I/O Models

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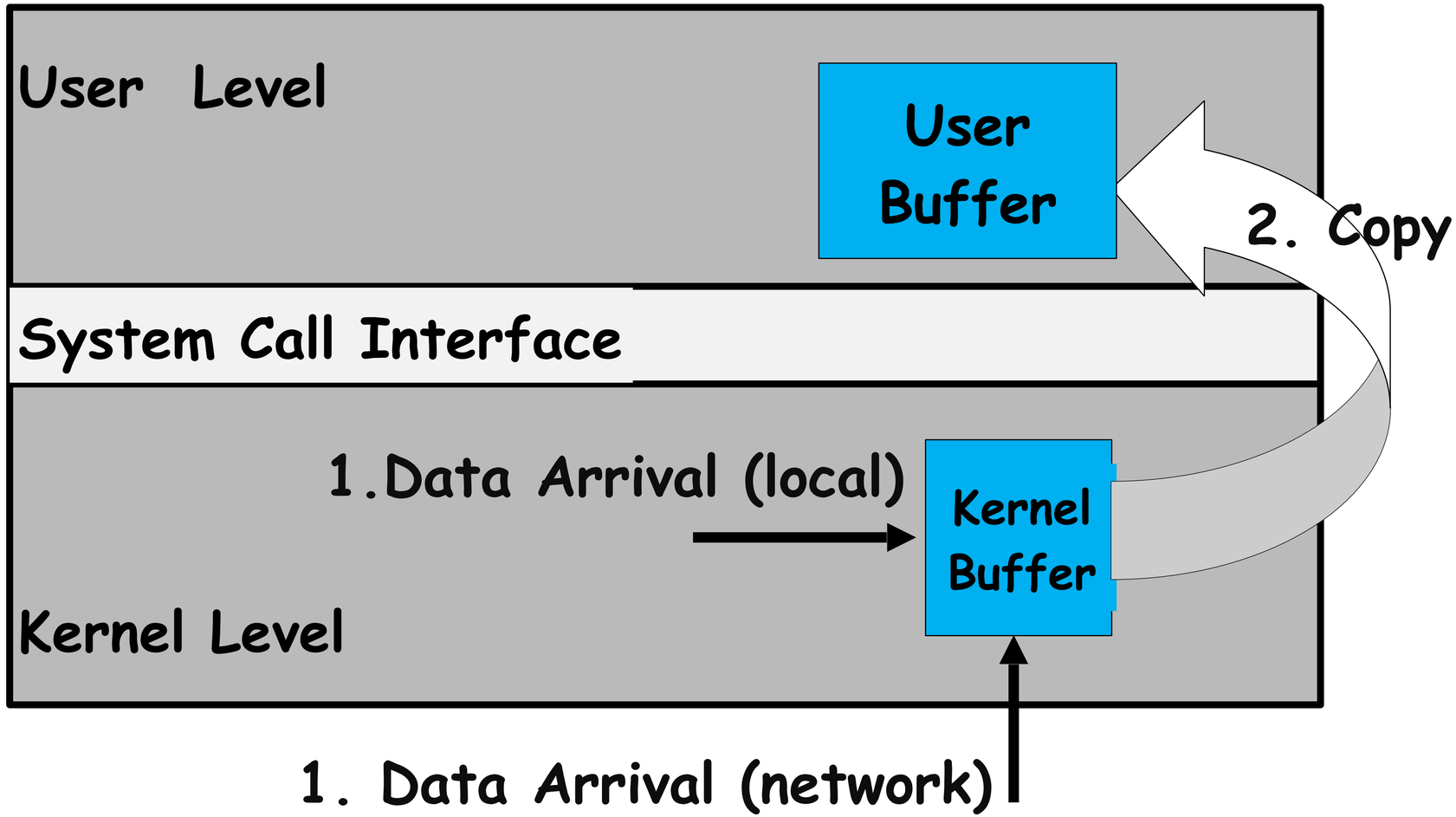
I/O Models

