

# \* OS - File System, I/O and Protection

## 01 - Attributes and Operations on files

### File Operations

- Creating
- Writing
- Reading
- Repositioning
- Deleting
- Truncating

### File Attributes

- Name
- Identifier (extension)
- Type
- Location
- Size (In Bytes)
- Protection
- Time and Date (creation or modification)

• Hard disk is divided into blocks which may accessed for read/write all at once.

• A large file is not generally stored contiguously in physical, ~~they are~~ all the blocks are contiguous logically.

• OS provides an abstract data <sup>structure</sup> ~~type~~ which is called file to store the information logically contiguous.

• The logical file is taken by OS &

Stored physically in the hard disk. The entire thing is done by the file system

• Every information is saved as file by the OS into the hard disk.

• information → files → directory → File system

• OS maintains a pointer for ~~at each~~ each file to indicate till what part the file is written, so that after that point the write operation can ~~be~~ continue. (same for reading)

• Sequential reading → read pointer

• Delete → Free space along the attributes of a file

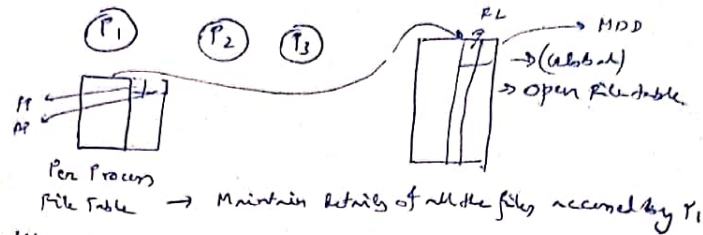
• Truncate → Free up space, but not the attributes of file (few changes are made to the attribute)

## 02- Open File Tables

### Information required for accessing a file

- i) File Pointer
- ii) File open count
- iii) Disk location of a file
- iv) Access rights

- To access a file, the file must be opened first.
- Then OS keeps its details into a table for open files.



- When File open count is ~~close~~ zero, then that record from Global table is deleted.

## 03 - Accessing Files

### Access methods

→ Sequential access

→ Direct access

→ Indexed access

Database (Indexed Array or tree)  
eg- Database (OS can find the record using logical block number)

eg- video audio files.

• In most of the OS, block size is 512 Bytes.

• Hard disk is further divided into sectors. Each sector is of size 512 Bytes.

• Logically ~~block~~ file is sequential. Physically file may not be sequential.

• 512 B is optimal (Experimentally proven)

## 04 - Directory Structure

- Hard disk is divided into partitions depending upon the number of OS or File system it will use.

↓  
volumes/minidisk

- Each partition needs a special type of file called directory in which all the details of all the files is contained.
- Each directory entry holds the details of a file. (location, size etc)
- Data about data → Metadata → Directory (entries)
- Each partition contains at least one directory.

- i) Search
- ii) Create
- iii) Delete
- iv) List
- v) Traverse
- vi) Rename

Directory operations

• For a huge number of ~~files~~ files, level is used.

• One dir & all files → single level directory

• Various levels → multi level directory

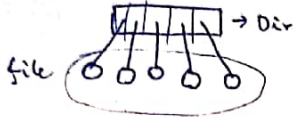
• Acyclic graph directories  
• Graph directories

Two level directory      Tree level directory

05- single level VS Two level directory

### Single level

- Entire file system will contain only one directory & it mentions all the files which are present in the file system.



Adv  $\rightarrow$  Implementation is very simple..

→ If no. of files are very small, searching is very simple.

Dis  $\rightarrow$  Naming Problem

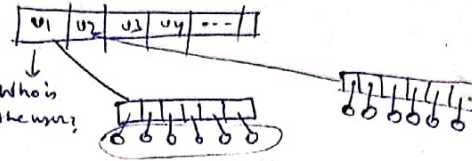
↳ Access Right

↳ High search time

↳ Unorganized files

## Two level

- Master File Directory



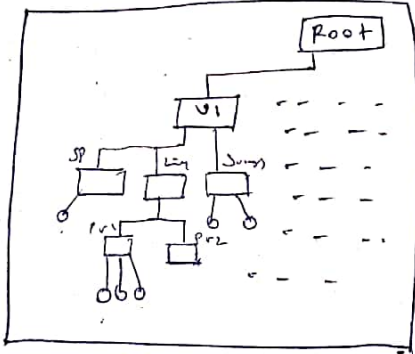
PWD → 9 percent warning Directory

K. J. Anderson

- Diff dir, same filename ✓ (Adv)
- System file (global) → Special directory  
     └─→ All users share this
- Single level → Single User
- Two level → Multi User

## 06 - Tree Structured Directory

- Need for grouping of ~~some types of~~ different types of files



Path  $\rightarrow$  Address of file

name (root/ui/bin/proj/61.exe)

Absolute path name :- Root to file  
Complete address.

Relative Path name:- PWD/CD ~~to~~ for each user, then file (bin/proj/bl.cml)

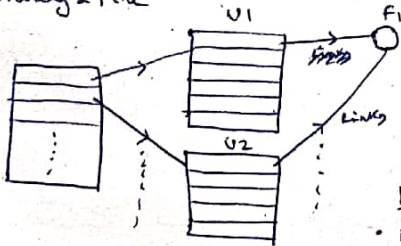
- New process created from the  $\alpha$ -process also contains same path name

- Flexibility  $\rightarrow$  user has the ability to group all the files together.

