scheduling (finish) / threads

last time

lottery scheduler

randomness maybe not so great in practice

shortest *remaining* time first

special case: thread interrupted when almost done

multi-level feedback queue: SRTF approximation with priority heuristic: thread CPU bursts consistent key idea 1: priority estimates CPU burst length key idea 2: time quantum at priority X \sim CPU burst length at priority X oscillating behvaior

MLFQ in practice: need to deal with starvation

Linux Completely Fair Scheduler (CFS) prioritize by virtual runtime like round robin, with adjustments for programs doing I/O supports proportional share (today)

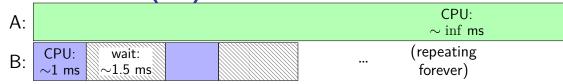
CFS: tracking runtime

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

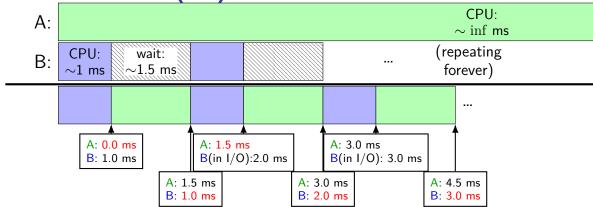
incremented when run based how long it runs

adjustments for threads that are new or were sleeping too big an advantage to start at runtime 0

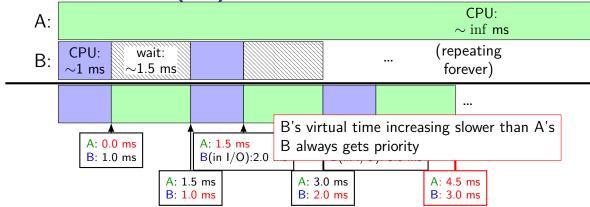
scheduling decision: run thread with lowest virtual runtime data structure: balanced tree



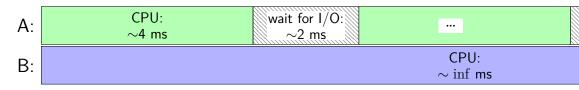
suppose programs A, B; max 1 ms time quanta



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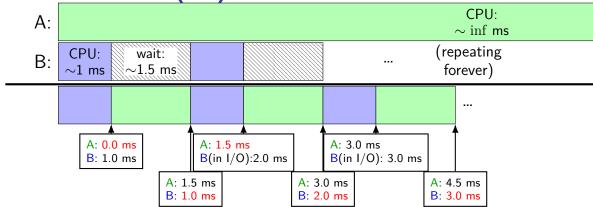
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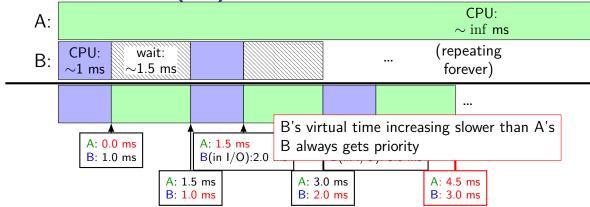
suppose programs A, B; 1 ms time quata

with CFS (and equal weights) and **no adjustments to virtual time for programs waking up from sleep**, **about** what portion of CPU does program A get?

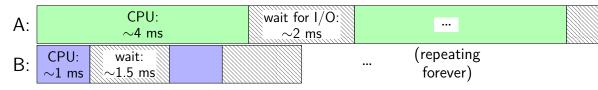
8



suppose programs A, B; max 1 ms time quanta



suppose programs A, B; max 1 ms time quanta



suppose programs A, B with alternating CPU + I/O as above

exercise solution

if A, B, were running alone, could get at most 1/2 the CPU B can't use that much time

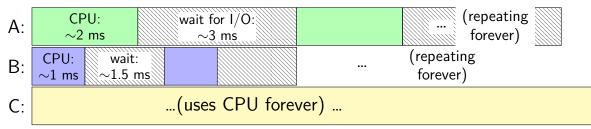
so B will run 2/5ths of the time (the most it can)

so B will almost always have lower virtual time than A

A will get the remaining about 3/5ths

exception: time both A and B are both doing I/O

exception: extra time A gets to run if no preemption during its time quantum?



