

# Quincy Flint

## Virtual Memory

EEL 3713C: Digital Computer Architecture

Quincy Flint

[Ionospheric Radio Lab in NEB]

# Outline

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## 1. Memory Problems

- Not enough memory
- Holes in address space
- Programs overwriting

## 2. What is Virtual Memory?

- Layer of indirection
- How does indirection solve above
- Page tables and translation

## 3. How do we implement VM?

- Create and store page tables
- Fast address translation

## 4. Virtual Memory and Caches

- Prevent cache performance degradation when using VM

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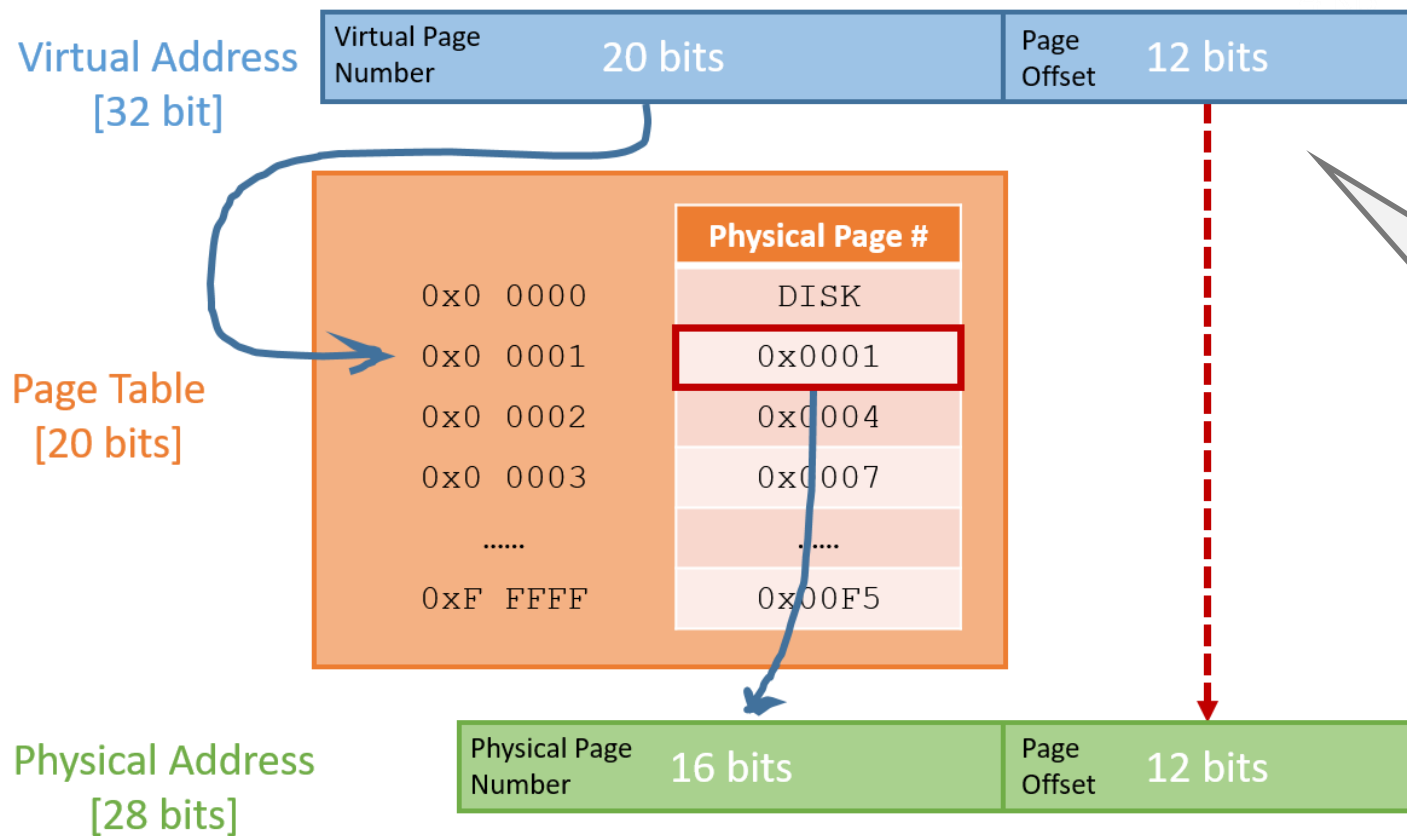
Page Faults

# Page Faults Quincy Flint

- A Page Fault occurs when we must access the disk to fetch data because it is not stored in memory.

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## What happens if a page is not in memory?

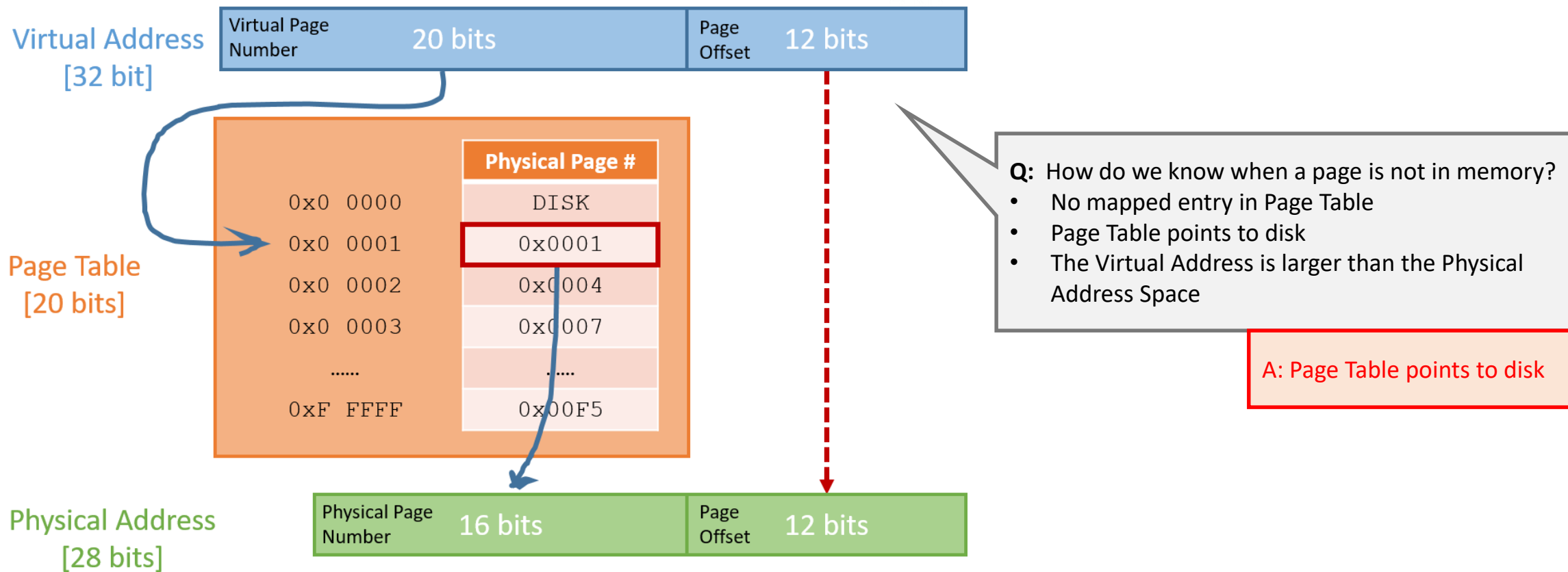


**Q:** How do we know when a page is not in memory?

- No mapped entry in Page Table
- Page Table points to disk
- The Virtual Address is larger than the Physical Address Space

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Dirty pages must be written back to disk before being evicted from memory.

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- Hardware generates a Page Fault Exception ~100 cycles

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- This takes a long time! ~80,000,000 cycles ~20 ms on a 4 GHz processor

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Illustration from the textbook

Memory technology	Typical access time	\$ per GIB In 2012
SRAM semiconductor memory	0.5–2.5 ns	\$500–\$1000
DRAM semiconductor memory	50–70 ns	\$10–\$20
Flash semiconductor memory	5,000–50,000 ns	\$0.75–\$1.00
Magnetic disk	5,000,000–20,000,000 ns	\$0.05–\$0.10

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Memory Protection

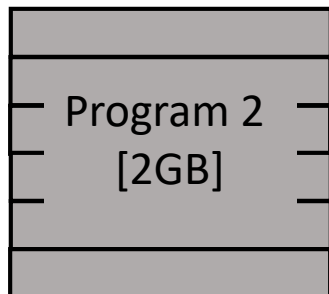
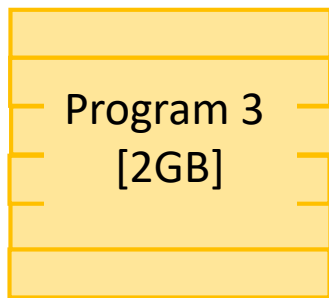


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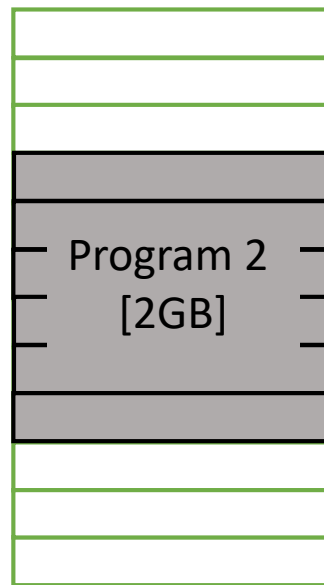
## Virtual Memory Protects Applications

(Review)

- Each program has its own **Page Table**. A program's **Virtual Address** is mapped to a unique **Physical Address** in memory.



4 GB [32-bit] RAM  
Physical Address Space



Program Sequence:

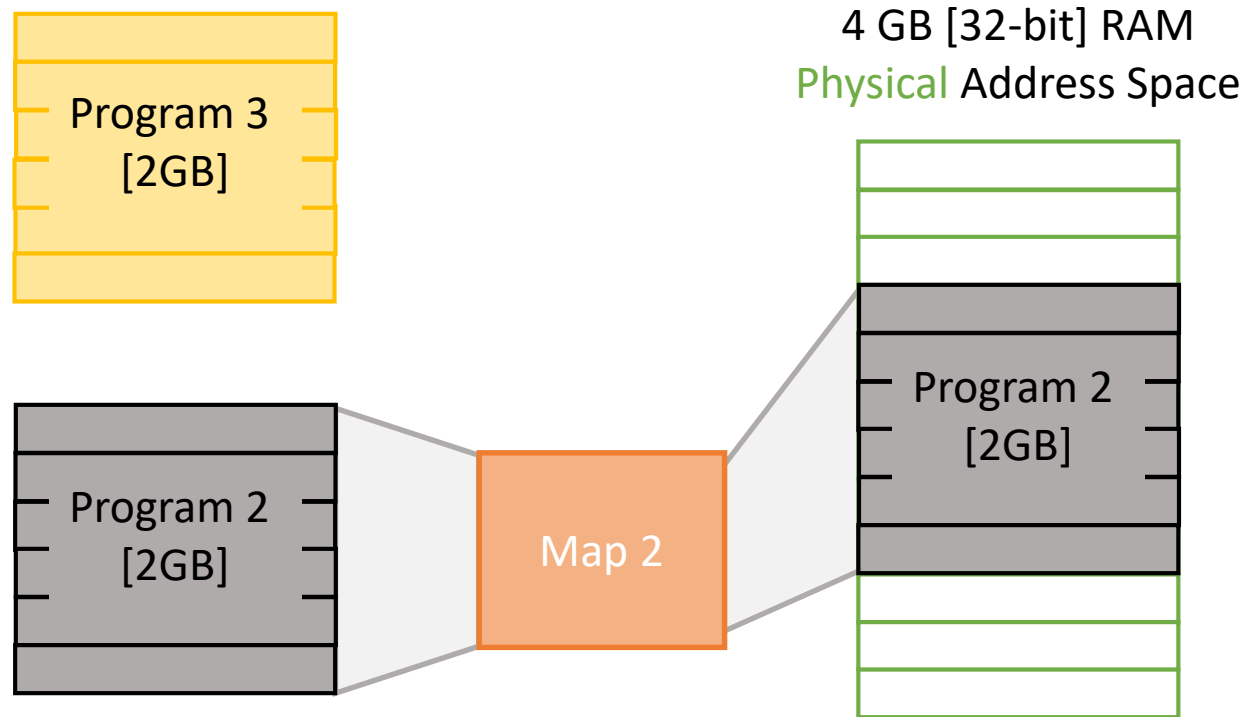
1. Run programs 1 and 2 [1 GB free]
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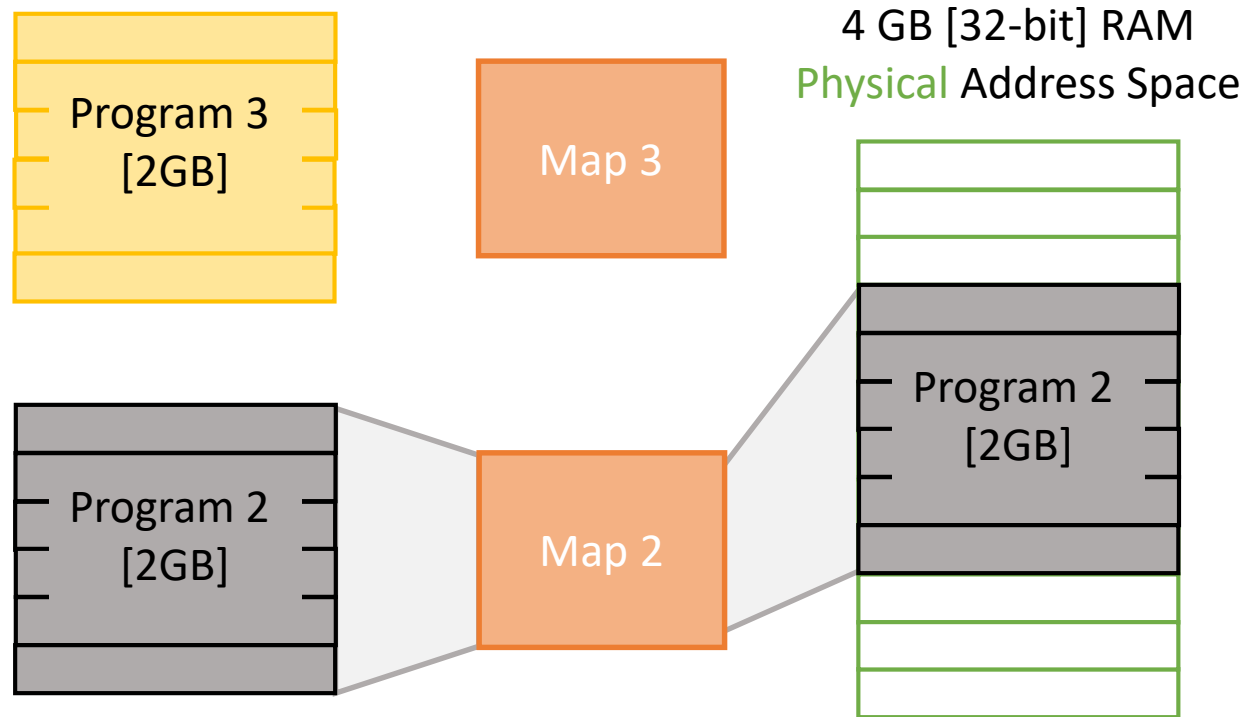
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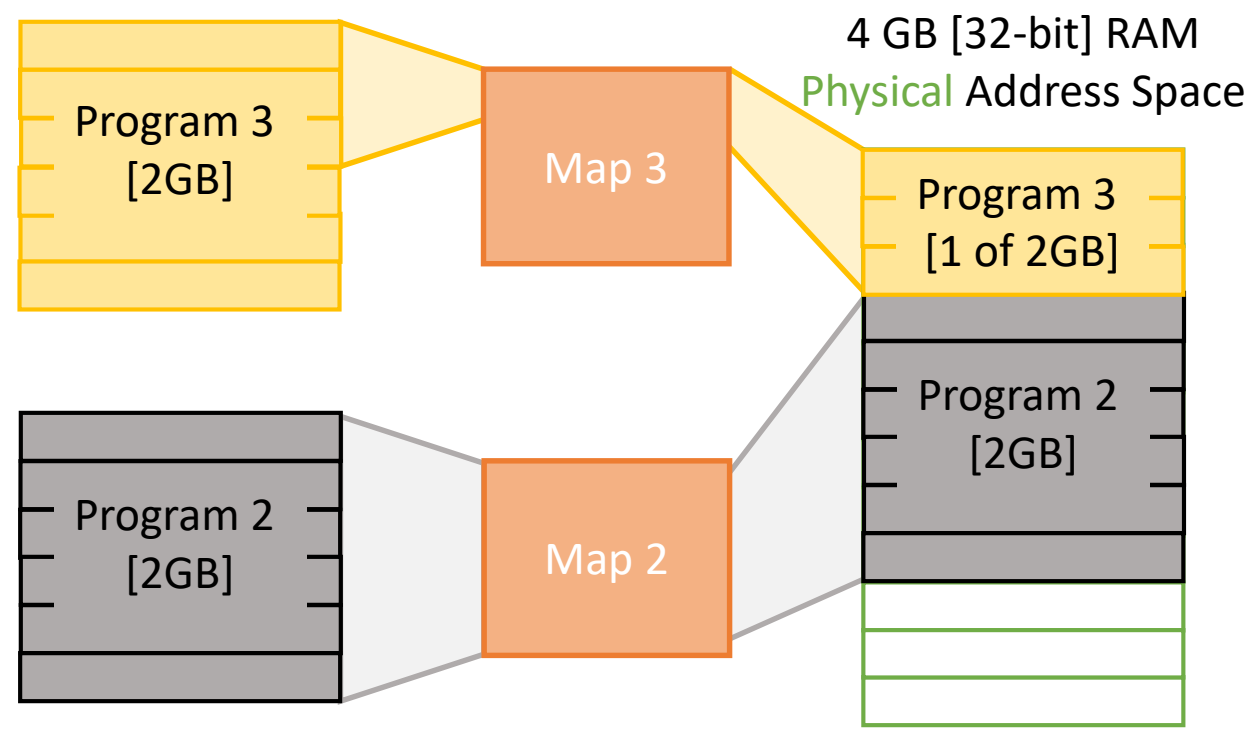
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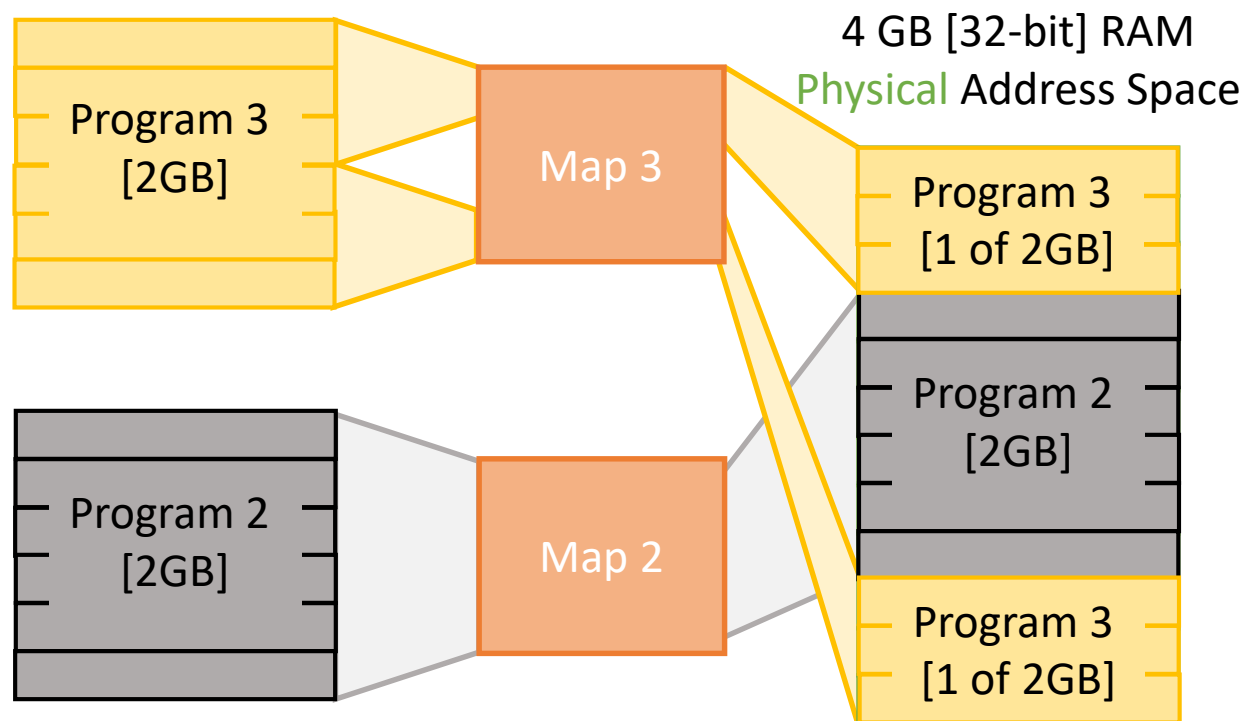
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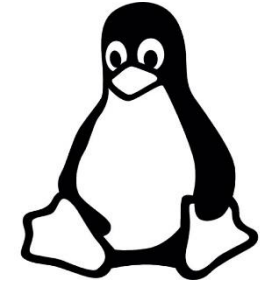
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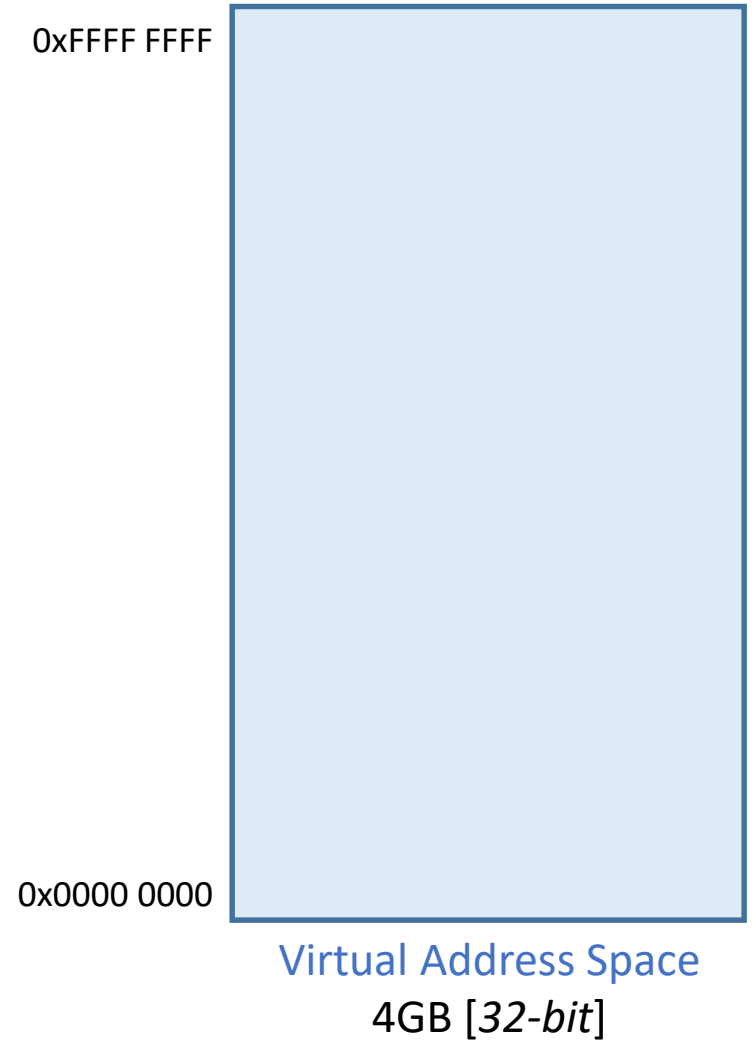
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1. Run programs 1 and 2 [1 GB free]
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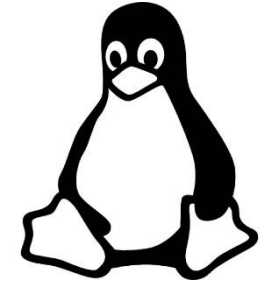
# Linux Virtual Address Space



