

filesystems 3

last time

FAT headers, free space, allocating space

hard disk performance

- seek times from physical movement of disk head
- queues of requests, scheduled to control seek time
- smarts in controller: bad blocks, scheduling

solid state disks

- block remapping to hide erasure blocks in flash

xv6 filesystem

- inodes* contain info about file blocks, type, size, etc. (instead of directory entries)

xv6 filesystem

xv6's filesystem similar to modern Unix filesystems

better at doing contiguous reads than FAT

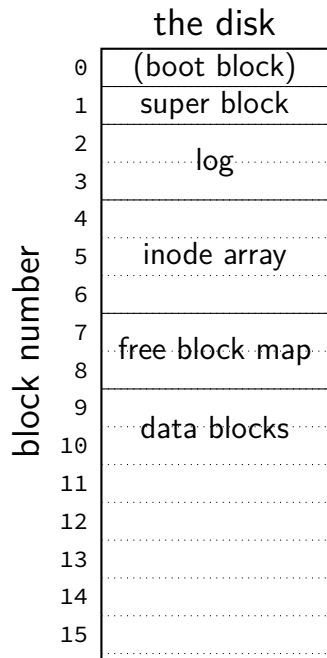
better at handling crashes

supports *hard links* (more on these later)

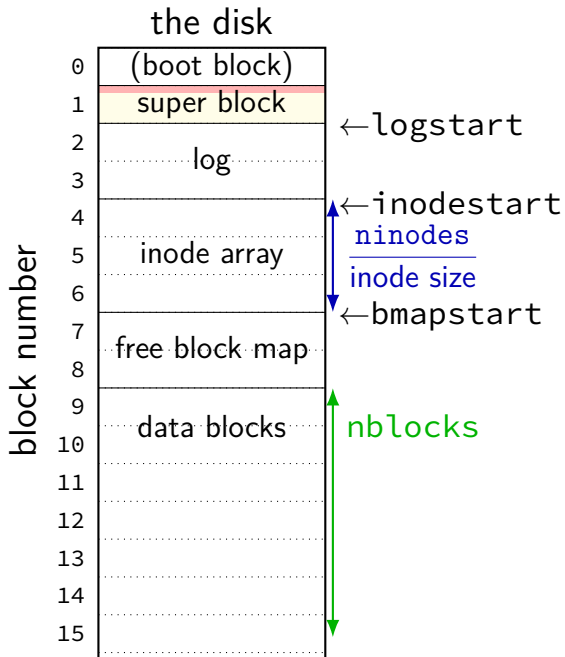
divides disk into *blocks* instead of clusters

file block numbers, free blocks, etc. in different tables

xv6 disk layout



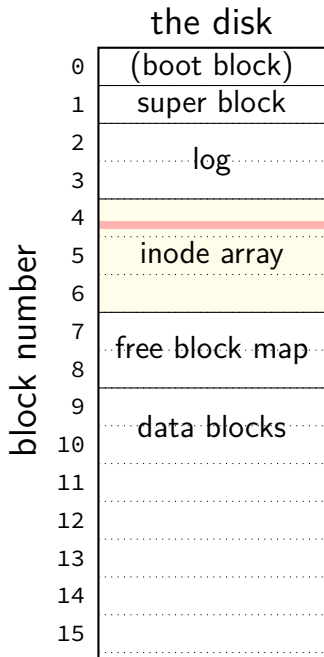
xv6 disk layout



superblock — “header”

```
struct superblock {
    uint size;
    // Size of file system image (b
    uint nblocks;
    // # of data blocks
    uint ninodes;
    // # of inodes
    uint nlog;
    // # of log blocks
    uint logstart;
    // block # of first log block
    uint inodestart;
    // block # of first inode block
    uint bmapstart;
    // block # of first free map bl
};
```

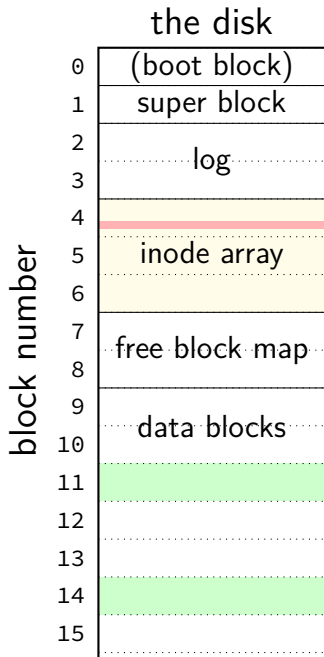
xv6 disk layout



inode — file information

```
struct dinode {  
    short type; // File type  
                // T_DIR, T_FILE, T_DEV  
  
    short major; short minor; // T_DEV only  
  
    short nlink;  
    // Number of links to inode in file syst  
    uint size; // Size of file (bytes)  
    uint addr[NDIRECT+1];  
    // Data block addresses  
};
```

xv6 disk layout

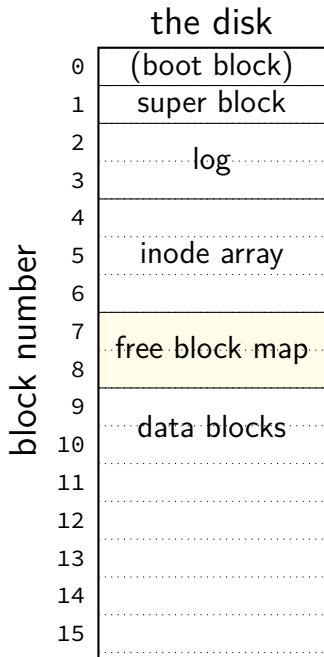


inode — file information

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    short nlink;  
    // Number of links to inode in file syst  
    uint size; // Size of file (bytes)  
    uint addrs[NDIRECT+1];  
    // Data block addresses  
};
```

location of data as block numbers:
e.g. `addrs[0] = 11`; `addrs[1] = 14`;
special case for larger files

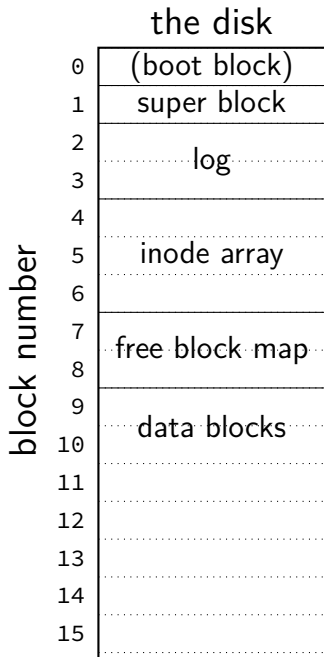
xv6 disk layout



free block map — 1 bit per data block
1 if available, 0 if used

allocating blocks: scan for 1 bits
contiguous 1s — contiguous blocks

xv6 disk layout



what about finding free inodes
xv6 solution: scan for type = 0

typical Unix solution: separate free inode map

xv6 directory entries

