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# Promote-IT: An Efficient Real-Time Tertiary-Storage Scheduler

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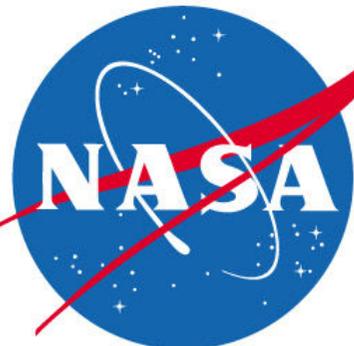
**NASA/IEEE MSST 2004**

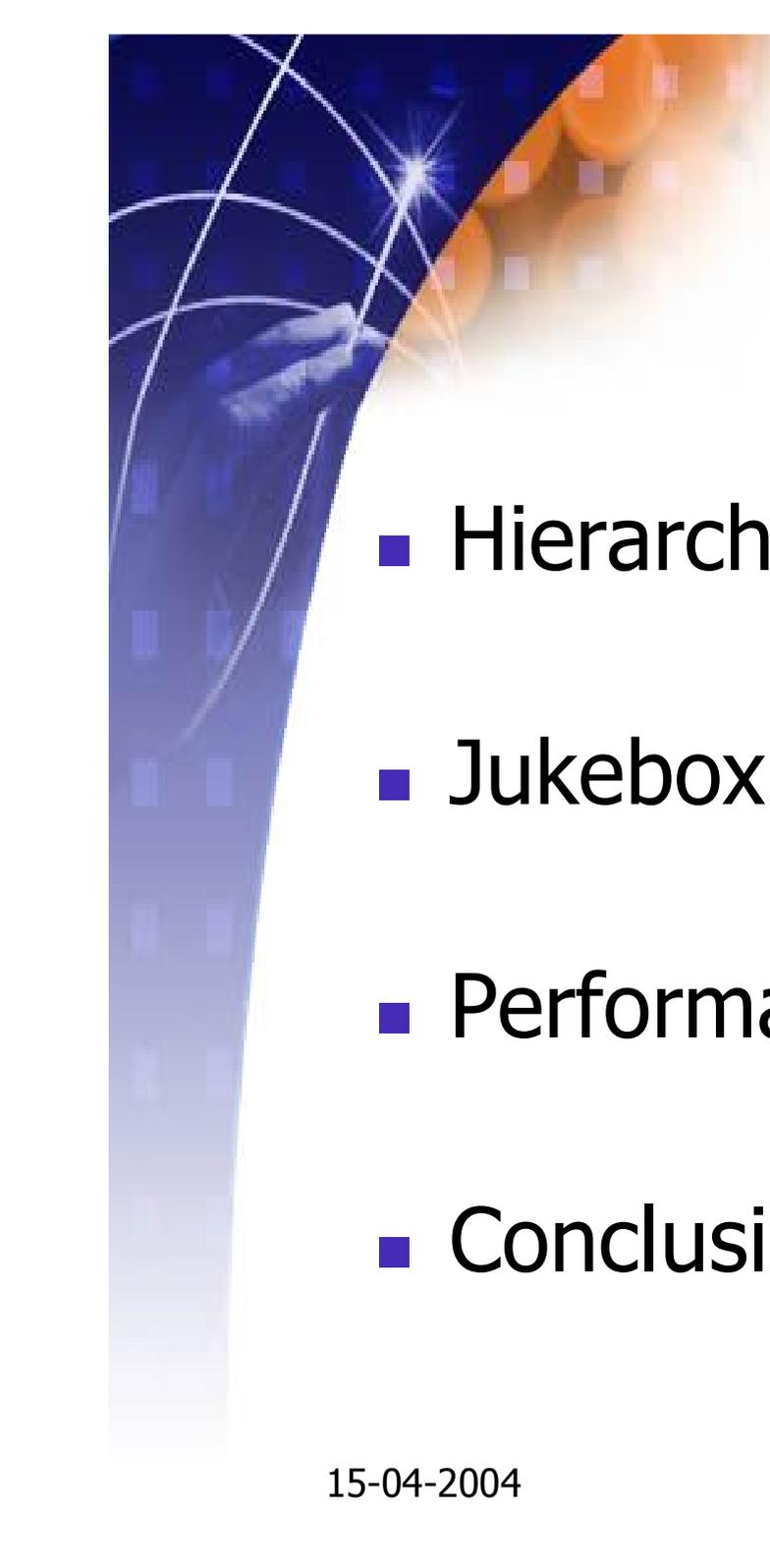
12th NASA Goddard/21st IEEE Conference on  
Mass Storage Systems & Technologies

