returned to the client.

#### 9.1.11. Use of Open Confirmation

In the case that an OPEN is retransmitted and the open-owner is being used for the first time or the open-owner state has been previously released by the server, the use of the OPEN\_CONFIRM operation will prevent incorrect behavior. When the server observes the use of the open-owner for the first time, it will direct the client to perform the OPEN\_CONFIRM for the corresponding OPEN. This sequence establishes the use of a open-owner and associated sequence number. Since the OPEN\_CONFIRM sequence connects a new open-owner on the server with an existing open-owner on a client, the sequence number may have any valid (i.e., non-zero) value. The OPEN\_CONFIRM step assures the server that the value received is the correct one. (see Section 15.20 for further details.)

There are a number of situations in which the requirement to confirm an OPEN would pose difficulties for the client and server, in that they would be prevented from acting in a timely fashion on information received, because that information would be provisional, subject to deletion upon non-confirmation. Fortunately, these are situations in which the server can avoid the need for confirmation when responding to open requests. The two constraints are:

- o The server must not bestow a delegation for any open which would require confirmation.
- o The server MUST NOT require confirmation on a reclaim-type open (i.e., one specifying claim type CLAIM\_PREVIOUS or CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV).

These constraints are related in that reclaim-type opens are the only ones in which the server may be required to send a delegation. For CLAIM\_NULL, sending the delegation is optional while for CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_CUR, no delegation is sent.

Delegations being sent with an open requiring confirmation are troublesome because recovering from non-confirmation adds undue complexity to the protocol while requiring confirmation on reclaim-type opens poses difficulties in that the inability to resolve the status of the reclaim until lease expiration may make it difficult to

have timely determination of the set of locks being reclaimed (since the grace period may expire).

Requiring open confirmation on reclaim-type opens is avoidable because of the nature of the environments in which such opens are done. For CLAIM\_PREVIOUS opens, this is immediately after server reboot, so there should be no time for open-owners to be created, found to be unused, and recycled. For CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV opens, we are dealing with either a client reboot situation or a network partition resulting in deletion of lease state (and returning NFS4ERR\_EXPIRED). A server which supports delegations can be sure that no open-owners for that client have been recycled since client initialization or deletion of lease state and thus can be confident that confirmation will not be required.

### 9.2. Lock Ranges

The protocol allows a lock-owner to request a lock with a byte range and then either upgrade or unlock a sub-range of the initial lock. It is expected that this will be an uncommon type of request. In any case, servers or server file systems may not be able to support sub-range lock semantics. In the event that a server receives a locking request that represents a sub-range of current locking state for the lock-owner, the server is allowed to return the error NFS4ERR\_LOCK\_RANGE to signify that it does not support sub-range lock operations. Therefore, the client should be prepared to receive this error and, if appropriate, report the error to the requesting application.

The client is discouraged from combining multiple independent locking ranges that happen to be adjacent into a single request since the server may not support sub-range requests and for reasons related to the recovery of file locking state in the event of server failure. As discussed in the Section 9.6.2 below, the server may employ certain optimizations during recovery that work effectively only when the client's behavior during lock recovery is similar to the client's locking behavior prior to server failure.

### 9.3. Upgrading and Downgrading Locks

If a client has a write lock on a record, it can request an atomic downgrade of the lock to a read lock via the LOCK request, by setting the type to READ\_LT. If the server supports atomic downgrade, the request will succeed. If not, it will return NFS4ERR\_LOCK\_NOTSUPP. The client should be prepared to receive this error, and if appropriate, report the error to the requesting application.

If a client has a read lock on a record, it can request an atomic upgrade of the lock to a write lock via the LOCK request by setting the type to WRITE\_LT or WRITEW\_LT. If the server does not support atomic upgrade, it will return NFS4ERR\_LOCK\_NOTSUPP. If the upgrade can be achieved without an existing conflict, the request will succeed. Otherwise, the server will return either NFS4ERR\_DENIED or NFS4ERR\_DEADLOCK. The error NFS4ERR\_DEADLOCK is returned if the client issued the LOCK request with the type set to WRITEW\_LT and the server has detected a deadlock. The client should be prepared to receive such errors and if appropriate, report the error to the requesting application.

#### 9.4. Blocking Locks

Some clients require the support of blocking locks. The NFS version 4 protocol must not rely on a callback mechanism and therefore is unable to notify a client when a previously denied lock has been granted. Clients have no choice but to continually poll for the lock. This presents a fairness problem. Two new lock types are added, READW and WRITEW, and are used to indicate to the server that the client is requesting a blocking lock. The server should maintain an ordered list of pending blocking locks. When the conflicting lock is released, the server may wait the lease period for the first waiting client to re-request the lock. After the lease period expires the next waiting client request is allowed the lock. Clients are required to poll at an interval sufficiently small that it is likely to acquire the lock in a timely manner. The server is not required to maintain a list of pending blocked locks as it is not used to provide correct operation but only to increase fairness. Because of the unordered nature of crash recovery, storing of lock state to stable storage would be required to guarantee ordered granting of blocking locks.

Servers may also note the lock types and delay returning denial of the request to allow extra time for a conflicting lock to be released, allowing a successful return. In this way, clients can avoid the burden of needlessly frequent polling for blocking locks. The server should take care in the length of delay in the event the client retransmits the request.

If a server receives a blocking lock request, denies it, and then later receives a nonblocking request for the same lock, which is also denied, then it should remove the lock in question from its list of pending blocking locks. Clients should use such a nonblocking request to indicate to the server that this is the last time they intend to poll for the lock, as may happen when the process requesting the lock is interrupted. This is a courtesy to the server, to prevent it from unnecessarily waiting a lease period

before granting other lock requests. However, clients are not required to perform this courtesy, and servers must not depend on them doing so. Also, clients must be prepared for the possibility that this final locking request will be accepted.

#### 9.5. Lease Renewal

The purpose of a lease is to allow a server to remove stale locks that are held by a client that has crashed or is otherwise unreachable. It is not a mechanism for cache consistency and lease renewals may not be denied if the lease interval has not expired.

The client can implicitly provide a positive indication that it is still active and that the associated state held at the server, for the client, is still valid. Any operation made with a valid clientid (DELEGPURGE, LOCK, LOCKT, OPEN, RELEASE\_LOCKOWNER, or RENEW) or a valid stateid (CLOSE, DELEGRETURN, LOCK, LOCKU, OPEN, OPEN\_CONFIRM, OPEN\_DOWNGRADE, READ, SETATTR, or WRITE) informs the server to renew all of the leases for that client (i.e., all those sharing a given client ID). In the latter case, the stateid must not be one of the special stateids (anonymous stateid or READ bypass stateid).

Note that if the client had restarted or rebooted, the client would not be making these requests without issuing the SETCLIENTID/SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM sequence. The use of the SETCLIENTID/SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM sequence (one that changes the client verifier) notifies the server to drop the locking state associated with the client. SETCLIENTID/SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM never renews a lease.

If the server has rebooted, the stateids (NFS4ERR\_STALE\_STATEID error) or the client ID (NFS4ERR\_STALE\_CLIENTID error) will not be valid hence preventing spurious renewals.

This approach allows for low overhead lease renewal which scales well. In the typical case no extra RPC calls are required for lease renewal and in the worst case one RPC is required every lease period (i.e., a RENEW operation). The number of locks held by the client is not a factor since all state for the client is involved with the lease renewal action.

Since all operations that create a new lease also renew existing leases, the server must maintain a common lease expiration time for all valid leases for a given client. This lease time can then be easily updated upon implicit lease renewal actions.

## 9.6. Crash Recovery

The important requirement in crash recovery is that both the client and the server know when the other has failed. Additionally, it is required that a client sees a consistent view of data across server restarts or reboots. All READ and WRITE operations that may have been queued within the client or network buffers must wait until the client has successfully recovered the locks protecting the READ and WRITE operations.

### 9.6.1. Client Failure and Recovery

In the event that a client fails, the server may recover the client's locks when the associated leases have expired. Conflicting locks from another client may only be granted after this lease expiration. If the client is able to restart or reinitialize within the lease period the client may be forced to wait the remainder of the lease period before obtaining new locks.

To minimize client delay upon restart, open and lock requests are associated with an instance of the client by a client supplied verifier. This verifier is part of the initial SETCLIENTID call made by the client. The server returns a client ID as a result of the SETCLIENTID operation. The client then confirms the use of the client ID with SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM. The client ID in combination with an opaque owner field is then used by the client to identify the open-owner for OPEN. This chain of associations is then used to identify all locks for a particular client.

Since the verifier will be changed by the client upon each initialization, the server can compare a new verifier to the verifier associated with currently held locks and determine that they do not match. This signifies the client's new instantiation and subsequent loss of locking state. As a result, the server is free to release all locks held which are associated with the old client ID which was derived from the old verifier.

Note that the verifier must have the same uniqueness properties of the verifier for the COMMIT operation.

### 9.6.2. Server Failure and Recovery

If the server loses locking state (usually as a result of a restart or reboot), it must allow clients time to discover this fact and re-establish the lost locking state. The client must be able to re-establish the locking state without having the server deny valid requests because the server has granted conflicting access to another client. Likewise, if there is the possibility that clients have not

yet re-established their locking state for a file, the server must disallow READ and WRITE operations for that file. The duration of this recovery period is equal to the duration of the lease period.

A client can determine that server failure (and thus loss of locking state) has occurred, when it receives one of two errors. The NFS4ERR\_STALE\_STATEID error indicates a stateid invalidated by a reboot or restart. The NFS4ERR\_STALE\_CLIENTID error indicates a client ID invalidated by reboot or restart. When either of these are received, the client must establish a new client ID (see Section 9.1.1) and re-establish the locking state as discussed below.

The period of special handling of locking and READs and WRITEs, equal in duration to the lease period, is referred to as the "grace period". During the grace period, clients recover locks and the associated state by reclaim-type locking requests (i.e., LOCK requests with reclaim set to true and OPEN operations with a claim type of either CLAIM\_PREVIOUS or CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV). During the grace period, the server must reject READ and WRITE operations and non-reclaim locking requests (i.e., other LOCK and OPEN operations) with an error of NFS4ERR\_GRACE.

If the server can reliably determine that granting a non-reclaim request will not conflict with reclamation of locks by other clients, the NFS4ERR\_GRACE error does not have to be returned and the non-reclaim client request can be serviced. For the server to be able to service READ and WRITE operations during the grace period, it must again be able to guarantee that no possible conflict could arise between an impending reclaim locking request and the READ or WRITE operation. If the server is unable to offer that guarantee, the NFS4ERR\_GRACE error must be returned to the client.

For a server to provide simple, valid handling during the grace period, the easiest method is to simply reject all non-reclaim locking requests and READ and WRITE operations by returning the NFS4ERR\_GRACE error. However, a server may keep information about granted locks in stable storage. With this information, the server could determine if a regular lock or READ or WRITE operation can be safely processed.

For example, if a count of locks on a given file is available in stable storage, the server can track reclaimed locks for the file and when all reclaims have been processed, non-reclaim locking requests may be processed. This way the server can ensure that non-reclaim locking requests will not conflict with potential reclaim requests. With respect to I/O requests, if the server is able to determine that there are no outstanding reclaim requests for a file by information

from stable storage or another similar mechanism, the processing of I/O requests could proceed normally for the file.

To reiterate, for a server that allows non-reclaim lock and I/O requests to be processed during the grace period, it MUST determine that no lock subsequently reclaimed will be rejected and that no lock subsequently reclaimed would have prevented any I/O operation processed during the grace period.

Clients should be prepared for the return of NFS4ERR\_GRACE errors for non-reclaim lock and I/O requests. In this case the client should employ a retry mechanism for the request. A delay (on the order of several seconds) between retries should be used to avoid overwhelming the server. Further discussion of the general issue is included in [Floyd]. The client must account for the server that is able to perform I/O and non-reclaim locking requests within the grace period as well as those that cannot do so.

A reclaim-type locking request outside the server's grace period can only succeed if the server can guarantee that no conflicting lock or I/O request has been granted since reboot or restart.

A server may, upon restart, establish a new value for the lease period. Therefore, clients should, once a new client ID is established, refetch the lease\_time attribute and use it as the basis for lease renewal for the lease associated with that server. However, the server must establish, for this restart event, a grace period at least as long as the lease period for the previous server instantiation. This allows the client state obtained during the previous server instance to be reliably re-established.

### 9.6.3. Network Partitions and Recovery

If the duration of a network partition is greater than the lease period provided by the server, the server will have not received a lease renewal from the client. If this occurs, the server may cancel the lease and free all locks held for the client. As a result, all stateids held by the client will become invalid or stale. Once the client is able to reach the server after such a network partition, all I/O submitted by the client with the now invalid stateids will fail with the server returning the error NFS4ERR\_EXPIRED. Once this error is received, the client will suitably notify the application that held the lock.

#### 9.6.3.1. Courtesy Locks

As a courtesy to the client or as an optimization, the server may continue to hold locks, including delegations, on behalf of a client for which recent communication has extended beyond the lease period, delaying the cancellation of the lease. If the server receives a lock or I/O request that conflicts with one of these courtesy locks or if it runs out of resources, the server MAY cause lease cancellation to occur at that time and henceforth return NFS4ERR\_EXPIRED when any of the stateids associated with the freed locks is used. If lease cancellation has not occurred and the server receives a lock or I/O request that conflicts with one of the courtesy locks, the requirements are as follows:

- o In the case of a courtesy lock which is not a delegation, it MUST free the courtesy lock and grant the new request.
- o In the case of lock or I/O request which conflicts with a delegation which is being held as courtesy lock, the server MAY delay resolution of request but MUST NOT reject the request and MUST free the delegation and grant the new request eventually.
- o In the case of a requests for a delegation which conflicts with a delegation which is being held as a courtesy lock, the server MAY grant the new request or not as it chooses, but if it grants the conflicting request, the delegation held as a courtesy lock MUST be freed.

If the server does not reboot or cancel the lease before the network partition is healed, when the original client tries to access a courtesy lock which was freed, the server SHOULD send back a NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID to the client. If the client tries to access a courtesy lock which was not freed, then the server SHOULD mark all of the courtesy locks as implicitly being renewed.

#### 9.6.3.2. Lease Cancellation

As a result of lease expiration, leases may be canceled, either immediately upon expiration or subsequently, depending on the occurrence of a conflicting lock or extension of the period of partition beyond what the server will tolerate.

When a lease is canceled, all locking state associated with it is freed and use of any the associated stateids will result in NFS4ERR\_EXPIRED being returned. Similarly, use of the associated clientid will result in NFS4ERR\_EXPIRED being returned.

The client should recover from this situation by using SETCLIENTID followed by SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM, in order to establish a new clientid. Once a lock is obtained using this clientid, a lease will be established.

#### 9.6.3.3. Client's Reaction to a Freed Lock

There is no way for a client to predetermine how a given server is going to behave during a network partition. When the partition heals, either the client still has all of its locks, it has some of its locks, or it has none of them. The client will be able to examine the various error return values to determine its response.

##### NFS4ERR\_EXPIRED:

All locks have been freed as a result of a lease cancellation which occurred during the partition. The client should use a SETCLIENTID to recover.

##### NFS4ERR\_ADMIN\_REVOKED:

The current lock has been revoked before, during, or after the partition. The client SHOULD handle this error as it normally would.

##### NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID:

The current lock has been revoked/released during the partition and the server did not reboot. Other locks MAY still be renewed. The client need not do a SETCLIENTID and instead SHOULD probe via a RENEW call.

##### NFS4ERR\_RECLAIM\_BAD:

The current lock has been revoked during the partition and the server rebooted. The server might have no information on the other locks. They may still be renewable.

##### NFS4ERR\_NO\_GRACE:

The client's locks have been revoked during the partition and the server rebooted. None of the client's locks will be renewable.

##### NFS4ERR\_OLD\_STATEID:

The server has not rebooted. The client SHOULD handle this error as it normally would.

#### 9.6.3.4. Edge Conditions

When a network partition is combined with a server reboot, then both the server and client have responsibilities to ensure that the client does not reclaim a lock which it should no longer be able to access. Briefly those are:

- o Client's responsibility: A client MUST NOT attempt to reclaim any locks which it did not hold at the end of its most recent successfully established client lease.
- o Server's responsibility: A server MUST NOT allow a client to reclaim a lock unless it knows that it could not have since granted a conflicting lock. However, in deciding whether a conflicting lock could have been granted, it is permitted to assume its clients are responsible, as above.

A server may consider a client's lease "successfully established" once it has received an open operation from that client.

The above are directed to CLAIM\_PREVIOUS reclaims and not to CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV reclaims, which generally do not involve a server reboot. However, when a server persistently stores delegation information to support CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV across a period in which both client and server are down at the same time, similar strictures apply.

The next sections give examples showing what can go wrong if these responsibilities are neglected, and provides examples of server implementation strategies that could meet a server's responsibilities.

##### 9.6.3.4.1. First Server Edge Condition

The first edge condition has the following scenario:

1. Client A acquires a lock.
2. Client A and server experience mutual network partition, such that client A is unable to renew its lease.
3. Client A's lease expires, so server releases lock.
4. Client B acquires a lock that would have conflicted with that of Client A.
5. Client B releases the lock

6. Server reboots
7. Network partition between client A and server heals.
8. Client A issues a RENEW operation, and gets back a NFS4ERR\_STALE\_CLIENTID.
9. Client A reclaims its lock within the server's grace period.

Thus, at the final step, the server has erroneously granted client A's lock reclaim. If client B modified the object the lock was protecting, client A will experience object corruption.

#### 9.6.3.4.2. Second Server Edge Condition

The second known edge condition follows:

1. Client A acquires a lock.
2. Server reboots.
3. Client A and server experience mutual network partition, such that client A is unable to reclaim its lock within the grace period.
4. Server's reclaim grace period ends. Client A has no locks recorded on server.
5. Client B acquires a lock that would have conflicted with that of Client A.
6. Client B releases the lock.
7. Server reboots a second time.
8. Network partition between client A and server heals.
9. Client A issues a RENEW operation, and gets back a NFS4ERR\_STALE\_CLIENTID.
10. Client A reclaims its lock within the server's grace period.

As with the first edge condition, the final step of the scenario of the second edge condition has the server erroneously granting client A's lock reclaim.

#### 9.6.3.4.3. Handling Server Edge Conditions

In both of the above examples, the client attempts reclaim of a lock that it held at the end of its most recent successfully established lease; thus, it has fulfilled its responsibility.

The server, however, has failed, by granting a reclaim, despite having granted a conflicting lock since the reclaimed lock was last held.

Solving these edge conditions requires that the server either assume after it reboots that edge condition occurs, and thus return NFS4ERR\_NO\_GRACE for all reclaim attempts, or that the server record some information in stable storage. The amount of information the server records in stable storage is in inverse proportion to how harsh the server wants to be whenever the edge conditions occur. The server that is completely tolerant of all edge conditions will record in stable storage every lock that is acquired, removing the lock record from stable storage only when the lock is unlocked by the client and the lock's owner advances the sequence number such that the lock release is not the last stateful event for the owner's sequence. For the two aforementioned edge conditions, the harshest a server can be, and still support a grace period for reclaims, requires that the server record in stable storage some minimal information. For example, a server implementation could, for each client, save in stable storage a record containing:

- o the client's id string
- o a boolean that indicates if the client's lease expired or if there was administrative intervention (see Section 9.8) to revoke a byte-range lock, share reservation, or delegation
- o a timestamp that is updated the first time after a server boot or reboot the client acquires byte-range locking, share reservation, or delegation state on the server. The timestamp need not be updated on subsequent lock requests until the server reboots.

The server implementation would also record in the stable storage the timestamps from the two most recent server reboots.

Assuming the above record keeping, for the first edge condition, after the server reboots, the record that client A's lease expired means that another client could have acquired a conflicting record lock, share reservation, or delegation. Hence the server must reject a reclaim from client A with the error NFS4ERR\_NO\_GRACE or NFS4ERR\_RECLAIM\_BAD.

For the second edge condition, after the server reboots for a second time, the record that the client had an unexpired record lock, share reservation, or delegation established before the server's previous incarnation means that the server must reject a reclaim from client A with the error NFS4ERR\_NO\_GRACE or NFS4ERR\_RECLAIM\_BAD.

Regardless of the level and approach to record keeping, the server MUST implement one of the following strategies (which apply to reclaims of share reservations, byte-range locks, and delegations):

1. Reject all reclaims with NFS4ERR\_NO\_GRACE. This is super harsh, but necessary if the server does not want to record lock state in stable storage.
2. Record sufficient state in stable storage to meet its responsibilities. In doubt, the server should err on the side of being harsh.

In the event that, after a server reboot, the server determines that there is unrecoverable damage or corruption to the stable storage, then for all clients and/or locks affected, the server MUST return NFS4ERR\_NO\_GRACE.

#### 9.6.3.4.4. Client Edge Condition

A third edge condition effects the client and not the server. If the server reboots in the middle of the client reclaiming some locks and then a network partition is established, the client might be in the situation of having reclaimed some, but not all locks. In that case, a conservative client would assume that the non-reclaimed locks were revoked.

The third known edge condition follows:

1. Client A acquires a lock 1.
2. Client A acquires a lock 2.
3. Server reboots.
4. Client A issues a RENEW operation, and gets back a NFS4ERR\_STALE\_CLIENTID.
5. Client A reclaims its lock 1 within the server's grace period.
6. Client A and server experience mutual network partition, such that client A is unable to reclaim its remaining locks within the grace period.

7. Server's reclaim grace period ends.
8. Client B acquires a lock that would have conflicted with Client A's lock 2.
9. Client B releases the lock.
10. Server reboots a second time.
11. Network partition between client A and server heals.
12. Client A issues a RENEW operation, and gets back a NFS4ERR\_STALE\_CLIENTID.
13. Client A reclaims both lock 1 and lock 2 within the server's grace period.

At the last step, the client reclaims lock 2 as if it had held that lock continuously, when in fact a conflicting lock was granted to client B.

This occurs because the client failed its responsibility, by attempting to reclaim lock 2 even though it had not held that lock at the end of the lease that was established by the SETCLIENTID after the first server reboot. (The client did hold lock 2 on a previous lease. But it is only the most recent lease that matters.)

A server could avoid this situation by rejecting the reclaim of lock 2. However, to do so accurately it would have to ensure that additional information about individual locks held survives reboot. Server implementations are not required to do that, so the client must not assume that the server will.

Instead, a client MUST reclaim only those locks which it successfully acquired from the previous server instance, omitting any that it failed to reclaim before a new reboot. Thus, in the last step above, client A should reclaim only lock 1.

#### 9.6.3.4.5. Client's Handling of Reclaim Errors

A mandate for the client's handling of the NFS4ERR\_NO\_GRACE and NFS4ERR\_RECLAIM\_BAD errors is outside the scope of this specification, since the strategies for such handling are very dependent on the client's operating environment. However, one potential approach is described below.

When the client's reclaim fails, it could examine the change attribute of the objects the client is trying to reclaim state for,

and use that to determine whether to re-establish the state via normal OPEN or LOCK requests. This is acceptable provided the client's operating environment allows it. In other words, the client implementer is advised to document for his users the behavior. The client could also inform the application that its byte-range lock or share reservations (whether they were delegated or not) have been lost, such as via a UNIX signal, a GUI pop-up window, etc. See Section 10.5, for a discussion of what the client should do for dealing with unreclaimed delegations on client state.

For further discussion of revocation of locks see Section 9.8.

#### 9.7. Recovery from a Lock Request Timeout or Abort

In the event a lock request times out, a client may decide to not retry the request. The client may also abort the request when the process for which it was issued is terminated (e.g., in UNIX due to a signal). It is possible though that the server received the request and acted upon it. This would change the state on the server without the client being aware of the change. It is paramount that the client re-synchronize state with server before it attempts any other operation that takes a seqid and/or a stateid with the same state-owner. This is straightforward to do without a special re-synchronize operation.

Since the server maintains the last lock request and response received on the state-owner, for each state-owner, the client should cache the last lock request it sent such that the lock request did not receive a response. From this, the next time the client does a lock operation for the state-owner, it can send the cached request, if there is one, and if the request was one that established state (e.g., a LOCK or OPEN operation), the server will return the cached result or if never saw the request, perform it. The client can follow up with a request to remove the state (e.g., a LOCKU or CLOSE operation). With this approach, the sequencing and stateid information on the client and server for the given state-owner will re-synchronize and in turn the lock state will re-synchronize.

#### 9.8. Server Revocation of Locks

At any point, the server can revoke locks held by a client and the client must be prepared for this event. When the client detects that its locks have been or may have been revoked, the client is responsible for validating the state information between itself and the server. Validating locking state for the client means that it must verify or reclaim state for each lock currently held.

The first instance of lock revocation is upon server reboot or re-initialization. In this instance the client will receive an error (NFS4ERR\_STALE\_STATEID or NFS4ERR\_STALE\_CLIENTID) and the client will proceed with normal crash recovery as described in the previous section.

The second lock revocation event is the inability to renew the lease before expiration. While this is considered a rare or unusual event, the client must be prepared to recover. Both the server and client will be able to detect the failure to renew the lease and are capable of recovering without data corruption. For the server, it tracks the last renewal event serviced for the client and knows when the lease will expire. Similarly, the client must track operations which will renew the lease period. Using the time that each such request was sent and the time that the corresponding reply was received, the client should bound the time that the corresponding renewal could have occurred on the server and thus determine if it is possible that a lease period expiration could have occurred.

The third lock revocation event can occur as a result of administrative intervention within the lease period. While this is considered a rare event, it is possible that the server's administrator has decided to release or revoke a particular lock held by the client. As a result of revocation, the client will receive an error of NFS4ERR\_ADMIN\_REVOKED. In this instance the client may assume that only the state-owner's locks have been lost. The client notifies the lock holder appropriately. The client cannot assume the lease period has been renewed as a result of a failed operation.

When the client determines the lease period may have expired, the client must mark all locks held for the associated lease as "unvalidated". This means the client has been unable to re-establish or confirm the appropriate lock state with the server. As described in Section 9.6, there are scenarios in which the server may grant conflicting locks after the lease period has expired for a client. When it is possible that the lease period has expired, the client must validate each lock currently held to ensure that a conflicting lock has not been granted. The client may accomplish this task by issuing an I/O request; if there is no relevant I/O pending, a zero-length read specifying the stateid associated with the lock in question can be synthesised to trigger the renewal. If the response to the request is success, the client has validated all of the locks governed by that stateid and re-established the appropriate state between itself and the server.

If the I/O request is not successful, then one or more of the locks associated with the stateid was revoked by the server and the client must notify the owner.

### 9.9. Share Reservations

A share reservation is a mechanism to control access to a file. It is a separate and independent mechanism from byte-range locking. When a client opens a file, it issues an OPEN operation to the server specifying the type of access required (READ, WRITE, or BOTH) and the type of access to deny others (OPEN4\_SHARE\_DENY\_NONE, OPEN4\_SHARE\_DENY\_READ, OPEN4\_SHARE\_DENY\_WRITE, or OPEN4\_SHARE\_DENY\_BOTH). If the OPEN fails the client will fail the application's open request.

Pseudo-code definition of the semantics:

```
if (request.access == 0)
    return (NFS4ERR_INVAL)
else if ((request.access & file_state.deny) ||
        (request.deny & file_state.access))
    return (NFS4ERR_DENIED)
```

This checking of share reservations on OPEN is done with no exception for an existing OPEN for the same open-owner.

The constants used for the OPEN and OPEN\_DOWNGRADE operations for the access and deny fields are as follows:

```
const OPEN4_SHARE_ACCESS_READ    = 0x00000001;
const OPEN4_SHARE_ACCESS_WRITE   = 0x00000002;
const OPEN4_SHARE_ACCESS_BOTH    = 0x00000003;

const OPEN4_SHARE_DENY_NONE      = 0x00000000;
const OPEN4_SHARE_DENY_READ     = 0x00000001;
const OPEN4_SHARE_DENY_WRITE    = 0x00000002;
const OPEN4_SHARE_DENY_BOTH     = 0x00000003;
```

### 9.10. OPEN/CLOSE Operations

To provide correct share semantics, a client MUST use the OPEN operation to obtain the initial filehandle and indicate the desired access and what access, if any, to deny. Even if the client intends to use one of the special stateids (anonymous stateid or READ bypass stateid), it must still obtain the filehandle for the regular file with the OPEN operation so the appropriate share semantics can be applied. Clients that do not have a deny mode built into their programming interfaces for opening a file should request a deny mode of OPEN4\_SHARE\_DENY\_NONE.

The OPEN operation with the CREATE flag, also subsumes the CREATE operation for regular files as used in previous versions of the NFS protocol. This allows a create with a share to be done atomically.

The CLOSE operation removes all share reservations held by the open-owner on that file. If byte-range locks are held, the client SHOULD release all locks before issuing a CLOSE. The server MAY free all outstanding locks on CLOSE but some servers may not support the CLOSE of a file that still has byte-range locks held. The server MUST return failure, NFS4ERR\_LOCKS\_HELD, if any locks would exist after the CLOSE.

The LOOKUP operation will return a filehandle without establishing any lock state on the server. Without a valid stateid, the server will assume the client has the least access. For example, if one client opened a file with OPEN4\_SHARE\_DENY\_BOTH and another client accesses the file via a filehandle obtained through LOOKUP, the second client could only read the file using the special READ bypass stateid. The second client could not WRITE the file at all because it would not have a valid stateid from OPEN and the special anonymous stateid would not be allowed access.

#### 9.10.1. Close and Retention of State Information

Since a CLOSE operation requests deallocation of a stateid, dealing with retransmission of the CLOSE, may pose special difficulties, since the state information, which normally would be used to determine the state of the open file being designated, might be deallocated, resulting in an NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID error.

Servers may deal with this problem in a number of ways. To provide the greatest degree assurance that the protocol is being used properly, a server should, rather than deallocate the stateid, mark it as close-pending, and retain the stateid with this status, until later deallocation. In this way, a retransmitted CLOSE can be recognized since the stateid points to state information with this distinctive status, so that it can be handled without error.

When adopting this strategy, a server should retain the state information until the earliest of:

- o Another validly sequenced request for the same open-owner, that is not a retransmission.
- o The time that an open-owner is freed by the server due to period with no activity.
- o All locks for the client are freed as a result of a SETCLIENTID.

Servers may avoid this complexity, at the cost of less complete protocol error checking, by simply responding NFS4\_OK in the event of a CLOSE for a deallocated stateid, on the assumption that this case must be caused by a retransmitted close. When adopting this approach, it is desirable to at least log an error when returning a no-error indication in this situation. If the server maintains a reply-cache mechanism, it can verify the CLOSE is indeed a retransmission and avoid error logging in most cases.

#### 9.11. Open Upgrade and Downgrade

When an OPEN is done for a file and the open-owner for which the open is being done already has the file open, the result is to upgrade the open file status maintained on the server to include the access and deny bits specified by the new OPEN as well as those for the existing OPEN. The result is that there is one open file, as far as the protocol is concerned, and it includes the union of the access and deny bits for all of the OPEN requests completed. Only a single CLOSE will be done to reset the effects of both OPENS. Note that the client, when issuing the OPEN, may not know that the same file is in fact being opened. The above only applies if both OPENS result in the OPENed object being designated by the same filehandle.

When the server chooses to export multiple filehandles corresponding to the same file object and returns different filehandles on two different OPENS of the same file object, the server MUST NOT "OR" together the access and deny bits and coalesce the two open files. Instead the server must maintain separate OPENS with separate stateids and will require separate CLOSEs to free them.

When multiple open files on the client are merged into a single open file object on the server, the close of one of the open files (on the client) may necessitate change of the access and deny status of the open file on the server. This is because the union of the access and deny bits for the remaining opens may be smaller (i.e., a proper subset) than previously. The OPEN\_DOWNGRADE operation is used to make the necessary change and the client should use it to update the server so that share reservation requests by other clients are handled properly. The stateid returned has the same "other" field as that passed to the server. The "seqid" value in the returned stateid MUST be incremented (Section 9.1.4), even in situations in which there has been no change to the access and deny bits for the file.

#### 9.12. Short and Long Leases

When determining the time period for the server lease, the usual lease tradeoffs apply. Short leases are good for fast server recovery at a cost of increased RENEW or READ (with zero length)

requests. Longer leases are certainly kinder and gentler to servers trying to handle very large numbers of clients. The number of RENEW requests drop in proportion to the lease time. The disadvantages of long leases are slower recovery after server failure (the server must wait for the leases to expire and the grace period to elapse before granting new lock requests) and increased file contention (if client fails to transmit an unlock request then server must wait for lease expiration before granting new locks).

Long leases are usable if the server is able to store lease state in non-volatile memory. Upon recovery, the server can reconstruct the lease state from its non-volatile memory and continue operation with its clients and therefore long leases would not be an issue.

#### 9.13. Clocks, Propagation Delay, and Calculating Lease Expiration

To avoid the need for synchronized clocks, lease times are granted by the server as a time delta. However, there is a requirement that the client and server clocks do not drift excessively over the duration of the lock. There is also the issue of propagation delay across the network which could easily be several hundred milliseconds as well as the possibility that requests will be lost and need to be retransmitted.

To take propagation delay into account, the client should subtract it from lease times (e.g., if the client estimates the one-way propagation delay as 200 msec, then it can assume that the lease is already 200 msec old when it gets it). In addition, it will take another 200 msec to get a response back to the server. So the client must send a lock renewal or write data back to the server 400 msec before the lease would expire.

The server's lease period configuration should take into account the network distance of the clients that will be accessing the server's resources. It is expected that the lease period will take into account the network propagation delays and other network delay factors for the client population. Since the protocol does not allow for an automatic method to determine an appropriate lease period, the server's administrator may have to tune the lease period.

#### 9.14. Migration, Replication and State

When responsibility for handling a given file system is transferred to a new server (migration) or the client chooses to use an alternative server (e.g., in response to server unresponsiveness) in the context of file system replication, the appropriate handling of state shared between the client and server (i.e., locks, leases, stateids, and client IDs) is as described below. The handling

differs between migration and replication. For related discussion of file server state and recover of such see the sections under Section 9.6.

If a server replica or a server immigrating a file system agrees to, or is expected to, accept opaque values from the client that originated from another server, then servers SHOULD encode the "opaque" values in network byte order. This way, servers acting as replicas or immigrating file systems will be able to parse values like stateids, directory cookies, filehandles, etc. even if their native byte order is different from other servers cooperating in the replication and migration of the file system.

#### 9.14.1. Migration and State

In the case of migration, the servers involved in the migration of a file system SHOULD transfer all server state from the original to the new server. This must be done in a way that is transparent to the client. This state transfer will ease the client's transition when a file system migration occurs. If the servers are successful in transferring all state, the client will continue to use stateids assigned by the original server. Therefore the new server must recognize these stateids as valid. This holds true for the client ID as well. Since responsibility for an entire file system is transferred with a migration event, there is no possibility that conflicts will arise on the new server as a result of the transfer of locks.

As part of the transfer of information between servers, leases would be transferred as well. The leases being transferred to the new server will typically have a different expiration time from those for the same client, previously on the old server. To maintain the property that all leases on a given server for a given client expire at the same time, the server should advance the expiration time to the later of the leases being transferred or the leases already present. This allows the client to maintain lease renewal of both classes without special effort.

The servers may choose not to transfer the state information upon migration. However, this choice is discouraged. In this case, when the client presents state information from the original server (e.g., in a RENEW op or a READ op of zero length), the client must be prepared to receive either NFS4ERR\_STALE\_CLIENTID or NFS4ERR\_STALE\_STATEID from the new server. The client should then recover its state information as it normally would in response to a server failure. The new server must take care to allow for the recovery of state information as it would in the event of server restart.

A client SHOULD re-establish new callback information with the new server as soon as possible, according to sequences described in Section 15.35 and Section 15.36. This ensures that server operations are not blocked by the inability to recall delegations.

#### 9.14.2. Replication and State

Since client switch-over in the case of replication is not under server control, the handling of state is different. In this case, leases, stateids and client IDs do not have validity across a transition from one server to another. The client must re-establish its locks on the new server. This can be compared to the re-establishment of locks by means of reclaim-type requests after a server reboot. The difference is that the server has no provision to distinguish requests reclaiming locks from those obtaining new locks or to defer the latter. Thus, a client re-establishing a lock on the new server (by means of a LOCK or OPEN request), may have the requests denied due to a conflicting lock. Since replication is intended for read-only use of file systems, such denial of locks should not pose large difficulties in practice. When an attempt to re-establish a lock on a new server is denied, the client should treat the situation as if his original lock had been revoked.

#### 9.14.3. Notification of Migrated Lease

In the case of lease renewal, the client may not be submitting requests for a file system that has been migrated to another server. This can occur because of the implicit lease renewal mechanism. The client renews leases for all file systems when submitting a request to any one file system at the server.

In order for the client to schedule renewal of leases that may have been relocated to the new server, the client must find out about lease relocation before those leases expire. To accomplish this, all operations which implicitly renew leases for a client (such as OPEN, CLOSE, READ, WRITE, RENEW, LOCK, and others), will return the error NFS4ERR\_LEASE\_MOVED if responsibility for any of the leases to be renewed has been transferred to a new server. This condition will continue until the client receives an NFS4ERR\_MOVED error and the server receives the subsequent GETATTR(fs\_locations) for an access to each file system for which a lease has been moved to a new server. By convention, the compound including the GETATTR(fs\_locations) SHOULD append a RENEW operation to permit the server to identify the client doing the access.

Upon receiving the NFS4ERR\_LEASE\_MOVED error, a client that supports file system migration MUST probe all file systems from that server on which it holds open state. Once the client has successfully probed

all those file systems which are migrated, the server MUST resume normal handling of stateful requests from that client.

In order to support legacy clients that do not handle the NFS4ERR\_LEASE\_MOVED error correctly, the server SHOULD time out after a wait of at least two lease periods, at which time it will resume normal handling of stateful requests from all clients. If a client attempts to access the migrated files, the server MUST reply NFS4ERR\_MOVED.

When the client receives an NFS4ERR\_MOVED error, the client can follow the normal process to obtain the new server information (through the fs\_locations attribute) and perform renewal of those leases on the new server. If the server has not had state transferred to it transparently, the client will receive either NFS4ERR\_STALE\_CLIENTID or NFS4ERR\_STALE\_STATEID from the new server, as described above. The client can then recover state information as it does in the event of server failure.

#### 9.14.4. Migration and the lease\_time Attribute

In order that the client may appropriately manage its leases in the case of migration, the destination server must establish proper values for the lease\_time attribute.

When state is transferred transparently, that state should include the correct value of the lease\_time attribute. The lease\_time attribute on the destination server must never be less than that on the source since this would result in premature expiration of leases granted by the source server. Upon migration in which state is transferred transparently, the client is under no obligation to re-fetch the lease\_time attribute and may continue to use the value previously fetched (on the source server).

If state has not been transferred transparently (i.e., the client sees a real or simulated server reboot), the client should fetch the value of lease\_time on the new (i.e., destination) server, and use it for subsequent locking requests. However the server must respect a grace period at least as long as the lease\_time on the source server, in order to ensure that clients have ample time to reclaim their locks before potentially conflicting non-reclaimed locks are granted. The means by which the new server obtains the value of lease\_time on the old server is left to the server implementations. It is not specified by the NFS version 4 protocol.

## 10. Client-Side Caching

Client-side caching of data, of file attributes, and of file names is essential to providing good performance with the NFS protocol. Providing distributed cache coherence is a difficult problem and previous versions of the NFS protocol have not attempted it. Instead, several NFS client implementation techniques have been used to reduce the problems that a lack of coherence poses for users. These techniques have not been clearly defined by earlier protocol specifications and it is often unclear what is valid or invalid client behavior.

The NFSv4 protocol uses many techniques similar to those that have been used in previous protocol versions. The NFSv4 protocol does not provide distributed cache coherence. However, it defines a more limited set of caching guarantees to allow locks and share reservations to be used without destructive interference from client side caching.

In addition, the NFSv4 protocol introduces a delegation mechanism which allows many decisions normally made by the server to be made locally by clients. This mechanism provides efficient support of the common cases where sharing is infrequent or where sharing is read-only.

### 10.1. Performance Challenges for Client-Side Caching

Caching techniques used in previous versions of the NFS protocol have been successful in providing good performance. However, several scalability challenges can arise when those techniques are used with very large numbers of clients. This is particularly true when clients are geographically distributed which classically increases the latency for cache re-validation requests.

The previous versions of the NFS protocol repeat their file data cache validation requests at the time the file is opened. This behavior can have serious performance drawbacks. A common case is one in which a file is only accessed by a single client. Therefore, sharing is infrequent.

In this case, repeated reference to the server to find that no conflicts exist is expensive. A better option with regards to performance is to allow a client that repeatedly opens a file to do so without reference to the server. This is done until potentially conflicting operations from another client actually occur.

A similar situation arises in connection with file locking. Sending file lock and unlock requests to the server as well as the read and

write requests necessary to make data caching consistent with the locking semantics (see Section 10.3.2) can severely limit performance. When locking is used to provide protection against infrequent conflicts, a large penalty is incurred. This penalty may discourage the use of file locking by applications.

The NFSv4 protocol provides more aggressive caching strategies with the following design goals:

- o Compatibility with a large range of server semantics.
- o Provide the same caching benefits as previous versions of the NFS protocol when unable to provide the more aggressive model.
- o Requirements for aggressive caching are organized so that a large portion of the benefit can be obtained even when not all of the requirements can be met.

The appropriate requirements for the server are discussed in later sections in which specific forms of caching are covered (see Section 10.4).

## 10.2. Delegation and Callbacks

Recallable delegation of server responsibilities for a file to a client improves performance by avoiding repeated requests to the server in the absence of inter-client conflict. With the use of a "callback" RPC from server to client, a server recalls delegated responsibilities when another client engages in sharing of a delegated file.

A delegation is passed from the server to the client, specifying the object of the delegation and the type of delegation. There are different types of delegations but each type contains a stateid to be used to represent the delegation when performing operations that depend on the delegation. This stateid is similar to those associated with locks and share reservations but differs in that the stateid for a delegation is associated with a client ID and may be used on behalf of all the open-owners for the given client. A delegation is made to the client as a whole and not to any specific process or thread of control within it.

Because callback RPCs may not work in all environments (due to firewalls, for example), correct protocol operation does not depend on them. Preliminary testing of callback functionality by means of a CB\_NULL procedure determines whether callbacks can be supported. The CB\_NULL procedure checks the continuity of the callback path. A server makes a preliminary assessment of callback availability to a

given client and avoids delegating responsibilities until it has determined that callbacks are supported. Because the granting of a delegation is always conditional upon the absence of conflicting access, clients must not assume that a delegation will be granted and they must always be prepared for OPENS to be processed without any delegations being granted.

Once granted, a delegation behaves in most ways like a lock. There is an associated lease that is subject to renewal together with all of the other leases held by that client.

Unlike locks, an operation by a second client to a delegated file will cause the server to recall a delegation through a callback.

On recall, the client holding the delegation must flush modified state (such as modified data) to the server and return the delegation. The conflicting request will not be acted on until the recall is complete. The recall is considered complete when the client returns the delegation or the server times out its wait for the delegation to be returned and revokes the delegation as a result of the timeout. In the interim, the server will either delay responding to conflicting requests or respond to them with NFS4ERR\_DELAY. Following the resolution of the recall, the server has the information necessary to grant or deny the second client's request.

At the time the client receives a delegation recall, it may have substantial state that needs to be flushed to the server. Therefore, the server should allow sufficient time for the delegation to be returned since it may involve numerous RPCs to the server. If the server is able to determine that the client is diligently flushing state to the server as a result of the recall, the server MAY extend the usual time allowed for a recall. However, the time allowed for recall completion should not be unbounded.

An example of this is when responsibility to mediate opens on a given file is delegated to a client (see Section 10.4). The server will not know what opens are in effect on the client. Without this knowledge the server will be unable to determine if the access and deny state for the file allows any particular open until the delegation for the file has been returned.

A client failure or a network partition can result in failure to respond to a recall callback. In this case, the server will revoke the delegation which in turn will render useless any modified state still on the client.

Clients need to be aware that server implementers may enforce practical limitations on the number of delegations issued. Further, as there is no way to determine which delegations to revoke, the server is allowed to revoke any. If the server is implemented to revoke another delegation held by that client, then the client may be able to determine that a limit has been reached because each new delegation request results in a revoke. The client could then determine which delegations it may not need and preemptively release them.

#### 10.2.1. Delegation Recovery

There are three situations that delegation recovery must deal with:

- o Client reboot or restart
- o Server reboot or restart (see Section 9.6.3.1)
- o Network partition (full or callback-only)

In the event the client reboots or restarts, the confirmation of a SETCLIENTID done with an `nfs_client_id4` with a new `verifier4` value will result in the release of byte-range locks and share reservations. Delegations, however, may be treated a bit differently.

There will be situations in which delegations will need to be reestablished after a client reboots or restarts. The reason for this is the client may have file data stored locally and this data was associated with the previously held delegations. The client will need to reestablish the appropriate file state on the server.

To allow for this type of client recovery, the server MAY allow delegations to be retained after other sort of locks are released. This implies that requests from other clients that conflict with these delegations will need to wait. Because the normal recall process may require significant time for the client to flush changed state to the server, other clients need to be prepared for delays that occur because of a conflicting delegation. In order to give clients a chance to get through the reboot process during which leases will not be renewed, the server MAY extend the period for delegation recovery beyond the typical lease expiration period. For open delegations, such delegations that are not released are reclaimed using OPEN with a claim type of `CLAIM_DELEGATE_PREV`. (See Section 10.5 and Section 15.18 for discussion of open delegation and the details of OPEN respectively).

A server MAY support a claim type of CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV, but if it does, it MUST NOT remove delegations upon SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM and instead MUST make them available for client reclaim using CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV. The server MUST NOT remove the delegations until either the client does a DELEGPURGE, or one lease period has elapsed from the time the later of the SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM or the last successful CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV reclaim.

Note that the requirement stated above is not meant to imply that when the server is no longer obliged, as required above, to retain delegation information, that it should necessarily dispose of it. Some specific cases are:

- o When the period is terminated by the occurrence of DELEGPURGE, deletion of unreclaimed delegations is appropriate and desirable.
- o When the period is terminated by a lease period elapsing without a successful CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV reclaim, and that situation appears to be the result of a network partition (i.e., lease expiration has occurred), a server's lease expiration approach, possibly including the use of courtesy locks would normally provide for the retention of unreclaimed delegations. Even in the event that lease cancellation occurs, such delegation should be reclaimed using CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV as part of network partition recovery.
- o When the period of non-communicating is followed by a client reboot, unreclaimed delegations, should also be reclaimable by use of CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV as part of client reboot recovery.
- o When the period is terminated by a lease period elapsing without a successful CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV reclaim, and lease renewal is occurring, the server may well conclude that unreclaimed delegations have been abandoned, and consider the situation as one in which an implied DELEGPURGE should be assumed.

A server that supports a claim type of CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV MUST support the DELEGPURGE operation, and similarly a server that supports DELEGPURGE MUST support CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV. A server which does not support CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV MUST return NFS4ERR\_NOTSUPP if the client attempts to use that feature or performs a DELEGPURGE operation.

Support for a claim type of CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV, is often referred to as providing for "client-persistent delegations" in that they allow use of client persistent storage on the client to store data written by the client, even across a client restart. It should be noted that, with the optional exception noted below, this feature requires

persistent storage to be used on the client and does not add to persistent storage requirements on the server.

One good way to think about client-persistent delegations is that for the most part, they function like "courtesy locks", with special semantic adjustments to allow them to be retained across a client restart, which cause all other sorts of locks to be freed. Such locks are generally not retained across a server restart. The one exception is the case of simultaneous failure of the client and server and is discussed below.

When the server indicates support of CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV (implicitly) by returning NFS\_OK to DELEGPURGE, a client with a write delegation, can use write-back caching for data to be written to the server, deferring the write-back, until such time as the delegation is recalled, possibly after intervening client restarts. Similarly, when the server indicates support of CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV, a client with a read delegation and an open-for-write subordinate to that delegation, may be sure of the integrity of its persistently cached copy of the file after a client restart without specific verification of the change attribute.

When the server reboots or restarts, delegations are reclaimed (using the OPEN operation with CLAIM\_PREVIOUS) in a similar fashion to byte-range locks and share reservations. However, there is a slight semantic difference. In the normal case, if the server decides that a delegation should not be granted, it performs the requested action (e.g., OPEN) without granting any delegation. For reclaim, the server grants the delegation but a special designation is applied so that the client treats the delegation as having been granted but recalled by the server. Because of this, the client has the duty to write all modified state to the server and then return the delegation. This process of handling delegation reclaim reconciles three principles of the NFSv4 protocol:

- o Upon reclaim, a client claiming resources assigned to it by an earlier server instance must be granted those resources.
- o The server has unquestionable authority to determine whether delegations are to be granted and, once granted, whether they are to be continued.
- o The use of callbacks is not to be depended upon until the client has proven its ability to receive them.

When a client has more than a single open associated with a delegation, state for those additional opens can be established using OPEN operations of type CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_CUR. When these are used to

establish opens associated with reclaimed delegations, the server MUST allow them when made within the grace period.

Situations in which there is a series of client and server restarts where there is no restart of both at the same time, are dealt with via a combination of CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV and CLAIM\_PREVIOUS reclaim cycles. Persistent storage is needed only on the client. For each server failure, a CLAIM\_PREVIOUS reclaim cycle is done, while for each client restart, a CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV reclaim cycle is done.

To deal with the possibility of simultaneous failure of client and server (e.g., a data center power outage), the server MAY persistently store delegation information so that it can respond to a CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV reclaim request which it receives from a restarting client. This is the one case in which persistent delegation state can be retained across a server restart. A server is not required to store this information, but if it does do so, it should do so for write delegations and for read delegations, during the pendency of which (across multiple client and/or server instances), some open-for-write was done as part of delegation. When the space to persistently record such information is limited, the server should recall delegations in this class in preference to keeping them active without persistent storage recording.

When a network partition occurs, delegations are subject to freeing by the server when the lease renewal period expires. This is similar to the behavior for locks and share reservations, and, as for locks and share reservations it may be modified by support for "courtesy locks" in which locks are not freed in the absence of a conflicting lock request. Whereas, for locks and share reservations, freeing of locks will occur immediately upon the appearance of a conflicting request, for delegations, the server MAY institute period during which conflicting requests are held off. Eventually the occurrence of a conflicting request from another client will cause revocation of the delegation.

A loss of the callback path (e.g., by later network configuration change) will have a similar effect in that it can also result in revocation of a delegation. A recall request will fail and revocation of the delegation will result.

A client normally finds out about revocation of a delegation when it uses a stateid associated with a delegation and receives one of the errors NFS4ERR\_EXPIRED, NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID, or NFS4ERR\_ADMIN\_REVOKED (NFS4ERR\_EXPIRED indicates that all lock state associated with the client has been lost). It also may find out about delegation revocation after a client reboot when it attempts to reclaim a delegation and receives NFS4ERR\_EXPIRED. Note that in the case of a

revoked OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation, there are issues because data may have been modified by the client whose delegation is revoked and separately by other clients. See Section 10.5.1 for a discussion of such issues. Note also that when delegations are revoked, information about the revoked delegation will be written by the server to stable storage (as described in Section 9.6). This is done to deal with the case in which a server reboots after revoking a delegation but before the client holding the revoked delegation is notified about the revocation.

Note that when there is a loss of a delegation, due to a network partition in which all locks associated with the lease are lost, the client will also receive the error NFS4ERR\_EXPIRED. This case can be distinguished from other situations in which delegations are revoked by seeing that the associated clientid becomes invalid so that NFS4ERR\_STALE\_CLIENTID is returned when it is used.

When NFS4ERR\_EXPIRED is returned, the server MAY retain information about the delegations held by the client, deleting those that are invalidated by a conflicting request. Retaining such information will allow the client to recover all non-invalidated delegations using the claim type CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV, once the SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM is done to recover. Attempted recovery of a delegation that the client has no record of, typically because they were invalidated by conflicting requests, will get the error NFS4ERR\_BAD\_RECLAIM. Once a reclaim is attempted for all delegations that the client held, it SHOULD do a DELEGPURGE to allow any remaining server delegation information to be freed.

### 10.3. Data Caching

When applications share access to a set of files, they need to be implemented so as to take account of the possibility of conflicting access by another application. This is true whether the applications in question execute on different clients or reside on the same client.

Share reservations and byte-range locks are the facilities the NFS version 4 protocol provides to allow applications to coordinate access by providing mutual exclusion facilities. The NFSv4 protocol's data caching must be implemented such that it does not invalidate the assumptions that those using these facilities depend upon.

