

CS162
Operating Systems and
Systems Programming
Lecture 2

Protection: Processes and Kernels

Professor Natacha Crooks
<https://cs162.org/>

Administrivia



Homework and Early Drop Deadline

HW0 Due 31/8

Should be working on Homework 0 already!

cs162-xx account, Github account Vagrant and VirtualBox – VM environment for the course

» Consistent, managed environment on your machine

Get familiar with all the cs162 tools, submit to autograder via git

Homework and Early Drop Deadline

HW0 Due 1/9 (Same Day as Early Drop Deadline)

Should be working on Homework 0 already!

Get familiar with all the cs162 tools, submit to autograder via git

HW1 will be released on 2/9

Projects are looming

Group Formation Form (Link on EdStem) is due 2/9.

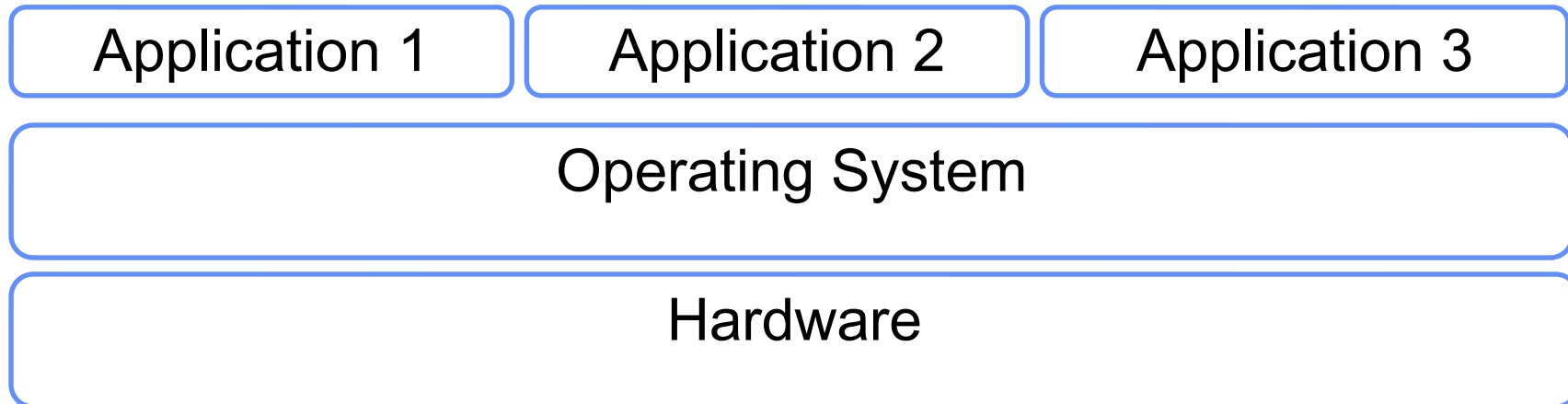
There is a teammate search functionality on EdStem.

Discussions are starting! First 2 optional but mandatory afterwards

Project 0 will be released on 9/4

Recall: Operating System

An operating system implements a **virtual machine** for the application whose interface is more **convenient** than the raw hardware interface
(convenient = security, reliability, portability)



Recall: Three main hats



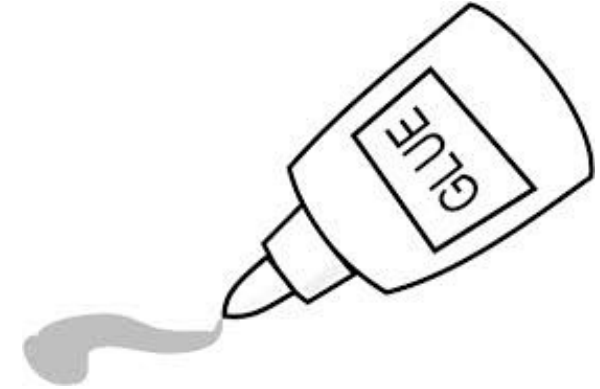
Referee

Manage protection, isolation, and sharing of resources



Illusionist

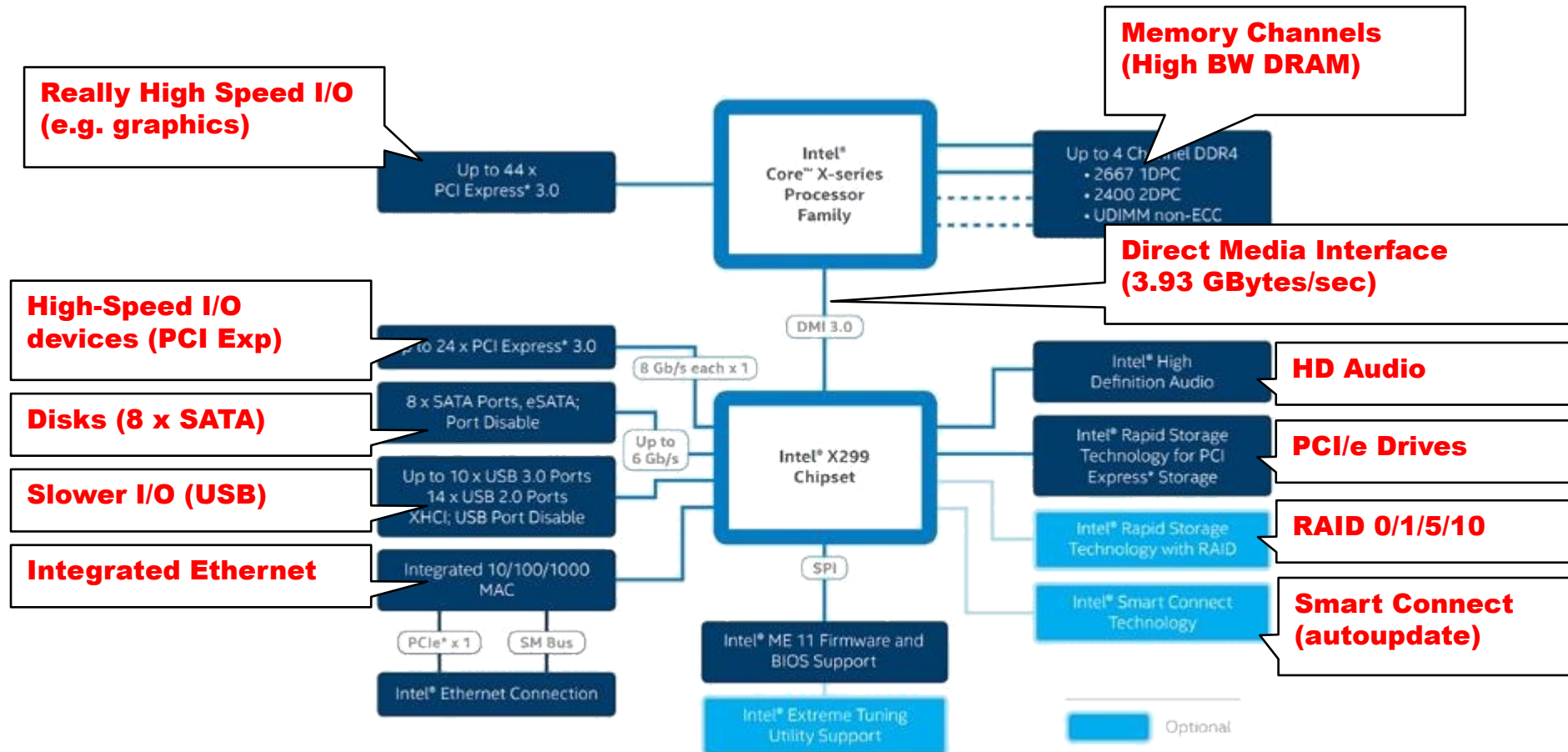
Provide clean, easy-to-use abstractions of physical resources



