



CIS 415

Operating Systems

Midterm Review

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Fall 2023



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Logistics

- Midterm next Tuesday, October 31
 - Closed book
 - 2 page of notes, front and back
 - No computers, phones, tablets, or electronic devices
 - No discussion with neighbors
 - 80 minutes (possibly extend to 90 minutes)
- Previous midterms
 - Posted on Canvas Friday by 5pm
- Monday office hours
 - Extended 12-2pm
- No programming will be required in any answer

What did we cover so far?

Topic

Overview

- Chapter 1 – Introduction
- Chapter 2 – Operating System Structures

Lecture

- 1: Introduction
- 2: OS architecture / System Calls

Process Management

- Chapter 3 – Processes and IPC
- Chapter 4 – Threads
- Chapter 5 – CPU Scheduling

- 3: Processes
- 4: IPC
- 5: Threads
- 6: Scheduling

Concurrency

- Chapter 6/7 – Process Synchronization

- 7: Synchronization

What do we need to know for the midterm?

- All OSC chapters covered thus far
- All lectures presented thus far
- Things learned in lab exercises
- Except:
 - Will not quiz you on the research papers

Study Advice

- Read book and then read it again
- Review lectures
 - Please DO NOT print lecture slides – save the forest!
- Think about concepts (important)
- You do not need to know specific details that pertain to specific operating systems, as described in the OSC book
- Come to office hours with questions

Let's try this again ... what will you ask?

- Ah, that's a different question!
- Let's start first with what you might expect the midterm to look like
- Then maybe I will be more specific about what will be actually on the midterm ... maybe

What to expect on the midterm?

- Structure
 - Three sections, each on a topic we have covered
 - Each section has two parts
- Part 1: Concepts
 - Each question is intended to take limited time to answer
 - Includes true/false, multiple choice, short answer, ...
- Part 2: Problems
 - Intended to involve a bit more thinking and more time
 - Include more “essay” answers (i.e., more writing)

What will be covered on the midterm?

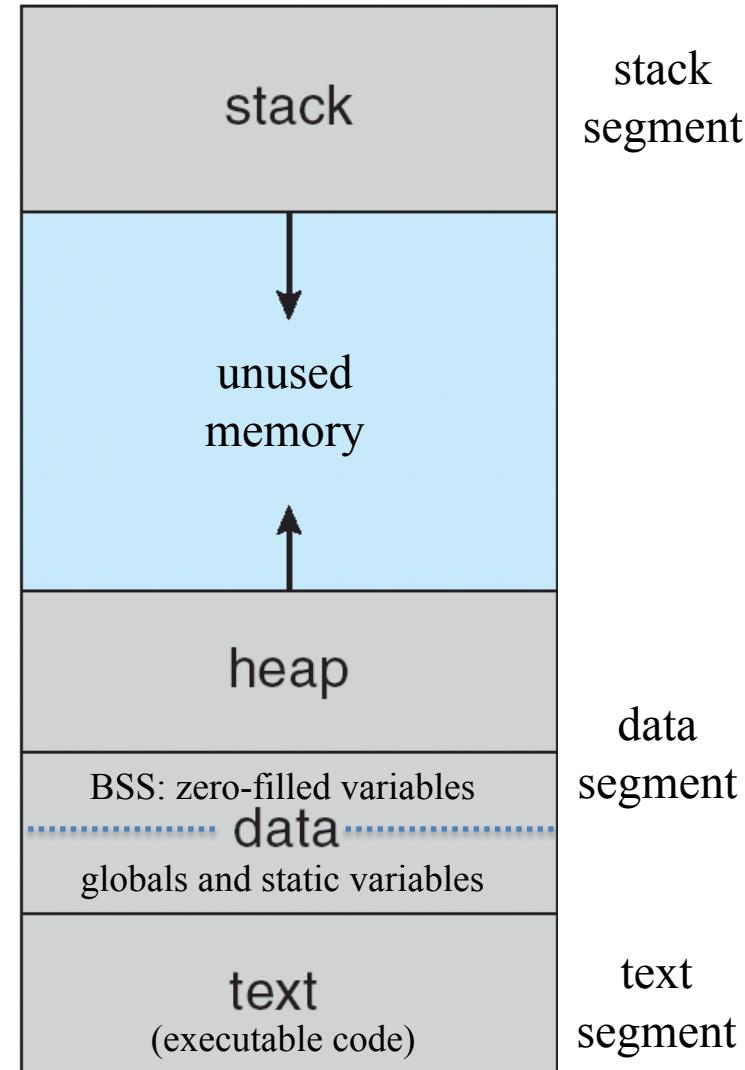
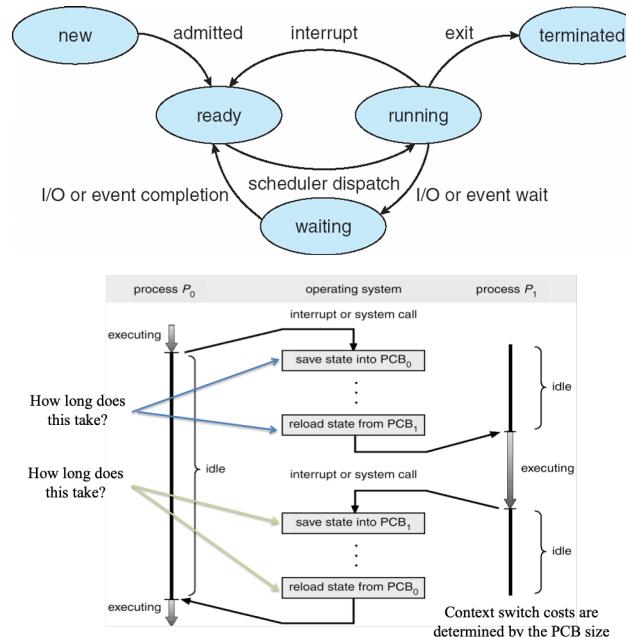
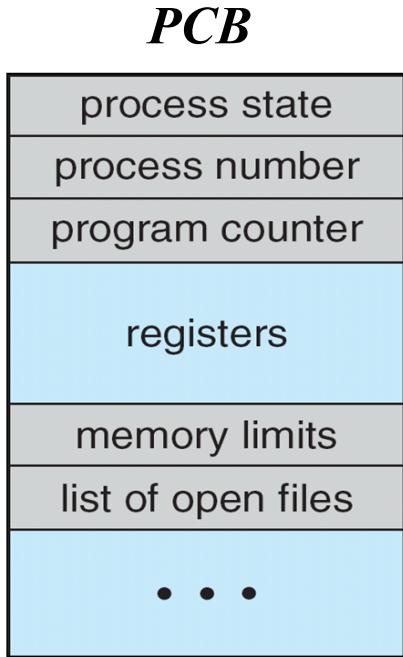
- All areas covered are fair game
 - Especially for concept questions
- But I can not reasonably expect to ask you about everything ... or can I?
- Will have concept questions and/or problems on:
 - Section 1: Processes and Threads
 - Section 2: Scheduling
 - Section 3: Concurrency/Synchronization
- My job is to make sure you have enough time
- Ok, now for a quick review

