Scheduling 3 / Threads

last time

shortest job first/shortest remaining time first response time optimizing SJF — without preemption SRTF — with preemption

multi-level feedback scheduling

priority \sim quantum length process uses whole quantum? move down in priority process uses less than quantum? move up in priority (next time it runs) maybe extra work to avoid starvation

proportional share scheduling

2x share — 2x CPU time lottery scheduling — weighted random set weights to approximate priority or whatever wanted

lottery scheduler assignment

new system call: getprocessesinfo copy info from process table into user space

new system call: settickets set number of tickets for current process should be inherited by fork

scheduler: choose pseudorandom weighted by tickets caution! no floating point

lottery scheduler and interactivity

suppose two processes A, B, each have same # of tickets

process A is CPU-bound

process B does lots of ${\rm I}/{\rm O}$

lottery scheduler: run equally when both can run

result: B runs less than A 50% when both runnable 0% of the time when only A runnable (waiting on I/O)

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result: B runs less than A 50% when both runnable 0% of the time when only A runnable (waiting on I/O)

is this fair? depends who you ask

one idea: B should get more tickets for waiting

recall: proportional share randomness

lottery scheduler: variance was a problem consistent over the long-term inconsistent over the short-term

want something more like weighted round-robin
run one, then the other
but run some things more often (depending on weight/# tickets)

deterministic proportional share scheduler

Linux's scheduler is a deterministic proportional share scheduler

...with a different solution to interactivity problem

Linux's Completely Fair Scheduler (CFS)

Linux's default scheduler is a proportional share scheduler...

...without randomization (consistent)

...with $O(\log N)$ scheduling decision (handles many threads/processes)

...which favors interactive programs

...which adjusts timeslices dynamically shorter timeslices if many things to run

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CFS: tracking runtime

each thread has a *virtual runtime* (\sim how long it's run)

incremented when run based how long it runs

scheduling decision: run thread with lowest virtual runtime data structure: balanced tree

CFS: tracking runtime

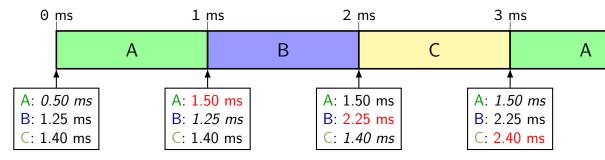
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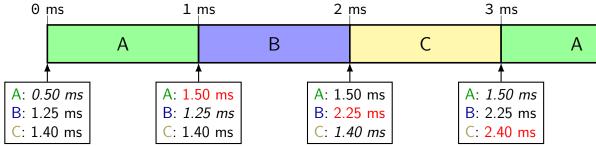
more/less important thread? multiply adjustments by factor adjustments for threads that are new or were sleeping too big an advantage to start at runtime 0

scheduling decision: run thread with lowest virtual runtime data structure: balanced tree

virtual time, always ready, 1 ms quantum



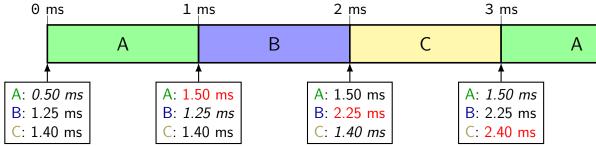
virtual time, always ready, 1 ms quantum



at each time:

update current thread's time run thread with lowest total time

virtual time, always ready, 1 ms quantum



at each time:

update current thread's time run thread with lowest total time

same effect as round robin if everyone uses whole quantum

what about threads waiting for I/O, ...?

should be advantage for processes not using the CPU as much haven't used CPU for a while — deserve priority now ...but don't want to let them hog the CPU

Linux solution: newly ready task time = max of its prior virtual time a little less than minimum virtual time (of already ready tasks)

what about threads waiting for I/O, ...?

