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Computer Systems

CS 3650

User Application Software Operating System Hardware

Ferdinand Vesely - Alden Jackson

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An Introduction to Caches

Cache

- Cache: A smaller, faster storage device that acts as a staging area for a subset of the data in a larger, slower device
- For each level in the memory hierarchy K
 - K serves as a cache for the larger slower device at level K+1
- A memory hierarchy works because of locality
 - Programs access data at level K more often than data at K+1
 - With this, we can have a lot of the cheaper memory that holds a lot of data, and still access data at high speeds using our more limited but fast memory.



Cache on Hardware

- CPU will look for data in Cache first
 - Attempt to load into registers
 - If not found, then will travel on System Bus -> I/O Bridge -> then to main memory (Earlier in lecture with the SSD and magnetic disk)

CPU chip



General Cache Concepts

Small Example



Cache hit and misses

- Cache Hit Data is requested and it is in the cache
- Cache Miss Data is not in the cache and must be fetched from main memory

- So ideally--we want lots of cache hits!
 - We want to take advantage of these faster memory accesses!
 - (This may also be a good metric to quantify locality of our programs.)

Cache Hit





Cache Miss







Cache Miss

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Note on Fetching

- From our perspective, when we fetch information, it is almost always worthwhile to put the memory into the cache.
- If you are going to pay some latency to retrieve something, might has well have it ready to go in the cache.
- The exact algorithm on how to replace and remove items depends on your policy.



Policies

Now how I choose where to put that block is based on:

- 1. Placement Policy Determine where blocks of memory go in the cache
- 2. Replacement Policy- Determines which block gets evicted when we run out of room.

These policies in general are very simple! We usually do not want a complicated scheme that takes more processing power!

Sample Replacement Policies

- Random Just randomly remove something
- Least Recently Used (LRU) Move out the youngest item.
- Here are some more:
 - <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cache_replace</u> <u>ment_policies</u>

2 Policies

- 2.1 Bélády's Algorithm
- 2.2 First In First Out (FIFO)
- 2.3 Last In First Out (LIFO)
- 2.4 Least Recently Used (LRU)
- 2.5 Time aware Least Recently Used (TLRU)^[5]
- 2.6 Most Recently Used (MRU)
- 2.7 Pseudo-LRU (PLRU)
- 2.8 Random Replacement (RR)
- 2.9 Segmented LRU (SLRU)
- 2.10 Least-Frequently Used (LFU)
- 2.11 Least Frequent Recently Used (LFRU) [11]
- 2.12 LFU with Dynamic Aging (LFUDA)
- 2.13 Low Inter-reference Recency Set (LIRS)
- 2.14 Adaptive Replacement Cache (ARC)
- 2.15 Clock with Adaptive Replacement (CAR)
- 2.16 Multi Queue (MQ) caching algorithm|Multi Queue (MQ)
- 2.17 Pannier: Container-based caching algorithm for compound objects

LRU Example | A-D added, ()'s represent age bit

LRU = Least Recently Used (Youngest Item)



Cache Misses

- 1. Cold (Compulsory) Miss First time you access a cache (perhaps when you start a program or fresh install of an operating system)
- 2. Capacity Miss Set of the things you want to keep (your working set) is larger than the cache itself.
- **3. Conflict Miss** Occurs when the level K cache is large enough, but multiple data objects all map to the same level L block.
 - e.g. accessing two arrays that could fit in the cache, but are unaligned and due to organization do not fit.

Caches are everywhere!

- Registers (Instruction Cache)
- L1 cache
- L2 cache
- Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB)
- Virtual Memory
- Buffer Cache
- Disk Cache
- Network buffer cache
- Browser cache
- Web Cache, CDNs, ...

Lecture 7 - Virtual Memory

A trip down memory lane to the good old days

Early Computers

- Computers historically were really good at just doing one thing
- So a computer's memory stored the operating system and whatever program was currently running in memory

UND	Operating System (code, data, etc.)
64KB	
	Current Program (code, data, etc.)
max	

Sharing Memory

- Eventually computer operators wanted to run more than one program at a time
- So as memory expanded, multiple processes could be loaded into fixed size chunks to run.
 - And we have talked about how processes context switch and make this possible.



More efficient memory

- But eventually, programmers did not want to have a 'fixed' size memory block.
 - Maybe one process needed more or less memory than the other
- Thus processes needed a way to expand and compress based on how much memory was being used.
 - This was also a more efficient way to utilize memory.



