Process Scheduling II

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Summary of last lectures

- Tools: building, exploring, and debugging Linux kernel
- Core kernel infrastructure
 - syscall, module, kernel data structures
- Process management
- Process scheduling I

Today's agenda

- Linux Completely Fair Scheduler (CFS)
- Preemption and context switching
- Real-time scheduling policies
- Scheduling related system calls

Linux CFS design

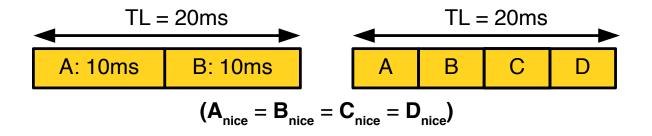
- Completely Fair Scheduler (CFS)
- Evolution of rotating staircase deadline scheduler (RSDL)
- At each moment, each process of the same priority has received an exact same amount of the CPU time
- If we could run n tasks in parallel on the CPU, give each 1/n of the CPU processing power
- CFS runs a process for some times, then swaps it for the runnable process that has run the least

Linux CFS design

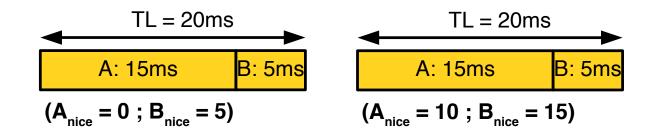
- No default timeslice, CFS calculates how long a process should run according to the number of runnable processes
 - That dynamic timeslice is weighted by the process priority (nice)
 - timeslice = weight of a task / total weight of runnable tasks
- To calculate the actual timeslice, CFS sets a targeted latency
 - Targeted latency: period during which all runnable processes
 should be scheduled at least once
 - Minimum granularity: floor at 1 ms (default)

Linux CFS design

Example: processes with the same priority



Example: processes with different priorities



CFS implementation

- Four main components of CFS
 - Time accounting
 - Process selection
 - Scheduler entry point: schedule(), scheduler_tick()
 - Sleeping and waking up

Virtual runtime: how much time a process has been executed

```
/* linux/include/linux/sched.h */
struct task struct {
   /* ... */
   const struct sched class *sched class; /* sched class of this task */
    struct sched_entity se; /* for time-sharing scheduling */
    struct sched_rt_entity rt; /* for real-time scheduling */
   /* ... */
struct sched entity {
   /* ... */
    struct rb node
                       run node;
   u64
                       exec start;
   u64
                        sum exec runtime;
   u64
                        vruntime; /* how much time a process
                                   * has been executed (ns) */
                       *cfs rq; /* CFS run queue */
    struct cfs rq
    /* ... */
};
```

- Upon every timer interrupt, CFS accounts the task's execution time
- scheduler_tick() → task_tick_fair() → update_curr()

```
/* linux/kernel/sched/fair.c */
static void update curr(struct cfs rq *cfs rq)
    struct sched entity *curr = cfs rg->curr;
    u64 now = rg clock task(rg of(cfs rg));
    u64 delta exec;
    if (unlikely(!curr))
        return;
    delta exec = now - curr->exec start; /* Step 1. calc exec duration */
    if (unlikely((s64)delta exec <- 0))</pre>
        return;
    curr->exec start = now;
    /* continue in a next slide ... */
```

```
static void update curr(struct cfs rq *cfs rq)
    /* continue from the previous slide ... */
    schedstat set(curr->statistics.exec max,
              max(delta exec, curr->statistics.exec max));
    curr->sum exec runtime += delta exec;
    schedstat add(cfs rq->exec clock, delta exec);
    /* update vruntime with delta exec and nice value */
    curr->vruntime += calc delta fair(delta exec, curr); /* CODE */
    update min vruntime(cfs rg);
    if (entity is task(curr)) {
        struct task struct *curtask = task of(curr);
        trace sched stat runtime(curtask, delta exec, curr->vruntime);
        cpuacct charge(curtask, delta exec);
        account group exec runtime(curtask, delta exec);
    account cfs rq runtime(cfs rq, delta exec);
```

