



# last time

makefiles — target: prereqs(newline)(tab)commands

targets — files to generate/update

prereqs — other files to use to do that

“phony” rules: targets that aren’t file

e.g. “make clean” to remove generated

avoiding redundancy

macros: CC=foo ... \$(CC)

suffix and pattern rules

# anonymous feedback

“I’ve noticed some students have had their hands raised but they are not seen. Typically toward the top part of the room and the sides.”

“Please try to write more clearly, it can become difficult to read the handwriting. Thank you!”

“The C review was very helpful. I was wondering if you could go over memory allocation next class as well. I was also wondering when/ how you should allocate memory”

# things programs on portal shouldn't do

read other user's files

modify OS's memory

read other user's data in memory

hang the entire system

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# privileged operation: problem

how can hardware (HW) plus operating system (OS) allow:  
    read your own files from hard drive

but disallow:  
    read others files from hard drive

## some ideas

OS tells HW 'okay' parts of hard drive before running program code

complex for hardware and for OS

## some ideas

OS tells HW 'okay' parts of hard drive before running program code

- complex for hardware and for OS

OS verifies your program's code can't do bad hard drive access

- no work for HW, but complex for OS

- may require compiling differently to allow analysis



## some ideas

OS tells HW 'okay' parts of hard drive before running program code

- complex for hardware and for OS

OS verifies your program's code can't do bad hard drive access

- no work for HW, but complex for OS

- may require compiling differently to allow analysis

OS tells HW to only allow OS-written code to access hard drive

- that code can enforce only 'good' accesses

- requires program code to call OS routines to access hard drive

- relatively simple for hardware

# kernel mode

extra one-bit register: “are we in *kernel mode*”

other names: privileged mode, supervisor mode, ...

not in kernel mode = *user mode*

certain operations only allowed in kernel mode

*privileged instructions*

example: talking to any I/O device

# what runs in kernel mode?

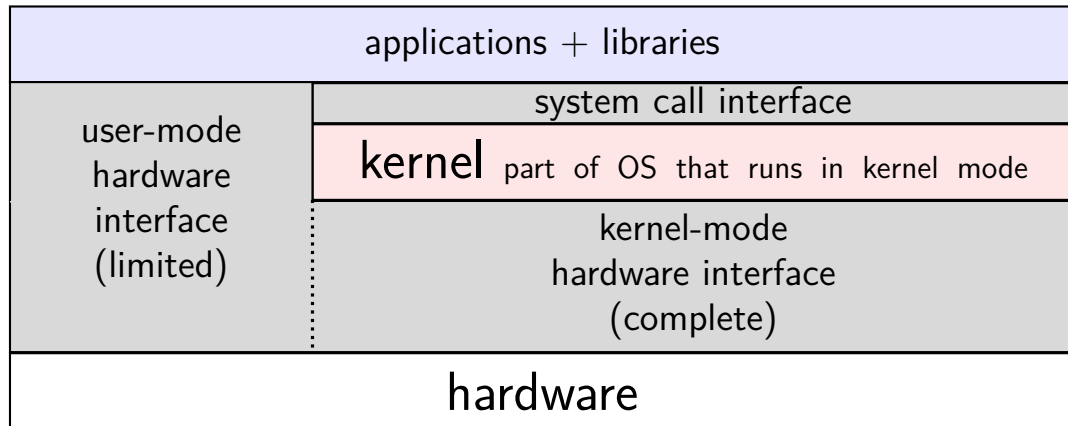
system boots in kernel mode

OS switches to user mode to run program code

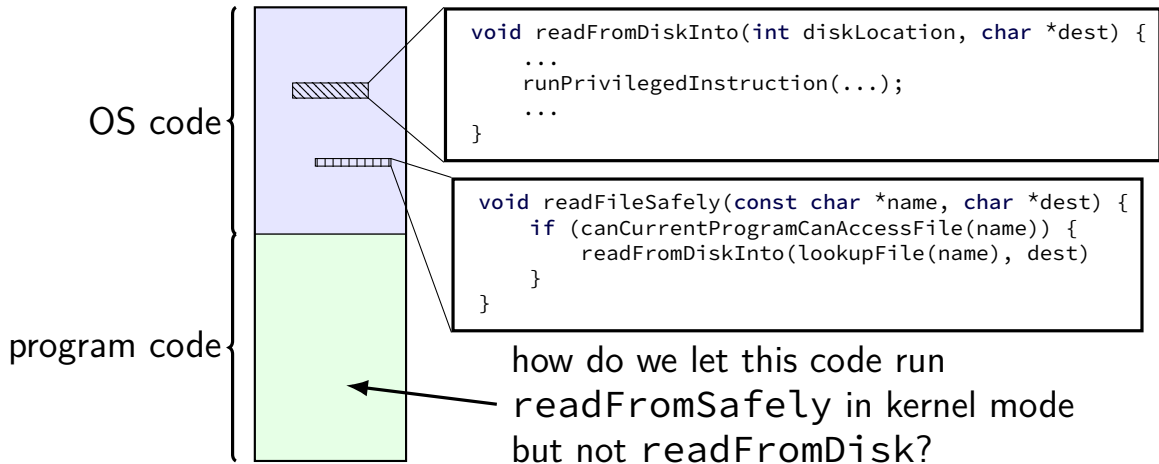
next topic: when does system switch back to kernel mode?

how does OS tell HW where the (trusted) OS code is?

# hardware + system call interface



# calling the OS?



# controlled entry to kernel mode (1)

special instruction: “system call”

runs OS code in kernel mode at location specified earlier

OS sets up at boot

location can't be changed without privileged instruction

## controlled entry to kernel mode (2)

OS needs to make specified location:

figure out what operation the program wants

calling convention, similar to function arguments + return value

be “safe” — not allow the program to do ‘bad’ things

example: checks whether current program is allowed to read file before reading it

requires exceptional care — program can try weird things

# Linux x86-64 system calls

special instruction: `syscall`

runs OS specified code in kernel mode



# Linux syscall calling convention

before `syscall`:

`%rax` — system call number

`%rdi`, `%rsi`, `%rdx`, `%r10`, `%r8`, `%r9` — args

after `syscall`:

`%rax` — return value

on error: `%rax` contains -1 times “error number”

almost the same as normal function calls

# Linux x86-64 hello world

```
.globl _start
.data
hello_str: .asciz "Hello, World!\n"
.text
_start:
    movq $1, %rax # 1 = "write"
    movq $1, %rdi # file descriptor 1 = stdout
    movq $hello_str, %rsi
    movq $15, %rdx # 15 = strlen("Hello, World!\n")
    syscall

    movq $60, %rax # 60 = exit
    movq $0, %rdi
    syscall
```

# approx. system call handler

```
sys_call_table:  
    .quad handle_read_syscall  
    .quad handle_write_syscall  
    // ...  
  
handle_syscall:  
    ... // save old PC, etc.  
    pushq %rcx // save registers  
    pushq %rdi  
    ...  
    call *sys_call_table(,%rax,8)  
    ...  
    popq %rdi  
    popq %rcx  
    return_from_exception
```

# Linux system call examples

`mmap`, `brk` — allocate memory

`fork` — create new process

`execve` — run a program in the current process

`_exit` — terminate a process

`open`, `read`, `write` — access files

`socket`, `accept`, `getpeername` — socket-related

# system call wrappers

library functions to not write assembly:

open:

```
movq $2, %rax // 2 = sys_open
// 2 arguments happen to use same registers
syscall
// return value in %eax
cmp $0, %rax
jl has_error
ret
```

has\_error:

```
neg %rax
movq %rax, errno
movq $-1, %rax
ret
```

# system call wrappers

library functions to not write assembly:

open:

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movq $2, %rax // 2 = sys_open
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jl has_error
ret
```

has\_error:

```
neg %rax
movq %rax, errno
movq $-1, %rax
ret
```

# system call wrapper: usage

```
/* unistd.h contains definitions of:  
    O_RDONLY (integer constant), open() */  
#include <unistd.h>  
int main(void) {  
    int file_descriptor;  
    file_descriptor = open("input.txt", O_RDONLY);  
    if (file_descriptor < 0) {  
        printf("error: %s\n", strerror(errno));  
        exit(1);  
    }  
    ...  
    result = read(file_descriptor, ...);  
    ...  
}
```

# system call wrapper: usage

```
/* unistd.h contains definitions of:  
    O_RDONLY (integer constant), open() */  
#include <unistd.h>  
int main(void) {  
    int file_descriptor;  
    file_descriptor = open("input.txt", O_RDONLY);  
    if (file_descriptor < 0) {  
        printf("error: %s\n", strerror(errno));  
        exit(1);  
    }  
    ...  
    result = read(file_descriptor, ...);  
    ...  
}
```



# strace hello\_world (1)

strace — Linux tool to trace system calls

run on assembly program we saw earlier:

