

# A Beginner's Guide to IMS Databases E01

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# Database Basics

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## **Database Basics**

# What is a Database

- A collection of interrelated data items organized in a form for easy retrieval
  - ▶ The collection of data is stored in a computer system
  - ▶ The retrieval is done by application programs
  - ▶ Each item of data only needs to be stored once
    - Shared among the programs and users
- An IMS database is organized as a hierarchy
  - ▶ Levels of data
  - ▶ Data at lower levels depends on data at higher levels for its context
    - You cannot understand the lower level without knowing the higher levels

# The IMS Database

- A database is a group of related database records
- A database record is a single hierarchy of related segments
- A segment is a group of related fields
- A field is a single piece of data
  - ▶ It can be used as a key for ordering the segments
  - ▶ It can be used as a qualifier for searching
  - ▶ It may only have meaning to the applications
- IMS database always look like hierarchies

# The Hierarchy

Level 1

**ROOT**  
(1)

Level 2

**Segment A**  
(2)

**Segment B**  
(7)

**Segment C**  
(9)

Level 3

**Segment D**  
(3)

**Segment E**  
(4)

**Segment F**  
(8)

**Segment G**  
(10)

**Segment H**  
(12)

Level 4

**Segment I**  
(5)

**Segment J**  
(6)

**Segment K**  
(11)



# Segment Rules

- Root
  - ▶ One and only one root for each database record
  - ▶ No higher level segments
    - Everything depends on the information in the root
- Other Segment Types
  - ▶ Up to 254 different segment types
    - 255 including the root
  - ▶ Any number of occurrences of each segment type
  - ▶ Each segment, except the root, is related to one and only one segment at the next higher level

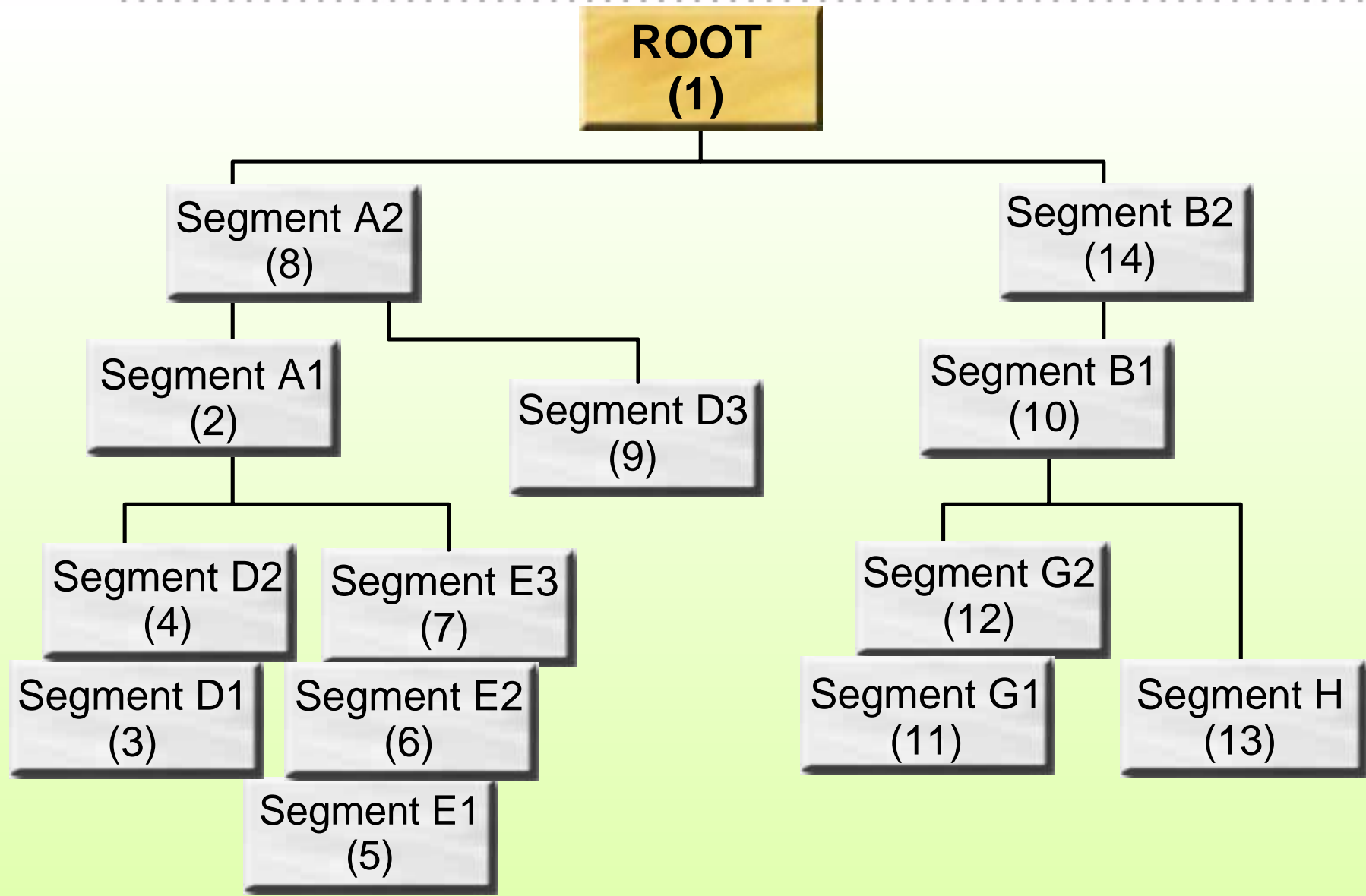
# Segment Relationships

- **Parent**
  - ▶ All segments which have dependent segments at the next lower level are parents of those segments
  - ▶ A parent may have any number of dependent segments
- **Child**
  - ▶ A segment which depends on a segment at a higher level is a child of that segment
  - ▶ Every child segment has one and only one parent
- **Twins**
  - ▶ All occurrences of a segment type under the same parent are twins
  - ▶ There may be any number of twins and they are still called twins
- **Siblings**
  - ▶ Segments of different types with the same parent are siblings

# Hierarchic Sequence

- Top to Bottom
- Left to Right
- Front to Back (for twins)
  - ▶ Each segment TYPE has a code which is its number in hierarchic sequence
    - Segment codes numbers do not take twins into account
  - ▶ Sequential processing of a database record is in hierarchic sequence
    - All segments of a database record are included so twins do have a place in hierarchic sequence
  - ▶ Segments may contain sequence fields which will determine the order in which they are stored and processed

# Hierarchic Sequence ...



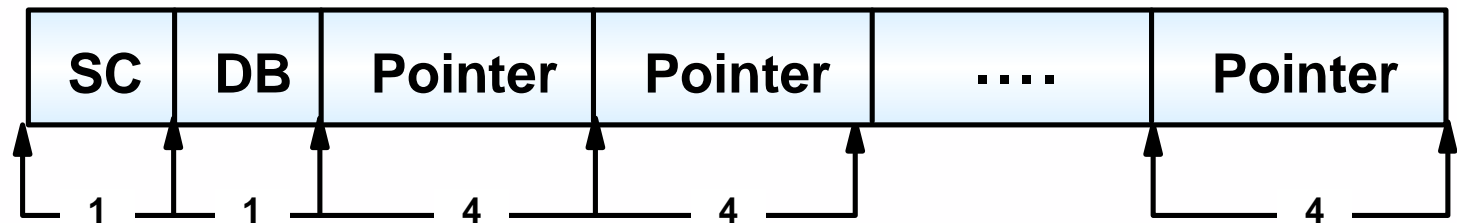
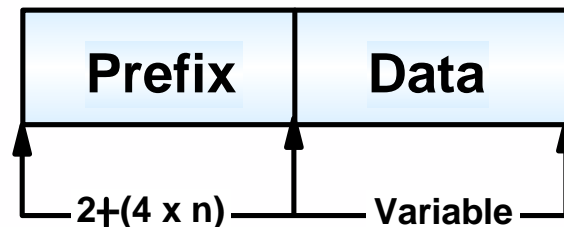
# Access to Segments

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- Retrieval
  - ▶ Get Unique (GU)
    - Read a particular segment as determined by sequence or search fields
  - ▶ Get Next (GN)
    - Read the next segment in hierarchic sequence
  - ▶ Get Next Within Parent (GNP)
    - Read the next segment in hierarchic sequence under a particular parent segment
- Update
  - ▶ Insert (ISRT)
    - Insert a new occurrence of a segment
  - ▶ Delete (DLET)
    - Delete a segment
  - ▶ Replace (REPL)
    - Update a segment with a new data, except for the sequence field

# Segments in Storage

- Segments are stored with a prefix and a data portion
  - ▶ The prefix is used only by IMS
  - ▶ The data is what the application program sees



- The prefix contains:
  - ▶ SC = segment code, 1 byte
  - ▶ DB = delete byte, 1 byte
  - ▶ 0 to n pointers, 4 bytes each

# Sequential Organization

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# Sequential Organization

# Sequential Organization

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- The data is physically stored in hierarchic sequence
  - ▶ Database records are stored in a root key sequence
    - If no root key, they are stored as presented
  - ▶ Segments in a record are stored in hierarchic sequence
- Sequential Database Types
  - ▶ Hierarchical Sequential Access Method (HSAM)
  - ▶ Simple Hierarchical Sequential Access Method (SHSAM)
    - Root-only HSAM
  - ▶ Hierarchical Indexed Sequential Access Method (HISAM)
  - ▶ Simple Hierarchic Indexed Sequential Access Method (SHISAM)
    - Root-only HISAM using VSAM
  - ▶ Generalized Sequential Access Method (GSAM)
    - No hierarchy, no database records, no segments

