

## Architectural Support for Operating Systems

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or ...

What do operating systems need from the underlying system?

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## Architectural Support for Operating Systems

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1. Support for Asynchronous Events
  2. Hardware Protection
  3. Support for Address Spaces
  4. Timers
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## 1. Support for Asynchronous Events

**Observation:** Operating systems handle many **Asynchronous Events**

- events from devices
- user input
- timer events

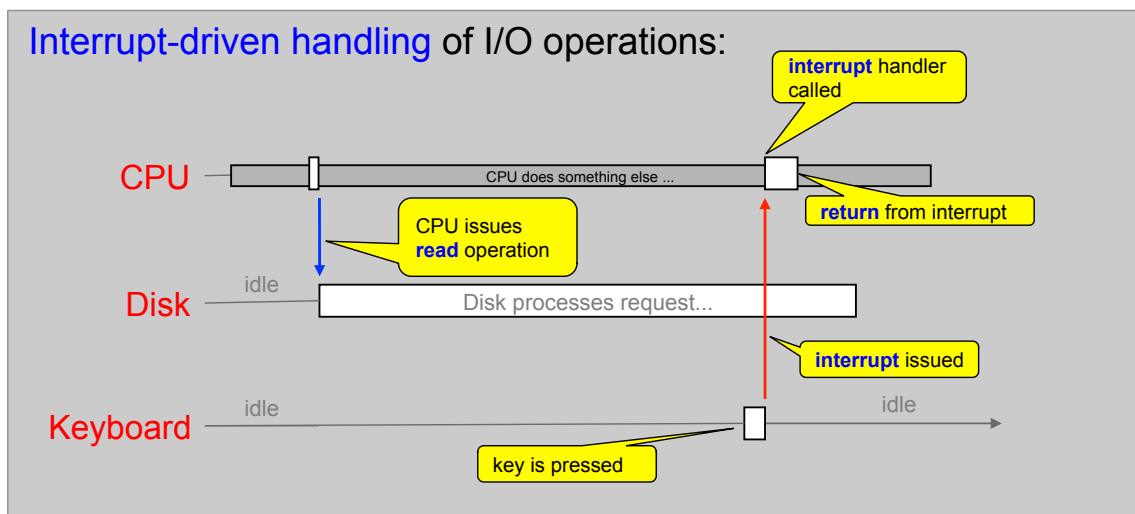
How to handle asynchronous events?

- **Polling**
- **Interrupt-Driven**

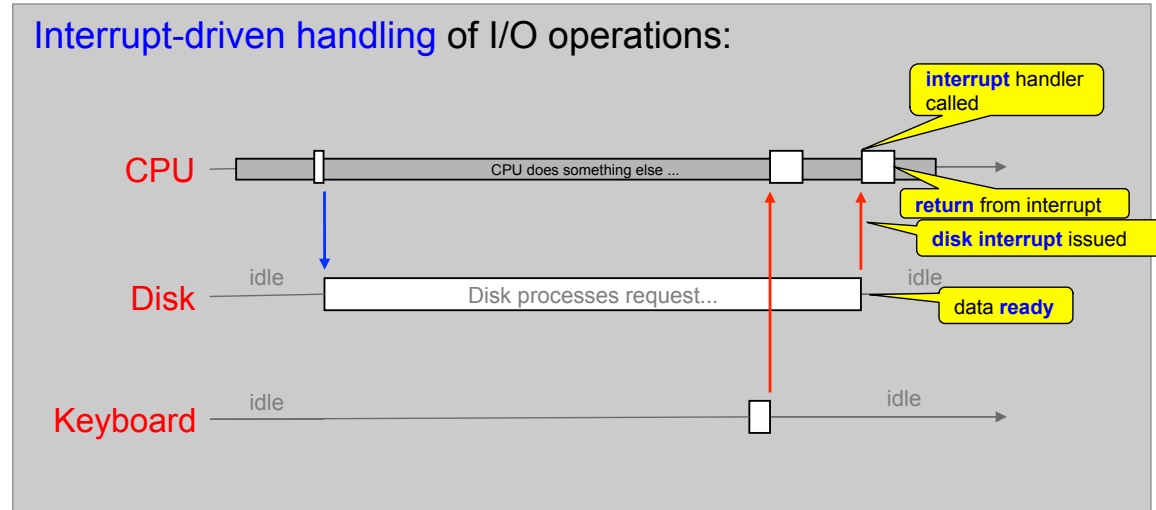
**Observation:** Most operating systems (not all!) handle asynchronous events using **interrupts**.

