

SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

An Autonomous Institution

Coimbatore-35



Department of Computer Science and Engineering

23CST206-OPERATING SYSTEMS AND VIRTUALIZATION

B.E- CSE /IV SEMESTER

UNIT - III MEMORY MANAGEMENT

Topic 5:Storage Management

Storage Management in OS

Storage management is a critical function in modern operating systems, forming the foundation for organizing, accessing, and protecting data across diverse storage devices.

Organizes Data

Arranges information across disks and SSDs



Manages Access

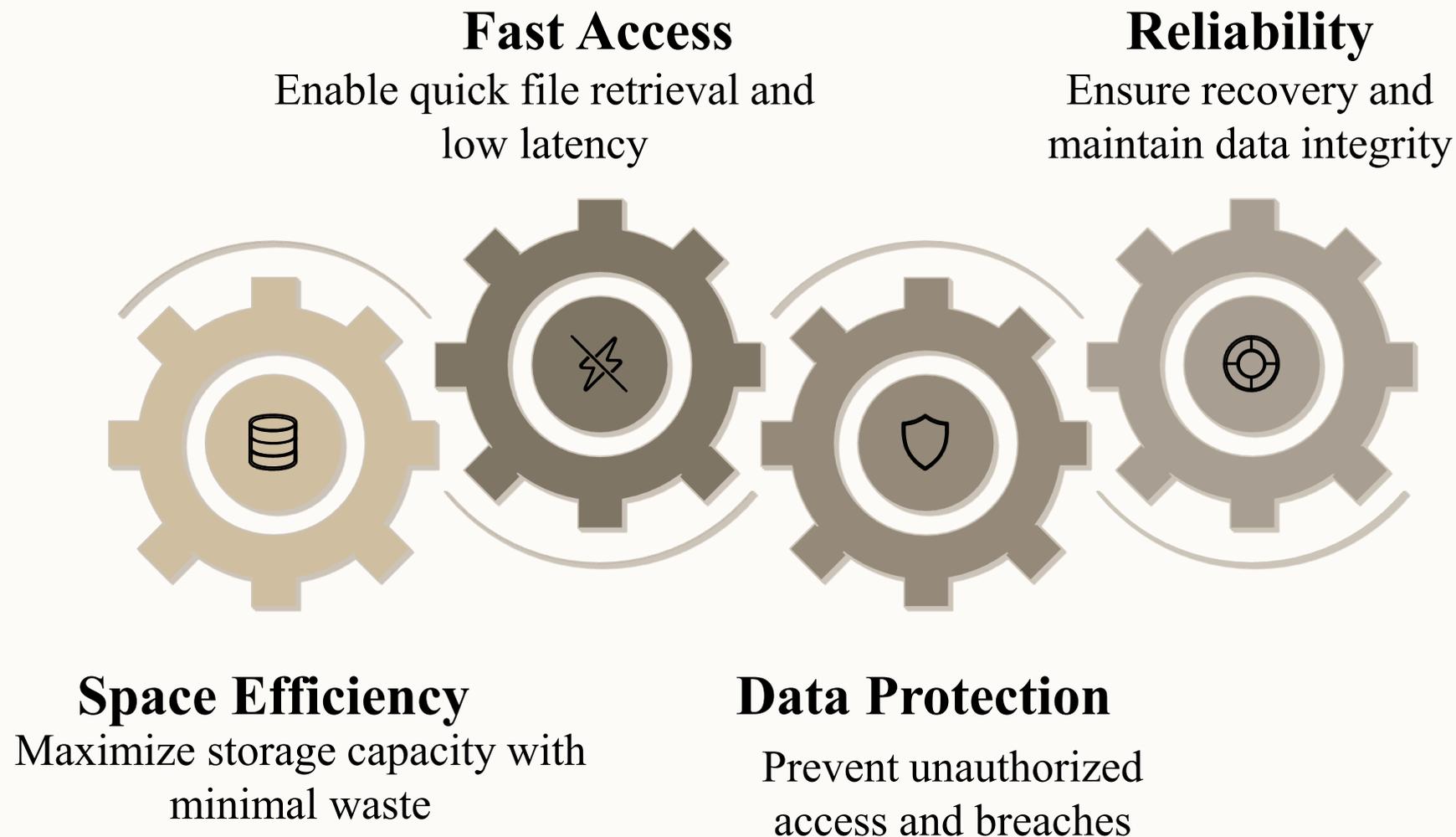
Controls how users and apps access data

Protects Data

Ensures integrity and security of storage