↳ User has ability to share a directory ~~with~~ with other users.

## 07 - Acyclic Graph Structured Directory

- Sharing a File



• Even if it looks like a cycle, but due to direction, there is no cycle, this is called acyclic graph directory (using links  $\rightarrow$  dirlex).

## Problems

Problems

- File deletion: Even ~~after~~ <sup>after</sup> deletion of a file, the links still point to the deleted or emptied location. This is dangling pointer ~~situation~~ situation.

[Not only file, directory can also be shared]



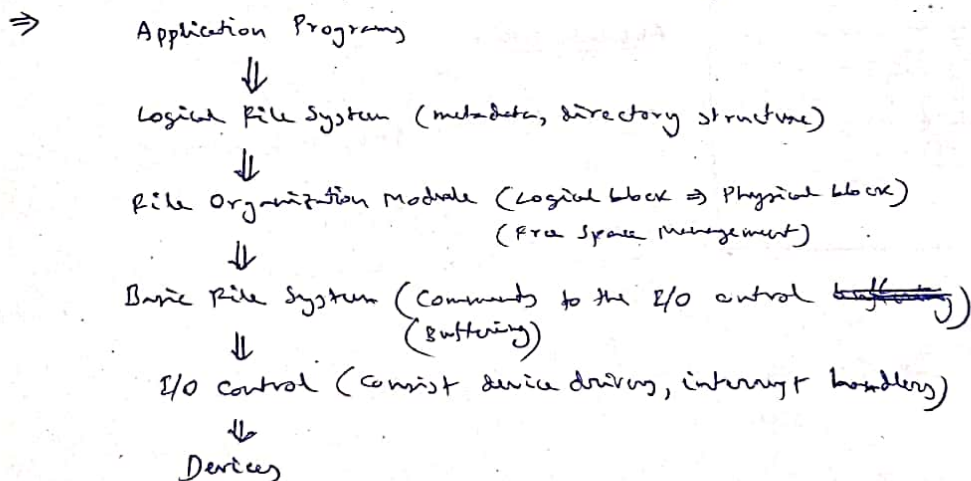
- At the ~~creation~~ creation time of a file, a separate data structure is used to store all the references by all the users. All its users are connected to the file by absolute links or relative links. But the problem is the data structure need to be extended if there are too many links. So instead of storing all the ~~links~~ links, a counter is used to count the number of references. So, file is not deleted until all its references are deleted & count is set to zero. Unix follows this last approach.

## 08 - File System

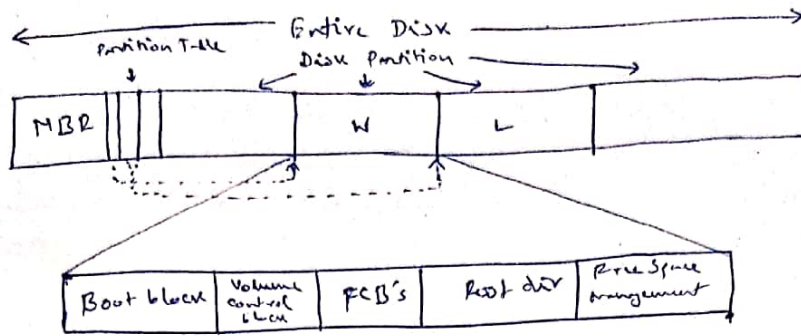
- File System provides the mechanism for on-line storage and access to file contents, including data and programs.
- File System deals with following issues:
  - File Structure
  - To allocate disk space
  - Recovering freed space
  - To track the location of data
  - Interface other parts of operating system to the secondary storage.

## 09 - Filesystem Structure

- One big software → divided into parts → make various groups → ~ group of task is assigned to a layer, to implement → Most OS follow this approach
- ⇒ File Systems provide efficient and convenient access to the disk by allowing data to be stored, located, and retrieved easily.



- Hard disk block → buffers in main memory to be accessed by CPU (Buffering)
- Device drivers → access to secondary memory using given commands of BFS.
- Layered organization is used to prohibit interference between different modules.



### • BIOS (Basic Input Output System) :-

A small piece of code present on the ROM, which fetches the first block of the hard disk when a computer is ~~first time~~ on for first time, ~~which~~ consists of MBR (Master Boot Record), loads into main memory. Now CPU starts executing from the first instruction of MBR. Now it will check whether the MBR is valid or not by checking its magic number & know ~~the~~ whether the disk is formatted or not. Then the message of selecting an OS is shown which is also contained in MBR & after that MBR contains Partition table, which tells <sup>from</sup> where each partition is going to start/begin.

- First block of every partition is Boot block, It knows where OS code is present & how to load that code.
- Depending on the File System, all the blocks are going to differ.

### 11 - On Disk Data Structure used in File System Implementation

- Data structure varies from one FS to another. (Win - NTFS, Lin - LFS, Win - FATEXT)
- ⇒ Several in memory and on disk structures are used to implement a File System. These structures vary depending on the operating system and the file system but general principles apply.

**1st block** Boot Control Block (for volume) :- It contains information needed by the system to boot an OS from the volume.

In Unix File System, it is called the boot block.

In NTFS, it is called the partition boot sector.

**2nd block** Volume Control Block :- It contains volume details such as the number of blocks in the partitions, size of the block.

In UFS, it is called Super Block.

In NTFS, this information stored in master file table.

Directory Structure Per File System :- It is used to organize the files.

