

Cincom Smalltalk™ Object Memory Management

Andrés Valloud



Arrangements

Eden

Instance
creation



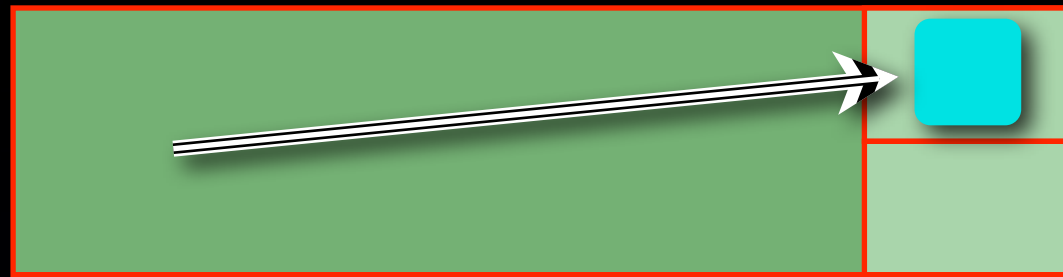
Eden

Instance
creation



Eden

Scavenge 1



Eden
SA+SB

Scavenge 2



Eden
SA+SB

Scavenge 3



Eden
SA+SB

Scavenge 4



Eden
SA+SB

Tenured



Eden
SA+SB



Old



Eden
SA+SB

IGC / GC



Old

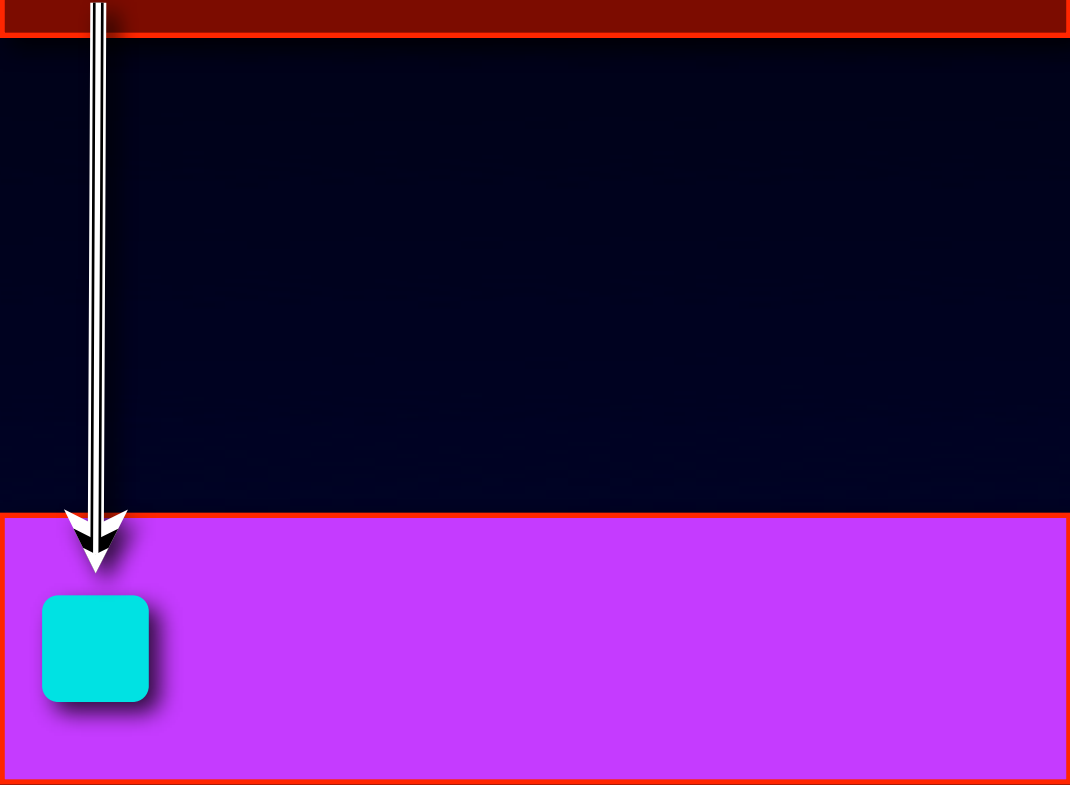


Eden
SA+SB

Perm save



Old



Perm

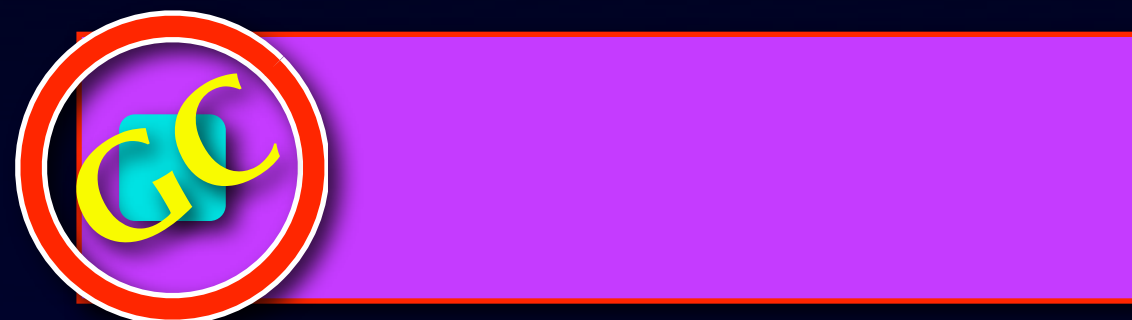


Eden
SA+SB



Global GC

Old

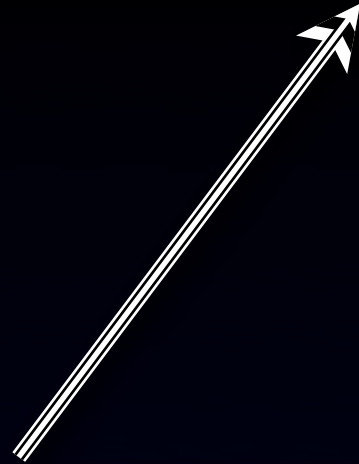


Perm

Fast scavenge?