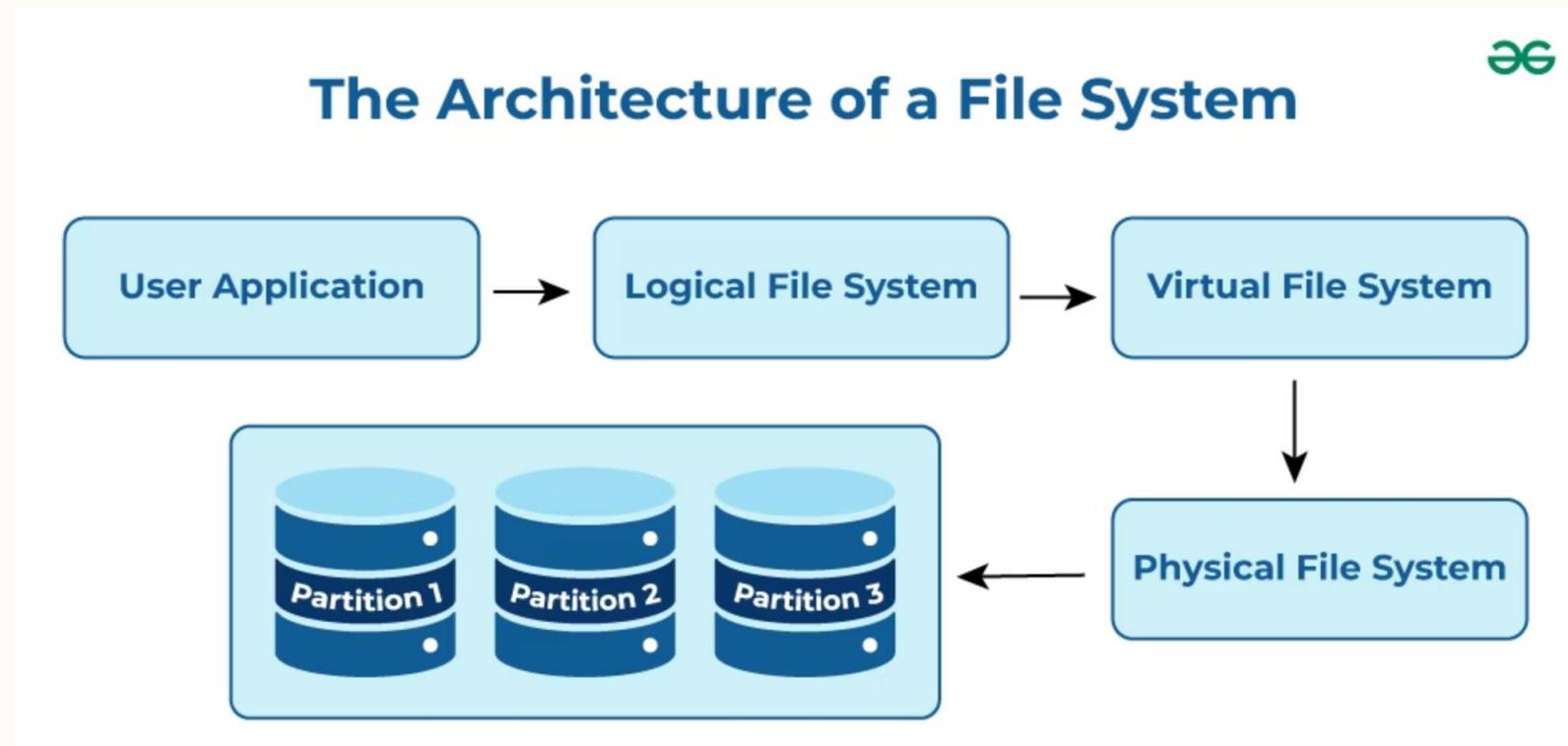
Understanding Storage Management

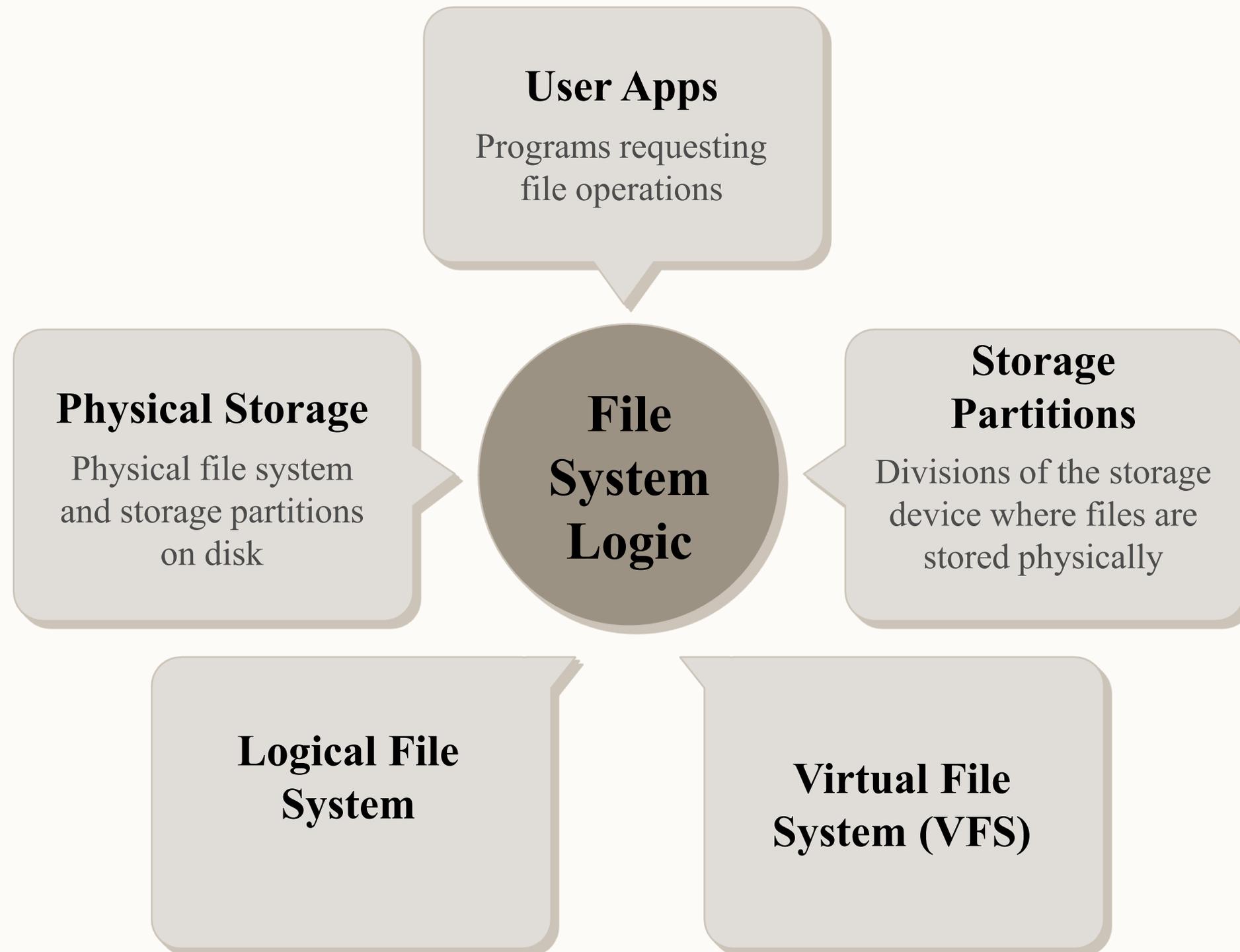
Storage management is the process of organizing, storing, and managing data on secondary storage devices like hard disks and SSDs. The file system serves as the critical component of the OS that manages how data is stored, accessed, and organized on these disks.



File System Architecture

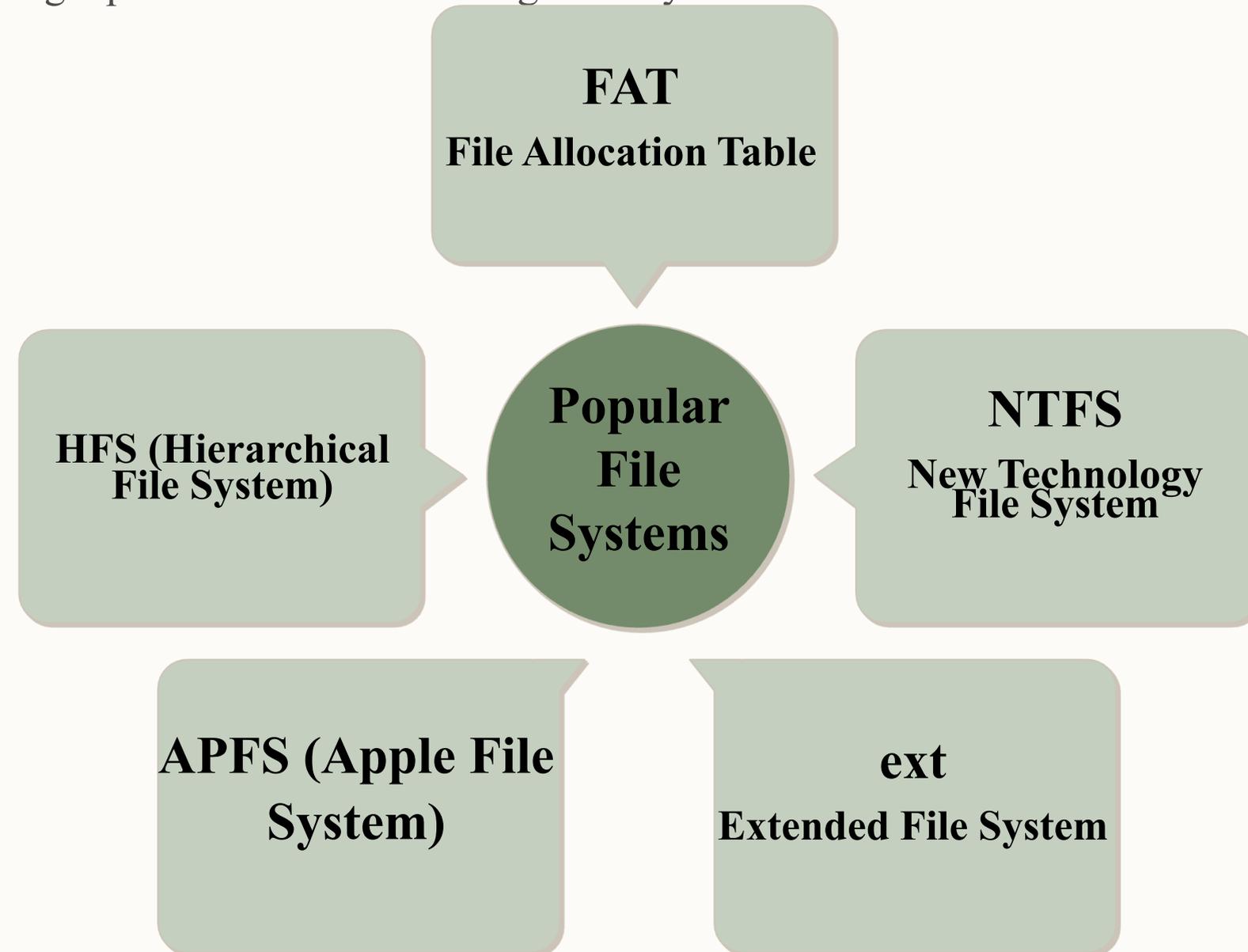
File systems are a crucial part of any operating system, providing a structured way to store, organize and manage data on storage devices such as hard drives, SSDs and USB drives. The architecture consists of multiple layers working together seamlessly.



