


# TCSS 422: OPERATING SYSTEMS

**Processes, Process API,  
Limited Direct Execution**



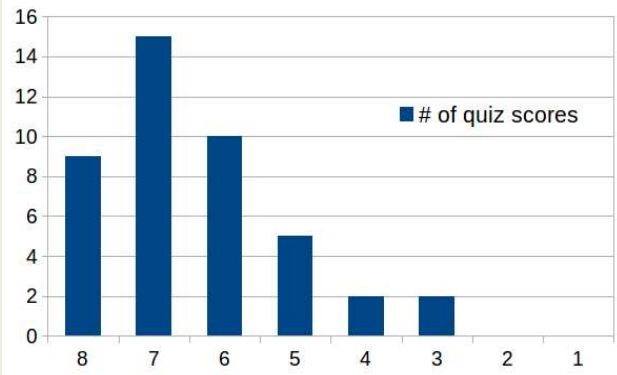
**Wes J. Lloyd**  
School of Engineering and Technology,  
University of Washington - Tacoma

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## QUIZ 0 SCORES

- Average - 6.419
- Min - 3
- Max/4<sup>th</sup> quartile - 8
- 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Quartile - 7
- 1<sup>st</sup> quartile - 6
- Mode - 7
- Std. Dev. - 1.33



Score	# of quiz scores
8	9
7	15
6	10
5	5
4	2
3	2
2	0
1	0

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## FEEDBACK FROM 10/3

- Real world example of “a child of a parent of a process”
- ... when do processes have children?
- Check process ID of BASH shell:
  - echo \$\$
- Check parent’s process ID:
  - echo \$PPID
- Exec launches a different process or program
  - What is the difference between a process and a program?
  - Exec does not create a new process. It transfers control:  
**Man page:** “The exec() family of functions replaces the current process image with a new process image.”

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## FEEDBACK - 2

- Can you create more than 1 fork?
  - i.e. call fork() more than one time in a program
- If you create more than one fork(), how do you handle them?
- How would you use fork in a potential application?
- Code examples online under “Schedule” tab:

### Source Code Examples

Source code for examples from class are posted [\[HERE\]](#).

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## FEEDBACK - 3

- Most of the Linux calls are still unclear
- Is it possible to record the lectures?

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## OBJECTIVES

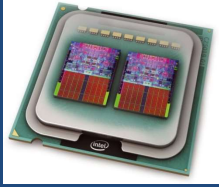
- C Tutorial
- Quiz 1 – Active Reading
  
- Chapter 6 – Limited Direct Execution – cont'd
  
- Chapter 7 – Introduction to Scheduling
- Chapter 8 – Multi-level Feedback Queue

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**CH. 6:  
LIMITED DIRECT  
EXECUTION**



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**CHAPTER 6 REVIEW**

- As per Chapter 6, What is DIRECT Execution?
- What is Limited Direct Execution?
- What is a context switch?
- What is a system call?
- What is an operating system “Trap”?
- What is the difference between a maskable and a non-maskable interrupt?

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## DIRECT EXECUTION - 2

- **With direct execution:**

How does the OS stop a program from running, and switch to another to support **time sharing**?

How do programs share disks and perform I/O if they are given direct control? Do they know about each other?

With direct execution, how can dynamic memory structures such as linked lists grow over time?

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## CONTROL TRADEOFF

- **Too little control:**

- No security
- No time sharing

- **Too much control:**

- Too much OS overhead
- Poor performance for compute & I/O
- Complex APIs (system calls), difficult to use

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## CONTEXT SWITCHING OVERHEAD

### Context Switching

Multitasking

vs. Multitasking with context switching

Sequential

Total cost of context switching

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## LIMITED DIRECT EXECUTION

- OS implements LDE to support time/resource sharing
- Limited direct execution means “only limited” processes can execute **DIRECTLY** on the CPU in ***trusted*** mode
- **TRUSTED** means the process is trusted, and it can do anything... (e.g. it is a system / kernel level process)
- Enabled by ***protected (safe) control transfer***
- CPU supported context switch
- Provides data isolation

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# SYSTEM CALLS

- Implement restricted “OS” operations
- Kernel exposes key functions through an API:
  - Device I/O (e.g. file I/O)
  - Task swapping: context switching between processes
  - Memory management/allocation: malloc()
  - Creating/destroying processes

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# TRAPS: SYSTEM CALLS, EXCEPTIONS, INTERRUPTS

- Trap: any transfer to kernel mode
- Three kinds of traps
  - **System call:** (planned) user → kernel
    - SYSCALL for I/O, etc.
  - **Exception:** (error) user → kernel
    - Div by zero, page fault, page protection error
  - **Interrupt:** (event) user → kernel
    - Non-maskable vs. maskable
    - Keyboard event, network packet arrival, timer ticks
    - Memory parity error (ECC), hard drive failure

```
loop() {  
  instruction 1  
  instruction 2  
  instruction 3  
  instruction 4  
  instruction 5  
}
```

Interrupt

```
ISR() {  
  instruction 1  
  instruction 2  
  instruction 3  
}
```

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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 for 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)
  - < Y
  - Op
  - When performing I/O
  - Illegal operations
- (POLLEV)  
What problems could you for see with this approach?

