Operating Systems

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Introduction

1. Operating System Operations

Imagine your computer as a busy city. The **Operating System (OS)** is like the government that manages everything: traffic (CPU scheduling), housing (memory), resources (files, printers), and security (protection).

Definition: An Operating System (OS) is system software that manages hardware and software resources, and provides services to users/programs.

What an OS does:

1. Process Management -

- A process = a running program.
- OS creates processes, schedules them for execution, and kills them when finished.
- Example: When you open Chrome + Spotify + Word → OS decides how CPU time is shared.

2. Memory Management –

- Every program needs memory to run.
- OS allocates memory when a program starts and frees it when the program ends.
- Prevents one program from disturbing another.

3. Storage / File Management –

- o Manages files and folders on your hard disk/SSD.
- Example: Reading a song file from your disk when you open a music player.

4. I/O Device Management –

- Coordinates devices like keyboard, mouse, printers.
- $_{\odot}$ Example: You press a key \rightarrow OS translates it into an instruction for the application.

5. Security & Protection -

- Prevents unauthorized users/programs from accessing system resources.
- Example: Login password, file permissions in Linux.

6. User Interaction –

 Provides Command Line Interface (CLI) like Linux terminal or Graphical User Interface (GUI) like Windows.

Summary: OS acts as a **manager** for all computer activities.

2. Operating System Services

The OS offers a set of services to make computer usage easier and efficient.

Important Services:

- **Program Execution** → Load a program into memory and run it.
- I/O Operations → Handles reading/writing from devices.
- **File Management** → Create, read, write, delete, organize files.
- **Communication** → Between processes (e.g., chat apps where processes exchange data).
- **Error Detection** → Detects hardware/software errors.
- Resource Allocation → Fairly distributes CPU, memory, I/O among processes.
- Accounting → Keeps usage records for billing/performance (common in servers).
- **Protection & Security** → Stops one program from harming another.

Summary: Services are like **features of OS** that make user's life easier.

3. System Calls

Question: How do applications talk to the OS?

- Apps cannot directly access hardware (for safety).
- They request services from the OS through system calls.

Example:

- When you run printf("Hello"); in C, it eventually calls the **write() system call** to send text to the screen.
- In Linux:
 - o fork() \rightarrow create a new process.
 - \circ exec() \rightarrow run a new program.
 - o open(), read(), write() \rightarrow file operations.

Summary: System calls = **bridge** between programs and OS.

4. Types of System Calls

- 1. **Process Control** Create, terminate, execute programs (fork(), exit()).
- 2. File Management Open, close, read, write files.
- 3. **Device Management** Request/release devices, read/write data.
- 4. **Information Maintenance** Get time, process ID, system info.
- 5. **Communication** Message passing between processes (pipe(), send(), recv()).

5. Operating System Structure

Different ways to design an OS:

- 1. **Simple structure** No proper modules, everything in one place (e.g., MS-DOS).
- 2. Layered structure Divided into layers (hardware at bottom, UI at top).
- Monolithic kernel All OS services in one large kernel (e.g., UNIX).
- 4. Microkernel Only essential services in kernel; others in user space (e.g., Minix).
- 5. Modular (Hybrid) Combines both (Linux, Windows).

Summary: Structure decides how OS is organized internally.

6. Operating System Types

- 1. **Batch OS** \rightarrow Jobs collected and run without user interaction (old mainframes).
- 2. **Time-sharing OS** → CPU time shared among users/programs (UNIX).
- 3. **Distributed OS** \rightarrow Runs across multiple computers but appears as one (cluster systems).
- 4. **Real-time OS (RTOS)** → Responds to tasks within strict deadlines.
 - Hard RTOS: deadlines cannot be missed (air traffic control).
 - Soft RTOS: occasional misses allowed (multimedia).
- 5. **Multiprogramming OS** → Multiple programs in memory, CPU switches when one waits.
- 6. **Multitasking OS** → User runs many tasks "at once" (Windows, Linux).

