

Admin

Your system nearing completion -- exciting!

Interrupts

Today

- Exceptional control flow

 - Suspend, jump to different code, then resume

 - How to do this safely and correctly

- Low-level mechanisms

Next lecture

- Using interrupts as client

- Coordination of activity

 - Concurrency, multiple handlers, shared data



Blocking I/O

```
while (1) {  
    char ch = keyboard_read_next();  
    update_screen();  
}
```

How long does it take to send a scan code?

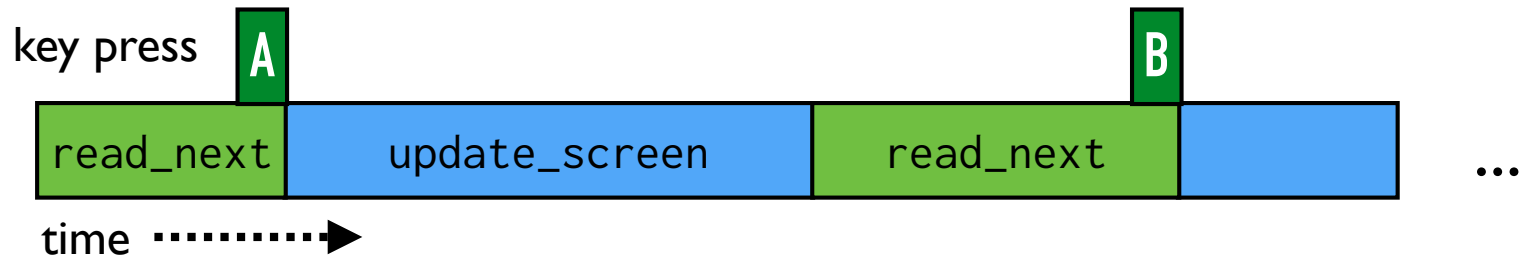
11 bits, clock rate 15kHz

How long does it take to update the screen?

What could go wrong?

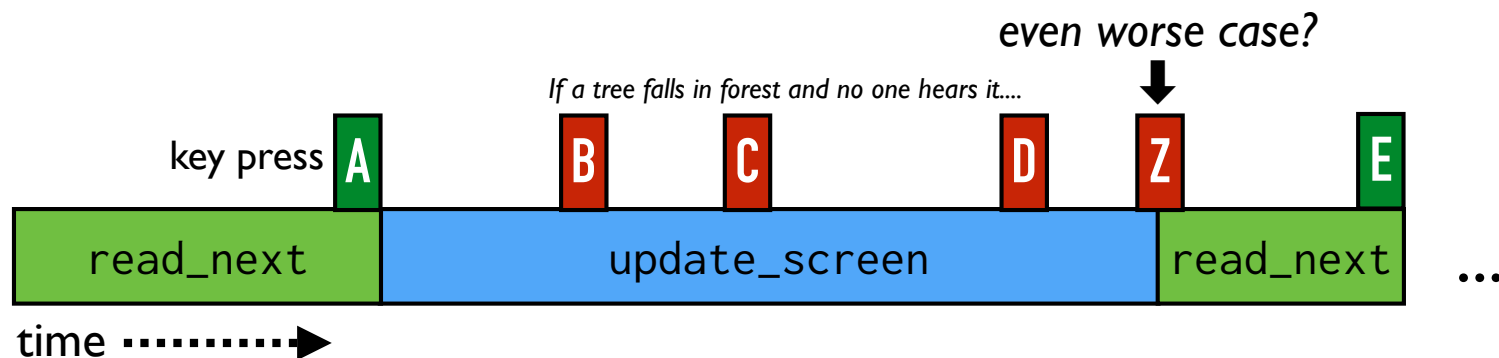
Blocking I/O

```
while (1) {  
    char ch = keyboard_read_next();  
    update_screen();  
}
```



Blocking I/O

```
while (1) {  
    char ch = keyboard_read_next();  
    update_screen();  
}
```



The Problem

Ongoing, long-running tasks (graphics, simulations, applications) keep CPU occupied, but ...

When an external event arises, need to respond quickly.

Consider: Why does your cell ring/buzz? What would you have to do to see a text arrive if it didn't?