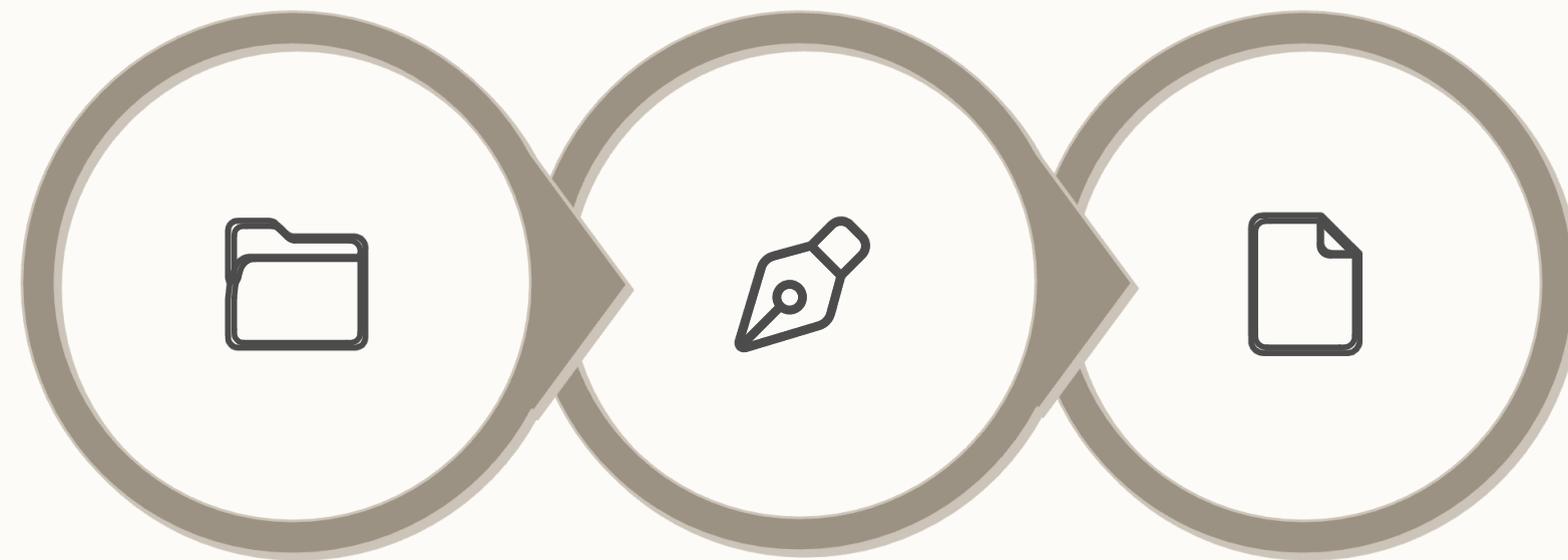


Popular File Systems

Different operating systems employ various file system architectures, each designed with specific features and optimizations for their target platforms. Understanding these systems is essential for effective storage management.



Issues Handled By File System



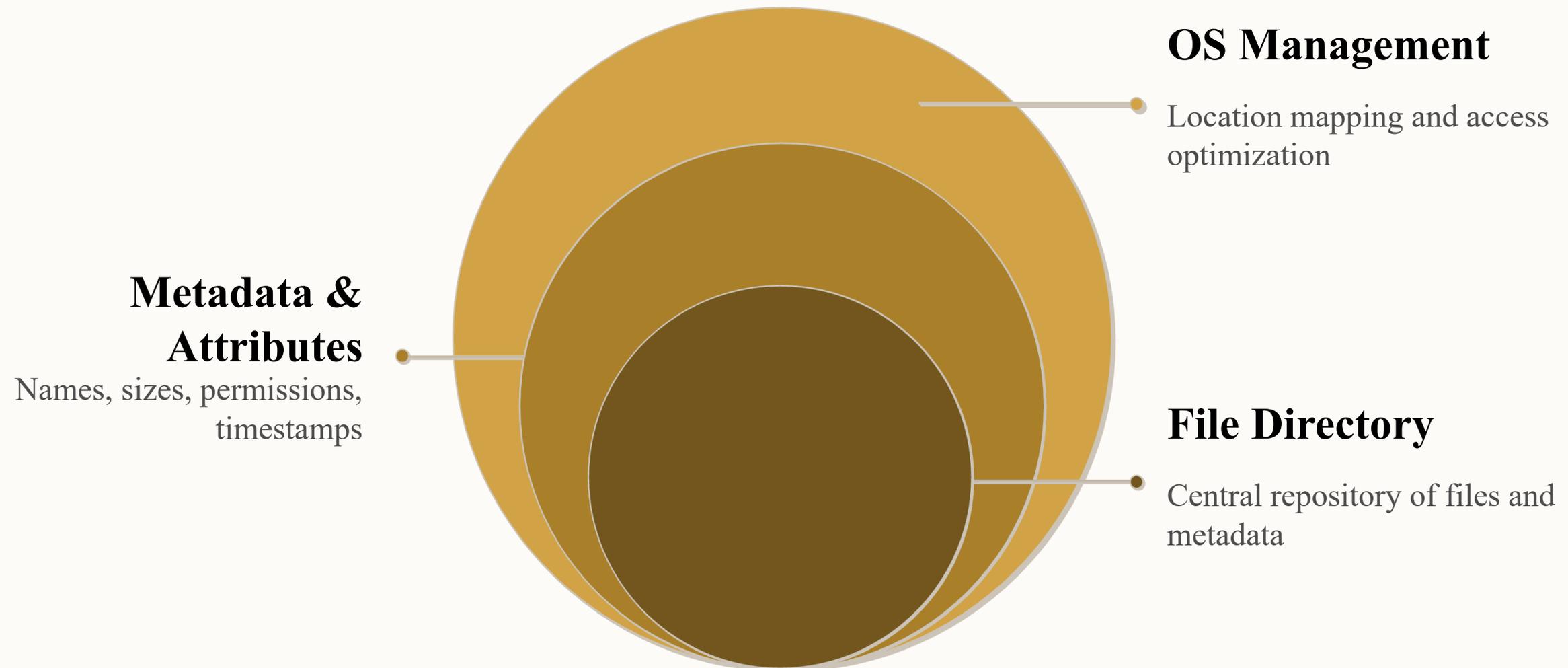
**Free Space
Management**

**Space
Reallocation**

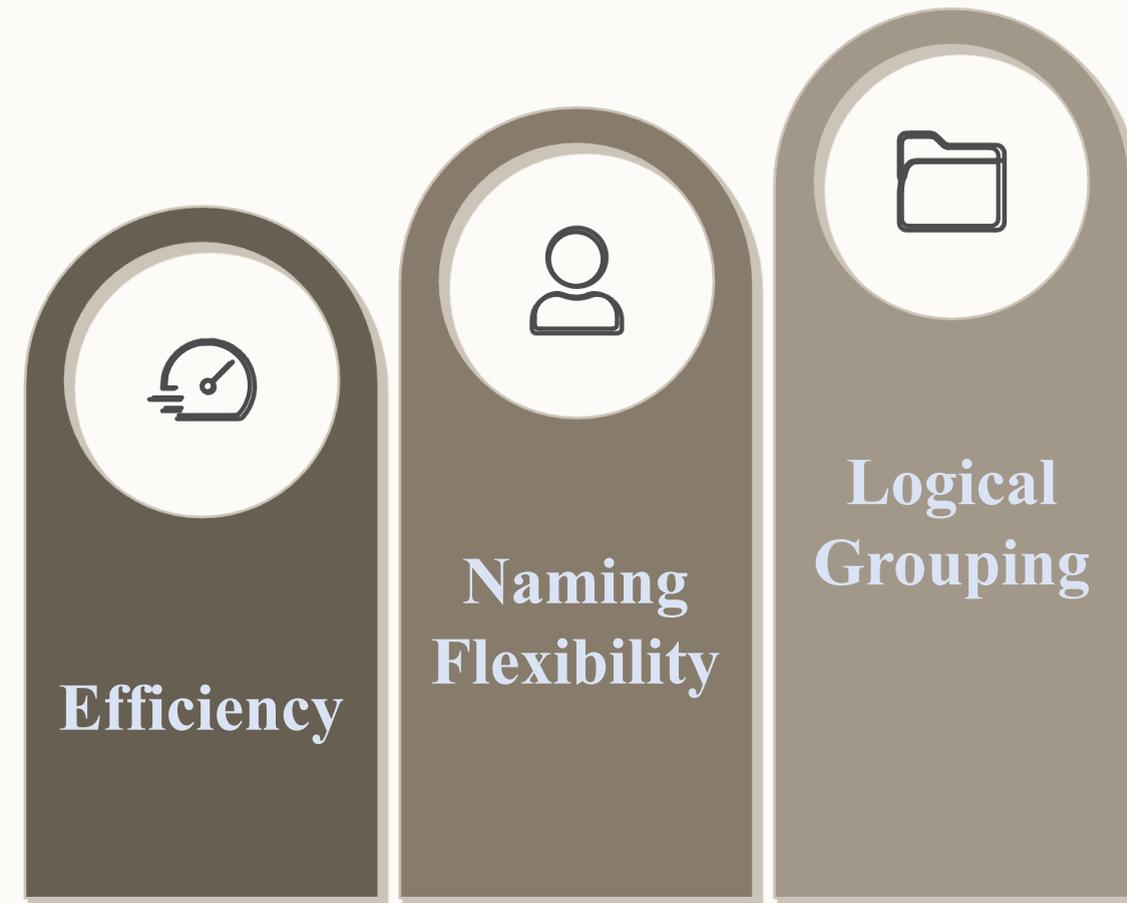
**File
Placement
Strategy**

File Directories

The collection of files is a file directory and contains information about the files, including attributes, location, and other metadata.



