

# Linux Plumbers Conference

Vienna, Austria | September 18-20, 2024

# Zoned Emulation Support for QEMU

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# Collaborators

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# 1 State of zoned storage in QEMU

- Virtio-scsi -> attach a zoned device (e.g. ZBC or ZAC HDD) to QEMU
- Virtio-blk emulation -> attach a zoned device or a qcow2 image file to QEMU
- PCI device passthrough -> attach an NVMe PCI device to QEMU
- NVMe device emulation -> ZNS emulation



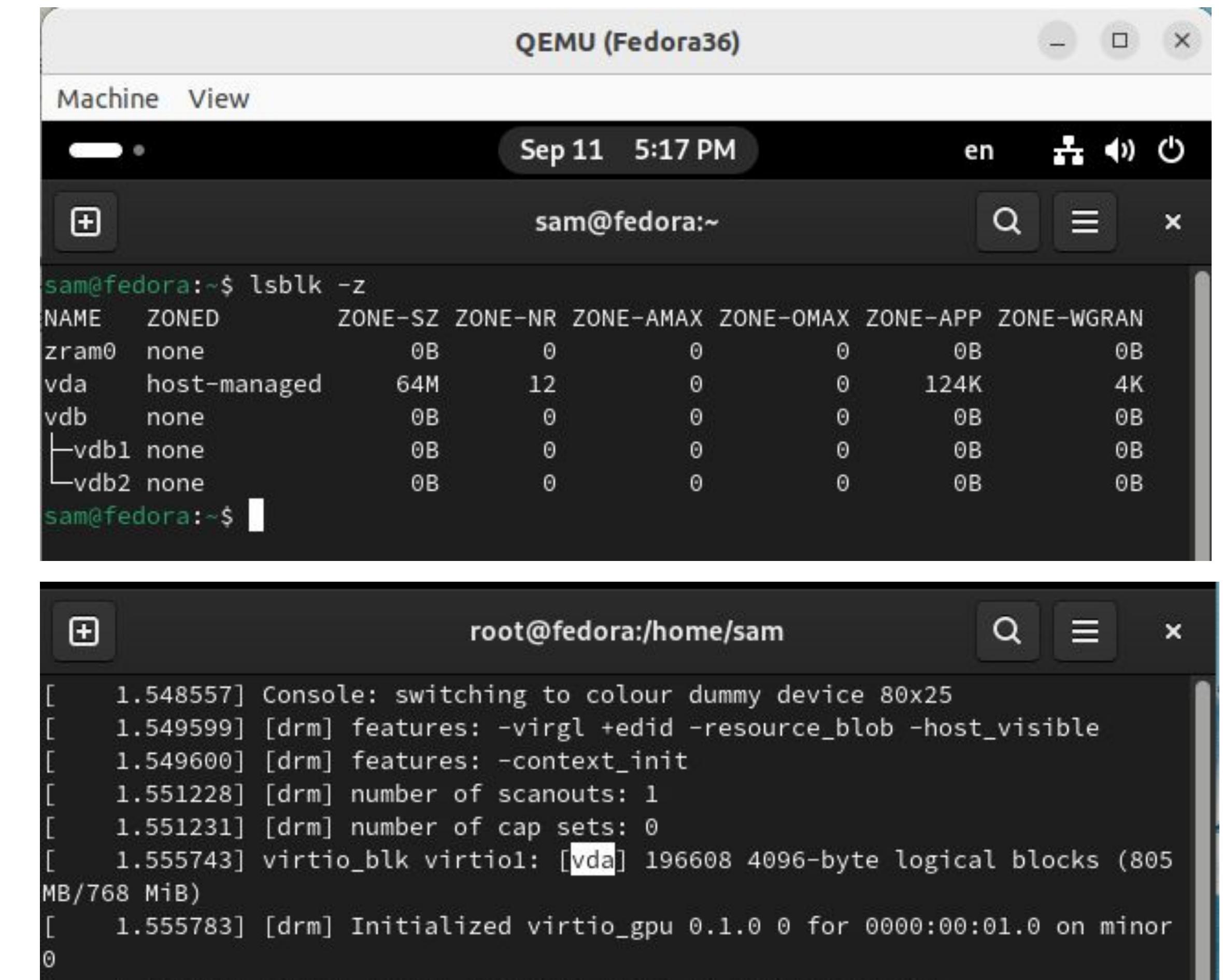
# How to play with the emulated zoned device?

