

# CS111, Lecture 3

## Filesystem Design



masks required

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Based on slides and notes created by John Ousterhout, Jerry Cain, Chris Gregg, and others.

# Reminder: PollEverywhere

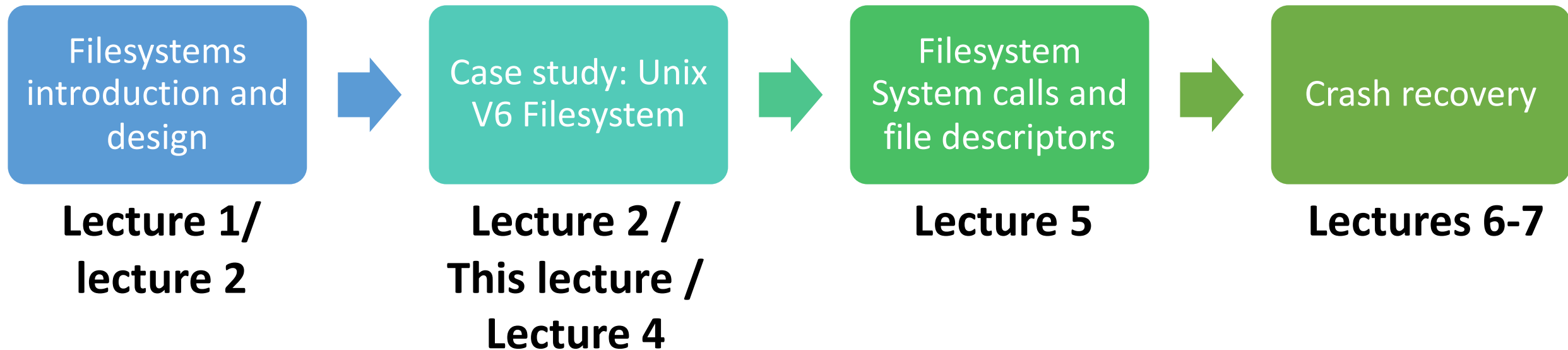
- Participation recorded starting today - visit [pollev.stanford.edu](https://pollev.stanford.edu) to log in (or use the PollEverywhere app) and sign in with your **@stanford.edu email – NOT your personal email!**
- Responses not anonymized, but we don't look at specific responses, just aggregated results and participation totals
- You can use any device with a web browser, or download the PollEverywhere app, or respond via text – **however, to respond via text you must first log in via a web browser and add your phone number to your profile.**
- Whenever we reach a poll question in the slides, it will automatically activate the poll and allow you to respond.

# Announcements

- Remember to input your section preferences by 5PM Sat! Link is on the course website (under “Sections”).
- CS Dept. social gathering Thurs. 10/6 4-6PM on the AT&T patio behind Gates building! [RSVP](#) if you want to attend so they know how much food to order.
- Reminder: masks required in classrooms (including lecture + section)

**Topic 1: Filesystems** - How can we design filesystems to manage files on disk, and what are the tradeoffs inherent in designing them? How can we interact with the filesystem in our programs?

# CS111 Topic 1: Filesystems



**assign1:** implement portions of the Unix v6 filesystem!

# Learning Goals

- Explore the design of the Unix V6 filesystem
- Understand how we can use inodes to store and access file data
- Learn about how inodes can accommodate small and large files

# Plan For Today

- **Recap**: filesystems so far
- The Unix V6 Filesystem and Inodes
- **Practice**: reading file data
- Large files and Singly-Indirect Addressing
- **Practice**: singly-indirect addressing
- Large files and Doubly-Indirect Addressing

