

# SQL Server

## Index Internals

# Edwin Sarmiento

Microsoft MVP - SQL Server



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How do  
**indexes?**  
work

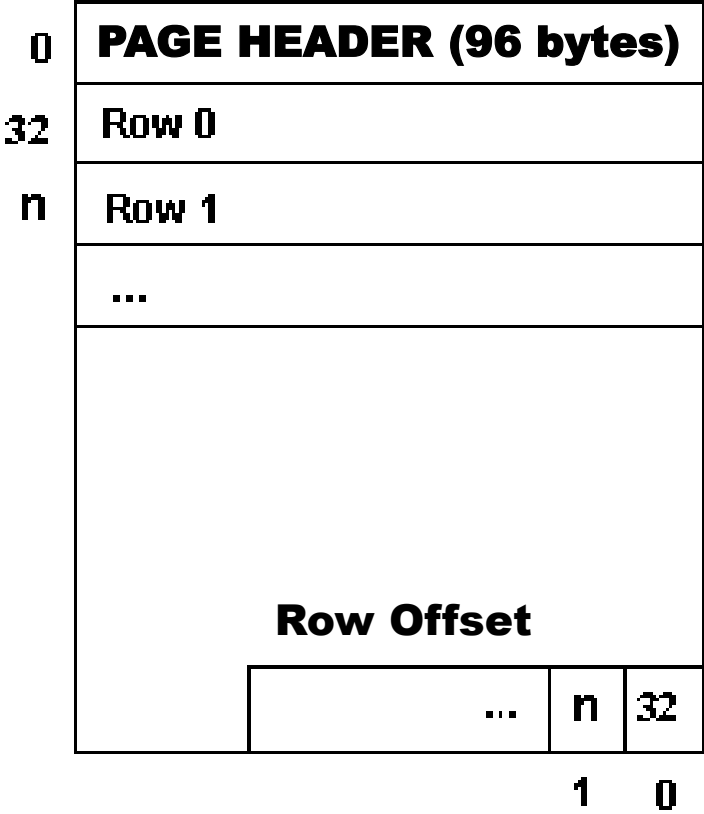
**the better question to ask is**

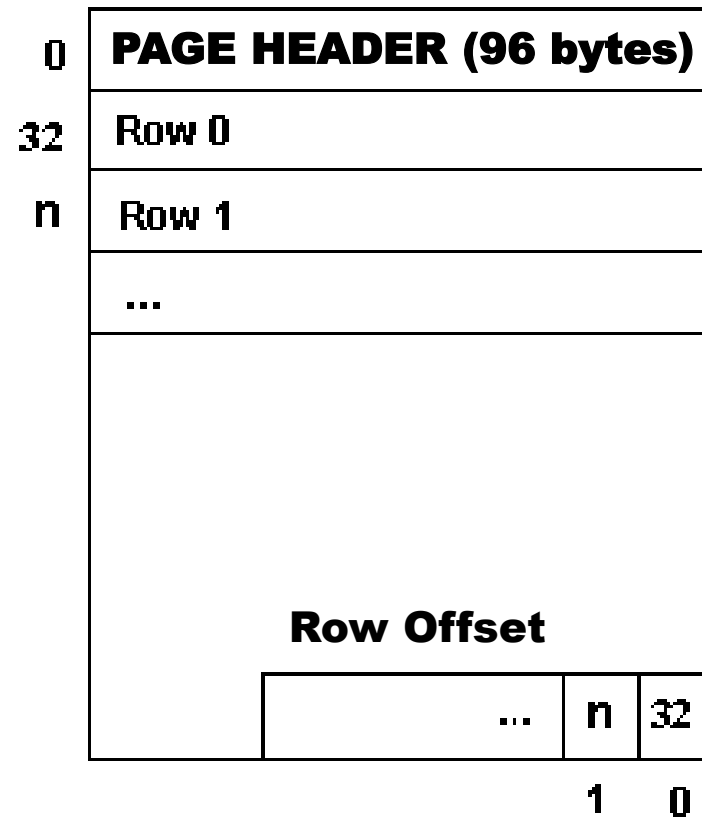
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How is  
**data stored?**

