1 Exam Related Questions and Tips

• I wonder how system call for reading file/directory works in UNIX. Does it check for bitmap?

- I wonder how system call for deleting file/directory works in UNIX
- I wonder how system call for creatubg file/directory works in UNIX
- Learned that
 - Missing Inode Bitmap multiple file paths may point to same inode

2 File API

- open (create/access file)
 - Is a system call
 - Reads target inode into memory (when loading)
 - Does three things on creation
 - 1) make structure (inode) that racks all relevant information about file
 - 2) link human readible name to the file, and put that link to a directory
 - 3) increment **reference count** in inode
 - Syntax:

```
int fd = open("foo". O_CREAT|O_WRONLY|O_TRUNC, S_IRUSR|S_IWUSR)
```

- * O_CREAT Creates file "foo" if does not exist
- * O_WRONLY Open file for writing only (default)
- * O_TRUNC Overwrites existing file Need example/Clarification
- * Can have multiple flags
- Returns **file descriptor** or fd for short
 - * Is an integer
 - * Is used to access a file
 - * Is private per process
 - * Can be used to read() and write() files



- Amount of I/O generated by open () is proportional to length of pathname (wait. How is I/O involved in open()?)
- (read) (read file)
 - Is a system call
 - Syntax:

```
ssize_t read (int fd, void *buf, size_t count)

* fd - file descriptor (from open())

* buf - container for the read data

* count - number of bytes to read
```

- Returns number of bytes read, if successful
- Returns 0 if is at, or past the end of file

```
char buf[4096];
int fd = open("/a/b/c", 0); // open in read-only mode
lseek(fd, 1034*4096, 0); // seek to position (1034*4096) from start of file
read(fd, buf, 4096); // read 4k of data from file
```

System Calls	Keturn Code	Offset		
fd = open("file", O_RDONLY);	3	0		read continues
read(fd, buffer, 100);	100	100		
read(fd, buffer, 100);	100	200		for each call
read(fd, buffer, 100);	100	300		
read(fd, buffer, 100);	0	300	←	returns 0
close(fd);	0	-		if at end

- write (write file)
 - Is a system call
 - Writes data out of a buffer
 - Syntax:

```
ssize_t write (int fd, const void * buf, size_t nbytes)
```

- * fd file descriptor
- * buf A pointer to a buffer to write to file
- * nbytes number of bytes to write. If smaller than buffer, the output is truncated

```
#include <unistd.h>
#include <fcntl.h>

int main(void)
{
    int filedesc = open("testfile.txt", O_WRONLY | O_APPEND);

    if (filedesc < 0) {
        return -1;
    }

    if (write(filedesc, "This will be output to testfile.txt\n", 36) != 36) {
        write(2, "There was an error writing to testfile.txt\n", 43);
        return -1;
    }

    return 0;
}</pre>
```

- lseek
 - Reads or write to a specific offset within a file

- Syntax:

```
off_t lseek (int fd, off_t offset, int whence)

* fd - file descriptor

* offset - the offset of pointer within file (in bytes)

* whence - the method of offset

SEEK_SET - offset from the start of file (absolute)

SEEK_CUR - offset from current location + offset bytes (relative)

SEEK_END - offset from the end of file
```

- Returns offset amount (in bytes) from the beginning of file
- Returns -1 if error

Example

System Calls	Return Code	Current Offset		move 200 bytes from the
fd = open("file", O-RDONLY);	3	0		start of file
lseek(fd, 200, SEEK_SET);	200	200	A	Start of the
read(fd, buffer, 50);	50	250		
close(fd);	0	-	-	
				read 50 bytes

- rename (update file name)
 - Is a system call
 - Changes the name of file
 - Is **atomic** (after crash, it will be either old or new, but not in-between)
 - Syntax: int rename (const char *old, const char *new)
 - * old name of old file
 - * new name of new file
 - Returns 0 if successful
 - Returns -1 if error

- stat (get file info)
 - displays metadata of a certain file stored in **inode**
 - Syntax: int stat(const char *path, struct stat *buf)
 - * path file descriptor of file that's being inquired
 - * buf A stat structure where data about the file will be stored (see below)

```
struct stat {
                       // ID of device containing file
 dev_t
          st_dev;
 ino_t
           st_ino;
                       // inode number
 mode_t
           st_mode;
                       // protection
 nlink_t
           st_nlink;
                       // number of hard links
                       // user ID of owner
 uid_t
           st_uid;
 gid_t
           st_gid;
                       // group ID of owner
                       // device ID (if special file)
 dev_t
           st_rdev;
 off_t
           st_size;
                       // total size, in bytes
 blksize_t st_blksize; // blocksize for filesystem I/O
 blkcnt_t st_blocks; // number of blocks allocated
           st_atime;
                       // time of last access
 time_t
 time_t
           st_mtime;
                       // time of last modification
 time_t
           st_ctime;
                       // time of last status change
```

