# Operating Systems Principles

## cosc1112/cosc1114
## School of Science
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## Lecture 08 – Massive Storage and I/O

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## Outline

- Disk Structure
- Disk Attachment
- Disk Scheduling
- Disk Management
- Swap-Space Management
- RAID Structure
- I/O Hardware
- Application I/O Interface
- Kernel I/O Subsystem
- Transforming I/O Requests to Hardware Operations
- STREAMS
- Performance

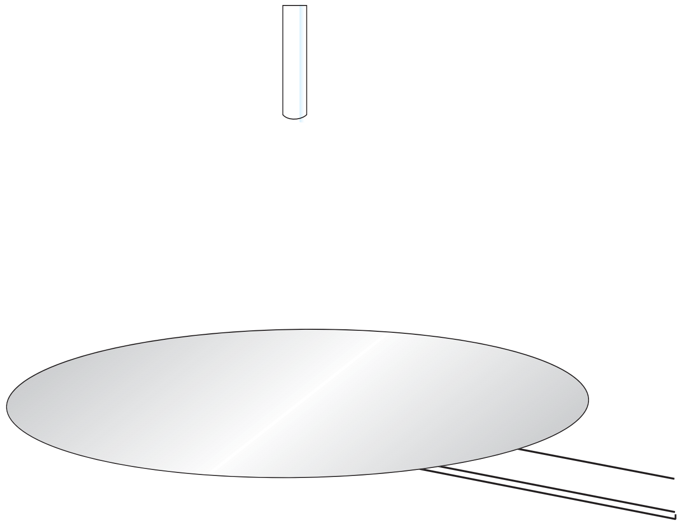
## Objectives

- To describe the physical structure of secondary storage devices and its effects on the uses of the devices
- To explain the performance characteristics of mass-storage devices
- To evaluate disk scheduling algorithms
- To discuss operating-system services provided for mass storage, including RAID
- Explore the structure of an operating system’s I/O subsystem
- Discuss the principles of I/O hardware and its complexity
- Provide details of the performance aspects of I/O hardware and software

## Overview of Mass Storage Structure

- **Magnetic disks** provide bulk of secondary storage of modern computers
  - Drives rotate at 60 to 250 times per second
  - **Transfer rate** is rate at which data flow between drive and computer
  - **Positioning time** (**random-access time**) is time to move disk arm to desired cylinder (**seek time**) and time for desired sector to rotate under the disk head (**rotational latency**)
  - **Head crash** results from disk head making contact with the disk surface -- That's bad
- Disks can be removable
- Drive attached to computer via **I/O bus**
  - Busses vary, including **EIDE**, **ATA**, **SATA**, **USB**, **Fibre Channel**, **SCSI, SAS, Firewire**
  - **Host controller** in computer uses bus to talk to **disk controller** built into drive or storage array

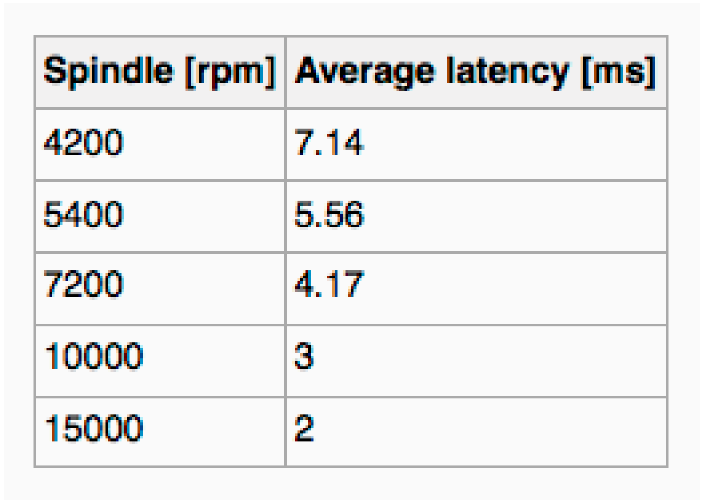
## Moving-head Disk Mechanism



## Hard Disks

- Platters range from .85” to 14” (historically)
  - Commonly 3.5”, 2.5”, and 1.8”
- Range from 30GB to 3TB per drive
- Performance
  - Transfer Rate – theoretical – 6 Gb/sec
  - Effective Transfer Rate – real – 1Gb/sec
  - Seek time from 3ms to 12ms – 9ms common for desktop drives
  - Average seek time measured or calculated based on 1/3 of tracks
  - Latency based on spindle speed

    1 / (RPM / 60) = 60 / RPM
  - Average latency = ½ latency



| Spindle [rpm] | Average latency [ms] |
|---|---|
| 4200 | 7.14 |
| 5400 | 5.56 |
| 7200 | 4.17 |
| 10000 | 3 |
| 15000 | 2 |

(From Wikipedia)

# Hard Disk Performance

- **Access Latency** = **Average access time** = average seek time + average latency
  - For fastest disk 3ms + 2ms = 5ms
  - For slow disk 9ms + 5.56ms = 14.56ms
- Average I/O time = average access time + (amount to transfer / transfer rate) + controller overhead
- For example to transfer a 4KB block on a 7200 RPM disk with a 5ms average seek time, 1Gb/sec transfer rate with a 0.1ms controller overhead =
  - 5ms + 4.17ms + 0.1ms + transfer time =
  - Transfer time = 4KB / 1Gb/s * 8Gb / GB * 1GB / $1024^2$KB = 32 / ($1024^2$) = 0.031 ms
  - Average I/O time for 4KB block = 9.27ms + .031ms = 9.301ms

## The First Commercial Disk Drive

1956
IBM RAMDAC computer included the IBM Model 350 disk storage system

5M (7 bit) characters
50 x 24” platters
Access time = < 1 second

## Solid-State Disks

- Nonvolatile memory used like a hard drive
  - Many technology variations
- Can be more reliable than HDDs
- More expensive per MB
- Maybe have shorter life span
- Less capacity
- But much faster
- Busses can be too slow -> connect directly to PCI for example
- No moving parts, so no seek time or rotational latency

## Magnetic Tape

- Was early secondary-storage medium
  - Evolved from open spools to cartridges
- Relatively permanent and holds large quantities of data
- Access time slow
- Random access ~1000 times slower than disk
- Mainly used for backup, storage of infrequently-used data, transfer medium between systems
- Kept in spool and wound or rewound past read-write head
- Once data under head, transfer rates comparable to disk
  - 140MB/sec and greater
- 200GB to 1.5TB typical storage
- Common technologies are LTO-{3,4,5} and T10000

## Disk Structure

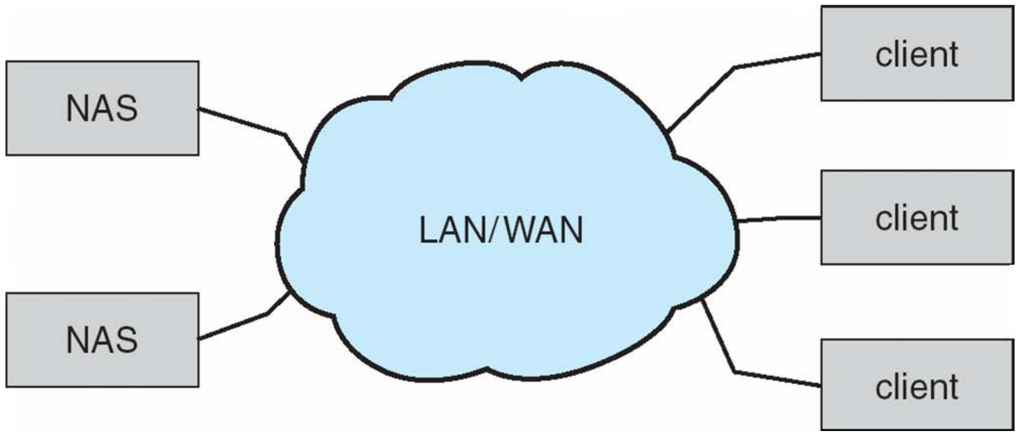
- Disk drives are addressed as large 1-dimensional arrays of **logical blocks**, where the logical block is the smallest unit of transfer
  - Low-level formatting creates **logical blocks** on physical media
- The 1-dimensional array of logical blocks is mapped into the sectors of the disk sequentially
  - Sector 0 is the first sector of the first track on the outermost cylinder
  - Mapping proceeds in order through that track, then the rest of the tracks in that cylinder, and then through the rest of the cylinders from outermost to innermost
  - Logical to physical address should be easy