```
$ strace -o trace.txt ./hello_world
```

```
$ cat trace.txt
```

```
execve("./hello_world", ["./hello_world"],  
          0x7ffeedafdf0a0 /* 28 vars */) = 0  
write(1, "Hello, World!\n\0", 14)      = 14  
exit(0)                                = ?  
+++ exited with 0 +++
```

## strace hello\_world (2)

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() { puts("Hello, World!"); }
```

---

when statically linked:

```
execve("./hello_world", ["./hello_world"], 0x7ffeb4127f70 /* 28 vars */)
    = 0
brk(NULL)
    = 0x22f8000
brk(0x22f91c0)
    = 0x22f91c0
arch_prctl(ARCH_SET_FS, 0x22f8880)
    = 0
uname({sysname="Linux", nodename="reiss-t3620", ...}) = 0
readlink("/proc/self/exe", "/u/cr4bd/spring2023/cs3130/slide"..., 4096)
    = 57
brk(0x231a1c0)
    = 0x231a1c0
brk(0x231b000)
    = 0x231b000
access("/etc/ld.so.nohwcap", F_OK)
    = -1 ENOENT (No such file or
                                directory)
fstat(1, {st_mode=S_IFCHR|0620, st_rdev=makedev(136, 4), ...}) = 0
write(1, "Hello, World!\n", 14)
    = 14
exit_group(0)
    = ?
+++ exited with 0 +++
```

## aside: what are those syscalls?

`execve`: run program

`brk`: allocate heap space

`arch_prctl(ARCH_SET_FS, ...)`: thread local storage pointer  
may make more sense when we cover concurrency/parallelism later

`uname`: get system information

`readlink` of `/proc/self/exe`: get name of this program

`access`: can we access this file [in this case, a config file]?

`fstat`: get information about open file

`exit_group`: variant of `exit`

## strace hello\_world (2)

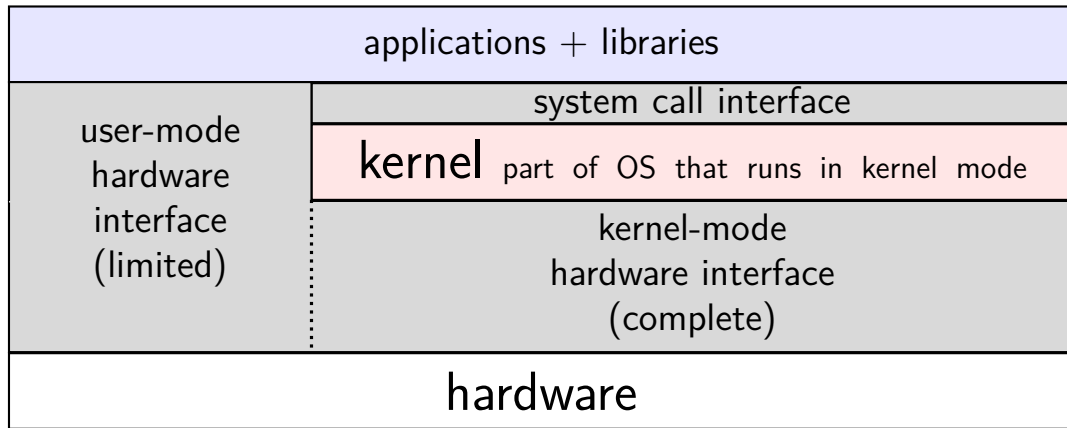
```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() { puts("Hello, World!"); }
```

---

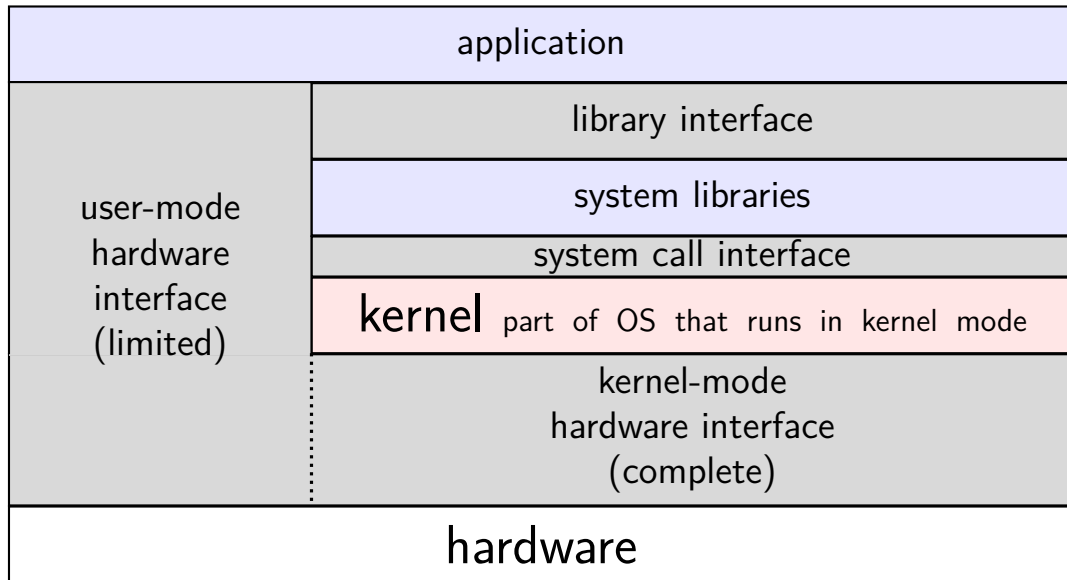
when dynamically linked:

```
execve("./hello_world", ["./hello_world"], 0x7ffcfe91d540 /* 28 vars */)
    = 0
brk(NULL)
    = 0x55d6c351b000
...
openat(AT_FDCWD, "/etc/ld.so.cache", O_RDONLY|O_CLOEXEC) = 3
fstat(3, {st_mode=S_IFREG|0644, st_size=196684, ...}) = 0
mmap(NULL, 196684, PROT_READ, MAP_PRIVATE, 3, 0) = 0x7f7a62dd3000
close(3)
    = 0
access("/etc/ld.so.nohwcap", F_OK)
    = -1 ENOENT (No such file or directory)
openat(AT_FDCWD, "/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libc.so.6", O_RDONLY|O_CLOEXEC) = 3
read(3, "\177ELF\2\1\1\3\0\0\0\0\0\0\0\0\0\3\0>\0\1\0\0\0"..., 832) = 832
...
close(3)
    = 0
write(1, "Hello, World!\n", 14)
    = 14
exit_group(0)
    = ?
+++ exited with 0 +++
```

# hardware + system call interface



# hardware + system call + library interface



# things programs on portal shouldn't do

read other user's files

modify OS's memory

read other user's data in memory

hang the entire system

# memory protection

modifying another program's memory?

Program A	Program B
<pre>0x10000: .long 42 // ... // do work // ... movq 0x10000, %rax</pre>	<pre><i>// while A is working:</i> movq \$99, %rax movq %rax, 0x10000 ...</pre>



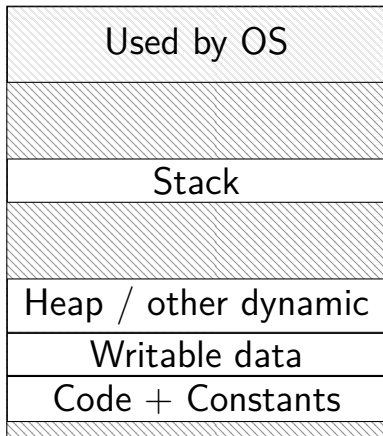
# memory protection

modifying another program's memory?