Scavenge finds
live objects
faster



Scavenge finds
live objects
faster



IGC / GC find
live objects
faster

Responsibilities



VM scavenges
new space



VM scavenges
new space



VI must ensure
success



VM scavenges
new space



VM must ensure
success

VM signals low
memory
semaphore



VM scavenges
new space



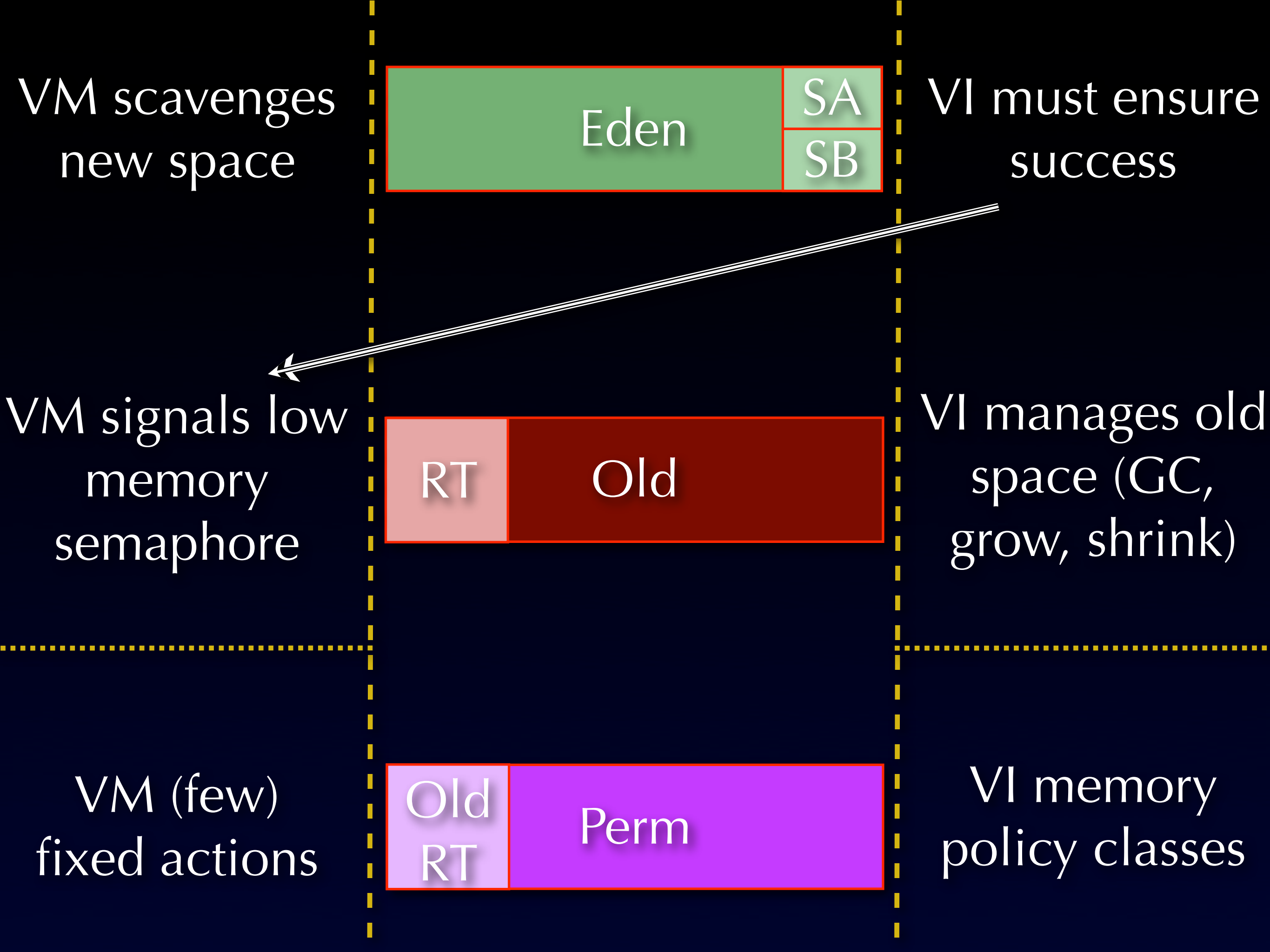
VI must ensure
success

VM signals low
memory
semaphore



VI manages old
space (GC,
grow, shrink)





