Mach

Machine-Independent Virtual Memory Management for Paged Uniprocessor and Multiprocessor Architectures,

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- 1. What problem did Mach address?
- 2. At a high-level, what is their solution?
- 3. What 5 basic abstractions did Mach rely upon? What needs to be implemented efficiently for an extensible system?
- 4. What functionality is provided to manage an address space?
- 5. What 4 primary data structures are used for memory management in Mach?
- 6. What is the purpose of the **resident page table**? How is it organized? What info is tracked for each page?
- 7. Page entries from the resident page table may simultaneously be linked in 3 different lists. What are the 3 lists and what are their purposes?
- 8. What is the purpose of the **address map** per task address space? How is it organized? What are the advantages of this structure? How many entries does it typically contain?
- 9. What is the purpose of **memory objects?** What is the purpose of the reference counter for each memory object? What handles page faults for each memory object?
- 10. Why is efficient copy-on-write needed in Mach? How does copy-on-write work? What inefficiencies can their approach cause? How does read/write sharing work?
- 11. What is the purpose of the **pmap?** Why doesn't pmap need to contain every virtual to physical mapping? What is the minimal pmap?
- 12. How were large page tables dealt with in VAX/VMS? How does Mach on VAX deal with large page tables?
- 13. To put all the data structures together, describe what happens on a "page fault".
- 14. Conclusion?