

Chapter 12: Operating System

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This presentation contains lecture materials that accompany the textbook “The Elements of Computing Systems” by Noam Nisan & Shimon Schocken, MIT Press, 2005.

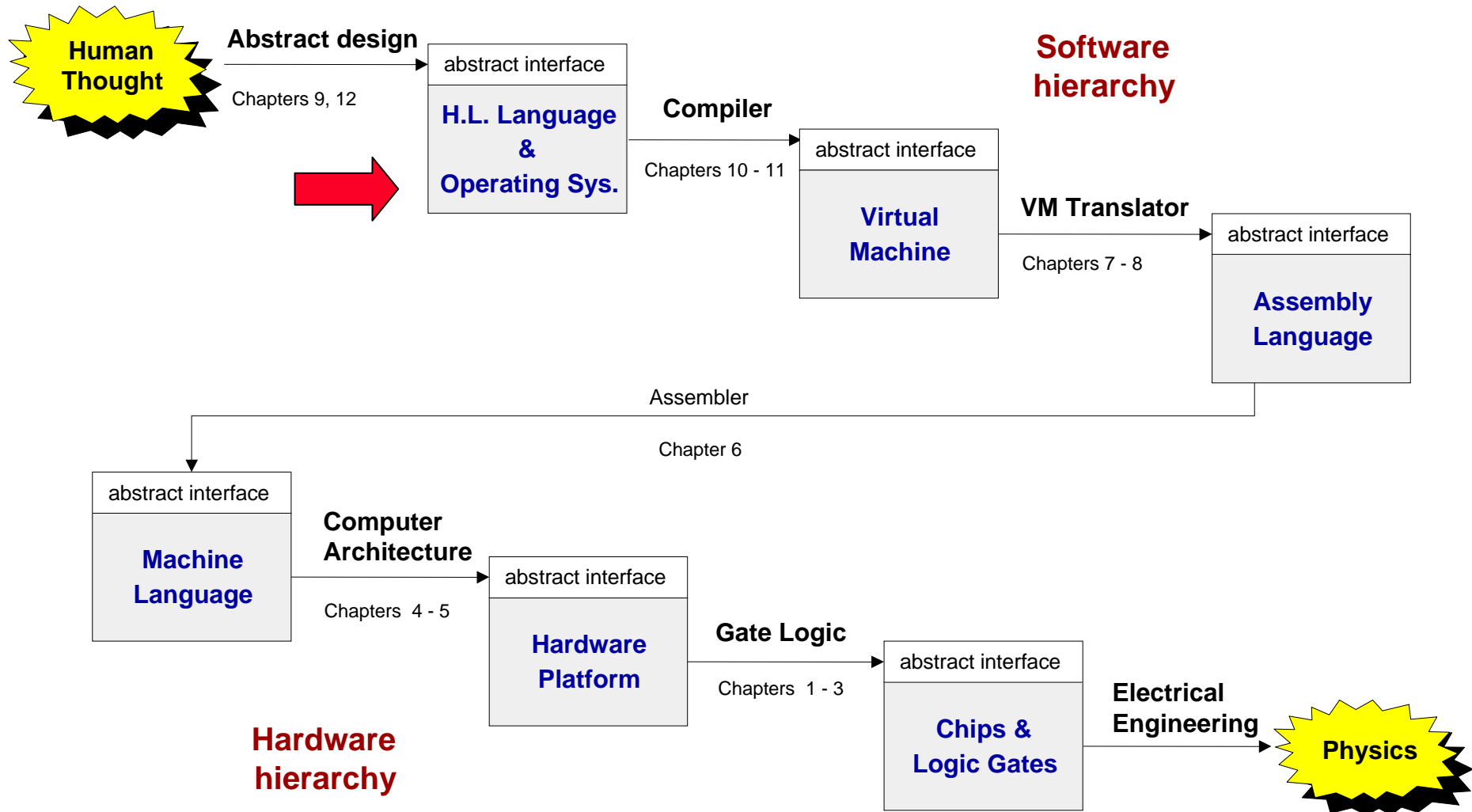
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Where we are at:



Jack revisited

```
/** Computes the average of a sequence of integers. */
class Main {
  function void main() {
    var Array a;
    var int length;
    var int i, sum;

    let length = Keyboard.readInt("How many numbers? ");
    let a = Array.new(length); // Constructs the array
    let i = 0;

    while (i < length) {
      let a[i] = Keyboard.readInt("Enter the next number: ");
      let sum = sum + a[i];
      let i = i + 1;
    }

    do Output.println("The average is: ");
    do Output.println(sum / length);
    do Output.println();
    return;
  }
}
```

Jack revisited

```
/** Computes the average of a sequence of integers. */
class Main {
  function void main() {
    var Array a;
    var int length;
    var int i, sum;

    let length = Keyboard.readInt("How many numbers? ");
    let a = Array.new(length); // Constructs the array
    let i = 0;

    while (i < length) {
      let a[i] = Keyboard.readInt("Enter the next number: ");
      let sum = sum + a[i];
      let i = i + 1;
    }

    do Output.println("The average is: ");
    do Output.println(sum / length);
    do Output.println();
    return;
  }
}
```

Typical OS functions

Language extensions / standard library

- Mathematical operations
(`abs`, `sqrt`, ...)
- Abstract data types
(`String`, `Date`, ...)
- Output functions
(`printChar`, `printString` ...)
- Input functions
(`readChar`, `readLine` ...)
- Graphics functions
(`drawPixel`, `drawCircle`, ...)
- And more ...

