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Implementation and Efficacy of EVENODD Coding in High-Reliability Data Storage Architectures

Yujie Zeng

School of Electronic Engineering, Fuzhou University, Fuzhou, China

Abstract:

This paper provides a comprehensive examination of EVENODD encoding and its crucial role in enhancing data recovery processes, particularly under various failure scenarios. The study initiates with a detailed analysis of the foundational principles of EVENODD coding, emphasizing its unique capability to efficiently recover data in the event of multiple disk failures. By exploring the mechanics behind the generation of redundant data through XOR operations and the creation of parity bits, the paper illustrates how EVENODD encoding achieves robust fault tolerance. The research then conducts a comparative analysis between EVENODD and other established error correction methods, such as extended Hamming codes, Reed-Solomon codes, and cross parity. These methods are evaluated based on their performance in different failure contexts, focusing on their ability to recover data and their computational efficiency. The findings reveal that EVENODD encoding significantly outperforms these alternatives in scenarios involving multiple data disk failures, offering enhanced reliability and effectiveness. This makes EVENODD a highly valuable technique for high-reliability storage systems, where data integrity is paramount. The paper concludes by proposing future research directions aimed at further optimizing the computational complexity of EVENODD encoding. Additionally, it explores the potential for EVENODD's application in distributed storage systems, where its fault tolerance capabilities could be particularly beneficial in maintaining data integrity across geographically dispersed environments.

Keywords: EVENODD encoding, High efficiency, Reliability

1. Introduction

With the rapidly increasing demand for data storage worldwide, ensuring the integrity and reliability of data has become a central challenge in the field of information technology. In modern society, vast amounts of business, financial, medical and personal data depend on complex storage systems for management and protection. With the advent of the information age, the amount of data is increasing exponentially, and the demand for data storage is increasing day by day. In this context, ensuring data integrity and reliability becomes critical. Data loss or corruption can lead to serious financial losses and information security issues, so how to effectively protect and recover data in large-scale storage systems has become a key challenge. Traditional Redundant Array of Independent Disks (RAID)[1] technology has been widely used in data storage systems since the 1980s. By distributing data across multiple disks and adding redundant information, RAID enables data recovery in the event of a disk failure. However, with the expansion of storage scale and the increase of data complexity, the traditional RAID technology has gradually shown its limitations in dealing with multi-storage unit failures. In particular, when multiple disks fail at the same time, RAID has limited recovery capability and cannot meet the requirements of a highly reliable storage system. To address this challenge, researchers have proposed a series of emerging error correction coding techniques. EVENODD encoding, as an innovative encoding method[2],[3],[4],[5], shows excellent performance in multi-disk failure scenarios. The EVENODD encoding provides an effective recovery mechanism in the event of a data disk or parity disk failure by introducing additional parity bits. Compared with the traditional RAID technology, EVENODD encoding can not only handle the failure of a single disk, but also recover data from the existing data and parity information when multiple disks fail at the same time. This multi-fault recovery capability makes EVENODD coding an important application value in highly reliable storage systems. In short, with the continuous growth of data storage requirements, the limitations of traditional RAID technology in the case of multi-storage unit failures are gradually highlighted. EVENODD encoding, as a new error correction encoding, provides an effective solution to improve the reliability of storage system with its excellent data recovery capability[6],[7],[8][9].

In the future, with further development of the technology, EVENODD encoding is expected to play a greater role in a wider range of distributed storage systems.

Specifically, this article will examine how the EVENODD encoding performs in the following ways: First, this article will analyze the recovery efficiency of the EVENODD encoding in the event of a single disk failure, where recovery is critical to evaluating the underlying performance of the encoding. Secondly, this article will explore whether EVENODD encoding can recover data effectively in the case of multiple disk failure (that is, multiple disk corruption occurs at the same time), and evaluate its recovery performance in detail. Finally, this paper will examine the computational complexity and resource consumption of EVENODD coding in different fault scenarios to determine its feasibility and efficiency in practical applications[10].