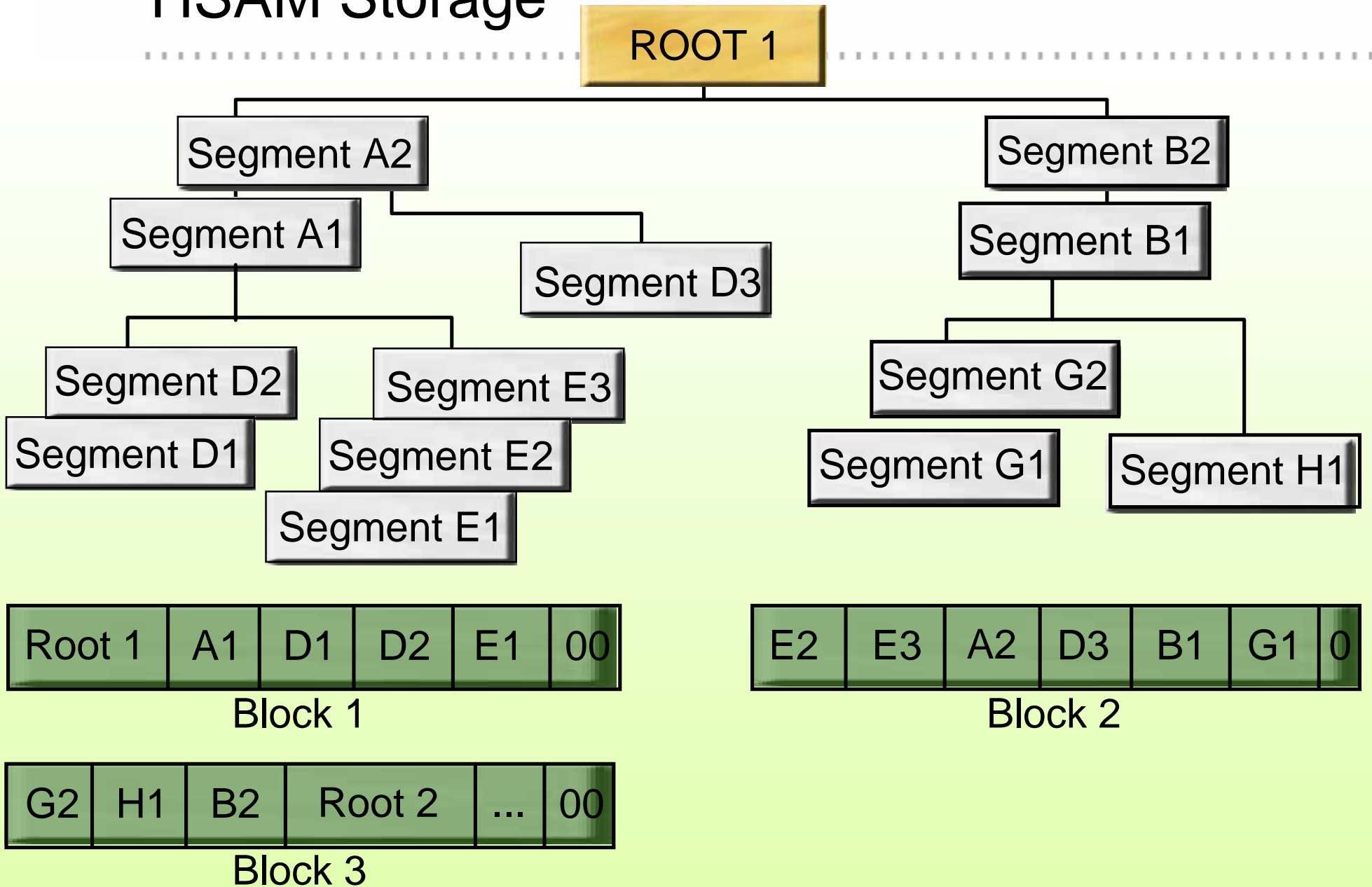


# HSAM

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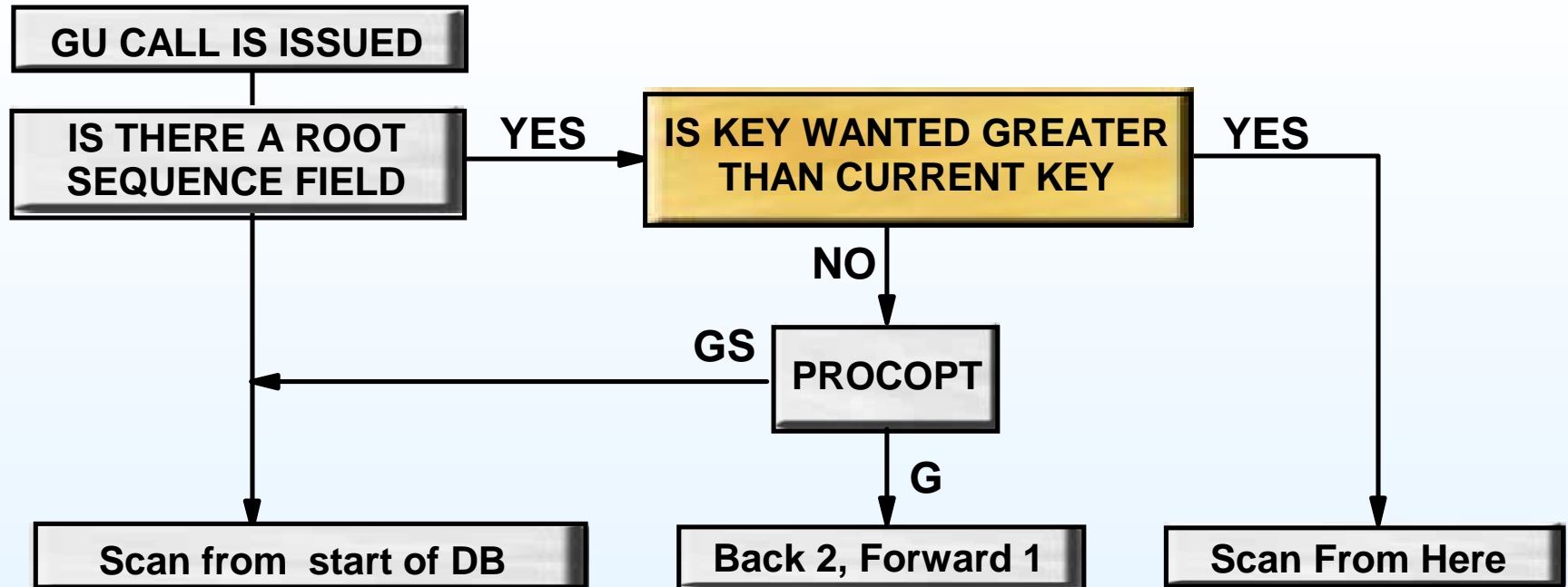
- Tape or DASD
- BSAM or QSAM
  - ▶ QSAM if online or PROCOPT=GS
- Fixed-Length, Unblocked format
  - ▶ RECFM=F, logical record length=physical block size
- Cannot Delete or Replace
  - ▶ Update by rewriting the database
- Insert allowed when loading the database
- Restrictions
  - ▶ No pointers in prefix - SC and DB only
    - Delete byte is not used
  - ▶ No multiple data set groups (MSDG)
  - ▶ No logical relationships or secondary indices
  - ▶ No variable length segments
  - ▶ No edit/compression or data capture
  - ▶ No logging, recovery, or reorganization

# HSAM Storage

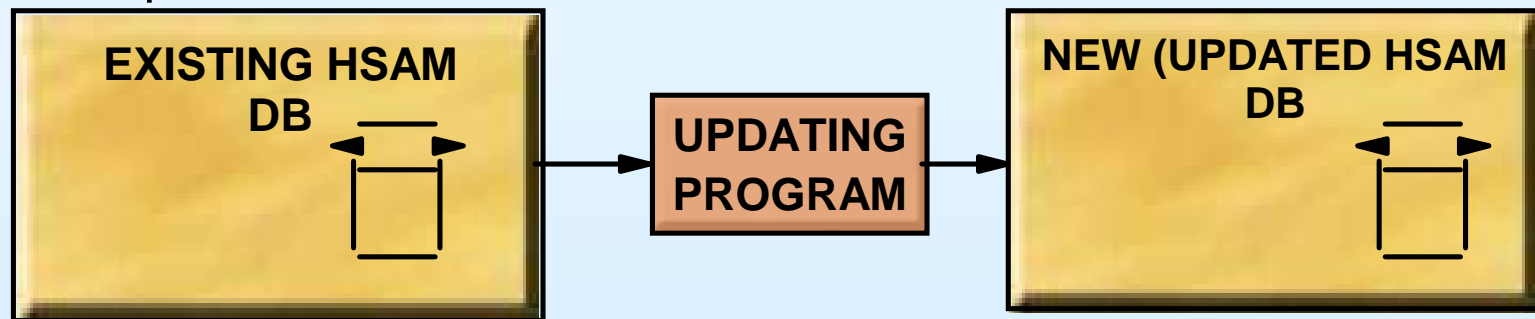


# HSAM Processing

## Retrieval



## Update



# SHSAM

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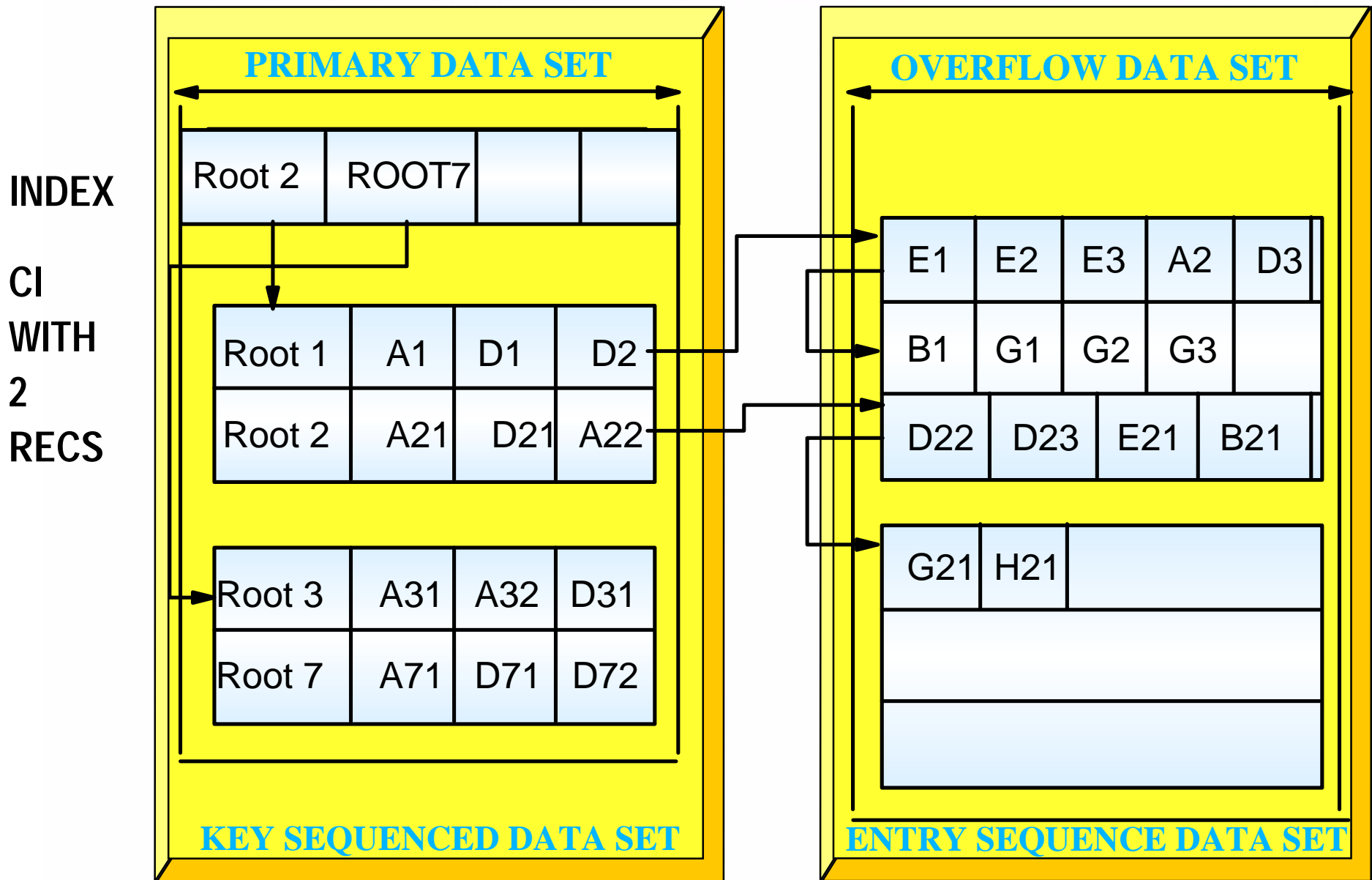
- HSAM with only one segment type (root-only)
  - ▶ No prefix is used
    - No SC because only one segment type
- Same restrictions and processing as HSAM
- Fully equivalent to plain QSAM or BSAM file
  - ▶ Communication with non-IMS systems
  - ▶ Passing large amounts of data

# HISAM

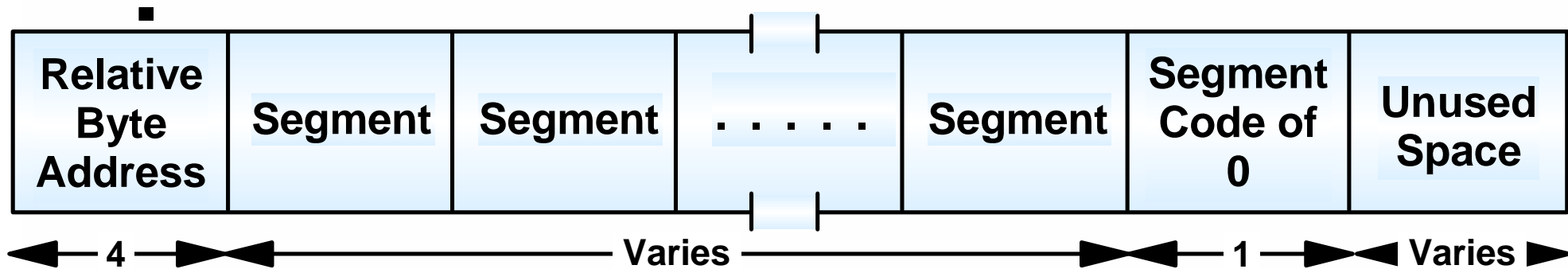
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- DASD only
- VSAM
  - ▶ KSDS for the primary data set
  - ▶ ESDS for the overflow data set
- Each root must have a unique key
- A database record is stored as 1 record in the primary data set and 0 to N records in the overflow data set
- All calls are allowed
- Prefix consists of Segment Code (SC) and Delete Byte (DB)
- HSAM restriction do not apply
- HISAM works better when
  - ▶ Applications randomly access the records and then read the segments sequentially
  - ▶ Most of the database records are the same size
  - ▶ Relatively few dependents per root
  - ▶ Very low insert/delete activity

