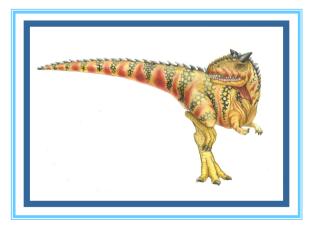
Chapter 5: Process Scheduling





Chapter 5: Process Scheduling

Basic Concepts Scheduling Criteria Scheduling Algorithms Thread Scheduling Multiple-Processor Scheduling Real-Time CPU Scheduling Operating Systems Examples Algorithm Evaluation







To introduce CPU scheduling, which is the basis for multiprogrammed operating systems

To describe various CPU-scheduling algorithms

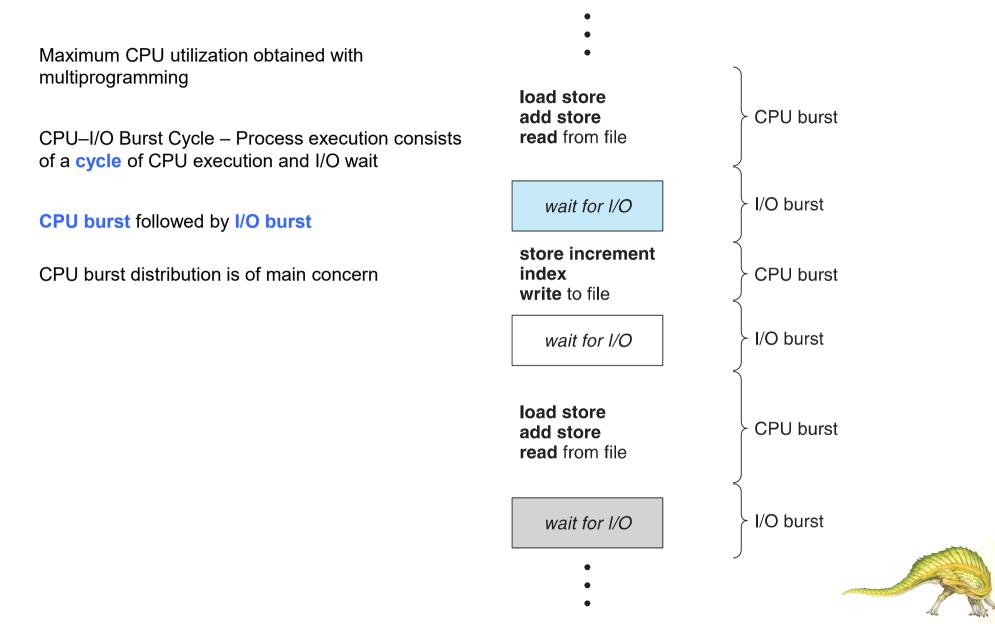
To discuss evaluation criteria for selecting a CPU-scheduling algorithm for a particular system

To examine the scheduling algorithms of several operating systems



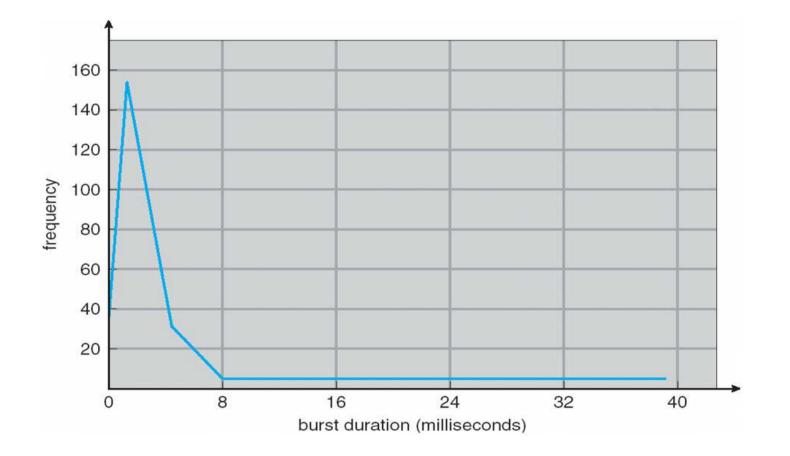


Basic Concepts





Histogram of CPU-burst Times





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CPU Scheduler

Short-term scheduler selects from among the processes in ready queue, and allocates the CPU to one of them

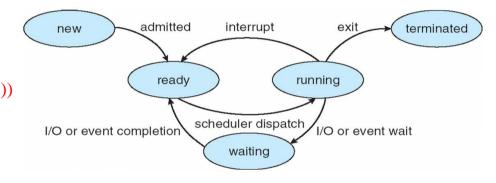
Queue may be ordered in various ways

CPU scheduling decisions may take place when a process:

- Switches from running to waiting state 1.
- 2. Switches from running to ready state
- Switches from waiting to ready (not always cause scheduling (e.g. if a job is _____)) Terminates 3. 4

Scheduling under 1 and 4 is nonpreemptive

- All other scheduling is preemptive
 - Consider access to shared data
 - Consider preemption while in kernel mode
 - Consider interrupts occurring during crucial OS activities









Dispatcher module gives control of the CPU to the process selected by the short-term scheduler; this involves:

- switching context
- switching to user mode
- jumping to the proper location in the user program to restart that program

Dispatch latency – time it takes for the dispatcher to stop one process and start another running





Scheduling Criteria

CPU utilization – keep the CPU as busy as possible

Throughput – # of processes that complete their execution per time unit

Turnaround time – amount of time to execute a particular process

 \star (= wait time for memory, in _____ queue, CPU execution, I/O)

Waiting time - amount of time a process has been waiting in the ready queue

(only the time affected by the _____)

Response time – amount of time it takes from when a request was submitted until the first response is produced, not output (for time-sharing environment)





Max CPU utilization

Max throughput

Min turnaround time

Min waiting time

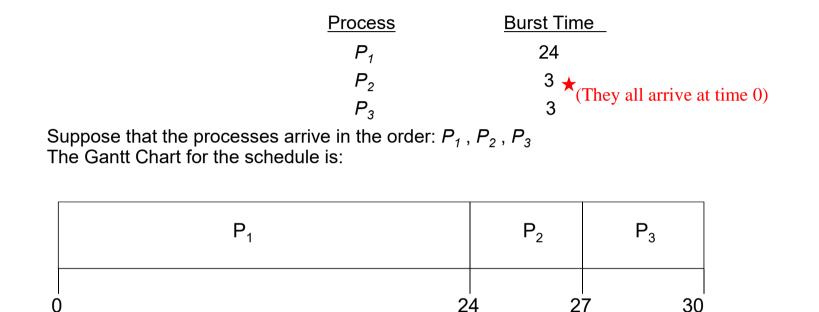
Min response time

*(Usually optimize _____ value)

★ (Sometimes optimize min or max is more important, (ex) min the max response time, min the variance in response time for _____ sys)







Waiting time for $P_1 = 0$; $P_2 = 24$; $P_3 = 27$ Average waiting time: (0 + 24 + 27)/3 = 17



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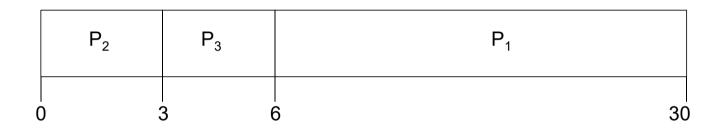
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FCFS Scheduling (Cont.)

