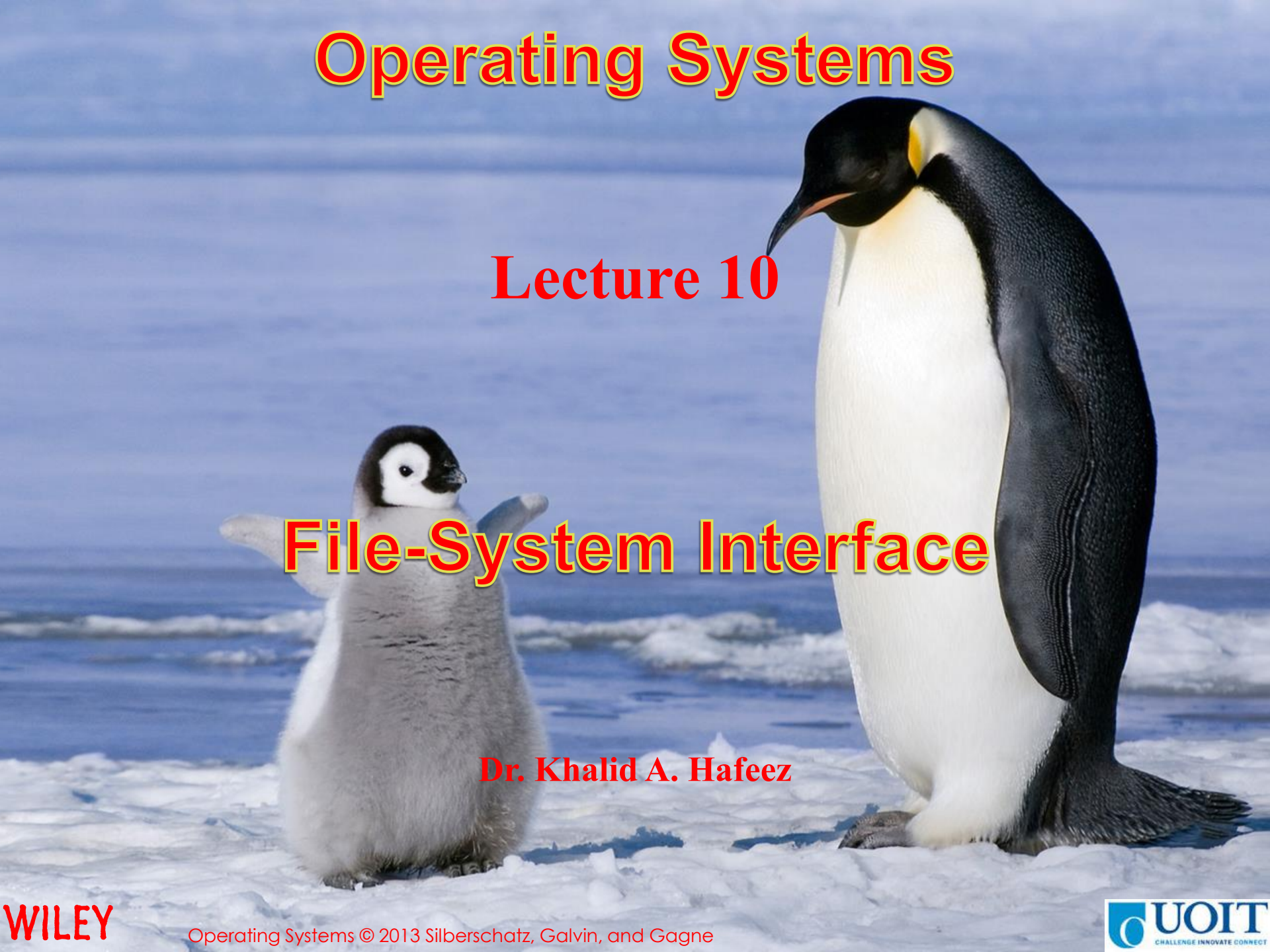
# Operating Systems

## Lecture 10

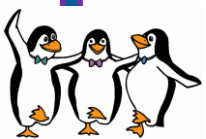
# File-System Interface

Dr. Khalid A. Hafeez



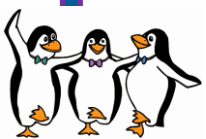
# File-System Interface

- File Concept
- Access Methods
- Disk and Directory Structure
- File-System Mounting
- File Sharing
- Protection



# Objectives

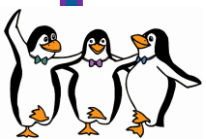
- To explain the function of file systems
- To describe the interfaces to file systems
- To discuss file-system design tradeoffs, including access methods, file sharing, file locking, and directory structures
- To explore file-system protection



# File-System Interface

## File Concept

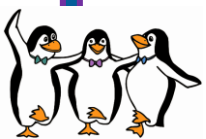
- The file system is the most visible aspect of an operating system.
  - It provides the mechanism for on-line storage of and access to both data and programs of the operating system and all the users of the computer system.
  - The file system consists of two distinct parts:
    - Collection of files, each storing related data,
    - Directory structure, which organizes and provides information about all the files in the system.
- The OS provides a uniform logical view of stored information.
  - The OS abstracts from the physical properties of its storage devices to define a logical storage unit, the file.
  - A file is a named collection of related information that is recorded on secondary storage.



# File Concept

## File Concept

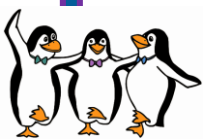
- Contiguous logical address space
- Types of files:
  - Data
    - numeric
    - character
    - binary
  - Program
    - source,
    - object,
    - executable
- Content is defined by the file's creator
  - a file is a sequence of bits, bytes, lines, or records



# File Concept

## File Attributes

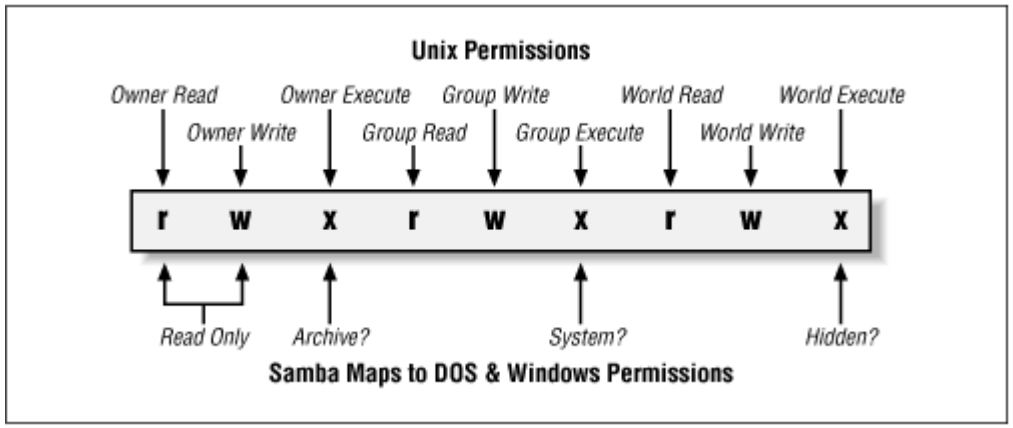
- A file's attributes vary from one operating system to another but typically consist of these:
  - **Name**: the only information kept in human-readable form
  - **Identifier**: unique tag (number) identifies the file within the file system
  - **Type**: needed for systems that support different types of files
  - **Location**: pointer to the file location on the device
  - **Size**: current file size (in bytes, words, or blocks)
  - **Protection**: controls determine who can do reading, writing, executing
  - **Time, date, and user identification**: This information may be kept for creation, last modification, and last use. These data for protection, security, and usage monitoring
- Information about files are kept in the directory structure, which is maintained on the disk
- Many newer file systems support extended file attributes such as character encoding, and file checksum