```
struct dirent {  
    ushort inum;  
    char name[DIRSIZ];  
};
```

inum — index into inode array on disk

name — name of file or directory

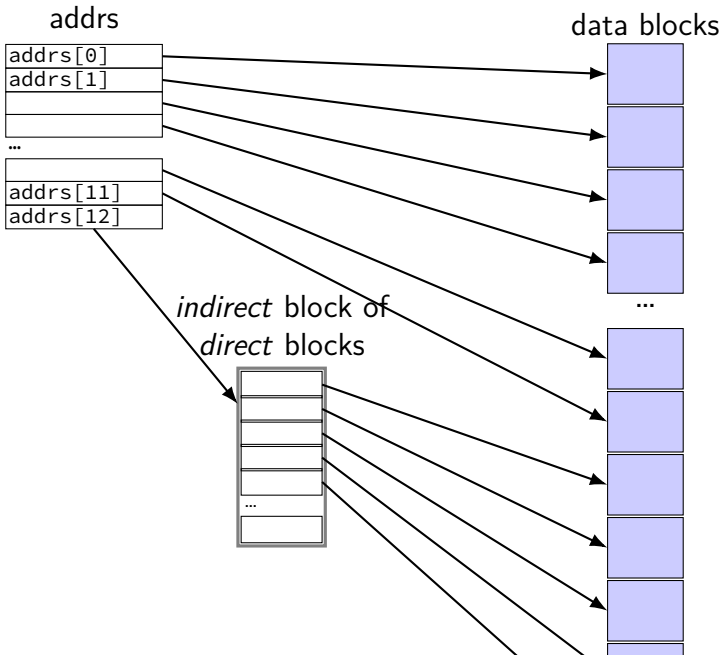
each directory reference to inode called a *hard link*
multiple hard links to file allowed!

xv6 allocating inodes/blocks

need new inode or data block: linear search

simplest solution: xv6 always takes the first one that's free

xv6 inode: direct and indirect blocks



xv6 file sizes

512 byte blocks

2-byte block pointers: 256 block pointers in the indirect block

256 blocks = 131072 bytes of data referenced

12 direct blocks @ 512 bytes each = 6144 bytes

1 indirect block @ 131072 bytes each = 131072 bytes

maximum file size = 6144 + 131072 bytes

Linux ext2 inode

```
struct ext2_inode {
    __le16 i_mode;           /* File mode */
    __le16 i_uid;           /* Low 16 bits of Owner Uid */
    __le32 i_size;          /* Size in bytes */
    __le32 i_atime;         /* Access time */
    __le32 i_ctime;         /* Creation time */
    __le32 i_mtime;         /* Modification time */
    __le32 i_dtime;         /* Deletion Time */
    __le16 i_gid;           /* Low 16 bits of Group Id */
    __le16 i_links_count;   /* Links count */
    __le32 i_blocks;        /* Blocks count */
    __le32 i_flags;         /* File flags */
    ...
    __le32 i_block[EXT2_N_BLOCKS]; /* Pointers to blocks */
    ...
};
```

Linux ext2 inode

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struct ext2_inode {
    __le16 i_mode;           /* File mode */
    __le16 i_uid;           /* Low 16 bits of Owner Uid */
    __le32 i_size;          /* Size in bytes */
    __le32 i_atime;         /* Access time */
    __le32 i_ctime;         /* Creation time */
    -- type (regular, directory, device)
    -- and permissions (read/write/execute for owner/group/others)
    __le16 i_links_count;    /* Links count */
    __le32 i_blocks;        /* Blocks count */
    __le32 i_flags;         /* File flags */
    ...
    __le32 i_block[EXT2_N_BLOCKS]; /* Pointers to blocks */
    ...
};
```

Linux ext2 inode

```
struct ext2_inode {
    __le16 i_mode;           /* File mode */
    __le16 i_uid;           /* Low 16 bits owner and group */
    __le32 i_size;          /* Size in bytes */
    __le32 i_atime;         /* Access time */
    __le32 i_ctime;         /* Creation time */
    __le32 i_mtime;         /* Modification time */
    __le32 i_dtime;         /* Deletion Time */
    __le16 i_gid;           /* Low 16 bits of Group Id */
    __le16 i_links_count;   /* Links count */
    __le32 i_blocks;        /* Blocks count */
    __le32 i_flags;         /* File flags */
    ...
    __le32 i_block[EXT2_N_BLOCKS]; /* Pointers to blocks */
    ...
};
```


Linux ext2 inode

```
struct ext2_inode {
    __le16 i_mode;           /* File mode */
    __le16 i_uid;           /* Low 16 bits of user Id */
    __le32 i_size;          /* Size in bytes */
    __le32 i_atime;         /* Access time */
    __le32 i_ctime;         /* Creation time */
    __le32 i_mtime;        /* Modification time */
    __le32 i_dtime;        /* Deletion Time */
    __le16 i_gid;           /* Low 16 bits of Group Id */
    __le16 i_links_count;   /* Links count */
    __le32 i_blocks;       /* Blocks count */
    __le32 i_flags;        /* File flags */
    ...
    __le32 i_block[EXT2_N_BLOCKS]; /* Pointers to blocks */
    ...
};
```

