

CS307: Operating Systems

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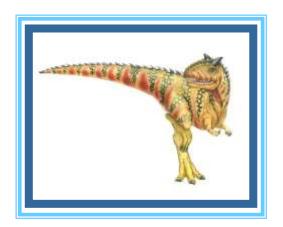


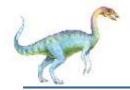


Download Lectures

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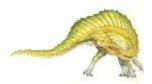
Chapter 9: Virtual Memory





Chapter 9: Virtual Memory

- Background
- Demand Paging
- Copy-on-Write
- Page Replacement
- Allocation of Frames
- Thrashing
- Memory-Mapped Files
- Allocating Kernel Memory
- Other Considerations
- Operating-System Examples





Objectives

- To describe the benefits of a virtual memory system
- To explain the concepts of demand paging, pagereplacement algorithms, and allocation of page frames
- To discuss the principle of the working-set model





Background

- Code needs to be in memory to execute, but entire program rarely used
 - Error code, unusual routines, large data structures
- Entire program code not needed at same time
- Consider ability to execute partially-loaded program
 - Program no longer constrained by limits of physical memory
 - Program and programs could be larger than physical memory





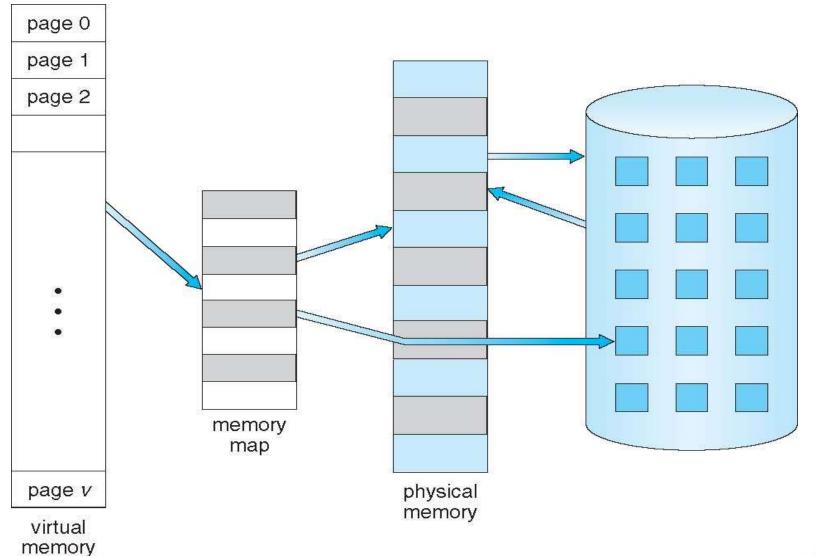
Background

- Virtual memory separation of user logical memory from physical memory
 - Only part of the program needs to be in memory for execution
 - Logical address space can therefore be much larger than physical address space
 - Allows address spaces to be shared by several processes
 - Allows for more efficient process creation
 - More programs running concurrently
 - Less I/O needed to load or swap processes
- Virtual memory can be implemented via:
 - Demand paging
 - Demand segmentation



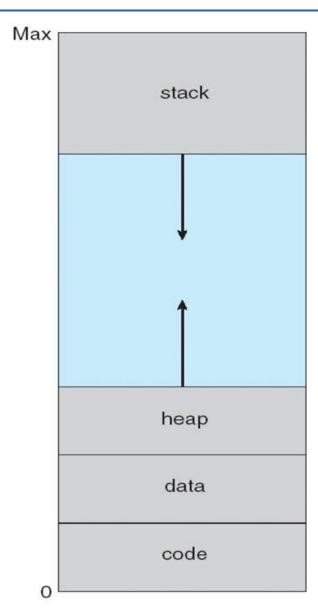


Virtual Memory That is Larger Than Physical Memory





Virtual-address Space







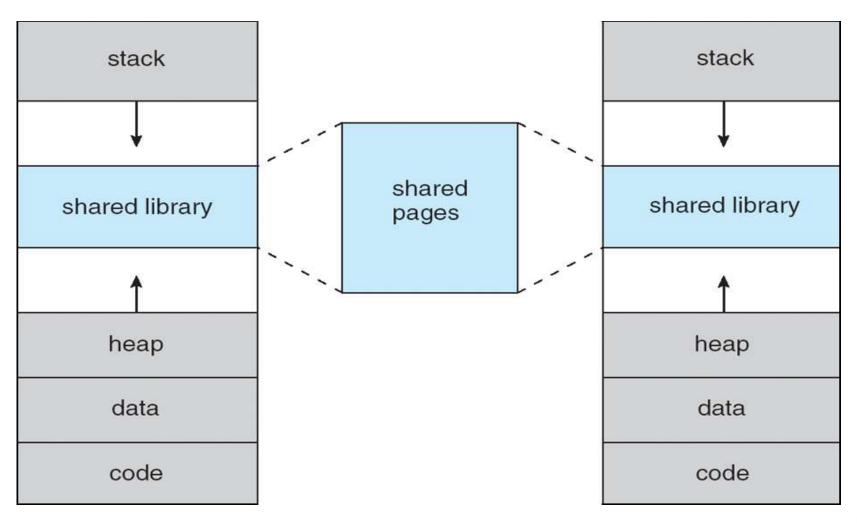
Virtual Address Space

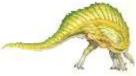
- Enables sparse address spaces with holes left for growth, dynamically linked libraries, etc
- System libraries shared via mapping into virtual address space
- Shared memory by mapping pages read-write into virtual address space
- Pages can be shared during fork(), speeding process creation





Shared Library Using Virtual Memory







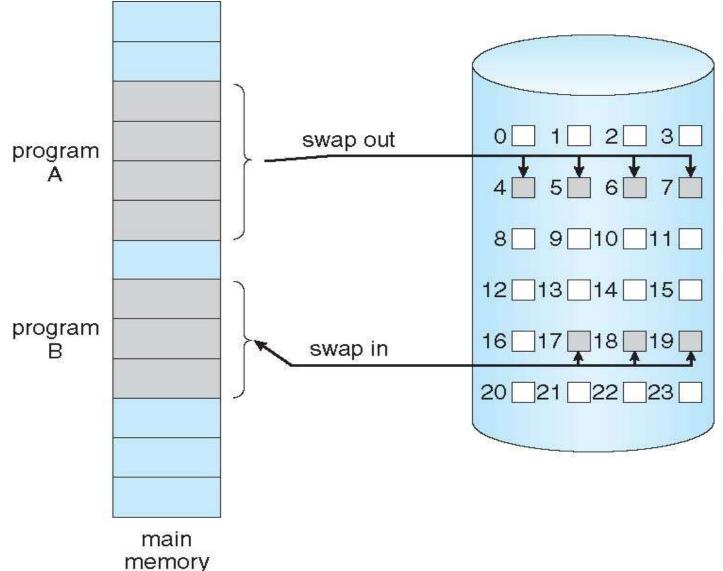
Demand Paging

- Could bring entire process into memory at load time
- Or bring a page into memory only when it is needed
 - Less I/O needed, no unnecessary I/O
 - Less memory needed
 - Faster response
 - More users
- Page is needed ⇒ reference to it
 - invalid reference ⇒ abort
 - not-in-memory ⇒ bring to memory
- Lazy swapper never swaps a page into memory unless page will be needed
 - Swapper that deals with pages is a pager