7. OS Components

- Kernel Core part, directly interacts with hardware. Manages CPU, memory, devices.
- Shell Interface for users to interact with OS (command line or GUI).
- **Command Interpreter** Reads and executes user commands (bash in Linux, cmd.exe in Windows).

Summary: Kernel = heart, Shell = mediator, Command Interpreter = translator.

Process Management

1. Process

- A process is simply a program in execution.
- Example:
 - The chrome.exe file on disk = program.
 - When you double-click it and it runs = process.

Difference between Program & Process

- Program = Passive (stored instructions on disk).
- Process = Active (program loaded in memory + running).

2. Process State

A process changes its state while executing. Common states are:

- 1. **New** → Process is being created.
- 2. **Ready** → Process is waiting for CPU.
- 3. **Running** → Instructions are being executed.
- 4. Waiting/Blocked → Process is waiting for an event (like I/O).
- 5. **Terminated** → Process has finished execution.

Think of it like waiting in a queue for a bus:

- Ready = standing in line.
- Running = you got on the bus.
- Waiting = bus stopped for traffic light.
- *Terminated* = you reached destination.

3. Process Control Block (PCB)

- The PCB is a data structure that stores all information about a process.
- It's like the *ID card* of a process.
- Information stored in PCB:
 - 1. Process ID (PID)
 - 2. Process state (Ready/Running/Waiting)
 - 3. Program counter (next instruction address)
 - 4. CPU registers
 - 5. Memory info (base & limit registers, page tables)
 - 6. I/O info (files open, devices used)

4. Process Scheduling

- CPU can execute only one process at a time (per core).
- Scheduling = deciding which process runs next.
- Goal: maximize CPU usage, minimize waiting time.

5. Scheduling Queues

Processes are kept in queues before execution.

- 1. **Job Queue** → All processes in the system.
- 2. **Ready Queue** → Processes waiting for CPU.
- 3. **Device Queue** → Waiting for I/O devices.

Example: Like waiting lines in a hospital:

• Registration queue, Doctor queue, Pharmacy queue.

6. Schedulers

- Decide which process moves from one queue to another.
- 1. **Long-term scheduler** \rightarrow Selects processes from *job queue* \rightarrow moves to ready queue.
 - o Controls degree of multiprogramming.
- Short-term scheduler (CPU Scheduler) → Selects which process from ready queue will
 run next.
 - Runs frequently (milliseconds).
- 3. **Medium-term scheduler** → Suspends or resumes processes to balance CPU load.

7. Context Switch

- When CPU switches from one process to another, it must save the old process's state and load the new one's state.
- Saved info = PCB.
- Context switch is overhead (no work done, just switching).

Example: Like a cricket umpire recording player stats when a batsman changes.

8. Scheduling Criteria

When designing scheduling algorithms, OS considers:

- **CPU utilization** → Keep CPU as busy as possible.
- Throughput → # of processes completed per unit time.
- **Turnaround time** → Time from submission → completion.
- Waiting time → Time spent in ready queue.
- **Response time** → Time to first response (important for interactive systems).
- **Fairness** → No process should starve forever.

9. Scheduling Algorithms

(a) First Come First Serve (FCFS)

- Processes executed in order of arrival.
- Simple, but **convoy effect** (slow process delays others).

(b) Shortest Job First (SJF)

- Process with shortest CPU burst runs first.
- Optimal for average waiting time.
- Problem: requires knowing job length in advance.

(c) Round Robin (RR)

- Each process gets a fixed time slice (quantum).
- Good for time-sharing OS.
- Example: CPU \rightarrow P1 (10ms) \rightarrow P2 (10ms) \rightarrow P3 (10ms).

(d) Priority Scheduling

- Each process has a priority → highest priority runs first.
- Problem: starvation (low-priority may never run).
- Solution: Aging (gradually increase waiting process's priority).

(e) Multilevel Queue

- Different queues for different types of processes (e.g., system, interactive, batch).
- Each queue has its own scheduling algorithm.

(f) Multilevel Feedback Queue

- Processes can move between queues depending on behavior.
- Best balance between responsiveness and efficiency.

