

**Q:1 How large file contents can be managed using FAT? 2 marks**

**Answer:**

- Larger files would be comprised of numerous clusters.
- The first Cluster # can be read from FCB for rest of the Cluster, a chain is maintained within the FAT. As large files would be composed of many clusters the first Cluster number is obtained from FCB and the subsequent clusters can be obtained from FAT by using the previous cluster Number to obtain the next cluster number and so on.

**Q:2 When we talk about FAT32, what is the size of FS Info block? 2 marks**

**Answer:**

On a FAT32 volume, the FAT can be a large data structure, unlike on FAT16 where it is limited to a maximum of 128K worth of sectors and FAT12 where it is limited to a maximum of 6K worth of sectors.

FS Info block contains information required at the time of allocation/de-allocation to the file. Size of FAT 32 is huge at allocation/de-allocation time so calculating these values is not feasible, therefore these are stored in FS Info block.

**Q:3 Which control information PSP contains? 2 marks**

**Answer:**

- is situated before the start of a process.
- contains control information like DTA ( Disk Transfer Area) and command line parameters.

**Q:4 Which is the location of timer count in BIOS data area? 2 Marks**

**Answer:**

Timer location in BIOS data area is 40:6CH.

**Q:5 Explain the purpose of file control block(FCB)? 3 Marks**

**Answer:**

Control information about files are maintained in a data structure called the File control block (FCB). The FCB for each file is created and stored in the disk.

We can get information about the file such as size, date time of creation, data time of last modification etc from FCB. Further we can also impose restrictions on file such as read only, archived etc using FCB

**Q:6 In NTFS, where the backups of boot block are stored and why? 3 Marks**

**Answer:**

The NTFS "Backup Boot Sector" isn't really part of the NTFS Volume; it's actually stored in a sector immediately following the last sector of the Volume, which makes an NTFS Volume's partition size 1 sector larger than its Volume size!

**Q:7 What are three different kinds of computer viruses? 3 Marks**

**Answer:**

**Types of Viruses**

- Partition Table Virus
- Boot Sector Virus
- File Viruses

**Q:8 Write a C program that should print your name using int 21H with the help of int86 function**

**Answer:**

See Page#19 for idea solution detail

Idea solution:

```
#include <dos.h>
union REGS regs;
main()
{
    regs.h.ah = 0;
    regs.h.al = 1;
    int86( 0x10, &regs, &regs );
    printf("Fourty by Twenty-Five color mode.");
}
```

**Q:9 What will be the impact of placing E5 in place of first character of file name? 5 marks**

**Answer:**

DOS perform file deletion by placing 0xE5 at the first byte of it FCB entry and placing 0's (meaning available) in the entries for the file clusters in the FAT.

**Q:10 How partition table virus fools DOS about conventional memory? 5 marks**

**Answer:**

- At 40:13H a word contains the amount of KBs in Conventional Memory which is typically 640.
- If the value at 40:13H is somehow reduced to 638 the transient part of Command.Com will load itself such that its last byte is loaded at the last byte of 638KB mark in Conventional RAM.
- In this way last 2KB will be left unused by DOS. This amount of memory is used by the Virus according to its own size.

**Q:11 Write down a TSR program, when ever user presses a key it displays it thrice. For example if user has pressed "A" it will display "AAA"? 5 marks**

**Answer:**

```

#include <dos.h>
void interrupt (*old)( );
void interrupt newfunc( );
void main( )
{
    old = getvect(0x09);
    setvect(0x09,newfunc);
    keep(0,1000);
}
void interrupt newfunc ( )
{
    (*old)( );
    (*old)( );
    (*old)( );
}

```

This program simply intercepts the keyboard interrupt and places the address of newint in the IVT. The newint simply invokes the original interrupt 9 thrice. Therefore the same character input will be placed in the keyboard buffer thrice i.e three characters will be received for each character input.

