CS162
Operating Systems and Systems Programming
Lecture 11

Page Allocation and Replacement

February 28, 2011

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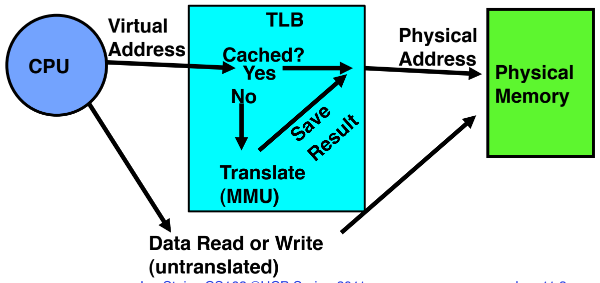
Goals for Today

- Finish discussion on TLBs
- Page Replacement Policies
  - FIFO, LRU
  - Clock Algorithm
- Working Set/Thrashing

Note: Some slides and/or pictures in the following are adapted from slides ©2005 Silberschatz, Galvin, and Gagne. Many slides generated from my lecture notes by Kubiatowicz.

Review: Caching Applied to Address Translation

- Problem: address translation expensive (especially multi-level)
- Solution: cache address translation (TLB)
  - Instruction accesses spend a lot of time on the same page (since accesses sequential)
  - Stack accesses have definite locality of reference
  - Data accesses have less page locality, but still some…

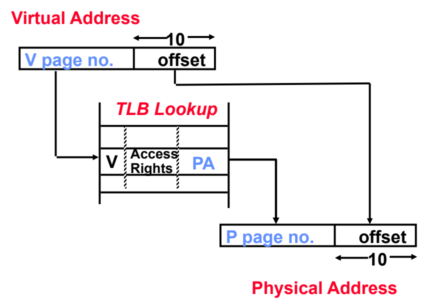


TLB organization

- How big does TLB actually have to be?
  - Usually small: 128-512 entries
  - Not very big, can support higher associativity
- TLB usually organized as fully-associative cache
  - Lookup is by Virtual Address
  - Returns Physical Address
- What happens when fully-associative is too slow?
  - Put a small (4-16 entry) direct-mapped cache in front
  - Called a "TLB Slice"
- When does TLB lookup occur?
  - Before cache lookup?
  - In parallel with cache lookup?

Reducing translation time further

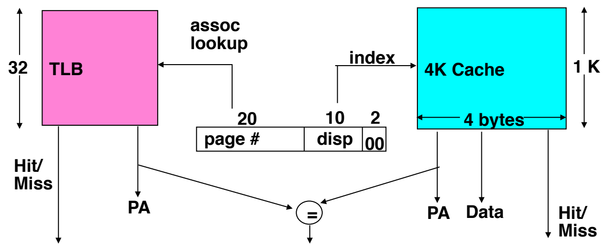
- As described, TLB lookup is in serial with cache lookup:



- Machines with TLBs go one step further: they overlap TLB lookup with cache access.
  – Works because offset available early

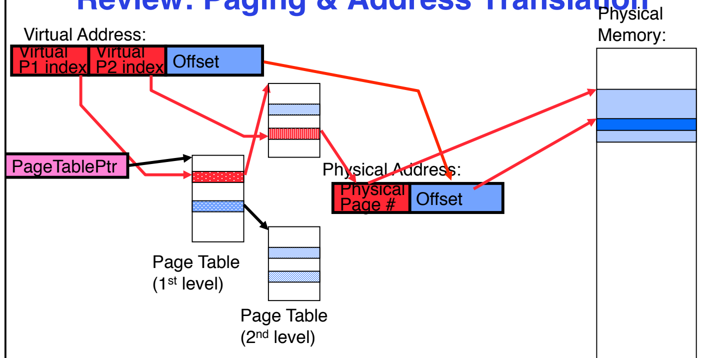
Overlapping TLB & Cache Access

- Here is how this might work with a 4K cache:

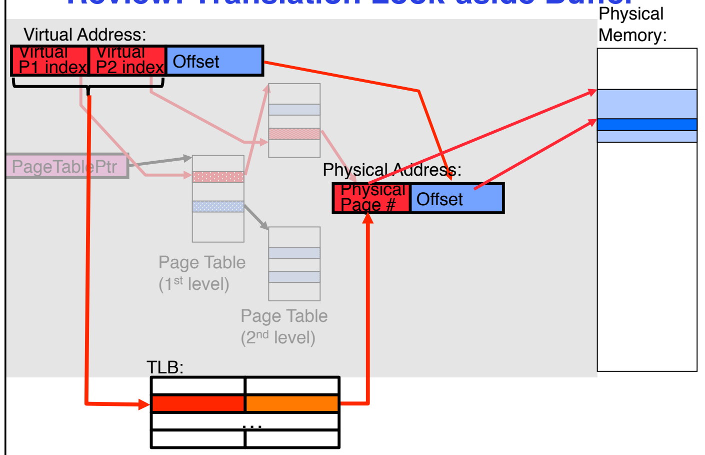


- What if cache size is increased to 8KB?
  – Overlap not complete
  – Need to do something else. See CS152/252
- Another option: Virtual Caches
  – Tags in cache are virtual addresses
  – Translation only happens on cache misses

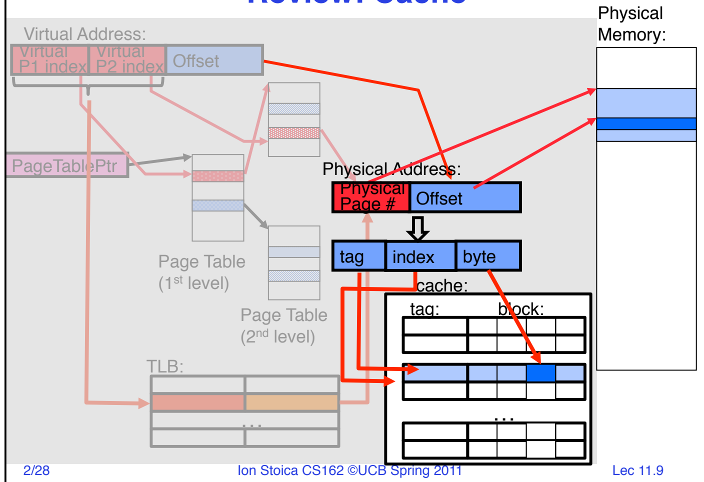
Review: Paging & Address Translation



Review: Translation Look-aside Buffer

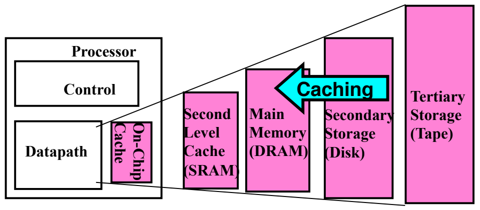


Review: Cache



Demand Paging

- Modern programs require a lot of physical memory
  - Memory per system growing faster than 25%-30%/year
- But they don't use all their memory all of the time
  - 90-10 rule: programs spend 90% of their time in 10% of their code
  - Wasteful to require all of user's code to be in memory
- Solution: use main memory as cache for disk



Demand Paging is Caching

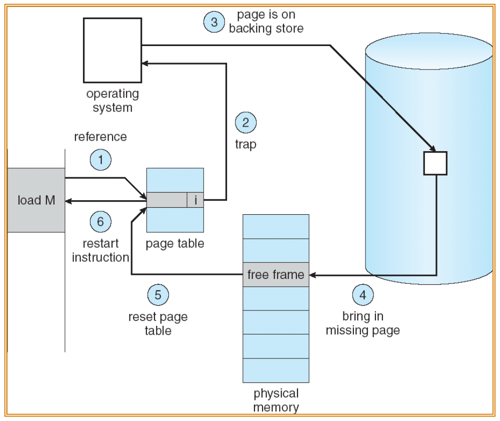
- Since Demand Paging is Caching, must ask:
  - What is block size?
    - » 1 page
  - What is organization of this cache (i.e. direct-mapped, set-associative, fully-associative)?
    - » Fully associative: arbitrary virtual→physical mapping
  - How do we find a page in the cache when look for it?
    - » First check TLB, then page-table traversal
  - What is page replacement policy? (i.e. LRU, Random…)
    - » This requires more explanation… (kinda LRU)
  - What happens on a miss?
    - » Go to lower level to fill miss (i.e. disk)
  - What happens on a write? (write-through, write back)
    - » Definitely write-back. Need a "dirty" bit (D)!

