

DFSMS Basics: Data Set Fundamentals Get to Know Your Data Sets!

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August 7, 2014 Session Number 16119













Background

To fully understand z/OS Data Sets, let's look at how data is stored



Tape (Sequential) Disk (Direct)





DASD Structure





Modern Devices are Modeled after this architecture: 1 Track = 56664 Bytes 1 Cylinder = 15 Tracks

e Devices 9





Data Sets

Volumes provide a stream of data.

- We can reference by various methods..
 - DASD by CCHHRR Cylinder, Head, Record
 - Relative Track (converts to Cyl, Head)
 - Relative Byte (which converts to CCHHRR)
- But where do files begin and end?





Volume Table of Contents

- A Volume is a logically defined disk or tape
 - Can be a real disk
 - Usually is a virtual disk
- Volume Label (at Cyl0,Trk0)
 - Points to VTOC

• Volume Table of Contents (VTOC)

- Comprised of DSCBs
 - 10 types Format 0-9
 - For more info, check out DFSMSdfp Advanced Services: https://ibm.biz/BdF49T
- Maps out the entire drive
 - Drive info (FMT4)
 - Free space (FMT5/7)
 - Data sets (FMT1/8/3)
- Now we can find any data set on the volume







Data Set Names



- Rules:
 - Up to 22 qualifiers, each at least 1 character long
 - Qualifiers separated by period (.)
 - Up to 44 total characters long
 - First character must be A-Z or National (#,\$,@)
 - Remaining can be alphanumeric, national, or hyphens





Catalog

- A catalog is a data set that keeps track of other data sets
- Ties DSN to Volume
- Managed by the CATALOG address space
- Includes MASTER and USER catalogs
- Now we can find any data set in the system
- With shared catalogs, any data set in the plex







Data Set Organization

Data sets are still just streams of bytes with no structure. Finding information within that stream is difficult.

Solution: Data Set Organization

Defines how the data set is structured internally.. Two Main Types, with sub-types







Blocking

- Data Streams are logically divided into BLOCKS which are further divided into RECORDS
- This is to reduce the number of I/Os

Data Stream on a dis	k (1 track)
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Blo	ck 1	Blo	ck 2
Record 1	Record 2	Record 3	Record 4

- Track Length: set by device (3390 is 56664 bytes/track)
- Block Size (BLKSIZE): Set by user or calculated automatically
- Record Size (LRECL): Set by the user





Non-VSAM Direct and Sequential





Direct Organization

- Blocks are arranged by their control number
- No records, blocks are organized by the application
- Accessed via the BDAM access method
- Works like a hashtable space is divided into even blocks
- Because not every entry may be used, some space may be wasted.
- Reads and writes are for whole blocks at a time

CONTROL	BLOCK [BLKSIZE]
1	DATASTRING ONE,
2	[empty]
3	IN A GALAXY FAR, FAR AWAY
4	42





Sequential Organization

- One of the most common organizations you'll see
- Data is split into blocks, which are split into records
- Records are arranged in the order they are written
- To add new records, you either:
 - Rewrite the whole file
 - Add to the end
- Accessed via the BSAM or QSAM access method
- Also comes in LARGE and EXTENDED formats

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Partitioned Data Sets (PDS)

- Data is divided up into members
- Members are stored sequentially
- Members have unique names (1-8 characters)
- Directory Entries at the beginning of the data set links member names to data locations





PDS Limitations

- Limited to one volume
- Prone to fragmentation:
 - When a member is deleted, the directory entry is removed, but the space remains unused leading to fragmentation
 - Adding records to a member remove the old member and rewrites it at the end
 - Adding new members add to the end
- Eventually, a REORG is needed to rebuild the data set and reclaim space
- Sharing can cause problems:
 - Only one user can update at a time, but not enforced





PDS Extended (PDSE)