    Except for bad sectors

    Non-constant # of sectors per track via constant angular velocity

## Network-Attached Storage

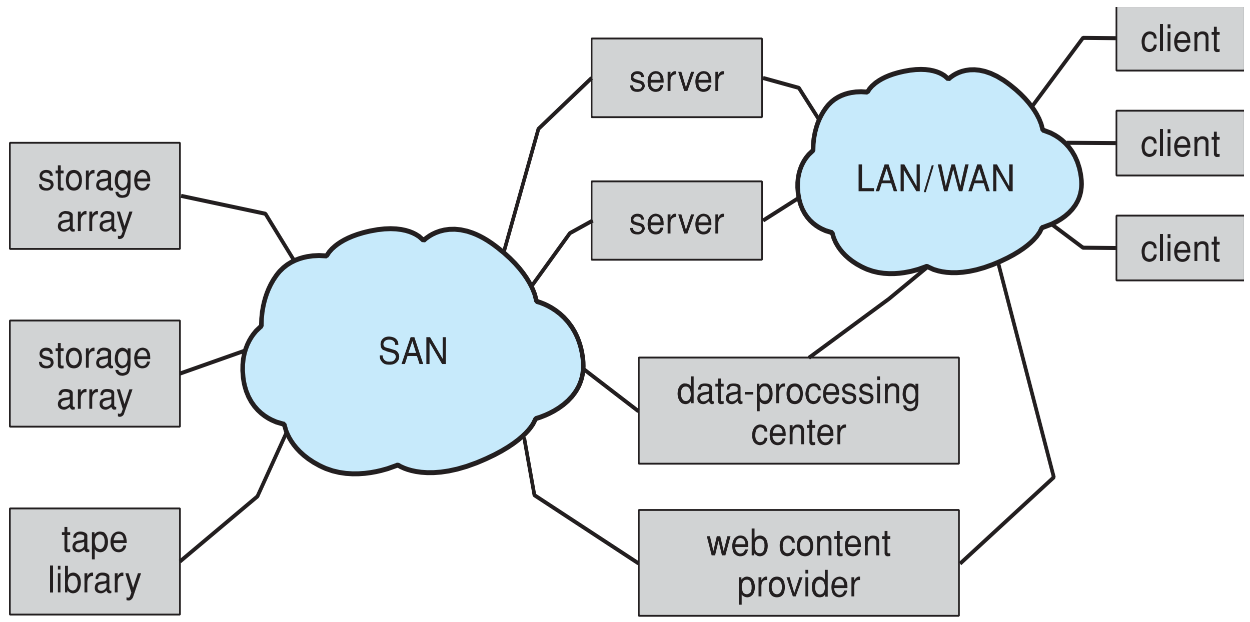
- Network-attached storage (**NAS**) is storage made available over a network rather than over a local connection (such as a bus)
  - Remotely attaching to file systems
- NFS and CIFS are common protocols
- Implemented via remote procedure calls (RPCs) between host and storage over typically TCP or UDP on IP network
- **iSCSI** protocol uses IP network to carry the SCSI protocol
  - Remotely attaching to devices (blocks)



## Storage Area Network (SAN)

- Multiple hosts attached to multiple storage arrays – flexible

One way to loosely conceptualize the difference between a NAS and a SAN is that NAS appears to the client OS (operating system) as a file server whereas a disk available through a SAN.



## Disk Scheduling

- The operating system is responsible for using hardware efficiently — for the disk drives, this means having a fast access time and disk bandwidth
- Minimize seek time
- Seek time ≈ seek distance
- Disk **bandwidth** is the total number of bytes transferred, divided by the total time between the first request for service and the completion of the last transfer

## Disk Scheduling (Cont.)

- There are many sources of disk I/O request
  - OS
  - System processes
  - Users processes
- I/O request includes input or output mode, disk address, memory address, number of sectors to transfer
- OS maintains queue of requests, per disk or device
- Idle disk can immediately work on I/O request, busy disk means work must queue
  - Optimization algorithms only make sense when a queue exists

## Disk Scheduling (Cont.)

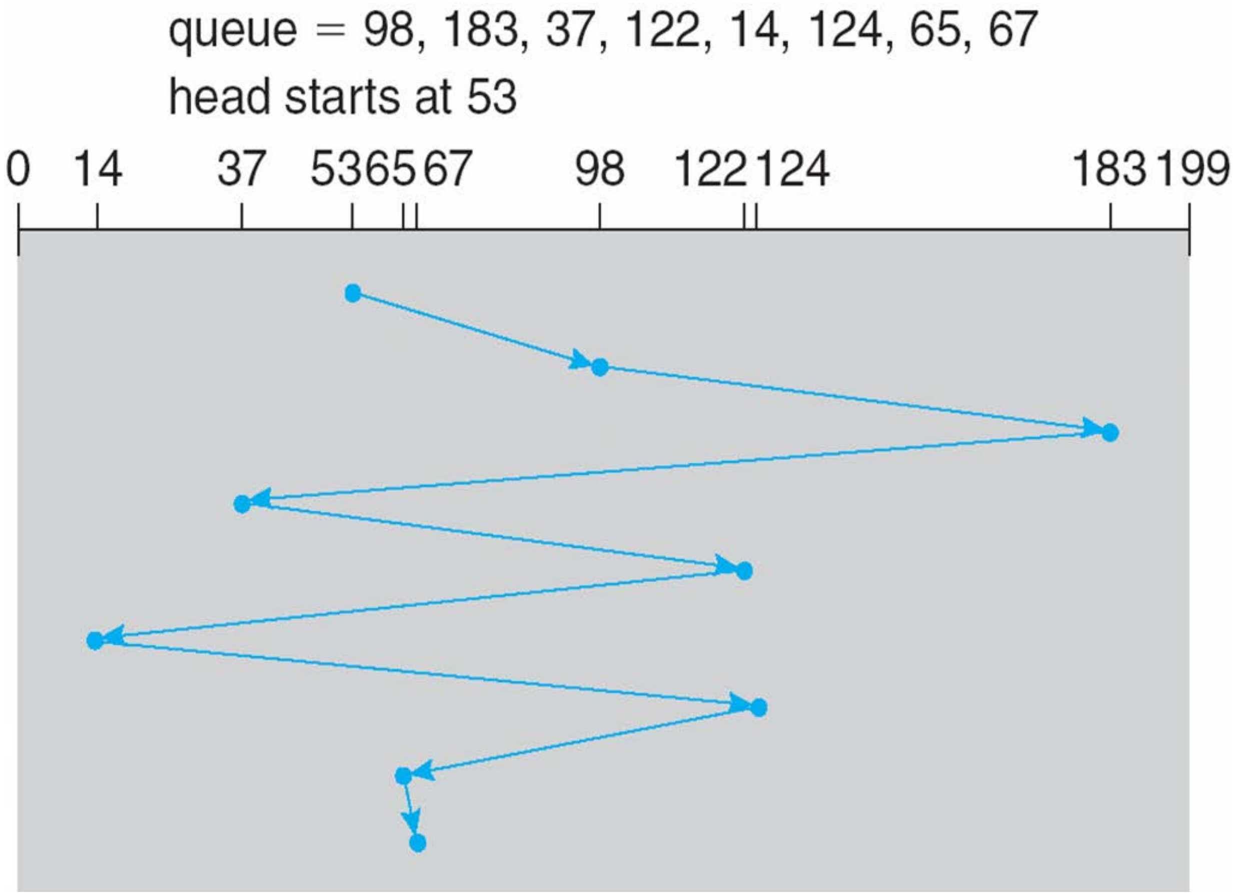
- Note that drive controllers have small buffers and can manage a queue of I/O requests (of varying “depth”)
- Several algorithms exist to schedule the servicing of disk I/O requests
- The analysis is true for one or many platters
- We illustrate scheduling algorithms with a request queue (0-199)