### 10.3.1. Data Caching and OPENS

In order to avoid invalidating the sharing assumptions that applications rely on, NFSv4 clients should not provide cached data to applications or modify it on behalf of an application when it would not be valid to obtain or modify that same data via a READ or WRITE operation.

Furthermore, in the absence of open delegation (see Section 10.4) two additional rules apply. Note that these rules are obeyed in practice by many NFSv2 and NFSv3 clients.

- o First, cached data present on a client must be revalidated after doing an OPEN. Revalidating means that the client fetches the change attribute from the server, compares it with the cached change attribute, and if different, declares the cached data (as well as the cached attributes) as invalid. This is to ensure that the data for the OPENed file is still correctly reflected in the client's cache. This validation must be done at least when the client's OPEN operation includes DENY=WRITE or BOTH thus terminating a period in which other clients may have had the opportunity to open the file with WRITE access. Clients may choose to do the revalidation more often (such as at OPENS specifying DENY=NONE) to parallel the NFSv3 protocol's practice for the benefit of users assuming this degree of cache revalidation.

Since the change attribute is updated for data and metadata modifications, some client implementers may be tempted to use the time\_modify attribute and not the change attribute to validate cached data, so that metadata changes do not spuriously invalidate clean data. The implementer is cautioned against this approach. The change attribute is guaranteed to change for each update to the file, whereas time\_modify is guaranteed to change only at the granularity of the time\_delta attribute. Use by the client's data cache validation logic of time\_modify and not the change attribute runs the risk of the client incorrectly marking stale data as valid.

- o Second, modified data must be flushed to the server before closing a file OPENed for write. This is complementary to the first rule. If the data is not flushed at CLOSE, the revalidation done after the client OPENS a file is unable to achieve its purpose. The other aspect to flushing the data before close is that the data must be committed to stable storage, at the server, before the CLOSE operation is requested by the client. In the case of a server reboot or restart and a CLOSED file, it may not be possible

to retransmit the data to be written to the file. Hence, this requirement.

#### 10.3.2. Data Caching and File Locking

For those applications that choose to use file locking instead of share reservations to exclude inconsistent file access, there is an analogous set of constraints that apply to client side data caching. These rules are effective only if the file locking is used in a way that matches in an equivalent way the actual READ and WRITE operations executed. This is as opposed to file locking that is based on pure convention. For example, it is possible to manipulate a two-megabyte file by dividing the file into two one-megabyte regions and protecting access to the two regions by file locks on bytes zero and one. A lock for write on byte zero of the file would represent the right to do READ and WRITE operations on the first region. A lock for write on byte one of the file would represent the right to do READ and WRITE operations on the second region. As long as all applications manipulating the file obey this convention, they will work on a local file system. However, they may not work with the NFSv4 protocol unless clients refrain from data caching.

The rules for data caching in the file locking environment are:

- o First, when a client obtains a file lock for a particular region, the data cache corresponding to that region (if any cached data exists) must be revalidated. If the change attribute indicates that the file may have been updated since the cached data was obtained, the client must flush or invalidate the cached data for the newly locked region. A client might choose to invalidate all of non-modified cached data that it has for the file but the only requirement for correct operation is to invalidate all of the data in the newly locked region.
- o Second, before releasing a write lock for a region, all modified data for that region must be flushed to the server. The modified data must also be written to stable storage.

Note that flushing data to the server and the invalidation of cached data must reflect the actual byte ranges locked or unlocked. Rounding these up or down to reflect client cache block boundaries will cause problems if not carefully done. For example, writing a modified block when only half of that block is within an area being unlocked may cause invalid modification to the region outside the unlocked area. This, in turn, may be part of a region locked by another client. Clients can avoid this situation by synchronously performing portions of write operations that overlap that portion (initial or final) that is not a full block. Similarly, invalidating

a locked area which is not an integral number of full buffer blocks would require the client to read one or two partial blocks from the server if the revalidation procedure shows that the data which the client possesses may not be valid.

The data that is written to the server as a prerequisite to the unlocking of a region must be written, at the server, to stable storage. The client may accomplish this either with synchronous writes or by following asynchronous writes with a COMMIT operation. This is required because retransmission of the modified data after a server reboot might conflict with a lock held by another client.

A client implementation may choose to accommodate applications which use byte-range locking in non-standard ways (e.g., using a byte-range lock as a global semaphore) by flushing to the server more data upon a LOCKU than is covered by the locked range. This may include modified data within files other than the one for which the unlocks are being done. In such cases, the client must not interfere with applications whose READs and WRITEs are being done only within the bounds of record locks which the application holds. For example, an application locks a single byte of a file and proceeds to write that single byte. A client that chose to handle a LOCKU by flushing all modified data to the server could validly write that single byte in response to an unrelated unlock. However, it would not be valid to write the entire block in which that single written byte was located since it includes an area that is not locked and might be locked by another client. Client implementations can avoid this problem by dividing files with modified data into those for which all modifications are done to areas covered by an appropriate byte-range lock and those for which there are modifications not covered by a byte-range lock. Any writes done for the former class of files must not include areas not locked and thus not modified on the client.

#### 10.3.3. Data Caching and Mandatory File Locking

Client side data caching needs to respect mandatory file locking when it is in effect. The presence of mandatory file locking for a given file is indicated when the client gets back NFS4ERR\_LOCKED from a READ or WRITE on a file it has an appropriate share reservation for. When mandatory locking is in effect for a file, the client must check for an appropriate file lock for data being read or written. If a lock exists for the range being read or written, the client may satisfy the request using the client's validated cache. If an appropriate file lock is not held for the range of the read or write, the read or write request must not be satisfied by the client's cache and the request must be sent to the server for processing. When a read or write request partially overlaps a locked region, the request

should be subdivided into multiple pieces with each region (locked or not) treated appropriately.

#### 10.3.4. Data Caching and File Identity

When clients cache data, the file data needs to be organized according to the file system object to which the data belongs. For NFSv3 clients, the typical practice has been to assume for the purpose of caching that distinct filehandles represent distinct file system objects. The client then has the choice to organize and maintain the data cache on this basis.

In the NFSv4 protocol, there is now the possibility to have significant deviations from a "one filehandle per object" model because a filehandle may be constructed on the basis of the object's pathname. Therefore, clients need a reliable method to determine if two filehandles designate the same file system object. If clients were simply to assume that all distinct filehandles denote distinct objects and proceed to do data caching on this basis, caching inconsistencies would arise between the distinct client side objects which mapped to the same server side object.

By providing a method to differentiate filehandles, the NFSv4 protocol alleviates a potential functional regression in comparison with the NFSv3 protocol. Without this method, caching inconsistencies within the same client could occur and this has not been present in previous versions of the NFS protocol. Note that it is possible to have such inconsistencies with applications executing on multiple clients but that is not the issue being addressed here.

For the purposes of data caching, the following steps allow an NFSv4 client to determine whether two distinct filehandles denote the same server side object:

- o If GETATTR directed to two filehandles returns different values of the fsid attribute, then the filehandles represent distinct objects.
- o If GETATTR for any file with an fsid that matches the fsid of the two filehandles in question returns a `unique_handles` attribute with a value of `TRUE`, then the two objects are distinct.
- o If GETATTR directed to the two filehandles does not return the `fileid` attribute for both of the handles, then it cannot be determined whether the two objects are the same. Therefore, operations which depend on that knowledge (e.g., client side data caching) cannot be done reliably. Note that if GETATTR does not return the `fileid` attribute for both filehandles, it will return

it for neither of the filehandles, since the fsid for both filehandles is the same.

- o If GETATTR directed to the two filehandles returns different values for the fileid attribute, then they are distinct objects.
- o Otherwise they are the same object.

#### 10.4. Open Delegation

When a file is being OPENed, the server may delegate further handling of opens and closes for that file to the opening client. Any such delegation is recallable, since the circumstances that allowed for the delegation are subject to change. In particular, the server may receive a conflicting OPEN from another client, the server must recall the delegation before deciding whether the OPEN from the other client may be granted. Making a delegation is up to the server and clients should not assume that any particular OPEN either will or will not result in an open delegation. The following is a typical set of conditions that servers might use in deciding whether OPEN should be delegated:

- o The client must be able to respond to the server's callback requests. The server will use the CB\_NULL procedure for a test of callback ability.
- o The client must have responded properly to previous recalls.
- o There must be no current open conflicting with the requested delegation.
- o There should be no current delegation that conflicts with the delegation being requested.
- o The probability of future conflicting open requests should be low based on the recent history of the file.
- o The existence of any server-specific semantics of OPEN/CLOSE that would make the required handling incompatible with the prescribed handling that the delegated client would apply (see below).

There are two types of open delegations, OPEN\_DELEGATE\_READ and OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE. A OPEN\_DELEGATE\_READ delegation allows a client to handle, on its own, requests to open a file for reading that do not deny read access to others. It MUST, however, continue to send all requests to open a file for writing to the server. Multiple OPEN\_DELEGATE\_READ delegations may be outstanding simultaneously and do not conflict. A OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation allows the client

to handle, on its own, all opens. Only one `OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation may exist for a given file at a given time and it is inconsistent with any `OPEN_DELEGATE_READ` delegations.

When a single client holds a `OPEN_DELEGATE_READ` delegation, it is assured that no other client may modify the contents or attributes of the file. If more than one client holds an `OPEN_DELEGATE_READ` delegation, then the contents and attributes of that file are not allowed to change. When a client has an `OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation, it may modify the file data since no other client will be accessing the file's data. The client holding a `OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation may only affect file attributes which are intimately connected with the file data: `size`, `time_modify`, `change`.

When a client has an open delegation, it does not send `OPENS` or `CLOSES` to the server but updates the appropriate status internally. For a `OPEN_DELEGATE_READ` delegation, opens that cannot be handled locally (opens for write or that deny read access) must be sent to the server.

When an open delegation is made, the response to the `OPEN` contains an open delegation structure which specifies the following:

- o the type of delegation (read or write)
- o space limitation information to control flushing of data on close (`OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation only, see Section 10.4.1)
- o an `nfsace4` specifying read and write permissions
- o a `stateid` to represent the delegation for `READ` and `WRITE`

The delegation `stateid` is separate and distinct from the `stateid` for the `OPEN` proper. The standard `stateid`, unlike the delegation `stateid`, is associated with a particular open-owner and will continue to be valid after the delegation is recalled and the file remains open.

When a request internal to the client is made to open a file and open delegation is in effect, it will be accepted or rejected solely on the basis of the following conditions. Any requirement for other checks to be made by the delegate should result in open delegation being denied so that the checks can be made by the server itself.

- o The access and deny bits for the request and the file as described in Section 9.9.
- o The read and write permissions as determined below.

The `nfsace4` passed with delegation can be used to avoid frequent `ACCESS` calls. The permission check should be as follows:

- o If the `nfsace4` indicates that the open may be done, then it should be granted without reference to the server.
- o If the `nfsace4` indicates that the open may not be done, then an `ACCESS` request must be sent to the server to obtain the definitive answer.

The server may return an `nfsace4` that is more restrictive than the actual ACL of the file. This includes an `nfsace4` that specifies denial of all access. Note that some common practices such as mapping the traditional user "root" to the user "nobody" may make it incorrect to return the actual ACL of the file in the delegation response.

The use of delegation together with various other forms of caching creates the possibility that no server authentication will ever be performed for a given user since all of the user's requests might be satisfied locally. Where the client is depending on the server for authentication, the client should be sure authentication occurs for each user by use of the `ACCESS` operation. This should be the case even if an `ACCESS` operation would not be required otherwise. As mentioned before, the server may enforce frequent authentication by returning an `nfsace4` denying all access with every open delegation.

#### 10.4.1. Open Delegation and Data Caching

`OPEN` delegation allows much of the message overhead associated with the opening and closing files to be eliminated. An open when an open delegation is in effect does not require that a validation message be sent to the server unless there exists a potential for conflict with the requested share mode. The continued endurance of the "`OPEN_DELEGATE_READ` delegation" provides a guarantee that no `OPEN` for write and thus no write has occurred that did not originate from this client. Similarly, when closing a file opened for write and if `OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation is in effect, the data written does not have to be flushed to the server until the open delegation is recalled. The continued endurance of the open delegation provides a guarantee that no open and thus no read or write has been done by another client.

For the purposes of open delegation, `READs` and `WRITEs` done without an `OPEN` (anonymous and `READ` bypass stateids) are treated as the functional equivalents of a corresponding type of `OPEN`. `READs` and `WRITEs` done with an anonymous stateid done by another client will force the server to recall a `OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation. A `WRITE`

with an anonymous stateid done by another client will force a recall of OPEN\_DELEGATE\_READ delegations. The handling of a READ bypass stateid is identical except that a READ done with a READ bypass stateid will not force a recall of an OPEN\_DELEGATE\_READ delegation.

With delegations, a client is able to avoid writing data to the server when the CLOSE of a file is serviced. The file close system call is the usual point at which the client is notified of a lack of stable storage for the modified file data generated by the application. At the close, file data is written to the server and through normal accounting the server is able to determine if the available file system space for the data has been exceeded (i.e., server returns NFS4ERR\_NOSPC or NFS4ERR\_DQUOT). This accounting includes quotas. The introduction of delegations requires that an alternative method be in place for the same type of communication to occur between client and server.

In the delegation response, the server provides either the limit of the size of the file or the number of modified blocks and associated block size. The server must ensure that the client will be able to flush data to the server of a size equal to that provided in the original delegation. The server must make this assurance for all outstanding delegations. Therefore, the server must be careful in its management of available space for new or modified data taking into account available file system space and any applicable quotas. The server can recall delegations as a result of managing the available file system space. The client should abide by the server's state space limits for delegations. If the client exceeds the stated limits for the delegation, the server's behavior is undefined.

Based on server conditions, quotas or available file system space, the server may grant OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegations with very restrictive space limitations. The limitations may be defined in a way that will always force modified data to be flushed to the server on close.

With respect to authentication, flushing modified data to the server after a CLOSE has occurred may be problematic. For example, the user of the application may have logged off the client and unexpired authentication credentials may not be present. In this case, the client may need to take special care to ensure that local unexpired credentials will in fact be available. One way that this may be accomplished by tracking the expiration time of credentials and flushing data well in advance of their expiration.

#### 10.4.2. Open Delegation and File Locks

When a client holds a `OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation, lock operations may be performed locally. This includes those required for mandatory file locking. This can be done since the delegation implies that there can be no conflicting locks. Similarly, all of the revalidations that would normally be associated with obtaining locks and the flushing of data associated with the releasing of locks need not be done.

When a client holds a `OPEN_DELEGATE_READ` delegation, lock operations are not performed locally. All lock operations, including those requesting non-exclusive locks, are sent to the server for resolution.

#### 10.4.3. Handling of `CB_GETATTR`

The server needs to employ special handling for a `GETATTR` where the target is a file that has a `OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation in effect. The reason for this is that the client holding the `OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation may have modified the data and the server needs to reflect this change to the second client that submitted the `GETATTR`. Therefore, the client holding the `OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation needs to be interrogated. The server will use the `CB_GETATTR` operation. The only attributes that the server can reliably query via `CB_GETATTR` are size and change.

Since `CB_GETATTR` is being used to satisfy another client's `GETATTR` request, the server only needs to know if the client holding the delegation has a modified version of the file. If the client's copy of the delegated file is not modified (data or size), the server can satisfy the second client's `GETATTR` request from the attributes stored locally at the server. If the file is modified, the server only needs to know about this modified state. If the server determines that the file is currently modified, it will respond to the second client's `GETATTR` as if the file had been modified locally at the server.

Since the form of the change attribute is determined by the server and is opaque to the client, the client and server need to agree on a method of communicating the modified state of the file. For the size attribute, the client will report its current view of the file size. For the change attribute, the handling is more involved.

For the client, the following steps will be taken when receiving a `OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation:

- o The value of the change attribute will be obtained from the server and cached. Let this value be represented by *c*.
- o The client will create a value greater than *c* that will be used for communicating modified data is held at the client. Let this value be represented by *d*.
- o When the client is queried via `CB_GETATTR` for the change attribute, it checks to see if it holds modified data. If the file is modified, the value *d* is returned for the change attribute value. If this file is not currently modified, the client returns the value *c* for the change attribute.

For simplicity of implementation, the client MAY for each `CB_GETATTR` return the same value *d*. This is true even if, between successive `CB_GETATTR` operations, the client again modifies in the file's data or metadata in its cache. The client can return the same value because the only requirement is that the client be able to indicate to the server that the client holds modified data. Therefore, the value of *d* may always be  $c + 1$ .

While the change attribute is opaque to the client in the sense that it has no idea what units of time, if any, the server is counting change with, it is not opaque in that the client has to treat it as an unsigned integer, and the server has to be able to see the results of the client's changes to that integer. Therefore, the server MUST encode the change attribute in network order when sending it to the client. The client MUST decode it from network order to its native order when receiving it and the client MUST encode it network order when sending it to the server. For this reason, the change attribute is defined as an unsigned integer rather than an opaque array of bytes.

For the server, the following steps will be taken when providing a `OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation:

- o Upon providing a `OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation, the server will cache a copy of the change attribute in the data structure it uses to record the delegation. Let this value be represented by *sc*.
- o When a second client sends a `GETATTR` operation on the same file to the server, the server obtains the change attribute from the first client. Let this value be *cc*.
- o If the value *cc* is equal to *sc*, the file is not modified and the server returns the current values for `change`, `time_metadata`, and `time_modify` (for example) to the second client.

- o If the value `cc` is NOT equal to `sc`, the file is currently modified at the first client and most likely will be modified at the server at a future time. The server then uses its current time to construct attribute values for `time_metadata` and `time_modify`. A new value of `sc`, which we will call `nsc`, is computed by the server, such that `nsc >= sc + 1`. The server then returns the constructed `time_metadata`, `time_modify`, and `nsc` values to the requester. The server replaces `sc` in the delegation record with `nsc`. To prevent the possibility of `time_modify`, `time_metadata`, and change from appearing to go backward (which would happen if the client holding the delegation fails to write its modified data to the server before the delegation is revoked or returned), the server SHOULD update the file's metadata record with the constructed attribute values. For reasons of reasonable performance, committing the constructed attribute values to stable storage is OPTIONAL.

As discussed earlier in this section, the client MAY return the same `cc` value on subsequent `CB_GETATTR` calls, even if the file was modified in the client's cache yet again between successive `CB_GETATTR` calls. Therefore, the server must assume that the file has been modified yet again, and MUST take care to ensure that the new `nsc` it constructs and returns is greater than the previous `nsc` it returned. An example implementation's delegation record would satisfy this mandate by including a boolean field (let us call it "modified") that is set to `FALSE` when the delegation is granted, and an `sc` value set at the time of grant to the change attribute value. The modified field would be set to `TRUE` the first time `cc != sc`, and would stay `TRUE` until the delegation is returned or revoked. The processing for constructing `nsc`, `time_modify`, and `time_metadata` would use this pseudo code:

```
if (!modified) {
    do CB_GETATTR for change and size;

    if (cc != sc)
        modified = TRUE;
} else {
    do CB_GETATTR for size;
}

if (modified) {
    sc = sc + 1;
    time_modify = time_metadata = current_time;
    update sc, time_modify, time_metadata into file's metadata;
}
```

This would return to the client (that sent GETATTR) the attributes it requested, but make sure size comes from what CB\_GETATTR returned. The server would not update the file's metadata with the client's modified size.

In the case that the file attribute size is different than the server's current value, the server treats this as a modification regardless of the value of the change attribute retrieved via CB\_GETATTR and responds to the second client as in the last step.

This methodology resolves issues of clock differences between client and server and other scenarios where the use of CB\_GETATTR breaks down.

It should be noted that the server is under no obligation to use CB\_GETATTR and therefore the server MAY simply recall the delegation to avoid its use.

#### 10.4.4. Recall of Open Delegation

The following events necessitate recall of an open delegation:

- o Potentially conflicting OPEN request (or READ/WRITE done with "special" stateid)
- o SETATTR issued by another client
- o REMOVE request for the file
- o RENAME request for the file as either source or target of the RENAME

Whether a RENAME of a directory in the path leading to the file results in recall of an open delegation depends on the semantics of the server file system. If that file system denies such RENAMES when a file is open, the recall must be performed to determine whether the file in question is, in fact, open.

In addition to the situations above, the server may choose to recall open delegations at any time if resource constraints make it advisable to do so. Clients should always be prepared for the possibility of recall.

When a client receives a recall for an open delegation, it needs to update state on the server before returning the delegation. These same updates must be done whenever a client chooses to return a delegation voluntarily. The following items of state need to be dealt with:

- o If the file associated with the delegation is no longer open and no previous CLOSE operation has been sent to the server, a CLOSE operation must be sent to the server.
- o If a file has other open references at the client, then OPEN operations must be sent to the server. The appropriate stateids will be provided by the server for subsequent use by the client since the delegation stateid will no longer be valid. These OPEN requests are done with the claim type of CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_CUR. This will allow the presentation of the delegation stateid so that the client can establish the appropriate rights to perform the OPEN. (see Section 15.18 for details.)
- o If there are granted file locks, the corresponding LOCK operations need to be performed. This applies to the OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation case only.
- o For a OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation, if at the time of recall the file is not open for write, all modified data for the file must be flushed to the server. If the delegation had not existed, the client would have done this data flush before the CLOSE operation.
- o For a OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation when a file is still open at the time of recall, any modified data for the file needs to be flushed to the server.
- o With the OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation in place, it is possible that the file was truncated during the duration of the delegation. For example, the truncation could have occurred as a result of an OPEN\_UNCHECKED4 with a size attribute value of zero. Therefore, if a truncation of the file has occurred and this operation has not been propagated to the server, the truncation must occur before any modified data is written to the server.

In the case of OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation, file locking imposes some additional requirements. To precisely maintain the associated invariant, it is required to flush any modified data in any region for which a write lock was released while the OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation was in effect. However, because the OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation implies no other locking by other clients, a simpler implementation is to flush all modified data for the file (as described just above) if any write lock has been released while the OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation was in effect.

An implementation need not wait until delegation recall (or deciding to voluntarily return a delegation) to perform any of the above actions, if implementation considerations (e.g., resource availability constraints) make that desirable. Generally, however,

the fact that the actual open state of the file may continue to change makes it not worthwhile to send information about opens and closes to the server, except as part of delegation return. Only in the case of closing the open that resulted in obtaining the delegation would clients be likely to do this early, since, in that case, the close once done will not be undone. Regardless of the client's choices on scheduling these actions, all must be performed before the delegation is returned, including (when applicable) the close that corresponds to the open that resulted in the delegation. These actions can be performed either in previous requests or in previous operations in the same COMPOUND request.

#### 10.4.5. OPEN Delegation Race with CB\_RECALL

The server informs the client of recall via a CB\_RECALL. A race case which may develop is when the delegation is immediately recalled before the COMPOUND which established the delegation is returned to the client. As the CB\_RECALL provides both a stateid and a filehandle for which the client has no mapping, it cannot honor the recall attempt. At this point, the client has two choices, either do not respond or respond with NFS4ERR\_BADHANDLE. If it does not respond, then it runs the risk of the server deciding to not grant it further delegations.

If instead it does reply with NFS4ERR\_BADHANDLE, then both the client and the server might be able to detect that a race condition is occurring. The client can keep a list of pending delegations. When it receives a CB\_RECALL for an unknown delegation, it can cache the stateid and filehandle on a list of pending recalls. When it is provided with a delegation, it would only use it if it was not on the pending recall list. Upon the next CB\_RECALL, it could immediately return the delegation.

In turn, the server can keep track of when it issues a delegation and assume that if a client responds to the CB\_RECALL with a NFS4ERR\_BADHANDLE, then the client has yet to receive the delegation. The server SHOULD give the client a reasonable time both to get this delegation and to return it before revoking the delegation. Unlike a failed callback path, the server should periodically probe the client with CB\_RECALL to see if it has received the delegation and is ready to return it.

When the server finally determines that enough time has lapsed, it SHOULD revoke the delegation and it SHOULD NOT revoke the lease. During this extended recall process, the server SHOULD be renewing the client lease. The intent here is that the client not pay too onerous a burden for a condition caused by the server.

#### 10.4.6. Clients that Fail to Honor Delegation Recalls

A client may fail to respond to a recall for various reasons, such as a failure of the callback path from server to the client. The client may be unaware of a failure in the callback path. This lack of awareness could result in the client finding out long after the failure that its delegation has been revoked, and another client has modified the data for which the client had a delegation. This is especially a problem for the client that held a `OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation.

The server also has a dilemma in that the client that fails to respond to the recall might also be sending other NFS requests, including those that renew the lease before the lease expires. Without returning an error for those lease renewing operations, the server leads the client to believe that the delegation it has is in force.

This difficulty is solved by the following rules:

- o When the callback path is down, the server **MUST NOT** revoke the delegation if one of the following occurs:
  - \* The client has issued a `RENEW` operation and the server has returned an `NFS4ERR_CB_PATH_DOWN` error. The server **MUST** renew the lease for any byte-range locks and share reservations the client has that the server has known about (as opposed to those locks and share reservations the client has established but not yet sent to the server, due to the delegation). The server **SHOULD** give the client a reasonable time to return its delegations to the server before revoking the client's delegations.
  - \* The client has not issued a `RENEW` operation for some period of time after the server attempted to recall the delegation. This period of time **MUST NOT** be less than the value of the `lease_time` attribute.
- o When the client holds a delegation, it cannot rely on operations, except for `RENEW`, that take a `stateid`, to renew delegation leases across callback path failures. The client that wants to keep delegations in force across callback path failures must use `RENEW` to do so.

#### 10.4.7. Delegation Revocation

At the point a delegation is revoked, if there are associated opens on the client, the applications holding these opens need to be notified. This notification usually occurs by returning errors for READ/WRITE operations or when a close is attempted for the open file.

If no opens exist for the file at the point the delegation is revoked, then notification of the revocation is unnecessary. However, if there is modified data present at the client for the file, the user of the application should be notified. Unfortunately, it may not be possible to notify the user since active applications may not be present at the client. See Section 10.5.1 for additional details.

#### 10.5. Data Caching and Revocation

When locks and delegations are revoked, the assumptions upon which successful caching depend are no longer guaranteed. For any locks or share reservations that have been revoked, the corresponding owner needs to be notified. This notification includes applications with a file open that has a corresponding delegation which has been revoked. Cached data associated with the revocation must be removed from the client. In the case of modified data existing in the client's cache, that data must be removed from the client without it being written to the server. As mentioned, the assumptions made by the client are no longer valid at the point when a lock or delegation has been revoked. For example, another client may have been granted a conflicting lock after the revocation of the lock at the first client. Therefore, the data within the lock range may have been modified by the other client. Obviously, the first client is unable to guarantee to the application what has occurred to the file in the case of revocation.

Notification to a lock-owner will in many cases consist of simply returning an error on the next and all subsequent READS/WRITEs to the open file or on the close. Where the methods available to a client make such notification impossible because errors for certain operations may not be returned, more drastic action such as signals or process termination may be appropriate. The justification for this is that an invariant for which an application depends on may be violated. Depending on how errors are typically treated for the client operating environment, further levels of notification including logging, console messages, and GUI pop-ups may be appropriate.

#### 10.5.1. Revocation Recovery for Write Open Delegation

Revocation recovery for a `OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation poses the special issue of modified data in the client cache while the file is not open. In this situation, any client which does not flush modified data to the server on each close must ensure that the user receives appropriate notification of the failure as a result of the revocation. Since such situations may require human action to correct problems, notification schemes in which the appropriate user or administrator is notified may be necessary. Logging and console messages are typical examples.

If there is modified data on the client, it must not be flushed normally to the server. A client may attempt to provide a copy of the file data as modified during the delegation under a different name in the file system name space to ease recovery. Note that when the client can determine that the file has not been modified by any other client, or when the client has a complete cached copy of the file in question, such a saved copy of the client's view of the file may be of particular value for recovery. In other cases, recovery using a copy of the file based partially on the client's cached data and partially on the server copy as modified by other clients, will be anything but straightforward, so clients may avoid saving file contents in these situations or mark the results specially to warn users of possible problems.

Saving of such modified data in delegation revocation situations may be limited to files of a certain size or might be used only when sufficient disk space is available within the target file system. Such saving may also be restricted to situations when the client has sufficient buffering resources to keep the cached copy available until it is properly stored to the target file system.

#### 10.6. Attribute Caching

The attributes discussed in this section do not include named attributes. Individual named attributes are analogous to files and caching of the data for these needs to be handled just as data caching is for regular files. Similarly, `LOOKUP` results from an `OPENATTR` directory are to be cached on the same basis as any other pathnames and similarly for directory contents.

Clients may cache file attributes obtained from the server and use them to avoid subsequent `GETATTR` requests. Such caching is write through in that modification to file attributes is always done by means of requests to the server and should not be done locally and cached. The exception to this are modifications to attributes that are intimately connected with data caching. Therefore, extending a

file by writing data to the local data cache is reflected immediately in the size as seen on the client without this change being immediately reflected on the server. Normally such changes are not propagated directly to the server but when the modified data is flushed to the server, analogous attribute changes are made on the server. When open delegation is in effect, the modified attributes may be returned to the server in the response to a CB\_GETATTR call.

The result of local caching of attributes is that the attribute caches maintained on individual clients will not be coherent. Changes made in one order on the server may be seen in a different order on one client and in a third order on a different client.

The typical file system application programming interfaces do not provide means to atomically modify or interrogate attributes for multiple files at the same time. The following rules provide an environment where the potential incoherency mentioned above can be reasonably managed. These rules are derived from the practice of previous NFS protocols.

- o All attributes for a given file (per-fsid attributes excepted) are cached as a unit at the client so that no non-serializability can arise within the context of a single file.
- o An upper time boundary is maintained on how long a client cache entry can be kept without being refreshed from the server.
- o When operations are performed that modify attributes at the server, the updated attribute set is requested as part of the containing RPC. This includes directory operations that update attributes indirectly. This is accomplished by following the modifying operation with a GETATTR operation and then using the results of the GETATTR to update the client's cached attributes.

Note that if the full set of attributes to be cached is requested by REaddir, the results can be cached by the client on the same basis as attributes obtained via GETATTR.

A client may validate its cached version of attributes for a file by fetching just both the change and time\_access attributes and assuming that if the change attribute has the same value as it did when the attributes were cached, then no attributes other than time\_access have changed. The reason why time\_access is also fetched is because many servers operate in environments where the operation that updates change does not update time\_access. For example, POSIX file semantics do not update access time when a file is modified by the write system call. Therefore, the client that wants a current

time\_access value should fetch it with change during the attribute cache validation processing and update its cached time\_access.

The client may maintain a cache of modified attributes for those attributes intimately connected with data of modified regular files (size, time\_modify, and change). Other than those three attributes, the client MUST NOT maintain a cache of modified attributes. Instead, attribute changes are immediately sent to the server.

In some operating environments, the equivalent to time\_access is expected to be implicitly updated by each read of the content of the file object. If an NFS client is caching the content of a file object, whether it is a regular file, directory, or symbolic link, the client SHOULD NOT update the time\_access attribute (via SETATTR or a small READ or REaddir request) on the server with each read that is satisfied from cache. The reason is that this can defeat the performance benefits of caching content, especially since an explicit SETATTR of time\_access may alter the change attribute on the server. If the change attribute changes, clients that are caching the content will think the content has changed, and will re-read unmodified data from the server. Nor is the client encouraged to maintain a modified version of time\_access in its cache, since this would mean that the client will either eventually have to write the access time to the server with bad performance effects, or it would never update the server's time\_access, thereby resulting in a situation where an application that caches access time between a close and open of the same file observes the access time oscillating between the past and present. The time\_access attribute always means the time of last access to a file by a read that was satisfied by the server. This way clients will tend to see only time\_access changes that go forward in time.

#### 10.7. Data and Metadata Caching and Memory Mapped Files

Some operating environments include the capability for an application to map a file's content into the application's address space. Each time the application accesses a memory location that corresponds to a block that has not been loaded into the address space, a page fault occurs and the file is read (or if the block does not exist in the file, the block is allocated and then instantiated in the application's address space).

As long as each memory mapped access to the file requires a page fault, the relevant attributes of the file that are used to detect access and modification (time\_access, time\_metadata, time\_modify, and change) will be updated. However, in many operating environments, when page faults are not required these attributes will not be updated on reads or updates to the file via memory access (regardless

of whether the file is a local file or is being accessed remotely). A client or server MAY fail to update attributes of a file that is being accessed via memory mapped I/O. This has several implications:

- o If there is an application on the server that has memory mapped a file that a client is also accessing, the client may not be able to get a consistent value of the change attribute to determine whether its cache is stale or not. A server that knows that the file is memory mapped could always pessimistically return updated values for change so as to force the application to always get the most up to date data and metadata for the file. However, due to the negative performance implications of this, such behavior is OPTIONAL.
- o If the memory mapped file is not being modified on the server, and instead is just being read by an application via the memory mapped interface, the client will not see an updated `time_access` attribute. However, in many operating environments, neither will any process running on the server. Thus NFS clients are at no disadvantage with respect to local processes.
- o If there is another client that is memory mapping the file, and if that client is holding a `OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation, the same set of issues as discussed in the previous two bullet items apply. So, when a server does a `CB_GETATTR` to a file that the client has modified in its cache, the response from `CB_GETATTR` will not necessarily be accurate. As discussed earlier, the client's obligation is to report that the file has been modified since the delegation was granted, not whether it has been modified again between successive `CB_GETATTR` calls, and the server MUST assume that any file the client has modified in cache has been modified again between successive `CB_GETATTR` calls. Depending on the nature of the client's memory management system, this weak obligation may not be possible. A client MAY return stale information in `CB_GETATTR` whenever the file is memory mapped.
- o The mixture of memory mapping and file locking on the same file is problematic. Consider the following scenario, where the page size on each client is 8192 bytes.
  - \* Client A memory maps first page (8192 bytes) of file X
  - \* Client B memory maps first page (8192 bytes) of file X
  - \* Client A write locks first 4096 bytes
  - \* Client B write locks second 4096 bytes

- \* Client A, via a STORE instruction modifies part of its locked region.
- \* Simultaneous to client A, client B issues a STORE on part of its locked region.

Here the challenge is for each client to resynchronize to get a correct view of the first page. In many operating environments, the virtual memory management systems on each client only know a page is modified, not that a subset of the page corresponding to the respective lock regions has been modified. So it is not possible for each client to do the right thing, which is to only write to the server that portion of the page that is locked. For example, if client A simply writes out the page, and then client B writes out the page, client A's data is lost.

Moreover, if mandatory locking is enabled on the file, then we have a different problem. When clients A and B issue the STORE instructions, the resulting page faults require a byte-range lock on the entire page. Each client then tries to extend their locked range to the entire page, which results in a deadlock.

Communicating the NFS4ERR\_DEADLOCK error to a STORE instruction is difficult at best.

If a client is locking the entire memory mapped file, there is no problem with advisory or mandatory byte-range locking, at least until the client unlocks a region in the middle of the file.

Given the above issues the following are permitted:

- o Clients and servers MAY deny memory mapping a file they know there are byte-range locks for.
- o Clients and servers MAY deny a byte-range lock on a file they know is memory mapped.
- o A client MAY deny memory mapping a file that it knows requires mandatory locking for I/O. If mandatory locking is enabled after the file is opened and mapped, the client MAY deny the application further access to its mapped file.

#### 10.8. Name Caching

The results of LOOKUP and REaddir operations may be cached to avoid the cost of subsequent LOOKUP operations. Just as in the case of attribute caching, inconsistencies may arise among the various client caches. To mitigate the effects of these inconsistencies and given

the context of typical file system APIs, an upper time boundary is maintained on how long a client name cache entry can be kept without verifying that the entry has not been made invalid by a directory change operation performed by another client.

When a client is not making changes to a directory for which there exist name cache entries, the client needs to periodically fetch attributes for that directory to ensure that it is not being modified. After determining that no modification has occurred, the expiration time for the associated name cache entries may be updated to be the current time plus the name cache staleness bound.

When a client is making changes to a given directory, it needs to determine whether there have been changes made to the directory by other clients. It does this by using the change attribute as reported before and after the directory operation in the associated change\_info4 value returned for the operation. The server is able to communicate to the client whether the change\_info4 data is provided atomically with respect to the directory operation. If the change values are provided atomically, the client is then able to compare the pre-operation change value with the change value in the client's name cache. If the comparison indicates that the directory was updated by another client, the name cache associated with the modified directory is purged from the client. If the comparison indicates no modification, the name cache can be updated on the client to reflect the directory operation and the associated timeout extended. The post-operation change value needs to be saved as the basis for future change\_info4 comparisons.

As demonstrated by the scenario above, name caching requires that the client revalidate name cache data by inspecting the change attribute of a directory at the point when the name cache item was cached. This requires that the server update the change attribute for directories when the contents of the corresponding directory is modified. For a client to use the change\_info4 information appropriately and correctly, the server must report the pre and post operation change attribute values atomically. When the server is unable to report the before and after values atomically with respect to the directory operation, the server must indicate that fact in the change\_info4 return value. When the information is not atomically reported, the client should not assume that other clients have not changed the directory.

#### 10.9. Directory Caching

The results of REaddir operations may be used to avoid subsequent REaddir operations. Just as in the cases of attribute and name caching, inconsistencies may arise among the various client caches.

To mitigate the effects of these inconsistencies, and given the context of typical file system APIs, the following rules should be followed:

- o Cached REaddir information for a directory which is not obtained in a single REaddir operation must always be a consistent snapshot of directory contents. This is determined by using a GETATTR before the first REaddir and after the last of REaddir that contributes to the cache.
- o An upper time boundary is maintained to indicate the length of time a directory cache entry is considered valid before the client must revalidate the cached information.

The revalidation technique parallels that discussed in the case of name caching. When the client is not changing the directory in question, checking the change attribute of the directory with GETATTR is adequate. The lifetime of the cache entry can be extended at these checkpoints. When a client is modifying the directory, the client needs to use the change\_info4 data to determine whether there are other clients modifying the directory. If it is determined that no other client modifications are occurring, the client may update its directory cache to reflect its own changes.

As demonstrated previously, directory caching requires that the client revalidate directory cache data by inspecting the change attribute of a directory at the point when the directory was cached. This requires that the server update the change attribute for directories when the contents of the corresponding directory is modified. For a client to use the change\_info4 information appropriately and correctly, the server must report the pre and post operation change attribute values atomically. When the server is unable to report the before and after values atomically with respect to the directory operation, the server must indicate that fact in the change\_info4 return value. When the information is not atomically reported, the client should not assume that other clients have not changed the directory.

## 11. Minor Versioning

To address the requirement of an NFS protocol that can evolve as the need arises, the NFSv4 protocol contains the rules and framework to allow for future minor changes or versioning.

The base assumption with respect to minor versioning is that any future accepted minor version must follow the IETF process and be documented in a standards track RFC. Therefore, each minor version number will correspond to an RFC. Minor version 0 of the NFS version

4 protocol is represented by this RFC. The COMPOUND and CB\_COMPOUND procedures support the encoding of the minor version being requested by the client.

Future minor versions will extend, rather than replace the XDR for the preceding minor version, as had been done in moving from NFSv2 to NFSv3 and from NFSv3 to NFSv4.0.

Specification of detailed rules for the construction of minor versions will be addressed in documents defining early minor versions or, more desirably, in an RFC establishing a versioning framework for NFSv4 as a whole.

## 12. Internationalization

### 12.1. Introduction

Internationalization is a complex topic with its own set of terminology (see [RFC6365]). The topic is made more complex in NFSv4.0 by the tangled history and state of NFS implementations. This section describes what we might call "NFSv4.0 internationalization" (i.e., internationalization as implemented by existing clients and servers) as the basis upon which NFSv4.0 clients may implement internationalization support.

This section is based on the behavior of existing implementations. Note that the behaviors described are each demonstrated by a combination of an NFSv4 server implementation proper and a server-side physical file system. It is common for servers and physical file systems to be configurable as to the behavior shown. In the discussion below, each configuration that shows different behavior is considered separately.

Note that in this section, the keywords "MUST", "SHOULD", and "MAY", retain their normal meanings. However, in deriving this specification from implementation patterns, we document below how the normative terms used derive from the behavior of existing implementations, in those situations in which existing implementation behavior patterns can be determined.

- o Behavior implemented by all existing clients or servers is described using "MUST", since new implementations need to follow existing ones to be assured of interoperability. While it is possible that different behavior might be workable, we have found no case where this seems reasonable.

- o Behavior implemented by no existing clients or servers is described using "MUST NOT", if such behavior poses interoperability problems.
- o Behavior implemented by most existing clients or servers, where that behavior is more desirable than any alternative is described using "SHOULD", since new implementations need to follow that existing practice unless there are strong reasons to do otherwise.

The converse holds for "SHOULD NOT".

- o Behavior implemented by some, but not all existing clients or servers, is described using "MAY", indicating that new implementations have a choice as to whether they will behave in that way. Thus, new implementations will have the same flexibility that existing ones do.
- o Behavior implemented by all existing clients or servers, so far as is known, but where there remains some uncertainty as to details is described using "should". Such cases primarily concern details of error returns. New implementations should follow existing practice even though such situations generally do not affect interoperability.

There are also cases in which certain server behaviors, while not known to exist, cannot be reliably determined not to exist. In part, this is a consequence of the long period of time that has elapsed since the publication of [RFC3530], resulting in a situation in which those involved in the implementation may no longer be involved in or aware of working group activities.

In the case of possible server behavior that is neither known to exist nor known not to exist, we use SHOULD NOT and MUST NOT as follows, and similarly for "SHOULD" and "MUST".

- o In some cases, the potential behavior is not known to exist but is of such a nature that, if it were in fact implemented, interoperability difficulties would be expected and reported, giving us cause to conclude that the potential behavior is not implemented. For such behavior, we use MUST NOT. Similarly we use "MUST" to apply to the contrary behavior.
- o In other cases, potential behavior is not known to exist but the behavior, while undesirable, is not of such a nature that we are able to draw any conclusions about its potential existence. In such cases, we use SHOULD NOT. Similarly we use "SHOULD" to apply to the contrary behavior.

In the case of a MAY, SHOULD, or SHOULD NOT that applies to servers, clients need to be aware that there are servers which may or may not take the specified action, and they need to be prepared for either eventuality.

#### 12.2. Limitations on internationalization-related processing in the NFSv4 context

There are a number of noteworthy circumstances that limit the degree to which internationalization-related processing can be made universal with regard to NFSv4 clients and servers:

- o The NFSv4 client is part of an extensive set of client-side software components whose design and internal interfaces are not within the IETF's purview, limiting the degree to which a particular character encoding may be made standard.
- o Server-side handling of file component names is typically implemented within a server-side physical file system, whose handling of character encoding and normalization is not specifiable by the IETF.
- o Typical implementation patterns in Unix systems result in the NFSv4 client having no knowledge of the character encoding being used, which may even vary between processes on the same client system.
- o Users may need access to files stored previously with non-UTF-8 encodings, or with UTF-8 encodings that do not match any particular normalization form.

#### 12.3. Summary of Server Behavior Types

As mentioned in Section 12.6, servers MAY reject component name strings that are not valid UTF-8. This leads to a number of types of valid server behavior as outlined below. When these are combined with the valid normalization-related behaviors as described in Section 12.4, this leads to the combined behaviors outlined below.

- o Servers which limit file component names to UTF-8 strings exist with normalization-related handling described in Section 12.4. These are best described as "UTF-8-only servers".
- o Servers which do not limit file component names to UTF-8 strings are very common and are necessary to deal with clients/applications not oriented to the use of UTF-8. Such servers ignore normalization-related issues and there is no way for them to implement either normalization or representation-independent

lookups. These are best described as "UTF-8-unaware servers" since they treat file component names as uninterpreted strings of bytes and have no knowledge of the characters represented. See Section 12.7 for details.

- o It is possible for a server to allow component names which are not valid UTF-8, while still being aware of the structure of UTF-8 strings. Such servers could implement either normalization or representation-independent lookups, but apply those techniques only to valid UTF-8 strings. Such servers are not common, but it is possible to configure at least one known server to have this behavior. This behavior SHOULD NOT be used due to the possibility that a filename using one character set may, by coincidence, have the appearance of a UTF-8 filename; the results of UTF-8 normalization or representation-independent lookups are unlikely to be correct in all cases with respect to the other character set.

#### 12.4. String Encoding

Strings that potentially contain characters outside the ASCII range [RFC20] are generally represented in NFSv4 using the UTF-8 encoding [RFC3629] of Unicode [UNICODE]. See [RFC3629] for precise encoding and decoding rules.

Some details of the protocol treatment depend on the type of string:

- o For strings which are component names, the preferred encoding for any non-ASCII characters is the UTF-8 representation of Unicode.

In many cases, clients have no knowledge of the encoding being used, with the encoding done at user-level under control of a per-process locale specification. As a result, it may be impossible for the NFSv4 client to enforce use of UTF-8. Use of non-UTF-8 encodings can be problematic since it may interfere with access to files stored using other forms of name encoding. Also, normalization-related processing (see Section 12.5) of a string not encoded in UTF-8 could result in inappropriate name modification or aliasing. In cases in which one has a non-UTF8 encoded name that accidentally conforms to UTF-8 rules, substitution of canonically equivalent strings can change the non-UTF-8 encoded name drastically.

The kinds of modification and aliasing mentioned here can lead to both false negatives and false positives depending on the strings in question, which can result in security issues such as elevation of privilege and denial of service (see [RFC6943] for further discussion).

- o For strings based on domain names, non-ASCII characters MUST be represented using the UTF-8 encoding of Unicode, and additional string format restrictions apply. See Section 12.6 for details.
- o The contents of symbolic links (of type linktext4 in the XDR) MUST be treated as opaque data by NFSv4 servers. Although UTF-8 encoding is often used, it need not be. In this respect, the contents of symbolic links are like the contents of regular files in that their encoding is not within the scope of this specification.
- o For other sorts of strings, any non-ASCII characters SHOULD be represented using the UTF-8 encoding of Unicode.

#### 12.5. Normalization

The client and server operating environments may differ in their policies and operational methods with respect to character normalization (See [UNICODE] for a discussion of normalization forms). This difference may also exist between applications on the same client. This adds to the difficulty of providing a single normalization policy for the protocol that allows for maximal interoperability. This issue is similar to the character case issues where the server may or may not support case insensitive file name matching and may or may not preserve the character case when storing file names. The protocol does not mandate a particular behavior but allows for a range of useful behaviors.

The NFS version 4 protocol does not mandate the use of a particular normalization form at this time. A subsequent minor version of the NFSv4 protocol might specify a particular normalization form. Therefore, the server and client can expect that they may receive unnormalized characters within protocol requests and responses. If the operating environment requires normalization, then the implementation will need to normalize the various UTF-8 encoded strings within the protocol before presenting the information to an application (at the client) or local file system (at the server).

Server implementations MAY normalize file names to conform to a particular normalization form before using the resulting string when looking up or creating a file. Servers MAY also perform normalization-insensitive string comparisons without modifying the names to match a particular normalization form. Except in cases in which component names are excluded from normalization-related handling because they are not valid UTF-8 strings, a server MUST make the same choice (as to whether to normalize or not, the target form of normalization and whether to do normalization-insensitive string comparisons) in the same way for all accesses to a particular file

system. Servers SHOULD NOT reject a file name because it does not conform to a particular normalization form as this may deny access to clients that use a different normalization form.

## 12.6. Types with Processing Defined by Other Internet Areas

There are two types of strings that NFSv4 deals with that are based on domain names. Processing of such strings is defined by other Internet standards, and hence the processing behavior for such strings should be consistent across all server operating systems and server file systems.

These are as follows:

- o Server names as they appear in the `fs_locations` attribute. Note that for most purposes, such server names will only be sent by the server to the client. The exception is use of the `fs_locations` attribute in a `VERIFY` or `NVERIFY` operation.
- o Principal suffixes which are used to denote sets of users and groups, and are in the form of domain names.

The general rules for handling all of these domain-related strings are similar and independent of the role of the sender or receiver as client or server although the consequences of failure to obey these rules may be different for client or server. The server can report errors when it is sent invalid strings, whereas the client will simply ignore invalid string or use a default value in their place.

The string sent SHOULD be in the form of one or more U-labels as defined by [RFC5890]. If that is impractical, it can instead be in the form of one or more LDH labels [RFC5890] or a UTF-8 domain name that contains labels that are not properly formatted U-labels. The receiver needs to be able to accept domain and server names in any of the formats allowed. The server MUST reject, using the error `NFS4ERR_INVALID`, a string that is not valid UTF-8, or that contains an ASCII label that is not a valid LDH label, or that contains an XN-label (begins with "xn--") for which the characters after "xn--" are not valid output of the Punycode algorithm [RFC3492].

When a domain string is part of `id@domain` or `group@domain`, there are two possible approaches:

1. The server treats the domain string as a series of U-labels. In cases where the domain string is a series of A-labels or NR-LDH labels, it converts them to U-labels using the Punycode algorithm [RFC3492]. In cases where the domain string is series of other sorts of LDH labels, the server can use the `ToUnicode` function

defined in [RFC3490] to convert the string to a series of labels that generally conform to the U-label syntax. In cases where the domain string is a UTF-8 string that contains non-U-labels, the server can attempt to use the ToASCII function defined in [RFC3490] and then the ToUnicode function on the string to convert it to a series of labels that generally conform to the U-label syntax. As a result, the domain string returned within a `userid` on a `GETATTR` may not match that sent when the `userid` is set using `SETATTR`, although when this happens, the domain will be in the form that generally conform to the U-label syntax.

2. The server does not attempt to treat the domain string as a series of U-labels; specifically, it does not map a domain string which is not a U-label into a U-label using the methods described above. As a result, the domain string returned on a `GETATTR` of the `userid` MUST be the same as that used when setting the `userid` by the `SETATTR`.

A server SHOULD use the first method.

For `VERIFY` and `NVERIFY`, additional string processing requirements apply to verification of the `owner` and `owner_group` attributes, see Section 5.9.

#### 12.7. UTF-8 Related Errors

Where the client sends an invalid UTF-8 string, the server MAY return an `NFS4ERR_INVALID` error. This includes cases in which inappropriate prefixes are detected and where the count includes trailing bytes that do not constitute a full UCS character.

Requirements for server handling of component names which are not valid UTF-8, when a server does not return `NFS4ERR_INVALID` in response to receiving them, are described in Section 12.8.

Where the client supplied string is not rejected with `NFS4ERR_INVALID` but contains characters that are not supported by the server as a value for that string (e.g., names containing slashes, or characters that do not fit into 16 bits when converted from UTF-8 to a Unicode codepoint), the server should return an `NFS4ERR_BADCHAR` error.

Where a UTF-8 string is used as a file name, and the file system, while supporting all of the characters within the name, does not allow that particular name to be used, the error should return the error `NFS4ERR_BADNAME`. This includes such situations as file system prohibitions of "." and ".." as file names for certain operations, and similar constraints

## 12.8. Servers that accept file component names that are not valid UTF-8 strings

As stated previously, servers MAY accept, on all or on some subset of the physical file systems exported, component names that are not valid UTF-8 strings. A typical pattern is for a server to use UTF-8-unaware physical file systems that treat component names as uninterpreted strings of bytes, rather than having any awareness of the character set being used.

Such servers SHOULD NOT change the stored representation of component names from those received on the wire, and SHOULD use an octet-by-octet comparison of component name strings to determine equivalence (as opposed to any broader notion of string comparison). This is because the server has no knowledge of the character encoding being used.

Nonetheless, when such a server uses a broader notion of string equivalence than recommended in the preceding paragraph the following considerations apply:

- o Outside of 7-bit ASCII, string processing that changes string contents is usually specific to a character set and hence is generally unsafe when the character set is unknown. This processing could change the filename in an unexpected fashion, rendering the file inaccessible to the application or client that created or renamed the file and to others expecting the original filename. Hence, such processing should not be performed because doing so is likely to result in incorrect string modification or aliasing.
- o Unicode normalization is particularly dangerous, as such processing assumes that the string is UTF-8. When that assumption is false because a different character set was used to create the filename, normalization may corrupt the filename with respect to that character set, rendering the file inaccessible to the application that created it and others expecting the original filename. Hence, Unicode normalization SHOULD NOT be performed, because it may cause incorrect string modification or aliasing.

When the above recommendations are not followed, the resulting string modification and aliasing can lead to both false negatives and false positives depending on the strings in question, which can result in security issues such as elevation of privilege and denial of service (see [RFC6943] for further discussion).