suppose programs A, B, C with alternating CPU + $\rm I/O$ as above

CFS exercise: maximum time for A

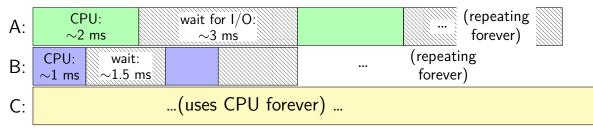


A running alone: A runs 2/5ths of the time

A, B, C sharing fairly: each runs 1/3rd of the time if A used more than 1/3rd of the time... then it would have a higher virtual time... and B and C would catch up (and same for B or C)

result: A runs at most 1/3rd of the time...

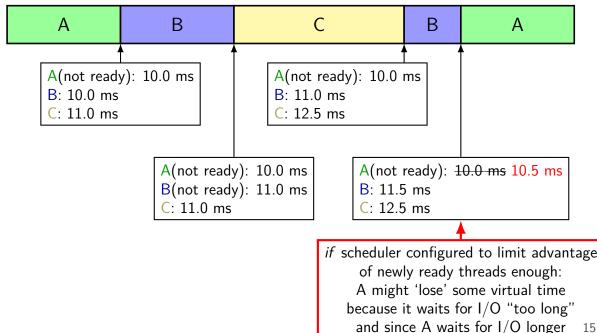
unless B can't use its full share because of I/O (because of being interrupted by A too much?)



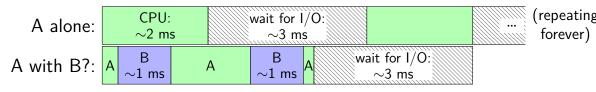
suppose we add adjustments to virtual time for waking up from sleep

expected direction of change in how much compute time A gets?

CFS exercise: A disadvantage from sleep



CFS exercise: A interrupted by B?



A interrupted by B a bunch sometimes...?

might not start I/O as often

might not be able to run 1/3rd of the time

e.g. sometimes $2/(2+2+3) \approx 28\%$ of CPU

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: tracking runtime

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

incremented when run based how long it runs

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

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

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

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)

which scheduler should I choose?

I care about...

- CPU throughput: first-come first-serve
- average response time: SRTF approximation
- ${\sf I}/{\sf O}$ throughput: SRTF approximation
- fairness medium-term CPU usage: something like Linux CFS
- fairness wait time: something like RR
- (not covered this semester) real-world deadlines: earliest deadline first or similar
- favoring certain users: strict priority

a note on multiprocessors

what about multicore?

want two cores to schedule without waiting for each other

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

what core to preempt when three+ choices?

common approach:

separate ready list per core regularly 'rebalance' threads between cores

which scheduler should I choose?

I care about...

- CPU throughput: first-come first-serve
- average response time: SRTF approximation
- ${\sf I}/{\sf O}$ throughput: SRTF approximation
- fairness medium-term CPU usage: something like Linux CFS
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- (not covered this semester) real-world deadlines: earliest deadline first or similar
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using threads

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)

aside: alternate threading models

- we'll talk about kernel threads
- OS scheduler deals $\ensuremath{\textbf{directly}}$ with threads

- alternate idea: library code handles threads
- 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

thread versus process state

thread state — kept in thread control block

registers (including stack pointer, program counter) scheduling state (runnable, waiting, ...) other information?

process state — kept in **process control block** address space (memory layout, heap location, ...) open files process id list of thread control blocks

•••

...