Suppose that the processes arrive in the order:

The Gantt chart for the schedule is:



Waiting time for $P_1 = 6$; $P_2 = 0$; $P_3 = 3$

Average waiting time: (6 + 0 + 3)/3 = 3

Much better than previous case

Convoy effect - short process behind long process

Consider one CPU-bound and many I/O-bound processes

(as they move around the ready queue and device queue, short processes are always blocked by the _____ one)





Associate with each process the length of its next CPU burst Use these lengths to schedule the process with the shortest time

SJF is optimal – gives minimum average waiting time for a given set of processes The difficulty is knowing the length of the next CPU request Could ask the user







Process	<u>Burst Time</u>
P ₁	6
P_2	8
P ₃	7
P_4	3

SJF scheduling chart

P ₄		P ₁	P ₃	P ₂
0	3	3	9 1	6 24

Average waiting time = (3 + 16 + 9 + 0) / 4 = 7

★ (3-0) (16-0) (9-0) (0-0)





Can only estimate the length – should be similar to the previous one Then pick process with shortest predicted next CPU burst

Can be done by using the length of previous CPU bursts, using exponential averaging

- 1. t_n = actual length of n^{th} CPU burst
- 2. τ_{n+1} = predicted value for the next CPU burst
- 3. α , $0 \le \alpha \le 1$
- 4. Define : $\tau_{n+1} = \alpha t_n + (1 \alpha)\tau_n$.

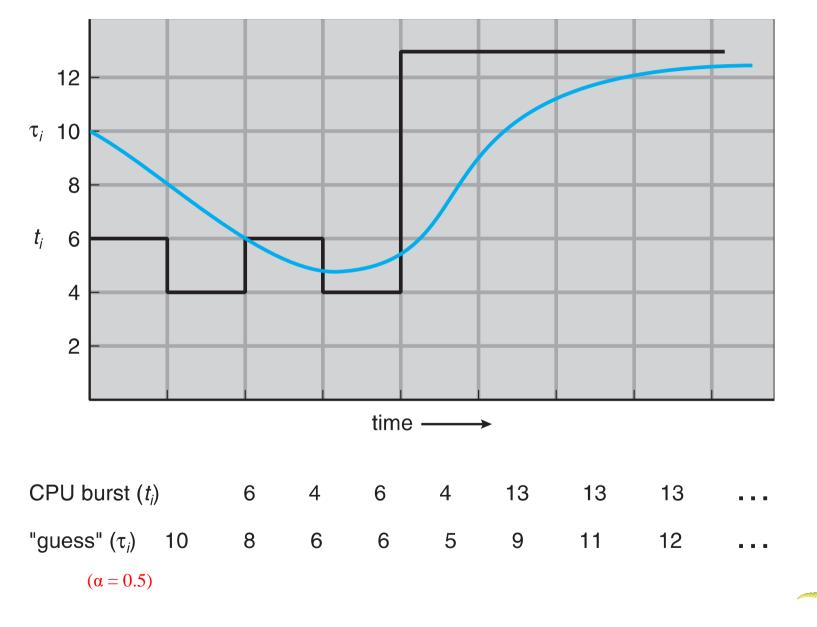
Commonly, α set to $\frac{1}{2}$

Preemptive version called shortest-remaining-time-first





Prediction of the Length of the Next CPU Burst



Examples of Exponential Averaging

α =0

 $\tau_{n+1} = \tau_n$ Recent history does not count

α =1

 $\tau_{n+1} = \alpha t_n$

Only the actual last CPU burst counts If we expand the formula, we get:

$$\tau_{n+1} = \alpha t_n + (1 - \alpha) \alpha t_{n-1} + \dots + (1 - \alpha)^j \alpha t_{n-j} + \dots + (1 - \alpha)^{n+1} \tau_0$$

$$\boldsymbol{\star} \tau_{n+1} = \alpha t_n + (1 - \alpha) \tau_n = \alpha t_n + (1 - \alpha) (\alpha t_{n-1} + (1 - \alpha) \tau_{n-1}) = \alpha t_n + (1 - \alpha) \alpha t_{n-1} + (1 - \alpha)^2 \tau_{n-1} = \alpha t_n + (1 - \alpha) \alpha t_{n-1} + (1 - \alpha)^2 (\alpha t_{n-2} + (1 - \alpha) \tau_{n-2}) = \alpha t_n + (1 - \alpha) \alpha t_{n-1} + (1 - \alpha)^2 \alpha t_{n-2} + (1 - \alpha)^3 \tau_{n-2} = \dots$$

Since both α and (1 - α) are less than or equal to 1, each successive term has less weight than its predecessor





Now we add the concepts of varying arrival times and preemption to the analysis

<u>Process</u>	<u>Arrival Time</u>	<u>Burst Time</u>
P_1	0	8
P_2	1	4
P ₃	2	9
P_4	3	5

Preemptive SJF Gantt Chart



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Priority Scheduling

A priority number (integer) is associated with each process

The CPU is allocated to the process with the highest priority (smallest integer = highest priority) Preemptive Nonpreemptive

SJF is priority scheduling where priority is the inverse of predicted next CPU burst time

Problem = Starvation – low priority processes may never execute

Solution \equiv Aging – as time progresses increase the priority of the process





Example of Priority Scheduling

Process	<u>Burst Time</u>	<u>Priority</u>
P_1	10	3
P_2	1	1
P ₃	2	4
P_4	1	5
P_5	5	2

Priority scheduling Gantt Chart

	P ₂	P ₅	P ₁	P ₃	P ₄	
() 1	(6	16 1	8 ,	19

Average waiting time = 8.2 msec * ((6-0)+(-0)+(16--)+(-0)+(1-0))=41/5=8.2





Round Robin (RR)

Each process gets a small unit of CPU time (time quantum q), usually 10-100 milliseconds. After this time has elapsed, the process is preempted and added to the end of the ready queue.

