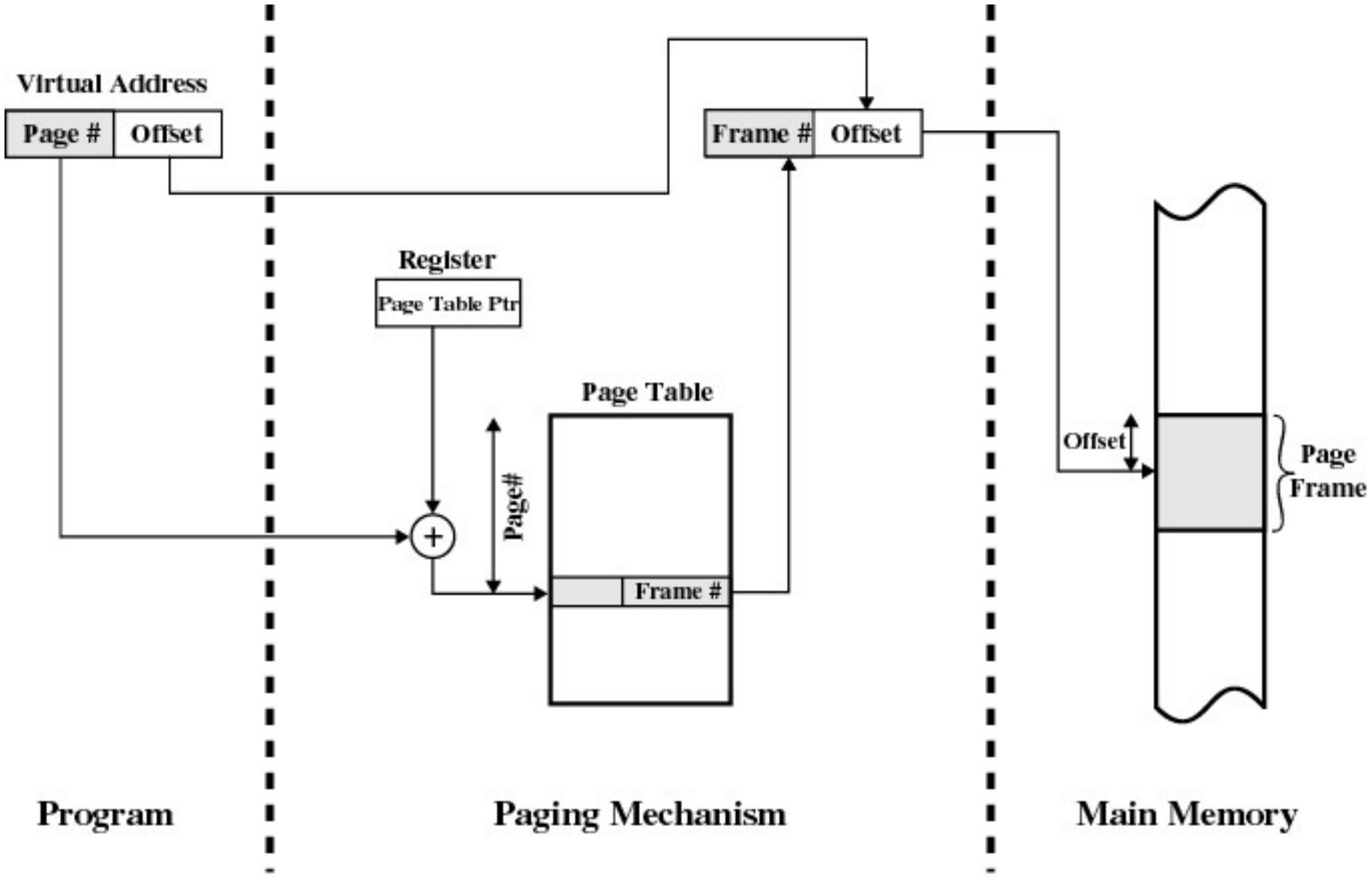