# Plan For Today

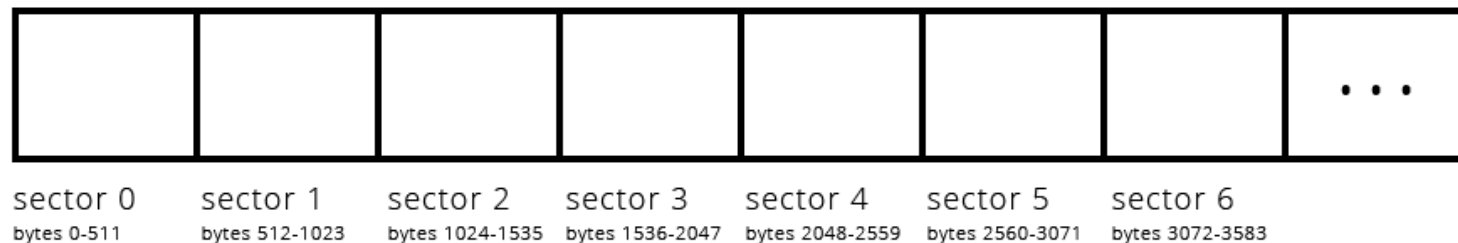
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# Recap: Filesystems

We are imagining that we are filesystem implementers. A **filesystem** is the portion of the OS that manages the disk.

- A hard drive (or, more commonly these days, flash storage) is persistent storage – it can store data between power-offs.
- We have a hard disk that supports only two operations (reading a sector and writing a sector), and need to layer complex filesystem operations (like reading/writing/locating entire files) on top.
- A “block” is a filesystem storage unit (1 or more sectors)
- Both file payload data and metadata must be stored on disk



# Some Possible Filesystem Designs

- *Contiguous allocation* allocates a file in one contiguous space
- *Linked files* allocates files by splitting them into blocks and having each block store the location of the next block.
- *Windows FAT* is like linked files but stores the links in a “file allocation table” in memory for faster access.
- *Multi-level indexes* store all block numbers for a file so we can quickly jump to any point in the file (but how?). Example: Unix v6 Filesystem
- Many other designs possible – many use a tree-like structure

# Filesystem Designs

- A file may not take up all the space in the blocks it's using. E.g. block = 512 bytes, but file is only 300 bytes. *Internal fragmentation!* (you could share blocks between multiple files, but this gets complex)
- Wait, how do we look up / find files? (we'll talk more about this!)

# Plan For Today

- Recap: filesystems so far
- **The Unix V6 Filesystem and Inodes**
- Practice: reading file data
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- Practice: singly-indirect addressing
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# Unix V6 Inodes

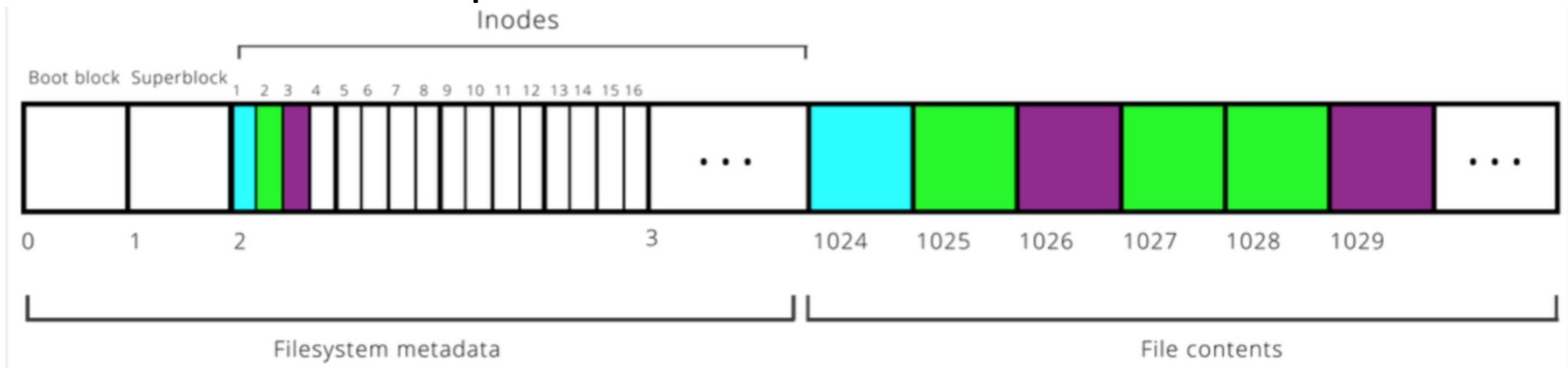
The Unix v6 filesystem stores inodes on disk together in the **inode table** for quick access. An **inode** ("index node") is a grouping of data about a single file. It's stored on disk, but we can read it into memory when the file is open.

