Unit - 1 Process and Thread Management

Topics to be covered

- Definition of process
- Process relationship
- Process states
- Process state transitions
- Process control
- Process control block
- Context switching
- Threads
- Concept of multithreads
- Benefits of threads
- Types of threads

What is Process?



What is Process?

- Process is a program under execution.
- Process is an abstraction of a running program.
- Process is an instance of an executing program, including the current values of the program counter, registers & variables.
- Each process has its own virtual CPU.

Multiprogramming

- The real CPU switches back and forth from process to process.
- This rapid switching back and forth is called multiprogramming.
- The number of processes loaded simultaneously in memory is called degree of multiprogramming.





- There are three processes, one processor (CPU), three logical program counter (one for each processes) in memory and one physical program counter in processor.
- Here CPU is free (no process is running).
- No data in physical program counter.



- CPU is allocated to process P1 (process P1 is running).
- Data of process P1 is copied from its logical program counter to the physical program counter.



- CPU switches from process P1 to process P2.
- CPU is allocated to process P2 (process P2 is running).
- Data of process P1 is copied back to its logical program counter.
- Data of process P2 is copied from its logical program counter to the physical program counter.



- CPU switches from process P2 to process P3.
- CPU is allocated to process P3 (process P3 is running).
- Data of process P2 is copied back its logical program counter.
- Data of process P3 is copied from its logical program counter to the physical program counter.

Process Model



- Fig. (a) Multiprogramming of **four programs in memory**
- Fig. (b) **Conceptual model of 4 independent, sequential processes**, each with its own flow of control (i.e., its own logical program counter) and each one running independently of the other ones.
- Fig. (c) over a long period of time interval, all the processes have made progress, but at any given instant only one process is actually running.

Process Creation

- 1. System initialization
 - At the time of **system (OS) booting** various processes are created
 - Foreground and background processes are created
 - Background process that do not interact with user e.g. process to accept mail
 - Foreground Process that interact with user



Process Creation

- 2. Execution of a process creation system call (fork) by running process
 - Running process will issue system call (fork) to create one or more new process to help it.
 - A process fetching large amount of data and execute it will create two different processes one for fetching data and another to execute it.



Process Creation (Cont...)

- 3. A user request to create a new process
 - Start process by **clicking an icon** (opening word file by double click) or by **typing command**.



Process Creation (Cont...)

- 4. Initialization of batch process
 - Applicable to only **batch system found on large mainframe**

- 1. Normal exit (voluntary)
 - Terminated because **process** has **done its work**.



- 2. Error exit (voluntary)
 - The process discovers a fatal error e.g. user types the command cc foo.c to compile the program foo.c and no such file exists, the compiler simply exit.



C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe					
C: \Users\gakwaya>d:					
D:\>cd helloWorld					
D:\helloWorld>dir					
Volume in drive D has no label.					
Volume Serial Number is 3493-965D					
Directory of D:\helloWorld					
02/13/2014 01:10 PM <dir> .</dir>					
02/13/2014 01:10 PM <dir></dir>					
02/12/2014 07:42 AM 72 main.c					
02/06/2014 12:50 PM 77 printHello.c					
02/06/2014 12:51 PM 40 printHello.h					
3 File(s) 189 bytes					
2 Dir(s) 9,629,696,000 bytes free					
D:\helloWorl > cc foo.c					
D:\helloWorld>					

- 3. Fatal error (involuntary)
 - An error caused by a process often **due to a program bug** e.g. executing an illegal instruction, referencing nonexistent memory or divided by zero.



- 4. Killed by another process (involuntary)
 - A process executes a system call telling the OS to kill some other process using kill system call.

Process Hierarchies

 Parent process can create child process, child process can create its own child process.



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 Parent process can create child process, child process can create its own child process.



- UNIX has hierarchy concept which is known as process group
- Windows has no concept of hierarchy
 - All the process as treated equal (use handle concept)

Handle

- When a process is created, the parent process is given a special token called handle.
- This handle is **used to control the child process**.
- A process is **free to pass this token** to some other process.



Process State

- 1. Running Process is actually using the CPU
- Ready Process is runnable, temporarily stopped to let another process to run
- Blocked process is unable to run until some external event happens



Processes are always either executing (running) or waiting to execute (ready) or waiting for an event (blocked) to occur.

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	Sample Print	er State: 🥑 Default Model: Brother DC Category: Printer	Status: P-135C	2 document(s) in	queue	



Process State Transitions

- When and how these transitions occur (process moves from one state to another)?
 - Process blocks for input or waits for an event (i.e. printer is not available)
 - 2. Scheduler picks another process
 - End of time-slice or pre-emption.
 - 3. Scheduler picks this process
 - Input becomes available, event arrives (i.e. printer become available)



Five State Process Model and Transitions



- New process is being created
- Ready process is waiting to run (runnable), temporarily stopped to let another process run
- Running process is actually using the CPU
- Blocked unable to run until some external event happens
- Exit (Terminated) process has finished the execution

Queue Diagram



Process Control Block (PCB)

- A Process Control Block (PCB) is a data structure maintained by the operating system for every process.
- PCB is used for storing the collection of information about the processes.
- The PCB is identified by an integer process ID (PID).
- A PCB keeps all the information needed to keep track of a process.

Process Control Block (PCB)

- The PCB is maintained for a process throughout its lifetime and is deleted once the process terminates.
- The architecture of a PCB is completely dependent on operating system and may contain different information in different operating systems.
- PCB lies in kernel memory space.

