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Disk scheduling at compile time.

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This brief paper describes and illustrates a simple storage assignment strategy for optimizing disk access time for a sequentially accessed multirecord file on a one-job system. The algorithm closely resembles those used by assemblers for the IBM 650 computer with drum memory two decades ago, with the innovation that it is programmed in PASCAL. The chief interest in the paper resides in a closing italicized remark that the “best” operating systems are highly specialized ones: some practitioners will object (if one can get them to stop muttering under their breath) that the author’s concept of “best” is self-serving and may not match the next designer’s.

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