CSC352 Spring 2017
Introduction to Interrupts

Weeks 1&2

Dominique Thiébaut
dthiebaut@smith.edu
References

• See class page for references:

• http://www.science.smith.edu/dftwiki/index.php/CSC352_Class_Page_2017
Simplified view of Computation
Simplified view of Computation

Time

CPU

Memory Controller

72 Pins, 70cm SMTs

125m
Example Program 1

This is the text for an editor that gets characters from the keyboard, and saves and closes the program on Ctrl-X.

```c
... init(); ...
while (true) {
    while (!has_char()) {
        ch = get_char();
        if (ch == ^X) {
            savefile();
            exit (0);
        } else
            ...
    } else
        ...
} else
if (‘z’ >= ch && ‘a’ <= ch) {
    insertChar(ch);
}
```
Example Program 2

This is the same text for an editor, but more contemporary. What's different?

```c
... CreateWindow();
EnableEvent(WM_CLOSE);
...
void eventOccurred(Event e) {
  switch (e.code) {
    case WM_CLOSE:
      savefile();
      exit(0);
    case 'a'-'z':
      insertChar(e.code);
      break;
    default:
      break;
  }
}
```
The Reality
The Reality

Time

Time

Time
How do Interrupts Work?

• Hardware
• Processor
• Stack
Infrastructure

Processor

I/O Controller

Ram
Infrastructure

Processor

I/O Controllers

Ram
Response to an Interrupt

• At every new instruction:
  • if interrupt pending and interrupts allowed…
How fast?

• How fast is a context switch, approximately?
What's a more accurate graph?
Quantum

- The operating system typically allows programs/processes to run for a fixed amount of time before another process takes over the processor. How can this be implemented?
That's the root of Parallelism!

Threads
Threading
Multithreading
Process vs Threads
Goals of Multithreading

• Enhance performance
• Increase throughput
• Divide the work into well defined tasks that can be idle waiting for information
• Greater user responsiveness
Memory View

Process

RAM

RAM

Process with Threads
Exploring MultiThreading in Python

https://www.pinterest.com/explore/python-programming/
Caveat

• Python supports multithreading, and multiprocessing.

• Python threads CANNOT RUN IN PARALLEL (GIL)

• If parallelism is needed in Python, use the Multiprocessing library

• Discussion: http://stackoverflow.com/questions/3044580/multiprocessing-vs-threading-python
Examples

• Go to class Web page:
  http://www.science.smith.edu/dftwiki/index.php/Python_Multithreading/Multiprocessing_Examples
We stopped here last time...
Another View of Computation of Pi

Review the code first!

Main

P0

P1

P2

P3

P4
Monte-Carlo Pi

\[
\begin{align*}
m &= 281 \\
n &= 233 \\
\Pi &= 4 \times \frac{n}{m} \\
\Pi &= 3.16725978647687
\end{align*}
\]

http://montepie.herokuapp.com/
from __future__ import print_function
from random import random

N = 1000000  # int(input("> "))
inside = 0
for i in range(N):
    x = random()
    y = random()
    if x*x + y*y < 1:
        inside += 1

if i > 0 and i%1000 == 0:
    print("%9d %1.12f" % (i, 4.0*inside/i))
Lab, Part 1

Write a multiprocessing application in Python that computes an approximation of Pi using the **Monte Carlo** simulation, and using 10 Processes.

*Note: You'll have to run your program from the command line!*
Lab, Part 2

- Make your program take as input (command line) the number of processes.
- Measure the execution time of the serial version.
- Measure the execution times of the multiprocessing version with 1, 2, 4, 8, and 16 processes.
Class Discussion

• How does the execution time change as a function of the number of Processes?

• Can you guess the number of cores (processors) in your computer from the execution time?
Measuring Speedup

\[
\text{Speedup}(N) = \frac{\text{Exec Time of Best Serial Version}}{\text{Exec Time of Parallel Version on N Processors}}
\]
Measuring Speedup

\[
\text{Speedup}(N) = \frac{\text{Exec Time of Best Serial Version}}{\text{Exec Time of Parallel Version on N Processors}}
\]
MultiThreading in Java

https://javantura.com/java-logo-background-png/
Java Code
(serial & parallel)

• Go to Class Page: http://www.science.smith.edu/dftwiki/index.php/CSC352:_Computing_Pi_in_Parallel_with_Java