Operating System: Chap9 Virtual Memory Management

National Tsing-Hua University

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Overview

- Background
- Demand Paging
- Process Creation
- Page Replacement
- Allocation of Frames
- Thrashing
- Operating System Examples

Background

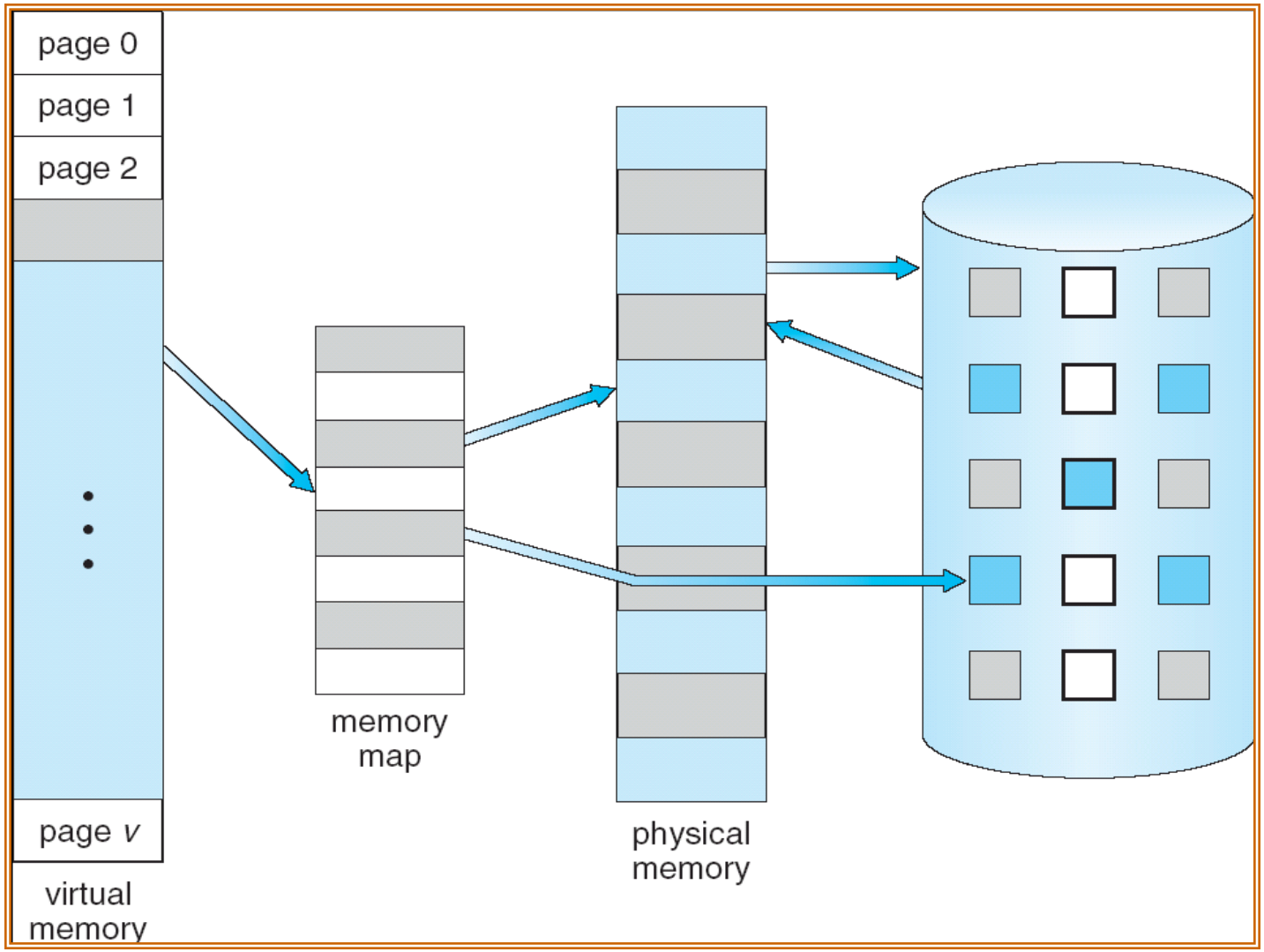
- Why we don't want to run a program that is entirely in memory….
  - Many code for handling unusual errors or conditions
  - Certain program routines or features are rarely used
  - The same library code used by many programs
  - Arrays, lists and tables allocated but not used

➔ We want better memory utilization

Background

- **Virtual memory** – separation of user logical memory from physical memory
  - To run a extremely large process
    - Logical address space can be much larger than physical address space
  - To increase CPU/resources utilization
    - higher degree of multiprogramming degree
  - To simplify programming tasks
    - Free programmer from memory limitation
  - To run programs faster
    - less I/O would be needed to load or swap
- Virtual memory can be implemented via
  - **Demand paging**
  - Demand segmentation: more complicated due to variable sizes

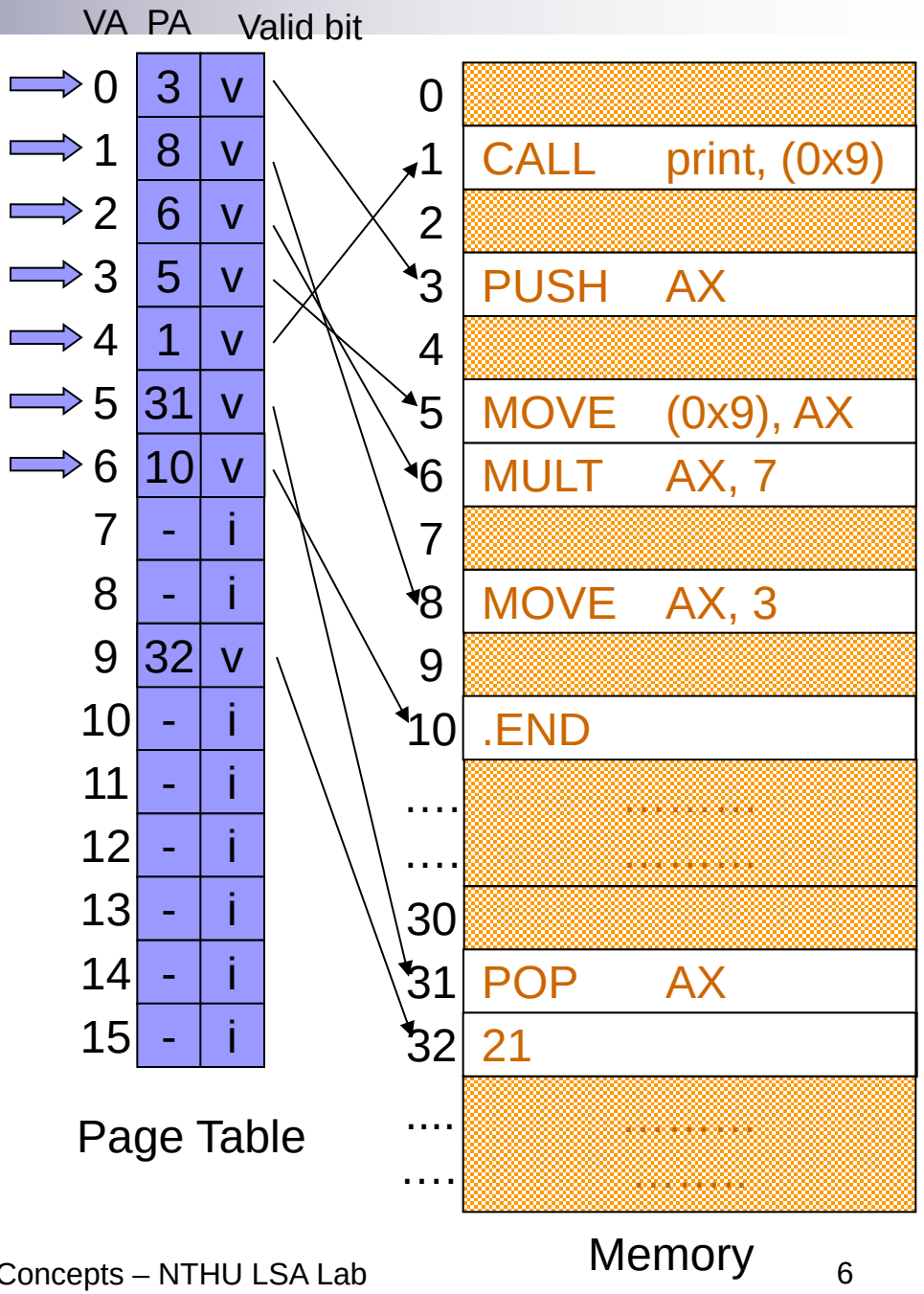
Virtual Memory vs. Physical Memory



1. Initialize PCB, PC registers and Page Table.
2. Load Code into memory.
3. Running
4. Finish.

```
int data[8];
main( ) {
    data[3] = 3 * 7;
    print(data);
}
```

```
0  .START
1  PUSH    AX
2  MOVE    AX, 3
3  MULT    AX, 7
4  MOVE    (0x9), AX
5  CALL    print, (0x9)
6  POP     AX
   .END
   .SPACE (8)
```



Demand Paging

Demand Paging

- A page rather than the whole process is brought into memory only when it is needed
  - Less I/O needed ➔ Faster response
  - Less memory needed ➔ More users
- Page is needed when there is a reference to the page
  - Invalid reference ➔ abort
  - Not-in-memory ➔ bring to memory via paging
- **pure demand paging**
  - Start a process with no page
  - Never bring a page into memory until it is required

Demand Paging

- A **swapper** (midterm scheduler) manipulates the entire **process**, whereas a **pager** is concerned with the individual pages of a process
- Hardware support
  - **Page Table**: a valid-invalid bit
    - 1 ➔ page in memory
    - 0 ➔ page not in memory
    - Initially, all such bits are set to 0
  - Secondary memory (swap space, **backing store**): Usually, a high-speed disk (swap device) is use