- CFS checks if the currently running task needs to be preempted (i.e., the tasks uses up the timeslice). If so, set the TIF_NEED_RESCHED flag
- scheduler_tick() → check_preempt_tick()

```
/* linux/kernel/sched/fair.c */
static void
check_preempt_tick(struct cfs_rq *cfs_rq, struct sched_entity *curr)
{
    /* ... */
    ideal_runtime = sched_slice(cfs_rq, curr);
    delta_exec = curr->sum_exec_runtime - curr->prev_sum_exec_runtime;
    if (delta_exec > ideal_runtime) {
        resched_curr(rq_of(cfs_rq));
        clear_buddies(cfs_rq, curr);
        return;
    }
    /* ... */
}
```

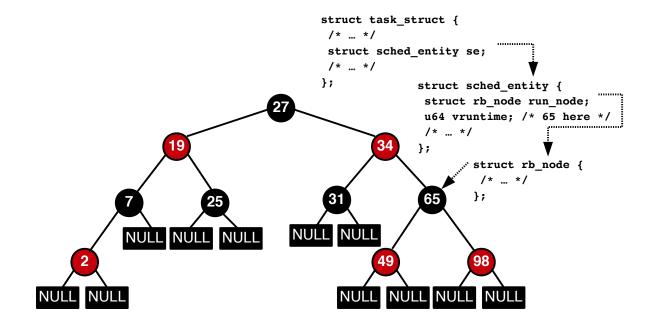
Time accounting in CFS: QEMU-gdb (Lec 6)

```
void scheduler_tick(void)
3093
3094
                int cpu = smp_processor_id();
3095
                struct rq *rq = cpu_rq(cpu);
                struct task_struct *curr = rq->curr;
3097
                struct rq_flags rf;
3098
                sched_clock_tick();
3100
3101
                rq_lock(rq, &rf);
3102
3103
                update_rq_clock(rq);
3104
                curr->sched_class->task_tick(rq, curr, 0);
3105
                cpu_load_update_active(rq);
3106
                calc_global_load_tick(rq);
3107
3108
                rq_unlock(rq, &rf);
3109
3110
                perf_event_task_tick();
```

```
remote Thread 2 In: scheduler tick
                                                                            L3093 PC: 0xffffffff810807c0
Thread 2 hit Breakpoint 1, scheduler_tick () at kernel/sched/core.c:3093
(gdb) bt
#0 scheduler_tick () at kernel/sched/core.c:3093
#1 0xffffffff810bc302 in update_process_times (user_tick=0) at kernel/time/timer.c:1576
#2 0xffffffff810caacd in tick_sched_handle (regs=<optimized out>, ts=<optimized out>,
   ts=<optimized out>) at kernel/time/tick-sched.c:155
#3 0xffffffff810cafd8 in tick_sched_timer (timer=0xffff88007fd135c0) at kernel/time/tick-sched.c:1174
#4 0xffffffff810bcbe2 in __run_hrtimer (now=<optimized out>, timer=<optimized out>,
   base=<optimized out>, cpu_base=<optimized out>) at kernel/time/hrtimer.c:1212
#5 __hrtimer_run_queues (cpu_base=0xffff88007fd13180, now=<optimized out>) at kernel/time/hrtimer.c:1276
#6 0xffffffff810bd23b in hrtimer_interrupt (dev=<optimized out>) at kernel/time/hrtimer.c:1310
#7 0xffffffff8103d9a3 in local_apic_timer_interrupt () at arch/x86/kernel/apic/apic.c:941
#8  0xffffffff8103e383 in smp apic timer interrupt (regs=<optimized out>)
   at arch/x86/kernel/apic/apic.c:965
#9 0xffffffff8194f9c6 in apic timer interrupt () at arch/x86/entry/entry 64.S:701
#10 0xffffc9000036fdf8 in ?? ()
#11 0x0000000000000000 in ?? ()
```