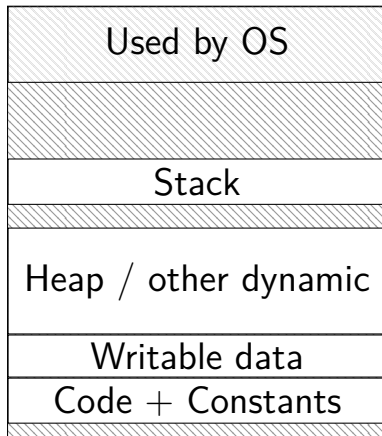
Program A	Program B
<pre>0x10000: .long 42 // ... // do work // ... movq 0x10000, %rax</pre>	<pre><i>// while A is working:</i> movq \$99, %rax movq %rax, 0x10000 ...</pre>
<p>result: %rax (in A) is ...</p> <p>A. 42      B. 99      C. 0x10000</p> <p>D. 42 or 99 (depending on timing/program layout/etc)</p> <p>E. 42 or 99 or program might crash (depending on ...)</p> <p>F. something else</p>	

# program memory (two programs)

Program A



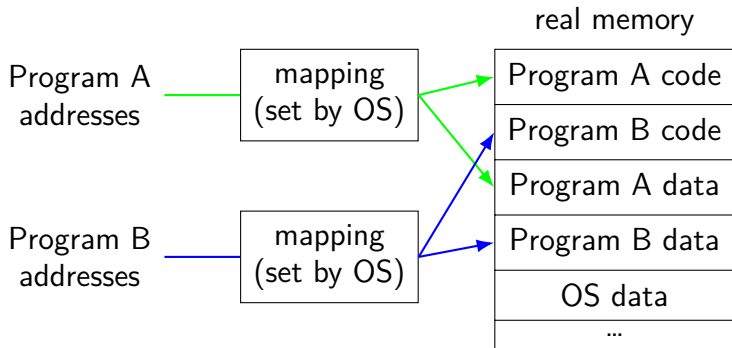
Program B



# address space

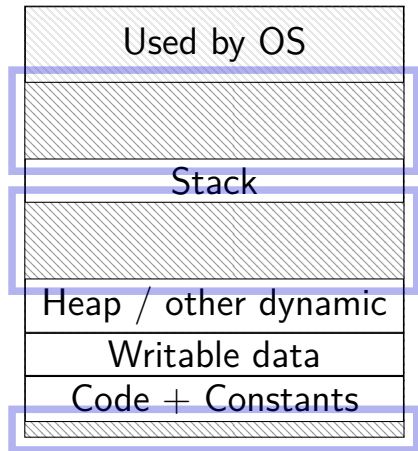
programs have **illusion of own memory**

called a program's **address space**

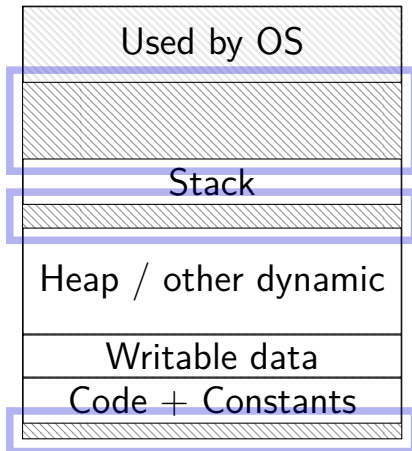


# program memory (two programs)

Program A



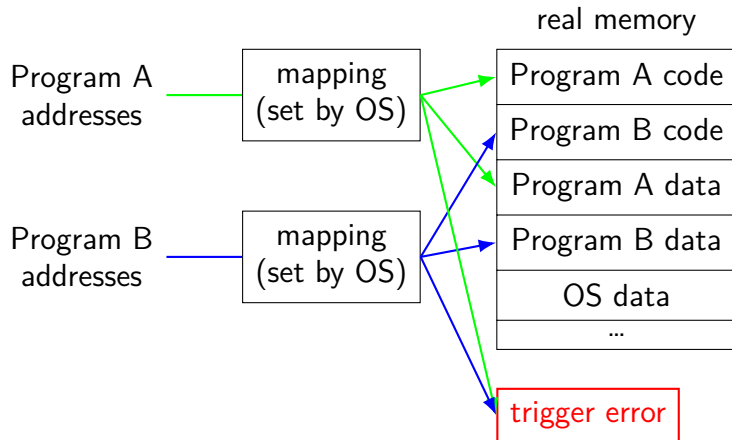
Program B



# address space

programs have **illusion of own memory**

called a program's **address space**



# address space mechanisms

topic after exceptions

called **virtual memory**

mapping called **page tables**

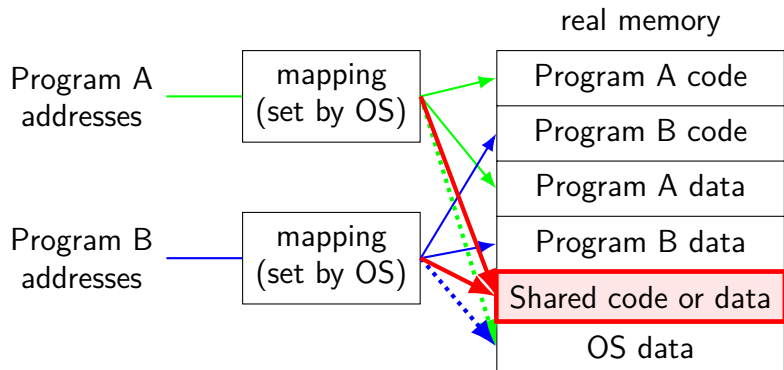
mapping part of what is changed in context switch

# shared memory

recall: dynamically linked libraries

would be nice not to duplicate code/data...

we can!



# one way to set shared memory on Linux

```
/* regular file, OR: */  
int fd = open("/tmp/somefile.dat", O_RDWR);  
/* special in-memory file */  
int fd = shm_open("/name", O_RDWR);  
...  
/* make file's data accessible as memory */  
void *memory = mmap(NULL, size, PROT_READ | PROT_WRITE,  
                    MAP_SHARED, fd, 0);
```

mmap: “map” a file’s data into your memory

will discuss a bit more when we talk about virtual memory

part of how Linux loads dynamically linked libraries



# memory protection

modifying another program's memory?

Program A	Program B
<pre>0x10000: .long 42 // ... // do work // ... movq 0x10000, %rax</pre>	<pre><i>// while A is working:</i> movq \$99, %rax movq %rax, 0x10000 ...</pre>
result: %rax (in A) is 42 (always) A. 42      B. 99      C. 0x10000 D. 42 or 99 (depending on timing/program layout/etc) E. 42 or 99 or program might crash (depending on ...) F. something else	result: <b>might crash</b>

# program crashing?

what happens on processor when program crashes?

other program informed of crash to display message

use processor to run some other program

# program crashing?

what happens on processor when program crashes?

other program informed of crash to display message

use processor to run some other program

how does hardware do this?

would be complicated to tell about other programs, etc.

instead: hardware runs designated OS routine

# exceptions

recall: system calls — software asks OS for help

also cases where hardware asks OS for help

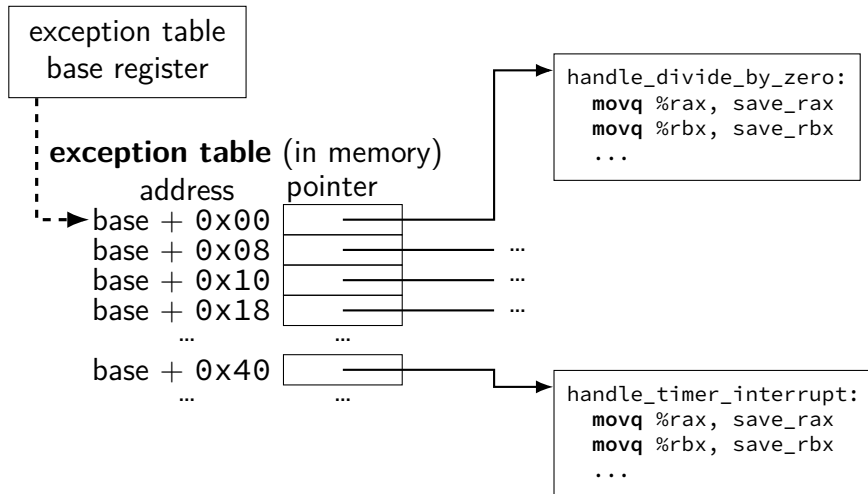
different triggers than system calls

but same mechanism as system calls:

- switch to kernel mode (if not already)

- call OS-designated function

# locating exception handlers (one strategy)



# types of exceptions

- system calls

  - intentional — ask OS to do something

- errors/events in programs

  - memory not in address space (“Segmentation fault”)

  - privileged instruction

  - divide by zero, invalid instruction

  - ...

- (and more we'll talk about later)

# types of exceptions

## system calls

intentional — ask OS to do something

## errors/events in programs

memory not in address space (“Segmentation fault”)

privileged instruction

divide by zero, invalid instruction

...

(and more we'll talk about later)

# types of exceptions

- system calls

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# types of exceptions

system calls

intentional — ask OS to do something

errors/events in programs

memory not in address space (“Segmentation fault”)

privileged instruction

divide by zero, invalid instruction

...