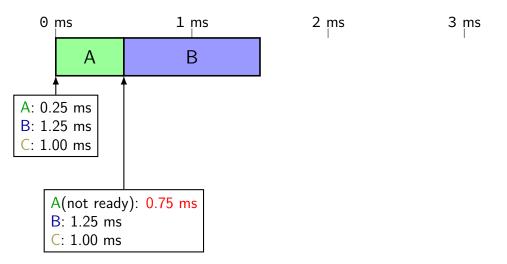
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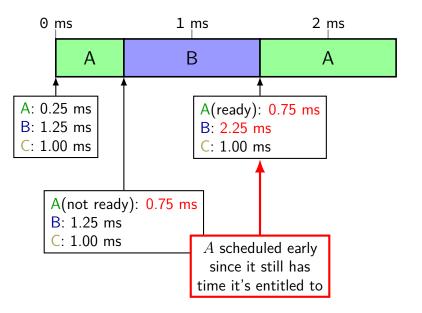
Linux solution: newly ready task time = max of its prior virtual time a little less than minimum virtual time (of already ready tasks)

not runnable briefly? still get your share of CPU (catch up from prior virtual time)

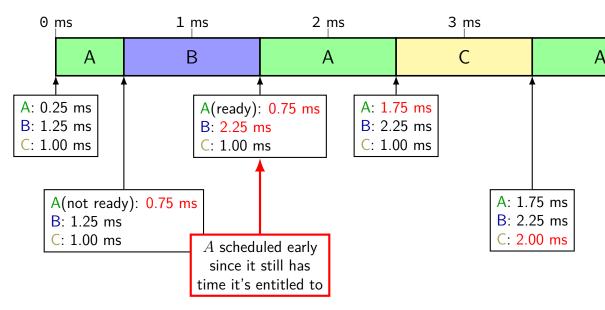
not runnable for a while? get bounded advantage



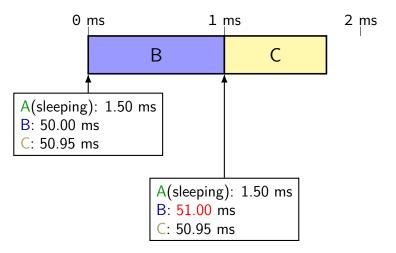




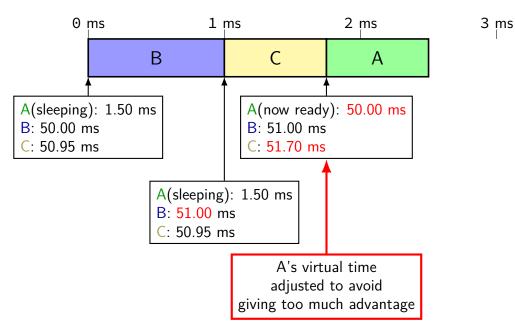
3 ms



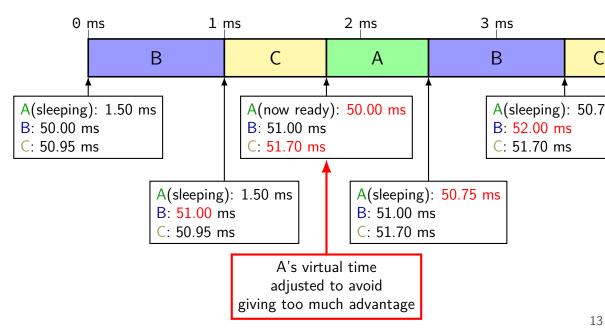




3 ms



13



handling proportional sharing

solution: multiply used time by weight

e.g. 1 ms of CPU time costs process 2 ms of virtual time higher weight \implies process less favored to run

CFS quantum lengths goals

first priority: constrain minimum quantum length (default: 0.75ms) avoid too-frequent context switching

```
second priority: run every process "soon" (default: 6ms)
avoid starvation
```

CFS quantum lengths goals

first priority: constrain minimum quantum length (default: 0.75ms) avoid too-frequent context switching

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```

quantum \approx max(fixed window / num processes, minimum quantum)

CFS: avoiding excessive context switching

conflicting goals:

schedule newly ready tasks immediately (assuming less virtual time than current task)

avoid excessive context switches

CFS rule: if virtual time of new task < current virtual time by threshold default threshold: 1 ms

(otherwise, wait until quantum is done)

other CFS parts

- dealing with multiple CPUs
- handling groups of related tasks
- special 'idle' or 'batch' task settings