The Inn and Conference Center  
University of Maryland University College

Adelphi MD USA

April 13-16, 2004

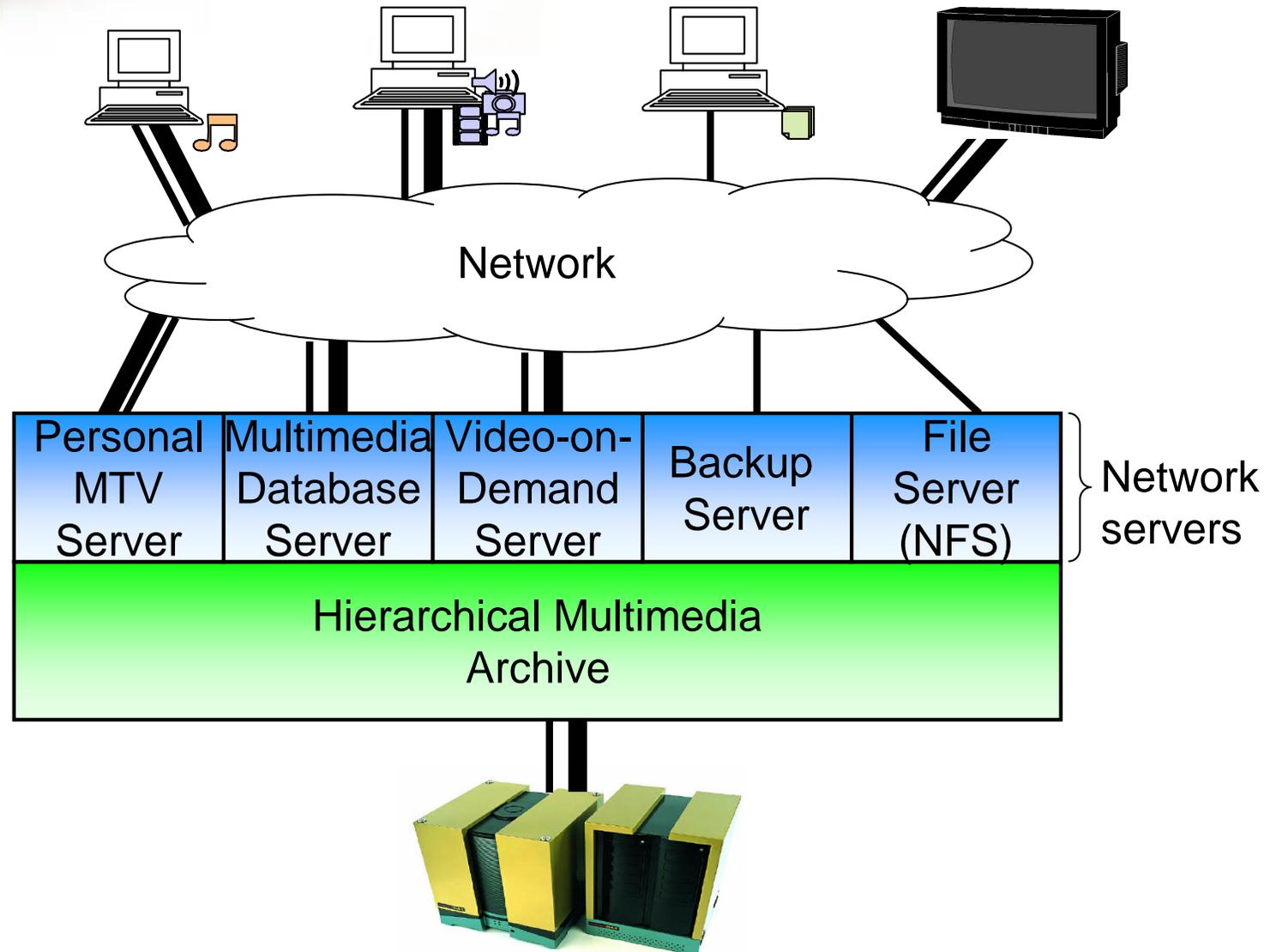




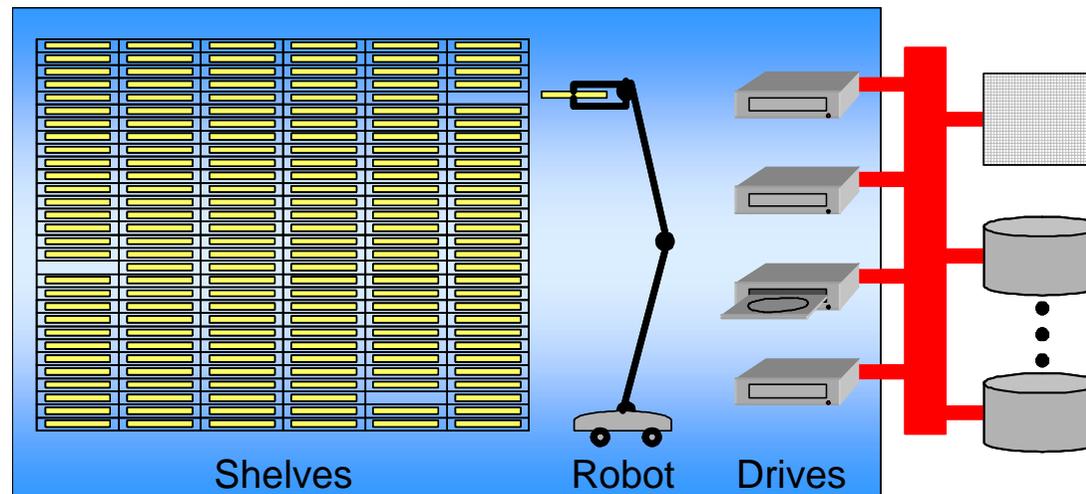
# Structure of the Talk

- Hierarchical Multimedia Archive
- Jukebox Scheduler (Promote-IT)
- Performance Evaluation
- Conclusions

# System Overview



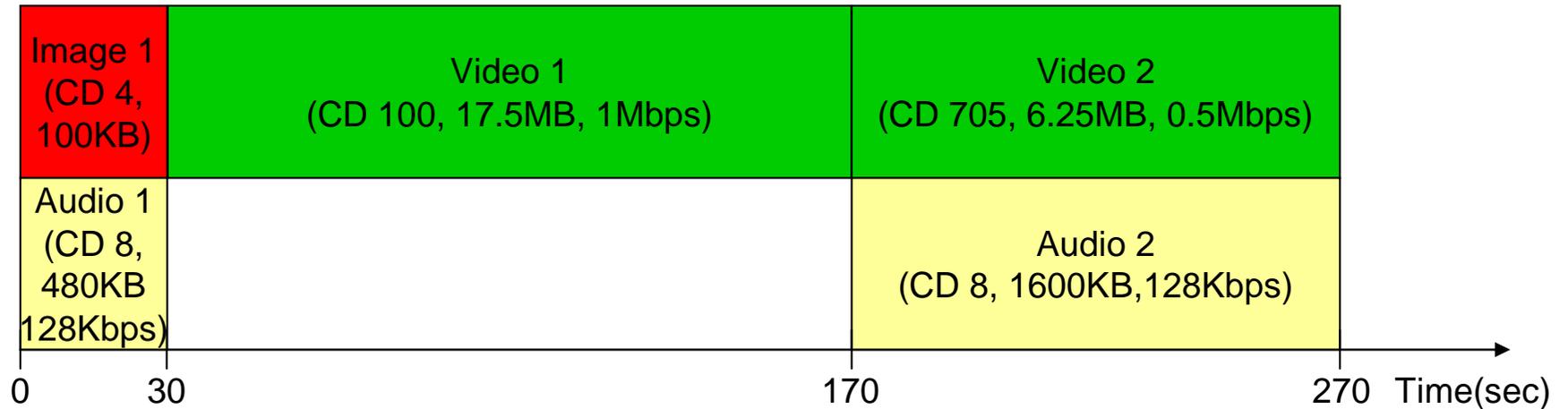
# Jukebox Architecture



- 👍 Storage capacity
- 👍 Cost/GB
- 👍 Reliability

- 👎 Switching times
- 👎 Few drives
- 👎 Shared robots
- 👎 Potential resource-constraint problems

# Request



**Request** = {deadline, asap, maxConf, {Request Unit}\*}

**Request Unit** = {medium, offset, size,  
 $\Delta$ deadline, bandwidth}

# Scheduler Goals

- Guarantee real-time access to data
  - No hiccups or interruptions
  - Data available according to request
  - (Best-effort if access differs from request)
- Minimize response time ASAP requests
- On-line scheduling
- Minimize confirmation time
- Make good use of jukebox resources

