CPU Virtualization: Scheduling

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Sharing the CPU

- Mechanism - Dispatcher
  - How to switch to another process?
- Policy - Scheduler
  - Which process to switch to?

Workload assumptions

1. Each job runs for the **same amount of time**
2. All jobs **arrive** at the same time
3. All jobs only use the **CPU** (i.e., they perform no I/O)
4. The **run-time** of each job is known

Performance metric

- Turnaround time

$$T_{turnaround} = T_{completion} - T_{arrival}$$

- Other metrics?
  - Fairness

- Metrics can be conflicting with each other

FIFO (or FCFS)

- Run jobs the order in which they arrived
  - Easy to implement
- Example

jobs	arrival time (s)	run time (s)
A	~0	10
B	~0	10
C	~0	10

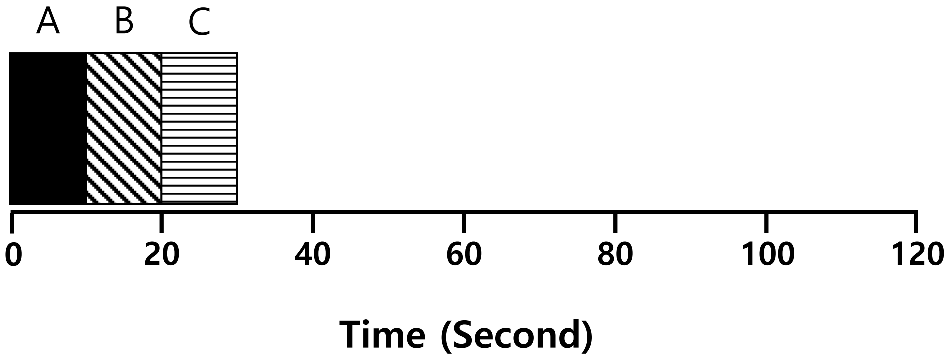
FIFO - Event trace

jobs	arrival time (s)	run time (s)
A	~0	10
B	~0	10
C	~0	10

Time	Event
0	A arrives
0	B arrives
0	C arrives
0	run A
10	complete A
10	run B
20	complete B
20	run C
30	complete C

FIFO - Gantt Chart

jobs	arrival time (s)	run time (s)
A	~0	10
B	~0	10
C	~0	10



$$\boldsymbol{Average\ turnaround\ time = \frac{10 + 20 + 30}{3} = 20\ secs}$$

Workload assumptions

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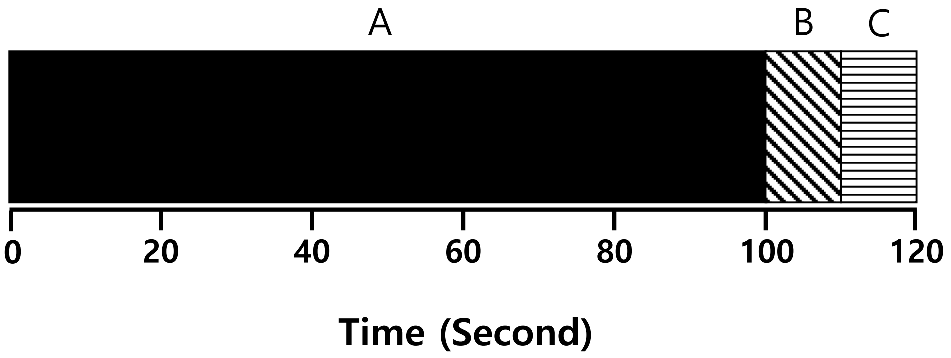
FIFO - Big job first

jobs	arrival time (s)	run time (s)
A	~0	100
B	~0	10
C	~0	10



$$\boldsymbol{Average\ turnaround\ time = \frac{100 + 110 + 120}{3} = 110\ sec}$$

Convoy effect

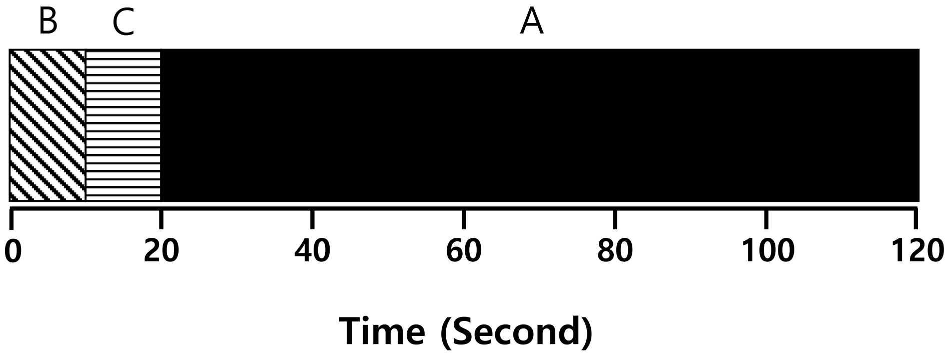
Passing the tractor

- Problems with FIFO
  - Short jobs have to wait for long jobs to finish

- New Scheduler – Shortest job first
  - choose the job with the smallest run time as the next job

