


**TCCS 422: OPERATING SYSTEMS**

**Beyond Physical Memory,  
I/O Devices**

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**FEEDBACK FROM 11/28**

- Assignment #3
- A good starting point is to first iterate the set of processes in Linux, and print out the proc ID and name.
- This link, Chapter #3, "The Process Family Tree", should be helpful:
- <https://notes.shichao.io/lkd/ch3/>

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**FEEDBACK - 2**

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**OBJECTIVES**

- Quiz 5
- Program 3
- Practice Final – 12/5
- **Paging**
- Chapter 21/22 – Beyond Physical Memory
- Chapter 36 – I/O Devices
- Chapter 37 – Hard Disk Drives

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**CHAPTER 21/22:  
BEYOND PHYSICAL  
MEMORY**



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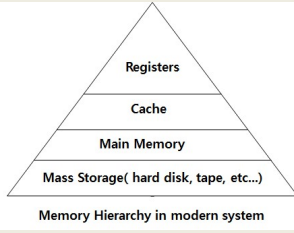
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**MEMORY HIERARCHY**

- Disks (HDD, SSD) provide another level of storage in the memory hierarchy



Registers

Cache

Main Memory

Mass Storage( hard disk, tape, etc...)

Memory Hierarchy in modern system

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### MOTIVATION FOR EXPANDING THE ADDRESS SPACE

- Can provide illusion of an address space larger than physical RAM
- For a single process
  - Convenience
  - Ease of use
- For multiple processes
  - Large virtual memory space for many concurrent processes

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### LATENCY TIMES

- Design considerations
  - SSDs 4x the time of DRAM
  - HDDs 80x the time of DRAM

Action	Latency (ns)	(µs)	
L1 cache reference	0.5ns		
L2 cache reference	7 ns		14x L1 cache
Mutex lock/unlock	25 ns		
Main memory reference	100 ns		20x L2 cache, 200x L1
Read 4K randomly from SSD*	150,000 ns	150 µs	
Read 1 MB sequentially from memory	250,000 ns	250 µs	~1GB/sec SSD
Read 1 MB sequentially from SSD*	1,000,000 ns	1,000 µs	1 ms ~1GB/sec SSD, 4X memory
Read 1 MB sequentially from disk	20,000,000 ns	20,000 µs	20 ms 80x memory, 20X SSD

\* Latency numbers every programmer should know  
 \* From: <https://gist.github.com/jboner/2841832#file-latency-txt>

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### SWAP SPACE

- Disk space for storing memory pages
- “Swap” them in and out of memory to disk as needed

Physical Memory and Swap Space

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### PAGE LOCATION

- Page table pages are:
  - Stored in memory
  - Swapped to disk
- Present bit
  - In the page table entry (PTE) indicates if page is present
- Page fault
  - Memory page is accessed, but has been swapped to disk

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### PAGE FAULT

- OS steps in to handle the page fault
- Loading page from disk requires a free memory page
- Page-Fault Algorithm

```
1:   PFN = FindFreePhysicalPage ()
2:   if (PFN == -1)                // no free page found
3:       PFN = EvictPage ()        // run replacement algorithm
4:   DiskRead (PTE.DiskAddr, pfn)  // sleep (waiting for I/O)
5:   PTE.present = True           // set PTE bit to present
6:   PTE.PFN = PFN               // reference new loaded page
7:   RetryInstruction ()          // retry instruction
```

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### PAGE REPLACEMENTS

- Page daemon
  - Background threads which monitors swapped pages
- Low watermark (LW)
  - Threshold for when to swap pages to disk
  - Daemon checks: free pages < LW
  - Begin swapping to disk until reaching the highwater mark
- High watermark (HW)
  - Target threshold of free memory pages
  - Daemon free until: free pages >= HW

