

# Database Storage Part I



Lecture #03



Database Systems  
15-445/15-645  
Fall 2018

AP

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Carnegie Mellon Univ.

# ADMINISTRIVIA

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**Homework #1** is due Monday September 10<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59pm

**Project #1** will be released on Wednesday September 12<sup>th</sup>



# UPCOMING DATABASE EVENTS

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## Kinetica Talk

- Thursday Sep 6<sup>th</sup> @ 12pm
- CIC 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

The Kinetica logo features the word "kinetica" in a dark blue, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letter "i" is replaced by a stylized icon of three horizontal bars of increasing height, resembling a bar chart or a signal waveform.

## SalesForce Talk

- Friday Sep 7<sup>th</sup> @ 12pm
- CIC 4<sup>th</sup> Floor



## Relational AI Talk

- Wednesday @ Sep 12<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00pm
- GHC 8102

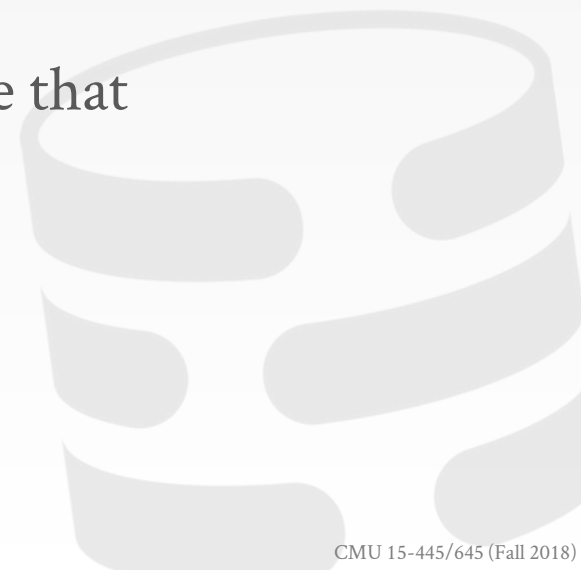
The Relational AI logo features the words "relationalAI" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The "AI" is underlined.

# OVERVIEW

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We now understand what a database looks like at a logical level and how to write queries to read/write data from it.

We will next learn how to build software that manages a database.



# COURSE OUTLINE

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Relational Databases  
Storage  
Execution  
Concurrency Control  
Recovery  
Distributed Databases  
Potpourri

Query Planning

Operator Execution

Access Methods

Buffer Pool Manager

Disk Manager

# DISK-ORIENTED ARCHITECTURE

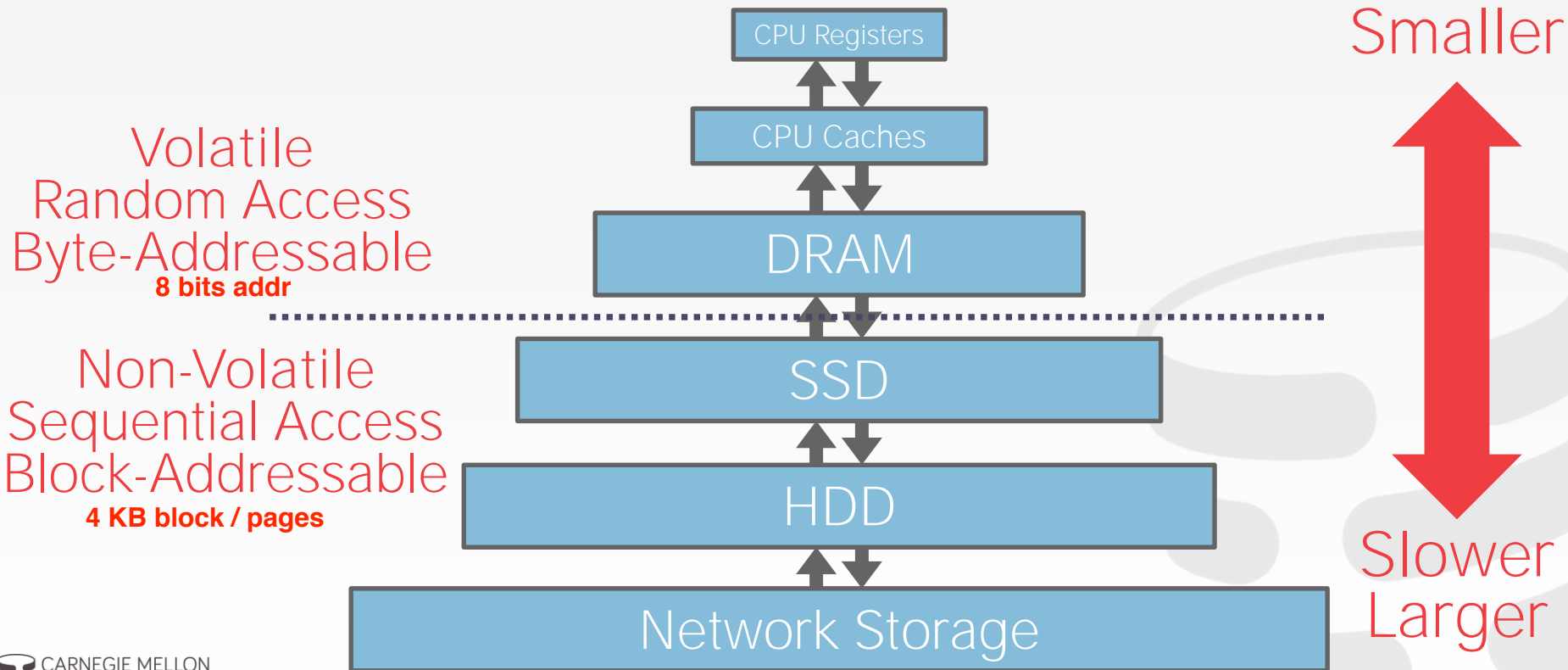
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The DBMS assumes that the primary storage location of the database is on non-volatile disk.

The DBMS's components manage the movement of data between non-volatile and volatile storage.