Linux idea: task_struct

Linux model: single "task" structure = thread

pointers to address space, open file list, etc.

pointers can be shared

e.g. shared open files: open fd 4 in one task \rightarrow all sharing can use fd 4

fork()-like system call "clone": choose what to share
 clone(0, ...) — similar to fork()
 clone(CLONE_FILES, ...) — like fork(), but sharing open files
 clone(CLONE_VM, new_stack_pointer, ...) — like fork(),
 but sharing address space

Linux idea: task_struct

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advantage: no special logic for threads (mostly) two threads in same process = tasks sharing everything possible

```
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 */
     main()
pthread_create
                                          ComputePi
pthread create
                          PrintClassList
```

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void *ComputePi(void *argument) { ... }
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int main() {
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pthread_create arguments:

thread identifier

function to run

thread starts here, terminates if this function returns

thread attributes (extra settings) and function argument

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a threading race

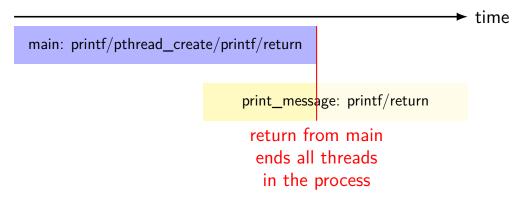
```
#include <pthread.h>
#include <stdio.h>
void *print_message(void *ignored_argument) {
    printf("In the thread\n");
    return NULL;
int main() {
    printf("About to start thread\n");
    pthread_t the_thread;
    pthread_create(&the_thread, NULL, print_message, NULL);
    printf("Done starting 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 its threads) same as calling exit; not like other 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, retrieves 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

sum example (only globals)

```
int values[1024];
int results[2];
void *sum_front(void *ignored_argument) {
    int sum = 0:
    for (int i = 0; i < 512; ++i)</pre>
        sum += values[i];
    results[0] = sum;
    return NULL;
}
void *sum back(void *ignored argument) {
    int sum = 0;
    for (int i = 512; i < 1024; ++i)
        sum += values[i];
    results[1] = sum;
    return NULL;
int sum_all() {
    pthread_t sum_front_thread, sum_back_thread;
    pthread create(&sum front thread, NULL, sum front, NULL);
    pthread_create(&sum_back_thread, NULL, sum_back, NULL);
    pthread_join(sum_front_thread, NULL);
    pthread_join(sum_back_thread, NULL);
    return results[0] + results[1];
}
```

sum example (only globals)

```
int values[1024];
                               values, results: global variables — shared
int results[2];
void *sum_front(void *ignored
    int sum = 0:
    for (int i = 0; i < 512; ++i)</pre>
        sum += values[i];
    results[0] = sum;
    return NULL;
}
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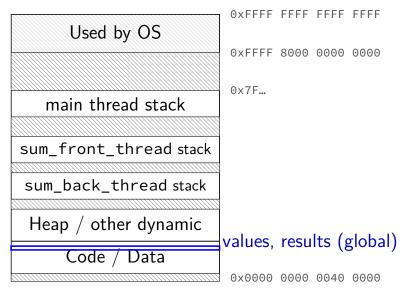
sum example (only globals)

```
int values[1024];
                       two different functions
int results[2];
                       happen to be the same except for some numbers
void *sum front(void *
    int sum = 0:
    for (int i = 0; i < 512; ++i)
        sum += values[i];
   results[0] = sum;
   return NULL;
void *sum_back(void *ignored_argument) {
    int sum = 0;
    for (int i = 512; i < 1024; ++i)
        sum += values[i];
   results[1] = sum:
   return NULL;
int sum all() {
    pthread_t sum_front_thread, sum_back_thread;
    pthread create(&sum front thread, NULL, sum front, NULL);
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    pthread_join(sum_back_thread, NULL);
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}
```

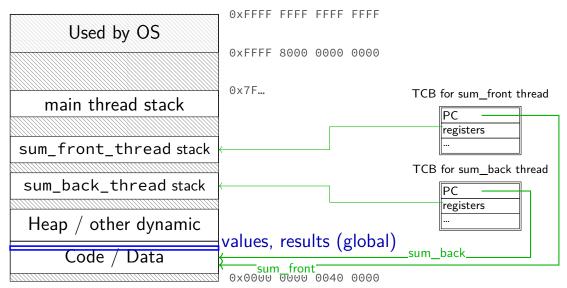
```
sum
         values returned from threads
int value via global array instead of return value
int resul
void *sum (partly to illustrate that memory is shared,
    int s
          partly because this pattern works when we don't join (later))
    for (
        sum +- vatues[1];
    results[0] = sum;
    return NULL;
void *sum_back(void *ignored_argument) {
    int sum = 0;
    for (int i = 512; i < 1024; ++i)
        sum += values[i];
    results[1] = sum;
    return NULL;
int sum all() {
    pthread_t sum_front_thread, sum_back_thread;
    pthread create(&sum front thread, NULL, sum front, NULL);
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    pthread_join(sum_front_thread, NULL);
    pthread_join(sum_back_thread, NULL);
    return results[0] + results[1];
```