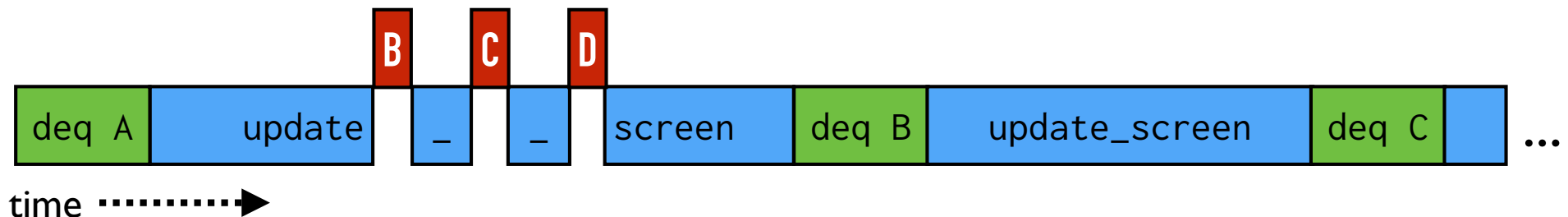
Concurrency

How to juggle doing more than one thing at once?

```
while (1) {  
    dequeue scandcode from queue  
    update_screen();  
}
```

whenever scandcode arrives,
enqueue it

scancodes buffered for later processing



Interrupts to the rescue!

Processor pauses current execution, switch to code that handles interrupt, switch back and resume execution

- Asynchronous external event (peripherals, timer)

- Synchronous exception (invalid address, illegal instruction)

Critical for responsive systems, hosted OS

Interrupts are essential and powerful, but getting them right requires using everything you've learned:

- Architecture, assembly, linking, memory, C, peripherals, ...

code/button-blocking
code/button-interrupt

Interrupted control flow

```
static volatile int gCount;
```

```
void update_screen(void)
{
    console_clear();
    for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)
        console_printf("%d", gCount);
}
```

```
void button_pressed(void *data)
{
    gCount++;
    gpio_interrupt_clear(BUTTON);
}
```

```
9   9   9   9   9
9   9  10  10  10
10  10
```

Suspend current activity, execute other code, then resume, ... this will be tricky!

Interrupt mechanics

Somewhat analogous to function call

- Suspend currently executing code, save state
- Jump to handler code, process interrupt
- When finished, restore state and resume

Must adhere to conventions to avoid stepping on each other

- Consider: processor state, register use, memory
- Hardware support helps out

C abstraction ...

Asm understanding!

update_screen:

add sp,sp,-16

sd ra,8(sp)

sd s0,0(sp)

add s0,sp,16

jal 0x400006c4 <console_clear>

lui a0,0x40008

add a0,a0,496

jal 0x40000224

li s1,0

j 0x400002c4

lui a5,0x40022

lw a1,-760(a5)

lui a0,0x40008

add a0,a0,528 # 0x40008210

jal 0x40000224 <console_printf>

How to go from update_screen to
button_pressed and back again?

Interrupt!

button_pressed:

add sp,sp,-16

sd ra,8(sp)

1) pause, preserve state

2) jump to handler, execute

3) restore state, resume

sw a5,760(a1)

li a0,1293

jal 0x400022d8 <gpio_interrupt_clear>

ld ra,8(sp)

ld s0,0(sp)

add sp,sp,16

ret

The RISC-V Instruction Set Manual
Volume II: Privileged Architecture
Document Version 20190608-Priv-MSU-Ratified

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<https://cs107e.github.io/readings/riscv-privileged-20190608-1.pdf>

Terminology

Exception

- Problem arises when executing an instruction (invalid memory address, illegal instruction)

Trap

- Synchronous transfer of control to trap handler

Interrupt

- External event that occurs asynchronously
- Executing instruction is interrupted, will experience a trap

Processor modes

Machine (most privileged), Supervisor, User (least privileged)

Reset starts in machine (M) mode
(all our code executes in M mode)

Trap usually executes with more privilege
(hardware support to change mode on enter/exit trap handler)

What code is executed on trap?

- mtvec CSR stores address of code to jump to

CSRs

MXLEN-1	MXLEN-2	36	35	34	33	32	31	23	22	21	20	19	18	17		
SD	WPRI		SXL[1:0]	UXL[1:0]		WPRI		TSR	TW	TVM	MXR	SUM	MPRV			
1	MXLEN-37		2	2		9		1	1	1	1	1	1			
16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
	XS[1:0]	FS[1:0]	MPP[1:0]	WPRI		SPP	MPPIE	WPRI		SPIE	UPIE	MIE	WPRI		SIE	UIE
	2	2	2	2		1	1	1		1	1	1	1		1	1

Figure 3.7: Machine-mode status register (mstatus) for RV64.

