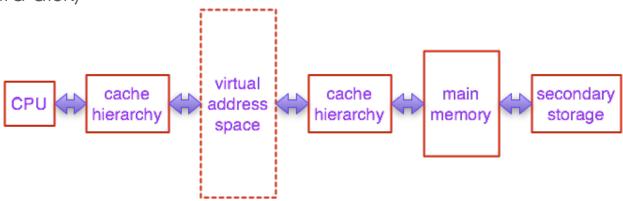
Lecture 09 Virtual Memory

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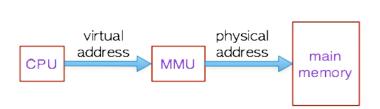
Virtual Memory

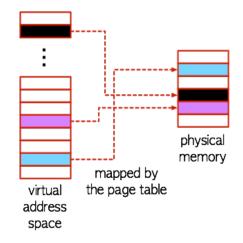
- An abstraction of main memory by the operating system
 - Provide each process with a large and uniform address space
 - The size of the address space is bigger than that of main memory
 - Protect the address space of each process from corruption by other processes
 - Treat main memory as a cache of the permanent secondary storage (hard disk)



MMU and Pages

- Each byte in main memory has a unique physical address (PA)
- The CPU generates a virtual address (VA) to access the main memory
- The memory management unit (MMU) translates the virtual address to the corresponding physical address using a look-up table (page table) stored in main memory
- The virtual address space is divided into uniform virtual pages
 - Each page is indexed by its virtual page number
- The physical memory is divided into uniform physical pages (page frames)
 - Each frame is indexed by its page frame number





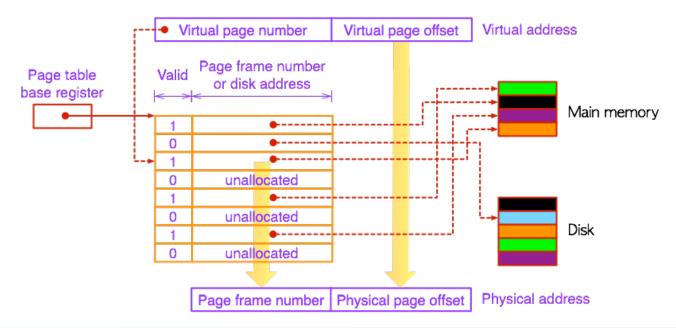
Page Tables

- Map virtual pages to physical pages
 - An array of page table entries (PTE)
 - A PTE consists of a valid bit and an n-bit address field (physical page frame number or secondary storage address) in addition to other page attributes
- The MMU reads the page table when it converts VA to PA
- The OS (page fault handler) takes care of maintaining the contents of the page table and transferring pages between main memory and secondary storage
- Swapping (paging)
 - The activity of transferring a page between the secondary storage and main memory
- Demand paging
 - Wait until the last moment to swap in a page when a miss (page fault) occurs

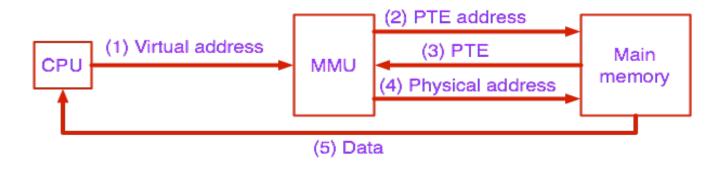


Address Translation

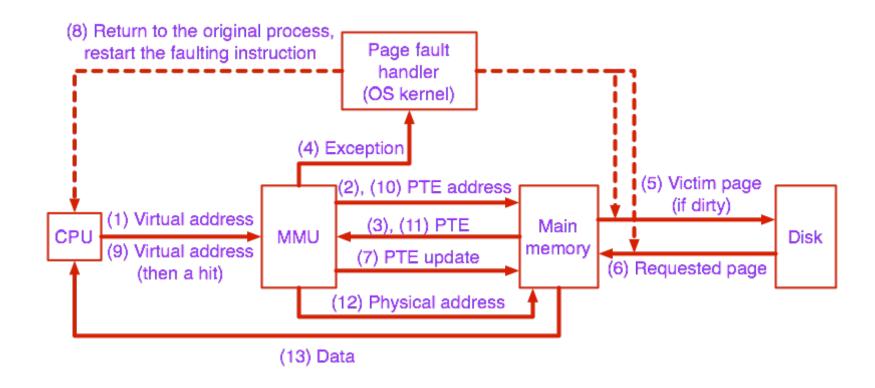
- Three types of virtual pages
 - Unallocated: Pages that have not yet been allocated by the VM (no space on secondary storage)
 - Cached: Allocated pages that are currently cached in main memory
 - Uncached: Allocated pages that are not cached in main memory (reside on secondary storage)
- A single page table for the entire address space is large
 - 32-bit address space, 4KB pages, and 4B PTEs result in 4MB page table resident in main memory
 - Use a hierarchy of page tables and demand paging for the tables



