

Announcements

- Should be done with identity mapping on P4
- Reading Chapter 11 (8th ed)

File Operations

- Files are an abstract data type
 - interface (this lecture)
 - implementation (next lecture)
- create a file
 - assign it a name
 - check permissions
- open
 - check permissions
 - check that the file exists
 - lock the file (if we don't want to permit other users at the same time)

File Protection

- How to give access to some users and not others?
- Access types:
 - read, write, execute, append, delete, list
 - rename: often based on protection of directory
 - copy: usually the same as read
- Degree of control
 - access lists
 - list for each user and file the permitted operations
 - groups
 - enumerate users in a list called a group
 - provide same protection to all members of the group
 - depending on system:
 - files may be in one or many groups
 - users may be in one or many groups
 - per file passwords (tedious and a security problem)

File Protection Example (UNIX)

- Each file has three classifications
 - user: the user who owns the file
 - group: a named group of other users
 - world: all others
- Each file has three access types:
 - read, write, execute
- Directory protection
 - read: list the files in the sub dir
 - write: delete or create a file
 - execute: see the attributes of the files in the sub dir
 - sticky bit: contents can only be modified by root user, folder owner, or file owner

Unix File Protection (cont)

- Files have 12 bits of protection
 - 9 bits are user, group, and world for:
 - read: list the files in the sub dir
 - write: delete or create a file
 - execute: see the attributes of the files in the subdir
 - sticky bit: contents can only be modified by root user, folder owner, or file owner
 - setuid: run the program with the uid of the file's owner
 - used to provide extra privilege to some processes
 - example: passwd command
 - setgid: run the program with the group id of the file's owner

UNIX File Protection Example

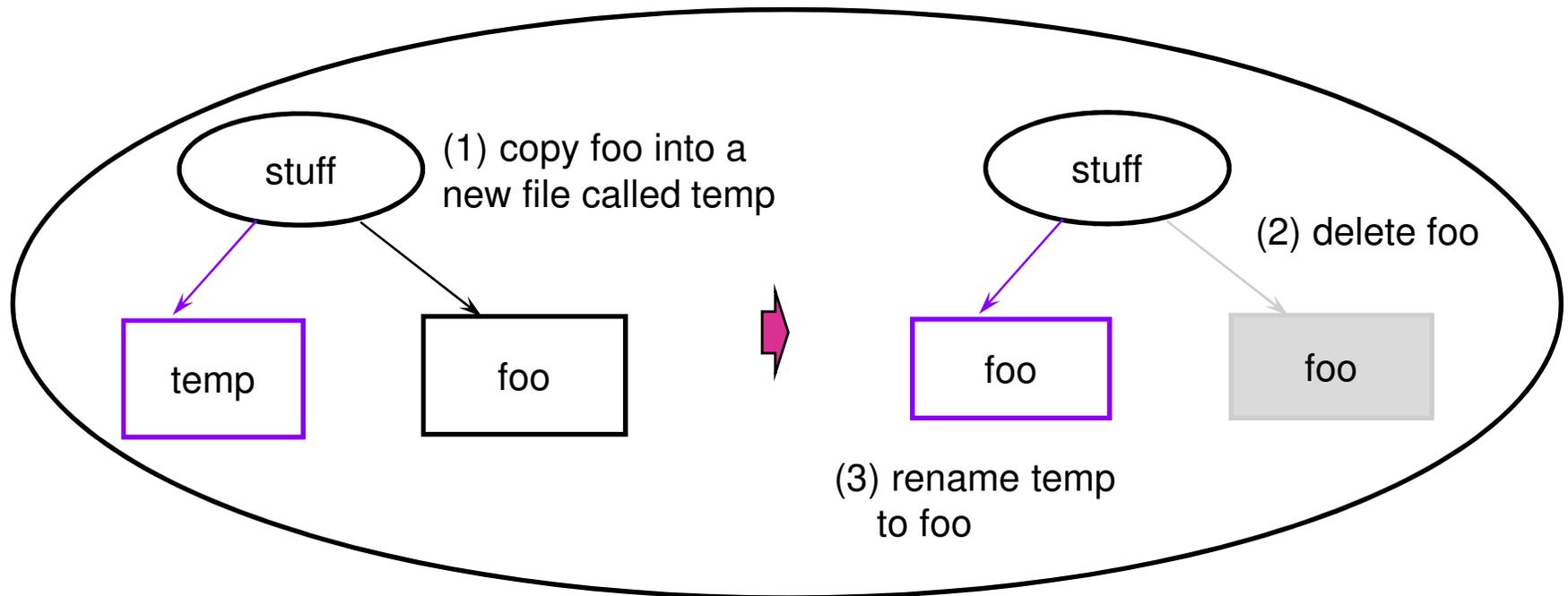
Stuff is a directory:
user hollings has r/w/x on the dir



foo is a file:
user hollings has r, but
not write on this file



hollings can still write the file!