98, 183, 37, 122, 14, 124, 65, 67

Head pointer 53

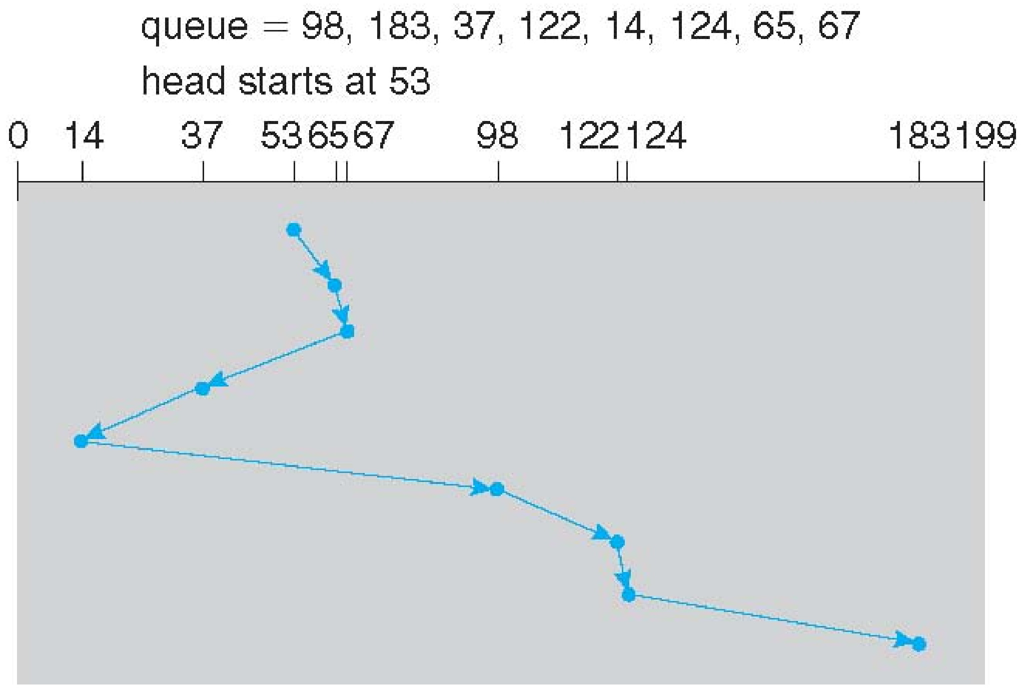
## FCFS

Illustration shows total head movement of 640 cylinders



## SSTF

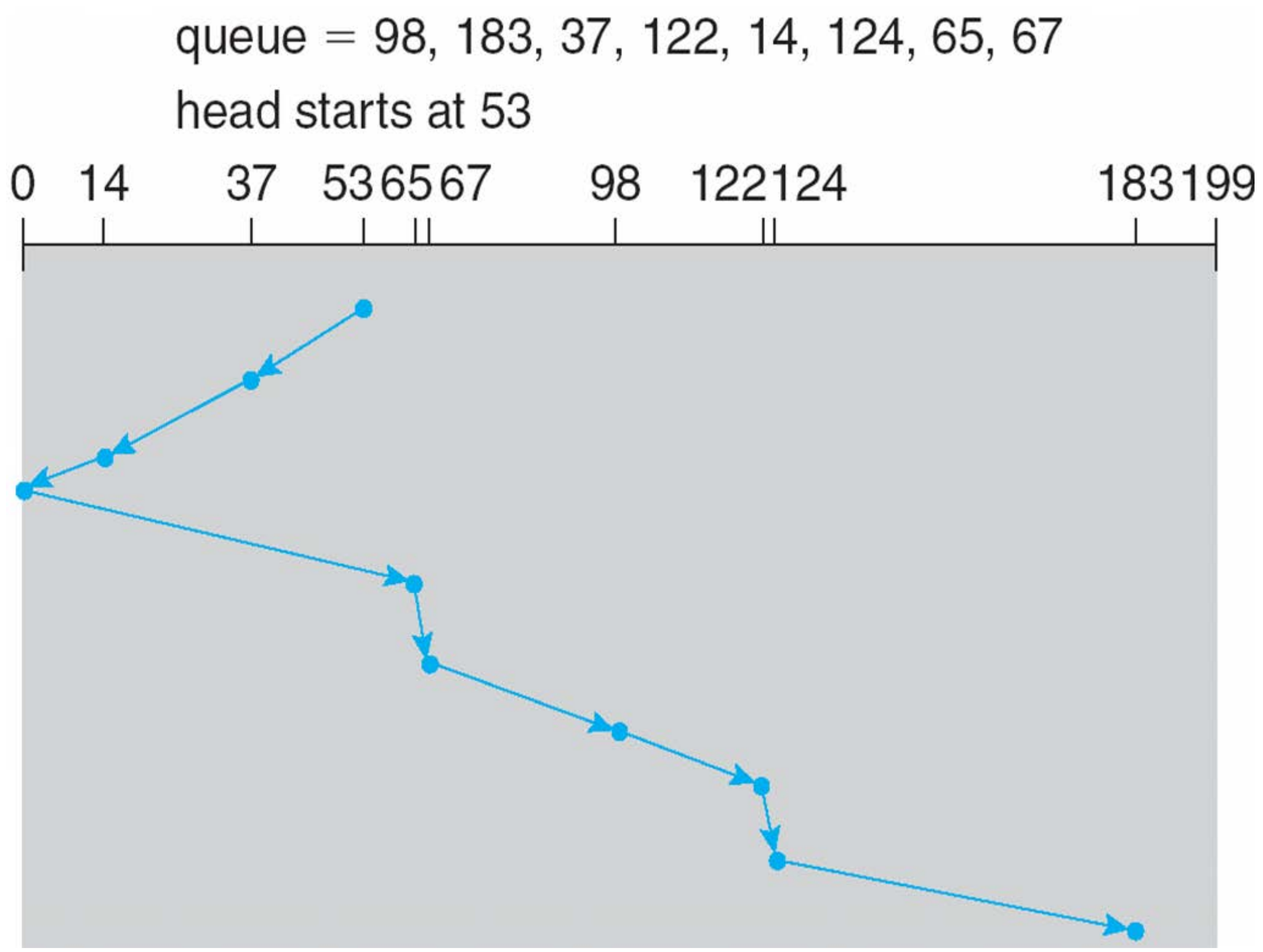
- Shortest Seek Time First selects the request with the minimum seek time from the current head position
- SSTF scheduling is a form of SJF scheduling; may cause starvation of some requests
- Illustration shows total head movement of 236 cylinders



## SCAN

- The disk arm starts at one end of the disk, and moves toward the other end, servicing requests until it gets to the other end of the disk, where the head movement is reversed and servicing continues.
- **SCAN algorithm** Sometimes called the **elevator algorithm**
- Illustration shows total head movement of 208 cylinders
- But note that if requests are uniformly dense, largest density at other end of disk and those wait the longest

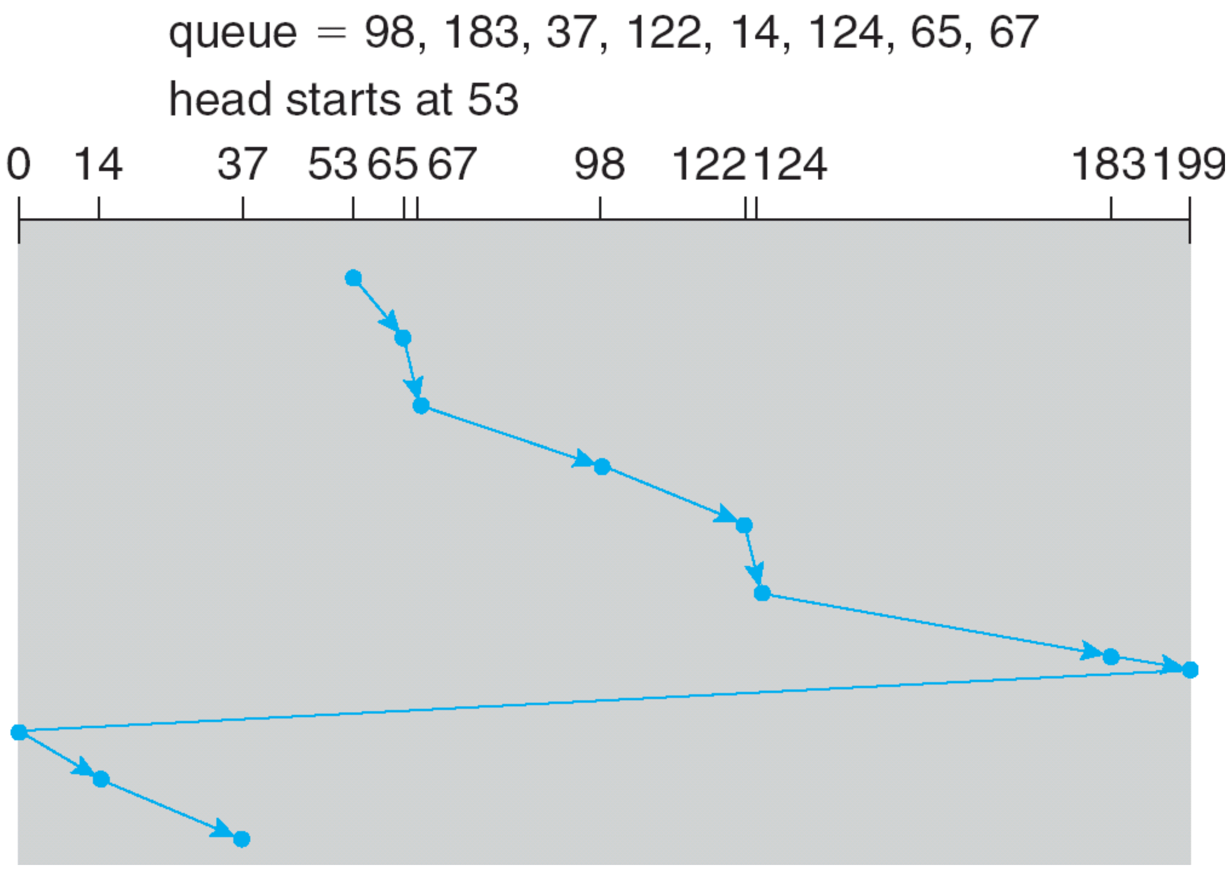
## SCAN (Cont.)


queue = 98, 183, 37, 122, 14, 124, 65, 67
head starts at 53
0
14
37
53
65
67
98
122
124
183
199

## C-SCAN

- Provides a more uniform wait time than SCAN
- The head moves from one end of the disk to the other, servicing requests as it goes
  - When it reaches the other end, however, it immediately returns to the beginning of the disk, without servicing any requests on the return trip
- Treats the cylinders as a circular list that wraps around from the last cylinder to the first one
- Total number of cylinders?