- Works relatively interchangeably with PDS
- Internal structure is different
- Advantages:
 - Can reuse space (no more fragmentation)
 - Can extend as needed (still limited to one volume)
 - Directory is indexed, lowering seek time
 - Members can be shared
- Can store program objects or data, but not both
- Comes in Version1 and Version2
- For more information, see Tom's presentations:
 - 16126: PDSE Best Practices (Monday)
 - 16127: PDSE Version 2 Member Generations (Wed)





Generation Data Groups

- Not a data set organization, but a catalog construct
- Groups of data sets organized by number (G0000V00)
- Allows easy tracking of multiple generations/version
- Must be non-VSAM, and must be CATALOGed







VSAM

Virtual Sequential Access Method





Virtual Sequential Access Method (VSAM)

- Four sub-types:
 - Key-Sequenced Data Sets (KSDS)
 - Entry-Sequenced Data Sets (ESDS)
 - Relative Record Data Sets (RRDS)
 - Linear Data Sets (LDS)
- Instead of blocks, VSAM uses Control Intervals and Areas

	Tra	ack	
	Control /	Area (CA)	
Control Interval (CI)		Control In	terval (CI)
Record 1	Record 2	Record 3	Record 4
			SHA in Pittsburg



VSAM Terms



Key Sequenced Data Set

- Records contain a KEY and DATA
- That KEY is used to create an index
- The index provides direct access to any record

KSDS Index Structure

Alternate Indexes

VSAM Splits

- Split is when an INSERT won't fit in a CI
- About half of the data is moved to a new CI

Entry Sequenced Data Set

- No INDEX
- Records in order they were added
- Always add to the end
 - No such thing as "delete", only flagged "inactive"
 - Empty spaces can never be used
- Access sequentially, or directly using RBA
- You can use an AIX to link keys to RBA
- Good for logs, bank transaction history, etc

Relative Record Data Set

- Pre-formatted fixed-length records
 - Sequenced by relative number
 - Slots can be used or unused (may have high fragmentation)
 - Insert and access are by RRN (relative record number)
 - Allows direct and sequential access
 - Think Hash table

Variable Relative Record Data Set

- Similar to RRDS, but uses variable-length records
- Records are stored in relative number order
- Similar to a KSDS:
 - Has an index that correspond RRN to RBA (CCHH)
 - Uses SPLITs when inserting

INDEX	CI
RRN1	Record #1
RRN2	Record #2 Record #3
RRN3	Record #4 [deleted] Record #5
RRN4	
RRN5	

Linear Data Set

- Byte-addressable storage (GET byte 15674)
- CI Size is multiple of 4096
- Essentially, a non-VSAM file with VSAM facilities
- Allows Data In Virtual
 - Reads a 4k page into storage
 - Lets the program access it as if it were memory

HFS and z/FS

- HFS Hierarchical File System
 - Used by UNIX to store directory structures
 - Single-volume sequential data
 - From z/OS, it looks similar to a PDS
 - Unix system "mounts" them think ISO file
- Z/FS Newer version of HFS (z/OS 1.7)
 - Better performance
 - Uses VSAM Linear DS
- References:
 - z/OS Unix System Service Planning, https://ibm.biz/BdF43v
 - DFSMS Using Data Sets, https://ibm.biz/BdF43m

Common Uses

ТҮРЕ	Common Use
Direct	Data, not that common
Sequential	Everything – logs, EREP, notes
PDS	LOADLIBs, JCL collections, CLIST libraries
PDSE	Same as PDS
KSDS	DATA, such as bank records
ESDS	Transaction logs
RRDS	Data
Linear	DB2 tables, SMS SCDS
HFS/zFS	Unix directory structures

Limitations

• All format have limitations:

Limitation	Direct/Seq	VSAM	PDS	PDSE	Unix
Max Size	65,535 tracks	4GB	65,535 TRK	-	-
Max Extents	16/vol	123/255	16	123	123/255
Max Volumes	59	59	1	1	1
Sharing Integ	No	Some	No	Some	No
Fragmentation	Yes/No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

