OS Organization

- OS is a sleeping beauty
 - User programs when scheduled run directly on the CPU
 - OS runs in response to "events"
- Privileged Instructions
 - OS must have exclusive access to hardware and critical data structures
- User mode & Kernel mode
 - "Mode" kept in a status bit in a protected control register
 - User programs execute in user mode
 - OS executes in kernel mode
 - CPU checks mode bit when protected instruction executes
 - Attempts to execute in user mode trap to OS

Mode Switching

mode switching

- External Interrupt
 - Timer, I/O interrupts
- Internal Trap (faults)
 - Page fault, Invalid operation, ...
- System Call
 - I/O operations (file open), fork, ...

user process

user process executing

calls system call

return from system call

trap

mode bit = 0

kernel

kernel

execute system call

return from system call

kernel mode (mode bit = 0)

Events

• Interrupts, exceptions/faults, system calls, etc.

	Unexpected	Deliberate
Synchronous	fault	syscall trap
Asynchronous	interrupt	signal

- Hardware detects and reports "exceptional" conditions
 - Page fault
 - Memory access violation (unaligned, permission, not mapped, bounds...)
 - Illegal instruction
 - Divide by zero
- Some faults are handled by "fixing" the exceptional condition and returning to the faulting context
- The kernel may handle unrecoverable faults by killing the user process

Multiple choices

- Which of the following is true about the OS kernel?
 - A. It executes as a process.
 - B. It is always actively consuming CPU cycles in support of other processes.
 - C. It should execute as little as possible.
 - D. A & B
 - E. B & C

 Mode switching from kernel to user is triggered by interrupts, traps, and system calls.

True

 Segmentation fault is not the type of events handled by the OS

 Interrupts can be enabled or disabled by userlevel processes for synchronization purpose.

Page faults are unrecoverable faults

Short answer

 Faults and interrupts are both unexpected events, but faults are said to be synchronous. What is the meaning of "synchronous" here?

A synchronous fault in computing refers to a fault that occurs in a predictable and uniform manner with respect to a clock or other timing reference.

xv6

- xv6 is MIT's re-implementation of Unix v6
 - Written in ANSI C

Ken Thompson & Dennis Ritchie, 1975

- Runs on RISC-V and x86
 - We will use the RISC-V version with the QEMU simulator
- Smaller than v6
- Preserve basic structure (processes, files, pipes. etc.)
- Runs on multicores
- Got paging support in 2011

Multiple choices

- Which of the following is true about xv6?
 - A. xv6 is written in Modula 3
 - B. xv6 is an emulator
 - C. xv6 supports virtual memory
 - D. xv6 does not support 64-bit architectures

Short Answer

- Correct the wrong word in the following sentences:
 - System call functions of xv6 are implemented in assembly language

Xv6 follows the microkernel design.

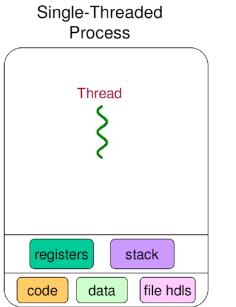
xv6 follows the monolithic kernel design. (Corrected "microkernel" to "monolithic kernel")

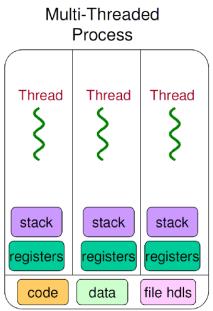
RISV-V version of xv6 uses a 1MB page size by default.

The x86 version of xv6 uses a 4KB page size by default. (Corrected "RISV-V" to "x86" and "1MB" to "4KB")

Processes and Threads

- A process contains all the state for a program in execution
 - PCB is where OS keeps the execution state of each process
 - How to pause/resume a process? Context switch
 - Process management
 - fork(), exec(), wait(), exit()...
- Threads: Separate execution and resource container roles
 - The thread defines a sequential execution stream within a process
 The process defines the address space, resources, and general process attributes





User-level vs. Kernel-level threads

- Kernel-level threads
 - Integrated with OS (informed scheduling)
 - Slow to create, manipulate, synchronize
- User-level threads
 - Fast to create, manipulate, synchronize
 - Not integrated with OS (uninformed scheduling)
- Scheduler activations
 - Coordination between user and kernel schedulers

• Each thread has a separate address space

True

 In Unix-like systems, a process is created by another process except for the very first process

True

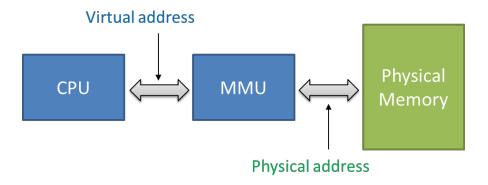
Short Answer

 User-level threads can provide higher performance than kernel-level threads. Why?

