

OPERATING SYSTEMS

Operating System and Structures

S.Thenmozhi

Department of Computer Applications

- The OS operates in **dual mode**.
- **Dual-mode** operation allows OS to protect itself and other system components
- The two modes are **User mode** and **kernel mode**
- The OS manages the mode by setting the **Mode bit** provided by hardware
- The mode bit helps to distinguish whether the OS is in kernel mode or user mode
- User mode is when executing harmless code in user applications

OPERATING SYSTEMS

OS Operations

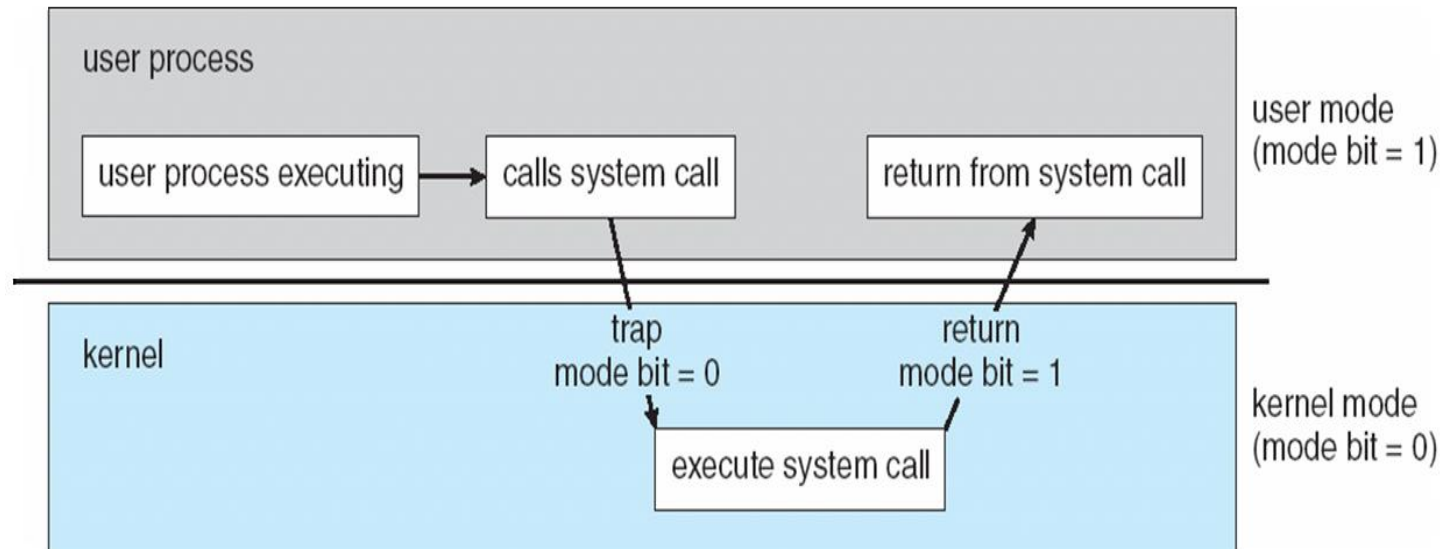
- Kernel mode (a.k.a. system mode, supervisor mode, privileged mode) when executing potentially dangerous code in the system kernel.
- Certain machine instructions (privileged instructions) can only be executed in kernel mode.
- Kernel mode can only be entered by making system calls.
- User code cannot flip the mode switch



- User Mode
 - Less Privileged
 - Exception can cause single process crash
 - Private virtual address space
- Kernel Mode
 - High Privileged
 - Exception can crash OS
 - Single Virtual address space

Programs frequently switch between both kernel mode and user mode

- **Timer** will be set to prevent infinite loop / process hogging resources
 - Set interrupt after specific period
 - When counter zero generate an interrupt
 - Operating system increments counter





THANK YOU

S. Thenmozhi

Department of Computer Applications

thenmozhis@pes.edu

+91 80 6666 3333 Extn 393