

CSL 301

OPERATING SYSTEMS

Lecture 7

Address Translation
Base/Bounds
Segmentation

Instructor
Dr. Dhiman Saha

The Crux: Virtualizing Memory

The Core Challenge

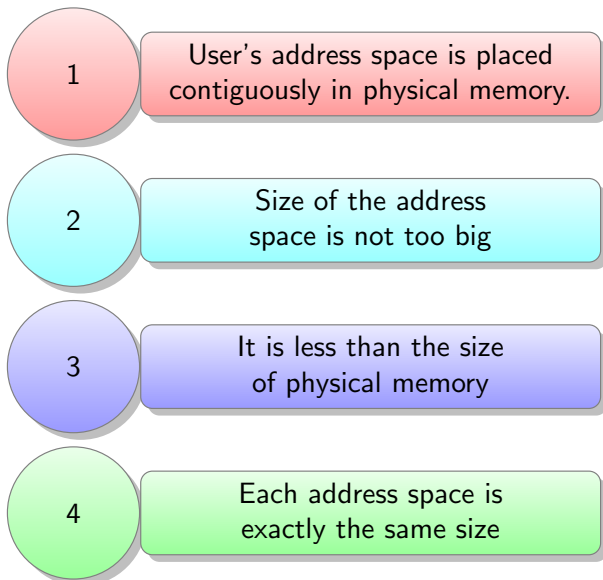
How can we build an **efficient** and **flexible** virtualization of memory?

The Crux: Virtualizing Memory

The Core Challenge

How can we build an **efficient** and **flexible** virtualization of memory?

- ▶ **Efficiency:** We must rely on hardware support. We can't have the OS intervene on every memory access.
- ▶ **Control:** The OS must ensure processes cannot access memory outside their own address space (isolation).
- ▶ **Flexibility:** Programs should be able to use their address space in any way they like (e.g., have large, sparse data structures).



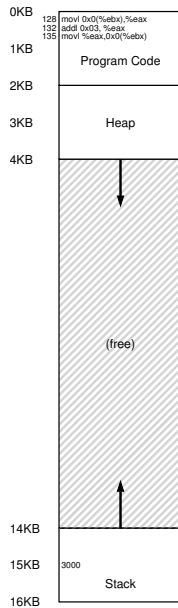
```
void func() {  
    int x = 3000;  
    x = x + 3;    // point of interest  
    ...  
}
```

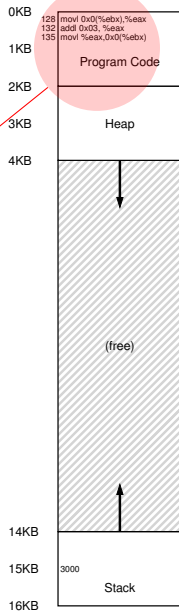
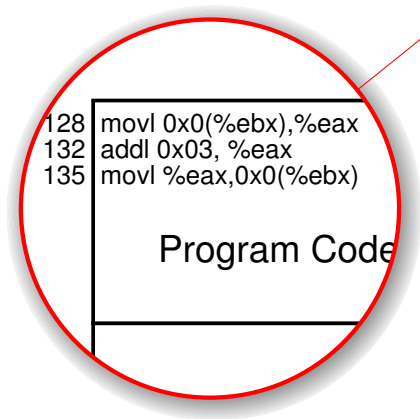
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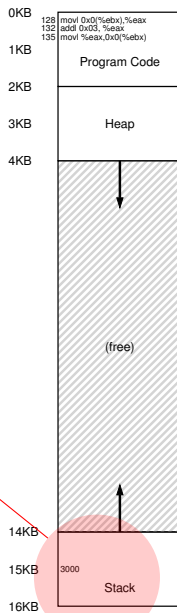
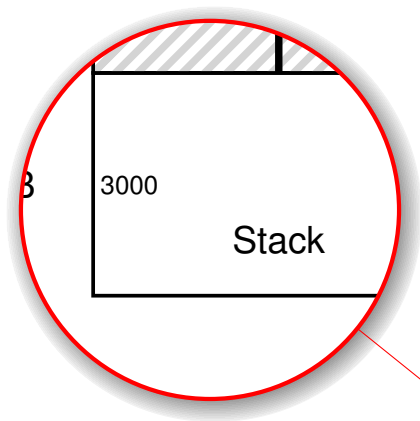
► Using objdump (in x86 assembly)

128: movl 0x0(%ebx), %eax	;load 0+ebx into eax
132: addl \$0x03, %eax	;add 3 to eax register
135: movl %eax, 0x0(%ebx)	;store eax back to mem

