

# Technical Writing



“Hey, how do you do this again?”



“Read the instructions!”



# Your Job:



# Your Job: Break down specialized material



# Your Job: Break down specialized material



- Explain technical info to a general audience

# Your Job: Break down specialized material



- Explain technical info to a general audience
- Use language that anyone can understand

# Your Job: Break down specialized material



- Explain technical info to a general audience
- Use language that anyone can understand
- Use a logical progression



What's "technical"?



# What's "technical"?

- Anything that requires specialized knowledge



# What's "technical"?

- Anything that requires specialized knowledge
- Anything that has jargon that needs to be defined



# What's "technical"?

- Anything that requires specialized knowledge
- Anything that has jargon that needs to be defined
- Anything you know that has to be explained to someone else



Ever have to teach someone to drive a standard?



Ever have to teach someone to drive a standard?

Note the jargon:



Ever have to teach someone to drive a standard?

Note the jargon:

- Clutch



Ever have to teach someone to drive a standard?

Note the jargon:

- Clutch
- Stick shift





Ever have to teach someone to drive a standard?



Note the jargon:

- Clutch
- Stick shift
- Gears

# Ever have to teach someone to drive a standard?



Note the jargon:

- Clutch
- Stick shift
- Gears
- Friction point

# Ever have to teach someone to drive a standard?



Note the jargon:

- Clutch
- Stick shift
- Gears
- Friction point

*All require definitions.*

# Possible Topics



# Possible Topics

- Program a DVD player to record



# Possible Topics

- Program a DVD player to record
- Create a guide to using Facebook



# Possible Topics

- Program a DVD player to record
- Create a guide to using Facebook
- Write a For Dummies-like book



# Possible Topics

- Program a DVD player to record
- Create a guide to using Facebook
- Write a For Dummies-like book
- Be culinary and do a step-by-step recipe





# Requirements



# Requirements

- Provide detail



# Requirements

- Provide detail
- Define jargon



# Requirements

- Provide detail
- Define jargon
- Be organized



# Requirements

- Provide detail
- Define jargon
- Be organized
- Use graphs/charts, etc.

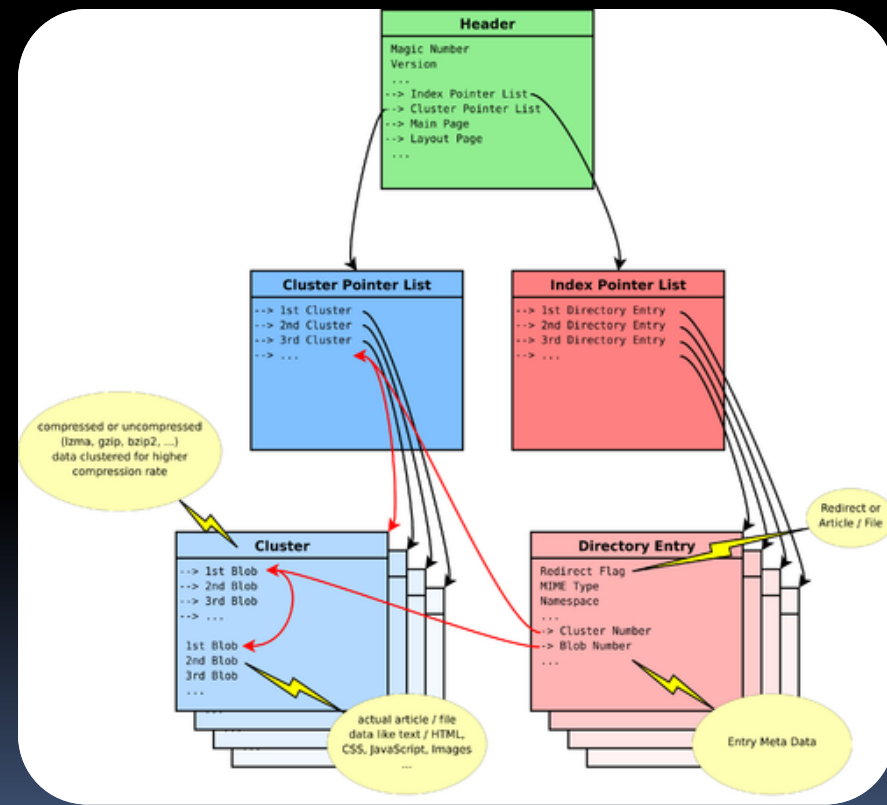


# Requirements

- Provide detail
- Define jargon
- Be organized
- Use graphs/charts, etc.
- Properly cite outside sources