**Q: 12 Find the root directory sector. Where reserved sector = 1 and sector per FAT = 9. Use appropriate assumption where needed? 5 Marks**

**Answer:**

Root DIR Sector: reserved sectors + 2 \* (size of FAT) = 1 + 2 \* 9 = 19

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**Paper no : 2**  
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**Q:1**

**how the descriptor table describes as many segments and what are the attributes of segments?**

**Answer:**

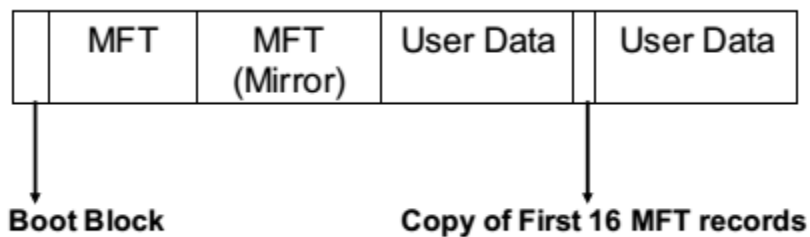
Descriptor table describes the memory segment by storing its attributes related to that memory segment and their significant attributes are:

Base address, length and limit, right access.

**Q:2**

**Write down autonomy of NTFS file system?**

**Answer:**



In NTFS based system. The FAT and root Directory has been replaced by the MFT. It will generally have two copies the other copy will be a mirror image of the original. Rests of the blocks are reserved for user data. In the middle of the volume is a copy of the first 16 MTF record which are very important to the system.

**Q:3**

**Write the limitation of bios disk()?**

**Answer:**

- Large sized disk are available now with thousands of tracks
- But this BIOS routine only is capable of accessing a max. of 1024 tracks.
- Hence if a large disk is being used not whole of the disk can be accessed using this routine
- This function uses the int 13H services. The parameter sizes provided by these services may not be sufficient to hold the track number of block to be accessed.

**Q:4**

**How DMA works in Block transfer mode?**

**Answer:**

In block transfer mode the DMA is programmed to transfer a block and does not pause or halt until the whole block is transferred irrespective of the requests received meanwhile.

**Q:5**

**How cross reference of clusters can be detected?**

**Answer:**

Cross references can be detected easily by traversing through the chain of all files and marking the cluster # during traversal. If a cluster is referenced more than once then it indicates a cross reference.

**Q:6**

**LSN = 0 and LBA = 0 are same things? Why if yes or no?**

**Answer:**

LBA = 0 is not the same as LSN=0. The LBA=0 block is the first block on disk. Whereas each logical partition has LSN=0 block which is the first block in logical drive and is not necessarily the first block on physical drive.

**Q:7**

**Major enhancements on FAT 32 comparing with FAT 12 and FAT 16?**

**Answer:**

The major difference between FAT 16 and FAT 32 is of course the FAT size. FAT32 evidently will contain more entries and can hence manage a very large disk whereas FAT16 can manage a space of 2 GB maximum practically.

**Q:8**

**In DMA what is purpose of count register?**

**Answer:**

Number of bytes to be loaded is placed in the count register.

**Q:9**

**Difference between COM file and DOS EXE?**

**Answer:**

The main difference in COM File and DOS EXE File is that the COM File starts its execution from the first instruction, whereas the entry point of execution in EXE File can be anywhere in the Program.

**Q:10**

**Which file system keeps the backup of its boot block?**

**Answer:**

**Q:11**

**Calculate the sector no for the following**

**I C H**

**we have the following info**

**blocks per cluster = 8**

**first user block number = 20**

**Answer:**

**Sector No. = (Clust\_no – 2)\* Blocks per Clust + First User Block #**

**Sector No. = (2)\* 8 +20=36**

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**Q:12**

**Find the root directory sector where reserved sector = 1 and sector per FAT = 9 , use appropriate assumption?**

**Answer:**

Root dir sector=reserved sector+2 \*(sector per FAT)=1+2\*9=19

2)

**Suppose we read the contents of Drive parameter block and get the following information .**

Number of reserved blocks=2

Number of blocks in FAT= 7

Number of blocks in root directory=32

Find the number of systems blocks.

make the appropriate assumptions when needed.

**Answer:**

Now in the example sector per FAT is unknown.

