

OPERATING SYSTEM



Memory management in your **FreeBSD**

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Assignment: Memory management in your FreeBSD
Subject: Operating System
Dr. Yasser Fouad

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Last pid: 1073; load averages: 0.11, 0.14, 0.05; battery: 60% up 0+00:03:07 21:22:25
77 processes: 1 running, 75 sleeping, 1 stopped
CPU: 1.2% user, 0.0% nice, 0.9% system, 0.0% interrupt, 97.8% idle
Mem: 325M Active, 240M Inact, 976K Laundry, 352M Wired, 229M Buf, 3021M Free
Swap: 1024M Total, 1024M Free

  PID  USERNAME  THR  PRI  NICE  SIZE  RES  STATE  C  TIME  WCPU  COMMAND
  993  mahmoud   19   21    0   3057M  449M  select  3  0:09  3.24%  gnome-shell
  878  root       3    21    0   216M   98M  select  1  0:04  3.17%  Xorg
  1058 mahmoud    5    20    0   125M   47M  select  2  0:01  0.89%  gnome-terminal-serv
  735  root       1    20    0   13M    2364K select  2  0:00  0.11%  moused
  1073 mahmoud    1    20    0   14M   3796K CPU2   2  0:00  0.09%  top
  1024 mahmoud    5    20    0   67M   31M  select  2  0:00  0.01%  gsd-xsettings
  982  mahmoud    5    20    0   53M   14M  select  0  0:00  0.01%  gvfs-udisks2-volume
  999  mahmoud    2    20    0   609M  10M  select  1  0:00  0.01%  pulseaudio
  1025 mahmoud    5    20    0   41M   9708K select  3  0:00  0.00%  gsd-housekeeping
  1036 mahmoud    7    20    0   250M  77M  select  1  0:01  0.00%  evolution-alarm-not
  974  mahmoud    1    20    0   14M   4564K select  2  0:01  0.00%  dbus-daemon
  1042 mahmoud    5    20    0   65M   30M  select  2  0:00  0.00%  ibus-extension-gtk3
  960  mahmoud    5    52    0   87M   29M  select  2  0:00  0.00%  gnome-session-binar
  1003 mahmoud    5    25    0   172M  53M  select  2  0:00  0.00%  goa-daemon
  776  messagebus 1    20    0   14M   4152K select  3  0:00  0.00%  dbus-daemon
  1018 mahmoud   10   52    0   129M  48M  select  0  0:00  0.00%  evolution-calendar-
  1016 mahmoud    5    20    0   328M  32M  select  2  0:00  0.00%  gsd-media-keys
  873  root      16    20    0   88M   8864K select  3  0:00  0.00%  console-kit-daemon
  1026 mahmoud    5    20    0   72M   31M  select  1  0:00  0.00%  gsd-power
  1012 mahmoud    4    52    0   55M   15M  select  2  0:00  0.00%  ibus-daemon
  1044 mahmoud    4    20    0   57M   28M  select  0  0:00  0.00%  ibus-x11
  1010 mahmoud    5    20    0   65M   28M  select  1  0:00  0.00%  gsd-keyboard
  935  root       7    20    0   94M   15M  select  2  0:00  0.00%  bsd disks
  1053 mahmoud    7    52    0   150M  50M  select  1  0:00  0.00%  evolution-addressbo
  1031 mahmoud    8    20    0   2174M  39M  select  1  0:00  0.00%  gjs-console
  1001 mahmoud    5    23    0   96M   45M  select  0  0:00  0.00%  evolution-source-re
  1005 mahmoud    8    20    0   2169M  39M  select  0  0:00  0.00%  gjs-console
  1075 polkitd    4    20    0   37M   9108K select  2  0:00  0.00%  polkitd
  735  mahmoud    8    26    0   82M   28M  select  0  0:00  0.00%  zeitgeist-datahub
  
```

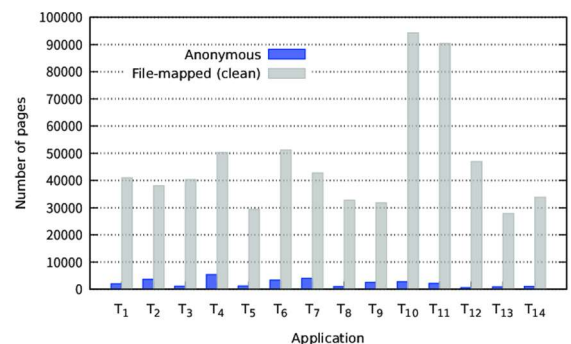
(This image show processes on the system and all needed consuming resources, even in CPU and Ram)

Pageable memory is like a big notebook for your computer. When your computer needs to use something, it wrote in the notebook but doesn't have enough space, it's like moving that info to another notebook (the **swap device**) and erasing it from the big one-

