Slide 1

Administrivia

- (None.)

Slide 2

Memory Management, Introduction

- One job of operating system is to “manage memory” — assign sections of main memory to processes, keep track of who has what, protect processes’ memory from other processes.
- As with CPU scheduling, we’ll look at several schemes, starting with the very simple. For each scheme, think about how well it solves the problem, how it compares to others.

Slide 3

Monoprogramming

- Idea — only one user program/process at a time, no swapping or paging. Only decision to make is how much memory to devote to o/s itself, where to put it.
- Consider tradeoffs — complexity versus flexibility, efficient use of memory.
- Used in very early mainframes, MS-DOS; still used in some embedded systems.

Slide 4

Multiprogramming With Fixed Partitions

- Idea — partition memory into fixed-size "partitions" (maybe different sizes), one for each process.
- Limits "degree of multiprogramming" (how many processes can run concurrently).
- Probably necessitates admissions scheduling — either one input queue per partition, or one combined queue.

  If one combined queue, how to choose from it when a partition becomes available? first job that fits? largest job that fits? etc.
- Consider tradeoffs — complexity versus flexibility, efficient use of memory.
- Used in early mainframes.

Slide 5

Multiprogramming With Variable Partitions

- Idea — separate memory into partitions as before, but allow them to vary in size and number.

  I.e., “contiguous allocation” scheme.

  (We’ll consider swapping separately, unlike textbook.)
- Like previous scheme, necessitates admissions scheduling.
- Requires that we keep track of locations and sizes of processes’ partitions, free space. Notice potential for memory fragmentation.
- Consider tradeoffs — complexity versus flexibility, efficient use of memory.
- Used in early mainframes.

Slide 6

Multiprogramming With Variable Partitions — Bitmaps

- One solution to problem of keeping track of locations/sizes of processes’ memory and free-space “chunks”.
- Idea — divide memory into “allocation units”; for each, one bit says whether it’s free.
- Tradeoffs — simple? easy/quick to find free space of size N?
- How big should allocation units be? (What if they’re really small? really big?)
- We’ve left something out here — how to keep track of processes’ memory — where / how big. ?

Slide 7

Multiprogramming With Variable Partitions — Free List

- Another solution to problem of keeping track of locations/sizes of processes' memory and free-space "chunks".
- Idea — keep linked list with one entry for each process or free-space chunk ("hole"), sorted by address. When we allocate/free memory, possibly split/merge entries.
- Tradeoffs — simple? space requirements compared to bitmap?

Slide 8

Multiprogramming With Variable Partitions, Continued

- Another implementation issue — how to decide, when starting a process, which of the available free chunks to assign.
- Several strategies possible:
  - First fit.
  - Next fit.
  - Best fit.
  - Worst fit.
  - Quick fit.

Slide 9

Multiprogramming with Fixed/Variable Partitions — Recap

- Comparing the two schemes:
  - Similar admission scheduling issues.
  - Complexity versus flexibility, memory use also roughly similar.
- Either could be adequate for a simple batch system (maybe with the addition of swapping — next lecture).

Slide 10

Relocation and Protection

- The “relocation problem” (discussed also in Chapter 1 of text) — as part of compiling/linking, must turn symbolic/implicit references (e.g., to other parts of the program) into memory addresses.

  One simple way — absolute addresses.

  Another simple way — loader program to modify addresses as program is loaded into memory.
- Memory protection — want to protect the memory of one process from inadvertent or malicious access by other processes.

  A simple way — divide memory into blocks, associate a key with each block, only allow access to process with matching key (or “key 0” – o/s).
- A way to solve both problems — “dynamic address translation” via MMU.

Slide 11

Dynamic Address Translation

- Underlying idea — separate program addresses (relative to start of program's "address space") from physical addresses (memory locations), and map program addresses to physical addresses. Also try to identify out-of-bounds addresses.
- Simplest such map based on base and limit addresses (B and L):

  Program address p maps to memory location $B + p$.

  If $B + p > L$, invalid (out of bounds).

  If B and L are different for each process — solves both problems.
- Only practical way to implement — hardware "memory management unit" that logically sits between the CPU and memory.

  Simplifying, CPU references program addresses, MMU turns them into physical addresses, generates interrupt if invalid.

  MMU uses, e.g., base and limit registers that change during a context switch.

Slide 12

Minute Essay

- None — sign in.