Thrashing

Overcommitted system
when OS spent most of the time in paging data back and forth from disk (and so spending little time doing useful work)

- The problem comes from either

  - a bad page replacement algorithm
    (that does not help minimizing page fault)

  - or not enough physical memory for all processes

Windows XP Paging Policy

➡ Local page replacement

- Per-process FIFO

- Processes start with a default of 50 pages

- XP monitors page fault rate and adjusts working-set size accordingly

- On page fault, cluster of pages around the missing page are brought into memory