Tape Storage

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Why Tape?

- Tape is 5x - 20x less expensive than disk storage in price per GB
  - Media costs at roughly $0.12 per GB
  - Tape roadmaps show cost advantage to continue
- Data can be archived with little power usage
  - 1-2 orders of magnitude less power than disk
- High-end drive and library systems have very high reliability
  - T10k drive, SL8500 and SL3000 libraries
- Large market
  - Sun, IBM, HP and Quantum are the major tape vendors
Tape Technology

- Native cartridge capacity – 0.8 to 1.0 TB
  > Multi-TB cartridges demonstrated in lab
- Native transfer rates – 120 MB/sec
  > Compressed data rates greater than 300 MB/sec
  > 4 Gb Fibre channel interface
- Average data access time – roughly 60 secs
- Long archive life
  > Over 30 year archive life
- Continues to be an area of development and innovation
  > SL3000 library, T10k-B drive