Extended Format

- Extended Format relieves some of the limitations
- Logically the same format
- Stored differently on the hardware to exploit hardware and software facilities of SMS
- Must be SMS managed
- Enabled through allocation or data class parameter
- Allows some extra features:
 - Compression
 - Data Striping
 - Extended Addressing (larger files)
 - VSAM Allocation and Buffering

Extended Format Features

- Compression:
 - Reduces space to store data
 - Enabled via Data Class compaction attribute
 - Works with Sequential and KSDS
 - Session 16130, 16138, 15709 all talk more about it

• Striping:

- Distributes Data blocks across multiple volumes
- Allows higher throughput rate
- Works with VSAM and Sequential data sets
- Controlled by storage class parameters

Extended Format Features

- Extended Addressing:
 - VSAM can grow to 4GB * CI Size (128TB for 32K CI)
 - Sequential DS can have 123 extends per vol over 59 vols
 - PDS, PDSE, Direct do not change
- VSAM Allocation / Buffering
 - Partial Release
 - System-Managed Buffering
 - Note: Catalogs cannot be extended format

Creating Data Sets Parameter Definitions

Defining Data Set Attributes

- Defining Non-VSAM
 - JCL
 - ISPF Panels
 - Dynamic Allocation

Defining VSAM
– IDCAMS

- JCL

– Dynamic Allocation

Parameter are roughly the same between utilities. We'll focus on the Attribute

Space Units

- Defines which construct you'll use to allocate space
- Possible values:
 - CYL cylinders (=15 tracks, ~830KB)
 - TRK tracks (=56,664 bytes)
 - BLKS blocks
 - KB, MB, BYTES
 - Records

Average Record Unit (AVGREC)

- Used primarily in Data Class
- Defines a multiple for Primary and Secondary space
- Possible values: U (unit), K (1024), M (104856)

Primary Space

- How much space to allocate in the first extent
- Specified in whole numbers
- Secondary Space

- Space to allocate when primary is exhausted

Directory Blocks:

- Number of block to allocate for the PDS or PDSE directory
- Set to 0 (or leave blank) for non-PDS

• Space attribute example (JCL):

Non-VSAM Attributes

Data Set Organization (DSORG)

- PS Physical Sequential
- PO Partitioned
- DA Direct
- For absolute addressing, add a "U", such as "PSU"

Record Format (RECFM)

- Specifies characteristics of the records

Byte 1	Byte 2
F – Fixed Length	B – Blocked Records
V – Variable Length	S – Spanned Records
U – Undefined length	BS – Blocked Spanned

- Example: FB, VB, VBS, U

- Logical Record Length (LRECL/RECORDSIZE)
 - Specifies the length, in bytes, of the records
 - If variable length (VB), specifies the maximum length
 - Has no effect for RECFM=U
- Block Size (BLKSIZE)
 - Defines the size of the blocks to be used
 - Specify 0 to use System-Determined Block Size
 - Must be a multiple of LRECL

Non-VSAM Attributes

Data Set Type (DSNTYPE)

- Defines the type of data set you are creating
- Possible values:
 - LIBRARY Partitioned Data Set Extended (PDSE)
 - PDS Partitioned Data Set
 - HFS Hierarchical File System
 - LARGE Creates a large-format sequential
 - EXTREQ Extended format, required
 - EXTPREF Extended format, preferred
 - BASIC Basic format sequential
 - Blank Sequential or PDS, depending on Directory field

- DSNTYPE relies on other parms, and does not override

VSAM Attributes

RECORDSIZE

- Same as LRECL
- Defines the size of the records

CONTROLINTERVALSIZE

- Defines the CI Size
- Similar to BLKSIZE

FREESPACE

- Defines how much space is left in the CI for insert/expansion

SPANNED/NONSPANNED

- Defines whether records are spanned (similar to S in FBS)

VSAM Attributes

- **KEYS**(length offset)
 - Defines the length and offset of the VSAM key for KSDS
 - Example: KEYS(14,0)