Stored in **8K**  
pages





8 Pages = **1 extent** (64K)

Stored in either  
**heaps**  
or  
**B-trees**  
(hobt)





**heaps**

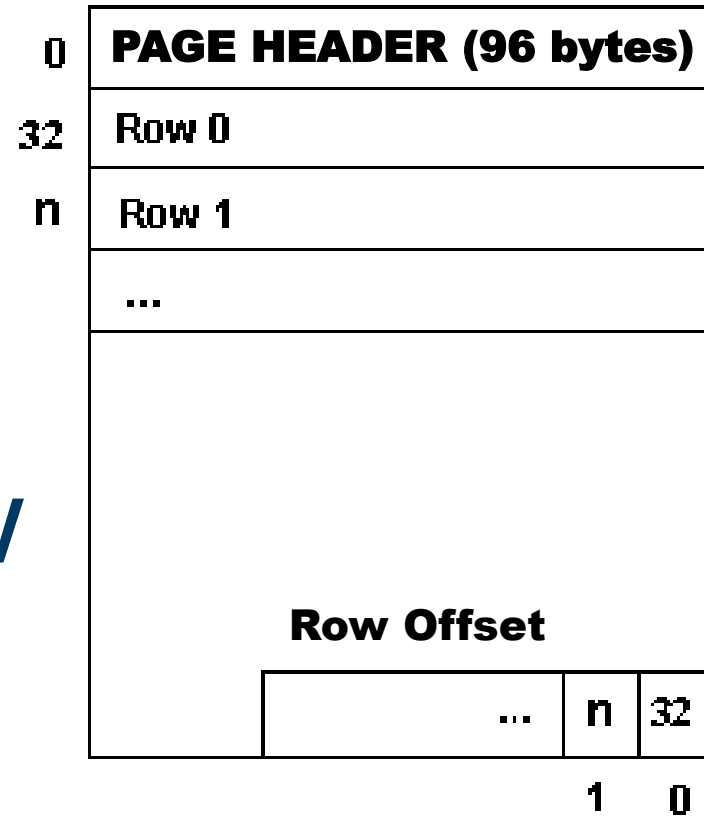
unordered data

```
CREATE TABLE [dbo].[Employee](  
    [EmployeeID] [int] IDENTITY(1,1) NOT NULL,  
    [LastName] [nchar](30) NOT NULL,  
    [FirstName] [nchar](29) NOT NULL,  
    [MiddleInitial] [nchar](1) NULL,  
    [SIN] [char](11) NOT NULL,  
    [OtherColumns] [char](258) NOT NULL DEFAULT 'OTHERS',  
)
```

**if...**

\* 400 bytes/row

\* 80,000 rows



**\*8096 bytes/page**

(1024 x 8) – 96 bytes

$$\frac{8096 \text{ bytes/page}}{400 \text{ bytes/row}} = \mathbf{20 \text{ rows/page}}$$

$$\frac{80,000 \text{ rows}}{20 \text{ rows/page}} = \mathbf{4,000 \text{ pages}}$$

finding rows in  
**heaps**

## IAM

Extent	Bit Map
127	1
128	1
129	0
130	1
...	

Heap

Extent 127

01	Con	...
02	Funk	...
03	Woods	...
04	Durrer	...
05	Lang	...

Extent 128

01	Dunn	...
02	Randall	...
03	Owen	...
04	Sleppy	...
05	LaMee	...

Extent 129

01	Seattle	...
02	Paris	...
03	Tokyo	...
04	Atlanta	...
...	...	...

Extent 130

01	Graff	...
02	Bacon	...
03	Koch	...
...	...	...
...	...	...

**B-trees**

ordered data

finding rows in  
**B-trees**



		...
		...
		...
		...
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		...
...	...	...

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...	...	...

		...
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		...
		...
		...
		...
...	...	...