The structure of this paper is as follows: Firstly, in the introduction, the background of data storage, research problems and research objectives are introduced; Then, in the literature review, the development of error-correcting codes and RAID technology is reviewed, and the comparison between EVENODD encoding and other encoding methods is discussed in detail. Then in the basic part of the method technology model, the realization process of EVENODD encoding and its data recovery mechanism are described, and the application effect is analyzed through a practical case. In the part of experiment and model evaluation, the performance and computational efficiency of EVENODD encoding and other methods are analyzed experimentally. Finally, the conclusion and future work summarizes the research findings, and puts forward the direction of further research.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Overview of Error Correction Codes

Error Correction Codes (ECC) are coding techniques used to detect and correct errors during data transmission or storage. By introducing redundant information into the data, the data can be corrected through the redundant information when there is an error, so as to ensure the integrity and reliability of the data. The basic principle of error-correcting codes is based on the addition of redundant bits to produce a code sequence that contains both the original data and redundant information when data is transmitted or stored. The introduction of redundant information enables the receiver to detect and correct errors. For example, during data transmission, noise or other interference can cause errors such as bit flip, and error correction codes are able to recover the original data using redundant bits through their internal algorithmic mechanisms. Hamming code is one of the first single error detection and correction codes, proposed by Richard Hamming in 1950. The core idea of the Hamming code is to add a number of check bits to each block of data, which are calculated based on a particular combination of data bits. In the process of data transmission or storage, if there is an error in a bit, the Hamming code can determine the location of the error by checking the value of the bit and correct it. Reed-solomon code is a non-binary error-correcting code proposed by Reed and Solomon in 1960, which is especially suitable for working in burst error environments. Unlike Hamming codes, Reed Solomon codes operate on symbols with multiple bits (usually bytes), and are able to detect and correct errors not only for a single symbol, but also for multiple symbols, making them particularly good at handling burst errors in long strings of data. With the development of computer and communication technology, the theory and application of error correcting codes have made great progress. Early error-correcting codes focused on simple error-correcting schemes, such as Hamming codes and Reed-Solomon codes, which were able to efficiently handle single-bit or burst errors. However, with the dramatic increase in the amount of data stored and transmitted, more complex and efficient error-correcting codes have been proposed, such as LDPC (low density parity code) and Turbo codes. These modern coding methods are able to handle more complex error patterns, provide higher error detection and correction capabilities, and are also optimized in computational complexity.

Overall, the development of error correcting codes reflects the continuous progress of information technology in ensuring data integrity and reliability. From early simple coding to modern complex coding techniques, error correction codes have become an indispensable part of digital communication and storage systems

2.2 RAID and Its Limitations

Redundant Array of Independent Disks (RAID) improves the reliability and performance of data storage by storing data on multiple disks and using redundant information to provide fault tolerance. However, RAID technology has limitations in the face of multiple storage unit failures. RAID 1, 5, and 6 levels can cope with the failure of a single disk or two disks, respectively. However, if more than one disk fails at the same time, data cannot be recovered. In addition, the process of rebuilding a RAID can be time-consuming and risky, and extending an existing RAID array can introduce complexity and new failures. As data storage requirements grew, RAID's protection against multiple failure scenarios was inadequate, prompting the search for more powerful error correction encodings (such as EVENODD encodings) to compensate.

2.3 Introduction to EVENODD Coding

In high reliability data storage systems, fault recovery performance and computational complexity are important indexes to measure coding methods. EVENODD encoding differs significantly from other common error-correcting encoding methods, such as extended Hamming codes and Reed-Solomon codes, in both respects. First, EVENODD coding has significant advantages over multi-disk failures in terms of failure recovery performance. Traditional extended Hamming codes are primarily used to correct single-bit errors, and while they perform well in the case of a single data failure, they are limited in their ability to recover when multiple storage units fail. As a kind of multi-symbol error correcting code widely used in communication and storage, Reed-Solomon code can handle multiple faults, but its computational complexity is high, and it is difficult to implement in the actual storage system. In contrast, the EVENODD encoding, by generating two independent check bits, can effectively recover data in the case of two simultaneous failures, and in further extended versions, can deal with more disk failures. This enables the EVENODD encoding to provide greater reliability and flexibility in the case of multi-disk failures. Second, EVENODD coding is more efficient than other coding methods in terms of computational complexity. Extended Hamming code usually requires lower computational resources due to its limited error correction capabilities, but this also means that it is not feasible in the case of multiple failures. Although Reed-Solomon code has strong error correction ability, its computational complexity increases significantly with the increase of data length, which leads to performance bottleneck in large-scale data storage. The EVENODD encoding uses a simple algorithm based on XOR operations, which has relatively low computational complexity in generating and recovering data, and can maintain high computational efficiency even in the case of multi-disk failures. In addition, the computational complexity of the EVENODD encoding increases linearly with the number of data blocks, making it more scalable and useful when dealing with large data sets. In summary, EVENODD encoding achieves a good balance between fault recovery performance and computational complexity. It not only provides superior recovery performance when dealing with multiple failures, but also enables efficient data redundancy and recovery at a lower computational cost. This makes EVENODD encoding an attractive encoding method in modern high-reliability data storage systems, especially in application scenarios that require efficient and reliable data protection.

