

### **Chapter 9: Indexing**

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### Outline

- Basic Concepts
- Ordered Indices
- B<sup>+</sup>-Tree Index Files
- B-Tree Index Files
- Hashing
- Spatio-Temporal Indexing



### **Basic Concepts**

- Indexing mechanisms used to speed up access to desired data.
  - E.g., author catalog in a library
- Search Key an attribute or a set of attributes used to look up records in a file.
- An index file consists of records (called index entries) of the form

search-key pointer

- Index files are typically much smaller than the original file
- Two basic kinds of indices:
  - **Ordered indices:** search keys are stored in sorted order
  - **Hash indices:** search keys are distributed uniformly across "buckets" using a "hash function".



### **Index Evaluation Metrics**

- Access types supported efficiently. e.g.,
  - Records with a specified value in the attribute
  - Records with an attribute value falling in a specified range of values.
- Access time
- Insertion time
- Deletion time
- Space overhead



### **Ordered Indices**

- In an ordered index, index entries are stored on the search key value.
- Clustering index: in a sequentially ordered file, the index whose search key specifies the sequential order of the file.
  - Also called primary index
  - The search key of a primary index is usually but not necessarily the primary key.
- Secondary index: an index whose search key specifies an order different from the sequential order of the file. Also called nonclustering index.
- Index-sequential file: sequential file ordered on a search key, with a clustering index on the search key.



### **Dense Index Files**

- Dense index Index record appears for every search-key value in the file.
- E.g. index on *ID* attribute of *instructor* relation

10101			10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000	
12121	_		12121	Wu	Finance	90000	
15151	_		15151	Mozart	Music	40000	
22222	_		22222	Einstein	Physics	95000	
32343	_		32343	El Said	History	60000	
33456	_		33456	Gold	Physics	87000	
45565	-		45565	Katz	Comp. Sci.	75000	
58583		>	58583	Califieri	History	62000	
76543	_		76543	Singh	Finance	80000	
76766	_		76766	Crick	Biology	72000	
83821	_		83821	Brandt	Comp. Sci.	92000	
98345			98345	Kim	Elec. Eng.	80000	



# **Dense Index Files (Cont.)**

Dense index on dept\_name, with instructor file sorted on dept\_name

Biology			76766	Crick	Biology	72000	
Comp. Sci.			10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000	
Elec. Eng.			45565	Katz	Comp. Sci.	75000	
Finance			83821	Brandt	Comp. Sci.	92000	
History	$\backslash$		98345	Kim	Elec. Eng.	80000	
Music			12121	Wu	Finance	90000	
Physics			76543	Singh	Finance	80000	
			32343	El Said	History	60000	
		$\backslash \backslash$	58583	Califieri	History	62000	
			15151	Mozart	Music	40000	
		$\searrow$	22222	Einstein	Physics	95000	
			33465	Gold	Physics	87000	
		•					



### **Sparse Index Files**

- Sparse Index: contains index records for only some search-key values.
  - Applicable when records are sequentially ordered on search-key
- To locate a record with search-key value *K* we:
  - Find the index record with the largest search-key value < K
  - Search file sequentially starting at the record to which the index record points

10101	10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000	
32343	12121	Wu	Finance	90000	
76766	15151	Mozart	Music	40000	$\leq$
	22222	Einstein	Physics	95000	
	32343	El Said	History	60000	
	33456	Gold	Physics	87000	$ \leq $
	45565	Katz	Comp. Sci.	75000	
	58583	Califieri	History	62000	
	76543	Singh	Finance	80000	
X	76766	Crick	Biology	72000	
	83821	Brandt	Comp. Sci.	92000	
	98345	Kim	Elec. Eng.	80000	



# **Sparse Index Files (Cont.)**

- Compared to dense indices:
  - Less space and less maintenance overhead for insertions and deletions.
  - Generally slower than the dense index for locating records.
- Good tradeoff:
  - For clustered index: sparse index with an index entry for every block in the file, corresponding to the least search-key value in the block.



