

# 4. Threads

ECE30021/ITP30002 Operating Systems

# Agenda

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- Overview
- Multithreading models
- Thread libraries
- Threading issues
- Operating system examples

# Motivation

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- Most modern applications are multithreaded
- Threads run within application
- Multiple tasks with the application can be implemented by separate threads
  - Update display, fetch data, spell checking, answer a network request
- Process creation is heavy-weight while thread creation is light-weight
- Can simplify code, increase efficiency
- Kernels are generally multithreaded

# Overview

- **Process**: program in execution
  - Each process occupies resources required for execution
- **Thread**: a way for a program to split itself into two or more simultaneously running tasks
  - Smaller unit than process
  - Threads in a process share resources

- A thread is comprised of

- Thread ID, (program counter, register set, stack, etc.)

(공통점: 프로그램 코드의 실행에 직접적으로 관여함)

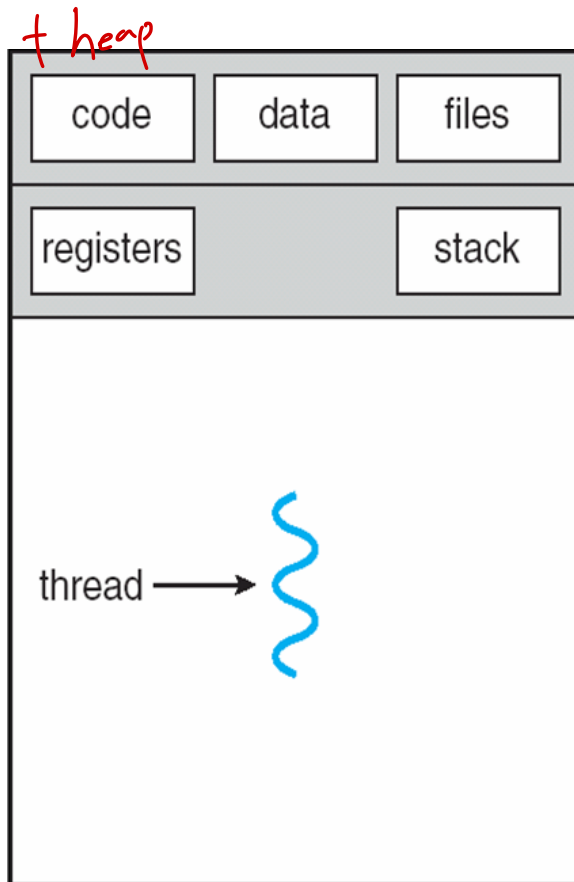
안기까지 같아

local variable  
function call

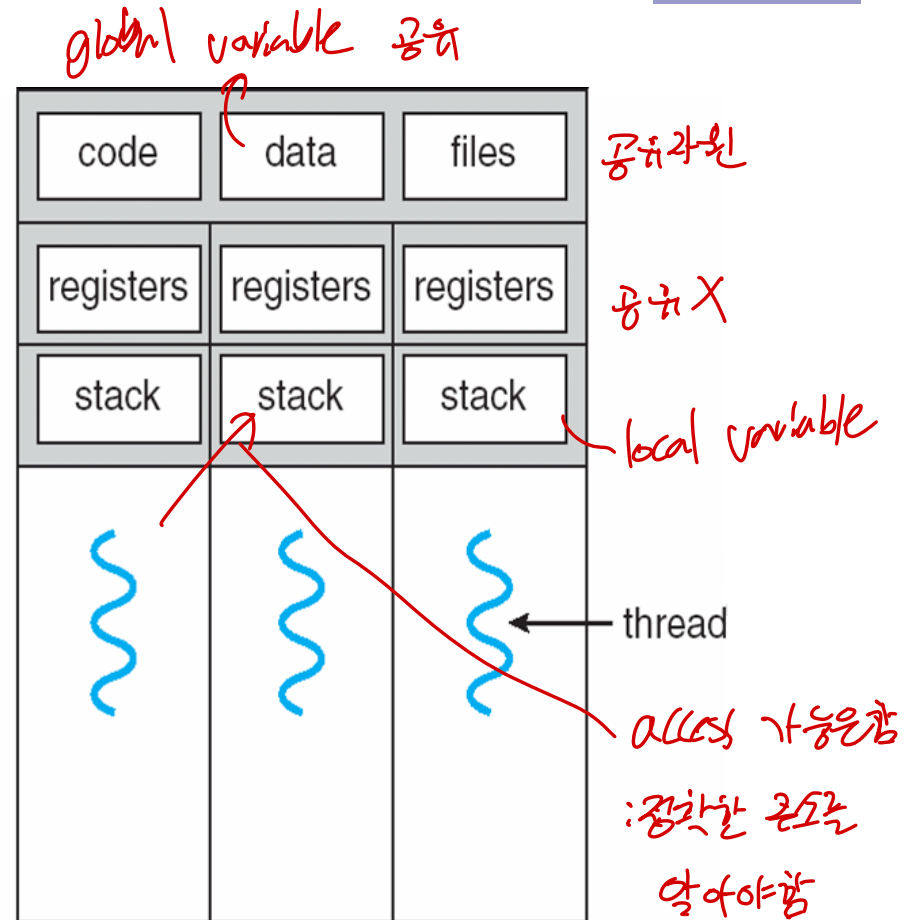
data memory

global variable  
heap  
stack

# Multithreaded Process



single-threaded process

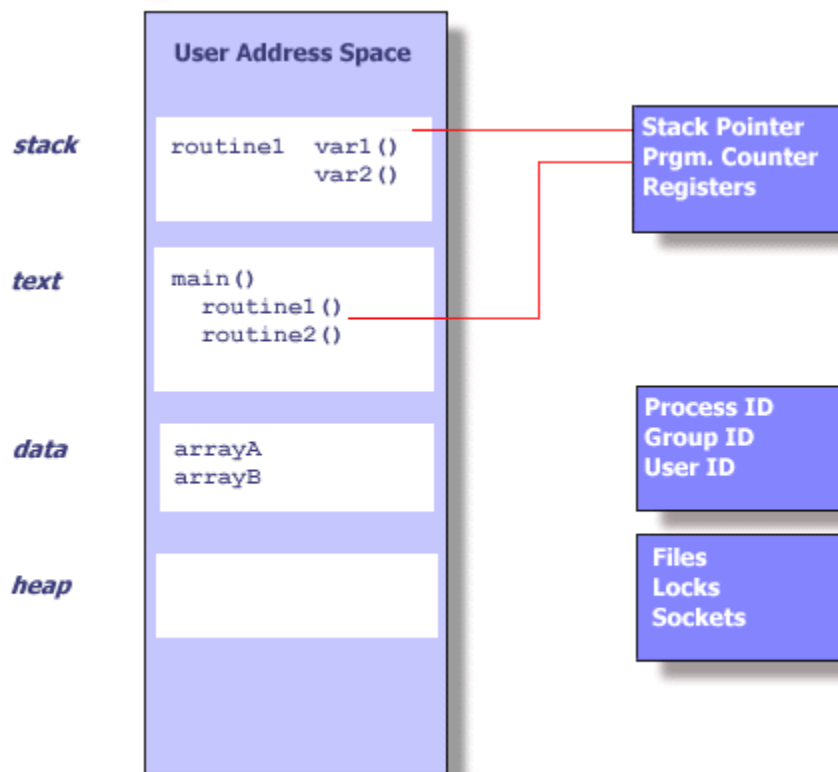


multithreaded process

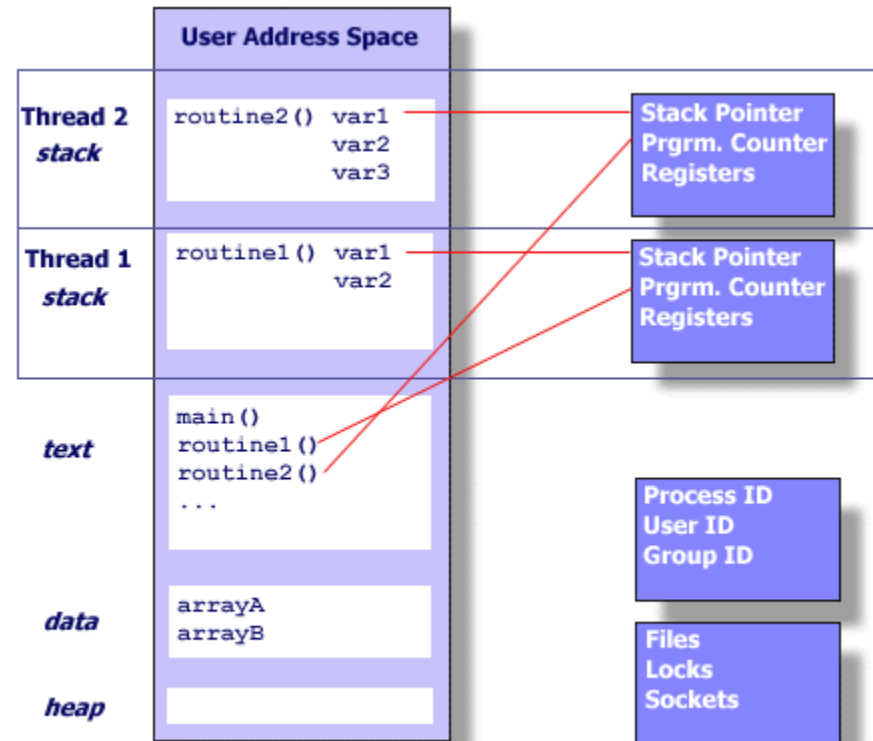
*local variable life time 이 짧아서 access 한 번만 가능함*

*각각 관리함*

# Process vs. Thread



Single-threaded process