Transfer of a Paged Memory to Contiguous Disk Space







Valid-Invalid Bit

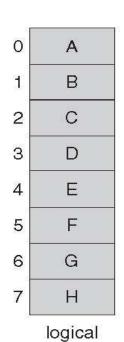
- With each page table entry a valid–invalid bit is associated
 (v ⇒ in-memory memory resident, i ⇒ not-in-memory)
- Initially valid—invalid bit is set to i on all entries
- Example of a page table snapshot:

Frame #	valio	l-invalid bit	
	V		
	V		
	٧		
	V		
	i		
	i		
	i		
page table			

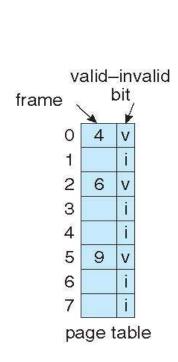
■ During address translation, if valid—invalid bit in page table entry is I ⇒ page fault

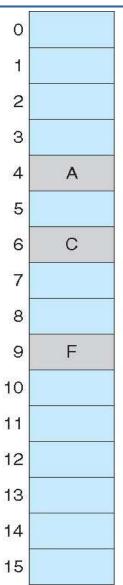


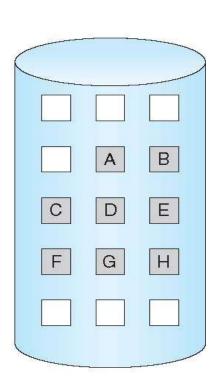
Page Table When Some Pages Are Not in Main Memory

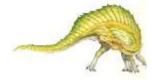


memory









physical memory



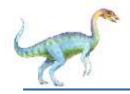
Page Fault

If there is a reference to a page, first reference to that page will trap to operating system:

page fault

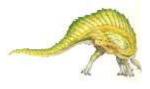
- 1. Operating system looks at another table to decide:
 - Invalid reference ⇒ abort
 - Just not in memory
- 2. Get empty frame
- 3. Swap page into frame via scheduled disk operation
- 4. Reset tables to indicate page now in memory Set validation bit = v
- 5. Restart the instruction that caused the page fault





Aspects of Demand Paging

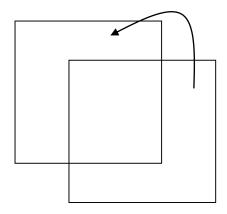
- Extreme case start process with no pages in memory
 - OS sets instruction pointer to first instruction of process, non-memory-resident -> page fault
 - And for every other process pages on first access
 - Pure demand paging
- Actually, a given instruction could access multiple pages -> multiple page faults
 - Pain decreased because of locality of reference
- Hardware support needed for demand paging
 - Page table with valid / invalid bit
 - Secondary memory (swap device with swap space)
 - Instruction restart





Instruction Restart

- Consider an instruction that could access several different locations
 - block move

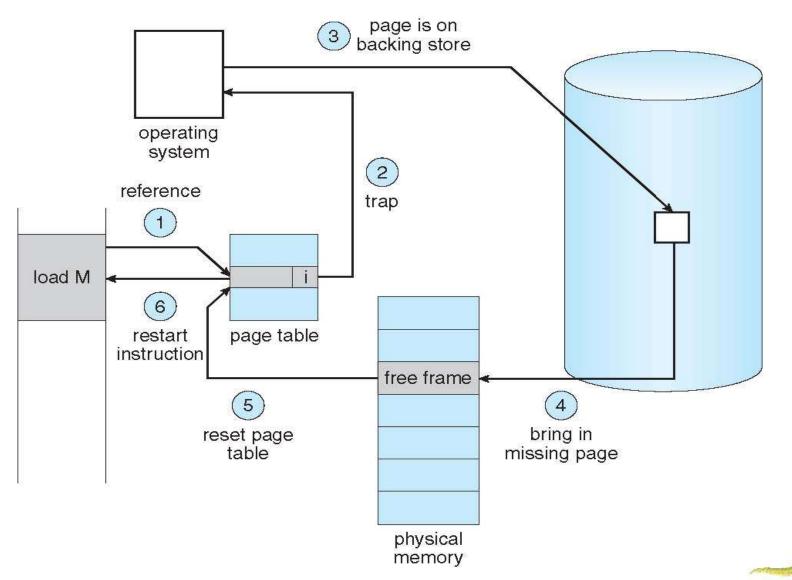


- auto increment/decrement location
- Restart the whole operation?
 - What if source and destination overlap?





Steps in Handling a Page Fault





Performance of Demand Paging

- Stages in Demand Paging
- 1. Trap to the operating system
- 2. Save the user registers and process state
- 3. Determine that the interrupt was a page fault
- 4. Check that the page reference was legal and determine the location of the page on the disk
- 5. Issue a read from the disk to a free frame:
 - Wait in a queue for this device until the read request is serviced
 - 2. Wait for the device seek and/or latency time
 - 3. Begin the transfer of the page to a free frame





Performance of Demand Paging (Cont.)

- 6. While waiting, allocate the CPU to some other user
- Receive an interrupt from the disk I/O subsystem (I/O completed)
- 8. Save the registers and process state for the other user
- 9. Determine that the interrupt was from the disk
- 10.Correct the page table and other tables to show page is now in memory
- 11. Wait for the CPU to be allocated to this process again
- 12. Restore the user registers, process state, and new page table, and then resume the interrupted instruction

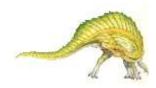


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Performance of Demand Paging (Cont.)

- Page Fault Rate $0 \le p \le 1$
 - if p = 0 no page faults
 - if p = 1, every reference is a fault
- Effective Access Time (EAT)

```
EAT = (1 - p) x memory access
+ p (page fault overhead
+ swap page out
+ swap page in
+ restart overhead
```





Demand Paging Example

- Memory access time = 200 nanoseconds
- Average page-fault service time = 8 milliseconds
- EAT = $(1 p) \times 200 + p$ (8 milliseconds) = $(1 - p \times 200 + p \times 8,000,000$ = $200 + p \times 7,999,800$
- If one access out of 1,000 causes a page fault, then EAT = 8.2 microseconds.

This is a slowdown by a factor of 40!!