CFS versus others

very similar to stride scheduling

presented as a deterministic version of lottery scheduling Waldspurger and Weihl, "Stride Scheduling: Deterministic Proportional-Share Resource Management" (1995, same authors as lottery scheduling)

very similar to *weighted fair queuing* used to schedule network traffic Demers, Keshav, and Shenker, "Analysis and Simulation of a Fair Queuing Algorithm" (1989)

a note on multiprocessors

what about multicore?

extra considerations:

want two processors to schedule without waiting for each other

want to keep process on same processor (better for cache)

what process to preempt when three+ choices?

real-time

so far: "best effort" scheduling best possible (by some metrics) given some work

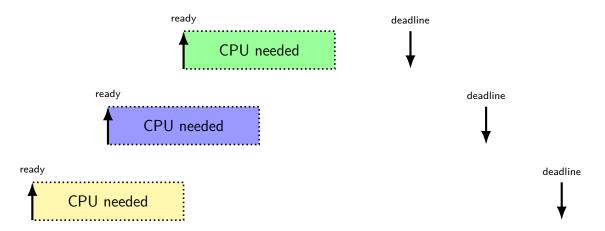
alternate model: need gaurnetees

deadlines imposed by real-world

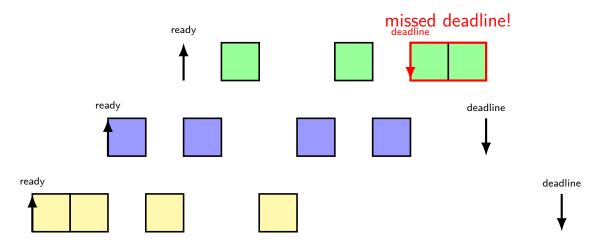
process audio with 1ms delay computer-controlled cutting machines (stop motor at right time) car brake+engine control computer

•••

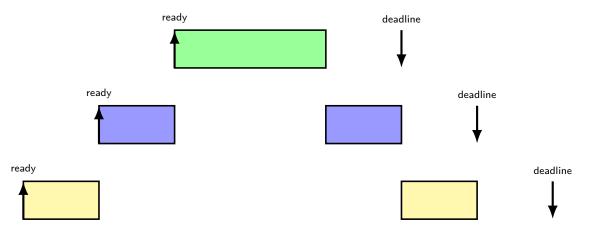
real time example: CPU + deadlines



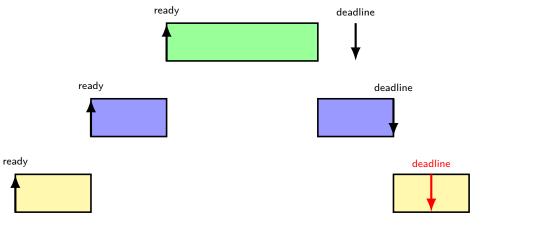
example with RR



earliest deadline first



impossible deadlines



no way to meet all deadlines!

admission control

given *worst-case* runtimes, start times, deadlines, scheduling algorithm,...

figure out whether it's possible to gaurentee meeting deadlines details on how — not this course (probably)

if not, then

change something so they can? don't ship that device? tell someone at least?

earliest deadline first and...

earliest deadline first does not (even when deadlines met)

minimize response time maximize throughput maximize fairness

exercise: give an example

which scheduler should I choose?

I care about...

CPU throughput: first-come first-serve

average response time: SRTF approximation

- I/O throughput: SRTF approximation
- fairness long-term CPU usage: something like Linux CFS
- fairness wait time: something like RR
- deadlines earliest deadline first
- favoring certain users: strict priority

threads versus processes

for now — each process has one thread

Anderson-Dahlin talks about thread scheduling

thread = part that gets run on CPU saved register values (including own stack pointer) save program counter

rest of process address space open files current working directory

...

xv6 processes versus threads

xv6: one thread per process

so part of the process control block is really a *thread* control block

```
// Per-process state
struct proc {
 uint sz;
 pde_t* pgdir;
 char *kstack;
  enum procstate state; // Process state
  int pid;
  struct proc *parent; // Parent process
 void *chan;
 int killed;
  struct file *ofile[NOFILE]; // Open files
  struct inode *cwd;
  char name[16];
```