• For unclustered index: sparse index on top of dense index (multilevel index)



### **Secondary Indices Example**

Secondary index on salary field of instructor



- Index record points to a bucket that contains pointers to all the actual records with that particular search-key value.
- Secondary indices have to be dense



### **Multilevel Index**

- If the index does not fit in memory, access becomes expensive.
- Solution: treat the index kept on disk as a sequential file and construct a sparse index on it.
  - outer index a sparse index of the basic index
  - inner index the basic index file
- If even the outer index is too large to fit in the main memory, yet another level of the index can be created, and so on.
- Indices at all levels must be updated on insertion or deletion from the file.



### **Multilevel Index (Cont.)**





### **Indices on Multiple Keys**

### Composite search key

- E.g., index on *instructor* relation on attributes (*name, ID*)
- Values are sorted lexicographically
  - E.g. (John, 12121) < (John, 13514) and (John, 13514) < (Peter, 11223)</li>
- Can query on just *name*, or on (*name, ID*)



### **Example of B+-Tree**



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# **B+-Tree Index Files (Cont.)**

A B<sup>+</sup>-tree is a rooted tree satisfying the following properties:

- All paths from the root to a leaf are of the same length
- Each node that is not a root or a leaf has between [n/2] and n children.
- A leaf node has between  $\lceil (n-1)/2 \rceil$  and n-1 values
- Special cases:
  - If the root is not a leaf, it has at least 2 children.
  - If the root is a leaf (that is, there are no other nodes in the tree), it can have between 0 and (n-1) values.



### **B+-Tree Node Structure**

Typical node

$$P_1$$
 $K_1$  $P_2$  $\dots$  $P_{n-1}$  $K_{n-1}$  $P_n$ 

- *K*<sub>i</sub> are the search-key values
- *P*<sub>i</sub> are pointers to children (for non-leaf nodes) or pointers to records or buckets of records (for leaf nodes).
- The search keys in a node are ordered

 $K_1 < K_2 < K_3 < \ldots < K_{n-1}$ 

(Initially assume no duplicate keys, address duplicates later)



### Leaf Nodes in B<sup>+</sup>-Trees

Properties of a leaf node:

- For i = 1, 2, ..., n-1, pointer  $P_i$  points to a file record with search-key value  $K_i$ ,
- If L<sub>i</sub>, L<sub>j</sub> are leaf nodes and i < j, L<sub>i</sub>'s search-key values are less than or equal to L<sub>j</sub>'s search-key values
- *P<sub>n</sub>* points to next leaf node in search-key order

			[	10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000	
				12121	Wu	Finance	90000	
				15151	Mozart	Music	40000	
				22222	Einstein	Physics	95000	
				32343	El Said	History	80000	
				33456	Gold	Physics	87000	
				45565	Katz	Comp. Sci.	75000	
				58583	Califieri	History	60000	
				76543	Singh	Finance	80000	
	l		>	76766	Crick	Biology	72000	
			>	83821	Brandt	Comp. Sci.	92000	
				98345	Kim	Elec. Eng.	80000	



### Non-Leaf Nodes in B<sup>+</sup>-Trees

- Non-leaf nodes form a multi-level sparse index on the leaf nodes. For a non-leaf node with n pointers:
  - All the search keys in the subtree to which  $P_1$  points are less than  $K_1$
  - For  $2 \le i \le n 1$ , all the search keys in the subtree to which  $P_i$  points have values greater than or equal to  $K_{i-1}$  and less than  $K_i$
  - All the search keys in the subtree to which  $P_n$  points have values greater than or equal to  $K_{n-1}$
  - General structure

$$P_1$$
 $K_1$  $P_2$  $\dots$  $P_{n-1}$  $K_{n-1}$  $P_n$ 



### **Example of B+-tree**

• B<sup>+</sup>-tree for *instructor* file (n = 6)



- Leaf nodes must have between 3 and 5 values  $(\lceil (n-1)/2 \rceil$  and n-1, with n = 6).
- Non-leaf nodes other than root must have between 3 and 6 children ( $\lceil (n/2 \rceil$  and *n* with *n* =6).
- Root must have at least 2 children.