System-oriented services

- Memory management
(objects, arrays, ...)
- I/O device drivers
- Mass storage
- File system
- Multi-tasking
- UI management (shell / windows)
- Security
- Communications
- And more ...

The Jack OS

- **Math:** Provides basic mathematical operations;
- **string:** Implements the `string` type and string-related operations;
- **Array:** Implements the `Array` type and array-related operations;
- **Output:** Handles text output to the screen;
- **Screen:** Handles graphic output to the screen;
- **Keyboard:** Handles user input from the keyboard;
- **Memory:** Handles memory operations;
- **Sys:** Provides some execution-related services.

Jack OS API

```
class Math {
```

```
  Class String {
```

```
    Class Array {
```

```
      class Output {
```

```
        Class Screen {
```

```
          class Memory {
```

```
            Class Keyboard {
```

```
              Class Sys {
```

```
                function void halt():
```

```
                function void error(int errorCode)
```

```
                function void wait(int duration)
```

```
              }
```

```
            }
```

```
          }
```

```
        }
```

```
      }
```

```
    }
```

```
  }
```

```
}
```

A typical OS:

- Is modular and scalable
- Empowers programmers (language extensions)
- Empowers users (file system, GUI, ...)
- Closes gaps between software and hardware
- Runs in "protected mode"
- Typically written in some high level language
- Typically grow gradually, assuming more and more functions
- Must be efficient.

Efficiency first

- We have to implement various operations on n -bit binary numbers ($n = 16, 32, 64, \dots$). Example: multiplication

- Naïve algorithm: to multiply $x*y$: { for $i = 1 \dots y$ do $sum = sum + x$ }

Run-time is proportional to y

In a 64-bit system, y can be as large as 2^{64} .

The multiplication will take years to complete

If the run-time were proportional to 64 instead, we are OK

- In general, algorithms that operate on n -bit inputs are either:
 - Naïve: run-time is prop. to the value of the n -bit inputs
 - Good: run-time is proportional to n .

Example I: multiplication

The "steps"

$$\begin{array}{r}
 1\ 0\ 1\ 1 = 1\ 1 \\
 1\ 0\ 1 = 5 \\
 \hline
 1\ 0\ 1\ 1 \\
 0\ 0\ 0\ 0 \\
 1\ 0\ 1\ 1 \\
 \hline
 1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 1\ 1 = 5\ 5
 \end{array}$$

The algorithm explained (first 4 of 16 iteration)

$x:$	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	
$y:$	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	j^{th} bit of y
	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1
	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1
	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
$x \cdot y:$	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	sum

multiply(x, y):

```

// Where  $x, y \geq 0$ 
sum = 0
shiftedX = x
for  $j = 0 \dots (n-1)$  do
    if ( $j$ -th bit of  $y$ ) = 1 then
        sum = sum + shiftedX
    shiftedX = shiftedX * 2
    
```

- Run-time: proportional to n
- Can be implemented in SW or HW
- Division: similar idea.

Example II: square root

- The square root function has two useful properties:
 - An inverse function that we know how to compute
 - Monotonically increasing
- Ergo, square root can be computed via binary search:

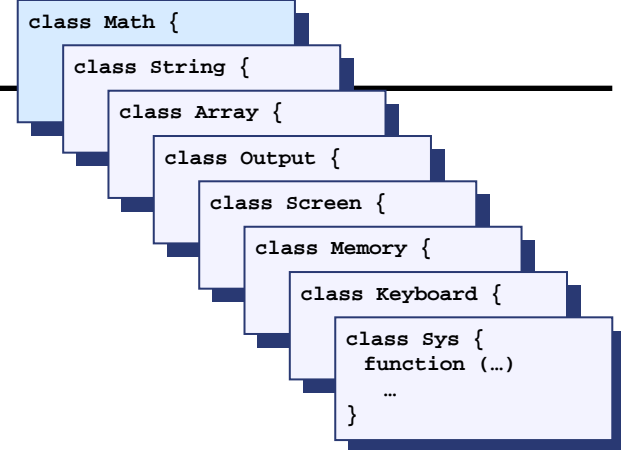
```
sqrt(x):
```

```
// Compute the integer part of  $y = \sqrt{x}$ . Strategy:  
// Find an integer  $y$  such that  $y^2 \leq x < (y+1)^2$  (for  $0 \leq x < 2^n$ )  
// By performing a binary search in the range  $0 \dots 2^{n/2} - 1$ .  
y = 0  
for j = n/2 - 1 ... 0 do  
    if  $(y + 2^j)^2 \leq x$  then  $y = y + 2^j$   
return y
```

- Number of loop iterations is bound by $n/2$, thus the run-time is $O(n)$.

