DOS FAT (simplified)
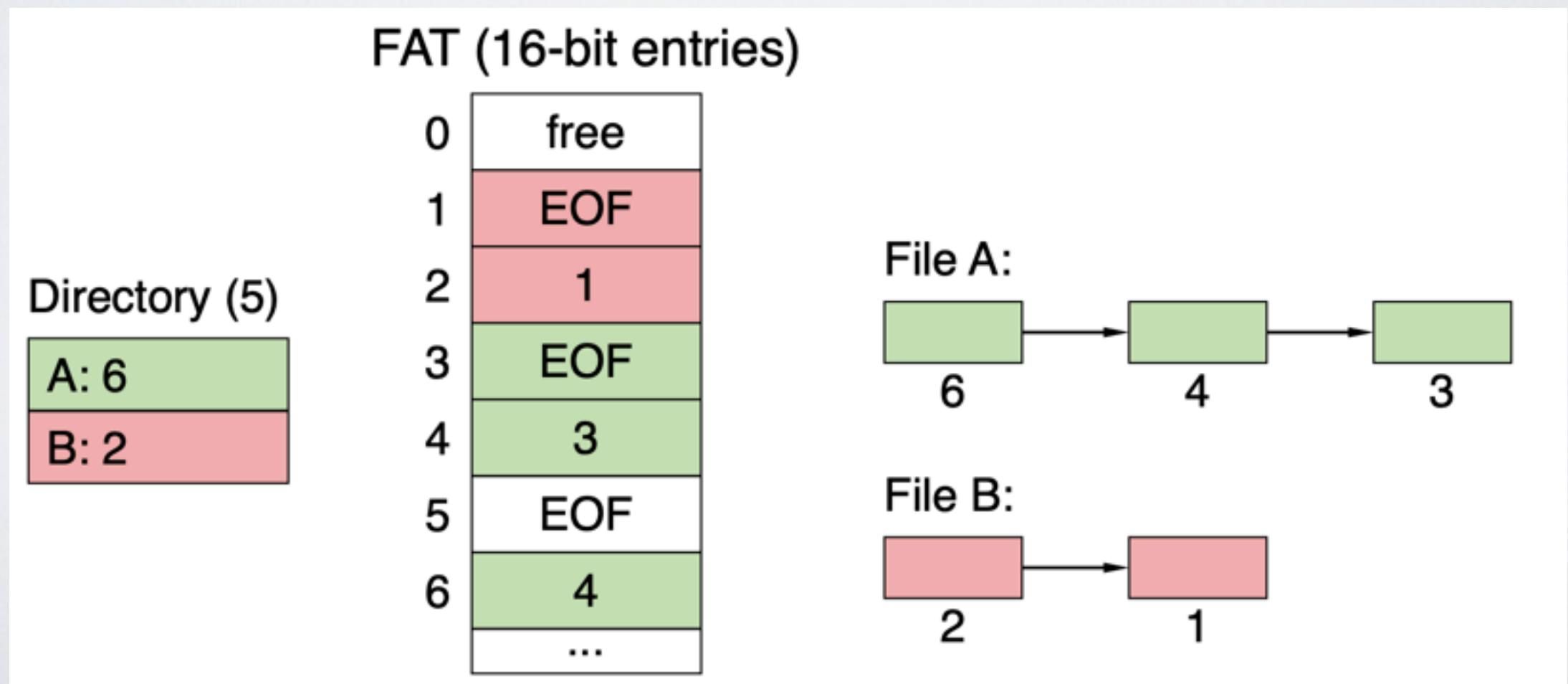
➡ Linked files with key optimization: puts links in fixed-size "file allocation table" (FAT) rather than in the blocks

◉ Still do pointer chasing

About FAT

Given entry size = 16 bits (initial FAT16 in MS-DOS 3.0), what's the maximum size of the FAT? **65,536**

Given a 512 byte block, what's the maximum size of FS? **32MB**

What is the space overhead ?
2 bytes / 512 byte block = ~ 0.4%

How to protect against errors?
Create duplicate copies of FAT on disk
(state duplication a very common theme in reliability)

Where is root directory?
Fixed location on disk

FAT	FAT (opt)	Root dir	...