



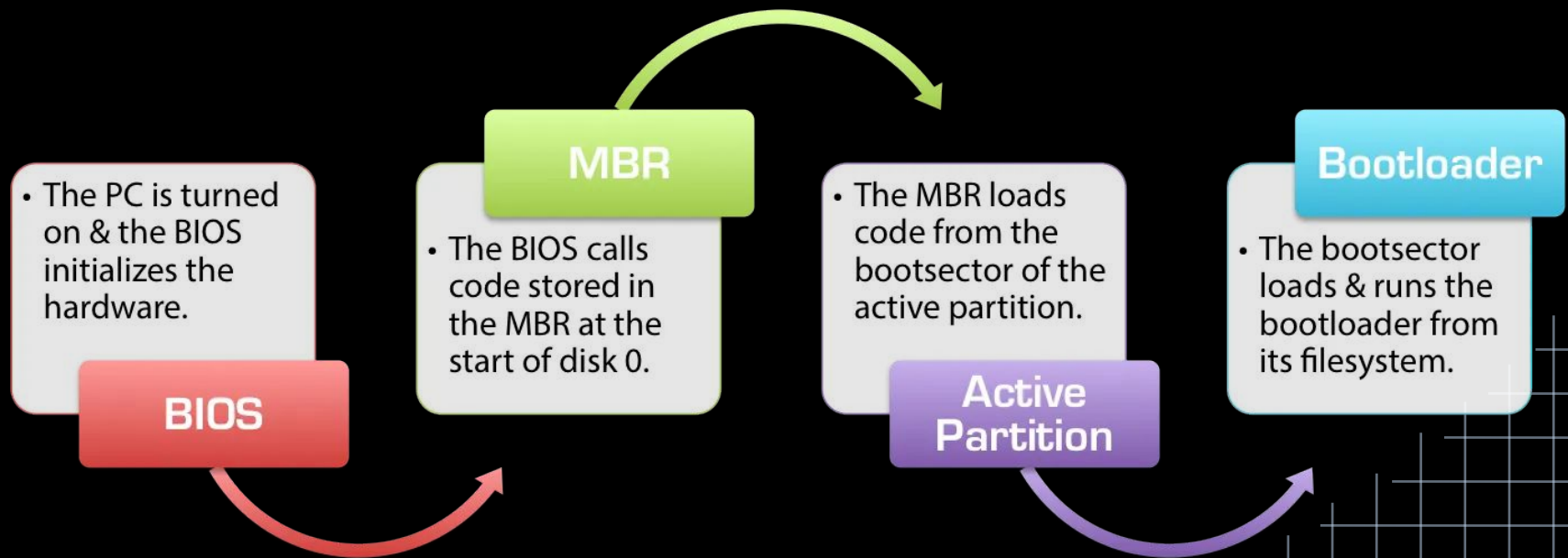
FORFUN

Week 2 NTFS File System

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What happens when we start our computer?



Master Boot Record

- Master Boot Record is a special type of boot sector at the very beginning of partitioned computer storage devices;
- It contains executable code that the system BIOS loads into memory.
- The code scans the MBR to find the partition table to determine which partition is the active, or bootable.
- Boot signature: 0x55AA



Partition Table

- Information of 4 primary partitions are stored in the partition table and each record contains:
 - 1st byte: 0x80 bootable/active, 0x00 inactive
 - 2-4 bytes: Cylinder-Head-Sector (CHS) of first absolute sector in partition
 - 5th byte: partition type (0x0E: FAT 16; 0x0C; FAT 32; 0x07 NTFS)
 - 6-8 bytes: CHS address of last absolute sector in partition.
 - 9-12 bytes: Logical block addressing of first absolute sector in the partition
 - 13-16 bytes: Number of sectors in partition