Demand Paging Mechanisms

- PTE helps us implement demand paging
  - Valid ⇒ Page in memory, PTE points at physical page
  - Not Valid ⇒ Page not in memory; use info in PTE to find it on disk when necessary
- Suppose user references page with invalid PTE?
  - Memory Management Unit (MMU) traps to OS
    - » Resulting trap is a "Page Fault"
  - What does OS do on a Page Fault?:
    - » Choose an old page to replace
    - » If old page modified ("D=1"), write contents back to disk
    - » Change its PTE and any cached TLB to be invalid
    - » Load new page into memory from disk
    - » Update page table entry, invalidate TLB for new entry
    - » Continue thread from original faulting location
  - TLB for new page will be loaded when thread continued!
  - While pulling pages off disk for one process, OS runs another process from ready queue
    - » Suspended process sits on wait queue

Cache

Steps in Handling a Page Fault



Demand Paging Example

- Since Demand Paging like caching, can compute average access time! ("Effective Access Time")
  - EAT = Hit Rate x Hit Time + Miss Rate x Miss Time
- Example:
  - Memory access time = 200 nanoseconds
  - Average page-fault service time = 8 milliseconds
  - Suppose p = Probability of miss, 1-p = Probably of hit
  - Then, we can compute EAT as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}EAT &= (1 - p) \times 200ns + p \times 8\ ms \\ &= (1 - p) \times 200ns + p \times 8{,}000{,}000ns \\ &= 200ns + p \times 7{,}999{,}800ns\end{aligned}$$

- If one access out of 1,000 causes a page fault, then EAT = 8.2 μs:
  - This is a slowdown by a factor of 40!
- What if want slowdown by less than 10%?
  - $200ns \times 1.1 < EAT \Rightarrow p < 2.5 \times 10^{-6}$
  - This is about 1 page fault in 400,000 !

What Factors Lead to Misses?

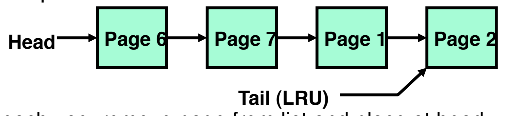
- Compulsory Misses:
  - Pages that have never been paged into memory before
  - How might we remove these misses?
    - » Prefetching: loading them into memory before needed
    - » Need to predict future somehow! More later.
- Capacity Misses:
  - Not enough memory. Must somehow increase size.
  - Can we do this?
    - » One option: Increase amount of DRAM (not quick fix!)
    - » Another option: If multiple processes in memory: adjust percentage of memory allocated to each one!
- Conflict Misses:
  - Technically, conflict misses don't exist in virtual memory, since it is a "fully-associative" cache
- Policy Misses:
  - Caused when pages were in memory, but kicked out prematurely because of the replacement policy
  - How to fix? Better replacement policy

Page Replacement Policies

- Why do we care about Replacement Policy?
  - Replacement is an issue with any cache
  - Particularly important with pages
    - » The cost of being wrong is high: must go to disk
    - » Must keep important pages in memory, not toss them out
- FIFO (First In, First Out)
  - Throw out oldest page. Be fair – let every page live in memory for same amount of time.
  - Bad, because throws out heavily used pages instead of infrequently used pages
- MIN (Minimum):
  - Replace page that won't be used for the longest time
  - Great, but can't really know future…
  - Makes good comparison case, however
- RANDOM:
  - Pick random page for every replacement
  - Typical solution for TLB's. Simple hardware
  - Unpredictable

Replacement Policies (Con't)

- LRU (Least Recently Used):
  - Replace page that hasn't been used for the longest time
  - Programs have locality, so if something not used for a while, unlikely to be used in the near future.
  - Seems like LRU should be a good approximation to MIN.
- How to implement LRU? Use a list!