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## E

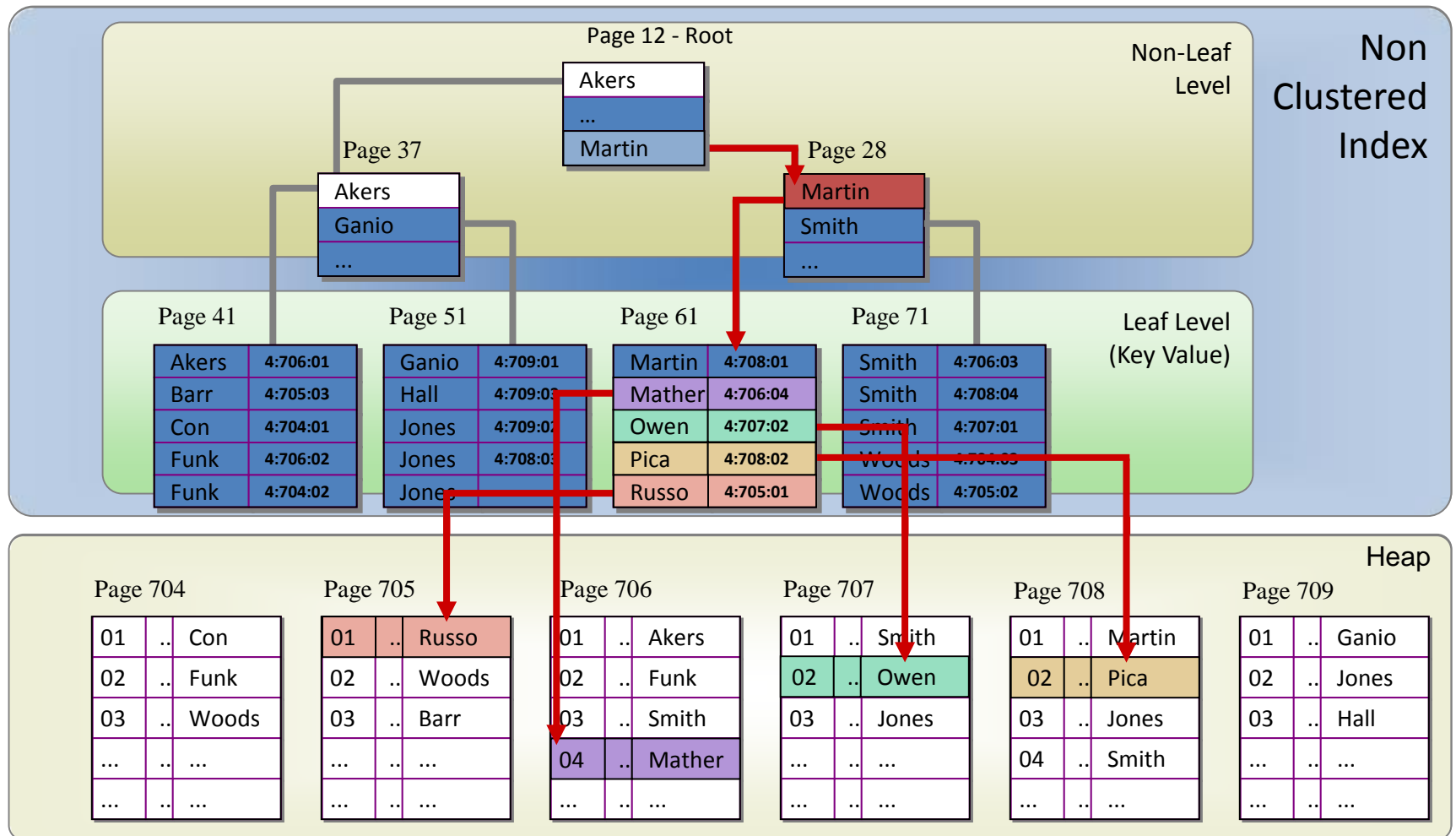
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How do I find rows  
in a **heap** with a  
**non-clustered**  
**index**?



What happens when you

# cluster

a table?

Page 901

01	..	Con
02	..	Funk
03	..	Woods
...	..	...
20	..	Crest

Page 902

21	..	Russo
22	..	Woods
23	..	Barr
...	..	...
40	..	...

Page 903

41	..	Akers
42	..	Funk
43	..	Smith
...	..	...
50	..	Maters

Page 904

51	..	Smith
52	..	Owen
53	..	Jones
...	..	...
60	..	Ale

...

