Course Introduction (contd.): Operating Systems

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The website is up!

http://www.facweb.iitkgp.ac.in/~isg/OS/

The story so far

- What is an OS
- What are the two goals of an OS
- Two key parts of OS
- Interrupt driven functionality of OS

Today's class

- A brief historical overview of OS
 - Batch processing systems
 - Multiprogramming
 - Multitasking
 - Some practice problems
- Today's OS (multitasking, like Unix)
 - Dual mode of operation
 - Uses of timer

A brief history of OS

The beginning

Computers == which performs computational tasks

The beginning

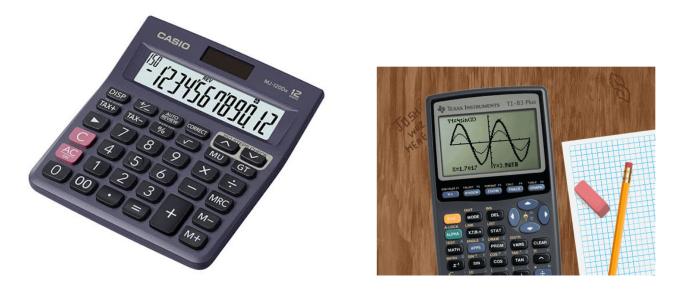
Computers == which performs computational tasks



Give a job: It will give you output

The beginning

Computers == which performs computational tasks



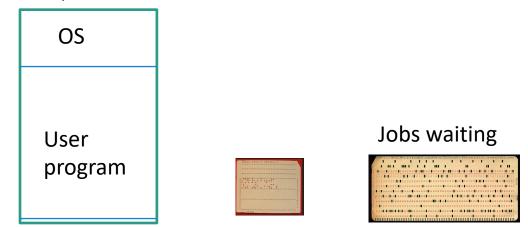
Give a job: It will give you output What if you had to compute multiple jobs?

First computers were similar

- Thus the operating system was simply designed
 - Batch processing operating system
 - One job executed at a time
 - only one job in memory at one time and executed (till completion) before the next one starts

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Problem with batch processing

A job has to wait for another to finish Led to very high wait times for the following jobs CPU was not doing anything at that time

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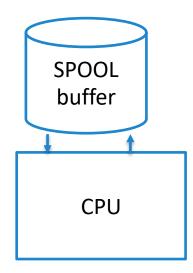
Insight: Input/Output from periphrals were very slow Your job has to wait forever when my job is simply reading the necessary data from peripheral devices

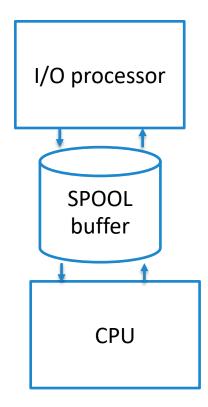
SPOOLing

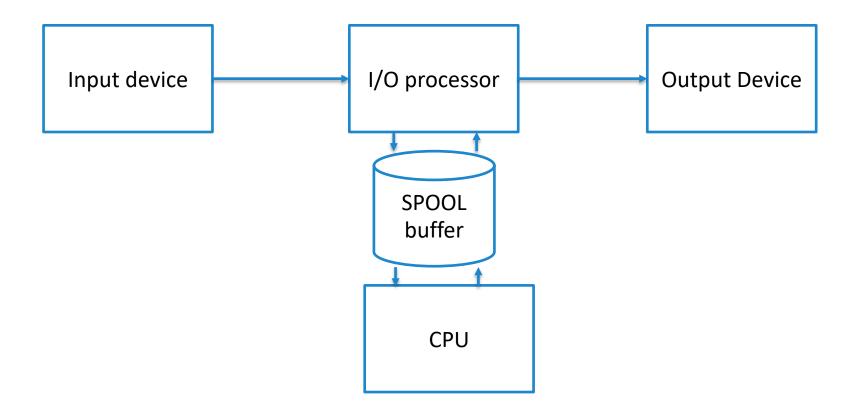
Simultaneous peripheral jobs online (SPOOL) Only start jobs when all required data is read OR, Send data output to a SPOOL buffer / virtual device