CFS maintains cfs_rq (runqueue) as a rbtree

- CFS maintains a rbtree of tasks indexed by vruntime (i.e., runqueue)
- Always pick a task with the smallest vruntime, the left-most node



Adding a task to a runqueue

When a task is woken up or migrated, it is added to a runqueue

```
/* linux/kernel/sched/fair.c */
void enqueue entity(struct cfs rq *cfs rq, struct sched entity *se, int flags)
    bool renorm = !(flags & ENQUEUE WAKEUP) || (flags & ENQUEUE MIGRATED);
    bool curr = cfs rq->curr == se;
    /* Update run-time statistics */
    update curr(cfs rq);
    update load avg(se, UPDATE TG);
    enqueue entity_load_avg(cfs_rq, se);
    update cfs shares(se);
    account entity enqueue(cfs rq, se);
    /* · · · */
    /* Add this to the rbtree */
    if (!curr)
       __enqueue_entity(cfs_rq, se);
    /* ... */
```

Adding a task to a runqueue

```
/* linux/kernel/sched/fair.c */
static void enqueue entity(struct cfs rq *cfs rq, struct sched entity *se)
    struct rb node **link = &cfs rq->tasks timeline.rb node;
    struct rb node *parent = NULL;
    struct sched entity *entry;
    int leftmost = 1;
    /* Find the right place in the rbtree: */
    while (*link) {
       parent = *link;
        entry = rb entry(parent, struct sched entity, run node);
        if (entity before(se, entry)) {
           link = &parent->rb left;
        } else {
            link = &parent->rb right;
            leftmost = 0:
    /* Maintain a cache of leftmost tree entries (it is frequently used): */
    if (leftmost)
        cfs rq->rb leftmost = &se->run node;
    rb link node(&se->run node, parent, link);
    rb insert color(&se->run node, &cfs rq->tasks timeline);
```

Removing a task from a runqueue

When a task goes to sleep or is migrated, it is removed from a runqueue

```
/* linux/kernel/sched/fair.c */
void dequeue entity(struct cfs rq *cfs rq, struct sched entity *se, int flags)
    /* Update run-time statistics of the 'current'. */
   update curr(cfs_rq);
    update load avg(se, UPDATE TG);
    dequeue entity load avg(cfs rq, se);
    update stats dequeue(cfs rq, se, flags);
    clear buddies(cfs rq, se);
    /* Remove this to the rbtree */
    if (se != cfs rq->curr)
        __dequeue_entity(cfs_rq, se);
    se->on rq = 0;
    account entity dequeue(cfs rq, se);
    /* ... */
```

Removing a task from a runqueue

```
static void __dequeue_entity(struct cfs_rq *cfs_rq, struct sched_entity *se)
{
    if (cfs_rq->rb_leftmost == &se->run_node) {
        struct rb_node *next_node;

        next_node = rb_next(&se->run_node);
        cfs_rq->rb_leftmost = next_node;
    }

    rb_erase(&se->run_node, &cfs_rq->tasks_timeline);
}
```

Scheduler entry point: schedule()

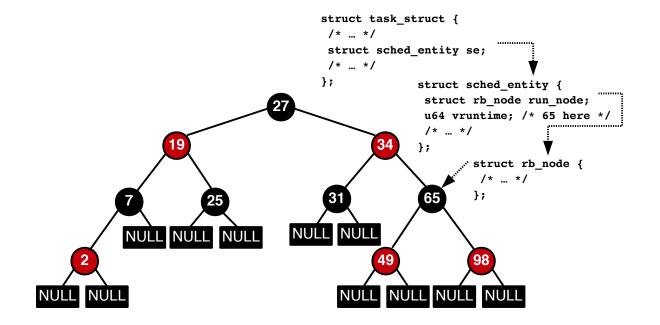
```
/* linux/kernel/sched/core.c */
/* schedule() is the main scheduler function. */
static void sched notrace schedule(bool preempt)
    struct task struct *prev, *next;
    struct rq flags rf;
    struct rq *rq;
    int cpu;
    cpu = smp processor id();
    rq = cpu rq(cpu);
    prev = rq->curr;
    /* pick up the highest-prio task */
    next = pick next task(rq, prev, &rf);
    if (likely(prev != next)) {
       /* switch to the new MM and the new thread's register state */
       rq->curr = next;
       rq = context switch(rq, prev, next, &rf);
   /* · · · */
```

