

# Memory Management: Page Replacement Policies: Belady's Optimal

*CS 571: Operating Systems (Spring 2020)*

Lecture 8c

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# Belady's Optimal

# OPT: The Optimal Replacement Policy

- Many years ago **Belady** demonstrated that there is a simple policy (OPT or MIN) which always leads to fewest number of misses
- Idea: evict the page that will be accessed furthest in the future
- Assumption: we know about the future
- Impossible to implement OPT in practice!
  
- But it is extremely useful as a **practical best-case baseline** for **comparison** purpose

# Proof of Optimality for Belady's Optimal Replacement Policy

<http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.307.7603&rep=rep1&type=pdf>

## A Short Proof of Optimality for the **MIN** Cache Replacement Algorithm

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Stanford University

December 2, 2010

### **Abstract**

The **MIN** algorithm is an offline strategy for deciding which item to replace when writing a new item to a cache. Its optimality was first established by Mattson, Gecsei, Slutz, and Traiger [2] through a lengthy analysis. We provide a short and elementary proof based on a dynamic programming argument.

**Keywords:** analysis of algorithms, on-line algorithms, caching, paging

## **1 The MIN Algorithm**

# OPT the Optimal

- Idea: evict the page that will be accessed furthest in the future
- Example workload: 0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

# OPT the Optimal

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- Example workload: 0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

<b>Access</b>	<b>Hit/Miss?</b>	<b>Evict</b>	<b>Resulting Cache State</b>
0			
1			
2			
0			
1			
3			
0			
3			
1			
2			
1			

assume  
cache size 3

# OPT the Optimal

- Idea: evict the page that will be accessed furthest in the future
- Example workload: 0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

<b>Access</b>	<b>Hit/Miss?</b>	<b>Evict</b>	<b>Resulting Cache State</b>
0	Miss		0
1	Miss		0, 1
2	Miss		0, 1, 2
0			
1			
3			
0			
3			
1			
2			
1			

assume  
cache size 3

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- Idea: evict the page that will be accessed furthest in the future
- Example workload: 0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

<b>Access</b>	<b>Hit/Miss?</b>	<b>Evict</b>	<b>Resulting Cache State</b>
0	Miss		0
1	Miss		0, 1
2	Miss		0, 1, 2
0	Hit		0, 1, 2
1	Hit		0, 1, 2
3			
0			
3			
1			
2			
1			

assume  
cache size 3



# OPT the Optimal

- Idea: evict the page that will be accessed furthest in the future
- Example workload: 0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

Access	Hit/Miss?	Evict	Resulting Cache State
0	Miss		0
1	Miss		0, 1
2	Miss		0, 1, 2
0	Hit		0, 1, 2
1	Hit		0, 1, 2
3			
0			
3			
1			
2			
1			

assume  
cache size 3

What to evict??

# OPT the Optimal

- Idea: evict the page that will be accessed furthest in the future
- Example workload: 0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

Access	Hit/Miss?	Evict	Resulting Cache State
0	Miss		0
1	Miss		0, 1
2	Miss		0, 1, 2
0	Hit		0, 1, 2
1	Hit		0, 1, 2
3			
0			
3			
1			
2			
1			

assume  
cache size 3

What to evict??

Page 2 happens to be the one that will be accessed furthest in future!

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# OPT the Optimal

- Idea: evict the page that will be accessed furthest in the future
- Example workload: 0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

<b>Access</b>	<b>Hit/Miss?</b>	<b>Evict</b>	<b>Resulting Cache State</b>
0	Miss		0
1	Miss		0, 1
2	Miss		0, 1, 2
0	Hit		0, 1, 2
1	Hit		0, 1, 2
3	Miss	2	0, 1, 3
0			
3			
1			
2			
1			

assume  
cache size 3

# OPT the Optimal

- Idea: evict the page that will be accessed furthest in the future
- Example workload: 0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

Access	Hit/Miss?	Evict	Resulting Cache State
0	Miss		0
1	Miss		0, 1
2	Miss		0, 1, 2
0	Hit		0, 1, 2
1	Hit		0, 1, 2
3	Miss	2	0, 1, 3
0	Hit		0, 1, 3
3	Hit		0, 1, 3
1	Hit		0, 1, 3
2			
1			

assume  
cache size 3

# OPT the Optimal

- Idea: evict the page that will be accessed furthest in the future
- Example workload: 0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

Access	Hit/Miss?	Evict	Resulting Cache State
0	Miss		0
1	Miss		0, 1
2	Miss		0, 1, 2
0	Hit		0, 1, 2
1	Hit		0, 1, 2
3	Miss	2	0, 1, 3
0	Hit		0, 1, 3
3	Hit		0, 1, 3
1	Hit		0, 1, 3
2			
1			

assume  
cache size 3

What to evict??

# OPT the Optimal

- Idea: evict the page that will be accessed furthest in the future
- Example workload: 0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

Access	Hit/Miss?	Evict	Resulting Cache State
0	Miss		0
1	Miss		0, 1
2	Miss		0, 1, 2
0	Hit		0, 1, 2
1	Hit		0, 1, 2
3	Miss	2	0, 1, 3
0	Hit		0, 1, 3
3	Hit		0, 1, 3
1	Hit		0, 1, 3
2			
1			

assume  
cache size 3

Page 1 will be  
accessed right  
after page 2.  
Hence 1 is safe!

What to evict???

# OPT the Optimal

- Idea: evict the page that will be accessed furthest in the future
- Example workload: 0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

Access	Hit/Miss?	Evict	Resulting Cache State
0	Miss		0
1	Miss		0, 1
2	Miss		0, 1, 2
0	Hit		0, 1, 2
1	Hit		0, 1, 2
3	Miss	2	0, 1, 3
0	Hit		0, 1, 3
3	Hit		0, 1, 3
1	Hit		0, 1, 3
2	Miss	3	0, 1, 2
1			

assume  
cache size 3

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- Idea: evict the page that will be accessed furthest in the future
- Example workload: 0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

Access	Hit/Miss?	Evict	Resulting Cache State
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1	Miss		0, 1
2	Miss		0, 1, 2
0	Hit		0, 1, 2
1	Hit		0, 1, 2
3	Miss	2	0, 1, 3
0	Hit		0, 1, 3
3	Hit		0, 1, 3
1	Hit		0, 1, 3
2	Miss	3	0, 1, 2
1	Hit		0, 1, 2

assume  
cache size 3



# OPT the Optimal

- Idea: evict the page that will be accessed furthest in the future
- Example workload: 0 1 2 0 1 3 0 3 1 2 1

Access	Hit/Miss?	Evict	Resulting Cache State
0	Miss		0
1	Miss		0, 1
2	Miss		0, 1, 2
0	Hit		0, 1, 2
1	Hit		0, 1, 2
3	Miss	2	0, 1, 3
0	Hit		0, 1, 3
3	Hit		0, 1, 3
1	Hit		0, 1, 3
2	Miss	3	0, 1, 2
1	Hit		0, 1, 2

assume  
cache size 3