(and more we'll talk about later)

**synchronous**

triggered by  
current program

# things programs on portal shouldn't do

read other user's files

modify OS's memory

read other user's data in memory

hang the entire system

# an infinite loop

```
int main(void) {  
    while (1) {  
        /* waste CPU time */  
    }  
}
```

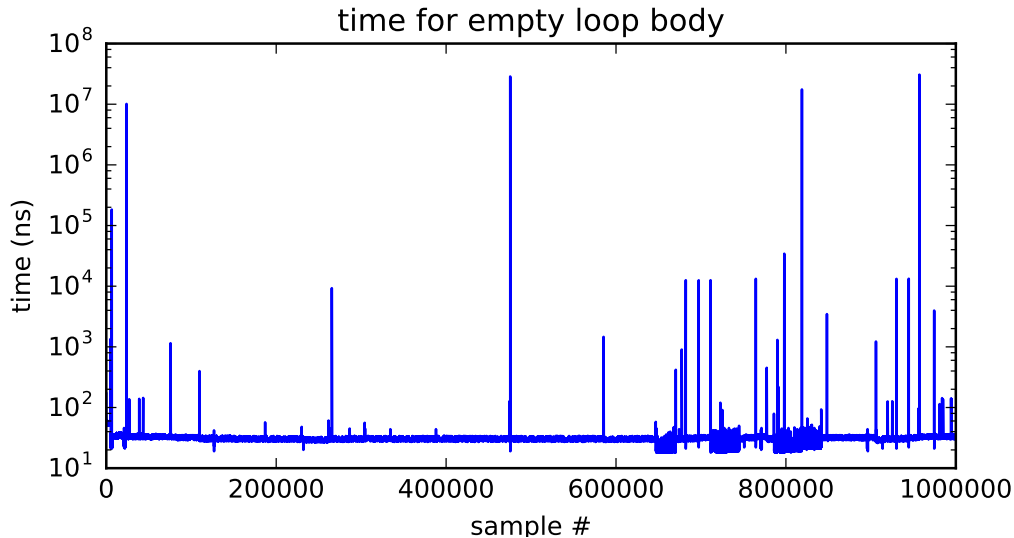
If I run this on a shared department machine, can you still use it?  
...if the machine only has one core?

## timing nothing

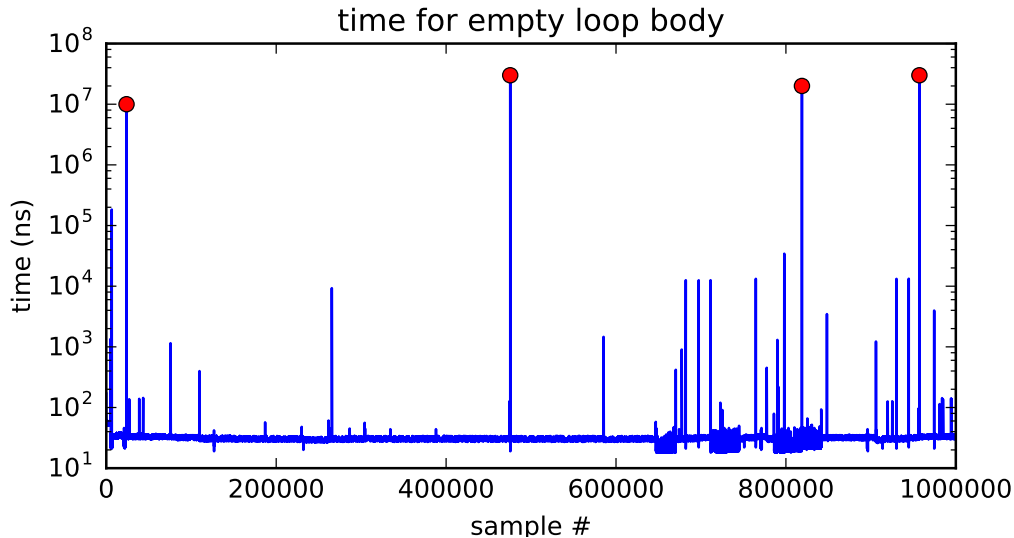
```
long times[NUM_TIMINGS];  
int main(void) {  
    for (int i = 0; i < N; ++i) {  
        long start, end;  
        start = get_time();  
        /* do nothing */  
        end = get_time();  
        times[i] = end - start;  
    }  
    output_timings(times);  
}
```

same instructions — same difference each time?

# doing nothing on a busy system



# doing nothing on a busy system



# types of exceptions

system calls

intentional — ask OS to do something

errors/events in programs

memory not in address space (“Segmentation fault”)

privileged instruction

divide by zero, invalid instruction

...

**synchronous**

triggered by  
current program

**external — I/O, etc.**

timer — configured by OS to run OS at certain time

I/O devices — key presses, hard drives, networks, ...

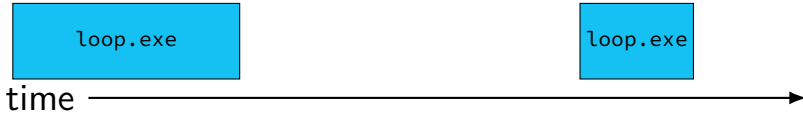
hardware is broken (e.g. memory parity error)

**asynchronous**

not triggered by  
running program

# time multiplexing

processor:





# time multiplexing



...

```
call get_time
```

```
// whatever get_time does
```

```
movq %rax, %rbp
```

———— million cycle delay ————

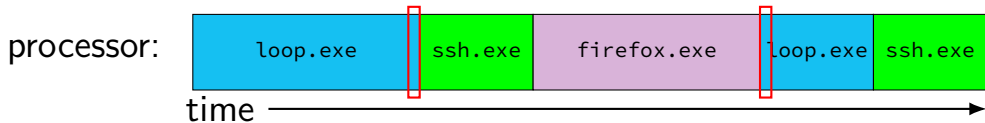
```
call get_time
```

```
// whatever get_time does
```

```
subq %rbp, %rax
```

...

# time multiplexing



...

```
call get_time
```

```
// whatever get_time does
```

```
movq %rax, %rbp
```

———— million cycle delay ————

```
call get_time
```

```
// whatever get_time does
```

```
subq %rbp, %rax
```

...

# time multiplexing really



= operating system

# time multiplexing really



= operating system

exception happens

return from exception

# types of exceptions

system calls

intentional — ask OS to do something

errors/events in programs

memory not in address space (“Segmentation fault”)

privileged instruction

divide by zero, invalid instruction

...

**synchronous**

triggered by  
current program

external — I/O, etc.

**timer** — configured by OS to run OS at certain time

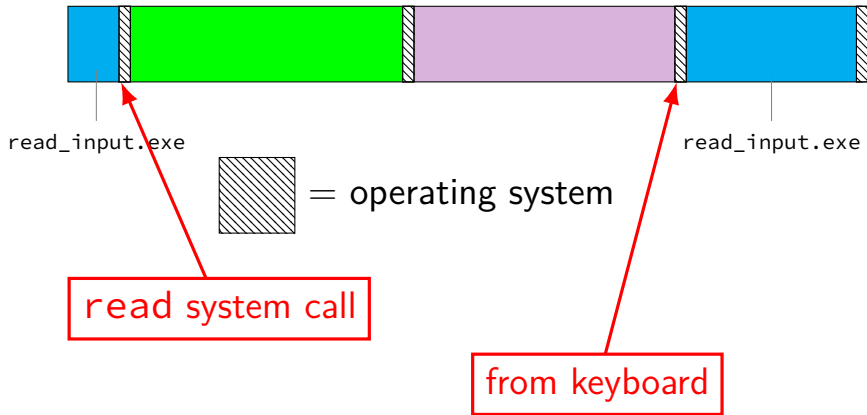
I/O devices — key presses, hard drives, networks, ...

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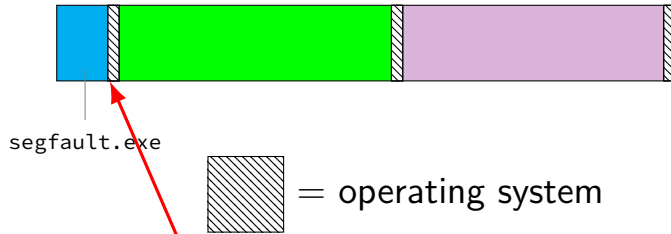
**asynchronous**

not triggered by  
running program

# keyboard input timeline



# crash timeline timeline



out of bounds memory aaccess

# threads

thread = illusion of own processor

own register values

own program counter value



# threads

thread = illusion of own processor

own register values

own program counter value

actual implementation:

many threads sharing one processor

problem: where are register/program counter values  
when thread not active on processor?

