Working Set Size

The working set size is the # of unique pages in the working set
i.e the number of pages referenced in the interval (t, t-w)

The working set size changes with program locality

- During periods of poor locality, you reference more pages
- Within that period of time, the working set size is larger

Intuitively, want the working set to be the set of pages a process needs in memory to prevent heavy faulting

- Each process has a parameter w that determines a working set with few faults
- Don't run a process unless working set is in memory

Example : gcc working set