In UFS this includes file names and associated inode numbers.

File Control Block (FCB) :- It contains details about the file.



| File Permissions                                 |
|--|
| File status (create, access, write)              |
| File owner, group, ACL                           |
| File size  |
| File data blocks or pointers to file data blocks |

A typical File Control Block

[Mounting → whenever a new partition or volume is connected to the computer, it is called mounting & information about this partition must be available in main memory.]

## 12 - In Memory Data Structure in File System Implementation

The in-memory is used for both the file system management and performance improvement via caching. This data loaded at mount time and discarded at dismount.

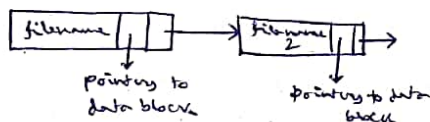
- i) Inmemory mount table :- It contains information about each mounted device.
- ii) In memory directory structure cache :- It holds the directory information of recently accessed directory.
- iii) System-wide open file table :- It contains the FCB of each open file.
- iv) Per process open file table :- It contains the pointer to the appropriate entry in the system wide open file table.

## 13 - Directory Implementation

⇒ The selection of directory allocation and directory management algorithms significantly affects the performance and reliability of file system.

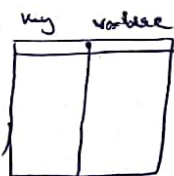
Algorithms :-

1. Linear list :- • Files as a singly linked list.



• Entire list must be ~~scan~~ searched at the time of new file creation to ~~check~~ check whether the new file name exists or not then if it doesn't exist it is added to the list (front or end).

2. Hash Table :-



- Search will be faster
- So, open or deletion is better.
- Problem → fixed size, collision.

• open, delete etc takes huge search time same as above.

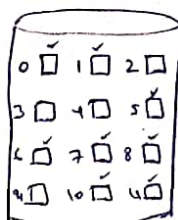
[ If no. of files & directories are very large the B-trees & B+ trees are used.]

## 14 - Allocation Methods

⇒ How to allocate space to the files so that the disk space is utilized effectively and files can be accessed quickly.

Contiguous Allocation :-

If blocks are allocated in such a way that ~~files~~ a file will get contiguous blocks. then it is called contiguous allocation.

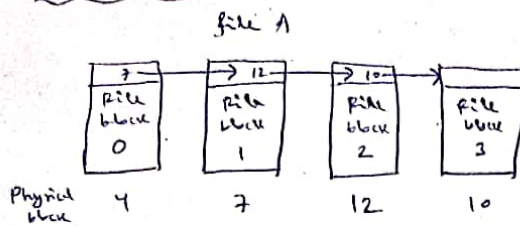


| Directory |       |        |
|-----------|-------|--------|
| file      | start | length |
| temp      | 0     | 2      |
| hr        | 5     | 4      |
| test      | 10    | 2      |

Advantage :- • Simple to implement.  
• Read performance is excellent.

Disadvantages:- The disk becomes fragmented. (Internal & External Fragmentation)

### • Linked List Implementation:-



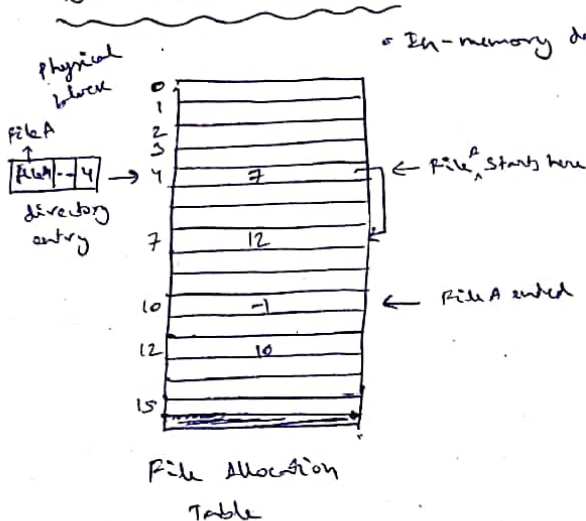
Adv:-

- ⇒ Unlike contiguous allocation every disk block can be used.
- ⇒ No space lost due to disk fragmentation (except for internal fragmentation in the last block of each file)

Disadv:-

- Random Access is very slow.
- Pointer takes up few bytes.

### 15 - File Allocation Table



Adv:-

- Random Access is easier

Disadv:-

- Size can be too much i.e. table can be very large

### 16 - GATE 14 on FAT

A FAT (File Allocation Table) based file system is being used and the total overhead of each entry in the FAT is 4 bytes in size. Given a  $100 \times 10^6$  bytes disk on which the file system is stored and data block size  $10^3$  bytes, the maximum size of a file that can be stored on disk in units of  $10^6$  bytes is \_\_\_\_\_.

