

## EE 469 Operating Systems Engineering

### Hardware Support for Operating Systems

Spring 2001  
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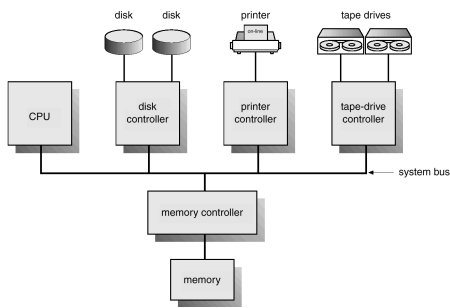
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### Computer-System Architecture



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### Interrupts

*A mechanism for achieving coordination between concurrently operating units of a computer system, and for responding to specific conditions within a processor.*

*A transfer of flow of control that is forced by the hardware.*

*Trap - a software generated interrupt caused either by an error, or by a user program request that an OS service be performed.*

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### **Basic I/O and Computer-System Operation**

*I/O devices and the CPU can execute concurrently.*  
*Each device controller is in charge of a particular device type.*  
*Each device controller has a local buffer and special purpose registers.*  
*CPU moves data from/to main memory to/from local buffers*  
*I/O is from the device to local buffer of controller.*  
*Device controller informs CPU that it has finished its operation by causing an interrupt.*

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### **Common Functions of Interrupts**

*Interrupts transfers control to the interrupt service routine generally, through the interrupt vector, which contains the addresses of all the service routines.*  
*Interrupt architecture must save the address of the interrupted instruction.*  
*Incoming interrupts are disabled (at this and lower priority levels) while the interrupt is being processed to prevent a lost interrupt.*  
*Interrupts are enabled after servicing current interrupt*  
*Modern operating systems are interrupt driven.*

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### **Interrupt Handling**

*The operating system preserves the state of the CPU by storing registers and the program counter.*  
*Determines which type of interrupt has occurred:*

- *polling*
- *vectored interrupt system*

*Separate segments of code determine what action should be taken for each type of interrupt*

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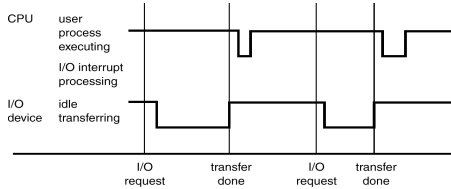
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### Interrupt Time Line For a Single Process Doing Output




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### I/O Structure

**Synchronous I/O:** After I/O starts, control returns to user program only upon I/O completion.

- wait instruction idles the CPU until the next interrupt
- wait loop (contention for memory access).
- At most one I/O request is outstanding at a time, no simultaneous I/O processing.

**Asynchronous I/O:** After I/O starts, control returns to user program without waiting for I/O completion.

- *System call* – request to the operating system to allow user to wait for I/O completion.
- *Device-status table* contains entry for each I/O device indicating its type, address, and state.
- Operating system indexes into I/O device table to determine device status and to modify table entry to include interrupt.

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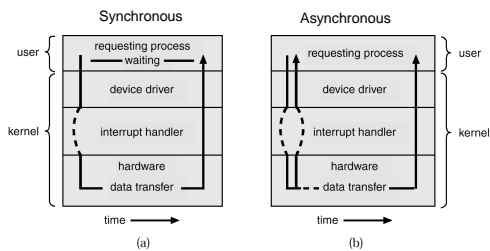
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### Two I/O methods




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### Direct Memory Access (DMA) Structure

*Used for high-speed I/O devices able to transmit information at close to memory speeds.*

*Device controller transfers blocks of data from buffer storage directly to main memory without CPU intervention.*

*Only one interrupt is generated per block, rather than the one interrupt per byte.*

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### Storage Structure

*Main memory – only large storage media that the CPU can access directly.*

*Secondary storage – extension of main memory that provides large nonvolatile storage capacity.*

*Magnetic disks – rigid metal or glass platters covered with magnetic recording material*

- Disk surface is logically divided into *tracks*, which are subdivided into *sectors*.
- The *disk controller* determines the logical interaction between the device and the computer.

