

TCSS 422: OPERATING SYSTEMS


Limited Direct Execution, Introduction to OS/CPU Scheduling

Wes J. Lloyd
School of Engineering and Technology
University of Washington - Tacoma

January 22, 2026

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TEXT BOOK COUPON

- 15% off textbook code: **AAC72SAVE15**
- <https://www.lulu.com/shop/andrea-arpaci-dusseau-and-remzi-arpaci-dusseau/operating-systems-three-easy-pieces-hardcover-version-110/hardcover/product-15gjeeky.html?q=three+easy+pieces+operating+systems&page=1&pageSize=4>
- With coupon textbook is only \$33.79 + tax & shipping

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TCSS 422 – OFFICE HRS – WINTER 2026

- Office Hours plan for Winter:
 - Tuesday 2:30 - 3:30 pm Instructor Wes, Zoom
 - Tue/Thur 6:00 - 7:00 pm Instructor Wes, CP 229/Zoom
 - Tue 6:00 – 7:00 pm GTA Robert, Zoom/MDS 302
 - Wed 1:00 – 2:00 pm GTA Robert, Zoom/MDS 302
- Instructor is available after class at 6pm in CP 229 each day

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OBJECTIVES – 1/22

- Questions from 1/20
- Assignment 0
- C Tutorial - Pointers, Strings, Exec in C
- Chapter 6: Limited Direct Execution
- Chapter 7: Scheduling Introduction
 - Scheduling metrics
 - Turnaround time, Jain's Fairness Index, Response time
 - FIFO, SJF, STCF, RR schedulers
- Chapter 8: Multi-level Feedback Queue
 - MLFQ Scheduler
 - Job Starvation
 - Gaming the Scheduler
 - Examples

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ONLINE DAILY FEEDBACK SURVEY

- Daily Feedback Quiz in Canvas – Available After Each Class
- Extra credit available for completing surveys **ON TIME**
- Tuesday surveys: due by ~ Wed @ 11:59p
- Thursday surveys: due ~ Mon @ 11:59p

TCSS 422 A > Assignments

Spring 2021

Search for Assignment

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Assignments

Discussions

Upcoming Assignments

TCSS 422 - Online Daily Feedback Survey - 4/1

Available until Apr 5 at 11:59pm | Due Apr 5 at 10pm | -/1 pts

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TCSS 422 - Online Daily Feedback Survey - 4/1

Quiz Instructions

Question 1

0.5 pts

On a scale of 1 to 10, please classify your perspective on material covered in today's class:

12345678910

Mostly Review To MeEqual New and ReviewMostly New to Me

Question 2

0.5 pts

Please rate the pace of today's class:

12345678910

SlowJust RightFast

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MATERIAL / PACE

- Please classify your perspective on material covered in today’s class (32 of 46 respondents – 69.5%) :
- *****SURVEY ISSUE*****: Canvas Survey Initially Unavailable, NOW POSTED AND AVAILABLE until Mon Jan 26
- 1-mostly review, 5-equal new/review, 10-mostly new
- **Average – 7.03 (↑ - previous 6.54)**

- Please rate the pace of today’s class:
- 1-slow, 5-just right, 10-fast
- **Average – 5.08 (↑ - previous 4.73)**

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FEEDBACK FROM 1/20

- Where would you use a fork() ?
- The fork() API is used to create a new process in Linux
- ***What is strange*** –how new processes are created in Linux
- Instead of creating a brand-new squeaky-clean process, with an empty heap, stack, & data segments, fork() clones the existing process
- A complete copy of the parent process is made – BUT...
 - The copy is made using **COW: copy on write**
 - Memory is only cloned when data changes
- COW allows fork() to occur in a huge program, while actually doing minimal memory cloning

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FEEDBACK - 2

- Does OS always fork the parent process? Or is there any case to fork the child process?
- The fork() API can be called inside any process, to clone the existing process, to create a new one
- Inside a main program, you can have nested forks:

```
parent-fork()
 /   \
parent child-1-fork()
      /   \
      child-1 child-2-fork()
              /   \
              child2 child3
```

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FEEDBACK - 3

- What does the fork bomb do if it doesn't call fork() literally?
- fork() is a C API
- In bash, the fork-bomb creates a function called ":"
- The fork bomb is

```
:(){ :|: & };:
```
- If we rename ":" to "funca", what we are really doing is defining a bash function call "funca":

```
funca() { funca | funca & };
```
- Each call to funca makes 2 more funca calls
- Each funca call is run as a separate process
 - Every command in bash is run as a separate process
- After the funca definition, funca is called (with ":")

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FEEDBACK - 4

- How do you call a custom program with the exec APIs ?
- The same as you would call any Linux command
- It must be in the system path
- If your executable is in the present working directory, then "." must be in the path
- Check the path with:
`echo $PATH`
- If the executable is not in the path, a fully qualified pathname is required to run the executable
- The 'which' command reports what command will be run
- Myargs should always include the command and arguments