A process gets stuck in an infinite loop.  
→ **Reboot the machine**

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

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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

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

**A timer interrupt gives OS the ability to run again on a CPU.**

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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?

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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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## 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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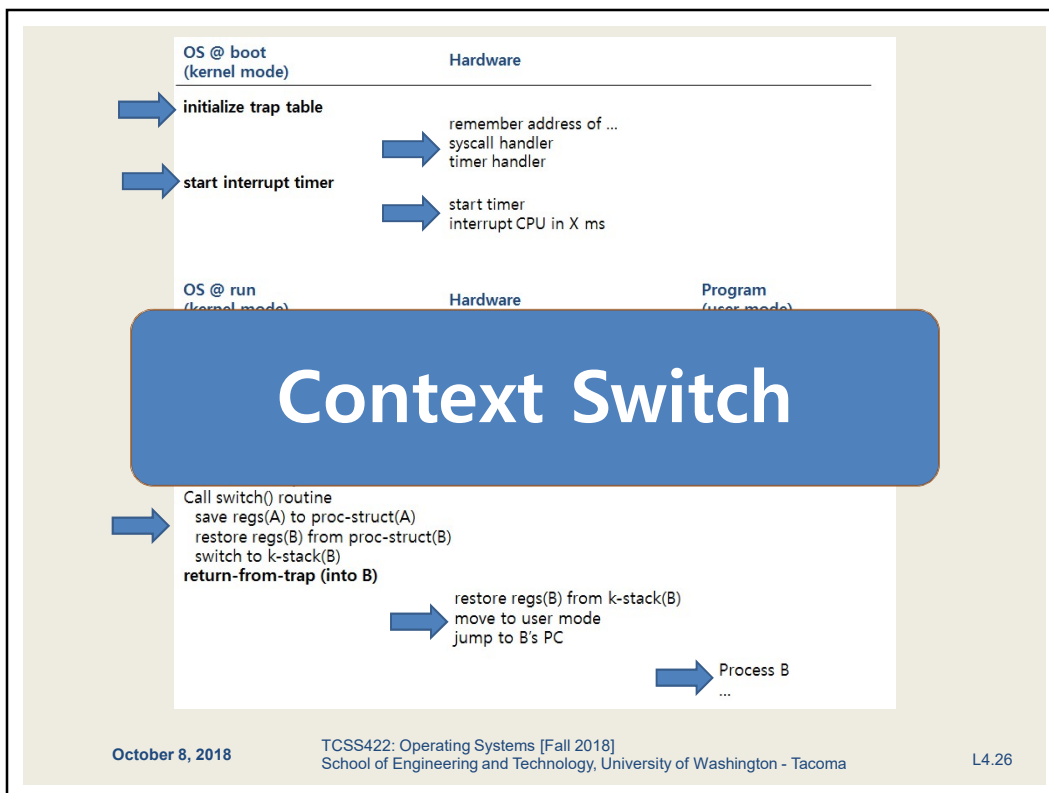
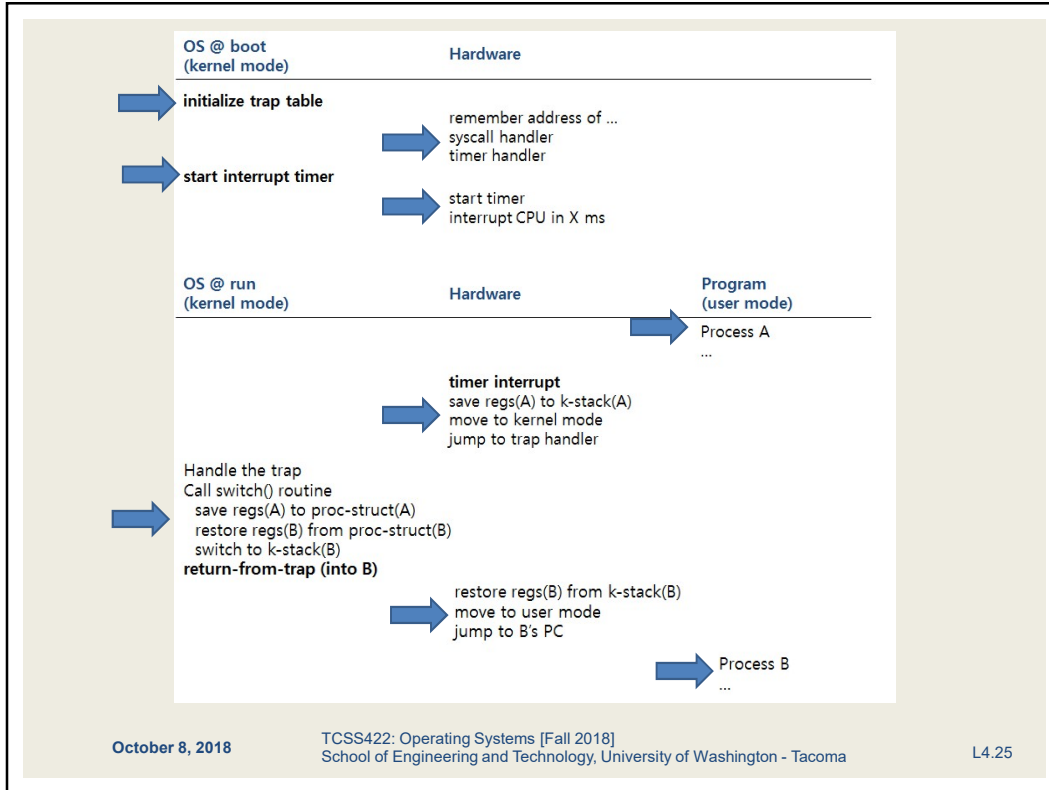
## CONTEXT SWITCH - 2

