

Operating System Concepts

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Contents

- 1. Introduction
- 2. System Structures
- 3. Process Concept
- 4. Multithreaded Programming
- 5. Process Scheduling
- 6. Synchronization
- 7. Deadlocks
- 8. Memory-Management Strategies



- 9. Virtual-Memory Management
- 10. File System
- 11. Implementing File Systems
- 12. Secondary-Storage Systems





Chapter 9. Virtual-Memory Management

Objectives

- ▶ To describe the benefits of a virtual memory system
- To explain the concepts of demand paging, pagereplacement algorithms, and allocation of page frames
- ▶ To discuss the principle of the working-set model

Background

Virtual Memory

 A technique that allows the execution of a process that may not be completely in memory

Motivation

- An entire program in execution may not all be needed at the same time
 - Error handling routines
 - A large array



Virtual Memory

- Potential Benefits
 - Programs can be much larger than the amount of physical memory
 - Users can concentrate on their problem programming
 - The level of multiprogramming increases because processes occupy less physical memory
 - Each user program may run faster because less I/O is needed for loading or swapping user programs
- Implementation: demand paging

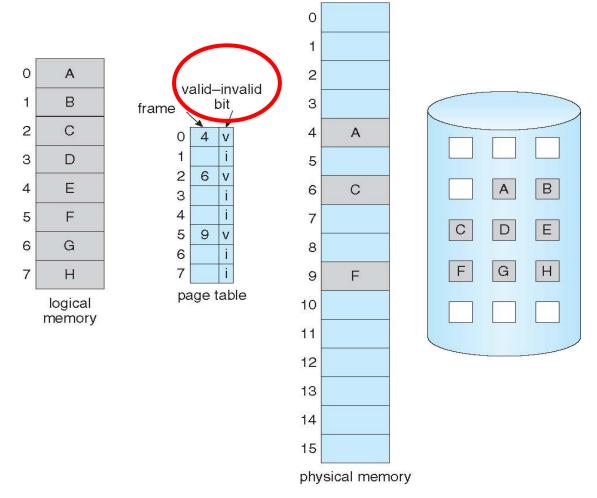
Demand Paging-Lazy Swapper

- Process image may reside on the backing store
 - Rather than swap in the entire process image into memory Lazy Swapper only swaps in a page when it is needed
- A mechanism is required to recover from the missing of non-resident referenced pages
 - A Page Fault occurs when a process references a non-memoryresident page

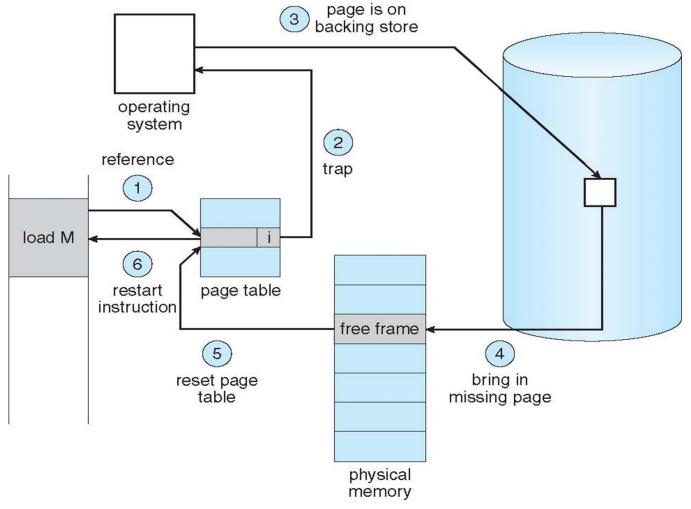
Hardware Support for Demand Paging

- New bits in the page table
 - To indicate that a page is now in memory or not
- Secondary storage management
 - Swap space in the backing store
 - A continuous section of space in the secondary storage for better performance

Valid-Invalid Bits



Steps in Handling a Page Fault



Copy-on-Write

- **Copy-on-Write** (COW) allows both parent and child processes to initially *share* the same pages in memory
 - If either process modifies a shared page, then the page is copied
- COW allows more efficient process creation as only modified pages are copied
- In general, free pages are allocated from a pool of zero-fill-on-demand pages

