

ONE HANDOUT

- 1. Last time
  - 2. Context switches (WeensyOS)
  - 3. User-level threading, intro
  - 4. Context switches (user-level threading)
    - switch()
    - yield()
    - I/O
  - 5. Cooperative multithreading
  - 6. Preemptive user-level multithreading
  - 7. mmap() again
- 

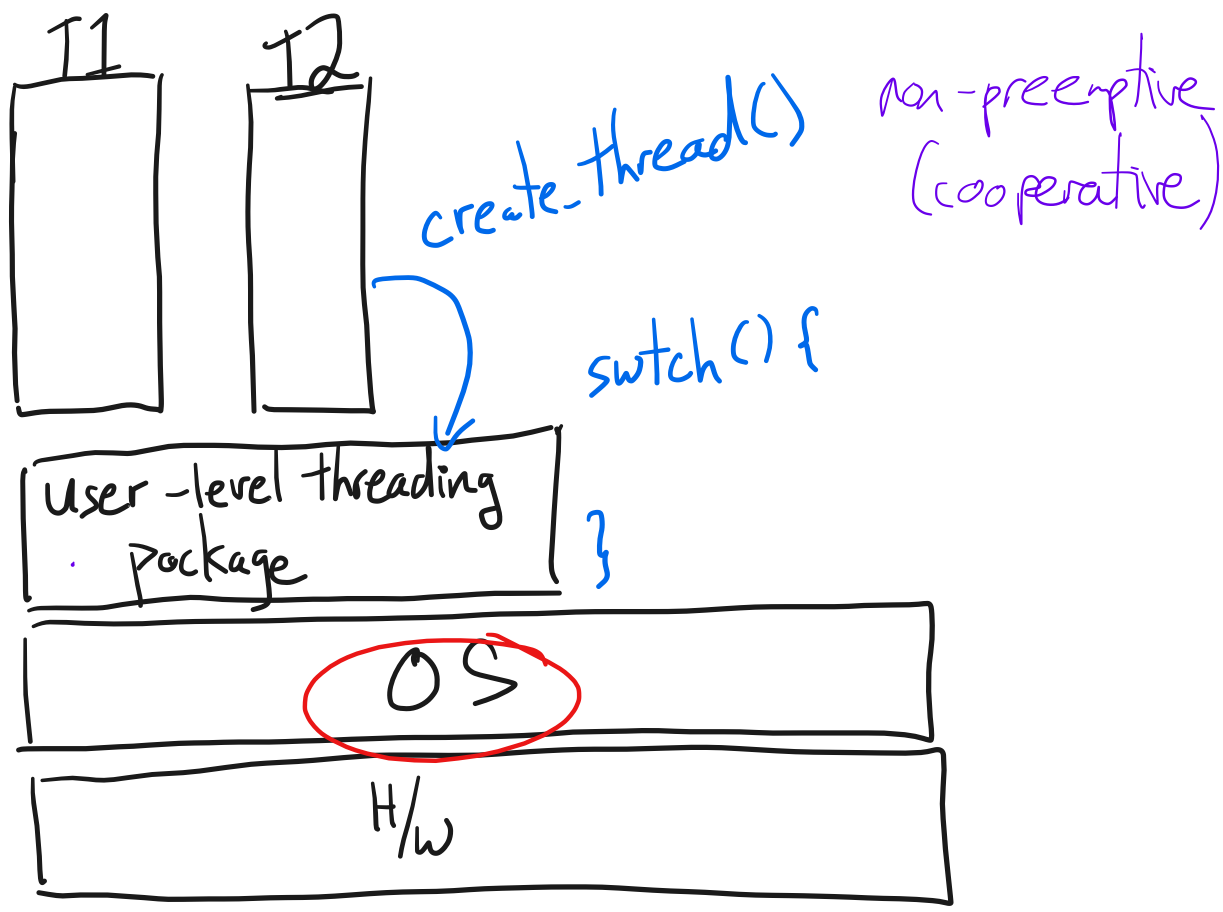
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pre	✓	✓
non-pre coop	✗	✓