whole bunch of times

Linux ext2 inode

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struct ext2_inode {
    __le16 i_mod;
    __le16 i_uid;
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    __le32 i_ctime;
    __le32 i_mtime;
    __le32 i_dtime;
    __le16 i_gid;
    __le16 i_links_count;
    __le32 i_blocks;
    __le32 i_flags;
    ...
    __le32 i_block[EXT2_N_BLOCKS];
    ...
};
```

similar pointers like xv6 FS — but more indirection

/ Size in bytes */*

/ Access time */*

/ Creation time */*

/ Modification time */*

/ Deletion Time */*

/ Low 16 bits of Group Id */*

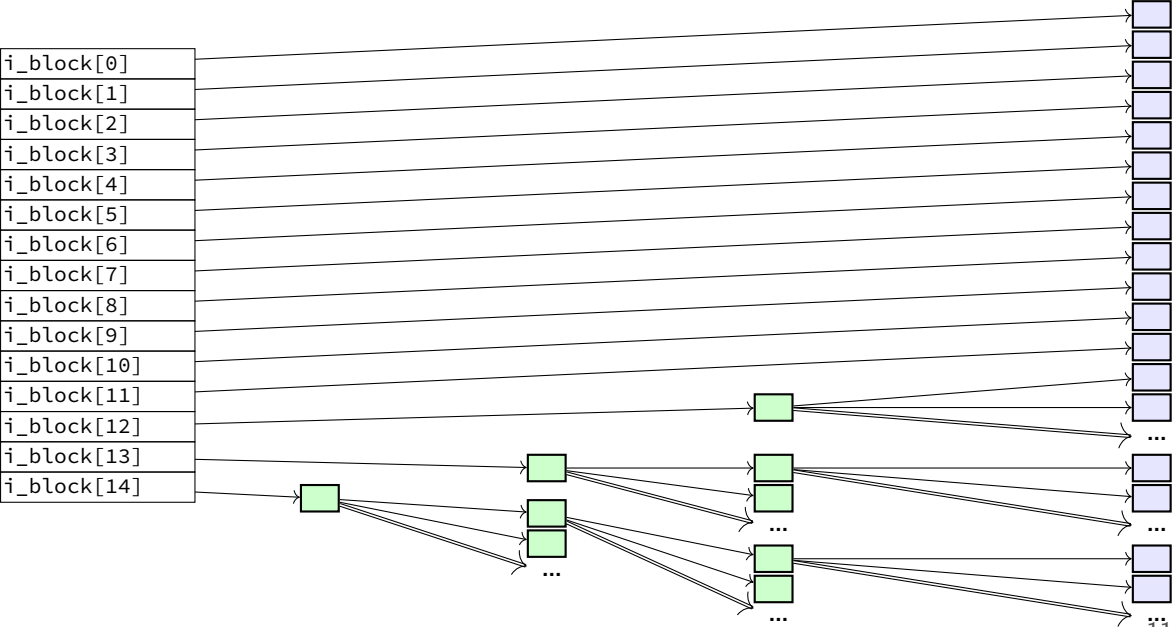
/ Links count */*

/ Blocks count */*

/ File flags */*

/ Pointers to blocks */*

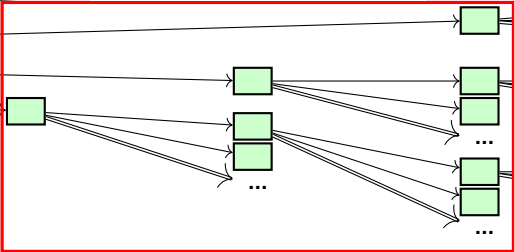
double/triple indirect



double/triple indirect

block pointers

- i_block[0]
- i_block[1]
- i_block[2]
- i_block[3]
- i_block[4]
- i_block[5]
- i_block[6]
- i_block[7]
- i_block[8]
- i_block[9]
- i_block[10]
- i_block[11]
- i_block[12]
- i_block[13]
- i_block[14]



blocks of block pointers

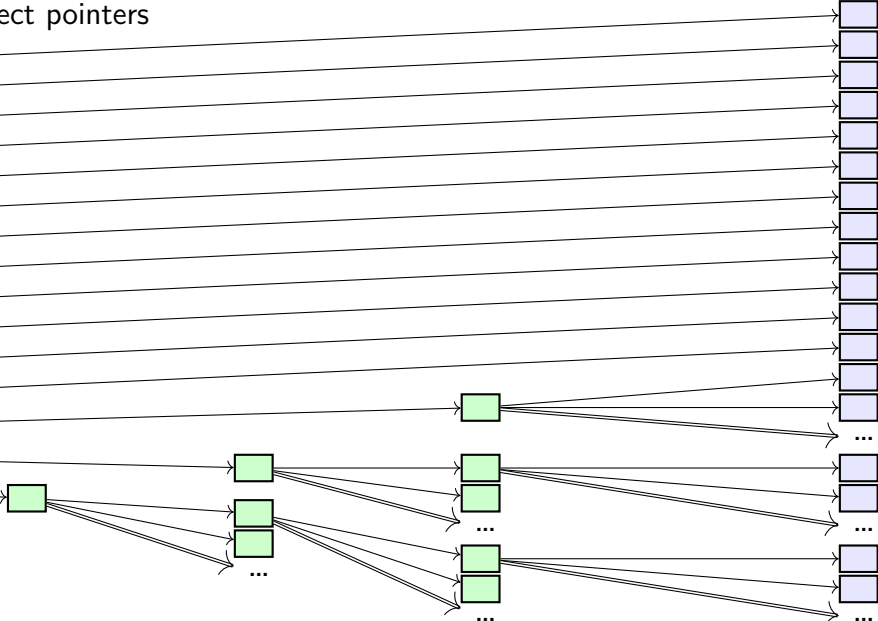
data blocks



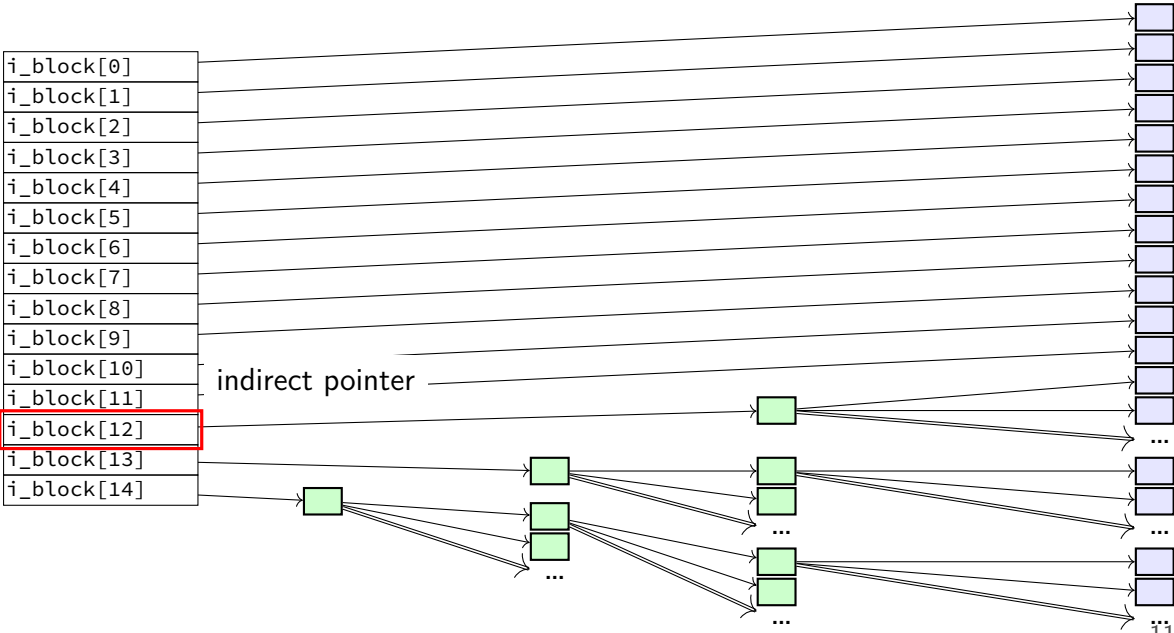
double/triple indirect

12 direct pointers

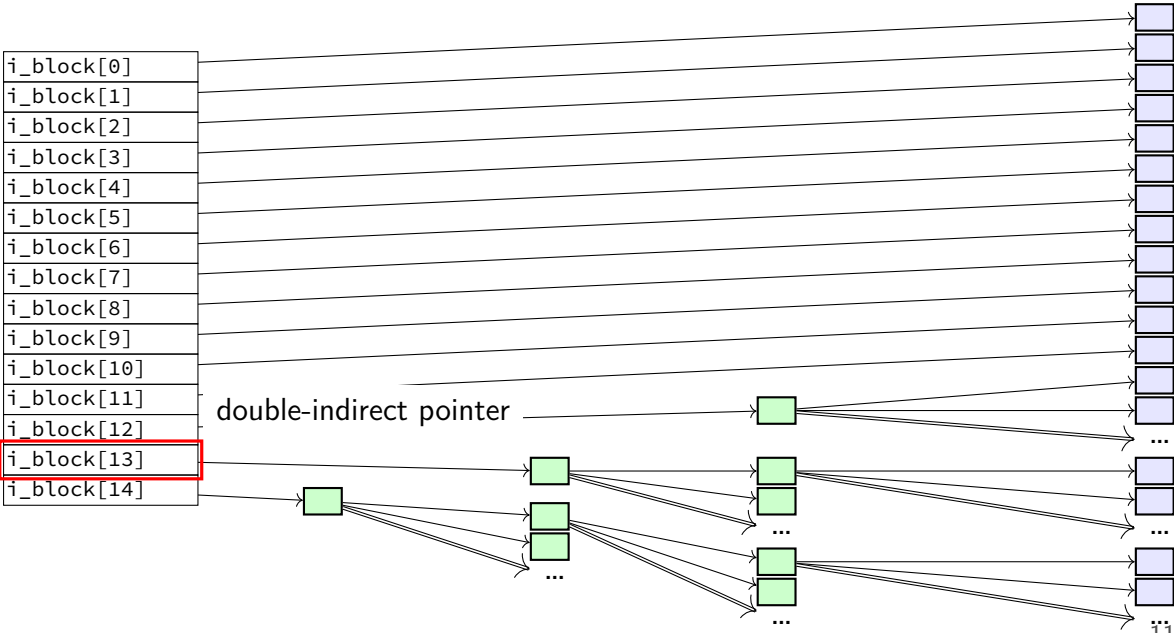
i_block[0]
i_block[1]
i_block[2]
i_block[3]
i_block[4]
i_block[5]
i_block[6]
i_block[7]
i_block[8]
i_block[9]
i_block[10]
i_block[11]
i_block[12]
i_block[13]
i_block[14]