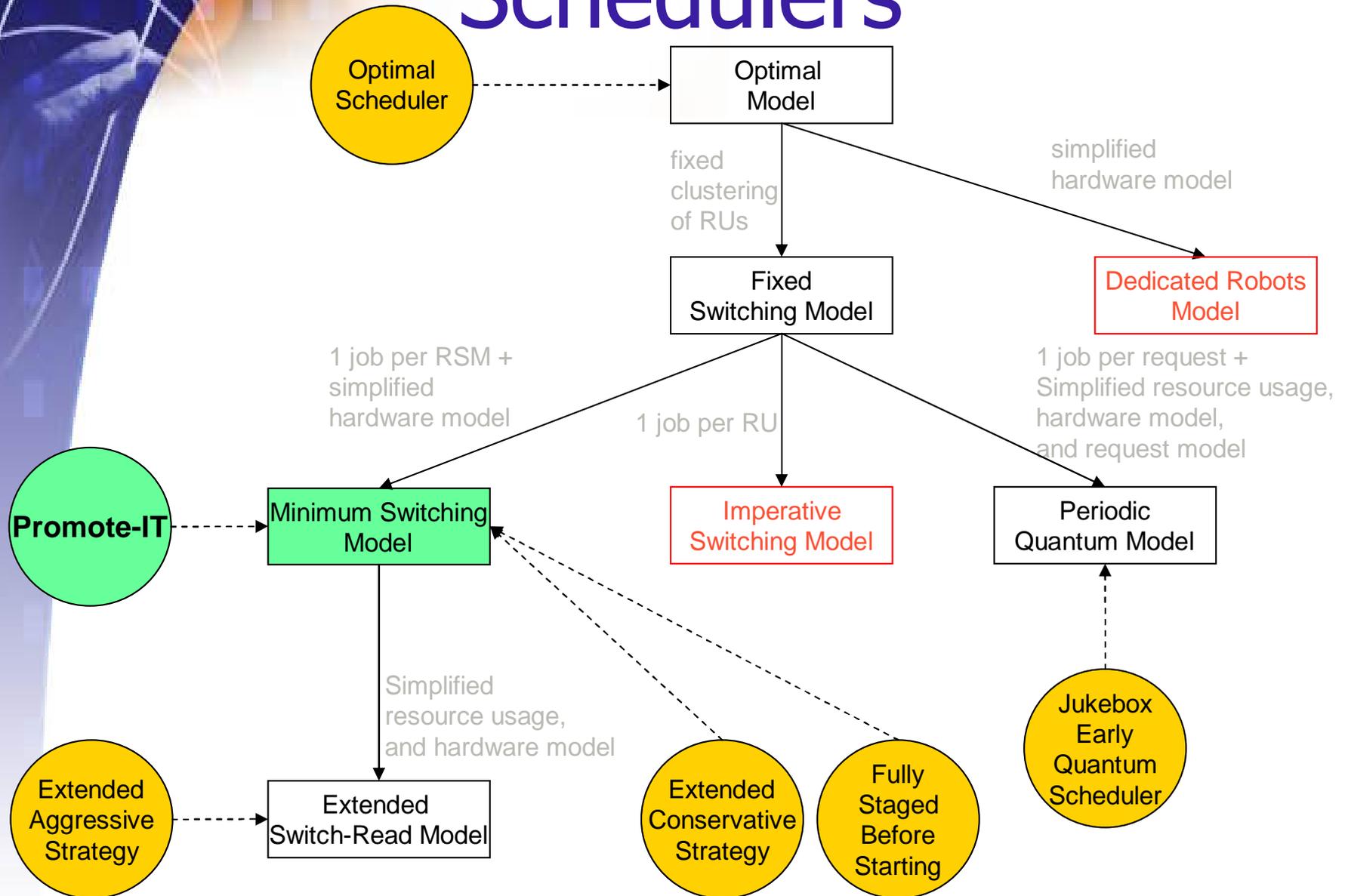
# Solution Guidelines

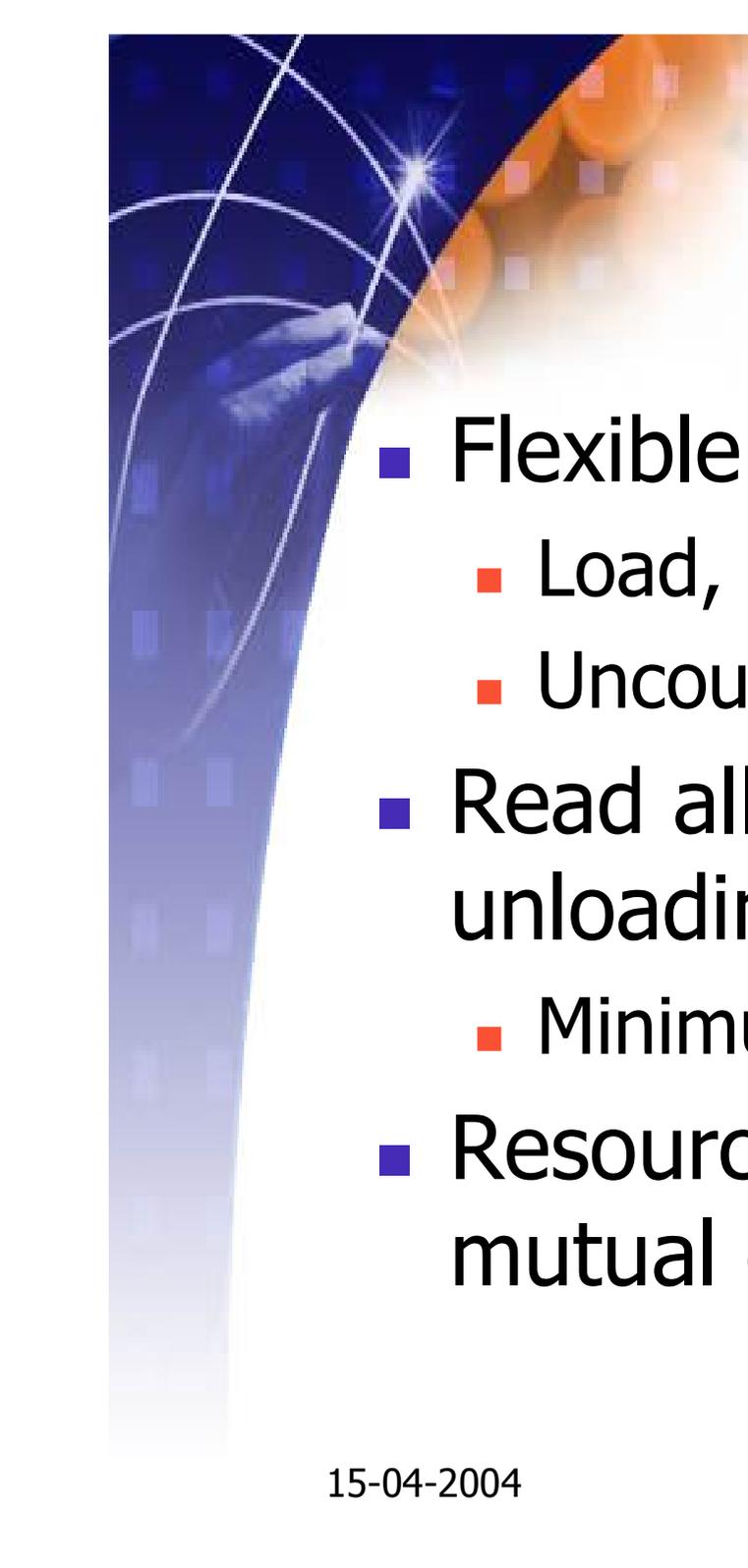
- Secondary storage as buffer and cache
- Detailed and flexible hardware model
- Formal model of scheduling problem
- Separate **Schedule Building** and **Dispatching**
  - Early Dispatcher

