# Time-traveling File System on JOS

• My Idea

Implementation Details

Proof Of Concept

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• Implementation Details

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#### **Ideas**

Here's a list of ideas to get you started thinking -- but you should feel free to pursue your own ideas.

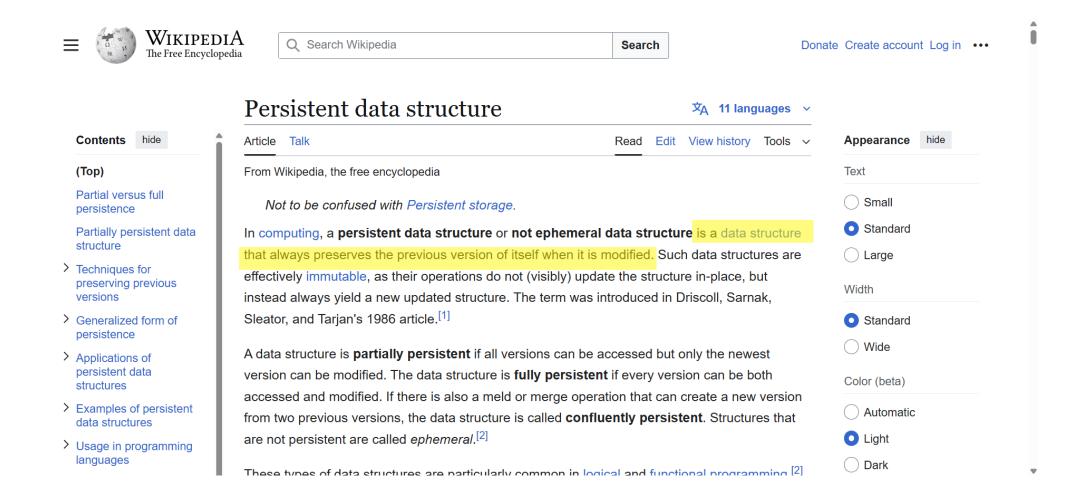
- Build a virtual machine monitor that can run multiple guests (for example, multiple instances of JOS), using x86 VM support.
- Do something useful with the x86 <u>Trusted Execution Technology</u>. For example, run applications without having to trust the kernel. <u>Here</u> is a recent paper on this topic.
- Fix xv6 logging to support concurrent transactions, and generally have higher performance, perhaps taking ideas from Linux EXT3.
- Use file system ideas from <u>Soft updates</u>, <u>WAFL</u>, <u>NILFS</u>, ZFS, or another advanced file system.
- Add snapshots to a file system, so that a user can look at the file system as it appeared at various points in the past. You'll probably want to use some kind of copy-on-write for disk storage to keep space consumption down.
- Implement <u>capabilities</u> to provide fine-grained control over what privileges processes have.
- Build a <u>distributed shared memory</u> (DSM) system, so that you can run multi-threaded shared memory parallel programs on a cluster of machines, using paging to give the appearance of real shared memory. When a thread tries to access a page that's on another machine, the page fault will give the DSM system a chance to fetch the page over the network from whatever machine

# Analysis of the idea

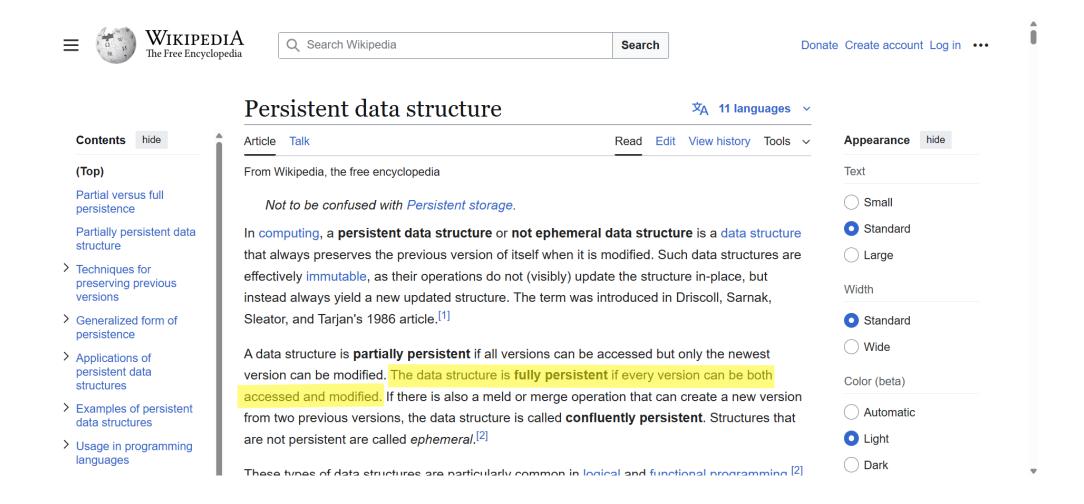
- a. When will we take the snapshot? How often?
- b. What will go into a snapshot? Is it the entire file system?

Will the user choose?
Or maybe the OS will decide?

#### Persistent Data Structure



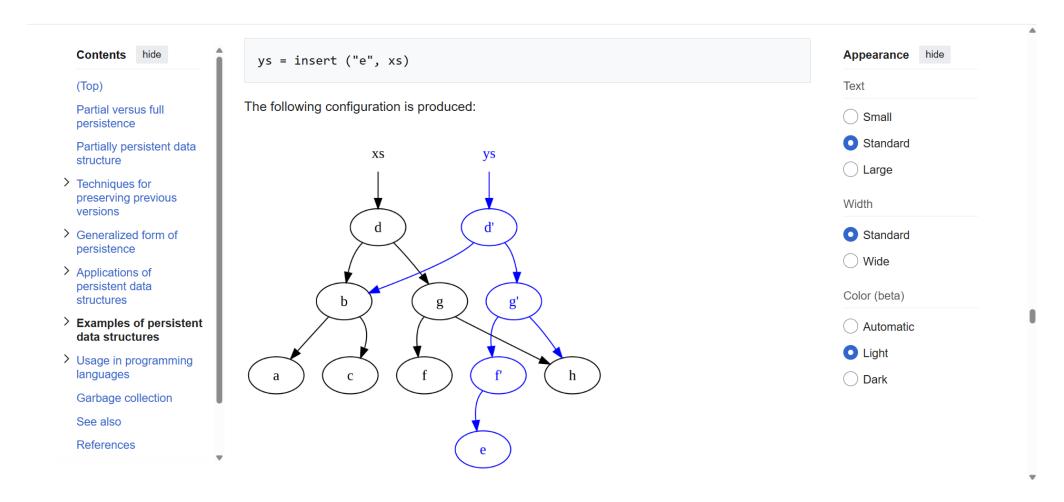
#### Persistent Data Structure



## The idea

- File system that behaves like a fully persistent data structure:
   all past versions are preserved and can be modified.
- The user will choose a root and every file under this root will preserve automatically with any change.
- Nothing is truly lost history is preserved.
- The user can go back to read from any previous state.
- The user can branch off a past version into a new timeline.

