# User virtual maps (brk)

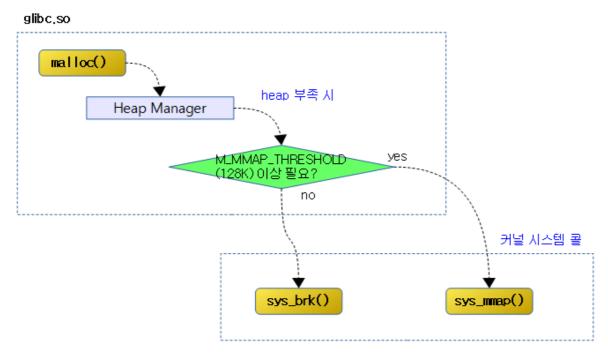
<kernel v5.0>

# Requesting heap or stack memory increase/decrease in user process

### **Heap Manager**

When using the malloc() function in user space, the heap memory manager included in libraries such as glibc manages the heap pool. If more heap memory is needed, the kernel will make a Posix system call to the user anon memory, and the function called by the kernel is brk() or mmap().

- M\_MMAP\_THRESHOLD (128K)
  - You can use the mallopt() function to change the threadold threshold.
  - When you want to expand the heap below the threadzold, the brk() function is called, which is a simplified version of mmap() that only treats memory of type anonymouse.
  - If you extend the heap beyond the threadzold, the mmap() function is called.



(http://jake.dothome.co.kr/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/malloc-1.png)

### **Custom Heap Manager**

In most cases, it's easy and comfortable to use GNU's glibc library in C and the FASMLIB library in assembly for heap management. However, there are times when you don't want to use these libraries and need to use a custom heap manager specifically. Of course, developers can write custom heap memory managers that call brk() or map() system call functions to create special heap managers for complex threads.

### sys\_brk()

mm/mmap.c -1/2-

```
SYSCALL_DEFINE1(brk, unsigned long, brk)
01
02
03
            unsigned long retval;
            unsigned long newbrk, oldbrk, origbrk;
04
05
            struct mm_struct *mm = current->mm;
            struct vm_area_struct *next;
06
            unsigned long min_brk;
07
98
            bool populate;
            bool downgraded = false;
09
10
            LIST_HEAD(uf);
11
12
            if (down_write_killable(&mm->mmap_sem))
13
                     return -EINTR;
14
15
            origbrk = mm->brk;
16
    #ifdef CONFIG_COMPAT_BRK
17
18
             * CONFIG_COMPAT_BRK can still be overridden by setting
19
             * randomize_va_space to 2, which will still cause mm->start_brk
20
21
               to be arbitrarily shifted
22
23
            if (current->brk_randomized)
24
                    min_brk = mm->start_brk;
25
            else
26
                    min_brk = mm->end_data;
27
    #else
28
            min_brk = mm->start_brk;
29
    #endif
30
            if (brk < min_brk)</pre>
31
                     goto out;
32
33
              * Check against rlimit here. If this check is done later after
34
    the test
              * of oldbrk with newbrk then it can escape the test and let the
35
    data
36
             * segment grow beyond its set limit the in case where the limit
    is
37
             * not page aligned -Ram Gupta
38
            if (check_data_rlimit(rlimit(RLIMIT_DATA), brk, mm->start_brk,
39
40
                                   mm->end data, mm->start data))
41
                     goto out;
42
43
            newbrk = PAGE_ALIGN(brk);
            oldbrk = PAGE_ALIGN(mm->brk);
44
45
            if (oldbrk == newbrk) {
46
                    mm->brk = brk;
47
                     goto success;
48
```

```
49
50
               Always allow shrinking brk.
51
52
                 _do_munmap() may downgrade mmap_sem to read.
53
54
            if (brk <= mm->brk) {
55
                     int ret;
56
57
                      * mm->brk must to be protected by write mmap_sem so upd
58
    ate it
59
                      * before downgrading mmap_sem. When __do_munmap() fail
    S,
                      * mm->brk will be restored from origbrk.
60
61
                     mm->brk = brk;
62
                     ret = __do_munmap(mm, newbrk, oldbrk-newbrk, &uf, true);
63
64
                     if (ret < 0) {
65
                             mm->brk = origbrk;
66
                             goto out;
                     } else if (ret == 1) {
67
                             downgraded = true;
68
69
70
                     goto success;
71
```

Expand or shrink the heap (data) area. When expanding, it is assigned to the anon user page, and when it is reduced, the area is unmapped.

- In lines 23~28 of the code, the heap position placed in the user space is used randomly for security purposes, but for compatible purposes such as legacy libc5, this kernel option is used to disable the heap start position random feature.
  - If you do "echo 2 > /proc/sys/kernel/randomize\_va\_space", use the random heap start position feature.
  - o If you use the "norandmaps" kernel parameter, you can also disable the heap start position randomization feature.
- If lines 30~31 of the code request a heap address lower than the heap start address set in the task, it will give up the allocation and move to the out label.
- In lines 39~41 of the code, if the size of the data used by the current task exceeds the data area limit set for the current task, it abandons the allocation and moves to the out label.
  - RLIMIT\_DATA: Data (heap usage + data section) size limit
- If there is no page-level change in the heap address requested in lines 43~48 of the code, move to the success label.
- If the heap address requested in code lines 54~71 is less than the existing heap address set in the task, the heap is shrinked by unmapping the reduced difference. If the collapse is successful, it goes to the success label, otherwise it goes to the out label.
  - o 참고: mm: brk: downgrade mmap\_sem to read when shrinking (https://github.com/torvalds/linux/commit/9bc8039e715da3b53dbac89525323a9f2f69b7b 5#diff-fdaaedaf96a6a572e21218cb5e8691d9) (2018, v4.20-rc1)