Processes and Threads

- What are they?
- How are they different?
- How does the OS represent and manage them?
- How do they operate with respect to each other?
- How do they execute with respect to the OS?
 - System calls
 - Interrupts
- How do they interact?
- What are the threading models?

What makes up a process?

- Process address space
- Process control block
- How is a process created?
- Process state transitions
- What happens on context switch?



What is a thread?

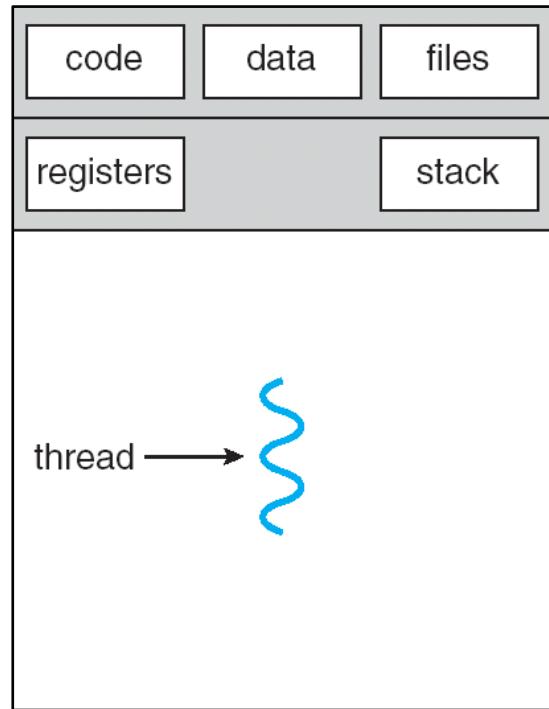
- User-level threads / kernel-level threads
- What is the thread state? What is in it?
- How is a thread created?
- Pthreads
- You need to make sure that you are clear on the differences between processes and threads
- Take a look at the program examples

