

Comp 310 Computer Systems and Organization

> Lecture #22 Mass-Storage Structures

> > Prof. Joseph Vybihal



Announcements

Course Evaluations



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Part 1

Disk Drives & Seek Scheduling



Circuitry & Buffer (block sized)

- Addressed as 1-D arrays of logical blocks.
- The logical block is the smallest unit of transfer
- Average block size is 512 bytes



Schematic of Multi-Platter Disk



Formatted Disk

Blocks start, in order, from the outermost track to the innermost.



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Block Structured

0	1
2	3
4	5
6	7

- Entire disk represented as a table of blocks
- Each block of equal size
 - What does that mean for disk allotment
- Easy to index given block number

Formatted Disk: Byte Addressing

Physical address: Track#, Sector#, Offset in bytes from edge of sector.



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Disk Scheduling

- On a single process computer, disk scheduling is not important since only 1 request at any time can be issued.
- In multi-process machines, more than one disk request can be made.
 - Since we know that one disk access is 20 million cycles to complete, optimizing this process is important.
 - We don't want to waste time seeking when ordering requests could minimize seeks times.





Fig. 12.3 FCFS <u>random</u> seek pattern. The numbers indicate the order in which the requests arrived.

First-come First-served

Not structured













SCAN Variants

- LOOK
 - Unlike SCAN that always goes from track 0 to N and back
 - LOOK goes from min track to max track in queue
- C-LOOK
 - Like C-SCAN but with min/max track in queue



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Question

- Using pseudo-coding, how would you implement this?
 - Data structures?
 - Algorithms?



Part 2

Disk Management

Disk Formatting

- Low-Level Formatting
 - Disk surface structured into tracks and blocks
 - Each block is organized into three sections:
 - Header sector number
 - Data the largest and unused area
 - Trailer Error-correcting code (updated on data change)
 - Block sizes: 256, 512, 1024 bytes
- Partitioning
 - Assigning blocks into a set called a cylinder
 - Each cylinder is viewed as a separate disk
- Logical Formatting
 - File Allocation Table
 - Free Space Table & Bad Block Marker
 - The Operating System (optional)
 - Boot Block (optional)





System Swap-Space

- Needed by virtual memory systems
- Two methods of creation:
 - A large hidden file on a regular cylinder
 - Easy to create (use regular file access commands)
 - Slow access time since in user's complicated FAT
 - A separate partition on the disk
 - Hard to alter size since partitioned to a fixed size
 - Simpler FAT structure, so faster access



Unix BSD Swap-Space



RAID

- Redundant Arrays of Inexpensive Disks
 - High transfer rates
 - High data reliability (to disk crashes)
- Reliability
 - Disk drives fail or get scratched: data lost
 - With many disks can keep duplicate info when storing file. If a disk fails the file can be rebuilt from other disk.
 - Mirroring a disk (save file on more than one disk)
 - Data Stripping (save file across more than one disk)



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Question

- Using pseudo-code, how would you format a hard disk?
 - Quick format?
 - Complete format?
 - Complete erase format?
- How could we code faster disk access:
 - For shared files?
 - For different files?
 - Combined features?

Questions

• How could we implement "community" directories...



Part 3

At Home

Things to try out

- 1. Run a single process that does a lot of disk access and time it to completion.
 - Repeat this with two processes that perform a lot of disk accesses
 - How much slower was the first process?
- 2. Web Resources:
 - http://www.lvr.com/mass_storage.htm
 - http://support.pa.msu.edu/Help/FAQs/Linux/harddisks.html
 - http://publib.boulder.ibm.com/infocenter/db2luw/v9/index.jsp?
 topic=/com.ibm.db2.udb.admin.doc/doc/t0004971.htm
 - http://support.microsoft.com/kb/q140372/