38

thread_sum memory layout



thread_sum memory layout



sum example (to global, with thread IDs)

```
int values[1024];
int results[2];
void *sum_thread(void *argument) {
    int id = (int) argument;
    int sum = 0;
    for (int i = id * 512; i < (id + 1) * 512; ++i) {</pre>
        sum += values[i];
    }
    results[id] = sum;
    return NULL;
int sum_all() {
    pthread_t thread[2];
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; ++i) {</pre>
        pthread_create(&threads[i], NULL, sum_thread, (void *) i);
    }
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; ++i)
        pthread_join(threads[i], NULL);
    return results[0] + results[1];
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}
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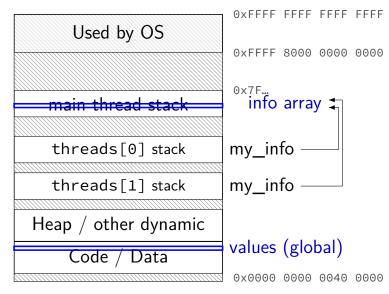
```
int values[1024];
struct ThreadInfo {
    int start, end, result;
};
void *sum_thread(void *argument) {
    ThreadInfo *my_info = (ThreadInfo *) argument;
    int sum = 0;
    for (int i = my_info->start; i < my_info->end; ++i) {
        sum += values[i];
    }
    my info->result = sum;
    return NULL;
int sum_all() {
    pthread_t thread[2]; ThreadInfo info[2];
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; ++i) {</pre>
        info[i].start = i*512; info[i].end = (i+1)*512;
        pthread_create(&threads[i], NULL, sum_thread, &info[i]);
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; ++i)
        pthread_join(threads[i], NULL);
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struct ThreadInfo {
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};
void *sum_thread(void *argument) {
    ThreadInfo *my_info = (ThreadInfo *) argument:
    int sum = 0:
                           my info: pointer to sum all's stack
    for (int i = my_info->
        sum += values[i]; only okay because sum all waits!
    }
   my info->result = sum;
    return NULL;
int sum_all() {
    pthread_t thread[2]; ThreadInfo info[2];
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; ++i) {
        info[i].start = i*512; info[i].end = (i+1)*512;
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thread_sum memory layout (info struct)



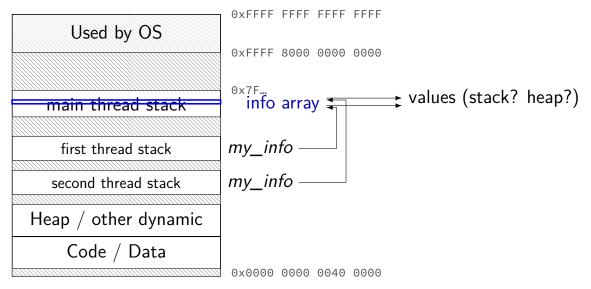
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void *sum_thread(void *argument) {
    ThreadInfo *my info = (ThreadInfo *) argument;
    int sum = 0:
    for (int i = my_info->start; i < my_info->end; ++i) {
        sum += my info->values[i];
    }
    my_info->result = sum;
    return NULL;
int sum all(int *values) {
    ThreadInfo info[2]; pthread_t thread[2];
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; ++i) {</pre>
        info[i].values = values; info[i].start = i*512; info[i].end = (i+1)*512;
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    for (int i = 0; i < 2; ++i)
        pthread_join(threads[i], NULL);
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}
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    for (int i = 0; i < 2; ++i) {</pre>
        info[i].values = values; info[i].start = i*512; info[i].end = (i+1)*512;
        pthread_create(&threads[i], NULL, sum_thread, (void *) &info[i]);
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; ++i)
        pthread_join(threads[i], NULL);
    return info[0].result + info[1].result;
}
```

program memory (to main stack)



sum example (on heap)