### **Observations about B+-trees**

- Since the inter-node connections are done by pointers, "logically" close blocks need not be "physically" close.
- The non-leaf levels of the B<sup>+</sup>-tree form a hierarchy of sparse indices.
- The B<sup>+</sup>-tree contains a relatively small number of levels
  - Level below root has at least 2\* [n/2] values
  - Next level has at least 2\* [n/2] \* [n/2] values
  - .. etc.
  - If there are K search-key values in the file, the tree height is no more than [ log<sub>[n/2]</sub>(K)]
  - thus searches can be conducted efficiently.
- Insertions and deletions to the main file can be handled efficiently, as the index can be restructured in logarithmic time.



### **Queries on B+-Trees**

### function find(v)

- 1. C=root
- 2. while (C is not a leaf node)
  - 1. Let *i* be least number s.t.  $V \leq K_{i}$ .
  - 2. if there is no such number i then
  - 3. Set C = last non-null pointer in C
  - 4. else if  $(v = C.K_i)$  Set  $C = P_{i+1}$
  - **5.** else set  $C = C.P_i$
- 3. **if** for some *i*,  $K_i = V$  **then** return C. $P_i$
- 4. **else** return null /\* no record with search-key value v exists. \*/



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### **Queries on B+-Trees (Cont.)**

- Range queries find all records with search key values in a given range
  - See book for details of function findRange(lb, ub) which returns set of all such records
  - Real implementations usually provide an iterator interface to fetch matching records one at a time, using a *next*() function





### **Queries on B+-Trees (Cont.)**

- If there are *K* search-key values in the file, the height of the tree is no more than  $\lceil \log_{\lceil n/2 \rceil}(K) \rceil$ .
- A node is generally the same size as a disk block, typically 4 kilobytes
  - and *n* is typically around 100 (40 bytes per index entry).
- With 1 million search key values and n = 100
  - at most log<sub>50</sub>(1,000,000) = 4 nodes are accessed in a lookup traversal from root to leaf.
- Contrast this with a balanced binary tree with 1 million search key values — around 20 nodes are accessed in a lookup
  - above difference is significant since every node access may need a disk I/O, costing around 20 milliseconds



# **Non-Unique Keys**

- If a search key  $a_i$  is not unique, create instead an index on a composite key  $(a_i, A_p)$ , which is unique
  - A<sub>p</sub> could be a primary key, record ID, or any other attribute that guarantees uniqueness
- Search for a<sub>i</sub> = v can be implemented by a range search on a composite key, with range (v, -∞) to (v, +∞)
- But more I/O operations are needed to fetch the actual records
  - If the index is clustering, all accesses are sequential+
  - If the index is non-clustering, each record access may need an I/O operation



### **Updates on B<sup>+</sup>-Trees: Insertion**

Assume a record is already added to the file. Let

- pr be a pointer to the record and let
- v be the search key value of the record
- 1. Find the leaf node in which the search-key value would appear
  - 1. If there is room in the leaf node, insert (*v*, *pr*) pair in the leaf node
  - 2. Otherwise, split the node (along with the new (*v*, *pr*) entry) as discussed in the next slide, and propagate updates to parent nodes.



### Updates on B<sup>+</sup>-Trees: Insertion (Cont.)

- Splitting a leaf node:
  - take the *n* (search-key value, pointer) pairs (including the one being inserted) in sorted order. Place the first [*n*/2] in the original node, and the rest in a new node.
  - let the new node be p, and let k be the least key value in p. Insert (k,p) in the parent of the node being split.
  - If the parent is full, split it and **propagate** the split further up.
- Splitting of nodes proceeds upwards till a node that is not full is found.
  - In the worst case, the root node may be split, increasing the tree's height by 1.