Environment:

- Qemu: v8.1.0 supports zoned device via virtio-blk emulation
- Linux: suggested version > v6.3-rc1

Steps:

1. Create a zoned block device on the host
2. Boots a VM
3. Check if the zoned device is in the guest



The image shows two terminal windows side-by-side. The top window is titled "QEMU (Fedora36)" and displays a command-line interface where the user runs "lsblk -z". The output shows several block devices (zram0, vda, vdb) with their respective zoning information. The bottom window is titled "root@fedora:/home/sam" and shows kernel boot logs. The logs indicate the initialization of a virtio\_blk device (virtio1) which maps to the vda device, showing 196608 logical blocks (805 MB/768 MiB). It also shows the initialization of a virtio\_gpu device.

```
lsblk -z
NAME   ZONED      ZONE-SZ ZONE-NR ZONE-AMAX ZONE-OMAX ZONE-APP ZONE-WGRAN
zram0  none       0B        0        0        0        0B        0B
vda    host-managed 64M      12        0        0        124K     4K
vdb    none       0B        0        0        0        0B        0B
└─vdb1 none       0B        0        0        0        0B        0B
└─vdb2 none       0B        0        0        0        0B        0B
[ 1.548557] Console: switching to colour dummy device 80x25
[ 1.549599] [drm] features: -virgl +edid -resource_blob -host_visible
[ 1.549600] [drm] features: -context_init
[ 1.551228] [drm] number of scanouts: 1
[ 1.551231] [drm] number of cap sets: 0
[ 1.555743] virtio_blk virtio1: [vda] 196608 4096-byte logical blocks (805
MB/768 MiB)
[ 1.555783] [drm] Initialized virtio_gpu 0.1.0 0 for 0000:00:01.0 on minor
0
```