File Protection Example (AFS)

- Each Directory has an ACL
 - protection information applies to all files in a directory
 - file access types are:
 - lookup, insert, delete, administer, read, write, lock (k)
 - an ACL may be for a user or a group
 - ACL may contain negative rights
 - everyone but Joe Smith may read this file
- Groups
 - are collections of users
 - each user can create up to a fixed number of groups
 - users can administer their own groups
- Cells
 - collections of computers (e.g., csic, wam)

File Operations (cont)

- **write**
 - indicate what file to write (either name or handle)
 - provide data to write
 - specify where to write the data within the file
 - generally this is implicit (file pointer)
 - could be explicit (direct access)
- **read**
 - indicate what file to read (either name or handle)
 - provide place to put information read
 - indicate how much to read
 - specify where to write the data within the file
 - usually implicit (sequential access via file pointer)
 - could be explicit (direct access)
- **fsync (synchronize disk version with in-core version)**
 - ensure any previous writes to the file are stored on disk

File Operations (cont)

- **seek**
 - move the implicit file pointer to a new offset in the file
- **delete**
 - remove named file
- **truncate**
 - remove the data in the file from the current position to end
- **close**
 - unlock the file (if open locked it)
 - update metadata about time
 - free system resources (file descriptors, buffers)
- **read metadata**
 - get file size, time, owner, etc.
- **update metadata**
 - change file size, time owner, etc.

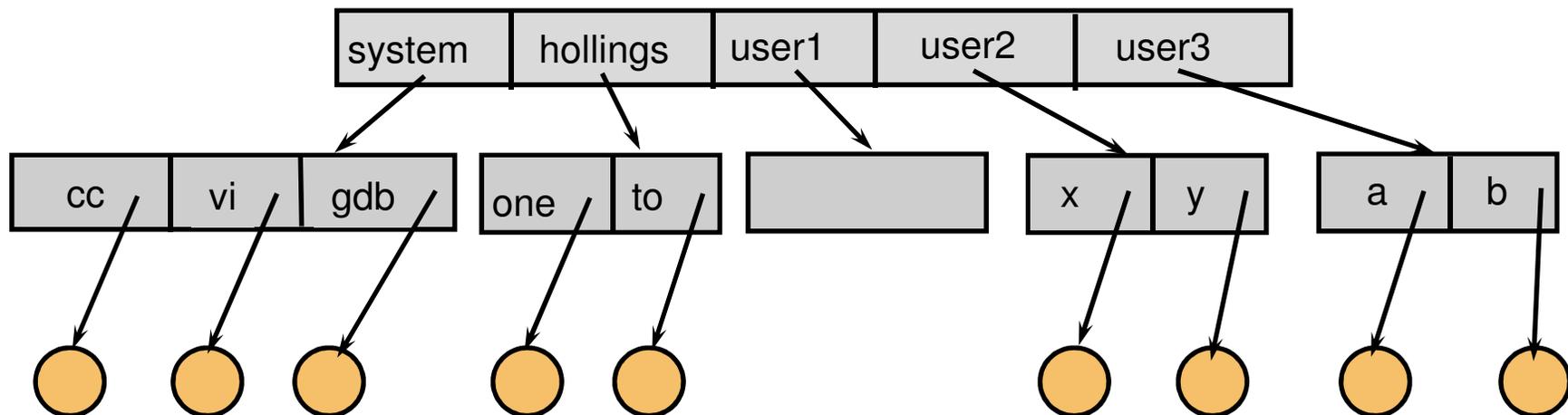
Simple Directory Structures

- One directory

- having all of the files in one namespace is awkward
- lots of files to sort through
- users have to coordinate file names
- each file has to have a unique name