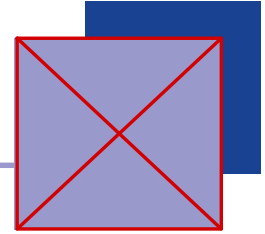
Multi-threaded Process

# Thread Control Block (TCB)



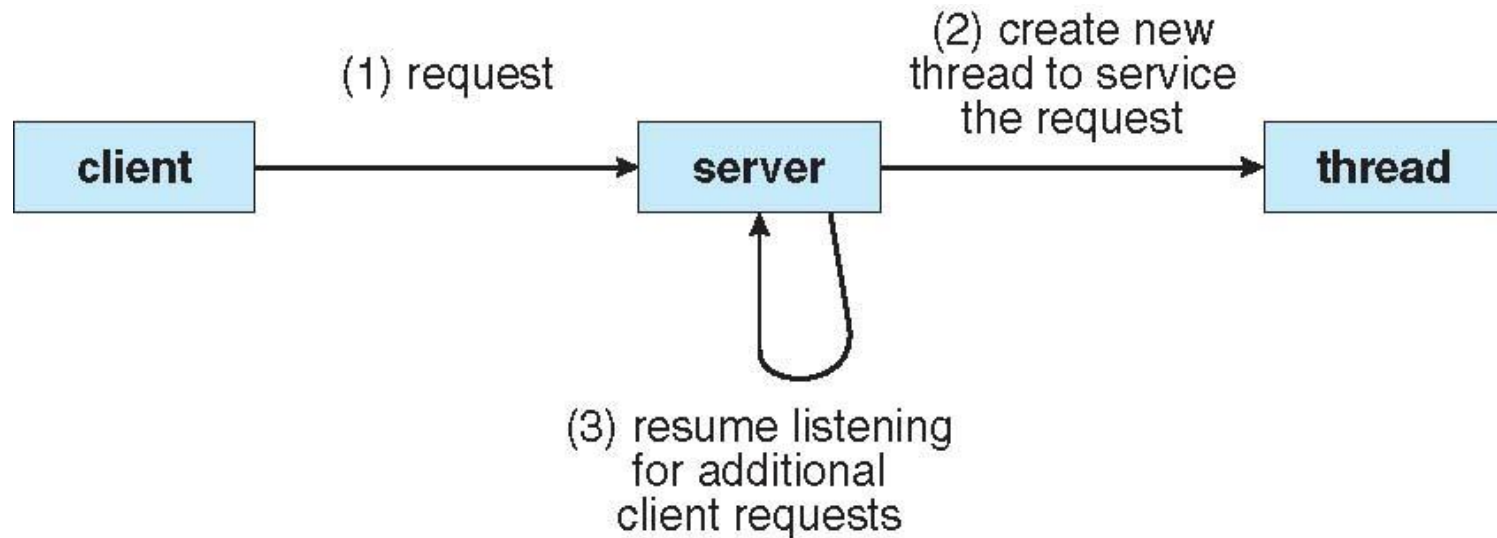
- **Thread Control Block (TCB)** is a data structure in the operating system kernel which contains thread-specific information needed to manage it.
- **Examples of information in TCB**
  - Thread id
  - State of the thread (running, ready, waiting, start, done)
  - Stack pointer
  - Program counter
  - Thread's register values
  - Pointer to the process control block (PCB)

# Why Thread?



- **Process creation is expensive in time and resource**

Ex) Web server accepting thousands of requests





# Why Thread?

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- Compared with single-threaded process
  - Scalability
    - Utilization of multiprocessor architectures
  - Responsiveness
  
- Compared with multiple processes
  - Resource sharing
  - Economy
    - Creating process is about 30 times slower than creating thread

# Multicore Programming

## ■ Multicore or multiprocessor systems putting pressure on programmers, challenges include:

- Dividing activities

- Balance

- Data splitting

- Data dependency

- Testing and debugging - 프로그램 실행 시 발생하는 병목 현상 파악하기

- 문제 해결 방법: 1. 알고리즘 최적화 2. 프로그램 재구성 - thread 병렬

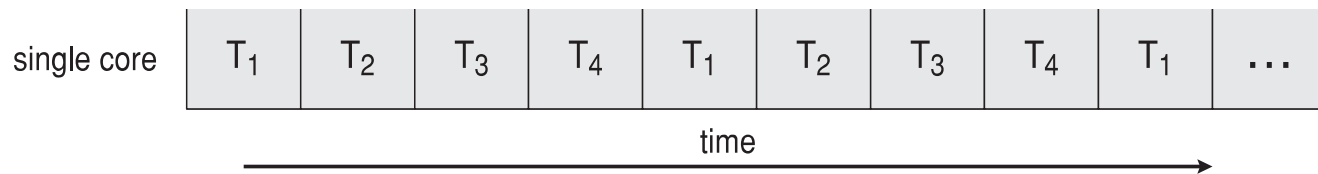
3. 하드웨어 자원 분배 병목 현상 최소화

# Concurrency vs. Parallelism

- **Concurrency** supports more than one task making progress

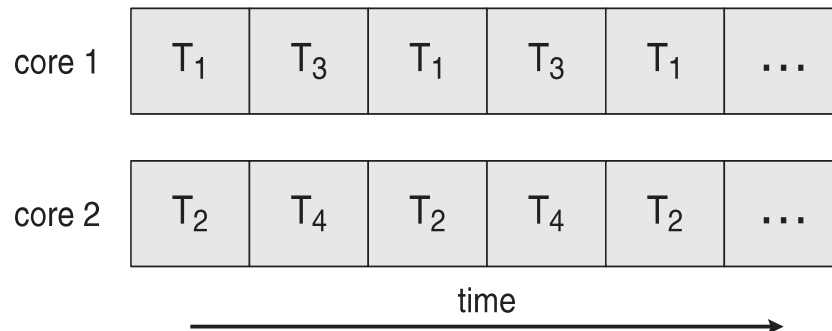
- Single processor / core, scheduler providing concurrency