Result of splitting node containing Brandt, Califieri and Crick on inserting Adams Next step: insert entry with (Califieri, pointer-to-new-node) into parent



### **B<sup>+</sup>-Tree Insertion**





B+-Tree before and after insertion of "Adams"

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### **B**<sup>+</sup>-Tree Insertion





# Insertion in B<sup>+</sup>-Trees (Cont.)

- Splitting a non-leaf node: when inserting (k,p) into an already full internal node N
  - Copy N to an in-memory area M with space for n+1 pointers and n keys
  - Insert (k,p) into M
  - Copy  $P_1, K_1, ..., K_{\lceil n/2 \rceil 1}, P_{\lceil n/2 \rceil}$  from M back into node N
  - Copy  $P_{\lceil n/2\rceil+1}, K_{\lceil n/2\rceil+1}, \dots, K_n, P_{n+1}$  from M into newly allocated node N'
  - Insert ( $K_{\lceil n/2 \rceil}$ , N') into parent N

Example



Read pseudocode in book!

### **Examples of B<sup>+</sup>-Tree Deletion**



Deleting "Srinivasan" causes merging of under-full leaves

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- Leaf containing Singh and Wu became underfull and borrowed a value Kim from its left sibling
- Search-key value in the parent changes as a result

### Example of B<sup>+</sup>-tree Deletion (Cont.)



### Before and after deletion of "Gold"



- Node with Gold and Katz became underfull and was merged with its sibling
- Parent node becomes underfull and is merged with its sibling
  - Value separating two nodes (at the parent) is pulled down when merging
- Root node then has only one child, and is deleted

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### **Updates on B+-Trees: Deletion**

Assume a record is already deleted from the file. Let *V* be the search key value of the record, and *Pr* be the pointer to the record.

- Remove (*Pr, V*) from the leaf node
- If the node has too few entries due to the removal, and the entries in the node and a sibling fit into a single node, then *merge siblings*:
  - Insert all the search-key values in the two nodes into a single node (the one on the left), and delete the other node.
  - Delete the pair ( $K_{i-1}$ ,  $P_i$ ), where  $P_i$  is the pointer to the deleted node, from its parent, recursively using the above procedure.



### **Updates on B+-Trees: Deletion**

- Otherwise, if the node has too few entries due to the removal, but the entries in the node and a sibling do not fit into a single node, then redistribute pointers:
  - Redistribute the pointers between the node and a sibling such that both have more than the minimum number of entries.
  - Update the corresponding search-key value in the parent of the node.
- The node deletions may cascade upwards till a node that has  $\lceil n/2 \rceil$  or more pointers is found.
- If the root node has only one pointer after deletion, it is deleted and the sole child becomes the root.



# **Complexity of Updates**

- Cost (in terms of the number of I/O operations) of insertion and deletion of a single entry proportional to the height of the tree
  - With K entries and maximum fanout of n, worst case complexity of insert/delete of an entry is O(log<sub>[n/2]</sub>(K))
- In practice, number of I/O operations is less:
  - Internal nodes tend to be in a buffer
  - Splits/merges are rare, most insert/delete operations only affect a leaf node
- Average node occupancy depends on the insertion order
  - 2/3rds with random, much more with insertion in sorted order



### **B<sup>+</sup>-Tree File Organization**

- B+-Tree File Organization:
  - Leaf nodes in a B<sup>+</sup>-tree file organization store records, instead of pointers
  - Helps keep data records clustered even when there are insertions/deletions/updates
- Leaf nodes are still required to be half full
  - Since records are larger than pointers, the maximum number of records that can be stored in a leaf node is less than the number of pointers in a non-leaf node.
- Insertion and deletion are handled in the same way as insertion and deletion of entries in a B<sup>+</sup>-tree index.