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# REPLACEMENT POLICIES



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## CACHE MANAGEMENT

- Replacement policies apply to “any” cache
- Goal is to minimize the number of misses
- Average memory access time can be estimated:

$$AMAT = (P_{Hit} * T_M) + (P_{Miss} * T_D)$$

Argument	Meaning
$T_M$	The cost of accessing memory (time)
$T_D$	The cost of accessing disk (time)
$P_{Hit}$	The probability of finding the data item in the cache(a hit)
$P_{Miss}$	The probability of not finding the data in the cache(a miss)

- Consider  $T_M = 100 \text{ ns}$ ,  $T_D = 10 \text{ms}$
- Consider  $P_{hit} = .9$  (90%),  $P_{miss} = .1$
- Consider  $P_{hit} = .999$  (99.9%),  $P_{miss} = .001$

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## OPTIMAL REPLACEMENT POLICY

- What if:
  - We could predict the future (... with a magical oracle)
  - All future page accesses are known
  - Always replace the page in the cache used farthest in the future
- Used for a comparison
- Provides a “best case” replacement policy
- Consider a 3-element empty cache with the following page accesses:

0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

What is the hit/miss ratio?

6 hits

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## FIFO REPLACEMENT

- Queue based
- Always replace the oldest element at the back of cache
- Simple to implement
- Doesn't consider importance... just arrival ordering
- Consider a 3-element empty cache with the following page accesses:

0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

- What is the hit/miss ratio? **4 hits**
- How is FIFO different than LRU? **LRU Incorporates history**

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## RANDOM REPLACEMENT

- Pick a page at random to replace
- Simple and fast implementation
- Performance depends on luck of random choices

0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

Random Performance over 10,000 Trials

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## HISTORY-BASED POLICIES

- LRU: Least recently used
- Always replace page with oldest access time (front)
- Always move end of cache when element is read again
- Considers temporal locality (*when pg was last accessed*)

0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

- What is the hit/miss ratio? **6 hits**

- LFU: Least frequently used
- Always replace page with fewest accesses (front)
- Consider frequency of page accesses

0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

- Hit/miss ratio is **6 hits**

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### WORKLOAD EXAMPLES: NO-LOCALITY

- No-Locality (Random Access) Workload
  - Perform 10,000 random page accesses
  - Across set of 100 memory pages

When the cache is large enough to fit the entire workload, it doesn't matter which policy you use.

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### WORKLOAD EXAMPLES: 80/20

- 80/20 Workload
  - Perform 10,000 page accesses, against set of 100 pages
  - 80% of accesses are to 20% of pages (hot pages)
  - 20% of accesses are to 80% of pages (cold pages)

LRU is more likely to hold onto hot pages  
(recalls history)

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### WORKLOAD EXAMPLES: SEQUENTIAL

- Looping sequential workload
  - Refer to 50 pages in sequence: 0, 1, ..., 49
  - Repeat loop

Random performs better than FIFO and LRU for cache sizes < 50

Algorithms should provide "scan resistance"

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### IMPLEMENTING LRU

- Implementing last recently used (LRU) requires tracking access time for all system memory pages
- Times can be tracked with a list
- For cache eviction, we must scan an entire list
- Consider: 4GB memory system ( $2^{32}$ ), with 4KB pages ( $2^{12}$ )
  
- This requires  $2^{20}$  comparisons !!!
  
- Simplification is needed
  - Consider how to approximate the oldest page access

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### IMPLEMENTING LRU - 2

- Harness the Page Table Entry (PTE) Use Bit
- HW sets to 1 when page is used
- OS sets to 0
  
- Clock algorithm (*approximate LRU*)
  - Refer to pages in a circular list
  - Clock hand points to current page
  - Loops around
    - IF USE\_BIT=1 set to USE\_BIT = 0
    - IF USE\_BIT=0 replace page



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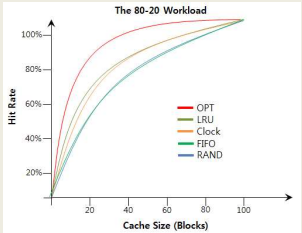
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### CLOCK ALGORITHM