# Store files to a zoned storage using btrfs on a QEMU VM

1. Open a QEMU VM
2. Operations on the VM:

```
$ mkfs.btrfs -f /dev/vdb
```

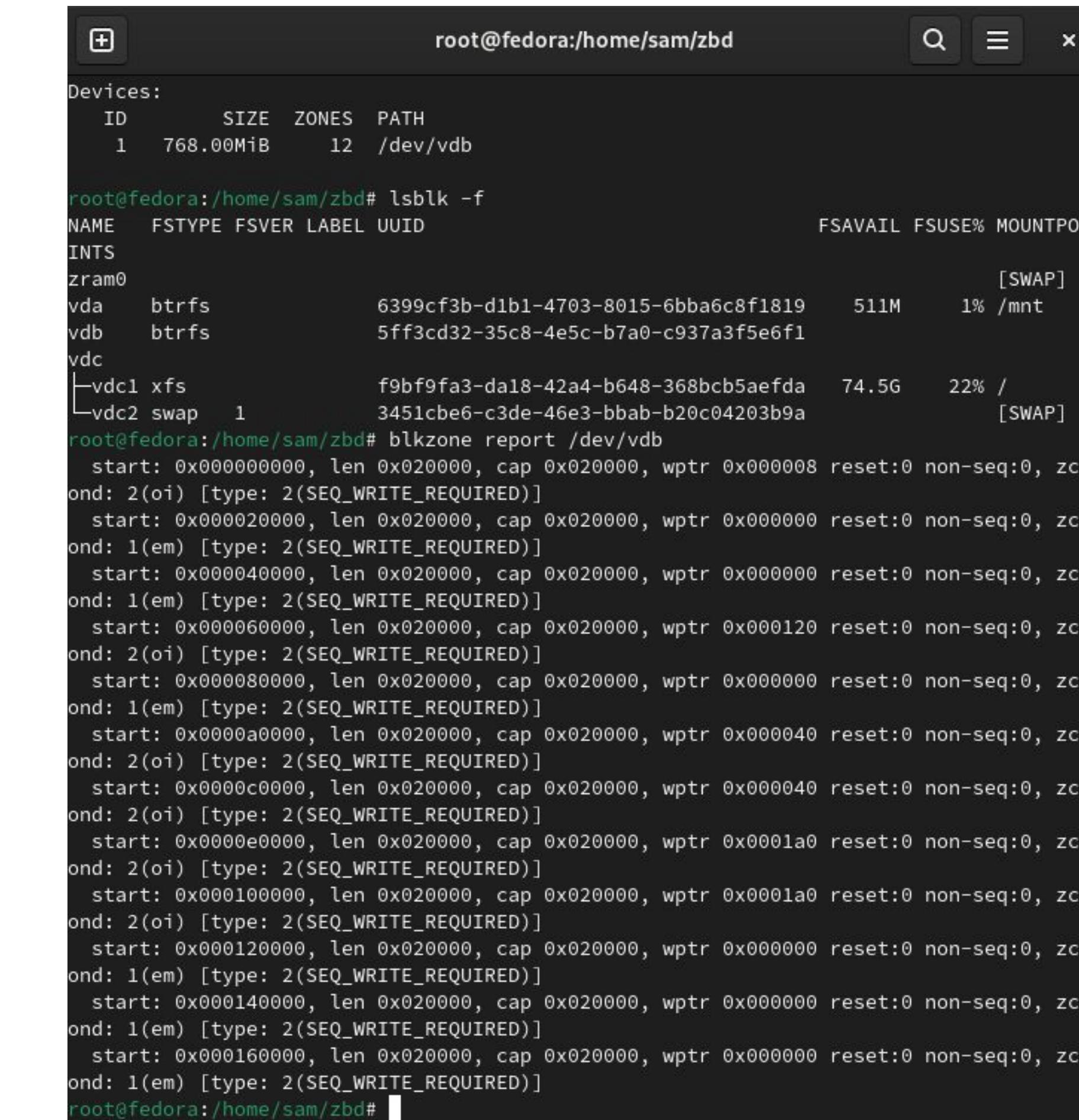
```
$ mount -t btrfs /dev/vdb /mnt
```

```
$ btrfs subvolume create /mnt/zoned
```

```
$ echo "echo hello zbd" > hello.txt
```

```
$ mv hello.txt /mnt/zoned
```

3. Shut down the vm and restart it
4. mount the btrfs again and check if the hello.txt file is there



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled 'root@fedora:/home/sam/zbd'. It displays the output of several commands:

- `Devices:` Shows a single device entry: ID 1, SIZE 768.00MiB, ZONES 12, PATH /dev/vdb.
- `lsblk -f`: Shows the block devices and their file system types. It lists vda (btrfs), vdb (btrfs), vdc (xfs), and vdc2 (swap).
- `blkzone report /dev/vdb`: Shows a detailed report of write zones on the vdb device. It lists multiple zones, each with a start address (e.g., 0x0000000000, 0x0000200000, etc.), length (len), capacity (cap), write pointer (wptr), and zone conditions (zc). The zones are categorized as 2(oi) or 1(em) [type: 2(SEQ\_WRITE\_REQUIRED)].

## 2 Config: two block backends to pick from

1. Null\_blk device: modprobe null\_blk nr\_devices=1 zoned=1

[https://zonedstorage.io/docs/getting-started/zbd-emulation#zoned-block-device-emulation-with-null\\_blk](https://zonedstorage.io/docs/getting-started/zbd-emulation#zoned-block-device-emulation-with-null_blk)