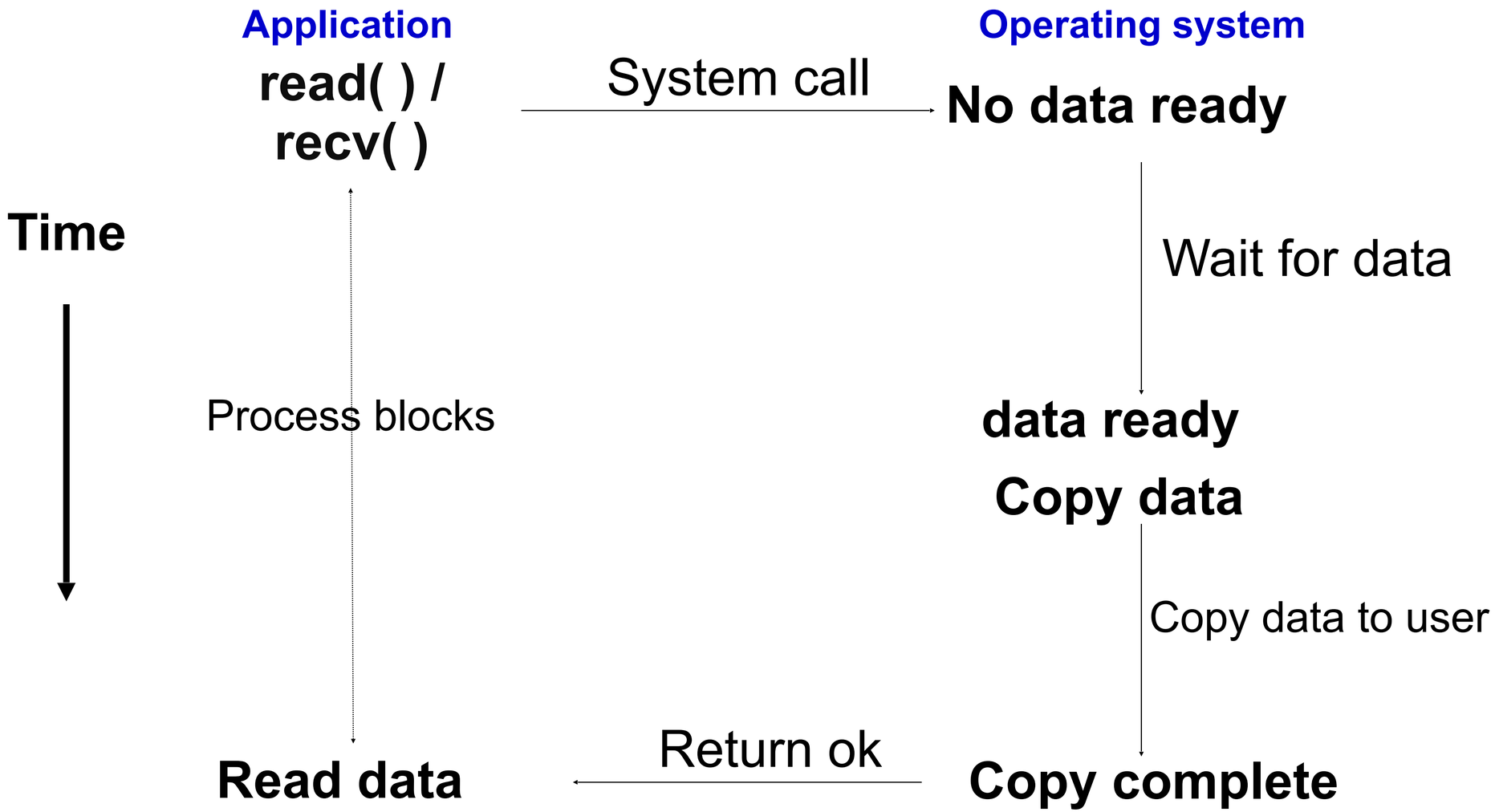
- Blocking I/O
- Non-blocking I/O
- I/O multiplexing – select()
- Signal driven I/O
- Asynchronous I/O