Performance of Demand Paging

- ▶ Page Fault Rate $0 \le p \le 1$
 - if p = 0 no page faults
 - if p = 1, every reference is a fault
- ▶ Effective Access Time (EAT)

```
EAT = (1 - p) x memory-access time
```

- + p (page fault overhead
 - + swap page out
 - + swap page in
 - + restart overhead)



An Example of Demand Paging

- ▶ Memory access time = 200 nanoseconds
- ▶ Average page-fault service time = 8 milliseconds
- EAT = (1 p) x 200 + p x 8,000,000 = 200 + p x 7,999,800
- If one access out of 1,000 causes a page fault, then EAT = 8.2 microseconds!
- ▶ If we want performance degradation < 10 percent
 - 220 > 200 + 7,999,800 x p
 - p < 0.0000025



Performance Improvement of Demand Paging

- Preload processes into the swap space before they start up
- Preload pages into the main memory before the pages are used
- Design a good page replacement algorithm

Algorithms for Demand Paging

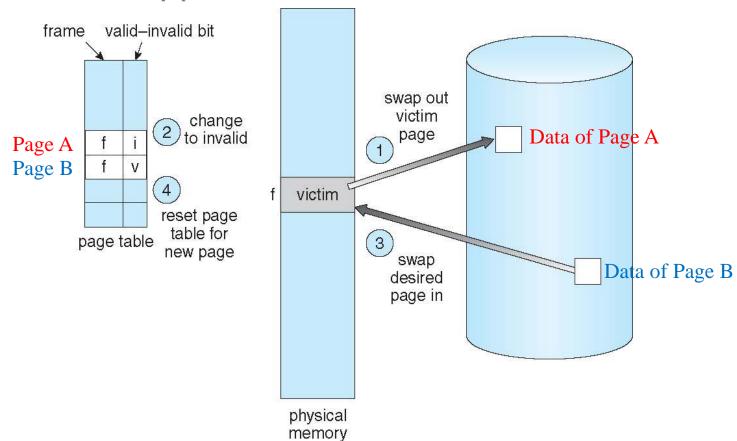
- Frame Allocation Algorithms
 - How many frames are allocated to a process?
- Page Replacement Algorithms
 - When page replacement is required, select the frame that is to be replaced!
- Goal: A low page fault rate!

Page Replacement

- Demand paging increases the multiprogramming level of a system by "potentially" over-allocating memory
 - Total physical memory = 40 frames
 - Run six processes of size equal to 10 frames
 - Each process currently uses only 5 frames
 - → 10 spare frames
- Most of the time, the average memory usage is close to the physical memory size if we increase a system's multiprogramming level

Victim Pages

What happens if there is no free frame?

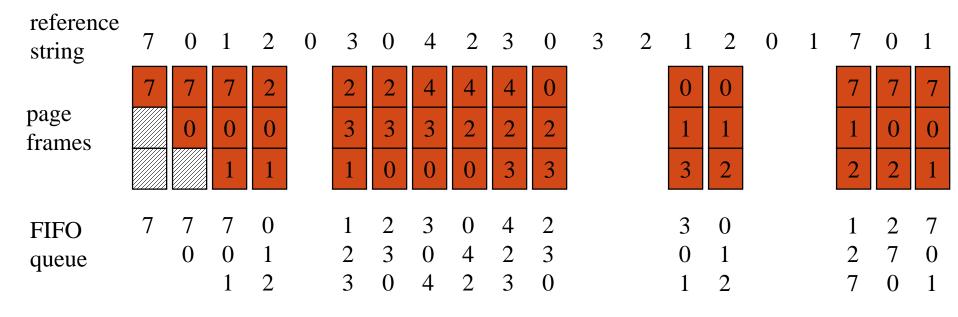


A Page-Fault Service

- Find the desired page on the disk
- Find a free frame
 - Select a victim and write the victim page out when there is no free frame
- Read the desired page into the selected frame
- Update the page and frame tables, and restart the user process

