Operating Systems CSCI 5806

Spring Semester 2021 — CRN 21176

Term Project — Step 3 — Low-Level Ext2 Access

Target completion date: Friday, March 12, 2021

Goals

- Provide functions to provide low-level access to an ext2 file system contained within a VDI file.
- Create a structure or class to contain the data necessary to implement these functions.

Details

In this step, we bridge the gap between "raw" data — disk partitions and byte / sector-level access — and "structured" data — file system-level access.

For convenience, you will still want two functions to open and close the file and a structure to hold necessary information. The functions are:

- struct Ext2File *ext2Open(char *fn,int32_t pNum)
 Use vdiOpen() and partitionOpen() to open the given VDI file and use partition number pNum. Populate all of the fields of your structure and return a pointer to it.

 Pro tip: Write your code so that pNum=-1 uses the first partition with a Linux file type.
- void ext2Close(struct Ext2File *f)

 Close the file whose pointer is given. Deallocate any dynamically created memory regions.

Low-level ext2 access involves three structures — blocks, superblocks and block group descriptors.

▶ Blocks

All space in an ext2 partition is divided into fixed-size blocks. The size of the blocks is determined by the superblock. With one exception, all disk access is performed by reading or writing entire blocks. To that end, you will need two block access functions:

- int32_t fetchBlock(struct Ext2File *f,uint32_t blockNum, void *buf)
 - Read the given block number from the file system into the buffer. Return 0 if successful, some other value if the read fails.
- int32_t writeBlock(struct Ext2File *f,uint32_t blockNum, void *buf)

Write the buffer to the given block in the file system. Return 0 if successful, some other value if the write fails.

There is one slight quirk in how the disk space is laid out; the main superblock (see next section) is always located in block zero. However, in a 1KB file system, that is the second physical 1KB block of space. The **s_first_data_block** field in the superblock indicates how many blocks to skip over to access block zero. The field is always 1 for 1KB file systems and 0 for all other block sizes.

▶Superblocks

The superblock is the main data structure in a UNIX file system. A good description of the structure can be found at https://www.nongnu.org/ext2-doc/ext2.html.

The main superblock is always located at an offset of 1024 bytes from the start of the disk partition, regardless of block size. Backup copies of the superblock are stored at various locations throughout the partition (see next section), always at the beginning of a block. You should read the main superblock and store it in the structure you create for this step.

There are two important values that the superblock does not directly contain, but need to be calculated from values in the superblock. The first value is the file system's block size. It is derived from the $s_log_block_size$ field: $b = 1024 \cdot 2^{s_log_block_size}$. The second value is the number of block groups, derived from the s_blocks_count and $s_blocks_per_group$ fields: $n = \lceil s_blocks_count/s_blocks_per_group \rceil$. Calculate these values and store them in the structure you create for this step.

You should write two functions for superblock access:

- int32_t fetchSuperblock(struct Ext2File *f,uint32_t blockNum, struct Ext2Superblock *sb)

 Pegg the superblock found in the given block number from the file system into the buffer.
 - Read the superblock found in the given block number from the file system into the buffer. Return 0 for success, non-zero for failure.
- int32_t writeSuperblock(struct Ext2File *f,uint32_t blockNum, struct Ext2Superblock *sb)

Write the superblock to the given block. Return 0 for success, non-zero for failure.

For these, use partitionSeek(), partitionRead() and partitionWrite() to access the main superblock in block 0; use fetchBlock() and writeBlock() to access copies of the superblock. Verify that you have read a valid superblock by checking the s_magic field, it should be 0xef53.

▶Block Groups and Their Descriptors

Blocks are split into block groups; groups act as a crude form of low-level disk access optimization, as the system typically tries to place all of the data blocks for one file in one block group. Each block group contains the following items:

- A copy of the superblock, if the block group number is 0, 1 or a power of 3, 5 or 7. This is always contained in the first block of the group.
- A copy of the *block group descriptor table*, an array of block group descriptors. This array begins in the second block of the group and has as many blocks as necessary to hold the table. The table is stored contiguously (no gaps between entries). Copies are stored in the same groups that have superblock copies.
- A single block containing a bitmap of used and unused blocks in the group.
- A single block containing a bitmap of used and unused inodes in the group.
- A portion of the inode array.
- Data blocks.

