Operating Systems Design (CS 423)



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http://www.cs.illinois.edu/class/cs423/

Based on slides by Roy Campbell, Sam King, and Andrew S Tanenbaum



- Each block contains pointer to next block of file (along with data)
 - Used by Alto (first personal computer)
- File header contains pointer to first disk block



Pros

- Grow easily (i.e. append) files
- No external fragmentation (pick any free block)

- Sequential access quite slow
- Lots of seeks between blocks
- Random access is really slow

- User (or system) declares max # of blocks in file
- System allocates file header with array of pointers big enough to point to that number of blocks
- Extra level of indirection, like a page table

File Block #	Disk Block #
0	18
1	50
2	3
3	22

```
#define FS BLOCKSIZE 1024
#define FS MAXFILEBLOCKS 253
#define FS MAXUSERNAME 7
typedef struct {
 char owner[FS MAXUSERNAME + 1];
 int size; // size of the file in bytes
 int blocks[FS MAXFILEBLOCKS]; // array of file blocks
} fs inode; (note sizeof(fs inode) = FS BLOCKSIZE)
disk readblock(int diskBlockNo, void *buf);
lookup inode(char *fileName, fs inode *inode);
Write code for reading a file block for a given file name
fs readblock(char *fileName, int fileBlockNo, void *buf)
```

Solution

```
fs readblock(char *fileName, int fileBlockNo, void *buf) {
  fs inode inode;
  lookup inode(fileName, &inode);
  // may involve many disk reads
  // make sure we got an inode back
  // do some error checking to validate
  disk read block(inode.blocks[fileBlockNo], buf);
```

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Pros

- Can easily grow (up to # of blocks allocated in header)
- Easy random access of loc. Calculation

- Lots of seeks for sequential access
 - How can you make this faster without pre-allocation?
- Can't easily grow beyond # blocks allocation

Pros

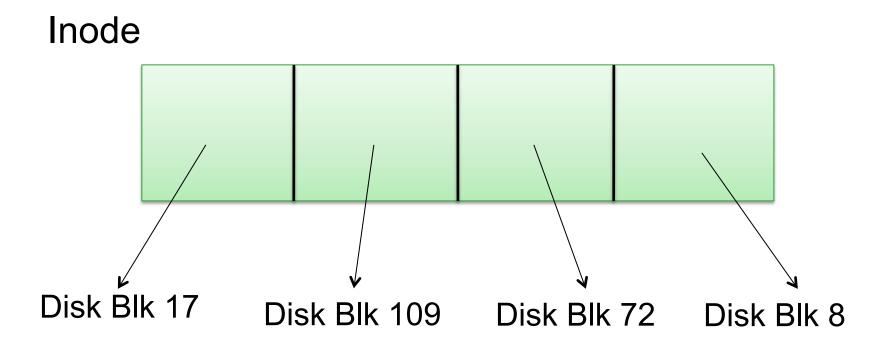
- Can easily grow (up to # of blocks allocated in header)
- Easy random access of loc. Calculation

- Lots of seeks for sequential access
 - How can you make this faster without pre-allocation?
 - Try to keep sequential access in same cylinder on disk
- Can't easily grow beyond # blocks allocation



- How to deal with large files?
 - Could you assume file might get really large, allocate lots of space in file header?
 - Could you use larger block size, eg4MB?
- Solution: more sophisticated data structure for file header