# **B+-Tree File Organization (Cont.)**

Example of B+-tree File Organization



- Good space utilization is important since records use more space than pointers.
- To improve space utilization, involve more sibling nodes in redistribution during splits and merges
  - Involving 2 siblings in redistribution (to avoid split/merge where possible) results in each node having at least |2n/3| entries



# **Bulk Loading and Bottom-Up Build**

- Inserting entries one-at-a-time into a B<sup>+</sup>-tree requires  $\geq$  1 IO per entry
  - assuming leaf level does not fit in memory
  - can be very inefficient for loading a large number of entries at a time (bulk loading)
- Efficient alternative 1:
  - sort entries first (using efficient external-memory sort algorithms to be discussed later)
  - insert in sorted order
    - insertion will go to an existing page (or cause a split)
    - much improved IO performance, but most leaf nodes half full
- Efficient alternative 2: **Bottom-up B+-tree construction** 
  - As before sort entries
  - And then create tree layer-by-layer, starting with leaf level
    - details as an exercise
  - Implemented as part of bulk-load utility by most database systems

### **B-Tree Index File Example**



B-tree (above) and B+-tree (below) on same data



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# Hashing



# **Static Hashing**

- A bucket is a unit of storage containing one or more entries (a bucket is typically a disk block).
  - we obtain the bucket of an entry from its search-key value using a hash function
- Hash function h is a function from the set of all search-key values K to the set of all bucket addresses B.
- Hash function is used to locate entries for access, insertion as well as deletion.
- Entries with different search-key values may be mapped to the same bucket; thus entire bucket has to be searched sequentially to locate an entry.
- In a hash index, buckets store entries with pointers to records
- In a hash file organization buckets store records



# **Handling of Bucket Overflows**

- Bucket overflow can occur because of
  - Insufficient bucket capacity
  - Skew in the distribution of records. This can occur due to two reasons:
    - Multiple records have the same search-key value
    - Chosen hash function produces a non-uniform distribution of key values
- Although the probability of bucket overflow can be reduced, it cannot be eliminated; it is handled by using *overflow buckets*.



# Handling of Bucket Overflows (Cont.)

- Overflow chaining the overflow buckets of a given bucket are chained together in a linked list.
- Above scheme is called closed addressing (also called closed hashing or open hashing depending on the book you use)

An alternative, called open addressing bucket 0 (also called open hashing or closed hashing bucket 1 depending on the book you use) which overflow buckets for bucket 1 does not use overbucket 2 flow buckets, is not suitable for database applications. bucket 3



### **Example of Hash File Organization**

Hash file organization of *instructor* file, using *dept\_name* as key.

#### bucket 0

#### bucket 1

15151	Mozart	Music	40000

#### bucket 2

32343	El Said	History	80000
58583	Califieri	History	60000

#### bucket 3

222	22222 Einstein Physics		95000				
334	456	Gold	Physics	87000			
983	345	Kim	Elec. Eng.	80000			

#### bucket 4

12121	Wu	Finance	90000
76543	Singh	Finance	80000

#### bucket 5

76766	Crick	Biology	72000

#### bucket 6

10101	Srinivasan	Comp. Sci.	65000
45565	Katz	Comp. Sci.	75000
83821	Brandt	Comp. Sci.	92000

#### bucket 7



### **Deficiencies of Static Hashing**

- In static hashing, function h maps search-key values to a fixed set of B of bucket addresses. Databases grow or shrink with time.
  - If the initial number of buckets is too small, and the file grows, performance will degrade due to too many overflows.
  - If space is allocated for anticipated growth, a significant amount of space will be wasted initially (and buckets will be underfull).
  - If the database shrinks, again space will be wasted.
- One solution: periodic re-organization of the file with a new hash function
  - Expensive, disrupts normal operations
- Better solution: allow the number of buckets to be modified dynamically.