- If want performance degradation < 10 percent
 - 220 > 200 + 7,999,800 x p
 20 > 7,999,800 x p
 - p < .0000025
 - < one page fault in every 400,000 memory accesses



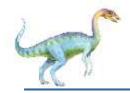


Demand Paging Optimizations

- Copy entire process image to swap space at process load time
 - Then page in and out of swap space
 - Used in older BSD Unix

- Demand page in from program binary on disk, but discard rather than paging out when freeing frame
 - Used in Solaris and current BSD





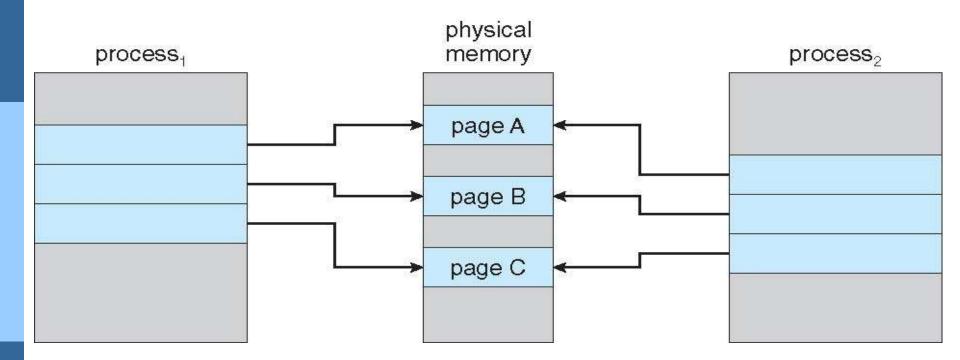
Copy-on-Write

- Copy-on-Write (COW) allows both parent and child processes to initially share the same pages in memory
 - If either process modifies a shared page, only then is the page copied
- COW allows more efficient process creation as only modified pages are copied
- In general, free pages are allocated from a pool of zero-fillon-demand pages
 - Why zero-out a page before allocating it?
- vfork() variation on fork() system call has parent suspend and child using copy-on-write address space of parent
 - Designed to have child call exec()
 - Very efficient





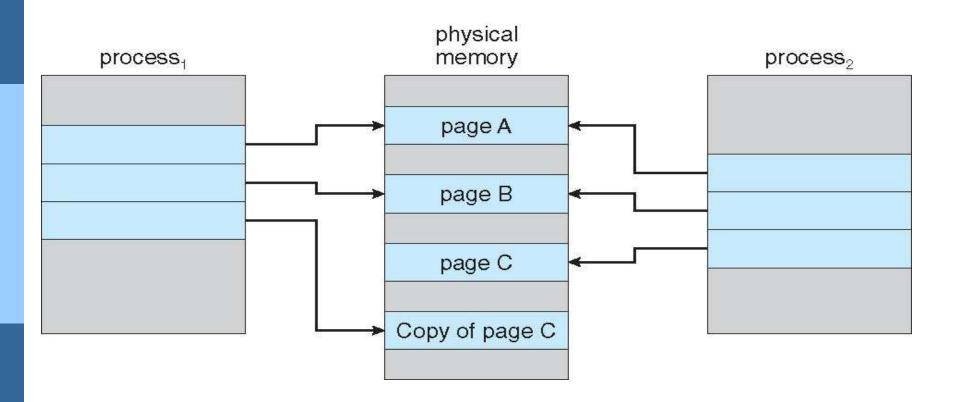
Before Process 1 Modifies Page C







After Process 1 Modifies Page C







What Happens if There is no Free Frame?

- Used up by process pages
- Also in demand from the kernel, I/O buffers, etc
- How much to allocate to each?
- Page replacement find some page in memory, but not really in use, page it out
 - Algorithm terminate? swap out? replace the page?
 - Performance want an algorithm which will result in minimum number of page faults
- Same page may be brought into memory several times





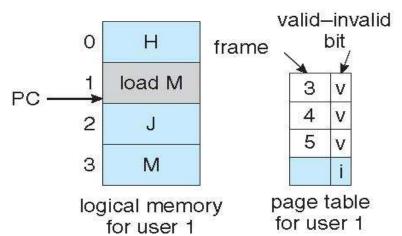
Page Replacement

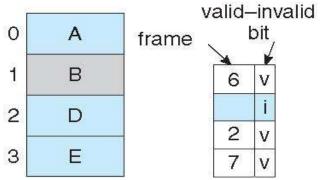
- Prevent over-allocation of memory by modifying pagefault service routine to include page replacement
- Use modify (dirty) bit to reduce overhead of page transfers only modified pages are written to disk
- Page replacement completes separation between logical memory and physical memory – large virtual memory can be provided on a smaller physical memory





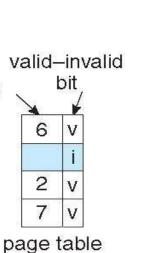
Need For Page Replacement



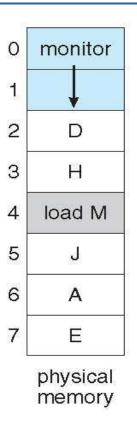


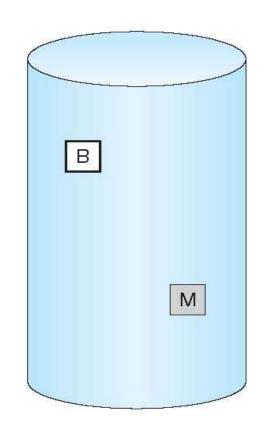
logical memory

for user 2



for user 2









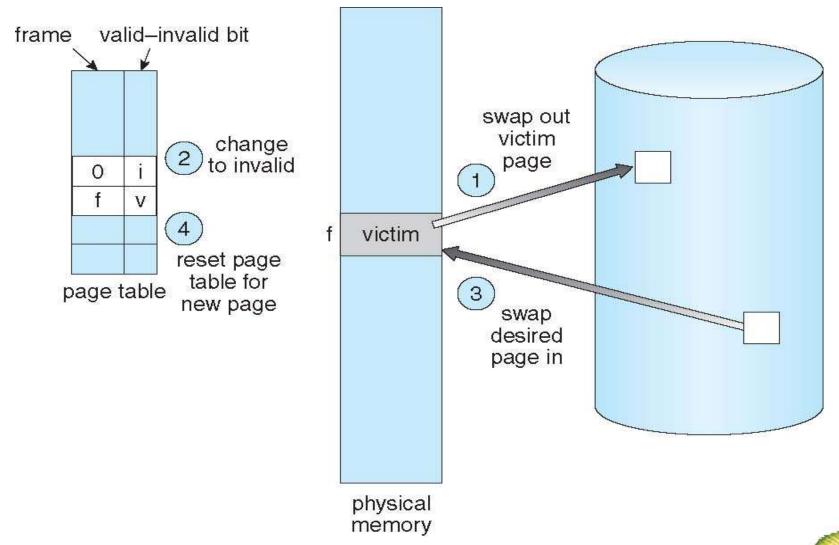
Basic Page Replacement

- 1. Find the location of the desired page on disk
- 2. Find a free frame:
 - If there is a free frame, use it
 - If there is no free frame, use a page replacement algorithm to select a victim frame
 - Write victim frame to disk if dirty
- 3. Bring the desired page into the (newly) free frame; update the page and frame tables
- Continue the process by restarting the instruction that caused the trap

