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# New Technologies File System (NTFS)

## Summary

NTFS is the primary file system for Microsoft Windows versions that are based on Windows NT. This specification is based on publicly available work on the format and was enhanced by analyzing test data.

This document is intended as a working document of the data format specification for the libfsntfs project.

## Document information

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## Revision history

Version	Author	Date	Comments
0.0.1	J.B. Metz	August 2009 September 2010 October 2010 November 2010 December 2010	Initial version, based on earlier notes.
0.0.2	J.B. Metz	March 2011	Additional information about multi data run MFT.

Version	Author	Date	Comments
0.0.3	J.B. Metz	May 2012	Additional information.
0.0.4	J.B. Metz	February 2014	Additional information.
0.0.5	J.B. Metz	July 2014 August 2014	Textual changes and additional information.
0.0.6	J.B. Metz	March 2015	Additional information and switched to asciidoc format.
0.0.7	J.B. Metz	May 2015	Additional information.
0.0.8	J.B. Metz	July 2015	Textual changes.
0.0.9	J.B. Metz	August 2015	Additional information.
0.0.10	J.B. Metz	August 2015	Additional information regarding index and security descriptors.
0.0.11	J.B. Metz	January 2016	Additional information about common alternate data stream.
0.0.12	J.B. Metz	January 2016	Additional information about extended attributes.
0.0.13	J.B. Metz	March 2016	Small changes.

Version	Author	Date	Comments
0.0.14	J.B. Metz	April 2016	Small changes.
0.0.15	J.B. Metz	June 2018	Corrected typos.
0.0.16	J.B. Metz	January 2019	Changes to format.
0.0.17	J.B. Metz	August 2019	Additional information regarding volumes created by Windows 10 (1903) and mkntfs.
0.0.18	J.B. Metz	September 2019	Additional information regarding Windows Overlay Filter (WOF) compressed data.
0.0.19	J.B. Metz	November 2019	Additional information regarding short file names.
0.0.20	J.B. Metz	January 2020	Additional information regarding \$STANDARD_INFORMATION and \$ATTRIBUTE_LIST attributes.
0.0.21	J.B. Metz	April 2020	Additional information regarding compressed data runs.
0.0.22	J.B. Metz	May 2020	Additional information regarding LZNT1 compressed block corruption scenarios.
0.0.23	J.B. Metz	December 2020	Additional information regarding reparse point tag values.
0.0.24	J.B. Metz	October 2021	Small changes.

Version	Author	Date	Comments
0.0.25	J.B. Metz	February 2022	Additional information regarding index entry size.
0.0.26	J.B. Metz	December 2022	Additional information regarding \$VOLUME_INFORMATION flags.
0.0.27	J.B. Metz	July 2023	Additional information file name UTF-16 strings.

## 1. Overview

NTFS is the primary file system for Microsoft Windows versions that are based on Windows NT.

**TODO describe relation to OS2 HPFS**

Characteristics	Description
Byte order	little-endian
Date and time values	FILETIME in UTC
Character strings	ASCII strings are Single Byte Character (SBC) or Multi Byte Character (MBC) string stored with a codepage. Sometimes referred to as ANSI string representation. Though technically maybe incorrect, this document will use term (extended) ASCII string. Unicode strings are stored in UTF-16 little-endian without the byte order mark (BOM).

### 1.1. Versions

There are multiple version of NTFS.

NTFS version	Remarks
1.0	Introduced in Windows NT 3.1
1.1	Introduced in Windows NT 3.5, also seen to be used by Windows NT 3.1
1.2	Introduced in Windows NT 3.51
3.0	Introduced in Windows 2000
3.1	Introduced in Windows XP

### Need test images for version 1.0 and 1.1

Note	The versions mentioned above are the version as used by NTFS. Another common versioning schema uses the Windows version, e.g. NTFS 5.0 is the version of NTFS used on Windows XP which is version 3.1 in schema mentioned above.
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## 1.2. Test version

The following version of programs were used to test the information within this document:

- Windows NT 3.1 (version 1.1)
- Windows NT4 (version 1.2)
- Windows 2000 (version 3.0)
- Windows XP SP3 (version 3.1)
- Windows 2003 (version 3.1)
- Windows Vista (version 3.1)
- Windows 2008 (version 3.1)

- Windows 7 (version 3.1)
- Windows 8 (version 3.1)
- Windows 10 (1809, 1903) (version 3.1)
- Windows 11 (21H2) (version 3.1)
- NTFS-3G

Note	Windows 10 (1809) has been observed to use NTFS version 1.2 for 64k cluster block size.
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## 2. Terminology

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### 2.1. Cluster

NTFS refers to its file system blocks as clusters. Note that these are not the same as the physical clusters of a harddisk. For clarity these are referred to as cluster blocks. In other sources they are also referred to as logical clusters which are numbered globally (or absolute).

Typically the cluster block is 8 sectors ( $8 \times 512 = 4096$  bytes) of size.

### 2.2. Virtual cluster

The term virtual cluster refers to cluster blocks which are numbered locally (or relative).

### 2.3. Long and short (file) name

In Windows terminology the name of a file (or directory) can either be short or long. The short name is an equivalent of the filename in the (DOS) 8.3 format. The long name is actually the (full) name of the file. The term long refers to the aspect that the name is longer than the short variant. Because most documentation refers to the (full) name as the long name, for clarity sake so will this document.

## 3. The volume

Everything on an NTFS volume is a file. There are two types of files:

- files that contain volume and file system metadata (referred to as metadata files);
- files that contain data (referred to as files).

### 3.1. The metadata files

NTFS uses the Master File Table (MFT) to store information about files and directories. The MFT entries reference the different volume and file system metadata. There are several predefined metadata files.

The following metadata files are predefined and use a fixed MFT entry index.

MFT entry index	Filename	Description
0	\$MFT	Master File Table
1	\$MFTMirr	Back up of the first 4 entries of the Master File Table
2	\$LogFile	Metadata transaction journal
3	\$Volume	Volume information
4	\$AttrDef	MFT entry attribute definitions
5	.	Root directory
6	\$Bitmap	Cluster block allocation bitmap
7	\$Boot	Boot record (or boot code)
8	\$BadClus	Bad clusters



MFT entry index	Filename	Description
9	\$Quota	Quota information Last used in NTFS version 1.2
9	\$Secure	Security and access control information Introduced in NTFS version 3.0
10	\$UpCase	Table of uppercase characters used for ensuring case insensitivity in Windows and DOS name spaces.
11	\$Extend	A directory containing extended metadata files
12-15		<b>Unknown (Reserved)</b> Marked as in use but empty
16-23		Unused Marked as unused
<i>As of NTFS version 3.0</i>		
24	\$Extend\ \$Quota	Quota information Was MFT entry 9 in Windows NT 4
25	\$Extend\ \$ObjId	Unique file identifiers for distributed link tracking
26	\$Extend\ \$Reparse	Backreferences to reparse points
<i>As of Windows Vista (or server 2003?)</i> <i>Transactional NTFS metadata (See section: <a href="#">Transactional NTFS (TxF)</a>)</i>		
27	\$Extend\ \$RmMetadata	Resource manager metadata directory
28	\$Extend\ \$RmMetadata\ \$Repair	Repair information

MFT entry index	Filename	Description
29 or 30	\$Extend\ \$RmMetadata\ \$TxfLog	Transactional NTFS (TxF) log metadata directory
30 or 31	\$Extend\ \$RmMetadata\ \$Txf	Transactional NTFS (TxF) metadata directory
31 or 32	\$Extend\ \$RmMetadata\ \$TxfLog\ \$Tops	TxF Old Page Stream (TOPS) file Used to store data that has been overwritten inside a currently active transaction
32 or 33	\$Extend\ \$RmMetadata\ \$TxfLog\ \$TxfLog.blf	Transactional NTFS (TxF) base log metadata file
<i>As of Windows 10</i>		
29	\$Extend\ \$Deleted	Temporary location for files that have an open handle but a request has been made to delete them
<i>Common</i>		
	...	A file or directory

The following metadata files are predefined, however the MFT entry index is commonly used but not fixed.

MFT entry index	Filename	Description
	\$Extend\ \$UsnJrnl	USN change journal See section: <a href="#">USN change journal</a> <b>Has this file been added in Windows XP SP3? Otherwise what are reasons for it to not be present?</b>

## 4. The volume header

The volume header is stored at the start of the volume (in the \$Boot metadata file) and contains:

- the volume signature
- the BIOS parameter block
- the boot loader

The volume header is 512 bytes of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	3		Boot entry point Often contains: eb52 jmp 0x52 90 nop This is a jump instruction to the bootcode at offset 84 followed by a no-operation.
3	8	"NTFS\x20\x20\x20\x20"	File system signature (Also known as OEM and/or dummy identifier)
<i>DOS version 2.0 BIOS parameter block (BPB)</i>			
11	2		Bytes per sector Values supported by mkntfs: 256, 512, 1024, 2048 and 4096
13	1		Sectors per cluster block See below.
14	2	0x00	<b>Unknown (Reserved Sectors)</b> not used by NTFS [POLLARD06] and must be 0 [MSDN]

Offset	Size	Value	Description
16	1	0x00	Number of File Allocation Tables (FATs) not used by NTFS [POLLARD06] and must be 0 [MSDN]
17	2	0	Root directory entries not used by NTFS [POLLARD06] and must be 0 [MSDN]
19	2		<b>Unknown (Total number of sectors (16-bit))</b> <b>Used if the total of number of sectors fits in 16-bit?</b>
21	1		Media descriptor See section: <a href="#">Media descriptor</a>
22	2	0x00	Sectors Per File Allocation Table (FAT) not used by NTFS [POLLARD06] and must be 0 [MSDN]
<i>DOS version 3.4 BIOS parameter block (BPB)</i>			
24	2	0x3f	Sectors per track Not used by NTFS [MSDN]
26	2	0xff	Number of heads Not used by NTFS [MSDN]
28	4	0x3f	Number of hidden sectors Not used by NTFS [MSDN]
32	4	0x00	<b>Unknown (Total number of sectors (32-bit))</b> <b>Used if the total of number of sectors fits in 32-bit?</b> Not used by NTFS must be 0 [MSDN]
<i>NTFS version 8.0 BIOS parameter block (BPB) or extended BPB</i> <i>Introduced in Windows NT version 3.1</i>			

Offset	Size	Value	Description
36	1	0x80	<b>Unknown (Disc unit number)</b> Not used by NTFS [MSDN]
37	1	0x00	<b>Unknown (Flags)</b> Not used by NTFS [MSDN]
38	1	0x80	<b>Unknown (BPB version signature byte)</b> Not used by NTFS [MSDN]
39	1	0x00	<b>Unknown (Reserved)</b> Not used by NTFS [MSDN]
40	8		Total number of sectors (64-bit)
48	8		Master File Table (MFT) cluster block number
56	8		Mirror MFT cluster block number
64	1		MFT entry size See below.
65	3		<b>Unknown</b> Not used by NTFS [MSDN]
68	1		Index entry size See below.
69	3		<b>Unknown</b> Not used by NTFS [MSDN]
72	8		NTFS volume serial number See below.

Offset	Size	Value	Description
80	4	0x00	Checksum not used by NTFS [POLLARD06] , [MSDN]
84	426		Bootcode <b>What is the exact end of the bootcode and are there no trailing values?</b>
510	2	0x55 0xaa	Sector signature

The sectors per cluster block value as used by mkntfs is defined as following:

- Values 0 to 128 represent sizes of 0 to 128 sectors.
- Values 244 to 255 represent sizes of  $2^{(256-n)}$  sectors.
- Other values are unknown.

The MFT entry size and index entry size are defined as following:

- Values 0 to 127 represent sizes of 0 to 127 cluster blocks.
- Values 128 to 255 represent sizes of  $2^{(256-n)}$  bytes; or  $2^{(-n)}$  if considered as a signed byte.
- Other values are not considered valid [POLLARD06] .

The cluster block size can be determined as following:

cluster block size = bytes per sector x sectors per cluster block

Note	Different NTFS implementations support different cluster block sizes.
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Known supported cluster block size:

Cluster block size	Bytes per sector	Supported by
256	256	mkntfs
512	256 - 512	mkntfs, ntfs3g, Windows
1024	256 - 1024	mkntfs, ntfs3g, Windows
2048	256 - 2048	mkntfs, ntfs3g, Windows
4096	256 - 4096	mkntfs, ntfs3g, Windows
8192	256 - 4096	mkntfs, ntfs3g, Windows
16K (16384)	256 - 4096	mkntfs, ntfs3g, Windows
32K (32768)	256 - 4096	mkntfs, ntfs3g, Windows
64K (65536)	256 - 4096	mkntfs, ntfs3g, Windows
128K (131072)	256 - 4096	mkntfs, ntfs3g, Windows 10 (1903)
256K (262144)	256 - 4096	mkntfs, ntfs3g, Windows 10 (1903)
512K (524288)	256 - 4096	mkntfs, ntfs3g, Windows 10 (1903)
1M (1048576)	256 - 4096	mkntfs, ntfs3g, Windows 10 (1903)
2M (2097152)	512 - 4096	mkntfs, ntfs3g, Windows 10 (1903)

Note	Windows 10 (1903) requires the partition containing the NTFS file system to be aligned with the cluster block size. For example for a cluster block size of 128k the partition must 128 KiB aligned. The default partition alignment appears to be 64 KiB.
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Note	mkntfs restricts the cluster size to: bytes per sector $\geq$ cluster size $> 4096 * \text{bytes per sector}$
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The MFT offset can be determined as following:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MFT offset} &= \text{volume header offset} \\ &+ ( \text{MFT cluster block number} \times \text{Cluster block size} ) \end{aligned}$$

Note that the lower 32-bit part of the NTFS volume serial number is the WINAPI volume serial number. E.g. compare the output of:

```
fsutil fsinfo volumeinfo C:
fsutil fsinfo ntfsinfo C:
```

Often the volume will be smaller than the underlying partition. A (nearly identical) backup of the volume header is stored in last sector of cluster block, that follows the last cluster block of the volume. Often this is the 512 bytes after the last sector of the volume, but not necessarily. The backup volume header is not included in the volume size.

