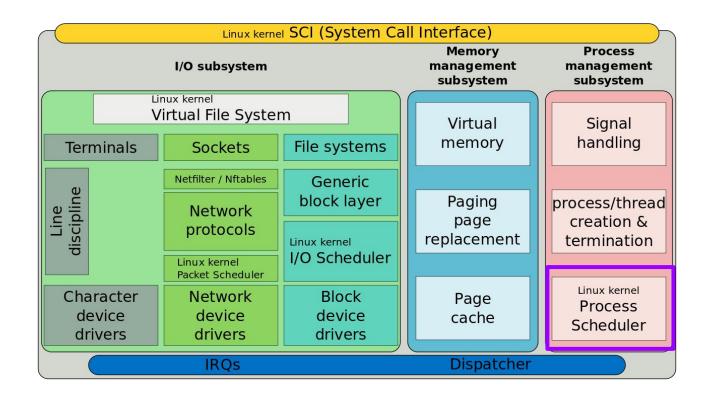
# ELEC 424/553 Mobile & Embedded Systems

Lecture 6 - How Does Linux Schedule Processes? (2)

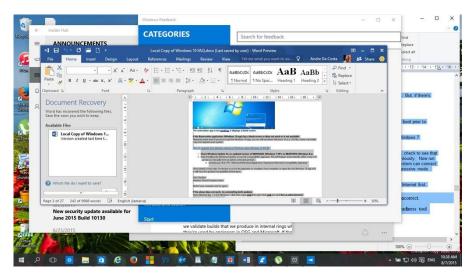
The saga continues...

#### Where Are We In The Linux Kernel?



# **Scheduling Processes**

- Goal: Run a bunch of applications
- Multitasking makes it look like OS is simultaneously executing more than 1 application/process
  - Capable of alternating between processes



Andre Da Costa, "How to: manage running programs and virtual desktops using Task View in Windows 10". URL: https://answers.microsoft.com/en-us/insider/forum/all/how-to-manage-running-programs-and-virtual/17d068b7-5e4a-4 351-a019-afa528a81538

# **Two Modern Scheduling Concerns**

- 1. Priority
- 2. Timeslice



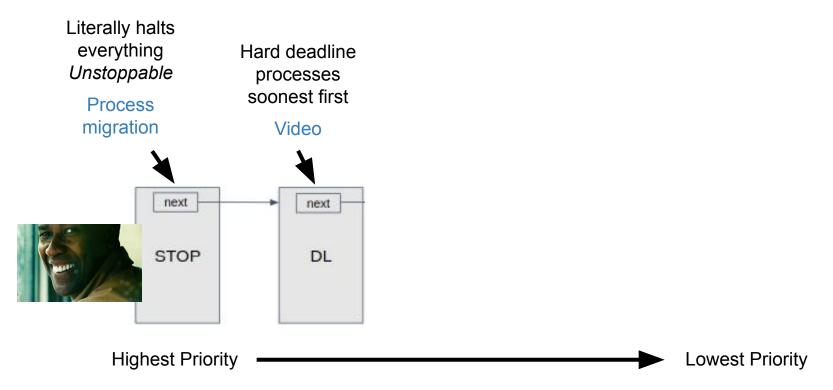
Literally halts everything Unstoppable

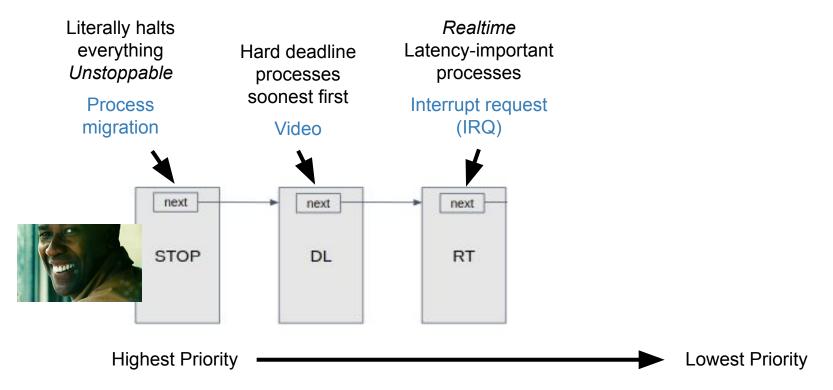
Process migration

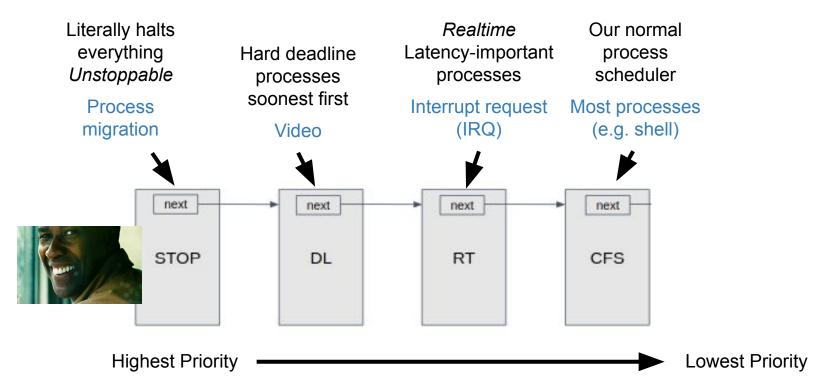


Highest Priority ————

Lowest Priority







10

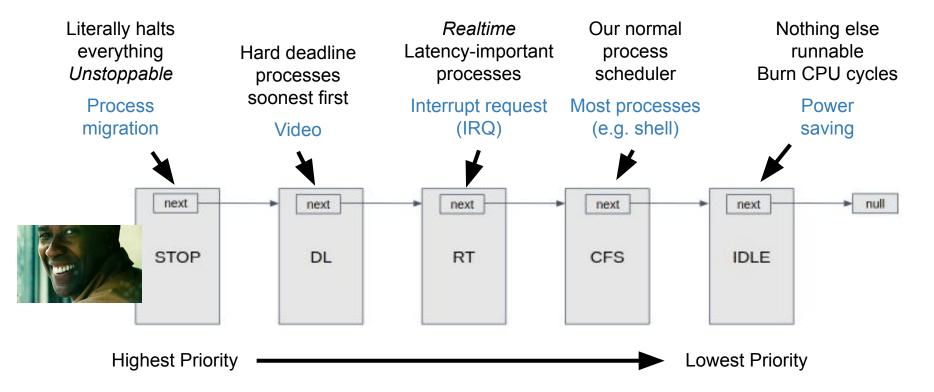


Figure & info from: Viresh Kumar, "Fixing SCHED\_IDLE". URL: https://lwn.net/Articles/805317/