### mm/mmap.c -2/2-

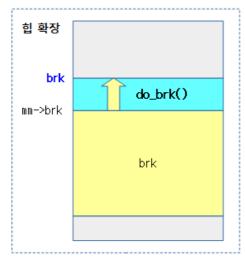
```
/* Check against existing mmap mappings. */
01
02
            next = find_vma(mm, oldbrk);
```

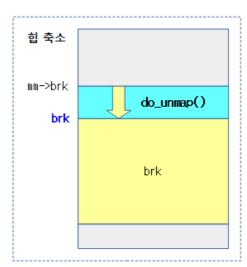
```
2024/1/3 15:36
                                           User virtual maps (brk) - Munc Blog
                   if (next && newbrk + PAGE_SIZE > vm_start_gap(next))
      03
      04
                            goto out;
      05
      06
                   /* Ok, looks good - let it rip. */
      07
                   if (do_brk_flags(oldbrk, newbrk-oldbrk, 0, &uf) < 0)</pre>
      98
                            qoto out;
      09
                   mm->brk = brk;
      10
      11
          success:
      12
                   populate = newbrk > oldbrk && (mm->def_flags & VM_LOCKED) != 0;
      13
                   if (downgraded)
      14
                            up_read(&mm->mmap_sem);
      15
                   else
                            up_write(&mm->mmap_sem);
      16
                   userfaultfd_unmap_complete(mm, &uf);
      17
      18
                   if (populate)
                            mm_populate(oldbrk, newbrk - oldbrk);
      19
      20
                   return brk;
      21
      22
          out:
      23
                   retval = origbrk;
      24
                   up_write(&mm->mmap_sem);
                   return retval;
      25
      26
          }
```

- If the heap space to be increased in line 2~4 of code is already mapped, give up the allocation and move it to the out label.
- In line 7~8 of the code, expand the existing VM and return it, or configure a new VM and import it. If it fails, move to the out label.
- In code lines 11~19, the success: label is. If there is an increased heap and it is a VMA in a mlocked area, all user pages for that area are assigned and mapped.
  - ARM64 Page Table-2- (mapping) (http://jake.dothome.co.kr/map64) | Qc
- Returns the end address of the new heap on line 20 of the code.
- In code lines 22~25, the out: label. Returns the address of the end of the existing heap.

The following illustration shows how the heap expands or shrinks when the do brk() function is called.

### sys\_brk()





(http://jake.dothome.co.kr/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/sys\_brk-1.png)

### check\_data\_rlimit()

include/linux/mm.h

```
static inline int check data rlimit(unsigned long rlim,
02
                                           unsigned long new,
03
                                           unsigned long start,
04
                                           unsigned long end data,
05
                                           unsigned long start_data)
06
            if (rlim < RLIM_INFINITY) {</pre>
07
                     if (((new - start) + (end_data - start_data)) > rlim)
08
09
                              return -ENOSPC;
10
11
12
            return 0;
13
```

If the size of the data usage exceeds the rlim, it returns the -ENOSPC error value.

• data=heap usage + data section

### do\_brk\_flags()

mm/mmap.c

```
1
        this is really a simplified "do_mmap". it only handles
 2
 3
        anonymous maps. eventually we may be able to do some
 4
        brk-specific accounting here.
 5
    static int do_brk_flags(unsigned long addr, unsigned long len, unsigned
    long flags, struct list_headd
02
     *uf)
03
04
            struct mm_struct *mm = current->mm;
05
            struct vm_area_struct *vma, *prev;
            struct rb_node **rb_link, *rb_parent;
06
07
            pgoff_t pgoff = addr >> PAGE_SHIFT;
08
            int error;
09
10
            /* Until we need other flags, refuse anything except VM_EXEC. */
11
            if ((flags & (~VM_EXEC)) != 0)
12
                    return -EINVAL;
13
            flags |= VM_DATA_DEFAULT_FLAGS | VM_ACCOUNT | mm->def_flags;
14
            error = get_unmapped_area(NULL, addr, len, 0, MAP_FIXED);
15
16
            if (offset_in_page(error))
17
                    return error;
18
            error = mlock_future_check(mm, mm->def_flags, len);
19
20
            if (error)
21
                    return error;
22
23
             * Clear old maps.
24
                                this also does some error checking for us
25
26
            while (find_vma_links(mm, addr, addr + len, &prev, &rb_link,
27
                                   &rb_parent)) {
28
                    if (do_munmap(mm, addr, len, uf))
29
                             return - ENOMEM;
30
31
32
            /* Check against address space limits *after* clearing old map
33
            if (!may_expand_vm(mm, flags, len >> PAGE_SHIFT))
```

Static map of the area of the virtual address and length requested in the current task user area. Returns 0 on success.

• In line 7 of code, put the page number for the virtual address in pgoff.

vma->vm\_flags |= VM\_SOFTDIRTY;

- Cache aliasing is used to compare whether the start address is appropriate on a system that uses aliasing.
- In lines 11~12 of the code, all flags except VM\_EXEC are not allowed.
- Line 13 through line 19 of code contains the def\_flags of the VM\_DATA\_DEFAULT\_FLAGS and the VM\_ACCOUNT and the current task.
  - VM DATA DEFAULT FLAGS:

return 0;

- VM\_EXEC (optional) | VM\_READ | VM\_WRITE | VM\_MAYREAD | VM\_MAYWRITE |
   VM MAYEXEC
- In lines 15~17 of the code, we find out whether there is an empty space equal to the length of len from the request virtual address in the current task user area to be fixed mapped. If there is no space to map, it returns an error.
- In line 19~21 of the code, if the number of pages using the VM\_LOCKED flag in the current task exceeds the maximum locked page limit, it returns a -EAGAIN error.
- In line 26~30 of the code, if the VMAs overlap with the request virtual address area, perform an unmap.