Demand Paging

```
int data[8];
main( ) {
    data[3] = 3 * 7;
    print(data);
}
```

```
    .START
0   PUSH    AX
1   MOVE    AX, 3
2   MULT    AX, 7
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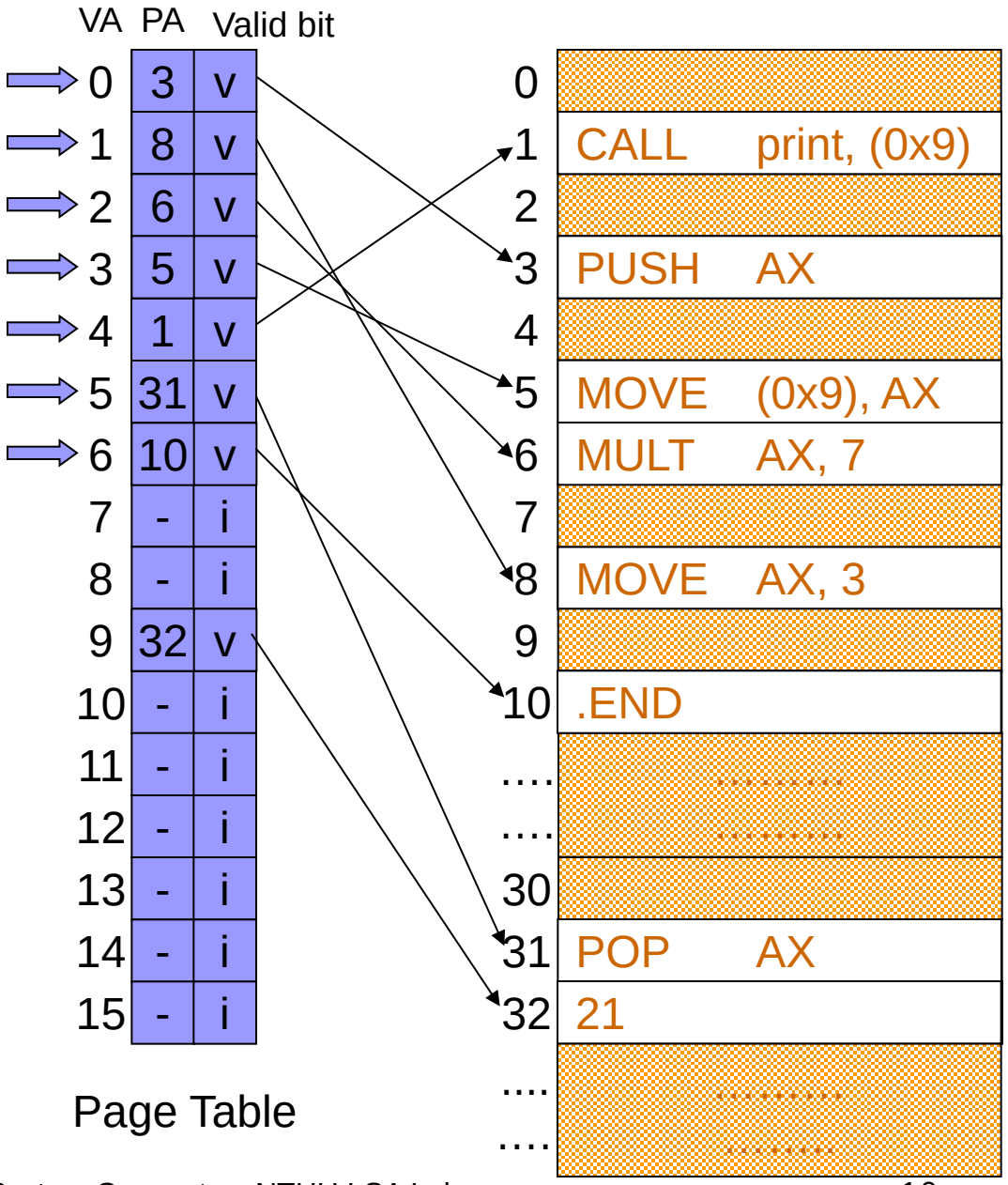
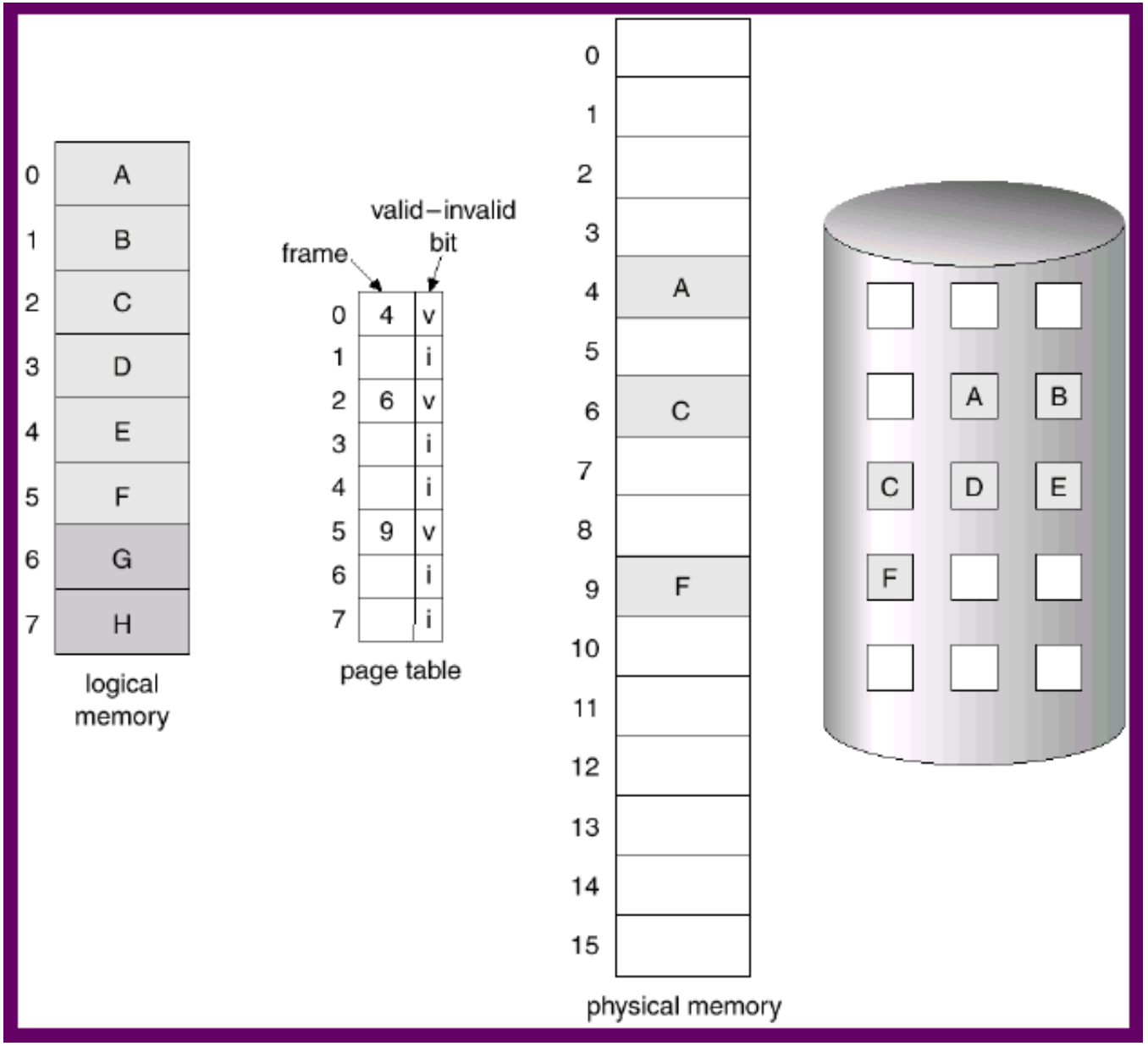


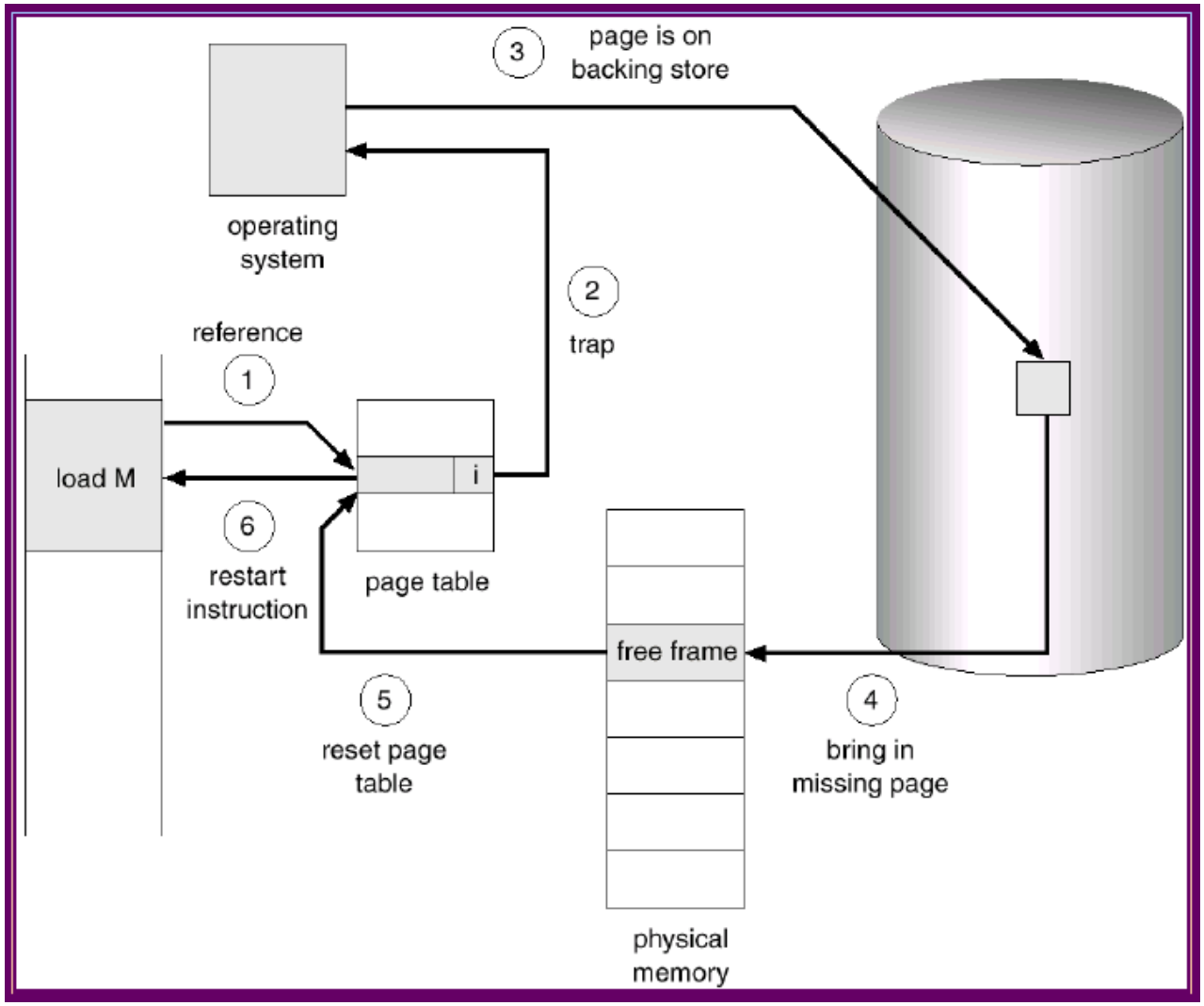

0
A
1
B
2
C
3
D
4
E
5
F
6
G
7
H
logical memory
valid–invalid bit
frame
0 4 v
1 i
2 6 v
3 i
4 i
5 9 v
6 i
7 i
page table
0
1
2
3
4 A
5
6 C
7
8
9 F
10
11
12
13
14
15
physical memory
A B
C D E
F

Page Fault

- First reference to a page will trap to OS
  → page-fault trap

1. OS looks at the internal table (in PCB) to decide
   - Invalid reference → abort
   - Just not in memory → continue
2. Get an empty frame
3. Swap the page from disk (swap space) into the frame
4. Reset page table, valid-invalid bit = 1
5. Restart instruction

Page Fault Handling Steps



Page Replacement

- If there is no free frame when a page fault occurs
  - Swap a frame to backing store
  - Swap a page from backing store into the frame
  - Different page **replacement algorithms** pick different frames for replacement

Demand Paging Performance

- **Effective Access Time** (EAT): *(1 – p) x ma + p x pft*
  - *P: **page fault rate**, ma : mem. access time, pft : page fault time*
- Example: ma = 200ns, pft = 8ms
  - EAT = (1 - ***p***) * 200ns + ***p*** * 8ms
    = 200ns + 7,999,800ns x ***p***
- Access time is proportional to the page fault rate
  - If one access out of 1,000 causes a page fault, then EAT = 8.2 microseconds. ➔ slowdown by a factor of 40!
  - For degradation less then 10%:
    $220 > 200 + 7{,}999{,}800 \times p$,
    $p < 0.0000025$ ➔ one access out of 399,990 to page fault

Demand Paging Performance (Con't)

- Programs tend to have **locality** of reference
- Locality means program often accesses memory addresses that are close together
  - A **single page fault** can bring in **4KB** memory content
  - Greatly reduce the occurrence of page fault
- major components of page fault time (about 8 ms)
  1. serve the page-fault interrupt
  2. read in the page from **disk** (most expensive)
  3. restart the process
  - The 1st and 3rd can be reduced to several hundred instructions
  - The page switch time is close to 8ms

Process Creation

Process & Virtual Memory

- Demand Paging: only bring in the page containing the first instruction
- Copy-on-Write: the parent and the child process share the same frames initially, and frame-copy when a page is written
- Memory-Mapped File: map a file into the virtual address space to bypass file system calls (e.g., read(), write())

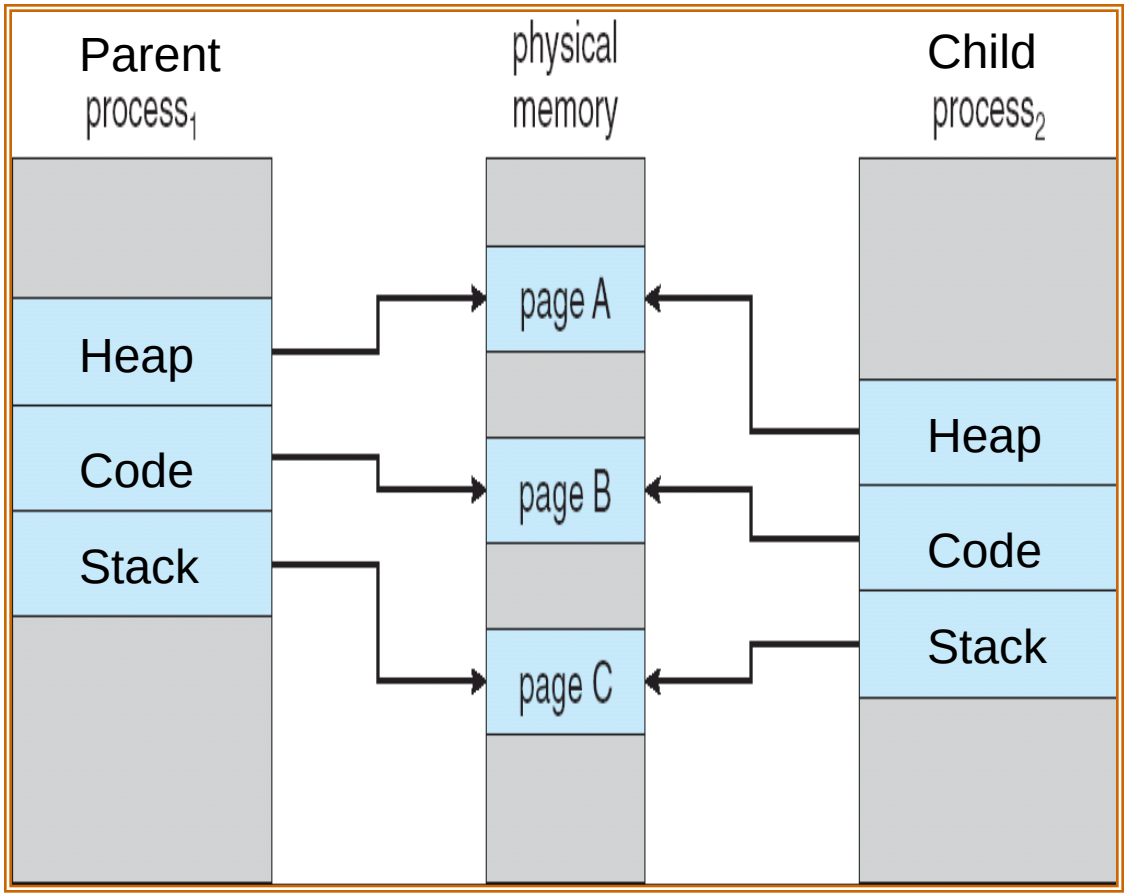
Copy-on-Write

- Allow both the parent and the child process to share the same frames in memory
- If either process modifies a frame, only then a frame is copied
- COW allows efficient process creation (e.g., fork())
- Free frames are allocated from a pool of zeroed-out frames (security reason)
  - The content of a frame is erased to 0

When a child process is forked