# HISAM Storage



# HISAM VSAM Logical Record



- RBA pointer to the next logical record for this database record
- Last logical record for DB record has zeros
- Segments are stored in hierarchic sequence
- SC of zero indicates end of segments in this logical record
- Unused space can have any data in it

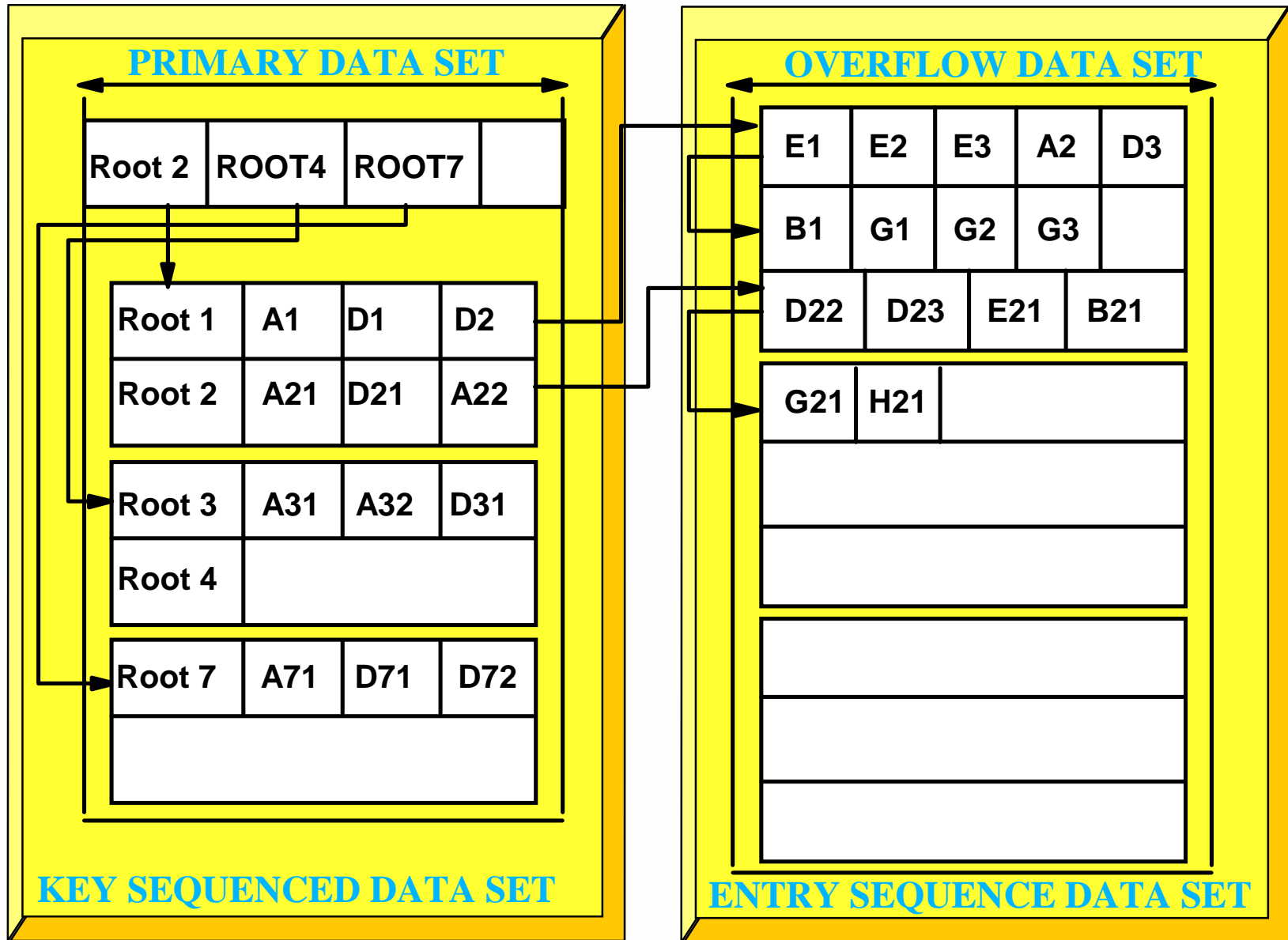
# HISAM Inserts

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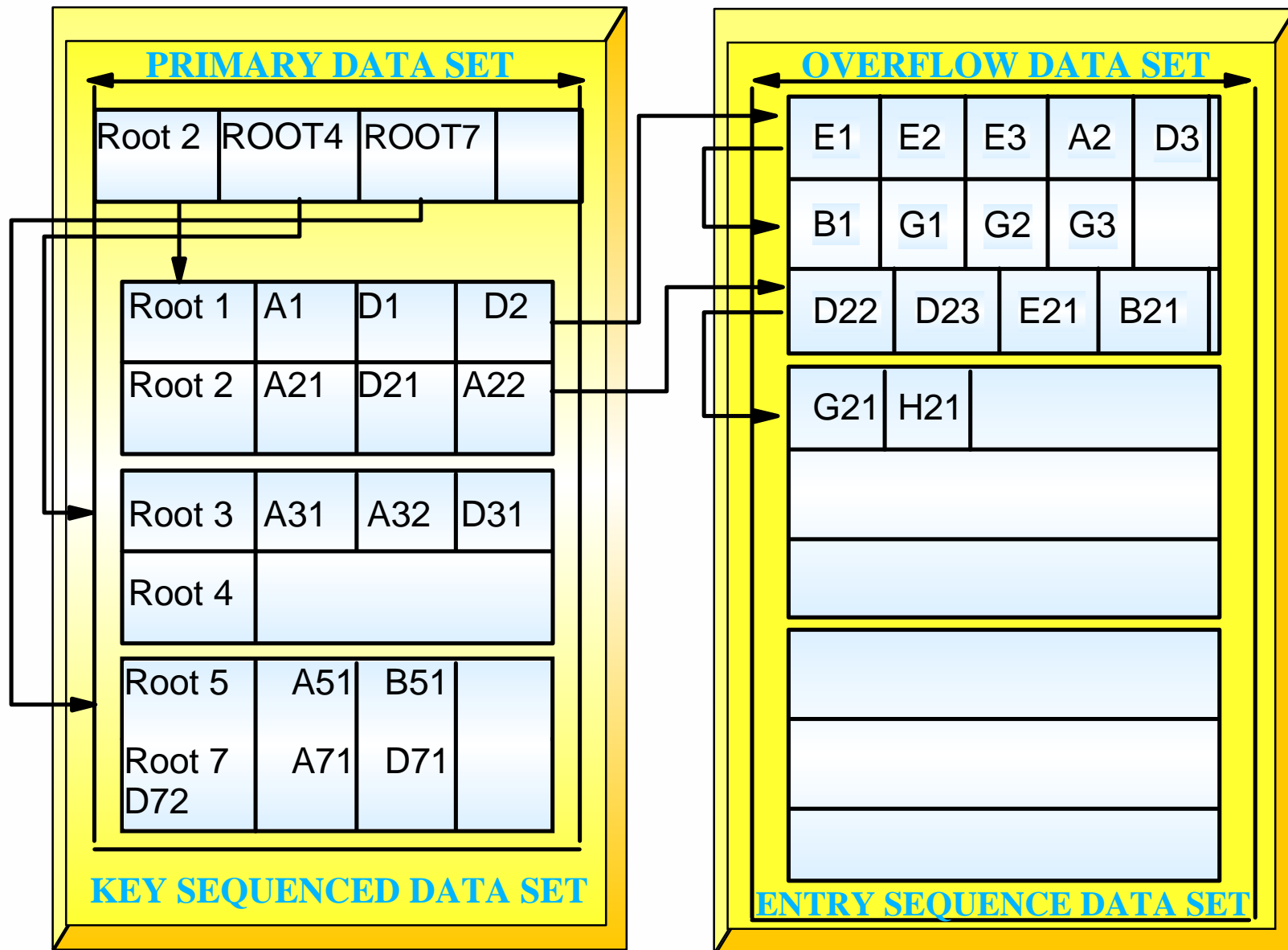
- HISAM Roots are always inserted into the Primary Data Set (KSDS)
  - ▶ If there is an free record in the VSAM Control Interval (CI)
    - Inserted in root key sequence
    - Higher keys are 'pushed down' to make space
  - ▶ If there is no free record in the CI
    - CI is split - some of the records moved to a new CI
      - Split at midpoint or insert point by INSERT = in DFSVSAMP
    - After split, same as free record case
- Dependents are inserted in their place in hierarchic sequence
  - ▶ If there is room in the logical record
    - Following are 'pushed down' to make space
  - ▶ If there is not enough room
    - All following segments are moved to a new overflow record
    - Overflow records chain is updated
    - Segment is inserted