Scheduler entry point: schedule()

```
/* linux/kernel/sched/core.c */
/* Pick up the highest-prio task: */
static inline struct task struct *
pick next task(struct rq *rq, struct task struct *prev, struct rq flags *rf)
    const struct sched class *class;
    struct task struct *p;
    /* ... */
again:
    for each class(class) {
        /* In CFS, pick next task fair() will be called.
         * pick next task fair() eventually calls pick first entity() */
        p = class->pick next task(rq, prev, rf);
        if (p) {
            if (unlikely(p == RETRY TASK))
                goto again;
            return p;
    /* The idle class should always have a runnable task: */
    BUG();
```

Process selection in CFS

- CFS maintains an rbtree of tasks indexed by vruntime (i.e., runqueue)
- Always pick a task with the smallest vruntime, the left-most node



Process selection in CFS

- schedule() calls pick_next_task_fair() in CFS
- pick_next_task_fair() calls __pick_first_entity() thatreturns the left-most node of the rbtree (runqueue)

```
/* linux/kernel/sched/fair.c */
struct sched_entity *__pick_first_entity(struct cfs_rq *cfs_rq) /* CODE */
{
    struct rb_node *left = cfs_rq->rb_leftmost;
    if (!left)
        return NULL;
    return rb_entry(left, struct sched_entity, run_node);
}
```

Sleeping and waking up

- Reasons for a task to sleep:
 - Specified amount of time, waiting for I/O, blocking on a mutex, etc.
- Steps to sleep
 - Mark a task sleeping
 - Put the task into a waitqueue
 - Dequeue the task from the rbtree of runnable tasks
 - The task calls schedule() to select a new task to run
- Waking up a task is the inverse of sleeping

Sleeping and waking up

- Two states associated with sleeping:
 - TASK_INTERRUPTIBLE
 - Wake up the sleeping task upon signal
 - TASK_UNINTERRUPTIBLE
 - Defer signal delivery until wake up

Wait queue: sleeping

List of tasks waiting for an event to occur

```
/* linux/include/linux/wait.h */
struct wait queue entry {
   unsigned int flags;
   void
                       *private;
   wait queue func t
                       func:
    struct list head
                       entry;
};
struct wait queue head {
    spinlock t
                        lock:
    struct list head
                       head;
};
#define DEFINE WAIT(name) ...
void add wait queue(struct wait queue head *wq head, struct wait queue entry *wq entry);
void prepare to wait(struct wait queue head *wg head, struct wait queue entry *wg entry, int s
void finish wait(struct wait queue head *wq head, struct wait queue entry *wq entry);
```

Wait queue: sleeping

```
DEFINE WAIT(wait); /* Initialize a wait queue entry */
/* 'q' is the wait queue that we wish to sleep on */
add wait queue(q, &wait); /* Add itself to a wait queue */
while (!condition) { /* event we are waiting for */
    /* Change process status to TASK INTERRUPTIBLE */
    prepare to wait(&q, &wait, TASK INTERRUPTIBLE);/* prevent the lost wake-up */
    /* Since the state is TASK INTERRUPTIBLE, a signal can wake up the task.
     * If there is a pending signal, handle signals */
    if(signal pending(current)) {
        /* This is a spurious wake up, not caused
         * by the oocurance of the waiting event */
        /* Handle signal */
    /* Go to sleep */
    schedule();
    /* Now, the task is woken up.
     * Check condition if the event occurs */
/* Set the process status to TASK RUNNING
 * and remove itself from the wait queue */
finish wait(&q, &wait);
```