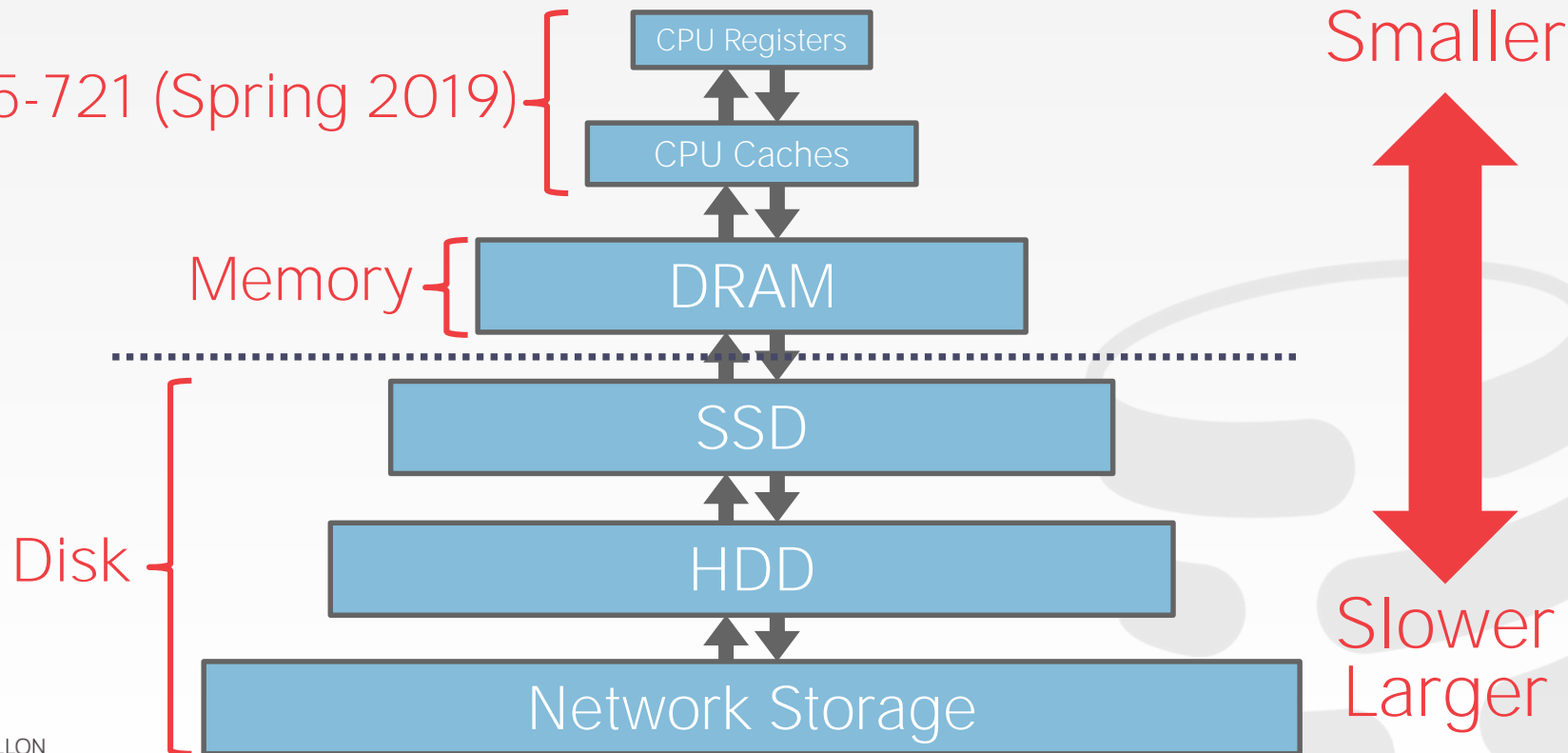


# STORAGE HIERARCHY



# STORAGE HIERARCHY

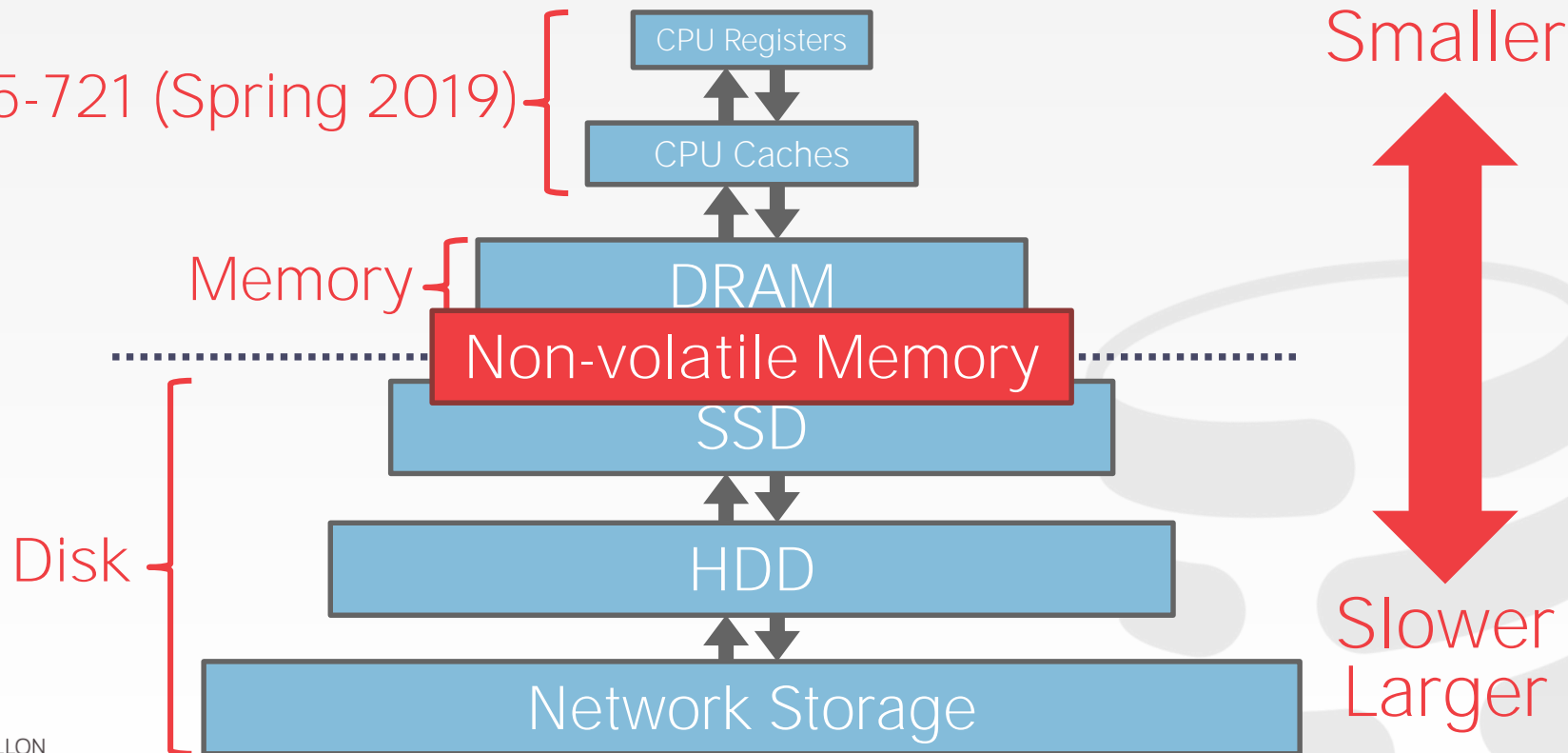
CMU 15-721 (Spring 2019)





# STORAGE HIERARCHY

CMU 15-721 (Spring 2019)



# ACCESS TIMES

0.5 ns L1 Cache Ref	← 0.5 sec
7 ns L2 Cache Ref	← 7 sec
100 ns DRAM	← 100 sec
150,000 ns SSD	← 1.7 days
10,000,000 ns HDD	← 16.5 weeks
~30,000,000 ns Network Storage	← 11.4 months
1,000,000,000 ns Tape Archives	← 31.7 years

[Source]

# SYSTEM DESIGN GOALS

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Allow the DBMS to manage databases that exceed the amount of memory available.