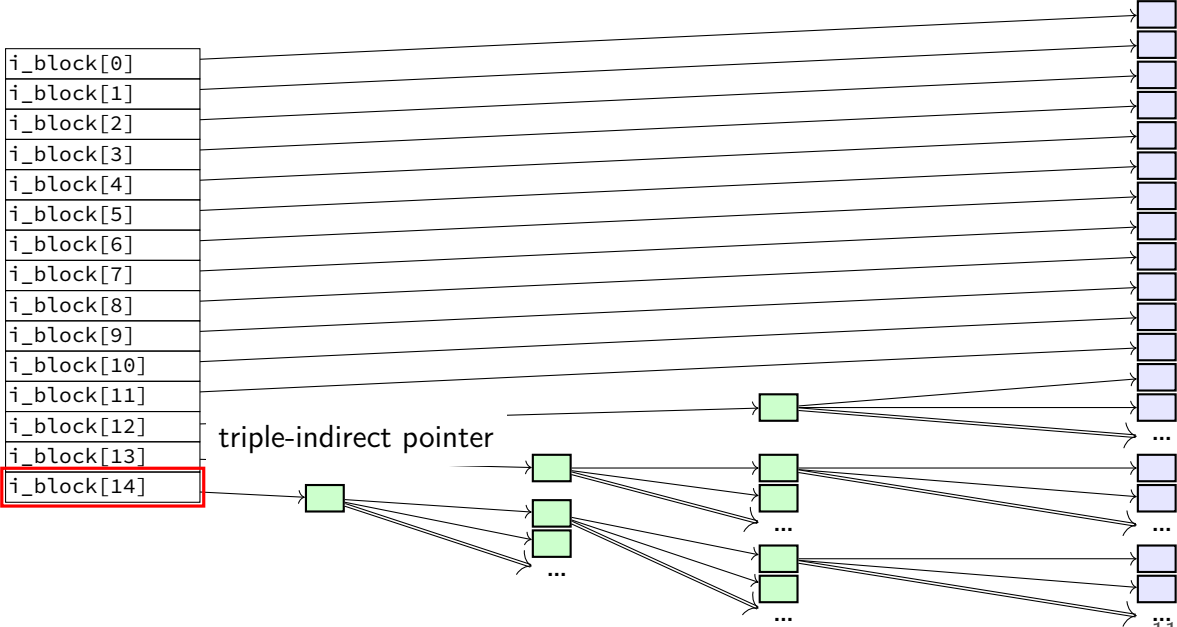
double/triple indirect



double/triple indirect



double/triple indirect



ext2 indirect blocks

12 direct block pointers

1 indirect block pointer

pointer to block containing more direct block pointers

1 double indirect block pointer

pointer to block containing more indirect block pointers

1 triple indirect block pointer

pointer to block containing more double indirect block pointers

ext2 indirect blocks

12 direct block pointers

1 indirect block pointer

pointer to block containing more direct block pointers

1 double indirect block pointer

pointer to block containing more indirect block pointers

1 triple indirect block pointer

pointer to block containing more double indirect block pointers

exercise: if 1K blocks, 4 byte block pointers, how big can a file be?

indirect block advantages

small files: all direct blocks + no extra space beyond inode

larger files — more indirection

file should be large enough to hide extra indirection cost

$(\log N)$ -like time to find block for particular offset

no linear search like FAT

sparse files

the xv6 filesystem and ext2 allow *sparse files*

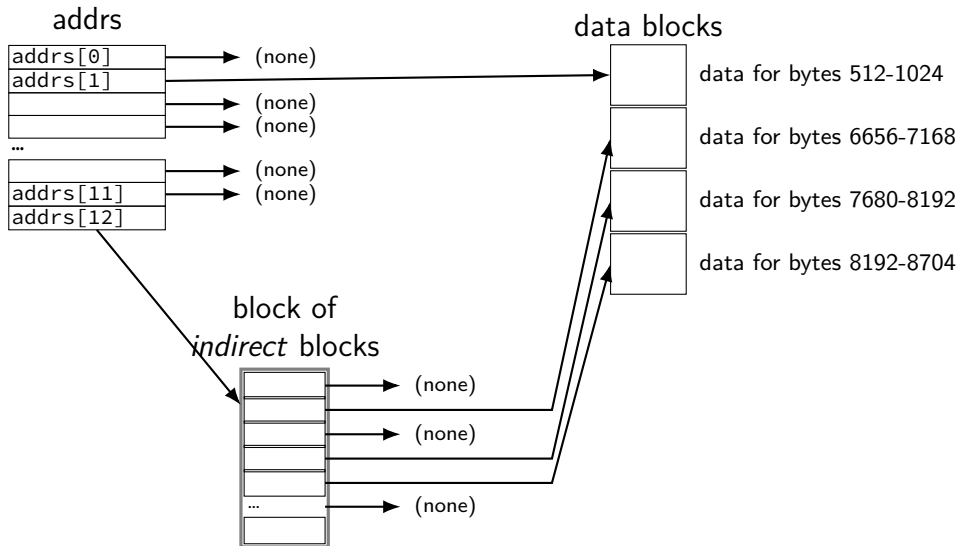
“holes” with no data blocks

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void) {
    FILE *fh = fopen("sparse.dat", "w");
    fseek(fh, 1024 * 1024, SEEK_SET);
    fprintf(fh, "Some data here\n");
    fclose(fh);
}
```