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FINISH CHAPTER 5

- Switch to Lecture 4 Slides
- Slides L4.51 to L4.60 (thru system calls and traps)

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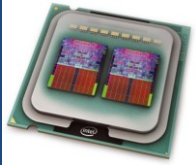
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CH. 6:
LIMITED DIRECT
EXECUTION



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CHAPTER 6

■ Chapter 6: Limited Direct Execution

- Direct execution
- Limited direct execution
- CPU modes
- System calls and traps
- **Cooperative multi-tasking**
- Context switching and preemptive multi-tasking

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MULTITASKING



- How/when should the OS regain control of the CPU to switch between processes?
 - **Cooperative multitasking** (mostly pre 32-bit)
 - < Windows 95, Mac OSX
 - Opportunistic: running programs must give up control
 - User programs must call a special **yield** system call
 - When performing I/O
 - Illegal operations
 - (POLLEV)
- What problems could you see with this approach?

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MULTITASKING

- How/when should the OS regain control of the CPU to switch between processes?
- Cooperative multitasking (mostly pre 32-bit)
 - < V
 - Op
 - When performing I/O
 - Illegal operations
- (POLLEV)
What problems could you for see with this approach?

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Activities

ModerateVisual settingsEdit

When poll is active respond at

PollEv.com /weslloyd

Send weslloyd and your message to 22333

W

What problems exist for regaining control of the CPU with cooperative multitasking OSes?

7

Too many processing calling yield at once?

☆

Program has too much control over OS, too much trust to user

☆

SEE MORE

the OS is at the mercy of whomever wrote a

Current responses

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QUESTION: MULTITASKING

- What problems exist for regaining the control of the CPU with cooperative multitasking OSes?

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MULTITASKING - 2



- **Preemptive multitasking** (32 & 64 bit OSes)
- **>= Mac OSX, Windows 95+**
- **Timer interrupt**
 - Raised at some regular interval (in ms)
 - Interrupt handling
 1. Current program is halted
 2. Program states are saved
 3. OS Interrupt handler is run (kernel mode)
- **(PollEV) What is a good interval for the timer interrupt?**

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MULTITASKING - 2

■ **Preemptive multitasking** (32 & 64 bit OSes)

■ **>= Mac OSX, Windows 95+**

■ **Timer**

■ **Raise**

■ **Interrupt**

1. **Current program is halted**

2. **Program states are saved**

3. **OS Interrupt handler is run (kernel mode)**

■ **(PollEV) What is a good interval for the timer interrupt?**

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Activities

Moderate

Visual settings

Edit

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W

For an OS that uses a system timer to force arbitrary context switches to share the CPU, what is a good value (in seconds) for the timer interrupt?

0

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Loading...

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Current responses

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QUESTION: TIME SLICE

- For an OS that uses a system timer to force arbitrary context switches to share the CPU, what is a good value (in seconds) for the timer interrupt?

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QUESTION: TIME SLICE

- For an OS that uses a system timer to force arbitrary context switches to share the CPU, what is a good value (in seconds) for the timer interrupt?
 - Typical time slice for process execution is 10 to 100 milliseconds
 - Typical context switch overhead is (*switch between processes*) 0.01 milliseconds
 - 0.1% of the time slice (1/1000th)

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CHAPTER 6

■ Chapter 6: Limited Direct Execution

- Direct execution
- Limited direct execution
- CPU modes
- System calls and traps
- Cooperative multi-tasking
- **Context switching and preemptive multi-tasking**

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CONTEXT SWITCH

- Preemptive multitasking initiates “trap” into the OS code to determine:
 - ◆ Whether to continue running the **current process**, or switch to a **different one**.
 - ◆ If the decision is made to switch, the OS performs a context switch swapping out the current process for a new one.

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CONTEXT SWITCH - 2

1. Save register values of the current process to its kernel stack

- General purpose registers
- PC: program counter (instruction pointer)
- kernel stack pointer

2. Restore soon-to-be-executing process from its kernel stack

3. Switch to the kernel stack for the soon-to-be-executing process

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The diagram illustrates the context switch process across three horizontal tracks: OS @ boot (kernel mode), OS @ run (kernel mode), Hardware, and Program (user mode).
1. **OS @ boot (kernel mode):**
- **initialize trap table:** An arrow points to Hardware with the note "remember address of ... syscall handler timer handler".
- **start interrupt timer:** An arrow points to Hardware with the note "start timer interrupt CPU in X ms".
2. **OS @ run (kernel mode):**
- An arrow points to **Program (user mode)** labeled "Process A ...".
- **timer interrupt:** An arrow points from Hardware to OS @ run with the note "save regs(A) to k-stack(A) move to kernel mode jump to trap handler".
- **Handle the trap:** An arrow points to OS @ run with the note "Call switch() routine save regs(A) to proc-struct(A) restore regs(B) from proc-struct(B) switch to k-stack(B) return-from-trap (into B)".
- **return-from-trap (into B):** An arrow points from Hardware to OS @ run with the note "restore regs(B) from k-stack(B) move to user mode jump to B's PC".
3. **Program (user mode):**
- An arrow points to "Process B ...".