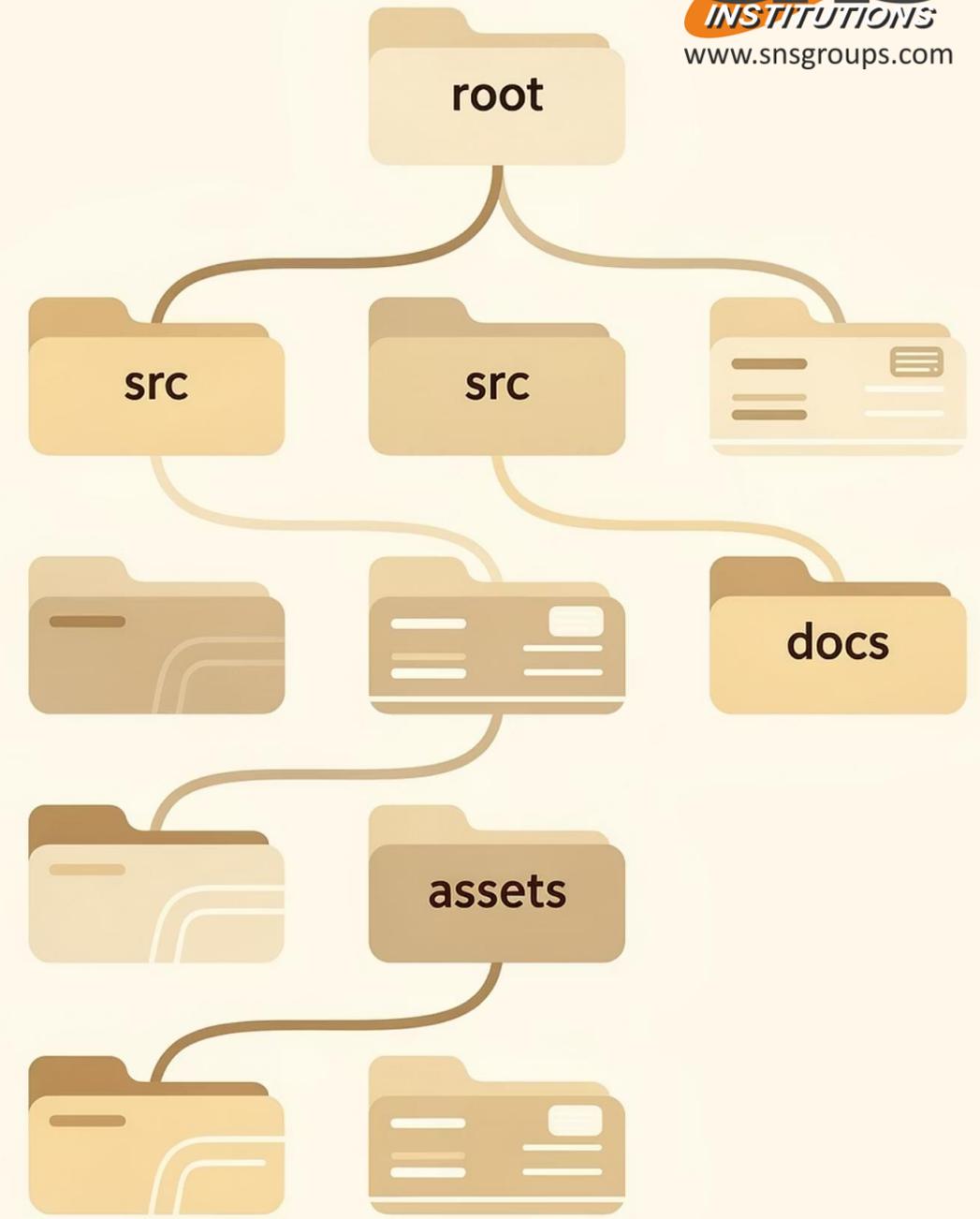
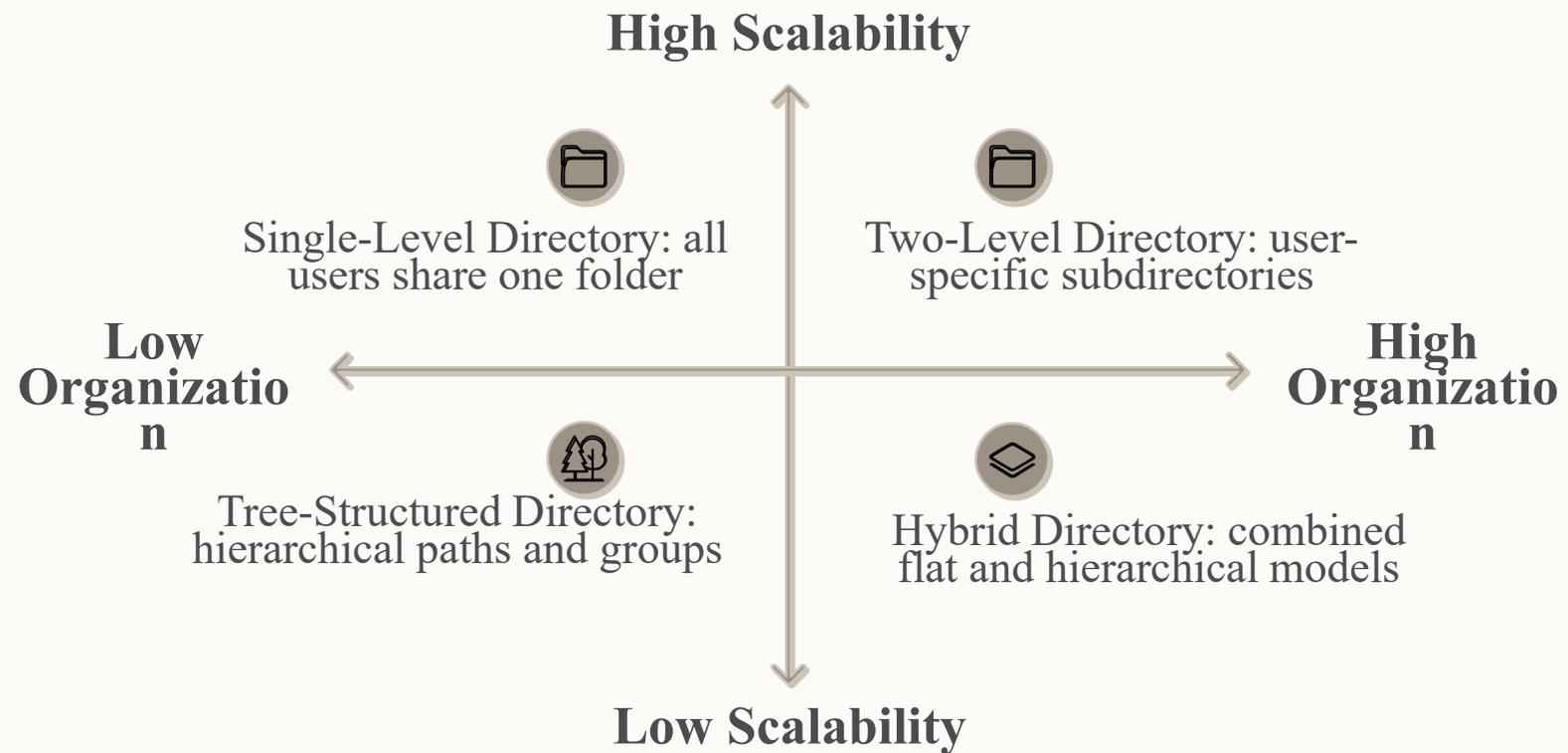
Advantages of Maintaining Directories