Note now potentially 2 page transfers for page fault – increasing EAT



Page Replacement

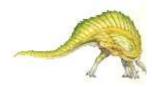




Page and Frame Replacement Algorithms

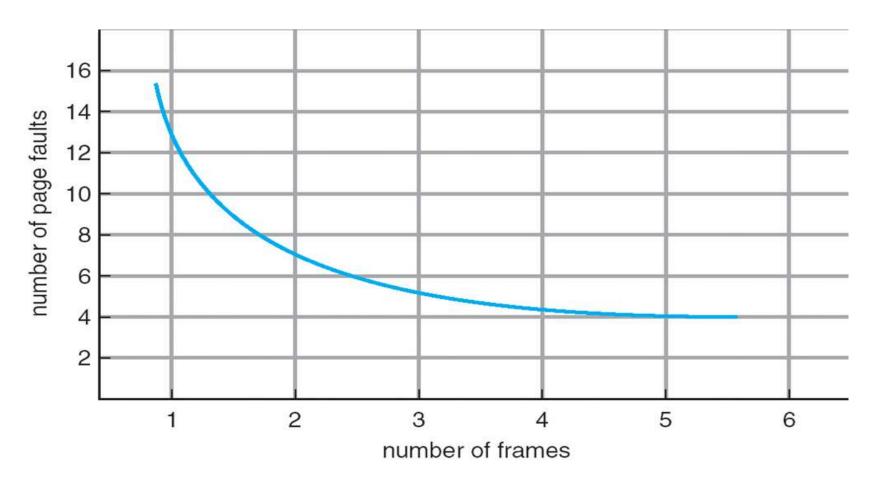
- **Frame-allocation algorithm** determines
 - How many frames to give each process
 - Which frames to replace
- Page-replacement algorithm
 - Want lowest page-fault rate on both first access and re-access
- Evaluate algorithm by running it on a particular string of memory references (reference string) and computing the number of page faults on that string
 - String is just page numbers, not full addresses
 - Repeated access to the same page does not cause a page fault
- In all our examples, the reference string is

7,0,1,2,0,3,0,4,2,3,0,3,0,3,2,1,2,0,1,7,0,1





Graph of Page Faults Versus The Number of Frames







First-In-First-Out (FIFO) Algorithm

- Reference string: 7,0,1,2,0,3,0,4,2,3,0,3,0,3,2,1,2,0,1,7,0,1
- 3 frames (3 pages can be in memory at a time per process)

		1			
1	7	2	4 0	7	
2	0	3	2 1	0	15 page faults
3	1	0	3 2	1	

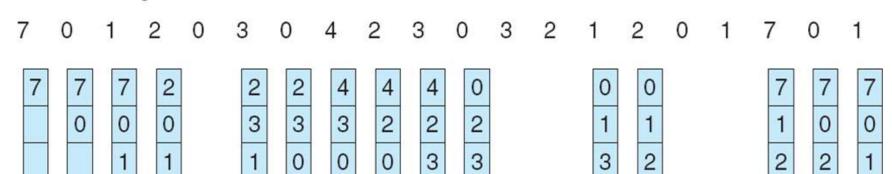
- Can vary by reference string: consider 1,2,3,4,1,2,5,1,2,3,4,5
 - Adding more frames can cause more page faults!
 - Belady's Anomaly
- How to track ages of pages?
 - Just use a FIFO queue





FIFO Page Replacement

reference string

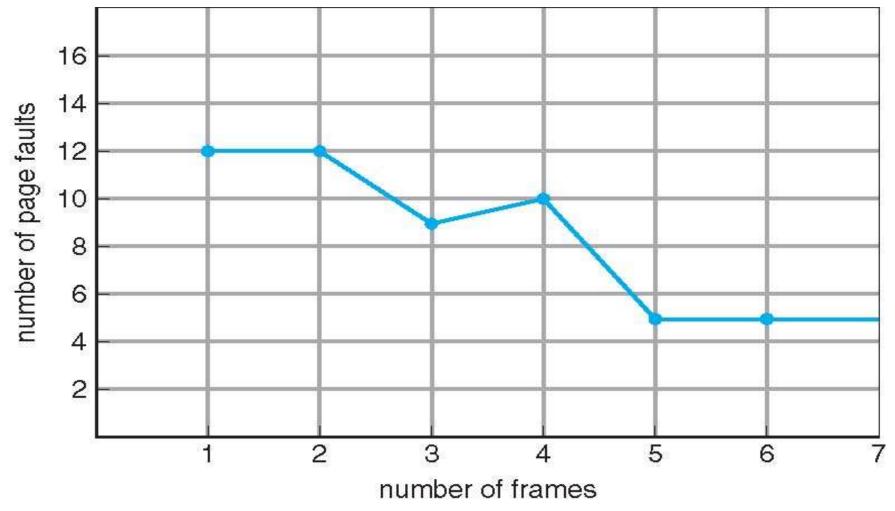


page frames





FIFO Illustrating Belady's Anomaly







Optimal Algorithm

- Replace page that will not be used for longest period of time
 - 9 is optimal for the example on the next slide
- How do you know this?
 - Can't read the future

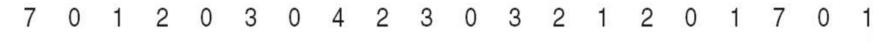
Used for measuring how well your algorithm performs

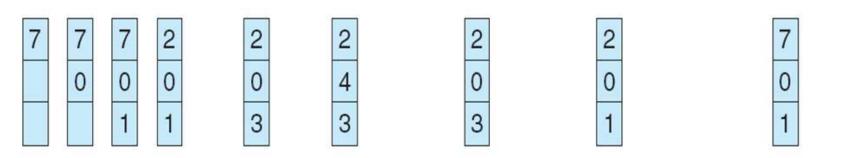




Optimal Page Replacement

reference string





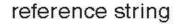
page frames

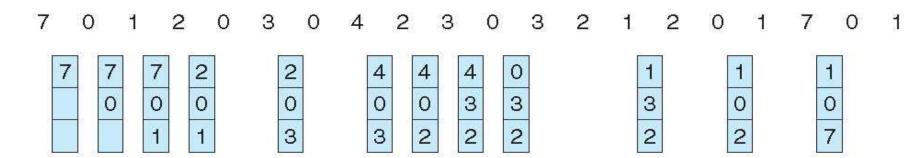




Least Recently Used (LRU) Algorithm

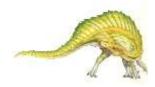
- Use past knowledge rather than future
- Replace page that has not been used in the most amount of time
- Associate time of last use with each page





page frames

- 12 faults better than FIFO but worse than OPT
- Generally good algorithm and frequently used
- But how to implement?





LRU Algorithm (Cont.)