Memory policies

**Worst case
scavenge**



**Worst case
scavenge**



Eden and
SA or SB full



**Worst case
scavenge**



Eden and
SA or SB full



RT grows



**Worst case
scavenge**



Eden and
SA or SB full



RT grows

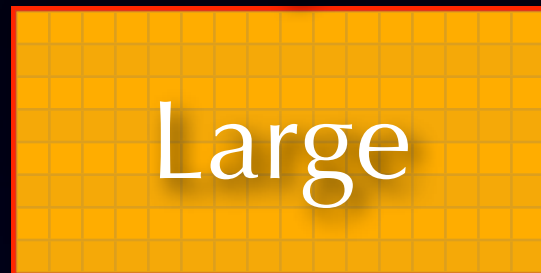


Old RT grows

**Worst case
scavenge**



Eden and
SA or SB full



RT grows

Large space
scavenged

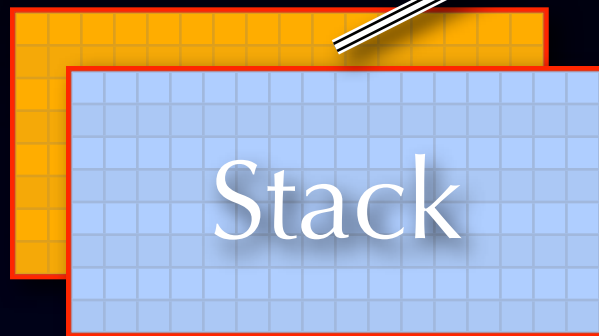


Old RT grows

**Worst case
scavenge
due to GC**



Eden and
SA or SB full



Full stack zone
flushed

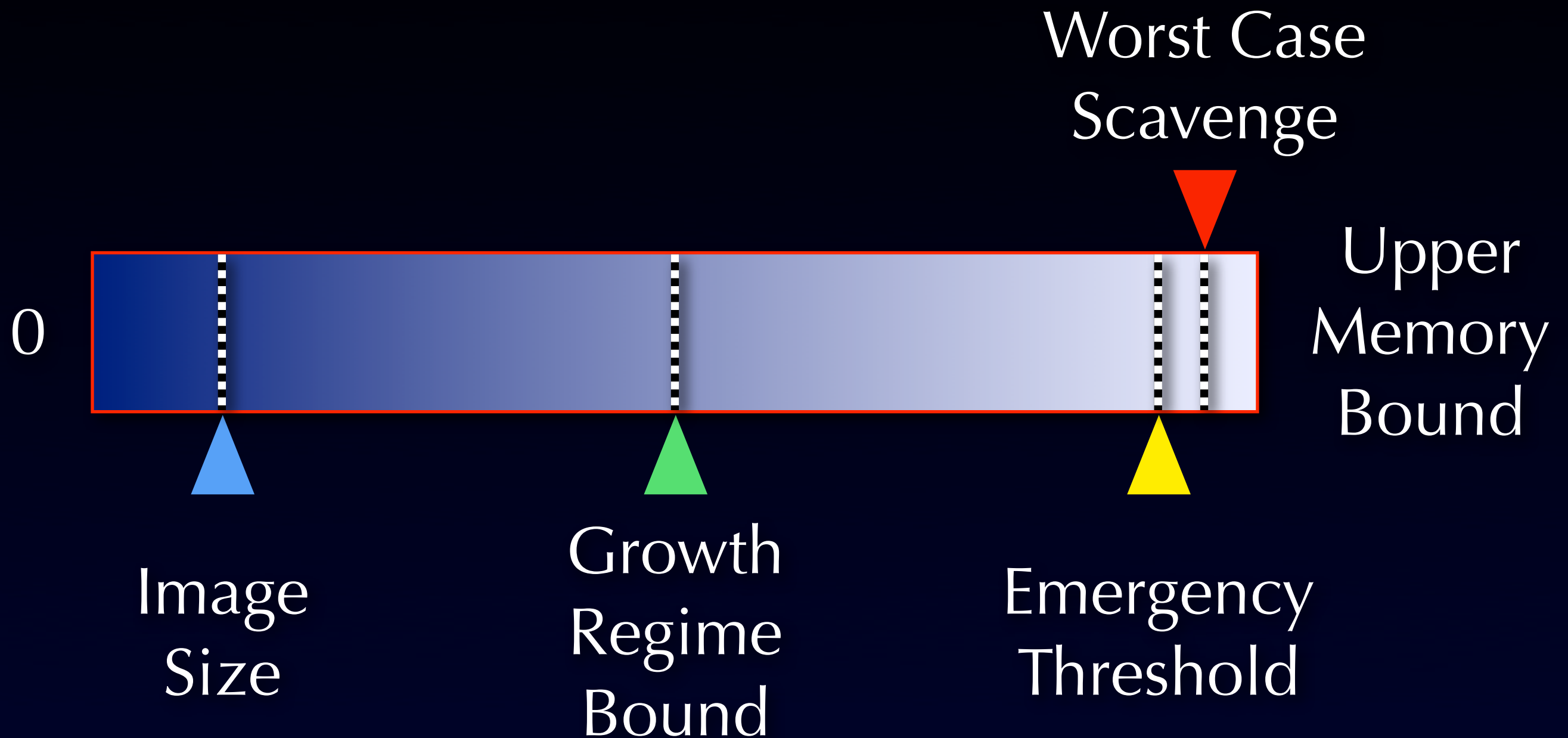


RT grows

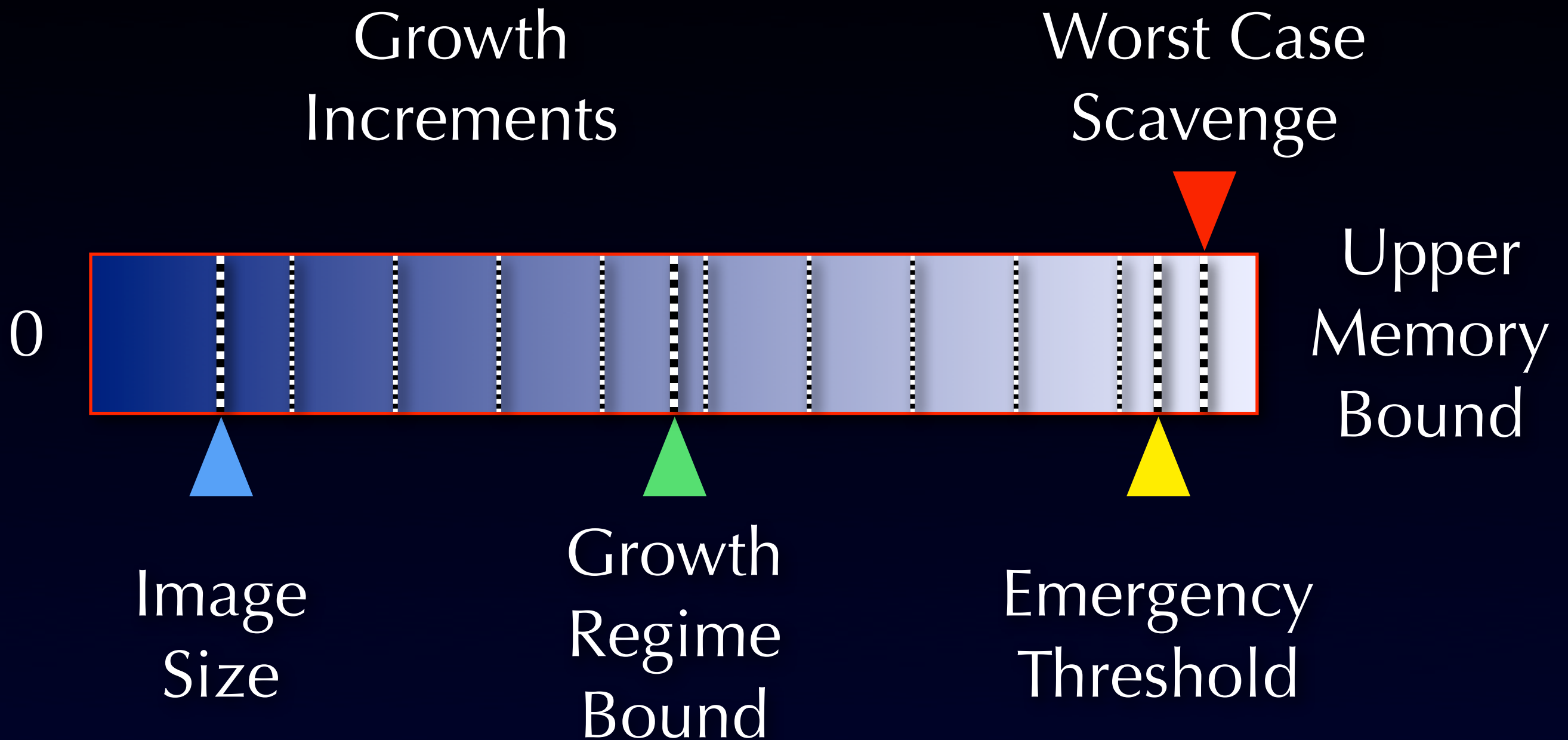


Old RT grows

The picture



The picture



Improvements since
Cincom[®] VisualWorks[®] 7.7