# switching programs

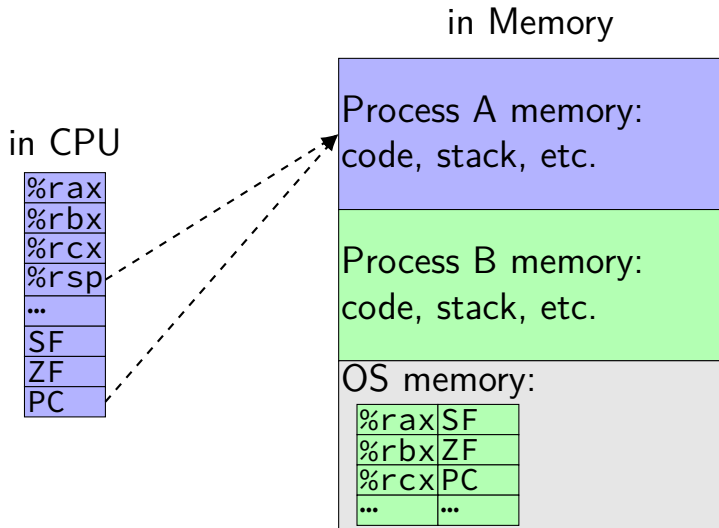
OS starts running somehow  
some sort of exception

saves old registers + program counter  
(optimization: could omit when program crashing/exiting)

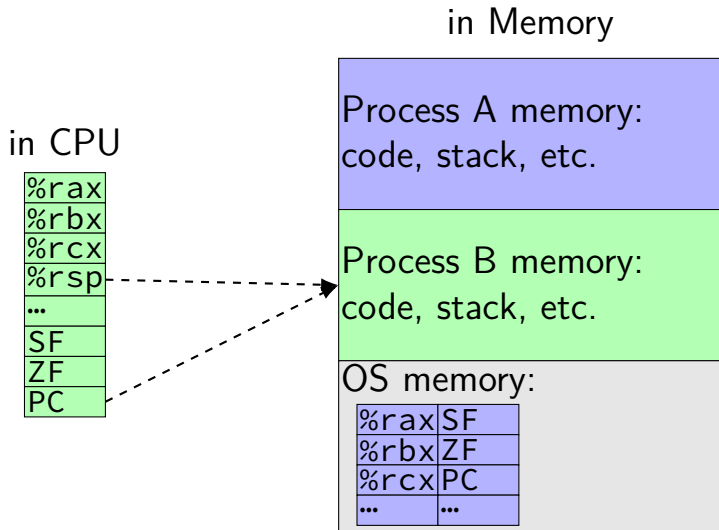
sets new registers, jumps to new program counter

called **context switch**  
saved information called **context**

# contexts (A running)



# contexts (B running)



## review: definitions

exception: hardware calls OS specified routine

- many possible reasons

- system calls: type of exception

context switch: OS switches to another thread

- by saving old register values + loading new ones

- part of OS routine run by exception

## which of these require exceptions? context switches?

- A. program calls a function in the standard library
- B. program writes a file to disk
- C. program A goes to sleep, letting program B run
- D. program exits
- E. program returns from one function to another function
- F. program pops a value from the stack

# terms for exceptions

terms for exceptions aren't standardized

our readings use one set of terms

- interrupts = externally-triggered

- faults = error/event in program

- trap = intentionally triggered

all these terms appear differently elsewhere

# The Process

**process** = thread(s) + address space

illusion of **dedicated machine**:

thread = illusion of own CPU

address space = illusion of own memory



# signals

Unix-like **operating system feature**

like exceptions for processes:

can be triggered by external process

- kill command/system call

can be triggered by special events

- pressing control-C

- other events that would normal terminate program

  - 'segmentation fault'

  - illegal instruction

  - divide by zero

can invoke **signal handler** (like exception handler)

# exceptions v signals

(hardware) exceptions

handler runs in kernel mode

hardware decides when

hardware needs to save PC

processor next instruction changes

signals

handler runs in user mode

OS decides when

OS needs to save PC + registers

thread next instruction changes

# exceptions v signals

(hardware) exceptions

handler runs in kernel mode

hardware decides when

hardware needs to save PC

processor next instruction changes

signals

handler runs in user mode

OS decides when

OS needs to save PC + registers

thread next instruction changes

...but OS needs to run to trigger handler  
most likely “forwarding” hardware exception

# exceptions v signals

(hardware) exceptions

handler runs in kernel mode

hardware decides when

hardware needs to save PC

processor next instruction changes

signals

handler runs in user mode

OS decides when

OS needs to save PC + registers

thread next instruction changes

signal handler follows normal calling convention  
not special assembly like typical exception handler

# exceptions v signals

(hardware) exceptions

handler runs in kernel mode

hardware decides when

hardware needs to save PC

**processor** next instruction changes

signals

handler runs in user mode

OS decides when

OS needs to save PC + registers

**thread** next instruction changes

signal handler runs in same thread ('virtual processor')  
as process was using before

not running at 'same time' as the code it interrupts

# base program

```
int main() {  
    char buf[1024];  
    while (fgets(buf, sizeof buf, stdin)) {  
        printf("read %s", buf);  
    }  
}
```

# base program

```
int main() {  
    char buf[1024];  
    while (fgets(buf, sizeof buf, stdin)) {  
        printf("read %s", buf);  
    }  
}
```

---

some input

**read some input**

more input

**read more input**

*(control-C pressed)*

*(program terminates immediately)*

# base program

```
int main() {  
    char buf[1024];  
    while (fgets(buf, sizeof buf, stdin)) {  
        printf("read %s", buf);  
    }  
}
```

---

some input

**read some input**

more input

**read more input**

*(control-C pressed)*

*(program terminates immediately)*



## new program

```
int main() {  
    ... // added stuff shown later  
    char buf[1024];  
    while (fgets(buf, sizeof buf, stdin)) {  
        printf("read %s", buf);  
    }  
}
```

---

some input

**read some input**

more input

**read more input**

*(control-C pressed)*

**Control-C pressed?!**

another input **read another input**

# new program

```
int main() {  
    ... // added stuff shown later  
    char buf[1024];  
    while (fgets(buf, sizeof buf, stdin)) {  
        printf("read %s", buf);  
    }  
}
```

---

some input

**read some input**

more input

**read more input**

*(control-C pressed)*

**Control-C pressed?!**

another input **read another input**

# new program

```
int main() {  
    ... // added stuff shown later  
    char buf[1024];  
    while (fgets(buf, sizeof buf, stdin)) {  
        printf("read %s", buf);  
    }  
}
```

---

some input

**read some input**

more input

**read more input**

*(control-C pressed)*

**Control-C pressed?!**

another input **read another input**

## example signal program

```
void handle_sigint(int signum) {  
    /* signum == SIGINT */  
    write(1, "Control-C pressed?!\n",  
        sizeof("Control-C pressed?!\n"));  
}  
  
int main(void) {  
    struct sigaction act;  
    act.sa_handler = &handle_sigint;  
    sigemptyset(&act.sa_mask);  
    act.sa_flags = SA_RESTART;  
    sigaction(SIGINT, &act, NULL);  
  
    char buf[1024];  
    while (fgets(buf, sizeof buf, stdin)) {  
        printf("read %s", buf);  
    }  
}
```

# example signal program

```
void handle_sigint(int signum) {  
    /* signum == SIGINT */  
    write(1, "Control-C pressed?!\n",  
        sizeof("Control-C pressed?!\n"));  
}  
  
int main(void) {  
    struct sigaction act;  
    act.sa_handler = &handle_sigint;  
    sigemptyset(&act.sa_mask);  
    act.sa_flags = SA_RESTART;  
    sigaction(SIGINT, &act, NULL);  
  
    char buf[1024];  
    while (fgets(buf, sizeof buf, stdin)) {  
        printf("read %s", buf);  
    }  
}
```

# example signal program

```
void handle_sigint(int signum) {  
    /* signum == SIGINT */  
    write(1, "Control-C pressed?!\n",  
        sizeof("Control-C pressed?!\n"));  
}  
  
int main(void) {  
    struct sigaction act;  
    act.sa_handler = &handle_sigint;  
    sigemptyset(&act.sa_mask);  
    act.sa_flags = SA_RESTART;  
    sigaction(SIGINT, &act, NULL);  
  
    char buf[1024];  
    while (fgets(buf, sizeof buf, stdin)) {  
        printf("read %s", buf);  
    }  
}
```

# SIGxxxx

signals types identified by number...

constants declared in `<signal.h>`

constant	likely use
SIGBUS	“bus error”; certain types of invalid memory accesses
SIGSEGV	“segmentation fault”; other types of invalid memory accesses
SIGINT	what control-C usually does
SIGFPE	“floating point exception”; includes integer divide-by-zero
SIGHUP, SIGPIPE	reading from/writing to disconnected terminal/socket
SIGUSR1, SIGUSR2	use for whatever you (app developer) wants
SIGKILL	terminates process (cannot be handled by process!)
SIGSTOP	suspends process (cannot be handled by process!)
...	...