# How to preserve previous versions?

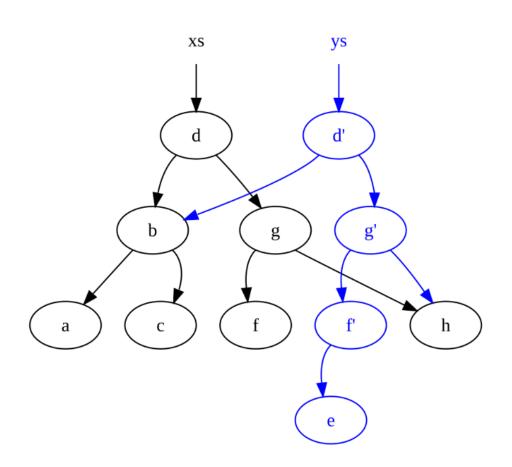


# How to preserve previous versions?

#### space complexity:

the over all space is  $O\big(nlog(n)\big)$  while n is the number of objects across all versions

I implemented the same behavior with  $\mathcal{O}(n)$ 



## Fat Files

Contents hide

#### (Top)

Partial versus full persistence

Partially persistent data structure

- > Techniques for preserving previous versions
- > Generalized form of persistence
- > Applications of persistent data structures
- > Examples of persistent data structures
- > Usage in programming languages

Garbage collection

See also

References

copied for each write, reading to worst case  $O(n\cdot m)$  performance characteristics for mmodifications of an array of size n. Copy-on-write memory management can reduce the price for an update from  $\Theta(n)$  to O(Bu), where B is the memory block size and u the number of pages updated in an operation. [citation needed]

#### Fat node [edit]

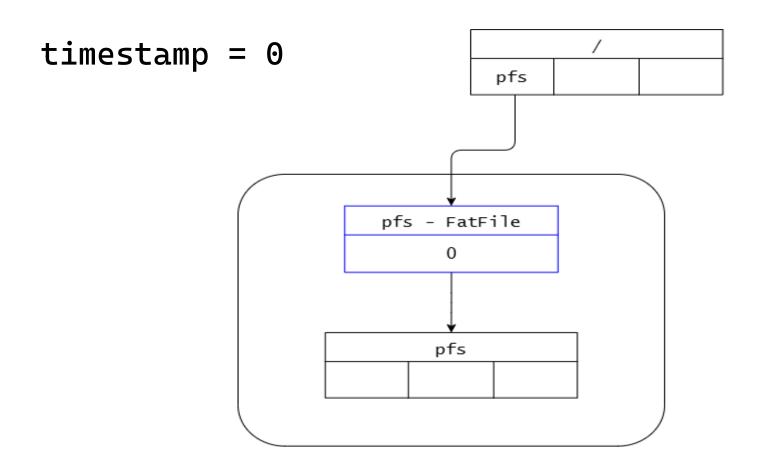
The fat node method is to record all changes made to node fields in the nodes themselves, without erasing old values of the fields. This requires that nodes be allowed to become arbitrarily "fat". In other words, each fat node contains the same information and pointer fields as an ephemeral node, along with space for an arbitrary number of extra field values. Each extra field value has an associated field name and a version stamp which indicates the version in which the named field was changed to have the specified value. Besides, each fat node has its own version stamp, indicating the version in which the node was created. The only purpose of nodes having version stamps is to make sure that each node only contains one value per field name per version. In order to navigate through the structure, each original field value in a node has a version stamp of zero.

#### Complexity of fat node [edit]

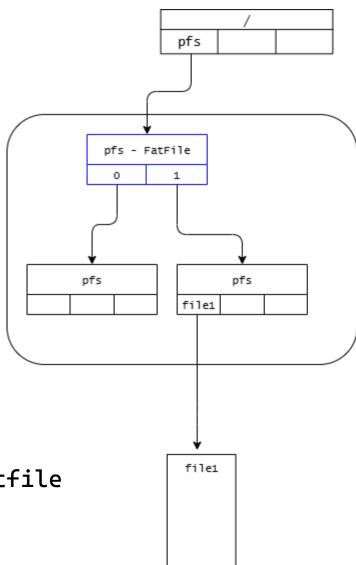
With using fat node method, it requires O(1) space for every modification: just store the new data. Each modification takes O(1) additional time to store the modification at the end of the modification history. This is an amortized time bound, assuming modification history is stored in a

Appearance	hide	
Text		
○ Small		
<ul><li>Standard</li></ul>		
Large		
Width		
<ul><li>Standard</li></ul>		
○ Wide		
Color (beta)		
Automatic		
Light		

### Illustration

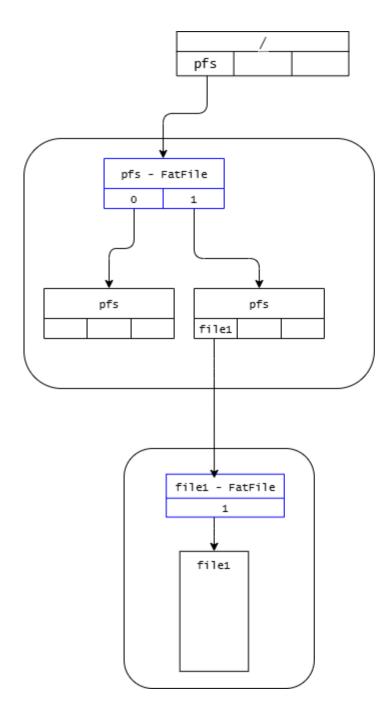






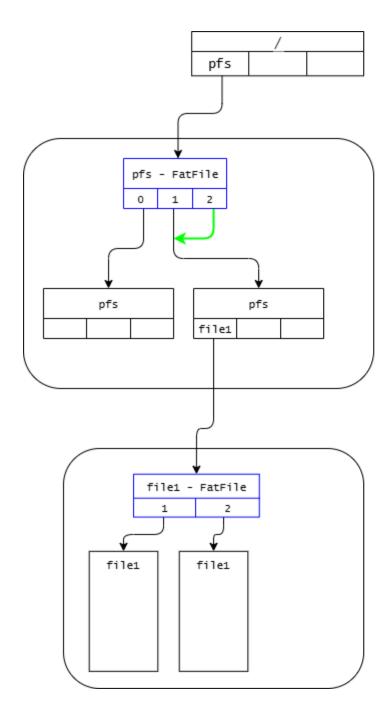
ts	command
1	open("/pfs/file1")

file1 should also be a fatfile



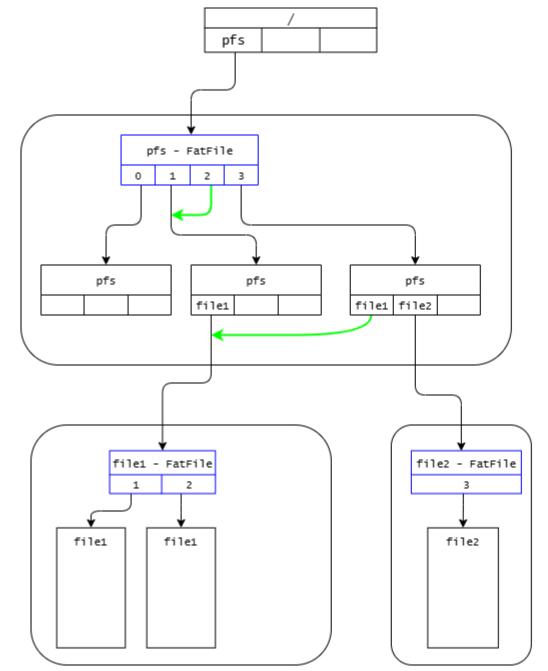
ts	command
1	open("/pfs/file1")