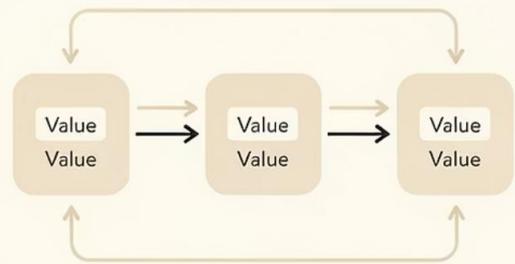
DIRECTORY STRUCTURES

Structures of Directory

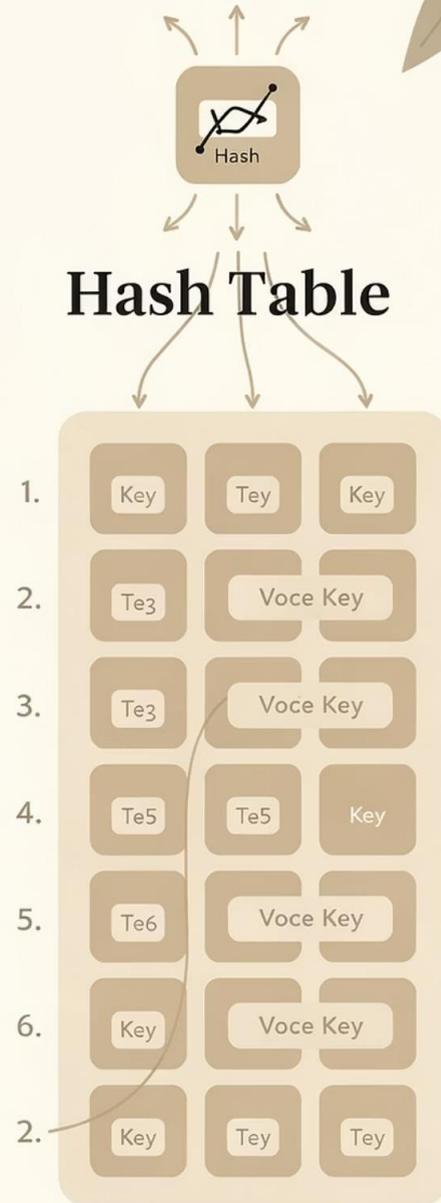
Operating systems implement various directory structures to organize files efficiently. Each structure offers different advantages in terms of simplicity, flexibility, and search efficiency.



Linked List



Hash Table



Directory Implementation in Operating System

Directory implementation defines how directory entries (file names and their metadata) are stored and managed in an operating system.

Method 1

Directory Implementation using Singly Linked List

Method 2

Directory Implementation using Hash Table

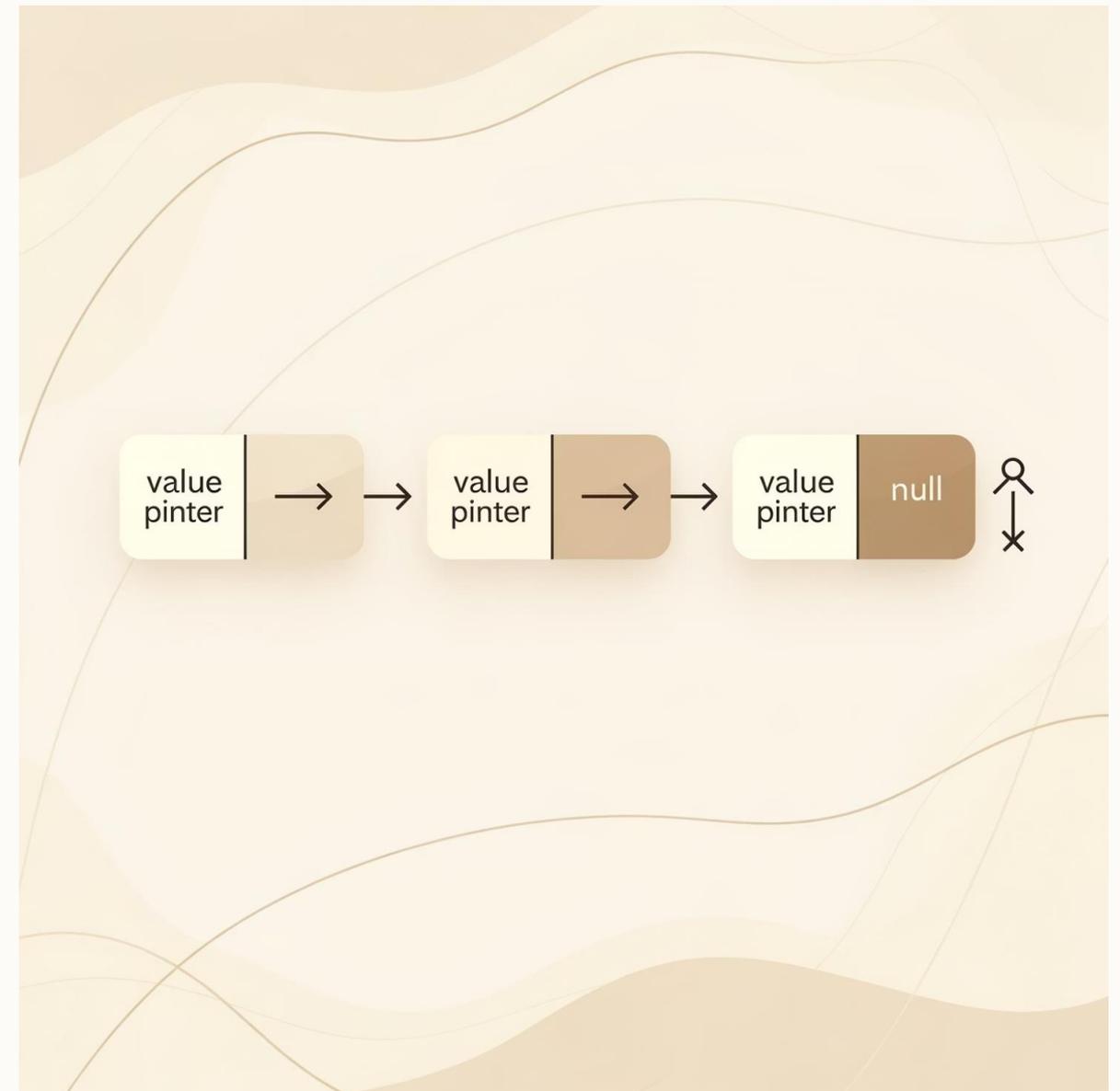
Directory Implementation using Singly Linked List

The implementation of directories using a singly linked list is easy to program but is time-consuming to execute. We implement a directory by using a linear list of filenames with pointers to the data blocks.

Directory Entry Components

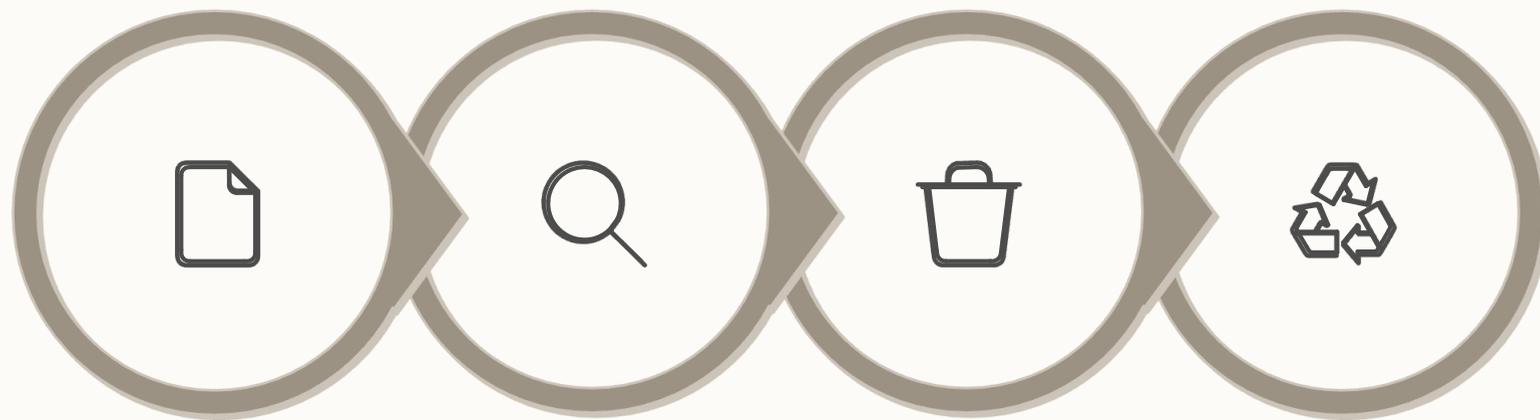
Each directory entry contains:

- File name for identification
- Pointer to file's metadata or data blocks



Working Principle

All directory entries are stored sequentially and connected using pointers, forming a chain-like structure that can be traversed from beginning to end.