# Hardware Model

- Removable Storage Media (RSM)
  - Any number
  - Different types (optical disks, tape)
  - Different types in jukebox (DVD, CD, DVD-RAM)
- Drives
  - Any number
  - Non-identical
  - Parameters depending on RSM
- Robots
  - Any number
  - Scope: Shared/dedicated/serving a set of drives and RSM
  - Functionality: Loader/Unloader/Loader-Unloader
  - Parameters depending on drives and shelves

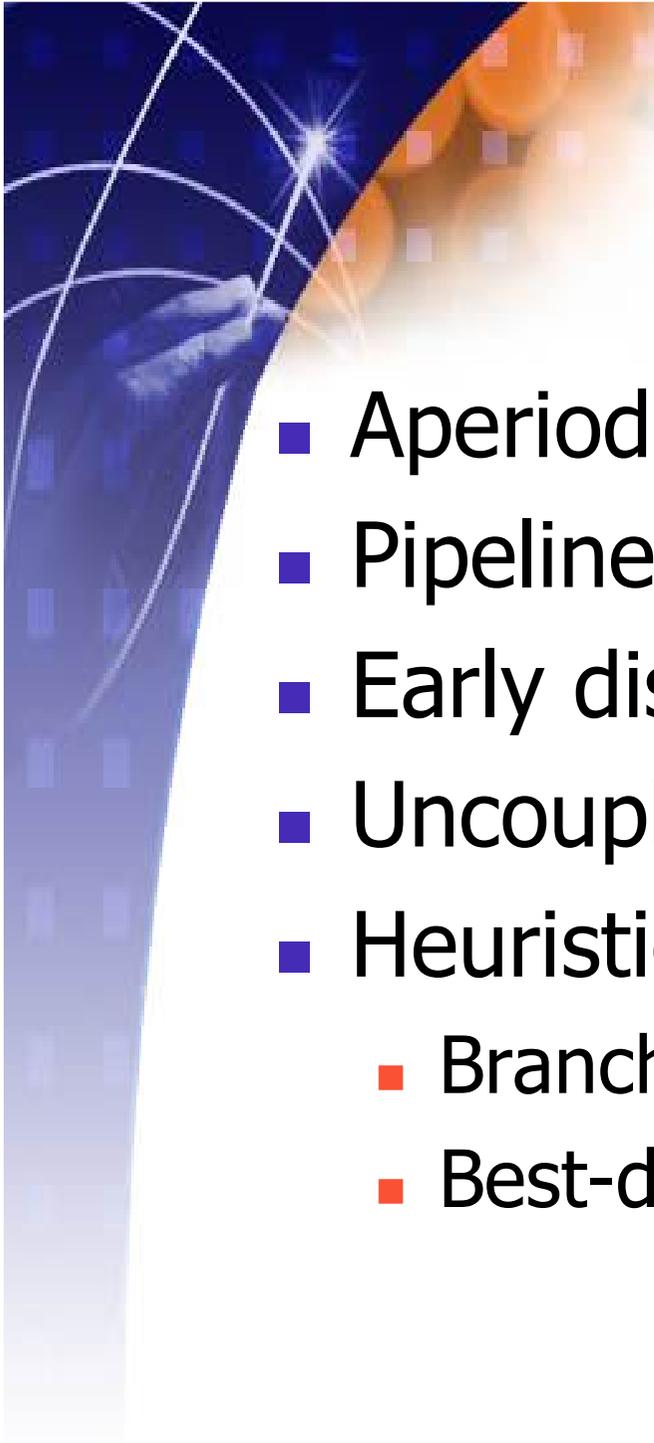
# Schedulers





# Minimum Switching Model

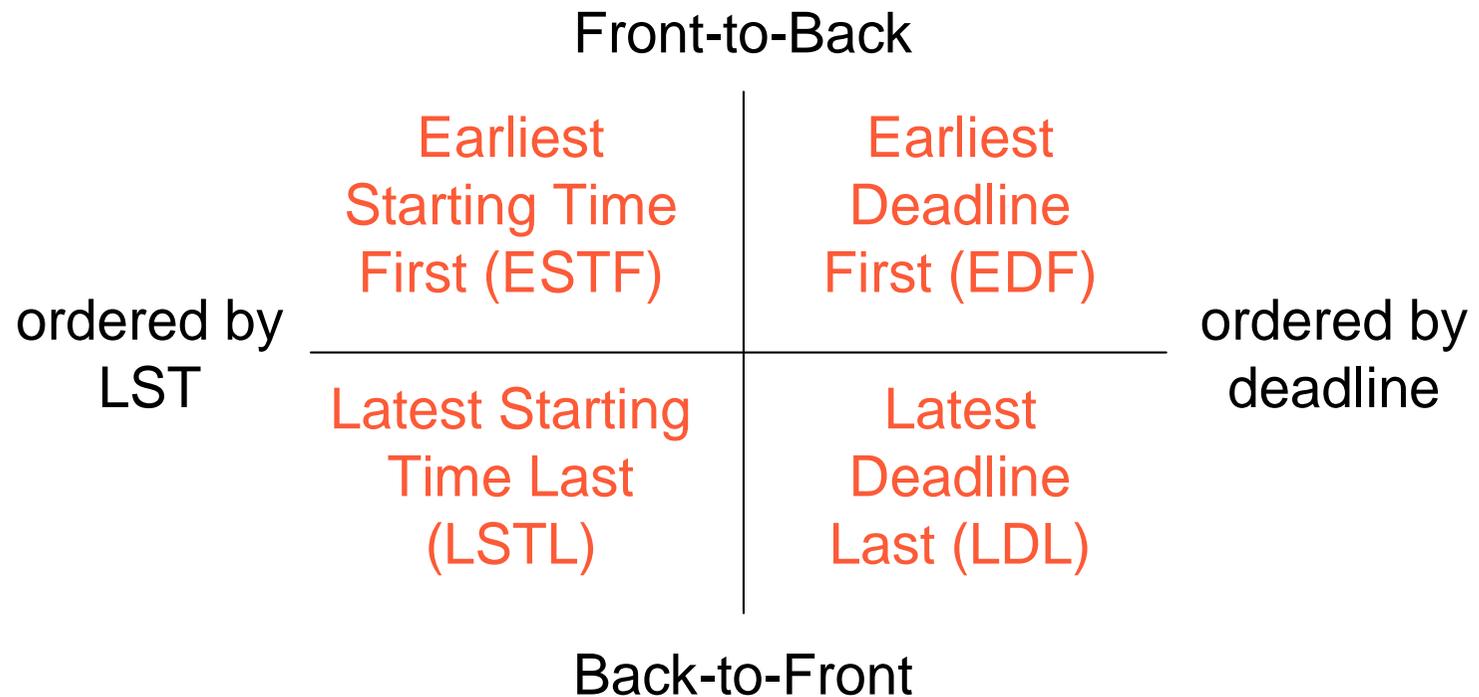