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OS @ boot
(kernel mode)

Hardware

initialize trap table

remember address of ...
syscall handler
timer handler

start interrupt timer

start timer
interrupt CPU in X ms

OS @ run
(kernel mode)

Hardware

Program
(user mode)

Context Switch

Call switch() routine
save regs(A) to proc-struct(A)
restore regs(B) from proc-struct(B)
switch to k-stack(B)
return-from-trap (into B)

restore regs(B) from k-stack(B)
move to user mode
jump to B's PC

Process B
...

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CLASS BREAK - QUESTIONS

■ When dealing with OS control trade-offs, what does an OS have to do so that there is not too much overhead?

■ OS functions must use fast, lightweight data structures for the process context, and fast scheduling algorithms

■ Context switches must be engineering to occur rapidly

■ Memory virtualization approach (how the system translates between virtual and physical addresses) needs to be super fast

■ CPUs include a special cache to help address translation called the Translation Lookaside Buffer (TLB). Essentially once an address has been translated, the cached translation is used until the address falls out of the cache

■ Should we memorize Linux terminal commands?

■ Programming/scripting involves much trial-and-error. Knowing more commands without looking them up enables more trials in less time

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EXTRA CREDIT SEMINAR – FRIDAY

- **Research Talk:** Securing the Blindspots: From Formal Verification to Generative Verification
- Dr. Shakthi Yasas Weerasinghe, Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Arizona
- Friday Jan 23, 12:20pm - 1:20pm Milgard 110
- **Abstract:** This seminar explores the critical challenge of "authorization blindspots"—latent security vulnerabilities created when decentralized microservice policies diverge. Attendees will follow a research trajectory designed to detect, and validate these risks through a novel, multi-layered framework. We will first explore Automated Formal Verification, demonstrating how microservice source code can be encoded into SMT constraint models to deterministically identify end-to-end inconsistencies without manual specification. The discussion will then move to Generative Validation, illustrating how formal static analysis can be hybridized with Large Language Models. Participants will see how policy-enriched Intermediate Representations (IR) are used to guide LLMs in generating executable, downstream-aware tests that empirically validate security drifts with high semantic validity.

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WE WILL RETURN AT
~4:55PM

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INTERRUPTED INTERRUPTS

- What happens if during an interrupt (trap to kernel mode), another interrupt occurs?
- Linux
 - < 2.6 kernel: non-preemptive kernel
 - >= 2.6 kernel: preemptive kernel

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PREEMPTIVE KERNEL

- Use “locks” as markers of regions of non-preemptibility (non-maskable interrupt)
- Preemption counter (`preempt_count`)
 - begins at zero
 - increments for each lock acquired (not safe to preempt)
 - decrements when locks are released
- Interrupt can be interrupted when `preempt_count=0`
 - It is safe to preempt (maskable interrupt)
 - the interrupt is more important

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CHAPTER 7-
SCHEDULING:
INTRODUCTION



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SCHEDULING METRICS

- **Metrics:** A standard measure to quantify to what degree a system possesses some property. Metrics provide repeatable techniques to quantify and compare systems.
- **Measurements** are the numbers derived from the application of metrics
- Scheduling Metric #1: **Turnaround time**
- The time at which the job completes minus the time at which the job arrived in the system

$$T_{\text{turnaround}} = T_{\text{completion}} - T_{\text{arrival}}$$

- How is turnaround time different than execution time?

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SCHEDULING METRICS - 2

- Scheduling Metric #2: **Fairness**
 - Jain's fairness index
 - Quantifies if jobs receive a fair share of system resources

$$\mathcal{J}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i)^2}{n \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2}$$

- n processes
- x_i is time share of each process
- worst case = $1/n$
- best case = 1
- Consider $n=3$, worst case = .333, best case=1
- With $n=3$ and $x_1=.2$, $x_2=.7$, $x_3=.1$, fairness=.62
- With $n=3$ and $x_1=.33$, $x_2=.33$, $x_3=.33$, fairness=1

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With $n=3$ and $x_1=.2, x_2=.7, x_3=.1$

$$\mathcal{J}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i)^2}{n \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2}$$

$$\frac{1}{3 \cdot (.2)^2 + (.7)^2 + (.1)^2} = \frac{1}{3(.04 + .49 + .01)} = \frac{1}{1.62} = .617$$