Ex) Concurrent execution on single-core system:



- **Parallelism** implies a system can perform more than one task simultaneously

Ex) Parallelism on a multi-core system:



# Multicore Programming (Cont.)



각각 다른 일을 하는  
(병렬성)

## ■ Types of parallelism

- **Data parallelism** – distributes subsets of the same data across multiple cores, **same operation on each thread**
- **Task parallelism** – distributing threads across cores, **each thread performing unique operation**

학생 100명

TA 4명

TA 1명당 25명씩  
책임

TA에게 분담하게 하는  
10명 25명  
1 25명 25명  
1. 3명 25명

## ■ As # of threads grows, so does architectural support for threading

- CPUs have cores as well as hardware threads
- Consider Oracle SPARC T4 with 8 cores, and 8 hardware threads per core

# Amdahl's Law

- Identifies performance gains from adding additional cores to an application that has both serial and parallel components
  - S is serial portion, N processing cores

$$speedup \leq \frac{1}{S + \frac{(1-S)}{N}}$$

Ex) Application is 75% parallel / 25% serial, moving from 1 to 2 cores results in speedup of 1.6 times

- As N approaches infinity, speedup approaches 1 / S
- **Serial portion of an application has disproportionate effect on performance gained by adding additional cores.**

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# Types of Threads

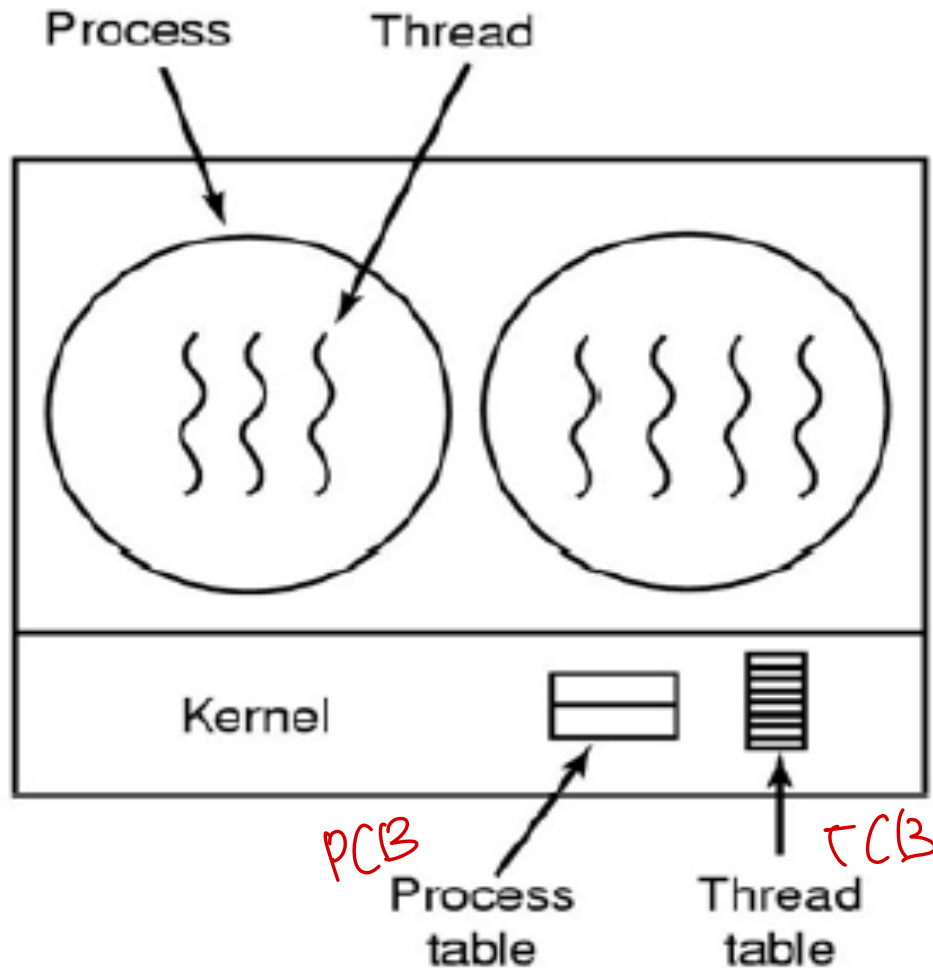
## ■ User thread: thread supported by **thread library** in user level

- Created by library function call (not system call) *user level library*
- Kernel is not concerned in user thread.
- Switching of user thread is faster than kernel thread.

## ■ Kernel thread: thread supported by **kernel**

- Created and managed by kernel
- Scheduled by kernel
- Cheaper than process *kernel scheduler가* *user thread 보다 저렴하고 سریع.*
- More expensive than user thread

# Kernel Thread

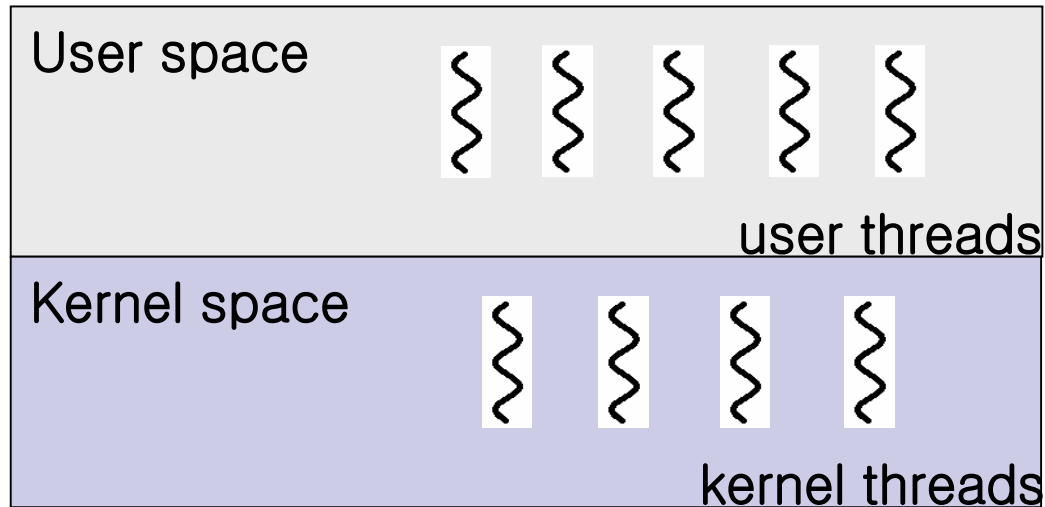


여기  
linked list가 들어 있는 테이블이  
: 생성과 소멸이 자주 이루어져서  
linked list로 구성



# Multithreading Models

- Major issue: correspondence between user threads and kernel threads

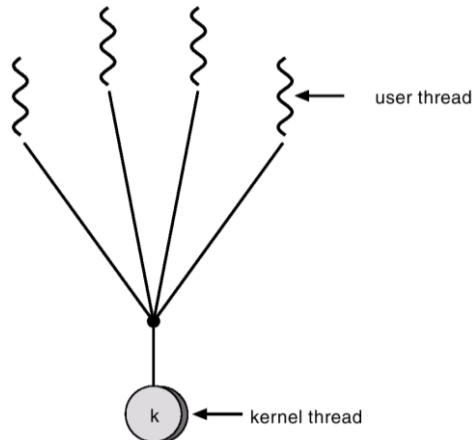


# Multithreading Models

## ■ Many-to-one model

- Many user threads are mapped to single kernel thread
- Threads are managed by user-level thread library