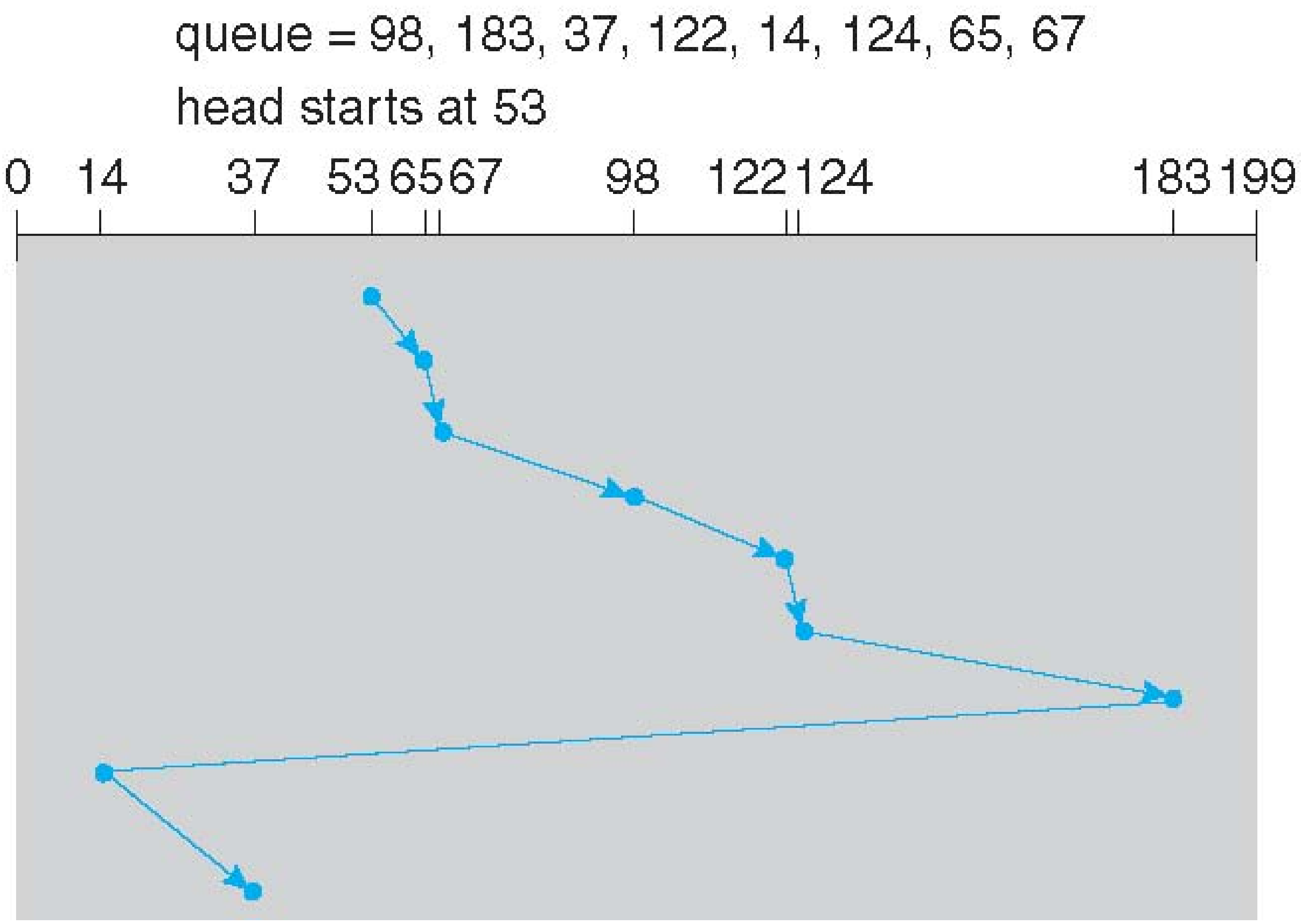
## C-SCAN (Cont.)


queue = 98, 183, 37, 122, 14, 124, 65, 67
head starts at 53
0
14
37
53
65
67
98
122
124
183
199

## C-LOOK

- LOOK a version of SCAN, C-LOOK a version of C-SCAN
- Arm only goes as far as the last request in each direction, then reverses direction immediately, without first going all the way to the end of the disk
- Total number of cylinders?

## C-LOOK (Cont.)


queue = 98, 183, 37, 122, 14, 124, 65, 67
head starts at 53
0
14
37
53
65
67
98
122
124
183
199

## Selecting a Disk-Scheduling Algorithm

- SSTF is common and has a natural appeal
- SCAN and C-SCAN perform better for systems that place a heavy load on the disk
  - Less starvation
- Performance depends on the number and types of requests
- Requests for disk service can be influenced by the file-allocation method
  - And metadata layout
- The disk-scheduling algorithm should be written as a separate module of the operating system, allowing it to be replaced with a different algorithm if necessary
- Either SSTF or LOOK is a reasonable choice for the default algorithm
- What about rotational latency?
  - Difficult for OS to calculate
- How does disk-based queueing effect OS queue ordering efforts?

## Disk Management

- **Low-level formatting**, or **physical formatting** — Dividing a disk into sectors that the disk controller can read and write
  - Each sector can hold header information, plus data, plus error correction code (**ECC**)
  - Usually 512 bytes of data but can be selectable
- To use a disk to hold files, the operating system still needs to record its own data structures on the disk
  - **Partition** the disk into one or more groups of cylinders, each treated as a logical disk
  - **Logical formatting** or “making a file system”
  - To increase efficiency most file systems group blocks into **clusters**

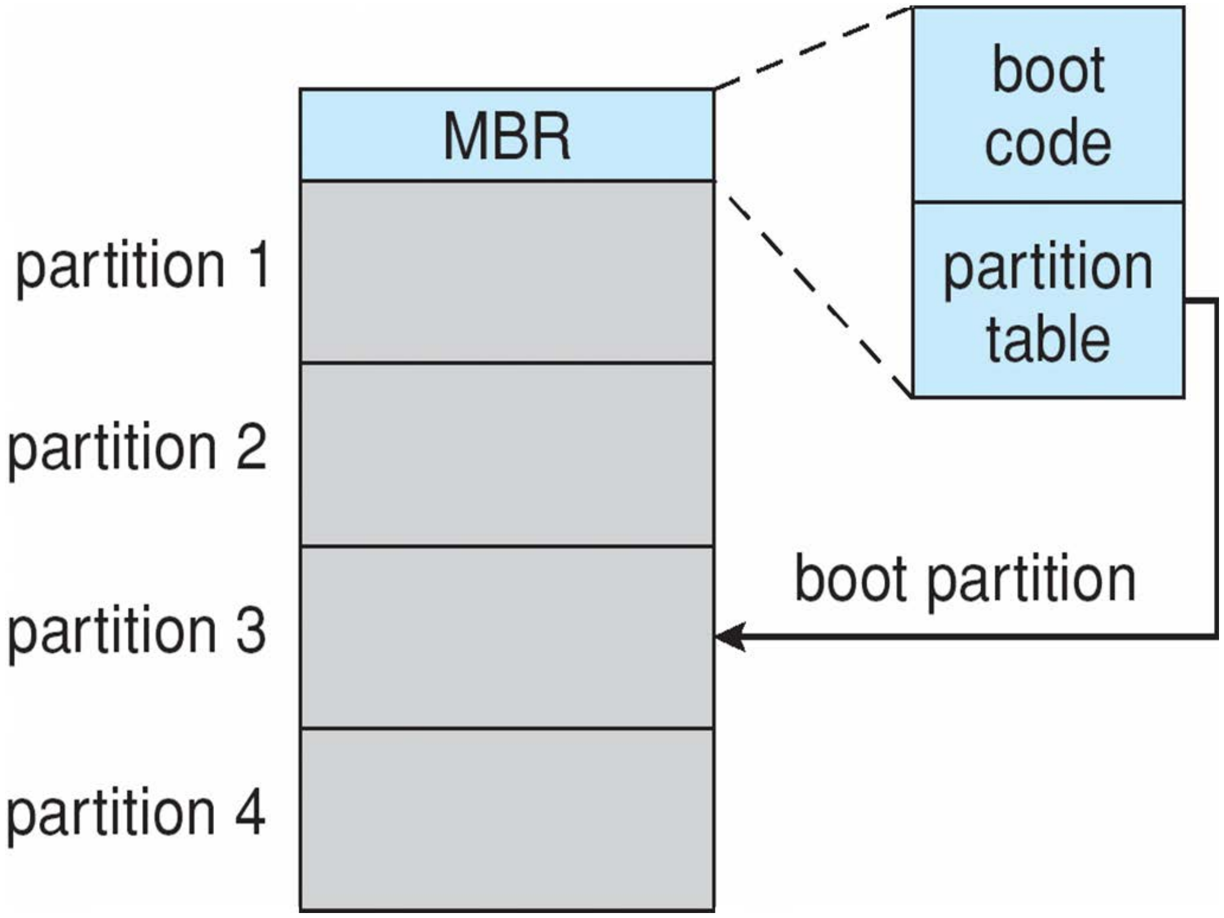
    Disk I/O done in blocks

    File I/O done in clusters

## Disk Management (Cont.)

- Raw disk access for apps that want to do their own block management, keep OS out of the way (databases for example)
- Boot block initializes system
  - The bootstrap is stored in ROM
  - **Bootstrap loader** program stored in boot blocks of boot partition
- Methods such as **sector sparing** used to handle bad blocks