2. A qcow2 file with zoned format

```
jli@groves:~/Desktop/infra/qemu$ ./build/qemu-img create -f qcow2 zbc.qcow2  
-o size=768M -o zone.size=64M -o zone.capacity=64M -o zone.conventional_ze  
nes=0 -o zone.max_append_bytes=4096 -o zone.max_open_zones=6 -o zone.max_ac  
tive_zones=8 -o zone.mode=host-managed  
Formatting 'zbc.qcow2', fmt=qcow2 cluster_size=65536 extended_l2=off compre  
ssion_type=zlib zone.mode=host-managed zone.size=67108864 zone.capacity=671  
08864 zone.conventional_zones=0 zone.max_append_bytes=4096 zone.max_active_  
zones=8 zone.max_open_zones=6 size=805306368 lazy_refcounts=off refcount_b  
its=16  
jli@groves:~/Desktop/infra/qemu$
```



# QEMU Command line

1. From the [doc](#), to expose the host's zoned block device through virtio-blk, the command line can be:

```
-blockdev node-name=drive0,driver=host_device,filename=/dev/nullb0,cache.direct=on \
-device virtio-blk-pci,drive=drive0 \
```

2. To expose the qcow2 file with zoned format through virtio-blk, the command line can be:

```
-blockdev node-name=drive1,driver=qcow2,file.driver=file,file.filename=test.qcow2 \
```

3. To expose the qcow2 file as an emulated zns drive, the command line can be:

```
-drive file=${znsimg},id=nvmezns0,format=qcow2,if=none \
-device nvme-ns,drive=nvmezns0,bus=nvme0,nsid=1,uuid=xxx \
```



# 3 Develop, test & debug

Test suits for zbd

- Qemu-io or qemuio-tests (host)  
`$ tests/qemu-iotests/check [<test-case>]`
- [zonefs-tools](#)  
`$ tests/zonefs-tests.sh /dev/vda`
- [fio/test-zbd](#), [blktests](#)
- dd (zone append), blkzone commands  
`$ dd if=/dev/zero of=/mnt/seq/0  
oflag=direct,append bs=4096 count=1  
conv=notrunc`