$$\text{FAT size} = \text{no. of entries} \times \text{size of each entry}$$

$$= \frac{100 \times 10^6}{10^3} \times 4 = 100 \times 10^3 \times 4 = 0.4 \times 10^6 \text{ B}$$

$$\text{Free space available} = (100 \times 10^6) - (0.4 \times 10^6)$$

$$= 99.6 \times 10^6 \text{ B}$$

↳ 99.6 files

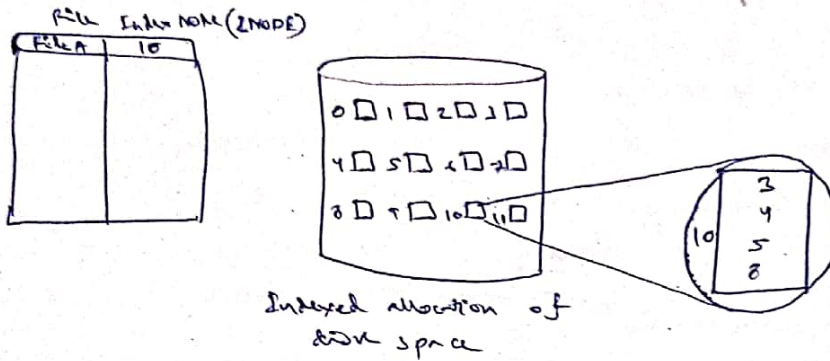
### 17 - Indexed Allocation

- linked allocation solves the external fragmentation and size declaration problem of contiguous allocation.
- In the absence of FAT, linked allocation cannot support efficient direct access.
- Indexed allocation solves the problem by bringing all the pointers together into one location i.e. the index block



(At any point of time, some files are open, so maintaining information about all the files for all the time is wastage of memory. Only the files we need, whose information is needed to be in main memory. So for that reason one block is maintained for ~~each~~ every file called index block or inode.)

↓  
physical block in which particular file is present.

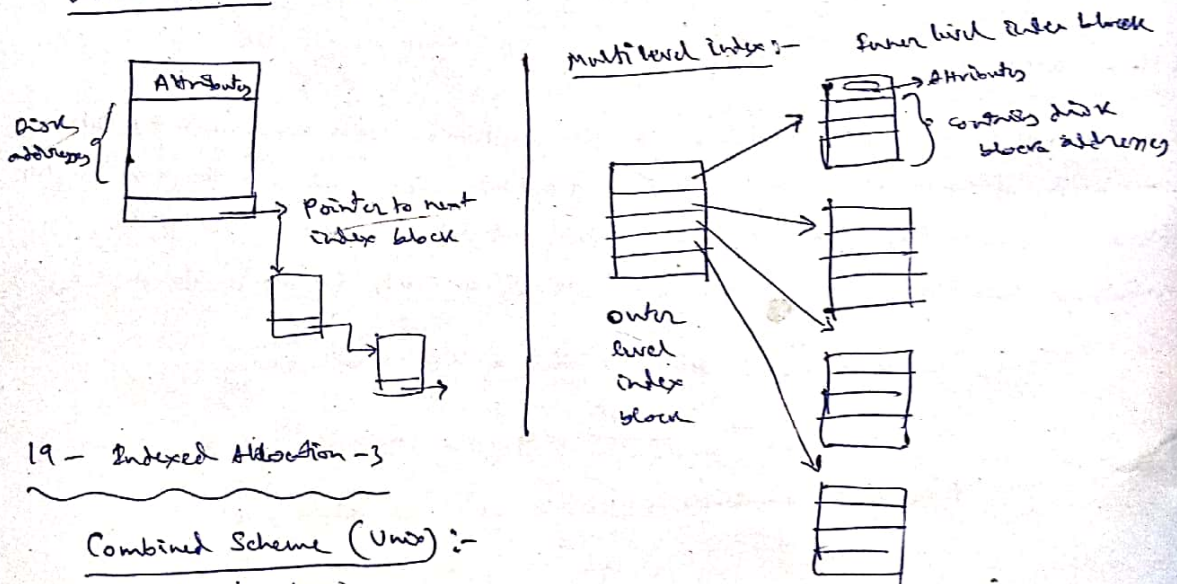


### 18 - Indexed Allocation - 2

→ If the index block is too small, however it will not be able to hold enough pointers to hold for a large file.

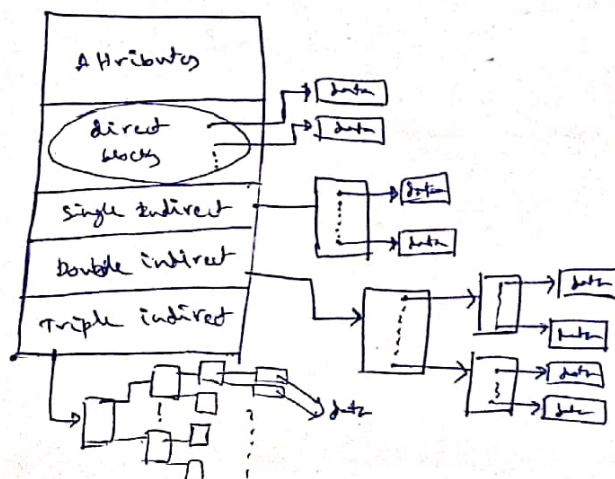
→ ~~Index block~~

Linked Scheme:- We can link several index blocks.



### 19 - Indexed Allocation - 3

Combined Scheme (Unix):-  
(Znode structure)





A unix style i-node has 10 direct pointers and one single, one double and one triple indirect pointers. Disk block size is 1k-byte, disk block address is 32 bits and 48-bit integers are used. What is the maximum possible file size?