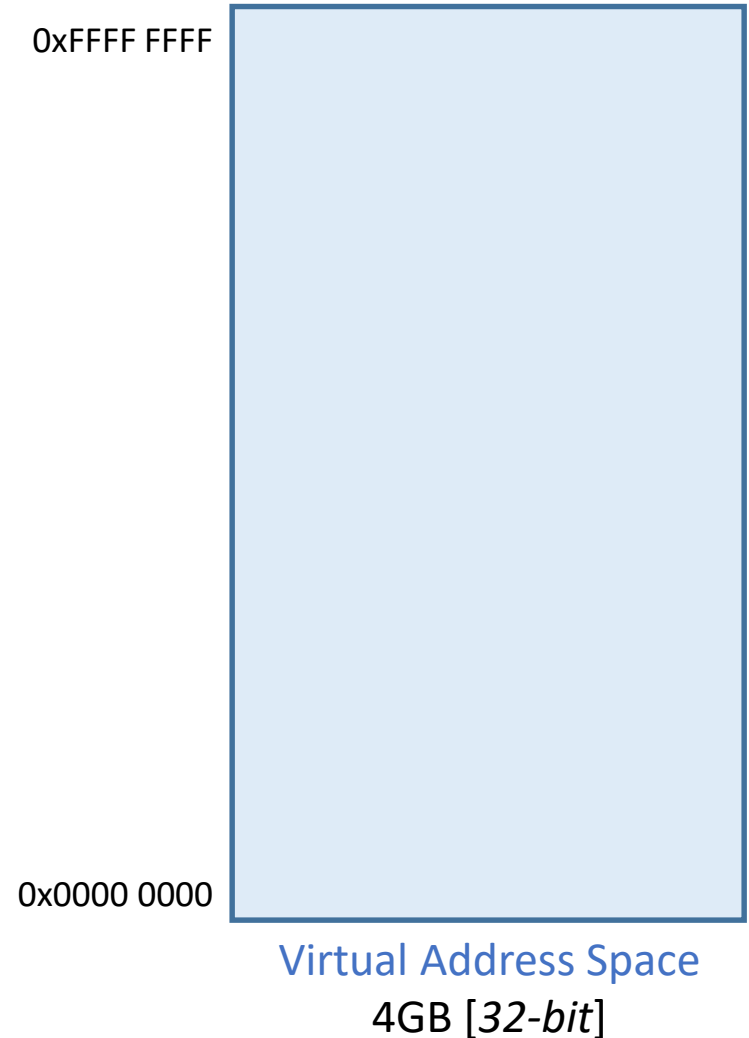
- Consider a 32-bit address space



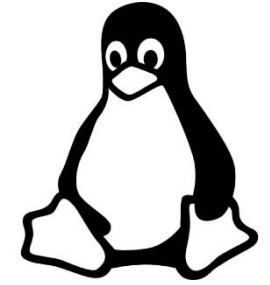
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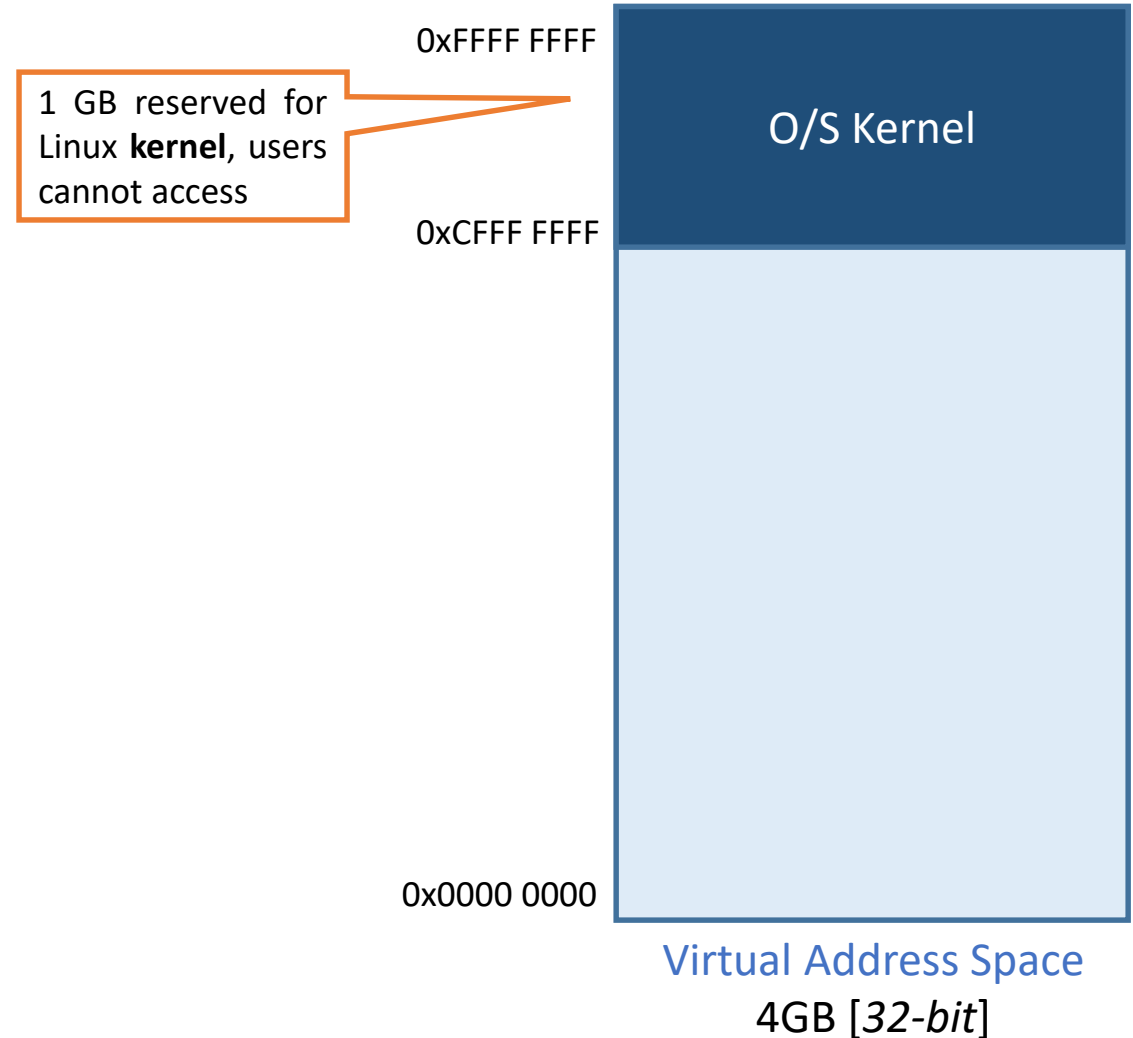
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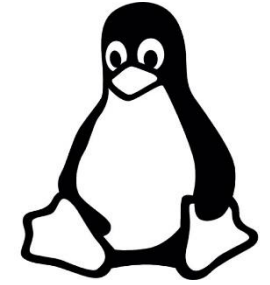


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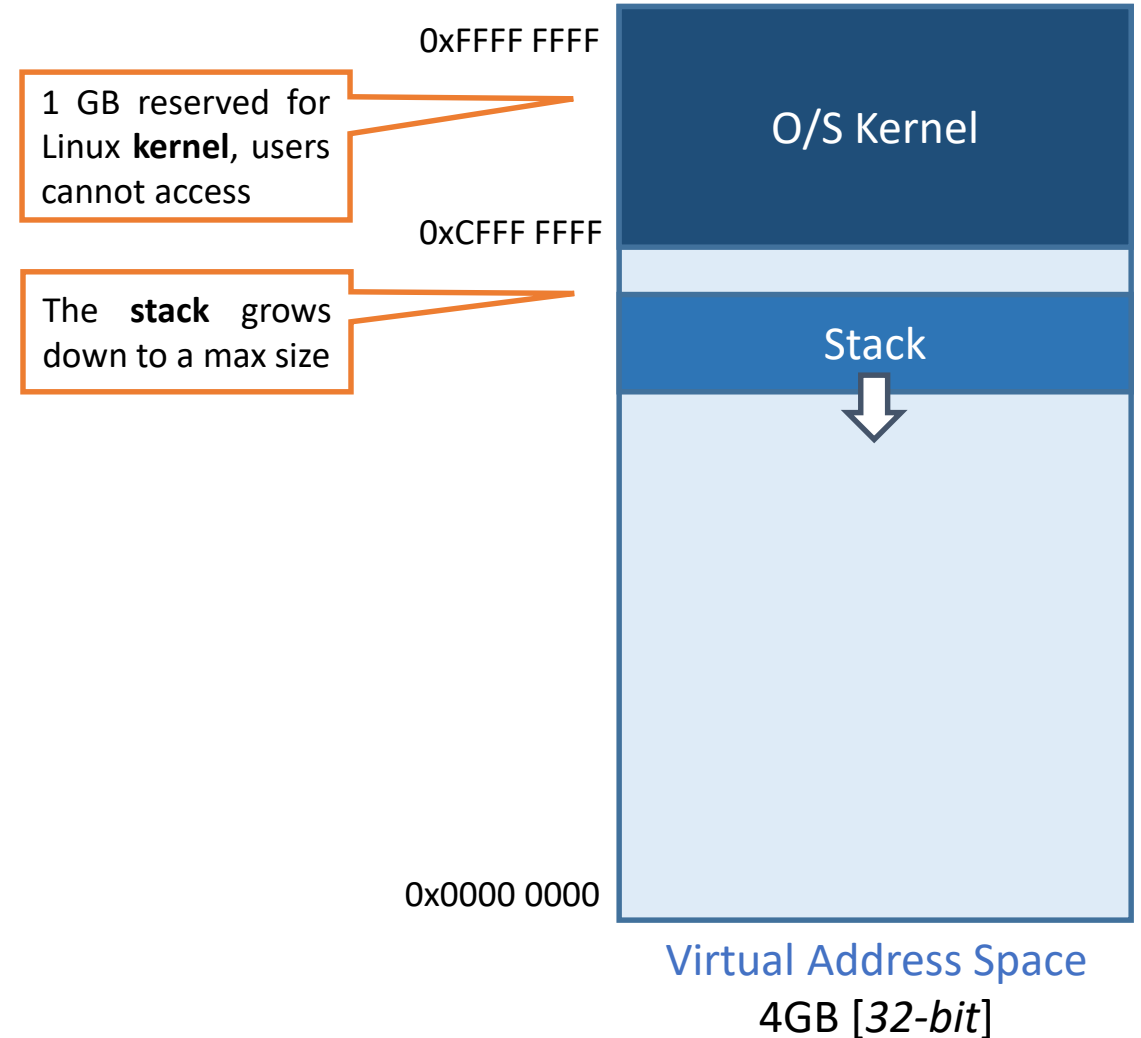