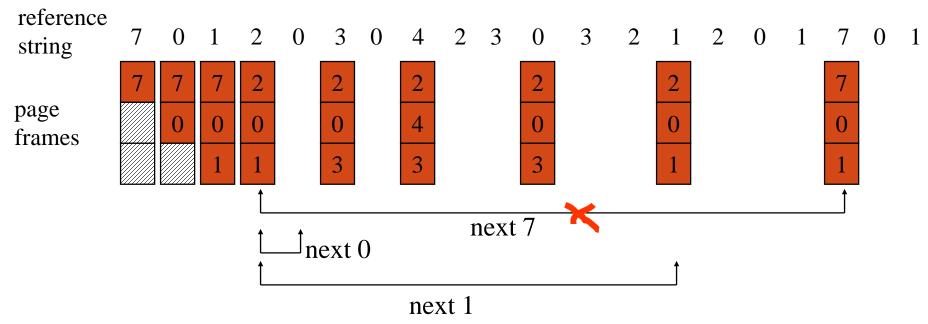
Page Replacement — FIFO Algorithm

- First In First Out (FIFO) Implementation
 - 1. Each page is given a time stamp when it is brought into memory
 - 2. Select the oldest page for replacement



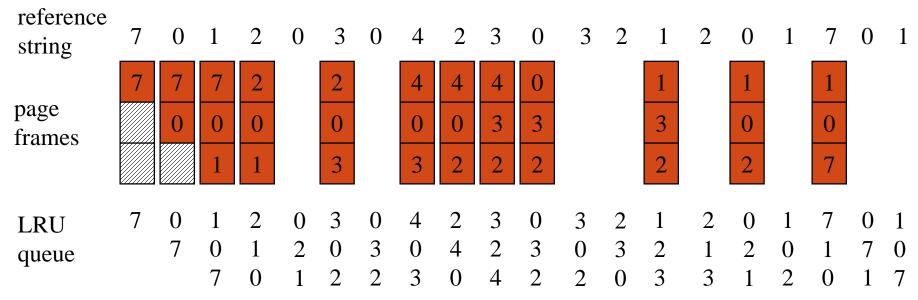
Page Replacement — Optimal Algorithm

- Optimality
 - One with the lowest page fault rate
- Replace the page that will not be used for the longest period of time → It needs future prediction



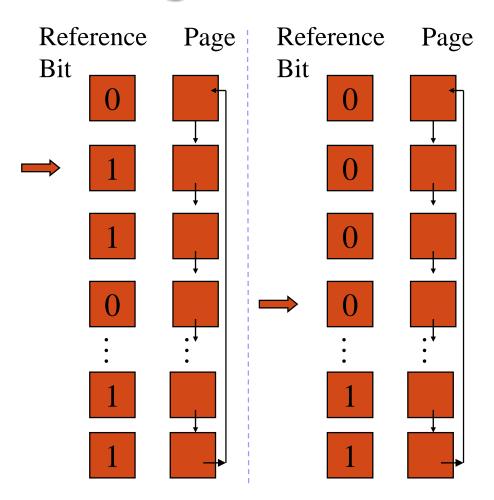
Page Replacement — Least-Recently-Used Algorithm

- ▶ Least-Recently-Used Algorithm (LRU)
 - We don't have knowledge about the future
 - Thus, we use the history of page referencing in the past to predict the future
 - → However, it is too expensive to update the time stamp for each memory access!



Page Replacement — LRU Approximation Algorithms

- Second-Chance Algorithm
 - When a page is selected
 - Take it as a victim if its reference bit = 0
 - Otherwise, clear the bit and advance to the next page
- Basic Data Structure
 - Use a reference bit for each page in memory
 - Define a circular FIFO queue of pages



Enhanced Second-Chance Algorithm

Considering the reference bit and the modify bit as an ordered pair

Low Priority

High

Priority

- (0, 0) neither recently used nor modified best page to replace
- (0, 1) not recently used but modified the page will need to be written out before replacement
- (1, 0) recently used but clean probably will be used again soon
- (1, 1) recently used and modified probably will be used again soon, and the page will need to be written out to disk before it can be replaced
- We replace the first page encountered in the lowest nonempty class

Counting-Based Algorithms

Motivation:

- Count the number of references made to each page, instead of their referencing times
- ▶ Least Frequently Used Algorithm (LFU)
 - LFU pages are less actively used pages
 - Hazard: Some heavily used pages may no longer be used
 - A Solution Aging
 - Pages with the smallest number of references are probably just brought in and has yet to be used
- Most Frequently Used Algorithm (MFU)
- ▶ LFU & MFU replacement schemes can be fairly expensive
- ▶ They do not approximate OPT very well