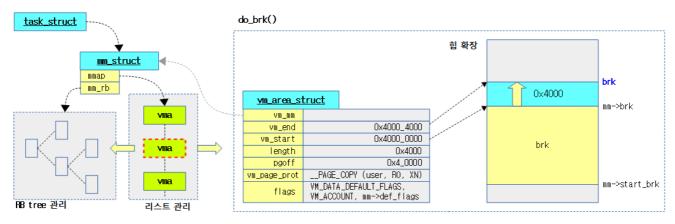
70

71

72

- In line 33~34 of the code, if the total number of vm pages in the current task exceeds the address space limit (RLIMIT\_AS), it returns a -ENOMEM error.
- In code lines 36~37, if the number of VMAs in the current task exceeds the maximum number of mapping counts, returns -ENOMEM.
  - sysctl\_max\_map\_count
    - By default, it is 65530, which can be changed via "/proc/sys/vm/max\_map\_count".
- In line 39~40 of the code, check whether the allocation of the new virtual mapping is sufficient via the Linux Security Module (LSM).
  - LSM (Linux Security Module) (http://jake.dothome.co.kr/lsm) | 문c
- In line 43~46 of the code, if the existing VMA uses the Private Anonymous mapping, make sure it can be extended by merging, and if possible, go to the out label.
- In line 51~55 of the code, it allocates memory for the vma structure and reverts to the already increased number of vm commit pages in case of failure and returns a -ENOMEM error.
- Configure and add VMA information in code lines 57~63.
  - The mapping properties that go into the vm\_page\_prot are basically \_\_PAGE\_COPY, even if there are no properties specifically added to the memory descriptor (mm->def\_flags).
- This is the starting position of the out label in code lines 64~67 and updates the total number of used VM pages in the memory descriptor.
- If you buy the VM\_LOCKED flag in line 68~69 of code, update the locked\_vm page counter in the memory descriptor.
- In line 70 of the code, add VM\_SOFTDIRTY to the VMA's flag.
- Success returns 71 on line 0 of the code.

The following figure shows how the brk() request is extended using an existing VMA.



(http://jake.dothome.co.kr/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/do\_brk-1.png)

## VM Flags - > Page Mapping Properties

vm\_get\_page\_prot()

mm/mmap.c

```
pgprot_t vm_get_page_prot(unsigned long vm_flags)

return __pgprot(pgprot_val(protection_map[vm_flags &
```

```
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VM_READ | VM_WRITE | VM_EXEC | VM_SHARED)]) |

pgprot_val(arch_vm_get_page_prot(vm_flags)));

EXPORT_SYMBOL(vm_get_page_prot);
```

Use the read, write, exec, and shared flag values among the VM flags to find out which page mapping attribute values are needed.

### Global protection\_map[] array

### mm/mmap.c

```
01
    /* description of effects of mapping type and prot in current implementa
       this is due to the limited x86 page protection hardware. The expecte
02
     * behavior is in parens:
03
04
       map_type
05
                       prot
06
                       PROT NONE
                                         PROT READ
                                                            PROT WRITE
                                                                              PROT EXE
     * MAP SHARED
07
                      r: (no) no
                                         r: (yes) yes
                                                            r: (no) yes
                                                                              r: (no)
    yes
08
                      w: (no) no
                                         w: (no) no
                                                            w: (yes) yes
                                                                              w: (no)
    no
09
                       x: (no) no
                                         x: (no) yes
                                                            x: (no) yes
                                                                              x: (yes)
    yes
10
     * MAP_PRIVATE
11
                      r: (no) no
                                                                              r: (no)
                                         r: (ves) ves
                                                            r: (no) ves
    yes
12
                       w: (no) no
                                         w: (no) no
                                                            w: (copy) copy
                                                                              w: (no)
    no
13
                       x: (no) no
                                         x: (no) yes
                                                            x: (no) yes
                                                                              x: (yes)
    yes
14
15
                                     __ro_after_init = {
    pgprot_t protection_map[16]
 1
               _P000, __P001, __P010, __P011, __P100, __P101, __P110, __P111, __S000, __S001, __S010, __S011, __S100, __S101, __S110, __S111
 2
 3
    };
 4
```

There are 4 arrays with 16 flag bits.

### 16 Page Mapping Properties – ARM32

arch/arm/include/asm/pgtable.h

```
1
     * The table below defines the page protection levels that we insert int
2
    o our
3
      Linux page table version. These get translated into the best that th
      architecture can perform. Note that on most ARM hardware:
 4
        1) We cannot do execute protection
5
        2) If we could do execute protection, then read is implied
6
7
        3) write implies read permissions
 8
01
   #define ___P000
                      _PAGE_NONE
    #define ___P001
                      PAGE_READONLY
02
  #define ___P010
                    PAGE COPY
03
```

```
#define ___P011
04
                       PAGE_COPY
    #define _
              P100
05
                       PAGE_READONLY_EXEC
    #define ___P101
                       PAGE_READONLY_EXEC
06
    #define ___P110
07
                       PAGE_COPY_EXEC
08
    #define ___P111
                       _PAGE_COPY_EXEC
09
    #define ___S000
10
                       PAGE_NONE
    #define ___S001
11
                       _PAGE_READONLY
    #define ___S010
12
                       _PAGE_SHARED
                       _PAGE_SHARED
13
    #define ___S011
    #define ___S100
14
                       _PAGE_READONLY_EXEC
    #define ___S101
15
                       _PAGE_READONLY_EXEC
    #define ___S110
                       _PAGE_SHARED_EXEC
16
17 #define ___S111
                     __PAGE_SHARED_EXEC
```