Glue

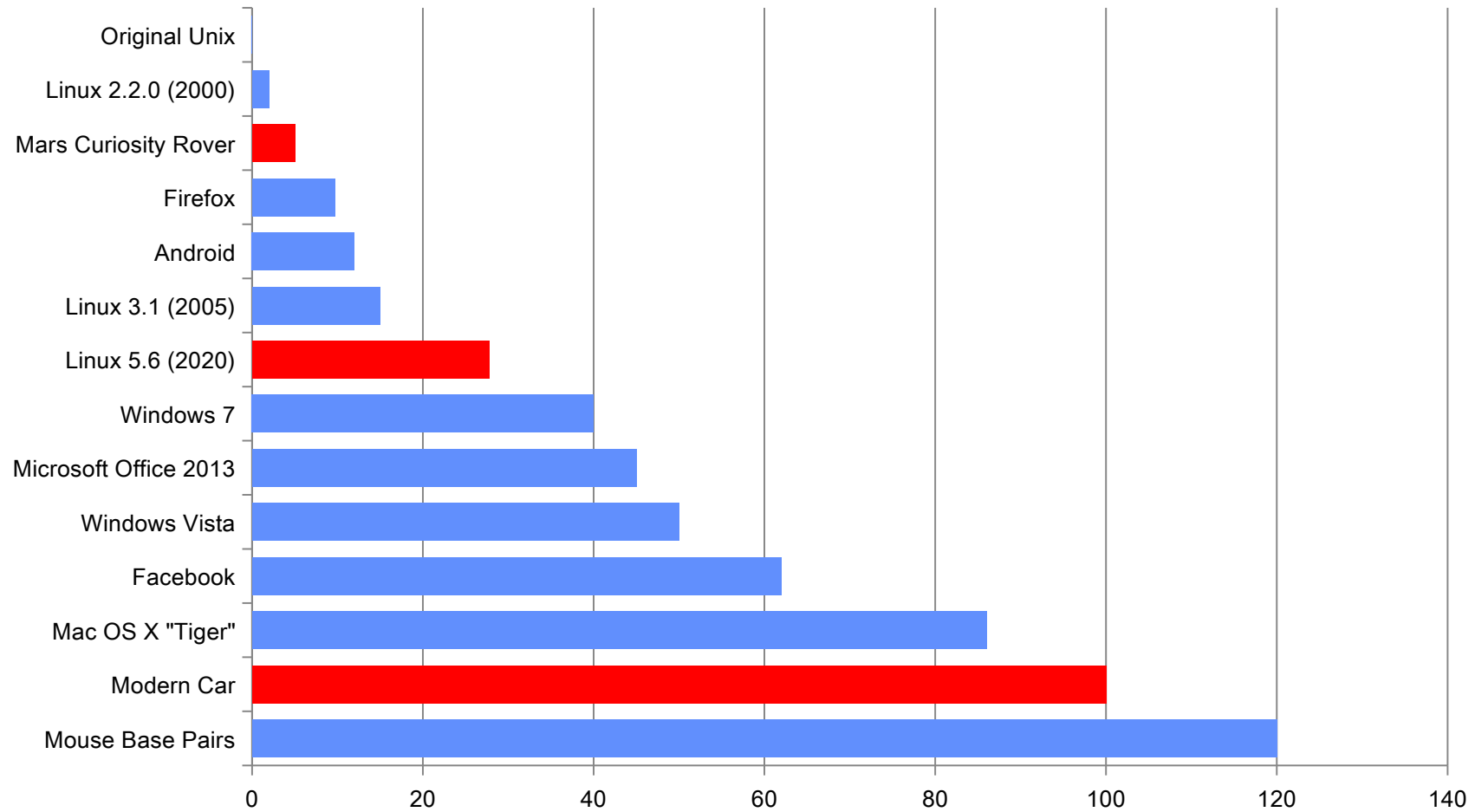
Provides a set of common services

Recall: HW Complex



Intel Skylake-X I/O Configuration

Recall: Increasing Software Complexity



Topic Breakdown

Virtualizing the CPU

Process Abstraction and API

Threads and Concurrency

Scheduling

Virtualizing Memory

Virtual Memory

Paging

Persistence

IO devices

File Systems

Distributed Systems

Challenges with distribution

Data Processing & Storage

Mechanisms vs Policy

Mechanism

Low-level methods or protocols
that implement a needed piece
of functionality

A Brake Pedal!

Policy

Algorithms for making decisions
within the OS.
Use the mechanism.

“I break when I see a stop sign”

Goals for Today

- What are the requirements of a good VM abstraction?
- What is a **process**?
- How does the **kernel** use processes to enforce protection?
- When does one switch from **kernel** to **user mode** and back?

Goal 1: Requirements for Virtualization

The OS will protect you

Protection is necessary to preserve the virtualization abstraction

Protect applications from other application's code
(reliability, security, privacy)

Protect OS from the application

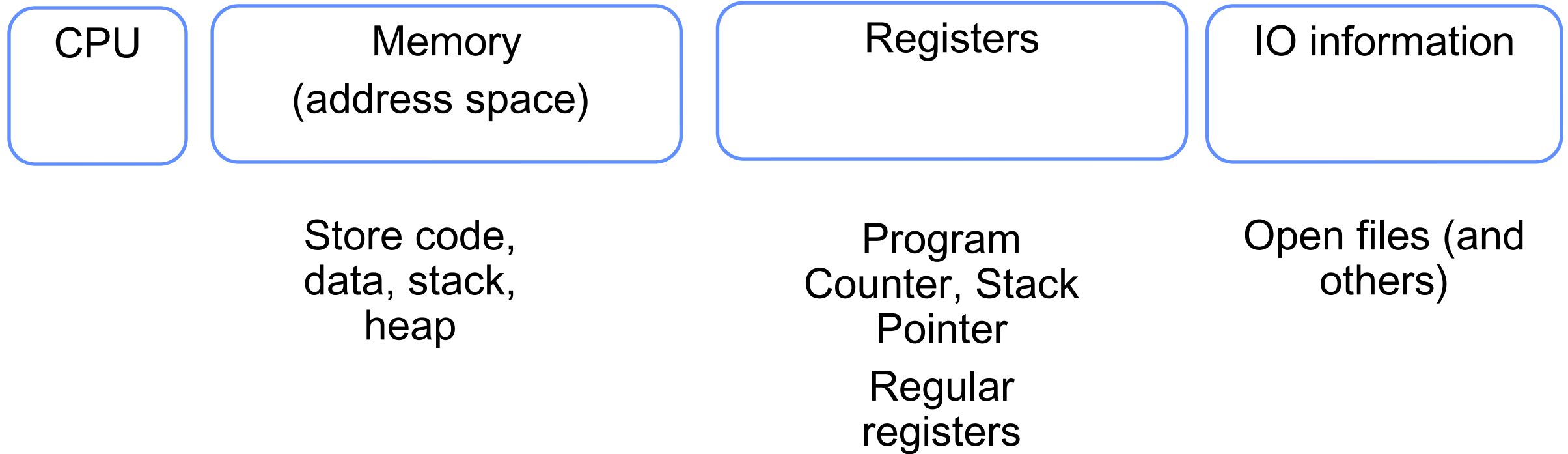
Protect applications against inequitable resource utilisation
(memory, CPU time)



Goal 2: What is a Process?