## 13. Error Values

NFS error numbers are assigned to failed operations within a Compound (COMPOUND or CB\_COMPOUND) request. A Compound request contains a number of NFS operations that have their results encoded in sequence in a Compound reply. The results of successful operations will consist of an NFS4\_OK status followed by the encoded results of the operation. If an NFS operation fails, an error status will be entered in the reply and the Compound request will be terminated.

## 13.1. Error Definitions

## Protocol Error Definitions

Error	Number	Description
NFS4_OK	0	Section 13.1.3.1
NFS4ERR_ACCESS	13	Section 13.1.6.1
NFS4ERR_ADMIN_REVOKED	10047	Section 13.1.5.1
NFS4ERR_ATTRNOTSUPP	10032	Section 13.1.11.1
NFS4ERR_BADCHAR	10040	Section 13.1.7.1
NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE	10001	Section 13.1.2.1
NFS4ERR_BADNAME	10041	Section 13.1.7.2
NFS4ERR_BADOWNER	10039	Section 13.1.11.2
NFS4ERR_BADTYPE	10007	Section 13.1.4.1
NFS4ERR_BADXDR	10036	Section 13.1.1.1
NFS4ERR_BAD_COOKIE	10003	Section 13.1.1.2
NFS4ERR_BAD_RANGE	10042	Section 13.1.8.1
NFS4ERR_BAD_SEQID	10026	Section 13.1.8.2
NFS4ERR_BAD_STATEID	10025	Section 13.1.5.2
NFS4ERR_CB_PATH_DOWN	10048	Section 13.1.12.1
NFS4ERR_CLID_INUSE	10017	Section 13.1.10.1
NFS4ERR_DEADLOCK	10045	Section 13.1.8.3
NFS4ERR_DELAY	10008	Section 13.1.1.3
NFS4ERR_DENIED	10010	Section 13.1.8.4
NFS4ERR_DQUOT	69	Section 13.1.4.2
NFS4ERR_EXIST	17	Section 13.1.4.3
NFS4ERR_EXPIRED	10011	Section 13.1.5.3
NFS4ERR_FBIG	27	Section 13.1.4.4
NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED	10014	Section 13.1.2.2
NFS4ERR_FILE_OPEN	10046	Section 13.1.4.5
NFS4ERR_GRACE	10013	Section 13.1.9.1
NFS4ERR_INVALID	22	Section 13.1.1.4
NFS4ERR_IO	5	Section 13.1.4.6
NFS4ERR_ISDIR	21	Section 13.1.2.3
NFS4ERR_LEASE_MOVED	10031	Section 13.1.5.4
NFS4ERR_LOCKED	10012	Section 13.1.8.5

NFS4ERR_LOCKS_HELD	10037	Section 13.1.8.6
NFS4ERR_LOCK_NOTSUPP	10043	Section 13.1.8.7
NFS4ERR_LOCK_RANGE	10028	Section 13.1.8.8
NFS4ERR_MINOR_VERS_MISMATCH	10021	Section 13.1.3.2
NFS4ERR_MLINK	31	Section 13.1.4.7
NFS4ERR_MOVED	10019	Section 13.1.2.4
NFS4ERR_NAMETOOLONG	63	Section 13.1.7.3
NFS4ERR_NOENT	2	Section 13.1.4.8
NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE	10020	Section 13.1.2.5
NFS4ERR_NOSPC	28	Section 13.1.4.9
NFS4ERR_NOTDIR	20	Section 13.1.2.6
NFS4ERR_NOTEMPTY	66	Section 13.1.4.10
NFS4ERR_NOTSUPP	10004	Section 13.1.1.5
NFS4ERR_NOT_SAME	10027	Section 13.1.11.3
NFS4ERR_NO_GRACE	10033	Section 13.1.9.2
NFS4ERR_NXIO	6	Section 13.1.4.11
NFS4ERR_OLD_STATEID	10024	Section 13.1.5.5
NFS4ERR_OPENMODE	10038	Section 13.1.8.9
NFS4ERR_OP_ILLEGAL	10044	Section 13.1.3.3
NFS4ERR_PERM	1	Section 13.1.6.2
NFS4ERR_RECLAIM_BAD	10034	Section 13.1.9.3
NFS4ERR_RECLAIM_CONFLICT	10035	Section 13.1.9.4
NFS4ERR_RESOURCE	10018	Section 13.1.3.4
NFS4ERR_RESTOREFH	10030	Section 13.1.4.12
NFS4ERR_ROFS	30	Section 13.1.4.13
NFS4ERR_SAME	10009	Section 13.1.11.4
NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT	10006	Section 13.1.1.6
NFS4ERR_SHARE_DENIED	10015	Section 13.1.8.10
NFS4ERR_STALE	70	Section 13.1.2.7
NFS4ERR_STALE_CLIENTID	10022	Section 13.1.10.2
NFS4ERR_STALE_STATEID	10023	Section 13.1.5.6
NFS4ERR_SYMLINK	10029	Section 13.1.2.8
NFS4ERR_TOOSMALL	10005	Section 13.1.1.7
NFS4ERR_WRONGSEC	10016	Section 13.1.6.3
NFS4ERR_XDEV	18	Section 13.1.4.14

Table 6

## 13.1.1.1. General Errors

This section deals with errors that are applicable to a broad set of different purposes.

## 13.1.1.1. NFS4ERR\_BADXDR (Error Code 10036)

The arguments for this operation do not match those specified in the XDR definition. This includes situations in which the request ends before all the arguments have been seen. Note that this error applies when fixed enumerations (these include booleans) have a value within the input stream which is not valid for the enum. A replier may pre-parse all operations for a Compound procedure before doing any operation execution and return RPC-level XDR errors in that case.

## 13.1.1.2. NFS4ERR\_BAD\_COOKIE (Error Code 10003)

Used for operations that provide a set of information indexed by some quantity provided by the client or cookie sent by the server for an earlier invocation. Where the value cannot be used for its intended purpose, this error results.

## 13.1.1.3. NFS4ERR\_DELAY (Error Code 10008)

For any of a number of reasons, the replier could not process this operation in what was deemed a reasonable time. The client should wait and then try the request with a new RPC transaction ID.

Some example of situations that might lead to this situation:

- o A server that supports hierarchical storage receives a request to process a file that had been migrated.
- o An operation requires a delegation recall to proceed and waiting for this delegation recall makes processing this request in a timely fashion impossible.

## 13.1.1.4. NFS4ERR\_INVALID (Error Code 22)

The arguments for this operation are not valid for some reason, even though they do match those specified in the XDR definition for the request.

## 13.1.1.5. NFS4ERR\_NOTSUPP (Error Code 10004)

Operation not supported, either because the operation is an OPTIONAL one and is not supported by this server or because the operation MUST NOT be implemented in the current minor version.

#### 13.1.1.6. NFS4ERR\_SERVERFAULT (Error Code 10006)

An error occurred on the server which does not map to any of the specific legal NFSv4 protocol error values. The client should translate this into an appropriate error. UNIX clients may choose to translate this to EIO.

#### 13.1.1.7. NFS4ERR\_TOOSMALL (Error Code 10005)

Used where an operation returns a variable amount of data, with a limit specified by the client. Where the data returned cannot be fitted within the limit specified by the client, this error results.

### 13.1.2. Filehandle Errors

These errors deal with the situation in which the current or saved filehandle, or the filehandle passed to PUTFH intended to become the current filehandle, is invalid in some way. This includes situations in which the filehandle is a valid filehandle in general but is not of the appropriate object type for the current operation.

Where the error description indicates a problem with the current or saved filehandle, it is to be understood that filehandles are only checked for the condition if they are implicit arguments of the operation in question.

#### 13.1.2.1. NFS4ERR\_BADHANDLE (Error Code 10001)

Illegal NFS filehandle for the current server. The current filehandle failed internal consistency checks. Once accepted as valid (by PUTFH), no subsequent status change can cause the filehandle to generate this error.

#### 13.1.2.2. NFS4ERR\_FHEXPIRED (Error Code 10014)

A current or saved filehandle which is an argument to the current operation is volatile and has expired at the server.

#### 13.1.2.3. NFS4ERR\_ISDIR (Error Code 21)

The current or saved filehandle designates a directory when the current operation does not allow a directory to be accepted as the target of this operation.

#### 13.1.2.4. NFS4ERR\_MOVED (Error Code 10019)

The file system which contains the current filehandle object is not present at the server. It may have been relocated, migrated to another server or may have never been present. The client may obtain the new file system location by obtaining the "fs\_locations" or attribute for the current filehandle. For further discussion, refer to Section 8.

#### 13.1.2.5. NFS4ERR\_NOFILEHANDLE (Error Code 10020)

The logical current or saved filehandle value is required by the current operation and is not set. This may be a result of a malformed COMPOUND operation (i.e., no PUTFH or PUTROOTFH before an operation that requires the current filehandle be set).

#### 13.1.2.6. NFS4ERR\_NOTDIR (Error Code 20)

The current (or saved) filehandle designates an object which is not a directory for an operation in which a directory is required.

#### 13.1.2.7. NFS4ERR\_STALE (Error Code 70)

The current or saved filehandle value designating an argument to the current operation is invalid. The file system object referred to by that filehandle no longer exists or access to it has been revoked.

#### 13.1.2.8. NFS4ERR\_SYMLINK (Error Code 10029)

The current filehandle designates a symbolic link when the current operation does not allow a symbolic link as the target.

### 13.1.3. Compound Structure Errors

This section deals with errors that relate to overall structure of a Compound request (by which we mean to include both COMPOUND and CB\_COMPOUND), rather than to particular operations.

There are a number of basic constraints on the operations that may appear in a Compound request.

#### 13.1.3.1. NFS\_OK (Error code 0)

Indicates the operation completed successfully, in that all of the constituent operations completed without error.

#### 13.1.3.2. NFS4ERR\_MINOR\_VERS\_MISMATCH (Error code 10021)

The minor version specified is not one that the current listener supports. This value is returned in the overall status for the Compound but is not associated with a specific operation since the results must specify a result count of zero.

#### 13.1.3.3. NFS4ERR\_OP\_ILLEGAL (Error Code 10044)

The operation code is not a valid one for the current Compound procedure. The opcode in the result stream matched with this error is the ILLEGAL value, although the value that appears in the request stream may be different. Where an illegal value appears and the replier pre-parses all operations for a Compound procedure before doing any operation execution, an RPC-level XDR error may be returned in this case.

#### 13.1.3.4. NFS4ERR\_RESOURCE (Error Code 10018)

For the processing of the Compound procedure, the server may exhaust available resources and cannot continue processing operations within the Compound procedure. This error will be returned from the server in those instances of resource exhaustion related to the processing of the Compound procedure.

#### 13.1.4. File System Errors

These errors describe situations which occurred in the underlying file system implementation rather than in the protocol or any NFSv4.x feature.

##### 13.1.4.1. NFS4ERR\_BADTYPE (Error Code 10007)

An attempt was made to create an object with an inappropriate type specified to CREATE. This may be because the type is undefined, because it is a type not supported by the server, or because it is a type for which create is not intended such as a regular file or named attribute, for which OPEN is used to do the file creation.

##### 13.1.4.2. NFS4ERR\_DQUOT (Error Code 69)

Resource (quota) hard limit exceeded. The user's resource limit on the server has been exceeded.

## 13.1.4.3. NFS4ERR\_EXIST (Error Code 17)

A file system object of the specified target name (when creating, renaming or linking) already exists.

## 13.1.4.4. NFS4ERR\_FBIG (Error Code 27)

Filesystem object too large. The operation would have caused a file system object to grow beyond the server's limit.

## 13.1.4.5. NFS4ERR\_FILE\_OPEN (Error Code 10046)

The operation is not allowed because a file system object involved in the operation is currently open. Servers may, but are not required to disallow linking-to, removing, or renaming open file system objects.

## 13.1.4.6. NFS4ERR\_IO (Error Code 5)

Indicates that an I/O error occurred for which the file system was unable to provide recovery.

## 13.1.4.7. NFS4ERR\_MLINK (Error Code 31)

The request would have caused the server's limit for the number of hard links a file system object may have to be exceeded.

## 13.1.4.8. NFS4ERR\_NOENT (Error Code 2)

Indicates no such file or directory. The file system object referenced by the name specified does not exist.

## 13.1.4.9. NFS4ERR\_NOSPC (Error Code 28)

Indicates no space left on device. The operation would have caused the server's file system to exceed its limit.

## 13.1.4.10. NFS4ERR\_NOTEMPTY (Error Code 66)

An attempt was made to remove a directory that was not empty.

## 13.1.4.11. NFS4ERR\_NXIO (Error Code 6)

I/O error. No such device or address.

## 13.1.4.12. NFS4ERR\_RESTOREFH (Error Code 10030)

The RESTOREFH operation does not have a saved filehandle (identified by SAVEFH) to operate upon.

## 13.1.4.13. NFS4ERR\_ROFS (Error Code 30)

Indicates a read-only file system. A modifying operation was attempted on a read-only file system.

## 13.1.4.14. NFS4ERR\_XDEV (Error Code 18)

Indicates an attempt to do an operation, such as linking, that inappropriately crosses a boundary. This may be due to such boundaries as:

- o That between file systems (where the fsids are different).
- o That between different named attribute directories or between a named attribute directory and an ordinary directory.
- o That between regions of a file system that the file system implementation treats as separate (for example for space accounting purposes), and where cross-connection between the regions are not allowed.

## 13.1.5. State Management Errors

These errors indicate problems with the stateid (or one of the stateids) passed to a given operation. This includes situations in which the stateid is invalid as well as situations in which the stateid is valid but designates revoked locking state. Depending on the operation, the stateid when valid may designate opens, byte-range locks, or file delegations.

## 13.1.5.1. NFS4ERR\_ADMIN\_REVOKED (Error Code 10047)

A stateid designates locking state of any type that has been revoked due to administrative interaction, possibly while the lease is valid, or because a delegation was revoked because of failure to return it, while the lease was valid.

## 13.1.5.2. NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID (Error Code 10025)

A stateid generated by the current server instance was used which either:

- o Does not designate any locking state (either current or superseded) for a current (state-owner, file) pair.
- o Designates locking state that was freed after lease expiration but without any lease cancellation, as may happen in the handling of "courtesy locks".

#### 13.1.5.3. NFS4ERR\_EXPIRED (Error Code 10011)

A stateid or clientid designates locking state of any type that has been revoked or released due to cancellation of the client's lease, either immediately upon lease expiration, or following a later request for a conflicting lock.

#### 13.1.5.4. NFS4ERR\_LEASE\_MOVED (Error Code 10031)

A lease being renewed is associated with a file system that has been migrated to a new server.

#### 13.1.5.5. NFS4ERR\_OLD\_STATEID (Error Code 10024)

A stateid is provided with a seqid value that is not the most current.

#### 13.1.5.6. NFS4ERR\_STALE\_STATEID (Error Code 10023)

A stateid generated by an earlier server instance was used.

#### 13.1.6. Security Errors

These are the various permission-related errors in NFSv4.

##### 13.1.6.1. NFS4ERR\_ACCESS (Error Code 13)

Indicates permission denied. The caller does not have the correct permission to perform the requested operation. Contrast this with NFS4ERR\_PERM (Section 13.1.6.2), which restricts itself to owner or privileged user permission failures.

##### 13.1.6.2. NFS4ERR\_PERM (Error Code 1)

Indicates requester is not the owner. The operation was not allowed because the caller is neither a privileged user (root) nor the owner of the target of the operation.

#### 13.1.6.3. NFS4ERR\_WRONGSEC (Error Code 10016)

Indicates that the security mechanism being used by the client for the operation does not match the server's security policy. The client should change the security mechanism being used and re-send the operation. SECINFO can be used to determine the appropriate mechanism.

#### 13.1.7. Name Errors

Names in NFSv4 are UTF-8 strings. When the strings are not of length zero, the error NFS4ERR\_INVALID results. When they are not valid UTF-8 the error NFS4ERR\_INVALID also results, but servers may accommodate file systems with different character formats and not return this error. Besides this, there are a number of other errors to indicate specific problems with names.

##### 13.1.7.1. NFS4ERR\_BADCHAR (Error Code 10040)

A UTF-8 string contains a character which is not supported by the server in the context in which it is being used.

##### 13.1.7.2. NFS4ERR\_BADNAME (Error Code 10041)

A name string in a request consisted of valid UTF-8 characters supported by the server but the name is not supported by the server as a valid name for current operation. An example might be creating a file or directory named ".." on a server whose file system uses that name for links to parent directories.

This error should not be returned due a normalization issue in a string. When a file system keeps names in a particular normalization form, it is the server's responsibility to do the appropriate normalization, rather than rejecting the name.

##### 13.1.7.3. NFS4ERR\_NAMETOOLONG (Error Code 63)

Returned when the filename in an operation exceeds the server's implementation limit.

#### 13.1.8. Locking Errors

This section deal with errors related to locking, both as to share reservations and byte-range locking. It does not deal with errors specific to the process of reclaiming locks. Those are dealt with in the next section.

## 13.1.8.1. NFS4ERR\_BAD\_RANGE (Error Code 10042)

The range for a LOCK, LOCKT, or LOCKU operation is not appropriate to the allowable range of offsets for the server. E.g., this error results when a server which only supports 32-bit ranges receives a range that cannot be handled by that server. (See Section 15.12.4).

## 13.1.8.2. NFS4ERR\_BAD\_SEQID (Error Code 10026)

The sequence number (seqid) in a locking request is neither the next expected number or the last number processed.

## 13.1.8.3. NFS4ERR\_DEADLOCK (Error Code 10045)

The server has been able to determine a file locking deadlock condition for a blocking lock request.

## 13.1.8.4. NFS4ERR\_DENIED (Error Code 10010)

An attempt to lock a file is denied. Since this may be a temporary condition, the client is encouraged to re-send the lock request until the lock is accepted. See Section 9.4 for a discussion of the re-send.

## 13.1.8.5. NFS4ERR\_LOCKED (Error Code 10012)

A read or write operation was attempted on a file where there was a conflict between the I/O and an existing lock:

- o There is a share reservation inconsistent with the I/O being done.
- o The range to be read or written intersects an existing mandatory byte range lock.

## 13.1.8.6. NFS4ERR\_LOCKS\_HELD (Error Code 10037)

An operation was prevented by the unexpected presence of locks.

## 13.1.8.7. NFS4ERR\_LOCK\_NOTSUPP (Error Code 10043)

A locking request was attempted which would require the upgrade or downgrade of a lock range already held by the owner when the server does not support atomic upgrade or downgrade of locks.

#### 13.1.8.8. NFS4ERR\_LOCK\_RANGE (Error Code 10028)

A lock request is operating on a range that overlaps in part a currently held lock for the current lock-owner and does not precisely match a single such lock where the server does not support this type of request, and thus does not implement POSIX locking semantics [fcntl]. See Section 15.12.5, Section 15.13.5, and Section 15.14.5 for a discussion of how this applies to LOCK, LOCKT, and LOCKU respectively.

#### 13.1.8.9. NFS4ERR\_OPENMODE (Error Code 10038)

The client attempted a READ, WRITE, LOCK or other operation not sanctioned by the stateid passed (e.g., writing to a file opened only for read).

#### 13.1.8.10. NFS4ERR\_SHARE\_DENIED (Error Code 10015)

An attempt to OPEN a file with a share reservation has failed because of a share conflict.

#### 13.1.9. Reclaim Errors

These errors relate to the process of reclaiming locks after a server restart.

##### 13.1.9.1. NFS4ERR\_GRACE (Error Code 10013)

The server is in its recovery or grace period which should at least match the lease period of the server. A locking request other than a reclaim could not be granted during that period.

##### 13.1.9.2. NFS4ERR\_NO\_GRACE (Error Code 10033)

The server cannot guarantee that it has not granted state to another client which may conflict with this client's state. No further reclaims from this client will succeed.

##### 13.1.9.3. NFS4ERR\_RECLAIM\_BAD (Error Code 10034)

The server cannot guarantee that it has not granted state to another client which may conflict with the requested state. However, this applies only to the state requested in this call; further reclaims may succeed.

Unlike NFS4ERR\_RECLAIM\_CONFLICT, this can occur between correctly functioning clients and servers: the "edge condition" scenarios described in Section 9.6.3.1 leave only the server knowing whether

the client's locks are still valid, and NFS4ERR\_RECLAIM\_BAD is the server's way of informing the client that they are not.

#### 13.1.9.4. NFS4ERR\_RECLAIM\_CONFLICT (Error Code 10035)

The reclaim attempted by the client conflicts with a lock already held by another client. Unlike NFS4ERR\_RECLAIM\_BAD, this can only occur if one of the clients misbehaved.

#### 13.1.10. Client Management Errors

This sections deals with errors associated with requests used to create and manage client IDs.

##### 13.1.10.1. NFS4ERR\_CLID\_INUSE (Error Code 10017)

The SETCLIENTID operation has found that a clientid is already in use by another client.

##### 13.1.10.2. NFS4ERR\_STALE\_CLIENTID (Error Code 10022)

A client ID not recognized by the server was used in a locking or SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM request.

#### 13.1.11. Attribute Handling Errors

This section deals with errors specific to attribute handling within NFSv4.

##### 13.1.11.1. NFS4ERR\_ATTRNOTSUPP (Error Code 10032)

An attribute specified is not supported by the server. This error MUST NOT be returned by the GETATTR operation.

##### 13.1.11.2. NFS4ERR\_BADOWNER (Error Code 10039)

Returned when an owner or owner\_group attribute value or the who field of an ace within an ACL attribute value cannot be translated to a local representation.

##### 13.1.11.3. NFS4ERR\_NOT\_SAME (Error Code 10027)

This error is returned by the VERIFY operation to signify that the attributes compared were not the same as those provided in the client's request.

## 13.1.11.4. NFS4ERR\_SAME (Error Code 10009)

This error is returned by the NVERIFY operation to signify that the attributes compared were the same as those provided in the client's request.

## 13.1.12. Miscellaneous Errors

## 13.1.12.1. NFS4ERR\_CB\_PATH\_DOWN (Error Code 10048)

There is a problem contacting the client via the callback path.

## 13.2. Operations and their valid errors

This section contains a table which gives the valid error returns for each protocol operation. The error code NFS4\_OK (indicating no error) is not listed but should be understood to be returnable by all operations except ILLEGAL.

Valid error returns for each protocol operation

Operation	Errors
ACCESS	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_INVALID, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE
CLOSE	NFS4ERR_ADMIN_REVOKED, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BAD_SEQID, NFS4ERR_BAD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_EXPIRED, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_INVALID, NFS4ERR_ISDIR, NFS4ERR_LEASE_MOVED, NFS4ERR_LOCKS_HELD, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_OLD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_STALE_STATEID
COMMIT	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_INVALID, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_ISDIR, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_ROFS, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT,

	NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_SYMLINK
CREATE	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_ATTRNOTSUPP, NFS4ERR_BADCHAR, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADNAME, NFS4ERR_BADOWNER, NFS4ERR_BADTYPE, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_DQUOT, NFS4ERR_EXIST, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_INVAL, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NAMETOOLONG, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_NOSPC, NFS4ERR_NOTDIR, NFS4ERR_PERM, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_ROFS, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE
DELEGPURGE	NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_NOTSUPP, NFS4ERR_LEASE_MOVED, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE_CLIENTID
DELEGRETURN	NFS4ERR_ADMIN_REVOKED, NFS4ERR_BAD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_EXPIRED, NFS4ERR_INVAL, NFS4ERR_LEASE_MOVED, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_NOTSUPP, NFS4ERR_OLD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_STALE_STATEID
GETATTR	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_GRACE, NFS4ERR_INVAL, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE
GETFH	NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE
ILLEGAL	NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_OP_ILLEGAL
LINK	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_BADCHAR, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADNAME, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_DQUOT, NFS4ERR_EXIST, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_FILE_OPEN,

	NFS4ERR_INVAL, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_ISDIR, NFS4ERR_MLINK, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NAMETOOLONG, NFS4ERR_NOENT, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_NOSPC, NFS4ERR_NOTDIR, NFS4ERR_NOTSUPP, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_ROFS, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_WRONGSEC, NFS4ERR_XDEV
LOCK	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_ADMIN_REVOKED, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BAD_RANGE, NFS4ERR_BAD_SEQID, NFS4ERR_BAD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DEADLOCK, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_DENIED, NFS4ERR_EXPIRED, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_GRACE, NFS4ERR_INVAL, NFS4ERR_ISDIR, NFS4ERR_LEASE_MOVED, NFS4ERR_LOCK_NOTSUPP, NFS4ERR_LOCK_RANGE, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_NO_GRACE, NFS4ERR_OLD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_OPENMODE, NFS4ERR_RECLAIM_BAD, NFS4ERR_RECLAIM_CONFLICT, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_STALE_CLIENTID, NFS4ERR_STALE_STATEID
LOCKT	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BAD_RANGE, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_DENIED, NFS4ERR_EXPIRED, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_GRACE, NFS4ERR_INVAL, NFS4ERR_ISDIR, NFS4ERR_LEASE_MOVED, NFS4ERR_LOCK_RANGE, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_STALE_CLIENTID
LOCKU	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_ADMIN_REVOKED, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BAD_RANGE, NFS4ERR_BAD_SEQID, NFS4ERR_BAD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_EXPIRED, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_GRACE, NFS4ERR_INVAL, NFS4ERR_ISDIR, NFS4ERR_LEASE_MOVED, NFS4ERR_LOCK_RANGE, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_OLD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_STALE_STATEID

LOOKUP	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_BADCHAR, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADNAME, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_INVALID, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NAMETOOLONG, NFS4ERR_NOENT, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_NOTDIR, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_SYMLINK, NFS4ERR_WRONGSEC
LOOKUPP	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOENT, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_NOTDIR, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_SYMLINK, NFS4ERR_WRONGSEC
NVERIFY	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_ATTRNOTSUPP, NFS4ERR_BADCHAR, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_GRACE, NFS4ERR_INVALID, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_SAME, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE
OPEN	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_ADMIN_REVOKED, NFS4ERR_ATTRNOTSUPP, NFS4ERR_BADCHAR, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADNAME, NFS4ERR_BADOWNER, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_BAD_SEQID, NFS4ERR_BAD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_DQUOT, NFS4ERR_EXIST, NFS4ERR_EXPIRED, NFS4ERR_FBIG, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_GRACE, NFS4ERR_INVALID, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_ISDIR, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NAMETOOLONG, NFS4ERR_NOENT, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_NOSPC, NFS4ERR_NOTDIR, NFS4ERR_NOTSUPP, NFS4ERR_NO_GRACE, NFS4ERR_OLD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_PERM, NFS4ERR_RECLAIM_BAD, NFS4ERR_RECLAIM_CONFLICT, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_ROFS, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_SHARE_DENIED, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_STALE_CLIENTID, NFS4ERR_SYMLINK, NFS4ERR_WRONGSEC

OPENATTR	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_DQUOT, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOENT, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_NOSPC, NFS4ERR_NOTSUPP, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_ROFS, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE
OPEN_CONFIRM	NFS4ERR_ADMIN_REVOKED, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BAD_SEQID, NFS4ERR_BAD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_EXPIRED, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_INVALID, NFS4ERR_ISDIR, NFS4ERR_LEASE_MOVED, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_OLD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_STALE_STATEID
OPEN_DOWNGRADE	NFS4ERR_ADMIN_REVOKED, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_BAD_SEQID, NFS4ERR_BAD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_EXPIRED, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_INVALID, NFS4ERR_LEASE_MOVED, NFS4ERR_LOCKS_HELD, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_OLD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_ROFS, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_STALE_STATEID
PUTFH	NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_WRONGSEC
PUTPUBFH	NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_WRONGSEC
PUTROOTFH	NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_WRONGSEC
READ	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_ADMIN_REVOKED, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_BAD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_EXPIRED, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_GRACE, NFS4ERR_INVALID, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_ISDIR, NFS4ERR_LEASE_MOVED,

	NFS4ERR_LOCKED, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_OLD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_OPENMODE, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_STALE_STATEID, NFS4ERR_SYMLINK
READDIR	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_BAD_COOKIE, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_INVAL, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_NOTDIR, NFS4ERR_NOT_SAME, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_TOOSMALL
READLINK	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_INVAL, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_ISDIR, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOTSUP, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE
RELEASE_LOCKOWNER	NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_EXPIRED, NFS4ERR_LEASE_MOVED, NFS4ERR_LOCKS_HELD, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE_CLIENTID
REMOVE	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_BADCHAR, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADNAME, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_FILE_OPEN, NFS4ERR_GRACE, NFS4ERR_INVAL, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NAMETOOLONG, NFS4ERR_NOENT, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_NOTDIR, NFS4ERR_NOTEMPTY, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_ROFS, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE
RENAME	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_BADCHAR, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADNAME, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_DQUOT, NFS4ERR_EXIST, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_FILE_OPEN, NFS4ERR_GRACE, NFS4ERR_INVAL, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NAMETOOLONG, NFS4ERR_NOENT, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_NOSPC, NFS4ERR_NOTDIR, NFS4ERR_NOTEMPTY, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE,

	NFS4ERR_ROFS, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_WRONGSEC, NFS4ERR_XDEV
RENEW	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_CB_PATH_DOWN, NFS4ERR_EXPIRED, NFS4ERR_LEASE_MOVED, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE_CLIENTID
RESTOREFH	NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_RESTOREFH, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_WRONGSEC
SAVEFH	NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE
SECINFO	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_BADCHAR, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADNAME, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_INVALID, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NAMETOOLONG, NFS4ERR_NOENT, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_NOTDIR, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE
SETATTR	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_ADMIN_REVOKED, NFS4ERR_ATTRNOTSUPP, NFS4ERR_BADCHAR, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADOWNER, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_BAD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_DQUOT, NFS4ERR_EXPIRED, NFS4ERR_FBIG, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_GRACE, NFS4ERR_INVALID, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_ISDIR, NFS4ERR_LEASE_MOVED, NFS4ERR_LOCKED, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_NOSPC, NFS4ERR_OLD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_OPENMODE, NFS4ERR_PERM, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_ROFS, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_STALE_STATEID
SETCLIENTID	NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_CLID_INUSE, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_INVALID, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT

SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM	NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_CLID_INUSE, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE_CLIENTID
VERIFY	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_ATTRNOTSUPP, NFS4ERR_BADCHAR, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_GRACE, NFS4ERR_INVALID, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_NOT_SAME, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE
WRITE	NFS4ERR_ACCESS, NFS4ERR_ADMIN_REVOKED, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BAD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_DQUOT, NFS4ERR_EXPIRED, NFS4ERR_FBIG, NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED, NFS4ERR_GRACE, NFS4ERR_INVALID, NFS4ERR_IO, NFS4ERR_ISDIR, NFS4ERR_LEASE_MOVED, NFS4ERR_LOCKED, NFS4ERR_MOVED, NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE, NFS4ERR_NOSPC, NFS4ERR_NXIO, NFS4ERR_OLD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_OPENMODE, NFS4ERR_RESOURCE, NFS4ERR_ROFS, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT, NFS4ERR_STALE, NFS4ERR_STALE_STATEID, NFS4ERR_SYMLINK

Table 7

### 13.3. Callback operations and their valid errors

This section contains a table which gives the valid error returns for each callback operation. The error code NFS4\_OK (indicating no error) is not listed but should be understood to be returnable by all callback operations with the exception of CB\_ILLEGAL.

Valid error returns for each protocol callback operation

Callback Operation	Errors
CB_GETATTR	NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_INVAL, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT
CB_ILLEGAL	NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_OP_ILLEGAL
CB_RECALL	NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE, NFS4ERR_BADXDR, NFS4ERR_BAD_STATEID, NFS4ERR_DELAY, NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT

Table 8

#### 13.4. Errors and the operations that use them

Errors and the operations that use them

Error	Operations
NFS4ERR_ACCESS	ACCESS, COMMIT, CREATE, GETATTR, LINK, LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU, LOOKUP, LOOKUPP, NVERIFY, OPEN, OPENATTR, READ, REaddir, READLINK, REMOVE, RENAME, RENEW, SECINFO, SETATTR, VERIFY, WRITE
NFS4ERR_ADMIN_REVOKED	CLOSE, DELEGRETURN, LOCK, LOCKU, OPEN, OPEN_CONFIRM, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, READ, SETATTR, WRITE
NFS4ERR_ATTRNOTSUPP	CREATE, NVERIFY, OPEN, SETATTR, VERIFY
NFS4ERR_BADCHAR	CREATE, LINK, LOOKUP, NVERIFY, OPEN, REMOVE, RENAME, SECINFO, SETATTR, VERIFY
NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE	ACCESS, CB_GETATTR, CB_RECALL, CLOSE, COMMIT, CREATE, GETATTR, GETFH, LINK, LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU, LOOKUP, LOOKUPP, NVERIFY, OPEN, OPENATTR, OPEN_CONFIRM, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, PUTFH, READ, REaddir, READLINK, REMOVE, RENAME, RESTOREFH,

	SAVEFH, SECINFO, SETATTR, VERIFY, WRITE
NFS4ERR_BADNAME	CREATE, LINK, LOOKUP, OPEN, REMOVE, RENAME, SECINFO
NFS4ERR_BADOWNER	CREATE, OPEN, SETATTR
NFS4ERR_BADTYPE	CREATE
NFS4ERR_BADXDR	ACCESS, CB_GETATTR, CB_ILLEGAL, CB_RECALL, CLOSE, COMMIT, CREATE, DELEGPURGE, DELEGRETURN, GETATTR, ILLEGAL, LINK, LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU, LOOKUP, NVERIFY, OPEN, OPENATTR, OPEN_CONFIRM, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, PUTFH, READ, READDIR, RELEASE_LOCKOWNER, REMOVE, RENAME, RENEW, SECINFO, SETATTR, SETCLIENTID, SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM, VERIFY, WRITE
NFS4ERR_BAD_COOKIE	READDIR
NFS4ERR_BAD_RANGE	LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU
NFS4ERR_BAD_SEQID	CLOSE, LOCK, LOCKU, OPEN, OPEN_CONFIRM, OPEN_DOWNGRADE
NFS4ERR_BAD_STATEID	CB_RECALL, CLOSE, DELEGRETURN, LOCK, LOCKU, OPEN, OPEN_CONFIRM, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, READ, SETATTR, WRITE
NFS4ERR_CB_PATH_DOWN	RENEW
NFS4ERR_CLID_INUSE	SETCLIENTID, SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM
NFS4ERR_DEADLOCK	LOCK
NFS4ERR_DELAY	ACCESS, CB_GETATTR, CB_RECALL, CLOSE, COMMIT, CREATE, DELEGPURGE, DELEGRETURN, GETATTR, LINK, LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU, LOOKUP, LOOKUPP, NVERIFY, OPEN, OPENATTR, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, PUTFH, PUTPUBFH, PUTROOTFH, READ, READDIR, READLINK, REMOVE, RENAME, SECINFO, SETATTR, SETCLIENTID, SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM, VERIFY, WRITE

NFS4ERR_DENIED	LOCK, LOCKT
NFS4ERR_DQUOT	CREATE, LINK, OPEN, OPENATTR, RENAME, SETATTR, WRITE
NFS4ERR_EXIST	CREATE, LINK, OPEN, RENAME
NFS4ERR_EXPIRED	CLOSE, DELEGRETURN, LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU, OPEN, OPEN_CONFIRM, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, READ, RELEASE_LOCKOWNER, RENEW, SETATTR, WRITE
NFS4ERR_FBIG	OPEN, SETATTR, WRITE
NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED	ACCESS, CLOSE, COMMIT, CREATE, GETATTR, GETFH, LINK, LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU, LOOKUP, LOOKUPP, NVERIFY, OPEN, OPENATTR, OPEN_CONFIRM, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, PUTFH, READ, READDIR, READLINK, REMOVE, RENAME, RESTOREFH, SAVEFH, SECINFO, SETATTR, VERIFY, WRITE
NFS4ERR_FILE_OPEN	LINK, REMOVE, RENAME
NFS4ERR_GRACE	GETATTR, LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU, NVERIFY, OPEN, READ, REMOVE, RENAME, SETATTR, VERIFY, WRITE
NFS4ERR_INVAL	ACCESS, CB_GETATTR, CLOSE, COMMIT, CREATE, DELEGRETURN, GETATTR, LINK, LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU, LOOKUP, NVERIFY, OPEN, OPEN_CONFIRM, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, READ, READDIR, READLINK, REMOVE, RENAME, SECINFO, SETATTR, SETCLIENTID, VERIFY, WRITE
NFS4ERR_IO	ACCESS, COMMIT, CREATE, GETATTR, LINK, LOOKUP, LOOKUPP, NVERIFY, OPEN, OPENATTR, READ, READDIR, READLINK, REMOVE, RENAME, SETATTR, VERIFY, WRITE
NFS4ERR_ISDIR	CLOSE, COMMIT, LINK, LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU, OPEN, OPEN_CONFIRM, READ, READLINK, SETATTR, WRITE

NFS4ERR_LEASE_MOVED	CLOSE, DELEGPURGE, DELEGRETURN, LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU, OPEN_CONFIRM, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, READ, RELEASE_LOCKOWNER, RENEW, SETATTR, WRITE
NFS4ERR_LOCKED	READ, SETATTR, WRITE
NFS4ERR_LOCKS_HELD	CLOSE, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, RELEASE_LOCKOWNER
NFS4ERR_LOCK_NOTSUPP	LOCK
NFS4ERR_LOCK_RANGE	LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU
NFS4ERR_MLINK	LINK
NFS4ERR_MOVED	ACCESS, CLOSE, COMMIT, CREATE, DELEGRETURN, GETATTR, GETFH, LINK, LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU, LOOKUP, LOOKUPP, NVERIFY, OPEN, OPENATTR, OPEN_CONFIRM, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, PUTFH, READ, READDIR, READLINK, REMOVE, RENAME, RESTOREFH, SAVEFH, SECINFO, SETATTR, VERIFY, WRITE
NFS4ERR_NAMETOOLONG	CREATE, LINK, LOOKUP, OPEN, REMOVE, RENAME, SECINFO
NFS4ERR_NOENT	LINK, LOOKUP, LOOKUPP, OPEN, OPENATTR, REMOVE, RENAME, SECINFO
NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE	ACCESS, CLOSE, COMMIT, CREATE, DELEGRETURN, GETATTR, GETFH, LINK, LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU, LOOKUP, LOOKUPP, NVERIFY, OPEN, OPENATTR, OPEN_CONFIRM, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, READ, READDIR, READLINK, REMOVE, RENAME, SAVEFH, SECINFO, SETATTR, VERIFY, WRITE
NFS4ERR_NOSPC	CREATE, LINK, OPEN, OPENATTR, RENAME, SETATTR, WRITE
NFS4ERR_NOTDIR	CREATE, LINK, LOOKUP, LOOKUPP, OPEN, READDIR, REMOVE, RENAME, SECINFO
NFS4ERR_NOTEMPTY	REMOVE, RENAME

NFS4ERR_NOTSUP	OPEN, READLINK
NFS4ERR_NOTSUPP	DELEGPURGE, DELEGRETURN, LINK, OPENATTR
NFS4ERR_NOT_SAME	REaddir, VERIFY
NFS4ERR_NO_GRACE	LOCK, OPEN
NFS4ERR_NXIO	WRITE
NFS4ERR_OLD_STATEID	CLOSE, DELEGRETURN, LOCK, LOCKU, OPEN, OPEN_CONFIRM, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, READ, SETATTR, WRITE
NFS4ERR_OPENMODE	LOCK, READ, SETATTR, WRITE
NFS4ERR_OP_ILLEGAL	CB_ILLEGAL, ILLEGAL
NFS4ERR_PERM	CREATE, OPEN, SETATTR
NFS4ERR_RECLAIM_BAD	LOCK, OPEN
NFS4ERR_RECLAIM_CONFLICT	LOCK, OPEN
NFS4ERR_RESOURCE	ACCESS, CLOSE, COMMIT, CREATE, DELEGPURGE, DELEGRETURN, GETATTR, GETFH, LINK, LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU, LOOKUP, LOOKUPP, OPEN, OPENATTR, OPEN_CONFIRM, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, READ, REaddir, READLINK, RELEASE_LOCKOWNER, REMOVE, RENAME, RENEW, RESTOREFH, SAVEFH, SECINFO, SETATTR, SETCLIENTID, SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM, VERIFY, WRITE
NFS4ERR_RESTOREFH	RESTOREFH
NFS4ERR_ROFS	COMMIT, CREATE, LINK, OPEN, OPENATTR, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, REMOVE, RENAME, SETATTR, WRITE
NFS4ERR_SAME	NVERIFY
NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT	ACCESS, CB_GETATTR, CB_RECALL, CLOSE, COMMIT, CREATE, DELEGPURGE, DELEGRETURN, GETATTR, GETFH, LINK, LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU, LOOKUP, LOOKUPP, NVERIFY, OPEN, OPENATTR, OPEN_CONFIRM,

	OPEN_DOWNGRADE, PUTFH, PUTPUBFH, PUTROOTFH, READ, READDIR, READLINK, RELEASE_LOCKOWNER, REMOVE, RENAME, RENEW, RESTOREFH, SAVEFH, SECINFO, SETATTR, SETCLIENTID, SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM, VERIFY, WRITE
NFS4ERR_SHARE_DENIED	OPEN
NFS4ERR_STALE	ACCESS, CLOSE, COMMIT, CREATE, DELEGRETURN, GETATTR, GETFH, LINK, LOCK, LOCKT, LOCKU, LOOKUP, LOOKUPP, NVERIFY, OPEN, OPENATTR, OPEN_CONFIRM, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, PUTFH, READ, READDIR, READLINK, REMOVE, RENAME, RESTOREFH, SAVEFH, SECINFO, SETATTR, VERIFY, WRITE
NFS4ERR_STALE_CLIENTID	DELEGPURGE, LOCK, LOCKT, OPEN, RELEASE_LOCKOWNER, RENEW, SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM
NFS4ERR_STALE_STATEID	CLOSE, DELEGRETURN, LOCK, LOCKU, OPEN_CONFIRM, OPEN_DOWNGRADE, READ, SETATTR, WRITE
NFS4ERR_SYMLINK	COMMIT, LOOKUP, LOOKUPP, OPEN, READ, WRITE
NFS4ERR_TOOSMALL	READDIR
NFS4ERR_WRONGSEC	LINK, LOOKUP, LOOKUPP, OPEN, PUTFH, PUTPUBFH, PUTROOTFH, RENAME, RESTOREFH
NFS4ERR_XDEV	LINK, RENAME

Table 9

#### 14. NFSv4 Requests

For the NFSv4 RPC program, there are two traditional RPC procedures: NULL and COMPOUND. All other functionality is defined as a set of operations and these operations are defined in normal XDR/RPC syntax and semantics. However, these operations are encapsulated within the COMPOUND procedure. This requires that the client combine one or more of the NFSv4 operations into a single request.

The NFS4\_CALLBACK program is used to provide server to client signaling and is constructed in a similar fashion as the NFSv4 program. The procedures CB\_NULL and CB\_COMPOUND are defined in the same way as NULL and COMPOUND are within the NFS program. The CB\_COMPOUND request also encapsulates the remaining operations of the NFS4\_CALLBACK program. There is no predefined RPC program number for the NFS4\_CALLBACK program. It is up to the client to specify a program number in the "transient" program range. The program and port number of the NFS4\_CALLBACK program are provided by the client as part of the SETCLIENTID/SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM sequence. The program and port can be changed by another SETCLIENTID/SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM sequence, and it is possible to use the sequence to change them within a client incarnation without removing relevant leased client state.

#### 14.1. Compound Procedure

The COMPOUND procedure provides the opportunity for better performance within high latency networks. The client can avoid cumulative latency of multiple RPCs by combining multiple dependent operations into a single COMPOUND procedure. A compound operation may provide for protocol simplification by allowing the client to combine basic procedures into a single request that is customized for the client's environment.

The CB\_COMPOUND procedure precisely parallels the features of COMPOUND as described above.

The basic structure of the COMPOUND procedure is:

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| tag | minorversion | numops | op + args | op + args | op + args |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
```

and the reply's structure is:

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
|last status | tag | numres | status + op + results |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
```

The numops and numres fields, used in the depiction above, represent the count for the counted array encoding use to signify the number of arguments or results encoded in the request and response. As per the XDR encoding, these counts must match exactly the number of operation arguments or results encoded.

#### 14.2. Evaluation of a Compound Request

The server will process the COMPOUND procedure by evaluating each of the operations within the COMPOUND procedure in order. Each component operation consists of a 32 bit operation code, followed by the argument of length determined by the type of operation. The results of each operation are encoded in sequence into a reply buffer. The results of each operation are preceded by the opcode and a status code (normally zero). If an operation results in a non-zero status code, the status will be encoded and evaluation of the compound sequence will halt and the reply will be returned. Note that evaluation stops even in the event of "non error" conditions such as NFS4ERR\_SAME.

There are no atomicity requirements for the operations contained within the COMPOUND procedure. The operations being evaluated as part of a COMPOUND request may be evaluated simultaneously with other COMPOUND requests that the server receives.

A COMPOUND is not a transaction and it is the client's responsibility for recovering from any partially completed COMPOUND procedure. These may occur at any point due to errors such as NFS4ERR\_RESOURCE and NFS4ERR\_DELAY. Note that these errors can occur in an otherwise valid operation string. Further, a server reboot which occurs in the middle of processing a COMPOUND procedure may leave the client with the difficult task of determining how far COMPOUND processing has proceeded. Therefore, the client should avoid overly complex COMPOUND procedures in the event of the failure of an operation within the procedure.

Each operation assumes a "current" and "saved" filehandle that is available as part of the execution context of the compound request. Operations may set, change, or return the current filehandle. The "saved" filehandle is used for temporary storage of a filehandle value and as operands for the RENAME and LINK operations.

#### 14.3. Synchronous Modifying Operations

NFSv4 operations that modify the file system are synchronous. When an operation is successfully completed at the server, the client can depend that any data associated with the request is now on stable storage (the one exception is in the case of the file data in a WRITE operation with the UNSTABLE4 option specified).

This implies that any previous operations within the same compound request are also reflected in stable storage. This behavior enables the client's ability to recover from a partially executed compound request which may result from the failure of the server. For

example, if a compound request contains operations A and B and the server is unable to send a response to the client, depending on the progress the server made in servicing the request the result of both operations may be reflected in stable storage or just operation A may be reflected. The server must not have just the results of operation B in stable storage.

#### 14.4. Operation Values

The operations encoded in the COMPOUND procedure are identified by operation values. To avoid overlap with the RPC procedure numbers, operations 0 (zero) and 1 are not defined. Operation 2 is not defined but reserved for future use with minor versioning.

### 15. NFSv4 Procedures

[RFC Editor: prior to publishing this document as an RFC, please have every Section that has a title of "Procedure X:" or "Operation Y:" start at the top of a new page.]

#### 15.1. Procedure 0: NULL - No Operation

##### 15.1.1. SYNOPSIS

<null>

##### 15.1.2. ARGUMENT

void;

##### 15.1.3. RESULT

void;

##### 15.1.4. DESCRIPTION

Standard NULL procedure. Void argument, void response. This procedure has no functionality associated with it. Because of this it is sometimes used to measure the overhead of processing a service request. Therefore, the server should ensure that no unnecessary work is done in servicing this procedure.

#### 15.2. Procedure 1: COMPOUND - Compound Operations

## 15.2.1. SYNOPSIS

```
compoundargs -> compoundres
```

## 15.2.2. ARGUMENT

```
union nfs_argop4 switch (nfs_opnum4 argop) {
    case <OPCODE>: <argument>;
    ...
};

struct COMPOUND4args {
    utf8str_cs      tag;
    uint32_t        minorversion;
    nfs_argop4      argarray<>;
};
```

## 15.2.3. RESULT

```
union nfs_resop4 switch (nfs_opnum4 resop) {
    case <OPCODE>: <argument>;
    ...
};

struct COMPOUND4res {
    nfsstat4        status;
    utf8str_cs      tag;
    nfs_resop4      resarray<>;
};
```

## 15.2.4. DESCRIPTION

The COMPOUND procedure is used to combine one or more of the NFS operations into a single RPC request. The main NFS RPC program has two main procedures: NULL and COMPOUND. All other operations use the COMPOUND procedure as a wrapper.

The COMPOUND procedure is used to combine individual operations into a single RPC request. The server interprets each of the operations in turn. If an operation is executed by the server and the status of that operation is NFS4\_OK, then the next operation in the COMPOUND procedure is executed. The server continues this process until there are no more operations to be executed or one of the operations has a status value other than NFS4\_OK.

In the processing of the COMPOUND procedure, the server may find that it does not have the available resources to execute any or all of the operations within the COMPOUND sequence. In this case, the error

NFS4ERR\_RESOURCE will be returned for the particular operation within the COMPOUND procedure where the resource exhaustion occurred. This assumes that all previous operations within the COMPOUND sequence have been evaluated successfully. The results for all of the evaluated operations must be returned to the client.

The server will generally choose between two methods of decoding the client's request. The first would be the traditional one-pass XDR decode, in which decoding of the entire COMPOUND precedes execution of any operation within it. If there is an XDR decoding error in this case, an RPC XDR decode error would be returned. The second method would be to make an initial pass to decode the basic COMPOUND request and then to XDR decode each of the individual operations, as the server is ready to execute it. In this case, the server may encounter an XDR decode error during such an operation decode, after previous operations within the COMPOUND have been executed. In this case, the server would return the error NFS4ERR\_BADXDR to signify the decode error.

The COMPOUND arguments contain a "minorversion" field. The initial and default value for this field is 0 (zero). This field will be used by future minor versions such that the client can communicate to the server what minor version is being requested. If the server receives a COMPOUND procedure with a minorversion field value that it does not support, the server MUST return an error of NFS4ERR\_MINOR\_VERS\_MISMATCH and a zero length resultdata array.

Contained within the COMPOUND results is a "status" field. If the results array length is non-zero, this status must be equivalent to the status of the last operation that was executed within the COMPOUND procedure. Therefore, if an operation incurred an error then the "status" value will be the same error value as is being returned for the operation that failed.

Note that operations, 0 (zero), 1 (one), and 2 (two) are not defined for the COMPOUND procedure. It is possible that the server receives a request that contains an operation that is less than the first legal operation (OP\_ACCESS) or greater than the last legal operation (OP\_RELEASE\_LOCKOWNER). In this case, the server's response will encode the opcode OP\_ILLEGAL rather than the illegal opcode of the request. The status field in the ILLEGAL return results will set to NFS4ERR\_OP\_ILLEGAL. The COMPOUND procedure's return results will also be NFS4ERR\_OP\_ILLEGAL.

The definition of the "tag" in the request is left to the implementer. It may be used to summarize the content of the compound request for the benefit of packet sniffers and engineers debugging implementations. However, the value of "tag" in the response SHOULD

be the same value as provided in the request. This applies to the tag field of the CB\_COMPOUND procedure as well.

#### 15.2.4.1. Current Filehandle

The current and saved filehandle are used throughout the protocol. Most operations implicitly use the current filehandle as a argument and many set the current filehandle as part of the results. The combination of client specified sequences of operations and current and saved filehandle arguments and results allows for greater protocol flexibility. The best or easiest example of current filehandle usage is a sequence like the following:

```

PUTFH fh1           {fh1}
LOOKUP "compA"     {fh2}
GETATTR           {fh2}
LOOKUP "compB"     {fh3}
GETATTR           {fh3}
LOOKUP "compC"     {fh4}
GETATTR           {fh4}
GETFH

```

Figure 1

In this example, the PUTFH (Section 15.22) operation explicitly sets the current filehandle value while the result of each LOOKUP operation sets the current filehandle value to the resultant file system object. Also, the client is able to insert GETATTR operations using the current filehandle as an argument.

The PUTROOTFH (Section 15.24) and PUTPUBFH (Section 15.24) operations also set the current filehandle. The above example would replace "PUTFH fh1" with PUTROOTFH or PUTPUBFH with no filehandle argument in order to achieve the same effect (on the assumption that "compA" is directly below the root of the namespace).

Along with the current filehandle, there is a saved filehandle. While the current filehandle is set as the result of operations like LOOKUP, the saved filehandle must be set directly with the use of the SAVEFH operation. The SAVEFH operation copies the current filehandle value to the saved value. The saved filehandle value is used in combination with the current filehandle value for the LINK and RENAME operations. The RESTOREFH operation will copy the saved filehandle value to the current filehandle value; as a result, the saved filehandle value may be used a sort of "scratch" area for the client's series of operations.