Physical Memory System

- This visualization shows how we have thought of memory
 - Our CPU fetches, decodes, and executes instructions one at a time from memory
 - That memory has *some* address
 - (And this may be a true depiction of what a small embedded processor looks like)
- In this model, what hardware mechanism could help a process to expand its memory?
 - How can the hardware support this? (next slide!)



Data word

Introducing the Memory Management Unit (MMU)

- We still retrieve memory from main memory
- BUT, there is an additional translation step that occurs in the Memory Management Unit (MMU)
- (And as with many things--we have introduced a new layer of abstraction in the hardware to help us)



MMU's job is to figure out (i.e. translate) the mappings from main memory to what is called <u>a virtual</u> <u>address</u> for a process.

- When the address is determined, the MMU moves memory in units called 'pages'
 - A page size varies by architecture and configuration settings
 - A common page size 4096 bytes (i.e. 4kb)





Data word





Data word



Fritz-Rudolf Güntsch

- German Physicists
 - (i.e. not a computer scientist)
- Invented the concept of virtual memory in the 1950s
- <u>https://history-computer.com/ModernComputer</u> /<u>Electronic/Atlas.html</u>



Virtual Memory

Three Virtual Memory Advantages

- 1. Use Main memory efficiently
- 2. Simplifies memory management (for application developers)
- 3. Isolates Address Spaces

Why Virtual Memory (1/3)

- 1. Uses main memory efficiently
 - Use physical memory as a "cache" for parts of a virtual address space
 - The picture to the left looks a lot like the picture to the right in that there is another layer of abstraction





Why Virtual Memory (2/3)

- 2. Simplifies memory management (for application developers)
- Each process gets the same linear address space
 - This is how we have always thought of memory at this point
 - Our programs each have a simple linear address space
 - (This is also (arguably) easier for the Operating System to manage)



Why Virtual Memory (3/3)

- 3. Isolates Address Spaces
- One process cannot interfere with another
- User's program cannot access privileged kernel information and code.
 - That is, imagine we did have access to our whole disk/ram and could return bytes from anywhere!
- We do not need to memorize specific addresses
 - (e.g. where some device that is plugged in is located versus some other memory)

So here's another high level view

- The kernel gets a large chunk of memory
 - Roughly the top 1-2 GB of virtual address space for linux.
 - We don't want anyone else to touch this space.
- But the rest of the virtual addresses are for us, the users.
 - We call these user space addresses for user space processes.

Kernel Addresses
User space Addresses for user space processes
#1 Use Main Memory efficiently

Some terminology for Address Spaces (1/2)

- We refer to a Linear Address Space as
 - Order of contiguous non-negative integer addresses
 - {0,1,2,3,...}
- A 'page' of memory is some fixed size
 - Typically 4096 bytes (4kb)

Some terminology for Address Spaces (2/2)

- Virtual address space:
 - Set of N = 2^n virtual addresses
 - {0,1,2,3,..., N-1}
- Physical Address Space
 - \circ Set of M = 2^m virtual addresses
 - {0,1,2,3,..., M-1}
- Okay, so this means we really have 2 memory addresses spaces: Virtual and Physical to keep track of

Two Address Spaces

- 1. Physical Address Space Is used by the hardware
- 2. Virtual Addresses Space
 - Used by the software
 - (Again, this is what we are familiar with)
 - The exact translation (from a physical to a virtual address) happens in hardware for us

Virtual Memory to assist with caching (1/5)

- Conceptually, virtual memory is an array of contiguous bytes stored on disk
- The contents of these arrays are cached in physical memory



Virtual Memory to assist with caching (2/5)

- Conceptually, virtual memory is an array of contiguous bytes stored on disk
- The contents of these arrays are cached in physical memory



Virtual Memory to assist with caching (3/5)

- Conceptually, virtual memory is an array of contiguous bytes stored on disk
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Virtual Memory to assist with caching (4/5)

- Conceptually, virtual memory is an array of contiguous bytes stored on disk
- The contents of these arrays are cached in physical memory



Virtual Memory to assist with caching (5/5)

- Conceptually, virtual memory is an array of contiguous bytes stored on disk
- The contents of these arrays are cached in physical memory



• A page table keeps track of the mapping between virtual and physical addresses. [figure source]