sparse.dat is 1MB file which uses a handful of blocks

most of its block pointers are some NULL ('no such block') value
including some direct and indirect ones

xv6 inode: sparse file



hard links

xv6/ext2 directory entries: name, inode number

all non-name information: in the inode itself

each directory entry is called a *hard link*

a file can have **multiple hard links**

ln

```
$ echo "Text A." >test.txt
$ ln test.txt new.txt
$ cat new.txt
Text A.
$ echo "Text B." >new.txt
$ cat new.txt
Text B.
$ cat test.txt
Text B.
```

ln OLD NEW — NEW is the *same file* as OLD

link counts

xv6 and ext2 track number of links
zero — actually delete file

link counts

xv6 and ext2 track number of links

zero — actually delete file

also count **open files as a link**

trick: create file, open it, delete it

file not really deleted until you close it

...but doesn't have a name (no hard link in directory)

link, unlink

`ln OLD NEW` calls the POSIX `link()` function

`rm FOO` calls the POSIX `unlink()` function

soft or symbolic links

POSIX also supports soft/symbolic links

reference a file by name

special type of file whose data is the name

```
$ echo "This is a test." >test.txt
$ ln -s test.txt new.txt
$ ls -l new.txt
lrwxrwxrwx 1 charles charles 8 Oct 29 20:49 new.txt -> test.txt
$ cat new.txt
This is a test.
$ rm test.txt
$ cat new.txt
cat: new.txt: No such file or directory
$ echo "New contents." >test.txt
$ cat new.txt
New contents.
```

xv6 FS pros versus FAT

support for reliability — log
more on this later

possibly easier to scan for free blocks
more compact free block map

easier to find location of k th block of file
element of `addrs` array

file type/size information held with block locations
inode number = everything about open file

missing pieces

what's the log? (more on that later)

other file metadata?

creation times, etc. — xv6 doesn't have it

not good at taking advantage of HDD architecture

exercise

say xv6 filesystem with:

- 64-byte inodes (12 direct + 1 indirect pointer)

- 16-byte directory entries

- 512 byte blocks

- 2-byte block pointers

how many inodes + blocks (not storing inodes) is used to store a directory of 200 30KB files?

remember: blocks could include blocks storing data or block pointers or directory enties

how many inodes + blocks is used to store a directory of 2000 3KB files?

xv6 filesystem performance issues

inode, block map stored far away from file data
long seek times for reading files

unintelligent choice of file/directory data blocks
xv6 finds first free block/inode
result: files/directory entries scattered about

blocks are pretty small — needs lots of space for metadata
could change size? but waste space for small files
large files have giant lists of blocks

linear searches of directory entries to resolve paths

Fast File System

the Berkeley Fast File System (FFS) 'solved' some of these problems

McKusick et al, "A Fast File System for UNIX" <https://people.eecs.berkeley.edu/~brewer/cs262/FFS.pdf>
avoids long seek times, wasting space for tiny files

Linux's ext2 filesystem based on FFS

some other notable newer solutions (beyond what FFS/ext2 do)

better handling of very large files
avoiding linear directory searches

xv6 filesystem performance issues

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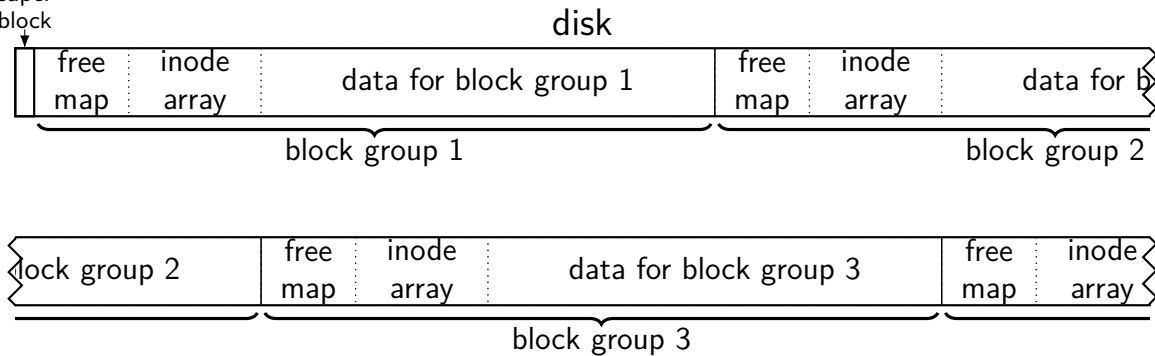
large files have giant lists of blocks

