

OPERATING SYSTEMMemory Management

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Memory Management

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Background

- Program must be brought (from disk) into memory and placed within a process for it to be run
- Main memory and registers are only storage CPU can access directly
- Memory unit only sees a stream of addresses + read requests, or address + data and write requests
- Register access in one CPU clock (or less)
- Main memory can take many cycles, causing a stall
- Cache sits between main memory and CPU registers
- Protection of memory required to ensure correct operation



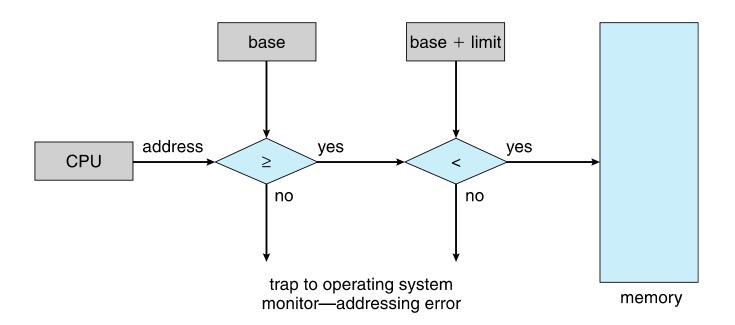
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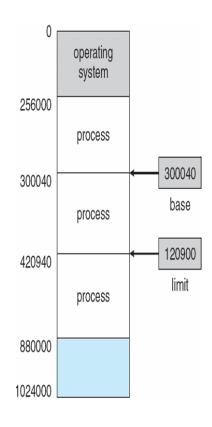
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Base, Limit Register and Address Translation

- A pair of base and limit registers define the logical address space
- CPU must check every memory access generated in user mode to be sure it is between base and limit for that user







Address Binding

- Programs on disk, ready to be brought into memory to execute form an input queue
 - Without support, must be loaded into address 0000
- Inconvenient to have first user process physical address always at 0000
 - How can it not be?
- Further, addresses represented in different ways at different stages of a program's life
 - Source code addresses usually symbolic
 - Compiled code addresses bind to relocatable addresses
 - i.e. "14 bytes from beginning of this module"
 - Linker or loader will bind relocatable addresses to absolute addresses
 - i.e. 74014
 - Each binding maps one address space to another

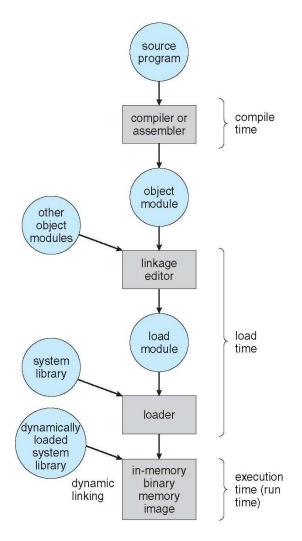


Binding of Instruction and Data in Memory

- Address binding of instructions and data to memory addresses can happen at three different stages
 - Compile time: If memory location known a priori, absolute code can be generated; must recompile code if starting location changes
 - Load time: Must generate relocatable code if memory location is not known at compile time
 - Execution time: Binding delayed until run time if the process can be moved during its execution from one memory segment to another
 - Need hardware support for address maps (e.g., base and limit registers)



Multistep Processing of User Program





Logical and Physical Address Space

- The concept of a logical address space that is bound to a separate physical address space is central to proper memory management
 - Logical address generated by the CPU; also referred to as virtual address
 - Physical address address seen by the memory unit
- Logical and physical addresses are the same in compile-time and load-time address-binding schemes; logical (virtual) and physical addresses differ in execution-time address-binding scheme
- Logical address space is the set of all logical addresses generated by a program
- Physical address space is the set of all physical addresses generated by a program



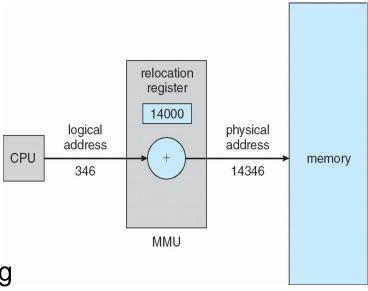
Memory management Unit (MMU)

- Hardware device that at run time maps virtual to physical address
- Many methods possible, covered in the rest of this chapter
- To start, consider simple scheme where the value in the relocation register is added to every address generated by a user process at the time it is sent to memory
 - Base register now called relocation register
 - MS-DOS on Intel 80x86 used 4 relocation registers
- The user program deals with *logical* addresses; it never sees the *real* physical addresses
 - Execution-time binding occurs when reference is made to location in memory
 - Logical address bound to physical addresses



Dynamic Allocation using Relocation Register

- Routine is not loaded until it is called
- Better memory-space utilization; unused routine is never loaded
- All routines kept on disk in relocatable load format
- Useful when large amounts of code are needed to handle infrequently occurring cases
- No special support from the operating system is required
 - Implemented through program design
 - OS can help by providing libraries to implement dynamic loading







THANK YOU

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