16 macro constants combined with read, write, exec, and shared flag bits

### arch/arm/include/asm/pgtable.h

```
_PAGE_NONE
                                    __pgprot(_L_PTE_DEFAULT | L_PTE_RDONLY |
1
  #define
  L_PTE_XN | L_PTE_NONE)
           ___PAGE_SHARED
2
  #define
                                    __pgprot(_L_PTE_DEFAULT | L_PTE_USER | L
   _PTE_XN)
3
  #define ___PAGE_SHARED_EXEC
                                    __pgprot(_L_PTE_DEFAULT | L_PTE_USER)
4
  #define
            _PAGE_COPY
                                    __pgprot(_L_PTE_DEFAULT | L_PTE_USER | L
   _PTE_RDONLY | L_PTE_XN)
5
  #define __PAGE_COPY_EXEC
                                    __pgprot(_L_PTE_DEFAULT | L_PTE_USER | L
   PTE_RDONLY)
6
  #define ___PAGE_READONLY
                                    __pgprot(_L_PTE_DEFAULT | L_PTE_USER | L
   _PTE_RDONLY | L_PTE_XN)
7
  #define ___PAGE_READONLY_EXEC
                                    __pgprot(_L_PTE_DEFAULT | L_PTE_USER | L
  _PTE_RDONLY)
```

### PAGE NONE

 It is used for Automatic NUMA balancing, which considers the migration of tasks that use the page after it fails due to an accesss permission failure when reading the page from a NUMA system.

### \_PAGE\_COPY

- L PTE PRESENT: Mapped
- L\_PTE\_YOUNG: Accessible to the page
- L\_PTE\_USER: Allow users
- L\_PTE\_RDONLY: Read-only
- L PTE XN: Excute Never

### 16 Page Mapping Properties - ARM64

### arch/arm64/include/asm/pgtable-prot.h

```
#define __P000 PAGE_NONE
01
    #define ___P001 PAGE_READONLY
02
    #define __P010 PAGE_READONLY
03
    #define P011 PAGE READONLY
05
    #define ___P100 PAGE_EXECONLY
    #define ___P101
06
                   PAGE_READONLY_EXEC
    #define __P110 PAGE_READONLY_EXEC
07
    #define __P111 PAGE_READONLY_EXEC
98
09
10
    #define _
             S000
                   PAGE_NONE
    #define ___S001
11
                    PAGE_READONLY
    #define ___S010 PAGE_SHARED
```

```
S011
                    PAGE_SHARED
13
    #define _
              S100
14
    #define
                    PAGE_EXECONLY
    #define _
              S101
15
                    PAGE_READONLY_EXEC
    #define _
16
              S110
                    PAGE_SHARED_EXEC
17 #define ___S111
                   PAGE SHARED EXEC
```

### arch/arm64/include/asm/pgtable-prot.h

```
#define PAGE NONE
                                     _pgprot(((_PAGE_DEFAULT) & ~PTE_VALID)
   | PTE_PROT_NONE | PTE_RDONLYY
2
    | PTE_NG | PTE_PXN | PTE_UXN)
   #define PAGE_SHARED
3
                                    __pgprot(_PAGE_DEFAULT | PTE_USER | PTE_
   NG | PTE_PXN | PTE_UXN | PTEE
4
   _WRITE)
   #define PAGE_SHARED_EXEC
5
                                    __pgprot(_PAGE_DEFAULT | PTE_USER | PTE_
   NG | PTE_PXN | PTE_WRITE)
   #define PAGE_READONLY
6
                                    __pgprot(_PAGE_DEFAULT | PTE_USER | PTE_
   RDONLY | PTE_NG | PTE_PXN |
7
   PTE_UXN)
   #define PAGE_READONLY_EXEC
                                    __pgprot(_PAGE_DEFAULT | PTE_USER | PTE_
   RDONLY | PTE_NG | PTE_PXN)
   #define PAGE_EXECONLY
                                    __pgprot(_PAGE_DEFAULT | PTE_RDONLY | PT
  E_NG | PTE_PXN)
```

- \_PAGE\_DEFAULT
  - PTE ATTRINDX(MT NORMAL) | PTE TYPE PAGE | PTE AF | PTE SHARED

# Find unmapped address zones

get\_unmapped\_area()

mm/mmap.c

```
01
    unsigned long
02
    get_unmapped_area(struct file *file, unsigned long addr, unsigned long l
03
                    unsigned long pgoff, unsigned long flags)
04
05
            unsigned long (*get_area)(struct file *, unsigned long,
06
                                       unsigned long, unsigned long, unsigned
    long);
07
            unsigned long error = arch_mmap_check(addr, len, flags);
98
09
            if (error)
10
                     return error;
11
            /* Careful about overflows.. */
12
13
            if (len > TASK_SIZE)
14
                     return - ENOMEM;
15
            get_area = current->mm->get_unmapped_area;
16
17
            if (file) {
18
                     if (file->f_op->get_unmapped_area)
                             get_area = file->f_op->get_unmapped_area;
19
20
            } else if (flags & MAP_SHARED) {
21
                       mmap_region() will call shmem_zero_setup() to create
22
    a file,
23
                      * so use shmem's get_unmapped_area in case it can be hu
    ge.
```

```
2024/1/3 15:36
                                           User virtual maps (brk) - Munc Blog
                             * do_mmap_pgoff() will clear pgoff, so match alignment.
      24
      25
      26
                            pgoff = 0;
      27
                            get_area = shmem_get_unmapped_area;
      28
                   }
      29
      30
                   addr = get_area(file, addr, len, pgoff, flags);
      31
                   if (IS_ERR_VALUE(addr))
      32
                            return addr;
      33
                   if (addr > TASK_SIZE - len)
      34
      35
                            return -ENOMEM;
                   if (offset_in_page(addr))
      36
      37
                            return -EINVAL;
      38
      39
                   error = security_mmap_addr(addr);
      40
                   return error ? error : addr;
      41
      42
          EXPORT_SYMBOL(get_unmapped_area);
```

Search in the mmap mapping space of the current task user area to find the virtual start address of an empty unmapped area where the request length can fit.