10. Operations on Processes

- Creation → New process made using fork() (in UNIX).
- **Termination** → Process ends by exit() or killed by another process.

11. Inter-Process Communication (IPC)

Processes need to communicate. Two ways:

1. Direct / Indirect Communication

- o Direct: send(P, message) \rightarrow to process P.
- o Indirect: Using mailboxes or ports.

2. Message Passing

- Send & receive messages via OS.
- Slower but safer.

3. Shared Memory

- o Two processes share a common memory region.
- o Faster but needs synchronization.

Example:

- Message passing = writing a letter to a friend.
- Shared memory = sharing a notebook.

12. Multithreading & Thread Models

- A thread = lightweight process.
- Multiple threads inside one process share memory but run independently.
- Example: In Chrome, one thread handles UI, another loads web pages.

Thread Models:

1. User-level threads

- Managed by user libraries, OS not aware.
- Fast but can't utilize multiple CPUs well.

2. Kernel-level threads

- Managed by OS.
- Slower but supports true parallelism.
- 3. **Hybrid (Two-level)** → Combination.

13. Multicore Programming & Parallelism

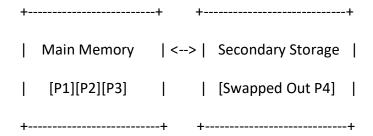
- Multicore processors have multiple CPUs on one chip.
- OS must schedule tasks to exploit parallel execution.
- Types of parallelism:
 - Data parallelism Same task on different data (e.g., matrix multiplication).
 - Task parallelism Different tasks run at the same time (UI + background download).

Example: Modern games \rightarrow One core handles graphics, another AI, another sound.

Memory Management Strategies

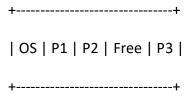
1. Swapping

- **Definition:** A process of temporarily moving an entire process from **main memory** (RAM) to secondary storage (disk) and bringing it back later when needed.
- Purpose: Allows CPU to execute other processes when RAM is full.
- Steps:
 - 1. Process in memory becomes idle or low priority → swapped out to disk.
 - 2. Later, swapped back into RAM for execution.
- Advantage: Increases degree of multiprogramming.
- **Disadvantage:** Slow due to disk I/O overhead.



2. Contiguous Memory Allocation

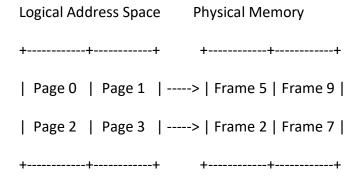
- Definition: Each process is allocated a single continuous block of memory.
- Two parts of memory:
 - OS memory (low part of RAM, reserved for OS).
 - User memory (remaining part, divided among processes).
- Problem: Fragmentation occurs.
 - o **External fragmentation:** Free memory exists but not in a continuous block.
 - Internal fragmentation: Allocated block has unused space.



3. Paging

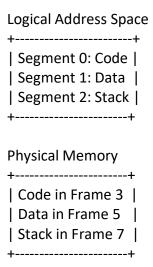
- Definition: Memory management scheme that eliminates external fragmentation by dividing:
 - Logical memory (process) → into pages (fixed size).
 - o **Physical memory (RAM)** \rightarrow into frames (same size as pages).

- Working:
 - o Page Table maps pages → frames.
 - Example: Page $0 \rightarrow$ Frame 5, Page $1 \rightarrow$ Frame 9, etc.
- Advantages:
 - o Removes external fragmentation.
 - o Efficient memory utilization.
- **Disadvantage:** Overhead of page table management.



4. Segmentation

- **Definition:** Divides logical memory into **segments** (variable size, e.g., code, stack, data).
- Each segment has:
 - Base address.
 - o Limit (length).
- Advantage: Matches programmer's logical view of memory.
- Disadvantage: Leads to external fragmentation.



5. Virtual Memory Management

- **Definition:** Technique that allows execution of processes **not completely in memory**.
- Uses secondary storage (disk) as an extension of RAM.
- Main concept: Only required part of the process is loaded (on demand).