#### **Scheduler Classes**

```
/ kernel / sched / core.c
                                                           All
          WARNING: must be called with preemption disabled!
5902
5903
5904
       static void sched notrace schedule(bool preempt)
5905
5906
                struct task struct *prev, *next;
5907
                unsigned long *switch count;
                unsigned long prev state;
5908
                struct rq flags rf;
5909
               struct rq *rq;
5910
5911
               int cpu;
5912
5913
               cpu = smp_processor_id();
5914
                rq = cpu_rq(cpu);
5915
                prev = rg->curr:
5016
```

```
/ kernel / sched / sched.h
                                                           All syml >
                                                                       Search
905
        * This is the main, per-CPU runqueue data structure.
906
907
908
        * Locking rule: those places that want to lock multiple rungueues
        * (such as the load balancing or the thread migration code), lock
909
910
        * acquire operations must be ordered by ascending &runqueue.
911
        */
912
      struct rq {
913
               raw spinlock t
                                        lock;
914
915
916
917
                * nr running and cpu load should be in the same cacheline bed
918
                * remote CPUs use both these fields when doing load calculat
              unsigned int
944
                                       uclamp flags;
      #define UCLAMP FLAG IDLE 0x01
945
946
      #endif
947
948
              struct cfs rq
                                       cfs:
949
              struct rt rq
                                       rt;
              struct dl rq
950
                                       d1;
0.51
```

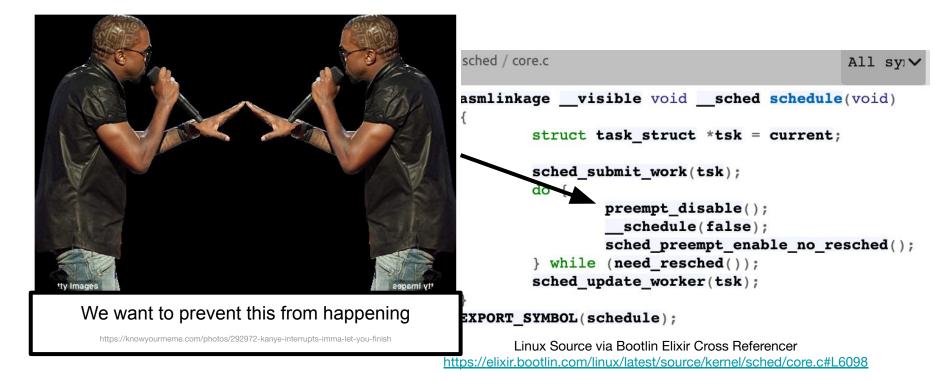
#### Kernel Calls Scheduler via schedule ()

- Independent of scheduler classes
- Asks scheduler of class with greatest priority for process that should be executed
  - (if class has process ready to execute)

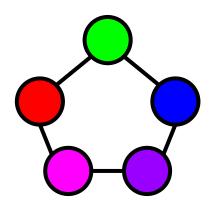
```
/ kernel / sched / core.c
                                                     All syl
6098
       asmlinkage __visible void __sched schedule(void)
6099
                struct task struct *tsk = current;
6100
6101
6102
                sched submit work(tsk);
6103
                do {
6104
                        preempt disable();
6105
                           schedule(false);
6106
                         sched preempt enable no resched();
6107
                } while (need resched());
6108
                sched update worker(tsk);
6109
6110
       EXPORT SYMBOL(schedule);
```

Linux Source via Bootlin Elixir Cross Referencer <a href="https://elixir.bootlin.com/linux/latest/source/kernel/sched/core.c#L6098">https://elixir.bootlin.com/linux/latest/source/kernel/sched/core.c#L6098</a>

#### Kernel Calls Scheduler via schedule ()



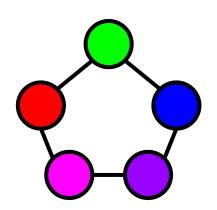
#### 1.2: Circular Queue



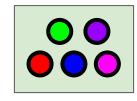
Round-robin Simple, fast

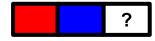
1.2: Circular Queue







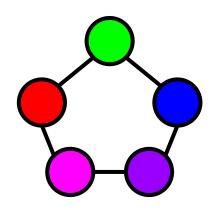




Round-robin Simple, fast

Check all processes Scalability issues

1.2: Circular Queue

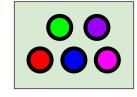


Round-robin

Simple, fast

2.4: O(n)

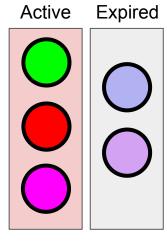
Which next?



?

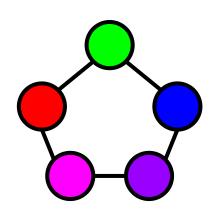
Check all processes Scalability issues

2.6: O(1)



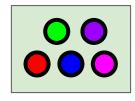
Constant time
Arrays

1.2: Circular Queue



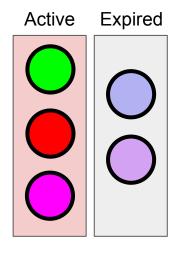
2.4: O(n)

Which next?

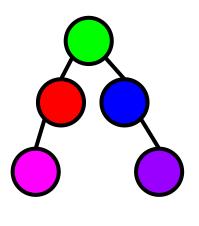




2.6: O(1)



Constant time Arrays 2.6.23: CFS



Red-black tree Virtual runtime

Round-robin Simple, fast

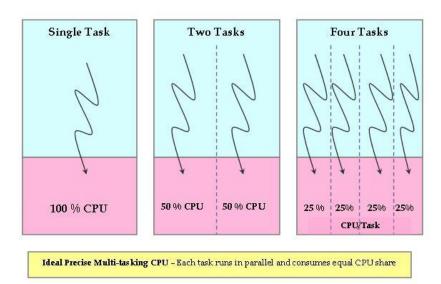
Check all processes Scalability issues

#### **CFS Has Arrived**



#### The Idea Behind Linux's Completely Fair Scheduler (CFS)

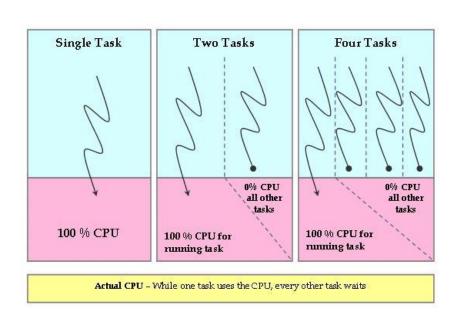
- Just imagine a perfect processor!
- n processes that can execute
- Split processor's schedule into 1/n length blocks
- Drive schedule down to infinitesimal length of time
- Could say that processes were executed using (1/n)\*100% of the processor's power
- "Perfect multitasking"



Chandandeep Singh Pabla, "Completely Fair Scheduler". URL: https://www.linuxjournal.com/node/10267

#### Reality Sinks In

- Processor can only run one process at a time!
- Rapidly alternating processes (preempting) would be terrible
- Instead, set a schedule period and give equal "virtual time" to processes
- By simply redefining time, we become fair



Chandandeep Singh Pabla, "Completely Fair Scheduler". URL: https://www.linuxjournal.com/node/10267

#### Math Behind CFS: Target Latency & Timeslice

 Target latency: Total amount of time established by CFS to allow each task to get a turn