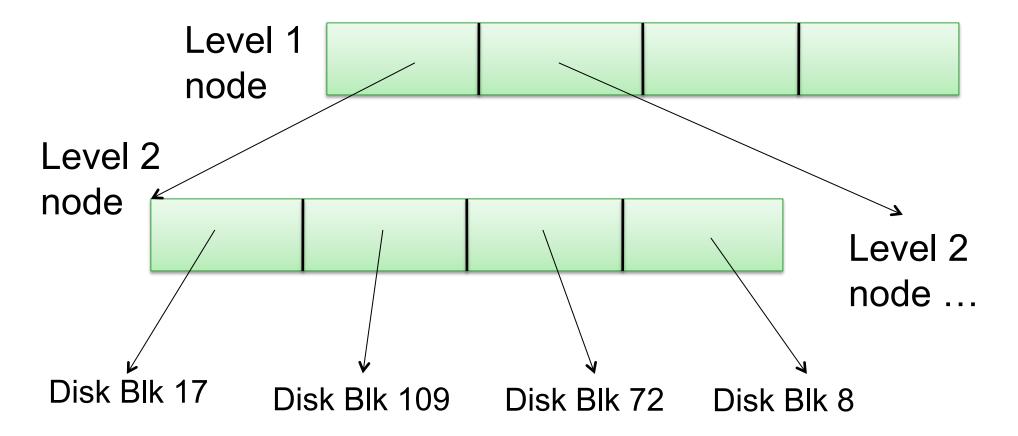
Indexed files are like a shallow tree





Muti-level Indexed Files





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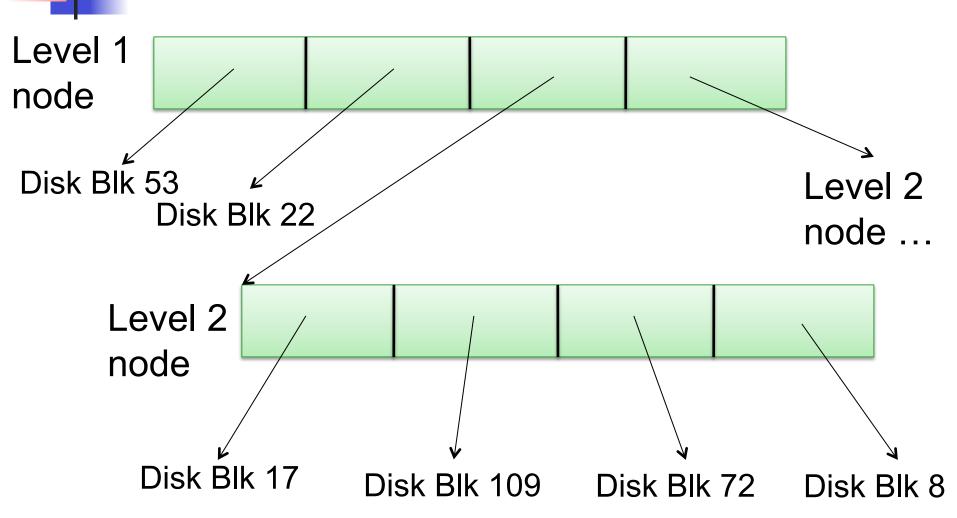
Muti-level Indexed Files

How many disk accesses to get 1 block of data?

How do you solve this?

4

Non-Uniform Muti-level Indexed Files



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Non-Uniform Muti-level Indexed Files

Pros

- Files can expand easily
- Small files don't pay full overhead of deep trees

- Lots of indirect blocks for big files
- Lots of seeks for sequential access



On Disk File Ftructures

- Could have other dynamically allocated data structures for file header
- Key feature: have location of file header on disk NOT change when file grows
 - Why?

Naming Files

- How do you specify which file you want to access?
 - Eventually OS must find file header you want on disk
 - Need disk block address (number)
- Typically user uses symbolic name
 - OS translates name to numeric file header
 - Possible alternative is to describe contents of file



Locating File Header Disk Block

- Could use hash table, expandable array
 - Key is finding disk block number of file inode; then getting contents is easy

 Data structure for mapping file name to inode block number is called a **Directory**

Directories

- Directory mapping for set of files
 - Name->file header's disk block # for that file
 - Often simple array of(name, file header's disk block #) entries
 - Table is stored in a normal file as normal datd
 - Eg: 1s implemented by reading file and parsing contents



- Often treat directories and files in same way
 - Same storage structure for data
 - Directory entry points to either "ordinary" file or another directory
- Can we allow user to read/write directories directly, arbitrarily?



Directory Organization

- Directories typically have hierarchical structure
 - Directory A has mapping to files and directories in directory A
- /home/cs423/index.html
- / is root directory
 - Contains list of root's contents, including home
 - For each elt, has mapping form name to file inode disk block #]
 - Including home

Directory

Directory Organization

- home is directory entry within / dir
 - Contains list of files and directories
 - One dir in home is cs423
- /home/cs423 names directory within /home directory
 - Contains list of files and directories
 - One file is index.html
 - How many disk I/Os to access first bytes of /home/cs423/index.html assuming no caching