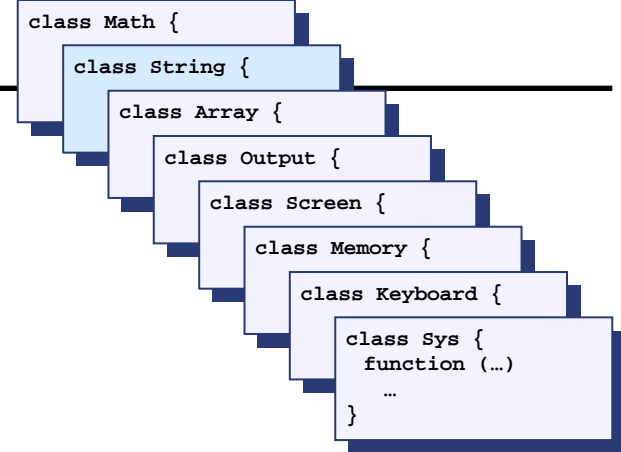
Math operations (in the Jack OS)

```
class Math {  
    function void init()  
  
    function int abs(int x)  
  
    ✓ function int multiply(int x, int y)  
    ✓ function int divide(int x, int y)  
  
    function int min(int x, int y)  
  
    function int max(int x, int y)  
  
    ✓ function int sqrt(int x)  
  
}
```



String processing (in the Jack OS)

```
Class String {  
  
    constructor String new(int maxLength)  
  
    method void    dispose()  
  
    method int     length()  
  
    method char    charAt(int j)  
  
    method void    setCharAt(int j, char c)  
  
    method String  appendChar(char c)  
  
    method void    eraseLastChar()  
  
    method int      intValue()  
  
    method void     setInt(int j)  
  
    function char  backSpace()  
  
    function char  doubleQuote()  
  
    function char  newLine()  
  
}
```



Converting a single digit to its ASCII code

Character: '0' '1' '2' '3' '4' '5' '6' '7' '8' '9'

ASCII code: 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57

- $ASCIICode(digit) == 48 + digit$
- Reverse conversion: easy.

Converting a number to a string

- SingleDigit-to-character conversions: done
- Number-to-string conversions:

```
// Convert a non-negative number to a string
```

```
int2String(n):
```

```
    lastDigit = n % 10
```

```
    c = character representing lastDigit
```

```
    if n < 10
```

```
        return c (as a string)
```

```
    else
```

```
        return int2String(n / 10).append(c)
```

```
// Convert a string to a non-negative number
```

```
string2Int(s):
```

```
    v = 0
```

```
    for i = 1 ... length of s do
```

```
        d = integer value of the digit s[i]
```

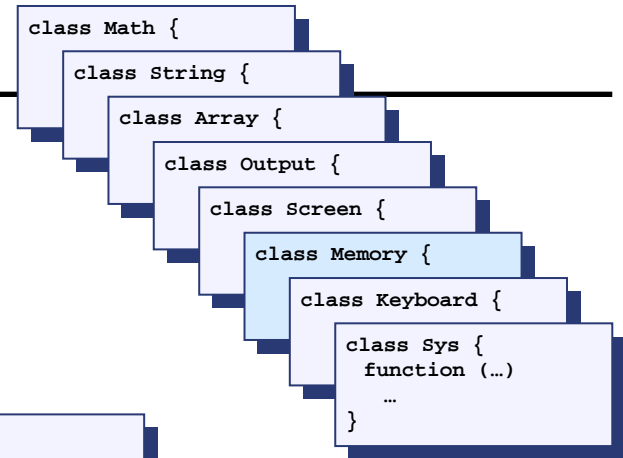
```
        v = v * 10 + d
```

```
    return v
```

```
    // (Assuming that s[1] is the most
```

```
    // significant digit character of s.)
```

Memory management (in the Jack OS)



```
class Memory {  
  
    function int peek(int address)  
  
    function void poke(int address, int value)  
  
    function Array alloc(int size)  
  
    function void deAlloc(Array o)  
  
}
```


Memory management (simple)

- When a program constructs (deconstructs) an object, the OS has to allocate (de-allocate) a RAM block on the heap:
 - `alloc(size)`: returns a reference to a free RAM block of size `size`
 - `deAlloc(object)`: recycles the RAM block that `object` points at

Initialization: `free = heapBase`

```
// Allocate a memory block of size words.
```

```
alloc(size):
```

```
    pointer = free
```

```
    free = free + size
```

```
    return pointer
```

```
// De-allocate the memory space of a given object.
```

```
deAlloc(object):
```

```
    do nothing
```

- The data structure that this algorithm manages is a single pointer: `free`.