## Booting from a Disk in Windows



## Swap-Space Management

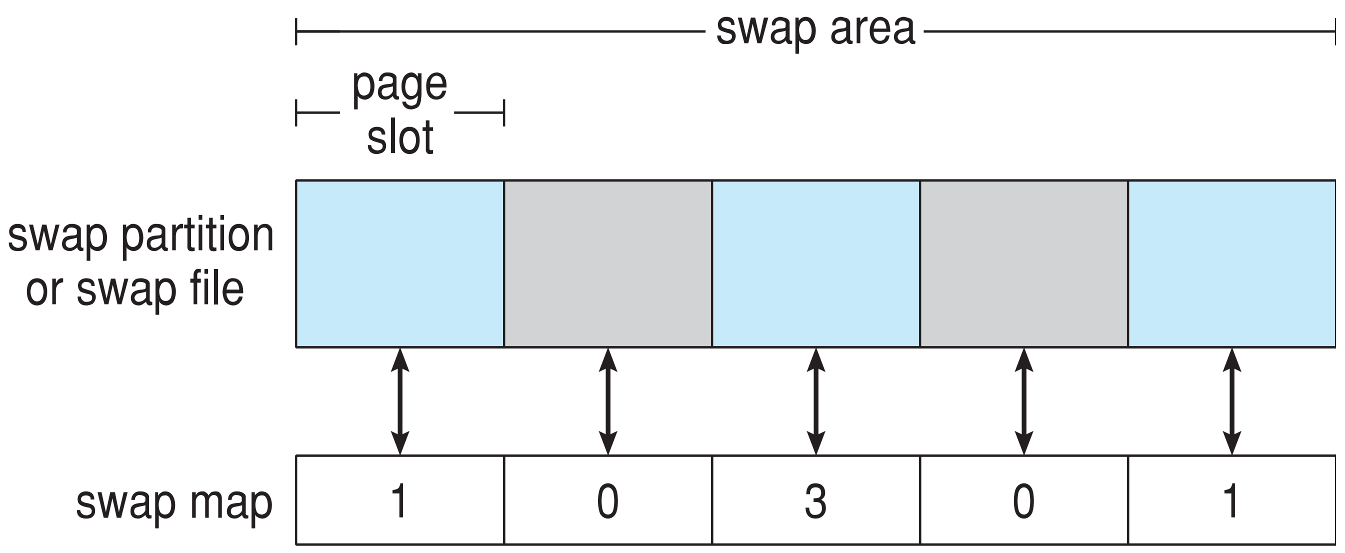
- Swap-space — Virtual memory uses disk space as an extension of main memory
  - Less common now due to memory capacity increases
- Swap-space can be carved out of the normal file system, or, more commonly, it can be in a separate disk partition (raw)
- Swap-space management
  - 4.3BSD allocates swap space when process starts; holds text segment (the program) and data segment
  - Kernel uses **swap maps** to track swap-space use
  - Solaris 2 allocates swap space only when a dirty page is forced out of physical memory, not when the virtual memory page is first created

    File data written to swap space until write to file system requested

    Other dirty pages go to swap space due to no other home

    Text segment pages thrown out and reread from the file system as needed
- What if a system runs out of swap space?
- Some systems allow multiple swap spaces

## Data Structures for Swapping on Linux Systems



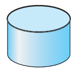
## RAID Structure

- RAID – redundant array of inexpensive disks
  - multiple disk drives provides reliability via **redundancy**
- Increases the **mean time to failure**
- **Mean time to repair –** exposure time when another failure could cause data loss
- **Mean time to data loss** based on above factors
- If mirrored disks fail independently, consider disk with 100,000 mean time to failure and 10 hour mean time to repair
  - Mean time to data loss is $100,000^2 / (2 * 10) = 500 * 10^6$ hours, or 57,000 years!
- Frequently combined with **NVRAM** to improve write performance
- Several improvements in disk-use techniques involve the use of multiple disks working cooperatively

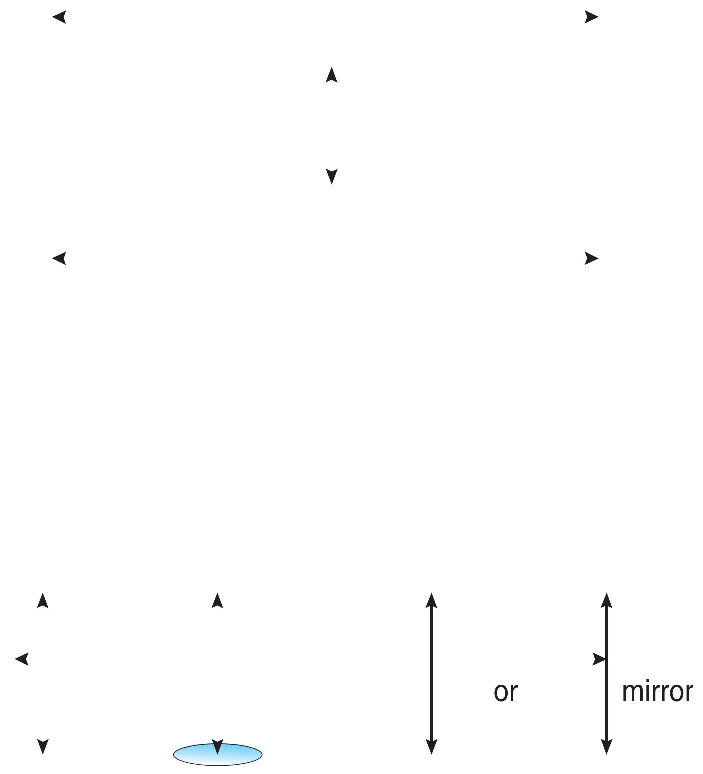
## RAID (Cont.)

- Disk **striping** uses a group of disks as one storage unit
- RAID is arranged into six different levels
- RAID schemes improve performance and improve the reliability of the storage system by storing redundant data
  - **Mirroring** or **shadowing** (**RAID 1**) keeps duplicate of each disk
  - Striped mirrors (**RAID 1+0**) or mirrored stripes (**RAID 0+1**) provides high performance and high reliability
  - **Block interleaved parity** (**RAID 4, 5, 6**) uses much less redundancy
- RAID within a storage array can still fail if the array fails, so automatic **replication** of the data between arrays is common
- Frequently, a small number of **hot-spare** disks are left unallocated, automatically replacing a failed disk and having data rebuilt onto them

## RAID Levels



## RAID (0 + 1) and (1 + 0)



## I/O Systems

- I/O management is a major component of operating system design and operation
  - Important aspect of computer operation
  - I/O devices vary greatly
  - Various methods to control them
  - Performance management
  - New types of devices frequent
- Ports, busses, device controllers connect to various devices
- **Device drivers** encapsulate device details
  - Present uniform device-access interface to I/O subsystem

## I/O Hardware

- Incredible variety of I/O devices
  - Storage
  - Transmission
  - Human-interface
- Common concepts – signals from I/O devices interface with computer
  - **Port** – connection point for device
  - **Bus** - **daisy chain** or shared direct access

    **PCI** bus common in PCs and servers, PCI Express (**PCIe**)

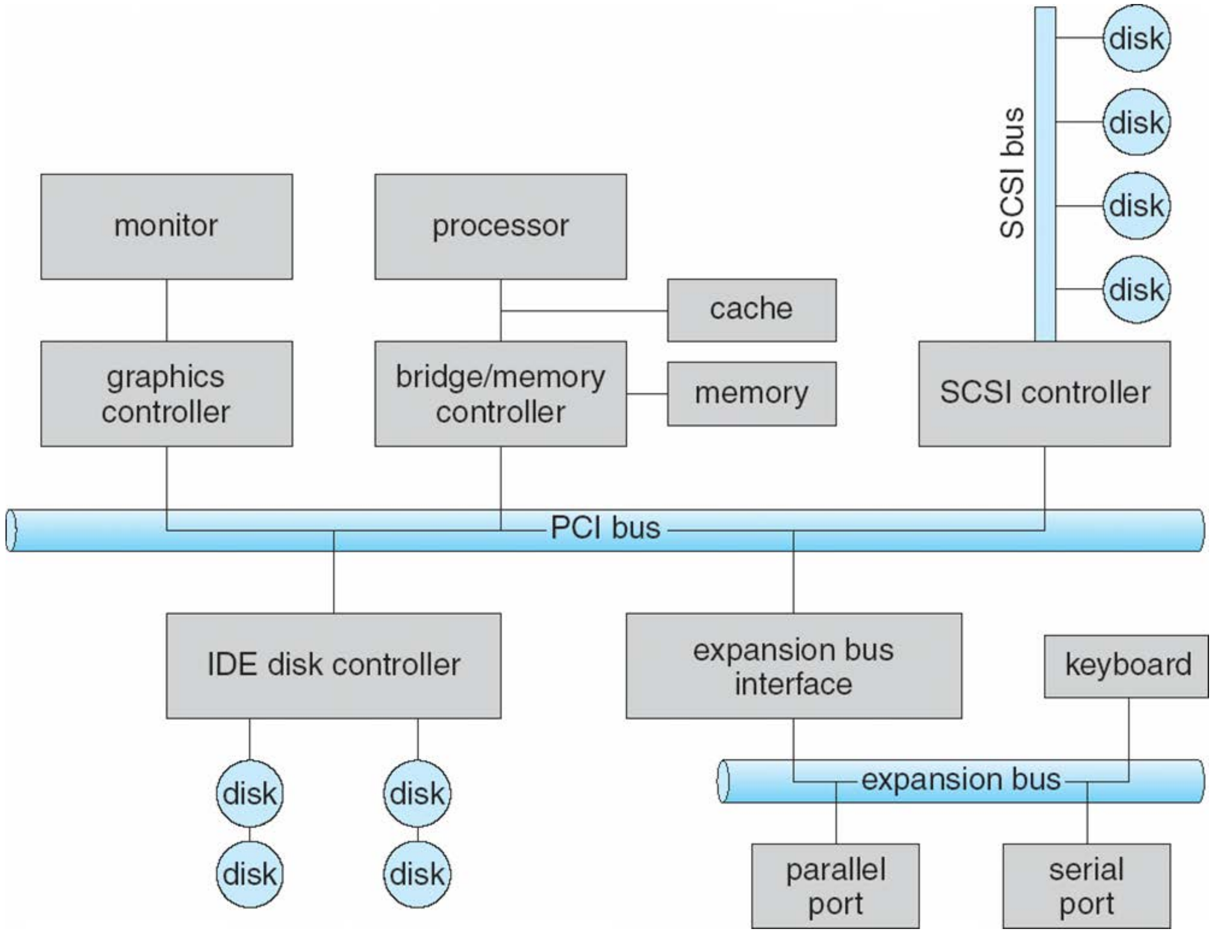
    **expansion bus** connects relatively slow devices
  - **Controller** (**host adapter**) – electronics that operate port, bus, device