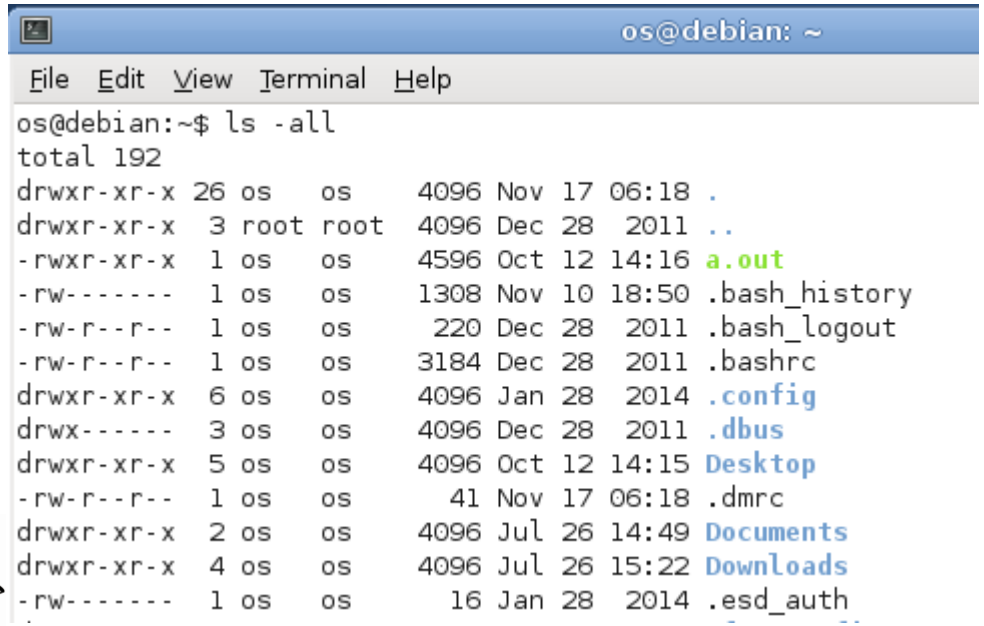


# File Concept

## File Attributes

- File info Window on Mac OS X

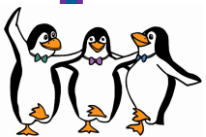



# File Concept

## File Operations

- File is an **abstract data type**
- The OS provide system calls to perform the **main six** operation on files:
  1. Create a file:
     - OS finds a space in the file system for the file.
     - OS makes an entry for the new file in the directory.
  2. Write:
     - Find the file in the directory to find its location on the disk and then start writing at write pointer location
  3. Read:
     - Find the file in the directory to find its location on the disk and then start writing at read pointer location
       - » Both the read and write operations use this same pointer

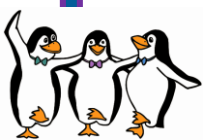


# File Concept

- File Operations

4. Reposition within file: (known as file seek)
   - The current-file-position pointer is repositioned to a given value (no I/O operation)
5. Delete
   - OS searches the directory for the file, releases all file space, and erase the directory entry.
6. Truncate
   - OS will keep the file attributes but it will set its size to zero, and release all file space

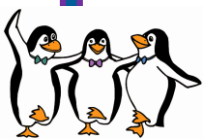
- ***Open($F_i$)*:** search the directory structure on disk for entry $F_i$, and move the content of entry to memory
- ***Close ($F_i$)*:** move the content of entry $F_i$ in memory to directory structure on disk



# File Concept

## File Operations

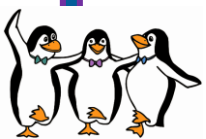
- To avoid searching the directory every time we need to access a file:
  - OS requires that an *open()* system call must be made before a file is first used.
    - This call will put the file in an open-file table that makes it easy to access the file
    - Each process that opens the same file, has this file added to its own open-file table.
    - The first time the file is opened by any process will be put in a system-wide table as well as that processes open-file table.
    - There is read-lock and an exclusive-lock (write) for ever opened file.



# File Concept

## Open Files

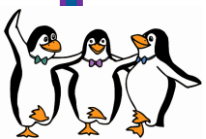
- Several pieces of data are needed to manage open files:
  - **Open-file table**: tracks open files
    - It includes file pointer: pointer to last read/write location, per process that has the file open
  - **File-open count**: counter of number of times a file is open – to allow removal of data from open-file table when last processes closes it
  - **Disk location of the file**: cache of data access information
  - **Access rights**: per-process access mode information



# File Concept

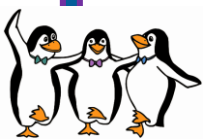
## Open File Locking

- Provided by some operating systems and file systems
  - Similar to reader-writer locks
  - **Shared lock** similar to reader lock – several processes can acquire concurrently
  - **Exclusive lock** similar to writer lock
- Mediates access to a file
- They can be Mandatory or advisory:
  - **Mandatory** – access is denied depending on locks held and requested
  - **Advisory** – processes can find status of locks and decide what to do



# File Concept

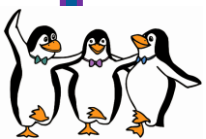
- Linux System
  - Some Standard Directories
    - / The root of the hierarchy
    - /bin Most essential Linux commands: ls, rm, …
    - /boot Linux kernel, all files needed to boot
    - /dev Those special device files
    - /etc/ System configurations, Contains no binary
    - /lib Library Object files for C/C++ and Fortran
    - /home Users' directories
    - /sbin Administration Tools, need special permission
    - /etc/passwd
    - /usr The largest part of the linux file system;
      - » Contains general purpose programs