The Address Space







- ▶ 128: `movl 0x0(%ebx), %eax` ;load 0+ebx into eax
- ▶ 132: `addl $0x03, %eax` ;add 3 to eax register
- ▶ 135: `movl %eax, 0x0(%ebx)` ;store eax back to mem

- ▶ Fetch instruction at address 128
- ▶ Execute this instruction (load from address 15 KB)
- ▶ Fetch instruction at address 132
- ▶ Execute this instruction (**no memory reference**)
- ▶ Fetch the instruction at address 135
- ▶ Execute this instruction (store to address 15 KB)

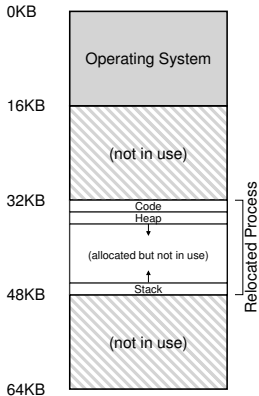
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- ▶ Fetch the instruction at address 135
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Physical Memory with a Single Relocated Process



Attempt #1: Software-Based Relocation

Static Relocation

Idea

Rewrite the program itself before **loading** it as a process

- ▶ Using software support: **loader**
- ▶ The **loader** takes an executable that is about to be run
- ▶ **Rewrites** its **addresses**
- ▶ To the desired **offset** in physical memory

Classwork

- ▶ How would it effect our example program?
- ▶ What if there are multiple processes?

Why?

- ▶ Protection
- ▶ Re-Relocation

Attempt #2: Hardware-Based Relocation The Base Register

Dynamic Relocation

Idea

- ▶ Address translation by adding a fixed offset.
- ▶ Offset stored in *Base* Register
- ▶ Base register has different value for each process
- ▶ OS tells the hardware the base (starting address)
- ▶ Memory hardware calculates PA from VA
- ▶ “dynamic relocation”

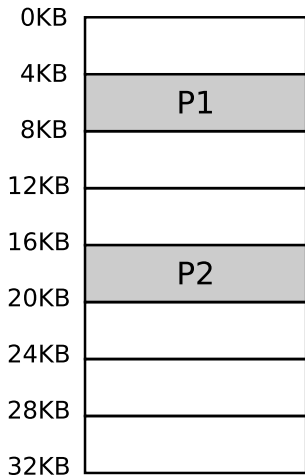
$$\text{physical address} = \text{virtual address} + \text{base}$$

Note

Each program is written and compiled as if it is loaded at address zero.

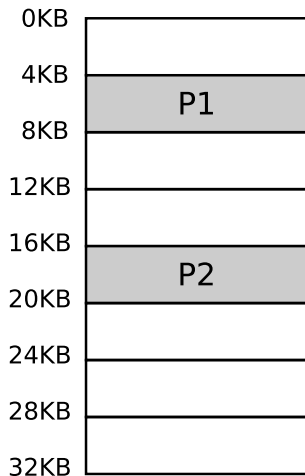
Let us try an example

- ▶ Two Process Scenario
- ▶ To Do: Address Translation



How?

► Protection



Attempt #3: Hardware-Based Relocation Base + Bounds

Dynamic Relocation

Idea

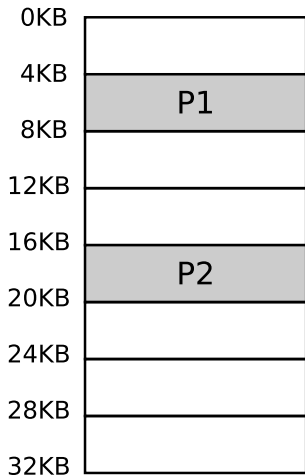
- ▶ “Bound” the address space
 - ▶ The largest addressable physical address for a process
 - ▶ Stored in *Bounds (limit)* register
-
- ▶ Base → translate the address
 - ▶ Bounds → ensure physical address lies within address space

Classwork

- ▶ What can bounds-register actually store?
- ▶ Where are these registers located?

Let us try an example

- ▶ Two Process Scenario
- ▶ To Do: Illegal Memory Access



- ▶ A special data-structure used by OS
- ▶ To track which parts of free memory are not in use
- ▶ Simply is a list of the ranges of the physical memory which are not currently in use

Hardware Requirements	Notes
Privileged mode	<i>Needed to prevent user-mode processes from executing privileged operations</i>
Base/bounds registers	<i>Need pair of registers per CPU to support address translation and bounds checks</i>
Ability to translate virtual addresses and check if within bounds	<i>Circuitry to do translations and check limits; in this case, quite simple</i>
Privileged instruction(s) to update base/bounds	<i>OS must be able to set these values before letting a user program run</i>
Privileged instruction(s) to register exception handlers	<i>OS must be able to tell hardware what code to run if exception occurs</i>
Ability to raise exceptions	<i>When processes try to access privileged instructions or out-of-bounds memory</i>

OS Requirements	Notes
Memory management	<i>Need to allocate memory for new processes; Reclaim memory from terminated processes; Generally manage memory via free list</i>
Base/bounds management	<i>Must set base/bounds properly upon context switch</i>
Exception handling	<i>Code to run when exceptions arise; likely action is to terminate offending process</i>

Classwork

Can the OS perform **address space relocation** when a process not running? How?

