

# Principles of Database Systems (CS307)

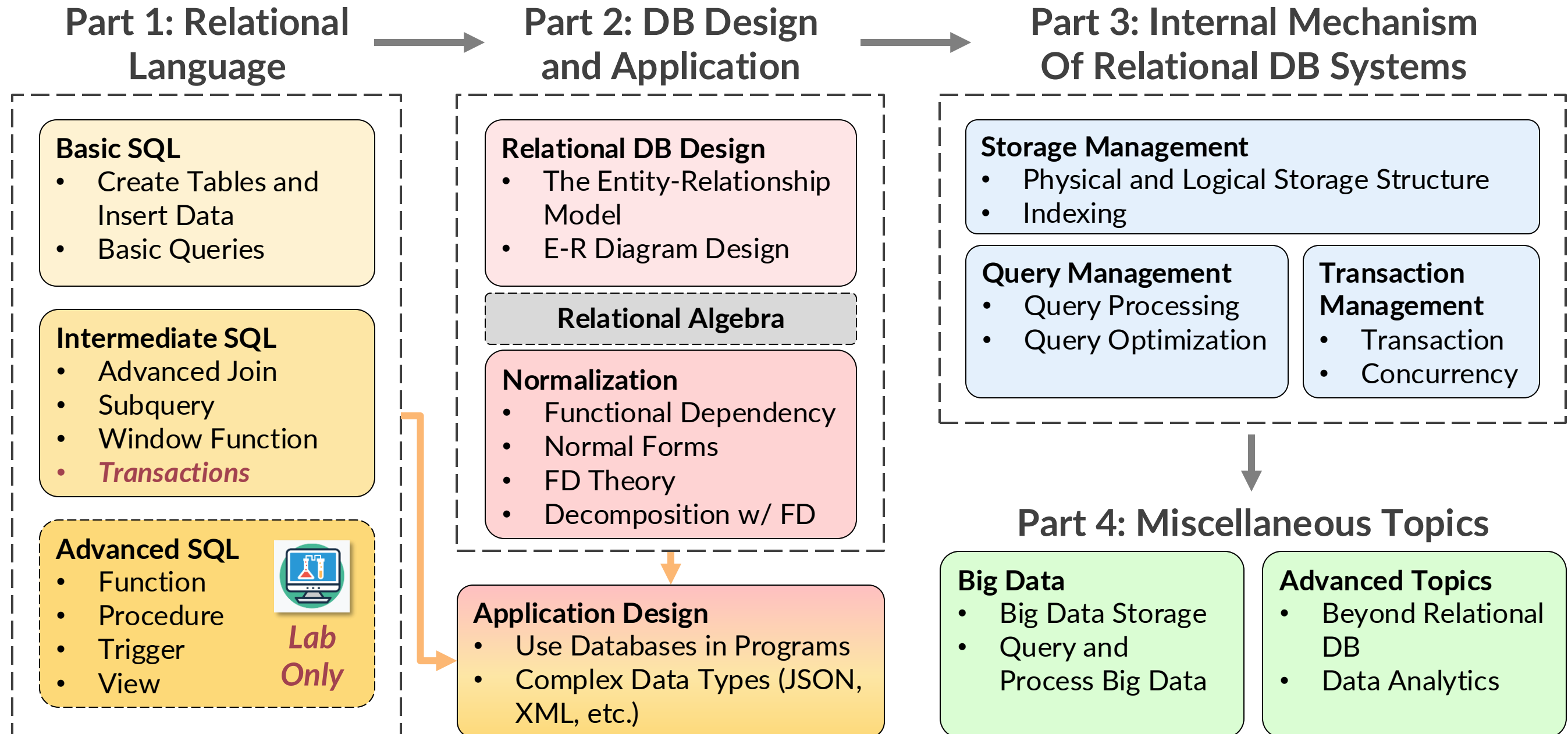
## Lecture 12: Storage System and Structure

**Zhong-Qiu Wang**

Department of Computer Science and Engineering  
Southern University of Science and Technology

- Most contents are from slides made by Stéphane Faroult and the authors of Database System Concepts (7<sup>th</sup> Edition).
- Their original slides have been modified to adapt to the schedule of CS307 at SUSTech.
- The slides are largely based on the slides provided by Dr. Yuxin Ma

# Outline



# Physical Storage System

# Physical Storage System

- The hardware where data is recorded

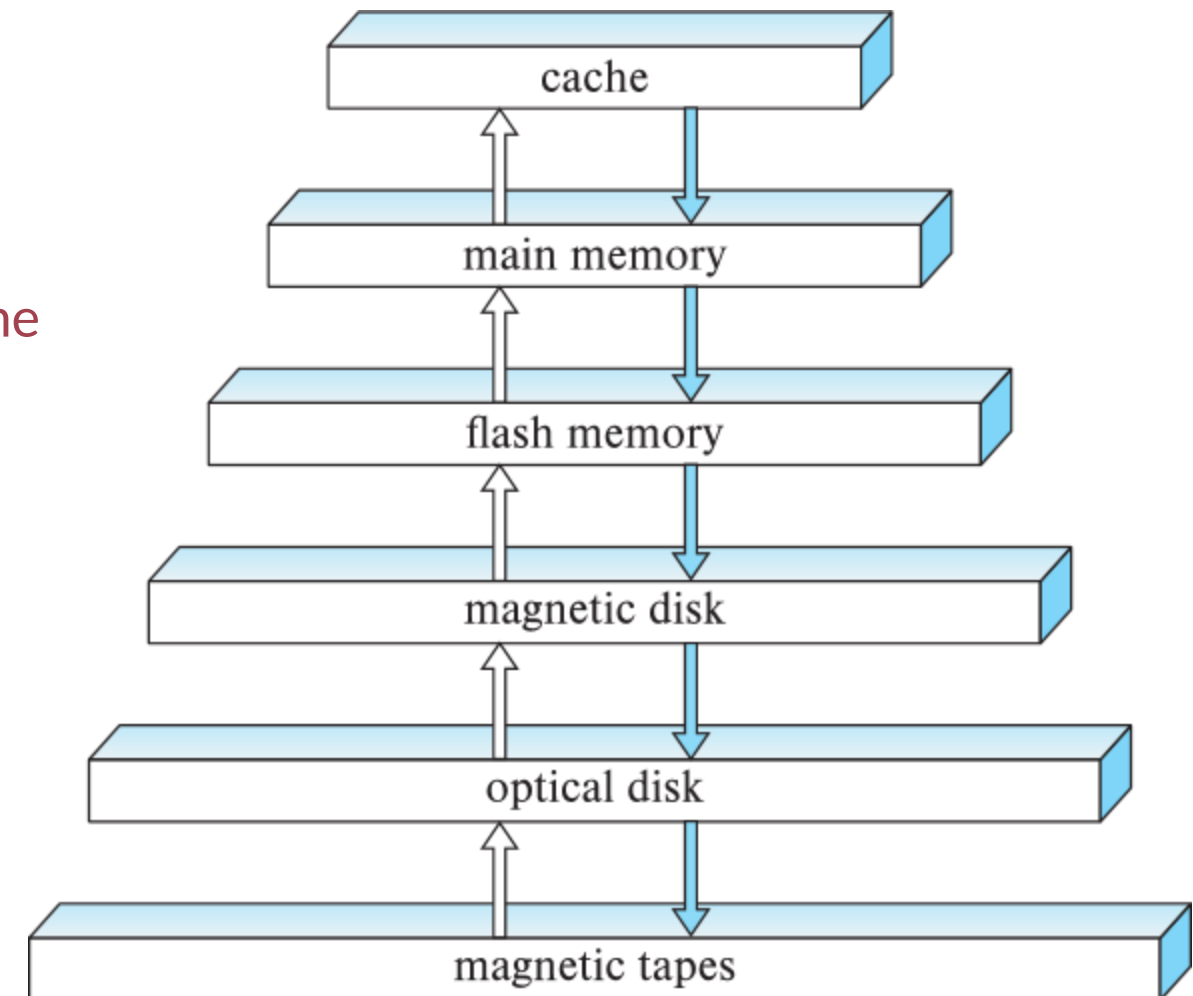


# Classification of Physical Storage Media

- Can differentiate storage into:
  - **Volatile storage**
    - Loses contents when power is switched off
  - **Non-volatile storage:**
    - Contents persist even when power is switched off
    - Includes secondary and tertiary storage, as well as battery-backed up main-memory
- Factors affecting choice of storage media include
  - Speed with which data can be accessed
  - Cost per unit of data
  - Reliability