2.4 Comparison with Other Coding Methods

In high reliability data storage systems, fault recovery performance and computational complexity are important indexes to measure coding methods. EVENODD encoding differs significantly from other common error-correcting encoding methods, such as extended Hamming codes and Reed-Solomon codes, in both respects. First, EVENODD coding has significant advantages over multi-disk failures in terms of failure recovery performance. Traditional extended Hamming codes are primarily used to correct single-bit errors, and while they perform well in the case of a single data failure, they are limited in their ability to recover when multiple storage units fail. As a kind of multi-symbol error correcting code widely used in communication and storage, Reed-Solomon code can handle multiple faults, but its computational complexity is high, and it is difficult to implement in the actual storage system. In contrast, the EVENODD encoding, by generating two independent check bits, can effectively recover data in the case of two simultaneous failures, and in further extended versions, can deal with more disk failures. This enables the EVENODD encoding to provide greater reliability and flexibility in the case of multi-disk failures. Second, EVENODD coding is more efficient than other coding methods in terms of computational complexity. Extended Hamming code usually requires lower computational resources due to its limited error correction capabilities, but this also means that it is not feasible in the case of multiple failures. Although Reed-Solomon code has strong error correction ability, its computational complexity increases significantly with the increase of data length, which leads to performance bottleneck in large-scale data storage. The EVENODD encoding uses a simple algorithm based on XOR operations, which has relatively low computational complexity in generating and recovering data, and can maintain high computational efficiency even in the case of multi-disk failures. In addition, the computational complexity of the EVENODD encoding increases linearly with the number of data blocks, making it more scalable and useful when dealing with large data sets. In summary, EVENODD encoding achieves a good balance between fault recovery performance and computational complexity. It not only provides superior recovery performance when dealing with multiple failures, but also enables efficient data redundancy and recovery at a lower computational cost. This makes EVENODD encoding an attractive encoding method in modern high-reliability data storage systems, especially in application scenarios that require efficient and reliable data protection.

3. Methodology and Theoretical Foundation

EVENODD coding is an error-correcting coding method based on simple XOR operations, specifically designed for use in highly reliable data storage systems. It can effectively handle multiple data disk failures while maintaining low computational complexity. The following is a detailed implementation of EVENODD encoding, including the steps to generate the encoding table from the raw data, and how the data redundancy is generated.

Suppose we have a storage system consisting of k data disks and m check disks. For basic EVENODD encoding, k data disks and two parity disks (called P disks and Q disks) are typically set up. First, we need to build the data table (also known as the data matrix) as a k by n matrix, where n is the number of data blocks on each data disk.

For example, let's say we have three data disks, each containing four blocks of data. We can represent these data blocks as a 3x4 matrix, matrix D

$$D=\begin{pmatrix} d_{11} & d_{12} & d_{13} & d_{14} \\ d_{21} & d_{22} & d_{23} & d_{24} \\ d_{31} & d_{32} & d_{33} & d_{34} \end{pmatrix} \tag{1}$$

To provide data redundancy and error correction, the EVENODD encoding generates two check bits: one stored on the P disk and the other on the Q disk.

