CSE 421/521 - Operating Systems
Fall 2012

Lecture - VI

CPU Scheduling - II

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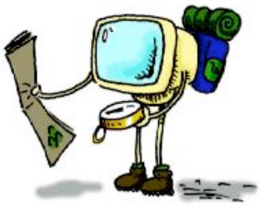
Roadmap

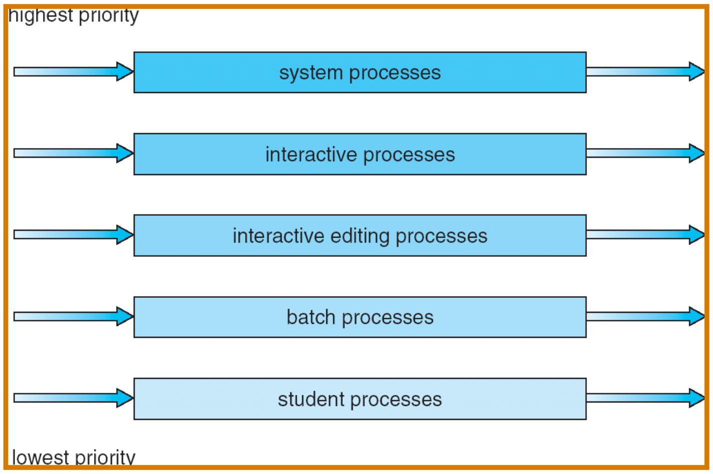
- Multilevel Feedback Queues
- Estimating CPU bursts



Multilevel Queue

- Ready queue is partitioned into separate queues:
  foreground (interactive)
  background (batch)
- Each queue has its own scheduling algorithm
  - foreground – RR
  - background – FCFS
- Scheduling must be done between the queues
  - Fixed priority scheduling; (i.e., serve all from foreground then from background). Possibility of starvation.
  - Time slice – each queue gets a certain amount of CPU time which it can schedule amongst its processes; i.e., 80% to foreground in RR, 20% to background in FCFS

Multilevel Queue Scheduling



highest priority

system processes

interactive processes

interactive editing processes

batch processes

student processes

lowest priority

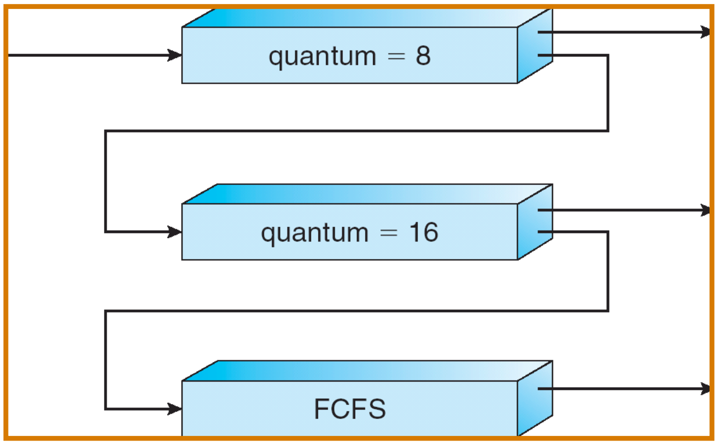
Multilevel Feedback Queue

- A process can move between the various queues; aging can be implemented this way
- Multilevel-feedback-queue scheduler defined by the following parameters:
  - number of queues
  - scheduling algorithms for each queue
  - method used to determine when to upgrade a process
  - method used to determine when to demote a process
  - method used to determine which queue a process will enter when that process needs service

Example of Multilevel Feedback Queue

- Three queues:
  - Q_0 - RR with time quantum 8 milliseconds
  - Q_1 - RR time quantum 16 milliseconds
  - Q_2 - FCFS
- Scheduling
  - A new job enters queue Q_0 which is served FCFS. When it gains CPU, job receives 8 milliseconds. If it does not finish in 8 milliseconds, job is moved to queue 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.

Multilevel Feedback Queues



How to estimate CPU burst time?

Determining Length of Next CPU Burst

- Can only estimate the length
- 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 lenght 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 :

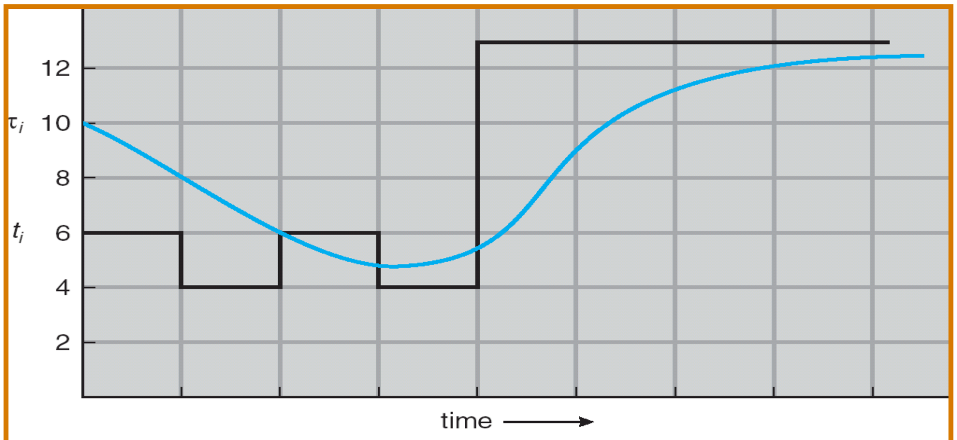
Examples of Exponential Averaging

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

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

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

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	. . .

Alpha = 1/2, T0 = 10

Exercise

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?

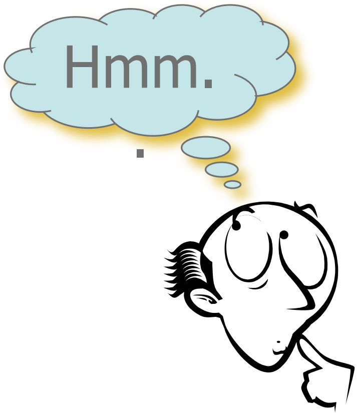
a. $\alpha = 0$ and $\tau_0 = 100 milliseconds$

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

Answer: When $\alpha = 0$ and $\tau_0 = 100 milliseconds$, the formula always makes a prediction of 100 milliseconds for the next CPU burst. When $\alpha = 0.99$ and $\tau_0 = 10 milliseconds$, the most recent behavior of the process is given much higher weight than the past history associated with the process. Consequently, the scheduling algorithm is almost memory-less, and simply predicts the length of the previous burst for the next quantum of CPU execution.

Summary

- Multilevel Feedback Queues
- Estimating CPU bursts



- Next Lecture: Project-1 Discussion

Acknowledgements

- “Operating Systems Concepts” book and supplementary material by A. Silberschatz, P. Galvin and G. Gagne
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