Page Hit

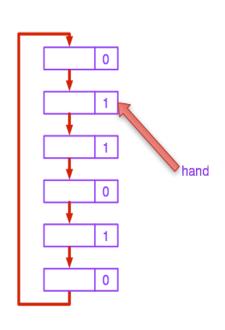


Page Fault



Page Replacement Policies

- LRU
- FIFO
- Second chance
- Clock
 - A bit (R) that indicates whether the page is referenced or not
 - When a page is first loaded in memory, R = 0
 - When the page is referenced, R = 1
 - Maintain a circular list of pages in memory
 - The hand points to the current page in the list
 - When it is time to replace a page, the first frame with R = 0 encountered is replaced
 - During the search for replacement, each reference bit set to 1
 is changed to 0

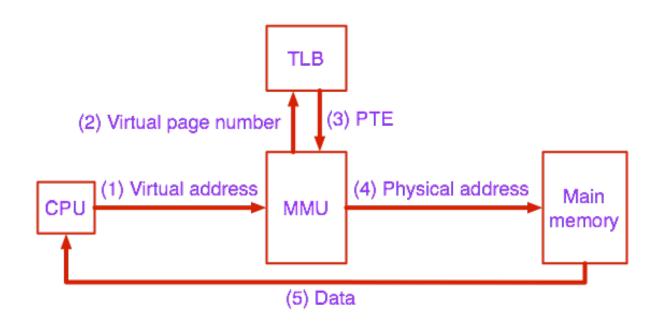


Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB)

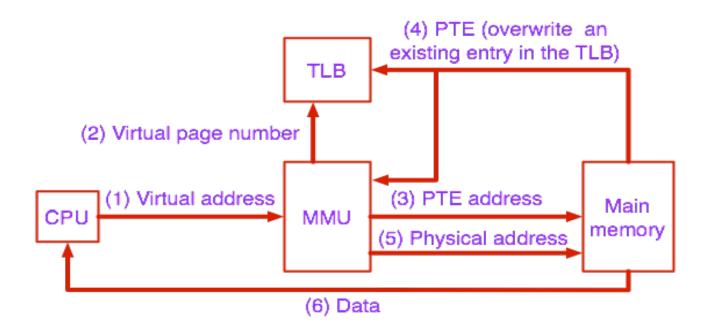
- Every time the CPU generates a virtual address, the MMU must refer to the page table for address translation
 - High overhead
- A small, virtually addressed cache where each line holds a block consisting of a single PTE
 - Has a high degree of associativity
- Micro-TLB
 - A small TLB placed over the main TLB to boost the speed of address translation for cache accesses
 - The main TLB handles micro-TLB misses
 - Smaller number of entries than the main TLB



TLB Hit



TLB Miss



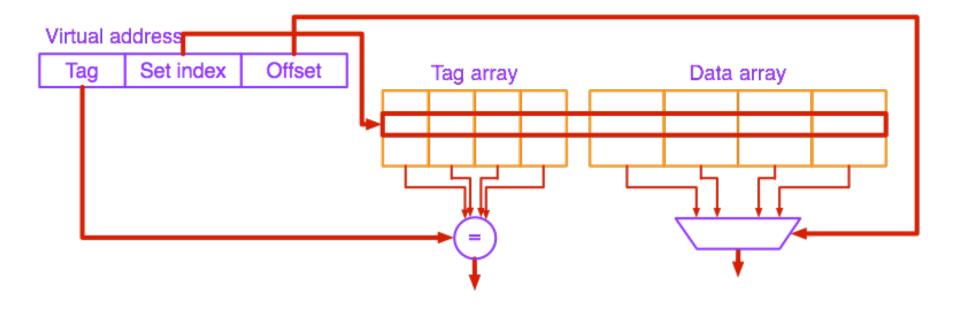
Caches and Virtual Memory

- Virtually-addressed caches vs. physically-addressed caches
 - Which address do we send to the cache?
 - Virtually-addressed cache: faster (no address translation) but security issues (requires cache flushing by the OS on context switching)
 - Physically-addressed cache: slower but no security issues (no OS intervention)
- Four possible combinations
 - Physically indexed, physically tagged
 - Physically indexed, virtually tagged
 - Virtually indexed, physically tagged
 - Virtually indexed, virtually tagged