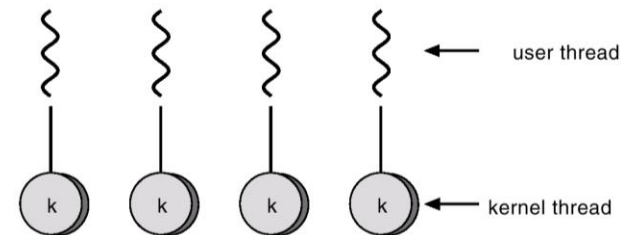
Ex) Green threads,  
GNU Portable Threads



## ■ One-to-one model

- Each user thread is mapped to a kernel thread
- Provides more concurrency
- Problem: overhead

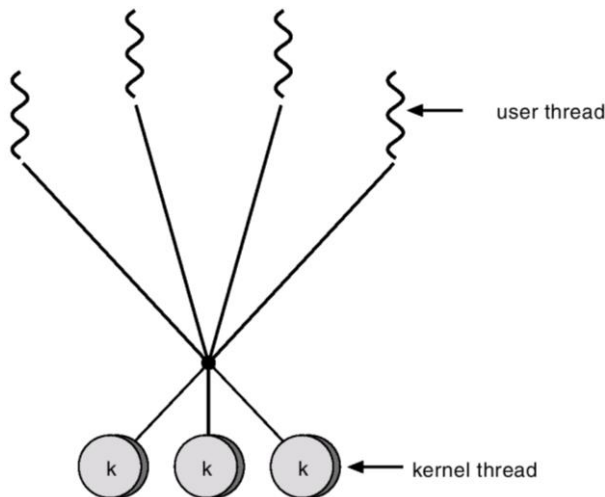
Ex) Linux, Windows, Solaris



# Multithreading Models

## ■ Many-to-Many model

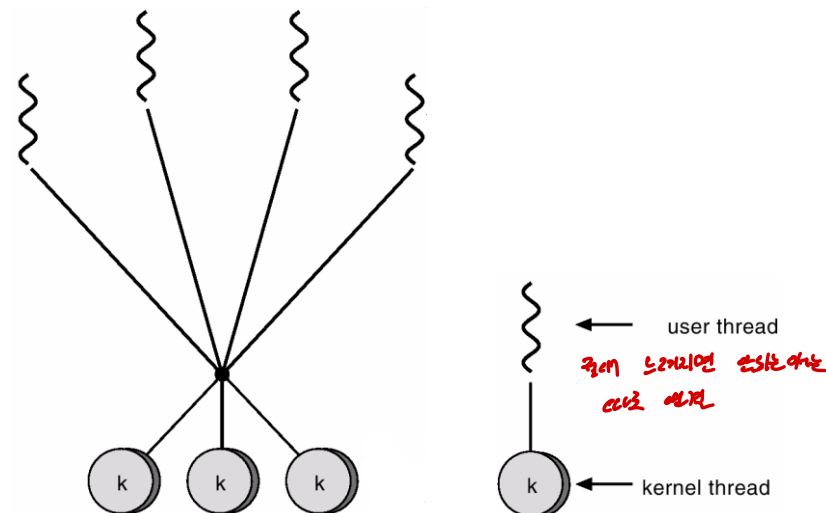
- Multiplex many user level threads to smaller or equal number of kernel threads
- Compromise between n:1 model and 1:1 model



## ■ Two-level model

- Variation of N:M model
- Basically N:M model
- A user thread can be bound to a kernel thread

Ex) IRIX, HP-UX, Tru64, Solaris (<=8)



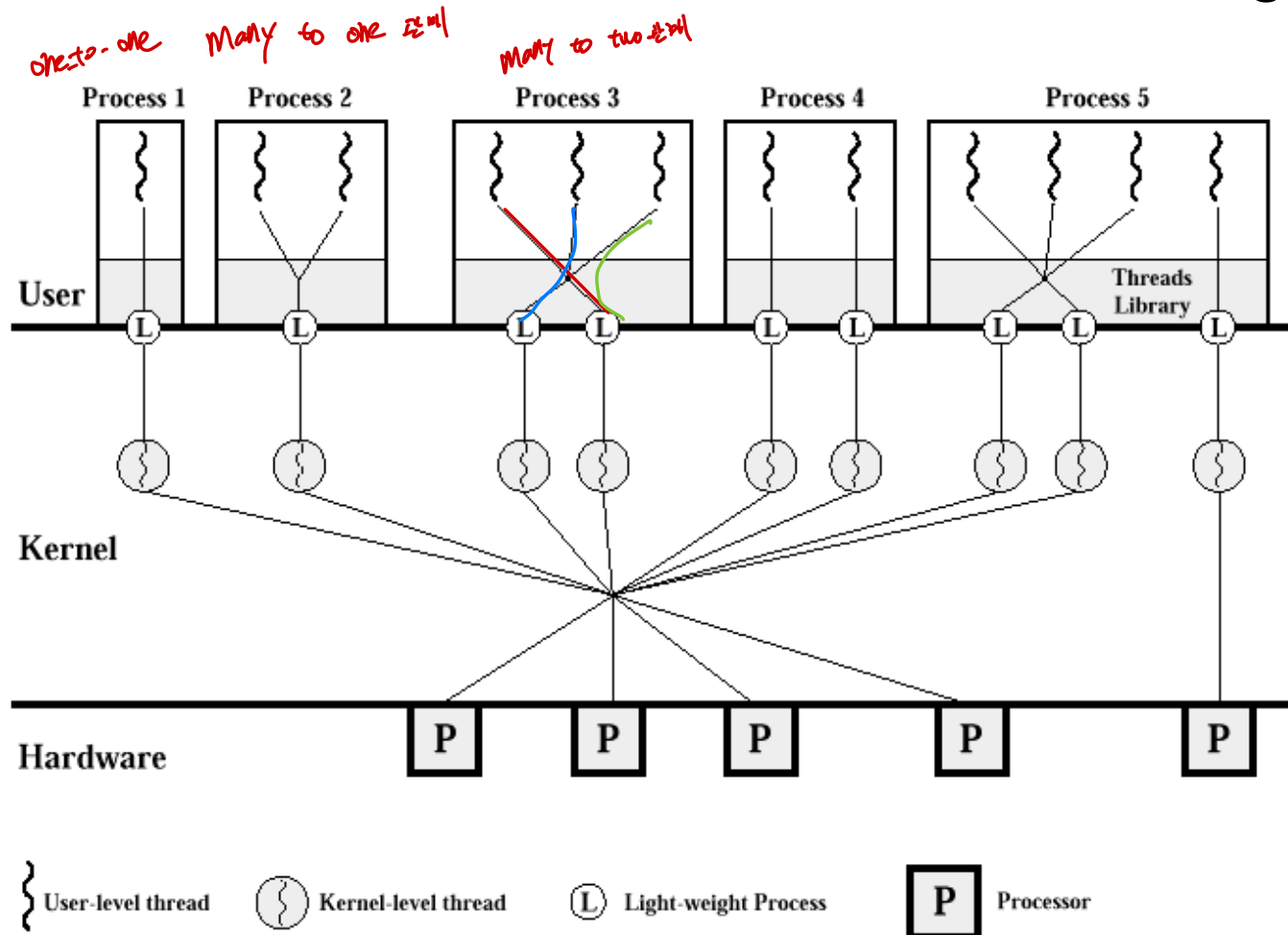
# Scheduler Activation

- Communication between the kernel and the thread library in many-to-many model and two-level model.
  - **Scheduler activation** is one scheme for communication between user thread library and kernel
- In many-to-many model and two-level model, user threads are connected with kernel threads through **LWP**.
- **Lightweight process (LWP)**
  - A data structure connecting user thread to kernel thread.
  - Basically, **a LWP corresponds to a kernel thread**, but there are some exceptions.
  - To the user-level thread library, a LWP appears to be a **virtual processor**.