$\rightarrow (10 + 170 + 170 \times 170 + 170 \times 170 \times 170) \times \cancel{1024} \text{ B} \approx 2^{29} \rightarrow (20)$   
 $\downarrow$  direct pointing  
 $\swarrow$  single  $\searrow$  double  $\downarrow$  triple  
Disk block size  
address pointer size  
 $1024 \text{ B} \leftarrow$   
 $4 \text{ B} \leftarrow 2 \times \frac{1024 \text{ B}}{6 \text{ B}} \approx 170 - 6 \approx 170$   
 $\uparrow$   
 no. of addresses per block / pointers per block

20 - GATE 2012 on indexed allocation

A file system with 300 MB uses a file descriptor with 8 direct block addresses, one indirect block address and one doubly indirect block address. The size of each disk ~~space~~ block is 128 bytes and the size of each disk block address is 8 bytes. The maximum possible file size in the file system is 1

6. ~~the~~ NO of strings & pointers =  $\frac{36 \times 8}{8 \times 8} = \frac{27}{2^3} = 2^4 = 16$  page blocks

Direct  $\rightarrow$   $\delta$

high interest  $\rightarrow$  16

12 nsec interval  $\rightarrow 12 \times 12$

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{8 + 16 + 16 \times 16} \times 128 \\ & 2 \sqrt{24 + 256} \times 2^7 \\ & \quad \left( 288 \times 2^7 \right) \text{ By } \text{B} \times \text{B} \\ & 2 \times 8 (1 + 2 + 2 \times 16) \times 223 \\ & 2^3 \times 35 \times 2^7 = 35 \text{ KB} \end{aligned}$$

## 21 - Free Space Management

Main responsibility of file system :-

- Allocate blocks to each file & keep track of it.
- It should also keep track of free space available.

1. Bit vector:-

- ⇒ The free space list is implemented as a bitmap (or) bit vector.
- ⇒ Each block is represented by 1 bit.
- ⇒ If the block is free bit is 1 ~~or~~ else it is 0.

2. Linked List (Free list) :-

- ⇒ Another approach to free space ~~management~~ management is to link together the free disk blocks, keeping a pointer to the first free block in a special location on the disk and caching it in memory.

## 22 - Disk Scheduling

- ⇒ File Systems must be accessed in efficient manner, especially with hard drives, which are slowest part of a computer.
- ⇒ As a computer deals with multiple processes over a period of time, a list of requests to access the disk build up. For efficiency purposes all requests (from all processes) are aggregated together.
- ⇒ The technique that operating system uses to determine which request to satisfy next is called disk scheduling.

Seek Time :- Moving the Read/Write head to appropriate cylinder or track is called seek time.

[Many disks → ~~one~~ Cylinder, One disk → Track]

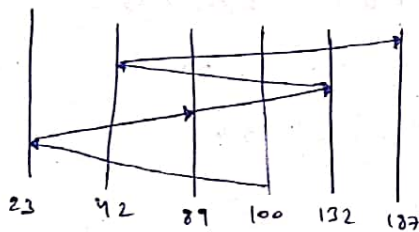
- 1. Only way for efficiency is to reduce seek time.

## 23 - FCFS Scheduling

- ⇒ Simplest. Performs operations in order requested.
- ⇒ No ordering of work queue.
- ⇒ No starvation: every request is serviced.

Ex - A disk queue with requests for I/O to blocks on cylinders:

23, 89, 132, 42, 187 with disk head initially at 100



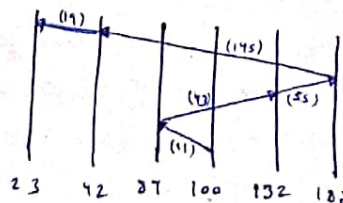
Sum of seek time =  $77 + 66 + 43 + 90 + 145 = 421$  cylinders

## 24 - SSTF Scheduling (Shortest Seek Time First)

- ⇒ Like SJF, select the disk I/O request that requires the least movement of the disk arm from its current position regardless of direction.
- ⇒ Reduces total seek time compared to FCFS.

Disadvantages:-

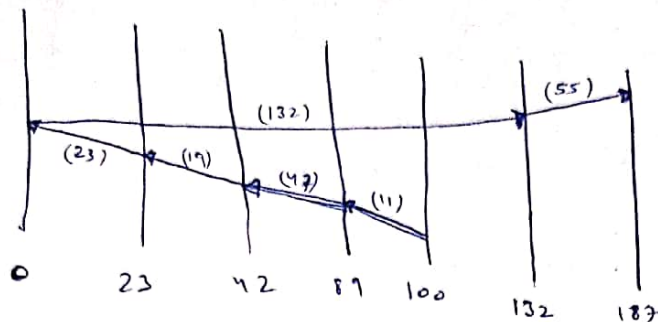
- ⇒ Starvation is possible.
- ⇒ Switching directions slows things.
- ⇒ Not the most optimal.



$11 + 43 + 55 + 145 + 19 = 273$

### SCAN (Elevator algorithm):-

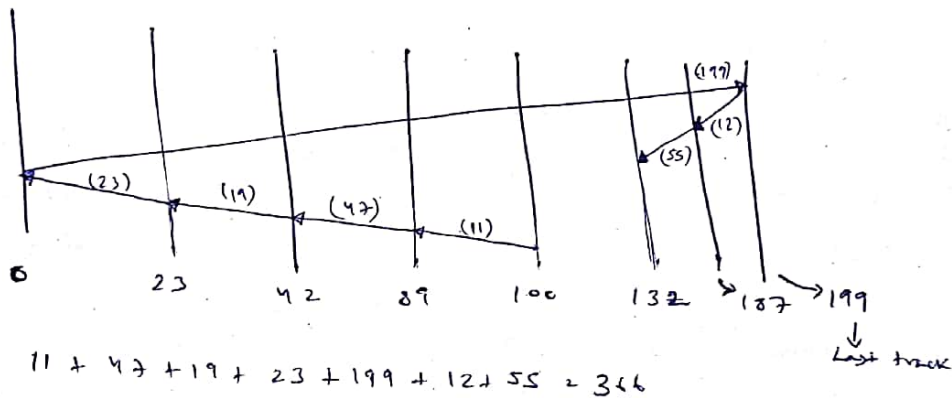
⇒ Go from the outside to inside servicing requests and then back from the inside to the outside servicing requests.



