

What is an OS?

User 1

User 2

Program that manages
the hardware for application
and system programs

Application

system programs

operating system is the
defining program

Hardware

• goal is to have ease of
use

Two opposing views

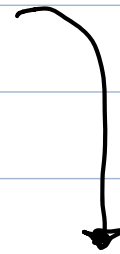
• Resources vs Users

1. Users

→ Ease of use

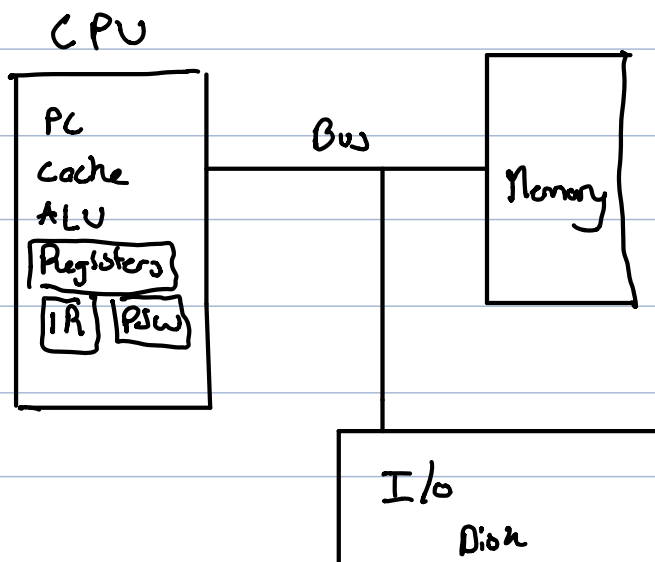
2. Systems

→ Resource Utilization



Computer System Organization

(PSW) Program Status Word



Operation

- When booted a program in firmware executes
- Initializes aspects of the system
- Loads the OS into memory
- OS executes its first process and waits for events to happen

↑ while loop
(embedded system)

- init is the first process that executes

Events are usually signaled by an interrupt

Interrupt: Mechanism in which user software and hardware may interrupt the CPU

• Why?

Keeping CPU as busy as possible

- Improve CPU utilization

- I/O devices are much slower than CPU

CPU

Printer

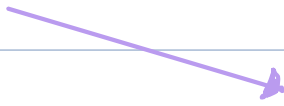
...

the CPU is checking

write()



system call



Setup



CPU is looking
for a call back

to see if the device
is printing or not

We don't want to use
polling (Busy wait) but
interrupts instead

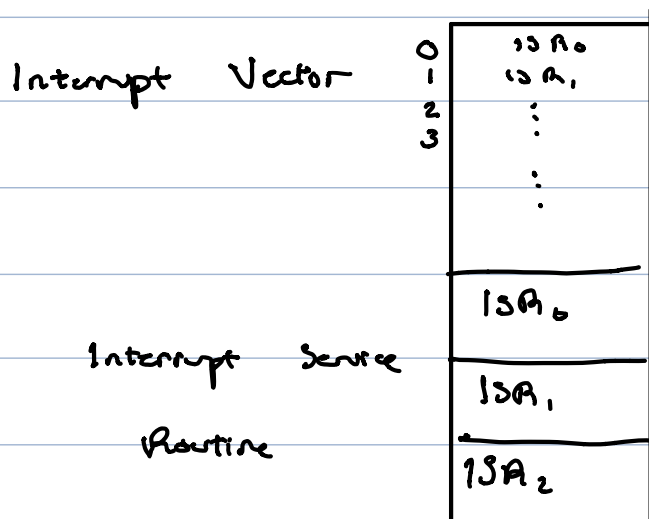
Interrupt Processing

1. An interrupt happens.
2. CPU finishes executing the current instruction
3. CPU acknowledges the interrupt
4. Store PC + PSW on the stack
5. Store all process state (registers)
6. Load the PC with the ISR address
7. Execute the ISR
8. Recover the process state
9. Pop PC + PSW

Need to be
stored

- PC
- PSW
- Registers

ISR → Interrupt Service Routine



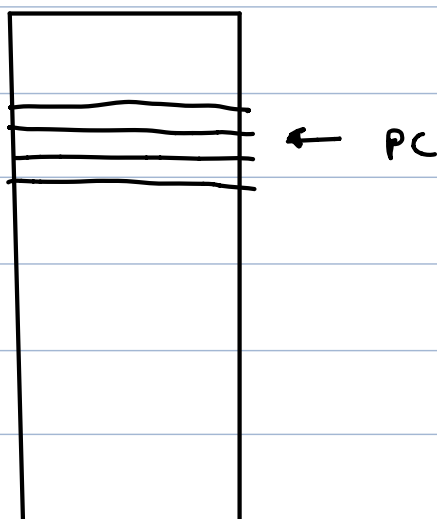
Storage

* CPU only loads instructions (RAM) from memory

* Memory is an array of words
each application has an address

The instruction execution cycle

1. load instruction into IA
2. Opcode is executed
3. Results may be stored in memory or registers



• Can't store all programs in memory

1. Too small
2. Volatile

Storage Hierarchy

Registers

Cache

* Wide range of I/O devices

Memory

SSD

Magnetic Disk

Optical

Tapes (Tape Drives)

→ Device drivers allow
the OS to integrate
such devices

* Direct Memory Access (DMA)

- Encode it in blocks then
send interrupt when complete
- Transfer an entire block of
data before interrupting the
CPU