# File Concept

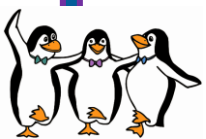
- Linux System
  - Directory Operations

| | |
|---|---|
| mkdir dirname | creates a directory with name dirname |
| rmdir dirname | removes a directory dirname. |
| mv data1 newdata/ | moves the file data1 to the folder newdata and deletes the old one. |
| cp data1 newdata/ | will copy the file data1 to the directory newdata (assuming it has already been created) |
| ls | lists files |
| pwd | shows what directory (folder) you are in. |
| cd | changes directories |
| ls -all \|more | shows one screen of file names at a time. |
| rm data1 | deletes the file data1 in the current directory |



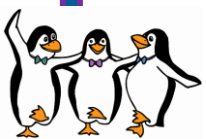
# File Concept

- Linux System
  - Processing Files
    - Creating: vi, emacs, pico, vim, …
    - Displaying: less, more
    - Determining file type: file “filename.ext”
    - File Size: wc (wc test.c)
    - Compressing Files: zip, gzip



# File Concept

- Linux System
  - Processing Files
    - find: search in the specified path to locate files that match the pattern
      - find . -name *bash –print
      - find /usr/include –name socket.h –print
    - whereis: locate the binary, source, and manual page files for a command
      - wheris –b cat
      - whereis ifconfig
    - grep: to search text or searches the given file for lines containing a match to the given strings or words
      - grep “printf” /usr/include/*
      - grep –n include *.c
      - grep ‘^[A-H]’ test.c

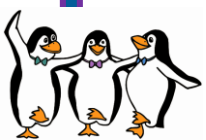


# File Concept

- File Locking Example – Java API

  This program acquires two locks on the file file.txt. The first half of the file is acquire as an exclusive lock; the lock for the second half is a shared lock.

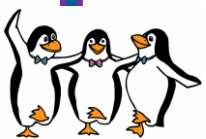
```
import java.io.*;
import java.nio.channels.*;
public class LockingExample {
    public static final boolean EXCLUSIVE = false;
    public static final boolean SHARED = true;
    public static void main(String arsg[]) throws IOException {
        FileLock sharedLock = null;
        FileLock exclusiveLock = null;
        try {
            RandomAccessFile raf = new RandomAccessFile("file.txt", "rw");
            // get the channel for the file
            FileChannel ch = raf.getChannel();
            // this locks the first half of the file - exclusive
            exclusiveLock = ch.lock(0, raf.length()/2, EXCLUSIVE);
            /** Now modify the data . . . */
            // release the lock
            exclusiveLock.release();
```



# File Concept

- File Locking Example – Java API

```
                    // this locks the second half of the file - shared
                    sharedLock = ch.lock(raf.length()/2+1, raf.length(),
                    SHARED);
                    /** Now read the data . . . */
                    // release the lock
                    sharedLock.release();
            } catch (java.io.IOException ioe) {
                    System.err.println(ioe);
            }finally {
                    if (exclusiveLock != null)
                    exclusiveLock.release();
                    if (sharedLock != null)
                    sharedLock.release();
            }
    }
}
```

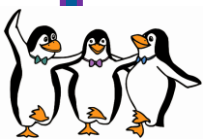


# File Concept

- File Types – Name, Extension

Common file types.

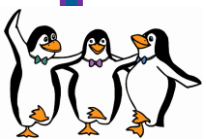
| file type | usual extension | function |
|---|---|---|
| executable | exe, com, bin or none | ready-to-run machine-language program |
| object | obj, o | compiled, machine language, not linked |
| source code | c, cc, java, pas, asm, a | source code in various languages |
| batch | bat, sh | commands to the command interpreter |
| text | txt, doc | textual data, documents |
| word processor | wp, tex, rtf, doc | various word-processor formats |
| library | lib, a, so, dll | libraries of routines for programmers |
| print or view | ps, pdf, jpg | ASCII or binary file in a format for printing or viewing |
| archive | arc, zip, tar | related files grouped into one file, sometimes compressed, for archiving or storage |
| multimedia | mpeg, mov, rm, mp3, avi | binary file containing audio or A/V information |



# File Concept

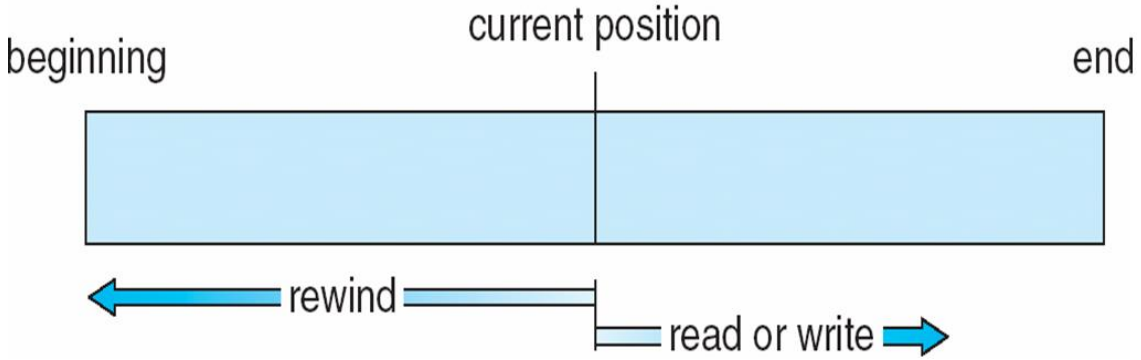
## File Structure

- File types also can be used to indicate the internal structure of the file.
  - None - sequence of words, bytes
  - Simple record structure
    - Lines
    - Fixed length
    - Variable length
  - Complex Structures
    - Formatted document
    - Relocatable load file
  - Can simulate last two with first method by inserting appropriate control characters
  - Who decides:
    - Operating system
    - Program



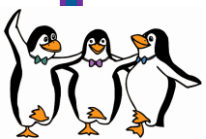
# Access Methods

- The information in the file can be accessed in several ways:
  - Sequential Access
    - Information in the file is processed in order, one record after the other.
    - It is based on a tape-drive model
      - **read next**
      - **write next**
      - **Reset**
      - no read after last write (rewrite)



# Access Methods

- The information in the file can be accessed in several ways:
  - Direct Access (or relative access)
    - File is made up of fixed length logical records that allow programs to read and write records rapidly in no particular order.
    - It is based on the disk model of a file
      - **read *n***
      - **write *n***
      - **position to *n***
        - **Read-next**
        - **Write-next**
      - **rewrite *n***
      - *n* = relative block number from the start of the file
  - Relative block numbers allow OS to decide where file should be placed

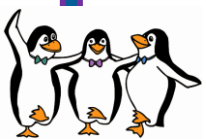


# Access Methods

The information in the file can be accessed in several ways:

- Direct Access (or relative access)
  - Simulation of Sequential Access on Direct-access File

