



# Chapter 1. Introduction to the Design and Specification of File Structures

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# Chapter Outline

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1.1 The Heart of File Structure Design

1.2 A Short History of File Structure Design

1.3 A Conceptual Toolkit: File Structure Literacy

1.4 An Object-Oriented Toolkit: Making File Structure Usable

1.5 Using Objects in C++

# 1.1 The Heart of File Structure Design

- Disk
  - Very slow
  - Access time => 100만배 차이
    - RAM: 120 ns (20 sec) => 10ns 이하
    - Disk: 30 ms(5,000,000sec =58 days) : 25만배=>10ms 이하
  - Provide enormous, nonvolatile capability at low cost
- File structure
  - A combination of **representation** for data in files and of **operations** for accessing the data
- Good file structure design
  - Access to all the capacity without making applications spend a lot of time for the disk
  - Make an application hundreds of times faster
  - What is best for one situation may be terrible for another



## 1.2 A Short History of File Structure Design (1/2)

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- Goals of R&D for **file structure design problems**
  - To get the information we need with one access to the disk
  - To find the target information with as few access as possible (i.e., 2 or 3 accesses)  
=> To group information to get everything with only one access
- Sequential access → Direct access
  - Tape → Disk
  - Index : <key, pointer> in smaller file



# 1.2 A Short History of File Structure Design (2/2)

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## B-tree

- Balanced tree structure
- Excellent access performance, but sequential access with a cost

## ■ B<sup>+</sup>-tree

- Combination of a B-tree and a sequential linked list
- Both sequential access and direct access
- 3 or 4 accesses to the disk for millions of records

## ■ Hashing

- For files that do not change size greatly over time
- One access to files

## ■ Extendible, dynamic hashing

- One or, at most, two disk accesses no matter how big the file become



## 1.3 A Conceptual Toolkit: File Structure Literacy

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- Design tools for **design problems**
  - Decrease the number of disk accesses by collecting data into buffers, blocks, or buckets
  - Manage the growth of these collections by splitting them

=> Finding new ways to combine these basic tools of file design
- Conceptual tools
  - **Methods** of framing and addressing a design problem
  - Each tool combines ways of **representing** data with specific **operations**



## 1.4 An Object-Oriented Toolkits : Making File Structures Usable

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- File structures usable in applications
  - Conceptual toolkit → application programming interface (i.e., collections of data types and operations)
- Object-Oriented approach
  - Data types and operations are presented as *class* definitions
  - The C++ programming language is used in this text
- File structure
  - Represented by one or more classes of objects



# 1.5 Using Objects in C++ (1/4)

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- Class
  - data attributes (*data members*)
  - functions (*member functions* or *methods*)
- Features of C++
  - class definitions, constructors, public and private sections, and operator overloading
  - inheritance, virtual functions, and templates
- This book
  - illustrate the principles of object-oriented design through implementations of **file structures** and **file operations** as C++ classes



# 1.5 Using Objects in C++ (2/4)

- C++ class **Person**

```
class Person
{ public:
  char LastName[11], FirstName[11], Address[16];    // data members
  char City[16], State[3], Zipcode[10];
  person();                                       // method
                                                // default constructor
};
```

- Object creation

```
Person p;                                     // automatic creation
Person * p_ptr = new Person                   // dynamic creation
```

- **person** constructor

```
Person :: person()                            // set each field to an empty string
{
  LastName[0] = 0; FirstName[0] = 0; Address[0] = 0;
  City[0] = 0; State[0] = 0; Zipcode[0] = 0;
}
```

## 1.5 Using Objects in C++ (3/4)

```
class String
{public:
    String ();                // default constructor
    String (const String&);   // copy constructor
    String (const char *);    // create from C string
    ~String ();              // destructor
    String & operator = (const String &); // assignment
    int operator == (const String &) const; // equality
    char * operator char*() // conversion to char *
        {return strdup(string);} // inline body of method
private:
    char * string; // represent value as C string
    int MaxLength;
};
```

=> a **conversion** operator (operator char \*)

- allow the use of the value of a **String object** as a **C string**

# 1.5 Using Objects in C++ (4/4)

```
String s1("abcdefg"); //uses String::String (const char*)
```

```
char str[10];
```

```
strcpy (str, s1); //uses String::operator char *()
```

=> create a String object s1 and copy its value to normal C string

```
s2 = s1;
```

=> copy the value of s1.string (a pointer) to s2.string

=> s1 and s2 become aliases

```
String & String:: operator = (const String & str)
```

```
{ //code for assignment operator
```

```
    strcpy(string, str.string)
```

```
    return *this;
```

```
}
```

```
String s1, s2;
```

```
s1 = s2; //using overloaded assignment
```

=> does not create the alias problem