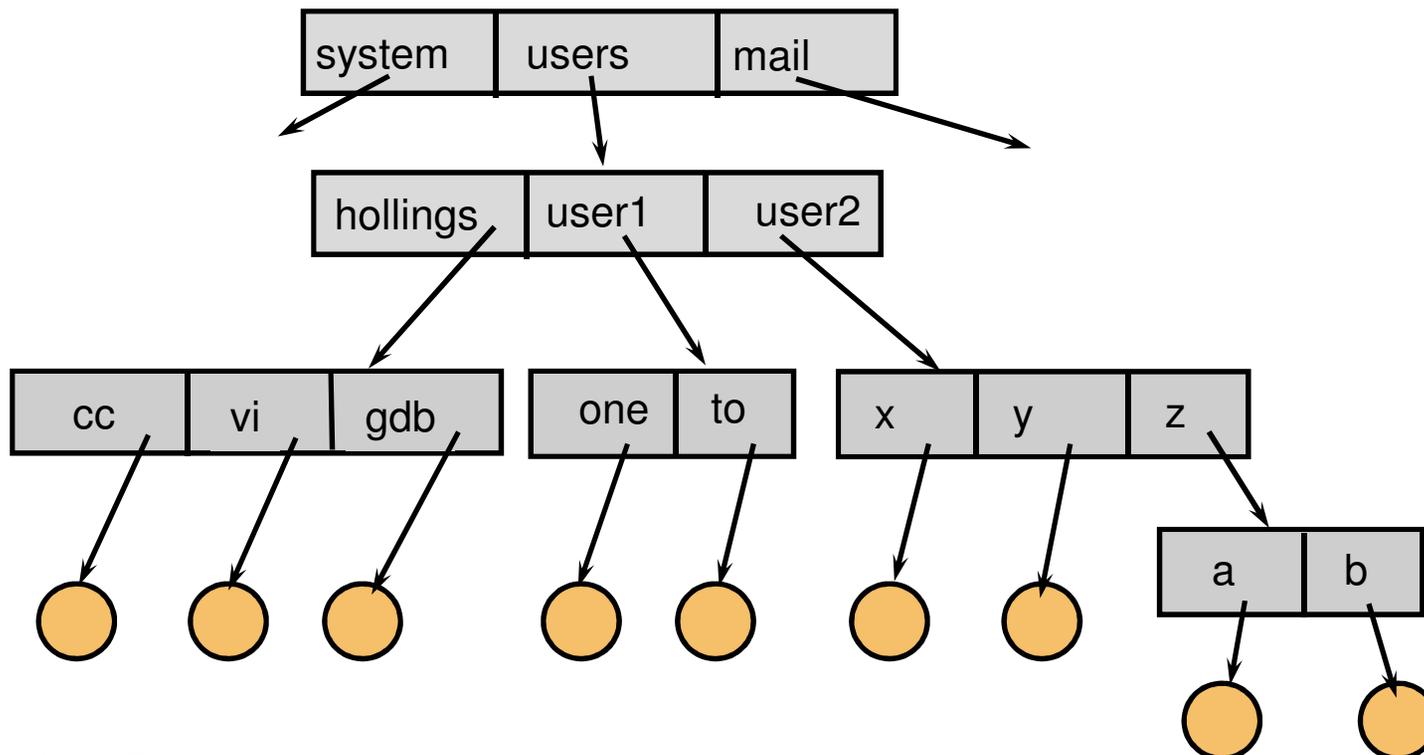
- Two level directory

- top level is users
- second level is files per user



Tree Directories

- Create a tree of files
- Each directory can contain files or directory entries
- Each process has a current directory
 - can name files relative to that directory
 - can change directories as needed



OS Folder Structures (Unix)

- / (root)
 - bin (*system executables*)
 - etc (*system-wide settings*)
 - home
 - hollings
 - lam
 - lib (*shared object libraries*)
 - mnt
 - usbdrive
 - opt (*third-party software*)
 - proc (*virtual – info about processes*)
 - usr
 - bin (*applications*)
 - lib (*libraries*)
 - var (*files that change often*)

OS Folder Structures (Mac)

