

Concurrency

Johan Montelius

KTH

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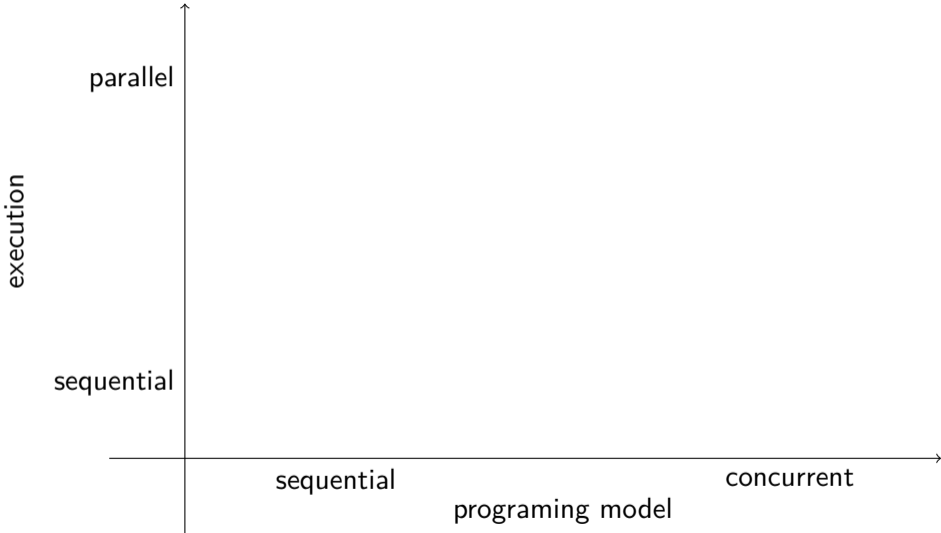
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Parallelism: the ability to do several things at the same time.

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Why would we want to do things in parallel?

concurrency vs parallelism



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Today - concurrency is such an important topic that it could (and often do) fill up a course of it's own.

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What do two UNIX processes share?

As we have learned - the unit of a computation.

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- a program

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- an instruction pointer

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- signal handlers, ...

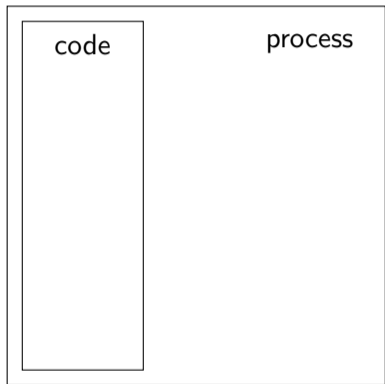
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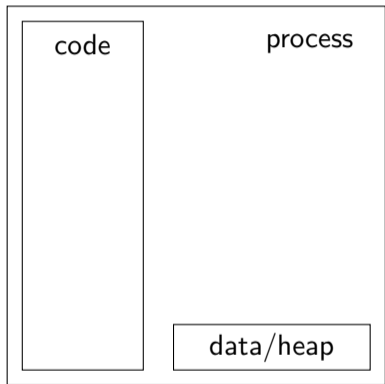
A thread



