PROCESS

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PROCESS CONCEPT

- Program is ***passive*** entity stored on disk (executable file), process is ***active***
  - Program becomes process when executable file loaded into memory

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  - A data structure created by the OS for each process

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  - Program becomes process when executable file loaded into memory
- Process Control Block (PCB)
  - A data structure created by the OS for each process
- One program can be several processes

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Process Control Block (PCB)

Process state –
- running, waiting, etc

Program counter –
- location of instruction to next execute

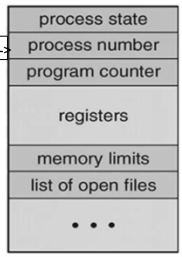
CPU registers –
- contents of all process-centric registers

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



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Process States

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

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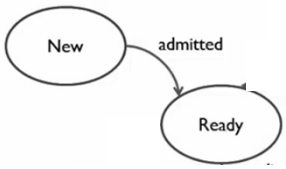
Events causing a state transition

- A new process is created
- The process makes a resource request
- Resource is released
- The process requests an I/O device
- An I/O device is released after access
- The allocated time slice for a process is over. In this case, system timer sends a timer interrupt
- A higher-priority process appears in the ready queue. In this case, the running lower-priority job is pre-empted by a newly arrived higher-priority process
- The process reaches its end of execution or is aborted
- Any hardware interrupt is generated
- An error or exception condition is generated in the current running process

Process States

Process States



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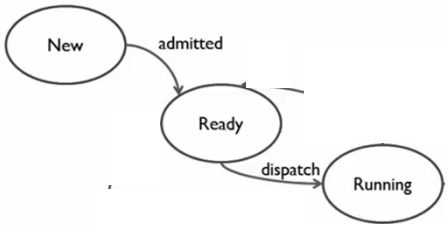
Process States



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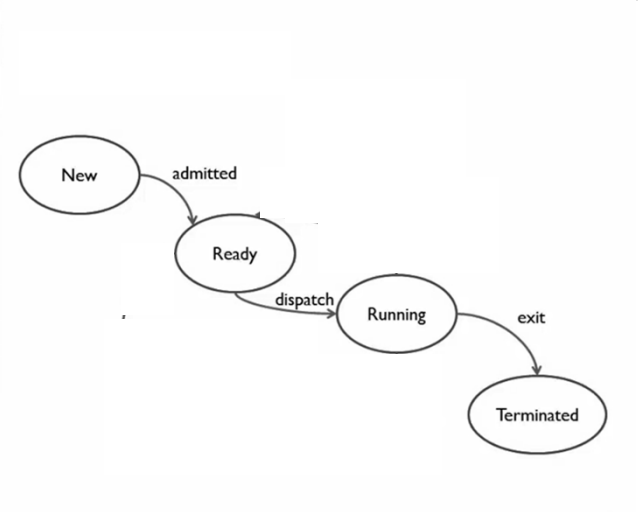
Process States



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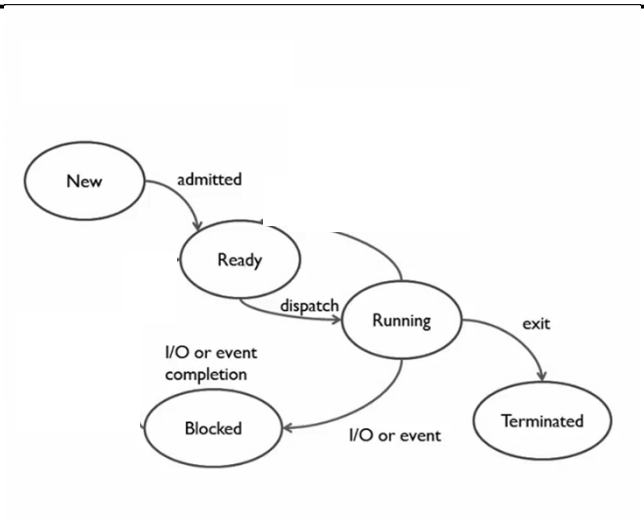
Process States



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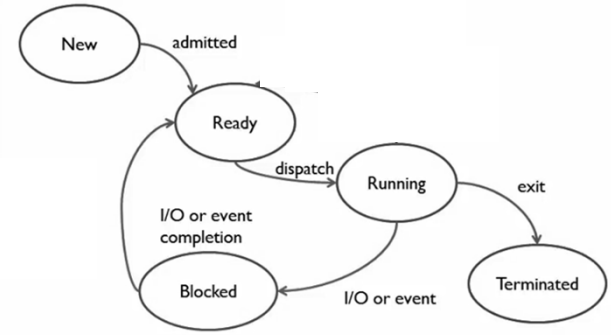