# **Dynamic Hashing**

- Periodic rehashing
  - If the number of entries in a hash table becomes (say) 1.5 times the size of the hash table,
    - Create a new hash table of size (say) 2 times the size of the previous hash table
    - Rehash all entries to the new table
- Linear Hashing
  - Do rehashing in an incremental manner
- Extendable Hashing
  - Tailored to disk-based hashing, with buckets shared by multiple hash values
  - Doubling of # of entries in the hash table, without doubling # of buckets



# **Comparison of Ordered Indexing and Hashing**

- Cost of periodic re-organization
- Relative frequency of insertions and deletions
- Is it desirable to optimize average access time at the expense of worstcase access time?
- Expected type of queries:
  - Hashing is generally better at retrieving records having a specified value of the key.
  - If range queries are common, ordered indices are to be preferred
- In practice:
  - PostgreSQL supports hash indices but discourages use due to poor performance
  - Oracle supports static hash organization, but not hash indices
  - SQLServer supports only B+-trees



# **Multiple-Key Access**

- Use multiple indices for certain types of queries.
- Example:

select ID

from instructor

```
where dept_name = "Finance" and salary = 80000
```

- Possible strategies for processing queries using indices on single attributes:
  - 1. Use index on *dept\_name* to find instructors with department name Finance; test *salary* = 80000
  - Use index on salary to find instructors with a salary of \$80000; test dept\_name = "Finance".
  - 3. Use *dept\_name* index to find pointers to all records pertaining to the "Finance" department. Similarly use index on *salary*. Take the intersection of both sets of pointers obtained.



# **Indices on Multiple Keys**

- Composite search keys are search keys containing more than one attribute
  - E.g., (*dept\_name, salary*)
- Lexicographic ordering: (a<sub>1</sub>, a<sub>2</sub>) < (b<sub>1</sub>, b<sub>2</sub>) if either
  - a<sub>1</sub> < b<sub>1</sub>, or
  - $a_1 = b_1$  and  $a_2 < b_2$



### **Indices on Multiple Attributes**

Suppose we have an index on combined search-key (*dept\_name, salary*).

• With the **where** clause

where dept\_name = "Finance" and salary = 80000 the index on (dept\_name, salary) can be used to fetch only records that satisfy both conditions.

- Using separate indices is less efficient we may fetch many records (or pointers) that satisfy only one of the conditions.
- Can also efficiently handle where dept\_name = "Finance" and salary < 80000</li>
- But cannot efficiently handle where dept\_name < "Finance" and balance = 80000</li>
  - May fetch many records that satisfy the first but not the second condition



### **Creation of Indices**

- Example create index takes\_pk on takes (ID,course\_ID, year, semester, section) drop index takes\_pk
- Most database systems allow specification of type of index, and clustering.
- Indices on primary key created automatically by all databases
  - Why?
- Some databases also create indices on foreign key attributes
  - Why might such an index be useful for this query:
    - takes  $\bowtie \sigma_{name='Shankar'}$  (student)
- Indices can greatly speed up lookups, but impose cost on updates
  - Index tuning assistants/wizards supported on several databases to help choose indices, based on query and update workload



# **Index Definition in SQL**

• Create an index

create index <index-name> on <relation-name> (<attribute-list>)

E.g.,: **create index** *b-index* **on** *branch(branch\_name)* 

- Use create unique index to indirectly specify and enforce the condition that the search key is a candidate key.
  - Not really required if SQL **unique** integrity constraint is supported
- To drop an index

drop index <index-name>

Most database systems allow specification of type of index, and clustering.



# **Spatial and Temporal Indices**



### **Spatial Data**

- Databases can store data types such as lines, polygons, in addition to raster images
  - allows relational databases to store and retrieve spatial information
  - Queries can use spatial conditions (e.g. contains or overlaps).
  - queries can mix spatial and nonspatial conditions
- Nearest neighbor queries, given a point or an object, find the nearest object that satisfies given conditions.
- Range queries deal with spatial regions. e.g., ask for objects that lie partially or fully inside a specified region.
- Queries that compute intersections or unions of regions.
- Spatial join of two spatial relations with the location playing the role of join attribute.