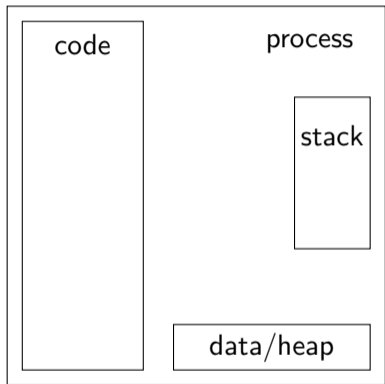
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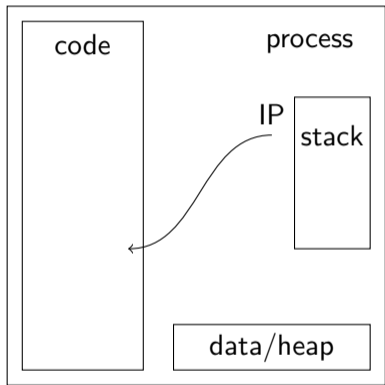
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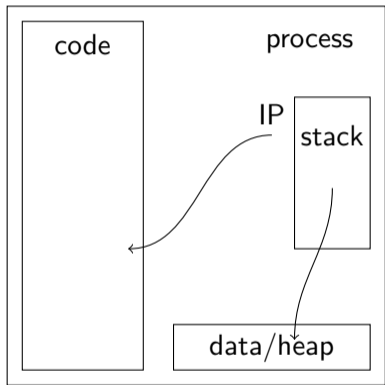
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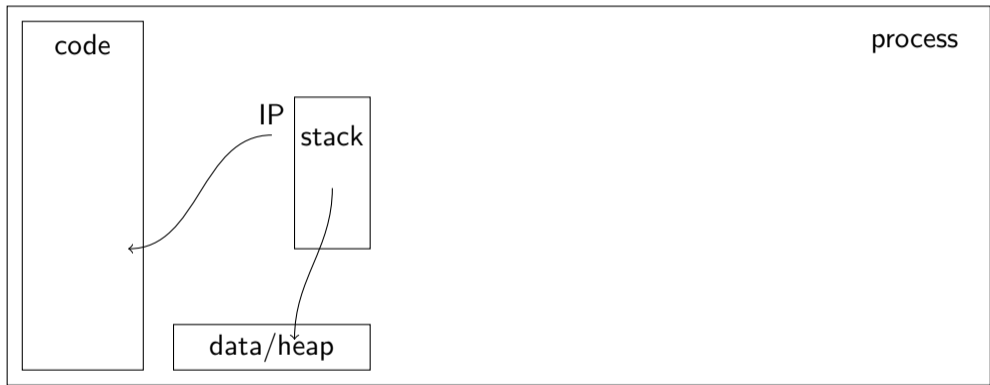
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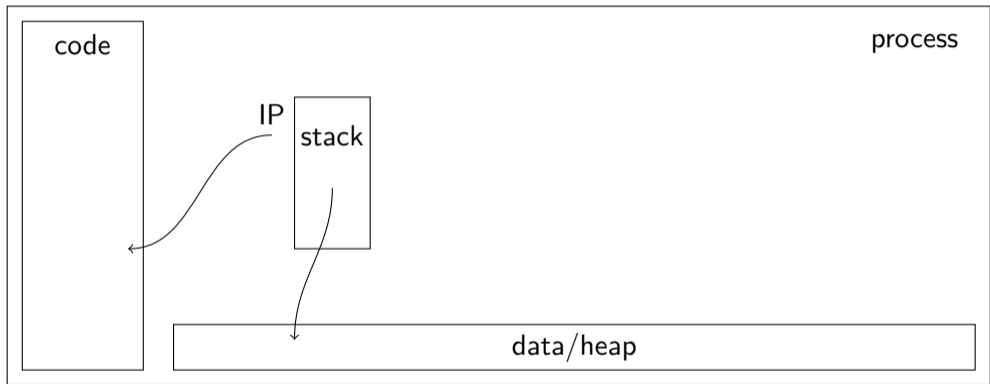
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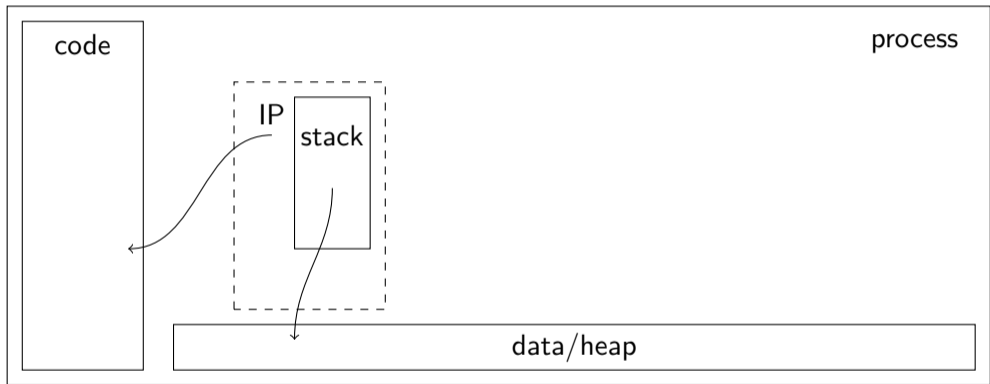
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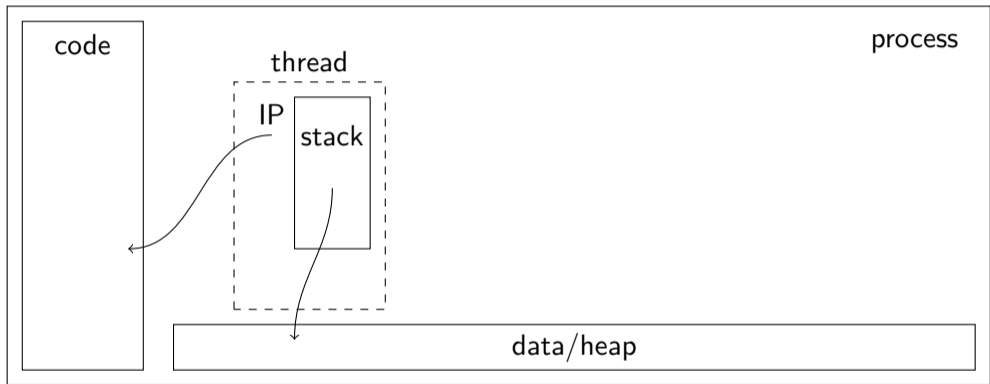
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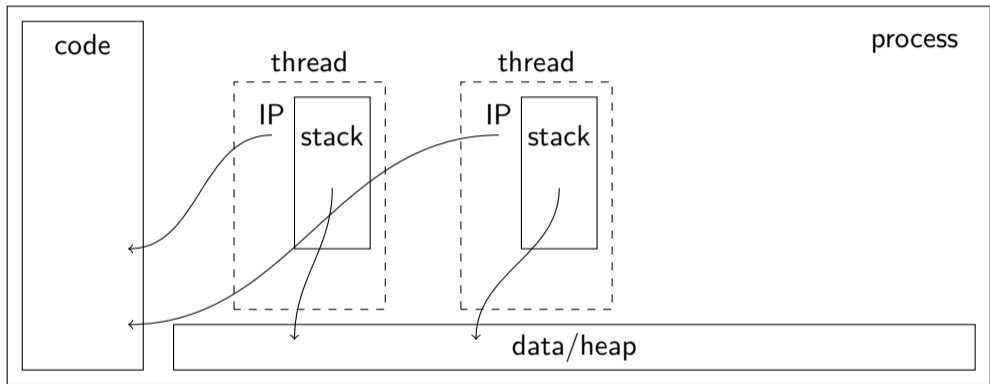
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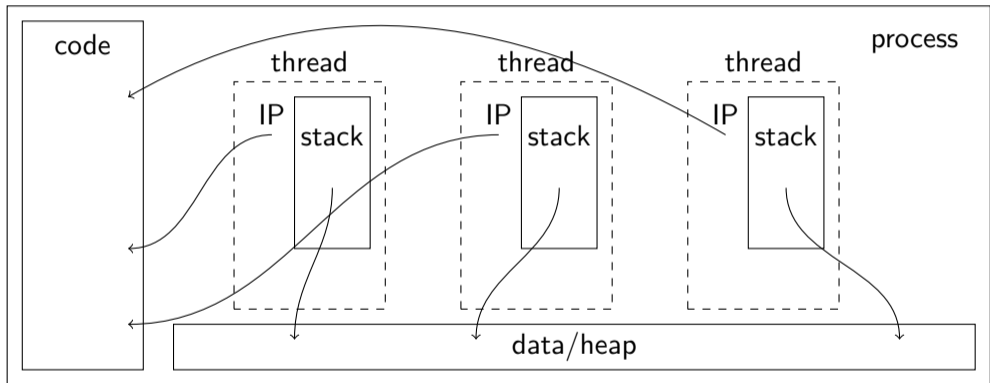
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Virtual memory layout

Virtual memory layout



Virtual memory layout



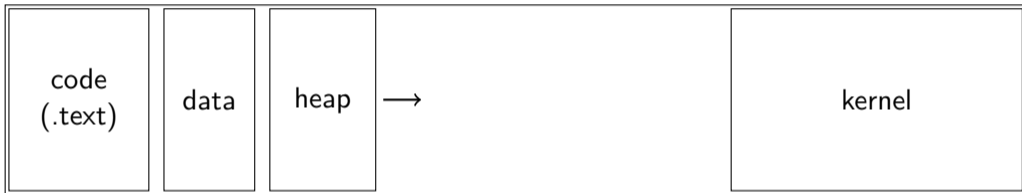
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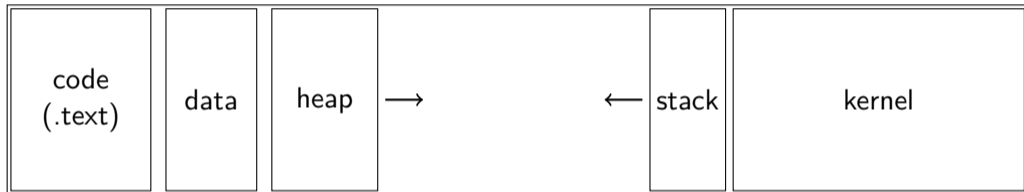
Virtual memory layout