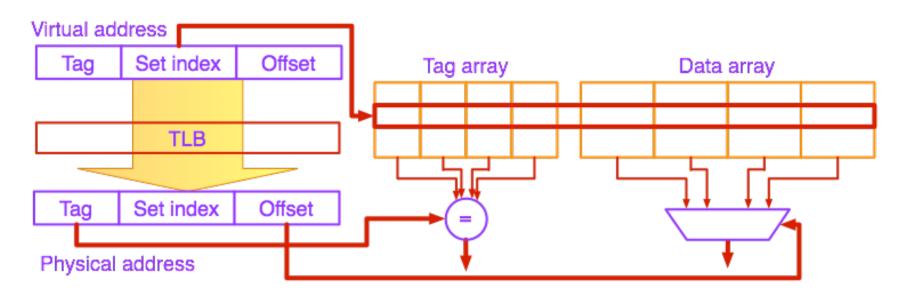
Virtually Indexed, Virtually Tagged

- Address translation occurs on a cache miss
- TLB (address translation) is not in the critical path



Virtually Indexed, Physically Tagged

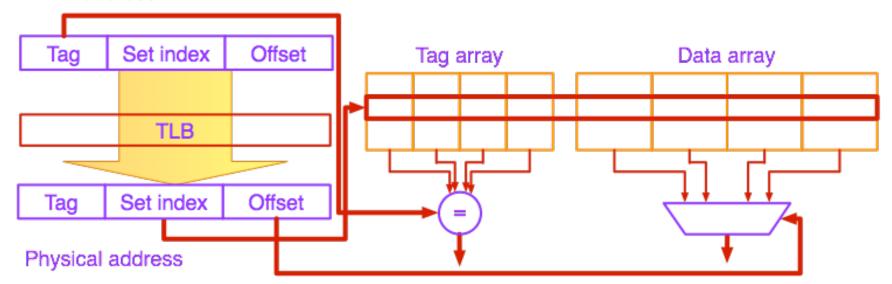
- Common in real systems
- The address translation can happen at the same time as the cache indexing
- TLB is not in the critical path
- Much faster than physically-indexed caches



Physically Indexed, Virtually Tagged

- Never used
- No OS intervention for cache management
- TLB is in the critical path

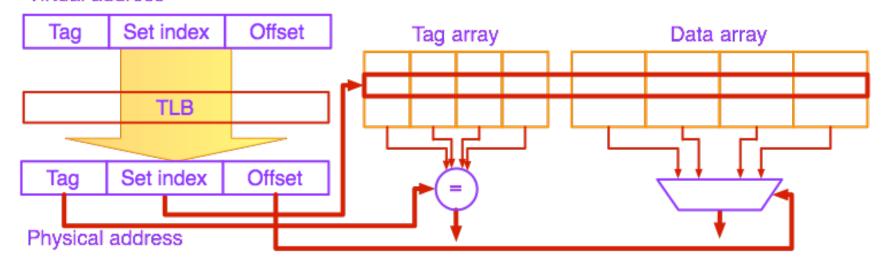
Virtual address



Physically Indexed, Physically Tagged

- No OS intervention for cache management
- TLB is in the critical path

Virtual address

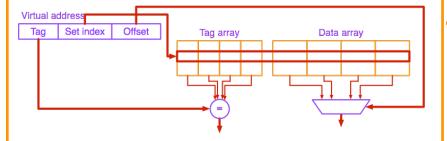




Virtual Addressing vs. Physical Addressing

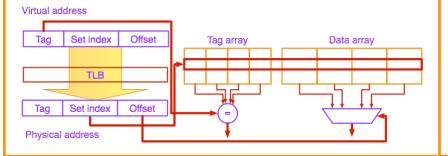
Virtually indexed, virtually tagged

- Address translation occurs on a cache miss
 - TLB (address translation) is not in the critical path



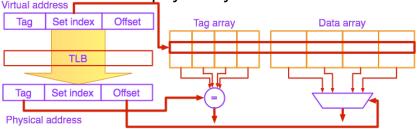
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Virtually indexed, physically tagged

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Physically indexed, physically tagged

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