(Circular)  $11 + 47 + 19 + 23 + 132 + 55 = 287$

### C-SCAN :-

⇒ Moves inwardly servicing requests until it reaches the innermost cylinder, then jumps to the outside cylinder of the disk without servicing any requests.

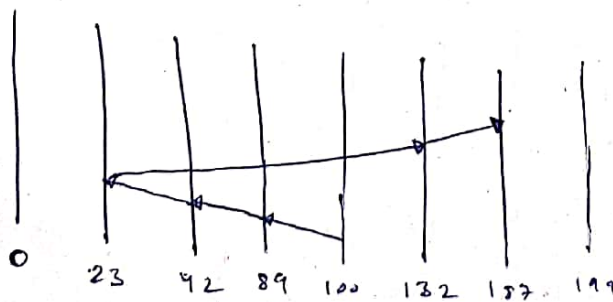


$11 + 47 + 19 + 23 + 199 + 12 + 55 = 366$

### 26 - Look

⇒ Like SCAN but stops moving inwardly (or outwardly) when no more requests in that direction exist.

$23, 89, 132, 42, 187$

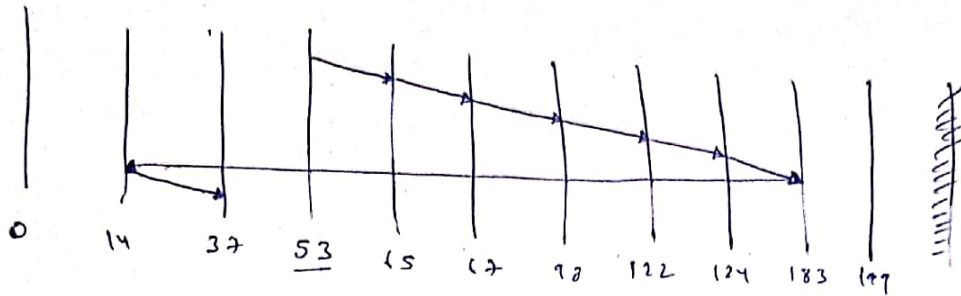


$11 + 47 + 19 + 109 + 55 = 241$



## 27 - C-LOOK

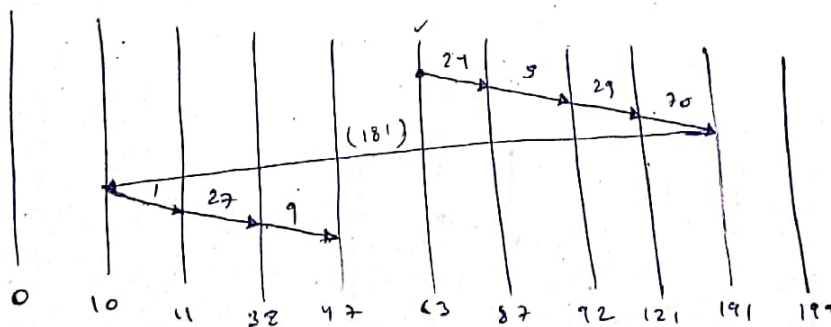
98, 183, 37, 122, 14, 124, 65, 64 head starts at 53



- Head  $\rightarrow$  Start  $\rightarrow$  Up to highest request  $\rightarrow$  lowest req  $\rightarrow$  remaining request
- $\Rightarrow$  In C-LOOK scheduling the arm goes only as far as final request in each direction.
- $\Rightarrow$  Then reverse direction immediately without going all the way to the end of the disk.
- $\Rightarrow$  When head reaches the other end
  - It immediately returns to the lowest cylinder request and without servicing any requests on the return trip.

## 28 - GATE 2016 Question on C-LOOK

Consider a disk queue with request for I/O to blocks on cylinders 47, 38, 121, 191, 37, 11, 92, 10. The C-LOOK scheduling algorithm is used. The head is initially at cylinder number 63, moving towards larger cylinder numbers on its servicing pass. The cylinders are numbered from 0 to 99. The total head movement (in number of ~~sectors~~ cylinders) incurred while servicing these requests is  $\times$  \_\_\_\_\_.