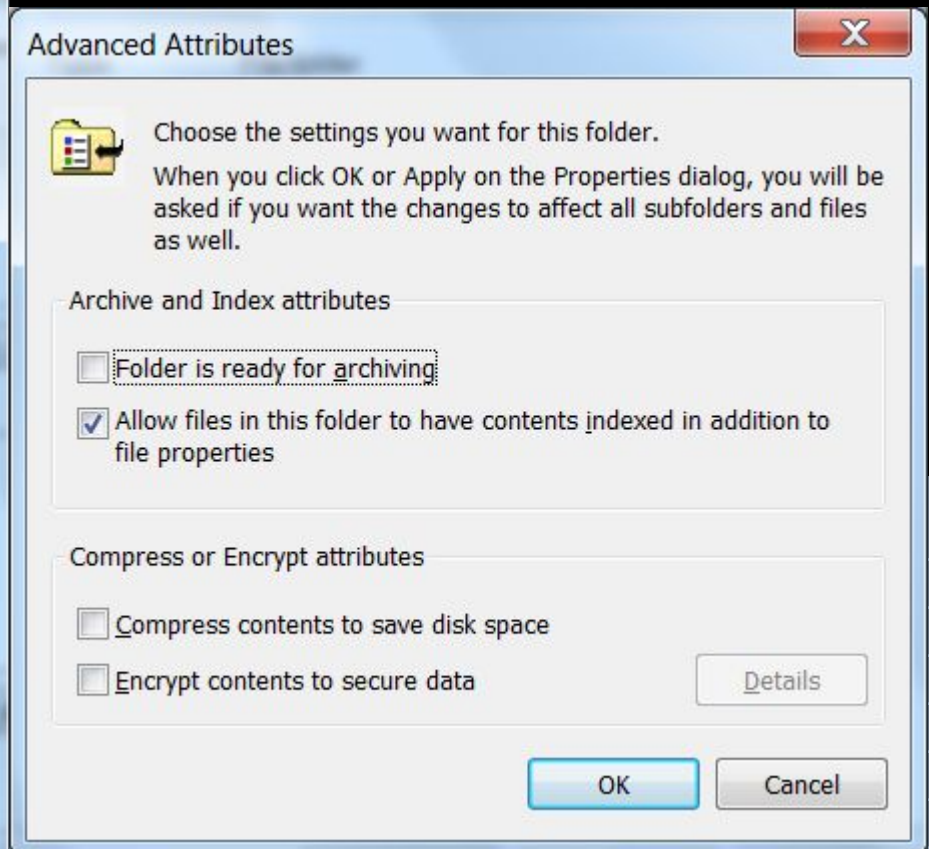
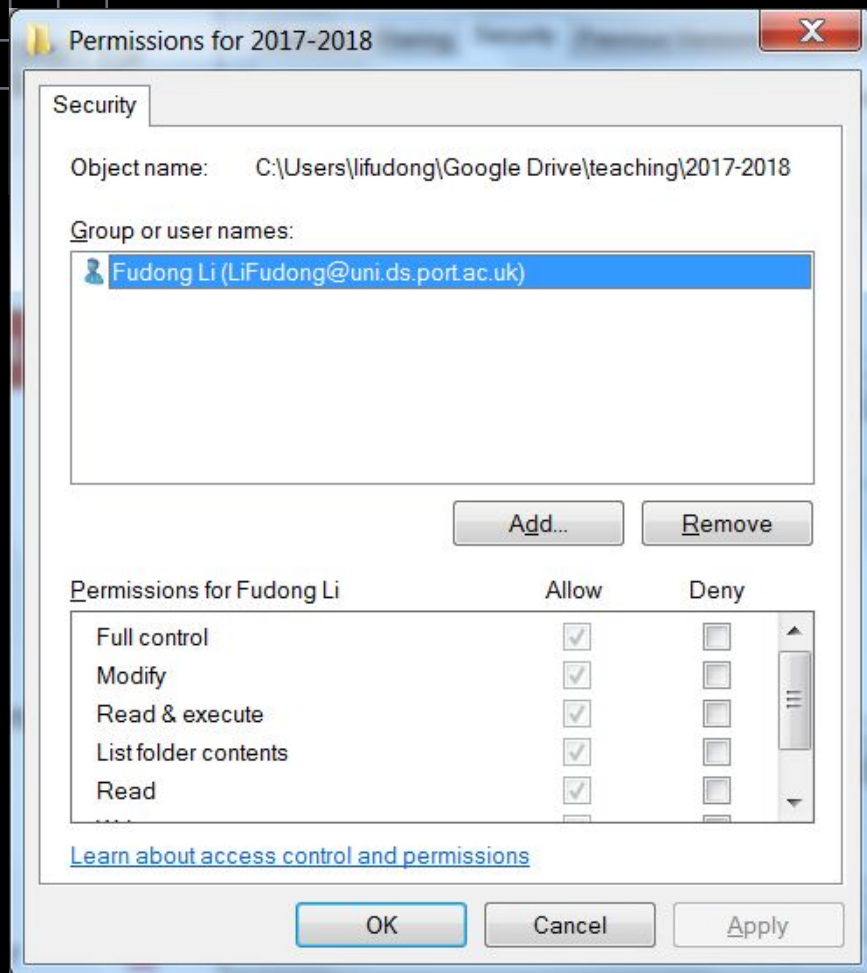