// Size of process memory (bytes) // Page table // Bottom of kernel stack for this process // Process ID struct trapframe *tf; // Trap frame for current syscall struct context *context; // swtch() here to run process // If non-zero, sleeping on chan // If non-zero, have been killed // Current directory // Process name (debugging)

xv6 processes versus threads

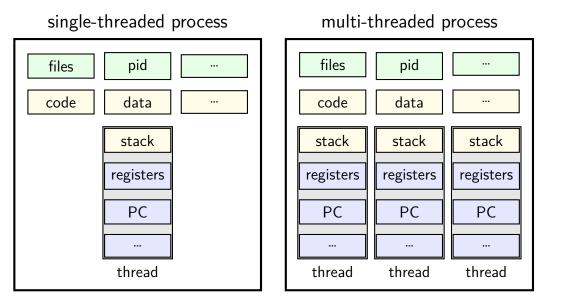
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single and multithread processes



thread versus process state

```
thread state — kept in thread control block
registers (including program counter)
other information?
```

```
process state — kept in process control block
address space (memory layout)
open files
process id
```

•••

Linux idea: task_struct

Linux model: single "task" structure = thread

pointers to address space, open file list, etc.

pointers can be shared — if same process

fork()-like system call "clone": choose what to share
 e.g. clone(CLONE_FILES, ...) — new process sharing open files
 e.g. clone(CLONE_VM, ...) — new process sharing address
 spaces

Linux idea: task_struct

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fork()-like system call "clone": choose what to share
    e.g. clone(CLONE_FILES, ...) — new process sharing open files
    e.g. clone(CLONE_VM, ...) — new process sharing address
    spaces
```

advantage: no special logic for threads (mostly)

aside: alternate threading models

- we'll talk about kernel threads
- OS scheduler deals directly with threads

- alternate idea: library code handles threading
- kernel doesn't know about threads w/in process
- hierarchy of schedulers: one for processes, one within each process
- not currently common model awkward with multicore

why threads?

concurrency: different things happening at once one thread per user of web server? one thread per page in web browser? one thread to play audio, one to read keyboard, ...?

parallelism: do same thing with more resources multiple processors to speed-up simulation (life assignment)

```
void *ComputePi(void *argument) { ... }
void *PrintClassList(void *argument) { ... }
int main() {
    pthread_t pi_thread, list_thread;
    pthread_create(&pi_thread, NULL, ComputePi, NULL);
    pthread_create(&list_thread, NULL, PrintClassList, NULL);
    ... /* more code */
}
```

run ComputePi and PrintClassList at the same time

```
void thread identifier — used to perform operations on thread later
void 
int main() {
    pthread_t pi_thread, list_thread;
    pthread_create(&pi_thread, NULL, ComputePi, NULL);
    pthread_create(&list_thread, NULL, PrintClassList, NULL);
    ... /* more code */
}
```

run ComputePi and PrintClassList at the same time

```
vo function to run — thread starts here, terminate if function returns
int main() {
    pthread_t pi_thread, list_thread;
    pthread_create(&pi_thread, NULL, ComputePi, NULL);
    pthread_create(&list_thread, NULL, PrintClassList, NULL);
    ... /* more code */
}
```

run ComputePi and PrintClassList at the same time

```
void *( thread attributes (extra settings) and function argument
void *)
int main() {
    pthread_t pi_thread, list_thread;
    pthread_create(&pi_thread, NULL, ComputePi, NULL);
    pthread_create(&list_thread, NULL, PrintClassList, NULL);
    ... /* more code */
}
```

run ComputePi and PrintClassList at the same time

a threading race

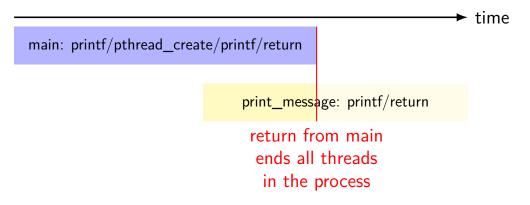
```
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdio.h>
void *print_message(void *ignored_argument) {
    printf("In_the_thread\n");
    return NULL;
int main() {
    printf("About_to_start_thread\n");
    pthread_t the_thread;
    pthread_create(&the_thread, NULL, print_message, NULL);
    printf("Done_starting_thread\n");
    return 0;
```

My machine: outputs In the thread about 4% of the time. What happened?

a race

returning from main exits the entire process (all threads)

race: main's return 0 or print_message's printf first?



fixing the race (version 1)