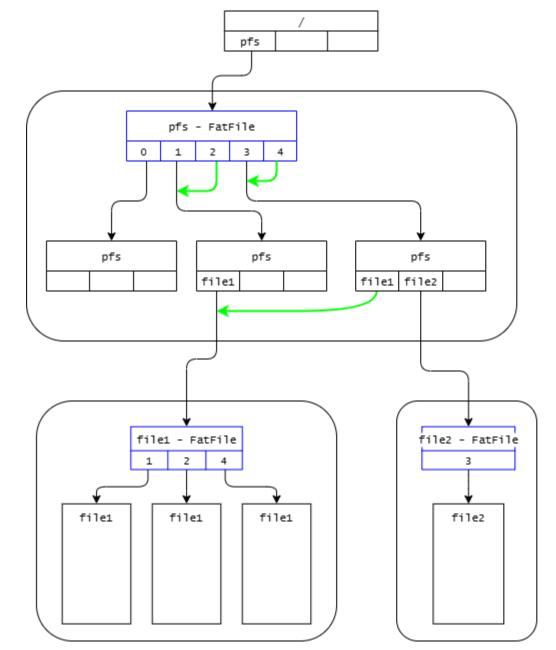


ts	command
1	open("/pfs/file1")
2	write("/pfs/file1")



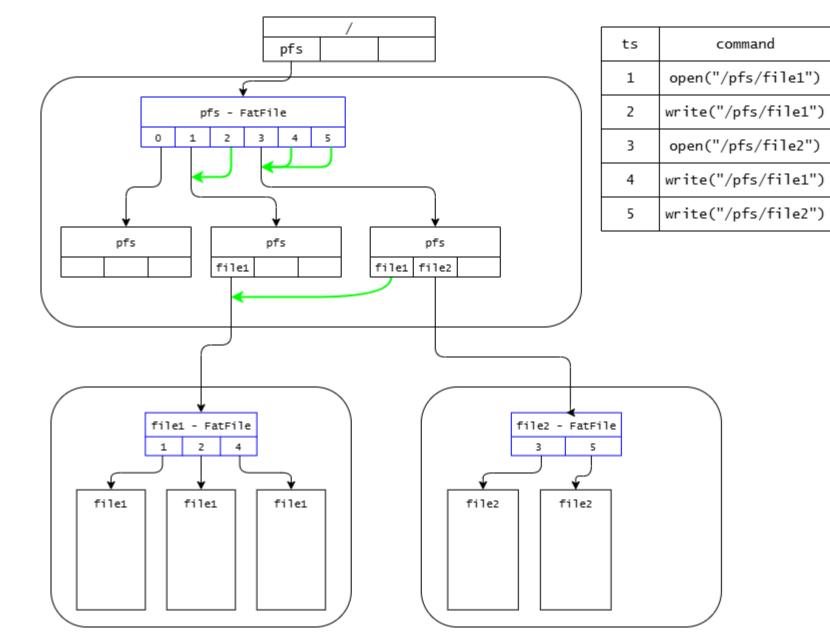


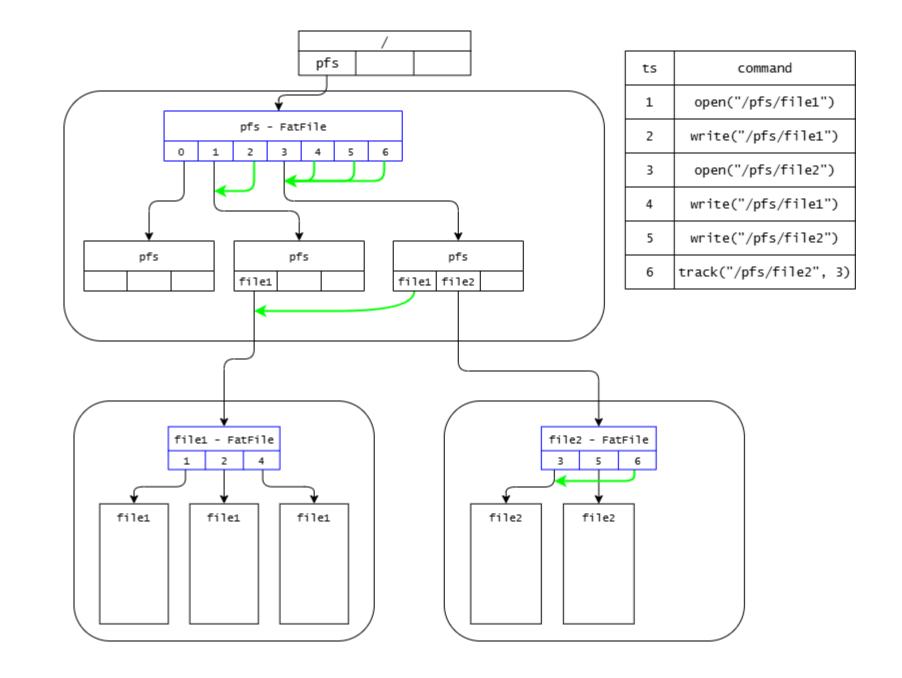
ts	command
1	open("/pfs/file1")
2	write("/pfs/file1")
3	open("/pfs/file2")



ts	command
1	open("/pfs/file1")
2	write("/pfs/file1")
3	open("/pfs/file2")
4	write("/pfs/file1")