    Sometimes integrated

    Sometimes separate circuit board (host adapter)

    Contains processor, microcode, private memory, bus controller, etc
    - Some talk to per-device controller with bus controller, microcode, memory, etc

## A Typical PCI Bus Structure



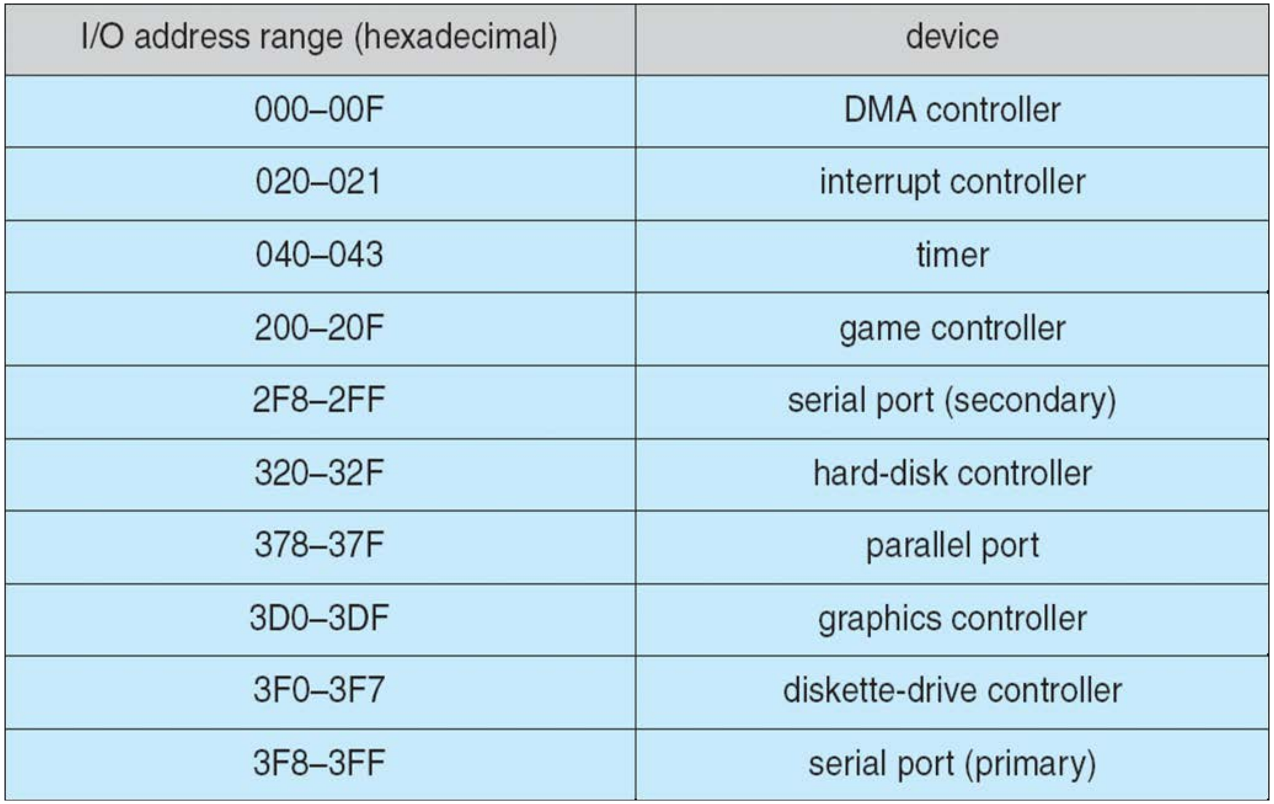
## I/O Hardware (Cont.)

- I/O instructions control devices
- Devices usually have registers where device driver places commands, addresses, and data to write, or read data from registers after command execution
  - Data-in register, data-out register, status register, control register
  - Typically 1-4 bytes, or FIFO buffer
- Devices have addresses, used by
  - Direct I/O instructions
  - **Memory-mapped I/O**

    Device data and command registers mapped to processor address space

    Especially for large address spaces (graphics)

# Device I/O Port Locations on PCs (partial)



| I/O address range (hexadecimal) | device |
|---|---|
| 000–00F | DMA controller |
| 020–021 | interrupt controller |
| 040–043 | timer |
| 200–20F | game controller |
| 2F8–2FF | serial port (secondary) |
| 320–32F | hard-disk controller |
| 378–37F | parallel port |
| 3D0–3DF | graphics controller |
| 3F0–3F7 | diskette-drive controller |
| 3F8–3FF | serial port (primary) |

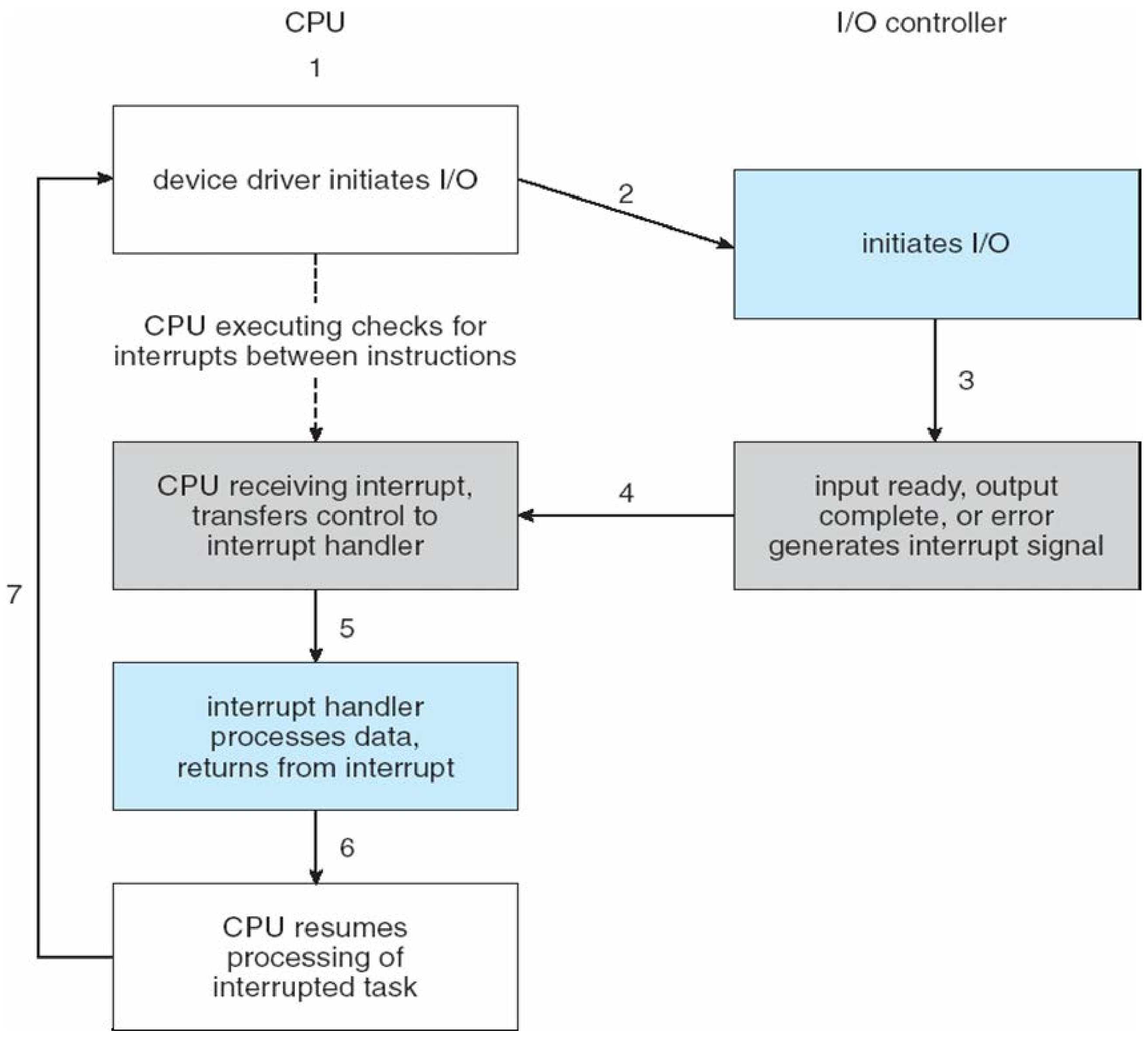
## Polling

- For each byte of I/O
  1. Read busy bit from status register until 0
  2. Host sets read or write bit and if write copies data into data-out register
  3. Host sets command-ready bit
  4. Controller sets busy bit, executes transfer
  5. Controller clears busy bit, error bit, command-ready bit when transfer done
- Step 1 is **busy-waiting** (or **polling**) for I/O from device
  - Reasonable if device is fast
  - But inefficient if device slow
  - CPU switches to other tasks?
    - But if miss a cycle data overwritten / lost

