Embedded Software

Introduction to operating systems

AARHUS
UNIVERSITY

Agenda

- What is an operating system?
- OS structure
  - Process management
  - Memory and storage mgmt.
  - I/O subsystem
- Operating systems - Real-Time OS’s

What is an operating system?

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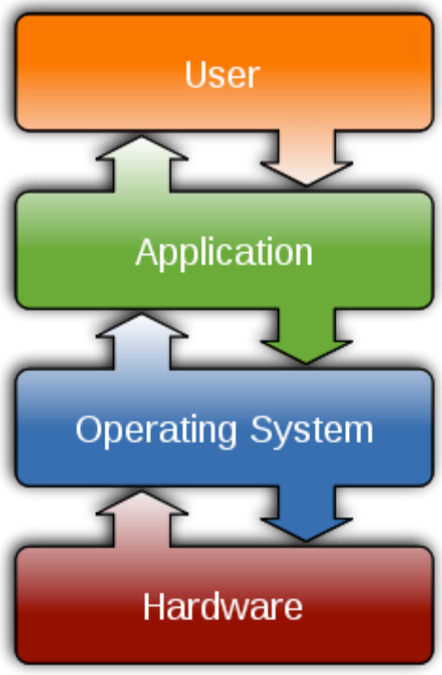
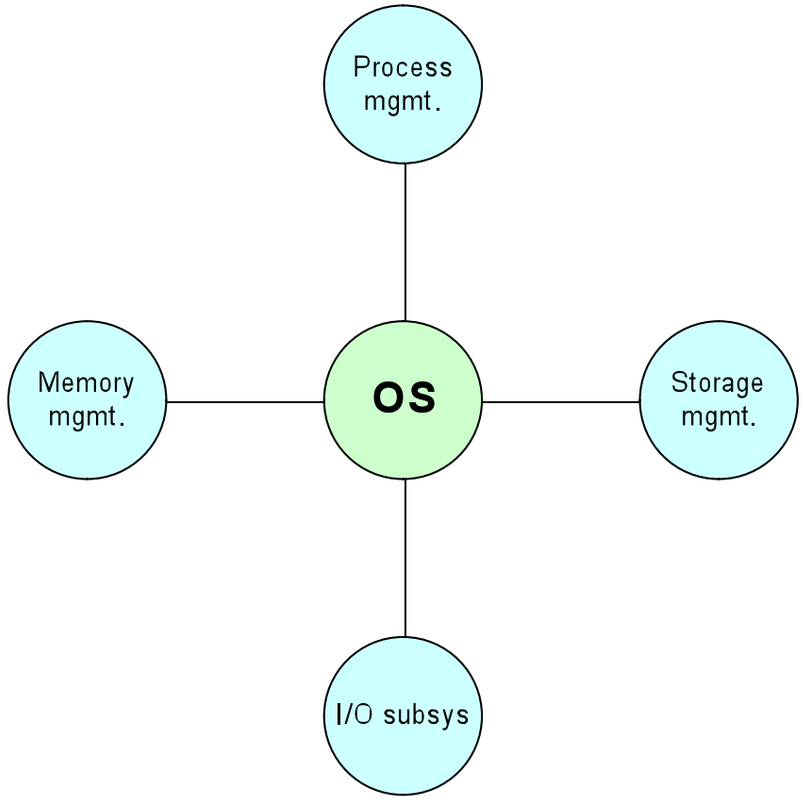
  - Wikipedia: *“An operating system (OS) is software (…) that manages computer hardware resources and provides common services for efficient execution of various application software.”*