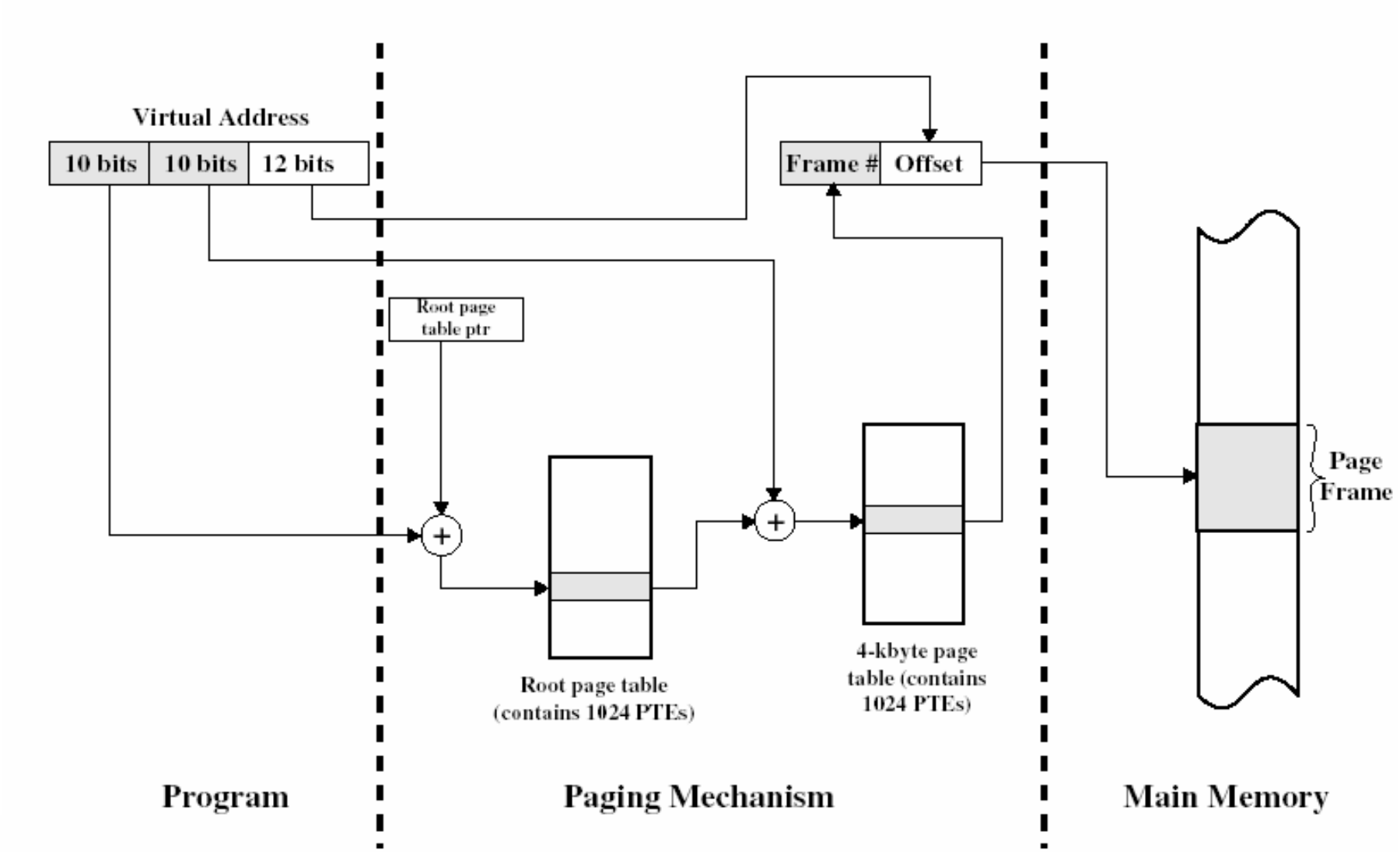