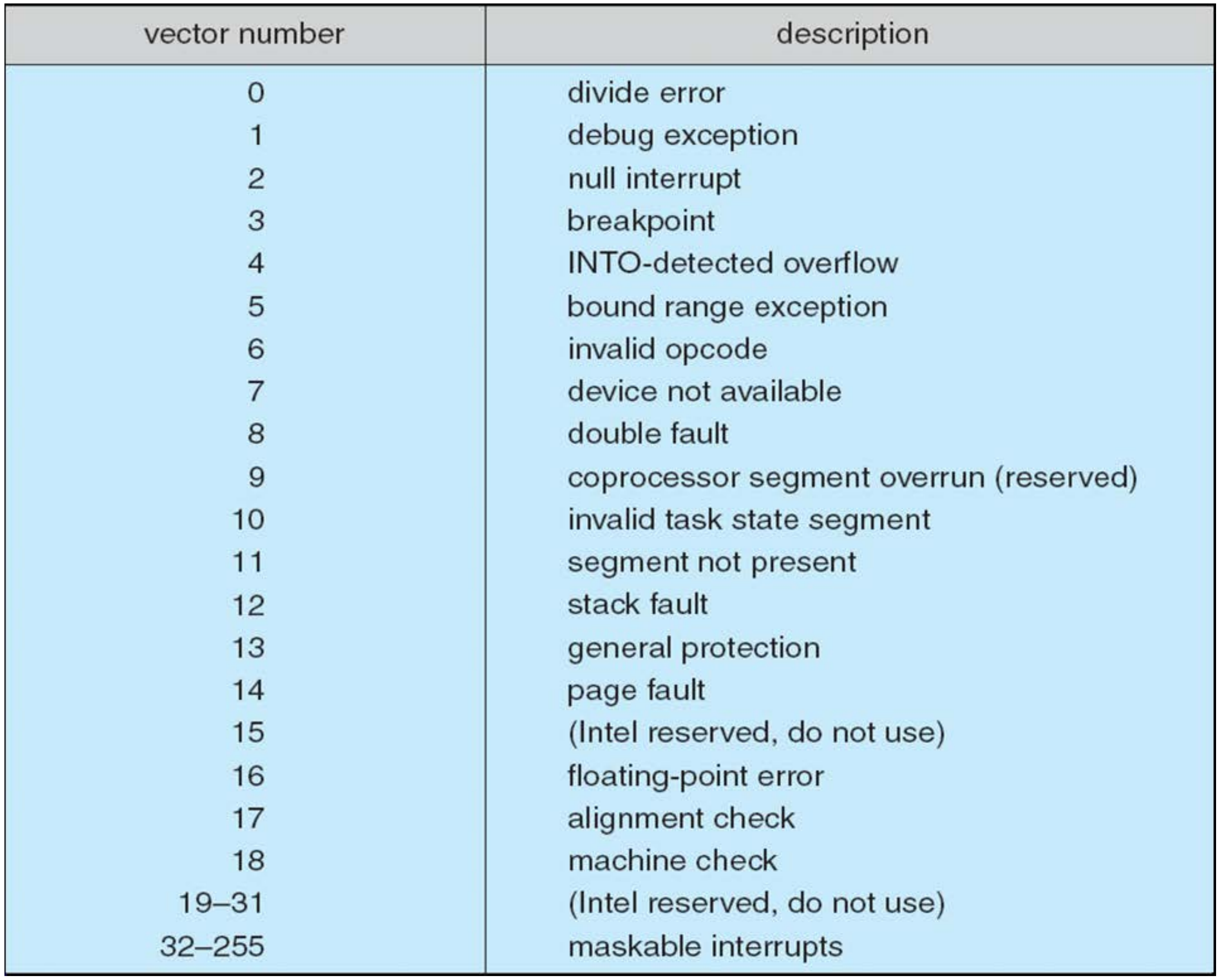
## Interrupts

- Polling can happen in 3 instruction cycles
  - Read status, logical-and to extract status bit, branch if not zero
  - How to be more efficient if device is rarely ready (i.e., ready bit 0)?
- CPU **Interrupt-request line** triggered by I/O device
  - Checked by processor after each instruction
- **Interrupt handler** receives interrupts
  - **Maskable** to ignore or delay some interrupts
- **Interrupt vector** to dispatch interrupt to correct handler
  - Context switch at start and end
  - Based on priority
  - Some **nonmaskable**
  - Interrupt chaining if more than one device at same interrupt number

## Interrupt-Driven I/O Cycle


CPU
I/O controller
1
device driver initiates I/O
2
initiates I/O
CPU executing checks for interrupts between instructions
3
CPU receiving interrupt, transfers control to interrupt handler
4
input ready, output complete, or error generates interrupt signal
7
5
interrupt handler processes data, returns from interrupt
6
CPU resumes processing of interrupted task

# Intel Pentium Processor Event-Vector Table



| vector number | description |
|---|---|
| 0 | divide error |
| 1 | debug exception |
| 2 | null interrupt |
| 3 | breakpoint |
| 4 | INTO-detected overflow |
| 5 | bound range exception |
| 6 | invalid opcode |
| 7 | device not available |
| 8 | double fault |
| 9 | coprocessor segment overrun (reserved) |
| 10 | invalid task state segment |
| 11 | segment not present |
| 12 | stack fault |
| 13 | general protection |
| 14 | page fault |
| 15 | (Intel reserved, do not use) |
| 16 | floating-point error |
| 17 | alignment check |
| 18 | machine check |
| 19–31 | (Intel reserved, do not use) |
| 32–255 | maskable interrupts |

## Interrupts (Cont.)

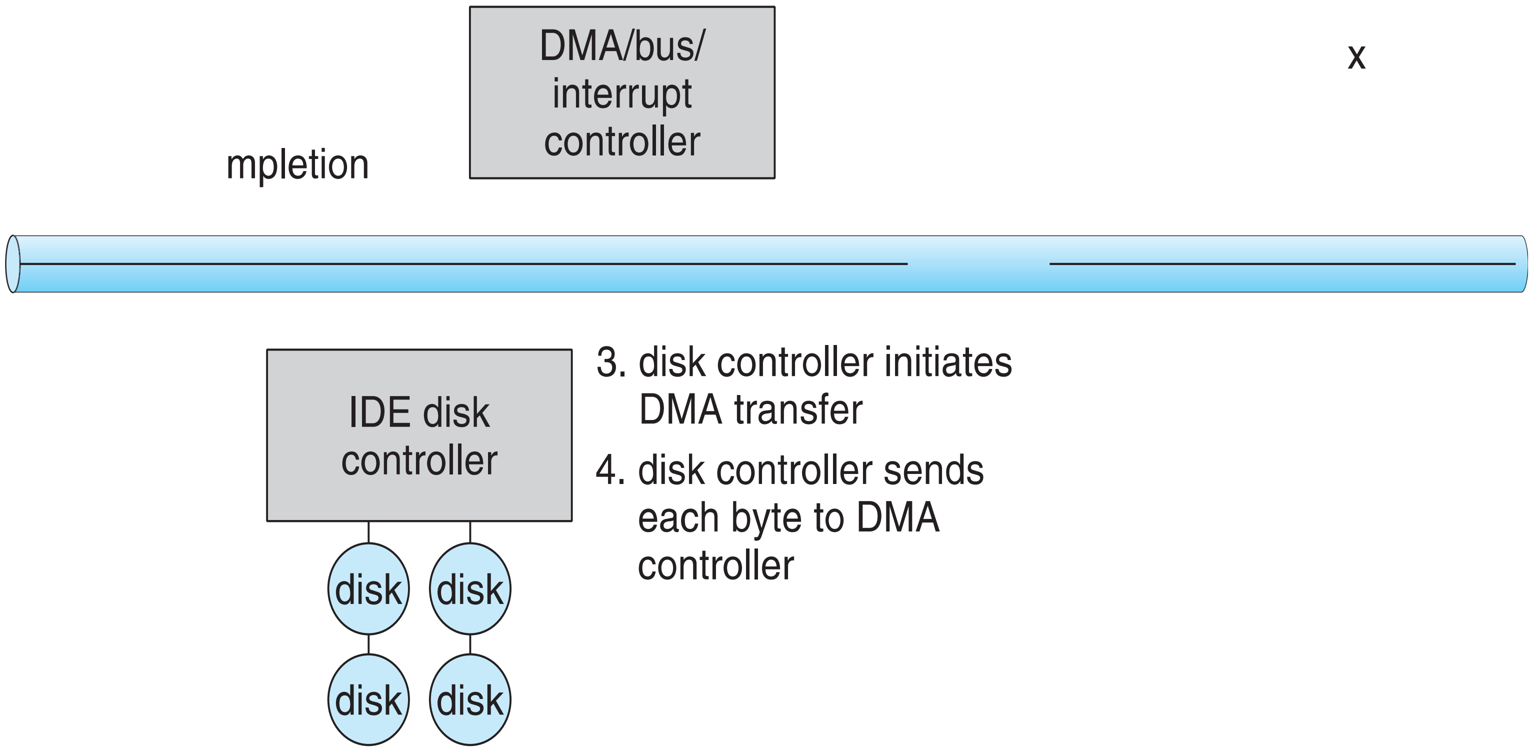
- Interrupt mechanism also used for **exceptions**
  - Terminate process, crash system due to hardware error
- Page fault executes when memory access error
- System call executes via **trap** to trigger kernel to execute request
- Multi-CPU systems can process interrupts concurrently
  - If operating system designed to handle it
- Used for time-sensitive processing, frequent, must be fast

## Direct Memory Access

- Used to avoid **programmed I/O** (one byte at a time) for large data movement
- Requires **DMA** controller
- Bypasses CPU to transfer data directly between I/O device and memory
- OS writes DMA command block into memory
  - Source and destination addresses
  - Read or write mode
  - Count of bytes
  - Writes location of command block to DMA controller
  - Bus mastering of DMA controller – grabs bus from CPU

    **Cycle stealing** from CPU but still much more efficient
  - When done, interrupts to signal completion
- Version that is aware of virtual addresses can be even more efficient - **DVMA**