- inodes are stored in a reserved region starting at block 2 (block 0 is "boot block" containing hard drive info, block 1 is "superblock" containing filesystem info). Typically, at most 10% of the drive stores metadata.
- Inodes are 32 bytes big, and 1 block = 1 sector = 512 bytes, so 16 inodes/block.
- Filesystem goes from **filename** to **inode number** ("inumber") to **file data**.

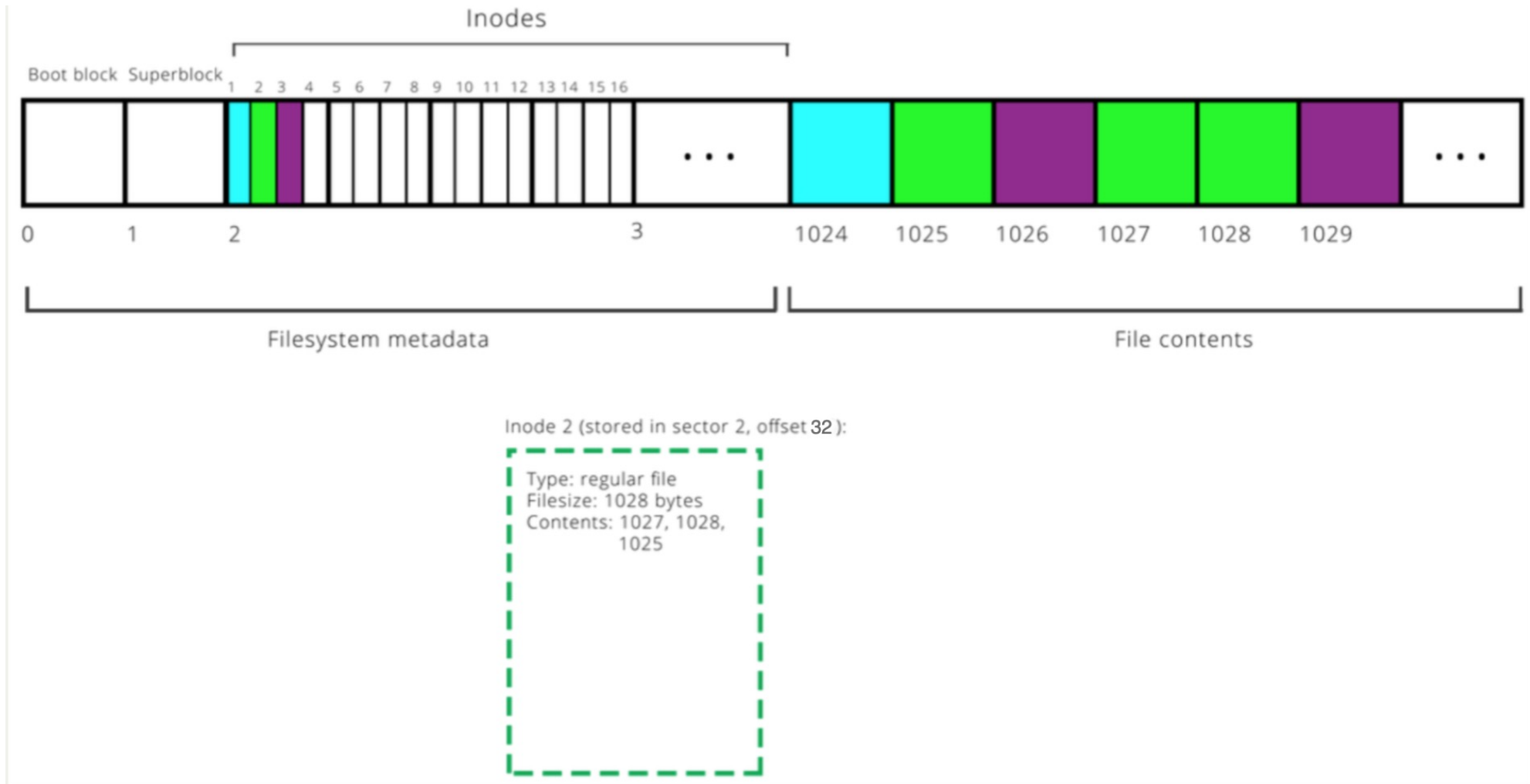
# Unix V6 Inodes

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- Each Unix v6 inode has space for 8 block numbers