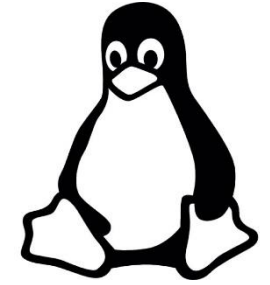
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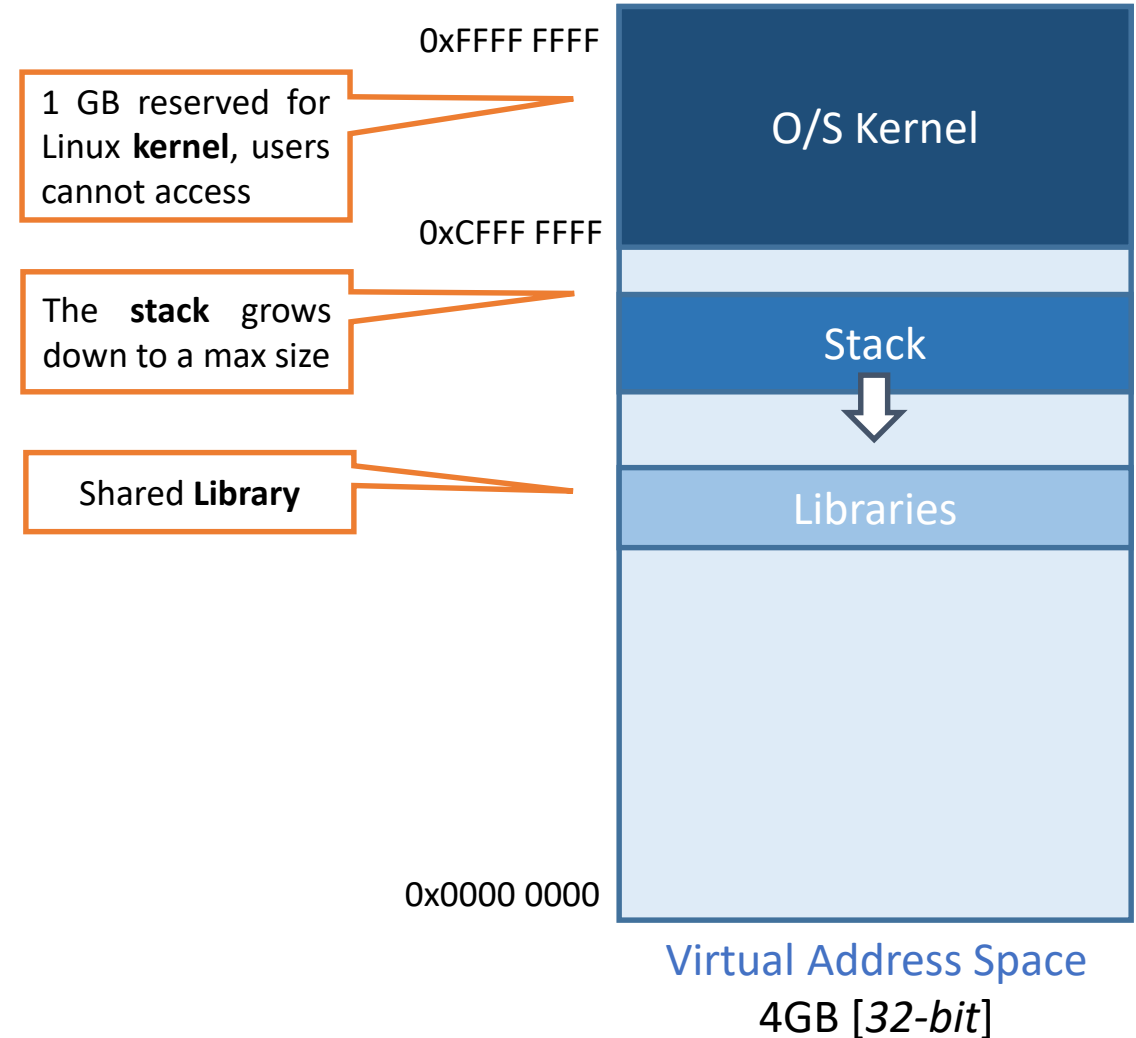
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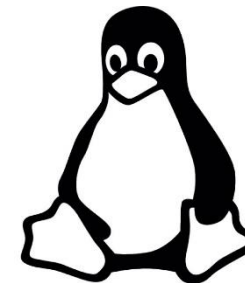
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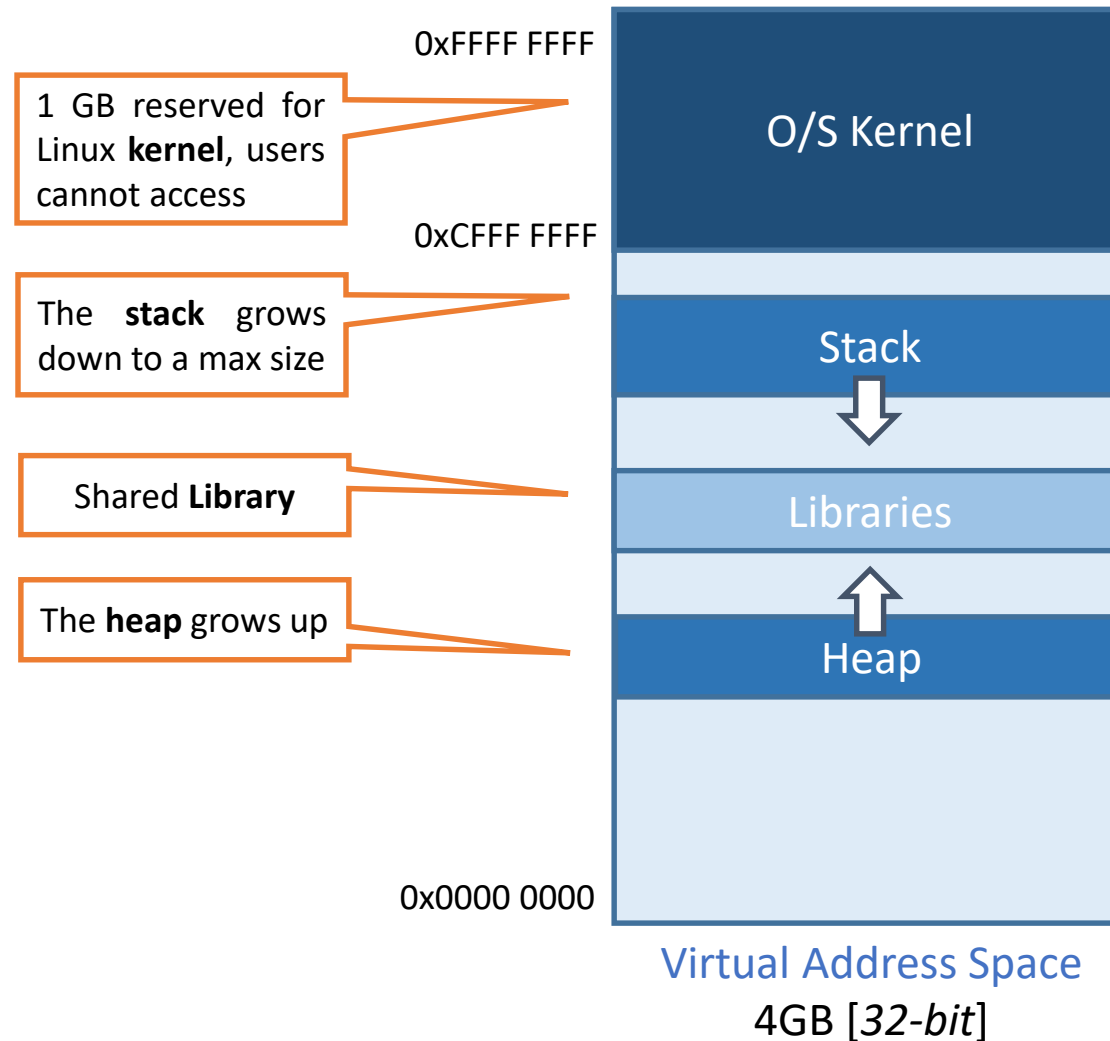
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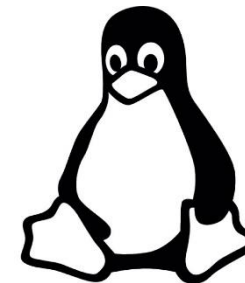
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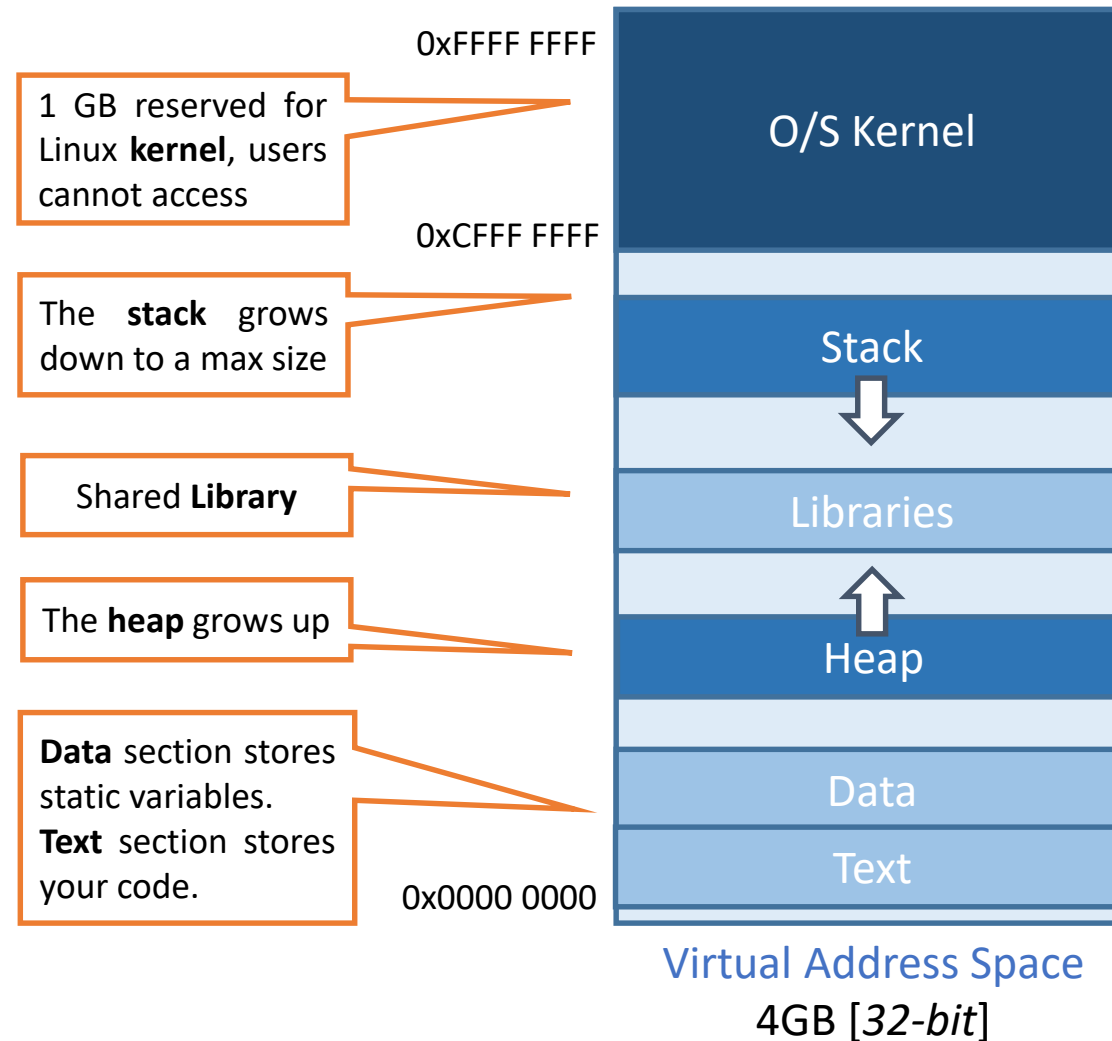
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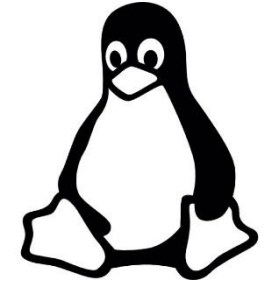
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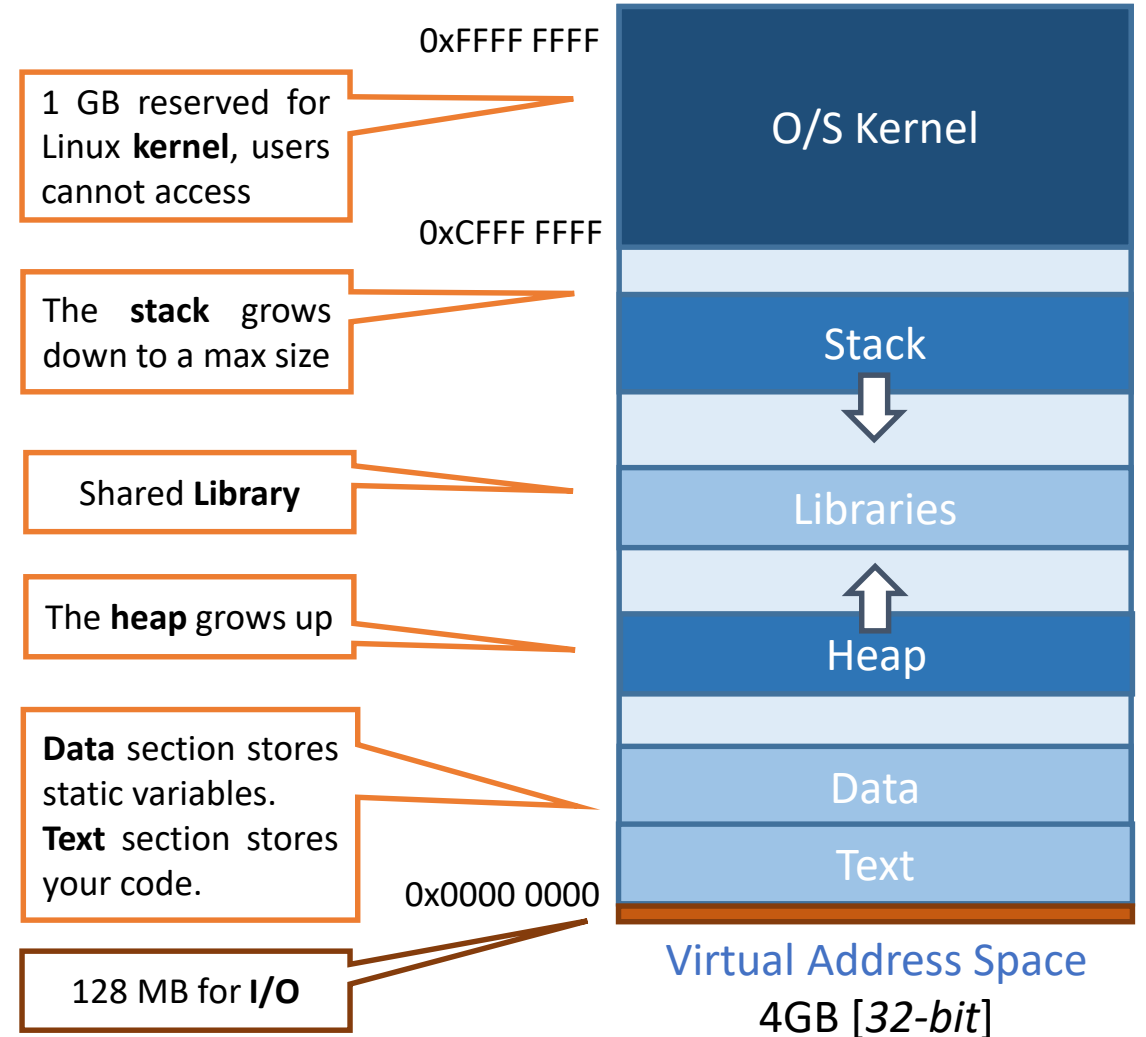
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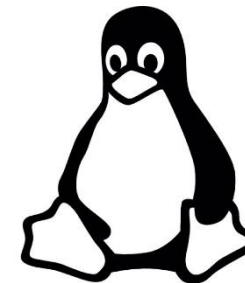
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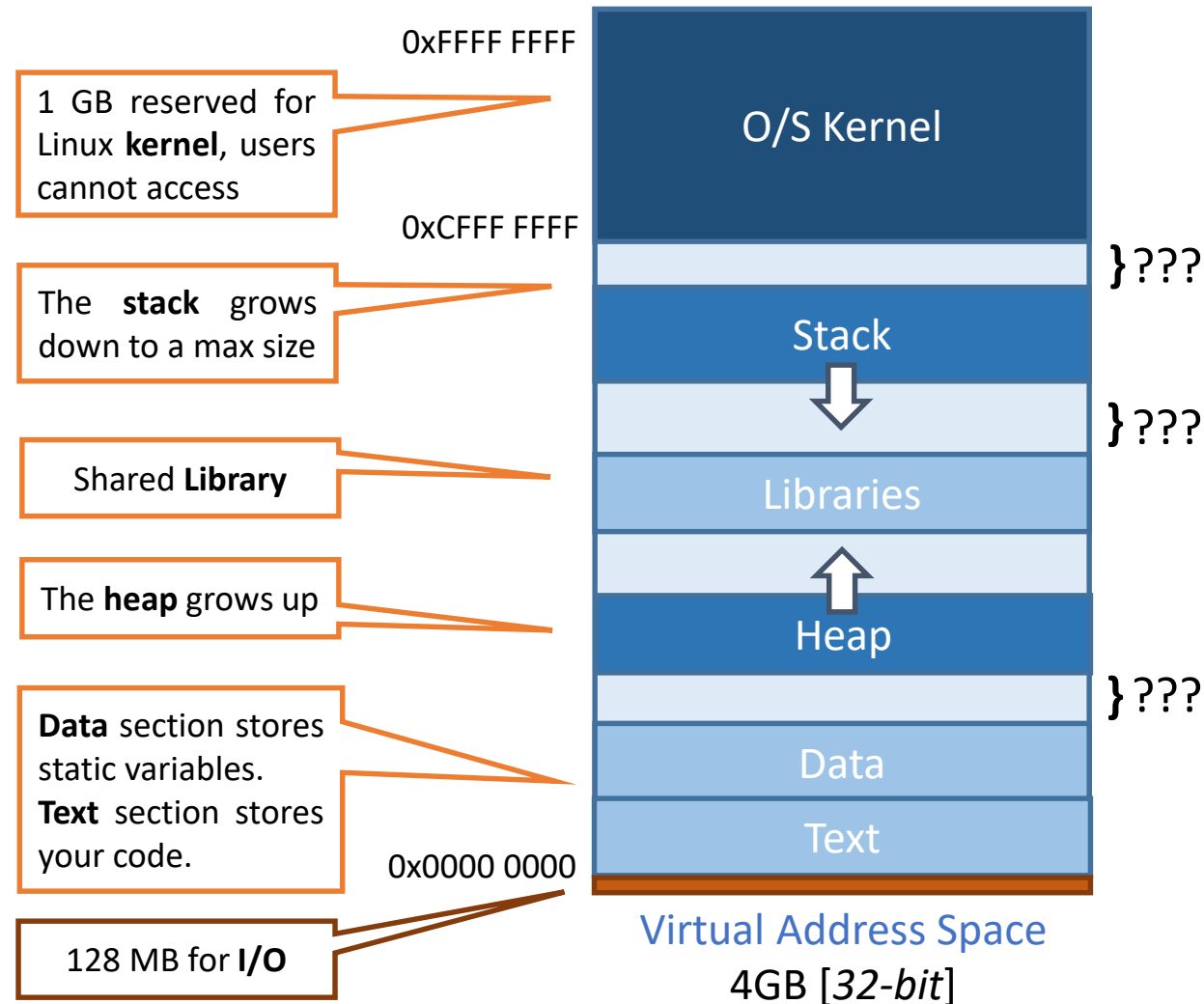
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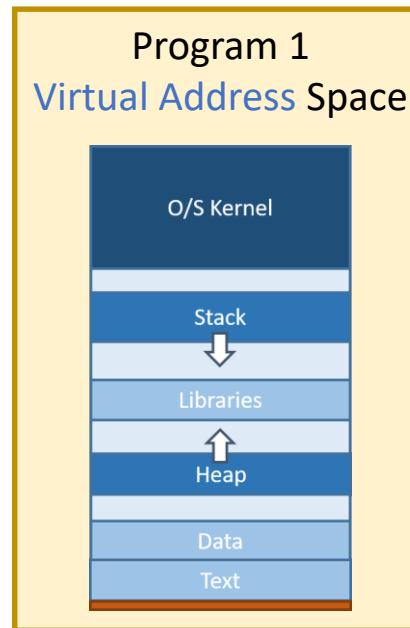
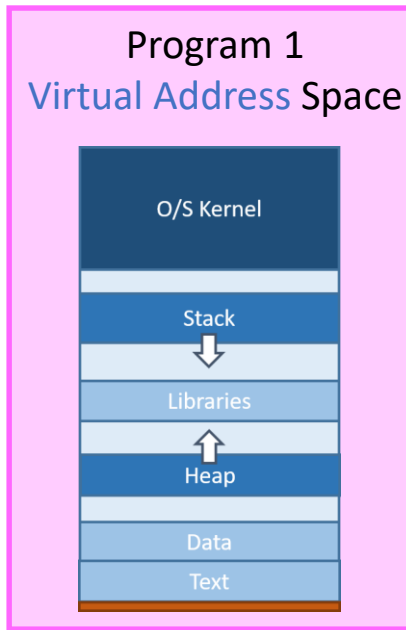
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- Random offsets for security
  - Never know where code is...

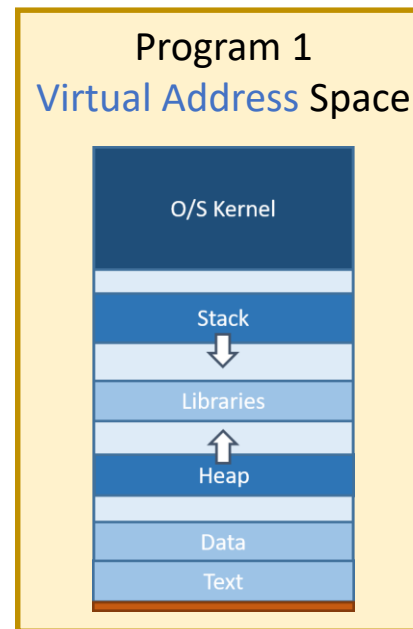
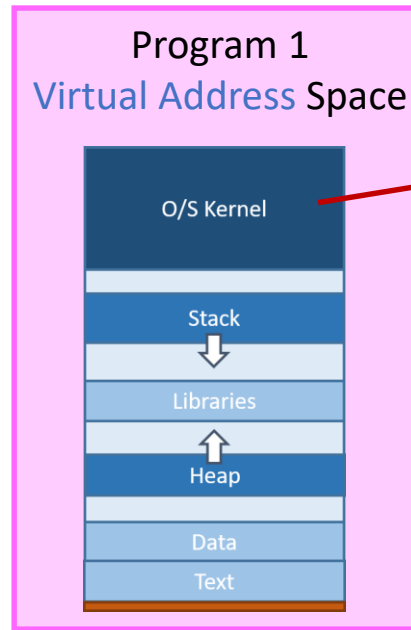


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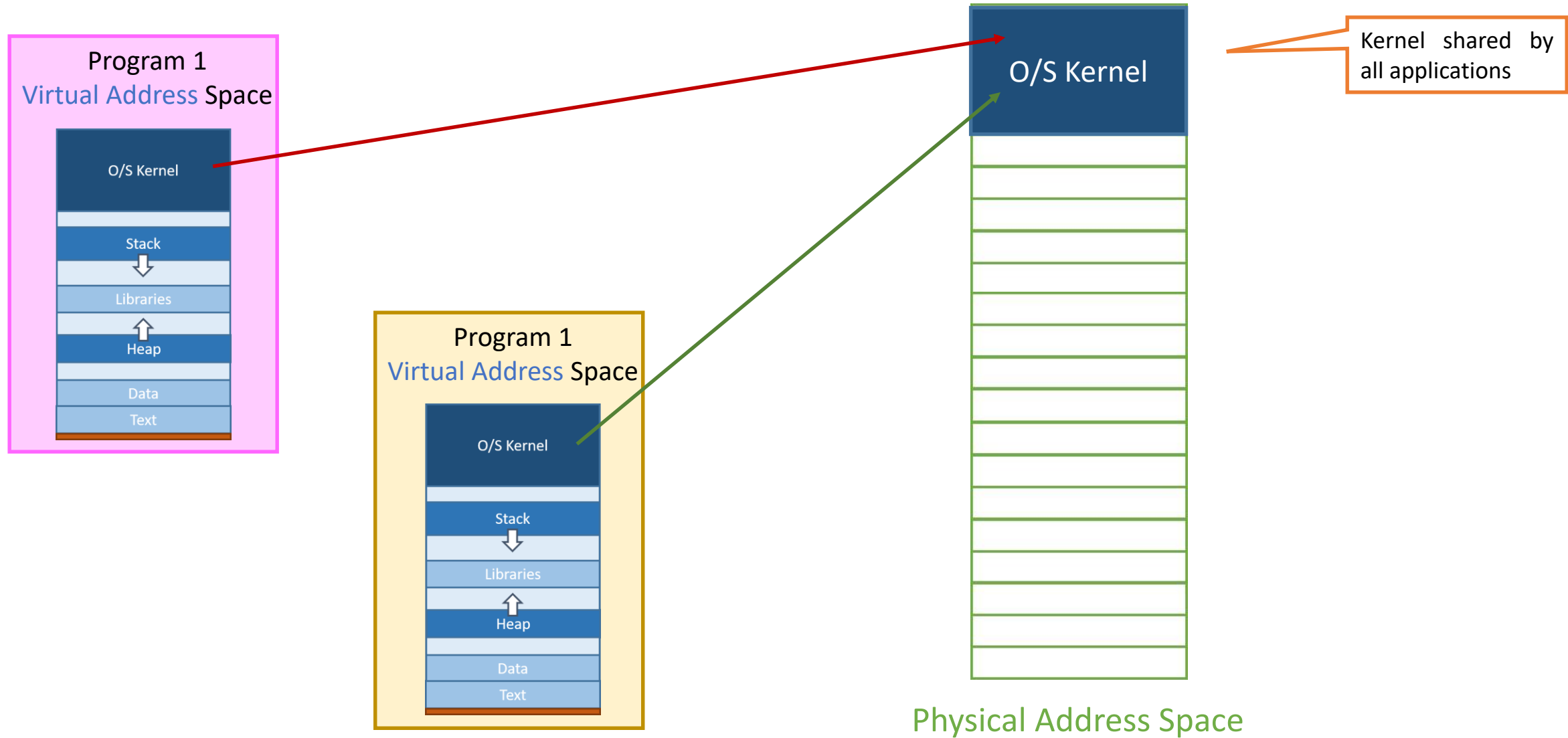
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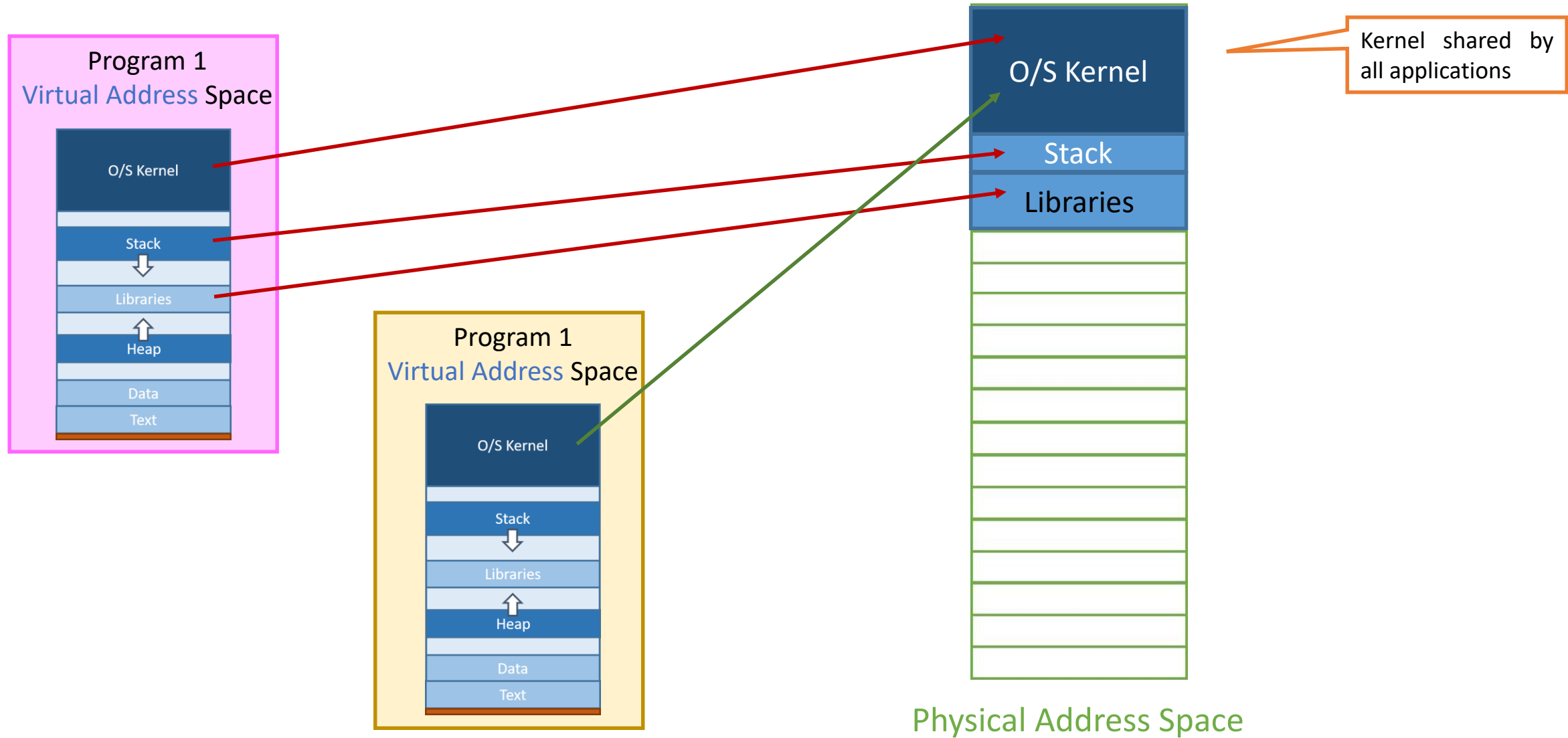
Physical Address Space



