

Hello!

# MEMORY: SWAPPING

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CS 537, Fall 2024

# ADMINISTRIVIA

Project 3 due **very soon?**

Midterm I: Multiple choice questions

Oct 15<sup>th</sup> from 5.45pm to 7.15pm

Old exams on Canvas

Review session

Lecture next week

# AGENDA / LEARNING OUTCOMES

## Memory virtualization

How we support virtual mem larger than physical mem?

What are mechanisms and policies for this?

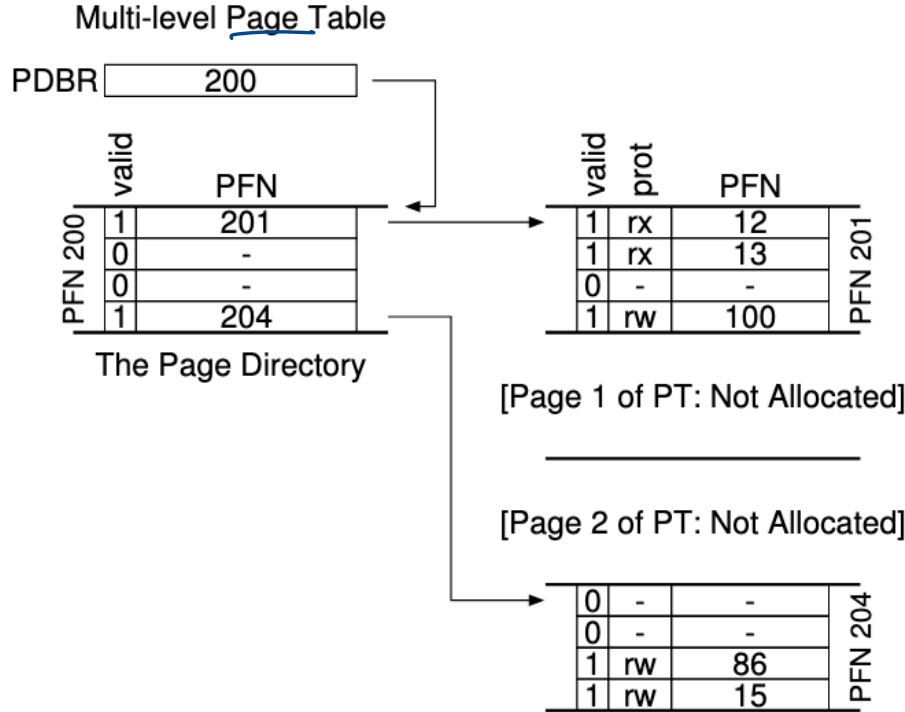
*Swapping*

**RECAP**

# MULTILEVEL PAGE TABLES

Divide phy mem  
into fixed  
size pages

VPN → PPN



if there are  
no allocation  
in this part

# ADDRESS FORMAT FOR MULTILEVEL PAGING

30-bit address:



How should logical address be structured? How many bits for each paging level?

Goal?

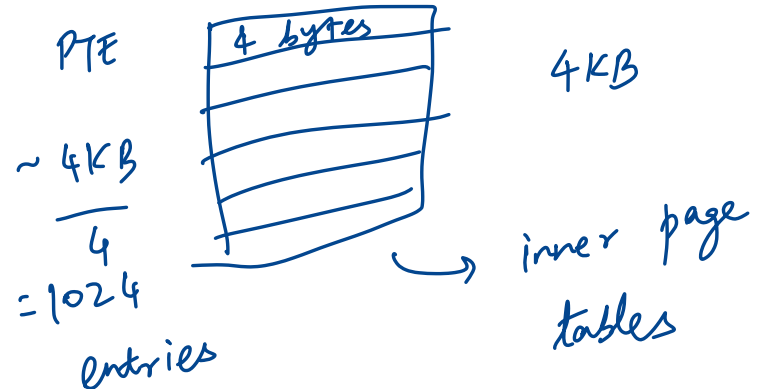
– Each inner page table fits within a page