Figure 8.3 Address Translation in a Paging System

Two-level Translation



R3000 TLB Refill

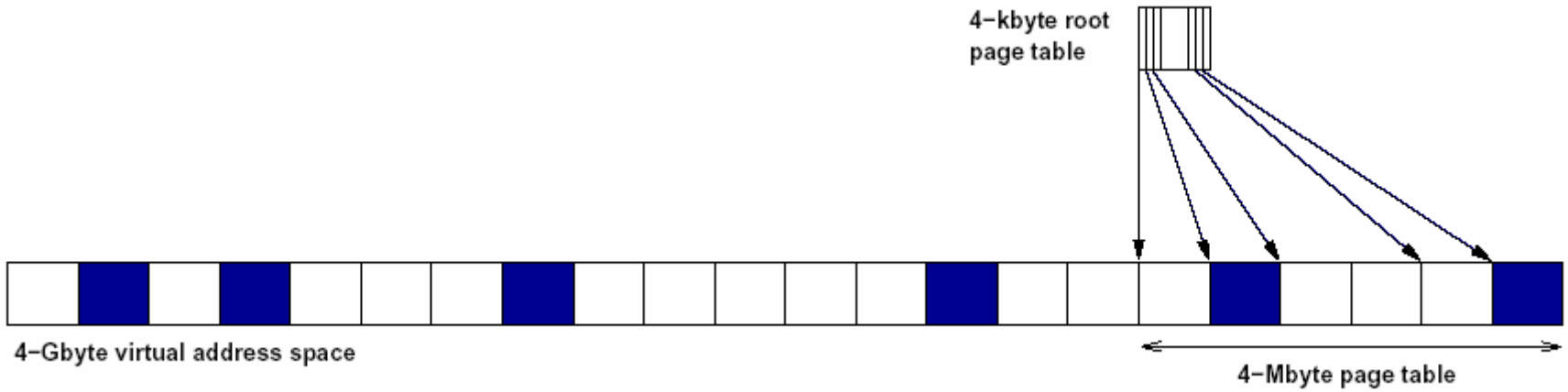
- Can be optimised for TLB refill only
  - Does not need to check the exception type
  - Does not need to save any registers
    - It uses a specialised assembly routine that only uses k0 and k1.
  - Does not check if PTE exists
    - Assumes virtual linear array – see extended OS notes
- With careful data structure choice, exception handler can be made very fast

- An example routine

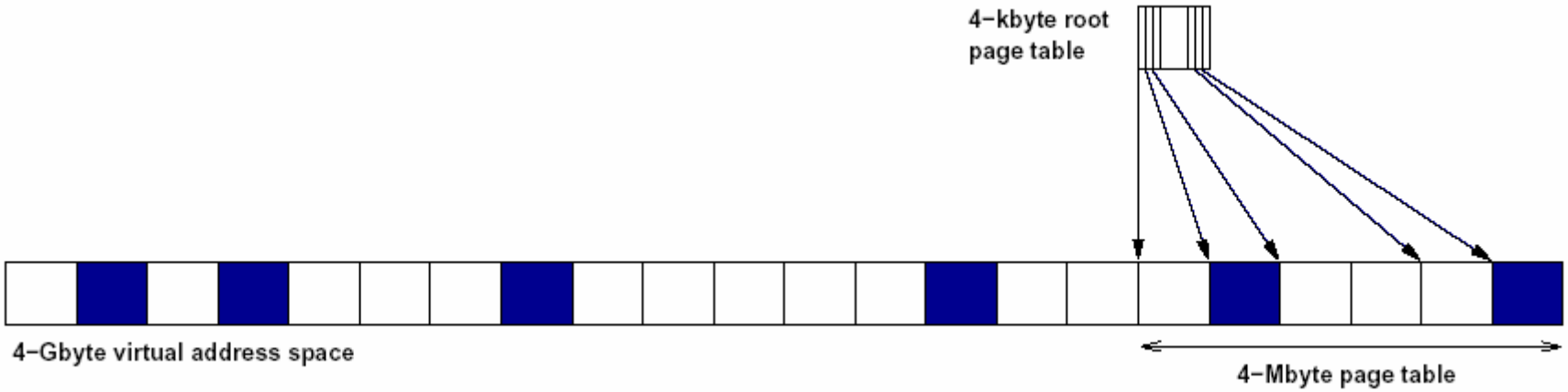
```
mfc0 k1,C0_CONTEXT
mfc0 k0,C0_EPC # mfc0 delay
                #  slot
lw k1,0(k1) # may double
   # fault (k0 = orig EPC)
nop
mtc0 k1,C0_ENTRYLO
nop
tlbwr
jr k0
rfe
```

Virtual Linear Array page table

- Assume a 2-level PT
- Assume 2nd-level PT nodes are in virtual memory
- Assume all 2nd-level nodes are allocated contiguously ⇒ 2nd-level nodes form a contiguous array indexed by page number