Shortest job first (SJF)

jobs	arrival time (s)	run time (s)
A	~0	100
B	~0	10
C	~0	10



$$Average\ turnaround\ time = \frac{120 + 10 + 20}{3} = 50\ sec$$

Shortest job first (SJF)

- Moving shorter jobs before longer jobs improves the turnaround time for shorter jobs
- Moving longer jobs later does not affect the overall completion time
- SJF is optimal (provable)

Workload assumptions

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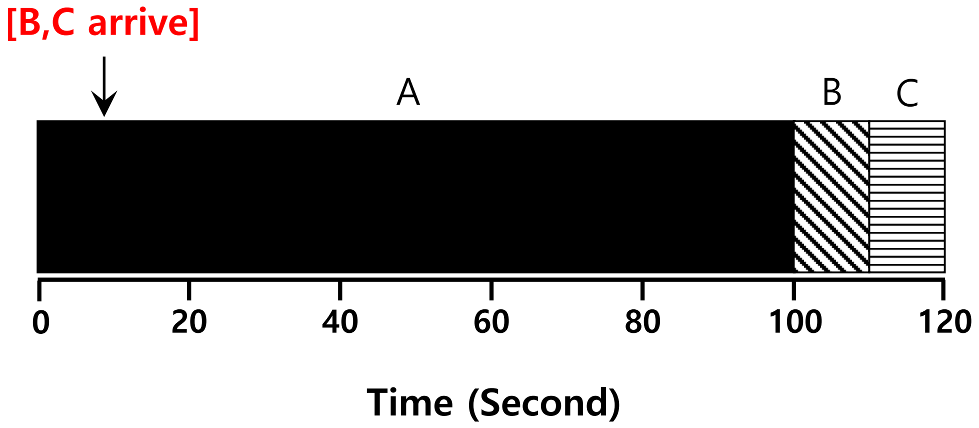
SJF - different arrival times

jobs	arrival time (s)	run time (s)
A	~0	100
B	~10	10
C	~10	10



$$\boldsymbol{Average\ turnaround\ time} = \frac{\mathbf{100 + (110 - 10) + (120 - 10)}}{\mathbf{3}} = \mathbf{103.3}\ \boldsymbol{secs}$$

Stuck behind the tractor again!!

Shortest time to completion first (STCF)

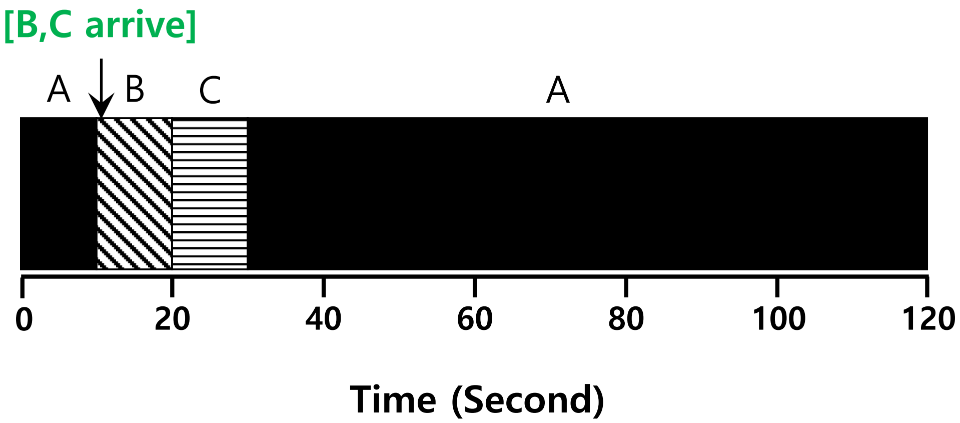
- When a new job arrives, check if it will complete sooner than the job running in the CPU
  - if so, switch to the new job