**No. of System Area Blocks** = Reserved Block + Sector per FAT \* No. of FAT's + No. of entries \*

**Root dir** =reserved sector+2\*sector per FAT

2\*sector per FAT= Root dir - reserved sector=32-2=30

**Sector per FAT**=30/2=15

**No. of System Area Blocks** = 2 + 15 \* 7 + 32=151

**1)Write three Data Structures for Memory DOS use?**

**Answer:**

- MCB ( Memory Control Block )
- EB ( Environment Block )
- PSP ( Program Segment Prefix )

**2)Scan Disk Surface Scan for Bad Sectors**

**Answer:**

- It attempts to write a block.
- After write it reads back the block contents.
- Performs the CRC test on data read back.
- If there is an error then the data on that block is not stable and the cluster of that block should be marked bad.
- The cluster is marked bad by placing the appropriate code for bad cluster so that they may not be allocated to any file.

**3) How Accessing NTFS volume in DOS?**

**Answer:**

- NTFS volume cannot be accessed in DOS using DOS based function like absread( ) etc.
- DOS device drivers does not understand the NTFS data structures like MFT etc.
- If NTFS volume is accessed in DOS, it will fire the error of Invalid Media.

#### 4) How to recovered a Deleted Files?

**Answer:**

- 0xE5 at the start of file entry is used to mark the file as deleted.
- The contents of file still remain on disk.
- The contents can be recovered by placing a valid file name, character in place of E5 and then recovering the chain of file in FAT.
- If somehow the clusters used by deleted file have been overwritten by some other file, it cannot be recovered.

#### 5) Structure of Partitioning Table

**Answer:**

- Total size of Partition Table is 512 bytes.
- First 446 bytes contains code which loads the boot block of active partition and is executed at Boot Time.
- Rest of the 66 bytes is the Data part.
- Last two bytes of the Data part is the Partition table signature.

#### 6)Find root dir if reserved sector = 1 and size of fat is 9?

**Answer:**

Root DIR Sector:

$$\text{Reserved sectors} + 2 * (\text{size of FAT}) = 1 + 2 * 9 = 19$$

#### Write the functionality of abs read and abs write?

**Answer:**

- **abs read( )**

is used to read a block given its LSN

- **abs write( )**

is used to write a block given its LSN

`absread(int drive, int nsects, long lsec, void *buffer);`

`abswrite(int drive, int nsects, long lsec, void *buffer);`

#### File size is 12k and cluster size is 4 is k shyd blocks find krne thy 2 marks

**Answer:**

Number of blocks within a cluster is in power of  $2=4^2=16$

#### 1st sector no formula 2 marks

**Answer:**

**Write the formula of Direct addressing ?2 marks**

**Answer:**

$\text{segment} * 10h + \text{offset}$

**1st user block no given, Blocks per cluster is given find the sector.**

**Answer:**

$\text{Sector No.} = (\text{Clust\_no} - 2) * \text{Blocks per Clust} + \text{First User Block \#}$

**Name three descriptor table 3 marks**

**Answer:**

1. Global descriptor table(GDT)
2. Local descriptor table(LDT)
3. Interrupt descriptor table(IDT)

**If LSN given then how to read a block 3 marks**

**Answer:**

If the LSN address is known the `absread()` function can be used to read a block and `abswrite()` can be used to write on it

**What is the purpose of control register in DMA 3 marks**

**Answer:**

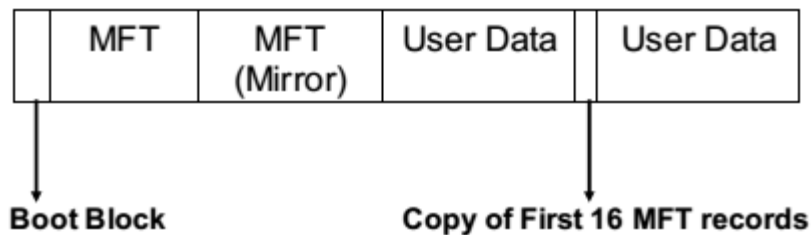
**Address translation from logical to physical 3 marks**