Fixed since VW 7.7

```
ObjectMemory>>igcState
```

```
...
```

```
aborting ifTrue: [^#aborting].
```

```
...
```

```
MemoryPolicy>>dealWithIGC
```

```
...
```

```
memoryStatus igcState = #aborted  
  ifTrue: ["recover from IGC abort"].
```

```
...
```

Fixed since VW 7.7

```
ObjectMemory>>igcState
```

```
...
```

```
aborting ifTrue: [^#aborting].
```

```
...
```

*IGC does not
recover from
stack overflow*

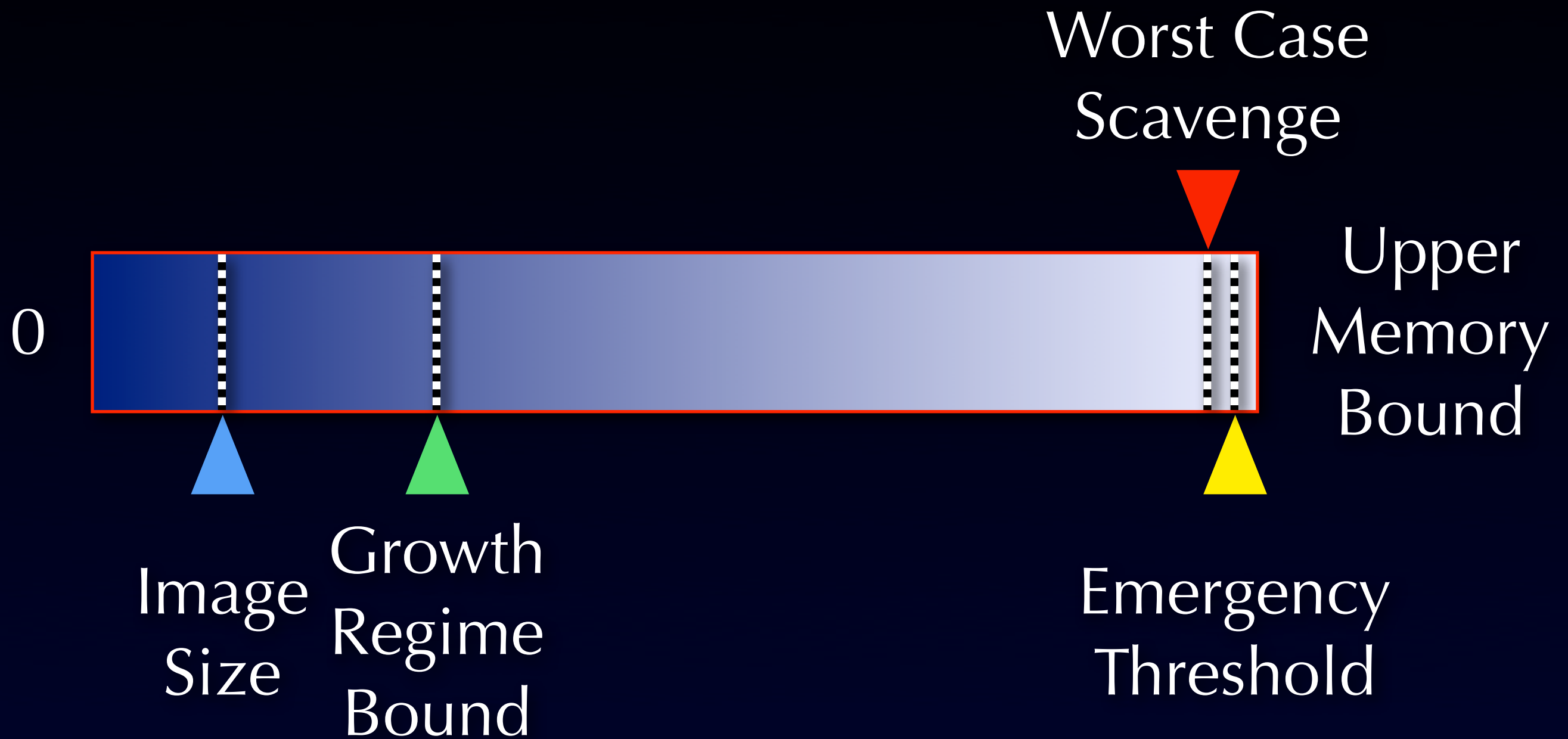
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MemoryPolicy>>dealWithIGC
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```
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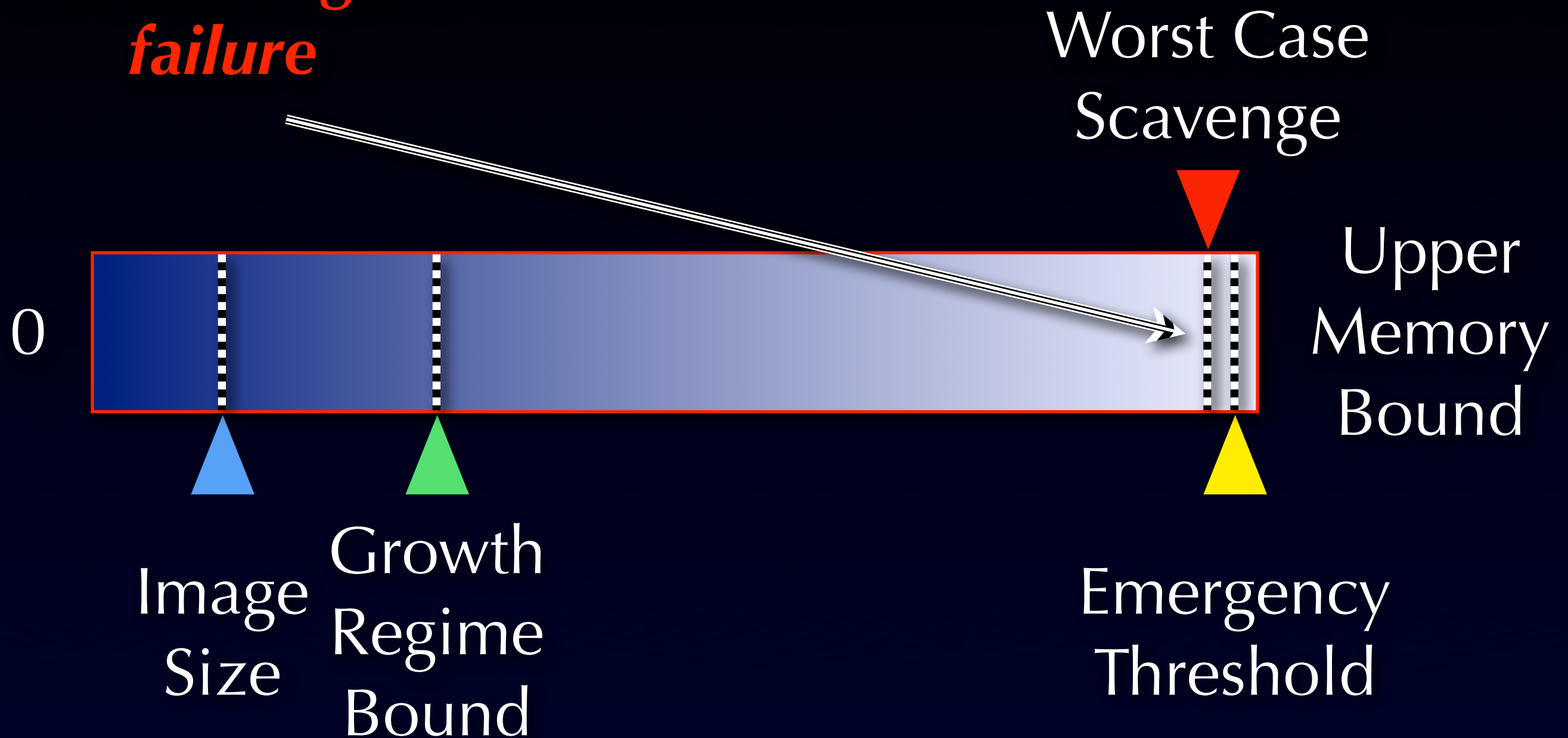
```
...
```