OS structure



OS structure

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  - Mainframe OSs are optimized for HW utilization
  - Desktop OSs are optimized for generality
  - Embedded OSs are optimized for efficiency, size, safety, speed, low power
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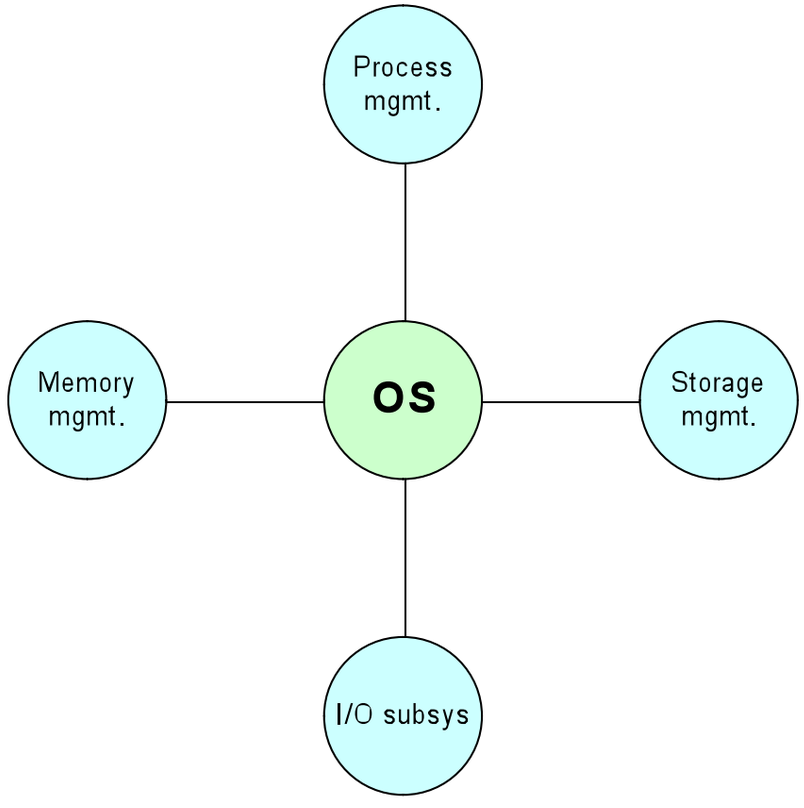

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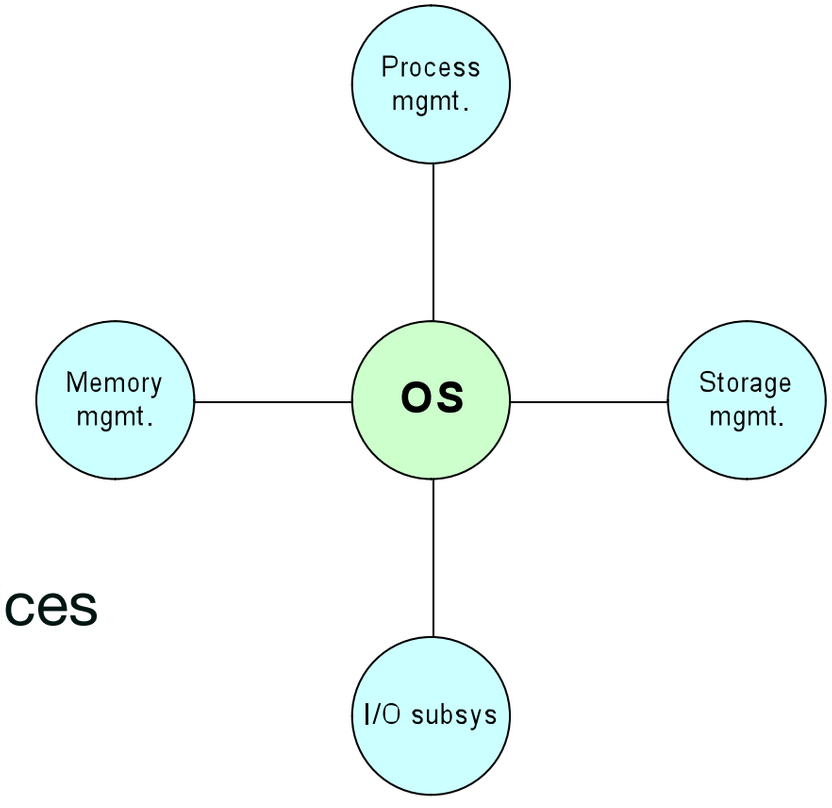
  - Storage management – persistent storage and cache
  - I/O subsystem management – manage I/O devices



