## Chapter 3.1 The basics of Index Structure

***Definition:***

*Storage Structure:*

The Storage Structure is constructed by files, here the concept of file similar with the concept in Operation System.

*Example:*

One data file can be used to store one Relation. One data file can own one or multi - index files, each index file build the connection between the Query Key and Data Record. The pointer of the Query Key points to the record with the same property.

*Dense Index:*

The index could be Dense, which is to say that each record in data file will set it’s corresponding index in the index file.

*Sparse Index:*

The index could be Sparse, which is to say that some of the records in the index file will be present in the index file, normally each data block will be set one index in the index file.

*Main Index:*

The Main Index could be used to identify the location of the records in the data file.

*Auxiliary Index:*

The Auxiliary Index could not be used to identify the location of the records in the data file.

*(Normally, we will create the main index on the main key among Relation, and construct the Auxiliary Index on other attributes.)*

*Inverted Index:*

Given one or several key words, then through using Inverted Index, then we can get information from texts more efficiently.

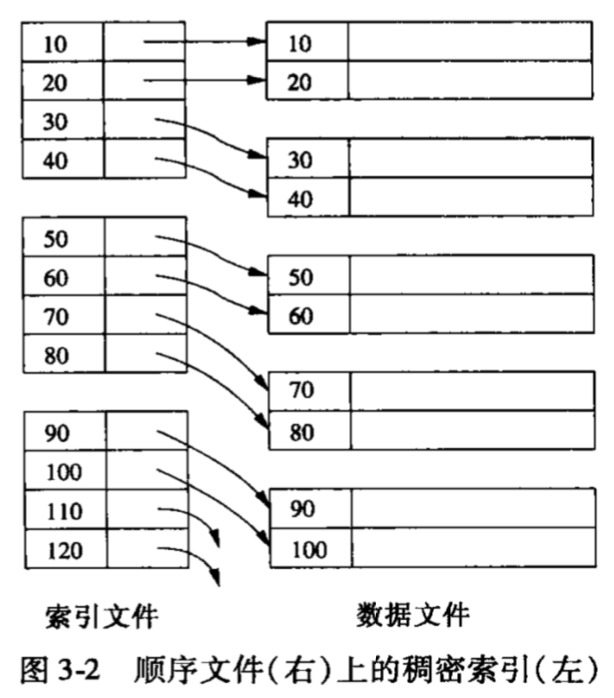
### Chapter 3.1.1 Sequential File

***Definition:***

Sequential File is the file that sorted all tuples of Relation according to the Main Key. The tuples are distributed among multi - blocks.

***Example:***

* In the image below, the sequential file has been displayed. Here assume that the Main Key is integer and there only exist two records in each storage block.
* The first block of the file just stored two records whose key value are 10 and 20. Also we use the continuous multiple as the Main Key.



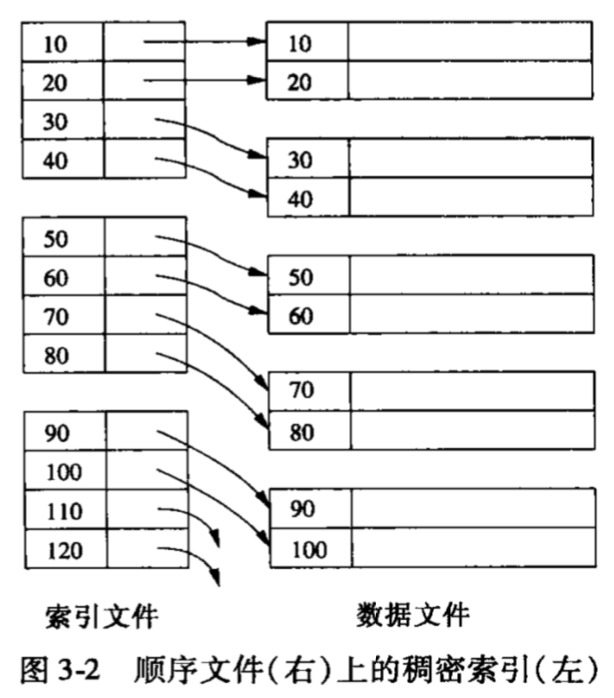
### Chapter 3.1.2 Dense Index

***Definition:***

* If the records are sorted, then here we can build Dense Index on records. Dense Index is such kind of storage block. Only save the record key and the pointers that point to records. The pointer is address. *(The Key Value Sequence of Dense Index is the same with the Sorted Sequence in file.)*
* Since the total size of Main Key and pointer are much less than the record, therefore we can assume that the blocks used for store index file is much smaller than store data file.
* When main memory can only be used to keep the index file, then it can increase the speed to query. Through using the index, then we can query only once to find the record with the given value.