# SIGxxxx

signals types identified by number...

constants declared in `<signal.h>`

constant	likely use
SIGBUS	“bus error”; certain types of invalid memory accesses
SIGSEGV	“segmentation fault”; other types of invalid memory accesses
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SIGFPE	“floating point exception”; includes integer divide-by-zero
SIGHUP, SIGPIPE	reading from/writing to disconnected terminal/socket
SIGUSR1, SIGUSR2	use for whatever you (app developer) wants
SIGKILL	terminates process (cannot be handled by process!)
SIGSTOP	suspends process (cannot be handled by process!)
...	...



# handling Segmentation Fault

```
...  
void handle_sigsegv(int num) {  
    puts("got SIGSEGV");  
}  
  
int main(void) {  
    struct sigaction act;  
    act.sa_handler = handle_sigsegv;  
    sigemptyset(&act.sa_mask);  
    act.sa_flags = SA_RESTART;  
    sigaction(SIGSEGV, &act, NULL);  
  
    asm("movq %rax, 0x12345678");  
}
```

---

# handling Segmentation Fault

```
...  
void handle_sigsegv(int num) {  
    puts("got SIGSEGV");  
}  
  
int main(void) {  
    struct sigaction act;  
    act.sa_handler = handle_sigsegv;  
    sigemptyset(&act.sa_mask);  
    act.sa_flags = SA_RESTART;  
    sigaction(SIGSEGV, &act, NULL);  
  
    asm("movq %rax, 0x12345678");  
}
```

---

```
got SIGSEGV  
got SIGSEGV  
got SIGSEGV  
got SIGSEGV  
+ SIGSEGV
```

# signal API

`sigaction` — register handler for signal

`kill` — send signal to process

`pause` — put process to sleep until signal received

`sigprocmask` — temporarily block/unblock some signals from being received

signal will still be *pending*, received if unblocked

... and much more

# kill command

*kill* command-line command : calls the kill() function

`kill 1234` — sends SIGTERM to pid 1234

`kill -USR1 1234` — sends SIGUSR1 to pid 1234

# SA\_RESTART

```
struct sigaction sa; ...  
sa.sa_flags = SA_RESTART;
```

general version:

```
sa.sa_flags = SA_NAME | SA_NAME | SA_NAME; (or 0)
```

if SA\_RESTART included:

after signal handler runs, attempt to restart interrupted operations (e.g. reading from keyboard)

if SA\_RESTART not included:

after signal handler runs, interrupted operations return typically an error (errno == EINTR)

# output of this?

pid 1000

```
void handle_sigusr1(int num) {
    write(1, "X", 1);
    kill(2000, SIGUSR1);
    _exit(0);
}

int main() {
    struct sigaction act;
    act.sa_handler = &handler_usr1;
    sigaction(SIGUSR1, &act, NULL);
    kill(1000, SIGUSR1);
}
```

pid 2000

```
void handle_sigusr1(int num) {
    write(1, "Y", 1);
    _exit(0);
}

int main() {
    struct sigaction act;
    act.sa_handler = &handler_usr1;
    sigaction(SIGUSR1, &act, NULL);
}
```

If these run at same time, expected output?

- A. XY
- B. X
- C. Y
- D. YX
- E. X or XY, depending on timing
- F. crash
- G. (nothing)
- H. something else

# output of this? (v2)

pid 1000

```
void handle_sigusr1(int num) {
    write(1, "X", 1);
    kill(2000, SIGUSR1);
    _exit(0);
}

int main() {
    struct sigaction act;
    act.sa_handler = &handler_usr1;
    sigaction(SIGUSR1, &act);
    kill(1000, SIGUSR1);
    while (1) pause();
}
```

pid 2000

```
void handle_sigusr1(int num) {
    write(1, "Y", 1);
    _exit(0);
}

int main() {
    struct sigaction act;
    act.sa_handler = &handler_usr1;
    sigaction(SIGUSR1, &act);
    while (1) pause();
}
```

If these run at same time, expected output?

- A. XY
- B. X
- C. Y
- D. YX
- E. X or XY, depending on timing
- F. crash
- G. (nothing)
- H. something else

# x86-64 Linux signal delivery (1)

suppose: signal happens while `foo()` is running

OS saves registers **to user stack**

OS modifies user registers, PC to call signal handler

the stack

address of <code>__restore_rt</code>
saved registers
PC when signal happened
local variables for <code>foo</code>
...

→ stack pointer  
when signal handler started

→ stack pointer  
before signal delivered



## x86-64 Linux signal delivery (2)

```
handle_sigint:
```

```
    ...  
    ret
```

```
    ...
```

```
__restore_rt:
```

```
    // 15 = "sigreturn" system call
```

```
    movq $15, %rax
```

```
    syscall
```

\_\_restore\_rt is **return address** for signal handler

sigreturn syscall restores pre-signal state

- if SA\_RESTART set, restarts interrupted operation

- also handles caller-saved registers

- also might change which signals blocked (depending how sigaction was called)

## signal handler unsafety (0)

```
void foo() {  
    /* SIGINT might happen while foo() is running */  
    char *p = malloc(1024);  
    ...  
}  
  
/* signal handler for SIGINT  
(registered elsewhere with sigaction()) */  
void handle_sigint() {  
    printf("You pressed control-C.\n");  
}
```

# signal handler unsafety (1)

```
void *malloc(size_t size) {  
    ...  
    to_return = next_to_return;  
    /* SIGNAL HAPPENS HERE */  
    next_to_return += size;  
    return to_return;  
}  
  
void foo() {  
    /* This malloc() call interrupted */  
    char *p = malloc(1024);  
    p[0] = 'x';  
}  
  
void handle_sigint() {  
    // printf might use malloc()  
    printf("You pressed control-C.\n");  
}
```

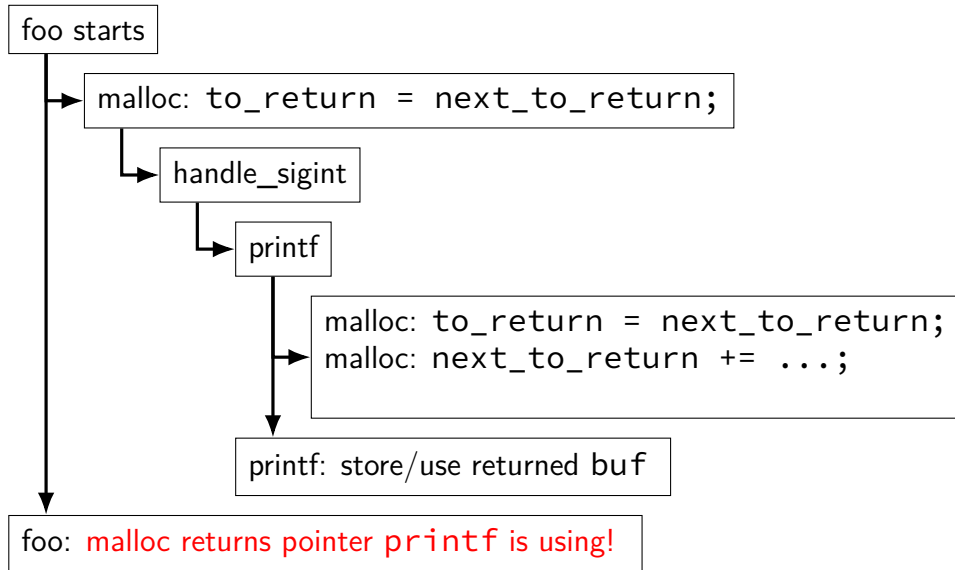
# signal handler unsafety (1)

```
void *malloc(size_t size) {  
    ...  
    to_return = next_to_return;  
    /* SIGNAL HAPPENS HERE */  
    next_to_return += size;  
    return to_return;  
}  
  
void foo() {  
    /* This malloc() call interrupted */  
    char *p = malloc(1024);  
    p[0] = 'x';  
}  
  
void handle_sigint() {  
    // printf might use malloc()  
    printf("You pressed control-C.\n");  
}
```

## signal handler unsafety (2)

```
void handle_sigint() {  
    printf("You pressed control-C.\n");  
}  
  
int printf(...) {  
    static char *buf;  
    ...  
    buf = malloc()  
    ...  
}
```

# signal handler unsafety: timeline



## signal handler unsafety (3)

```
foo() {  
    char *p = malloc(1024)... {  
        to_return = next_to_return;  
        handle_sigint() { /* signal delivered here */  
            printf("You pressed control-C.\n") {  
                buf = malloc(...) {  
                    to_return = next_to_return;  
                    next_to_return += size;  
                    return to_return;  
                }  
            ...  
        }  
    }  
    next_to_return += size;  
    return to_return;  
}  
/* now p points to buf used by printf! */  
}
```