NTFS

NTFS – Overview

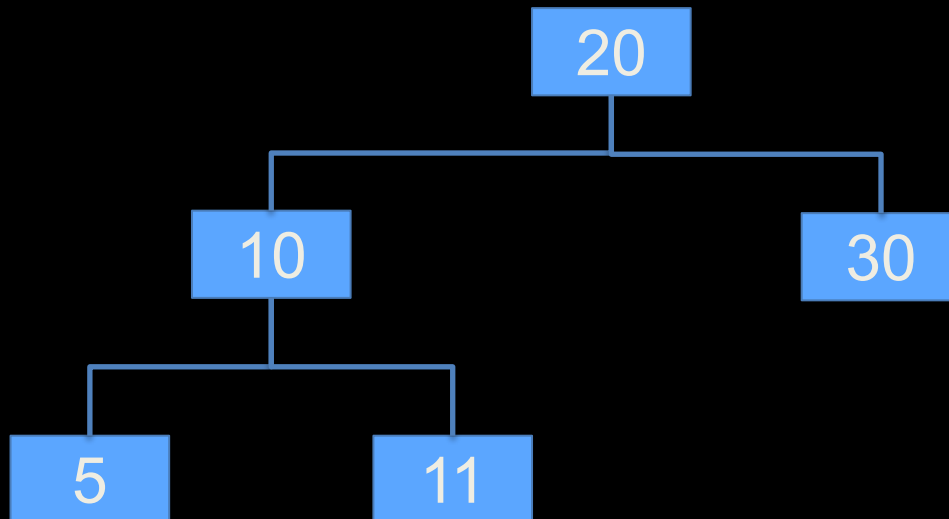
- NTFS is a proprietary file system developed by Microsoft in 1993; default file system of Windows NT family
- Notable features of NTFS
 - Security: by using an Access Control List (ACL), an administrator controls who can access specific files.
 - Encryption: Encryption File System (EFS) provides strong and user-transparent encryption of any files or folder on an NTFS volume
 - Performance : B-tree- faster file look up times
 - Journaling: records a transaction before the system carries it out
 - Support large file sizes: up to 16 exbibytes (2GB for FAT16 and 4GB for FAT32)