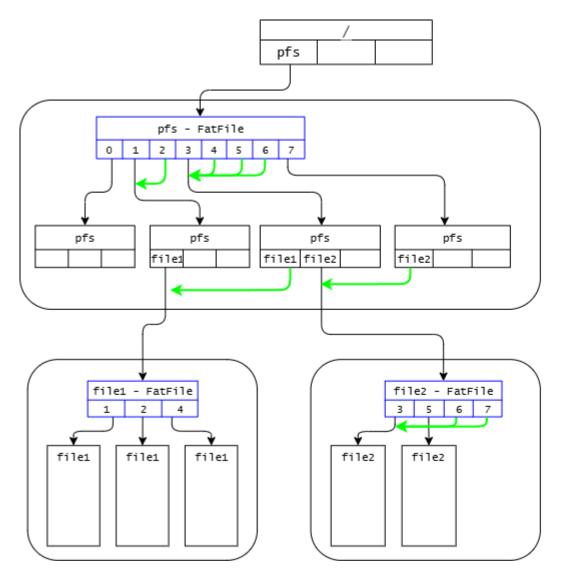






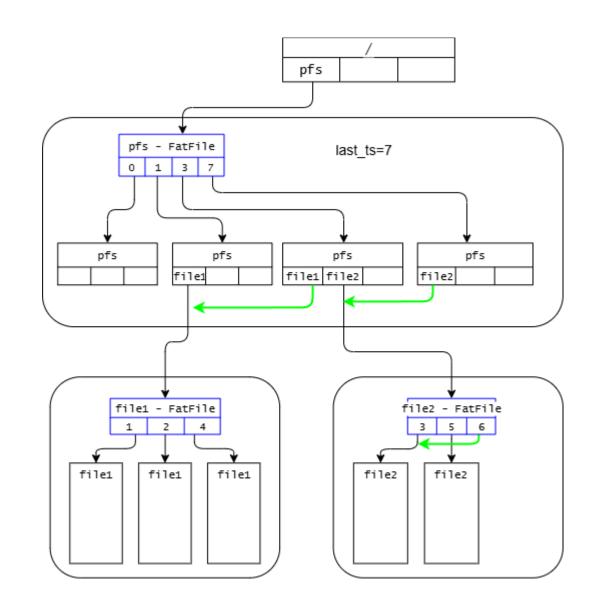
# deleting a file

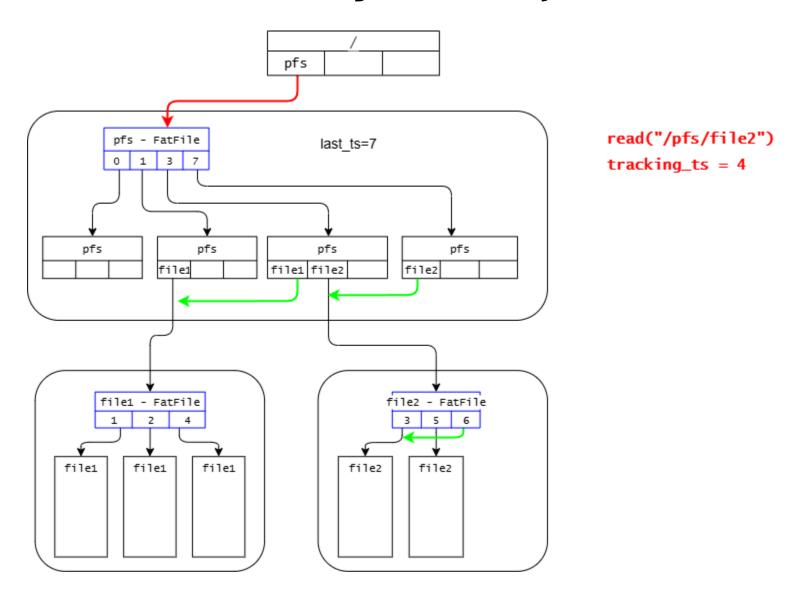
- can we delete a file?
  - of course!
- in our PFS we can remove any file (file/dir) but the file itself. not the FatFile.
- deleting the file is just creating a new timestamp for its ff without the file.

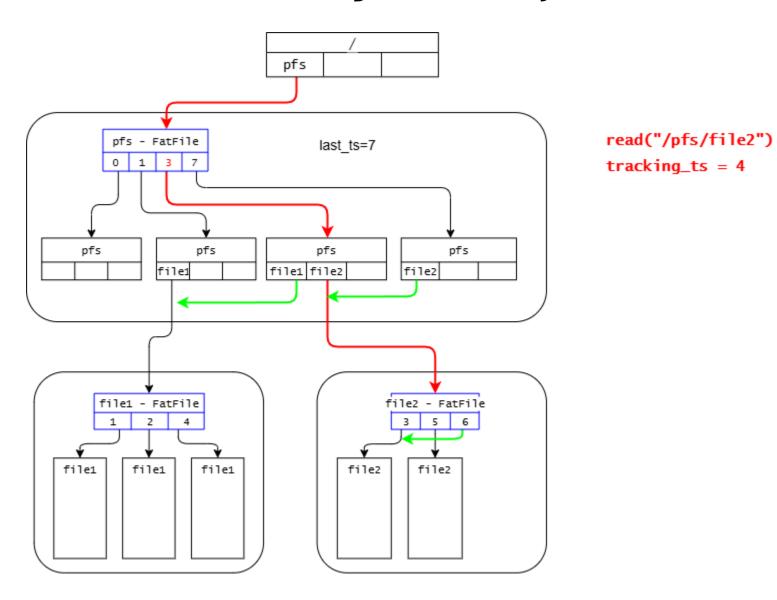


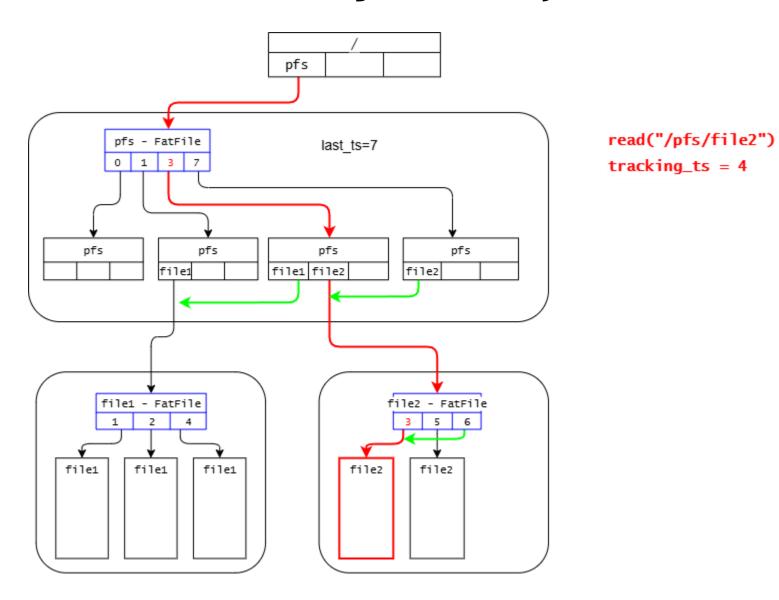
ts	command
1	open("/pfs/file1")
2	write("/pfs/file1")
3	open("/pfs/file2")
4	write("/pfs/file1")
5	write("/pfs/file2")
6	track("/pfs/file2", 3)
7	remove("pfs/file1")

Actually, it looks like this

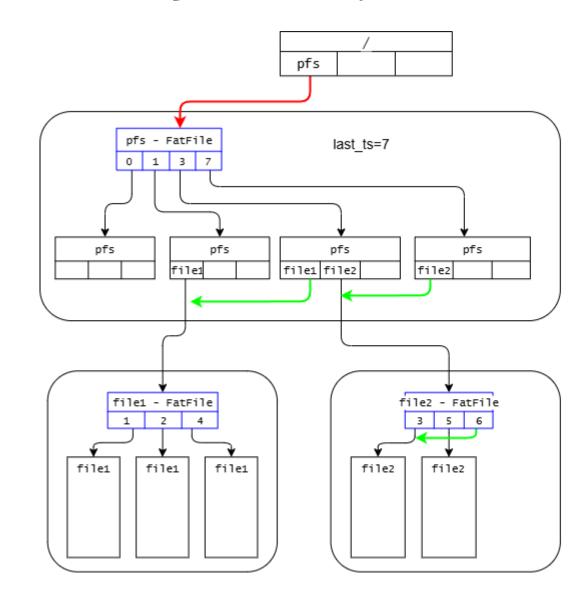






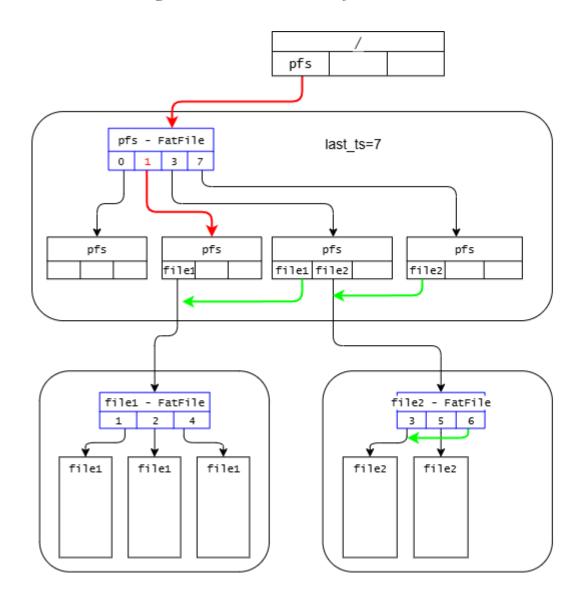


What happens if we try
to read a file with a
timestamp where the
file did not exist?