## 4.1. BitLocker Drive Encryption (BDE)

BitLocker Drive Encryption (BDE) uses the file system signature: "-FVE-FS-". Where FVE is an abbreviation of Full Volume Encryption.

The data structures of BDE on Windows Vista and 7 differ.

A Windows Vista BDE volume starts with:

```
eb 52 90 2d 46 56 45 26 46 53 2d
```

A Windows 7 BDE volume starts with:

```
eb 58 90 2d 46 56 45 26 46 53 2d
```



BDE is largely a stand-alone but has some integration with NTFS. For more information about BDE see [\[LIBBDE\]](#).

## 4.2. Volume Shadow Snapshots (VSS)

Volume Shadow Snapshots (VSS) uses the GUID 3808876b-c176-4e48-b7ae-04046e6cc752 (stored in little-endian) to identify its data. VSS is largely a stand-alone but has some integration with NTFS.

For more information about VSS see [\[LIBVSHADOW\]](#).

## 4.3. Media descriptor

Bit(s)	Identifier	Description
0		Sides: 0 ⇒ single-sided 1 ⇒ double-sided
1		Track size: 0 ⇒ 9 sectors per track 1 ⇒ 8 sectors per track
2		Density: 0 ⇒ 80 tracks 1 ⇒ 40 tracks
3		Type: 0 ⇒ Fixed disc 1 ⇒ Removable disc
4 – 7		Always set to 1

## 4.4. The boot loader

Offset	Size	Value	Description
512			Windows NT (boot) loader NTLDR/BOOTMGR

## 5. The Master File Table (MFT)

The MFT consist of an array of MFT entries. The offset of the MFT table can be found in the volume header and the size of the MFT is defined by the MFT entry of the \$MFT metadata file.

Note	The MFT can consists of multiple data ranges, defined by the data runs in the \$MFT metadata file.
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### 5.1. MFT entry

Although the size of a MFT entry is defined in the volume header is commonly 1024 bytes of size and consists of:

- The MFT entry header
- The fix-up values
- An array of MFT attribute values
- Padding, which should contain 0-byte values

Note	The MFT entry can be filled entirely with 0-byte values. Seen in Windows XP for MFT entry indexes 16 - 23.
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#### 5.1.1. MFT entry header

The MFT entry header (FILE\_RECORD\_SEGMENT\_HEADER) is 42 or 48 bytes of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
<i>MULTI_SECTOR_HEADER</i>			
0	4	"BAAD" "FILE"	Signature
4	2		The fix-up values offset Contains an offset relative from the start of the MFT entry According to [MSDN] this value is the update sequence array offset
6	2		The number of fix-up values According to [MSDN] this value is the update sequence array size.
8	8		Metadata transaction journal sequence number Contains a \$LogFile Sequence Number (LSN)
16	2		Sequence (number)
18	2		Reference (link) count
20	2		Attributes offset (or first attribute offset) Contains an offset relative from the start of the MFT entry
22	2		Entry flags See section: <a href="#">MFT entry flags</a>
24	4		Used entry size Contains the number of bytes of the MFT entry that are in use
28	4		Total entry size Contains the number of bytes of the MFT entry <b>Could this be used to store data larger than 1024 - header continuously?</b>

Offset	Size	Value	Description
32	8		Base record file reference See section: <a href="#">The file reference</a>
40	2		First available attribute identifier
<i>Version 3.0</i>			
42	2		<b>Unknown (wfixupPattern)</b>
44	4		<b>Unknown</b>
<i>Version 3.1</i>			
42	2		<b>Unknown (wfixupPattern)</b>
44	4		The index

The base record file reference indicates if the MFT entry is used to store additional attributes for another MFT entry, e.g. for attribute list attributes.

According to [MSDN] the sequence number is incremented each time that a file record segment is freed; it is 0 if the segment is not used.

[MSDN] states that the update sequence array must end before the last USHORT value in the first sector. It also claims the update sequence array size value contains the number of bytes. It seems to be more likely to the number of words.

The "BAAD" signature presumably indicates a bad MFT entry. [RUSSON05] states that during chkdsk, if NTFS finds a multi-sector item where the multi-sector header does not match the values at the end of the sector, it marks the item as "BAAD" and fill it with 0-byte values except for a fix-up value at the end of the first sector. The "BAAD" signature has been seen to be used on Windows NT4 and XP.

In NT4 (version 1.2) the MFT entry is 42 bytes in size and the fix-up values are stored at offset 42. This is likely where the field name wfixupPattern originates from.

### 5.1.2. Notes

Live MFT header:

```
00000000: 02 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00000010: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00000020: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 ..... ..
```

```
00000000: 03 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00000010: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
00000020: 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 ..... ..
```

### 5.2. MFT entry flags

Value	Identifier	Description
0x0001	FILE_RECORD_SEGMENT_IN_USE MFT_RECORD_IN_USE	In use
0x0002	FILE_NAME_INDEX_PRESENT MFT_RECORD_IS_DIRECTORY	Has file name (or \$I30) index When this flag is set the file entry represents a directory (that contains sub file entries)
0x0004	MFT_RECORD_IN_EXTEND	<b>Unknown</b> According to [APPLE06] this is set for all system files present in the \$Extend directory
0x0008	MFT_RECORD_IS_VIEW_INDEX	Is index When this flag is set the file entry represents an index According to [APPLE06] this is set for all indices other than \$I30

### 5.3. The file reference

The file reference (FILE\_REFERENCE or MFT\_SEGMENT\_REFERENCE) is 8 bytes of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	6		MFT entry index Note that the index value in the MFT entry is only 32-bit of size.
6	2		Sequence number

## 5.4. The fix-up values

The fix-up values are variable of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	2		Fix-up placeholder value
2	2 x number of fix-up values		Fix-up (original) value array

On disk the last 2 bytes for each 512 bytes block is replaced by the fix-up placeholder value. The original value is stored in the corresponding fix-up (original) value array entry.

Note	There can be more fix-up values than the amount of sectors in the data.
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See [CARRIER05] and/or [RUSSON05] for examples on applying the fix-up values.

## 5.5. MFT attribute

The MFT attribute consist of:

- the attribute header
- the attribute resident or non-resident data
- the attribute name

- **unknown data likely alignment padding (4-byte alignment)**
- the attribute data runs or data
- alignment padding (8-byte alignment), can contain remnant data

### 5.5.1. MFT attribute header

The MFT attribute header (ATTRIBUTE\_RECORD\_HEADER) is 16 bytes of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	4		Attribute type (or type code) See section: <a href="#">The attribute types</a>
4	4		Size (or record length) The size of the attribute including the 8 bytes of the attribute type and size
8	1		Non-resident flag (or form code) 0 ⇒ RESIDENT_FORM 1 ⇒ NONRESIDENT_FORM
9	1		Name size (or name length) Contains the number of characters without the end-of-string character
10	2		Name offset Contains an offset relative from the start of the MFT entry
12	2		Attribute data flags See section: <a href="#">MFT attribute data flags</a>
14	2		Attribute identifier (or instance) <b>An unique identifier to distinguish between attributes that contain segmented data.</b>

#### Notes

## Size (or record length) upper 2 bytes overloaded or remnant data?

```

type                : 0x000000a0 ($INDEX_ALLOCATION)
size                : 458832 (0x70050)
non resident flag   : 0x01
name size           : 4
name offset         : 64
data flags          : 0x0000

identifier          : 4

```

### MFT attribute data flags

Value	Identifier	Description
0x0001		Is compressed
0x00ff	ATTRIBUTE_FLAG_COMPRESSION_MASK	
0x4000	ATTRIBUTE_FLAG_ENCRYPTED	Is encrypted
0x8000	ATTRIBUTE_FLAG_SPARSE	Is sparse

Does 0x0001 indicate the LZNT1 compression method? Do other values indicate other compression values?

### 5.5.2. Resident MFT attribute

The resident MFT attribute data is present when the non-resident flag is not set (0). The resident data is 8 bytes in size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	4		Data size (or value length)



Offset	Size	Value	Description
4	2		Data offset (or value size) Contains an offset relative from the start of the MFT attribute
6	1		Indexed flag <b>Only the lower bit is used, do the other bits have any significance?</b>
7	1	0x00	Padding Contains an empty byte

### Notes

What meaning has `ATTRIBUTE_FLAG_COMPRESSION_MASK` in `$INDEX_ROOT` attribute? The attribute data is **uncompressed**.

Seen on Windows 10 (NTFS version 3.1)

```
type                : 0x00000090 ($INDEX_ROOT)
size                : 88
non resident flag    : 0x00
name size            : 4
name offset          : 24
data flags           : 0x0001
    Is compressed
```

### 5.5.3. Non-resident MFT attribute

The non-resident MFT attribute data is present when the non-resident flag is set (1). The non-resident data is 48 or 56 bytes in size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	8		First (or lowest) Virtual Cluster Number (VCN) of the data
8	8		Last (or highest) Virtual Cluster Number (VCN) of the data <b>Seen this value to be -1 in combination with data size of 0</b>
16	2		Data runs offset (or mappings pairs offset) Contains an offset relative from the start of the MFT attribute
18	2		Compression unit size Contains the compression unit size as $2^{(n)}$ number of cluster blocks. This value is used for compressed data in the data runs. <b>A value of 0 indicates the attribute data is uncompressed.?</b> <b>Seen on XP, compressed MFT attribute data with compression unit size of 0.</b> <b>So it looks more the default compression unit size (16 cluster blocks) should be used.</b>
20	4		Padding Contains zero-bytes
24	8		Allocated data size (or allocated length) Contains the allocated data size in number of bytes. This value is not valid if the first VCN is nonzero.
32	8		Data size (or file size) Contains the data size in number of bytes. This value is not valid if the first VCN is nonzero.
40	8		Valid data size (or valid data length) Contains the valid data size in number of bytes. This value is not valid if the first VCN is nonzero.
<i>If compression unit size &gt; 0</i>			

Offset	Size	Value	Description
48	8		Total allocated size Contains the total allocated size in number of cluster blocks.
Note	The total size of the data runs should be larger or equal to the data size.		
Note	Windows will fill data ranges beyond the valid data size with 0-byte values. The data size remains unchanged. This applies to compressed and uncompressed data. If the first VCN is zero a valid data size of 0 represents a file entirely filled with 0-byte values.		

#### 5.5.4. Attribute name

The attribute name is variable of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	...		Name Contains an UTF-16 little-endian without end-of-string character

#### 5.5.5. Data runs

The data runs are stored in a variable size (data) runlist. This runlist consists of runlist elements.

A runlist element is variable of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0.0	4 bits		Number of cluster blocks value size Contains the number of bytes used to store the data run size
0.4	4 bits		Cluster block number value size Contains the number of bytes used to store the data run size

Offset	Size	Value	Description
1	Size value size		Data run number of cluster blocks Contains the number of cluster blocks
...	Cluster block number value size		Data run cluster block number See below.

The data run cluster block number is a signed value, where the MSB is the signed bit, e.g. if the data run cluster block contains '\dbc8' it corresponds to the 64-bit value 0xffffffffffdbc8.

The first data run offset contains the absolute cluster block number where successive data run offsets are relative to the last data run offset.

Note	The cluster block number byte size is the first nibble when reading the byte stream, but here it is represented as the upper nibble of the first byte.
------	--

The last runlist element is an empty value size tuple; in other words a 0 byte.

**Does a data run with a "number of cluster blocks value size" of 0 represent this as well?**

The MFT attribute data flag (ATTRIBUTE\_FLAG\_SPARSE) indicates if the data stream is sparse or not.

A sparse data run has a "cluster block number value size" 0, representing there is no offset (cluster block number). A sparse data run should be filled with 0-byte values.

Note	Compressed files also define sparse data runs without setting the sparse flag.
------	--

**TODO: what about data runs with a cluster block number value size of 0 but without the necessary flags? Seen in ADS: \$BadClus:\$Bad. Assuming for now the data run is sparse.**

The MFT attribute data flags (0x00ff) indicate if the data stream is compressed or not. The currently known value for LZNT1 compression is 1.

Note	Windows 10 supports Windows Overlay Filter (WOF) compressed data, which stores the LZXPRESS Huffman or LZX compressed data in alternate data stream named WofCompressedData and links it to the default data stream using a reparse point.
------	--

The data is stored in compression unit blocks. A compression unit typically consists of 16 cluster blocks. However the actual value is stored in the non-resident MFT attribute. See [Compression](#) for more information on how to determine which data runs store the compressed and which do not.

Note	Compression is supported upto NTFS file systems with a cluster block size of 4096 bytes or less.
------	--

The compression is specified on a pre attribute basis. Where an attribute chain can consists of attribute with compressed and uncompressed attribute data. **Note that it is unknown if mixing compressed and uncompressed attributes is supported by the Windows implementation.**

According to [RUSSON05] the size of the runlist is rounded up to the next multitude of 4 bytes. The size of the trailing data can be even larger than 3 and are not always zero-bytes.

