Chapter 3: Processes





Chapter 3: Processes

- Process Concept
- Process Scheduling
- Operations on Processes
- Interprocess Communication
- Examples of IPC Systems
- Communication in Client-Server Systems





- To introduce the notion of a process -- a program in execution, which forms the basis of all computation
- To describe the various features of processes, including scheduling, creation and termination, and communication
- To explore interprocess communication using shared memory and message passing
- To describe communication in client-server systems





Process Concept

- An operating system executes a variety of programs:
 - Batch system jobs
 - Time-shared systems user programs or tasks
- Textbook uses the terms *job* and *process* almost interchangeably
- Process a program in execution; process execution must progress in sequential fashion
- Multiple parts
 - The program code, also called text section
 - Current activity including program counter, processor registers
 - Stack containing temporary data
 - Function parameters, return addresses, local variables
 - Data section containing global variables
 - Heap containing memory dynamically allocated during run time





- Program is *passive* entity stored on disk (executable file), process is *active*
 - Program becomes process when executable file loaded into memory
- Execution of program started via GUI mouse clicks, command line entry of its name, etc
- One program can be several processes
 - Consider multiple users executing the same program





Process in Memory





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Process State

- As a process executes, it changes state
 - **new**: The process is being created
 - **running**: Instructions are being executed
 - waiting: The process is waiting for some event to occur
 - **ready**: The process is waiting to be assigned to a processor
 - terminated: The process has finished execution



Diagram of Process State





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Process Control Block (PCB)

Information associated with each process

(also called task control block)

- Process state running, waiting, etc
- Program counter location of instruction to next execute
- CPU registers contents of all processcentric registers
- CPU scheduling information- priorities, scheduling queue pointers
- Memory-management information memory allocated to the process
- Accounting information CPU used, clock time elapsed since start, time limits
- I/O status information I/O devices allocated to process, list of open files



CPU Switch From Process to Process





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- So far, process has a single thread of execution
- Consider having multiple program counters per process
 - Multiple locations can execute at once
 - Multiple threads of control -> threads
- Must then have storage for thread details, multiple program counters in PCB
- See next chapter





Process Representation in Linux

Represented by the C structure task_struct

pid t_pid; /* process identifier */ long state; /* state of the process */ unsigned int time_slice /* scheduling information */ struct task_struct *parent; /* this process's parent */ struct list_head children; /* this process's children */ struct files_struct *files; /* list of open files */ struct mm_struct *mm; /* address space of this process */





Process Scheduling

- Maximize CPU use, quickly switch processes onto CPU for time sharing
- Process scheduler selects among available processes for next execution on CPU
- Maintains scheduling queues of processes
 - Job queue set of all processes in the system
 - Ready queue set of all processes residing in main memory, ready and waiting to execute
 - Device queues set of processes waiting for an I/O device
 - Processes migrate among the various queues



Ready Queue And Various I/O Device Queues



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Queueing diagram represents queues, resources, flows





Schedulers

- Short-term scheduler (or CPU scheduler) selects which process should be executed next and allocates CPU
 - Sometimes the only scheduler in a system
 - Short-term scheduler is invoked frequently (milliseconds) ⇒ (must be fast)
- Long-term scheduler (or job scheduler) selects which processes should be brought into the ready queue
 - Long-term scheduler is invoked infrequently (seconds, minutes) ⇒ (may be slow)
 - The long-term scheduler controls the **degree of multiprogramming**
- Processes can be described as either:
 - I/O-bound process spends more time doing I/O than computations, many short CPU bursts
 - CPU-bound process spends more time doing computations; few very long CPU bursts
- Long-term scheduler strives for good process mix



Addition of Medium Term Scheduling

- Medium-term scheduler can be added if degree of multiple programming needs to decrease
 - Remove process from memory, store on disk, bring back in from disk to continue execution: swapping





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Multitasking in Mobile Systems

