



Systems Design and Implementation

II.4 – Debugging

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Potential Sources of Bugs

- Your code
- Compiler
- VMware
- L4 Kernel / IDL⁴
- Your code
- Your code
- Your code
- Your code

Debug it! Fix it!

No chance

Use real hardware!

Tell us!

Debug it! Fix it!

Debug it! Fix it!

Debug it! Fix it!

Debug it! Fix it!



Inspecting Compiler Output

- You build an OS ...
 - Be concerned about efficiency
 - Check what the compiler did to your code
- Symbol table dump **`nm -n objfile`**
 - Shows address of symbol in object file
- Disassembler **`objdump -d objfile`**
 - **`-d`** disassemble
 - **`-l`** show source file line numbers
 - **`-s`** show source code
 - **`-l`** and **`-s`** require debug info in object
 - SDI builds with debug symbols by default (**`-ggdb`**)



Understanding `objdump` Output

```
080483b4 <foo>:
foo():
/tmp/test.c:7

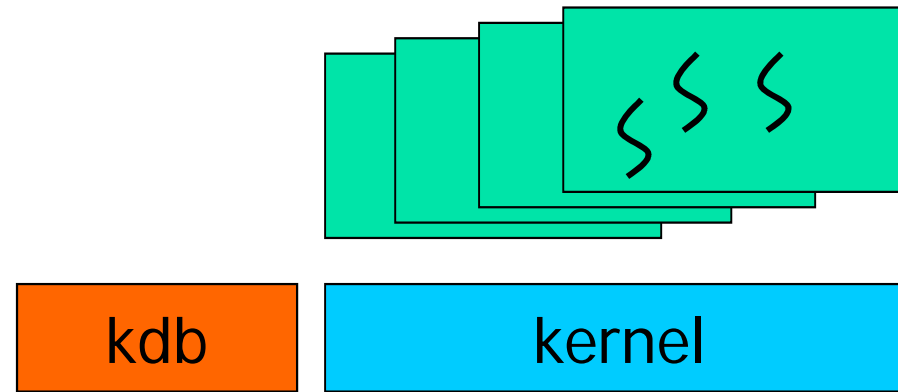
int foo(int x)
{
  80483b4:      55                push   %ebp
  80483b5:      89 e5             mov    %esp,%ebp
  80483b7:      83 ec 08         sub   $0x8,%esp
  80483ba:      8b 45 08         mov   0x8(%ebp),%eax
/tmp/test.c:8
  int y = bar(x);
  80483bd:      83 c4 f4         add   $0xffffffff4,%esp
  80483c0:      50              push  %eax
  80483c1:      e8 de ff ff ff  call  80483a4 <bar>
/tmp/test.c:9
  return 7 + y;
  80483c6:      83 c0 07         add   $0x7,%eax
  80483c9:      89 ec             mov   %ebp,%esp
  80483cb:      5d              pop   %ebp
  80483cc:      c3              ret
/tmp/test.c:10
}
  80483cd:      8d 76 00         lea  0x0(%esi),%esi
```

`objdump -d test`
`objdump -dl test`
`objdump -dls test`

Prologue
Local variables
Load parameter
Prepare function call
Call function bar
Add 7 to result
Epilogue
Return to caller
Byte stuffing for function alignment



The L4 Kernel Debugger



Conceptually:

- Kernel does not know about KDB
- KDB knows about kernel internals
 - Display state of kernel objects (threads, ASs, ...)
 - Monitor kernel operations (system calls, exceptions, ...)
- Meant for debugging the kernel, but ...



L4 Kernel Debugger API

- L4_KDB_...
 - IA32: `int3` instruction followed by special code sequence
 - `L4_KDB_PrintChar(char c)`
`L4_KDB_PrintString(char* s)`
`L4_KDB_ClearPage()`
 - `char L4_KDB_GetChar()`
`char L4_KDB_GetCharBlocked()`
 - `L4_KDB_Enter("Oops!");`
 - Invokes interactive KDB and prints message
 - String must be mapped

- Extended by SDIOS
 - `#define bailout(S) L4_KDB_Enter(S)`
 - `#define assert(X) if (!(X)) { panic(#X) }`
 - `void panic(char* s) { printf(s);bailout("panic"); }`



The L4Ka::Pistachio Kernel Debugger

- You can use it to ...
 - Stop the running system – ESC
 - Inspect thread state – t/T
 - Trace kernel events – r
 - Dump memory – d/D
 - View page tables – p
 - View mapping database – m
 - Set breakpoints – b
 - Dump the Kernel Interface Page – K
 - Single-step your program – s
 - Disassemble code – U
- May help you find cause for problems
 - Post mortem analysis – What happened?
 - Tracing – What's going on?