- Flexible Flow Shop with 3 stages
  - Load, Read, Unload
  - Uncoupled Load and Unload
- Read all data from RSM before unloading
  - Minimum number of switches
- Resource constraints to guarantee mutual exclusion



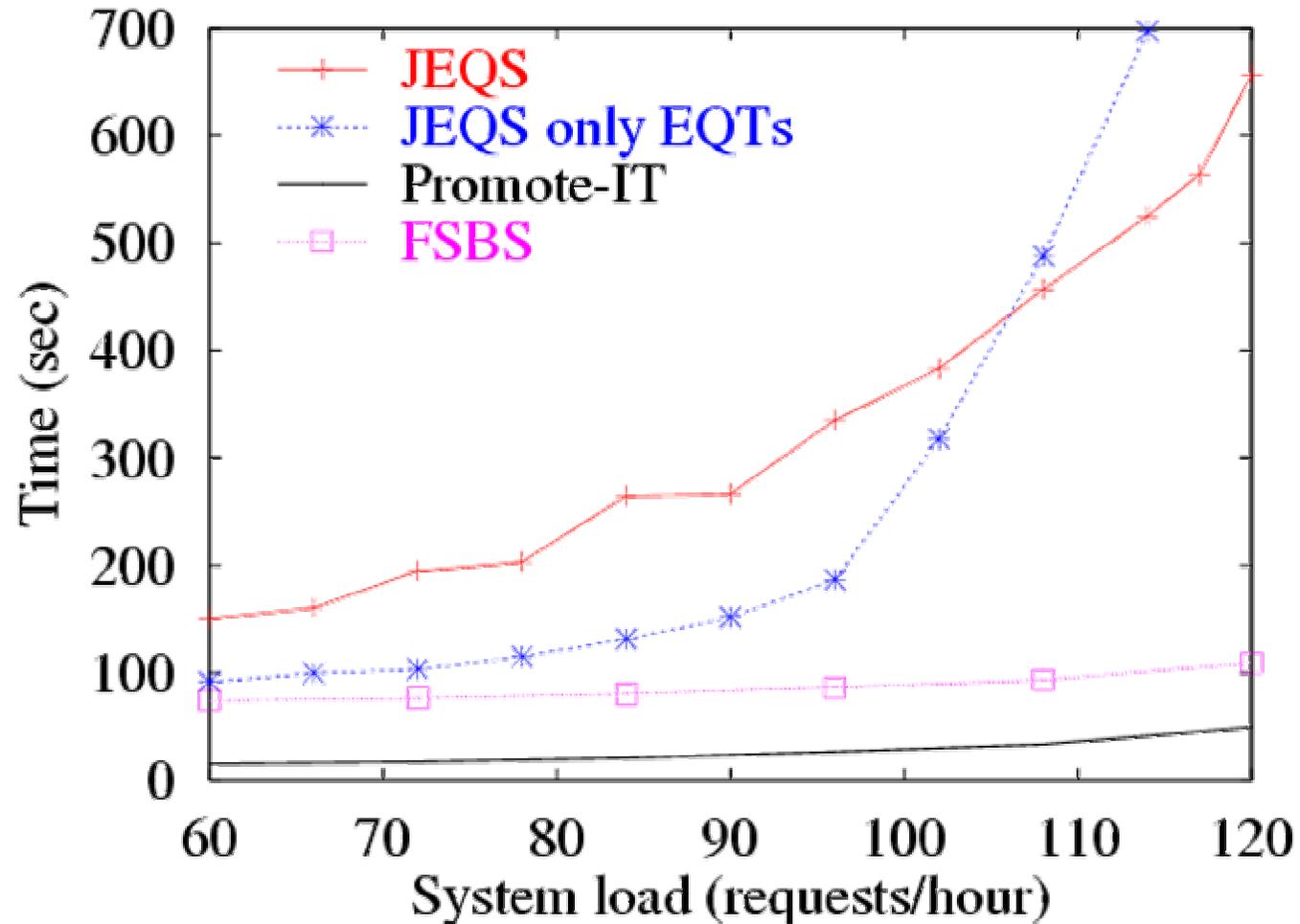
# Promote-IT Characteristics

- Aperiodic scheduler
- Pipeline
- Early dispatching
- Uncoupled load and unload
- Heuristic (polynomial) scheduler
  - Branch-and-bound algorithm
  - Best-drive heuristic