- Some mobile systems (e.g., early version of iOS) allow only one process to run, others suspended
- Due to screen real estate, user interface limits iOS provides for a
 - Single foreground process- controlled via user interface
 - Multiple background processes
 – in memory, running, but not on the display, and with limits
 - Limits include single, short task, receiving notification of events, specific long-running tasks like audio playback
- Android runs foreground and background, with fewer limits
 - Background process uses a **service** to perform tasks
 - Service can keep running even if background process is suspended
 - Service has no user interface, small memory use





Context Switch

- When CPU switches to another process, the system must save the state of the old process and load the saved state for the new process via a context switch
- Context of a process represented in the PCB
- Context-switch time is overhead; the system does no useful work while switching
 - The more complex the OS and the PCB → the longer the context switch
- Time dependent on hardware support
 - Some hardware provides multiple sets of registers per CPU
 multiple contexts loaded at once





Operations on Processes

- System must provide mechanisms for:
 - process creation,
 - process termination,
 - and so on as detailed next





Process Creation

- Parent process create children processes, which, in turn create other processes, forming a tree of processes
- Generally, process identified and managed via a process identifier (pid)
- Resource sharing options
 - Parent and children share all resources
 - Children share subset of parent's resources
 - Parent and child share no resources
- Execution options
 - Parent and children execute concurrently
 - Parent waits until children terminate



A Tree of Processes in Linux





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Process Creation (Cont.)

- Address space
 - Child duplicate of parent (has the same program as the parent)
 - Child has a program loaded into it
- UNIX examples
 - fork() system call creates new process. The new process consists of a copy of the address space of the original process.
 - exec() system call used after a fork() to replace the process' memory space with a new program





Queueing diagram represents queues, resources, flows



C Program Forking Separate Process

```
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <stdio.h>
                                        The only difference is
#include <unistd.h>
                                        that the value of pid for
                                        the child process is
int main()
                                        zero, while that for the
pid_t pid;
                                        parent is the actual pid
                                        of the child process.
   /* fork a child process */
   pid = fork();
   if (pid < 0) { /* error occurred */
      fprintf(stderr, "Fork Failed");
     return 1:
   else if (pid == 0) { /* child process */
      execlp("/bin/ls","ls",NULL);
   else { /* parent process */
      /* parent will wait for the child to complete */
      wait(NULL);
      printf("Child Complete");
   return 0;
```



Process Termination

- Process executes last statement and then asks the operating system to delete it using the exit() system call.
 - Returns status data from child to parent (via wait())
 - Process' resources are deallocated by operating system
- Parent may terminate the execution of children processes using the abort() system call. Some reasons for doing so:
 - Child has exceeded allocated resources
 - Task assigned to child is no longer required
 - The parent is exiting and the operating systems does not allow a child to continue if its parent terminates





Process Termination

- Some operating systems do not allow child to exist if its parent has terminated. If a process terminates, then all its children must also be terminated.
 - **cascading termination.** All children, grandchildren, etc. are terminated.
 - The termination is initiated by the operating system.
- The parent process may wait for termination of a child process by using the wait()system call. The call returns status information and the pid of the terminated process

```
pid = wait(&status);
```

- If no parent waiting (did not invoke wait()) process is a zombie
 - Once the parent calls wait(), the process identifier of the zombie process and its entry in the process table are released.
- If parent terminated without invoking wait, process is an orphan
 - Assigning the init process as the new parent, periodically invokes wait()





Interprocess Communication

- Processes within a system may be *independent* or *cooperating*
- Cooperating process can affect or be affected by other processes, including sharing data
- Reasons for cooperating processes:
 - Information sharing (shared files)
 - Computation speedup (parallel subtasks)
 - Modularity (system function divided into separate processes)
 - Convenience
- Cooperating processes need interprocess communication (IPC)
- Two models of IPC
 - Shared memory
 - Message passing





(a) Message passing. (b) shared memory.



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- An area of memory shared among the processes that wish to communicate
 - Typically, a shared-memory region resides in the address space of the process creating the shared-memory segment. Other processes that wish to communicate using this shared-memory segment must attach it to their address space.
- The communication is under the control of the users processes not the operating system.
- Major issues is to provide mechanism that will allow the user processes to synchronize their actions when they access shared memory.
- Synchronization is discussed in great details in Chapter 5.





