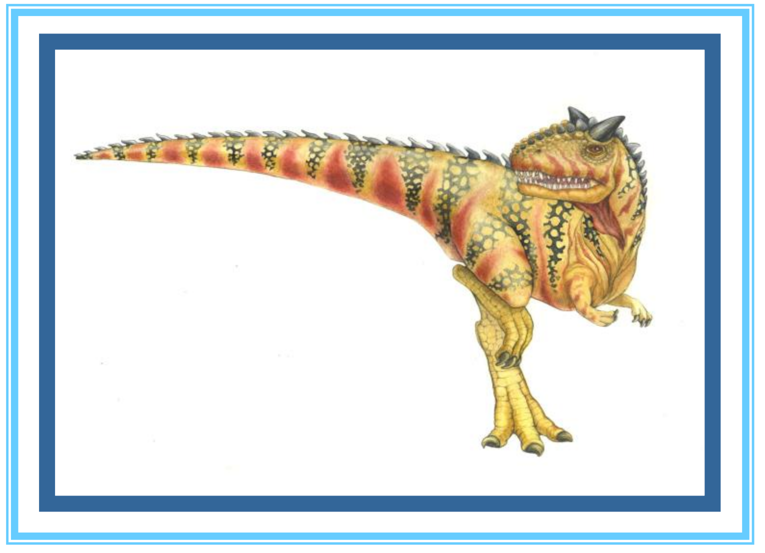
Chapter 5: Process Scheduling



Chapter 5: Process Scheduling

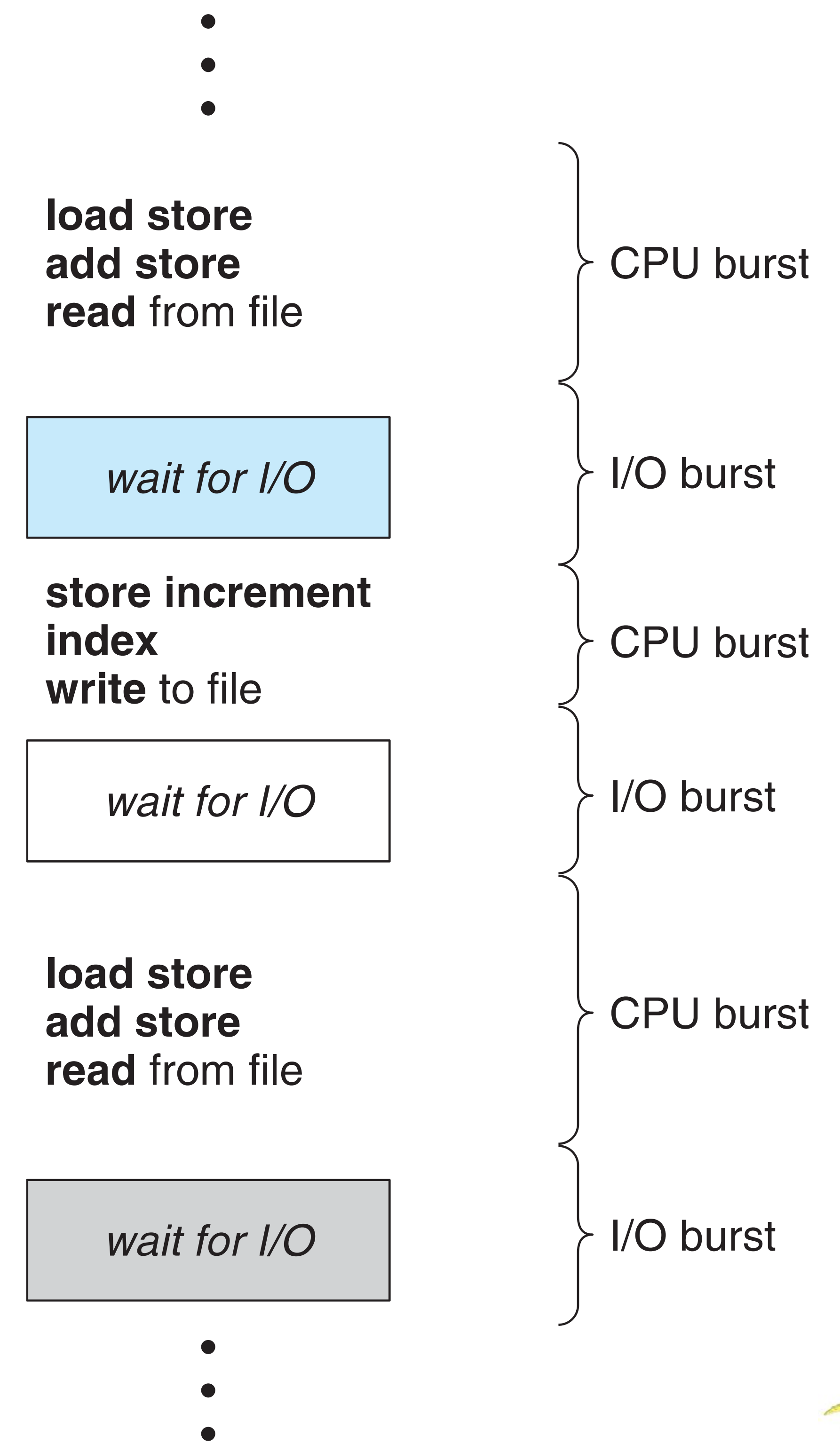
- Basic Concepts
- Scheduling Criteria
- Scheduling Algorithms
- Thread Scheduling
- Multiple-Processor Scheduling
- Real-Time CPU Scheduling
- Operating Systems Examples
- Algorithm Evaluation

Objectives

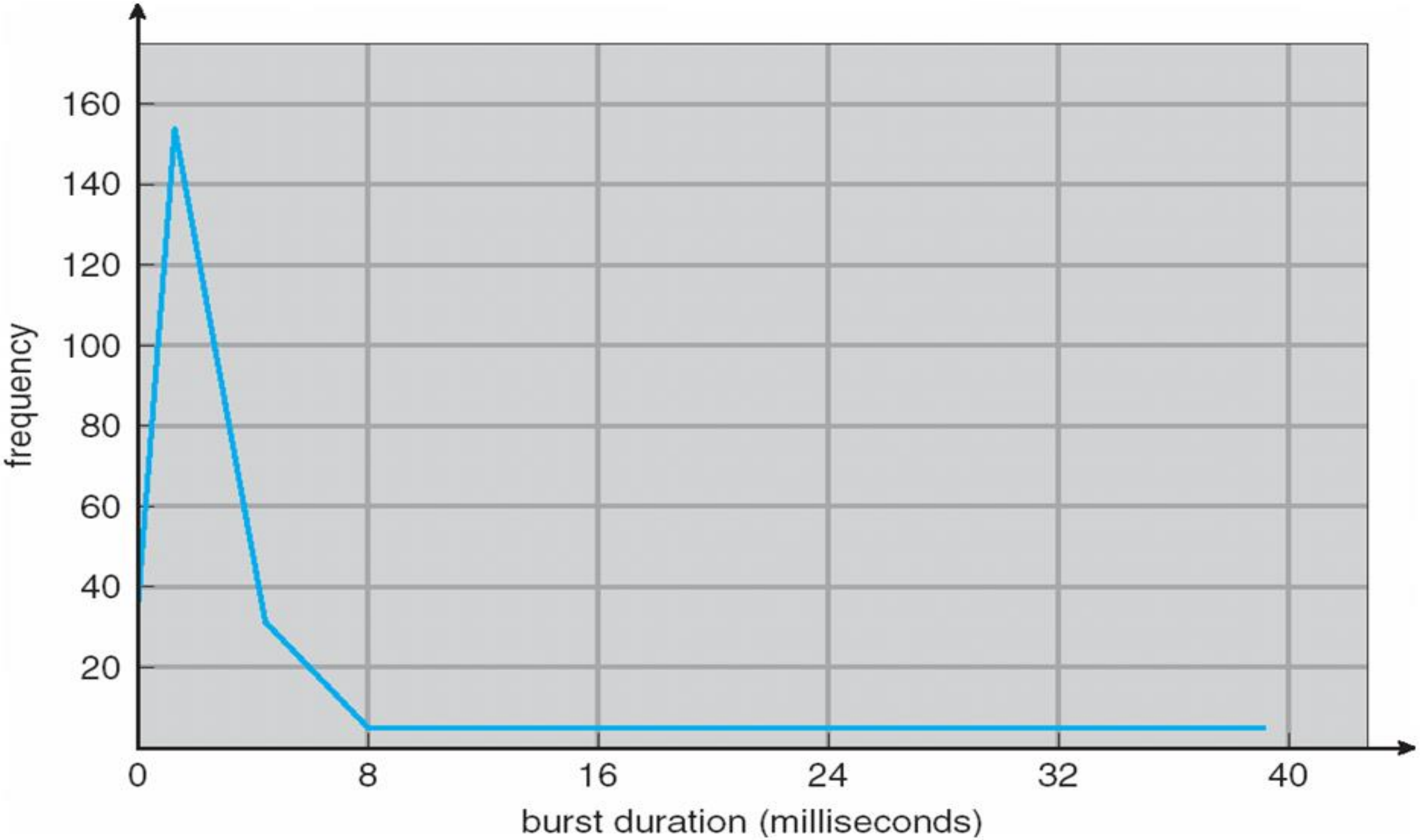
- To introduce CPU scheduling, which is the basis for multiprogrammed operating systems
- To describe various CPU-scheduling algorithms
- To discuss evaluation criteria for selecting a CPU-scheduling algorithm for a particular system
- To examine the scheduling algorithms of several operating systems

Basic Concepts

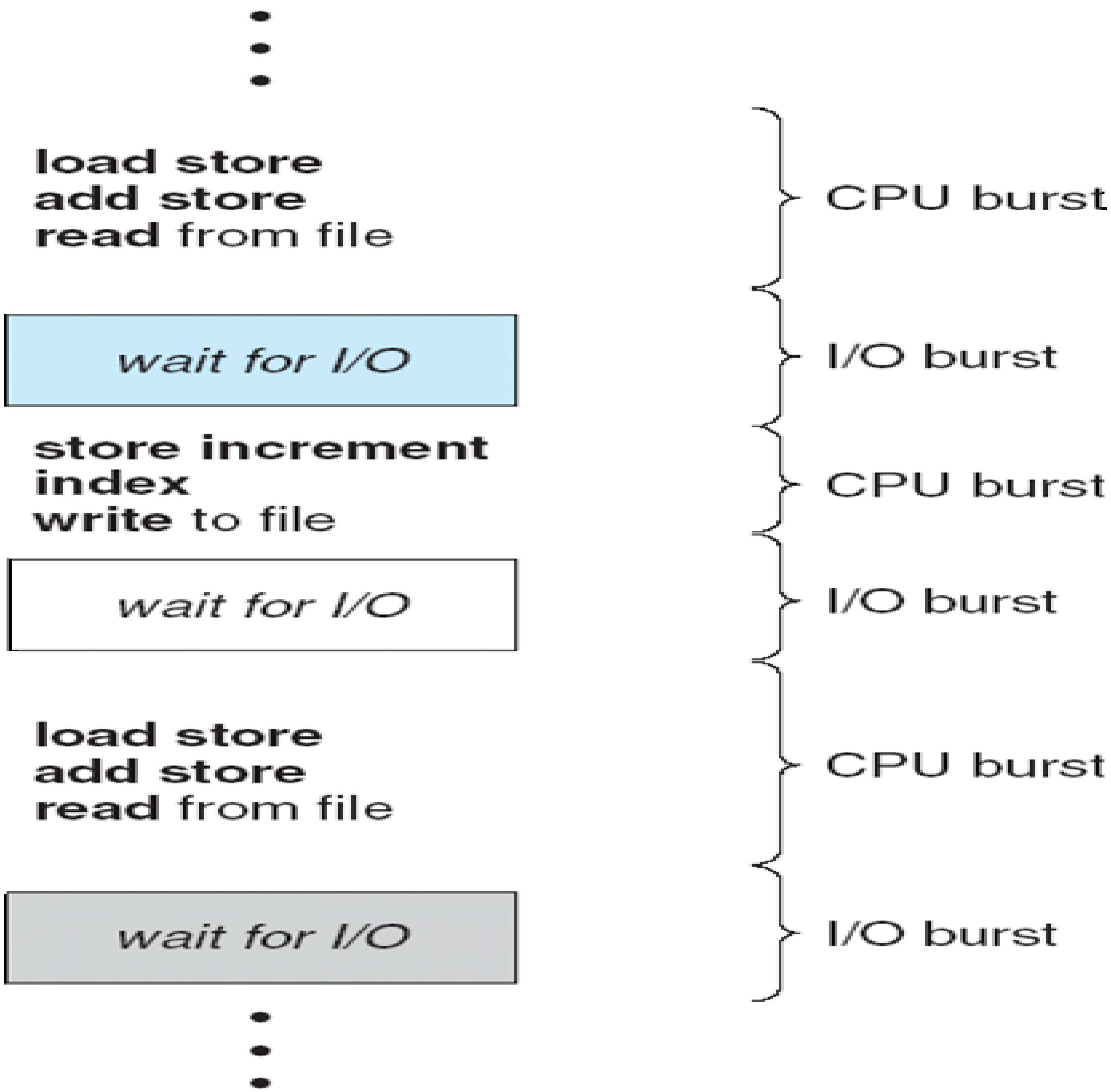
- Maximum CPU utilization obtained with multiprogramming
- CPU–I/O Burst Cycle – Process execution consists of a **cycle** of CPU execution and I/O wait
- **CPU burst** followed by **I/O burst**
- CPU burst distribution is of main concern