A block group descriptor is a small structure that contains the block numbers of a group's bitmaps and the first block of the inode table, along with the number of unused blocks and inodes. See the link in the previous section for information about this structure.

You will need to read the main copy of the descriptor table and store it in the structure you create for this step. Since the table size is unknown until calculating the number of block groups, you will have to allocate the table space dynamically.

To access the table, implement these two functions:

- int32_t fetchBGDT(struct Ext2File *f,uint32_t blockNum,struct Ext2BlockGroupDescriptor *bgdt)
 - Read the block group descriptor table that begins at the given block number. Store the table in the array pointed to by **bgdt**. Return 0 for success, non-zero for failure.
- int32_t writeBGDT(struct Ext2File *f,uint32_t blockNum,struct Ext2BlockGroupDescriptor *bgdt)

Write the block group descriptor table to the file system starting at the given block number. Return 0 for success, non-zero for failure.

▶Other Functions

You will probably want a function to display a superblock with the fields labeled and in text form and a function to display the values in the block group descriptor table. The following examples illustrate my version of these.

▶Example 1

This is the output from my step 3 program, on the fixed VDI file with 1KB blocks. It shows the superblock in byte form, in readable form and then shows the block group descriptor table.

```
Offset: 0x400
   00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 0a 0b 0c 0d 0e 0f
2
3
  +----+ +----+ +-----+
 00|00 7f 00 00 00 fc 01 00 66 19 00 00 ef 53 00 00|00|
 5
 20|00 20 00 00 00 20 00 00 f0 07 00 00 5f e7 a9 58|20|
                                    Χ
 30|87 e7 a9 58 04 00 ff ff 53 ef 01 00 01 00 00 00|30|
 40|88 bb ba 56 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00|40|
 50|00 00 00 00 0b 00 00 00 80 00 00 00 38 00 00 00|50|
 60 02 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 5f 86 41 71 27 65 4b c9 60
                                _ Aq'eK
10
 70|87 be a7 4a bb 9f 7d 28 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 |70|
11
 80 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 2f 6d 65 64 69 61 2f 62 80
                                /media/b
 90|6f 62 2f 35 66 38 36 34 31 37 31 2d 32 37 36 35|90|ob/5f864171-2765
 a0|2d 34 62 63 39 2d 38 37 62 65 2d 61 37 34 61 62|a0|-4bc9-87be-a74ab
 b0|62 39 66 37 64 32 38 00 64 32 38 00 00 00 00 00|b0|b9f7d28 d28
 17
 e0|00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 b5 7f 76 83|e0|
 f0|7f cd 4d 67 a6 34 20 ae 2f fd b0 6b 01 00 00 00|f0| Mg 4 / k
19
  +----+ +----+
20
21
22
 Offset: 0x500
   00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 0a 0b 0c 0d 0e 0f
                            0...4...8...c...
23
  +----+
24
 00|0c 00 00 00 00 00 00 88 bb ba 56 00 00 00 00|00|
25
 70 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 44 93 01 00 00 00 00 00 70
                                D
 40
41
42
43
 Offset: 0x600
   00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 0a 0b 0c 0d 0e 0f
                            0...4...8...c...
44
45
 47
```

```
60 0 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
         00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 60
 70 | 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
          00 00 00 00 00 00 00 70
 61
 +----+
62
63
 Offset: 0x700
64
  00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 0a 0b 0c 0d 0e 0f
65
                 0...4...8...c...
 +----+
66
67
 82
83
 84
 Superblock contents:
 Number of inodes: 32512
86
 Number of blocks: 130048
 Number of reserved blocks: 6502
 Number of free blocks: 21487
90 Number of free inodes: 32175
 First data block: 1
Log block size: 0 (1024)
 Log fragment size: 0 (1024)
 Blocks per group: 8192
94
95
 Fragments per group: 8192
Inodes per group: 2032
 Last mount time: Sun Feb 19 13:43:43 2017
 Last write time: Sun Feb 19 13:44:23 2017
98
99
 Mount count: 4
 Max mount count: 65535
 Magic number: 0xef53
101
102 State: 1
```

```
Error processing: 1
104 Revision level: 1.0
105 Last system check: Tue Feb 9 23:24:40 2016
106 Check interval: 0
107 OS creator: 0
108 Default reserve UID: 0
109 Default reserve GID: 0
110 First inode number: 11
111 Inode size: 128
112 Block group number: 0
113 Feature compatibility bits: 0x00000038
114 Feature incompatibility bits: 0x00000002
115 Feature read/only compatibility bits: 0x00000001
116 UUID: 5f864171-2765-4bc9-87be-a74abb9f7d28
117 Volume name: []
ll8 Last mount point: [/media/bob/5f864171-2765-4bc9-87be-a74abb9f7d28]
119 Algorithm bitmap: 0x00000000
120 Number of blocks to preallocate: 0
   Number of blocks to preallocate for directories: 0