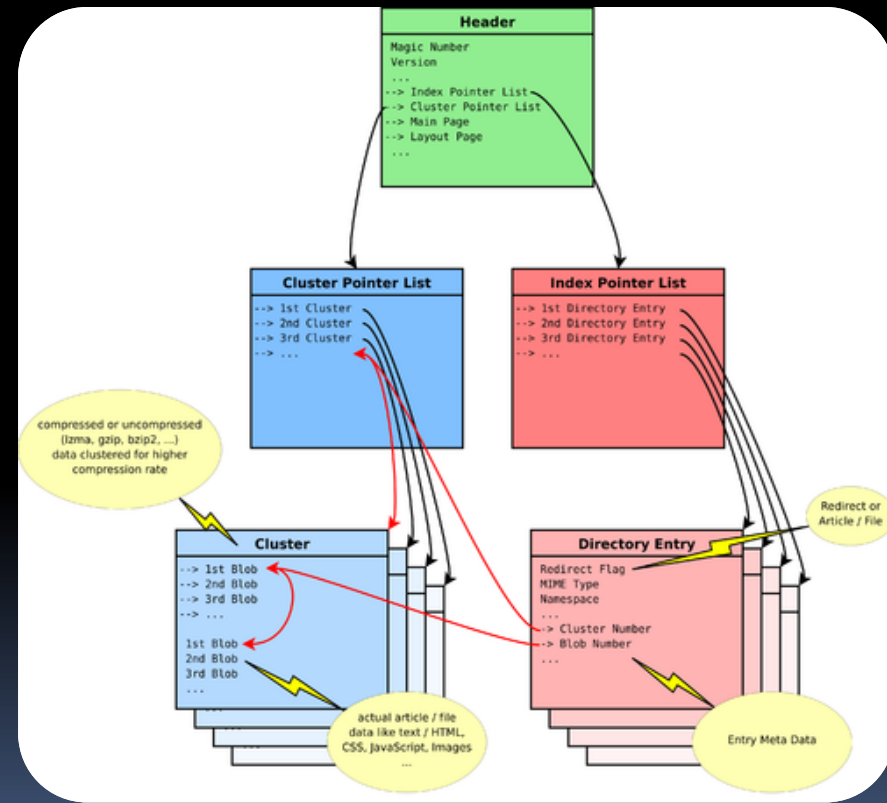


# Possible Formats



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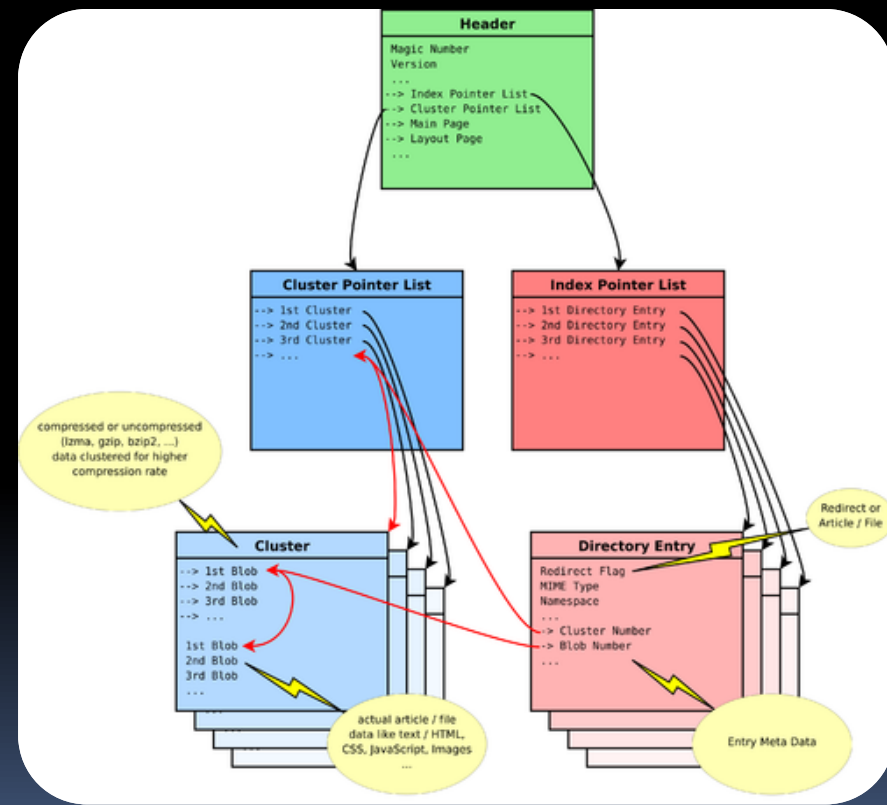
- Brochure





