Operating Systems 412

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(slides mostly from Youjip Won)

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Memory API: malloc()

#include <stdlib.h>

```
void* malloc(size_t size)
```
- Allocate a memory region on the heap.
	- Argument
		- size_t size: size of the memory block(in bytes)
		- \cdot size t is an unsigned integer type.
	- Return
		- Success: a void type pointer to the memory block allocated by malloc
		- Fail : a null pointer

sizeof()

- Routines and macros are utilized for size in malloc instead typing in a number directly.
- Careful of sizeof!

```
int x = \text{malloc}(10 \times \text{sizeof(int)});printf("%d\n", sizeof(x));
```

```
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```
int x[10]; printf("%d\n", sizeof(x));

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- Success : a void type pointer to the memory block allocated by calloc
- Fail: a null pointer

System Calls

#include <unistd.h>

int brk(void *addr) void *sbrk(intptr t increment);

- malloc library uses the brk system call
	- brk is called to expand the program's break.
		- break: The location of the end of the heap in address space
	- sbrk is an additional call similar with brk.
	- Programmers should never directly call either brk or sbrk.

System Calls(Cont.)

#include <sys/mman.h>

void *mmap(void *ptr, size_t length, int port, int flags, int fd, off_t offset)

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Splitting

- Finding a free chunk of memory that can satisfy the request and splitting it into two.
	- When request for memory allocation is **smaller** than the size of free chunks.

Managing Free Space: Basic Strategies

Best Fit:

- Finding free chunks that are **big or bigger than the request**
- Returning the **one of smallest** in the chunks **in the group** of candidates

● Worst Fit:

- Finding the **largest free chunks** and allocation the amount of the request
- **Keeping the remaining chunk** on the free list.

Examples of Basic Strategies

Other Approaches: Segregated List

- **Segregated List:**
	- Keeping separate free lists for popular requests.
	- New complication:
		- How much memory should dedicate to the pool of memory that serves specialized requests of a given size?
	- **Slab allocator handles this issue.**

Slab Allocator

- Allocate a number of caches for popular specific sizes at system boot.
	- e.g., locks, file-system inodes, etc.
- Request a new slab from general memory allocator (size multiple of page size * object size) when a given cache is running low.

Buddy Allocation

- **Binary Buddy Allocation**
	- The allocator divides free space by two until a block that is big enough to accommodate the request is found.

64KB free space for 7KB request

- Internal fragmentation dealt with through coalescing:
	- When block *b* is freed, coalesce w/ buddy if also free, etc.

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Memory Virtualization

- What is memory virtualization?
	- OS virtualizes its physical memory.
	- OS provides a virtual address space for each process.
	- Illusion of each process using the entire physical memory.

Why?

- Ease of use in programming
- Memory efficiency in time and space
- *Isolation* for processes as well as OS
	- Protection from errant accesses of other processes

Multiprogramming and Time Sharing

- Load multiple processes in memory
	- Execute one for a short while.
	- Switch processes between them in memory.
	- Increase utilization and efficiency.
- But what about protection?
	- Errant memory accesses from other processes

Physical Memory

Virtual Addresses

• Every address in a running program is virtual.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
int main(int argc, char *argv[]){
   printf("location of code : %p\n", (void *) main);
   printf("location of heap : %p\n", (void *) malloc(1));
   int x = 3;
   printf("location of stack : %p\n", (void *) &x);
    return x;
}
```
• OS uses hardware to translate virtual addresses to physical

Virtual Addresses

#include <stdio.h> #include <stdlib.h> int main(int argc, char *argv[]){ printf("location of code : %p\n", (void *) main); printf("location of heap : $\frac{1}{2}$) (void *) malloc(1)); int $x = 3$; printf("location of stack : %p\n", (void *) &x); return x; }

Output in 64-bit Linux machine:

location of code : 0x40057d location of heap : 0xcf2010 location of stack : 0x7fff9ca45fcc

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Need Efficiency, and Control…

- **Limited direct execution (LDE)**
	- Programs run directly (not emulated)
	- Memory virtualizing, efficiency, control maintained by hardware support.
		- e.g., registers, TLBs (Translation Look-aside Buffers), pagetables
- Hardware transforms virtual addresses to physical addresses
	- Memory only addressed with physical addresses
- The OS sets up the hardware.
	- Hardware raises interrupts when needed.

Example: Address Translation

```
void func()
        int x;
        ...
        x = x + 3; // this is the line of code we are interested in
```
- Load a value from memory
- **• Increment** by three
- **Store** the value back into memory

Assembly

```
128 : movl 0x0(%ebx), %eax ; load 0+ebx into eax
132 : addl 90x03, 8eax ; add 3 to eax register
135 : movl %eax, 0x0(%ebx) ; store eax back to mem
```
- Assume address of x' in ebx register.
- Load the value at that address into eax register.
- **Add** 3 to eax register.
- Store the value in eax back into memory.

Example: Address Translation

• Fetch instruction at address 128

- Execute instruction (load from address 15KB)
- Fetch instruction at address 132
- Execute instruction (no memory reference)
- Fetch the instruction at address 135
- Execute instruction (store to address 15 KB)

But not all programs can be at location 0

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A Single Relocated Process

Dynamic(Hardware base) Relocation

- OS decides where in physical memory a process is loaded.
	- Set the **base** register: physical address = virtual address + base
	- Virtual addresses must **not be greater than bound** or **negative:** $0 \le$ virtual address \lt bound

OS Issues for Memory Virtualizing

- OS intervenes at three critical junctures:
	- When a process starts running:
		- find space for address space in physical memory
	- When a process is terminated:
		- reclaims the memory for use
	- When context switch occurs:
		- Save and store the base-and-bounds pair