



Kernel Data Structures and its Contents

UNIX



Contents of UArea

- 1. Current directory and current root.
- 2. Process size limit and file size limit.
- 3. Internal I/O Parameter.
- 4. Array of all file descriptors. (UFDT)
- 5. Pointers to process table slots.
- 6. Input parameters of system call.
- 7. Return value of system call.
- 8. Error code of System call.
- 9. Array which indicates signals which are not yet handled by the kernel.
- 10. Timer field.
- 11. Permission field.
- 12. Real and effective user ID.
- 13. Control terminal field.

Contents of Buffer

- 1. Device number/ File system number.
- 2. Logical block number.
- 3. States of buffer:

Locked/Unlocked/Valid/Invalid/Reading/Writing/Delayed Write/Reserved

- 4. Pointer to Data Area.
- 5. Pointer to next buffer on hash gueue of buffer.
- 6. Pointer to previous buffer on hash queue of buffer.
- 7. Pointer to next buffer on free list of buffer.
- 8. Pointer to previous buffer on free list of buffer.

Contents of Process Table

- 1. Field which is used by the kernel to access UArea.
- 2. State of the process. (value: 1 9)
- 3. Process size.
- 4. Different user identifier. (UIDs)
- 5. Different Process Identifiers. (PIDs)
- 6. Pointer to PPRT entry.
- 7. Scheduling Parameter.
- 8. Event Descriptor set.
- 9. Signals and its actions.
- 10. Timer which is used for scheduling purpose.



Contents of PPRT

- 1. Per Process Region Table is used to share a region by multiple processes.
- 2. Per Process Region Table is local to every process.
- 3. In all data structures PPRT is most important.
- 4. Because it contains mapping between Virtual address and Physical address.
- 5. If there are three regions in process then there are three entries.
- 6. Each enrty holds starting virtual address of the region.
- 7. It holds the pointer to region table.

Contains of Region Table

- 1. Size of region.
- 2. Type of region.
- 3. Pointer to inode of executable file.
- 4. Reference count.
- 5. Page table.
 - 6. Status of Region: (Unlock/Lock/Being Loaded/Already Loaded)

Contents of Process Table

- 1. State of Process (State: 1-9)
- 2. Several UID.
- 3. Context switch. (Pointer to UArea)
- 4. Several group Id.
- 5. Several Pid.
- 6. Size of process. (virtual address)
- 7. Event descriptor set. (Unhandled interrupts till now)
- 8. Static field.
- 9. Scheduling Parameter.
- 10. Signal Field.
- 11. Various Timers.

Contents of Super Block

- 1. Size of File System.
- 2. Number of free blocks in File System.
- 3. List of available free blocks.
- 4. Index of next free blocks.
- 5. Size of inode list.
- 6. Number of free inode.
- 7. List of free inode.
- 8. Index of next free inode.



- 9. Lock fields for free blocks and free inodes.
- 10. A flag which indicates that the super block is modified or not.

Contents of Mount Table

- 1. Device number.
- 2. Pointer of inode of "mounted on" directory.
- 3. Pointer of inode of root of "mounted file" system.
- 4. Pointer to buffer of super block of mounted file system.

Contents of Disk inode

- 1. Owner identifier.
- 2. Group identifier.
- 3. Permission.
- 4. Last file access time.
- 5. inode last modified time.
- 6. File last modified time.
- 7. Link count.
 - 8. File size.
 - 9. Table of disk address. (13 member array)
 - 10. File Type.

Contents of Incore inode

- 1. All the contents of Disk inode.
- 2. inode number.
- 3. Reference count.
- 4. Status: Locked/Unlocked.
- 5. The logical device number.
- 6. Pointer to other incore inodes.

Page Table

- 1. Physical Page number.
- 2. Protection bit.
- 3. Age bit.
- 4. Copy on write bit (COW).
- 5. Modify bit.
- 6. Reference bit.
- 7. Validity bit.



Disk Block Descriptor Table

- 1. Swap device number.
- 2. Block number.
- 3. Type of page
 - a) Demand Fill
 - b) Demand zero

Page Frame data Table Entry

- 1. Page Number.
- 2. Reference count.
- 3. Logical device number / Block Number.
- 4. Contains 4 pointers which are used to maintain free and used pages.

Swap use Table

1. Contains information of pages which are swapped out.