 Processes given weights based on nice (see table)

nice	-20	-19	-18	-17	-16	-15	-14	-13	-12	-11
weight	88761	71755	56483	46273	36291	29154	23254	18705	14949	11916
nice	-10	-9	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1
weight	9548	7620	6100	4904	3906	3121	2501	1991	1586	1277
nice	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
weight	1024	820	655	526	423	335	272	215	172	137
nice	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
weight	110	87	70	56	45	36	29	23	18	15

#### Nice-to-weight conversion

Jinkyu Koo, "Linux kernel scheduler". URL: https://helix979.github.io/jkoo/post/os-scheduler/

timeslice =  $(target\ latency) \times \frac{(process\ weight)}{(sum\ of\ all\ process\ weights)}$ 

#### Math Behind CFS (2): Virtual Runtime

- Virtual runtime, stored as vruntime, is warped version of physical runtime (wall-time)
- Warping based on weight (priority)
- Higher priority (nice < 0):
  - vruntime < physical runtime</li>
- Lower priority (nice > 0):
  - vruntime > physical runtime

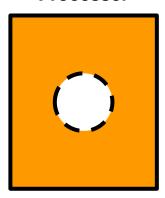
nice	-20	-19	-18	-17	-16	-15	-14	-13	-12	-11
weight	88761	71755	56483	46273	36291	29154	23254	18705	14949	11916
nice	-10	-9	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1
weight	9548	7620	6100	4904	3906	3121	2501	1991	1586	1277
nice	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
weight	1024	820	655	526	423	335	272	215	172	137
nice	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
weight	110	87	70	56	45	36	29	23	18	15

#### Nice-to-weight conversion

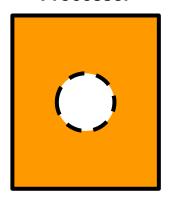
Jinkyu Koo, "Linux kernel scheduler". URL: https://helix979.github.io/jkoo/post/os-scheduler/

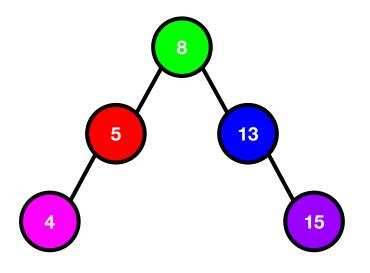
$$vruntime = (physical\ runtime) \cdot \frac{1024}{weight}$$