Memory management (improved)

Initialization:

```
freeList = heapBase  
freeList.length = heapLength  
freeList.next = null
```

```
// Allocate a memory space of size words.
```

alloc(size):

```
Search freeList using best-fit or first-fit heuristics  
to obtain a segment with segment.length > size
```

```
If no such segment is found, return failure  
(or attempt defragmentation)
```

```
block = needed part of the found segment  
(or all of it, if the segment remainder is too small)
```

```
Update freeList to reflect the allocation
```

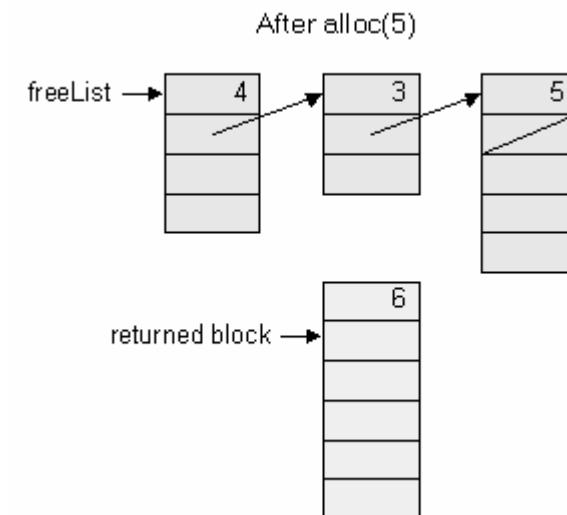
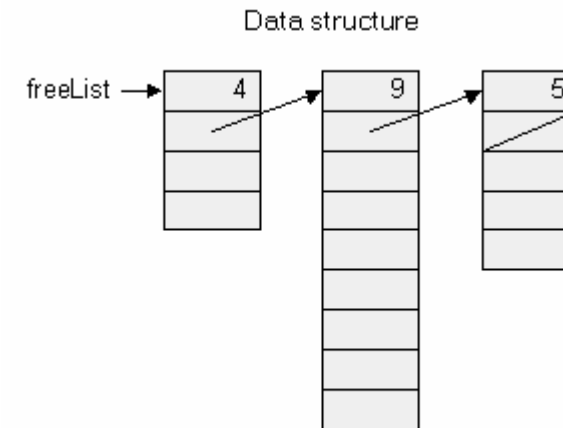
```
block[-1] = size + 1 // Remember block size, for de-allocation
```

```
Return block
```

```
// Deallocate a decommissioned object.
```

deAlloc(object):

```
segment = object - 1  
segment.length = object[-1]  
Insert segment into the freeList
```



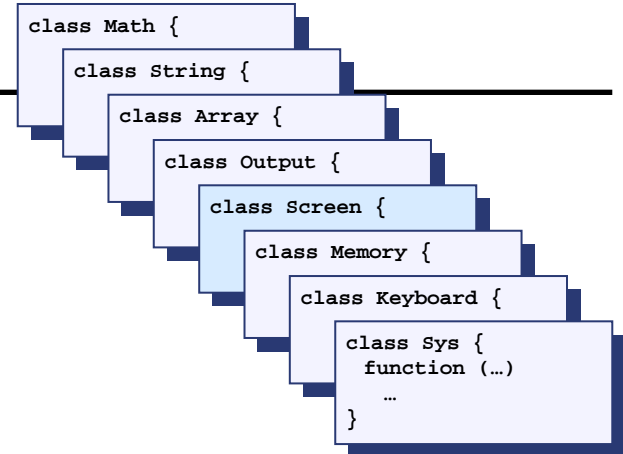
Peek and poke

```
class Memory {  
    function int peek(int address)  
    function void poke(int address, int value)  
    function Array alloc(int size)  
    function void deAlloc(Array o)  
}
```

- Implementation: exploiting exotic casting in Jack:

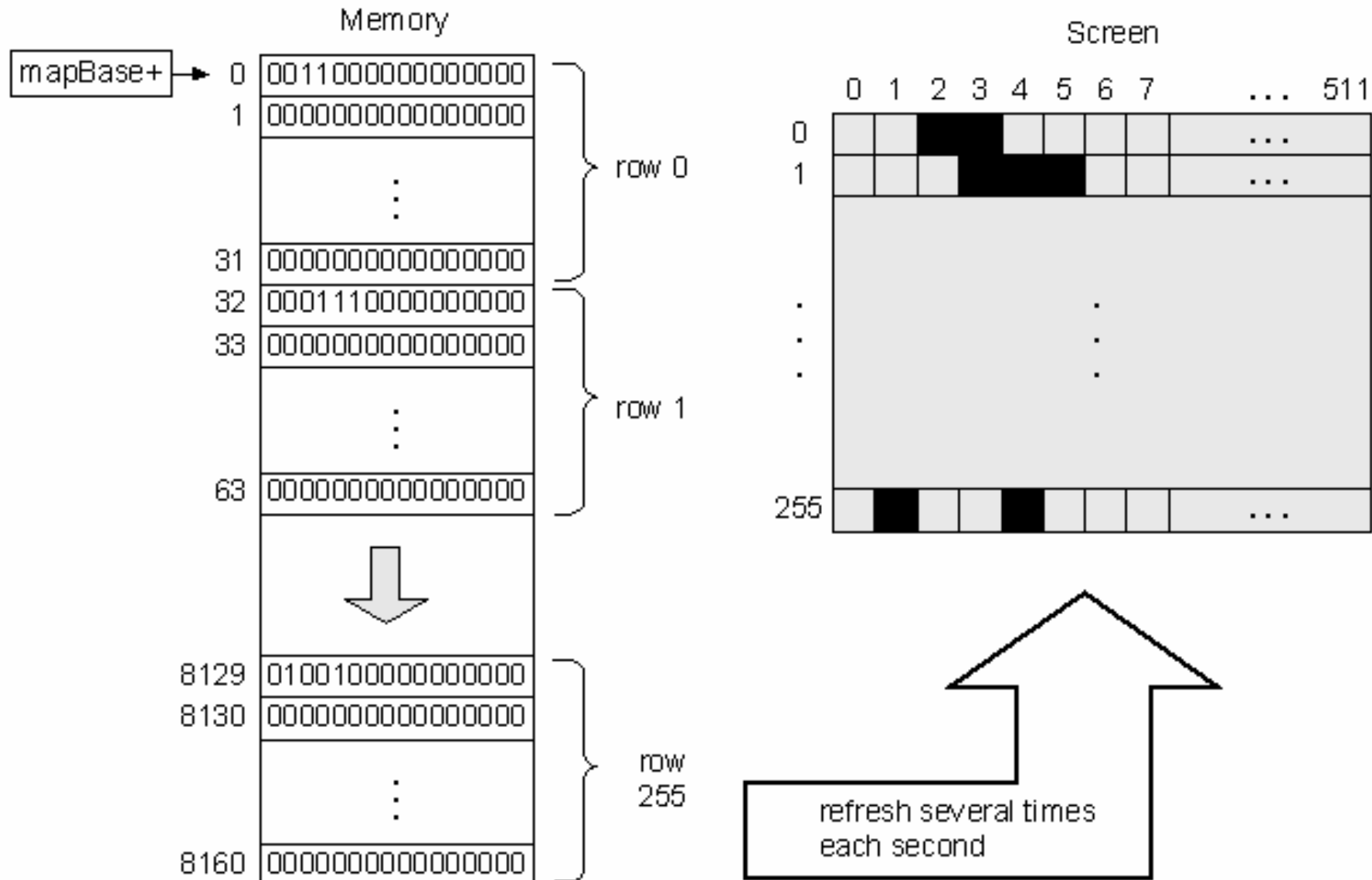
```
// To create a Jack-level "proxy" of the RAM:  
var Array memory;  
let memory = 0;  
// From this point on we can use code like:  
let x = memory[j] // Where j is any RAM address  
let memory[j] = y // Where j is any RAM address
```

Graphics primitives (in the Jack OS)



```
Class Screen {  
  
  function void clearScreen()  
  
  function void setColor(boolean b)  
  
  function void drawPixel(int x, int y)  
  
  function void drawLine(int x1, int y1, int x2, int y2)  
  
  function void drawRectangle(int x1, int y1, int x2, int y2)  
  
  function void drawCircle(int x, int y, int r)  
  
}
```

Memory-mapped screen



Pixel drawing

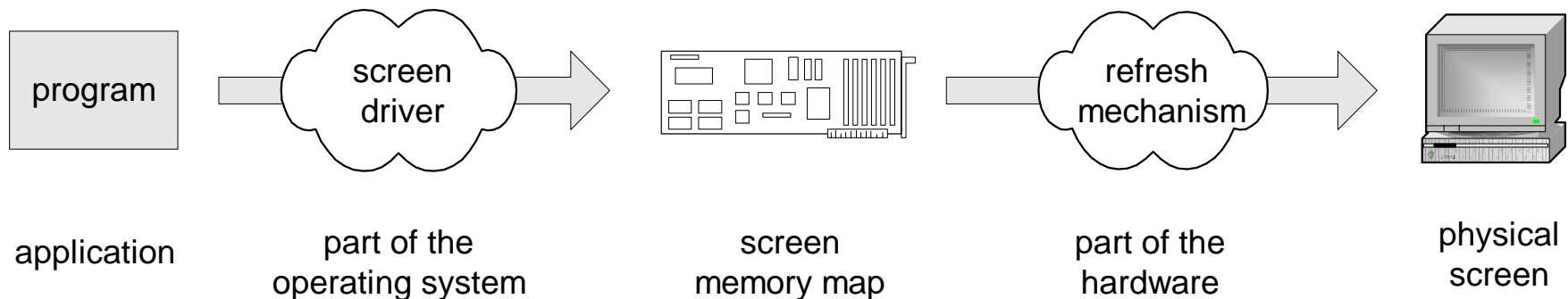
```
drawPixel (x, y):
```

```
// Hardware-specific.
```