See [CARRIER05] and/or [RUSSON05] for examples on reading the runlist.

## 6. The attributes

### 6.1. The attribute types

Technically the attribute types are stored in the `$AttrDef` metadata file. Also see section: [The attribute definitions](#)

Value	Identifier	Description
0x00000000		Unused
0x00000010	\$STANDARD_INFORMATION	Standard information
0x00000020	\$ATTRIBUTE_LIST	Attributes list

Value	Identifier	Description
0x00000030	\$FILE_NAME	The file or directory name
0x00000040	\$VOLUME_VERSION	Volume version Removed in NTFS version 3.0
0x00000040	\$OBJECT_ID	Object identifier Introduced in NTFS version 3.0
0x00000050	\$SECURITY_DESCRIPTOR	Security descriptor
0x00000060	\$VOLUME_NAME	Volume name
0x00000070	\$VOLUME_INFORMATION	Volume information
0x00000080	\$DATA	Data stream
0x00000090	\$INDEX_ROOT	Index root
0x000000a0	\$INDEX_ALLOCATION	Index allocation
0x000000b0	\$BITMAP	Bitmap
0x000000c0	\$SYMBOLIC_LINK	Symbolic link Removed in NTFS version 3.0
0x000000c0	\$REPARSE_POINT	Reparse point Introduced in NTFS version 3.0
0x000000d0	\$EA_INFORMATION	(HPFS) extended attribute information
0x000000e0	\$EA	(HPFS) extended attribute
0x000000f0	\$PROPERTY_SET	Property set Removed in NTFS version 3.0

Value	Identifier	Description
0x00000100	\$LOGGED_UTILITY_STREAM	Logged utility stream Introduced in NTFS version 3.0
0x00001000		First user defined attribute
0xffffffff		End of attributes marker

## 6.2. The standard information attribute

The standard information attribute (\$STANDARD\_INFORMATION) contains the basic file entry metadata. It is stored as a resident MFT attribute.

The standard information data (STANDARD\_INFORMATION) is either 48 or 72 bytes of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	8		Creation date and time Contains a FILETIME
8	8		Last modification date and time (Also referred to as last written date and time) Contains a FILETIME
16	8		MFT entry last modification date and time Contains a FILETIME
24	8		Last access date and time Contains a FILETIME
32	4		File attribute flags See section: <a href="#">File attribute flags</a>

Offset	Size	Value	Description
36	4		Unknown (Maximum number of versions) What does it contain and what is it used for?
40	4		Unknown (Version number) What does it contain and what is it used for? On Windows 10 does a value of 1 indicate case-sensitive folder?
44	4		Unknown (Class identifier) What does it contain and what is it used for?
<i>Introduced in NTFS version 3.0</i>			
48	4		Owner identifier What does it contain and what is it used for?
52	4		Security descriptor identifier Contains the entry number in the security ID index (\$Secure:\$SII) See section: <a href="#">Access Control</a>
56	8		Quota charged What does it contain and what is it used for? Does this value correspond to StorageReservedID in fsutil layout output?
64	8		Update Sequence Number (USN) What does it contain and what is it used for?
Note	MFT entries without a \$STANDARD_INFORMATION attribute but with other attributes, such as \$FILE_NAME, and an \$I30 index have been observed.		

### 6.3. The attribute list attribute



The attribute list attribute (\$ATTRIBUTE\_LIST) is a list of attributes in an MFT entry. The attributes stored in the list are placeholders for other attributes. Some of these attributes could not be stored in the MFT entry due to space limitations. The attribute list attribute can be stored as either a resident (for a small amount of data) and non-resident MFT attribute.

The attribute list data contains an array of attribute list entries and stored as a continuous stream across one or more cluster blocks.

Note that MFT entry 0 also can contain an attribute list and allows to store listed attributes beyond the first data run.

### 6.3.1. The attribute list entry

The attribute list entry consists of:

- the attribute list entry header
- the attribute name
- alignment padding (8-byte alignment), can contain remnant data

#### The attribute list entry header

The attribute list entry header (ATTRIBUTE\_LIST\_ENTRY) is 26 bytes of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	4		Attribute type (or type code) See section: <a href="#">The attribute types</a>
4	2		Size (or record length) The size of the attribute including the 6 bytes of the attribute type and size
6	1		Name size (or name length) Contains the number of characters without the end-of-string character

Offset	Size	Value	Description
7	1		Name offset Contains an offset relative from the start of the attribute list entry
8	8		Data first (or lowest) VCN
16	8		File reference (or segment reference) The file reference to the MFT entry that contains (part of) the attribute data See section: <a href="#">The file reference</a>
24	2		Attribute identifier <b>An unique identifier to distinguish between attributes that contain segmented data.</b>

The data first VCN is used when the attribute data is stored. The attribute list contains an attribute list entry for every cluster block. The corresponding cluster block will contain an MFT attribute containing the attribute data. See [CARRIER05] pages 365 and 366 for more information.

#### Attribute name

The attribute name is variable of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	...		Name Contains an UTF-16 little-endian without end-of-string character

## 6.4. The file name attribute

The file name attribute (\$FILE\_NAME) contains the basic file system information, like the parent file entry, MAC times and filename. It is stored as a resident MFT attribute.

The file name data (FILE\_NAME) is variable of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	8		Parent file reference See section: <a href="#">The file reference</a>
8	8		Creation date and time Contains a FILETIME
16	8		Last modification date and time (Also referred to as last written date and time) Contains a FILETIME
24	8		MFT entry last modification date and time Contains a FILETIME
32	8		Last access date and time Contains a FILETIME
40	8		Allocated (or reserved) file size See below.
48	8		File size See below.
56	4		File attribute flags See section: <a href="#">File attribute flags</a>
60	4		Extended data See below.
64	1		Name string size Contains the number of characters without the end-of-string character
65	1		Namespace of the name string

Offset	Size	Value	Description
66	...		Name string Contains an UTF-16 little-endian without an end-of-string character
Note	The name string is not strict UTF-16 since it allows for unpaired surrogates, such as "U+d800" and "U+dc00".		

The extended data contains:

- the reparse point tag (see section [Reparse point tag](#)) if the reparse point file attribute flag (FILE\_ATTRIBUTE\_REPARSE\_POINT) is set;
- **the extended attribute data size.**

The allocated file size and file size values do not always contain accurate values when stored in a MFT attribute, see [CARRIER05] page 363 for more information. [CARRIER05] also states that the file size values are accurate when 'used in a directory index' (stored in an index value), however this seems to be true for most files but not for all. At least the \$MFT and \$MFTMirr metadata file directory entries on a Windows Vista NTFS volume were found to contain the same value as the corresponding MFT entries, which were not equal to the size of the data stream.

An MFT attribute can contain multiple file name attributes, e.g. for a separate (long) name and short name.

In several cases on a Vista NTFS volume the MFT entry contained both a DOS & Windows and POSIX name space \$FILE\_NAME attribute. However the directory entry index ( \$I30 ) of the parent directory only contained the DOS & Windows name.

In case of a hard link the MFT entry will contain additional file name attributes with the parent file reference of each hard link.

#### 6.4.1. Namespace

Value	Identifier	Description
0	POSIX	<p>Case sensitive character set that consists of all Unicode characters except for:  \0 (zero character),  / (forward slash).</p> <p>The : (colon) is valid for NTFS but not for Windows.</p>
1	FILE_NAME_NTFS (or WINDOWS)	<p>A case insensitive sub set of the POSIX character set that consists of all Unicode characters except for:  " * / : &lt; &gt; ? \  </p> <p>Note that names cannot end with a . (dot) or ' ' (space).</p>
2	FILE_NAME_DOS (or DOS)	<p>A case insensitive sub set of the WINDOWS character set that consists of all upper case ASCII characters except for:  " * + , / : ; &lt; = &gt; ? \</p> <p>Note the name must follow the 8.3 format.</p>
3	DOS_WINDOWS	<p>Both the DOS and WINDOWS names are identical  <b>Which is the same as the DOS character set, with the exception that lower case is used as well.</b></p>
Note	<p>The Windows API function CreateFile allows to create case sensitive file names when the flag FILE_FLAG_POSIX_SEMANTICS is set.</p>	

#### 6.4.2. Long to short name conversion

Basically the conversion from a long name to short name boils down to the approach mentioned below. Note that it differs from the approach mentioned in [RUSSON05], in regard of the third case to make the short name unique.

In the long name:

- ignore Unicode characters beyond the first 8-bit (extended ASCII)
- ignore control characters and spaces (character < 0x20)
- ignore non-allowed characters (" \* + , / : ; < = > ? \)
- ignore dots except the last one, which is used for the extension
- make all letters upper case

Additional observations:

- [ or ] are replaced by an underscore ( \_ )

Make the name unique:

1. use the characters 1 to 6 add ~1 and if the long name has an extension add the a dot and its first 3 letters
2. if the name already exists try \~2 up to ~9
3. if the name already exists use **some 16-bit hexadecimal value** for characters 3 to 6 with ~1

**[MSDN]** Generates the next four letters of the short file name by mathematically manipulating the remaining letters of the long file name.

**Note:** behavior dependent on fsutil?

case 1: "Program Files" becomes "PROGRA~1" or " ~PLAYMOVIE.REG" becomes "~PLAYM~1.REG"

case 2: "Program Data", in the same directory as "Program Files", becomes "PROGRA~2"

case 3: "x86\_microsoft-windows-r..ry-editor.resources\_31bf3856ad364e35\_6.0.6000.16386\_en-us\_f89a7b0005d42fd4", in a directory with a lot of filenames starting with "x86\_microsoft", becomes "X8FCA6~1.163"

## 6.5. The volume version attribute

The volume version attribute (\$VOLUME\_VERSION) contains **TODO**

**Need a pre NTFS 3.0 volume with this attribute. \$AttrDef indicates the attribute to be 8 bytes of size.**

## 6.6. The object identifier attribute

The object identifier attribute (\$OBJECT\_ID) contains distributed link tracker properties. It is stored as a resident MFT attribute.

The object identifier data is either 16 or 64 bytes of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	16		Droid file identifier Contains a GUID
16	16		Birth droid volume identifier Contains a GUID
32	16		Birth droid file identifier Contains a GUID
48	16		Birth droid domain identifier Contains a GUID

Droid in this context refers to CDomainRelativeObjId.

## 6.7. The security descriptor attribute

**TODO: does this override any value in \$Secure:\$SDS?**

The security descriptor attribute (\$SECURITY\_DESCRIPTOR) contains a Windows NT security descriptor. It can be stored as either a resident (for a small amount of data) and non-resident MFT attribute.

See: [\[LIBFWNT\]](#)

## 6.8. The volume name attribute

The volume name attribute (\$VOLUME\_NAME) contains the name of the volume. It is stored as a resident MFT attribute.

The volume name data is variable of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	...		Name string Contains an UTF-16 little-endian without an end-of-string character

The volume name attribute is used in the \$Volume metadata file MFT entry.

## 6.9. The volume information attribute

The volume information attribute (\$VOLUME\_INFORMATION) contains information about the volume. It is stored as a resident MFT attribute.

The volume information data is 12 bytes of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	8		Unknown (empty value?)
8	1		Major version number
9	1		Minor version number
10	2		Volume flags



The volume information attribute is used in the \$Volume metadata file MFT entry.

### 6.9.1. Volume flags

Value	Identifier	Description
0x0001	VOLUME_IS_DIRTY	Is dirty
0x0002	VOLUME_RESIZE_LOG_FILE	Re-size journal (LogFile)
0x0004	VOLUME_UPGRADE_ON_MOUNT	Upgrade on next mount
0x0008	VOLUME_MOUNTED_ON_NT4	Mounted on Windows NT 4
0x0010	VOLUME_DELETE_USN_UNDERWAY	Delete USN underway
0x0020	VOLUME_REPAIR_OBJECT_ID	Repair object identifiers
0x0080		Unknown
0x4000	VOLUME_CHKDSK_UNDERWAY	chkdsk underway
0x8000	VOLUME_MODIFIED_BY_CHKDSK	Modified by chkdsk

## 6.10. The data stream attribute

The data stream attribute (\$DATA) contains the file data. It can be stored as either a resident (for a small amount of data) and non-resident MFT attribute.

Also note that multiple data attributes for the same data stream can be used in the attribute list to define different parts of the data stream data. The first data stream attribute will contain the size of the entire data stream data. Other data stream attributes should have a size of 0. Also see: [Attribute chains](#).

## 6.11. The index root attribute

The index root attribute (\$INDEX\_ROOT) contains the root of the index tree. It is stored as a resident MFT attribute.

See section: [The index](#) and [The index root](#).

## 6.12. The index allocation attribute

The index allocation attribute (\$INDEX\_ALLOCATION) contains an array of index entries. It is stored as a non-resident MFT attribute.

Note that the index allocation attribute itself does not define which attribute type it contains in the index value data. For this information it needs the corresponding index root attribute.

Also note that multiple index allocation attributes for the same index can be used in the attribute list to define different parts of the index allocation data. The first index allocation attribute will contain the size of the entire index allocation data. Other index allocation attributes should have a size of 0. Also see: [Attribute chains](#).

See section: [The index](#).

## 6.13. The bitmap attribute

The bitmap attribute (\$BITMAP) contains the allocation bitmap. It can be stored as either a resident (for a small amount of data) and non-resident MFT attribute.

It is used to maintain information about which entry is used and which is not. Every bit in the bitmap represents an entry. The index is stored byte-wise with the LSB of the byte corresponds to the first allocation element; the allocation element can represent several things, see below.