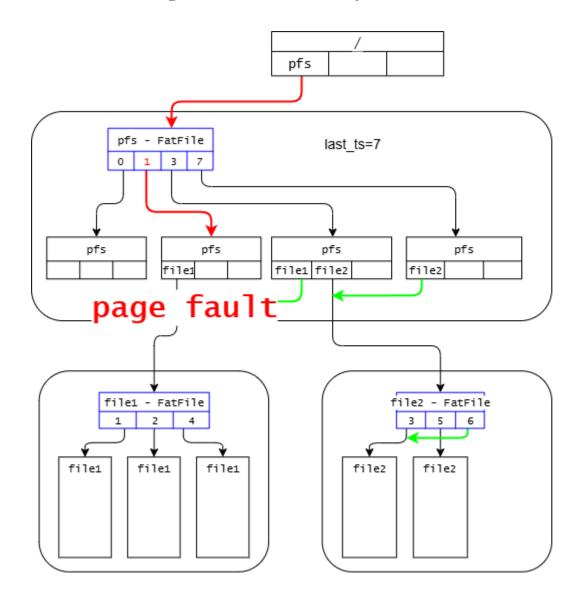
read("/pfs/file2")
tracking\_ts = 2

What happens if we try
to read a file with a
timestamp where the
file did not exist?



read("/pfs/file2")
tracking\_ts = 2

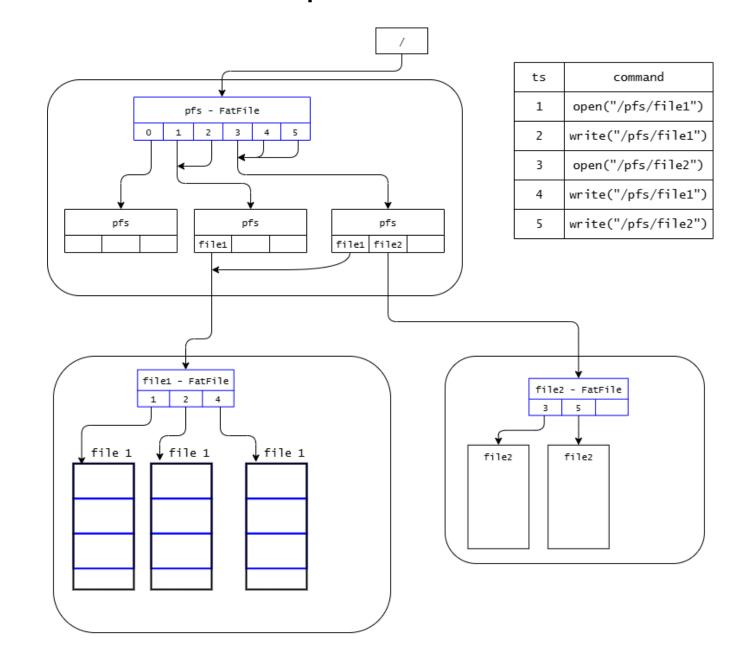
What happens if we try
to read a file with a
timestamp where the
file did not exist?

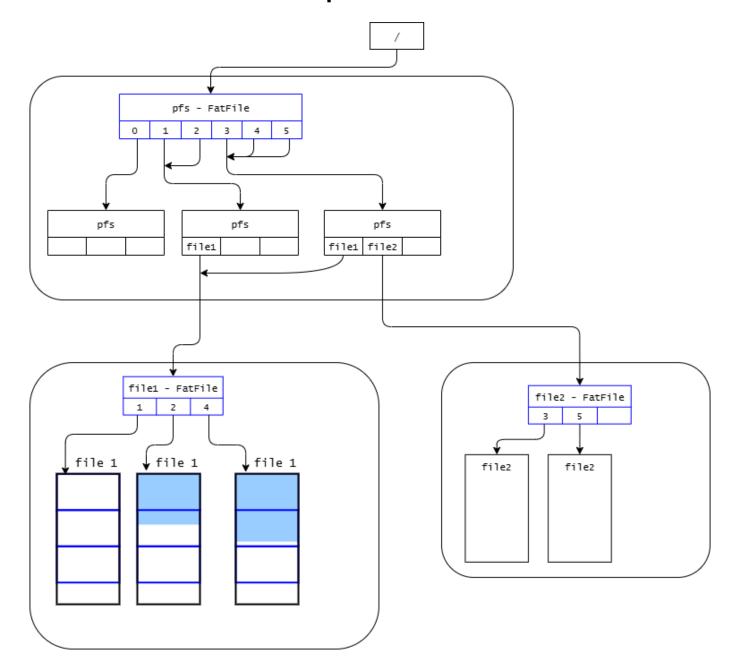


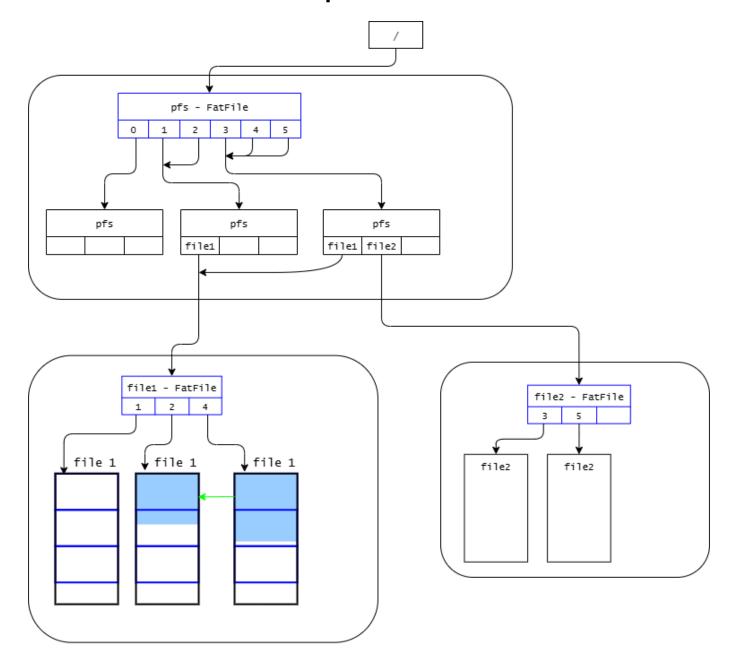
read("/pfs/file2")
tracking\_ts = 2

# Efficiency

- Every complete file-block saved exactly once.
- Incomplete block will be copied.
- A regular file and a folder file behave the same.