CPU







SPOOLing bring in important concepts

- Addition of I/O processors
 - Read/Write becomes faster
- Concept of virtual device
- Batch of jobs
- CPU-bound and I/O bound jobs

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A special form of multiprogramming

Multiprogramming

- Multiple jobs loaded into memory at the same time and job scheduler selected a job (say job A)
 - If a big I/O request come for job A, then A's context is stored away and job B is started
 - Once A's I/O finished restrore A

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- Storing context (current program state)
 - Need memory protection
 - Need privileged mode

Multiprogramming: Issue

- Relies on the fact that job B can start when job A is doing I/O
- For multiprogramming to work: a good mix of CPU and I/O bound jobs
- What if its not the case?

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Multitasking (timesharing)

- Logical extension of multiprogramming
 - CPU switches jobs so fast that users can interact with each job while its running
 - Creates interactive computing (e.g. cancel download)
- Characteristics
 - Real time: meeting deadline for jobs
 - Better share resources between jobs

Multitasking: Need for new tech

- Concept of CPU scheduling
 - Need hardware timers
 - Concept of CPU burst and I/O burst (lots of CPU operations OR lots of I/O operations in one go)
 - Have to worry about context switch overhead

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Multitasking: The tools

- For multitasking, somebody needs to schedule the tasks as time goes
 - kernel does it
 - Dual mode of operation
 - Use of timer

Dual mode of operation

- Process can execute in two modes
 - user mode and kernel mode
 - User mode: run normal applications
 - Kernel mode: directly talk to CPU/Peripherals to schedule tasks

Dual mode of operation

- Process can execute in two modes
 - user mode and kernel mode
 - User mode: run normal applications
 - Kernel mode: directly talk to CPU/Peripherals to schedule tasks
- Mode bit in in hardware
 - Tells CPU if its running in user or kernel mode

Kernel mode facilities

- Can run privileged instructions on CPU
 - Only in kernel mode
 - If you try to run them in user mode generates exceptions
 - Example: low-level I/O operation, setting protection registers like, running EI, DI instructions (Enable/Disable interrupt)

How to switch between these two modes?

• System call or interrupt changes mode to kernel

 Special "return" instruction changes mode to user

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But when to change modes when applications are running?

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How to use hardware timer?

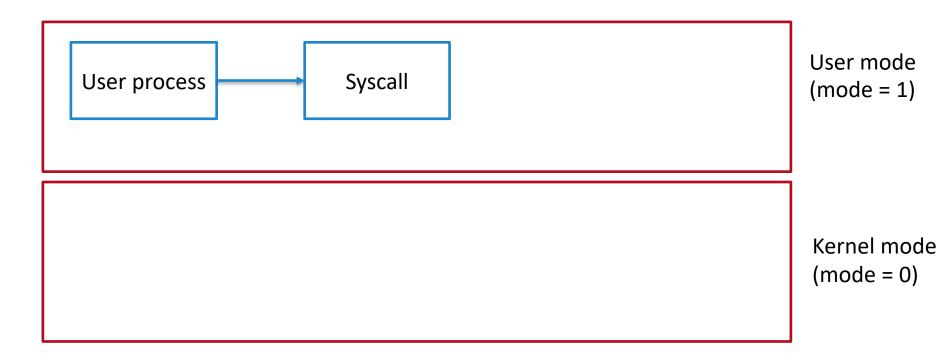
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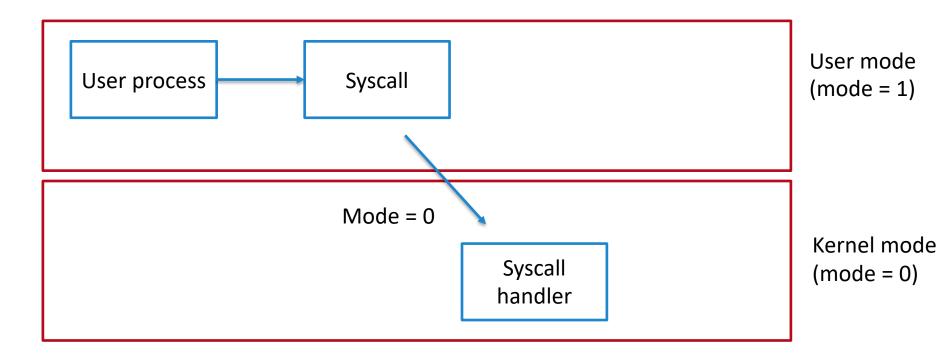
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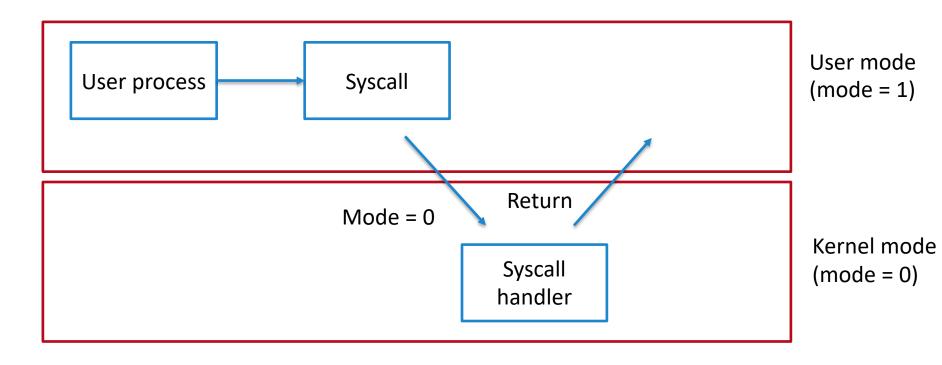
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 - OS initializes the count value (privileged mode)
 - Count value in timer is decremented by physical clock

