From uucp Thu Oct 30 09:56:34 1986
>From uhclem Thu Oct 30 09:53:15 1986 remote from trsvax
Date: Thu Oct 30 1986, 09:53:11 CST
To: cpe!neese techsup!garyk
From: trsvax!uhclem (Frank Durda IV)
Sent: Thu Oct 30 1986, 09:53:11 CST
Subject: 20 Meg Iomega
Cc: uhclem

Came across a nasty bug in the 20 meg microcode (C8 pre-pro) you
should know about.

The 20 meg documentation lists these interleaves: 1 2 3 4 6 8 16 32,
but don't use 6. 6:1 mis-labels some of the "spare" sectors with the
ID numbers of live sectors, giving you more than one of sector X
on a track. Neat, eh? You can read the same block over and over and
its contents will keep changing. Since spare sectors are the ones
that are mis-marked, you can successfully read all the sectors on
a track and won't get any data error either.

I found this while working on 3.2, as 6:1 was the best interleave
for 20 meg Iomegas on the 6000. Except that you can't get data
back very often.

Called Iomega and they said "Oh, don't use 6, use 5." Turns out
that the 20 meg actually accepts all interleaves from 1 to 32,
but they didn't test the layout generator very well, and all even
numbers that are NOT powers of two are likely to be botched up.
Bruce at Iomega wasn't sure, but thought that the CA microcode
might have that fixed. Over here, the latest we have seen is an
experimental C8, and we have never gotten a confirmation on that.

So we are limiting diskutil and the online formatter so they will not
accept even numbers that aren't a power of 2, but will take everything
else. The 10 meg remains unchanged (accepts only powers of 2).

Since we have Iomega's on other systems, you might keep this in
mind if any strangness shows up in the field.

                              Frank