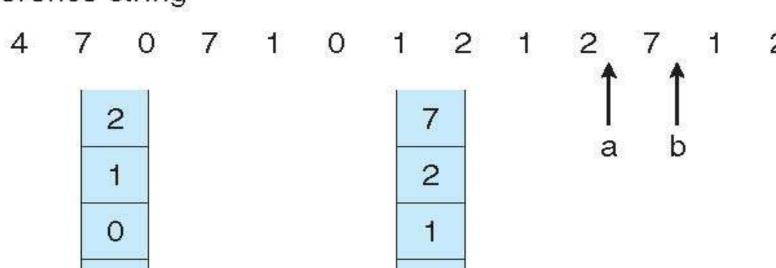
- Counter implementation
 - Every page entry has a counter; every time page is referenced through this entry, copy the clock into the counter
 - When a page needs to be changed, look at the counters to find smallest value
 - Search through table needed
- Stack implementation
 - Keep a stack of page numbers in a double link form:
 - Page referenced:
 - move it to the top
 - requires 6 pointers to be changed
 - But each update more expensive
 - No search for replacement
- LRU and OPT are cases of stack algorithms that don't have Belady's Anomaly





Use Of A Stack to Record The Most Recent Page References

reference string



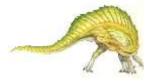
stack before a

7

stack after b

0

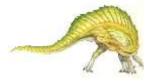
4



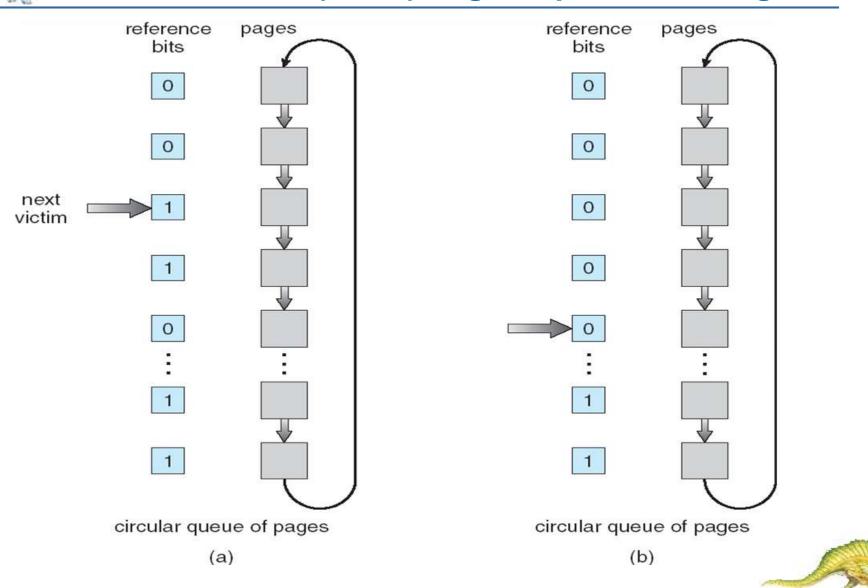


LRU Approximation Algorithms

- LRU needs special hardware and still slow
- Reference bit
 - With each page associate a bit, initially = 0
 - When page is referenced bit set to 1
 - Replace any with reference bit = 0 (if one exists)
 - We do not know the order, however
- Second-chance algorithm
 - Generally FIFO, plus hardware-provided reference bit
 - Clock replacement
 - If page to be replaced has
 - ▶ Reference bit = 0 -> replace it
 - reference bit = 1 then:
 - set reference bit 0, leave page in memory
 - replace next page, subject to same rules



Second-Chance (clock) Page-Replacement Algorithm





Counting Algorithms

- Keep a counter of the number of references that have been made to each page
 - Not common
- LFU Algorithm: replaces page with smallest count
- MFU Algorithm: based on the argument that the page with the smallest count was probably just brought in and has yet to be used





Page-Buffering Algorithms

- Keep a pool of free frames, always
 - Then frame available when needed, not found at fault time
 - Read page into free frame and select victim to evict and add to free pool
 - When convenient, evict victim
- Possibly, keep list of modified pages
 - When backing store otherwise idle, write pages there and set to non-dirty
- Possibly, keep free frame contents intact and note what is in them
 - If referenced again before reused, no need to load contents again from disk
 - Generally useful to reduce penalty if wrong victim frame selected

Applications and Page Replacement

- All of these algorithms have OS guessing about future page access
- Some applications have better knowledge i.e. databases
- Memory intensive applications can cause double buffering
 - OS keeps copy of page in memory as I/O buffer
 - Application keeps page in memory for its own work
- Operating system can given direct access to the disk, getting out of the way of the applications
 - Raw disk mode
- Bypasses buffering, locking, etc.





Allocation of Frames

- Each process needs minimum number of frames
- Example: IBM 370 6 pages to handle SS MOVE instruction:
 - instruction is 6 bytes, might span 2 pages
 - 2 pages to handle from
 - 2 pages to handle to
- Maximum of course is total frames in the system
- Two major allocation schemes
 - fixed allocation
 - priority allocation
- Many variations





Fixed Allocation

- Equal allocation For example, if there are 100 frames (after allocating frames for the OS) and 5 processes, give each process 20 frames
 - Keep some as free frame buffer pool
- Proportional allocation Allocate according to the size of process
 - Dynamic as degree of multiprogramming, process sizes change

$$-s_i = \text{size of process } p_i$$

$$-S = \sum s_i$$

$$-m = total number of frames$$

$$-a_i = \text{allocation for } p_i = \frac{s_i}{S} \times m$$
 $a_2 = \frac{127}{137} \times 64 \approx 59$

$$m = 64$$

$$s_1 = 10$$

$$s_2 = 127$$

$$a_1 = \frac{10}{137} \times 64 \approx 5$$

$$a_2 = \frac{127}{137} \times 64 \approx 59$$





Priority Allocation

- Use a proportional allocation scheme using priorities rather than size
- If process P_i generates a page fault,
 - select for replacement one of its frames
 - select for replacement a frame from a process with lower priority number





Global vs. Local Allocation

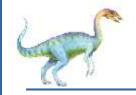
- Global replacement process selects a replacement frame from the set of all frames; one process can take a frame from another
 - But then process execution time can vary greatly
 - But greater throughput so more common
- Local replacement each process selects from only its own set of allocated frames
 - More consistent per-process performance
 - But possibly underutilized memory





Non-Uniform Memory Access

- So far all memory accessed equally
- Many systems are NUMA speed of access to memory varies
 - Consider system boards containing CPUs and memory, interconnected over a system bus
- Optimal performance comes from allocating memory "close to" the CPU on which the thread is scheduled
 - And modifying the scheduler to schedule the thread on the same system board when possible
 - Solved by Solaris by creating Igroups
 - Structure to track CPU / Memory low latency groups
 - Used my schedule and pager
 - When possible schedule all threads of a process and allocate all memory for that process within the Igroup