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With $n=3$ and $x_1=.2, x_2=.7, x_3=.1$

$$\mathcal{J}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i)^2}{n \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2}$$

$$\frac{(.2 + .7 + .1)^2}{3 \cdot \sum (.2)^2 + (.7)^2 + (.1)^2} = \frac{1}{3 \cdot (.04 + .49 + .01)} = \frac{1}{1.62} = .617$$

$\frac{1}{3} \rightarrow 1$

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With $n=3$ and $x_1=.33, x_2=.33, x_3=.33$

$$\mathcal{J}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i)^2}{n \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2}$$

$$\frac{1}{3 \cdot (.33^2 + .33^2 + .33^2)}$$
$$(.1089 + .1089 + .1089)$$
$$3 \cdot (.3267) \xrightarrow{.9801} 1$$

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With $n=3$ and $x_1=.33, x_2=.33, x_3=.33$

$$\mathcal{J}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i)^2}{n \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2}$$

$$\frac{.33 + .33 + .33 \rightarrow 1}{3 \cdot \sum (.33)^2 + (.33)^2 + (.33)^2}$$
$$.9801 \rightarrow 1$$
$$3 \cdot (.1089 + .1089 + .1089)$$
$$3 \cdot (.3267)$$
$$3 \cdot (.333)^2 + \dots \dots \dots$$
$$.9801 \xrightarrow{.998} 1.002$$
$$.998001$$

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SCHEDULERS

- FIFO: first in, first out
 - Very simple, easy to implement
- Consider
 - 3 x 10sec jobs, arrival: A B C, duration 10 sec each

A Gantt chart illustrating the execution of three jobs, A, B, and C, under a First-In-First-Out (FIFO) scheduling policy. The horizontal axis represents time in seconds, ranging from 0 to 120. Job A (solid black bar) starts at 0 and runs for 10 seconds. Job B (hatched bar) starts at 10 and runs for 10 seconds. Job C (striped bar) starts at 20 and runs for 10 seconds. The total execution time for all three jobs is 30 seconds.

$$\text{Average turnaround time} = \frac{10 + 20 + 30}{3} = 20 \text{ sec}$$

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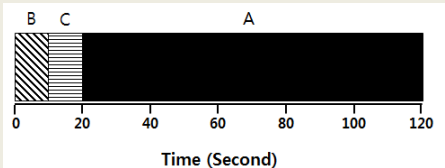
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SJF: SHORTEST JOB FIRST 

- Given that we know execution times in advance:
 - Run in order of duration, shortest to longest
 - Non preemptive scheduler
 - This is not realistic
 - Arrival: A B C, duration a=100 sec, b/c=10sec



Average turnaround time = $\frac{10 + 20 + 120}{3} = 50 \text{ sec}$

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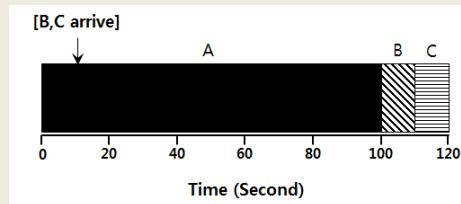
L5.48

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SJF: WITH RANDOM ARRIVAL



- If jobs arrive at any time: duration $a=100s$, $b/c=10s$
- A @ $t=0sec$, B @ $t=10sec$, C @ $t=10sec$



$$\text{Average turnaround time} = \frac{100 + (110 - 10) + (120 - 10)}{3} = 103.33 \text{ sec}$$

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OBJECTIVES – 1/22

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STCF: SHORTEST TIME TO COMPLETION FIRST

- Consider: duration $a=100\text{sec}$, $b/c=10\text{sec}$
 - $A_{\text{len}}=100$ $A_{\text{arrival}}=0$
 - $B_{\text{len}}=10$, $B_{\text{arrival}}=10$, $C_{\text{len}}=10$, $C_{\text{arrival}}=10$

[B,C arrive]

0 10 20 30 40 60 80 100 120

Time (Second)

$$\text{Average turnaround time} = \frac{(120 - 0) + (20 - 10) + (30 - 10)}{3} = 50 \text{ sec}$$

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SCHEDULING METRICS - 3



- Scheduling Metric #3: **Response Time**
- Time from when job arrives until it starts execution

$$T_{response} = T_{firstrun} - T_{arrival}$$

- STCF, SJF, FIFO
 - can perform poorly with respect to response time

What scheduling algorithm(s) can help minimize response time?

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RR: ROUND ROBIN



- Run each job awhile, then switch to another distributing the CPU evenly (fairly)
- Scheduling Quantum is called a time slice
- Time a mu time period.