kernel thread과 1:1 관계, 각각의 kernel thread로 연결

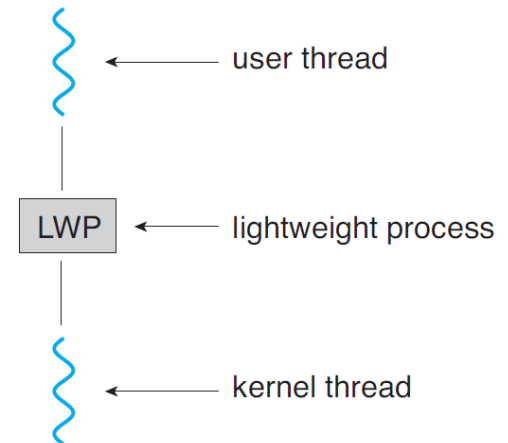
# Scheduler Activation and LWP

## ■ Connection between user/kernel threads through LWP



# Scheduler Activation

- Kernel provides a set of virtual processors(LWP's).
- User level thread library schedules user threads onto virtual processors.
- If a kernel thread is blocked or unblocked, kernel notices it to thread library(upcall).
- Upcall handler schedules properly.
  - If a kernel thread is blocked, assign the LWP to another thread
  - If a kernel thread is unblocked, assign an LWP to it.



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# Thread Libraries



- **Thread library**: set of API's to create and manage threads
  - User level library
  - Kernel level library

## Examples)

- POSIX Pthreads: a specification with various implementations.
  - LinuxThreads
  - NPTL (Native POSIX Thread Library)
  - GNU Portable Threads
  - Open source Pthreads for win32
  - Etc.
- Win32 threads
- Java threads



# POSIX Pthreads

- Reading assignment: Search the Internet for the following functions, and study them.

- API functions

- `int pthread_create(pthread_t *thread, const pthread_attr_t *attr, void * (*start_routine)(void *), void *arg);`
  - Creates thread

*thread ID*
- `int pthread_attr_init(pthread_attr_t *attr);`
  - Initializes *attr* by default values
- `int pthread_join(pthread_t th, void **thread_return);`
  - Waits for a thread *th*.
- `void pthread_exit(void *retval);`
  - Terminates thread

*exit point*

# Example



55

```
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdio.h>

int sum = 0; /* this data is shared by the thread(s) */
void *runner(void *param); /* the thread */

int main (int argc, char *argv[])
{
    pthread_t tid = 0; /* the thread identifier */
    pthread_attr_t attr; /* set of thread attributes */
    if (argc < 2 ) {
        fprintf(stderr, "usage: a.out <integer>\n");
        exit(0);
    }
    if (atoi(argv[1]) < 0) {
        fprintf(stderr, "%d must be <= 0\n", atoi(argv[1]));
        exit(0);
    }
}
```

```
/* get the default attributes */
pthread_attr_init(&attr);
/* create the thread */
pthread_create(&tid, &attr, runner, argv[1]);
/* now wait for the thread to exit */
pthread_join(tid, NULL);
printf("sum = %d\n", sum);
return 0;
```

```
/* The thread will begin control in this function */
void *runner(void *param)
{
    int upper = atoi(param);
    int i = 0;
    sum = 0;
    if (upper > 0) {
        for (i = 1; i <= upper; i++)
            sum += i;
    }
    return NULL;
}
```

# Windows Threads



- Create

```
HANDLE WINAPI CreateThread(  
    LPSECURITY_ATTRIBUTES lpThreadAttributes,  
    SIZE_T dwStackSize,  
    LPTHREAD_START_ROUTINE lpStartAddress,  
    LPVOID lpParameter,  
    DWORD dwCreationFlags,  
    LPDWORD lpThreadId  
);
```

See <http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/default.asp?url=/library/en-us/dllproc/base/createthread.asp>

- Wait

```
DWORD WINAPI WaitForSingleObject(  
    HANDLE hHandle,  
    DWORD dwMilliseconds                // time-out interval  
);
```

- Close (deallocate) handle

```
BOOL CloseHandle(LPDWORD lpThreadId);
```

# Windows Multithreaded C Program

```
#include <windows.h>
#include <stdio.h>
DWORD Sum; /* data is shared by the thread(s) */

/* the thread runs in this separate function */
DWORD WINAPI Summation(LPVOID Param)
{
    DWORD Upper = *(DWORD*)Param;
    for (DWORD i = 0; i <= Upper; i++)
        Sum += i;
    return 0;
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    DWORD ThreadId;
    HANDLE ThreadHandle;
    int Param;

    if (argc != 2) {
        fprintf(stderr, "An integer parameter is required\n");
        return -1;
    }
    Param = atoi(argv[1]);
    if (Param < 0) {
        fprintf(stderr, "An integer >= 0 is required\n");
        return -1;
    }
}
```

```
/* create the thread */
ThreadHandle = CreateThread(
    NULL, /* default security attributes */
    0, /* default stack size */
    Summation, /* thread function */
    &Param, /* parameter to thread function */
    0, /* default creation flags */
    &ThreadId); /* returns the thread identifier */

if (ThreadHandle != NULL) {
    /* now wait for the thread to finish */
    WaitForSingleObject(ThreadHandle, INFINITE);

    /* close the thread handle */
    CloseHandle(ThreadHandle);

    printf("sum = %d\n", Sum);
}
```

# Java Threads

- Java threads are managed by the JVM
  - Typically, implemented using the threads model provided by underlying OS
- Java threads may be created by:
  - Extending **Thread** class
    - For detail, search 'Java Thread class' from Internet
  - Implementing the **Runnable** interface *implement은 여러개 할수 있다.*

```
public interface Runnable
{
    public abstract void run();
}
```

# Java Thread using Thread Class

## ■ Extending Thread class

```
class PrimeThread extends Thread {  
    long minPrime;  
    PrimeThread(long minPrime) {  
        this.minPrime = minPrime;  
    }  
  
    public void run() {  
        // compute primes larger than minPrime  
        . . .  
    }  
}
```

## ■ Launching thread

```
PrimeThread p = new PrimeThread(143);  
p.start();
```

# Java Thread using Running Interface



## ■ Extending Thread class

```
class PrimeRun implements Runnable {  
    long minPrime;  
    PrimeRun(long minPrime) {  
        this.minPrime = minPrime;  
    }  
  
    public void run() {  
        // compute primes larger than minPrime  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

## ■ Launching thread

```
PrimeRun p = new PrimeRun(143);  
new Thread(p).start();
```

# Java Multithreaded Program

```
class Sum
{
    private int sum;

    public int getSum() {
        return sum;
    }

    public void setSum(int sum) {
        this.sum = sum;
    }
}

class Summation implements Runnable
{
    private int upper;
    private Sum sumValue;

    public Summation(int upper, Sum sumValue) {
        this.upper = upper;
        this.sumValue = sumValue;
    }

    public void run() {
        int sum = 0;
        for (int i = 0; i <= upper; i++)
            sum += i;
        sumValue.setSum(sum);
    }
}
```



# Java Multithreaded Program (Cont.)