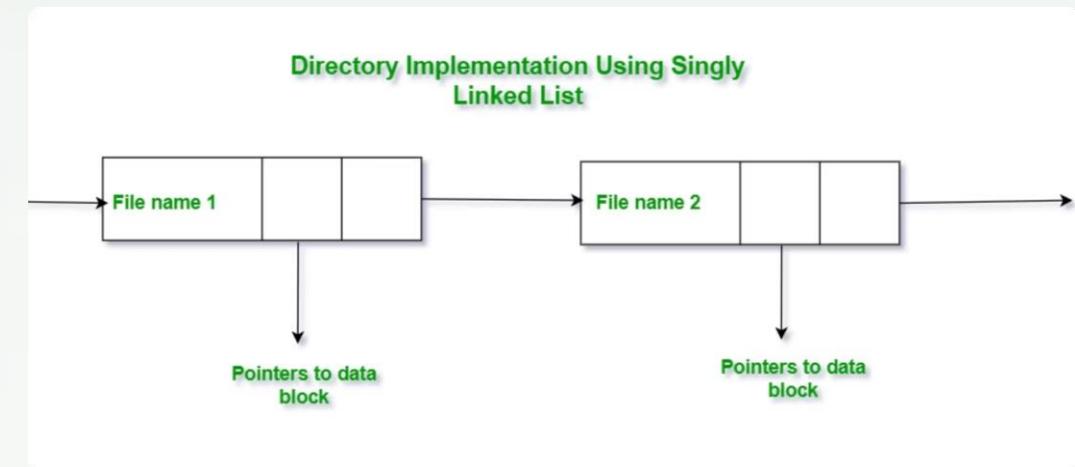


File Creation

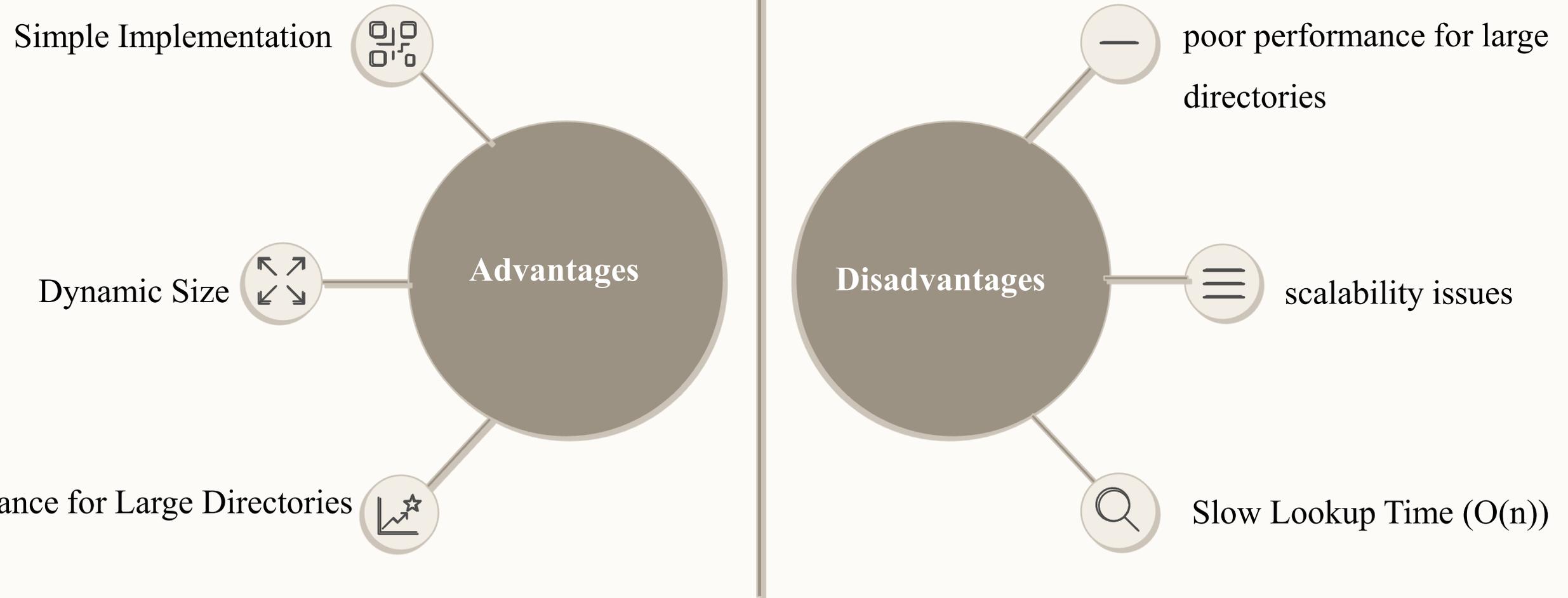
File Lookup

File Deletion

**Reusing
Entries**



Linked List: Pros and Cons



Directory Implementation using Hash Table

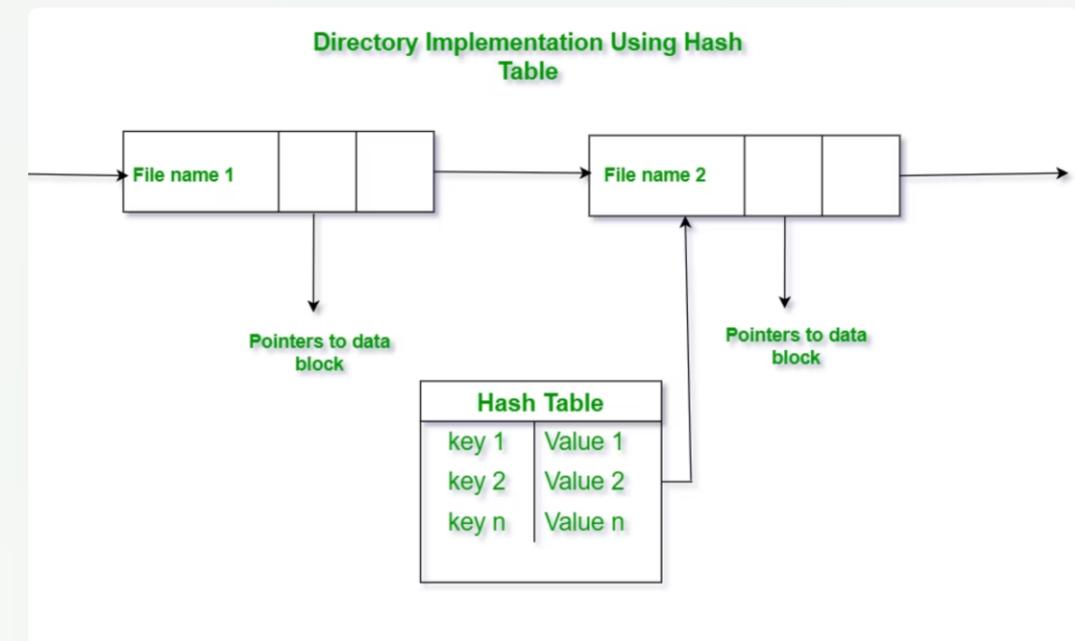
Working Principle



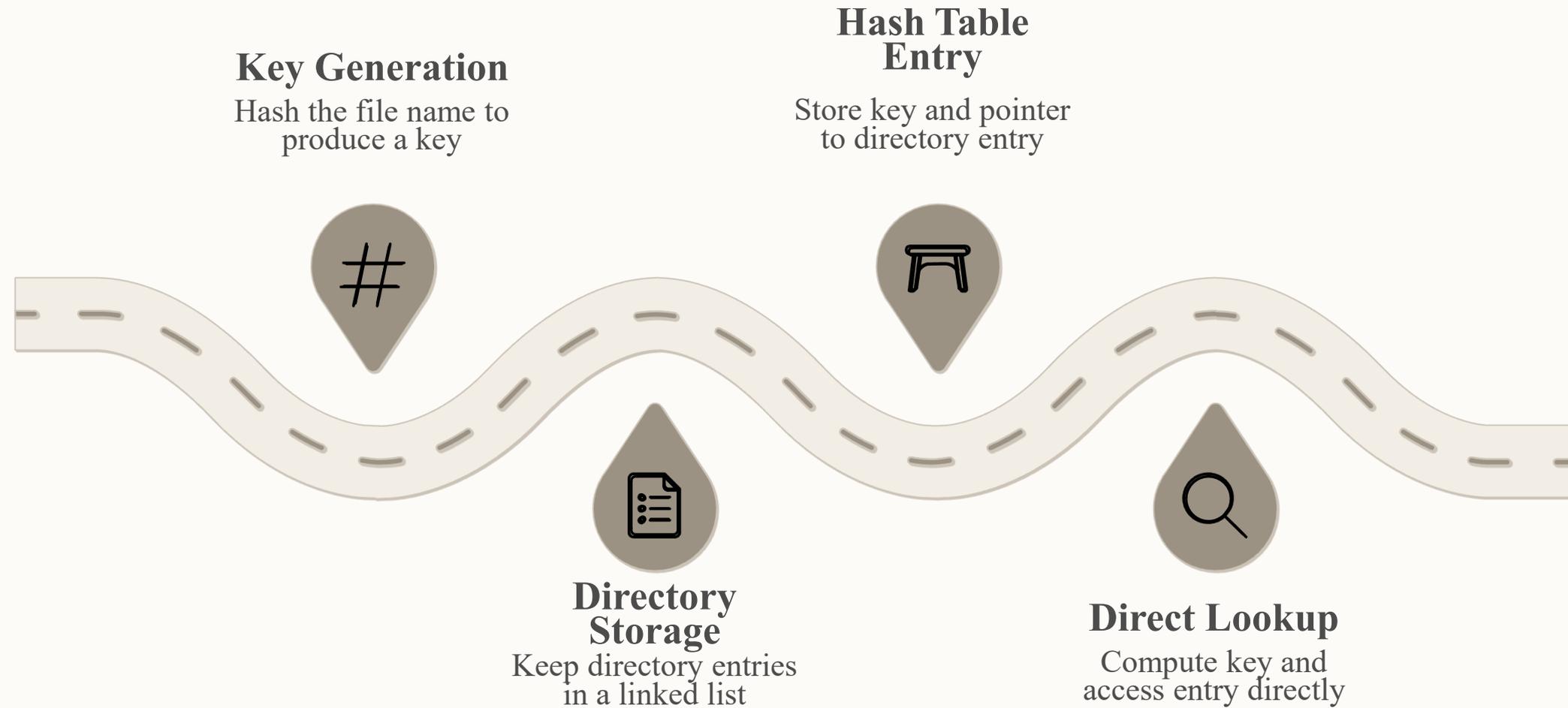
1 A hash function is applied to file names to generate keys

2 The hash table stores key–pointer pairs

3 The pointer refers to the directory entry stored in a linked list



Hash Table Implementation Steps



Design Thinking Notes

1. Problem Statement

Directory Implementation in Operating Systems