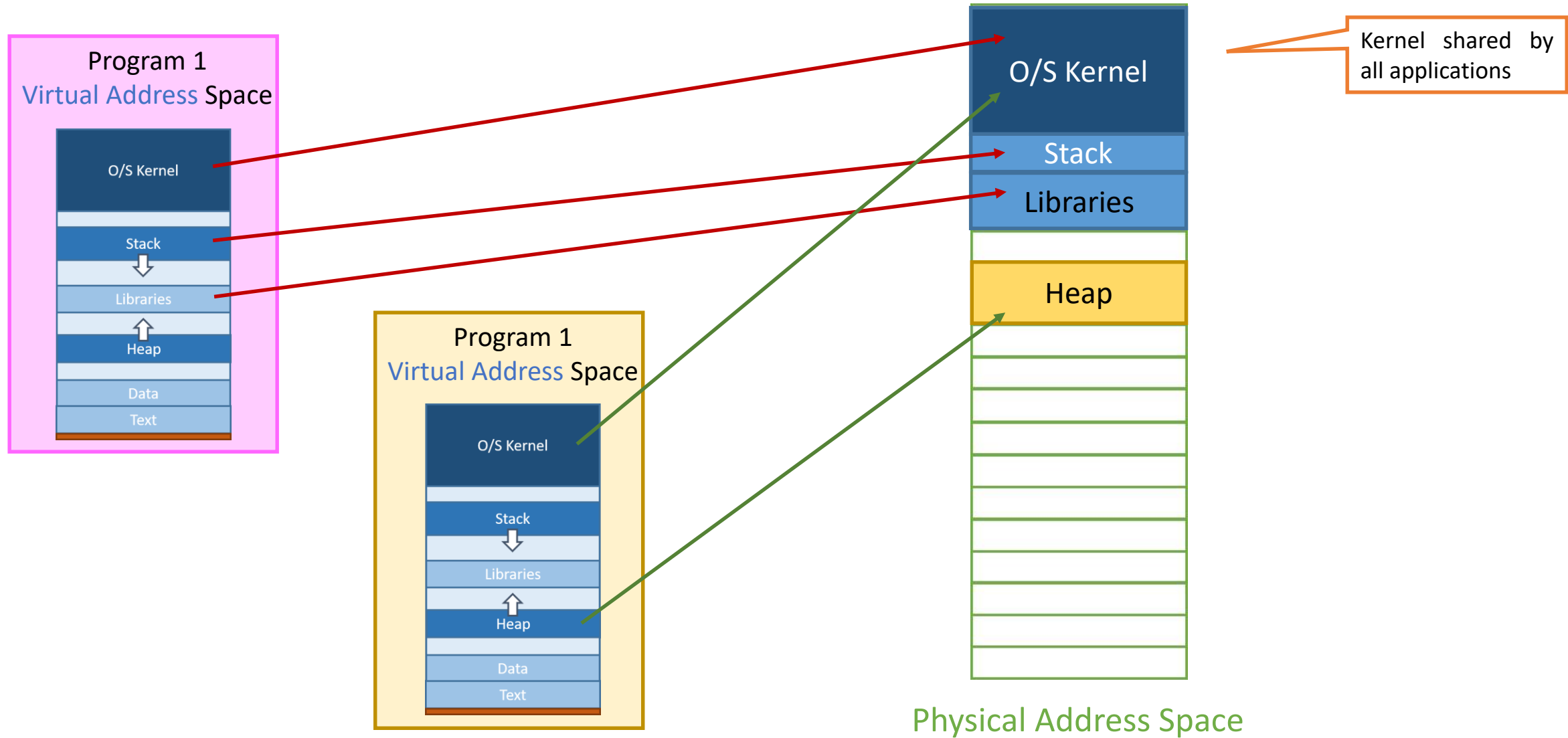
# Linux Virtual Address Space



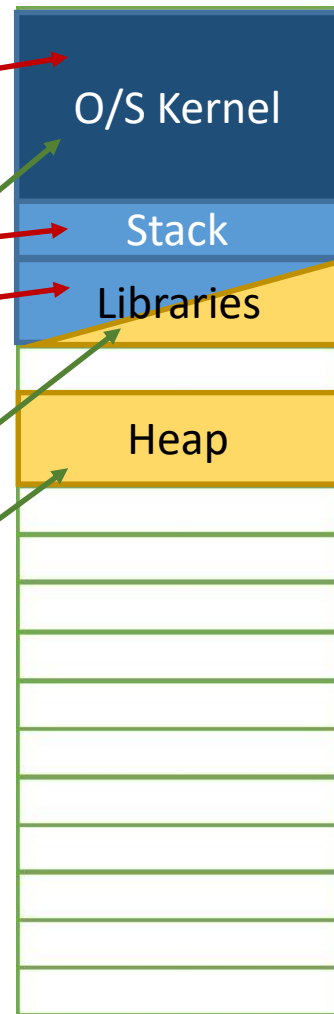
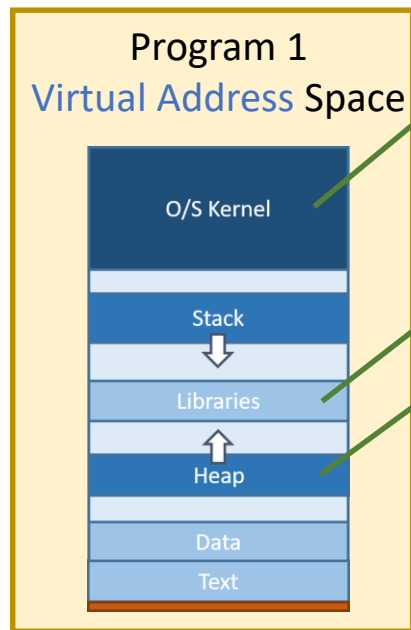
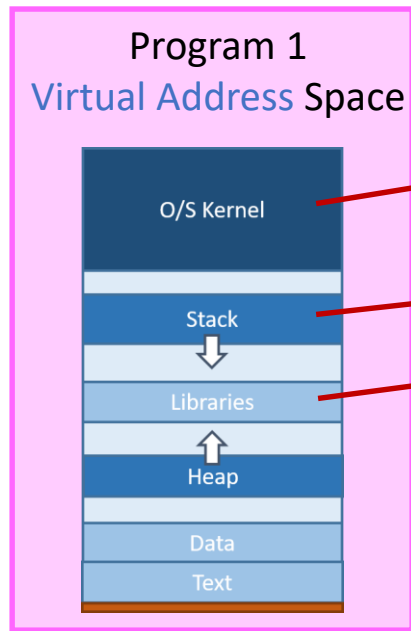
# Linux Virtual Address Space



# Linux Virtual Address Space



# Linux Virtual Address Space

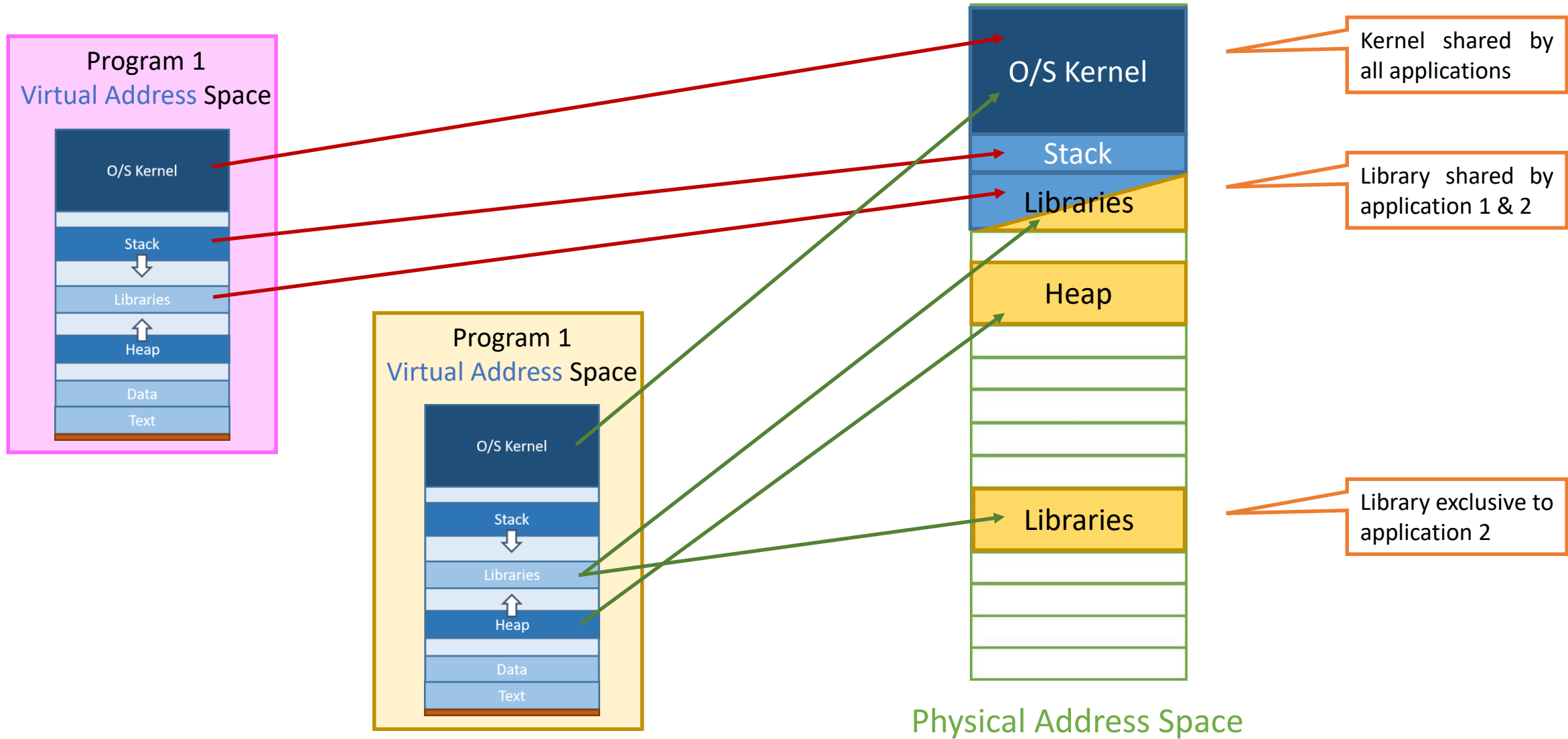


Kernel shared by all applications

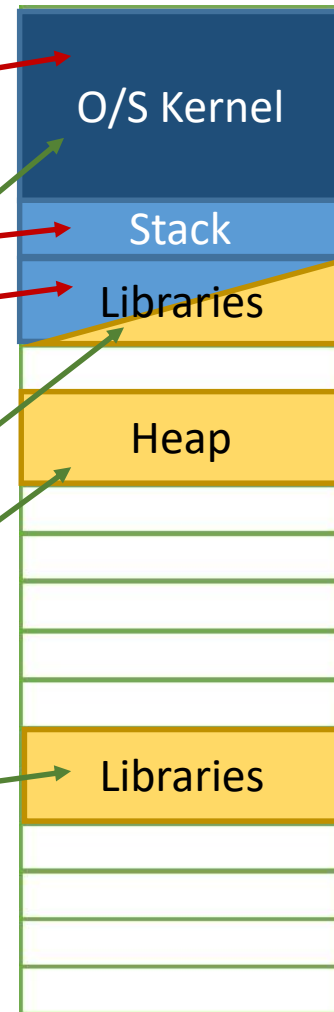
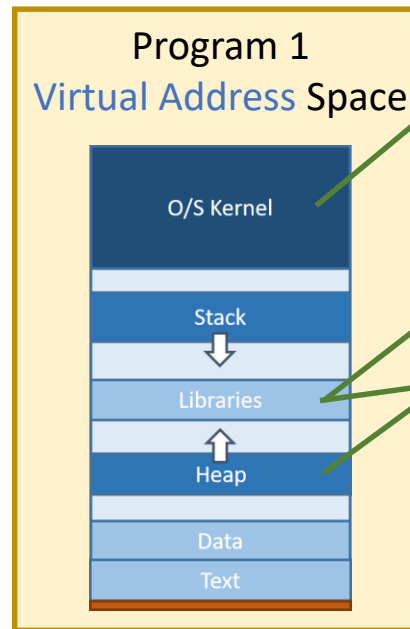
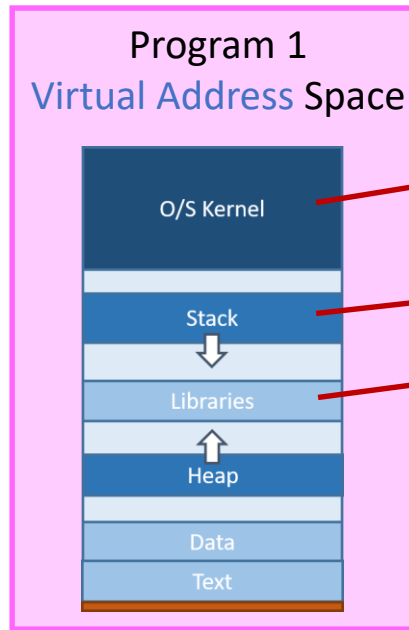
Library shared by application 1 & 2

Physical Address Space

# Linux Virtual Address Space



# Linux Virtual Address Space



Kernel shared by all applications

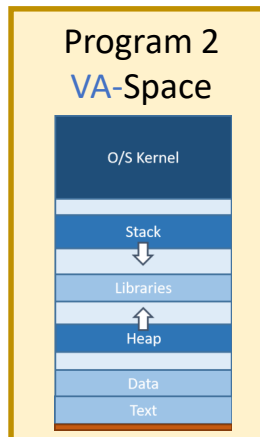
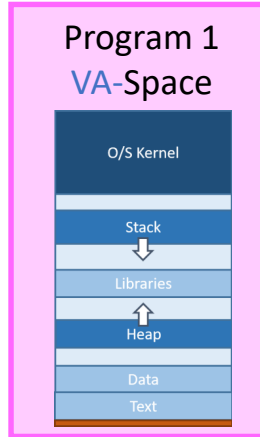
Library shared by application 1 & 2

Library exclusive to application 2

Page Table mappings keep programs isolated... BUT we can share if we want to...

Physical Address Space

# Linux Mapping Separate Address Spaces

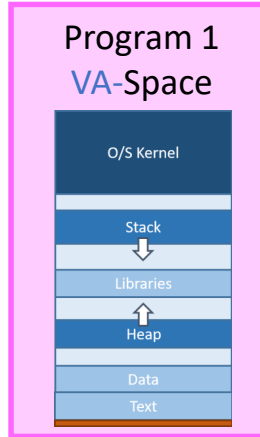


Physical Address Space

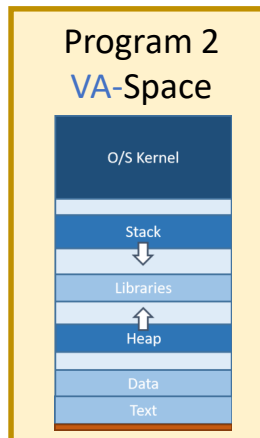
0x000F	
0x000E	
0x000D	
0x000C	
0x000B	
0x000A	
0x0009	
0x0008	
0x0007	
0x0006	
0x0005	
0x0004	
0x0003	
0x0002	
0x0001	
0x0000	

# Linux Mapping Separate Address Spaces

LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



Physical Address Space

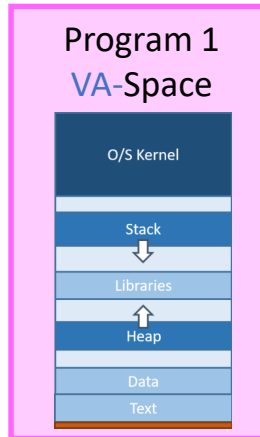
0x000F  
0x000E  
0x000D  
0x000C  
0x000B  
0x000A  
0x0009  
0x0008  
0x0007  
0x0006  
0x0005  
0x0004  
0x0003  
0x0002  
0x0001  
0x0000





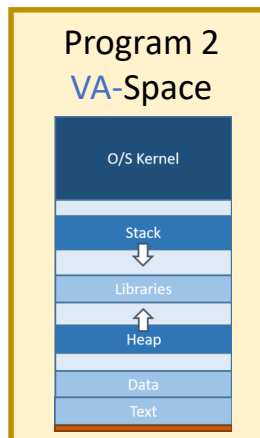
# Linux Mapping Separate Address Spaces

LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x0000
0x0 0001	0x0001
0x0 0002	0x0004
0x0 0003	0x0007
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)

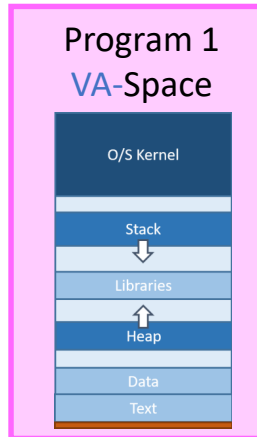


Physical Address Space

0x000F	
0x000E	
0x000D	
0x000C	
0x000B	
0x000A	
0x0009	
0x0008	
0x0007	
0x0006	
0x0005	
0x0004	
0x0003	
0x0002	
0x0001	
0x0000	

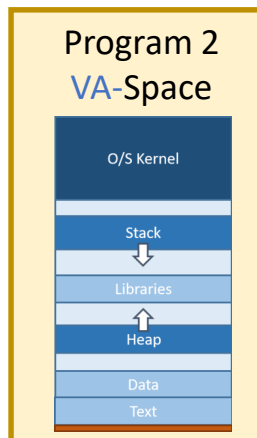
# Linux Mapping Separate Address Spaces

LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x0000
0x0 0001	0x0001
0x0 0002	0x0004
0x0 0003	0x0007
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



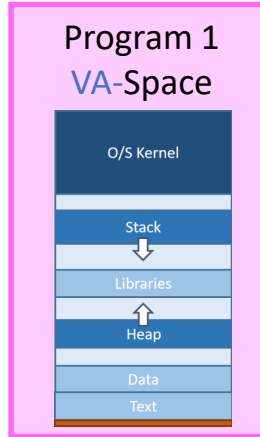
	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x000A
0x0 0001	0x0009
0x0 0002	0x0008
0x0 0003	0x0003
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

Physical Address Space

0x000F
0x000E
0x000D
0x000C
0x000B
0x000A
0x0009
0x0008
0x0007
0x0006
0x0005
0x0004
0x0003
0x0002
0x0001
0x0000

# Linux Mapping Separate Address Spaces

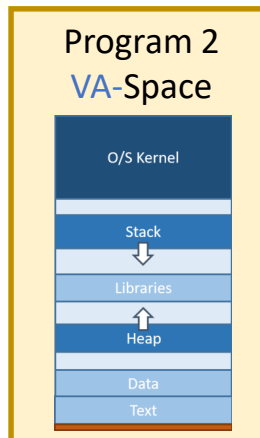
LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



**Program 1 Page Table**

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x0000
0x0 0001	0x0001
0x0 0002	0x0004
0x0 0003	0x0007
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

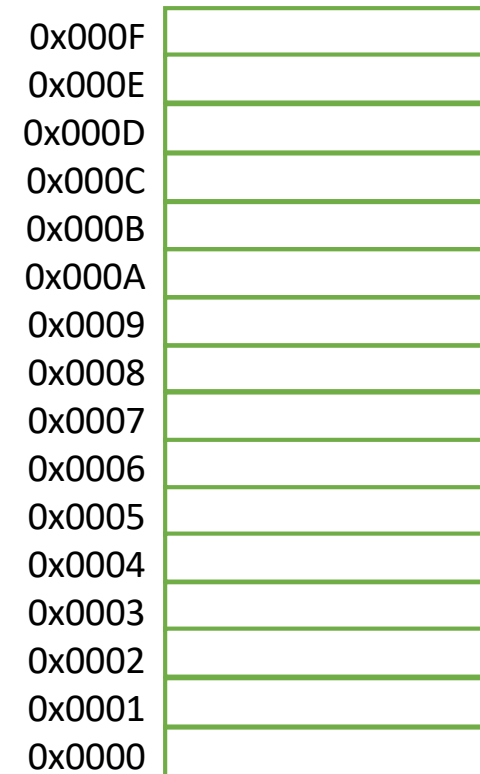
LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



**Program 2 Page Table**

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x000A
0x0 0001	0x0009
0x0 0002	0x0008
0x0 0003	0x0003
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

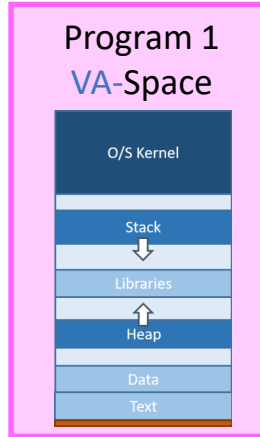
Physical Address Space



Each process gets its own Page Table

# Linux Mapping Separate Address Spaces

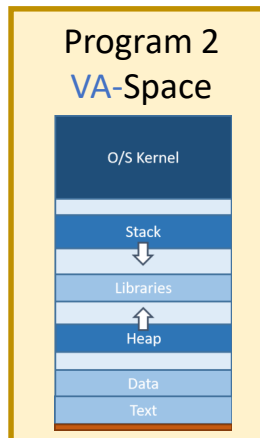
LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



**Program 1 Page Table**

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x0000
0x0 0001	0x0001
0x0 0002	0x0004
0x0 0003	0x0007
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

