

University of Newcastle
School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

COMP2240 - Operating Systems
Workshop 3 (Additional Problem)
Topics: Scheduling

The traditional UNIX scheduler enforces an inverse relationship between priority numbers and priorities: the higher the number, the lower the priority. The scheduler recalculates process priorities once per second using the following function:

$$\text{Priority} = (\text{recent CPU usage} / 2) + \text{base}$$

where $\text{base} = 60$ and recent CPU usage refers to a value indicating how often a process has used the CPU since priorities were last recalculated.

Assume that recent CPU usage is 40 for process $P1$, 18 for process $P2$, and 10 for process $P3$.

- a) What will be the new priorities for these three processes when priorities are recalculated?
- b) Based on this information, does the traditional UNIX scheduler raise or lower the relative priority of a CPU-bound process?

Answer:

- a) The priorities assigned to the processes are 80, 69, and 65 respectively.
- b) The scheduler lowers the relative priority of CPU-bound processes.