

Lecture 18: Online algs Part 2: Paging

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[[Today we'll do one long example that illustrates many concepts: competitive ratio, determinism vs randomized algs, amortized analysis...]

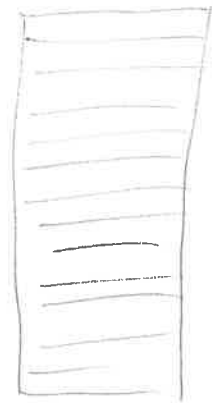
[["Paging" is a funny old-fashioned word; it's all about...] Cache [[Disk vs memory, mem vs. cache, CPU vs motherboard ... extremely important for practical alg. run time.]]

simple model:

cpu



k fast-memory/cache slots



N data/disk/slow-mem items/pages

Model: CPU will access a seq. $I = r_1, r_2, r_3, \dots$
request $r_i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$

If item in cache: ☺ [free]

Else: • incur cost 1 ["cache miss"/"page fault"]

- must move item into cache [this is a modeling choice; maybe not always appropriate, but let's use it]
- must "evict" one item from cache

[[maybe at "the beginning of time" cache is not full yet, but we'll ignore, assuming cache starts full]]

Alg = ~~Eviction~~ Eviction strategy. [Ideas?]

e.g.: k=3, N=4, requests:

"Offline Optimal": IF you psychically knew I, optimal alg is....

$I = 1, 2, 3, 2, 4, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$

[Evict page whose next req. is farthest in future]

Takes a teeny bit of thought to see this greedy strat is indeed offline optimal. But it is.

On e.g.: 1 2 3 2 4 3 4 1 2 3 4
X → kick out 2 X → kick out 1

But we don't know future, so offline alg?

"LRU" (Least Recently Used): evict page that's L.R.U.

On e.g.: 1, 2, 3, 2, 4 3 4 1 2 3 4
X → evict 1 X → evict 2 X → evict 3 X → evict 4

Hmm... kinda bad if next req. is whatever was just evicted.

"Adversary's" worst I for LRU: 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, ...

LRU has a miss every 1 requests (in k=3 case; always just uses N=k+1).
Offline opt has a " " 3 " " 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2
X → evict 3 X → evict 2 X ...
in general k.

⇒ C.R. for LRU no better than k. ☹️ [pretty bad]

Better alg?

"FIFO": evict page that's been in cache longest

ex: ~~bad example I~~ implies C.R. no better than k ☹️
same

fact: ~~no~~ No det. algorithm can have C.R. < k.

proof: • Given Alg, ~~Let I be a long seq. that always~~ Always use N=k+1. Need to know Alg to design I.

• Claim: for any I with N=k+1, offline opt. only misses once every ≥ k reqs.

Because when item i evicted, all other k-1 items will subsequently be req'd earlier: ⇒ k-1 successes per miss.

There's a twist you can invent to make this situation less sad...

LRU on input I with cache size k vs. Offline opt. on I with cache size k

might be k times worse

Force it to have cache size k/2

Now "C.R." is <= 2

kinda cheating, not apples to apples

But... "RESOURCE AUGMENTATION": maybe okay to imagine you can double your cache...

Proof sketch: Given any seq. I = 1, 3, 1, 1, {4, 7, 2, 2, 2}, {3, 6, 5}...

divide into consecutive "phases":

phase = maximal sequence of k distinct items

phase boundaries for k=3

Fact 1: LRU (& FIFO) have cost <= k in each phase

evident from def

Fact 2: Offline opt. with cache of size k/2 must have >= k/2 misses per phase.

"C.R." of <= k / (k/2) = 2

ex: For LRU with k vs. Offline opt. with h <= k,

"C.R." is <= k / (k-h+1)

so k for h=k, but <= 10 for h=0.9k, e.g.

Back to usual apples to apples model.

The sad thing about deterministic algs is "adversary" at beginning always knows what's in your cache, knows what you just evicted, can always choose I so that next req. = last evict.

How can we make it so adversary doesn't "know" what you just evicted? Randomness!

Random model: Adversary knows your randomized eviction policy (4)
 " doesn't see " random coin flips/choices, can't see your cache.

It's like the O.S.'s alg's spec is published, but cache is in "private memory".

May as well assume Adversary fixes all I in advance

But now you can't change your alg!