NTFS – Security

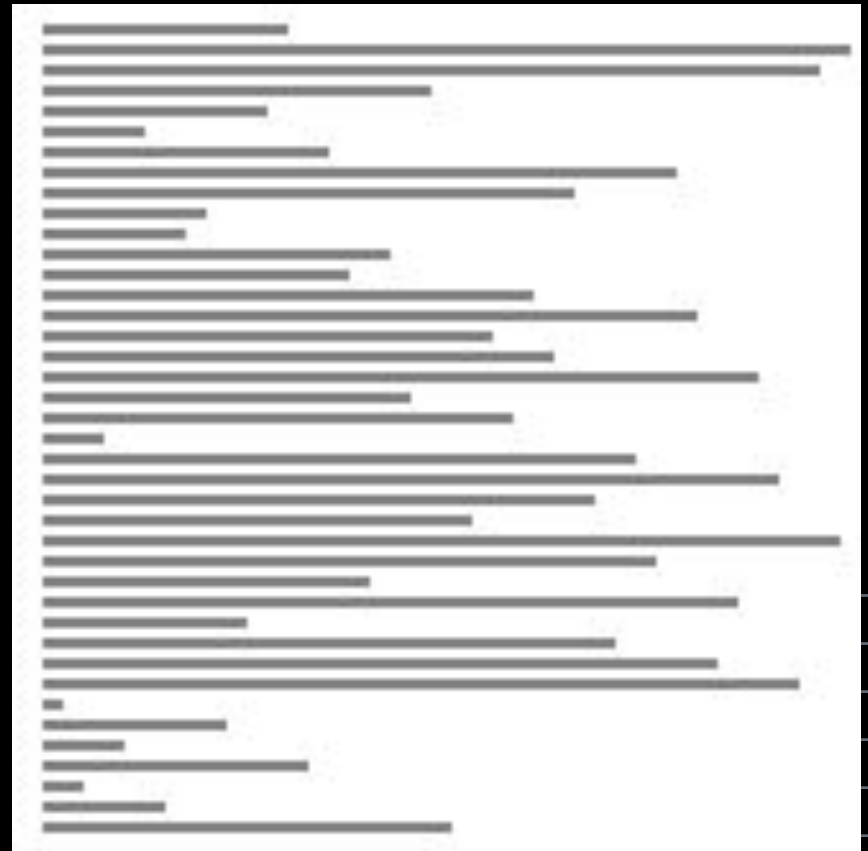
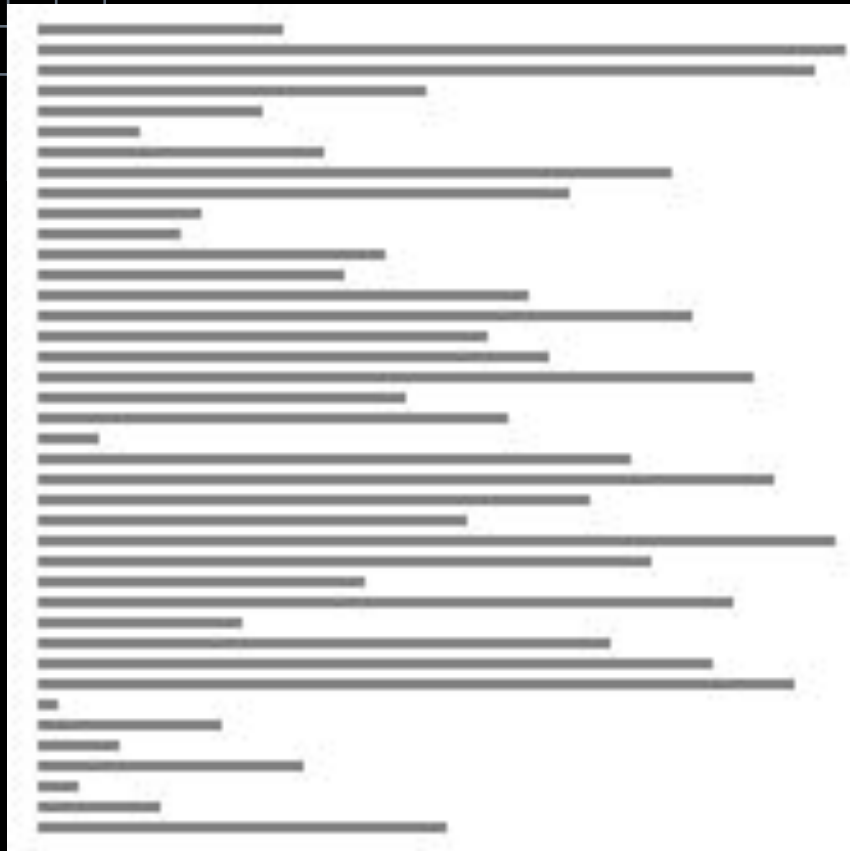


B-tree

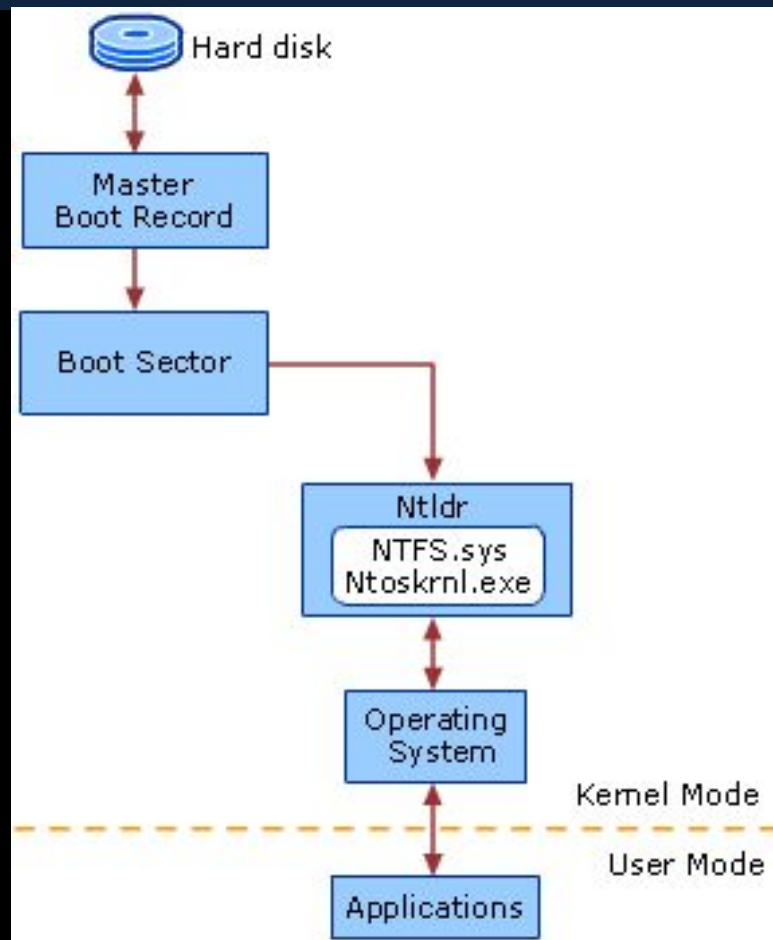
- A B-tree is a method of placing and locating files in a file system. It minimises the number of times a medium must be accessed to locate a desired record, hence speeding up the process.