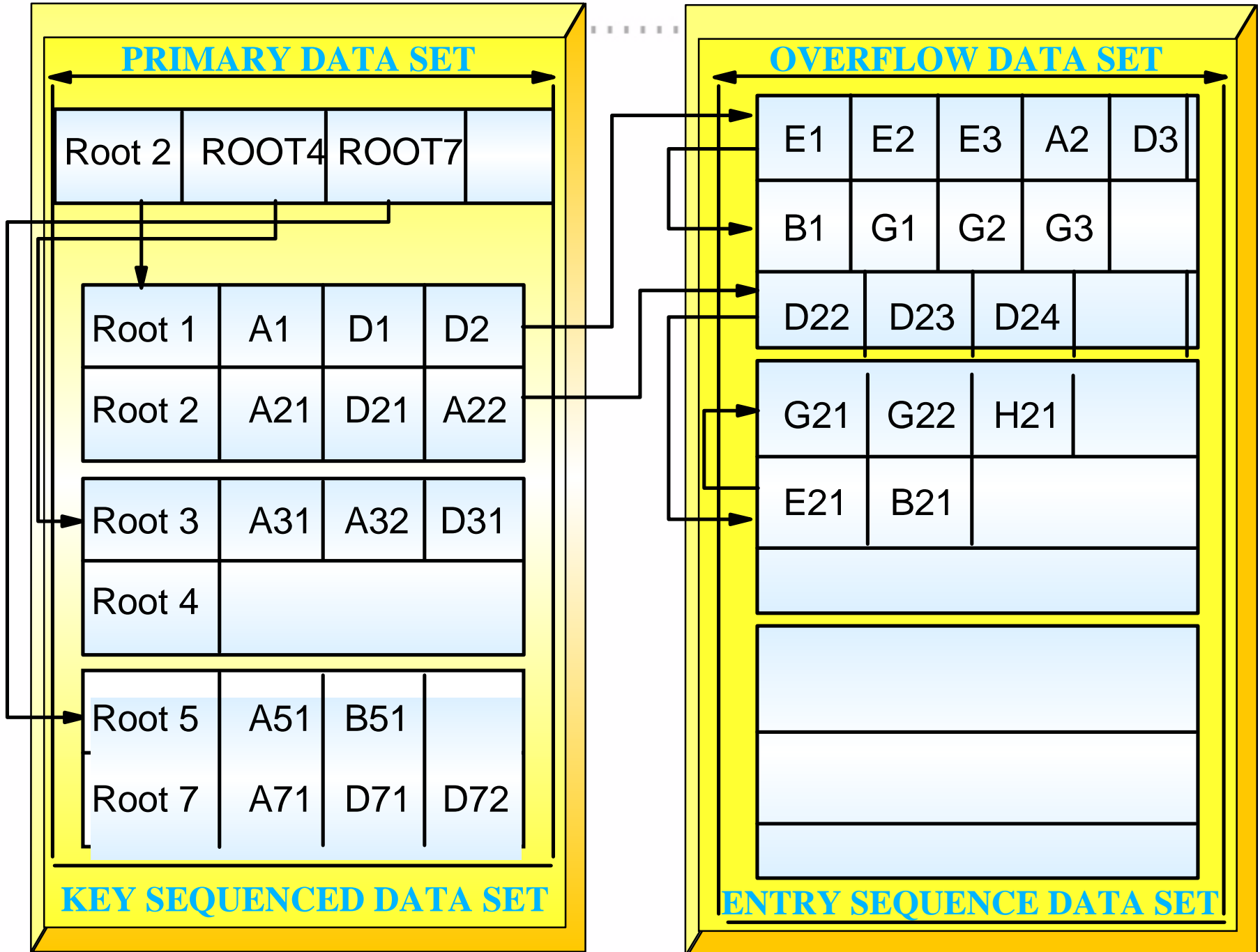
# Insert Root 4



# Insert Root 5



# Insert Dependents G22 and D24



# HISAM Delete and Replace

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- Delete
  - ▶ Marked as deleted in the Delete Byte in prefix
    - Dependents are not flagged but can't be accessed (parent segment marked)
  - ▶ Continue to take up space
    - Unload/Reload to reclaim space
  - ▶ If the root is deleted and no logical relationship exists
    - The record is deleted from the primary data set
    - Overflow records continue to exist in the overflow
- Replace
  - ▶ Fixed length or same length
    - Overwrite previous data
  - ▶ Variable length
    - Other segments in the record move to make space
    - Displaced segments will go to a new overflow record

# SHISAM

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- HISAM with only one segment type (root-only)
  - ▶ No prefix is used
    - No SC because only one segment type
    - No DB because logical record is deleted (VSAM erase)
- Restrictions
  - ▶ No logical relationships or secondary indices
  - ▶ No multiple data set groups
  - ▶ No variable length segments
  - ▶ No edit/compression
- Fully equivalent to a VSAM KSDS
  - ▶ No ESDS because no dependent overflow
  - ▶ Can be accessed by native VSAM programs

# GSAM

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- Compatible with MVS data sets
  - ▶ No hierarchy
  - ▶ No database records
  - ▶ No segments and no keys
- GSAM VSAM
  - ▶ ESDS on DASD
  - ▶ Fixed or variable length records
- GSAM QSAM/BSAM
  - ▶ Physical sequential (DSORG=PS) on DASD or Tape
  - ▶ Fixed, variable, or undefined length records
- GSAM Processing
  - ▶ No Delete or Replace
  - ▶ Insert only at the end of the data set
  - ▶ Gets by sequential scan

# GSAM ...

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- Restrictions
  - ▶ No multiple data set groups
  - ▶ No logical relationships or secondary indices
  - ▶ No edit/compression or data capture
  - ▶ No field level sensitivity
  - ▶ No logging or reorganization
- Checkpoint and Restart
  - ▶ IMS symbolic checkpoint supports GSAM
  - ▶ Can restart from checkpoint instead of reprocessing
  - ▶ Restart repositions in the GSAM data set

# Direct Organization

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# Direct Organization



# Direct Organization

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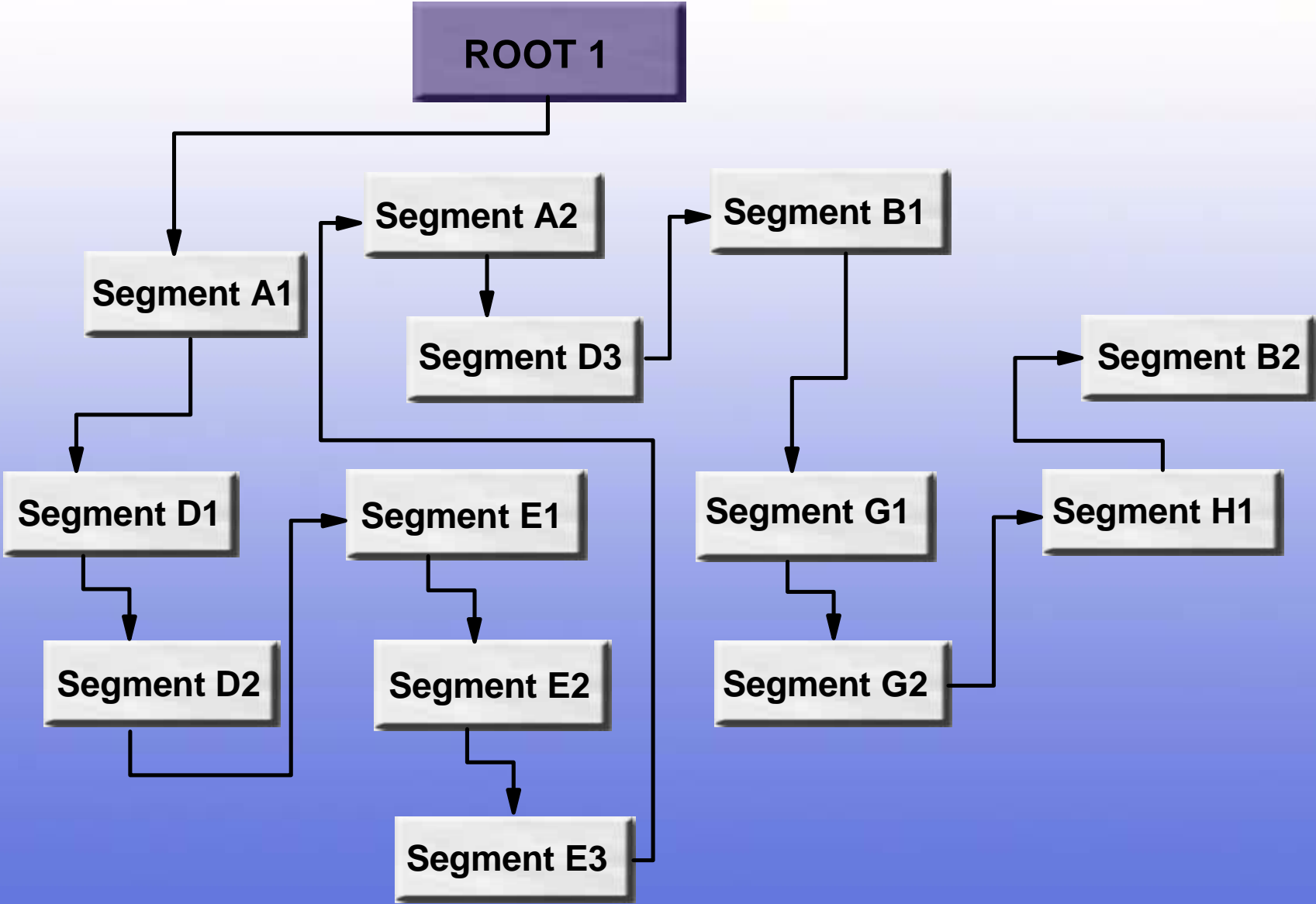
- Physical storage is independent of hierarchic sequence
  - ▶ Pointers are used to maintain segment relationships
    - Pointers are in the segment prefix
    - Segments can be stored 'anywhere'
    - Segments are not physically moved
  - ▶ Space from deleted segments can be reused
- Direct Database Types
  - ▶ Hierarchic Direct Access Method (HDAM)
    - Uses a randomizing module for direct access to root
  - ▶ Hierarchic Indexed Direct Access Method (HIDAM)
    - Searches an index to find the root
- High Availability Large Database (HALDB)
  - ▶ HDAM and HIDAM databases partitioned using the HALDB Partition Definition Utility (DSPXPDDU) become
    - Partitioned Hierarchic Direct Access Method (PHDAM)
    - Partitioned Hierarchic Indexed Direct Access Method (PHIDAM)
    - See manuals for further information.

# Pointer Types

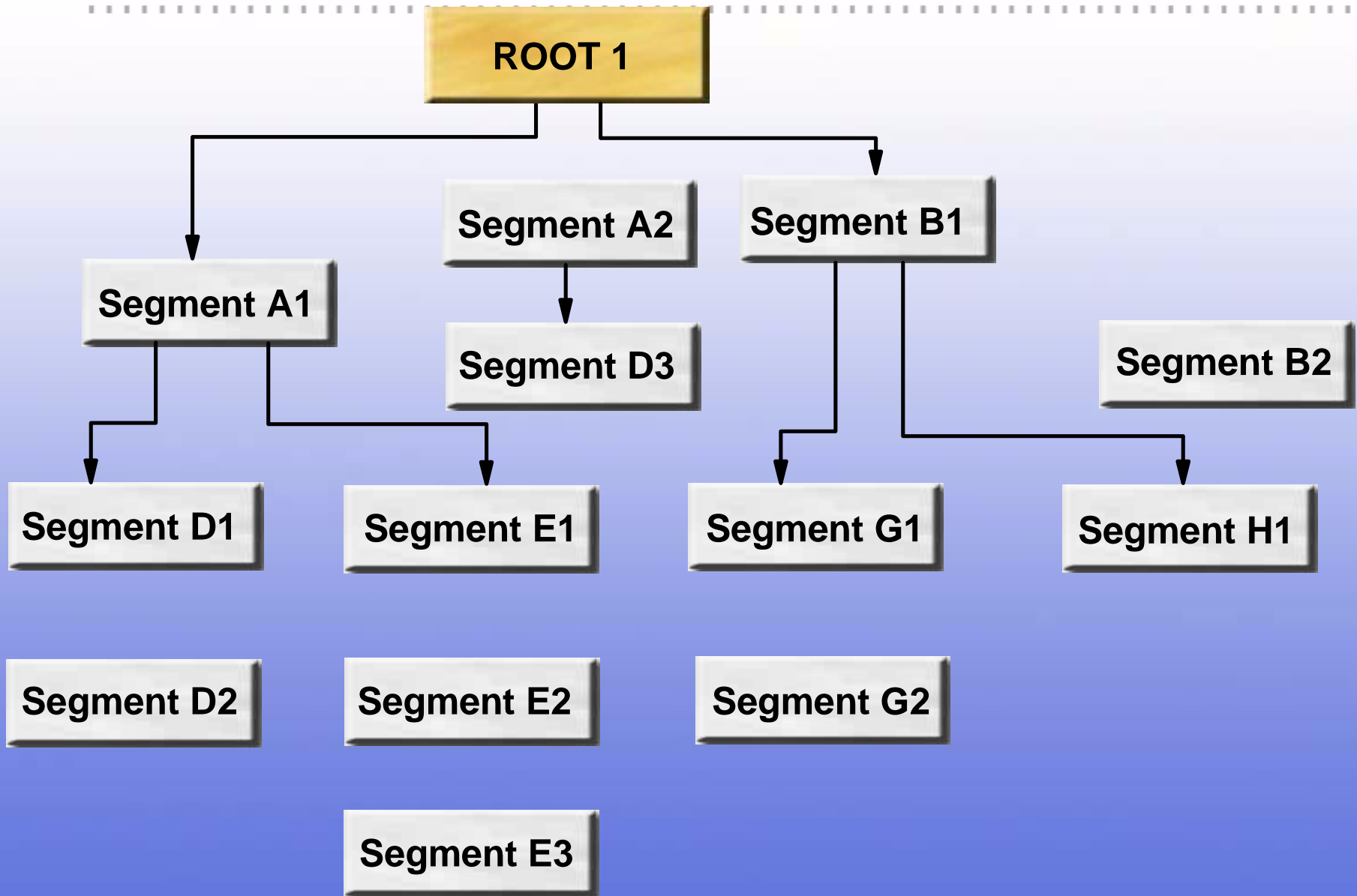
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- Hierarchic
  - ▶ May be present in all segment types
  - ▶ Forward (HF)
    - Points to next segment in hierarchic sequence
  - ▶ Backward (HB)
    - Points to previous segment in hierarchic sequence
    - Must also have HF pointers
- Physical Child
  - ▶ Found only in the prefix of a parent segment
  - ▶ First (PCF)
    - Points to the first occurrence of a child segment type
    - Must also have PCF pointer
- Twin
  - ▶ Forward (PTF)
    - Points to the next twin in key or entry sequence
  - ▶ Backward (PTB)
    - Points to the previous twin
    - Must also have PTF pointer