Page Buffering

- ▶ Basic Idea: to reduce the latency for writing victims out
 - Systems keep a pool of free frames
 - Desired pages are first "swapped in" some frames in the pool
 - When the selected page (victim) is later written out, its frame is returned to the pool
- Basic Approach
 - Maintain a list of modified pages
 - Whenever the paging device is idle, a modified page is written out and reset its "modify bit"
 - The clean pages can be included in the pool

Allocation of Frames (1/2)

- ▶ Each process needs minimum number of frames
- ► Example: IBM 370 6 pages to handle SS MOVE instruction:
 - instruction is 6 bytes, might span 2 pages
 - 2 pages to handle *from*
 - 2 pages to handle to
- Maximum of course is total frames in the system
- Fixed allocation
 - Use a formula to derive the number of required frames for each application
- Dynamic allocation
 - Measure some behavior, e.g. page fault rated, to know the needs of applications



Allocation of Frames (2/2)

Global Allocation

- Processes can take frames from others
- For example, high-priority processes can increase its frame allocation at the expense of the low-priority processes

Local Allocation

- Processes can only select frames from their own allocated frames
- The set of pages in memory for a process is affected by the paging behavior of only that process

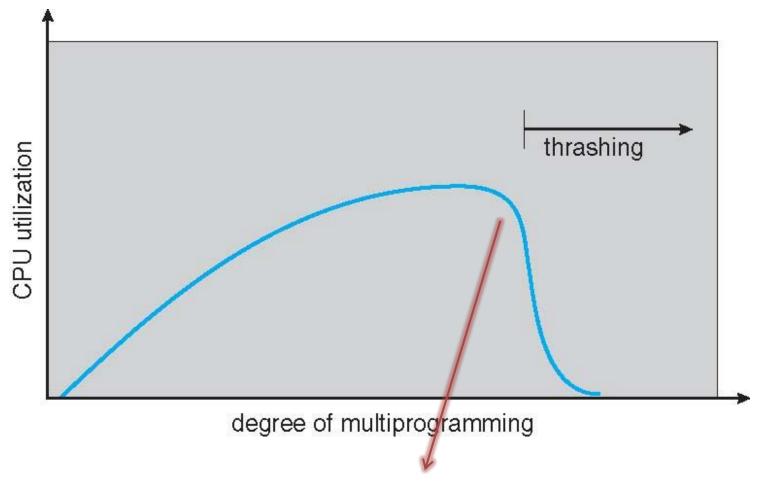
Non-Uniform Memory Access

- ▶ Many systems are NUMA speed of access to memory varies
 - Consider system boards containing CPUs and memory, interconnected over a system bus
- Optimal performance comes from allocating memory "close to" the CPU on which the thread is scheduled
 - Modifying the scheduler to schedule the thread on the same CPU when possible

Thrashing (1/2)

- If a process does not have "enough" memory frames, the page-fault rate is very high
 - Page fault to get pages into memory frames
 - Replace existing pages in frames
 - But soon need to get the replaced pages back
 - This leads to:
 - Low CPU utilization
 - Operating system is then thinking that it needs to increase the degree of multiprogramming
 - Another processes are added to the system
 - More page faults
- ► Thrashing → Process is busy swapping pages in and out

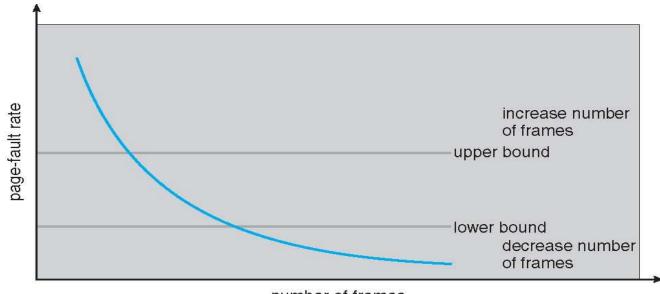
Thrashing (2/2)



Be careful of the page fault rate

Page-Fault Frequency

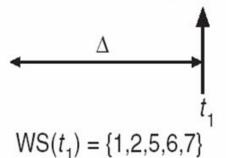
- Establish "acceptable" page-fault frequency rate and use local replacement policy
 - Control thrashing directly through the observation on the page-fault rate
 - If actual rate too low, process loses frame
 - If actual rate too high, process gains frame

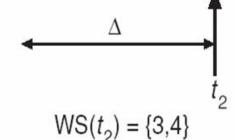


Working-Set Model (1/2)

page reference table

... 261577775162341234443434441323444344...