#### 15.2.5. IMPLEMENTATION

Since an error of any type may occur after only a portion of the operations have been evaluated, the client must be prepared to recover from any failure. If the source of an NFS4ERR\_RESOURCE error was a complex or lengthy set of operations, it is likely that if the number of operations were reduced the server would be able to evaluate them successfully. Therefore, the client is responsible for dealing with this type of complexity in recovery.

A single compound should not contain multiple operations that have different values for the clientid field used in OPEN, LOCK, RENEW. This can cause confusion in cases in which operations that do not contain clientids have potential interactions with operations that do. When only a single clientid has been used, it is clear what client is being referenced. For a particular example involving the interaction of OPEN and GETATTR, see Section 15.18.6.

### 15.3. Operation 3: ACCESS - Check Access Rights

#### 15.3.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh), accessreq -> supported, accessrights
```

#### 15.3.2. ARGUMENT

```
const ACCESS4_READ      = 0x00000001;
const ACCESS4_LOOKUP    = 0x00000002;
const ACCESS4_MODIFY    = 0x00000004;
const ACCESS4_EXTEND    = 0x00000008;
const ACCESS4_DELETE    = 0x00000010;
const ACCESS4_EXECUTE   = 0x00000020;
```

```
struct ACCESS4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: object */
    uint32_t      access;
};
```

#### 15.3.3. RESULT

```
struct ACCESS4resok {
    uint32_t    supported;
    uint32_t    access;
};

union ACCESS4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        ACCESS4resok    resok4;
    default:
        void;
};
```

#### 15.3.4. DESCRIPTION

ACCESS determines the access rights that a user, as identified by the credentials in the RPC request, has with respect to the file system object specified by the current filehandle. The client encodes the set of access rights that are to be checked in the bit mask "access". The server checks the permissions encoded in the bit mask. If a status of NFS4\_OK is returned, two bit masks are included in the response. The first, "supported", represents the access rights for which the server can verify reliably. The second, "access", represents the access rights available to the user for the filehandle provided. On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

Note that the supported field will contain only as many values as were originally sent in the arguments. For example, if the client sends an ACCESS operation with only the ACCESS4\_READ value set and the server supports this value, the server will return only ACCESS4\_READ even if it could have reliably checked other values.

The results of this operation are necessarily advisory in nature. A return status of NFS4\_OK and the appropriate bit set in the bit mask does not imply that such access will be allowed to the file system object in the future. This is because access rights can be revoked by the server at any time.

The following access permissions may be requested:

ACCESS4\_READ: Read data from file or read a directory.

ACCESS4\_LOOKUP: Look up a name in a directory (no meaning for non-directory objects).

ACCESS4\_MODIFY: Rewrite existing file data or modify existing directory entries.

ACCESS4\_EXTEND: Write new data or add directory entries.

ACCESS4\_DELETE: Delete an existing directory entry.

ACCESS4\_EXECUTE: Execute file (no meaning for a directory).

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

#### 15.3.5. IMPLEMENTATION

In general, it is not sufficient for the client to attempt to deduce access permissions by inspecting the uid, gid, and mode fields in the file attributes or by attempting to interpret the contents of the ACL attribute. This is because the server may perform uid or gid mapping or enforce additional access control restrictions. It is also possible that the server may not be in the same ID space as the client. In these cases (and perhaps others), the client cannot reliably perform an access check with only current file attributes.

In the NFSv2 protocol, the only reliable way to determine whether an operation was allowed was to try it and see if it succeeded or failed. Using the ACCESS operation in the NFSv4 protocol, the client can ask the server to indicate whether or not one or more classes of operations are permitted. The ACCESS operation is provided to allow clients to check before doing a series of operations which might result in an access failure. The OPEN operation provides a point where the server can verify access to the file object and method to return that information to the client. The ACCESS operation is still useful for directory operations or for use in the case the UNIX API "access" is used on the client.

The information returned by the server in response to an ACCESS call is not permanent. It was correct at the exact time that the server performed the checks, but not necessarily afterward. The server can revoke access permission at any time.

The client should use the effective credentials of the user to build the authentication information in the ACCESS request used to determine access rights. It is the effective user and group credentials that are used in subsequent read and write operations.

Many implementations do not directly support the ACCESS4\_DELETE permission. Operating systems like UNIX will ignore the ACCESS4\_DELETE bit if set on an access request on a non-directory object. In these systems, delete permission on a file is determined by the access permissions on the directory in which the file resides, instead of being determined by the permissions of the file itself. Therefore, the mask returned enumerating which access rights can be

supported will have the ACCESS4\_DELETE value set to 0. This indicates to the client that the server was unable to check that particular access right. The ACCESS4\_DELETE bit in the access mask returned will then be ignored by the client.

#### 15.4. Operation 4: CLOSE - Close File

##### 15.4.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh), seqid, open_stateid -> open_stateid
```

##### 15.4.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct CLOSE4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: object */
    seqid4          seqid;
    stateid4        open_stateid;
};
```

##### 15.4.3. RESULT

```
union CLOSE4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        stateid4          open_stateid;
    default:
        void;
};
```

##### 15.4.4. DESCRIPTION

The CLOSE operation releases share reservations for the regular or named attribute file as specified by the current filehandle. The share reservations and other state information released at the server as a result of this CLOSE is only associated with the supplied stateid. The sequence id provides for the correct ordering. State associated with other OPENS is not affected.

If byte-range locks are held, the client SHOULD release all locks before issuing a CLOSE. The server MAY free all outstanding locks on CLOSE but some servers may not support the CLOSE of a file that still has byte-range locks held. The server MUST return failure if any locks would exist after the CLOSE.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

## 15.4.5. IMPLEMENTATION

Even though CLOSE returns a stateid, this stateid is not useful to the client and should be treated as deprecated. CLOSE "shuts down" the state associated with all OPENS for the file by a single open-owner. As noted above, CLOSE will either release all file locking state or return an error. Therefore, the stateid returned by CLOSE is not useful for operations that follow.

## 15.5. Operation 5: COMMIT - Commit Cached Data

## 15.5.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh), offset, count -> verifier
```

## 15.5.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct COMMIT4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: file */
    offset4      offset;
    count4      count;
};
```

## 15.5.3. RESULT

```
struct COMMIT4resok {
    verifier4    writeverf;
};

union COMMIT4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        COMMIT4resok  resok4;
    default:
        void;
};
```

## 15.5.4. DESCRIPTION

The COMMIT operation forces or flushes data to stable storage for the file specified by the current filehandle. The flushed data is that which was previously written with a WRITE operation which had the stable field set to UNSTABLE4.

The offset specifies the position within the file where the flush is to begin. An offset value of 0 (zero) means to flush data starting at the beginning of the file. The count specifies the number of

bytes of data to flush. If count is 0 (zero), a flush from offset to the end of the file is done.

The server returns a write verifier upon successful completion of the COMMIT. The write verifier is used by the client to determine if the server has restarted or rebooted between the initial WRITE(s) and the COMMIT. The client does this by comparing the write verifier returned from the initial writes and the verifier returned by the COMMIT operation. The server must vary the value of the write verifier at each server event or instantiation that may lead to a loss of uncommitted data. Most commonly this occurs when the server is rebooted; however, other events at the server may result in uncommitted data loss as well.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

#### 15.5.5. IMPLEMENTATION

The COMMIT operation is similar in operation and semantics to the POSIX `fsync()` [`fsync`] system call that synchronizes a file's state with the disk (file data and metadata is flushed to disk or stable storage). COMMIT performs the same operation for a client, flushing any unsynchronized data and metadata on the server to the server's disk or stable storage for the specified file. Like `fsync()`, it may be that there is some modified data or no modified data to synchronize. The data may have been synchronized by the server's normal periodic buffer synchronization activity. COMMIT should return `NFS4_OK`, unless there has been an unexpected error.

COMMIT differs from `fsync()` in that it is possible for the client to flush a range of the file (most likely triggered by a buffer-reclamation scheme on the client before file has been completely written).

The server implementation of COMMIT is reasonably simple. If the server receives a full file COMMIT request, that is starting at offset 0 and count 0, it should do the equivalent of `fsync()`'ing the file. Otherwise, it should arrange to have the cached data in the range specified by offset and count to be flushed to stable storage. In both cases, any metadata associated with the file must be flushed to stable storage before returning. It is not an error for there to be nothing to flush on the server. This means that the data and metadata that needed to be flushed have already been flushed or lost during the last server failure.

The client implementation of COMMIT is a little more complex. There are two reasons for wanting to commit a client buffer to stable storage. The first is that the client wants to reuse a buffer. In

this case, the offset and count of the buffer are sent to the server in the COMMIT request. The server then flushes any cached data based on the offset and count, and flushes any metadata associated with the file. It then returns the status of the flush and the write verifier. The other reason for the client to generate a COMMIT is for a full file flush, such as may be done at close. In this case, the client would gather all of the buffers for this file that contain uncommitted data, do the COMMIT operation with an offset of 0 and count of 0, and then free all of those buffers. Any other dirty buffers would be sent to the server in the normal fashion.

After a buffer is written by the client with the stable parameter set to UNSTABLE4, the buffer must be considered as modified by the client until the buffer has either been flushed via a COMMIT operation or written via a WRITE operation with stable parameter set to FILE\_SYNC4 or DATA\_SYNC4. This is done to prevent the buffer from being freed and reused before the data can be flushed to stable storage on the server.

When a response is returned from either a WRITE or a COMMIT operation and it contains a write verifier that is different than previously returned by the server, the client will need to retransmit all of the buffers containing uncommitted cached data to the server. How this is to be done is up to the implementer. If there is only one buffer of interest, then it should probably be sent back over in a WRITE request with the appropriate stable parameter. If there is more than one buffer, it might be worthwhile retransmitting all of the buffers in WRITE requests with the stable parameter set to UNSTABLE4 and then retransmitting the COMMIT operation to flush all of the data on the server to stable storage. The timing of these retransmissions is left to the implementer.

The above description applies to page-cache-based systems as well as buffer-cache-based systems. In those systems, the virtual memory system will need to be modified instead of the buffer cache.

## 15.6. Operation 6: CREATE - Create a Non-Regular File Object

### 15.6.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh), name, type, attrs -> (cfh), cinfo, attrset
```

### 15.6.2. ARGUMENT

```

union createtype4 switch (nfs_ftype4 type) {
  case NF4LNK:
    linktext4 linkdata;
  case NF4BLK:
  case NF4CHR:
    specdata4 devdata;
  case NF4SOCK:
  case NF4FIFO:
  case NF4DIR:
    void;
  default:
    void; /* server should return NFS4ERR_BADTYPE */
};

struct CREATE4args {
  /* CURRENT_FH: directory for creation */
  createtype4      objtype;
  component4       objname;
  fattr4           createattrs;
};

```

#### 15.6.3. RESULT

```

struct CREATE4resok {
  change_info4     cinfo;
  bitmap4          attrset; /* attributes set */
};

union CREATE4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
  case NFS4_OK:
    CREATE4resok resok4;
  default:
    void;
};

```

#### 15.6.4. DESCRIPTION

The CREATE operation creates a non-regular file object in a directory with a given name. The OPEN operation is used to create a regular file.

The objname specifies the name for the new object. The objtype determines the type of object to be created: directory, symlink, etc.

If an object of the same name already exists in the directory, the server will return the error NFS4ERR\_EXIST.

For the directory where the new file object was created, the server returns `change_info4` information in `cinfo`. With the `atomic` field of the `change_info4` struct, the server will indicate if the before and after change attributes were obtained atomically with respect to the file object creation.

If the `objname` is of zero length, `NFS4ERR_INVALID` will be returned. The `objname` is also subject to the normal UTF-8, character support, and name checks. See Section 12.7 for further discussion.

The current filehandle is replaced by that of the new object.

The `createattrs` specifies the initial set of attributes for the object. The set of attributes may include any writable attribute valid for the object type. When the operation is successful, the server will return to the client an attribute mask signifying which attributes were successfully set for the object.

If `createattrs` includes neither the owner attribute nor an ACL with an ACE for the owner, and if the server's file system both supports and requires an owner attribute (or an owner ACE) then the server MUST derive the owner (or the owner ACE). This would typically be from the principal indicated in the RPC credentials of the call, but the server's operating environment or file system semantics may dictate other methods of derivation. Similarly, if `createattrs` includes neither the group attribute nor a group ACE, and if the server's file system both supports and requires the notion of a group attribute (or group ACE), the server MUST derive the group attribute (or the corresponding owner ACE) for the file. This could be from the RPC call's credentials, such as the group principal if the credentials include it (such as with `AUTH_SYS`), from the group identifier associated with the principal in the credentials (e.g., POSIX systems have a user database [`getpwnam`] that has the group identifier for every user identifier), inherited from directory the object is created in, or whatever else the server's operating environment or file system semantics dictate. This applies to the `OPEN` operation too.

Conversely, it is possible the client will specify in `createattrs` an owner attribute or group attribute or ACL that the principal indicated the RPC call's credentials does not have permissions to create files for. The error to be returned in this instance is `NFS4ERR_PERM`. This applies to the `OPEN` operation too.

## 15.6.5. IMPLEMENTATION

If the client desires to set attribute values after the create, a SETATTR operation can be added to the COMPOUND request so that the appropriate attributes will be set.

## 15.7. Operation 7: DELEGPURGE - Purge Delegations Awaiting Recovery

## 15.7.1. SYNOPSIS

```
clientid ->
```

## 15.7.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct DELEGPURGE4args {
    clientid4      clientid;
};
```

## 15.7.3. RESULT

```
struct DELEGPURGE4res {
    nfsstat4      status;
};
```

## 15.7.4. DESCRIPTION

Purges all of the delegations awaiting recovery for a given client. This is useful for clients which do not commit delegation information to stable storage to indicate that conflicting requests need not be delayed by the server awaiting recovery of delegation information.

This operation is provided to support clients that record delegation information on stable storage on the client. In this case, DELEGPURGE should be issued immediately after doing delegation recovery (using CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV) on all delegations known to the client. Doing so will notify the server that no additional delegations for the client will be recovered allowing it to free resources, and avoid delaying other clients who make requests that conflict with the unrecovered delegations. All client SHOULD use DELEGPURGE as part of recovery once it is known that no further CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV recovery will be done. This includes clients that do not record delegation information on stable storage, who would then do a DELEGPURGE immediately after SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM.

The set of delegations known to the server and the client may be different. The reasons for this include:

- o A client may fail after making a request which resulted in delegation but before it received the results and committed them to the client's stable storage.
- o A client may fail after deleting its indication that a delegation exists but before the delegation return is fully processed by the server.
- o In the case in which the server and the client restart, the server may have limited persistent recording of delegation to a subset of those in existence.
- o A client may have only persistently recorded information about a subset of delegations.

The server MAY support DELEGPURGE, but its support or non-support should match that of CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV:

- o A server may support both DELEGPURGE and CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV.
- o A server may support neither DELEGPURGE nor CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV.

This fact allows a client starting up to determine if the server is prepared to support persistent storage of delegation information and thus whether it may use write-back caching to local persistent storage, relying on CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV recovery to allow such changed data to be flushed safely to the server in the event of client restart.

## 15.8. Operation 8: DELEGRETURN - Return Delegation

### 15.8.1. SYNOPSIS

(cfh), stateid ->

### 15.8.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct DELEGRETURN4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: delegated file */
    stateid4      deleg_stateid;
};
```

### 15.8.3. RESULT

```
struct DELEGRETURN4res {
    nfsstat4      status;
};
```

#### 15.8.4. DESCRIPTION

Returns the delegation represented by the current filehandle and stateid.

Delegations may be returned when recalled or voluntarily (i.e., before the server has recalled them). In either case the client must properly propagate state changed under the context of the delegation to the server before returning the delegation.

### 15.9. Operation 9: GETATTR - Get Attributes

#### 15.9.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh), attrbits -> attrbits, attrvals
```

#### 15.9.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct GETATTR4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: directory or file */
    bitmap4      attr_request;
};
```

#### 15.9.3. RESULT

```
struct GETATTR4resok {
    fattr4      obj_attributes;
};

union GETATTR4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        GETATTR4resok  resok4;
    default:
        void;
};
```

#### 15.9.4. DESCRIPTION

The GETATTR operation will obtain attributes for the file system object specified by the current filehandle. The client sets a bit in the bitmap argument for each attribute value that it would like the

server to return. The server returns an attribute bitmap that indicates the attribute values for which it was able to return values, followed by the attribute values ordered lowest attribute number first.

The server MUST return a value for each attribute that the client requests if the attribute is supported by the server. If the server does not support an attribute or cannot approximate a useful value then it MUST NOT return the attribute value and MUST NOT set the attribute bit in the result bitmap. The server MUST return an error if it supports an attribute on the target but cannot obtain its value. In that case no attribute values will be returned.

File systems which are absent should be treated as having support for a very small set of attributes as described in GETATTR Within an Absent File System (Section 8.3.1), even if previously, when the file system was present, more attributes were supported.

All servers MUST support the REQUIRED attributes as specified in the section File Attributes (Section 5), for all file systems, with the exception of absent file systems.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

#### 15.9.5. IMPLEMENTATION

Suppose there is a OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation held by another client for file in question and size and/or change are among the set of attributes being interrogated. The server has two choices. First, the server can obtain the actual current value of these attributes from the client holding the delegation by using the CB\_GETATTR callback. Second, the server, particularly when the delegated client is unresponsive, can recall the delegation in question. The GETATTR MUST NOT proceed until one of the following occurs:

- o The requested attribute values are returned in the response to CB\_GETATTR.
- o The OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation is returned.
- o The OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation is revoked.

Unless one of the above happens very quickly, one or more NFS4ERR\_DELAY errors will be returned while a delegation is outstanding.

## 15.10. Operation 10: GETFH - Get Current Filehandle

## 15.10.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh) -> filehandle
```

## 15.10.2. ARGUMENT

```
/* CURRENT_FH: */  
void;
```

## 15.10.3. RESULT

```
struct GETFH4resok {  
    nfs_fh4      object;  
};  
  
union GETFH4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {  
    case NFS4_OK:  
        GETFH4resok      resok4;  
    default:  
        void;  
};
```

## 15.10.4. DESCRIPTION

This operation returns the current filehandle value.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

## 15.10.5. IMPLEMENTATION

Operations that change the current filehandle like LOOKUP or CREATE do not automatically return the new filehandle as a result. For instance, if a client needs to lookup a directory entry and obtain its filehandle then the following request is needed.

```
PUTFH (directory filehandle)  
LOOKUP (entry name)  
GETFH
```

## 15.11. Operation 11: LINK - Create Link to a File

## 15.11.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(sfh), (cfh), newname -> (cfh), cinfo
```

## 15.11.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct LINK4args {  
    /* SAVED_FH: source object */  
    /* CURRENT_FH: target directory */  
    component4      newname;  
};
```

## 15.11.3. RESULT

```
struct LINK4resok {  
    change_info4    cinfo;  
};  
  
union LINK4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {  
    case NFS4_OK:  
        LINK4resok resok4;  
    default:  
        void;  
};
```

## 15.11.4. DESCRIPTION

The LINK operation creates an additional newname for the file represented by the saved filehandle, as set by the SAVEFH operation, in the directory represented by the current filehandle. The existing file and the target directory must reside within the same file system on the server. On success, the current filehandle will continue to be the target directory. If an object exists in the target directory with the same name as newname, the server must return NFS4ERR\_EXIST.

For the target directory, the server returns change\_info4 information in cinfo. With the atomic field of the change\_info4 struct, the server will indicate if the before and after change attributes were obtained atomically with respect to the link creation.

If the newname has a length of 0 (zero), or if newname does not obey the UTF-8 definition, the error NFS4ERR\_INVALID will be returned.

## 15.11.5. IMPLEMENTATION

Changes to any property of the "hard" linked files are reflected in all of the linked files. When a link is made to a file, the attributes for the file should have a value for numlinks that is one greater than the value before the LINK operation.

The statement "file and the target directory must reside within the same file system on the server" means that the fsid fields in the attributes for the objects are the same. If they reside on different file systems, the error NFS4ERR\_XDEV is returned. This error may be returned by some servers when there is an internal partitioning of a file system that the LINK operation would violate.

On some servers, "." and ".." are illegal values for newname and the error NFS4ERR\_BADNAME will be returned if they are specified.

When the current filehandle designates a named attribute directory and the object to be linked (the saved filehandle) is not a named attribute for the same object, the error NFS4ERR\_XDEV MUST be returned. When the saved filehandle designates a named attribute and the current filehandle is not the appropriate named attribute directory, the error NFS4ERR\_XDEV MUST also be returned.

When the current filehandle designates a named attribute directory and the object to be linked (the saved filehandle) is a named attribute within that directory, the server MAY return the error NFS4ERR\_NOTSUPP.

In the case that newname is already linked to the file represented by the saved filehandle, the server will return NFS4ERR\_EXIST.

Note that symbolic links are created with the CREATE operation.

## 15.12. Operation 12: LOCK - Create Lock

## 15.12.1. SYNOPSIS

(cfh) locktype, reclaim, offset, length, locker -> stateid

## 15.12.2. ARGUMENT

```
enum nfs_lock_type4 {
    READ_LT          = 1,
    WRITE_LT         = 2,
    READW_LT         = 3,    /* blocking read */
    WRITEW_LT        = 4    /* blocking write */
};
```

```
/*
 * For LOCK, transition from open_owner to new lock_owner
 */
struct open_to_lock_owner4 {
    seqid4      open_seqid;
    stateid4    open_stateid;
    seqid4      lock_seqid;
    lock_owner4 lock_owner;
};

/*
 * For LOCK, existing lock_owner continues to request file locks
 */
struct exist_lock_owner4 {
    stateid4    lock_stateid;
    seqid4      lock_seqid;
};

union locker4 switch (bool new_lock_owner) {
    case TRUE:
        open_to_lock_owner4    open_owner;
    case FALSE:
        exist_lock_owner4      lock_owner;
};

/*
 * LOCK/LOCKT/LOCKU: Record lock management
 */
struct LOCK4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: file */
    nfs_lock_type4 locktype;
    bool           reclaim;
    offset4        offset;
    length4        length;
    locker4        locker;
};
```

### 15.12.3. RESULT

```
struct LOCK4denied {
    offset4      offset;
    length4      length;
    nfs_lock_type4 locktype;
    lock_owner4  owner;
};

struct LOCK4resok {
    stateid4      lock_stateid;
};

union LOCK4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        LOCK4resok      resok4;
    case NFS4ERR_DENIED:
        LOCK4denied      denied;
    default:
        void;
};
```

#### 15.12.4. DESCRIPTION

The LOCK operation requests a byte-range lock for the byte range specified by the offset and length parameters. The lock type is also specified to be one of the `nfs_lock_type4s`. If this is a reclaim request, the reclaim parameter will be TRUE;

Bytes in a file may be locked even if those bytes are not currently allocated to the file. To lock the file from a specific offset through the end-of-file (no matter how long the file actually is) use a length field with all bits set to 1 (one). If the length is zero, or if a length which is not all bits set to one is specified, and length when added to the offset exceeds the maximum 64-bit unsigned integer value, the error NFS4ERR\_INVALID will result.

Some servers may only support locking for byte offsets that fit within 32 bits. If the client specifies a range that includes a byte beyond the last byte offset of the 32-bit range, but does not include the last byte offset of the 32-bit and all of the byte offsets beyond it, up to the end of the valid 64-bit range, such a 32-bit server MUST return the error NFS4ERR\_BAD\_RANGE.

In the case that the lock is denied, the owner, offset, and length of a conflicting lock are returned.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

## 15.12.5. IMPLEMENTATION

If the server is unable to determine the exact offset and length of the conflicting lock, the same offset and length that were provided in the arguments should be returned in the denied results. Section 9 contains a full description of this and the other file locking operations.

LOCK operations are subject to permission checks and to checks against the access type of the associated file. However, the specific right and modes required for various type of locks, reflect the semantics of the server-exported file system, and are not specified by the protocol. For example, Windows 2000 allows a write lock of a file open for READ, while a POSIX-compliant system does not.

When the client makes a lock request that corresponds to a range that the lock-owner has locked already (with the same or different lock type), or to a sub-region of such a range, or to a region which includes multiple locks already granted to that lock-owner, in whole or in part, and the server does not support such locking operations (i.e., does not support POSIX locking semantics), the server will return the error NFS4ERR\_LOCK\_RANGE. In that case, the client may return an error, or it may emulate the required operations, using only LOCK for ranges that do not include any bytes already locked by that lock-owner and LOCKU of locks held by that lock-owner (specifying an exactly-matching range and type). Similarly, when the client makes a lock request that amounts to upgrading (changing from a read lock to a write lock) or downgrading (changing from write lock to a read lock) an existing record lock, and the server does not support such a lock, the server will return NFS4ERR\_LOCK\_NOTSUPP. Such operations may not perfectly reflect the required semantics in the face of conflicting lock requests from other clients.

When a client holds an OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation, the client holding that delegation is assured that there are no opens by other clients. Thus, there can be no conflicting LOCK operations from such clients. Therefore, the client may be handling locking requests locally, without doing LOCK operations on the server. If it does that, it must be prepared to update the lock status on the server, by sending appropriate LOCK and LOCKU operations before returning the delegation.

When one or more clients hold OPEN\_DELEGATE\_READ delegations, any LOCK operation where the server is implementing mandatory locking semantics MUST result in the recall of all such delegations. The LOCK operation may not be granted until all such delegations are returned or revoked. Except where this happens very quickly, one or

more NFS4ERR\_DELAY errors will be returned to requests made while the delegation remains outstanding.

The locker argument specifies the lock-owner that is associated with the LOCK request. The locker4 structure is a switched union that indicates whether the client has already created byte-range locking state associated with the current open file and lock-owner. There are multiple cases to be considered, corresponding to possible combinations of whether locking state has been created for the current open file and lock-owner, and whether the boolean new\_lock\_owner is set. In all of the cases, there is a lock\_seqid specified, whether the lock-owner is specified explicitly or implicitly. This seqid value is used for checking lock-owner sequencing/replay issues. When the given lock-owner is not known to the server, this establishes an initial sequence value for the new lock-owner.

- o In the case in which the state has been created and the boolean is false, the only part of the argument other than lock\_seqid is just a stateid representing the set of locks associated with that open file and lock-owner.
- o In the case in which the state has been created and the boolean is true, the server rejects the request with the error NFS4ERR\_BAD\_SEQID. The only exception is where there is a retransmission of a previous request in which the boolean was true. In this case, the lock\_seqid will match the original request and the response will reflect the final case, below.
- o In the case where no byte-range locking state has been established and the boolean is true, the argument contains an open\_to\_lock\_owner structure which specifies the stateid of the open file and the lock-owner to be used for the lock. Note that although the open-owner is not given explicitly, the open\_seqid associated with it is used to check for open-owner sequencing issues. This case provides a method to use the established state of the open\_stateid to transition to the use of a lock stateid.

### 15.13. Operation 13: LOCKT - Test For Lock

#### 15.13.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh) locktype, offset, length, owner -> {void, NFS4ERR_DENIED ->
owner}
```

## 15.13.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct LOCKT4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: file */
    nfs_lock_type4  locktype;
    offset4         offset;
    length4         length;
    lock_owner4     owner;
};
```

## 15.13.3. RESULT

```
union LOCKT4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4ERR_DENIED:
        LOCK4denied    denied;
    case NFS4_OK:
        void;
    default:
        void;
};
```

## 15.13.4. DESCRIPTION

The LOCKT operation tests the lock as specified in the arguments. If a conflicting lock exists, the owner, offset, length, and type of the conflicting lock are returned; if no lock is held, nothing other than NFS4\_OK is returned. Lock types READ\_LT and READW\_LT are processed in the same way in that a conflicting lock test is done without regard to blocking or non-blocking. The same is true for WRITE\_LT and WRITEW\_LT.

The ranges are specified as for LOCK. The NFS4ERR\_INVALID and NFS4ERR\_BAD\_RANGE errors are returned under the same circumstances as for LOCK.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

## 15.13.5. IMPLEMENTATION

If the server is unable to determine the exact offset and length of the conflicting lock, the same offset and length that were provided in the arguments should be returned in the denied results. Section 9 contains further discussion of the file locking mechanisms.

LOCKT uses a lock\_owner4 rather a stateid4, as is used in LOCK to identify the owner. This is because the client does not have to open

the file to test for the existence of a lock, so a stateid may not be available.

The test for conflicting locks SHOULD exclude locks for the current lock-owner. Note that since such locks are not examined the possible existence of overlapping ranges may not affect the results of LOCKT. If the server does examine locks that match the lock-owner for the purpose of range checking, NFS4ERR\_LOCK\_RANGE may be returned. In the event that it returns NFS4\_OK, clients may do a LOCK and receive NFS4ERR\_LOCK\_RANGE on the LOCK request because of the flexibility provided to the server.

When a client holds an OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation, it may choose (see Section 15.12.5) to handle LOCK requests locally. In such a case, LOCKT requests will similarly be handled locally.

#### 15.14. Operation 14: LOCKU - Unlock File

##### 15.14.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh) type, seqid, stateid, offset, length -> stateid
```

##### 15.14.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct LOCKU4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: file */
    nfs_lock_type4 locktype;
    seqid4         seqid;
    stateid4       lock_stateid;
    offset4        offset;
    length4        length;
};
```

##### 15.14.3. RESULT

```
union LOCKU4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        stateid4         lock_stateid;
    default:
        void;
};
```

## 15.14.4. DESCRIPTION

The LOCKU operation unlocks the byte-range lock specified by the parameters. The client may set the locktype field to any value that is legal for the nfs\_lock\_type4 enumerated type, and the server MUST accept any legal value for locktype. Any legal value for locktype has no effect on the success or failure of the LOCKU operation.

The ranges are specified as for LOCK. The NFS4ERR\_INVALID and NFS4ERR\_BAD\_RANGE errors are returned under the same circumstances as for LOCK.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

## 15.14.5. IMPLEMENTATION

If the area to be unlocked does not correspond exactly to a lock actually held by the lock-owner the server may return the error NFS4ERR\_LOCK\_RANGE. This includes the case in which the area is not locked, where the area is a sub-range of the area locked, where it overlaps the area locked without matching exactly or the area specified includes multiple locks held by the lock-owner. In all of these cases, allowed by POSIX locking [fcntl] semantics, a client receiving this error, should if it desires support for such operations, simulate the operation using LOCKU on ranges corresponding to locks it actually holds, possibly followed by LOCK requests for the sub-ranges not being unlocked.

When a client holds an OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation, it may choose (see Section 15.12.5) to handle LOCK requests locally. In such a case, LOCKU requests will similarly be handled locally.

## 15.15. Operation 15: LOOKUP - Lookup Filename

## 15.15.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh), component -> (cfh)
```

## 15.15.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct LOOKUP4args {  
    /* CURRENT_FH: directory */  
    component4      objname;  
};
```

## 15.15.3. RESULT

```
struct LOOKUP4res {
    /* CURRENT_FH: object */
    nfsstat4      status;
};
```

## 15.15.4. DESCRIPTION

This operation LOOKUPS or finds a file system object using the directory specified by the current filehandle. LOOKUP evaluates the component and if the object exists the current filehandle is replaced with the component's filehandle.

If the component cannot be evaluated either because it does not exist or because the client does not have permission to evaluate the component, then an error will be returned and the current filehandle will be unchanged.

If the component is of zero length, NFS4ERR\_INVALID will be returned. The component is also subject to the normal UTF-8, character support, and name checks. See Section 12.7 for further discussion.

## 15.15.5. IMPLEMENTATION

If the client wants to achieve the effect of a multi-component lookup, it may construct a COMPOUND request such as (and obtain each filehandle):

```
PUTFH (directory filehandle)
LOOKUP "pub"
GETFH
LOOKUP "foo"
GETFH
LOOKUP "bar"
GETFH
```

NFSv4 servers depart from the semantics of previous NFS versions in allowing LOOKUP requests to cross mount points on the server. The client can detect a mount point crossing by comparing the fsid attribute of the directory with the fsid attribute of the directory looked up. If the fsids are different then the new directory is a server mount point. UNIX clients that detect a mount point crossing will need to mount the server's file system. This needs to be done to maintain the file object identity checking mechanisms common to UNIX clients.

Servers that limit NFS access to "shares" or "exported" file systems should provide a pseudo-file system into which the exported file systems can be integrated, so that clients can browse the server's name space. The clients' view of a pseudo file system will be limited to paths that lead to exported file systems.

Note: previous versions of the protocol assigned special semantics to the names "." and "..". NFSv4 assigns no special semantics to these names. The LOOKUPP operator must be used to lookup a parent directory.

Note that this operation does not follow symbolic links. The client is responsible for all parsing of filenames including filenames that are modified by symbolic links encountered during the lookup process.

If the current filehandle supplied is not a directory but a symbolic link, the error NFS4ERR\_SYMLINK is returned as the error. For all other non-directory file types, the error NFS4ERR\_NOTDIR is returned.

#### 15.16. Operation 16: LOOKUPP - Lookup Parent Directory

##### 15.16.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh) -> (cfh)
```

##### 15.16.2. ARGUMENT

```
/* CURRENT_FH: object */  
void;
```

##### 15.16.3. RESULT

```
struct LOOKUPP4res {  
    /* CURRENT_FH: directory */  
    nfsstat4      status;  
};
```

##### 15.16.4. DESCRIPTION

The current filehandle is assumed to refer to a regular directory or a named attribute directory. LOOKUPP assigns the filehandle for its parent directory to be the current filehandle. If there is no parent directory an NFS4ERR\_NOENT error must be returned. Therefore, NFS4ERR\_NOENT will be returned by the server when the current filehandle is at the root or top of the server's file tree.

## 15.16.5. IMPLEMENTATION

As for LOOKUP, LOOKUPP will also cross mount points.

If the current filehandle is not a directory or named attribute directory, the error NFS4ERR\_NOTDIR is returned.

If the current filehandle is a named attribute directory that is associated with a file system object via OPENATTR (i.e., not a sub-directory of a named attribute directory), LOOKUPP SHOULD return the filehandle of the associated file system object.

## 15.17. Operation 17: NVERIFY - Verify Difference in Attributes

## 15.17.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh), fattr -> -
```

## 15.17.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct NVERIFY4args {  
    /* CURRENT_FH: object */  
    fattr4          obj_attributes;  
};
```

## 15.17.3. RESULT

```
struct NVERIFY4res {  
    nfsstat4      status;  
};
```

## 15.17.4. DESCRIPTION

This operation is used to prefix a sequence of operations to be performed if one or more attributes have changed on some file system object. If all the attributes match then the error NFS4ERR\_SAME must be returned.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

## 15.17.5. IMPLEMENTATION

This operation is useful as a cache validation operator. If the object to which the attributes belong has changed then the following operations may obtain new data associated with that object. For

instance, to check if a file has been changed and obtain new data if it has:

```
PUTFH (public)
LOOKUP "foobar"
NVERIFY attrbits attrs
READ 0 32767
```

In the case that a RECOMMENDED attribute is specified in the NVERIFY operation and the server does not support that attribute for the file system object, the error NFS4ERR\_ATTRNOTSUPP is returned to the client.

When the attribute rgetattr\_error or any write-only attribute (e.g., time\_modify\_set) is specified, the error NFS4ERR\_INVALID is returned to the client.

## 15.18. Operation 18: OPEN - Open a Regular File

### 15.18.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh), seqid, share_access, share_deny, owner, openhow, claim ->
(cfh), stateid, cinfo, rflags, attrset, delegation
```

### 15.18.2. ARGUMENT

```
/*
 * Various definitions for OPEN
 */
enum createmode4 {
    UNCHECKED4      = 0,
    GUARDED4        = 1,
    EXCLUSIVE4      = 2
};

union createhow4 switch (createmode4 mode) {
    case UNCHECKED4:
    case GUARDED4:
        fattr4      createattrs;
    case EXCLUSIVE4:
        verifier4   createverf;
};

enum opentype4 {
    OPEN4_NOCREATE = 0,
    OPEN4_CREATE  = 1
};
```

```
union openflag4 switch (opentype4 opentype) {
    case OPEN4_CREATE:
        createhow4      how;
    default:
        void;
};

/* Next definitions used for OPEN delegation */
enum limit_by4 {
    NFS_LIMIT_SIZE      = 1,
    NFS_LIMIT_BLOCKS    = 2
    /* others as needed */
};

struct nfs_modified_limit4 {
    uint32_t            num_blocks;
    uint32_t            bytes_per_block;
};

union nfs_space_limit4 switch (limit_by4 limitby) {
    /* limit specified as file size */
    case NFS_LIMIT_SIZE:
        uint64_t        filesize;
    /* limit specified by number of blocks */
    case NFS_LIMIT_BLOCKS:
        nfs_modified_limit4    mod_blocks;
} ;

enum open_delegation_type4 {
    OPEN_DELEGATE_NONE      = 0,
    OPEN_DELEGATE_READ      = 1,
    OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE     = 2
};

enum open_claim_type4 {
    CLAIM_NULL              = 0,
    CLAIM_PREVIOUS          = 1,
    CLAIM_DELEGATE_CUR      = 2,
    CLAIM_DELEGATE_PREV     = 3
};

struct open_claim_delegate_cur4 {
    stateid4                delegate_stateid;
    component4              file;
};

union open_claim4 switch (open_claim_type4 claim) {
    /*
```

```

    * No special rights to file.
    * Ordinary OPEN of the specified file.
    */
case CLAIM_NULL:
    /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
    component4      file;
/*
    * Right to the file established by an
    * open previous to server reboot. File
    * identified by filehandle obtained at
    * that time rather than by name.
    */
case CLAIM_PREVIOUS:
    /* CURRENT_FH: file being reclaimed */
    open_delegation_type4  delegate_type;

/*
    * Right to file based on a delegation
    * granted by the server. File is
    * specified by name.
    */
case CLAIM_DELEGATE_CUR:
    /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
    open_claim_delegate_cur4      delegate_cur_info;

/*
    * Right to file based on a delegation
    * granted to a previous boot instance
    * of the client. File is specified by name.
    */
case CLAIM_DELEGATE_PREV:
    /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
    component4      file_delegate_prev;
};

/*
    * OPEN: Open a file, potentially receiving an open delegation
    */
struct OPEN4args {
    seqid4      seqid;
    uint32_t    share_access;
    uint32_t    share_deny;
    open_owner4  owner;
    openflag4   openhow;
    open_claim4  claim;
};
```

## 15.18.3. RESULT

```
struct open_read_delegation4 {
    stateid4 stateid; /* Stateid for delegation*/
    bool      recall; /* Pre-recalled flag for
                      delegations obtained
                      by reclaim (CLAIM_PREVIOUS) */

    nfsace4 permissions; /* Defines users who don't
                          need an ACCESS call to
                          open for read */
};

struct open_write_delegation4 {
    stateid4 stateid; /* Stateid for delegation */
    bool      recall; /* Pre-recalled flag for
                      delegations obtained
                      by reclaim
                      (CLAIM_PREVIOUS) */

    nfs_space_limit4
        space_limit; /* Defines condition that
                     the client must check to
                     determine whether the
                     file needs to be flushed
                     to the server on close. */

    nfsace4 permissions; /* Defines users who don't
                          need an ACCESS call as
                          part of a delegated
                          open. */
};

union open_delegation4
switch (open_delegation_type4 delegation_type) {
    case OPEN_DELEGATE_NONE:
        void;
    case OPEN_DELEGATE_READ:
        open_read_delegation4 read;
    case OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE:
        open_write_delegation4 write;
};

/*
 * Result flags
 */

/* Client must confirm open */
```

```

const OPEN4_RESULT_CONFIRM      = 0x00000002;
/* Type of file locking behavior at the server */
const OPEN4_RESULT_LOCKTYPE_POSIX = 0x00000004;

struct OPEN4resok {
    stateid4      stateid;      /* Stateid for open */
    change_info4  cinfo;        /* Directory Change Info */
    uint32_t      rflags;       /* Result flags */
    bitmap4       attrset;      /* attribute set for create*/
    open_delegation4 delegation; /* Info on any open
                                delegation */
};

union OPEN4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        /* CURRENT_FH: opened file */
        OPEN4resok      resok4;
    default:
        void;
};

```

#### 15.18.4. Warning to Client Implementers

OPEN resembles LOOKUP in that it generates a filehandle for the client to use. Unlike LOOKUP though, OPEN creates server state on the filehandle. In normal circumstances, the client can only release this state with a CLOSE operation. CLOSE uses the current filehandle to determine which file to close. Therefore, the client MUST follow every OPEN operation with a GETFH operation in the same COMPOUND procedure. This will supply the client with the filehandle such that CLOSE can be used appropriately.

Simply waiting for the lease on the file to expire is insufficient because the server may maintain the state indefinitely as long as another client does not attempt to make a conflicting access to the same file.

#### 15.18.5. DESCRIPTION

The OPEN operation creates and/or opens a regular file in a directory with the provided name. If the file does not exist at the server and creation is desired, specification of the method of creation is provided by the openhow parameter. The client has the choice of three creation methods: UNCHECKED4, GUARDED4, or EXCLUSIVE4.

If the current filehandle is a named attribute directory, OPEN will then create or open a named attribute file. Note that exclusive

create of a named attribute is not supported. If the createmode is EXCLUSIVE4 and the current filehandle is a named attribute directory, the server will return EINVAL.

UNCHECKED4 means that the file should be created if a file of that name does not exist and encountering an existing regular file of that name is not an error. For this type of create, createattrs specifies the initial set of attributes for the file. The set of attributes may include any writable attribute valid for regular files. When an UNCHECKED4 create encounters an existing file, the attributes specified by createattrs are not used, except that when an size of zero is specified, the existing file is truncated. If GUARDED4 is specified, the server checks for the presence of a duplicate object by name before performing the create. If a duplicate exists, an error of NFS4ERR\_EXIST is returned as the status. If the object does not exist, the request is performed as described for UNCHECKED4. For each of these cases (UNCHECKED4 and GUARDED4) where the operation is successful, the server will return to the client an attribute mask signifying which attributes were successfully set for the object.

EXCLUSIVE4 specifies that the server is to follow exclusive creation semantics, using the verifier to ensure exclusive creation of the target. The server should check for the presence of a duplicate object by name. If the object does not exist, the server creates the object and stores the verifier with the object. If the object does exist and the stored verifier matches the client provided verifier, the server uses the existing object as the newly created object. If the stored verifier does not match, then an error of NFS4ERR\_EXIST is returned. No attributes may be provided in this case, since the server may use an attribute of the target object to store the verifier. If the server uses an attribute to store the exclusive create verifier, it will signify which attribute by setting the appropriate bit in the attribute mask that is returned in the results.

For the target directory, the server returns change\_info4 information in cinfo. With the atomic field of the change\_info4 struct, the server will indicate if the before and after change attributes were obtained atomically with respect to the link creation.

Upon successful creation, the current filehandle is replaced by that of the new object.

The OPEN operation provides for Windows share reservation capability with the use of the share\_access and share\_deny fields of the OPEN arguments. The client specifies at OPEN the required share\_access and share\_deny modes. For clients that do not directly support SHARES (i.e., UNIX), the expected deny value is DENY\_NONE. In the

case that there is an existing SHARE reservation that conflicts with the OPEN request, the server returns the error NFS4ERR\_SHARE\_DENIED. For a complete SHARE request, the client must provide values for the owner and seqid fields for the OPEN argument. For additional discussion of SHARE semantics see Section 9.9.

In the case that the client is recovering state from a server failure, the claim field of the OPEN argument is used to signify that the request is meant to reclaim state previously held.

The "claim" field of the OPEN argument is used to specify the file to be opened and the state information which the client claims to possess. There are four basic claim types which cover the various situations for an OPEN. They are as follows:

**CLAIM\_NULL:** For the client, this is a new OPEN request and there is no previous state associated with the file for the client.

**CLAIM\_PREVIOUS:** The client is claiming basic OPEN state for a file that was held previous to a server reboot. Generally used when a server is returning persistent filehandles; the client may not have the file name to reclaim the OPEN.

**CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_CUR:** The client is claiming a delegation for OPEN as granted by the server. Generally this is done as part of recalling a delegation.

**CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV:** The client is claiming a delegation granted to a previous client instance. This claim type is for use after a SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM and before the corresponding DELEGPURGE in two situations: after a client reboot and after a lease expiration that resulted in loss of all lock state. The server MAY support CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV. If it does support CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV, SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM MUST NOT remove the client's delegation state, and the server MUST support the DELEGPURGE operation.

The following errors apply to use of the CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV claim type:

- o NFS4ERR\_NOTSUPP is returned if the server does not support this claim type.
- o NFS4ERR\_INVALID is returned if the reclaim is done at an inappropriate time, e.g., after DELEGPURGE has been done.
- o NFS4ERR\_BAD\_RECLAIM is returned if the other error conditions do not apply and the server has no record of the delegation whose reclaim is being attempted.

For OPEN requests whose claim type is other than CLAIM\_PREVIOUS (i.e., requests other than those devoted to reclaiming opens after a server reboot) that reach the server during its grace or lease expiration period, the server returns an error of NFS4ERR\_GRACE.

For any OPEN request, the server may return an open delegation, which allows further opens and closes to be handled locally on the client as described in Section 10.4. Note that delegation is up to the server to decide. The client should never assume that delegation will or will not be granted in a particular instance. It should always be prepared for either case. A partial exception is the reclaim (CLAIM\_PREVIOUS) case, in which a delegation type is claimed. In this case, delegation will always be granted, although the server may specify an immediate recall in the delegation structure.

The rflags returned by a successful OPEN allow the server to return information governing how the open file is to be handled.

OPEN4\_RESULT\_CONFIRM indicates that the client MUST execute an OPEN\_CONFIRM operation before using the open file. OPEN4\_RESULT\_LOCKTYPE\_POSIX indicates the server's file locking behavior supports the complete set of Posix locking techniques [fcntl]. From this the client can choose to manage file locking state in a way to handle a mis-match of file locking management.

If the component is of zero length, NFS4ERR\_INVALID will be returned. The component is also subject to the normal UTF-8, character support, and name checks. See Section 12.7 for further discussion.

When an OPEN is done and the specified open-owner already has the resulting filehandle open, the result is to "OR" together the new share and deny status together with the existing status. In this case, only a single CLOSE need be done, even though multiple OPENS were completed. When such an OPEN is done, checking of share reservations for the new OPEN proceeds normally, with no exception for the existing OPEN held by the same owner. In this case, the stateid returned as an "other" field that matches that of the previous open while the "seqid" field is incremented to reflect the change status due to the new open (Section 9.1.4).

If the underlying file system at the server is only accessible in a read-only mode and the OPEN request has specified OPEN4\_SHARE\_ACCESS\_WRITE or OPEN4\_SHARE\_ACCESS\_BOTH, the server will return NFS4ERR\_ROFS to indicate a read-only file system.

As with the CREATE operation, the server MUST derive the owner, owner ACE, group, or group ACE if any of the four attributes are required and supported by the server's file system. For an OPEN with the

EXCLUSIVE4 createmode, the server has no choice, since such OPEN calls do not include the createattrs field. Conversely, if createattrs is specified, and includes owner or group (or corresponding ACEs) that the principal in the RPC call's credentials does not have authorization to create files for, then the server may return NFS4ERR\_PERM.

In the case of a OPEN which specifies a size of zero (e.g., truncation) and the file has named attributes, the named attributes are left as is. They are not removed.

#### 15.18.6. IMPLEMENTATION

The OPEN operation contains support for EXCLUSIVE4 create. The mechanism is similar to the support in NFSv3 [RFC1813]. As in NFSv3, this mechanism provides reliable exclusive creation. Exclusive create is invoked when the how parameter is EXCLUSIVE4. In this case, the client provides a verifier that can reasonably be expected to be unique. A combination of a client identifier, perhaps the client network address, and a unique number generated by the client, perhaps the RPC transaction identifier, may be appropriate.

If the object does not exist, the server creates the object and stores the verifier in stable storage. For file systems that do not provide a mechanism for the storage of arbitrary file attributes, the server may use one or more elements of the object meta-data to store the verifier. The verifier must be stored in stable storage to prevent erroneous failure on retransmission of the request. It is assumed that an exclusive create is being performed because exclusive semantics are critical to the application. Because of the expected usage, exclusive CREATE does not rely solely on the normally volatile duplicate request cache for storage of the verifier. The duplicate request cache in volatile storage does not survive a crash and may actually flush on a long network partition, opening failure windows. In the UNIX local file system environment, the expected storage location for the verifier on creation is the meta-data (time stamps) of the object. For this reason, an exclusive object create may not include initial attributes because the server would have nowhere to store the verifier.

If the server cannot support these exclusive create semantics, possibly because of the requirement to commit the verifier to stable storage, it should fail the OPEN request with the error, NFS4ERR\_NOTSUPP.

During an exclusive CREATE request, if the object already exists, the server reconstructs the object's verifier and compares it with the verifier in the request. If they match, the server treats the

request as a success. The request is presumed to be a duplicate of an earlier, successful request for which the reply was lost and that the server duplicate request cache mechanism did not detect. If the verifiers do not match, the request is rejected with the status, NFS4ERR\_EXIST.

Once the client has performed a successful exclusive create, it must issue a SETATTR to set the correct object attributes. Until it does so, it should not rely upon any of the object attributes, since the server implementation may need to overload object meta-data to store the verifier. The subsequent SETATTR must not occur in the same COMPOUND request as the OPEN. This separation will guarantee that the exclusive create mechanism will continue to function properly in the face of retransmission of the request.

Use of the GUARDED4 attribute does not provide exactly-once semantics. In particular, if a reply is lost and the server does not detect the retransmission of the request, the operation can fail with NFS4ERR\_EXIST, even though the create was performed successfully. The client would use this behavior in the case that the application has not requested an exclusive create but has asked to have the file truncated when the file is opened. In the case of the client timing out and retransmitting the create request, the client can use GUARDED4 to prevent against a sequence like: create, write, create (retransmitted) from occurring.

For SHARE reservations (see Section 9.9), the client must specify a value for share\_access that is one of OPEN4\_SHARE\_ACCESS\_READ, OPEN4\_SHARE\_ACCESS\_WRITE, or OPEN4\_SHARE\_ACCESS\_BOTH. For share\_deny, the client must specify one of OPEN4\_SHARE\_DENY\_NONE, OPEN4\_SHARE\_DENY\_READ, OPEN4\_SHARE\_DENY\_WRITE, or OPEN4\_SHARE\_DENY\_BOTH. If the client fails to do this, the server must return NFS4ERR\_INVALID.

Based on the share\_access value (OPEN4\_SHARE\_ACCESS\_READ, OPEN4\_SHARE\_ACCESS\_WRITE, or OPEN4\_SHARE\_ACCESS\_BOTH) the client should check that the requester has the proper access rights to perform the specified operation. This would generally be the results of applying the ACL access rules to the file for the current requester. However, just as with the ACCESS operation, the client should not attempt to second-guess the server's decisions, as access rights may change and may be subject to server administrative controls outside the ACL framework. If the requester is not authorized to READ or WRITE (depending on the share\_access value), the server must return NFS4ERR\_ACCESS. Note that since the NFS version 4 protocol does not impose any requirement that READs and WRITEs issued for an open file have the same credentials as the OPEN

itself, the server still must do appropriate access checking on the READS and WRITES themselves.

If the component provided to OPEN resolves to something other than a regular file (or a named attribute), an error will be returned to the client. If it is a directory, NFS4ERR\_ISDIR is returned; otherwise, NFS4ERR\_SYMLINK is returned. Note that NFS4ERR\_SYMLINK is returned for both symlinks and for special files of other types; NFS4ERR\_INVALID would be inappropriate, since the arguments provided by the client were correct, and the client cannot necessarily know at the time it sent the OPEN that the component would resolve to a non-regular file.

If the current filehandle is not a directory, the error NFS4ERR\_NOTDIR will be returned.

If a COMPOUND contains an OPEN which establishes an OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation, then normally subsequent GETATTRs result in a CB\_GETATTR being sent to the client holding the delegation. However, in the case in which the OPEN and GETATTR are part of the same COMPOUND, the server SHOULD understand that the operations are for the same client ID and avoid querying the client, which will not be able to respond. This sequence of OPEN, GETATTR SHOULD be understood as retrieving of the size and change attributes at the time of OPEN, Further, as explained in Section 15.2.5, the client should not construct a COMPOUND which mixes operations for different client IDs.

## 15.19. Operation 19: OPENATTR - Open Named Attribute Directory

### 15.19.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh) createdir -> (cfh)
```

### 15.19.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct OPENATTR4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: object */
    bool    createdir;
};
```

### 15.19.3. RESULT

```
struct OPENATTR4res {
    /* CURRENT_FH: named attr directory */
    nfsstat4    status;
};
```

## 15.19.4. DESCRIPTION

The OPENATTR operation is used to obtain the filehandle of the named attribute directory associated with the current filehandle. The result of the OPENATTR will be a filehandle to an object of type NF4ATTRDIR. From this filehandle, READDIR and LOOKUP operations can be used to obtain filehandles for the various named attributes associated with the original file system object. Filehandles returned within the named attribute directory will have a type of NF4NAMEDATTR.

The createdir argument allows the client to signify if a named attribute directory should be created as a result of the OPENATTR operation. Some clients may use the OPENATTR operation with a value of FALSE for createdir to determine if any named attributes exist for the object. If none exist, then NFS4ERR\_NOENT will be returned. If createdir has a value of TRUE and no named attribute directory exists, one is created. The creation of a named attribute directory assumes that the server has implemented named attribute support in this fashion and is not required to do so by this definition.

## 15.19.5. IMPLEMENTATION

If the server does not support named attributes for the current filehandle, an error of NFS4ERR\_NOTSUPP will be returned to the client.

## 15.20. Operation 20: OPEN\_CONFIRM - Confirm Open

## 15.20.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh), seqid, stateid -> stateid
```

## 15.20.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct OPEN_CONFIRM4args {  
    /* CURRENT_FH: opened file */  
    stateid4      open_stateid;  
    seqid4        seqid;  
};
```

## 15.20.3. RESULT

```
struct OPEN_CONFIRM4resok {
    stateid4      open_stateid;
};

union OPEN_CONFIRM4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        OPEN_CONFIRM4resok      resok4;
    default:
        void;
};
```

#### 15.20.4. DESCRIPTION

This operation is used to confirm the sequence id usage for the first time that a open-owner is used by a client. The stateid returned from the OPEN operation is used as the argument for this operation along with the next sequence id for the open-owner. The sequence id passed to the OPEN\_CONFIRM must be 1 (one) greater than the seqid passed to the OPEN operation (Section 9.1.4). If the server receives an unexpected sequence id with respect to the original open, then the server assumes that the client will not confirm the original OPEN and all state associated with the original OPEN is released by the server.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

#### 15.20.5. IMPLEMENTATION

A given client might generate many open\_owner4 data structures for a given client ID. The client will periodically either dispose of its open\_owner4s or stop using them for indefinite periods of time. The latter situation is why the NFSv4 protocol does not have an explicit operation to exit an open\_owner4: such an operation is of no use in that situation. Instead, to avoid unbounded memory use, the server needs to implement a strategy for disposing of open\_owner4s that have no current open state for any files and have not been used recently. The time period used to determine when to dispose of open\_owner4s is an implementation choice. The time period should certainly be no less than the lease time plus any grace period the server wishes to implement beyond a lease time. The OPEN\_CONFIRM operation allows the server to safely dispose of unused open\_owner4 data structures.

In the case that a client issues an OPEN operation and the server no longer has a record of the open\_owner4, the server needs to ensure that this is a new OPEN and not a replay or retransmission.

Servers MUST NOT require confirmation on OPENS that grant delegations or are doing reclaim operations. See Section 9.1.11 for details. The server can easily avoid this by noting whether it has disposed of one `open_owner4` for the given client ID. If the server does not support delegation, it might simply maintain a single bit that notes whether any `open_owner4` (for any client) has been disposed of.

The server must hold unconfirmed OPEN state until one of three events occur. First, the client sends an `OPEN_CONFIRM` request with the appropriate sequence id and stateid within the lease period. In this case, the OPEN state on the server goes to confirmed, and the `open_owner4` on the server is fully established.

Second, the client sends another OPEN request with a sequence id that is incorrect for the `open_owner4` (out of sequence). In this case, the server assumes the second OPEN request is valid and the first one is a replay. The server cancels the OPEN state of the first OPEN request, establishes an unconfirmed OPEN state for the second OPEN request, and responds to the second OPEN request with an indication that an `OPEN_CONFIRM` is needed. The process then repeats itself. While there is a potential for a denial of service attack on the client, it is mitigated if the client and server require the use of a security flavor based on Kerberos V5 or some other flavor that uses cryptography.

What if the server is in the unconfirmed OPEN state for a given `open_owner4`, and it receives an operation on the `open_owner4` that has a stateid but the operation is not OPEN, or it is `OPEN_CONFIRM` but with the wrong stateid? Then, even if the seqid is correct, the server returns `NFS4ERR_BAD_STATEID`, because the server assumes the operation is a replay: if the server has no established OPEN state, then there is no way, for example, a LOCK operation could be valid.

Third, neither of the two aforementioned events occur for the `open_owner4` within the lease period. In this case, the OPEN state is canceled and disposal of the `open_owner4` can occur.

## 15.21. Operation 21: `OPEN_DOWNGRADE` - Reduce Open File Access

### 15.21.1. SYNOPSIS

(cfh), stateid, seqid, access, deny -> stateid

### 15.21.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct OPEN_DOWNGRADE4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: opened file */
    stateid4      open_stateid;
    seqid4       seqid;
    uint32_t     share_access;
    uint32_t     share_deny;
};
```

#### 15.21.3. RESULT

```
struct OPEN_DOWNGRADE4resok {
    stateid4      open_stateid;
};

union OPEN_DOWNGRADE4res switch(nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        OPEN_DOWNGRADE4resok      resok4;
    default:
        void;
};
```

#### 15.21.4. DESCRIPTION

This operation is used to adjust the `share_access` and `share_deny` bits for a given open. This is necessary when a given open-owner opens the same file multiple times with different `share_access` and `share_deny` flags. In this situation, a close of one of the opens may change the appropriate `share_access` and `share_deny` flags to remove bits associated with opens no longer in effect.