***Example:***

Below is the Dense Index build on the Sequential File.



1. The first index block, four pointers point to the first four records.
2. The second index block, four pointers point to the next four records.

***Query based on Dense Index:***

Given the key value k of the record, then first search in the index block. After we find the K, then according to the corresponding pointer find the record from the data file.

Before we find the specific record, we need to search each storage block or almost half of the storage block.

***Advantage:***

* The number of index block is much less than data block.
* Since the Key are sorted, we can use Binary Search to find K. If there exist n index block, we only need to find log2(n).
* The index file may be small enough so that it can be saved in the main memory permanently. Then when we query, it only relates to the main memory access but no need other I/O operation.

### Chapter 3.1.3 Sparse Index

***Definition:***

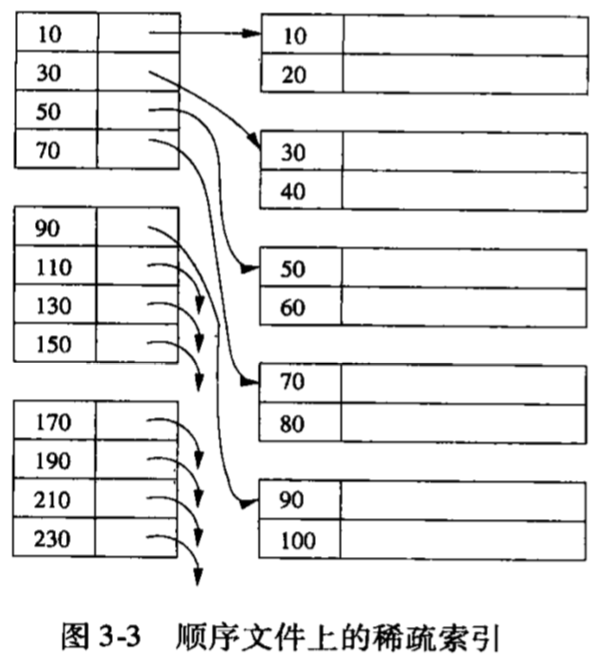
Sparse Index only sets one Key - Pointer pair for each storage block for the data file, it saves more Storage Space compared with Dense Index, but find the specific value of one record requires more time.

***Condition:***

Only when data file is sorted according to Query Key, then Sparse Index on the Query Key will be used. Dense Index can be used on any Query Key.

***Example:***

*Sparse Index set one Key - Pointer pair for each storage block. The Key - Value is the first record of each Data Block.*



Take the picture above as reference, the data file has been sorted, and the key value is the multiple of continuous 10, until a bigger data. We assume that each storage block can store 4 key - pointer pairs. In the first index file, there exist 4 key - pointer pairs, 10, 30, 50, 70. In the second index file, there exist 4 key - pointer pairs, they are 90, 110, 130, 150.

