[OS] Day15(2)

[Ch9] Scheduling: Proportional Share Scheduling

9.7 The Linux Completely Fair Scheduling(2)

Using Red-Black Trees

For a scheduler, there are many facets of efficiency, but one of them is as simple as this: when the scheduler has to find the next job to run, it should do so as quickly as possible.

CFS addresses this by keeping processes in a red-black tree.

CFS does not keep all process in this structure rather, only running(or runnable) processes are kept therein. If a process goes to sleep(say, waiting on an I/O to complete), it is removed from the tree and kept track of elsewhere.

Keeping the same values in a red-black tree makes most operations more efficient. Processes are ordered in the tree by vruntime, and most operations are logarithmic in time(O(log n)). When n is in the thousands, logarithmic is noticeably more efficient than linear.

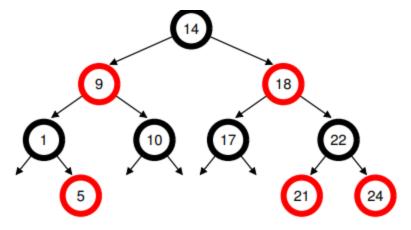


Figure 9.5: CFS Red-Black Tree

[OS] Day15(2) 1

Dealing With I/O And Sleeping Processes

One problem with picking the lowest vruntime is to run next arises with jobs that have gone to sleep for a long period of time. Imagine we have a process who has slept a long period of time, when it wakes up, its vruntime will be far behind other processes, and thus will monopolize the CPU.

CFS handles this case by altering the vruntime of a job when it wakes up. Specifically, CFS sets the vruntime of that job to the minimum value found in the tree. In this way, CFS avoids starvation, but not without a cost: jobs that sleep for short periods of time frequently do not ever get their fair share of the CPU.

[OS] Day15(2) 2