The allocation element is allocated if the corresponding bit contains 1 or unallocated if 0.

It is known to be used in:

- the MFT (nameless), where an allocation element represents a MFT entry;
- indexes (\$I##), where an allocation element represents an index entry.

## 6.14. The symbolic link attribute

The symbolic link attribute (\$SYMBOLIC\_LINK) contains **TODO**

Need a pre NTFS 3.0 volume with this attribute. \$AttrDef indicates the attribute is variable of size.

## 6.15. The reparse point attribute

The reparse point attribute (\$REPARSE\_POINT) contains information about a file system-level link. It is stored as a resident MFT attribute.

See section: [The reparse point](#).

## 6.16. The (HPFS) extended attribute information

The (HPFS) extended attribute information (\$EA\_INFORMATION) contains information about the extended attribute (\$EA).

The extended attribute information data is 8 bytes of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	2		Size of an extended attribute entry
2	2		Number of extended attributes which have NEED_EA set <b>TODO: determine what this flag is used for</b>
4	4		Size of the extended attribute (\$EA) data

E.g.

```
00000000: 08 00 00 00 18 00 00 00      .....
```

## 6.17. The (HPFS) extended attribute

The (HPFS) extended attribute (\$EA) contains the extended attribute data.

The extended attribute data is variable of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	4		Offset to next extended attribute entry The offset is relative from the start of the extended attribute data
4	1		Flags 0x80 ⇒ NEED_EA (Need EA) flag
5	1		Number of characters of the extended attribute name
6	2		Value data size
8	...		The extended attribute name Contains an ASCII string <b>TODO: is this value 16-bit aligned?</b>
...	...		Value data
...	...		<b>TODO: unknown trailing data</b>

E.g.

```
00000000: 18 00 00 00 00 09 04 00  2e 55 4e 49 58 41 54 54  ..... .UNIXATT
00000010: 52 00 b6 01 00 00 03 87                R.....
```

#### 6.17.1. UNITATTR extended attribute value data

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	4		<b>TODO: is this an equivalent of st_mode?</b>

## 6.18. The property set attribute

The property set attribute (\$PROPERTY\_SET) contains **TODO**

Need a pre NTFS 3.0 volume with this attribute. \$AttrDef indicates does not seem to always define this attribute.

## 6.19. The logged utility stream attribute

attribute type for storing additional data for the files and directories

resident, known to cause problems when non-resident on Windows Vista

Value	Identifier	Description
\$EFS		Encrypted NTFS (EFS)
\$TXF_DATA		Transactional NTFS (TxF)

**TODO** add text

## 6.20. Attribute chains

Multiple attributes can make up a single attribute, e.g. the attributes:

1. \$INDEX\_ALLOCATION (\$I30) VCN: 0
2. \$INDEX\_ALLOCATION (\$I30) VCN: 596

The first attribute will contain the size of the data defined by all the attributes. Other attributes should have a size of 0.

It is assumed that the attributes in a chain must be continuous and defined in-order.

## 7. The attribute types

The attribute types are stored in the `$AttrDef` metadata file.

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	128		Attribute name Contains an UTF-16 little-endian <b>with end-of-string character?</b> <b>The unused bytes are filled with 0-byte values</b>
128	4		Attribute type (or type code)
132	8		Unknown (empty values?)
140	4		Unknown (flags?) Seen: 0x40, 0x42, 0x80
144	8		Unknown (minimum attribute size?)
152	8		Unknown (maximum attribute size?) Seen: -1 (no maximum?), 48

```

00000000  24 00 53 00 54 00 41 00  4e 00 44 00 41 00 52 00  |$.S.T.A.N.D.A.R.|
00000010  44 00 5f 00 49 00 4e 00  46 00 4f 00 52 00 4d 00  |D._.I.N.F.O.R.M.|
00000020  41 00 54 00 49 00 4f 00  4e 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  |A.T.I.O.N.....|
00000030  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  |.....|
*
00000080  10 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  00 00 00 00 40 00 00 00  |.....@...|
00000090  30 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  30 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  |0.....0.....|
000000a0  24 00 41 00 54 00 54 00  52 00 49 00 42 00 55 00  |$.A.T.T.R.I.B.U.|
000000b0  54 00 45 00 5f 00 4c 00  49 00 53 00 54 00 00 00  |T.E._.L.I.S.T...|
000000c0  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  |.....|
*
00000120  20 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  00 00 00 00 80 00 00 00  | .....|

```

```

00000130  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  ff ff ff ff ff ff ff ff  |.....|
00000140  24 00 46 00 49 00 4c 00  45 00 5f 00 4e 00 41 00  |$.F.I.L.E._.N.A.|

```

## 8. The index

The index structures are used for various purposes one of which are the directory entries.

The root of the index is stored in index root. The index root attribute defines which type of attribute is stored in the index and the root index node.

If the index is too large part of the index is stored in an index allocation attribute with the same attribute name. The index allocation attribute defines a data stream which contains index entries. Each index entry contains an index node.

See [CARRIER05] page 378 for an illustration how the index root and index allocation attribute relate.

An index consists of a tree, where both the branch and index leaf nodes contain the actual data. E.g. in case of a directory entries index, any node that contains index value data make up for the directory entries.

The index value data in a branch node signifies the upper bound of the values in the that specific branch. E.g. if directory entries index branch node contains the name 'textfile.txt' all names in that index branch are smaller than 'textfile.txt'. Note the actual sorting order is dependent on the collation type defined in the index root attribute.

The index allocation attribute is accompanied by a bitmap attribute with the corresponding attribute name. The bitmap attribute defines the allocation of virtual cluster blocks within the index allocation attribute data stream.

Note	The index allocation attribute can be present even though it is not used.
------	---

### 8.1. Common used indexes

Indexes commonly used by NTFS are:

Value	Identifier	Description
\$I30		Directory entries (used by directories)
\$SDH		Security descriptor hashes (used by \$Secure)
\$SII		Security descriptor identifiers (used by \$Secure)
\$O		Object identifiers (used by \$ObjId)
\$O		Owner identifiers (used by \$Quota)
\$Q		Quotas (used by \$Quota)
\$R		Reparse points (used by \$Reparse)

## 8.2. The index root

The index root consists of:

- index root header
- index node header
- an array of index values

### 8.2.1. The index root header

The index root header is 16 bytes of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	4		Attribute type Contains the type of the indexed attribute or 0 if none



Offset	Size	Value	Description
4	4		Collation type Contains a value to indicate the ordering of the index entries See section: <a href="#">Collation type</a>
8	4		Index entry size
12	4		Index entry number of cluster blocks

Note	[CARRIER05] and [RUSSON05] state that the last 3 bytes are unused (alignment padding). However it is highly probably that the last value is 32-bit of size.
------	---

Note	In NT4 (version 1.2) the index entry size does not have to match the index entry size in the volume header. The correct size seems to be the value in the index root header.
------	--

### 8.2.2. Collation type

Value	Identifier	Description
0x00000000	COLLATION_BINARY	Binary The first byte is most significant
0x00000001	COLLATION_FILENAME	Unicode strings case-insensitive
0x00000002	COLLATION_UNICODE_STRING	Unicode strings case-sensitive Upper case letters should come first
0x00000010	COLLATION_NTFS_ULONGLONG	Unsigned 32-bit little-endian integer
0x00000011	COLLATION_NTFS_SID	NT security identifier (SID)
0x00000012	COLLATION_NTFS_SECURITY_HASH	Security hash first, then NT security identifier

Value	Identifier	Description
0x00000013	COLLATION_NTFS_ULONGS	An array of unsigned 32-bit little-endian integer values

## 8.3. The index entry

The index entry consists of:

- the index entry header
- the index node header
- the fix-up values
- alignment padding (8-byte alignment), contains zero-bytes
- an array of index values

### 8.3.1. The index entry header

The index entry header is 32 bytes of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	4	"INDX"	Signature
4	2		The fix-up values offset Contains an offset relative from the start of the index entry header.
6	2		The number of fix-up values
8	8		Metadata transaction journal sequence number Contains a \$LogFile Sequence Number (LSN)
16	8		Virtual Cluster Number (VCN) of the index entry

Note	There can be more fix-up value than supported by the index entry data size.
------	---

## 8.4. The index node header

The index node header is 16 bytes of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	4		Index values offset The offset is relative from the start of the index node header
4	4		Index node size The value includes the size of the index node header. See below.
8	4		Allocated index node size The value includes the size of the index node header
12	4		Index node flags See section: <a href="#">The index node flags</a>

Note that [RUSSON05] states that the last 3 bytes are unused (alignment padding), while [CARRIER05] states that the last value is 32-bit of size. Here we assume that the index node flags are a 32-bit value.

In an index entry (index allocation attribute) the index node size includes the size of the fix-up values and the alignment padding following it.

The remainder of the index node contains remnant data and/or zero-byte values.

### 8.4.1. The index node flags

Value	Identifier	Description
0x00000001		Is branch node Used to indicate if the node is a branch node that has sub nodes

## 8.5. The index value

The index value is variable of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	8		File reference See section: <a href="#">The file reference</a>
8	2		Index value size
10	2		Index key data size
12	4		Index value flags
<i>If index key data size &gt; 0</i>			
16	...		Index key data
...	...		Index value data
<i>If index value flag 0x00000001 (is branch node) is set</i>			
...	8		Sub node Virtual Cluster Number (VCN)

Note	The index values are stored 8 byte aligned.
------	---

Note	Some sources define the index value flags as a 16-bit value followed by 2 bytes of padding.
------	---

### 8.5.1. The index value flags

Value	Identifier	Description
0x00000001		Has sub node If set the index value contains a sub node Virtual Cluster Number (VCN)
0x00000002		Is last If set the index value is the last in the index values array

## 8.6. Index key and value data

### 8.6.1. Directory entry index value

The MFT attribute name of the directory entry index is: \$I30.

The directory entry index value contains a file name attribute in the index key data. See section: [The file name attribute](#).

The index value data seems to contain remnant data.

Note	Both the short and long names of the same file have a separate index value. The short name uses the DOS name space and the long name the WINDOWS name space.
------	--

**Index values with a single name use either the POSIX or DOS\_WINDOWS name space?**

A hard link to a file in the same directory will also have a separate index value.

**Does the hard link always has POSIX name space?**

### 8.6.2. Security descriptor hash index value

The MFT attribute name of the security descriptor hash index is: \$SDH. It appears to only to be used by the \$Secure metadata file.

See section: [The security descriptor hash index value](#)

### 8.6.3. Security descriptor identifier index value

The MFT attribute name of the security descriptor identifier index is: \$SII. It appears to only to be used by the \$Secure metadata file.

See section: [The security descriptor identifier index value](#)

## 9. Compression

Typically NTFS compression groups 16 cluster blocks together. This group of 16 cluster blocks also named a compression unit is either '\compressed' or uncompressed data. The term compressed is quoted here because, as you will see below, the group of cluster blocks can also contain uncompressed data. A group of cluster blocks is '\compressed' when it is compressed size is smaller than its uncompressed data size.

Note	The actual compression unit size is stored in the non-resident MFT attribute.
------	---

Within a group of cluster blocks each of the 16 blocks is '\compressed' individually see [Block based storage](#). The maximum uncompressed data size is always the cluster size (in most cases 4096).

The data runs in the \$DATA stream define cluster block ranges. A simple example:

21 02 35 52

This data run defines 2 data blocks starting at block number 21045 followed by 14 sparse blocks. The total number of blocks is 16 which is the size of the compression unit. The data is stored compressed in the first 2 blocks and the 14 sparse blocks are only there to make sure the data runs add up to the compression unit size. They do not define actual sparse data.

Another example:

21 40 37 52

This data run defines 64 data blocks starting at block number 21047. Since this data run is larger than the compression unit size the data is stored uncompressed.

If the data run was e.g. 60 data blocks followed by 4 sparse blocks the first 3 compression units (blocks 1 to 48) would be uncompressed and the last compression unit (blocks 49 to 64) would be compressed.

Also "sparse data" and "sparse compression unit" data runs can be mixed. If in the previous example the 60 data blocks would be followed by 20 sparse blocks the last compression unit (blocks 65 to 80) would be sparse.

Note

A compression unit can consists of multiple compressed data runs, e.g. 1 data block followed by 4 data blocks followed by 11 sparse blocks. Data runs have been observed where the last data run size does not align with the compression unit size.

Note

The sparse blocks data run can be stored in a subsequent attribute in an attribute chain and can be stored in multiple data runs.

**Does the sparse flag needs to be set for sparse compressed files?**

**Is resident data is always uncompressed?**

Also see [RUSSON05] for more detailed examples.

## 9.1. Block based storage

NTFS compression stores the 'compressed' data in blocks. Each block has a 2 byte block header.

The block is variable of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	2		Block size
2	(compressed data size)		

The upper 4 bits of the block size are used as flags.

Bit(s)	Description
0 - 11	Compressed data size
12 - 14	<b>Unknown flags</b>
15	Data is compressed

## 9.2. LZNT1 compression method

For more information about LZNT1 see: [\[LIBFWNT\]](#)

Also see section: [Corruption scenarios](#)

## 9.3. Windows Overlay Filter (WOF) compressed data

A MFT entry that contains Windows Overlay Filter (WOF) compressed data has the following attributes:

- reparse point attribute with tag 0x80000017, which defines the compression method
- a nameless data attribute that is sparse and contains the uncompressed data size
- a data attribute named WofCompressedData that contains LZXPRESS Huffman or LZX compressed data



Offset	Size	Value	Description
<i>Chunk offset table</i>			
0	...		Array of 32-bit of 64-bit compressed data chunk offsets The offset is relative from the start of the data chunks
<i>Data chunks</i>			
...	...		One or more compressed or uncompressed data chunks

Note	If the chunk size equals the size of the uncompressed data the chunk is stored (as-is) uncompressed.
------	--

The size of the chunk offset table is:

```
number of chunk offsets = uncompressed size / compression unit size
```

The offset of the first compressed data chunk is at the end of the chunk offset table and is not stored in the chunk offset table.