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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## 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 INTRODUCTION

- For simplicity, consider job scheduling with limitations:
  - Each job requires the same CPU time
  - All jobs arrive at the same time
  - All jobs only use the CPU (no I/O)
  - The run-time of each job is known a priori



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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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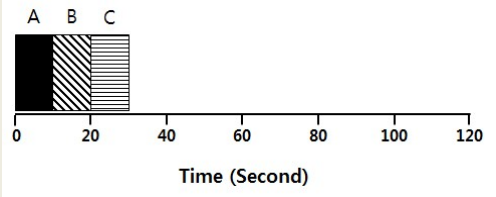
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## SCHEDULERS

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

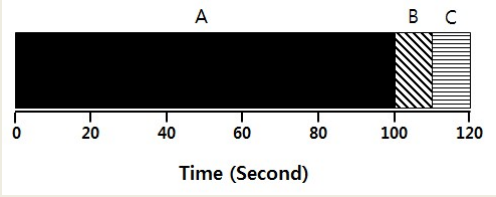


*Average turnaround time* =  $\frac{10 + 20 + 30}{3} = 20 \text{ sec}$

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## FIFO: CONVOY EFFECT

- FIFO with different jobs lengths
- Consider
  - $A_{len}=100\text{sec}$ ,  $B_{len}=10\text{sec}$ ,  $C_{len}=10\text{sec}$

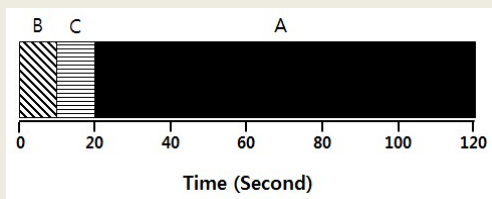


*Average turnaround time* =  $\frac{100 + 110 + 120}{3} = 110 \text{ sec}$

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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



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

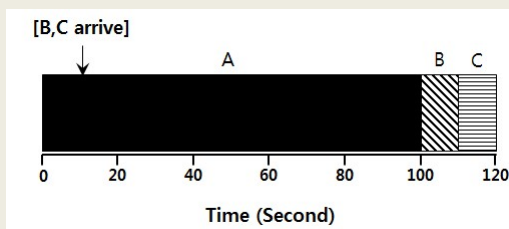
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## SJF: WITH RANDOM ARRIVAL

- If jobs arrive at any time:
  - 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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## STCF – SHORTEST TIME TO COMPLETION FIRST

- Add preemption to the Shortest Job First scheduler
  - Also called preemptive shortest job first (PSJF)
- When a new job enters the system:
  - Of all jobs, Which has the least time left?
  - **PREMPT** job execution, and schedule the **new** shortest job
- More realistic, but how do we know execution time in advance?
  - Oracle: All knowing one
  - Only schedule static (fixed size) batch workloads
  - Can we predict execution time?