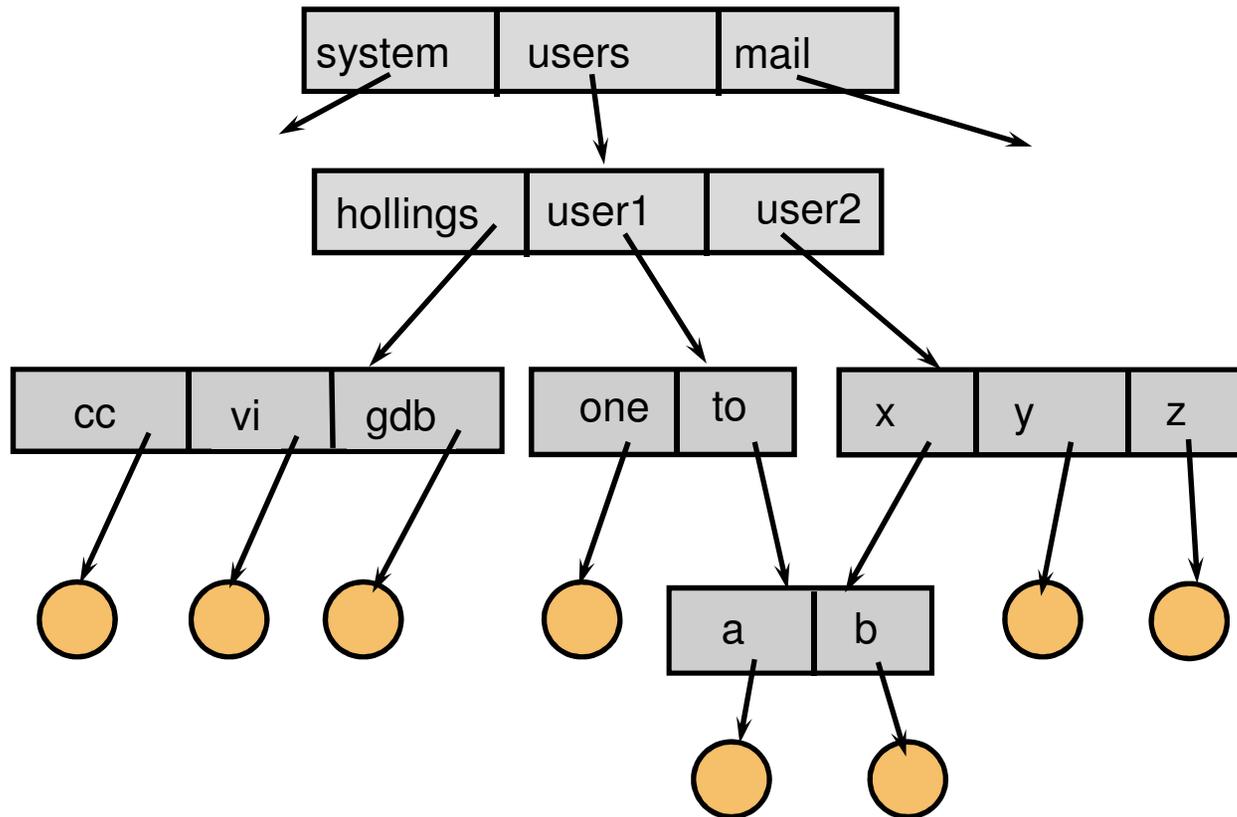
- / (root)
 - Applications
 - Library (*settings and shared object files*)
 - Users
 - hollings
 - lam
 - Volumes
 - usbdrive
 - bin
 - etc
 - opt
 - usr
 - var

OS Folder Structures (Windows)

- C:\
 - Program Files
 - Users (previously “Documents and Settings”)
 - Hollingsworth
 - Lam
 - Windows
- D:\
 - usbdrive files