B-tree



NTFS - Architecture



Source: NTFS Technical Reference – How NTFS works

[https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc781134\(v=ws.10\).aspx](https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc781134(v=ws.10).aspx)

NTFS Partition Organization

- NTFS Boot Sector
 - Contains the BIOS parameter block that stores information about the layout of the volume and the file system structures.
- Master File Table
 - Contains the information necessary to retrieve files from the NTFS partition, such as the attributes of a file
- File System Data
 - Stores data that is not contained within the Master File Table
- Master File Table Copy
 - Includes copies of the records essential for the recovery of the file system if there is a problem with the original copy

NTFS Boot Sector	Master File Table	File System Data	Master File Table Copy
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NTFS Boot Sector

Offset from start	Length	Description
0x03	4 bytes	Original equipment manufacturer ID
0x0b	2 bytes	Number of bytes per sector
0x0d	1 byte	Number of sectors per allocation unit
0x30	8 bytes	Logical Cluster Number for \$MFT
0x38	8 bytes	Logical Cluster Number for \$MFTMirr
0x48	4 bytes	32-bit Volume Serial Number
0x48	8 bytes	64-bit Volume Serial Number
0x1fe	2 bytes	Boot sector signature

NTFS Boot Sector

The image shows a hex editor window displaying the NTFS boot sector. The following fields are highlighted with colored boxes and labeled with red text:

- Starting cluster for \$MFT**: Points to the value `00 00 0C 00 00 00 00 00` at offset `000000030`.
- OEM ID**: Points to the value `4E 54 46 53 20` at offset `000000003`.
- Sector size**: Points to the value `00 02 08` at offset `00000000B`.
- Cluster size**: Points to the value `02 00 00 00 00 00 00 00` at offset `000000030`.
- Starting cluster for \$MFTMirr**: Points to the value `55 D5 55 3E F3 55 3E CE` at offset `000000040`.
- Volume Serial Number**: Points to the value `55 AA 75 06 F7 C1 01 00` at offset `000000080`.
- End Tag**: Points to the value `55 AA` at offset `0000001F0`.

The hex editor window shows the following data:

Offset (h)	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	0A	0B	0C	0D	0E	0F
000000000	EB	52	90	4E	54	46	53	20	20	20	20	00	02	08	00	00
000000010	00	00	00	00	00	F8	00	00	3F	00	FF	00	00	08	00	00
000000020	00	00	00	00	80	00	80	00	FF	D7	42	25	00	00	00	00
000000030	00	00	0C	00	00	00	00	00	02	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
000000040	F6	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	55	D5	55	3E	F3	55	3E	CE
000000050	00	00	00	00	FA	33	C0	8E	D0	BC	00	7C	FB	60	C0	07
000000060	1F	1E	68	66	00	CB	88	16	0E	00	66	81	3E	03	00	4E
000000070	54	46	53	75	15	B4	41	BB	AA	55	CD	13	72	0C	81	FB
000000080	55	AA	75	06	F7	C1	01	00	75	03	E9	DD	00	1E	83	EC
000000090	18	68	1A	00	B4	48	8A	16	0E	00	8B	F4	16	1F	CD	13
000000100	55	16	16	16	68	B8	01	66	61	0E	07	CD	1A	33	C0	BF
000000110	64	69	73	6B	20	72	65	61	64	20	65	72	72	6F	72	20
0000001A0	6F	63	63	75	72	72	65	64	00	0D	0A	42	4F	4F	54	4D
0000001B0	47	52	20	69	73	20	6D	69	73	73	69	6E	67	00	0D	0A
0000001C0	42	4F	4F	54	4D	47	52	20	69	73	20	63	6F	6D	70	72
0000001D0	65	73	73	65	64	00	0D	0A	50	72	65	73	73	20	43	74
0000001E0	72	6C	2B	41	6C	74	2B	44	65	6C	20	74	6F	20	72	65
0000001F0	73	74	61	72	74	0D	0A	00	8C	A9	BE	D6	00	00	55	AA
000000200	07	00	42	00	4F	00	4F	00	54	00	4D	00	47	00	52	00