- Preemption is required
  - we already know how to switch context

- After completing a job, execute the job with shortest time

STCF - different arrival times

jobs	arrival time (s)	run time (s)
A	~0	100
B	~10	10
C	~10	10



$$Average\ turnaround\ time = \frac{120 + (20 - 10) + (30 - 10)}{3} = 50\ secs$$

Workload assumptions

1. ~~Each job runs for the **same amount of time**~~

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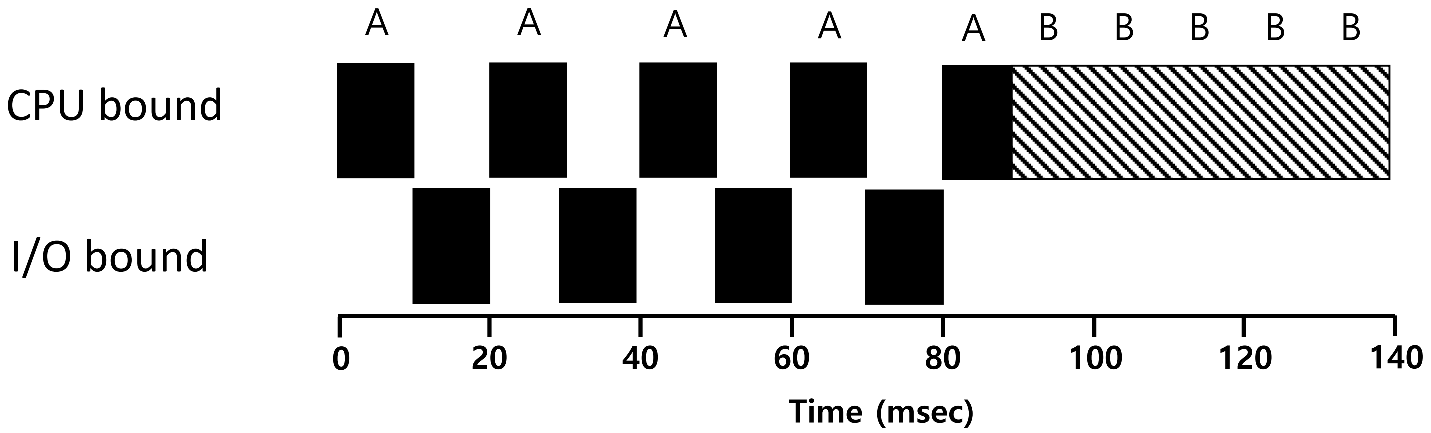
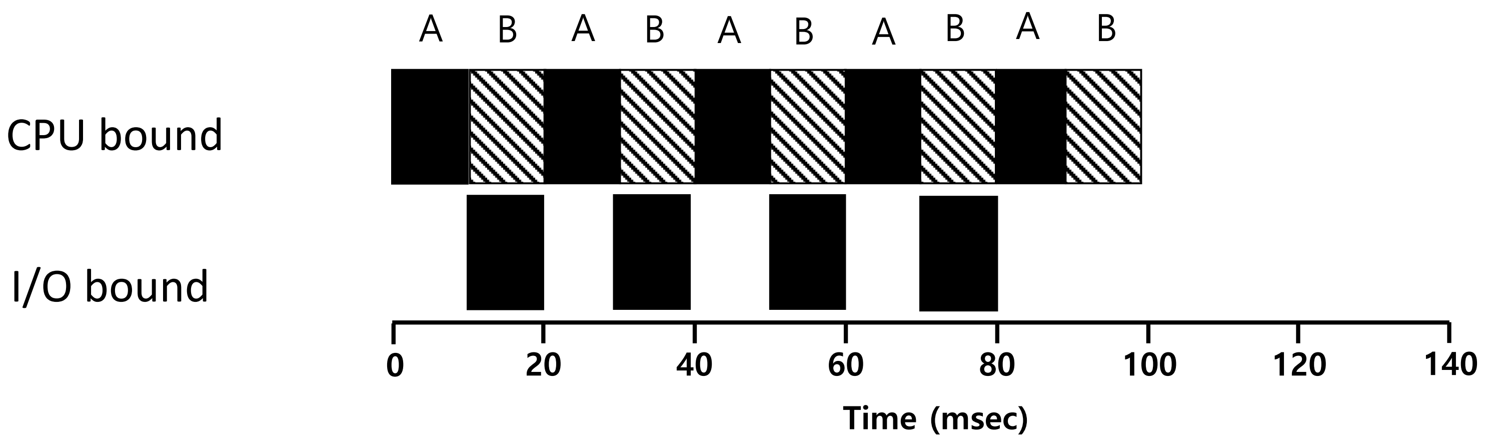
Not I/O aware