## Most modern OS' s are Interrupt-Driven

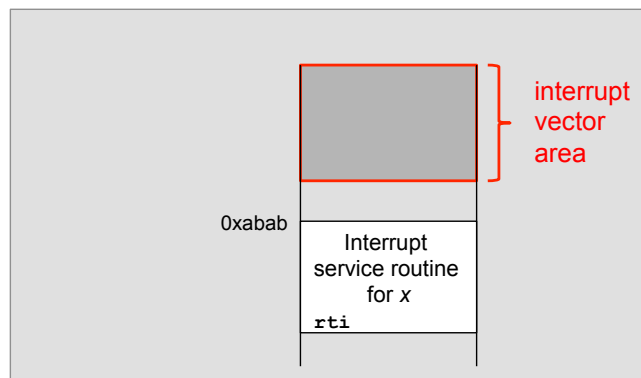
**Interrupt-driven handling of I/O operations:**



## Most modern OS' s are Interrupt-Driven



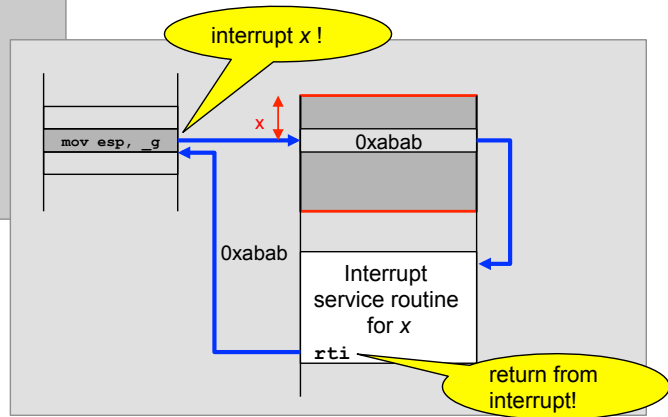
## Interrupts



## Interrupts

When an **interrupt occurs**, the CPU ...

1. stops
2. saves state
3. changes into **supervisor mode**
4. branches to **predefined location**.

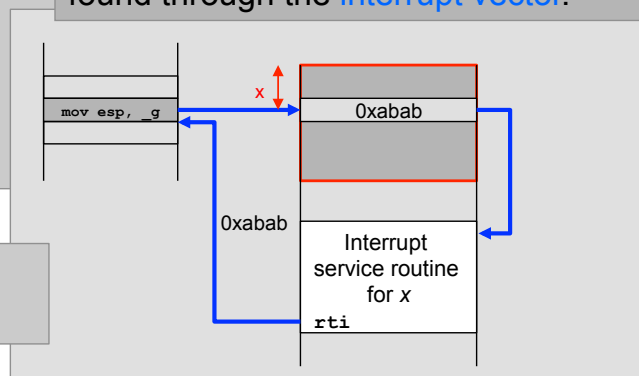


## Interrupts

When an **interrupt occurs**, the CPU ...

1. stops
2. saves state
3. changes into **supervisor mode**
4. branches to **predefined location**.

Appropriate interrupt service routine is found through the **interrupt vector**.



**Return-from-interrupt (rti)**  
automatically restores state.

Interrupts/Exceptions can be invoked by **asynchronous events** (I/O devices, timers, various errors) or can be **software-generated** (system calls).

## 2. Hardware Protection

**Recall:** Originally, user **owned** the machine; there was no monitor.

- Therefore, protection was not necessary.

Starting with resident monitor, user programs start **sharing resources**, either sequentially, or concurrently.

- One program can **adversely affect** the execution of others.

How?!

**Benign** (bug) vs. **malicious** (virus)

1. **halt** and other instructions
2. access/modify data **on devices**
3. modify data or code in **other programs** or monitor itself
4. refuse to **relinquish processor**

## Hardware Protection

How?!