Producer-Consumer Problem

- Paradigm for cooperating processes, producer process produces information that is consumed by a consumer process
 - unbounded-buffer places no practical limit on the size of the buffer
 - The consumer may have to wait for new items, but the producer can always produce new items.
 - **bounded-buffer** assumes that there is a fixed buffer size
 - The consumer must wait if the buffer is empty, and the producer must wait if the buffer is full.





Shared data

```
#define BUFFER_SIZE 10
typedef struct {
    . . .
} item;
item buffer[BUFFER_SIZE];
int in = 0;
int out = 0;
```



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Bounded-Buffer – Producer

```
item next_produced;
while (true) {
    /* produce an item in next produced */
    while (((in + 1) % BUFFER_SIZE) == out)
            ; /* do nothing */
    buffer[in] = next_produced;
    in = (in + 1) % BUFFER_SIZE;
```





```
item next_consumed;
while (true) {
    while (in == out)
        ; /* do nothing */
        next_consumed = buffer[out];
        out = (out + 1) % BUFFER_SIZE;
        /* consume the item in next consumed */
}
```

Solution is correct, but can only use BUFFER_SIZE-1 elements. How to design a solution in which BUFFER SIZE items can be in the buffer at the same time?



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- Mechanism for processes to communicate and to synchronize their actions
- Message system processes communicate with each other without resorting to shared variables
- IPC facility provides two operations:
 - send(message)
 - receive(message)
- Particularly useful in a distributed environment
- The message size is either fixed or variable





- If processes *P* and *Q* wish to communicate, they need to:
 - Establish a communication link between them
 - Exchange messages via send/receive
- Implementation issues:
 - How are links established?
 - Can a link be associated with more than two processes?
 - How many links can there be between every pair of communicating processes?
 - What is the capacity of a link?
 - Is the size of a message that the link can accommodate fixed or variable?
 - Is a link unidirectional or bi-directional?





Message Passing (Cont.)

- Implementation of communication link
 - Physical:
 - Shared memory
 - Hardware bus
 - Network
 - Logical:
 - Direct or indirect
 - Synchronous or asynchronous
 - Automatic or explicit buffering





Direct Communication

- Processes must name each other explicitly:
 - send (P, message) send a message to process P
 - receive(Q, message) receive a message from process Q
- Properties of communication link
 - Links are established automatically
 - A link is associated with exactly one pair of communicating processes
 - Between each pair there exists exactly one link
 - The link may be unidirectional, but is usually bi-directional





Indirect Communication

- Messages are directed and received from mailboxes (also referred to as ports)
 - Each mailbox has a unique id
 - Processes can communicate only if they share a mailbox
- Properties of communication link
 - Link established only if processes share a common mailbox
 - A link may be associated with many processes
 - Each pair of processes may share several communication links
 - Link may be unidirectional or bi-directional





Indirect Communication

- Operations
 - create a new mailbox (port)
 - send and receive messages through mailbox
 - destroy a mailbox
- Primitives are defined as:

send(A, message) - send a message to mailbox A

receive(A, message) - receive a message from mailbox A





Indirect Communication

- Mailbox sharing
 - P_1 , P_2 , and P_3 share mailbox A
 - P_1 , sends; P_2 and P_3 receive
 - Who gets the message?
- Solutions
 - Allow a link to be associated with at most two processes
 - Allow only one process at a time to execute a receive operation
 - Allow the system to select arbitrarily the receiver. Sender is notified who the receiver was.