Reading/writing to disk is expensive, so it must be managed carefully to avoid large stalls and performance degradation.

**We want to have our database system provide the illusion it has more memory than it actually has  
e.g. if we have 1GB RAM, and 10 GB database we want to make it appear that the entire database fits in memory**

# SEQUENTIAL VS. RANDOM ACCESS

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Random access on an HDD is much slower than sequential access.

Traditional DBMSs are designed to maximize sequential access.

- Algorithms try to reduce number of writes to random pages so that data is stored in contiguous blocks.
- Allocating multiple pages at the same time is called an extent.

# WHY NOT USE THE OS?

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One can use **mmap** to map the contents of a file into a process' address space.

The OS is responsible for moving data for moving the files' pages in and out of memory.



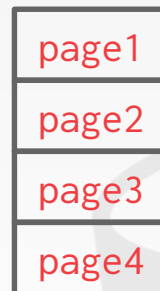
On-Disk File

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Virtual  
Memory



Physical  
Memory

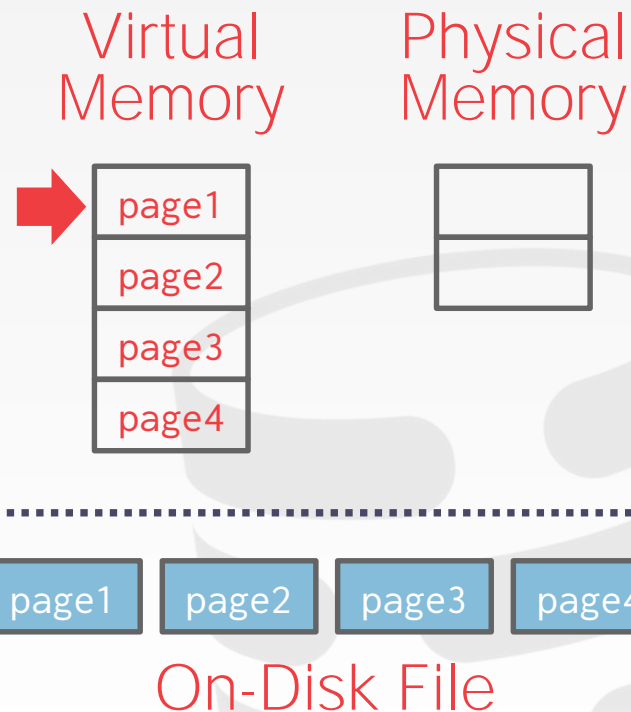


On-Disk File

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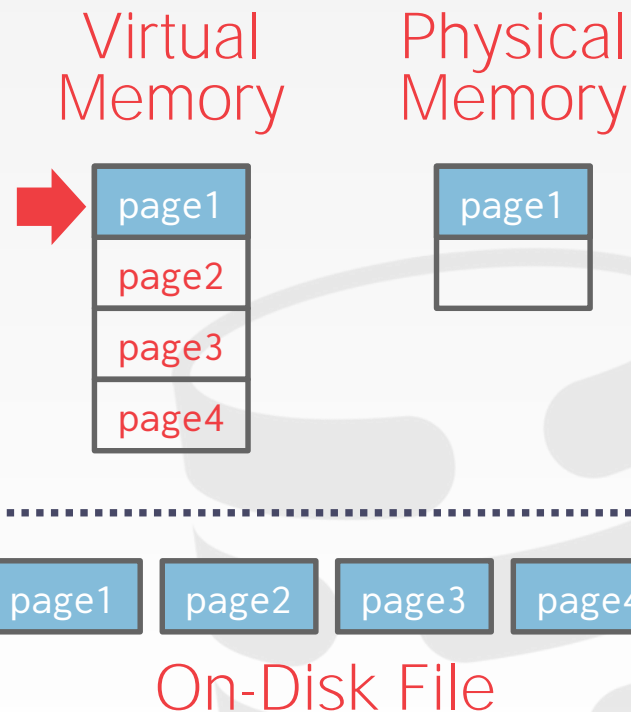
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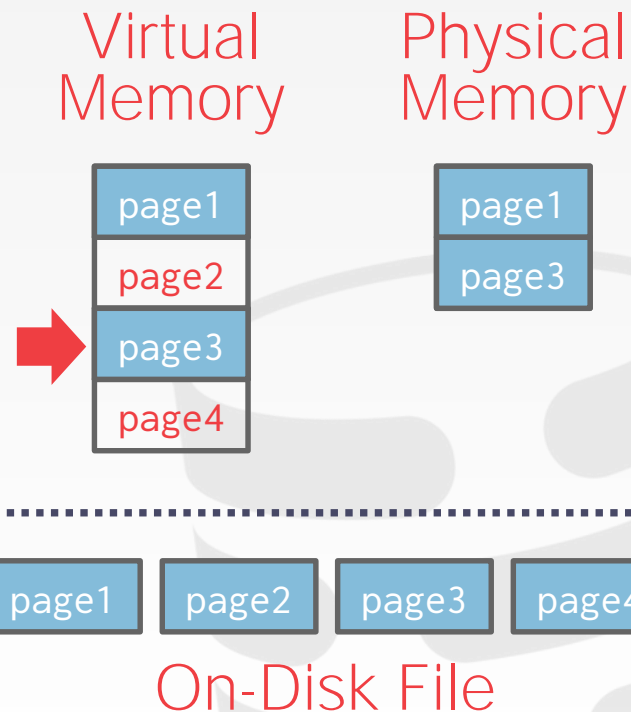




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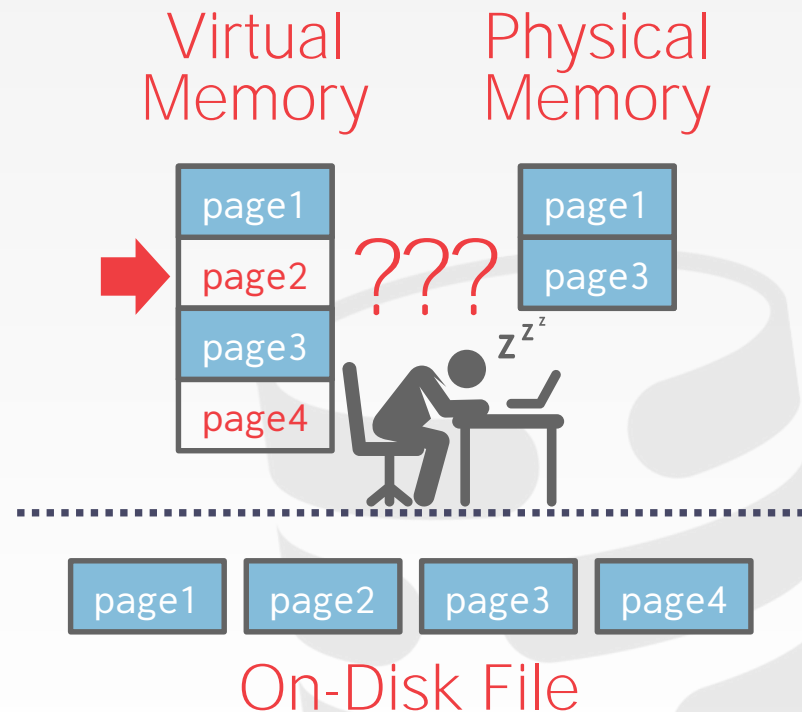
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# WHY NOT USE THE OS?