Fixed since VW 7.7



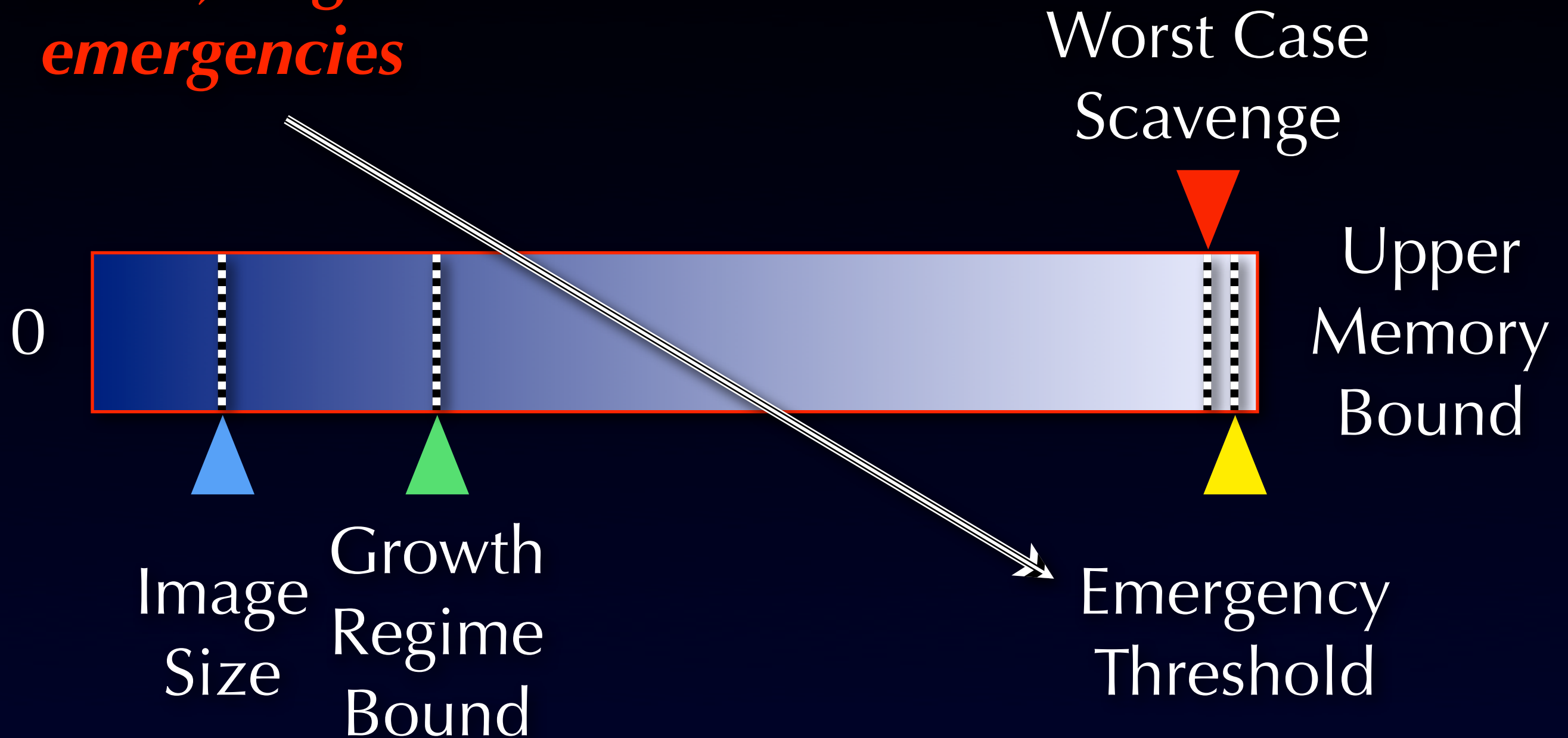
Fixed since VW 7.7

*VM crash due
to scavenge
failure*



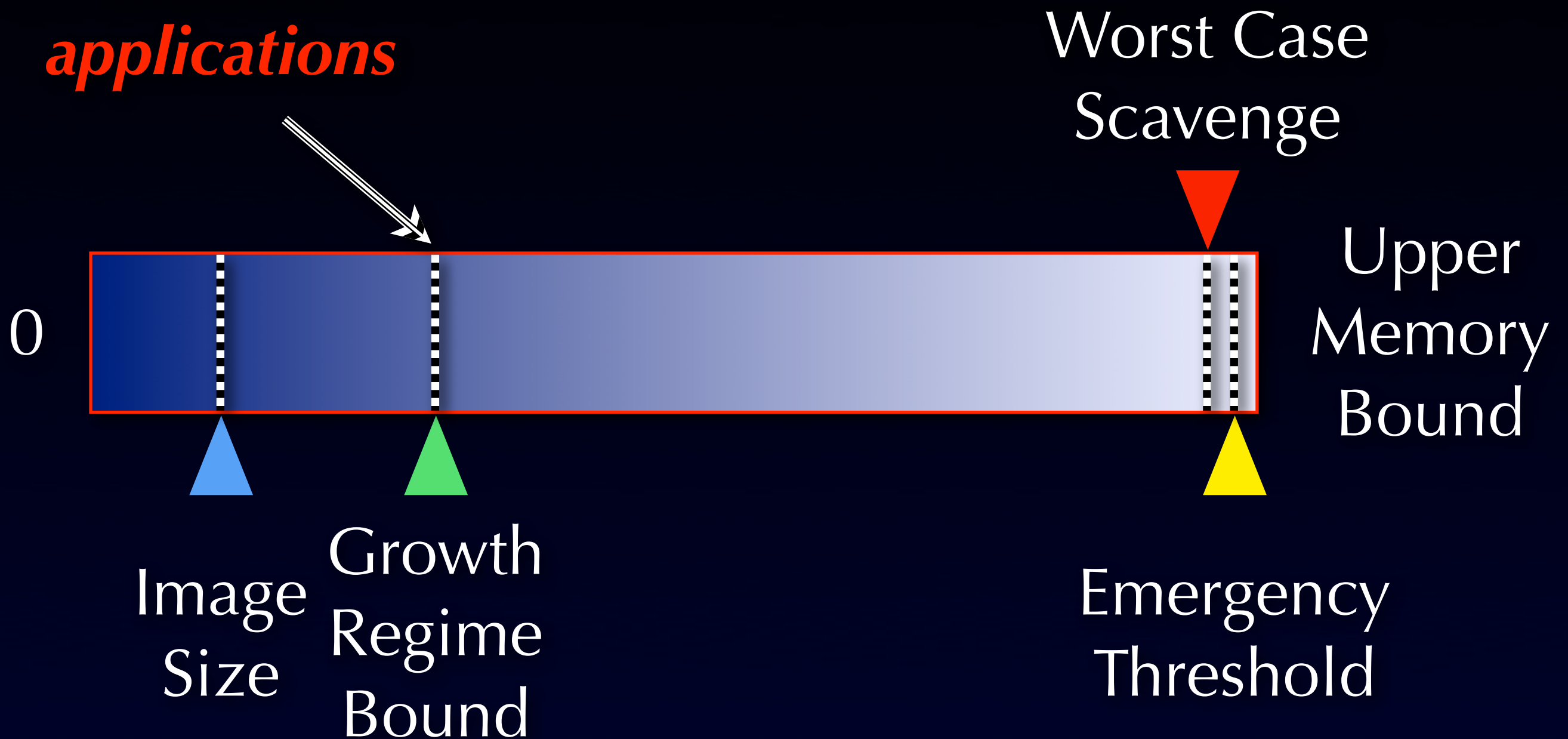
Fixed since VW 7.7

*IGC as last
resort, bogus
emergencies*



Fixed since VW 7.7

*Too low for
modern
applications*



Fixed since VW 7.7

Growth
Increments

Worst Case
Scavenge

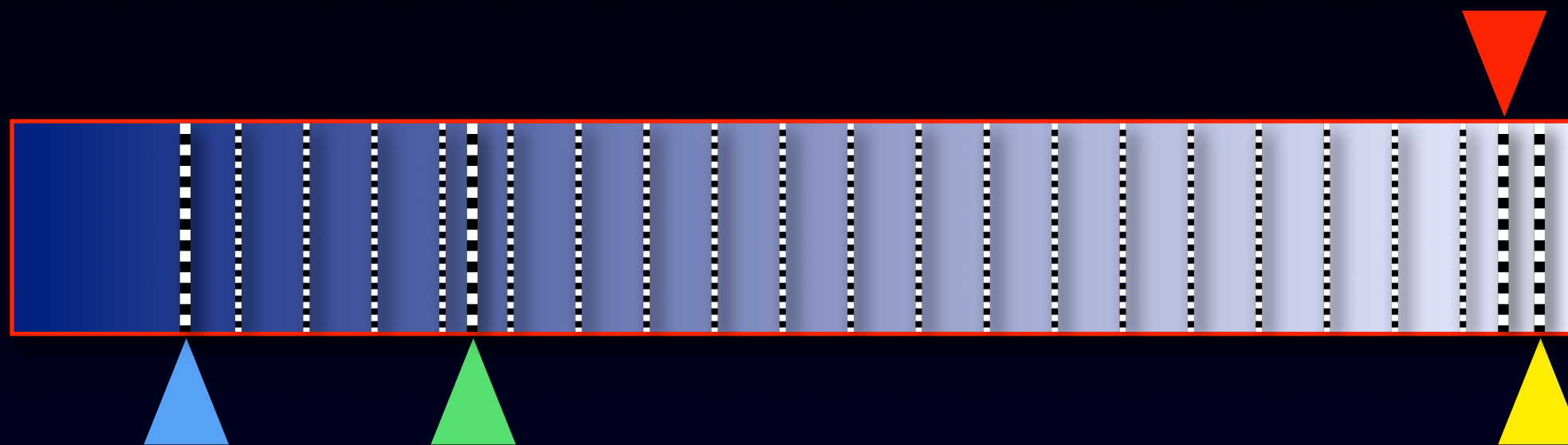
0

Upper
Memory
Bound

Image
Size

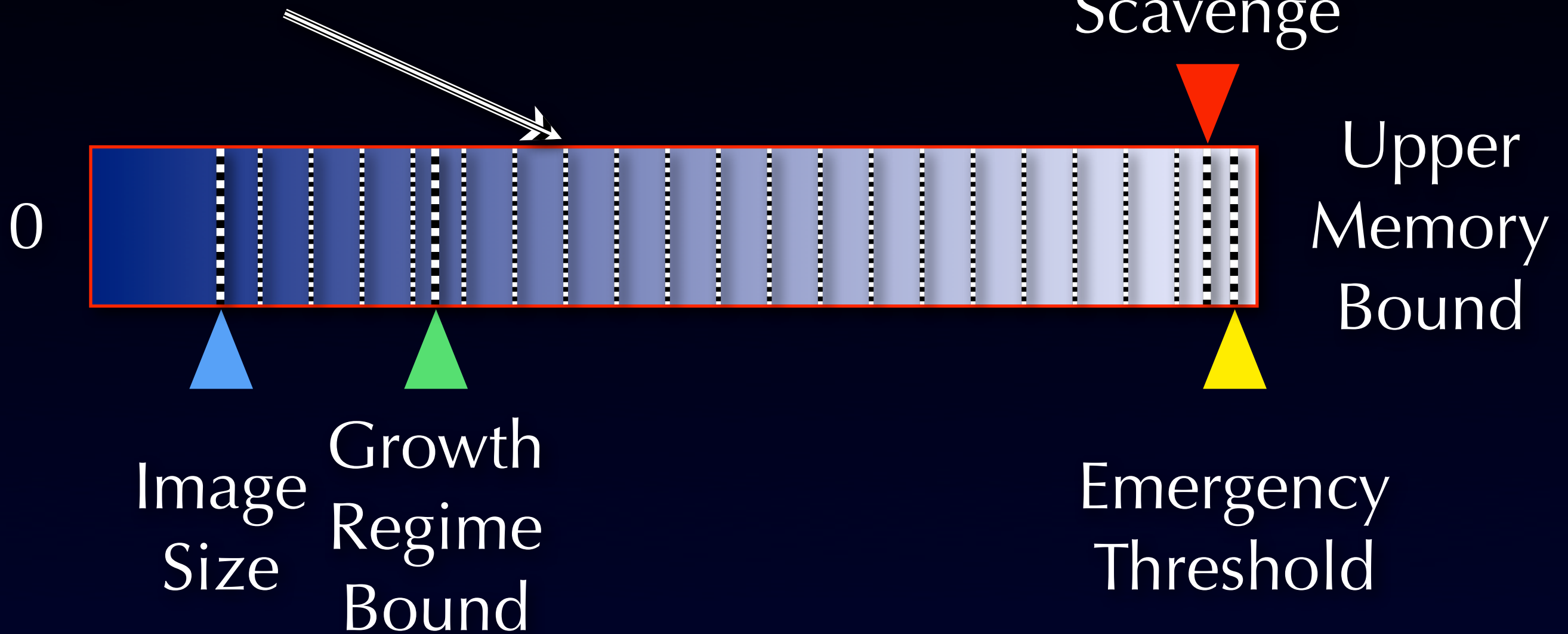
Growth
Regime
Bound

Emergency
Threshold



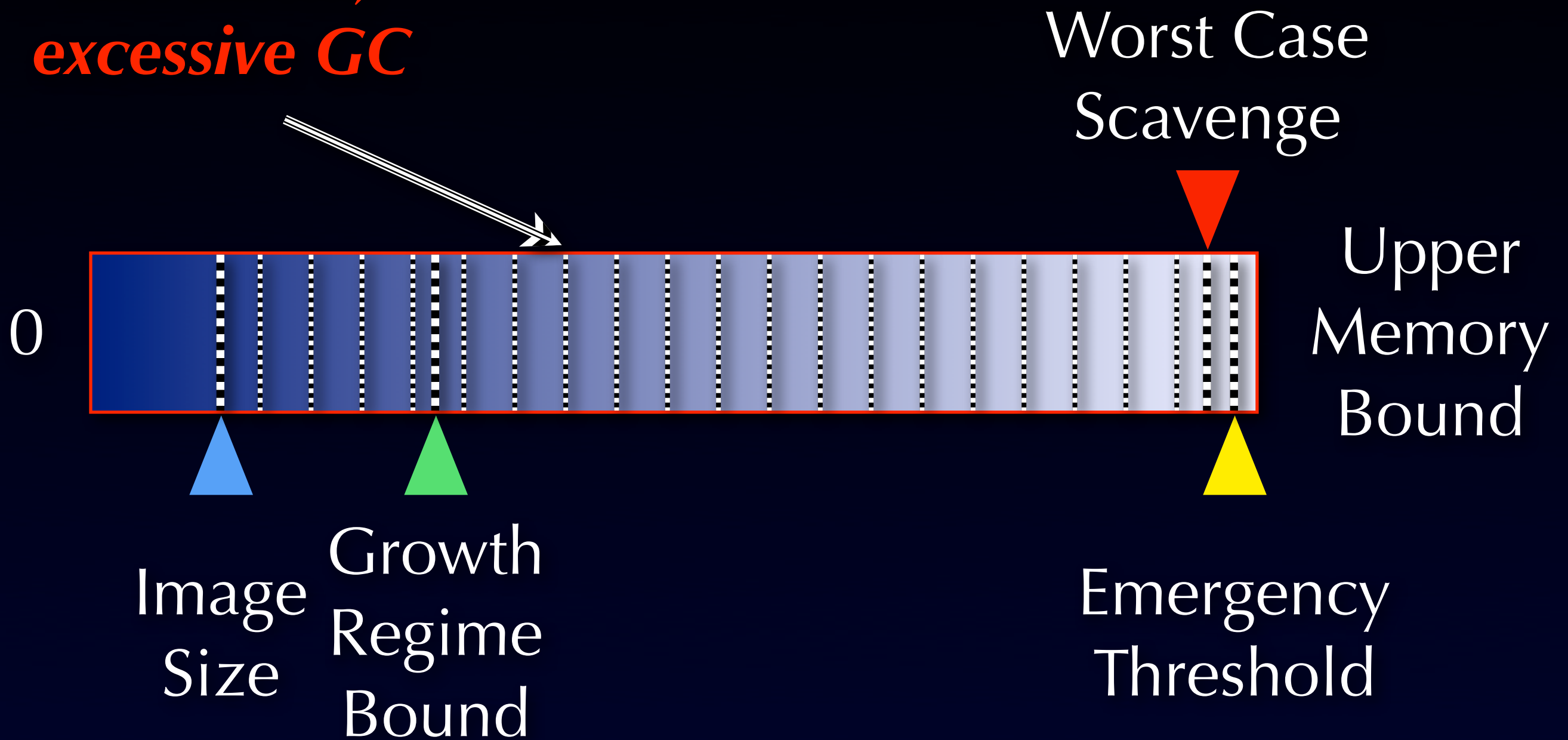
Fixed since VW 7.7

*Tiny growth
increment,
fragmentation*



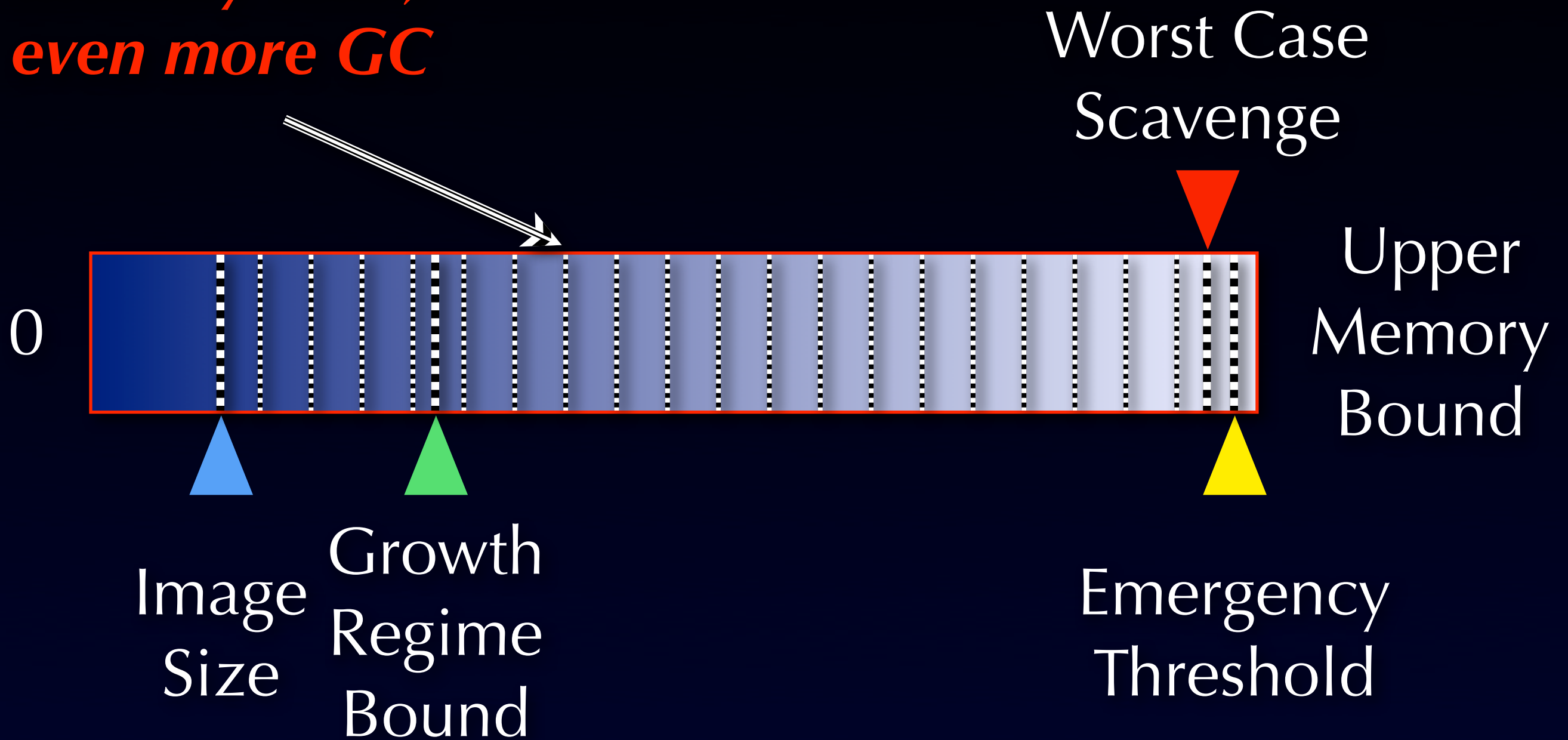
Fixed since VW 7.7

*Tiny growth