The `share_access` and `share_deny` bits specified in this operation replace the current ones for the specified open file. The `share_access` and `share_deny` bits specified must be exactly equal to the union of the `share_access` and `share_deny` bits specified for some subset of the OPENs in effect for current open-owner on the current file. If that constraint is not respected, the error `NFS4ERR_INVALID` should be returned. Since `share_access` and `share_deny` bits are subsets of those already granted, it is not possible for this request to be denied because of conflicting share reservations.

As the `OPEN_DOWNGRADE` may change a file to be not-open-for-write and a write byte-range lock might be held, the server may have to reject the `OPEN_DOWNGRADE` with a `NFS4ERR_LOCKS_HELD`.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

## 15.22. Operation 22: PUTFH - Set Current Filehandle

## 15.22.1. SYNOPSIS

```
filehandle -> (cfh)
```

## 15.22.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct PUTFH4args {  
    nfs_fh4      object;  
};
```

## 15.22.3. RESULT

```
struct PUTFH4res {  
    /* CURRENT_FH: */  
    nfsstat4      status;  
};
```

## 15.22.4. DESCRIPTION

Replaces the current filehandle with the filehandle provided as an argument.

If the security mechanism used by the requester does not meet the requirements of the filehandle provided to this operation, the server MUST return NFS4ERR\_WRONGSEC.

See Section 15.2.4.1 for more details on the current filehandle.

## 15.22.5. IMPLEMENTATION

Commonly used as the first operator in an NFS request to set the context for following operations.

## 15.23. Operation 23: PUTPUBFH - Set Public Filehandle

## 15.23.1. SYNOPSIS

```
- -> (cfh)
```

## 15.23.2. ARGUMENT

```
void;
```

## 15.23.3. RESULT

```
struct PUTPUBFH4res {
    /* CURRENT_FH: public fh */
    nfsstat4      status;
};
```

## 15.23.4. DESCRIPTION

Replaces the current filehandle with the filehandle that represents the public filehandle of the server's name space. This filehandle may be different from the "root" filehandle which may be associated with some other directory on the server.

The public filehandle concept was introduced in [RFC2054], [RFC2055], [RFC2224]. The intent for NFSv4 is that the public filehandle (represented by the PUTPUBFH operation) be used as a method of providing compatibility with the WebNFS server of NFSv2 and NFSv3.

The public filehandle and the root filehandle (represented by the PUTROOTFH operation) should be equivalent. If the public and root filehandles are not equivalent, then the public filehandle MUST be a descendant of the root filehandle.

## 15.23.5. IMPLEMENTATION

Used as the first operator in an NFS request to set the context for following operations.

With the NFSv2 and 3 public filehandle, the client is able to specify whether the path name provided in the LOOKUP should be evaluated as either an absolute path relative to the server's root or relative to the public filehandle. [RFC2224] contains further discussion of the functionality. With NFSv4, that type of specification is not directly available in the LOOKUP operation. The reason for this is because the component separators needed to specify absolute vs. relative are not allowed in NFSv4. Therefore, the client is responsible for constructing its request such that the use of either PUTROOTFH or PUTPUBFH are used to signify absolute or relative evaluation of an NFS URL respectively.

Note that there are warnings mentioned in [RFC2224] with respect to the use of absolute evaluation and the restrictions the server may place on that evaluation with respect to how much of its namespace has been made available. These same warnings apply to NFSv4. It is likely, therefore that because of server implementation details, an

NFSv3 absolute public filehandle lookup may behave differently than an NFSv4 absolute resolution.

There is a form of security negotiation as described in [RFC2755] that uses the public filehandle as a method of employing Simple and Protected GSSAPI Negotiation Mechanism (SNEGOM) [RFC4178]. This method is not available with NFSv4 as filehandles are not overloaded with special meaning and therefore do not provide the same framework as NFSv2 and NFSv3. Clients should therefore use the security negotiation mechanisms described in this RFC.

#### 15.24. Operation 24: PUTROOTFH - Set Root Filehandle

##### 15.24.1. SYNOPSIS

```
- -> (cfh)
```

##### 15.24.2. ARGUMENT

```
void;
```

##### 15.24.3. RESULT

```
struct PUTROOTFH4res {  
    /* CURRENT_FH: root fh */  
    nfsstat4      status;  
};
```

##### 15.24.4. DESCRIPTION

Replaces the current filehandle with the filehandle that represents the root of the server's name space. From this filehandle a LOOKUP operation can locate any other filehandle on the server. This filehandle may be different from the "public" filehandle which may be associated with some other directory on the server.

See Section 15.2.4.1 for more details on the current filehandle.

##### 15.24.5. IMPLEMENTATION

Commonly used as the first operator in an NFS request to set the context for following operations.

## 15.25. Operation 25: READ - Read from File

## 15.25.1. SYNOPSIS

(cfh), stateid, offset, count -> eof, data

## 15.25.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct READ4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: file */
    stateid4      stateid;
    offset4       offset;
    count4        count;
};
```

## 15.25.3. RESULT

```
struct READ4resok {
    bool          eof;
    opaque        data<>;
};

union READ4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        READ4resok      resok4;
    default:
        void;
};
```

## 15.25.4. DESCRIPTION

The READ operation reads data from the regular file identified by the current filehandle.

The client provides an offset of where the READ is to start and a count of how many bytes are to be read. An offset of 0 (zero) means to read data starting at the beginning of the file. If offset is greater than or equal to the size of the file, the status, NFS4\_OK, is returned with a data length set to 0 (zero) and eof is set to TRUE. The READ is subject to access permissions checking.

If the client specifies a count value of 0 (zero), the READ succeeds and returns 0 (zero) bytes of data again subject to access permissions checking. The server may choose to return fewer bytes than specified by the client. The client needs to check for this condition and handle the condition appropriately.

The stateid value for a READ request represents a value returned from a previous byte-range lock or share reservation request or the stateid associated with a delegation. The stateid is used by the server to verify that the associated share reservation and any byte-range locks are still valid and to update lease timeouts for the client.

If the read ended at the end-of-file (formally, in a correctly formed READ request, if offset + count is equal to the size of the file), or the read request extends beyond the size of the file (if offset + count is greater than the size of the file), eof is returned as TRUE; otherwise it is FALSE. A successful READ of an empty file will always return eof as TRUE.

If the current filehandle is not a regular file, an error will be returned to the client. In the case the current filehandle represents a directory, NFS4ERR\_ISDIR is returned; otherwise, NFS4ERR\_INVALID is returned.

For a READ using the special anonymous stateid, the server MAY allow the READ to be serviced subject to mandatory file locks or the current share deny modes for the file. For a READ using the special READ bypass stateid, the server MAY allow READ operations to bypass locking checks at the server.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

#### 15.25.5. IMPLEMENTATION

If the server returns a "short read" (i.e., fewer data than requested and eof is set to FALSE), the client should send another READ to get the remaining data. A server may return less data than requested under several circumstances. The file may have been truncated by another client or perhaps on the server itself, changing the file size from what the requesting client believes to be the case. This would reduce the actual amount of data available to the client. It is possible that the server reduces the transfer size and so returns a short read result. Server resource exhaustion may also result in a short read.

If mandatory byte-range locking is in effect for the file, and if the byte-range corresponding to the data to be read from the file is WRITE\_LT locked by an owner not associated with the stateid, the server will return the NFS4ERR\_LOCKED error. The client should try to get the appropriate READ\_LT via the LOCK operation before reattempting the READ. When the READ completes, the client should release the byte-range lock via LOCKU.

If another client has an `OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE` delegation for the file being read, the delegation must be recalled, and the operation cannot proceed until that delegation is returned or revoked. Except where this happens very quickly, one or more `NFS4ERR_DELAY` errors will be returned to requests made while the delegation remains outstanding. Normally, delegations will not be recalled as a result of a `READ` operation since the recall will occur as a result of an earlier `OPEN`. However, since it is possible for a `READ` to be done with a special `stateid`, the server needs to check for this case even though the client should have done an `OPEN` previously.

## 15.26. Operation 26: READDIR - Read Directory

### 15.26.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh), cookie, cookieverf, dircount, maxcount, attr_request ->
cookieverf { cookie, name, attrs }
```

### 15.26.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct READDIR4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
    nfs_cookie4      cookie;
    verifier4       cookieverf;
    count4          dircount;
    count4          maxcount;
    bitmap4         attr_request;
};
```

### 15.26.3. RESULT

```
struct entry4 {
    nfs_cookie4    cookie;
    component4     name;
    fattr4         attrs;
    entry4         *nextentry;
};

struct dirlist4 {
    entry4         *entries;
    bool           eof;
};

struct READDIR4resok {
    verifier4     cookieverf;
    dirlist4      reply;
};

union READDIR4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        READDIR4resok  resok4;
    default:
        void;
};
```

#### 15.26.4. DESCRIPTION

The READDIR operation retrieves a variable number of entries from a file system directory and returns client requested attributes for each entry along with information to allow the client to request additional directory entries in a subsequent READDIR.

The arguments contain a cookie value that represents where the READDIR should start within the directory. A value of 0 (zero) for the cookie is used to start reading at the beginning of the directory. For subsequent READDIR requests, the client specifies a cookie value that is provided by the server on a previous READDIR request.

The cookieverf value should be set to 0 (zero) when the cookie value is 0 (zero) (first directory read). On subsequent requests, it should be a cookieverf as returned by the server. The cookieverf must match that returned by the READDIR in which the cookie was acquired. If the server determines that the cookieverf is no longer valid for the directory, the error NFS4ERR\_NOT\_SAME must be returned.

The `dircount` portion of the argument is a hint of the maximum number of bytes of directory information that should be returned. This value represents the length of the names of the directory entries and the cookie value for these entries. This length represents the XDR encoding of the data (names and cookies) and not the length in the native format of the server.

The `maxcount` value of the argument is the maximum number of bytes for the result. This maximum size represents all of the data being returned within the `READDIR4resok` structure and includes the XDR overhead. The server may return less data. If the server is unable to return a single directory entry within the `maxcount` limit, the error `NFS4ERR_TOOSMALL` will be returned to the client.

Finally, `attr_request` represents the list of attributes to be returned for each directory entry supplied by the server.

On successful return, the server's response will provide a list of directory entries. Each of these entries contains the name of the directory entry, a cookie value for that entry, and the associated attributes as requested. The "eof" flag has a value of `TRUE` if there are no more entries in the directory.

The cookie value is only meaningful to the server and is used as a "bookmark" for the directory entry. As mentioned, this cookie is used by the client for subsequent `READDIR` operations so that it may continue reading a directory. The cookie is similar in concept to a `READ` offset but should not be interpreted as such by the client. The server **SHOULD** try to accept cookie values issued with `READDIR` responses even if the directory has been modified between the `READDIR` calls but **MAY** return `NFS4ERR_NOT_VALID` if this is not possible as might be the case if the server has rebooted in the interim.

In some cases, the server may encounter an error while obtaining the attributes for a directory entry. Instead of returning an error for the entire `READDIR` operation, the server can instead return the attribute `'fattr4_rdattnr_error'`. With this, the server is able to communicate the failure to the client and not fail the entire operation in the instance of what might be a transient failure. Obviously, the client must request the `fattr4_rdattnr_error` attribute for this method to work properly. If the client does not request the attribute, the server has no choice but to return failure for the entire `READDIR` operation.

For some file system environments, the directory entries `."` and `.."` have special meaning and in other environments, they may not. If the server supports these special entries within a directory, they should not be returned to the client as part of the `READDIR` response. To

enable some client environments, the cookie values of 0, 1, and 2 are to be considered reserved. Note that the UNIX client will use these values when combining the server's response and local representations to enable a fully formed UNIX directory presentation to the application.

For READDIR arguments, cookie values of 1 and 2 SHOULD NOT be used and for READDIR results cookie values of 0, 1, and 2 MUST NOT be returned.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

#### 15.26.5. IMPLEMENTATION

The server's file system directory representations can differ greatly. A client's programming interfaces may also be bound to the local operating environment in a way that does not translate well into the NFS protocol. Therefore the use of the dircount and maxcount fields are provided to allow the client the ability to provide guidelines to the server. If the client is aggressive about attribute collection during a READDIR, the server has an idea of how to limit the encoded response. The dircount field provides a hint on the number of entries based solely on the names of the directory entries. Since it is a hint, it may be possible that a dircount value is zero. In this case, the server is free to ignore the dircount value and return directory information based on the specified maxcount value.

As there is no way for the client to indicate that a cookie value once received, will not be subsequently used, server implementations should avoid schemes that allocate memory corresponding to a returned cookie. Such allocation can be avoided if the server bases cookie values on a value such as the offset within the directory where the scan is to be resumed.

Cookies generated by such techniques should be designed to remain valid despite modification of the associated directory. If a server were to invalidate a cookie because of a directory modification, READDIR's of large directories might never finish.

If a directory is deleted after the client has carried out one or more READDIR operations on the directory, the cookies returned will become invalid but the server does not need to be concerned as the directory file handle used previously would have become stale and would be reported as such on subsequent READDIR operations. The server would not need to check the cookie verifier in this case.

However, certain re-organization operations on a directory (including directory compaction) may invalidate READDIR cookies previously given out. When such a situation occurs, the server should modify the cookie verifier so as to disallow use of cookies which would otherwise no longer be valid.

The cookieverf may be used by the server to help manage cookie values that may become stale. It should be a rare occurrence that a server is unable to continue properly reading a directory with the provided cookie/cookieverf pair. The server should make every effort to avoid this condition since the application at the client may not be able to properly handle this type of failure.

The use of the cookieverf will also protect the client from using READDIR cookie values that may be stale. For example, if the file system has been migrated, the server may or may not be able to use the same cookie values to service READDIR as the previous server used. With the client providing the cookieverf, the server is able to provide the appropriate response to the client. This prevents the case where the server may accept a cookie value but the underlying directory has changed and the response is invalid from the client's context of its previous READDIR.

Since some servers will not be returning "." and ".." entries as has been done with previous versions of the NFS protocol, the client that requires these entries be present in READDIR responses must fabricate them.

## 15.27. Operation 27: READLINK - Read Symbolic Link

### 15.27.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh) -> linktext
```

### 15.27.2. ARGUMENT

```
/* CURRENT_FH: symlink */  
void;
```

### 15.27.3. RESULT

```
struct READLINK4resok {
    linktext4    link;
};

union READLINK4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        READLINK4resok resok4;
    default:
        void;
};
```

#### 15.27.4. DESCRIPTION

READLINK reads the data associated with a symbolic link. The data is a UTF-8 string that is opaque to the server. That is, whether created by an NFS client or created locally on the server, the data in a symbolic link is not interpreted when created, but is simply stored.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

#### 15.27.5. IMPLEMENTATION

A symbolic link is nominally a pointer to another file. The data is not necessarily interpreted by the server, just stored in the file. It is possible for a client implementation to store a path name that is not meaningful to the server operating system in a symbolic link. A READLINK operation returns the data to the client for interpretation. If different implementations want to share access to symbolic links, then they must agree on the interpretation of the data in the symbolic link.

The READLINK operation is only allowed on objects of type NF4LNK. The server should return the error, NFS4ERR\_INVALID, if the object is not of type, NF4LNK.

### 15.28. Operation 28: REMOVE - Remove Filesystem Object

#### 15.28.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh), filename -> change_info
```

#### 15.28.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct REMOVE4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
    component4    target;
};
```

#### 15.28.3. RESULT

```
struct REMOVE4resok {
    change_info4    cinfo;
};

union REMOVE4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        REMOVE4resok    resok4;
    default:
        void;
};
```

#### 15.28.4. DESCRIPTION

The REMOVE operation removes (deletes) a directory entry named by filename from the directory corresponding to the current filehandle. If the entry in the directory was the last reference to the corresponding file system object, the object may be destroyed.

For the directory where the filename was removed, the server returns change\_info4 information in cinfo. With the atomic field of the change\_info4 struct, the server will indicate if the before and after change attributes were obtained atomically with respect to the removal.

If the target is of zero length, NFS4ERR\_INVALID will be returned. The target is also subject to the normal UTF-8, character support, and name checks. See Section 12.7 for further discussion.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

#### 15.28.5. IMPLEMENTATION

NFSv3 required a different operator RMDIR for directory removal and REMOVE for non-directory removal. This allowed clients to skip checking the file type when being passed a non-directory delete system call (e.g., unlink() [unlink] in POSIX) to remove a directory, as well as the converse (e.g., a rmdir() on a non-directory) because they knew the server would check the file type. NFSv4 REMOVE can be used to delete any directory entry independent of its file type. The

implementer of an NFSv4 client's entry points from the `unlink()` and `rmdir()` system calls should first check the file type against the types the system call is allowed to remove before issuing a `REMOVE`. Alternatively, the implementer can produce a `COMPOUND` call that includes a `LOOKUP/VERIFY` sequence to verify the file type before a `REMOVE` operation in the same `COMPOUND` call.

The concept of last reference is server specific. However, if the `numlinks` field in the previous attributes of the object had the value 1, the client should not rely on referring to the object via a filehandle. Likewise, the client should not rely on the resources (disk space, directory entry, and so on) formerly associated with the object becoming immediately available. Thus, if a client needs to be able to continue to access a file after using `REMOVE` to remove it, the client should take steps to make sure that the file will still be accessible. The usual mechanism used is to `RENAME` the file from its old name to a new hidden name.

If the server finds that the file is still open when the `REMOVE` arrives:

- o The server SHOULD NOT delete the file's directory entry if the file was opened with `OPEN4_SHARE_DENY_WRITE` or `OPEN4_SHARE_DENY_BOTH`.
- o If the file was not opened with `OPEN4_SHARE_DENY_WRITE` or `OPEN4_SHARE_DENY_BOTH`, the server SHOULD delete the file's directory entry. However, until last `CLOSE` of the file, the server MAY continue to allow access to the file via its filehandle.

## 15.29. Operation 29: `RENAME` - Rename Directory Entry

### 15.29.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(sfh), oldname, (cfh), newname -> source_cinfo, target_cinfo
```

### 15.29.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct RENAME4args {  
    /* SAVED_FH: source directory */  
    component4    oldname;  
    /* CURRENT_FH: target directory */  
    component4    newname;  
};
```

## 15.29.3. RESULT

```
struct RENAME4resok {
    change_info4    source_cinfo;
    change_info4    target_cinfo;
};

union RENAME4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        RENAME4resok    resok4;
    default:
        void;
};
```

## 15.29.4. DESCRIPTION

The RENAME operation renames the object identified by oldname in the source directory corresponding to the saved filehandle, as set by the SAVEFH operation, to newname in the target directory corresponding to the current filehandle. The operation is required to be atomic to the client. Source and target directories must reside on the same file system on the server. On success, the current filehandle will continue to be the target directory.

If the target directory already contains an entry with the name, newname, the source object must be compatible with the target: either both are non-directories or both are directories and the target must be empty. If compatible, the existing target is removed before the rename occurs (See Section 15.28 for client and server actions whenever a target is removed). If they are not compatible or if the target is a directory but not empty, the server will return the error, NFS4ERR\_EXIST.

If oldname and newname both refer to the same file (they might be hard links of each other), then RENAME should perform no action and return success.

For both directories involved in the RENAME, the server returns change\_info4 information. With the atomic field of the change\_info4 struct, the server will indicate if the before and after change attributes were obtained atomically with respect to the rename.

If the oldname refers to a named attribute and the saved and current filehandles refer to the named attribute directories of different file system objects, the server will return NFS4ERR\_XDEV just as if the saved and current filehandles represented directories on different file systems.

If the oldname or newname is of zero length, NFS4ERR\_INVALID will be returned. The oldname and newname are also subject to the normal UTF-8, character support, and name checks. See Section 12.7 for further discussion.

#### 15.29.5. IMPLEMENTATION

The RENAME operation must be atomic to the client. The statement "source and target directories must reside on the same file system on the server" means that the fsid fields in the attributes for the directories are the same. If they reside on different file systems, the error, NFS4ERR\_XDEV, is returned.

Based on the value of the fh\_expire\_type attribute for the object, the filehandle may or may not expire on a RENAME. However, server implementers are strongly encouraged to attempt to keep filehandles from expiring in this fashion.

On some servers, the file names "." and ".." are illegal as either oldname or newname, and will result in the error NFS4ERR\_BADNAME. In addition, on many servers the case of oldname or newname being an alias for the source directory will be checked for. Such servers will return the error NFS4ERR\_INVALID in these cases.

If either of the source or target filehandles are not directories, the server will return NFS4ERR\_NOTDIR.

#### 15.30. Operation 30: RENEW - Renew a Lease

##### 15.30.1. SYNOPSIS

```
clientid -> ()
```

##### 15.30.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct RENEW4args {
    clientid4      clientid;
};
```

##### 15.30.3. RESULT

```
struct RENEW4res {
    nfsstat4      status;
};
```

## 15.30.4. DESCRIPTION

The RENEW operation is used by the client to renew leases which it currently holds at a server. In processing the RENEW request, the server renews all leases associated with the client. The associated leases are determined by the clientid provided via the SETCLIENTID operation.

## 15.30.5. IMPLEMENTATION

When the client holds delegations, it needs to use RENEW to detect when the server has determined that the callback path is down. When the server has made such a determination, only the RENEW operation will renew the lease on delegations. If the server determines the callback path is down, it returns NFS4ERR\_CB\_PATH\_DOWN. Even though it returns NFS4ERR\_CB\_PATH\_DOWN, the server MUST renew the lease on the byte-range locks and share reservations that the client has established on the server. If for some reason the lock and share reservation lease cannot be renewed, then the server MUST return an error other than NFS4ERR\_CB\_PATH\_DOWN, even if the callback path is also down. In the event that the server has conditions such that it could return either NFS4ERR\_CB\_PATH\_DOWN or NFS4ERR\_LEASE\_MOVED, NFS4ERR\_LEASE\_MOVED MUST be handled first.

The client that issues RENEW MUST choose the principal, RPC security flavor, and if applicable, GSS-API mechanism and service via one of the following algorithms:

- o The client uses the same principal, RPC security flavor -- and if the flavor was RPCSEC\_GSS -- the same mechanism and service that was used when the client ID was established via SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM.
- o The client uses any principal, RPC security flavor mechanism and service combination that currently has an OPEN file on the server. I.e., the same principal had a successful OPEN operation, the file is still open by that principal, and the flavor, mechanism, and service of RENEW match that of the previous OPEN.

The server MUST reject a RENEW that does not use one the aforementioned algorithms, with the error NFS4ERR\_ACCESS.

## 15.31. Operation 31: RESTOREFH - Restore Saved Filehandle

## 15.31.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(sfh) -> (cfh)
```

## 15.31.2. ARGUMENT

```
/* SAVED_FH: */
void;
```

## 15.31.3. RESULT

```
struct RESTOREFH4res {
    /* CURRENT_FH: value of saved fh */
    nfsstat4          status;
};
```

## 15.31.4. DESCRIPTION

Set the current filehandle to the value in the saved filehandle. If there is no saved filehandle then return the error NFS4ERR\_RESTOREFH.

## 15.31.5. IMPLEMENTATION

Operations like OPEN and LOOKUP use the current filehandle to represent a directory and replace it with a new filehandle. Assuming the previous filehandle was saved with a SAVEFH operator, the previous filehandle can be restored as the current filehandle. This is commonly used to obtain post-operation attributes for the directory, e.g.,

```
PUTFH (directory filehandle)
SAVEFH
GETATTR attrbits      (pre-op dir attrs)
CREATE optbits "foo" attrs
GETATTR attrbits      (file attributes)
RESTOREFH
GETATTR attrbits      (post-op dir attrs)
```

## 15.32. Operation 32: SAVEFH - Save Current Filehandle

## 15.32.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh) -> (sfh)
```

## 15.32.2. ARGUMENT

```
/* CURRENT_FH: */  
void;
```

## 15.32.3. RESULT

```
struct SAVEFH4res {  
    /* SAVED_FH: value of current fh */  
    nfsstat4      status;  
};
```

## 15.32.4. DESCRIPTION

Save the current filehandle. If a previous filehandle was saved then it is no longer accessible. The saved filehandle can be restored as the current filehandle with the RESTOREFH operator.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

## 15.32.5. IMPLEMENTATION

## 15.33. Operation 33: SECINFO - Obtain Available Security

## 15.33.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh), name -> { secinfo }
```

## 15.33.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct SECINFO4args {  
    /* CURRENT_FH: directory */  
    component4      name;  
};
```

## 15.33.3. RESULT

```

/*
 * From RFC 2203
 */
enum rpc_gss_svc_t {
    RPC_GSS_SVC_NONE          = 1,
    RPC_GSS_SVC_INTEGRITY    = 2,
    RPC_GSS_SVC_PRIVACY      = 3
};

struct rpcsec_gss_info {
    sec_oid4          oid;
    qop4              qop;
    rpc_gss_svc_t    service;
};

/* RPCSEC_GSS has a value of '6' - See RFC 2203 */
union secinfo4 switch (uint32_t flavor) {
    case RPCSEC_GSS:
        rpcsec_gss_info      flavor_info;
    default:
        void;
};

typedef secinfo4 SECINFO4resok<>;

union SECINFO4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        SECINFO4resok resok4;
    default:
        void;
};

```

#### 15.33.4. DESCRIPTION

The SECINFO operation is used by the client to obtain a list of valid RPC authentication flavors for a specific directory filehandle, file name pair. SECINFO should apply the same access methodology used for LOOKUP when evaluating the name. Therefore, if the requester does not have the appropriate access to LOOKUP the name then SECINFO must behave the same way and return NFS4ERR\_ACCESS.

The result will contain an array which represents the security mechanisms available, with an order corresponding to server's preferences, the most preferred being first in the array. The client is free to pick whatever security mechanism it both desires and supports, or to pick in the server's preference order the first one it supports. The array entries are represented by the secinfo4

structure. The field 'flavor' will contain a value of AUTH\_NONE, AUTH\_SYS (as defined in [RFC5531]), or RPCSEC\_GSS (as defined in [RFC2203]).

For the flavors AUTH\_NONE and AUTH\_SYS, no additional security information is returned. For a return value of RPCSEC\_GSS, a security triple is returned that contains the mechanism object id (as defined in [RFC2743]), the quality of protection (as defined in [RFC2743]) and the service type (as defined in [RFC2203]). It is possible for SECINFO to return multiple entries with flavor equal to RPCSEC\_GSS with different security triple values.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

If the name has a length of 0 (zero), or if name does not obey the UTF-8 definition, the error NFS4ERR\_INVALID will be returned.

#### 15.33.5. IMPLEMENTATION

The SECINFO operation is expected to be used by the NFS client when the error value of NFS4ERR\_WRONGSEC is returned from another NFS operation. This signifies to the client that the server's security policy is different from what the client is currently using. At this point, the client is expected to obtain a list of possible security flavors and choose what best suits its policies.

As mentioned, the server's security policies will determine when a client request receives NFS4ERR\_WRONGSEC. The operations which may receive this error are: LINK, LOOKUP, LOOKUPP, OPEN, PUTFH, PUTPUBFH, PUTROOTFH, RENAME, RESTOREFH, and indirectly READDIR. LINK and RENAME will only receive this error if the security used for the operation is inappropriate for saved filehandle. With the exception of READDIR, these operations represent the point at which the client can instantiate a filehandle into the "current filehandle" at the server. The filehandle is either provided by the client (PUTFH, PUTPUBFH, PUTROOTFH) or generated as a result of a name to filehandle translation (LOOKUP and OPEN). RESTOREFH is different because the filehandle is a result of a previous SAVEFH. Even though the filehandle, for RESTOREFH, might have previously passed the server's inspection for a security match, the server will check it again on RESTOREFH to ensure that the security policy has not changed.

If the client wants to resolve an error return of NFS4ERR\_WRONGSEC, the following will occur:

- o For LOOKUP and OPEN, the client will use SECINFO with the same current filehandle and name as provided in the original LOOKUP or OPEN to enumerate the available security triples.

- o For LINK, PUTFH, RENAME, and RESTOREFH, the client will use SECINFO and provide the parent directory filehandle and object name which corresponds to the filehandle originally provided by the PUTFH RESTOREFH, or for LINK and RENAME, the SAVEFH.
- o For LOOKUPP, PUTROOTFH and PUTPUBFH, the client will be unable to use the SECINFO operation since SECINFO requires a current filehandle and none exist for these two operations. Therefore, the client must iterate through the security triples available at the client and reattempt the PUTROOTFH or PUTPUBFH operation. In the unfortunate event none of the MANDATORY security triples are supported by the client and server, the client SHOULD try using others that support integrity. Failing that, the client can try using AUTH\_NONE, but because such forms lack integrity checks, this puts the client at risk. Nonetheless, the server SHOULD allow the client to use whatever security form the client requests and the server supports, since the risks of doing so are on the client.

The READDIR operation will not directly return the NFS4ERR\_WRONGSEC error. However, if the READDIR request included a request for attributes, it is possible that the READDIR request's security triple does not match that of a directory entry. If this is the case and the client has requested the rgetattr\_error attribute, the server will return the NFS4ERR\_WRONGSEC error in rgetattr\_error for the entry.

Note that a server MAY use the AUTH\_NONE flavor to signify that the client is allowed to attempt to use authentication flavors that are not explicitly listed in the SECINFO results. Instead of using a listed flavor, the client might then, for instance opt to use an otherwise unlisted RPCSEC\_GSS mechanism instead of AUTH\_NONE. It may wish to do so in order to meet an application requirement for data integrity or privacy. In choosing to use an unlisted flavor, the client SHOULD always be prepared to handle a failure by falling back to using AUTH\_NONE or another listed flavor. It cannot assume that identity mapping is supported, and should be prepared for the fact that its identity is squashed.

See Section 17 for a discussion on the recommendations for security flavor used by SECINFO.

#### 15.34. Operation 34: SETATTR - Set Attributes

##### 15.34.1. SYNOPSIS

```
(cfh), stateid, attrmask, attr_vals -> attrset
```

## 15.34.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct SETATTR4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: target object */
    stateid4      stateid;
    fattr4        obj_attributes;
};
```

## 15.34.3. RESULT

```
struct SETATTR4res {
    nfsstat4      status;
    bitmap4       attrset;
};
```

## 15.34.4. DESCRIPTION

The SETATTR operation changes one or more of the attributes of a file system object. The new attributes are specified with a bitmap and the attributes that follow the bitmap in bit order.

The stateid argument for SETATTR is used to provide byte-range locking context that is necessary for SETATTR requests that set the size attribute. Since setting the size attribute modifies the file's data, it has the same locking requirements as a corresponding WRITE. Any SETATTR that sets the size attribute is incompatible with a share reservation that specifies OPEN4\_SHARE\_DENY\_WRITE. The area between the old end-of-file and the new end-of-file is considered to be modified just as would have been the case had the area in question been specified as the target of WRITE, for the purpose of checking conflicts with byte-range locks, for those cases in which a server is implementing mandatory byte-range locking behavior. A valid stateid SHOULD always be specified. When the file size attribute is not set, the special anonymous stateid MAY be passed.

On either success or failure of the operation, the server will return the attrset bitmask to represent what (if any) attributes were successfully set. The attrset in the response is a subset of the bitmap4 that is part of the obj\_attributes in the argument.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

## 15.34.5. IMPLEMENTATION

If the request specifies the owner attribute to be set, the server SHOULD allow the operation to succeed if the current owner of the object matches the value specified in the request. Some servers may be implemented in a way as to prohibit the setting of the owner attribute unless the requester has privilege to do so. If the server is lenient in this one case of matching owner values, the client implementation may be simplified in cases of creation of an object (e.g., an exclusive create via OPEN) followed by a SETATTR.

The file size attribute is used to request changes to the size of a file. A value of zero causes the file to be truncated, a value less than the current size of the file causes data from new size to the end of the file to be discarded, and a size greater than the current size of the file causes logically zeroed data bytes to be added to the end of the file. Servers are free to implement this using holes or actual zero data bytes. Clients should not make any assumptions regarding a server's implementation of this feature, beyond that the bytes returned will be zeroed. Servers MUST support extending the file size via SETATTR.

SETATTR is not guaranteed atomic. A failed SETATTR may partially change a file's attributes, hence the reason why the reply always includes the status and the list of attributes that were set.

If the object whose attributes are being changed has a file delegation that is held by a client other than the one doing the SETATTR, the delegation(s) must be recalled, and the operation cannot proceed to actually change an attribute until each such delegation is returned or revoked. In all cases in which delegations are recalled, the server is likely to return one or more NFS4ERR\_DELAY errors while the delegation(s) remains outstanding, although it might not do that if the delegations are returned quickly.

Changing the size of a file with SETATTR indirectly changes the time\_modify and change attributes. A client must account for this as size changes can result in data deletion.

The attributes time\_access\_set and time\_modify\_set are write-only attributes constructed as a switched union so the client can direct the server in setting the time values. If the switched union specifies SET\_TO\_CLIENT\_TIME4, the client has provided an nfstime4 to be used for the operation. If the switch union does not specify SET\_TO\_CLIENT\_TIME4, the server is to use its current time for the SETATTR operation.

If server and client times differ, programs that compare client time to file times can break. A time maintenance protocol should be used to limit client/server time skew.

Use of a COMPOUND containing a VERIFY operation specifying only the change attribute, immediately followed by a SETATTR, provides a means whereby a client may specify a request that emulates the functionality of the SETATTR guard mechanism of NFSv3. Since the function of the guard mechanism is to avoid changes to the file attributes based on stale information, delays between checking of the guard condition and the setting of the attributes have the potential to compromise this function, as would the corresponding delay in the NFSv4 emulation. Therefore, NFSv4 servers should take care to avoid such delays, to the degree possible, when executing such a request.

If the server does not support an attribute as requested by the client, the server should return NFS4ERR\_ATTRNOTSUPP.

A mask of the attributes actually set is returned by SETATTR in all cases. That mask MUST NOT include attribute bits not requested to be set by the client. If the attribute masks in the request and reply are equal, the status field in the reply MUST be NFS4\_OK.

#### 15.35. Operation 35: SETCLIENTID - Negotiate Client ID

##### 15.35.1. SYNOPSIS

```
client, callback, callback_ident -> clientid, setclientid_confirm
```

##### 15.35.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct SETCLIENTID4args {
    nfs_client_id4  client;
    cb_client4      callback;
    uint32_t        callback_ident;
};
```

##### 15.35.3. RESULT

```
struct SETCLIENTID4resok {
    clientid4      clientid;
    verifier4     setclientid_confirm;
};

union SETCLIENTID4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        SETCLIENTID4resok      resok4;
    case NFS4ERR_CLID_INUSE:
        clientaddr4      client_using;
    default:
        void;
};
```

#### 15.35.4. DESCRIPTION

The client uses the SETCLIENTID operation to notify the server of its intention to use a particular client identifier, callback, and callback\_ident for subsequent requests that entail creating lock, share reservation, and delegation state on the server. Upon successful completion the server will return a shorthand client ID which, if confirmed via a separate step, will be used in subsequent file locking and file open requests. Confirmation of the client ID must be done via the SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM operation to return the client ID and setclientid\_confirm values, as verifiers, to the server. The reason why two verifiers are necessary is that it is possible to use SETCLIENTID and SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM to modify the callback and callback\_ident information but not the shorthand client ID. In that event, the setclientid\_confirm value is effectively the only verifier.

The callback information provided in this operation will be used if the client is provided an open delegation at a future point. Therefore, the client must correctly reflect the program and port numbers for the callback program at the time SETCLIENTID is used.

The callback\_ident value is used by the server on the callback. The client can leverage the callback\_ident to eliminate the need for more than one callback RPC program number, while still being able to determine which server is initiating the callback.

#### 15.35.5. IMPLEMENTATION

To understand how to implement SETCLIENTID, make the following notations. Let:

- x be the value of the client.id subfield of the SETCLIENTID4args structure.
  - v be the value of the client.verifier subfield of the SETCLIENTID4args structure.
  - c be the value of the client ID field returned in the SETCLIENTID4resok structure.
  - k represent the value combination of the fields callback and callback\_ident fields of the SETCLIENTID4args structure.
  - s be the setclientid\_confirm value returned in the SETCLIENTID4resok structure.
- { v, x, c, k, s } be a quintuple for a client record. A client record is confirmed if there has been a SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM operation to confirm it. Otherwise it is unconfirmed. An unconfirmed record is established by a SETCLIENTID call.

Since SETCLIENTID is a non-idempotent operation, let us assume that the server is implementing the duplicate request cache (DRC).

When the server gets a SETCLIENTID { v, x, k } request, it processes it in the following manner.

- o It first looks up the request in the DRC. If there is a hit, it returns the result cached in the DRC. The server does NOT remove client state (locks, shares, delegations) nor does it modify any recorded callback and callback\_ident information for client { x }.

For any DRC miss, the server takes the client ID string x, and searches for client records for x that the server may have recorded from previous SETCLIENTID calls. For any confirmed record with the same id string x, if the recorded principal does not match that of SETCLIENTID call, then the server returns a NFS4ERR\_CLID\_INUSE error.

For brevity of discussion, the remaining description of the processing assumes that there was a DRC miss, and that where the server has previously recorded a confirmed record for client x, the aforementioned principal check has successfully passed.

- o The server checks if it has recorded a confirmed record for { v, x, c, l, s }, where l may or may not equal k. If so, and since the id verifier v of the request matches that which is confirmed and recorded, the server treats this as a probable callback information update and records an unconfirmed { v, x, c, k, t }

and leaves the confirmed { v, x, c, l, s } in place, such that t != s. It does not matter if k equals l or not. Any pre-existing unconfirmed { v, x, c, \*, \* } is removed.

The server returns { c, t }. It is indeed returning the old clientid4 value c, because the client apparently only wants to update callback value k to value l. It's possible this request is one from the Byzantine router that has stale callback information, but this is not a problem. The callback information update is only confirmed if followed up by a SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM { c, t }.

The server awaits confirmation of k via SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM { c, t }.

The server does NOT remove client (lock/share/delegation) state for x.

- o The server has previously recorded a confirmed { u, x, c, l, s } record such that v != u, l may or may not equal k, and has not recorded any unconfirmed { \*, x, \*, \*, \* } record for x. The server records an unconfirmed { v, x, d, k, t } (d != c, t != s).

The server returns { d, t }.

The server awaits confirmation of { d, k } via SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM { d, t }.

The server does NOT remove client (lock/share/delegation) state for x.

- o The server has previously recorded a confirmed { u, x, c, l, s } record such that v != u, l may or may not equal k, and recorded an unconfirmed { w, x, d, m, t } record such that c != d, t != s, m may or may not equal k, m may or may not equal l, and k may or may not equal l. Whether w == v or w != v makes no difference. The server simply removes the unconfirmed { w, x, d, m, t } record and replaces it with an unconfirmed { v, x, e, k, r } record, such that e != d, e != c, r != t, r != s.

The server returns { e, r }.

The server awaits confirmation of { e, k } via SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM { e, r }.

The server does NOT remove client (lock/share/delegation) state for x.

- o The server has no confirmed { \*, x, \*, \*, \* } for x. It may or may not have recorded an unconfirmed { u, x, c, l, s }, where l may or may not equal k, and u may or may not equal v. Any unconfirmed record { u, x, c, l, \* }, regardless whether u == v or l == k, is replaced with an unconfirmed record { v, x, d, k, t } where d != c, t != s.

The server returns { d, t }.

The server awaits confirmation of { d, k } via SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM { d, t }. The server does NOT remove client (lock/share/delegation) state for x.

The server generates the clientid and setclientid\_confirm values and must take care to ensure that these values are extremely unlikely to ever be regenerated.

#### 15.36. Operation 36: SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM - Confirm Client ID

##### 15.36.1. SYNOPSIS

```
clientid, setclientid_confirm -> -
```

##### 15.36.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM4args {
    clientid4      clientid;
    verifier4     setclientid_confirm;
};
```

##### 15.36.3. RESULT

```
struct SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM4res {
    nfsstat4      status;
};
```

##### 15.36.4. DESCRIPTION

This operation is used by the client to confirm the results from a previous call to SETCLIENTID. The client provides the server supplied (from a SETCLIENTID response) client ID. The server responds with a simple status of success or failure.

## 15.36.5. IMPLEMENTATION

The client must use the SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM operation to confirm the following two distinct cases:

- o The client's use of a new shorthand client identifier (as returned from the server in the response to SETCLIENTID), a new callback value (as specified in the arguments to SETCLIENTID) and a new callback\_ident (as specified in the arguments to SETCLIENTID) value. The client's use of SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM in this case also confirms the removal of any of the client's previous relevant leased state. Relevant leased client state includes byte-range locks, share reservations, and where the server does not support the CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV claim type, delegations. If the server supports CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV, then SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM MUST NOT remove delegations for this client; relevant leased client state would then just include byte-range locks and share reservations.
- o The client's re-use of an old, previously confirmed, shorthand client identifier, a new callback value, and a new callback\_ident value. The client's use of SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM in this case MUST NOT result in the removal of any previous leased state (locks, share reservations, and delegations)

We use the same notation and definitions for *v*, *x*, *c*, *k*, *s*, and unconfirmed and confirmed client records as introduced in the description of the SETCLIENTID operation. The arguments to SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM are indicated by the notation { *c*, *s* }, where *c* is a value of type clientid4, and *s* is a value of type verifier4 corresponding to the setclientid\_confirm field.

As with SETCLIENTID, SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM is a non-idempotent operation, and we assume that the server is implementing the duplicate request cache (DRC).

When the server gets a SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM { *c*, *s* } request, it processes it in the following manner.

- o It first looks up the request in the DRC. If there is a hit, it returns the result cached in the DRC. The server does not remove any relevant leased client state nor does it modify any recorded callback and callback\_ident information for client { *x* } as represented by the shorthand value *c*.

For a DRC miss, the server checks for client records that match the shorthand value *c*. The processing cases are as follows:

- o The server has recorded an unconfirmed { v, x, c, k, s } record and a confirmed { v, x, c, l, t } record, such that s != t. If the principals of the records do not match that of the SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM, the server returns NFS4ERR\_CLID\_INUSE, and no relevant leased client state is removed and no recorded callback and callback\_ident information for client { x } is changed. Otherwise, the confirmed { v, x, c, l, t } record is removed and the unconfirmed { v, x, c, k, s } is marked as confirmed, thereby modifying recorded and confirmed callback and callback\_ident information for client { x }.

The server does not remove any relevant leased client state.

The server returns NFS4\_OK.

- o The server has not recorded an unconfirmed { v, x, c, \*, \* } and has recorded a confirmed { v, x, c, \*, s }. If the principals of the record and of SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM do not match, the server returns NFS4ERR\_CLID\_INUSE without removing any relevant leased client state and without changing recorded callback and callback\_ident values for client { x }.

If the principals match, then what has likely happened is that the client never got the response from the SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM, and the DRC entry has been purged. Whatever the scenario, since the principals match, as well as { c, s } matching a confirmed record, the server leaves client x's relevant leased client state intact, leaves its callback and callback\_ident values unmodified, and returns NFS4\_OK.

- o The server has not recorded a confirmed { \*, \*, c, \*, \* }, and has recorded an unconfirmed { \*, x, c, k, s }. Even if this is a retry from client, nonetheless the client's first SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM attempt was not received by the server. Retry or not, the server doesn't know, but it processes it as if were a first try. If the principal of the unconfirmed { \*, x, c, k, s } record mismatches that of the SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM request the server returns NFS4ERR\_CLID\_INUSE without removing any relevant leased client state.

Otherwise, the server records a confirmed { \*, x, c, k, s }. If there is also a confirmed { \*, x, d, \*, t }, the server MUST remove the client x's relevant leased client state, and overwrite the callback state with k. The confirmed record { \*, x, d, \*, t } is removed.

Server returns NFS4\_OK.

- o The server has no record of a confirmed or unconfirmed { \*, \*, c, \*, s }. The server returns NFS4ERR\_STALE\_CLIENTID. The server does not remove any relevant leased client state, nor does it modify any recorded callback and callback\_ident information for any client.

The server needs to cache unconfirmed { v, x, c, k, s } client records and await for some time their confirmation. As should be clear from the record processing discussions for SETCLIENTID and SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM, there are cases where the server does not deterministically remove unconfirmed client records. To avoid running out of resources, the server is not required to hold unconfirmed records indefinitely. One strategy the server might use is to set a limit on how many unconfirmed client records it will maintain, and then when the limit would be exceeded, remove the oldest record. Another strategy might be to remove an unconfirmed record when some amount of time has elapsed. The choice of the amount of time is fairly arbitrary but it is surely no higher than the server's lease time period. Consider that leases need to be renewed before the lease time expires via an operation from the client. If the client cannot issue a SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM after a SETCLIENTID before a period of time equal to that of a lease expires, then the client is unlikely to be able maintain state on the server during steady state operation.

If the client does send a SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM for an unconfirmed record that the server has already deleted, the client will get NFS4ERR\_STALE\_CLIENTID back. If so, the client should then start over, and send SETCLIENTID to reestablish an unconfirmed client record and get back an unconfirmed client ID and setclientid\_confirm verifier. The client should then send the SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM to confirm the client ID.

SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM does not establish or renew a lease. However, if SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM removes relevant leased client state, and that state does not include existing delegations, the server MUST allow the client a period of time no less than the value of lease\_time attribute, to reclaim, (via the CLAIM\_DELEGATE\_PREV claim type of the OPEN operation) its delegations before removing unreclaimed delegations.

### 15.37. Operation 37: VERIFY - Verify Same Attributes

#### 15.37.1. SYNOPSIS

(cfh), fattr -> -

## 15.37.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct VERIFY4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: object */
    fattr4          obj_attributes;
};
```

## 15.37.3. RESULT

```
struct VERIFY4res {
    nfsstat4          status;
};
```

## 15.37.4. DESCRIPTION

The VERIFY operation is used to verify that attributes have a value assumed by the client before proceeding with following operations in the compound request. If any of the attributes do not match then the error NFS4ERR\_NOT\_SAME must be returned. The current filehandle retains its value after successful completion of the operation.

## 15.37.5. IMPLEMENTATION

One possible use of the VERIFY operation is the following compound sequence. With this the client is attempting to verify that the file being removed will match what the client expects to be removed. This sequence can help prevent the unintended deletion of a file.

```
PUTFH (directory filehandle)
LOOKUP (file name)
VERIFY (filehandle == fh)
PUTFH (directory filehandle)
REMOVE (file name)
```

This sequence does not prevent a second client from removing and creating a new file in the middle of this sequence but it does help avoid the unintended result.

In the case that a RECOMMENDED attribute is specified in the VERIFY operation and the server does not support that attribute for the file system object, the error NFS4ERR\_ATTRNOTSUPP is returned to the client.

When the attribute rdattrib\_error or any write-only attribute (e.g., time\_modify\_set) is specified, the error NFS4ERR\_INVALID is returned to the client.