- Not as efficient as LRU, but better than other replacement algorithms that do not consider history



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### CLOCK ALGORITHM - 2

- Consider dirty pages in cache
- If DIRTY (modified) bit is FALSE
  - No cost to evict page from cache
- If DIRTY (modified) bit is TRUE
  - Cache eviction requires updating memory
  - Contents have changed
- Clock algorithm should favor no cost eviction

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### WHEN TO LOAD PAGES

- On demand → demand paging
- Prefetching
  - Preload pages based on anticipated demand
  - Prediction based on locality
  - Access page P, suggest page P+1 may be used
- What other techniques might help anticipate required memory pages?
  - Prediction models, historical analysis
  - In general: accuracy vs. effort tradeoff
  - High analysis techniques struggle to respond in real time

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### OTHER SWAPPING POLICIES

- Page swaps / writes
  - Group/cluster pages together
  - Collect pending writes, perform as batch
  - Grouping disk writes helps amortize latency costs
- Thrashing
  - Occurs when system runs many memory intensive processes and is low in memory
  - Everything is constantly swapped to-and-from disk

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**OTHER SWAPPING POLICIES - 2**

- Working sets
  - Groups of related processes
  - When thrashing: prevent one or more working set(s) from running
  - Temporarily reduces memory burden
  - Allows some processes to run, reduces thrashing

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**CHAPTER 36:  
I/O DEVICES**



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**OBJECTIVES**

- Chapter 36
  - Polling vs Interrupts
  - Programmed I/O (PIO)
    - Port-mapped I/O (PMIO)
    - Memory-mapped I/O (MMIO)
  - Direct memory Access (DMA)

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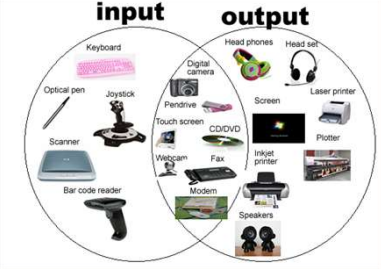
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## I/O DEVICES

■ Modern computer systems interact with a variety of devices



The diagram shows two overlapping circles. The left circle is labeled 'input' and contains: Keyboard, Optical pen, Joystick, Scanner, Bar code reader, Pen drive, Touch screen, Webcam, and Modem. The right circle is labeled 'output' and contains: Head phones, Head set, Screen, Laser printer, Plotter, Inkjet printer, and Speakers. The intersection of the two circles contains: CD/DVD, Fax, and Modem.

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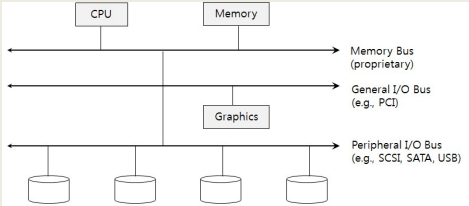
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## COMPUTER SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE



The diagram shows a CPU and Memory connected to a central bus. From this bus, three lines branch out to: Memory Bus (proprietary), General I/O Bus (e.g., PCI), and Peripheral I/O Bus (e.g., SCSI, SATA, USB). The Peripheral I/O Bus is connected to four disk drives. A box labeled 'Graphics' is also connected to the bus.

**Prototypical System Architecture**

**VERY FAST:** CPU is attached to main memory via a Memory bus.  
**FAST:** High speed devices (e.g. video) are connected via a General I/O bus.  
**SLOWER:** Disks are connected via a Peripheral I/O bus.