RR is fair, but performs poorly on metrics such as turnaround time

Process	Burst Time
P1	12

Round Robin scheduling algorithm
Gantt chart

P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P1	P2	P4	P1	
0	5	10	14	19	24	29	32	37	39

Scheduling Quantum = 5 seconds



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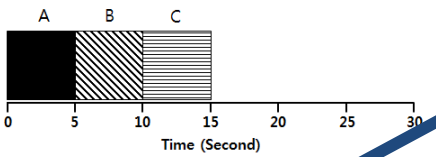
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RR EXAMPLE

- ABC arrive at time=0, each run for 5 seconds

A B C

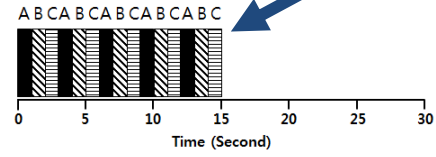


SJF (Bad for Response Time)

OVERHEAD not considered

$$T_{average\ response} = \frac{0 + 5 + 10}{3} = 5sec$$

A B C A B C A B C A B C



RR with a time-slice of 1sec (Good for Response Time)

$$T_{average\ response} = \frac{0 + 1 + 2}{3} = 1sec$$

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ROUND ROBIN: TRADEOFFS

Short Time Slice

Fast Response Time

High overhead from context switching

Long Time Slice

Slow Response Time

Low overhead from context switching

Time slice impact:

Turnaround time (for earlier example):
ts(1,2,3,4,5)=14,14,13,14,10

Fairness: round robin is always fair, J=1

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SCHEDULING WITH I/O

STCF scheduler

A: CPU=50ms, I/O=40ms, 10ms intervals

B: CPU=50ms, I/O=0ms

Consider A as 10ms subjobs (CPU, then I/O)

Without considering I/O:

A

A

A

A

A

B

B

B

B

B

0

20

40

60

80

100

120

140

Time (msec)

CPU utilization= 100/140=71%

Poor Use of Resources

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Slides by Wes J. Lloyd

L5.29

L5.59

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QUESTION: SCHEDULING FAIRNESS

- Which scheduler, this far, best addresses fairness and average response time of jobs?
- First In – First Out (FIFO)
- Shortest Job First (SJF)
- Shortest Time to Completion First (STCF)
- Round Robin (RR)
- None of the Above
- All of the Above

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SCHEDULING METRICS

- Consider Three jobs (A, B, C) that require:
 $time_A=400ms$, $time_B=100ms$, and $time_C=200ms$
- All jobs arrive at $time=0$ in the sequence of A B C.
- Draw a scheduling graph to help compute the average response time (ART) and average turnaround time (ATT) scheduling metrics for the FIFO scheduler.

Example:

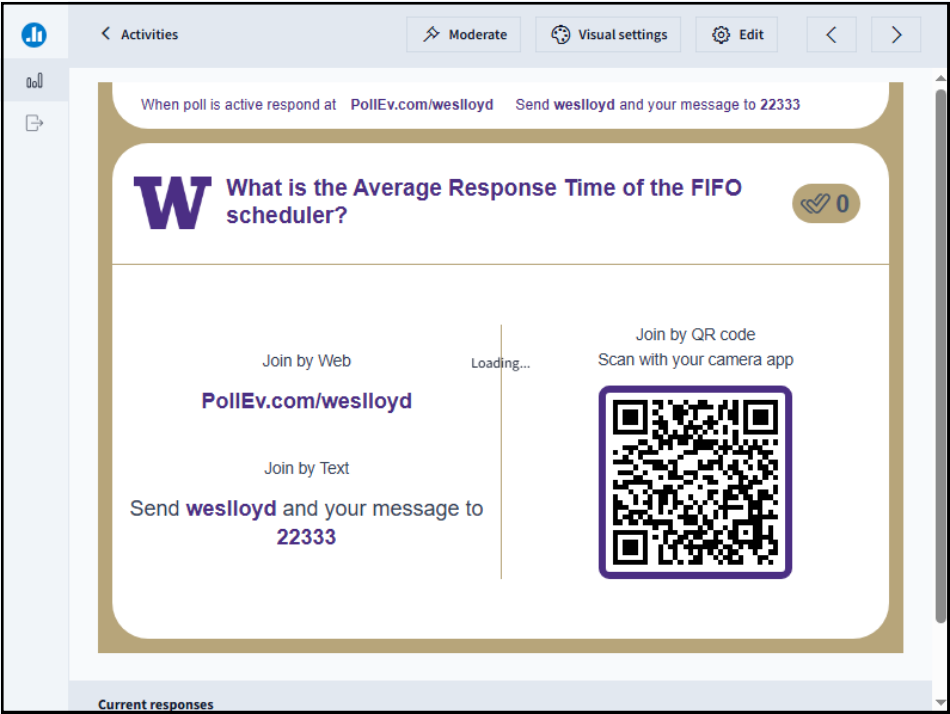
0 400 500 700

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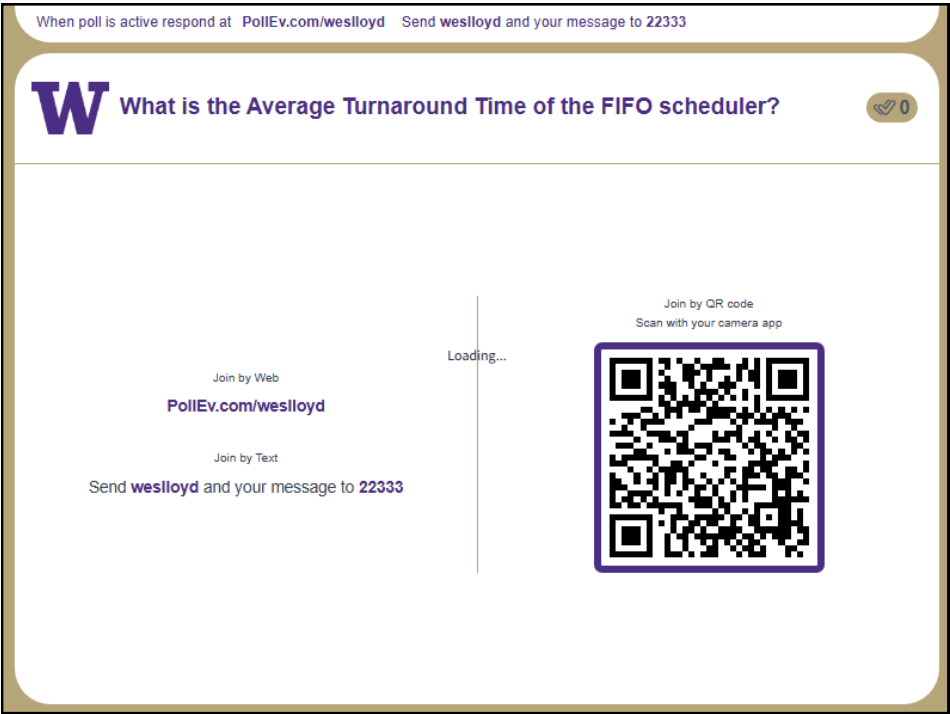
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SCHEDULING METRICS

- Consider Three jobs (A, B, C) that require:
 $time_A=400ms$, $time_B=100ms$, and $time_C=200ms$
- All jobs arrive at time=0 in the sequence of A B C.
- Draw a scheduling graph to help compute the average response time (ART) and average turnaround time (ATT) scheduling metrics for the SJF scheduler.

Example:

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Activities

Moderate Visual settings Edit

When poll is active respond at PollEv.com/weslloyd Send weslloyd and your message to 22333

W What is the Average Response Time of the Shortest Job First Scheduler? 0

Join by Web
PollEv.com/weslloyd

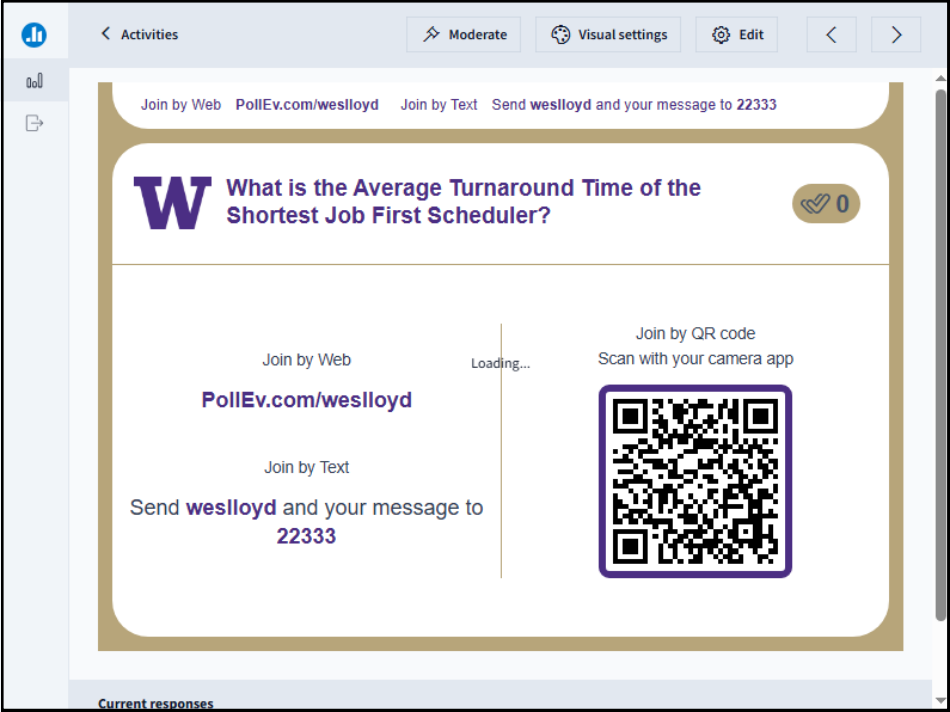
Join by Text
Send weslloyd and your message to 22333

Loading...