## 15.38. Operation 38: WRITE - Write to File

## 15.38.1. SYNOPSIS

(cfh), stateid, offset, stable, data -> count, committed, writeverf

## 15.38.2. ARGUMENT

```
enum stable_how4 {
    UNSTABLE4      = 0,
    DATA_SYNC4    = 1,
    FILE_SYNC4     = 2
};

struct WRITE4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: file */
    stateid4       stateid;
    offset4        offset;
    stable_how4    stable;
    opaque         data<>;
};
```

## 15.38.3. RESULT

```
struct WRITE4resok {
    count4         count;
    stable_how4    committed;
    verifier4      writeverf;
};

union WRITE4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        WRITE4resok   resok4;
    default:
        void;
};
```

## 15.38.4. DESCRIPTION

The WRITE operation is used to write data to a regular file. The target file is specified by the current filehandle. The offset specifies the offset where the data should be written. An offset of 0 (zero) specifies that the write should start at the beginning of the file. The count, as encoded as part of the opaque data parameter, represents the number of bytes of data that are to be written. If the count is 0 (zero), the WRITE will succeed and return

a count of 0 (zero) subject to permissions checking. The server may choose to write fewer bytes than requested by the client.

Part of the write request is a specification of how the write is to be performed. The client specifies with the `stable` parameter the method of how the data is to be processed by the server. If `stable` is `FILE_SYNC4`, the server must commit the data written plus all file system metadata to stable storage before returning results. This corresponds to the NFS version 2 protocol semantics. Any other behavior constitutes a protocol violation. If `stable` is `DATA_SYNC4`, then the server must commit all of the data to stable storage and enough of the metadata to retrieve the data before returning. The server implementer is free to implement `DATA_SYNC4` in the same fashion as `FILE_SYNC4`, but with a possible performance drop. If `stable` is `UNSTABLE4`, the server is free to commit any part of the data and the metadata to stable storage, including all or none, before returning a reply to the client. There is no guarantee whether or when any uncommitted data will subsequently be committed to stable storage. The only guarantees made by the server are that it will not destroy any data without changing the value of `verf` and that it will not commit the data and metadata at a level less than that requested by the client.

The `stateid` value for a `WRITE` request represents a value returned from a previous byte-range lock or share reservation request or the `stateid` associated with a delegation. The `stateid` is used by the server to verify that the associated share reservation and any byte-range locks are still valid and to update lease timeouts for the client.

Upon successful completion, the following results are returned. The count result is the number of bytes of data written to the file. The server may write fewer bytes than requested. If so, the actual number of bytes written starting at `location`, `offset`, is returned.

The server also returns an indication of the level of commitment of the data and metadata via `committed`. If the server committed all data and metadata to stable storage, `committed` should be set to `FILE_SYNC4`. If the level of commitment was at least as strong as `DATA_SYNC4`, then `committed` should be set to `DATA_SYNC4`. Otherwise, `committed` must be returned as `UNSTABLE4`. If `stable` was `FILE4_SYNC`, then `committed` must also be `FILE_SYNC4`: anything else constitutes a protocol violation. If `stable` was `DATA_SYNC4`, then `committed` may be `FILE_SYNC4` or `DATA_SYNC4`: anything else constitutes a protocol violation. If `stable` was `UNSTABLE4`, then `committed` may be either `FILE_SYNC4`, `DATA_SYNC4`, or `UNSTABLE4`.

The final portion of the result is the write verifier. The write verifier is a cookie that the client can use to determine whether the server has changed instance (boot) state between a call to WRITE and a subsequent call to either WRITE or COMMIT. This cookie must be consistent during a single instance of the NFSv4 protocol service and must be unique between instances of the NFSv4 protocol server, where uncommitted data may be lost.

If a client writes data to the server with the stable argument set to UNSTABLE4 and the reply yields a committed response of DATA\_SYNC4 or UNSTABLE4, the client will follow up some time in the future with a COMMIT operation to synchronize outstanding asynchronous data and metadata with the server's stable storage, barring client error. It is possible that due to client crash or other error that a subsequent COMMIT will not be received by the server.

For a WRITE using the special anonymous stateid, the server MAY allow the WRITE to be serviced subject to mandatory file locks or the current share deny modes for the file. For a WRITE using the special READ bypass stateid, the server MUST NOT allow the WRITE operation to bypass locking checks at the server and is treated exactly the same as if the anonymous stateid were used.

On success, the current filehandle retains its value.

#### 15.38.5. IMPLEMENTATION

It is possible for the server to write fewer bytes of data than requested by the client. In this case, the server should not return an error unless no data was written at all. If the server writes less than the number of bytes specified, the client should issue another WRITE to write the remaining data.

It is assumed that the act of writing data to a file will cause the time\_modified of the file to be updated. However, the time\_modified of the file should not be changed unless the contents of the file are changed. Thus, a WRITE request with count set to 0 should not cause the time\_modified of the file to be updated.

The definition of stable storage has been historically a point of contention. The following expected properties of stable storage may help in resolving design issues in the implementation. Stable storage is persistent storage that survives:

1. Repeated power failures.
2. Hardware failures (of any board, power supply, etc.).

### 3. Repeated software crashes, including reboot cycle.

This definition does not address failure of the stable storage module itself.

The verifier is defined to allow a client to detect different instances of an NFSv4 protocol server over which cached, uncommitted data may be lost. In the most likely case, the verifier allows the client to detect server reboots. This information is required so that the client can safely determine whether the server could have lost cached data. If the server fails unexpectedly and the client has uncommitted data from previous WRITE requests (done with the stable argument set to UNSTABLE4 and in which the result committed was returned as UNSTABLE4 as well) it may not have flushed cached data to stable storage. The burden of recovery is on the client and the client will need to retransmit the data to the server.

A suggested verifier would be to use the time that the server was booted or the time the server was last started (if restarting the server without a reboot results in lost buffers).

The committed field in the results allows the client to do more effective caching. If the server is committing all WRITE requests to stable storage, then it should return with committed set to FILE\_SYNC4, regardless of the value of the stable field in the arguments. A server that uses an NVRAM accelerator may choose to implement this policy. The client can use this to increase the effectiveness of the cache by discarding cached data that has already been committed on the server.

Some implementations may return NFS4ERR\_NOSPC instead of NFS4ERR\_DQUOT when a user's quota is exceeded. In the case that the current filehandle is a directory, the server will return NFS4ERR\_ISDIR. If the current filehandle is not a regular file or a directory, the server will return NFS4ERR\_INVALID.

If mandatory file locking is on for the file, and corresponding record of the data to be written file is read or write locked by an owner that is not associated with the stateid, the server will return NFS4ERR\_LOCKED. If so, the client must check if the owner corresponding to the stateid used with the WRITE operation has a conflicting read lock that overlaps with the region that was to be written. If the stateid's owner has no conflicting read lock, then the client should try to get the appropriate write byte-range lock via the LOCK operation before re-attempting the WRITE. When the WRITE completes, the client should release the byte-range lock via LOCKU.

If the stateid's owner had a conflicting read lock, then the client has no choice but to return an error to the application that attempted the WRITE. The reason is that since the stateid's owner had a read lock, the server either attempted to temporarily effectively upgrade this read lock to a write lock, or the server has no upgrade capability. If the server attempted to upgrade the read lock and failed, it is pointless for the client to re-attempt the upgrade via the LOCK operation, because there might be another client also trying to upgrade. If two clients are blocked trying upgrade the same lock, the clients deadlock. If the server has no upgrade capability, then it is pointless to try a LOCK operation to upgrade.

### 15.39. Operation 39: RELEASE\_LOCKOWNER - Release Lockowner State

#### 15.39.1. SYNOPSIS

```
lock-owner -> ()
```

#### 15.39.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct RELEASE_LOCKOWNER4args {
    lock_owner4    lock_owner;
};
```

#### 15.39.3. RESULT

```
struct RELEASE_LOCKOWNER4res {
    nfsstat4      status;
};
```

#### 15.39.4. DESCRIPTION

This operation is used to notify the server that the lock\_owner is no longer in use by the client and that future client requests will not reference this lock\_owner. This allows the server to release cached state related to the specified lock\_owner. If file locks, associated with the lock\_owner, are held at the server, the error NFS4ERR\_LOCKS\_HELD will be returned and no further action will be taken.

#### 15.39.5. IMPLEMENTATION

The client may choose to use this operation to ease the amount of server state that is held. Information that can be released when a RELEASE\_LOCKOWNER is done includes the specified lock-owner string,

the seqid associated with the lock-owner, any saved reply for the lock-owner, and any lock stateids associated with that lock-owner.

Depending on the behavior of applications at the client, it may be important for the client to use this operation since the server has certain obligations with respect to holding a reference to lock-owner-associated state as long as an associated file is open. Therefore, if the client knows for certain that the lock\_owner will no longer be used, either to reference existing lock stateids associated with the lock-owner to create new ones, it should use RELEASE\_LOCKOWNER.

#### 15.40. Operation 10044: ILLEGAL - Illegal operation

##### 15.40.1. SYNOPSIS

```
<null> -> ()
```

##### 15.40.2. ARGUMENT

```
void;
```

##### 15.40.3. RESULT

```
struct ILLEGAL4res {  
    nfsstat4      status;  
};
```

##### 15.40.4. DESCRIPTION

This operation is a place holder for encoding a result to handle the case of the client sending an operation code within COMPOUND that is not supported. See Section 15.2.4 for more details.

The status field of ILLEGAL4res MUST be set to NFS4ERR\_OP\_ILLEGAL.

##### 15.40.5. IMPLEMENTATION

A client will probably not send an operation with code OP\_ILLEGAL but if it does, the response will be ILLEGAL4res just as it would be with any other invalid operation code. Note that if the server gets an illegal operation code that is not OP\_ILLEGAL, and if the server checks for legal operation codes during the XDR decode phase, then the ILLEGAL4res would not be returned.

## 16. NFSv4 Callback Procedures

The procedures used for callbacks are defined in the following sections. In the interest of clarity, the terms "client" and "server" refer to NFS clients and servers, despite the fact that for an individual callback RPC, the sense of these terms would be precisely the opposite.

[RFC Editor: prior to publishing this document as an RFC, please have every Section that has a title of "Procedure X:" or "Operation Y:" start at the top of a new page.]

### 16.1. Procedure 0: CB\_NULL - No Operation

#### 16.1.1. SYNOPSIS

```
<null>
```

#### 16.1.2. ARGUMENT

```
void;
```

#### 16.1.3. RESULT

```
void;
```

#### 16.1.4. DESCRIPTION

Standard NULL procedure. Void argument, void response. Even though there is no direct functionality associated with this procedure, the server will use CB\_NULL to confirm the existence of a path for RPCs from server to client.

### 16.2. Procedure 1: CB\_COMPOUND - Compound Operations

#### 16.2.1. SYNOPSIS

```
compoundargs -> compoundres
```

#### 16.2.2. ARGUMENT

```
enum nfs_cb_opnum4 {
    OP_CB_GETATTR          = 3,
    OP_CB_RECALL           = 4,
    OP_CB_ILLEGAL          = 10044
};
```

```

union nfs_cb_argop4 switch (unsigned argop) {
  case OP_CB_GETATTR:
    CB_GETATTR4args          opcbgetattr;
  case OP_CB_RECALL:
    CB_RECALL4args          opcbrecall;
  case OP_CB_ILLEGAL:
    void;
};

struct CB_COMPOUND4args {
  utf8str_cs      tag;
  uint32_t        minorversion;
  uint32_t        callback_ident;
  nfs_cb_argop4  argarray<>;
};

```

#### 16.2.3. RESULT

```

union nfs_cb_resop4 switch (unsigned resop) {
  case OP_CB_GETATTR:   CB_GETATTR4res  opcbgetattr;
  case OP_CB_RECALL:   CB_RECALL4res  opcbrecall;
  case OP_CB_ILLEGAL:  CB_ILLEGAL4res  opcbillegal;
};

struct CB_COMPOUND4res {
  nfsstat4          status;
  utf8str_cs        tag;
  nfs_cb_resop4    resarray<>;
};

```

#### 16.2.4. DESCRIPTION

The CB\_COMPOUND procedure is used to combine one or more of the callback procedures into a single RPC request. The main callback RPC program has two main procedures: CB\_NULL and CB\_COMPOUND. All other operations use the CB\_COMPOUND procedure as a wrapper.

In the processing of the CB\_COMPOUND procedure, the client may find that it does not have the available resources to execute any or all of the operations within the CB\_COMPOUND sequence. In this case, the error NFS4ERR\_RESOURCE will be returned for the particular operation within the CB\_COMPOUND procedure where the resource exhaustion occurred. This assumes that all previous operations within the CB\_COMPOUND sequence have been evaluated successfully.

Contained within the CB\_COMPOUND results is a 'status' field. This status must be equivalent to the status of the last operation that was executed within the CB\_COMPOUND procedure. Therefore, if an

operation incurred an error then the 'status' value will be the same error value as is being returned for the operation that failed.

For the definition of the "tag" field, see Section 15.2.

The value of `callback_ident` is supplied by the client during `SETCLIENTID`. The server must use the client supplied `callback_ident` during the `CB_COMPOUND` to allow the client to properly identify the server.

Illegal operation codes are handled in the same way as they are handled for the `COMPOUND` procedure.

#### 16.2.5. IMPLEMENTATION

The `CB_COMPOUND` procedure is used to combine individual operations into a single RPC request. The client interprets each of the operations in turn. If an operation is executed by the client and the status of that operation is `NFS4_OK`, then the next operation in the `CB_COMPOUND` procedure is executed. The client continues this process until there are no more operations to be executed or one of the operations has a status value other than `NFS4_OK`.

#### 16.2.6. Operation 3: `CB_GETATTR` - Get Attributes

##### 16.2.6.1. SYNOPSIS

```
fh, attr_request -> attrmask, attr_vals
```

##### 16.2.6.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct CB_GETATTR4args {
    nfs_fh4 fh;
    bitmap4 attr_request;
};
```

##### 16.2.6.3. RESULT

```
struct CB_GETATTR4resok {
    fattr4  obj_attributes;
};

union CB_GETATTR4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
    case NFS4_OK:
        CB_GETATTR4resok      resok4;
    default:
        void;
};
```

#### 16.2.6.4. DESCRIPTION

The CB\_GETATTR operation is used by the server to obtain the current modified state of a file that has been OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegated. The attributes size and change are the only ones guaranteed to be serviced by the client. See Section 10.4.3 for a full description of how the client and server are to interact with the use of CB\_GETATTR.

If the filehandle specified is not one for which the client holds a OPEN\_DELEGATE\_WRITE delegation, an NFS4ERR\_BADHANDLE error is returned.

#### 16.2.6.5. IMPLEMENTATION

The client returns attrmask bits and the associated attribute values only for the change attribute, and attributes that it may change (time\_modify, and size).

#### 16.2.7. Operation 4: CB\_RECALL - Recall an Open Delegation

##### 16.2.7.1. SYNOPSIS

```
stateid, truncate, fh -> ()
```

##### 16.2.7.2. ARGUMENT

```
struct CB_RECALL4args {
    stateid4      stateid;
    bool          truncate;
    nfs_fh4      fh;
};
```

## 16.2.7.3. RESULT

```
struct CB_RECALL4res {
    nfsstat4      status;
};
```

## 16.2.7.4. DESCRIPTION

The CB\_RECALL operation is used to begin the process of recalling an open delegation and returning it to the server.

The truncate flag is used to optimize recall for a file which is about to be truncated to zero. When it is set, the client is freed of obligation to propagate modified data for the file to the server, since this data is irrelevant.

If the handle specified is not one for which the client holds an open delegation, an NFS4ERR\_BADHANDLE error is returned.

If the stateid specified is not one corresponding to an open delegation for the file specified by the filehandle, an NFS4ERR\_BAD\_STATEID is returned.

## 16.2.7.5. IMPLEMENTATION

The client should reply to the callback immediately. Replying does not complete the recall except when an error was returned. The recall is not complete until the delegation is returned using a DELEGRETURN.

## 16.2.8. Operation 10044: CB\_ILLEGAL - Illegal Callback Operation

## 16.2.8.1. SYNOPSIS

```
<null> -> ()
```

## 16.2.8.2. ARGUMENT

```
void;
```

## 16.2.8.3. RESULT

```
/*
 * CB_ILLEGAL: Response for illegal operation numbers
 */
struct CB_ILLEGAL4res {
    nfsstat4      status;
};
```

#### 16.2.8.4. DESCRIPTION

This operation is a place-holder for encoding a result to handle the case of the client sending an operation code within COMPOUND that is not supported. See Section 15.2.4 for more details.

The status field of CB\_ILLEGAL4res MUST be set to NFS4ERR\_OP\_ILLEGAL.

#### 16.2.8.5. IMPLEMENTATION

A server will probably not send an operation with code OP\_CB\_ILLEGAL but if it does, the response will be CB\_ILLEGAL4res just as it would be with any other invalid operation code. Note that if the client gets an illegal operation code that is not OP\_ILLEGAL, and if the client checks for legal operation codes during the XDR decode phase, then the CB\_ILLEGAL4res would not be returned.

### 17. Security Considerations

NFS has historically used a model where, from an authentication perspective, the client was the entire machine, or at least the source IP address of the machine. The NFS server relied on the NFS client to make the proper authentication of the end-user. The NFS server in turn shared its files only to specific clients, as identified by the client's source IP address. Given this model, the AUTH\_SYS RPC security flavor simply identified the end-user using the client to the NFS server. When processing NFS responses, the client ensured that the responses came from the same IP address and port number that the request was sent to. While such a model is easy to implement and simple to deploy and use, it is certainly not a safe model. Thus, NFSv4 mandates that implementations support a security model that uses end to end authentication, where an end-user on a client mutually authenticates (via cryptographic schemes that do not expose passwords or keys in the clear on the network) to a principal on an NFS server. Consideration should also be given to the integrity and privacy of NFS requests and responses. The issues of end to end mutual authentication, integrity, and privacy are discussed as part of Section 3.

When an NFSv4 mandated security model is used and a security principal or an NFSv4 name in `user@dns_domain` form needs to be translated to or from a local representation as described in Section 5.9, the translation SHOULD be done in a secure manner that preserves the integrity of the translation. For communication with a name service such as LDAP ([RFC4511]), this means employing a security service that uses authentication and data integrity. Kerberos and Transport Layer Security (TLS) ([RFC5246]) are examples of such a security service.

Note that being REQUIRED to implement does not mean REQUIRED to use; AUTH\_SYS can be used by NFSv4 clients and servers. However, AUTH\_SYS is merely an OPTIONAL security flavor in NFSv4, and so interoperability via AUTH\_SYS is not assured.

For reasons of reduced administration overhead, better performance and/or reduction of CPU utilization, users of NFSv4 implementations may choose to not use security mechanisms that enable integrity protection on each remote procedure call and response. The use of mechanisms without integrity leaves the customer vulnerable to an attacker in between the NFS client and server that modifies the RPC request and/or the response. While implementations are free to provide the option to use weaker security mechanisms, there are two operations in particular that warrant the implementation overriding user choices.

The first such operation is SECINFO. It is recommended that the client issue the SECINFO call such that it is protected with a security flavor that has integrity protection, such as RPCSEC\_GSS with a security triple that uses either `rpc_gss_svc_integrity` or `rpc_gss_svc_privacy` (`rpc_gss_svc_privacy` includes integrity protection) service. Without integrity protection encapsulating SECINFO and therefore its results, an attacker in the middle could modify results such that the client might select a weaker algorithm in the set allowed by server, making the client and/or server vulnerable to further attacks.

The second operation that SHOULD use integrity protection is any GETATTR for the `fs_locations` attribute. The attack has two steps. First the attacker modifies the unprotected results of some operation to return NFS4ERR\_MOVED. Second, when the client follows up with a GETATTR for the `fs_locations` attribute, the attacker modifies the results to cause the client to migrate its traffic to a server controlled by the attacker.

Because the operations SETCLIENTID/SETCLIENTID\_CONFIRM are responsible for the release of client state, it is imperative that the principal used for these operations is checked against and match

with the previous use of these operations. See Section 9.1.1 for further discussion.

Unicode in the form of UTF-8 is used for file component names (i.e., both directory and file components), as well as the owner and owner\_group attributes; other character sets may also be allowed for file component names. String processing (e.g., Unicode normalization) raises security concerns for string comparison - see Sections 5.9 and 12 for further discussion and see [RFC6943] for related identifier comparison security considerations. File component names are identifiers with respect to the identifier comparison discussion in [RFC6943] because they are used to identify the objects to which ACLs are applied, see Section 6.

## 18. IANA Considerations

This section uses terms that are defined in [RFC5226].

### 18.1. Named Attribute Definitions

IANA has created a registry called the "NFSv4 Named Attribute Definitions Registry" for [RFC3530] and [RFC5661]. This section introduces no new changes, but it does recap the intent.

The NFSv4 protocol supports the association of a file with zero or more named attributes. The name space identifiers for these attributes are defined as string names. The protocol does not define the specific assignment of the name space for these file attributes. The IANA registry promotes interoperability where common interests exist. While application developers are allowed to define and use attributes as needed, they are encouraged to register the attributes with IANA.

Such registered named attributes are presumed to apply to all minor versions of NFSv4, including those defined subsequently to the registration. Where the named attribute is intended to be limited with regard to the minor versions for which they are not be used, the assignment in registry will clearly state the applicable limits.

The registry is to be maintained using the Specification Required policy as defined in Section 4.1 of [RFC5226].

Under the NFSv4 specification, the name of a named attribute can in theory be up to  $2^{32} - 1$  bytes in length, but in practice NFSv4 clients and servers will be unable to handle a string that long. IANA should reject any assignment request with a named attribute that exceeds 128 UTF-8 characters. To give IESG the flexibility to set up bases of assignment of Experimental Use and Standards Action, the

prefixes of "EXPE" and "STDS" are Reserved. The zero length named attribute name is Reserved.

The prefix "PRIV" is allocated for Private Use. A site that wants to make use of unregistered named attributes without risk of conflicting with an assignment in IANA's registry should use the prefix "PRIV" in all of its named attributes.

Because some NFSv4 clients and servers have case insensitive semantics, the fifteen additional lower case and mixed case permutations of each of "EXPE", "PRIV", and "STDS", are Reserved (e.g. "expe", "expE", "exPe", etc. are Reserved). Similarly, IANA must not allow two assignments that would conflict if both named attributes were converted to a common case.

The registry of named attributes is a list of assignments, each containing three fields for each assignment.

1. A US-ASCII string name that is the actual name of the attribute. This name must be unique. This string name can be 1 to 128 UTF-8 characters long.
2. A reference to the specification of the named attribute. The reference can consume up to 256 bytes (or more if IANA permits).
3. The point of contact of the registrant. The point of contact can consume up to 256 bytes (or more if IANA permits).

#### 18.1.1. Initial Registry

There is no initial registry.

#### 18.1.2. Updating Registrations

The registrant is always permitted to update the point of contact field. To make any other change will require Expert Review or IESG Approval.

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#### Appendix A. Acknowledgments

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#### Appendix B. RFC Editor Notes

[RFC Editor: please remove this section prior to publishing this document as an RFC]

[RFC Editor: prior to publishing this document as an RFC, please replace all occurrences of RFCNFSv4XDR with RFCxxxx where xxxx is the RFC number assigned to the XDR document.]

[RFC Editor: Please note that there is also a reference entry that needs to be modified for the companion document.]

[RFC Editor: prior to publishing this document as an RFC, please have every top level subsection of both Section 15 and Section 16 that has a title of "Procedure X:" or "Operation Y:" start at the top of a new page.]

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Network File System (NFS) Version 4  
External Data Representation Standard (XDR) Description  
draft-ietf-nfsv4-rfc3530bis-dot-x-24.txt

Abstract

The Network File System (NFS) version 4 is a distributed filesystem protocol which owes its heritage to NFS protocol version 2, RFC 1094, and version 3, RFC 1813. Unlike earlier versions, the NFS version 4 protocol supports traditional file access, while integrating support for file locking and the mount protocol. In addition, support for strong security (and its negotiation), compound operations, client caching, and internationalization have been added. Of course, attention has been applied to making NFS version 4 operate well in an Internet environment.

RFC3530bis formally obsoleting RFC 3530. This document, together with RFC3530bis replaces RFC 3530 as the definition of the NFS version 4 protocol.

Status of This Memo

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## 1. XDR Description of NFSv4.0

This document contains the XDR ([RFC4506]) description of NFSv4.0 protocol ([RFCNFSv4]).

The XDR description is provided in this document in a way that makes it simple for the reader to extract it into ready to compile form. The reader can feed this document in the following shell script to produce the machine readable XDR description of NFSv4.0:

```
#!/bin/sh
grep "^ *///" | sed 's?^ */// ??' | sed 's?^ *///$??'
```

I.e. if the above script is stored in a file called "extract.sh", and this document is in a file called "spec.txt", then the reader can do:

```
sh extract.sh < spec.txt > nfs4_prot.x
```

The effect of the script is to remove leading white space from each line, plus a sentinel sequence of "///".

The XDR description, with the sentinel sequence follows:

```
/// /*
/// * This file was machine generated for
/// * [RFCNFSv4]
/// * [RFC Editor: please update the citation on the line above]
/// * Last updated Thu Dec  4 11:31:21 PST 2014
/// */
/// /*
/// * Copyright (C) The IETF Trust (2009-2011)
/// * All Rights Reserved.
/// *
/// * Copyright (C) The Internet Society (1998-2011).
/// * All Rights Reserved.
/// */
///
/// /*
/// *      nfs4_prot.x
/// *
/// */
/// /*
/// * Basic typedefs for RFC 1832 data type definitions
/// */
/// /*
/// * typedef int          int32_t;
/// * typedef unsigned int uint32_t;
/// * typedef hyper        int64_t;
/// * typedef unsigned hyper    uint64_t;
/// */
///
/// /*
/// * Sizes
/// */
/// const NFS4_FH_SIZE           = 128;
/// const NFS4_VERIFIER_SIZE     = 8;
```

```

/// const NFS4_OTHER_SIZE           = 12;
/// const NFS4_OPAQUE_LIMIT         = 1024;
///
/// const NFS4_INT64_MAX            = 0x7fffffffffffffff;
/// const NFS4_UINT64_MAX           = 0xffffffffffffffff;
/// const NFS4_INT32_MAX            = 0x7fffffff;
/// const NFS4_UINT32_MAX           = 0xffffffff;
///
///
/// /*
///  * File types
///  */
/// enum nfs_ftype4 {
///     NF4REG = 1,           /* Regular File */
///     NF4DIR = 2,           /* Directory */
///     NF4BLK = 3,           /* Special File - block device */
///     NF4CHR = 4,           /* Special File - character device */
///     NF4LNK = 5,           /* Symbolic Link */
///     NF4SOCK = 6,          /* Special File - socket */
///     NF4FIFO = 7,          /* Special File - fifo */
///     NF4ATTRDIR
///         = 8,              /* Attribute Directory */
///     NF4NAMEDATTR
///         = 9,              /* Named Attribute */
/// };
///
/// /*
///  * Error status
///  */
/// enum nfsstat4 {
///     NFS4_OK                = 0,      /* everything is okay */
///     NFS4ERR_PERM            = 1,      /* caller not privileged */
///     NFS4ERR_NOENT           = 2,      /* no such file/directory */
///     NFS4ERR_IO              = 5,      /* hard I/O error */
///     NFS4ERR_NXIO           = 6,      /* no such device */
///     NFS4ERR_ACCESS          = 13,     /* access denied */
///     NFS4ERR_EXIST          = 17,     /* file already exists */
///     NFS4ERR_XDEV            = 18,     /* different filesystems */
///     /* Unused/reserved      19 */
///     NFS4ERR_NOTDIR         = 20,     /* should be a directory */
///     NFS4ERR_ISDIR          = 21,     /* should not be directory */
///     NFS4ERR_INVALID        = 22,     /* invalid argument */
///     NFS4ERR_FBIG           = 27,     /* file exceeds server max */
///     NFS4ERR_NOSPC          = 28,     /* no space on filesystem */
///     NFS4ERR_ROFS           = 30,     /* read-only filesystem */
///     NFS4ERR_MLINK          = 31,     /* too many hard links */
///     NFS4ERR_NAMESTOOLONG   = 63,     /* name exceeds server max */
///     NFS4ERR_NOTEMPTY       = 66,     /* directory not empty */

```

```
/// NFS4ERR_DQUOT = 69, /* hard quota limit reached*/
/// NFS4ERR_STALE = 70, /* file no longer exists */
/// NFS4ERR_BADHANDLE = 10001,/* Illegal filehandle */
/// NFS4ERR_BAD_COOKIE = 10003,/* REaddir cookie is stale */
/// NFS4ERR_NOTSUPP = 10004,/* operation not supported */
/// NFS4ERR_TOOSMALL = 10005,/* response limit exceeded */
/// NFS4ERR_SERVERFAULT = 10006,/* undefined server error */
/// NFS4ERR_BADTYPE = 10007,/* type invalid for CREATE */
/// NFS4ERR_DELAY = 10008,/* file "busy" - retry */
/// NFS4ERR_SAME = 10009,/* nverify says attrs same */
/// NFS4ERR_DENIED = 10010,/* lock unavailable */
/// NFS4ERR_EXPIRED = 10011,/* lock lease expired */
/// NFS4ERR_LOCKED = 10012,/* I/O failed due to lock */
/// NFS4ERR_GRACE = 10013,/* in grace period */
/// NFS4ERR_FHEXPIRED = 10014,/* filehandle expired */
/// NFS4ERR_SHARE_DENIED = 10015,/* share reserve denied */
/// NFS4ERR_WRONGSEC = 10016,/* wrong security flavor */
/// NFS4ERR_CLID_INUSE = 10017,/* clientid in use */
/// NFS4ERR_RESOURCE = 10018,/* resource exhaustion */
/// NFS4ERR_MOVED = 10019,/* filesystem relocated */
/// NFS4ERR_NOFILEHANDLE = 10020,/* current FH is not set */
/// NFS4ERR_MINOR_VERS_MISMATCH = 10021,/* minor vers not supp */
/// NFS4ERR_STALE_CLIENTID = 10022,/* server has rebooted */
/// NFS4ERR_STALE_STATEID = 10023,/* server has rebooted */
/// NFS4ERR_OLD_STATEID = 10024,/* state is out of sync */
/// NFS4ERR_BAD_STATEID = 10025,/* incorrect stateid */
/// NFS4ERR_BAD_SEQID = 10026,/* request is out of seq. */
/// NFS4ERR_NOT_SAME = 10027,/* verify - attrs not same */
/// NFS4ERR_LOCK_RANGE = 10028,/* lock range not supported*/
/// NFS4ERR_SYMLINK = 10029,/* should be file/directory*/
/// NFS4ERR_RESTOREFH = 10030,/* no saved filehandle */
/// NFS4ERR_LEASE_MOVED = 10031,/* some filesystem moved */
/// NFS4ERR_ATTRNOTSUPP = 10032,/* recommended attr not sup*/
/// NFS4ERR_NO_GRACE = 10033,/* reclaim outside of grace*/
/// NFS4ERR_RECLAIM_BAD = 10034,/* reclaim error at server */
/// NFS4ERR_RECLAIM_CONFLICT = 10035,/* conflict on reclaim */
/// NFS4ERR_BADXDR = 10036,/* XDR decode failed */
/// NFS4ERR_LOCKS_HELD = 10037,/* file locks held at CLOSE*/
/// NFS4ERR_OPENMODE = 10038,/* conflict in OPEN and I/O*/
/// NFS4ERR_BADOWNER = 10039,/* owner translation bad */
/// NFS4ERR_BADCHAR = 10040,/* utf-8 char not supported*/
/// NFS4ERR_BADNAME = 10041,/* name not supported */
/// NFS4ERR_BAD_RANGE = 10042,/* lock range not supported*/
/// NFS4ERR_LOCK_NOTSUPP = 10043,/* no atomic up/downgrade */
/// NFS4ERR_OP_ILLEGAL = 10044,/* undefined operation */
/// NFS4ERR_DEADLOCK = 10045,/* file locking deadlock */
/// NFS4ERR_FILE_OPEN = 10046,/* open file blocks op. */
/// NFS4ERR_ADMIN_REVOKED = 10047,/* lockowner state revoked */
```

```
/// NFS4ERR_CB_PATH_DOWN = 10048 /* callback path down */
/// };
///
/// /*
///  * Basic data types
///  */
/// typedef opaque attrlist4<>;
/// typedef uint32_t bitmap4<>;
/// typedef uint64_t changeid4;
/// typedef uint64_t clientid4;
/// typedef uint32_t count4;
/// typedef uint64_t length4;
/// typedef uint32_t mode4;
/// typedef uint64_t nfs_cookie4;
/// typedef opaque nfs_fh4<NFS4_FHSIZE>;
/// typedef uint32_t nfs_lease4;
/// typedef uint64_t offset4;
/// typedef uint32_t qop4;
/// typedef opaque sec_oid4<>;
/// typedef uint32_t seqid4;
/// typedef opaque utf8string<>;
/// typedef utf8string utf8str_cis;
/// typedef utf8string utf8str_cs;
/// typedef utf8string utf8str_mixed;
/// typedef utf8str_cs component4;
/// typedef opaque linktext4<>;
/// typedef utf8string ascii_REQUIRED4;
/// typedef component4 pathname4<>;
/// typedef uint64_t nfs_lockid4;
/// typedef opaque verifier4[NFS4_VERIFIER_SIZE];
///
///
/// /*
///  * Timeval
///  */
/// struct nfstime4 {
///     int64_t seconds;
///     uint32_t nseconds;
/// };
///
/// enum time_how4 {
///     SET_TO_SERVER_TIME4 = 0,
///     SET_TO_CLIENT_TIME4 = 1
/// };
///
/// union settime4 switch (time_how4 set_it) {
///     case SET_TO_CLIENT_TIME4:
///         nfstime4 time;
```

```
/// default:
///     void;
/// };
///
/// /*
///  * File attribute definitions
///  */
///
/// /*
///  * FSID structure for major/minor
///  */
/// struct fsid4 {
///     uint64_t      major;
///     uint64_t      minor;
/// };
///
/// /*
///  * Filesystem locations attribute for relocation/migration
///  */
/// struct fs_location4 {
///     utf8str_cis      server<>;
///     pathname4        rootpath;
/// };
///
/// struct fs_locations4 {
///     pathname4        fs_root;
///     fs_location4     locations<>;
/// };
///
/// /*
///  * Various Access Control Entry definitions
///  */
///
/// /*
///  * Mask that indicates which Access Control Entries
///  * are supported. Values for the fattr4_aclsupport attribute.
///  */
/// const ACL4_SUPPORT_ALLOW_ACL      = 0x00000001;
/// const ACL4_SUPPORT_DENY_ACL       = 0x00000002;
/// const ACL4_SUPPORT_AUDIT_ACL      = 0x00000004;
/// const ACL4_SUPPORT_ALARM_ACL      = 0x00000008;
///
///
/// typedef uint32_t      acetype4;
///
```

```
///
/// /*
///  * acetype4 values, others can be added as needed.
///  */
/// const ACE4_ACCESS_ALLOWED_ACE_TYPE      = 0x00000000;
/// const ACE4_ACCESS_DENIED_ACE_TYPE       = 0x00000001;
/// const ACE4_SYSTEM_AUDIT_ACE_TYPE        = 0x00000002;
/// const ACE4_SYSTEM_ALARM_ACE_TYPE        = 0x00000003;
///
///
///
/// /*
///  * ACE flag
///  */
/// typedef uint32_t          aceflag4;
///
///
/// /*
///  * ACE flag values
///  */
/// const ACE4_FILE_INHERIT_ACE              = 0x00000001;
/// const ACE4_DIRECTORY_INHERIT_ACE        = 0x00000002;
/// const ACE4_NO_PROPAGATE_INHERIT_ACE     = 0x00000004;
/// const ACE4_INHERIT_ONLY_ACE             = 0x00000008;
/// const ACE4_SUCCESSFUL_ACCESS_ACE_FLAG   = 0x00000010;
/// const ACE4_FAILED_ACCESS_ACE_FLAG       = 0x00000020;
/// const ACE4_IDENTIFIER_GROUP             = 0x00000040;
///
///
///
/// /*
///  * ACE mask
///  */
/// typedef uint32_t          acemask4;
///
///
/// /*
///  * ACE mask values
///  */
/// const ACE4_READ_DATA                     = 0x00000001;
/// const ACE4_LIST_DIRECTORY                = 0x00000001;
/// const ACE4_WRITE_DATA                    = 0x00000002;
/// const ACE4_ADD_FILE                      = 0x00000002;
/// const ACE4_APPEND_DATA                   = 0x00000004;
/// const ACE4_ADD_SUBDIRECTORY              = 0x00000004;
/// const ACE4_READ_NAMED_ATTRS              = 0x00000008;
/// const ACE4_WRITE_NAMED_ATTRS            = 0x00000010;
/// const ACE4_EXECUTE                       = 0x00000020;
```

```
/// const ACE4_DELETE_CHILD          = 0x00000040;
/// const ACE4_READ_ATTRIBUTES        = 0x00000080;
/// const ACE4_WRITE_ATTRIBUTES       = 0x00000100;
///
/// const ACE4_DELETE                  = 0x00010000;
/// const ACE4_READ_ACL                = 0x00020000;
/// const ACE4_WRITE_ACL               = 0x00040000;
/// const ACE4_WRITE_OWNER             = 0x00080000;
/// const ACE4_SYNCHRONIZE             = 0x00100000;
///
///
/// /*
///  * ACE4_GENERIC_READ -- defined as combination of
///  *   ACE4_READ_ACL |
///  *   ACE4_READ_DATA |
///  *   ACE4_READ_ATTRIBUTES |
///  *   ACE4_SYNCHRONIZE
///  */
///
/// const ACE4_GENERIC_READ = 0x00120081;
///
/// /*
///  * ACE4_GENERIC_WRITE -- defined as combination of
///  *   ACE4_READ_ACL |
///  *   ACE4_WRITE_DATA |
///  *   ACE4_WRITE_ATTRIBUTES |
///  *   ACE4_WRITE_ACL |
///  *   ACE4_APPEND_DATA |
///  *   ACE4_SYNCHRONIZE
///  */
///
/// const ACE4_GENERIC_WRITE = 0x00160106;
///
/// /*
///  * ACE4_GENERIC_EXECUTE -- defined as combination of
///  *   ACE4_READ_ACL
///  *   ACE4_READ_ATTRIBUTES
///  *   ACE4_EXECUTE
///  *   ACE4_SYNCHRONIZE
///  */
///
/// const ACE4_GENERIC_EXECUTE = 0x001200A0;
///
///
/// /*
///  * Access Control Entry definition
///  */
///
/// struct nfsace4 {
///     acetype4          type;
```

```

///          aceflag4                flag;
///          acemask4                 access_mask;
///          utf8str_mixed            who;
/// };
///
///
/// /*
///  * Field definitions for the fattr4_mode attribute
///  */
/// const MODE4_SUID = 0x800; /* set user id on execution */
/// const MODE4_SGID = 0x400; /* set group id on execution */
/// const MODE4_SVTX = 0x200; /* save text even after use */
/// const MODE4_RUSR = 0x100; /* read permission: owner */
/// const MODE4_WUSR = 0x080; /* write permission: owner */
/// const MODE4_XUSR = 0x040; /* execute permission: owner */
/// const MODE4_RGRP = 0x020; /* read permission: group */
/// const MODE4_WGRP = 0x010; /* write permission: group */
/// const MODE4_XGRP = 0x008; /* execute permission: group */
/// const MODE4_ROTH = 0x004; /* read permission: other */
/// const MODE4_WOTH = 0x002; /* write permission: other */
/// const MODE4_XOTH = 0x001; /* execute permission: other */
///
///
/// /*
///  * Special data/attribute associated with
///  * file types NF4BLK and NF4CHR.
///  */
/// struct specdata4 {
///     uint32_t specdata1; /* major device number */
///     uint32_t specdata2; /* minor device number */
/// };
///
///
/// /*
///  * Values for fattr4_fh_expire_type
///  */
/// const FH4_PERSISTENT = 0x00000000;
/// const FH4_NOEXPIRE_WITH_OPEN = 0x00000001;
/// const FH4_VOLATILE_ANY = 0x00000002;
/// const FH4_VOL_MIGRATION = 0x00000004;
/// const FH4_VOL_RENAME = 0x00000008;
///
///
/// typedef bitmap4          fattr4_supported_attrs;
/// typedef nfs_ftype4      fattr4_type;
/// typedef uint32_t        fattr4_fh_expire_type;
/// typedef changeid4      fattr4_change;
/// typedef uint64_t        fattr4_size;

```

```
/// typedef bool          fattr4_link_support;
/// typedef bool          fattr4_symlink_support;
/// typedef bool          fattr4_named_attr;
/// typedef fsid4         fattr4_fsid;
/// typedef bool          fattr4_unique_handles;
/// typedef nfs_lease4    fattr4_lease_time;
/// typedef nfsstat4      fattr4_rdattrib_error;
///
/// typedef nfsace4       fattr4_acl<>;
/// typedef uint32_t      fattr4_aclsupport;
/// typedef bool          fattr4_archive;
/// typedef bool          fattr4_cansettime;
/// typedef bool          fattr4_case_insensitive;
/// typedef bool          fattr4_case_preserving;
/// typedef bool          fattr4_chown_restricted;
/// typedef uint64_t      fattr4_fileid;
/// typedef uint64_t      fattr4_files_avail;
/// typedef nfs_fh4       fattr4_filehandle;
/// typedef uint64_t      fattr4_files_free;
/// typedef uint64_t      fattr4_files_total;
/// typedef fs_locations4 fattr4_fs_locations;
/// typedef bool          fattr4_hidden;
/// typedef bool          fattr4_homogeneous;
/// typedef uint64_t      fattr4_maxfilesize;
/// typedef uint32_t      fattr4_maxlink;
/// typedef uint32_t      fattr4_maxname;
/// typedef uint64_t      fattr4_maxread;
/// typedef uint64_t      fattr4_maxwrite;
/// typedef ascii_REQUIRED4 fattr4_mimetype;
/// typedef mode4         fattr4_mode;
/// typedef uint64_t      fattr4_mounted_on_fileid;
/// typedef bool          fattr4_no_trunc;
/// typedef uint32_t      fattr4_numlinks;
/// typedef utf8str_mixed fattr4_owner;
/// typedef utf8str_mixed fattr4_owner_group;
/// typedef uint64_t      fattr4_quota_avail_hard;
/// typedef uint64_t      fattr4_quota_avail_soft;
/// typedef uint64_t      fattr4_quota_used;
/// typedef specdata4     fattr4_rawdev;
/// typedef uint64_t      fattr4_space_avail;
/// typedef uint64_t      fattr4_space_free;
/// typedef uint64_t      fattr4_space_total;
/// typedef uint64_t      fattr4_space_used;
/// typedef bool          fattr4_system;
/// typedef nfstime4      fattr4_time_access;
/// typedef settime4      fattr4_time_access_set;
/// typedef nfstime4      fattr4_time_backup;
/// typedef nfstime4      fattr4_time_create;
```

```
/// typedef nfstime4          fattr4_time_delta;
/// typedef nfstime4          fattr4_time_metadata;
/// typedef nfstime4          fattr4_time_modify;
/// typedef settime4          fattr4_time_modify_set;
///
///
/// /*
///  * Mandatory Attributes
///  */
/// const FATTR4_SUPPORTED_ATTRS = 0;
/// const FATTR4_TYPE = 1;
/// const FATTR4_FH_EXPIRE_TYPE = 2;
/// const FATTR4_CHANGE = 3;
/// const FATTR4_SIZE = 4;
/// const FATTR4_LINK_SUPPORT = 5;
/// const FATTR4_SYMLINK_SUPPORT = 6;
/// const FATTR4_NAMED_ATTR = 7;
/// const FATTR4_FSID = 8;
/// const FATTR4_UNIQUE_HANDLES = 9;
/// const FATTR4_LEASE_TIME = 10;
/// const FATTR4_RDATTR_ERROR = 11;
/// const FATTR4_FILEHANDLE = 19;
///
/// /*
///  * Recommended Attributes
///  */
/// const FATTR4_ACL = 12;
/// const FATTR4_ACLSUPPORT = 13;
/// const FATTR4_ARCHIVE = 14;
/// const FATTR4_CANSETTIME = 15;
/// const FATTR4_CASE_INSENSITIVE = 16;
/// const FATTR4_CASE_PRESERVING = 17;
/// const FATTR4_CHOWN_RESTRICTED = 18;
/// const FATTR4_FILEID = 20;
/// const FATTR4_FILES_AVAIL = 21;
/// const FATTR4_FILES_FREE = 22;
/// const FATTR4_FILES_TOTAL = 23;
/// const FATTR4_FS_LOCATIONS = 24;
/// const FATTR4_HIDDEN = 25;
/// const FATTR4_HOMOGENEOUS = 26;
/// const FATTR4_MAXFILESIZE = 27;
/// const FATTR4_MAXLINK = 28;
/// const FATTR4_MAXNAME = 29;
/// const FATTR4_MAXREAD = 30;
/// const FATTR4_MAXWRITE = 31;
/// const FATTR4_MIMETYPE = 32;
/// const FATTR4_MODE = 33;
/// const FATTR4_NO_TRUNC = 34;
```

```
/// const FATTR4_NUMLINKS          = 35;
/// const FATTR4_OWNER              = 36;
/// const FATTR4_OWNER_GROUP        = 37;
/// const FATTR4_QUOTA_AVAIL_HARD    = 38;
/// const FATTR4_QUOTA_AVAIL_SOFT    = 39;
/// const FATTR4_QUOTA_USED          = 40;
/// const FATTR4_RAWDEV              = 41;
/// const FATTR4_SPACE_AVAIL         = 42;
/// const FATTR4_SPACE_FREE          = 43;
/// const FATTR4_SPACE_TOTAL         = 44;
/// const FATTR4_SPACE_USED          = 45;
/// const FATTR4_SYSTEM              = 46;
/// const FATTR4_TIME_ACCESS         = 47;
/// const FATTR4_TIME_ACCESS_SET     = 48;
/// const FATTR4_TIME_BACKUP         = 49;
/// const FATTR4_TIME_CREATE         = 50;
/// const FATTR4_TIME_DELTA          = 51;
/// const FATTR4_TIME_METADATA       = 52;
/// const FATTR4_TIME_MODIFY         = 53;
/// const FATTR4_TIME_MODIFY_SET     = 54;
/// const FATTR4_MOUNTED_ON_FILEID   = 55;
///
/// /*
///  * File attribute container
///  */
/// struct fattr4 {
///     bitmap4          attrmask;
///     attrlist4        attr_vals;
/// };
///
/// /*
///  * Change info for the client
///  */
/// struct change_info4 {
///     bool             atomic;
///     changeid4        before;
///     changeid4        after;
/// };
///
/// struct clientaddr4 {
///     /* see struct rpcb in RFC 1833 */
///     string r_netid<>;      /* network id */
///     string r_addr<>;       /* universal address */
/// };
///
///
```

```
/// /*
/// * Callback program info as provided by the client
/// */
/// struct cb_client4 {
///     unsigned int    cb_program;
///     clientaddr4     cb_location;
/// };
///
///
/// /*
/// * Stateid
/// */
/// struct stateid4 {
///     uint32_t        seqid;
///     opaque           other[NFS4_OTHER_SIZE];
/// };
///
/// /*
/// * Client ID
/// */
/// struct nfs_client_id4 {
///     verifier4       verifier;
///     opaque           id<NFS4_OPAQUE_LIMIT>;
/// };
///
///
/// struct open_owner4 {
///     clientid4       clientid;
///     opaque           owner<NFS4_OPAQUE_LIMIT>;
/// };
///
///
/// struct lock_owner4 {
///     clientid4       clientid;
///     opaque           owner<NFS4_OPAQUE_LIMIT>;
/// };
///
///
/// enum nfs_lock_type4 {
///     READ_LT          = 1,
///     WRITE_LT         = 2,
///     READW_LT        = 3,    /* blocking read */
///     WRITEW_LT       = 4    /* blocking write */
/// };
///
///
/// const ACCESS4_READ    = 0x00000001;
/// const ACCESS4_LOOKUP  = 0x00000002;
```

```
/// const ACCESS4_MODIFY      = 0x00000004;
/// const ACCESS4_EXTEND      = 0x00000008;
/// const ACCESS4_DELETE      = 0x00000010;
/// const ACCESS4_EXECUTE     = 0x00000020;
///
/// struct ACCESS4args {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: object */
///     uint32_t      access;
/// };
///
/// struct ACCESS4resok {
///     uint32_t      supported;
///     uint32_t      access;
/// };
///
/// union ACCESS4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///     case NFS4_OK:
///         ACCESS4resok      resok4;
///     default:
///         void;
/// };
///
/// struct CLOSE4args {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: object */
///     seqid4        seqid;
///     stateid4      open_stateid;
/// };
///
/// union CLOSE4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///     case NFS4_OK:
///         stateid4        open_stateid;
///     default:
///         void;
/// };
///
/// struct COMMIT4args {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: file */
///     offset4       offset;
///     count4        count;
/// };
///
/// struct COMMIT4resok {
///     verifier4     writeverf;
/// };
///
/// union COMMIT4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///     case NFS4_OK:
///         COMMIT4resok    resok4;
```

```
/// default:
///     void;
/// };
///
/// union createtype4 switch (nfs_ftype4 type) {
///     case NF4LNK:
///         linktext4 linkdata;
///     case NF4BLK:
///     case NF4CHR:
///         specdata4 devdata;
///     case NF4SOCK:
///     case NF4FIFO:
///     case NF4DIR:
///         void;
///     default:
///         void; /* server should return NFS4ERR_BADTYPE */
/// };
///
/// struct CREATE4args {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: directory for creation */
///     createtype4     objtype;
///     component4      objname;
///     fattr4          createattrs;
/// };
///
/// struct CREATE4resok {
///     change_info4    cinfo;
///     bitmap4         attrset; /* attributes set */
/// };
///
/// union CREATE4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///     case NFS4_OK:
///         CREATE4resok resok4;
///     default:
///         void;
/// };
///
/// struct DELEGPURGE4args {
///     clientid4       clientid;
/// };
///
/// struct DELEGPURGE4res {
///     nfsstat4        status;
/// };
///
/// struct DELEGRETURN4args {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: delegated file */
///     stateid4        deleg_stateid;
```

```
/// };
///
/// struct DELEGRETURN4res {
///     nfsstat4      status;
/// };
///
/// struct GETATTR4args {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: directory or file */
///     bitmap4       attr_request;
/// };
///
/// struct GETATTR4resok {
///     fattr4        obj_attributes;
/// };
///
/// union GETATTR4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///     case NFS4_OK:
///         GETATTR4resok  resok4;
///     default:
///         void;
/// };
///
/// struct GETFH4resok {
///     nfs_fh4       object;
/// };
///
/// union GETFH4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///     case NFS4_OK:
///         GETFH4resok    resok4;
///     default:
///         void;
/// };
///
/// struct LINK4args {
///     /* SAVED_FH: source object */
///     /* CURRENT_FH: target directory */
///     component4    newname;
/// };
///
/// struct LINK4resok {
///     change_info4  cinfo;
/// };
///
/// union LINK4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///     case NFS4_OK:
///         LINK4resok    resok4;
///     default:
///         void;
/// }
```

```

/// };
///
/// /*
///  * For LOCK, transition from open_owner to new lock_owner
///  */
/// struct open_to_lock_owner4 {
///     seqid4         open_seqid;
///     stateid4       open_stateid;
///     seqid4         lock_seqid;
///     lock_owner4    lock_owner;
/// };
///
/// /*
///  * For LOCK, existing lock_owner continues to request file locks
///  */
/// struct exist_lock_owner4 {
///     stateid4       lock_stateid;
///     seqid4         lock_seqid;
/// };
///
/// union locker4 switch (bool new_lock_owner) {
///     case TRUE:
///         open_to_lock_owner4    open_owner;
///     case FALSE:
///         exist_lock_owner4      lock_owner;
/// };
///
/// /*
///  * LOCK/LOCKT/LOCKU: Record lock management
///  */
/// struct LOCK4args {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: file */
///     nfs_lock_type4 locktype;
///     bool           reclaim;
///     offset4       offset;
///     length4       length;
///     locker4       locker;
/// };
///
/// struct LOCK4denied {
///     offset4       offset;
///     length4       length;
///     nfs_lock_type4 locktype;
///     lock_owner4   owner;
/// };
///
/// struct LOCK4resok {
///     stateid4       lock_stateid;