```
#include <stdio.h>
void main( )
{
    int A;
    /* fork child process */
    A = fork( );

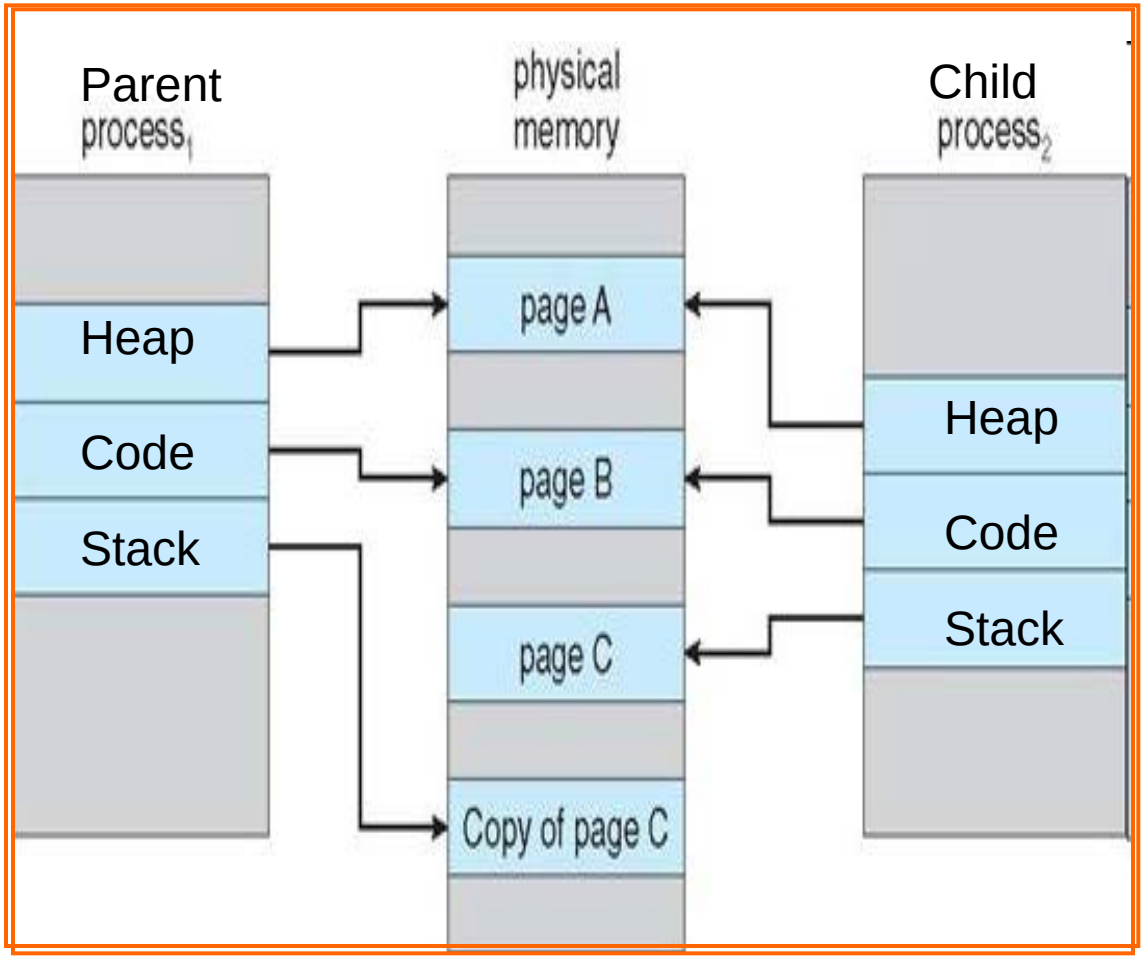
    if (A != 0) {
       /* parent process */
       int test1=0;
    }
    printf("process ends");
}
```



After a page is modified

