Unit OS3: Concurrency

3.5. Lab Slides & Lab Manual

Roadmap for Section 3.5.

Lab experiments investigating:

- Viewing the interrupt dispatch table
- Viewing configuration of programmable interrupt controller (PIC/APIC)
- Viewing the interrupt request level (IRQL) on Windows
- Monitoring Interrupt and DPC activity
- Viewing System Service Activity
- Viewing Global Queued Spinlocks
- Looking at Wait Queues

x86 Interrupt Controllers -
Hardware Interrupt Processing

- Most x86 systems rely on
  - i8259A Programmable Interrupt Controller (PIC) or
  - a variant of the i82489 Advanced Programmable Interrupt Controller (APIC) - most new computers
- PICs work only with uniprocessor systems
  - APICs work with multiprocessor systems
- Lab: Observe PIC / APIC configuration
  - Use **!pic** and **!apic** kernel debugger commands

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Viewing the IRQL on Windows

- On Windows Server 2003, kernel debugger displays IRQL:
  - !irql debugger command:
    kd> !irql
    Debugger saved IRQL for processor 0x0 -- 0 (LOW_LEVEL)
- Processor control region (PCR) and processor control block (PRCB) store:
  - current IRQL,
  - pointer to the hardware IDT,
  - currently running thread,
  - next thread selected to run.

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Lab: Viewing IRQL/IRQ Assignments

1. Display the interrupt vector
   - XP/2003: !idt
   - Win2000: !kdex2x86.idt
2. Dump the KINTERRUPT block for the PS/2 mouse ISR to get the IRQL

   `(Dt nt!_KINTERRUPT xxxxxx)`
3. With Device Manager, go to the mouse device properties and click on the resources tab to see the IRQ
   - If you are on a uniprocessor system, the IRQ should be the 27-IRQL

- Note: IRQL is raised when breaking in with debugger or on a crash
  - !pcr displays this changed IRQL
  - !irql displays previous IRQL (Server 2003 & later)

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Lab: Kernel Profiling

- Since time spent at DPC level and above is not accounted by driver type, one way to determine where time has been spent in kernel mode is by using a *profiling/sampling* tool
- Kernrate is a such a tool
  - Free download from http://www.microsoft.com/whdc/system/sysperf/krview.mspx
  - Can be used both for kernel time and user mode processes
  - Can show where time is being spent down to the function level
  - May miss short lived events or events close to the sampling interval
- Lab:
  - Download and install Kernrate
  - cd c:\program files\krview\kernrates
  - Kernrate_i386_XP.exe -z ntoskrnl.exe –j srv*c:\symbols
    - Perform some system activity (run Windows Media Player, drag windows around, etc)
    - Press ^C to stop execution

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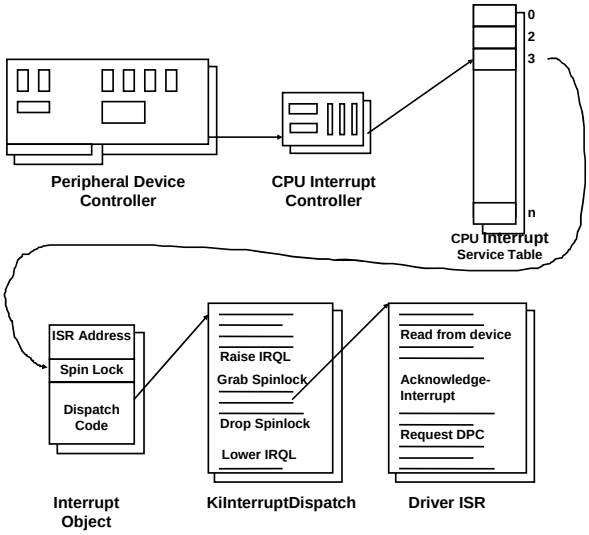
Flow of Interrupts



Lab: ISR/DPC Tracing

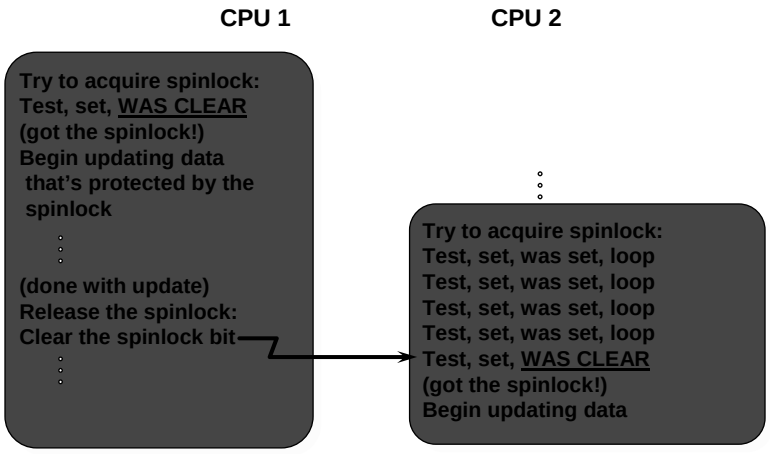
- XP SP2 and Server 2003 SP1 and later support tracing ISRs and DPCs