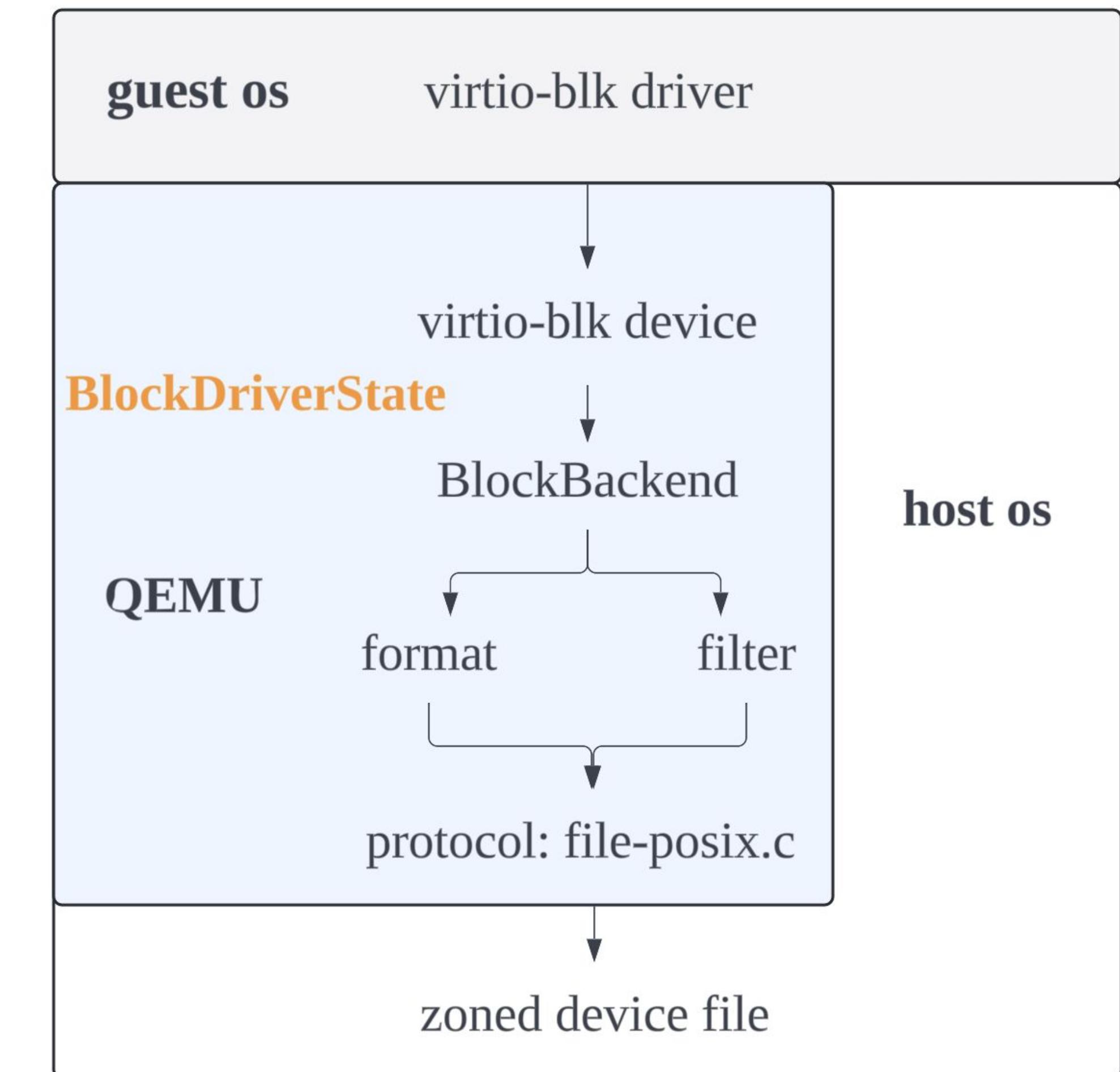
Debugging tools

- address sanitizer (config with  
--enable-sanitizers) or valgrind (host)
- Gdb (bt) + coredump debug control (host)  
`$ coredumpctl debug`
- ftrace/blktrace
- strace