```
#include <stdio.h>
void main( )
{
    int A;
    /* fork child process */
    A = fork( );

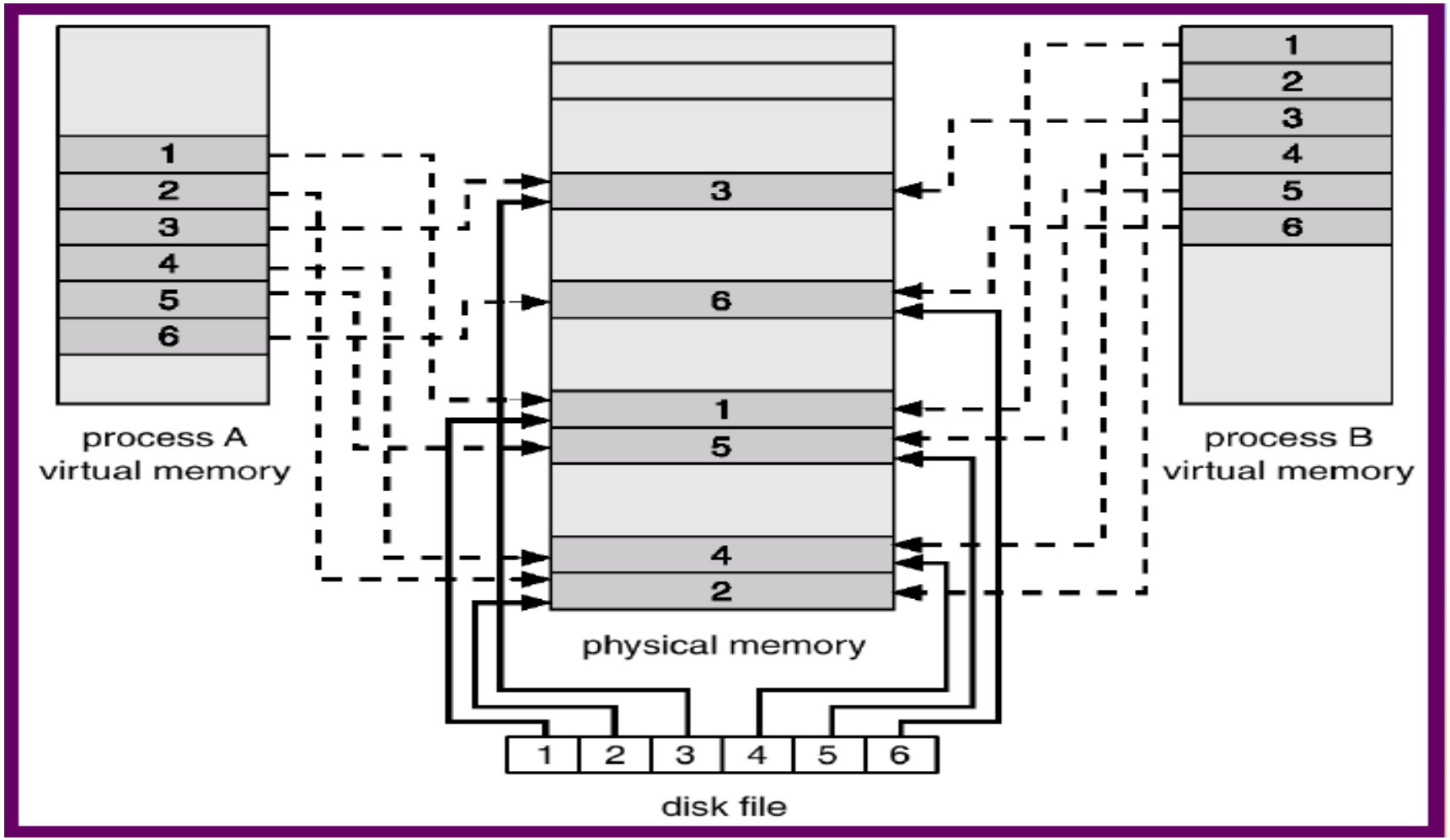
    if (A != 0) {
       /* parent process */
       int test1=0;
    }
    printf("process ends");
}
```



Memory-Mapped Files

- Approach:
  - MMF allows file I/O to be treated as *routine memory access* by mapping a disk block to a memory frame
  - A file is initially read using demand paging. Subsequent reads/writes to/from the file are treated as ordinary memory accesses
- Benefit:
  - Faster file access by using memory access rather than **read()** and **write()** system calls
  - Allows several processes to map the SAME file allowing the pages in memory to be SHARED
- Concerns: Security, data lost, more programming efforts

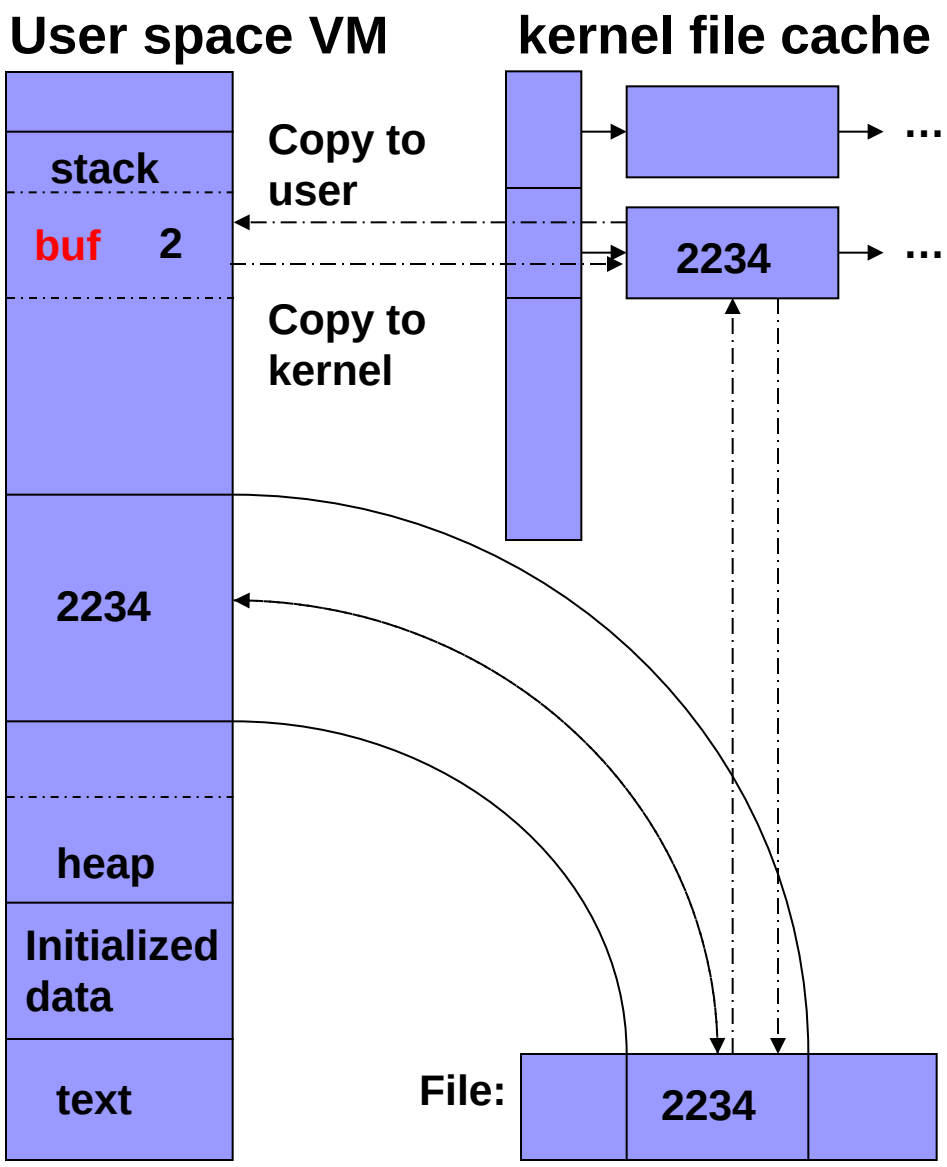
Memory-Mapped File Example



```
int buf;
int fd = open( filename, O_RDWR );
lseek( fd, 1024, SEEK_SET );
read( fd, &buf, sizeof(int) );
buf ++;
lseek( fd, 1024, SEEK_SET );
write( fd, &buf, sizeof(int) );
close(fd);
```

Memory mapped portion