A process (simplified)

A process is an **instance** of a running program



From program to process



```
#include <stdio.h>

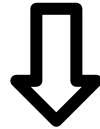
int main()
{
    printf("Hello World");
    return 0;
}
```



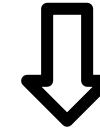
Executable image,
instructions and
data

./helloworld

crooks@laptop> ./helloworld



crooks@laptop> ./helloworld



Code

Data

Heap

Stack

Code

Data

Heap

Stack

Physical Memory

Task Manager

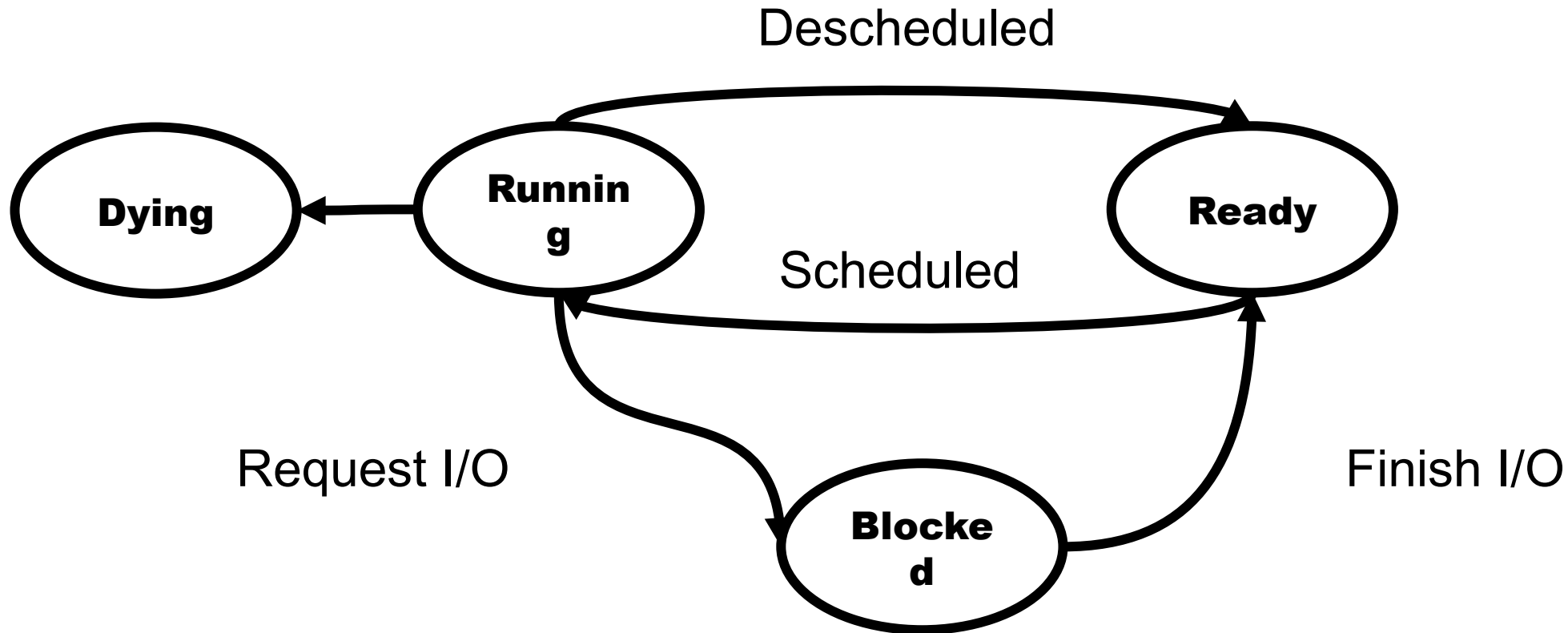
File Options View

Processes Performance App history Startup Users Details Services

Name	Status	5% CPU	50% Memory	1% Disk	0% Network	2% GPU	GPU engine	Power usage	Power usage tr...
> Google Chrome (41)		0.9%	3,390.9 MB	0.1 MB/s	0.1 Mbps	1.7%	GPU 0 - Video Decode	Very low	Very low
> Microsoft PowerPoint (2)		0.1%	735.1 MB	0 MB/s	0.1 Mbps	0%		Very low	Very low
> Slack (6)		0%	413.2 MB	0 MB/s	0.1 Mbps	0%		Very low	Very low

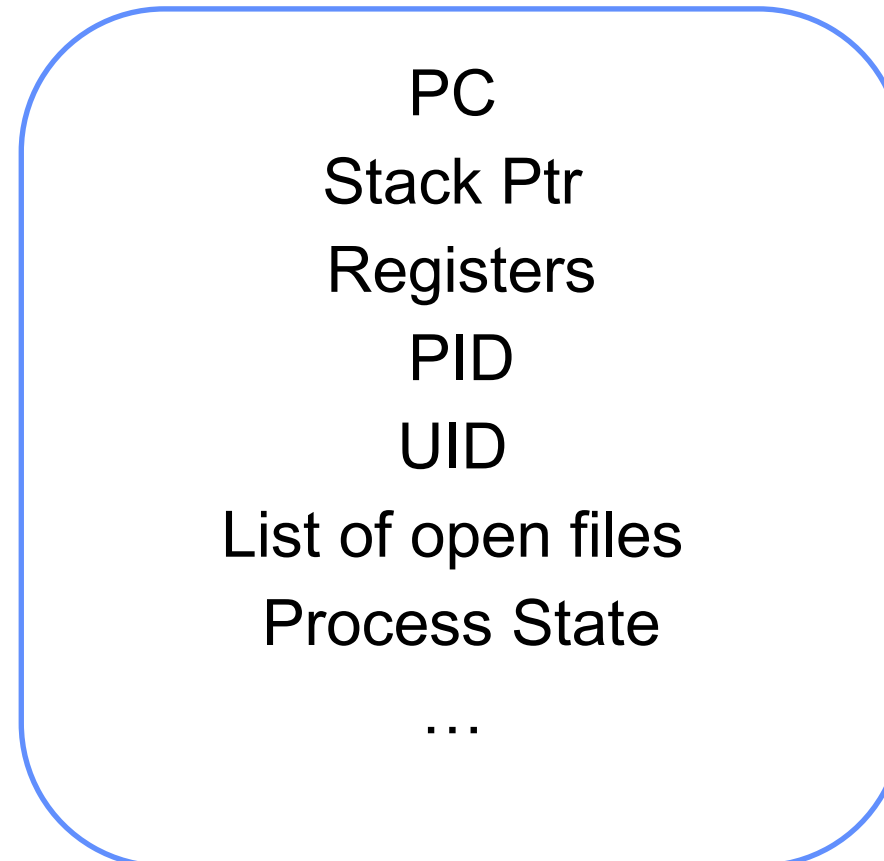
Process Life Cycle

A process can be in one of several states:
(real OSes have additional variants)



Process Management by the OS

Process Control Block (or process descriptor)
in OS stores necessary metadata



Three “Prongs” for the Class

Understanding OS
principles

System Programming

Map Concepts to Real
Code

Processes in the wild (well, in the kernel)

```
enum procstate { UNUSED, EMBRYO, SLEEPING, RUNNABLE, RUNNING, ZOMBIE };

// Per-process state
struct proc {
    uint sz;                // Size of process memory (bytes)
    pde_t* pgdir;           // Page table
    char *kstack;           // Bottom of kernel stack for this process
    enum procstate state;   // Process state
    int pid;                // Process ID
    struct proc *parent;    // Parent process
    struct trapframe *tf;   // Trap frame for current syscall
    struct context *context; // swtch() here to run process
    void *chan;             // If non-zero, sleeping on chan
    int killed;             // If non-zero, have been killed
    struct file *ofile[NOFILE]; // Open files
    struct inode *cwd;      // Current directory
    char name[16];         // Process name (debugging)
};
```