Two steps in data reception

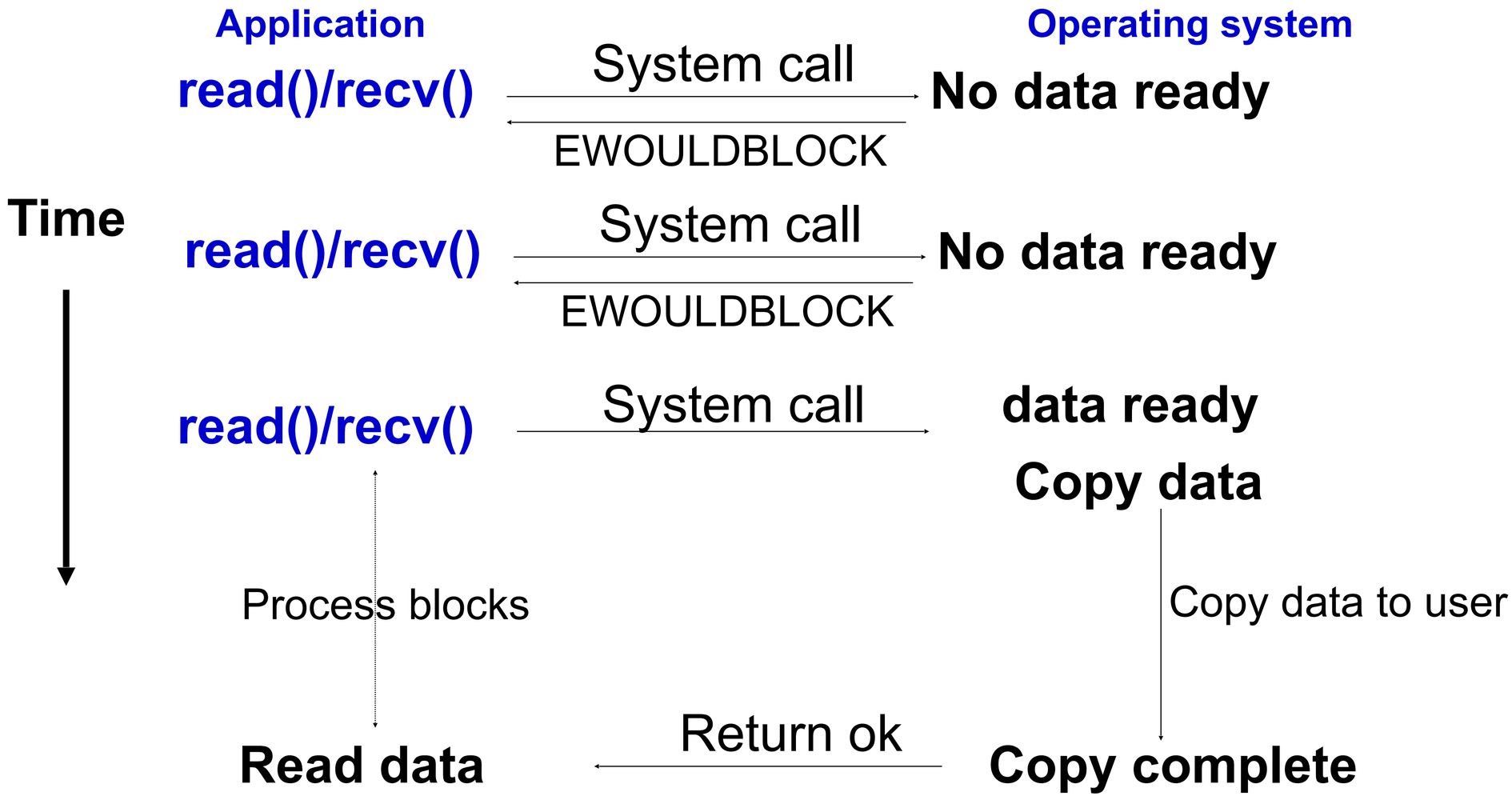


Overheads: Context switching, Data copying

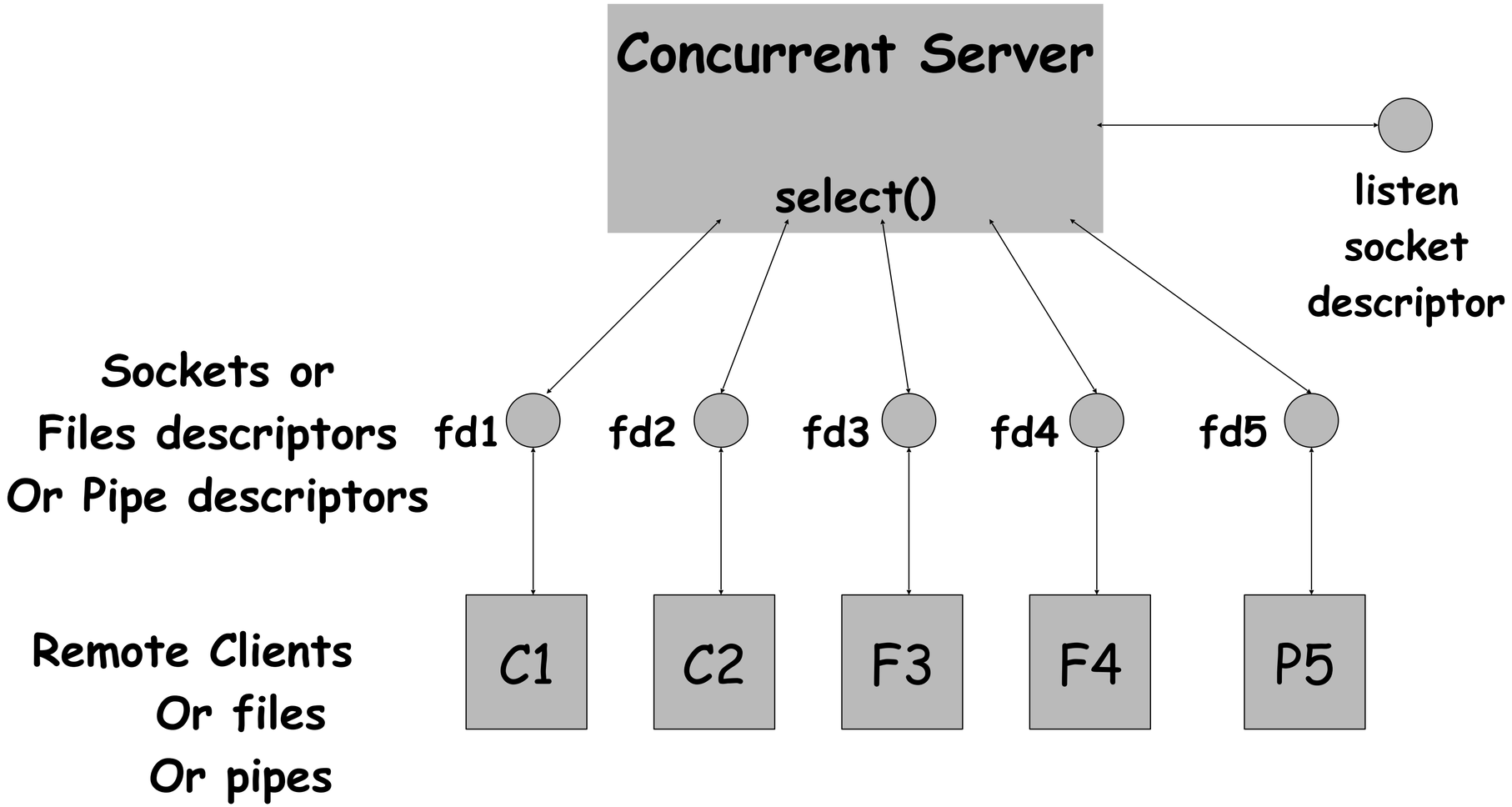
Blocking I/O


Application
Operating system
read( ) /
recv( )
System call
No data ready
Time
Wait for data
Process blocks
data ready
Copy data
Copy data to user
Read data
Return ok
Copy complete