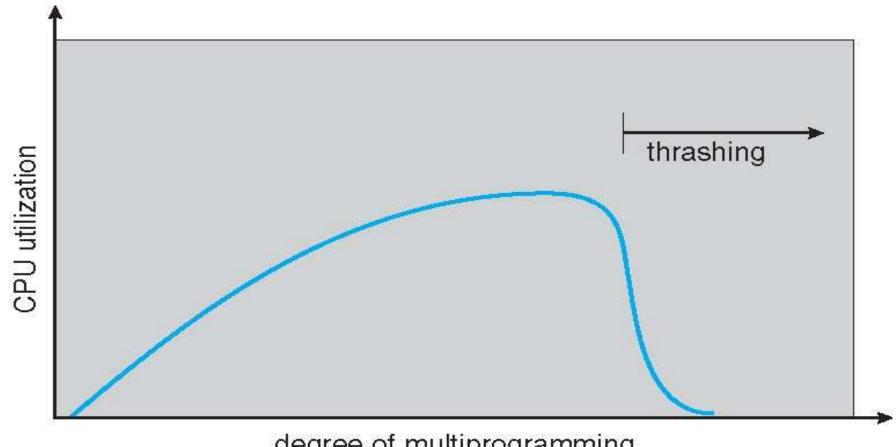


Thrashing

- If a process does not have "enough" pages, the page-fault rate is very high
 - Page fault to get page
 - Replace existing frame
 - But quickly need replaced frame back
 - This leads to:
 - Low CPU utilization
 - Operating system thinking that it needs to increase the degree of multiprogramming
 - Another process added to the system
- Thrashing = a process is busy swapping pages in and out



Thrashing (Cont.)









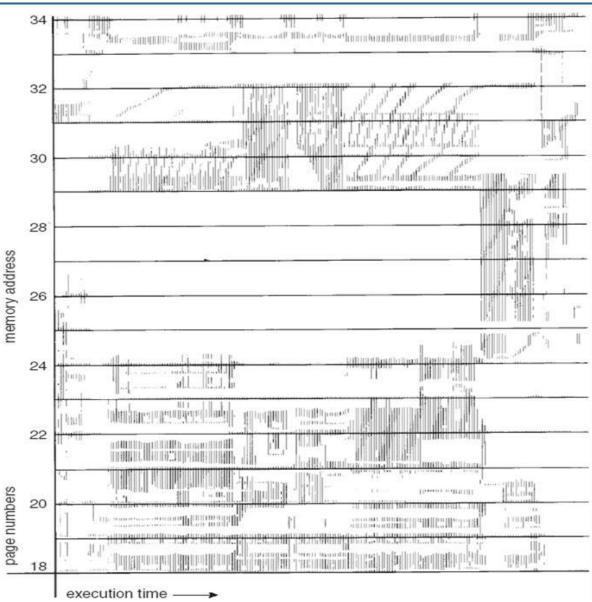
Demand Paging and Thrashing

- Why does demand paging work?
 Locality model
 - Process migrates from one locality to another
 - Localities may overlap
- Why does thrashing occur?
 Σ size of locality > total memory size
 - Limit effects by using local or priority page replacement





Locality In A Memory-Reference Pattern







Working-Set Model

- Δ = working-set window = a fixed number of page references Example: 10,000 instructions
- WSS_i (working set of Process P_i) = total number of pages referenced in the most recent Δ (varies in time)
 - if Δ too small will not encompass entire locality
 - if Δ too large will encompass several localities
 - if $\Delta = \infty \Rightarrow$ will encompass entire program
- $D = \Sigma WSS_i \equiv \text{total demand frames}$
 - Approximation of locality
- if $D > m \Rightarrow$ Thrashing
- Policy if D > m, then suspend or swap out one of the processes

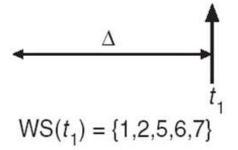


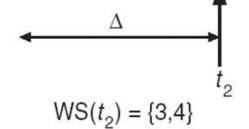


Working-set model

page reference table

... 2615777751623412344434344413234443444...









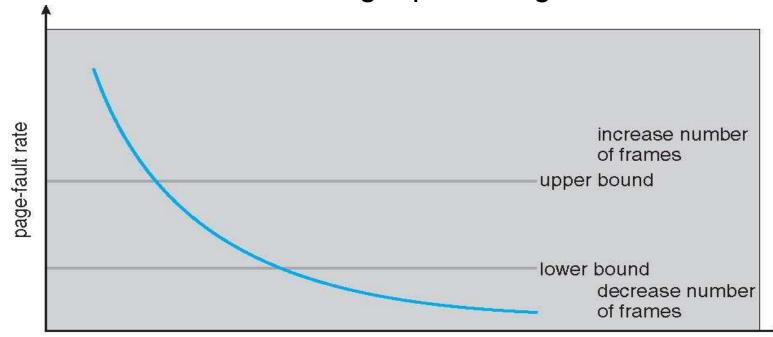
Keeping Track of the Working Set

- Approximate with interval timer + a reference bit
- Example: $\Delta = 10,000$
 - Timer interrupts after every 5000 time units
 - Keep in memory 2 bits for each page
 - Whenever a timer interrupts copy and sets the values of all reference bits to 0
 - If one of the bits in memory = $1 \Rightarrow$ page in working set
- Why is this not completely accurate?
- Improvement = 10 bits and interrupt every 1000 time units



Page-Fault Frequency

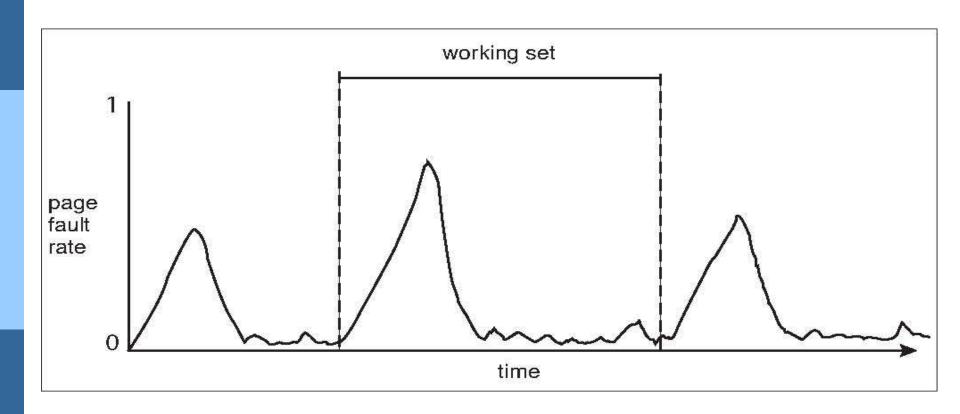
- More direct approach than WSS
- Establish "acceptable" page-fault frequency rate and use local replacement policy
 - If actual rate too low, process loses frame
 - If actual rate too high, process gains frame