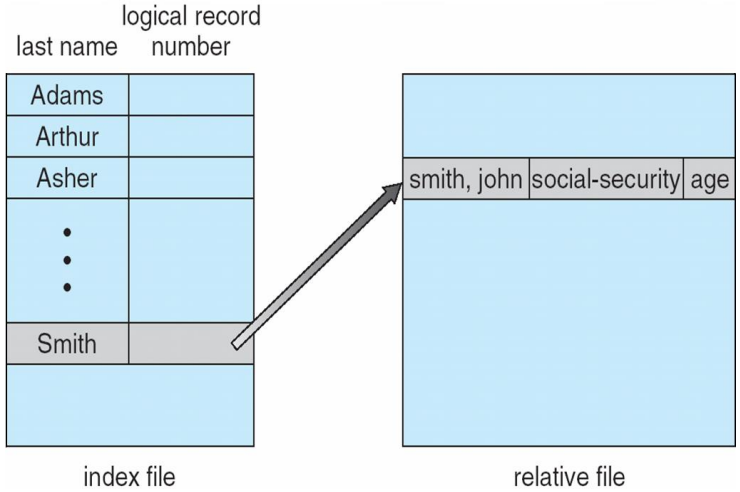
| sequential access | implementation for direct access |
|---|---|
| *reset* | *cp* = 0; |
| *read next* | *read cp*;<br>*cp* = *cp* + 1; |
| *write next* | *write cp*;<br>*cp* = *cp* + 1; |



# Access Methods

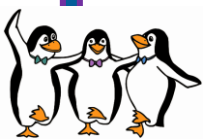
## Other Access Methods

- Can be built on top of base methods
- Generally involve creation of an index for the file
- Keep index in memory for fast determination of location of data to be operated on (consider UPC (universal product code) code plus record of data about that item)
- If the index file is too large, then create an index for the index
  - One index (in memory) of the second index (on disk)
- IBM indexed sequential-access method (ISAM)
  - Small master index, points to disk blocks of secondary index
  - File kept sorted on a defined key



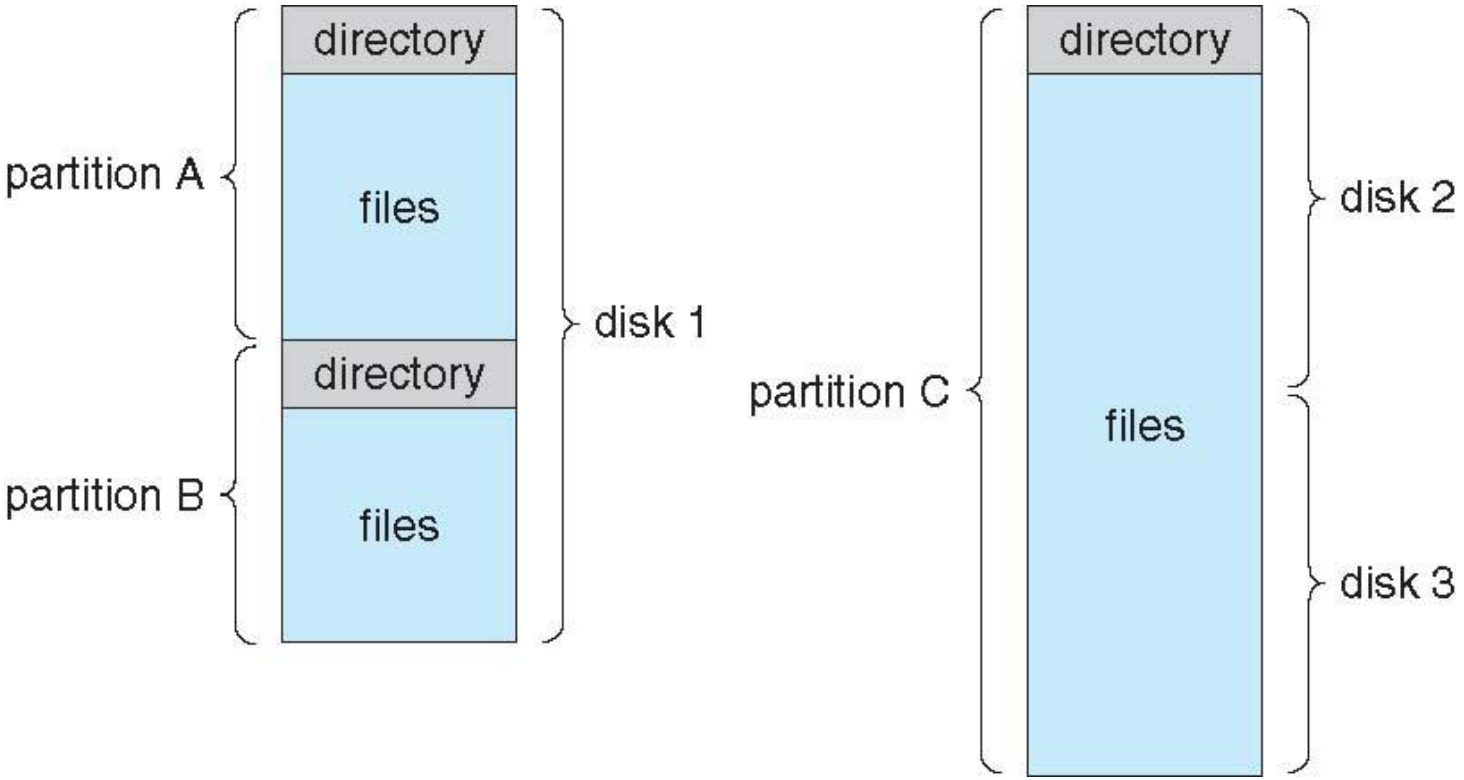
# Directory Structure

- Disk Structure
  - Disk can be subdivided into **partitions**
  - Disks or partitions can be **RAID** protected against failure
  - Disk or partition can be used **raw** – without a file system, or **formatted** with a file system
  - Partitions also known as minidisks, slices
  - An entity containing file system is known as a **volume**
    - The volume may be a subset of a device, a whole device, or multiple devices linked together into a RAID set.
  - Each volume containing file system also tracks that file system′s info in **device directory** or **volume table of contents** (or just **directory**)
  - As well as **general-purpose file systems** there are many **special-purpose file systems**, frequently all within the same operating system or computer



