### Announcements

### • Midterm #1

- Solution on web
- Must submit requests for re-grades via grade web site by 3/18/04
- Average: 64.3, Standard Dev: 13.9

P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	Tot
13.9	9.7	15.4	14.1	11.4	64.3

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## Page Replacement Algorithms

#### • FIFO

- Replace the page that was brought in longest ago
- However
  - old pages may be great pages (frequently used)
  - number of page faults may increase when one increases number of page frames (discouraging!)
    - called belady's anomaly
    - 1,2,3,4,1,2,5,1,2,3,4,5 (consider 3 vs. 4 frames)

#### • Optimal

- Replace the page that will be used furthest in the future
- Good algorithm(!) but requires knowledge of the future
- With good compiler assistance, knowledge of the future is sometimes possible

## Page Replacement Algorithms

### • LRU

- Replace the page that was actually used longest ago
- Implementation of LRU can be a bit expensive
  - e.g. maintain a stack of nodes representing pages and put page on top of stack when the page is accessed
  - maintain a time stamp associated with each page
- Approximate LRU algorithms
  - maintain reference bit(s) which are set whenever a page is used
  - at the end of a given time period, reference bits are cleared



CMSC 412 – S04 (lect 12)



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# Thrashing

#### • Virtual memory is not "free"

- can allocate so much virtual memory that the system spends all its time getting pages
- the situation is called thrashing
- need to select one or more processes to swap out
- Swapping
  - write all of the memory of a process out to disk
  - don't run the process for a period of time
  - part of medium term scheduling
- How do we know when we are thrashing?
  - check CPU utilization?
  - check paging rate?
  - Answer: need to look at both
    - low CPU utilization plus high paging rate --> thrashing

# Working Sets and Page Replacement

- Programs usually display reference locality
  - temporal locality
    - repeated access to the same memory location
  - spatial locality
    - consecutive memory locations access nearby memory locations
  - memory hierarchy design relies heavily on locality reference
    - sequence of nested storage media
- Working set
  - set of pages referenced in the last delta references



# Improving Heap Locality

- Malloc (or new) don't ensure locality among requests
  - Two calls to malloc could get memory on different cache lines, pages, etc.
- Option 1:
  - Malloc a large chunk of memory and parcel it out yourself
- Option 2:
  - Add a "near" hint parameter to malloc
  - Indicates that memory should be allocated near the target location
    - It's only a performance hint, and malloc can ignore it
    - Allows locality improvement without major changes

# Preventing Thrashing

- Need to ensure that we can keep the working set in memory
  - if the working sets of the processes in memory exceed total page frames, then we need to swap a process out
- How do we compute the working set?
  - can approximate it using a reference bit

## **Implementation Issues**

### • How big should a page be?

- want to trade cost of fault vs. fragmentation
  - cost of fault is: trap + seek + latency + transfer
- Does the OS page size have to equal the HW page size?
  - no, just needs to be a multiple of it
- How does I/O relate to paging
  - if we request I/O for a process, need to lock the page
    - if not, the I/O device can overwrite the page
- Can the kernel be paged?
  - most of it can be.
  - what about the code for the page fault handler?