If there are *n* processes in the ready queue and the time quantum is *q*, then each process gets 1/n of the CPU time in chunks of at most *q* time units at once. No process waits more than (n-1)q time units.

Timer interrupts every quantum to schedule next process

Performance

 $q \text{ large} \Rightarrow \text{FIFO}$

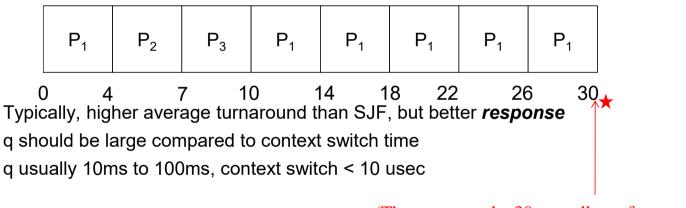
 $q \text{ small} \Rightarrow q \text{ must}$ be large with respect to context switch, otherwise overhead is too high





Process	<u>Burst Time</u>
P_1	24
P_2	3
P ₃	3

The Gantt chart is:



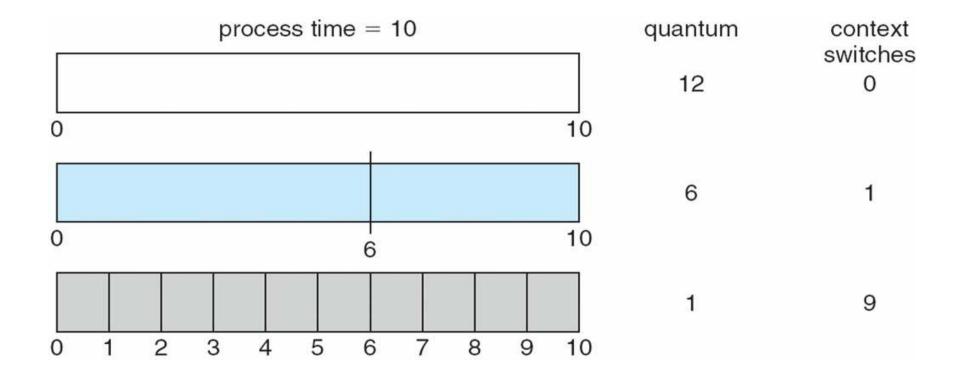
(The sum must be 30 regardless of _____) (Turnaround = $(30+7+ __)/3=15.6$) (Response = $(4+7+ __)/3=7$)



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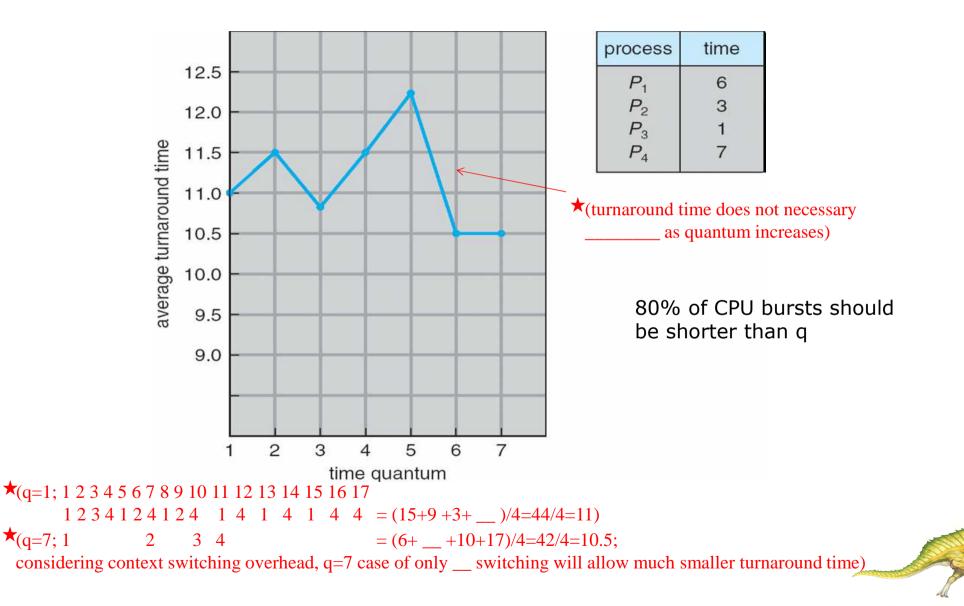








Turnaround Time Varies With The Time Quantum





Multilevel Queue

★(For separating proc having different _____-burst characteristics)

Ready queue is partitioned into separate queues, eg:

foreground (interactive) *(also I/O bound proc)

background (batch)

Process permanently in a given queue

Each queue has its own scheduling algorithm:

foreground – RR

background - FCFS

Scheduling must be done between the queues:

Fixed priority scheduling; (i.e., serve all from foreground then from background). Possibility of starvation. *(Solaris 2)

Time slice – each queue gets a certain amount of CPU time which it can schedule amongst its processes; i.e., 80% to foreground in RR

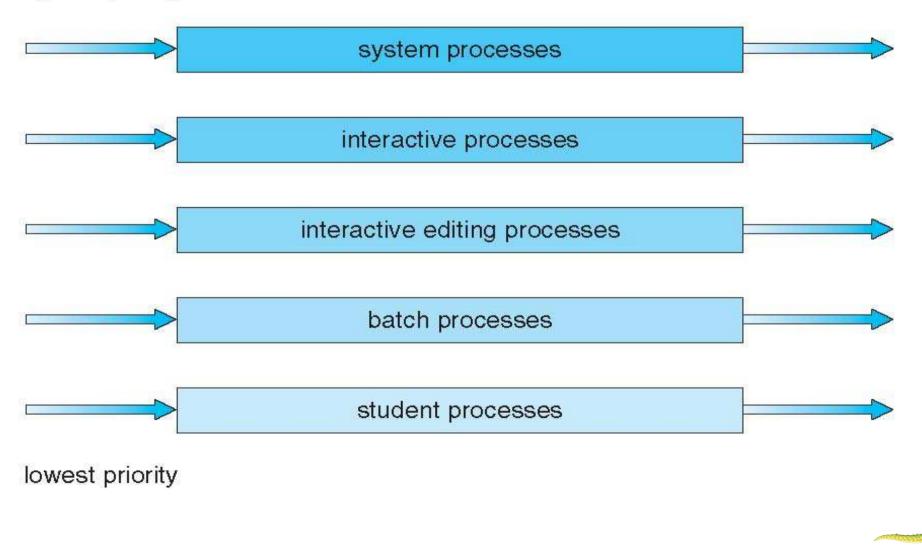
20% to background in FCFS





Multilevel Queue Scheduling

highest priority





Multilevel Feedback Queue

A process can move between the various queues; aging can be implemented this way

Multilevel-feedback-queue scheduler defined by the following parameters:

- number of queues
- scheduling algorithms for each queue
- method used to determine when to upgrade a process
- method used to determine when to demote a process
- method used to determine which queue a process will enter when that process needs service



Example of Multilevel Feedback Queue

Three queues:

- $Q_0 RR$ with time quantum 8 milliseconds
- $Q_1 RR$ time quantum 16 milliseconds
- $Q_2 FCFS$

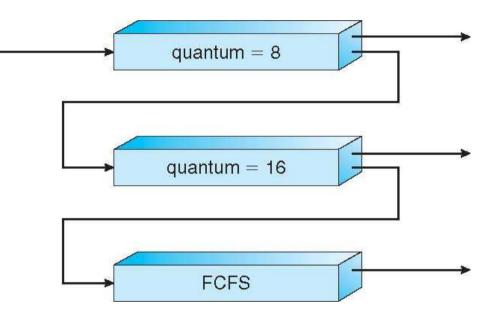
Scheduling

A new job enters queue Q_0 which is served FCFS

- When it gains CPU, job receives 8 milliseconds
- If it does not finish in 8 milliseconds, job is moved to queue Q₁

At Q_1 job is again served FCFS and receives 16 additional milliseconds

 If it still does not complete, it is preempted and moved to queue Q₂







Thread Scheduling

Distinction between user-level and kernel-level threads

When threads supported, threads scheduled, not processes

Many-to-one and many-to-many models, thread library schedules user-level threads to run on LWP Known as **process-contention scope (PCS)** since scheduling competition is within the process Typically done via priority set by programmer

Kernel thread scheduled onto available CPU is **system-contention scope (SCS)** – competition among all threads in system * (used for one-to-____ model of XP, Solaris, Linux)





Pthread Scheduling

API allows specifying either PCS or SCS during thread creation PTHREAD_SCOPE_PROCESS schedules threads using PCS scheduling PTHREAD_SCOPE_SYSTEM schedules threads using SCS scheduling Can be limited by OS – Linux and Mac OS X only allow PTHREAD_SCOPE_SYSTEM





Pthread Scheduling API

```
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#define NUM THREADS 5
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
   int i, scope;
   pthread t tid[NUM THREADS];
   pthread attr t attr;
   /* get the default attributes */
   pthread attr init(&attr);
   /* first inquire on the current scope */
   if (pthread attr getscope(&attr, &scope) != 0)
      fprintf(stderr, "Unable to get scheduling scope\n");
   else {
      if (scope == PTHREAD SCOPE PROCESS)
         printf("PTHREAD SCOPE PROCESS");
      else if (scope == PTHREAD SCOPE SYSTEM)
         printf("PTHREAD SCOPE SYSTEM");
      else
         fprintf(stderr, "Illegal scope value.\n");
```



Pthread Scheduling API

```
/* set the scheduling algorithm to PCS or SCS */
   pthread attr setscope(&attr, PTHREAD SCOPE SYSTEM);
   /* create the threads */
   for (i = 0; i < \text{NUM THREADS}; i++)
      pthread create(&tid[i],&attr,runner,NULL);
   /* now join on each thread */
   for (i = 0; i < \text{NUM THREADS}; i++)
      pthread join(tid[i], NULL);
}
/* Each thread will begin control in this function */
void *runner(void *param)
{
   /* do some work ... */
  pthread exit(0);
```



Multiple-Processor Scheduling

CPU scheduling more complex when multiple CPUs are available

Homogeneous processors within a multiprocessor

Asymmetric multiprocessing – only one processor accesses the system data structures, alleviating the need for data sharing

Symmetric multiprocessing (SMP) – each processor is self-scheduling, all processes in common ready queue, or each has its own private queue of ready processes

Currently, most common

* (limit a proc to stay in a specific processor to avoid cache _____ problem) **Processor affinity** – process has affinity for processor on which it is currently running

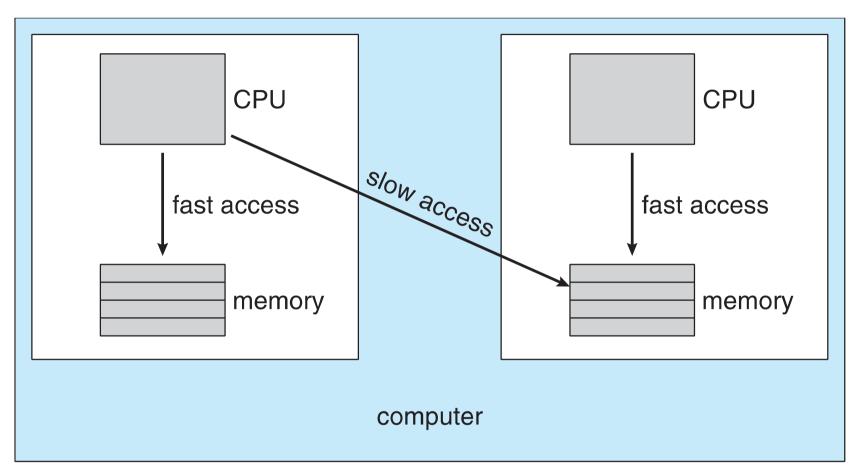
soft affinity* (allow proc to _____)

hard affinity* (Linux)

Variations including processor sets* (Solaris)







Note that memory-placement algorithms can also consider affinity



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If SMP, need to keep all CPUs loaded for efficiency

Load balancing attempts to keep workload evenly distributed * (not necessary for the sys of a _____ ready queue)

Push migration – periodic task checks load on each processor, and if found pushes task from overloaded CPU to other CPUs

Pull migration - idle processors pulls waiting task from busy processor

- * (both are implemented together in Linux and FreeBSD)
- * (Linux runs load balancing algo every 200 msec(____ migration) or whenever the run queue is empty(____ migration))
- * (Load balancing counteracts with processor _____)