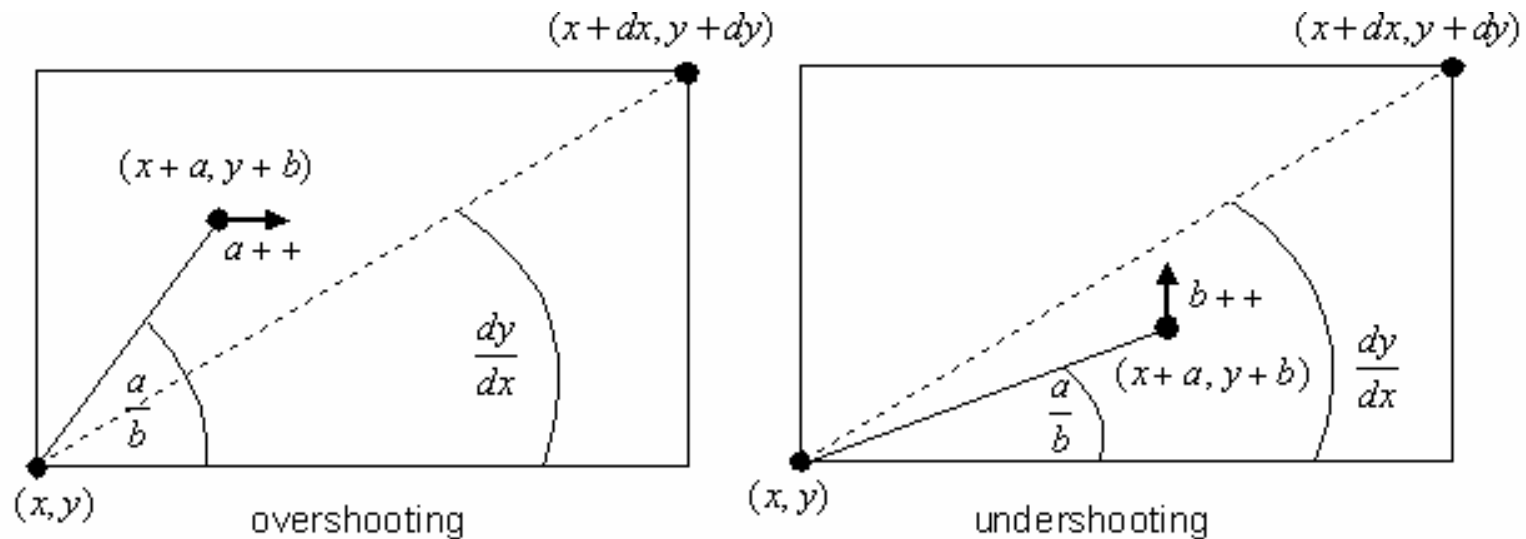
```
// Assuming a memory mapped screen:
```

```
Write a predetermined value in the RAM  
location corresponding to screen location (x, y).
```

■ Implementation: using `poke(address,value)`



Line drawing



```
drawLine(x, y, x+dx, y+dy):
```

```
// Assuming dx, dy > 0
```

```
initialize (a, b) = (0, 0)
```

```
while a ≤ dx and b ≤ dy do
```

```
    drawPixel (x+a, y+b)
```

```
    if a/dx < b/dy then a++ else b++
```

- dx=0 and dy=0 are not handled
- Must also handle (dx,dy<0), (dx>0,dy<0), (dx<0,dy>0)

Line drawing

```
drawLine( $x, y, x+dx, y+dy$ ):  
  // Assuming  $dx, dy > 0$   
  initialize  $(a, b) = (0, 0)$   
  while  $a \leq dx$  and  $b \leq dy$  do  
    drawPixel( $x+a, y+b$ )  
    if  $a/dx < b/dy$  then  $a++$  else  $b++$ 
```

$a/dx < b/dy$ is the same as $a*dy < b*dx$

```
// To test whether  $a/dx < b/dy$ , maintain a variable adyMinusbdx,  
// and test if it becomes negative.
```

```
Initialization:          set adyMinusbdx = 0
```