- Advantage: Can run large programs with less RAM.
- **Disadvantage:** Too much use of disk may slow down system.

6. Demand Paging

- **Definition:** Pages are loaded into memory **only when needed** (not in advance).
- If page not in memory → Page Fault occurs → OS loads page from disk.
- Advantage: Reduces memory wastage.
- Disadvantage: Frequent page faults → system slowdown.

CPU -> Virtual Address -> Page Table -> Physical Frame

(If not in memory \rightarrow Page Fault \rightarrow Load from Disk)

7. Page Replacement Algorithms

When page fault occurs and no free frame is available \rightarrow replacement needed.

1. FIFO (First-In First-Out):

- Oldest page in memory is replaced.
- Simple but may not be optimal.

Frames:
$$[] \rightarrow [7] \rightarrow [7,0] \rightarrow [7,0,1] \rightarrow [0,1,2] \rightarrow [1,2,3]$$

2. LRU (Least Recently Used):

- o Replace page that hasn't been used for the longest time.
- More efficient, needs hardware support.

3. Optimal Page Replacement:

- Replace the page that will not be used for the longest time in future.
- Theoretical best but not practical (requires future knowledge).

4. Clock Algorithm (Second-Chance):

- Pages arranged in circular list with a reference bit.
- Gives "second chance" to pages before replacement.

 $[Frame1^*] \rightarrow [Frame2] \rightarrow [Frame3] \rightarrow [Frame4]$

*Hand points to victim frame

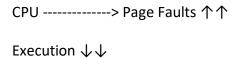
8. Allocation of Frames

- **Equal allocation:** Every process gets same number of frames.
- **Proportional allocation:** Frames allocated based on process size.
- **Priority allocation:** Higher priority processes get more frames.

Process P1 \rightarrow 3 Frames Process P2 \rightarrow 2 Frames Process P3 \rightarrow 1 Frame

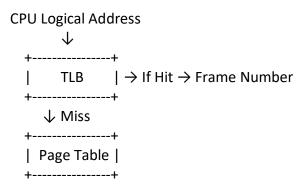
9. Thrashing

- **Definition:** When CPU spends more time handling **page faults** than executing instructions.
- Occurs due to too many processes with insufficient frames.
- Solution: Reduce degree of multiprogramming or use working set model.



10. Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB) & Address Translation

- TLB: Special fast hardware cache that stores recent page table entries.
- Process:
 - 1. CPU generates logical address → checked in TLB.
 - 2. If found \rightarrow frame number returned (TLB hit).
 - 3. If not found \rightarrow check page table in RAM (TLB miss).
- Advantage: Speeds up memory access.



11. Fragmentation

- Internal Fragmentation: Wasted space inside allocated block.
- **External Fragmentation:** Wasted space because free memory is scattered, not contiguous.

Process requires 18KB → Allocated Block 20KB

[Process 18KB | Unused 2KB]

12. Memory Allocation Strategies

- 1. **First-Fit:** Allocate the first block of free space large enough for process.
- 2. **Best-Fit:** Allocate the smallest block that fits the process (minimizes waste).
- 3. Worst-Fit: Allocate the largest available block (may leave large leftover space).

First Fit

Free Blocks: [10KB][20KB][15KB]

Request: 12KB → Allocated in 20KB

Best Fit

Free Blocks: [10KB][20KB][15KB]

Request: 12KB → Allocated in 15KB

Worst Fit

Free Blocks: [10KB][20KB][15KB]

Request: 12KB → Allocated in 20KB

Deadlocks and Mass-Storage Structure

1. System Model & Deadlock Characterization

- **Deadlock**: A situation where a set of processes are blocked because each process is holding a resource and waiting for another resource held by another process.
- Necessary conditions for Deadlock (Coffman's conditions):
 - 1. Mutual Exclusion At least one resource must be held in a non-sharable mode.
 - Hold and Wait A process is holding at least one resource and waiting for others
 - 3. **No Preemption** Resources cannot be forcibly taken away.
 - 4. **Circular Wait** A set of processes are waiting in a circular chain.