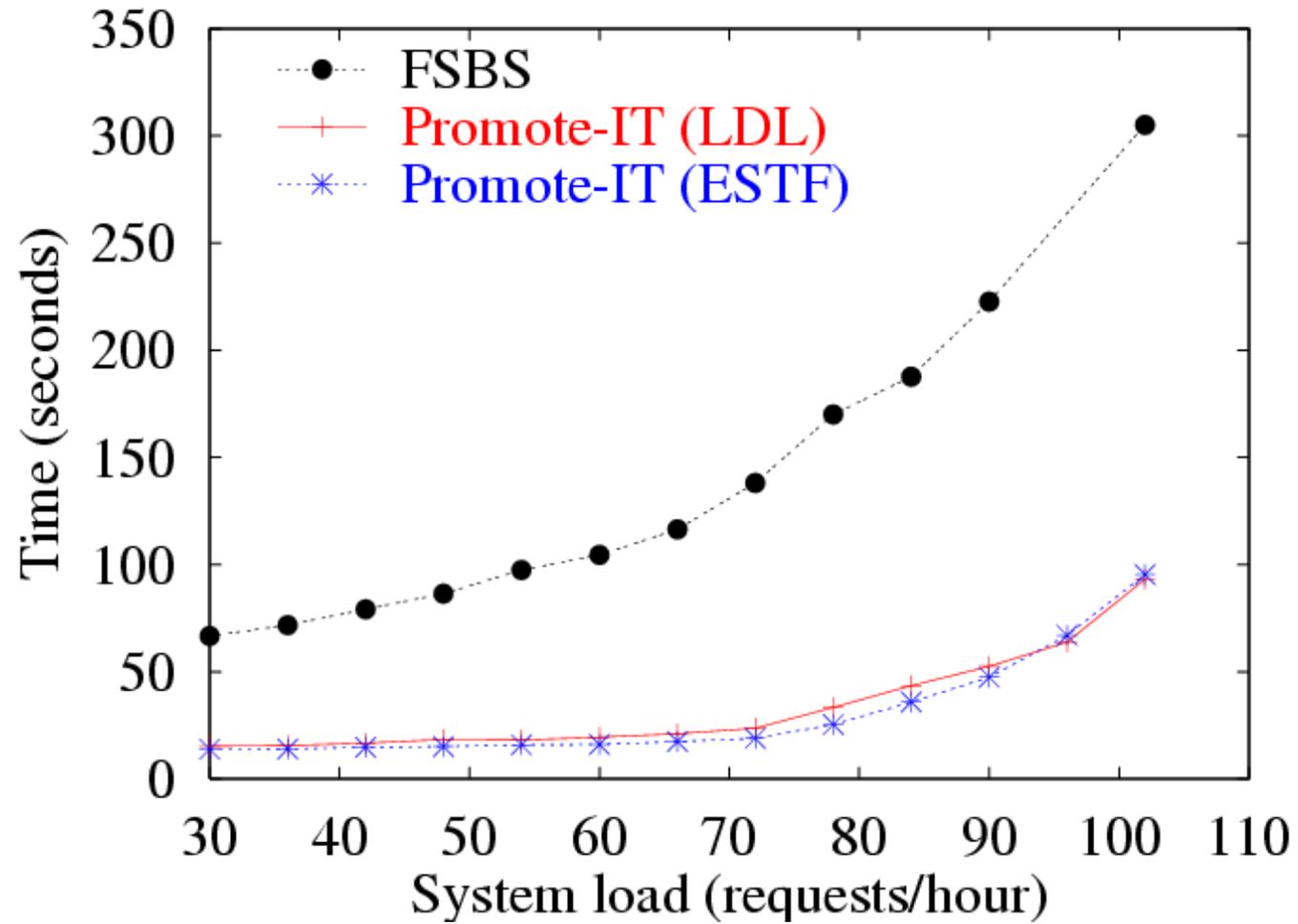
# Promote-IT Scheduling Strategies



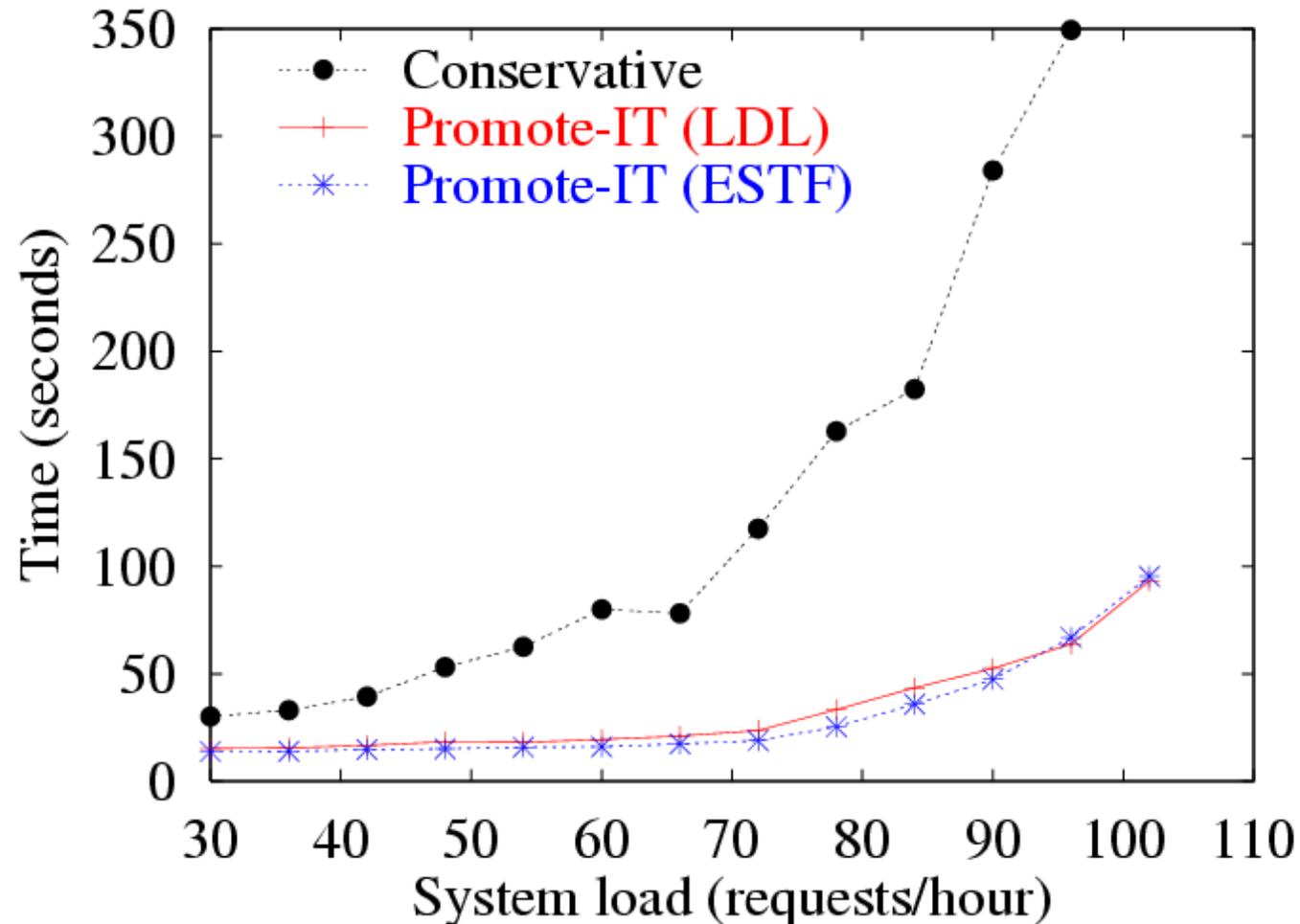
# Aperiodic Scheduling



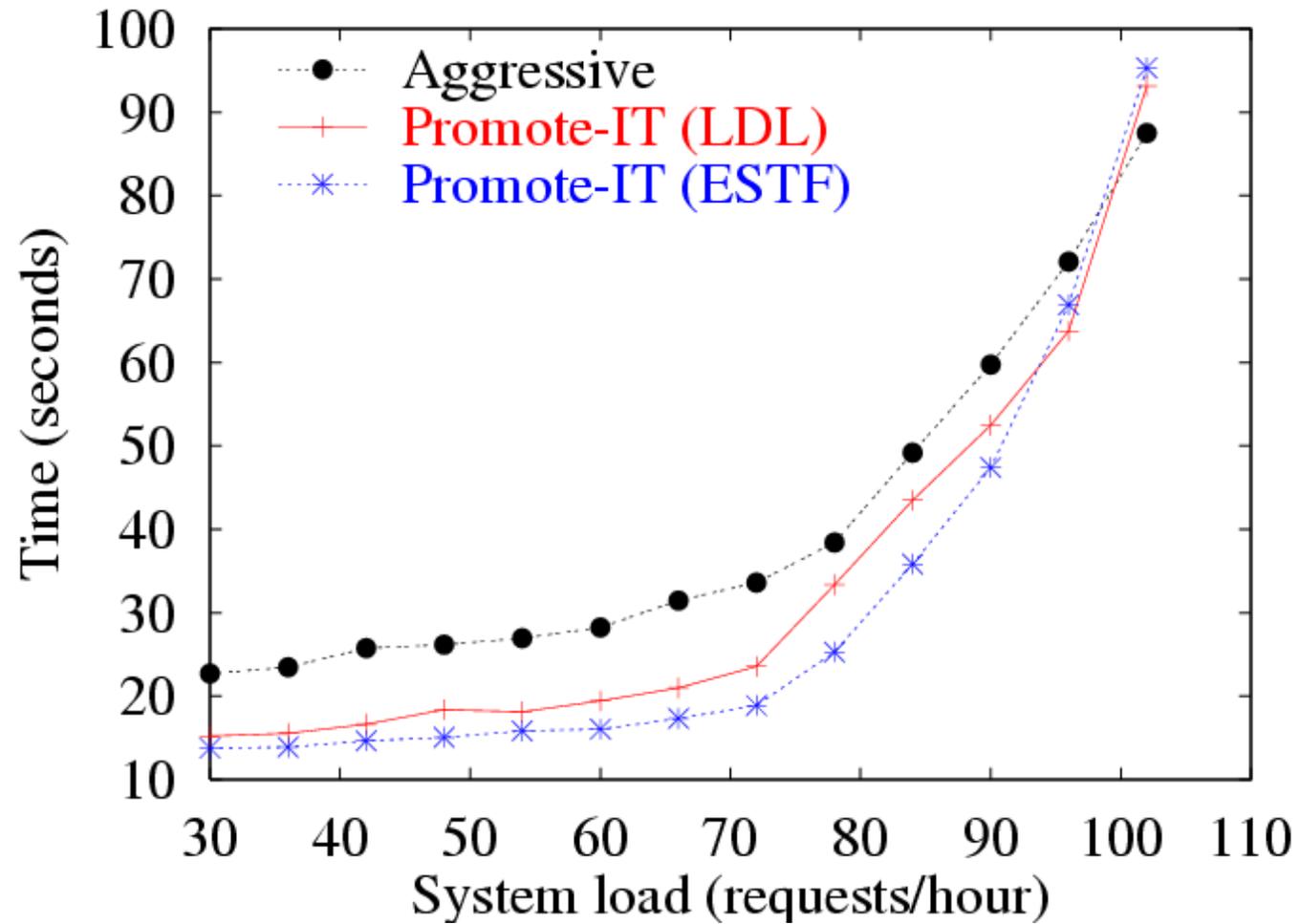