One can use **mmap** to map the contents of a file into a process' address space.

The OS is responsible for moving data for moving the files' pages in and out of memory.



# WHY NOT USE THE OS?

---

What if we allow multiple threads to access the **mmap** files to hide page fault stalls?

This works good enough for read-only access.  
It is complicated when there are multiple writers...

# WHY NOT USE THE OS?

There are some solutions to this problem:

- **advise**: Tell the OS how you expect to read certain pages.
- **lock**: Tell the OS that memory ranges cannot be paged out.
- **sync**: Tell the OS to flush memory ranges out to disk.

Full Usage



Partial Usage



mongoDB



MEMSQL



SQLite



influxdb

# WHY NOT USE THE OS?

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DBMS (almost) always wants to control things itself and can do a better job at it.

- Flushing dirty pages to disk in the correct order.
- Specialized prefetching.
- Buffer replacement policy.
- Thread/process scheduling.

The OS is **not** your friend.

**The database system can always do a better job than the operating system because they know exactly what will happen. It knows what the queries is executing, it knows what the data looks like, it knows how it is going to access that data**

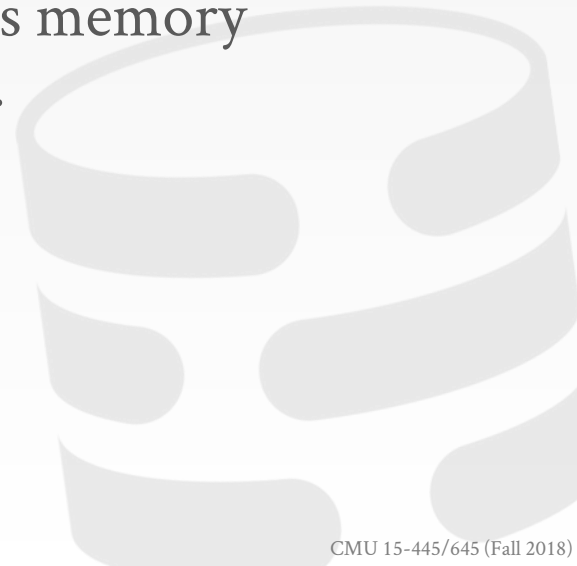
# DATABASE STORAGE

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**Problem #1:** How the DBMS represents the database in files on disk.

← **Today**

**Problem #2:** How the DBMS manages its memory and move data back-and-forth from disk.



# TODAY'S AGENDA

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File Storage

Page Layout

Tuple Layout



# FILE STORAGE

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The DBMS stores a database as one or more files on disk.

The OS doesn't know anything about these files.

- All of the standard filesystem protections are used.
- Early systems in the 1980s used custom "filesystems" on raw storage.

**These files typically are in a proprietary format that is specific to the database system  
So it is not like you can open up a text editor and actually see any data, it's gonna be some binary  
format that only database system can read and write to**



# STORAGE MANAGER

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The storage manager is responsible for maintaining a database's files.

It organizes the files as a collection of pages.

- Tracks data read/written to pages.
- Tracks the available space.



# DATABASE PAGES

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A page is a fixed-size block of data.

- It can contain tuples, meta-data, indexes, log records...
- Most systems do not mix page types.
- Some systems require a page to be **self-contained**.

独立的

Each page is given a unique identifier.

- The DBMS uses an indirection layer to map page ids to physical locations.

# DATABASE PAGES

There are three different notions of "pages" in a DBMS:

- Hardware Page (usually 4KB)
- OS Page (usually 4KB)
- Database Page (1-16KB)

By hardware page, we mean at what level the device can guarantee a "failsafe write".

1KB



4KB



ORACLE®

8KB



16KB



# PAGE STORAGE ARCHITECTURE

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Different DBMSs manage pages in files on disk in different ways.

- Heap File Organization
- Sequential / Sorted File Organization
- Hashing File Organization

At this point in the hierarchy we don't need to know anything about what is inside of the pages.

# DATABASE HEAP

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A heap file is an unordered collection of pages where tuples that are stored in random order.

- Get / Delete Page
- Must also support iterating over all pages.

Need meta-data to keep track of what pages exist and which ones have free space.

Two ways to represent a heap file:

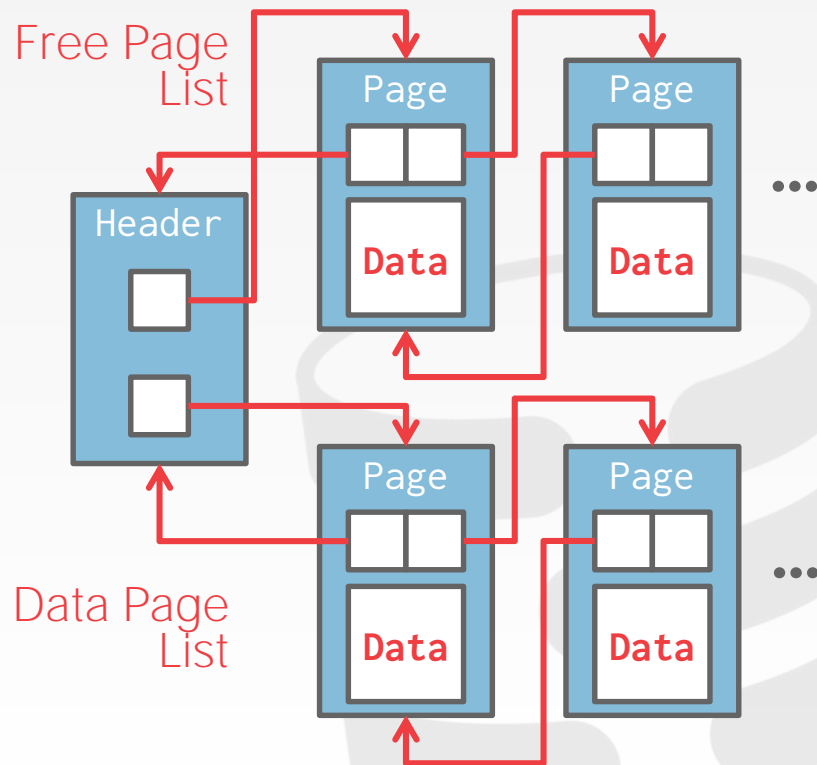
- Linked List
- Page Directory

# HEAP FILE: LINKED LIST

Maintain a header page at the beginning of the file that stores two pointers:

- HEAD of the free page list.
- HEAD of the data page list.