- If the user space requested in line 8~10 of the code is a mapping space that is not supported by the architecture, it returns an error.
- In lines 13~14 of the code, if the request allocation length is greater than the size of the user space, it returns a -ENOMEM error.
  - TASK\_SIZE: The size of the user space
    - e.g. rpi2: 2G 16M (arm size excluding kernel space and module (16M) space)
- Identify the unmapped area in code lines 16~32.
  - If file is a mapping, use a handler function that knows the unmapped area from the file descriptor.
    - Note that do\_brk() doesn't use the file mapping, but calls it by assigning null to the file argument for the anon mapping.
  - The handler function for the shared area uses the shmem\_get\_unmapped\_area() function.
- If the virtual address learned from lines 34~35 of the code cannot be placed in user space, it returns a -ENOMEM error.
- If the virtual address learned from lines 36~37 is 0 pages, it returns a -EINVAL error.
- When SELinux, which is used for security in lines 39~30 of the code, returns the virtual address if it is authorized, and returns an error if it does not.

### arch\_mmap\_check()

arch/arm/include/uapi/asm/mman.h

If a static mapping is required to the requested virtual address, it returns -EINVAL if the virtual address is less than or equal to the starting userspace address.

FIRST\_USER\_ADDRESS: (PAGE\_SIZE \* 2)

- If you're using low vectors in ARM, the bottom two pages are spaces that aren't available to the user.
- For ARM64 and x86, it always returns 0 success.

### arch\_get\_unmapped\_area() - ARM32

arch/arm/mm/mmap.c

```
1
 2
     * We need to ensure that shared mappings are correctly aligned to
 3
      avoid aliasing issues with VIPT caches. We need to ensure that
 4
      a specific page of an object is always mapped at a multiple of
 5
       SHMLBA bytes.
 6
 7
      We unconditionally provide this function for all cases, however
 8
       in the VIVT case, we optimise out the alignment rules.
 9
01
    unsigned long
    arch_get_unmapped_area(struct file *filp, unsigned long addr,
02
                     unsigned long len, unsigned long pgoff, unsigned long fl
03
    ags)
04
05
            struct mm_struct *mm = current->mm;
06
            struct vm_area_struct *vma;
07
            int do_align = 0;
            int aliasing = cache_is_vipt_aliasing();
98
09
            struct vm_unmapped_area_info info;
10
11
12
             * We only need to do colour alignment if either the I or D
             * caches alias.
13
14
15
            if (aliasing)
                     do_align = filp || (flags & MAP_SHARED);
16
17
18
             * We enforce the MAP_FIXED case.
19
20
            if (flags & MAP_FIXED) {
21
                     if (aliasing && flags & MAP_SHARED &&
22
                         (addr - (pgoff << PAGE_SHIFT)) & (SHMLBA - 1))</pre>
23
24
                             return -EINVAL;
25
                     return addr;
26
27
            if (len > TASK_SIZE)
28
29
                     return - ENOMEM;
30
31
            if (addr) {
32
                     if (do_align)
33
                             addr = COLOUR_ALIGN(addr, pgoff);
34
                     else
35
                             addr = PAGE_ALIGN(addr);
36
37
                     vma = find_vma(mm, addr);
38
                     if (TASK_SIZE - len >= addr &&
                         (!vma || addr + len <= vma->vm_start))
39
40
                             return addr;
            }
41
42
            info.flags = 0;
43
            info.length = len;
44
45
            info.low_limit = mm->mmap_base;
```

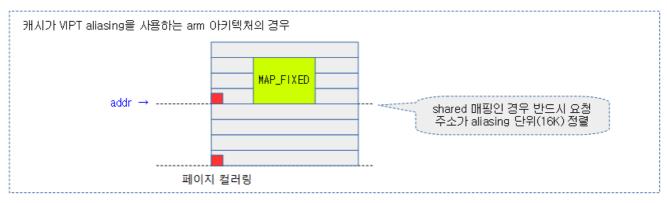
```
info.high_limit = TASK_SIZE;
info.align_mask = do_align ? (PAGE_MASK & (SHMLBA - 1)) : 0;
info.align_offset = pgoff << PAGE_SHIFT;
return vm_unmapped_area(&info);
}
```

A function implemented for the ARM architecture that searches from bottom to top in the mmap mapping space of the current task user area to find the virtual start address of an empty unmapped area where the request length can fit.

- In line 8 of the code, we find out whether the data cache in the current architecture uses vipt aliasing.
  - o rpi2: Don't use aliasing.
- If aliasing is used in lines 15~16 of the code, assign the flip(file struct pointer) value + MAP\_SHARED(1) flag to the do\_align value to determine whether alignment is required.
- If you request a VM static mapping in lines 21~26 of the code, you need to use the requested virtual address as it is, so you can exit the function without changing the virtual address. However, if aliasing and sharing maps are requested, the virtual address with the pgoff page reduced by the amount of the pgoff page is not sorted by the SHMLBA size required for aliasing, it returns -EINVAL.
  - SHMLBA: In pre-armv7 architectures, compensation for aliasing prevents the use of virtual address mappings of 4 pages (16K) between tasks if mapping pages need to be shared.
    - See: Cache VIPT Cache Coloring (http://jake.dothome.co.kr/cache6) | Qc
- In lines 28~29 of the code, if the length exceeds the size of the user space, it returns a -ENOMEM error.
- If the virtual address is specified in lines 31~35 of the code, it should be sorted by page, but if the do\_align is set, the virtual address should be sorted according to aliasing.
- In line 37 of the code, the VMA is retrieved from the VMA information registered with the current task.
- If the controlled virtual address in line 38~40 is placeable in user space and is below the VMA area, it exits the function.
- In lines 43~49 of the code, configure the VM unmapped zone information as follows, and then find and return the unmapped zone.
  - In the low\_limit, substitute the address of the lower limit of the mapping area.
  - In the high\_limit, the upper limit of the user space is assigned.
  - align\_mask assigns the required size-1 page (3 pages = 0x3000) for ARM architectures that require aliasing, so that the back of the area to be mapped is not used.
  - align\_offset assign the offset page number to be read from the page.