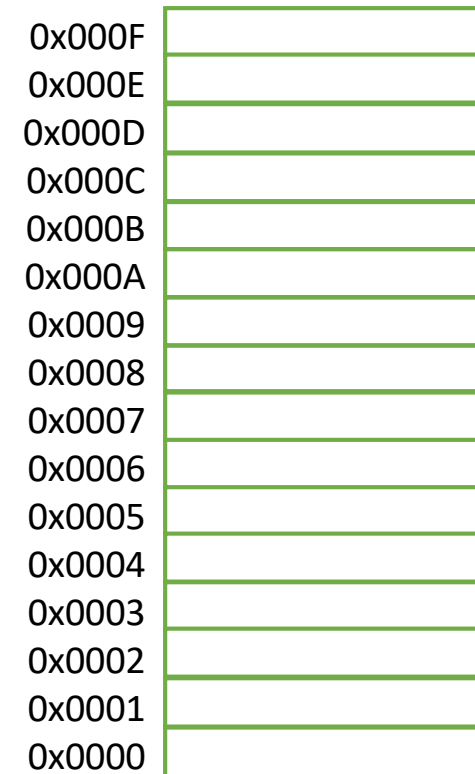
LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



**Program 2 Page Table**

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x000A
0x0 0001	0x0009
0x0 0002	0x0008
0x0 0003	0x0003
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

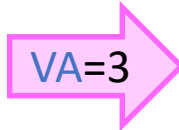
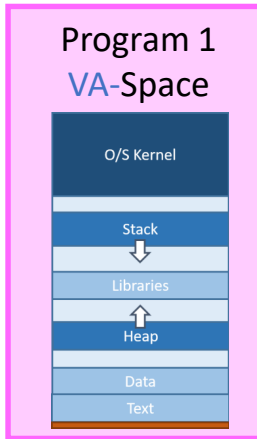
Physical Address Space



Each process gets its own Page Table

# Linux Mapping Separate Address Spaces

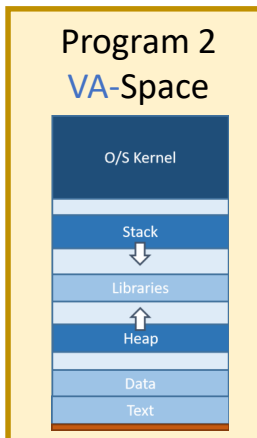
LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



**Program 1 Page Table**

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x0000
0x0 0001	0x0001
0x0 0002	0x0004
0x0 0003	0x0007
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

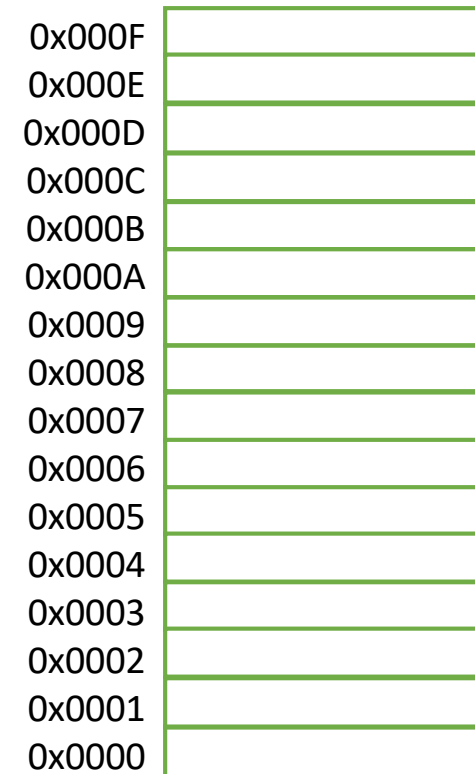
LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



**Program 2 Page Table**

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x000A
0x0 0001	0x0009
0x0 0002	0x0008
0x0 0003	0x0003
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

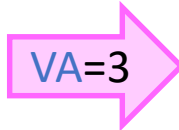
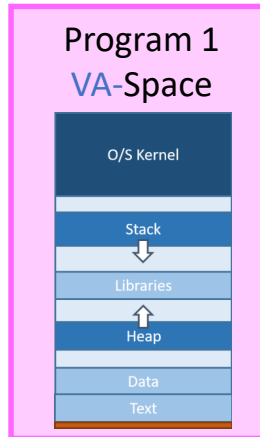
Physical Address Space



Each process gets its own Page Table

# Linux Mapping Separate Address Spaces

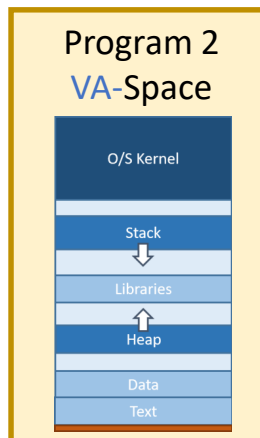
LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



Program 1 Page Table

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x0000
0x0 0001	0x0001
0x0 0002	0x0004
0x0 0003	0x0007
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

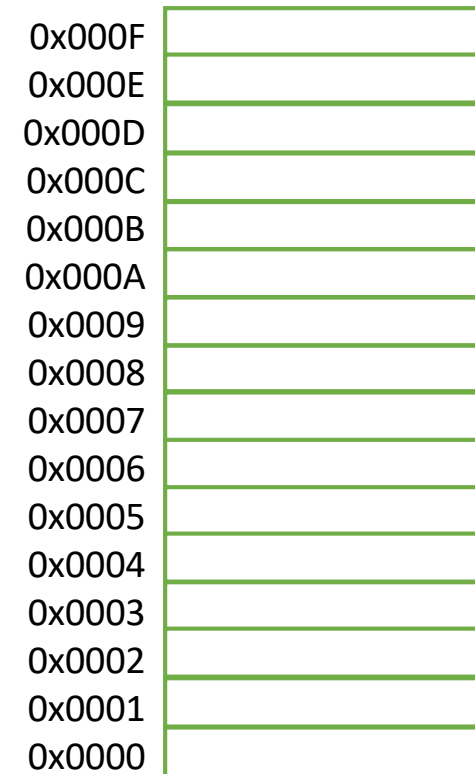
LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



Program 2 Page Table

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x000A
0x0 0001	0x0009
0x0 0002	0x0008
0x0 0003	0x0003
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

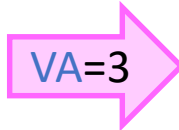
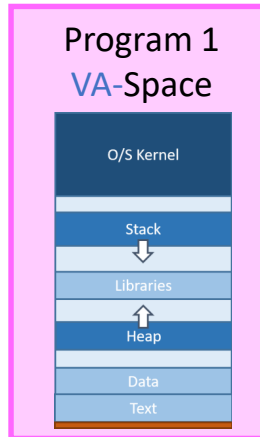
Physical Address Space



Each process gets its own Page Table

# Linux Mapping Separate Address Spaces

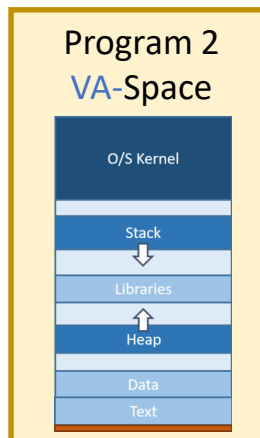
LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



### Program 1 Page Table

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x0000
0x0 0001	0x0001
0x0 0002	0x0004
0x0 0003	0x0007
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

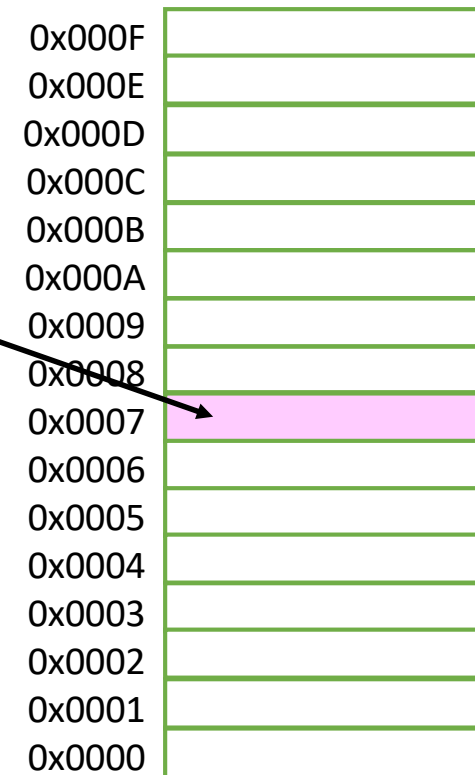
LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



### Program 2 Page Table

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x000A
0x0 0001	0x0009
0x0 0002	0x0008
0x0 0003	0x0003
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

### Physical Address Space

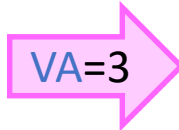
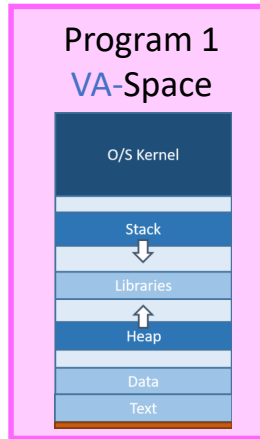


PA=7

Each process gets its own Page Table

# Linux Mapping Separate Address Spaces

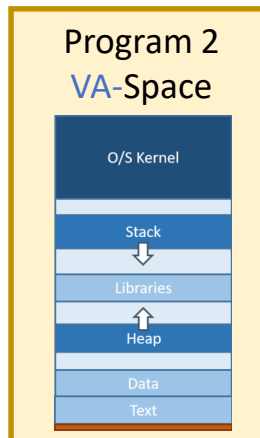
LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



### Program 1 Page Table

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x0000
0x0 0001	0x0001
0x0 0002	0x0004
0x0 0003	0x0007
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

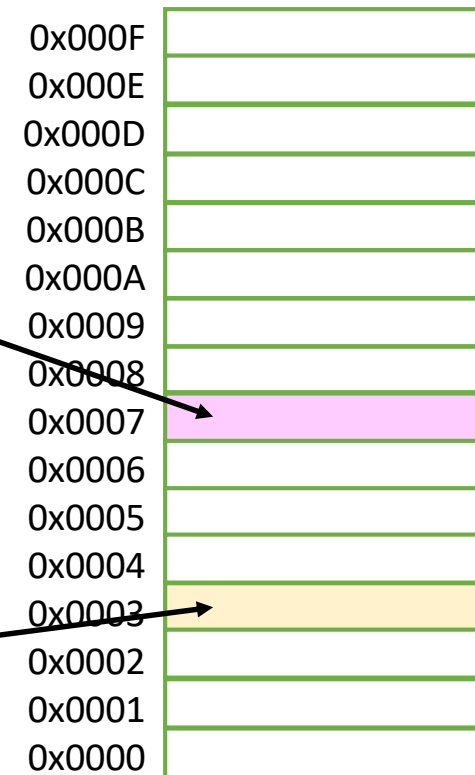
LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



### Program 2 Page Table

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x000A
0x0 0001	0x0009
0x0 0002	0x0008
0x0 0003	0x0003
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

### Physical Address Space



PA=7

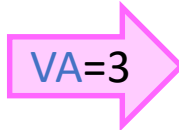
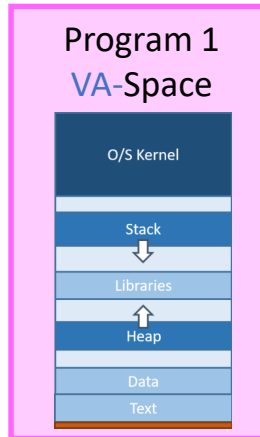
PA=3

Each process gets its own Page Table



# Linux Mapping Separate Address Spaces

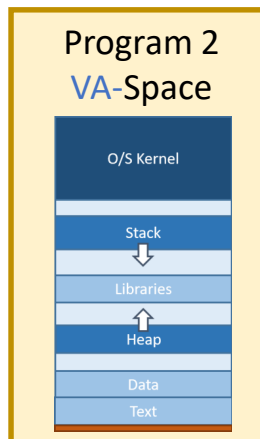
LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



### Program 1 Page Table

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x0000
0x0 0001	0x0001
0x0 0002	0x0004
<b>0x0 0003</b>	<b>0x0007</b>
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

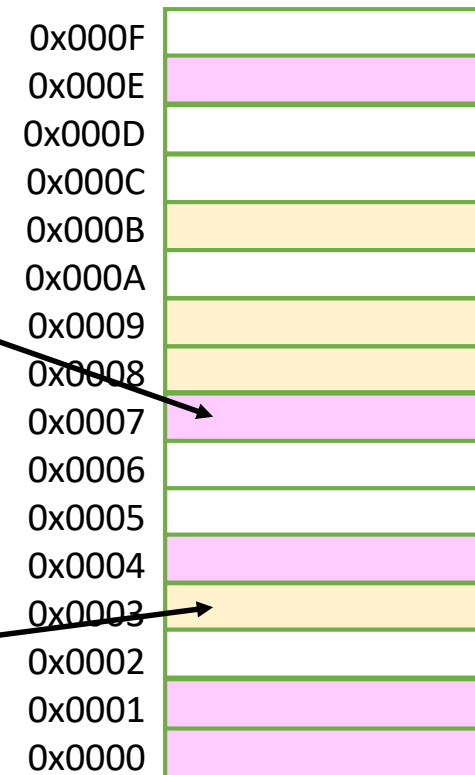
LD \$R2, 3(\$R0)



### Program 2 Page Table

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x000B
0x0 0001	0x0009
0x0 0002	0x0008
<b>0x0 0003</b>	<b>0x0003</b>
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

### Physical Address Space



PA=7

PA=3

Each process gets its own Page Table

# Quincy Flint

## Quiz: Memory Protection

- Q:** Which of the following Page Table Entries can cause data corruption?
- **Program 1** 0x00003, **Program 2** 0x00003
  - **Program 1** 0x00002, **Program 2** 0x00000
  - **Program 1** 0xFFFFF, **Program 2** 0xFFFFF
  - None of these

**Program 1 Page Table**

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x0000
0x0 0001	0x0001
0x0 0002	0x0004
0x0 0003	0x0007
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

**Program 2 Page Table**

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x0004
0x0 0001	0x0006
0x0 0002	0x000C
0x0 0003	0x000D
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x00FF

# Quincy Flint

## Quiz: Memory Protection

**Q:** Which of the following Page Table Entries can cause data corruption?

- Program 1 0x00003, Program 2 0x00003
- Program 1 0x00002, Program 2 0x00000
- Program 1 0xFFFFF, Program 2 0xFFFFF
- None of these

**A:** Program 1 0x00002, Program 2 0x00000.

These Virtual Addresses point to the same Physical Address. This can cause data corruption if care is not taken. These programs can safely share data, however.

**Program 1 Page Table**

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x0000
0x0 0001	0x0001
0x0 0002	0x0004
0x0 0003	0x0007
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x000E

**Program 2 Page Table**

	Physical Page #
0x0 0000	0x0004
0x0 0001	0x0006
0x0 0002	0x000C
0x0 0003	0x000D
.....	.....
0xF FFFF	0x00FF

# Quincy Flint

Making VM Fast

# Quincy Flint

## Quiz: Memory Access under VM

**Q:** Which of the following occur for *each* memory access under Virtual Memory?  
Select all that apply...

- I. Translate the address
- II. Load data from disk
- III. Update the cache
- IV. Reference the Page Table
- V. Update the Page Table
- VI. Access data in RAM

# Quincy Flint

## Quiz: Memory Access under VM

**Q:** Which of the following occur for *each* memory access under Virtual Memory?  
Select all that apply...

- I. Translate the address
- II. Load data from disk
- III. Update the cache
- IV. Reference the Page Table
- V. Update the Page Table
- VI. Access data in RAM

**A:**

- I. Translate the address
- IV. Reference the Page Table
- VI. Access data in RAM

The others can occur, but do not happen on every memory access.

# Quincy Flint

Making Virtual Memory Fast

# Quincy Flint

## Making Virtual Memory Fast

- Virtual Memory solves our 3 memory problems
  - “unlimited” memory, data fragmentation, data corruption



# Quincy Flint

## Making Virtual Memory Fast

- Virtual Memory solves our 3 memory problems
  - “unlimited” memory, data fragmentation, data corruption
- Virtual Memory is very costly
  - Each memory access must be translated using the Page Table before fetching

# Quincy Flint

## Making Virtual Memory Fast

- Virtual Memory solves our 3 memory problems
  - “unlimited” memory, data fragmentation, data corruption
- Virtual Memory is very costly
  - Each memory access must be translated using the Page Table before fetching
- We need to make the Page Table look-up very fast
  - If not, VM is not tenable...

# Quincy Flint

## Making Virtual Memory Fast

- Virtual Memory solves our 3 memory problems
  - “unlimited” memory, data fragmentation, data corruption
- Virtual Memory is very costly
  - Each memory access must be translated using the Page Table before fetching
- We need to make the Page Table look-up very fast
  - If not, VM is not tenable...
  - Cannot do this in software (this adds 10's of instructions)

# Quincy Flint

## Making Virtual Memory Fast

- Virtual Memory solves our 3 memory problems
  - “unlimited” memory, data fragmentation, data corruption
- Virtual Memory is very costly
  - Each memory access must be translated using the Page Table before fetching
- We need to make the Page Table look-up very fast
  - If not, VM is not tenable...
  - Cannot do this in software (this adds 10's of instructions)
  - Must do this in hardware... use another layer of **cache**

# Quincy Flint

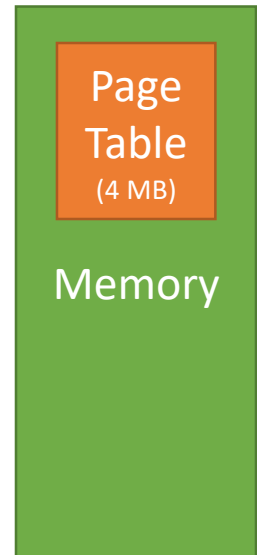
## Making Virtual Memory Fast: TLB

- **Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB)**: special page table cache to make VM fast

# Quincy Flint

## Making Virtual Memory Fast: TLB

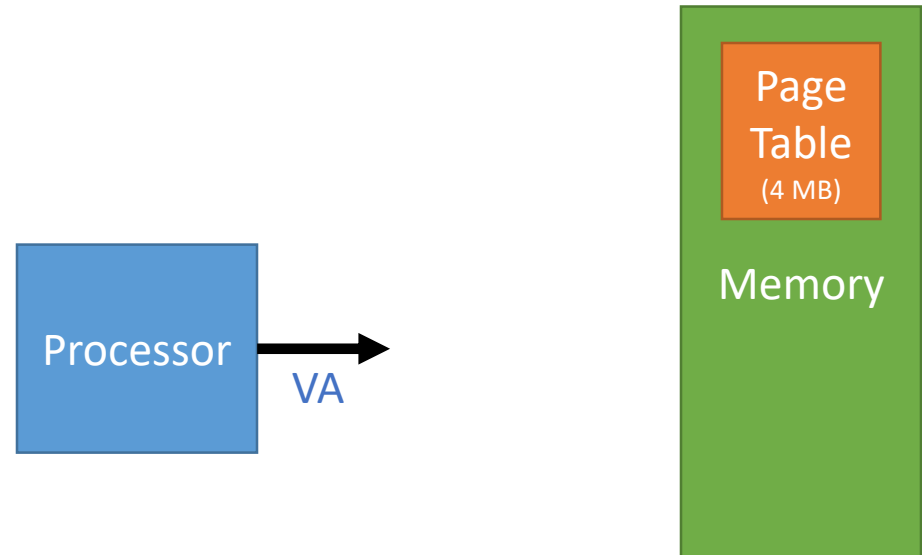
- **Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB)**: special page table cache to make VM fast



# Quincy Flint

## Making Virtual Memory Fast: TLB

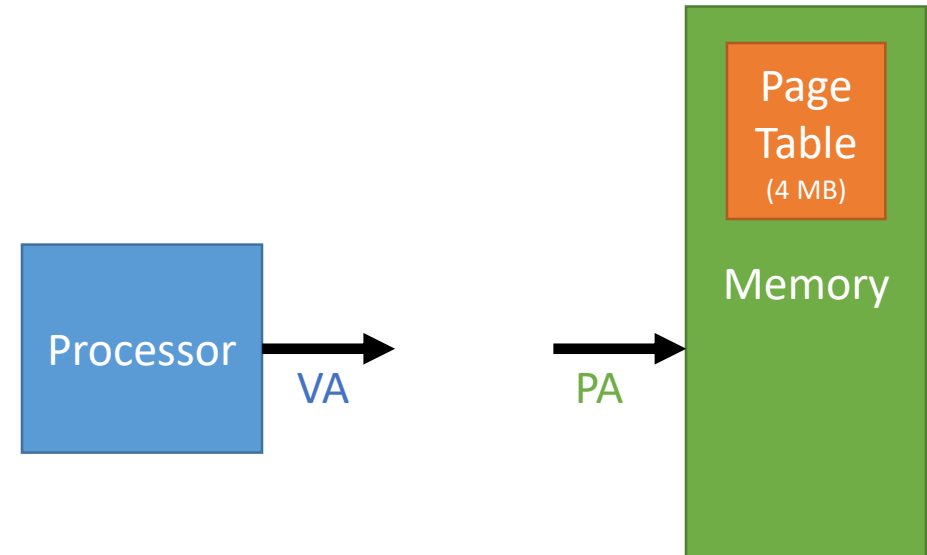
- **Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB)**: special page table cache to make VM fast



# Quincy Flint

## Making Virtual Memory Fast: TLB

- **Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB)**: special page table cache to make VM fast