2. Context switches in WeensyOS  
(see pictures at the end)

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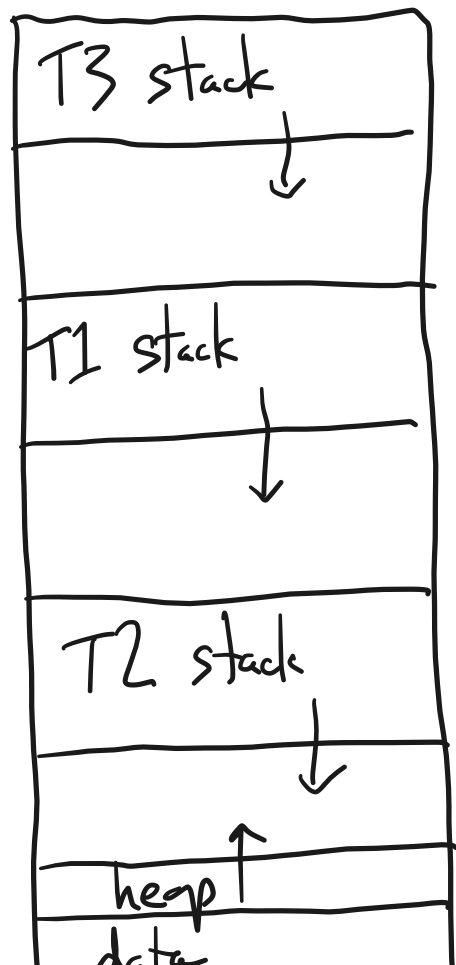
3. User-level threading