# Unix V6 Inodes



# Unix V6 Inodes

Let's imagine that the hard disk creators provide software to let us interface with the disk.

```
void readSector(size_t sectorNumber, void *data);  
void writeSector(size_t sectorNumber, const void *data);
```

*(Refresher: size\_t is an unsigned number, void \* is a generic pointer)*

Let's look at how we might access inodes in filesystem code.



# Unix V6 Inodes

```
typedef struct inode {
    uint16_t  i_addr[8];  // block numbers
    ...
} inode;

// Loop over each inode in sector 2
inode inodes[512 / sizeof(inode)];

readSector(2, inodes);
for (size_t i = 0; i < sizeof(inodes) /
    sizeof(inodes[0]); i++) {
    printf("%\n", inodes[i].i_addr[0]); // first block num
}
```

# Plan For Today

- Recap: filesystems so far
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- Large files and Singly-Indirect Addressing
- Practice: singly-indirect addressing
- Large files and Doubly-Indirect Addressing

# Practice #1: Inodes

Let's say we have an inode with the following information (remember 1 block = 1 sector = 512 bytes):

**file size: 600 bytes**

**block numbers: 56, 122**

- How many bytes of block 56 store file payload data?
- How many bytes of block 122 store file payload data?

*Bytes 0-511 (512 bytes) reside within block 56, bytes 512-599 (88 bytes) within block 122.*

# Practice #2: Inodes

Let's say we have an inode with the following information (remember 1 block = 1 sector = 512 bytes):

- **file size: 2000 bytes**
- **block numbers: 56, 122, 45, 22**
- Which block number stores the index-1500th byte of the file?

*Bytes 0-511 reside within block 56, bytes 512-1023 within block 122, bytes 1024-1535 within block 45, and bytes 1536-1999 at the front of block 22.*

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# File Size

**Problem:** with 8 block numbers per inode, the largest a file can be is  $512 * 8 = 4096$  bytes (~4KB). That definitely isn't realistic!

Let's say a file's payload is stored across 10 blocks:

45, 42, 15, 67, 125, 665, 467, 231, 162, 136

Assuming that the size of an inode is fixed, where can we put these block numbers?

**Solution:** let's store them *in a block*, and then store *that* block's number in the inode!

# File Size

Let's say a file's payload is stored across 10 blocks:

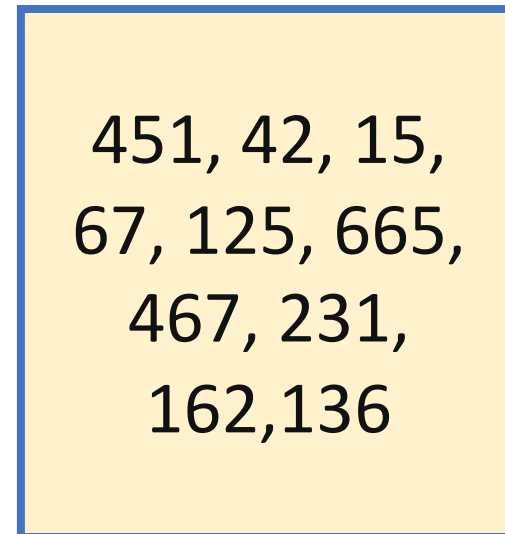
*451, 42, 15, 67, 125, 665, 467, 231, 162, 136*

**Solution:** let's store them *in a block*, and then store *that* block's number in the inode! This approach is called *indirect addressing*.