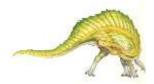






Working Sets and Page Fault Rates







Memory-Mapped Files

- Memory-mapped file I/O allows file I/O to be treated as routine memory access by mapping a disk block to a page in memory
- A file is initially read using demand paging
 - A page-sized portion of the file is read from the file system into a physical page
 - Subsequent reads/writes to/from the file are treated as ordinary memory accesses
- Simplifies and speeds file access by driving file I/O through memory rather than read() and write() system calls
- Also allows several processes to map the same file allowing the pages in memory to be shared
- But when does written data make it to disk?
 - Periodically and / or at file close() time
 - For example, when the pager scans for dirty pages



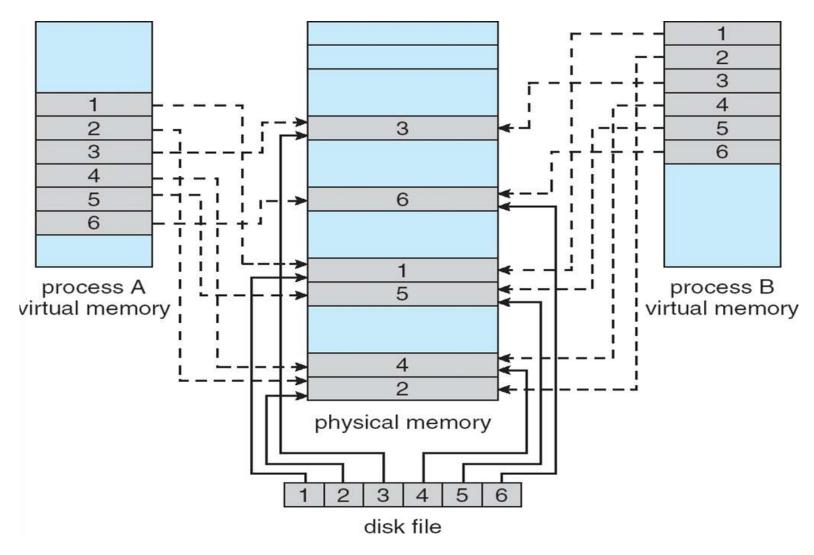


Memory-Mapped File Technique for all I/O

- Some OSes uses memory mapped files for standard I/O
- Process can explicitly request memory mapping a file via mmap () system call
 - Now file mapped into process address space
- For standard I/O (open(), read(), write(), close()),
 mmap anyway
 - But map file into kernel address space
 - Process still does read() and write()
 - Copies data to and from kernel space and user space
 - Uses efficient memory management subsystem
 - Avoids needing separate subsystem
- COW can be used for read/write non-shared pages
- Memory mapped files can be used for shared memory (although again via separate system calls)

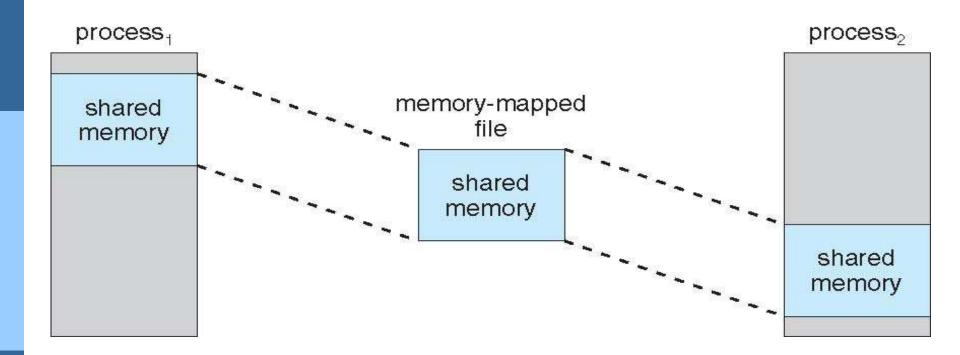


Memory Mapped Files





Memory-Mapped Shared Memory in Windows





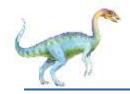


Allocating Kernel Memory

Treated differently from user memory

- Often allocated from a free-memory pool
 - Kernel requests memory for structures of varying sizes
 - Some kernel memory needs to be contiguous
 - ▶ I.e. for device I/O





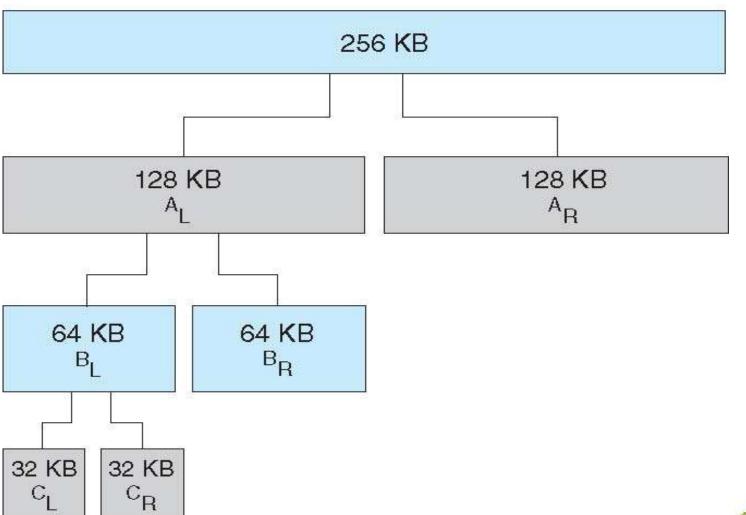
Buddy System

- Allocates memory from fixed-size segment consisting of physicallycontiguous pages
- Memory allocated using power-of-2 allocator
 - Satisfies requests in units sized as power of 2
 - Request rounded up to next highest power of 2
 - When smaller allocation needed than is available, current chunk split into two buddies of next-lower power of 2
 - Continue until appropriate sized chunk available
- For example, assume 256KB chunk available, kernel requests 21KB
 - Split into A_{L and} A_r of 128KB each
 - ▶ One further divided into B_I and B_R of 64KB
 - One further into C_L and C_R of 32KB each one used to satisfy request
- Advantage quickly coalesce unused chunks into larger chunk
- Disadvantage fragmentation