```
int fd = open( filename, O_RDWR );
int* area = mmap( 0, BUFSIZE,
            PROT_READ | PROT_WRITE,
            MAP_SHARED, fd, 1024 );
area[0]++;
close(fd);
munmap( area, BUFSIZE );
```



Review Slides (I)

- Virtual memory? Physical Memory?
- Demand paging?
- Page table support for demand paging?
- OS handling steps for page fault?
- Page replacement?
- Copy-on-write? Usage?
- Memory-mapped file? Usage?

Page Replacement

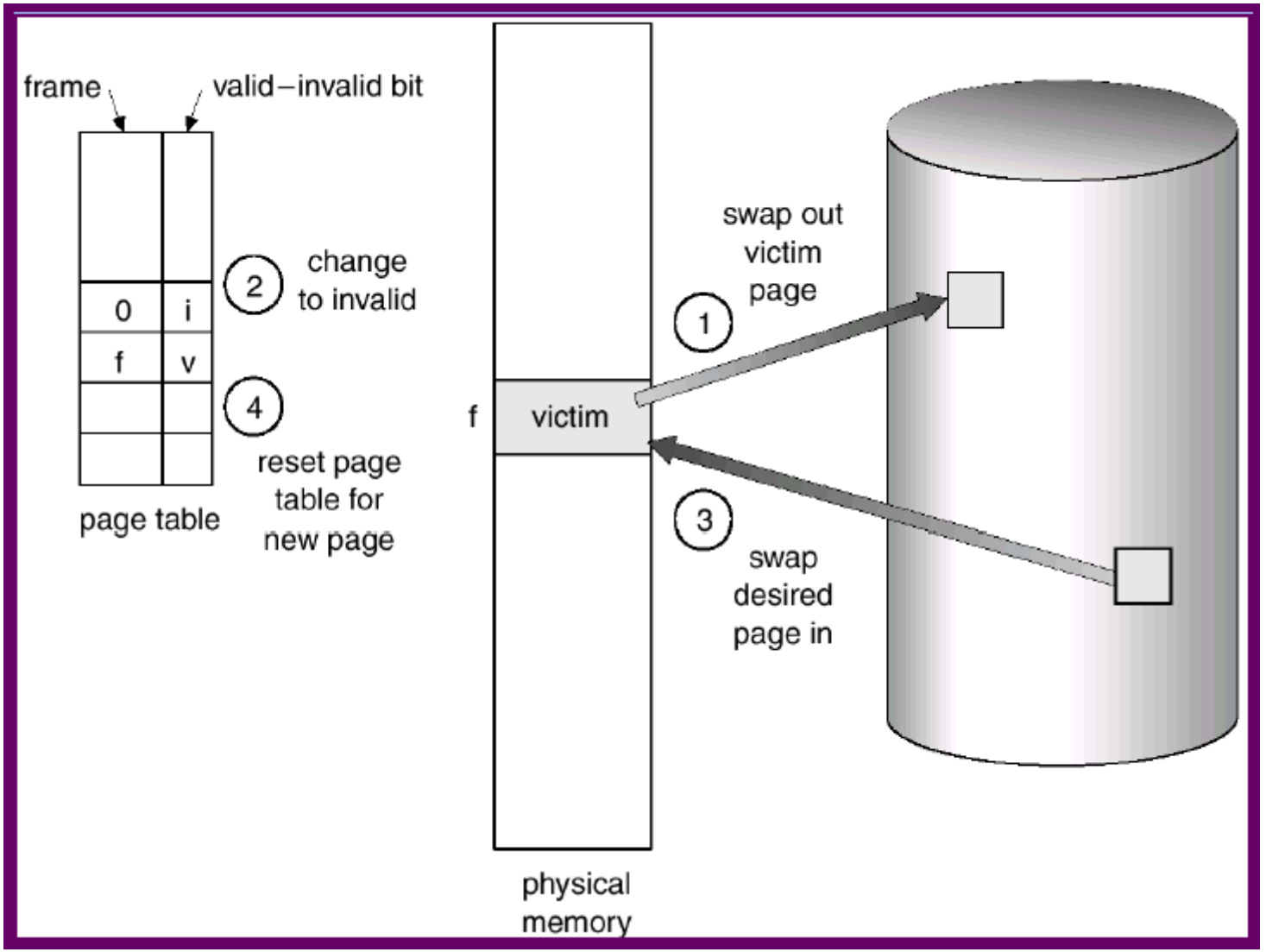
Page Replacement Concept

- When a page fault occurs with no free frame
  - swap out a process, freeing all its frames, or
  - page replacement: find one not currently used and free it
    - Use ***dirty bit*** to reduce overhead of page transfers – only modified pages are written to disk
- Solve two major problems for demand paging
  - **frame-allocation algorithm**:
    - Determine how many frames to be allocated to a process
  - **page-replacement algorithm**:
    - select which frame to be replaced

Page Replacement (Page Fault) Steps

1. Find the location of the desired page on disk
2. Find a free frame
   - If there is a free frame, use it
   - If there is no free frame, use a page replacement algorithm to select a victim frame
3. Read the desired page into the (newly) free frame. Update the page & frame tables
4. Restart the process

Page Replacement (Page Fault) Example



Page Replacement Algorithms

- Goal: lowest page-fault rate
- Evaluation: running against a string of memory references (**reference string**) and computing the number of page faults
- Reference string:

  1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

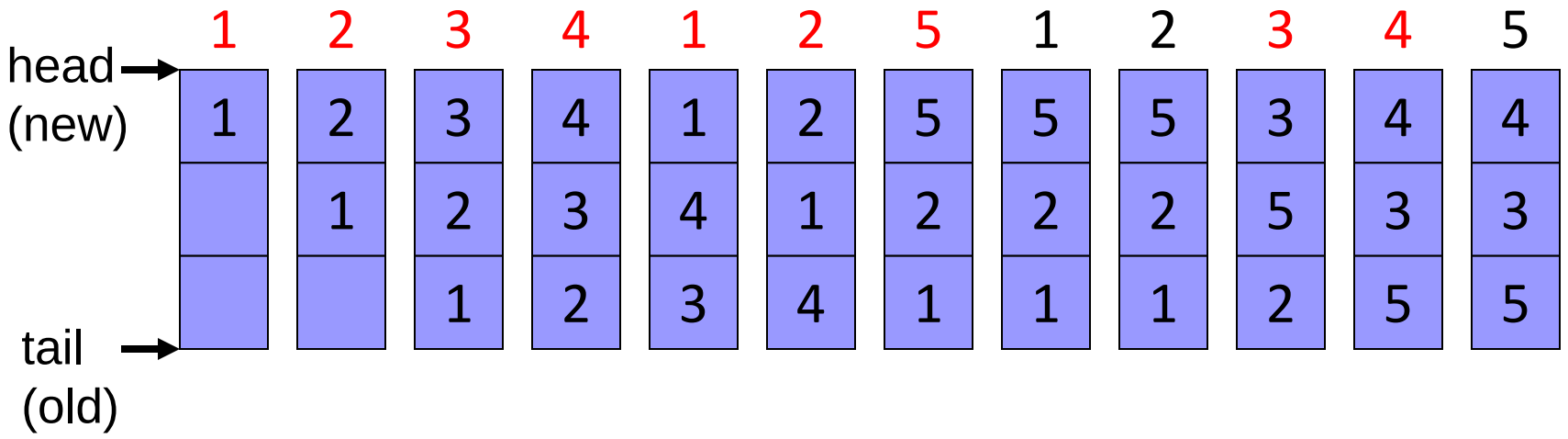
Replacement Algorithms

- FIFO algorithm
- Optimal algorithm
- LRU algorithm
- Counting algorithm
  - LFU
  - MFU

First-In-First-Out (FIFO) Algorithm

- The oldest page in a FIFO queue is replaced
- Reference string: 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- 3 frames (available memory frames = 3)

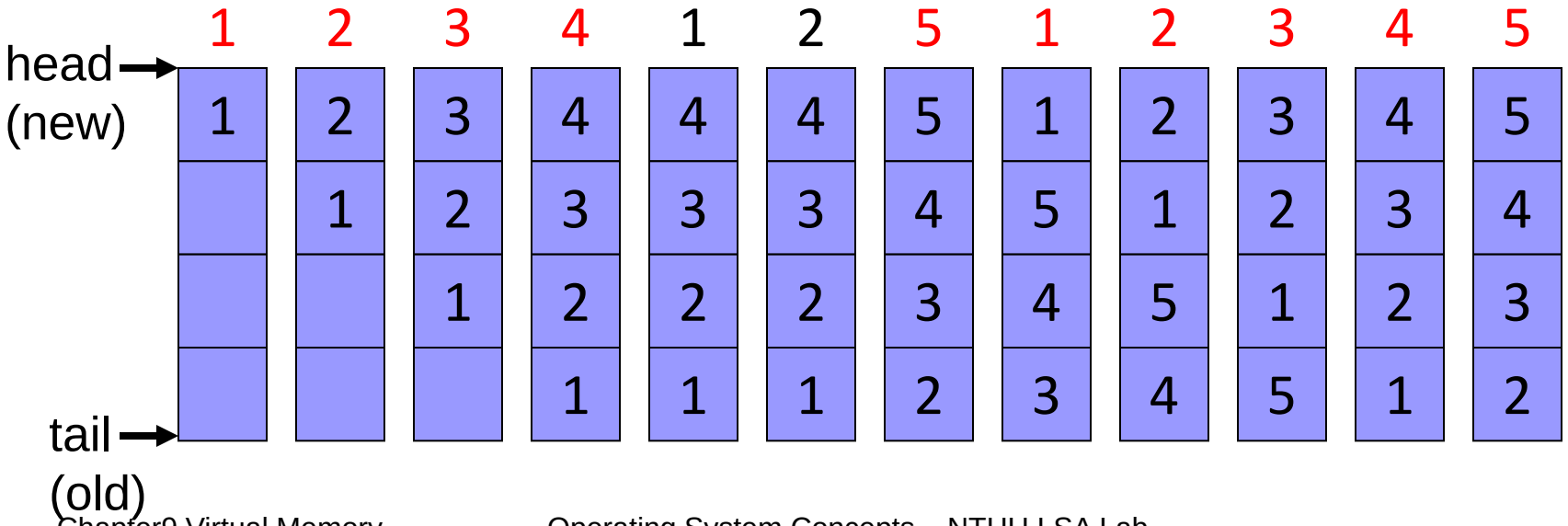
  ➔ 9 page faults



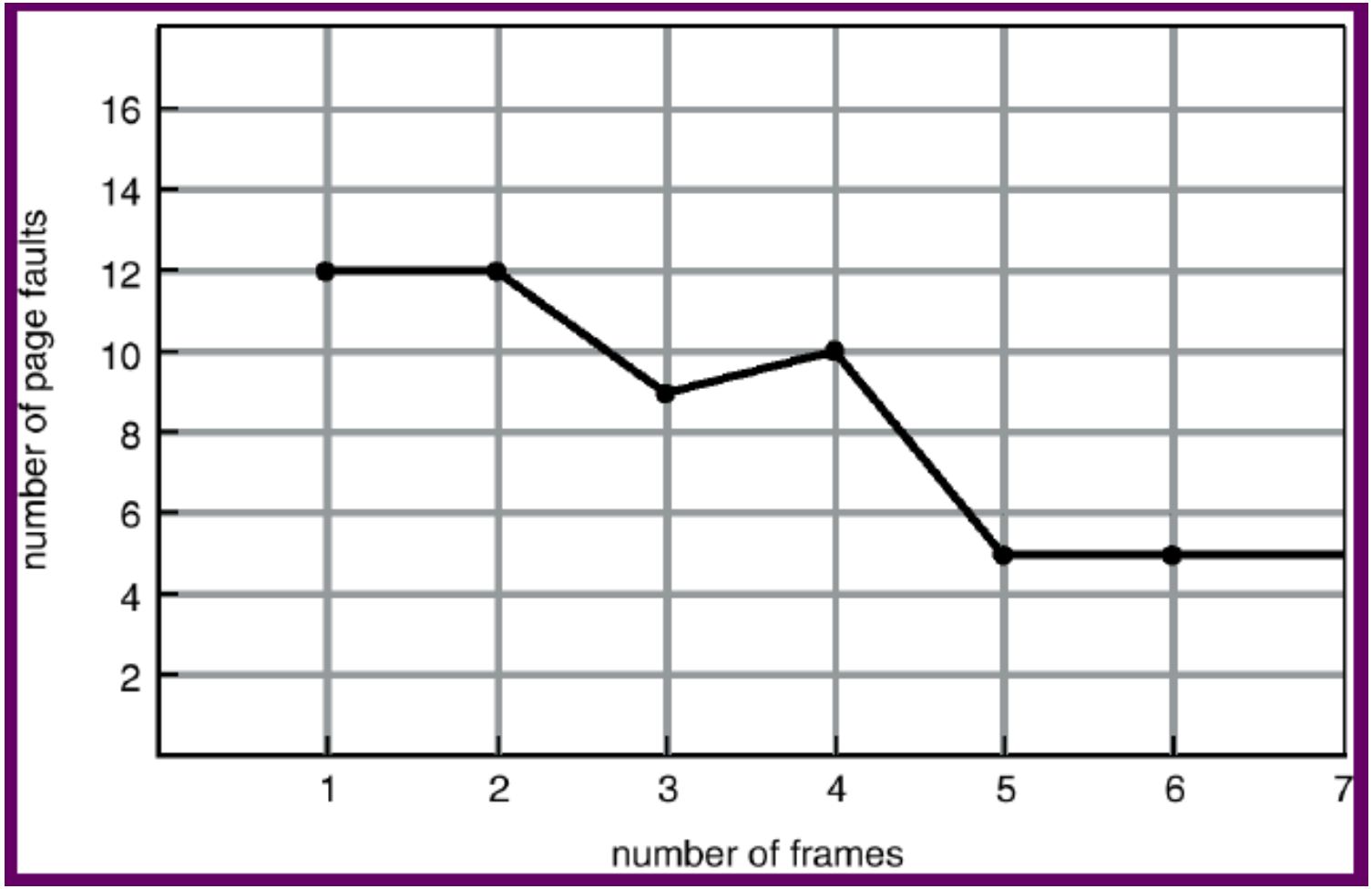
FIFO Illustrating Belady's Anomaly

- Does more allocated frames guarantee less page fault?
  - Reference string: 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
  - 4 frames (available memory frames = 4)

    ➔ 10 page faults!