Histogram of CPU-burst Times



Alternating Sequence of CPU And I/O Bursts



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:
  1. Switches from running to waiting state
  2. Switches from running to ready state
  3. Switches from waiting to ready
  4. Terminates
- 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

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

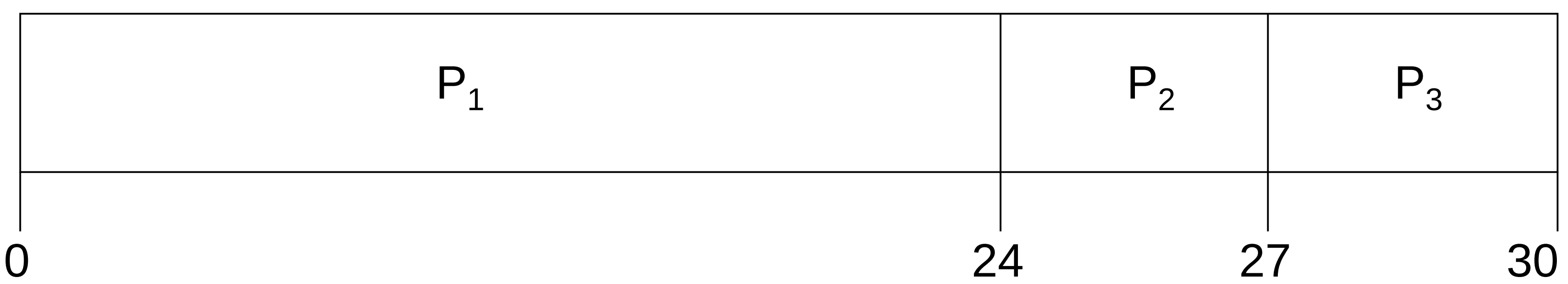
Scheduling Algorithm Optimization Criteria

- Max CPU utilization
- Max throughput
- Min turnaround time
- Min waiting time
- Min response time

First-Come, First-Served (FCFS) Scheduling

Process	Burst Time
P_1	24
P_2	3
P_3	3

- Suppose that the processes arrive in the order: P_1 , P_2 , P_3
  The Gantt Chart for the schedule is:



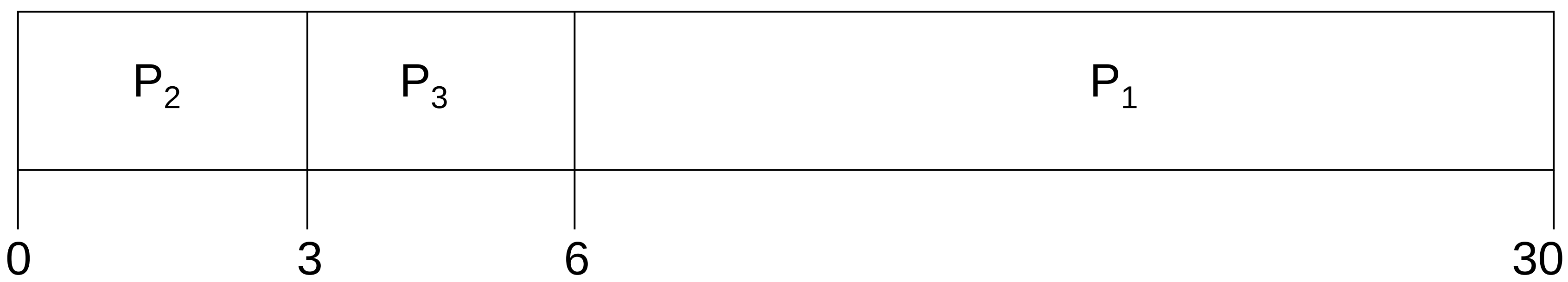
- Waiting time for P_1 = 0; P_2 = 24; P_3 = 27
- Average waiting time: (0 + 24 + 27)/3 = 17

FCFS Scheduling (Cont.)

Suppose that the processes arrive in the order:

$$P_2\ ,\ P_3\ ,\ P_1$$

- 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

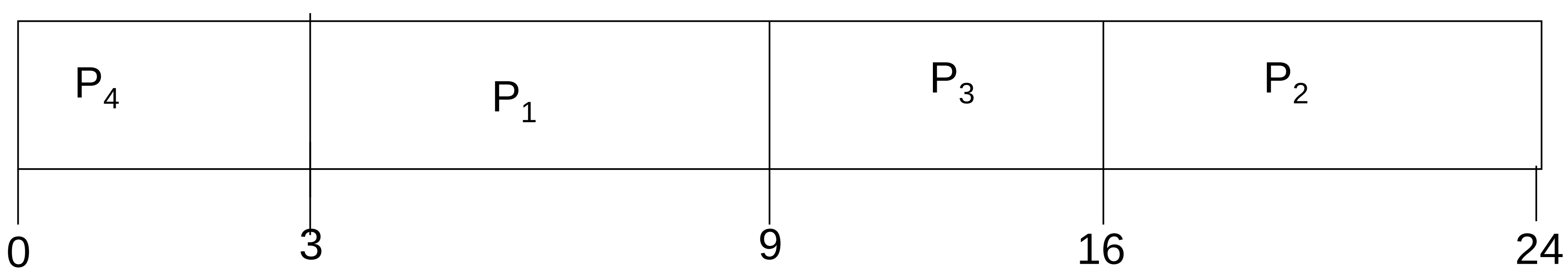
Shortest-Job-First (SJF) Scheduling

- 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

Example of SJF

Process	Burst Time
P_1	6
P_2	8
P_3	7
P_4	3

- SJF scheduling chart



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

Determining Length of Next CPU Burst

- 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

$$\tau_{n=1} = \alpha\, t_n + (1-\alpha)\tau_n.$$

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

- Commonly, α set to ½
- Preemptive version called **shortest-remaining-time-first**

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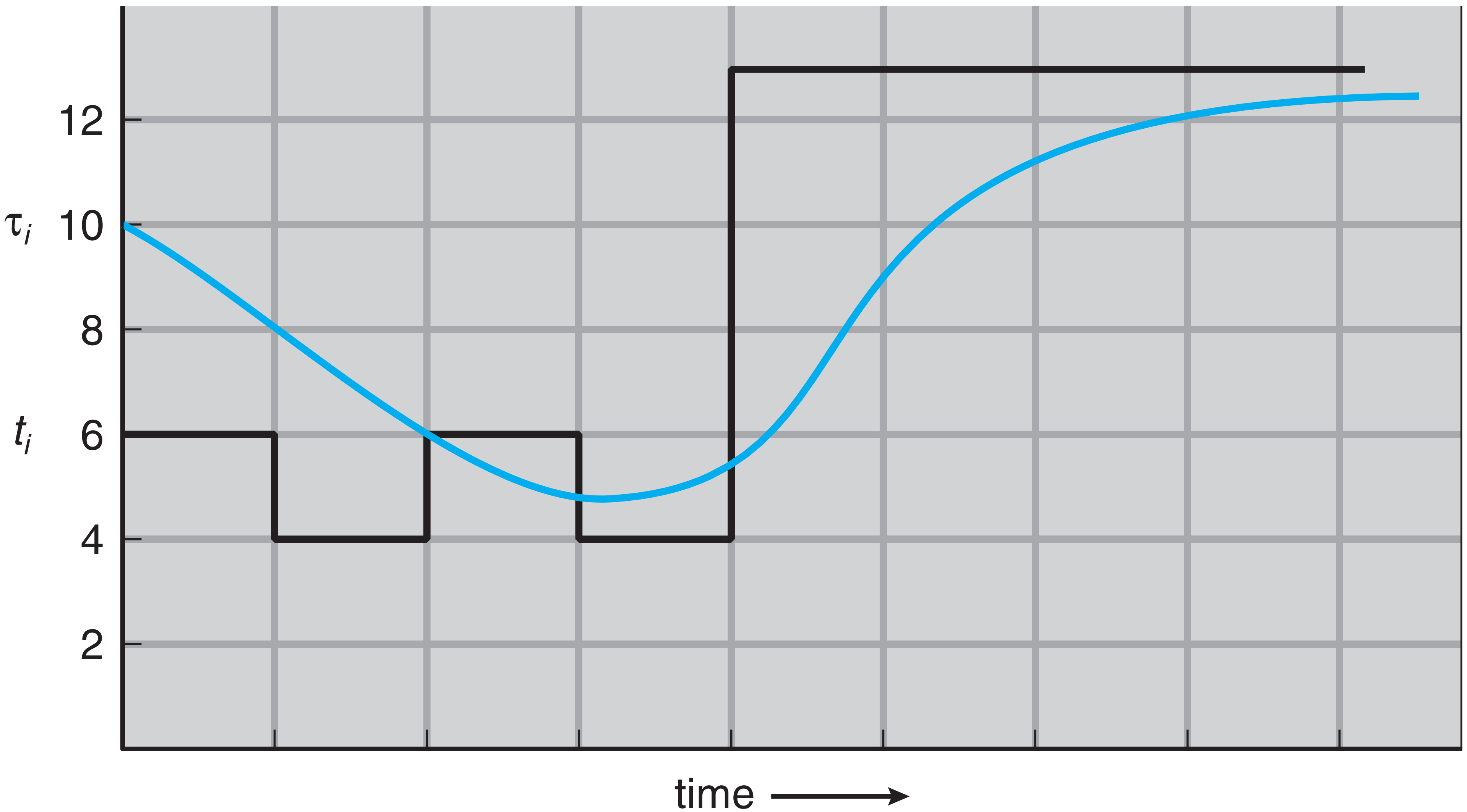
Prediction of the Length of the Next CPU Burst



CPU burst (t_i)		6	4	6	4	13	13	13	...
"guess" (τ_i)	10	8	6	6	5	9	11	12	...

Examples of Exponential Averaging

- $\alpha = 0$
  - $\tau_{n+1} = \tau_n$
  - Recent history does not count
- $\alpha = 1$
  - $\tau_{n+1} = \alpha \, t_n$
  - Only the actual last CPU burst counts
- If we expand the formula, we get:

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

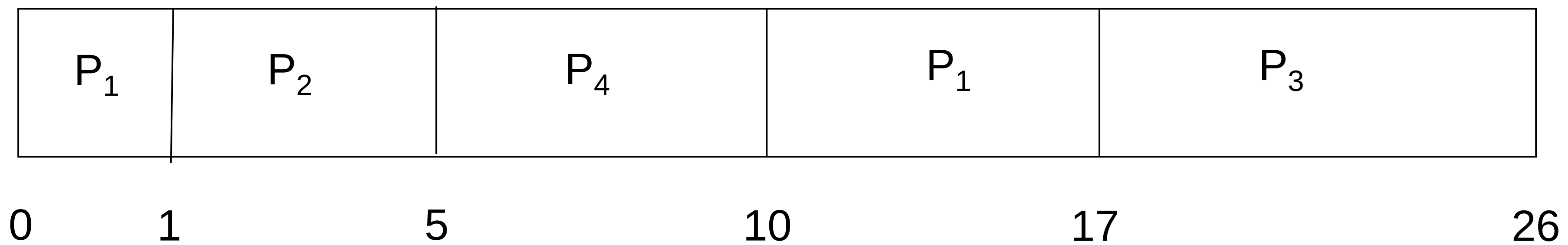
- Since both α and $(1 - \alpha)$ are less than or equal to 1, each successive term has less weight than its predecessor

Example of Shortest-remaining-time-first

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

Process	*Arrival* Time	Burst Time
P_1	0	8
P_2	1	4
P_3	2	9
P_4	3	5

- *Preemptive* SJF Gantt Chart



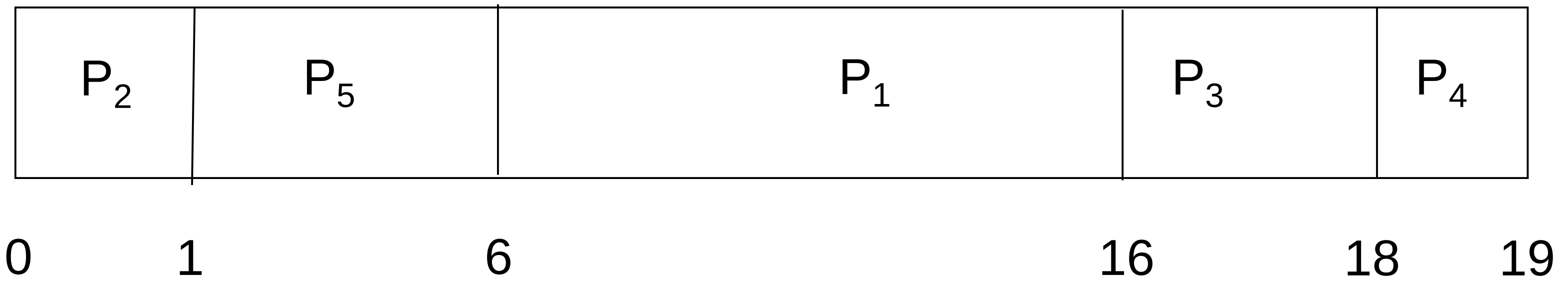
Priority Scheduling

- 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 ≡ **Aging** – as time progresses increase the priority of the process