```
struct ThreadInfo { pthread_t thread; int *values; int start; int end; int result
void *sum_thread(void *argument) {
    . . .
}
ThreadInfo *start_sum_all(int *values) {
    ThreadInfo *info = new ThreadInfo[2];
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; ++i) {</pre>
        info[i].values = values; info[i].start = i*512; info[i].end = (i+1)*512;
        pthread_create(&info[i].thread, NULL, sum_thread, (void *) &info[i]);
    }
    return info;
}
int finish_sum_all(ThreadInfo *info) {
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; ++i)
        pthread join(info[i].thread, NULL);
    int result = info[0].result + info[1].result;
    delete[] info;
    return result;
}
```

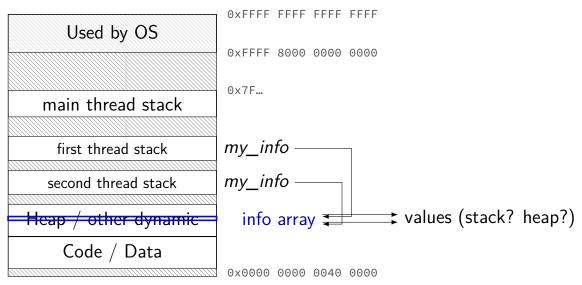
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}
```

thread_sum memory (heap version)



what's wrong with this?

```
/* omitted: headers */
#include <string>
using std::string;
void *create string(void *ignored argument) {
  string result;
  result = ComputeString();
  return &result:
int main() {
  pthread t the thread;
  pthread create(&the thread, NULL, create string, NULL);
  string *string ptr:
  pthread_join(the_thread, (void*) &string_ptr);
  cout << "string is " << *string ptr;</pre>
```

program memory

Used by OS
main thread stack
second thread stack
third thread stack
Heap / other dynamic
Code / Data

0xFFFF FFFF FFFF FFFF 0xFFFF 8000 0000 0000 0x7F...

dynamically allocated stacks string result allocated here string_ptr pointed to here

...stacks deallocated when threads exit/are joined

0x0000 0000 0040 0000

program memory

Used by OS
main thread stack
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thread resources

to create a thread, allocate:

new stack (how big???)

thread control block

deallocated when ...

thread resources

- to create a thread, allocate:
- new stack (how big???)
- thread control block
- deallocated when ...
- can deallocate stack when thread exits
- but need to allow collecting return value same problem as for processes and waitpid

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)
```

/* instead of keeping pthread_t around to join thread later: */
pthread_detach(show_progress_thread);

```
int main() {
    spawn_show_progress_thread();
    do_other_stuff();
```

detach = don't care about return value, etc. system will deallocate when thread terminates

starting threads detached

setting stack sizes

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 */
}
```

backup slides

backup sides

4.4BSD scheduler

 $4.4BSD\ /\ FreeBSD\ pre-2003$ scheduler was a variation on MLFQ

64 priority levels, 100 ms quantum

same quantum at every priority

priorities adjusted periodically

in retrospect not good for performance — iterate through all threads part of why FreeBSD stopped using this scheduler

priority of threads that spent a lot of time waiting for ${\rm I}/{\rm O}$ increased

priority of threads that used a lot of CPU time decreased

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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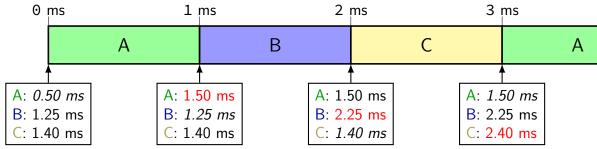
CFS: tracking runtime

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

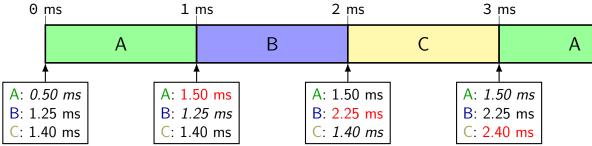
incremented when run based how long it runs