- Look at LDE protocol with dynamic relocation in OSTEP book.

Base & Bounds: Translation and Protection

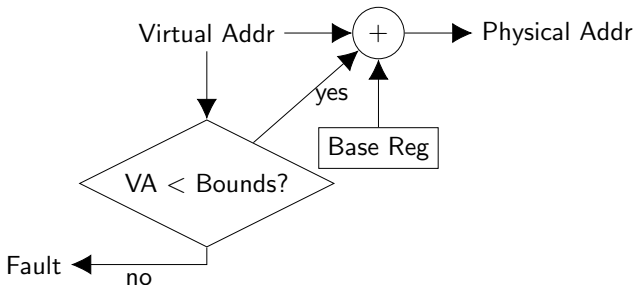
For every memory access, the hardware performs two steps:

- **Protection Check:** Is the access legal?

```
if (virtual_addr >= bounds) -> raise exception;
```

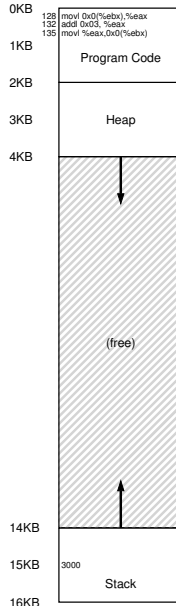
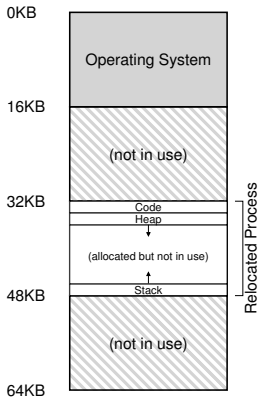
- **Address Translation:** If legal, calculate the physical address.

```
physical_addr = virtual_addr + base;
```



Issues?

Base + Bounds

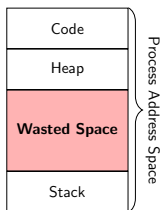


- 1. Internal Fragmentation
- 2. What if address space does not fit into memory?

The Problem: Internal Fragmentation

The base-and-bounds approach is simple, but wasteful.

- ▶ The entire address space, from address 0 to the top of the stack, must be mapped to a *contiguous* chunk of physical memory.
- ▶ The large, unused space between the heap and the stack is also allocated.
- ▶ This waste is called **internal fragmentation**.



This makes it hard to run programs if their full address space doesn't fit in memory.

Attempt #4: Hardware-Based Relocation Segmentation

Generalized Base/Bounds

Generalized Base/Bounds

Idea

Instead of having just one base and bounds pair in our MMU, why not have a base and bounds pair per logical **segment** of the address space?

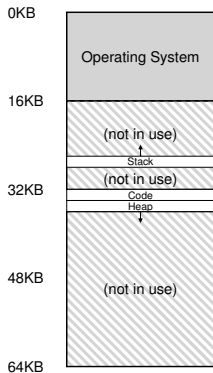
Segment

A segment is just a **contiguous** portion of the address space of a particular length.

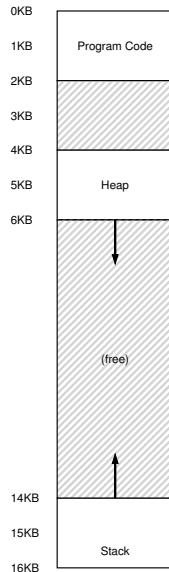
- ▶ Code
- ▶ Stack
- ▶ Heap

Three logically-different segments. How to utilize this setting?