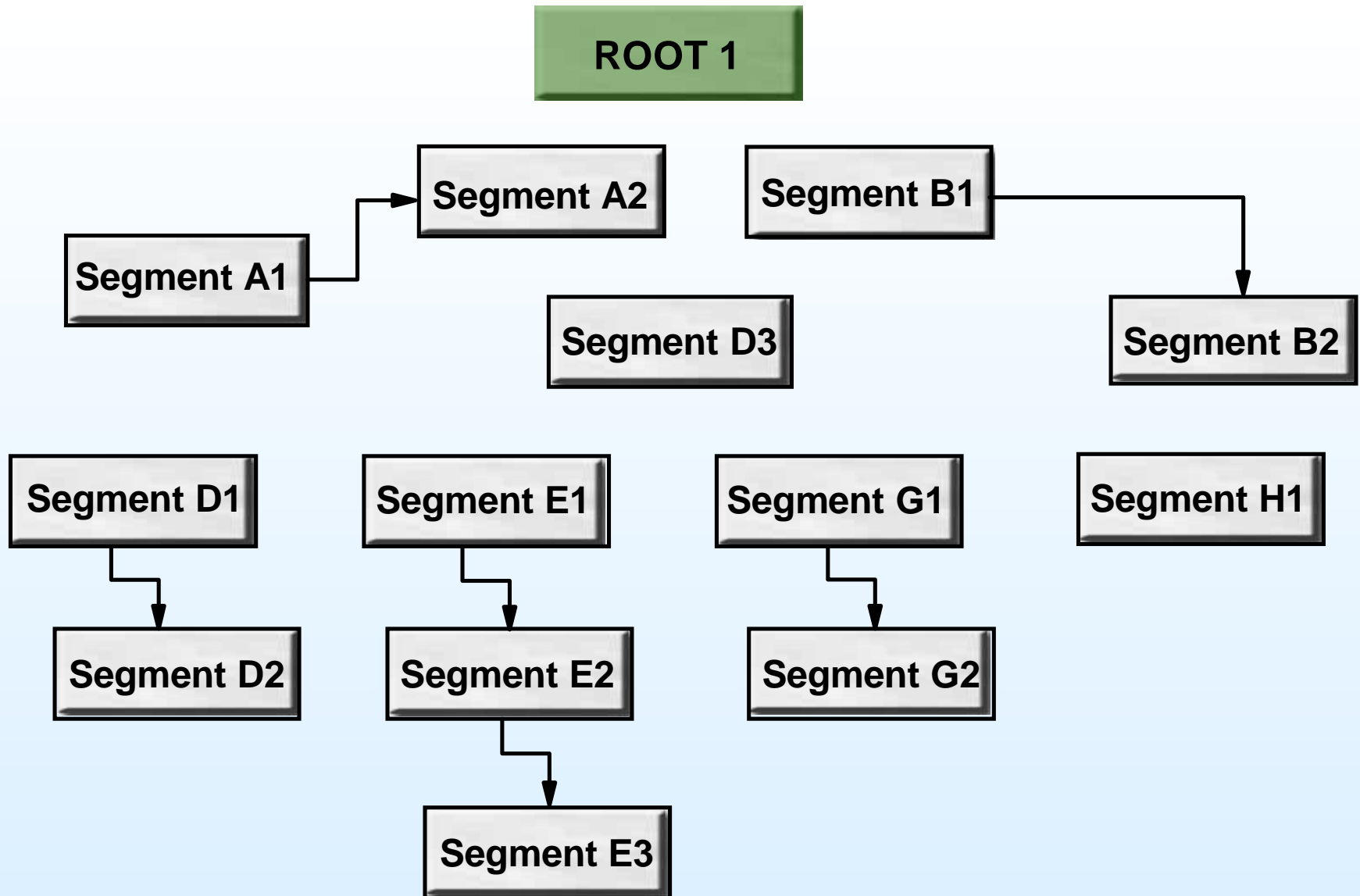
# Hierarchic Forward Pointers



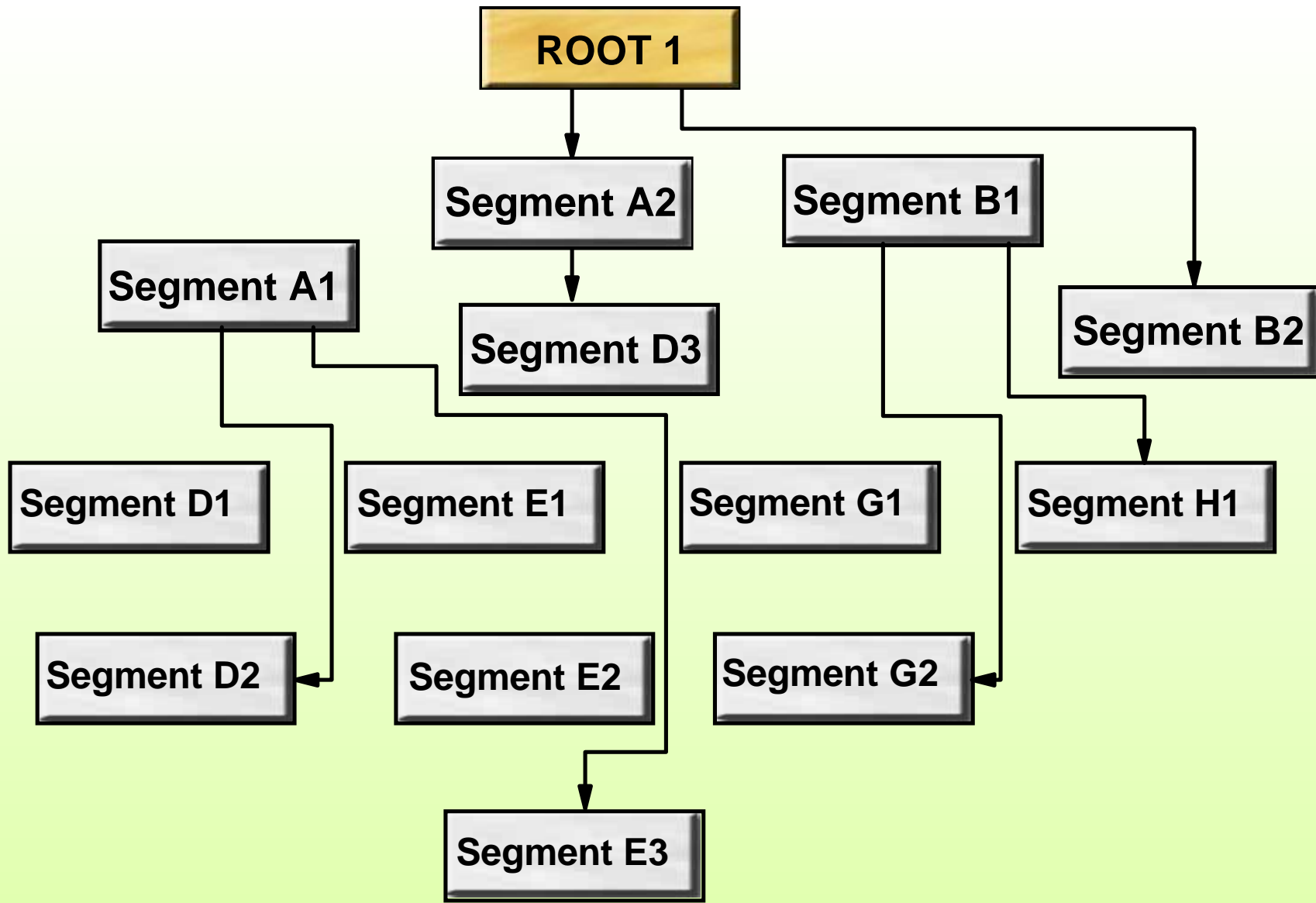
# Physical Child First Pointers



# Physical Twin Pointers



# Physical Child Last Pointers



# Pointer Uses

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- Hierarchic Forward
  - ▶ Primary processing is in hierarchic sequence
- Hierarchic Backward
  - ▶ Delete activity via a logical relationship or secondary index
- Physical Child First
  - ▶ Random processing
  - ▶ Sequence field or insert rule FIRST or HERE
- Physical Child Last
  - ▶ No sequence field and insert rule LAST
  - ▶ Use of \*L command code
- Physical Twin Forward
  - ▶ Random processing
  - ▶ Needed for HDAM roots
  - ▶ Poor choice for HIDAM roots
- Physical Twin Backward
  - ▶ Improves delete performance
  - ▶ Processing HIDAM roots in key sequence

# Pointers in the Prefix

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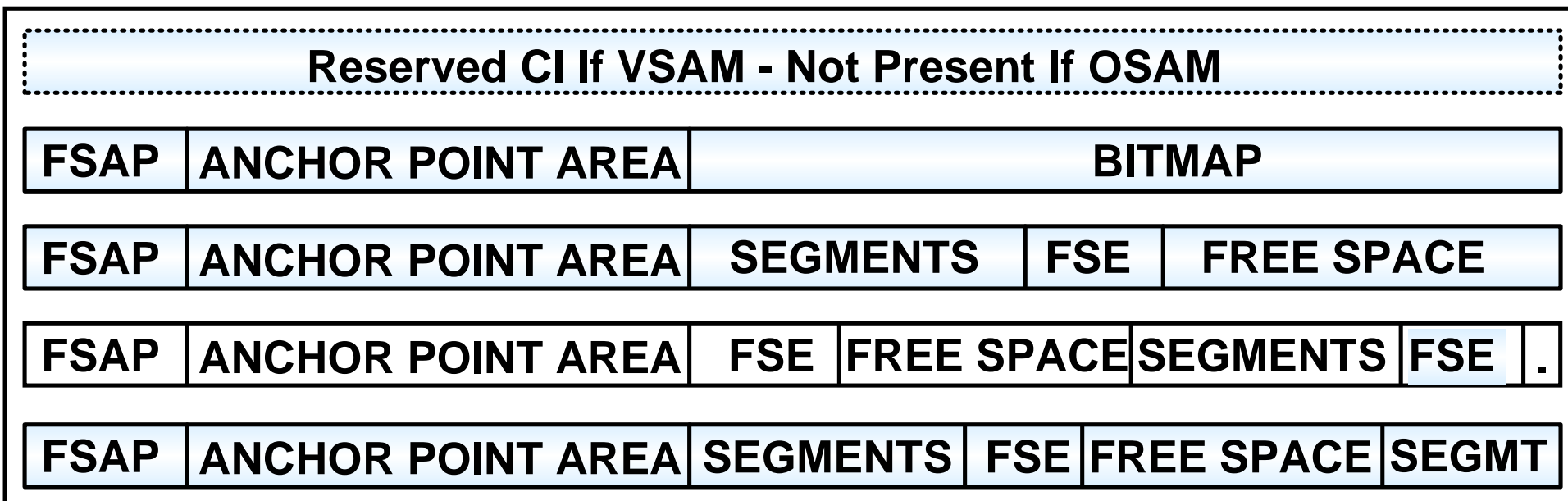
- Cannot have Hierarchic and Physical in the same prefix
  - ▶ PTR=H will cause PCF specification to be ignored
- If a parent has PTR=H, children cannot use backward pointers
- If a parent has PTR=HB, children must use backward pointers
- Child pointers will behave like the parent specification
  - ▶ Parent hierarchic, last twin pointer goes to sibling, not 0
  - ▶ Parent twin, last hierarchic pointer in twins is 0