In Linux: `task_struct` defined
in `<linux/sched.h>`

Processes in Pintos

```
struct process {  
    /* Owned by process.c. */  
    uint32_t* pagedir;          /* Page directory. */  
    char process_name[16];      /* Name of the main thread */  
    struct thread* main_thread; /* Pointer to main thread */  
  
    /* All the fun data structures you're going to add */  
};
```

Pintos (userprog/process.h)

Many Processes

Process List stores all processes

```
struct {  
    struct spinlock lock;  
    struct proc proc[NPROC];  
} ptable;
```

Xv6 Kernel (proc.c)

Run Queues

Lists all PCBs in **READY**
state

Wait Queues

Lists all PCBs in **BLOCKED**
state

The Illusionist and the Referee are Back



Illusionist

Give every **process** the illusion of running on a private CPU

Give every **process** the illusion of running on private memory



Referee

Manage resources to allocate to each **process**

Isolate **process** from all other processes and protect OS



Operating System Kernel

Lowest level of OS running on system.

Kernel is **trusted** with **full access** to all hardware capabilities

All other software (OS or applications) is considered **untrusted**

Untrusted

Applications

Rest of OS

Trusted

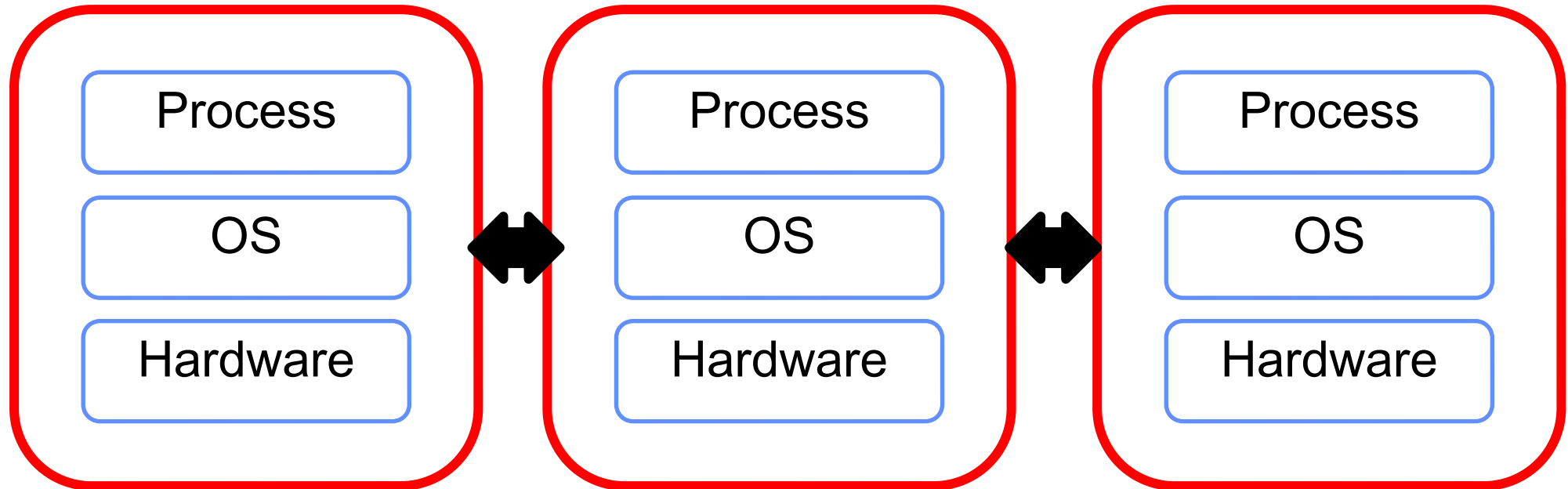
Operating System Kernel

Untrusted

Hardware

The Process, Refined

A executing program with **restricted rights**



Enforcing mechanism must not hinder **functionality** or hurt **performance**

User vs Kernel: Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

Application/User Code (Untrusted)

Run all the processor with all
potentially dangerous
operations disabled



Kernel Code (Trusted)

Runs directly on processor
with unlimited rights

Performs any hardware
operations

But run on the same machine!

How can the kernel enforce restricted rights?