– PTE size \* number PTE = page size

Assume PTE size = 4 bytes

Page size =  $2^{12}$  bytes = 4KB

→ # bits for selecting inner page = 10



Remaining bits for outer page:

–  $30 - 12 - 10 = 8$  bits

# MULTILEVEL TRANSLATION EXAMPLE

page directory

PPN	valid
0x3	1
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
0x92	1

inner PT

page of PT (@PPN:0x3)

PPN	valid
0x10	1
0x23	1
-	0
-	0
0x80	1
0x59	1
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0

page of PT (@PPN:0x92)

PPN	valid
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
-	0
0x55	1
0x45	1

virtual address

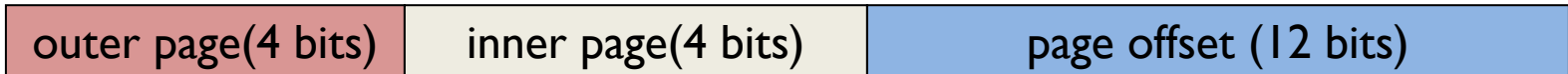
translate 0xFEED0

offset EDD  
inner E ←  
outer F

0x55 EDD

?A

20-bit address:



# INVERTED PAGE TABLE

Only store entries for virtual pages w/ valid physical mappings

Naïve approach:

Search through data structure  $\langle \text{ppn}, \underline{\text{vpn} + \text{asid}} \rangle$  to find match

Too much time to search entire table

hash table

↳ compact

Better:

Find possible matches entries by hashing  $\text{vpn} + \text{asid}$

Smaller number of entries to search for exact match



TLB miss  
OS gets invoked  
and searches  
thru page table

Managing inverted page table requires software-controlled TLB

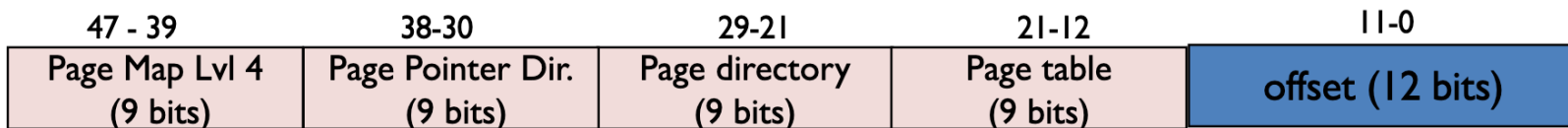


# TRANSLATING LARGE PAGES

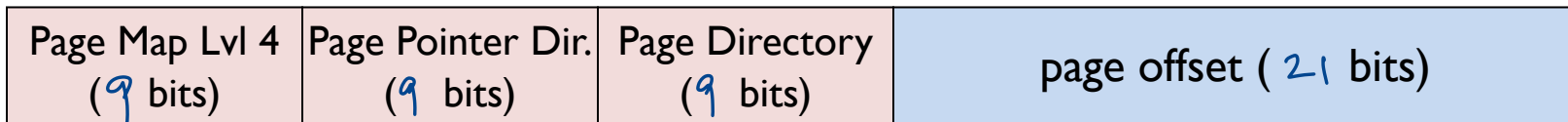
4 KB → small  
2 MB → huge  
pages

HugePages saves TLB entries. But how does it affect page translation?

4KB pages: 4 levels → 4 memory accesses



2MB pages: TLB hit rate is better!



→ 3 levels ⇒ 3 mem access for translation  
→ internal fragmentation

**SWAPPING**

# MOTIVATION

OS goal: Support processes when not enough physical memory

- Single process with very large address space
- Multiple processes with combined address spaces