**Answer:**

$\text{seg} * 10H + \text{offset}$  for Logical to Physical address translation

**Ntfs file system 5 marks**

**Answer:**



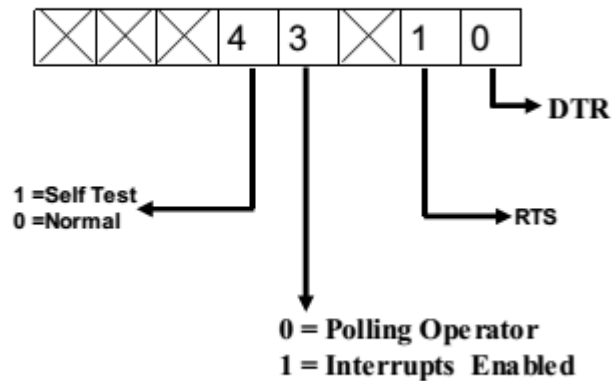


In NTFS based system. The FAT and root Directory has been replaced by the MFT. It will generally have two copies the other copy will be a mirror image of the original. Rests of the blocks are reserved for user data. In the middle of the volume is a copy of the first 16 MTF record which are very important to the system.

**Modem controller register?**

**Answer:**

### Modem Controller Register



**Keyboard writing protocol...5 marks**

**Answer:**

- Wait till input buffer is full
- Write on buffer
- Wait till output buffer is full
- Check the acknowledgement byte
- Repeat the process if it was previously unsuccessful.

**Mathematical translation for LBA translation?**

**Answer:**

$$\text{LBA address} = (C * H' + H) * S' + S - 1$$

Where

C = Selected cylinder number

H' = No. of heads

H = Selected head number

S' = Maximum Sector number

S = Selected Sector number

**Boot block structure,**

**Answer:**

jmp code part  
OSName  
BIOS  
Parameter Block  
codepart:  
-----  
-----

**Find root dir sector.5 marks**

**Answer:**

**Formula**

**Root Dir Sector**= reserved sectors +2 \* (size of FAT)

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**Paper no 3**

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**1. How large file contain can be managed using FAT?**

**Answer:**

• Larger files would be comprised of numerous clusters. • The first Cluster # can be read from FCB for rest of the Cluster, a chain is maintained within the FAT.

Answer in simple words is in green

As large files would be composed of many clusters the first Cluster number is obtained from FCB and the subsequent clusters can be obtained from FAT by using the previous cluster Number to obtain the next cluster number and so on.

**What do you mean by mirroring in FAT32?**

**Answer:**

The FAT and root directory has been replaced by the MFT. It will generally have two copies the other copy will be a mirror image of the original. Rests of the blocks are reserved for user data. In the middle of the volume is a copy of the first 16 MTF record which are very important to the system.

**3. Enlist all the activities that are to be performed when interrupt 9 occurs?**

**Answer:**

**Write a Formula to transfer the cluster # in LSN for FAT32 file System.**

**Answer:**

No of System area blocks= reserved block+ fat per sector\*no of FAT+no of enteries\*32

First user block NO. = No of system area blocks

Sector No. =(clust\_no\_2)\*blocks per cluster first user block no

**Can we send the data to keyboard yes or not?**

**Answer:**

Yes we can.

**How many maximum possible entries are there in FAT32 and FAT16?**

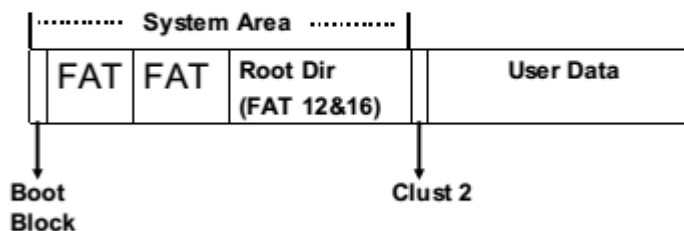
**Answer:**

FAT32 evidently will contain more entries and can hence manage a very large disk whereas FAT16 can manage a space of 2 GB maximum practically.

