CS 422/522 Design & Implementation of Operating Systems

Lecture 18: Midterm Review

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The big picture

- OS roles: referee, illusionist, and glue (AD 1.1)
- Kernel and process abstraction (AD 2.1-2.4, 3.1-3.5)
  - Why process abstraction?
  - Dual-mode operation (privileged instructions; timer interrupts; memory protection)
  - Safe control transfer
  - Interrupts vs. exceptions vs. system calls
- CPU & concurrency (AD 4.1-4.8, 5.1-5.8, 6.5, 7.1-7.2)
- Memory management (AD 8.1-8.3, 9.1-9.6)
- I/O devices (AD 11, 12, 13, 14)
- Security & Trust (only the first 7 slides of L18.pdf)

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CPU & concurrency

- Thread vs. process
- How to implement threads/processes ?
  - * thread/process state transition diagram & context switch
  - * thread/process creation / finish & fork-join parallelism
  - * kernel vs. user threads
- How to write concurrent programs ?
  - * how to eliminate race condition ? how to synchronize?
  - * what is the "shared-objects" approach?
  - * what are locks, condition variables, monitors, and semaphores?
  - * how to use locks & condition variables to support synchronization?
  - * how to implement locks & condition variables on uni- & multi-processors?
- How to deal with deadlocks
  - * banker's algorithm
- Uniprocessor and multiprocessor scheduling

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Memory management

- Address translation
  - segmentation + paging + multilevel paging
  - efficiency via TLB
  - virtually addressed vs. physically addressed caches
- Caching and virtual memory
  - cache concept & memory hierarchy (Figure 9.3)
  - when caches work: working set vs. Zipf model
  - cache replacement policies & Belady's anomaly
  - memory-mapped files

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I/O devices

- File system abstraction & device drivers
- Storage devices
  - * magnetic disk access and performance
  - * various disk scheduling algorithms
  - * flash storage vs magnetic disk: how they differ?
- Files and directories
  - * how are they implemented?
  - * How Unix (FFS) file system works? What is an inode?
  - * FAT vs FFS vs NTFS (Fig 13.8)
- Reliable storage
  - * What is transaction? Why we need it?
  - * How to use redo-logging to implement transaction
  - * What are RAID1 and RAID5?

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