Wait queue: sleeping

Or use one of wait_event_*() macros

```
/* linux/include/linux/wait.h */
/**
 * wait event interruptible - sleep until a condition gets true
* awq: the waitqueue to wait on
 * acondition: a C expression for the event to wait for
 * The process is put to sleep (TASK INTERRUPTIBLE) until the
 * acondition evaluates to true or a signal is received.
 * The acondition is checked each time the waitqueue awg is woken up.
 */
#define wait event interruptible(wg, condition)
({
    int ret = 0:
    might sleep();
    if (!(condition))
        __ret = __wait_event_interruptible(wq, condition);
   __ret:
})
```

Wait queue: waking-up

- Waking up waiting tasks by wake_up()
 - By default, wake up all the tasks on a waitqueue
 - Exclusive tasks are added using prepare_to_wait_exclusive()

Wait queue: waking-up

A wait queue entry contains a pointer to a wake-up function

```
/* linux/include/linux/wait.h */
typedef struct wait queue entry wait queue entry t;
typedef int (*wait queue func t)(struct wait queue entry *wq entry,
                                 unsigned mode, int flags, void *key);
int default wake function(struct wait queue entry *wq entry,
                          unsigned mode, int flags, void *key);
struct wait queue entry {
    unsigned int
                        flags;
    void
                        *private;
    wait queue func t
                        func;
    struct list head
                        entry;
};
```

Wait queue: waking-up

- default_wake_function() calls try_to_wake_up()
 - calls ttwu_queue()
 - calls ttwu_do_activate()
 - puts the task back on runqueue
 - calls ttwu_do_wakeup()
 - calls check_preempt_curr()
 - sets the TIF_NEED_RESCHED flag (as needed)
 - sets the task state to TASK_RUNNING

CFS on multi-core machines

- Per-CPU runqueues (rbtrees)
 - To avoid costly accesses to shared data structures
- Runqueues must be kept balanced
 - E.g., dual-core with one long runqueue of high-priority processes,
 and a short one with low-priority processes
 - High-priority processes get less CPU time than low-priority ones
- A load balancer runs periodically based on priority and CPU usage

Preemption and context switching

- A context switch is the action of swapping the process currently running on the CPU to another one
- Performed by context_switch(), which is called by schedule()
 - Switch the address space through switch_mm()
 - Switch the CPU state (registers) through switch_to()

Preemption and context switching

- Then, when schedule() will be called?
 - A task can voluntarily relinquish the CPU by calling schedule()
 - A current task needs to be preempted if
 - 1. it runs long enough
 - by scheduler_tick()
 - 2. a task with a higher priority is woken up
 - by try_to_wake_up()

need_resched

- The TIF_NEED_RESCHED flag (in thread_info)
 - specifies whether a (preemptive) reschedule should be performed
 - set_tsk_need_resched()
 - clear_tsk_need_resched()
 - need_resched()
- TIF_NEED_RESCHED is set by
 - scheduler_tick(): the currently running task needs to be preempted
 - try_to_wake_up(): a process with higher priority wakes up

need_resched

- Then TIF_NEED_RESCHED flag is checked:
 - Upon returning to user space (from a syscall or an interrupt)
 - Upon returning from an interrupt
- If the flag is set, schedule() is called

need_resched

```
Process #100
                   Process #200
                                      Process #300
long count = 0;
                   long val = 2;
void foo(void) {
                   void bar(void) {
                                      void baz(void) {
                                       while(1) {
while(1) {
                   while(1) {
                                       printf("hi");
                    val *= 3;
 count++;
                Operating system: scheduler
                         CPU0
```

Q: how can the preemptive scheduler take the control of infinite loop?