#### **Processor**



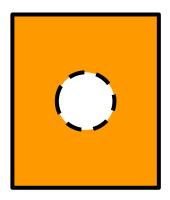
#### **Processor**

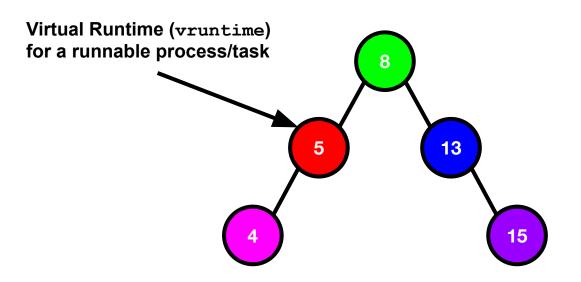




**CFS Run Queue** Red-Black Tree

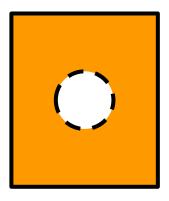
#### **Processor**

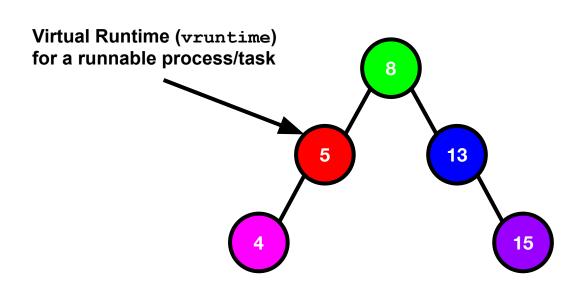




**CFS Run Queue**Red-Black Tree

#### **Processor**

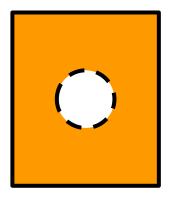


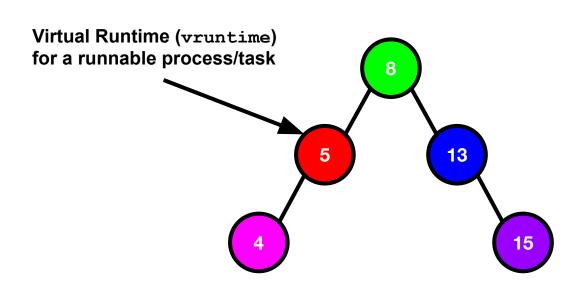


#### **Processor Virtual Runtime Timeline**

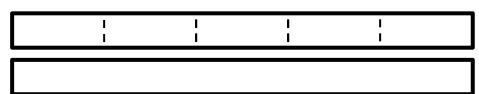


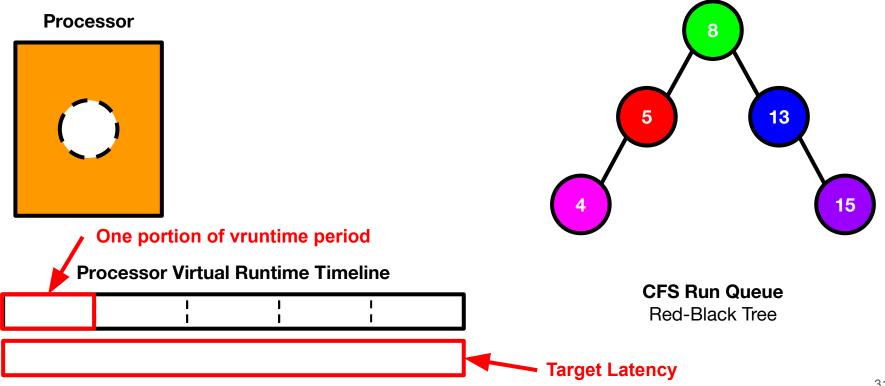




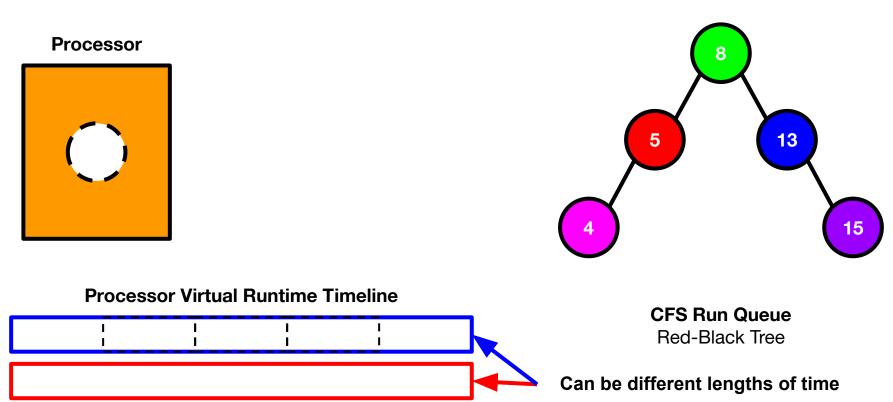


**Processor Virtual Runtime Timeline** 

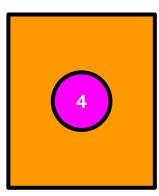




**Processor Wall-Time Timeline** 

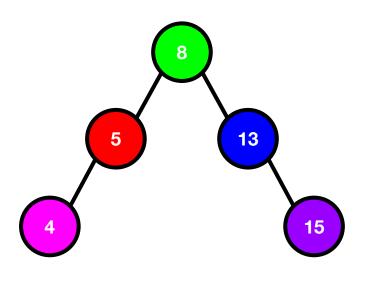


#### **Processor**

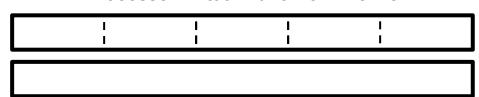


We chose this process because it has the lowest cumulative

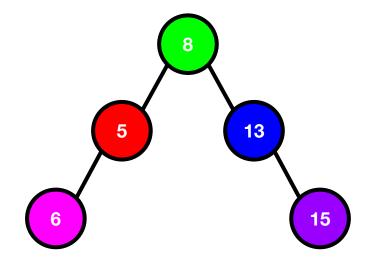
An advantage of a RB tree is that the process with the lowest vruntime will always be to the bottom left

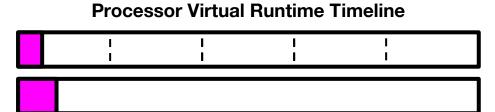


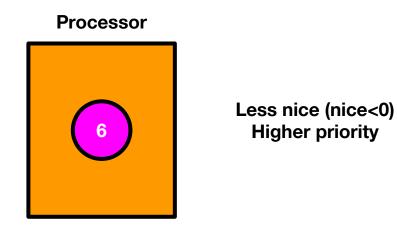
#### **Processor Virtual Runtime Timeline**

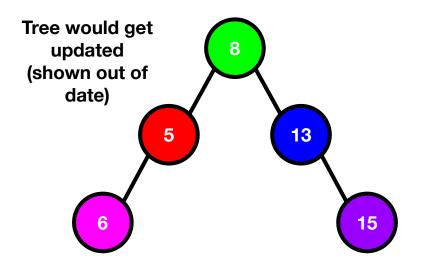


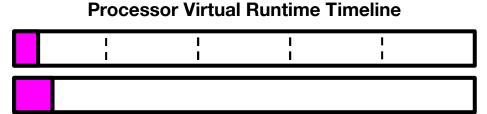
# Processor Less nice (nice<0) Higher priority