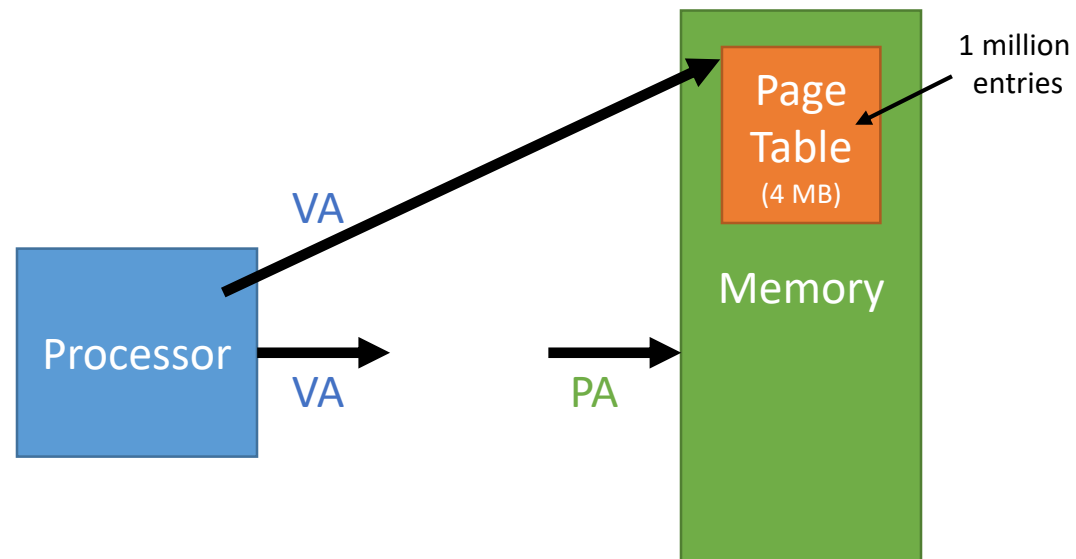




# Quincy Flint

## Making Virtual Memory Fast: TLB

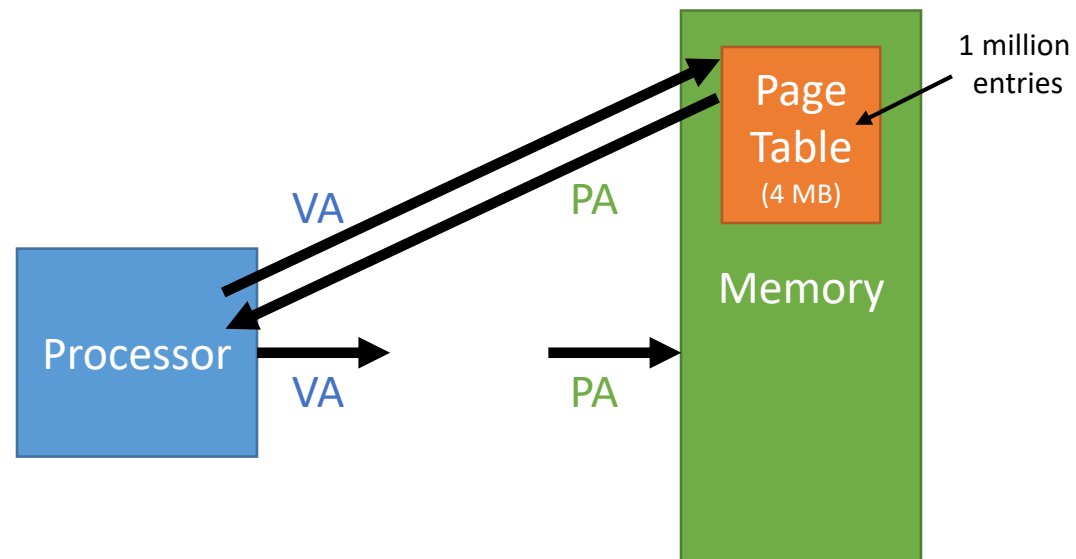
- **Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB)**: special page table cache to make VM fast



# Quincy Flint

## Making Virtual Memory Fast: TLB

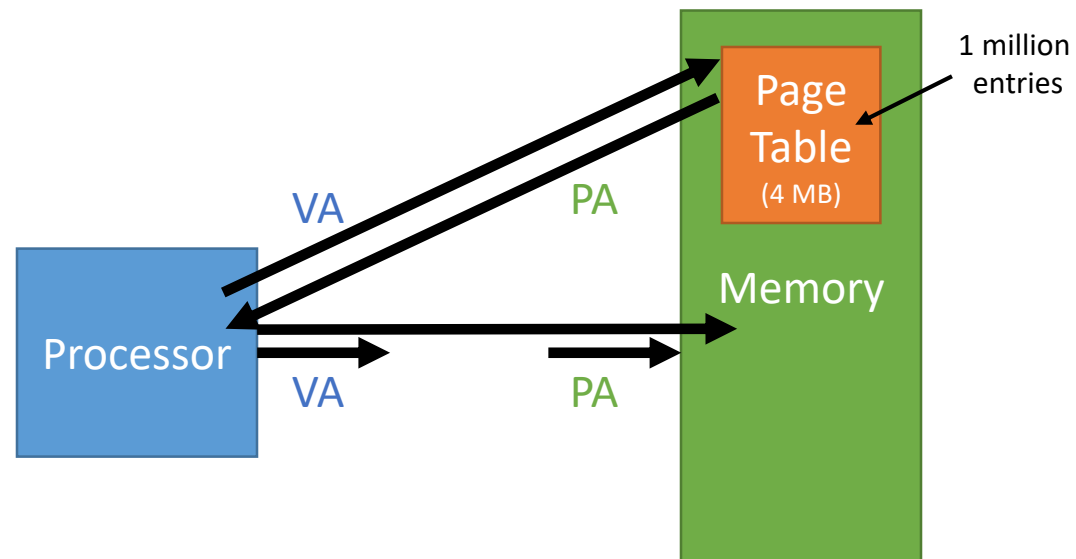
- **Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB)**: special page table cache to make VM fast



# Quincy Flint

## Making Virtual Memory Fast: TLB

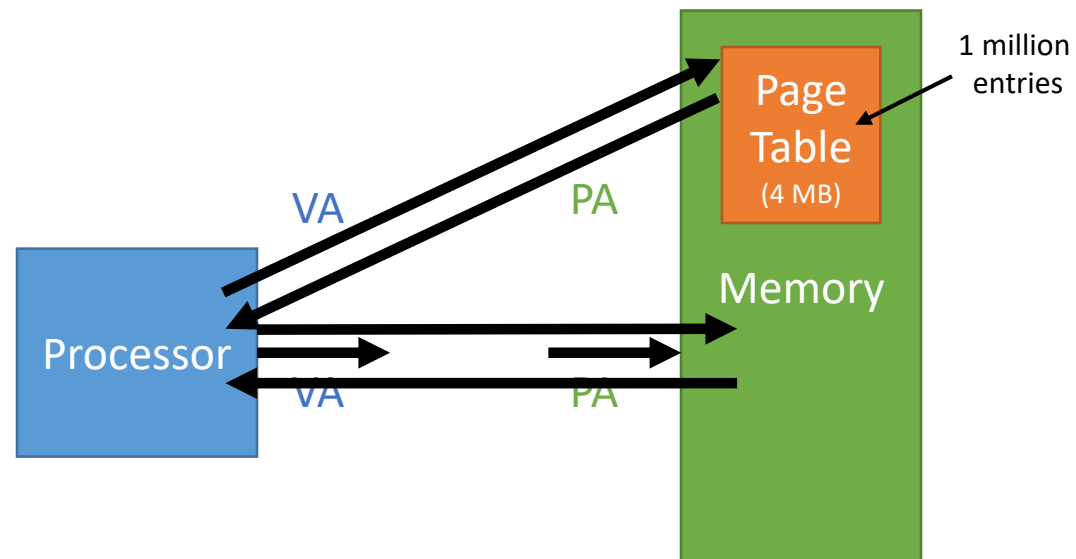
- **Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB)**: special page table cache to make VM fast



# Quincy Flint

## Making Virtual Memory Fast: TLB

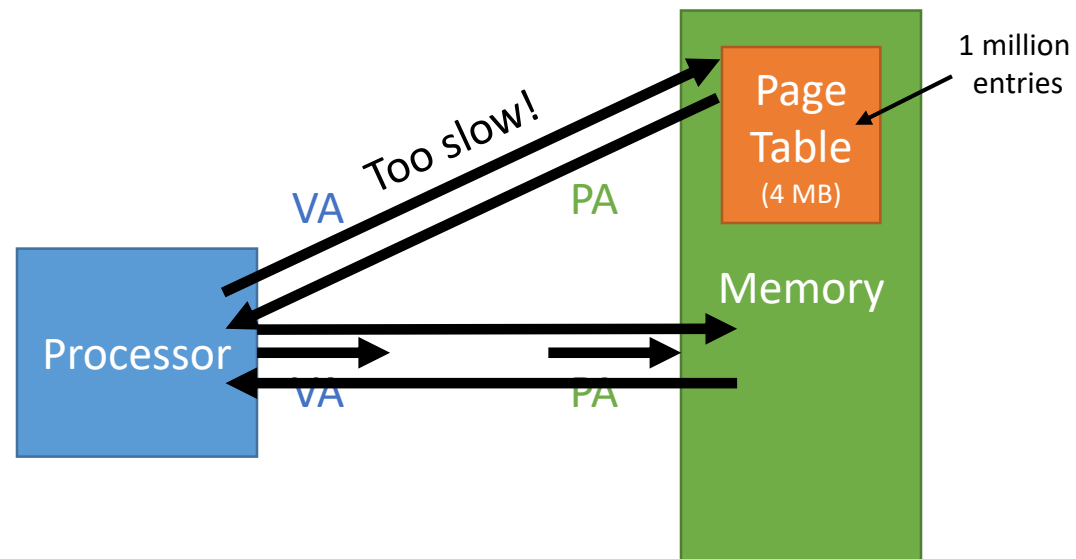
- Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB): special page table cache to make VM fast



# Quincy Flint

## Making Virtual Memory Fast: TLB

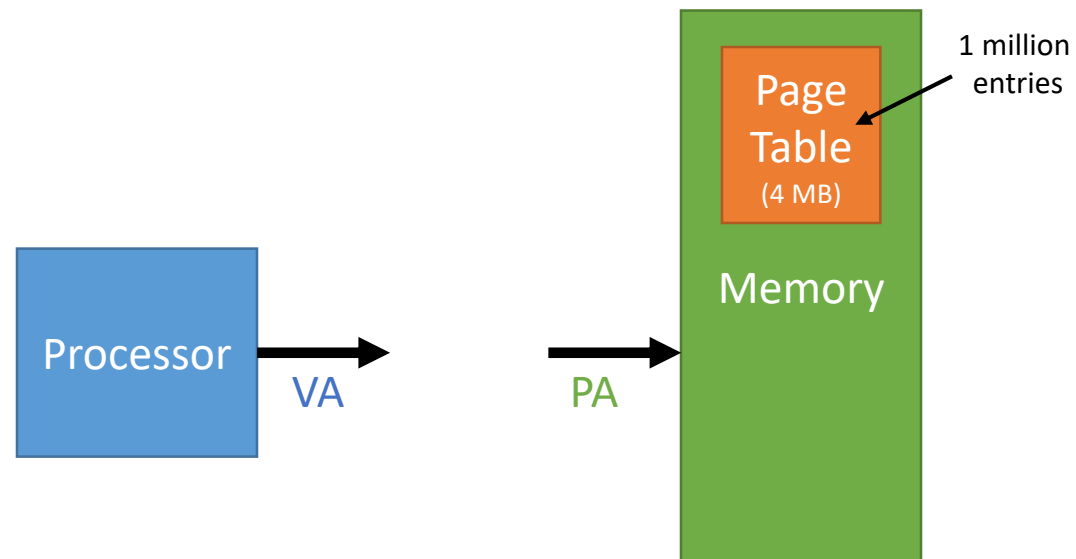
- Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB): special page table cache to make VM fast



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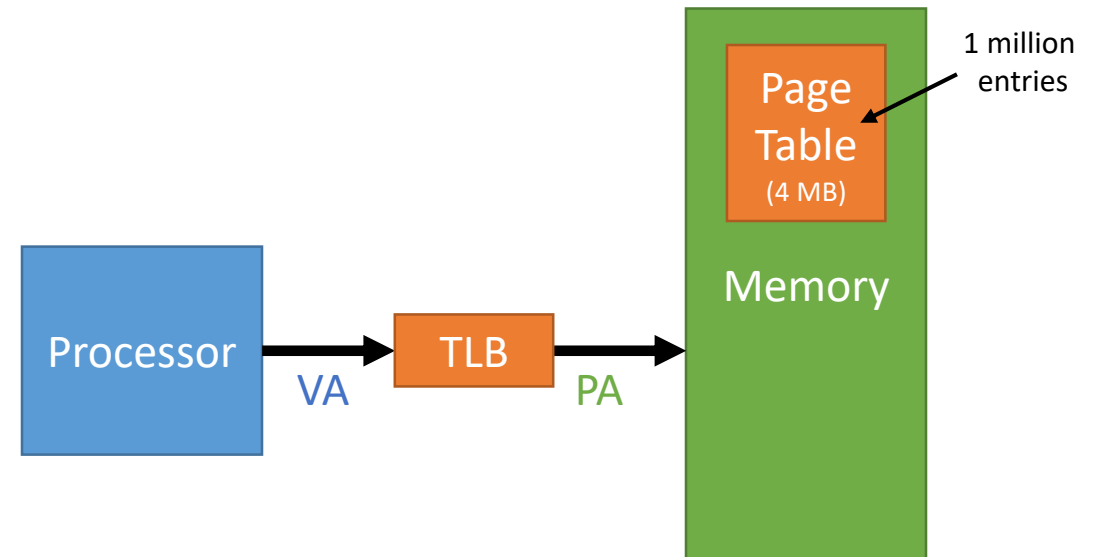
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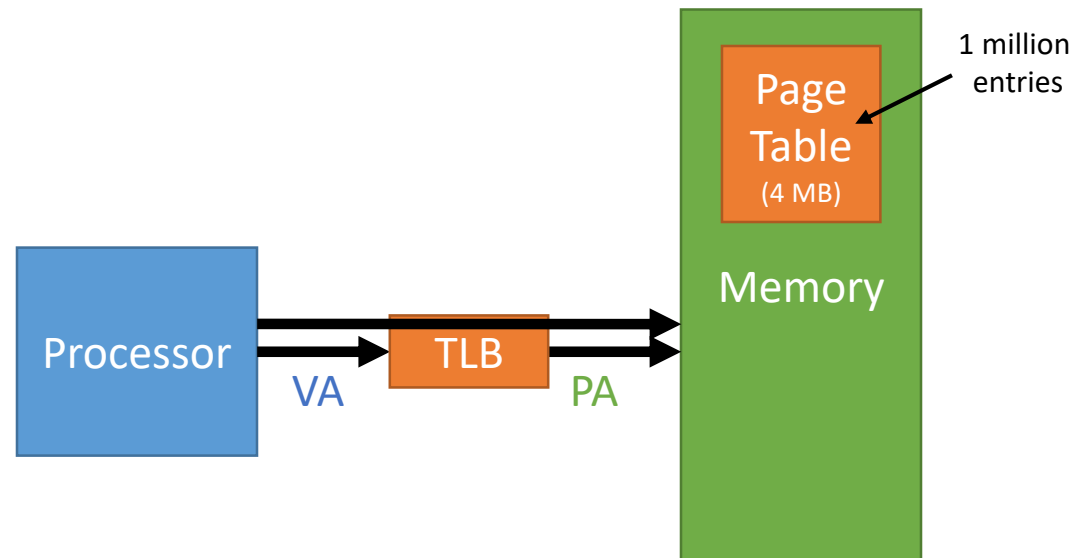
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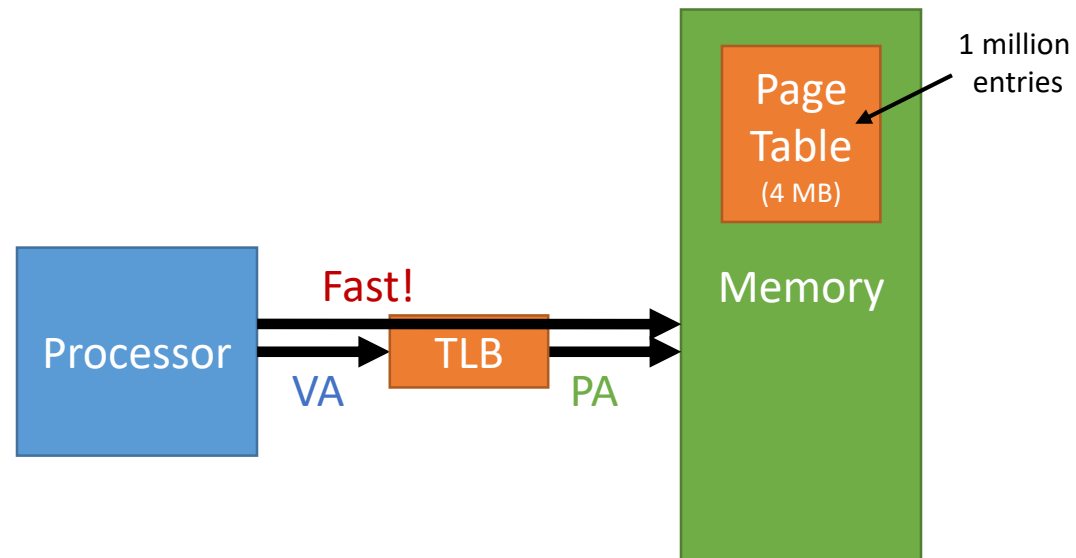