Synchronization

- Message passing may be either blocking or non-blocking
- Blocking is considered synchronous
 - Blocking send -- the sender is blocked until the message is received
 - Blocking receive -- the receiver is blocked until a message is available
- Non-blocking is considered asynchronous
 - Non-blocking send -- the sender sends the message and continue
 - Non-blocking receive -- the receiver receives:
 - A valid message, or
 - Null message
- Different combinations possible





Producer-consumer becomes trivial

```
message next_produced;
while (true) {
    /* produce an item in next produced */
    send(next_produced);
  }
message next_consumed;
while (true) {
    receive(next_consumed);
    /* consume the item in next consumed */
}
```



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Buffering

- Queue of messages attached to the link.
- implemented in one of three ways
 - 1. Zero capacity no messages are queued on a link. Sender must wait for receiver (rendezvous)
 - 2. Bounded capacity finite length of *n* messages Sender must wait if link full
 - Unbounded capacity infinite length Sender never waits





- Sockets
- Remote Procedure Calls
- Pipes
- Remote Method Invocation (Java)







- A socket is defined as an endpoint for communication
- Concatenation of IP address and port a number included at start of message packet to differentiate network services on a host
- The socket 161.25.19.8:1625 refers to port 1625 on host 161.25.19.8
- Communication consists between a pair of sockets
- All ports below 1024 are *well known*, used for standard services
- Special IP address 127.0.0.1 (loopback) to refer to system on which process is running





Socket Communication





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Socket programming

Two socket types for two transport services:

- UDP: unreliable datagram
- *TCP:* reliable, byte stream-oriented

Application Example:

- 1. Client reads a line of characters (data) from its keyboard and sends the data to the server.
- 2. The server receives the data and converts characters to uppercase.
- 3. The server sends the modified data to the client.
- 4. The client receives the modified data and displays the line on its screen.





UDP: no "connection" between client & server

- no handshaking before sending data
- sender explicitly attaches IP destination address and port # to each packet
- rcvr extracts sender IP address and port# from received packet

UDP: transmitted data may be lost or received out-of-order

Application viewpoint:

 UDP provides unreliable transfer of groups of bytes ("datagrams") between client and server









Python UDPClient





Python UDPServer

from socket import *

serverPort = 12000

create UDP socket ______ serverSocket = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_DGRAM)

print "The server is ready to receive"

loop forever — while 1:

Read from UDP socket into message, getting client's address (client IP and port) message, clientAddress = serverSocket.recvfrom(2048) modifiedMessage = message.upper()

send upper case string serverSocket.sendto(modifiedMessage, clientAddress)
back to this client



Socket programming with TCP

client must contact server

- server process must first be running
- server must have created socket (door) that welcomes client's contact

client contacts server by:

- Creating TCP socket, specifying IP address, port number of server process
- when client creates socket: client TCP establishes connection to server TCP

- when contacted by client, server TCP creates new socket for server process to communicate with that particular client
 - allows server to talk with multiple clients
 - source port numbers used to distinguish clients (more in Chap 3)

application viewpoint:

TCP provides reliable, in-order byte-stream transfer ("pipe") between client and server



Glient/server socket interaction: TCP

Server (running on hostid)



client

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Python TCPClient

from socket import * serverName = 'servername' serverPort = 12000create TCP socket for server, remote port 12000 clientSocket = socket(AF_INET SOCK_STREAM) clientSocket.connect((serverName,serverPort)) sentence = raw_input('Input lowercase sentence:') No need to attach server clientSocket.send(sentence) name, port modifiedSentence = clientSocket.recv(1024) print 'From Server:', modifiedSentence clientSocket.close()





Python TCPServer

from socket import *

serverPort = 12000

- serverSocket = socket(AF_INET,SOCK_STREAM)
 serverSocket.bind(('',serverPort))
- serverSocket.listen(1)
 - print 'The server is ready to receive'
- ▶ while 1:

connectionSocket, addr = serverSocket.accept()

- sentence = connectionSocket.recv(1024) capitalizedSentence = sentence.upper()
 - connectionSocket.send(capitalizedSentence)
 connectionSocket.close()

create TCP welcoming socket

server begins listening for incoming TCP requests

loop forever

server waits on accept() for incoming requests, new socket created on return

read bytes from socket (but not address as in UDP)

close connection to this — client (but *not* welcoming socket)

End of Chapter 3



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