For more information about the compression methods see section [Windows Overlay Filter \(WOF\) compression method](#)

## 10. The reparse point

The reparse point is used to create file system-level links. Reparse data is stored in the reparse point attribute. The reparse point data (REPARSE\_DATA\_BUFFER) is variable of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	4		Reparse point tag
4	2		Reparse data size

Offset	Size	Value	Description
6	2	0	Unknown (Reserved)
8	...		Reparse data

What about the GUID mentioned in [RUSSON05] in third party reparse points.

[MSDN] ReparseGuid: A 16-byte GUID that uniquely identifies the owner of the reparse point. Reparse pointGUIDs are assigned by the implementer of a file system, the file system filter driver, or the minifilter driver. The implementer must generate one GUID to use with their assigned reparse point tag, and must always use this GUID as the ReparseGuid for that tag.

## 10.1. Reparse point tag

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0.0	16 bits		Type
2.0	12 bits		Unknown (Reserved)
3.4	4 bits		Flags

### 10.1.1. Predefined reparse point tag values

Predefined reparse point tag values according to [MSDN] :

Value	Identifier	Description
0x00000000	IO_REPARSE_TAG_RESERVED_ZERO	Unknown (Reserved)
0x00000001	IO_REPARSE_TAG_RESERVED_ONE	Unknown (Reserved)
0x00000002	IO_REPARSE_TAG_RESERVED_TWO	Unknown (Reserved)

Value	Identifier	Description
0x80000005	IO_REPARSE_TAG_DRIVE_EXTENDER	Used by Home server drive extender
0x80000006	IO_REPARSE_TAG_HSM2	Used by Hierarchical Storage Manager Product
0x80000007	IO_REPARSE_TAG_SIS	Used by single-instance storage (SIS) filter driver
0x80000008	IO_REPARSE_TAG_WIM	Used by the WIM Mount filter
0x80000009	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CSV	Used by Clustered Shared Volumes (CSV) version 1
0x8000000a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_DFS	Used by the Distributed File System (DFS)
0x8000000b	IO_REPARSE_TAG_FILTER_MANAGER	Used by filter manager test harness
0x80000012	IO_REPARSE_TAG_DFSR	Used by the Distributed File System (DFS)
0x80000013	IO_REPARSE_TAG_DEDUP	Used by the Data Deduplication (Dedup)
0x80000014	IO_REPARSE_TAG_NFS	Used by the Network File System (NFS)
0x80000015	IO_REPARSE_TAG_FILE_PLACEHOLDER	Used by Windows Shell for placeholder files
0x80000016	IO_REPARSE_TAG_DFM	Used by Dynamic File filter
0x80000017	IO_REPARSE_TAG_WOF	Used by Windows Overlay Filter (WOF), for either WIMBoot or compression See section: <a href="#">Windows Overlay Filter (WOF) reparse data</a>
0x80000018	IO_REPARSE_TAG_WCI	Used by Windows Container Isolation (WCI) See section: <a href="#">Windows Container Isolation (WCI) reparse data</a>
0x8000001b	IO_REPARSE_TAG_APPEXECLINK	Used by Universal Windows Platform (UWP) packages to encode information that allows the application to be launched by CreateProcess

Value	Identifier	Description
0x8000001e	IO_REPARSE_TAG_STORAGE_SYNC	Used by the Azure File Sync (AFS) filter
0x80000020	IO_REPARSE_TAG_UNHANDLED	Used by Windows Container Isolation (WCI)
0x80000021	IO_REPARSE_TAG_ONEDRIVE	<b>Unknown (Not used)</b>
0x80000023	IO_REPARSE_TAG_AF_UNIX	Used by the Windows Subsystem for Linux (WSL) to represent a UNIX domain socket
0x80000024	IO_REPARSE_TAG_LX_FIFO	Used by the Windows Subsystem for Linux (WSL) to represent a UNIX FIFO (named pipe)
0x80000025	IO_REPARSE_TAG_LX_CHR	Used by the Windows Subsystem for Linux (WSL) to represent a UNIX character special file
0x80000036	IO_REPARSE_TAG_LX_BLK	Used by the Windows Subsystem for Linux (WSL) to represent a UNIX block special file
0x9000001c	IO_REPARSE_TAG_PROJFS	Used by the Windows Projected File System filter, for files managed by a user mode provider such as VFS for Git
0x90001018	IO_REPARSE_TAG_WCI_1	Used by Windows Container Isolation (WCI)
0x9000101a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CLOUD_1	Used by the Cloud Files filter, for files managed by a sync engine such as OneDrive
0x9000201a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CLOUD_2	Used by the Cloud Files filter, for files managed by a sync engine such as OneDrive

Value	Identifier	Description
0x9000301a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CLOUD_3	Used by the Cloud Files filter, for files managed by a sync engine such as OneDrive
0x9000401a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CLOUD_4	Used by the Cloud Files filter, for files managed by a sync engine such as OneDrive
0x9000501a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CLOUD_5	Used by the Cloud Files filter, for files managed by a sync engine such as OneDrive
0x9000601a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CLOUD_6	Used by the Cloud Files filter, for files managed by a sync engine such as OneDrive
0x9000701a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CLOUD_7	Used by the Cloud Files filter, for files managed by a sync engine such as OneDrive
0x9000801a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CLOUD_8	Used by the Cloud Files filter, for files managed by a sync engine such as OneDrive
0x9000901a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CLOUD_9	Used by the Cloud Files filter, for files managed by a sync engine such as OneDrive
0x9000a01a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CLOUD_A	Used by the Cloud Files filter, for files managed by a sync engine such as OneDrive
0x9000b01a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CLOUD_B	Used by the Cloud Files filter, for files managed by a sync engine such as OneDrive

Value	Identifier	Description
0x9000c01a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CLOUD_C	Used by the Cloud Files filter, for files managed by a sync engine such as OneDrive
0x9000d01a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CLOUD_D	Used by the Cloud Files filter, for files managed by a sync engine such as OneDrive
0x9000e01a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CLOUD_E	Used by the Cloud Files filter, for files managed by a sync engine such as OneDrive
0x9000f01a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CLOUD_F	Used by the Cloud Files filter, for files managed by a sync engine such as OneDrive
0xa0000003	IO_REPARSE_TAG_MOUNT_POINT	Junction or mount point See section: <a href="#">Junction or mount point reparse data</a>
0xa000000c	IO_REPARSE_TAG_SYMLINK	Symbolic link See section: <a href="#">Symbolic link reparse data</a>
0xa0000010	IO_REPARSE_TAG_IIS_CACHE	Used by Microsoft Internet Information Services (IIS) caching
0xa0000019	IO_REPARSE_TAG_GLOBAL_REPARSE	Used by NPFS to indicate a named pipe symbolic link from a server silo into the host silo
0xa000001a	IO_REPARSE_TAG_CLOUD	Used by the Cloud Files filter, for files managed by a sync engine such as Microsoft OneDrive
0xa000001d	IO_REPARSE_TAG_LX_SYMLINK	Used by the Windows Subsystem for Linux (WSL) to represent a UNIX symbolic link

Value	Identifier	Description
0xa000001f	IO_REPARSE_TAG_WCI_TOMBSTONE	Used by Windows Container Isolation (WCI)
0xa0000022	IO_REPARSE_TAG_PROJFS_TOMBSTONE	Used by the Windows Projected File System filter, for files managed by a user mode provider such as VFS for Git
0xa0000027	IO_REPARSE_TAG_WCI_LINK	Used by Windows Container Isolation (WCI)
0xa0001027	IO_REPARSE_TAG_WCI_LINK_1	Used by Windows Container Isolation (WCI)
0xc0000004	IO_REPARSE_TAG_HSM	Used by Hierarchical Storage Manager Product
0xc0000014	IO_REPARSE_TAG_APPXSTRM	<b>Unknown (Not used)</b>

### 10.1.2. Notes

**single-instance storage (SIS):** An NTFS feature that implements links with the semantics of copies for files stored on an NTFSvolume. SIS uses copy-on-close to implement the copy semantics of its links.

Is this documentation wrong or are these alternative values?

Flag	Description
0x68000005	NSS
0x68000006	NSS recover
0x68000007	SIS
0x68000008	DFS
0x88000003	Mount point
0xA8000004	HSM
0xE8000000	Symbolic link

### 10.1.3. Reparse point tag flags

Value	Identifier	Description
0x1		<b>Unknown (Reserved)</b> Reserved according to [MSDN]
0x2		Is alias (Name surrogate bit) If this bit is set, the file or directory represents another named entity in the system.
0x4		Is high-latency media Reserved according to [MSDN]
0x8		Is native (Microsoft-bit) <b>Does this flag influence the reparse point GUID?</b>

## 10.2. Junction or mount point reparse data

A reparse point with tag `IO_REPARSE_TAG_MOUNT_POINT` (0xa0000003) contains junction or mount point reparse data. The junction or mount point reparse data is variable of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	2		Substitute name offset The offset is relative from the start of the reparse name data
2	2		Substitute name size Value in bytes, the size of the end-of-string character is not included
4	2		Print name offset The offset is relative from the start of the reparse name data
6	2		Print name size Value in bytes, the size of the end-of-string character is not included



Offset	Size	Value	Description
<i>Reparse name data</i>			
8	...		Substitute name Contains an UTF-16 little-endian <b>with the end-of-string character?</b>
...	...		Print name Contains an UTF-16 little-endian <b>with the end-of-string character?</b>

**TODO: what do byte values like 0x02 represent in the substitute name?**

```

00000010: 5c 00 3f 00 3f 00 02 00 43 00 3a 00 5c 00 55 00  \.?.?... C.:.\.U.
00000020: 73 00 65 00 72 00 73 00 5c 00 74 00 65 00 73 00  s.e.r.s. \.t.e.s.
00000030: 74 00 5c 00 44 00 6f 00 63 00 75 00 6d 00 65 00  t.\.D.o. c.u.m.e.
00000040: 6e 00 74 00 73 00 00 00  n.t.s...

```

### 10.3. Symbolic link reparse data

A reparse point with tag `IO_REPARSE_TAG_SYMLINK` (0xa000000c0) contains symbolic link reparse data. The symbolic link reparse data is variable of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	2		Substitute name offset The offset is relative from the start of the reparse name data
2	2		Substitute name size Value in bytes
4	2		Print name offset The offset is relative from the start of the reparse name data

Offset	Size	Value	Description
6	2		Print name size Value in bytes
8	4		Symbolic link flags
<i>Reparse name data</i>			
12	...		Substitute name Contains an UTF-16 little-endian without end-of-string character
...	...		Print name Contains an UTF-16 little-endian without end-of-string character

#### 10.3.1. Symbolic link flags

Value	Identifier	Description
0x00000001	SYMLINK_FLAG_RELATIVE	The substitute name is a path name relative to the directory containing the symbolic link.

### 10.4. Windows Overlay Filter (WOF) reparse data

A reparse point with tag `IO_REPARSE_TAG_WOF` (0x80000017) contains Windows Overlay Filter (WOF) reparse data. The Windows Overlay Filter (WOF) reparse data is 16 bytes of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
<i>External provider information</i>			
0	4	1	Unknown (WOF version)
4	4	2	Unknown (WOF provider)

Offset	Size	Value	Description
<i>Internal provider information</i>			
8	4	1	<b>Unknown (file information version)</b>
12	4		Compression method See section <a href="#">Windows Overlay Filter (WOF) compression method</a>

#### 10.4.1. Windows Overlay Filter (WOF) compression method

Value	Identifier	Description
0		LZXPRESS Huffman with 4k window (compression unit)
1		LZX with 32k window (compression unit)
2		LZXPRESS Huffman with 8k window (compression unit)
3		LZXPRESS Huffman with 16k window (compression unit)

For more information about LZXPRESS Huffman see: [\[LIBFWNT\]](#)

### 10.5. Windows Container Isolation (WCI) reparse data

A reparse point with tag IO\_REPARSE\_TAG\_WCI (0x80000018) contains Windows Container Isolation (WCI) reparse data. The Windows Container Isolation (WCI) reparse data is variable of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	4	1	Version
4	4	0	<b>Unknown (reserved)</b>

Offset	Size	Value	Description
8	16		Look-up identifier Contains a GUID
24	2		Name size Value in bytes
26	...		Name Contains an UTF-16 little-endian without end-of-string character

## 11. The allocation bitmap

---

The metadata file \$Bitmap contains the allocation bitmap.

Every bit in the allocation bitmap represents a block the size of the cluster block, where the LSB is the first bit in a byte.

**TODO** determine and describe what the \$SRAT data stream is used for.

## 12. Access control

---

The \$Secure metadata file contains the security descriptors used for access control.

Type	Name	Description
Data	\$SDS	Security descriptor data stream Contains all the Security descriptors on the volume
Index	\$SDH	Security descriptor hash index

Type	Name	Description
Index	\$SII	Security descriptor identifier index Contains the mapping of the security descriptor identifier (in \$STANDARD_INFORMATION) to the offset of the security descriptor data (in \$Secure:\$SDS)

TODO add text

In the \$SII index do the index values contain a 32-bit checksum?

