

CSE 4733/6733 - Operating System 1

Stephen A. Torri, Ph.D.

Mississippi State University

Introduction

How to efficiently virtualize the CPU with control?



- The Operating System (OS) needs to share the central processing unit (CPU) by time sharing.
- **Issues**
 - **Performance:** How can virtualization be implemented without adding excessive overhead to the system?
 - **Control:** How can the processes efficiently run while retaining control over the CPU?

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└ Introduction

└ How to efficiently virtualize the CPU with control?

1.
 - We need to run processes efficiently while retaining control over the CPU.[1]
 - The OS handles the important tasks to protect system resources.[1]
 - Obtaining high performance while maintaining control is one of the central challenges in building an OS.[1]



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- **Issues:**
 - **Performance:** How can virtualization be implemented without adding excessive overhead to the system?
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Direct Execution without limits

Just run the program directly on the CPU

| OS | Program |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Create an entry for process list2. Allocate memory for program3. Load program into memory4. Set up stack with <i>agrc/agrv</i>5. Clear registers6. Execute call <i>main()</i> | <ol style="list-style-type: none">7. Run <i>main()</i>8. Execute <i>return</i> from <i>main()</i> |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">9. Free memory of process10. Remove from process list | |

Without limits on running programs, the OS would not be in control of anything.

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Without limits on running programs, the OS would not be in control of anything.

1. Question 1: If we just run a program, how can the OS make sure the program doesn't do anything that we don't want it to do while still running it efficiently?
2. Question 2: When we are running a process, how does the OS stop it from running and switch to another process, thus implementing the time sharing we require to virtualize the CPU?

Limited Direct Execution

Basic Technique: Limited Direct Exection[2]



- Low-level mechanism that implements the userkernel space separation
- Usually let processes run with no OS involvement
- Limit what processes can do
- Offer privileged operations through well-defined channels with the help of OS

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└ Limited Direct Execution

└ Basic Technique: Limited Direct Exection[2]



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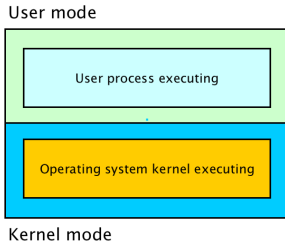
1. To increase a program's execution, OS developers created a technique called limited direct execution. Just run the program directly on the CPU.

Restricted Operation

Problem 1: Restricted Operation

Image: ([3])

- What if a process wishes to perform some restricted operation, such as:
 - Issuing an I/O request to a disk
 - Gaining access to more system resources such as CPU or memory
- Solution: Using protected control transfer (processor has to support it)
 - User mode: Applications do not have full access to hardware resources.
 - Kernel mode: The OS has access to the full resources of the machine



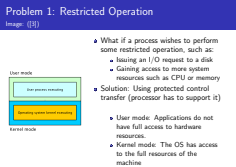
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└ Restricted Operation

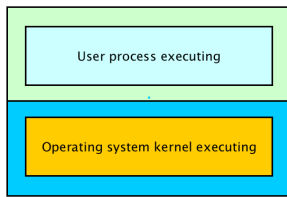
└ Problem 1: Restricted Operation

1. Processes start in user mode.
2. OS starts in kernel mode.



LDE: Remaining Challenges[2]

User mode



Kernel mode

LDE: Remaining Challenges

1. What if the process wants to do something privileged?
2. How can OS switch processes (or do anything) if it's not running?

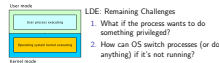
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└ Restricted Operation

└ LDE: Remaining Challenges[2]

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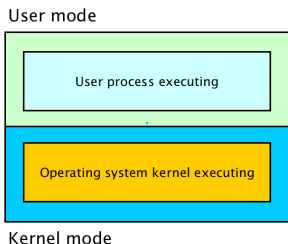
LDE: Remaining Challenges

1. What if the process wants to do something privileged?
2. How can OS switch processes (or do anything) if it's not running?

System Call

Image: ([3])

- Allow the kernel to expose key pieces of functionality to user programs carefully:
 - Accessing the file system
 - Creating and destroying processes
 - Communicating with other processes
 - Allocating more memory



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System Call

Image: ([3])

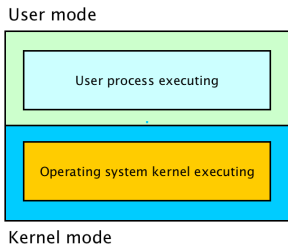


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System Call

Image: ([3])

- Trap instruction:
 - Jump into the kernel (how to tell where?)
 - Raise (the processor) privilege level to kernel mode.
- Return-from-trap instruction:
 - Return into the calling user program
 - Reduce (the processor) privilege level back to user mode