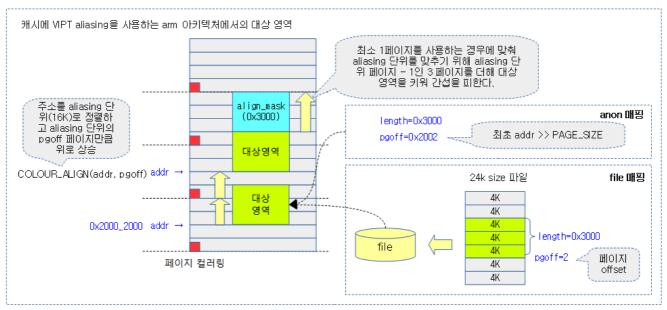
The two figures below show that the start address and size of the mapping space can be changed by cache aliasing, depending on whether it is fixed mapping or not.

### 32bit arm 아키텍처에서 arch\_get\_unmapped\_area() - 1, fixed 매핑



(http://jake.dothome.co.kr/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/arch\_get\_unmapped\_area-1a.png)

### 32bit arm 0키텍처에서 arch\_get\_unmapped\_area() - 2, non fixed 매핑



(http://jake.dothome.co.kr/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/arch\_get\_unmapped\_area-2.png)

### COLOUR\_ALIGN()

mm/mmap.c

If the data cache uses VIP aliasing, it will align the request virtual address with the page coloring.

- 예) SHMLBA=16K, addr=0x1234\_6000, pgoff=7
  - Sort the virtual addresses in 16K units + divide the pgoff page by 16K pages.
    - 0x1234\_8000 + 0x3000 = 0x1234\_b000

### arch\_get\_unmapped\_area() - Generic (x86, ARM64, ...)

mm/mmap.c

```
01  /* Get an address range which is currently unmapped.
02  * For shmat() with addr=0.
```

```
Ugly calling convention alert:
04
05
      Return value with the low bits set means error value,
06
07
            if (ret & ~PAGE_MASK)
08
                    error = ret;
09
       This function "knows" that -ENOMEM has the bits set.
10
11
    #ifndef HAVE_ARCH_UNMAPPED_AREA
01
02
    unsigned long
    arch_get_unmapped_area(struct file *filp, unsigned long addr,
03
                    unsigned long len, unsigned long pgoff, unsigned long fl
04
05
    {
06
            struct mm struct *mm = current->mm;
07
            struct vm_area_struct *vma, *prev;
            struct vm_unmapped_area_info info;
08
            const unsigned long mmap_end = arch_get_mmap_end(addr);
09
10
11
            if (len > mmap_end - mmap_min_addr)
12
                    return - ENOMEM;
13
14
            if (flags & MAP_FIXED)
15
                    return addr;
16
17
            if (addr) {
                     addr = PAGE_ALIGN(addr);
18
19
                     vma = find_vma_prev(mm, addr, &prev);
                    if (mmap_end - len >= addr && addr >= mmap_min_addr &&
20
                         (!vma || addr + len <= vm_start_gap(vma)) &&
21
                         (!prev || addr >= vm_end_gap(prev)))
22
23
                             return addr;
24
            }
25
26
            info.flags = 0;
            info.length = len;
27
28
            info.low_limit = mm->mmap_base;
29
            info.high_limit = mmap_end;
30
            info.align_mask = 0;
```

A function implemented in generic (including x86, ARM64, etc.) that searches from bottom to top in the mmap mapping space of the current task user area to find the virtual start address of an empty unmapped area where the request length can fit.

- If lines 11~12 of the code exceed the maximum size supported by the architecture, it returns a ENOMEM error.
- If you use the MAP\_FIXED flag in lines 14~15 of the code, it will return the @addr as it is without address conversion.
- If the virtual address @addr is specified in lines 17~24 of the code, sort it page by page and retrieve the VMA from the VMA information registered in the current task. If the virtual address is placeable in user space and below the VMA area, exit the function.
- In lines 26~31 of the code, find the unmapped area with the following information and return its virtual address.
  - In the low\_limit, substitute the address of the lower limit of the mapping area.
  - In the high\_limit, the upper limit of the user space is assigned.

return vm\_unmapped\_area(&info);

31

32

#endif

### arch\_get\_mmap\_base() & arch\_get\_mmap\_end() - ARM64

arch/arm64/include/asm/processor.h

### vm\_unmapped\_area()

include/linux/mm.h

```
1
2
      Search for an unmapped address range.
3
4
     We are looking for a range that:
     - does not intersect with any VMA;
5
     - is contained within the [low_limit, high_limit) interval;
6
      - is at least the desired size.
7
       satisfies (begin_addr & align_mask) == (align_offset & align_mask)
8
9
   static inline unsigned long
1
2
  vm_unmapped_area(struct vm_unmapped_area_info *info)
3
4
           if (!(info->flags & VM_UNMAPPED_AREA_TOPDOWN))
5
                   return unmapped_area(info);
6
           else
7
                   return unmapped_area_topdown(info);
8
```

Determine the virtual address of the unmapped area.