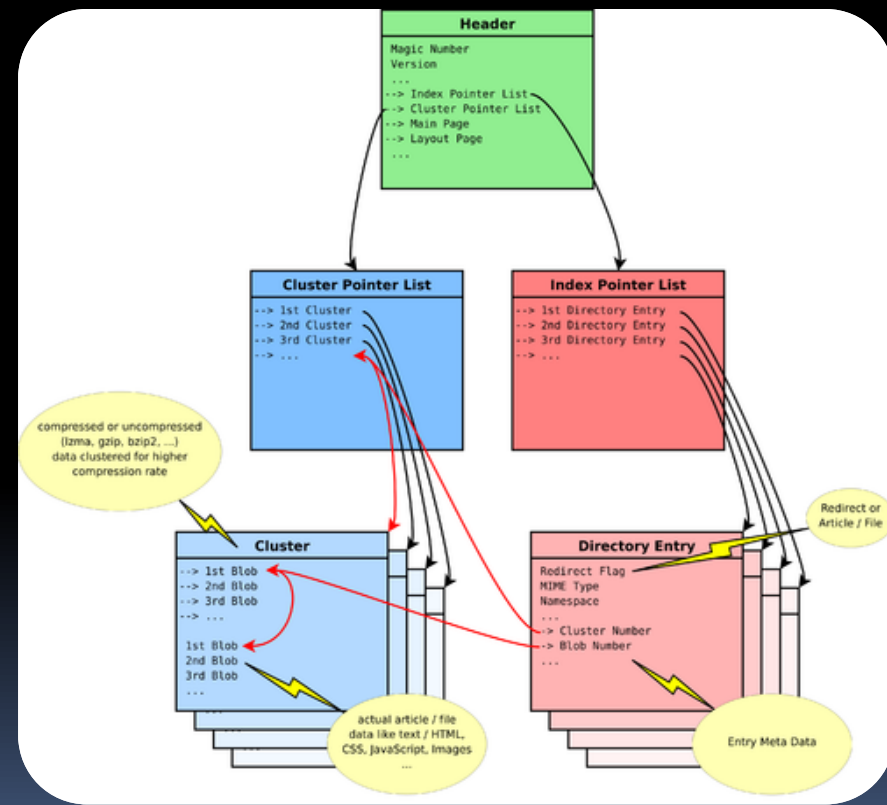
# Possible Formats

- Brochure
- Instruction manual



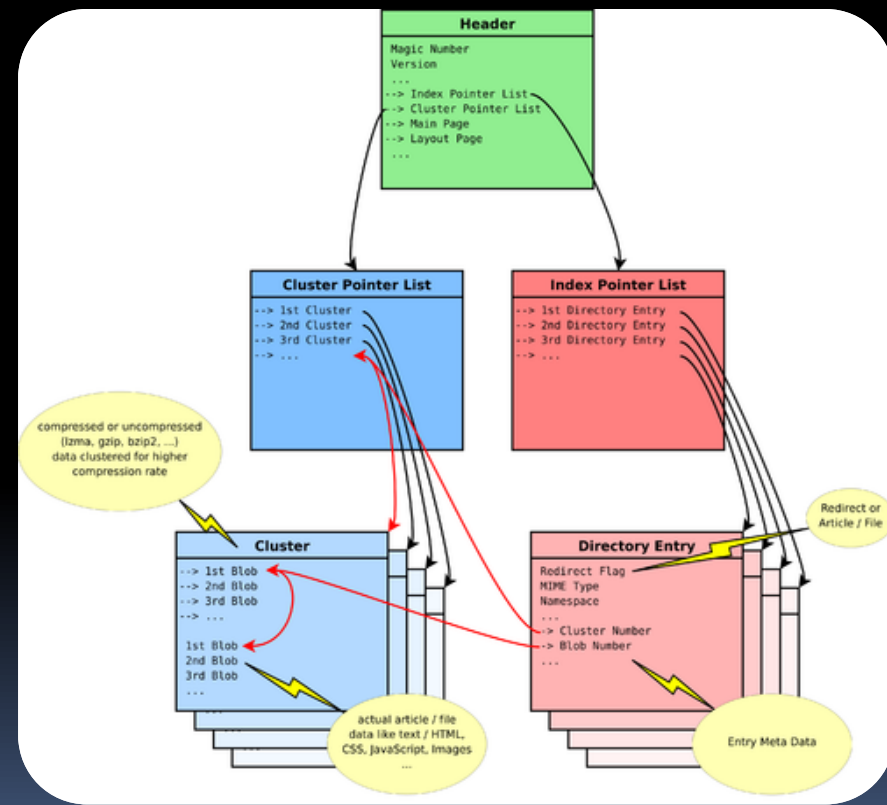
# Possible Formats

- Brochure
- Instruction manual
- How-To guide



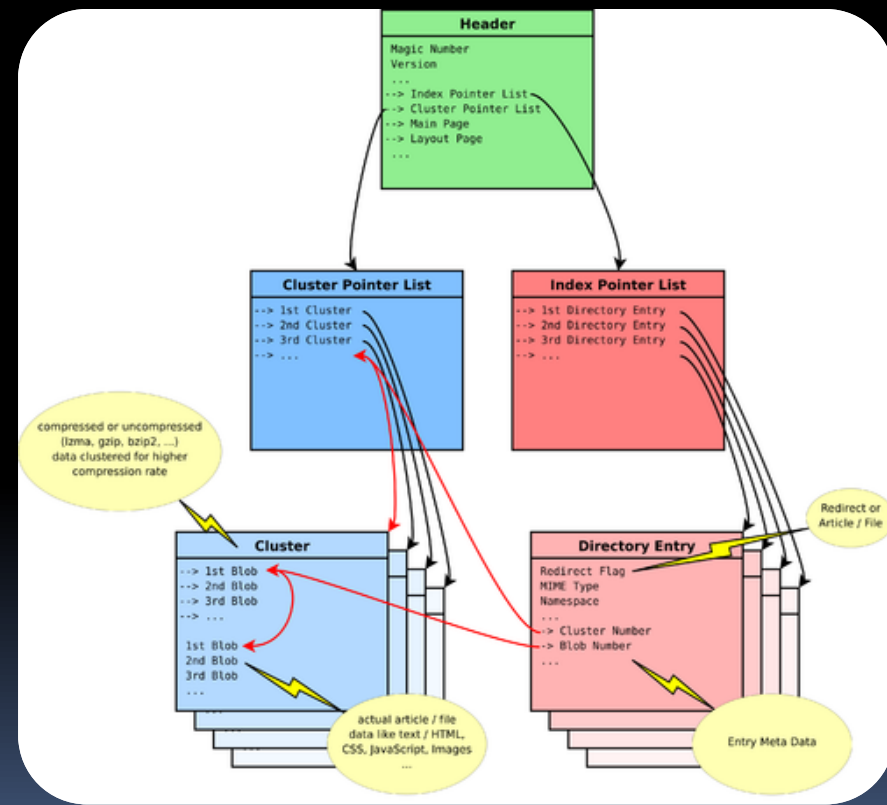
# Possible Formats

- Brochure
- Instruction manual
- How-To guide