## 12.1. Security descriptor hash (\$SDH) index

### 12.1.1. The security descriptor hash index value

Offset	Size	Value	Description
<i>Key data</i>			
0	4		Security descriptor hash
4	4		Security descriptor identifier
<i>Value data</i>			
8	4		Security descriptor hash
12	4		Security descriptor identifier
16	8		Security descriptor data offset (in \$SDS)
24	4		Security descriptor data size (in \$SDS)
28	4		<b>Alignment padding (8-byte alignment)</b> Contains string "\x00I\x00" ?

## 12.2. Security descriptor identifier (\$SII) index

### 12.2.1. The security descriptor identifier index value

Offset	Size	Value	Description
<i>Key data</i>			
0	4		Security descriptor identifier
<i>Value data</i>			
4	4		Security descriptor hash <b>TODO describe the hash algorithm</b>
8	4		Security descriptor identifier
12	8		Security descriptor data offset (in \$SDS)
20	4		Security descriptor data size (in \$SDS)

### 12.3. Security descriptor (\$SDS) data stream

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	4		Security descriptor hash
4	4		Security descriptor identifier
12	8		Security descriptor data offset (in \$SDS)
20	4		Security descriptor data size (in \$SDS)
24	...		Security descriptor data See: <a href="#">[LIBFWNT]</a>
...	...		16-bit alignment padding.

## 13. The object identifiers

TODO add text

### 13.1. \$ObjID:\$O

Offset	Size	Value	Description
<i>Key data</i>			
0	16		File (or object) identifier Contains a GUID
<i>Value data</i>			
4	8		File reference See section: <a href="#">The file reference</a>
12	16		Birth droid volume identifier Contains a GUID
28	16		Birth droid file (or object) identifier Contains a GUID
44	16		Birth droid domain identifier Contains a GUID

```
00000000  00 00 00 00 13 00 00 00  00 10 00 00 01 00 00 00  |.....|
00000010  10 00 00 00 88 00 00 00  88 00 00 00 01 00 00 00  |.....|
00000020  20 00 38 00 00 00 00 00  60 00 10 00 01 00 00 00  |.8.....`.....|
```

OBJECT\_ID: 43ecee59-e2b3-11dc-ad7e-001c2582598f of root directory

```
00000030  59 ee ec 43 b3 e2 dc 11  ad 7e 00 1c 25 82 59 8f  |Y..C.....~..%.Y.|
```

## MFT file reference

OBJECT\_ID: e6a67b60-c0b5-4b53-b8fe-94470c83df89 of \$Volume

```

00000040  05 00 00 00 00 00 05 00  60 7b a6 e6 b5 c0 53 4b  |.....`{....SK|
00000050  b8 fe 94 47 0c 83 df 89  59 ee ec 43 b3 e2 dc 11  |...G....Y..C....|
00000060  ad 7e 00 1c 25 82 59 8f  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  |.~..%.Y.....|
00000070  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  |.....|
00000080  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  18 00 00 00 03 00 00 00  |.....|
00000090  01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00  |.....|

```

## 14. Metadata transaction journal (log file)

The metadata file \$LogFile contains the metadata transaction journal.

TODO add text.

- Log File Service restart page header
- [fix-up values](#)

### 14.1. Log File service restart page header

The Log File service restart page header (LFS\_RESTART\_PAGE\_HEADER) is 30 bytes of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
<i>MULTI_SECTOR_HEADER</i>			
0	4	"CHKD" "RCRD" "RSTR"	Signature



Offset	Size	Value	Description
4	2		The fix-up values offset Contains an offset relative from the start of the restart page header According to [MSDN] this value is the update sequence array offset
6	2		The number of fix-up values According to [MSDN] this value is the update sequence array size.
8	8		Checkdisk last LSN
16	4		System page size
20	4		Log page size
24	2		Restart offset
26	2		Minor format version
28	2		Major format version -1 ⇒ Beta Version 0 ⇒ Transition 1 ⇒ Update sequence support

## 14.2. Notes

Log File Service record header (LFS\_RECORD\_HEADER)

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	8		Metadata transaction journal sequence number Contains a \$LogFile Sequence Number (LSN)

Offset	Size	Value	Description
8	8		Previous metadata transaction journal sequence number Contains a \$LogFile Sequence Number (LSN)
16	8		Undo next metadata transaction journal sequence number Contains a \$LogFile Sequence Number (LSN)

```
LFS_RECORD_HEADER {
```

```
//
```

```
// The following field is the size of data area for this record. The  
// log record header will be padded if necessary to fill to a 64-bit  
// boundary, so the client data will begin on a 64-bit boundary to  
// insure that all of his data is 64-bit aligned. The below value  
// has not been padded to 64 bits however.
```

```
//
```

```
ULONG ClientDataLength;
```

```
//
```

```
// Client ID. This identifies the owner of this log record. The owner  
// is uniquely identified by his offset in the client array and the  
// sequence number associated with that client record.
```

```
//
```

```
LFS_CLIENT_ID ClientId;
```

```
//
```

```
// This the Log Record type. This could be a commit protocol record,  
// a client restart area or a client update record.
```

```
//
```

```
LFS_RECORD_TYPE RecordType;
```

```
//
```

```
// Transaction ID. This is used externally by a client (Transaction
// Manager) to group log file entries.
//

TRANSACTION_ID TransactionId;

//
// Log record flags.
//

USHORT Flags;

//
// Alignment field.
//

USHORT AlignWord;
```

## 15. USN change journal

---

The metadata file \$Extend\$UsnJrnl contains the USN change journal. It is a sparse file in which NTFS stores records of changes to files and directories. Applications make use of the journal to respond to file and directory changes as they occur, like e.g. the Windows File Replication Service (FRS) and the Windows (Desktop) Search service.

The USN change journal consists of:

- the \$UsnJrnl:\$Max data stream, containing metadata like the maximum size of the journal
- the \$UsnJrnl:\$J data stream, containing the update (or change) entries. The \$UsnJrnl:\$J data stream is sparse.

### 15.1. USN change journal metadata

The USN change journal metadata is 32 bytes of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	8		Maximum size Contains the number of bytes
8	8		Allocation delta Contains the number of bytes
16	8		Update (USN) journal identifier Contains a FILETIME
24	8		<b>Unknown (empty)</b>

## 15.2. USN change journal entries

The \$UsnJrnl:\$J data stream consists of an array of USN change journal entries. The USN change journal entries are stored on a per block-basis and 64-bit aligned. Therefore the remainder of the block can contain 0-byte values.

**TODO: The journal block size seems to be 4096 bytes, but could this be defined by the index entry size? It does not match the cluster block size.**

Once the stream reaches maximum size the earliest USN change journal entries are removed from the stream and replaced with a sparse data run.

### 15.2.1. USN change journal entry

USN change journal entry version 2

The USN change journal entry version 2 (USN\_RECORD or USN\_RECORD\_V2) is variable of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	4		Entry (or record) size

Offset	Size	Value	Description
4	2	0x0002	Major version
6	2	0x0000	Minor version
8	8		File reference
16	8		Parent file reference
24	8		Update sequence number (USN) Contains the file offset of the USN change journal entry which is used as a unique identifier
32	8		Update date and time Contains a FILETIME
40	4		Update reason flags See section: <a href="#">Update reason flags</a>
44	4		Update source flags See section: <a href="#">Update source flags</a>
48	4		Security descriptor identifier Contains the entry number in the security ID index (\$Secure:\$SII) See section: <a href="#">Access Control</a>
52	4		File attribute flags See section: <a href="#">File attribute flags</a>
56	2		Name size Contains the byte size of the name
58	2		Name offset The offset is relative from the start of the USN change journal entry

Offset	Size	Value	Description
<i>Common</i>			
60	(name size)		Name
...	...	0x00	Padding

### USN change journal entry version 3

**TODO** need a sample to confirm this version of the USN record is actually used by NTFS. For now it is assumed that it is likely used by ReFS.

The USN change journal entry version 3 (USN\_RECORD\_V3) is variable of size and consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	4		Entry (or record) size
4	2	0x0003	Major version
6	2	0x0000	Minor version
8	16		File reference
24	16		Parent file reference
40	8		Update sequence number (USN) Contains the file offset of the USN change journal entry which is used as a unique identifier
48	8		Update date and time Contains a FILETIME

Offset	Size	Value	Description
56	4		Update reason flags See section: <a href="#">Update reason flags</a>
60	4		Update source flags See section: <a href="#">Update source flags</a>
64	4		Security descriptor identifier Contains the entry number in the security ID index (\$Secure:\$SII) See section: <a href="#">Access Control</a>
68	4		File attribute flags See section: <a href="#">File attribute flags</a>
72	2		Name size Contains the byte size of the name
74	2		Name offset The offset is relative from the start of the USN change journal entry
<i>Common</i>			
78	(name size)		Name
...	...	0x00	Padding

The file reference has changed from a 64-bit to a 128-bit value which consists of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	8		MFT entry index Note that the index value in the MFT entry is only 32-bit of size.
8	8		Sequence number

### 15.2.2. Update reason flags

Value	Identifier	Description
0x00000001	USN_REASON_DATA_OVERWRITE	The data in the file or directory is overwritten. <b>The default (unnamed) \$DATA attribute was overwritten</b>
0x00000002	USN_REASON_DATA_EXTEND	The file or directory is extended <b>The default (unnamed) \$DATA attribute was extended</b>
0x00000004	USN_REASON_DATA_TRUNCATION	The file or directory is truncated. <b>The default (unnamed) \$DATA attribute was truncated</b>
0x00000010	USN_REASON_NAMED_DATA_OVERWRITE	One or more named data streams (\$DATA attributes) of file were overwritten
0x00000020	USN_REASON_NAMED_DATA_EXTEND	One or more named data streams (\$DATA attributes) of file were extended
0x00000040	USN_REASON_NAMED_DATA_TRUNCATION	One or more named data streams (\$DATA attributes) of a file were truncated
0x00000100	USN_REASON_FILE_CREATE	The file or directory was created
0x00000200	USN_REASON_FILE_DELETE	The file or directory was deleted
0x00000400	USN_REASON_EA_CHANGE	The extended attributes of the file were changed
0x00000800	USN_REASON_SECURITY_CHANGE	The access rights (security descriptor) of a file or directory were changed
0x00001000	USN_REASON_RENAME_OLD_NAME	The name changed The USN change journal entry contains the old name



Value	Identifier	Description
0x00002000	USN_REASON_RENAME_NEW_NAME	The name changed The USN change journal entry contains the new name
0x00004000	USN_REASON_INDEXABLE_CHANGE	Content indexed status changed the file attribute: FILE_ATTRIBUTE_NOT_CONTENT_INDEXED was changed
0x00008000	USN_REASON_BASIC_INFO_CHANGE	Basic file or directory attributes changed One or more file or directory attributes were changed e.g. read-only, hidden, system, archive, or sparse attribute, or one or more time stamps.
0x00010000	USN_REASON_HARD_LINK_CHANGE	A hard link was created or deleted
0x00020000	USN_REASON_COMPRESSION_CHANGE	The file or directory was compressed or decompressed
0x00040000	USN_REASON_ENCRYPTION_CHANGE	The file or directory was encrypted or decrypted
0x00080000	USN_REASON_OBJECT_ID_CHANGE	The object identifier of a file or directory was changed
0x00100000	USN_REASON_REPARSE_POINT_CHANGE	The reparse point that in a file or directory was changed, or a reparse point was added to or deleted from a file or directory.
0x00200000	USN_REASON_STREAM_CHANGE	A named data stream (\$DATA attribute) is added to or removed from a file, or a named stream is renamed
0x00400000	USN_REASON_TRANSACTED_CHANGE	<b>Unknown found in TxF USN change journal entry list</b>
0x80000000	USN_REASON_CLOSE	The file or directory was closed

### 15.2.3. Update source flags

Value	Identifier	Description
0x00000001	USN_SOURCE_DATA_MANAGEMENT	The operation added a private data stream to a file or directory. The modifications did not change the application data.
0x00000002	USN_SOURCE_AUXILIARY_DATA	The operation was caused by the operating system. Although a write operation is performed on the item, the data was not changed.
0x00000004	USN_SOURCE_REPLICATION_MANAGEMENT	The operation was caused by file replication

## 16. Alternate data streams

Data stream name	Description
♣BnhqlkugBim0elg1M1pt2tjdZe ♣SummaryInformation {4c8cc155-6c1e-11d1-8e41-00c04fb9386d}	Used to store property sets Where ♣ is Unicode character U+2663 also known as black club
{59828bbb-3f72-4c1b-a420-b51ad66eb5d3}.XPRESS	Used during remote differential compression
AFP_AfpInfo AFP_Resource	Used to store Macintosh operating system property lists
encryptable	Used to store attributes relating to thumbnails in the thumbnails database
favicon	Used to store favorite icons for web pages.
ms-properties	<b>Unknown (Used to store property sets)</b>
OECustomProperty	Used to store custom properties related to email files

Data stream name	Description
Zone.Identifier	Used to store URL security zones

## 16.1. ms-properties

```

00000000  e9 00 00 00 8c 00 00 00 31 53 50 53 53 f1 ef fc |.....1SPSS...|
00000010  39 e8 f3 4c a9 e7 ea 22 83 20 94 b8 25 00 00 00 |9..L..." ..%...|
00000020  6f 00 00 00 00 1f 10 00 00 01 00 00 00 08 00 00 |o.....|
00000030  00 50 00 72 00 69 00 76 00 61 00 74 00 65 00 00 |.P.r.i.v.a.t.e..|
00000040  00 25 00 00 00 6c 00 00 00 00 1f 00 00 00 09 00 |.%.l.....|
00000050  00 00 53 00 6b 00 79 00 44 00 72 00 69 00 76 00 |..S.k.y.D.r.i.v.|
00000060  65 00 00 00 00 00 11 00 00 00 6d 00 00 00 00 13 |e.....m....|
00000070  00 00 00 00 0d 04 00 15 00 00 00 6e 00 00 00 00 |.....n....|
00000080  15 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 |.....|
00000090  59 00 00 00 31 53 50 53 d6 b9 f9 b2 c4 fe d5 4d |Y...1SPS.....M|
000000a0  94 d7 89 57 48 8c 80 7b 3d 00 00 00 03 00 00 00 |...WH..{=.....|
000000b0  00 1f 00 00 00 15 00 00 00 37 00 46 00 30 00 39 |.....7.F.0.9|
000000c0  00 35 00 31 00 34 00 39 00 30 00 32 00 37 00 38 |.5.1.4.9.0.2.7.8|
000000d0  00 34 00 38 00 45 00 44 00 21 00 31 00 30 00 33 |.4.8.E.D.!.1.0.3|
000000e0  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 |.....|
000000ed

```

## 16.2. Zone.Identifier

```

00000000  5b 5a 6f 6e 65 54 72 61 6e 73 66 65 72 5d 0d 0a |[ZoneTransfer]..|
00000010  5a 6f 6e 65 49 64 3d 33 0d 0a |ZoneId=3..|
0000001a

```

## 17. Transactional NTFS (TxF)

As of Vista (or windows server 2003?) Transactional NTFS (TxF) was added.