Figure 39.5: The stat structure.

```
#include <unistd.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <sys/stat.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
int main(int argc, char **argv)
    if(argc != 2)
       return 1:
   struct stat fileStat:
    if(stat(argv[1],&fileStat) < 0)</pre>
        return 1:
   printf("Information for %s\n",argv[1]);
    printf("----\n");
   printf("File Size: \t\t%d bytes\n",fileStat.st_size);
   printf("Number of Links: \t%d\n",fileStat.st_nlink);
   printf("File inode: \t\t%d\n",fileStat.st_ino);
   printf("File Permissions: \t"):
   printf( (S_ISDIR(fileStat.st_mode)) ? "d" : "-");
   printf( (fileStat.st_mode & S_IRUSR) ? "r" : "-");
    printf( (fileStat.st_mode & S_IWUSR) ? "w" :
   printf( (fileStat.st_mode & S_IXUSR) ? "x" : "-");
   printf( (fileStat.st_mode & S_IRGRP) ? "r" : "-");
   printf( (fileStat.st_mode & S_IWGRP) ? "w" : "-");
    printf( (fileStat.st_mode & S_IXGRP) ? "x" : "-");
   printf( (fileStat.st_mode & S_IROTH) ? "r" : "-");
   printf( (fileStat.st_mode & S_IWOTH) ? "w" : "-");
   printf( (fileStat.st_mode & S_IXOTH) ? "x" : "-");
   printf("\n\n");
    printf("The file %s a symbolic link\n", (S_ISLNK(fileStat.st_mode)) ? "is" : "is not");
    return 0;
}
```

The result of above is:

- unlink (removing file)
 - Is a system call
 - Removes a file (including symbolic link) from the system
 - Syntax: int unlink(const char *pathname)

- * pathname path to file
- Returns 0 if successful
- Returns -1 if error

Example

```
#include <unistd.h>
char *path = "/modules/pass1";
int status;
...
status = unlink(path);
```

- mkdir (creating directory)
 - Is a system call
 - Syntax: int mkdir(const char *path, mode_t mode)
 - * path path of directory (including name)
 - * mode permission group
 - Returns 0 if successful
 - Returns -1 if error
 - directories can never be written directly
 - * directory is in format called File System Metadata
 - * directory can only be updated directly
 - creates two directories on creation . (current) and . . (parent)

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <sys/stat.h>

int status;
...
status = mkdir("/home/cnd/mod1", S_IRWXU | S_IRWXG | S_IROTH | S_IXOTH);
```

- opendir, readdir, closedir (reading directory)
 - Are system calls
 - Are under <dirent.h> library
 - Requires struct dirent data structure

```
struct dirent {
  char          d_name[256]; // filename
  ino_t          d_ino; // inode number
  off_t          d_off; // offset to the next dirent
  unsigned short d_reclen; // length of this record
  unsigned char d_type; // type of file
};
```

- Syntax (opendir): DIR *opendir(const char *dirname)
 - * dirname directory path
 - * Returns a pointer to the directory stream
 - * The stream is positioned at the first entry in the directory.
- Syntax (readdir): struct dirent *readdir(DIR *dirp);
 - * dirp directory stream
 - * Returns a pointer to a direct structure representing the next directory entry in the directory stream
 - * Returns NULL on reaching the end of the directory stream
- Syntax (closedir): int closedir(DIR *dirp));
 - * dirp directory stream
 - * Returns 0 if successful
 - * Returns -1 otherwise

```
- rmdir (Deleting Directories)
```

- * Removes a directory whose name is given by path
- * Is performed only when directory is empty
- * Is included in <unistd.h> library
- * Fails if is symbolic link
- * Syntax: int rmdir(const char *path)
 - · path path of directory
- * Returns 0 if successful
- * Returns -1 if error

Example

```
#include <unistd.h>
int status;
...
status = rmdir("/home/cnd/mod1");
```

- unlink (Remove file)
 - * Remove a link to a file
 - * Is called unlink because it decrements reference count in inode
 - \cdot Deletes file completely when reference count within the inode number is 0
 - * Syntax:

```
#include <unistd.h>
int unlink(const char *pathname);
```

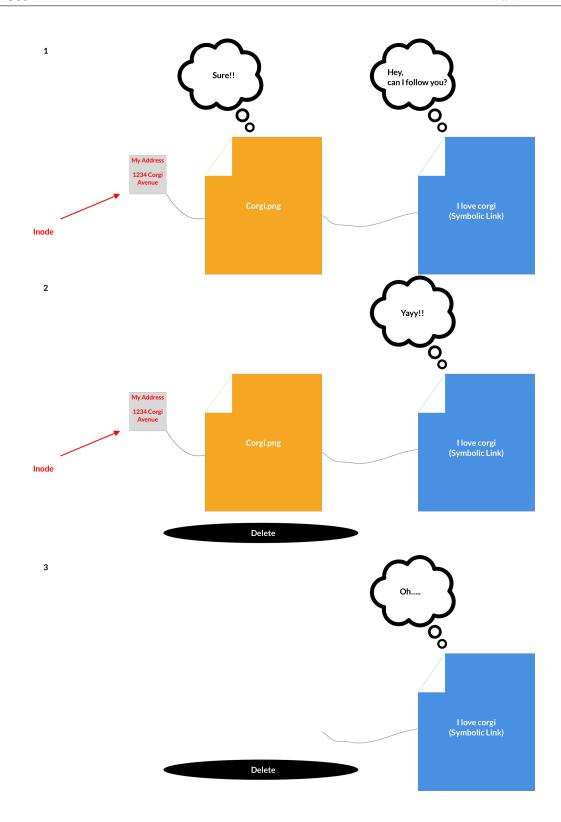
- · pathname pathname to file
- * Returns 0 if successful
- * Returns -1 if error
- * Is used by linux command rm