Motivates defn: $C.R. = \max_I \frac{E[\text{cost of Alg on } I]}{\text{Offline Opt}(I)}$ you go next, randomized
Adv. goes first, deterministic

Thm: (1) Randomized alg., "Marking", with $C.R. \leq O(\log k)$

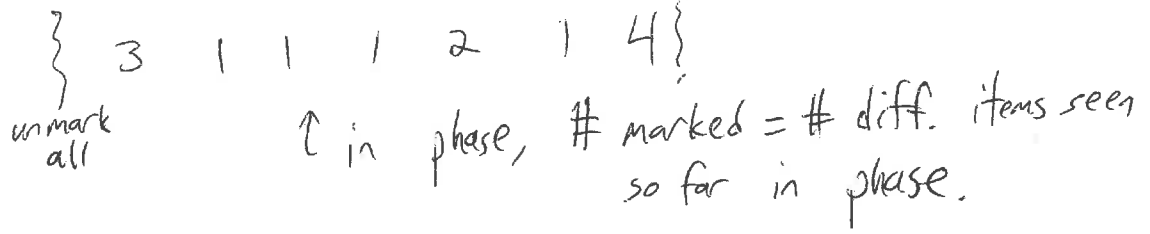
(2) Every alg, even randomized, has $C.R. \geq \Omega(\log k)$

Won't show (2). We'll sketch proof of (1).
 Marking: initialize cache to $b, 2, \dots, k$, & all pages "unmarked"

when i requested: if in cache, "mark" it
 else, evict a random unmarked page, ~~mark it~~
 except if \leftarrow all pages marked... unmark-all first
 Then mark i when it's brought to cache.

We'll show $C.R. \leq O(\log k)$ assuming $N = k+1$.
 For $N > k+1$, proof is $\approx 25\%$ harder.

Observation: Unmark-all's happen exactly at "phase" boundaries. ($k=4$ eg...)



Q: What is $E[\text{cost of a phase}]$?

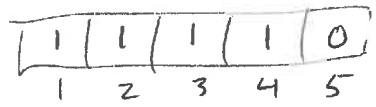
~~Only nearly-marked items have cost, others free~~
So can just focus on them

WLOG, say prev. phase ended with $1, 2, \dots, k$ in cache.

($k=4, N=5$ example)

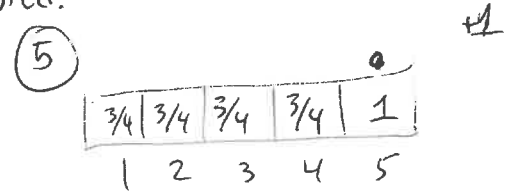
Let's make a diagram showing all $N=k+1$ items, annotated with probability it's in cache, and a dot \bullet to mean marked.

Start of phase:

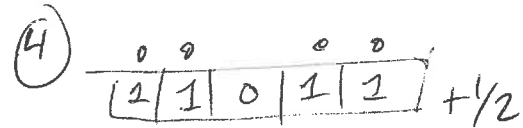
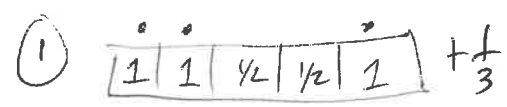
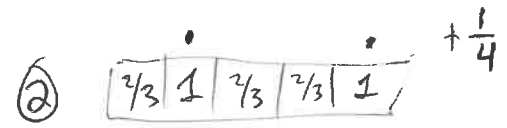


// 1, 2, 3, 4 are in cache
with prob 1, 5 in cache
with prob 0, no marks

Because we're starting a new phase, 5 must have just been requested.



Perhaps 5 now req'd many times. All free, so let's move to next req.



Some more cache hits, then phase ends.

→ requests

↑ $E[\text{cost}]$

{ 4 1 1 2 3 } X who does it evict? 4
 { 5 5 2 1 1 2 3 } X who does it evict? 3
 { 3 1 2 1 1 4 } X evicts 5
 { 5 4 3 2 } X

~~first phase pays 1 per phase
 second phase pays 1 per phase
 third phase pays 1 per phase
 fourth phase pays 1 per phase~~

Claim: Opt offline alg pays 1 per phase

"H" = $\ln k \approx \ln k = O(\log k)$

In general, $E[\text{cost of phase}] = 1 + \frac{1}{k} + \frac{1}{k-1} + \dots + \frac{1}{2}$

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