preemptive

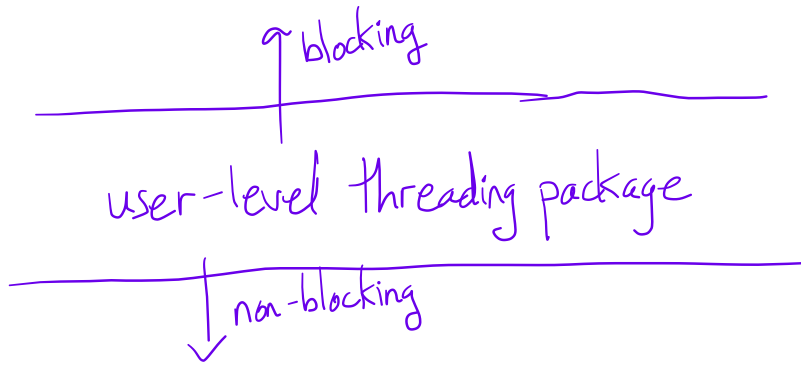


#### 4. Context switches (user space)

- switch registers active
- switch page tables



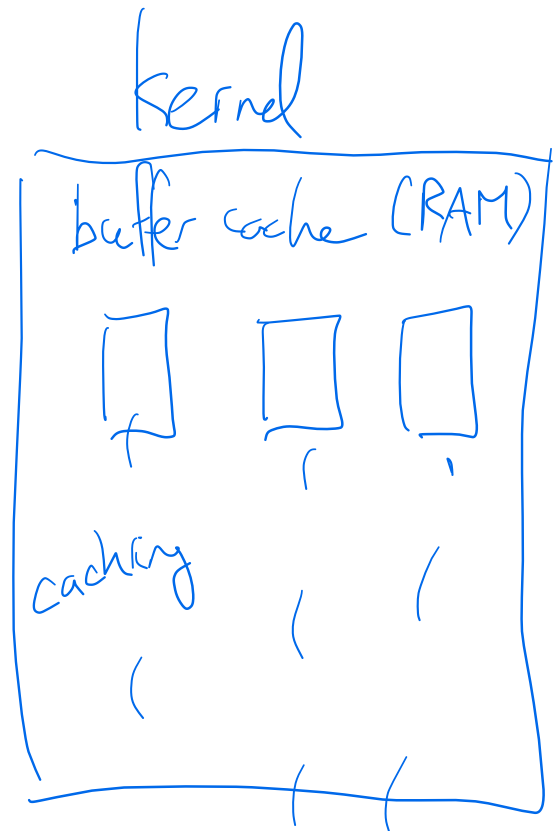
text

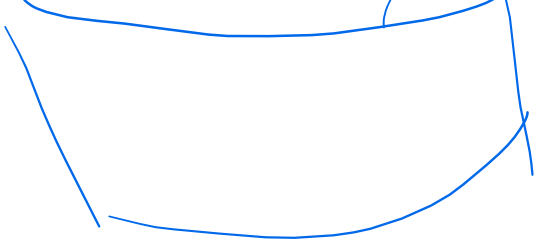


mmap, continued

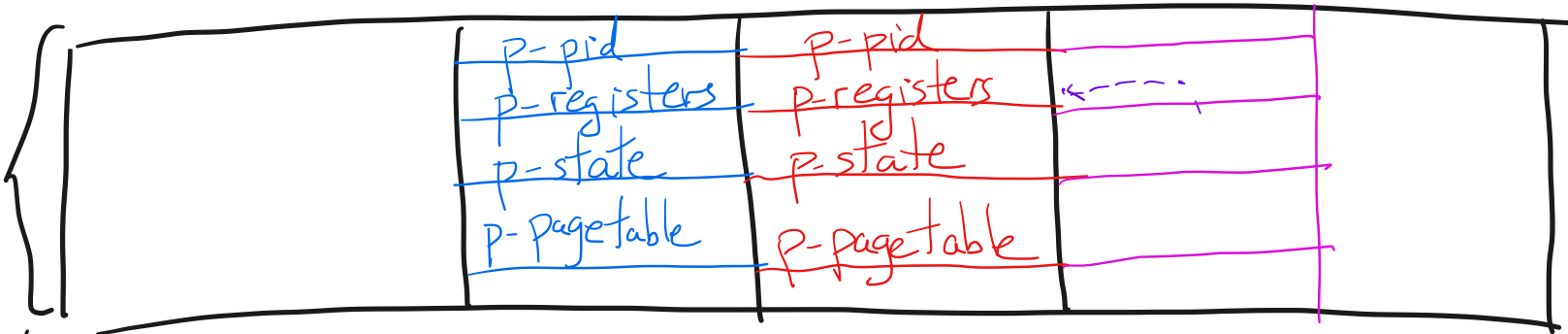
mmap

PT:  
VA of "file" → phys addr  
in RAM  
(in buffer cache)