1. **halt** and other instructions
2. access/modify data on devices
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4. refuse to relinquish processor

### Dual-mode operation

- **user mode** vs. **supervisor mode**
- e.g. **halt** instruction is privileged

## Hardware Protection

How?!

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4. refuse to relinquish processor

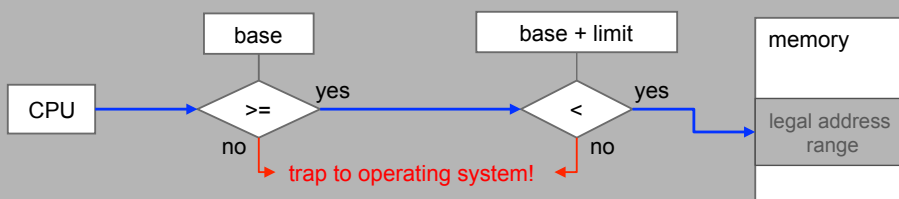
### I/O Protection

- define all I/O operations to be privileged
- e.g. `inb/outb` on x86

## Hardware Protection

How?!

1. `halt` and other instructions
2. access/modify data on devices
3. modify data or code in other programs or monitor itself
4. refuse to relinquish processor



### Memory Protection

- protect interrupt vector, interrupt service routines
- determine legal address ranges

## Hardware Protection

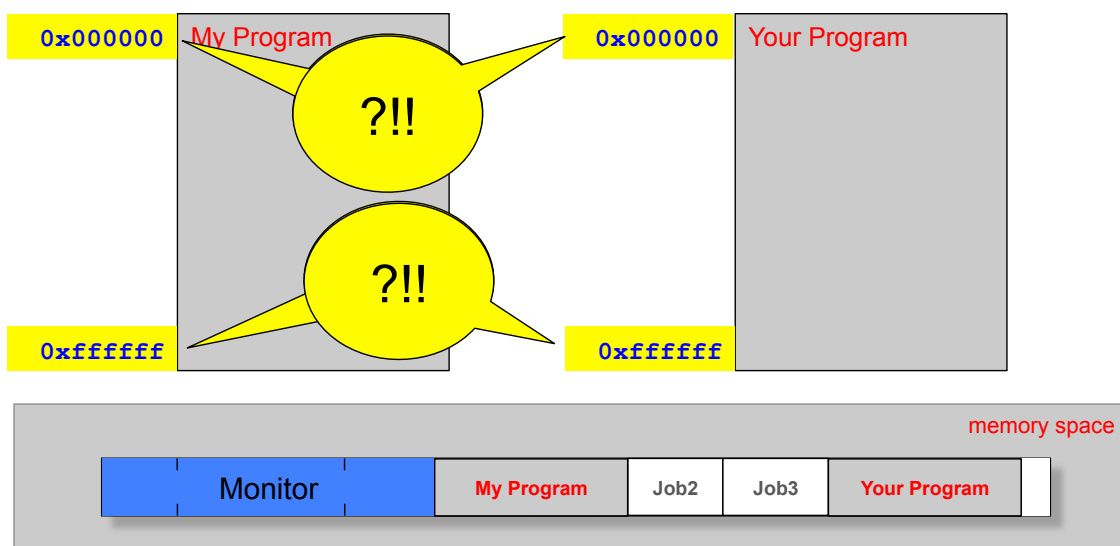
How?!