# Storage Hierarchy

- Primary storage
  - **Fastest** media but **volatile** (cache, main memory).
- Secondary storage
  - Next level in hierarchy, **non-volatile**, **moderately fast access time**
    - ... also called on-line storage
  - E.g., flash memory, magnetic disks
- Tertiary storage
  - Lowest level in hierarchy, **non-volatile**, **slow access time**
    - ... also called off-line storage and used for archival storage
  - E.g., magnetic tape, optical storage (DVD, blueray DVD)
    - Magnetic tape
      - Sequential access, 1 to 12 TB capacity
      - A few drives with many tapes
      - Juke boxes with petabytes (1000's of TB) of storage

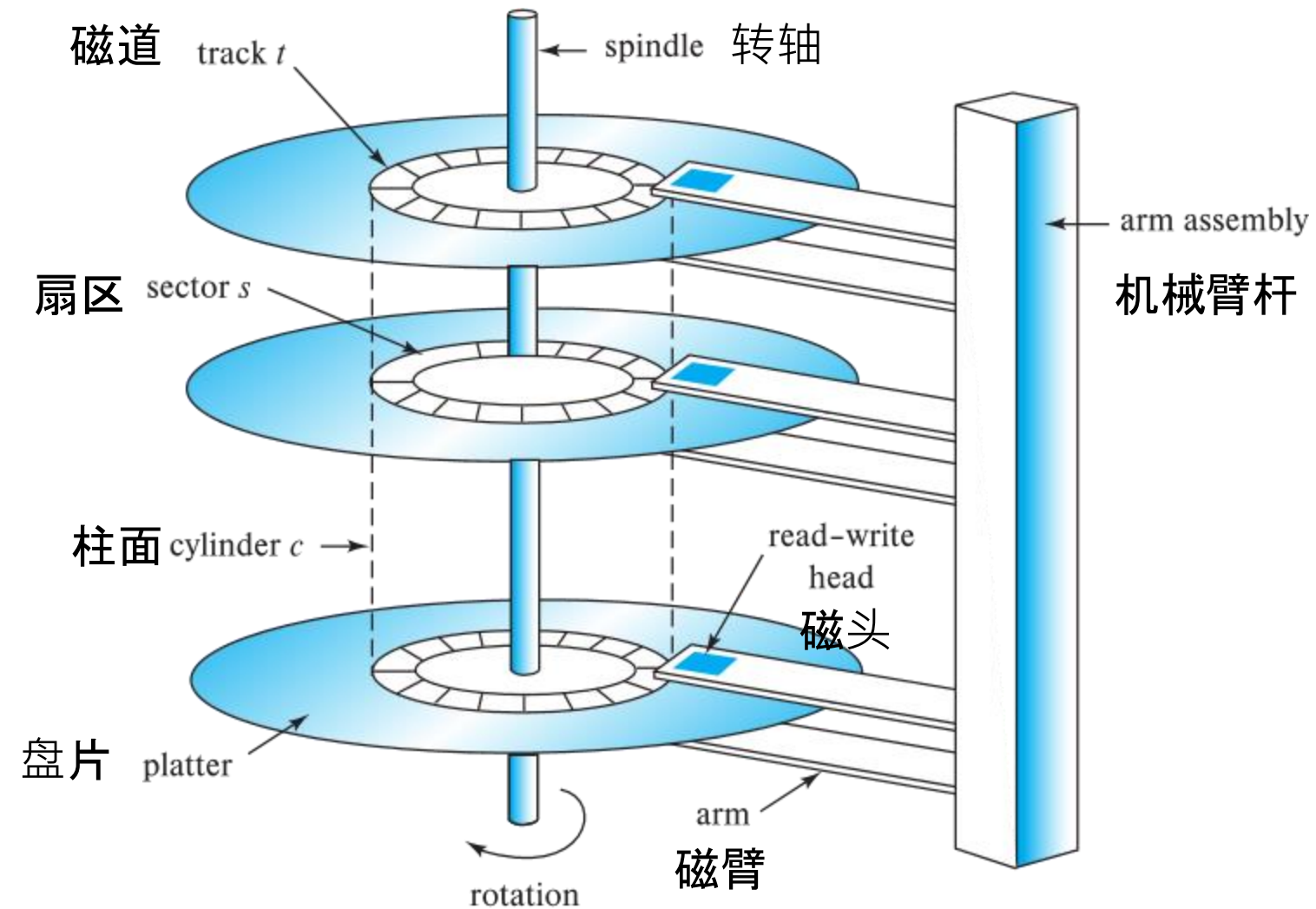




# Storage Interfaces

- Disk interface standards families
  - SATA (Serial ATA)
    - SATA 3 supports data transfer speeds of up to 6 gigabits/sec
  - SAS (Serial Attached SCSI)
    - SAS Version 3 supports 12 gigabits/sec
  - NVMe (Non-Volatile Memory Express) interface
    - Works with PCIe connectors to support lower latency and higher transfer rates
    - Supports data transfer rates of up to 24 gigabits/sec
- Disks usually connected directly to computer system, however...
  - In Storage Area Networks (SAN), a large number of disks are connected by a high-speed network to a number of servers
  - In Network Attached Storage (NAS), networked storage provides a file system interface using networked file system protocol, instead of providing a disk system interface

