Files are allocated disk spaces by operating system. Operating systems deploy following three main ways to allocate disk space to files.
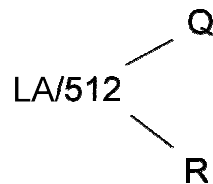
- Contiguous Allocation
- Linked Allocation
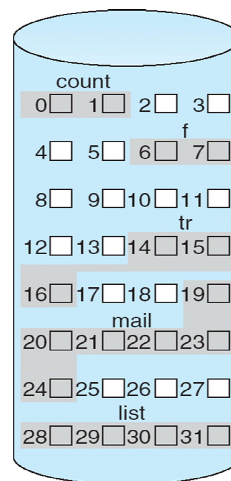- Indexed Allocation

Contiguous Allocation

- Each file occupies a contiguous address space on disk.
- Assigned disk address is in linear order.
- Easy to implement.
- External fragmentation is a major issue with this type of allocation technique.

Contiguous Allocation

- Mapping from logical to physical

Q

LA/512

R

Block to be accessed = Q + starting address
Displacement into block = R

file	start	length
count	0	2
tr	14	3
mail	19	6
list	28	4
f	6	2