```
#include <unistd.h>
    char *path = "/modules/pass1";
    int
          status;
    status = unlink(path);
prompt> echo hello > file
prompt> stat file
... Inode: 67158084
                        Links: 1 ...
prompt> ln file file2
prompt> stat file
                        Links: 2 ...
... Inode: 67158084
prompt> stat file2
... Inode: 67158084
                        Links: 2 ...
prompt> ln file2 file3
prompt> stat file
                        Links: 3 ...
... Inode: 67158084
prompt> rm file
prompt> stat file2
                        Links: 2 ...
... Inode: 67158084
prompt> rm file2
prompt> stat file3
... Inode: 67158084
                        Links: 1 ...
```

3 Symbolic Link:

- Is directory entry containing "true" path to the file
- Is a shortcut that reference to a file instead of inode value [2]

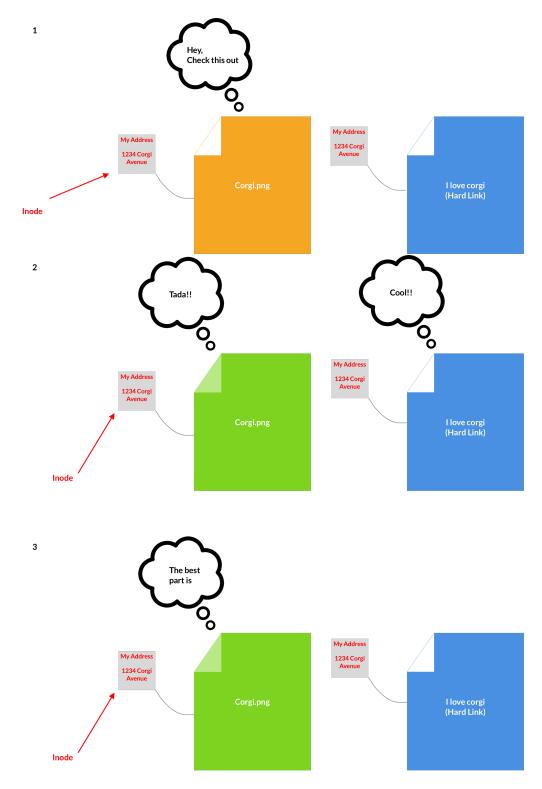
prompt> rm file3

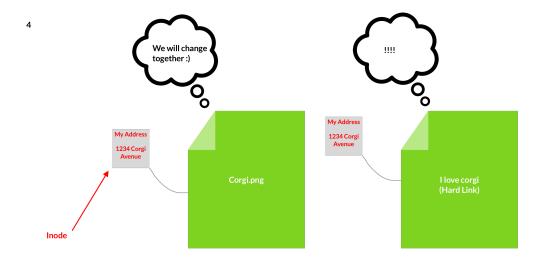


4 Hard Link:

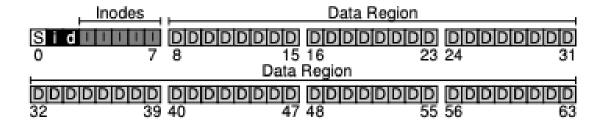
 \bullet Is a direct reference to a file via its inode $^{[2]}$

• Is second directory entry identical to first



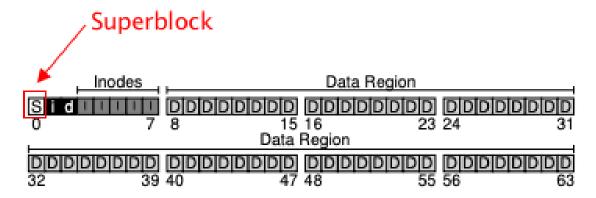


5 Index-based File System



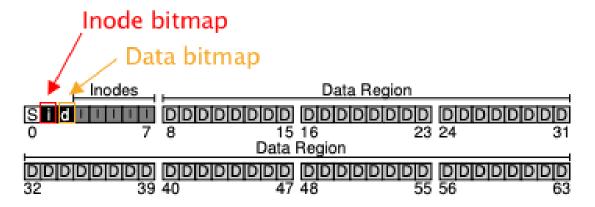
- Has following parts
 - Superblock
 - Inode Bitmap
 - Data Bitmap
 - Inodes
 - Data Region
- Each block in file system is 4KB
- Uses a large amount of metadata per file (especially for large files)

6 Superblock



- Contains information about the following
 - The number of inodes and data blocks in a particular file system
 - The magic number of some knd to identify the file system type
 - Where the inode table begins
- Is read first on mount before attaching to file system

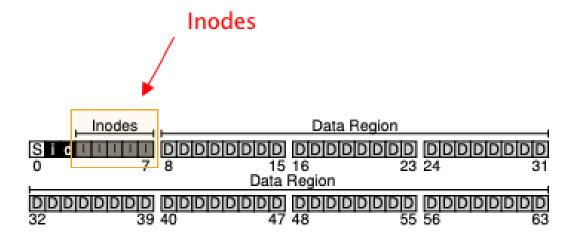
7 Bitmap

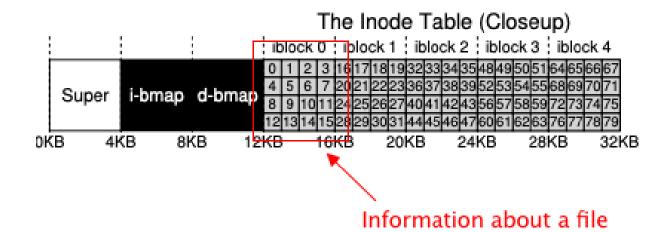


- Are excellent way to manage free space
- Tracks whether inode or data blocks are free or allocated
- Accessed only when allocation/deallocation is needed
 - Read() \rightarrow no bitmap required
- Is a simple and popuar structure

- Uses bit to indicate whether the corres object/block is free
 - 0 means free
 - 1 means in use
- Data Bitmap is bitmap for data region
- Inode Bitmap is bitmap for inode region

8 Inode





- Is a short form for index node
- Contains disk block location of the object's data [7]
- Contains all the information you need about a file (i.e. metadata)
 - File Type

- * e.g. regular file, directory, etc
- Size
- Number of blocks allocated to it
- Protection information