   Journal UUID: 5f864171-2765-4bc9-87be-a74abb9f7d28
123
   Journal inode number: 0
124 Journal device number: 0
   Journal last orphan inode number: 0
126 Default hash version: 1
   Default mount option bitmap: 0x0000000c
128 First meta block group: 0
129
   Block group descriptor table:
130
   Block
            Block
                     Inode
                             Inode
                                      Free
                                               Free
                                                       Used
131
   Number
132
            Bitmap
                     Bitmap
                             Table
                                      Blocks
                                               Inodes
                                                       Dirs
133
            _____
                             ____
                                      _____
1.34
   0
            259
                     260
                             261
                                      2499
                                               2008
                                                       5
135
   1
            8451
                     8452
                             8453
                                      1946
                                               2012
                                                       6
136
                                               2012
                                                       6
   2
            16385
                     16386
                             16387
                                      1258
                                                       7
137
    3
            24835
                     24836
                             24837
                                      1044
                                               2012
   4
            32769
                     32770
                             32771
                                      105
                                               2011
                                                       5
138
                                                       5
139
   5
            41219
                     41220
                             41221
                                      1025
                                               2012
140
   6
            49153
                     49154
                             49155
                                      1255
                                              2011
                                                       5
                                                       7
141
   7
            57603
                     57604
                             57605
                                      1041
                                               2008
   8
            65537
                     65538
                             65539
                                      1018
                                               2010
                                                       6
142
   9
            73987
                     73988
                             73989
                                      1528
                                               2012
                                                       6
143
                     81922
144 10
            81921
                             81923
                                      762
                                               2012
                                                       6
   11
                     90114
                                                       6
145
            90113
                             90115
                                      1786
                                               2010
  12
                                                       6
146
            98305
                     98306
                             98307
                                      1786
                                               2015
   13
                                                       5
147
            106497
                     106498
                             106499
                                      1634
                                               2016
   14
                                                       5
                     114690
148
            114689
                             114691
                                      1787
                                               2017
   15
149
            122881
                     122882
                             122883
                                      1013
                                               1997
                                                       10
```

