





# CSE3103 : Database FALL 2020

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# Basic Concepts

- Indexing mechanisms used to speed up access to desired data.
  - E.g., author catalog in library
- **Search Key** - attribute to set of attributes used to look up records in a file.
- An **index file** consists of records (called **index entries**) of the form

search-key	pointer
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- Index files are typically much smaller than the original file
- Two basic kinds of indices:
  - **Ordered indices:** search keys are stored in sorted order
  - **Hash indices:** search keys are distributed uniformly across “buckets” using a “hash function”.

# Index Evaluation Metrics

- Access types supported efficiently. E.g.,
  - records with a specified value in the attribute
  - or records with an attribute value falling in a specified range of values.
- Access time
- Insertion time
- Deletion time
- Space overhead

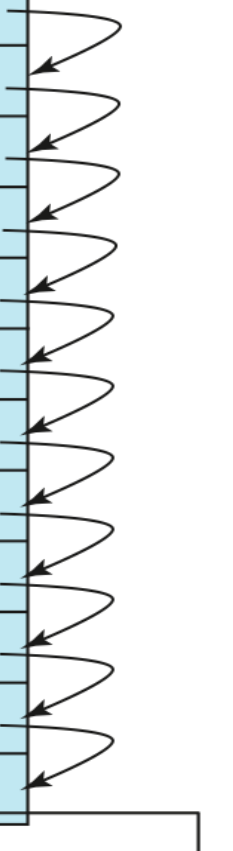
# Ordered Indices

- In an **ordered index**, index entries are stored sorted on the search key value. E.g., author catalog in library.
- **Primary index**: in a sequentially ordered file, the index whose search key specifies the sequential order of the file.
  - Also called **clustering index**
  - The search key of a primary index is usually but not necessarily the primary key.
- **Secondary index**: an index whose search key specifies an order different from the sequential order of the file. Also called **non-clustering index**.
- **Index-sequential file**: ordered sequential file with a primary index.

# Dense Index Files

- **Dense index** — Index record appears for every search-key value in the file.
- E.g. index on *ID* attribute of *instructor* relation

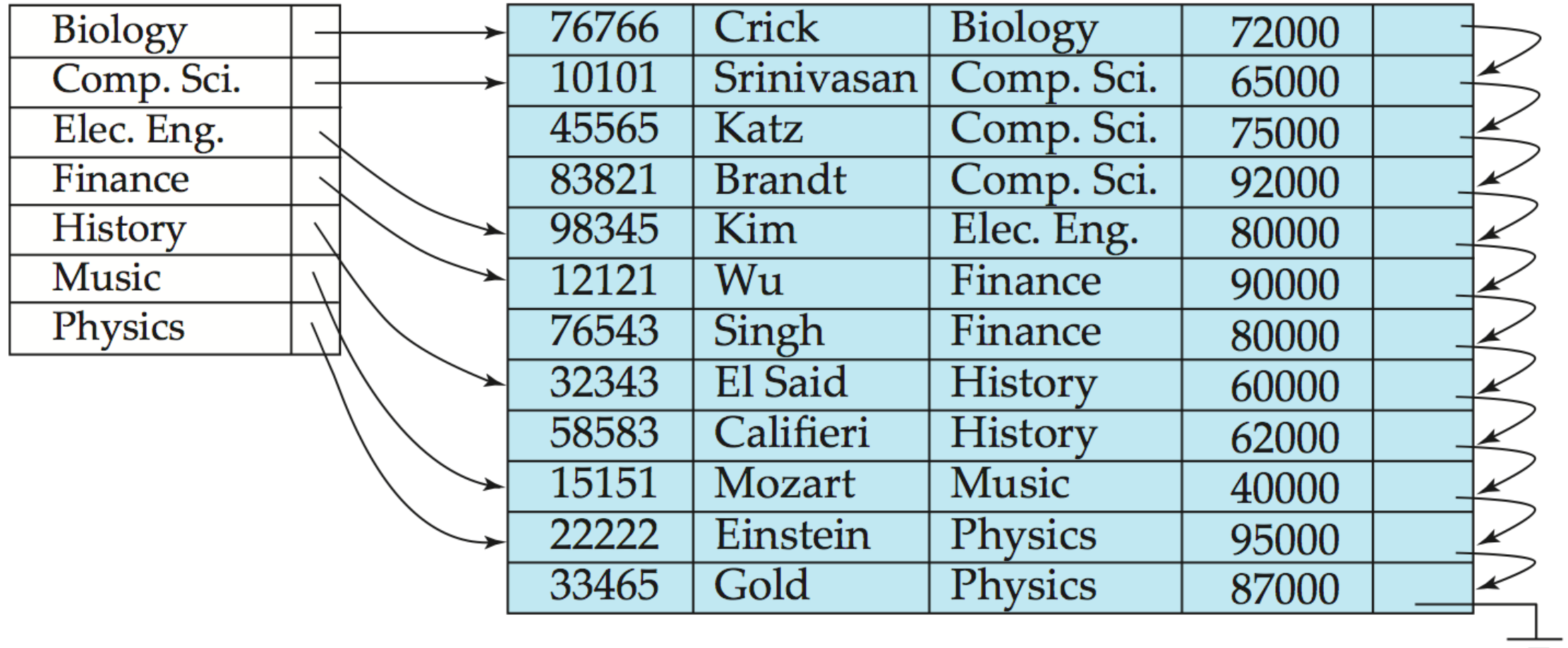
10101		→	10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000	
12121		→	12121	Wu	Finance	90000	
15151		→	15151	Mozart	Music	40000	
22222		→	22222	Einstein	Physics	95000	
32343		→	32343	El Said	History	60000	
33456		→	33456	Gold	Physics	87000	
45565		→	45565	Katz	Comp. Sci.	75000	
58583		→	58583	Califieri	History	62000	
76543		→	76543	Singh	Finance	80000	
76766		→	76766	Crick	Biology	72000	
83821		→	83821	Brandt	Comp. Sci.	92000	
98345		→	98345	Kim	Elec. Eng.	80000	