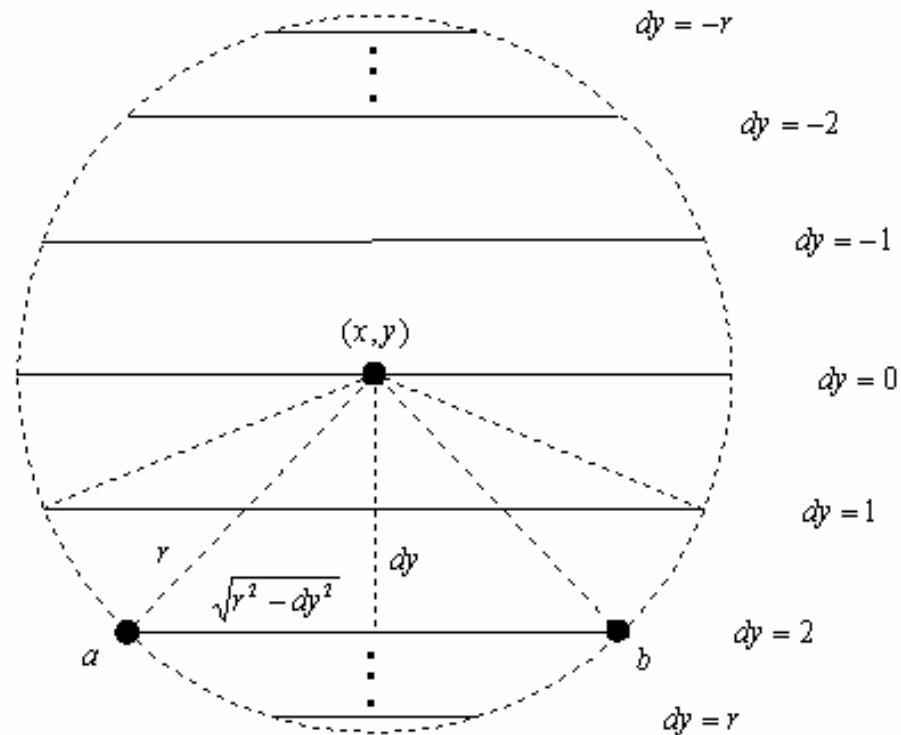
```
When  $a++$  is performed: set adyMinusbdx = adyMinusbdx +  $dy$ 
```

```
When  $b++$  is performed: set adyMinusbdx = adyMinusbdx -  $dx$ 
```

And so we are back to addition ...

Circle drawing

The screen origin (0,0) is at the top left.



$$\text{point } a = (x - \sqrt{r^2 - dy^2}, y + dy)$$

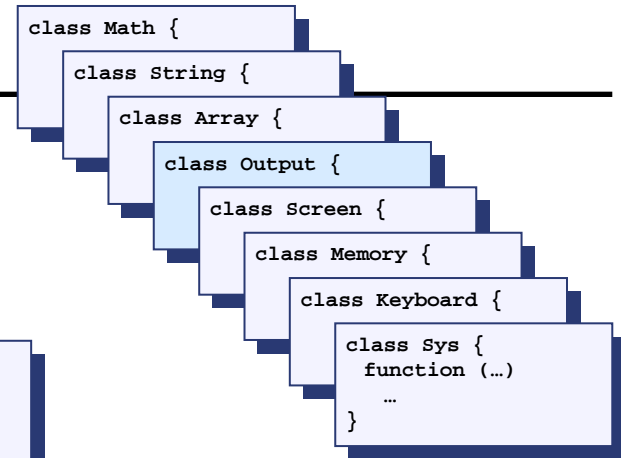
$$\text{point } b = (x + \sqrt{r^2 - dy^2}, y + dy)$$

drawCircle(x, y, r):

for each $dy \in -r \dots r$ do

drawLine from $(x - \sqrt{r^2 - dy^2}, y + dy)$ to $(x + \sqrt{r^2 - dy^2}, y + dy)$

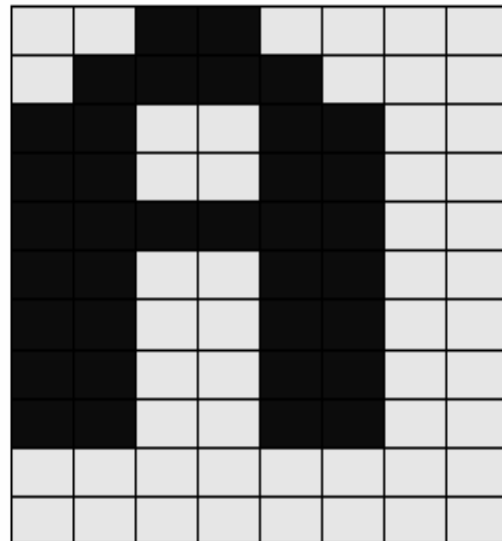
Character output primitives (in the Jack OS)



```
class Output {  
  function void moveCursor(int i, int j)  
  function void printChar(char c)  
  function void printString(String s)  
  function void printInt(int i)  
  function void println()  
  function void backSpace()  
}
```

Character output

- Given: a physical screen, say 256 rows by 512 columns
- We can allocate an 11 by 8 grid for each character
- Hence, our output package should manage a 23 lines by 64 characters screen
- Each displayable character must have a bitmap
- In addition, we have to manage a "cursor".