• Whether or not VM\_UNMAPPED\_AREA\_TOPDOWN flag is used determines the direction of the search.

# Find an address zone from bottom to top unmapped\_area()

mm/mmap.c -1/2-

```
unsigned long unmapped_area(struct vm_unmapped_area_info *info)
02
03
             * We implement the search by looking for an rbtree node that
04
             * immediately follows a suitable gap. That is,
05
             * - gap_start = vma->vm_prev->vm_end <= info->high_limit - leng
06
    th;
                                                 >= info->low_limit + leng
07
              gap_end
                           = vma->vm_start
    th;
                 gap_end - gap_start >= length
08
09
10
```

```
struct mm_struct *mm = current->mm;
11
            struct vm_area_struct *vma;
12
13
            unsigned long length, low_limit, high_limit, gap_start, gap_end;
14
15
            /* Adjust search length to account for worst case alignment over
    head */
16
             length = info->length + info->align_mask;
17
            if (length < info->length)
18
                     return - ENOMEM;
19
             /* Adjust search limits by the desired length */
20
21
            if (info->high_limit < length)</pre>
22
                     return - ENOMEM;
            high_limit = info->high_limit - length;
23
24
25
            if (info->low_limit > high_limit)
26
                     return -ENOMEM;
27
             low limit = info->low limit + length;
28
29
            /* Check if rbtree root looks promising */
            if (RB_EMPTY_ROOT(&mm->mm_rb))
30
31
                     goto check_highest;
32
            vma = rb_entry(mm->mm_rb.rb_node, struct vm_area_struct, vm_rb);
33
            if (vma->rb_subtree_gap < length)</pre>
34
                     goto check_highest;
35
36
            while (true) {
                     /* Visit left subtree if it looks promising */
37
                     gap_end = vm_start_gap(vma);
if (gap_end >= low_limit && vma->vm_rb.rb_left) {
38
39
40
                              struct vm_area_struct *left =
41
                                       rb_entry(vma->vm_rb.rb_left,
42
                                                struct vm_area_struct, vm_rb);
43
                              if (left->rb_subtree_gap >= length) {
44
                                      vma = left;
45
                                      continue;
46
                              }
```

A function implemented using augmented rbtrees searches the request range in user space from bottom to top to find the virtual start address of the unmapped gap between VMA regions where the request length can fit.

- Retrieve the length of the code lines 16~18 with the addition of align\_mask, and return a -ENOMEM error if the length exceeds the system address area.
- Calculate the high\_limit from code lines 21~23. If it goes out of range, it returns a -ENOMEM error.
  - Existing high\_limit minus by length
- Calculate the low\_limit from code lines 25~27. If it goes out of range, it returns a -ENOMEM error.
  - Values added by length from existing low\_limit
- In line 30~31 of the code, if the rb tree of the memory descriptor is empty, go to the check highest label.
- In lines 32~34 of code, get the VMA from the root node of the memory descriptor. If the rb\_subtree\_gap of the root node is less than its length, the nodes below the root node have no empty space, so go to the check\_highest label to check the top-level space.
  - If the rb\_subtree\_gap of the root node is less than length, that is, the gap between each VMA is smaller than length and cannot be added in between, so the top-level area is examined.

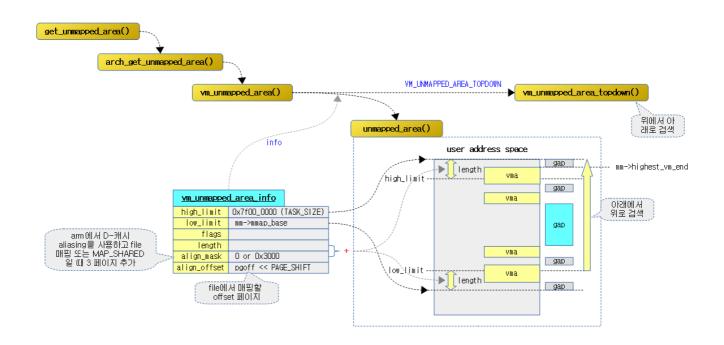
47

• In lines 36~47 of the code, loop through the VMAs in the virtual memory area of the current task and find the node where a length of gap space is found in the direction of the left node in the RB tree.

### mm/mmap.c -2/2-

```
01
                    gap_start = vma->vm_prev ? vm_end_gap(vma->vm_prev) : 0;
02
    check_current:
                     /* Check if current node has a suitable gap */
03
04
                    if (gap_start > high_limit)
05
                             return -ENOMEM;
06
                    if (gap_end >= low_limit &&
07
                         gap_end > gap_start && gap_end - gap_start >= lengt
    h)
08
                             qoto found;
09
                    /* Visit right subtree if it looks promising */
10
                    if (vma->vm_rb.rb_right) {
11
12
                             struct vm_area_struct *right =
13
                                     rb_entry(vma->vm_rb.rb_right,
14
                                               struct vm_area_struct, vm_rb);
                             if (right->rb_subtree_gap >= length) {
15
16
                                     vma = right;
17
                                     continue;
                             }
18
                    }
19
20
21
                    /* Go back up the rbtree to find next candidate node */
22
                    while (true) {
23
                             struct rb_node *prev = &vma->vm_rb;
24
                             if (!rb_parent(prev))
25
                                     goto check_highest;
26
                             vma = rb_entry(rb_parent(prev),
27
                                             struct vm_area_struct, vm_rb);
28
                             if (prev == vma->vm_rb.rb_left) {
29
                                     gap_start = vm_end_gap(vma->vm_prev);
30
                                     gap_end = vm_start_gap(vma);
31
                                     goto check_current;
32
                             }
33
                    }
34
            }
35
36
    check highest:
37
            /* Check highest gap, which does not precede any rbtree node */
38
            gap_start = mm->highest_vm_end;
            gap_end = ULONG_MAX; /* Only for VM_BUG_ON below */
39
            if (gap_start > high_limit)
40
41
                     return -ENOMEM;
42
43
    found:
44
            /* We found a suitable gap. Clip it with the original low_limit.
            if (gap_start < info->low_limit)
45
                     gap_start = info->low_limit;
46
47
48
            /* Adjust gap address to the desired alignment */
49
            gap_start += (info->align_offset - gap_start) & info->align_mas
    k;
50
51
            VM_BUG_ON(gap_start + info->length > info->high_limit);
52
            VM_BUG_ON(gap_start + info->length > gap_end);
            return gap_start;
53
54
```