if your computer wants to use that info again, it checks the swap notebook, finds what it needs, and puts it back in the **big notebook**. If there's not enough space in the big notebook, it might erase some less important stuff to make room. The stuff in the swap notebook is like secret notes your computer keeps, and it's called **"anonymous memory."**

Examples of anonymous memory include:

1. Memory allocated by malloc() in applications.
2. Contents of a swap-type MD device.
3. Data in tmpfs filesystems.
4. Shared memory in SysV or POSIX segments.

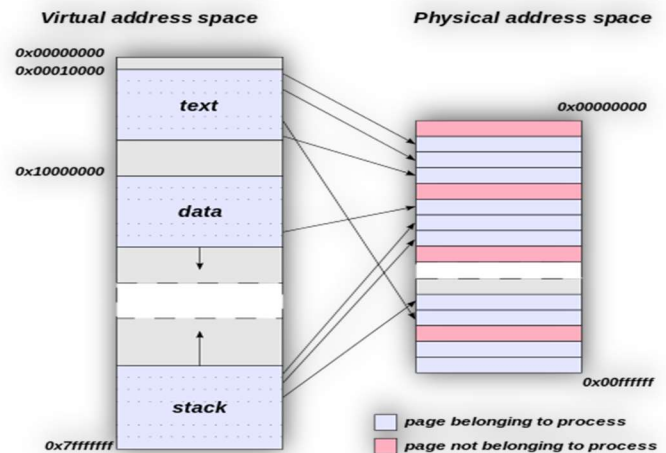
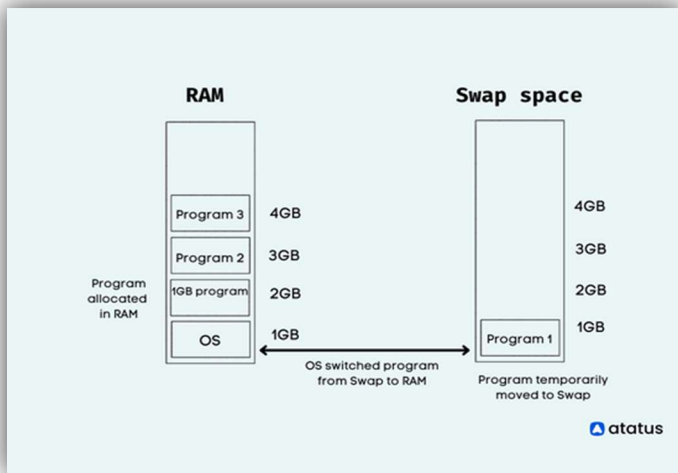


Think of file data as your computer's saved files and information. The computer has a special **memory space** just for these files. Different systems call it by different names, like "buffer cache" in **UFS**, **msdosfs**, and **NFS**, and "ARC" in **ZFS**.

When we need space for **new stuff**, the old data in the memory space **waits** in a line (like a queue) called the **"inactive queue."** But in ZFS, it's like the old data goes away right away without waiting in line.

Pages in page queues can be either "**clean**" or "**dirty**." Dirty pages need to be saved before they can be used again, at which point they become clean.

Dirty anonymous pages are cleaned by saving their contents to the **swap device**. **Dirty file pages** are cleaned by saving their contents to the **filesystem's main storage**. Once a page is clean, it's ready to be freed up and used again.



What about memory classes?

FreeBSD memory Classes organized into different classes:

Active:

- Holds **recently used pages** by programs.
- Contains both **clean and dirty pages** (clean means unaltered, dirty means changed).
- Pages are regularly checked by the page **daemon (a background process)** to see if they've been used recently.
- If a page hasn't been used in a while, it's moved to **the inactive queue**.
- It uses a **pseudo-Least Recently Used (LRU)** method to manage pages.

Inactive:

- Holds pages that have been **moved out of the active queue**.
- Also contains pages kicked out of the **buffer cache (where files are stored temporarily)**.
- Pages are scanned when there's a **memory shortage**.
- Referenced pages go back to the **active queue**.
- Dirty pages are moved to a queue for cleaning.
- Unused, clean pages can be freed up right away.
- Uses a **second-chance LRU** method to manage pages.

PLRU is like a smarter version of LRU. It doesn't keep track of exact ages; it guesses which items to replace based on rough estimates of their age.

a combination of using a queue, similar to FIFO

Laundry:

- A queue for **managing dirty (changed)** inactive pages that need cleaning before they can be used again.
- Managed by a separate thread called the **laundry thread**.
- Cleaning frequency depends on various factors.
- Referenced **pages go back to the active queue**.
- Dirty pages are cleaned and put **back in the inactive queue**.
- Helps maintain a balance between the **inactive and laundry queues**.

Free:

- Memory that's available for use by the whole system.

Wired:

- Non-pageable memory, meaning it can't be freed automatically.
- Userland memory can be "wired" by certain commands (**like mlock**).
- Kernel memory and the contents of the ARC and buffer cache are also wired.
- Some memory, like the kernel itself, is always wired and never released.