```
public class Driver
{
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        if (args.length > 0) {
            if (Integer.parseInt(args[0]) < 0)
                System.err.println(args[0] + " must be >= 0.");
            else {
                Sum sumObject = new Sum();
                int upper = Integer.parseInt(args[0]);
                Thread thrd = new Thread(new Summation(upper, sumObject));
                thrd.start();
                try {
                    thrd.join();
                    System.out.println
                        ("The sum of "+upper+" is "+sumObject.getSum());
                } catch (InterruptedException ie) { }
            }
        }
        else
            System.err.println("Usage: Summation <integer value>");
    }
}
```

# Implicit Threading



- Creation and management of threads done by **compilers** and **run-time libraries** rather than programmers
- Three methods explored
  - Thread Pools
  - OpenMP
  - Grand Central Dispatch
- Other methods include Microsoft Threading Building Blocks (TBB), `java.util.concurrent` package

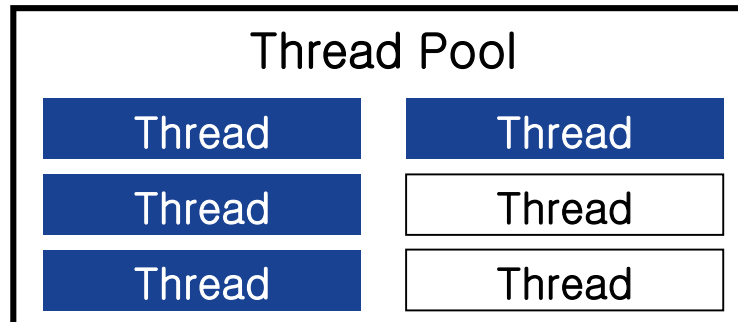
Thread의 생성과 해제가 잦은 경우

( overhead를 줄일 수 있다

# Thread Pools

thread 관리 가능한 구조에 있다. → 안정성↑

- Create a number of threads in a pool where they await work
- Advantages
  - Usually slightly faster to service a request with an existing thread than create a new thread
  - Allows the number of threads in the application(s) to be bound to the size of the pool
  - Separating task to be performed from mechanics of creating task allows different strategies for running task
    - i.e., Tasks could be scheduled to run periodically



# Windows Thread Pool (New API)



- See <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/win32/procthread/thread-pools>
- Creating/Closing Thread pool
  - `PTP_POOL` pool = `CreateThreadpool`(NULL);
  - void `CloseThreadpool`(PTP\_POOL ptp);
- Setting maximum/minimum number of threads
  - void `SetThreadpoolThreadMaximum`(PTP\_POOL ptp, DWORD cthrdMost);
  - BOOL `SetThreadpoolThreadMinimum`(PTP\_POOL ptp, DWORD cthrdMic);
- Create and associate a callback environment to a thread pool
  - `TP_CALLBACK_ENVIRON` CallBackEnviron;
  - `InitializeThreadpoolEnvironment`(&CallBackEnviron);
  - `SetThreadpoolCallbackPool`(&CallBackEnviron, pool);
  - <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/archive/msdn-magazine/2011/september/windows-with-c-the-thread-pool-environment>
- Create a cleanup group
  - `PTP_CLEANUP_GROUP` cleanupgroup = `CreateThreadpoolCleanupGroup`();
  - `SetThreadpoolCallbackCleanupGroup`(&CallBackEnviron, cleanupgroup, NULL);
  - <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/archive/msdn-magazine/2011/october/windows-with-c-thread-pool-cancellation-and-cleanup>

# Windows Thread Pool (New API)



- See <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/win32/procthread/thread-pools>
- Create work
  - `PTP_WORK` work = `CreateThreadpoolWork`(workcallback, NULL, &CallbackEnviron);
- Submit a work to the thread pool
  - `SubmitThreadpoolWork`(work);
- Close all members of cleanup group to finish
  - `CloseThreadpoolCleanupGroupMembers`(cleanupgroup, FALSE, NULL);

# OpenMP

- Provides support for parallel programming in shared-memory environments
  - Set of compiler directives and an API for C, C++, FORTRAN
  - Identifies parallel regions – blocks of code that can run in parallel
- Create as many threads as there are cores or H/W threads

```
#pragma omp parallel // each runs the statement  
printf("Hello, World!\n");
```

컴파일러에게 이 문장을 여러 번 실행  
CPU 코어를 이용하여 병렬로 실행

- Run for loop in parallel

```
#pragma omp parallel for // unroll loop over cores  
for(i=0;i<N;i++) {  
    c[i] = a[i] + b[i];  
}
```

for 문은 여러 번 실행

# Agenda

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# Threading Issues

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- `fork()` and `exec()`
- Cancellation
- Signal handling
- Thread-local storage
- Scheduler activation (already covered)



# fork() and exec()

- fork() on multithreaded process
  - Duplicates all threads in the process?
  - Duplicates only corresponding thread?
  - UNIX supports two versions of fork
    - fork(), fork1()  
*2345678 9 1011 12131415161718192021222324252627282930313233343536373839404142434445464748495051525354555657585960616263646566676869707172737475767778798081828384858687888990919293949596979899100*
- exec() on multithreaded process
  - Replace entire process

# Cancellation

## ■ Thread cancellation

- Terminating a thread (target thread) before it has completed

```
pthread_t tid;

/* create the thread */
pthread_create(&tid, 0, worker, NULL);

. . .

/* cancel the thread */
pthread_cancel(tid);
```

너 죽이지 죽이지(정신나자)

## ■ Problem with thread cancellation

- A thread share the resource with other threads  
cf. A process has its own resource.  
→ A thread can be cancelled while it updates data shared with other threads

# Cancellation

## ■ Setting thread cancellation type

- `pthread_t pthread_setcanceltype(int type, int *oldtype);`
  - Asynchronous cancellation (`PTHREAD_CANCEL_ASYNCHRONOUS`)
    - Immediate termination
  - Deferred cancellation (`PTHREAD_CANCEL_DEFERRED`)
    - Target thread checks periodically whether it should terminate.
- Ex) `pthread_testcancel()` 즉시 되게 \*안
- Safer than asynchronous cancellation

## ■ Enabling/disabling thread cancellation

- `pthread_t pthread_setcancelstate(int state, int *oldstate);`
  - state: `PTHREAD_CANCEL_DISABLE` or `PTHREAD_CANCEL_ENABLE`
  - `PTHREAD_CANCEL_DISABLE`: cancellation remains pending until thread enables it

| Mode         | State    | Type         |
|--------------|----------|--------------|
| Off          | Disabled | —            |
| Deferred     | Enabled  | Deferred     |
| Asynchronous | Enabled  | Asynchronous |

# Signal Handling



- **Signal:** mechanism provided by UNIX to notify a process a particular event has occurred
  - A signal can be generated by various sources.
  - The signal is delivered to **a process**.
  - The process handles it.
    - Default signal handler (kernel)
    - User-defined signal handler
- **Types of signal**
  - Synchronous: signal from same process
    - Ex) illegal memory access, division by 0
  - Asynchronous: signal from external sources
    - Ex) <Ctrl>-C

# Signal



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- A signal is a software interrupt delivered to a process.
  - The operating system uses signals to report exceptional situations to an executing program
- A signal is a limited form of inter-process communication used in Unix and other POSIX-compliant operating systems.
  - Essentially it is an asynchronous notification sent to a process in order to notify it of an event that occurred

# Examples of UNIX Signals

## ■ Signals in UNIX (in signal.h)