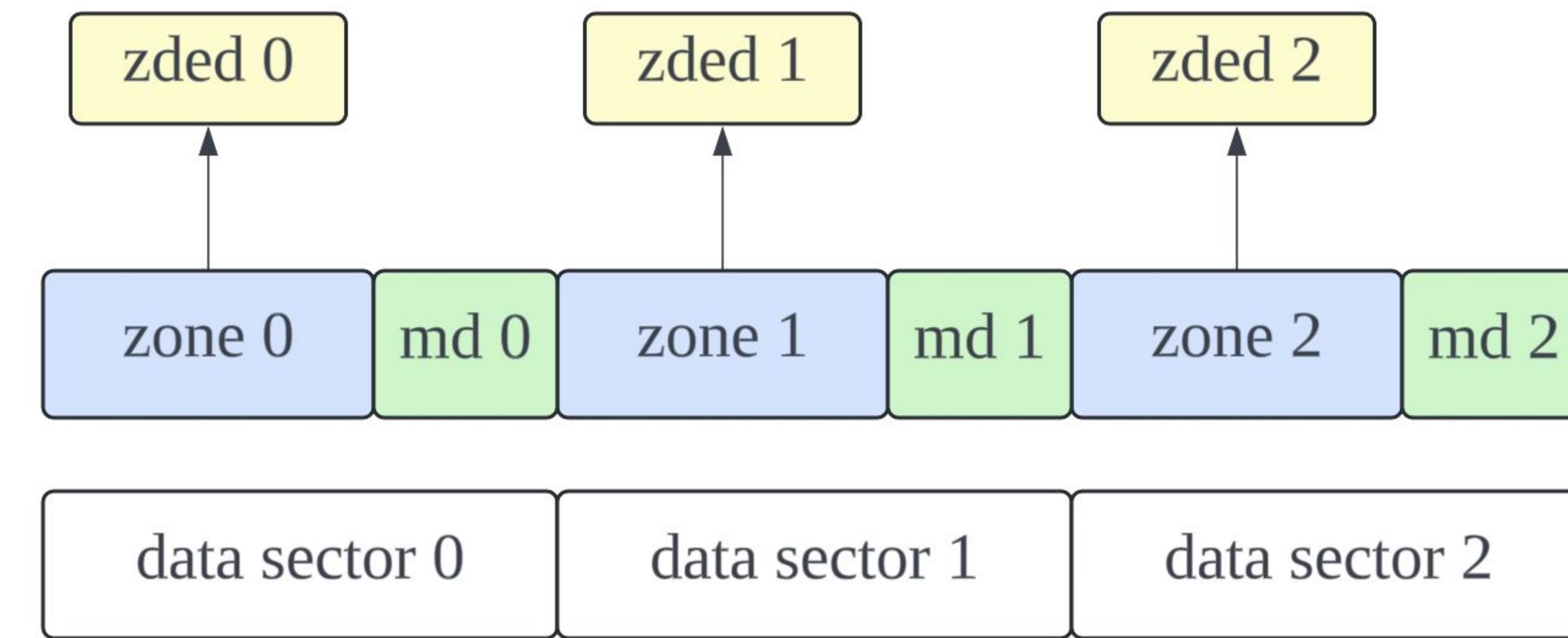


# 4 Virtio-blk: zoned emulation

- Zoned models: conventional, host-managed, host-aware
- Zone management command: report, open, close, finish
- Zone append: uses write pointer emulation [zone type (1) | write pointer (63)]