```
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdio.h>
void *print_message(void *ignored_argument) {
    printf("In_the_thread\n");
    return NULL;
int main() {
    printf("About_to_start_thread\n");
    pthread_t the_thread;
    pthread_create(&the_thread, NULL, print_message, NULL);
    printf("Done_starting_thread\n");
    pthread_join(the_thread, NULL); /* WAIT FOR THREAD */
    return 0;
```

fixing the race (version 2; not recommended)

```
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdio.h>
void *print_message(void *ignored_argument) {
    printf("In_the_thread\n");
    return NULL;
int main() {
    printf("About_to_start_thread\n");
    pthread_t the_thread;
    pthread_create(&the_thread, NULL, print_message, NULL);
    printf("Done_starting_thread\n");
    pthread_exit(NULL);
```

pthread_join, pthread_exit

pthread_join: wait for thread, returns its return value like waitpid, but for a thread return value is pointer to anything

pthread_exit: exit current thread, returning a value
 like exit or returning from main, but for a single thread
 same effect as returning from function passed to pthread_create

passing thread IDs (1)

```
DataType items[1000];
void *thread_function(void *argument) {
    int thread_id = (int) argument;
    int start = 500 * thread id;
    int end = start + 500;
    for (int i = start; i < end; ++i) {</pre>
        DoSomethingWith(items[i]);
    }
void run threads() {
    vector<pthread_t> threads(2);
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; ++i) {</pre>
        pthread_create(&threads[i], NULL,
            thread_function, (void*) i);
    }
```

passing thread IDs (1)

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    for (int i = 0; i < 2; ++i) {</pre>
        pthread_create(&threads[i], NULL,
            thread_function, (void*) i);
    }
```

passing thread IDs (2)

```
DataType items[1000];
int num_threads;
void *thread_function(void *argument) {
    int thread_id = (int) argument;
    int start = thread_id * (1000 / num_threads);
    int end = start + (1000 / num threads);
    if (thread_id == num_threads - 1) end = 1000;
    for (int i = start; i < end; ++i) {</pre>
        DoSomethingWith(items[i]);
    }
void run threads() {
    vector<pthread t> threads(num threads);
    for (int i = 0; i < num_threads; ++i) {</pre>
        pthread create(&threads[i], NULL,
            thread function, (void*) i);
    }
```

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        pthread create(&threads[i], NULL,
            thread function, (void*) i);
    }
```

passing data structures

```
class ThreadInfo {
public:
    . . .
};
void *thread_function(void *argument) {
    ThreadInfo *info = (ThreadInfo *) argument;
    . . .
    delete info;
void run threads(int N) {
    vector<pthread t> threads(num threads);
    for (int i = 0; i < num threads; ++i) {</pre>
        pthread create(&threads[i], NULL,
            thread function, (void *) new ThreadInfo(...);
    }
```

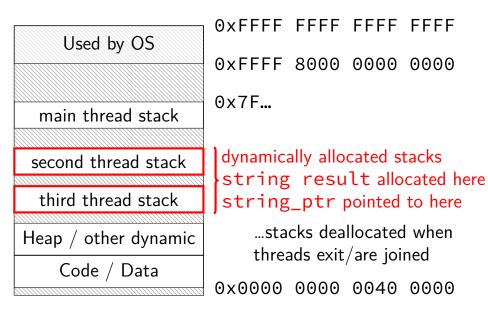
passing data structures

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class ThreadInfo {
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    . . .
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void *thread_function(void *argument) {
    ThreadInfo *info = (ThreadInfo *) argument;
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    delete info;
void run threads(int N) {
    vector<pthread t> threads(num threads);
    for (int i = 0; i < num threads; ++i) {</pre>
        pthread create(&threads[i], NULL,
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    }
```