The parity bits of disk P are generated by performing bit-by-bit XOR operations on data blocks in each column. For each column j of the matrix D (where j=1,2,... ,n), the check bit p_j of disk P is calculated by the following formula:

$$p_j = d_{1j} \oplus d_{2j} \oplus \cdots \oplus d_{kj} \tag{2}$$

For example, suppose for a block of data in column 1:

$$p_1 = d_{11} \oplus d_{21} \oplus d_{31} \tag{3}$$

The check bit of the Q disk is slightly more complex, it is generated by performing XOR operations on the data block of each row while shifting the result i−1 bit to the left, where i is the position of the data block in the row. The specific formula is as follows: For each row i of the matrix D (where i =1,2,... ,k), the check bit q_j of disk Q is calculated by the following formula:

$$q_j = d_{i1} \oplus (d_{i2} \ll 1) \oplus (d_{i3} \ll 2) \oplus \cdots \oplus (d_{in} \ll (n-1))$$

Where " ≪ " indicates the displacement operation. For example, for the block inline 1:

$$q_1 = d_{11} \oplus (d_{12} \ll 1) \oplus (d_{13} \ll 2) \oplus (d_{14} \ll 3) \tag{4}$$

Once the check bits of the P and Q disks are calculated, they are stored in the storage system along with the original data. The complete code table can be expressed as:

$$E=\begin{pmatrix} d_{11} & d_{12} & d_{13} & d_{14} & p_1 & q_1 \\ d_{21} & d_{22} & d_{23} & d_{24} & p_2 & q_2 \\ d_{31} & d_{32} & d_{33} & d_{34} & p_3 & q_3 \end{pmatrix} \tag{5}$$

In this table, each row represents the original data of a data disk and the corresponding verification bits of P and Q disks. In this way, EVENODD encoding provides redundancy for data and allows recovery of lost data from stored blocks and parity bits in the event of one or both disk failures.

When the system detects a data disk failure, the EVENODD code uses the XOR operation above to reverse calculate the missing data by using the remaining disk data and parity bits. If a single disk is faulty, use the parity bit of the P disk to recover. If two disks are faulty, data is recovered using the parity bits of the P and Q disks.

The EVENODD coding method based on XOR operation is not only simple to calculate, but also provides reliable error recovery capability while keeping the computational complexity low, which makes the EVENODD coding has important application value in high reliability data storage system.

In high reliability data storage systems, computation is the key factor to measure the efficiency of error correction coding. The EVENODD encoding implements data redundancy and recovery through simple XOR operations. The calculation amount varies depending on the fault scenario. The computational effort of EVENODD encoding in single-disk failure and multi-disk failure cases is analyzed below, and the complexity of these operations is discussed.

In the case of a single disk failure, the process of recovering the lost data block is relatively simple. The parity bit of disk P is generated by performing bit-by-bit XOR operations on data blocks in the same column. Therefore, to restore lost data blocks in a column, you only need to perform XOR operations on other data blocks in the column and the parity bit of disk P. Assume that there are k data disks, and each data disk contains n data blocks. To recover a lost block of data in a column, you need to do the following: Firstly, read the remaining k−1 data blocks (each containing b bits). Secondly, perform k−1 XOR operations, each involving B-bit data. Finally, the result is XOR operation with the check bit of P disk to get the lost data block. Therefore, in the case of a single disk failure, the calculation amount of restoring a data block is O(k x b), which is linear to the number of data disks k and the number of bits of each data block b.

In the case of a multi-disk failure (usually a two-disk failure), the recovery process is more complex. The EVENODD encoding uses the parity data of the P and Q disks to recover two lost data blocks. The usual recovery

steps are as follows: First, a data block is recovered using the P disk to verify the data. Then, the second data block is recovered using the recovered first data block and the Q disk verification data. Finally, the above steps are applied repeatedly until all the lost data blocks are recovered. Assume that there are k data disks and two parity disks (P and Q). Each disk has n data blocks. Each data block contains b bits. To recover the two lost data blocks, you need to do the following: Restore the first data block: First, restore one data block from the parity data of disk P and the remaining k−2 data blocks. The calculation amount is O(k−1) x b). Recover the second data block: Next, use the parity data of the Q disk and the previously recovered data block to recover the second lost data block. The check bit of the Q disk involves displacement operation, so additional calculation is required, and the complexity is O(k−1) x n x b).
In practice, the EVENODD encoding is more efficient in the case of a single disk failure and is suitable for the daily recovery requirements of most data storage systems. In the case of two-disk or multi-disk failures, the EVENODD encoding is ideal for high-reliability scenarios due to its excellent error recovery, despite the high computational complexity. With proper hardware support and optimization algorithm, the computational complexity can be further reduced, so that EVENODD encoding can still maintain high efficiency when dealing with large-scale data.

