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• What is a file?	
 A named collection of information stored on secondary storage 	
 Properties of a file 	
 non-volatile 	
 – can read, read, or update it 	
 has meta-data to describe attributes of the file 	
File Attributes	
 name: a way to describe the file 	
 type: some information about what is stored in the file 	
 location: how to find the file on disk 	
 – size: number of bytes 	
 protection: access control 	
 may be different for read, write, execute, append, etc. 	
 time: access, modification, creation 	
 version: how many times has the file changed 	22
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Authentication	
• How does the computer know who is using it?	
 need to exchange some information to verify the user 	
 types of information exchanged: 	
• pins	
 numeric passwords 	
 too short to be secure in most cases 	
 passwords 	
 – a string of letters and numbers 	
 – often easy to guess 	
 challenge/response pairs 	
 user needs to be apply to apply a specific algorithm 	
 – often involve use of a calculator like device 	
 – can be combined with passwords 	
 unique attributes of the person 	
– i.e. signature, thumb print, DNA?	
 – sometimes these features can change during life 	20
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