increment,
excessive GC*



Fixed since VW 7.7

*Low free
memory limit,
even more GC*



New technology

TESTS

N

TESTS

by

- MemoryPolicyChecker

N

TESTS

by

- MemoryPolicyChecker
- MemoryPolicyTuner

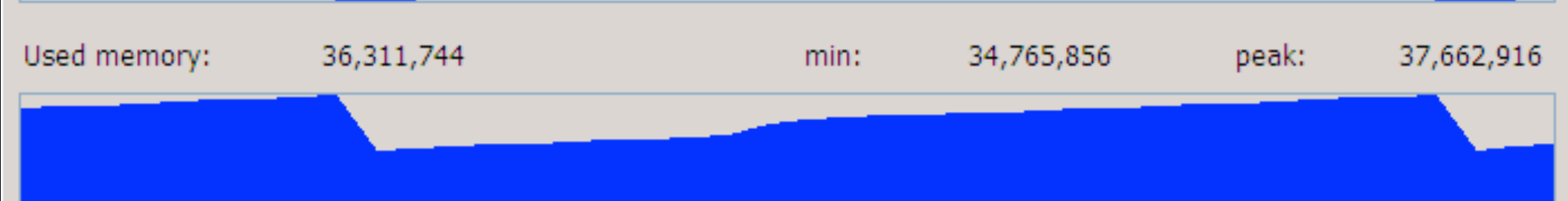
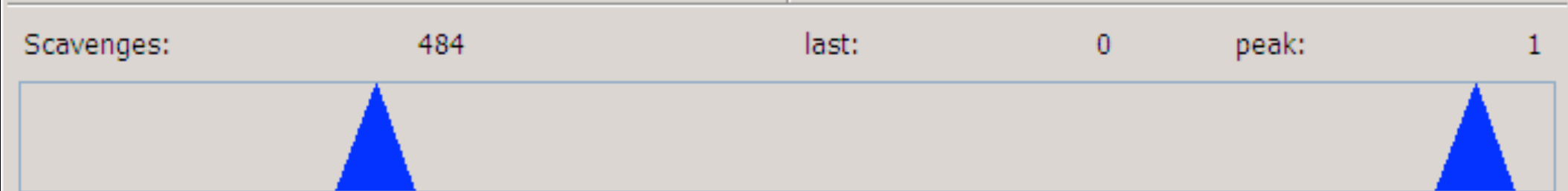
N

TESTS

by

- MemoryPolicyChecker
- MemoryPolicyTuner
- MemoryPolicyStressTest

Space		Bytes used	Segs	Space		Bytes used	Segs
Eden	<div><div></div></div> 10%	152,748	1	Large	<div><div></div></div> 42%	425,340	1
Survivor	<div><div></div></div> 14%	43,008	2	Fixed	<div><div></div></div> 0%	20	1
Old	<div><div></div></div> 3%	924,772	2	Perm	<div><div></div></div> 100%	34,765,856	1