# Magnetic Hard Disk Mechanism



Schematic diagram of magnetic disk drive

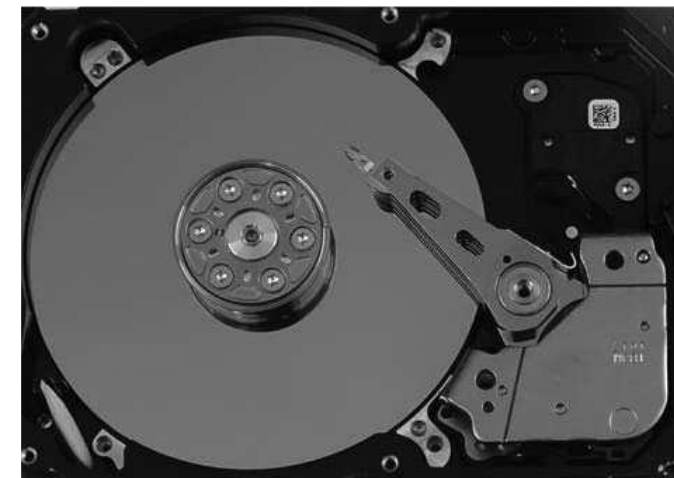
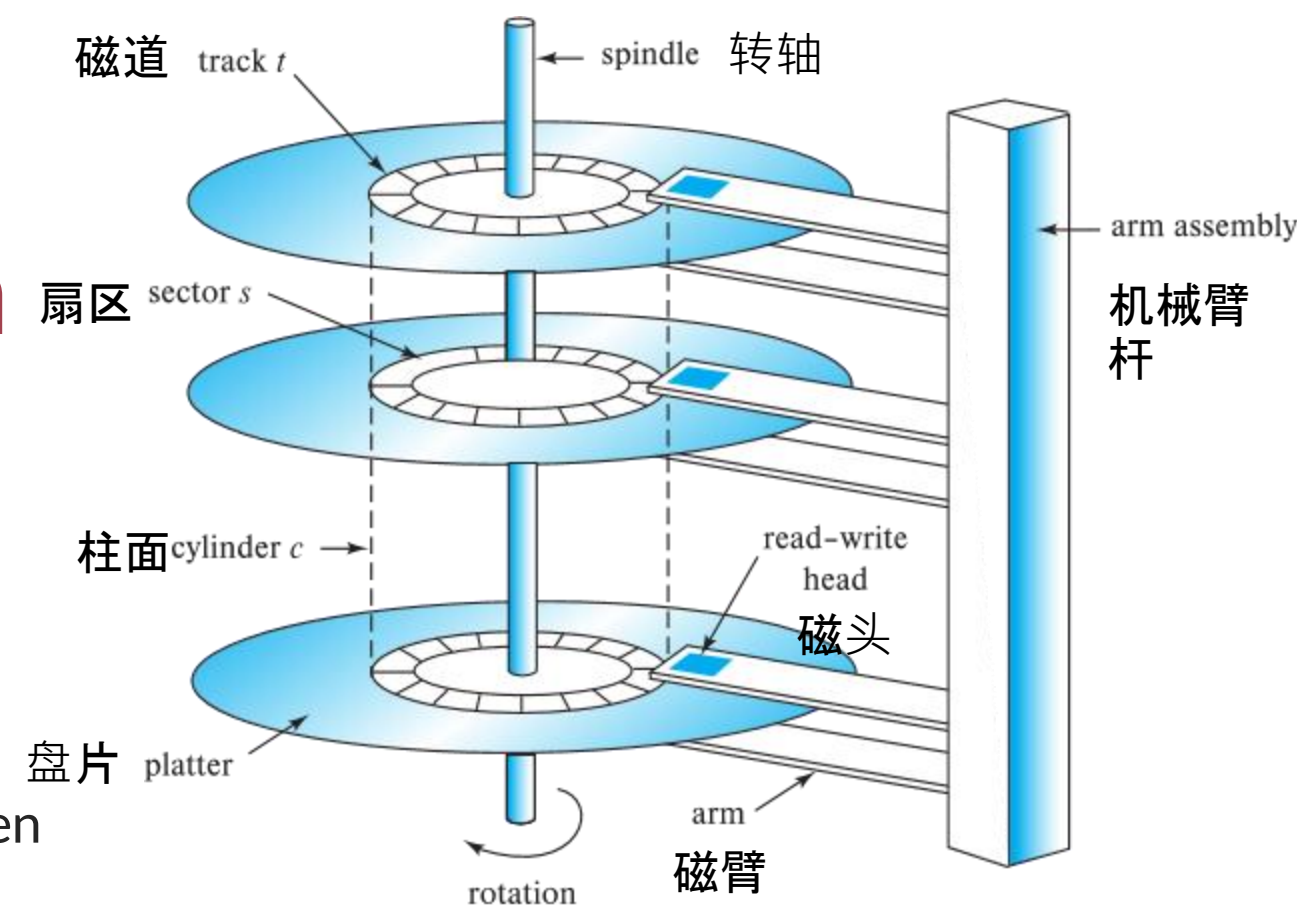


Photo of a magnetic disk drive



# Magnetic Hard Disk Mechanism

- Read-write head
- Surface of platter divided into circular tracks
  - Over 50K-100K tracks per platter on typical hard disks
- Each track is divided into sectors
  - A sector is the smallest unit of data that can be read or written
  - Sector size typically 512 bytes (modern OS requires 4KB)
  - Typical sectors per track: 500 to 1000 (on inner tracks) to 1000 to 2000 (on outer tracks)
- To read/write a sector
  - Disk arm swings to position head on right track
  - Platter spins continually; data is read/written as sector passes under head
- Head-disk assemblies
  - Multiple disk platters on a single spindle (1 to 5 usually)
  - One head per platter, mounted on a common arm
- Cylinder  $i$  consists of  $i$ th track of all the platters



# Magnetic Hard Disk Mechanism

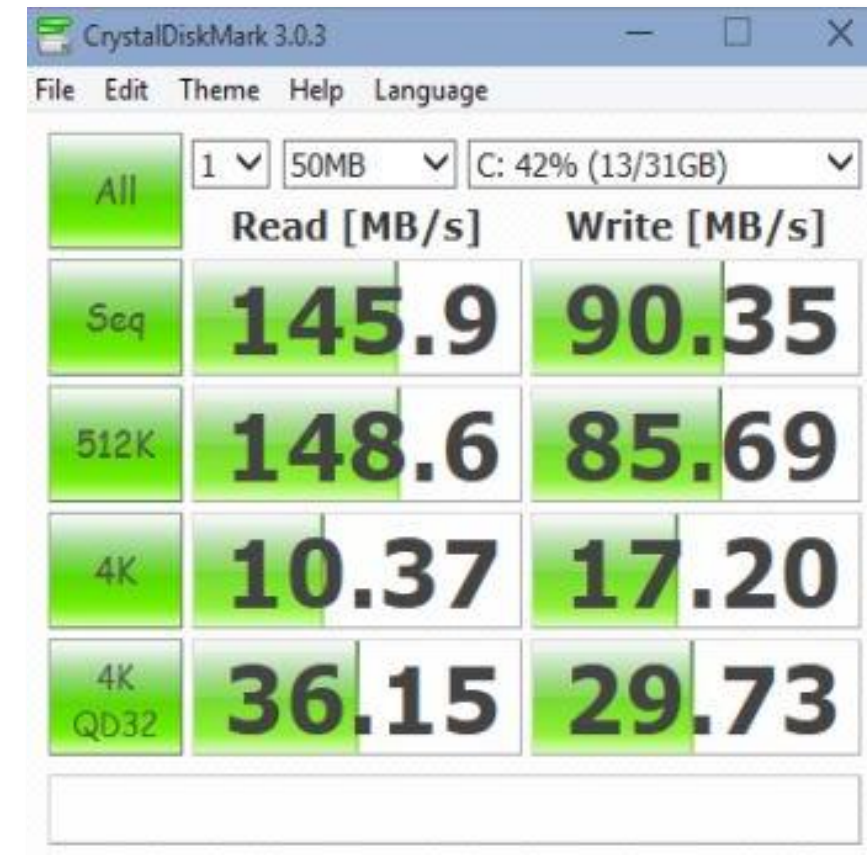
- **Disk controller:** An interface between the computer system and the disk drive hardware
  - Accept high-level commands to read or write a sector
  - Initiate actions such as moving the disk arm to the right track and reading or writing the data
  - Compute and attach checksums (校验和) to each sector during writing
    - It can verify the data that is later read back is correct
    - If data is corrupted, with very high probability stored checksum won't match recomputed checksum
  - Ensure successful writing by reading back sector after writing it
  - Perform remapping of bad sectors
    - Map the address of bad sectors to that of good sectors

# Performance Measures of Disks

- **Access time:** The time it takes from when a read or write request is issued to when data transfer begins. Consists of:
  - Seek time – time it takes to reposition the arm over the correct track
    - Average seek time is  $1/2$  the worst case seek time
      - Would be  $1/3$  if all tracks had the same number of sectors, and we ignore the time to start and stop arm movement
    - 4 to 10 milliseconds on typical disks
  - Rotational latency – time it takes for the sector to be accessed to appear under the head
    - 4 to 11 milliseconds on typical disks (5400 to 15000 r.p.m.)
    - Average latency is  $1/2$  of the above latency
  - Overall latency is 5 to 20 msec depending on disk model
- **Data-transfer rate:** The rate at which data can be retrieved from or stored to the disk
  - 25 to 200 MB per second max rate, lower for inner tracks (which have fewer sectors)

# Performance Measures of Disks

- Each request specifies the address on the disk to be referenced, and that address is in the form of a **block number**
- **Disk block** is a logical unit for storage allocation and retrieval
  - 4 to 16 kilobytes typically
    - Smaller blocks: more transfers from disk
    - Larger blocks: more space wasted due to partially filled blocks
- **Sequential access pattern**
  - Successive requests are for successive disk blocks
  - Disk seek required only for first block
- **Random access pattern**
  - Successive requests are for blocks that can be anywhere on disk
  - Each access requires a seek
  - Transfer rates are low since a lot of time is wasted in seeks
- I/O operations per second (IOPS)
  - Number of random block reads that a disk can support per second
  - 50 to 200 IOPS on current generation magnetic disks



# Performance Measures of Disks

- **Mean time to failure (MTTF)** – the average time the disk is expected to run continuously without any failure (i.e., reliability)
  - Typically, 3 to 5 years
  - Probability of failure of new disks is quite low, corresponding to a “theoretical MTTF” of 500,000 to 1,200,000 hours for a new disk
    - E.g., an MTTF of 1,200,000 hours for a new disk means that given 1000 relatively new disks, on an average one will fail every 1200 hours
  - MTTF decreases as disk ages