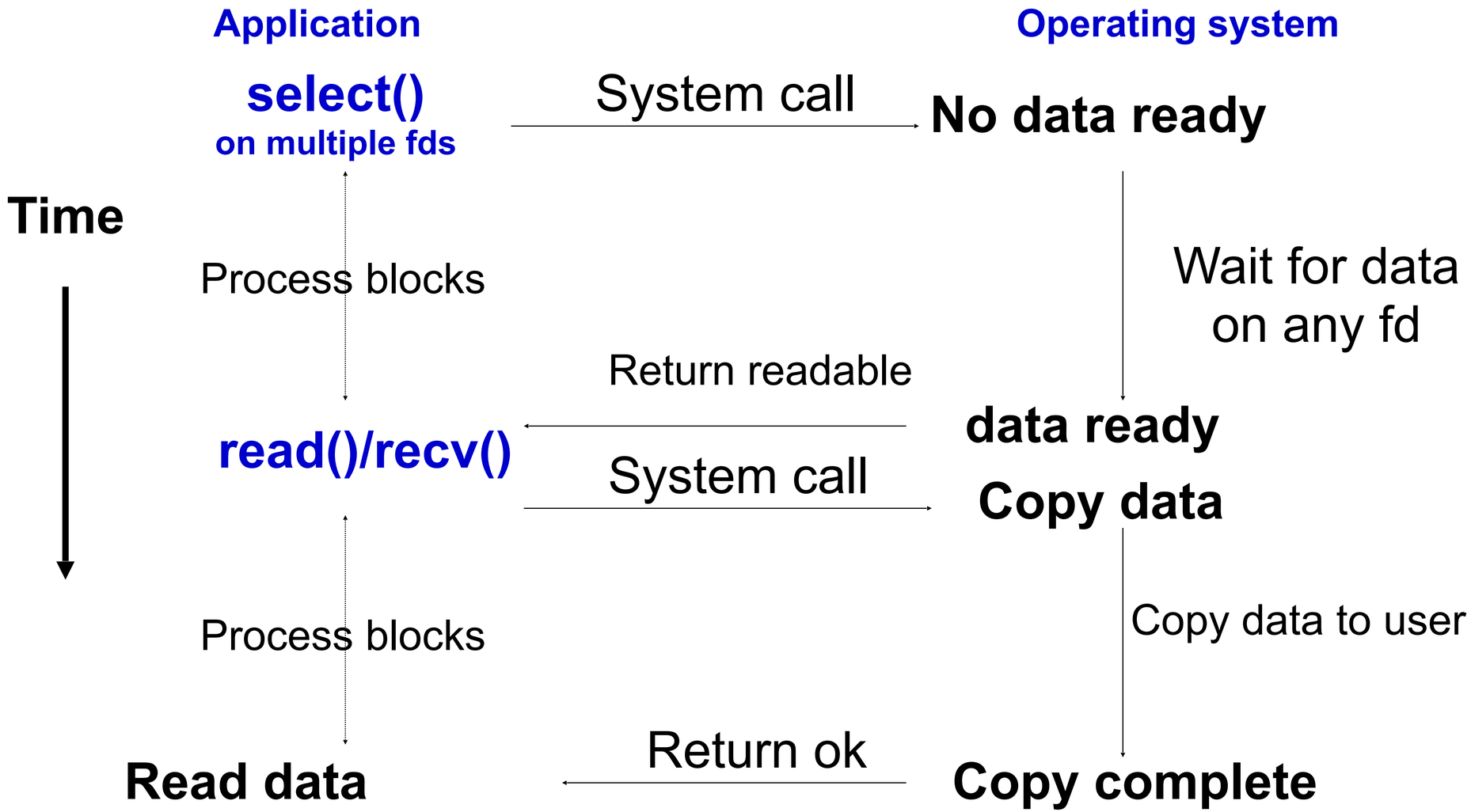
Non-Blocking I/O (polling)