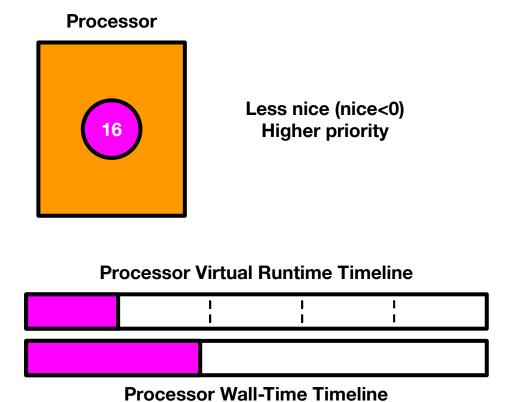


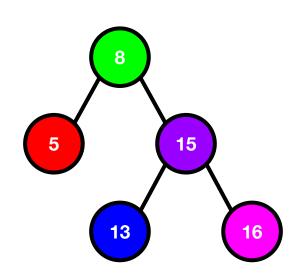








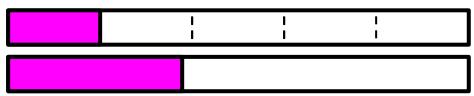


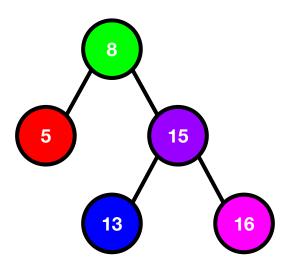


**CFS Run Queue** Red-Black Tree

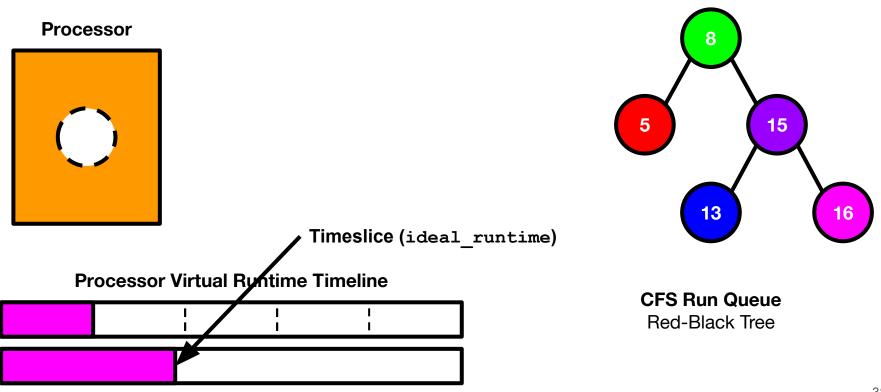
# Processor



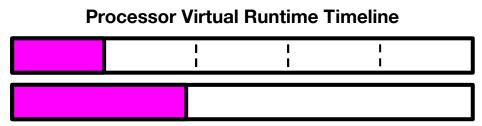


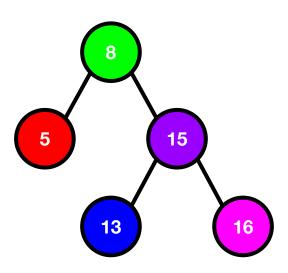


**CFS Run Queue**Red-Black Tree

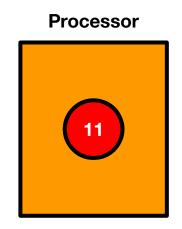


# Processor 5



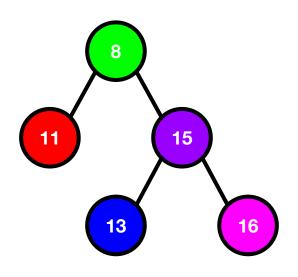


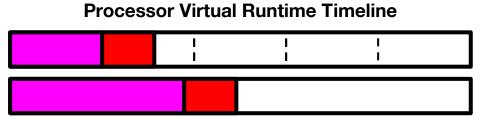
**CFS Run Queue** Red-Black Tree

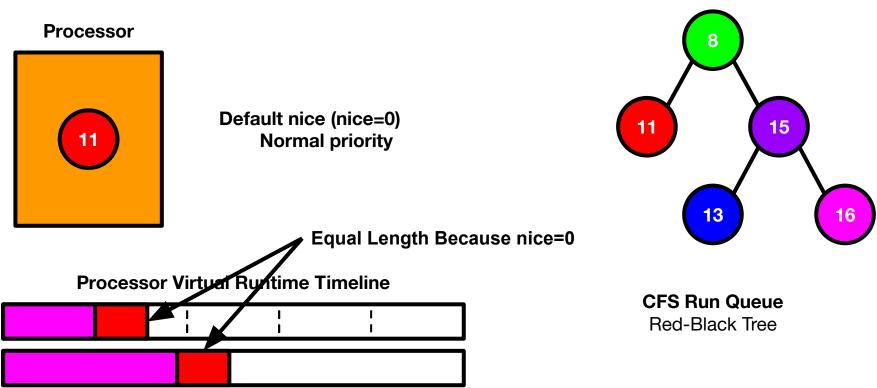


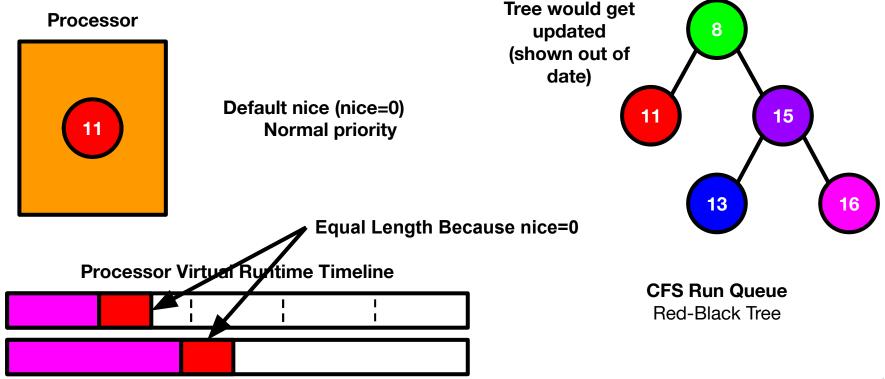
Default nice (nice=0)

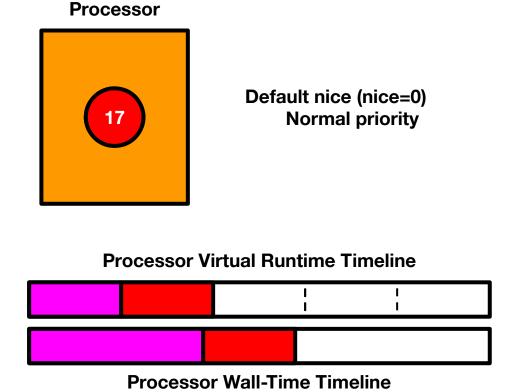
Normal priority

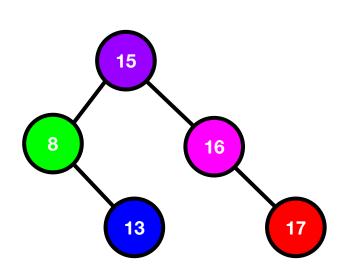






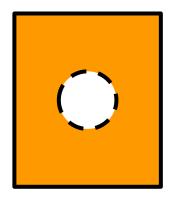




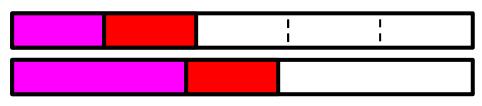


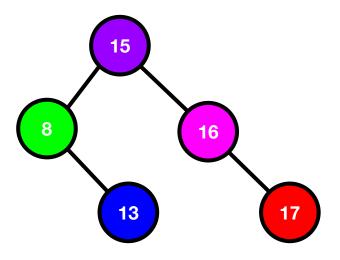
**CFS Run Queue** Red-Black Tree

### **Processor**



### **Processor Virtual Runtime Timeline**

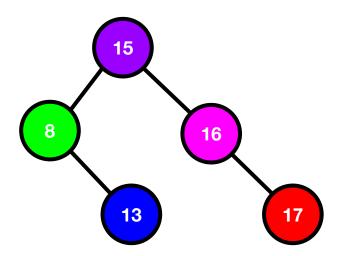




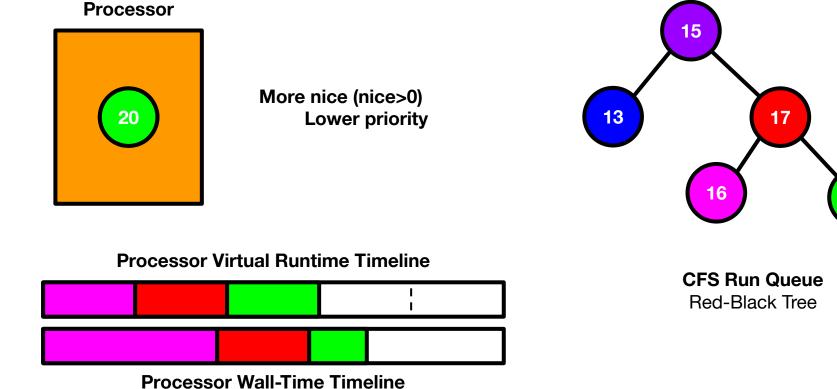
**CFS Run Queue** Red-Black Tree

# Processor 8

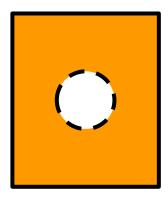
# Processor Virtual Runtime Timeline



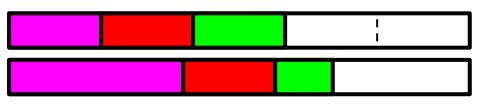
**CFS Run Queue** Red-Black Tree

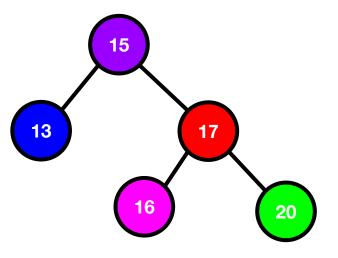


### **Processor**



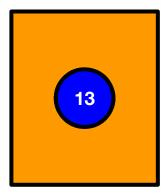
### **Processor Virtual Runtime Timeline**