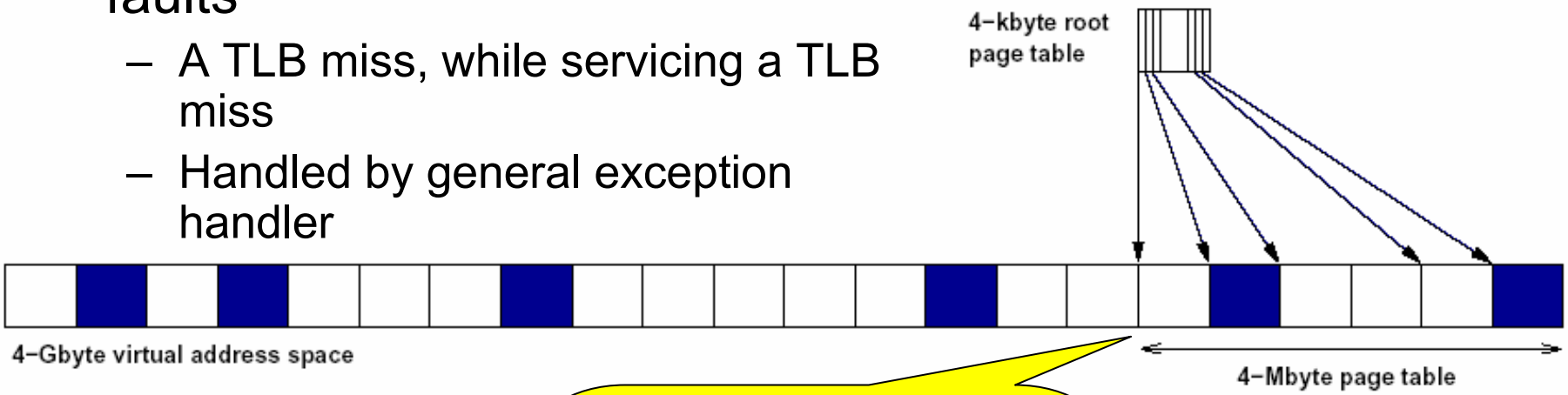
Virtual Linear Array Operation



- Index into 2nd level page table *without* referring to root PT!
- Simply use the full page number as the PT index!
- Leave unused parts of PT unmapped!
- If access is attempted to unmapped part of PT, a *secondary page fault* is triggered
  - This will load the mapping for the PT from the root PT
  - Root PT is kept in physical memory (cannot trigger page faults)

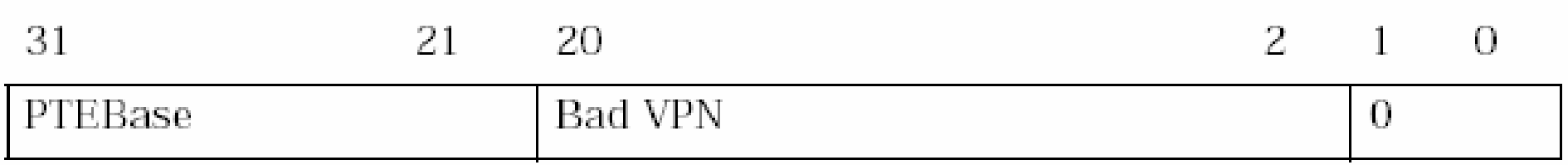
Virtual Linear Array Page Table

- Use Context register to simply load PTE by indexing a PTE array in virtual memory
- Occasionally, will get double faults
  - A TLB miss, while servicing a TLB miss
  - Handled by general exception handler



PTEbase in virtual memory in kseg2
• Protected from user access

c0 Context Register



- c0_Context = PTEBase + 4 * PageNumber
  - PTEs are 4 bytes
  - PTEBase is the base local of the page table array (note: aligned on 4 MB boundary)
  - PTEBase is (re)initialised by the OS whenever the page table array is changed
    - E.g on a context switch
  - After an exception, c0_Context contains the address of the PTE required to refill the TLB.

Code for VLA TLB refill handler

```
mfc0 k1,C0_CONTEXT
mfc0 k0,C0_EPC      # mfc0 delay slot
lw k1,0(k1)         # may double fault
                    # (k0 = orig EPC)

nop
mtc0 k1,C0_ENTRYLO
nop
tlbwr
jr k0
rfe
```

Load PTE address from context register

Move the PTE into EntryLo.

Write EntryLo into random TLB entry.

Return from the exception

Load address of instruction to return to

Load the PTE.
Note: this load can cause a TLB refill miss itself, but this miss is handled by the general exception vector. The general exception vector has to understand this situation and deal with in appropriately