Master File Table

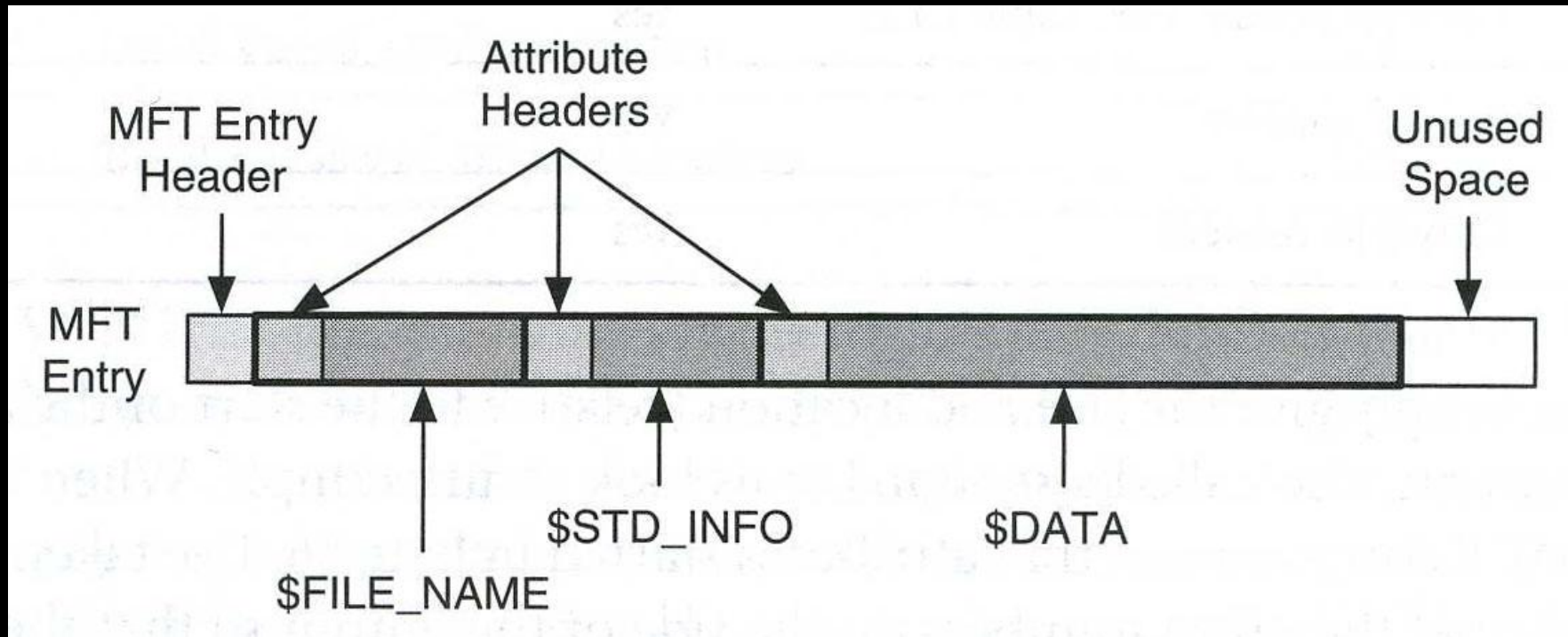
- Each file on an NTFS volume is represented by a record in a special file called the master file table (MFT)
- Starting location of the MFT is given in the boot sector;
- 12.5% of space allocated but only used when necessary
- Each entry is 1024 bytes (1Kibi Bytes)
 - Only first 42 bytes defined, containing 12 fields
 - The rest are allocated to numerous/various attributes
- 0x46494C45 (FILE): beginning of each record
- 0xFFFFFFFF: end of record marker for each record