```

```
/// };
///
/// union LOCK4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///   case NFS4_OK:
///     LOCK4resok      resok4;
///   case NFS4ERR_DENIED:
///     LOCK4denied     denied;
///   default:
///     void;
/// };
///
/// struct LOCKT4args {
///   /* CURRENT_FH: file */
///   nfs_lock_type4  locktype;
///   offset4        offset;
///   length4        length;
///   lock_owner4    owner;
/// };
///
/// union LOCKT4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///   case NFS4ERR_DENIED:
///     LOCK4denied     denied;
///   case NFS4_OK:
///     void;
///   default:
///     void;
/// };
///
/// struct LOCKU4args {
///   /* CURRENT_FH: file */
///   nfs_lock_type4  locktype;
///   seqid4          seqid;
///   stateid4        lock_stateid;
///   offset4         offset;
///   length4         length;
/// };
///
/// union LOCKU4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///   case NFS4_OK:
///     stateid4        lock_stateid;
///   default:
///     void;
/// };
///
/// struct LOOKUP4args {
///   /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
///   component4      objname;
/// };
```

```
///
/// struct LOOKUP4res {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: object */
///     nfsstat4      status;
/// };
///
/// struct LOOKUPP4res {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
///     nfsstat4      status;
/// };
///
/// struct NVERIFY4args {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: object */
///     fattr4        obj_attributes;
/// };
///
/// struct NVERIFY4res {
///     nfsstat4      status;
/// };
///
/// const OPEN4_SHARE_ACCESS_READ    = 0x00000001;
/// const OPEN4_SHARE_ACCESS_WRITE   = 0x00000002;
/// const OPEN4_SHARE_ACCESS_BOTH    = 0x00000003;
///
/// const OPEN4_SHARE_DENY_NONE      = 0x00000000;
/// const OPEN4_SHARE_DENY_READ      = 0x00000001;
/// const OPEN4_SHARE_DENY_WRITE     = 0x00000002;
/// const OPEN4_SHARE_DENY_BOTH      = 0x00000003;
/// /*
///  * Various definitions for OPEN
///  */
/// enum createmode4 {
///     UNCHECKED4      = 0,
///     GUARDED4        = 1,
///     EXCLUSIVE4      = 2
/// };
///
/// union createhow4 switch (createmode4 mode) {
///     case UNCHECKED4:
///     case GUARDED4:
///         fattr4        createattrs;
///     case EXCLUSIVE4:
///         verifier4     createverf;
/// };
///
/// enum opentype4 {
///     OPEN4_NOCREATE   = 0,
///     OPEN4_CREATE     = 1
```

```
/// };
///
/// union openflag4 switch (opentype4 opentype) {
///   case OPEN4_CREATE:
///     createhow4      how;
///   default:
///     void;
/// };
///
/// /* Next definitions used for OPEN delegation */
/// enum limit_by4 {
///   NFS_LIMIT_SIZE      = 1,
///   NFS_LIMIT_BLOCKS    = 2
///   /* others as needed */
/// };
///
/// struct nfs_modified_limit4 {
///   uint32_t      num_blocks;
///   uint32_t      bytes_per_block;
/// };
///
/// union nfs_space_limit4 switch (limit_by4 limitby) {
///   /* limit specified as file size */
///   case NFS_LIMIT_SIZE:
///     uint64_t      filesize;
///   /* limit specified by number of blocks */
///   case NFS_LIMIT_BLOCKS:
///     nfs_modified_limit4  mod_blocks;
/// } ;
///
/// enum open_delegation_type4 {
///   OPEN_DELEGATE_NONE      = 0,
///   OPEN_DELEGATE_READ      = 1,
///   OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE     = 2
/// };
///
/// enum open_claim_type4 {
///   CLAIM_NULL              = 0,
///   CLAIM_PREVIOUS          = 1,
///   CLAIM_DELEGATE_CUR      = 2,
///   CLAIM_DELEGATE_PREV     = 3
/// };
///
/// struct open_claim_delegate_cur4 {
///   stateid4      delegate_stateid;
///   component4    file;
/// };
///
```

```
/// union open_claim4 switch (open_claim_type4 claim) {
/// /*
///  * No special rights to file.
///  * Ordinary OPEN of the specified file.
///  */
/// case CLAIM_NULL:
///     /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
///     component4      file;
/// /*
///  * Right to the file established by an
///  * open previous to server reboot. File
///  * identified by filehandle obtained at
///  * that time rather than by name.
///  */
/// case CLAIM_PREVIOUS:
///     /* CURRENT_FH: file being reclaimed */
///     open_delegation_type4  delegate_type;
/// /*
///  * Right to file based on a delegation
///  * granted by the server. File is
///  * specified by name.
///  */
/// case CLAIM_DELEGATE_CUR:
///     /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
///     open_claim_delegate_cur4      delegate_cur_info;
/// /*
///  * Right to file based on a delegation
///  * granted to a previous boot instance
///  * of the client. File is specified by name.
///  */
/// case CLAIM_DELEGATE_PREV:
///     /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
///     component4      file_delegate_prev;
/// };
/// /*
///  * OPEN: Open a file, potentially receiving an open delegation
///  */
/// struct OPEN4args {
///     seqid4      seqid;
///     uint32_t    share_access;
///     uint32_t    share_deny;
///     open_owner4 owner;
///     openflag4  openhow;
///     open_claim4 claim;
/// };
```

```
///
/// struct open_read_delegation4 {
///   stateid4 stateid; /* Stateid for delegation*/
///   bool      recall; /* Pre-recalled flag for
///                     delegations obtained
///                     by reclaim (CLAIM_PREVIOUS) */
///
///   nfsace4 permissions; /* Defines users who don't
///                         need an ACCESS call to
///                         open for read */
/// };
///
/// struct open_write_delegation4 {
///   stateid4 stateid; /* Stateid for delegation */
///   bool      recall; /* Pre-recalled flag for
///                     delegations obtained
///                     by reclaim
///                     (CLAIM_PREVIOUS) */
///
///   nfs_space_limit4
///     space_limit; /* Defines condition that
///                 the client must check to
///                 determine whether the
///                 file needs to be flushed
///                 to the server on close. */
///
///   nfsace4 permissions; /* Defines users who don't
///                         need an ACCESS call as
///                         part of a delegated
///                         open. */
/// };
///
/// union open_delegation4
/// switch (open_delegation_type4 delegation_type) {
///   case OPEN_DELEGATE_NONE:
///     void;
///   case OPEN_DELEGATE_READ:
///     open_read_delegation4 read;
///   case OPEN_DELEGATE_WRITE:
///     open_write_delegation4 write;
/// };
///
/// /*
///  * Result flags
///  */
///
/// /* Client must confirm open */
/// const OPEN4_RESULT_CONFIRM = 0x00000002;
```

```
/// /* Type of file locking behavior at the server */
/// const OPEN4_RESULT_LOCKTYPE_POSIX = 0x00000004;
///
/// struct OPEN4resok {
///     stateid4      stateid;      /* Stateid for open */
///     change_info4  cinfo;        /* Directory Change Info */
///     uint32_t      rflags;       /* Result flags */
///     bitmap4       attrset;      /* attribute set for create*/
///     open_delegation4 delegation; /* Info on any open
///                                     delegation */
/// };
///
/// union OPEN4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///     case NFS4_OK:
///         /* CURRENT_FH: opened file */
///         OPEN4resok      resok4;
///     default:
///         void;
/// };
///
/// struct OPENATTR4args {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: object */
///     bool      createdir;
/// };
///
/// struct OPENATTR4res {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: named attr directory */
///     nfsstat4      status;
/// };
///
/// struct OPEN_CONFIRM4args {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: opened file */
///     stateid4      open_stateid;
///     seqid4        seqid;
/// };
///
/// struct OPEN_CONFIRM4resok {
///     stateid4      open_stateid;
/// };
///
/// union OPEN_CONFIRM4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///     case NFS4_OK:
///         OPEN_CONFIRM4resok      resok4;
///     default:
///         void;
/// };
///
/// struct OPEN_DOWNGRADE4args {
```

```
///      /* CURRENT_FH: opened file */
///      stateid4      open_stateid;
///      seqid4        seqid;
///      uint32_t      share_access;
///      uint32_t      share_deny;
/// };
///
/// struct OPEN_DOWNGRADE4resok {
///      stateid4      open_stateid;
/// };
///
/// union OPEN_DOWNGRADE4res switch(nfsstat4 status) {
/// case NFS4_OK:
///      OPEN_DOWNGRADE4resok      resok4;
/// default:
///      void;
/// };
///
/// struct PUTFH4args {
///      nfs_fh4      object;
/// };
///
/// struct PUTFH4res {
///      /* CURRENT_FH: */
///      nfsstat4      status;
/// };
///
/// struct PUTPUBFH4res {
///      /* CURRENT_FH: public fh */
///      nfsstat4      status;
/// };
///
/// struct PUTROOTFH4res {
///      /* CURRENT_FH: root fh */
///      nfsstat4      status;
/// };
///
/// struct READ4args {
///      /* CURRENT_FH: file */
///      stateid4      stateid;
///      offset4      offset;
///      count4      count;
/// };
///
/// struct READ4resok {
///      bool      eof;
///      opaque      data<>;
/// };
```

```
///
/// union READ4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///   case NFS4_OK:
///     READ4resok      resok4;
///   default:
///     void;
/// };
///
/// struct READDIR4args {
///   /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
///   nfs_cookie4      cookie;
///   verifier4        cookieverf;
///   count4           dircount;
///   count4           maxcount;
///   bitmap4          attr_request;
/// };
///
/// struct entry4 {
///   nfs_cookie4      cookie;
///   component4       name;
///   fattr4           attrs;
///   entry4           *nextentry;
/// };
///
/// struct dirlist4 {
///   entry4           *entries;
///   bool             eof;
/// };
///
/// struct READDIR4resok {
///   verifier4        cookieverf;
///   dirlist4         reply;
/// };
///
///
/// union READDIR4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///   case NFS4_OK:
///     READDIR4resok  resok4;
///   default:
///     void;
/// };
///
///
/// struct READLINK4resok {
///   linktext4        link;
/// };
///
/// union READLINK4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
```

```
/// case NFS4_OK:
///     READLINK4resok resok4;
/// default:
///     void;
/// };
///
/// struct REMOVE4args {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
///     component4    target;
/// };
///
/// struct REMOVE4resok {
///     change_info4    cinfo;
/// };
///
/// union REMOVE4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
/// case NFS4_OK:
///     REMOVE4resok    resok4;
/// default:
///     void;
/// };
///
/// struct RENAME4args {
///     /* SAVED_FH: source directory */
///     component4    oldname;
///     /* CURRENT_FH: target directory */
///     component4    newname;
/// };
///
/// struct RENAME4resok {
///     change_info4    source_cinfo;
///     change_info4    target_cinfo;
/// };
///
/// union RENAME4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
/// case NFS4_OK:
///     RENAME4resok    resok4;
/// default:
///     void;
/// };
///
/// struct RENEW4args {
///     clientid4    clientid;
/// };
///
/// struct RENEW4res {
///     nfsstat4    status;
/// };
```

```

///
/// struct RESTOREFH4res {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: value of saved fh */
///     nfsstat4      status;
/// };
///
/// struct SAVEFH4res {
///     /* SAVED_FH: value of current fh */
///     nfsstat4      status;
/// };
///
/// struct SECINFO4args {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
///     component4     name;
/// };
///
/// /*
///  * From RFC 2203
///  */
/// enum rpc_gss_svc_t {
///     RPC_GSS_SVC_NONE          = 1,
///     RPC_GSS_SVC_INTEGRITY     = 2,
///     RPC_GSS_SVC_PRIVACY       = 3
/// };
///
/// struct rpcsec_gss_info {
///     sec_oid4      oid;
///     qop4          qop;
///     rpc_gss_svc_t service;
/// };
///
/// /* RPCSEC_GSS has a value of '6' - See RFC 2203 */
/// union secinfo4 switch (uint32_t flavor) {
///     case RPCSEC_GSS:
///         rpcsec_gss_info      flavor_info;
///     default:
///         void;
/// };
///
/// typedef secinfo4 SECINFO4resok<>;
///
/// union SECINFO4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///     case NFS4_OK:
///         SECINFO4resok resok4;
///     default:
///         void;
/// };
///

```

```
/// struct SETATTR4args {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: target object */
///     stateid4      stateid;
///     fattr4        obj_attributes;
/// };
///
/// struct SETATTR4res {
///     nfsstat4      status;
///     bitmap4       attrsset;
/// };
///
/// struct SETCLIENTID4args {
///     nfs_client_id4 client;
///     cb_client4     callback;
///     uint32_t       callback_ident;
/// };
///
/// struct SETCLIENTID4resok {
///     clientid4      clientid;
///     verifier4     setclientid_confirm;
/// };
///
/// union SETCLIENTID4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///     case NFS4_OK:
///         SETCLIENTID4resok      resok4;
///     case NFS4ERR_CLID_INUSE:
///         clientaddr4      client_using;
///     default:
///         void;
/// };
///
/// struct SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM4args {
///     clientid4      clientid;
///     verifier4     setclientid_confirm;
/// };
///
/// struct SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM4res {
///     nfsstat4      status;
/// };
///
/// struct VERIFY4args {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: object */
///     fattr4        obj_attributes;
/// };
///
/// struct VERIFY4res {
///     nfsstat4      status;
/// };
```

```
///
/// enum stable_how4 {
///     UNSTABLE4      = 0,
///     DATA_SYNC4   = 1,
///     FILE_SYNC4    = 2
/// };
///
/// struct WRITE4args {
///     /* CURRENT_FH: file */
///     stateid4       stateid;
///     offset4        offset;
///     stable_how4    stable;
///     opaque         data<>;
/// };
///
/// struct WRITE4resok {
///     count4         count;
///     stable_how4    committed;
///     verifier4      writeverf;
/// };
///
/// union WRITE4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///     case NFS4_OK:
///         WRITE4resok    resok4;
///     default:
///         void;
/// };
///
/// struct RELEASE_LOCKOWNER4args {
///     lock_owner4    lock_owner;
/// };
///
/// struct RELEASE_LOCKOWNER4res {
///     nfsstat4       status;
/// };
///
/// struct ILLEGAL4res {
///     nfsstat4       status;
/// };
///
/// /*
///  * Operation arrays
///  */
///
/// enum nfs_opnum4 {
///     OP_ACCESS      = 3,
///     OP_CLOSE       = 4,
///     OP_COMMIT      = 5,
```

```
/// OP_CREATE = 6,  
/// OP_DELEGPURGE = 7,  
/// OP_DELEGRETURN = 8,  
/// OP_GETATTR = 9,  
/// OP_GETFH = 10,  
/// OP_LINK = 11,  
/// OP_LOCK = 12,  
/// OP_LOCKT = 13,  
/// OP_LOCKU = 14,  
/// OP_LOOKUP = 15,  
/// OP_LOOKUPP = 16,  
/// OP_NVERIFY = 17,  
/// OP_OPEN = 18,  
/// OP_OPENATTR = 19,  
/// OP_OPEN_CONFIRM = 20,  
/// OP_OPEN_DOWNGRADE = 21,  
/// OP_PUTFH = 22,  
/// OP_PUTPUBFH = 23,  
/// OP_PUTROOTFH = 24,  
/// OP_READ = 25,  
/// OP_READDIR = 26,  
/// OP_READLINK = 27,  
/// OP_REMOVE = 28,  
/// OP_RENAME = 29,  
/// OP_RENEW = 30,  
/// OP_RESTOREFH = 31,  
/// OP_SAVEFH = 32,  
/// OP_SECINFO = 33,  
/// OP_SETATTR = 34,  
/// OP_SETCLIENTID = 35,  
/// OP_SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM = 36,  
/// OP_VERIFY = 37,  
/// OP_WRITE = 38,  
/// OP_RELEASE_LOCKOWNER = 39,  
/// OP_ILLEGAL = 10044  
/// };  
///  
/// union nfs_argop4 switch (nfs_opnum4 argop) {  
/// case OP_ACCESS: ACCESS4args opaccess;  
/// case OP_CLOSE: CLOSE4args opclose;  
/// case OP_COMMIT: COMMIT4args opcommit;  
/// case OP_CREATE: CREATE4args opcreate;  
/// case OP_DELEGPURGE: DELEGPURGE4args opdelegpurge;  
/// case OP_DELEGRETURN: DELEGRETURN4args opdelegreturn;  
/// case OP_GETATTR: GETATTR4args opgetattr;  
/// case OP_GETFH: void;  
/// case OP_LINK: LINK4args oplink;  
/// case OP_LOCK: LOCK4args oplock;
```

```
/// case OP_LOCKT:          LOCKT4args oplockt;
/// case OP_LOCKU:          LOCKU4args oplocku;
/// case OP_LOOKUP:         LOOKUP4args oplookup;
/// case OP_LOOKUPP:        void;
/// case OP_NVERIFY:        NVERIFY4args opnverify;
/// case OP_OPEN:           OPEN4args opopen;
/// case OP_OPENATTR:       OPENATTR4args opopenattr;
/// case OP_OPEN_CONFIRM:   OPEN_CONFIRM4args opopen_confirm;
/// case OP_OPEN_DOWNGRADE: OPEN_DOWNGRADE4args opopen_downgrade;
///
/// case OP_PUTFH:          PUTFH4args opputfh;
/// case OP_PUTPUBFH:       void;
/// case OP_PUTROOTFH:      void;
/// case OP_READ:           READ4args opread;
/// case OP_READDIR:        READDIR4args opreaddir;
/// case OP_READLINK:       void;
/// case OP_REMOVE:         REMOVE4args opremove;
/// case OP_RENAME:         RENAME4args oprename;
/// case OP_RENEW:          RENEW4args oprenew;
/// case OP_RESTOREFH:      void;
/// case OP_SAVEFH:         void;
/// case OP_SECINFO:        SECINFO4args opsecinfo;
/// case OP_SETATTR:        SETATTR4args opsetattr;
/// case OP_SETCLIENTID:    SETCLIENTID4args opsetclientid;
/// case OP_SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM: SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM4args
///                               opsetclientid_confirm;
/// case OP_VERIFY:         VERIFY4args opverify;
/// case OP_WRITE:          WRITE4args opwrite;
/// case OP_RELEASE_LOCKOWNER:
///
///                               RELEASE_LOCKOWNER4args
///                               oprelease_lockowner;
/// case OP_ILLEGAL:        void;
/// }i
///
/// union nfs_resop4 switch (nfs_opnum4 resop) {
/// case OP_ACCESS:         ACCESS4res opaccess;
/// case OP_CLOSE:          CLOSE4res opclose;
/// case OP_COMMIT:         COMMIT4res opcommit;
/// case OP_CREATE:         CREATE4res opcreate;
/// case OP_DELEGPURGE:     DELEGPURGE4res opdeleGPurge;
/// case OP_DELEGRETURN:    DELEGRETURN4res opdelegreturn;
/// case OP_GETATTR:        GETATTR4res opgetattr;
/// case OP_GETFH:          GETFH4res opgetfh;
/// case OP_LINK:           LINK4res oplink;
/// case OP_LOCK:           LOCK4res oplock;
/// case OP_LOCKT:          LOCKT4res oplockt;
/// case OP_LOCKU:          LOCKU4res oplocku;
/// case OP_LOOKUP:         LOOKUP4res oplookup;
```

```

/// case OP_LOOKUPP:      LOOKUPP4res  oplookupp;
/// case OP_NVERIFY:     NVERIFY4res  opnverify;
/// case OP_OPEN:        OPEN4res    oopen;
/// case OP_OPENATTR:    OPENATTR4res  oopenattr;
/// case OP_OPEN_CONFIRM: OPEN_CONFIRM4res  oopen_confirm;
/// case OP_OPEN_DOWNGRADE:
///                          OPEN_DOWNGRADE4res
///                          oopen_downgrade;
/// case OP_PUTFH:        PUTFH4res    opputfh;
/// case OP_PUTPUBFH:     PUTPUBFH4res  opputpubfh;
/// case OP_PUTROOTFH:    PUTROOTFH4res  opputrootfh;
/// case OP_READ:         READ4res     oread;
/// case OP_READDIR:      READDIR4res  oreaddir;
/// case OP_READLINK:     READLINK4res  oreadlink;
/// case OP_REMOVE:       REMOVE4res    oremove;
/// case OP_RENAME:       RENAME4res    oprename;
/// case OP_RENEW:        RENEW4res     oprenew;
/// case OP_RESTOREFH:    RESTOREFH4res  orestorefh;
/// case OP_SAVEFH:       SAVEFH4res    opsavefh;
/// case OP_SECINFO:      SECINFO4res    opsecinfo;
/// case OP_SETATTR:      SETATTR4res    opsetattr;
/// case OP_SETCLIENTID: SETCLIENTID4res  opsetclientid;
/// case OP_SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM:
///                          SETCLIENTID_CONFIRM4res
///                          opsetclientid_confirm;
/// case OP_VERIFY:       VERIFY4res     opverify;
/// case OP_WRITE:        WRITE4res      opwrite;
/// case OP_RELEASE_LOCKOWNER:
///                          RELEASE_LOCKOWNER4res
///                          oprelease_lockowner;
/// case OP_ILLEGAL:      ILLEGAL4res    opillegal;
/// };
///
/// struct COMPOUND4args {
///     utf8str_cs      tag;
///     uint32_t        minorversion;
///     nfs_argop4      argarray<>;
/// };
///
/// struct COMPOUND4res {
///     nfsstat4        status;
///     utf8str_cs      tag;
///     nfs_resop4      resarray<>;
/// };
///
/// /*
///  * Remote file service routines

```

```
/// */
/// program NFS4_PROGRAM {
///     version NFS_V4 {
///         void
///         NFSPROC4_NULL(void) = 0;
///
///         COMPOUND4res
///         NFSPROC4_COMPOUND(COMPOUND4args) = 1;
///
///     } = 4;
/// } = 100003;
///
/// /*
///  * NFS4 Callback Procedure Definitions and Program
///  */
/// struct CB_GETATTR4args {
///     nfs_fh4 fh;
///     bitmap4 attr_request;
/// };
///
/// struct CB_GETATTR4resok {
///     fattr4 obj_attributes;
/// };
///
/// union CB_GETATTR4res switch (nfsstat4 status) {
///     case NFS4_OK:
///         CB_GETATTR4resok     resok4;
///     default:
///         void;
/// };
///
/// struct CB_RECALL4args {
///     stateid4     stateid;
///     bool        truncate;
///     nfs_fh4     fh;
/// };
///
/// struct CB_RECALL4res {
///     nfsstat4     status;
/// };
///
/// /*
///  * CB_ILLEGAL: Response for illegal operation numbers
///  */
/// struct CB_ILLEGAL4res {
///     nfsstat4     status;
/// };
///
```

```

/// /*
///  * Various definitions for CB_COMPOUND
///  */
/// %
/// enum nfs_cb_opnum4 {
///     OP_CB_GETATTR          = 3,
///     OP_CB_RECALL          = 4,
///     OP_CB_ILLEGAL         = 10044
/// };
///
/// union nfs_cb_argop4 switch (unsigned argop) {
///     case OP_CB_GETATTR:
///         CB_GETATTR4args      opcbgetattr;
///     case OP_CB_RECALL:
///         CB_RECALL4args      opcbrecall;
///     case OP_CB_ILLEGAL:
///         void;
/// };
///
/// union nfs_cb_resop4 switch (unsigned resop) {
///     case OP_CB_GETATTR:      CB_GETATTR4res  opcbgetattr;
///     case OP_CB_RECALL:      CB_RECALL4res   opcbrecall;
///     case OP_CB_ILLEGAL:     CB_ILLEGAL4res  opcbillegal;
/// };
///
///
/// struct CB_COMPOUND4args {
///     utf8str_cs      tag;
///     uint32_t        minorversion;
///     uint32_t        callback_ident;
///     nfs_cb_argop4  argarray<>;
/// };
///
/// struct CB_COMPOUND4res {
///     nfsstat4        status;
///     utf8str_cs      tag;
///     nfs_cb_resop4  resarray<>;
/// };
///
///
/// /*
///  * Program number is in the transient range since the client
///  * will assign the exact transient program number and provide
///  * that to the server via the SETCLIENTID operation.
///  */
/// program NFS4_CALLBACK {
///     version NFS_CB {
///         void

```

```
///                                CB_NULL(void) = 0;
///                                CB_COMPOUND4res
///                                CB_COMPOUND(CB_COMPOUND4args) = 1;
///                                } = 1;
/// } = 0x40000000;
```

## 2. Security Considerations

See the Security Considerations section of [RFCNFSv4].

## 3. IANA Considerations

This document does not have any IANA considerations.

## 4. Normative References

[RFC4506] Eisler, M., "XDR: External Data Representation Standard", STD 67, RFC 4506, May 2006.

[RFCNFSv4] Haynes, T. and D. Noveck, "NFS Version 4 Protocol", draft-ietf-nfsv4-rfc3530bis-35 (work in progress), Dec 2014.

## Appendix A. Acknowledgments

Tom Haynes would like to thank NetApp, Inc. for its funding of his time on this project.

David Quigley tested the extraction of the .x file from this document and corrected the two resulting errors.

## Appendix B. RFC Editor Notes

[RFC Editor: please remove this section prior to publishing this document as an RFC]

[RFC3530bis should be replaced by the RFC number of draft-ietf-nfsv4-rfc3530bis in this draft.]

[RFC Editor: Please note that there is also a reference entry that needs to be modified for the companion document.]

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NFS space reservation operations  
draft-iyer-nfsv4-space-reservation-ops-02.txt

#### Abstract

This document describes a set of NFS attributes and operations that are useful for applications like hypervisors to manage storage in a better manner.

#### Status of this Memo

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## 1. Requirements notation

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119].

## 2. Introduction

This document describes a set of operations that allow applications such as hypervisors to reserve space for a file, report the amount of actual disk space a file occupies and freeup the backing space of a file when it is not required.

In virtualized environments, virtual disk files are often stored on NFS mounted volumes. Since virtual disk files represent the hard disks of virtual machines, hypervisors often have to guarantee certain properties for the file.

One such example is space reservation. When a hypervisor creates a virtual disk file, it often tries to preallocate the space for the file so that there are no future allocation related errors during the operation of the virtual machine. Such errors prevent a virtual machine from continuing execution and result in downtime.

Another useful feature would be the ability to report the number of blocks that would be freed when a file is deleted. Currently, NFS reports two size attributes:

- o size - The logical file size of the file.
- o space\_used - The size in bytes that the file occupies on disk

While these attributes are sufficient for space accounting in traditional filesystems, they prove to be inadequate in modern filesystems that support block sharing. Having a way to tell the number of blocks that would be freed if the file was deleted would be useful to applications that wish to migrate files when a volume is low on space.

Since virtual disks represent a hard drive in a virtual machine, a virtual disk can be viewed as a filesystem within a file. Since not all blocks within a filesystem are in use, there is an opportunity to reclaim blocks that are no longer in use. A call to deallocate blocks could result in better space efficiency. Lesser space MAY be consumed for backups after block deallocation.

We propose the following operations and attributes for the

aforementioned use cases:

`space_reserve`: This attribute specifies whether the blocks backing the file have been preallocated.

`space_freed`: This attribute specifies the space freed when a file is deleted, taking block sharing into consideration.

`HOLE_PUNCH`: This operation zeroes and/or deallocates the blocks backing a region of the file.

`max_hole_punch`: This attribute specifies the maximum sized hole that can be punched on the filesystem.

### 3. Use Cases

#### 3.1. Space Reservation

Some applications require that once a file of a certain size is created, writes to that file never fail with an out of space condition. One such example is that of a hypervisor writing to a virtual disk. An out of space condition while writing to virtual disks would mean that the virtual machine would need to be frozen.

Currently, in order to achieve such a guarantee, applications zero the entire file. The initial zeroing allocates the backing blocks and all subsequent writes are overwrites of already allocated blocks. This approach is not only inefficient in terms of the amount of I/O done, it is also not guaranteed to work on filesystems that are log structured or deduplicated. An efficient way of guaranteeing space reservation would be beneficial to such applications.

If the `space_reserved` attribute is set on a file, it is guaranteed that writes that do not grow the file will not fail with `NFSERR_NOSPC`.

#### 3.2. Space freed on deletes

Currently, files in NFS have two size attributes:

- o `size` - The logical file size of the file.
- o `space_used` - The size in bytes that the file occupies on disk.

While these attributes are sufficient for space accounting in traditional filesystems, they prove to be inadequate in modern filesystems that support block sharing. In such filesystems,

multiple inodes can point to a single block with a block reference count to guard against premature freeing.

If `space_used` of a file is interpreted to mean the size in bytes of all disk blocks pointed to by the inode of the file, then shared blocks get double counted, over-reporting the space utilization. This also has the adverse effect that the deletion of a file with shared blocks frees up less than `space_used` bytes.

On the other hand, if `space_used` is interpreted to mean the size in bytes of those disk blocks unique to the inode of the file, then shared blocks are not counted in any file, resulting in under-reporting of the space utilization.

For example, two files A and B have 10 blocks each. Let 6 of these blocks be shared between them. Thus, the combined space utilized by the two files is  $14 * \text{BLOCK\_SIZE}$  bytes. In the former case, the combined space utilization of the two files would be reported as  $20 * \text{BLOCK\_SIZE}$ . However, deleting either would only result in  $4 * \text{BLOCK\_SIZE}$  being freed. Conversely, the latter interpretation would report that the space utilization is only  $8 * \text{BLOCK\_SIZE}$ .

Adding another size attribute, `space_freed`, is helpful in solving this problem. `space_freed` is the number of blocks that are allocated to the given file that would be freed on its deletion. In the example, both A and B would report `space_freed` as  $4 * \text{BLOCK\_SIZE}$  and `space_used` as  $10 * \text{BLOCK\_SIZE}$ . If A is deleted, B will report `space_freed` as  $10 * \text{BLOCK\_SIZE}$  as the deletion of B would result in the deallocation of all 10 blocks.

The addition of this problem doesn't solve the problem of space being over-reported. However, over-reporting is better than under-reporting.

#### 4. Operations and attributes

In the sections that follow, one operation and three attributes are defined that together provide the space management facilities outlined earlier in the document. The operation is intended to be `OPTIONAL` and the attributes `RECOMMENDED` as defined in section 17 of [RFC5661].

##### 4.1. Attribute X: `space_reserve`

The `space_reserve` attribute is a read/write attribute of type boolean. It is a per file attribute. When the `space_reserved` attribute is set via `SETATTR`, the server must ensure that there is

disk space to accommodate every byte in the file before it can return success. If the server cannot guarantee this, it must return NFS4ERR\_NOSPC.

If the client tries to grow a file which has the `space_reserved` attribute set, the server must guarantee that there is disk space to accommodate every byte in the file with the new size before it can return success. If the server cannot guarantee this, it must return NFS4ERR\_NOSPC.

It is not required that the server allocate the space to the file before returning success. The allocation can be deferred, however, it must be guaranteed that it will not fail for lack of space.

The value of `space_reserved` can be obtained at any time through GETATTR.

In order to avoid ambiguity, the `space_reserve` bit cannot be set along with the `size` bit in SETATTR. Increasing the size of a file with `space_reserve` set will fail if space reservation cannot be guaranteed for the new size. If the file size is decreased, space reservation is only guaranteed for the new size and the extra blocks backing the file can be released.

#### 4.2. Attribute Y: `space_freed`

`space_freed` gives the number of bytes freed if the file is deleted. This attribute is read only and is of type `length4`. It is a per file attribute.

#### 4.3. Attribute Z: `max_hole_punch`

`max_hole_punch` specifies the maximum size of a hole that the HOLE\_PUNCH operation can handle. This attribute is read only and of type `length4`. It is a per filesystem attribute. This attribute MUST be implemented if HOLE\_PUNCH is implemented.

#### 4.4. Operation A: HOLE\_PUNCH - Zero and deallocate blocks backing the file in the specified range.

##### ARGUMENTS

```
struct HOLE_PUNCH4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: file */
    offset4      hpa_offset;
    length4     hpa_count;
};
```

## RESULTS

```
struct HOLEPUNCH4res {
    nfsstat4      hpr_status;
};
```

## DESCRIPTION

Whenever a client wishes to deallocate the blocks backing a particular region in the file, it calls the HOLE\_PUNCH operation with the current filehandle set to the filehandle of the file in question, start offset and length in bytes of the region set in `hpa_offset` and `hpa_count` respectively. All further reads to this region MUST return zeros until overwritten. The filehandle specified must be that of a regular file.

Situations may arise where `hpa_offset` and/or `hpa_offset + hpa_count` will not be aligned to a boundary that the server does allocations/deallocations in. For most filesystems, this is the block size of the file system. In such a case, the server can deallocate as many bytes as it can in the region. The blocks that cannot be deallocated MUST be zeroed. Except for the block deallocation and maximum hole punching capability, a HOLE\_PUNCH operation is to be treated similar to a write of zeroes.

The server is not required to complete deallocating the blocks specified in the operation before returning. It is acceptable to have the deallocation be deferred. In fact, HOLE\_PUNCH is merely a hint; it is valid for a server to return success without ever doing anything towards deallocating the blocks backing the region specified. However, any future reads to the region MUST return zeroes.

HOLE\_PUNCH will result in the `space_used` attribute being decreased by the number of bytes that were deallocated. The `space_freed` attribute may or may not decrease, depending on the support and whether the blocks backing the specified range were shared or not. The `size` attribute will remain unchanged.

The HOLE\_PUNCH operation MUST NOT change the space reservation guarantee of the file. While the server can deallocate the blocks specified by `hpa_offset` and `hpa_count`, future writes to this region MUST NOT fail with NFSERR\_NOSPC.

The HOLE\_PUNCH operation may fail for the following reasons (this is a partial list):

NFS4ERR\_NOTSUPP: The Hole punch operations is not supported by the NFS server receiving this request.

NFS4ERR\_DIR: The current filehandle is of type NF4DIR.

NFS4ERR\_SYMLINK: The current filehandle is of type NF4LNK.

NFS4ERR\_WRONG\_TYPE: The current filehandle does not designate an ordinary file.

## 5. Security Considerations

There are no security considerations.

## 6. IANA Considerations

This document has no actions for IANA.

## 7. Normative References

[RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", BCP 14, RFC 2119, March 1997.

[RFC5661] Shepler, S., Eisler, M., and D. Noveck, "Network File System (NFS) Version 4 Minor Version 1 Protocol", RFC 5661, January 2010.

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NFS Server-side Copy  
draft-lentini-nfsv4-server-side-copy-06.txt

Abstract

This document describes a set of NFS operations for offloading a file copy to a file server or between two file servers.

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## 1. Requirements notation

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119].

## 2. Introduction

This document describes a server-side copy feature for the NFS protocol.

The server-side copy feature provides a mechanism for the NFS client to perform a file copy on the server without the data being transmitted back and forth over the network.

Without this feature, an NFS client copies data from one location to another by reading the data from the server over the network, and then writing the data back over the network to the server. Using this server-side copy operation, the client is able to instruct the server to copy the data locally without the data being sent back and forth over the network unnecessarily.

In general, this feature is useful whenever data is copied from one location to another on the server. It is particularly useful when copying the contents of a file from a backup. Backup-versions of a file are copied for a number of reasons, including restoring and cloning data.

If the source object and destination object are on different file servers, the file servers will communicate with one another to perform the copy operation. The server-to-server protocol by which this is accomplished is not defined in this document.

## 3. Protocol Overview

The server-side copy offload operations support both intra-server and inter-server file copies. An intra-server copy is a copy in which the source file and destination file reside on the same server. In an inter-server copy, the source file and destination file are on different servers. In both cases, the copy may be performed synchronously or asynchronously.

Throughout the rest of this document, we refer to the NFS server containing the source file as the "source server" and the NFS server to which the file is transferred as the "destination server". In the case of an intra-server copy, the source server and destination

server are the same server. Therefore in the context of an intra-server copy, the terms source server and destination server refer to the single server performing the copy.

The operations described below are designed to copy files. Other file system objects can be copied by building on these operations or using other techniques. For example if the user wishes to copy a directory, the client can synthesize a directory copy by first creating the destination directory and then copying the source directory's files to the new destination directory. If the user wishes to copy a namespace junction [FEDFS-NSDB] [FEDFS-ADMIN], the client can use the ONC RPC Federated Filesystem protocol [FEDFS-ADMIN] to perform the copy. Specifically the client can determine the source junction's attributes using the FEDFS\_LOOKUP\_FSN procedure and create a duplicate junction using the FEDFS\_CREATE\_JUNCTION procedure.

For the inter-server copy protocol, the operations are defined to be compatible with a server-to-server copy protocol in which the destination server reads the file data from the source server. This model in which the file data is pulled from the source by the destination has a number of advantages over a model in which the source pushes the file data to the destination. The advantages of the pull model include:

- o The pull model only requires a remote server (i.e. the destination server) to be granted read access. A push model requires a remote server (i.e. the source server) to be granted write access, which is more privileged.
- o The pull model allows the destination server to stop reading if it has run out of space. In a push model, the destination server must flow control the source server in this situation.
- o The pull model allows the destination server to easily flow control the data stream by adjusting the size of its read operations. In a push model, the destination server does not have this ability. The source server in a push model is capable of writing chunks larger than the destination server has requested in attributes and session parameters. In theory, the destination server could perform a "short" write in this situation, but this approach is known to behave poorly in practice.

The following operations are provided to support server-side copy:

**COPY\_NOTIFY:** For inter-server copies, the client sends this operation to the source server to notify it of a future file copy from a given destination server for the given user.

**COPY\_REVOKE:** Also for inter-server copies, the client sends this operation to the source server to revoke permission to copy a file for the given user.

**COPY:** Used by the client to request a file copy.

**COPY\_ABORT:** Used by the client to abort an asynchronous file copy.

**COPY\_STATUS:** Used by the client to poll the status of an asynchronous file copy.

**CB\_COPY:** Used by the destination server to report the results of an asynchronous file copy to the client.

These operations are described in detail in Section 4. This section provides an overview of how these operations are used to perform server-side copies.

### 3.1. Intra-Server Copy

To copy a file on a single server, the client uses a COPY operation. The server may respond to the copy operation with the final results of the copy or it may perform the copy asynchronously and deliver the results using a CB\_COPY operation callback. If the copy is performed asynchronously, the client may poll the status of the copy using COPY\_STATUS or cancel the copy using COPY\_ABORT.

A synchronous intra-server copy is shown in Figure 1. In this example, the NFS server chooses to perform the copy synchronously. The copy operation is completed, either successfully or unsuccessfully, before the server replies to the client's request. The server's reply contains the final result of the operation.



Figure 1: A synchronous intra-server copy.

An asynchronous intra-server copy is shown in Figure 2. In this

example, the NFS server performs the copy asynchronously. The server's reply to the copy request indicates that the copy operation was initiated and the final result will be delivered at a later time. The server's reply also contains a copy stateid. The client may use this copy stateid to poll for status information (as shown) or to cancel the copy using a COPY\_ABORT. When the server completes the copy, the server performs a callback to the client and reports the results.

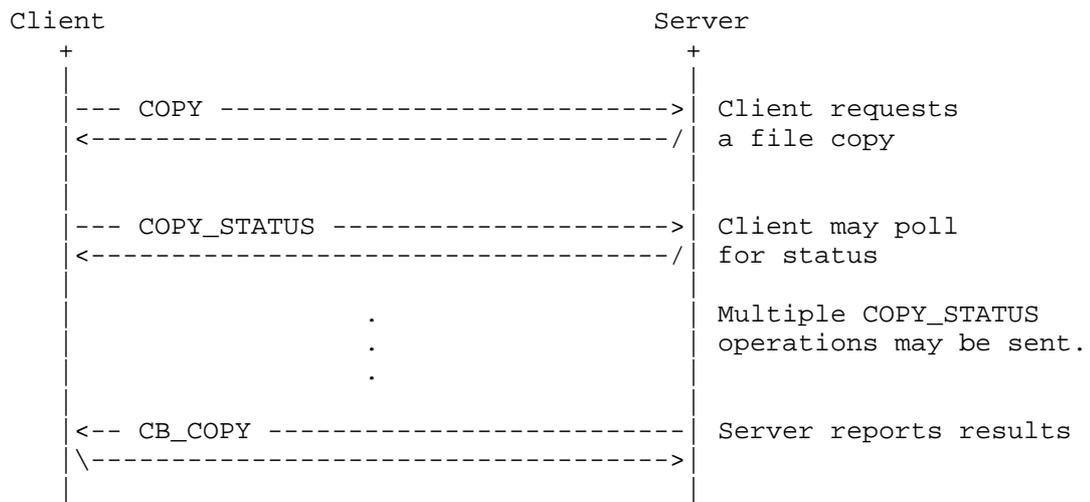


Figure 2: An asynchronous intra-server copy.

### 3.2. Inter-Server Copy

A copy may also be performed between two servers. The copy protocol is designed to accommodate a variety of network topologies. As shown in Figure 3, the client and servers may be connected by multiple networks. In particular, the servers may be connected by a specialized, high speed network (network 192.168.33.0/24 in the diagram) that does not include the client. The protocol allows the client to setup the copy between the servers (over network 10.11.78.0/24 in the diagram) and for the servers to communicate on the high speed network if they choose to do so.

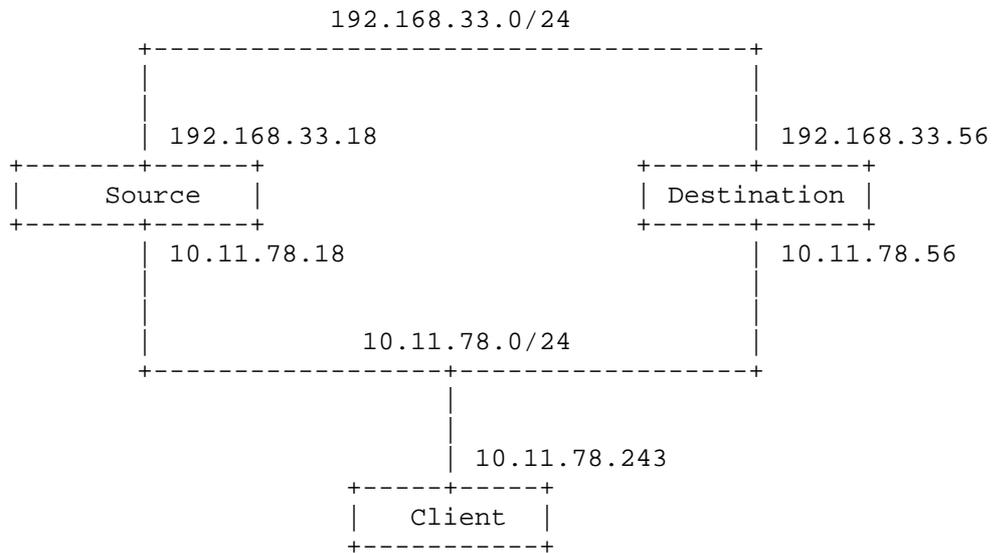


Figure 3: An example inter-server network topology.

For an inter-server copy, the client notifies the source server that a file will be copied by the destination server using a `COPY_NOTIFY` operation. The client then initiates the copy by sending the `COPY` operation to the destination server. The destination server may perform the copy synchronously or asynchronously.

A synchronous inter-server copy is shown in Figure 4. In this case, the destination server chooses to perform the copy before responding to the client's `COPY` request.

An asynchronous copy is shown in Figure 5. In this case, the destination server chooses to respond to the client's `COPY` request immediately and then perform the copy asynchronously.

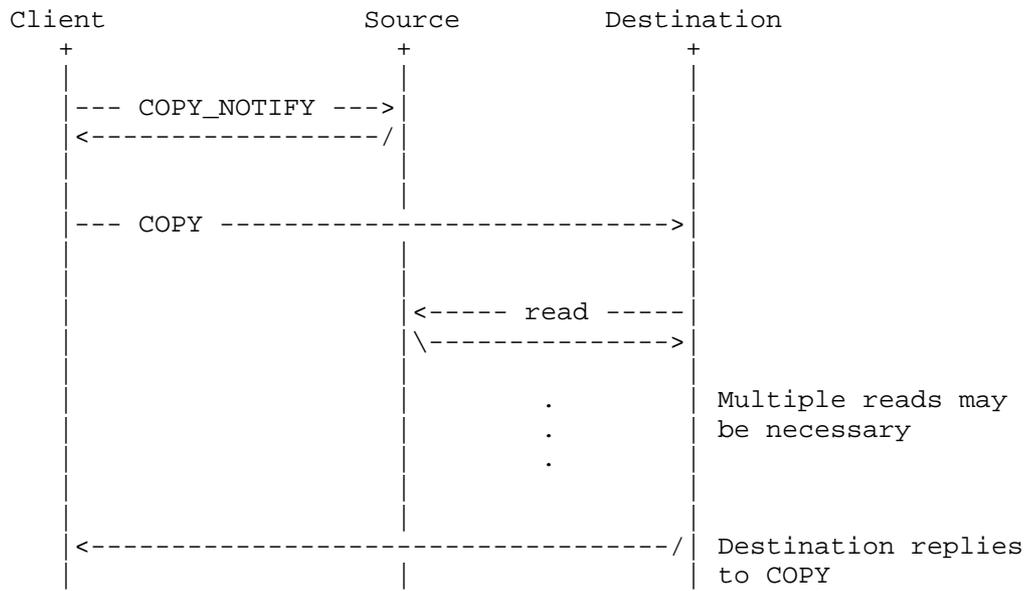


Figure 4: A synchronous inter-server copy.

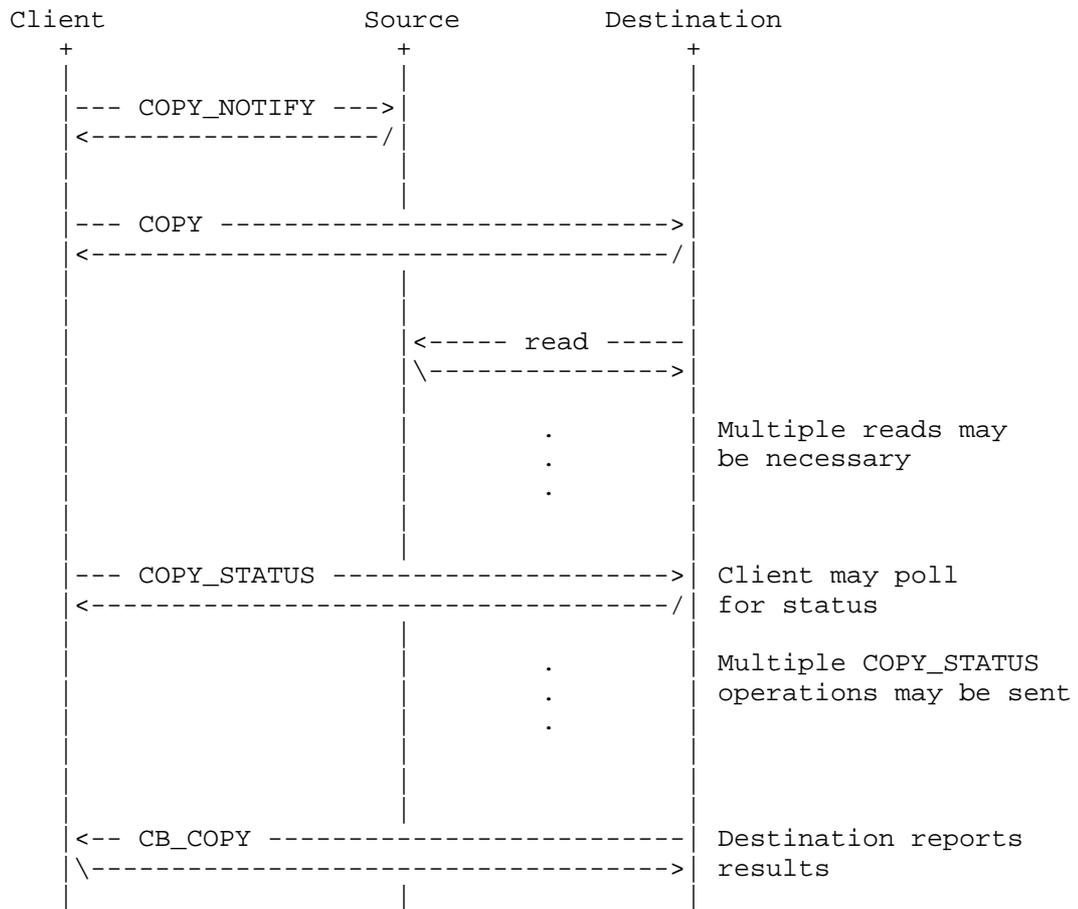


Figure 5: An asynchronous inter-server copy.

### 3.3. Server-to-Server Copy Protocol

During an inter-server copy, the destination server reads the file data from the source server. The source server and destination server are not required to use a specific protocol to transfer the file data. The choice of what protocol to use is ultimately the destination server’s decision.

#### 3.3.1. Using NFSv4.x as a Server-to-Server Copy Protocol

The destination server MAY use standard NFSv4.x (where x >= 1) to read the data from the source server. If NFSv4.x is used for the server-to-server copy protocol, the destination server can use the filehandle contained in the COPY request with standard NFSv4.x

operations to read data from the source server. Specifically, the destination server may use the NFSv4.x OPEN operation's CLAIM\_FH facility to open the file being copied and obtain an open stateid. Using the stateid, the destination server may then use NFSv4.x READ operations to read the file.

### 3.3.2. Using an alternative Server-to-Server Copy Protocol

In a homogeneous environment, the source and destination servers might be able to perform the file copy extremely efficiently using specialized protocols. For example the source and destination servers might be two nodes sharing a common file system format for the source and destination file systems. Thus the source and destination are in an ideal position to efficiently render the image of the source file to the destination file by replicating the file system formats at the block level. Another possibility is that the source and destination might be two nodes sharing a common storage area network, and thus there is no need to copy any data at all, and instead ownership of the file and its contents might simply be re-assigned to the destination. To allow for these possibilities, the destination server is allowed to use a server-to-server copy protocol of its choice.

In a heterogeneous environment, using a protocol other than NFSv4.x (e.g. HTTP [RFC2616] or FTP [RFC0959]) presents some challenges. In particular, the destination server is presented with the challenge of accessing the source file given only an NFSv4.x filehandle.

One option for protocols that identify source files with path names is to use an ASCII hexadecimal representation of the source filehandle as the file name.

Another option for the source server is to use URLs to direct the destination server to a specialized service. For example, the response to COPY\_NOTIFY could include the URL `ftp://s1.example.com:9999/_FH/0x12345`, where `0x12345` is the ASCII hexadecimal representation of the source filehandle. When the destination server receives the source server's URL, it would use `"_FH/0x12345"` as the file name to pass to the FTP server listening on port 9999 of `s1.example.com`. On port 9999 there would be a special instance of the FTP service that understands how to convert NFS filehandles to an open file descriptor (in many operating systems, this would require a new system call, one which is the inverse of the `makefh()` function that the pre-NFSv4 MOUNT service needs).

Authenticating and identifying the destination server to the source server is also a challenge. Recommendations for how to accomplish this are given in Section 5.1.2.4 and Section 5.1.4.

#### 4. Operations

In the sections that follow, several operations are defined that together provide the server-side copy feature. These operations are intended to be OPTIONAL operations as defined in section 17 of [RFC5661]. The COPY\_NOTIFY, COPY\_REVOKE, COPY, COPY\_ABORT, and COPY\_STATUS operations are designed to be sent within an NFSv4 COMPOUND procedure. The CB\_COPY operation is designed to be sent within an NFSv4 CB\_COMPOUND procedure.

Each operation is performed in the context of the user identified by the ONC RPC credential of its containing COMPOUND or CB\_COMPOUND request. For example, a COPY\_ABORT operation issued by a given user indicates that a specified COPY operation initiated by the same user be canceled. Therefore a COPY\_ABORT MUST NOT interfere with a copy of the same file initiated by another user.

An NFS server MAY allow an administrative user to monitor or cancel copy operations using an implementation specific interface.

##### 4.1. netloc4 - Network Locations

The server-side copy operations specify network locations using the netloc4 data type shown below:

```
enum netloc_type4 {
    NL4_NAME      = 0,
    NL4_URL       = 1,
    NL4_NETADDR   = 2
};

union netloc4 switch (netloc_type4 nl_type) {
    case NL4_NAME:    utf8str_cis nl_name;
    case NL4_URL:    utf8str_cis nl_url;
    case NL4_NETADDR: netaddr4    nl_addr;
};
```

If the netloc4 is of type NL4\_NAME, the nl\_name field MUST be specified as a UTF-8 string. The nl\_name is expected to be resolved to a network address via DNS, LDAP, NIS, /etc/hosts, or some other means. If the netloc4 is of type NL4\_URL, a server URL [RFC3986] appropriate for the server-to-server copy operation is specified as a UTF-8 string. If the netloc4 is of type NL4\_NETADDR, the nl\_addr field MUST contain a valid netaddr4 as defined in Section 3.3.9 of [RFC5661].

When netloc4 values are used for an inter-server copy as shown in Figure 3, their values may be evaluated on the source server,

destination server, and client. The network environment in which these systems operate should be configured so that the netloc4 values are interpreted as intended on each system.