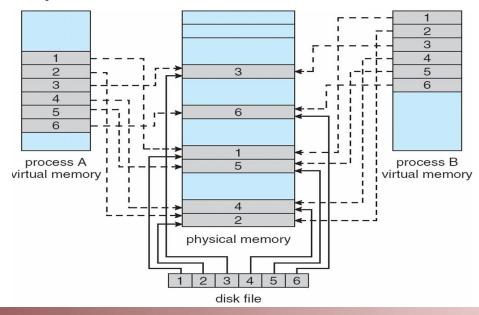


Working-Set Model (2/2)

- $\triangle \equiv$ a working-set window \equiv a fixed number of page references
 - Example: 10,000 instructions
- ▶ WSS_i (working set of Process P_i) = total number of pages referenced in the most recent \triangle
 - if \triangle is too small: will not encompass entire locality
 - if \triangle is too large: will encompass several localities
 - if $\triangle = \infty$: will encompass entire program
- $D = \Sigma WSS_i \equiv \text{total demand frames}$
 - Approximation of locality
- if $D > the number of frames \rightarrow$ Thrashing

Memory-Mapped Files

- Memory-mapped file I/O allows file I/O to be treated as routine memory access by mapping a disk block to a page in memory
 - But when does written data make it to disk?
 - Periodically and/or at file close() time

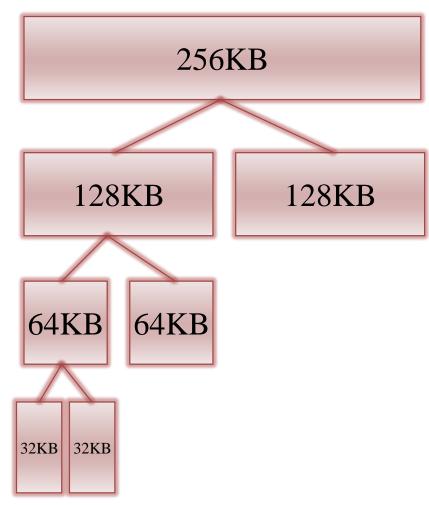


Memory-Mapped I/O

- Processor can have direct access
- Memory-Mapped I/O
 - (1) Frequently used devices
 - (2) Devices must be fast, such as video controller, or special I/O instructions are used to move data between memory & device controller registers
- Programmed I/O polling
 - or interrupt-driven handling

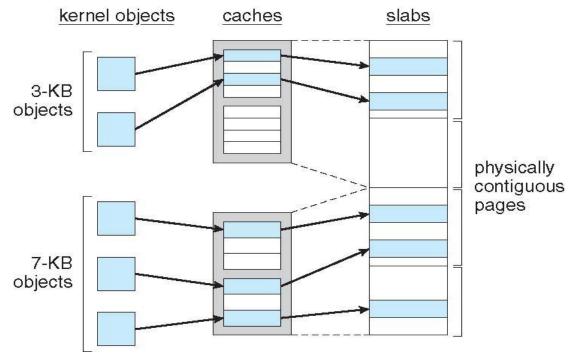
Kernel Memory Allocation (1/2)

- ▶ The Buddy System
 - A fixed-size segment of physically contiguous pages
 - A power-of-2 allocator
 - Advantage: quick coalescing algorithms
 - Disadvantage: internal fragmentation



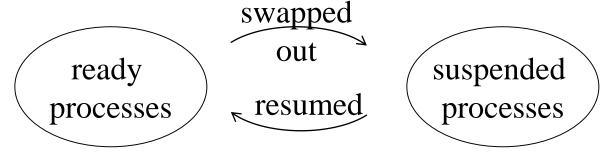
Kernel Memory Allocation (2/2)

- Slab Allocation
 - Slab: one or more physically contiguous pages
 - Cache: one or more slabs with the same size



Other Considerations: Pre-Paging

- Pre-Paging
 - Bring into memory at one time all the pages that will be needed!



