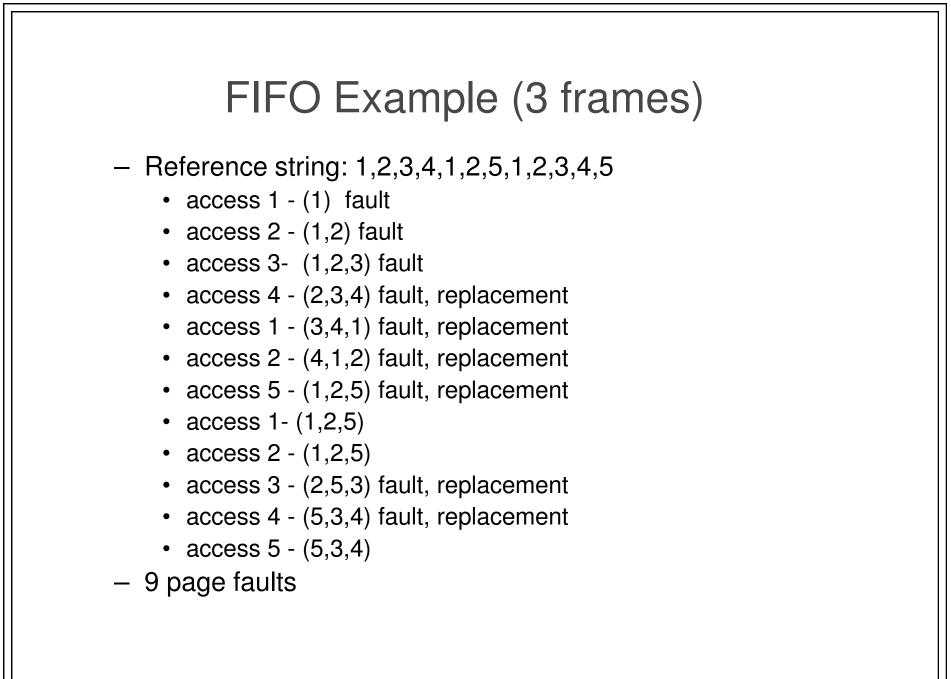
Announcements

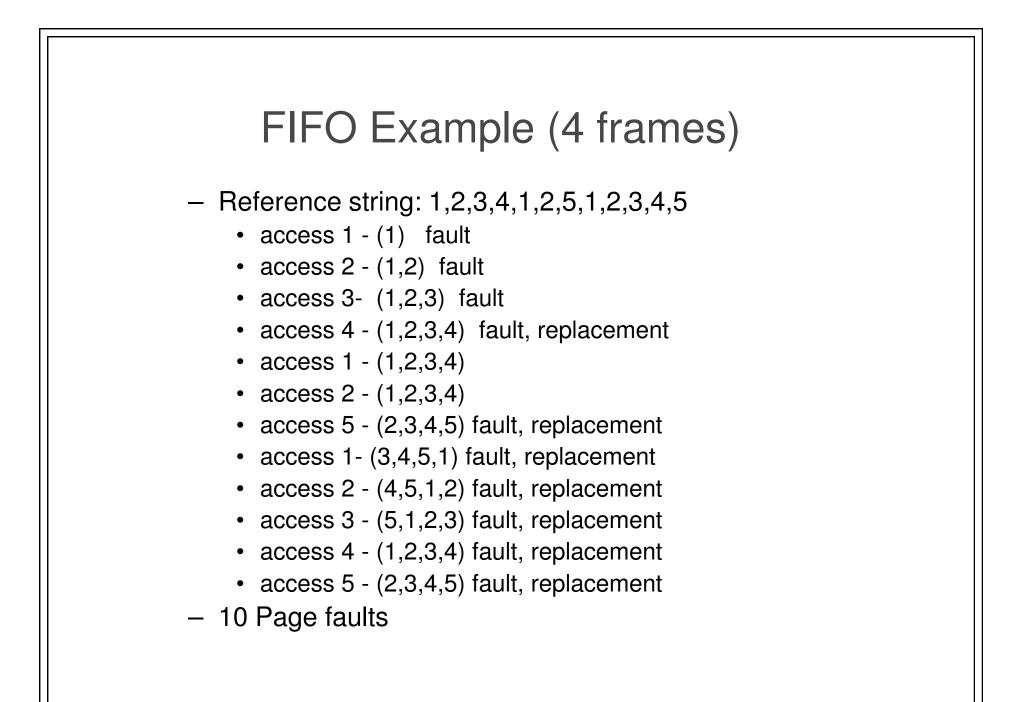
• Project #4

- Should have all of the virtual -> mapping working this week
- Should have the user program running from 0x8000 0000 by early next week
- Reading Chapter 12

CMSC 412 – S17 (lect 15)



CMSC 412 – S17 (lect 15)



CMSC 412 – S17 (lect 15)

Thrashing

• Virtual memory is not "free"

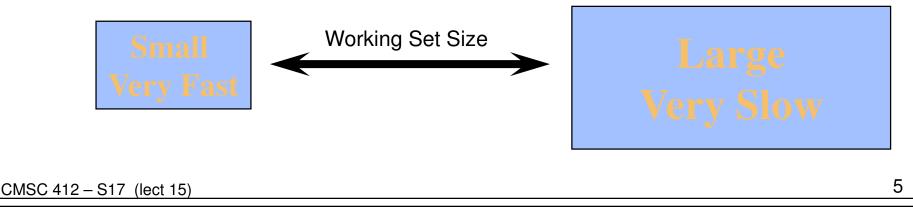
- can allocate so much virtual memory that the system spends all its time getting pages
- the situation is called thrashing
- need to select one or more processes to swap out
- Swapping
 - write all of the memory of a process out to disk
 - don't run the process for a period of time
 - part of medium 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



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

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

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?

File Abstraction

- What is a file?
 - a named collection of information stored on secondary storage
- Properties of a file
 - non-volatile
 - can read, write, or update it
 - has metadata to describe attributes of the file

• File Attributes

- name: a way to describe the file
- type: some information about what is stored in the file
- location: how to find the file on disk
- size: number of bytes
- protection: access control
 - may be different for read, write, execute, append, etc.
- time: access, modification, creation
- version: how many times has the file changed