Example of Priority Scheduling

Process	Burst Time	Priority
P_1	10	3
P_2	1	1
P_3	2	4
P_4	1	5
P_5	5	2

- Priority scheduling Gantt Chart



- Average waiting time = 8.2 msec

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 large $\Rightarrow$ FIFO
  - q small $\Rightarrow$ q must be large with respect to context switch, otherwise overhead is too high

Example of RR with Time Quantum = 4

Process	Burst Time
P_1	24
P_2	3
P_3	3

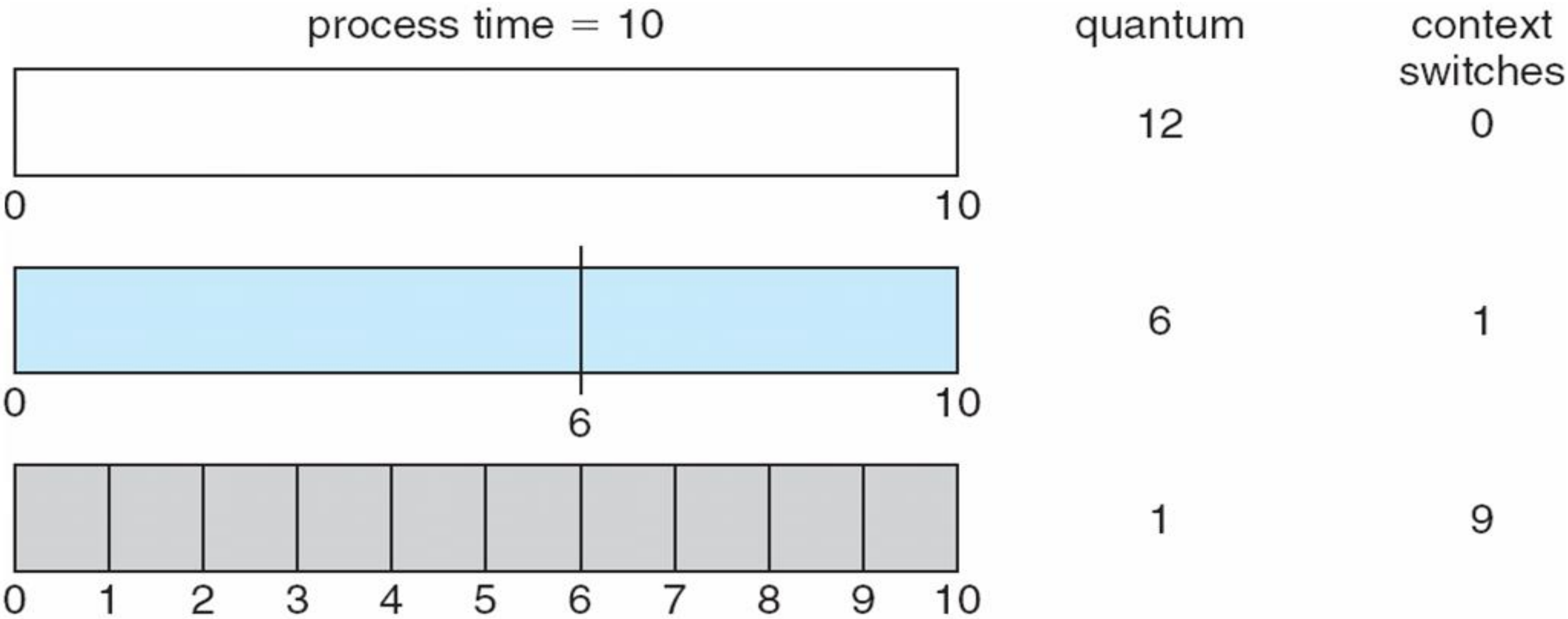
- The Gantt chart is:

P_1	P_2	P_3	P_1	P_1	P_1	P_1	P_1

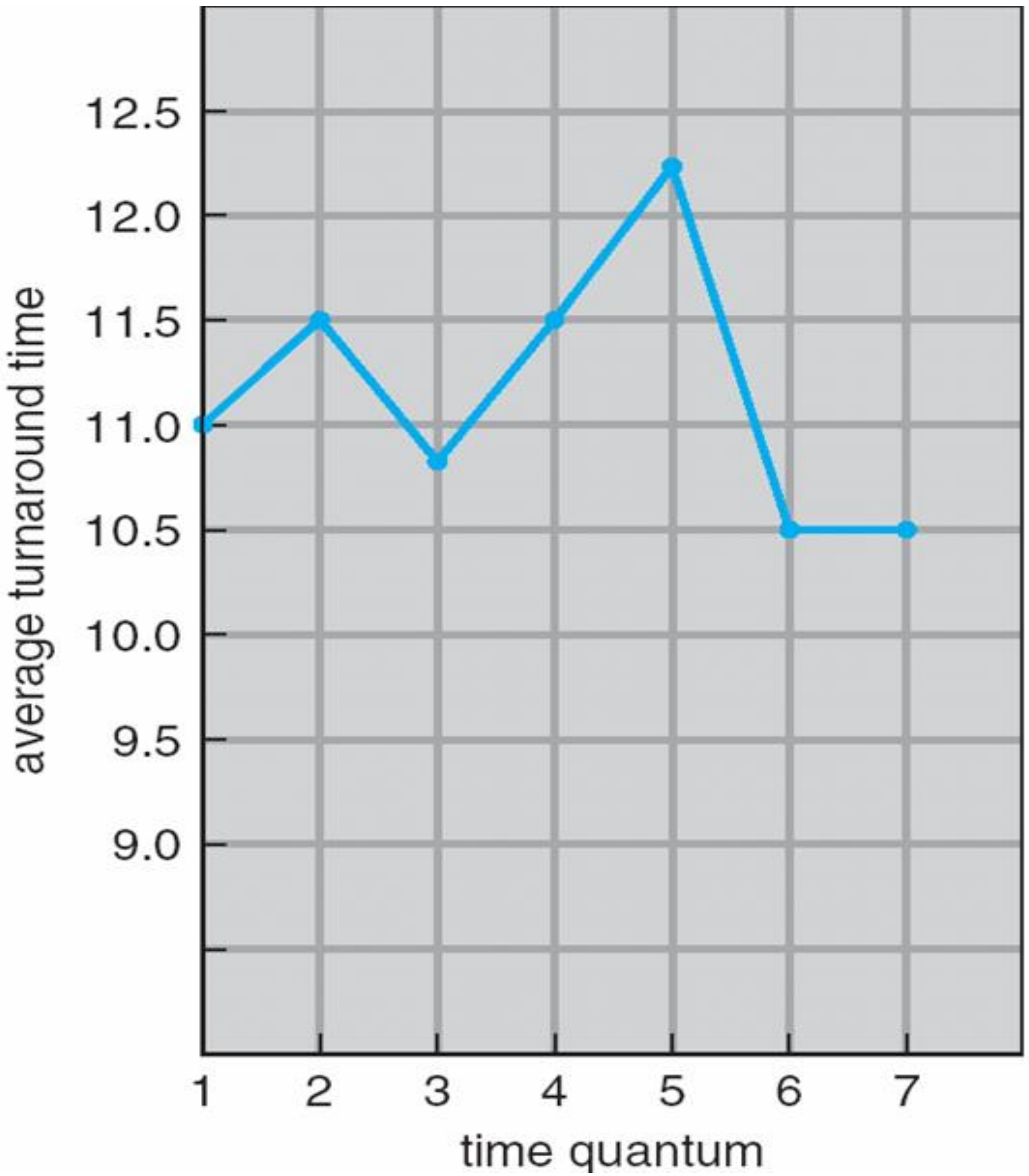
0 4 7 10 14 18 22 26 30

- Typically, higher average turnaround than SJF, but better ***response***
- q should be large compared to context switch time
- q usually 10ms to 100ms, context switch < 10 usec

Time Quantum and Context Switch Time



Turnaround Time Varies With The Time Quantum



process	time
P_1	6
P_2	3
P_3	1
P_4	7

80% of CPU bursts should be shorter than q

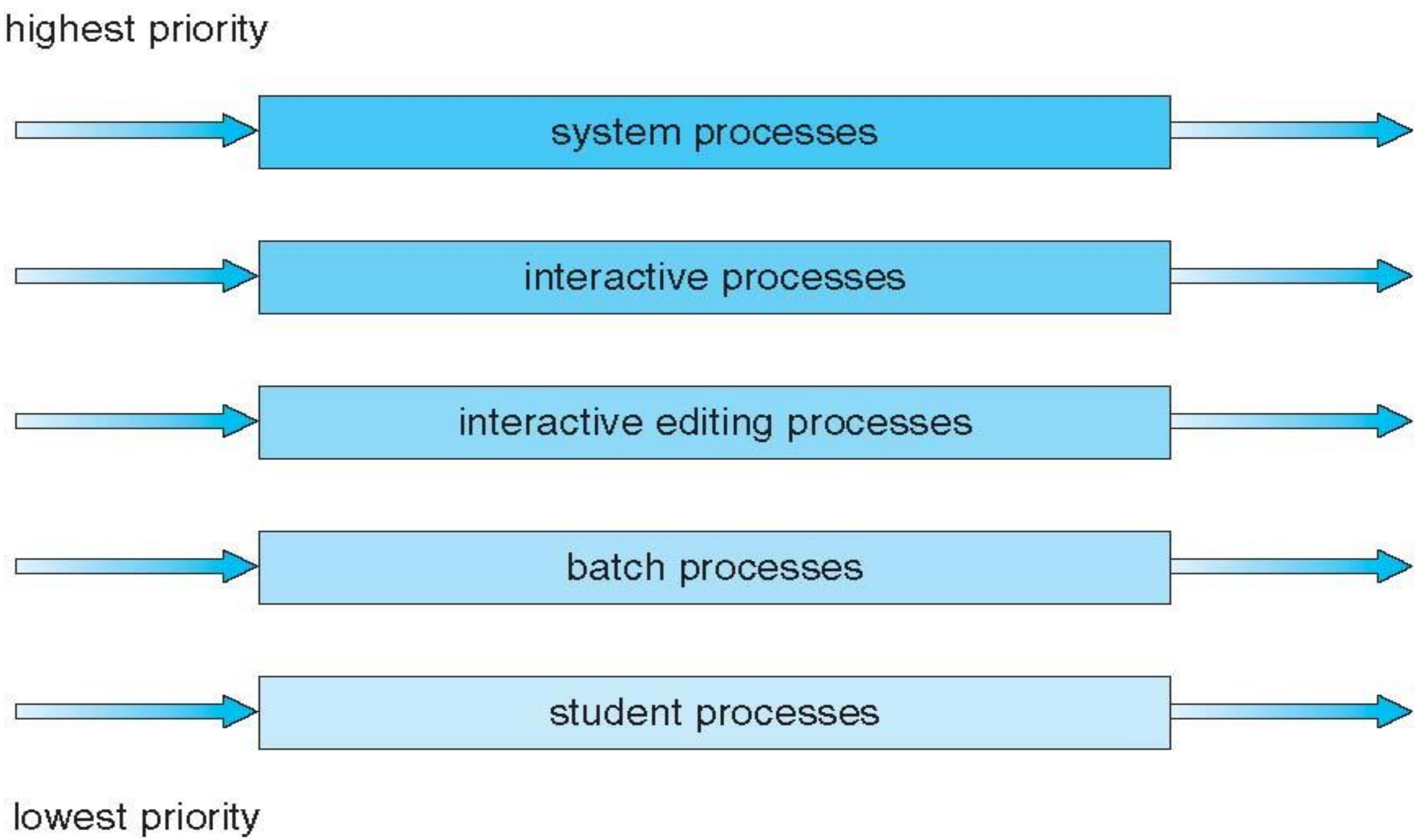
Multilevel Queue

- Ready queue is partitioned into separate queues, eg:
  - **foreground** (interactive)
  - **background** (batch)
- Process permanently in a given queue
- Each queue has its own scheduling algorithm:
  - foreground – RR
  - background – FCFS

Multilevel Queue

- Scheduling must be done between the queues:
  - Fixed priority scheduling; (i.e., serve all from foreground then from background). Possibility of starvation.
  - 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