Lower overhead, scalability and portability

Virtual Memory

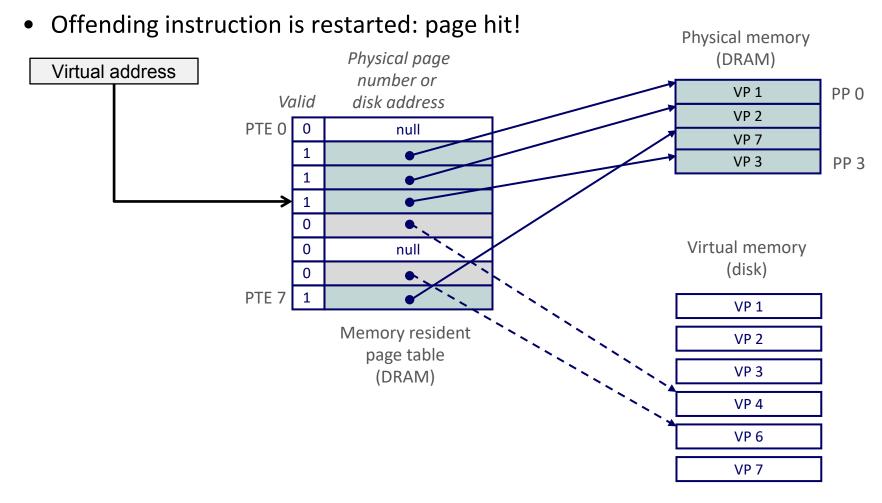
- Virtual Address
 - Independent of the actual physical location of data referenced
 - Instructions executed by the CPU issue virtual addresses



- Paging: split virtual address space into fixed-size pages
- Page table: an array of page table entries (PTEs) that maps virtual pages to physical pages
 - Per-process kernel data structure

Handling Page Fault

- Page miss causes page fault (an exception)
- Page fault handler selects a victim to be evicted (here VP 4)



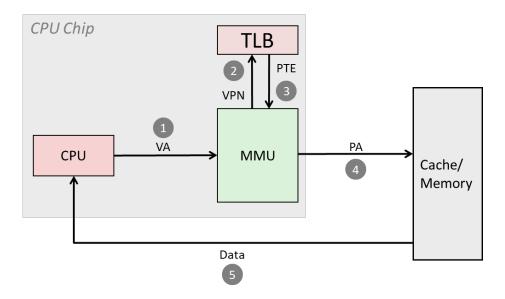
Copy on Write

- Defer large copies as long as possible, hoping to avoid them altogether
- Instead of copying pages, create shared mappings of parent pages in child virtual address space
- Shared pages are protected as read-only in parent and child
 - Reads happen as usual
 - Writes generate a protection fault, trap to OS, copy page, change page mapping in client page table, restart write instruction

Speeding up Translation with a TLB

- Small hardware cache in MMU
- Maps virtual page numbers to physical page numbers
- Contains complete page table entries for small number of pages

TLB Hit



Multi-Level Page Tables

• Example: 2-level paging

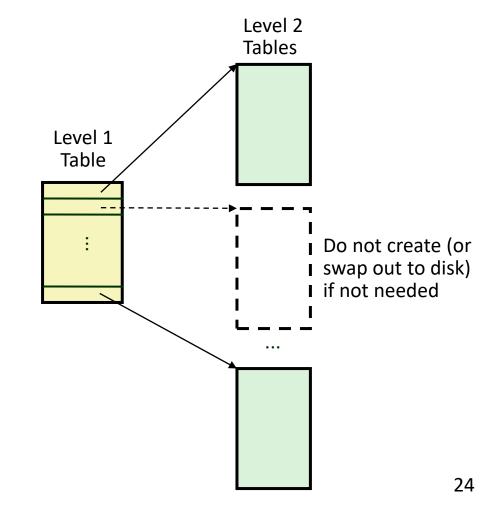
page number		page offset
p_1	p_2	d

Level 1 table

- Each PTE points to a L2 page table
- Always memory resident

Level 2 table

- Each PTE points to a page
- Paged in and out like any other data



 With virtual memory, a user-level process can choose arbitrary page sizes for spatial efficiency.

True

Multiple choices

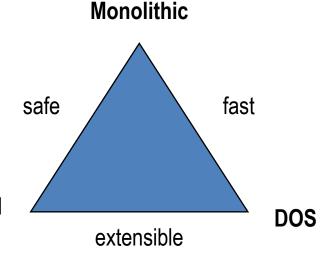
- How many of the following statements is correct about multi-level paging?
 - A. Reduces average memory access time
 - B. Reduces runtime overhead of page fault handling
 - C. Reduces spatial overhead of page tables
 - D. With multi-level paging, threads belonging to the same process can use different page tables

Multiple choices

- Choose all that are correct: Copy-on-Write (CoW)
 - A. CoW reduces the cost of fork().
 - B. CoW defers allocation of physical memory until a write attempt happens.
 - C. Shared pages among parent and child processes are read & write protected.
 - D. CoW does not require MMU.