## signal handler unsafety (3)

```
foo() {  
    char *p = malloc(1024)... {  
        to_return = next_to_return;  
        handle_sigint() { /* signal delivered here */  
            printf("You pressed control-C.\n") {  
                buf = malloc(...) {  
                    to_return = next_to_return;  
                    next_to_return += size;  
                    return to_return;  
                }  
            }  
            ...  
        }  
    }  
    next_to_return += size;  
    return to_return;  
}  
/* now p points to buf used by printf! */  
}
```



# signal handler safety

POSIX (standard that Linux follows) defines “async-signal-safe” functions

these must work correctly no matter what they interrupt

...and no matter how they are interrupted

includes: `write`, `_exit`

does not include: `printf`, `malloc`, `exit`

# blocking signals

avoid having signal handlers anywhere:

can instead **block signals**

can be done with `sigprocmask` or `pthread_sigmask`

signal will become “pending” instead

OS will not deliver unless unblocked

similar mechanism provided by CPU for interrupts (“disabling interrupts”)

# controlling when signals are handled

first, block a signal

then use system calls to inspect pending signals

example: `sigwait`

and/or unblock signals only at certain times

some special functions to help:

`sigsuspend` (unblock until handler runs),

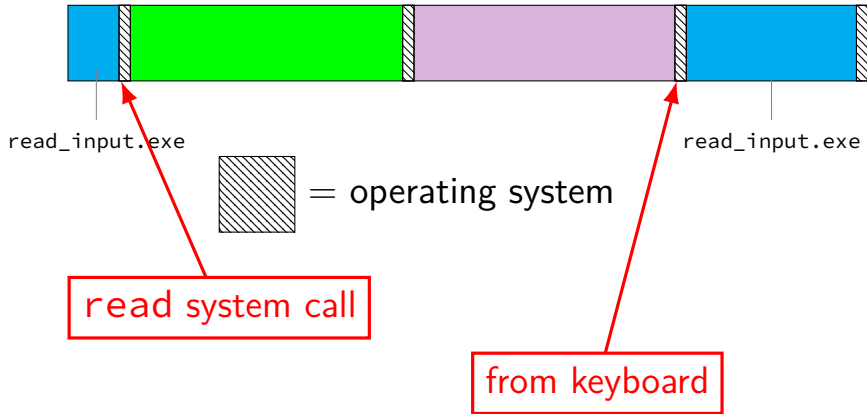
`pselect` (unblock while checking for I/O), ...

# synchronous signal handling

```
int main(void) {  
    sigset_t set;  
    sigemptyset(&set);  
    sigaddset(&set, SIGINT);  
    sigprocmask(SIG_BLOCK, &set, NULL);  
  
    printf("Waiting for SIGINT (control-C)\n");  
    if (sigwait(&set, NULL) == SIGINT) {  
        printf("Got SIGINT\n");  
    }  
}
```

**backup slides**

# keyboard input timeline



# exceptions in exceptions

```
handle_timer_interrupt:  
    save_old_pc save_pc  
    movq %r15, save_r15  
    /* key press here */  
    movq %r14, save_r14  
    ...
```

# exceptions in exceptions

```
handle_timer_interrupt:
```

```
    save_old_pc save_pc
```

```
    movq %r15, save_r15
```

```
    /* key press here */
```

```
    movq %r14, save_r14
```

```
    ...
```

```
handle_keyboard_interrupt:
```

```
    save_old_pc save_pc
```

```
    movq %r15, save_r15
```

```
    movq %r14, save_r14
```

```
    movq %r13, save_r13
```

```
    ...
```



# exceptions in exceptions

```
handle_timer_interrupt:
```

```
    save_old_pc save_pc
```

```
    movq %r15, save_r15
```

```
    /* key press here */
```

```
    movq %r14, save_r14
```

```
    ...
```

oops, overwrote saved values?

```
handle_keyboard_interrupt:
```

```
    save_old_pc save_pc
```

```
    movq %r15, save_r15
```

```
    movq %r14, save_r14
```

```
    movq %r13, save_r13
```

```
    ...
```

# interrupt disabling

CPU supports **disabling** (most) interrupts

interrupts will **wait** until it is reenabled

CPU has extra state:

- are interrupts enabled?

- is keyboard interrupt pending?

- is timer interrupt pending?

# exceptions in exceptions

handle\_timer\_interrupt:

*/\* interrupts automatically disabled here \*/*

movq %rsp, save\_rsp

save\_old\_pc save\_pc

*/\* key press here \*/*

jmpIfFromKernelMode skip\_exception\_stack

movq current\_exception\_stack, %rsp

skip\_set\_kernel\_stack:

pushq save\_rsp

pushq save\_pc

enable\_intterrupts2

pushq %r15

...

*/\* interrupt happens here! \*/*

...

# exceptions in exceptions

handle\_timer\_interrupt:

*/\* interrupts automatically disabled here \*/*

movq %rsp, save\_rsp

save\_old\_pc save\_pc

*/\* key press here \*/*

jmpIfFromKernelMode skip\_exception\_stack

movq current\_exception\_stack, %rsp

skip\_set\_kernel\_stack:

pushq save\_rsp

pushq save\_pc

enable\_intterupts2

pushq %r15

...

*/\* interrupt happens here! \*/*

...

# exceptions in exceptions

handle\_timer\_interrupt:

*/\* interrupts automatically disabled here \*/*

movq %rsp, save\_rsp

save\_old\_pc save\_pc

*/\* key press here \*/*

jmpIfFromKernelMode skip\_exception\_stack

movq current\_exception\_stack, %rsp

skip\_set\_kernel\_stack:

pushq save\_rsp

pushq save\_pc

enable\_intterrupts2

pushq %r15

...

*/\* interrupt happens here! \*/*



...

handle\_keyboard\_interrupt:

movq %rsp, save\_rsp

# disabling interrupts

automatically disabled when exception handler starts

also can be done with privileged instruction:

```
change_keyboard_parameters:
```

```
    disable_interrupts
```

```
    ...
```

```
    /* change things used by  
       handle_keyboard_interrupt here */
```

```
    ...
```

```
    enable_interrupts
```

# context

all registers values

`%rax %rbx, ..., %rsp, ...`

condition codes

program counter

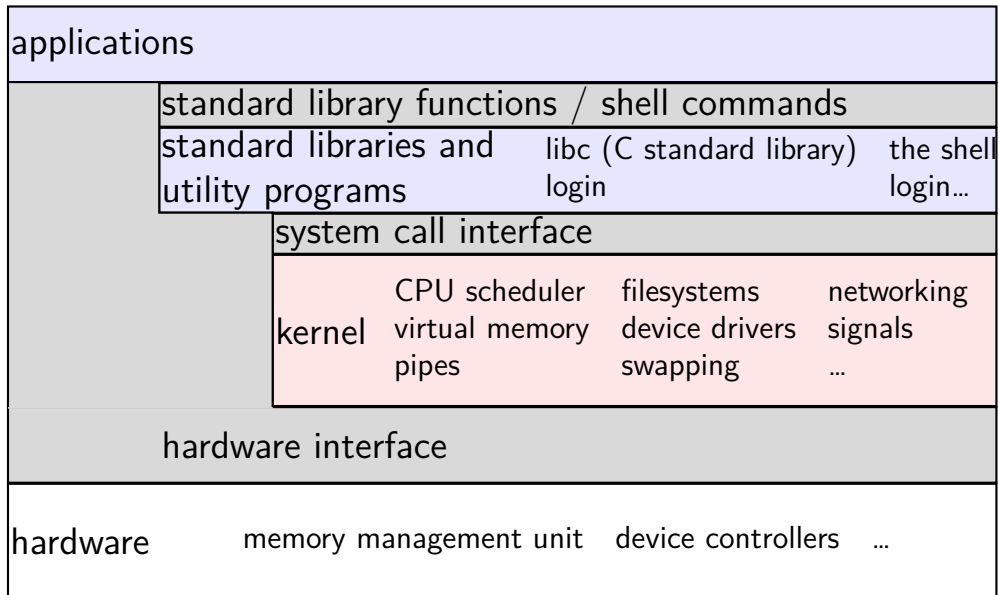
address space (map from program to real addresses)

