Department of Computer Science and Engineering

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PROCESS SCHEDULING

Context Switch

- When CPU switches to another process, the system must save the state of the old process and load the saved state for the new process.
- Context-switch time is overhead; the system does no useful work while switching.
- Time dependent on hardware support.

Preemptive/Non-preemptive Scheduling

- CPU scheduling decisions may take place when a process:
 - 1. Switches from running to waiting state
 - 2. Switches from running to ready state
 - 3. Switches from waiting to ready
 - 4. Terminates
- Scheduling under 1 and 4 is non-preemptive.
- All other scheduling is preemptive.

Dispatcher

- Dispatcher module gives control of the CPU to the process selected by the short-term scheduler; this involves:
 - switching context
 - switching to user mode
 - jumping to the proper location in the user program to restart that program

 Dispatch latency – time it takes for the dispatcher to stop one process and start another.

Scheduling Criteria

- CPU utilization keep the CPU as busy as possible.
- Waiting time the sum of the periods of time in which a process waits in the ready queue.
- Turnaround time the interval from the time of submission of process to the time of completion of the process.
- Throughput the number of processes that completed by the CPU in unit time.
- Response time amount of time it takes from when a request was submitted until the first response is produced.

Optimization Criteria

Maximize

- CPU utilization
- Throughput

Minimize

- Turnaround time
- Waiting time
- Response time

Exercise

- 1. Explain Context Switching.
- 2. What are the various criteria for CPU scheduling?
- 3. Describe the actions taken by a kernel to context-switch between processes.
- 4. Describe the differences among short-term, medium-term, and long term schedulers.
- 5. What are the various optimization criteria.

References

- 1. Silberschatz, Galvin and Gagne, "Operating Systems Concepts", Wiley.
- 2. William Stallings, "Operating Systems: Internals and Design Principles", 6th Edition, Pearson Education.
- 3. D M Dhamdhere, "Operating Systems: A Concept based Approach", 2nd Edition, TMH.