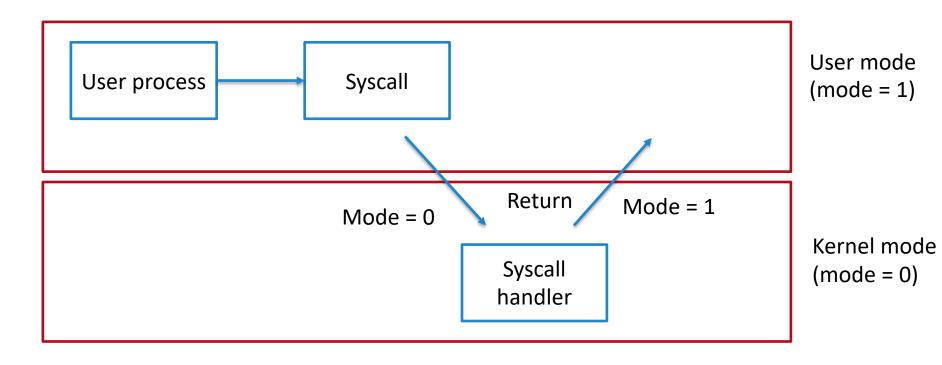
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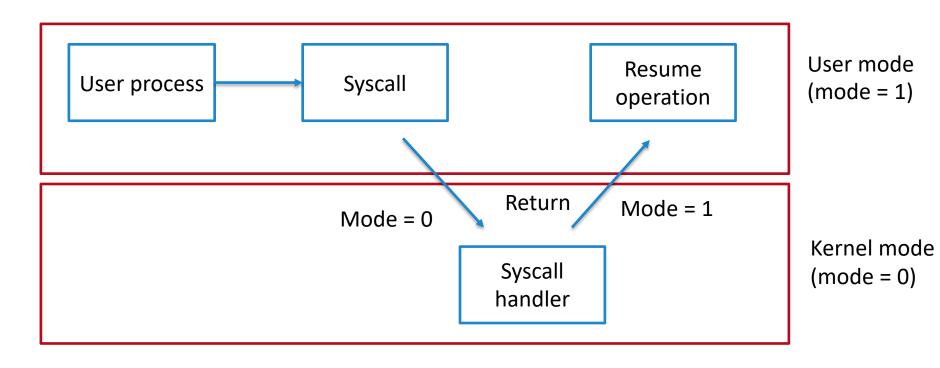
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 - Generates an interrupt when count value is 0











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