



MELTDOWN & SPECTRE FOR NORMAL PEOPLE

MEMORY MODEL









Like a matryoshka doll the kernel maps all physical memory into its address space

Reading kernel memory allows reading of all (mapped) memory of all processes

physical RAM

















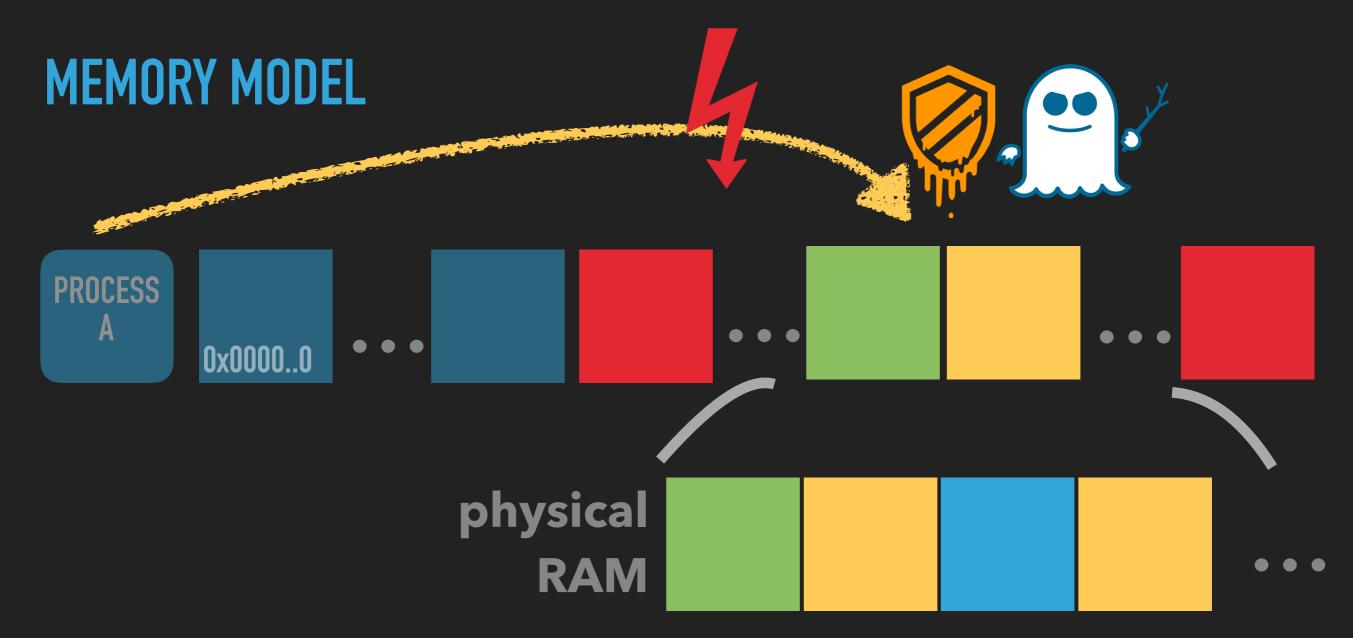




MEMORY MODEL

Virtual memory map with 4 level page tables:

```
00000000000000 - 00007fffffffffff (=47 bits) user space, different per mm
hole caused by [47:63] sign extension
ffff80000000000 - ffff87fffffffffff (=43 bits) guard hole, reserved for hypervisor
ffff88000000000 - ffffc7ffffffffff (=64 TB) direct mapping of all phys. memory
ffffc8000000000 - ffffc8fffffffff (=40 bits) hole
ffffc9000000000 - ffffe8ffffffffff (=45 bits) vmalloc/ioremap space
ffffe9000000000 - ffffe9fffffffff (=40 bits) hole
ffffea000000000 - ffffeaffffffffff (=40 bits) virtual memory map (1TB)
... unused hole ...
... unused hole ...
           vaddr end for KASLR
fffffe000000000 - fffffe7fffffffff (=39 bits) cpu entry area mapping
fffffe8000000000 - fffffefffffffffff (=39 bits) LDT remap for PTI
ffffff000000000 - ffffffffffffffff (=39 bits) %esp fixup stacks
... unused hole ...
ffffffef00000000 - ffffffffffffffffff (=64 GB) EFI region mapping space
... unused hole ...
fffffffff600000 - ffffffffff600fff (=4 kB) legacy vsyscall ABI
```



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