

Slide 1

Administrivia

- Reminder: Homework 3 due Wednesday.
- Homework 2 written problems graded. Scores were very bad! I graded the semaphore-implementation and restroom problems very strictly, but I think consistently, and I graded the question about `fork()` very leniently (because I think it was not very clear). Remember that I do grade “on a curve” so one bad homework grade, if everyone does badly, isn’t terrible. (It just makes me wonder why/how everyone didn’t understand!)
- (Rather than review here/now the problems that were missed — have a look at the sample solution, and we can address questions during the planned exam review session next Monday?)

Slide 2

Minute Essay From Last Lecture

- (Review.)
- Why isn’t deadlock possible with only one resource? (Remember the definition?)

Memory Management — Overview

Slide 3

- 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.
- As with processes, there’s a tradeoff between simplicity and providing a nice abstraction to user programs.

Simple Schemes — No Abstraction

Slide 4

- Memory (a.k.a. “RAM”) can be thought of as a very long list of numbered cells (usually bytes). (This is a somewhat simplified view but “good enough” for our purposes.)
- Simplest schemes for managing it don’t try to hide that view. (Names for these come from older edition of Tanenbaum’s book.)

Monoprogramming

Slide 5

- Idea — only one user program/process at a time, stays resident until finished. 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.

Multiprogramming With Fixed Partitions

Slide 6

- Idea — partition memory into fixed-size “partitions” (maybe different sizes), one for each process. Possibly also add the ability to “swap” programs (later slide).
- 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.

Multiprogramming With Variable Partitions

Slide 7

- Idea — separate memory into partitions as before, but allow them to vary in size and number.
I.e., “contiguous allocation” scheme.
- 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.

Sidebar: Program Relocation and Memory Protection

Slide 8

- At the machine-instruction level, references to memory are in terms of an absolute number. Some references are made relative to the program counter, but others may be absolute — i.e., generated when the program is translated to machine language. Compilers/assemblers can generate these only by making assumption about where program will reside in memory.
- In the very early days, all programs loaded at address 0, so no problem. With monoprogramming, too, all programs reside at the same address, so no problem.
- What happens, though, if you want to have multiple programs in memory? compilers/assemblers can’t generate correct absolute addresses.
- Also remember that we want to protect each process’s memory from other processes.

Program Relocation and Memory Protection, Continued

Slide 9

- One solution to relocation problem — generate, as part of the executable, a list of locations where there's an absolute address, and modify it as the program is loaded into memory. (What implications does this have for being able to do swapping?)
- One solution to the memory-protection problem — storage-protection keys (IBM 360, an early mainframe).
- A better solution to both problems involves translating addresses “on the fly” . . .

Sidebar: The “Address Space” Abstraction

Slide 10

- Basic idea is somewhat analogous to process abstraction, in which each process has its own simulated CPU. Here, each process has its own simulated memory.
- As with processes, implementing this abstraction is part of what an operating system can/should do.
- Usually, though, O/S needs help from hardware . . .

Dynamic Address Translation

Slide 11

- 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.
- 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.

A Simple MMU

Slide 12

- Idea — map each process's address space to a contiguous chunk of real memory, 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.
- Turn this into hardware (MMU) by using base and limit registers.
- Solves both the relocation and protection problems.
- Consider tradeoffs — complexity versus flexibility.
- Used in some early mainframes and PCs.

Slide 13

Memory Management with Contiguous Allocation

- Simplest MMU uses two registers, base and limit. This more or less implies that each process can have only one contiguous chunk of memory. (Notice here the interaction between hardware design and O/S design.)
- Key issues here are keeping track of what space is used by what, and deciding how to assign memory to processes.

Slide 14

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.

Multiprogramming with Fixed/Variable Partitions — Recap

Slide 15

- 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.

Swapping

Slide 16

- Idea — move processes into / out of main memory (when not in main memory, save on disk).
(Aside — can we run a program directly from disk?)
- Addresses both questions from previous slide; could also provide a way to “fix” fragmentation.
- Implies another level of scheduling (what to swap in/out).
- Makes non-dynamic solutions to relocation problem much less attractive. MMU-based solution still works, though, and adds memory protection.
- Consider tradeoffs again — complexity versus flexibility, efficient use of memory.

Slide 17

Sidebar: Three-Level Scheduling

- Basic idea — break up problem of scheduling (batch) work into three parts:
 - Admissions scheduling — choose from input queue which jobs to “let into the system” (create processes for).
 - Memory scheduling — choose from among processes in system which to keep in memory, which to “swap out” to disk.
 - CPU scheduling — choose from among processes in memory which to actually run.
- Points to consider:
 - Are there advantages to limiting how many processes, how many in memory? What criteria could we use?
 - Are there advantages to the explicit three-level scheme?
 - Would this (or a variant) work for interactive systems?
 - Do all three schedulers have to be efficient?

Slide 18

Simple Memory Management — Recap

- Contiguous-allocation schemes are simple to understand, implement.
- But they're not very flexible — process's memory must be contiguous, swapping is all-or-nothing.
- Can we do better? yes, by relaxing one or both of those requirements — “paging”.

Minute Essay

- None really — just sign in.

Slide 19