L4Ka::Pistachio KDB Navigation

- Menu root
 - BS - back up to previous menu
 - ? - this help message
 - ESC - back to previous menu
 - b - set breakpoints
 - U - disassemble
 - B - generic bootinfo
 - SPC - show current exception frame
 - F - show exception frame
 - K - dump kernel interface page
 - m - dump mapping database
 - p - dump page table
 - g - continue execution
 - d - dump memory
 - D - dump memory in other space
 - 6 - Reset system
 - q - show scheduling queue
 - t - show thread control block
 - T - shows thread control block (extended)
 - s - Single step
 - a – architecture specifics
 - C – dump CPU features
 - I – dump interrupt controller
 - V – dump VGA screen contents
 - a – ACPI access
 - c – show IA32 control registers
 - g – dump the GDT
 - i – dump the IDT
 - m – dump model specific registers
 - n – control nmi handling
 - p – IO port access
 - s – Dump small spaces
 - # – statistics
 - k – kernel memory allocator statistics
 - 0 – sigma0 interaction
 - m – dump sigma0 memory pools
 - v – change sigma0 verbosity
 - c – KDB configuration
 - m – change kernel debugger operation mode
 - c – Toggle console
 - w – change memdump word size
 - r - enable/disable/list tracepoints
 - d - disable tracepoint
 - D - disable all tracepoints
 - e - enable tracepoint
 - E - enable all tracepoints
 - l - list tracepoints
 - R - reset counters



g – Leave KDB to Continue

```
--- "KD# System started (press 'g' to continue)" ---  
----- (eip=f01050df, esp=f0105fa0) -----  
  
> go  
  
idle thread started on CPU 0  
Early system infos:  
Threads: Myself:c8001 Sigma0:c0001
```



[space bar] – Dump Exception Frame

- Processor state when KDB was invoked
- Invoker can be user (debug API) or in kernel

IP
(f01xxxx = kernel)

SP
Only valid when user IP

Exception frame address
in kernel TCB

```
> frame
fault addr: 00200196      stack: 0020a2f0 error code: 4 frame: e00197bc
eax: 00000000    ebx: 00209008
ecx: 0020a2dc    edx: 0020a3cc
esi: e0019000    edi: bf000100
ebp: 0020a3f8    efl: 00003246 [cPaZsodItr3]
cs:      001b    ss:      0023
ds:      0023    es:      0023
>
```

General purpose register set
+ segment registers

EFLAGS
Caps indicates bit set

HW error code
optional



t – Inspect Thread Control Block

- Thread state – TCRs, queues

User IP/SP

Where is it?

State

What is it doing?

Global ID

Local ID

Address space

```
> showtcb
tcb/tid [current]: 000c8001
=== TCB: e0019000 === ID: 000c8001 = bf000100/f0146000 === PRIO: 0xff =====
UIP: 00203da1 queues: rswl wait : 00000000:00000000 space: f0142000
USP: 0020a2e4 tstate: RUNNING ready: e0018000:e0018000 pdir : 00142000
KSP: e00196d4 sndhd : 00000000 send : 00000000:00000000 pager: 000c0001
total quant: 0us, ts length: 10000us, curr ts: 9480us
abs timeout: 0us, rel timeout: 0us
sens prio: 255, delay: max=0us, curr=0us
resources: 00000000 []
partner: 00000000, s.partner: 00000000, s.state: RUNNING, scheduler: 000c8001
>
```

IPC partner

Who does/did it communicate with?



T – Extended Thread Control Block Dump

```
> showtcbext
```

```
...
```

```
user handle:      00000000  cop flags:      00          preempt flags:    00 [~~~]  
exception handler: 00000000  virtual sender: 00000000  intended receiver: 00000000  
xfer timeouts:   snd (never)  
                 rcv (never)
```

```
mr( 0): ffe50002 00001000 00203da1 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000  
mr( 8): 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000  
mr(16): 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000  
mr(24): 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000  
mr(32): 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000  
mr(40): 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000  
mr(48): 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000  
mr(56): 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000
```

```
Message Tag: 2 untyped, 0 typed, label = ffe5, flags = ----
```

```
br( 0): 00000010 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000  
br( 8): 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000  
br(16): 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000  
br(24): 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000  
br(32): 00000000
```

```
Acceptor: 00000010 (s)  
         fpage : (COMPLETE-FPAGE)
```

```
>
```



q – Scheduler Queue

- Show threads in the system
 - [prio]
 - runnable
 - (blocked)

```
> showqueue
```

