



Precept 2: Non-preemptive Scheduler

COS 318: Fall 2018

Project 2 Schedule



- **Precept:** Monday 10/01, 7:30pm
 - (You are here)
- **Design Review:** Monday 10/08, 3 - 7pm
- **Due:** Sunday 10/14, 11:55pm

Project 2 Overview



- Goal: Build a non-preemptive kernel that can switch between different tasks (task = process or kernel thread)
- Read the project spec for more details
- *Start early*

What is a Non-Preemptive Kernel?



Current running task loses CPU or running state in the following scenarios:

1. **Yield**
2. **Block:** I/O operation, Lock (thread)
3. **Exit**

What is a Non-Preemptive Kernel?



COS 318:

go_to_class();

go_to_precept();

yield();

thinking ();

design_review()

yield();

coding();

exit();

Life:

have_fun();

yield();

play();

yield();

do_random_stuff()

yield();

...

What You Need to Deal With



1. Process Control Blocks (PCBs)
2. User and Kernel Stack
3. Basic System Call Mechanism
4. Context Switching
5. Mutual Exclusion

Assumptions



- **Protected Mode:** No need to worry about segment registers again!
- **Non-Preemptive Tasks:** Run until they yield, block, or exit
- **Fixed Number of Tasks:** Allocate per-task state (PCB) statically in your program
- **Fixed Task Stack Size**

1. Process Control Block (PCB)



- Defined in `kernel.h` and initialized in `kernel.c:_start`
- What is its purpose?
- What should be in the PCB?
 - Process ID (PID)
 - Stack Info
 - Registers
 - CPU Time
 - Etc.

2. Allocating Stacks



- Allocate separate user-space stacks for each task in **kernel.c:_start()**
- In theory, processes have two stacks:
 1. User Stack: For the process to use
 2. Kernel Stack: For the kernel to use when executing system calls on behalf of the process
- **Option: In this assignment, you can opt to use only one stack**
- Kernel threads need only one stack
- 4kB per stack is enough

3. System Calls - Typically...



- So user processes can ask for kernel services
- Standard Procedure:
 - Push system call ID + arguments onto stack
 - Interrupt / trap: elevate privileges + jumps into kernel
- NOT the case for this assignment...

3. System Calls - In this project

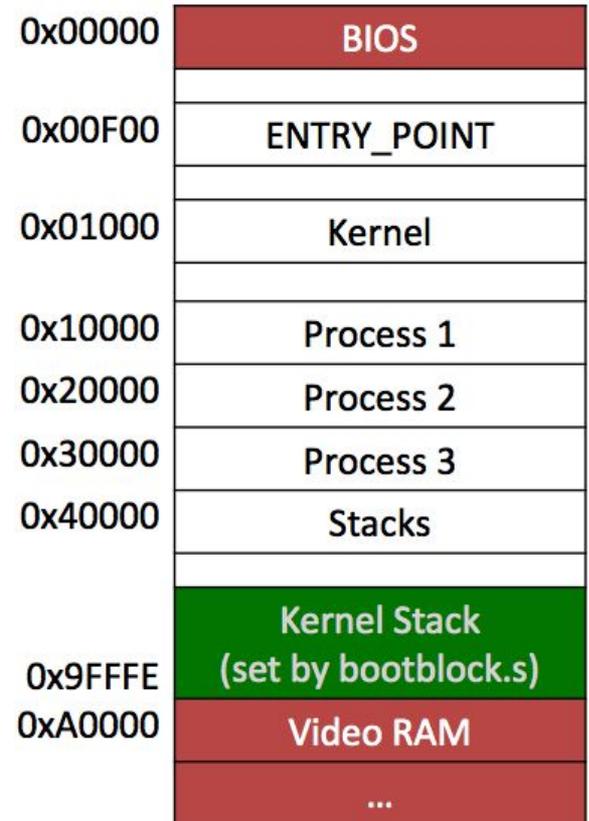


- User processes provided with `syslib.h`
- These functions:
 - Load kernel entry point address from known location in memory (`ENTRY_POINT`)
 - Push system call ID onto stack + call `kernel_entry` function

3. System Calls - `kernel_entry`



- `kernel_entry` address stored at `ENTRY_POINT` (0xf00)
- Saves registers + switches to kernel stack
- Does the reverse when exiting the kernel



4. Context Switch - Overview



- Goal: safely switch currently running task
- When does this happen?
 - Preemptive OS: typically when the OS tells you to
 - Non-preemptive OS: when task yields or exits

4. Context Switch - Responsibilities



1. Save task state into PCB
2. Push current PCB into ready or block queue
3. Choose new task from ready queue + pop its PCB
4. Restore new task state + run it

4. Context Switch - Saving State



- Tasks should not care what happens while its not running - save current state in its PCB:
 - General purpose registers (including %esp)
 - Flags
- What about the instruction pointer?

4. Context Switch - Scheduling



- Kernel must maintain:
 - Ready Queue: tasks ready to be run
 - Blocked Queue: tasks blocked on some resource
- Which task runs next?
 - Regular: round-robin EC: lowest run-time

5. Mutual Exclusion (via locks)



- Spinlock implementation is provided, you must implement a blocking lock
 - See spec for precise requirements
- No preemption => no race conditions *
- Exactly one correct trace

Timing context switches



- `util.c:get_timer` returns # cycles since boot
- Implement parts of `th3` and `process3`
 - `process3` included twice in task list - be able to distinguish between the two executions

Tips + Things to think about...



- What should you do when a kernel thread is run for the first time?
- What state should be saved to PCB? In what order?
- Get queue working in user space
- Code and test incrementally

Design Review



(Monday, 10/08) Answer the questions:

- **Process Control Block:** What will be in your PCB and what will it be initialized to?
- **Context Switching:** How will you save and restore a task's context? Should anything special be done for the first task?
- **Processes:** What, if any, are the differences between threads and processes and how they are handled?
- **Mutual Exclusion:** What's your plan for implementing mutual exclusion?
- **Scheduling:** Look at the project web page for an execution example.



Questions?