Do pre-paging if the working set is known!

Issue

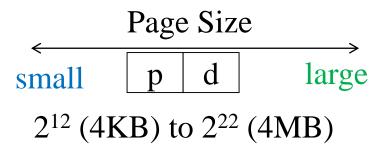
Pre-Paging Cost ← Cost of Page Fault Services

Not every page in the working set will be used!

Other Considerations: Page Size

Page Size

Better
Resolution
for Locality &
Internal
Fragmentation



Smaller Page Table Size & Better I/O Efficiency

- Trends: Large Page Size
 - The CPU speed and the memory capacity grow much faster than the disk speed!

Other Considerations: TLB Reach

- TLB Reach The amount of memory accessible from the TLB
- ► TLB Reach = (TLB Size) X (Page Size)
- Ideally, the working set of each process is stored in the TLB
 - Otherwise there is a high degree of page faults
- Increase the Page Size
 - This may lead to an increase in fragmentation as not all applications require a large page size

Other Considerations: Program Structures

- Program Structures:
 - int data [1024][1024];
 - Each row is stored in one page
 - Program 1

for
$$(j = 0; j < 1024; j++)$$

for $(i = 0; i < 1024; i++)$
data[i][j] = 0;

1024 x 1024 page faults

Program 2

for (i = 0; i <
$$1024$$
; i++)
for (j = 0; j < 1024 ; j++)
data[i][j] = 0;

1024 page faults

Other Considerations: I/O Interlock

- ► I/O Interlock Pages must sometimes be locked into memory
- Consider I/O Pages that are used for copying a file from a device must be locked from being selected for eviction by a page replacement algorithm



File Concepts

File Attributes

- ▶ Name only information kept in human-readable form
- ▶ **Identifier** unique tag (number) identifies file within file system
- ▶ **Type** needed for systems that support different types
- ▶ **Location** pointer to file location on device
- ▶ **Size** current file size
- ▶ **Protection** controls who can do reading, writing, executing
- ▶ Time, date, and user identification data for protection, security, and usage monitoring
- Information about files are kept in the directory structure, which is maintained on the disk
- Many variations, including extended file attributes such as file checksum

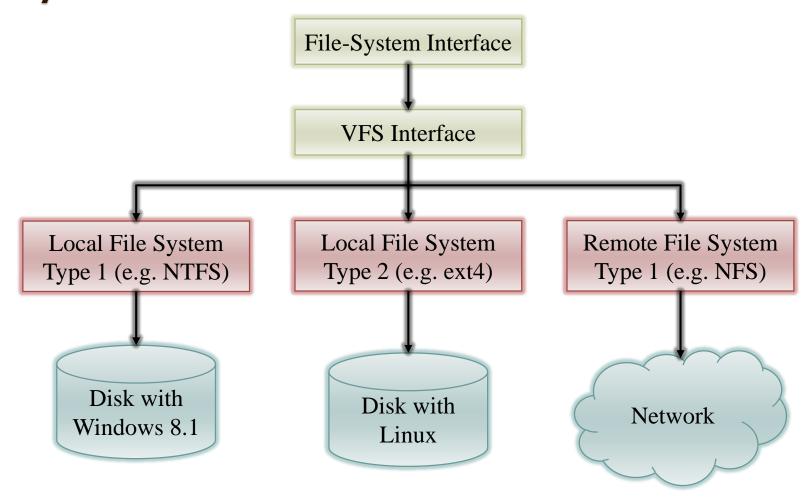
File Operations

- File is an abstract data type
- Create
- ▶ Write at write pointer location
- ▶ Read at read pointer location
- **▶** Reposition within file seek
- Delete
- Truncate
- $Open(F_i)$ search the directory structure on disk for entry F_i , and move the content of entry to memory
- Close (F_i) move the content of entry F_i in memory to directory structure on disk

File Systems

- Microsoft Windows File Systems
 - FAT
 - NTFS
 - exFAT
- Linux File Systems
 - ext2
 - ext3
 - ext4
 - JFFS → for Flash devices
- Network File Systems
 - NFS
 - Samba