Placing Segments In Physical Memory



Segment	Base	Size
Code	32K	2K
Heap	34K	2K
Stack	28K	2K

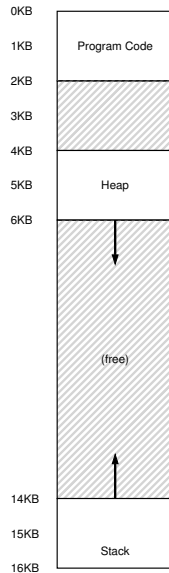
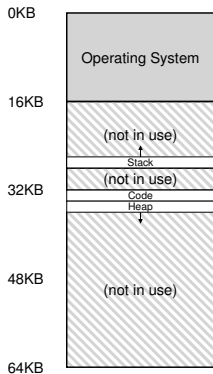


Segment	Base	Size
Code	32K	2K
Heap	34K	2K
Stack	28K	2K

- ▶ A set of three base and bounds register pairs

Address Translation

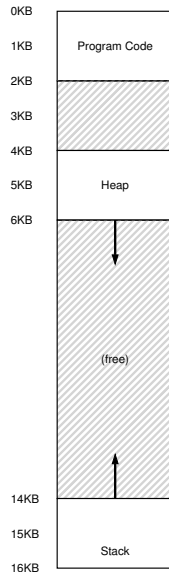
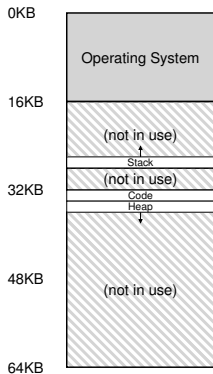
Let us try an example



► VA: 135 PA: _____?

Address Translation

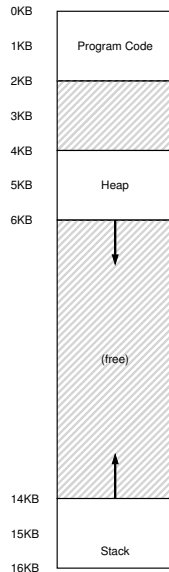
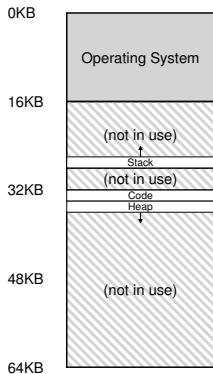
Let us try an example



► VA: 4400 PA: _____?

Address Translation

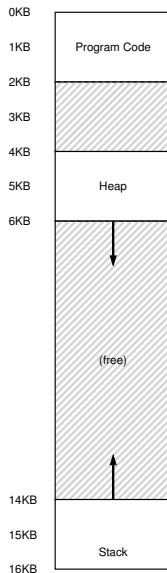
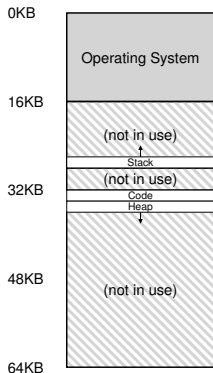
Let us try an example



► VA: 7KB PA: _____ ?

Address Translation

Let us try an example



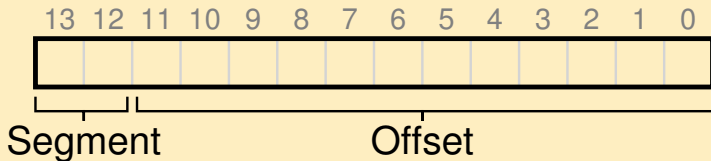
► VA: 7KB PA: _____ ?

► Segmentation Fault

Which Segment Are We Referring To?

Which Segment Are We Referring To?

Explicit Approach



Classwork

Calculate this for VA:4400

```
// get top 2 bits of 14-bit VA
Segment = (VirtualAddress & SEG_MASK) >> SEG_SHIFT
// now get offset
Offset = VirtualAddress & OFFSET_MASK
if (Offset >= Bounds[Segment])
    RaiseException(PROTECTION_FAULT)
else
    PhysAddr = Base[Segment] + Offset
    Register = AccessMemory(PhysAddr)
```

Classwork

Calculate

- ▶ SEG_MASK
- ▶ SEG_SHIFT
- ▶ OFFSET_MASK

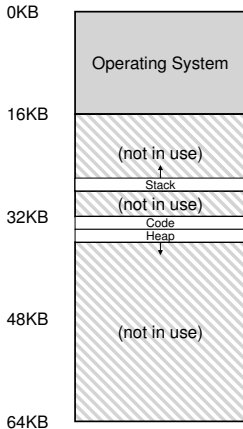
Which Segment Are We Referring To?

Implicit Approach

The hardware determines the segment by noticing **how the address was formed**

- ▶ Address generated from PC \implies code segment
- ▶ Address based of stack pointer \implies stack segment
- ▶ Otherwise \implies heap segment

Did we forget the stack?



Recall

Stack grows backwards

Negative-Growth Support

Segment	Base	Size	Grows Positive?
Code	32K	2K	1
Heap	34K	2K	1
Stack	28K	2K	0

Segment Registers

HomeWork

How will address translation take place now?