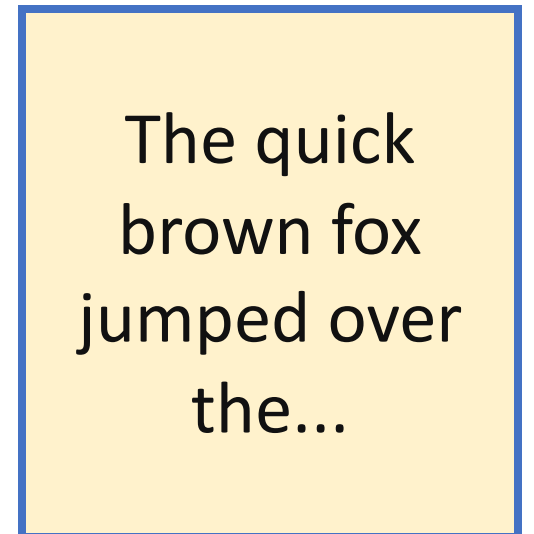
*inode*



*Block 450*



*Block 451*



# Indirect Addressing

Design questions:

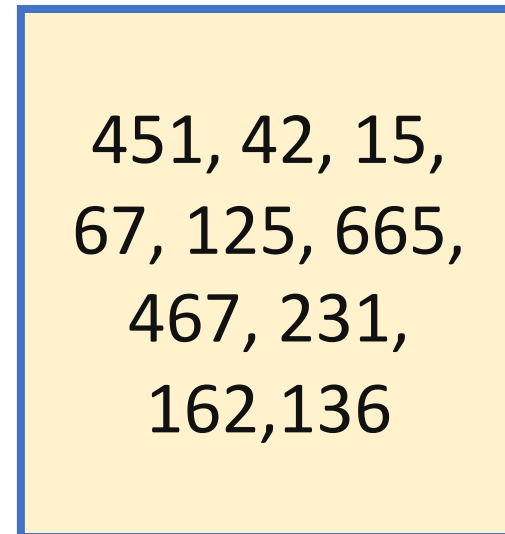
- Should we make *all* the block numbers in an inode use indirect addressing?
- Should we use this approach for all files, or just large ones?

*Indirect addressing is useful but means that it takes more steps to get to the data, and uses more blocks.*

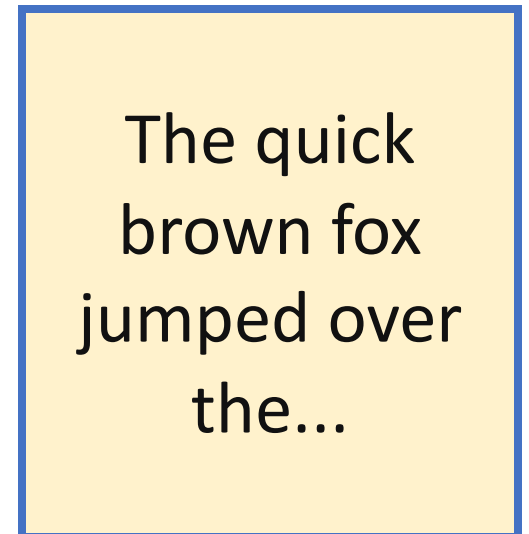
*inode*



*Block 450*



*Block 451*





# Indirect Addressing

The Unix V6 filesystem uses *singly-indirect addressing* (blocks that store payload block numbers) just for large files.

- check flag or size in inode to know whether it is a small file (direct addressing) or large one (indirect addressing)
  - If small, each block number in the inode stores payload data
  - If large, **first 7 block numbers** in the inode stores block numbers for payload data
  - 8th block number? we'll get to that :)
- Let's assume for now that an inode for a large file uses all 8 block numbers for singly-indirect addressing. What is the largest file size this supports? Each block number is 2 bytes big.

# Indirect Addressing

Let's assume for now that an inode for a large file uses all 8 block numbers for singly-indirect addressing. What is the largest file size this supports? Each block number is 2 bytes big.

8 block numbers in an inode    x

256 block numbers per singly-indirect block    x

512 bytes per block

= ~1MB

# Practice: Indirect Addressing

Let's say we have an inode with the following information (remember 1 block = 1 sector = 512 bytes, and block numbers are 2 bytes big):

**file size: 200,000 bytes**

**block numbers: 56, 122**

Which singly-indirect block stores the block number holding the index-150,000th byte of the file?