# HD Storage

## VSAM ESDS OR OSAM DATA SET

- All HD data is in a single ESDS or OSAM data set
- The logical records are unblocked
  - Logical record length = block size for OSAM
  - Logical record length = block size -7 for VSAM
- All segments are stored as an even number of bytes



# Special HD Fields

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- Bitmap
  - ▶ One bit per block or CI
    - First bit corresponds to the bitmap itself
  - ▶ 1 = enough space to store the LONGEST segment in the database
  - ▶ 0 = not enough space for the LONGEST segment
  - ▶ If bitmap has N bits, block or CI N + 1 is a new bitmap
- Free Space Anchor Point (FSAP)
  - ▶ Two 2-byte fields
    - First the offset from in bytes to first FSE
    - Second is a flag indicating if this block is a bitmap
      - 0 = this is not a bitmap
- Anchor Point Area
  - ▶ Contains one or more 4-byte Root Anchor Points (RAP)
    - 1 RAP in HIDAM if the root has PTF or HF pointer
    - RMNAME parameter specifies number of RAPs in HDAM
  - ▶ Each RAP contains the address of a root segment or 0

# Special HD Fields ...

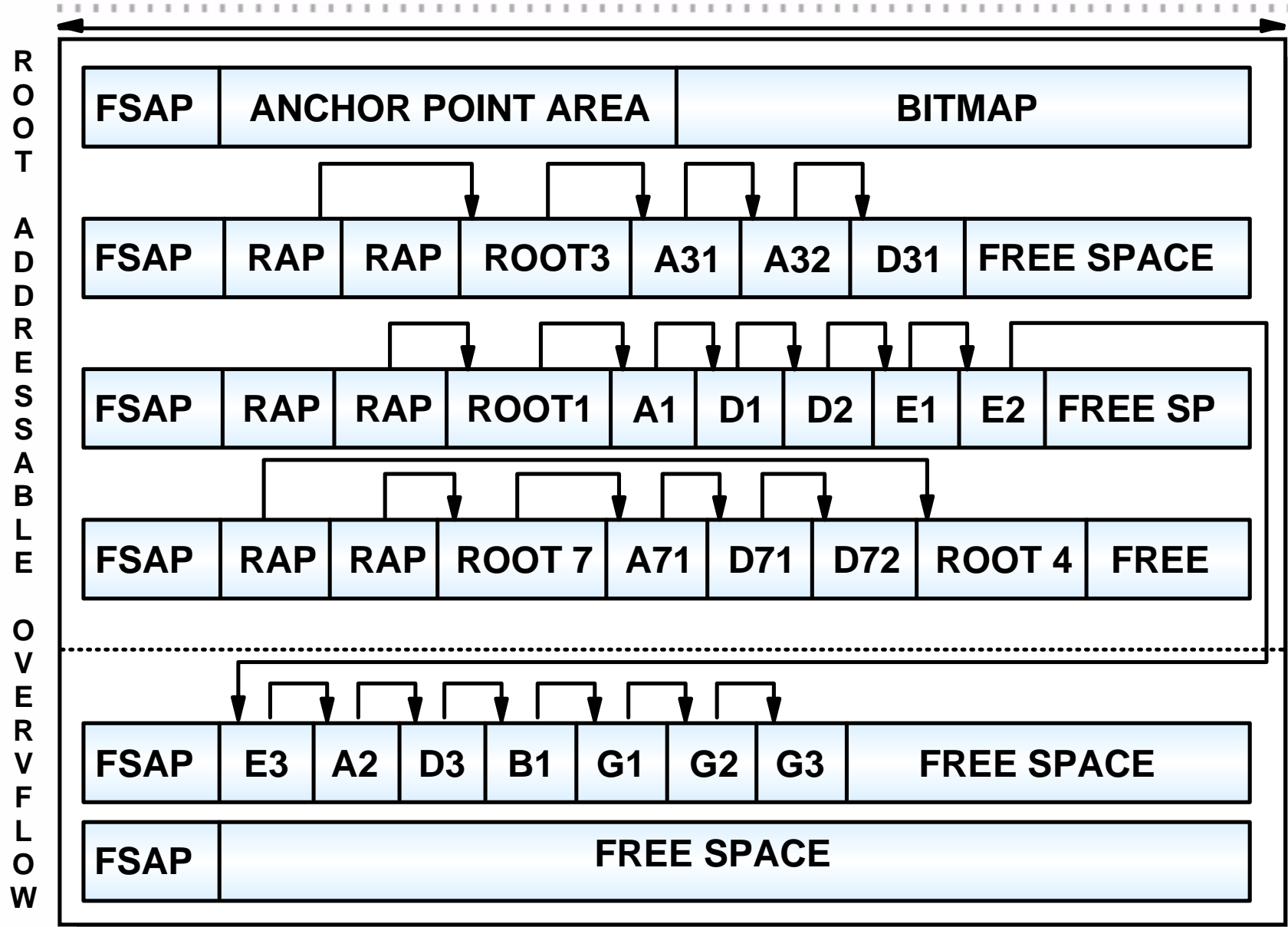
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- Free Space Element



- ▶ First 2 bytes are offset, in bytes, to next FSE
  - Zero if this is the last FSE in the block or CI
- ▶ Second 2 bytes are length of free space, including FSE
  - No FSE is created if free space is less than 8 bytes long
- ▶ Last 4 bytes is the task ID of the program that freed the space
  - Allows a program to free and reuse the same space without contention
  - Useful in determining who freed the space

# HDAM Storage

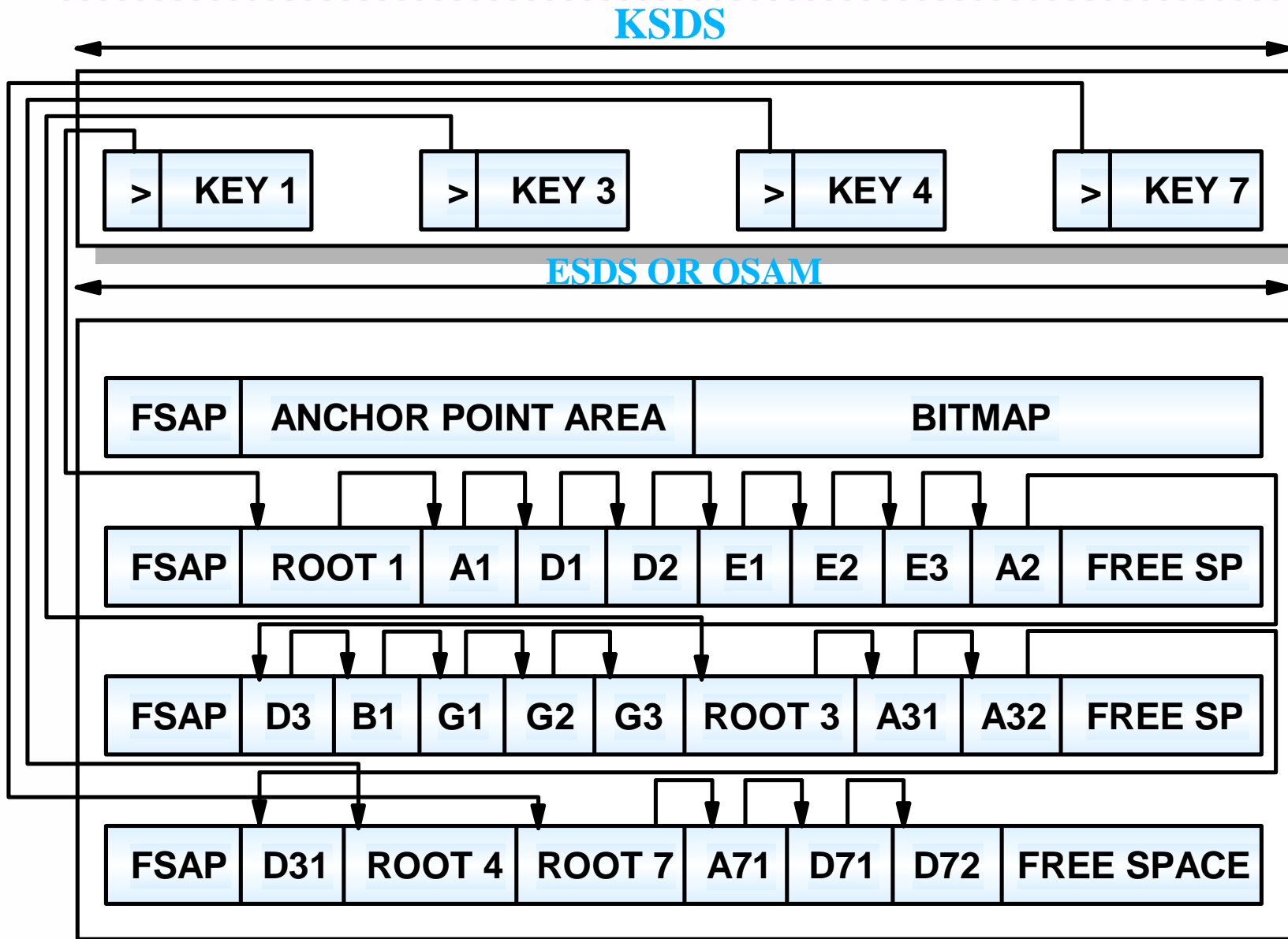


# HDAM Storage ...

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- Root Addressable Area (RAA)
  - ▶ Number of blocks or CIs defined in RMNAME parameter
  - ▶ Primary storage area for roots and dependents
    - Number of dependents at initial load is limited by RMNAME
    - Insert until specified bytes limit would be exceeded
  - ▶ All RAPs are in the RAA
  - ▶ Location is determined by Randomizer specified in RMNAME
    - Randomizer input is the root segment's key
    - Randomizer output is a block number and RAP number
    - Keys that randomize to same block and RAP are synonyms
    - Synonyms are chained using PTF pointers
    - Chain is ascending key sequence or by insert rules
- Overflow Area
  - ▶ For segments that do not fit in the RAA
  - ▶ No RAPs are present in the overflow area

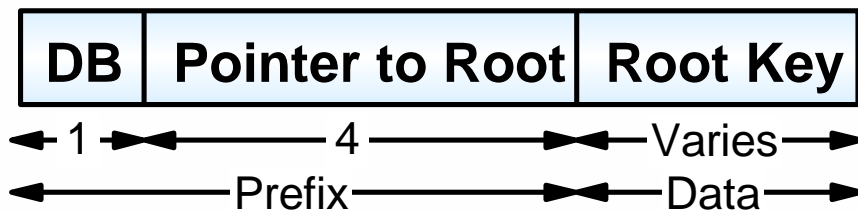
# HIDAM Storage



# HIDAM Storage ...

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- Data Component
  - ▶ A VSAM ESDS or OSAM data set
  - ▶ No RAA or Overflow portions
  - ▶ Database records are stored in key sequence
  - ▶ Roots must have unique keys
  - ▶ Segments in hierarchic sequence
  - ▶ You can specify that free space be left after loading
    - A percentage in each block or CI
    - Every Nth block or CI
- Index Component
  - ▶ VSAM KSDS
  - ▶ The index is a root-only database
  - ▶ One index segment for each database root



# HIDAM RAP

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- One RAP per block or CI if PTR=T or PTR=H for the root
  - ▶ No RAP is generated if PTR=TB or PTR=HB
  - ▶ No RAP is generated if PTR=NOTWIN
- Roots are chained from RAP in reverse order of insertion
  - ▶ RAP points to most recently inserted root
  - ▶ Each root points to previously inserted root
  - ▶ First root inserted has a zero pointer
- Index must be used to process roots sequentially
  - ▶ Index must also be used if NOTWIN is specified
- Remember that TWIN is the default
  - ▶ Specify something useful!
  - ▶ Use backward pointers if you process roots sequentially
  - ▶ Use NOTWIN if you only do random processing