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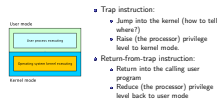
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System Call

Image: ([3])



Limited Direction Execution Protocol

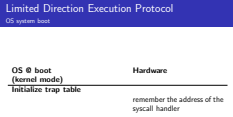
OS system boot

**OS @ boot
(kernel mode)**
Initialize trap table

Hardware

remember the address of the
syscall handler

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└ Restricted Operation
└ Limited Direction Execution Protocol



Limited Direction Execution Protocol

OS system call from program

| OS @ boot (kernel mode) | Hardware | Program (user mode) |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1: start process (kernel mode) | | |
| | 2: Switch to user mode | |
| | | 3: Call main then syscall |
| | 4: Switch to kernel mode | |
| 5. Handle trap | | |
| | 6.Switch to user mode | |
| | 8. Switch to kernel mode | |
| 9. Remove process | | 7. Finish main |

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1. Step 1

- Create entry for process list
- Allocate memory for program
- Load program into memory
- Setup user stack with argv
- Fill kernel stack with reg/PC
- return-from-trap

2. Step 2

- restore regs from kernel stack
- move to user mode
- jump to main

Limited Direction Execution Protocol

OS system call from program

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- Step 3
 - Run main()
 - Make system call
 - trap** into OS
- Step 4
 - save regs to kernel stack
 - move to kernel mode
 - jump to trap handler
- Step 5
 - Handle trap
 - Do work of syscall
 - return-from-trap

Limited Direction Execution Protocol

OS system call from program

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| | 8. Switch to kernel mode | 7. Finish main |
| 9. Remove process | | |

- Step 6
 - restore regs from kernel stack
 - move to user mode
 - jump to PC after trap
- Step 7
 - Return from main
 - trap (via exit)
- Step 8
 - save regs to kernel stack
 - move to kernel mode
 - jump to trap handler

Limited Direction Execution Protocol

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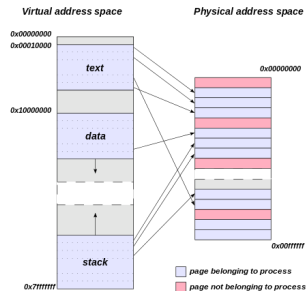
1. Step 9

- Free the process memory
- Remove from process list

Address Translation

Address Translation

Image: ([4])



- The OS tells the starting address and range (total size of the process).
- The Memory Management Unit (MMU) on the CPU helps to provide access protection and virtual-to-physical address translation.
- OS maintains a list of free memory.
- OS handles traps due to illegal memory access.

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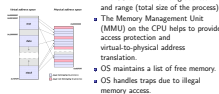
└ Address Translation

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1. The MMU performs the translation for every memory access. It will generate a fault and trap the OS if access is illegal (e.g., a virtual address is out of bounds).

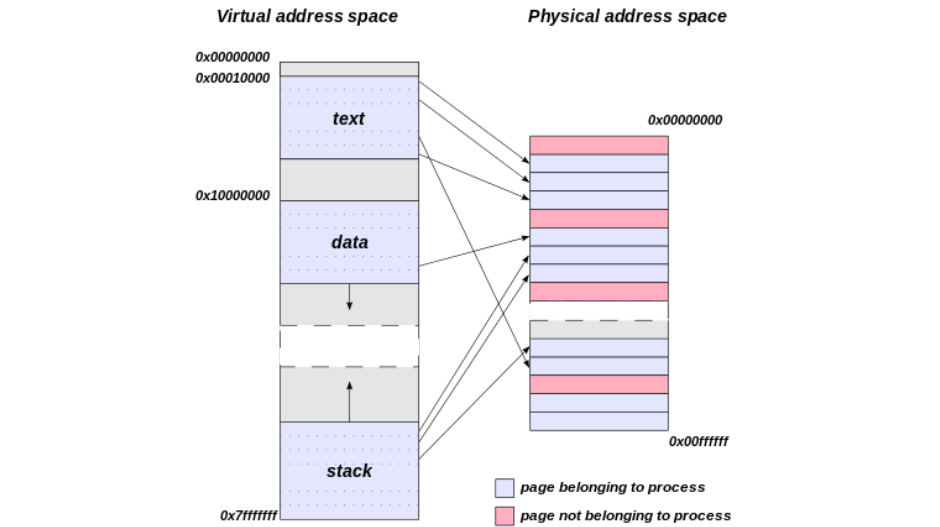
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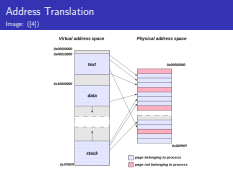


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References I



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