 - * such as who owns the file, as well as who can access it
- Time information
 - * e.g. When file was created, modified, or last accessed
- Location of data blocks reside on disk
- total size may vary
- inode pointer has size of 4 byte
- Has 12 direct pointers to 4KB data blocks
- Has 1 **indirect pointer** [when file grows large enough]
- Has 1 double indirect Pointer [when file grows large enough]
- Has 1 **triple indirect Pointer** [when file grows large enough]
- Inode before update

owner : remzi
permissions : read-write
size : 1
pointer : 4
pointer : null
pointer : null
pointer : null

• Inode after update

owner : remzi
permissions : read-write
size : 2
pointer : 4
pointer : null
pointer : null i-number

• Inode block computation

block number =
$$(inode #*sizeof(inode))/block size$$
 (1)

Example

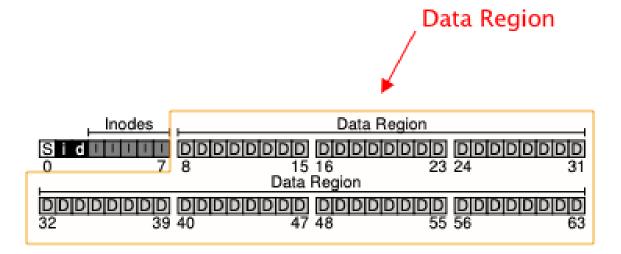
Target: inode #32 Inode Size: 256 bytes Block Size: 4096 bytes

block number =
$$(inode #*sizeof(inode))/block size$$
 (2)

$$=\frac{32*256}{4096}\tag{3}$$

$$=2\tag{4}$$

9 Data Region



• Is the region of disk we use for user data

10 Block

• Size of each block is 4KB

11 lseek

- Syntax: off_t lseek(int fildes, off_t offset, int whence)
 - fildes file descriptor
 - offset file offset to a particular position in file

12 Kilobyte

• 1 kilobyte is 1024 bytes

13 file

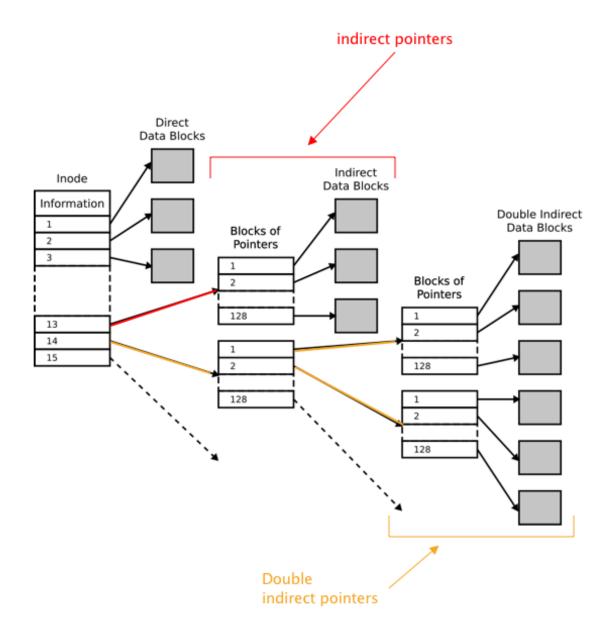
- is an array of bytes which can be created, read, written and deleted
- low-level name is called **inode number** or **i-number**

14 Indirect Pointers

- Is allocated to data-block if file grows large enough
- Has total size of 4 KB or 4096 bytes
- Has 4096/4 = 1024 pointers
- Each pointer points to 4KB data-block
- File can grow to be $(12 + 1024) \times 4K = 4144KB$

15 Double Indirect Pointers

- is allocated when single indirect pointer is not large enough
- each pointer in first pointer block points to another pointer block
- \bullet has 1024^2 pointers
- each of 1024² pointers point to 4KB data block
- File can grow to be $(12 + 1024 + 1024^2) \times 4K = 4198448KB$ or $\approx 4.20GB$



16 Triple Indirect Pointers

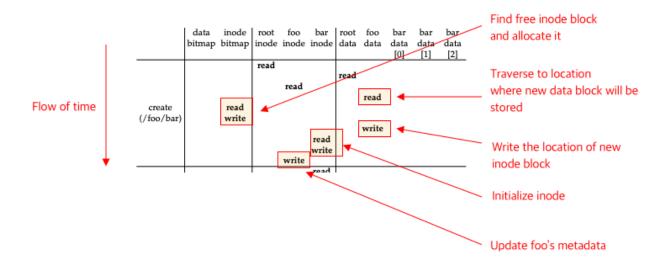
- is allocated when double indirect pointer is not large enough
- has 1024^3 pointers
- \bullet each of 1024^3 pointers point to 4KB data block
- File can grow to be $(12 + 1024 + 1024^2 + 1024^3) \times 4K = 4299165744KB$ or $\approx 4.00TB$

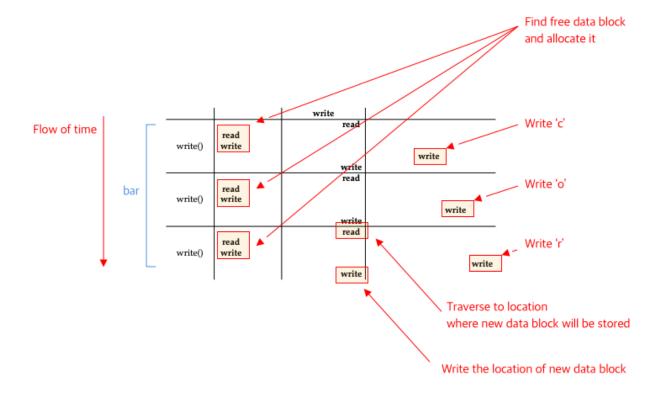
17 Reading a File From Disk