1. Start capturing events (tracelog.exe is in Support Tools):
   tracelog -start -f kernel.etl -b 64 -UsePerfCounter -eflag 8 0x307 0x4084 0 0 0 0 0 0
2. Stop capturing events:

   tracelog -stop
3. Generate reports (tracerpt.exe is part of Windows):

   tracerpt kernel.etl -df –report -o
4. Review workload.txt to determine where ISR/DPC time spent
5. Open "dumpfile.csv" & search for lines with "DPC" or "ISR" in the second value. In kernel debugger, do an “ln” on 8th argument (start address)

Spinlocks in Action



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Looking at Waiting Threads

- For waiting threads, user-mode utilities only display the wait reason
- Example: pstat

```
Command Prompt

C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM32>pstat
Pstat version 0.3:  memory: 130480 kb  uptime:  0 21:24:36.734
      ⋮
pid:  0 pri: 0 Hnd:    0 Pf:       1 Ws:     16K Idle Process
 tid pri Ctx Swtch StrtAddr    User Time  Kernel Time  State
   0   0   2845450        0  0:00:00.000 20:55:56.375 Running
   0   0   3056193        0  0:00:00.000 21:09:33.234 Running

pid:  2 pri: 8 Hnd:  221 Pf:   1875 Ws:    200K System
 tid pri Ctx Swtch StrtAddr    User Time  Kernel Time  State
   1   0     21214 801c3f6c  0:00:00.000  0:00:39.687 Wait:FreePage
   3  16        51 8010ba7a  0:00:00.000  0:00:00.000 Wait:EventPairLow
   4  16     45518 8010ba7a  0:00:00.000  0:00:00.906 Wait:EventPairLow
      ⋮
pid: 9e pri: 8 Hnd:   78 Pf:   8711 Ws:   1140K Explorer.exe
 tid pri Ctx Swtch StrtAddr    User Time  Kernel Time  State
  48  14    122844 77f052ec  0:00:04.703  0:00:26.312 Wait:UserRequest
  64   8       826 77f052e0  0:00:00.015  0:00:00.140 Wait:UserRequest
  a5  14     23048 77f052e0  0:00:04.140  0:00:11.562 Wait:UserRequest
  a6  14      4976 77f052e0  0:00:00.203  0:00:00.921 Wait:UserRequest
  a7  14      1378 77f052e0  0:00:00.000  0:00:00.000 Wait:LpcReceive
```

- To find out what a thread is waiting on, must use kernel debugger

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Looking at Wait Queues

- !thread command to kernel debugger
  - Lists addresses of objects being waited on (if a mutex, shows owner)
  - !irpfind can search IRPs for an event object address

```
Command Prompt - i386kd -z d:\memory.dmp
0: kd> !thread 80800960
!thread 80800960
THREAD 80800960  Cid 28.95  Teb: 7ffa9000  Win32Thread: 8014f330 WAIT: (UserRequ
est) UserMode Non-Alertable
    807ff300  SynchronizationEvent
    80800a48  NotificationTimer
Not impersonating
Owning Process 808a36a0
WaitTime (seconds)      3396
Context Switch Count    17
UserTime                  0:00:00.0000
KernelTime                0:00:00.0000
Start Address 0x77f052e0
Win32 Start Address 0x77e26473
Stack Init fc4a2000 Current fc4a1e64 Base fc4a2000 Limit fc49f000 Call 0
Priority 9 BasePriority 8 PriorityDecrement 0 DecrementCount 0
cannot get version packet on a crash dump
ChildEBP RetAddr  Args to Child
fc4a1e7c 80117020 00000000 fc4a1ec8 8018d601 ntkrnlmp!KiSwapThread+0x1b1
fc4a1ea0 8018d70d 807ff300 00000006 8018d601 ntkrnlmp!KeWaitForSingleObject+0x1b
8
fc4a1ef0 8013e31e 00000178 00000000 fc4a1ec8 ntkrnlmp!NtWaitForSingleObject+0xa9

fc4a1ef0 77f6819b 00000178 00000000 fc4a1ec8 ntkrnlmp!KiSystemService+0xbe
fc4a1e6c fc4a1ea0 807ff300 80800960 808009cc +0x77f6819b

0: kd> _
```