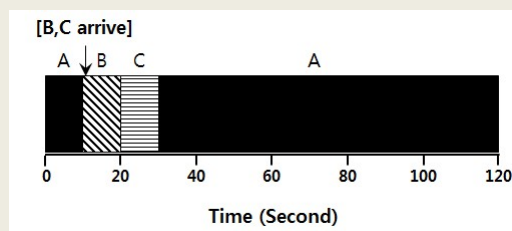
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## STCF - 2

- Consider:
  - $A_{len}=100$   $A_{arrival}=0$
  - $B_{len}=10$ ,  $B_{arrival}=10$ ,  $C_{len}=10$ ,  $C_{arrival}=10$



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

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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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## Which scheduler metric does the Shortest Time to Completion First (STCF) scheduler provide the best improvement on vs. First In First Out (FIFO)?

**W**

average turnaround time of jobs	<b>1</b>
fairness of job scheduling (Jain's fairness index)	<b>2</b>
average response time of jobs	<b>3</b>
All of the above	<b>4</b>
None of the above	<b>5</b>

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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 timer interrupt period.

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

Process	Burst Time
P1	12
P5	5

**Round Robin scheduling algorithm Gantt chart**

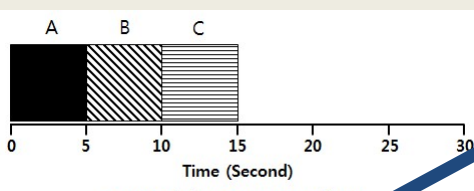
P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P1	P2	P4	P1	
0	5	10	14	19	24	29	32	37	39

Scheduling Quantum = 5 seconds →

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## RR EXAMPLE

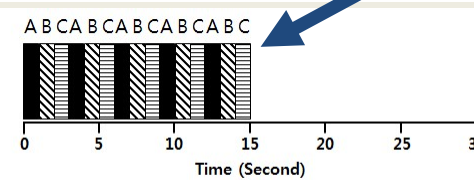
- ABC arrive at time=0, each run for 5 seconds



SJF (Bad for Response Time)

OVERHEAD not considered

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



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

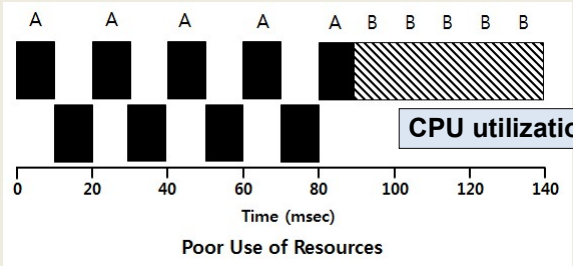
**Slow Response Time**

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:
  - 

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## SCHEDULING WITH I/O - 2

- When a job initiates an I/O request
  - A is blocked, waits for I/O to compute, frees CPU
  - STCF scheduler assigns B to CPU
- When I/O completes → raise interrupt
  - Unblock A, STCF goes back to executing A: (10ms sub-job)

Overlap Allows Better Use of Resources

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## W Which scheduler, thus far, best address fairness and average response time of jobs?

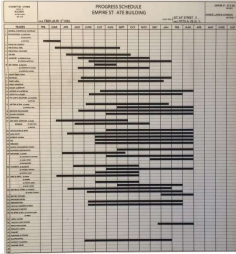
Respond at [PollEv.com/wesleylloyd641](https://www.poll-ev.com/wesleylloyd641)

Text **WESLEYLLOYD641** to **22333** once to join, then **1, 2, 3, 4, 5...**

- First In - First Out (FIFO) **1**
- Shortest Job First (SJF) **2**
- Shortest Time to Completion First (STCF) **3**
- Round Robin **4**
- None of the Above **5**
- All of the Above **6**

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



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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

↓

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

↓

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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## 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

[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)*

**Priority becomes stuck** →

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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

Without(Left) and With(Right) Priority Boost    A: ■    B: ▨    C: ▩

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## PREVENTING GAMING

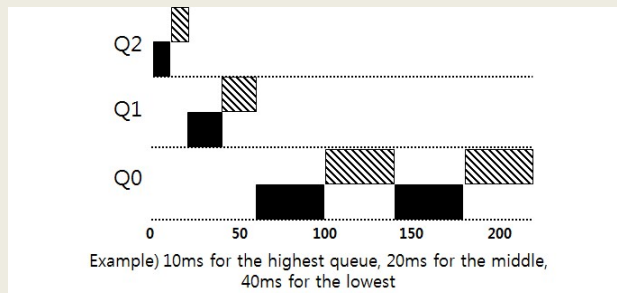
- Improved time accounting:
  - Track total job execution time in the queue
  - Each job receives a fixed time allotment
  - When allotment is exhausted, job priority is lowered

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?



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L4.59

## 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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L4.60

## 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 lose points.

