

Implementation of DBMS

Exercise Sheet 2, Solutions

Klingemann, WS 2025 / 2026

1) Suppose you use the Two-Phase Multiway Merge Sort in the scenario described in the lecture slides. Tell how many I/O's are needed for the sort if the following changes are applied. Assume that we still execute the algorithm with two phases.

a) The number of records of the file is doubled.

Solution: We know that with two passes we have 4 I/O's per block. As twice the number of records require twice the number of blocks, we therefore have twice the number of I/O's, i.e. 2,000,000 I/O's.

b) The size of blocks is doubled, to 8192 bytes.

Solution: When we double the size of the blocks, we can store twice the number of records in a block. Thus, we need half the number of blocks and therefore half the number of I/O's, i.e., 500,000 I/O's. (However, as the blocks are larger, we also increase the time for an I/O!)

2) You want to use the Two-Phase Multiway Merge Sort (or its extension to a different number of phases as appropriate) to sort a file. The file consists of 119,985 records. Each block can contain 20 records. We have 10 main memory blocks available.

a) How many blocks do we need to store the file if each block is as full as possible?

Solution:

We need $\lceil (119,985 \text{ records}) / (20 \text{ records/block}) \rceil = 6000 \text{ blocks}$. Note, that the last block is not completely full but nevertheless needed to store all the records!

b) How many sorted sublists do we have after each phase?

c) How many phases do we need?

d) What is the required number of I/O's?

Solutions:

Phase 1: We get $\lceil (6000 \text{ blocks}) / (10 \text{ blocks/sublist}) \rceil = 600 \text{ sublists}$

Phase 2: We get $\lceil (600 \text{ sublists}) / (9 \text{ sublists merged to 1}) \rceil = 67 \text{ sublists}$

Phase 3: We get $\lceil (67 \text{ sublists}) / (9 \text{ sublists merged to 1}) \rceil = 8 \text{ sublists}$

Phase 4: We get $\lceil (8 \text{ sublists}) / (9 \text{ sublists merged to 1}) \rceil = 1 \text{ sublists}$, i.e., we have created the sorted file.

As a result, we needed 4 phases. This implies that we need 8 I/O's per block and therefore in total $(8 \text{ I/O's per block}) * (6000 \text{ blocks}) = 48000 \text{ I/O's}$.

3) Consider the following relations:

R:

A	B
a	b
c	b
d	e

S:

B	C
b	c
f	a
b	d

Calculate the following relations:

a) $R \bowtie S$

A	B	C
a	b	c
a	b	d
c	b	c
c	b	d

b) $R \bowtie_{A=C} S$

A	R.B	S.B	C
a	b	f	a
c	b	b	c
d	e	b	d

c) $\pi_A(R \bowtie S)$

A
a
c

d) $\pi_A(R) \bowtie S$

A	B	C
a	b	c
a	f	a
a	b	d
c	b	c
c	f	a
c	b	d
d	b	c
d	f	a
d	b	d