Memory Management

Fixed Partitioning

- Equal-size partitions
 - Any process whose size is less than or equal to the partition size can be loaded into an available partition
- The operating system can swap a process out of a partition
 - If none are in a ready or running state

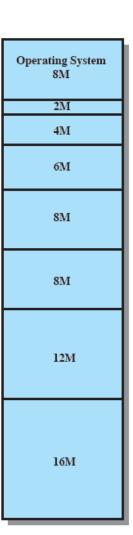


Fixed Partitioning Problems

- A program may not fit in a partition.
 - The programmer must design the program with overlays
- Main memory use is inefficient.
 - Any program, no matter how small, occupies an entire partition.
 - This is results in internal fragmentation.

Solution – Unequal Size Partitions

- Lessens both problems
 - but doesn't solve completely
 - Programs up to 16M can be accommodated without overlay
 - Smaller programs can be placed in smaller partitions, reducing internal fragmentation



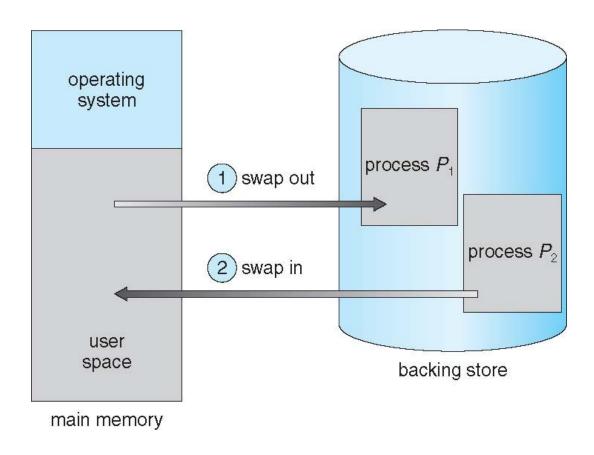
Fragmentation

- External Fragmentation total memory space exists to satisfy a request, but it is not contiguous
- Internal Fragmentation allocated memory may be slightly larger than requested memory; this size difference is memory internal to a partition, but not being used
- First fit analysis reveals that given N blocks allocated, 0.5 N blocks lost to fragmentation
 - 1/3 may be unusable -> 50-percent rule

Swapping

- A process can be swapped temporarily out of memory to a backing store, and then brought back into memory for continued execution
 - Total physical memory space of processes can exceed physical memory
- Backing store fast disk large enough to accommodate copies of all memory images for all users; must provide direct access to these memory images
- Roll out, roll in swapping variant used for priority-based scheduling algorithms; lower-priority process is swapped out so higher-priority process can be loaded and executed
- Major part of swap time is transfer time; total transfer time is directly proportional to the amount of memory swapped
- System maintains a ready queue of ready-to-run processes which have memory images on disk

Schematic View of Swapping



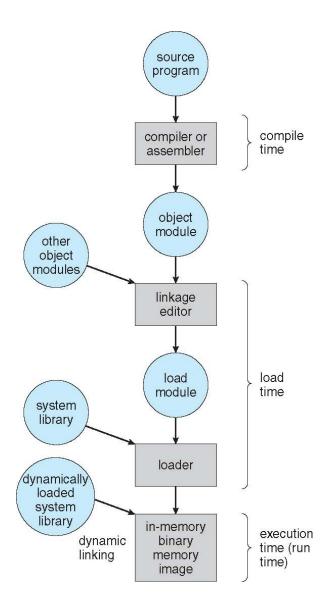
Address Binding

- Programs on disk, ready to be brought into memory to execute form an input queue
 - Without support, must be loaded into address 0000
- Inconvenient to have first user process physical address always at 0000
 - How can it not be?
- Further, addresses represented in different ways at different stages of a program's life
 - Source code addresses usually symbolic
 - Compiled code addresses bind to relocatable addresses
 - i.e. "14 bytes from beginning of this module"
 - Linker or loader will bind relocatable addresses to absolute addresses
 - i.e. 74014
 - Each binding maps one address space to another

Binding of Instructions and Data to Memory

- Address binding of instructions and data to memory addresses can happen at three different stages
 - Compile time: If memory location known a priori, absolute code can be generated; must recompile code if starting location changes
 - Load time: Must generate relocatable code if memory location is not known at compile time
 - Execution time: Binding delayed until run time if the process can be moved during its execution from one memory segment to another
 - Need hardware support for address maps (e.g., base and limit registers)

Multistep Processing of a User Program



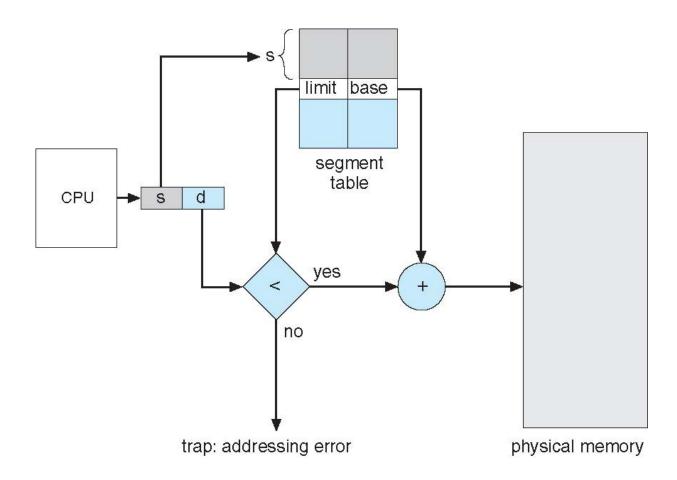
Dynamic Linking

- Static linking system libraries and program code combined by the loader into the binary program image
- Dynamic linking —linking postponed until execution time
- Small piece of code, stub, used to locate the appropriate memory-resident library routine
- Stub replaces itself with the address of the routine, and executes the routine
- Operating system checks if routine is in processes' memory address
 - If not in address space, add to address space
- Dynamic linking is particularly useful for libraries
- System also known as shared libraries
- Consider applicability to patching system libraries
 - Versioning may be needed