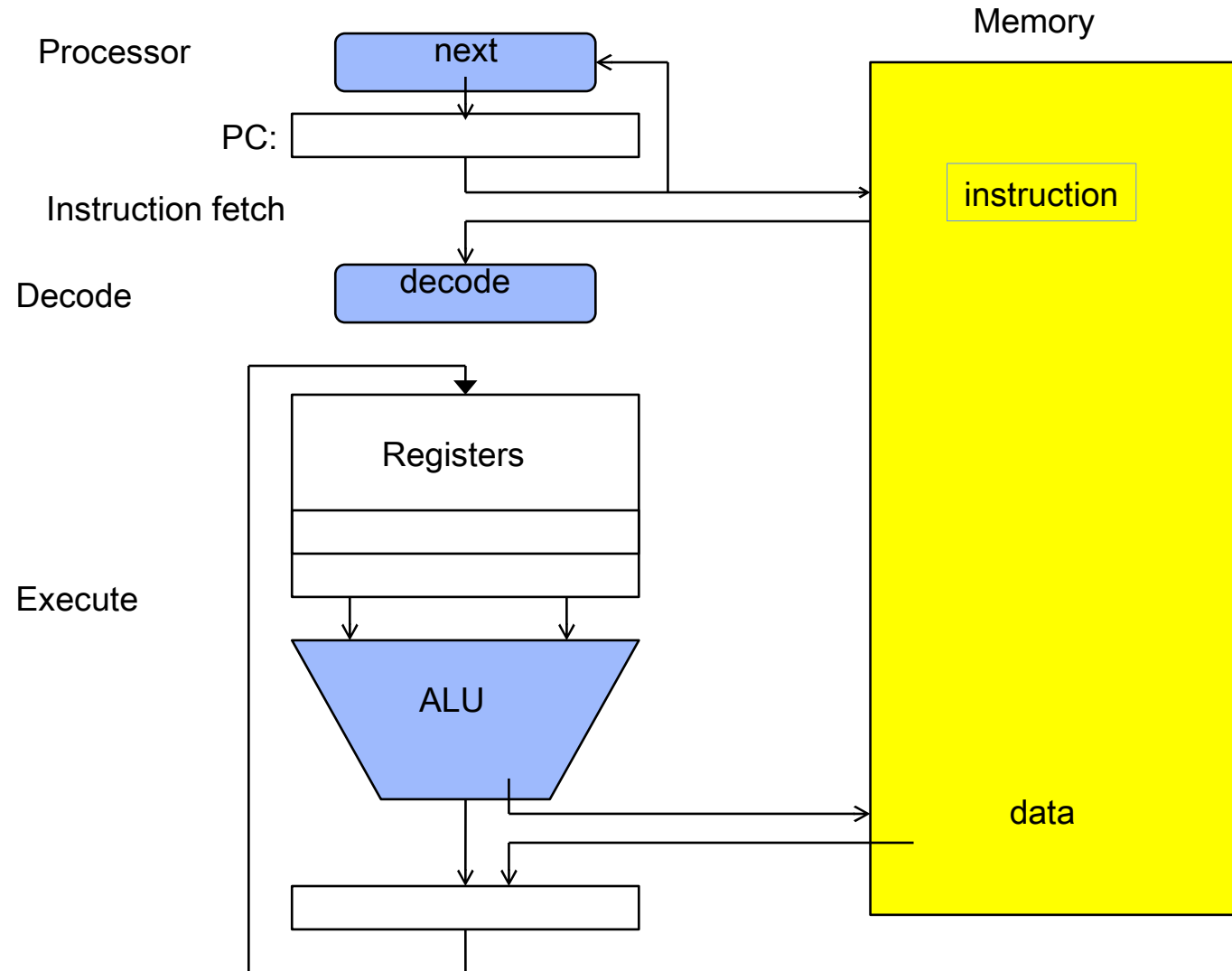
1) While preserving functionality

2) While preserving
performance

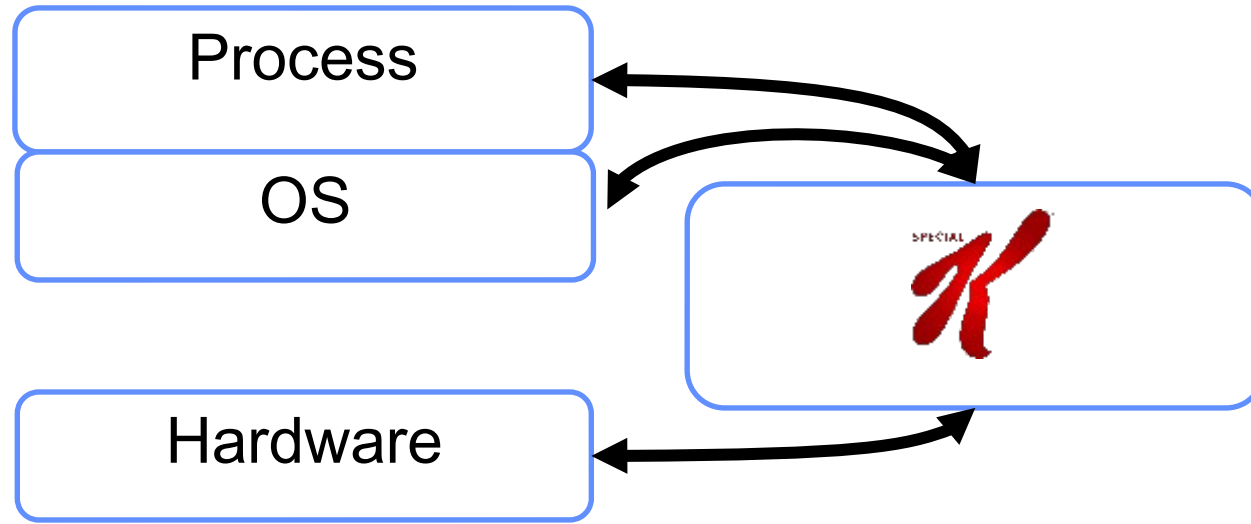
3) While preserving control

Attempt 1: Simulation

Recall: CPU Instruction Cycle (from CS61c)



Attempt 1: Simulation



**Have the Kernel interpret
and check every
instruction!**

Potential Issues:

Extremely slow! Would have to cycle through all operations, switch into the kernel, etc.

Unnecessary. Most operations are perfectly safe!

Attempt 2: Dual Mode Operation

Hardware to the rescue!

Use a bit to enable two modes of execution

In User Mode

Processor checks each instruction before executing it

Executes a limited (safe) set of instructions

In Kernel Mode

OS executes with protection checks off

Can execute any instructions



Hardware must support

1) Privileged Instructions

Unsafe instructions cannot be executed in user mode

2) Memory Isolation

Memory accesses outside a process's address space prohibited

3) Interrupts

Ensure kernel can regain control from running process

4) Safe Transfers

Correctly transfer control from user-mode to kernel-mode and back

Req 1/4: Privileged Instructions

Cannot change privilege level (set mode bit)

Cannot change address space

Cannot disable interrupts

Cannot perform IO operations

Cannot halt the processor

How can an application do anything useful ...

Asks for permission to access kernel mode!

System calls Transition from user to kernel mode only at specific locations specified by the OS

Exceptions User mode code attempts to execute a privileged exception. Generates a processor exception which passes control to kernel at specific locations

More on safe control transfers later

Hardware must support

1) Privileged Instructions

Unsafe instructions cannot be executed in user mode

3) Interrupts

Ensure kernel can regain control from running process

2) Memory Isolation

Memory accesses outside a process's address space prohibited

4) Safe Transfers

Correctly transfer control from user-mode to kernel-mode and back

Req 2/4: Memory Protection

OS and applications both resident in memory

Application should not read/write kernel memory
(or other apps memory)

A Bug's Tail

The character could leave the game area and start overwriting other running programs and kernel memory.

One of the worst bugs I ever had to deal with was in this game. Once the game player made it to the Colony, every so often the system would crash and burn at totally random times. You might be playing for ten minutes when it happened or ten hours, but it would just die in a totally random way

There was a slow-moving slug like creature that knew how to follow the game player's trail. When it came across another creature, rather than bouncing off and risk losing the trail, I made it so that it would destroy the other creature and stay on target to find you. This worked great, except that on some rare occasions, this slug could do to a wall what it did to the other creatures. That is, it could delete it. This meant that the virtual door was now open for this creature to explore the rest of the RAM on the Macintosh, deleting and modifying it as it went along. Of course, it was just a matter of time before it found some juicy code. In other words, the bug was a REAL bug.

Super Mario Land 2

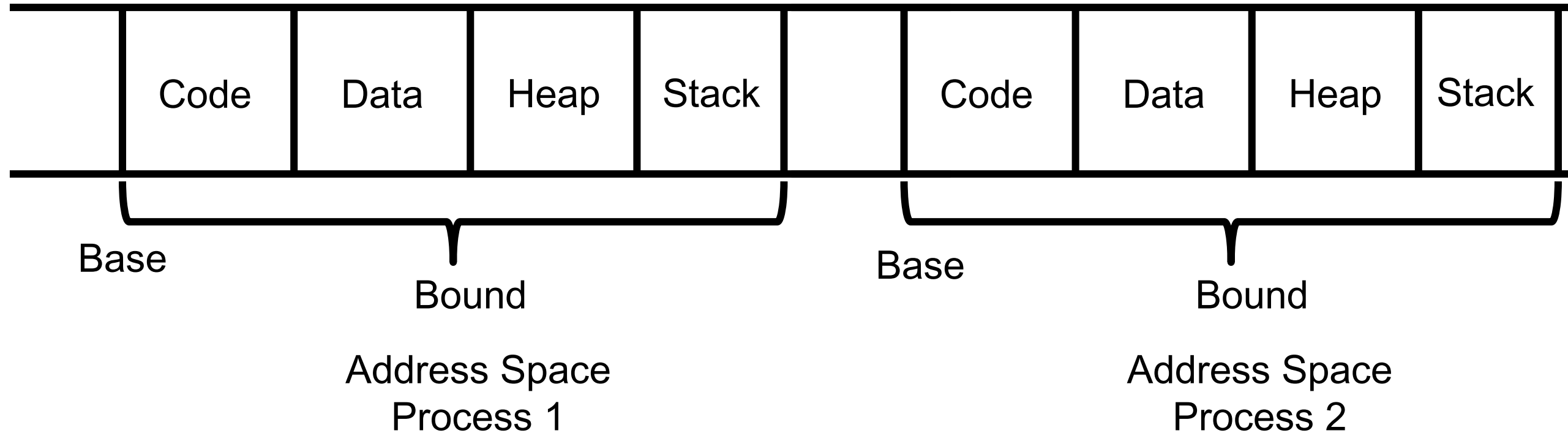
Mario could exit a level and explore the entire memory of the system