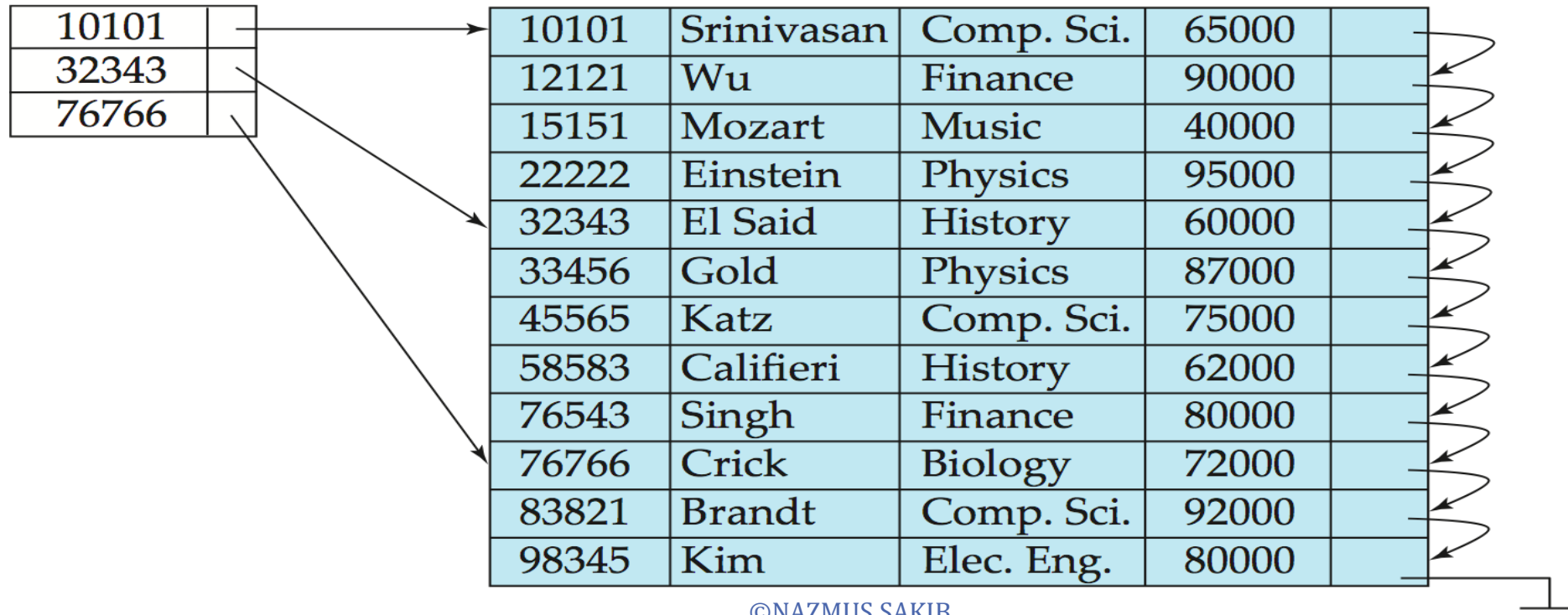
# Dense Index Files (Cont.)

- Dense index on *dept\_name*, with *instructor* file sorted on *dept\_name*



# Sparse Index Files

- **Sparse Index:** contains index records for only some search-key values.
  - Applicable when records are sequentially ordered on search-key
- To locate a record with search-key value  $K$  we:
  - Find index record with largest search-key value  $< K$
  - Search file sequentially starting at the record to which the index record points





# Sparse Index Files (Cont.)

- Compared to dense indices:
  - Less space and less maintenance overhead for insertions and deletions.
  - Generally slower than dense index for locating records.
- **Good tradeoff:** sparse index with an index entry for every block in file, corresponding to least search-key value in the block.