▶Example 2

Same output from the dynamic-allocation VDI file with 1KB block size.

```
Offset: 0x400
2
  00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 0a 0b 0c 0d 0e 0f 0...4...8...c...
3
  +----+
 00|00 7f 00 00 00 fc 01 00 66 19 00 00 3b d6 01 00|00|
 20|00 20 00 00 00 20 00 00 f0 07 00 00 db ea bc 56|20|
                                 ٧
 30|19 eb bc 56 03 00 ff ff 53 ef 01 00 01 00 00 00|30|
                            V
                              S
 40|9a bb ba 56 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00|40|
 50 00 00 00 00 0b 00 00 00 80 00 00 08 00 00 00 38 00 00 00 50
 60 02 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 71 2b 0f f6 04 66 4a a7 60
                                fJ
10
 70 | 86 c4 5d b7 72 22 07 09 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 | 70 |
 80 0 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 2f 6d 65 64 69 61 2f 62 80
                              /media/b
 90|6f 62 2f 37 31 32 62 30 66 66 36 2d 30 34 36 36|90|ob/712b0ff6-0466
 a0|2d 34 61 61 37 2d 38 36 63 34 2d 35 64 62 37 37|a0|-4aa7-86c4-5db77
 b0|32 32 32 30 37 30 39 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 |b0|2220709
 e0|00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 2d 98 fc 1b|e0|
 f0|11 69 47 40 93 c8 52 24 9c 57 46 c9 01 00 00 00|f0| iG@ R$ WF
20
21
Offset: 0x500
22
23
  00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 0a 0b 0c 0d 0e 0f 0...4...8...c...
24
  +----+ +-----+
25
 00|0c 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 9a bb ba 56 00 00 00 00|00|
 27
 70 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 b8 of 00 00 00 00 00 00 70
 +----+ +-----+
41
42
 Offset: 0x600
43
  00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 0a 0b 0c 0d 0e 0f
44
                          0...4...8...c...
  +----+
45
46
 47
```

```
53
 61
62
  +------
63
64 Offset: 0x700
  00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 0a 0b 0c 0d 0e 0f
65
                    0...4...8...c...
66
67
 68
 c0|00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
           00 00 00 00 00 00 00 c0
 82
 83
 +----+
84
 Superblock contents:
85
 Number of inodes: 32512
 Number of blocks: 130048
 Number of reserved blocks: 6502
 Number of free blocks: 120379
 Number of free inodes: 32500
 First data block: 1
Log block size: 0 (1024)
93 Log fragment size: 0 (1024)
94 Blocks per group: 8192
95 Fragments per group: 8192
96 Inodes per group: 2032
 Last mount time: Thu Feb 11 15:11:07 2016
 Last write time: Thu Feb 11 15:12:09 2016
 Mount count: 3
100 Max mount count: 65535
101
 Magic number: 0xef53
102 State: 1
103 Error processing: 1
104 Revision level: 1.0
105 Last system check: Tue Feb 9 23:24:58 2016
```

```
106 Check interval: 0
107 OS creator: 0
108 Default reserve UID: 0
109 Default reserve GID: 0
110 First inode number: 11
111 Inode size: 128
112 Block group number: 0
113 Feature compatibility bits: 0x00000038
114 Feature incompatibility bits: 0x00000002
115 Feature read/only compatibility bits: 0x00000001
116 UUID: 712b0ff6-0466-4aa7-86c4-5db772220709
117 Volume name: []
ll8 Last mount point: [/media/bob/712b0ff6-0466-4aa7-86c4-5db772220709]
119 Algorithm bitmap: 0x00000000
120 Number of blocks to preallocate: 0
   Number of blocks to preallocate for directories: 0
122
   Journal UUID: 712b0ff6-0466-4aa7-86c4-5db772220709
123 Journal inode number: 0
124 Journal device number: 0
125 Journal last orphan inode number: 0
126 Default hash version: 1
127 Default mount option bitmap: 0x0000000c
128 First meta block group: 0
129
   Block group descriptor table:
130
131
   Block
            Block
                     Inode
                             Inode
                                      Free
                                              Free
                                                       Used
132
   Number
            Bitmap
                     Bitmap
                             Table
                                      Blocks
                                              Inodes
                                                       Dirs
   _____
            _____
                             ____
                                      _____
133
134 0
            259
                     260
                                      6623
                                              2020
                             261
                                                       2
135 1
            8451
                     8452
                             8453
                                      4709
                                              2032
                                                       0
136
   2
            16385
                     16386
                             16387
                                      7936
                                              2032
                                                       0
137
   3
            24835
                     24836
                             24837
                                      7678
                                              2032
                                                       0
138
  4
            32769
                     32770
                             32771
                                      7936
                                              2032
                                                       0
   5
            41219
                     41220
                             41221
                                      7678
                                              2032
                                                       0
139
140
   6
            49153
                     49154
                             49155
                                      7936
                                              2032
                                                       0
141
   7
            57603
                     57604
                             57605
                                      7678
                                              2032
                                                       0
142 8
            65537
                     65538
                             65539
                                      7936
                                              2032
                                                       0
143
   9
            73987
                     73988
                             73989
                                      7678
                                              2032
                                                       0
144
   10
            81921
                     81922
                             81923
                                      7936
                                              2032
                                                       0
145 11
            90113
                     90114
                             90115
                                      7936
                                              2032
                                                       0
146 12
            98305
                     98306
                             98307
                                      7936
                                              2032
                                                       0
147
   13
            106497
                     106498
                             106499
                                      7936
                                              2032
                                                       0
   14
148
            114689
                     114690
                             114691
                                      7936
                                              2032
                                                       0
149
   15
                                                       0
            122881
                     122882
                             122883
                                      6911
                                              2032
```