linear searches of directory entries to resolve paths

block groups

(AKA cluster groups)

super
block



split disk into block groups
each block group like a mini-filesystem

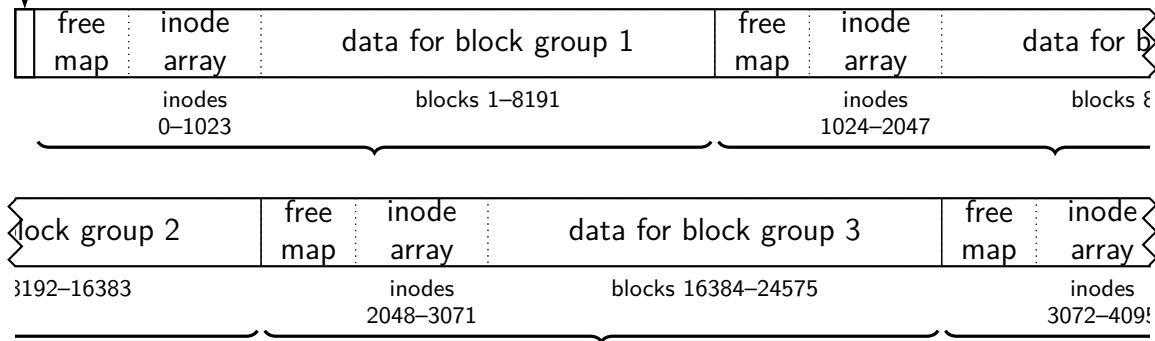
block groups

(AKA cluster groups)

super

block

disk



split block + inode numbers across the groups
inode in one block group can reference blocks in another
(but would rather not)

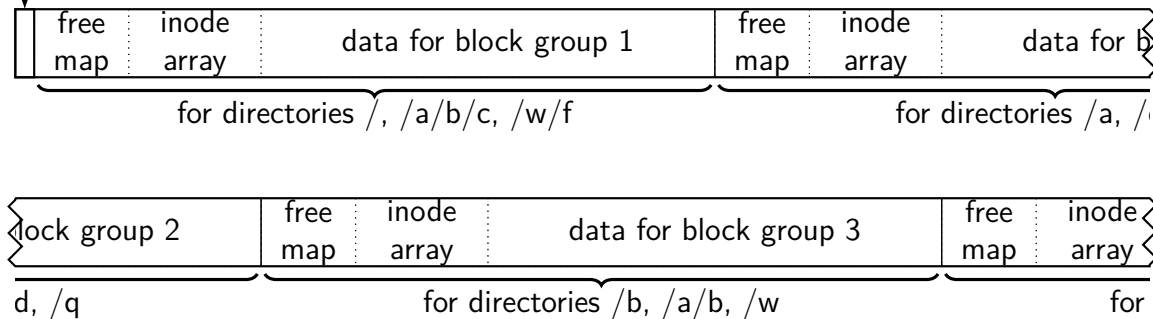
block groups

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disk



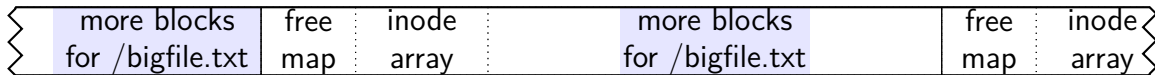
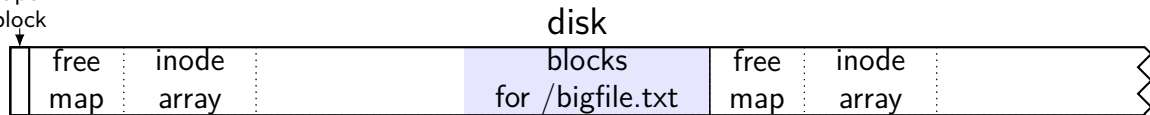
goal: *most data* for each directory within a block group
directory entries + inodes + file data close on disk
lower seek times!

block groups

(AKA cluster groups)

super

block



large files might need to be split across block groups

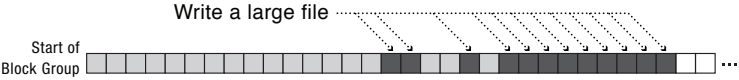
allocation within block groups



Expected typical arrangement.



Small files fill holes near start of block group.



Large files fill holes near start of block group and then write most data to sequential range blocks.

FFS block groups

making a subdirectory: new block group
for inode + data (entries) in different

writing a file: same block group as directory, first free block
intuition: non-small files get contiguous groups at end of block
FFS keeps disk deliberately underutilized (e.g. 10% free) to ensure this

can wait until dirty file data flushed from cache to allocate blocks
makes it easier to allocate contiguous ranges of blocks

xv6 filesystem performance issues

inode, block map stored far away from file data

long seek times for reading files

unintelligent choice of file/directory data blocks

xv6 finds *first free block/inode*

result: files/directory entries scattered about

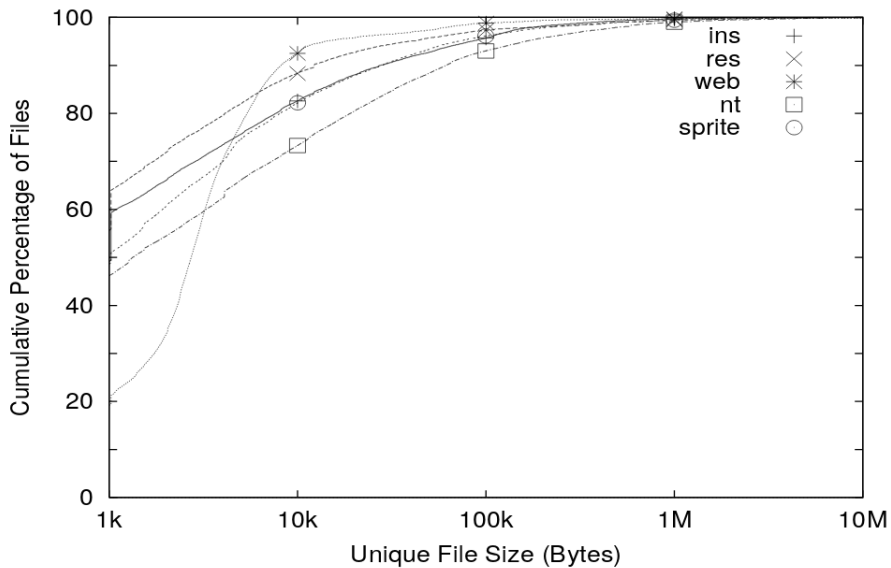
blocks are pretty small — needs lots of space for metadata