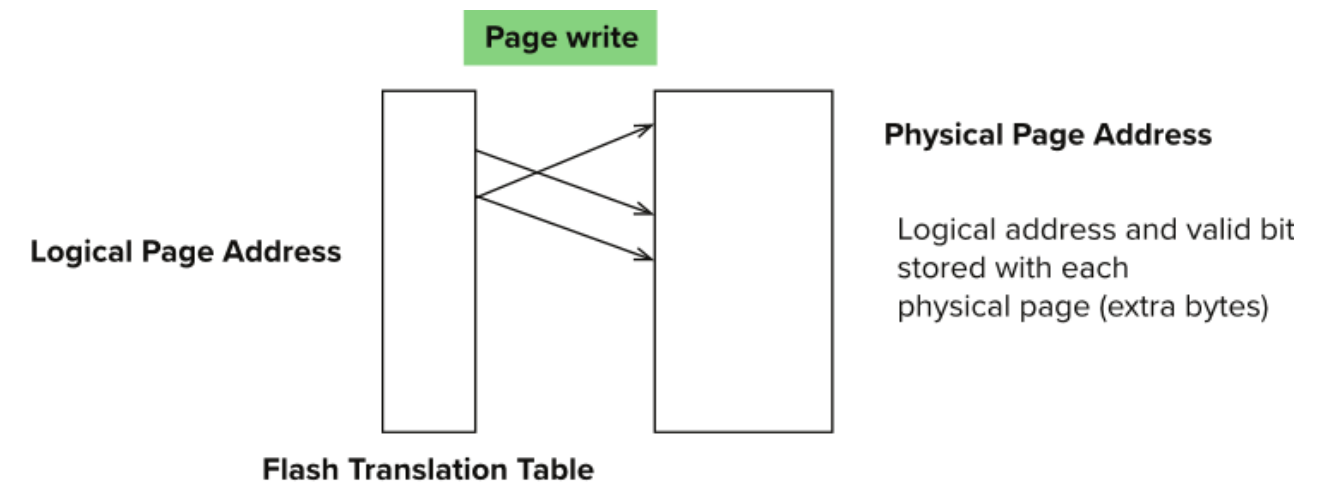
# Flash Storage

- NOR flash vs NAND flash
- NAND flash
  - Used widely for storage, cheaper than NOR flash
  - Requires page-at-a-time read (page: 512 bytes to 4 KB)
    - 20 to 100 microseconds for a page read
    - Not much difference between sequential and random read
  - Page can only be written once
    - Must be erased to allow rewrite
- Solid state disks (SSD)
  - Use standard block-oriented disk interfaces, but store data on multiple flash storage devices internally
  - Transfer rate of up to 500 MB/sec using SATA, and up to 3 GB/sec using NVMe PCIe



# Flash Storage

- Erase happens in units of erase block
  - Takes 2 to 5 millisecs
  - Erase block typically 256 KB to 1 MB (128 to 256 pages)
- **Remapping** of logical page addresses to physical page addresses avoids waiting for erase
- **Flash translation table** tracks mapping
  - Also stored in a label field of flash page
  - Remapping carried out by flash translation layer



- After 100,000 to 1,000,000 erases, erase block becomes unreliable and cannot be used
  - Wear leveling (balancing the number of times each block is erased)
  - Can use remapping to store data in good blocks

# SSD Performance Metrics

- Random reads/writes per second
  - Typical 4KB reads: 10,000 reads per second (10,000 IOPS)
  - Typical 4KB writes: 40,000 IOPS
  - SSDs support parallel reads
    - Typical 4KB reads:
      - 100,000 IOPS with 32 requests in parallel (QD-32) on SATA
      - 350,000 IOPS with QD-32 on NVMe PCIe
    - Typical 4KB writes:
      - 100,000 IOPS with QD-32, even higher on some models
- Data transfer rate for sequential reads/writes
  - 400 MB/sec for SATA3, 2 to 3 GB/sec using NVMe PCIe
- Hybrid disks: Combine small amount of flash cache with larger magnetic disk

# Magnetic Tapes

- Hold large volumes of data and provide high transfer rates
  - Few GB for DAT (Digital Audio Tape) format, 10-40 GB with DLT (Digital Linear Tape) format, 100 GB+ with Ultrium format, and 330 GB with Ampex helical scan format
  - Transfer rates from few to 10s of MB/s
- Tapes are cheap, but cost of drives is very high
- Very slow access time in comparison to magnetic and optical disks
  - limited to sequential access.
  - Some formats (Accelis) provide faster seek (10s of seconds) at cost of lower capacity
- Used mainly for backup, for storage of infrequently used information, and as an off-line medium for transferring information from one system to another.
- Tape jukeboxes used for very large capacity storage
  - Multiple petabytes ( $10^{15}$  bytes)

# RAID

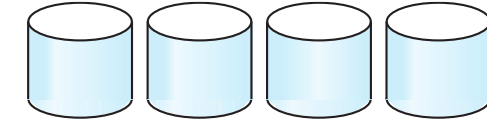
- **RAID: Redundant Arrays of Independent Disks**
  - Disk organization techniques that manage a large numbers of disks, providing a view of a single disk of
    - high capacity and high speed by using multiple disks in parallel
    - high reliability by storing data redundantly, so that data can be recovered even if a disk fails
- The chance that some disk out of a set of N disks will fail is much higher than the chance that a specific single disk will fail.
  - E.g., a system with 100 disks, each with MTTF of 100,000 hours (approx. 11 years), will have a system MTTF of 1000 hours (approx. 41 days)
  - Techniques for using redundancy to avoid data loss are critical with large numbers of disks

# Improvement of Reliability via Redundancy

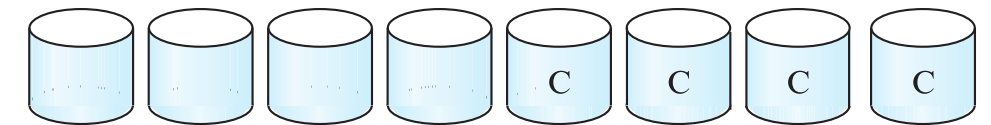
- Redundancy – Store extra information that can be used to rebuild information lost in a disk failure
  - E.g., Mirroring (or shadowing)
    - Duplicate every disk. Logical disk consists of two physical disks.
    - Every write is carried out on both disks
      - Reads can take place from either disk
    - If one disk in a pair fails, data still available in the other
      - Data loss would occur only if a disk fails, and its mirror disk also fails before the system is repaired
      - Probability of combined event is very small
      - Except for dependent failure modes such as fire or building collapse or electrical power surges
  - Mean time to data loss depends on mean time to failure, and mean time to repair
    - E.g., MTTF of 100,000 hours, mean time to repair of 10 hours gives mean time to data loss of  $500 \times 10^6$  hours (or 57,000 years) for a mirrored pair of disks (ignoring dependent failure modes)

# RAID Levels

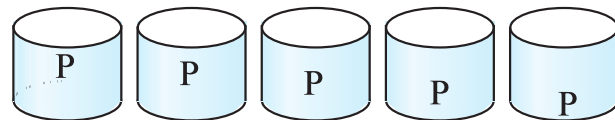
- Schemes to provide redundancy at lower cost by using disk striping combined with parity bits
  - Different RAID organizations, or RAID levels, have differing cost, performance and reliability characteristics
- **RAID 0**: Block striping (e.g., bit-level striping); non-redundant
- **RAID 1**: Mirrored disks with block striping
- **RAID 10**: Combination of striping and mirroring
- **RAID 5**: Block-interleaved distributed parity
- **RAID 6**: P+Q Redundancy scheme