Diagram – Deadlock with 4 processes in circular wait:

 $P1 \rightarrow R1 \rightarrow P2 \rightarrow R2 \rightarrow P3 \rightarrow R3 \rightarrow P4 \rightarrow R4 \rightarrow P1$

2. Methods for Handling Deadlocks

- 1. **Deadlock Prevention** Ensure at least one Coffman condition cannot hold.
- 2. **Deadlock Avoidance** Use algorithms (like Banker's Algorithm) to avoid unsafe states.
- Deadlock Detection and Recovery Allow deadlocks, detect them, and recover (terminate/restart processes).

3. Deadlock Prevention

- Break one of the four conditions:
 - o Mutual Exclusion: Allow some resources to be shared.
 - o Hold and Wait: Request all resources at once.
 - o **No Preemption**: Take resources away when needed.
 - o Circular Wait: Impose resource ordering.

4. Deadlock Avoidance - Banker's Algorithm

- Used when resource requests are known in advance.
- Ensures the system never enters an **unsafe state**.

Diagram - Banker's Algorithm workflow:

```
Request \rightarrow Check Available \rightarrow If (Need <= Available) \rightarrow Pretend Allocation \rightarrow Safe State? Yes \rightarrow Grant No \rightarrow Wait
```

5. Deadlock Detection & Recovery

- Build a Wait-for Graph:
 - Nodes = Processes
 - Edges = Process waiting for another
- Cycle = Deadlock.

Diagram – Wait-for Graph showing deadlock:

```
P1 \rightarrow P2 \rightarrow P3 \rightarrow P1 (cycle exists = deadlock)
```

- Recovery:
 - Kill process(es).
 - o Preempt resources.

6. Mass-Storage Structure

• **Secondary storage** (disks, SSDs) plays a major role in OS.

Disk Scheduling Algorithms

- **FCFS**: Serve requests in order of arrival.
- **SSTF**: Shortest Seek Time First → closer requests first.
- SCAN: Disk arm moves back and forth like an elevator.
- **C-SCAN**: Circular SCAN → moves in one direction only.
- LOOK & C-LOOK: Variants of SCAN, stop at last request.

Diagram – Disk head movement (SCAN vs C-SCAN):

SCAN:
$$|--->---|--->---|$$

C-SCAN: $|--->---|$ reset $\rightarrow |--->---|$

Disk Management

• Formatting, partitioning, free space management, bad-block replacement.

RAID Levels

- **RAID 0** Striping (fast, no redundancy).
- RAID 1 Mirroring (data duplicated).
- RAID 5 Block-level striping + parity.
- RAID 10 Combination of RAID 1 + 0.

Diagram - RAID:

RAID 0: A1 A2 A3 A4 RAID 1: A1 A1 A2 A2 RAID 5: A1 A2 P A3 (P=parity)

SSD vs HDD

- HDD: Magnetic disk, slower, mechanical parts.
- **SSD**: Flash memory, faster, no moving parts, durable.

Diagram – HDD vs SSD:

HDD: Spinning platters + read/write head SSD: Flash chips + controller

Synchronization

The Critical Section Problem

- A **critical section** is a part of the program where shared resources (like variables, files, or databases) are accessed.
- Problem: If multiple processes access the critical section **simultaneously**, it may cause data inconsistency.

Requirements for a solution:

- 1. **Mutual Exclusion** Only one process in the critical section at a time.
- 2. **Progress** If no process is in CS, some waiting process should enter.
- 3. **Bounded Waiting** No process should wait forever to enter CS.

Diagram – Critical Section

Peterson's Solution

- Software-based algorithm for two processes.
- Uses two variables:
 - o flag[i] = true → process i wants to enter CS
 - o turn → indicates whose turn it is
- → Guarantees mutual exclusion and bounded waiting.

```
P0 P1

flag[0] = true; flag[1] = true; turn = 1; turn = 0; while(flag[1] && turn==0); ---- Critical Section ---- flag[0] = false; flag[1] = false;
```

Synchronization Hardware

- Some CPUs provide **atomic instructions** for synchronization:
 - o **Test-and-Set (TAS)** Locks a variable in one step.
 - o Compare-and-Swap (CAS) Compares memory value and swaps atomically.