# Processing HD Databases

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- Delete
  - ▶ The segment and all of its dependents are removed
  - ▶ FSE is used indicate the space is free
    - Create a new FSE and update the FSAP/FSE Chain
    - Update length field of preceding FSE
  - ▶ Pointers are updated
- Replace
  - ▶ No change in length or fixed-length
    - Overwrite old segment with updated segment
  - ▶ Shorter segment
    - Space previously occupied is freed
    - FSE created if at least 8 bytes shorter
  - ▶ Longer segment
    - If adjacent free space lets it fit, store in original location
    - If no space available, separated data
      - Data part goes to overflow with prefix of SC and DB=x'FF'
      - Bit 4 of DB in original prefix is turned on
      - Pointer to data in overflow is built after prefix
      - Remainder of space is freed

# Processing HD Databases ...

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- Insert

- ▶ Store in the Most Desirable Block (MDB)

- HDAM root MDB

- The one which is selected by the randomizer

- The one containing its previous synonym

- HIDAM root MDB

- If no backward pointer, same as the next higher key root

- If backward pointer, same as the next lower key root

- Dependents

- If Physical, same as parent or previous twin

- If Hierarchic, same as previous segment in hierarchy

- ▶ Second most desirable block

- Nth Block or CI left free during loading

- If in buffer pool or bitmap shows space available

- Specified by FRSPC parameter

- If not specified, then no second MDB

# HD Space Search Algorithm

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- In the MDB (this will be in the buffer pool)
- In the second MDB
- Any block in the buffer pool on the same cylinder
- Any block on the same track
  - ▶ If the bitmap shows space available
- Any block on the same cylinder
  - ▶ If the bitmap shows space available
- Any block in the buffer pool within +/- SCAN cylinders
- Any block within +/- SCAN cylinders
  - ▶ If the bitmap shows space available
- Any block at the end of the data set is in the pool
- Any block at the end of the data set
  - ▶ If the bitmap shows space available
  - ▶ Extend the data set if necessary
- Any block where the bitmap shows space

# Logical Relations

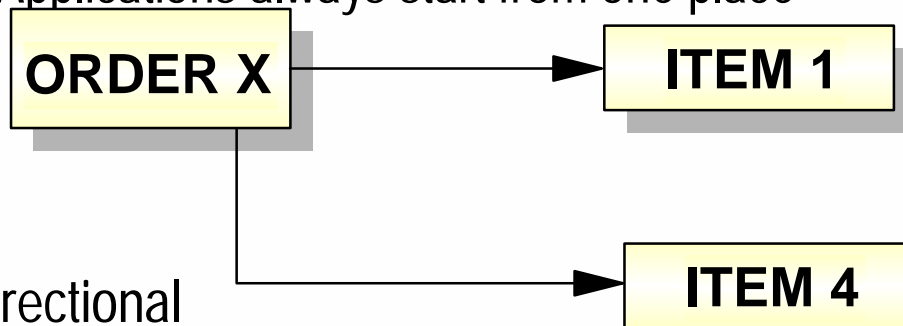
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# Logical Relations

# Types

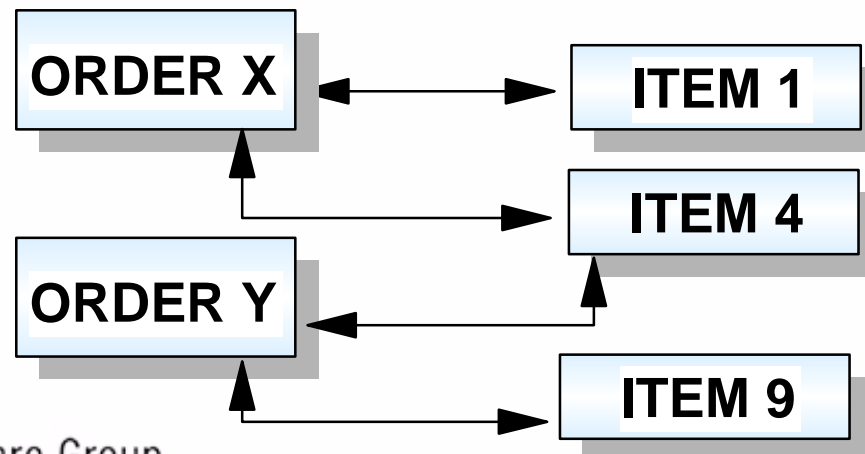
- Unidirectional

- ▶ A one-way relationship from one database record to another
- ▶ Applications always start from one place



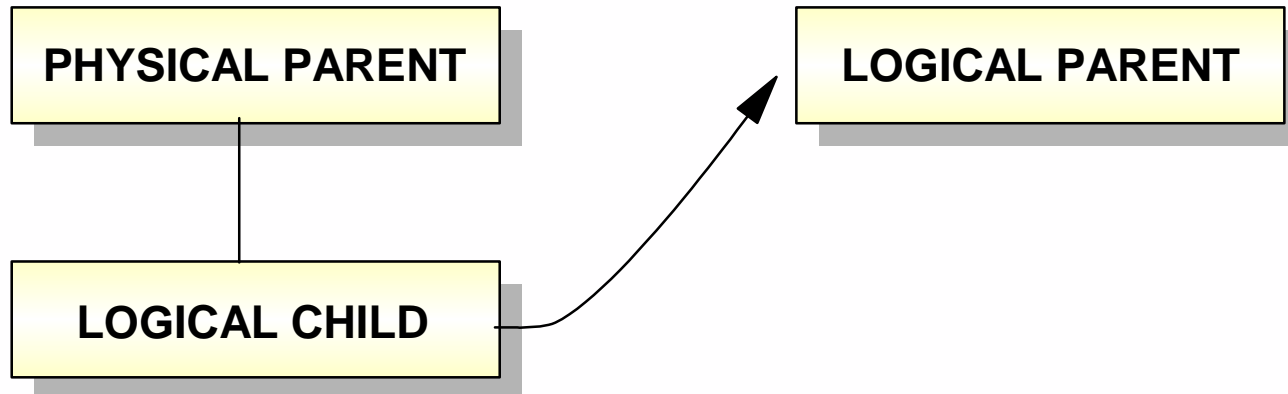
- Bi-directional

- ▶ A two-way relationship between database records
- ▶ Applications may start on either side
- ▶ IMS maintains both sides of bi-directional relationships

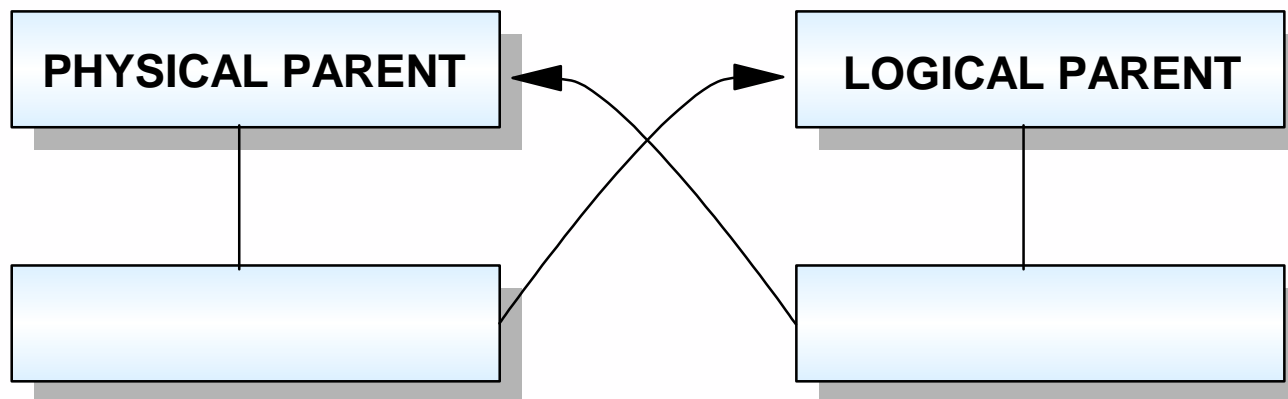


# How Logical Relationships are Implemented

## Unidirectional



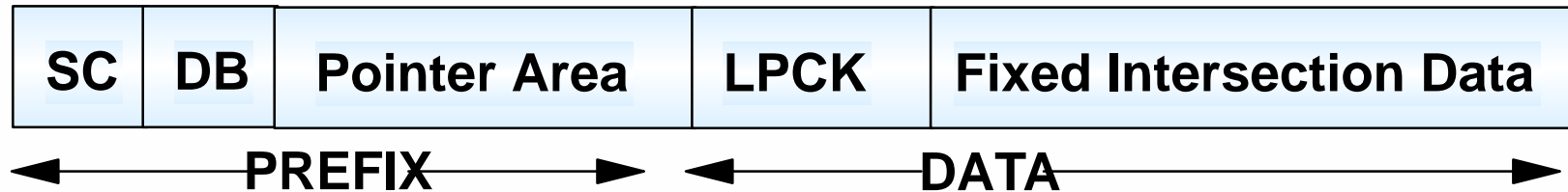
## Bi-directional



- Logical Parent (LP) Pointer
  - ▶ In the Logical Child segment
  - ▶ points to logical parent

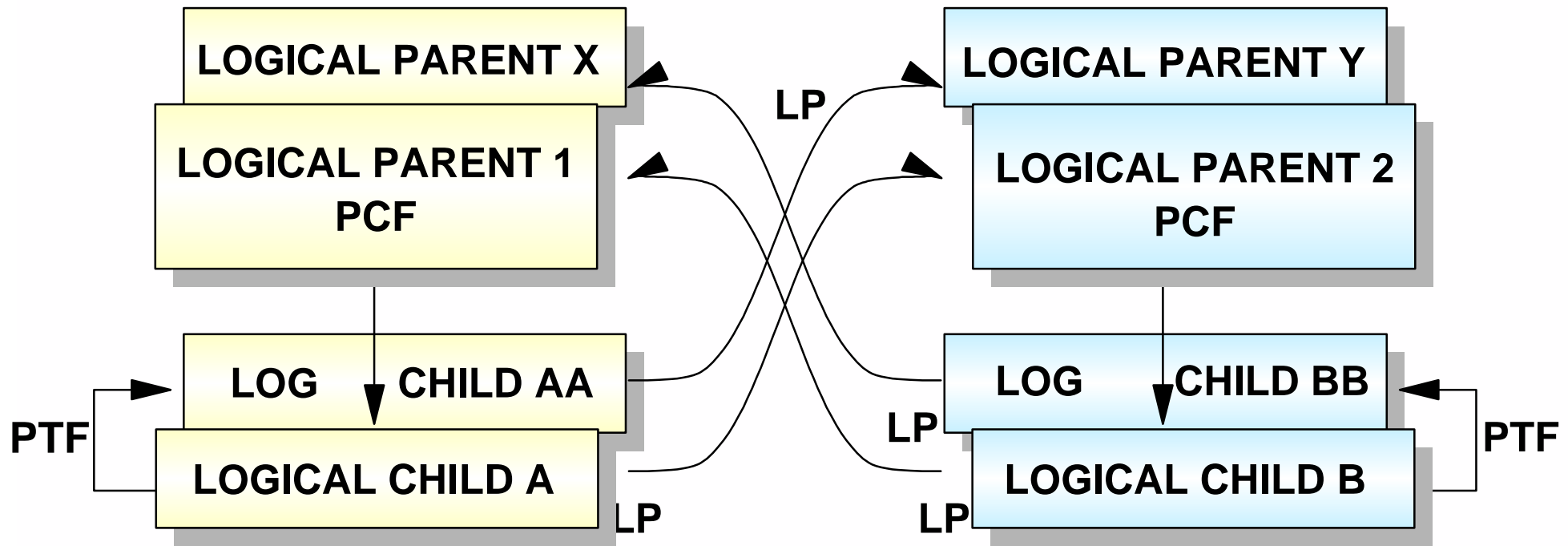
# The Logical Child

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- **Logical Parent Concatenated Key**
  - ▶ Sequence fields of all segments from root to logical parent
  - ▶ Always appears to the application program
  - ▶ May or may not be physically stored with logical child
    - If not stored, IMS generates it on retrieval
- **Logical Parent Pointer**
  - ▶ The LPCK if it is physically stored
    - Must be used if logical parent database is HISAM
    - This is called a symbolic pointer
  - ▶ A 4-byte pointer in the segment prefix
    - May only be used if logical parent database is HD
    - The only kind of pointer that can exist in HISAM
- **Fixed Intersection Data**
  - ▶ Data that is dependent on the logical relation
  - ▶ Maintained on both sides of a bi-directional relation
  - ▶ Variable intersection data is in dependents of the logical child