VSAM Attributes

• INDEXED / LINEAR / NONINDEXED / NUMBERED:

- Keyword that defines the VSAM file type
- INDEXED KDSD
- LINEAR linear
- NONINDEXED ESDS
- NUMBERED RRDS
- Many, many more...
 - See DFSMS Access Method Services Commands (SC23-6846-01)

Examples of Data Set Definitions

• JCL DD Card:

//OUTFILE	DD	DSN=SYS1.TRACE.T,
//		<pre>SPACE=(CYL,(50,3),RLSE),DISP=(,CATLG,DELETE),</pre>
//		LRECL=1024,BLKSIZE=6144,RECFM=FB,DSORG=PS,
//		UNIT=3390,VOL=SER=DUMPD1

IDCAMS Statements

DEFINE CLUSTER(NAME(MY.VSAM.FILE) CYLINDERS(10 5) INDEXED VOLUMES(*) RECORDSIZE(1024 1024) KEYS(16 0)
CONTROLINTERVALSIZE(32768)) INDEX(NAME(MY.VSAM.FILE.INDEX)) DATA(NAME(MY.VSAM.FILE.DATA))

Utilities and Subsystems Intro to Managing Data

Utilities

- IDCAMS
 - Works with VSAM data sets
 - Can do define, copy, delete
 - Also interacts with catalog information
- IEBCOPY
 - Copy PDS and PDSE
 - Convert between PDS and PDSE
- IEBGENER
 - Copy sequential files
- IEFBR14
 - Does nothing, but can use DD cards to manage data sets

Utilities

- DFSMSdss (DSS)
 - Very powerful data movement tool
 - Does copy / backup / data conversion
- ISPF Option 3 panels
 - Panel-driven utilities to create / delete / manage data sets
 - Also has an editor that can edit sequential data sets
- ISMF Data Set Panels
 - Allows edit / delete / rename / etc
 - Allows you to save data sets lists

Introduction to Managing Data

- Storage Management Subsystem (SMS)
 - Runs under the SMS ASID
 - Helps storage administrators manage data sets
 - Includes classes to simplify allocation and define attributes:
 - DATA CLASS defines JCL parms for default use
 - STORAGE CLASS defines accessibility and performance requirements
 - MANAGEMENT CLASS defines retention and management
 - STORAGE GROUP defines which group of volumes
 - Automatic Class Selection (ACS) routines assign classes based on user-written logic
 - Come to session 16115 for Hand-On ACS writing (Fri @ 10a)
 - SMS-managed = has a storage class assigned

Subsystems Continued

SMSPDSE / SMSPDSE1

- Address spaces needed to use PDSE
- Manage serialization on PDSE across the plex
- Enables system-wide buffering
- See sessions 16126 (Monday @ 4:15) for further info

SMSVSAM

- Enables VSAM Record Level Sharing
- Enables cross-plex serialization at the record level
- Also has enhanced buffering and caching capabilities
- Not required for VSAM, but has benefits in cross-plex environments
- See sessions 16124 and 16125 (Mon/Tues) for more info

Subsystems

- Hierarchical Storage Management (HSM)
 - Very powerful storage management tool
 - Migrates / recalls data sets based on Retention parameters
 - Create and maintains backups
 - Allows you to keep important data on DASD and roll old or less-used data to backup storage
 - Retention values are set by Management Class (SMS)
 - HSM control data sets are VSAM data sets
 - For more, see sessions:

• CATALOG

- Provides the interface into the catalog data sets
- Runs in ASID CATALOG

Summary

- Two basic types of data sets VSAM / NON-VSAM
- Many sub-varieties
 - PDS/PDSE
 - Sequential/Direct
 - Fixed/Variable/Spanned Block
- Data set attributes define type and options
- Attributes reflect devices and format
- There are several utilities to help create / manage data
- Several subsystems can be enabled to assist and enable additional features

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