Multicore Processors

Recent trend to place multiple processor cores on same physical chip

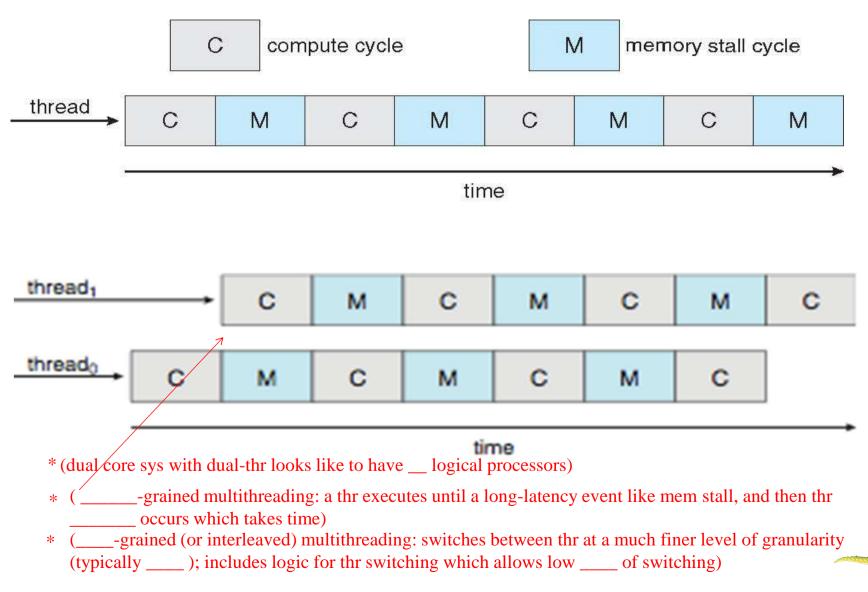
Faster and consumes less power

Multiple threads per core also growing

Takes advantage of memory stall to make progress on another thread while memory retrieve happens * (CPU loses __% of time due to mem stall (caused by cache ____))







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Real-Time CPU Scheduling

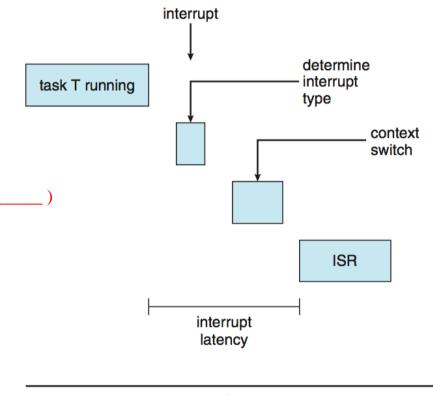
Can present obvious challenges

Soft real-time systems – no guarantee as to when critical real-time process will be scheduled

Hard real-time systems – task must be serviced by its deadline

Two types of latencies affect performance

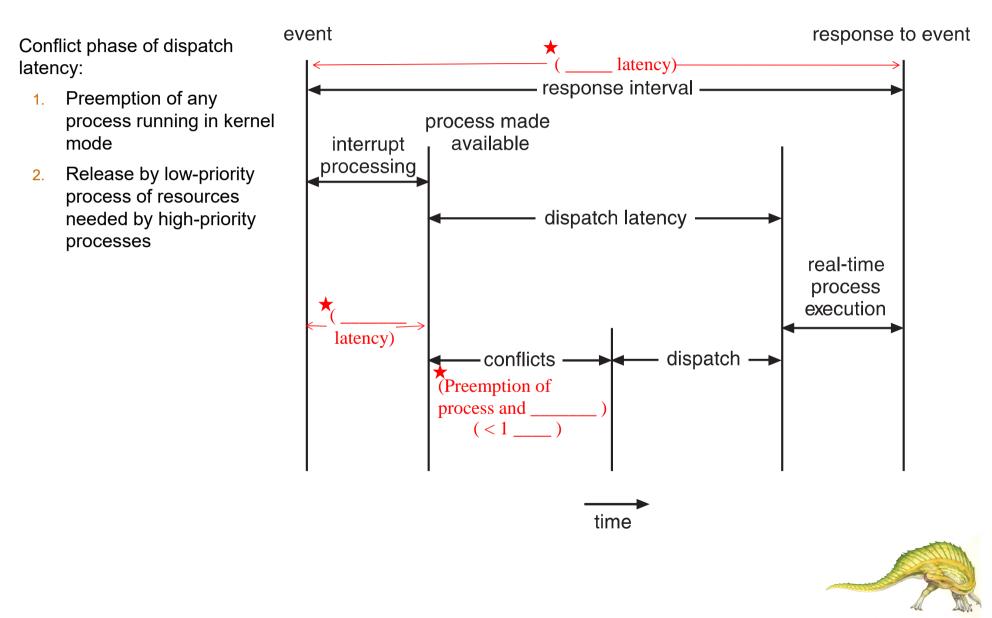
- Interrupt latency time from arrival of interrupt to start of routine that services interrupt*(For RT, this must not be minized but _____
- 2. Dispatch latency time for schedule to take current process off CPU and switch to another



time



Real-Time CPU Scheduling (Cont.)





Priority-based Scheduling

For real-time scheduling, scheduler must support preemptive, priority-based scheduling

But only guarantees soft real-time

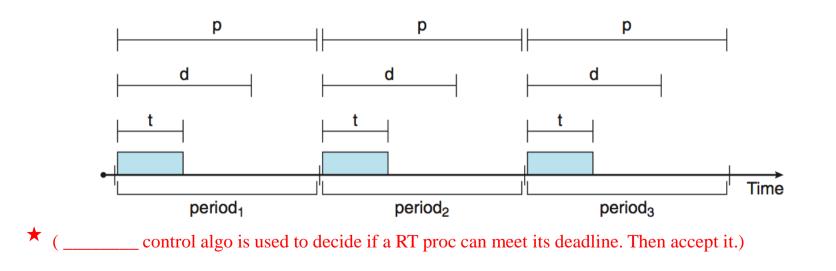
For hard real-time must also provide ability to meet deadlines

Processes have new characteristics: periodic ones require CPU at constant intervals

Has processing time *t*, deadline *d*, period *p*

 $0 \le t \le d \le p$

Rate of periodic task is 1/p







Virtualization and Scheduling

Virtualization software schedules multiple guests onto CPU(s)

Each guest doing its own scheduling Not knowing it doesn' t own the CPUs Can result in poor response time Can effect time-of-day clocks in guests

Can undo good scheduling algorithm efforts of guests





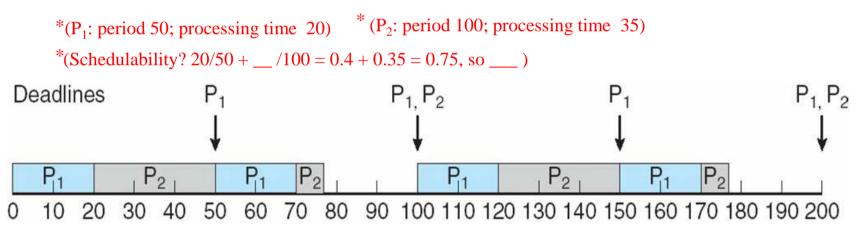
Rate Monotonic Scheduling

A priority is assigned based on the inverse of its period

Shorter periods = higher priority;

Longer periods = lower priority

 P_1 is assigned a higher priority than P_2 .