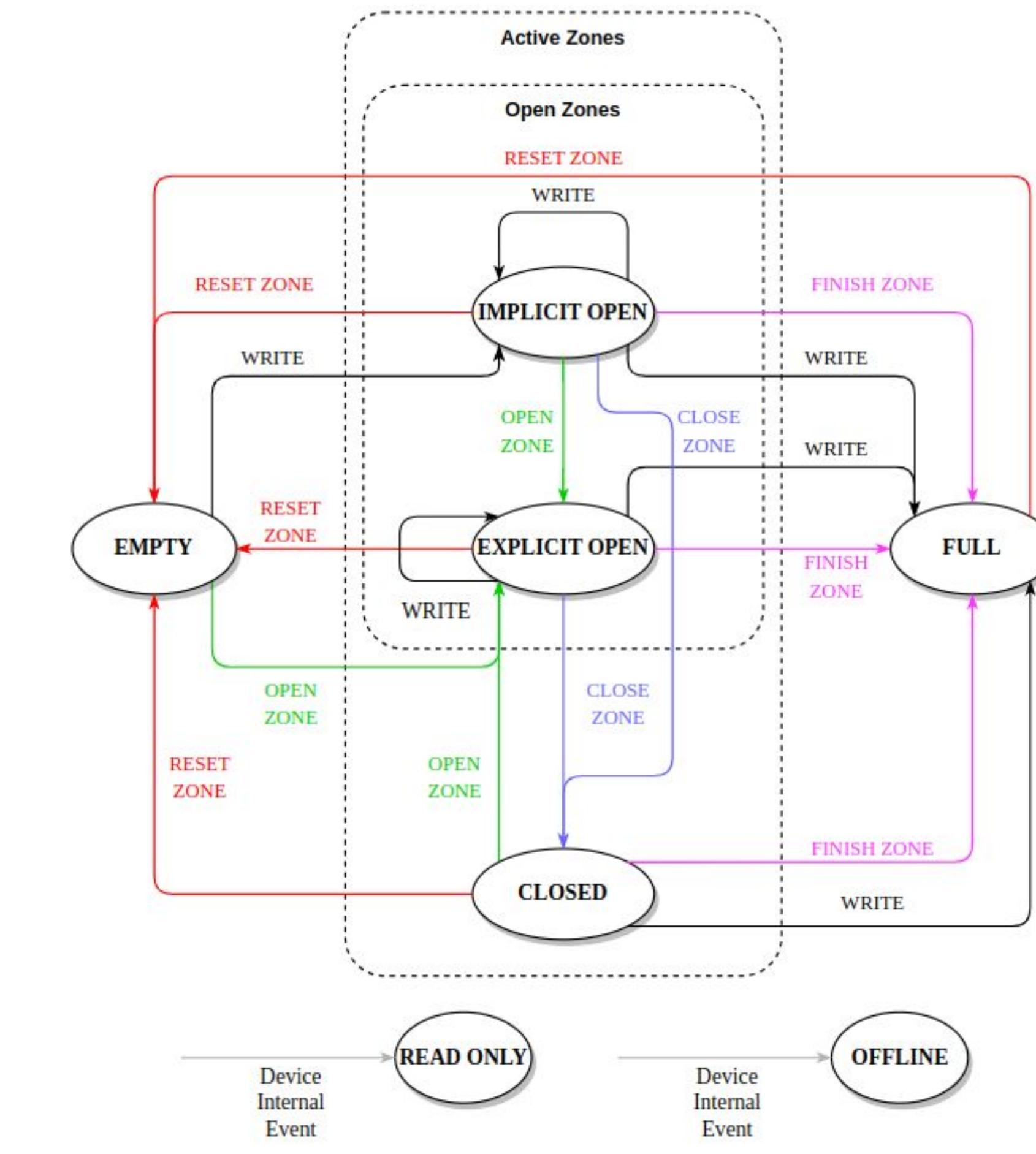
# 5 QCow2: full emulation



# Metadata persistence



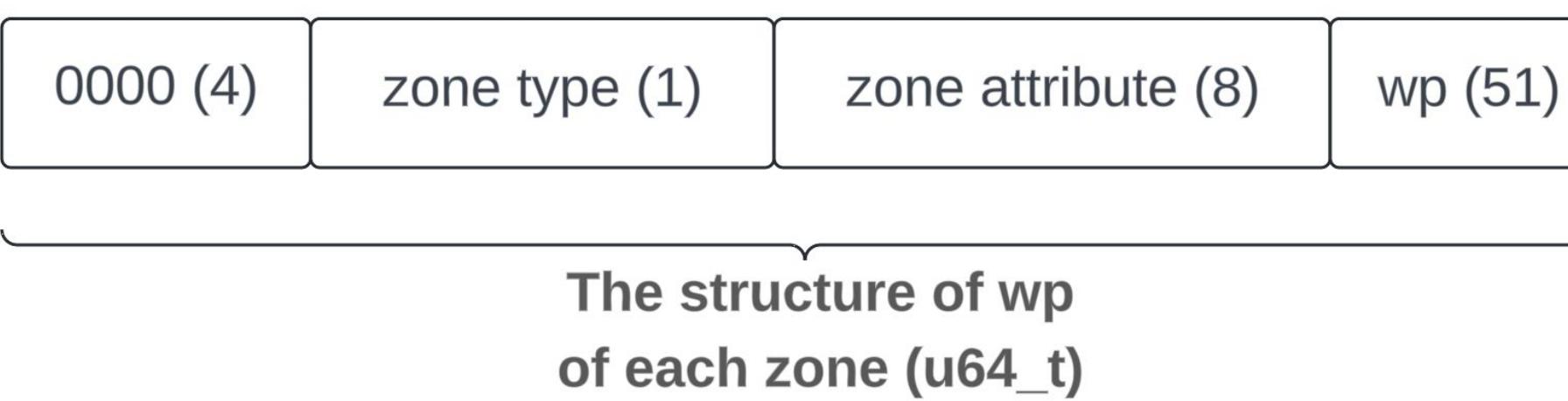
the layout of disk img



Zone State Transitions Overview

# 6 Persistent states for ZNS emulation

- Address translation
  - Nvme\_blk\_zone\_append
  - > dma\_blk\_zone\_append (DMA ops)
  - > blk\_aio\_zone\_append (block layer API)
- Zone attributes
  - ZRWA (zone random write area)
  - ZDED (zone descriptor extension data)



# Contributions

- Added zoned storage APIs to the block layer
- Implemented zoned storage support in virtio-blk emulation
- Add full zoned storage emulation to qcow2 driver (ongoing)
- Add persistence to NVMe ZNS emulation (ongoing)





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