<https://cs107e.github.io/readings/riscv-privileged-20190608-1.pdf>

MXLEN-1	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
WPRI	MEIE	WPRI	SEIE	UEIE	MTIE	WPRI	STIE	UTIE	MSIE	WPRI	SSIE	USIE	
MXLEN-12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Figure 3.12: Machine interrupt-enable register (mie).

interrupts_global_enable:

```

li a0,1<<11      # set MEIE bit (m-mode external interrupts)
csrs mie,a0       # update mie register
li a0,1<<3        # set MIE bit (global enable m-mode interrupts)
csrs mstatus,a0   # update mstatus register
ret

```

Interrupt, hardware-side

External event triggers interrupt line. Processor response:

- Complete current instruction

- Pause, transfer control

 - Save interrupted `pc` in `mepc` CSR, elevate privilege

 - Disable further interrupts

 - `pc = mtvec` (address of handler function)

Software takes over

- Trap handler begins executing

- Must save/restore any registers it uses

- Process interrupt and clear/mark handled

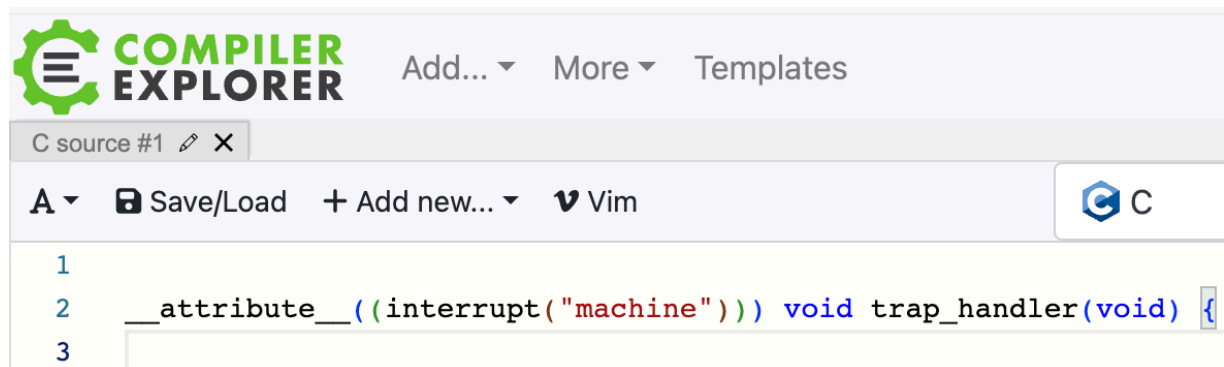
- `mret` instruction to restore state and resume

 - Restores privilege level, reenables interrupts, `pc = mepc`

Interrupt, software-side

```
__attribute__((interrupt("machine")))  
void trap_handler(void)  
{  
    ....  
}
```

How does this attribute change the generated code? Let's find out!



Install trap handler

```
__attribute__((interrupt("machine"))) void trap_handler(void) {  
    // code to respond to interrupt  
}
```

```
void main(void) {  
    set_mtvec(trap_handler); // store function pointer  
}
```

```
interrupts_set_mtvec:    # assembly  
    csrw mtvec,a0        # mtvec holds address of first insn  
    ret
```

Interrupts (so far)

Hardware support

- Processor modes, exceptional control flow

Software config

- Install handler, enable interrupts

Exception received, handler must:

- Init stack, preserve registers, handle event

- Restore and resume

Interrupts (so far)

Top-level interrupts system configuration

- External interrupts enabled `mstatus`, `mie` CSRs
- Trap handler address installed in `mtvec` CSR

Transfer of control to enter/exit interrupt code

- Assembly to preserve registers
- Call into C code
- Assembly to restore registers, resume interrupted code

Next Lecture

Which interrupts are supported and how to configure
(events from gpio, hstimer, uart, ...)

How to dispatch to specific handler per event source

What steps needed to init/enable interrupts

Writing safe interrupt handlers

How to share state without step on each other