Each page keeps track of the number of free slots in itself.



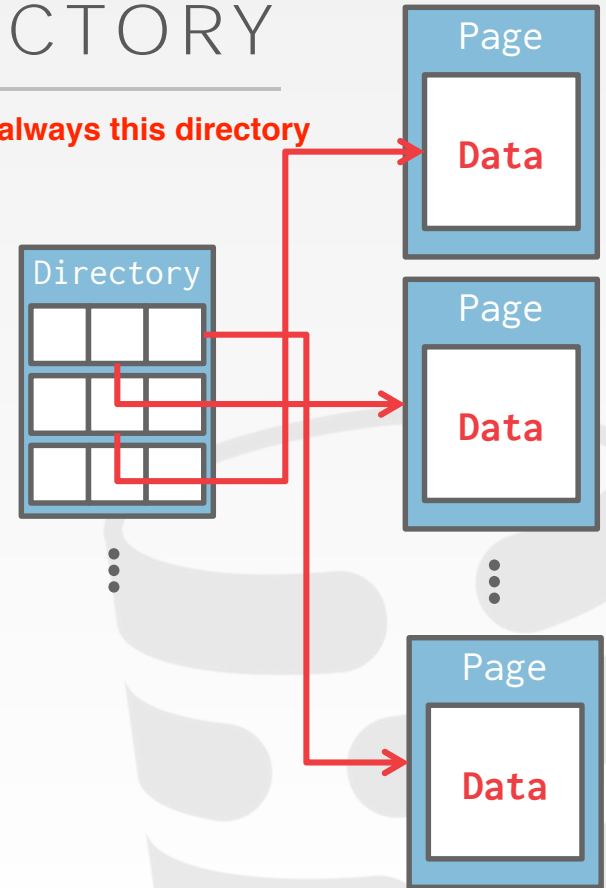
# HEAP FILE: PAGE DIRECTORY

in sqlite, the first page is always this directory

The DBMS maintains special pages that track the location of data pages in the database files.

The directory also records the number of free slots per page.

The DBMS has to make sure that the directory pages are in sync with the data pages.



# TODAY'S AGENDA

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File Storage

Page Layout

Tuple Layout





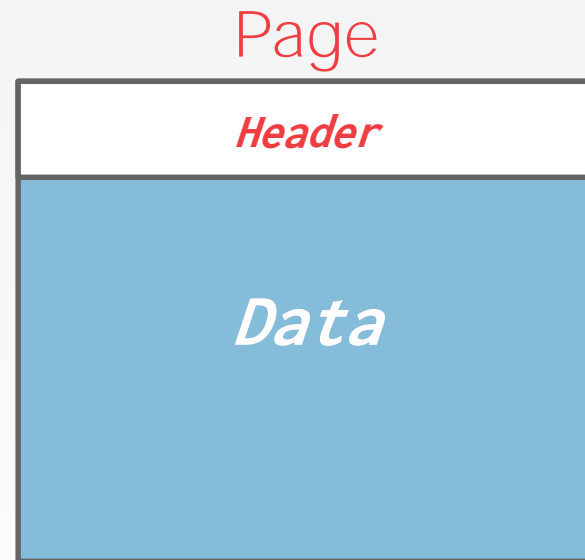
# PAGE HEADER

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Every page contains a header of meta-data about the page's contents.

- Page Size
- Checksum
- DBMS Version
- Transaction Visibility
- Compression Information

Some systems require pages to be self-contained (e.g., Oracle).



# PAGE LAYOUT

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For any page storage architecture, we now need to understand how to organize the data stored inside of the page.

→ We are still assuming that we are only storing tuples.

Two approaches:

→ Tuple-oriented

→ Log-structured



# TUPLE STORAGE

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How to store tuples in a page?

**Strawman Idea:** Keep track of the number of tuples in a page and then just append a new tuple to the end.

Page

*Num Tuples = 0*



# TUPLE STORAGE

How to store tuples in a page?

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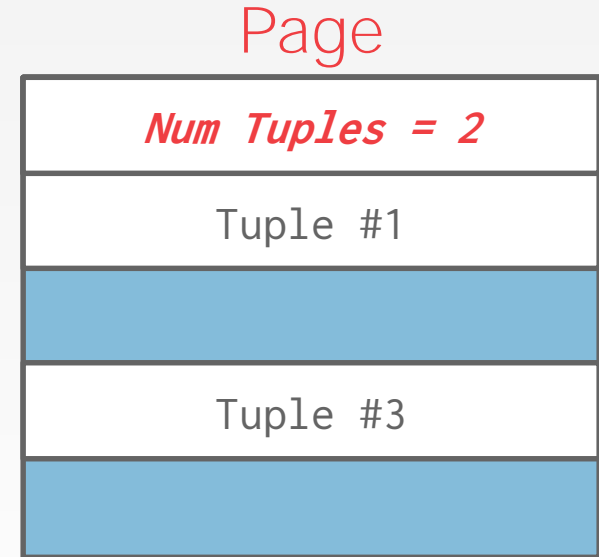
Page

<i>Num Tuples = 3</i>
Tuple #1
Tuple #2
Tuple #3

# TUPLE STORAGE

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**Strawman Idea:** Keep track of the number of tuples in a page and then just append a new tuple to the end.  
→ What happens if we delete a tuple?



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Page

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# TUPLE STORAGE

How to store tuples in a page?

**Strawman Idea:** Keep track of the number of tuples in a page and then just append a new tuple to the end.

- What happens if we delete a tuple?
- What happens if we have a variable-length attribute?

Page

<i>Num Tuples = 3</i>
Tuple #1
Tuple #4
Tuple #3

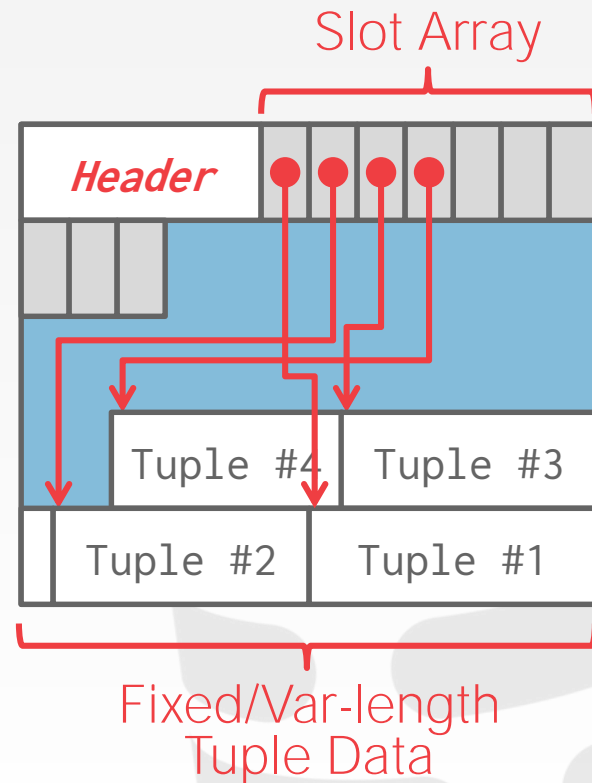
# SLOTTED PAGES

The most common layout scheme is called slotted pages.