- Yield the gap start address on line 1 of the code.
- In code lines 2~5, check\_current: Labels. If the gap start address is outside the high\_limit, it returns a -ENOMEM error.
- In code lines 6~8, if the gap\_end is more than low\_limit and the gap area is larger than the length, move to the found label.
- In code lines 11~19, if there is a lower right node of the node and the gap area of that node is larger than the length, the right node is substituted into the VMA area and the loop continues.
- If there is no suitable gap area below the line 22~33, it will go back to the parent node, but if it is from the left node to the upper node, it will update the gap start and end and move to the check\_current label.
- In code lines 36~41, check\_highest: Label. In this case, there is no space needed for an empty area in the rb tree, so it looks for an empty space above it, and if there is no suitable space here, it returns a -ENOMEM error.
- In lines 43~46 of code, it is the found: label. Adjust the starting position of the found gap to at least info->low limit.
- In code lines 49~53, the starting position of the gap is adjusted by adding the adjusted gap offset, and then cutting it with info->align\_mask and returning.
  - File and cache aliasing can adjust the starting position of the found unmapped gap.



### vm\_start\_gap()

include/linux/mm.h

```
static inline unsigned long vm_start_gap(struct vm_area_struct *vma)
01
02
03
            unsigned long vm_start = vma->vm_start;
04
            if (vma->vm_flags & VM_GROWSDOWN) {
05
06
                    vm_start -= stack_guard_gap;
                    if (vm_start > vma->vm_start)
07
                             vm_start = 0;
98
09
10
            return vm_start;
```

Returns the VMA start address with the stack guard gap applied.

### vm\_end\_gap()

include/linux/mm.h

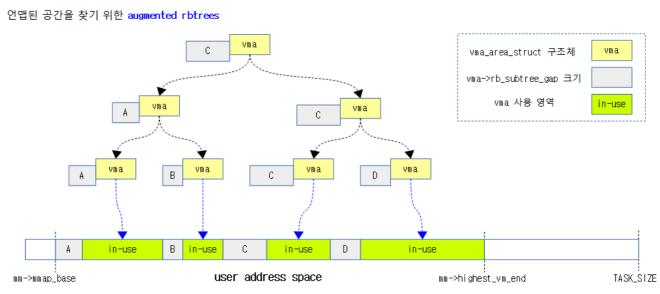
```
static inline unsigned long vm_end_gap(struct vm_area_struct *vma)
01
02
03
            unsigned long vm_end = vma->vm_end;
04
            if (vma->vm_flags & VM_GROWSUP) {
05
06
                     vm_end += stack_guard_gap;
07
                     if (vm_end < vma->vm_end)
08
                             vm end = -PAGE SIZE;
09
10
            return vm_end;
11
```

Returns the address of the end of the VMA with the stack guard gap applied.

## **Augmented rbtrees**

You can extend the red black tree to use the augmented rbtree, which can store additional information about the nodes. If the callback functions for propagation, copy, and rotation are written and registered by the user, they are called every time a change occurs on the node, enabling additional information management. In the kernel, VMA areas are also managed by RBRs, and the Augmented RBRons method is introduced to manage additional information about the gap areas managed by subtrees to be used to find empty areas that are not mapped.

The figure below shows how each node selects and manages the largest gap information from its subordinate nodes.



(http://jake.dothome.co.kr/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/augumented\_rbtrees-1a.png)

# Limit the maximum number of VM\_LOCKED pages mlock\_future\_check()

mm/mmap.c

```
static inline int mlock future check(struct mm struct *mm,
01
02
                                             unsigned long flags,
                                             unsigned long len)
03
04
             unsigned long locked, lock_limit;
05
06
             /* mlock MCL_FUTURE? */
07
             if (flags & VM_LOCKED) {
    locked = len >> PAGE_SHIFT;
98
09
10
                      locked += mm->locked vm;
                      lock_limit = rlimit(RLIMIT_MEMLOCK);
11
12
                      lock_limit >>= PAGE_SHIFT;
13
                     if (locked > lock_limit && !capable(CAP_IPC_LOCK))
                              return -EAGAIN;
14
15
16
             return 0;
17
```

If the number of pages that use the VM\_LOCKED flag in the current task exceeds the maximum locked page limit, it returns a -EAGAIN error. Returns 0 for all others.

• VM\_LOCKED mapping areas are skipped by the Compaction and Reclaim system.

## consultation

- User virtual maps (mmap) (http://jake.dothome.co.kr/user-virtual-maps-mmap2) | 문c
- LSM (Linux Security Module) -1- (http://jake.dothome.co.kr/lsm) | 문c
- LIM (Linux Integrity Module) -1- (http://jake.dothome.co.kr/lim) | 문c
- Understanding glibc malloc (https://sploitfun.wordpress.com/2015/02/10/understanding-glibc-malloc/) | sploitfun
- Get User Page | 문c
- Mlock | Qc

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