- **Belady's anomaly**
  - Greater allocated frames ➔ more page fault

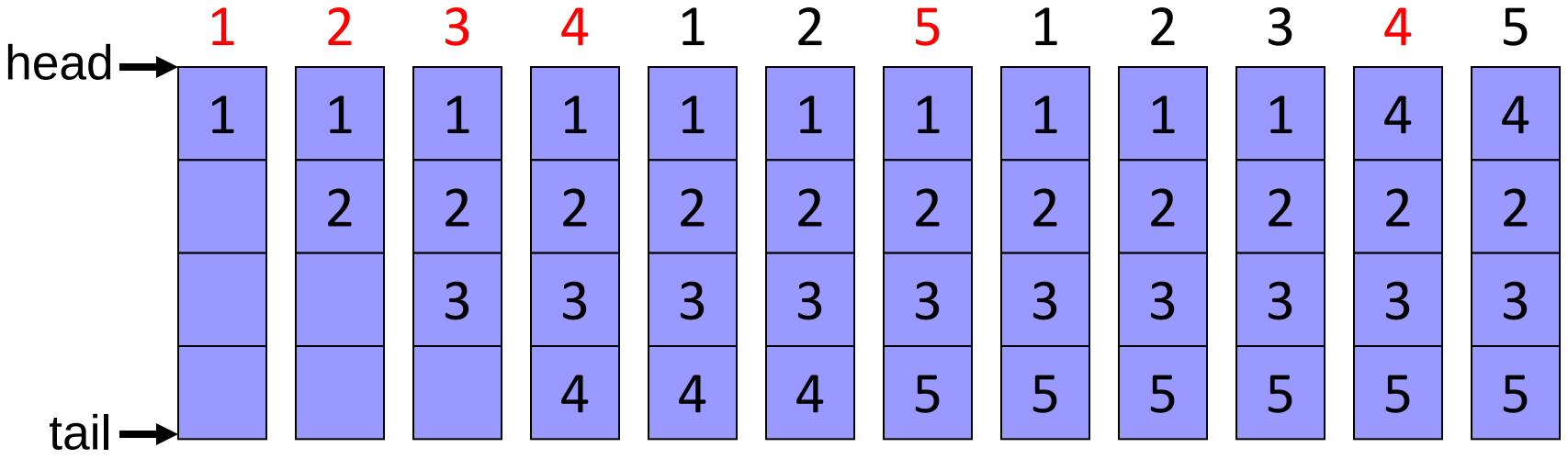


FIFO Illustrating Belady's Anomaly



Optimal (Belady) Algorithm

- Replace the page that will not be used for the longest period of time
  - ➔ need future knowledge
- 4 frames: 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 ➔ 6 page faults!
- In practice, we don't have future knowledge
  - ➢ Only used for reference & comparison

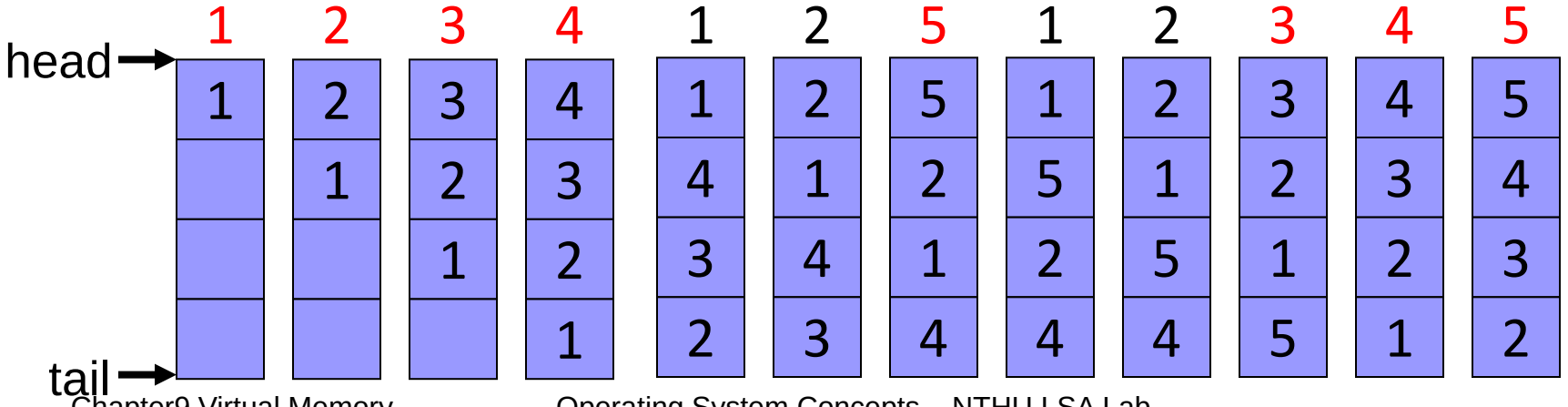


LRU Algorithm (Least Recently Used)

- An approximation of optimal algorithm:
  - looking backward, rather than forward
- It replaces the page that has not been used for the longest period of time
- It is often used, and is considered as **quite good**

LRU Algorithm Implementations

- Counter implementation
  - page referenced: time stamp is copied into the counter
  - replacement: remove the one with oldest counter
    - linear search is required…
- Stack implementation
  - page referenced: move to top of the double-linked list
  - replacement: remove the page at the bottom
  - 4 frames: 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 ➔ 8 page faults!



Stack Algorithm

- A **property** of algorithms
- **Stack algorithm**: the set of pages in memory for *n* frames is always a subset of the set of pages that would be in memory with *n* +1 frames
- Stack algorithms do not suffers from Belady's anomaly
- Both **optimal** algorithm and **LRU** algorithm are stack algorithm

LRU approximation algorithms

- Few systems provide sufficient hardware support for the LRU page-replacement
  - additional-reference-bits algorithm
  - second-chance algorithm
  - enhanced second-chance algorithm

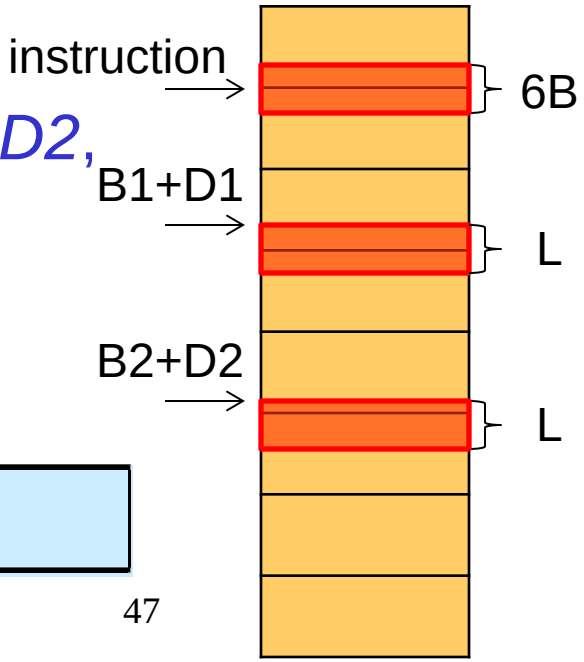
Counting Algorithms

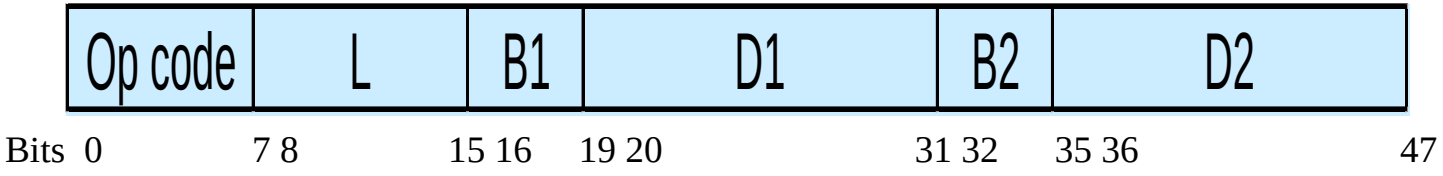
- **LFU Algorithm** (least frequently used)
  - keep a counter for each page
  - Idea: An actively used page should have a large reference count
- **MFU Algorithm** (most frequently used)
  - Idea: The page with the smallest count was probably just brought in and has yet to be used
- Both counting algorithm are not common
  - implementation is expensive
  - do not approximate OPT algorithm very well

Allocation of Frames

Introduction

- Each process needs minimum number of frames