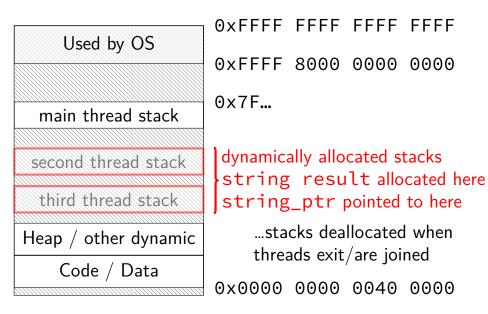
what's wrong with this?

```
/* omitted: headers, using statements */
void *create_string(void *ignored_argument) {
  string result;
  result = ComputeString();
  return &result:
int main() {
  pthread_t the_thread;
  pthread_create(&the_thread, NULL, get_string, NULL);
  string *string_ptr;
  pthread_join(the_thread, &string_ptr);
  cout << "string_is_" << *string_ptr;</pre>
```

program memory



program memory



thread resources

to create a thread, allocate:

new stack (how big???)

thread control block

pthreads: by default need to join thread to deallocate everything thread kept around to allow collecting return value

pthread_detach

```
void *show_progress(void * ...) { ... }
void spawn_show_progress_thread() {
    pthread_t show_progress_thread;
    pthread_create(&show_progress_thread, NULL, show_progress, NULL)
    pthread_detach(show_progress_thread);
}
int main() {
    spawn_show_progress_thread();
    do_other_stuff();
    ...
}
```

starting threads detached

```
void *show_progress(void * ...) { ... }
void spawn_show_progress_thread() {
    pthread_t show_progress_thread;
    pthread_attr_t attrs;
    pthread_attr_init(&attrs);
    pthread_attr_setdetachstate(&attrs, PTHREAD_CREATE_DETACHED);
    pthread_create(&show_progress_thread, attrs, show_progress, NULL
    pthread_attr_destroy(&attrs);
```

setting stack sizes

```
void *show_progress(void * ...) { ... }
void spawn_show_progress_thread() {
    pthread_t show_progress_thread;
    pthread_attr_t attrs;
    pthread_attr_init(&attrs);
    pthread_attr_setstacksize(&attrs, 32 * 1024 /* bytes */);
    pthread_create(&show_progress_thread, NULL, show_progress,
```

a note on error checking

from pthread_create manpage:

ERRORS

EAGAIN Insufficient resources to create another thread, or a system-imposed limit on the number of threads was encountered. The latter case may occur in two ways: the RLIMIT_NPROC soft resource limit (set via setrlimit(2)), which limits the number of process for a real user ID, was reached; or the kernel's system-wide limit on the number of threads, <u>/proc/sys/kernel/threadsmax</u>, was reached.

EINVAL Invalid settings in attr.

EPERM No permission to set the scheduling policy and parameters specified in attr.

special constants for return value

same pattern for many other pthreads functions

will often omit error checking in slides for brevity

error checking pthread_create

```
int error = pthread_create(...);
if (error != 0) {
    /* print some error message */
}
```

the correctness problem

schedulers introduce non-determinism scheduler might run threads in any order

scheduler can switch threads at any time

worse with threads on multiple cores cores not precisely synchronized (stalling for caches, etc., etc.) different cores happen in different order each time

makes reliable testing very difficult

solution: correctness by design

example application: ATM server

commands: withdraw, deposit

one correctness goal: don't lose money

ATM server

```
(pseudocode)
ServerLoop() {
    while (true) {
        ReceiveRequest(&operation, &accountNumber, &amount);
        if (operation == DEPOSIT) {
            Deposit(accountNumber, amount);
        } else ...
    }
Deposit(accountNumber, amount) {
    account = GetAccount(accountId);
    account->balance += amount;
    StoreAccount(account);
```

a threaded server?