Schematic View of Virtual File System



Virtual File System

- Virtual File Systems (VFS) on provide an object-oriented way of implementing file systems
- VFS allows the same system call interface (the API) to be used for different types of file systems
 - Separates file-system generic operations from implementation details
 - Implementation can be one of many file systems types, or network file system
 - Then dispatches operation to appropriate file system implementation routines
- The API is to the VFS interface, rather than any specific type of file system

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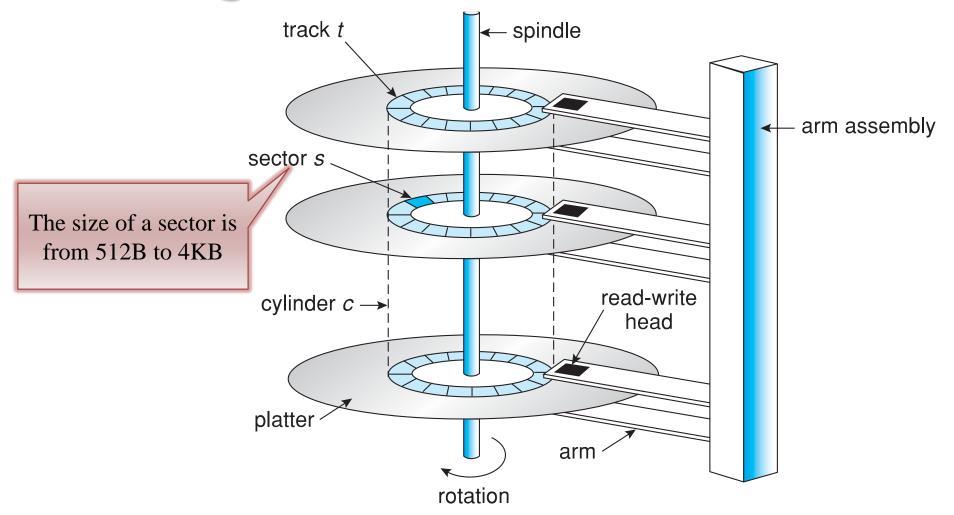


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Mass-Storage Structure

Moving-Head Disk Mechanism



Disk Scheduling

- ▶ The disk I/O request specifies several pieces of information:
 - Whether this operation is input or output
 - What the disk address for the transfer is
 - What the memory address for the transfer is
 - What the number of sectors to be transferred is
- When there are multiple request pending, a good disk scheduling algorithm is required
 - Fairness: which request is the most urgent one
 - Performance: sequential access is preferred

Cylinders	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Requests	5	7	2	6	4	1	3

Resort the requests?

Magnetic Disk Performance

- ▶ Access Latency = Average access time = average seek time + average rotation 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



System Protection and Security

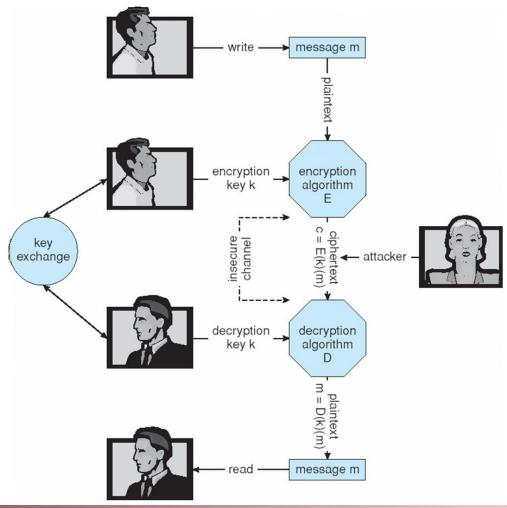
Principles of Protection

- Principle of Least Privilege
 - Programs, users and systems should be given just enough privileges to perform their tasks
 - Limits damage if entity has a bug or gets abused
- Principle of Need-to-Know
 - At any time, a process should be able to access only those resources that it currently requires to complete its task

Security Violation Categories

- Breach of confidentiality
 - Unauthorized reading of data
- Breach of integrity
 - Unauthorized modification of data
- Breach of availability
 - Unauthorized destruction of data
- ▶ Theft of service
 - Unauthorized use of resources
- Denial of service (DOS)
 - Prevention of legitimate use

Secure Communication over Insecure Medium



Scenario of Asymmetric Encryption