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### Interrupt Driven O.S.

*Modern OS's are interrupt driven*

- Buffering and spooling required I/O interrupts
- Multiprogramming required artificial interrupts (traps) to switch from user to supervisor mode

*At the lowest level an OS is just a bunch of interrupt service routings*

- Each routine simply returns to whatever was executing before it was interrupted
  - A use process
  - An OS process
  - Another interrupt routine
- Else infinite wait loop

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## Storage Hierarchy

*Storage systems organized in hierarchy.*

- Speed
- cost
- volatility

**Caching** – copying information into faster storage system; main memory can be viewed as a cache for secondary storage.

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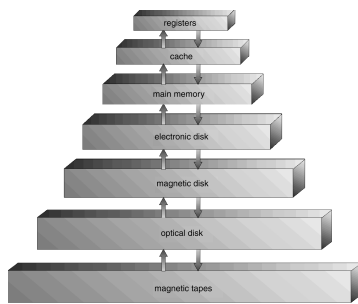
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## Storage-Device Hierarchy



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## Hardware Protection

*Dual-Mode Operation*

*I/O Protection*

*Memory Protection*

*CPU Protection*

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## Dual-Mode Operation

*Sharing system resources requires operating system to ensure that an incorrect program cannot cause other programs to execute incorrectly.*

*Provide hardware support to differentiate between at least two modes of operations.*

1. *User mode* – execution done on behalf of a user.
  2. *Monitor mode* (also *supervisor mode*, *kernel mode* or *system mode*) – execution done on behalf of operating system.
- Special system call instruction: generate an interrupt and switches to monitor mode (conversely, 1 to switch to user mode)

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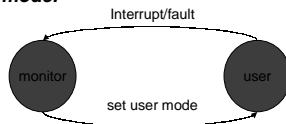
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## Dual-Mode Operation (Cont.)

*Mode bit added to computer hardware to indicate the current mode: monitor (0) or user (1).*

*When an interrupt or fault occurs hardware switches to monitor mode.*



*Privileged instructions can be issued only in monitor mode.*

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## Types of Protection

*I/O Protection*

*Memory Protection*

*Cpu Protection*

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## I/O Protection

*All I/O instructions are privileged instructions.*

*Must ensure that a user program could never gain control of the computer in monitor mode (i.e., a user program that, as part of its execution, stores a new address in the interrupt vector).*

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## Memory Protection

*Must provide memory protection at least for the interrupt vector and the interrupt service routines.*

*In order to have memory protection, add two registers that determine the range of legal addresses a program may access:*

- **base register** – holds the smallest legal physical memory address.
- **Limit register** – contains the size of the range

*Memory outside the defined range is protected.*

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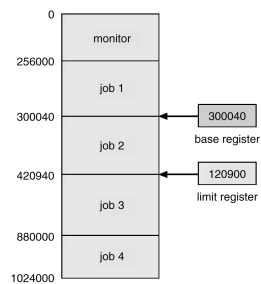
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## A Base And A limit Register Define A Logical Address Space



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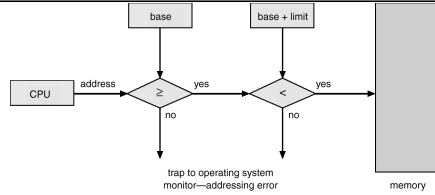
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## Protection Hardware



***When executing in monitor mode, the operating system has unrestricted access to both monitor and user's memory.***

***The load instructions for the base and limit registers are privileged instructions.***

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## CPU Protection

***Timer – interrupts computer after specified period to ensure operating system maintains control.***

- Timer is decremented every clock tick.
- When timer reaches the value 0, an interrupt occurs.

***Timer commonly used to implement time sharing.***

***Time also used to compute the current time.***

***Load-timer is a privileged instruction.***

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## General-System Architecture

***Given the I/O instructions are privileged, how does the user program perform I/O?***

***System call – the method used by a process to request action by the operating system.***

- Usually takes the form of a trap to a specific location in the interrupt vector.
- Control passes through the interrupt vector to a service routine in the OS, and the mode bit is set to monitor mode.
- The monitor verifies that the parameters are correct and legal, executes the request, and returns control to the instruction following the system call.