Attempt 1: Isolation

Hardware to the rescue! (Again)

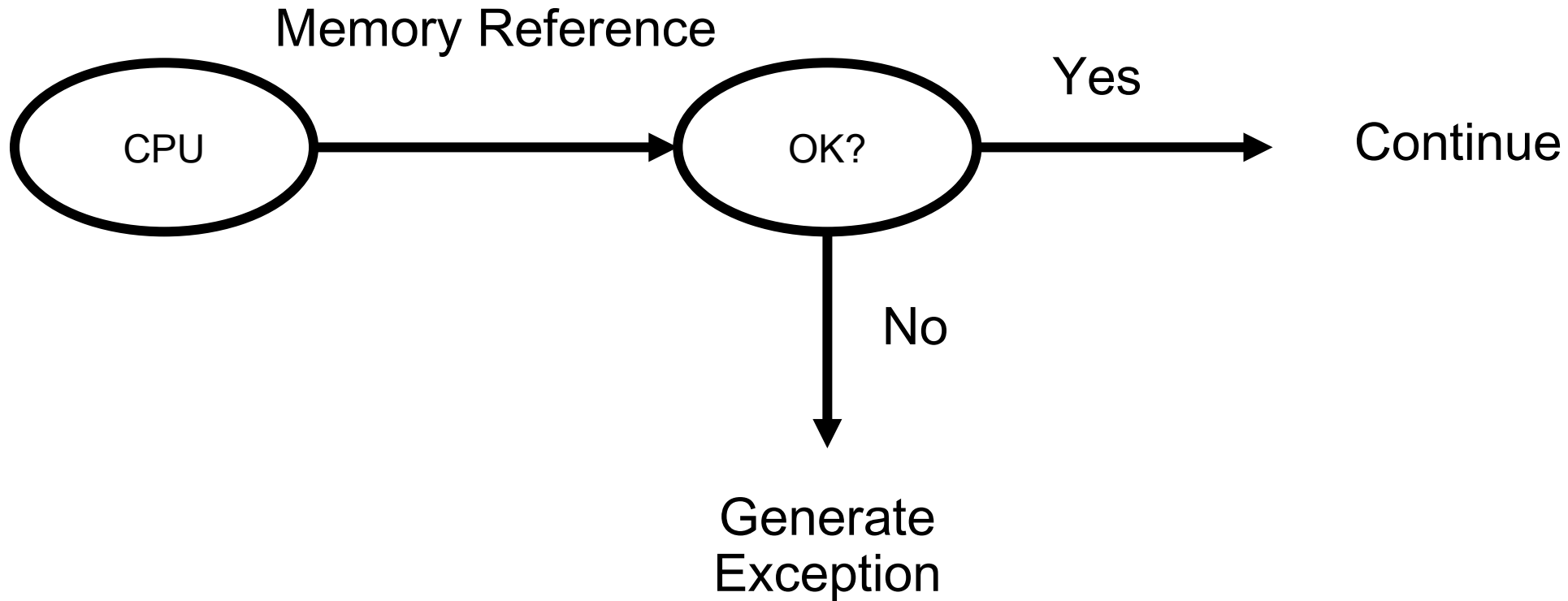
Base and Bound registers



Attempt 1: Isolation

Hardware to the rescue! (Again)

Base and Bound registers



Attempt 1: Isolation

Kernel Mode executes without
Base and Bound registers

What can the Kernel see?

- a) Kernel memory only
- b) Kernel memory + application memory of app that “invoked” kernel
- c) Everything

Limitations of Isolation

1) Expandable memory

Static memory allocation

2) Memory Sharing

Cannot share memory between processes

3) Non-Relative Memory Addresses

Location of code & data determined at runtime

4) Fragmentation

Cannot relocate/move programs. Leads to fragmentation

Attempt 2: Virtualization

Virtual address space

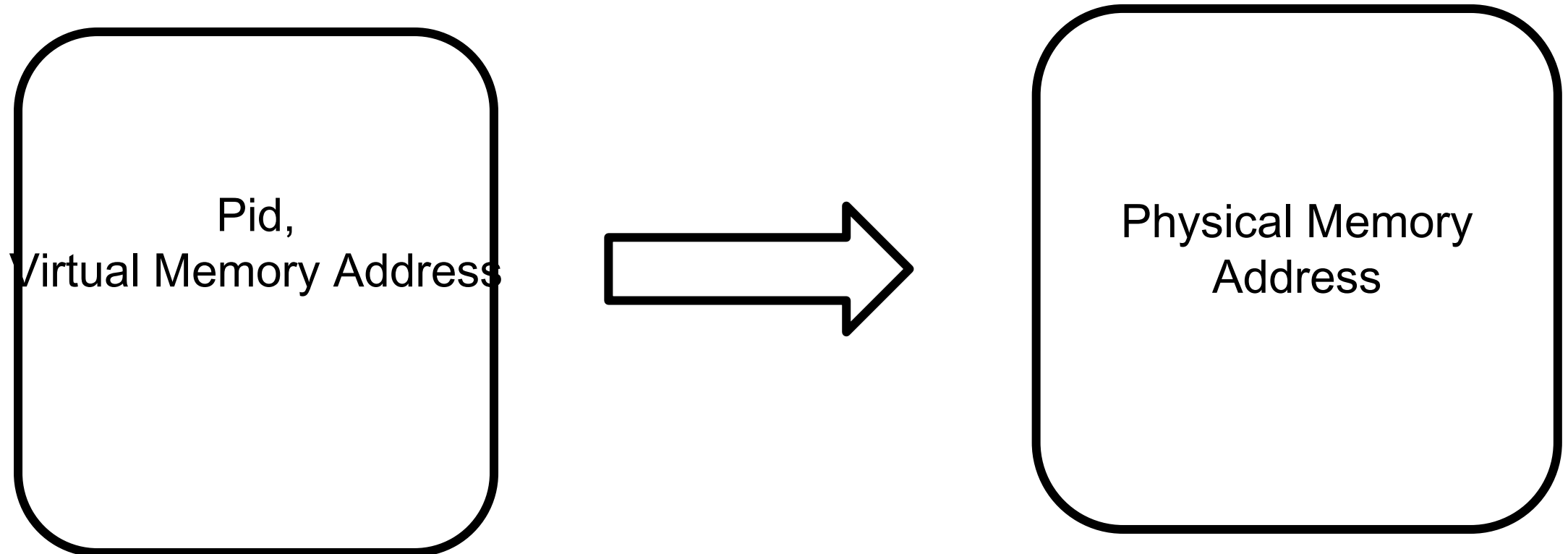
Set of memory addresses that process can
“touch”