# context switch pseudocode

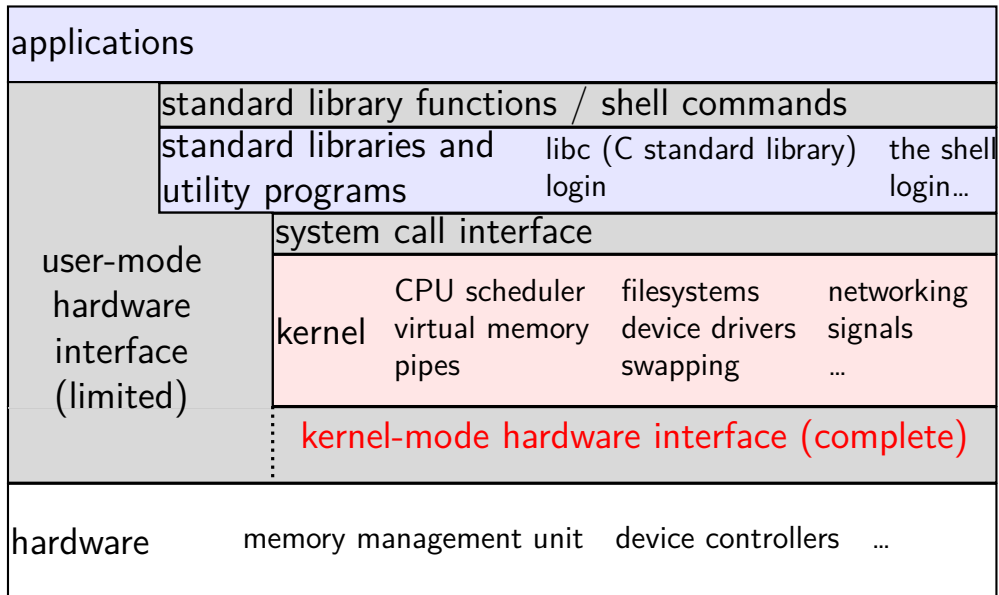
```
context_switch(last, next):  
    copy_preexception_pc last->pc  
    mov rax, last->rax  
    mov rcx, last->rcx  
    mov rdx, last->rdx  
    ...  
    mov next->rdx, rdx  
    mov next->rcx, rcx  
    mov next->rax, rax  
    jmp next->pc
```



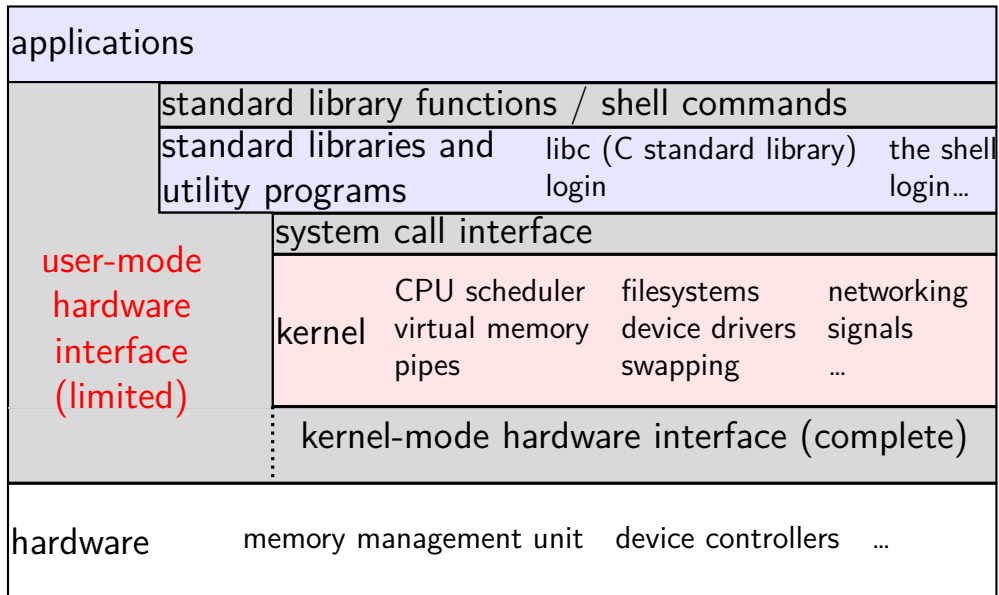
# the classic Unix design



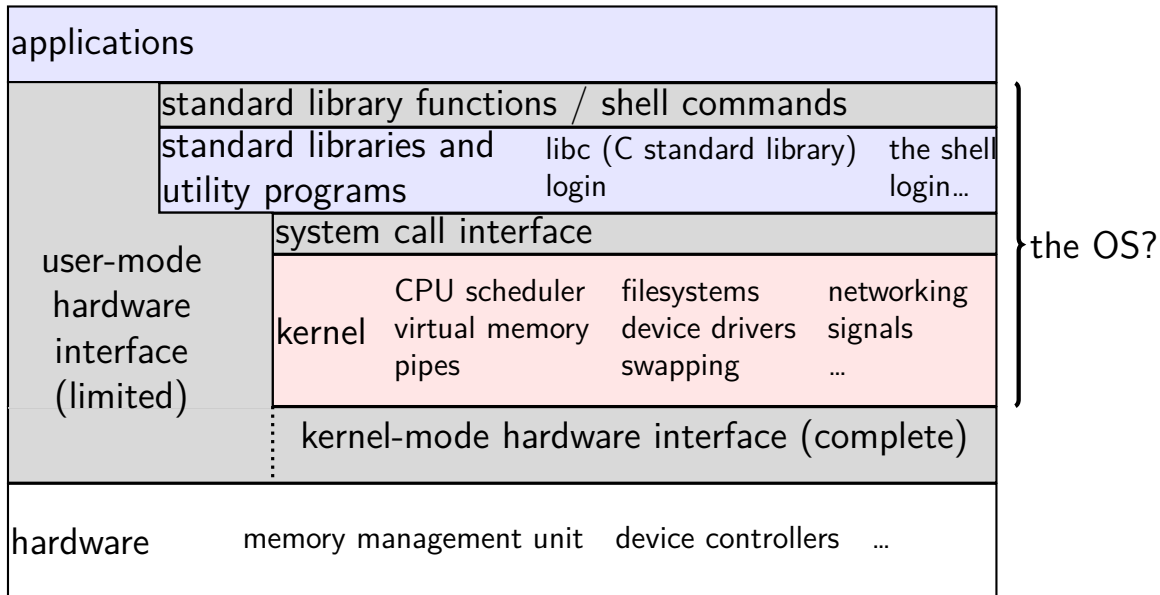
# the classic Unix design



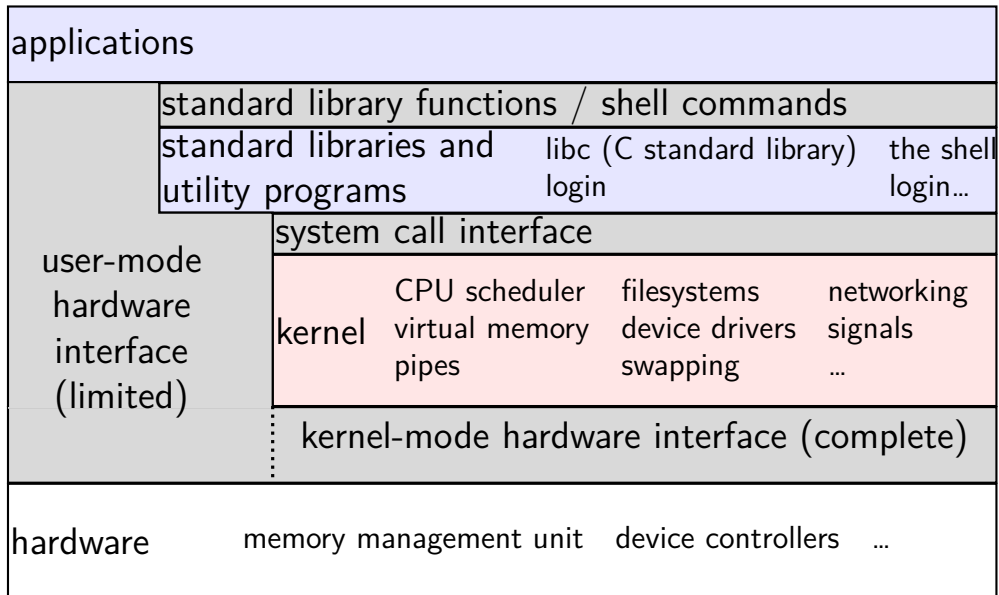
# the classic Unix design



# the classic Unix design



# the classic Unix design



} the OS?

## aside: is the OS the kernel?

OS = stuff that runs in kernel mode?

OS = stuff that runs in kernel mode + libraries to use it?

OS = stuff that runs in kernel mode + libraries + utility programs (e.g. shell, finder)?

OS = everything that comes with machine?

no consensus on where the line is

each piece can be replaced separately...

# exception implementation

detect condition (program error or external event)

save current value of PC somewhere

jump to **exception handler** (part of OS)

jump done without program instruction to do so

# exception implementation: notes

I describe a **simplified** version

real x86/x86-64 is a bit more complicated  
(mostly for historical reasons)



# running the exception handler

hardware saves the **old program counter** (and maybe more)

identifies location of exception handler via table

then jumps to that location

OS code can save anything else it wants to , etc.