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## I/O BUSES

- Buses
  - Buses closer to the CPU are faster
  - Can support fewer devices
  - Further buses are slower, but support more devices
- Physics and costs dictate "levels"
  - Memory bus
  - General I/O bus
  - Peripheral I/O bus
- Tradeoff space: speed vs. locality

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## CANONICAL DEVICE

- Consider an arbitrary canonical **“standard/generic”** device

Registers:	Status	Command	Data	interface
Micro-controller(CPU) Memory (DRAM or SRAM or both) Other Hardware-specific Chips				internals

**Canonical Device**

- Two primary components
  - Interface (registers for communication)
  - Internals: Local CPU, memory, specific chips, firmware (embedded software)

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## CANONICAL DEVICE: HARDWARE INTERFACE

- Status register
  - Maintains current device status
- Command register
  - Where commands for interaction are sent
- Data register
  - Used to send and receive data to the device

General concept:  
The OS interacts and controls device behavior by reading and writing the device registers.

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## OS DEVICE INTERACTION

- Common example of device interaction

```

while ( STATUS == BUSY) ← Poll-Is device available?
; //wait until device is not busy
write data to data register ← Command parameterization
write command to command register ← Send command
Doing so starts the device and executes the command
while ( STATUS == BUSY) ← Poll - Is device done?
; //wait until device is done with your request
                    
```

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## POLLING

- OS checks if device is *READY* by repeatedly checking the STATUS register
  - Simple approach
  - CPU cycles are wasted without doing meaningful work
  - Ok if only a few cycles, for rapid devices that are often *READY*
  - BUT polling, as with "spin locks" we understand is inefficient

CPU utilization by polling

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## INTERRUPTS VS POLLING

- For longer waits, put process waiting on I/O to sleep
- Context switch (C/S) to another process
- When I/O completes, fire an interrupt to initiate C/S back
  - Advantage: better multi-tasking and CPU utilization
  - Avoids: unproductive CPU cycles (polling)

Diagram of CPU utilization by interrupt

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## INTERRUPTS VS POLLING - 2

### What is the tradeoff space ?

- Interrupts are not always the best solution
  - How long does the device I/O require?
  - What is the cost of context switching?

If device I/O is fast → polling is better.  
 If device I/O is slow → interrupts are better.

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### INTERRUPTS VS POLLING - 3

- One solution is a two-phase hybrid approach
  - Initially poll, then sleep and use interrupts
- Livelock problem
  - Common with network I/O
  - Many arriving packets generate **many many** interrupts
  - Overloads the CPU!
  - No time to execute code, just interrupt handlers !
- Livelock optimization
  - Coalesce multiple arriving packets (for different processes) into fewer interrupts
  - Must consider number of interrupts a device could generate

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### DEVICE I/O

- To interact with a device we must send/receive DATA
- There are two general approaches:
  - Programmed I/O (PIO)
  - Direct memory access (DMA)

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Transfer Modes			
Mode	#	Maximum transfer rate (MB/s)	cycle time
PIO	0	3.3	600 ns
	1	5.2	383 ns
	2	8.3	240 ns
	3	11.1	180 ns
	4	16.7	120 ns
Single-word DMA	0	2.1	960 ns
	1	4.2	480 ns
	2	8.3	240 ns
Multi-word DMA	0	4.2	480 ns
	1	13.3	150 ns
	2	16.7	120 ns
	3 <sup>[34]</sup>	20	100 ns
	4 <sup>[34]</sup>	25	80 ns
Ultra DMA	0	16.7	240 ns + 2
	1	25.0	160 ns + 2
	2 (Ultra ATA/33)	33.3	120 ns + 2
	3	44.4	90 ns + 2
	4 (Ultra ATA/66)	66.7	60 ns + 2
	5 (Ultra ATA/100)	100	40 ns + 2
	6 (Ultra ATA/133)	133	30 ns + 2
7 (Ultra ATA/167) <sup>[35]</sup>	167	24 ns + 2	

From [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parallel\\_ATA](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parallel_ATA)

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### PROGRAMMED I/O (PIO)

- Spend CPU time to perform I/O
- CPU is involved with the data movement (input/output)
- PIO is slow – CPU is occupied with meaningless work