could change size? but **waste space for small files**

large files have giant lists of blocks

linear searches of directory entries to resolve paths

empirical file sizes



typical file sizes

most files are small

sometimes 50+% less than 1kbyte

often 80-95% less than 10kbyte

doesn't mean large files are unimportant

still take up most of the space

biggest performance problems

fragments

FFS: a file's last block can be a *fragment* — only part of a block

each block split into approx. 4 fragments

each fragment has its own index

extra field in inode indicates that last block is fragment

allows one block to store data for several small files

non-FFS changes

now some techniques beyond FFS

some of these supported by current filesystems, like

- Microsoft's NTFS

- Linux's ext4 (successor to ext2)

xv6 filesystem performance issues

inode, block map stored far away from file data
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large files have giant lists of blocks

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extents

large file? lists of many thousands of blocks is awkward
...and requires multiple reads from disk to get

solution: store **extents**: (start disk block, size)
replaces or supplements block list

Linux's ext4 and Windows's NTFS both use this

allocating extents

challenge: finding contiguous sets of free blocks

FFS's strategy "first in block group" doesn't work well

first several blocks likely to be 'holes' from deleted files

NTFS: scan block map for "best fit"

look for big enough chunk of free blocks

choose smallest among all the candidates

don't find any? okay: use more than one extent

efficient seeking with extents

suppose a file has long list of extents

how to seek to byte X ?

efficient seeking with extents

suppose a file has long list of extents

how to seek to byte X ?

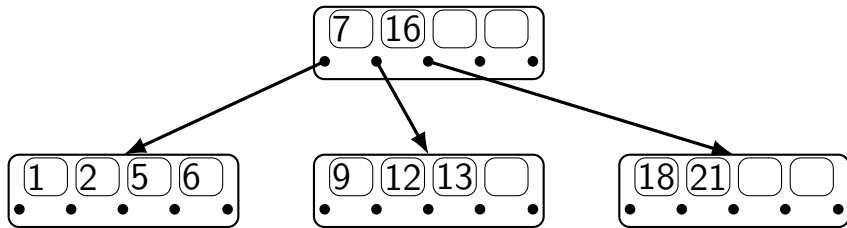
solution: store a (search) **tree**

ext4: each node stores key=minimum file index it covers

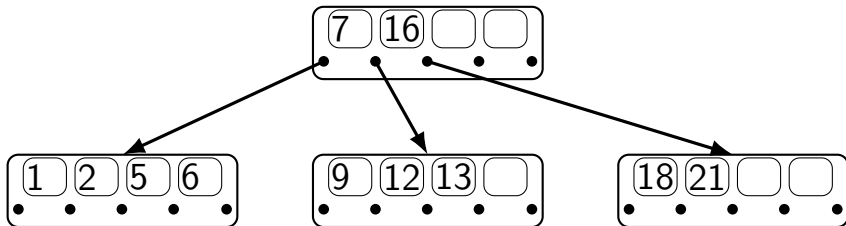
ext4: each node stores extent value=(start data block+size)

ext4: each node has pointer (disk block) to its children

non-binary search trees



non-binary search trees



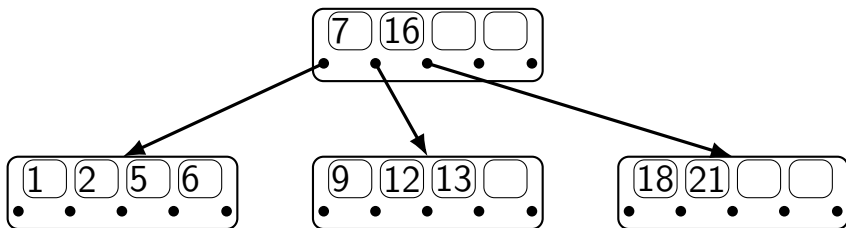
each node can be **one block on disk**

choose number of entries in node based on block size

avoid large or random accesses to disk and linear searches

can do binary search within a node

non-binary search trees



each node can be **one block on disk**

choose number of entries in node based on block size

avoid large or random accesses to disk and linear searches

can do binary search within a node

algorithms for adding to tree while keeping it balanced

similar idea to AVL trees

using trees on disk

linear search to find extent at offset X

store index by offset of extent within file

linear search to find file in directory?

index by filename

both problems — solved with non-binary tree on disk

filesystem reliability

a crash happens — what's the state of my filesystem?

hard disk atomicity

interrupt a hard drive write?

write whole disk sector or corrupt it

hard drive stores checksum for each sector

write interrupted? — checksum mismatch

hard drive returns read error

reliability issues

is the data there?

can we find the file, etc.?

is the filesystem in a consistent state?

do we know what blocks are free?