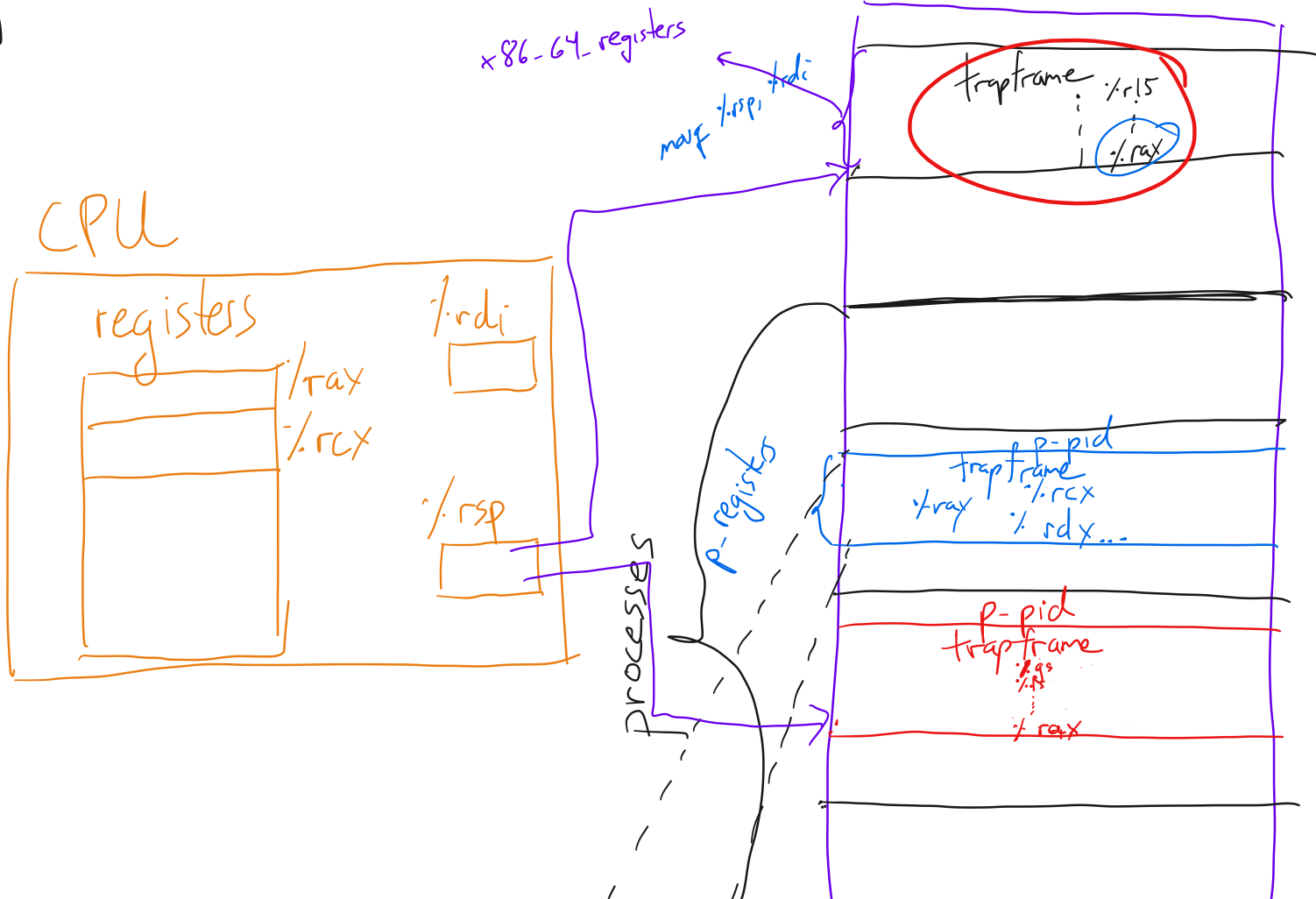




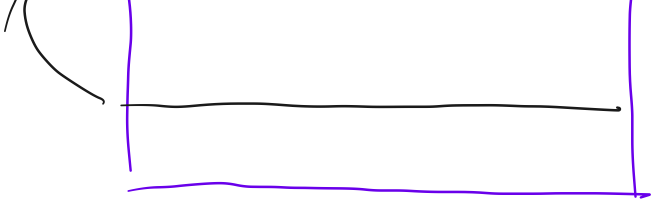
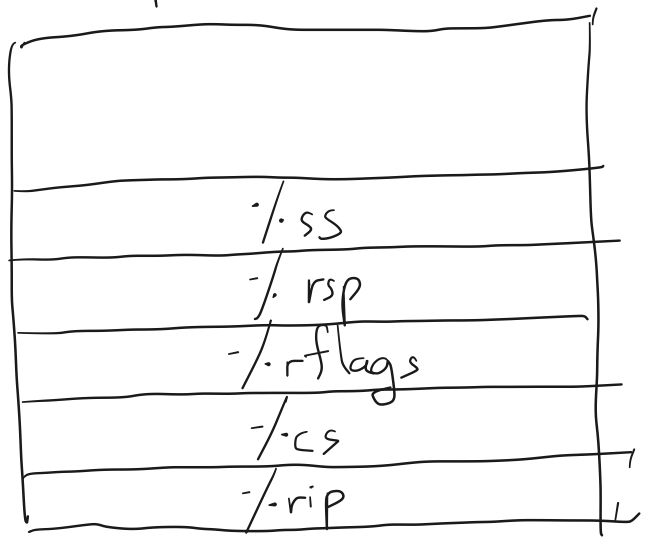
# Context switches in Weensy OS



processes



# trapframe



1 CS 202, Spring 2024  
2 Handout 10 (Class 17)

1. User-level threads and switch()

We'll study this in the context of user-level threads.