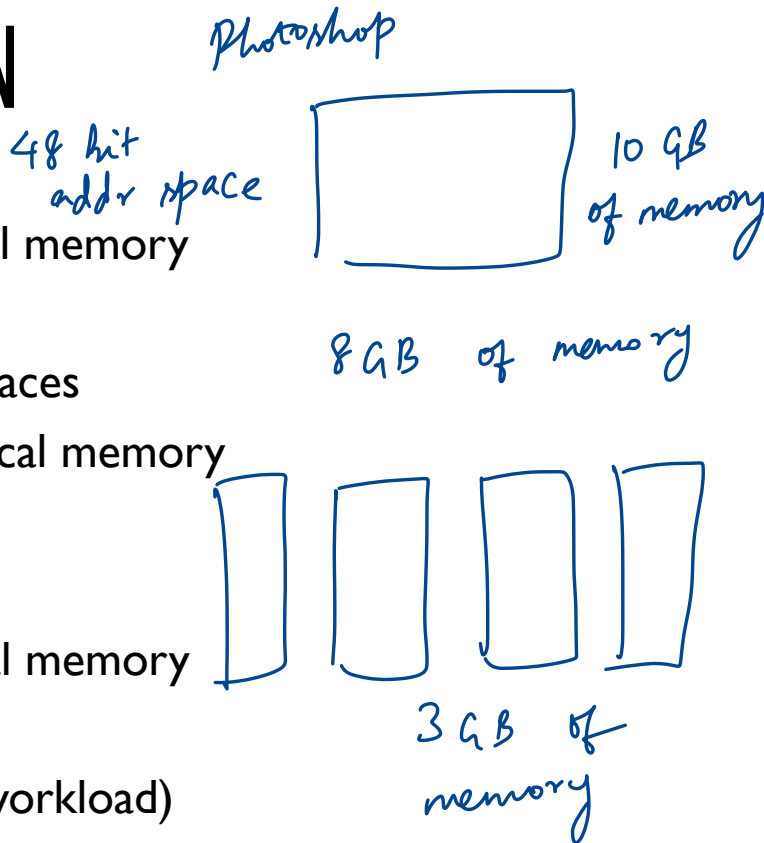
User code should be independent of amount of physical memory

- Correctness, if not performance

Virtual memory: OS provides illusion of more physical memory

Why does this work?

- Relies on key properties of user processes (workload) and machine architecture (hardware)



# WORKLOAD PROPERTIES

Leverage **locality of reference** within processes

- **Spatial**: reference memory addresses **near** previously referenced addresses
- **Temporal**: reference memory addresses that have referenced in the past
- Processes spend majority of time in small portion of code
  - Estimate: 90% of time in 10% of code → popular pages

Implication:

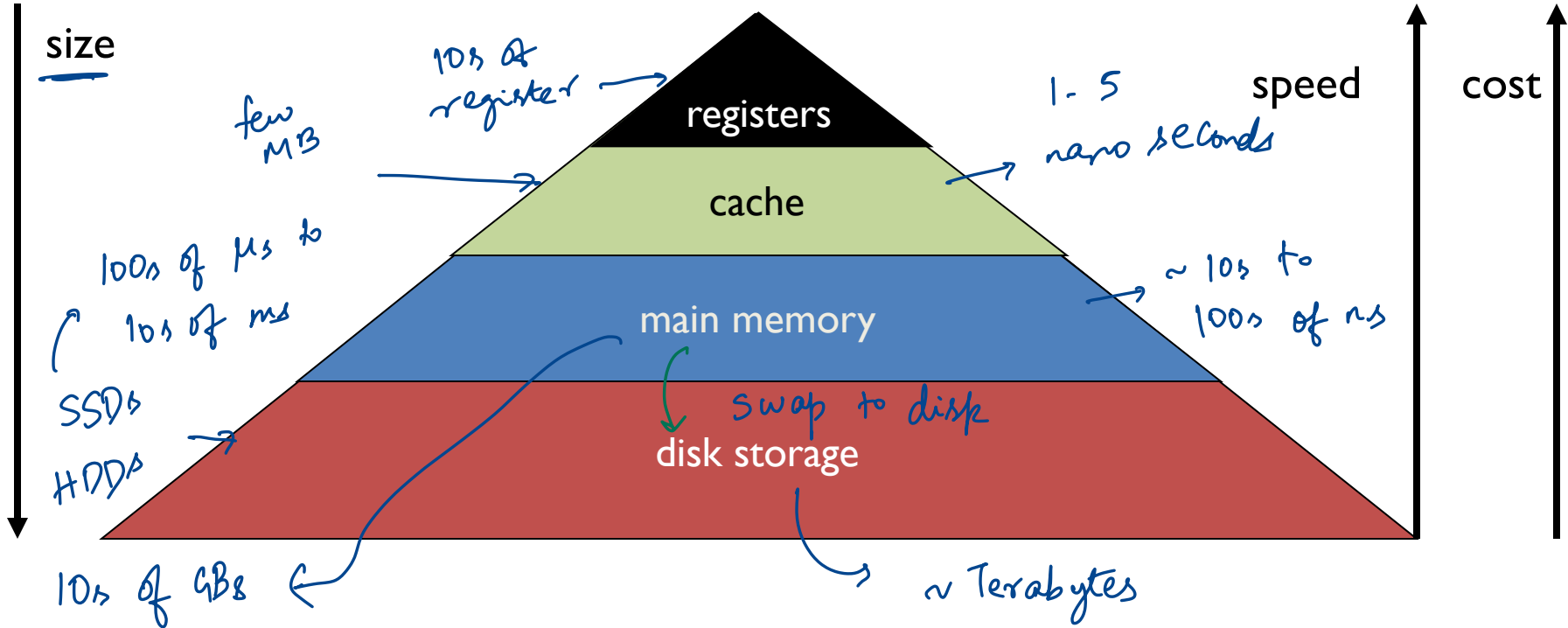
- Process only uses small amount of address space at any moment
- Only small amount of address space must be resident in physical memory

