

CS 370: OPERATING SYSTEMS
[MEMORY MANAGEMENT]

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Frequently asked questions from the previous class survey

- Is the page table in the PCB?
- Backing store?
- How does paging relate to L1, L2, L3 caches?
- Internal fragmentation: Any loss in performance?
- Where is the MMU located? How about the TLB?

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Topics covered in this lecture

- Page sizes
- Structure of Page tables
 - ▣ Hashed Page Tables
 - ▣ Inverted Page Tables

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PAGE SIZES

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Paging and page sizes

- On average, $\frac{1}{2}$ of the final page is empty
 - ▣ Internal fragmentation: wasted space
- With n processes in memory, and a page size p
 - ▣ Total $np/2$ bytes of internal fragmentation
- **Greater page size = Greater fragmentation**

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But having small pages is not necessarily efficient

- Small pages mean programs need more pages
 - ▣ **Larger** page tables
 - ▣ 32 KB program needs
 - 4 8-KB pages, but 64 512-byte pages
- **Context switches** can be *more expensive* with small pages
 - ▣ Need to reload the page table

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Transfers to-and-from disk are a page at a time

- Primary Overheads: Seek and rotational delays
- Transferring a small page almost as expensive as transferring a big page
 - 64 x 15 = **960** msec to load 64 512-bytes pages
 - 4 x 25 = **100** msec to load 4 8KB pages
- Here, **large** pages make sense

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Overheads in paging: Page table and internal fragmentation

- Average process size = s
- Page size = p
- Size of each page entry = e
- Pages per process = s/p
 - se/p : Total page table space
- Total Overhead = $se/p + p/2$
 - Page table overhead
 - Internal fragmentation loss

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Looking at the overhead a little closer

- Total Overhead = $se/p + p/2$
 - Increases if p is small
 - Increases if p is large
- Optimum is somewhere *in between*
- First derivative with respect to p

$$-se/p^2 + 1/2 = 0 \quad \text{i.e. } p^2 = 2se$$

$$p = \sqrt{2se}$$

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Optimal page size: Considering only page size and internal fragmentation

- $p = \sqrt{2se}$
- $s = 128\text{KB}$ and $e=8$ bytes per entry
- Optimal page size = 1448 bytes
 - In practice we will never use 1448 bytes
 - Instead, either 1K or 2K would be used
 - Why?** Pages sizes are in powers of 2 i.e. 2^x
 - Deriving offsets and page numbers is also easier

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Pages sizes and size of physical memory

- As physical memories get bigger, page sizes get larger as well
 - Though *not linearly*
- Quadrupling physical memory size rarely even doubles page size

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All problems in computer science can be solved by another level of indirection.
 —David Wheeler

Except, of course, the problem of too many indirections!

STRUCTURE OF THE PAGE TABLE

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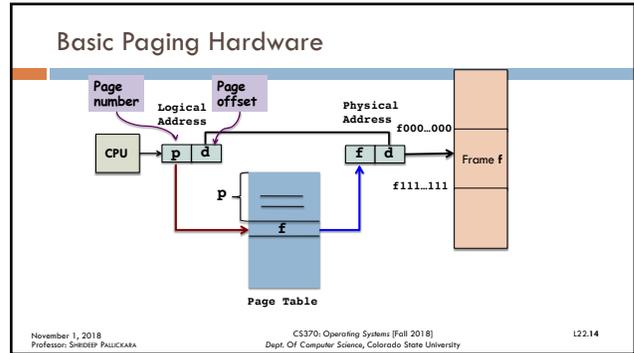
Typical use of the page table

- Process refers to addresses through pages' **virtual** address
- Process has page table
- Table has entries for pages that process uses
 - ▣ One slot for each page
 - Irrespective of whether it is valid or not
- Page table sorted by virtual addresses

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Structure of the Page Table

- Hierarchical Paging
- Hashed Page Tables
- Inverted Page Tables

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Hierarchical Paging

- Logical address spaces: $2^{32} \sim 2^{64}$
- Page size: $4KB = 2^2 \times 2^{10} = 2^{12}$
- Number of page table entries?
 - Logical address space size/page size
 - $2^{32}/2^{12} = 2^{20} \approx 1$ million entries
- Page table entry = 4 bytes
 - ▣ Page table for process = $2^{20} \times 4 = 4$ MB

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Issues with large page tables

- Cannot allocate page table **contiguously** in memory
- Solution:
 - ▣ Divide the page table into smaller pieces
 - **Page the page-table**

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Two-level Paging

Page number	Page offset
20	12

32-bit logical address

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Two-level Paging

Outer Page	Inner Page	Page offset
10	10	12

32-bit logical address

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Address translation in two-level paging

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Two-level Page tables: The outer page table

4 GB address space split into 1024 chunks

Each entry represents 4 MB

Outer Page	Inner Page	Page offset
10	10	12

Page size is 4 KB

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Two-level Page tables: Case where only a few entries are needed