Acyclic Graph Directories

- Permit users to share subdirectories

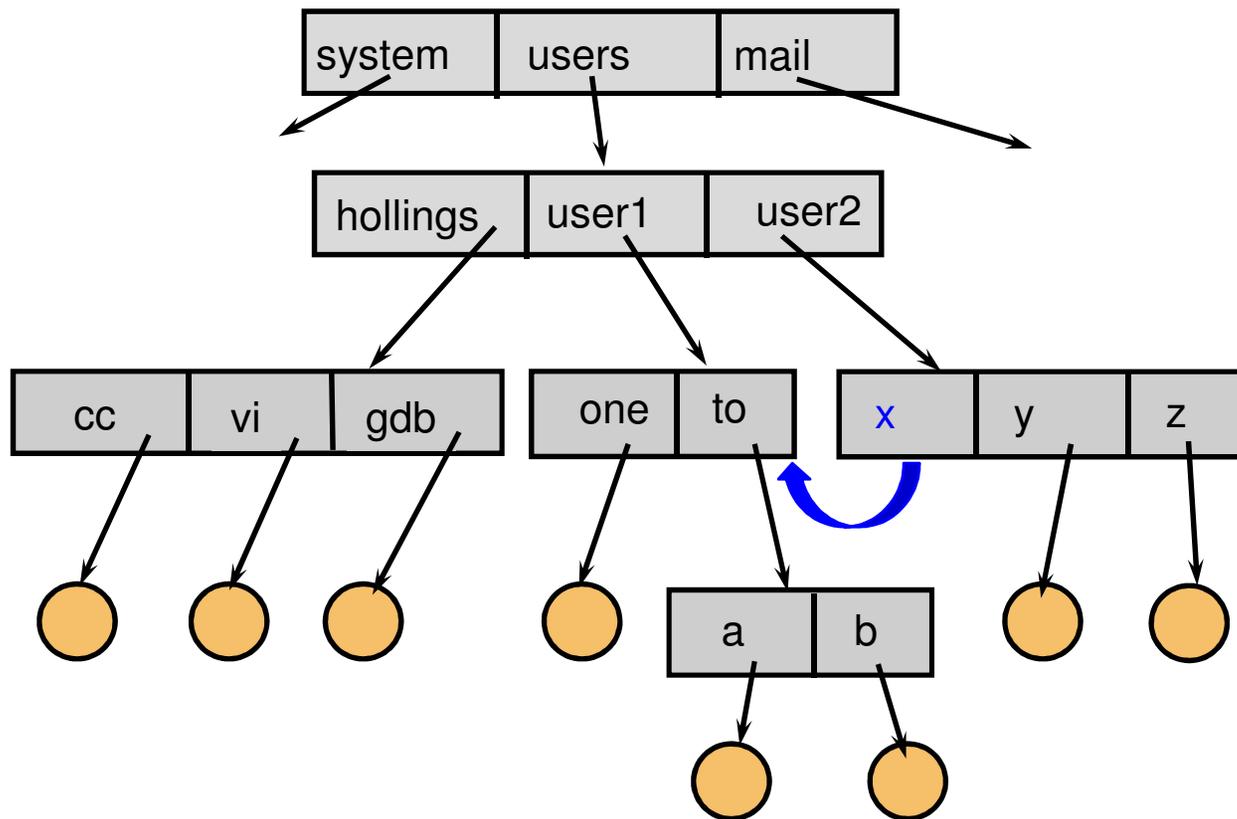


Issues for Acyclic Graph Directories

- Same file may have several names
 - absolute path name is different, but the file is the same
 - similar to variable aliases in programming languages
- Deletion
 - if one user deletes a file does it vanish for other users?
 - yes, it should since the directory is shared
 - what if one user deletes their entry for the shared directory
 - no, only the last user to delete it should delete it
 - maintain a reference count to the file
- Programs to walk the DAG need to be aware
 - disk usage utilities
 - backup utilities

Alternative: Linking

- Symbolic link (shortcut)



Does the OS know what is stored in a file?

- Needs to know about some types of files
 - directories
 - executables
- Should other file types be visible to the OS?
 - Example: word processing file vs. spreadsheet
 - Advantages:
 - OS knows what application to run
 - Automatic make (tops-20)
 - if source changed, re-compile before running
 - Problems:
 - to add new type, need to extend OS
 - OS vs. application features are blurred
 - what if a file is several types
 - consider a compressed postscript file

Example of File Types

- **Macintosh**

- has a file type that is part of file meta-data
 - Older: four-byte pseudo-ASCII codes (e.g., “APPL”)
 - Newer: Uniform Type Identifier (e.g., “com.apple.application”)
- also has an application associated with each file type

- **Windows**

- has a file type in the extension of the file name (e.g., “.exe”)
- has a table (per user) to map extensions to applications

- **Unix**

- can use last part of filename like an extension (e.g., “.sh”)
- applications can decide what (if anything) to do with it
- look at first few bytes of file content for “magic number”
 - For example, ELF binaries begin with 7F 45 4C 46