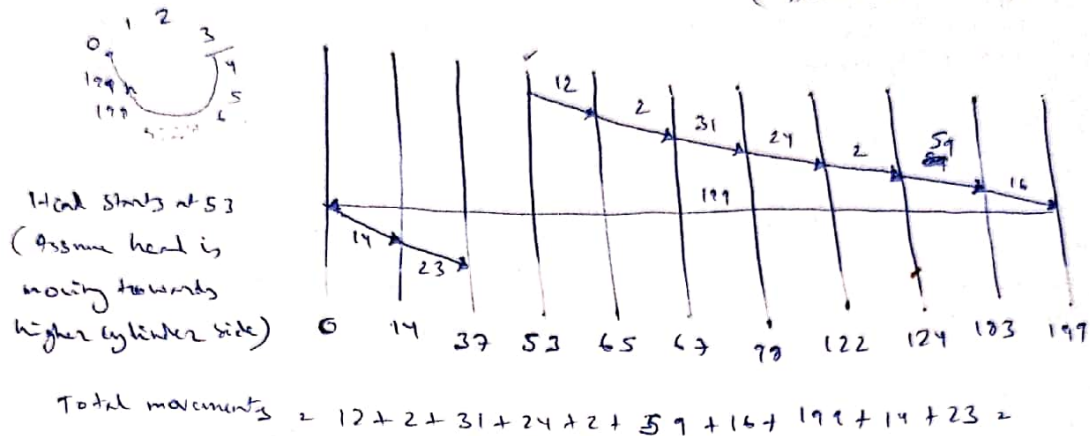


$$24 + 5 + 29 + 70 + 181 + 1 + 27 + 9 = 346$$

## 29 - C-SCAN Scheduling

- ⇒ Like SCAN, C-SCAN moves the head from one end of the disk to the other, servicing requests along the way.
- ⇒ When the head reaches the other end, however it immediately returns to the beginning of the disk without servicing any requests on the return trip.

(Difference between SCAN)



## \* OC - Threads And System Calls

### 01 - System Calls vs Function Calls

- System Call ⇒ Functions of OS is called by a user process to service its work, is called system call.  
Ex - Write, Read, Open, Close etc, or using system library function.
- At the time of system call, user mode is changed to super mode (kernel mode).
- Context Switch is done at the time of system call.
- Parameter must be passed along with system calls by -  
i) Registers, ii) Storing it in a block of memory, iii) Stack (like function calls)  
↓  
Problem → cannot handle too many parameters
- The main difference between system call & function call is -  
If a function ~~of OS~~ is being provided as a part of the process itself then there is no need of context switching, where in the case of system call context switching is ~~there~~ there as ~~no~~ user ~~mode~~ mode is changed to super mode.

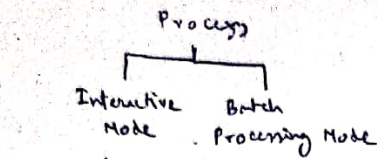
### 02 - Process Control System Calls

- Exit, abort
- Load, execute
- Create process, terminate process
- Get process attributes, set process attributes
- Wait for time
- Wait event, signal event
- Allocate, free memory



### 03 - File Related System Calls

- create file, delete file
- Open, close
- Read, write, reposition
- get file attributes, set file attributes



(In C, repositioning → seek)

At the time of execution of a process, nothing else can be executed, it will be running in the foreground. I/O can be done by using keyboard or mouse etc directly.

A large number of processes will be executed in the background. I/O can be only done by using files. Process → user files → OS so system calls are needed to use these files.



### 04 - Device Manipulation Related System Calls

Device Manipulation:-

- request device, release device
- Read, write, reposition
- get device attributes, set ~~attribute~~ device attributes
- logically attach or detach devices. (Enable device drivers / disable device drivers)



### 05 - Information Related System Calls

Information Maintenance:-

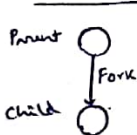
- Get time or date, Set time or date
- Get system data, Set system data
- Get process, file or device data
- Set process, file or device data

### 06 - Communications Related System Calls

- create, delete communication connection
- send, receive messages
- Transfer status information
- Attach or detach remote devices

### 07 - Fork System Call

Fork/Execve:-



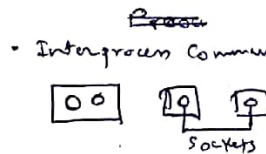
Problems can be handled by fork that can satisfy many requests at the same time.

Instruction → System call (fork) → OS

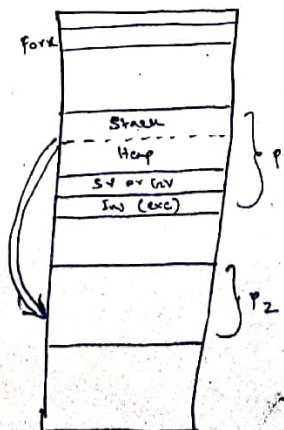
Both process ~~main~~ ~~mainly~~ executes simultaneously. OS allocates new space for new child (replication of parent process).

- Context Switch is done because of user mode to system mode. So, this is why we need threads.

Calling fork → `int i = fork();`  
 if (i == 0) { child }  
 if (i != 0) { parent }



DOS + System calls  
 ↓  
 Windows NT  
 (New Technology)





- fork returns 0 for the child process & non-zero for parent process.

0 → child  
pid of child → ~~parent~~ parent

Shell → command → fork is called  
ls -l  
cat  
etc

child → first  
parent → ~~first~~ exit last

child process  
with  
execute ls -l, cat etc

- The ~~program~~ <sup>code</sup> generally written in such a way that the body of the child will be replaced by some other ~~code~~ program & start executing that.