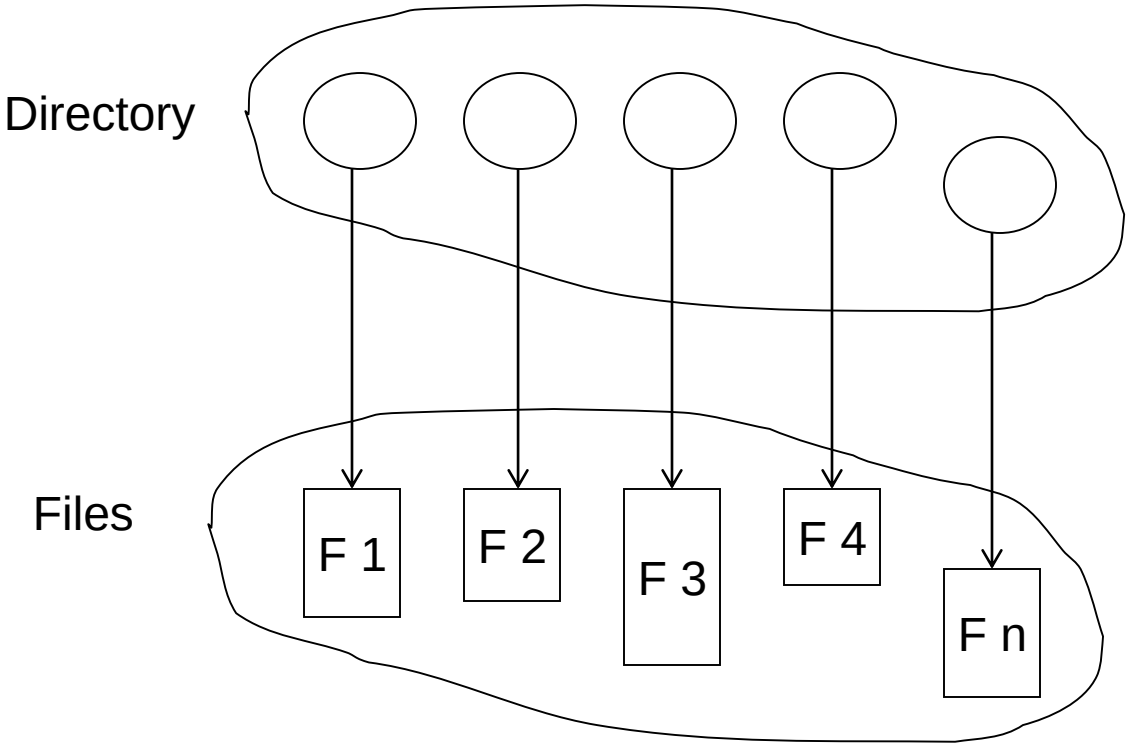
# Directory Structure

- A Typical File-system Organization



# Directory Structure

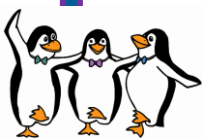
- A **directory** is a collection of nodes containing information about all files
  - The directory has the name, location, size, and type for all files on that volume.




Both the directory structure and the files reside on disk

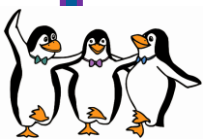
# Directory Structure

- Types of File Systems
  - We consider only general-purpose file systems
  - But systems frequently have may file systems, some general- and some special- purpose
  - Consider Solaris has
    - tmpfs – temporary memory-based volatile FS for fast, temporary I/O
    - objfs – interface into kernel memory to get kernel symbols for debugging
    - ctfs – contract file system for managing daemons
    - lofs – loopback file system allows one FS to be accessed in place of another
    - procfs – kernel interface to process structures
    - ufs, zfs – general purpose file systems



# Directory Structure

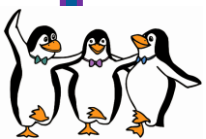
- Operations Performed on Directory
  - Search for a file  ls test*.txt
  - Create a file
    - touch testFile.txt  or  >> testFile.txt  or  > testFile.txt
  - Delete a file
    - rm testFile.txt  or  rm SOFE3950/ *.txt
  - List a directory  ls -al
  - Rename a file or move a file
    - mv test.txt newtest.txt  or  mv test.txt  ~/myDir/
  - Traverse the file system
    - To combine multiple files and/or directories into a single file
      - tar -cvf  file.tar inputfile1 inputfile2
      - tar -xvf  file.tar
    - To create compressed archives
      - tar -cvzf file.tar.gz inputfile1 inputfile2
      - tar -xvzf file.tar.gz



# Directory Structure

## Directory Organization

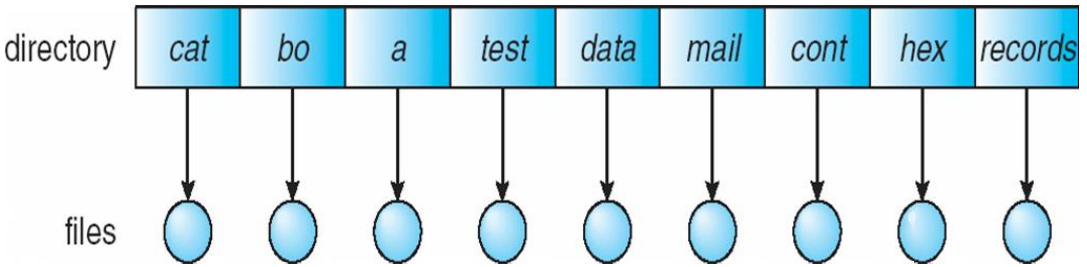
- The directory is organized logically to obtain
  - Efficiency – locating a file quickly
  - Naming – convenient to users
    - Two users can have same name for different files
    - The same file can have several different names
  - Grouping – logical grouping of files by properties, (e.g., all Java programs, all games, …)



# Directory Structure

## Single-Level Directory

- A single directory for all users

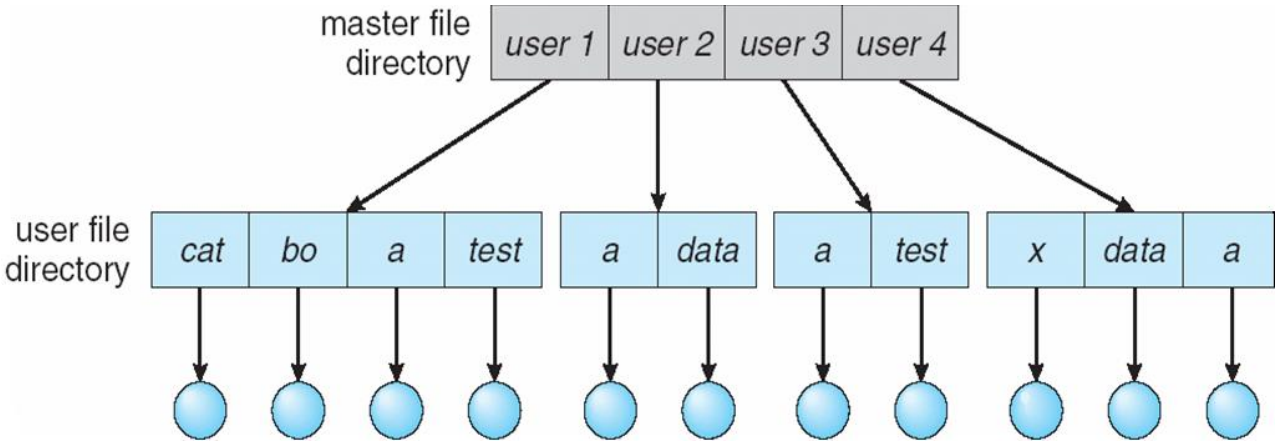



- Naming problem
  - Since all files are in the same directory, they must have unique names.
- Grouping problem