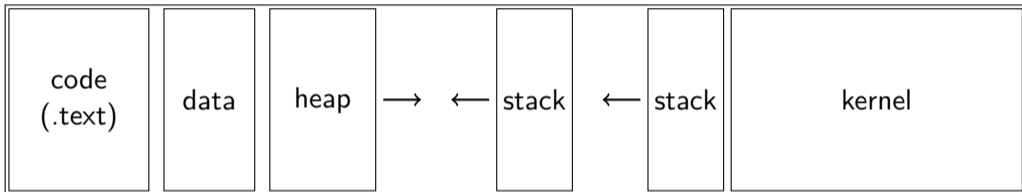
Virtual memory layout



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threads API

```
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdio.h>

int loop = 10;
int count = 0;

void *hello(char *name) {
    for(int i = 0; i < loop; i++) {
        count++;
        printf("hello %s %d\n", name, count);
    }
}

int main() {
    pthread_t p1;
    pthread_create(&p1, NULL, hello, "A");
    pthread_join(p1, NULL);
    return 0;
}
```


What is the problem?

The CPU uses caches to improve performance, a cache protocol must provide *coherence*.

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There are several alternatives of how coherence is defined, this is one example

More problems

What is the expected outcome of an execution?

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as atomic operations in some sequence,

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as atomic operations in some sequence,
consistent with the *program order* of each thread.