# **Indexing of Spatial Data**

- k-d tree early structure used for indexing in multiple dimensions.
- Each level of a k-d tree partitions the space into two.
  - Choose one dimension for partitioning at the root level of the tree.
  - Choose another dimensions for partitioning in nodes at the next level and so on, cycling through the dimensions.
- In each node, approximately half of the points stored in the sub-tree fall on one side and half on the other.
- Partitioning stops when a node has less than a given number of points.



 The k-d-B tree extends the k-d tree to allow multiple child nodes for each internal node; well-suited for secondary storage.



# **Division of Space by Quadtrees**

- Each node of a quadtree is associated with a rectangular region of space; the top node is associated with the entire target space.
- Each non-leaf nodes divides its region into four equal sized quadrants
  - correspondingly each such node has four child nodes corresponding to the four quadrants and so on
- Leaf nodes have between zero and some fixed maximum number of points (set to 1 in example).





#### **R-Trees**

- R-trees are a N-dimensional extension of B<sup>+</sup>-trees, useful for indexing sets of rectangles and other polygons.
- Supported in many modern database systems, along with variants like R<sup>+</sup> trees and R<sup>\*</sup>-trees.
- Basic idea: generalize the notion of a one-dimensional interval associated with each B+ -tree node to an N-dimensional interval, that is, an N-dimensional rectangle.
- Will consider only the two-dimensional case (N = 2)
  - generalization for N > 2 is straightforward, although R-trees work well only for relatively small N
- The bounding box of a node is a minimum sized rectangle that contains all the rectangles/polygons associated with the node
  - Bounding boxes of children of a node are allowed to overlap



### **Example R-Tree**

- A set of rectangles (solid line) and the bounding boxes (dashed line) of the nodes of an R-tree for the rectangles.
- The R-tree is shown on the right.





### Search in R-Trees

- To find data items intersecting a given query point/region, do the following, starting from the root node:
  - If the node is a leaf node, output the data items whose keys intersect the given query point/region.
  - Else, for each child of the current node whose bounding box intersects the query point/region, recursively search the child
- Can be very inefficient in worst case since multiple paths may need to be searched, but works acceptably in practice.



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# **Indexing Temporal Data**

- Temporal data refers to data that has an associated time period (interval)
  - Example: a temporal version of the *course* relation

course_id	title	dept_name	credits	start	end
BIO-101	Intro. to Biology	Biology	4	1985-01-01	9999-12-31
CS-201	Intro. to C	Comp. Sci.	4	1985-01-01	1999-01-01
CS-201	Intro. to Java	Comp. Sci.	4	1999-01-01	2010-01-01
CS-201	Intro. to Python	Comp. Sci.	4	2010-01-01	9999-12-31

- Time interval has a start and end time
  - End time set to infinity (or large date such as 9999-12-31) if a tuple is currently valid and its validity end time is not currently known
- Query may ask for all tuples that are valid at a point in time or during a time interval
  - Index on valid time period speeds up this task



# Indexing Temporal Data (Cont.)

- To create a temporal index on attribute *a*:
  - Use spatial index, such as R-tree, with attribute *a* as one dimension, and time as another dimension
    - Valid time forms an interval in the time dimension
  - Tuples that are currently valid cause problems, since the value is infinite or very large
    - Solution: store all current tuples (with the end time as infinity) in a separate index, indexed on (*a, start-time*)
      - To find tuples valid at a point in time *t* in the current tuple index, search for tuples in the range (*a*, *0*) to (*a*,*t*)
- Temporal index on primary key can help enforce the temporal primary key constraint

course_id	title	dept_name	credits	start	end
BIO-101	Intro. to Biology	Biology	4	1985-01-01	9999-12-31
CS-201	Intro. to C	Comp. Sci.	4	1985-01-01	1999-01-01
CS-201	Intro. to Java	Comp. Sci.	4	1999-01-01	2010-01-01
CS-201	Intro. to Python	Comp. Sci.	4	2010-01-01	9999-12-31



### **End of Chapter 9**



### **Example of Hash Index**



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