\$MFT Entries

Entry	Filename	Description
0	\$MFT	The entry for the MFT itself
1	\$MFTMirr	Backup of the MFT
2	\$LogFile	Journal containing records of metadata transactions
3	\$Volume	Volume information
4	\$AttrDef	Attribute information (identifier values, name)
5	\$.	Root directory of the file system
6	\$Bitmap	Allocation status of each cluster in the file system
7	\$Boot	Boot sector and boot code for the file system
8	\$BadClus	Clusters that have bad sectors
9	\$Secure	Security and access control for the files
10	\$Upcase	Contains the uppercase version of every Unicode character
11	\$Extend	Directory containing files for optional extensions

Single File Record in \$MFT

- NTFS reads attributes from the record – not files – files are simply one of the attributes



\$MFT Entry Attribute Types

ID	Purpose
0x10	\$Standard information: This field contains data on file creation, alterations, MFT changes, read dates and times, and DOS file permissions
0x20	\$Attribute_List: Attributes that do not fin in the MFT (non-resident attributes) are listed here along with their locations
0x30	\$File_name: The long and short names for a file are contained here. Up to 255 Unicode bytes are available for long file names. Files with short filenames have only one attribute ID 0x30. Long filenames have two attribute ID 0x30s in the MFT record: one for the short name and one for the long name.
0x40	\$Object_ID: Ownership and who has access rights to the file or folder are listed here. Every MFT record is assigned a unique GUID. Depending on the NTFS setup, some file records might not contain this attribute ID
0x50	\$Security_Descriptor: Contains the access control list (ACL) for the file
0x80	\$Data: File data for resident files or data runs for non-resident files.

\$MFT Entry Attribute Types

File Header

09c00	46 49 4C 45 30 00 03 00-19 30 10 00 00 00 00 00	FILE0---0---
09c10	01 00 01 00 38 00 01 00-68 01 00 00 00 04 00 00	---8---h---
09c20	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00-03 00 00 00 27 00 00 00	---'---
09c30	03 00 00 00 00 00 00 00-10 00 00 00 60 00 00 00	---
09c40	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00-48 00 00 00 18 00 00 00	---H---
09c50	50 93 A0 BD 28 AA D6 01-00 FF 06 37 E9 49 D4 01	P-¼(°Ö-ÿ·7éIÖ-
09c60	73 17 2B 9C 28 AA D6 01-50 93 A0 BD 28 AA D6 01	s-+-(°Ö·P-¼(°Ö-
09c70	20 00 00 00 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00	---
09c80	00 00 00 00 08 01 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00	---
09c90	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00-30 00 00 00 80 00 00 00	---0---
09ca0	00 00 00 00 00 00 02 00-68 00 00 00 18 00 01 00	---h---
09cb0	05 00 00 00 00 00 05 00-50 93 A0 BD 28 AA D6 01	---P-¼(°Ö-
09cc0	50 93 A0 BD 28 AA D6 01-50 93 A0 BD 28 AA D6 01	P-¼(°Ö·P-¼(°Ö-
09cd0	50 93 A0 BD 28 AA D6 01-00 3C 41 00 00 00 00 00	P-¼(°Ö-·<A----
09ce0	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00-20 00 00 00 00 00 00	---
09cf0	13 00 32 00 30 00 31 00-38 00 30 00 39 00 31 00	--2·0·1·8·0·9·1·
09d00	31 00 5F 00 31 00 37 00-30 00 35 00 31 00 30 00	1·-1·7·0·5·1·0·
09d10	2E 00 6A 00 70 00 67 00-80 00 00 00 48 00 00 00	·j·p·g---H---
09d20	01 00 00 00 00 00 01 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00	---
09d30	9D 20 00 00 00 00 00 00-40 00 00 00 00 00 00	---@---
09d40	00 3C 41 00 00 00 00 00-95 3A 41 00 00 00 00 00	-<A-----:A----
09d50	95 3A 41 00 00 00 00 00-22 9E 20 3F 2C 00 00 00	·:A-----"·?·---
09d60	FF FF FF FF 82 79 47 11-00 00 00 00 00 00 00	ÿÿÿÿ·yG---
09d70	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00	---
09d80	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00	---

Standard Information
Attribute

File Name
Attribute

Data Attribute

End of Record Marker

\$MFT Record

The diagram illustrates the structure of an \$MFT record, showing a hexadecimal dump of the record data with various fields highlighted and labeled. The labels are as follows:

- Magic Number:** 46 49 4C 45
- File Allocated Flag:** 03 00
- \$LogFile record reference number:** 19 30 10 00 00 00 00 00
- MFT record number:** 01 00
- TimeDate Stamps:** 50 93 A0 BD 28 AA D6 01-00 FF 06 37 E9 49 D4 01
- Attribute size in Bytes:** 80 00
- File Size in Bytes:** 95 3A 41 00 00 00 00 00
- Cluster Chain:** 22 9E 20 3F 2C 00 00 00
- Resident File Flag:** FF FF FF FF
- End of Record:** 82 79 47 11-00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00

09c00	46 49 4C 45	30 00 03 00	19 30 10 00 00 00 00 00	FILE0----	0
09c10	01 00 01 00	38 00 01 00	68 01 00 00 00 04 00 00	-----8--h-----	
09c20	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	03 00 00 00 27 00 00 00		MFT record number
09c30	03 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	10 00 00 00 60 00 00 00		
09c40	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	48 00 00 00 18 00 00 00	-----H-----	
09c50	50 93 A0 BD 28 AA D6 01-00	FF 06 37 E9 49 D4 01		P- ½(°Ö-ÿ-7éIÖ-	TimeDate Stamps
09c60	73 17 2B 9C 28 AA D6 01-50	93 A0 BD 28 AA D6 01		S- ½(°Ö-P- ½(°Ö-	
09c70	20 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00		
09c80	00 00 00 00	08 01 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00		
09c90	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	30 00 00 00 80 00 00 00	-----0-----	
09ca0	00 00 00 00	00 00 02 00	68 00 00 00 18 00 01 00	-----h-----	
09cb0	05 00 00 00	00 00 05 00	50 93 A0 BD 28 AA D6 01	-----P- ½(°Ö-	
09cc0	50 93 A0 BD 28 AA D6 01-50	93 A0 BD 28 AA D6 01		P- ½(°Ö-P- ½(°Ö-	
09cd0	50 93 A0 BD 28 AA D6 01-00	3C 41 00 00 00 00 00 00		P- ½(°Ö-<A-----	
09ce0	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	20 00 00 00 00 00 00 00		
09cf0	13 00 32 00	30 00 31 00	38 00 30 00 39 00 31 00	---2-0-1-8-0-9-1-	
09d00	31 00 5F 00	31 00 37 00	30 00 35 00 31 00 30 00	1---1-7-0-5-1-0-	
09d10	2E 00 6A 00	70 00 67 00	80 00 00 00 48 00 00 00	..j-p-g-----H---	
09d20	01 00 00 00	00 00 01 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00		
09d30	0D 20 00 00	00 00 00 00	40 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	-----@-----	
09d40	00 3C 41 00	00 00 00 00	95 3A 41 00 00 00 00 00	-----A-----	File Size in Bytes
09d50	95 3A 41 00	00 00 00 00	22 9E 20 3F 2C 00 00 00	---:A-----"-?,-	
09d60	FF FF FF FF	82 79 47 11-00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	FFFF-wG-----	
09d70	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00		
09d80	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00		Cluster Chain

Resident File Flag End of Record

\$MFT Record Offset Info

File Header

Offset from start	Length	Description
0x00	4 bytes	FILE signature
0x08	8 bytes	\$LogFile record reference number
0x16	2 byte	File Allocated Flag
0x2C	4 bytes	MFT record number

Standard Information Attribute

Offset from the beginning of Attribute container	Length	Description
0x04	2 bytes	Attribute container size in bytes
0x18	32 bytes	First 8 bytes: Created time stamp Second 8 bytes: Last modified time stamp Third 8 bytes: Last accessed time stamp Last 8 bytes: MFT record update time stamp

\$MFT Record Offset Info

Data Attribute

Offset from the beginning of Attribute container	Length	Description
0x04	2 bytes	Attribute container size in bytes
0x08	1 byte	Resident File Flag
0x30	8 bytes	File Size in Bytes
0x40	Various bytes	Cluster chain information

Decoding Cluster Chain

- Cluster chain mapping information starts at decimal offset 64 of the Data Attribute (0x40) block of the MFT record

0x22 9E 20 3F 2C 00

2: The number of bytes to the immediate right which will provide the number of clusters in this series when converted from hex to decimal

2: The number of bytes which immediately follow the cluster run bytes, indicating the start of the cluster chain

0x00 means the end of the cluster run