**PIO**      "over-burdened"

1 : task 1    2 : task 2  
C : copy data from memory

CPU    1 1 1 1 C C C 2 2 2 2 2 1 1 1

Disk    1 1 1 1 1 1

Diagram of CPU utilization

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### PIO DEVICES

- Legacy serial ports
- Legacy parallel ports
- PS/2 keyboard and mouse
- Legacy MIDI, joysticks
- Old network interfaces

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### PROGRAMMED I/O DEVICE (PIO) INTERACTION

- Two primary PIO methods
  - Port mapped I/O (PMIO)
  - Memory mapped I/O (MMIO)

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### PORT MAPPED I/O (PMIO)

- Device specific CPU I/O Instructions
- Follows a CISC model: extra instructions
- x86-x86-64: `in` and `out` instructions
- `outb`, `outw`, `outl`
- 1, 2, 4 byte copy from EAX → device's I/O port

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### MEMORY MAPPED I/O (MMIO)

- Device's memory is mapped to CPU memory
- Tenet of RISC CPUs: instructions are eliminated, CPU is simpler
- Old days: 16-bit CPUs didn't have a lot of spare memory space
- Today's CPUs: 32-bit (4GB addr space) & 64-bit (128 TB addr space)
- Regular CPU instructions used to access device: mapped to memory
- Devices monitor CPU address bus and respond to their addresses
- I/O device address areas of memory are **reserved** for I/O
  - Must not be available for normal memory operations.

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### DIRECT MEMORY ACCESS (DMA)

- Copy data in memory by **offloading** to "DMA controller"
- Many devices (including CPUs) integrate DMA controllers
- CPU gives DMA: memory address, size, and copy instruction
- DMA performs I/O independent of the CPU
- DMA controller generates CPU interrupt when I/O completes

1 : task 1
2 : task 2

C : copy data from memory

CPU	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1
DMA	C			C			C						
Disk	1 1 1 1 1												

Diagram of CPU utilization by DMA

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### DIRECTORY MEMORY ACCESS – 2

- Many devices use DMA
  - HDD/SSD controllers (ISA/PCI)
  - Graphics cards
  - Network cards
  - Sound cards
  - Intra-chip memory transfer for multi-core processors
  
- DMA allows computation and data transfer time to proceed in parallel

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### DEVICE INTERACTION

- The OS must interact with a variety of devices
  
- Example: for DISK I/O consider the variety of disks:
  
- SCSI, IDE, USB flash drive, DVD, etc.
  
- Device drivers use abstraction to provide general interfaces for vendor specific hardware
  
- In Linux: block devices

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### FILE SYSTEM ABSTRACTION

- Layers of I/O abstraction in Linux
- C functions (open, read, write) issue **block read and write** requests to the generic block layer

The diagram illustrates the File System Stack, divided into user and kernel spaces by a dashed line. In the user space, an Application interacts with a user. In the kernel space, the File System layer uses a POSIX API (open, read, write, close, etc) to communicate with the Generic Block Layer. The Generic Block Layer uses a Generic Block Interface (block read/write) to communicate with the Specific Block Interface (protocol-specific read/write), which in turn communicates with the Device Driver (SCSI, ATA, etc).

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### FILE SYSTEM ABSTRACTION ISSUES

- **Too much abstraction**
  - Many devices provide special capabilities
  - Example: SCSI Error handling
  - SCSI devices provide extra detail which are lost to the OS
- **Buggy device drivers**
  - 70% of OS code is in device drivers
  - Device drivers are required for every device plugged in
  - Drivers are often 3<sup>rd</sup> party, which is not quality controlled at the same level as the OS (Linux, Windows, MacOS, etc.)

