

Lecture 8: VM & Memory Management

VM(idea: indirection) provides fine-grained and dynamic management of address space. Each process has its own virtual address space, contiguous and linear. Virtual address space map to physical address space in unit of pages.

Page table: translate virtual address to physical address, each process has its own, managed by OS, used by hardware. One PTE per virtual page, lower bits are not translated. PTE includes valid bit, physical page number and metadata (RWX).

VM: 1. **Memory management**, easy to share pages across processes

2. **Memory protection**, can't access physical memory not mapped to its virtual space, has permission bits;

3. **data caching**: a subset of allocated are mapped.

VM = Unallocated + Mapped(V=1) + Swap-out (allocated but not mapped, swap-out to disk);

DRAM is software-managed cache for disk, cache block is pages, fully associative.

Page fault (swapped-out page): a type of exception, V=0, invoke OS page fault handler to move data from storage to memory. Like cache miss. If unallocated (non-existing), terminate process, extremely slow

TLB: Cache for address translation

Locality in access -> locality in translation.

TLB = valid + tag + PTE, tag is the virtual page number.

Multi-level page tables: top level resident in memory, remaining levels in memory / disk, or unallocated. Save sparse virtual address significantly.

Inter-Process Sharing: different process share page by setting virtual addr to same physical addr

Copy on Write: when copying, make destination page write-protected, when writing to either virtual address, trigger a permission fault and copy actually.

Memory Mapping: associate a file with a virtual memory area.

1. Get initial data from file into memory: regular file on disk
2. Swap physical memory content to file: swap file
3. New allocated space initialized to zero: anonymous file

When doing memory mapping, OS only sets up PTE in page table(V=0), wait until first page fault, rely on demanding paging to load data. For anonymous file, physical page is only allocated when first write. (return 0 when read)

Fork: child create copies of the page tables and other kernel data structures. Mark each PTE in parent and child as write-protected, copy-on-write.

Mmap: access files as well as allocating new virtual address ranges **Execve**: free old page and initialize new page table, memory map program and data, set PC to entry point of the program

External Fragmentation: enough aggregate free space, but not contiguous. Solution: segregated free lists.

Internal Fragmentation: request size is smaller than the allocated free space. Solution: append remaining space to its corresponding free list.

Implicit Memory Management: need garbage collection (pointer is a pointer); mark and sweep (delay memory reclamation), reference counting (simple but may leak memory)

Lecture 9: I/O Devices

Challenges: thousands of devices, slow and unpredictable behavior. Solution: new and standard interface and mechanism, new access approaches.

Operational parameters for IO: data granularity (byte or block), access pattern (sequential or random), device speed rates

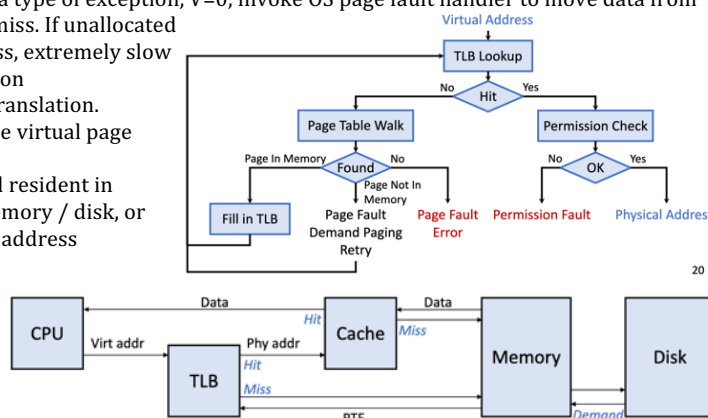
Memory-mapped IO: each IO device has interface registers and data buffers, assign an unused range of physical address to each IO device. (not in general DRAM, continuous in physical address space).

IO address space protected by the VM, use syscall (read, write) to access IO address or ask OS to map IO address to virtual address (mmap).

Standard IO interface: provide uniform interface, abstract IO device to fit standard types by device driver

IO types: blocking (wait until finish), non-blocking (best effort, return quickly with count of transferred bytes), asynchronous (notify when finish)

Block device (SSD): access blocks, can randomly address a location (open, close, read, write, seek)



Stream device(keyboard): no addressing, just read/write next

IO Notification: pooling, periodic checking, hard to determine pool frequency

interrupt, device notify process when needs attention, avoid waste CPU time but need context switch
Direct Memory Access (DMA): a hardware for data movement, transfer data between device and memory without CPU intervention. DMA engine itself is IO device, accept data transfer descriptor (src, dest, length), keep multiple in a queue

Processor set up DMA -> DMA transfer -> notify processor using interrupt

DMA design issues: 1. OS may swap pages out to disk, use memory pinning

2. contiguous VM not physically contiguous, chain series of single-page requests / let DMA engine use virtual address (transfer descriptor need continuous)

3. Data involved in DMA transfer may be cached, sol:

- (1) software flushes cache / forces writeback before IO
- (2) search cache for copies (may impact performance negatively since when searching cache, processor can't access cache)

Disk: Long-term, non-volatile, large, inexpensive, slow usage: Virtual memory and file system

Disk -> platter -> surface -> track -> sector (groups of sectors form block)

block in disk = page in SSD (4kB)

Disk access time = controller overhead + seek time + rotational delay (half cycle) + transfer time (sector pass under heads)(+queuing delay), small data dominated by seek time and rotational delay

Minimum time = controller overhead + transfer time (no seek and rotate)

Disk scheduling: use data locality, speed up large sequential access, can also use cache

FIFO, SSTF (shortest seek time first), SCAN (travel in direction), C-SCAN (travel in one direction)

SSD: made by NAND/NOR multi-level cell Flash; no moving parts, 4kB per page, 32 to 128 pages per block. Read in unit of pages, only write to erased pages, erase happen in units of blocks.

Flash Translation Layer (FTL): SSD must write data to new page in erased block then let address point to this page, FTL manage this process.

Main data structure: address mapping (logical to physical), block info table (track block status, write pages in block sequentially), wear leveling (block wear out after enough erase, avoid write same block)

GPU: as IO device to CPU, offload computation, separate memory; overlap computation and communication. CPU & GPU as management processor + accelerator / cooperative co-processors

Lecture 10: File System

logical block address (LBA): from 0 to max-number of blocks, skip bad blocks

File system transform block interface into file interface, consists of files and directory structure.

User view: file; Syscall view: contiguous bytes; OS view: collection of blocks, data in system are always accessed and allocated in blocks; read block into memory then operate, can't directly r/w on disk

Named file independent of process, user, system

FS components: file and directory structure

1. Disk management: track which blocks contain data for which file, track free blocks;
2. Naming: find file by name; 3. Protection: keep different user's data isolated; 4.

Reliability: keep data consistent despite crash

File descriptor (inode): stored in disk, kept in kernel memory when file is open

Open: translate file name to file number (use dir) -> locate inode -> copy inode to kernel memory -> return file handle (integer, each process has own handle) -> operate on file handle

Two level of **open-file tables**: per-process and system-wide. Read per-process open-file table using index (file handle), follow pointer to system-wide table

File access patterns: sequential,

random, keyed

Data block organization ways: 1. **contiguous**; 2. **linked list**: easy to allocate and no external

fragmentation, but more disk seeks (Windows FAT, each FAT

entry stores address of next