▶Example 3

This is the program's output using the test VDI file with 4KB block size.

```
Offset: 0x400
2
  00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 0a 0b 0c 0d 0e 0f 0...4...8...c...
3
  +----+
 00|00 7f 00 00 00 7f 00 00 59 06 00 00 f2 15 00 00|00|
 20|00 80 00 00 00 80 00 00 00 7f 00 00 d8 ea bc 56|20|
                                 ٧
 30|19 eb bc 56 03 00 ff ff 53 ef 01 00 01 00 00 00|30|
                              S
 40|92 bb ba 56 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00|40|
 50 00 00 00 00 0b 00 00 00 80 00 00 00 38 00 00 00 50
 60 02 00 00 00 03 00 00 00 8c b4 8d bc 5c 10 4e 70 60
10
                                \ Np
 70 a5 68 cd d0 ad 4f 12 0e 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 | 70 h
 80 0 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 2f 6d 65 64 69 61 2f 62 80 |
                              /media/b
 90|6f 62 2f 38 63 62 34 38 64 62 63 2d 35 63 31 30|90|ob/8cb48dbc-5c10
 a0|2d 34 65 37 30 2d 61 35 36 38 2d 63 64 64 30 61|a0|-4e70-a568-cdd0a
 b0|64 34 66 31 32 30 65 00 32 30 65 00 00 00 00 00|b0|d4f120e 20e
 e0|00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 05 e6 e3 aa|e0|
 f0|bf 36 43 4a 9f c4 82 9f af f7 80 c0 01 00 00 00|f0| 6CJ
20
21
22 Offset: 0x500
23
  00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 0a 0b 0c 0d 0e 0f 0...4...8...c...
24
  +----+ +-----+
25
 00|0c 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 92 bb ba 56 00 00 00 00|00|
 27
 70 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 38 95 01 00 00 00 00 00 70
 +----+ +-----+
41
42
 Offset: 0x600
43
  00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 0a 0b 0c 0d 0e 0f
44
                          0...4...8...c...
  +----+
45
46
 47
```

```
53
 61
62
  +------
63
64 Offset: 0x700
  00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 0a 0b 0c 0d 0e 0f
65
                    0...4...8...c...
66
 c0|00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
           00 00 00 00 00 00 00 c0
 83
 +----+
84
 Superblock contents:
85
 Number of inodes: 32512
 Number of blocks: 32512
 Number of reserved blocks: 1625
 Number of free blocks: 5618
 Number of free inodes: 32175
 First data block: 0
Log block size: 2 (4096)
93 Log fragment size: 2 (4096)
94 Blocks per group: 32768
95 Fragments per group: 32768
96 Inodes per group: 32512
 Last mount time: Thu Feb 11 15:11:04 2016
 Last write time: Thu Feb 11 15:12:09 2016
 Mount count: 3
100 Max mount count: 65535
101
 Magic number: 0xef53
102 State: 1
103 Error processing: 1
104 Revision level: 1.0
105 Last system check: Tue Feb 9 23:24:50 2016
```

```
106 Check interval: 0
107 OS creator: 0
108 Default reserve UID: 0
109 Default reserve GID: 0
110 First inode number: 11
111 Inode size: 128
112 Block group number: 0
113 Feature compatibility bits: 0x00000038
114 Feature incompatibility bits: 0x00000002
115 Feature read/only compatibility bits: 0x00000003
116 UUID: 8cb48dbc-5c10-4e70-a568-cdd0ad4f120e
117 Volume name: []
li8 Last mount point: [/media/bob/8cb48dbc-5c10-4e70-a568-cdd0ad4f120e]
119 Algorithm bitmap: 0x00000000
120 Number of blocks to preallocate: 0
121 Number of blocks to preallocate for directories: 0
122
   Journal UUID: 8cb48dbc-5c10-4e70-a568-cdd0ad4f120e
123 Journal inode number: 0
124 Journal device number: 0
125 Journal last orphan inode number: 0
126 Default hash version: 1
127 Default mount option bitmap: 0x0000000c
128 First meta block group: 0
129
130 Block group descriptor table:
131 Block
            Block
                    Inode
                            Inode
                                    Free
                                            Free
                                                     Used
132 Number
           Bitmap
                    Bitmap Table
                                    Blocks
                                            Inodes
                                                    Dirs
133
   _____
           _____
                            ____
134 0
            9
                    10
                            11
                                    5618
                                            32175
                                                     96
```