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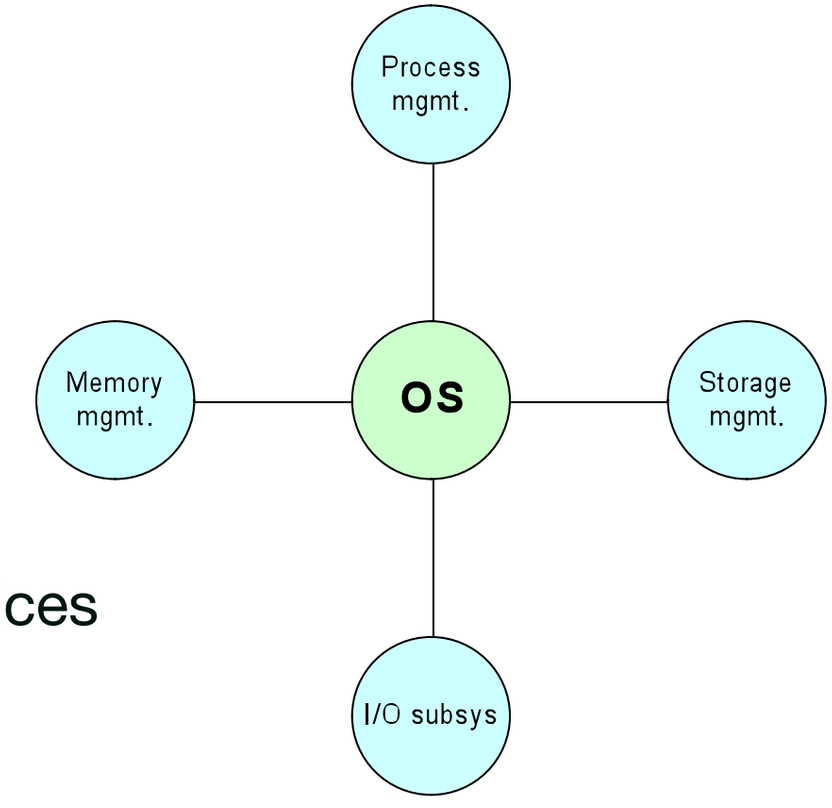
- Let's take a look at process management



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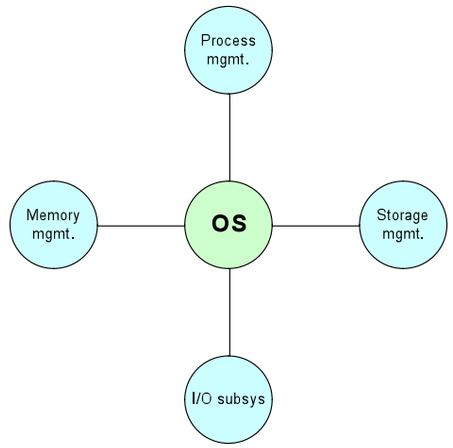

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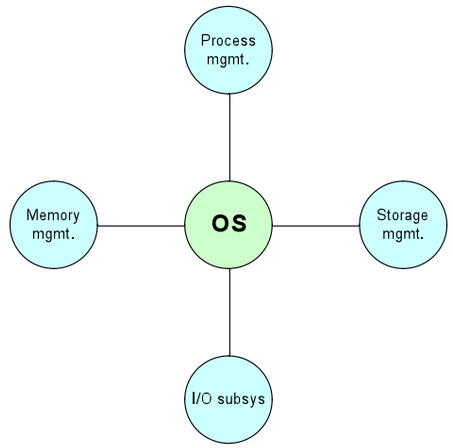

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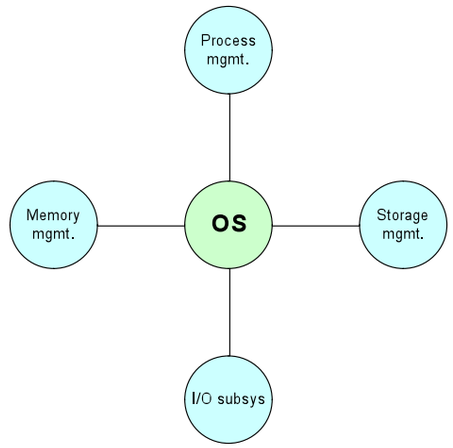

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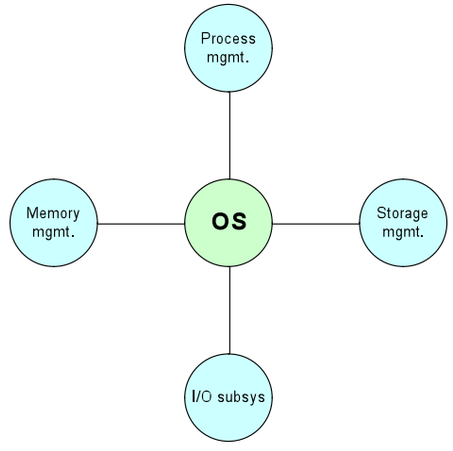