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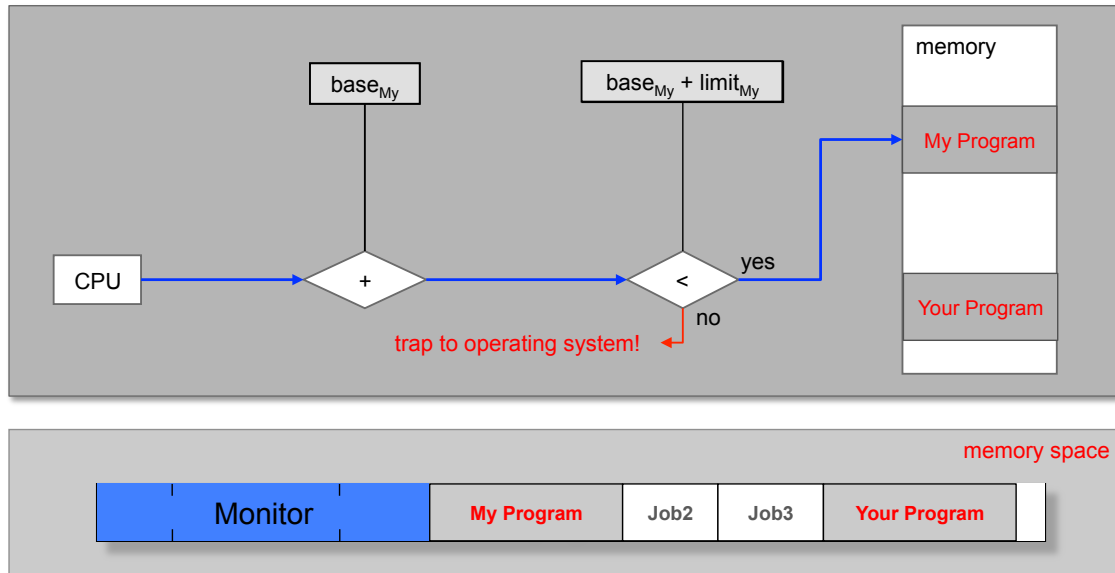
### Timers

- Timers can be **set**, and a interrupt occurs when the timer **expires**.
- OS **acquires control** over the CPU again.

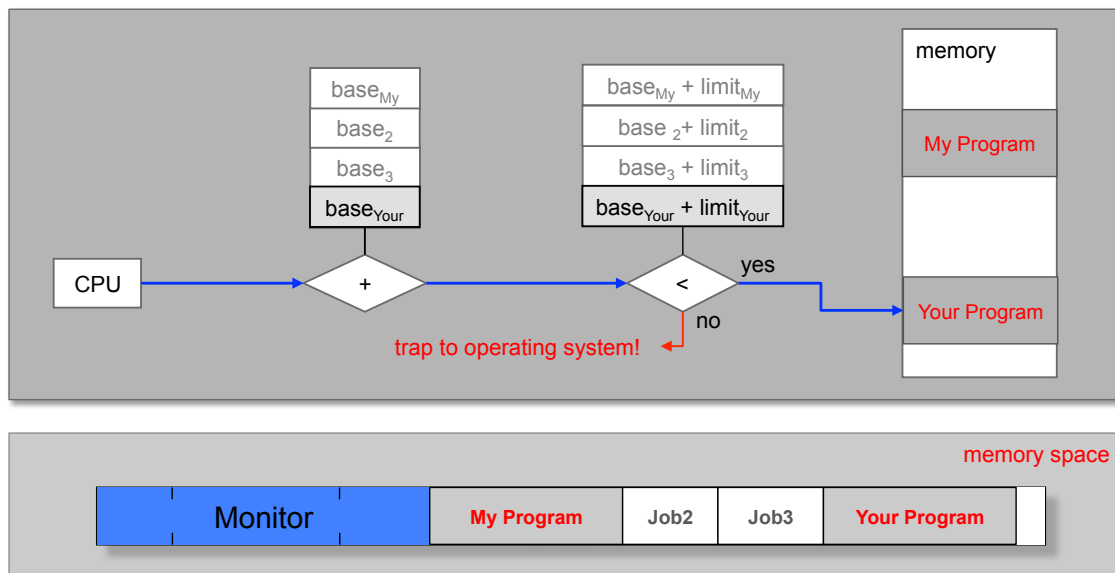
## 3. Support for Address Spaces



### 3. Support for Address Spaces



### 3. Support for Address Spaces





## 4. Timers

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**Recall:** Timers can be set, and an interrupt occurs when the timer expires.

(And OS acquires control over the CPU.)

Other uses of timers

- time sharing
- time-of-day clock

### Summary: What does the Operating System need?

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- Support for Asynchronous Events: Interrupts
  - Hardware Protection: dual/mode operation, I/O protection, memory protection, timers
  - Support for Address Spaces: per-process relocation
  - Timers
  - Atomic Operations? DMA? Task-State Segments?
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