

Notes for 11/2/09

DMA vs. Interrupt Driven

DMA is good for devices that need a lot of bandwidth

Synchronous vs. asynchronous buses

Synchronous has more bandwidth, but cannot go long distances

Asynchronous can go long distances, but has lower bandwidth

North and south bridge, figure 6.9 on page 585

Copy-on-write

E.g., on the heap or stack the kernel will give you a read-only mapping to the zero page, as soon as you try to write to it there is a page fault and the page is copied to another physical page which you get a writable mapping for, then your process is allowed to continue and is able to write to the page