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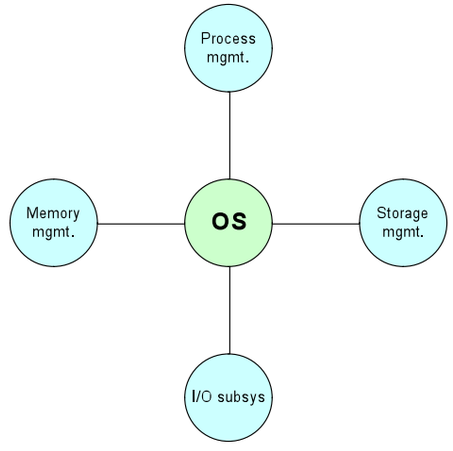

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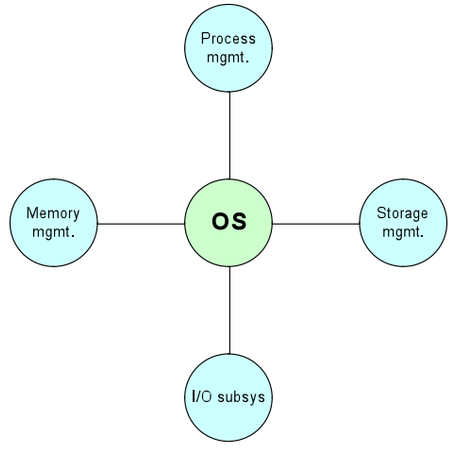

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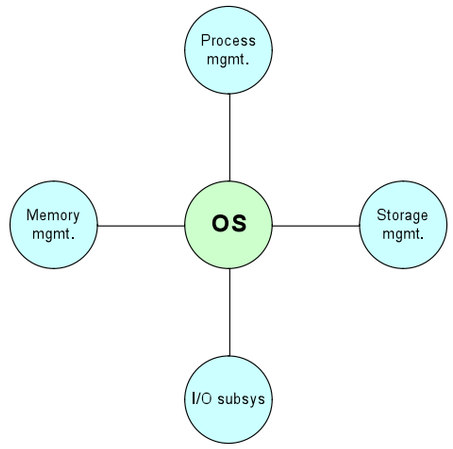
- The OS manages processes
  - Creates, deletes, and allocates resources for them
  - Swaps them in and out of memory
  - Suspends and resumes them
  - Provides mechanisms for synchronization and communication between processes

Process management – why?

- Processes either compute or perform device I/O

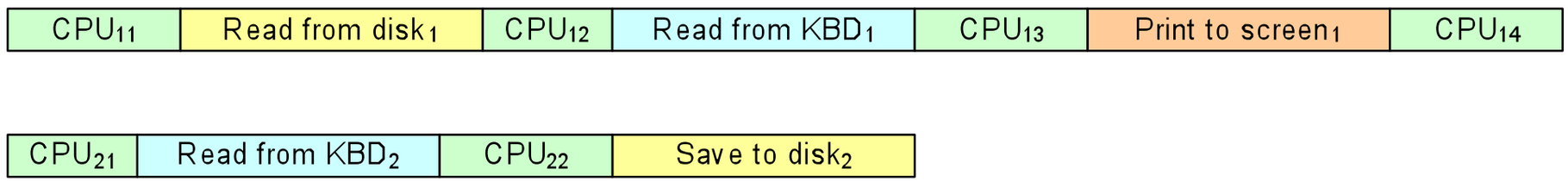


- ***What does a process do while it performs I/O?***
  - It must wait for I/O to complete before it can resume