```
When open("/foo/bar", O_READONLY) is called
```

- the goal is to find the inode of the file bar to read its basic information (i.e. includes permission, information, file size etc)
- done by traversing the pathname and locate the desired inode
- Steps
 - 1. Find **inode** of the root directory by looking for **i-number** (or **inode number**)
 - Root directory has no parent directory
 - Root directory's **inode number** is 2 (for UNIX file systems)
 - 2. Read the **inode** of root directory
 - 3. Once its **inode** is read, read through its directory data (pointers to **data blocks**) until the inode number of foo is found (e.g 42)
 - 4. Recursively traverse the pathname until the desired inode is found (more specifically, the **inode number** of bar)
 - 5. Issue a open () to read bar's inode to memory
 - 6. Issue a read () system call to read from file bar
 - without lseek(), reads file from the first file data block (e.g. bar data[0])
 - lseek(..., offset_amt * size_of_file_block) is used to offset/move
 to desired block in bar
 - 7. Trasnfer data to buf data block
 - 8. Read until read () returns 0, or desired data block has been read
 - 9. Close fd. No I/O is read.

18 Writing to Disk





Given a call

create(...) (Note: open to be exact)

• 5 I/Os are generated per write

- Read inode (to traverse to the location of new data block)
- Reading data bitmap
- Writing data bitmap
- Write data block
- Write inode (to update data block's location in inode)
- 10 I/Os are generated per file creation:
 - Read inode bitmap (to find free inode)
 - Write inode bitmap (to mark it allocated)
 - Create one new inode (to initialize it)
 - Write the location of new inode block in foo (by linking high-level name of file bar to its inode number and storing in data block)
 - Perform one read and write to the directory inode and update it

19 Static Partitioning

- Divides resources into fixed proportion <u>once</u>
 - e.g. two possible users of memory \rightarrow give fraction of memory to one user and rest to the other
- Advantages
 - Ensures each user receives some share of the resource
 - Delivers more predictable performance (usually)
 - Easier to implement
- Disadvantages
 - Is wasteful

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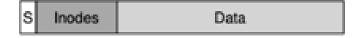
20 Dynamic Partitioning

- Gives out different amounts of resources over time
- Lets resource-hungry users consume idle resources
- Advantages
 - Flexible
 - Can achieve better utilization than **static partitioning**

- Disadvantages
 - More complex to implement
 - Could lead to worse performance
 - * e.g idle resource got consumed by others and take long time to reclaim it when needed (the perodic frozen feeling when loading screen)

21 Old UNIX File system

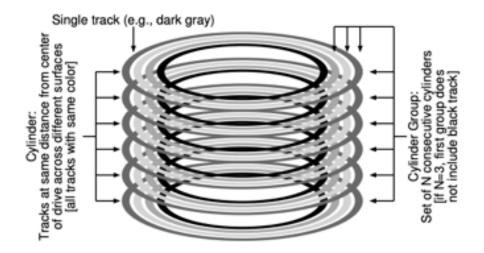
• was simple, and looked like the following on disk



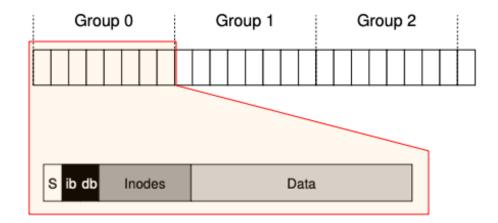
- has terrible performance
- suffers from external fragmentation
- had small data block (512 bytes) and transfer of data took too long

22 Fast File System

- modern file system has same APIS (read(), write(), open(), close())
- divides into a number of cylinder groups



• each block group or cylinder group is consecutive portion of disk's address



23 FFS Policies: Allocating Files and Directories

- Basic Idea: keep related stuff together, and keep related stuff far apart
- Directories Step
 - 1) Find the **cylinder group** with a low number of allocated directories and a high number of free inodes
 - low number of allocated directories \rightarrow to balance directories across groups
 - high number of free nodes \rightarrow to subsequently be able to allocate a bunch offiles
 - 2) Put directory data and inode to the **cylinder group**
- Files Step
 - 1) Allocate the data blocks of a file in the same **cylinder group** as its inode
 - 2) Place all files in the same directory in the cylinder group of the directory they are in