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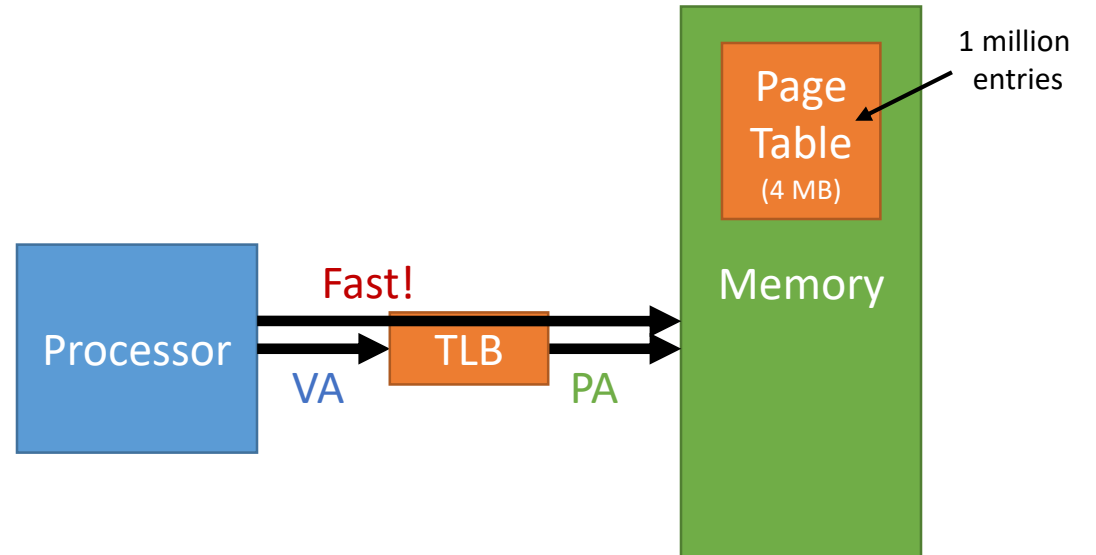
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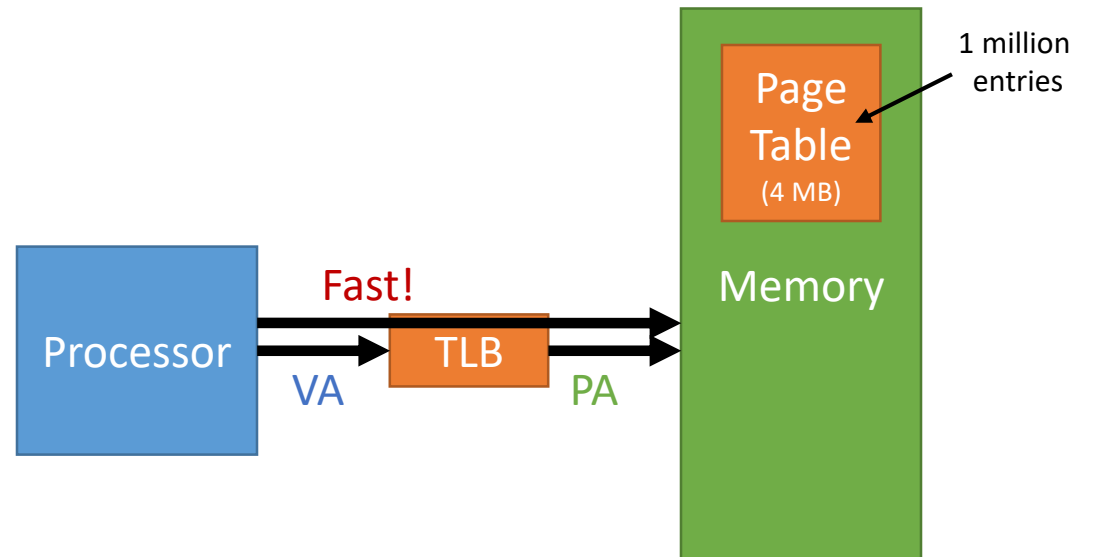
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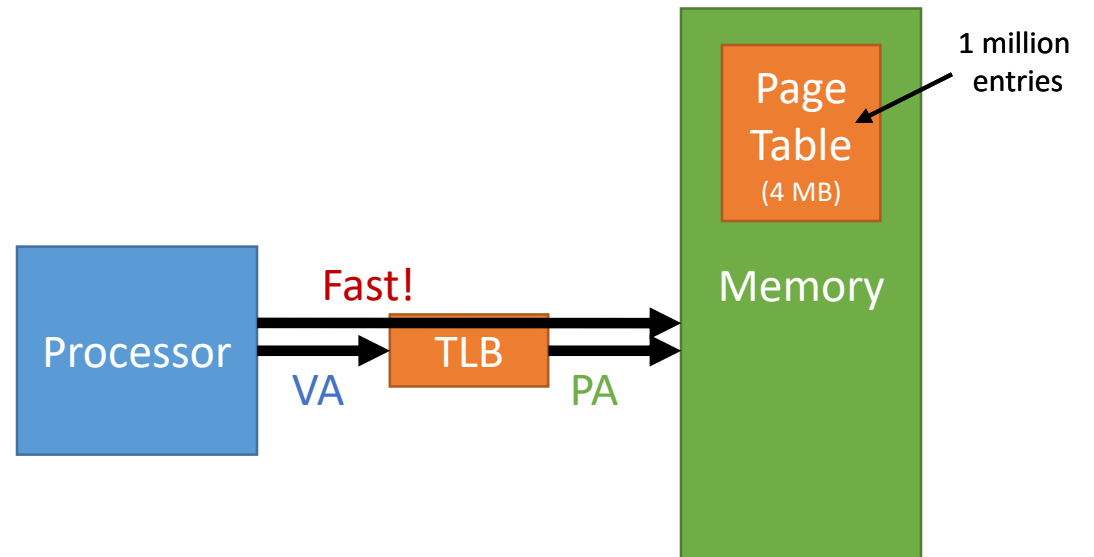
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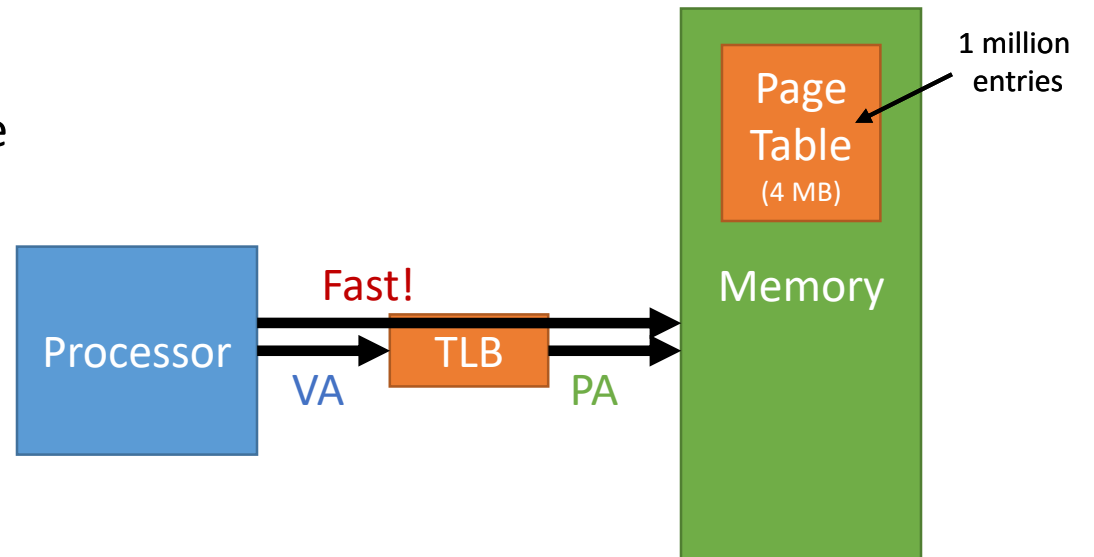
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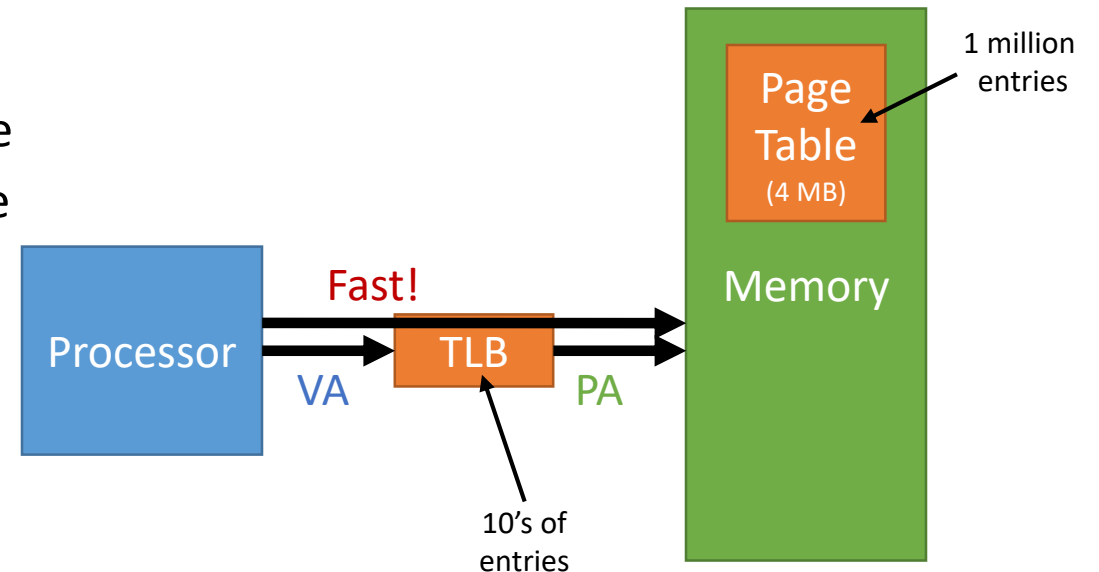
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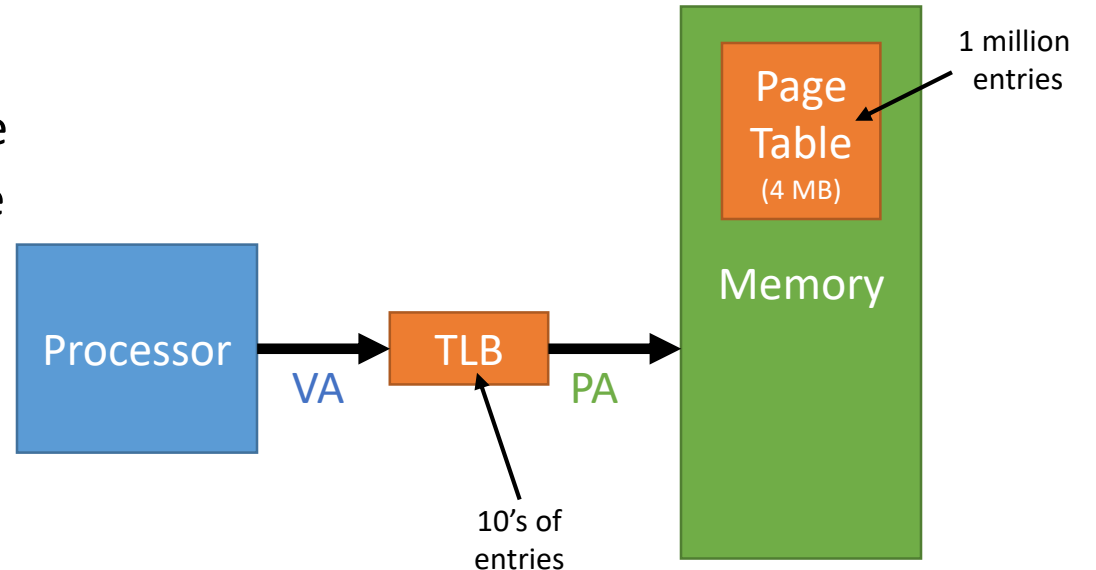
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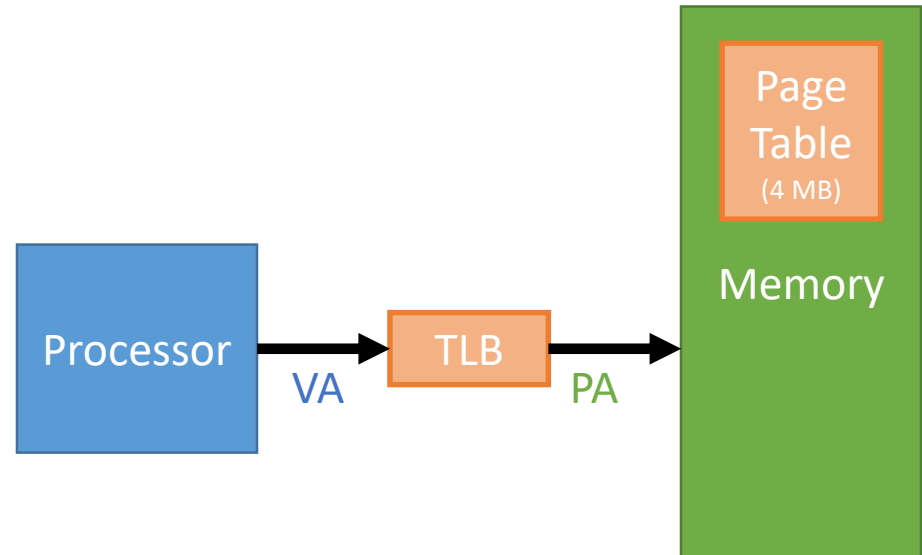
Page Table has 1 million entry,  
TLB only has 10's of entries??

Each Page maps 4k addresses,  
exploit principal of locality!



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What happens when we access memory?

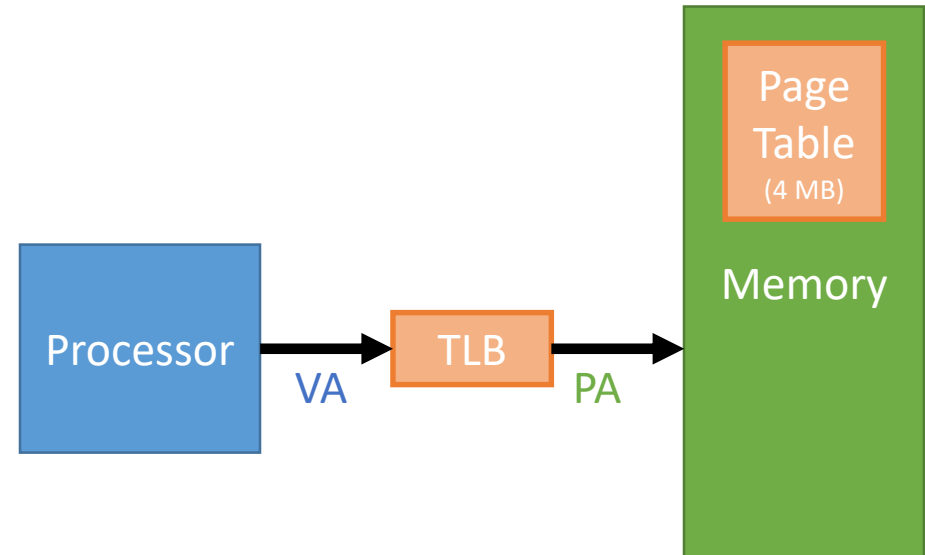




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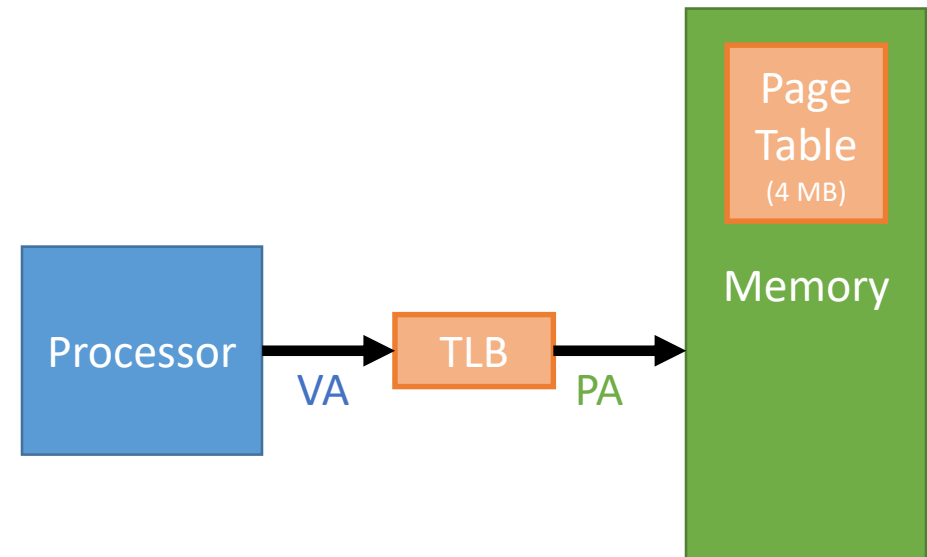


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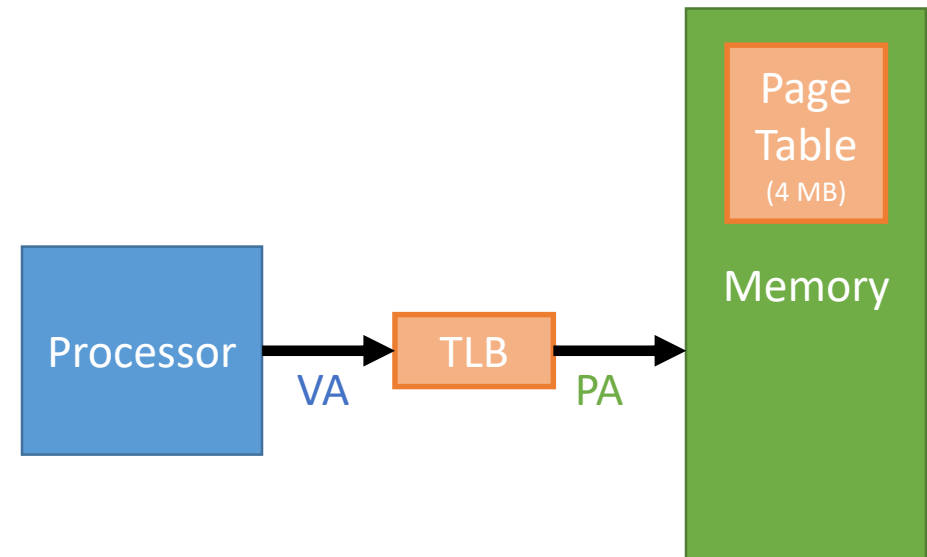


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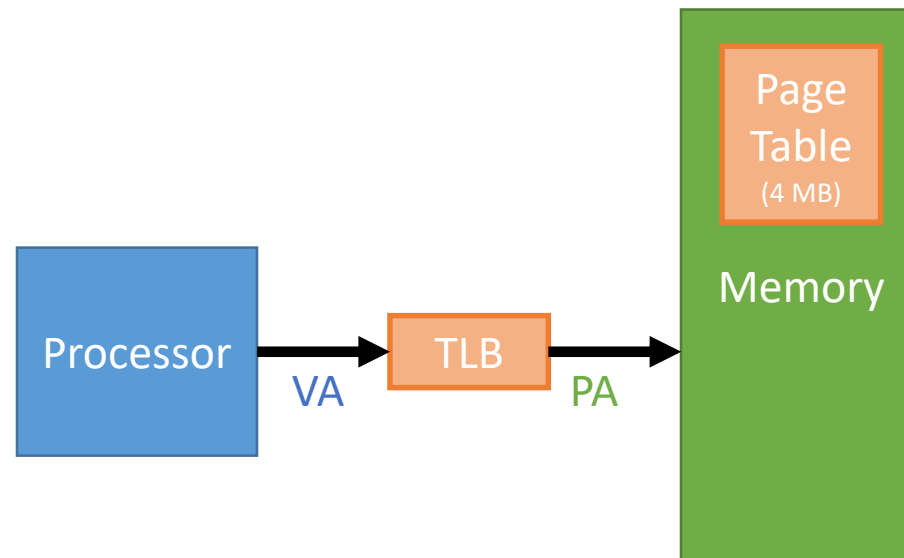
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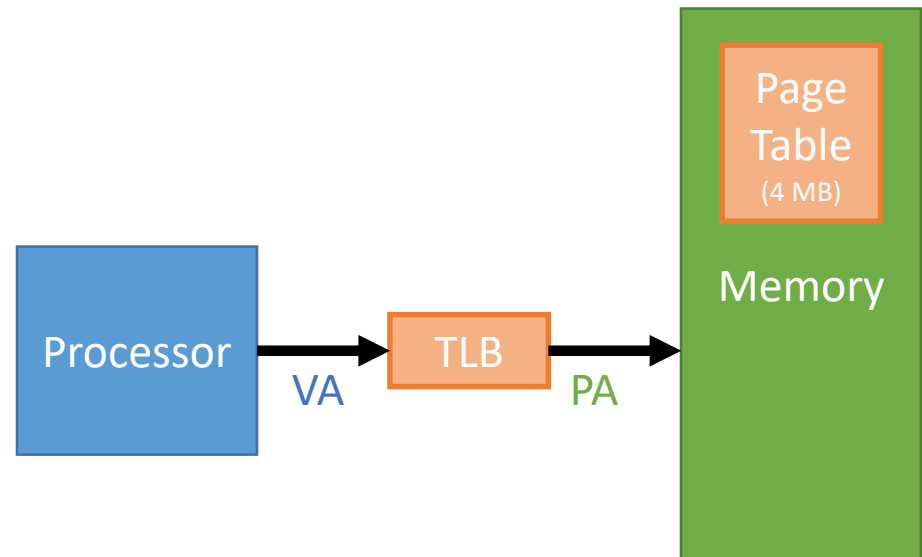


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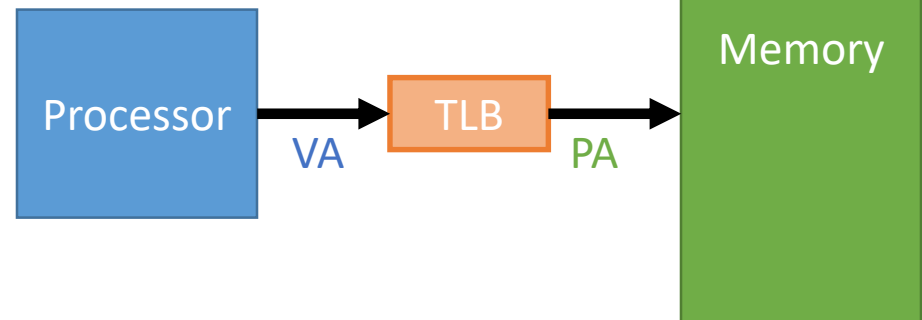
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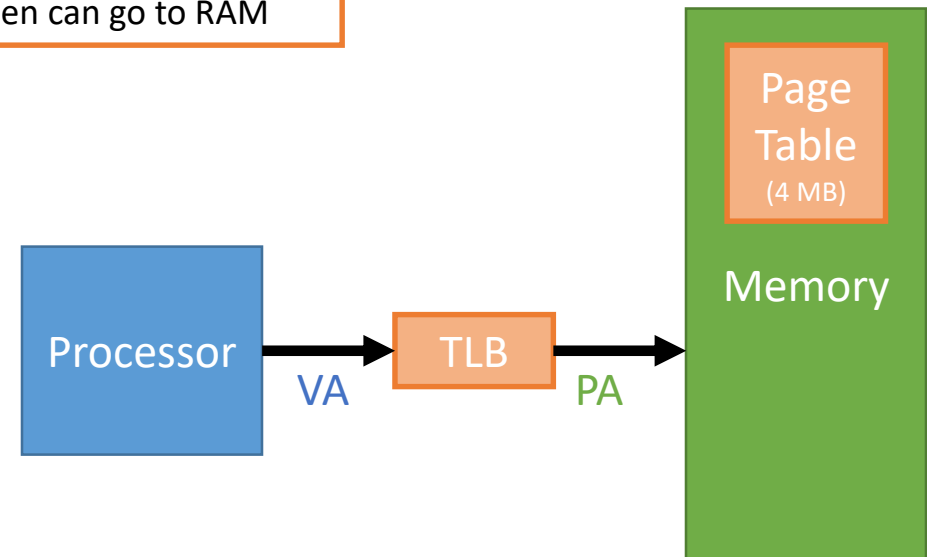
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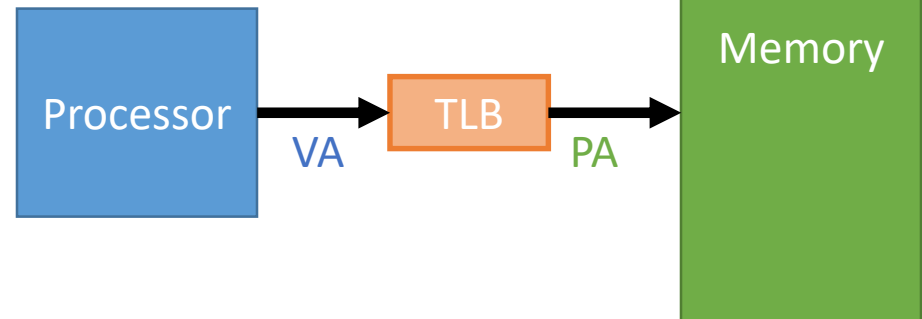
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~1,000 cycles to load PTE to TLB, then can go to RAM

1 cycle to know data is on disk, then ~80 million cycles to get it





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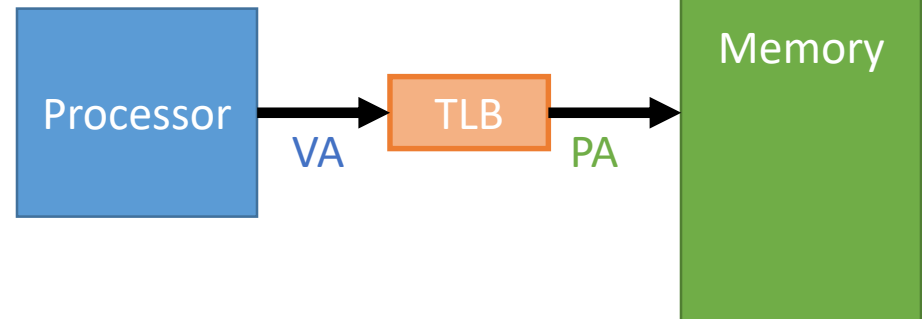
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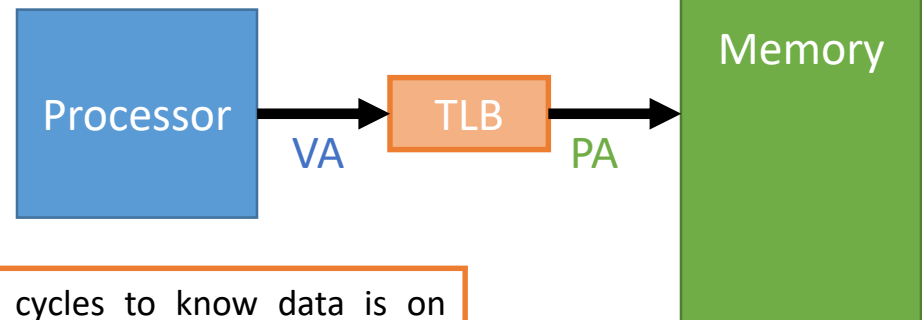
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Illustration from the textbook

TLB	Page table	Cache	Possible? If so, under what circumstance?
Hit	Hit	Miss	Possible, although the page table is never really checked if TLB hits.
Miss	Hit	Hit	TLB misses, but entry found in page table; after retry, data is found in cache.
Miss	Hit	Miss	TLB misses, but entry found in page table; after retry, data misses in cache.
Miss	Miss	Miss	TLB misses and is followed by a page fault; after retry, data must miss in cache.
Hit	Miss	Miss	Impossible: cannot have a translation in TLB if page is not present in memory.
Hit	Miss	Hit	Impossible: cannot have a translation in TLB if page is not present in memory.
Miss	Miss	Hit	Impossible: data cannot be allowed in cache if the page is not in memory.