Join by QR code
Scan with your camera app

Current responses

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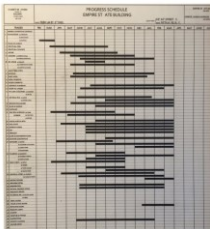


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CHAPTER 8 – MULTI-LEVEL FEEDBACK QUEUE (MLFQ) SCHEDULER

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 - **MLFQ Scheduler**
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 - Examples

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MULTI-LEVEL FEEDBACK QUEUE ★


- Objectives:
 - Improve turnaround time:
Run shorter jobs first
 - Minimize response time:
Important for interactive jobs (UI)
- Achieve without a priori knowledge of job length

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MLFQ - 2

Round-Robin within a Queue

- Multiple job queues
- Adjust job priority based on observed behavior
- Interactive Jobs
 - Frequent I/O → keep priority high
 - Interactive jobs require fast response time (GUI/UI)
- Batch Jobs
 - Require long periods of CPU utilization
 - Keep priority low

[High Priority] Q8 → (A) → (B)

Q7

Q6

Q5

Q4 → (C)

Q3

Q2


[Low Priority] Q1 → (D)

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MLFQ: DETERMINING JOB PRIORITY

- New arriving jobs are placed into highest priority queue
- If a job uses its entire time slice, priority is reduced (↓)
 - Jobs appears CPU-bound (“batch” job), not interactive (GUI/UI)
- If a job relinquishes the CPU for I/O priority stays the same

MLFQ approximates SJF

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MLFQ: LONG RUNNING JOB

■ Three-queue scheduler, time slice=10ms

Priority
↓

Q2

Q1

Q0

0

50

100

150

200

Long-running Job Over Time (msec)

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MLFQ: BATCH AND INTERACTIVE JOBS

■ $A_{arrival_time} = 0ms$, $A_{run_time} = 200ms$,
■ $B_{run_time} = 20ms$, $B_{arrival_time} = 100ms$

Priority
↓

Q2

Q1

Q0

0

50

100

150

200

Scheduling multiple jobs (ms)

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MLFQ: BATCH AND INTERACTIVE - 2

- Continuous interactive job (B) with long running batch job (A)
 - Low response time is good for B
 - A continues to make progress

The MLFQ approach keeps interactive job(s) at the highest priority

A Mixed I/O-intensive and CPU-intensive Workload (msec)

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MLFQ: ISSUES

Starvation

[High Priority] Q8 → A → B → C → D → E → F

Q7

Q6

Q5

Q4

Q3

Q2

[Low Priority] Q1 → G → H *CPU bound batch job(s)*

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RESPONDING TO BEHAVIOR CHANGE

Q2

Q1

Q0

0 50 100 150 200

Starvation

Without Priority Boost A: B: C:

Priority Boost

- Reset all jobs to topmost queue after some time interval S

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RESPONDING TO BEHAVIOR CHANGE - 2

With priority boost

Prevents starvation

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KEY TO UNDERSTANDING MLFQ – PB

Without priority boost:

Rule 1: If $\text{Priority}(A) > \text{Priority}(B)$, A runs (B doesn't).

Rule 2: If $\text{Priority}(A) = \text{Priority}(B)$, A & B run in RR.

KEY: If time quantum of a higher queue is filled, then we don't run any jobs in lower priority queues!!!

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STARVATION EXAMPLE

- Consider 3 queues:
 - Q2 - HIGH PRIORITY - Time Quantum 10ms
 - Q1 - MEDIUM PRIORITY - Time Quantum 20 ms
 - Q0 - LOW PRIORITY - Time Quantum 40 ms
- Job A: 200ms no I/O
- Job B: 5ms then I/O
- Job C: 5ms then I/O
- Q2 fills up, starves Q1 & Q0
- A makes no progress

Without Priority Boost

A: B: C:

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MLFQ: ISSUES - 2

- Gaming the scheduler
 - Issue I/O operation at 99% completion of the time slice
 - Keeps job priority fixed – never lowered
- Job behavioral change
 - CPU/batch process becomes an interactive process

Priority becomes stuck

CPU bound batch job(s)

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PREVENTING GAMING

- Improved time accounting:
 - Track total job execution time in the queue
 - Each job receives a fixed time allotment
 - When allotment is exhausted, job priority is lowered

Without(Left) and With(Right) Gaming Tolerance

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MLFQ: TUNING

- Consider the tradeoffs:
 - How many queues?
 - What is a good time slice?
 - How often should we “Boost” priority of jobs?
 - What about different time slices to different queues?

