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

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DFSMS Defect Support @ IBM

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Session Number 16119
What's your experience level?
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
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?

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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

SYS1.PROCLIB.#BACKUP1

HLQ  2nd Level Qualifier  LLQ

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

```
Request to find DS
Catalog Program / ASID
Master Catalog
Volume
Data Set
```

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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

- **Non-VSAM**
  - Direct
  - Sequential
  - Partitioned

- **VSAM**
  - KSDS
  - ESDS
  - Linear
  - RRDS
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 disk (1 track)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Block 1</th>
<th>Block 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Record 1</td>
<td>Record 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record 3</td>
<td>Record 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTROL</th>
<th>BLOCK [BLKSIZE]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>DATASTRING ONE,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>[empty]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>IN A GALAXY FAR, FAR AWAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Block 1</th>
<th>Block 2</th>
<th>Block 3</th>
<th>Block 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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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 re-writes 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

GDG: MY.DATA
Current entry (4)

MY.DATA(+1)

MY.DATA(-2)

MY.DATA.G0005V00
MY.DATA.G0004V00
MY.DATA.G0003V00
MY.DATA.G0002V00
MY.DATA.G0001V00
MY.DATA.G0000V00
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Control Area (CA)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Control Interval (CI)</td>
<td>Control Interval (CI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record 1</td>
<td>Record 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record 3</td>
<td>Record 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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VSAM Terms

Sphere

Cluster (MY.CLUSTER)

Index Component (.INDEX)

Data Component (.DATA)

Cluster

Alternate Index

Index Component

Data Component
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

**Record**

```
BOHLING........NEAL...........95116........BANKACCOUNT........
```

**KEY**

**INDEX**
- BOHLING.......  

**DATA**
- CI #1
- CI #2
- CI #3
- CI #4
- CI #5
KSDS Index Structure

Two Index Levels

CI1 3 10 22

CI2 1 2 3

CI3 5 7 10

CI4 12 15 22

Sequence Set

INDEX

DATA

Data CI (High Key 1)

Data CI (HK 2)

Data CI (HK 3)

Data CI (HK5)

Data CI (HK7)

Data CI (HK10)

Data CI

Data CI
Alternate Indexes

- BOHLING...NEAL........95116.......BANKACCOUNT........

AIX Lookup

- Use key for Index Search

INDEX

- BOHLING....

DATA

- CI #1
- CI #2 | BOHLING
- CI #3
- CI #4
- CI #5

INDEX

- 95116

DATA

- CI #1
- CI #2
- BOHLING....NEAL...
VSAM Splits

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

![Diagram showing the concept of VSAM Splits](image)
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
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>Common Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>Data, not that common</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequential</td>
<td>Everything – logs, EREP, notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PDS</td>
<td>LOADLIBs, JCL collections, CLIST libraries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PDSE</td>
<td>Same as PDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KSDS</td>
<td>DATA, such as bank records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESDS</td>
<td>Transaction logs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RRDS</td>
<td>Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear</td>
<td>DB2 tables, SMS SCDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HFS/zFS</td>
<td>Unix directory structures</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Limitations

- All format have limitations:

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

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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
Data Set Attributes

• **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)
Data Set Attributes

• **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
Data Set Attributes

• Space attribute example (JCL):

\[ \text{SPACE}=(\text{TRK},(50,3,100),\text{RLSE}) \]

Units → Primary → Secondary → Directory Blocks
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Byte 1</th>
<th>Byte 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F – Fixed Length</td>
<td>B – Blocked Records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V – Variable Length</td>
<td>S – Spanned Records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U – Undefined length</td>
<td>BS – Blocked Spanned</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

– Example: FB, VB, VBS, U
Data Set Attributes

• **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)
    
    ```
    BOHLING........NEAL............95116........BANKACCOUNT.......KEY
    ```
  
  - Example 2: KEYS(5,28)
    
    ```
    BOHLING........NEAL............95116........BANKACCOUNT.......KEY
    ```
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,
//              SPACE=(CYL,(50,3),RLSE),DISP=(,CATLG,DELETE),
//              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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