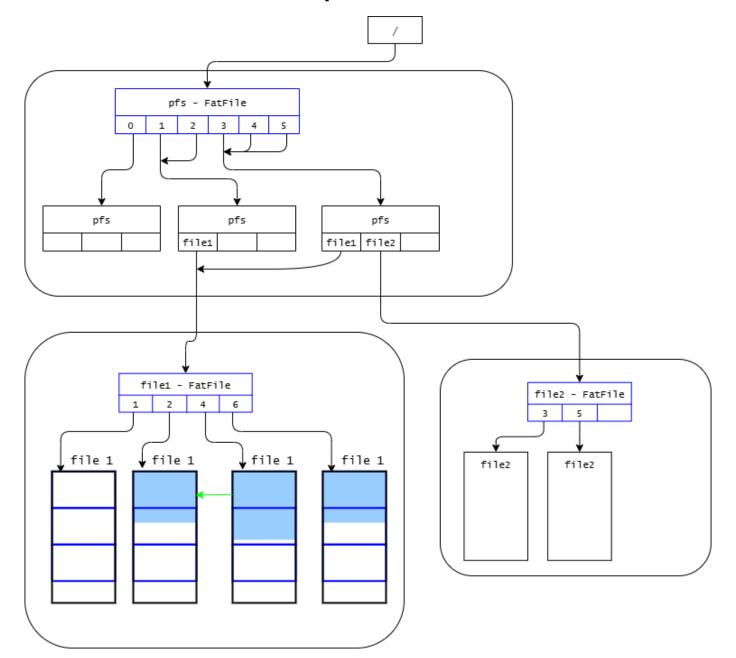


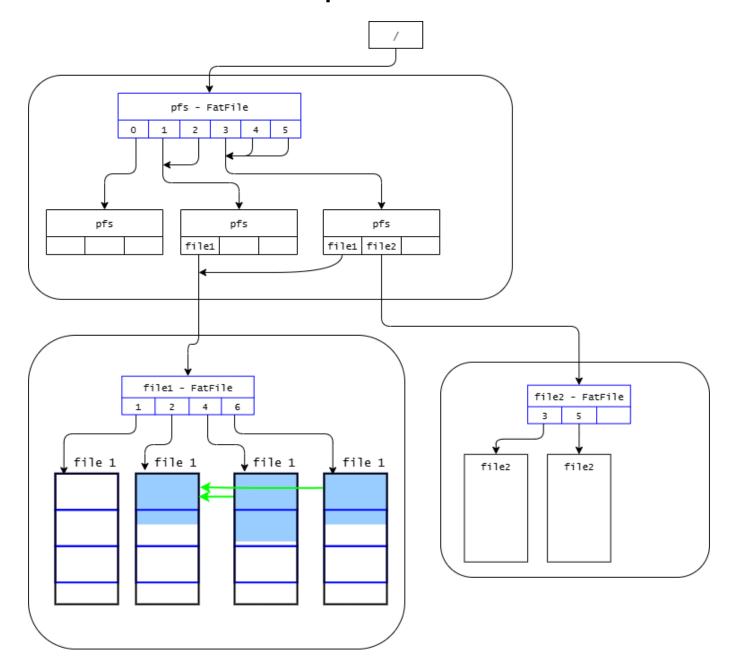




## Note

- Unfortunately, the block size is equal to the page size, which means a large amount of data may be copied each time.
- Reducing the block size to match the sector size would require rewriting the file system from scratch
  - and might involve giving up the current IPC-based file system management.





# Is that "fully persistent"?

**Reminder:** A data structure is fully persistent if every version can be both accessed and modified — not just the newest one.

Let's assume they aren't read-only.

But the moment you modify one, you must create a new version.

So in practice, they behave as "read-only" anyway.

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# Timestamp

- added f\_timestamp in struct File
  - will be the latest timestamp of the file

#### inc/fs.h

```
29 typedef ssize t ts t; // PROJECT
31 // PROJECT:
32 // When File.f type is FTYPE FN it's mean all the blocks of the File
33 // containing versions of the file. Each for every timestamp.
34 struct File {
          char f name[MAXNAMELEN];
          off t f size;
          uint32 t f type;
          ts_t f timestamp;
          uint32 t f direct[NDIRECT]; // direct blocks
          uint32 t f indirect;
          uint8 t f pad[256 - MAXNAMELEN - 12 - 4*NDIRECT - 4]; // PROJECT: Changed from -8 to -12
    attribute ((packed)); // required only on some 64-bit machines
```

# Timestamp

- The current timestamp is preserved on the disk!
- It is stored in the superblock.
  - It is read from the disk in fs\_init() and updated whenever it increases.
  - Initially set to 0 in fsformat.c:opendisk()

#### inc/fs.h

# FatFile Type

 A new file type inc/fs.h

- FatFile type is
  - FTYPE\_FF | FTYPE\_REG for file
  - FTYPE\_FF | FTYPE\_DIR for folder

# FatFile - Changes required

- Basically, almost nothing needed to be changed, thanks to the fact that FatFile behaves like a folder.
- The main thing that needed to be maintained was for walking the path from the root.
  - I wrote a function that takes FatFile and returns the correct TS. and that's it..
  - More on that later.
- One small thing: Since a fatfile's timestamp file has FTYPE\_REG only,
   I also need to store the parent FatFile in the OpenFile struct.

#### fs/serv.c

## JOS FS Build

- fsformat.c's main() build the JOS FS
  - It creates the root directory and write to it all the user files.

- I added to root a new folder there, called pfs.
- It's the first fatfile and the root for the Persistent FS.
- It's created automatically when the file system is built.

#### JOS FS Build

- There is a clean-fs.img backup file in obj directory.
- clean-fs.img preserves the disk contents between JOS sessions.
- When a file in obj/fs changes, fs.img is rebuilt.
- In that case, all disk files are lost, so last\_ts will reset to zero.

#### fs/Makefrag

```
62 # How to build the file system image
63 $(OBJDIR)/fs/fsformat: fs/fsformat.c
           @echo + mk $(OBJDIR)/fs/fsformat
64
           $(V)mkdir -p $(@D)
65
66
           $(V)$(NCC) $(NATIVE CFLAGS) -o $(OBJDIR)/fs/fsformat fs/fsformat.c
67
68 $(OBJDIR)/fs/clean-fs.img: $(OBJDIR)/fs/fsformat $(FSIMGFILES)
69
           @echo + mk $(OBJDIR)/fs/clean-fs.img
70
           $(V)mkdir -p $(@D)
71
           $(V)$(OBJDIR)/fs/fsformat $(OBJDIR)/fs/clean-fs.img 1024 $(FSIMGFILES)
72
73 $(OBJDIR)/fs/fs.img: $(OBJDIR)/fs/clean-fs.img
           @echo + cp $(OBJDIR)/fs/clean-fs.img $@
74
           $(V)cp $(OBJDIR)/fs/clean-fs.img $@
75
76
77 all: $(OBJDIR)/fs/fs.img
```

# Support for chdir

- The native JOS FS is very poor in terms of file navigation.
- There is no support for moving between different directories.
- So first I had to add the cd command.

- ·cd is switching the PATH for all shell commands
- Therefore, the new PATH needs to be saved somewhere after the cd process exits.
- So where and how to store it?
- My first attempt was very naive...

# Shared PATH - First try

- Keep PATH as a global variable in fs.h
- Write two functions in fs.c that read and write it.
- Include them in inc/lib.h

#### It doesn't work!

- Changes are not synchronized.
- User environments cannot access a variable that lives in the memory space of the FS environment.
- cd change its private memory only.

# Shared PATH - Second try

- Save PATH in the kernel space.
  - Wrote a new file: kern/path.c
- PATH will be a kernel variable only, and it will copy for the user with strcpy(user\_path, PATH)
- Read and update through syscalls
  - sys\_chdir for cd
  - sys\_get\_shell\_path for any shell command that wants to read PATH
- In the meantime, I saw that xv6 also serves cd with sys\_chdir and I was sure I had solved it.