Example

On putting /a/c, /a/d, /b/f, FFS would place

- /a/c, /a/d as close as possible in the same cylinder group,
- /b/f located far away (in some other **cylinder group**)

24 Crash Consistency

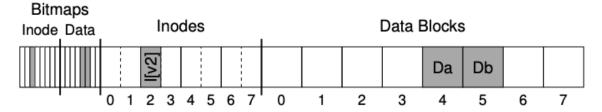
• Goal: How to update persistent data structures despite the presence of a **power loss** or **system crash**?

25 Crash Scenarios

Before



After



- 1) Just the data block (Db) is written to disk
 - No inode that points to it
 - No bitmap that says the block is allocated
 - It is as if the write never occurred
 - There is no problem here. All is well. (In file system's point of view)
- 2) Just the updated inode (I[v2]) is written to disk
 - Inode points to the disk where Db is about to be written
 - No bitmap that says the block is allocated
 - No Db is written
 - Garbage data will be read
 - Also creates File-system Inconsistency
 - Caused by on-disk bitmap telling us Db 5 is not allocated, but inode saying it does
- 3) Just the updated bitmap (B[v2]) is written to disk

- Bitmap indicates tht block 5 is allocated
- No inode exists at block 5
- Creates file-system inconsistency
- Creates **space-leak** if left as is
 - block 5 can never be used by the file system
- 4) Inode (I[v2]) and bitmap (B[v2]) are written to disk, and not data
 - File system metadata is completely consistent (in perspective of file system)
 - Garbage data will be read
- 5) Inode (I[v2]) and data block (Db) are written, but not the bit map
 - Creates file-system inconsistency
 - Needs to be resolved before using file system again
- 6) Bitmap (B[v2]) and data block (Db) are written, but not the inode (I[v2])
 - Creates file-system inconsistency between inode and data bitmap
 - Creates space-leak if left as is
 - Inode block is lost for future use
 - Creates data-leak if left as is
 - Data block is lost for future use

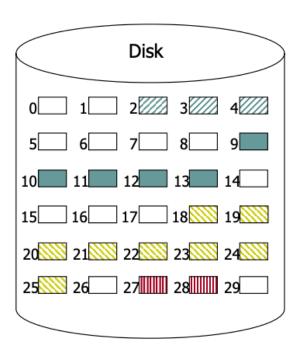
26 External Fragmentation

- Is various free holes that are generated in either your memory or disk space. [8]
- Are available for allocation, but may be too small to be of any use [8]

27 Internal Fragmentation

- Is wasted space within each allocated block ^[8]
- \bullet Occurs when more computer memory is allocated than is needed

28 Extent Based File System



directory

File Name	Start Blk	Length
File A	2	3
File B	9	5
File C	18	8
File D	27	2

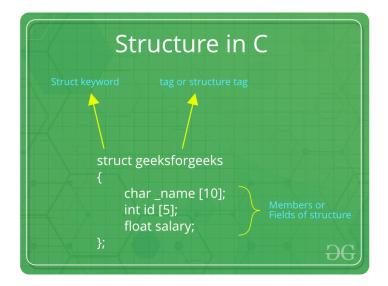
- Is simply a disk pointer plus a length (in blocks)
 - Together, is called **extent**
- Often allows more than one extent
 - resolve problem of finding continuous free blocks
- Is less flexible but more compact
- Works well when there is enough free space on the disk and files can be laid out contiguously

Example

Linux's ext4 file system

29 Fields

• Is the members in a structure



30 Crash Consistency Problem: File System Checker

- Desired: **atomic** updates. That is, on crash, the file on write is either in (state 1 before the file got updated) or (state 2 after the file got updated)
- Reality: This is not possible
- Is the reason why computers have 'Don't turn off computer' message

30.1 File System Checker

- Is implemented in early file system
 - Basic Idea: Let inconsistencies happen and fix them later (when rebooting)
- Is used by UNIX tool fsck ('file system checker')
- Summary of how it works

- Inode State

- * Corruption in file is checked (e.g. does it have valid file type such as directory file, or links)
- * Solved by removing it, and updating the bitmap if inode cannot be fixed easily

- Inode links

- * Number of references in each inode is checked
- * Check is done by reading the entire directory tree and building its own link count
- * Solved by fixing the count if there is mismatch, or by moving to lost+found directory if there is no directory refers to it

- Duplicates

- * Duplicate pointers (i.e. two different inodes pointing to same block) is checked