Physical address space

Set of memory addresses supported by
hardware

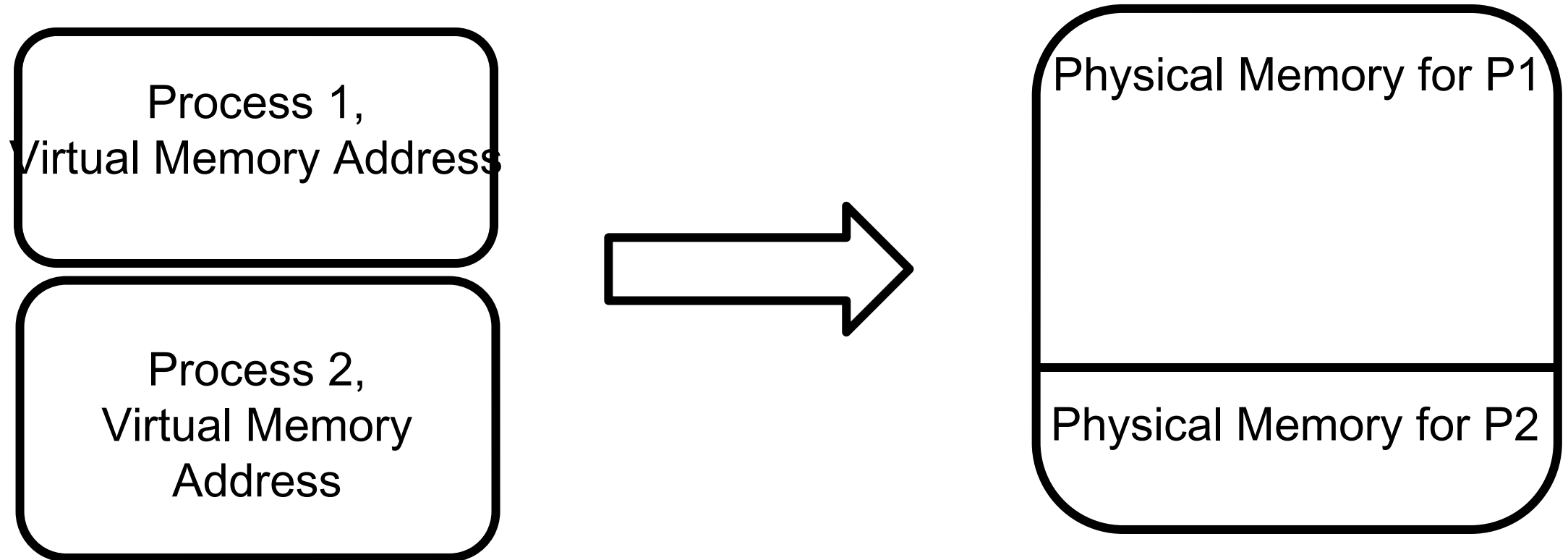
Attempt 2: Virtualization

Map from virtual addresses to physical addresses through **address translation**



Attempt 2: Virtualization

Continues to provide isolation



Benefits of Virtualization

1) Expandable memory

Whole space of virtual address space! Even physical address not resident in memory

2) Memory Sharing

Same virtual address can map to same physical address

3) Relative Memory Addresses

Every process's memory always starts at 0

4) Fragmentation

Can dynamically change mapping of virtual to physical addresses

What does this program do? (CS61C)

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>

int main(int argc, char *argv[]){
    int *p = malloc(sizeof(int));
    printf("(%d) p: %p\n", getpid(), p);
    *p = 0;
    while (1) {
        *p = *p + 1;
        printf("(%d) p: %d\n", getpid(), *p);
    }
    return 0;
}
```

```
crooks@laptop> gcc -o memory memory.c -Wall
crooks@laptop> ./memory
(120) p: 0x200000
(120) p: 1
(120) p: 2
(120) p: 3
(120) p: 4
crooks@laptop> ./memory & ./memory
(120) p: 0x200000
(254) p: 0x200000
```

Are these virtual or physical addresses?

Virtual memory provides each process with illusion of own complete
(and infinite) memory

Virtual Memory is Hard!

Virtualizing the CPU

Process Abstraction and API

Threads and Concurrency

Scheduling

Virtualizing Memory

Virtual Memory

Paging

Persistence

IO devices

File Systems

Distributed Systems

Challenges with distribution

Data Processing & Storage

Hardware must support

1) Privileged Instructions

**Unsafe instructions
cannot be executed in
user mode**

2) Memory Isolation

**Memory accesses outside
a process's address
space prohibited**

3) Interrupts

**Ensure kernel can regain
control from running
process**

4) Safe Transfers

**Correctly transfer control
from user-mode to kernel-
mode and back**

Req 3/4: Interrupts

Kernel must be able to **regain control** of the processor

Hardware to the rescue! (Again x 2)

Hardware Interrupts

Set to interrupt processor after a specified delay or specified event and transfer control to (specific locations) in Kernel.

Resetting timer is a privileged operation

Hardware must support

1) Privileged Instructions

Unsafe instructions cannot be executed in user mode

2) Memory Isolation

Memory accesses outside a process's address space prohibited

3) Interrupts

Ensure kernel can regain control from running process

4) Safe Transfers

Correctly transfer control from user-mode to kernel-mode and back

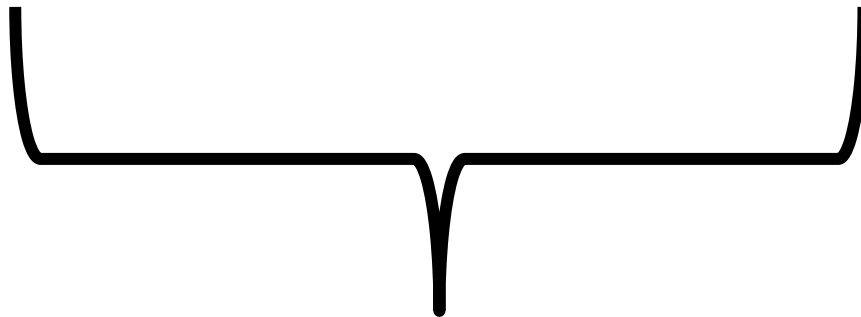
Req 4/4: Safe Control Transfer

How do safely/correctly transition from executing user process to executing the kernel?

1) System Calls

2) Exceptions

3) Interrupts



Synchronous Events
(trapping)

Asynchronous

Can be maskable or non-maskable

Safe Control Transfer: System Calls

User program requests OS service
Transfers to kernel at well-defined location

Synchronous/non-maskable

Read input/write to screen, to files, create new processes, send network packets, get time, etc.

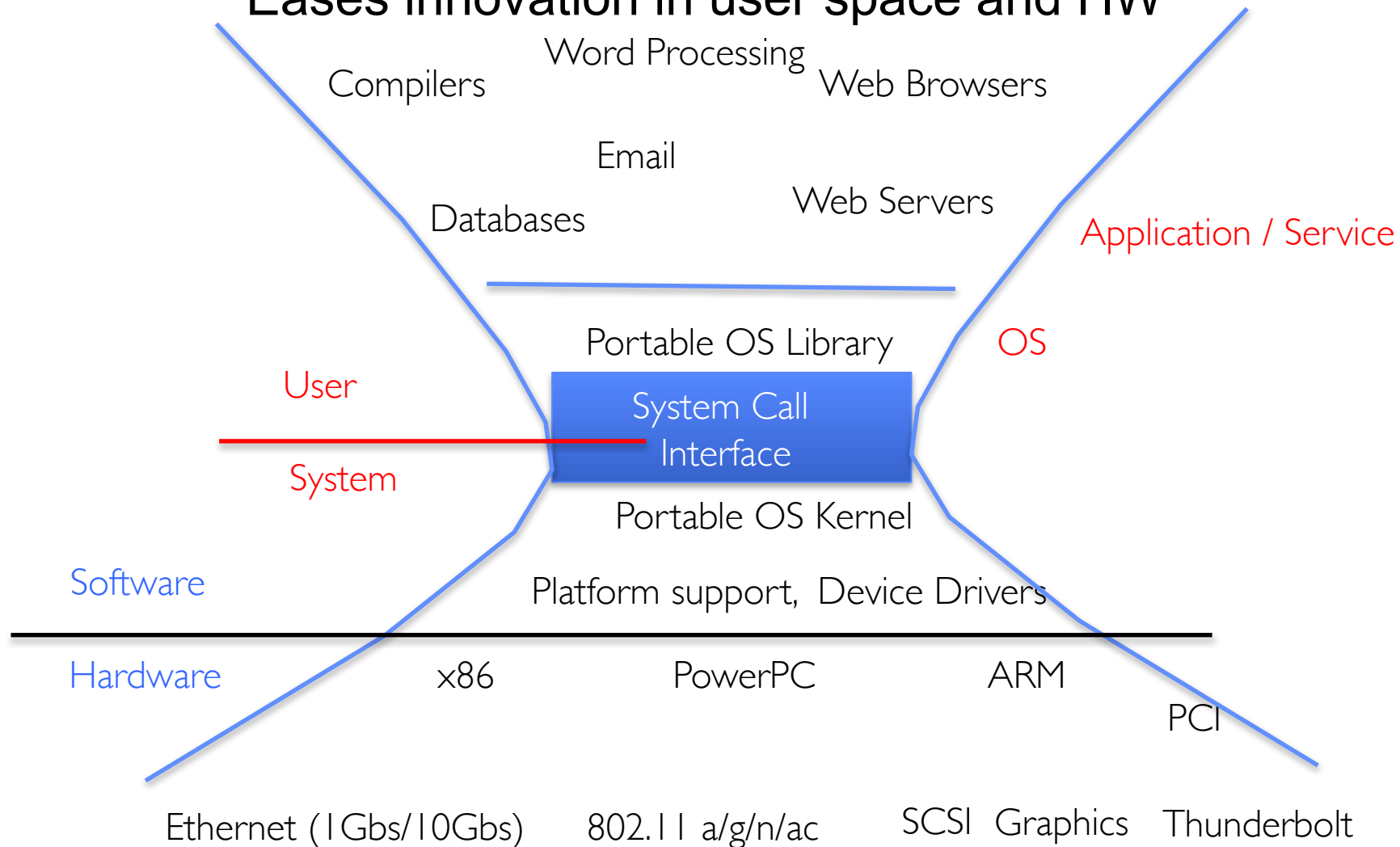
How many system calls in Linux 3.0 ?

a) 15 b) 336 c) 1021 d) 21121


<https://man7.org/linux/man-pages/man2/syscalls.2.html>





System Calls are the “Narrow Waste”

Simple and powerful interface allows separation of concern
Eases innovation in user space and HW





System Calls in the Wild (In Linux)


 torvalds / linux Public





 Notifications  Fork 44.2k  Star 137k 

[<> Code](#) [Pull requests 313](#) [Actions](#) [Projects](#) [Security](#) [Insights](#)

 v4.17 [linux](#) / [arch](#) / [x86](#) / [entry](#) / [syscalls](#) / syscall_64.tbl Go to file ...

 Dominik Brodowski syscalls/core, syscalls/x86: Rename struct pt_regs-based sys_*() to _... Latest commit d5a0052 on Apr 9, 2018 [History](#)

 7 contributors

386 lines (385 sloc) | 15.2 KB Raw Blame    