#### 4.2. Operation U: COPY\_NOTIFY - Notify a source server of a future copy

##### ARGUMENTS

```
struct COPY_NOTIFY4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: source file */
    netloc4      cna_destination_server;
};
```

##### RESULTS

```
union COPY_NOTIFY4res switch (nfsstat4 cnr_status) {
case NFS4_OK:
    nfstime4      cnr_lease_time;
    netloc4      cnr_source_server<>;
default:
    void;
};
```

##### DESCRIPTION

This operation is used for an inter-server copy. A client sends this operation in a COMPOUND request to the source server to authorize a destination server identified by `cna_destination_server` to read the file specified by `CURRENT_FH` on behalf of the given user.

The `cna_destination_server` MUST be specified using the `netloc4` network location format. The server is not required to resolve the `cna_destination_server` address before completing this operation.

If this operation succeeds, the source server will allow the `cna_destination_server` to copy the specified file on behalf of the given user. If `COPY_NOTIFY` succeeds, the destination server is granted permission to read the file as long as both of the following conditions are met:

- o The destination server begins reading the source file before the `cnr_lease_time` expires. If the `cnr_lease_time` expires while the destination server is still reading the source file, the destination server is allowed to finish reading the file.
- o The client has not issued a `COPY_REVOKE` for the same combination of user, filehandle, and destination server.

The `cnr_lease_time` is chosen by the source server. A `cnr_lease_time` of 0 (zero) indicates an infinite lease. To renew the copy lease time the client should resend the same copy notification request to the source server.

To avoid the need for synchronized clocks, copy lease times are granted by the server as a time delta. However, there is a requirement that the client and server clocks do not drift excessively over the duration of the lease. There is also the issue of propagation delay across the network which could easily be several hundred milliseconds as well as the possibility that requests will be lost and need to be retransmitted.

To take propagation delay into account, the client should subtract it from copy lease times (e.g. if the client estimates the one-way propagation delay as 200 milliseconds, then it can assume that the lease is already 200 milliseconds old when it gets it). In addition, it will take another 200 milliseconds to get a response back to the server. So the client must send a lease renewal or send the copy offload request to the `cna_destination_server` at least 400 milliseconds before the copy lease would expire. If the propagation delay varies over the life of the lease (e.g. the client is on a mobile host), the client will need to continuously subtract the increase in propagation delay from the copy lease times.

The server's copy lease period configuration should take into account the network distance of the clients that will be accessing the server's resources. It is expected that the lease period will take into account the network propagation delays and other network delay factors for the client population. Since the protocol does not allow for an automatic method to determine an appropriate copy lease period, the server's administrator may have to tune the copy lease period.

A successful response will also contain a list of names, addresses, and URLs called `cnr_source_server`, on which the source is willing to accept connections from the destination. These might not be reachable from the client and might be located on networks to which the client has no connection.

If the client wishes to perform an inter-server copy, the client **MUST** send a `COPY_NOTIFY` to the source server. Therefore, the source server **MUST** support `COPY_NOTIFY`.

For a copy only involving one server (the source and destination are on the same server), this operation is unnecessary.

The `COPY_NOTIFY` operation may fail for the following reasons (this is

a partial list):

NFS4ERR\_MOVED: The file system which contains the source file is not present on the source server. The client can determine the correct location and reissue the operation with the correct location.

NFS4ERR\_NOTSUPP: The copy offload operation is not supported by the NFS server receiving this request.

NFS4ERR\_WRONGSEC: The security mechanism being used by the client does not match the server's security policy.

#### 4.3. Operation V: COPY\_REVOKE - Revoke a destination server's copy privileges

##### ARGUMENTS

```
struct COPY_REVOKE4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: source file */
    netloc4      cra_destination_server;
};
```

##### RESULTS

```
struct COPY_REVOKE4res {
    nfsstat4      crr_status;
};
```

##### DESCRIPTION

This operation is used for an inter-server copy. A client sends this operation in a COMPOUND request to the source server to revoke the authorization of a destination server identified by `cra_destination_server` from reading the file specified by `CURRENT_FH` on behalf of given user. If the `cra_destination_server` has already begun copying the file, a successful return from this operation indicates that further access will be prevented.

The `cra_destination_server` MUST be specified using the `netloc4` network location format. The server is not required to resolve the `cra_destination_server` address before completing this operation.

The `COPY_REVOKE` operation is useful in situations in which the source server granted a very long or infinite lease on the destination server's ability to read the source file and all copy operations on the source file have been completed.

For a copy only involving one server (the source and destination are on the same server), this operation is unnecessary.

If the server supports COPY\_NOTIFY, the server is REQUIRED to support the COPY\_REVOKE operation.

The COPY\_REVOKE operation may fail for the following reasons (this is a partial list):

NFS4ERR\_MOVED: The file system which contains the source file is not present on the source server. The client can determine the correct location and reissue the operation with the correct location.

NFS4ERR\_NOTSUPP: The copy offload operation is not supported by the NFS server receiving this request.

#### 4.4. Operation W: COPY - Initiate a server-side copy

##### ARGUMENTS

```
#define COPY4_GUARDED          = 0x00000001;
#define COPY4_METADATA        = 0x00000002;

struct COPY4args {
    /* SAVED_FH: source file */
    /* CURRENT_FH: destination file or */
    /*          directory          */
    offset4      ca_src_offset;
    offset4      ca_dst_offset;
    length4      ca_count;
    uint32_t     ca_flags;
    component4   ca_destination;
    netloc4      ca_source_server<>;
};
```

##### RESULTS

```
union COPY4res switch (nfsstat4 cr_status) {
    /* CURRENT_FH: destination file */
    case NFS4_OK:
        stateid4      cr_callback_id<1>;
    default:
        length4       cr_bytes_copied;
};
```

##### DESCRIPTION

The COPY operation is used for both intra- and inter-server copies. In both cases, the COPY is always sent from the client to the destination server of the file copy. The COPY operation requests that a file be copied from the location specified by the `SAVED_FH` value to the location specified by the combination of `CURRENT_FH` and `ca_destination`.

The `SAVED_FH` must be a regular file. If `SAVED_FH` is not a regular file, the operation MUST fail and return `NFS4ERR_WRONG_TYPE`.

In order to set `SAVED_FH` to the source file handle, the compound procedure requesting the COPY will include a sub-sequence of operations such as

```
PUTFH source-fh
SAVEFH
```

If the request is for a server-to-server copy, the `source-fh` is a filehandle from the source server and the compound procedure is being executed on the destination server. In this case, the `source-fh` is a foreign filehandle on the server receiving the COPY request. If either `PUTFH` or `SAVEFH` checked the validity of the filehandle, the operation would likely fail and return `NFS4ERR_STALE`.

In order to avoid this problem, the minor version incorporating the COPY operations will need to make a few small changes in the handling of existing operations. If a server supports the server-to-server COPY feature, a `PUTFH` followed by a `SAVEFH` MUST NOT return `NFS4ERR_STALE` for either operation. These restrictions do not pose substantial difficulties for servers. The `CURRENT_FH` and `SAVED_FH` may be validated in the context of the operation referencing them and an `NFS4ERR_STALE` error returned for an invalid file handle at that point.

The `CURRENT_FH` and `ca_destination` together specify the destination of the copy operation. If `ca_destination` is of 0 (zero) length, then `CURRENT_FH` specifies the target file. In this case, `CURRENT_FH` MUST be a regular file and not a directory. If `ca_destination` is not of 0 (zero) length, the `ca_destination` argument specifies the file name to which the data will be copied within the directory identified by `CURRENT_FH`. In this case, `CURRENT_FH` MUST be a directory and not a regular file.

If the file named by `ca_destination` does not exist and the operation completes successfully, the file will be visible in the file system namespace. If the file does not exist and the operation fails, the file MAY be visible in the file system namespace depending on when the failure occurs and on the implementation of the NFS server

receiving the COPY operation. If the `ca_destination` name cannot be created in the destination file system (due to file name restrictions, such as case or length), the operation MUST fail.

The `ca_src_offset` is the offset within the source file from which the data will be read, the `ca_dst_offset` is the offset within the destination file to which the data will be written, and the `ca_count` is the number of bytes that will be copied. An offset of 0 (zero) specifies the start of the file. A count of 0 (zero) requests that all bytes from `ca_src_offset` through EOF be copied to the destination. If concurrent modifications to the source file overlap with the source file region being copied, the data copied may include all, some, or none of the modifications. The client can use standard NFS operations (e.g. OPEN with OPEN4\_SHARE\_DENY\_WRITE or mandatory byte range locks) to protect against concurrent modifications if the client is concerned about this. If the source file's end of file is being modified in parallel with a copy that specifies a count of 0 (zero) bytes, the amount of data copied is implementation dependent (clients may guard against this case by specifying a non-zero count value or preventing modification of the source file as mentioned above).

If the source offset or the source offset plus count is greater than or equal to the size of the source file, the operation will fail with NFS4ERR\_INVAL. The destination offset or destination offset plus count may be greater than the size of the destination file. This allows for the client to issue parallel copies to implement operations such as "cat file1 file2 file3 file4 > dest".

If the destination file is created as a result of this command, the destination file's size will be equal to the number of bytes successfully copied. If the destination file already existed, the destination file's size may increase as a result of this operation (e.g. if `ca_dst_offset` plus `ca_count` is greater than the destination's initial size).

If the `ca_source_server` list is specified, then this is an inter-server copy operation and the source file is on a remote server. The client is expected to have previously issued a successful COPY\_NOTIFY request to the remote source server. The `ca_source_server` list SHOULD be the same as the COPY\_NOTIFY response's `cnr_source_server` list. If the client includes the entries from the COPY\_NOTIFY response's `cnr_source_server` list in the `ca_source_server` list, the source server can indicate a specific copy protocol for the destination server to use by returning a URL, which specifies both a protocol service and server name. Server-to-server copy protocol considerations are described in Section 3.3 and Section 5.1.

The `ca_flags` argument allows the copy operation to be customized in the following ways using the guarded flag (`COPY4_GUARDED`) and the metadata flag (`COPY4_METADATA`).

[NOTE: Earlier versions of this document defined a `COPY4_SPACE_RESERVED` flag for controlling space reservations on the destination file. This flag has been removed with the expectation that the `space_reserve` attribute defined in [SPACE-RESERVE] will be adopted.]

If the guarded flag is set and the destination exists on the server, this operation will fail with `NFS4ERR_EXIST`.

If the guarded flag is not set and the destination exists on the server, the behavior is implementation dependent.

If the metadata flag is set and the client is requesting a whole file copy (i.e. `ca_count` is 0 (zero)), a subset of the destination file's attributes **MUST** be the same as the source file's corresponding attributes and a subset of the destination file's attributes **SHOULD** be the same as the source file's corresponding attributes. The attributes in the **MUST** and **SHOULD** copy subsets will be defined for each NFS version.

For NFSv4.1, Table 1 and Table 2 list the **REQUIRED** and **RECOMMENDED** attributes respectively. A "MUST" in the "Copy to destination file?" column indicates that the attribute is part of the **MUST** copy set. A "SHOULD" in the "Copy to destination file?" column indicates that the attribute is part of the **SHOULD** copy set.

Name	Id	Copy to destination file?
supported_attrs	0	no
type	1	MUST
fh_expire_type	2	no
change	3	SHOULD
size	4	MUST
link_support	5	no
symlink_support	6	no
named_attr	7	no
fsid	8	no
unique_handles	9	no
lease_time	10	no
rdattr_error	11	no
filehandle	19	no
suppattr_exclcreat	75	no

Table 1

Name	Id	Copy to destination file?
acl	12	MUST
aclsupport	13	no
archive	14	no
cansettime	15	no
case_insensitive	16	no
case_preserving	17	no
change_policy	60	no
chown_restricted	18	MUST
dacl	58	MUST
dir_notif_delay	56	no
dirent_notif_delay	57	no
fileid	20	no
files_avail	21	no
files_free	22	no
files_total	23	no
fs_charset_cap	76	no
fs_layout_type	62	no
fs_locations	24	no
fs_locations_info	67	no
fs_status	61	no
hidden	25	MUST
homogeneous	26	no
layout_alignment	66	no
layout_blksize	65	no

layout_hint	63	no
layout_type	64	no
maxfilesize	27	no
maxlink	28	no
maxname	29	no
maxread	30	no
maxwrite	31	no
mdsthreshold	68	no
mimetype	32	MUST
mode	33	MUST
mode_set_masked	74	no
mounted_on_fileid	55	no
no_trunc	34	no
numlinks	35	no
owner	36	MUST
owner_group	37	MUST
quota_avail_hard	38	no
quota_avail_soft	39	no
quota_used	40	no
rawdev	41	no
retentevt_get	71	MUST
retentevt_set	72	no
retention_get	69	MUST
retention_hold	73	MUST
retention_set	70	no
sacl	59	MUST
space_avail	42	no
space_free	43	no
space_total	44	no
space_used	45	no
system	46	MUST
time_access	47	MUST
time_access_set	48	no
time_backup	49	no
time_create	50	MUST
time_delta	51	no
time_metadata	52	SHOULD
time_modify	53	MUST
time_modify_set	54	no

Table 2

[NOTE: The space\_reserve attribute [SPACE-RESERVE] will be in the MUST set.]

[NOTE: The source file's attribute values will take precedence over any attribute values inherited by the destination file.]

In the case of an inter-server copy or an intra-server copy between file systems, the attributes supported for the source file and destination file could be different. By definition, the REQUIRED attributes will be supported in all cases. If the metadata flag is set and the source file has a RECOMMENDED attribute that is not supported for the destination file, the copy MUST fail with NFS4ERR\_ATTRNOTSUPP.

Any attribute supported by the destination server that is not set on the source file SHOULD be left unset.

Metadata attributes not exposed via the NFS protocol SHOULD be copied to the destination file where appropriate.

The destination file's named attributes are not duplicated from the source file. After the copy process completes, the client MAY attempt to duplicate named attributes using standard NFSv4 operations. However, the destination file's named attribute capabilities MAY be different from the source file's named attribute capabilities.

If the metadata flag is not set and the client is requesting a whole file copy (i.e. ca\_count is 0 (zero)), the destination file's metadata is implementation dependent.

If the client is requesting a partial file copy (i.e. ca\_count is not 0 (zero)), the client SHOULD NOT set the metadata flag and the server MUST ignore the metadata flag.

If the operation does not result in an immediate failure, the server will return NFS4\_OK, and the CURRENT\_FH will remain the destination's filehandle.

If an immediate failure does occur, cr\_bytes\_copied will be set to the number of bytes copied to the destination file before the error occurred. The cr\_bytes\_copied value indicates the number of bytes copied but not which specific bytes have been copied.

A return of NFS4\_OK indicates that either the operation is complete or the operation was initiated and a callback will be used to deliver the final status of the operation.

If the cr\_callback\_id is returned, this indicates that the operation was initiated and a CB\_COPY callback will deliver the final results of the operation. The cr\_callback\_id stateid is termed a copy stateid in this context. The server is given the option of returning the results in a callback because the data may require a relatively long period of time to copy.

If no `cr_callback_id` is returned, the operation completed synchronously and no callback will be issued by the server. The completion status of the operation is indicated by `cr_status`.

If the copy completes successfully, either synchronously or asynchronously, the data copied from the source file to the destination file **MUST** appear identical to the NFS client. However, the NFS server's on disk representation of the data in the source file and destination file **MAY** differ. For example, the NFS server might encrypt, compress, deduplicate, or otherwise represent the on disk data in the source and destination file differently.

In the event of a failure the state of the destination file is implementation dependent. The COPY operation may fail for the following reasons (this is a partial list).

**NFS4ERR\_MOVED:** The file system which contains the source file, or the destination file or directory is not present. The client can determine the correct location and reissue the operation with the correct location.

**NFS4ERR\_NOTSUPP:** The copy offload operation is not supported by the NFS server receiving this request.

**NFS4ERR\_PARTNER\_NOTSUPP:** The remote server does not support the server-to-server copy offload protocol.

**NFS4ERR\_PARTNER\_NO\_AUTH:** The remote server does not authorize a server-to-server copy offload operation. This may be due to the client's failure to send the COPY\_NOTIFY operation to the remote server, the remote server receiving a server-to-server copy offload request after the copy lease time expired, or for some other permission problem.

**NFS4ERR\_FBIG:** The copy operation would have caused the file to grow beyond the server's limit.

**NFS4ERR\_NOTDIR:** The `CURRENT_FH` is a file and `ca_destination` has non-zero length.

**NFS4ERR\_WRONG\_TYPE:** The `SAVED_FH` is not a regular file.

**NFS4ERR\_ISDIR:** The `CURRENT_FH` is a directory and `ca_destination` has zero length.

NFS4ERR\_INVAL: The source offset or offset plus count are greater than or equal to the size of the source file.

NFS4ERR\_DELAY: The server does not have the resources to perform the copy operation at the current time. The client should retry the operation sometime in the future.

NFS4ERR\_METADATA\_NOTSUPP: The destination file cannot support the same metadata as the source file.

NFS4ERR\_WRONGSEC: The security mechanism being used by the client does not match the server's security policy.

#### 4.5. Operation X: COPY\_ABORT - Cancel a server-side copy

##### ARGUMENTS

```
struct COPY_ABORT4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: destination file */
    stateid4      caa_stateid;
};
```

##### RESULTS

```
struct COPY_ABORT4res {
    nfsstat4      car_status;
};
```

##### DESCRIPTION

COPY\_ABORT is used for both intra- and inter-server asynchronous copies. The COPY\_ABORT operation allows the client to cancel a server-side copy operation that it initiated. This operation is sent in a COMPOUND request from the client to the destination server. This operation may be used to cancel a copy when the application that requested the copy exits before the operation is completed or for some other reason.

The request contains the filehandle and copy stateid cookies that act as the context for the previously initiated copy operation.

The result's car\_status field indicates whether the cancel was successful or not. A value of NFS4\_OK indicates that the copy operation was canceled and no callback will be issued by the server. A copy operation that is successfully canceled may result in none, some, or all of the data copied.

If the server supports asynchronous copies, the server is REQUIRED to

support the COPY\_ABORT operation.

The COPY\_ABORT operation may fail for the following reasons (this is a partial list):

NFS4ERR\_NOTSUPP: The abort operation is not supported by the NFS server receiving this request.

NFS4ERR\_RETRY: The abort failed, but a retry at some time in the future MAY succeed.

NFS4ERR\_COMPLETE\_ALREADY: The abort failed, and a callback will deliver the results of the copy operation.

NFS4ERR\_SERVERFAULT: An error occurred on the server that does not map to a specific error code.

#### 4.6. Operation Y: COPY\_STATUS - Poll for status of a server-side copy

##### ARGUMENTS

```
struct COPY_STATUS4args {
    /* CURRENT_FH: destination file */
    stateid4      csa_stateid;
};
```

##### RESULTS

```
union COPY_STATUS4res switch (nfsstat4 csr_status) {
case NFS4_OK:
    length4      csr_bytes_copied;
    nfsstat4     csr_complete<1>;
default:
    void;
};
```

##### DESCRIPTION

COPY\_STATUS is used for both intra- and inter-server asynchronous copies. The COPY\_STATUS operation allows the client to poll the server to determine the status of an asynchronous copy operation. This operation is sent by the client to the destination server.

If this operation is successful, the number of bytes copied are returned to the client in the `csr_bytes_copied` field. The `csr_bytes_copied` value indicates the number of bytes copied but not which specific bytes have been copied.

If the optional `csr_complete` field is present, the copy has completed. In this case the status value indicates the result of the asynchronous copy operation. In all cases, the server will also deliver the final results of the asynchronous copy in a `CB_COPY` operation.

The failure of this operation does not indicate the result of the asynchronous copy in any way.

If the server supports asynchronous copies, the server is REQUIRED to support the `COPY_STATUS` operation.

The `COPY_STATUS` operation may fail for the following reasons (this is a partial list):

`NFS4ERR_NOTSUPP`: The copy status operation is not supported by the NFS server receiving this request.

`NFS4ERR_BAD_STATEID`: The stateid is not valid (see Section 4.8 below).

`NFS4ERR_EXPIRED`: The stateid has expired (see Copy Offload Stateid section below).

#### 4.7. Operation Z: `CB_COPY` - Report results of a server-side copy

##### ARGUMENTS

```
union copy_info4 switch (nfsstat4 cca_status) {
  case NFS4_OK:
    void;
  default:
    length4      cca_bytes_copied;
};

struct CB_COPY4args {
  nfs_fh4      cca_fh;
  stateid4     cca_stateid;
  copy_info4   cca_copy_info;
};
```

##### RESULTS

```
struct CB_COPY4res {
  nfsstat4     ccr_status;
};
```

##### DESCRIPTION

CB\_COPY is used for both intra- and inter-server asynchronous copies. The CB\_COPY callback informs the client of the result of an asynchronous server-side copy. This operation is sent by the destination server to the client in a CB\_COMPOUND request. The copy is identified by the filehandle and stateid arguments. The result is indicated by the status field. If the copy failed, `cca_bytes_copied` contains the number of bytes copied before the failure occurred. The `cca_bytes_copied` value indicates the number of bytes copied but not which specific bytes have been copied.

In the absence of an established backchannel, the server cannot signal the completion of the COPY via a CB\_COPY callback. The loss of a callback channel would be indicated by the server setting the `SEQ4_STATUS_CB_PATH_DOWN` flag in the `sr_status_flags` field of the SEQUENCE operation. The client must re-establish the callback channel to receive the status of the COPY operation. Prolonged loss of the callback channel could result in the server dropping the COPY operation state and invalidating the copy stateid.

If the client supports the COPY operation, the client is REQUIRED to support the CB\_COPY operation.

The CB\_COPY operation may fail for the following reasons (this is a partial list):

NFS4ERR\_NOTSUPP: The copy offload operation is not supported by the NFS client receiving this request.

#### 4.8. Copy Offload Stateids

A server may perform a copy offload operation asynchronously. An asynchronous copy is tracked using a copy offload stateid. Copy offload stateids are included in the COPY, COPY\_ABORT, COPY\_STATUS, and CB\_COPY operations.

Section 8.2.4 of [RFC5661] specifies that stateids are valid until either (A) the client or server restart or (B) the client returns the resource.

A copy offload stateid will be valid until either (A) the client or server restart or (B) the client returns the resource by issuing a COPY\_ABORT operation or the client replies to a CB\_COPY operation.

A copy offload stateid's seqid MUST NOT be 0 (zero). In the context of a copy offload operation, it is ambiguous to indicate the most recent copy offload operation using a stateid with seqid of 0 (zero). Therefore a copy offload stateid with seqid of 0 (zero) MUST be considered invalid.

## 5. Security Considerations

The security considerations pertaining to NFSv4 [RFC3530] apply to this document.

The standard security mechanisms provide by NFSv4 [RFC3530] may be used to secure the protocol described in this document.

NFSv4 clients and servers supporting the the inter-server copy operations described in this document are REQUIRED to implement [RPCSEC\_GSSv3], including the RPCSEC\_GSSv3 privileges `copy_from_auth` and `copy_to_auth`. If the server-to-server copy protocol is ONC RPC based, the servers are also REQUIRED to implement the RPCSEC\_GSSv3 privilege `copy_confirm_auth`. These requirements to implement are not requirements to use. NFSv4 clients and servers are RECOMMENDED to use [RPCSEC\_GSSv3] to secure server-side copy operations.

### 5.1. Inter-Server Copy Security

#### 5.1.1. Requirements for Secure Inter-Server Copy

Inter-server copy is driven by several requirements:

- o The specification MUST NOT mandate an inter-server copy protocol. There are many ways to copy data. Some will be more optimal than others depending on the identities of the source server and destination server. For example the source and destination servers might be two nodes sharing a common file system format for the source and destination file systems. Thus the source and destination are in an ideal position to efficiently render the image of the source file to the destination file by replicating the file system formats at the block level. In other cases, the source and destination might be two nodes sharing a common storage area network, and thus there is no need to copy any data at all, and instead ownership of the file and its contents simply gets re-assigned to the destination.
- o The specification MUST provide guidance for using NFSv4.x as a copy protocol. For those source and destination servers willing to use NFSv4.x there are specific security considerations that this specification can and does address.
- o The specification MUST NOT mandate pre-configuration between the source and destination server. Requiring that the source and destination first have a "copying relationship" increases the administrative burden. However the specification MUST NOT preclude implementations that require pre-configuration.

- o The specification MUST NOT mandate a trust relationship between the source and destination server. The NFSv4 security model requires mutual authentication between a principal on an NFS client and a principal on an NFS server. This model MUST continue with the introduction of COPY.

#### 5.1.2. Inter-Server Copy with RPCSEC\_GSSv3

When the client sends a COPY\_NOTIFY to the source server to expect the destination to attempt to copy data from the source server, it is expected that this copy is being done on behalf of the principal (called the "user principal") that sent the RPC request that encloses the COMPOUND procedure that contains the COPY\_NOTIFY operation. The user principal is identified by the RPC credentials. A mechanism that allows the user principal to authorize the destination server to perform the copy in a manner that lets the source server properly authenticate the destination's copy, and without allowing the destination to exceed its authorization is necessary.

An approach that sends delegated credentials of the client's user principal to the destination server is not used for the following reasons. If the client's user delegated its credentials, the destination would authenticate as the user principal. If the destination were using the NFSv4 protocol to perform the copy, then the source server would authenticate the destination server as the user principal, and the file copy would securely proceed. However, this approach would allow the destination server to copy other files. The user principal would have to trust the destination server to not do so. This is counter to the requirements, and therefore is not considered. Instead an approach using RPCSEC\_GSSv3 [RPCSEC\_GSSv3] privileges is proposed.

One of the stated applications of the proposed RPCSEC\_GSSv3 protocol is compound client host and user authentication [+ privilege assertion]. For inter-server file copy, we require compound NFS server host and user authentication [+ privilege assertion]. The distinction between the two is one without meaning.

RPCSEC\_GSSv3 introduces the notion of privileges. We define three privileges:

copy\_from\_auth: A user principal is authorizing a source principal ("nfs@<source>") to allow a destination principal ("nfs@<destination>") to copy a file from the source to the destination. This privilege is established on the source server before the user principal sends a COPY\_NOTIFY operation to the source server.

```
typedef string secret4<>;

struct copy_from_auth_priv {
    secret4          cfap_shared_secret;
    netloc4          cfap_destination;
    /* the NFSv4 user name that the user principal maps to */
    utf8str_mixed    cfap_username;
    /* equal to seq_num of rpc_gss_cred_vers_3_t */
    unsigned int     cfap_seq_num;
};
```

cap\_shared\_secret is a secret value the user principal generates.

copy\_to\_auth: A user principal is authorizing a destination principal ("nfs@<destination>") to allow it to copy a file from the source to the destination. This privilege is established on the destination server before the user principal sends a COPY operation to the destination server.

```
struct copy_to_auth_priv {
    /* equal to cfap_shared_secret */
    secret4          ctap_shared_secret;
    netloc4          ctap_source;
    /* the NFSv4 user name that the user principal maps to */
    utf8str_mixed    ctap_username;
    /* equal to seq_num of rpc_gss_cred_vers_3_t */
    unsigned int     ctap_seq_num;
};
```

ctap\_shared\_secret is a secret value the user principal generated and was used to establish the copy\_from\_auth privilege with the source principal.

copy\_confirm\_auth: A destination principal is confirming with the source principal that it is authorized to copy data from the source on behalf of the user principal. When the inter-server copy protocol is NFSv4, or for that matter, any protocol capable of being secured via RPCSEC\_GSSv3 (i.e. any ONC RPC protocol), this privilege is established before the file is copied from the source to the destination.

```

struct copy_confirm_auth_priv {
    /* equal to GSS_GetMIC() of cfap_shared_secret */
    opaque                ccap_shared_secret_mic<>;
    /* the NFSv4 user name that the user principal maps to */
    utf8str_mixed         ccap_username;
    /* equal to seq_num of rpc_gss_cred_vers_3_t */
    unsigned int          ccap_seq_num;
};

```

#### 5.1.2.1. Establishing a Security Context

When the user principal wants to COPY a file between two servers, if it has not established `copy_from_auth` and `copy_to_auth` privileges on the servers, it establishes them:

- o The user principal generates a secret it will share with the two servers. This shared secret will be placed in the `cfap_shared_secret` and `ctap_shared_secret` fields of the appropriate privilege data types, `copy_from_auth_priv` and `copy_to_auth_priv`.
- o An instance of `copy_from_auth_priv` is filled in with the shared secret, the destination server, and the NFSv4 user id of the user principal. It will be sent with an `RPCSEC_GSS3_CREATE` procedure, and so `cfap_seq_num` is set to the `seq_num` of the credential of the `RPCSEC_GSS3_CREATE` procedure. Because `cfap_shared_secret` is a secret, after XDR encoding `copy_from_auth_priv`, `GSS_Wrap()` (with privacy) is invoked on `copy_from_auth_priv`. The `RPCSEC_GSS3_CREATE` procedure's arguments are:

```

struct {
    rpc_gss3_gss_binding    *compound_binding;
    rpc_gss3_chan_binding  *chan_binding_mic;
    rpc_gss3_assertion      assertions<>;
    rpc_gss3_extension      extensions<>;
} rpc_gss3_create_args;

```

The string "copy\_from\_auth" is placed in `assertions[0].privs`. The output of `GSS_Wrap()` is placed in `extensions[0].data`. The field `extensions[0].critical` is set to `TRUE`. The source server calls `GSS_Unwrap()` on the privilege, and verifies that the `seq_num` matches the credential. It then verifies that the NFSv4 user id being asserted matches the source server's mapping of the user principal. If it does, the privilege is established on the source server as: <"copy\_from\_auth", user id, destination>. The successful reply to `RPCSEC_GSS3_CREATE` has:

```

struct {
    opaque                handle<>;
    rpc_gss3_chan_binding *chan_binding_mic;
    rpc_gss3_assertion    granted_assertions<>;
    rpc_gss3_assertion    server_assertions<>;
    rpc_gss3_extension    extensions<>;
} rpc_gss3_create_res;

```

The field "handle" is the RPCSEC\_GSSv3 handle that the client will use on COPY\_NOTIFY requests involving the source and destination server. granted\_assertions[0].privs will be equal to "copy\_from\_auth". The server will return a GSS\_Wrap() of copy\_to\_auth\_priv.

- o An instance of copy\_to\_auth\_priv is filled in with the shared secret, the source server, and the NFSv4 user id. It will be sent with an RPCSEC\_GSS3\_CREATE procedure, and so ctap\_seq\_num is set to the seq\_num of the credential of the RPCSEC\_GSS3\_CREATE procedure. Because ctap\_shared\_secret is a secret, after XDR encoding copy\_to\_auth\_priv, GSS\_Wrap() is invoked on copy\_to\_auth\_priv. The RPCSEC\_GSS3\_CREATE procedure's arguments are:

```

struct {
    rpc_gss3_gss_binding    *compound_binding;
    rpc_gss3_chan_binding  *chan_binding_mic;
    rpc_gss3_assertion     assertions<>;
    rpc_gss3_extension     extensions<>;
} rpc_gss3_create_args;

```

The string "copy\_to\_auth" is placed in assertions[0].privs. The output of GSS\_Wrap() is placed in extensions[0].data. The field extensions[0].critical is set to TRUE. After unwrapping, verifying the seq\_num, and the user principal to NFSv4 user ID mapping, the destination establishes a privilege of <"copy\_to\_auth", user id, source>. The successful reply to RPCSEC\_GSS3\_CREATE has:

```

struct {
    opaque                handle<>;
    rpc_gss3_chan_binding *chan_binding_mic;
    rpc_gss3_assertion    granted_assertions<>;
    rpc_gss3_assertion    server_assertions<>;
    rpc_gss3_extension    extensions<>;
}

```

```
} rpc_gss3_create_res;
```

The field "handle" is the RPCSEC\_GSSv3 handle that the client will use on COPY requests involving the source and destination server. The field granted\_assertions[0].privs will be equal to "copy\_to\_auth". The server will return a GSS\_Wrap() of copy\_to\_auth\_priv.

#### 5.1.2.2. Starting a Secure Inter-Server Copy

When the client sends a COPY\_NOTIFY request to the source server, it uses the privileged "copy\_from\_auth" RPCSEC\_GSSv3 handle. cna\_destination\_server in COPY\_NOTIFY MUST be the same as the name of the destination server specified in copy\_from\_auth\_priv. Otherwise, COPY\_NOTIFY will fail with NFS4ERR\_ACCESS. The source server verifies that the privilege <"copy\_from\_auth", user id, destination> exists, and annotates it with the source filehandle, if the user principal has read access to the source file, and if administrative policies give the user principal and the NFS client read access to the source file (i.e. if the ACCESS operation would grant read access). Otherwise, COPY\_NOTIFY will fail with NFS4ERR\_ACCESS.

When the client sends a COPY request to the destination server, it uses the privileged "copy\_to\_auth" RPCSEC\_GSSv3 handle. ca\_source\_server in COPY MUST be the same as the name of the source server specified in copy\_to\_auth\_priv. Otherwise, COPY will fail with NFS4ERR\_ACCESS. The destination server verifies that the privilege <"copy\_to\_auth", user id, source> exists, and annotates it with the source and destination filehandles. If the client has failed to establish the "copy\_to\_auth" policy it will reject the request with NFS4ERR\_PARTNER\_NO\_AUTH.

If the client sends a COPY\_REVOKE to the source server to rescind the destination server's copy privilege, it uses the privileged "copy\_from\_auth" RPCSEC\_GSSv3 handle and the cra\_destination\_server in COPY\_REVOKE MUST be the same as the name of the destination server specified in copy\_from\_auth\_priv. The source server will then delete the <"copy\_from\_auth", user id, destination> privilege and fail any subsequent copy requests sent under the auspices of this privilege from the destination server.

#### 5.1.2.3. Securing ONC RPC Server-to-Server Copy Protocols

After a destination server has a "copy\_to\_auth" privilege established on it, and it receives a COPY request, if it knows it will use an ONC RPC protocol to copy data, it will establish a "copy\_confirm\_auth" privilege on the source server, using nfs@<destination> as the

initiator principal, and `nfs@<source>` as the target principal.

The value of the field `ccap_shared_secret_mic` is a `GSS_VerifyMIC()` of the shared secret passed in the `copy_to_auth` privilege. The field `ccap_username` is the mapping of the user principal to an NFSv4 user name ("user"@domain form), and MUST be the same as `ctap_username` and `cfap_username`. The field `ccap_seq_num` is the `seq_num` of the `RPCSEC_GSSv3` credential used for the `RPCSEC_GSS3_CREATE` procedure the destination will send to the source server to establish the privilege.

The source server verifies the privilege, and establishes a `<"copy_confirm_auth", user id, destination>` privilege. If the source server fails to verify the privilege, the COPY operation will be rejected with `NFS4ERR_PARTNER_NO_AUTH`. All subsequent ONC RPC requests sent from the destination to copy data from the source to the destination will use the `RPCSEC_GSSv3` handle returned by the source's `RPCSEC_GSS3_CREATE` response.

Note that the use of the "copy\_confirm\_auth" privilege accomplishes the following:

- o if a protocol like NFS is being used, with export policies, export policies can be overridden in case the destination server as-an-NFS-client is not authorized
- o manual configuration to allow a copy relationship between the source and destination is not needed.

If the attempt to establish a "copy\_confirm\_auth" privilege fails, then when the user principal sends a COPY request to destination, the destination server will reject it with `NFS4ERR_PARTNER_NO_AUTH`.

#### 5.1.2.4. Securing Non ONC RPC Server-to-Server Copy Protocols

If the destination won't be using ONC RPC to copy the data, then the source and destination are using an unspecified copy protocol. The destination could use the shared secret and the NFSv4 user id to prove to the source server that the user principal has authorized the copy.

For protocols that authenticate user names with passwords (e.g. HTTP [RFC2616] and FTP [RFC0959]), the `nfsv4` user id could be used as the user name, and an ASCII hexadecimal representation of the `RPCSEC_GSSv3` shared secret could be used as the user password or as input into non-password authentication methods like CHAP [RFC1994].

## 5.1.3. Inter-Server Copy via ONC RPC but without RPCSEC\_GSSv3

ONC RPC security flavors other than RPCSEC\_GSSv3 MAY be used with the server-side copy offload operations described in this document. In particular, host-based ONC RPC security flavors such as AUTH\_NONE and AUTH\_SYS MAY be used. If a host-based security flavor is used, a minimal level of protection for the server-to-server copy protocol is possible.

In the absence of strong security mechanisms such as RPCSEC\_GSSv3, the challenge is how the source server and destination server identify themselves to each other, especially in the presence of multi-homed source and destination servers. In a multi-homed environment, the destination server might not contact the source server from the same network address specified by the client in the COPY\_NOTIFY. This can be overcome using the procedure described below.

When the client sends the source server the COPY\_NOTIFY operation, the source server may reply to the client with a list of target addresses, names, and/or URLs and assign them to the unique triple: <source fh, user ID, destination address Y>. If the destination uses one of these target netlocs to contact the source server, the source server will be able to uniquely identify the destination server, even if the destination server does not connect from the address specified by the client in COPY\_NOTIFY.

For example, suppose the network topology is as shown in Figure 3. If the source filehandle is 0x12345, the source server may respond to a COPY\_NOTIFY for destination 10.11.78.56 with the URLs:

```
nfs://10.11.78.18//_COPY/10.11.78.56/_FH/0x12345
```

```
nfs://192.168.33.18//_COPY/10.11.78.56/_FH/0x12345
```

The client will then send these URLs to the destination server in the COPY operation. Suppose that the 192.168.33.0/24 network is a high speed network and the destination server decides to transfer the file over this network. If the destination contacts the source server from 192.168.33.56 over this network using NFSv4.1, it does the following:

```
COMPOUND { PUTROOTFH, LOOKUP "_COPY" ; LOOKUP "10.11.78.56"; LOOKUP  
  "_FH" ; OPEN "0x12345" ; GETFH }
```

The source server will therefore know that these NFSv4.1 operations are being issued by the destination server identified in the COPY\_NOTIFY.

#### 5.1.4. Inter-Server Copy without ONC RPC and RPCSEC\_GSSv3

The same techniques as Section 5.1.3, using unique URLs for each destination server, can be used for other protocols (e.g. HTTP [RFC2616] and FTP [RFC0959]) as well.

## 6. IANA Considerations

This document has no actions for IANA.

## 7. References

### 7.1. Normative References

- [RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", BCP 14, RFC 2119, March 1997.
- [RFC3530] Shepler, S., Callaghan, B., Robinson, D., Thurlow, R., Beame, C., Eisler, M., and D. Noveck, "Network File System (NFS) version 4 Protocol", RFC 3530, April 2003.
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#### Appendix A. Acknowledgments

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#### Abstract

This document describes an extension to the NFSv4 protocol to allow clients to create and write files with greater efficiency.

The first proposal allows the server to defer creating the file on stable storage when replying to an OPEN call. The aim is to improve server efficiency and scalability by reducing the number of required disk accesses when writing a file from scratch.

The second proposal allows the server to share information about the implementation of its change attribute with the client. The aim is to improve the client's ability to determine the order in which parallel updates to the same file were processed.

#### Keywords

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119].

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## 1. Introduction

One of the remaining sources of performance and scalability issues in the NFSv4.1 protocol [RFC5661], for workloads that require the creation of large numbers of files, is that file creation is still required to be synchronous. This limitation means that the minimum number of disk accesses in a workload that involves creating a file, writing to it and then closing it is 2: one at OPEN time, and one at COMMIT. The following proposal allows the client to indicate to the server, by means of a new attribute, that it is prepared to take on the burden of re-creating the file from scratch if the server should reboot before the file has been fully written. The same attribute also allows the client to check on the state of the file on the server, and thus perhaps to optimise away unnecessary COMMIT requests.

Another frequent source of inefficiencies is due to the lack of clarity in the protocol defining the change attribute. While the change attribute itself is a mandatory attribute, it is not sufficiently well defined to allow the client to conclude which value represents the current state of the file, after two COMPOUNDS, both containing WRITE and GETATTR requests for the same file, have been sent in parallel. In some cases, the only recourse available to the client may be to send a third COMPOUND containing a GETATTR after receiving the responses to the first two. The solution is to allow the server to share details about how the change attribute is expected to evolve in this kind of situation.

## 2. Definition of the 'stable\_state' per-file attribute

```
const NFS4_UNSTABLE_METADATA = 0x00000001;
const NFS4_UNSTABLE_DATA     = 0x00000002;
const NFS4_UNSTABLE_PNFS    = 0x00000004;
```

Name	Id	Data Type	Acc
stable_state	XX	uint32_t	R W

The attribute 'stable\_state' is an optional per-file attribute that can be used by the client to determine whether or not the server believes that all metadata and data has been committed to persistent storage. It is expected that clients may wish to poll it as part of a post-op attribute request or an attribute refresh.

- o If the server returns a zero value, then the client may assume that all metadata and data changes that were made since the server last rebooted have been committed to persistent storage.
- o If the server sets the bits NFS4\_UNSTABLE\_METADATA and/or NFS4\_UNSTABLE\_DATA, then this means that there may be respectively metadata, or data that has not been synced to disk. The client should be prepared to send a COMMIT request in order to ensure persistence of metadata and data.
- o If the server sets the bit NFS4\_UNSTABLE\_PNFS, then this indicates that there are outstanding layouts for write, and thus the state of the file may not be fully known to the server.

A naive server may choose to implement 'stable\_state' in terms of a simple flag: it sets NFS4\_UNSTABLE\_DATA when it receives an unstable WRITE request, sets NFS4\_UNSTABLE\_METADATA when it receives an unstable OPEN or SETATTR requests and clears both flags when it receives a COMMIT. While such an implementation may not be as useful for avoiding unnecessary COMMIT operations, it is sufficient to support unstable OPEN and SETATTR.

### 2.1. Use of the 'stable\_state' attribute for unstable OPEN requests

We propose a new mode of file creation named "unstable file creation". By choosing this mode of creation, the client is notifying the server that it may defer syncing to disk the new file's directory entry as well as the new file metadata. In case of a server reboot, the client is then responsible for replaying the file creation if the reboot occurred before the file metadata was committed to disk.

#### 2.1.1. Client use of the 'stable\_state' attribute

In order to indicate that the client wishes to have the server use unstable file creation, it must set the NFS4\_UNSTABLE\_METADATA bit in the optional attribute 'stable\_state'. Upon return of the OPEN call, the client then checks that 'stable\_state' was indeed set by inspecting the 'attrset' bitmap in the usual way. It can assume that if the 'stable\_state' was not set, then the file has been created in persistent storage.

The client MUST NOT set the 'stable\_state' to any value other than NFS4\_UNSTABLE\_METADATA. The server SHOULD return NFS4ERR\_INVALID if it receives an invalid value.

Once the client is done making changes to the file, it may use a COMMIT to force the server to flush all data and metadata changes to persistent storage.

#### 2.1.2. Server response upon receiving an unstable OPEN request

Upon receiving an OPEN request that includes a 'stable\_state' attribute, the server MAY choose to ignore it, and simply apply the NFSv4.1 rule that all metadata must be committed to persistent storage. If so, it simply omits the 'stable\_state' bit from the returned attribute bitmap.

The server MUST NOT set the 'stable\_state' flag if the file already exists.

If the server does choose to honour the 'stable\_state' attribute, then it MUST also return a write delegation to the client. This write delegation is needed in order to allow the client to detect the recovery edge condition in which a second client attempts to rename the file or delete it just prior to a server reboot.

Once the file has been created in the server cache memory, the server is then free to process the remaining elements of the COMPOUND without syncing the new file metadata to disk.

#### 2.1.3. Delegation return and unstable OPEN

If the client returns the write delegation, then it MUST ensure that the file metadata is in a stable state. It does so by sending a COMMIT operation, unless polling has already established that the 'stable\_state' attribute no longer sets the NFS4\_UNSTABLE\_METADATA bit.

#### 2.1.4. Client unstable OPEN recovery in case of a server reboot

```
enum open_claim_type4 {
    /*
     * Not a reclaim.
     */
    CLAIM_NULL = 0,

    CLAIM_PREVIOUS = 1,
    CLAIM_DELEGATE_CUR = 2,
    CLAIM_DELEGATE_PREV = 3,

    /*
     * Not a reclaim.
     *
     * Like CLAIM_NULL, but object identified
     * by the current filehandle.
     */
    CLAIM_FH = 4, /* new to v4.1 */

    /*
     * Like CLAIM_DELEGATE_CUR, but object identified
     * by current filehandle.
     */
    CLAIM_DELEG_CUR_FH = 5, /* new to v4.1 */

    /*
     * Like CLAIM_DELEGATE_PREV, but object identified
     * by current filehandle.
     */
    CLAIM_DELEG_PREV_FH = 6, /* new to v4.1 */

    /*
     * Like CLAIM_PREVIOUS, but object identified
     * by directory filehandle + filename.
     */
    CLAIM_PREVIOUS_UNSTABLE = 7
};

union open_claim4 switch (open_claim_type4 claim) {
    /*
     * No special rights to file.
     * Ordinary OPEN of the specified file.
     */
    case CLAIM_NULL:
        /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
        component4 file;

    /*
     * Right to the file established by an
```

```
* open previous to server reboot. File
* identified by filehandle obtained at
* that time rather than by name.
*/
case CLAIM_PREVIOUS:
    /* CURRENT_FH: file being reclaimed */
    open_delegation_type4    delegate_type;

/*
* Right to file based on a delegation
* granted by the server. File is
* specified by name.
*/
case CLAIM_DELEGATE_CUR:
    /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
    open_claim_delegate_cur4    delegate_cur_info;

/*
* Right to file based on a delegation
* granted to a previous boot instance
* of the client. File is specified by name.
*/
case CLAIM_DELEGATE_PREV:
    /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
    component4    file_delegate_prev;

/*
* Like CLAIM_NULL. No special rights
* to file. Ordinary OPEN of the
* specified file by current filehandle.
*/
case CLAIM_FH: /* new to v4.1 */
    /* CURRENT_FH: regular file to open */
    void;

/*
* Like CLAIM_DELEGATE_PREV. Right to file based on a
* delegation granted to a previous boot
* instance of the client. File is identified by
* by filehandle.
*/
case CLAIM_DELEG_PREV_FH: /* new to v4.1 */
    /* CURRENT_FH: file being opened */
    void;

/*
* Like CLAIM_DELEGATE_CUR. Right to file based on
* a delegation granted by the server.
```

```
    * File is identified by filehandle.
    */
case CLAIM_DELEG_CUR_FH: /* new to v4.1 */
    /* CURRENT_FH: file being opened */
    stateid4      oc_delegate_stateid;

/*
 * Right to the file established by an
 * unstable open previous to server reboot.
 * File is specified by name.
 */
case CLAIM_PREVIOUS_UNSTABLE: /* new to v4.2 */
    /* CURRENT_FH: directory */
    component4    file_previous_unstable;
};
```

A server that supports unstable file creation SHOULD reject all CREATE and ordinary file creation attempts during the grace period using the error NFS4ERR\_GRACE in order to allow clients to recover any unstable files that may have been lost.

In order to recover the file, the client MUST replay the original OPEN that was used to create the file, using an open claim type of CLAIM\_PREVIOUS\_UNSTABLE.

- o If the server discovers that the file already exists, it treats the OPEN as if it were a CLAIM\_PREVIOUS request for a write delegation.
- o If the file does not exist, then the server creates the file in the usual fashion and returns a valid write delegation.

#### 2.1.5. Directory cache consistency and unstable files

While the client that created the file can easily recover in case of a server reboot, it is not necessarily so easy for other clients to do so. While the write delegation does indeed ensure that those clients do not hold the file open (neither do they hold any cached data), it does not guarantee that they are not caching LOOKUP or READDIR data.

In order to avoid issues with directory cache consistency across server reboots, it is therefore RECOMMENDED that servers ensure that initial file metadata be committed to persistent storage prior to replying to a another client's LOOKUP of the new file, or READDIR of the directory in which the new file was created. This will also prevent those clients from seeing filehandles and fileids that might change upon server reboot.

## 2.2. Use of the 'stable\_state' attribute in unstable SETATTR requests

If it holds a write delegation, the client may also use the 'stable\_state' attribute in a SETATTR request to indicate to the server that it is ready to replay this SETATTR in the case of a server reboot.

The procedure is the same as for OPEN. In order to indicate to the server that it wants the SETATTR request to be unstable, the client sets the 'stable\_state' attribute to the value NFS4\_UNSTABLE\_METADATA.

Again, the server MAY ignore the 'stable\_state' attribute, in which case it MUST immediately commit the attributes to stable storage, and MUST clear the 'stable\_state' bit in the returned attribute bitmap.

If the client does not hold a valid write delegation, then the server MUST also ignore the 'stable\_state' attribute.

### 2.2.1. Client unstable SETATTR recovery in case of a server reboot

If the server reboots before the client has had a chance to issue a COMMIT, then after recovering the write delegation, the client SHOULD check the server attributes against its own cached values. If there is a mismatch, then it is responsible for correcting this by replaying the relevant SETATTR calls.

### 2.2.2. Delegation return and unstable SETATTR

If the client returns the write delegation, then it MUST ensure that the file metadata is in a stable state. It does so by sending a COMMIT operation, unless polling has already established that the 'stable\_state' attribute no longer sets the NFS4\_UNSTABLE\_METADATA bit.

## 3. Definition of the 'change\_attr\_type' per-file system attribute

```
enum change_attr_typeinfo = {
    NFS4_CHANGE_TYPE_IS_MONOTONIC_INCR      = 0,
    NFS4_CHANGE_TYPE_IS_VERSION_COUNTER     = 1,
    NFS4_CHANGE_TYPE_IS_VERSION_COUNTER_NOPNFS = 2,
    NFS4_CHANGE_TYPE_IS_TIME_METADATA       = 3,
    NFS4_CHANGE_TYPE_IS_UNDEFINED           = 4
};
```

Name	Id	Data Type	Acc
change_attr_type	XX	enum change_attr_typeinfo	R

Although the original NFSv4 protocol [RFC3530] does describe a possible implementation of the change attribute in terms of the time\_metadata attribute, it does little to limit the implementation other than to state that the value changes if the file data, directory contents or attributes change.

While this allows for a wide range of implementations, it also leaves the client with a conundrum: how does it determine which is the most recent value for the change attribute in a case where several RPC calls have been issued in parallel?

The proposed solution is to have the NFS server provide additional information about how it expects the change attribute value to evolve. To do so, we provide for a new optional attribute, 'change\_attr\_type', which may take values from enum change\_attr\_typeinfo as follows:

NFS4\_CHANGE\_TYPE\_IS\_MONOTONIC\_INCR: The change attribute MUST change in a monotonically increasing manner.

NFS4\_CHANGE\_TYPE\_IS\_VERSION\_COUNTER: The change attribute MUST increment by the value "1" for every atomic change to the file data, attributes or directory contents. This property is preserved when writing to pNFS data servers.

NFS4\_CHANGE\_TYPE\_IS\_VERSION\_COUNTER\_NOPNFS: The change attribute MUST increment by the value "1" for every atomic change to the file data, attributes or directory contents. In the case where the client is writing to pNFS data servers, the number of increments is not guaranteed to exactly match the number of writes.

NFS4\_CHANGE\_TYPE\_IS\_TIME\_METADATA: The change attribute is implemented as suggested in the NFSv4 spec [RFC3530] in terms of the time\_metadata attribute.

NFS4\_CHANGE\_TYPE\_IS\_UNDEFINED: The change attribute does not take values that fit into any of these categories.

If either NFS4\_CHANGE\_TYPE\_IS\_MONOTONIC\_INCR, NFS4\_CHANGE\_TYPE\_IS\_VERSION\_COUNTER, or NFS4\_CHANGE\_TYPE\_IS\_TIME\_METADATA are set, then the client knows at the very least that the change attribute is monotonically increasing, which is sufficient to resolve the question of which value is the most recent.

If the client sees the value NFS4\_CHANGE\_TYPE\_IS\_TIME\_METADATA, then by inspecting the value of the 'time\_delta' attribute it additionally has the option of detecting rogue server implementations that use time\_metadata in violation of the spec.

Finally, if the client sees NFS4\_CHANGE\_TYPE\_IS\_VERSION\_COUNTER, it has the ability to predict what the resulting change attribute value should be after a COMPOUND containing a SETATTR, WRITE, or CREATE. This again allows it to detect changes made in parallel by another client. The value NFS4\_CHANGE\_TYPE\_IS\_VERSION\_COUNTER\_NOPNFS permits the same, but only if the client is not doing pNFS WRITES.

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