↳ lots of memory not popular?

# HARDWARE: MEMORY HIERARCHY

Leverage **memory hierarchy** of machine architecture

Each layer acts as “backing store” for layer above



# SWAPPING INTUITION

Idea: OS keeps unreferenced pages on disk

- Slower, cheaper backing store than memory

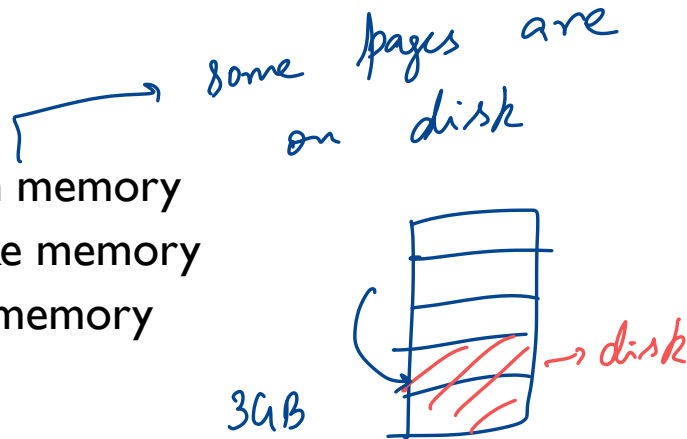
Process can run when not all pages are loaded into main memory

OS and hardware cooperate to make large disk seem like memory

- Same behavior as if all of address space in main memory

Requirements:

- OS must have **mechanism** to identify location of each page in address space → in memory or on disk
- OS must have **policy** to determine which pages live in memory and which on disk



