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SE COMPS A-3

OPERATING SYSTEMS

EXPERIMENT - 10

THEORY

AIM: Implement Disk Scheduling Algorithms

THEORY:

Disk scheduling is done by operating systems to schedule I/O requests arriving for the disk. Disk scheduling is also known as I/O scheduling.

Importance of Disk Scheduling:

Multiple I/O requests may arrive by different processes and only one I/O request can be served at a time by the disk controller. Thus other I/O requests need to wait in the waiting queue and need to be scheduled.

Two or more requests may be far from each other so can result in greater disk arm movement.

Hard drives are one of the slowest parts of the computer system and thus need to be accessed in an efficient manner.

Important Terms in a Disk Scheduling Algorithm:

- **Seek Time:** Seek time is the time taken to locate the disk arm to a specified track where the data is to be read or write. So the disk scheduling algorithm that gives minimum average seek time is better.
- **Rotational Latency:** Rotational Latency is the time taken by the desired sector of disk to rotate into a position so that it can access the read/write heads. So the disk scheduling algorithm that gives minimum rotational latency is better.
- **Transfer Time:** Transfer time is the time to transfer the data. It depends on the rotating speed of the disk and number of bytes to be transferred.
- **Disk Access Time:** Disk Access Time is:

$$\text{Disk Access Time} = \text{Seek Time} + \text{Rotational Latency} + \text{Transfer Time}$$

- **Disk Response Time:** Response Time is the average of time spent by a request waiting to perform its I/O operation. Average Response time is the response time of all requests. Variance Response Time is the measure of how individual requests are serviced with respect to average response

time. So the disk scheduling algorithm that gives minimum variance response time is better.

DISK SCHEDULING ALGORITHMS:

The different types of disk scheduling algorithm are:-

- FCFS scheduling algorithm
- SSTF (shortest seek time first) algorithm
- SCAN scheduling
- C-SCAN scheduling
- LOOK Scheduling
- C-LOOK scheduling

SSTF Disk Scheduling Algorithm-

- SSTF stands for Shortest Seek Time First.
- This algorithm services that request next which requires least number of head movements from its current position regardless of the direction.
- It breaks the tie in the direction of head movement.

Advantages-

- It reduces the total seek time as compared to FCFS.
- It provides increased throughput.
- It provides less average response time and waiting time.

Disadvantages-

- There is an overhead of finding out the closest request.
- The requests which are far from the head might starve for the CPU.
- It provides high variance in response time and waiting time.
- Switching the direction of head frequently slows down the algorithm.

C-SCAN Disk Scheduling Algorithm-

- Circular-SCAN Algorithm is an improved version of the SCAN Algorithm.
- Head starts from one end of the disk and move towards the other end servicing all the requests in between.

- After reaching the other end, head reverses its direction.
- It then returns to the starting end without servicing any request in between.
- The same process repeats.

Advantages-

- The waiting time for the cylinders just visited by the head is reduced as compared to the SCAN Algorithm.
- It provides uniform waiting time.
- It provides better response time.

Disadvantages-

- It causes more seek movements as compared to SCAN Algorithm.
- It causes the head to move till the end of the disk even if there are no requests to be serviced.

CONCLUSION: We learnt about different Disk Scheduling Algorithms, the advantages and disadvantages of each and implemented SSTF and CSCAN in a java program.