(a) RAID 0: nonredundant striping



(b) RAID 1: mirrored disks

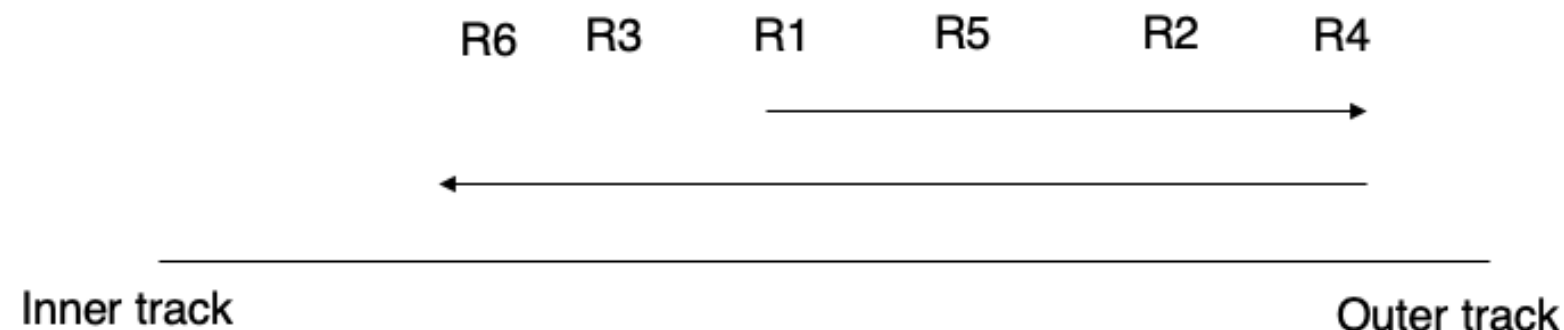


(c) RAID 5: block-interleaved distributed parity



# Optimization of Disk-Block Access

- Buffering
  - In-memory buffer to cache disk blocks
- Read-ahead
  - Read extra blocks from a track in anticipation that they will be requested soon
  - Useful for sequential access
- Disk-arm-scheduling algorithms
  - Re-order block requests so that disk arm movement is minimized
  - E.g., elevator algorithm (like elevators do)



# Optimization of Disk-Block Access

- File organization
  - Allocate blocks of a file in as contiguous a manner as possible
  - Allocation in units of extents
  - Files may get fragmented
    - E.g., if free blocks on disk are scattered, and newly created file has its blocks scattered over the disk
    - Sequential access to a fragmented file results in increased disk arm movement
    - Some systems have utilities to defragment the file system, in order to speed up file access
- Non-volatile write buffers
  - Temporarily store the written data
    - ... and immediately notifies the OS that writing is completed without errors
  - Write data into the disk when idle
    - ... with some optimizations

# **(Logical) Data Storage Structure**

# File Organization

- The database is stored as a collection of files
    - Each file is a sequence of records
    - A record is a sequence of fields
  - One approach
    - Assume record size is fixed
    - Each file has records of one particular type only
    - Different files are used for different relations
- \* This case is easiest to implement; we will consider variable length records later
- Magnetic disks and SSDs are block structured devices
    - Data are read or written in units of a block (4-8 KB)
  - Databases deal with records, which are usually much smaller than a block
  - We assume that records are smaller than a disk block
    - Each record is entirely contained in a single block

# File Organization

- Goals: **Time** and **Space**
  - Support CURD operations as fast as possible
  - Save storage space as much as possible
  - Also, to some extent, maintain data integrity

# Fixed-Length Records

- Simple approach:
  - Store record  $i$  starting from byte  $n*(i - 1)$ , where  $n$  is the size of each record
  - Record access is simple, but records may cross blocks if block size is not a multiple of  $n$  bytes
    - Modification: do not allow records to cross block boundaries
    - Divide block size (e.g., 4 KB) by record size (e.g., 53 bytes), and discard the fractional part

record 0	10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000
record 1	12121	Wu	Finance	90000
record 2	15151	Mozart	Music	40000
record 3	22222	Einstein	Physics	95000
record 4	32343	El Said	History	60000
record 5	33456	Gold	Physics	87000
record 6	45565	Katz	Comp. Sci.	75000
record 7	58583	Califieri	History	62000
record 8	76543	Singh	Finance	80000
record 9	76766	Crick	Biology	72000
record 10	83821	Brandt	Comp. Sci.	92000
record 11	98345	Kim	Elec. Eng.	80000



# Fixed-Length Records

- Deletion of record  $i$ 
  - Way #1: move records  $i + 1, \dots, n$  to  $i, \dots, n - 1$

record 0	10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000
record 1	12121	Wu	Finance	90000
record 2	15151	Mozart	Music	40000
record 4	32343	El Said	History	60000
record 5	33456	Gold	Physics	87000
record 6	45565	Katz	Comp. Sci.	75000
record 7	58583	Califieri	History	62000
record 8	76543	Singh	Finance	80000
record 9	76766	Crick	Biology	72000
record 10	83821	Brandt	Comp. Sci.	92000
record 11	98345	Kim	Elec. Eng.	80000

# Fixed-Length Records

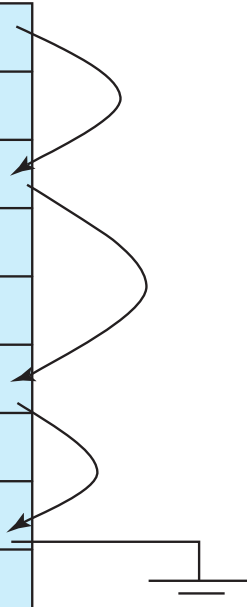
- Deletion of record  $i$ 
  - Way #2: move record  $n$  to  $i$ 
    - Record 3 is removed and replaced by record 11

record 0	10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000
record 1	12121	Wu	Finance	90000
record 2	15151	Mozart	Music	40000
record 11	98345	Kim	Elec. Eng.	80000
record 4	32343	El Said	History	60000
record 5	33456	Gold	Physics	87000
record 6	45565	Katz	Comp. Sci.	75000
record 7	58583	Califieri	History	62000
record 8	76543	Singh	Finance	80000
record 9	76766	Crick	Biology	72000
record 10	83821	Brandt	Comp. Sci.	92000
record 11	98345	Kim	Elec. Eng.	80000

# Fixed-Length Records

- Deletion of record  $i$ 
  - Way #3: Do not move records, but link all free records on a *free list*

header				
record 0	10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000
record 1				
record 2	15151	Mozart	Music	40000
record 3	22222	Einstein	Physics	95000
record 4				
record 5	33456	Gold	Physics	87000
record 6				
record 7	58583	Califieri	History	62000
record 8	76543	Singh	Finance	80000
record 9	76766	Crick	Biology	72000
record 10	83821	Brandt	Comp. Sci.	92000
record 11	98345	Kim	Elec. Eng.	80000

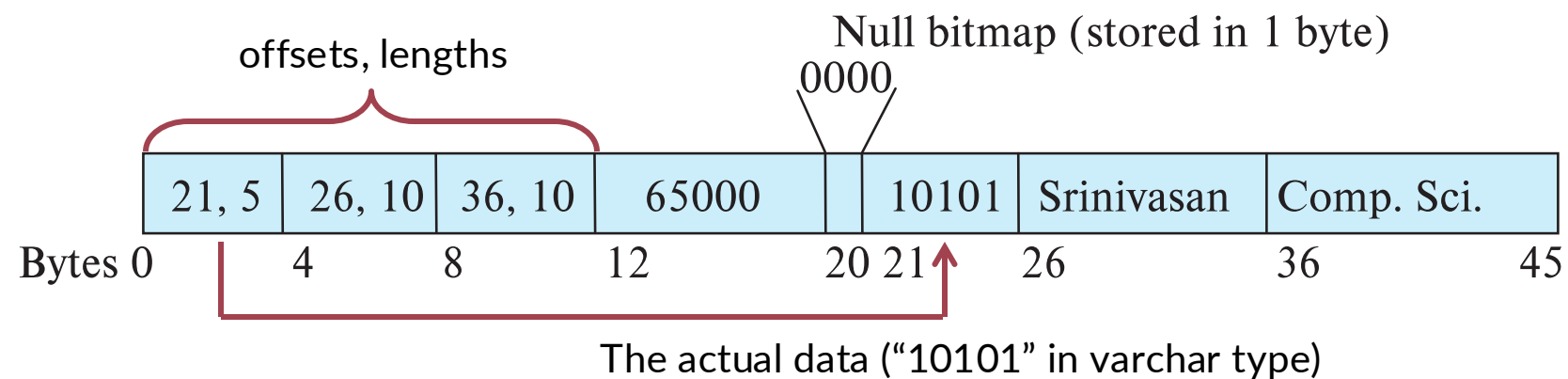


# Variable-Length Records

- Variable-length records arise in database systems in several ways:
  - Record types that allow variable lengths for one or more fields such as strings (**varchar**)
  - Storage of multiple record types in a file
  - Record types that allow repeating fields (arrays, multisets used in some older data models).
- Problem with variable-length records
  - How can we retrieve the data in an easy way without wasting too much space
    - **varchar(1000)**
      - Do we really need to allocate 1000 bytes for this field, even if most of the actual data items only costs less than 10 bytes?