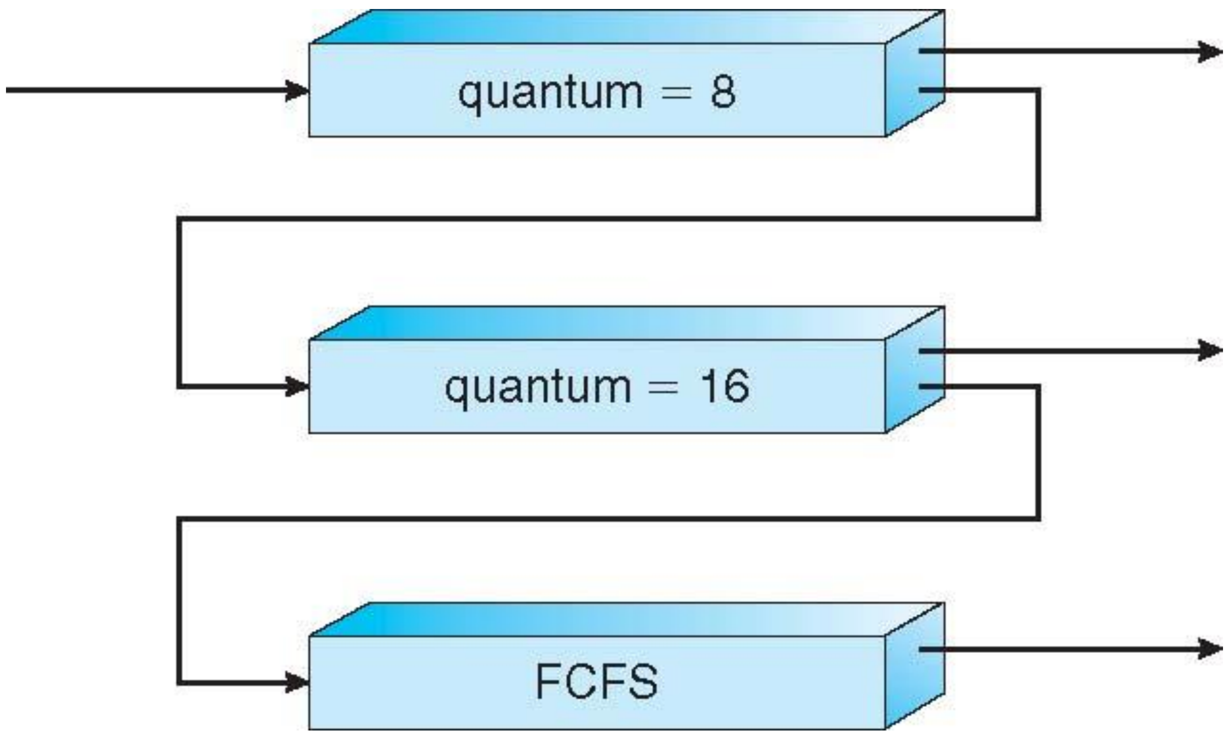


Multilevel Feedback Queue

- 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

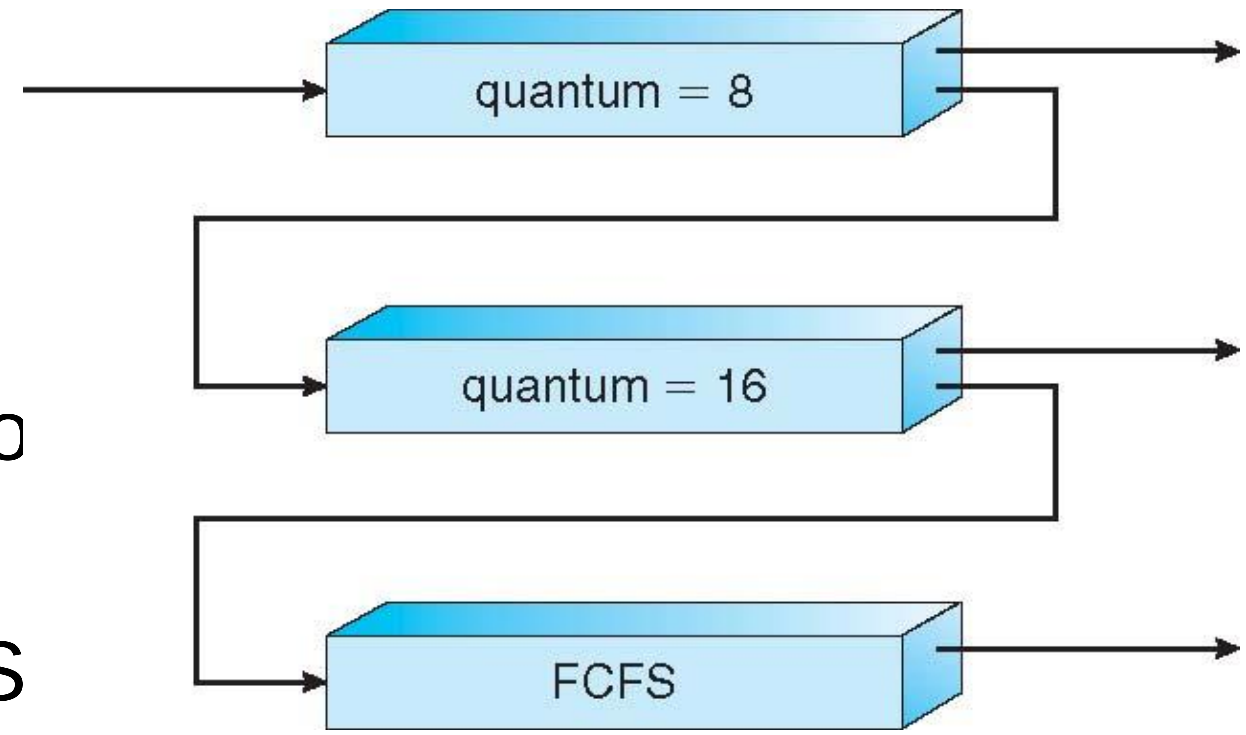
Example of Multilevel Feedback Queue

- Three queues:
  - Q_0 – RR with time quantum 8 milliseconds
  - Q_1 – RR time quantum 16 milliseconds
  - Q_2 – FCFS



Example of Multilevel Feedback Queue

- 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 Q_1
  - 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 Q_2



Thread Scheduling (胡明衛）

- 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

Pthread Scheduling（黃奕傑）

- 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（羅毅明）

```
#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（羅毅明）