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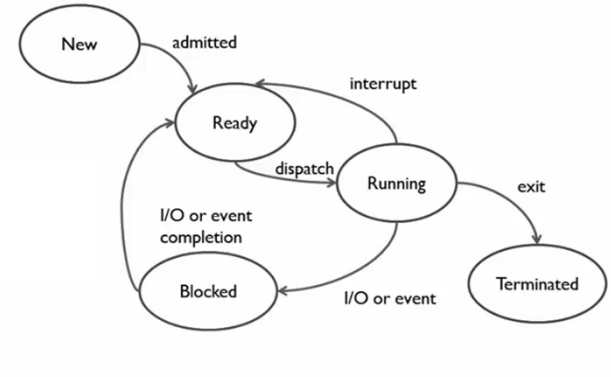

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Process Scheduling

- Maximize CPU use, quickly switch processes onto CPU for time sharing
- System queues:
  - **Job queue** – set of all processes in the system

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- Processes migrate among the various queues

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Schedulers

- **Long-term scheduler** (or **job scheduler**)
- **Short-term scheduler** (or **CPU scheduler**)
- **Medium-term scheduler** can be added

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  - Sometimes the only scheduler in a system
- **Medium-term scheduler** can be added
  - Remove process from memory, store on disk, bring back in from disk to continue execution: **swapping**

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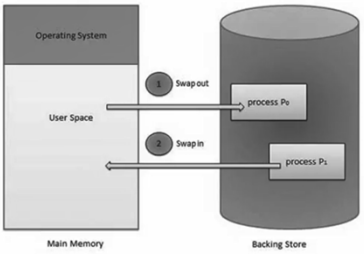
Medium Term Scheduling (Swapping)



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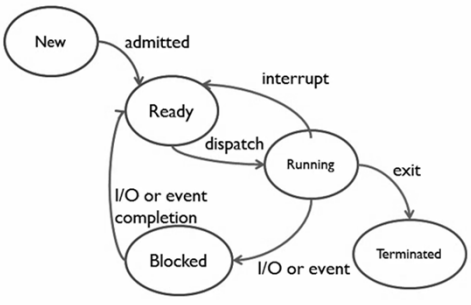
Medium Term Scheduling (Swapping)



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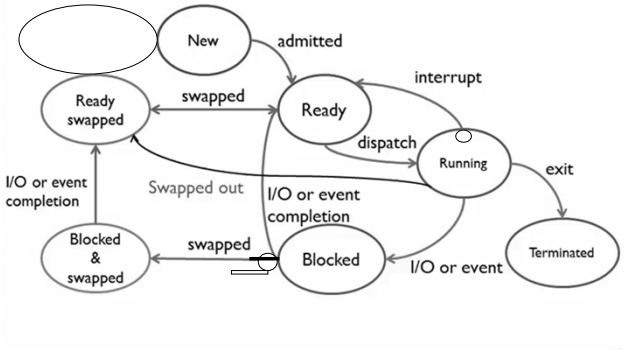

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Process Definition

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- Long-term scheduler strives for good ***process mix***
- The long-term and medium term scheduler control the **degree of multiprogramming**

  (number and type of active programs)

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CONTEXT SWITCH

- When CPU switches to another process
  - **save the state** of the old process and
  - load the **saved state** for the new process via a **context switch**

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  - The system does no useful work while switching
  - The more complex the OS and the PCB
    - Longer the context switch

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- Context-switch time is overhead
  - The system does no useful work while switching
  - The more complex the OS and the PCB
    - Longer the context switch
- Time dependent on hardware support
  - Some hardware provides multiple sets of registers per CPU -> multiple contexts loaded at once

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Operations on Processes

- Creation
- Termination
- Block
- Wake up
- Change priority
- Dispatch

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Process Creation

- **Parent** process creates **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
- Execution options

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  - Parent and child share no resources
- Execution options
  - Parent and children execute concurrently
  - Parent waits until children terminate

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Process Termination

- **Voluntary**
- **Involuntary**

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Process Termination

- **Voluntary**
  - Normal exit
  - Internal error or exception
    - Example: exit if no input file is found
- **Involuntary**

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Process Termination

- **Voluntary**
  - Normal exit
  - Internal error or exception
    - Example: exit if no input file is found
- **Involuntary**
  - Fatal error
    - Example: divide by zero/ illegal memory access
  - Explicitly killed by another process
    - Example: task manager

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Process Termination

- Process executes last statement and asks the operating system to delete it
- Output data from child to parent
- Process' resources are deallocated by operating system

- Parent may terminate execution of children processes
  - Child has exceeded allocated resources
  - Task assigned to child is no longer required
  - If parent is exiting
    - Some operating systems do not allow child to continue if its parent terminates
      - All children terminated - **cascading termination**

- If no parent waiting, then terminated process is a **zombie**
- If parent terminated, processes are **orphans**

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Implicit/System and Non-implicit/User processes

There are two types of processes depending on how they are defined and initialized.

If the OS defines a process, it is called an implicit or system process.

If the process is defined by the programmer, then it is an explicit or user process.

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Process Relationship

Concurrent processes

Independent processes

Interacting/cooperating processes

Parent processes

Child processes

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Inter-Process Communication (IPC)

- 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
  - Computation speedup
  - Modularity
  - Convenience
- Cooperating processes need **interprocess communication (IPC)**
- Two models of IPC
  - **Shared memory**
  - **Message passing**

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