

Taskserver Design

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System Design & Implementation, 2008

Outline

1

Design

- System Components
- Sawmill Inspired Data Spaces
- Stack Positioning

2

Interface

- Process management
- Settings, Statistics & Status

3

Statistics

- Statistics over virtual Filesystem

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System Components

L4 Microkernel

Sigma 0

Anonymous Memory Provider

Syscall Server

Data Space Providers

ELF Loader

Fileserver

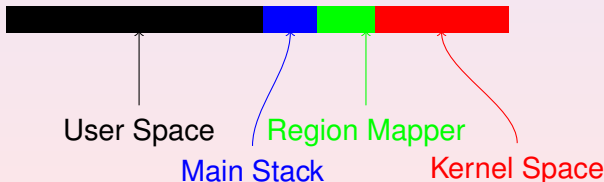
Taskserver

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Sawmill Inspired Data Spaces

- Every address space has got it's own managing thread, called *region mapper*
- *region mapper* resides at the end of user address space, just below kernel
- *region mapper* holds mapping between *VM Region* and *Data Space Provider*



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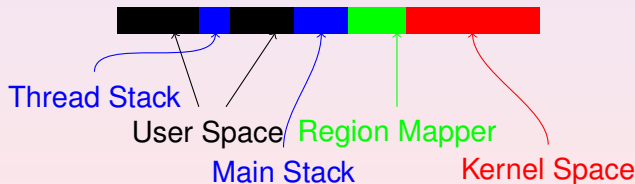
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Stack Positioning

- *Main program stack* is created just below *Region Mapper*, growing down, towards *heap*
- For every additional thread, *stack space* is allocated from *heap*, surrounded by *read only pages* to detect overflow
- *Thread stacks* are created by *region mapper*



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Process management

- *startTask()*
- *fork()*
- *exec()*
- *kill()*
- *waitTid()*
- *createThread()*
- *getThreadStatus()*

startTask

```
L4_ThreadId_t startTask(in String path, in  
String args);
```

- *Task server* creates a new *region mapper* inside its new *address space* using the *syscall server*
- *Task server* configures the *address space*
- *Task server* sends message to *Region mapper*, telling it the path of the image to load
- *Region mapper* asks *ELF-Loader* (or *PE-Loader* or whatever) to map image into its *address space*
- *Region mapper* starts mapped program inside new thread

fork

```
L4_ThreadId_t fork();
```

- *Task server asks memory server to create a new address space*
- *Task server creates a new region mapper inside new address space*
- *Task server asks region mappers to map old User space and Stack into new address space*
- *Task server sends message to region mapper*
- *Region mapper resumes operation in new address space*

exec

```
L4_ThreadId_t exec(in String path, in String  
args);
```

- *Task server* kills all *threads* inside address space except *region mapper*
- *Task server* sends message to *Region mapper*, telling it the path of the image to load
- *Region mapper* asks *ELF-Loader* (or *PE-Loader* or whatever) to map image into its *address space*
- *Region mapper* starts mapped program inside new thread

kill

```
Void kill(in L4_ThreadId_t tid);
```

- If *TID* is a region mapper: Kill all *threads* in *address space*
- Else kill *thread* specified by *TID*
- *Suicidal tendencies*: Every thread has to kill itself at the end

waitTid

```
L4_Word_t waitTid(in L4_ThreadId_t tid);
```

- Waits for *thread* specified by *tid* to terminate
- Returns the *thread's exit* status
- Status information is stored in *region mapper* of *thread* until *waitTid()* is called

createThread

```
L4_ThreadId_t createThread();
```

- *createThread()* returns *global thread id* of new thread.
- *Task server* tells *syscall server* to create a new thread inside specified *address space*
- *Task server* tells *region mapper* to start thread
- *Region mapper* creates *thead stack* and sends start message to *thread*

getThreadStatus

```
L4_Word_t getThreadStatus(in L4_ThreadId_t tid);
```

- Uses *schedule()* system call to check whether a *thread* is still alive. Returns the status code which is returned by *schedule*.

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Settings, Statistics & Status

- *setStatisticInterval()*
- *setTimeslice()*
- *setPriority()*
- *setPreemptionDelay()*

setStatisticInterval

```
void setStatisticInterval(in L4_Word_t  
interval);
```

- *interval* is specified in milliseconds
- Sets interval in which statistics are collected
- Uses *schedule* syscall and an ugly hack which uses the total quantum

setTimeslice

```
void setTimeslice(in L4_Word_t timeslice);
```

- *timeslice* is specified in milliseconds
- Sets length of timeslice

setPriority

```
L4_Word_t setPriority(in L4_Word_t priority);
```

- Sets priority of *thread* identified by *TID*

setPreemptionDelay

```
L4_Word_t setPreemptionDelay(in L4_ThreadId_t  
tid, in L4_Word_t sensitivePrio, in L4_Word_t  
maxDelay);
```

- Sets preemption delay of *thread* identified by *TID*

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Statistics

- Collected statistics are accessed via virtual filesystem

Questions?

- Please feel free to ask *questions* or give *comments*!