In TxF the resource manager (RM) keeps track of transactional metadata and log files. The TxF related metadata files are stored in the metadata directory:

```
$Extend\$RmMetadata
```

### 17.1. Resource manager repair information

The resource manager repair information metadata file: \$Extend\\$RmMetadata\\$Repair consists of the following data streams:

- the default (unnamed) data stream, **purpose unknown**
- the \$Config data stream, contains the resource manager repair configuration information

#### 17.1.1. Resource manager repair configuration information

The \$Repair:\$Config data streams contains:

TODO

```
00000000 01 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 | .....|
```

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	4		Unknown
4	4		Unknown

## 17.2. Transactional NTFS (TxF) metadata directory

The transactional NTFS (TxF) metadata directory: `$Extend\${Rm}Metadata\${Txf}` is used to isolate files for delete or overwrite operations.

File format? All files seem to start with similar information

## 17.3. TxF Old Page Stream (TOPS) file

The TxF Old Page Stream (TOPS) file: `$Extend\${Rm}Metadata\${TxfLog}\${Tops}` consists of the following data streams:

- the default (unnamed) data stream, contains metadata about the resource manager, such as its GUID, its CLFS log policy, and the LSN at which recovery should start
- the `$T` data stream, contains the file data that is partially overwritten by a transaction as opposed to a full overwrite, which would move the file into the Transactional NTFS (TxF) metadata directory

### 17.3.1. TxF Old Page Stream (TOPS) metadata

The `$Tops` default (unnamed) data streams contains:

TODO

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	2	0x000a	Unknown
2	2	0x0064	Size of TOPS metadata
4	4	0x0001	Unknown Number of resource managers/streams?
8	16		Resource Manager (RM) identifier Contains a GUID

Offset	Size	Value	Description
24	8		Unknown (empty)
32	8		Base (or log start) LSN of TxFLog stream
40	8		Unknown
48	8		Last flushed LSN of TxFLog stream
56	8		Unknown
64	8		Unknown (empty)
72	8		Restart LSN?
80	20		Unknown

### 17.3.2. TxF Old Page Stream (TOPS) file data

The \$Tops:\$T data streams contains the file data that is partially overwritten by a transaction. It consists of multiple pending transaction XML-documents.

**Note that the start of each sector contains 0x0001, is this a value indication the sector is empty? Or are there fix-up values stored somewhere else?**

A pending transaction XML-document starts with an UTF-8 byte-order-mark. Is roughly contains the following data:

```
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='utf-8'?>
<PendingTransaction Version="2.0" Identifier="...">
  <Transactions>
    <Transaction TransactionId="...">
      <Install Application="...", Culture=..., Version=..., PublicKeyToken=...,
        ProcessorArchitecture=..., versionScope=..."
        RefGuid="..."
        RefIdentifier="..."
```

```
        RefExtra="..."/>

    ...
</Transaction>
</Transactions>
<ChangeList>
    <Change Family="...", Culture=..., PublicKeyToken=...,
        ProcessorArchitecture=..., versionScope=..."
        New="..."/>

    ...
</ChangeList>
<POQ>
    <BeginTransaction id="..."/>

    <CreateFile path="..."
        fileAttribute="..."/>
    <DeleteFile path="..."/>
    <MoveFile source="..." destination="..."/>
    <HardlinkFile source="..." destination="..."/>
    <SetFileInformation path="..."
        securityDescriptor="binary base64:..."
        flags="..."/>

    <CreateKey path="..."/>
    <SetKeyValue path="..."
        name="..."
        type="..."
        encoding="base64"
        value="..."/>
    <DeleteKeyValue path="..."
        name="..."/>

    ...
</POQ>
<InstallerQueue Length="...">
    <Action Installer="..."
        Mode="..."
        Phase="..."
```

```

    Family="...", Culture=..., PublicKeyToken=...,
        ProcessorArchitecture=..., versionScope=..."
    Old="..."
    New="..." />

    ...
  </InstallerQueue >
</PendingTransaction>

```

## 17.4. Transactional NTFS (TxF) Common Log File System (CLFS) files

TxF uses a Common Log File System (CLFS) log store and the logged utility stream attribute named \$TXF\_DATA.

See [RUSSNOVICH09], [MSDN] and [LIBFSCLFS] for more information about CLFS.

The base log file (BLF) of the TxF log store is:

```
$Extend\${RmMetadata}\$TxfLog\TxfLog.blf
```

Commonly the corresponding container files are:

```

$Extend\${RmMetadata}\$TxfLog\TxfLogContainer00000000000000000001
$Extend\${RmMetadata}\$TxfLog\TxfLogContainer00000000000000000002

```

TxF uses a multiplexed log store which contains two streams:

- the KtmLog stream used for Kernel Transaction Manager (KTM) metadata records
- TxfLog stream, which contains the TxF log records.

## 17.5. Transactional data logged utility stream attribute



The transactional data (\$TXF\_DATA) logged utility stream attribute is 56 bytes of size and consist of:

Offset	Size	Value	Description
0	6		<b>Unknown (remnant data)</b>
6	8		Resource manager root file reference Contains an NTFS file reference that refers to the MFT
14	8		<b>USN index?</b>
22	8		File identifier (TxID) Contains a TxF file identifier
30	8		Data LSN Contains a CLFS LSN of file data transaction records
38	8		Metadata LSN Contains a CLFS LSN of file system metadata transaction records
46	8		Directory index LSN Contains a CLFS LSN of directory index transaction records
54	2		<b>Flags?</b> Seen: 0x0000, 0x0002

Note there can be more than 1 per MTF entry

## 18. Windows definitions

### 18.1. File attribute flags

The file attribute flags consist of the following values:

Value	Identifier	Description
0x00000001	FILE_ATTRIBUTE_READONLY	Is read-only
0x00000002	FILE_ATTRIBUTE_HIDDEN	Is hidden
0x00000004	FILE_ATTRIBUTE_SYSTEM	Is a system file or directory
0x00000008		Is a volume label <b>Not used by NTFS</b>
0x00000010	FILE_ATTRIBUTE_DIRECTORY	Is a directory <b>Not used by NTFS</b>
0x00000020	FILE_ATTRIBUTE_ARCHIVE	Should be archived
0x00000040	FILE_ATTRIBUTE_DEVICE	Is a device <b>Not used by NTFS</b>
0x00000080	FILE_ATTRIBUTE_NORMAL	Is normal None of the other flags should be set
0x00000100	FILE_ATTRIBUTE_TEMPORARY	Is temporary
0x00000200	FILE_ATTRIBUTE_SPARSE_FILE	Is a sparse file
0x00000400	FILE_ATTRIBUTE_REPARSE_POINT	Is a reparse point or symbolic link
0x00000800	FILE_ATTRIBUTE_COMPRESSED	Is compressed
0x00001000	FILE_ATTRIBUTE_OFFLINE	Is offline The data of the file is stored on an offline storage.
0x00002000	FILE_ATTRIBUTE_NOT_CONTENT_INDEXED	Do not index content The content of the file or directory should not be indexed by the indexing service.

Value	Identifier	Description
0x00004000	FILE_ATTRIBUTE_ENCRYPTED	Is encrypted
0x00008000		<b>Unknown (seen on Windows 95 FAT)</b>
0x00010000	FILE_ATTRIBUTE_VIRTUAL	Is virtual
<i>The following flags are mainly used in the file name attribute and sparsely in the standard information attribute; it could be that they have a different meaning in both types of attributes or that the standard information flags are not updated. For now the latter is assumed.</i>		
0x10000000		<b>Unknown</b> Is directory (or has \$I30 index ?) used instead of 0x00000010 ? Seen \$Extend directory without this flag
0x20000000		Is index view (copy from corresponding bit in MFT record)

## 19. Corruption scenarios

### 19.1. \$FILE\_NAME attribute with non-proper UTF-16 name

An MFT entry contains an \$FILE\_NAME attribute that contains a name that contains non-proper UTF-16.

```
parent file reference      : 9711-3
creation time              : Oct 04, 2014 14:44:40.703125000 UTC
modification time         : Oct 04, 2014 14:48:37.562500000 UTC
entry modification time    : Oct 04, 2014 14:48:37.750000000 UTC
access time                : Oct 04, 2014 14:48:37.562500000 UTC
allocated file size        : 40960
file size                  : 38926
```

```

file attribute flags          : 0x00000020
    Should be archived (FILE_ATTRIBUTE_ARCHIVE)

extended data                 : 0x00000000
name size                     : 36
name space                     : 1 (Windows)

name data:
00000040:      2e 00 63 dc 79 dc  67 dc 30 00 30 00 32 00      ..c.y. g.0.0.2.
00000050: 65 00 30 00 30 00 30 00 30 00 30 00 30 00      e.0.0.0. 0.0.0.0.
00000060: 31 00 61 00 39 00 34 00 66 00 62 00 36 00 30 00      1.a.9.4. f.b.6.0.
00000070: 62 00 35 00 30 00 37 00 66 00 30 00 36 00 38 00      b.5.0.7. f.0.6.8.
00000080: 30 00 66 00 39 00 36 00 38 00                      0.f.9.6. 8.

```

This edge case was observed on Windows XP in the Recycler directory. The same name is stored in the corresponding \$I30 entry.

## 19.2. Data steam with inconsistent data flags

An MFT entry contains an \$ATTRIBUTE\_LIST attribute that contains multiple \$DATA attributes. The \$DATA attributes define a LZNT1 compressed data stream though only the first \$DATA attribute has the compressed data flag set.

Note	It is unclear if this is a corruption scenario or not.
------	--

```

MFT entry: 220 information:
    Is allocated                : true
    File reference               : 220-59
    Base record file reference  : Not set (0)
    Journal sequence number     : 51876429013
    Number of attributes        : 5

Attribute: 1
    Type                        : $STANDARD_INFORMATION (0x00000010)
    Creation time                : Jun 05, 2019 06:56:26.032730300 UTC
    Modification time            : Oct 05, 2019 06:56:04.150940700 UTC

```

```

Access time           : Oct 05, 2019 06:56:04.150940700 UTC
Entry modification time : Oct 05, 2019 06:56:04.150940700 UTC
Owner identifier       : 0
Security descriptor identifier : 5862
Update sequence number : 11553149976
File attribute flags   : 0x000000820
    Should be archived (FILE_ATTRIBUTE_ARCHIVE)
    Is compressed (FILE_ATTRIBUTE_COMPRESSED)

```

## Attribute: 2

```
Type : $ATTRIBUTE_LIST (0x00000020)
```

## Attribute: 3

```

Type           : $FILE_NAME (0x00000030)
Parent file reference : 33996-57
Creation time    : Jun 05, 2019 06:56:26.032730300 UTC
Modification time : Oct 05, 2019 06:56:03.510061800 UTC
Access time     : Oct 05, 2019 06:56:03.510061800 UTC
Entry modification time : Oct 05, 2019 06:56:03.510061800 UTC
File attribute flags : 0x00000020
    Should be archived (FILE_ATTRIBUTE_ARCHIVE)
Namespace       : POSIX (0)
Name            : setupapi.dev.20191005_085603.log

```

## Attribute: 4

```

Type           : $DATA (0x00000080)
Data VCN range  : 513 - 1103
Data flags      : 0x0000

```

## Attribute: 5

```

Type           : $DATA (0x00000080)
Data VCN range  : 0 - 512
Data size       : 4487594 bytes
Data flags      : 0x0001

```

## 19.3. Directory entry with outdated file reference

The directory entry: \ProgramData\McAfee\Common Framework\Task\5.ini

File entry:

Path	: \ProgramData\McAfee\Common Framework\Task\5.ini
File reference	: 51106-400
Name	: 5.ini
Parent file reference	: 65804-10
Size	: 723
Creation time	: Sep 16, 2011 20:47:54.561041200 UTC
Modification time	: Apr 07, 2012 21:07:02.684060000 UTC
Access time	: Apr 07, 2012 21:07:02.652810200 UTC
Entry modification time	: Apr 07, 2012 21:07:02.684060000 UTC
File attribute flags	: 0x00002020
	Should be archived (FILE_ATTRIBUTE_ARCHIVE)
	Content should not be indexed (FILE_ATTRIBUTE_NOT_CONTENT_INDEXED)