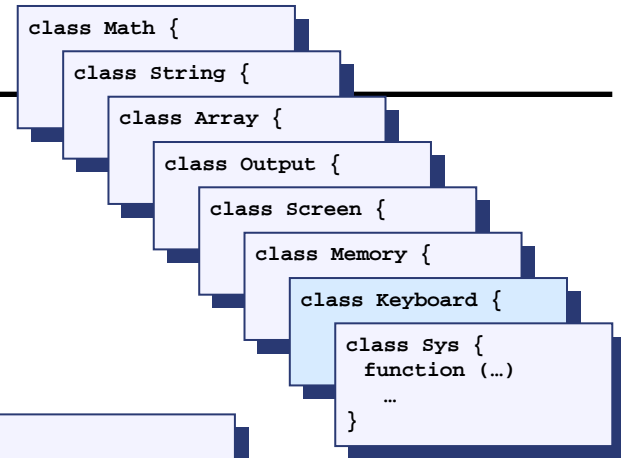
A font implementation (in the Jack OS)

```
class Output {
  static Array charMaps;
  function void initMap() {
    let charMaps = Array.new(127);
    // Assign a bitmap for each character
    do Output.create(32,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0); // space
    do Output.create(33,12,30,30,30,12,12,0,12,12,0,0); // !
    do Output.create(34,54,54,20,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0); // "
    do Output.create(35,0,18,18,63,18,18,63,18,18,0,0); // #
    ...
    do Output.create(48,12,30,51,51,51,51,51,30,12,0,0); // 0
    do Output.create(49,12,14,15,12,12,12,12,12,63,0,0); // 1
    do Output.create(50,30,51,48,24,12,6,3,51,63,0,0); // 2
    . . .
    do Output.create(65,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0); // A ** TO BE FILLED **
    do Output.create(66,31,51,51,51,31,51,51,51,31,0,0); // B
    do Output.create(67,28,54,35,3,3,3,35,54,28,0,0); // C
    . . .
    return;
  }
}

// Creates a character map array
function void create(int index, int a, int b, int c, int d, int e,
                    int f, int g, int h, int i, int j, int k) {

  var Array map;
  let map = Array.new(11);
  let charMaps[index] = map;
  let map[0] = a;
  let map[1] = b;
  let map[2] = c;
  ...
  let map[10] = k;
  return; }
}
```

Keyboard primitives (in the Jack OS)



```
Class Keyboard {  
  
    function char keyPressed()  
  
    function char readChar()  
  
    function String readLine(String message)  
  
    function int readInt(String message)  
  
}
```

Keyboard input

```
keyPressed():
```

```
// Depends on the specifics of the keyboard interface  
if a key is presently pressed on the keyboard  
    return the ASCII value of the key  
else  
    return 0
```

- If the RAM address of the keyboard's memory map is known, can be implemented using a peek function
- Problem I: the elapsed time between a "key press" and key release" events is unpredictable
- Problem II: when pressing a key, the user should get some visible feedback (cursor, echo, ...).

Keyboard input (cont.)

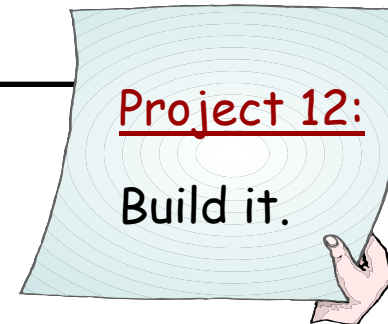
readChar():

```
// Read and echo a single character
display the cursor
while no key is pressed on the keyboard
    do nothing // wait till the user presses a key
c = code of currently pressed key
while a key is pressed
    do nothing // wait for the user to let go
print c at the current cursor location
move the cursor one position to the right
return c
```

readLine():

```
// Read and echo a "line" (until newline)
s = empty string
repeat
    c = readChar()
    if c = newline character
        print newline
        return s
    else if c = backspace character
        remove last character from s
        move the cursor 1 position back
    else
        s = s.append(c)
return s
```

Jack OS recap



```
class Math {
  Class String {
    Class Array {
      class Output {
        Class Screen {
          class Memory {
            Class Keyboard {
              Class Sys {
                function void halt():
                function void error(int errorCode)
                function void wait(int duration)
              }
            }
          }
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

- Implementation: similar to how GNU Unix and Linux were built:
- Start with an existing system, and gradually replace it with a new system, one library at a time.

Perspective

- What we presented can be described as a:
 - Mini OS
 - Standard library
- Many classical OS functions are missing
- No separation between user mode and OS mode
- Some algorithms (e.g. multiplication and division) are standard
- Other algorithms (e.g. line- and circle-drawing) can be accelerated with special hardware
- And, by the way, we've just finished building the computer.

The End