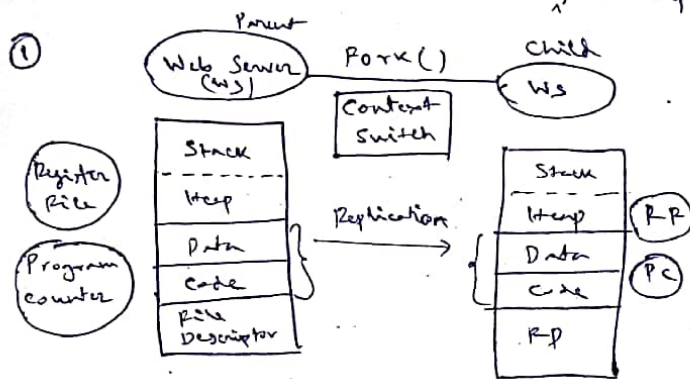
• execve();

- Parallel execution of same thing using fork/execve is not useful because of context-switch due to change of mode (user to system).

## Q8 - Process VS Threads

- Parallelism in case of processes is achieved by multiprogramming, where each process can ~~execute~~ <sup>perform</sup> different tasks but the problem is it is very expensive as context switch rate is high due to switching between processes.

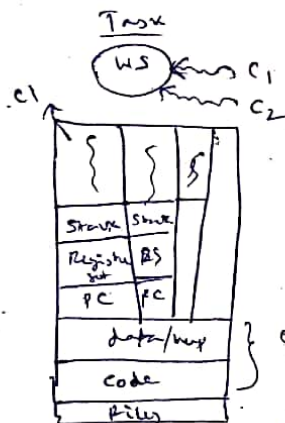
- In case of same ~~task~~ <sup>by different processes</sup>, multiprogramming is not a good approach



Using process

- CPU & memory wise is expensive & i

## ② ~~Thread~~ Thread :- (user level threads)



- A thread is a sequence of execution. It is also called lightweight process.

- fork() is ~~not~~ a system ~~call~~ <sup>call</sup>, serviced by OS. So multiprogramming is expensive.
- Thread is lightweight & share some piece of memory & child thread is created by user not OS. So it is cheap & space needed is also very less compared to fork.
- Switching from one thread to another need not to call OS, so it is inexpensive.

Thread State :-

New, Ready, Running, Blocked, Terminated

| Process (fork)   | Threads (user level)  |
|--|---|
| → System calls are involved.   | → No system call.   |
| → Context Switching is required.   | → Register set Switch (including PC).                             |
| → Different copies of code & data.                                       | → Same copy of code & data.                                       |
| → One process cannot change the content of the stack of another process. | → One thread can change the content of the stack of other thread. |

→ not a disadvantage as designed to do same work

- collection of all threads is handed like a single process to OS, so due to system call if the resource is not available, OS will block all threads ~~into~~ instead of only that one.

↓  
Disadvantage of Thread

↓  
Solved by user level thread but for this again OS must be call each time a thread is created (user level).

- All the thread also gets same time as a single process <sup>there are</sup> ~~it is~~ user level threads.

## Q9 - User level VS kernel level Threads

### Disadv of user level threads

- ⇒ Blocking System call will block the whole task.
- ⇒ unfair Scheduling.

Solution

Let the kernel know that there are threads.

~~Solution~~  
Solution

Let the kernel know that only one thread is getting blocked & other threads can be scheduled.

### Kernel level threads

A thread wants  
process another thread → System call → Kernel → New thread created.

∴ kernel can know total no. of thread created & can keep track of those.

Disadv: ⇒ Expensive compared to user level thread. (Less expensive than creation of a process)

⇒ Switching a thread requires ~~context~~ <sup>switching</sup> system call. (Only registers <sup>have to be</sup> changed)

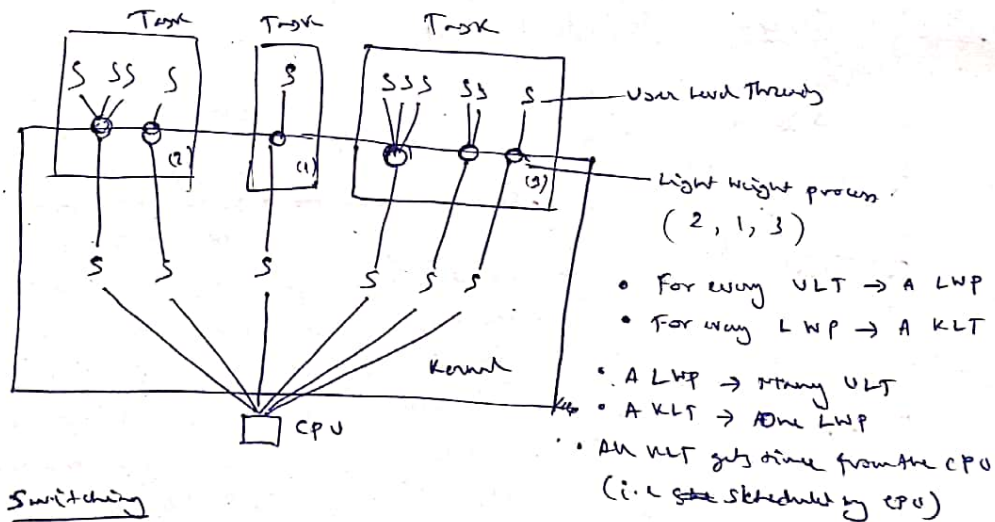
⇒  $P > KLT > ULT$

- user & kernel level threads are combined & called hybrid level threads.

(Better than multiprogramming of processes)

## 10 - Hybrid Threads

### Solution 2: (version of Unix)



### Switching

- One ULT to another ULT → No system call → Faster
- One LWP to another LWP → Some context switching & system call → Slower
- One KLT to another KLT → Context switching & system call

∴ So if one thread got blocked, our entire task will not get blocked.