# Pipelining



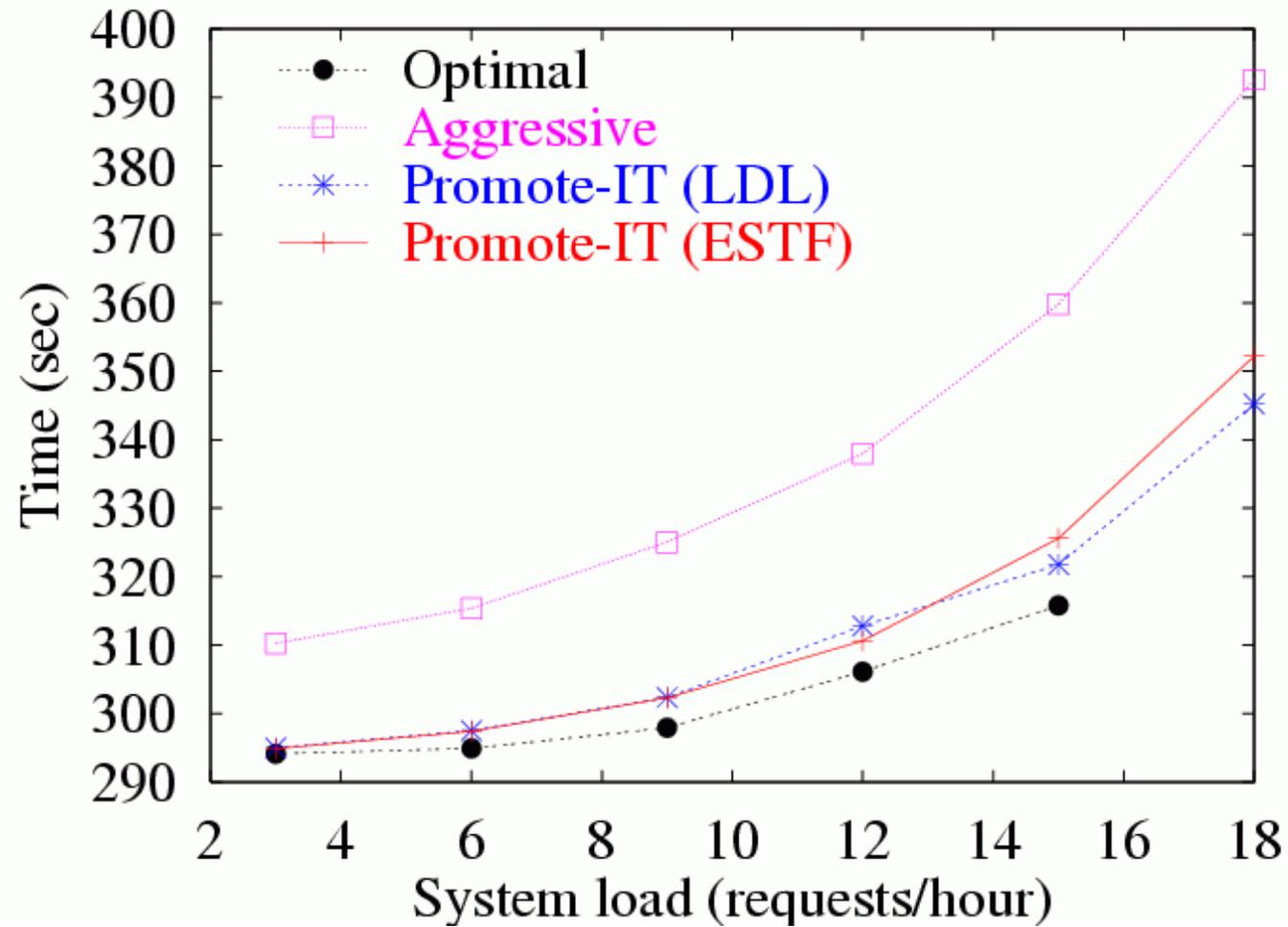
# Early Dispatching



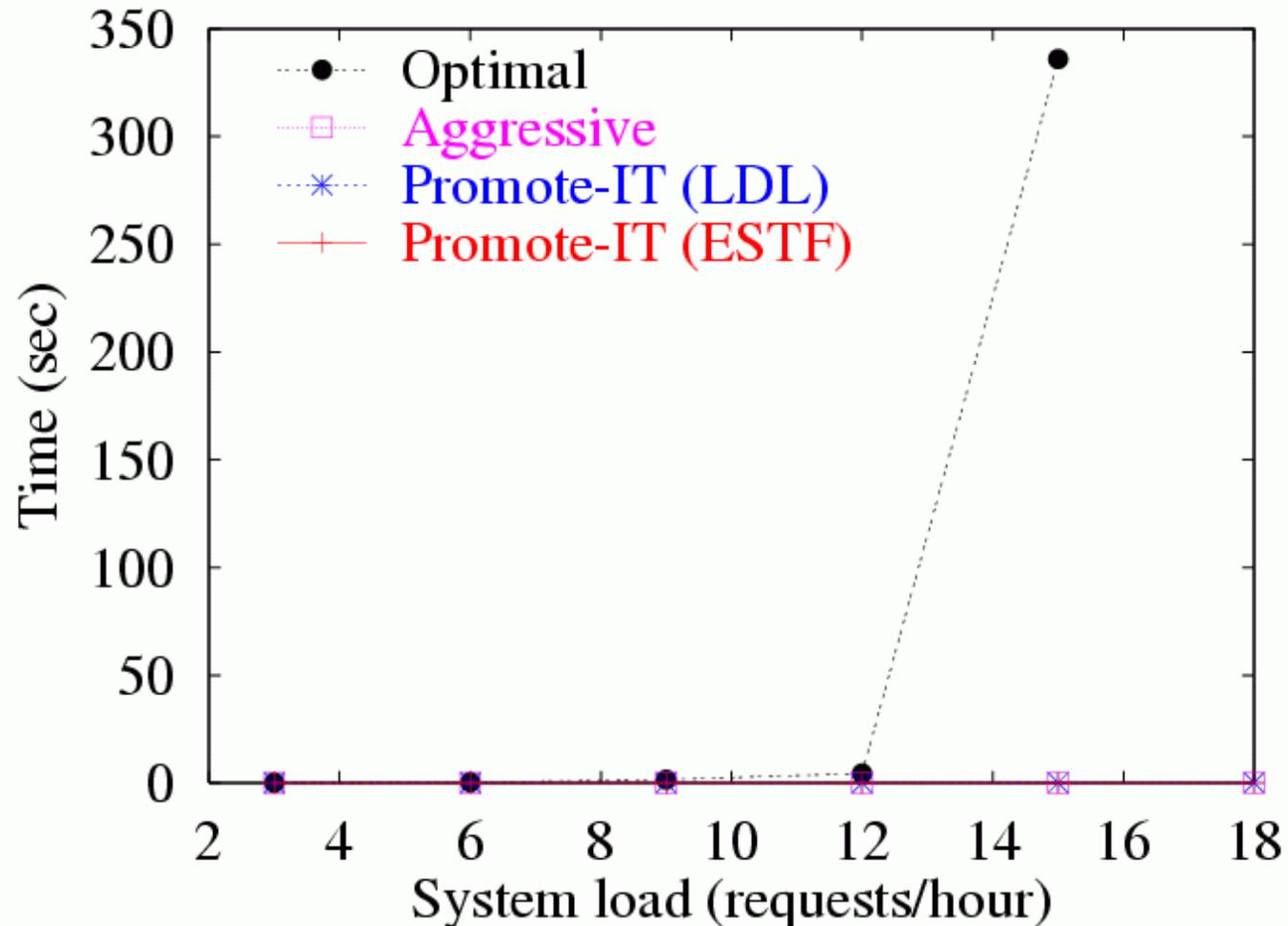
# Decoupled Load/Unload



# Heuristic



# Heuristic (Computing Time)



# Conclusions

- Flexible way to access tertiary storage
- Real-time guarantees
- Promote-IT
  - Efficient polynomial scheduler
  - Better performance than other schedulers
  - Response time near optimal
  - Can handle any type of requests and jukebox hardware