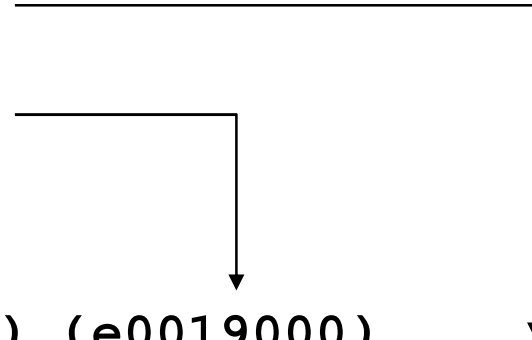
```
[255]: (e0018000) (e0019000)
```

```
[100]: (e0019800) (e001a000) e001a800
```

```
[ 0]: (e0008000)
```

```
idle : f0124000
```

```
>
```





p – Dump Page Table

> ptab

Space [current]: f0142000

Memory area (Complete/User/Kernel/Tcb/Small spaces) [complete]: user

00000000 [0014a027]: tree=f014a000

00200000 [00200027]: phys=00200000 map=f014701c 4KB rwx (R~X) user WB

00201000 [00201027]: phys=00201000 map=f0147040 4KB rwx (R~X) user WB

00202000 [00202027]: phys=00202000 map=f0147064 4KB rwx (R~X) user WB

00203000 [00203027]: phys=00203000 map=f0147088 4KB rwx (R~X) user WB

00204000 [00204027]: phys=00204000 map=f014704c 4KB rwx (R~X) user WB

00209000 [00209027]: phys=00209000 map=f0147028 4KB rwx (R~X) user WB

0020a000 [0020a067]: phys=0020a000 map=f0147034 4KB rwx (RWX) user WB

0020b000 [0020b067]: phys=0020b000 map=f0147058 4KB rwx (RWX) user WB

0020c000 [0020c067]: phys=0020c000 map=f0147070 4KB rwx (RWX) user WB

0020d000 [0020d067]: phys=0020d000 map=f014707c 4KB rwx (RWX) user WB

bf000000 [00148027]: tree=f0148000

bf000000 [00146027]: phys=00146000 map=bf000000 4KB rwx (R~X) user WB

bfc00000 [00144027]: tree=f0144000

bff00000 [00123025]: phys=00123000 map=bff00000 4KB r~x (R~X) user WB

>

Permissions

Page size

User/Kernel

Virtual address

Physical address

Reference bits

Cacheability

UTCB area

KIP



d – Dump Memory Contents

```
> memdump
Dump address [0x0]: 00204f00
00204f00  c35dc0b6 83e58955 458b08ec 24048908  ¶.].U.â. î..E...$
00204f10  fffea7e8 00c3c9ff 90e58955 00107d83  è$.ÿÿ... U.â..}..
00204f20  458b2674 00388008 458b1e75 0c558b08  t&.E..8. u..E..U.
00204f30  3a00b60f eb027402 0845ff0f ff0c458d  .¶...t.ë .ÿE..E.ÿ
00204f40  10458d00 d4eb08ff 0f08458b 558b00be  ..E.ÿ.ë. .E....U
00204f50  12be0f0c c35dd029 00000000 00000000  ....).]. .....
00204f60  532a2a2a 65747379 7473206d 6570706f  ***System stoppe
00204f70  2a2a2a64 00000000 00000000 00000000  d***.... .....
00204f80  746f6f52 6b736174 746e6520 64657265  Roottask entered
00204f90  69616d20 0a29286e 6f6f5200 73617474  main(). .Roottas
00204fa0  6168206b 68542073 64616572 25204449  k has Th readID %
00204fb0  00000a78 00000000 00000000 00000000  x..... .....
00204fc0  746f6f52 6b736174 73616820 65784520  Roottask has Exe
00204fd0  6f697470 6148206e 656c646e 78252072  ption Ha ndler %x
00204fe0  6f52000a 6174746f 68206b73 50207361  ..Rootta sk has P
00204ff0  72656761 0a782520 6f6f5200 73617474  ager %x. .Root###
Continue? (Continue/Quit) [continue]: continue
00205000  ##### ##### ##### ##### ##### #####
```