  - On each use, remove page from list and place at head
  - LRU page is at tail
- Problems with this scheme for paging?
  - List operations complex
    - » Many instructions for each hardware access
- In practice, people approximate LRU (more later)

Example: FIFO

- Suppose we have 3 page frames, 4 virtual pages, and following reference stream:
  - A B C A B D A D B C B
- Consider FIFO Page replacement:

Ref: Page:	A	B	C	A	B	D	A	D	B	C	B
1	A					D				C	
2		B					A				
3			C						B		

  - FIFO: 7 faults.
  - When referencing D, replacing A is bad choice, since need A again right away

Example: MIN

- Suppose we have the same reference stream:
  - A B C A B D A D B C B
- Consider MIN Page replacement:

Ref: Page:	A	B	C	A	B	D	A	D	B	C	B
1	A									C	
2		B									
3			C			D					

  - MIN: 5 faults
  - Look for page not referenced farthest in future.
- What will LRU do?
  - Same decisions as MIN here, but won't always be true!

When will LRU perform badly?

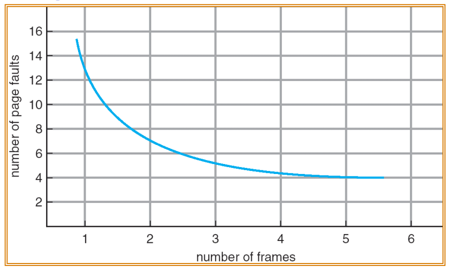
- Consider the following: A B C D A B C D A B C D
- LRU Performs as follows (same as FIFO here):

Ref: Page:	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
1	A			D			C			B		
2		B			A			D			C	
3			C			B			A			D

  - Every reference is a page fault!
- MIN Does much better:

Ref: Page:	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
1	A									B		
2		B					C					
3			C	D								

Graph of Page Faults Versus The Number of Frames



- One desirable property: When you add memory the miss rate goes down
  - Does this always happen?
  - Seems like it should, right?
- No: BeLady's anomaly
  - Certain replacement algorithms (FIFO) don't have this obvious property!

Administrivia

- Project 1
  - Code: Tuesday, March 1st
  - Final document, peer evaluation: Wednesday, March 2nd
- Midterm next week:
  - Wednesday, March 9th
  - Closed book, one page of hand-written notes (both sides)
- Midterm Topics: Everything up to this Wednesday, March 2nd

5min Break

Adding Memory Doesn't Always Help Fault Rate

- Does adding memory reduce number of page faults?
  - Yes for LRU and MIN
  - Not necessarily for FIFO! (Called Belady's anomaly)

Page:	A	B	C	D	A	B	E	A	B	C	D	E
1	A			D			E					
2		B			A					C		
3			C			B					D	

Page:	A	B	C	D	A	B	E	A	B	C	D	E
1	A						E				D	
2		B						A				E
3			C						B			
4				D						C		

- After adding memory:
  - With FIFO, contents can be completely different
  - In contrast, with LRU or MIN, contents of memory with X pages are a subset of contents with X+1 Page

Implementing LRU & Second Chance

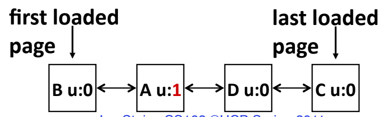
- Perfect:
  - Timestamp page on each reference
  - Keep list of pages ordered by time of reference
  - Too expensive to implement in reality for many reasons
- Second Chance Algorithm:
  - Approximate LRU
    - » Replace an old page, not the oldest page
  - FIFO with "use" bit
- Details
  - A "use" bit per physical page
  - On page fault check page at head of queue
    - » If use bit=1 → clear bit, and move page at tail (give the page second chance!)
    - » If use bit=0 → replace page
  - Moving pages to tail still complex

Clock Algorithm

- Clock Algorithm: more efficient implementation of second chance algorithm
  - Arrange physical pages in circle with single clock hand
- Details:
  - On page fault:
    - » Advance clock hand (not real time)
    - » Check use bit: 1→used recently; clear and leave it alone
      0→selected candidate for replacement
  - Will always find a page or loop forever?
- What if hand moving slowly?
  - Good sign or bad sign?
    - » Not many page faults and/or find page quickly
- What if hand is moving quickly?
  - Lots of page faults and/or lots of reference bits set

Second Chance Illustration

- Max page table size 4
  - Page B arrives
  - Page A arrives
  - Access page A
  - Page D arrives
  - Page C arrives



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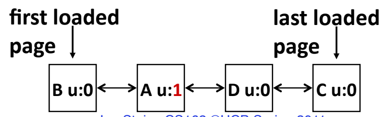