```
    /* set the scheduling algorithm to PCS or SCS */
    pthread attr setscope(&attr, PTHREAD SCOPE SYSTEM);
    /* create the threads */
    for (i = 0; i < NUM THREADS; i++)
       pthread create(&tid[i],&attr,runner,NULL);
    /* now join on each thread */
    for (i = 0; i < 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);
}
```

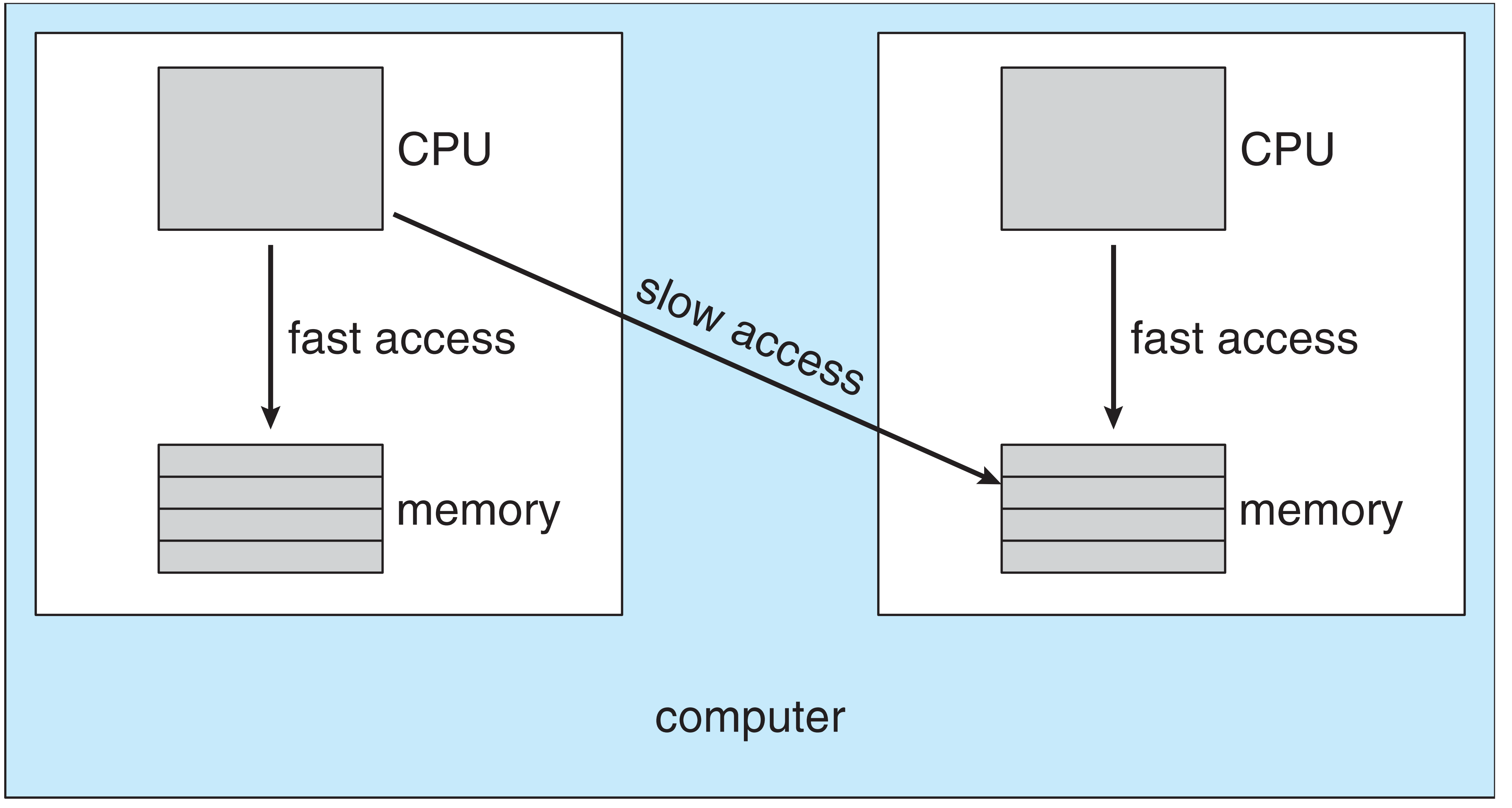
Multiple-Processor Scheduling

- 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

Multiple-Processor Scheduling

- **Processor affinity** – process has affinity for processor on which it is currently running
  - **soft affinity**
  - **hard affinity**
  - Variations including **processor sets**

NUMA and CPU Scheduling



Note that memory-placement algorithms can also consider affinity

Multiple-Processor Scheduling – Load Balancing

- If SMP, need to keep all CPUs loaded for efficiency
- **Load balancing** attempts to keep workload evenly distributed
- **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

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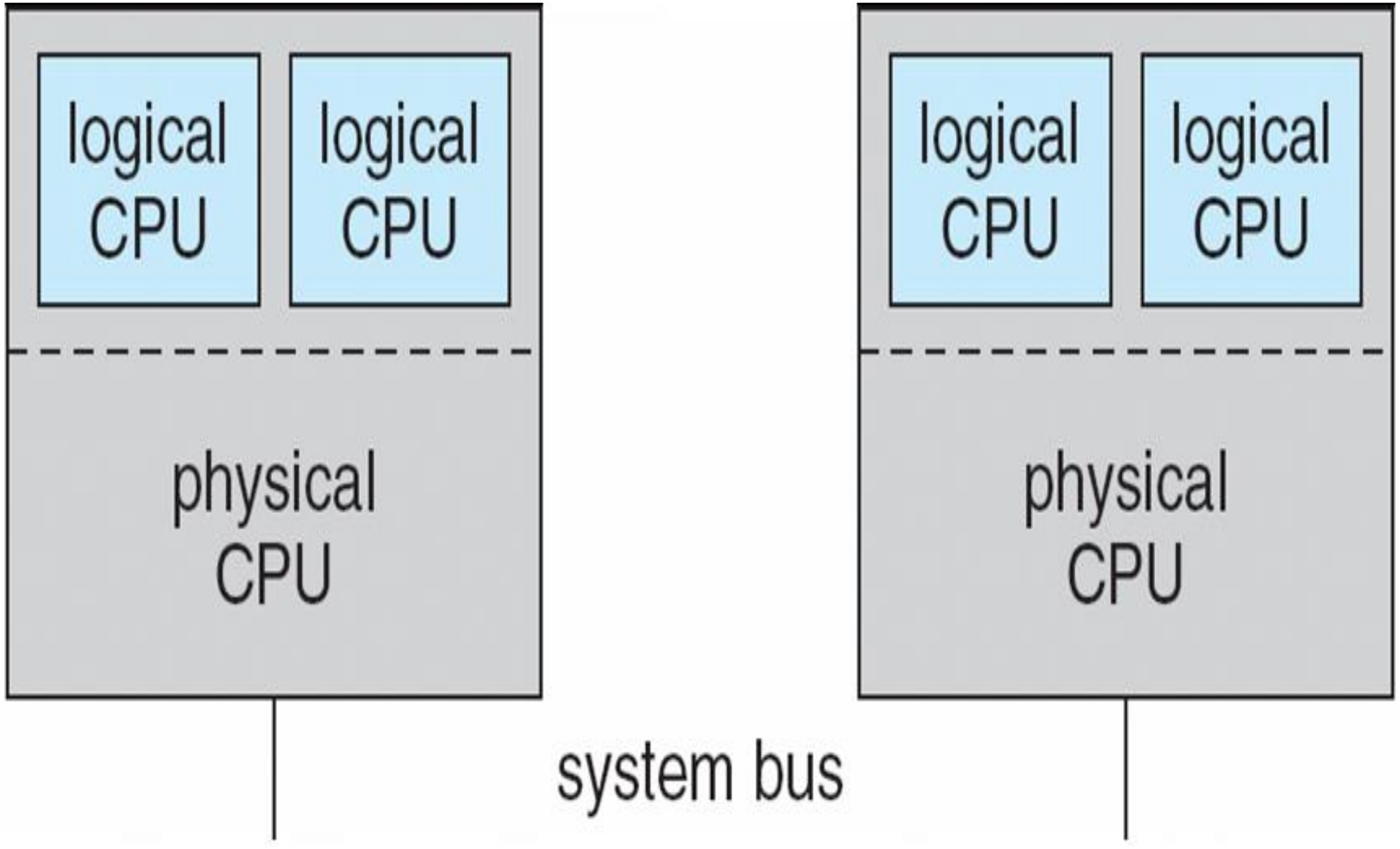
logical
CPU
logical
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physical
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physical
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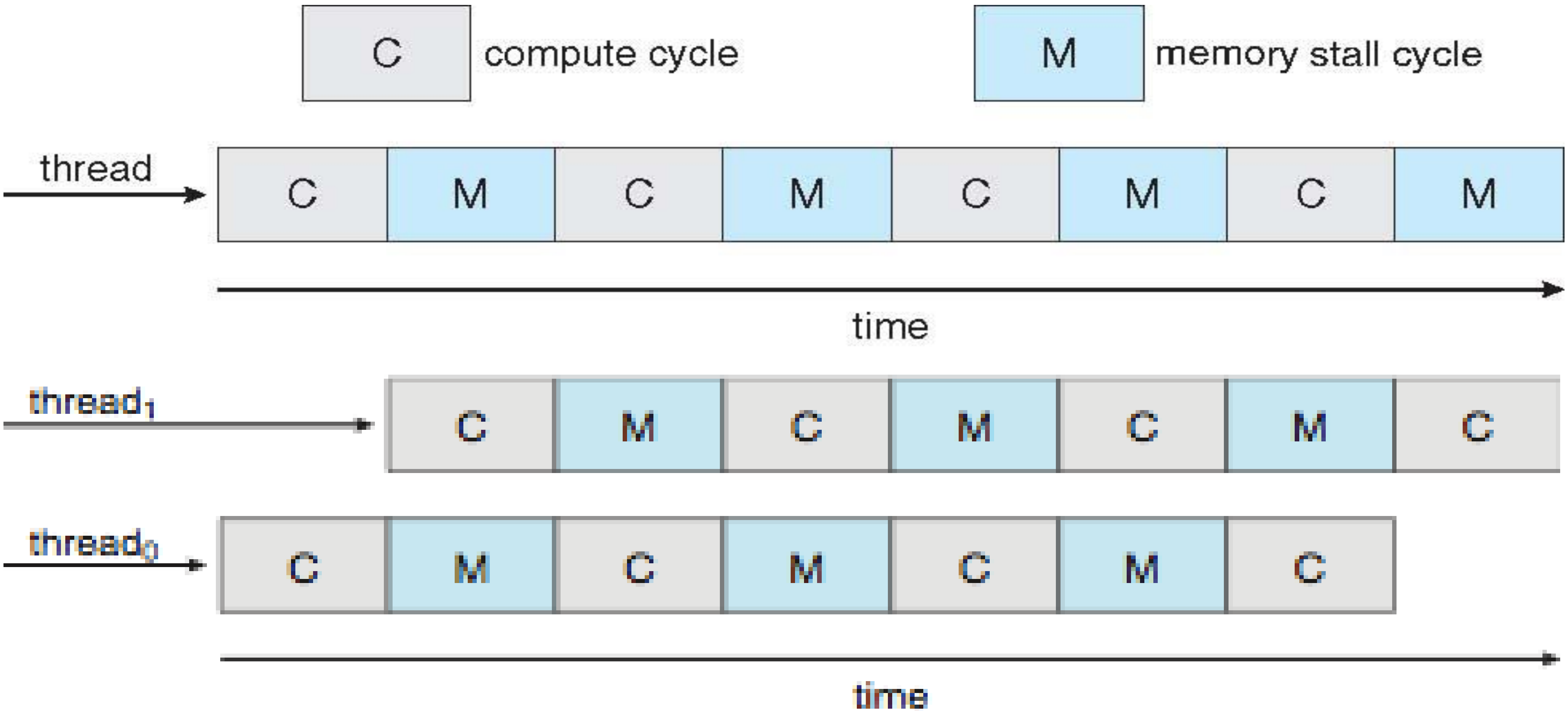
system bus

Multicore Processors

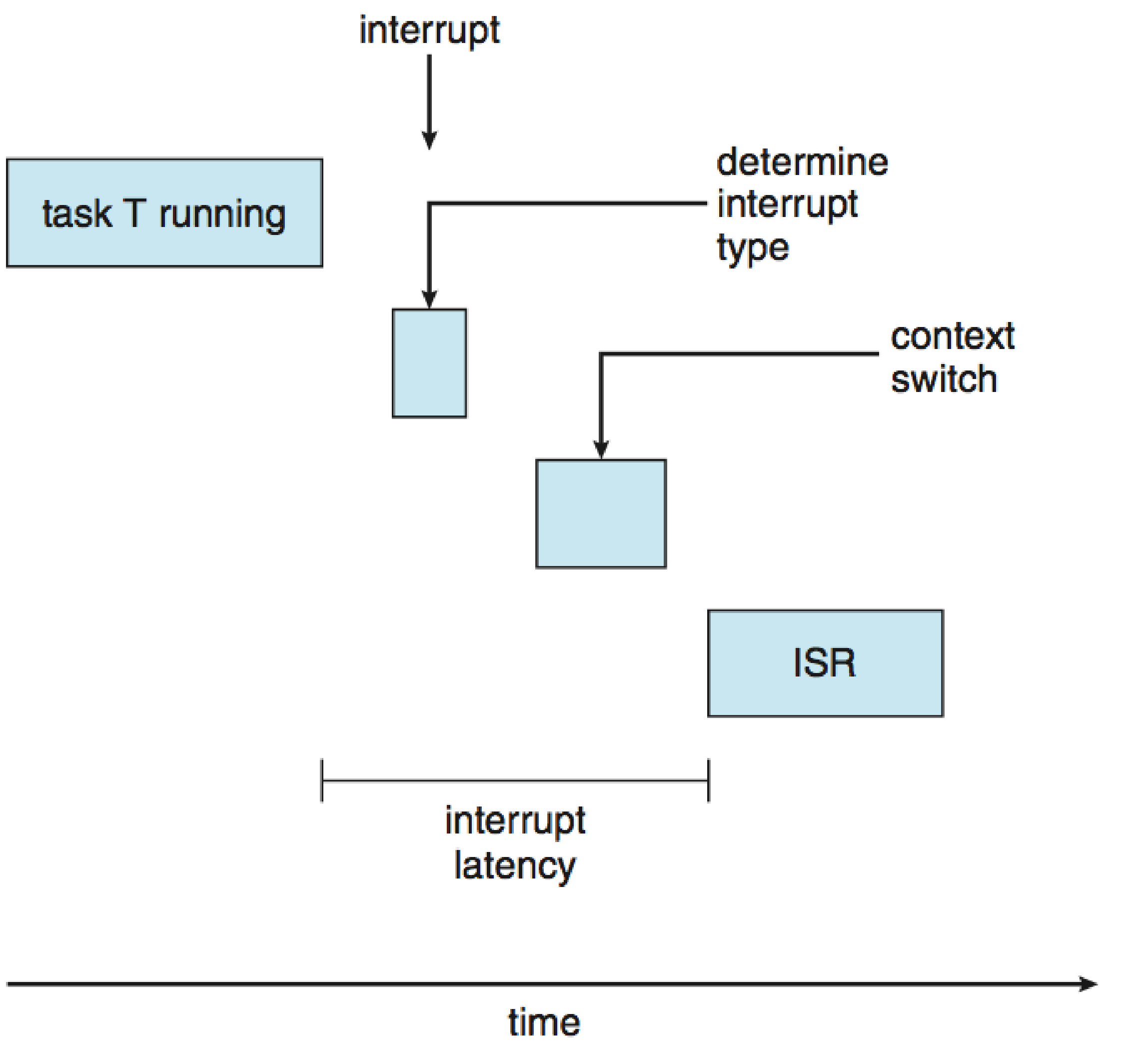
- Recent trend to place multiple processor cores on same physical chip
- Faster and consumes less power
- Multiple threads per core also growing
  - Takes advantage of memory stall to make progress on another thread while memory retrieve happens

Multithreaded Multicore System



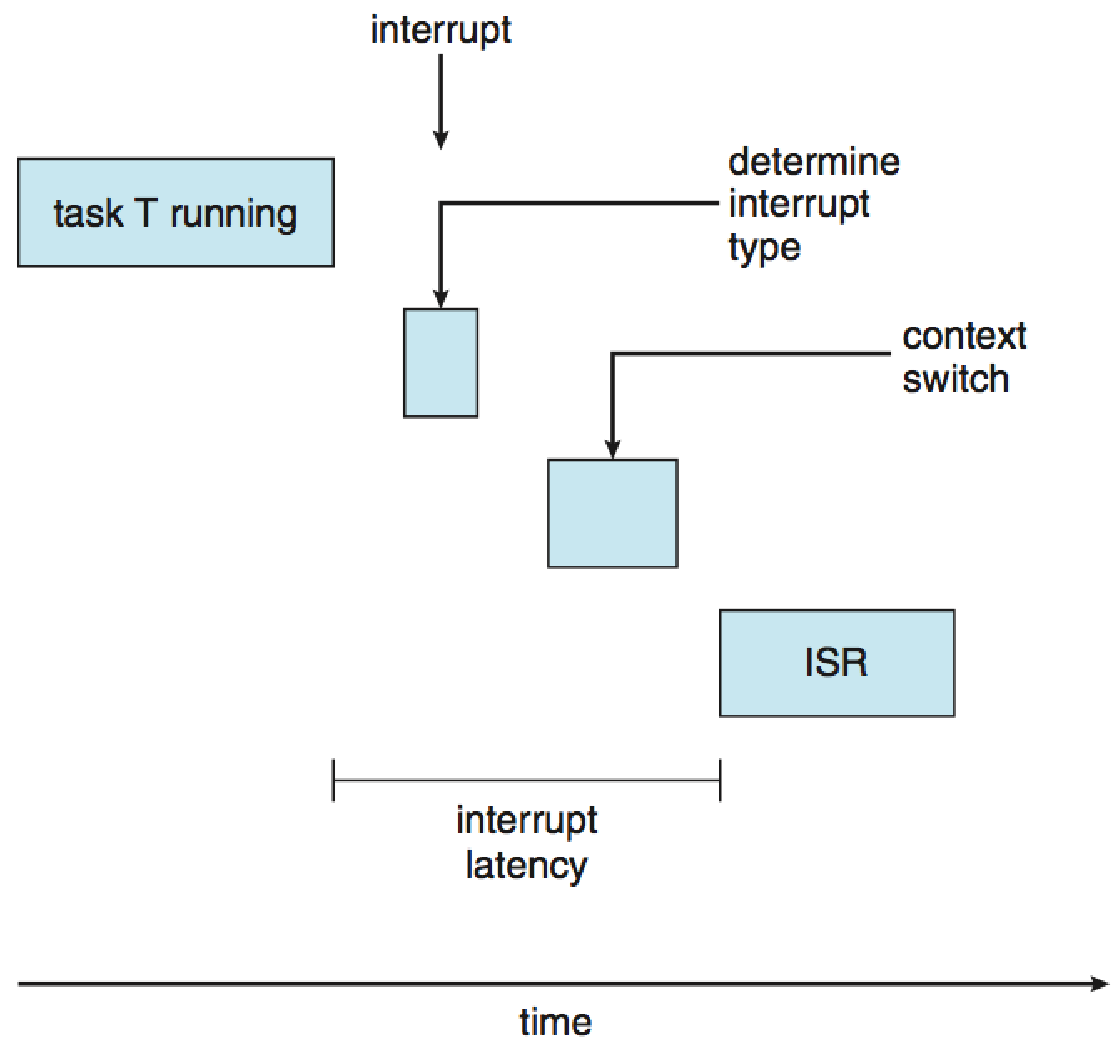
Real-Time CPU Scheduling

- 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