← Page not mapped



r – Tracepoints

- Trace kernel events as they happen
 - Count occurrences (always on)
 - Optionally display event information (enable = y)
 - Optionally enter kernel debugger (enter kdb = y)
- Important tracepoints
 - SYSCALL_* – system calls with parameters
 - PAGEFAULT_* – page faults caused by user/kernel
 - IPC_* – IPC message transfer in detail
 - FPAGE_MAP – mapping established
 - INTERRUPT – hardware interrupt fired
- rE – enable all



b - Breakpoints

- IA-32: four hardware breakpoints

```
> breakpoint
breakpoint [-/?/0..3]: (-/?/0/1/2/3) [?]: 0
Type (Instr/Access/pOrt/Write/-/+ ) [instr]: instr
Address [0x0]: 200196
> go
--- Debug Exception ---
> breakpoint
breakpoint [-/?/0..3]: (-/?/0/1/2/3) [?]: ?
DR7: 00000402
DR6: ffff0ff1
DR3: 00000000
DR2: 00000000
DR1: 00000000
DR0: 00200196 *
> frame
fault addr: 00200196      stack: 0020a2f0 error code: 4 frame: e00197bc
eax: 00000000    ebx: 00209008      ...
```

Disable all (points to the first `> breakpoint`)

Pick breakpoint register 0-3 (points to the register number `0`)

Select type execution read/write in/out write disable enable (points to the `instr` type)

Address (points to the `200196` address)

IA-32 debug registers (bracketed next to DR7-DR0)

Breakpoint 0 hit (points to the `DR0: 00200196 *` line)



K – Dump the Kernel Interface Page

```
...
  UTCB area info   min size: 4KB, alignment: 512, UTCB size: 512
  KIP area info   min size: 4KB
  Boot info ptr   0x00001000
  Thread info     user base: 0x030, system base: 0x010, thread bits: 17
  Page info       sizes: 4K 4M, rights: rw

Root servers:
  sigma0          ip: 0x00021b90, sp: 0x00000000, 0x00020000:0x000283a0
  sigma1          ip: 0x00000000, sp: 0x00000000, 0x00000000:0x00000000
  root server     ip: 0x00200000, sp: 0x00000000, 0x00200000:0x0020d320

Memory regions (19):
  Physical:
    0x00000000 - 0xffffffff shared
    0x00000000 - 0x0009f7ff conventional
    0x0009f800 - 0x0009ffff architecture specific (2)
    0x000dc000 - 0x000dffff architecture specific (2)
    0x000e4000 - 0x000fffff architecture specific (2)
    0x00100000 - 0x01eeffff conventional
    0x01ef0000 - 0x01efefff architecture specific (3)
    0x01eff000 - 0x01efffff architecture specific (4)
    0x01f00000 - 0x01ffffff conventional
    0xfec00000 - 0xfec0ffff architecture specific (2)
    0xfe000000 - 0xfe00ffff architecture specific (2)
    0xfffe0000 - 0xffffffff architecture specific (2)
    0x000a0000 - 0x000bffff shared
    0x000c0000 - 0x000effff shared
    0x01000000 - 0x01eeffff reserved
    0x00889000 - 0x00897bff bootloader specific (1)
    0x00001000 - 0x00001fff bootloader specific (0)
    0x00100000 - 0x0014ffff reserved
  Virtual:
    0x00000000 - 0xbfffffff conventional
```

GRUB-loaded
modules

MultiBootInfo

Kernel



If nothing else helps anymore ...

- Use a wide terminal window for minicom
- Press ? for list of available commands
- Or press 6 to reboot
 - Warning: PgDown over serial line causes reboot
 - `^[6~ = ESC [6 ~`



Lecture Schedule

- 21.4. Introduction
- 28.4. Communication
- 5.5. OS Interfaces
- 12.5. Naming
- 19.5. J. Stoess – Project Kittyhawk
- 26.5. File Systems
- 2.6. Threads, Scheduling
- 9.6. Memory Management
- 16.6. Drivers
- 23.6. Device Service Design (2)
- 30.6. Lab
- 7.7. Lab
- 14.7. Lab
- 21.7. Lab
- 23.4. L4 API Crash Course (I)
- 30.4. L4 API Crash Course (II)
- 7.5. IDL4, Debugging on L4
- 14.5. Debugging on L4 (Lab)
- 21.5. - Christi Himmelfahrt -
- 28.5. Name Service Design (3)
- 4.6. File Service Design (2)
- 11.6. - Fronleichnam -
- 18.6. Task Service Design (2)
- 25.6. MM Service Design (2)
- 2.7. Lab
- 9.7. Lab
- 16.7. Lab
- 23.7. Lab Demos + Conclusion