Problem Statement

As the number of files increases, searching, accessing, and managing files efficiently becomes difficult.



Slow File Search Time

Increased Disk Access

Inefficient Use of Storage

Poor System Performance

Issues with Poor Directory Implementation

Slow File Search Time
Slow Searches

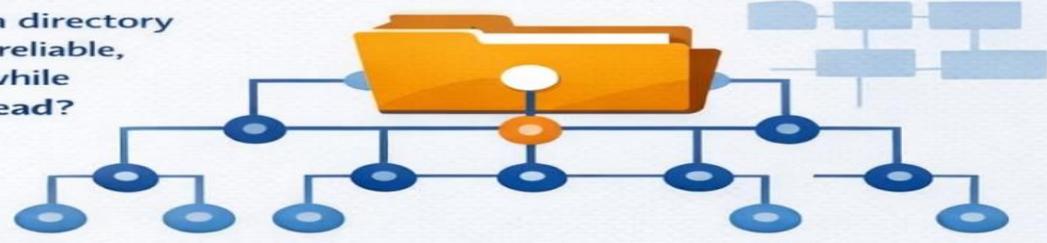
Frequent Disk I/O
More Disk Access

Fragmented Storage
Wasted Space

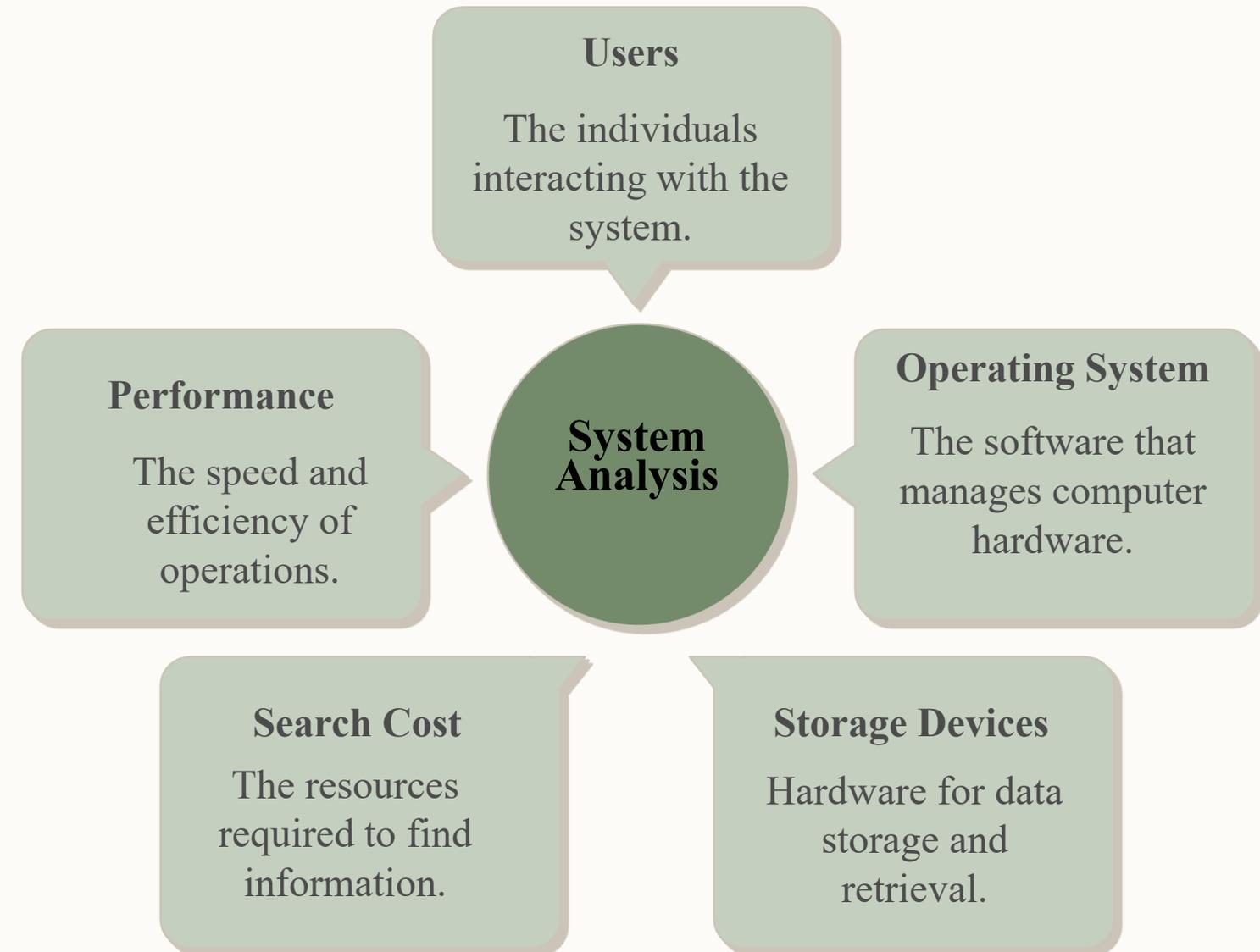
System Bottlenecks
Sluggish Performance

Core Problem

How can the OS design a directory structure that allows fast, reliable, and scalable file access while minimizing storage overhead?