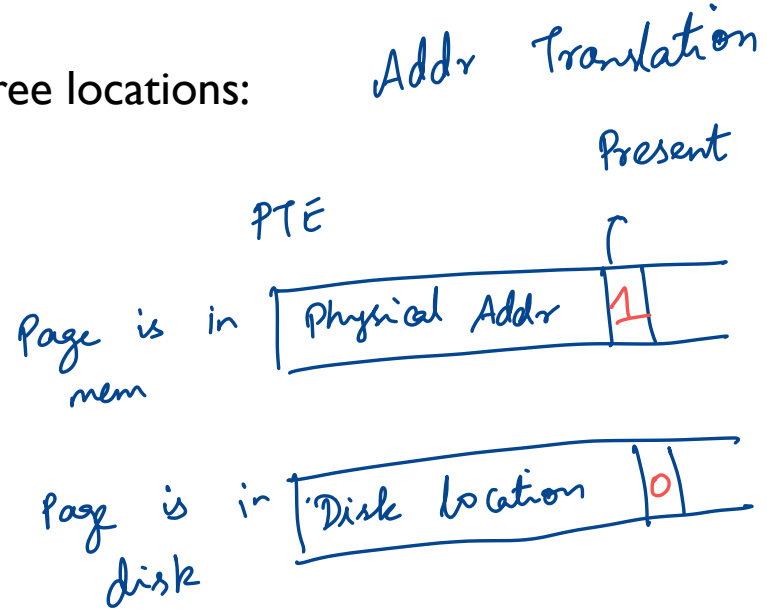
# VIRTUAL ADDRESS SPACE MECHANISMS

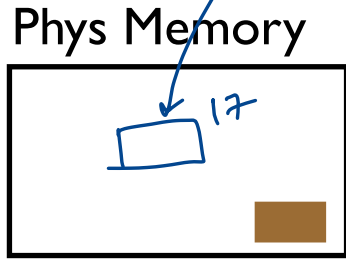
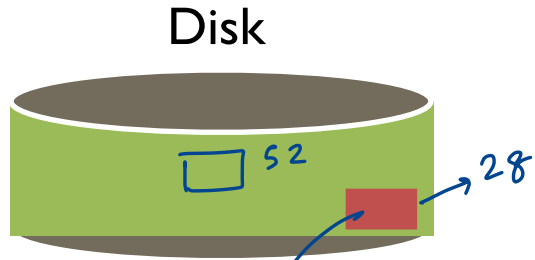
Each page in virtual address space maps to one of three locations:

- Physical main memory: Small, fast, expensive
- Disk (backing store): Large, slow, cheap
- Nothing (error): Free

Extend page tables with an extra bit: present

- permissions (r/w), valid, **present**
- Page in memory: present bit set in PTE
- Page on disk: present bit cleared
  - PTE points to block on disk
  - Causes trap into OS when page is referenced
  - **Trap: page fault**





choose page for replacement  
write out page 10 to disk

PFN	valid	prot	present
<del>10</del>		r-x	<del>0</del>
23	0	rw-	0
-	0	-	-
-	0	-	-
-	0	-	-
-	0	-	-
-	0	-	-
-	0	-	-
-	0	-	-
<del>28</del>		rw-	<del>0</del>
4	1	rw-	1

page is on disk

Read page from disk

Store page in mem.

What if access vpn 0xb?

- Update PTE



# VIRTUAL MEMORY MECHANISMS

First, hardware checks TLB for virtual address

- if TLB hit, address translation is done; page in physical memory

Else ...

- Hardware or OS walk page tables
- If PTE designates page is present, then page in physical memory (i.e., present bit is cleared)

*mapping from  
VPN → Disk  
location*

Else

- Trap into OS (not handled by hardware)
- OS selects victim page in memory to replace
  - Write victim page out to disk if modified (use dirty bit in PTE)
- OS reads referenced page from disk into memory
- Page table is updated, present bit is set
- Process continues execution

*PTE*



# QUIZ 8

<https://tinyurl.com/cs537-fa24-q8>

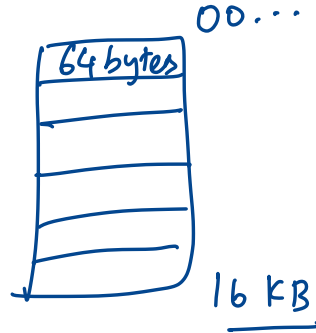


Virtual address space of 16KB with 64-byte pages.

How many bits in a virtual address?

16 bits

VA



Total number of entries in the Linear Page Table?

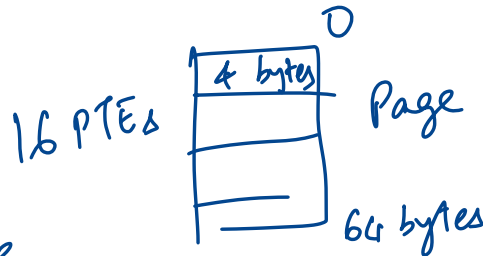
$$\frac{16 \text{ KB}}{64} = 256$$

Two-level page table with a page directory.