- * Solved by either removing one of two inodes, or creating a copy for each

- Bad Blocks

- * A pointer that points to something outside is partition is checked
- * Solved by removing the block

- Directory Checks

- * Making sure that . and . . are first entry is checked
- * Allocation of inodes referred to in a directory entry is checked
- * Making sure that no directory is linked more than once is checked

• Disadvantage

- Way too slow. May take Hours.
- Wasteful (Make mistake once, and check everything)
- Doesn't solve all problems (e.g. inode with incorrect data blocks)

31 Journaling

- Is a popular solution to **crash-consistency problem**
- Many file systems use this idea (e.g. ext3, ext4, windows NTFS)
- Basic idea
 - before overwriting the structures in place, write down (in a well-known location) a little note of what you are about to do
 - If crash occurs, read note and try again



Advantage

- Greatly reduces amount of work required during recovery

31.1 Transaction Beginning (TxB)

- Where does computer read update instruction (journal? journal superblock?)?
- In data Journaling, where is comitted data generated and stored prior to putting it in file system?
- Includes information about current update
- Contains **Transaction Identifier** or TID

31.2 Transaction End (TxE)

- Is marker of the end of transaction
- Also contains **Transaction Identifier** or TID

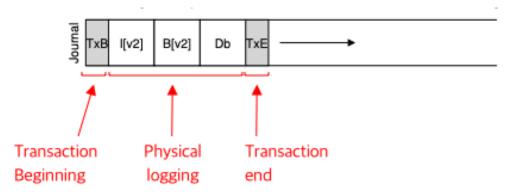
31.3 Checkpointing

• Act of overwriting of old structure in the file system between **transaction beginning** and **transaction end**

31.4 Journaling Superblock

- Records information on which transactions have not yet been checkpointed
- Oldest and newest non-checkpointed transactions exist here
- Is different from file system superblock

31.5 Data Journaling

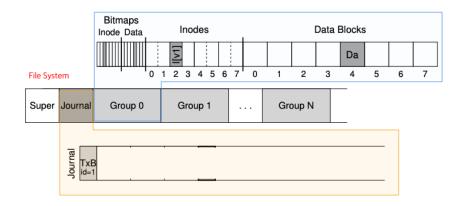


Important Is written to journal before putting onto file system!!!

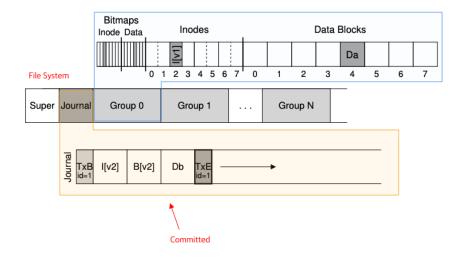
• Steps



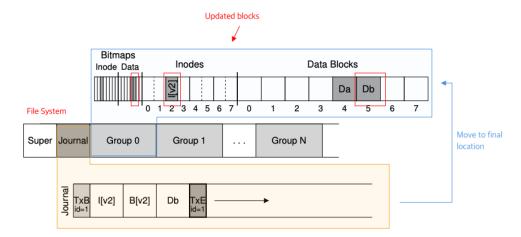
1. **Journal Write**: Write the contents of the transaction (including TxB, metadata and data) to log



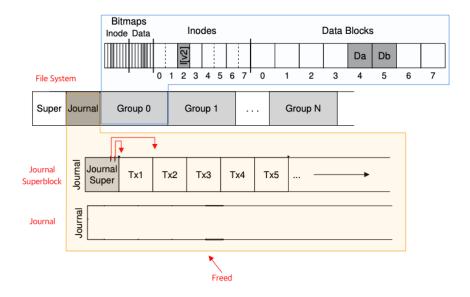
- 2. **Journal Commit:** Write the transaction commit block (containing TxE) to log; wait wait for write to complete
 - After this, transaction is **committed**



3. **Checkpoint:** Write the contents of the update (metadata and data) to their final on-disk location



4. Free: Mark the transaction free in the journal by updating the journal superblock



- 5. Repeat until done
- Disadvantage
 - Each data block is written twice
- Recovery Steps
 - Crash at step $1 \rightarrow$ skip pending update
 - Crash during step 2 and $3 \rightarrow$ replay the update
 - * Happens during boot

31.6 Metadata Journaling

- Goal: Reduce number of writes
- Data block is written to file system first
- Metadata (inode and bitmap information) are written to journal before checkpoint
- Is order dependent
 - e.g. I[v2] and B[v2] make to disk and data block does not
 - If data block is a garbage data, file-system will assume all is okay
 - Writing data block first guarentees that a pointer will never point to garbage



• Steps



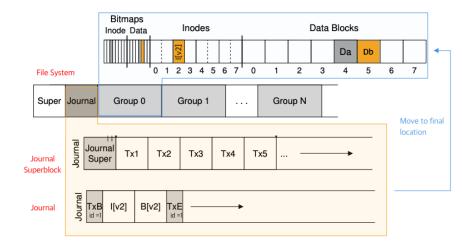
1. Data Write: Write data to final location; wait for completion



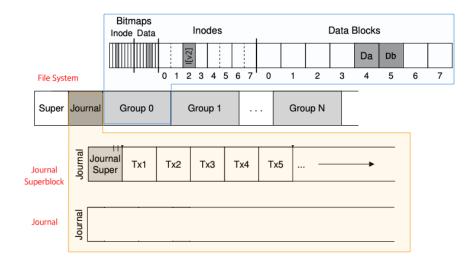
- 2. **Journal Metadata Write:** Write the begin block and metadata to the <u>log;</u> wait for writes to complete
- 3. **Journal Commit:** Write the transaction commit block (containing TxE) to the log; wait for the write to complete



4. **Checkpoint Metadata:** Write the contents of the metadata update to their final locations within the file system



5. Free: Mark the transaction free in journal superblock



- Block Reuse
 - Never reuse blocks until checkpointed out of the journal
- Advantage
 - Solves double write problem in data journaling