Kernel preemption

- In most of UNIX-like operating systems, kernel code is non-preemptive
- In Linux, the kernel code is also preemptive
 - A task can be preempted in the kernel as long as execution is in a safe state without holding any lock
- preempt_count in the thread_info structure indicates the current lock depth
- If need_resched && !preempt_count then, it is safe to preempt
 - Checked when returning to the kernel from interrupt
 - Checked when releasing a lock

Kernel preemption

- Kernel preemption can occur:
 - On return from interrupt
 - When kernel code becomes preemptible again
 - If a task in the kernel blocks (e.g., mutex)

Real-time scheduling policies

- Linux provides two soft real-time scheduling classes
 - SCHED_FIFO, SCHED_RR, SCHED_DEADLINE
 - Best effort, no guarantee
- Real-time task of any scheduling class will always run before nonrealtime ones (CFS, SCHED_OTHER)
 - schedule() → pick_next_task() →
 for_each_class()

Real-time scheduling policies

- SCHED_FIFO
 - Tasks run until it blocks/yield
 - Only a higher priority RT task can preempt it
 - Round-robin for tasks of same priority
- SCHED_RR
 - Same as SCHED_FIFO, but with a fixed timeslice

Real-time scheduling policies

- SCHED_DEADLINE
 - Real-time policies mainlined in v3.14 enabling predictable RT scheduling
 - Early deadline first (EDF) scheduling based on a period of activation and a worst case execution time (WCET) for each task
 - Ref: kernel Documentation
- SCHED_BATCH: non-real-time, low priority background jobs
- SCHED_IDLE: non-real-time, very low priority background jobs