- E.g.: IBM 370 – 6 pages to handle Storage to Storage MOVE instruction:
  - Both operands are in main storage, the first operand is *B1(Reg.ID)+D1*, the second operand is *B2(Reg. ID)+D2*, *L* plus 1 is the length.
  - instruction is 6 bytes, may span 2 pages
  - Moving content could across 2 pages





Frame Allocation

- **Fixed allocation**
  - Equal allocation – 100 frames, 5 processes → 20 frames/process
  - Proportional allocation – Allocate according to the size of the process
- **Priority allocation**
  - using proportional allocation based on priority, instead of size
  - if process P generates a page fault
    - select for replacement one of its frames
    - select for replacement from a process with lower priority

Frame Allocation

- **Local allocation**: each process select from its own set of allocated frames
- **Global allocation**: process selects a replacement frame from the set of all frames
  - one process can take away a frame of another process
  - e.g., allow a high-priority process to take frames from a low-priority process
  - good system performance and thus is common used
  - A **minimum** number of frames must be maintained for each process to prevent **trashing**

Review Slides (II)

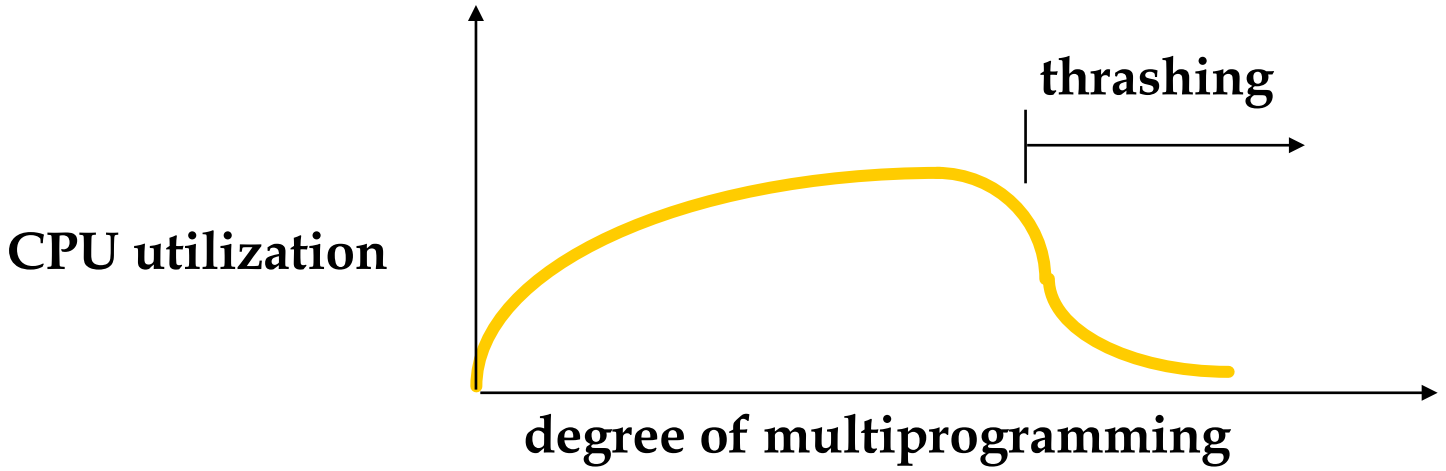
- Page replacement steps?
- Place replacement algorithm goal?
- Dirty bit usage?
- Belady's anomaly?
- FIFO? Optimal? LRU?
- Fixed vs. priority frame allocation?
- Global vs. local frame allocation?

Thrashing

Definition of Thrashing

- If a process does not have "enough" **frames**
  - the process does not have # frames it needs to support pages in active use

  ➔ Very high paging activity
- A process is **thrashing** if it is **spending more time paging than executing**



Thrashing

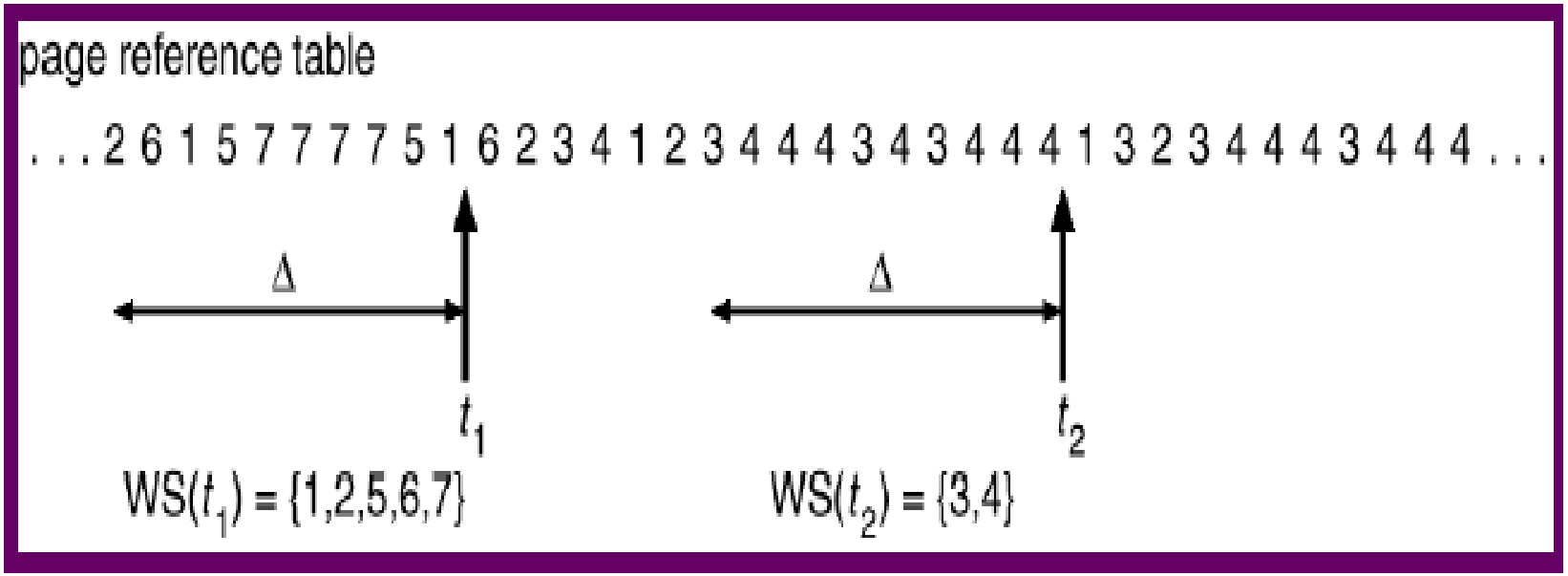
- Performance problem caused by thrashing
  (Assume global replacement is used)
  - processes queued for I/O to swap (page fault)
  - ➔ low CPU utilization
  - ➔OS increases the degree of multiprogramming
  - ➔ new processes take frames from old processes
  - ➔ more page faults and thus more I/O
  - ➔ CPU utilization drops even further
- To prevent thrashing, must provide enough frames for each process:
  - **Working-set model, Page-fault frequency**

Working-Set Model

- **Locality**: a set of pages that are actively used together
