

Slide 1

Slide 2

Multiprogramming with Fixed/Variable Partitions — Recap

- Comparing the two schemes:
 - Both based on idea that each process's memory is one contiguous block
 simple, works well with the simple base/limit MMU described earlier.
 - Admissions scheduling required with fixed partitions, probably a good idea with variable partitions.
 - Complexity versus flexibility, memory use.
- Either could be adequate for a simple batch system.
- But ...
 - Can we somehow have more jobs/processes "in the system" than we have memory for? Could be useful if processes sometimes wait a long time.
 - Can we do something so processes can acquire more memory as they
 - run?



• What if we don't know before the program starts how much memory it will want? with very old languages, maybe not an issue, but with more modern ones it is.

I.e., we might want to manage memory within a process's "address space" (range of possible program/virtual addresses).

Slide 3

- Typical scheme involves
 - Fixed-size allocation for code and any static data.
 - Two variable-size pieces ("heap" and "stack") for dynamically allocated data.



Slide 4



Paging
Idea — divide both address spaces and memory into fixed-size blocks ("pages" and "page frames"), allow non-contiguous allocation.
Consider tradeoffs yet again — complexity versus flexibility, efficient use of memory.

Slide 6

Slide 8



Paging and Virtual Memory
Idea — extend this scheme to provide "virtual memory" — keep some pages on disk. Allows us to pretend we have more memory than we really do.
Compare to swapping.







Slide 11