The slot array maps "slots" to the tuples' starting position **offsets**.

The header keeps track of:

- The # of used slots
- The offset of the starting location of the last slot used.





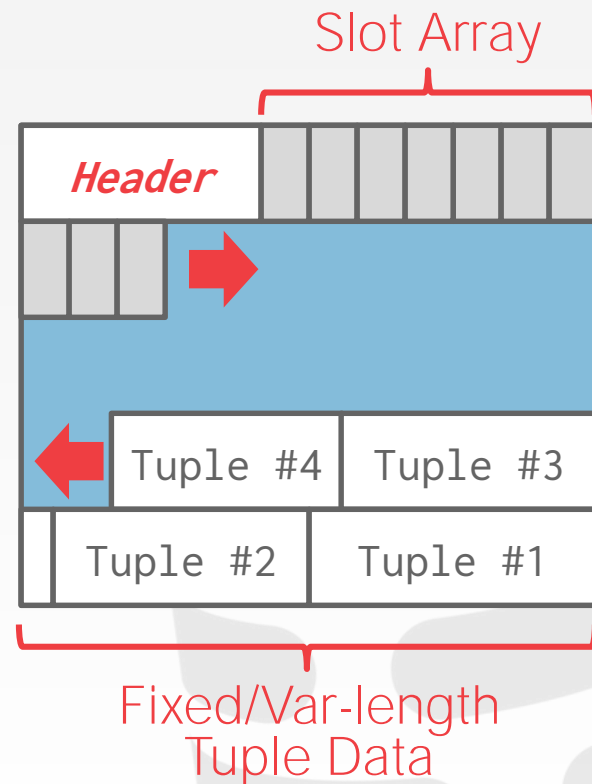
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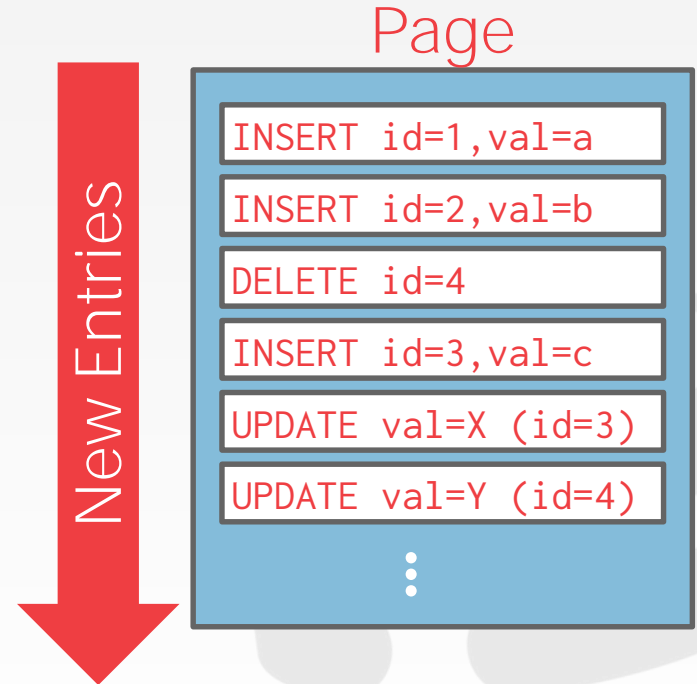
# LOG-STRUCTURED FILE ORGANIZATION

Instead of storing tuples in pages, the DBMS only stores log records.

The system appends log records to the file of how the database was modified:

- Inserts store the entire tuple.
- Deletes mark the tuple as deleted.
- Updates contain the delta of just the attributes that were modified.

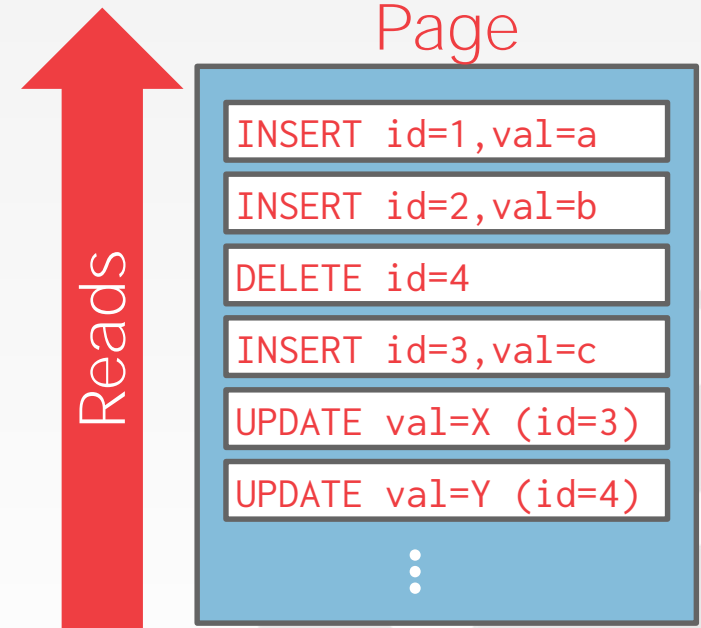
**faster write**  
**slower read**



# LOG-STRUCTURED FILE ORGANIZATION

To read a record, the DBMS scans the log backwards and "recreates" the tuple to find what it needs.

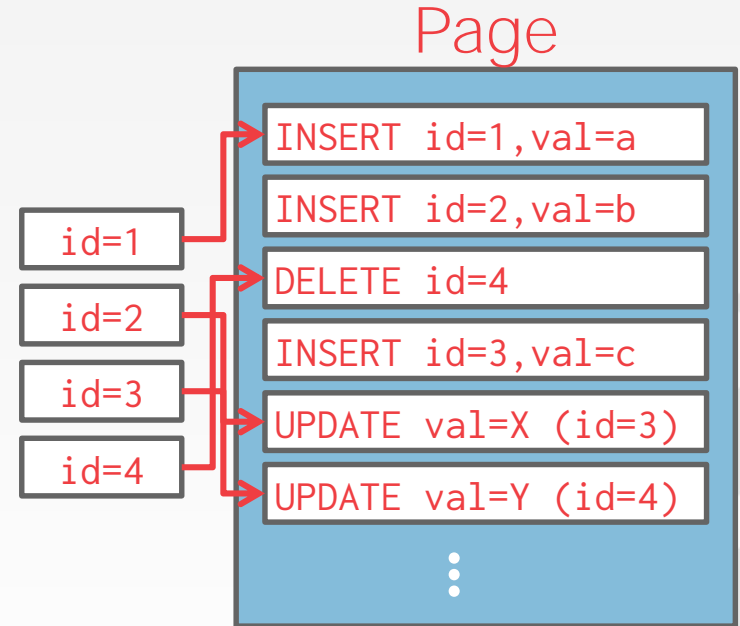
Build indexes to allow it to jump to locations in the log.