- Locality model: as a process executes, it moves from locality to locality
  - program structure (subroutine, loop, stack)
  - data structure (array, table)
- Working-set model (based on locality model)
  - working-set **window**: a parameter Δ (delta)
  - working set: set of pages in most recent Δ page references **(an approximation locality)**

Working-Set Example

- If $\Delta = 10$:



Working-Set Model

- Prevent thrashing using the working-set size
  - WSS_i : working-set size for process *i*
  - $D = \sum WSS_i$ (total demand frames)
  - If D > m (available frames) $\Rightarrow$ thrashing
  - The OS monitors the WSS_i of each process and allocates to the process enough frames
    - if D << m, increase degree of MP
    - if D > m, suspend a process

☺: 1. prevent thrashing while keeping the degree of multiprogramming as high as possible

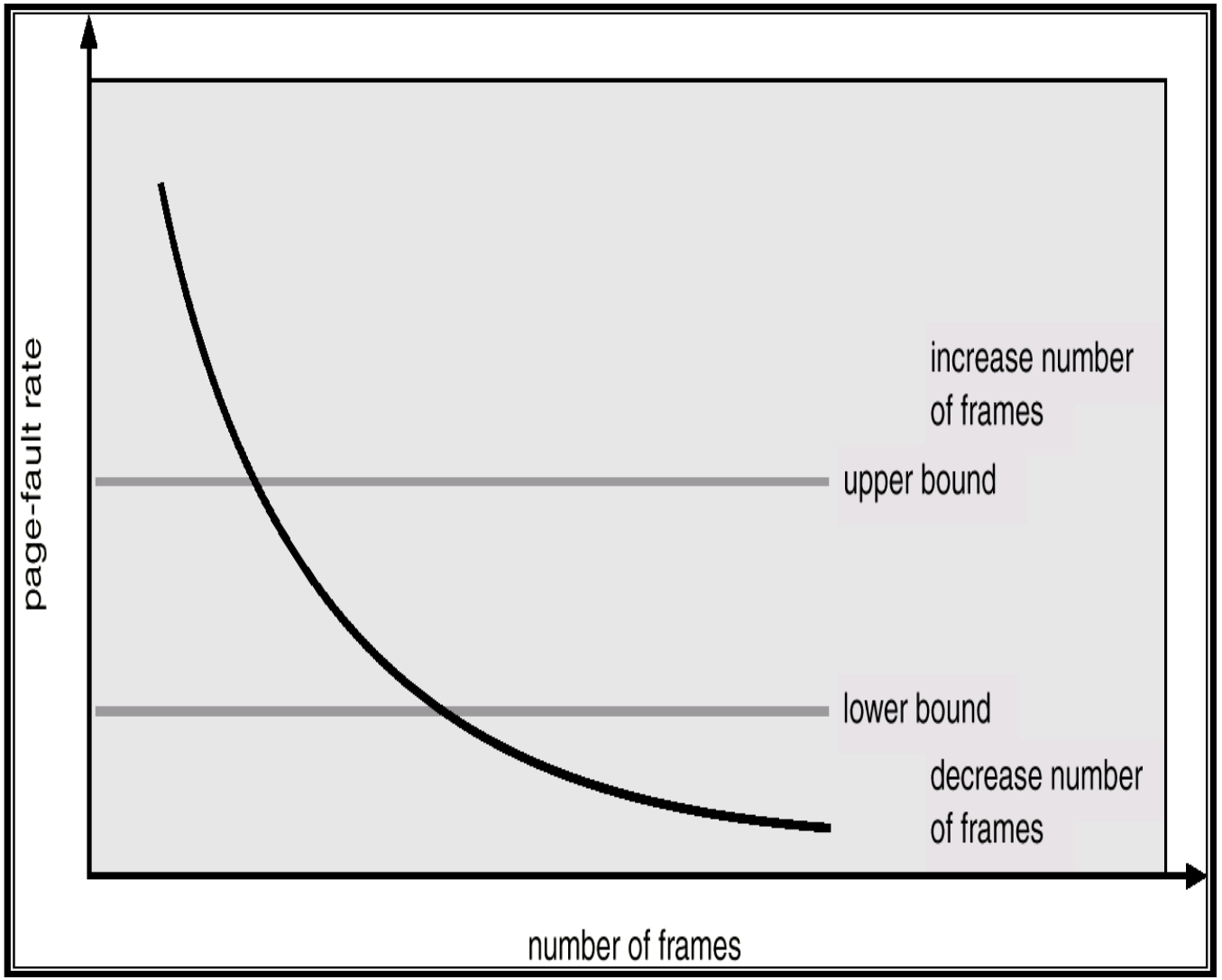
2. optimize CPU utilization

☹ : too expensive for tracking

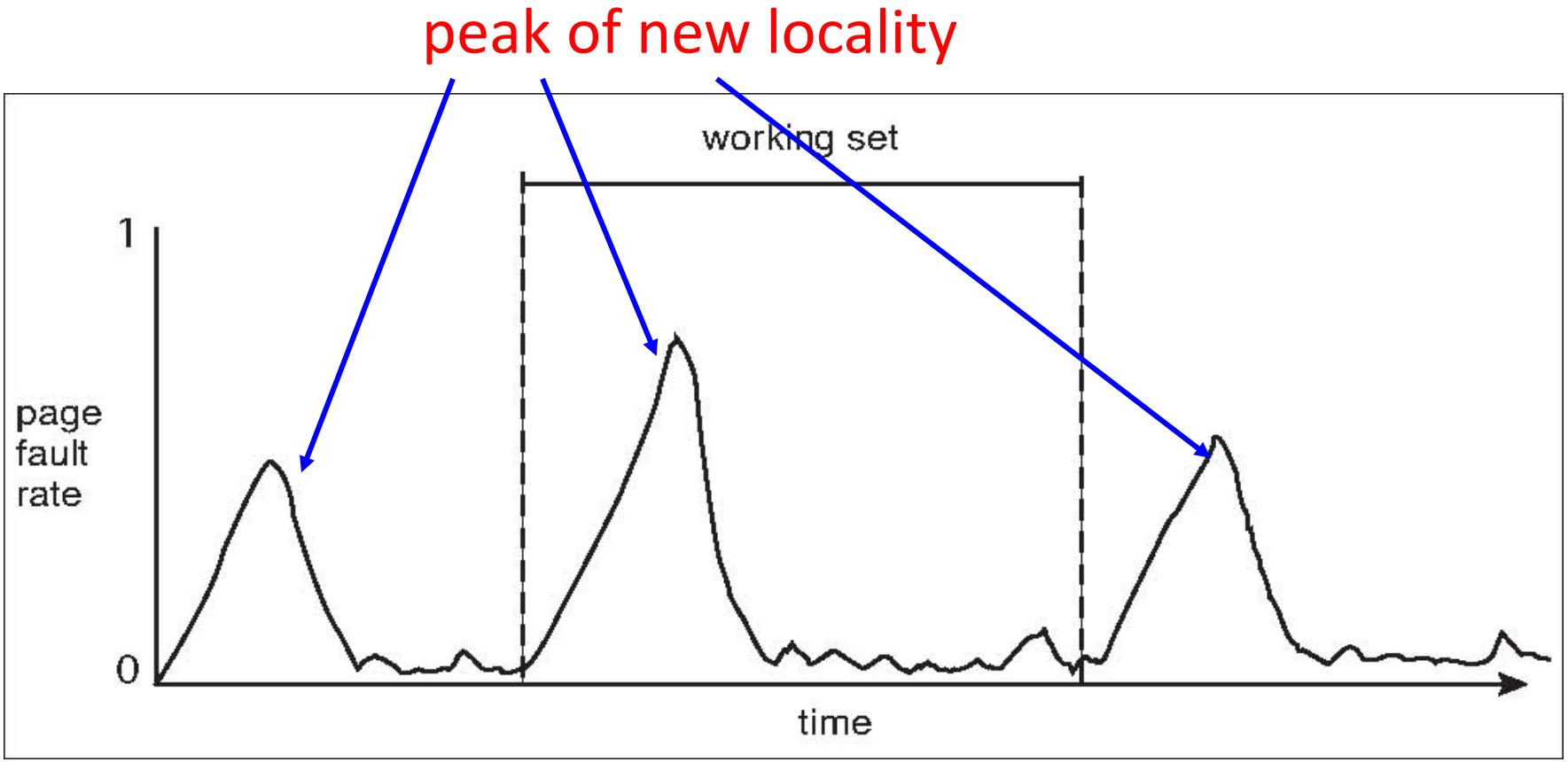
Page Fault Frequency Scheme

- **Page fault frequency** directly measures and controls the page-fault rate to prevent thrashing
  - Establish upper and lower bounds on the desired page-fault rate of a process
  - If page fault rate exceeds the upper limit
    - allocate another frame to the process
  - If page fault rate falls below the lower limit
    - remove a frame from the process

Page Fault Frequency Scheme



Working Sets and Page Fault Rates



- Memory has locality property
- When the process moves to a new WS, the PF rate rises toward a peak

Review Slides (III)

- Thrashing definition?
- Process locality?
- When will thrashing happen? Solution?

Reading Material & HW

- Chap 9
- Problems
  - 9.2, 9.4, 9.6, 9.8, 9.9, 9.12, 9.14, 9.17, 9.19, 9.21

Backup

Windows NT

- Uses demand paging with **clustering**. Clustering brings in pages surrounding the faulting page
- Processes are assigned working-set minimums and working-set maximums
- WS minimum: the minimum # of pages the process is guaranteed to be in memory
- A process can have pages up to its WS maximum
- When the amount of free memory in the system falls below a threshold, automatic working set trimming is performed
- Working set trimming removes pages from processes that have pages in excess of their WS minimum