Process Control Block (PCB) contains

- Process ID Unique identification for each of the process in the operating system.
- Process State The current state of the process i.e., whether it is ready, running, waiting.
- Pointer A pointer to parent process.
- Priority Priority of a process.
- Program Counter Program Counter is a pointer to the address of the next instruction to be executed for this process.

Process ID
State
Pointer
Priority
Program counter
CPU registers
I/O information
 Accounting information
etc

Process Control Block (PCB) contains

- CPU registers Various CPU registers where process need to be stored for execution for running state.
- IO status information This includes a list of I/O devices allocated to the process.
- Accounting information This includes the amount of CPU used for process execution, time limits etc.

Process ID
State
Pointer
Priority
Program counter
CPU registers
I/O information
Accounting information
etc

Context switching

- Context switch means stopping one process and restarting another process.
- When an event occur, the OS saves the state of an active process and restore the state of new process.
- Context switching is purely overhead because system does not perform any useful work while context switch.



Steps performed by OS during Context switching

process P1

- idle

executing

- idle

Sequence of action: process Po operating system 1. OS takes control (through interrupt or system call interrupt) executing save state into PCB_o 2. Saves context of running **process** in the process **PCB** reload state from PCB, 3. **Reload context** of new from the process new Fidle interrupt or system call process PCB save state into PCB, 4. Return control to new process reload state from PCB

executing

Thread

Thread is light weight process created by a process.

Processes are used to execute large, 'heavyweight' jobs such as working in word, while threads are used to carry out smaller or 'lightweight' jobs such as auto saving a word document. Process

Thread #

ş

Time

Thread #1



Thread

- Thread is light weight process created by a process.
- Thread is a single sequence stream within a process.
- Thread has it own



- **1. program counter** that **keeps track** of **which instruction to execute next**.
- 2. system registers which hold its current working variables.
- 3. stack which contains the execution history.

Single Thread VS Multiple Thread

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Single Process P with single thread

Single Process P with three threads

Similarities between Process & Thread

- Like processes threads share CPU and only one thread is running at a time.
- Like processes threads within a process execute sequentially.
- Like processes thread can create childrens.
- Like a traditional process, a thread can be in any one of several states: running, blocked, ready or terminated.
- Like process threads have Program Counter, Stack, Registers and State.

Dissimilarities between Process & Thread

- Unlike processes threads are not independent of one another.
- Threads within the same process share an address space.
- Unlike processes all threads can access every address in the task.
- Unlike processes threads are design to assist one other. Note that processes might or might not assist one another because processes may be originated from different users.

Advantages of Threads

- Threads minimize the context switching time.
- Use of threads provides concurrency within a process.
- Efficient communication.
- It is more easy to create and context switch threads.
- Threads can execute in parallel on multiprocessors.
- With threads, an application can avoid per-process overheads
 - Thread creation, deletion, switching easier than processes.
- Threads have full access to address space (easy sharing).

Types of Threads

- 1. Kernel Level Thread
- 2. User Level Thread



Types of Threads (Cont...)

USER LEVEL THREAD	KERNEL LEVEL THREAD		
User thread are implemented by users.	Kernel threads are implemented by OS.		
OS doesn't recognize user level threads.	Kernel threads are recognized by OS.		
Implementation of User threads is easy.	Implementation of Kernel thread is complex.		
Context switch time is less.	Context switch time is more.		
Context switch requires no hardware support.	Context switch requires hardware support.		
If one user level thread perform blocking operation then entire process will be blocked.	If one kernel thread perform blocking operation then another thread with in same process can continue execution.		
Example : Java thread, POSIX threads.	Example : Window Solaris		

Hybrid Thread

- Combines the advantages of user level and kernel level thread.
- It uses kernel level thread and then multiplex user level thread on to some or all of kernel threads.
- Gives flexibility to programmer that how many kernel level threads to use and how many user level thread to multiplex on each one.
- Kernel is aware of only kernel level threads and schedule it.



Multi threading models







One to One Model

Each user threads mapped to one kernel thread.

Problem with this model is that creating a user thread requires the corresponding kernel thread.

Many to One Model

Multiple user threads mapped to one kernel thread.

Problem with this model is that a user thread can block entire process because we have only one kernel thread.

Many to Many Model

Multiple user threads multiplex to more than one kernel threads.

Advantage with this model is that a user thread can not block entire process because we have multiple kernel thread.

Pthread function calls

- 1. Pthread_create:- Create a new thread
- 2. Pthread_exit:- Terminate the calling thread
- 3. Pthread_join:- Wait for a specific thread to exit
- 4. Pthread_yield:- Release the CPU to let another thread run
- 5. Pthread_attr_init:- Create and initialize a thread's attribute structure
- 6. Pthread_destroy:- Remove a thread's attribute structure

System calls

- A system call is the programmatic way in which a computer program requests a service from the kernel of the operating system it is executed on.
- A system call is a way for programs to interact with the operating system.
- A computer program makes a system call when it makes a request to the operating system's kernel.
- System call provides the services of the operating system to the user programs via Application Program Interface(API).
- It provides an interface between a process and operating system to allow user-level processes to request services of the operating system.
- System calls are the only entry points into the kernel system.
- All programs needing resources must use system calls.

System calls

- 1. ps (process status):- The ps (process status) command is used to **provide information about the currently running processes**, including their process identification numbers (PIDs).
- 2. fork:- Fork system call is used for **creating a new process, which is called child process**, which runs concurrently with the process that makes the fork() call (parent process).
- 3. wait:- Wait system call **blocks the calling process until one of its child processes exits** or a signal is received. After child process terminates, parent continues its execution after wait system call instruction.
- 4. exit:- Exit system call **terminates the running process normally**.
- 5. exec family:- The exec family of functions **replaces the current running process with a new process**.