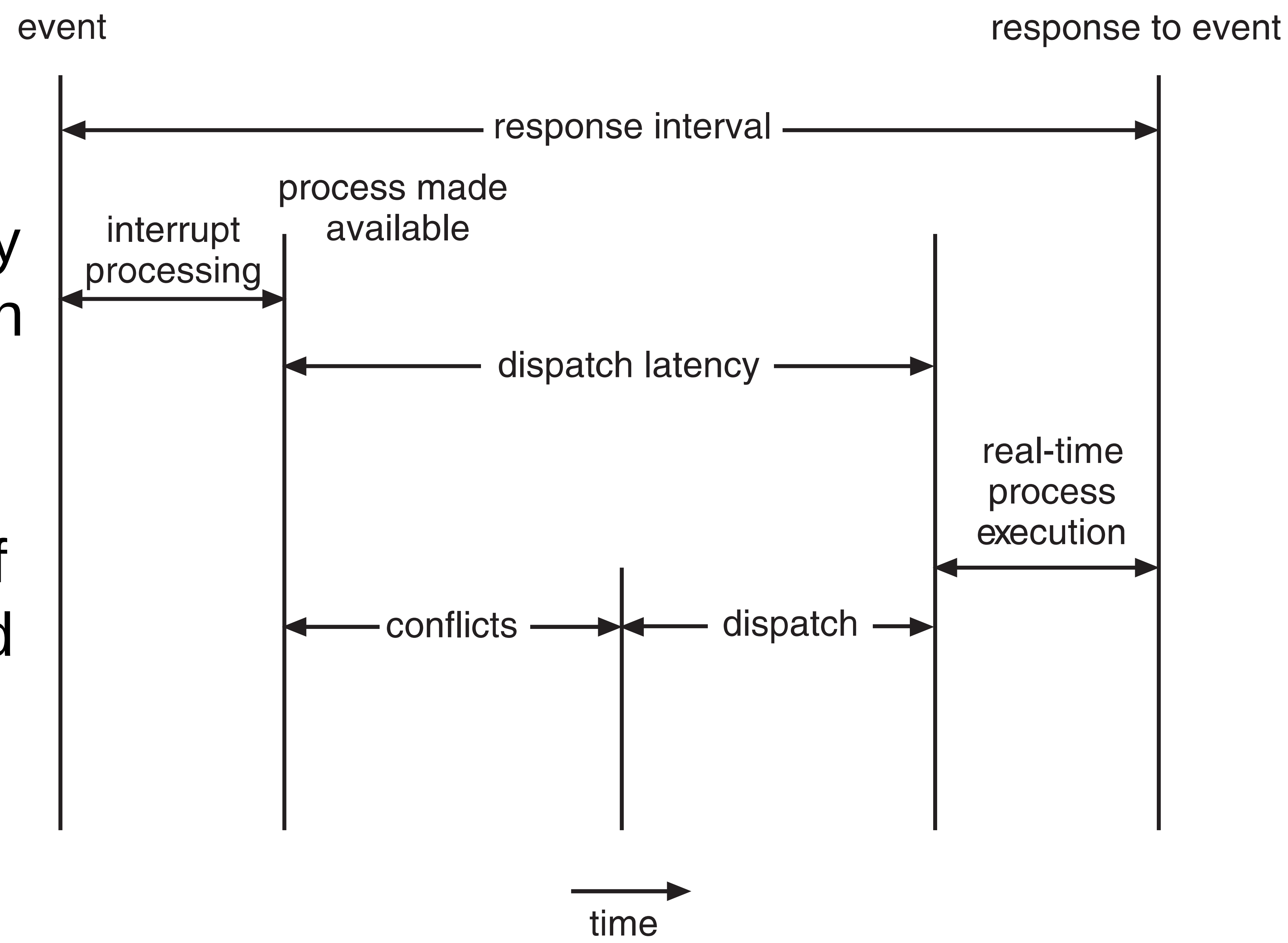
Real-Time CPU Scheduling

- Two types of latencies affect performance
  1. Interrupt latency – time from arrival of interrupt to start of routine that services interrupt
  2. Dispatch latency – time for schedule to take current process off CPU and switch to another



Real-Time CPU Scheduling (Cont.)

- Conflict phase of dispatch latency:
  1. Preemption of any process running in kernel mode
  2. Release by low-priority process of resources needed by high-priority processes

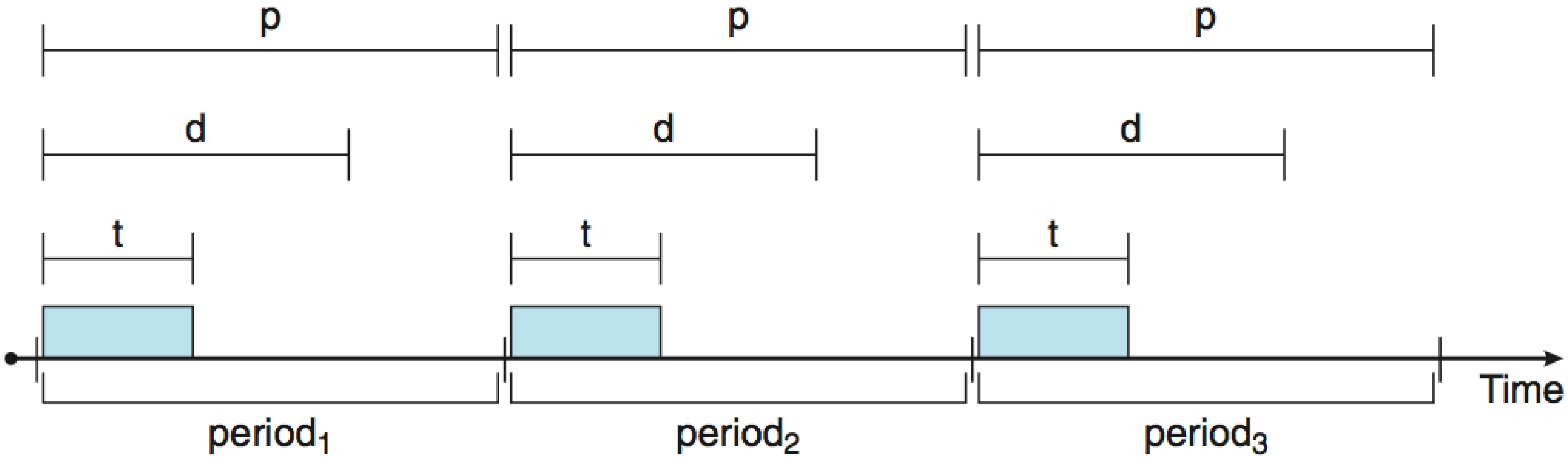


Priority-based Scheduling

- 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

Priority-based Scheduling

- Processes have new characteristics: **periodic** ones require CPU at constant intervals
  - Has processing time *t*, deadline *d,* period *p*
  - $0 \leq t \leq d \leq p$
  - **Rate** of periodic task is 1/*p*

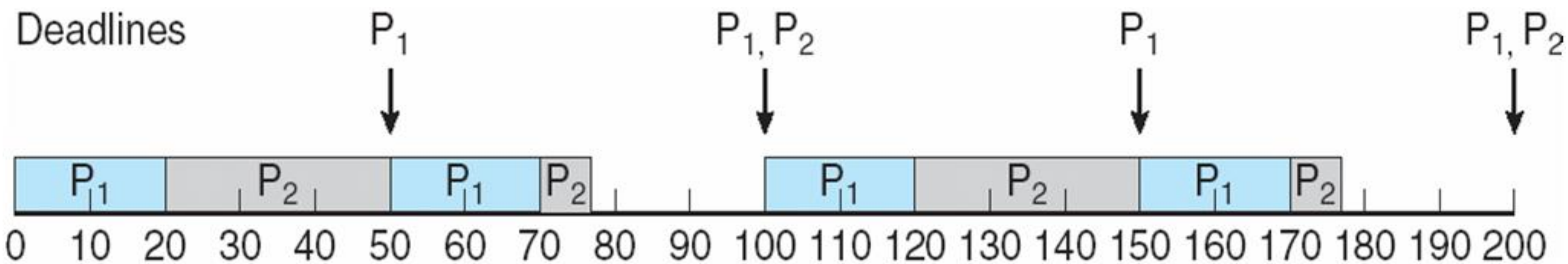


Virtualization and Scheduling

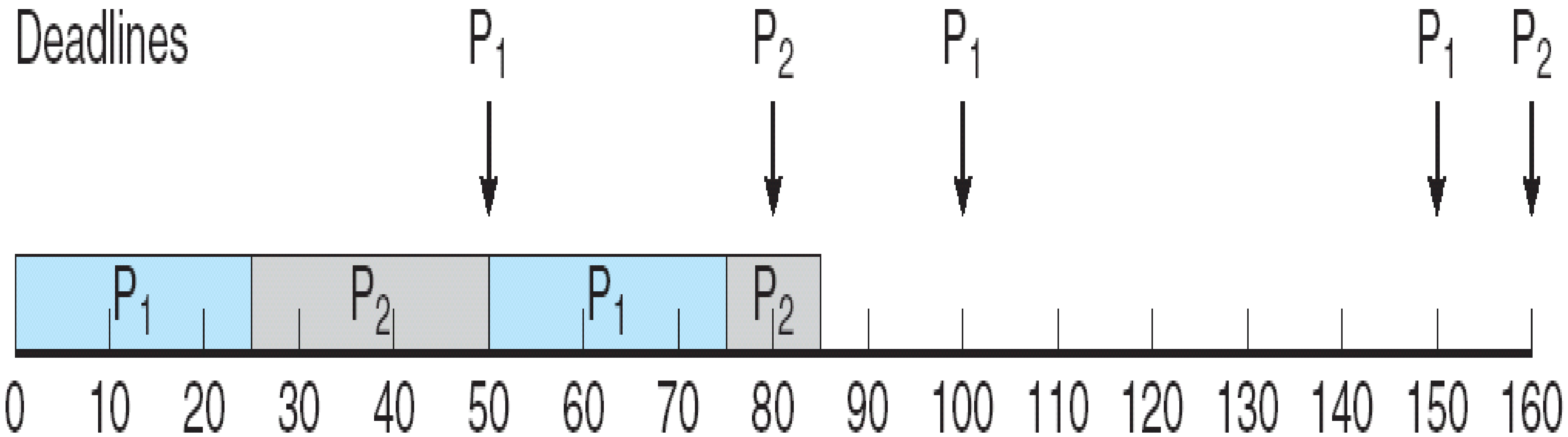
- Virtualization software schedules multiple guests onto CPU(s)
- Each guest doing its own scheduling
  - Not knowing it doesn't own the CPUs
  - Can result in poor response time
  - Can effect time-of-day clocks in guests
- Can undo good scheduling algorithm efforts of guests

Rate Montonic 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.



Missed Deadlines with Rate Monotonic Scheduling

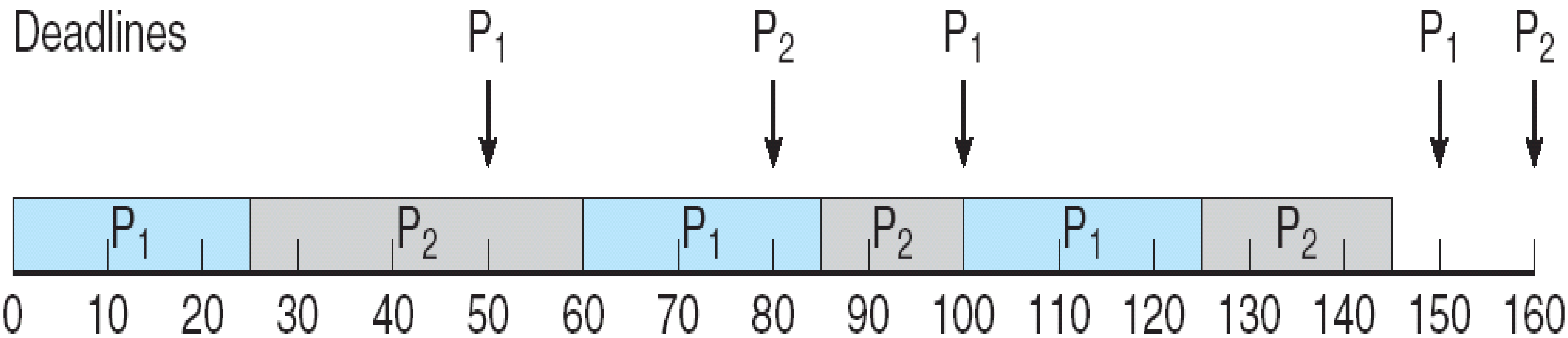


Earliest Deadline First Scheduling (EDF)

- Priorities are assigned according to deadlines:

  the earlier the deadline, the higher the priority;

  the later the deadline, the lower the priority



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

POSIX Real-Time Scheduling

- 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)`**

POSIX Real-Time Scheduling API