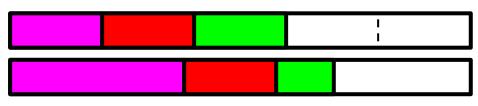


CFS Run Queue Red-Black Tree

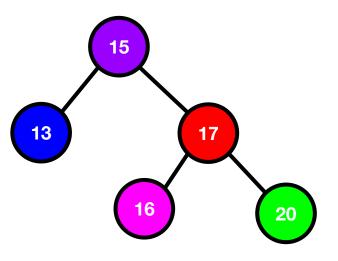
### **Processor**

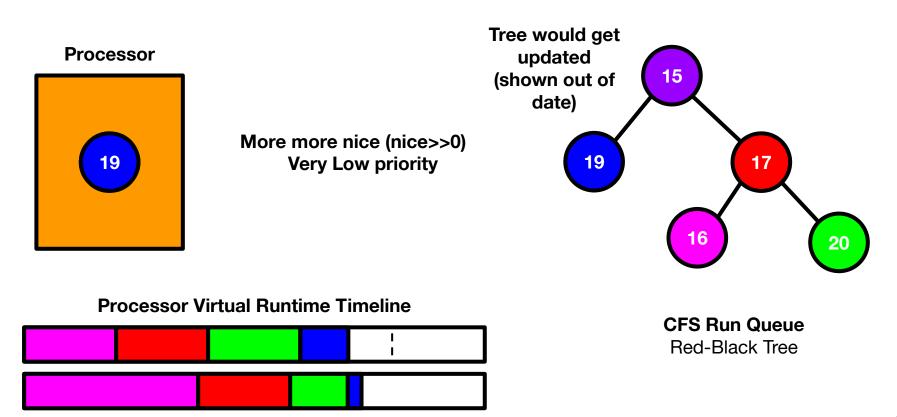


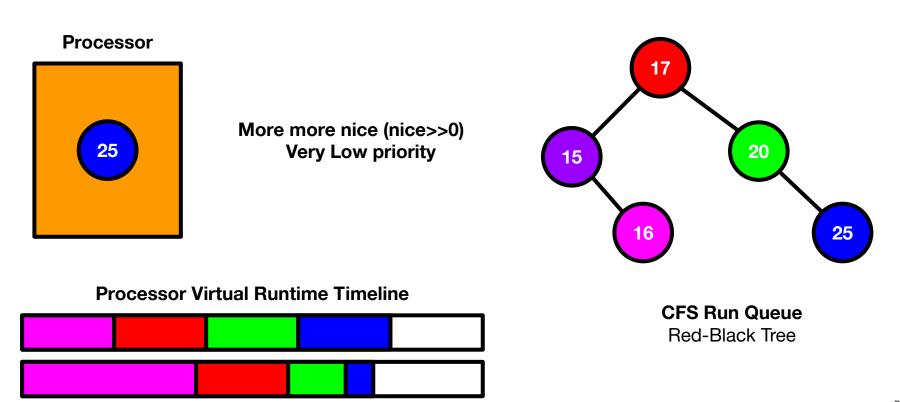
### **Processor Virtual Runtime Timeline**



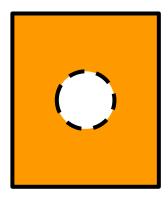
**Processor Wall-Time Timeline** 

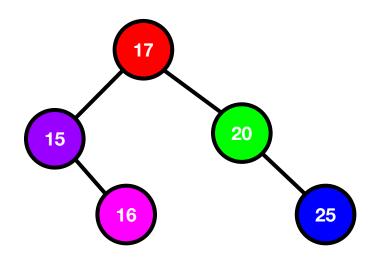






### **Processor**



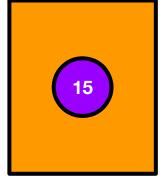


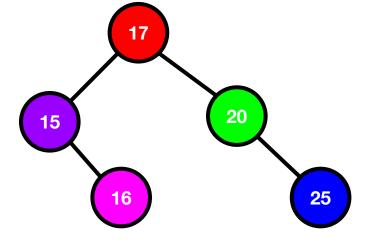
### **Processor Virtual Runtime Timeline**



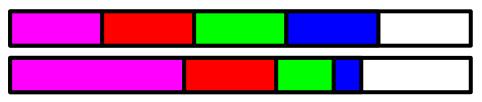
**CFS Run Queue** Red-Black Tree

# Processor



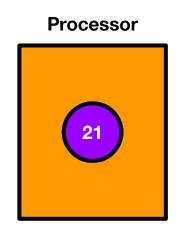


**Processor Virtual Runtime Timeline** 

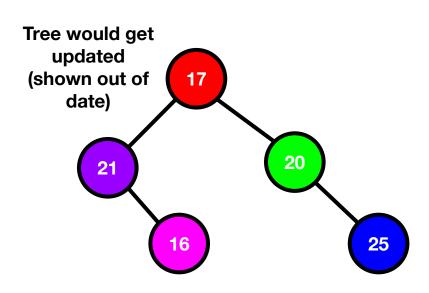


**Processor Wall-Time Timeline** 

**CFS Run Queue** Red-Black Tree



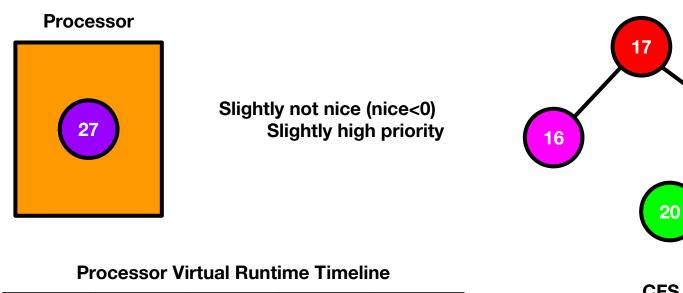
Slightly not nice (nice<0)
Slightly high priority



**Processor Virtual Runtime Timeline** 



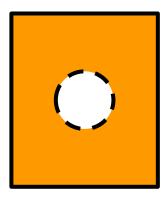
**Processor Wall-Time Timeline** 

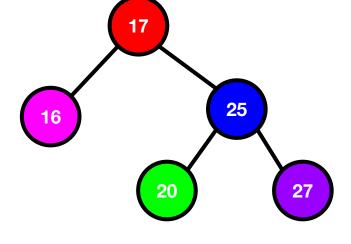


**CFS Run Queue** Red-Black Tree

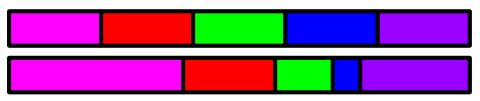
25

### **Processor**

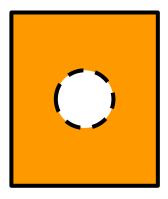




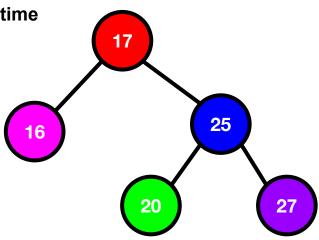
### **Processor Virtual Runtime Timeline**



**Processor** 



Normalization makes it so all processes' vruntime values ultimately have a maximum difference of minimum granularity in virtual time



**Processor Virtual Runtime Timeline** 



**Processor Wall-Time Timeline** 

Normalization makes it so all processes' vruntime values ultimately have a maximum difference of minimum granularity in virtual time

**Processor** 

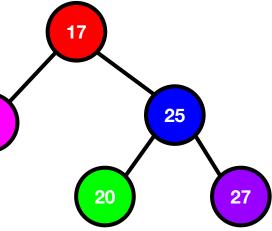
### Mike Galbraith

Post by XingChao Wang Hi Ingo, peter,

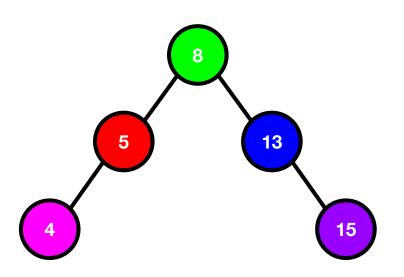
When check\_preempt\_tick() selects next leftmost sched\_entity,it calculates delta vruntime of curr and leftmost entity, then compares it with ideal\_runtime. But ideal\_runtime is real-time type, need convert it to virtual-time ,right?