# Variable-Length Records

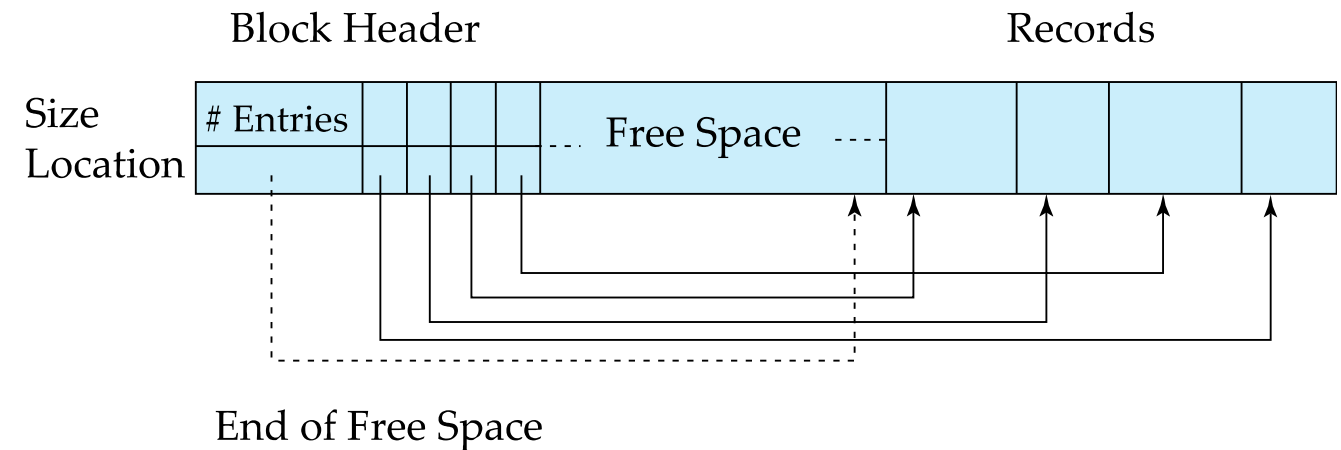
- Attributes are stored in order
  - Variable length attributes represented by fixed size (offset, length), with actual data stored after all fixed length attributes
  - Null values represented by null-value bitmap



# Variable-Length Records in Block

- Slotted page header contains:

- number of record entries
- end of free space in the block
- location and size of each record
- Records can be moved around within a page to keep them contiguous with no empty space between them; entry in the header must be updated



- Pointers should not point directly to records — instead, they should point to the entry for the record in header
- Page size is usually aligned with the disk block size (4KB-8KB)



# Storing Large Objects

- E.g., BLOB/CLOB types
  - BLOB: Binary Large Object
  - CLOB: Character Large Object
- Records must be smaller than pages
- Alternatives:
  - Store as files in file systems
    - Store the file name (usually a path in the file system) as an attribute of a record in the database
  - Store as files managed by databases via B+ tree
    - B+-tree file organizations permit us to read an entire object, or specified byte ranges in the object, as well as to insert and delete parts of the object
  - Break into pieces and store in multiple tuples in separate relation
    - PostgreSQL TOAST

# Organization of Records in Files

- **Heap** – records can be placed anywhere in the file where there is space
- **Sequential** – store records in sequential order, based on the value of the search key of each record
- **Multitable clustering file organization**
  - Records of several different relations can be stored in the same file
  - Motivation: store related records on the same block to minimize I/O
- **B+-tree file organization**
  - Ordered storage even with inserts/deletes
- **Hashing** – a hash function computed on search key; the result specifies in which block of the file the record should be placed

# Heap File Organization

- Records can be placed anywhere in the file where there is free space
  - Records usually do not move once allocated
- Important to be able to efficiently find free space within file
- Free-space map
  - Array with 1 entry per block. Each entry is a few bits to a byte, and records fraction of block that is free
  - In example below, 3 bits per block, value divided by 8 indicates fraction of block that is free

4	2	1	4	7	3	6	5	1	2	0	1	1	0	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

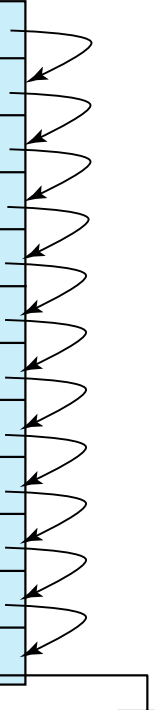
- Can have second-level free-space map
  - In example below, each entry stores maximum from 4 entries of first-level free-space map
- Free space map written to disk periodically, OK to have wrong (old) values for some entries (will be detected and fixed)