Bits to select the inner page?

(assume PTE size = 4 bytes)

4 bits to select inner page







# SWAPPING POLICIES

# SWAPPING POLICIES

Goal: Minimize number of page faults

- Page faults require milliseconds to handle (reading from disk)
- Implication: Plenty of time for OS to make good decision

policy can run  
for  $\sim 10$  or  $100 \mu s$

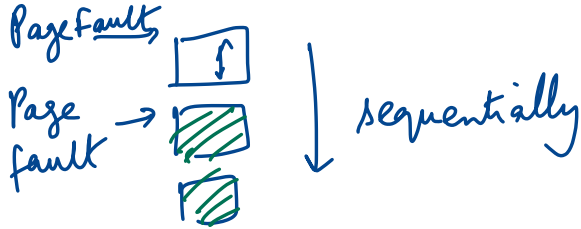
OS has two decisions

- Page selection

**When** should a page (or pages) on disk be **brought into** memory?

- Page replacement

**Which** resident page (or pages) in memory should be **thrown out** to disk?



# PAGE SELECTION

**Demand paging:** Load page only when page fault occurs

- Intuition: Wait until page must absolutely be in memory
- When process starts: No pages are loaded in memory
- Problems: Pay cost of page fault for every newly accessed page

don't bring wasteful pages into memory  
Performance ??

**Prepaging (anticipatory, prefetching):** Load page before referenced

- OS predicts future accesses (oracle) and brings pages into memory early
- Works well for some access patterns (e.g., sequential)

**Hints:** Combine above with user-supplied hints about page references

- User specifies: may need page in future, don't need this page anymore, or sequential access pattern, ...
- Example: madvise() in Unix

allows user processes to give hints

# PAGE REPLACEMENT

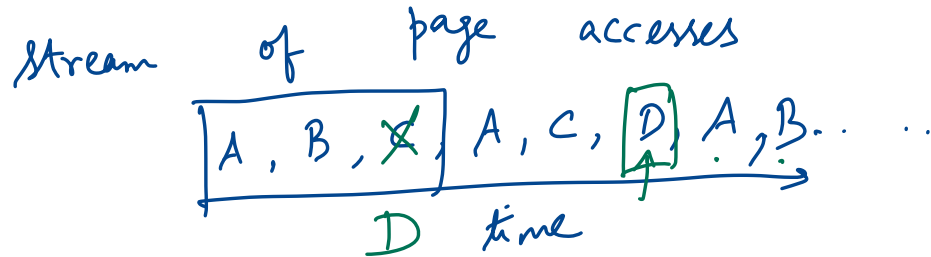
Which page in main memory should be selected as victim? *swapped out to disk*

- Write out victim page to disk if modified (**dirty bit** set)
- If victim page is not modified (clean), just discard

*classic problem*

**OPT:** Replace page **not used for longest time in future**

- Advantages: Guaranteed to minimize number of page faults
- Disadvantages: Requires that OS predict the future; Not practical, but good for comparison





# PAGE REPLACEMENT

*A, B, C, D, E, F, ...*  
*↑*

**FIFO:** Replace page that has been in memory the longest

- Intuition: First referenced long time ago, done with it now
- Advantages: Fair: All pages receive equal residency; Easy to implement
- Disadvantage: Some pages may always be needed

**LRU:** Least-recently-used: Replace page not used for longest time in past

*Temporal  
locality*

- Intuition: Use past to predict the future
- Advantages: With locality, LRU approximates OPT
- Disadvantages:
  - Harder to implement, must track which pages have been accessed
  - Does not handle all workloads well

Three pages  
of physical  
memory

# PAGE REPLACEMENT

*4 misses*

OPT

FIFO = 6

LRU

Page reference string:  
DDBBACBDBD

D	D			D			D		
D	D			D			D		
B	D	B		D	B		D	B	
B	D	B		D	B		D	B	
A	D	B	A	D	B	A	D	B	A
<u>C</u>	D	B	C	C	B	A	C	B	A
<i>hits</i> B	D	B	C	C	B	A	C	B	A
<u>D</u>	D	B	C	C	D	A	C	B	D
B	D	B	C	C	D	B	C	B	D
D	D	B	C	C	D	B	C	B	D

*5 misses*

Metric:  
Miss count

# PAGE REPLACEMENT COMPARISON

Add more physical memory, what happens to performance?