# Directory Structure

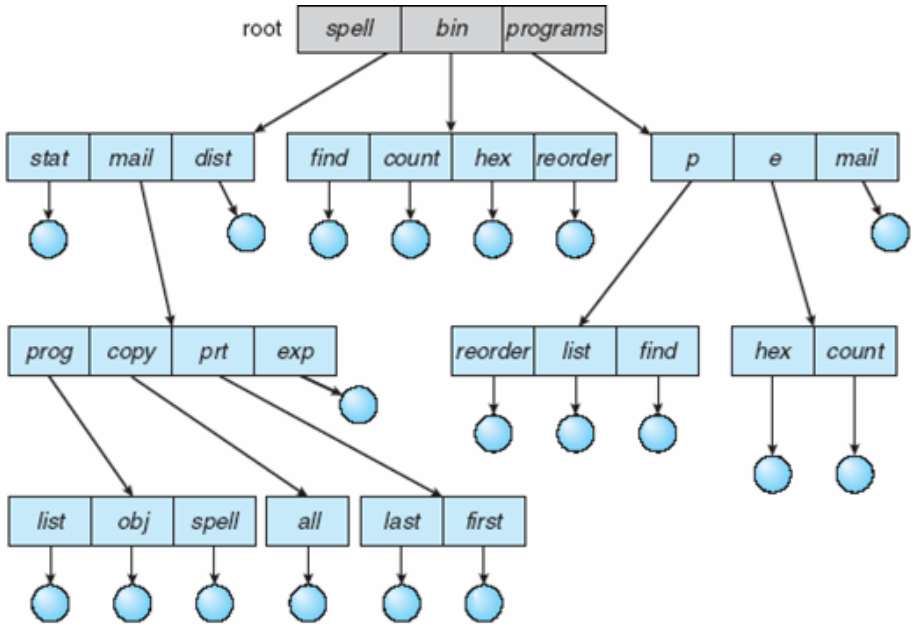
## Two-Level Directory

- To create a separate directory for each user
  - Each user has his/her own user file directory (UFD).
  - When a user logs in, the system's master file directory (MFD) is searched.
    - The MFD is indexed by user name or account number
- Path name
- Can have the same file name for different user
- Efficient searching
- No grouping capability



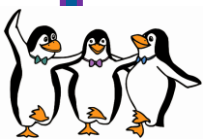
# Directory Structure

- Tree-Structured Directories
  - It allows users to create their own subdirectories and to organize their files accordingly.
  - The tree has a root directory, and every file has a unique path name.
  - A directory (or subdirectory) contains a set of files or subdirectories
  - A directory is simply another file, but it is treated in a special way.
  - All directories have the same internal format. One bit in each directory entry defines the entry as a file (0) or as a subdirectory (1).



# Directory Structure

- Tree-Structured Directories
  - Efficient searching
  - Grouping Capability
  - Current directory (working directory)
    - **cd /spell/mail/prog**
    - **type list**



# Directory Structure

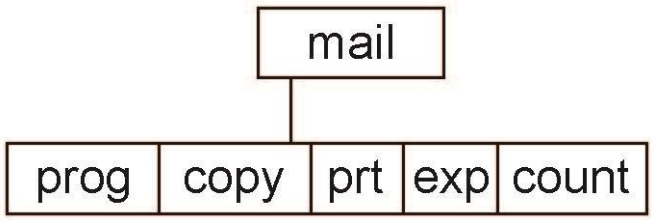
- Tree-Structured Directories
  - **Absolute** or **relative** path name
  - Creating a new file is done in current directory
  - Delete a file

    **rm <file-name>**
  - Creating a new subdirectory is done in current directory

    **mkdir <dir-name>**

    Example: if in current directory **/mail**

    **mkdir count**



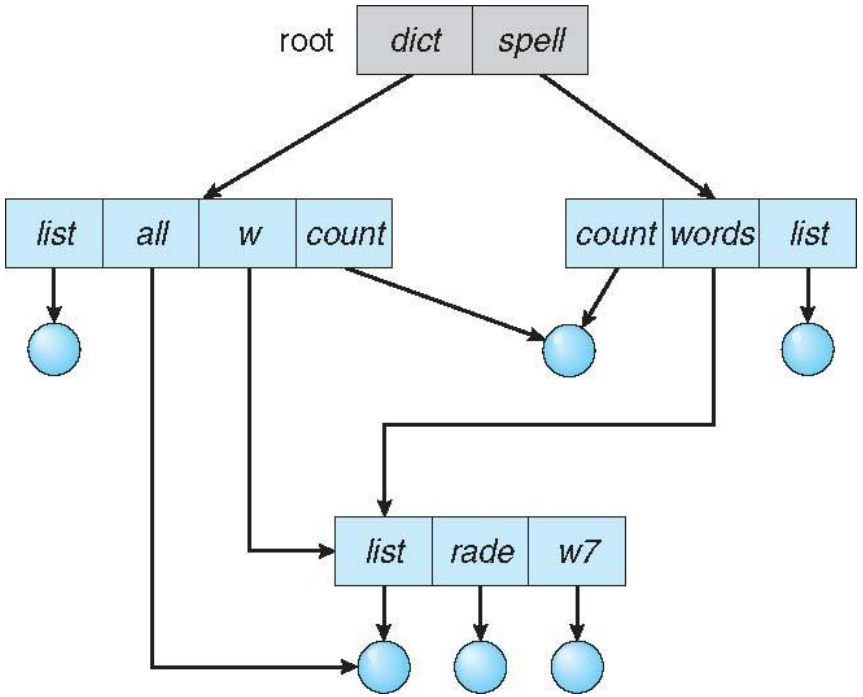

Deleting "mail" → deleting the entire subtree rooted by "mail"

# Directory Structure

## Acyclic-Graph Directories

- Have shared subdirectories and files
- Two different names (aliasing)
- **Problem**: If **dict** deletes **count** ⇒ there will be a dangling pointer