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.L3:

```
movl    count(%rip), %eax
addl    $1, %eax
movl    %eax, count(%rip)
addl    $1, -4(%rbp)
movl    loop(%rip), %eax
cmpl    %eax, -4(%rbp)
jl      .L3
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void critical( .... ) {
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Thread 2



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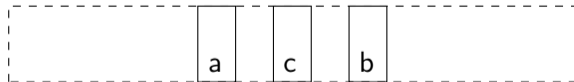
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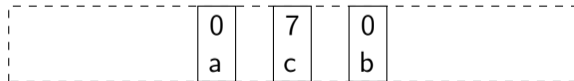
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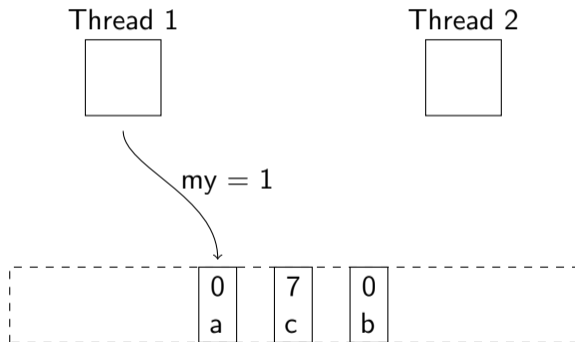
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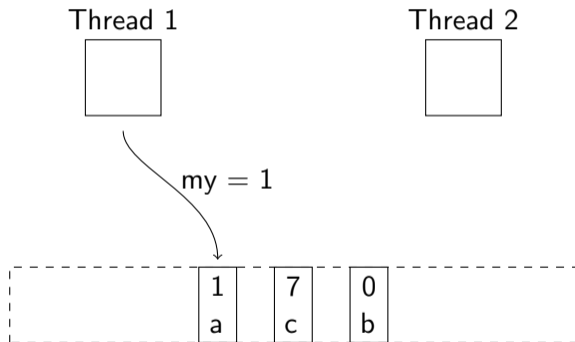
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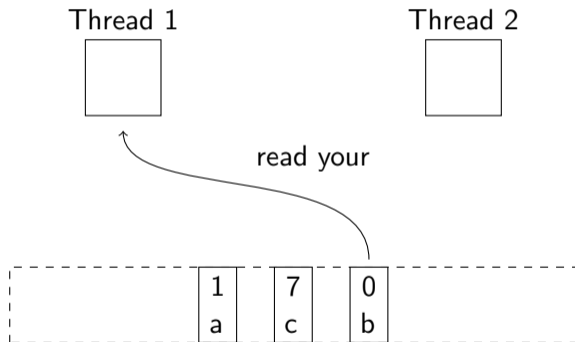
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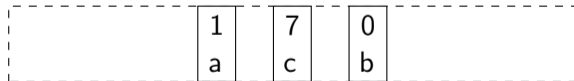
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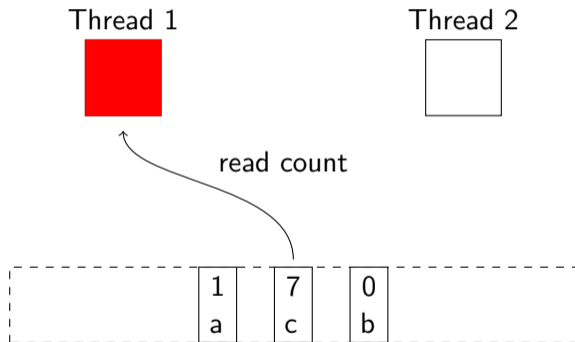
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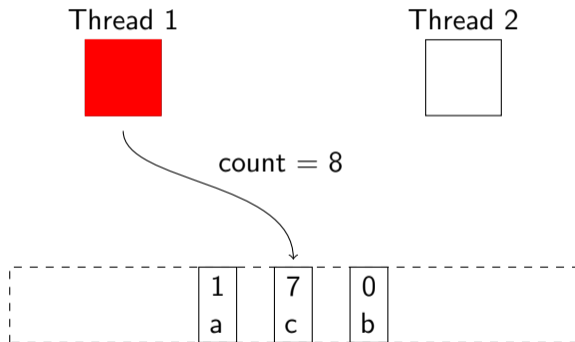
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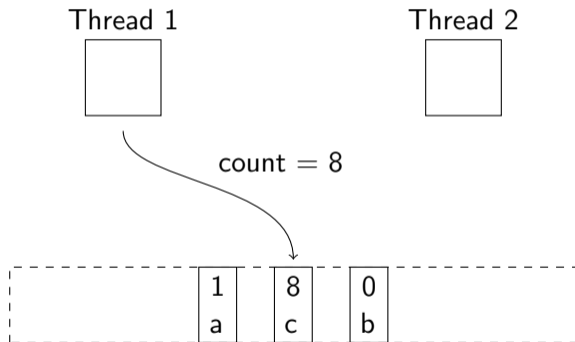
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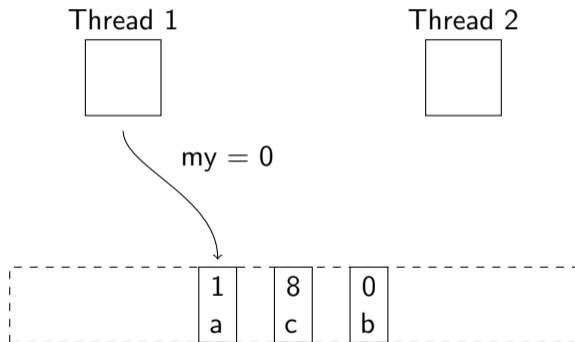
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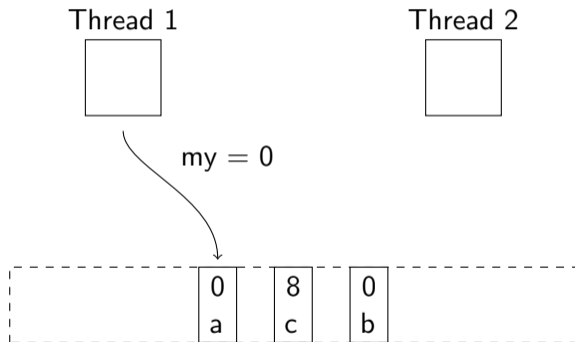
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- ... a read operation might *bypass* a write operation of another memory location.