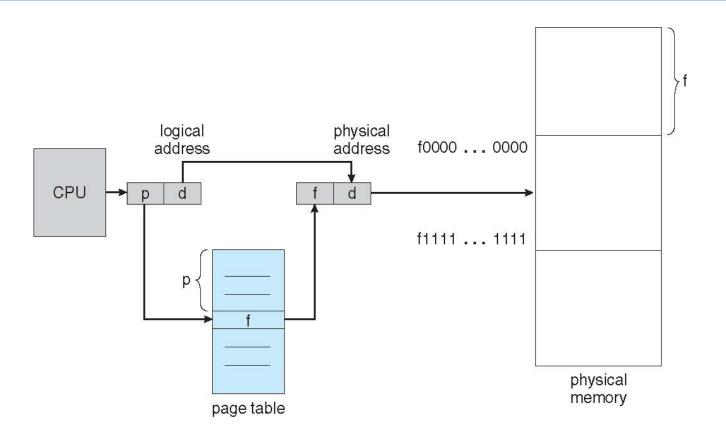
Logical vs. Physical Address Space

- The concept of a logical address space that is bound to a separate physical address space is central to proper memory management
 - Logical address generated by the CPU; also referred to as virtual address
 - Physical address address seen by the memory unit
- Logical and physical addresses are the same in compile-time and load-time address-binding schemes; logical (virtual) and physical addresses differ in execution-time address-binding scheme
- Logical address space is the set of all logical addresses generated by a program
- Physical address space is the set of all physical addresses generated by a program

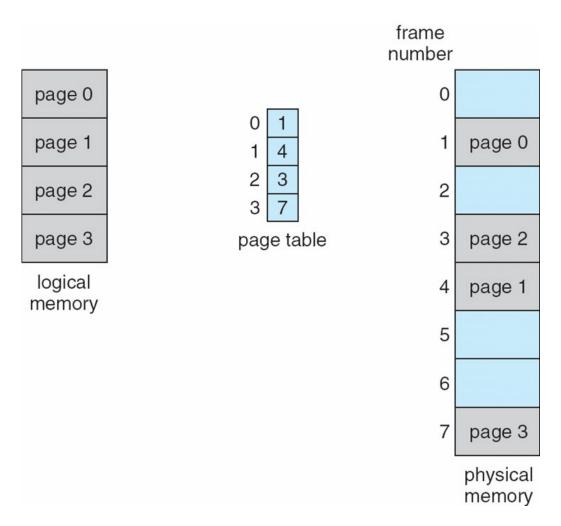
Segmentation Hardware



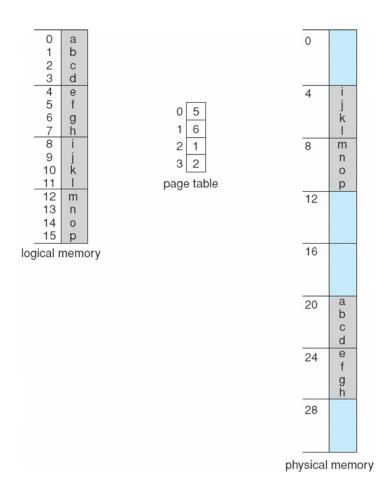
Paging Hardware



Paging Model of Logical and Physical Memory

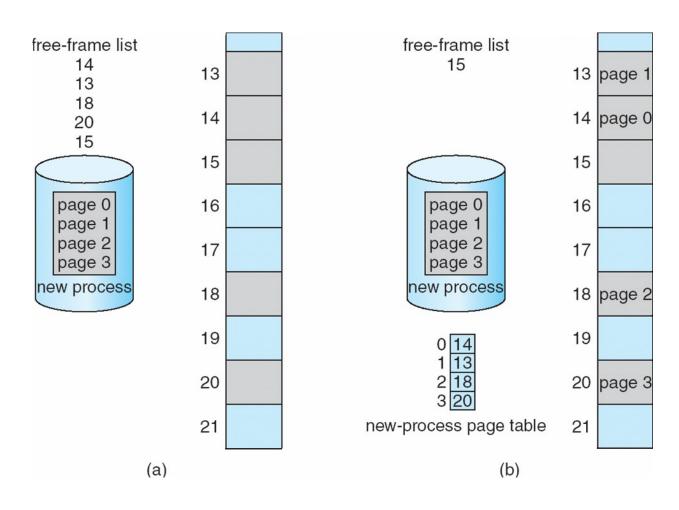


Paging Example



n=2 and m=4 32-byte memory and 4-byte pages

Free Frames



Before allocation

After allocation

Implementation of Page Table

- Page table is kept in main memory
- Page-table base register (PTBR) points to the page table
- Page-table length register (PTLR) indicates size of the page table
- In this scheme every data/instruction access requires two memory accesses
 - One for the page table and one for the data / instruction
- The two memory access problem can be solved by the use of a special fast-lookup hardware cache called associative memory or translation look-aside buffers (TLBs)

Implementation of Page Table (Cont.)

- Some TLBs store address-space identifiers (ASIDs) in each TLB entry uniquely identifies each process to provide address-space protection for that process
 - Otherwise need to flush at every context switch
- TLBs typically small (64 to 1,024 entries)
- On a TLB miss, value is loaded into the TLB for faster access next time
 - Replacement policies must be considered
 - Some entries can be wired down for permanent fast access

Paging Hardware With TLB