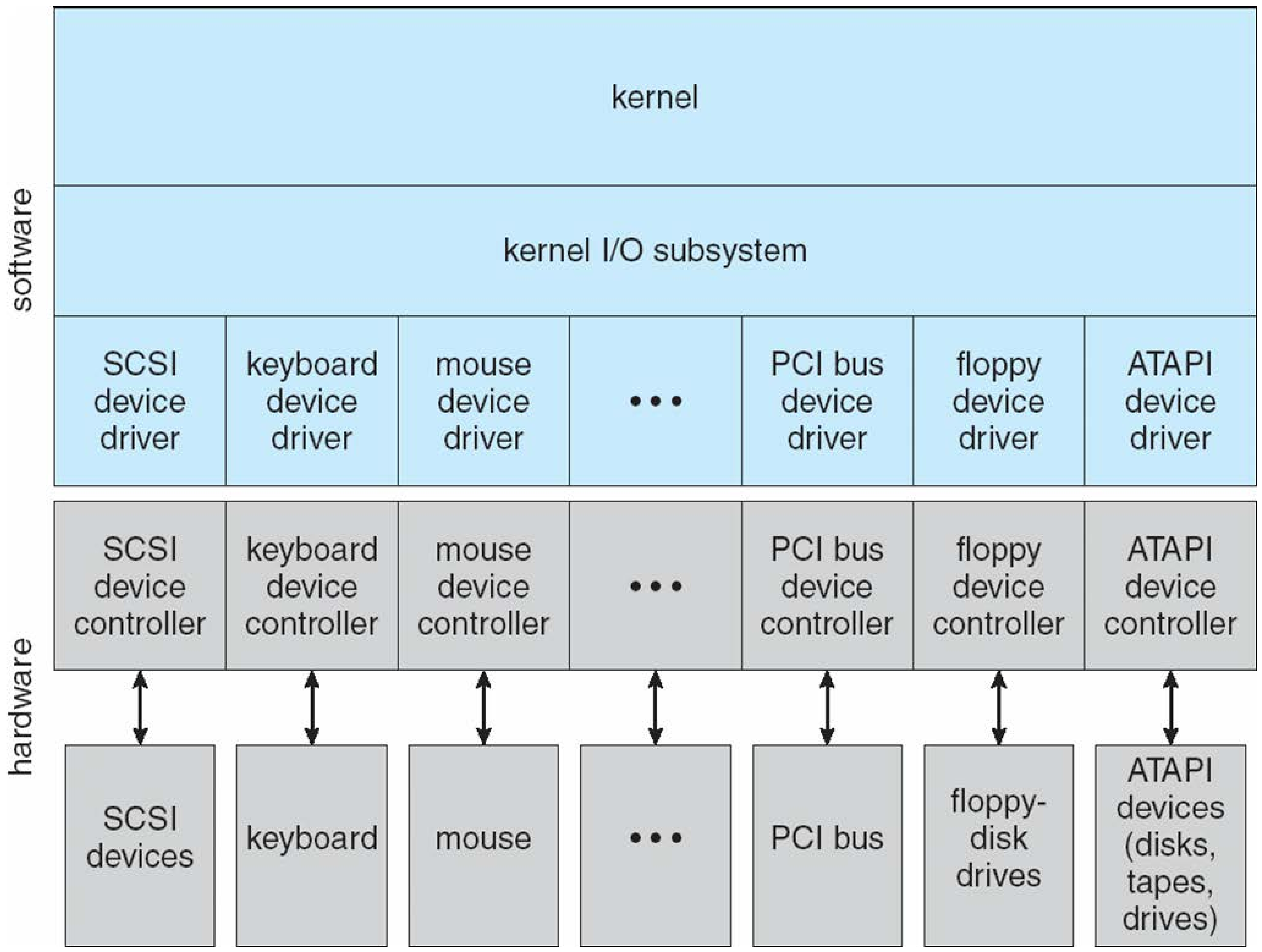
# Six Step Process to Perform DMA Transfer



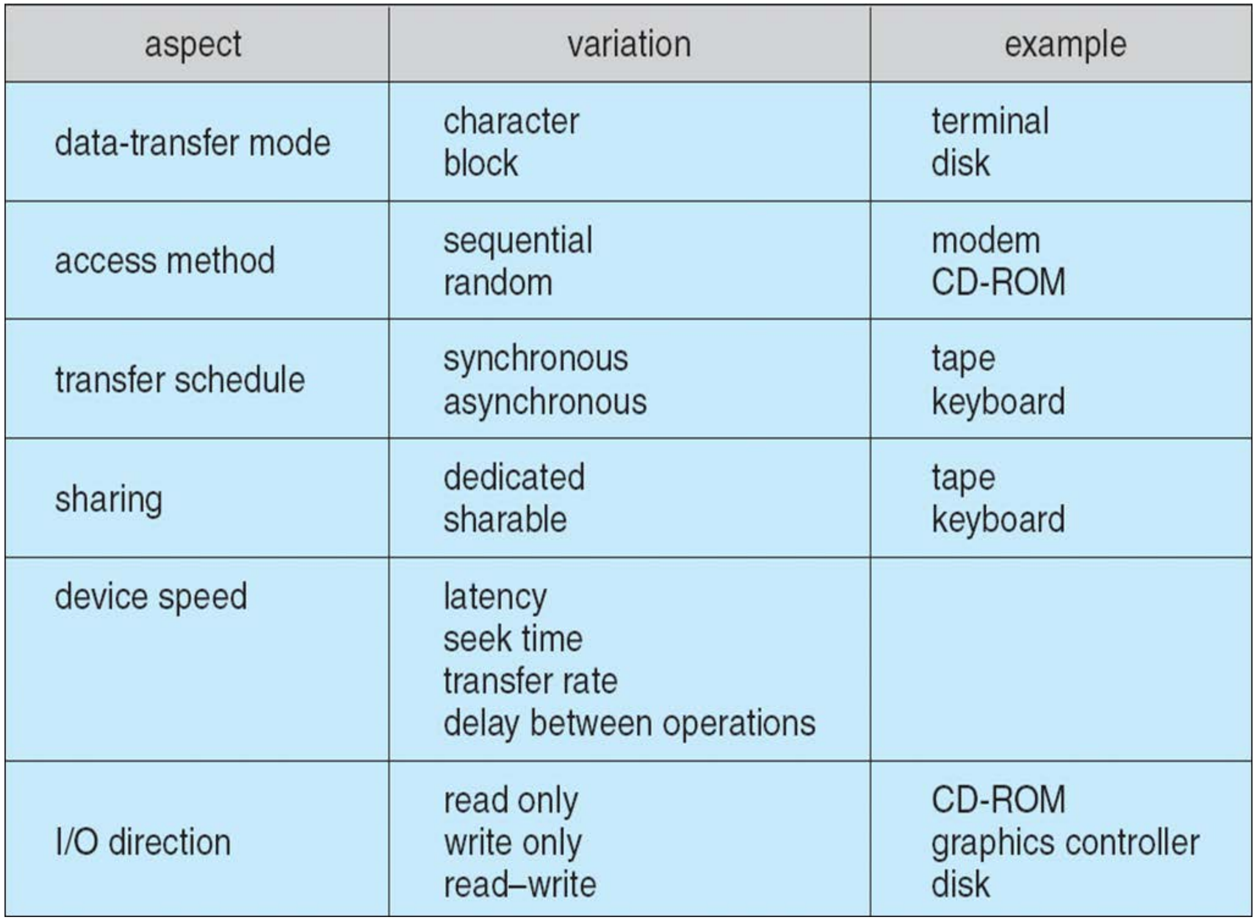
## Application I/O Interface

- I/O system calls encapsulate device behaviors in generic classes
- Device-driver layer hides differences among I/O controllers from kernel
- New devices talking already-implemented protocols need no extra work
- Each OS has its own I/O subsystem structures and device driver frameworks
- Devices vary in many dimensions
  - **Character-stream** or **block**
  - **Sequential** or **random-access**
  - **Synchronous** or **asynchronous** (or both)
  - **Sharable** or **dedicated**
  - **Speed of operation**
  - **read-write**, **read only**, or **write only**

## A Kernel I/O Structure



# Characteristics of I/O Devices



| aspect | variation | example |
|---|---|---|
| data-transfer mode | character<br>block | terminal<br>disk |
| access method | sequential<br>random | modem<br>CD-ROM |
| transfer schedule | synchronous<br>asynchronous | tape<br>keyboard |
| sharing | dedicated<br>sharable | tape<br>keyboard |
| device speed | latency<br>seek time<br>transfer rate<br>delay between operations | |
| I/O direction | read only<br>write only<br>read–write | CD-ROM<br>graphics controller<br>disk |

## Characteristics of I/O Devices (Cont.)

- Subtleties of devices handled by device drivers
- Broadly I/O devices can be grouped by the OS into
  - Block I/O
  - Character I/O (Stream)
  - Memory-mapped file access
  - Network sockets
- For direct manipulation of I/O device specific characteristics, usually an escape / back door
  - Unix **`ioctl()`** call to send arbitrary bits to a device control register and data to device data register

## Block and Character Devices

- Block devices include disk drives
  - Commands include read, write, seek
  - **Raw I/O**, **direct I/O**, or file-system access
  - Memory-mapped file access possible

    File mapped to virtual memory and clusters brought via demand paging
  - DMA
- Character devices include keyboards, mice, serial ports
  - Commands include **`get(), put()`**
  - Libraries layered on top allow line editing

Next Week

Lecture 9 – Protection and Security

Tutorial 8