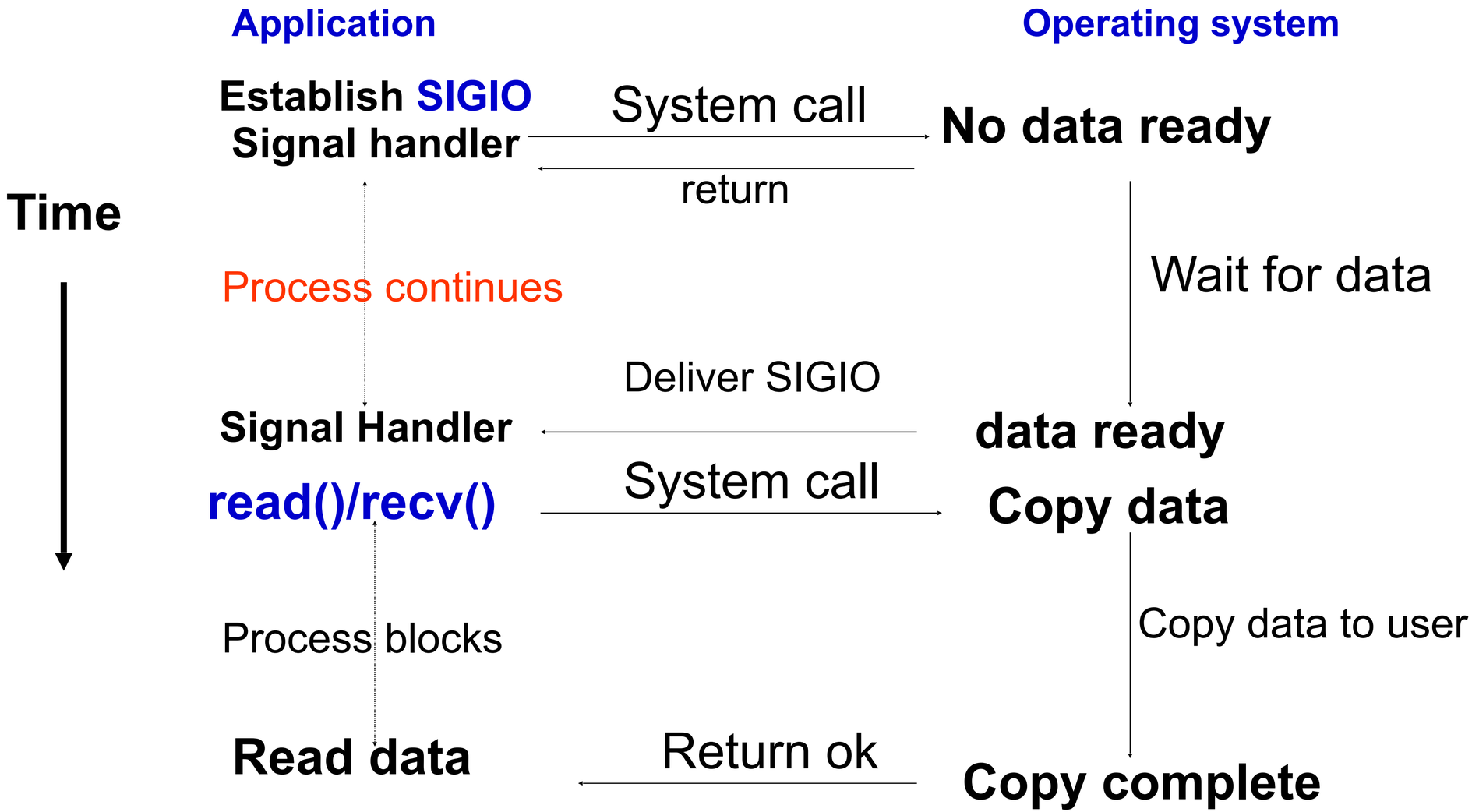
I/O Multiplexing



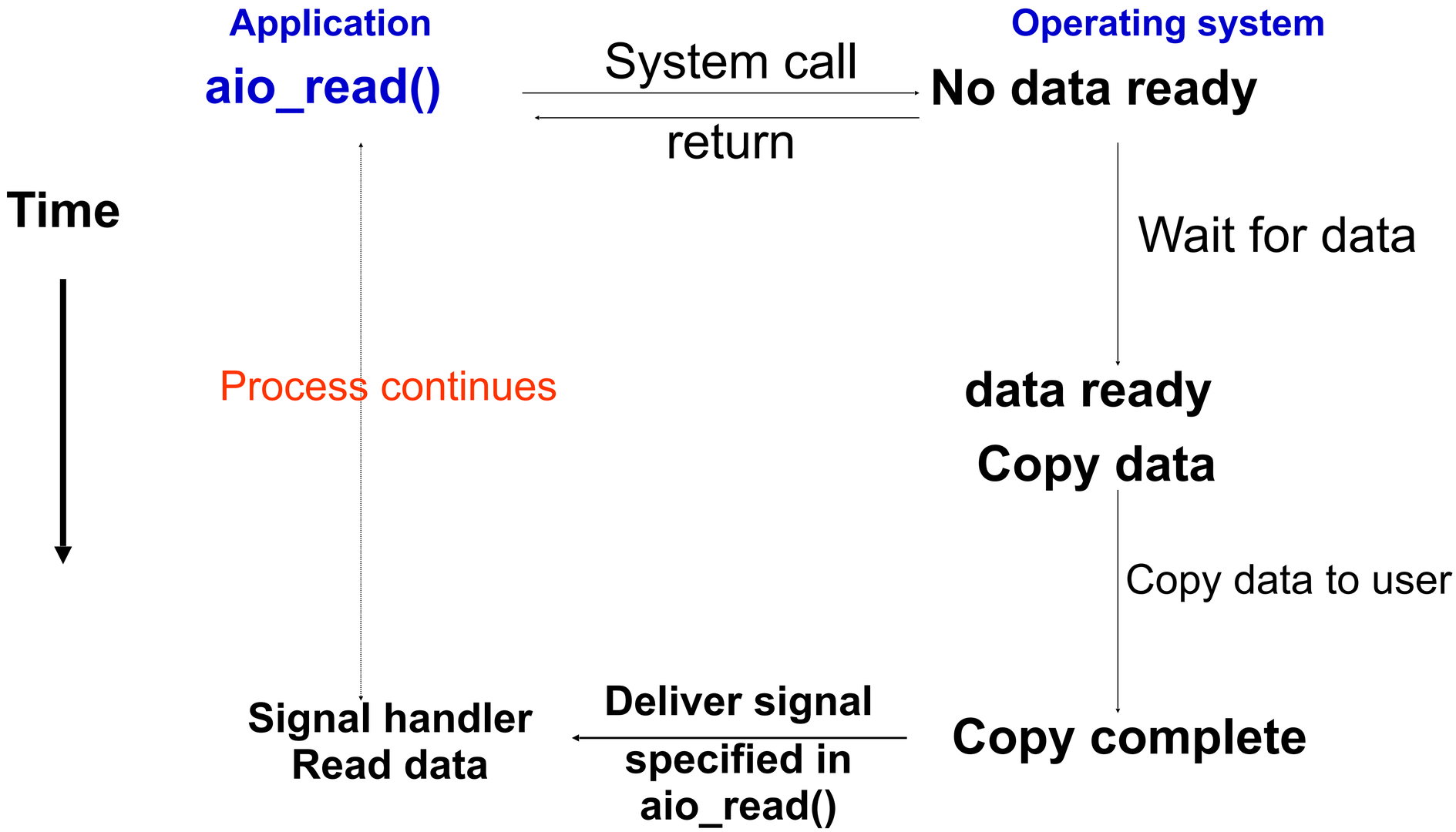
I/O Multiplexing



Signal driven I/O



Asynchronous I/O



I/O Multiplexing

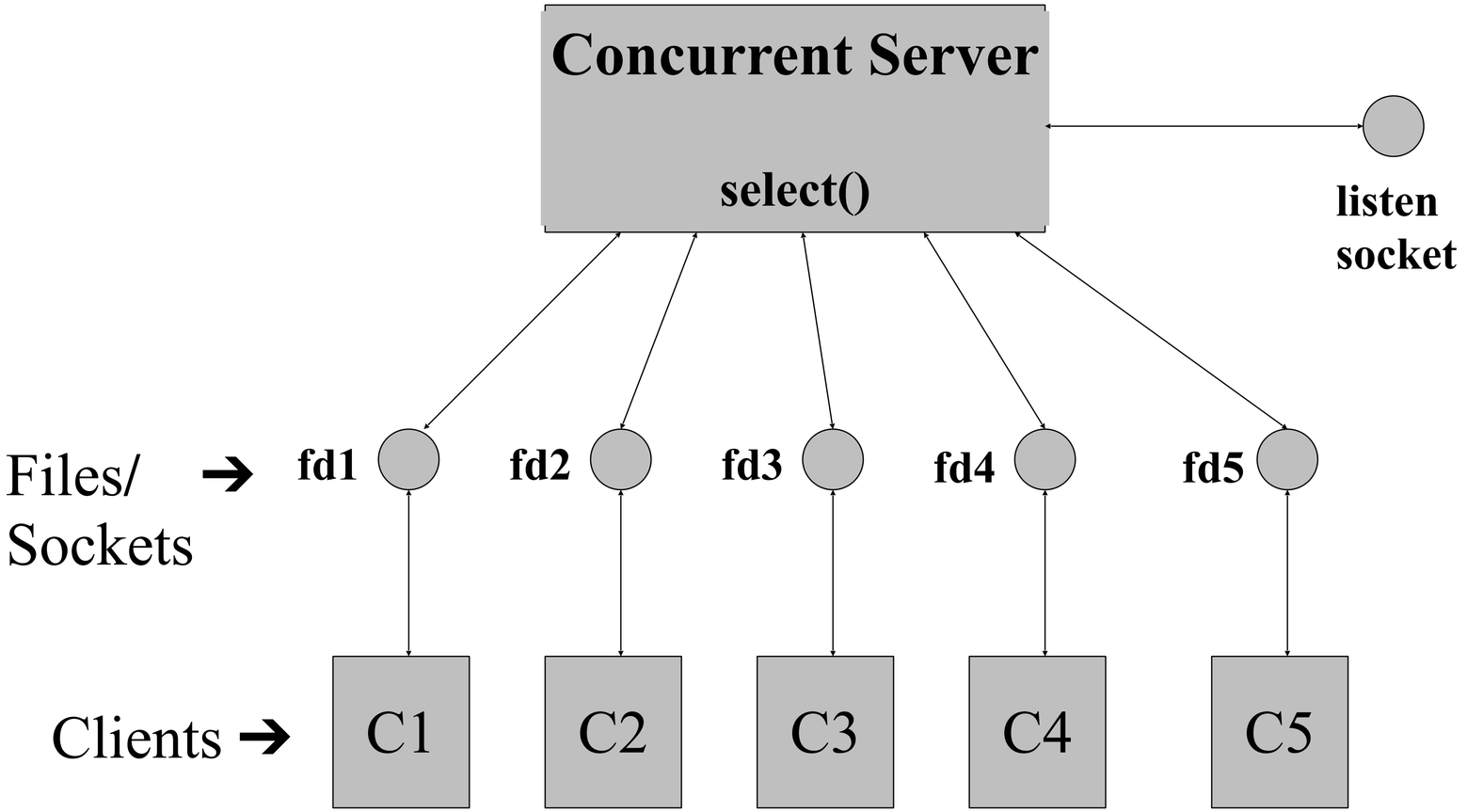
Example of Event-oriented programming

What is I/O multiplexing?

- When an application needs to handle multiple I/O descriptors at the same time
  - E.g. file and socket descriptors, multiple socket descriptors

- When I/O on any one descriptor can result in blocking

Non-forking concurrent server



select() call

- Allows a process to wait for an event to occur on any one of its descriptors.

- Types of event
  - ready for read