```
#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");
   }
```

POSIX Real-Time Scheduling API (Cont.)

```
    /* 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 < NUM THREADS; i++)
       pthread create(&tid[i],&attr,runner,NULL);
    /* now join on each thread */
    for (i = 0; i < 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);
}
```

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
- 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
  - 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

Linux Scheduling in Version 2.6.23 +

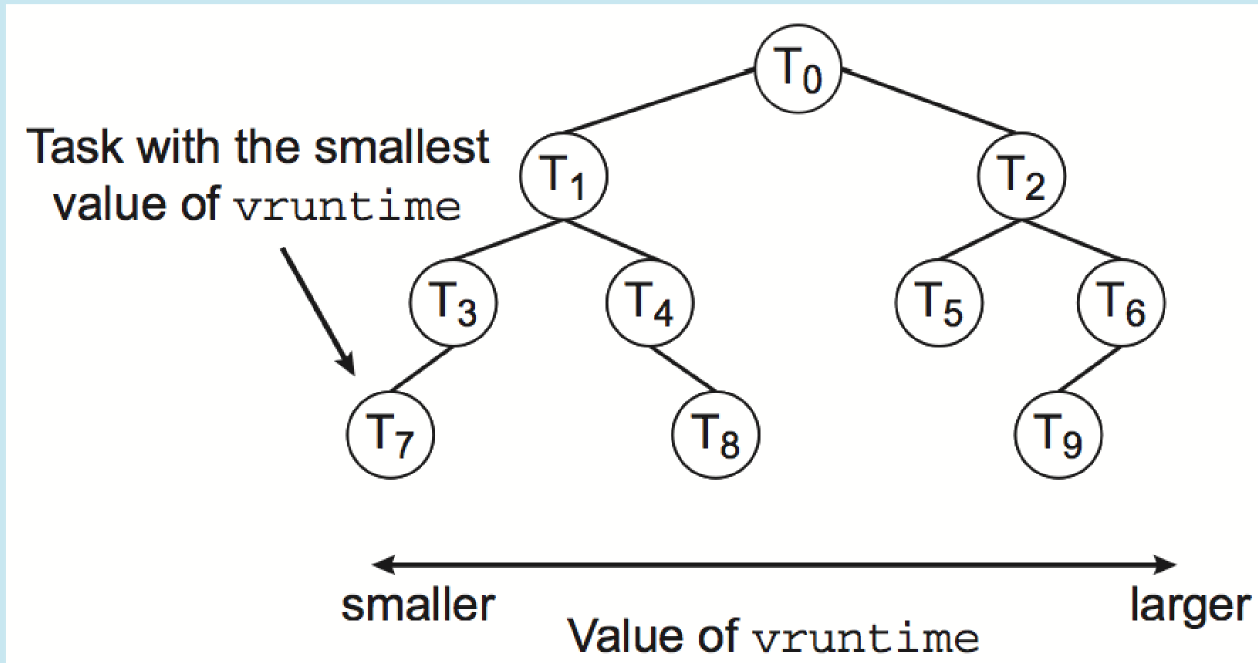
- ***Completely Fair Scheduler*** (CFS)
- **Scheduling classes**
  - Each has specific priority
  - Scheduler picks highest priority task in highest scheduling class
  - Rather than quantum based on fixed time allotments, based on proportion of CPU time
  - 2 scheduling classes included, others can be added
    1. default
    2. real-time

Linux Scheduling in Version 2.6.23 +

- Quantum calculated based on **nice value** from -20 to +19
  - Lower value is higher priority
  - Calculates **target latency** – interval of time during which task should run at least once
  - Target latency can increase if say number of active tasks increases
- 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
- To decide next task to run, scheduler picks task with lowest virtual run time

CFS Performance

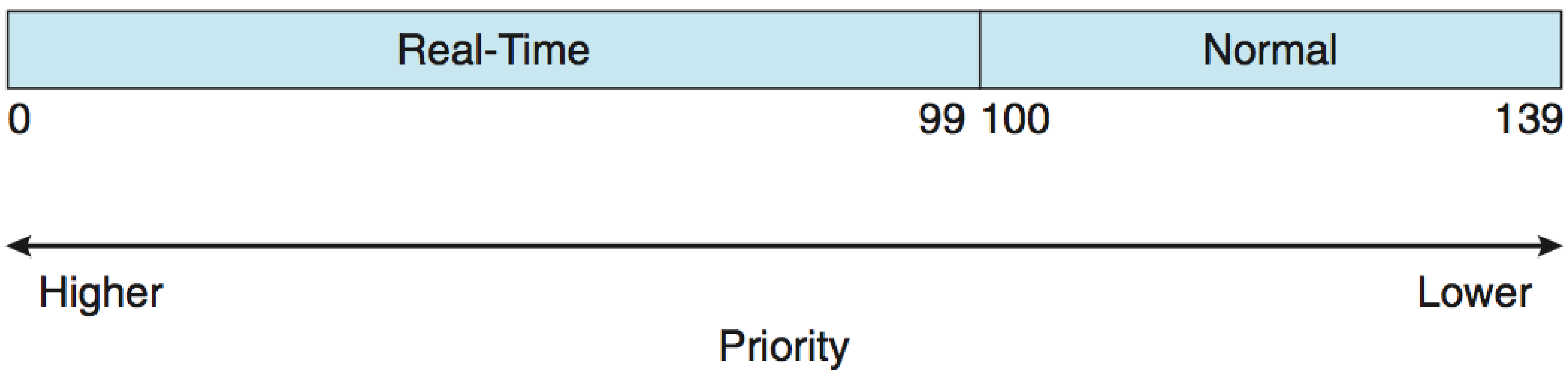
The Linux CFS scheduler provides an efficient algorithm for selecting which task to run next. Each runnable task is placed in a red-black tree—a balanced binary search tree whose key is based on the value of `vruntime`. This tree is shown below:



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 $O(lg N)$ 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.

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

Windows Priority Classes

- 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

	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

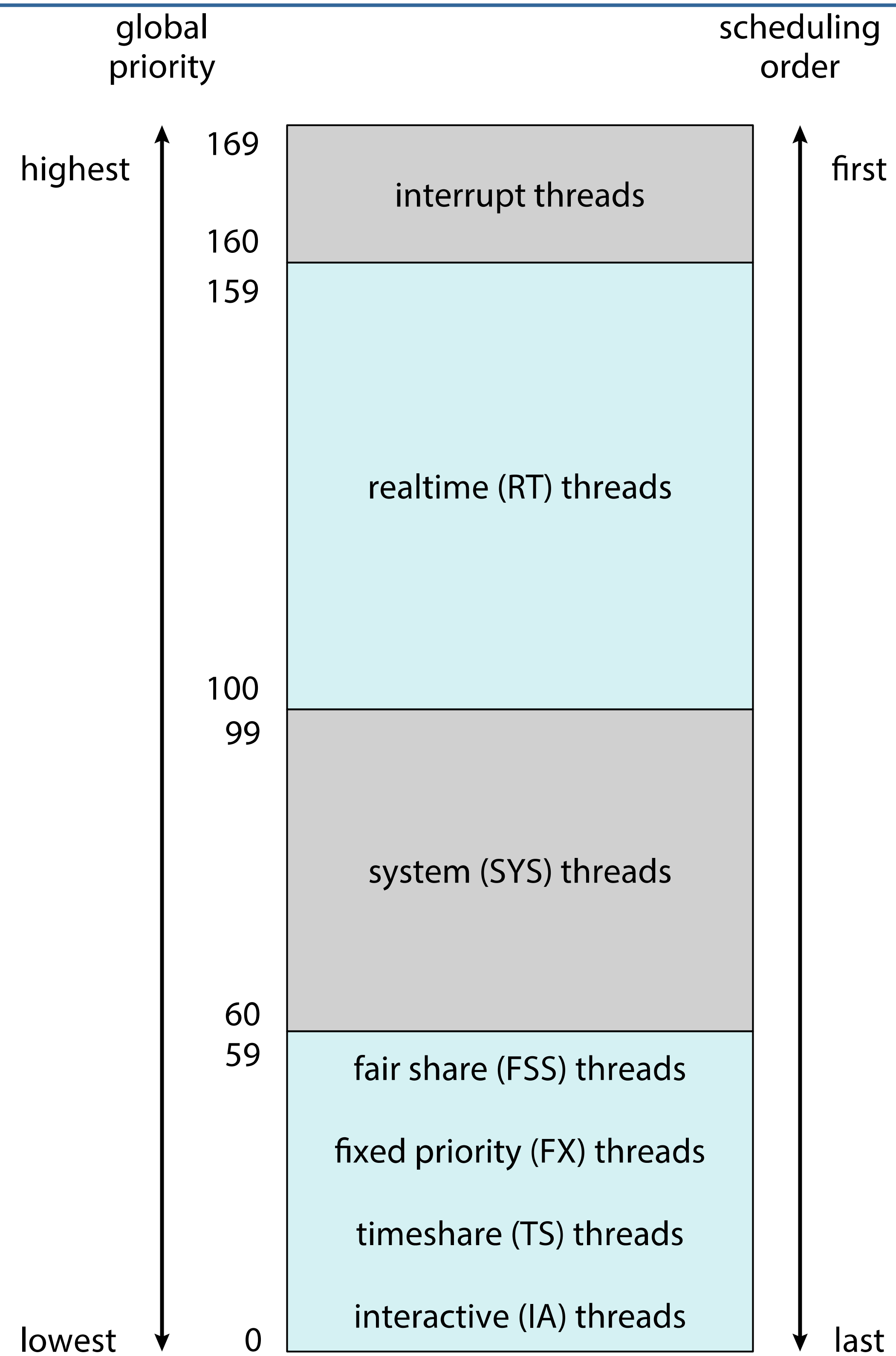
Solaris

- Priority-based scheduling
- Six classes available
  - Time sharing (default) (TS)
  - Interactive (IA)
  - Real time (RT)
  - System (SYS)
  - Fair Share (FSS)
  - Fixed priority (FP)
- Given thread can be in one class at a time
- Each class has its own scheduling algorithm
- Time sharing is multi-level feedback queue
  - Loadable table configurable by sysadmin

Solaris Dispatch Table

priority	time quantum	time quantum expired	return from sleep
0	200	0	50
5	200	0	50
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

Solaris Scheduling



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

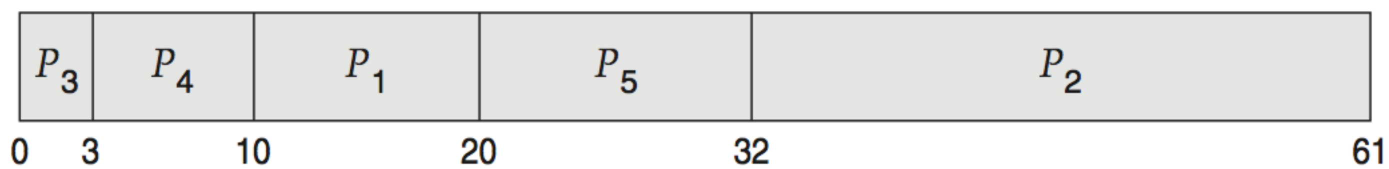
Deterministic Modeling

- A Typical Type of Analytic Evaluation
  - Take a particular predetermined workload and defines the performance of each algorithm for that workload
- Properties
  - Simple and fast
  - Through excessive executions of a number of examples, treads might be identified
  - But it needs exact numbers for inputs, and its answers only apply to those cases
    - Being too specific and requires too exact knowledge to be useful!

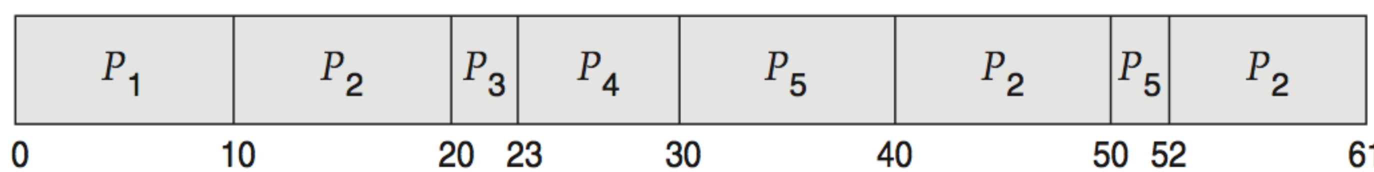
Deterministic Evaluation

- 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 SFJ 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

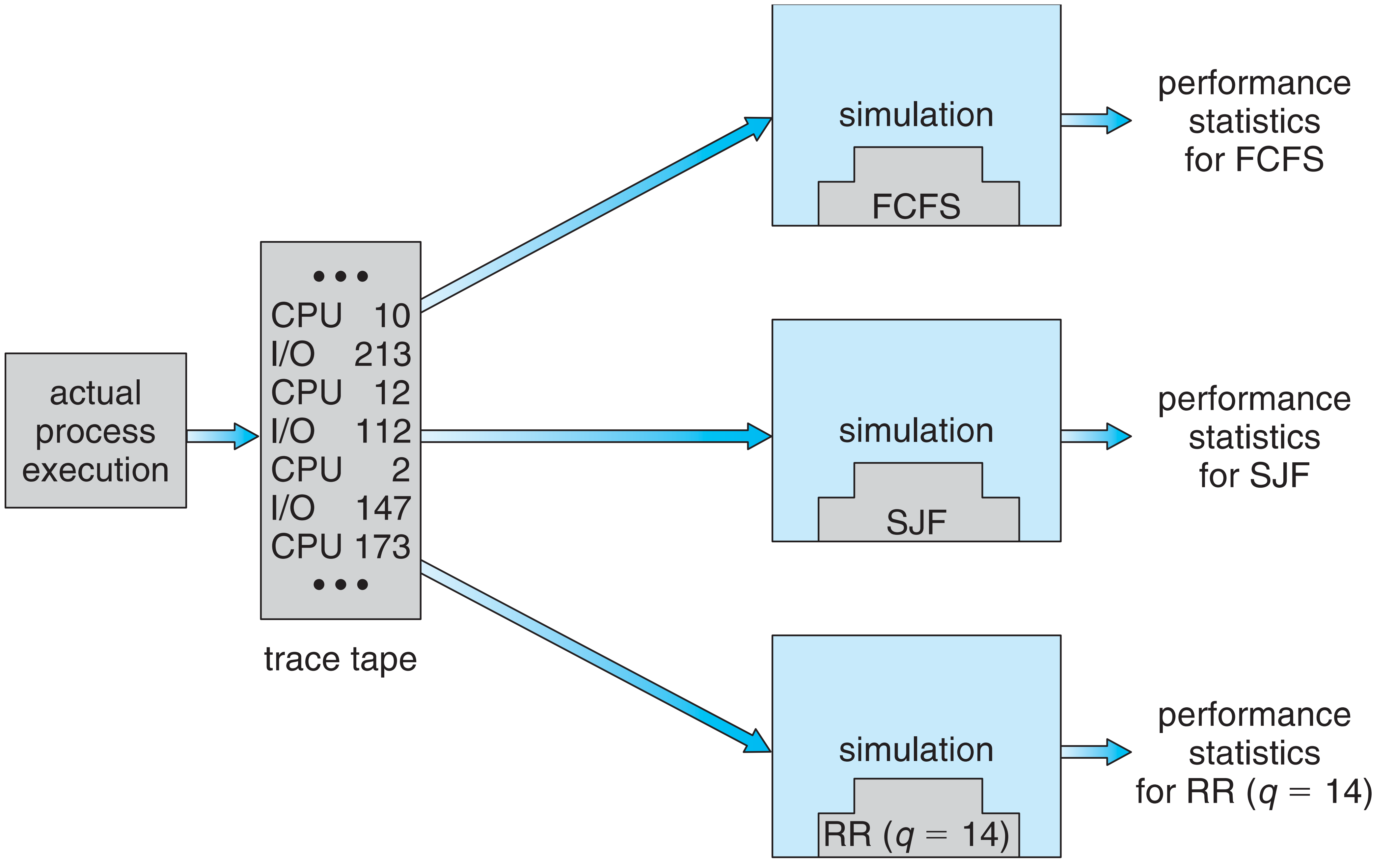
Little's Formula

- 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

Exercise (1/3)

Multilevel queue algorithms allow different algorithms to be used for different classes of processes. The most common model includes a foreground interactive queue that uses RR scheduling and a background batch queue that uses FCFS scheduling. Multilevel feedback queues allow processes to move from one queue to another.

Many contemporary computer systems support multiple processors and allow each processor to schedule itself independently. Typically, each processor maintains its own private queue of processes (or threads), all of which are available to run. Additional issues related to multiprocessor scheduling include processor affinity, load balancing, and multicore processing.

A real-time computer system requires that results arrive within a deadline period; results arriving after the deadline has passed are useless. Hard real-time systems must guarantee that real-time tasks are serviced within their deadline periods. Soft real-time systems are less restrictive, assigning real-time tasks higher scheduling priority than other tasks.

Real-time scheduling algorithms include rate-monotonic and earliest-deadline-first scheduling. Rate-monotonic scheduling assigns tasks that require the CPU more often a higher priority than tasks that require the CPU less often. Earliest-deadline-first scheduling assigns priority according to upcoming deadlines—the earlier the deadline, the higher the priority. Proportional share scheduling divides up processor time into shares and assigning each process a number of shares, thus guaranteeing each process a proportional share of CPU time. The POSIX Pthread API provides various features for scheduling real-time threads as well.

Operating systems supporting threads at the kernel level must schedule threads—not processes—for execution. This is the case with Solaris and Windows. Both of these systems schedule threads using preemptive, priority-based scheduling algorithms, including support for real-time threads. The Linux process scheduler uses a priority-based algorithm with real-time support as well. The scheduling algorithms for these three operating systems typically favor interactive over CPU-bound processes.

The wide variety of scheduling algorithms demands that we have methods to select among algorithms. Analytic methods use mathematical analysis to determine the performance of an algorithm. Simulation methods determine performance by imitating the scheduling algorithm on a "representative" sample of processes and computing the resulting performance. However, simulation can at best provide an approximation of actual system performance. The only reliable technique for evaluating a scheduling algorithm is to implement the algorithm on an actual system and monitor its performance in a "real-world" environment.

Exercises

5.1 Why is it important for the scheduler to distinguish I/O-bound programs from CPU-bound programs?

5.2 Discuss how the following pairs of scheduling criteria conflict in certain settings.

a. CPU utilization and response time

b. Average turnaround time and maximum waiting time

c. I/O device utilization and CPU utilization

5.3 One technique for implementing **lottery scheduling** works by assigning processes lottery tickets, which are used for allocating CPU time. Whenever a scheduling decision has to be made, a lottery ticket is chosen at random, and the process holding that ticket gets the CPU. The BTV operating system implements lottery scheduling by holding a lottery 50 times each second, with each lottery winner getting 20 milliseconds of CPU time (20 milliseconds × 50 = 1 second). Describe how the BTV scheduler can ensure that higher-priority threads receive more attention from the CPU than lower-priority threads.

5.4 In this chapter, we discussed possible race conditions on various kernel data structures. Most scheduling algorithms maintain a **run queue**, which lists processes eligible to run on a processor. On multicore systems, there are two general options: (1) each processing core has its own run queue, or (2) a single run queue is shared by all processing cores. What are the advantages and disadvantages of each of these approaches?