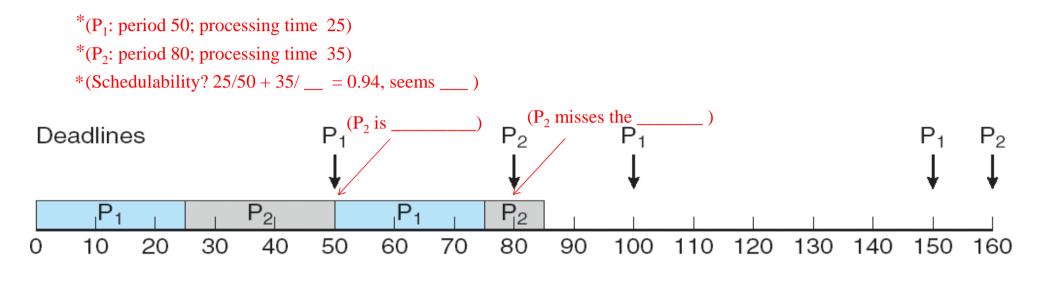


*(Rate monotonic is _____: if a set of proc cannot be scheduled by this algo, it can't be scheduled by any other algo assigning static priority)





Missed Deadlines with Rate Monotonic Scheduling



*(Rate monotonic does not maximize CPU _____)

*(Worst-case CPU utilization for scheduling *N* processes: $N(2^{1/N} - 1)$; if N = 1, then ____%; $N = \infty$, then ___%)



Earliest Deadline First Scheduling (EDF)

*(dynamically) Priorities are assigned according to deadlines: *(When a proc becomes _____, it announces its deadline) the earlier the deadline, the higher the priority; the later the deadline, the lower the priority *(P₁: period 50; processing time 25) *(P₂: period 80; processing time 35) (______ of P_2 since P_1 deadline(150) is earlier than $P_2(160)$) of P_2 since P_1 deadline(100) is later than $P_2(80)$) Deadlines Ρ P₂ P₁ P_2 Р P_2 P₁ P_2 P₁ P₂ 30 0 10 20 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120 130 140 150 160 *(EDF does not require proc to be , require CPU burst time) *(EDF is theoretically ______ in meeting the deadlines and maximizing CPU utilization) *(Context switch and int handling overhead disallow 100% CPU)





Proportional Share Scheduling

T shares are allocated among all processes in the system

An application receives *N* shares where N < T

This ensures each application will receive N / T of the total processor time





POSIX Real-Time Scheduling

The POSIX.1b standard

API provides functions for managing real-time threads

Defines two scheduling classes for real-time threads:

- 1. SCHED_FIFO threads are scheduled using a FCFS strategy with a FIFO queue. There is no time-slicing for threads of equal priority
- 2. SCHED_RR similar to SCHED_FIFO except time-slicing occurs for threads of equal priority

Defines two functions for getting and setting scheduling policy:

- 1. pthread attr getsched policy(pthread attr t *attr, int *policy)
- 2. pthread attr setsched policy(pthread attr t *attr, int policy)





```
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#define NUM THREADS 5
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
   int i, policy;
   pthread t tid[NUM THREADS];
   pthread attr t attr;
   /* get the default attributes */
   pthread attr init(&attr);
   /* get the current scheduling policy */
   if (pthread attr getschedpolicy(&attr, &policy) != 0)
      fprintf(stderr, "Unable to get policy.\n");
   else {
      if (policy == SCHED OTHER) printf("SCHED OTHER\n");
      else if (policy == SCHED RR) printf("SCHED RR\n");
      else if (policy == SCHED FIFO) printf("SCHED FIFO\n");
   }
```





```
/* set the scheduling policy - FIFO, RR, or OTHER */
   if (pthread attr setschedpolicy(&attr, SCHED FIFO) != 0)
      fprintf(stderr, "Unable to set policy.\n");
   /* create the threads */
   for (i = 0; i < \text{NUM THREADS}; i++)
      pthread create(&tid[i],&attr,runner,NULL);
   /* now join on each thread */
   for (i = 0; i < NUM THREADS; i++)</pre>
      pthread join(tid[i], NULL);
}
/* Each thread will begin control in this function */
void *runner(void *param)
   /* do some work ... */
   pthread exit(0);
}
```





Operating System Examples

Linux scheduling

Windows scheduling

Solaris scheduling



Linux Scheduling Through Version 2.5

Prior to kernel version 2.5, ran variation of standard UNIX scheduling algorithm (no SMP-based) Version 2.5 moved to constant order O(1) scheduling time

Preemptive, priority based

Two priority ranges: time-sharing and real-time

Real-time range from 0 to 99 and **nice** value from 100 to 140^{*} (for normal nonRT)

Map into global priority with numerically lower values indicating higher priority

Higher priority gets larger q

Task run-able as long as time left in time slice (active)

If no time left (expired), not run-able until all other tasks use their slices

All run-able tasks tracked in per-CPU runqueue data structure

- Two priority arrays (active, expired)
- Tasks indexed by priority
- When no more active, arrays are exchanged

Worked well, but poor response times for interactive processes





Completely Fair Scheduler (CFS)

Scheduling classes

Each has specific priority

Scheduler picks highest priority task in highest scheduling class

Rather than quantum based on fixed time allotments, based on proportion of CPU time

- 2 scheduling classes included, others can be added
 - 1. default
 - 2. real-time

Quantum calculated based on nice value from -20 to $+19^*$ (Default is _)

Lower value is higher priority

Target latency can increase if say number of active tasks increases*(beyond a certain _____