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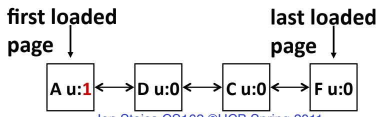

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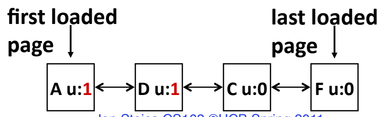

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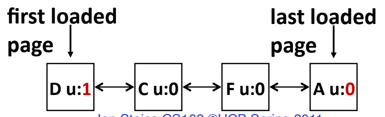

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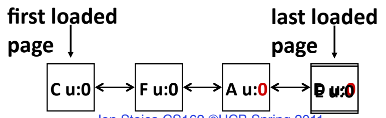
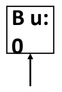


Clock Replacement Illustration

- Max page table size 4
- Invariant: point at oldest page
  - Page B arrives



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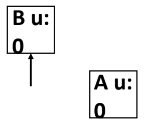

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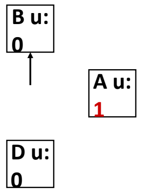

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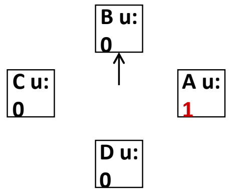

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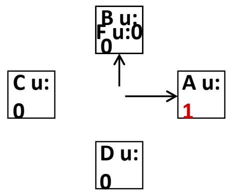

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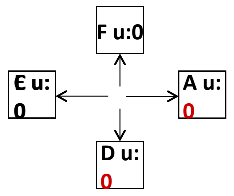

Nth Chance version of Clock Algorithm

- Nth chance algorithm: Give page N chances
  - OS keeps counter per page: # sweeps
  - On page fault, OS checks use bit:
    - » 1⇒clear use and also clear counter (used in last sweep)
    - » 0⇒increment counter; if count=N, replace page
  - Means that clock hand has to sweep by N times without page being used before page is replaced
- How do we pick N?
  - Why pick large N? Better approx to LRU
    - » If N ~ 1K, really good approximation
  - Why pick small N? More efficient
    - » Otherwise might have to look a long way to find free page
- What about dirty pages?
  - Takes extra overhead to replace a dirty page, so give dirty pages an extra chance before replacing?
  - Common approach:
    - » Clean pages, use N=1
    - » Dirty pages, use N=2 (and write back to disk when N=1)

Clock Algorithms: Details

- Which bits of a PTE entry are useful to us?
  - Use: Set when page is referenced; cleared by clock algorithm
  - Modified: set when page is modified, cleared when page written to disk
  - Valid: ok for program to reference this page
  - Read-only: ok for program to read page, but not modify
    - » For example for catching modifications to code pages!
- Do we really need hardware-supported "modified" bit?
  - No. Can emulate it (BSD Unix) using read-only bit
    - » Initially, mark all pages as read-only, even data pages
    - » On write, trap to OS. OS sets software "modified" bit, and marks page as read-write.
    - » Whenever page comes back in from disk, mark read-only

Clock Algorithms Details (continued)

- Do we really need a hardware-supported “use” bit?
  - No. Can emulate it using “invalid” bit:
    - » Mark all pages as invalid, even if in memory
    - » On read to invalid page, trap to OS
    - » OS sets use bit, and marks page read-only
  - When clock hand passes by, reset use bit and mark page as invalid again

Summary (1/2)

- TLB is cache on translations
  - Fully associative to reduce conflicts
  - Can be overlapped with cache access
- Demand Paging:
  - Treat memory as cache on disk
  - Cache miss ⇒ get page from disk
- Transparent Level of Indirection
  - User program is unaware of activities of OS behind scenes
  - Data can be moved without affecting application correctness

Summary (2/2)

- Replacement policies
  - FIFO: Place pages on queue, replace page at end
  - MIN: Replace page that will be used farthest in future
  - LRU: Replace page used farthest in past
- Clock Algorithm: Approximation to LRU
  - Arrange all pages in circular list
  - Sweep through them, marking as not “in use”
  - If page not “in use” for one pass, than can replace
- Second-Chance List algorithm: Yet another approx LRU
  - Divide pages into two groups, one of which is truly LRU and managed on page faults.