Operating Systems
CS240

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Computer System Overview

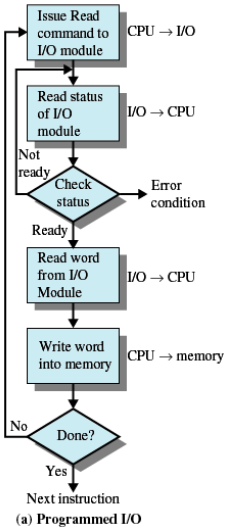
Chapter 1

Cache Design

- Write policy
  - When the memory write operation takes place
  - Can occur every time block is updated
  - Can occur only when block is replaced
    - Minimizes memory write operations
    - Leaves main memory in an obsolete state

Programmed I/O

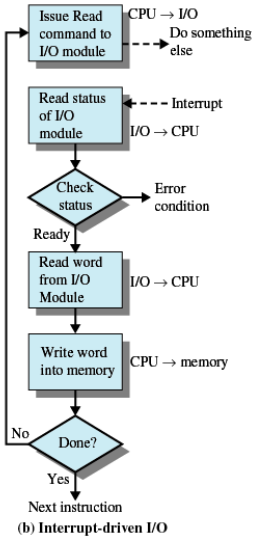
- I/O module performs the action, not the processor
- Sets appropriate bits in the I/O status register
- No interrupts occur
- Processor checks status until operation is complete
  - this is "*polling*"



(a) Programmed I/O

Interrupt-Driven I/O

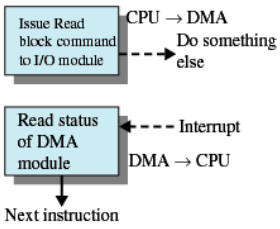
- Processor is interrupted when I/O module ready to exchange data
- Processor saves context of program executing and begins executing interrupt-handler
- No needless waiting
- However, still consumes a lot of processor time because every word read or written passes through the processor



(b) Interrupt-driven I/O

Direct Memory Access

- Transfers a block of data directly to or from memory
- An interrupt is sent when the transfer is complete
- Processor continues with other work



(c) Direct memory access