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### CH. 37: HARD DISK DRIVES



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### OBJECTIVES

- Chapter 37
  - HDD Internals
  - Seek time
  - Rotational latency
  - Transfer speed
  - Capacity
  - Scheduling algorithms

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## HARD DISK DRIVE (HDD)

- Primary means of data storage (persistence) for decades
- Consists of a large number of data **sectors**
- Sector size is 512-bytes
- An n sector HDD can be is addressed as an array of 0..n-1 sectors

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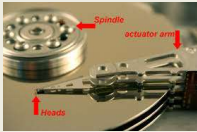
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## HDD INTERFACE

- Writing disk sectors is atomic (512 bytes)
- Sector writes are completely successful, or fail
- Many file systems will read/write 4KB at a time
  - Linux ext3/4 default filesystem blocksize – 4096
- Same as typical memory page size



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## BLOCK SIZE IN LINUX EXT4

- `mkefs.ext4 -i bytes-per-inode`

Specify the bytes/inode ratio. `mke2fs` creates an inode for every bytes-per-inode bytes of space on the disk. The larger the bytes-per-inode ratio, the fewer inodes will be created. This value generally shouldn't be smaller than the blocksize of the filesystem, since in that case more inodes would be made than can ever be used. Be warned that it is not possible to expand the number of inodes on a filesystem after it is created, so be careful deciding the correct value for this parameter.

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### EXAMPLE: USDA SOIL EROSION MODEL WEB SERVICE (RUSLE2)

- Host ~2,000,000 files totaling 9.5 GB on a ~20GB filesystem on a cloud-based Virtual Machine
- With default inode ratio (4096 block size), only ~488,000 files will fit
- Drive less than half full, but files will not fit !
- HDDs support a minimum block size of 512 bytes
- OS filesystems such as ext3/ext4 can support “finer grained” management at the expense of a larger catalog size

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### EXAMPLE: USDA SOIL EROSION MODEL WEB SERVICE (RUSLE2) - 2

- Free space in bytes (df)

Device	total size	bytes-used	bytes-free	usage
/dev/vda2	13315844	9556412	3049188	76% /mnt

- Free inodes (df -i) @ 512 bytes / node

Device	total inodes	used	free	usage
/dev/vda2	3552528	1999823	1552705	57% /mnt

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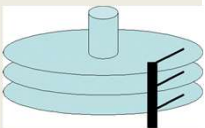
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### HDD INTERFACE - 2

- Torn write
  - When OS uses larger block size than HDD
  - Block writes not **atomic** - they SPAN multiple HDD sectors
  - Upon power failure only a portion of the OS block is written
- HDD access
  - Sequential reads of sectors is fastest
  - Random sector reads are slow
  - Disk head continuously must jump to different tracks



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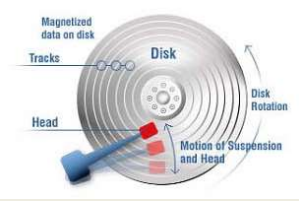
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### HDD PLATTER

- Made from aluminum coated with thin magnetic layer
- HDD records on both sides of each platter
- Data is stored by inducing magnetic changes



The diagram shows a circular disk with concentric tracks. A head is positioned above the disk, and an arrow indicates the direction of disk rotation. Labels include 'Magnetized data on disk', 'Tracks', 'Disk', 'Disk Rotation', 'Head', and 'Motion of Suspension and Head'.

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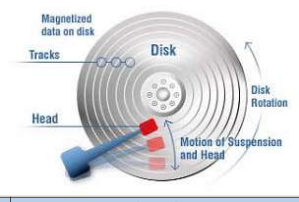
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### HDD SPINDLE

- Connected to motor which spins the disk
- Speed measures in RPM (rotations per minute)
- Typical: 7200-15000 rpm
- 10000 rpm – 1 rotation in 6ms; 15k rpm 1 rotation in 4ms



The diagram shows a circular disk with concentric tracks. A head is positioned above the disk, and an arrow indicates the direction of disk rotation. Labels include 'Magnetized data on disk', 'Tracks', 'Disk', 'Disk Rotation', 'Head', and 'Motion of Suspension and Head'.