A page table keeps track of the mapping between virtual and physical Our process addre urce] requests some address (which is actually a virtual address) Program Page Table Virtual Address space Physical Address space maps VA→PA Processor ld R3, 1024(R0) VA 512 12 512 ld R2, 512(R0) PA 12 786 disk 1024 2 Disk



A page table keeps track of the mapping between virtu And we cal retrieve the addresses. [figure source] actual data we need from DRAM. Program DRAM Page Table Virtual Address space Physical Address space maps VA→PA ld R3, 1924(R0) VA 512 512 12 ld R2, 512(R0) PA 12 786 disk 1024 2 Disk



(Again) Enabling Data Structure: Page Table

- We divide memory up into pages
 - (Typically 4096 bytes for 1 page)
- A page table then stores the mappings from a virtual page to its physical page address



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Page Hit

 Just like a cache hit, we see if our page is in DRAM



Page miss causes a Page Fault

- If our page is not in memory, then we get a page fault.
 - (VP 6 for example is not in our DRAM, but 1,2,7, and 4 are)



Page Fault Example

• User attempts to write to memory location



- OS *may* (let's assume it does) recognize this particular address is not valid.
 - Valid in the sense of the OS noticing-- "hey, this page is not in our page table"
- The proper behavior is for the OS to do *something* (i.e. handle this exception).
 - This involves evicting some page we do not need (some victim)
 - The instruction that caused the fault is then restarted
 - We get a page hit and move on.

A walkthrough















Question: Page Faults

- When your program executes, do you get a lot of page faults?
 - (Can measure with "perf record -e page-faults -ag" if you are on Unix)
 - (Use 'perf list' to see more events you can record)
 - (Unfortunately our machines do not let us access the performance counters with record).
 - However, can still use
 - Run`perf stat ./myProgram`
 - Observe the different counts of the page-faults and context-switches shown!

perf example



NOTE: <u>Do not</u> run this example on Khoury machines--do it on your VM!

You cannot run 'sudo' commands on systems. Is everyone paying attention? :)

- sudo apt install linux-tools-common linux-tools-generic linux-tools-n.n.n-nn-generic
- sudo perf stat ./print2

1	<pre>#include <stdio.h></stdio.h></pre>	Performance counter	stats for './print2':		
2	<pre>int main(){</pre>	0.984860	task-clock (msec)	#	0.634 CPUs utilized
3		0	context-switches	#	0.000 K/sec
4	int a[600]:	Θ	cpu-migrations	#	0.000 K/sec
	int a[000],	55	page-faults	#	0.056 M/sec
5	a[500] = 13;	780,777	cycles	#	0.793 GHz
		666,077	instructions	#	0.85 insn per cycle
~		129,124	branches	#	131.109 M/sec
0	printf("%d\n",a[500]);	6,478	branch-misses	#	5.02% of all branches
7	return 0;	0 001552678 se	conds time elansed		
8		0.001552070 30			

Answer and New Question

- When your program executes, do you get a lot of page faults?
 - (Can measure with "perf record -e page-faults -ag" if you are on Unix)
 - Typically yes!
 - But this is okay in a sense that a lot of the nitty gritty is handled for us.
 - Generally we do not try to predict the access patterns of page accesses
 - After our compulsory misses, we generally do pretty well.
 - Why?

Answer and New Question

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 - After our compulsory misses, we generally do pretty well.
 - Why?
 - Locality to the rescue!
 - If we have a page of memory in our DRAM Cache, typically where we are working (our *working set*) only on a small piece of data at a time in our programs.
 - If the data we are working on is larger than our main memory size, then we get thrashing!
 - i.e. lots and lots of page swaps!

Quick Summary of Virtual Memory so far

- We found we could access our memory and organize them into 4096 byte pages
 - (Again, usually 4096 bytes per page, but this can vary by OS)
- We could then access these pages by looking in a page table
- These individual pages can be cached in the DRAM
 - This is a trend in computer science (i.e., we've seen this a couple of times), figure out how to cache things and speed up lookup times

Short 5 minute break

- 1 hour 40 minutes is a long time.
- I will try to never lecture for more than half of that time without some sort of 'break' or transition to an in-class activity/lab.
- Use this time to stretch, check your phones, eat/drink something, etc.