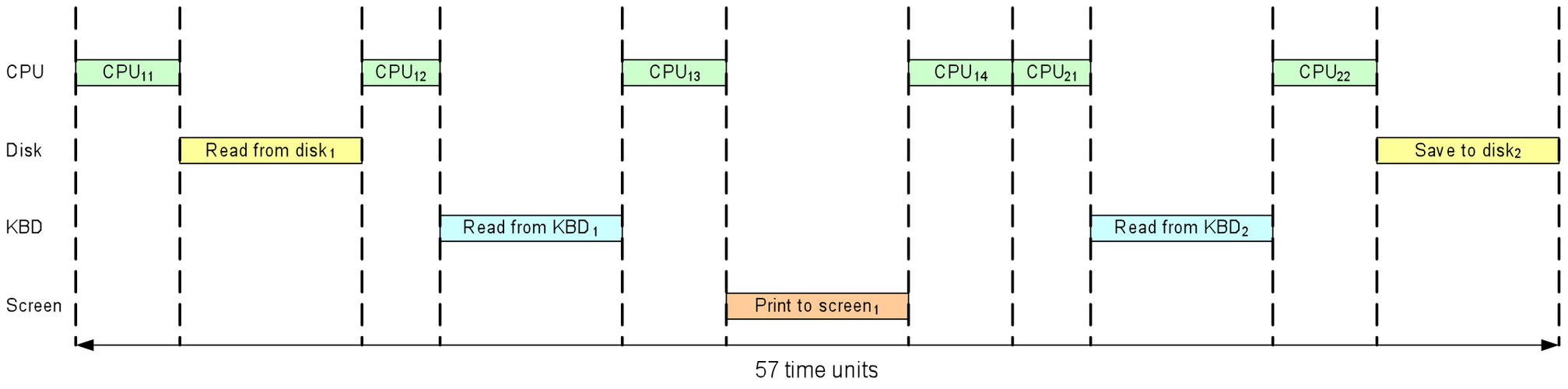
- ***What should the system do meanwhile?***
  - Without process management: CPU idles
  - With process management: Switch to another ready process

Process management - example

- Consider two tasks:



- ***Scheduling without resource management (batch processing)?***



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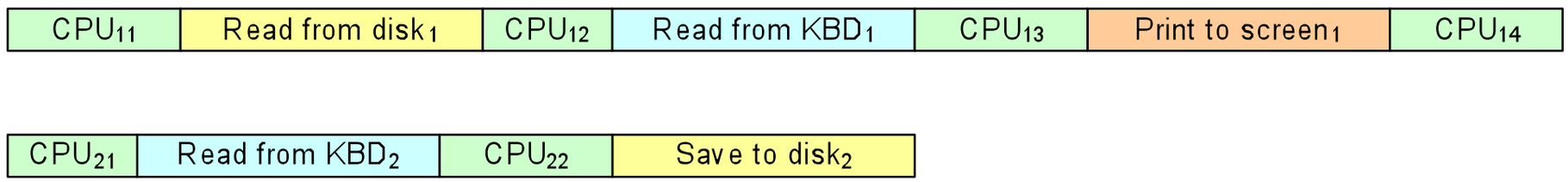

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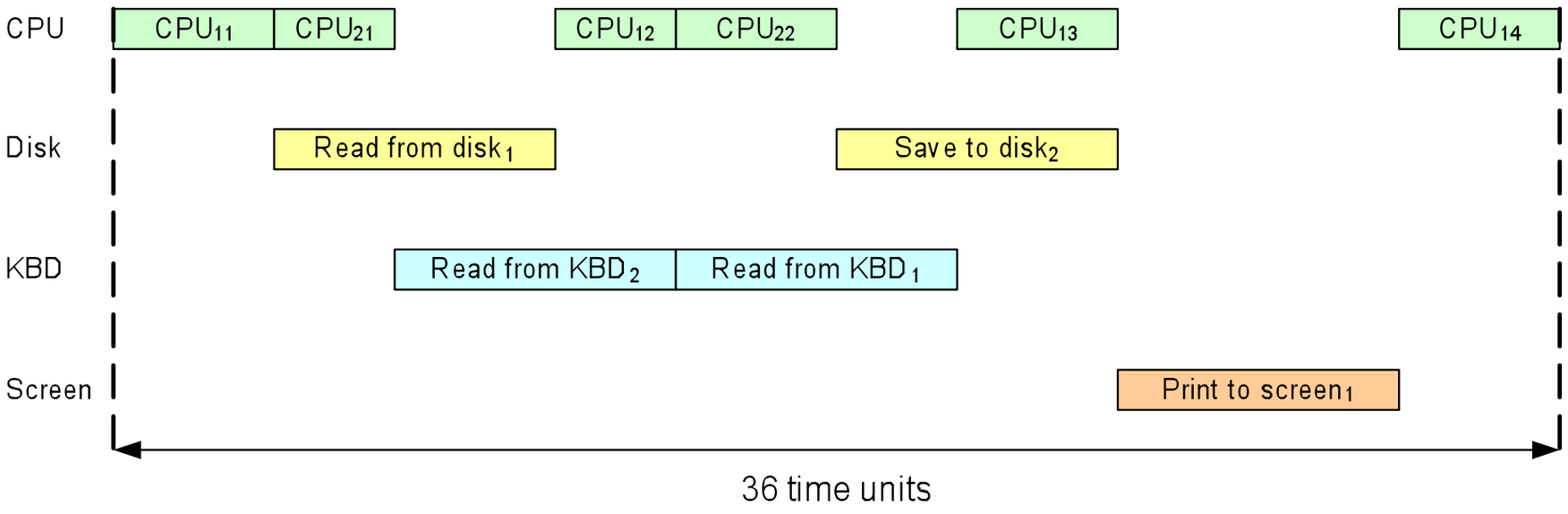