*Bytes 0-131,071 reside within blocks whose block numbers are in block 56. Bytes 131,072 ( $256 \times 512$ ) - 199,999 reside within blocks whose block numbers are in block 122.*

# Even Larger Files

**Problem:** even with singly-indirect addressing, the largest a file can be is  $8 * 256 * 512 = 1,048,576$  bytes (~1MB). That still isn't realistic!

**Solution:** let's use *doubly-indirect addressing*; store a block number for a block that contains *singly-indirect block numbers*.

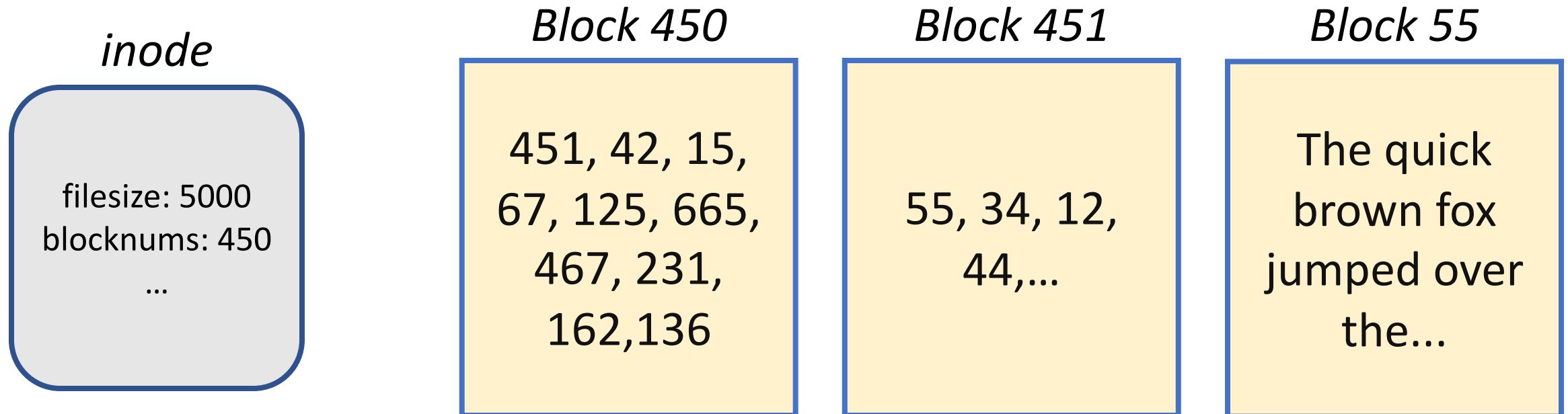
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- Practice: singly-indirect addressing
- **Large files and Doubly-Indirect Addressing**

# Even Larger Files

**Solution:** let's use *doubly-indirect addressing*; store a block number for a block that contains *singly-indirect block numbers*.

Allows even larger files, but data takes even more steps to access. How do we employ this idea?



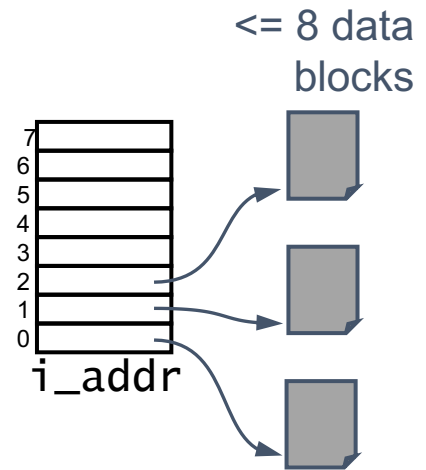
# Indirect Addressing

The Unix V6 filesystem uses *indirect addressing* (blocks that store payload block numbers) just for large files.