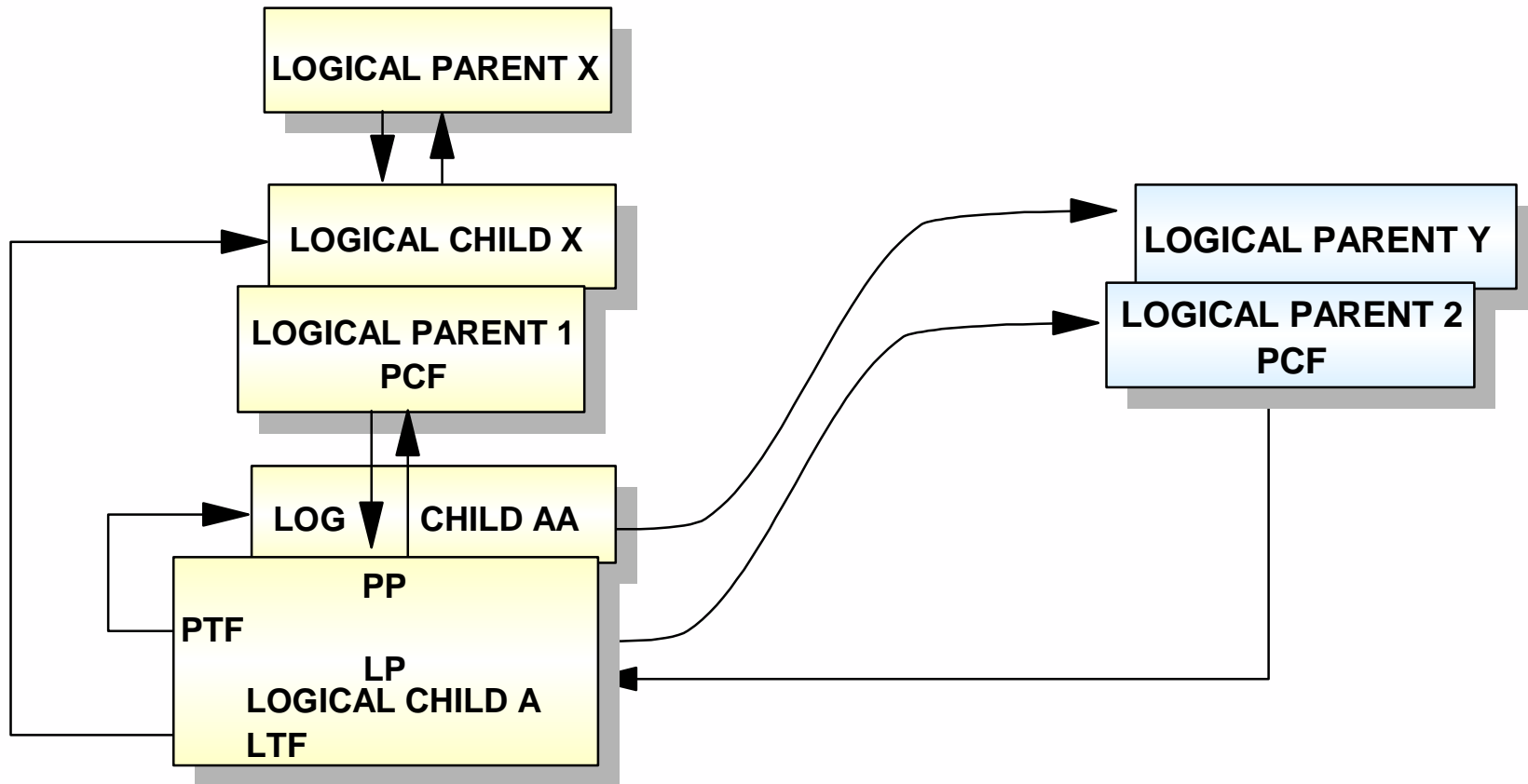
# Bi-directional Physical Pairing



- Physical or Hierarchic relate Physical Parent and Logical Children
- Logical Parent relates Logical Child to Logical Parent
- Requires a physical segment on both sides of the relation



# Bi-directional Virtual Pairing



- Logical Child First (LCF) replaces PCF
- Logical Twin Forward (LTF) replaces PTF
- Physical Parent (PP) replaces (LP)
- Physical segment only exists on one side of relation
- Real Logical Child must be in HD database

# Logical Relation Prefix

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- Logical Child Prefix
  - ▶ PP, LTF and LTB only present if virtual pairing

SC	DB	HF	HB	PP	LTF	LTB	LP
----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	----

OR

SC	DB	PTF	PTB	PP	LTF	LTB	LP	PCF	PCL
----	----	-----	-----	----	-----	-----	----	-----	-----

- Logical Parent Prefix
  - ▶ PP only if a lower level segment is a logical parent

SC	DB	HF	HB	PP	LCF	LCL
----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----

SC	DB	PTF	PTB	PP	PCF	PCL	LCF	LCL
----	----	-----	-----	----	-----	-----	-----	-----

# Secondary Indices

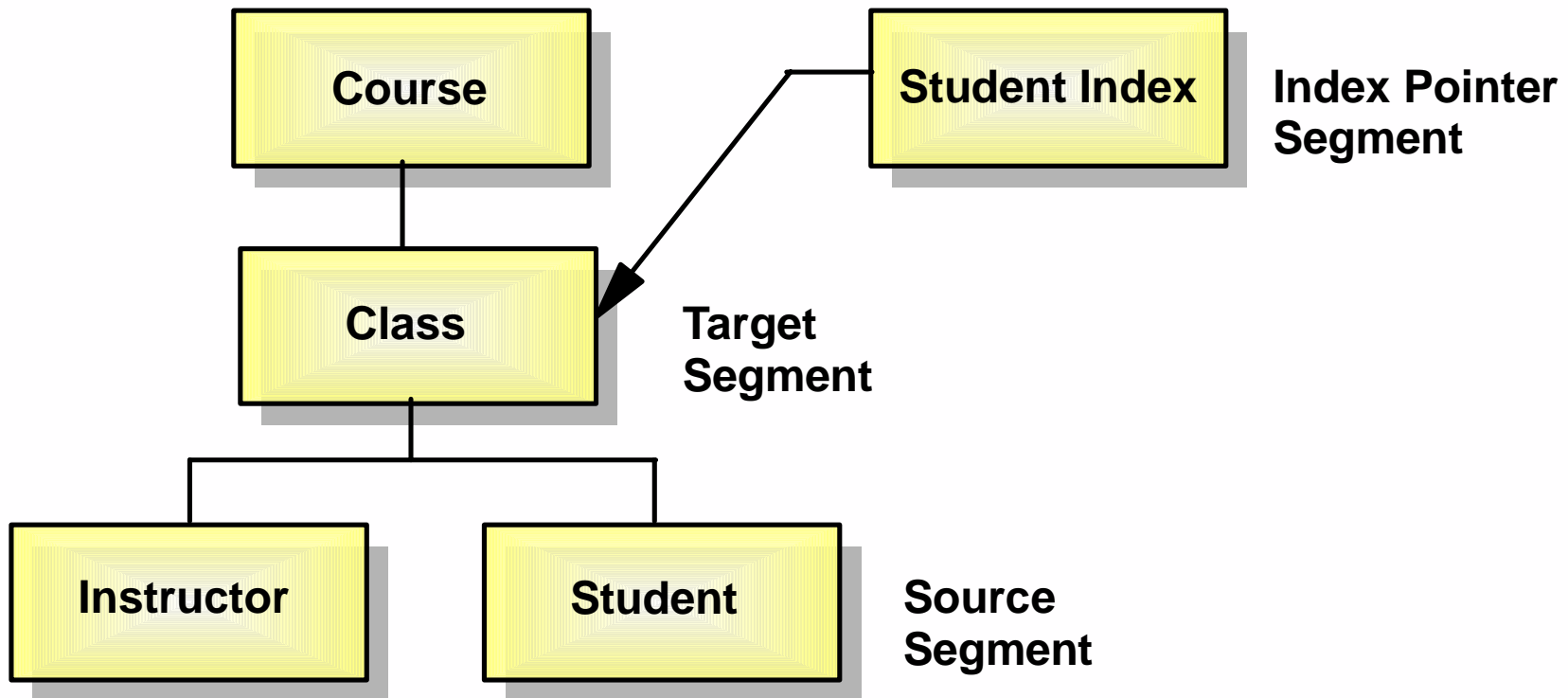
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Topic

## **Secondary Indices**

# Why Secondary Indices

- Processing sequence other than root key
  - ▶ Avoid scan for non-key field
- Direct access to lower level segments
  - ▶ Faster processing

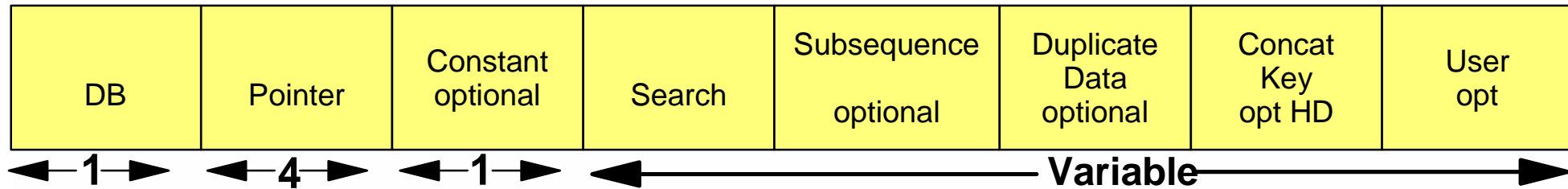


# Secondary Index (SI)

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- Can be based on HISAM, HDAM, or HIDAM
- Is a separate database
  - ▶ Can be processed on its own
- Uses fields from the source segment to create a key
- Access via a secondary index is to the target segment
- Invisible to the application
  - ▶ PROCSEQ = on PCB tells IMS to use the secondary index
  - ▶ Application must use XDFLD name in the SSA
- Limits on secondary indices
  - ▶ 32 secondary indices on one segment type
  - ▶ 1000 secondary indices for a database
- Secondary index is a special kind of logical relation

# Fields in the Index Pointer



- **Pointer is used when target is in HD database**
- **Constant is used for shared secondary indices**
  - ▶ More than one SI in the same database
- **Search is made up of up to 5 fields from the source**
  - ▶ This is the key of the secondary index
- **Subsequence is up to 5 fields from source or IMS-generated values**
  - ▶ Used to make the secondary index key unique
- **Duplicate Data is up to 5 fields from the source**
  - ▶ Only used when processing the SI as a database
- **Concatenated Key is the symbolic pointer to the target**
  - ▶ Required when the target is in HISAM database
- **User Data is anything you want to stick in there**
  - ▶ Only used when processing the SI as a database

# Where to look for further information...

- **IMS Manuals**
  - ▶ Administration Guide: Database Manager
    - Chapter 4 - Designing a Full-Function Database, Choosing a Database Type
    - Chapter 5 - Choosing Additional Database Functions
  - ▶ Utilities Reference: System
    - Chapter 1 - Database Description (DBD) Generation
- **IMS Redbooks**
  - ▶ IMS Primer (SG24-5352) - Part 3 - IMS Database Manager
    - Four Chapters with very good information on the topics covered in this presentation
- **Introduction to HALDB - Session E04 (Vern Watts)**