#2 Simplifies memory management (for application developers)

Virtual Memory for Memory Management

- Each process has its own virtual address space
 - This means we can view (within a process), memory as a linear array.
 - In reality, we known we have many pages scattered around.
 - (This could cause locality issues...so the OS needs to choose good mappings)
Example of page mappings







Example of page mappings





Virtual Memory supports Linking and Loading

To our program, the virtual address space is roughly the same

 code, data, and heap sections start at same address



Virtual Memory as Memory Manager Summary

- So for each of these virtual pages, they map to a physical page (PP)
- Processes store any number of virtual pages at a given time.
 - And sometimes these virtual pages (VP) are shared if read-only code (e.g. a library of code--which will not change!)



Two different tables

- So let's keep straight that a page table is what maps physical addresses to virtual pages.
 - i.e "Where is this range of bytes stored"
 - "Oh, in page 1,5, etc."
 - (Occasionally you will see PTE in literature which means page table entry)
- Then there is a separate mapping of pages for our programs
 - (i.e. a process keeps track of its pages based on how many it needs)



Little real world experiment (1/2)

- Here's me running two instances of the same program
- From gdb's perspective, it's the same 'address' range for all of the .text section of our binary.
 - So perhaps we have mapped to the same page which seems efficient.

	print.c		print.c	20			
8+>	<pre>3 int main(){</pre>		B+>	3 int mai	n(){		
	4 5 int address = 0; 6 7 printf("%p\n",(int*)&ad	4 5 int address = 0; 6 7 printf("%p\n",(int*)&address);					
3+>	0x5555555546b2 <main+8> mov 0x555555555566bb <main+17> mov 0x5555555555566c1 <main+21> xor 0x5555555555566c8 <main+30> lea</main+30></main+21></main+17></main+8>	<pre>%fs:0x28,%rax %rax,-0x8(%rbp) %eax,%eax l \$0x0,-0xc(%rbp) -0xc(%rbp),%rax</pre>	B+>)x5555555546b2)x5555555546bb)x5555555546bf)x5555555546c1)x5555555546c8	<main+8> <main+17> <main+21> <main+23> <main+30></main+30></main+23></main+21></main+17></main+8>	mov mov xor movl lea	%fs:0x28,%rax %rax,-0x8(%rbp) %eax,%eax \$0x0,-0xc(%rbp) -0xc(%rbp),%rax
nat (gd	ive process 23035 In: main L	3 PC: 0x5555555546b2	pro (gd	cess 23041 In: m o)	ain L	.3 PC:	0x5555555546b2

Little real world experiment (2/2)

On a different experiment, running two different programs--the addresses are slightly unaligned

- But if I look closely, the ranges (0x55555555____) do overlap and even repeat in some places!
 - This shows off the a linear range of addresses virtual memory provides--so our programs have the illusion of all starting from 0

B+>	<pre>print2.c 2 3 int main(){ 4 int some_other_var = 0;</pre>	<pre>B+> 3 int main(){ 4 5 int address = 0;</pre>				
	<pre>5 6 printf("I am a different program!");</pre>		6 7 printf("%p\n",(int*)&addre	ss);	
	0x555555546d6 <libc_csu_init+86>add\$0x8,%rsp0x5555555546da<libc_csu_init+90>pop%rbx0x5555555546db<libc_csu_init+91>pop%rbp0x5555555546dc<libc_csu_init+92>pop%r120x5555555546de<libc_csu_init+94>pop%r13</libc_csu_init+94></libc_csu_init+92></libc_csu_init+91></libc_csu_init+90></libc_csu_init+86>		0x55555555546d6 0x55555555546db 0x55555555546db 0x55555555546e0 0x55555555546e5 0x55555555546e5 0x55555555546e9 0x55555555546e9	mov callq mov mov xor	\$0x0,%eax 0x5555555554580 \$0x0,%eax -0x8(%rbp),%rdx %fs:0x28,%rdx	
nat	ive process 23294 In: main L4 PC: 0x555555554652	pro	cess 23041 In: main	L3 PC	: 0x5555555546b2	

#3 Isolates Address Spaces

Virtual Memory protection

- Certain files have read/write/execute permissions set.
 - This ensures one process cannot just overwrite another, or access data it should not.
- You can view them as follows:

-bash-4.2\$ 1	ls	-1						
total 172								
-rwxr-xr-x.	1	awjacks	faculty	8520	Sep	11	16:23	basics1
-rw-rr	1	awjacks	faculty	600	Sep	11	15:50	basics1.c
-rwxr-xr-x.	1	awjacks	faculty	9576	Sep	11	18:13	basics2
-rw-rr	1	awjacks	faculty	515	Sep	11	15:50	basics2.c
-rwxr-xr-x.	1	awjacks	faculty	8544	Sep	11	16:23	basics3
-rw-rr	1	awjacks	faculty	562	Sep	11	15:50	basics3.c
-rwxr-xr-x.	1	awjacks	faculty	8568	Sep	11	16:23	basics4
-rw-rr	1	awjacks	faculty	509	Sep	11	15:50	basics4.c
-rwxr-xr-x.	1	awjacks	faculty	8520	Sep	11	16:23	basics5
-rw-rr	1	awjacks	faculty	312	Sep	11	15:50	basics5.c

Virtual Memory protection

 Depending on the access, the MMU (Memory Management Unit) determines which pages can be executed.



Revisiting our picture - One missing component



Revisiting our picture - One missing component



Address Translation Example

Address Translation - Notation

- Basic Parameters
 - N=2ⁿ: Number of addresses in virtual address space
 - M=2^m: Number of addresses in physical address space
 - P=2^p: Page size (bytes)
- Components of virtual address (VA)
 - VPO: Virtual page offset
 - VPN: Virtual page number [what we are looking for]
- Components of physical address (PA)
 - PPO: Physical page offset (same as VPO)
 - PPN: Physical page number

Address Translation with here's a virtual address I want to translate to its physical address



Physical address

Address Translation with Page Tab to the same physical

address bits.



129

4096 byte page, means 12 bits are used (to tell

Address Translation with Page To us where in the page we are)



Physical address



Physical address



Physical address



Physical address



Virtual address

Physical address



Physical address

Watch at home...

Recap!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I7HoguhFVQ4



This looks like a LOT of work!

- There is a bit going on--remember what our goals are though
- We want our Operating system to have the ability to handout more memory as needed.
 - And often this memory is not in nice sequential order
- And often when there is a lot of work to be done, we have special hardware for it
 - Let us take a look at the Memory Management Unit (MMU)!

1.) Processor sends virtual address to MMU

2-3.) MMU Fetches Page Table Entry from page table in memory

4.) MMU Sends physical address to cache/memory



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Address Translation: Page Fault

 Processor sends virtual address to MMU
 MMU Fetches Page Table Entry from page table in memory

- 4.) Valid bit is zero; page fault exception!
- 5.) Handler identifies victim (pages it out to disk)
- 6.) Handler pages in new page and updates Page table entry in memory

7.) Handler returns to original process, restarting from our 'faulty' instruction


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Let's speed up memory accesses

- Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB)
 - It is called a buffer, but really it is a cache.
 - It's a set-associative hardware cache in the Memory Management Unit (MMU).
 - Contains complete page table entries for (some small amount) of pages.
- More simply defined:
 - The TLB stores recent translations of virtual memory to physical addresses in a table
 - (The Translation Lookaside Buffer is part of the MMU system)

Address Translation - Notation

Basic Parameters

- N=2ⁿ: Number of addresses in virtual address space
- M=2^m: Number of addresses in physical address space
- P=2^p: Page size (bytes)
- Components of virtual address (VA)
 - TLBI: TLB index
 - TLBT: TLB tag

Two new items

- VPO: Virtual page offset
- VPN: Virtual page number
- Components of physical address (PA)
 - PPO: Physical page offset (same as VPO)
 - PPN: Physical page number

Accessing the Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB)

• This looks quite familiar to our set-associative cache!



Accessing the Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB)

• This looks quite familiar to our set-associative cache!



Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB) Hit

- On a hit, we reduce by 1 memory access
- In practice, misses are rare
 - We pay an extra memory access if so
 - Why?



Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB) Hit

- On a hit, we reduce by 1 memory access
- In practice, misses are rare
 - We pay an extra memory access if so
 - TLB miss can generally be handled in hardware (Doesn't slow software)



Summary of Virtual Memory

- Programmers
 - We see a process as owning a private linear address space [easy to program]
 - Our address space cannot be corrupted by other processes [isolation]
- System view of virtual memory
 - We use memory efficiently by caching our virtual memory pages
 - Locality saves the day!
 - Memory management and protection is significantly simplified
 - Different configurations could exist, such that we have multiple levels of paging.
 - (As always, there are trade-offs!)
- (Virtual memory and the concept of virtualization is also useful for things like containers and tools like Docker)
 - https://docs.docker.com/get-started/