4	7	2	6
---	---	---	---

# Sequential File Organization

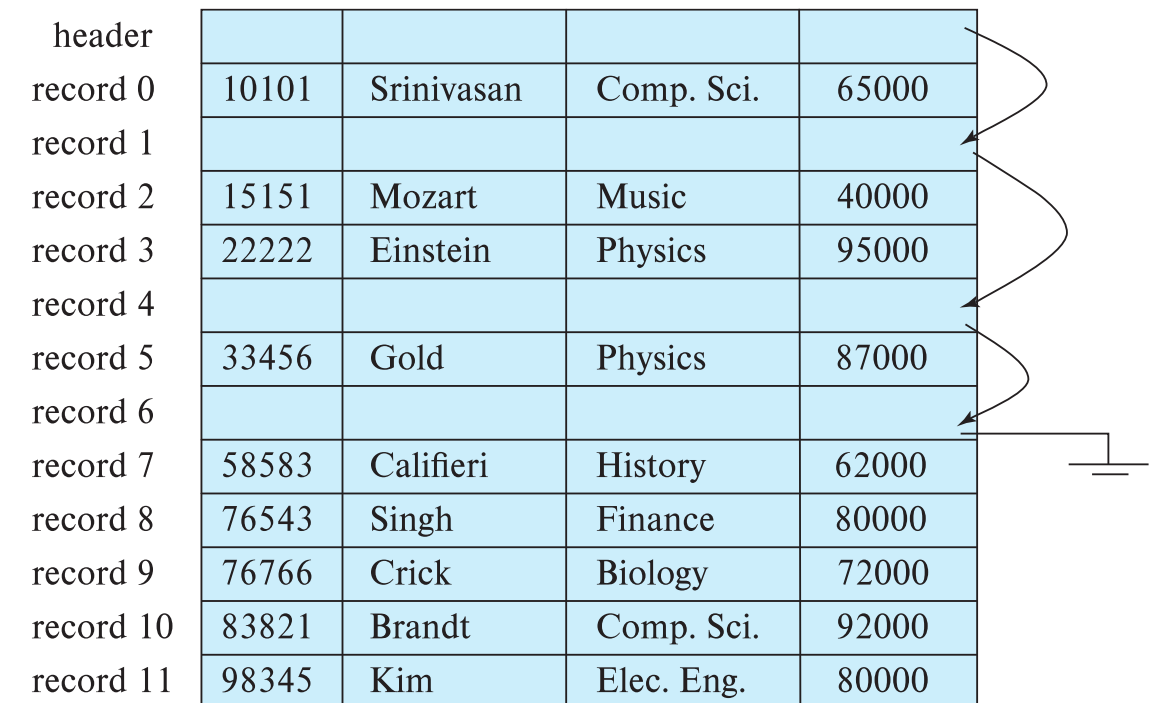
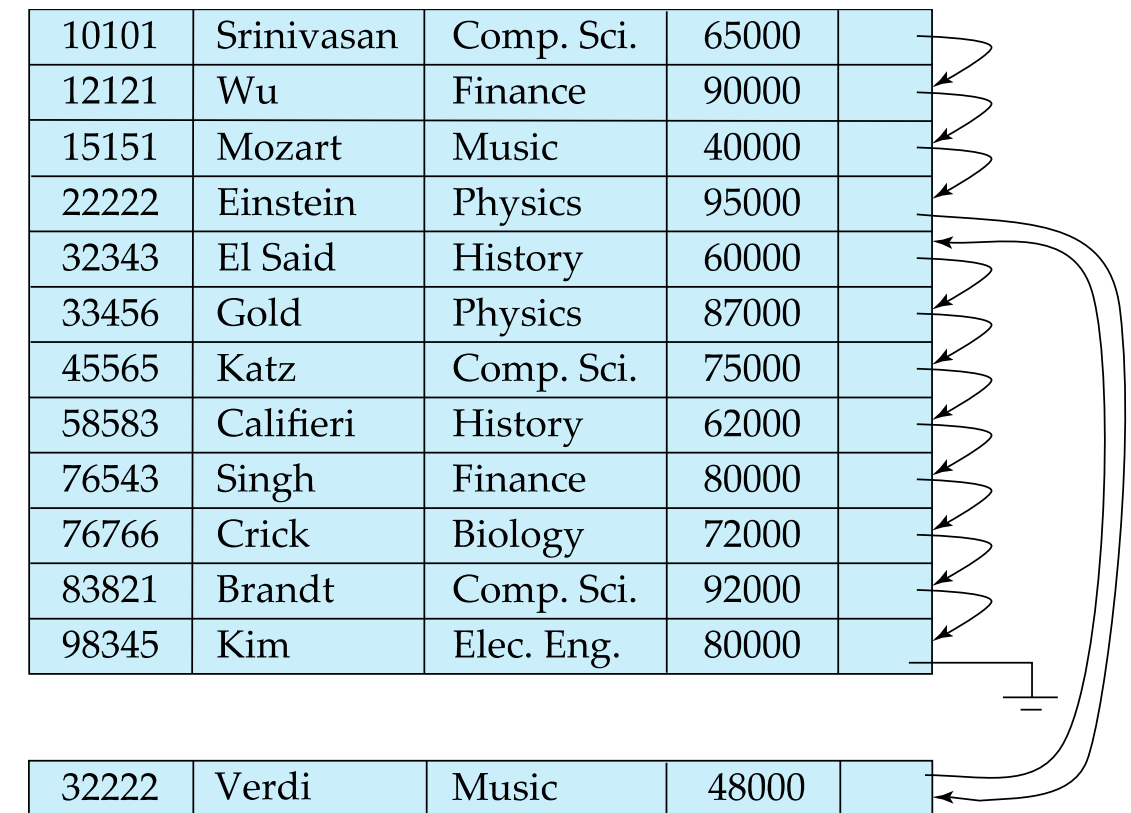
- Store records in sequential order, based on the value of the search key of each record
- Suitable for applications that require sequential processing of the entire file
- The records in the file are ordered by a search-key

10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000	
12121	Wu	Finance	90000	
15151	Mozart	Music	40000	
22222	Einstein	Physics	95000	
32343	El Said	History	60000	
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76543	Singh	Finance	80000	
76766	Crick	Biology	72000	
83821	Brandt	Comp. Sci.	92000	
98345	Kim	Elec. Eng.	80000	



# Sequential File Organization

- It is difficult, to maintain physical sequential order as records are inserted and deleted
- Deletion – Use pointer chains
- Insertion – Locate the position where the record is to be inserted
  - if there is free space insert there
  - if no free space, insert the record in an overflow block
  - In either case, pointer chain must be updated
- Need to reorganize the file from time to time to restore sequential order



# Multitable Clustering File Organization

- Store several relations in one file using a **multitable clustering** file organization
  - Good for queries involving:
    - *department* ⋈ *instructor*
    - or: one single department and its instructors (one-to-many correspondence)
  - Bad for queries involving only *department*
    - E.g., select \* from department
  - Results in variable size records
    - Can add pointer chains to link records of a particular relation
  - Bad for large databases
    - where other operations than joins are required

*department*

<i>dept_name</i>	<i>building</i>	<i>budget</i>
Comp. Sci.	Taylor	100000
Physics	Watson	70000

*instructor*

<i>ID</i>	<i>name</i>	<i>dept_name</i>	<i>salary</i>
10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000
33456	Gold	Physics	87000
45565	Katz	Comp. Sci.	75000
83821	Brandt	Comp. Sci.	92000

Multitable clustering of *department* and *instructor*, clustering key is dept\_name

Comp. Sci.	Taylor	100000	
10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000
45565	Katz	Comp. Sci.	75000
83821	Brandt	Comp. Sci.	92000
Physics	Watson	70000	
33456	Gold	Physics	87000

# Partitioning

- Table partitioning: Records in a relation can be partitioned into smaller relations that are stored separately
  - E.g., `transaction` relation may be partitioned into `transaction_2018`, `transaction_2019`, etc.
- Queries written on transaction must access records in all partitions
  - Unless query has a selection such as `year=2019`, in which case only one partition is needed
- Partitioning
  - Reduces costs of some operations such as free space management
    - since the cost of some operations, such as finding free space for a record, increase with relation size
  - Allows different partitions to be stored on different storage devices
    - E.g., transaction partition for current year on SSD, for older years on magnetic disk

# Column-Oriented Storage

- Also known as **columnar representation**
- Store each attribute of a relation separately

10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000
12121	Wu	Finance	90000
15151	Mozart	Music	40000
22222	Einstein	Physics	95000
32343	El Said	History	60000
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# Column-Oriented Storage

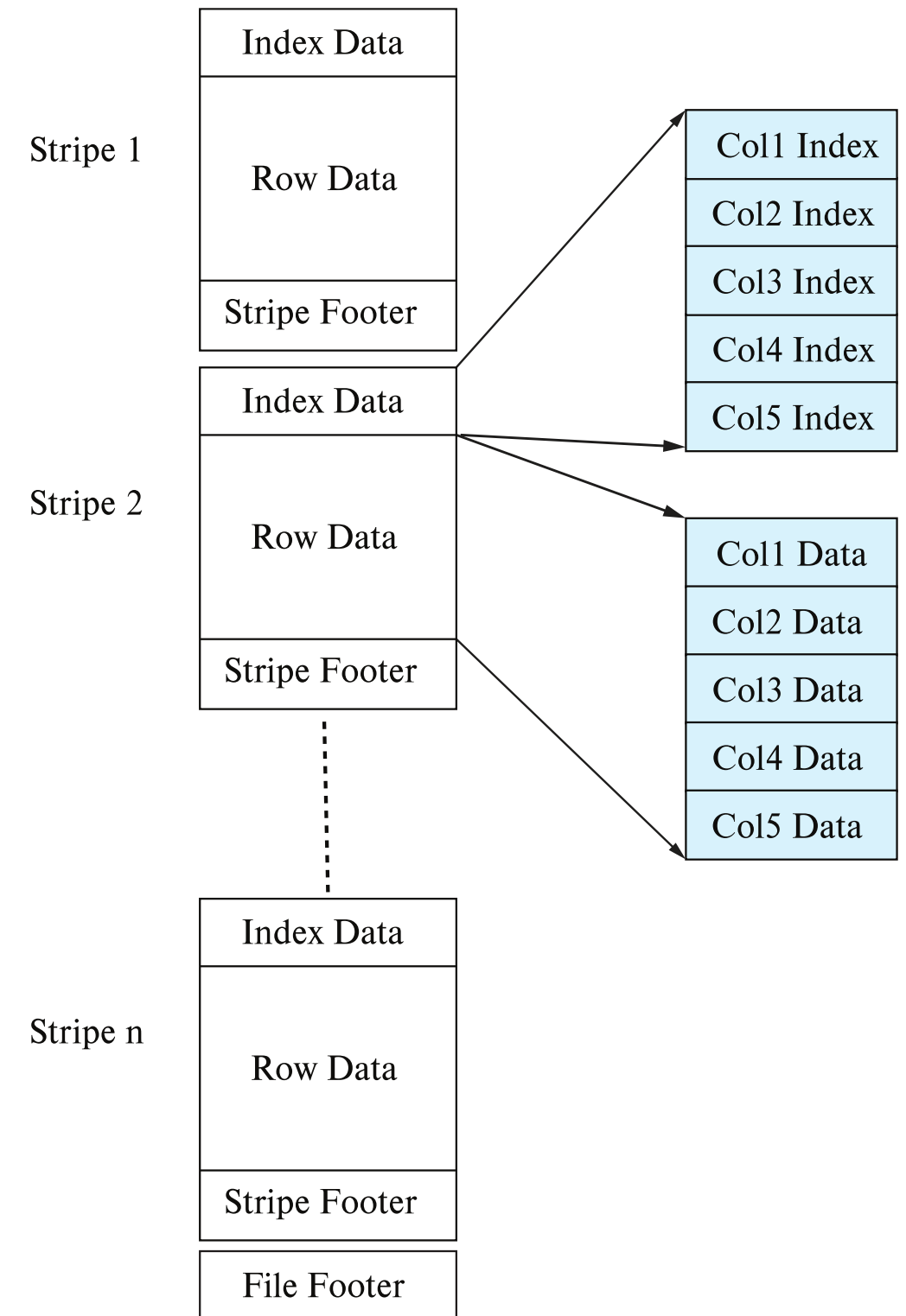
- Benefits:
  - Reduced IO if only some attributes are needed
  - Improved CPU cache performance
    - data analysis queries usually access many values of an attribute consecutively
  - Improved compression
    - Data in the same type can be compressed more efficiently
  - Vector processing on modern CPU architectures
- Drawbacks
  - Cost of tuple reconstruction from columnar representation
  - Cost of tuple deletion and update
  - Cost of decompression