Why? The scheduler converges vruntimes to within min\_granularity, that's it's mission. What this test is trying to say is that if the

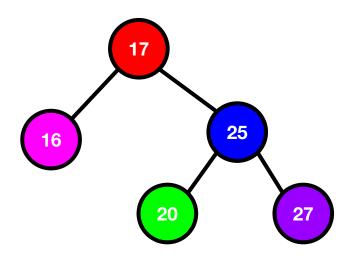
https://linux.kernel.narkive.com/FKiX036A/check-preempt-tick-check-vruntime-mistake



# Before & After: CFS Run Queue (Red-Black Tree)



**CFS Run Queue** Red-Black Tree



# **How Does The Scheduler Update?**

Follow links for info on HR-timer <a href="https://github.com/torvalds/linux/commit/8f4d37ec073c">https://github.com/torvalds/linux/commit/8f4d37ec073c</a>
<a href="https://lwn.net/Articles/549754/">https://lwn.net/Articles/549754/</a>

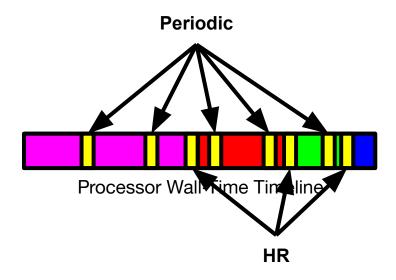
- Periodic timer interrupt
  - 100-1000 Hz (every 1-10ms)
  - In practice, high resolution timers (HR-timer) implemented
- Interrupt calls scheduler\_tick()
- Statistics about current process computed
- Check if preemption needed
  - Call schedule() for deciding next process



# **How Does The Scheduler Update?**

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# Math Behind CFS (3): Increasing Target Latency

### Definitions:

- sched\_nr\_latency: number of runnable processes that should be scheduled in a period
- sysctl\_sched\_latency:
   scheduling period (ms)
- sysctl\_min\_granularity: supposed wall-time a process would execute
- Consider when the number of runnable processes exceeds sched\_nr\_latency, what happens?
  - o period = (# proc)x(min\_gran)

$$sysctl\ min\ granularity = \frac{sysctl\ sched\ latency}{sched\ nr\ latency}$$

"Can we get that again in English?"

$$supposed time slice = \frac{scheduling period}{number of processes}$$

$$timeslice = (scheduling period) \times \frac{(process weight)}{(sum of all process weights)}$$

# "Pop quiz hotshot"



Author: pgrizzaffi, "Pop Quiz, Hotshot. Is It Automated?". From the movie Speed (1994). URL: https://responsibleautomation.wordpress.com/2018/11/01/pop-quiz-hotshot-is-it-automated/

# "Pop quiz hotshot" Exercise 5 Access Code:

You only need one of these equations - think it over:)

Math time. We have a scheduling period of 20 ms. We have 4 processes: 3 with nice = 0, 1 with nice = 5. What is the wall-time of the nice 5 process? In other words, how long does it *actually* run? How long does each of the individual nice = 0 processes run for?

$$sysctl\ min\ granularity = \frac{sysctl\ sched\ latency}{sched\ nr\ latency}$$

$$timeslice = (scheduling period) \times \frac{(process weight)}{(sum of all process weights)}$$

nice	-20	-19	-18	-17	-16	-15	-14	-13	-12	-11
weight	88761	71755	56483	46273	36291	29154	23254	18705	14949	11916
nice	-10	-9	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1
weight	9548	7620	6100	4904	3906	3121	2501	1991	1586	1277
nice	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
weight	1024	820	655	526	423	335	272	215	172	137
nice	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
weight	110	87	70	56	45	36	29	23	18	15

Author: pgrizzaffi, "Pop Quiz, H https://responsibleautomation.v

# CFS Implementation - sched\_entity

- /kernel/sched/fair.c
  - Only ~10k lines of code!
- /include/linux/sched.h
  - o struct sched\_entity
    - u64 vruntime;
- vruntime virtual runtime
  - Weighted runtime

```
/ include / linux / sched.h
                                                           All sym∨
                                                                       Sear
465
       struct sched_entity {
               /* For Load-balancina: */
466
467
               struct load weight
                                                 load:
468
               struct rb node
                                                 run node;
469
               struct list head
                                                 group node;
               unsigned int
470
                                                 on rq;
471
472
               u64
                                                 exec start;
473
               u64
                                                 sum exec runtime;
474
                                                 vruntime;
               u64
475
               u64
                                                 prev sum exec runtime;
476
                                                 nr migrations;
477
               u64
478
```

Linux 5.14.2 Source via Bootlin Elixir Cross Referencer <a href="https://elixir.bootlin.com/linux/v5.14.2/source/include/linux/sched.h#L465">https://elixir.bootlin.com/linux/v5.14.2/source/include/linux/sched.h#L465</a>

# CFS Implementation - vruntime & update\_curr()

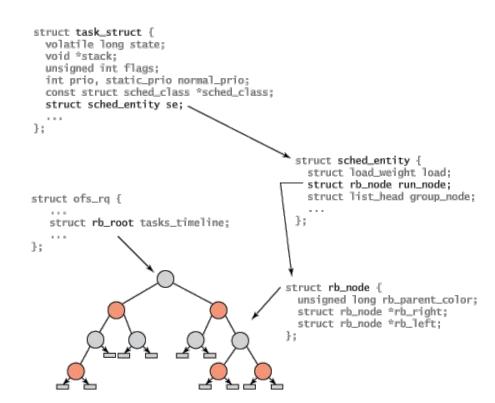
- update\_curr() keeps vruntime updated
- It also calls
   update\_min\_vruntime() to
   keep min vruntime up to date

```
/ kernel / sched / fair.c
                                                        All svn V
 609
 610
        * delta /= w
 611
 612
       static inline u64 calc delta fair(u64 delta, struct sched entity *se)
 613
 614
                if (unlikely(se->load.weight != NICE 0 LOAD))
                        delta = calc delta(delta, NICE 0 LOAD, &se->load);
 615
 616
 617
                return delta;
```

```
/ kernel / sched / fair.c
                                                      All svn V
       static void update curr(struct cfs rq *cfs rq)
 794
 795
               struct sched entity *curr = cfs rg->curr:
 796
               u64 now = rq clock task(rq of(cfs rq));
 797
               u64 delta exec;
 798
 799
               if (unlikely(!curr))
 800
                        return;
 801
 802
               delta exec = now - curr->exec start;
 803
               if (unlikely((s64)delta exec <= 0))
 804
                        return;
 805
 806
               curr->exec start = now;
 807
 808
               schedstat set(curr->statistics.exec max,
 809
                              max(delta exec, curr->statistics.exec max));
 810
 811
               curr->sum exec runtime += delta exec;
 812
                schedstat add(cfs rg->exec clock, delta exec);
 813
 814
               curr->vruntime += calc delta fair(delta exec, curr);
 815
               update min vruntime(cfs rq);
 816
 817
               if (entity is task(curr)) {
 818
                        struct task_struct *curtask = task_of(curr);
 819
 820
                        trace sched stat runtime(curtask, delta exec, curr->vruntime);
 821
                        cgroup account cputime(curtask, delta exec);
 822
                        account group exec runtime(curtask, delta exec);
 823
 824
 825
               account cfs rg runtime(cfs rg, delta exec);
 826
```