GCs:	0	GCCs:	0	Delay:	Priority:
IGC state:	resting	IGCs:	10	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div></div></div>
Marked bytes:	735,192	Marked objects:	21,203		
Marked weak bytes:	58,664	Marked weak objects:	159		
Nilled bytes:	57,948	Nilled objects:	159		
Reclaimed bytes:	717,935	Reclaimed objects:	37,291		
Swept objects:	58,498	Unmarked objects:	0		
Sweep alloc. bytes:	106,212	Sweep alloc. objects:	3,112		
Stack spills:	342	JIT cache spills:	8		
IGC stack overflows:	0	IGC mark aborts:	0		
Mark stack overflows:	0				
Weak list overflows:	0				
				0.75	71

IGC

GC

GGC

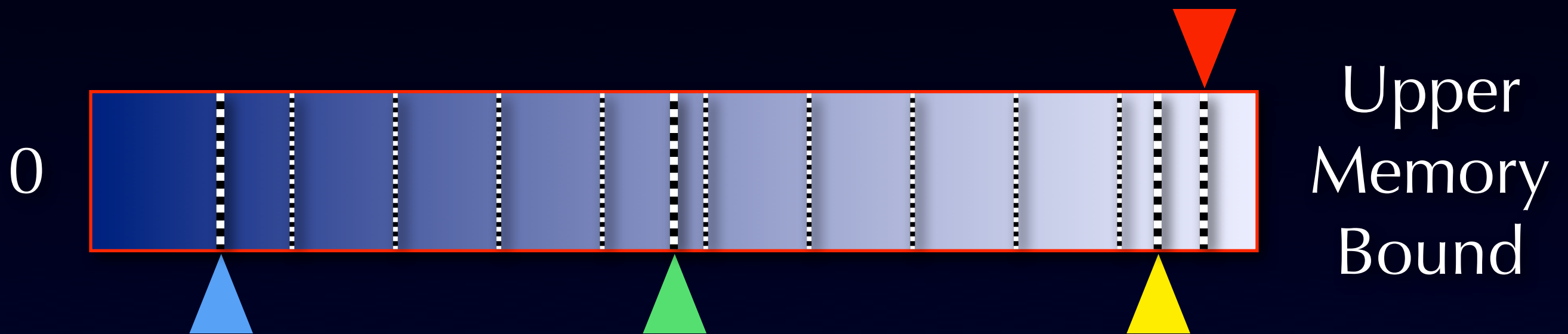
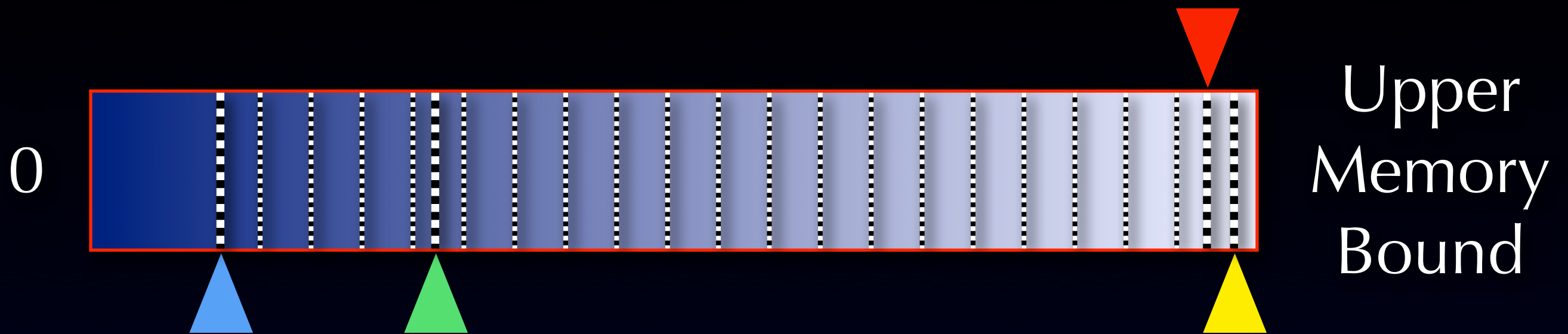
FNS