Page 4890

799	..	Martin
799	..	Pica
799	..	Jones
799	..	Smith
799	..	Marks

Page 4901

799	..	Ganio
799	..	Jones
799	..	Hall
...	..	...
800	..	Yu

## Clustered Index

Page 100

Akers	2334	...
Barr	5678	...
Con	2534	...
Funk	1334	...
Funk	1534	...
...	...	...

Page 110


Ganio	7678	...
Hall	8078	...
Jones	2434	...
Jones	5978	...
Jones	2634	...
...	...	...

Page 120

Martin	1234	...
Martin	7778	...
Owen	5878	...
Pica	7878	...
Russo	6078	...
...	...	...

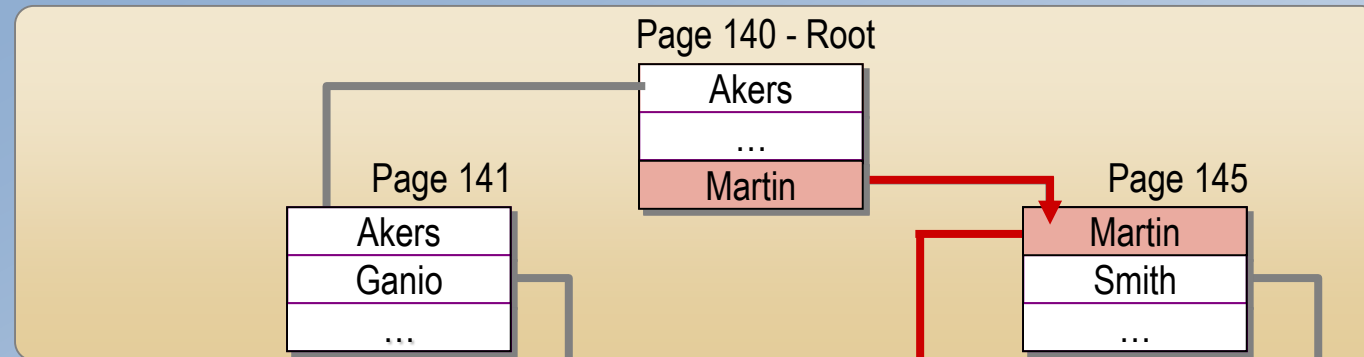
Page 130

Smith	1434	...
Smith	5778	...
Smith	7978	...
Woods	2234	...
Woods	1634	...
...	...	...



How do I find rows  
in a **table** with a  
**clustered index**?

## Clustered Index



Page 100

Akers	2334	...
Barr	5678	...
Con	2534	...
Funk	1334	...
Funk	1534	...
...	...	...

Page 110

Ganio	7678	...
Hall	8078	...
Jones	2434	...
Jones	5978	...
Jones	2634	...
...	...	...

Page 120

Martin	1234	...
Martin	7778	...
Owen	5878	...
Pica	7878	...
Russo	6078	...
...	...	...