Per-thread state in thread control block:

```
typedef struct tcb {
    unsigned long saved_rsp; /* Stack pointer of thread */
    char *t_stack; /* Bottom of thread's stack */
    /* ... */
};
```

Machine-dependent thread initialization function:

```
void thread_init(tcb **t, void (*fn) (void *), void *arg);
```

Machine-dependent thread-switch function:

```
void switch(tcb *current, tcb *next);
```

Implementation of switch(current, next):

```
# gcc x86-64 calling convention:
# on entering switch():
# register %rdi holds first argument to the function ("current")
# register %rsi holds second argument to the function ("next")

# Save call-preserved (aka "callee-saved") regs of 'current'
pushq %rbp
pushq %rbx
pushq %r12
pushq %r13
pushq %r14
pushq %r15

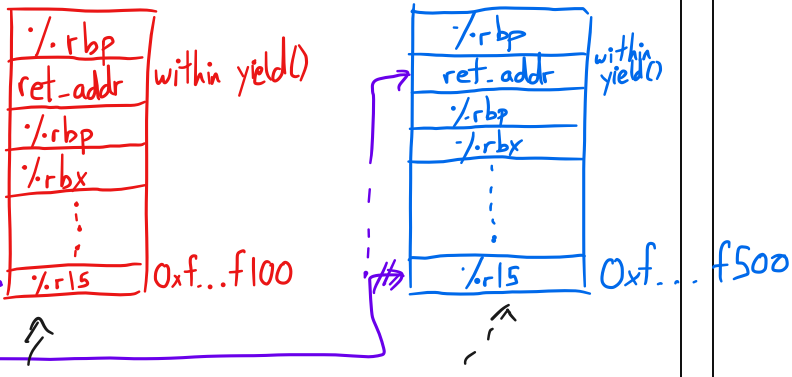
# store old stack pointer, for when we switch() back to "current" later
movq %rsp, (%rdi) /* %rdi->saved_rsp = %rsp */
movq (%rsi), %rsp /* %rsp = %rsi->saved_rsp */

# Restore call-preserved (aka "callee-saved") regs of 'next'
popq %r15
popq %r14
popq %r13
popq %r12
popq %rbx
popq %rbp

# Resume execution, from where "next" was when it last entered switch()
ret
```



↑ "bottom" means higher mem address because stack grows down.



2. Example use of switch(): the yield() call.

A thread is going about its business and decides that it's executed for long enough. So it calls yield(). Conceptually, the overall system needs to now choose another thread, and run it:

```
void yield() {
    tcb* next = pick_next_thread(); /* get a runnable thread */
    tcb* current = get_current_thread();

    switch(current, next);

    /* when 'current' is later rescheduled, it starts from here */
}
```

3. How do context switches interact with I/O calls?

This assumes a user-level threading package.

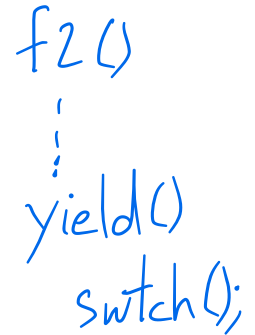
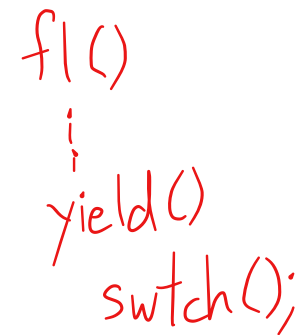
The thread calls something like "fake\_blocking\_read()". This looks to the \_thread\_as though the call blocks, but in reality, the call is not blocking:

```
int fake_blocking_read(int fd, char* buf, int num) {
    int nread = -1;

    while (nread == -1) {
        /* this is a non-blocking read() syscall */
        nread = read(fd, buf, num);

        if (nread == -1 && errno == EAGAIN) {
            /*
             * read would block. so let another thread run
             * and try again later (next time through the
             * loop).
             */
            yield();
        }
    }

    return nread;
}
```



TCBs

saved-rsp

t-stack

0xf...f100

0xf...f500

0xf...f200

0xf...f600

red

blue

these stacks are inside the single address space. See diagram accompanying "Context switches (user space)" earlier in these notes.