LRU, OPT:

- Guaranteed to have fewer (or same number of) page faults
- Smaller memory sizes are guaranteed to contain a subset of larger memory sizes
- Stack property: smaller cache always subset of bigger

FIFO:

- Usually have fewer page faults
- Belady's anomaly: May actually have **more** page faults!

# FIFO PERFORMANCE MAY DECREASE!

Consider access stream: ABCDABEABCDE

Physical memory size: 3 pages vs. 4 pages

How many misses with FIFO?

# IMPLEMENTING LRU

## Software Perfect LRU

- OS maintains ordered list of physical pages by reference time
- When page is referenced: Move page to front of list
- When need victim: Pick page at back of list
- Trade-off: Slow on memory reference, fast on replacement

## Hardware Perfect LRU

- Associate timestamp register with each page
- When page is referenced: Store system clock in register
- When need victim: Scan through registers to find oldest clock
- Trade-off: Fast on memory reference, slow on replacement (especially as size of memory grows)

In practice

LRU is an approximation anyway, so approximate more?

# CLOCK ALGORITHM

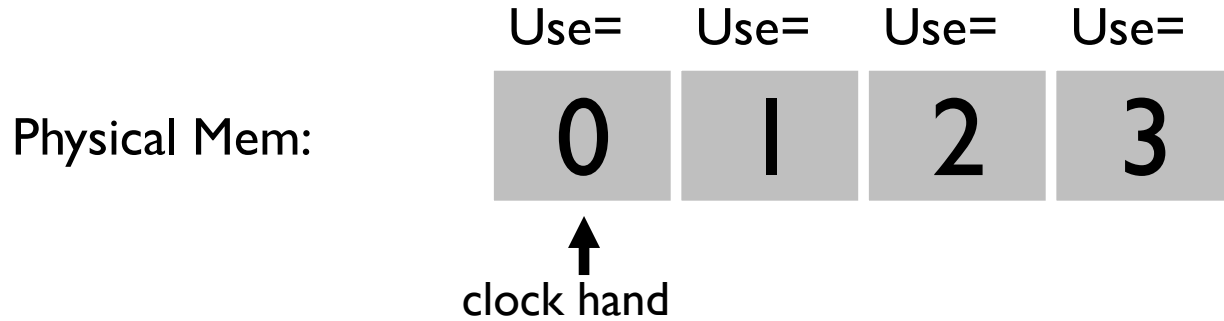
## Hardware

- Keep use (or reference) bit for each page frame
- When page is referenced: set use bit

## Operating System

- Page replacement: Look for page with use bit cleared (has not been referenced for awhile)
- Implementation:
  - Keep pointer to last examined page frame
  - Traverse pages in circular buffer
  - Clear use bits as search
  - Stop when find page with already cleared use bit, replace this page

# CLOCK: LOOK FOR A PAGE



Use = 1,1,0,1 to begin

# CLOCK EXTENSIONS

Replace multiple pages at once

- Intuition: Expensive to run replacement algorithm and to write single block to disk
- Find multiple victims each time and track free list

Use dirty bit to give preference to dirty pages

- Intuition: More expensive to replace dirty pages
  - Dirty pages must be written to disk, clean pages do not
- Replace pages that have use bit and dirty bit cleared



# SUMMARY: VIRTUAL MEMORY

Abstraction: Virtual address space with code, heap, stack

Address translation

- Contiguous memory: base, bounds, segmentation
- Using fixed sizes pages with page tables

Challenges with paging

- Extra memory references: avoid with TLB
- Page table size: avoid with multi-level paging, inverted page tables etc.

Larger address spaces: Swapping mechanisms, policies (LRU, Clock)

# NEXT STEPS

Next class: Midterm I review!