**Anatomy of FAT32?**

**Answer:**

## Anatomy of a FAT based file system



**TSR program that sets the caps lock bit in the keyboard status bytes whenever interrupt 8 occurs.**

**What is difference between tracks and sectors**

**Answer:**

Tracks are the circular division of the disk and the sectors are the longitudinal division of the disk.

**Q# Write down procedure to convert a cluster number into sector number**

**Answer:-** NTFS simply the following formula will be used to translate the sector number into cluster number.  $\text{Sector \#} = \text{Cluster \#} * \text{Sector Per Cluster}$

**Q: In FAT32, what is the size of FSInfo?**

**Answer:-** On a FAT32 volume, the FAT can be a large data structure, unlike on FAT16 where it is limited to a maximum of 128K worth of sectors and FAT12 where it is limited to a maximum of 6K worth of sectors.

**In which storage media head touches the surface of disk and in which does not and why it is so?**

**Answer:** **Pg 205-206**

The head is touching the surface of floppy disk which rotates at a low speed of 300 RPM.

- The head is not touching the surface of hard disk which run at high speeds up to 9600 RPM but is at a few microns distance from the surface

**What is difference b/w Primary and extended Partition?**

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**Answer:**

Partition defined in the MBR (Master Boot Record) is primary partition.

- Each Primary Partition contains information about its respective O.S.
- However if only one O.S. is to be installed then extended partitions.

The extended partition may again be divided into a number of partitions, information about further partitions will be kept in extended partition table which will be the first physical block within extended partition (i.e. it will not be the first block of primary partition.). Moreover there can be extended partitions

within extended partitions and such that in the end there are number of logical partitions this can go on till the last drive number in DOS.

**Suppose a disk is divided into two partition and we have read MBR at LBA=0 to get information about primary partition**

- a) How many bytes of code part we need to skip to get information about primary partition?**
- b) How many bytes of code part we need to read information?**

**Question: -**

**Define the following terms relating to HDD (Hard Disk Drive).**

**Solution: -**

-

**(1) Block: -**

Blocks are the sectors per track, smallest addressable unit in memory; address of block is specified as a unique combination of three parameters.

-

**(2) Sector: -**

Each track can hold many thousands of bytes of data. It would be wasteful to make a track the smallest unit of storage on the disk, since this would mean small files wasted a large amount of space. Therefore, each track is broken into smaller units called sectors.

**(3) Track: -**

All information stored on a hard disk is recorded in [tracks](#), which are concentric circles placed on the surface of each platter, much like the annual rings of a tree. The tracks are numbered, starting from zero, starting at the outside of the platter and increasing as you go in. A modern hard disk has tens of thousands of tracks on each [platter](#)

**(4) Cluster: -**

Cluster is the collection of contiguous blocks. User data is divided into cluster, number of blocks within a cluster is in power of 2. Cluster size can be varying depending upon the size of the disk.

**(5) Cylinder: -**

Cylinder is a collection of corresponding tracks if track on platter changes so will the tracks on rest of the platters as all the heads move simultaneously

**(6) Seek Time: -**

While accessing a selected block Time required by the head to reach the particular track/cylinder is called seek time

**(7) Access Time: -**

The accumulative time that is required to access the selected block is called access time

**(8) LBA (Logical Block Addressing): -**

LBA is the address of relative to the start of physical drive i.e. (absolute).

**(9) LSN (Logical Sector Number): -**

If the blocks are indexed from the boot block such that the boot block has index = 0. Then this index is called LSN. LSN is relative index from the start of logical drive not the physical drive.

**(10) DAP (Disk Address Packet): -**

Disk Address Packet is data structure used by extended in 13H services to address a block and other information for accessing the block.

**(11) BPB (BIOS Parameter Block): -**

BIOS Parameter Block is a data structure maintained by DOS in the boot block for each drive. The boot block is typically a 512 byte block it contain some code and data. The data part constitutes the BPB.

**(12) DPB (Drive Parameter Block): -**

Beside the BPB there is another data structure can be used equivalently called the DPB. The operating system translates the information in BPB on disk into the DPB which is maintained main memory. This data structure can be accessed using the undocumented services 21H/32H.

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