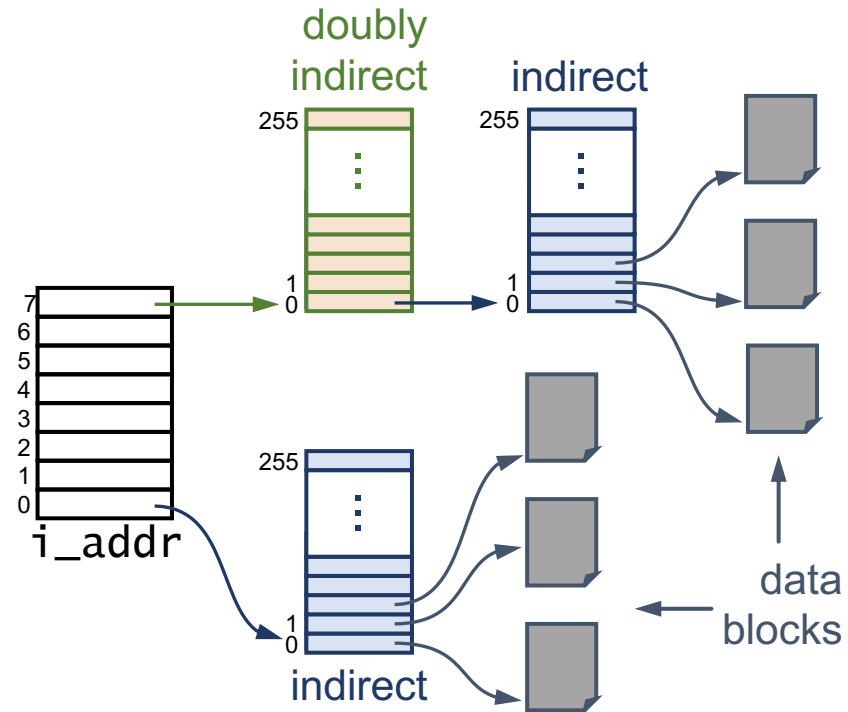
- check flag or size in inode to know whether it is a small file (direct addressing) or large one (indirect addressing)
  - If small, each block number in the inode stores payload data
  - If large, **first 7 block numbers** are singly-indirect
  - NEW: If large (and if needed), **8th block number** is doubly-indirect (it refers to a block that stores singly-indirect block numbers)

**In other words; a file can be represented using at most  $256 + 7 = 263$  singly-indirect blocks. The first seven are stored in the inode. The remaining 256 are stored in a block whose block number is stored in the inode.**

# “Multi-Level Indexes”



**Small**



**Large**



# Indirect Addressing

An inode for a large file stores 7 singly-indirect block numbers and 1 doubly-indirect block number. What is the largest file size this supports? Each block number is 2 bytes big.

(7+256) singly-indirect block numbers total    x

256 block numbers per singly-indirect block    x

512 bytes per block

= ~34MB

# Indirect Addressing

An inode for a large file stores 7 singly-indirect block numbers and 1 doubly-indirect block number. What is the largest file size this supports? Each block number is 2 bytes big.

OR:

$$(7 * 256 * 512) + (256 * 256 * 512) \sim 34MB$$

*(singly indirect) + (doubly indirect)*

Better! still not sufficient for today's standards, but perhaps in 1975. Moreover, since block numbers are 2 bytes, we can number at most  $2^{16} - 1 = 65,535$  blocks, meaning the entire filesystem can be at most  $65,535 * 512 \sim 32MB$ .

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- Large files and Doubly-Indirect Addressing
- **Assignment 1**

# Assignment 1

- Assignment 1 released later today, due Mon. 10/10
- Implement core functions to read from a Unix v6 filesystem disk!
  - **inode\_iget** -> fetch a specific inode
  - **inode\_indexlookup** -> fetch a specific payload block number
  - **file\_getblock** -> fetch a specified payload block
  - **directory\_findname** -> fetch directory entry with the given name
  - **pathname\_lookup** -> fetch inumber for the file with the given path

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can start  
now

will discuss  
next time!

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- **“YEAH” Hours** (Your Early Assignment Help Hours) Mon. 10/3 7-8PM, location TBD (recorded)

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**Lecture 3 takeaway:** The Unix v6 filesystem represents small files by storing direct block numbers, and larger files by using indirect addressing - storing 7 singly-indirect and 1 doubly-indirect block number.

**Next time:** directories, file lookup and links