There are operations provided by the hardware that will give us better guarantees.

Total Store Order

WARNING: the following sequence contains scenes that some viewers may find disturbing.

P1

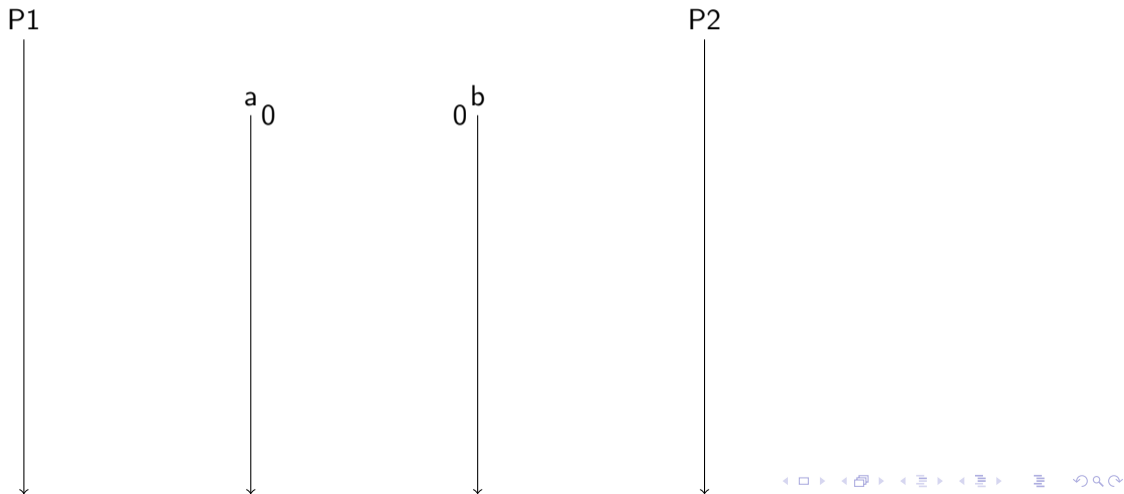


P2



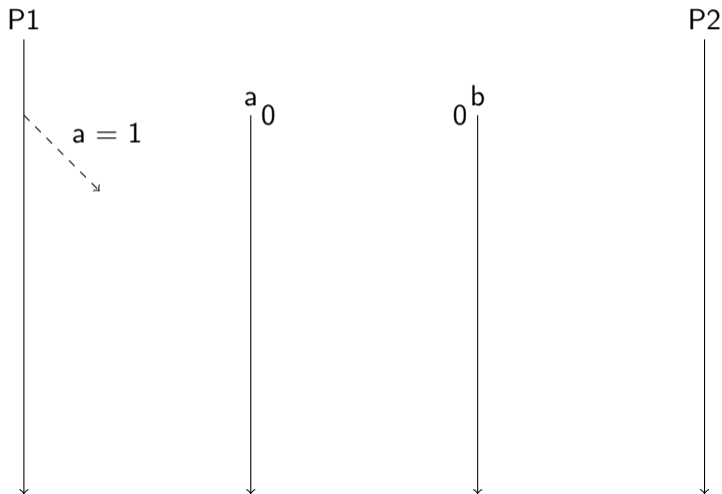
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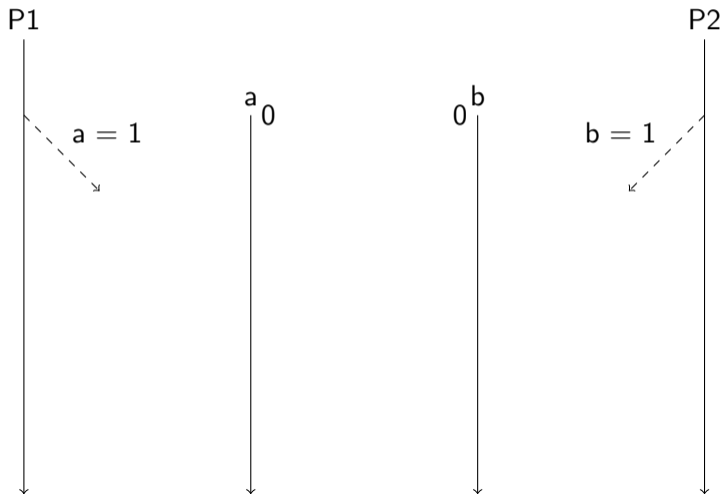
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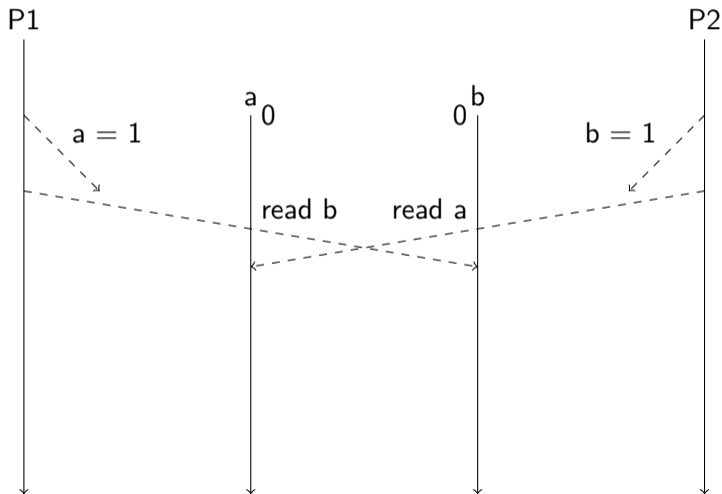
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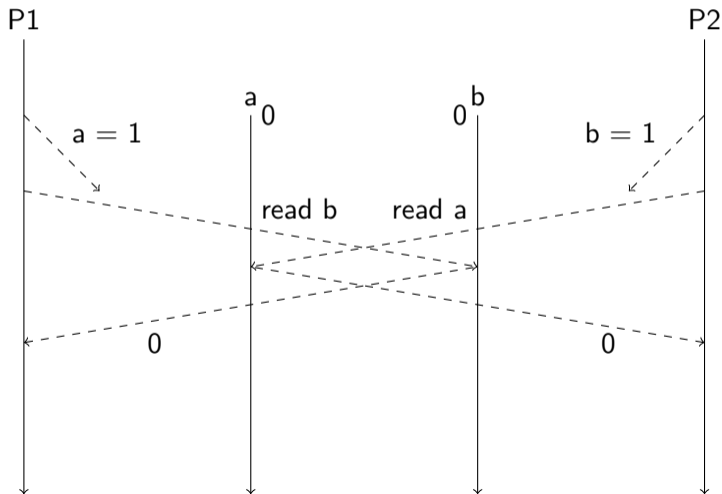
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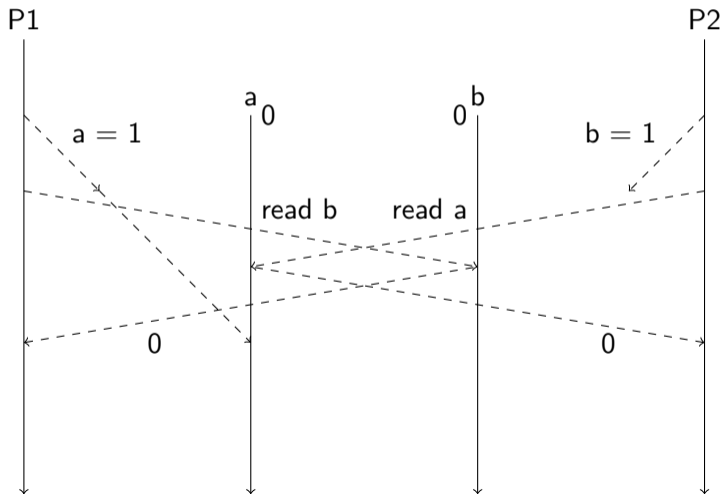
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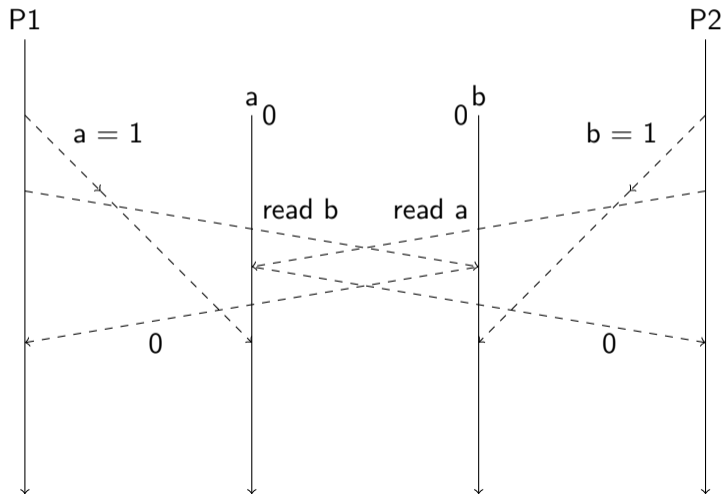
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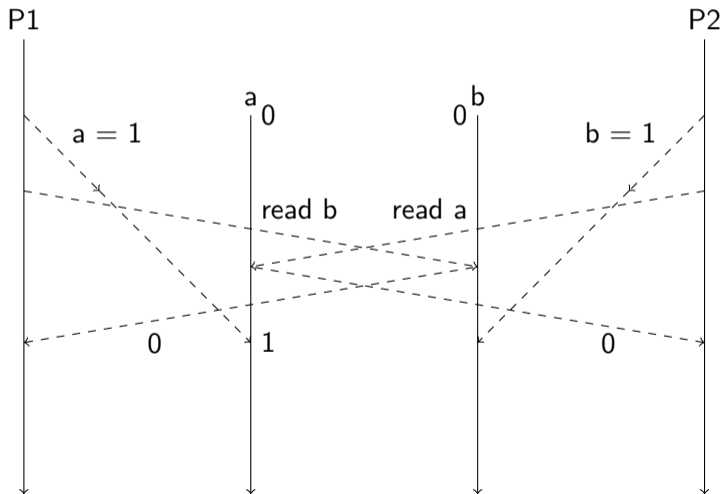
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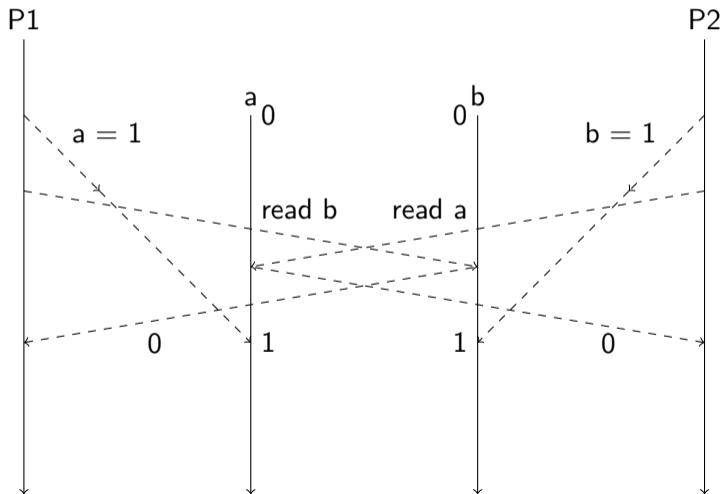
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Better still - if possible, use a library that handles synchronization.

How to synchronize

Next week.

How to implement threads

threads in user space

threads in kernel space

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kernel

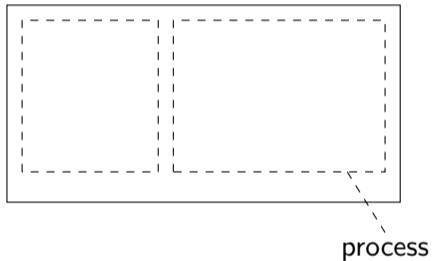
threads in kernel space



kernel

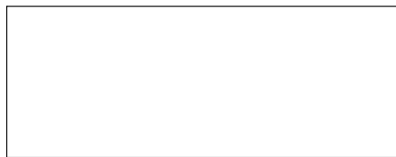
How to implement threads

threads in user space



kernel

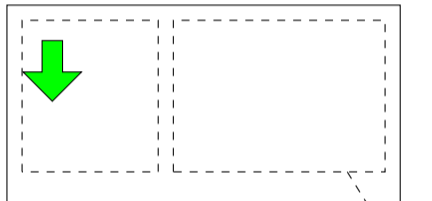