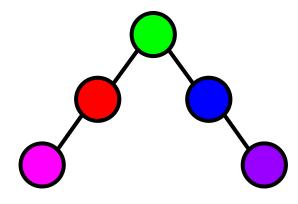
# **CFS Implementation - Process Selection**

- What do we execute next?
- Process having shortest vruntime
- This is why we say "fair"
- Red-black tree (rbtree) data structure implemented for processes to sort them by vruntime
- rbtree is self-balancing binary search tree

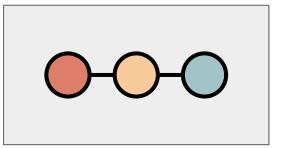


# **CFS Implementation - Sleeping & Waking Up**

- Sleeping (blocked) processes cannot be run
  - Awaiting event
- Events include:
  - Time length
  - File I/O
  - Keyboard input
- Process voluntarily sleeps
  - Moves from run queue to wait queue
  - o Invokes schedule()
- Reverse this to wake up
  - What will happen when process added to run queue? vruntime?



Run Queue E Red-black tree



Wait Queue 22 Linked list

Shh! They're sleeping!

# **Context Switching**

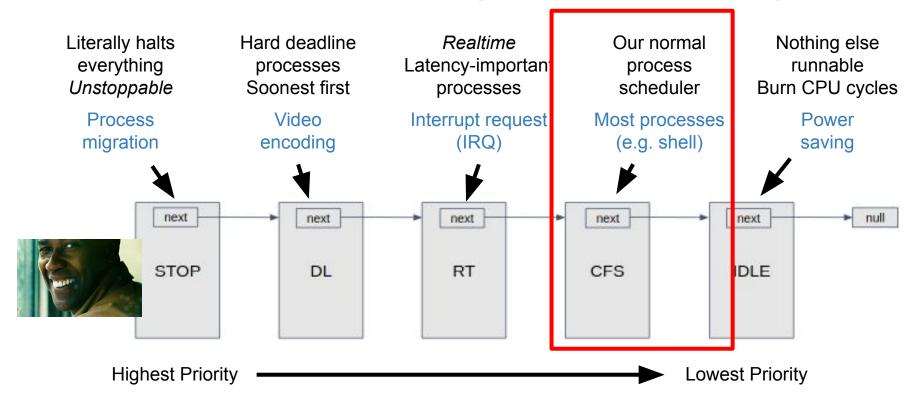
(Switching Processes)

- context switch()
- Switches mm (memory map)
- Switches register states

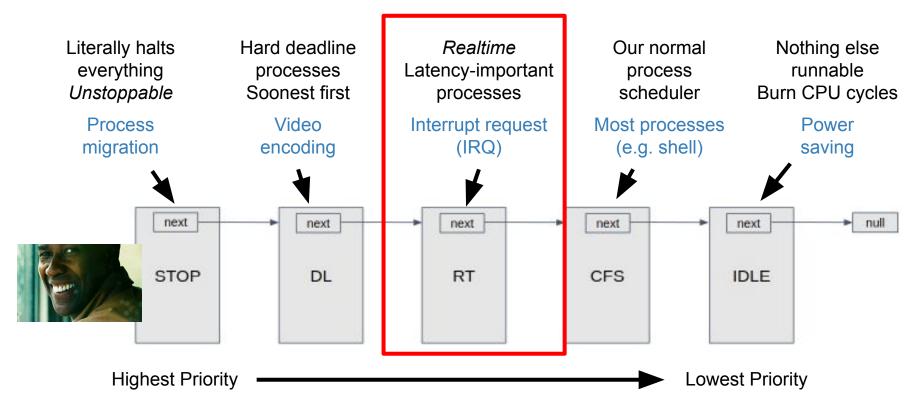
```
/ kernel / sched / core.c
                                                         All svm V
4640
4641
        * context switch - switch to the new MM and the new thread's register state.
4642
4643
       static always inline struct rq *
4644
       context switch(struct rq *rq, struct task_struct *prev,
4645
                       struct task struct *next, struct rq flags *rf)
4646
4647
               prepare_task_switch(rq, prev, next);
4648
4649
4650
                * For paravirt, this is coupled with an exit in switch to to
4651
                 * combine the page table reload and the switch backend into
4652
                 * one hypercall.
4653
4654
               arch start context switch(prev);
4655
4656
               /*
4657
                 * kernel -> kernel
                                      lazv + transfer active
4658
                     user -> kernel
                                      lazy + mmgrab() active
4659
4660
                 * kernel ->
                               user
                                      switch + mmdrop() active
4661
                                      switch
                     user ->
                               user
4662
4663
               if (!next->mm) {
                                                                 // to kernel
4664
                        enter lazy tlb(prev->active mm, next);
```

Linux Source via Bootlin Elixir Cross Referencer <a href="https://elixir.bootlin.com/linux/latest/source/kernel/sched/core.c#L4644">https://elixir.bootlin.com/linux/latest/source/kernel/sched/core.c#L4644</a>

# We Just Talked About CFS (Normal Processes)



## Let's Talk About Realtime



70

- SCHED\_FIFO
  - FIFO: First in, first out
  - Process executes until yielding
    - No timeslices
    - Very different from CFS
  - Could block or be done executing
- SCHED\_RR
  - o RR: Round-robin
  - Round-robin with timeslices and priorities

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So we have a beautiful real-time system if we need it?

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So we have a beautiful real-time system if we need it?

Not at all

- SCHED FIFO
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### The Reality



https://twitter.com/Marjan\_Lion/status/727692489264484352/photo/1

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- SCHED\_RR
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### The Reality



https://twitter.com/Marjan\_Lion/status/727692489264484352/photo/1

**Soft Real-Time**No guarantees on timing

# **System Calls**

Table 4.2. Scheduler-Related System Calls

System Call	Description					
nice()	Sets a process's nice value					
sched_setscheduler()	Sets a process's scheduling policy					
sched_getscheduler()	Gets a process's scheduling policy					
sched_setparam()	Sets a process's real-time priority					
sched_getparam()	Gets a process's real-time priority					
sched_get_priority_max()	Gets the maximum real-time priority					
sched_get_priority_min()	Gets the minimum real-time priority					
sched_rr_get_interval()	Gets a process's timeslice value					
sched_setaffinity()	Sets a process's processor affinity					
sched_getaffinity()	Gets a process's processor affinity					
sched yield()	Temporarily yields the processor					

# **Next Lecture:**

# System Calls