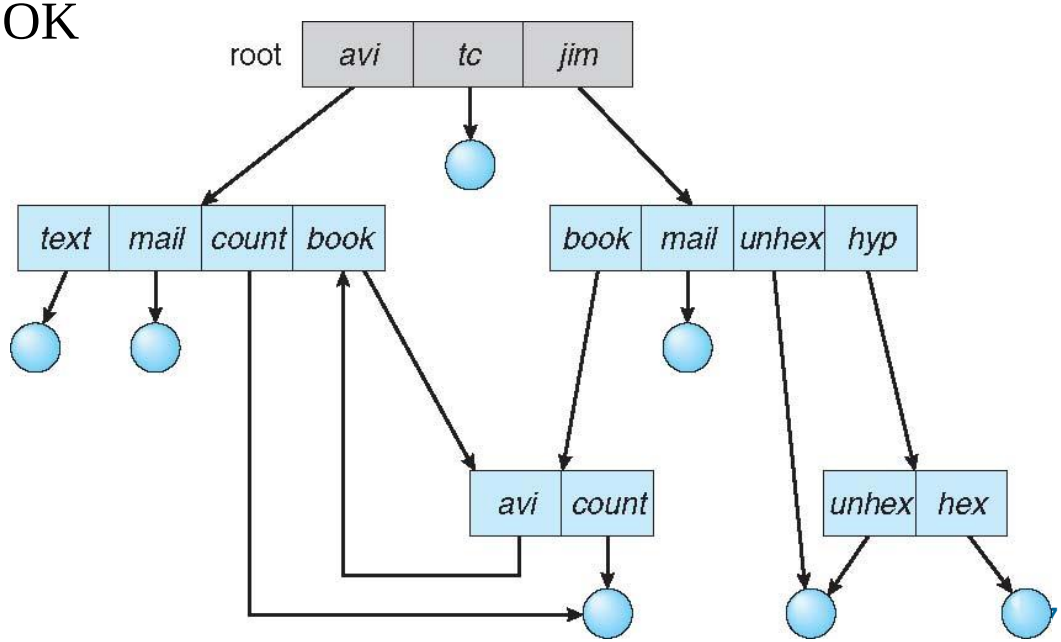
  Solutions:
  - Backpointers, so we can delete all pointers
  - Entry-hold-count solution: holds how many pointers to this file

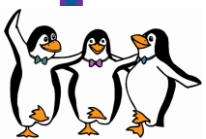


# Directory Structure

## General Graph Directory

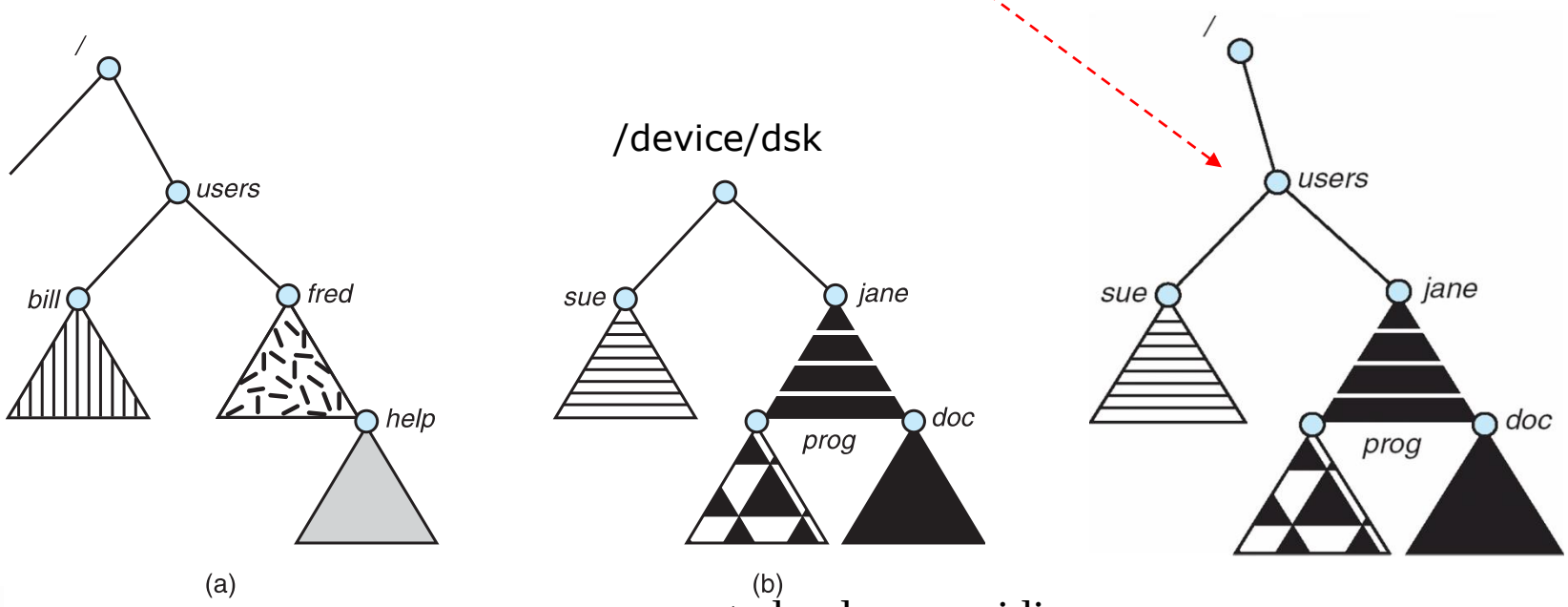
- How do we guarantee no cycles?
  - Allow only links to file not subdirectories
  - **Garbage collection**
    - First pass: Traverse the whole directory structure and mark every directory or file that has been visited
    - Second pass: Delete all files / directories that are not marked.
  - Every time a new link is added use a cycle detection algorithm to determine whether it is OK



# File System Mounting

- A file system must be **mounted** before it can be accessed by processes
- A unmounted file system (Fig.b) is mounted at a **mount point**
  - unmounted volume residing on /device/dsk
    - In Fig.c, mount the volume residing on /device/dsk over /users
      - mount /device/dsk /users
      - unmount /device/dsk

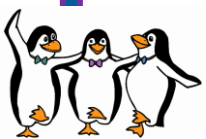



an existing file system

unmounted volume residing on /device/dsk

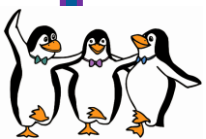
# File System Mounting

- All operating systems first read the directory structure of the disk into the memory to check if the disk has correct directory structure or not; then OS **mounts** that disk to be accessible.
  - Unix:
    - All unmounted partitions (file systems) are mounted into a directory tree rooted by “/”; for example, a hard disk can contain the home directory of all users of the computer which can be mounted in an empty directory /users/.
    - Needs explicit command “mount” for mounting"
  - Macintosh:
    - Mac OS X operating system searches for a file system on the device. If it finds one, it automatically mounts the file system under the **/Volumes** directory, adding a folder icon labeled with the name of the file system
  - MS Windows:
    - Has extended two-level directory structure, where, devices and partitions are assigned a drive letter: A:\, C:\ , D:\