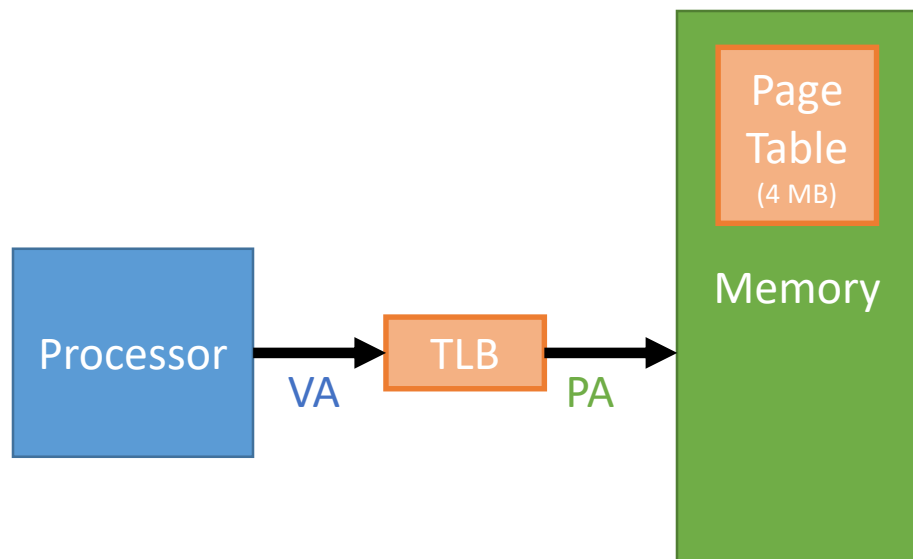
**FIGURE 5.32** The possible combinations of events in the TLB, virtual memory system, and cache. Three of these combinations are impossible, and one is possible (TLB hit, virtual memory hit, cache miss) but never detected.

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How do we make the TLB *seem* larger?

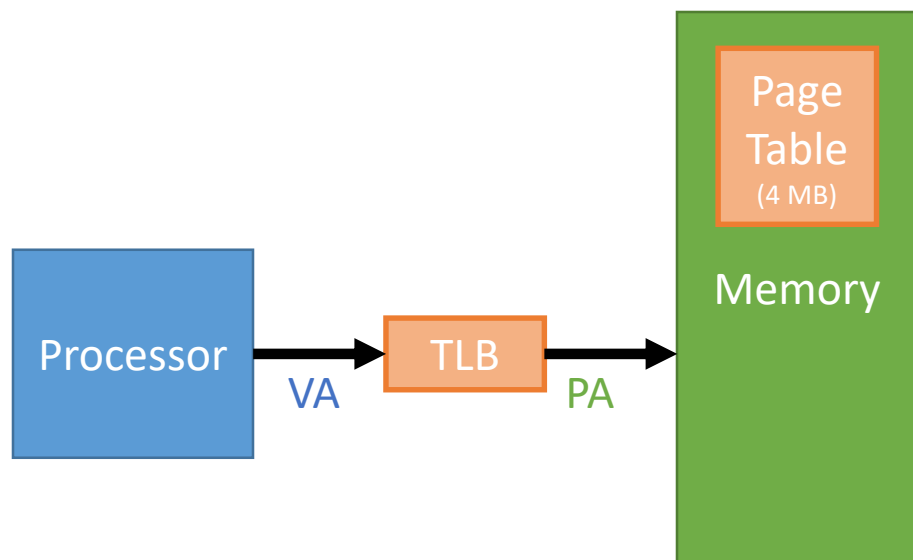
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- I. Store more PTEs in the TLB
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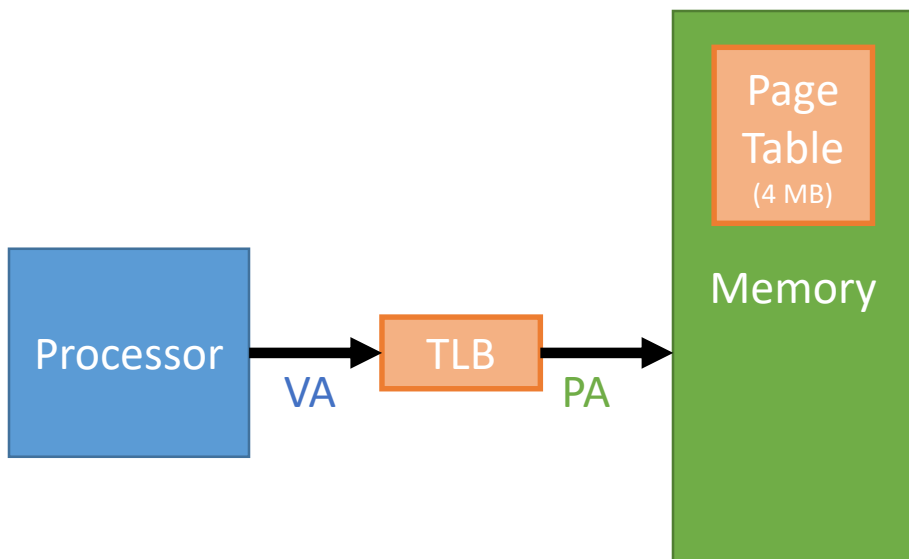
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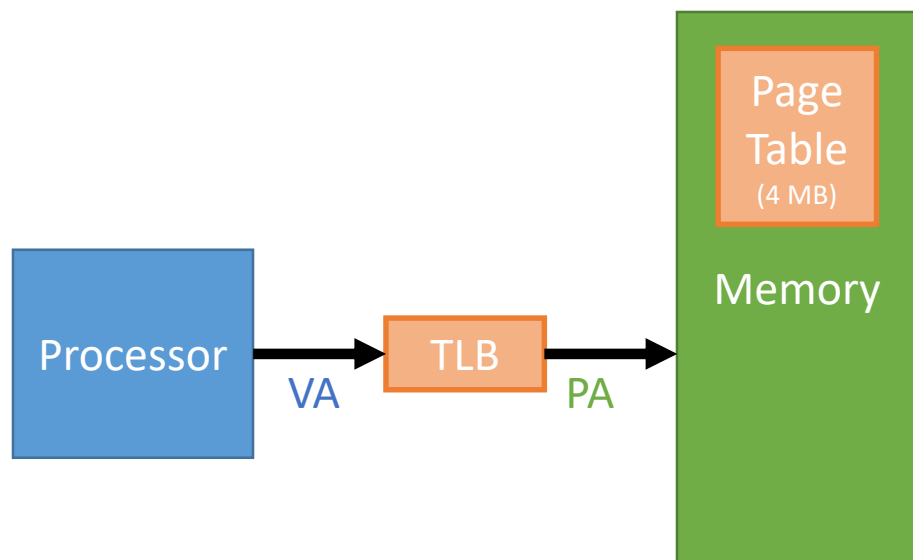
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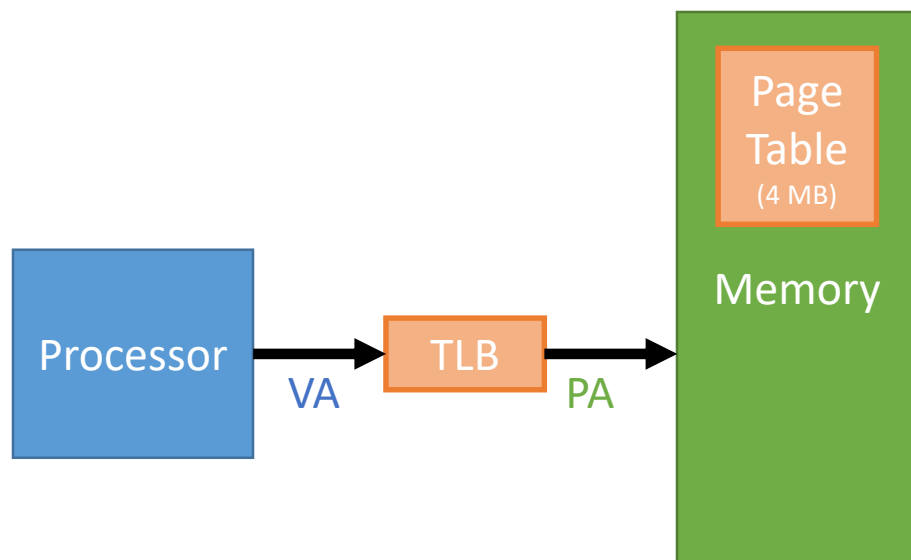
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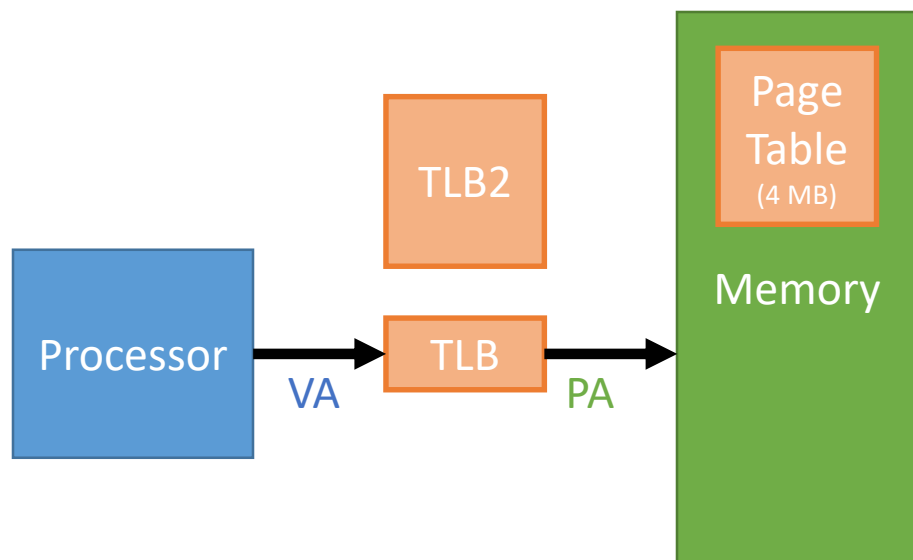
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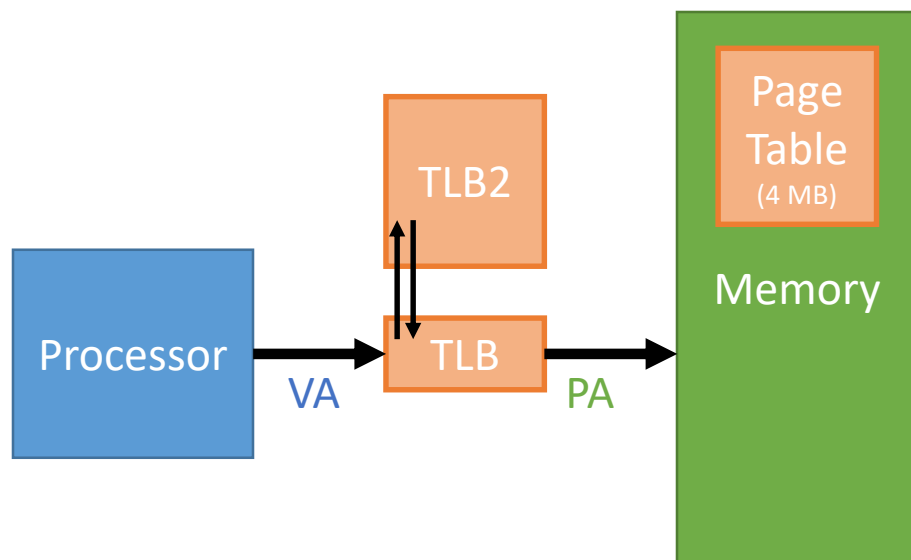
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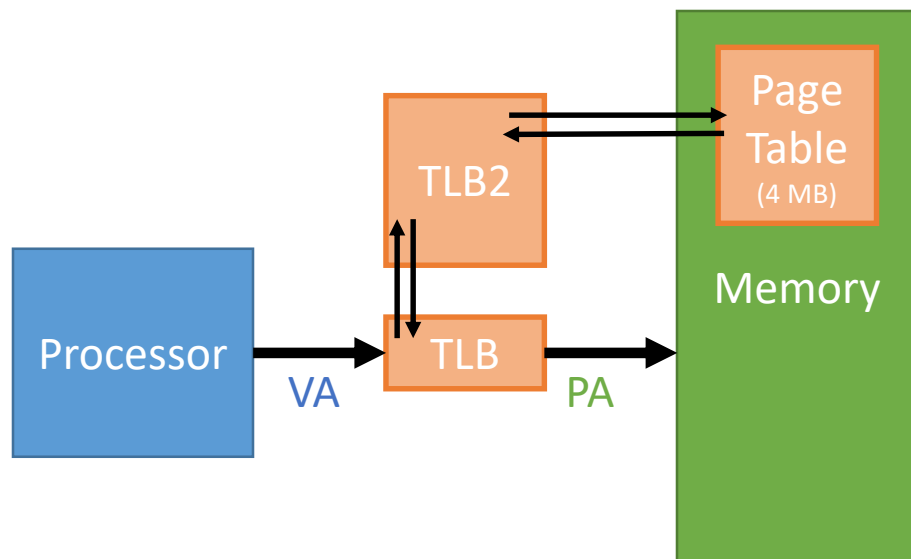
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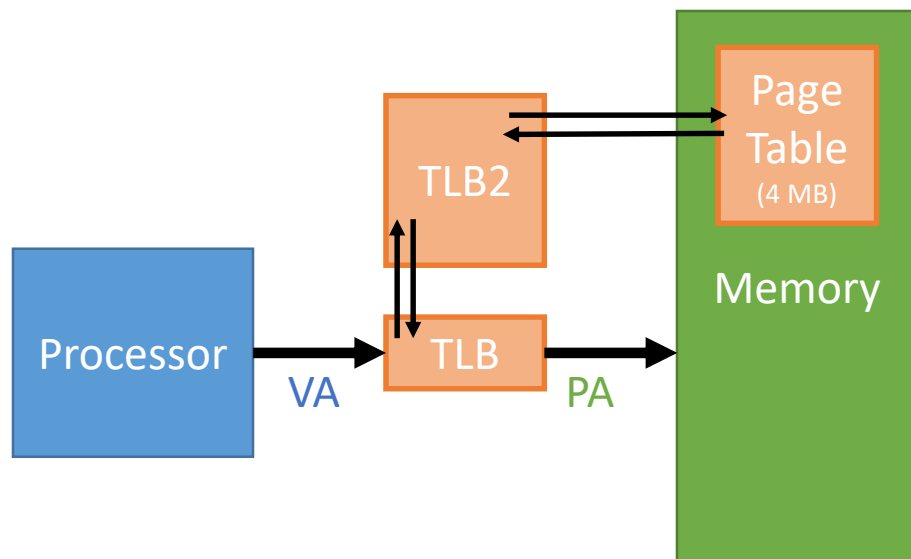
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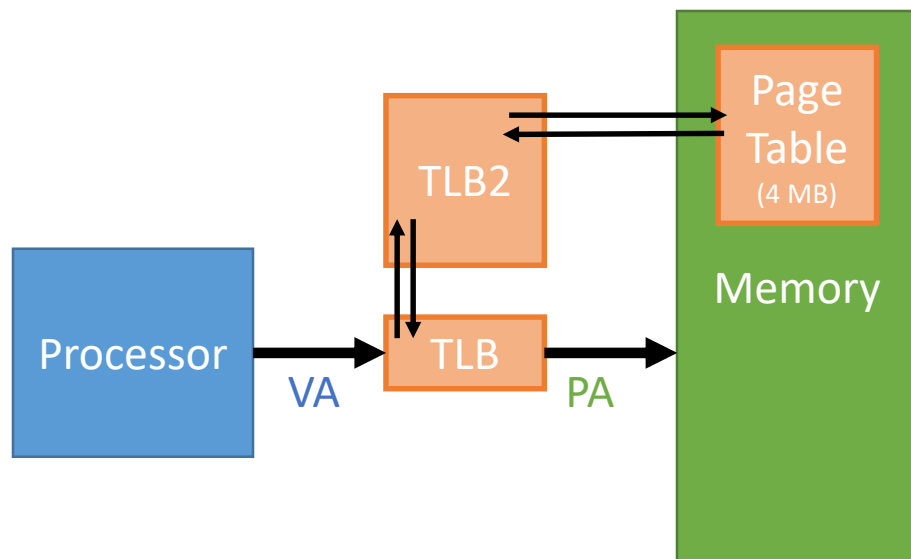
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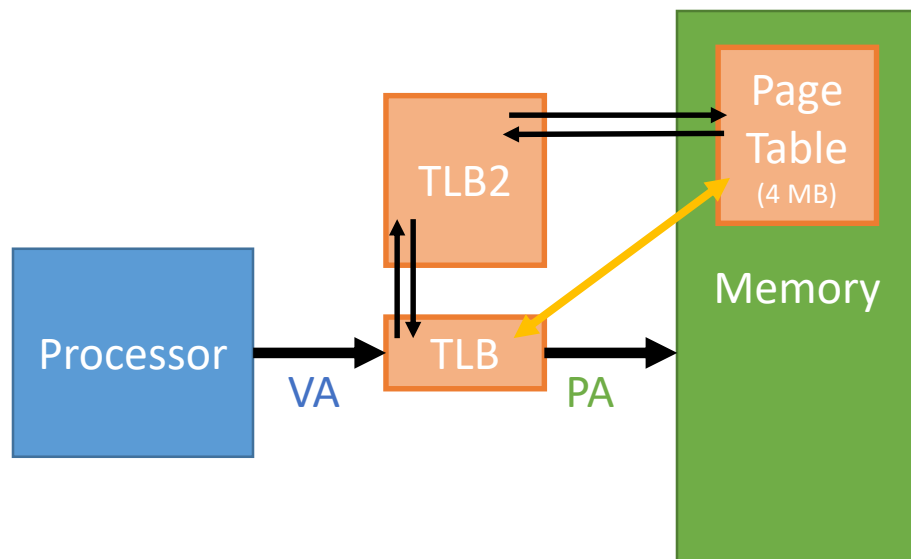
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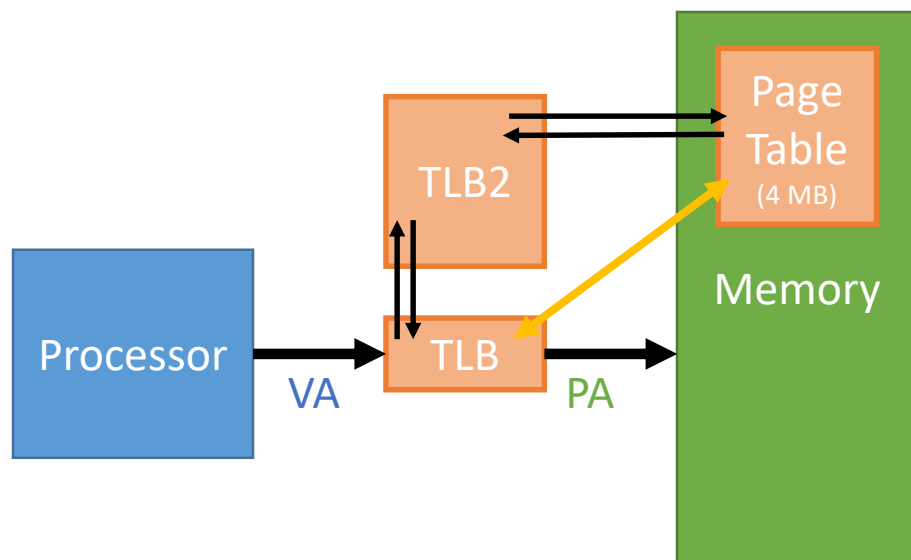
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Hardware can do a page table walk to replace a page in the TLB.

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- David Black-Schaffer: Lecture Series on Virtual Memory
- Patterson, Hennessy: Computer Organization and Design: the Hardware/Software Interface
- Intel Hardware Data-Sheets
- **Linux**: Anatomy of a Program in Memory