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

virtual time, always ready, 1 ms quantum



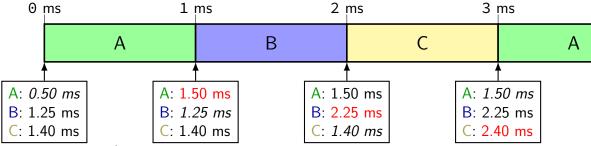
virtual time, always ready, 1 ms quantum



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

MLFQ variations

version of MLFQ I described is in Anderson-Dahlin

problems:

starvation

worse than with real SRTF — based on guess, not real remaining time

oscillation not great for predictability

variation to prevent starvation

Apraci-Dusseau presents variant of MLFQ w/o starvation two changes:

don't increase priority when whole quantum not used instead keep the same — more stable

periodically increase priority of *all threads*

allow compute-heavy threads to run a little still deals with thread's behavior changing over time replaces finer-grained upward adjustments

FreeBSD scheduler

current default FreeBSD scheduler based on MLFQ idea

...but: time quantums don't depend on priority

computes interactivity score $\sim \frac{I/O \text{ wait}}{I/O \text{ wait} + \text{runtime}}$ note: deliberately not estimating remaining time

(using "recent" history of thread)

thread priorities set based on interactivity score

real-time

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

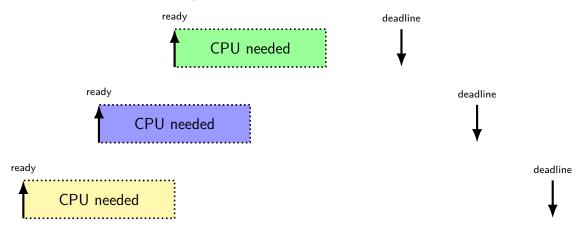
alternate model: need gaurnetees

deadlines imposed by real-world

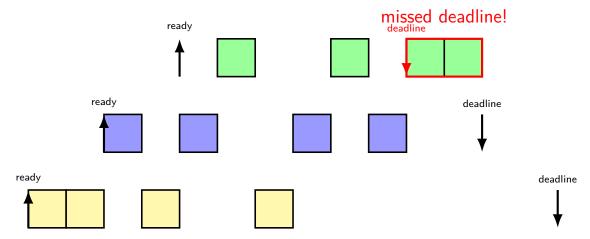
process audio with 1ms delay computer-controlled cutting machines (stop motor at right time) car brake+engine control computer

•••

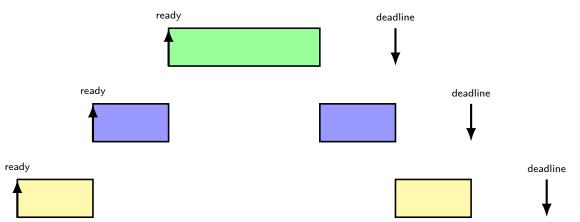
real time example: CPU + deadlines



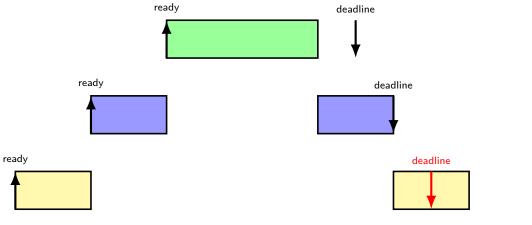
example with RR



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

other real-time schedulers

typical real time systems: *periodic tasks with deadlines* "*rate monotonic*"

commonly approximate EDF with lower period = higher priority easier to implement than true EDF

well-known method to determine if schedule is admissible = won't exceed deadline (under some assumptions)

aside: measuring fairness (1)

first question: what needs to be divided fairly?

problem: what about programs waiting for I/O?

answer 1: don't consider what happens when program waiting for ${\rm I/O}$

answer 2:

give program credit for time not running while waiting for $\ensuremath{I/O}$

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give program credit for time not running while waiting for I/O

aside: measuring fairness (2)

one way: max-min fairness

choose schedule that maximizes the minimum resource given to anyone

aside: measuring fairness (2)

one way: max-min fairness

choose schedule that maximizes the minimum resource given to anyone

most fair		least fair