

Multi-Threading Model:

User threads are supported above the kernel and are managed without the kernel support, whereas kernel threads are supported and are managed directly by the operating system. Virtually all operating systems include kernel threads. Ultimately, there must exist a relationship between user threads and kernel threads. We have three models for it.

1. Many-to-one model

Maps many user-level threads to one kernel thread. Thread management is done by the thread library in user space, so it is efficient; but the entire process will block if a thread makes a blocking system call. Also, only one thread can access the kernel at a time; multiple threads are unable to run in parallel on multiprocessors. Green Threads - a thread library available for Solaris - uses this model.

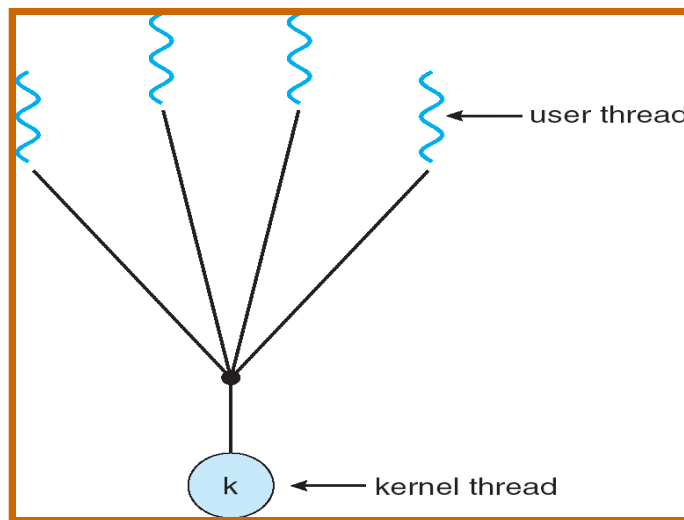


Fig: Many to One threading Model

2. One-to-one Model: Maps each user thread to a kernel thread. It provides more concurrency than the many-to-one model by allowing another thread to run when a thread makes a blocking system call. The only drawback to this model is that creating a user thread requires creating the corresponding kernel thread. Linux, along with families of Windows operating systems, use this model.

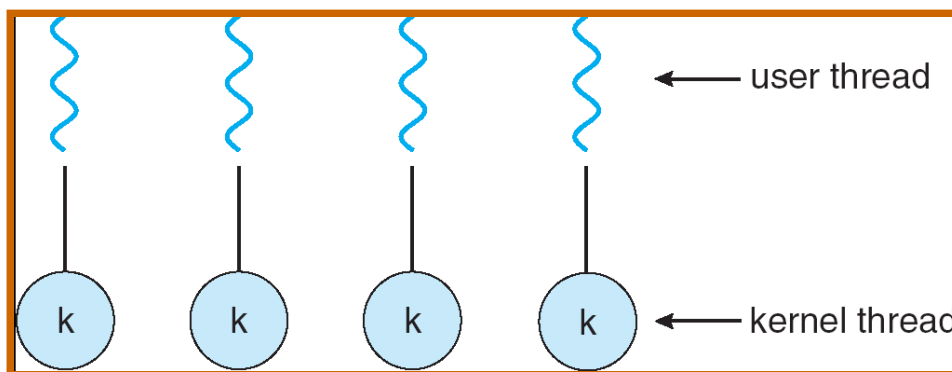


Fig: One to one Threading model

3. Many-to-many Model: multiplexes many user level thread to a smaller or equal number of kernel threads. The number of kernel thread may be specific to either a particular application or a particular machine. Many-to-many model allows the users to create as many threads as he wishes but the true concurrency is not gained because the kernel can schedule only one thread at a time.

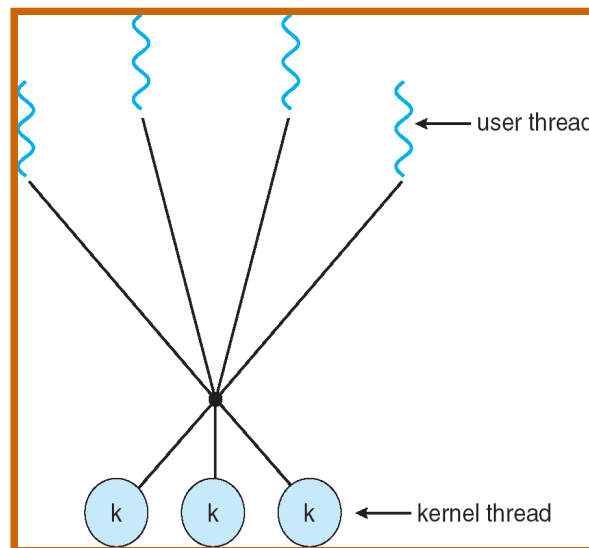


Fig: Many to Many

Interprocess Communication:

Processes frequently need to communicate with each other. For example, in a shell pipeline, the output of the first process must be passed to the second process and so on down the line. Thus, there is a need for communication between the processes, preferably in a well-structured way not using interrupts.

IPC enables one application to control another application, and for several applications to share the same data without interfering with one another. Inter-process communication (IPC) is a set of techniques for the exchange of data among multiple threads in one or more processes. Processes may be running on one or more computers connected by a network. IPC techniques are divided into methods for **message passing, synchronization, shared memory, and remote procedure calls (RPC).**

co-operating Process: A process is independent if it can't affect or be affected by another process. A process is co-operating if it can affect other or be affected by the other process. Any process that shares data with other processes is called a co-operating process. There are many reasons for providing an environment for process co-operation.

1.Information sharing: Several users may be interested to access the same piece of information (for instance, a shared file). We must allow concurrent access to such information.

2.Computation Speedup: Breakup tasks into sub-tasks.

3.Modularity: construct a system in a modular fashion.

4.convenience:

co-operating process requires IPC. There are two fundamental ways of IPC.

a. Shared Memory

b. Message Passing

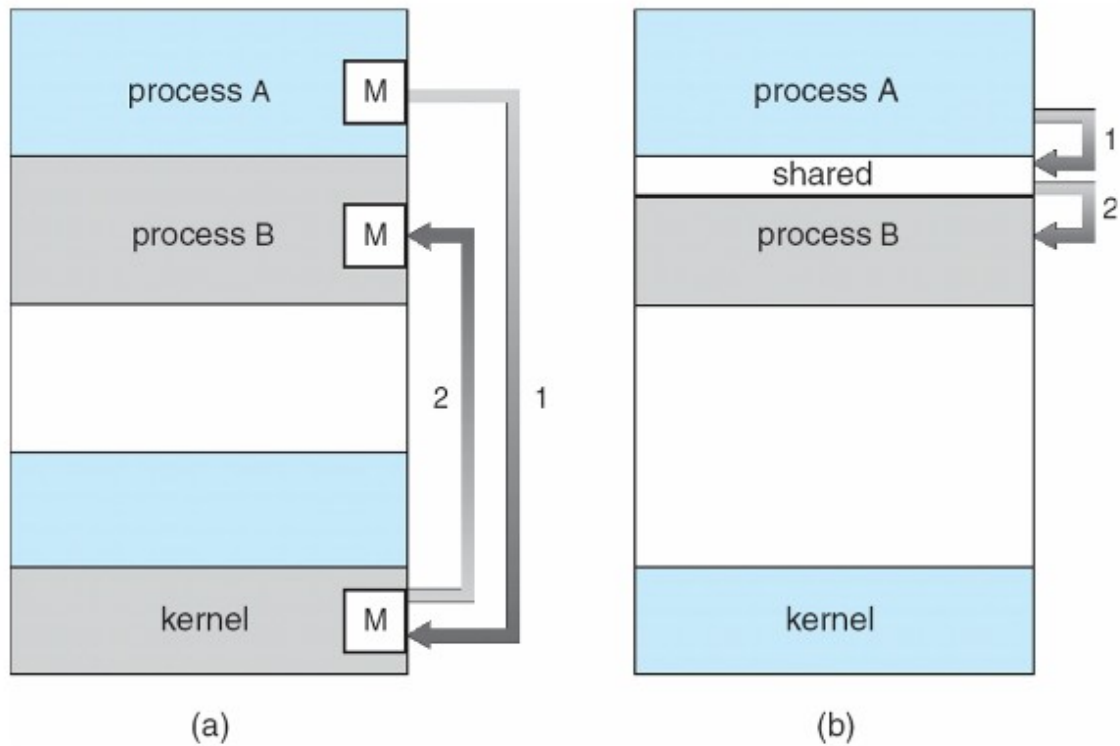


Fig: Communication Model a. Message Passing b. Shared Memory

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