- Article



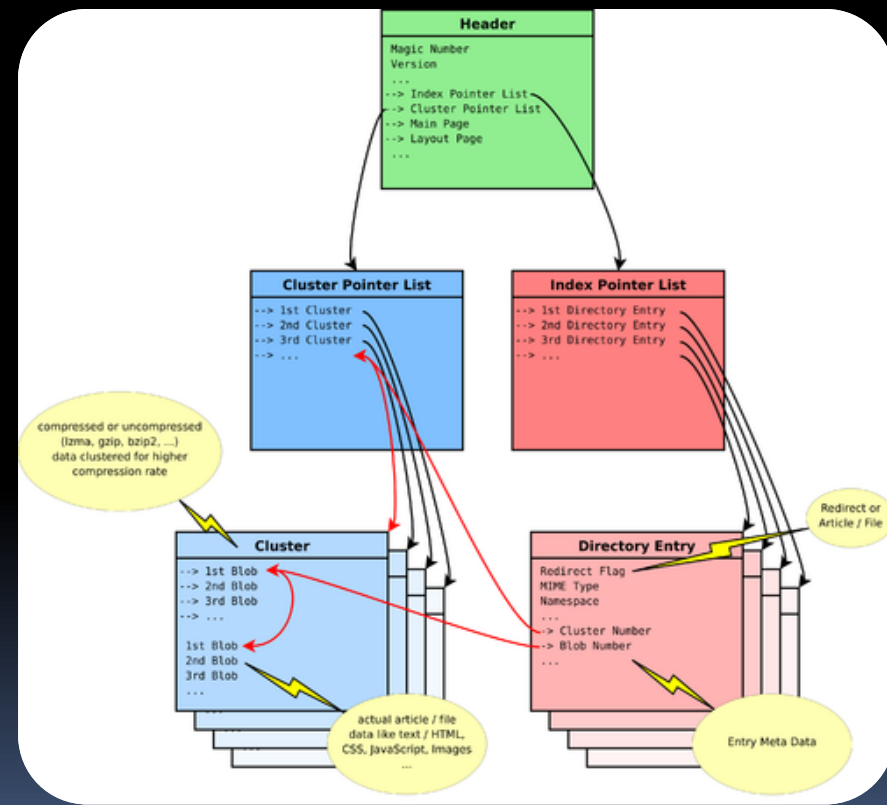
# Possible Formats

- Brochure
- Instruction manual
- How-To guide
- Article
- Poster



# Possible Formats

- Brochure
- Instruction manual
- How-To guide
- Article
- Poster
- Flow chart



Good Luck!



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