

# Working Set Problems

- Hard to determine  $w$
  - Hard to know when the working set changes
- ➔ However, still used as an abstraction  
when people ask, “How much memory does Firefox need?”,  
they are in effect asking for the size of Firefox’s working set

# Page Fault Frequency (PFF)

- ➔ Page Fault Frequency (PFF) is a variable space algorithm that uses a more ad-hoc approach

Monitor the fault rate for each process

- If the fault rate is above a high threshold, give it more memory
- If the fault rate is below a low threshold, take away memory
- Hard to use PFF to distinguish between changes in locality and changes in size of working set