backup slides

erasure coding with xor

storing 2 bits xy using 3

choose $x, y, z = x \oplus y$

recover x : $x = y \oplus z$

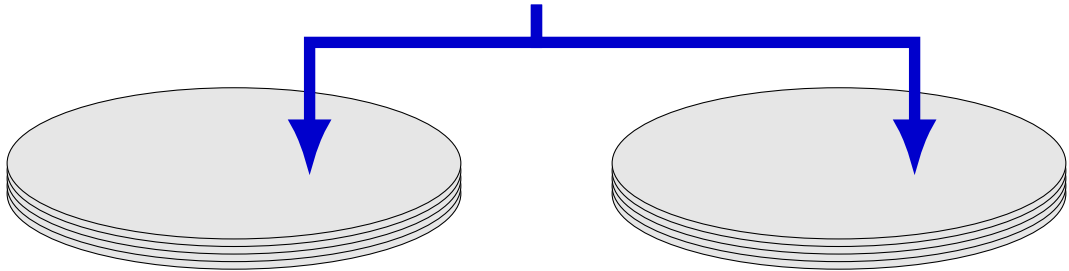
recover y : $y = x \oplus z$

recover z : $z = x \oplus y$

mirroring whole disks

alternate strategy: write everything to **two disks**

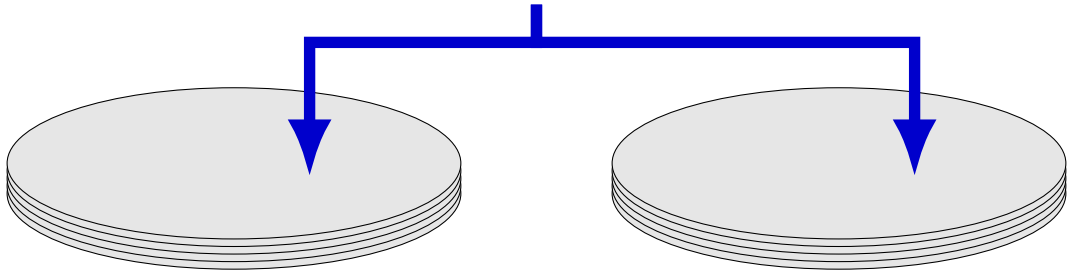
always write to both



mirroring whole disks

alternate strategy: write everything to **two disks**

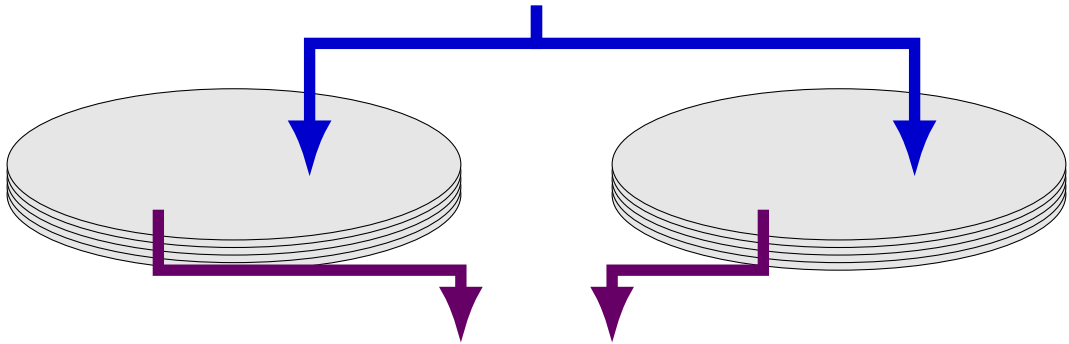
always **write to both**



mirroring whole disks

alternate strategy: write everything to **two disks**

always write to both



read from either
(or different parts of both – **faster!**)

RAID 4 parity

\oplus — bitwise xor

disk 1

disk 2

disk 3

A_1 : sector 0	A_2 : sector 1	A_p : $A_1 \oplus A_2$
B_1 : sector 2	B_2 : sector 3	B_p : $B_1 \oplus B_2$

...

...

...

RAID 4 parity

\oplus — bitwise xor

disk 1

disk 2

disk 3

A_1 : sector 0	A_2 : sector 1	A_p : $A_1 \oplus A_2$
B_1 : sector 2	B_2 : sector 3	B_p : $B_1 \oplus B_2$

...

...

...

$$A_p = A_1 \oplus A_2$$

$$A_1 = A_p \oplus A_2$$

$$A_2 = A_1 \oplus A_p$$

can compute contents of any disk!

RAID 4 parity

\oplus — bitwise xor

disk 1

disk 2

disk 3

A_1 : sector 0	A_2 : sector 1	A_p : $A_1 \oplus A_2$
B_1 : sector 2	B_2 : sector 3	B_p : $B_1 \oplus B_2$

...

...

...

exercise: how to replace sector 3 (B_2) with new value?
how many writes? how many reads?

RAID 4 parity (more disks)

disk 1	disk 2	disk 3	disk 4
A_1 : sector 0	A_2 : sector 1	A_3 sector 2	A_p : $A_1 \oplus A_2 \oplus A_3$
B_1 : sector 3	B_2 : sector 4	B_3 : sector 5	B_p : $B_1 \oplus B_2 \oplus B_3$
...	

RAID 4 parity (more disks)

disk 1	disk 2	disk 3	disk 4
A_1 : sector 0	A_2 : sector 1	A_3 : sector 2	A_p : $A_1 \oplus A_2 \oplus A_3$
B_1 : sector 3	B_2 : sector 4	B_3 : sector 5	B_p : $B_1 \oplus B_2 \oplus B_3$
...	

$$A_p = A_1 \oplus A_2 \oplus A_3$$

$$A_1 = A_p \oplus A_2 \oplus A_3$$

$$A_2 = A_1 \oplus A_p \oplus A_3$$

$$A_3 = A_1 \oplus A_2 \oplus A_p$$

can still compute contents of any disk!

RAID 4 parity (more disks)

disk 1	disk 2	disk 3	disk 4
A_1 : sector 0	A_2 : sector 1	A_3 sector 2	A_p : $A_1 \oplus A_2 \oplus A_3$
B_1 : sector 3	B_2 : sector 4	B_3 : sector 5	B_p : $B_1 \oplus B_2 \oplus B_3$
...	

exercise: how to replace sector 3 (B_1) with new value now?
how many writes? how many reads?

RAID 5 parity

disk 1	disk 2	disk 3	disk 4
A_1 : sector 0	A_2 : sector 1	A_3 : sector 2	A_p : $A_1 \oplus A_2 \oplus A_3$
B_1 : sector 3	B_2 : sector 4	B_p : $B_1 \oplus B_2 \oplus B_3$	B_3 : sector 5
C_1 : sector 6	C_p : $C_1 \oplus C_2 \oplus C_3$	C_2 : sector 7	C_3 : sector 8
...	

RAID 5 parity

disk 1	disk 2	disk 3	disk 4
A_1 : sector 0	A_2 : sector 1	A_3 : sector 2	A_p : $A_1 \oplus A_2 \oplus A_3$
B_1 : sector 3	B_2 : sector 4	B_p : $B_1 \oplus B_2 \oplus B_3$	B_3 : sector 5
C_1 : sector 6	C_p : $C_1 \oplus C_2 \oplus C_3$	C_2 : sector 7	C_3 : sector 8
...	

spread out parity updates across disks
so each disk has about same amount of work

more general schemes

RAID 6: tolerate loss of any two disks

can generalize to 3 or more failures

justification: takes days/weeks to replace data on missing disk
...giving time for more disks to fail

probably more in CS 4434?

but none of this addresses consistency

RAID-like redundancy

usually appears to filesystem as 'more reliable disk'

hardware or software layers to implement extra copies/parity

some filesystems (e.g. ZFS) implement this themselves

more flexibility — e.g. change redundancy file-by-file

ZFS combines with its own checksums — don't trust disks!

RAID: missing piece

what about losing data while blocks being updated

very tricky/failure-prone part of RAID implementations