4 GB address space split into 1024 chunks

Each entry represents 4 MB

Unused by program

Outer Page	Inner Page	Page offset
10	10	12

Page size is 4 KB

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Two-level Page tables

Address space has a million pages
 But ONLY 4 page tables are actually needed

Second level page tables

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Computing number of page tables in hierarchical paging

Outer Page	Inner Page	Page offset
11	11	10

- There is 1 outer table with 2^{11} entries
- Each outer table entry points to an inner page table
 - So there are 2^{11} inner page tables
- Total number of page tables = $1 + 2^{11}$
- Total number of entries = $2^{11} + 2^{11} \times 2^{11}$

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Let's try 2-level paging for a 64-bit logical address space

Outer page	Inner page	Page offset
42	10	12

- Outer page table has 2^{42} entries!
- Divide the outer page table into smaller pieces?

2 nd Outer page	Outer page	Inner page	Page offset
32	10	10	12

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Why hierarchical tables are inappropriate for 64-bit architectures

- In our previous example
 - There would be 2^{32} entries in the outer page table
- We could keep going
 - 4-level page tables ...
- But all this results in a **prohibitive** number of memory accesses

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HASHED PAGE TABLES

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Hashed page tables

- An approach for handling address spaces $> 2^{32}$
- Virtual page number is **hashed**
 - Hash used as *key* to enter items in the hash table
- The *value* part of table is a **linked list**
 - Each entry has:
 - Virtual page number
 - Value of the mapped page frame
 - Pointer to next element in the list

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Searching through the hashed table for the frame number

- Virtual page number is hashed
 - Hashed key has a corresponding value in table
 - Linked List of entries
- Traverse** linked list to
 - Find a *matching virtual page number*

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Hash tables and 64-bit address spaces

- Each entry refers to *several pages* instead of a single page
- Multiple** page-to-frame mappings per entry
 - Clustered page tables
- Useful for sparse address spaces where memory references are non-contiguous (and scattered)

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INVERTED PAGE TABLES

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Inverted page table

- Only **1** page table in the system
 - Has an entry for each **memory frame**
- Each entry tracks
 - Process that owns it (**pid**)
 - Virtual address of page (**page number**)

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Inverted Page table

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Profiling the inverted page table

- **Decreases** the amount of memory needed
- **Search time increases**
 - During page dereferencing
- **Stored based on frames**, but searched on pages
 - Whole table might need to be searched!

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Other issues with the inverted page table

- Shared paging
 - Multiple pages mapped to same physical memory
- Shared paging **NOT possible** in inverted tables
 - Only 1 virtual page entry per physical page
 - Stored based on frames

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PAGING IN REAL-WORLD SYSTEMS

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x86-64

- Intel: IA-64 Itanium
 - Not much traction
- AMD: x86-64
 - Intel adopted AMD's x86-64 architecture
- 64-bit address space: 2^{64} (16 exabytes)
- Currently x86-64 provides
 - 48-bit virtual address [Sufficient for 256 TB]
 - Page sizes: 4 KB, 2 MB, and 1 GB
 - 4-level hierarchical paging

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Optimization to eliminate levels in the x86-64

- High-end servers routinely have 2 TB RAM
- With 48-bit addressing and 4-level page tables we can have some optimizations
- Each physical frame on the x86 is 4 KB
- Each page in the 4th level page table maps 2 MB
 - If the entire 2MB covered by that page table is allocated contiguously in physical memory?
 - Page table entry one layer up can be marked to point directly to this region instead of page table
- Also improves TLB efficiency

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ARM architectures

- iPhone and Android systems use this
- 32-bit ARM
 - 4 KB and 16 KB pages
 - 1 MB and 16 MB pages
 - Termed sections

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SEGMENTATION WITH PAGING

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Segmentation with Paging

- Multics: Each program can have up to 256K independent segments
 - Each with 64K 36-bit words
- Intel Pentium
 - 16K independent segments
 - Each segment has 10^9 32-bit words (4GB)
 - Few programs need more than 1000 segments, but many programs need large segments

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Segmentation with Paging

- 32-bit x86
 - Virtual address space within a segment has a 2-level page table
 - First 10-bits top-level page table, next 10-bits second-level page-table, final 12-bits are the offsets within the page
- 64-bit x86
 - 48-bits of virtual addresses within a segment
 - 4-level page table
 - Includes optimizations to eliminate one or two levels of the page table

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VIRTUAL MEMORY

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How we got here ...

```
graph LR; CM[Contiguous Memory] --> EF[External Fragmentation]; EF --> PP[Pure Paging]; PP --> SAS[Single Address space]; SAS --> S[Segmentation]; LDM[Low Degree of Multiprogramming] --> VM[Virtual Memory]; VM --> PP;
```

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Memory Management: Why?