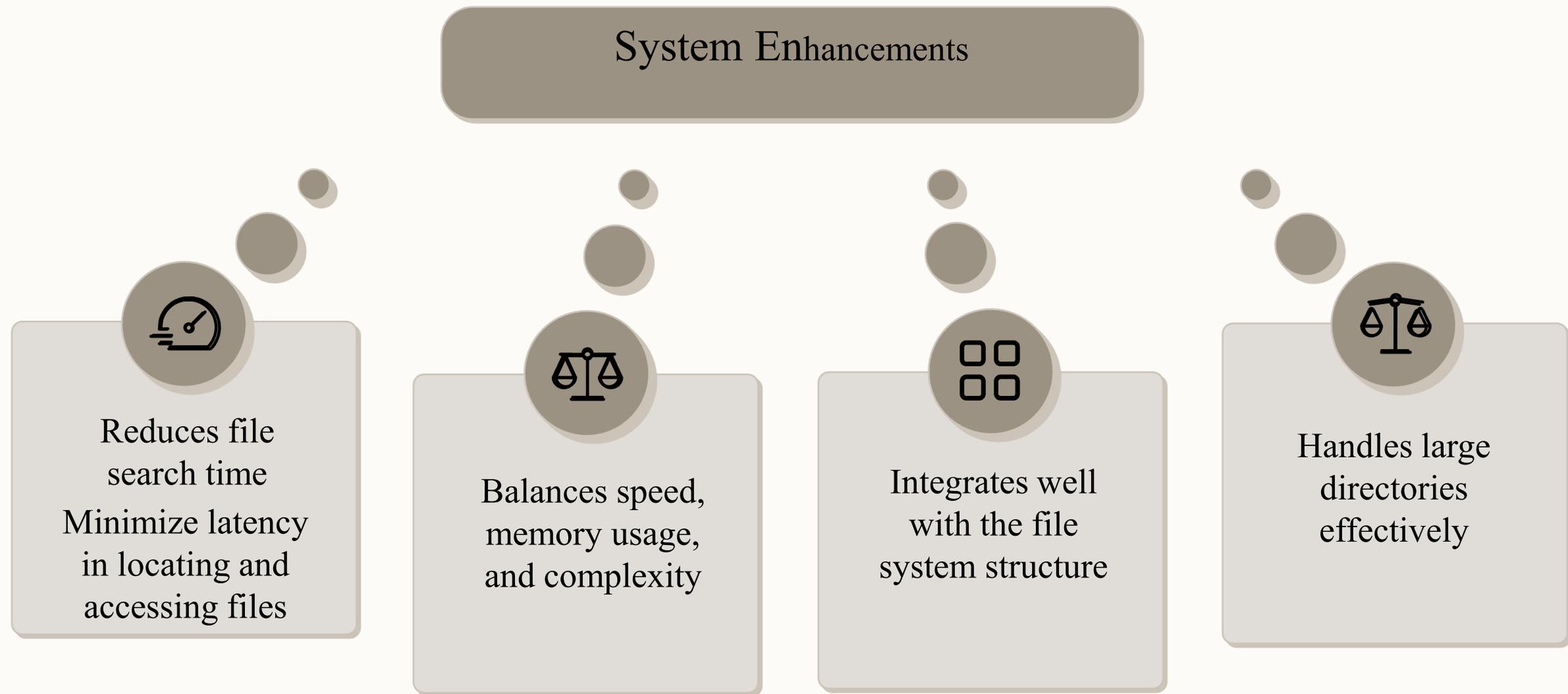


2. Empathize (Understanding the Needs)



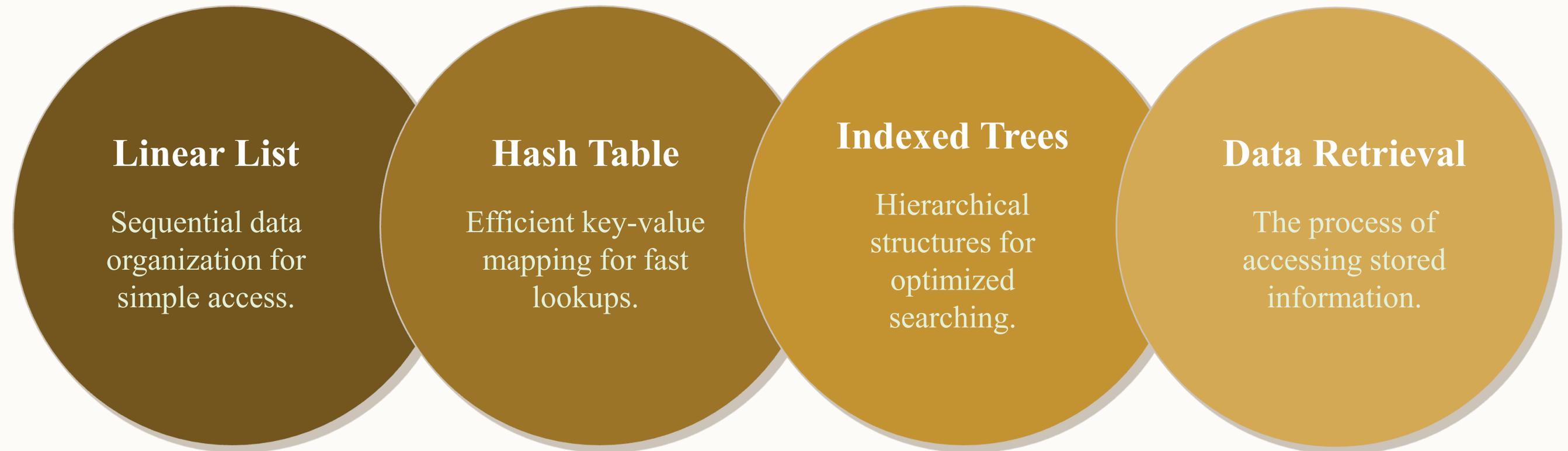
3. Define (Clear Problem Definition)

Design an efficient directory implementation technique that meets the following critical requirements:



4. Ideate (Possible Solutions)

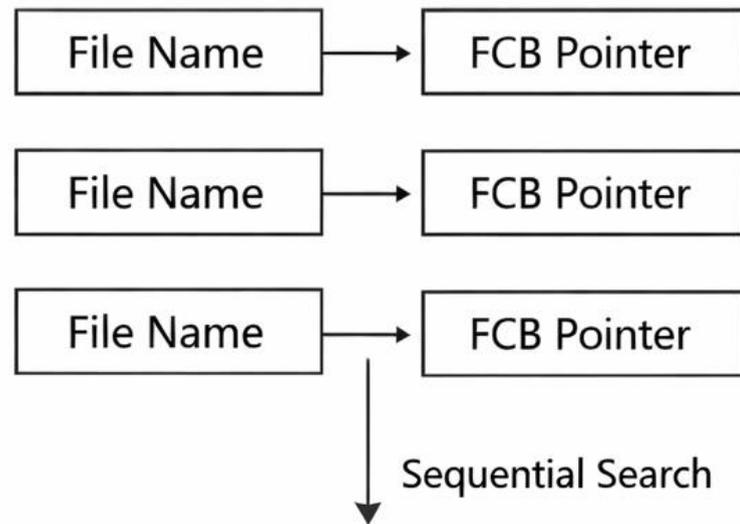
Different approaches to implement directories were considered, each offering unique advantages and tradeoffs:



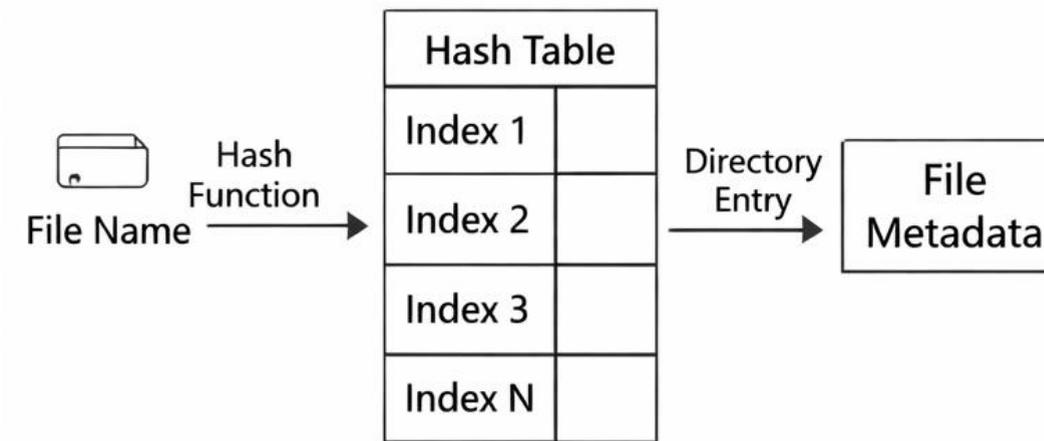
Each solution represents a different balance point in the design space, trading off simplicity, speed, memory usage, and scalability. The choice depends on specific system requirements and usage patterns.

5. Prototype

Linear List Directory



Hash Table Directory



Evaluation of Solutions

Criteria	Linear List	Hash Table
Search Speed	Slow ($O(n)$)	Fast ($O(1)$ avg)
Implementation	Simple	Complex
Memory Usage	Low	Higher
Scalability	Poor	Good

Result

- Linear List is suitable for small directories
- Hash Table is better for modern OS with large file systems

Final Solution

Modern operating systems adopt hash-based or tree-based directory implementations to ensure:



Faster File
Access



Scalability



Better Storage
Management

Examples

- Linux/UNIX: Inode + hashing
- Windows NTFS: B-tree based directories