Buddy System Allocator

physically contiguous pages





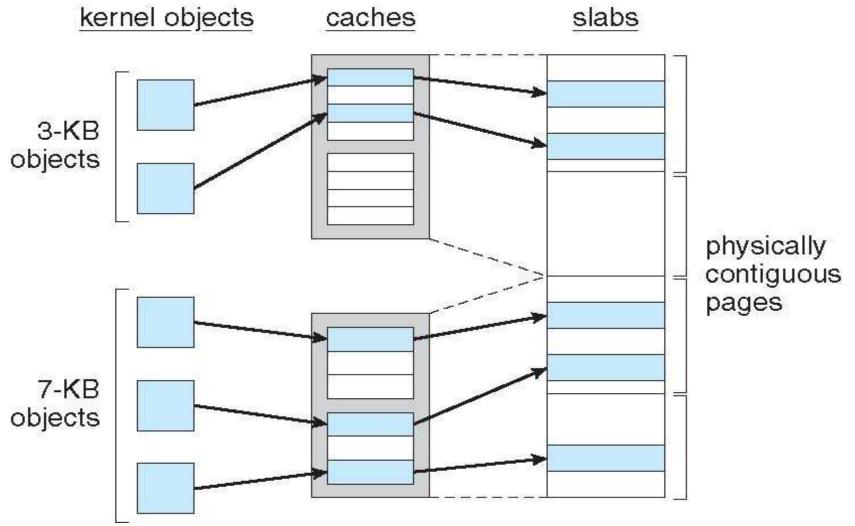


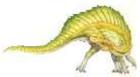
Slab Allocator

- Alternate strategy
- Slab is one or more physically contiguous pages
- Cache consists of one or more slabs
- Single cache for each unique kernel data structure
 - Each cache filled with objects instantiations of the data structure
- When cache created, filled with objects marked as free
- When structures stored, objects marked as used
- If slab is full of used objects, next object allocated from empty slab
 - If no empty slabs, new slab allocated
- Benefits include no fragmentation, fast memory request satisfaction



Slab Allocation







Other Considerations -- Prepaging

Prepaging

- To reduce the large number of page faults that occurs at process startup
- Prepage all or some of the pages a process will need, before they are referenced
- But if prepaged pages are unused, I/O and memory was wasted
- Assume s pages are prepaged and α of the pages is used
 - Is cost of $s * \alpha$ save pages faults > or < than the cost of prepaging
 - s * (1- α) unnecessary pages?
 - α near zero \Rightarrow prepaging loses

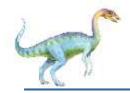




Other Issues – Page Size

- Sometimes OS designers have a choice
 - Especially if running on custom-built CPU
- Page size selection must take into consideration:
 - Fragmentation
 - Page table size
 - Resolution
 - I/O overhead
 - Number of page faults
 - Locality
 - TLB size and effectiveness
- Always power of 2, usually in the range 2¹² (4,096 bytes) to 2²² (4,194,304 bytes)
- On average, growing over time





Other Issues – TLB Reach

- TLB Reach The amount of memory accessible from the TLB
- TLB Reach = (TLB Size) X (Page Size)
- Ideally, the working set of each process is stored in the TLB
 - Otherwise there is a high degree of page faults
- Increase the Page Size
 - This may lead to an increase in fragmentation as not all applications require a large page size
- Provide Multiple Page Sizes
 - This allows applications that require larger page sizes the opportunity to use them without an increase in fragmentation





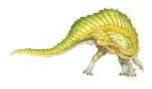
Other Issues – Program Structure

- Program structure
 - Int[128,128] data;
 - Each row is stored in one page
 - Program 1

 $128 \times 128 = 16,384$ page faults

Program 2

128 page faults





Other Issues – I/O interlock

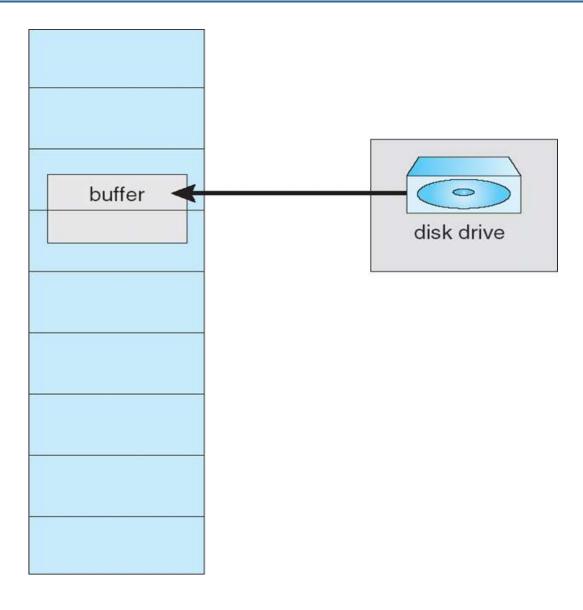
I/O Interlock – Pages must sometimes be locked into memory

Consider I/O - Pages that are used for copying a file from a device must be locked from being selected for eviction by a page replacement algorithm





Reason Why Frames Used For I/O Must Be In Memory





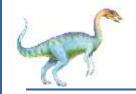


Operating System Examples

■ Windows XP

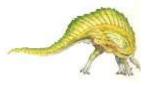
Solaris





Windows XP

- Uses demand paging with clustering. Clustering brings in pages surrounding the faulting page
- Processes are assigned working set minimum and working set maximum
- Working set minimum is the minimum number of pages the process is guaranteed to have in memory
- A process may be assigned as many pages up to its working set maximum
- When the amount of free memory in the system falls below a threshold, automatic working set trimming is performed to restore the amount of free memory
- Working set trimming removes pages from processes that have pages in excess of their working set minimum





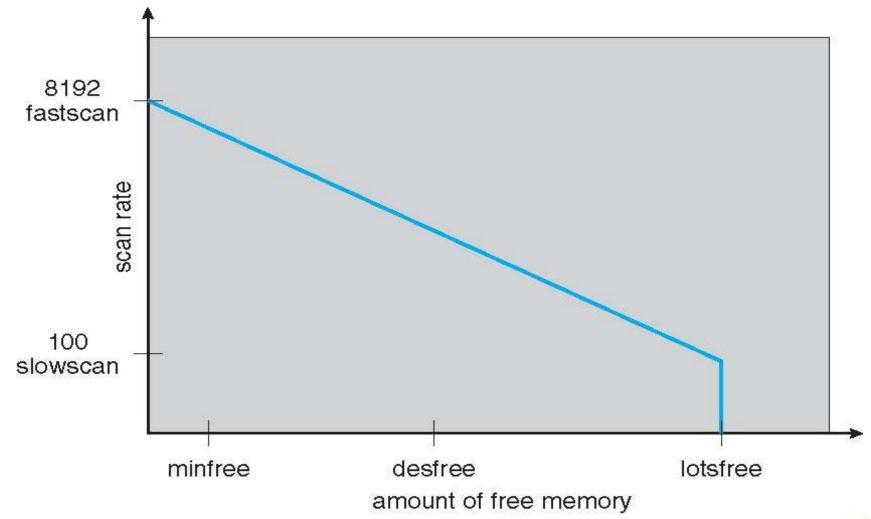
Solaris

- Maintains a list of free pages to assign faulting processes
- Lotsfree threshold parameter (amount of free memory) to begin paging
- Desfree threshold parameter to increasing paging
- Minfree threshold parameter to being swapping
- Paging is performed by pageout process
- Pageout scans pages using modified clock algorithm
- Scanrate is the rate at which pages are scanned. This ranges from slowscan to fastscan
- Pageout is called more frequently depending upon the amount of free memory available
- Priority paging gives priority to process code pages





Solaris 2 Page Scanner





Homework

- Exercises at the end of Chapter 9 (OS book)
 - 9.4, 9.8, 9.13, 9.14



End of Chapter 9