```
#define SIGHUP          1  /* hangup */
#define SIGINT          2  /* interrupt */
#define SIGQUIT         3  /* quit */
#define SIGILL          4  /* illegal instruction (not reset when caught) */
#define SIGTRAP         5  /* trace trap (not reset when caught) */
#define SIGIOT          6  /* IOT instruction */
#define SIGABRT         6  /* used by abort, replace SIGIOT in the future */
#define SIGEMT          7  /* EMT instruction */
#define SIGFPE          8  /* floating point exception */
#define SIGKILL         9  /* kill (cannot be caught or ignored) */
#define SIGBUS         10  /* bus error */
#define SIGSEGV        11  /* segmentation violation */
#define SIGSYS         12  /* bad argument to system call */
#define SIGPIPE        13  /* write on a pipe with no one to read it */
#define SIGALRM        14  /* alarm clock */
#define SIGTERM        15  /* software termination signal from kill */
```

# Installing Signal Handler

## ■ Defining signal handler

```
typedef void (*sighandler_t)(int);  
sighandler_t signal(int signum,  
                    sighandler_t handler);
```

## ■ Example

```
#include <signal.h>  
#include <unistd.h>  
  
void sig_handler(int signo);  
  
// press CTRL-W to terminate this program  
int main()  
{  
    int i = 0;  
    signal(SIGINT, (void *)sig_handler);  
  
    while(1){  
        printf("%dWn", i++);  
        sleep(1);  
    }  
    return 1;  
}  
  
void sig_handler(int signo)  
{  
    printf("SIGINT was received!Wn");  
}
```

# Signal Handling



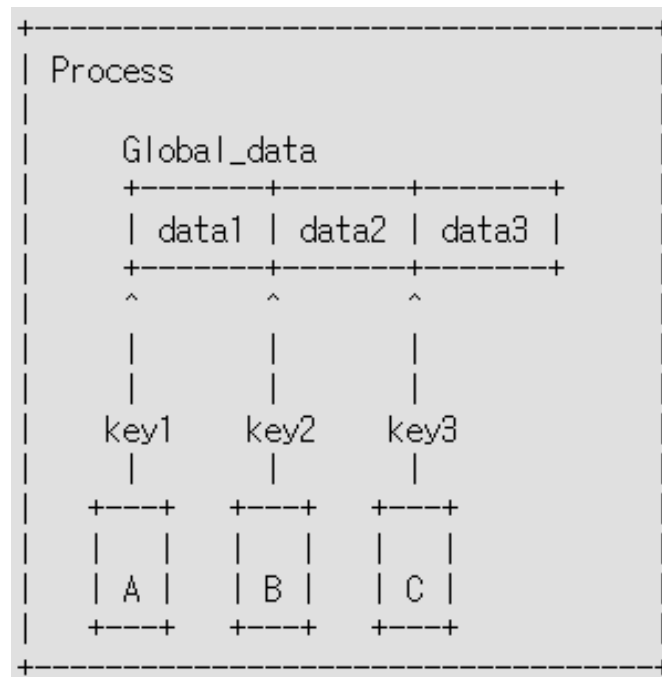
- Question: To what thread the signal should be delivered?
- Possible options
  - To the thread to which the signal applies
  - To every thread in the process
  - To certain threads in the process
  - Assign a specific thread to receive all signals

➔ depend on type of signal
- Another scheme: specify a thread to deliver the signal  
Ex) `pthread_kill(tid, signal)` in POSIX  
*signal system API*



# Thread-Local Storage *global 변수는 thread 별로 할당*

- In a process, all threads share global variables
  - Sometimes, thread-local storage(TLS) is required
    - Many OS's support thread specific data
- Ex) A key is assigned to each thread.



# Thread-Local Storage in pthread

- Thread-local storage (TLS) allows each thread to have its own copy of data

Ex) `__thread int tls;` *global 변수* // on pthread

- Each thread has its own 'int tls' variable
- Different from local variables
  - Local variables visible only during single function invocation
  - TLS visible across function invocations
- Similar to static data
  - TLS is unique to each thread
- Useful when you do not have control over the thread creation process (i.e., when using a thread pool)

# Thread-Local Storage in pthread

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

```
#define THREADS 3
```

```
__thread int tls;
int global;
```

```
void *func(void *arg)
{
    int num = (int) arg;
    tls = num;
    global = num;
    sleep(1);
    printf("Thread = %d tls = %d global = %d\n",
           num, tls, global);
}
```

```
int main()
{
    int ret;
    pthread_t thread[THREADS];
    int num;

    for(num = 0; num < THREADS; num++){
        ret = pthread_create(&thread[num], NULL, &func,
                             (void *)num);
        if(ret){
            printf("error pthread_create\n");
            exit(1);
        }
    }

    for(num = 0; num < THREADS; num++){
        ret = pthread_join(thread[num], NULL);
        if(ret){
            printf("error pthread_join\n");
            exit(1);
        }
    }

