Introduction to Disk Space Allocation Methods

Introduction

So far, we have seen how the OS abstracts the storage space of devices using file system, files and directories. In the next section, we will discuss how disk space is allocated to the files. In other words, we will discuss how the secondary memory is distributed among files.

Crux of this Section

We know that secondary storage devices are abstracted by OS using files systems, files and directories. Now, we need to answer this question: How secondary memory or disk memory is distributed among files.

To briefly answer this question, the secondary memory is distributed among the files in one of the following three methods:

1. Contiguous Allocation
2. Linked Allocation
3. Indexed Allocation

Next Steps

In the next lecture video, let us understand about these three disk space allocation methods.