```
1 #
2 # 64-bit system call numbers and entry vectors
3 #
4 # The format is:
5 # <number> <abi> <name> <entry point>
6 #
7 # The __x64_sys_*() stubs are created on-the-fly for sys_*() system calls
8 #
9 # The abi is "common", "64" or "x32" for this file.
10 #
11 0 common read __x64_sys_read
12 1 common write __x64_sys_write
13 2 common open __x64_sys_open
14 3 common close __x64_sys_close
15 4 common stat __x64_sys_newstat
16 5 common fstat __x64_sys_newfstat
17 6 common lstat __x64_sys_newlstat
18 7 common poll __x64_sys_poll
19 8 common lseek __x64_sys_lseek
```


Safe Control Transfer: Exceptions

Any **unexpected condition** caused by user program behaviour

Stop executing process and enter kernel at specific **exception handler**


Synchronous and non-maskable





Process missteps (division by zero, writing read-only memory)

Attempts to execute a privileged instruction in user mode


Debugger breakpoints!


Exceptions in the Wild (In Linux)


 [torvalds](#) / [linux](#) Public




 Notifications  Fork 44.3k  Star 137k 

[Code](#) [Pull requests](#) 313 [Actions](#) [Projects](#) [Security](#) [Insights](#)

 master [linux](#) / [arch](#) / [x86](#) / [include](#) / [asm](#) / [trapnr.h](#) [Go to file](#) [...](#)

 [joergroedel](#) x86/boot/compressed/64: Add stage1 #VC handler ... Latest commit 29dcc60 on Sep 7, 2020 [History](#)

 1 contributor

32 lines (29 sloc) | 1.29 KB [Raw](#) [Blame](#)   

```
1  /* SPDX-License-Identifier: GPL-2.0 */
2  #ifndef _ASM_X86_TRAPNR_H
3  #define _ASM_X86_TRAPNR_H
4
5  /* Interrupts/Exceptions */
6
7  #define X86_TRAP_DE      0      /* Divide-by-zero */
8  #define X86_TRAP_DB      1      /* Debug */
9  #define X86_TRAP_NMI     2      /* Non-maskable Interrupt */
10 #define X86_TRAP_BP      3      /* Breakpoint */
11 #define X86_TRAP_OF      4      /* Overflow */
12 #define X86_TRAP_BR      5      /* Bound Range Exceeded */
13 #define X86_TRAP_UD      6      /* Invalid Opcode */
14 #define X86_TRAP_NM      7      /* Device Not Available */
15 #define X86_TRAP_DF      8      /* Double Fault */
16 #define X86_TRAP_OLD_MF  9      /* Coprocessor Segment Overrun */
17 #define X86_TRAP_TS     10      /* Invalid TSS */
18 #define X86_TRAP_NP     11      /* Segment Not Present */
19 #define X86_TRAP_SS     12      /* Stack Segment Fault */
20 #define X86_TRAP_GP     13      /* General Protection Fault */
21 #define X86_TRAP_PF     14      /* Page Fault */
22 ...
```

Safe Control Transfer: Interrupts

Asynchronous signal to the processor that some external event has occurred and may require attention

When process interrupt, stop current process and enter kernel at designated
interrupt handler

Timer Interrupts, IO Interrupts, Interprocessor Interrupts

Safe Control Transfer: Kernel->User

New Process Creation

Kernel instantiates datastructures, sets registers, switches to user mode

Resume after an exception/interrupt/syscall

Resume execution by restoring PC, registers, and unsetting mode

Switching to a different process

Save old process state. Load new process state (restore PC, registers). Unset mode.

Summary: Goals for today

- What are the requirements of a good VM abstraction?
- What is a process?
- How does the kernel use processes to enforce protection?
- When does one switch from kernel to user mode and back?

Summary: Goals for today

- What are the requirements of a good VM abstraction?
- What is a process?
- How does the kernel use processes to enforce protection?
- When does one switch from kernel to user mode and back?

Protection while preserving functionality and performance

Program execution with restricted rights

Dual-Mode operation: privileged instructions, memory protection, control, interrupts, safe control transfer

System Calls, Interrupts, Exceptions