Example: Spinlocks are implemented using these.

Shared Lock Variable \rightarrow 0 (Unlocked), 1 (Locked)

Process tries TSL if Lock==0 \rightarrow enter else \rightarrow wait (busy)

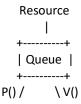
Semaphores

- An integer variable used for synchronization.
- Two operations:
 - wait(P) → decreases semaphore (block if < 0).
 - o **signal(V)** \rightarrow increases semaphore (wakes waiting process).

Types:

- 1. Binary Semaphore (Mutex): 0 or 1 (like a lock).
- 2. **Counting Semaphore:** Multiple resources controlled.

Diagram – Semaphore Working



Binary Semaphore:

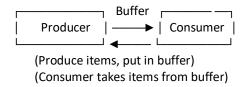
```
S = 1 (Resource Free)
wait(S) \rightarrow if S==1 \rightarrow enter CS, set S=0
signal(S) \rightarrow set S=1 (Release)
```

Counting Semaphore:

S = n (n resources available) wait(S) → decrease S signal(S) → increase S

Classic Synchronization Problems

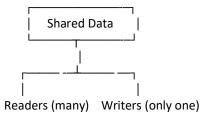
- 1. Producer-Consumer (Bounded Buffer Problem):
 - o Producer adds items, Consumer removes items.
 - Semaphores prevent buffer underflow/overflow.
 - Producer-Consumer Problem



2. Readers-Writers Problem:

o Multiple readers allowed, but only one writer at a time.

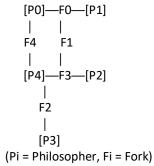
• Readers-Writers Problem



3. Dining Philosophers Problem:

- o Five philosophers share five chopsticks → Deadlock possible.
- Solved using semaphores or monitors.

4. Dining Philosophers Problem



Monitors

- High-level abstraction (like a class in programming).
- Contains shared variables, procedures, and synchronization automatically.
- Only **one process** can execute inside monitor at a time.

Monitor Example:

```
monitor BoundedBuffer {
| condition notFull, notEmpty
| procedures insert/remove
| }
```

Deadlock in Synchronization

- If processes wait on semaphores forever → deadlock occurs.
- Example: Dining philosophers all pick left chopstick → deadlock.

Spinlocks & Mutexes

- **Spinlock:** Process keeps "spinning" (busy waiting) until lock is free.
- Mutex: Like binary semaphore, but provides ownership (only locker can unlock).



Condition Variables

- Used inside monitors.
- Two operations:
 - wait() process waits on condition.
 - signal() wake one waiting process.

Diagram – Condition Variable inside Monitor

```
Monitor {
Shared data
Procedure P() {
    if (condition not met) wait(cond);
    ...
    signal(cond);
}

Wait(cond, lock) |
Signal(cond) |
Broadcast(cond) |
```

File System Interface

1. Concept of a File

- A file is a collection of related information stored on secondary storage.
- Attributes: name, type, size, location, protection, timestamps.
- Operations: create, read, write, delete, open, close.

2. Access Methods

1. Sequential Access

- o Data is accessed in order (one after another).
- Common for text files.

Diagram:

Record 1
$$\rightarrow$$
 Record 2 \rightarrow Record 3 \rightarrow ... \rightarrow Record N

2. Direct (Random) Access

- Any block can be accessed directly using its index.
- Used in databases.

Diagram:

Access Block $5 \rightarrow$ Block 20 \rightarrow Block 1 (in any order)

3. Indexed Access

An index is maintained to locate blocks quickly.

Diagram:

Index Table → Points to → Actual File Blocks

3. Directory Structure

1. Single-Level Directory

- All files in one directory.
- o Simple but name conflicts occur.

Diagram:

2. Two-Level Directory

o Each user has their own directory.