Single-Threaded (Process) vs. Multithreaded

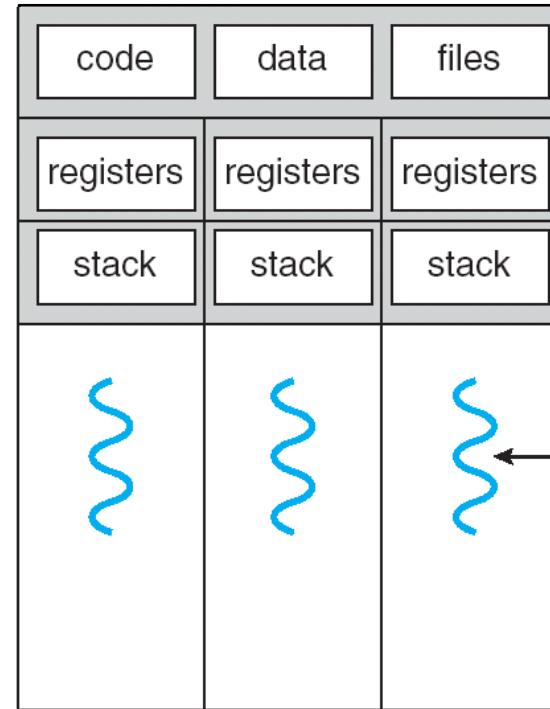
- Regular UNIX process can be thought of as a special case of a multithreaded process
 - A process that contains just one thread!
- Multithreaded process has multiple threads

process context

thread context



single-threaded process



multithreaded process

process context

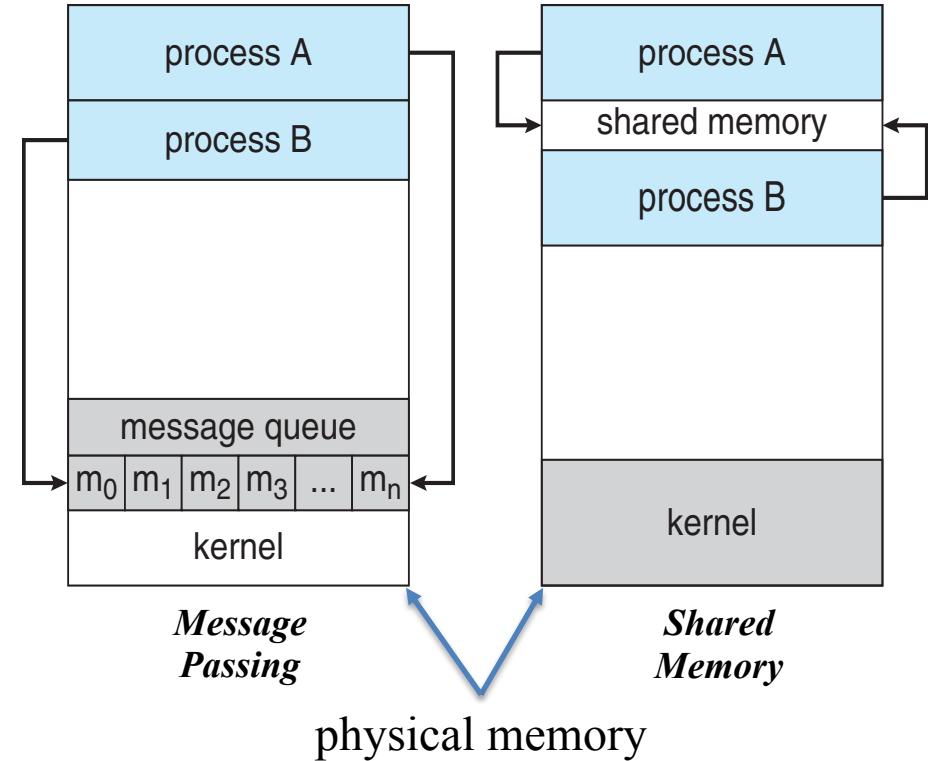
thread context

(each thread has its own)

thread

Interprocess Communication (IPC)

- What is IPC?
- What are different types of IPC?
 - Shared memory: shared segment, pipe
 - Message passing: mailboxes, sockets
- Why do we care?
- Processes need to interact with other
 - Need support from the OS to do so
 - Why?



Scheduling

- Know your scheduling algorithms
- Easy topic to write a problem for this
- Think about non-preemptive versus preemptive



Concurrency and Synchronization

- What is a critical section?
- What is the critical section problem?
- What are solutions to the critical section problem?
- Know about synchronization constructs ...
 - Mutex
 - Semaphore
 - Condition variables (not so much)
 - ... and how they are used
- Look at the classic synchronization problems
 - Bounded buffer
 - Dining philosopher



Sample Midterms

- To be posted on Canvas tomorrow (Friday)
 - Midterm from Fall 2015
 - Midterm from Spring 2019
- Just the questions will be posted
- At least 1 problem question from the sample midterms will be on the real midterm!

Next Class

□ Midterm