...

```
Deposit(accountNumber, amount) {
    account = GetAccount(accountId);
    account->balance += amount;
    StoreAccount(account);
```

maybe Get/StoreAccount can be slow? read/write disk sometimes? contact another server sometimes?

maybe lots of requests to process? maybe real logic has more checks than Deposit()

all reasons to handle multiple requests at once

 \rightarrow many threads all running the server loop

multiple threads

```
main() {
    for (int i = 0; i < NumberOfThreads; ++i) {</pre>
        pthread_create(&server_loop_threads[i], NULL,
                        ServerLoop, NULL);
    }
ServerLoop() {
    while (true) {
        ReceiveRequest(&operation, &accountNumber, &amount);
        if (operation == DEPOSIT) {
            Deposit(accountNumber, amount);
        } else ...
    }
```

a side note

why am I spending time justifying this?

multiple threads for something like this make things much trickier we'll be learning why...

the lost write

account—>balance += amount	; (in two threads, same account)
Thread A	Thread B
<pre>mov account->balance, %ra> add amount, %rax</pre>	< compared with the second sec
cont	ext switch
	add amount, %rax
<pre>mov %rax, account->balance</pre>	ext switch —
cont	ext switch mov %rax, account->balance

the lost write

<pre>account->balance += amount;</pre>	(in two threads, same account)
Thread A	Thread B
<pre>mov account->balance, %rax add amount, %rax</pre>	
	t switch
<pre>mov %rax, account->balance</pre>	switch
lost write to balance	switch mov %rax, account_>balance
	"winner" of the race

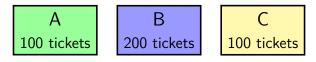
the lost write

<pre>account->balance += amount;</pre>	(in two threads, same account)	
Thread A	Thread B	
<pre>mov account->balance, %rax add amount, %rax</pre>		
context	<pre>switch mov account->balance, %rax add amount, %rax</pre>	
mov %rax, account->balance		
lost write to balance	<pre>mov %rax, account->balance</pre>	
	"winner" of the race	
lost track of thread A's money		

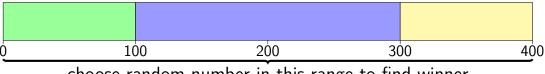
backup slides

lottery scheduling

every thread has a certain number of lottery tickets:



scheduling = lottery among ready threads:



choose random number in this range to find winner

simulating priority with lottery

A (high priority) 1M tickets
B (medium priority)
C (low priority) 1 tickets
1 tickets

very close to strict priority

... or to SJF if priorities are set right

lottery scheduling assignment

assignment: add lottery scheduling to xv6

extra system call: settickets

also counting of how long processes run (for testing)

lottery scheduling assignment

- assignment: add lottery scheduling to xv6
- extra system call: settickets
- also counting of how long processes run (for testing)
- simplification: okay if scheduling decisions are linear time there is a faster way
- not implementing preemption before time slice ends might be better to run new lottery when process becomes ready?

is lottery scheduling actually good?

seriously proposed by academics in 1994 (Waldspurger and Weihl, OSDI'94)

including ways of making it efficient making preemption decisions (other than time slice ending) if processes don't use full time slice handling non-CPU-like resources

elegant mecahnism that can implement a variety of policies

but there are some problems...

...

exercise

process A: 1 ticket, always runnable

process B: 9 tickets, always runnable

over 10 time quantum what is the probability A runs for at least 3 quanta? i.e. 3 times as much as "it's supposed to" chosen 3 times out of 10 instead of 1 out of 10

exercise

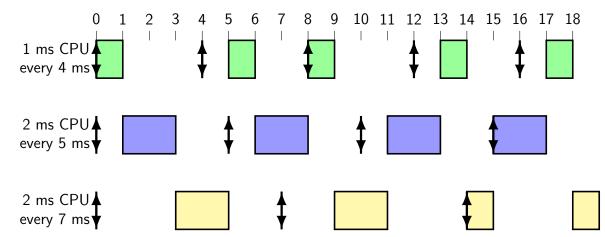
process A: 1 ticket, always runnable

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over 10 time quantum what is the probability A runs for at least 3 quanta? i.e. 3 times as much as "it's supposed to" chosen 3 times out of 10 instead of 1 out of 10