# Shared PATH - Second try

That didn't work either.

And I'm not sure why...

```
Kern/syscall.c:
int sys_get_shell_path(char *user_buf) {
    strcpy(user_buf, PATH); // page fault from kernel stack here
    return 0;
}
```

- Eventually I solved the page fault
- But then I got the same behavior again as in the first try

- I had a few more ideas
  - Create shared pipe like FIFO
  - Create a new IPC request for sharing PATH between the FS env and users envs
  - Write it to a file
- But then I came up with the simplest solution I could think of - a shared page allocated by the shell!

Added a macro that preserve a free user address for the PATH.

inc/lib.h

```
28
29 // SHELL-PATH address
30 #define PATH_VA ((void*) 0xB0000000) // PROJECT
31
```

And shell's main() allocate a new page there with PTE\_SHARE permission.

```
user/sh.c
```

```
// Alloc a page that will be shared with every shell child
// This page will keep the current PATH and will update by cd command
if((r = sys_page_alloc(thisenv->env_id, PATH_VA, PTE_U | PTE_P | PTE_W | PTE_SHARE)) < 0) // PROJECT
panic("init_PATH: sys_page_alloc return %e\n", r);
</pre>
```

And that's it!

• Now, every user who wants a PATH access all they need to do is declare this global variable.

user/cd.c, user/ls.c, user/touch.c , user/track.c, user/undo.c

• Since the shell creates all users with fork, the PATH will always be in sync.

#### lib/fork.c

```
if(uvpt[pn] & PTE_SHARE){

if(uvpt[pn] & PTE_SHARE){

if((r = sys_page_map(parent_envid, pgaddr, envid, pgaddr, uvpt[pn] & PTE_SYSCALL)) < 0)

return r;

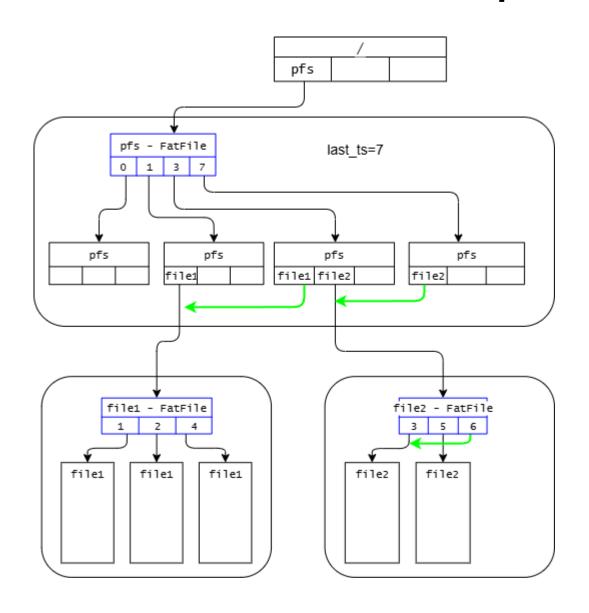
}</pre>
```

```
user/cd.c
```

# cd command

```
3 chdir(char* new path)
 4 {
           int i, cur len;
           if(!new path)
                    return -E BAD PATH;
           if(new path[0] == '/'){
11
12
13
                   strcpy(PATH, new path);
                   goto chdir end;
           // support for "cd ..." and "cd .../../<dir>"
17
           while(strlen(new path) > 1 && new path[0] ==
                                                               && new path[1] == ){
                   new path += 2;
                   path pop();
22
23
24
25
26
27
                   if(*new path == '\0')
                            goto chdir end;
                   if(new path[0] != '/')
                            return -E BAD PATH;
28
29
30
                   new_path++;
31
32
33
           cur len = strlen(PATH);
           if(cur len + strlen(new path) + 1 > MAXPATHLEN)
34
35
36
37
                    panic(
                                                        + strlen(%s) + 1 > MAXPATHLEN\n", PATH, new path);
           if(cur_len > 0 && PATH[cur_len - 1] != '/')
                    strcat(PATH, "/");
39
           strcat(PATH, new path);
41 chdir end:
           PATH[strlen(PATH)] = '\0';
           return 0;
```

## Writing to a FatFile - Implementation

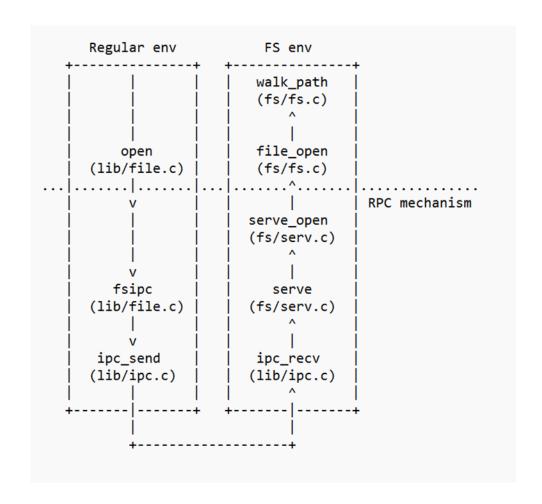


# Some Diagnoses and Conclusions

- 1. Every change creates a new timestamp
  - → Every file is written exactly once
    - → Writing to a file always starts from an empty file
    - → Blocks always start aligned
- 2. Files are never removed
  - → We don't need to handle shared pointers

## Writing to a FatFile

- Everything happens in open()
  - File Descriptor contains both the file itself and its fatfile
- The manipulation and management of fatfile is done (almost) only from walk\_path()



## Writing to a FatFile - walk\_mode

fs/serv.c: serve\_open()

```
if((req->req_omode & O_CREAT) || (req->req_omode & O_WRONLY)) // PROJECT
walk_mode = WALK_CREATE;
else
walk_mode = WALK_RDONLY;
```

• fs/fs.c: walk\_path()

# Writing to a FatFile - ff\_lookup

```
fs/fs.c
                244 // PROJECT: New function.
                .45 // Return the file/dir from fatfile according to requested ts
                246 static struct File*
               247 ff lookup(struct File* ff)
                           int r;
                           uint32 t i, j, nblock;
                           char* blk;
                           struct File *f, *ret f;
                           if((ff->f type & FTYPE FF) == 0)
                                   return ff;
                           ret_f = 0;
                           assert((ff->f size % BLKSIZE) == 0);
                           nblock = ff->f size / BLKSIZE;
                           // TODO: Performance can be improved by replacing this loop with a binary search.
                           for(i = 0; i < nblock; ++i)
                                   if((r = file get block(ff, i, &blk)) < 0)</pre>
                                           panic("
                                                                          ock return %d for file %s with track ts %d\n", r, ff->f name, track ts);
                                   f = (struct File*)blk;
                                   for(j = 0; j < BLKFILES; ++j){</pre>
                                           if(f[j].f name[0] == '\0')
                                                   continue;
                                           if(f[j].f timestamp <= track ts)</pre>
                                                   ret f = &f[j];
                           return ret f;
```

```
// copy blocks numbers form fromfile to a new file (dir/reg).
326 file shalldup(struct File *ff, struct File *fromfile) // PROJECT
           uint32 t i, last bn;
           struct File *f, *newfile;
           void *buf;
           size t count;
           off t offset;
           if((r = dir_alloc_file(ff, &newfile)) < 0)</pre>
                    panic(
                                                                         %e\n", r);
           strcpy(newfile->f name, fromfile->f name); 
           newfile->f type = fromfile->f type;
           newfile->f timestamp = super->last ts;
           if(fromfile->f type & FTYPE DIR)
                    last bn = (fromfile->f size + BLKSIZE - 1) / BLKSIZE;
                   last_bn = fromfile->f_size / BLKSIZE;
           for(i = 0; i < MIN(NDIRECT, last_bn); ++i)</pre>
                   newfile->f direct[i] = fromfile->f direct[i];
           if(last bn >= NDIRECT){
                   if((newfile->f indirect = alloc block()) < 0);</pre>
                                                                               5\n");
                   memmove(diskaddr(newfile->f_indirect), diskaddr(fromfile->f_indirect), BLKSIZE);
           if(fromfile->f_type & FTYPE_DIR || fromfile->f_size == last_bn * BLKSIZE){
                   newfile->f size = fromfile->f size;
                   return newfile;
           newfile->f size = last // Only whole blocks
           if(last bn < NDIRECT)</pre>
                   buf = diskaddr(fromfile->f direct[last bn]);
                   buf = diskaddr(((uint32 t*)diskaddr(fromfile->f_indirect))[last_bn - NDIRECT]);
           count = fromfile->f size % BLKSIZE;
           offset = last bn * BLKSIZE;
           if((r = file_write(newfile, buf, count, offset)) < 0)</pre>
                   panic(
           if(r != count)
                               FCT: file shalldum: file write wrote only %d bytes\n", r);
                   panic(
           assert(newfile->f size == fromfile->f size);
           return newfile;
```