Example) 10ms for the highest queue, 20ms for the middle,
40ms for the lowest

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PRACTICAL EXAMPLE

- Oracle Solaris MLFQ implementation
 - 60 Queues →
w/ slowly increasing time slice (high to low priority)
 - Provides sys admins with set of editable table(s)
 - Supports adjusting time slices, boost intervals, priority changes, etc.
- Advice
 - Provide OS with hints about the process
 - Nice command → Linux

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MLFQ RULE SUMMARY

- The refined set of MLFQ rules:
 - **Rule 1:** If $\text{Priority}(A) > \text{Priority}(B)$, A runs (B doesn't).
 - **Rule 2:** If $\text{Priority}(A) = \text{Priority}(B)$, A & B run in RR.
 - **Rule 3:** When a job enters the system, it is placed at the highest priority.
 - **Rule 4:** Once a job uses up its time allotment at a given level (regardless of how many times it has given up the CPU), its priority is reduced(i.e., it moves down on queue).
 - **Rule 5:** After some time period S, move all the jobs in the system to the topmost queue.

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Jackson deploys a 3-level MLFQ scheduler. The time slice is 1 for high priority jobs, 2 for medium priority, and 4 for low priority. This MLFQ scheduler performs a Priority Boost every 6 timer units. When the priority boost fires, the current job is preempted, and the next scheduled job is run in round-robin order.

Job	Arrival Time	Job Length
A	T=0	4
B	T=0	16
C	T=0	8

(11 points) Show a scheduling graph for the MLFQ scheduler for the jobs above. Draw vertical lines for key events and be sure to label the X-axis times as in the example. Please draw clearly. An unreadable graph will loose points.

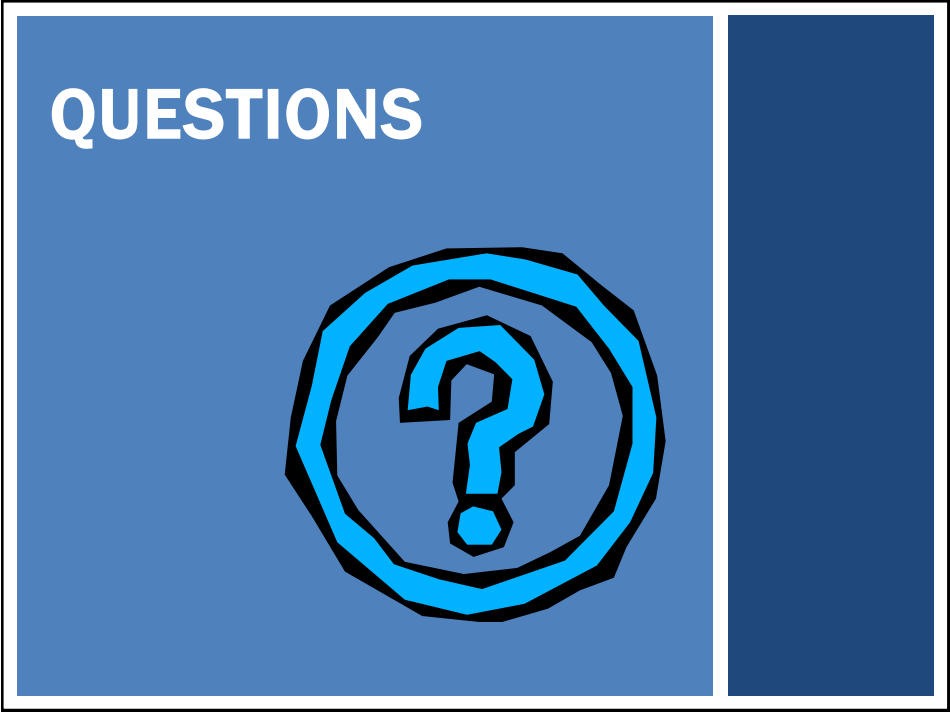


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EXAMPLE

- Question:
- Given a system with a quantum length of 10 ms in its highest queue, how often would you have to boost jobs back to the highest priority level to guarantee that a single long-running (and potentially starving) job gets at least 5% of the CPU?
- Some combination of n short jobs runs for a total of 10 ms per cycle without relinquishing the CPU
 - E.g. 2 jobs = 5 ms ea; 3 jobs = 3.33 ms ea, 10 jobs = 1 ms ea
 - n jobs always uses full time quantum (10 ms)
 - Batch jobs starts, runs for full quantum of 10ms
 - All other jobs run and context switch totaling the quantum per cycle
 - If 10ms is 5% of the CPU, when must the priority boost be ???
 - **ANSWER** → *Prilority boost should occur every 200ms*

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