# Column-Oriented Storage

- Columnar representation found to be more efficient for decision support than row-oriented representation
- Traditional row-oriented representation preferable for transaction processing
- Some databases support both representations
  - Called hybrid row/column stores

# Column-Oriented Storage

- **ORC (Optimized Row Columnar) File Format**
  - A row-oriented representation is converted to column-oriented representation
  - Each stripe contains values of a subset of columns
  - File format with columnar storage inside file
    - Row Data
    - Index Data
- Details if you are interested in big data processing:
  - <https://cwiki.apache.org/confluence/display/hive/languagemanual+orc>



# Data Dictionary Storage

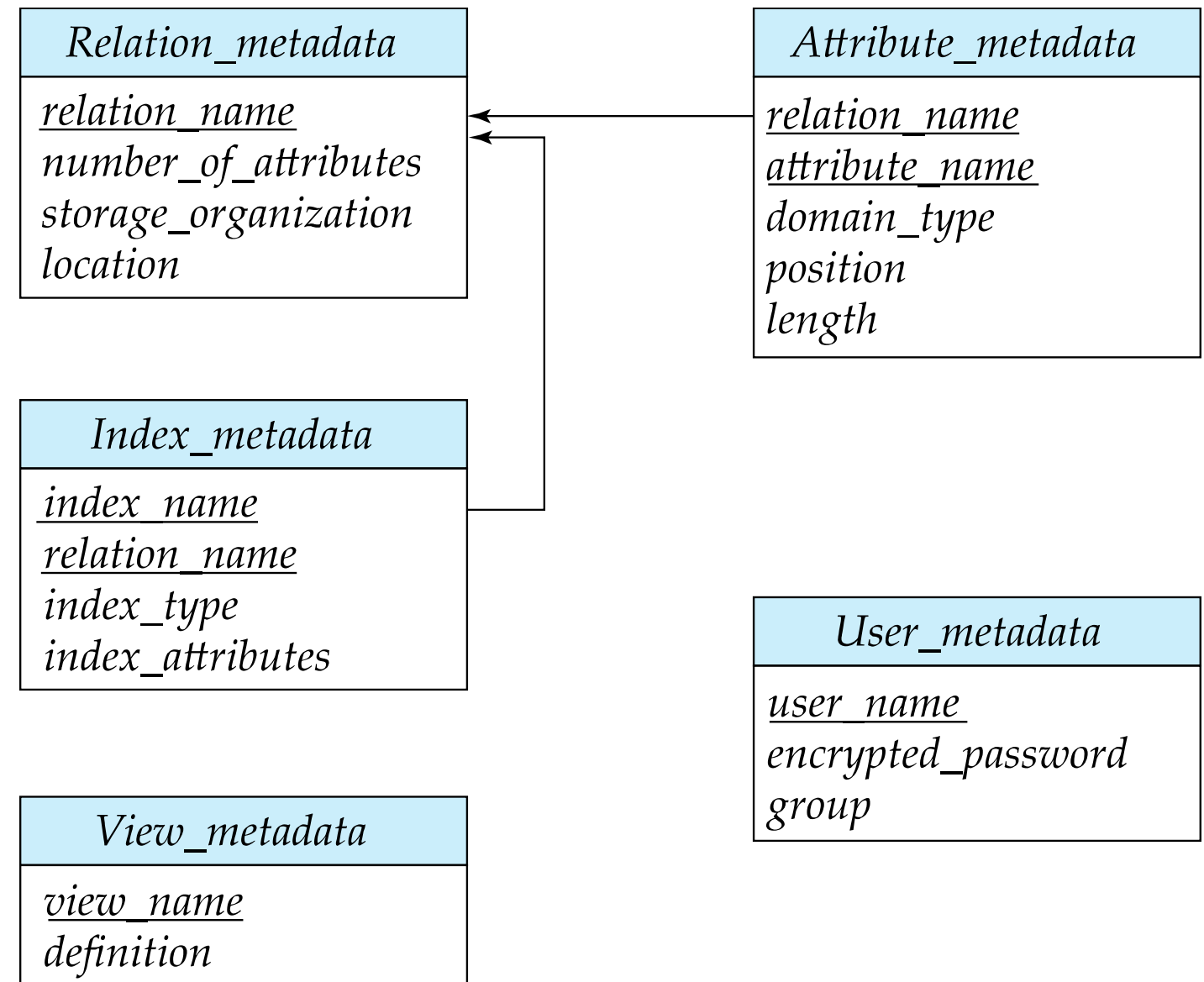
- The **Data dictionary** (also called **system catalog**) stores metadata
  - ... that is, data about data – “meta” means “of”
- It includes
  - Information about relations
    - Names of relations
    - Names, types and lengths of attributes of each relation
    - Names and definitions of views
    - Integrity constraints
  - User and accounting information
    - Authorization for each user, default schemas of the users, passwords etc
  - Statistical and descriptive data
    - Number of tuples in each relation
    - Number of distinctive values for each attribute

# Data Dictionary Storage

- It includes (continue)
    - Physical file organization information
      - How relation is stored (sequential/hash/...)
      - Physical location of relation
    - Information about indices/indexes
- (we will learn it later)

# Relational Representation of System Metadata

- We could store metadata by using special-purpose data structures and code
  - But a preferable way is to store them as relations in database
- An example of the relational representation of the metadata
  - Relational representation on disk
  - Specialized data structures designed for efficient access, in memory
  - Different DBMS may have their own implementation
- First consult meta-data, then fetch records
  - Maybe better to put meta-data in memory to achieve fast access



# Storage Access

- Many large databases are much larger than the available memory on servers
  - Database data reside primarily on disk in most databases
  - The data must be brought into memory to be read or updated; and updated data blocks must be written back to disk subsequently
- **Blocks** are units of both storage allocation and data transfer
- Database system seeks to **minimize** the number of block transfers between the disk and memory
  - We can **reduce** the number of **disk accesses** by keeping as many blocks as possible in main memory
  - **Buffer**: Portion of main memory available to store copies of disk blocks
  - **Buffer Manager**: Subsystem responsible for allocating buffer space in main memory

# Self Study

- Database System Concepts , 7<sup>th</sup> Edition
  - Chapter 13.5 “Database Buffer”