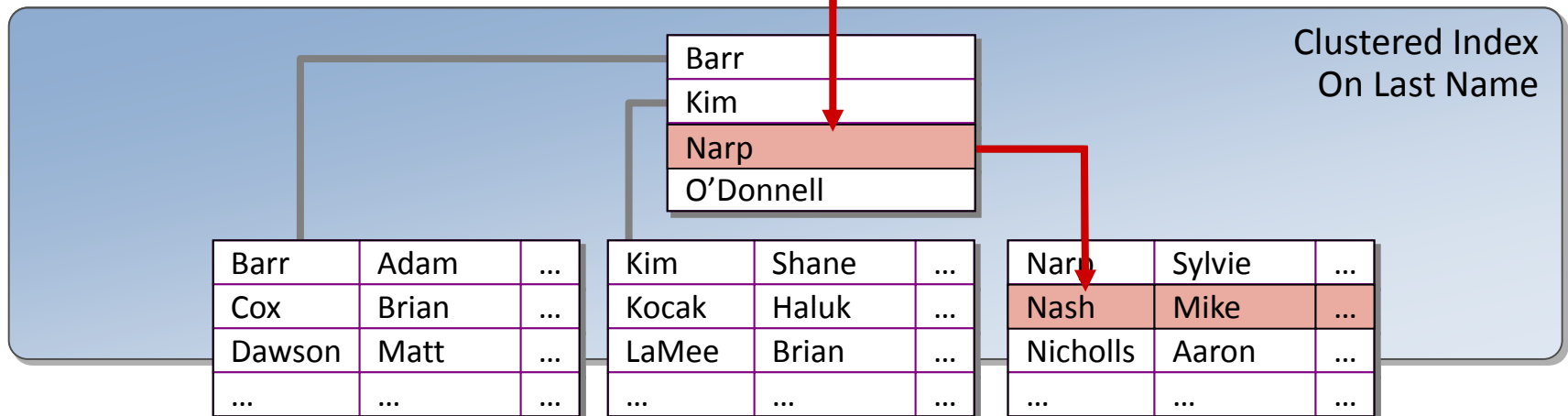
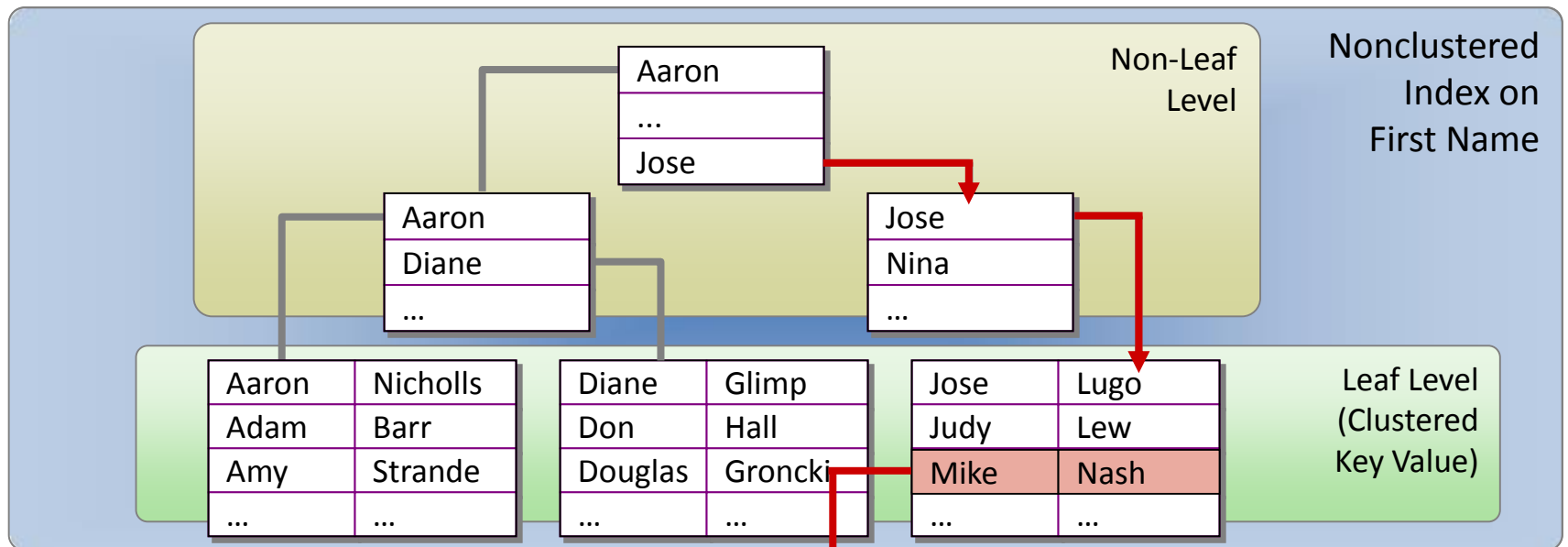
Page 130

Smith	1434	...
Smith	5778	...
Smith	7978	...
Woods	2234	...
Woods	1634	...
...	...	...





How do I find rows  
in a **clustered index** with a  
**non-clustered index**?



clustered index

**sorted**

clustered index



**ARE NOT**

primary keys

**demo**

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