

Time Travelling File System README

Adarsh Raj

September 10, 2025

1 Overview

This project implements a **File Versioning and Snapshot System** in C++ with the following features:

- Create and manage multiple files.
- Insert and update file contents.
- Read file content.
- Take snapshots of file states with messages.
- Rollback to previous versions or specified version_id.
- View file history (snapshot logs from active node to root node).
- System-wide queries:
 - `BIGGEST_TREES` – Find files with the most versions.
 - `RECENT_FILES` – Find most recently updated files.
- Implemented with custom:
 - Hash maps for file lookups.
 - Heaps for recent/biggest file tracking.
 - Tree structure for file versions.

2 Data Structures

2.1 TreeNode

Represents a file version node.

- Stores content, snapshot flag, timestamps,message ,version_id and parent/children relations.
- Supports deletion of all children via destructor.

2.2 MyHashMap

- Custom hash map for mapping `version_id` to `TreeNode*`.
- Handles collisions using separate chaining.
- Supports rehashing (whenever `loadFactor > 0.75` rehashing is done).

2.3 file_struct

Represents a single file with filename.

- Maintains root node, active version, total version and version history.
- It also contain the indices that required during heap implementation and the time when the file is last updated via command CREATE, INSERT, UPDATE.
- Supports `read`, `insert`, `update`, `snapshot`, `rollback`, and `history`.

2.4 HashMap (Root Map)

- Maps `filename` to its corresponding `file_struct*`.
- Implemented by standard string hashing i.e roll hash.
- Used for global file management.

2.5 MyHeap

- Two heaps are maintained: vector `Heap1`, `Heap2`.
- Each heap store pointer to `file_struct` i.e `file_struct*`.

2.5.1 Functionality:

- **push**: Push every new `file_struct*` to it's correct place.
 - **update**: Update every updated `file_struct*` i.e during insertion or updation to it's correct place.
 - **heapify_down**: Whenever pop used it is popped by swapping top value with last value in heap then use heapify down top element.
 - **pop**: Pop `file_struct*`.
1. By `total_versions` (largest file trees) .Every thing maintained in `Heap1`.
 2. By `last_updated` timestamp (recent files).Every thing maintained in `Heap2`.

3 Supported Commands

- **CREATE <filename>**
Creates a new file.
- **READ <filename>**
Reads current content.
- **INSERT <filename> <content>**
Appends content to file if not snapshotted otherwise form new version.
- **UPDATE <filename> <content>**
Replaces file content.
- **SNAPSHOT <filename> <message>**
Marks current state as snapshot.
- **ROLLBACK <filename> [version_id]**
Rollback to parent(when version_id is not given) or specific given version.
- **HISTORY <filename>**
Displays snapshot history.
- **BIGGEST_TREES <num>**
Shows top files with most versions.
- **RECENT_FILES <num>**
Shows most recently updated files.
- **EXIT**
Terminates the program.It is must to give EXIT command to terminate the program.

4 Example Usage for each file

```
CREATE file1
INSERT file1 Hello
SNAPSHOT file1 Initial commit
INSERT file1 World
HISTORY file1
ROLLBACK file1 0
READ file1
```

5 SYSTEM WIDE ANALYTICS

More than one file are created and updated.

```
RECENT_FILES n
BIGGEST_TREES n
```

(n is the number filename required)

6 Compilation and Execution

```
g++ long_assignment.cpp -o output
./output.exe
```

7 Assumptions

- **File Representation**

- Each file is represented using a `file_struct` object.
- The root of the file is a `TreeNode`, which forms the base of a version tree.
- Every version of the file corresponds to a new `TreeNode`.
- A snapshot node indicates a frozen version where further edits create child nodes.

- **Versioning Logic**

- Version identifiers (`version_id`) start from 0 and increment with each new version.
- Inserts or updates on non-snapshot nodes directly modify content.
- Inserts or updates on snapshot nodes create new child versions.
- Rollback moves to the parent version (when no ID is given) or to a specific version ID if provided.

- **HashMaps**

- Two hashmaps are used:
 1. `MyHashMap`: Maps integer version IDs to `TreeNode` pointers for individual files.
 2. `HashMap`: Maps string filenames to `file_struct` pointers for the system.
- Integer modulus hashing is used for version IDs.
- Polynomial rolling hash is used for strings.
- A load factor threshold of 0.75 is assumed sufficient to avoid excessive collisions.

- **Heap Structures**

- Two max-heaps maintain global ordering of files:
 1. `heap1`: Ordered by total number of versions (`total_versions`).
 2. `heap2`: Ordered by last updated timestamp (`last_updated`).
- File indices (`idx1`, `idx2`) are assumed to remain consistent during heap operations.

- **Command Parsing**

- Input is read line by line and split into three parts: `cmd`, `filename`, and `rest`.

- Commands follow a strict format such as:
 - * `CREATE filename`
 - * `INSERT filename content`
 - * `UPDATE filename content`
 - * `SNAPSHOT filename message`
- Extra arguments where not expected are treated as errors.
- **Memory Management**
 - The `TreeNode` destructor recursively deletes all child nodes.
 - The `HashMap` destructor deletes all file structures.
 - It is assumed there are no memory leaks, since destructors handle cleanup.
- **Timestamps**
 - `created_timestamp` records when a version is created.
 - `snapshot_timestamp` records when a version is snapshotted.
 - `last_updated` stores the last modification time of a file.
 - `time(nullptr)` with second-level granularity is assumed sufficient.
- **Rollback and Validations**
 - Rollback without argument moves to the parent version.
 - Rollback with an integer argument jumps to the corresponding version.
 - Version IDs are assumed to be continuous integers starting from 0.
- **Error Handling**
 - Errors are reported using console messages instead of exceptions.
 - Invalid operations include accessing non-existent files, invalid arguments, or requesting more files than available.
- **Termination**
 - The program runs in an infinite loop until the `EXIT` command is entered with no arguments.
 - It is assumed that users follow the correct termination command format.

8 Notes

- All data structures are implemented from scratch (no STL maps or heaps).
- Memory management is carefully handled with destructors.
- Designed for learning low-level implementation of file versioning systems.