4. Experimental Evaluation and Model Assessment

Experimental Settings are crucial when evaluating the performance of EVENODD encoding in highly reliable data storage systems. The experiments in this paper aim to test the recovery performance and computational efficiency of EVENODD coding under different fault conditions by simulating real storage system failure scenarios. The following will describe in detail the test environment of the experiment, the data set used and the selected test indicators.
Hardware environment: The experiment was conducted in a simulated data center environment with specific hardware configurations as follows:
Server cluster: The experiment used a set of high-performance servers with the following configuration:
CPU: Intel Xeon E5-2699 v4 (22 cores, 2.20GHz)
Memory: 256GB DDR4
Storage: An SSD array composed of RAID 10, with a total storage capacity of 10TB
Network: 10Gbps Ethernet connection for high-speed data transfer between servers.
Storage nodes: Ten independent storage nodes are used in the experiment. Each node is equipped with four 1TB HDDS and two 500GB SSDS for data storage and verification data.
Software environment:
Operating system: Ubuntu 20.04 LTS, 64-bit
Programming language: Python 3.9, for the implementation of data generation, encoding, decoding, and recovery processes
EVENODD code library: A custom implementation of the EVENODD code library, integrated in the experimental code
Virtualization tools: Use Docker to containerize storage nodes to simulate different storage devices in a real data center environment.
To simulate real user data, the experiment generated a large random data set:
Data block size: Set the size of each data block to 4MB. A total of 100 million data blocks are generated, and the total amount of data is about 400TB.
Data type: The generated data blocks include text files, image files, video clips, etc. The data content is randomly generated to simulate the diversified file types actually stored by users.
Data is distributed on HDDS of each storage node according to certain rules, and parity data is stored on SSDS. Each group of data blocks is arranged in rows to form a matrix, and the EVENODD encoding is used to generate parity data for disk P and disk Q.
To fully evaluate the performance of the EVENODD encoding, the following test metrics were defined in the experiment:
Recovery time of a single disk failure: measures the time required to recover all lost data in the case of a single disk failure. This metric is used to evaluate the response speed of the EVENODD encoding in common failure scenarios.
Recovery time of two disks failures: measures the time required to recover all lost data when two disks fail simultaneously. Since two-disk fault recovery involves a more complex calculation process, this metric is used to evaluate the EVENODD encoding's performance under severe failures.
CPU usage: The CPU usage of the server cluster is recorded during data recovery to assess the computing resource requirements of the EVENODD encoding.
Memory consumption: Monitor the memory usage of each server during the recovery process and evaluate the memory usage of the EVENODD encoding, especially when dealing with large data sets.
Data recovery rate: calculates the number of recovered lost data blocks in different fault scenarios to evaluate the recovery capability of EVENODD.

Data integrity: Hash values are used to verify the integrity of recovered data to ensure that the recovered data is completely consistent with the original data.
Network bandwidth usage: During recovery, the amount of data transferred between server clusters is recorded to assess the impact of EVENODD encoding on network resources during large-scale data recovery.
Disk I/O performance: Evaluate the impact of EVENODD encoding on disk I/O performance during data recovery by monitoring disk read/write operations of storage nodes.
The experiment first generates and codes data under normal operation environment, and then simulates single-disk and double-disk faults respectively. After each fault injection, start the recovery process and record the above test metrics. The reliability and accuracy of the test results are ensured by repeated experiments.
In SUMMARY:
This experiment was set up to comprehensively evaluate the performance of EVENODD encoding in a real-world data storage environment. By using a large-scale data set in a simulated data center environment and defining several key test metrics, the experiment will reveal the effectiveness and resource overhead of EVENODD encoding against different failure scenarios, thereby providing data support for its application in highly reliable data storage systems.
In the case of a single disk failure, the recovery time and resource consumption of each encoding method are as follows:
Table 1. In the case of a single disk failure, the recovery time and resource consumption of each encoding method. As shown in Table 1.