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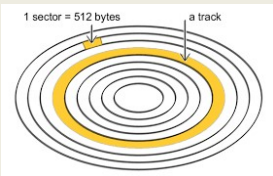
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### HDD TRACK

- Concentric circle of sectors
- Single side of platter contains 290 K tracks (2008)
- Zones: groups of tracks with same # of sectors



The diagram shows concentric circles representing tracks. A yellow shaded area highlights a track, and a label indicates '1 sector = 512 bytes'. Another label points to 'a track'. The text 'Outer tracks have More sectors' is written to the left of the diagram.

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### EXAMPLE: SIMPLE DISK DRIVE

- Single track disk
- Head: one per surface of drive
- Arm: moves heads across surface of platters

Rotates this way

A Single Track Plus A Head

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### HARD DISK STRUCTURE

track  $t$

sector  $s$

cylinder  $c$

platter

rotation

spindle

arm assembly

read-write head

arm

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### SINGLE-TRACK LATENCY: THE ROTATIONAL DELAY

- Rotational latency ( $T_{\text{rotation}}$ ): time to rotate to desired sector
- Average  $T_{\text{rotation}}$  is ~ half the time of a full rotation
- Calculate time for 1 rotation based on rpm
- 7200rpm = 8.33ms per rotation = ~4.166ms
- 10000rpm = 6ms per rotation = ~3ms
- 15000rpm = 4ms per rotation = ~2ms

Rotates this way

A Single Track Plus A Head

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### SEEK TIME

Rotates this way

Rotates this way

Remaining rotation

Three Tracks Plus A Head (Right: With Seek)  
 (e.g., read to sector 11)

- Seek time ( $T_{seek}$ ): time to move disk arm to proper track
- Most time consuming HDD operation

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### FOUR PHASES OF SEEK

- Acceleration → coasting → deceleration → settling
- **Acceleration**: the arm gets moving
- **Coasting**: arm moving at full speed
- **Deceleration**: arm slow down
- **Settling**: Head is carefully positioned over track
  - Settling time is often high, from .5 to 2ms

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### HDD I/O

- Data transfer
  - Final phase of I/O: time to read or write to disk surface
- Complete I/O cycle:
  1. Seek (accelerate, coast, decelerate, settle)
  2. Wait on rotational latency
  3. Data transfer

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### TRACK SKEW

- Sectors are offset across tracks to allow time for head to reposition for sequential reads
- Without track skew, when head is repositioned sector would have already been passed

Rotates this way

Spindle

Three Tracks: Track Skew Of 2

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### TRACK SKEW - 2

www.hddscan.com

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### HDD CACHE

- Buffer to support caching reads and writes
- Improves drive response time
- Up to 128 MB, slowly have been growing
- Two styles
  - Writeback cache
    - Report write complete immediately when data is transferred to HDD cache
    - Dangerous
  - Writethrough cache
    - Reports write complete only when write is physically completed on disk

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## TRANSFER SPEED

- I/O Time  $T_{i/o} = T_{seek} + T_{rotation} + T_{transfer}$
- The rate of I/O  $R_{i/o} = \frac{Size_{transfer}}{T_{i/o}}$

	Cheetah 15K.5	Barracuda
Capacity	300 GB	1 TB
RPM	15,000	7,200
Average Seek	4 ms	9 ms
Max Transfer	125 MB/s	105 MB/s
Platters	4	4
Cache	16 MB	16/32 MB
Connects Via	SCSI	SATA

Disk Drive Specs: SCSI Versus SATA

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## I/O SPEED

- Random workload: 4KB random read on HDD
- Sequential workload: read 100MB contiguous sectors