approx. 7%

periodic tasks and deadlines



admission control

filter gaurentees: don't make promises you can't keep

theorem (Liu and Layland, 1973):

given periodic tasks (released *after each deadline*), deadlines D_i and computation times C_i , earliest deadline first will meet all deadlines if: $\sum_{i=1}^{n} (C_i/D_i) \leq 1$

one idea: use this to accept/reject tasks

```
pushcli(void)
  int eflags;
  eflags = readeflags();
  cli();
  if (mycpu()->ncli == 0)
    mycpu()->intena = eflags & FL_IF;
  mycpu()->ncli += 1;
popcli(void)
  if(readeflags()&FL IF)
    panic("popcli_-_interruptible");
  if(--mycpu()->ncli < 0)</pre>
    panic("popcli");
  if(mycpu()->ncli == 0 && mycpu()->intena)
    sti();
```

```
pushcli(void)
  int eflags;
  eflags = readeflags();
  cli();
  if (mycpu()->ncli == 0)
    mycpu() \rightarrow intena = eflags \& FL_IF;
  mycpu()->ncli += 1;
                                          mycpu() — per-core information
popcli(void)
  if(readeflags()&FL IF)
    panic("popcli_-_interruptible");
  if(--mycpu()->ncli < 0)</pre>
    panic("popcli");
  if(mycpu()->ncli == 0 && mycpu()->intena)
    sti();
```

```
pushcli(void)
  int eflags;
  eflags = readeflags();
  cli();
  if (mycpu()->ncli == 0)
    mycpu()->intena = eflags & FL_IF;
  mycpu()->ncli += 1;
}
                      intena — were interrupts enabled before first pushcli()?
popcli(void)
  if(readeflags()&FL IF)
    panic("popcli_-_interruptible");
  if(--mycpu()->ncli < 0)</pre>
    panic("popcli");
  if(mycpu()->ncli == 0 && mycpu()->intena)
    sti();
```

```
pushcli(void)
  int eflags;
  eflags = readeflags();
  cli();
  if (mycpu()->ncli == 0)
    mycpu()->intena = eflags & FL_IF;
  mycpu()->ncli += 1;
                              ncli — \# calls to pushcli - \# calls to popcli
                              intended usage: each pushcli has matching popcli
popcli(void)
  if(readeflags()&FL IF)
    panic("popcli_-_interruptible");
  if(--mycpu()->ncli < 0)</pre>
    panic("popcli");
  if(mycpu()->ncli == 0 && mycpu()->intena)
    sti();
```

```
pushcli(void)
  int eflags;
  eflags = readeflags();
  cli();
  if (mycpu()->ncli == 0)
    mycpu()->intena = eflags & FL_IF;
  mycpu()->ncli += 1;
                                         pushcli — always disable interrupts
popcli(void)
  if(readeflags()&FL IF)
    panic("popcli_-_interruptible");
  if(--mycpu()->ncli < 0)</pre>
    panic("popcli");
  if(mycpu()->ncli == 0 && mycpu()->intena)
    sti();
```

```
pushcli(void)
  int eflags;
  eflags = readeflags();
  cli();
  if (mycpu()->ncli == 0)
    mycpu()->intena = eflags & FL_IF;
  mycpu()->ncli += 1;
                                      popcli — renable interrupts if last popcli
                                       (and interrupts were enabled before)
                                       (each pushcli had a matching popcli call)
popcli(void)
  if(readeflags()&FL IF)
    panic("popcli_-_interruptible");
  if(--mycpu()->ncli < 0)</pre>
    panic("popcli");
  if(mycpu()->ncli == 0 && mycpu()->intena)
    sti();
```

Java synchronized primitive

```
Object MilkLock = new Object();
```

```
/* lock implicity acquired/released on
    entering/leaving this block */
synchronized (MilkLock) {
    if (no milk) {
        buy milk
    }
}
```

C++11 mutexes

#include <mutex>

```
std::mutex MilkLock;
{
    std::lock_guard nameDoesNotMatter(MilkLock);
    /* nameDoesNotMatter's constructor acquires lock */
    if (no milk) {
        buy milk
    }
       nameDoesNotMatter's destructor called automatically
       and releases lock
     */
```