Poor use of resources

I/O aware



- Treat job A as several separate CPU bursts

- When job A completes I/O, another job A is ready

- Each CPU burst is shorter than job B, so with SCTF, job A preempts job B

New metric: Response time

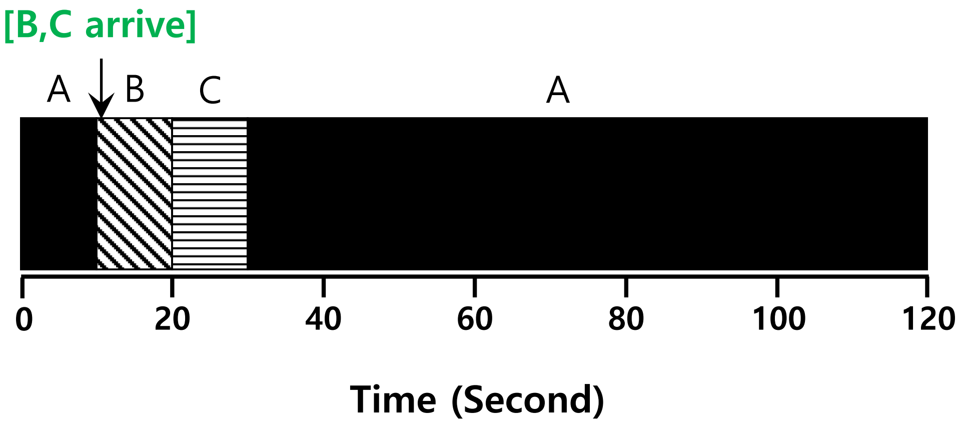
- Important when a job is started than when it is finished
  - interactive jobs

$$T_{response} = T_{firstrun} - T_{arrival}$$

- FCFS, SJF, STCF are not good at minimizing response time

Response time vs turnaround time

jobs	arrival time (s)	run time (s)
A	~0	100
B	~10	10
C	~10	10



$$response\ time\ for\ C = (20\ - 10) = 10\ secs$$

How to minimize the response time?

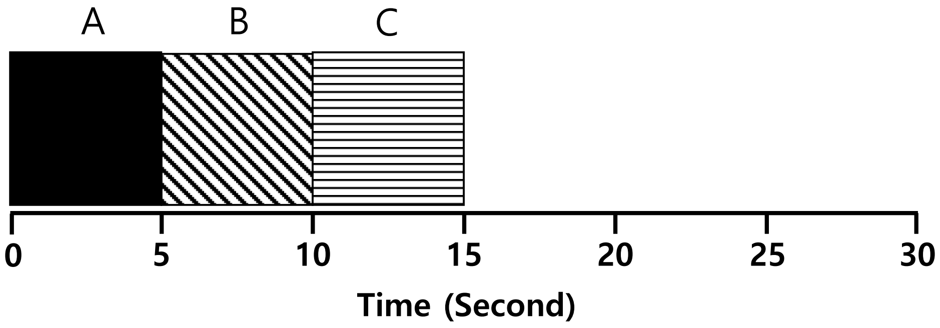
Round robin scheduler

- Alternate ready processes every fixed-length time-slice

- time-slice also called as time-quantum

- Length of quantum could be a multiple of timer interrupt period

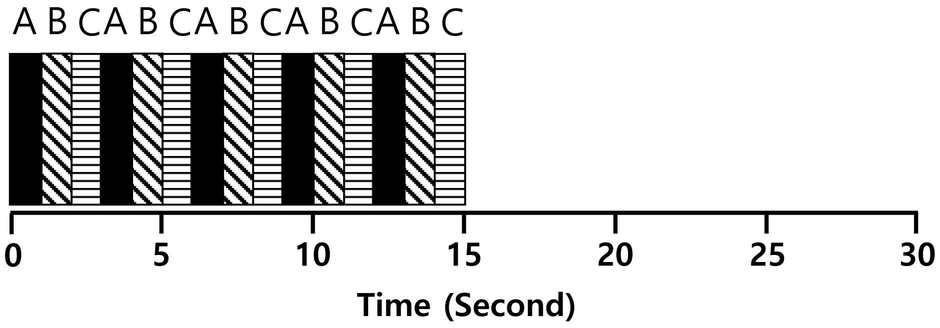
RR vs SJF scheduling



SJF (Bad for Response Time)

$$T_{average\ response} = \frac{0+5+10}{3} = 5\ secs$$

$$T_{average\ turnaround} = \frac{5+10+15}{3} = 10\ secs$$



RR with a time-slice of 1sec (Good for Response Time)

$$T_{average\ response} = \frac{0+1+2}{3} = 1\ secs$$

$$T_{average\ turnaround} = \frac{13+14+15}{3} = 14\ secs$$

Length of time-slice is critical

- Shorter time-slice
  - better response time
  - too many context switching. Overhead becomes high

- Longer time-slice
  - few context switching
  - poorer response time

- A trade-off

Another benefit of round robin

- Run time need not be known

- In fact, RR does not care whether a process terminates or not

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4. ~~The run-time of each job is known~~

Disclaimer

- Some of the materials in this lecture slides are from the materials prepared by Prof. Arpaci, and Prof. Youjip. Thanks to all of them.