		Cheetah 15K.5	Barracuda
Random	$T_{seek}$	4 ms	9 ms
	$T_{rotation}$	2 ms	4.2 ms
Random	$T_{transfer}$	30 microsecs	38 microsecs
	$T_{i/o}$	6 ms	13.2 ms
	$R_{i/o}$	0.66 MB/s	0.31 MB/s
Sequential	$T_{transfer}$	800 ms	950 ms
	$T_{i/o}$	806 ms	963.2 ms
	$R_{i/o}$	125 MB/s	105 MB/s

Disk Drive Performance: SCSI Versus SATA

There is a huge gap in drive throughput between random and sequential workloads

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## MODERN HDD SPECS

- See sample HDD configurations here:
- <https://www.hgst.com/products/hard-drives>

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### DISK SCHEDULING

- Disk scheduler: determine how to order I/O requests
- Multiple levels - OS and HW
- OS: provides ordering
- HW: further optimizes using intricate details of physical HDD implementation and state

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### SSTF – SHORTEST SEEK TIME FIRST

- Disk scheduling – which I/O request to schedule next
- Shortest Seek Time First (SSTF)
- Order queue of I/O requests by nearest track

Rotates this way

SSTF: Scheduling Request 21 and 2  
Issue the request to 21 → issue the request to 2

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### SSTF ISSUES

- Problem 1: HDD abstraction
- Drive geometry not available to OS. Nearest-block-first is a comparable alternate algorithm.
- Problem 2: Starvation
- Steady stream of requests for local tracks may prevent arm from traversing to other side of platter

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### DISK SCHEDULING ALGORITHMS

- **SWEEP**
  - Single repeated passes across disk
  - Issue: if request arrives for a recently visited track it will not be revisited until a full cycle completes
- **F-SCAN**
  - Freeze request queue during sweep
  - Cache arriving requests until later
- **Elevator (C-SCAN) – circular scan**
  - Sweep from outer to inner track and reverse, inner to outer track, etc.

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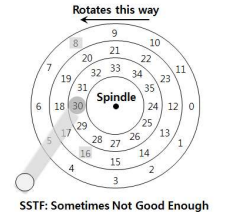
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### SHORTEST TIME POSITIONING FIRST

- Determine next sector to read?
- On which track?
- On which sector?



Rotates this way

Spindle

SSTF: Sometimes Not Good Enough

On modern drives, both seek and rotation are roughly equivalent:  
Thus, SPTF (Shortest Positioning Time First) is useful.

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### I/O MERGING

- Group temporary adjacent requests
- Reduce overhead
- Read (memory blocks): 33 8 34
- How long we should wait for I/O ?
- When do we know we have waited too long?

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# QUESTIONS



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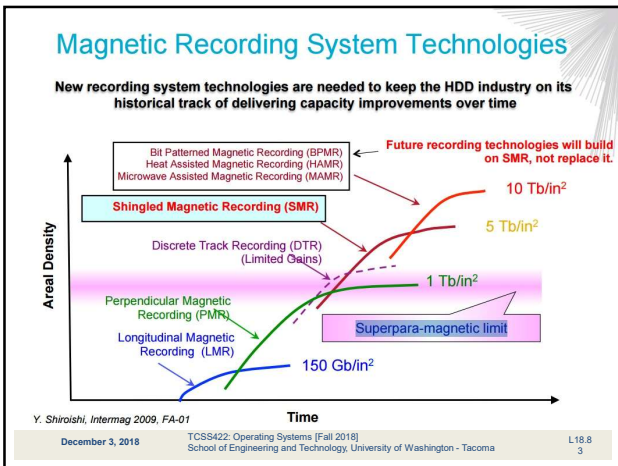
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## HDD CAPACITY

- Superparamagnetism limits HDD capacity
- In sufficiently small nanoparticles, magnetization can randomly flip direction under the influence of temperature.
- HDD capacity is limited by the minimum usable size of particles – the superparamagnetic limit.

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### HDD CAPACITY - 2

- Longitudinal recording: 100-200GB/in
- Perpendicular recording: 667 GB/in
- Future technologies under development

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