CFS scheduler maintains per task virtual run time in variable vruntime

Associated with decay factor based on priority of task – lower priority is higher decay rate

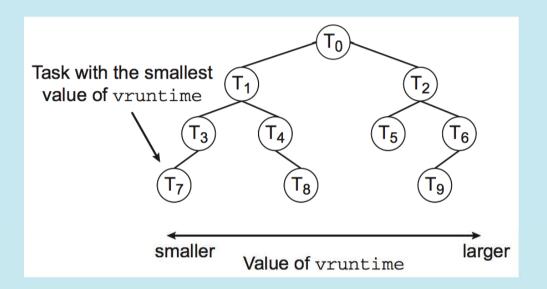
Normal default priority yields virtual run time = actual run time * (For high priority, virtual run time _ actual run time; low priority, virtual _ actual) To decide next task to run, scheduler picks task with lowest virtual run time





CFS Performance

The Linux CFS scheduler provides an efficient algorithm for selecting which task to run next. Each runnable task is placed in a red-black tree—a balanced binary search tree whose key is based on the value of vruntime. This tree is shown below:



When a task becomes runnable, it is added to the tree. If a task on the tree is not runnable (for example, if it is blocked while waiting for I/O), it is removed. Generally speaking, tasks that have been given less processing time (smaller values of vruntime) are toward the left side of the tree, and tasks that have been given more processing time are on the right side. According to the properties of a binary search tree, the leftmost node has the smallest key value, which for the sake of the CFS scheduler means that it is the task with the highest priority. Because the red-black tree is balanced, navigating it to discover the leftmost node will require O(lgN) operations (where N is the number of nodes in the tree). However, for efficiency reasons, the Linux scheduler caches this value in the variable rb_leftmost, and thus determining which task to run next requires only retrieving the cached value.

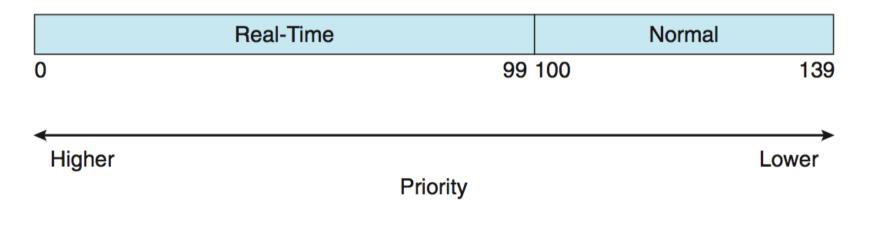


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Linux Scheduling (Cont.)

Real-time scheduling according to POSIX.1b Real-time tasks have static priorities Real-time plus normal map into global priority scheme Nice value of -20 maps to global priority 100 Nice value of +19 maps to priority 139





Windows Scheduling

Windows uses priority-based preemptive scheduling

Highest-priority thread runs next

Dispatcher is scheduler

Thread runs until (1) blocks, (2) uses time slice, (3) preempted by higher-priority thread

Real-time threads can preempt non-real-time

32-level priority scheme

Variable class is 1-15, real-time class is 16-31

Priority 0 is memory-management thread

Queue for each priority

If no run-able thread, runs idle thread





Windows Priority Classes

Win32 API identifies several priority classes to which a process can belong

REALTIME_PRIORITY_CLASS, HIGH_PRIORITY_CLASS, ABOVE_NORMAL_PRIORITY_CLASS,NORMAL_PRIORITY_CLASS, BELOW_NORMAL_PRIORITY_CLASS, IDLE_PRIORITY_CLASS

All are variable except REALTIME

A thread within a given priority class has a relative priority

TIME_CRITICAL, HIGHEST, ABOVE_NORMAL, NORMAL, BELOW_NORMAL, LOWEST, IDLE

Priority class and relative priority combine to give numeric priority

Base priority is NORMAL within the class

If quantum expires, priority lowered, but never below base

If wait occurs, priority boosted depending on what was waited for

Foreground window given 3x priority boost

Windows 7 added user-mode scheduling (UMS)

Applications create and manage threads independent of kernel

For large number of threads, much more efficient

UMS schedulers come from programming language libraries like C++ Concurrent Runtime (ConcRT) framework





Windows Priorities

	*(classes)					
	[l		
iority in each)	real- time	high	above normal	normal	below normal	idle priority
time-critical	31	15	15	15	15	15
highest	26	15	12	10	8	6
above normal	25	14	11	9	7	5
normal	24	13	10	8	6	4
below normal	23	12	9	7	5	3
lowest	22	11	8	6	4	2
idle	16	1	1	1	1	1
	time-critical highest above normal normal below normal lowest	iority in each) time time-critical 31 highest 26 above normal 25 normal 24 below normal 23 lowest 22	iority in each)timenigntime-critical3115highest2615above normal2514normal2413below normal2312lowest2211	iority in each)real- timehighabove normaltime-critical311515highest261512above normal251411normal241310below normal23129lowest22118	iority in each)real- timehighabove normalnormaltime-critical31151515highest26151210above normal2514119normal2413108below normal231297lowest221186	iority in each)real- timehighabove normalnormalbelow normaltime-critical3115151515highest261512108above normal25141197normal24131086below normal2312975lowest2211864





Solaris

	glot prio		sc	heduling order	
Priority-based scheduling	▲	169			
Six classes available	highest		interrupt threads	first	
Time sharing (default) (TS)*(default)		160 159			
Interactive (IA)		159			
Real time (RT)					
System (SYS)			vesitions (DT) three de		
Fair Share (FSS)			realtime (RT) threads		
Fixed priority (FP)					
Given thread can be in one class at a time		100			
Each class has its own scheduling algorithm		99			
Time sharing is multi-level feedback queue					
Loadable table configurable by sysadmin			system (SYS) threads		
* (Higher priority, time slice)					
* (Interactive thr given priority than CPU-		60			
bound thr; for good time for interactive thr and good for CPU-bound thr)	C	60 59	fair share (FSS) threads		
			fixed priority (FX) threads		
			timeshare (TS) threads		
	lowest 🕨	0	interactive (IA) threads	↓ last	