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How to implement threads

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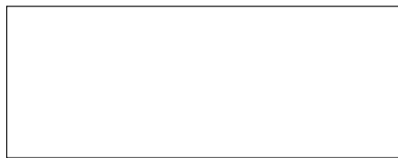


process



kernel

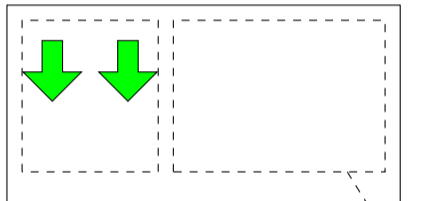
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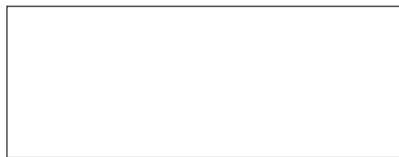
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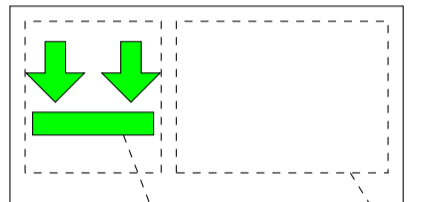
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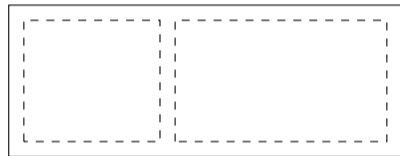
scheduler

process



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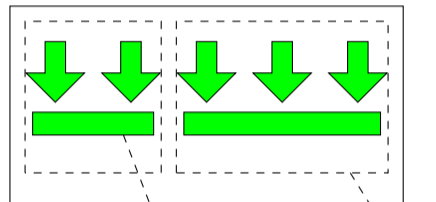
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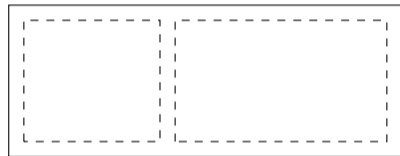
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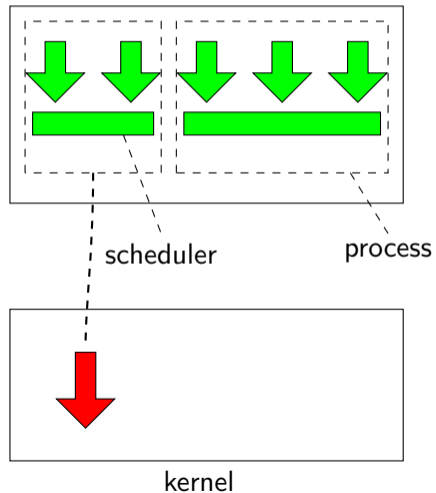
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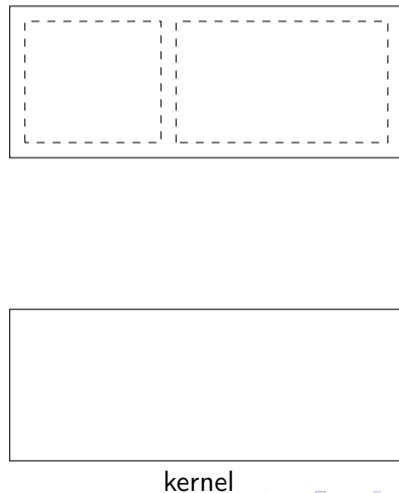
kernel

How to implement threads

threads in user space

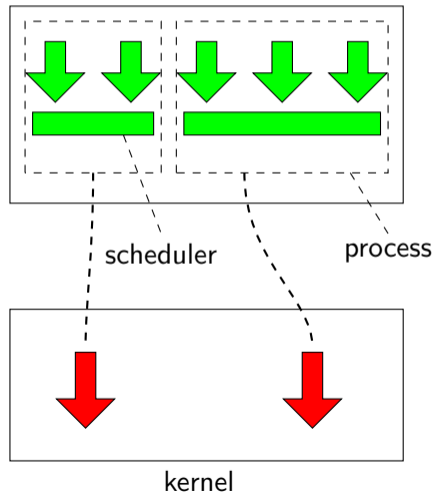


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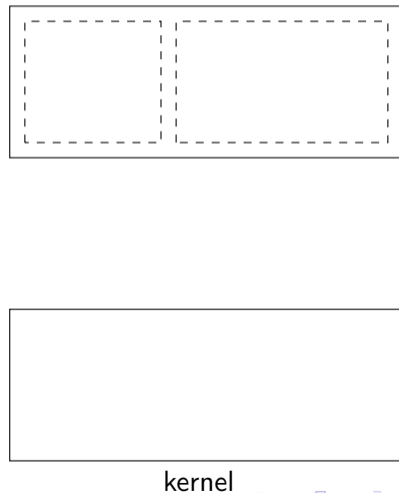


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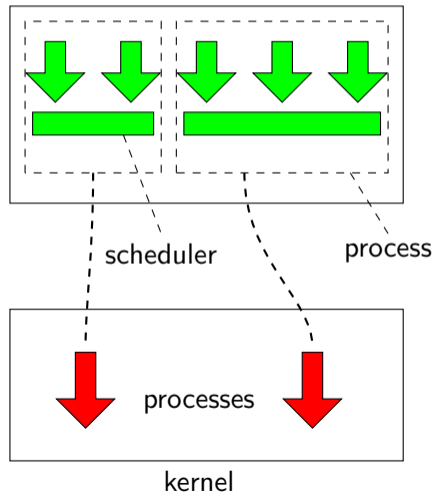


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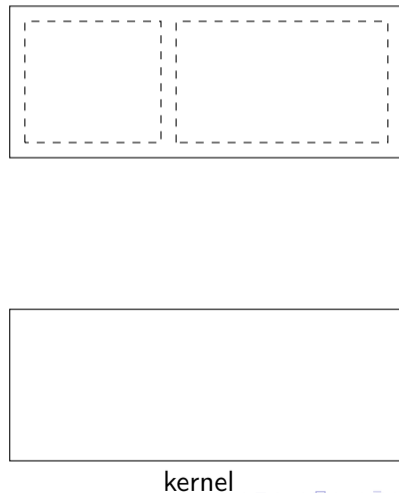


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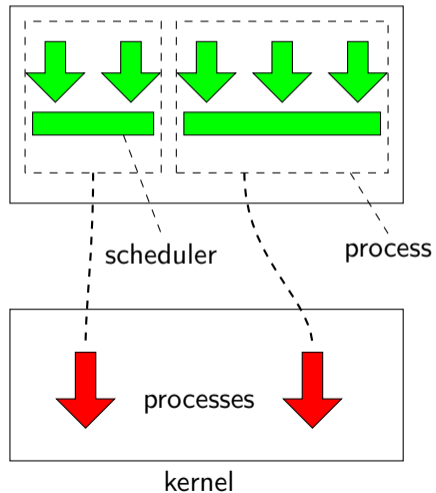


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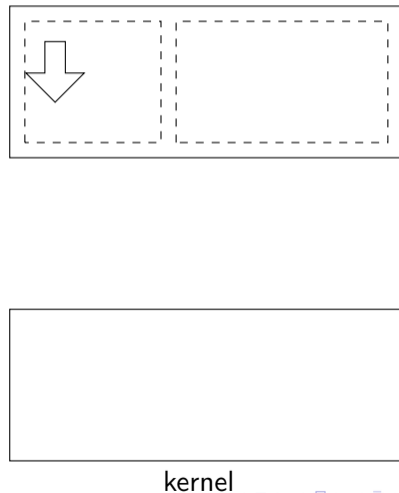