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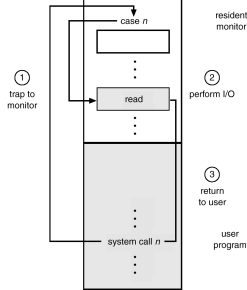
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## Use of A System Call to Perform I/O




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## What Privileged Instructions are there in Unix?

Intro.2	getuid.2	readv.2
__sparc_ustrap_install.2	getcontext.2	rename.2
_exit.2	getdents.2	resolvepath.2
_lwp_cond_broadcast.2	getegid.2	rmdir.2
_lwp_cond_signal.2	geteuid.2	sbrk.2
_lwp_cond_timewait.2	getgid.2	semctl.2
_lwp_cond_wait.2	getgroups.2	semget.2
_lwp_continue.2	getitimer.2	semop.2
_lwp_create.2	getmsg.2	setaudit.2
_lwp_exit.2	getpgid.2	setaudit.2
_lwp_getprivate.2	getpprv.2	setcontext.2
_lwp_info.2	getpid.2	setegid.2
_lwp_kill.2	getpmsg.2	seteuid.2
_lwp_makecontext.2	getppid.2	setgid.2
_lwp_mutex_lock.2	getrlimit.2	setgroups.2
_lwp_mutex_trylock.2	getuid.2	setitimer.2
_lwp_mutex_unlock.2	getuid.2	setpgid.2
_lwp_self.2	intro.2	setpprv.2
_lwp_sema_init.2	ioctl.2	setregid.2
_lwp_sema_post.2	kill.2	setreuid.2
_lwp_sema_trywait.2	lchown.2	setrlimit.2
_lwp_sema_wait.2	link.2	setuid.2
_lwp_setprivate.2	lseek.2	setuid.2
_lwp_sigredirect.2	lseek.2	shmat.2
_lwp_suspend.2	lstat.2	shmctl.2

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## More system calls

_lwp_wait.2	memcntl.2	shmdt.2
_signotifywait.2	mincore.2	shmget.2
access.2	mkdir.2	shmop.2
acct.2	mknod.2	sigaction.2
acl.2	mmap.2	sigaltstack.2
adjtime.2	mount.2	sigpending.2
alarm.2	mprotect.2	sigprocmask.2
audit.2	msgctl.2	sigsend.2
auditon.2	msgget.2	sigsendset.2
auditvcs.2	msgrcv.2	sigsuspend.2
booktitles.ent@	msgsnd.2	sigwait.2
brk.2	mummap.2	smancomon.ent@
chdir.2	nice.2	stat.2
chmod.2	ntp_adjtime.2	statvfs.2
chown.2	ntp_gettime.2	stime.2
chroot.2	open.2	swapctl.2
close.2	p_online.2	symlink.2
creat.2	pathconf.2	sync.2
dup.2	pause.2	sysfs.2
exec.2	pcsample.2	sysinfo.2

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## Even More

exec1.2	pipe.2	time.2
exec1e.2	poll.2	times.2
exec1p.2	pread.2	uadmin.2
execv.2	priconn1.2	ulimit.2
execvp.2	pricont1set.2	umask.2
execvp.2	processor_bind.2	umount.2
exit.2	processor_info.2	uname.2
fac1.2	profil.2	unlink.2
fcntl.2	psst_assign.2	ustat.2
fcntl.2	psst_bind.2	utime.2
fcntl.2	psst_create.2	utimes.2
fcntl.2	psst_destroy.2	vfork.2
fcntl.2	psst_info.2	vhangup.2
fork.2	ptrace.2	wait.2
fork1.2	putmsg.2	waitid.2
fpthconf.2	putmsg.2	waitpid.2
fstat.2	write.2	write.2
fstatvfs.2	read.2	writev.2
getaudit.2	readlink.2	yield.2

*From `ls /usr/man/sman2`*

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