- Main objective of system is to execute programs
- Programs and data must be **in memory** (at least partially) during execution
- To improve CPU utilization and response times
 - ▣ Several processes need to be memory resident
 - ▣ Memory needs to be **shared**

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Requiring the entire process to be in physical memory can be limiting

- **Limits** the size of a program
 - ▣ To the size of physical memory
- **BUT** the entire program is not always needed

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Situations where the entire program need not be memory resident

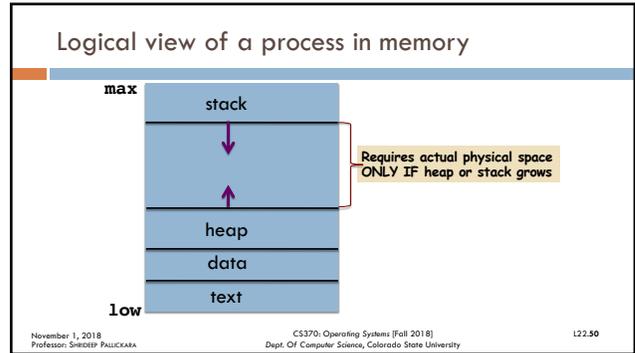
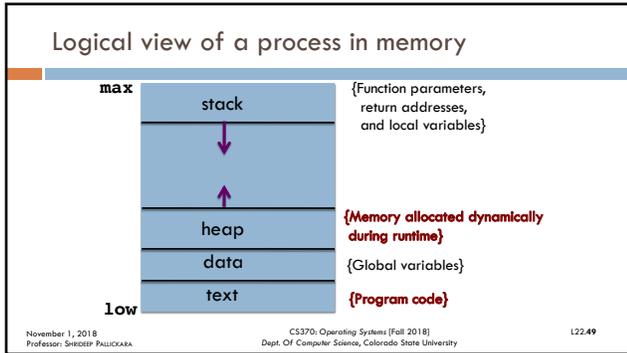
- Code to handle rare error conditions
- Data structures are often allocated more memory than they need
 - ▣ Arrays, lists ...
- Rarely used features

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What if we could execute a program that is partially in memory?

- Program is **not constrained** by amount of free memory that is available
- Each program uses **less** physical memory
 - ▣ So, more programs can run
- **Less I/O** to swap programs back and forth

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- ### Sparse address spaces
- Virtual address spaces with holes
 - Harnessed by
 - ▣ Heap or stack segments
 - ▣ Dynamically linked libraries
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DEMAND PAGING

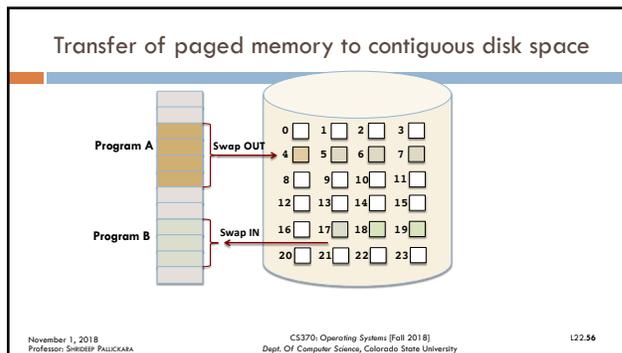
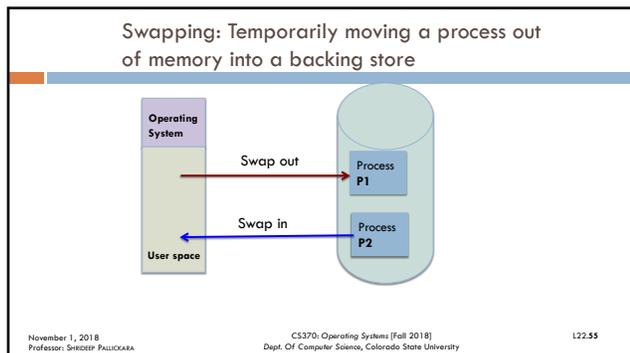
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- ### Loading an executable program into memory
- What if we load the entire program?
 - ▣ We may not need the entire program
 - Load pages *only* when they are needed
 - ▣ Demand Paging
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- ### Differences between the swapper and pager
- Swapper
 - ▣ Swaps the *entire program* into memory
 - Pager
 - ▣ Lazy swapper
 - ▣ Never swap a page into memory *unless* it is actually *needed*
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The contents of this slide-set are based on the following references

- *Avi Silberschatz, Peter Galvin, Greg Gagne. Operating Systems Concepts, 9th edition. John Wiley & Sons, Inc. ISBN-13: 978-1118063330. [Chapter 8]*
- *Andrew S Tanenbaum. Modern Operating Systems. 4th Edition, 2014. Prentice Hall. ISBN: 013359162X/ 978-0133591620. [Chapter 3]*
- *Thomas Anderson and Michael Dahlin. Operating Systems Principles and Practice. 2nd Edition. Recursive Books. ISBN: 978-0985673529. [Chapter 8]*

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