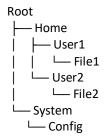
Diagram:

Root
$$\vdash$$
 User1 \rightarrow {File1, File2} \vdash User2 \rightarrow {File3, File4}

3. Tree Structure

o Hierarchical, like modern OS.

Diagram:



4. Acyclic Graph

o Allows sharing of subdirectories/files without cycles.

5. General Graph

o More flexible, but cycles may create problems.

4. File System Mounting

• Process of attaching a file system to a directory tree at a mount point.

Diagram:

5. File Sharing and Protection

- **Sharing**: Multiple users may access same file (read/write modes).
- Protection: Controlled using Access Control Lists (ACLs), permissions (R, W, X).

Diagram:

File Permissions: rwx rw- r--Owner Group Others

6. File Allocation Methods

1. Contiguous Allocation

- Files stored in consecutive blocks.
- o Fast but causes external fragmentation.

Diagram:

File A
$$\rightarrow$$
 [Block 1, 2, 3, 4]
File B \rightarrow [Block 5, 6, 7]

2. Linked Allocation

- Each file is a linked list of blocks.
- No external fragmentation, but slow random access.

Diagram:

File A
$$\rightarrow$$
 Block 1 \rightarrow Block 7 \rightarrow Block 12 \rightarrow Block 20

3. Indexed Allocation

Uses index block that contains pointers to file blocks.

Diagram:

Index Block \rightarrow [5, 9, 13, 20] \rightarrow Actual Data Blocks

7. Free Space Management

1. Bit Vector

Each bit represents a block (0 = free, 1 = allocated).

Diagram:

Blocks: [0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7] BitMap: [1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1]

2. Linked List

Free blocks linked together.

Diagram:

Free List Head \rightarrow Block 2 \rightarrow Block 5 \rightarrow Block 8

3. Grouping

Stores addresses of free blocks in a block.

4. Counting

Tracks free blocks as contiguous runs (block + count).

8. Journaling & Crash Recovery Basics

- **Journaling**: Keeps a log of file system changes before applying them, helps in crash recovery.
- Crash Recovery: Uses log (journal) to restore consistency.

Diagram:

Operation \rightarrow Write to Journal \rightarrow Commit \rightarrow Apply to FS

File System Implementation & I/O Systems

1. File System Implementation

- **File Control Block (FCB):** Data structure to store metadata (file name, size, type, location, permissions).
- Inode (Unix/Linux): Index node storing file metadata + block addresses.

File Allocation Methods

Contiguous Allocation:

- Files stored in a sequence of blocks.
- Fast access, XExternal fragmentation.

Linked Allocation:

- Each block points to the next block.
- No external fragmentation, XSlow random access.

Indexed Allocation:

- o Index block holds all block addresses.
- Direct access, XOverhead of index blocks.

Free Space Management

- **Bit Vector:** 1 = free, 0 = allocated.
- Linked List: Free blocks linked together.
- **Grouping:** Store addresses of free blocks in a block.
- Counting: Store start + count of free blocks.

2. File System Mounting

- Process of attaching a file system to a directory structure.
- Example: mount /dev/sda1 /mnt/data.

3. File Sharing & Protection

- Access Control Lists (ACLs): Fine-grained permissions.
- User/Group/Other (UGO) model: Read, Write, Execute.
- **Encryption & Authentication:** Extra layer for protection.

4. Journaling & Crash Recovery

- Journaling FS (e.g., ext4, NTFS):
 - Log operations before applying them.
 - o Ensures recovery after a crash.
- Write-ahead logging: Changes written to journal first.

5. I/O Systems

- I/O Hardware: Controllers, device drivers.
- **Device Drivers:** Interface between OS and hardware.

I/O Scheduling

- FCFS (First Come First Serve): Simple, fair.
- SSTF (Shortest Seek Time First): Nearest request first.
- SCAN (Elevator Algorithm): Head moves back & forth.
- C-SCAN (Circular SCAN): Head moves in one direction only.

Buffering & Caching

- **Buffering:** Temp storage to handle speed mismatch.
- Caching: Storing frequently accessed data in fast memory.
- **Spooling:** Queue of jobs for devices like printers.