MAP

Log

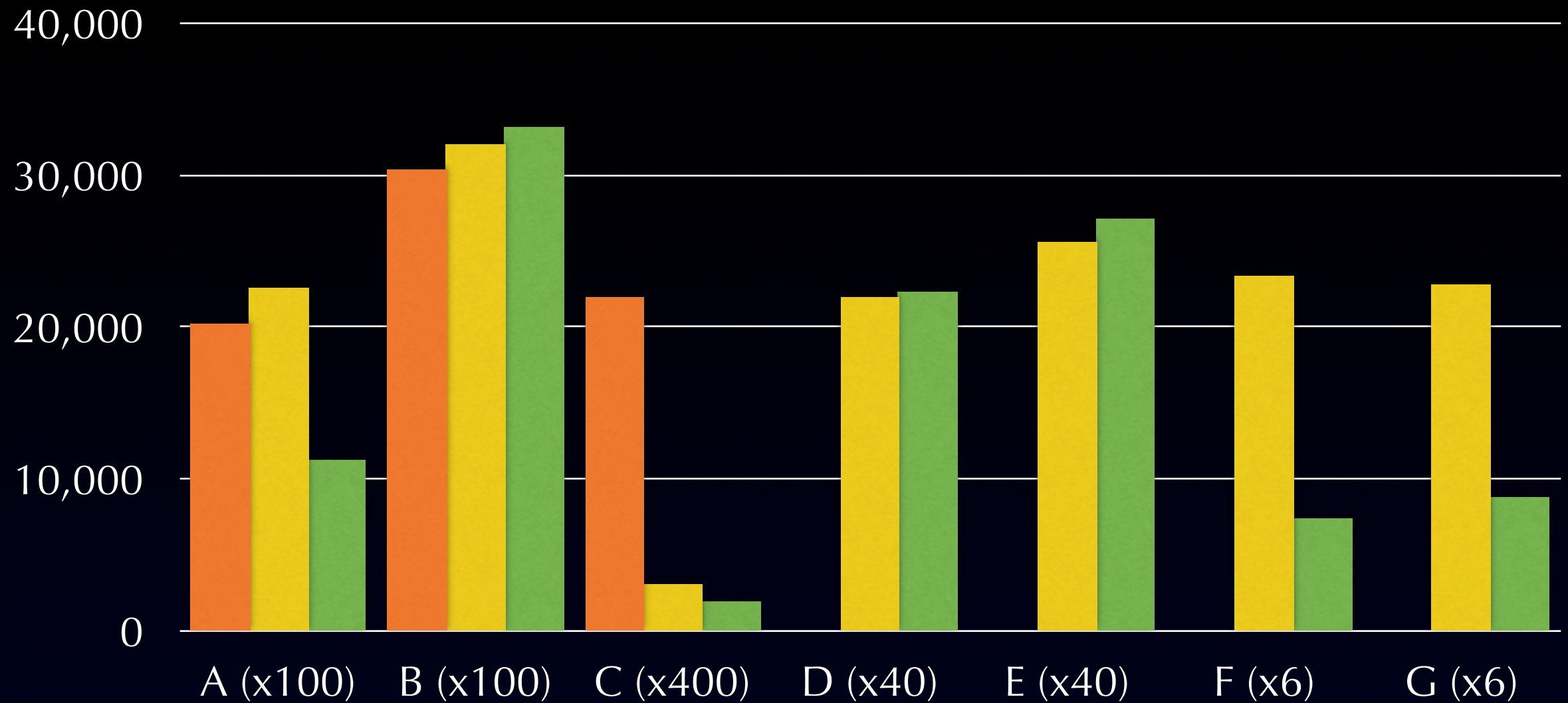
Before and after

Before



After

Run time per stress test case, in seconds



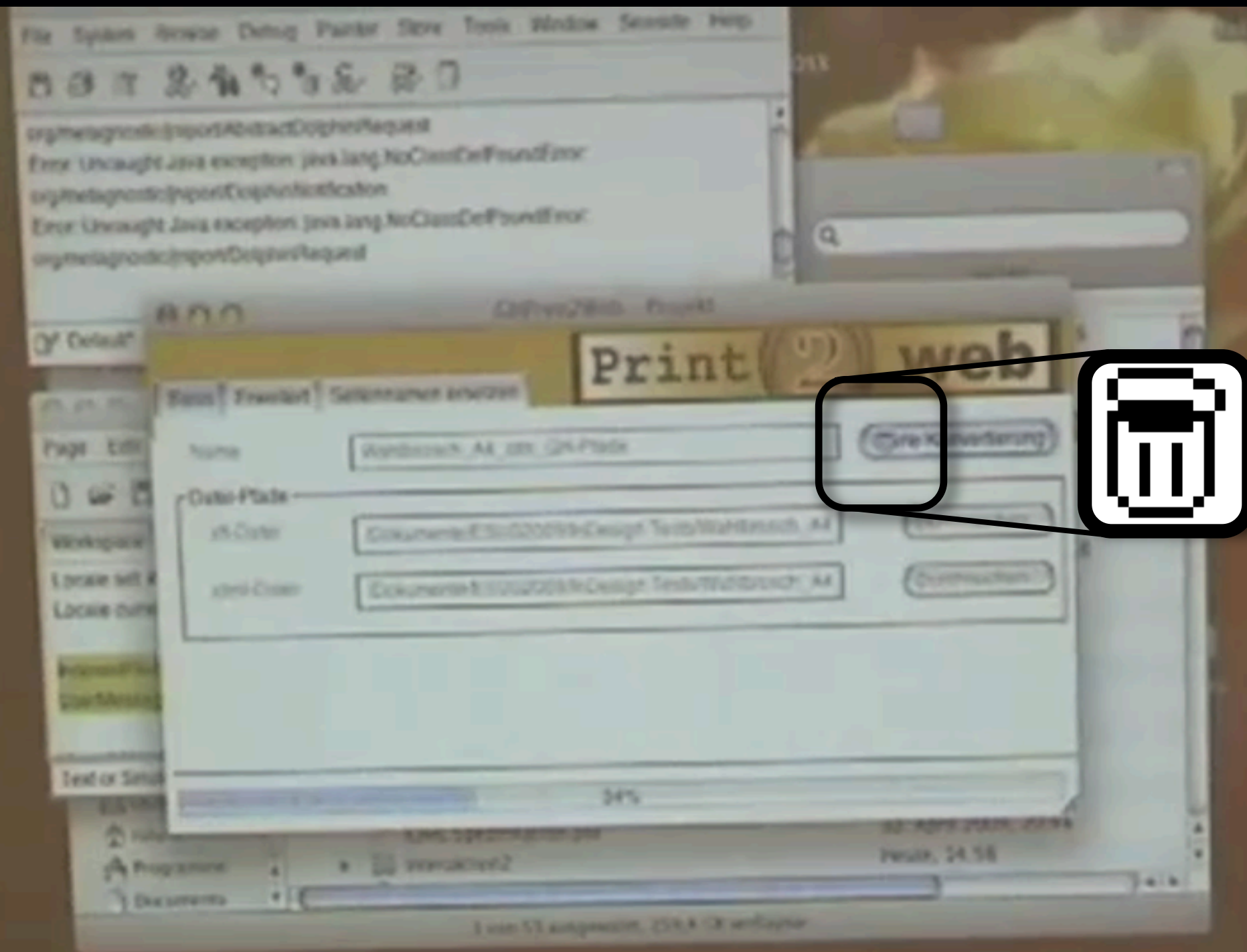
- | | | |
|---|---|----------------------|
|  | VW 7.7 legacy MemoryPolicy (with fixes) | ~1 day, if they work |
|  | VW 7.7.1 without sizesAtStartup tuning | ~160 minutes |
|  | VW 7.7.1 default | ~73 minutes |

A: pointer garbage
B: byte garbage
C: point creation

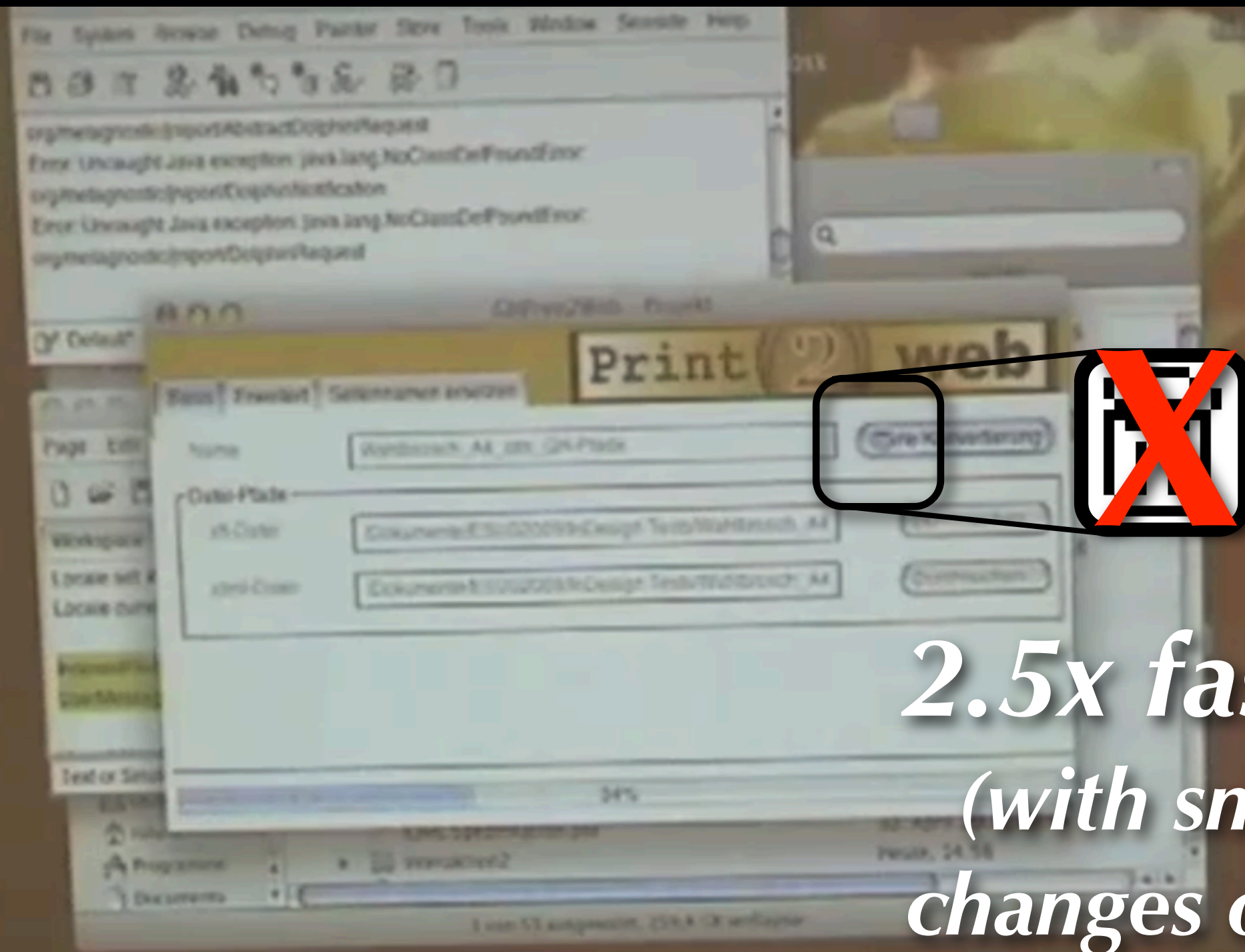
Segmented container
D: byte allocation
E: pointer allocation

Large container
F: byte allocation
G: pointer allocation

Print 2 web, ESUG 2009



Print 2 web, ESUG 2009



*2.5x faster
(with small
changes only)*

VisualWorks 7.8 and beyond

VisualWorks 7.8+

- Fixed space allocation fixed
- Improved weak / ephemeron support
- IGC performance improvements
- GC / IGC mark stack overflow prevention
- GC moves large objects back into large space
- New -m[1..7] VM switches

VisualWorks 7.8+

- Fixed space allocation fix
- Improved
-
-
-
- (November 2010)
- Objects back into large space
- New -m[1..7] VM switches

VisualWorks 7.9

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- Up to 40% faster GC

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- Improved IGC uses less memory
- Adaptive time based memory policy IGC driver
- Memory policy IGC smart abort
- Memory policy IGC switch
- Updates to the OldRT, become: fixed space...

VisualWorks 7.9

- Up to 40% faster GC

- Improved GC

- Improved GC

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- Improved GC

- Updated to the OldRT, become: fixed space...

DONE

(August 2011)

VisualWorks 7.9 bis

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- Rewritten, more efficient scavenger

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 - RT optimizations

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 - New 64 bit class table management

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- Rewritten, more efficient scavenger
 - RT optimizations
 - New 64 bit class table management
 - ~1000 LOC deleted
- 2000+ new tests
- Fixes to fixed space, perm space ephemerons, memcpy(), memory policy, etc...

VisualWorks 7.9 bis

- Rewritten, more efficient scanner

- RT optimization

DONE

(January 2012)

- 20%

- Fixed to fixed space, perm space ephemerons, memcpy(), memory policy, etc...

Questions?

Star Team (Smalltalk Strategic Resources)

sfortman@cincom.com

Smalltalk Director

athomas@cincom.com

Smalltalk Product Manager

jjordan@cincom.com

Smalltalk Marketing Manager

<http://www.cincomsmalltalk.com>



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