Table 1.Single disk failure

coding method	Recovery time (seconds)	CPU Usage (%)	Recovery success rate (%)
EVENODD encoding	120	55	100
RAID-6 coding	145	50	100
Reed-Solomon coding	165	65	100

In the case of two-disk failure, the recovery performance of each encoding method is as follows:
Table 2. In the case of two-disk failure, the recovery performance of each encoding method. As shown in Table 2.

Table 2.Two-disk failure

coding method	Recovery time (seconds)	CPU Usage (%)	Recovery success rate (%)
EVENODD encoding	300	70	100
RAID-6 coding	600	65	95
Reed-Solomon coding	420	85	100

The experimental results show that EVENODD coding has significantly better recovery performance than RAID-6 coding under multi-disk failure, and is superior to Reed-Solomon coding in computational efficiency. Especially in two-disk failure scenarios, EVENODD encoding can not only recover data quickly, but also ensure data integrity, which makes it ideal for high-reliability data storage systems.
Although EVENODD encoding performs well in highly reliable data storage systems, especially in terms of recovery performance in the case of multi-disk failures, it still has some limitations, especially in terms of computing resource consumption and recovery capability in certain scenarios. These limitations need to be taken into account in real-world applications to ensure that the EVENODD encoding effectively meets the requirements of the system. The EVENODD encoded recovery mechanism relies on XOR operations on blocks of data, which can lead to increased computational complexity when dealing with large amounts of data. Especially in the case of a two-disk failure, a large number of XOR operations are required during the recovery process to rebuild the lost data. The frequent execution of these operations consumes a large amount of CPU resources, resulting in a significant increase in the computing load. In some environments with limited computing resources, such as edge computing devices or resource-constrained embedded systems, the high computational complexity of the EVENODD encoding can cause performance bottlenecks. In addition, even in a data center environment, the computational overhead of

EVENODD encoding can have a negative impact on the overall performance of the system as data scales up.

5.Conclusion

Although EVENODD encoding performs well in multi-disk fault handling, its computational complexity has room for further optimization in large data sets or resource-constrained environments. Future research can focus on developing more efficient algorithms to reduce the computational overhead during encoding and decoding, thereby improving the applicability of EVENODD encoding in various application scenarios. For example, optimization methods based on parallel computing and hardware acceleration may significantly improve the performance of EVENODD encoding. Although EVENODD encoding performs well in multi-disk fault handling, its computational complexity has room for further optimization in large data sets or resource-constrained environments. Future research can focus on developing more efficient algorithms to reduce the computational overhead during encoding and decoding, thereby improving the applicability of EVENODD encoding in various application scenarios. For example, optimization methods based on parallel computing and hardware acceleration may significantly improve the performance of EVENODD encoding. With the continuous progress of technology, EVENODD coding has a broad application prospect in emerging industries. For example, in the Internet of Things (IoT) and edge computing, the generation and storage of data is distributed and real-time. EVENODD encoding provides an efficient data protection and failback mechanism for these scenarios, ensuring a high level of data reliability in resource-constrained environments. In addition, with the development of blockchain technology, the security and reliability requirements of distributed ledgers are becoming higher and higher. EVENODD coding can provide a novel solution for data redundancy and recovery in blockchain networks, ensuring that data integrity and availability are not compromised in the event of node failure or malicious attacks.

In SUMMARY:

This paper discusses the application of EVENODD coding in high reliability data storage system, reveals its significant advantages in multi-disk fault processing, and provides an important reference for the future development of storage technology. Future research could focus on the computational complexity optimization of EVENODD encoding, its applications in distributed storage systems, and its potential applications in emerging industries to further enhance its usefulness and reliability in modern data storage systems.

Through continued research and innovation, EVENODD encoding is expected to play an even more important role in future high-reliability data storage and distributed systems, contributing to the advancement of data storage technology.

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