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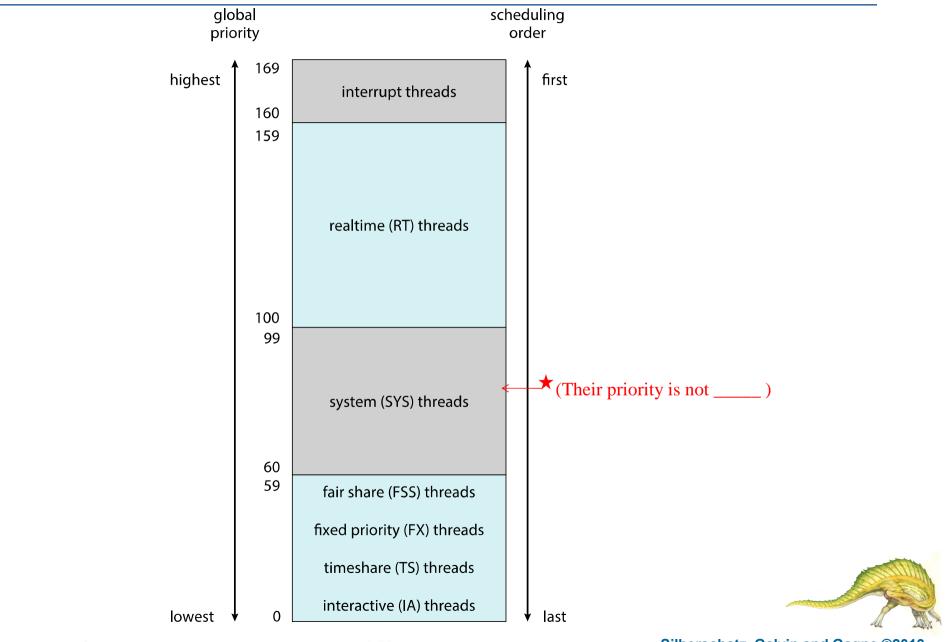
Solaris Dispatch Table* (For time-sharing and _____thr)

priority	time quantum(msec)	time quantum ★ expired (without)	return from sleep	*
0	200	0 [★] (New) 50	(50 ~ 59 to allow response time for
5	200	0	50	interactive thr)
10	160	0	51	
15	160	5	51	
20	120	10	52	
25	120	15	52	
30	80	20	53	
35	80	25	54	
40	40	30	55	
45	40	35	56	
50	40	40	58	
55	40	45	58	
59	20	49	59	

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Solaris Scheduling



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Solaris Scheduling (Cont.)

Scheduler converts class-specific priorities into a per-thread global priority

- Thread with highest priority runs next
- Runs until (1) blocks, (2) uses time slice, (3) preempted by higher-priority thread
- Multiple threads at same priority selected via RR





Algorithm Evaluation

How to select CPU-scheduling algorithm for an OS?

Determine criteria, then evaluate algorithms

Deterministic modeling

Type of analytic evaluation

Takes a particular predetermined workload and defines the performance of each algorithm for that workload

Consider 5 processes arriving at time 0:

Process	Burst Time
P_1	10
P_2	29
P_3	3
P_4	7
P_5	12
* (sum	61)





Deterministic Evaluation

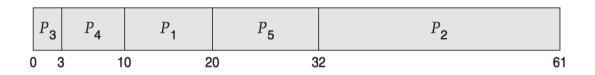
For each algorithm, calculate minimum average waiting time

Simple and fast, but requires exact numbers for input, applies only to those inputs

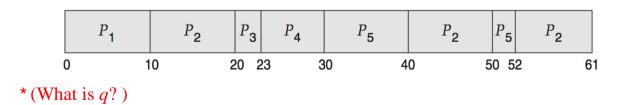
FCS is 28ms:



Non-preemptive SJF is 13ms:



RR is 23ms:







Queueing Models

Describes the arrival of processes, and CPU and I/O bursts probabilistically

Commonly exponential, and described by mean

- Computes average throughput, utilization, waiting time, etc
- Computer system described as network of servers, each with queue of waiting processes

Knowing arrival rates and service rates

Computes utilization, average queue length, average wait time, etc





Little's Formula

- *n* = average queue length
- W = average waiting time in queue
- λ = average arrival rate into queue

Little's law – in steady state, processes leaving queue must equal processes arriving, thus $n = \lambda \times W$

Valid for any scheduling algorithm and arrival distribution

For example, if on average 7 processes arrive per second, and normally 14 processes in queue, then average wait time per process = 2 seconds





Simulations

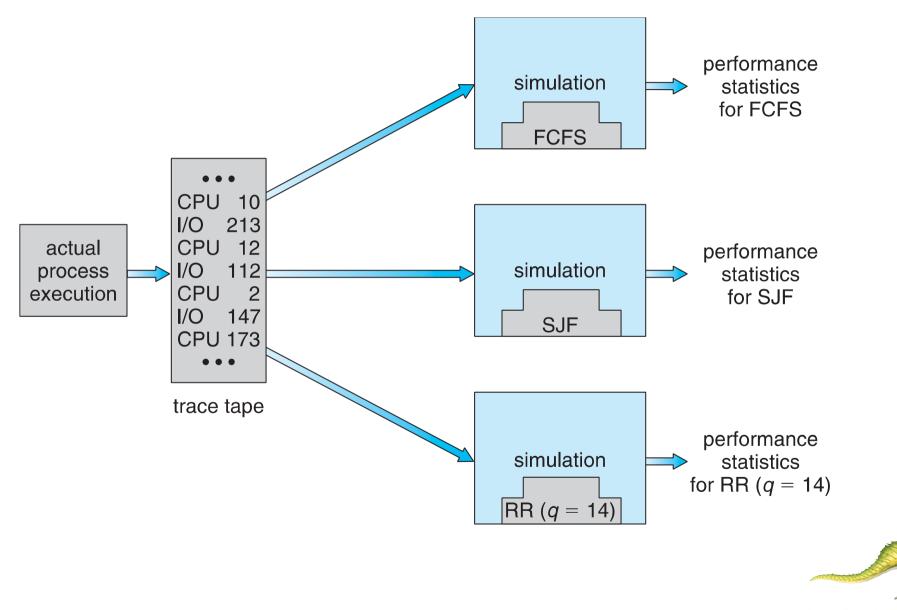
Queueing models limited

- Simulations more accurate
 - Programmed model of computer system
 - Clock is a variable
 - Gather statistics indicating algorithm performance
 - Data to drive simulation gathered via
 - Random number generator according to probabilities
 - Distributions defined mathematically or empirically
 - Trace tapes record sequences of real events in real systems





Evaluation of CPU Schedulers by Simulation





Implementation

Even simulations have limited accuracy

Just implement new scheduler and test in real systems High cost, high risk Environments vary Most flexible schedulers can be modified per-site or per-system Or APIs to modify priorities But again environments vary