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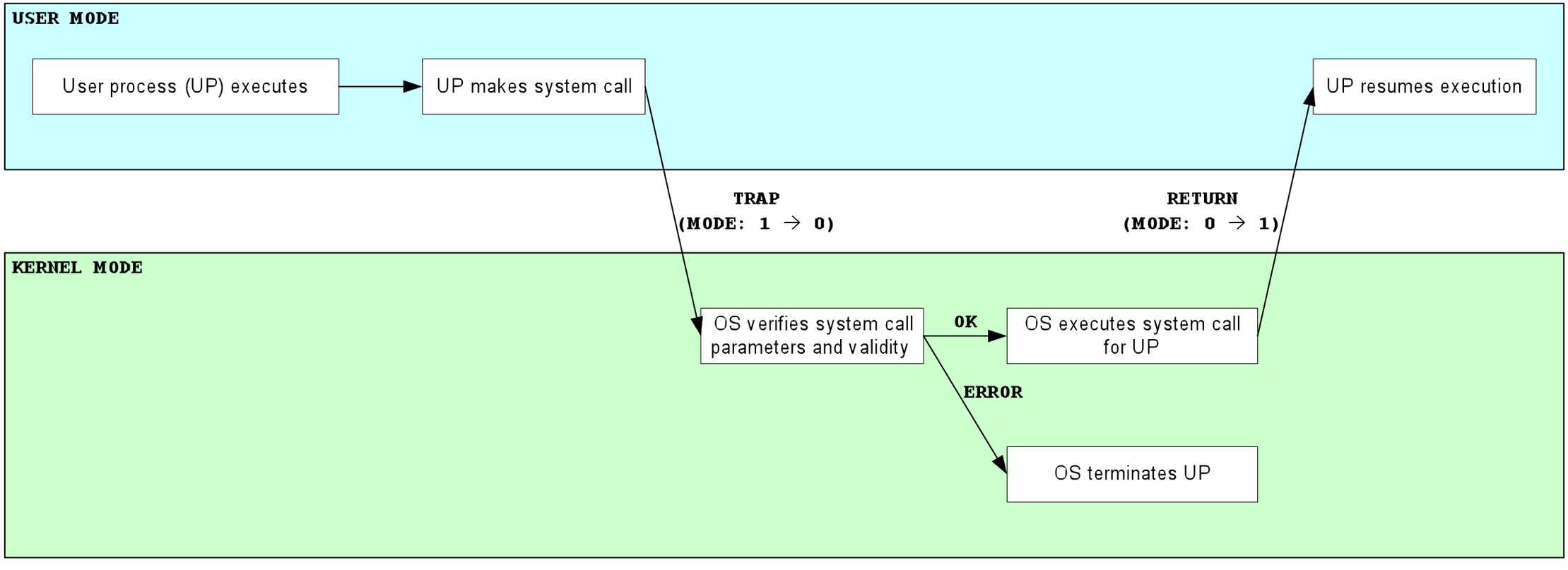
- Potentially dangerous operations (I/O, IPC, …) can only be done via privileged instructions
  - Restricted instructions – user and kernel mode
  - Privileged instructions – kernel mode only

Dual-mode operation – system calls

- When processes need to perform I/O, it does so via the OS via well-defined ***system calls*** (version 2.6.35: 337 different syscalls)