# File Sharing

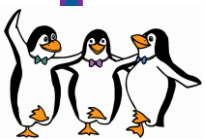
- Sharing of files on multi-user systems is desirable
- Sharing may be done through a **protection** scheme
- On distributed systems, files may be shared across a network
- Network File System (NFS) is a common distributed file-sharing method
- If a multi-user system, we need:
  - **User IDs** to identify users, allowing permissions and protections to be per-user
    **Group IDs** to allow users to be in groups, permitting group access rights



# File Sharing

## Remote File Systems

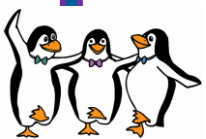
- Uses networking to allow file system access between systems
  - Manually via programs like FTP
  - Automatically, seamlessly using **distributed file systems (DFS)**
  - Semi automatically via the **world wide web (WWW)**
- **Client-server** model allows clients to mount remote file systems from servers
  - Server can serve multiple clients
  - Client and user-on-client identification is insecure or complicated
  - **NFS** is standard UNIX client-server file sharing protocol
  - **CIFS** is standard Windows protocol
  - Standard operating system file calls are translated into remote calls
- Distributed Information Systems **(distributed naming services)** such as LDAP, DNS, NIS, Active Directory implement unified access to information needed for remote computing



# File Sharing

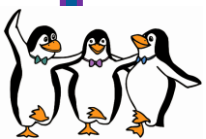
## Consistency Semantics

- Specify how multiple users are to access a shared file simultaneously
  - Similar to process synchronization algorithms
    - Tend to be less complex due to disk I/O and network latency (for remote file systems
  - Andrew File System (**OpenAFS**) implemented complex remote file sharing semantics
    - Writes only visible to sessions starting after the file is closed
  - Unix file system (UFS) implements:
    - Writes to an open file by a user are visible immediately to other users who have this file open.
    - Sharing file pointer to allow multiple users to read and write concurrently



# Protection

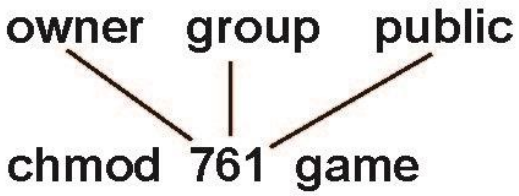
- File owner/creator should be able to control:
  - what can be done
  - by whom
- Types of access
  - **Read**
  - **Write**
  - **Execute**
  - **Append**
  - **Delete**
  - **List**



# Protection

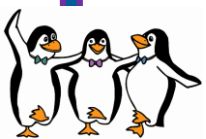
## Access Lists and Groups

- Mode of access: read, write, execute
- Three classes of users on Unix / Linux
  a) **owner access** 7 ⇒ rwx = 1 1 1
  b) **group access** 6 ⇒ rwx = 1 1 0
  c) **public access** 1 ⇒ rwx = 0 0 1
- Ask manager to create a group (unique name), say G, and add some users to the group.
- For a particular file (say *game*) or subdirectory, define an appropriate access.



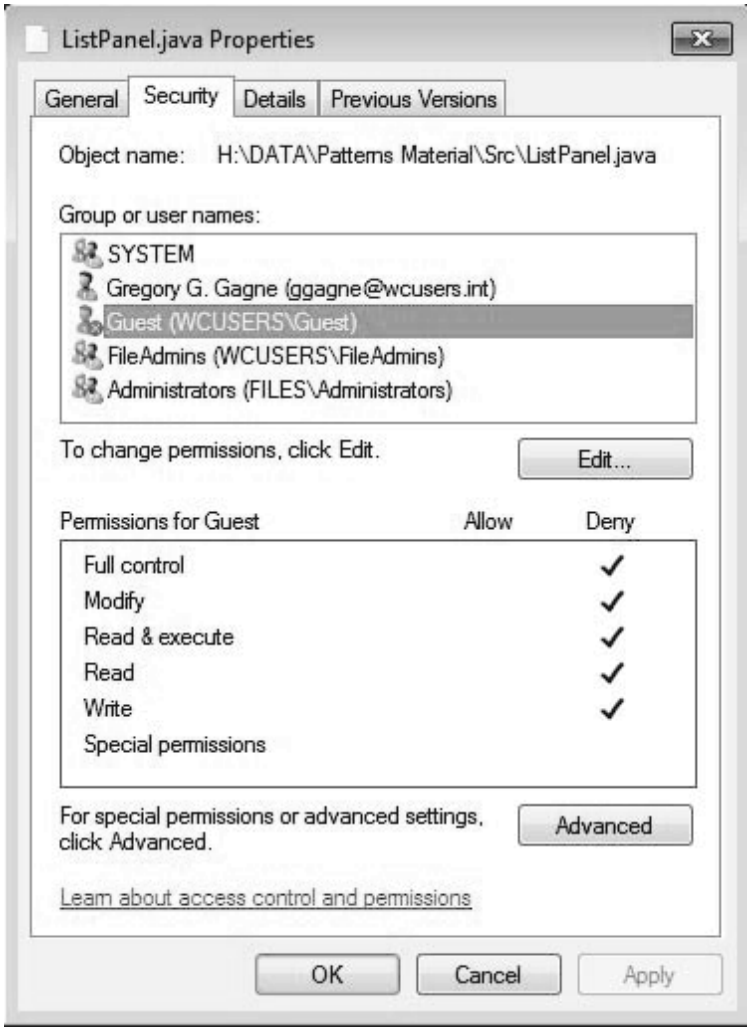

- Attach a group to a file

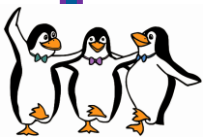
chgrp G game



# Protection

- Windows 7 Access-Control List Management



# Protection

- A Sample UNIX Directory Listing

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| -rw-rw-r-- | 1 pbg | staff | 31200 | Sep 3 08:30 | intro.ps |
| drwx------ | 5 pbg | staff | 512 | Jul 8 09.33 | private/ |
| drwxrwxr-x | 2 pbg | staff | 512 | Jul 8 09:35 | doc/ |
| drwxrwx--- | 2 pbg | student | 512 | Aug 3 14:13 | student-proj/ |
| -rw-r--r-- | 1 pbg | staff | 9423 | Feb 24 2003 | program.c |
| -rwxr-xr-x | 1 pbg | staff | 20471 | Feb 24 2003 | program |
| drwx--x--x | 4 pbg | faculty | 512 | Jul 31 10:31 | lib/ |
| drwx------ | 3 pbg | staff | 1024 | Aug 29 06:52 | mail/ |
| drwxrwxrwx | 3 pbg | staff | 512 | Jul 8 09:35 | test/ |