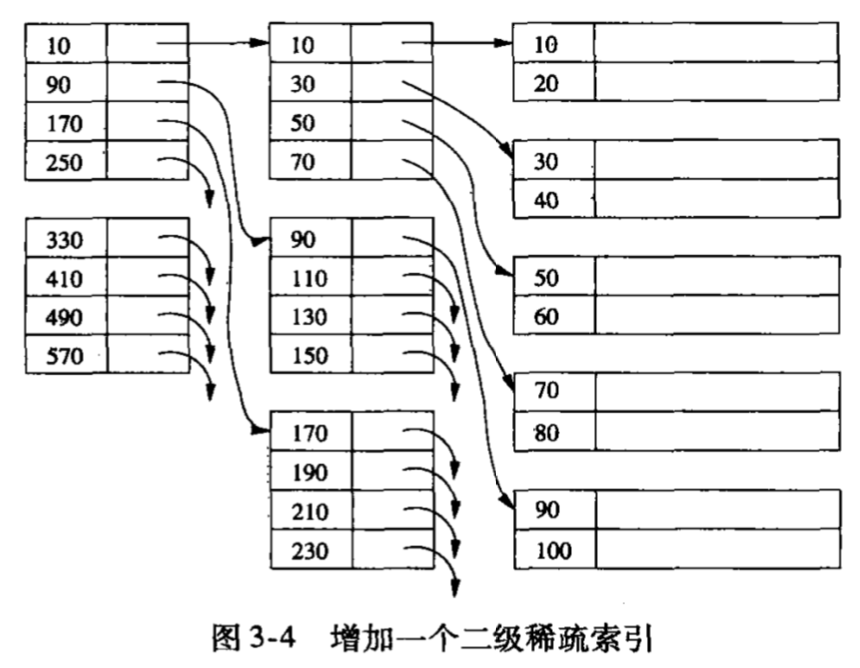
Given the Sparse Index, then we need to find the record with Query Value K, then we need to find the biggest Key that smaller than or equals to K in the Index file, this time we can use the Binary Search Method to locate the index, then we can find the corresponding data block according to its pointer.

After we locate the Storage Block, then we can search this Data Block to find the corresponding record with the Key Value K.

### Chapter 3.1.4 Multi - Level Index

***Principle:***

Index files probably occupy multi blocks, even we can locate the index block, and using Binary - Search Algorithm to find the required record. Through building index on index file, then we can make the first index level more efficient.



The example enlarges the second index level on the first index level. We need to pay attention that the second index file or the higher level must be sparse, since the second level index must have the same number key pointer.

### Chapter 3.1.5 Auxiliary Index

***Definition:***

*Auxiliary Index can be used for any index, such data structure can be used to help find the record with one or more fields.*

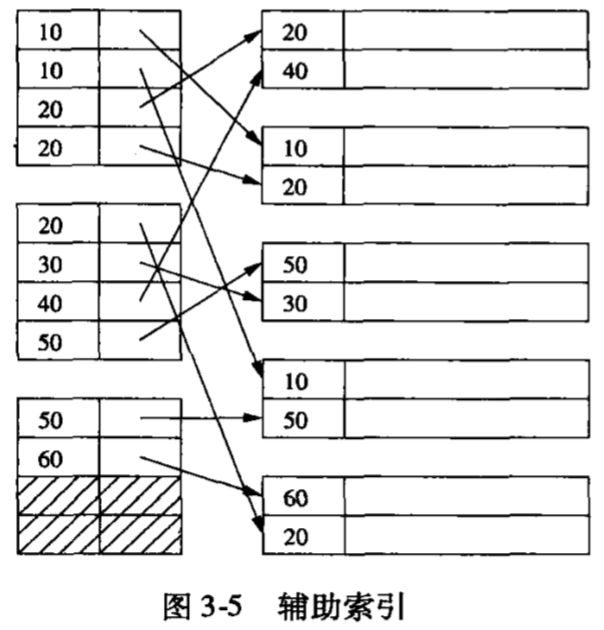
The Biggest Difference between *Auxiliary Index* and *Main Index* is that the Auxiliary Index *can not be used to decide the stored location of some fields.* But it can only helps us find the current location of record, while the location maybe decided by the Main Index that built on some other fields.

***Conclusion:***

*Auxiliary Index is always the Dense Index*, it is meaningless to talk about one Sparse Auxiliary Index. Since the Auxiliary Index can not influence the Storage Location of the record, and then we can not predict the location of the record that has not been recorded into the Auxiliary Index.

***Example:***

In the picture below depicts one classic Auxiliary Index, an it is just the same as the principle before, each data file stores two records. The record just shows the Search Key.



*The Key in the index file are normally sorted, then it will cause that the pointers will not point to the one or less several continuous storage but points to several different data blocks.*

For example, if we want to search for all records with the index key equals to 20, then we need to first locate two Dense Blocks and then go to three different Data Blocks. So when we want to find the same number records, then the use of Auxiliary Index will takes much more Disk I/O than Main Index.

### Chapter 3.1.6 The Usage of Auxiliary Index

### Chapter 3.1.7 The Auxiliary Index’ Indirect

### Chapter 3.1.8 File Search and Inverted Index