- The OS (which is in kernel mode) verifies the system call and its parameters



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$ ./hello
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execve("./hello", ["./hello"], [/* 46 vars */]) = 0
brk(0)                                  = 0x8568000
access("/etc/ld.so.nohwcap", F_OK)      = -1 ENOENT (No such file or
directory)
mmap2(NULL, 8192, PROT_READ|PROT_WRITE, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_ANONYMOUS, -1, 0) = 0xb77ef000
access("/etc/ld.so.preload", R_OK)      = -1 ENOENT (No such file or directory)
open("/etc/ld.so.cache", O_RDONLY)      = 3
fstat64(3, {st_mode=S_IFREG|0644, st_size=57413, ...}) = 0
mmap2(NULL, 57413, PROT_READ, MAP_PRIVATE, 3, 0) = 0xb77e0000
close(3)                                = 0
access("/etc/ld.so.nohwcap", F_OK)      = -1 ENOENT (No such file or directory)
open("/usr/lib/libstdc++.so.6", O_RDONLY) = 3
read(3, "\177ELF\1\1\1\0\0\0\0\0\0\0\0\0\3\0\3\0\1\0\0\0000r\4\0004\0\0\0"..., 512) = 512
fstat64(3, {st_mode=S_IFREG|0644, st_size=975088, ...}) = 0
mmap2(NULL, 1004420, PROT_READ|PROT_EXEC, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_DENYWRITE, 3, 0) = 0xbbf000
mprotect(0xca8000, 4096, PROT_NONE)     = 0
mmap2(0xca9000, 20480, PROT_READ|PROT_WRITE, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_FIXED|MAP_DENYWRITE, 3, 0xe9) = 0xca9000
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fstat64(3, {st_mode=S_IFREG|0644, st_size=149392, ...}) = 0
mmap2(NULL, 151680, PROT_READ|PROT_EXEC, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_DENYWRITE, 3, 0) = 0x9b4000
mmap2(0x9d8000, 8192, PROT_READ|PROT_WRITE, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_FIXED|MAP_DENYWRITE, 3, 0x23) = 0x9d8000
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read(3, "\177ELF\1\1\1\0\0\0\0\0\0\0\0\0\3\0\3\0\1\0\0\0\0pF\0\0004\0\0\0"..., 512) = 512
fstat64(3, {st_mode=S_IFREG|0644, st_size=120368, ...}) = 0
mmap2(NULL, 4096, PROT_READ|PROT_WRITE, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_ANONYMOUS, -1, 0) = 0xb77df000
mmap2(NULL, 123432, PROT_READ|PROT_EXEC, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_DENYWRITE, 3, 0) = 0x791000
mmap2(0x7ae000, 8192, PROT_READ|PROT_WRITE, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_FIXED|MAP_DENYWRITE, 3, 0x1c) = 0x7ae000
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open("/lib/tls/i686/cmov/libc.so.6", O_RDONLY) = 3
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fstat64(3, {st_mode=S_IFREG|0755, st_size=1405508, ...}) = 0
mmap2(NULL, 1415592, PROT_READ|PROT_EXEC, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_DENYWRITE, 3, 0) = 0x110000
mprotect(0x263000, 4096, PROT_NONE)     = 0
mmap2(0x264000, 12288, PROT_READ|PROT_WRITE, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_FIXED|MAP_DENYWRITE, 3, 0x153) = 0x264000
mmap2(0x267000, 10664, PROT_READ|PROT_WRITE, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_FIXED|MAP_ANONYMOUS, -1, 0) = 0x267000
close(3)                                = 0
mmap2(NULL, 4096, PROT_READ|PROT_WRITE, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_ANONYMOUS, -1, 0) = 0xb77de000
set_thread_area({entry_number:-1 => 6, base_addr:0xb77de6d0, limit:1048575, seg_32bit:1, contents:0, read_exec_only:0, limit_in_pages:1, seg_not_present:0, useable:1}) = 0
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munmap(0xb77e0000, 57413)               = 0
fstat64(1, {st_mode=S_IFCHR|0620, st_rdev=makedev(136, 0), ...}) = 0
mmap2(NULL, 4096, PROT_READ|PROT_WRITE, MAP_PRIVATE|MAP_ANONYMOUS, -1, 0) = 0xb77ee000
write(1, "Hello world!\n", 13Hello world!
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exit_group(0)                                =
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56 system calls