5.5 Consider the exponential average formula used to predict the length of the next CPU burst. What are the implications of assigning the following values to the parameters used by the algorithm?

a. $\alpha = 0$ and $\tau_0 = 100$ milliseconds

b. $\alpha = 0.99$ and $\tau_0 = 10$ milliseconds

5.6 A variation of the round-robin scheduler is the **regressive round-robin** scheduler. This scheduler assigns each process a time quantum and a priority. The initial value of a time quantum is 50 milliseconds. However, every time a process has been allocated the CPU and uses its entire time quantum (does not block for I/O), 10 milliseconds is added to its time quantum, and its priority level is boosted. (The time quantum for a process can be increased to a maximum of 100 milliseconds.) When a process blocks before using its entire time quantum, its time quantum is reduced by 5 milliseconds, but its priority remains the same. What type of process (CPU-bound or I/O-bound) does the regressive round-robin scheduler favor? Explain.

5.7 Consider the following set of processes, with the length of the CPU burst given in milliseconds:

Process	Burst Time	Priority
P_1	2	2
P_2	1	1
P_3	8	4
P_4	4	2
P_5	5	3

Exercise (2/3)

The processes are assumed to have arrived in the order P_1, P_2, P_3, P_4, P_5, all at time 0.

a. Draw four Gantt charts that illustrate the execution of these processes using the following scheduling algorithms: FCFS, SJF, nonpreemptive priority (a larger priority number implies a higher priority), and RR (quantum = 2).

b. What is the turnaround time of each process for each of the scheduling algorithms in part a?

c. What is the waiting time of each process for each of these scheduling algorithms?

d. Which of the algorithms results in the minimum average waiting time (over all processes)?

5.8 The following processes are being scheduled using a preemptive, round-robin scheduling algorithm. Each process is assigned a numerical priority, with a higher number indicating a higher relative priority. In addition to the processes listed below, the system also has an ***idle task*** (which consumes no CPU resources and is identified as P_{idle}). This task has priority 0 and is scheduled whenever the system has no other available processes to run. The length of a time quantum is 10 units. If a process is preempted by a higher-priority process, the preempted process is placed at the end of the queue.

Thread	Priority	Burst	Arrival
P_1	40	20	0
P_2	30	25	25
P_3	30	25	30
P_4	35	15	60
P_5	5	10	100
P_6	10	10	105

a. Show the scheduling order of the processes using a Gantt chart.

b. What is the turnaround time for each process?

c. What is the waiting time for each process?

d. What is the CPU utilization rate?

5.9 The `nice` command is used to set the nice value of a process on Linux, as well as on other UNIX systems. Explain why some systems may allow any user to assign a process a nice value >= 0 yet allow only the root user to assign nice values < 0.

5.10 Which of the following scheduling algorithms could result in starvation?

a. First-come, first-served

b. Shortest job first

c. Round robin

d. Priority

5.11 Consider a variant of the RR scheduling algorithm in which the entries in the ready queue are pointers to the PCBs.

a. What would be the effect of putting two pointers to the same process in the ready queue?

b. What would be two major advantages and two disadvantages of this scheme?

c. How would you modify the basic RR algorithm to achieve the same effect without the duplicate pointers?

5.12 Consider a system running ten I/O-bound tasks and one CPU-bound task. Assume that the I/O-bound tasks issue an I/O operation once for every millisecond of CPU computing and that each I/O operation takes 10 milliseconds to complete. Also assume that the context-switching overhead is 0.1 millisecond and that all processes are long-running tasks. Describe the CPU utilization for a round-robin scheduler when:

a. The time quantum is 1 millisecond

b. The time quantum is 10 milliseconds

5.13 Consider a system implementing multilevel queue scheduling. What strategy can a computer user employ to maximize the amount of CPU time allocated to the user's process?

5.14 Consider a preemptive priority scheduling algorithm based on dynamically changing priorities. Larger priority numbers imply higher priority. When a process is waiting for the CPU (in the ready queue, but not running), its priority changes at a rate α. When it is running, its priority changes at a rate β. All processes are given a priority of 0 when they enter the ready queue. The parameters α and β can be set to give many different scheduling algorithms.

a. What is the algorithm that results from $\beta > \alpha > 0$?

b. What is the algorithm that results from $\alpha < \beta < 0$?

5.15 Explain the differences in how much the following scheduling algorithms discriminate in favor of short processes:

a. FCFS

b. RR

c. Multilevel feedback queues

5.16 Using the Windows scheduling algorithm, determine the numeric priority of each of the following threads.

a. A thread in the REALTIME_PRIORITY_CLASS with a relative priority of NORMAL

Exercise (3/3)

b. A thread in the ABOVE_NORMAL_PRIORITY_CLASS with a relative priority of HIGHEST

c. A thread in the BELOW_NORMAL_PRIORITY_CLASS with a relative priority of ABOVE_NORMAL

5.17 Assuming that no threads belong to the REALTIME_PRIORITY_CLASS and that none may be assigned a TIME_CRITICAL priority, what combination of priority class and priority corresponds to the highest possible relative priority in Windows scheduling?

5.18 Consider the scheduling algorithm in the Solaris operating system for time-sharing threads.

a. What is the time quantum (in milliseconds) for a thread with priority 15? With priority 40?

b. Assume that a thread with priority 50 has used its entire time quantum without blocking. What new priority will the scheduler assign this thread?

c. Assume that a thread with priority 20 blocks for I/O before its time quantum has expired. What new priority will the scheduler assign this thread?

5.19 Assume that two tasks *A* and *B* are running on a Linux system. The nice values of *A* and *B* are −5 and +5, respectively. Using the CFS scheduler as a guide, describe how the respective values of `vruntime` vary between the two processes given each of the following scenarios:

- Both *A* and *B* are CPU-bound.
- *A* is I/O-bound, and *B* is CPU-bound.
- *A* is CPU-bound, and *B* is I/O-bound.

5.20 Discuss ways in which the priority inversion problem could be addressed in a real-time system. Also discuss whether the solutions could be implemented within the context of a proportional share scheduler.

5.21 Under what circumstances is rate-monotonic scheduling inferior to earliest-deadline-first scheduling in meeting the deadlines associated with processes?

5.22 Consider two processes, P_1 and P_2, where $p_1 = 50$, $t_1 = 25$, $p_2 = 75$, and $t_2 = 30$.

a. Can these two processes be scheduled using rate-monotonic scheduling? Illustrate your answer using a Gantt chart such as the ones in Figure 5.16–Figure 5.19.

b. Illustrate the scheduling of these two processes using earliest-deadline-first (EDF) scheduling.

5.23 Explain why interrupt and dispatch latency times must be bounded in a hard real-time system.