Extensibility: OS structure

- DOS-like structure:
 - Good performance and extensibility
 - Bad protection
- Monolithic kernels:
 - Good performance and protection
 - Bad extensibility
- Microkernels
 - Very good protection
 - Good extensibility
 - Bad performance!



micro kernel

SPIN

- Extensible
 - Dynamic call binding for extensions
- Efficient
 - Co-location of kernel and extension
 - Avoid border crossings
- Safe
 - Strongly typed language
 - Protection by compiler and run-time
 - Cannot cheat using pointers
 - Logical protection domains
 - No longer rely on hardware address spaces to enforce protection

Exokernel

- Safely expose machine resources
- Higher-level abstractions are implemented in applications
 - Exposes hardware to Library OS
 - Not even mechanisms are implemented by exokernel
 - Every process would need a Library OS
- Safety ensured by secure bindings

• In SPIN, user-level processes can directly access the kernel code.

 Exokernel follows the monolithic architecture design.

Multiple choices

 This figure shows the round-trip latency of network messages in a libOS (ExOS) with and without ASH (application-specific handler). Which of the following best explains this result?

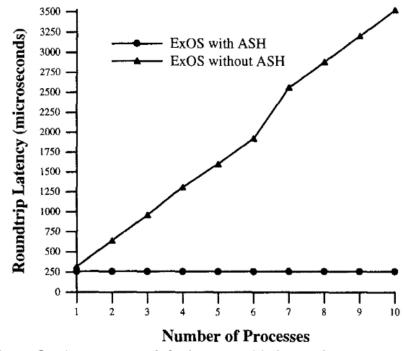


Figure 2: Average roundtrip latency with increasing number of active processes on receiver.

- A. Performance benefit comes from Modula-3
- B. Without ASH, ExOS suffers from garbage collection
- C. ASH reduces the overhead of guard conditions.
- D. ASH allows network responses to be sent before ExOS is scheduled.

Scheduling

- Classic algorithms
 - First Come, First Served (FCFS)
 - Convoy effect (a.k.a. head-of-line blocking)
 - Shortest Job First (SJF) / Preemptive SJF (PSJF)
 - Round Robin (RR)
 - Priority-based Scheduler
 - Starvation, priority inversion
 - Earliest Deadline First (EDF)
 - Multiple-level feedback queue (MLFQ)
- Multiprocessors:
 - Global scheduling (a.k.a. Single Queue Multiprocessor Scheduling)
 - Partitioned Scheduling (a.k.a. Multiple Queue Multiprocessor Scheduling)

Lottery scheduling

- Key idea: give each process a bunch of tickets
 - Each time slice, scheduler holds a lottery
 - Process holding the winning ticket gets to run
- Chance to get scheduled is determined by # of tickers
 - Elegant way to implement fair-share scheduling
- Tickets can be used for a variety of resources
- Ticket transfer, Ticket inflation, Compensation tickets

Stride scheduling

- <u>Deterministic</u> version of lottery scheduling
 - Randomness does not guarantee fairness
- Stride scheduling:
 - Each process is given some tickets
 - Each process has a stride = a big # / # of tickets
 - Stride = inversely proportional to # of tickets
 - Each time a process runs, its pass += stride
 - Scheduler chooses process with the lowest pass to run next
- Can use compensation tickets

 Non-preemptive scheduling cannot be used with priority-based scheduling

 Preemptive scheduling has less overhead than non-preemptive scheduling

Short Answer

 What is the difference between CPU-bound and I/O-bound processes?

The main difference between CPU-bound and I/O-bound processes is that CPU-bound processes are limited by the processing power of the CPU, while I/O-bound processes are limited by the speed of the I/O subsystem.

Multiple choices

- Find the wrong statement:
 - A. FCFS may lead to long response time
 - B. Starvation does not occur in priority-based scheduling
 - C. Global scheduling has only one ready queue for all processors
 - D. Global scheduling may suffer from task migration overhead

Multiple choices

- Choose the correct statement:
 - A. Lottery scheduling achieves deterministic fairness.
 - B. Compensation tickets in lottery scheduling are to solve the priority inversion problem.
 - C. In stride scheduling, error is independent of allocation time.
 - D. Unlike lottery scheduling, stride scheduling cannot use compensation tickets