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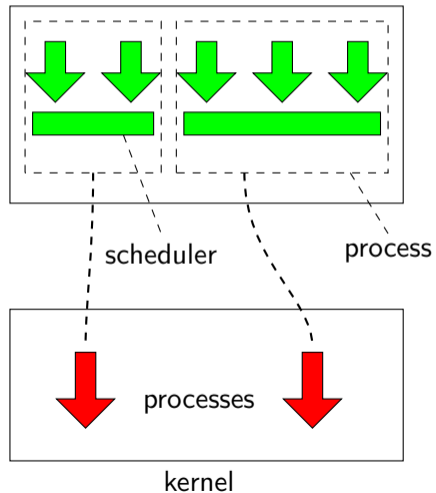


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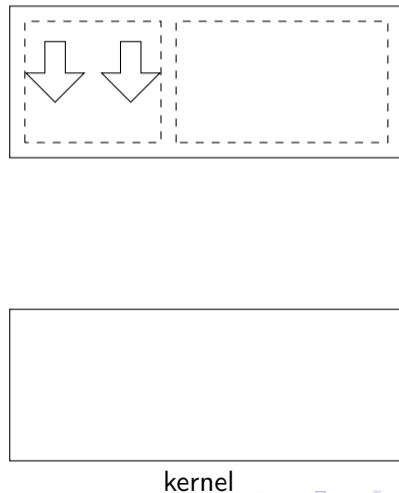


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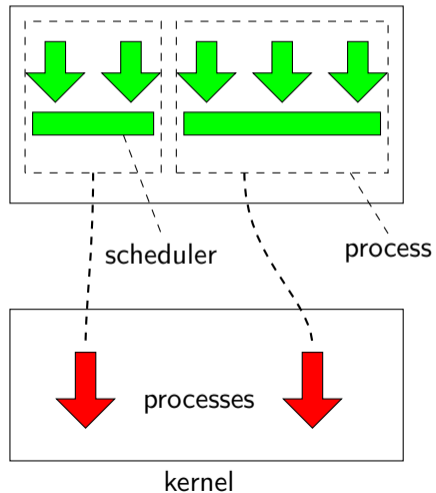


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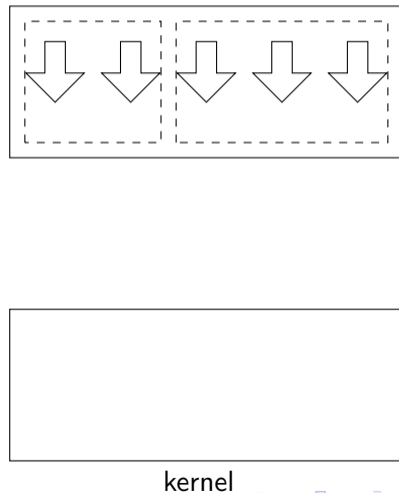


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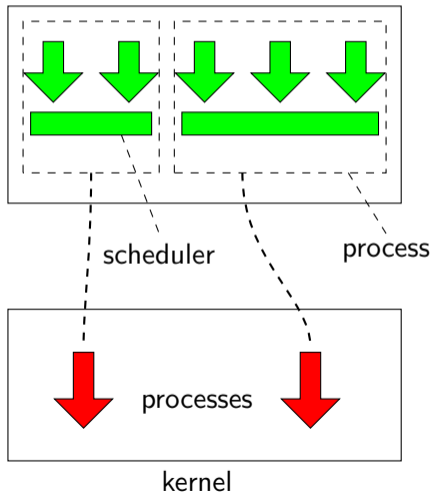


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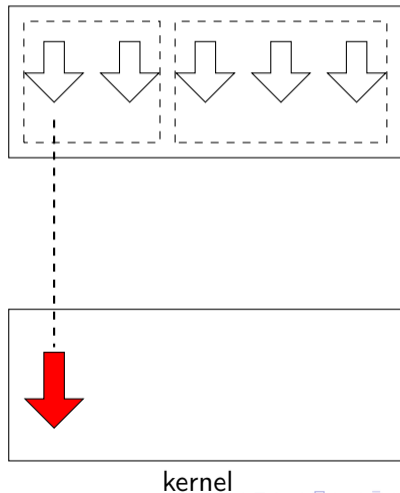


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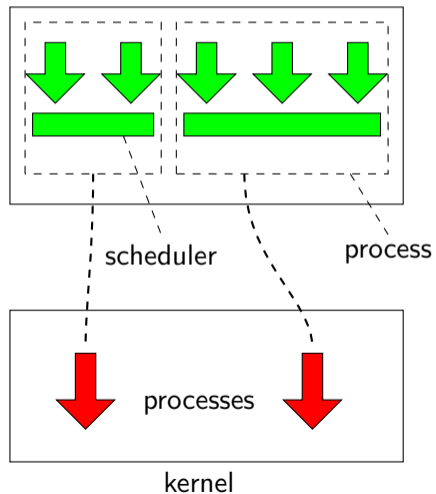


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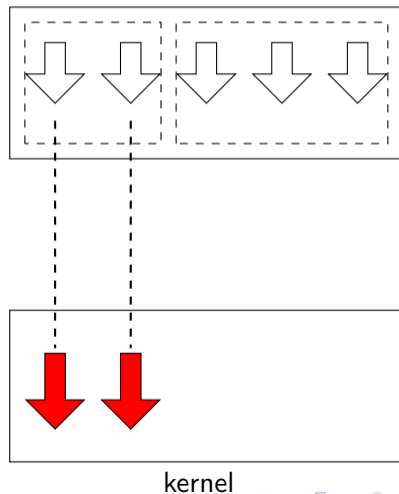


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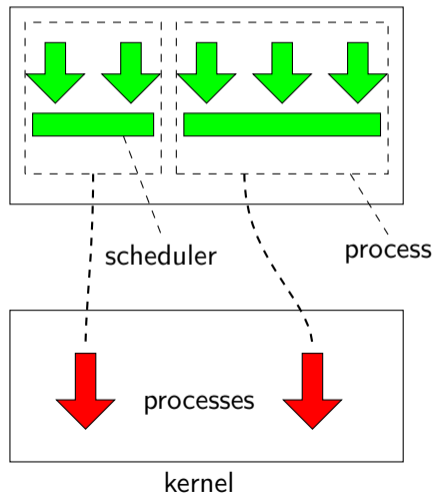


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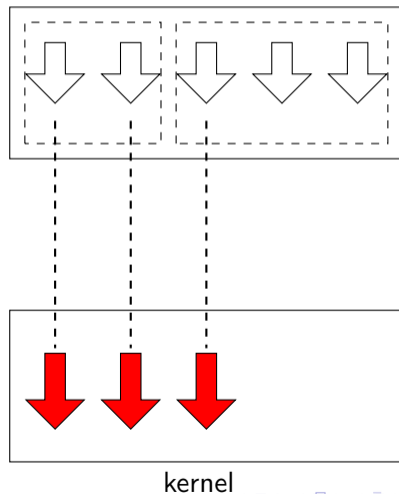


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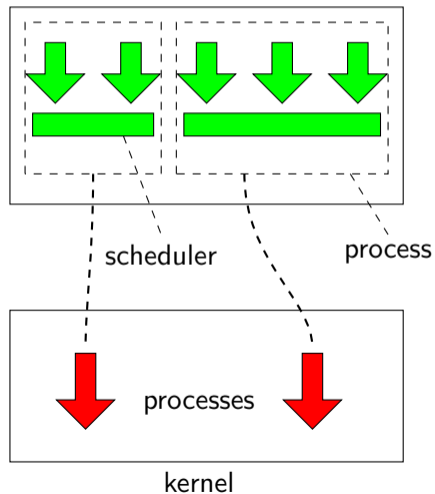


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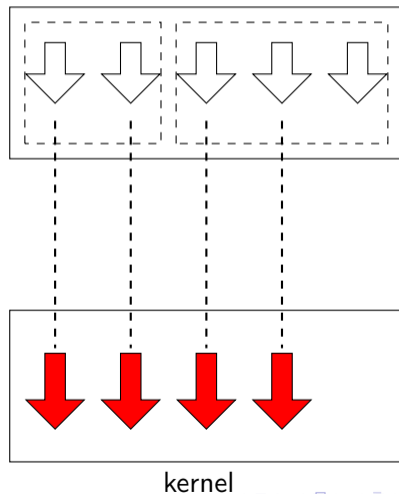


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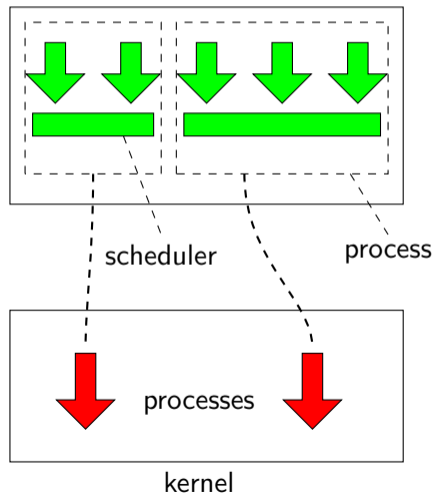


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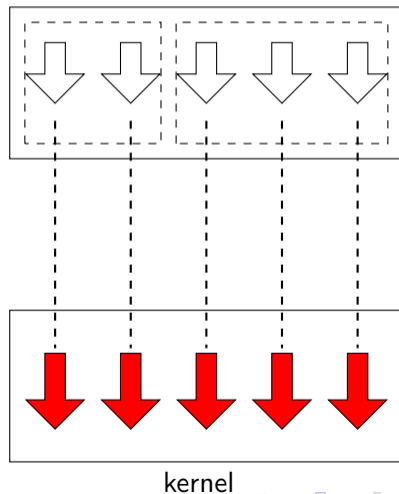


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threads in kernel space



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Java originally had user space threads, and introduced the name, “green threads”. This was later replaced by “native threads” i.e. each Java thread attached to a kernel operating system thread.

How long time does it take to send a message around a ring of a hundred threads?

pthread_create() - from man pages

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Compile and link with `-lpthread`.

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The system call `clone()` allows us to define how much should be shared:

- `fork()`: copy table of file descriptors, copy memory space and signal handlers i.e a perfect copy
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Using `clone()` directly you can pick and choose of more than twenty parameters what the clone should share.

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__thread int local = 42;
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TLS implementation

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__thread int local = 0;

int global = 1;

void *hello(void *name) {

    int stk = 2;
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}
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movq     %rsp, %rbp
movq     %rdi, -24(%rbp)
movl     $2, -8(%rbp)
movl     %fs:local@tpoff, %edx
movl     global(%rip), %eax
addl     %eax, %edx
movl     -8(%rbp), %eax
addl     %edx, %eax
movl     %eax, -4(%rbp)
nop
popq    %rbp
ret
$
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