Scheduling related system calls

- sched_getscheduler, sched_setscheduler
- nice
- sched_getparam, sched_setparam
- sched_get_priority_max, sched_get_priority_min
- sched_getaffinity, sched_setaffinity
- sched yield

```
#define GNU SOURCE
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <sys/types.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <sched.h>
#include <assert.h>
void handle err(int ret, char *func)
    perror(func);
    exit(EXIT FAILURE);
int main(void)
    pid t pid = -1;
    int ret = -1;
    struct sched param sp;
    int max rr prio, min rr prio = -42;
    size t cpu set size = 0;
    cpu set t cs;
```

```
/* Get the PID of the calling process */
pid = getpid();
printf("My pid is: %d\n", pid);
/* Get the scheduling class */
ret = sched getscheduler(pid);
if(ret == -1)
   handle err(ret, "sched getscheduler");
printf("sched getscheduler returns: %d\n", ret);
assert(ret == SCHED OTHER);
/* Get the priority (nice/RT) */
ret = sched getparam(pid, &sp);
if(ret == -1)
   handle err(ret, "sched getparam");
printf("My priority is: %d\n", sp.sched priority);
/* Set the priority (nice value) */
ret = nice(1);
if(ret == -1)
   handle err(ret, "nice");
```

```
/* Get the priority again */
ret = sched getparam(pid, &sp);
if(ret == -1)
   handle err(ret, "sched getparam");
printf("My priority is: %d\n", sp.sched priority);
/* Switch scheduling class to FIFO and the priority to 99 */
sp.sched priority = 99;
ret = sched setscheduler(pid, SCHED FIFO, &sp);
if(ret == -1)
   handle err(ret, "sched setscheduler");
/* Get the scheduling class */
ret = sched getscheduler(pid);
if(ret == -1)
   handle err(ret, "sched getscheduler");
printf("sched getscheduler returns: %d\n", ret);
assert(ret == SCHED FIF0);
```

```
/* Get the priority again */
ret = sched getparam(pid, &sp);
if(ret == -1)
   handle err(ret, "sched getparam");
printf("My priority is: %d\n", sp.sched priority);
/* Set the RT priority */
sp.sched priority = 42;
ret = sched setparam(pid, &sp);
if(ret == -1)
   handle err(ret, "sched setparam");
printf("Priority changed to %d\n", sp.sched priority);
/* Get the priority again */
ret = sched getparam(pid, &sp);
if(ret == -1)
   handle err(ret, "sched getparam");
printf("My priority is: %d\n", sp.sched priority);
```

```
/* Get the max priority value for SCHED RR */
max rr prio = sched get priority max(SCHED RR);
if(max rr prio == -1)
   handle err(max rr prio, "sched get priority max");
printf("Max RR prio: %d\n", max rr prio);
/* Get the min priority value for SCHED RR */
min rr prio = sched get priority min(SCHED RR);
if(min rr prio == -1)
   handle err(min rr prio, "sched_get_priority_min");
printf("Min RR prio: %d\n", min rr prio);
cpu set size = sizeof(cpu set t);
CPU ZERO(&cs); /* clear the mask */
CPU SET(0, &cs);
CPU_SET(1, &cs);
/* Set the affinity to CPUs 0 and 1 only */
ret = sched setaffinity(pid, cpu set size, &cs);
if(ret == -1)
   handle err(ret, "sched setaffinity");
```

```
/* Get the CPU affinity */
    CPU_ZERO(&cs);
    ret = sched_getaffinity(pid, cpu_set_size, &cs);
    if(ret == -1)
        handle_err(ret, "sched_getaffinity");
    assert(CPU_ISSET(0, &cs));
    assert(CPU_ISSET(1, &cs));
    printf("Affinity tests OK\n");

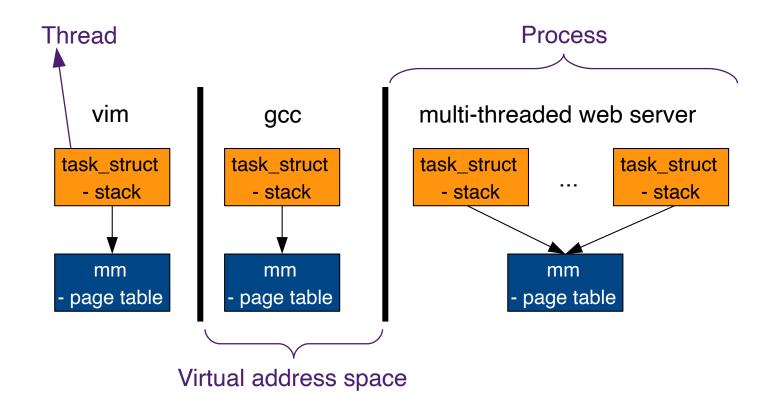
/* Yield the CPU */
    ret = sched_yield();
    if(ret == -1)
        handle_err(ret, "sched_yield");

    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

Summary: task = process | thread

- struct task_struct
 - a process or a thread
- struct mm
 - a virtual address space

task = process | thread

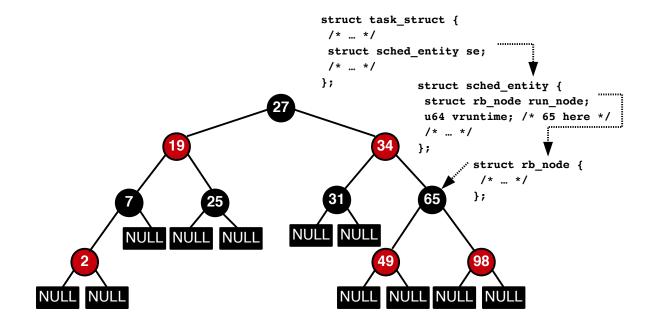


Summary: Completely Fair Scheduling (CFS)

- struct sched_entiry
 - embedded to task_struct
 - has vruntime value
- struct cfs_rq
 - a queue of runnable tasks in a TASK_RUNNING status
 - has struct rb_root tasks_timeline

Summary: Completely Fair Scheduling (CFS)

- CFS maintains an rbtree of tasks indexed by vruntime (i.e., runqueue)
- Always pick a task with the smallest vruntime, the left-most node



Next lecture

Interrupt Handler: Top Half

Further readings

- The Battle of the Schedulers: FreeBSD ULE vs. Linux CFS, USENIX ATC18
- The Rotating Staircase Deadline Scheduler