The corresponding MFT entry:

MFT entry: 51106 information:

Is allocated	: true
File reference	: 51106-496
Base record file reference	: Not set (0)
Journal sequence number	: 0
Number of attributes	: 3

Attribute: 1

Type	: \$STANDARD_INFORMATION (0x00000010)
Creation time	: Sep 16, 2011 20:47:54.561041200 UTC
Modification time	: Apr 07, 2012 21:07:02.684060000 UTC
Access time	: Apr 07, 2012 21:07:02.652810200 UTC
Entry modification time	: Apr 07, 2012 21:07:02.684060000 UTC
Owner identifier	: 0
Security descriptor identifier	: 1368
Update sequence number	: 1947271600
File attribute flags	: 0x00002020

Should be archived (FILE\_ATTRIBUTE\_ARCHIVE)  
 Content should not be indexed (FILE\_ATTRIBUTE\_NOT\_CONTENT\_INDEXED)

#### Attribute: 2

Type : \$FILE\_NAME (0x00000030)  
 Parent file reference : 65804-10  
 Creation time : Sep 16, 2011 20:47:54.561041200 UTC  
 Modification time : Apr 07, 2012 21:07:02.652810200 UTC  
 Access time : Apr 07, 2012 21:07:02.652810200 UTC  
 Entry modification time : Apr 07, 2012 21:07:02.652810200 UTC  
 File attribute flags : 0x00002020  
     Should be archived (FILE\_ATTRIBUTE\_ARCHIVE)  
     Content should not be indexed (FILE\_ATTRIBUTE\_NOT\_CONTENT\_INDEXED)  
 Namespace : DOS and Windows (3)  
 Name : 1.ini

#### Attribute: 3

Type : \$DATA (0x00000080)  
 Data size : 723 bytes  
 Data flags : 0x0000

TODO look into using \$LogFile

## 19.4. LZNT1 compressed block with data size of 0

Not sure if this is a corruption scenario or a data format edge case.

A compression unit (index 30) consisting of the following data runs:

reading data run: 60.

data run:

00000000: 11 01 01 ...

value sizes : 1, 1  
 number of cluster blocks : 1 (size: 4096)  
 cluster block number : 687143 (1) (offset: 0xa7c27000)

```

reading data run: 61.
data run:
00000000: 01 0f                                ..

value sizes                                : 1, 0
number of cluster blocks                  : 15 (size: 61440)
cluster block number                      : 0 (0) (offset: 0x00000000)
    Is sparse

```

Contains the following data:

```

a7c27000  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 |.....|
...
a7c27ff0  00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 |.....|

```

This relates to an empty LZNT1 compressed block.

```

compressed data offset                    : 0 (0x00000000)
compression chunk header                  : 0x0000
compressed chunk size                     : 1
signature value                          : 0
is compressed flag                       : 0

```

It was observed in 2 differnt NTFS implementations that the entire block is filled with 0-byte values.

TODO: verify behavior of Windows NTFS implementation.

## 19.5. Truncated LZNT1 compressed block

Not sure if this is a corruption scenario or a data format edge case.

A compression unit (index 0) consisting of the following data runs:



```

reading data run: 0.
data run:
00000000: 31 08 48 d8 01                1.H..

value sizes                : 1, 3
number of cluster blocks   : 8 (size: 32768)
cluster block number       : 120904 (120904) (offset: 0x1d848000)

reading data run: 1.
data run:
00000000: 01 08                ..

value sizes                : 1, 0
number of cluster blocks   : 8 (size: 32768)
cluster block number       : 0 (0) (offset: 0x00000000)
    Is sparse

```

Contains the following data:

```

1d848000 bd b7 50 44 46 50 00 01 00 01 00 40 e0 00 07 0b |..PDFP.....@....|
...
1d84c000 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 |.....|
*
1d84fff0 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 |.....|

```

This relates to a LZNT1 compressed block that appears to be truncated at offset 16384 (0x00004000).

```

compressed data offset      : 16384 (0x00004000)
compression flag byte      : 0x00

```

Different behavior was observed in 2 differnt NTFS implementations: \* one implementation fills the compressed block with the uncompressed data it could read and the rest with with 0-byte values \* another implementation seems to provide the data that was already in its buffer

TODO: verify behavior of Windows NTFS implementation.

## 20. Notes

---

Signatures as indicated in [RUSSON05] :

"HOLE" == ??? (NTFS 3.0+?)

### 20.1. NTFS reserved file names

MFT entry index	Filename	Description
	\\$Extend\\$Config	Used for NTFS repair activity
	\\$Extend\\$Delete	Delete file name
	\\$Extend\\$Repair.log	Repair log name
	\\$Extend\\$Tops	
	\\$Extend\\$TxLog	Transactional NTFS log

### 20.2. File system flags

```
fsutil fsinfo volumeinfo C:
```

FILE\_CASE\_PRESERVED\_NAMES  
0x00000002

The specified volume supports preserved case of file names when it places a name on disk.

FILE\_CASE\_SENSITIVE\_SEARCH  
0x00000001

The specified volume supports case-sensitive file names.

FILE\_FILE\_COMPRESSION  
0x00000010

The specified volume supports file-based compression.

FILE\_NAMED\_STREAMS  
0x00040000

The specified volume supports named streams.

FILE\_PERSISTENT\_ACLS  
0x00000008

The specified volume preserves and enforces access control lists (ACL). For example, the NTFS file system preserves

FILE\_READ\_ONLY\_VOLUME  
0x00080000

The specified volume is read-only.

Windows 2000: This value is not supported.

FILE\_SEQUENTIAL\_WRITE\_ONCE  
0x00100000

The specified volume supports a single sequential write.

Windows 2000: This value is not supported.

FILE\_SUPPORTS\_ENCRYPTION  
0x00020000

The specified volume supports the Encrypted File System (EFS). For more information, see File Encryption.

FILE\_SUPPORTS\_EXTENDED\_ATTRIBUTES  
0x00800000

The specified volume supports extended attributes. An extended attribute is a piece of application-specific metadata

Windows Server 2008, Windows Vista, Windows Server 2003, and Windows XP/2000: This value is not supported until

FILE\_SUPPORTS\_HARD\_LINKS  
0x00400000

The specified volume supports hard links. For more information, see Hard Links and Junctions.

Windows Server 2008, Windows Vista, Windows Server 2003, and Windows XP/2000: This value is not supported until

FILE\_SUPPORTS\_OBJECT\_IDS  
0x00010000

The specified volume supports object identifiers.

FILE\_SUPPORTS\_OPEN\_BY\_FILE\_ID  
0x01000000

The file system supports open by FileID. For more information, see FILE\_ID\_BOTH\_DIR\_INFO.

Windows Server 2008, Windows Vista, Windows Server 2003, and Windows XP/2000: This value is not supported until

FILE\_SUPPORTS\_REPARSE\_POINTS  
0x00000080

The specified volume supports re-parse points.

FILE\_SUPPORTS\_SPARSE\_FILES  
0x00000040

The specified volume supports sparse files.

FILE\_SUPPORTS\_TRANSACTIONS  
0x00200000

The specified volume supports transactions. For more information, see About KTM.

Windows 2000: This value is not supported.

FILE\_SUPPORTS\_USN\_JOURNAL  
0x02000000

The specified volume supports update sequence number (USN) journals. For more information, see Change Journal Record

Windows Server 2008, Windows Vista, Windows Server 2003, and Windows XP/2000: This value is not supported until

FILE\_UNICODE\_ON\_DISK  
0x00000004

The specified volume supports Unicode in file names as they appear on disk.

FILE\_VOLUME\_IS\_COMPRESSED  
0x00008000

The specified volume is a compressed volume, for example, a DoubleSpace volume.

FILE\_VOLUME\_QUOTAS  
0x00000020

The specified volume supports disk quotas.

## 20.3. \$MFT metadata file only parsing

What file system metadata is missing:

- Attribute lists are stored outside the \$MFT
- \$I30 indexes are stored outside the \$MFT
- How to map MFT entry to parent? what if parent MFT entry has changed?

## Appendix A: References

---

[CARRIER05]

Title	File System Forensic Analysis
Author(s)	Brian Carrier
Date	2005
ISBN-10	0-321-26817-2

[RUSSON05]

Title	NTFS Documentation
Author(s)	Richard Russon, Yuval Fiedel
Date	2005
URL	<a href="https://flatcap.github.io/linux-ntfs/ntfs/">https://flatcap.github.io/linux-ntfs/ntfs/</a>

[APPLE06]

Title	ntfs_layout.h - NTFS associated on-disk structures
URL	<a href="https://opensource.apple.com/source/ntfs/ntfs-65.2/kext/ntfs_layout.h.auto.html">https://opensource.apple.com/source/ntfs/ntfs-65.2/kext/ntfs_layout.h.auto.html</a>

[POLLARD06]

Title	All about BIOS parameter blocks
Author(s)	Jonathan de Boyne Pollard
URL	<a href="https://jdebp.eu/FGA/bios-parameter-block.html">https://jdebp.eu/FGA/bios-parameter-block.html</a>

[RUSSNOVICH09]

Title	Windows Internals 5 - Covering Windows Server 2008 and Windows Vista
Author(s)	Mark E. Russinovich and David A. Solomon
Date	June 17, 2009
ISBN-13	978-0735625303

[LIBBDE]

Title	BitLocker Drive Encryption (BDE) format specification - Analysis of theBitLocker Drive Encryption (BDE) vol
Date	March 2011
Author(s)	Joachim Metz
URL	<a href="https://github.com/libyal/libbde/blob/main/documentation/BitLocker%20Drive%20Encryption%20(BDE)%20fo">https://github.com/libyal/libbde/blob/main/documentation/BitLocker%20Drive%20Encryption%20(BDE)%20fo</a>



[LIBFSLFS]

Title	Common Log File System – Analysis of the Windows ARIES log system
Date	November 2010
Author(s)	Joachim Metz
URL	<a href="https://github.com/libyal/libfscslfs/blob/main/documentation/Common%20Log%20File%20System%20(CLFS).as">https://github.com/libyal/libfscslfs/blob/main/documentation/Common%20Log%20File%20System%20(CLFS).as</a>

[LIBVSHADOW]

Title	Volume Shadow Snapshot (VSS) - Analysis the Windows NT VSS format
Date	March 2011
Author(s)	Joachim Metz
URL	<a href="https://github.com/libyal/libvshadow/blob/master/documentation/Volume%20Shadow%20Snapshot%20(VSS)">https://github.com/libyal/libvshadow/blob/master/documentation/Volume%20Shadow%20Snapshot%20(VSS)</a>

[MSDN]

Title	Microsoft Developer Network
URL	<a href="http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc781134%28WS.10%29.aspx">http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc781134%28WS.10%29.aspx</a>

Subject	Master File Table
URL	<a href="http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb470206(v=vs.85).aspx">http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb470206(v=vs.85).aspx</a>

Subject	Reserved file names
URL	<a href="http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ff469234%28v=PROT.10%29.aspx">http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ff469234%28v=PROT.10%29.aspx</a>



<b>Subject</b>	<b>NTFS attribute types</b>
<b>URL</b>	<a href="http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ff469236%28PROT.10%29.aspx">http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ff469236%28PROT.10%29.aspx</a>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Reparse point</b>
<b>URL</b>	<a href="http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa365740%28VS.85%29.aspx">http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa365740%28VS.85%29.aspx</a> <a href="http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa365511%28v=VS.85%29.aspx">http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa365511%28v=VS.85%29.aspx</a> <a href="http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/dd541667%28PROT.13%29.aspx">http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/dd541667%28PROT.13%29.aspx</a> <a href="http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc232005%28v=PROT.13%29.aspx">http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc232005%28v=PROT.13%29.aspx</a> <a href="http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc232006%28v=PROT.13%29.aspx">http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc232006%28v=PROT.13%29.aspx</a> <a href="http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc232007%28v=PROT.13%29.aspx">http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc232007%28v=PROT.13%29.aspx</a>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Update (or change) journal</b>
<b>URL</b>	<a href="http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa363798.aspx">http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa363798.aspx</a> <a href="http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa363803%28VS.85%29.aspx">http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa363803%28VS.85%29.aspx</a> <a href="http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa365722%28VS.85%29.aspx">http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa365722%28VS.85%29.aspx</a>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Known Alternate Stream Names</b>
<b>URL</b>	<a href="https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/dn365326.aspx">https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/dn365326.aspx</a>

<b>Subject</b>	<b>transactional NTFS</b>
<b>URL</b>	<a href="http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb968806%28v=VS.85%29.aspx">http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb968806%28v=VS.85%29.aspx</a> <a href="http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb986748%28VS.85%29.aspx">http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb986748%28VS.85%29.aspx</a> <a href="http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb540368%28VS.85%29.aspx">http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb540368%28VS.85%29.aspx</a>

[WIKI]

URL	<a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NTFS">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NTFS</a> <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BIOS_parameter_block">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BIOS_parameter_block</a> <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transactional_NTFS">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transactional_NTFS</a>
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[WIN32PROG]

Title	The Win32 Programming Tutorials For Fun – Appendix E. NTFS On-Disk Structure
URL	<a href="http://www.installsetupconfig.com/win32programming/1996%20AppE_apnilife.pdf">http://www.installsetupconfig.com/win32programming/1996%20AppE_apnilife.pdf</a>

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