fs/fs.c

# Writing to a FatFile - file\_shalldup

#### Writing to a FatFile - New FatFile

fs/fs.c: file\_create()

```
if ((r = walk path(path, &dir, &f, name, &ff)) == 0)
                       return -E FILE EXISTS;
492
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514
              if (r != -E NOT FOUND || dir == 0)
                       return r:
              if ((r = dir alloc file(dir, &f)) < 0)</pre>
                       return r;
              strcpy(f->f name, name);
              if(ff != 0){ // PROJECT
                       assert(dir->f timestamp == super->last ts);
                       f->f type = FTYPE FF | f type;
                       f->f timestamp = super->last ts;
                       file flush(dir);
                       dir = f;
                       if((r = dir alloc file(dir, &f)) < 0)</pre>
                                                                      alloc file return %e\n", r);
                                 panic('
                       strcpy(f->f name, name);
                       f->f type = f type;
                       f->f timestamp = super->last ts;
                       track ts = super->last ts;
```

## touch command

user/touch.c

```
9 void
10 touch(int argc, char** argv){
           int i, fd;
           char file path[MAXPATHLEN];
           if(argc == 1)
                   return;
           for(i = 1; i < argc; ++i){</pre>
                   if(argv[i][0] == '/')
                           strcpy(file_path, argv[i]);
                   else{
                           strcpy(file path, PATH);
                           if(strlen(file path) > 1)
                                    strcat(file path, "/");
                           strcat(file path, argv[i]);
                   if((fd = open(file_path, 0_CREAT)) < 0){</pre>
                                     can't open %s: %e\n", file_path, fd);
                           printf("
                           return;
                   close(fd);
```

## mkdir command

#### user/mkdir.c

#### Read from a FatFile

Added support for opening a file by timestamp without affecting existing behavior

#### inc/lib.h

```
31
32 #define TS_UNSPECIFIED MAX_SSIZE // PROJECT
33
```

#### lib/fd.c

#### lib/file.c

```
3 open(const char *path, int mode)
          return open ts(path, mode, TS UNSPECIFIED);
6 }
8 int
9 open ts(const char *path, int mode, ts t req ts)
          int r;
          struct Fd *fd;
          if (strlen(path) >= MAXPATHLEN)
                  return -E BAD PATH;
          if ((r = fd alloc(&fd)) < 0)
                  return r;
          strcpy(fsipcbuf.open.req path, path);
          fsipcbuf.open.req omode = mode;
          fsipcbuf.open.req ts = req ts;
          if ((r = fsipc(FSREQ OPEN, fd)) < 0) {</pre>
                  fd close(fd, 0);
                  return r;
          return fd2num(fd);
```

## track command

#### user/track.c

```
9 void
10 track(char* path, ts t req ts)
           int fd, i, num blk;
           struct Stat st;
           if(req ts == TS UNSPECIFIED){
                   for(; req ts \ge 0 && stat ts(path, &st, req ts) == 0; req ts = st.st ts - 1){
                           printf("%-6d %-7dB %-20s\tblk num: [", st.st ts, st.st size, st.st name);
                           num blk = (st.st size + BLKSIZE - 1) / BLKSIZE;
                           for(i = 0; i < MIN(num blk, NDIRECT); ++i){</pre>
                                   printf(" %d ", st.st blkn[i]);
                           printf("]\n");
                   return;
           if((fd = open ts(path, 0 CREAT | 0 WRONLY, req ts)) < 0){</pre>
                   printf("
                            can't open %s: %e\n", path, fd);
                   return;
           write(fd,
                       LL, 0);
           close(fd);
```

## Writing to a FatFile - serve\_write

#### fs/serv.c

```
259 serve write(envid t envid, struct Fsreq write *req)
260 {
261
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286
              if (debug)
                        cprintf("serve write %08x %08x %08x\n", envid, req->req fileid, req->req n);
              // LAB 5: Your code here.
              struct OpenFile* o;
              size t count;
              int r, i;
              if((r = openfile lookup(envid, req->req fileid, \&o)) < \lozenge)
                        return r;
              if(o->o fatfile != 0){ // PROJECT
                        o->o file = file shalldup(o->o fatfile, o->o file);
                       o->o fatfile->f timestamp = super->last ts;
                       o->o fd->fd offset = o->o file->f size;
              if((r = file write(o->o file, req->req buf, req->req n, o->o fd->fd offset)) < 0)</pre>
                        return r;
              count = r;
              o->o fd->fd offset += count;
              return count;
```

# Appending support

- Added support for the >> operator to the shell
- Using the operator adds the flag O\_APPEND to open()
- Which set the fd\_offset to be f\_size

```
lib/serv.c: serve_open()
```

```
if(req->req_omode & O_APPEND) // PROJECT
o->o_fd->fd_offset = o->o_file->f_size;
```

## undo command

#### user/undo.c

```
1 #include <inc/lib.h>
 3 char* PATH = (char*)PATH VA;
 5 void
 6 umain(int argc, char** argv)
           char path[MAXPATHLEN];
           int fd;
11
12
13
           if(argc != 2){
                            sage: undo <file>\n");
                   printf("
                   return;
           if(argv[1][0] == '/')
                   strcpy(path, argv[1]);
           else{
                   strcpy(path, PATH);
                   if(strlen(path) > 1)
                           strcat(path, "/");
                   strcat(path, argv[1]);
           if((fd = open ts(path, 0 CREAT | 0 WRONLY, -1)) < 0){
                             an't open %s: %e\n", path, fd);
                   printf("
                   return;
           write(fd, NULL, 0);
           close(fd);
```

• It is held that:

undo <file> =track -t -1 <file>

• It would have made more sense to use 'track'.

## Time-traveling File System on JOS

• My Idea

Implementation Details

Proof Of Concept

# Things I didn't get to do

- rm command
  - deleting a file from folder
- Creating a new PFS directory
  - using the -f flag for touch/mkdir
- Reading older timestamps without duplicate