    return 0;
}
```

# Agenda

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- Overview
- Multithreading models
- Thread libraries
- Threading issues
- Operating system examples *skip*

# Windows XP Threads



- Implements the one-to-one mapping, kernel-level
    - Additionally, many-to-many model is supported by fiber library
  - Each thread contains
    - A thread id, register set, separate user and kernel stacks, private data storage area (for run-time libraries and DLLs)
- Cf. The register set, stacks, and private storage area are known as **the context of the thread**.

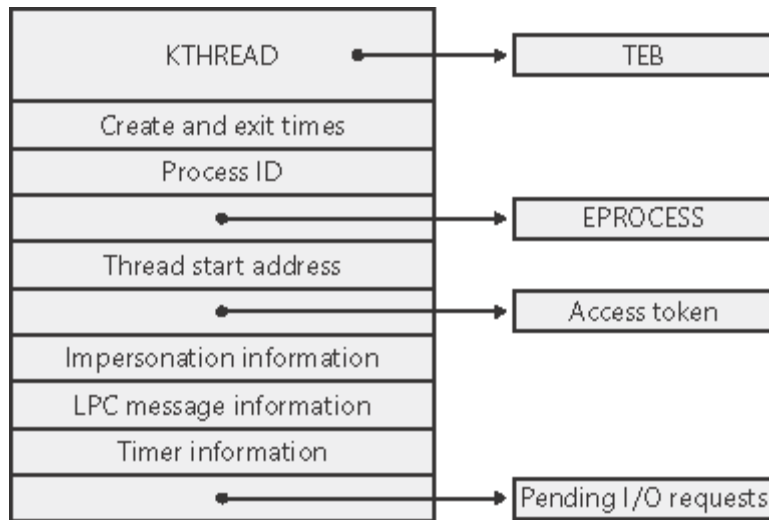
# Internal Data Structures

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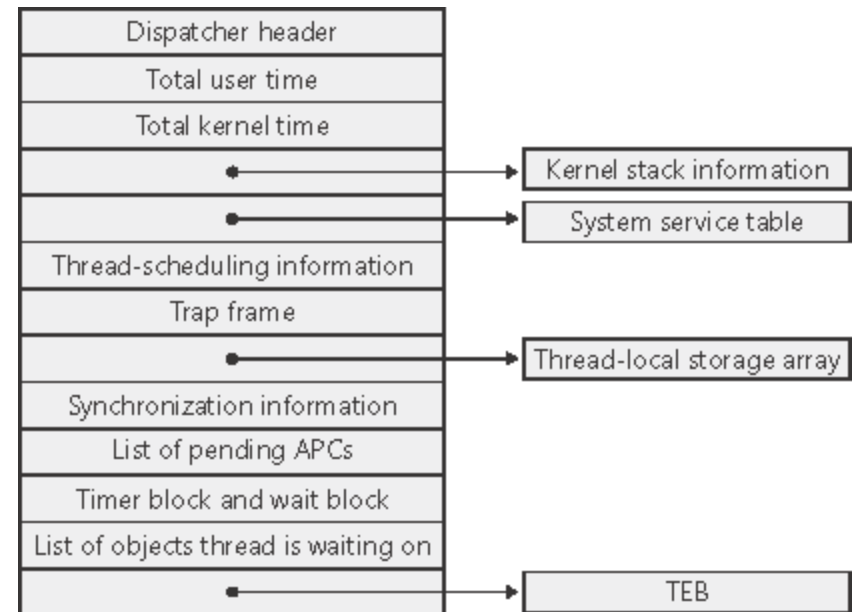


- The primary data structures of a thread include:
  - ETHREAD (executive thread block)
  - KTHREAD (kernel thread block)
    - Information for thread scheduling and synchronization
  - TEB (thread environment block)
    - Context information for the image loader and various Windows DLL

# Layout of ETHREAD and KTHREAD

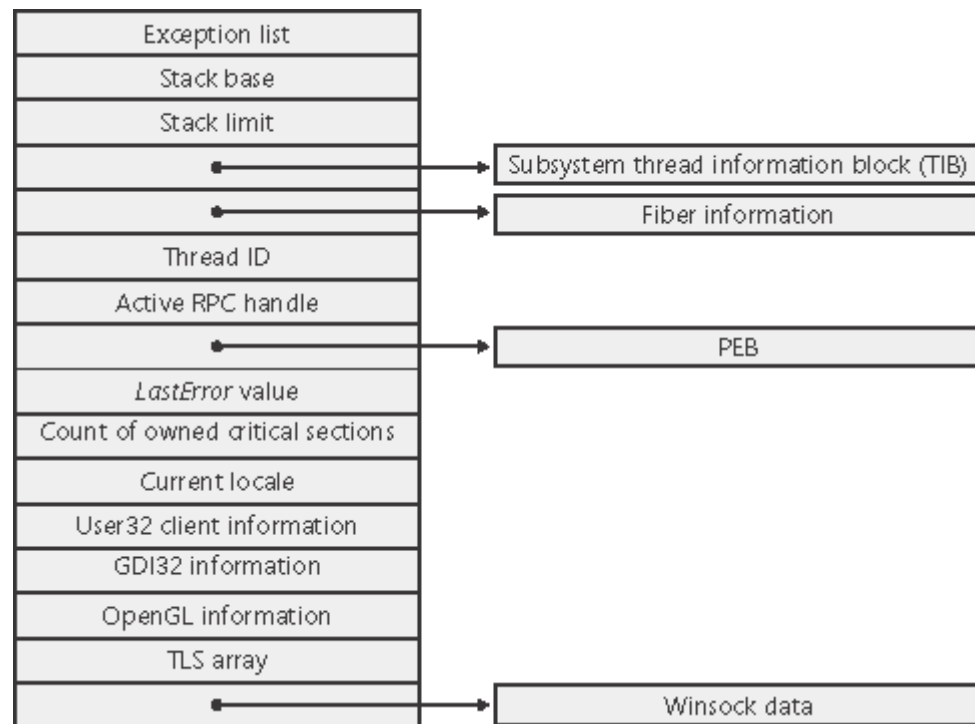


ETHREAD



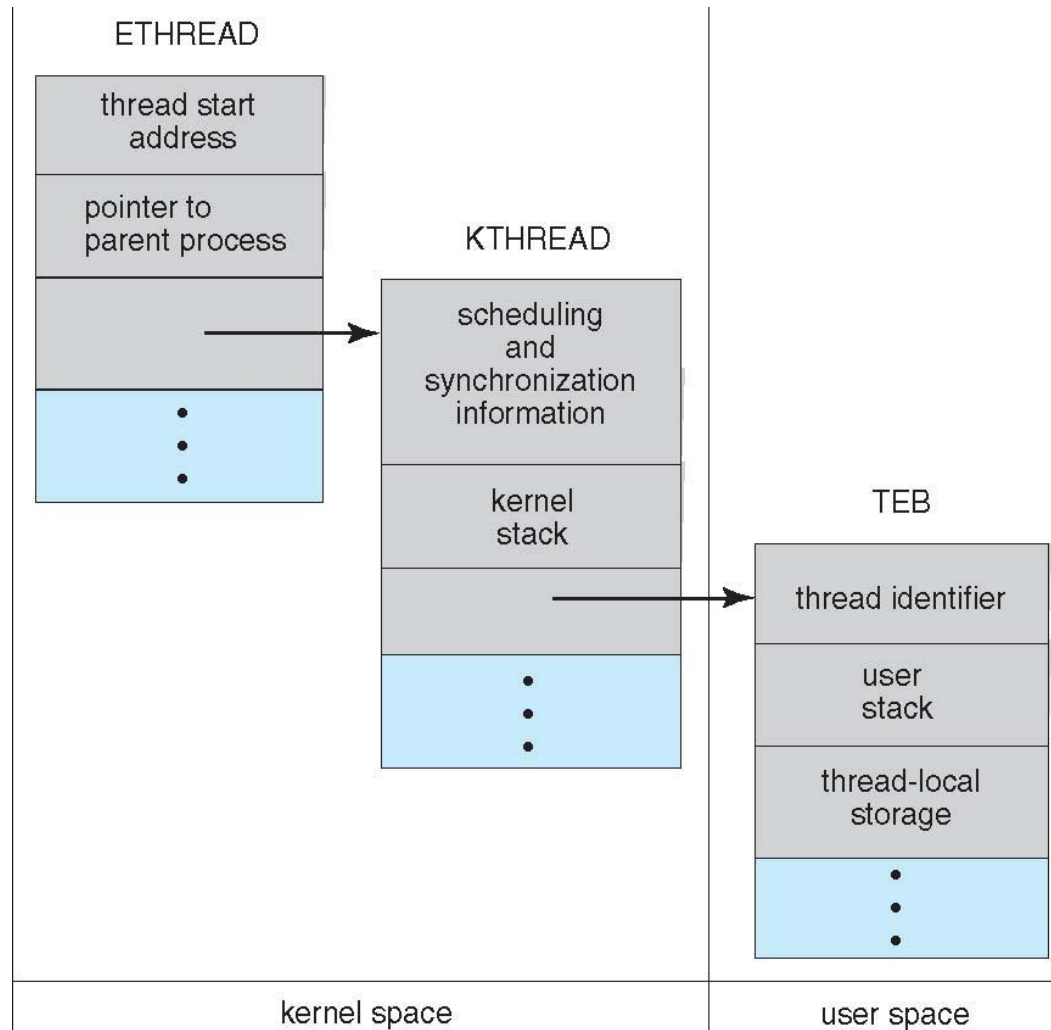
KTHREAD

# Layout of TEB





# Windows XP Threads



# Linux Threads

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- First implementation: LinuxThreads
  - Thread is created by `clone()` system call
  - However, no difference between process and thread
    - Term '**task**' is used more frequently than 'process' or 'thread'
  - User can control how much the resource is shared between parent and child.

# Linux Threads



## ■ Problems of *LinuxThreads*

- It did not scale well,
  - There is a limitation on the number of threads, generally between 1024 and 8192.
  - The overhead of creating and destroying processes is relatively high.
- The manager thread resulted in some fragility and another scaling bottleneck.
- Some required POSIX semantics were not possible. Each thread had its own PID.

## ■ NPTL (Native POSIX Thread Library)

- Better than LinuxThreads in performance and compatibility