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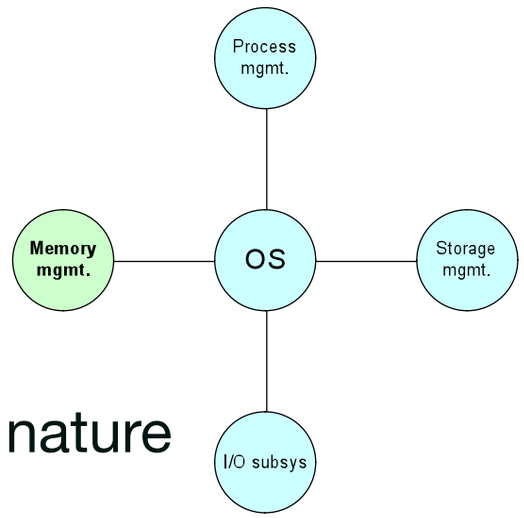
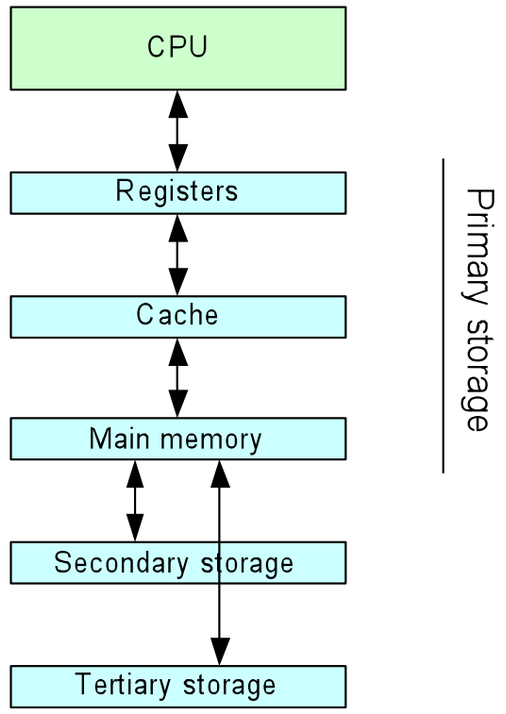
OS Structure - Memory and storage mgmt.

- Memory management
  - Keep track of several processes in memory at a time
  - Decide which (parts of) processes to move in and out of memory
    - Many different algorithms depending on hardware and the OS' nature
  - Allocate and deallocate memory as necessary



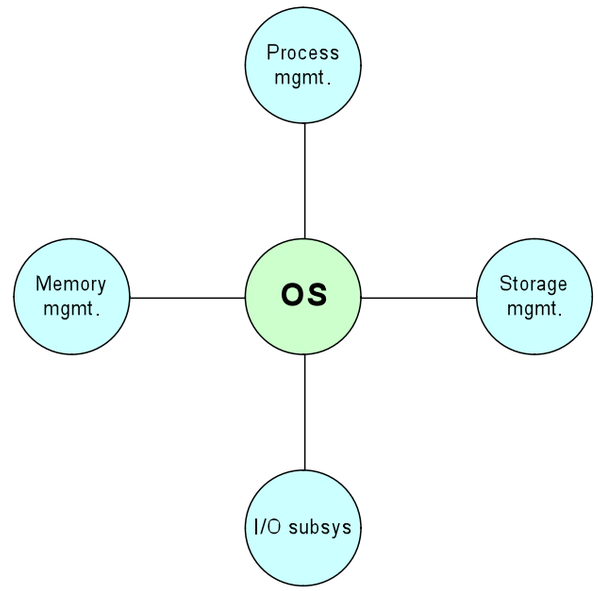
- Storage management
  - The primary storage is never big enough to accommodate all needs
  - A hierarchy of memory:
    - Size? Price (per MB)? Capacity? Bandwidth?
  - Move data in/out of hierarchy



OS Structure - I/O subsystem

- The I/O subsystem hides the oddities of individual I/O devices

- Instead, it provides a uniform interface (in Linux: a file)
  - The file is I/F to a device driver
  - The device driver knows how to operate the device



Operating systems - Real-Time OS's

- Real-Time Operating Systems (RTOSs) are OSs intended for RT systems (!)

- ***Some key properties?***
  - Minimum interrupt latency
  - Minimum task switching latency
    - Includes known worst case latency (must be small)
  - Static task priorities

- The programmer (you!) is responsible for correct priority assignment