  - ready for write
  - Exception condition

select() call

```
int  select(
   int  maxfdp1,        /* max. fd + 1 */
   fd_set  *readfds,    /* read ready? */
   fd_set  *writefds,   /* write ready? */
   fd_set *exceptfds,   /* exceptions? */
   struct timeval *timeout);

struct  timeval {
     long tv_sec;  /* seconds */
     long tv_usec; /* microseconds */
}
```

struct fd_set

- Set of descriptors that we want to wait on for events.

- Typically holds 256 descriptor states.

- Manipulation macros
  - void FD_ZERO(fd_set *fds)
  - void FD_SET (int fd, fd_set *fds)
  - void FD_CLR (int fd, fd_set *fds)
  - int FD_ISSET(int fd, fd_set *fds)

Non-forking Concurrent Server

```
fdset rdset, wrset;
int listenfd, connfd1, connfd2;
int maxfdp1;
……
Connection establishment etc.
……

/* initialize */
FD_ZERO(&rdset);
FD_ZERO(&wrset);
```

```
for( ;; ) {
      FD_SET(connfd1, &rdset);
      FD_SET(connfd2, &wrset);
      FD_SET(listenfd, &rdset);

      maxfdp1 = max(connfd1, connfd2, listenfd) + 1;

      /* wait for some event */
      Select(maxfdp1, &rdset, &wrset, NULL, NULL);

      if( FD_ISSET(connfd1, &rdset) ) {
       Read data from connfd1…
      }
      if( FD_ISSET(connfd2, &wrset) ) {
       Write data to connfd2…
      }
      if( FD_ISSET(listenfd, &rdset) {
       Process a new connection…
      }
}
```