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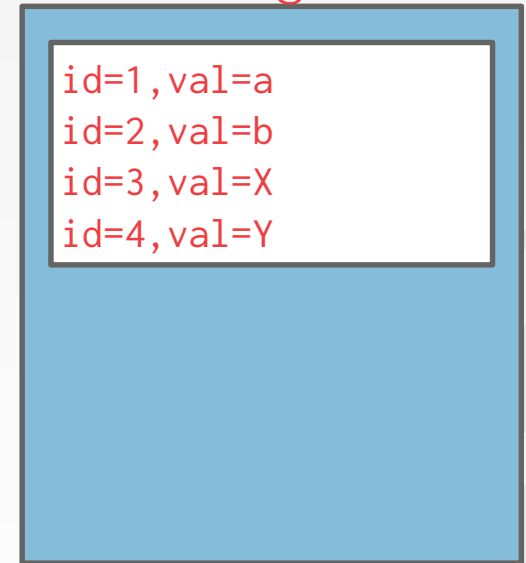
# LOG-STRUCTURED FILE ORGANIZATION

To read a record, the DBMS scans the log backwards and "recreates" the tuple to find what it needs.

Build indexes to allow it to jump to locations in the log.

Periodically compact the log.

Page



APACHE  
**HBASE**



level**DB**



**RocksDB**

# LOG-STRUCTURED COMPACTION

---

Compaction coalesces larger log files into smaller files by removing unnecessary records.

## Level Compaction

Level 0



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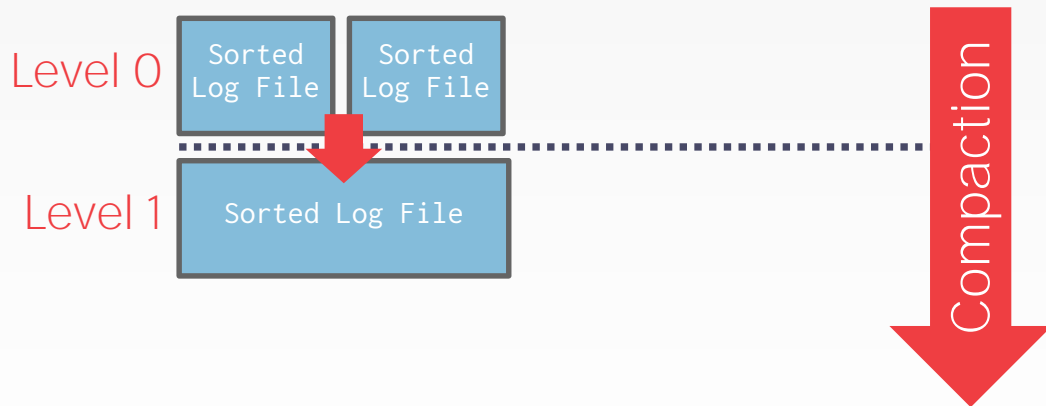
Level 0



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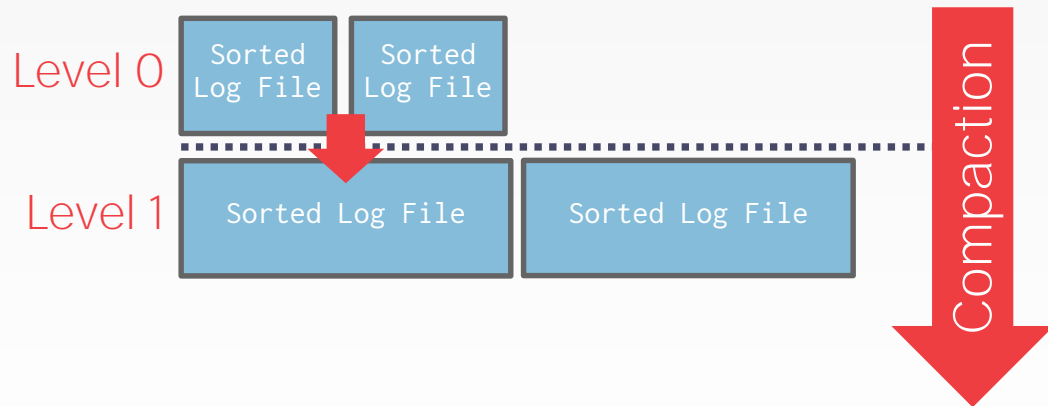




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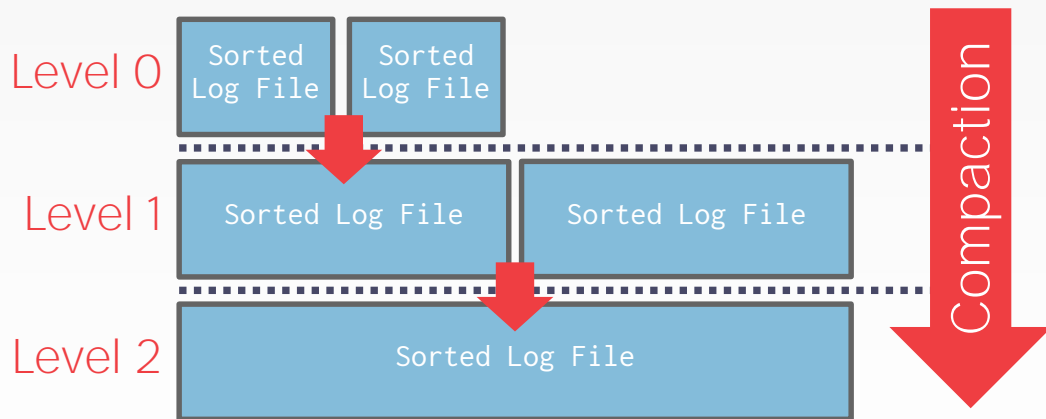
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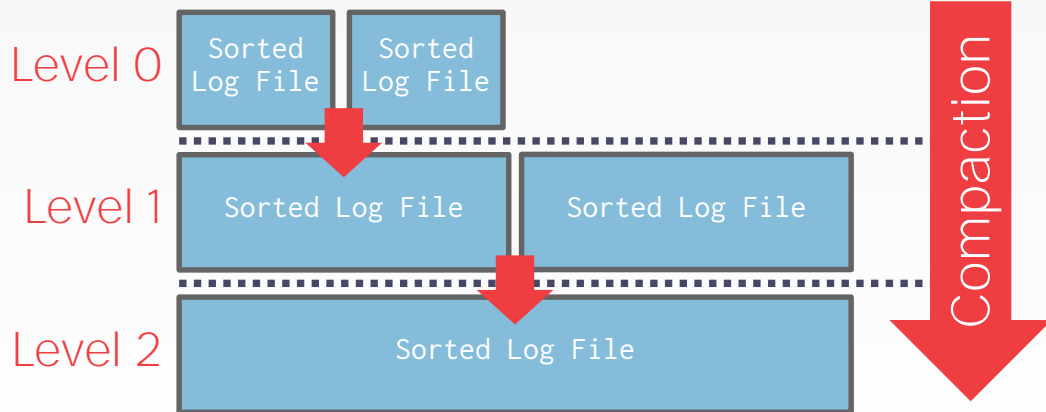
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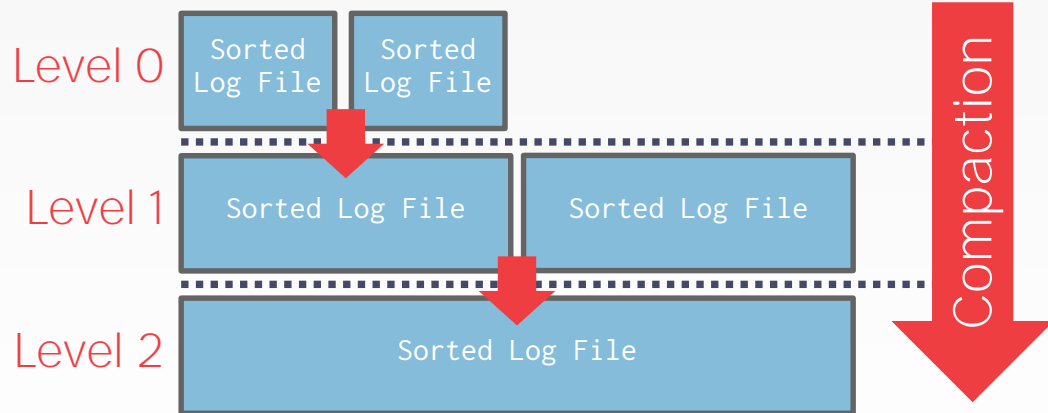
## Universal Compaction



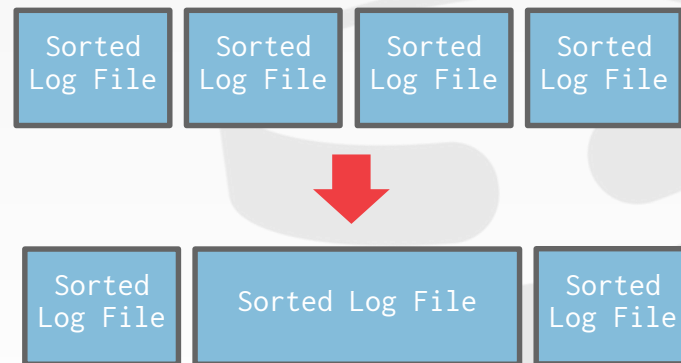
# LOG-STRUCTURED COMPACTION

Compaction coalesces larger log files into smaller files by removing unnecessary records.

## Level Compaction



## Universal Compaction



# TODAY'S AGENDA

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File Storage

Page Layout

Tuple Layout



# TUPLE LAYOUT

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A tuple is essentially a sequence of bytes.

It's the job of the DBMS to interpret those bytes into attribute types and values.



# TUPLE HEADER

Each tuple is prefixed with a header that contains meta-data about it.

- Visibility info (concurrency control)
- Bit Map for **NULL** values.

We do not need to store meta-data about the schema.

Tuple



# TUPLE DATA

Attributes are typically stored in the order that you specify them when you create the table.

This is done for software engineering reasons.

We re-order attributes automatically in CMU's new DBMS...

Tuple

<i>Header</i>	a	b	c	d	e
---------------	---	---	---	---	---

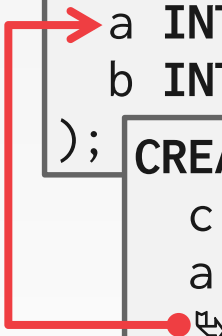
```
CREATE TABLE foo (  
  a INT PRIMARY KEY,  
  b INT NOT NULL,  
  c INT,  
  d DOUBLE,  
  e FLOAT  
);
```



# DENORMALIZED TUPLE DATA

Can physically *denormalize* (e.g., "pre join") related tuples and store them together in the same page.

- Potentially reduces the amount of I/O for common workload patterns.
- Can make updates more expensive.



```
CREATE TABLE foo (  
  a INT PRIMARY KEY,  
  b INT NOT NULL,  
);  
CREATE TABLE bar (  
  c INT PRIMARY KEY,  
  a INT  
  REFERENCES foo (a),  
);
```

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foo

<i>Header</i>	a	b
---------------	---	---

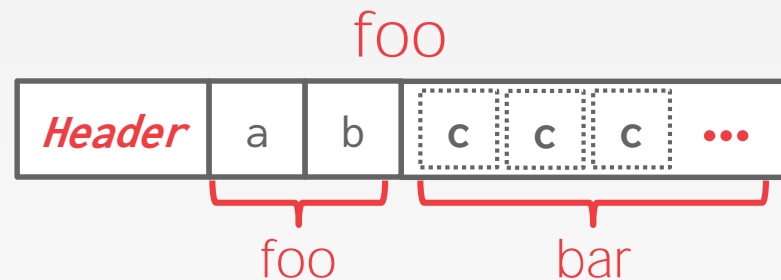
bar

<i>Header</i>	c	a
<i>Header</i>	c	a
<i>Header</i>	c	a

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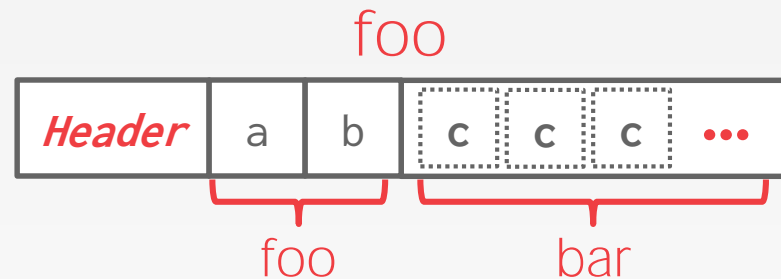
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Not a new idea.

- IBM System R did this in the 1970s.
- Several NoSQL DBMSs do this without calling it physical denormalization.



mongoDB

# RECORD IDS

---

The DBMS needs a way to keep track of individual tuples.

Each tuple is assigned a unique record identifier.

- Most common: **page\_id** + **offset/slot**
- Can also contain file location info.

An application cannot rely on these ids to mean anything.

 PostgreSQL  
CTID (4-bytes)

 SQLite  
ROWID (8-bytes)

 ORACLE®  
ROWID (10-bytes)

# CONCLUSION

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Database is organized in pages.

Different ways to track pages.

Different ways to store pages.

Different ways to store tuples.



# NEXT CLASS

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Value Representation  
Storage Models

